# Consistent compactification of Double Field Theory on non-geometric backgrounds 

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## String theory...

- string theory is a quantum gravity $\rightarrow$ spacetime is not fixed
- it should evolve from the theory itself


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"usual" implementations of string theory describe dynamic of strings in a certain background spacetime

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## ... and the string theory landscape [3].

- How to choose such a background?
- Is (are) there one, ten, hunderts or billions of them?


1. parameterize "shape" of background
2. assign energy to each background
3. find minima

## How we explore this landscape?



## How we explore this landscape?



## SUGRA in a nutshell

- low engery effective theory for (super) string theory
- here the NS/NS sector only

$$
S_{\mathrm{NS}}=\int \mathrm{d}^{D} x \sqrt{g} e^{-2 \phi}\left(\mathcal{R}+4 \partial_{\mu} \phi \partial^{\mu} \phi-\frac{1}{12} H_{\mu \nu \rho} H^{\mu \nu \rho}\right)
$$

- Einstein-Hilbert like part = general relativity
- 2-form gauge field $B_{\mu \nu}$ with
- field strength $H_{\mu \nu \rho}=\partial_{[\mu} B_{\nu \rho]}$
$\sim$ Einstein-Maxwell theory $\rightarrow$ point particles
- backgrounds solve $S_{\mathrm{NS}}$ 's field equations


## Backgrounds "seen" by point particles

- general relativity: spacetime = smooth manifold



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- fields are connected by gauge transformations


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## Strings have a different perspective [4]:

- closed strings also wind around the torus $\rightarrow$ T-duality

- new interesting properties like non-commutativity
- compactifications lead to gauged SUGRA
- moduli stabilization
- effective cosmological constant
- spontaneous SUSY breaking



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## Double Field Theory [5, 6] in a nutshell

- considers both, winding and momentum mode of string
- doubling of coordinates $D \rightarrow 2 D$

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\begin{gathered}
X^{M}=\underset{\left(\begin{array}{ll}
\tilde{x}_{i} & x^{i}
\end{array}\right) \quad \phi^{\prime}=\phi-\frac{1}{2} \log \sqrt{g}}{\longleftrightarrow} S_{\mathrm{DFT}}=\int \mathrm{d}^{2 D} X e^{-2 \phi^{\prime} \mathcal{R}} \\
\mathcal{R}=4 \mathcal{H}^{M N} \partial_{M} \phi^{\prime} \partial_{N} \phi^{\prime}-\partial_{M} \partial_{N} \mathcal{H}^{M N}-4 \mathcal{H}^{M N} \partial_{M} \phi^{\prime} \partial_{N} \phi^{\prime}+4 \partial_{M} \mathcal{H}^{M N} \partial_{N} \phi^{\prime} \\
+\frac{1}{8} \mathcal{H}^{M N} \partial_{M} \mathcal{H}^{K L} \partial_{N} \mathcal{H}_{K L}-\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{H}^{M N} \partial_{N} \mathcal{H}^{K L} \partial_{L} \mathcal{H}_{M K}
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$$

## Gauge transformations and the strong constraint [7, 8]

- generalized Lie derivative combines

1. diffeomorphisms $\}$ available in SUGRA
2. $B$-field gauge transformations
3. $\beta$-field gauge transformations

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}_{\xi} \mathcal{H}^{M N} & =\xi^{P} \partial_{P} \mathcal{H}^{M N}+\left(\partial^{M} \xi_{P}-\partial_{P} \xi^{M}\right) \mathcal{H}^{P N}+\left(\partial^{N} \xi_{P}-\partial_{P} \xi^{N}\right) \mathcal{H}^{M P} \\
\mathcal{L}_{\xi} \phi^{\prime} & =\xi^{M} \partial_{M} \phi^{\prime}+\frac{1}{2} \partial_{M} \xi^{M}
\end{aligned}
$$

- closure of this algebra needs $\mathcal{L}_{\xi_{1}} \mathcal{L}_{\xi_{2}}-\mathcal{L}_{\xi_{2}} \mathcal{L}_{\xi_{1}}=\mathcal{L}_{\xi_{3}}$ with $\xi_{3}=\left[\xi_{1}, \xi_{2}\right]_{\mathrm{C}}$ (C-bracket)
- only possible when strong constraint holds

$$
\partial_{M} \partial^{M} \cdot=0
$$

- trivial implementation of SC $\tilde{\partial}_{i} \cdot=0 \rightarrow$ DFT $=$ SUGRA


## Scherk-Schwarz compactification [9]



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## Scherk-Schwarz compactification [9] or

a tool to construct backgrounds and fluctuations


## Group manifold = Scherk-Schwarz ansatz in doubled coordinates

1. Homogenious space in $2(D-d)$ dimensions

- space "looks" at every point the same
- $2(D-d)$ linear independent Killing vector $K_{J}{ }^{J}$

$$
\mathcal{L}_{K_{I}} \mathcal{H}^{M N}=0 \quad \text { and } \quad \mathcal{L}_{K_{l}^{J}} \phi^{\prime}=0
$$

- infinitesimal translations $\mathcal{L}_{K_{I}}{ }^{J}$ form group $G_{\mathrm{L}}$

2. Gauge transformations

- map space to itself by

$$
\mathcal{L}_{U_{N}{ }^{M}} \mathcal{H}^{I J}=-\mathcal{F}_{I M L} U_{N}{ }^{M} \mathcal{H}^{L J}-\mathcal{F}_{J M L} U_{N}{ }^{M} \mathcal{H}^{I L}
$$

- infinitesimal translations $\mathcal{L}_{U_{N}{ }^{M}}$ form group $G_{R}$
- structure coefficients $\mathcal{F}_{I J K}=$ covariant fluxes
- closure of $G_{R} \rightarrow$ constraints on $\mathcal{F}_{I J K}$


## Gauged SUGRA $[10,11]$ and its vaccua

- DFT action + Scherk-Schwarz ansatz gives rise to

$$
\begin{aligned}
S_{\mathrm{eff}}= & \int \mathrm{d} x^{(D-d)} \sqrt{-g} e^{-2 \phi}\left(\mathcal{R}+4 \partial_{\mu} \phi \partial^{\mu} \phi-\frac{1}{12} H_{\mu \nu \rho} H^{\mu \nu \rho}\right. \\
& \left.-\frac{1}{4} \mathcal{H}_{M N} F^{M \mu \nu} F^{N}{ }_{\mu \nu}+\frac{1}{8} D_{\mu} \mathcal{H}_{M N} D^{\mu} \mathcal{H}^{M N}-V\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

with scalar potential

$$
V=-\frac{1}{4} \mathcal{F}_{I}^{K L} \mathcal{F}_{J K L} \mathcal{H}^{I J}+\frac{1}{12} \mathcal{F}_{I K M} \mathcal{F}_{J L N} \mathcal{H}^{I J} \mathcal{H}^{K L} \mathcal{H}^{M N}
$$

- maximally symmetric vacuum = Minkowski (no warping implemented yet)
- e.o.m for vacuum reduce to

$$
0=\mathcal{R}_{\mu \nu}, \quad V=0 \quad \text { and } \quad \mathcal{K}^{M N}=\frac{\delta V}{\delta \mathcal{H} M N} \sim 0
$$

- additional constraints on covariant fluxes $\mathcal{F}_{I J K}$


## Covariant fluxes as classification tool

- covariant fluxes $\mathcal{F}_{I J K}$ combine

1. geometric fluxes $f$ and $H$-flux (known from SUGRA)
2. non-geometric fluxes $Q$ and $R$

- find fluxes which fulfill all constraint discussed so far
- solution for $D-d=3$ (non-vanishing fluxes)

$$
H_{123}=Q_{1}^{23}=H \quad \text { and } \quad f_{31}^{2}=f_{12}^{3}=f
$$

- three different cases

1. $H=0$ and $f \neq 0$ : Solvmanifold, known from SUGRA
2. $H \neq 0$ and $f=0$ : T-dual version of 1 .
3. $H \neq 0$ and $f \neq 0$ : genuinely non-geometric background, called double elliptic

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## How do these backgrounds "look" like?

- fibration of $T^{2}$ over a $S^{1}$ base with coordinate $x$

- $T^{2}$ parameterized by $\rho$ and $\tau$ (functions of $x$ )
- fixed point of twist is $\rho(0)=\tau(0)=i$


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## Moduli stabilization

- scalar potential for fiber moduli $\rho(0)=\rho$ and $\tau(0)=\tau$

$$
V=\frac{f^{2}\left(1+2\left(\tau_{\mathrm{R}}^{2}-\tau_{\mathrm{I}}^{2}\right)+|\tau|^{4}\right)}{2 \tau_{\mathrm{I}}^{2}}+\frac{H^{2}\left(1+2\left(\rho_{\mathrm{R}}^{2}-\rho_{\mathrm{I}}^{2}\right)+|\rho|^{4}\right)}{2 \rho_{\mathrm{I}}^{2}}
$$

- minimum at fixed point of twist with $V_{\min }=0$ (Minkowski)
- mass terms for $\rho$ and $\tau$

| modulus | $\rho_{\mathrm{R}}$ | $\rho_{\mathrm{I}}$ | $\tau_{\mathrm{R}}$ | $\tau_{\mathrm{I}}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| mass | $2\|H\|$ | $2\|H\|$ | $2\|f\|$ | $2\|f\|$ |

- volume $\rho_{\mathrm{I}}$ of fiber torus is stabilized
$\rightarrow$ no large volume limit!
- still 5 flat directions, e.g. radius of base $R$


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## Duality orbits and flux quantization

- double elliptic solution is invariant under global $O(3,3)$
$\rightarrow$ not one solution but a family of them = duality orbit [12]


## PROBLEM:

Minimum of potential is arbitrary! How can we fix it?

## SOLUTION:

Use insights from string theory. Monodromy has to be in $T$-duality group $O(2,2, Z)$

- $H$ and $f$ gets quantized
- minimum of the potential at $T^{2}$ orbifold points
$=$ volume at order of string length
- closely related the asymmetric orbifold [13, 14]


## A hidden violation of the strong constraint

We have found a background

- without large volume limit
- stabilizes additional moduli
- generalized metric fulfills the strong constraint
not in scope of SUGRA or generalized geometry

BUT, looking more closely, we see

- one Killing vector which violates the strong constraint

$$
K^{\prime}=\left(\begin{array}{llllll}
0 & -\frac{1}{2}\left(H x^{3}+f \tilde{x}^{3}\right) & \frac{1}{2}\left(H x^{2}+f \tilde{x}^{2}\right) & 1 & -\frac{1}{2}\left(f x^{3}+H \tilde{x}^{3}\right) & \frac{1}{2}\left(f x^{2}+H \tilde{x}^{2}\right)
\end{array}\right)
$$

$\rightarrow$ patched by diffeomorphisms, $B$-field and $\beta$-transformations

- algebra of Killing vectors still closes
at the border of DFT's scope


## Applications to inflation

## BICEP2 [15]:

- detection of B-modes from gravitational waves
- large value of $r=0.2_{-0.05}^{+0.07}$ compared to previous results

$\rightarrow$ chaotic inflation with trans-Planckian field range
- problem for inflation in an effective theory


## SOLUTION:

axion as inflaton + monodromy to enlarge field range
monodromy inflation [16, 17]

## Monodromy on double elliptic background [18]



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## Summary, conclusions and outlook



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- $H=0$ and $f \neq 0$
- $H \neq 0$ and $f=0$
- $H \neq 0$ and $f \neq 0$

new applications, e.g. inflation, non-associative geometry[19], ...

Thank you for your attention.
Do you have any questions?

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