



Universiteit Utrecht

Modelling General Asymptotic Calabi-Yau Periods

Based on [\[2105.02232\]](#) with T. Grimm and D. van de Heisteeg

String Pheno seminar series

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Motivation

Calabi-Yau three-fold period vector is an important ingredient in string compactifications,

e.g. 4d $\mathcal{N} = 1,2$ type IIB

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Kinetic term : } \mathcal{L}_{\text{kin}} \sim K_{i\bar{j}} dt^i \wedge *_4 d\bar{t}^{\bar{j}} \\ \text{Superpotential: } W = \int_{Y_3} G_3 \wedge \Omega = G_3^T \eta \Pi \end{array} \right.$$

$\Pi(t) = \int_{\gamma} \Omega$
 Basis of three-cycles $\rightarrow \gamma$ Unique (3,0)-form $\rightarrow \Omega$
 Kähler metric $\rightarrow K_{i\bar{j}}$ CS moduli $\rightarrow t^i, \bar{t}^{\bar{j}}$

Problem: Period vector is in general a complicated function of the moduli

Goal: Understand the asymptotic structure and construct models using principles from Hodge theory

Outline

1. Background information:

Boundaries in CS moduli space, Variation of Hodge structure

2. Results from asymptotic Hodge theory:

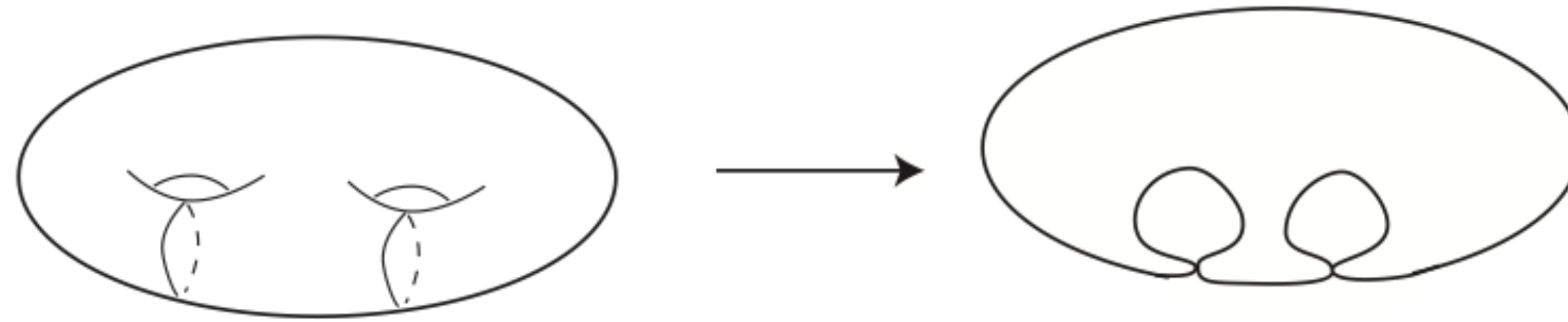
Near boundary expansion of the period vector, Classification, Boundary data

3. Reverse engineering and specific example

Background Information

Boundaries in CS Moduli space

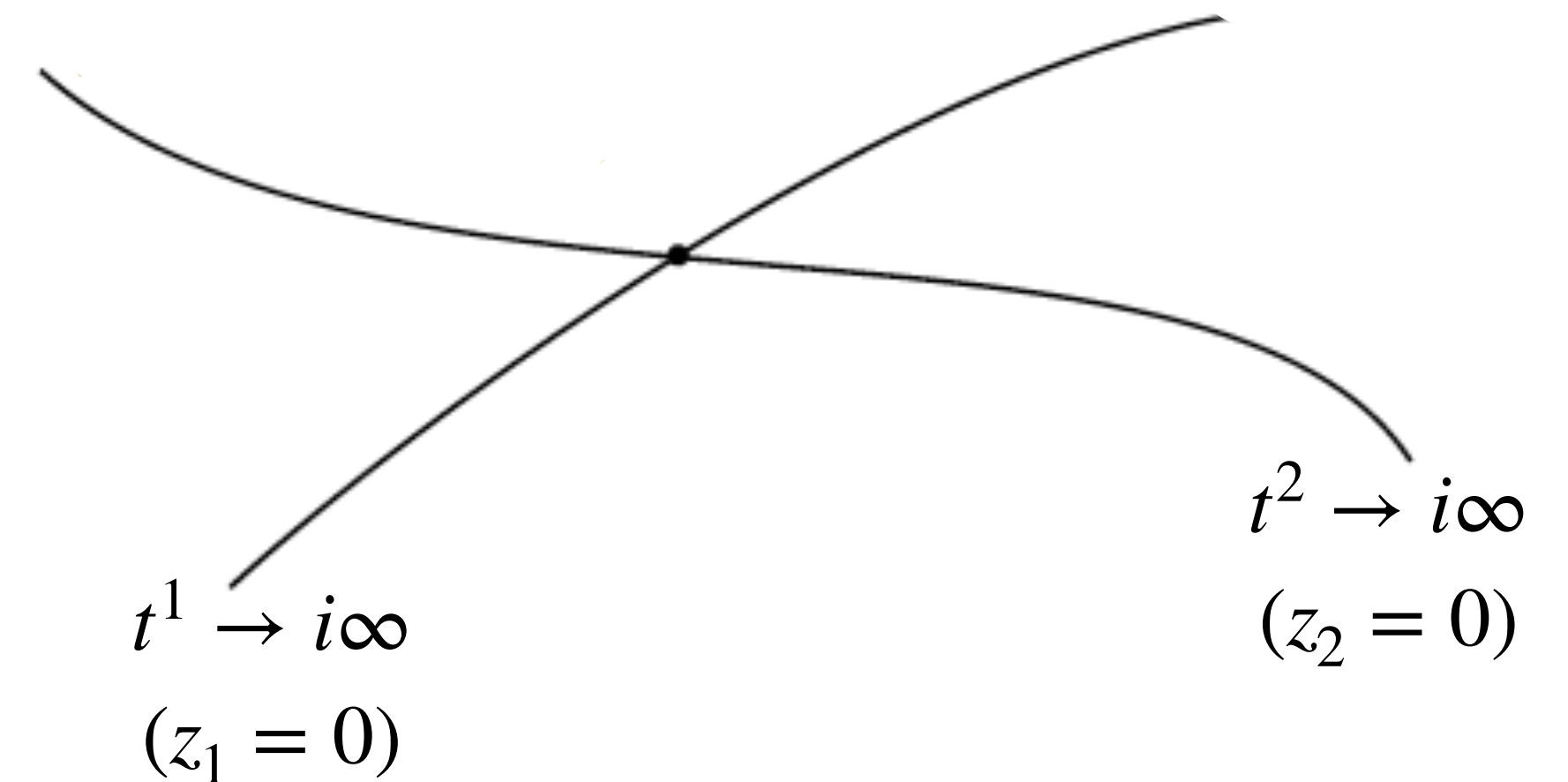
In \mathcal{M}_{CS} , there are divisors locally defined by $z_i = 0$ where the **Calabi-Yau develops singularities**



We can always locally describe the intersection of n loci by normal crossing divisors [\[Hironaka\]](#)

$$z_1 = z_2 = \dots = z_n = 0$$

(We frequently use the coordinates $t^i = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \log z_i$)



We refer to these loci as **co-dimension n boundaries** in \mathcal{M}_{CS}

Most famous example of co-dimension $h^{2,1}$ boundary : Large Complex Structure (LCS) point

Variation of Hodge structure

Moving through \mathcal{M}_{cs} changes what we call holomorphic \longrightarrow Hodge decomposition on the middle cohomology varies

$$H^3(Y_3, \mathbb{C}) = H^{3,0} \oplus H^{2,1} \oplus H^{1,2} \oplus H^{0,3}$$

e.g. orientation of the complex line spanned by Ω .

This variation is **not arbitrary** and in terms of the Hodge filtration F^p
[Griffiths]

$$\frac{\partial F^p}{\partial z} \subset F^{p-1} \longrightarrow \text{Horizontality (More familiar: } \partial_i \Omega \in H^{3,0} \oplus H^{2,1} \text{)}$$

Hodge filtration:

$$\begin{aligned} F^3 &= H^{3,0} \\ F^2 &= H^{3,0} \oplus H^{2,1} \\ F^1 &= H^{3,0} \oplus H^{2,1} \oplus H^{1,2} \\ F^0 &= H^3(Y_3, \mathbb{C}) \end{aligned}$$

We say that the variation is **polarised** if

$$\langle F^p, F^{4-p} \rangle = 0$$

(Hodge-Riemann relations)

$$i^{p-q} \langle \omega, \bar{\omega} \rangle > 0, \quad \omega \in H^{p,q} \text{ and } \omega \neq 0$$

Important fact : In a CY threefold, we can span $H^3(Y_3, \mathbb{C})$ by taking derivatives of Ω

Bilinear Pairing:

$$\langle u, v \rangle = \int_{Y_3} u \wedge v$$

Asymptotic Hodge theory

Behaviour near the boundary

The period vector captures the VHS and is particularly constrained in **asymptotic regions**

As we circle a single boundary component ($z_k = 0$), the period vector undergoes **monodromy**

$$\mathbf{\Pi}(z_k e^{2\pi i}) = T_k \mathbf{\Pi}(z_k) \quad , \quad T_k \in Sp(2h^{2,1} + 2, \mathbb{R})$$

Monodromies can always be made unipotent, i.e. $(T_k - \mathbb{I})^s = 0$

We can define the **nilpotent** log-monodromy matrices : $N_k = \log T_k$

Co-dimension n boundary \longrightarrow n log-monodromy matrices N_k

Near the co-dimension n boundary the period vector can be expanded as [Schmid '73]

$$t = \frac{\log z}{2\pi i}$$

$$\mathbf{\Pi}(t) = e^{t^i N_i} (\mathbf{a}_0 + \mathbf{a}_{1,r} e^{2\pi i t^r} + \dots) = e^{t^i N_i} e^{\Gamma(z)} \mathbf{a}_0$$

- \mathbf{a}_0 is an element of a **Mixed Hodge structure** \longrightarrow captures splitting of $H^3(Y_3, \mathbb{C})$ at boundary
- $e^{t^i N_i}$ generates **polynomial behaviour**
- $\Gamma(z)$ satisfies $\Gamma(0) = 0$ and generates the **exponential behaviour** \longrightarrow instanton map (Mirror instantons at LCS)

The nilpotent orbit theorem by Schmid guarantees that the polynomial approximation

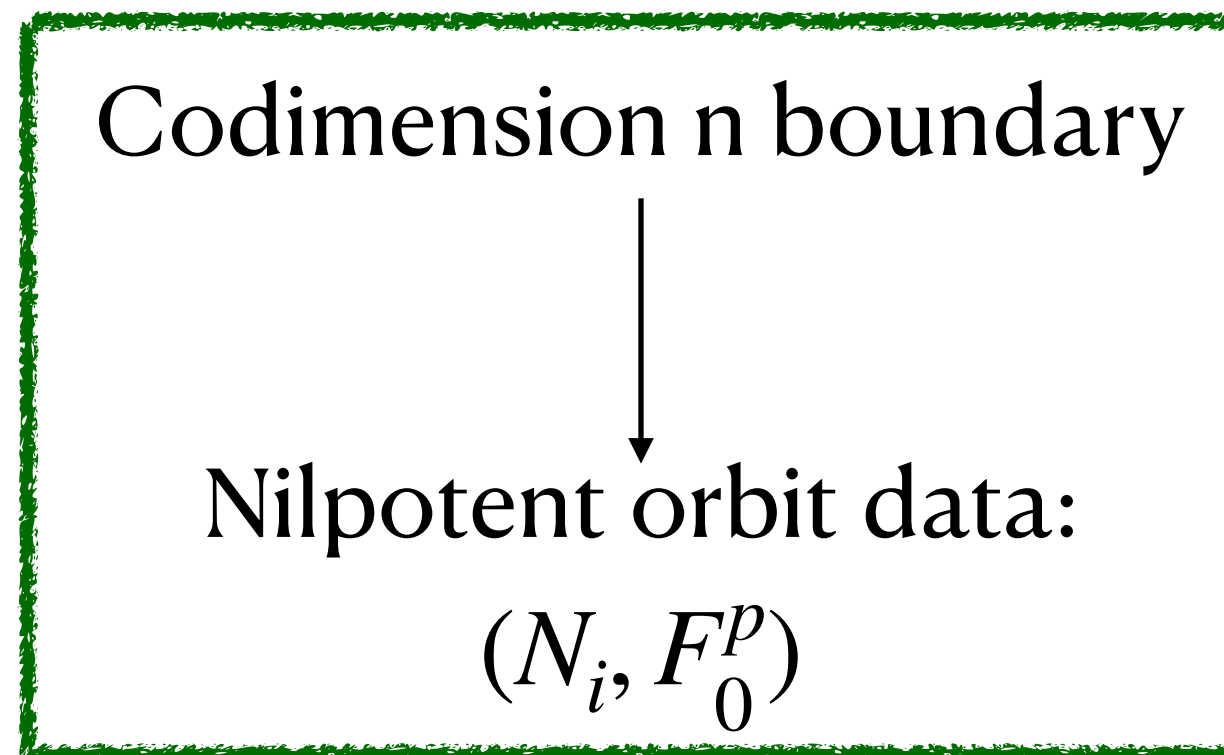
$$\mathbf{\Pi}_{\text{poly}}(t) = e^{t^i N_i} \mathbf{a}_0$$

still defines a proper variation of polarised Hodge structure \longrightarrow Hodge-Riemann satisfied

These results hold for all elements $\omega \in F^p \longrightarrow$ Basis for the splitting of $H^3(Y_3, \mathbb{C})$ at boundary

In practice, we use the derivatives of $\Pi \longrightarrow$ Limiting filtration F_0^p

The possible splittings are classified !



Working with the polynomial approximation Π_{poly} has led to promising results in physics

[Grimm, Heisteeg, Li, Palti, Valenzuela...]

Where is the problem then?

The mathematics results are for all the elements of $H^3(Y_3, \mathbb{C})$!

In physics, we only work with the period vector (representative of $\Omega \in H^{3,0}$) :

$$\text{e.g. Kähler metric : } K_{i\bar{j}} = - e^{-K} \partial_i \Pi^T \eta \bar{\partial}_j \bar{\Pi} + e^{-2K} \left(\partial_i \Pi^T \eta \bar{\Pi} \right) \left(\Pi^T \eta \bar{\partial}_j \bar{\Pi} \right)$$

Using Π_{poly} gives a simpler expression **but** might result in $\det K_{i\bar{j}} = 0$!

Not guaranteed that we can span the entire $H^3(Y_3, \mathbb{C})$ from derivatives of the polynomial approximation:

$$\partial_i \Pi_{\text{poly}} = e^{t^r N_r} N_i \mathbf{a}_0$$

$$\partial_i \partial_j \Pi_{\text{poly}} = e^{t^r N_r} N_i N_j \mathbf{a}_0$$

$$\partial_i \partial_j \partial_k \Pi_{\text{poly}} = e^{t^r N_r} N_i N_j N_k \mathbf{a}_0$$

Extreme cases:

- Conifold type : $N_i \mathbf{a}_0 = 0, \quad \forall i$
- LCS type : $N_i N_j N_k \mathbf{a}_0 \neq 0, \quad \forall i, j, k \longrightarrow$ All exponential terms capture instantons for the mirror

Most cases require exponential corrections to the polynomial part ! \longrightarrow Instanton map $\Gamma(e^{2\pi i t})$

What is the action of N_i and Γ on \mathbf{a}_0 ?

The possible splitting of $H^3(Y_3, \mathbb{C})$ can be represented diagrammatically by Hodge-Deligne diamonds and are classified as follows

singularity	I_a	II_b	III_c	IV_d
HD diamond				
index	$a + a' = h^{2,1}$ $0 \leq a \leq h^{2,1}$	$b + b' = h^{2,1} - 1$ $0 \leq b \leq h^{2,1} - 1$	$c + c' = h^{2,1} - 1$ $0 \leq c \leq h^{2,1} - 2$	$d + d' = h^{2,1}$ $1 \leq d \leq h^{2,1}$

The N_i act by mapping **vertically down** \longrightarrow Away from LCS, \mathbf{a}_0 is **not sufficient** to span everything, we need some of the \mathbf{a}_i

Lower bound on number of terms: $I_a : 2h^{2,1} - a + 1 , \quad II_b : 2h^{2,1} - b - 1 , \quad III_c : c + 1 , \quad 2(h^{2,1} - d)$

$$\boldsymbol{\Pi}(t) = e^{t^i N_i}(\mathbf{a}_0 + \mathbf{a}_{1,r} e^{2\pi i t^r} + \dots) = e^{t^i N_i} \Gamma(z) \mathbf{a}_0$$

We need to rely on $\Gamma(z)$ to generate some correction terms !

For a fixed number of moduli, we can simply list the possible cases!

For one modulus ($h^{2,1} = 1$) only three possibilities :

1. Conifold singularity I_1
2. Tyurin degeneration II_0
3. Large complex structure IV_1

For two moduli ($h^{2,1} = 2$) there are **four classes** : [\[Kerr, Pearlstein, Robles '19\]](#)

I_2 class : $\langle I_1|I_2|I_1 \rangle, \langle I_2|I_2|I_1 \rangle, \langle I_2|I_2|I_2 \rangle,$

Coni-LCS class : $\langle I_1|IV_2|IV_1 \rangle, \langle I_1|IV_2|IV_2 \rangle,$ [\[Alvarez-Garcia, Blumenhagen et al. '20\]](#) [\[Demirtas et al. '20\]](#)

II_1 class : $\langle II_0|II_1|I_1 \rangle, \langle II_1|II_1|I_1 \rangle, \langle II_0|II_1|II_1 \rangle, \langle II_1|II_1|II_1 \rangle,$ [\[Kachru, Klemm et al. '96\]](#)

LCS class : $\langle II_1|IV_2|III_0 \rangle, \langle II_1|IV_2|IV_2 \rangle, \langle III_0|IV_2|III_0 \rangle, \langle III_0|IV_2|IV_1 \rangle,$
 $\langle III_0|IV_2|IV_2 \rangle, \langle IV_1|IV_2|IV_2 \rangle, \langle IV_2|IV_2|IV_2 \rangle,$

Simplified boundary data

What does the boundary data look like for a given type?

There is a further approximation, the sl(2)-orbit theorem which provides an algorithm to reduced the nilpotent orbit data to : [\[Cattani, Kaplan, Schmid '86\]](#)

1. Distinguished basis $\tilde{F}_0^p = e^{-i\delta} F_0^p$ ← Rotation operator
2. Sets of sl(2)-triples (N_i^-, N_i^+, N_i^0)

Standard sl(2):

$$[N_i^+, N_i^-] = 2N_i^0$$

$$[N_i^\pm, N_i^0] = \pm N_i^\pm$$

Co-dimension n boundary \longrightarrow Nilpotent orbit data $(N_i, F_0^p) \longrightarrow$ sl(2)-data $(\tilde{F}_0^p, N_i^\pm, N_i^0)$

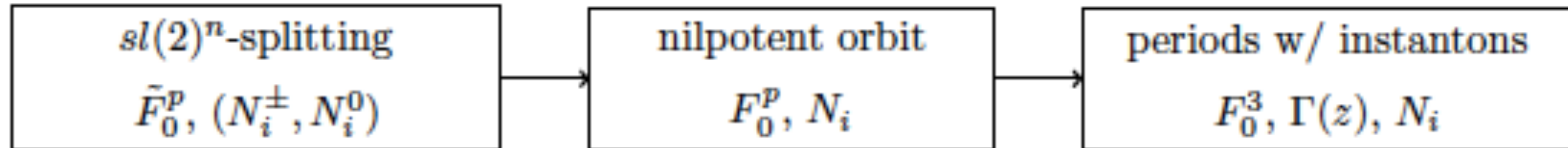
This sl(2) data is easily constructed from representation theory and the starting point of our analysis !

Reverse engineering

Reverse-engineering

We start from $sl(2)$ -data and work back to get the essential terms of the period vector:

$$\Pi = e^{t^i N_i} e^{\Gamma(z)} e^{i\delta} \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_0$$



Coni-LCS: $\langle \mathbf{I}_1 \mid \mathbf{IV}_2 \mid \mathbf{IV}_1 \rangle$ and $\langle \mathbf{I}_1 \mid \mathbf{IV}_2 \mid \mathbf{IV}_2 \rangle$

Collecting the ingredients we have

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_0 &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad N_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad N_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -n & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \delta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \delta_2 & \delta_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \delta_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \\ \Gamma(z) &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a(z) & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ f(z) & e(z) & d(z) & 0 & -a(z) & 0 \\ e(z) & 0 & b(z) & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ d(z) & b(z) & c(z) & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad + \text{ Constraints from horizontality on } \Gamma \end{aligned}$$

Can construct the general period for the con-LCS class (constraints not imposed)

$$\Pi(z) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ a(z) \\ \frac{\log[z_2]}{2\pi i} \\ i\delta_2 + i\delta_1 a(z) + f(z) - \frac{(\frac{1}{2}a(z)c(z) + d(z))\log[z_2]}{2\pi i} - \frac{\log[z_2]^3}{6(2\pi i)^3} \\ i\delta_1 + e(z) - \frac{a(z)(\log[z_1] + n \log[z_2])}{2\pi i} \\ \frac{1}{2}a(z)c(z) + d(z) - \frac{\log[z_2]^2}{2(2\pi i)^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

- No $\log[z_1] = t^1$ dependence at leading order \longrightarrow Characteristic of conifold type boundary
- $\log[z_2]^3 = (t^2)^3$ dependence \longrightarrow Similar to LCS type boundary

Upon picking a simple ansatz we can solve the constraints and write down the model

$$\Pi = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ & az_1 & & & \\ & & \frac{\log[z_2]}{2\pi i} & & \\ -\frac{i\log[z_2]^3}{48\pi^3} & -\frac{ia^2nz_1^2\log[z_2]}{4\pi} & +\frac{a^2}{4\pi i}z_1^2 & +i\delta_2 & +i\delta_1az_1 \\ & -az_1\frac{\log[z_1]+n\log[z_2]}{2\pi i} & +i\delta_1 & & \\ & & -\frac{\log[z_2]^2}{8\pi^2} & -\frac{1}{2}a^2nz_1^2 & \end{pmatrix}$$

$\langle I_1 IV_2 IV_1\rangle$	$\langle I_1 IV_2 IV_2\rangle$
$n = 0$	$n \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$
$a \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$	
$\delta_1, \delta_2 \in \mathbb{R}$	

We give the construction for all non-LCS $h^{2,1} = 1$ and $h^{2,1} = 2$ cases in the paper !

Outlook

- Run the program for more than 2 moduli \longrightarrow No type III_c boundary for $h^{2,1} < 3$
- Generalize to Calabi-Yau fourfolds
- Use models for computations in the Swampland programme
- Relate to Picard-Fuchs approach [\[Kerr '20\]](#) , [\[Bloch, Vlasenko '19\]](#)

Thank you !