

B-branes in $\mathcal{N} = (2, 2)$ Hybrid Models

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Based on work in collaboration with Johanna Knapp [SciPostPhys.17.6.165].

Introduction

- The goal of this work is to understand the category of B-branes in $\mathcal{N} = (2, 2)$ hybrid models.

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- We build on prior work in the closed string setting².

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Non-linear sigma models

- The string worldsheet action is that of an 2d $\mathcal{N} = (2, 2)$ non-linear sigma model (NLSM), on a Calabi-Yau manifold X

$$S_{\text{NLSM}} = \int d^2x \left(-g_{\alpha\bar{\beta}} \partial^\mu \phi^\alpha \partial_\mu \bar{\phi}^{\bar{\beta}} + 2ig_{\alpha\bar{\beta}} \bar{\psi}_-^{\bar{\beta}} \overleftrightarrow{D}_+ \psi_-^\alpha + 2ig_{\alpha\bar{\beta}} \bar{\psi}_+^{\bar{\beta}} \overleftrightarrow{D}_- \psi_+^\alpha + R_{\alpha\bar{\beta}\gamma\bar{\delta}} \psi_+^\alpha \psi_-^\gamma \bar{\psi}_-^{\bar{\beta}} \bar{\psi}_+^{\bar{\delta}} \right).$$

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$$\delta\phi^\alpha = \epsilon_+ \psi_-^\alpha - \epsilon_- \psi_+^\alpha,$$

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- For X a Calabi-Yau, the NLSM has a non-anomalous $U(1)_A \times U(1)_V$ R -symmetry.

Landau-Ginzburg orbifold models

- A $2d \mathcal{N} = (2, 2)$ LG orbifold model with target space \mathbb{C}^n/Γ and superpotential W is given by

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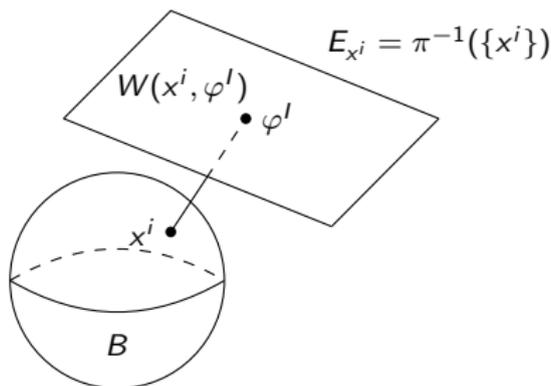
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- LG models have a non-anomalous $U(1)_A \times U(1)_V$ R -symmetry if W is quasi-homogeneous of degree 2 under $U(1)_V$.

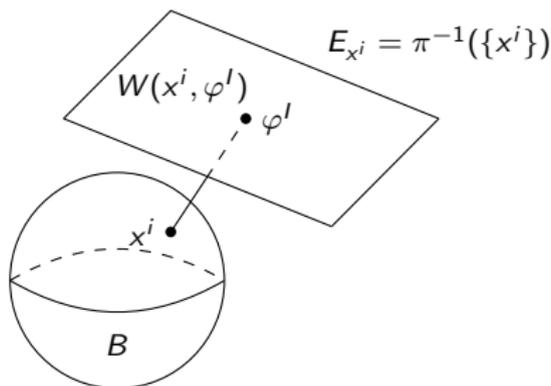
Hybrid models

- A hybrid model "looks like", an LG orbifold fibred over a geometric base. This allows a non-zero superpotential in the fibre, and NLSM-like physics in the base.



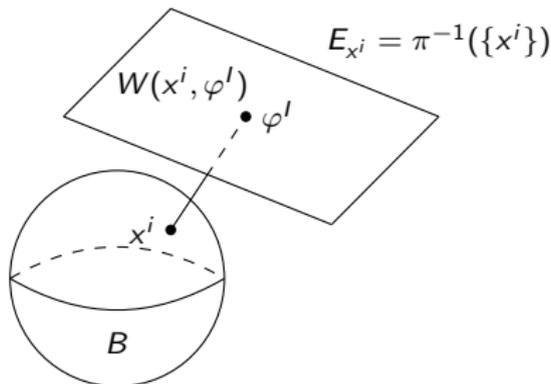
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- A certain class of hybrid models are believed to flow to SCFTs at low energies.
- NLSMs and LG models are special cases of hybrid models.



Definition of a hybrid model

- At the level of actions, a 2d $\mathcal{N} = (2, 2)$ hybrid model with target space Y just looks like a generic NLSM with superpotential

$$S_{\text{hyb}} = \int d^2x \left(-g_{\alpha\bar{\beta}} \partial^\mu \phi^\alpha \partial_\mu \bar{\phi}^{\bar{\beta}} + \dots - \frac{1}{4} g^{\alpha\bar{\beta}} \partial_\alpha W \partial_{\bar{\beta}} \bar{W} + \dots \right).$$

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Hybrid Geometry

Let B be a compact Kähler manifold of dimension d , and let $Y : X \rightarrow B$ be a rank r holomorphic vector bundle. If there exists a holomorphic function $W : Y \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ such that $dW^{-1}(0) = B$, we call Y a hybrid geometry.

The Good Hybrid Condition

- A hybrid which flows to an SCFT is said to be a "good hybrid". This is believed to be the case when we can consistently assign both non-anomalous axial and vector $U(1)$ R -symmetries³.

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- S_{hyb} is then invariant under δ_A and $\delta_V + 2\delta_{KV}$, where δ_A and δ_V are the NLSM R -symmetries.

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An example of hybrid geometry

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- The superpotential can be given locally by

$$W_u = (\alpha + u^8)\varphi_u^4, \text{ and } W_v = (\alpha v^8 + 1)\varphi_v^4, \alpha \in \mathbb{C}^\times,$$

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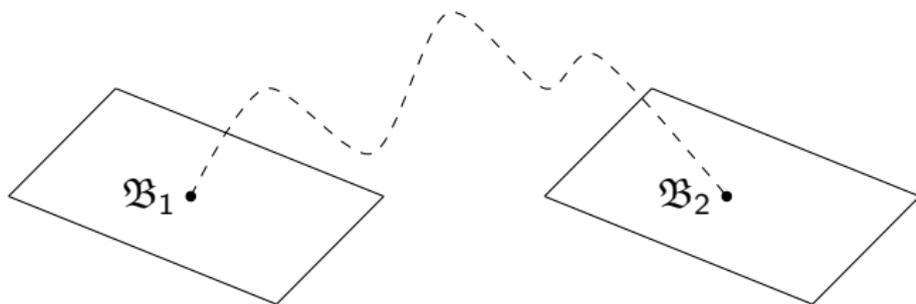
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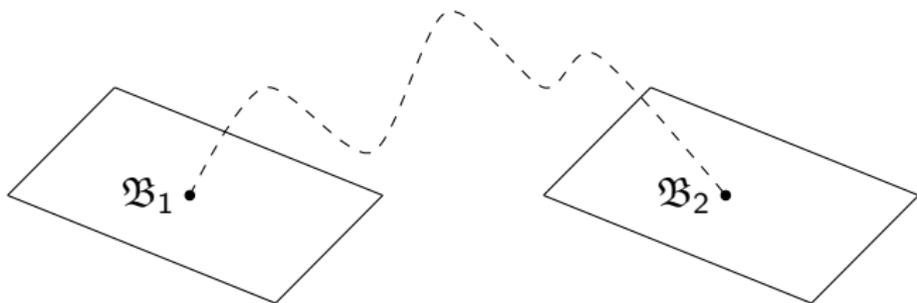
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- Worldsheet boundaries can preserve at most one of the $\mathcal{N} = 2$ subalgebras of $\mathcal{N} = (2, 2)$. We choose to preserve the $\mathcal{N} = 2_B$ subalgebra, and specifically consider D-branes in B-twisted theories. These are the B-branes.



Elementary B-branes in NLSMs

- The data of an elementary B-brane⁵ in an NLSM is $\mathfrak{B} = (E, A, Q)$, where E is a \mathbb{Z}_2 -graded vector bundle over X , A is a connection with a $(1, 1)$ -curvature form and Q is an odd, nilpotent, holomorphic endomorphism of E .

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- The morphisms are given by open string states, which are cohomology classes of the boundary supercharge acting on the space of NLSM zero-modes

$$H_{Q_{\partial\Sigma}}^p(\mathcal{H}_{\text{zero}}(\mathfrak{B})) = H_{Q_{\partial\Sigma}}^p\left(\bigoplus_{i=0}^n \Omega^{0,i}(X, \text{End}(E))\right) = \text{Ext}^p(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E}).$$

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General B-branes in NLSMs

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- This is the definition of the (bounded) derived category of coherent sheaves on X , $D^b(X)$.

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Matrix factorisations

Writing $Q = \text{antidiag}(f(x), g(x))$, we have

$$Q^2 = W\mathbb{1}_V \iff f(x)g(x) = g(x)f(x) = W(x)\mathbb{1}_V.$$

Such a pair (f, g) is called a matrix factorisation of W .

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Example - LG B-branes of Clifford type

- An important class of matrix factorisations can be realised in terms of Clifford algebras. They have the following form

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- For example, we always have the so-called canonical matrix factorisation

$$Q = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(x_i \eta_i + \frac{1}{d_i} \frac{\partial W}{\partial x_i} \bar{\eta}_i \right).$$

Hybrid B-branes

- Far less is known about the category of B-branes in hybrid models.

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Hybrid B-branes

- Far less is known about the category of B-branes in hybrid models.
- Some results⁸ are known for hybrids which can be realised as non-commutative resolutions of branched double covers of \mathbb{P}^3 . In particular, this includes the hybrid phase of $\mathbb{P}^7[2, 2, 2, 2]$.

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- In this case, the hybrid B-branes are known to be described by sheaves of even parts of Clifford algebras⁹.

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- Hybrid B-branes will correspond to boundary interactions which restore $\mathcal{N} = 2_B$ on $\partial\Sigma$.

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- We refer to this structure as a global matrix factorisation, Q over a holomorphic vector bundle $\mathcal{E} = (E, A)$.
- This data corresponds to the following boundary interaction

$$\mathcal{A}_t = \dot{\phi}^\alpha A_\alpha - \frac{i}{4} F_{\alpha\bar{\beta}} \eta^\alpha \bar{\eta}^{\bar{\beta}} - \frac{1}{2} \psi^\alpha D_\alpha Q + \frac{1}{2} Q Q^\dagger + \text{c.c.}$$

Boundary R-symmetry and orbifolding

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For an orbifold group Γ , and a representation $\rho : \Gamma \rightarrow GL(E)$, a hybrid brane in an orbifolded model must satisfy

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R-symmetry for hybrid B-branes

To ensure boundary R-symmetry, E must admit a $U(1)$ -action R_λ such that

$$\begin{aligned} R_\lambda Q(x^i, \lambda^{q_i} \varphi^I) R_\lambda^{-1} &= \lambda Q(x^i, \varphi^I), \\ R_\lambda A_\alpha(x^i, \lambda^{q_i} \varphi^I) R_\lambda^{-1} &= \lambda^{q_\alpha} A_\alpha(x^i, \varphi^I). \end{aligned}$$

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- Vector bundles $\tilde{E} \rightarrow B$ can be pulled back along $\pi : Y \rightarrow B$ to bundles over Y .

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- We then take Chan-Paton bundles of the form

$$E \cong \pi^* \mathcal{O}(k_1) \oplus \pi^* \mathcal{O}(k_2) \oplus \dots \oplus \pi^* \mathcal{O}(k_{2\ell}), \quad k_i \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Building hybrid B-branes II - Connections

- We start with the Chern connection $\nabla^{(k)} = d + A^{(k)}$ on $\mathcal{O}(k) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$. It has a $(1,1)$ curvature form, and is given locally by

$$A_i^{(k)} = \frac{-k(\bar{u}_1 du_1 + \cdots + \bar{u}_n du_n)}{1 + |u_1|^2 + \cdots + |u_n|^2}.$$

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- It can then be pulled back to obtain a corresponding connection on $\pi^* \mathcal{O}(k) \rightarrow Y$

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- For a general sum of line bundles, we then have

$$\pi^* A^{(E)} = \begin{pmatrix} \pi^* A^{(k_1)} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \pi^* A^{(k_2)} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \pi^* A^{(k_{2\ell})} \end{pmatrix}.$$

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Local matrix factorisations

A local matrix factorisation Q_i over a chart $U_i \cong \mathbb{C}^{d+r}$ of Y is an odd, holomorphic endomorphism which squares to the local superpotential, W_i

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- Since Q is an odd holomorphic section of the bundle $End(E)$, we obtain a gluing condition for the local matrix factorisations

$$Q_j = \tau_{ij} Q_i \tau_{ij}^{-1},$$

where the τ_{ij} are the transition functions of E .

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- We start with a series of local Clifford type matrix factorisations on an open cover $\{U_i\}$ of Y

$$Q_i = \sum_{p=1}^n \left(f_p^{(i)}(u, x) \eta_p + g_p^{(i)}(u, x) \bar{\eta}_p \right), \text{ where } \{\eta_p, \bar{\eta}_q\} = \delta_{pq}.$$

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- To obtain global matrix factorisations, we impose compatibility with the gluing condition and global holomorphicity.

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- We make the ansatz that the Chan-Paton space has the form

$$E = \pi^* \mathcal{O}(k_1) \oplus \cdots \oplus \pi^* \mathcal{O}(k_{2l}).$$

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- We construct a set of local matrix factorisations $\{Q_i\}$ on an open cover $\{U_i\}$ of Y .
- The allowed values of the weights k_i will then be constrained by the compatibility of the set $\{Q_i\}$ with the gluing condition and holomorphicity.

Building hybrid B-branes III - Global matrix factorisations

- The integers k_i can then be regarded as gauge charges for states in the local Clifford module

$$E_i = \text{span}_{\mathbb{C}}\{|0\rangle, \bar{\eta}_i |0\rangle, \dots, \bar{\eta}_1 \cdots \bar{\eta}_n |0\rangle\}.$$

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- Under rather mild assumptions, the charges corresponding to the Clifford generators are fixed by holomorphicity and the gluing condition.
- The remaining charges are determined by the Clifford algebra structure. This fixes E up to a choice of vacuum charges.

Example 1 - The octic hybrid

- Our first example is the hybrid phase of the octic hypersurface in the toric resolution of \mathbb{P}^4_{11222} .

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- The local superpotentials on the cover $\{U_u, U_v\}$ can be taken to be

$$W_u = x_{3,u}^4 + x_{4,u}^4 + x_{5,u}^4 + (1 + u^8)x_{6,u}^4,$$

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- A basis of hybrid B-branes can be obtained by globalising local matrix factorisations of Clifford type.

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$$Q_u = x_{6,u}\eta_6 + (u^8 + 1)x_{6,u}^3\bar{\eta}_6 + \sum_{a=3}^5 (x_{a,u}\eta_a + x_{a,u}^3\bar{\eta}_a).$$

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- We construct a local Chan-Paton space as a highest weight module for the corresponding Clifford algebra

$$E_u = \text{Span}\{|0\rangle, \bar{\eta}_i|0\rangle, \dots, \bar{\eta}_3 \cdots \bar{\eta}_6|0\rangle\}.$$

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- This module can be depicted as a twisted complex

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \bar{\eta}_6 \oplus_{a=3}^5 \bar{\eta}_3 \hat{\eta}_a \bar{\eta}_5 |0\rangle & & & & & & \bar{\eta}_6 |0\rangle \\ \bar{\eta}_3 \cdots \bar{\eta}_6 |0\rangle & \xleftrightarrow{\quad} & \oplus & \xleftrightarrow{\quad} & \dots & \xleftrightarrow{\quad} & \oplus & \xleftrightarrow{\quad} & |0\rangle. \\ & & & & & & \bar{\eta}_3 \bar{\eta}_4 \bar{\eta}_5 |0\rangle & & \oplus_{a=3}^5 \bar{\eta}_a |0\rangle \end{array}$$

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- Similar considerations also yield the R and orbifold charges of the Clifford states.

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- We thus obtain a family of hybrid B-branes $\mathfrak{B}^{(a_0, r_0, \alpha_0)} = (E^{(a_0)}, A^{(a_0)}, Q, \rho^{(\alpha_0)}, R^{(r_0)})$ represented by the following twisted complex

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & \mathcal{O}(a_0 + 2)_{r_0 - \frac{3}{2}, \alpha_0 - 3}^{\oplus 3} & & \mathcal{O}(a_0 + 2)_{r_0 - \frac{1}{2}, \alpha_0 - 1} & & \\
 \mathcal{O}(a_0 + 2)_{r_0 - 2, \alpha_0 - 4} & \xleftarrow{\quad} & \oplus & \xleftarrow{\quad} & \dots & \xleftarrow{\quad} & \oplus & \xleftarrow{\quad} & \mathcal{O}(a_0)_{r_0, \alpha_0} \cdot \\
 & & \mathcal{O}(a_0)_{r_0 - \frac{3}{2}, \alpha_0 - 3} & & & & \mathcal{O}(a_0)_{r_0 - \frac{1}{2}, \alpha_0 - 1}^{\oplus 3} & &
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Example 2 - The bicubic hybrid

- Our second example is the hybrid phase of $\mathbb{P}^5[3, 3]$. This model is built upon the following hybrid geometry

$$Y = \text{tot} \left(\mathcal{O} \left(-\frac{1}{3} \right)^{\oplus 6} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1 \right).$$

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where the $G_{3,u}^i$ and $G_{3,v}^i$ are generic cubic polynomials in the corresponding fibre fields.

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Remark

The potential condition is satisfied exactly when the corresponding Calabi-Yau is smooth.

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- An interesting hybrid B-brane can be constructed by intersecting the canonical matrix factorisation with a linear divisor on the base

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- Using these charges to transform to the other chart, we see that this ambiguity can be interpreted as the ability to stack $n = 3(a_7 - 1) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ D0-branes over the north pole of $B = \mathbb{P}^1$

$$Q_v = \sum_{i=1}^6 \left(x_{i,v} \eta_i + \frac{1}{3} \frac{\partial W_v}{\partial x_{i,v}} \bar{\eta}_i \right) + v^n (\alpha v + \beta) \bar{\eta}_7.$$

Lifting to the GLSM

- Many hybrid models arise as phases of gauged linear sigma models.

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- A hybrid B-brane $\mathfrak{B} = (E, A, Q, \rho, R)$ defined on such a hybrid can be lifted to a GLSM brane $\mathcal{B} = (M, Q, \rho_M, r_*)$.

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- These lifts can be used to identify hybrid B-branes as analytic continuations of familiar geometric B-branes¹⁰.

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- A possible lift of our octic global matrix factorisation is

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$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & \mathcal{W}(1,0)_{\frac{1}{2}}^{\oplus 3} & & \mathcal{W}(3,0)_{\frac{3}{2}} & & \\ & & \oplus & & \oplus & & \\ \mathcal{W}(0,0)_0 & \xleftrightarrow{\quad} & \oplus & \xleftrightarrow{\quad} & \dots & \xleftrightarrow{\quad} & \oplus & \xleftrightarrow{\quad} & \mathcal{W}(4,-2)_2 \cdot \\ & & \mathcal{W}(1,-2)_{\frac{1}{2}} & & \mathcal{W}(3,-2)_{\frac{3}{2}}^{\oplus 3} & & \end{array}$$

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- We thus see that this brane corresponds to the analytic continuation of the structure sheaf of the large volume Calabi-Yau to the hybrid phase.

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$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & \mathcal{W}(1-n)_{\frac{1}{3}}^{\oplus 6} & & \mathcal{W}(2-n)_{\frac{2}{3}}^{\oplus 15} & & & \\ & \longleftarrow & \oplus & \longleftarrow & \dots & \longleftarrow & \oplus & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{W}(9)_1 \cdot \\ \mathcal{W}(n)_0 & & & & & & & & \\ & & & \mathcal{W}(3)_{-1} & & & \mathcal{W}(4)_{-\frac{2}{3}}^{\oplus 6} & & \end{array}$$

Lifting - The bicubic

- A GLSM-lift of our bicubic global matrix factorisation is given by

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$$\mathcal{W}(n)_0 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\oplus} \\ \xleftarrow{\oplus} \end{array} \mathcal{W}(1-n)_{\frac{1}{3}}^{\oplus 6} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\oplus} \\ \xleftarrow{\oplus} \end{array} \mathcal{W}(2-n)_{\frac{2}{3}}^{\oplus 15} \dots \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\oplus} \\ \xleftarrow{\oplus} \end{array} \mathcal{W}(3)_{-1} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\oplus} \\ \xleftarrow{\oplus} \end{array} \mathcal{W}(4)_{-\frac{2}{3}}^{\oplus 6} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\oplus} \\ \xleftarrow{\oplus} \end{array} \mathcal{W}(9)_1.$$

- This confirms that our hybrid B-brane corresponds to a $D0$ brane at $u = -\frac{\alpha}{\beta}$ along with n $D0$ -branes stacked at the north pole of the base \mathbb{P}^1 .

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- We developed a method for constructing B-branes in general hybrid models by globalising local matrix factorisations.
- Globalising Clifford-type local matrix factorisations allowed us to obtain bases of hybrid B-branes in several examples.
- By lifting these branes to the GLSM and utilising D-brane transport, we were able to identify them as analytic continuations of particular large volume branes.

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- Making a connection with the sheaf of algebras language used in the known special case.