

D-Branes and Matrix Factorizations I

W.Lerche, Cargese 06/2006

- Part I: Introduction, boundary LG models,
D-branes in minimal models, deformations

hep-th/0210296 Kapustin, Li
hep-th/0305133 Brunner, Herbst,WL, Scheuner
hep-th/0402110 Herbst, Lazaroiu, WL
hep-th/0604189 Knapp, Omer

Prior work by Kontsevich, Orlov

- Part II: homological mirror symmetry,
D-branes on elliptic curve,
eff potential from instantons

hep-th/0408243 Brunner, Herbst, WL, Walcher
hep-th/0512208 Govindarajan, Jockers, WL, Warner
hep-th/0603085 Herbst, WL, Nemeschansky

Prior work by Kontsevich, Polishchuk, Zaslow

Further introductory/review/background material

hep-th/0403166 Aspinwall
hep-th/0011017 Douglas
hep-th/0409204 Hori, Walcher
hep-th/0010269, 0107162 Lazaroiu

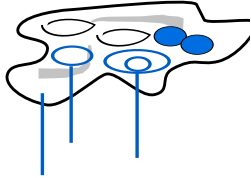
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Overview of Part I

- Motivation: study non-perturbative phenomena
(quantum geometry of D-branes)
- Properties of open string TFT (A_∞ relations)
- New approach: **boundary LG theory**translates abstract
mathematical notions into concrete physical terms
- Example computations: minimal models
- Effective superpotential from obstruction theory

Motivation: D-brane worlds

Typical brane + flux configuration on a Calabi-Yau space



closed string (bulk) moduli t

open string (brane location + bundle) moduli u

3+1 dim world volume with effective N=1 SUSY theory

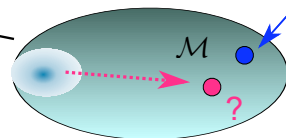
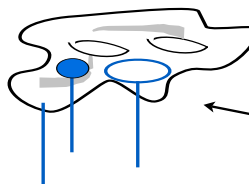
What is the exact effective superpotential, the vacuum states, etc ?

$$\mathcal{W}_{\text{eff}}(\Phi, t, u) = ?$$

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Quantum geometry of D-branes

Classical geometry ("branes wrapping p-cycles", gauge bundle configurations on top of them) makes sense only at weak coupling/large radius:



"Gepner point"
(CFT description)

Quantum corrected geometry:
(instanton) corrections wipe out
notions of classical geometry

...well developed techniques (mirror symmetry)

for **non-intersecting** branes only !

and mostly for non-compact geometries.

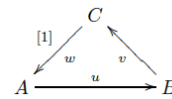
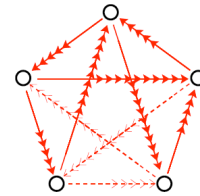
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The Derived Category $\text{Db}(\text{Coh}(M))$

Mathematicians (Kontsevich) tell us that the proper mathematical language for describing B-branes is the (bounded) **derived category** (of coherent sheaves on CY)

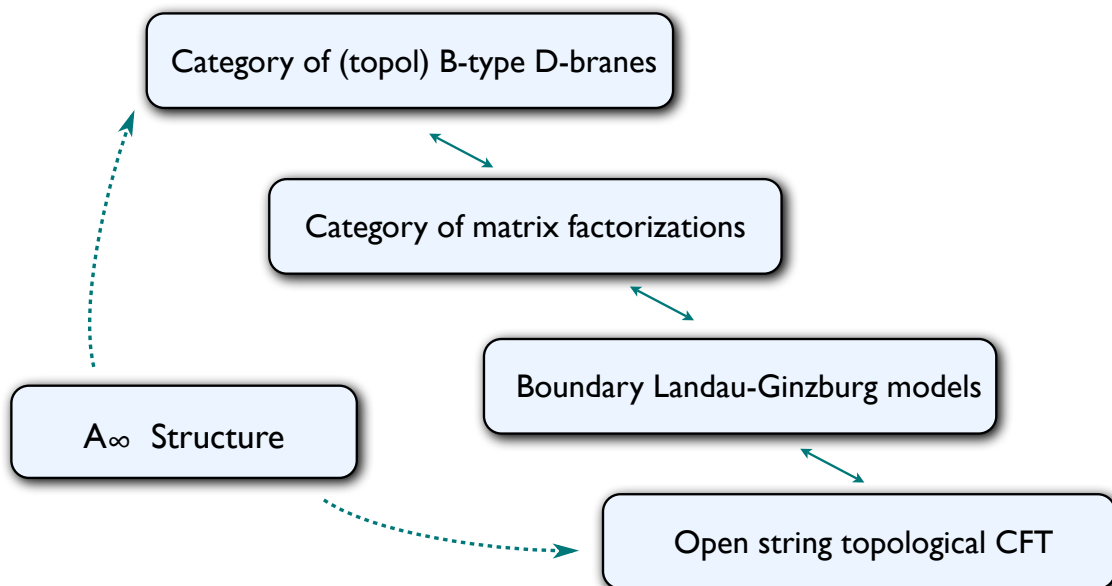
What does it mean for physicists ?

- treats branes and anti-branes on equal footing
- more general than cohomology/ K-theory (RR charges)
- keeps track of brane positions
robust under continuous deformations (want: moduli dependence),
- describes bound state formation/tachyon condensation (triangulated category)



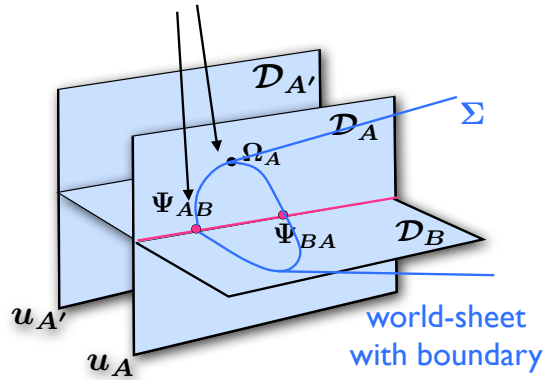
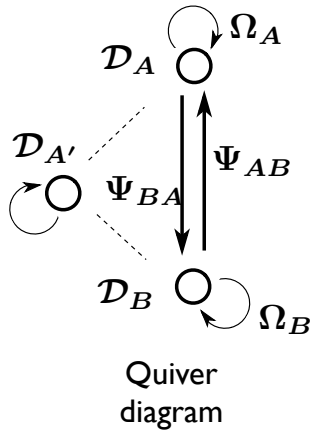
...we will to translate this language to one that is more familiar to physicists:
boundary Landau-Ginzburg theory

Roadmap



The category of topological D-branes

- objects: \mathcal{D} \longleftrightarrow boundary conditions, D-branes
- morphisms (maps): Ω, Ψ \longleftrightarrow boundary preserving/changing open string vertex operators

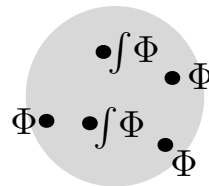


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Recap closed string TFT: (twisted) N=2 SCFT

- A typical correlator on S_2 looks like:

$$C_{ijk}(t) = \partial_{t_i} \partial_{t_j} \partial_{t_k} \mathcal{F}_{\text{eff}}(t)$$

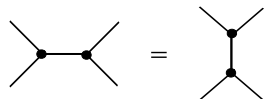


Generating function (N=2 prepotential):
(t_i = deformation params, moduli)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_{\text{eff}}(t_i, u_a) &= \left\langle e^{t_i \int_D \Phi_i^{(2)}} \right\rangle \\ &= \sum t_{i_n} \dots t_{i_1} C_{i_1 \dots i_n}(t) \end{aligned}$$

WDVV equations from factorization:

$$C_{ijm} \eta^{mn} C_{nkl} = C_{ikm} \eta^{mn} C_{njl}$$

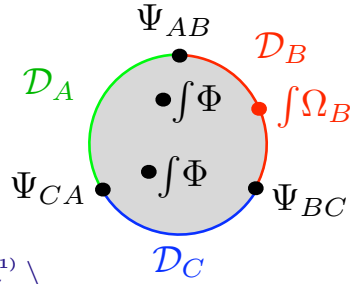


governed by “N=2 special geometry”

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Open string TFT: (twisted) N=2 boundary SCFT

- A typical disk correlator looks like:



- Generating function (N=1 superpotential):
(t_i = bulk, u_a = boundary deformation params)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{W}_{\text{eff}}(t_i, u_a) &= \left\langle e^{t_i \int_D \Phi_i^{(2)}} P e^{u_a \int_{\partial D} \Psi_a^{(1)}} \right\rangle \\ &= \sum u_{a_m} \dots u_{a_0} t_{i_n} \dots t_{i_1} B_{a_0 \dots a_m; i_1 \dots i_n}(t) \end{aligned}$$

where:

$$\begin{aligned} B_{a_0 \dots a_m; i_1 \dots i_n}(t) &= \left\langle \Psi_{a_0} \Psi_{a_1} \Psi_{a_2} P \int \Psi_{a_3}^{(1)} \dots \int \Psi_{a_m}^{(1)} \int \Phi_{i_1}^{(2)} \dots \int \Phi_{i_n}^{(2)} \right\rangle \\ &= \partial_{t_{i_n}} \dots \partial_{t_{i_1}} \mathcal{F}_{a_1 \dots a_n}(t) \end{aligned}$$

Sequence of t-dependent cyclic “prepotentials”:
..in general not integrable wrto u

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{F}_{a_1}(t) \\ \mathcal{F}_{a_1 a_2}(t) \\ \mathcal{F}_{a_1 a_2 a_3}(t) \\ \mathcal{F}_{a_1 a_2 a_3 a_4}(t) \\ \vdots \end{cases}$$

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Open/closed top. string consistency conditions I

- Boundary TFT: Q-closedness and factorization

$$\left\langle [Q, \Psi \Psi \Psi \int G^- \Psi \dots \int G^- \Psi] \right\rangle \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

Contact terms from $\{Q, G^-\} = \partial_x$

$$Q \cdot \text{circle} = \text{circle with bubble} + \text{circle with bubble} + \text{circle with bubble} = 0$$

lead to “ A_∞ relations” for correlators

$$\sum_{\substack{k, j=0 \\ k \leq j}}^m (-1)^{\tilde{a}_1 + \dots + \tilde{a}_k} \lambda_{m-j+k}(\psi_{a_1} \dots \psi_{a_k}, \lambda_{j-k}(\psi_{a_{k+1}} \dots \psi_{a_j}), \psi_{a_{j+1}} \dots \psi_{a_m}) = 0$$

$$\lambda_m(\Psi_{a_1} \dots \Psi_{a_m}) \equiv \Psi_{a_0} B_{a_1 \dots a_m}^{a_0} \quad \text{“higher products” } \lambda_m : \mathcal{H}^{\otimes m} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$$

Kontsevich: D-branes indeed form a cyclic A_∞ category

...but there is more.

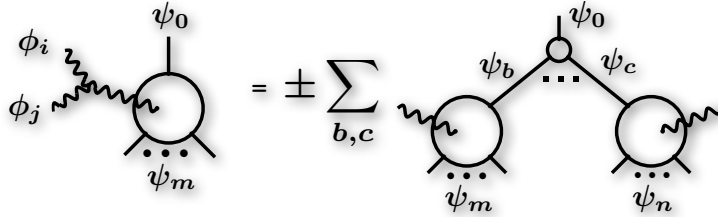
Open/closed top. string consistency conditions II

- Beyond A_∞ we have extra constraints, involving bulk operator insertions

...they deform $B_{a_1 \dots a_m}^{a_0} \rightarrow B_{a_1 \dots a_m}^{a_0}(t)$

(deformation theory: "Hochschild complex")

- Bulk-boundary crossing symmetry:



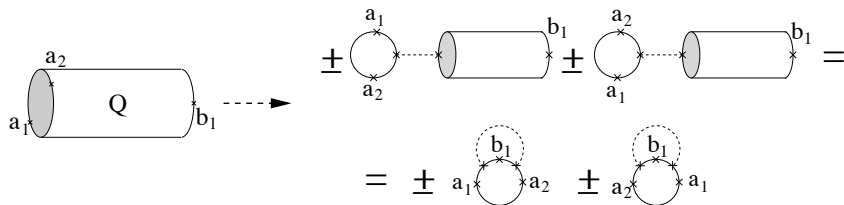
$$\partial_i \partial_j \partial_k \mathcal{F}(t) \eta^{kl} \partial_l \mathcal{F}_{a_0 a_1 \dots a_m}(t) =$$

$$= \sum_{0 \leq m_1 \leq \dots \leq m_4 \leq m} (-1)^s \mathcal{F}_{a_0 \dots a_{m_1} b a_{m_2+1} \dots a_{m_3} c a_{m_4+1} \dots a_m}(t) \partial_i \mathcal{F}_{a_{m_1+1} \dots a_{m_2}}^b(t) \partial_j \mathcal{F}_{a_{m_3+1} \dots a_{m_4}}^c(t)$$

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Open/closed top. string consistency conditions III

- Annulus factorization



$$\sum_{c,d} ((-)^{\bar{a}_1 + \bar{d}\bar{a}_2} \mathcal{F}_{a_1 c a_2}^{0,1} \eta^{cd} \mathcal{F}_{d|b_1}^{0,2} + (-)^{\bar{a}_1 + \bar{a}_2} \mathcal{F}_{a_1 a_2 c}^{0,1} \eta^{cd} \mathcal{F}_{d|b_1}^{0,2})$$

$$= \sum_{c,d} ((-)^{\bar{a}_1 + \bar{b}_1(\bar{d} + \bar{a}_2)} \eta^{cd} \mathcal{F}_{a_1 c b_1 d a_2}^{0,1} + (-)^{\bar{a}_1 + \bar{a}_2 + \bar{b}_1 \bar{d}} \eta^{cd} \mathcal{F}_{a_1 a_2 c b_1 d}^{0,1})$$

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Summary: open/closed factorization axioms

WDVV: $\mathcal{F}_{ijm}\eta^{mn}\mathcal{F}_{nkl} = \mathcal{F}_{ikm}\eta^{mn}\mathcal{F}_{njl}$

A_∞ : $\sum_{\substack{k,j=0 \\ k \leq j}}^m (-1)^{\tilde{a}_1 + \dots + \tilde{a}_k} r_{m-j+k}(\psi_{a_1} \dots \psi_{a_k}, r_{j-k}(\psi_{a_{k+1}} \dots \psi_{a_j}), \psi_{a_{j+1}} \dots \psi_{a_m}) = 0$

Crossing: $\partial_i \partial_j \partial_k \mathcal{F}(t) \eta^{kl} \partial_t \mathcal{F}_{a_0 a_1 \dots a_m}(t) =$

$$= \sum_{0 \leq m_1 \leq \dots \leq m_4 \leq m} (-1)^s \mathcal{F}_{a_0 \dots a_{m_1} b_{a_{m_2+1} \dots a_{m_3} c_{a_{m_4+1} \dots a_m}}(t) \partial_i \mathcal{F}^b_{a_{m_1+1} \dots a_{m_2}}(t) \partial_j \mathcal{F}^c_{a_{m_3+1} \dots a_{m_4}}(t)$$

Annulus: $\sum_{c,d} ((-)^{\tilde{a}_1 + \tilde{d}\tilde{a}_2} \mathcal{F}_{a_1 c a_2}^{0,1} \eta^{cd} \mathcal{F}_{d|b_1}^{0,2} + (-)^{\tilde{a}_1 + \tilde{a}_2} \mathcal{F}_{a_1 a_2 c}^{0,1} \eta^{cd} \mathcal{F}_{d|b_1}^{0,2})$
 $= \sum_{c,d} ((-)^{\tilde{a}_1 + \tilde{b}_1(\tilde{d} + \tilde{a}_2)} \eta^{cd} \mathcal{F}_{a_1 c b_1 d a_2}^{0,1} + (-)^{\tilde{a}_1 + \tilde{a}_2 + \tilde{b}_1 \tilde{d}} \eta^{cd} \mathcal{F}_{a_1 a_2 c b_1 d}^{0,1})$

- This is an (in general) infinite system of differential and algebraic equations... can we ever hope to (recursively) solve them explicitly for a given model ?

Apart from spectrum, we need extra input, in particular the three-point functions....

→ Landau-Ginzburg theory

Recap: topological Landau-Ginzburg models

- Consider bulk d=2 LG model with N=(2,2) supersymmetries:

$$S_{LG} = \int d^2 z d\theta^4 K(x, \bar{x}) + \int d^2 d\theta^2 W_{LG}(x) + \text{cc.}$$

- If W_{LG} = quasi-homogeneous holomorphic superpotential

$$W_{LG}(s^{q_i} x_i) = s W_{LG}(x_i)$$

then in the IR, theory flows to a superconformal fixed point (SCFT) entirely determined by the singularity type of W_{LG} !

$$c_{N=2} = 3 \sum (1 - 2q_i)$$

- Upon topologically twisting, the theory turns into a TFT with a finite dimensional Hilbert space

The spectrum of physical operators, the chiral ring, is represented as polynomial ring modulo the eqs of motion:

$$\mathcal{R} \cong C[x_i] / \partial_i W_{LG}$$

Recap: topological minimal models

- The simplest theories are the (twisted) N=2 minimal models
They can be realized by LG models with

$$\begin{aligned}
 A_{k+1} : W_{LG} &= x^{k+2} \\
 D_k : W_{LG} &= x_1^{k-1} + x_1 x_2^2 \\
 E_6 : W_{LG} &= x_1^3 + x_2^4 \quad (\text{"simple singularities"} \\
 E_7 : W_{LG} &= x_1^3 + x_1 x_2^3 \quad \text{of ADE type)} \\
 E_8 : W_{LG} &= x_1^3 + x_2^5
 \end{aligned}$$

- We will focus on A_{k+1} models for which

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{R} &\cong C[x]/x^{k+1} = \{1, x, x^2, \dots, x^k\} \\
 c_{N=2} &= \frac{3k}{k+2} \quad (\text{central charge})
 \end{aligned}$$

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Landau-Ginzburg description of B-type D-branes

- Consider bulk LG model with superpotential:

$$\int_{\Sigma} d^2z d\theta^+ d\theta^- W_{LG}(x) + \text{cc.}$$

B-type SUSY variations induce boundary ("Warner")-term:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{\Sigma} d^2z d\theta^+ d\theta^- (\bar{Q}_+ + \bar{Q}_-) W_{LG} &= \int_{\Sigma} d^2z d\theta^+ d\theta^- (\theta^+ \partial_+ + \theta^- \partial_-) W_{LG} \\
 &= \int_{\partial\Sigma} d\sigma d\theta W_{LG}
 \end{aligned}$$

- Restore SUSY by adding boundary fermions $\Pi = (\pi + \theta^+ \ell)$
(... not quite chiral: $\bar{D} \Pi = E(x)|_{\partial\Sigma}$)

via a boundary potential:
$$\delta S = \int_{\partial\Sigma} d\sigma d\theta \Pi J(x)$$

Condition for SUSY:

$$J(x)E(x) = W_{LG}(x)$$

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Matrix factorizations

- BRST operator: $Q(x) = \pi J(x) + \bar{\pi} E(x) = \begin{pmatrix} & J(x) \\ E(x) & \end{pmatrix}$

thus SUSY condition implies a **matrix factorization** of W :

$$Q(x) \cdot Q(x) = W_{LG}(x) 1$$

Total BRST operator $\mathcal{Q} = Q + Q_{bulk}$

then squares to zero: $\mathcal{Q}^2 = 0$

- Generalization for n LG fields: need $N=2^n$ boundary fermions, and

$$J_{N \times N} \cdot E_{N \times N} = E_{N \times N} \cdot J_{N \times N} = W_{LG} 1_{N \times N}$$

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Anti- and trivial branes

- anti-brane $D[1] \equiv \bar{D}$ is described by swapping E, J

$$Q_D = \begin{pmatrix} & J \\ E & \end{pmatrix}, \quad Q_{\bar{D}} = \begin{pmatrix} & -E \\ -J & \end{pmatrix}$$

- trivial brane is described by $J=I, E=W$ and vice versa;
has trivial open string vacuum

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} & 1 \\ W & \end{pmatrix}$$

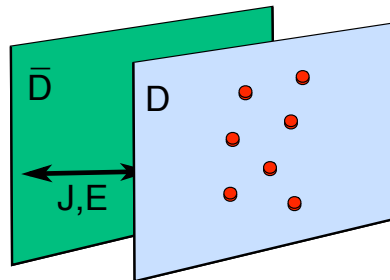
We can thus always mod out such trivial brane/brane pairs,
matrices are taken only up to such (I, W) pieces

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Physical interpretation

- N... Chan-Paton labels of space-filling $D\bar{D}$ pairs

Boundary potentials J, E form a **tachyon profile** that describes condensation to given B-type D-brane configuration in IR limit



$$J(x, u) = \prod (x - u_i)$$

- Geometrically: Maps J, E are sections of certain bundles
Ker J , Ker E encode bundle data of branes: $(r, c_1, \dots; u)$

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Open string spectrum

- Physical open string spectrum is determined by the cohomology of the BRST operator:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \mathcal{D}_A \begin{array}{c} \circlearrowright \\ \Omega_A \end{array} \quad [Q_A, \Omega_A] = 0, \quad \Omega_A \neq [Q_A, \Lambda] \\
 \text{boundary preserving} \\
 \begin{array}{c} \Psi_{BA} \uparrow \Psi_{AB} \\ \Psi_{BA} \downarrow \Psi_{AB} \end{array} \quad Q_A \Psi_{AB} - (-)^f \Psi_{AB} Q_B = 0 \\
 \text{boundary changing} \\
 \mathcal{D}_B \begin{array}{c} \circlearrowleft \\ \Omega_B \end{array} \quad [Q_B, \Omega_B] = 0, \quad \Omega_B \neq [Q_B, \Lambda]
 \end{array}$$

... all ingredients to form a nice category!

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Kontsevich's category C_W

The LG model provides a concrete physical realization of a certain triangulated \mathbb{Z}_2 -graded category C_W : all maps have explicit LG representatives

- objects: “complexes” (\sim composites of $D\bar{D}$ branes):

$$D_\ell \cong \left(P_1^{(\ell)} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{J^{(\ell)}} \\ \xleftarrow{E^{(\ell)}} \end{array} P_0^{(\ell)} \right), \quad J^{(\ell)} E^{(\ell)} = W$$

- maps (boundary Q-cohomology):

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 D_{\ell_1} & & \left(P_1^{(\ell_1)} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{J^{(\ell_1)}} \\ \xleftarrow{E^{(\ell_1)}} \end{array} P_0^{(\ell_1)} \right) \\
 \downarrow & \cong & \begin{array}{ccc}
 \downarrow \phi_\alpha^{\ell_1, \ell_2} & \begin{array}{c} \psi_\alpha^{\ell_1, \ell_2} \\ \psi_\alpha^{\ell_1, \ell_2} \end{array} & \downarrow \phi_\alpha^{\ell_1, \ell_2} \\
 D_{\ell_2} & & \left(P_1^{(\ell_2)} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{J^{(\ell_2)}} \\ \xleftarrow{E^{(\ell_2)}} \end{array} P_0^{(\ell_2)} \right)
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

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Kontsevich's category C_W

Category of Matrix factorizations is isomorphic to $D(\text{Coh}(M))$, the derived category of coherent sheaves on M =
category of B-type D-branes!

[Orlov]

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Simplest example: boundary A_{k+1} minimal models

- Bulk superpotential:

$$W_{LG}(x) = \frac{1}{k+2} x^{k+2}$$

D0-branes D_ℓ are described by all the possible polynomial factorizations:

$$D_\ell : \quad J(x) = x^{\ell+1}, \quad E(x) = \frac{1}{k+2} x^{k-\ell+1}, \quad \ell = -1, 0, \dots, [k/2]$$

($\ell > [k/2]$: anti-branes)

This precisely matches results obtained in BCFT !

- Same is true for the open string spectrum, described by matrices that belong to the non-trivial cohomology of the BRST operator:

$$Q_\ell = \begin{pmatrix} & x^{\ell+1} \\ \frac{1}{k+2} x^{k-\ell+1} & \end{pmatrix} \quad \Psi : \{Q_\ell, \Psi\} = 0, \quad \Psi \neq \{Q_\ell, \Lambda\}$$

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Physical spectrum: Q-cohomology

- Boundary preserving physical fields $\mathcal{E} \sim \text{Hom}(D_\ell, D_\ell)$:
 x, ω = even/odd generators of boundary ring

fields	deformation parameters	Q-exact
$\phi_i = \{1, x, \dots, x^k\}$	$\{t_{k+2}, t_{k+1}, \dots, t_2\}$	$\partial_x W_{LG} \sim 0$
$\phi_a = \{1, x, \dots, x^\ell\}$	$\{v_{(k+2)/2}, \dots, v_{(k+2)/2-\ell}\}$	$\text{gcd}(J, E) \sim 0$
$\psi_a = \omega \otimes \{1, x, \dots, x^\ell\}$	$\{u_{\ell+1}, u_\ell, \dots, u_1\}$	$\text{gcd}(J, E) \sim 0$

- Boundary changing fields $\Psi_{\ell_1, \ell_2} \sim \text{Ext}(D_{\ell_1}, D_{\ell_2})$ betw. D_{ℓ_1} and D_{ℓ_2} :

fields	parameters	Q-exact
$\phi_a^{\ell_1, \ell_2} = \beta^{\ell_1, \ell_2} \otimes \{1, x, \dots, x^{\ell_{12}}\}$	$\{v_a^{[\ell_1, \ell_2]}\}$	$\text{gcd}(J_i, E_i) \sim 0$
$\psi_a^{\ell_1, \ell_2} = \omega^{\ell_1, \ell_2} \otimes \{1, x, \dots, x^{\ell_{12}}\}$	$\{u_a^{[\ell_1, \ell_2]}\}$	$\text{gcd}(J_i, E_i) \sim 0$

$$(\ell_{12} \equiv \min(\ell_1, \ell_2))$$

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Deforming the minimal models

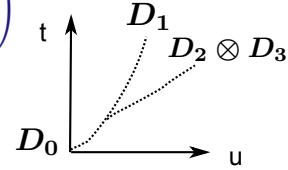
Consider infinitesimal perturbations:

$$\delta W_{LG}(x) = - \sum_{i=0}^k t_{k+2-i} x^i$$

$$\delta J(x) = - \sum_{a=0}^{\ell} u_{\ell+1-a} x^a$$

Generic effects:
$$\delta E(x) = -x^{k-2\ell} \left(\sum_{a=0}^{\ell} u_{\ell+1-a} x^a \right)$$

- Spoils factorization, so SUSY will be broken; may be restored along sub-loci.
- Along those, branes can condense (“boundary flow”); open string spectrum truncates
- Starting from several branes, composites (“bound states”) may be formed via tachyon condensation



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“Bound State” formation via tachyon condensation

- Switch on boundary changing deformation of 2-brane system,

$$J(u) = \begin{pmatrix} J_{\ell_1} & u\Psi_{12} \\ \mathbf{0} & J_{\ell_2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Rediagonalizing

$$U^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} J_{\ell_1} & u\Psi_{12} \\ \mathbf{0} & J_{\ell_2} \end{pmatrix} V = \begin{pmatrix} J_{\ell_3} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & J_{\ell_4} \end{pmatrix}$$

yields new factorization, ie, new brane(s)

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“Bound State” formation via tachyon condensation

- Example: brane/anti-brane annihilation $D_\ell \oplus \bar{D}_\ell$

$$Q_\ell \oplus Q_{k-\ell} \oplus u\Psi_{\ell,k-\ell} =$$

This rotates to:

$$\begin{pmatrix} & & x^{\ell+1} & u \\ & & & x^{k-\ell+1} \\ x^{k-\ell+1} & -u & x^{k-2\ell} & \\ & & x^{\ell+1} & \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} & & x^{k+2} & \\ & & & 1 \\ 1 & & & \\ & x^{k+2} & & \end{pmatrix}$$

which describes $D_{-1} \oplus D_{k+1} =$ two copies of the trivial brane

- In general, reproduce boundary flow patterns known from BCFT:

$$D_{\ell_1} \oplus D_{\ell_2} \xrightarrow{u_{12} \neq 0} D_{\ell+j+1} \oplus D_{\ell-j-1}$$

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Toy model for the “cone” construction

- Geometrical interpretation:

$$J(u) = \begin{pmatrix} J_{\ell_1} & u\Psi_{12} \\ \mathbf{0} & J_{\ell_2} \end{pmatrix}$$

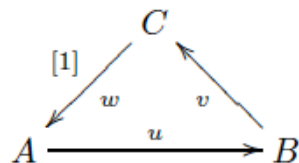
$u = 0$ direct sum of branes, reducible bundle

$u \neq 0$ “extension” of reducible bundle by Ψ

- Physical realization of the “cone” construction:

triangle: $D_{\ell_1} \xrightarrow{\Psi_{12}} D_{\ell_2} \longrightarrow C(u) \longrightarrow D_{\ell_1}[1]$

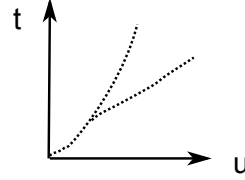
cone: $C(u) = \left(P_1^{(\ell_1)} \oplus P_1^{(\ell_2)} \xrightleftharpoons[E(u)]{J(u)} P_0^{(\ell_1)} \oplus P_0^{(\ell_2)} \right)$



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Deformation theory

- LG model provides prototype for dealing with off-shell physics, ie., effective potentials encoding obstructions



- Wanted: compute effective potential W whose critical locus reproduces SUSY deformations

- Consider perturbation

$$Q = Q_0 + \delta Q = Q_0 + u_i \Psi_i$$

Factorization will be generically spoiled

$$Q^2 - W = \underbrace{\{Q_0, u_i \Psi_i\}}_{=0} + u_i u_j \{\Psi_i, \Psi_j\}$$

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Massey products

correct in higher order by using an “inverse” BRST operator:

$$\delta Q = u_i \Psi_i - Q^+ \{u_i \Psi_i, u_j \Psi_j\} \quad Q^+ : \mathcal{H}_{exact} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{unphys}$$

Problem shifted to next order: just keep on iterating

$$\delta Q = u_i \Psi_i - Q^+ \sum_m \lambda_m(\Psi^{\otimes m})$$

“Massey products”

$$\lambda_2(\Psi_1, \Psi_2) = \{\Psi_1, \Psi_2\}$$

$$\lambda_3(\Psi_1, \Psi_2, \Psi_3) = \lambda_2(\Psi_1, Q^+ \lambda_2(\Psi_2, \Psi_3)) + \lambda_2(Q^+ \lambda_2(\Psi_1, \Psi_2), \Psi_3)$$

These are precisely the higher products

that solve the A_∞ relations!

Graphical expansion = “homological perturbation theory”,
string field theory

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The obstruction potential

- however: iteration fails whenever $\lambda_m \in \text{Coh} : \rightarrow \lambda_m \neq \{Q, Q^+*\}$
then deformation is obstructed at m-th order:

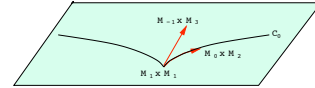
$$Q^2(u) - W = f_m(u)\lambda_m \neq 0$$

The obstructions can be integrated to an effective potential:

$$Q^2(u) - W = \sum \partial_{u_i} \mathcal{W}_{eff}(u)\lambda_m$$

matrix factorization locus = critical locus of effective superpotential!

... allows to systematically map out vacuum manifold and study composite formation (“topol. tachyon condensation”) along it



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Example: minimal model A_4 with a single brane D_1

Factorization: $W = \frac{1}{5}x^5 \quad Q_0 = \begin{pmatrix} & x^2 \\ \frac{1}{5}x^3 & \end{pmatrix}$

Cohomology: $\Phi_0 = 1, \quad \Phi_2 = x1$
 $\Psi_0 = \begin{pmatrix} & 1 \\ -\frac{1}{5}x & \end{pmatrix} \quad \Psi_1 = x\Psi_0 = \begin{pmatrix} & x \\ -\frac{1}{5}x^2 & \end{pmatrix}$

Second order Massey products:

$$\lambda_2(\Psi_0, \Psi_0) = -\frac{1}{5}\Phi_1 \quad \text{in cohomology, so: } f_2^{(1)} = -\frac{1}{5}u_0^2$$

$$\lambda_2(\Psi_1, \Psi_1) = -\frac{2}{5}x^2\Phi_0$$

$$\lambda_2(\Psi_0, \Psi_1) = -\frac{1}{5}x^3\Phi_0$$

Choose: $Q^+ \lambda_2(\Psi_1, \Psi_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \frac{2}{5} \end{pmatrix}$
 $Q^+ \lambda_2(\Psi_0, \Psi_1) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{5} \\ \frac{2}{5} \end{pmatrix}$ and go on with iteration

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Example: minimal model A_4 with a single brane D_1

Non-zero third order Massey products:

$$\lambda_3(\Psi_1, \Psi_1, \Psi_0) = -\frac{1}{5}\Phi_1 \quad \text{in cohomology, so: } f_3^{(1)} = -\frac{1}{5}u_1^2u_0$$

$$\lambda_3(\Psi_1, \Psi_1, \Psi_1) = -\frac{1}{5}x^2\Phi_0$$

Choose: $Q^+\lambda_3(\Psi_1, \Psi_1, \Psi_1) = \left(-\frac{1}{5}\right)$ and go on with iteration

Non-zero fourth order Massey products are both in cohomology:

$$\lambda_4(\Psi_1, \Psi_1, \Psi_1, \Psi_1) = \frac{1}{5}\Phi_1 \quad f_4^{(1)} = \frac{1}{5}u_1^4$$

$$\lambda_4(\Psi_1, \Psi_1, \Psi_1, \Psi_0) = -\Phi_0 \quad f_4^{(0)} = -u_1^3u_0$$

Non-zero fifth (and final) order Massey product is in cohomology:

$$\lambda_5(\Psi_1, \Psi_1, \Psi_1, \Psi_1, \Psi_1) = -\frac{3}{5}\Phi_0 \quad f_5^{(0)} = -\frac{3}{5}u_1^5$$

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Effective potential

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sum all contributions up: } f^{(0)} &= \frac{1}{5}(-u_0u_1^3 + 3u_1^5) \\ f^{(1)} &= \frac{1}{5}(u_0^4 + u_0u_1^2 - u_1^4) \end{aligned}$$

- Deformed Q:

$$\begin{aligned} Q &= Q_0 + u_i\Psi_i - Q^+ \sum_m \lambda_m(\Psi^{\otimes m}) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{5}(-x^3 - u_1x^2 - u_0x - 2u_0u_1 + u_1^3 \quad x^2 - u_1x - u_0 + u_1^2) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{squares into: } Q^2(u) - W = f^{(0)}\Phi_0 + f^{(1)}\Phi_1$$

So factorization is preserved if $f^{(i)} = \partial_{u_i} \mathcal{W}_{eff}(u) = 0$

- Integrate relations to potential:

$$\mathcal{W}_{eff}(u) = \frac{1}{5} \left(\frac{1}{3}u_1^6 - u_0u_1^4 + \frac{1}{2}u_0^2u_1^2 + \frac{1}{3}u_0^3 \right)$$

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Tomorrow in Part II:

Include moduli,
combine with mirror symmetry

Application to elliptic curve