

# D-brane Instantons from String Dualities

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## Introduction

- Classical string theory effective actions receive quantum corrections  $\sim \alpha'$  and  $g_s$ , perturbatively and through instantons
- Important e.g. in flux compactifications, where quantum effects can lead to moduli stabilization and inflation
- An instanton calculus in string theory is still missing
- We have determined the complete perturbative, D(-1)-brane and  $(p, q)$ -string instanton contributions to the LEEA of Type IIB string theory compactified on a Calabi-Yau threefold using T- and S-duality
- Mirror symmetry maps these to perturbative and A-cycle D2-brane instanton corrections to Type IIA on mirror manifold

## Calabi-Yau Compactifications of Type II Strings

Consider Type IIA/B string on background  $M_{1,9} = M_{1,3} \times \text{CY}_3$

$\Rightarrow$  N=2 supergravity on  $M_{1,3}$ :

$$S = \int \left( *R + \frac{1}{2} g_{ij}(\varphi) *d\varphi^i \wedge d\varphi^j + \dots \right) \supset \text{NLSM with metric } g_{ij}$$

$$\varphi^i : M_{1,3} \rightarrow \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d \in \text{Vector- \& Hypermultiplets}$$

N=2 Susy  $\Rightarrow$  target space  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_{\text{VM}} \times \mathcal{M}_{\text{HM}}$ :

$\mathcal{M}_{\text{VM}}$ : special Kähler,  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{HM}}$ : quaternion-Kähler

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**QK:**  $(\mathcal{M}, g)$  4n-dim. space with  $\text{Hol}(\mathcal{M}) = K \times \text{Sp}(1)$ ,  $K \subset \text{Sp}(n)$ ,  
admits triplet of almost complex structures  $\vec{J}$ :  $J_i J_j = -\delta_{ij} + \epsilon_{ijk} J_k$   
*not* Kähler, Einstein ( $n = 1$ : Einstein & self-dual)

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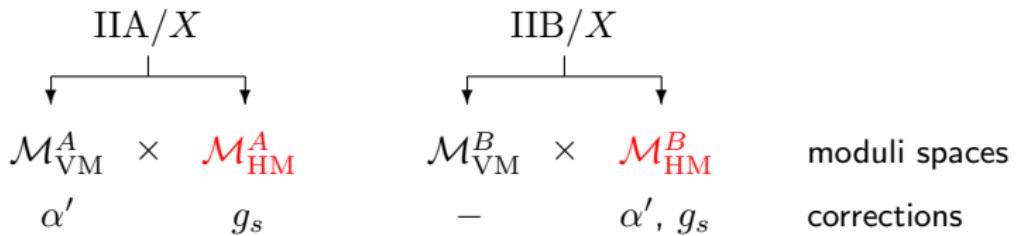
Examples:  $\mathbb{C}\text{P}^2$ ,  $S^4$ ,  $\mathbb{H}\text{P}^n$ ,  $\frac{\text{U}(n, 2)}{\text{U}(n) \times \text{U}(2)}$  ( $n = 1$ : class. universal hyperm.)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{IIA}/X & & \text{IIB}/X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathcal{M}_{\text{VM}}^A \times \mathcal{M}_{\text{HM}}^A & & \mathcal{M}_{\text{VM}}^B \times \mathcal{M}_{\text{HM}}^B \\ 2h_{1,1} & & 2h_{1,2} \\ & & 4h_{1,2} + 4 \\ & & 4h_{1,1} + 4 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{moduli spaces} \\ \dim \mathcal{M} \end{array}$$

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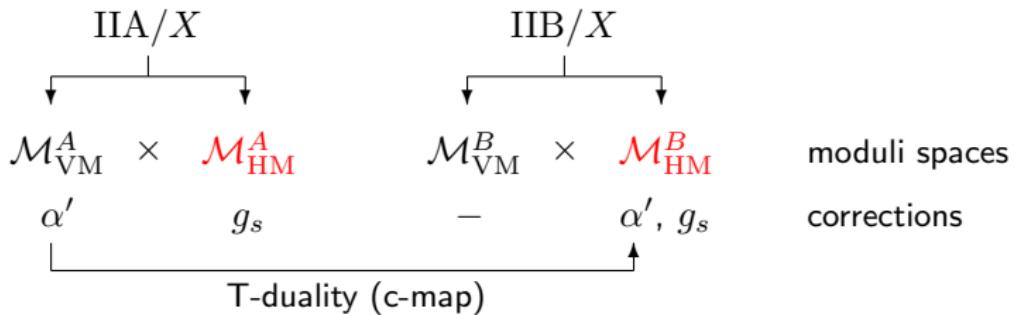
Quantum corrections to moduli spaces:  $g_{ij} - g_{ij}^{\text{cl}} = g_{ij}^{\text{pert}} + g_{ij}^{\text{inst}}$

- $\sim \alpha'/R_{\text{CY}}^2$     worldsheet CFT
- $\sim g_s = e^{\langle \phi \rangle}$     genus expansion of worldsheet + brane instantons



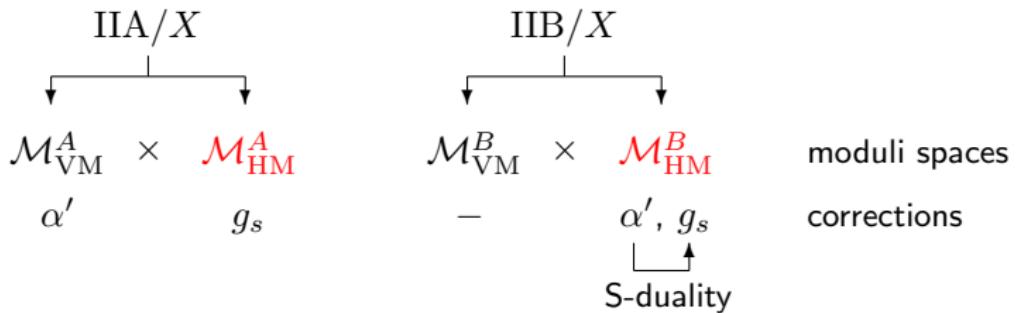
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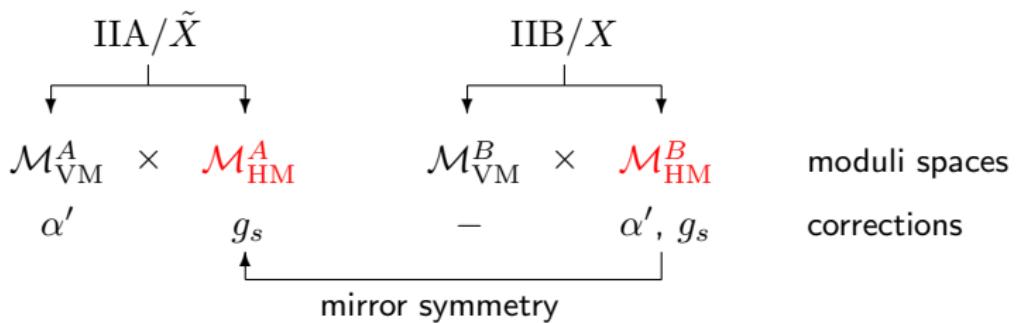
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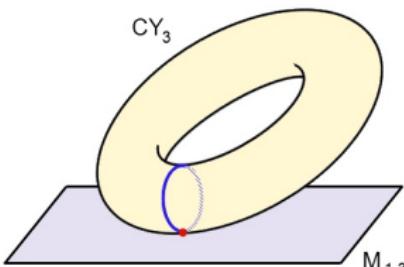
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## Instantons

Euclidean worldvolume of string/brane wrapping around supersym. cycle  $\gamma_{p+1}$  in CY<sub>3</sub>

Type II/CY<sub>3</sub>:

- F1-string  $\sim e^{-1/\alpha'}$
- D<sub>p</sub>-brane  $\sim e^{-1/g_s}$
- IIA:  $p = 2$ , IIB:  $p = -1, 1, 3, 5$
- NS5-brane  $\sim e^{-1/g_s^2}$



Becker<sup>2</sup>, Strominger '95

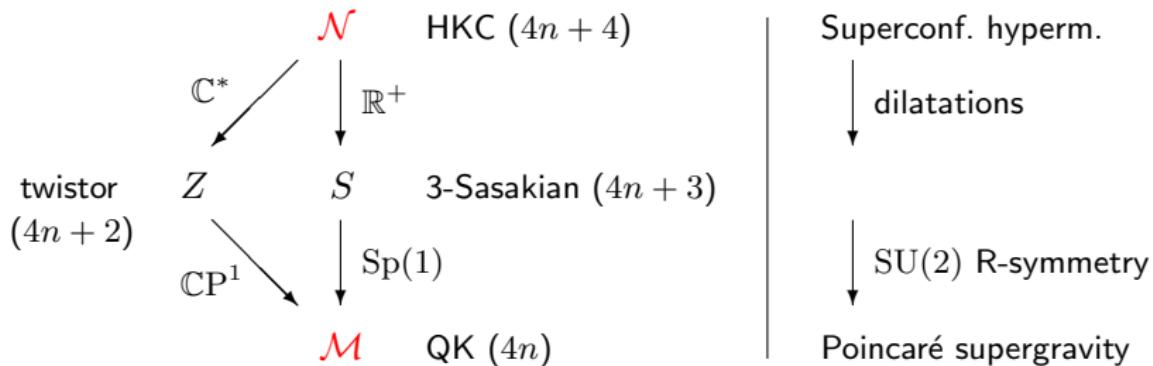
In this talk, I will determine the contributions to the LEEAs from D(-1)-brane,  $(p, q)$ -string and A-cycle D2-brane instantons

### Ingredients:

- Full  $\alpha'$  corrections to IIA vector multiplets (3-loop & worldsheet instantons)
- Perturbative  $g_s$  corrections to hypermultiplets (1-loop)

## Hyperkähler Cone/Off-shell Formulation

Swann bundle:



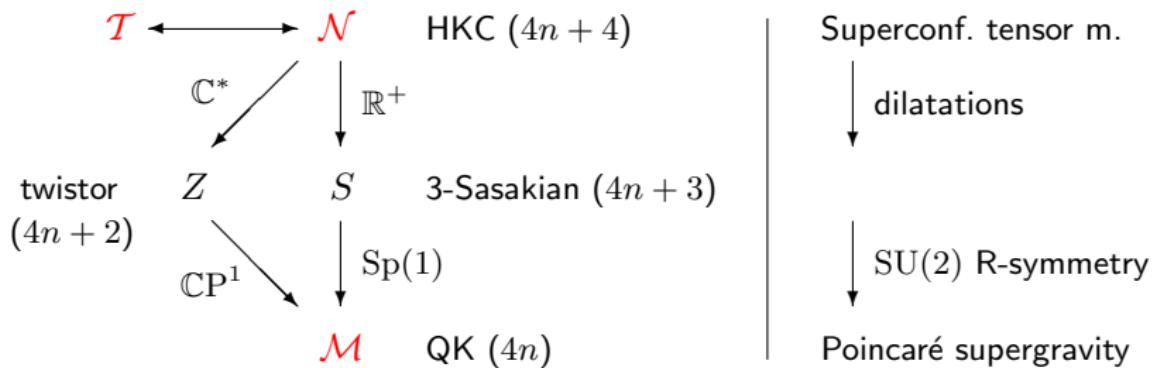
**HKC:** Hyperkähler w/ homothetic Killing vector  $\xi$  ( $\nabla_A \xi^B = \delta_A^B$ ) and isometric SU(2) action  $\vec{k} = \vec{J}\xi$  (not triholomorphic)

$$\text{HK potential } \chi = \tfrac{1}{2}g(\xi, \xi) \Rightarrow ds_{\mathcal{N}}^2 = d\chi^2/2\chi + 2\chi ds_{3\text{-S}}^2$$

Complete low-energy effective action determined by HK potential  $\chi$ !

## Hyperkähler Cone/Off-shell Formulation

Swann bundle:



No 3- and 5-brane instantons  $\Rightarrow$  HKC has  $n+1$  commuting isometries,  
consider space of orbits  $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{N}/G$  ( $\dim \mathcal{T} = 3n+3$ )

Physics: dualization of hyper- into **tensor multiplets**:  $*d\varphi^I \sim dB_I$

$\mathcal{T}$  also determined by real potential  $\chi_T(\vec{r}^I)$ ,  $I = 1, \dots, n+1$

*de Wit,  
Saueressig '06*

Physical tensor multiplet scalars of Poincaré supergravity are dilatation and  $SU(2)_R$ -invariant functions of the  $\vec{r}^I$ :

IIA/ $\tilde{X}$	IIB/ $X$
$e^{-\phi_{\text{IIA}}}$	$\tau_2 = e^{-\phi_{\text{IIB}}}$
$\int_{\gamma_3^a} \Omega \Big/ \int_{\gamma_3^1} \Omega = z_{\text{IIA}}^a$	$z_{\text{IIB}}^a = b^a + i t^a = \int_{\gamma_2^a} (B + i J)$
$\int_{\gamma_3^1} C_3 = \xi^1$	$\tau_1 = C_0$
$\int_{\gamma_3^a} C_3 = \xi^a$	$\tau_1 b^a - c^a = - \int_{\gamma_2^a} e^{-B} \wedge (C_0 + C_2)$
$\delta_a^a = h_{1,2}(\tilde{X})$	$\delta_a^a = h_{1,1}(X)$

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 $\equiv$ 

$$\text{IIB}/X$$


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$$e^{-\phi_{\text{IIA}}} \equiv \tau_2 = e^{-\phi_{\text{IIB}}}$$

$$\int_{\gamma_3^a} \Omega \Big/ \int_{\gamma_3^1} \Omega = z_{\text{IIA}}^a \equiv z_{\text{IIB}}^a = b^a + i t^a = \int_{\gamma_2^a} (B + i J)$$

$$\int_{\gamma_3^1} C_3 = \xi^1 \equiv \tau_1 = C_0$$

$$\int_{\gamma_3^a} C_3 = \xi^a \equiv \tau_1 b^a - c^a = - \int_{\gamma_2^a} e^{-B} \wedge (C_0 + C_2)$$

$$\delta_a^a = h_{1,2}(\tilde{X}) \equiv \delta_a^a = h_{1,1}(X)$$

↑

Mirror symmetry

*Böhm, Günther,  
Herrmann, Louis '99  
RSTV '08*

## SL(2,Z) Invariance of IIB String Theory

Any isometry of  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{HM}}$  is lifted to a symmetry of the tensor potential  $\chi_T$   
 $\Rightarrow \chi_T$  must be **modular invariant!**

SL(2,  $\mathbb{Z}$ ) transformations of tensor multiplet scalars:

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- dilaton/axion       $\tau \mapsto \frac{\alpha\tau + \beta}{\gamma\tau + \delta}, \quad \alpha\delta - \beta\gamma = 1$
- Kähler moduli       $t^a \mapsto |\gamma\tau + \delta| t^a$
- 2-form moduli       $\begin{pmatrix} b^a \\ c^a \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \delta & \gamma \\ \beta & \alpha \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b^a \\ c^a \end{pmatrix}$
- conf. compensator     $r^0 \mapsto |\gamma\tau + \delta| r^0$

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SL(2,  $\mathbb{Z}$ ) generated by     $T : \tau \mapsto \tau + 1 , \quad S : \tau \mapsto -\frac{1}{\tau}$

string coupling constant  $g_s = 1/\langle\tau_2\rangle \Rightarrow$  **strong-weak duality**

## IIB Tensor Multiplet Potential

Modular invariant tensor potential:  $\chi_T^{\text{IIB}}(\vec{r}^I) \equiv r^0 \sqrt{\tau_2} \Psi^{\text{IIB}}(\tau, t, b, c)$

Classical action from

$$\Psi_{\text{cl}}^{\text{IIB}} = \frac{4}{3!} \tau_2^{3/2} \kappa_{abc} t^a t^b t^c$$

Perturbative, D(-1)-brane and  $(p, q)$ -string instanton corrections: **RRSTV '07**

$$\Psi_{\text{qu}}^{\text{IIB}} = -\frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_{k \in H_2, 0} n_k \sum'_{m,n} \frac{\tau_2^{3/2}}{|m\tau + n|^3} (1 + 2\pi|m\tau + n|k_a t^a) e^{-S_{m,n}}$$

$n_k$ : genus zero GV invariants, # rational curves of class  $k_a$  in  $X$       *Gopakumar, Vafa '98*

$$n_0 \equiv -\chi_E(X)/2 = h_{1,2}(X) - h_{1,1}(X)$$

$(p, q)$ -string instanton action:  $S_{m,n} = 2\pi k_a (|m\tau + n|t^a - i m c^a - i n b^a)$

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Can also be obtained from 1-loop graviton/M2-brane amplitude

in M-theory compactified on  $X \times T^2$

*Collinucci, Soler,  
Uranga '09*

Poisson resummation gives

$$\Psi_{\text{qu}}^{\text{IIB}} = \frac{\chi_E(X)}{(2\pi)^3} \left( \zeta(3) \tau_2^{3/2} + 2\zeta(2) \tau_2^{-1/2} \right)$$

*perturbative  $\alpha'$  and  $g_s$  corrections*

$$- \frac{2\tau_2^{3/2}}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_{k \in H_2} n_k \operatorname{Re} \left( \operatorname{Li}_3(e^{2\pi i k_a z^a}) + 2\pi k_a t^a \operatorname{Li}_2(e^{2\pi i k_a z^a}) \right)$$

*worldsheet instantons*

$$- \frac{\sqrt{\tau_2}}{2\pi^2} \sum_{k \in H_2, 0} n_k \sum_{m \neq 0, n \in \mathbb{Z}} \left| \frac{k_a z^a + n}{m} \right| e^{2\pi i m(k_a(c^a - \tau_1 b^a) - n\tau_1)} \times \\ \times K_1(2\pi\tau_2|m||k_a z^a + n|)$$

*$k_a = 0$ : D(-1) instantons,  $k_a \neq 0$ : D1 instantons*

## A-cycle D2-brane Instanton Corrections in IIA

Mirror symmetry :

IIB/ $X$	IIA/ $\tilde{X}$
$H_0(X, \mathbb{Z})$	$H_{0,3}(\tilde{X}, \mathbb{Z})$
$D(-1)/\gamma_0$	$D2/\gamma_3^1$
<hr/>	<hr/>
$H_{1,1}(X, \mathbb{Z})$	$H_{1,2}(\tilde{X}, \mathbb{Z})$
$D1/k_a \gamma_2^a$ with $\int F/2\pi = n$	$D2/k_a \gamma_3^a + n \gamma_3^1$

## A-cycle D2-brane Instanton Corrections in IIA

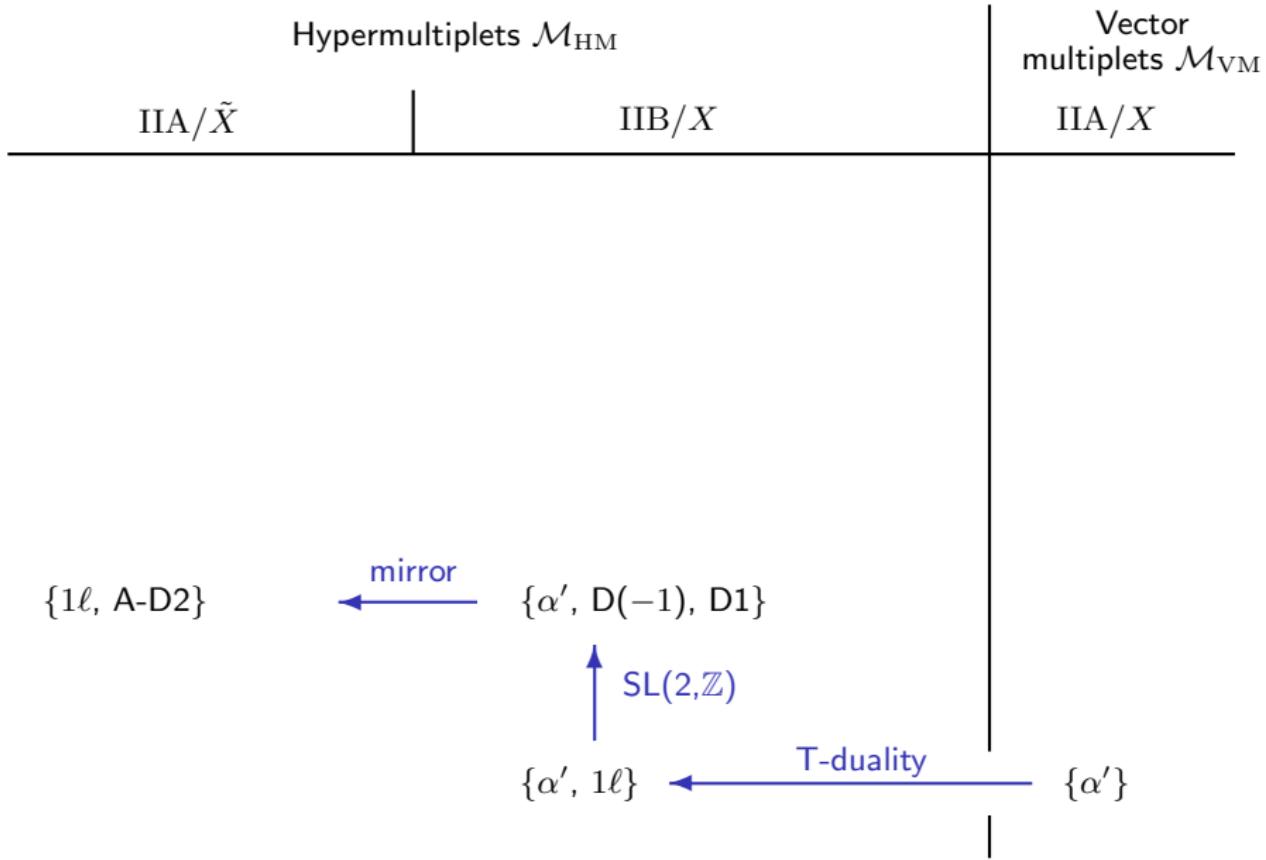
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	$D1/k_a \gamma_2^a$ with $\int F/2\pi = n$	$D2/k_a \gamma_3^a + n \gamma_3^1$

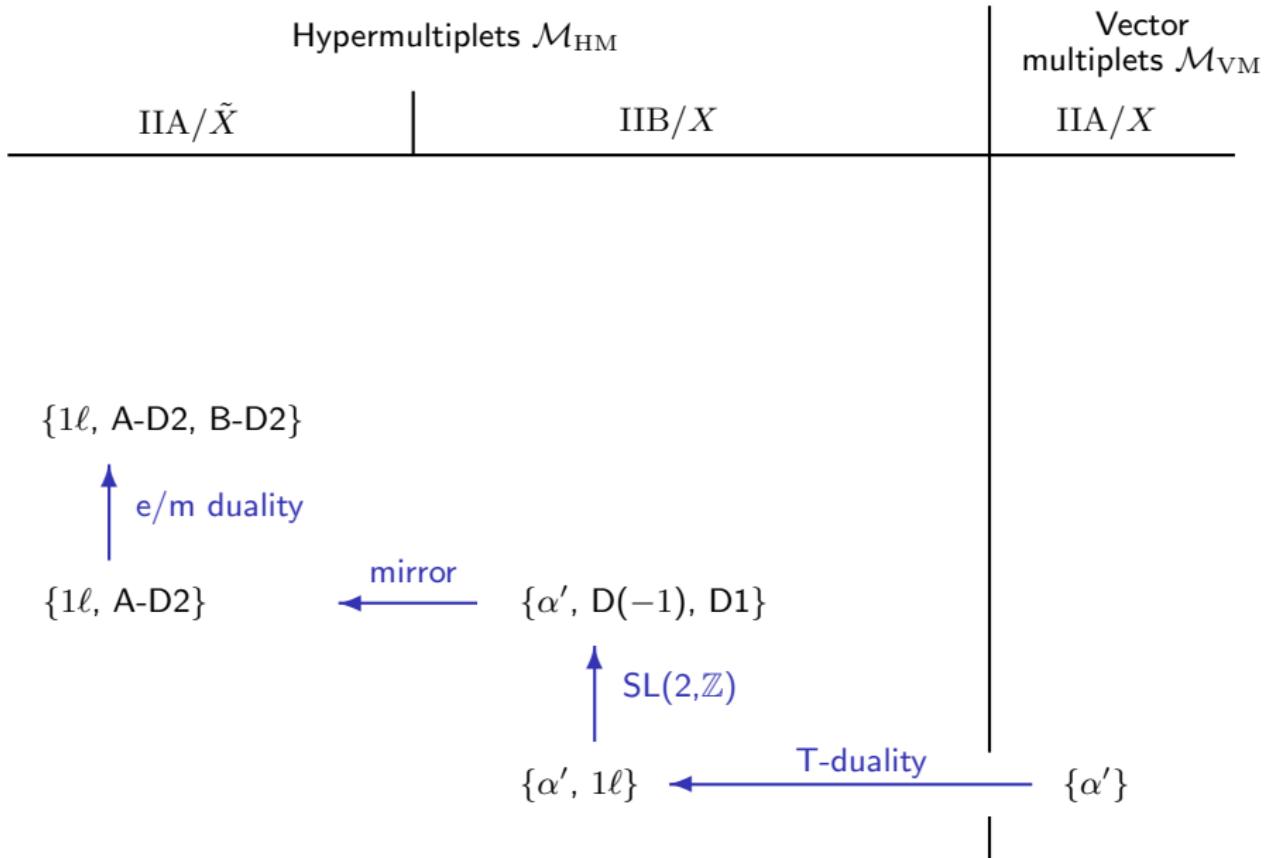
$$\Rightarrow \Psi_{A-D2}^{IIA} = -\frac{\sqrt{\tau_2}}{2\pi^2} \sum_{k_\Lambda \neq 0} n_{k_\Lambda} \sum_{m \neq 0} \left| \frac{k_\Lambda z^\Lambda}{m} \right| e^{-2\pi i m k_\Lambda \xi^\Lambda} K_1(2\pi \tau_2 |m k_\Lambda z^\Lambda|)$$

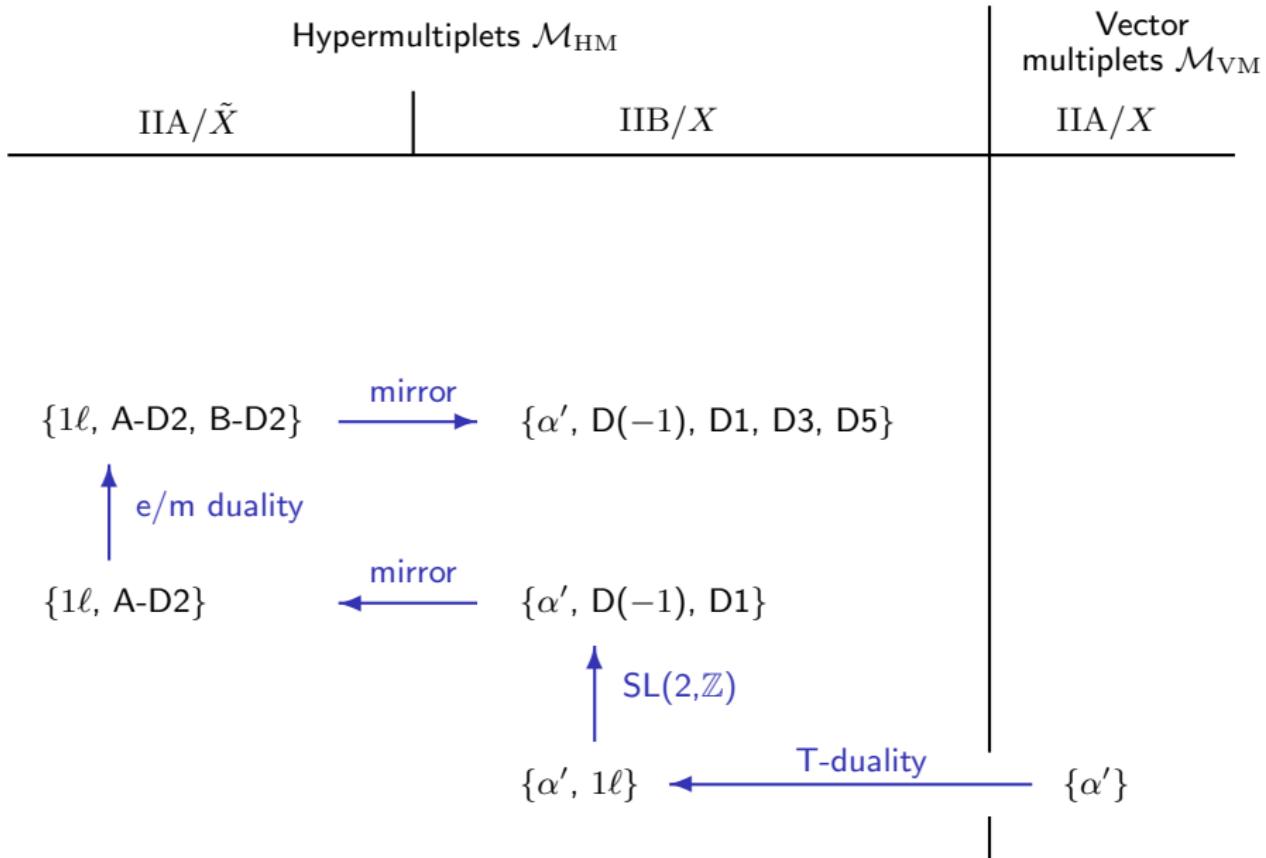
with  $k_\Lambda = (n, k_a)$ ,  $z^\Lambda = (1, z^a)$ ,  $\xi^\Lambda = (\xi^1, \xi^a)$

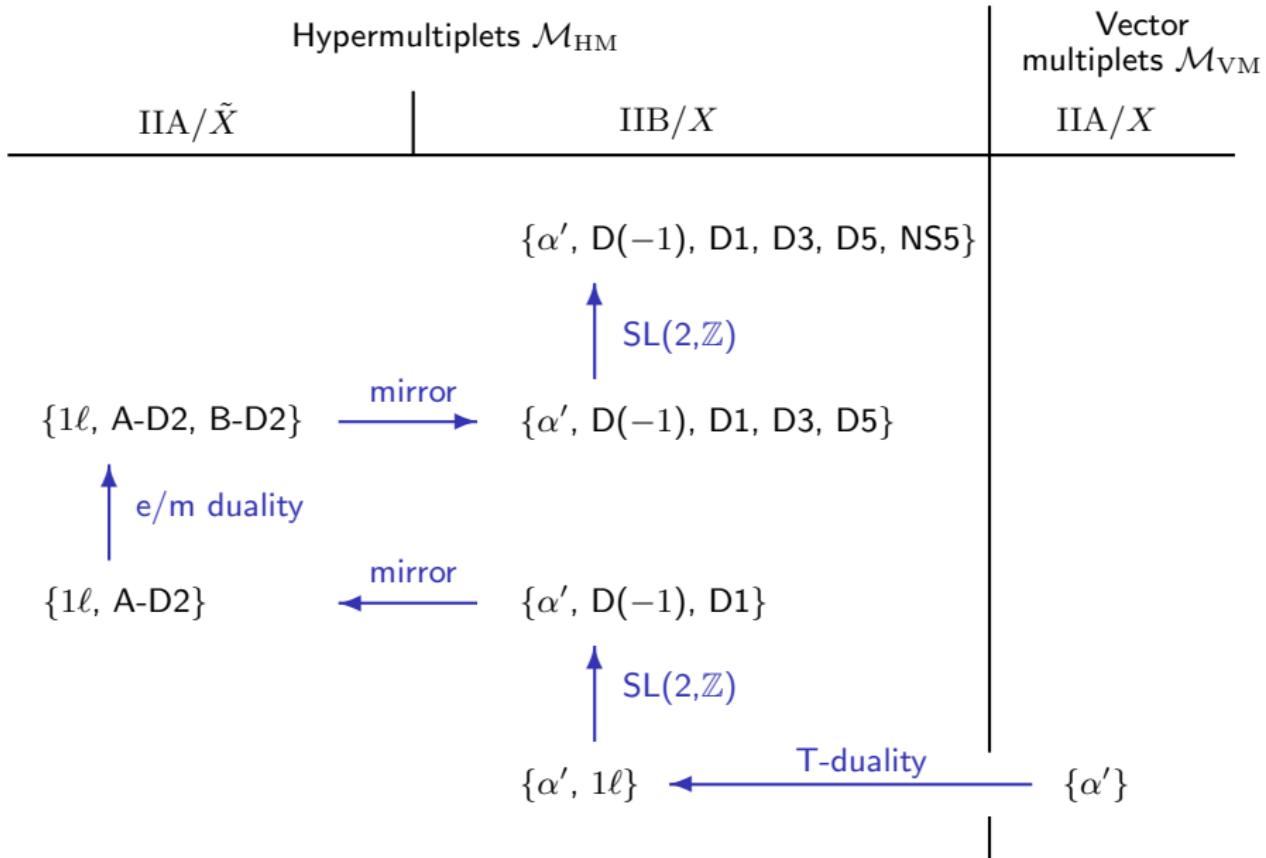
RSTV '08

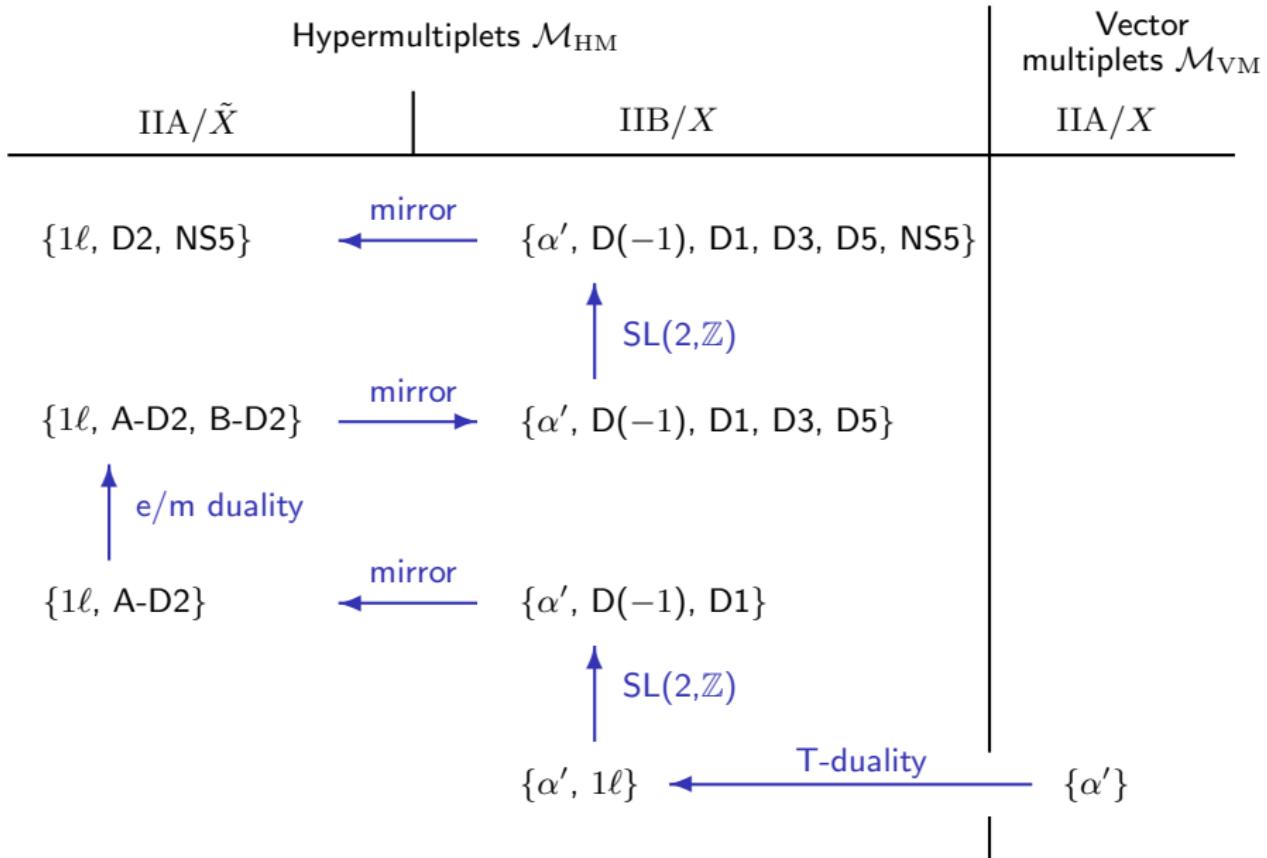
Type IIA instanton numbers:  $n_{(n,0)} = \chi_E(\tilde{X})/2$ ,  $n_{(n,k_a)} = n_{k_a}(X)$











## Outlook

- Inclusion of D3, D5 and NS5-brane instantons
- Orientifolding to obtain N=1 theory *RRSTV '07*
- Instanton corrections to flux-induced scalar potential  
⇒ moduli stabilization, uplift to de Sitter vacua, inflation?
- Dualization of IIA/CY<sub>3</sub> into heterotic string on  $K3 \times T^2$