



Exactly marginal deformations and their supergravity duals

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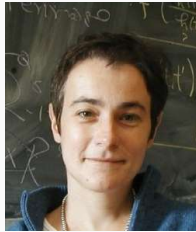
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Motivation

Focus on **4d $N = 1$ SCFTs** with type IIB duals

- Canonical example

$$\text{IIB on AdS}_5 \times S^5 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad N = 4 \text{ SYM}$$

- Generalisation with **all fluxes**

$$\text{IIB on AdS}_5 \times M \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad N = 1 \text{ SCFT}$$

Known solutions

- e.g. metric + $F_5 \Rightarrow M$ is **Sasaki–Einstein**
- e.g. Pilch–Warner, β deformation [Lunin, Maldacena '05]

4d $N = 4$ SYM in $N = 1$ language

Three chiral fields Φ^i with $SU(3)$ flavour symmetry and **superpotential**

$$\mathcal{W} = \epsilon_{ijk} \operatorname{tr}(\Phi^i \Phi^j \Phi^k)$$

F -term conditions imply Φ^i **commute**: $\partial_1 \mathcal{W} \propto [\Phi^2, \Phi^3] = 0$, etc.

Chiral ring \leftrightarrow ring of **holomorphic functions** on $C(S^5) = \mathbb{C}^3$:

$$\mathcal{O}_f = f_{i_1 \dots i_n} \operatorname{tr}(\Phi^{i_1} \dots \Phi^{i_n}) \quad \leftrightarrow \quad f(z^i)$$

Hilbert series: graded count of single-trace mesonic operators

$$H(t) = \sum_k n_k t^k = \frac{1}{(1-t)^3} = 1 + 3t + 6t^2 + 10t^3 + \dots$$

Marginal deformations

e.g. $N = 1$ deformations of $N = 4$ SYM [Leigh, Strassler '95]

$$\mathcal{W} = f_{ijk} \text{tr}(\Phi^i \Phi^j \Phi^k)$$

- $f_{ijk} \in 10_{\mathbb{C}}$ of $SU(3)$ – 10 complex d.o.f.
- One-loop beta functions

$$f_{ikl} \bar{f}^{jkl} - \frac{1}{3} \delta_i^j f_{klm} \bar{f}^{klm} = 0$$

Two exactly marginal couplings form conformal manifold [Kol '02, Kol '10, Green et al. '10]

$$\mathcal{M}_c = \{f_{ijk}\} // SU(3) = \{f_{ijk}\} / SL(3, \mathbb{C})$$

Superpotential and chirals

At the $N = 4$ point, we can choose

$$\Delta\mathcal{W} = f_\beta \operatorname{tr}(\Phi^1\Phi^2\Phi^3) + f_\lambda \operatorname{tr}[(\Phi^1)^3 + (\Phi^2)^3 + (\Phi^3)^3]$$

F -term relations define **non-commutative** Sklyanin algebra [Ginzburg '06]

Chiral operators for **generic** f_β and f_λ counted by [Van den Bergh '94]

$$H(t) = \frac{(1+t)^3}{1-t^3} = 1 + 3t + 3t^2 + 2t^3 + \dots$$

- Two marginal deformations again
- Not known for generic $N = 1$ SCFTs

Dual geometries?

Can we understand the **dual geometries**?

- $f_\lambda = 0$: “ β deformation”, preserves $U(1)^2$ isometry, **exact** dual solution known [Lunin, Maldacena ‘05]
- Generic: **no isometries** (other than $U(1)_R$)
- For S^5 , *tour de force* 3rd-order **perturbative** analysis [Aharony, Kol, Yankielowicz ‘02], but full solution not known

Can we count the **chiral operators**?

Goals of talk

1. Describe supergravity analogue of **holomorphic data** encoded by \mathcal{W}
2. Show how holomorphic data determines solution up to action of **complexified** diffeos + gauge
3. Compute Hilbert series for **deformed SCFTs** from dual geometry

AdS₅ in type IIB & generalised geometry

Supersymmetric AdS₅ backgrounds

Generic type IIB solution preserving **8 supercharges** with fields $(\Delta, \tau, H_3, F_3, F_5, g)$

$$ds_{10}^2 = e^{2\Delta} ds^2(\text{AdS}_5) + ds^2(M)$$

Symmetries: GDiff \sim diffeos + p -form gauge

$$\delta B^i = d\lambda^i, \quad \delta C_4 = d\rho - \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_{ij} d\lambda^i \wedge dB^j$$

Supersymmetry: fermions = 0 and $\delta_\epsilon(\text{fermions}) = 0$

$$\nabla_m \epsilon + (\text{flux})_m \cdot \epsilon = 0, \quad \gamma^m \nabla_m \epsilon + \text{flux} \cdot \epsilon = 0$$

with ϵ stabilised by USp(6) [Coimbra, Strickland-Constable, Waldram '14]

Example: Sasaki–Einstein

e.g. M is **Sasaki–Einstein**

Geometry defined by nowhere-vanishing tensors σ, j and Ω

- Defined by **spinor bilinears**: $j_{mn} \sim \bar{\epsilon} \gamma_{mn} \epsilon$, etc.
- $\xi = g^{-1} \sigma$ defines $U(1)_R$ of dual SCFT

Tensors satisfy **algebraic conditions**

$$\iota_{\xi} \sigma = 1, \quad \iota_{\xi} j = \iota_{\xi} \Omega = j \wedge \Omega = 0, \quad j^2 = \frac{1}{2} |\Omega|^2$$

Invariant under $SU(2) \subset GL(5, \mathbb{R})$

Supersymmetry implies **differential conditions** on invariant tensors

$$\begin{aligned}d\sigma &= 2j, & d\Omega &= 3i\sigma \wedge \Omega, \\F_5 &= 4(\text{vol}(\text{AdS}_5) + \text{vol}(M_5))\end{aligned}$$

- ξ is **Killing vector**
- Corresponds to **SU(2) structure** with singlet intrinsic torsion

SUSY backgrounds with flux

Long history of using **G-structures** and **generalised geometry** to analyse supersymmetric flux backgrounds

Generic AdS_5 case: spinor ϵ defines **exceptional Sasaki–Einstein** structure, stabilised by $\text{USp}(6)$ [AA, Petrini, Waldram '16]

- Defined by pair (X, K)

$$X \sim \text{hyper d.o.f.} \quad K \sim \text{vector d.o.f.}$$

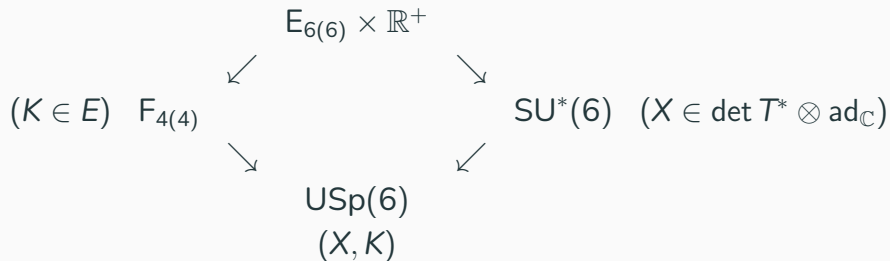
Tensors in $\text{E}_{6(6)} \times \mathbb{R}^+$ **generalised geometry** [Hull '07, Pacheco, Waldram '08]

- Construct tensors as **irreps** of $\text{E}_{6(6)} \times \mathbb{R}^+$

$$\text{GL}(5, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \text{E}_{6(6)} \times \mathbb{R}^+$$

Generalised structures

Spinor ϵ defines the pair (X, K)



Intersect on $USp(6)$ if **compatible**

$$X \cdot K = 0, \quad \text{tr}(X\bar{X}) = c(K, K, K)^2$$

(X, K) equivalent to specifying **all supergravity fields** for solution

Example: Sasaki–Einstein

Recall structure defined by (σ, j, Ω)

K structure defines “contact structure”

$$K = \xi - \sigma \wedge j \in T \oplus \Lambda^3 T^* \subset E$$

X structure defines “Cauchy–Riemann structure”

$$X = e^{\frac{1}{2}ij^2} u^i \sigma \wedge \Omega \in 2\Lambda^3 T^* \subset \text{ad}_{\mathbb{C}} \otimes \det T^*$$

with $u^i = \tau_2^{-1/2}(\tau, 1)^i$ and $\tau = \chi + ie^{-2\phi}$

Supersymmetry

Symmetries act by a **generalised Lie derivative** along generalised vector

$$V = v^a + \lambda_a^i + \rho_{abc} + \sigma_{abcde}^i$$

$$L_V = \mathcal{L}_v - (d\lambda^i + d\rho)$$

$$\sim \text{GDiff} = \text{diffeo} + \text{gauge}$$

Supersymmetry of the solution is then equivalent to [AA, Petrini, Waldram '16]

$$L_K K = 0, \quad L_K X = 3iX,$$

$$\mu_+(V) = 0, \quad \mu_3(V) = \int_M c(K, K, V) \quad \forall V$$

- Equivalent to supersymmetry conditions derived in [Gauntlett et al. '04]
- $\frac{2}{3}L_K$ generates $U(1)_R$ of dual SCFT

Holomorphic data & counting chirals

Deformed solutions

Can we solve for the general supergravity solution dual to the deformed field theories? *Unlikely!*

- Solving for generic solution seems **intractable** – no isometries, harder than Monge–Ampère for Calabi–Yau

Instead, focus on **holomorphic data**

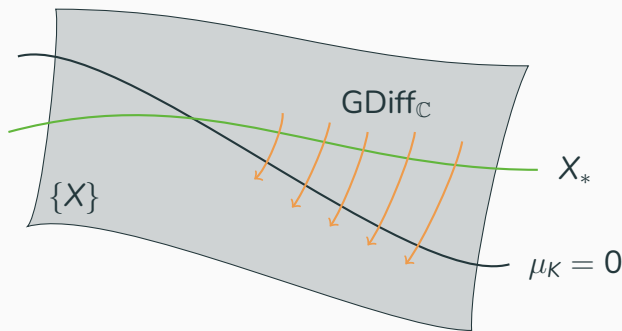
$$\mu_+(V) = 0, \quad L_K K = 0, \quad L_K X = 3iX$$

- “Exceptional Sasaki”
- Space of X that solve these conditions is still **Kähler**
- Moduli space given by μ_3 moment map + GDiff quotient – equivalent to **$\text{GDiff}_{\mathbb{C}}$ quotient**

General argument

Given deformed solution (X_*, K) to holomorphic conditions, can show that full solution exists:

1. $\mu_K(V) = \mu_3(V) - \int_M c(K, K, V)$ is moment map for GDiff with fixed K
2. (X_*, K) matches exactly marginal solutions for **infinitesimal** deformations
3. Open subset of **stable** points that lie on orbits of $\text{GDiff}_{\mathbb{C}}^K$ will intersect $\mu_K = 0$ – all (X_*, K) are stable and thus can be mapped to full solutions
4. Different X_* flow to different solutions unless there are **isometries**, in agreement with field theory [Kol '02, Kol '10, Green et al. '10]



1. Fixing an orbit $[X] \simeq G\text{Diff}_{\mathbb{C}} \cdot X$ fixes the superpotential \mathcal{W} of dual SCFT
2. $L_K X = 3iX$ fixes $\Delta = 3$ – marginal deformation
3. Motion along orbit \equiv renormalisation of Kähler potential

Example: S^5 again

Mesonic operators $\text{tr}(\Phi \dots)$ \leftrightarrow holomorphic functions $f(z)$ on cone

- **Marginal** $\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}_\xi f = 3if$

Cone is $C(S^5) = \mathbb{C}^3$; functions are $f = f_{ijk} z^i z^j z^k$

Recall, at S^5 point

$$X = e^{\frac{1}{2}ij^2} u^i \sigma \wedge \Omega \sim u^i \sigma \wedge \Omega \quad \text{up to } \text{GDiff}_{\mathbb{C}}$$

How do we **deform** this by f ?

X_* for deformed S^5 background

New exact family of solutions to **holomorphic** conditions

$$K = \xi - \sigma \wedge j, \quad X_*(f) = e^{b^i(\tau, f)} (df + v^i(\tau, f) \sigma \wedge \Omega)$$

with $b^i \in \Lambda^2 T_{\mathbb{C}}^*$ linear in f and v^i quadratic

- In S^5 case and f cubic, reproduces **leading** parts of [Aharony, Kol, Yankielowicz '02]
- For $f = z^1 z^2 z^3$, can solve for **explicit** $\text{GDiff}_{\mathbb{C}}$ to take solution to exact β -deformed solution
- Works for deformation of any **Sasaki–Einstein** background – $T^{1,1}$, etc.

What can we calculate using this (partial) solution?

X_* fixes **superpotential** so should encode space of mesonic operators

$$\mathcal{O}_f = f_{ijkl\dots} \text{tr}(\Phi^i \Phi^j \Phi^k \Phi^l \dots)$$

Can count these graded by R -charge \rightarrow **Hilbert series**

- Counting for Sasaki–Einstein point done by [Eager, Schmude, Tachikawa '12]
- But we want to count for the **deformed theory!**

Counting δX up to $\text{GDiff}_{\mathbb{C}}$ defines a **cohomology** which counts **chiral operators**

$$\text{chirals} \sim \frac{\{\delta X \mid \delta\mu_+ = 0\}}{\{\delta X = L_V X\}}$$

- Drop $L_K X = 3iX$ condition to count tower of KK modes
- Counting depends only on **class** $[X] = [X_*]$

Calculating the cohomology

Easiest when the deformed solution is **generic** – $df \neq 0$

Cohomology then reduces to [Tasker '21]

$$\dots \xrightarrow{d} df \wedge \Lambda^p T_{\mathbb{C}}^* \xrightarrow{d} df \wedge \Lambda^{p+1} T_{\mathbb{C}}^* \xrightarrow{d} \dots$$

which can be computed using **Kohn–Rossi cohomology** of original Sasaki–Einstein

Counting chirals

Hilbert series

$$H(t) \equiv \sum_k n_k t^k = 1 + \mathcal{I}_{\text{s.t.}}(t) - [k \equiv_3 0, k > 0] t^{2k}$$

e.g. deformed S^5 dual to deformed $N = 4$ SYM with

$$f = f_\beta z^1 z^2 z^3 + f_\lambda [(z^1)^3 + (z^2)^3 + (z^3)^3]$$

Hilbert series is

$$H(t) = \frac{(1+t)^3}{1-t^3} = 1 + 3t + 3t^2 + 2t^3 + \dots$$

in **agreement** with [Van den Bergh '94]

New results

e.g. $T^{1,1}$ – undeformed result

$$H(t) = \frac{1 + t^{3/2}}{(1 - t^{3/2})^3} = 1 + 4t^{3/2} + 9t^3 + 16t^{9/2} \dots$$

For Klebanov–Witten theory with generic deformed superpotential

$$H(t) = \frac{1 + 4t^{3/2} + 2t^3}{1 - t^3} = 1 + 4t^{3/2} + 3t^3 + 4t^{9/2} + \dots$$

- Matches explicit counting of chiral fields modulo F -term relations up to $k = 21/2$ [Tasker '21]
- No previous calculation of cyclic homology / chirals for deformed theory!

New results for $\#n(S^2 \times S^3)$, etc.

Summary

Background geometry naturally encodes **superpotential** of dual SCFT

Can find supergravity solution for deformations up to **GDiff_C action**

Class of structure $[X]$ determines spectrum of **chiral operators**

Future

- Same/similar formalism for AdS₅/AdS₄ in **M-theory**
- Cohomology gives **supersymmetric index**
- **a-maximisation** for generic supersymmetric backgrounds –

$$a^{-1} \sim \int_M c(K, K, K)$$

Backup slides

K structure

Generalised vector V^A parametrises **diffeos** + **gauge** transformations

$$27 \sim E \simeq T \oplus 2T^* \oplus \Lambda^3 T^* \oplus 2\Lambda^5 T^*$$
$$V^A = v^a + \lambda_a^i + \rho_{abc} + \sigma_{abcde}^i$$

Invariant cubic form on E

$$c(V, V, V) = -\frac{1}{2}v_v \rho \wedge \rho + \dots \in \det T^*$$

K structure defined by

$$K \in E \quad \text{s.t.} \quad c(K, K, K) > 0$$

- Generalised vector invariant under $F_{4(4)} \in E_{6(6)}$

X structure

e.g. adjoint elements

$$78 \sim \text{ad} \simeq 3\mathbb{R} \oplus (T \otimes T^*) \oplus 2\Lambda^2 T^* \oplus 2\Lambda^2 T \oplus \Lambda^4 T^* \oplus \Lambda^4 T$$
$$R^A{}_B = \dots + B^i{}_{ab} + \dots + C_{abcd} + \dots$$

X structure defined by

$$X \in \text{ad}_{\mathbb{C}} \otimes \det T^* \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \text{tr}(X\bar{X}) \neq 0$$

- Complex adjoint tensor invariant under $SU^*(6) \in E_{6(6)}$
- $X = \kappa(J_1 + iJ_2) = \kappa J_+$ defines **su₂ triplet**

$$[J_\alpha, J_\beta] = 2\kappa \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} J_\gamma, \quad \text{tr}(J_\alpha J_\beta) = -\kappa^2 \delta_{\alpha\beta}, \quad \kappa^2 \in \det T^*$$

Moment maps

The μ_α are a triplet of **moment maps** for the action of

$$\text{GDiff} \simeq \text{diffeo} + \text{gauge}$$

Infinitesimally, $V \in \Gamma(E) \simeq \mathfrak{g}\text{diff}$ acts by

$$\delta J_\alpha = L_V J_\alpha$$

Action preserves **hyper-Kähler structure** on space of J_α so that

$$\mu_\alpha(V) = -\frac{1}{2}\epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \int_M \text{tr}(J_\beta L_V J_\gamma)$$

Marginal vs exactly marginal deformations

The field theory result of [Kol '02, Kol '10, Green et al. '10] that all marginal deformations are exactly marginal unless there is a global symmetry follows directly from **moment map structure**

e.g. $\text{AdS}_5 \times S^5$, (X, K) preserved by $\text{SU}(3)$

- **Linearised deformation** parameterised by $f = f_{ijk} z^i z^j z^k$
- $\mu_\alpha(V)$ **trivially** zero for $V \in \text{SU}(3)$
- Further moment map for $\text{SU}(3)$ and quotient on $\{f_{ijk}\}$

$$\mu_{\text{SU}(3)} \equiv f_{ikl} \bar{f}^{jkl} - \frac{1}{3} \delta_i^j f_{klm} \bar{f}^{klm} = 0$$

gives space of **exactly marginal couplings**