

# AdS<sub>2</sub> geometries and non-Abelian T-duality in non-compact spaces

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**ABSTRACT:** We obtain an AdS<sub>2</sub> solution to Type IIA supergravity with 4 Poincaré supersymmetries, via non-Abelian T-duality with respect to a freely acting  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$  isometry group, operating on the AdS<sub>3</sub> × S<sup>3</sup> × CY<sub>2</sub> solution to Type IIB. That is, non-Abelian T-duality on AdS<sub>3</sub>. The dual background obtained fits in the class of AdS<sub>2</sub> × S<sup>3</sup> × CY<sub>2</sub> solutions to massive Type IIA constructed in [1]. We propose and study a quiver quantum mechanics dual to this solution that we interpret as describing the backreaction of the baryon vertex of a D4-D8 brane intersection.

**KEYWORDS:** D-branes, String Duality, AdS-CFT Correspondence

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**1 Introduction**

Our understanding of four- and five-dimensional extremal black holes has extended our knowledge of supergravity backgrounds involving  $\text{AdS}_2$  and  $\text{AdS}_3$  geometries. For instance, an infinitely deep  $\text{AdS}_2$  throat arises as the near horizon geometry of 4d extremal black holes that have associated an  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R}) \times \text{U}(1)$  isometry, which includes the conformal group in 1d. Even if this limit is clear geometrically a microscopic understanding remains a demanding task [2–4]. Via the AdS/CFT correspondence [5] one might presume that there is a conformal quantum mechanics dual to these  $\text{AdS}_2$  geometries. Nevertheless,  $\text{AdS}_2/\text{CFT}_1$  pairs pose important conceptual puzzles [6–9] originated from the boundary of  $\text{AdS}_2$  being non-connected [10].

Partial attempts at studying  $\text{AdS}_2$  and  $\text{AdS}_3$  solutions in 10 and 11 dimensions, with vast and rich structures coming from the high dimensionality of the internal space, admitting many possible geometries, topologies and amounts of supersymmetry, have been carried out, [1, 11–43]. In particular, recent progress has been reported on the construction of new  $\text{AdS}_3$  solutions with four Poincaré supersymmetries [18, 24, 26, 34, 37] as well as on the identification of their 2d (half-maximal BPS) dual CFTs [27–29, 34, 37, 44]. In the same vein,  $\text{AdS}_2/\text{CFT}_1$  pairs have been explored as a natural extension of  $\text{AdS}_3/\text{CFT}_2$  pairs through T-duality [38] and double analytical continuation, [1, 41], in each case, providing different families of quiver quantum mechanics with four Poincaré supersymmetries.

Part of the motivation for this work is to construct  $\text{AdS}_2$  solutions through non-Abelian T-duality acting on  $\text{AdS}_3$  spaces. Non-Abelian T-duality (NATD) was introduced in the 90's [45] as a transformation of the string  $\sigma$ -model, generalising to non-Abelian isometry

groups the path integral approach to Abelian T-duality put forward in [46]. From these studies other important groundwork arose, see for example [47–51]. In spite of this initial progress and unlike its Abelian counterpart, the NATD transformation did not reach the status of a string theory symmetry [48, 50–55], due to two main difficulties. Firstly, NATD has only been worked out as a transformation in the worldsheet for spherical topologies (namely, at tree level in string perturbation theory) and second, the conformal symmetry of the string  $\sigma$ -model is only known to survive the NATD transformation at first order in  $\alpha'$ .

Sfetsos and Thompson [56] reignited the interest in NATD by showing that it can be successfully used as a solution generating technique in supergravity, with the derivation of the transformation rules of the RR sector. This study was initiated with the dualisation of the  $\text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^5$  and  $\text{AdS}_3 \times \text{S}^3 \times \text{CY}_2$  backgrounds with respect to a freely acting  $\text{SU}(2)$  isometry group ( $\text{SU}(2)$ -NATD). This work was of particular interest to tackle the rôle NATD might have in the context of AdS/CFT correspondence. In this vein, interesting examples of AdS spacetimes generated through NATD in different contexts have been constructed to date [56–73]. Holographically, the field theoretical interpretation of NATD was first addressed in [29, 74–77], where the main conclusion is that NATD changes the field theory dual to the original theory. Remarkably, in all examples so far of NATD in supergravity — in the context of holography — the dualisation took place with respect to a freely acting  $\text{SU}(2)$  subgroup of the entire symmetry group of the solutions.

The main purpose of this work is to construct an  $\text{AdS}_2$  solution to massive Type IIA supergravity acting with NATD on the well-known D1-D5 near horizon system. Here the dualisation is performed with respect to a freely acting  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$  group ( $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$ -NATD). Second, we give a proposal for its dual superconformal quantum mechanics, in terms of D0 and D4 colour branes coupled to D4' and D8 flavour branes, inspired by the results in [1].

The organisation of the paper is as follows. In section 2, we develop the technology necessary to construct solutions through  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$ -NATD. In the same section we apply these results to the D1-D5 near horizon system, generating a new  $\text{AdS}_2 \times \text{S}^3 \times \text{CY}_2$  geometry foliated over an interval. The brane set-up, charges and holographic central charge are carefully studied. Section 3 contains a summary of the infinite family of  $\text{AdS}_2$  solutions to massive Type IIA supergravity with four Poincaré supersymmetries constructed in [1], as well as of the quiver quantum mechanics proposed there as duals to these geometries. In section 4, we show that our  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$ -NATD solution provides an explicit example in the classification in [1]. At the end of this section we study an explicit completion of this solution and propose a quiver quantum mechanics that admits a description in terms of interactions between Wilson lines and D0 and D4 instantons in the world-volumes of the D4' and D8 branes. Our conclusions are contained in section 5.

## 2 NATD of $\text{AdS}_3 \times \text{S}^3 \times \text{CY}_2$ with respect to a freely acting $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$

In this section we review the dualisation procedure and apply it to the  $\text{AdS}_3 \times \text{S}^3 \times \text{CY}_2$  solution of Type IIB supergravity. We address the construction of the brane set-up, Page charges and holographic central charge of the resulting background and propose a quiver quantum mechanics that flows in the IR to the superconformal quantum mechanics dual to our solution.

## 2.1 NATD with respect to $SL(2, \mathbf{R})_L$

The study of NATD as a solution generating technique in supergravity was initiated in [56], where the dualisation was carried out with respect to a freely acting  $SU(2)$  isometry group. Since then, several works have taken advantage of this technology to generate new AdS solutions, some of which avoiding previously existing classifications (see for instance [58, 69, 78, 79]). Most of these examples possess rich isometry groups containing at least an  $SU(2)$  factor that can be used to dualise. Instead, in this work we will use a non-compact, freely acting,  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$  group to dualise. This is the first time that NATD with respect to a non-compact isometry group has been applied as a solution generating technique in supergravity.<sup>1</sup> Following [52] we perform the NATD transformation with respect to one of the freely acting  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$  isometry groups of the  $AdS_3$  subspace of the  $AdS_3 \times S^3 \times CY_2$  solution of Type IIB supergravity. We start reviewing the necessary technology.

Consider a bosonic string  $\sigma$ -model that supports an  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$  isometry, such that the NS-NS fields can be written as,

$$\begin{aligned}
 ds^2 &= \frac{1}{4}g_{\mu\nu}(x)L^\mu L^\nu + G_{i\mu}(x)dx^i L^\mu + G_{ij}(x)dx^i dx^j, \\
 B_2 &= \frac{1}{8}b_{\mu\nu}(x)L^\mu \wedge L^\nu + \frac{1}{2}B_{i\mu}(x)dx^i \wedge L^\mu + B_{ij}(x)dx^i \wedge dx^j, \quad \Phi = \Phi(x),
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{2.1}$$

where  $x^i$  are the coordinates in the internal manifold, for  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ , and  $L^\mu$  are the  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$  left-invariant Maurer-Cartan forms,

$$L^\mu = -i\text{Tr}(t^\mu g^{-1} dg), \quad \text{which obey,} \quad dL^\mu = \frac{1}{2}f^\mu{}_{\alpha\nu}L^\alpha \wedge L^\nu, \tag{2.2}$$

where  $f^\mu{}_{\alpha\nu}$  are the structure constants of  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$ . The generators of the  $sl(2, \mathbf{R})$  algebra can be obtained by analytically continuing the  $su(2)$  generators as,

$$t^a = \frac{\tau_a}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad \text{with} \quad \tau_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tau_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tau_3 = \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix}. \tag{2.3}$$

These generators satisfy,<sup>2</sup>

$$\text{Tr}(t^a t^b) = (-1)^a \delta^{ab}, \quad [t^1, t^2] = i\sqrt{2}t^3, \quad [t^2, t^3] = i\sqrt{2}t^1, \quad [t^3, t^1] = -i\sqrt{2}t^2. \tag{2.4}$$

The group element  $g \in SL(2, \mathbf{R})$  depends on the target space isometry directions, realising an  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$  group manifold. Here the group manifold is an  $AdS_3$  space. The geometry described by (2.1) is then manifestly invariant under  $g \rightarrow \lambda^{-1}g$  for  $\lambda \in SL(2, \mathbf{R})$ . We parametrise an  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$  group element in the following fashion,

$$g = e^{\frac{i}{2}t\tau_3} e^{\frac{i}{2}\theta\tau_2} e^{\frac{i}{2}\eta\tau_3}, \quad \text{with} \quad 0 \leq \theta \leq \pi, \quad 0 \leq t < \infty, \quad 0 \leq \eta < \infty, \tag{2.5}$$

<sup>1</sup>In [41],  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$ -NATD was used to find an explicit example — with brane sources — in the class of  $AdS_2 \times S^2 \times CY_2$  solutions fibered over a 2d Riemann surface constructed in [14].

<sup>2</sup>We take  $g^{\mu\nu} = -\text{Tr}(t^\mu t^\nu)$  in order to have  $(+, -, +)$  signature.

which is closely related to the Euler angles parametrising  $SU(2)$ . Thus, the left-invariant forms (2.2) are given by,

$$\begin{aligned} L^1 &= \sinh \eta d\theta - \cosh \eta \sin \theta dt, & L^2 &= \cosh \eta d\theta - \sinh \eta \sin \theta dt, \\ L^3 &= -\cos \theta dt - d\eta. \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

A string propagating in the geometry given by (2.1) is described by the non-linear  $\sigma$ -model,

$$S = \int d\sigma^2 \left( E_{\mu\nu} L_+^\mu L_-^\nu + Q_{i\mu} \partial_+ x^i L_-^\mu + Q_{\mu i} L_+^\mu \partial_- x^i + Q_{ij} \partial_+ x^i \partial_- x^j \right), \tag{2.7}$$

$$\text{with } E_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu} + b_{\mu\nu}, \quad Q_{i\mu} = G_{i\mu} + B_{i\mu}, \quad Q_{\mu i} = G_{\mu i} + B_{\mu i}, \quad Q_{ij} = G_{ij} + B_{ij}.$$

and  $L_\pm^\mu$  are the left-invariant forms pulled back to the worldsheet. This  $\sigma$ -model is also invariant under  $g \rightarrow \lambda^{-1}g$  for  $\lambda \in SL(2, \mathbf{R})$ .

The  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$  non-Abelian T-dual solution for the  $\sigma$ -model (2.7) is constructed as in [45], introducing covariant derivatives,  $\partial_\pm g \rightarrow D_\pm g = \partial_\pm g - A_\pm g$ , in the Maurer-Cartan forms but enforcing the condition that the gauge field is non-dynamical with the addition to the action of a Lagrange multiplier term,

$$-i\text{Tr}(vF_\pm), \tag{2.8}$$

where  $F_\pm = \partial_+ A_- - \partial_- A_+ - [A_+, A_-]$  is the field strength for the gauged fields  $A_\pm$ .  $v$  is a vector that takes values in the Lie algebra of the  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$  group and it is coupled to the field strength,  $F_\pm$ . In this way, the total action is invariant under,

$$g \rightarrow \lambda^{-1}g, \quad A_\pm \rightarrow \lambda^{-1}(A_\pm \lambda - \partial_\pm \lambda), \quad v \rightarrow \lambda^{-1}v\lambda, \quad \text{with } \lambda(\sigma^+, \sigma^-) \in SL(2, \mathbf{R}). \tag{2.9}$$

After integrating out the Lagrange multiplier and fixing the gauge, we recover the original non-linear  $\sigma$ -model. On the other hand, by integrating by parts the Lagrange multiplier term one can solve for the gauge fields and obtain the dual  $\sigma$ -model, that still relies on the parameters  $t, \theta, \eta$  and the Lagrange multipliers. In order to preserve the number of degrees of freedom, the redundancy is fixed by choosing a gauge fixing condition, for instance  $g = \mathbb{I}$ , which implies  $t = \theta = \eta = 0$ . The resulting action reads,

$$\hat{S} = \int d\sigma^2 \left[ Q_{ij} \partial_+ x^i \partial_- x^j + (\partial_+ v_\mu + \partial_+ x^i Q_{i\mu}) M_{\mu\nu}^{-1} (\partial_- v_\nu - Q_{\nu i} \partial_+ x^i) \right], \tag{2.10}$$

$$\text{with } M_{\mu\nu} = E_{\mu\nu} + f^\alpha{}_{\mu\nu} v_\alpha.$$

In this action the parameters  $t, \theta, \eta$  have been replaced by the Lagrange multipliers  $v_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , which live in the Lie algebra of  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$ , this is non-compact, by its construction as a vector space.

In particular, the solutions generated by  $SU(2)$ -NATD are non-compact manifolds even if the group used in the dualisation procedure is compact, this is because the new variables live in the Lie algebra of the dualisation group. As we see, the  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$ -NATD solution

generating technique inherits this non-compactness. At the level of the metric and using the following parametrisation for the Lagrange multipliers,

$$v = (\rho \cos \tau \cosh \xi, \rho \sinh \xi, \rho \sin \tau \cosh \xi), \tag{2.11}$$

the original  $\text{AdS}_3$  space is replaced by an  $\text{AdS}_2 \times \mathbf{R}^+$  space, where besides the  $\text{AdS}_2$  factor (in which the remaining  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$  symmetry is reflected) a non-compact radial direction is generated in the internal space.

Furthermore, from the path integral derivation the dilaton receives a 1-loop shift, leading to a non-trivial dilaton in the dual theory, given by,

$$\hat{\Phi}(x, v) = \Phi(x) - \frac{1}{2} \log(\det M). \tag{2.12}$$

A similar shift in the dilaton was obtained in Abelian T-duality [45], in such a case  $M$  is the metric component in the direction where the dualisation is carried out.

The transformation rules for the RR fields was the new input in [56] which allowed to use NATD as a solution generating technique in supergravity. This was done using a spinor representation approach. The derivation relied on the fact that left and right movers transform differently under NATD, and therefore lead to two different sets of frame fields for the dual geometry. In the  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$ -NATD case, we also have two different sets of frame fields, which define the same dual metric obtained from (2.10), and must therefore be related by a Lorentz transformation,  $\Lambda^\alpha_\beta$ . In turn, this Lorentz transformation acts on spinors through a matrix  $\Omega$ , defined by the invariance property of gamma matrices,

$$\Omega^{-1} \Gamma^\alpha \Omega = \Lambda^\alpha_\beta \Gamma^\beta, \tag{2.13}$$

and given that the RR fluxes can be combined to form bispinors,

$$P = \frac{e^\Phi}{2} \sum_{n=0}^4 \mathcal{F}_{2n+1}, \quad \hat{P} = \frac{e^{\hat{\Phi}}}{2} \sum_{n=0}^5 \hat{\mathcal{F}}_{2n}, \quad \text{with } \mathcal{F}_p = \frac{1}{p!} \Gamma_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_p} F_p^{\nu_1 \nu_2 \dots \nu_p}, \tag{2.14}$$

one can finally extract their transformation rules by right multiplication with the  $\Omega^{-1}$  matrix on the RR bispinors,

$$\hat{P} = P \cdot \Omega^{-1}, \tag{2.15}$$

where  $\hat{P}$  are the dual RR bispinors. Notice that the action (2.15) on the RR sector is from a Type IIB to a IIA solution. If starting from a Type IIA to a IIB solution instead, the rôle of  $P$  and  $\hat{P}$  is swapped. The knowledge of the transformation rules for the RR sector guarantees that starting with a solution to Type II supergravity the dual background is also a solution.

The technology reviewed in this section allows us to consider a non-compact space like  $\text{AdS}_3$ , which possesses an  $\text{SO}(2, 2) \cong \text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})_L \times \text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})_R$  isometry group. After performing the dualisation with respect to a freely acting  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$  group the isometry gets reduced to just  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$ , which is geometrically realised by an  $\text{AdS}_2$  factor in the dual geometry.

	$x^0$	$x^1$	$x^2$	$x^3$	$x^4$	$x^5$	$x^6$	$x^7$	$x^8$	$x^9$
D1	x					x				
D5	x	x	x	x	x	x				

**Table 1.** The set-up for  $Q_{D1}$  D1-branes wrapped on  $x^5$  and  $Q_{D5}$  D5-branes wrapped on  $x^5$  and  $CY_2$ . This system preserves (4,4) supersymmetry. The field theory lives in the  $x^0$  and  $x^5$  directions and  $x^1, x^2, x^3, x^4$  parameterise the  $CY_2$ . The  $SO(4)$  R-symmetry is geometrically realised in the  $x^6, x^7, x^8, x^9$  directions.

Further, as we explained before, the dual geometry acquires a non-compact direction, that now belongs to the internal space.

In the next section we will apply this technology to the  $AdS_3 \times S^3 \times CY_2$  geometry to produce an  $AdS_2 \times S^3 \times CY_2 \times I$  solution in massive Type IIA supergravity, which fits in the classification in [1].

## 2.2 Dualisation of the $AdS_3 \times S^3 \times CY_2$ background

We consider IIB string theory on  $\mathbf{R}^{1,1} \times \mathbf{R}^4 \times CY_2$  where we include  $Q_{D1}$  D1-branes and  $Q_{D5}$  D5-branes as is shown in the brane set-up depicted in table 1.

The  $AdS_3 \times S^3 \times CY_2$  background arising in the near horizon limit of the D1-D5 system depicted in table 1 is,

$$\begin{aligned}
 ds_{10}^2 &= 4L^2 ds_{AdS_3}^2 + M^2 ds_{CY_2}^2 + 4L^2 ds_{S^3}^2, & e^{2\Phi} &= 1, \\
 F_3 &= 8L^2 (\text{vol}_{S^3} + \text{vol}_{AdS_3}), & F_7 &= -8L^2 M^4 (\text{vol}_{S^3} + \text{vol}_{AdS_3}) \wedge \text{vol}_{CY_2}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{2.16}$$

Here we will use  $\text{Vol}_{CY_2} = (2\pi)^4$ .

Following the rules explained in the previous section, the  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$ -NATD transformation of the background (2.16) gives rise to the following geometry,

$$\begin{aligned}
 ds_{10}^2 &= \frac{L^2 \rho^2}{\rho^2 - 4L^4} ds_{AdS_2}^2 + 4L^2 ds_{S^3}^2 + M^2 ds_{CY_2}^2 + \frac{d\rho^2}{4L^2}, \\
 e^{2\Phi} &= \frac{4}{L^2(\rho^2 - 4L^4)}, & B_2 &= -\frac{\rho^3}{2(\rho^2 - 4L^4)} \text{vol}_{AdS_2}, \\
 F_0 &= L^2, & F_2 &= -\frac{L^2 \rho^3}{2(\rho^2 - 4L^4)} \text{vol}_{AdS_2}, & F_4 &= -L^2 (M^4 \text{vol}_{CY_2} - 2\rho d\rho \wedge \text{vol}_{S^3}), \\
 F_6 &= \frac{L^2 \rho^2}{2(\rho^2 - 4L^4)} (\rho M^4 \text{vol}_{CY_2} - 8L^4 d\rho \wedge \text{vol}_{S^3}) \wedge \text{vol}_{AdS_2}, \\
 F_8 &= 2L^2 M^4 \rho \text{vol}_{S^3} \wedge \text{vol}_{CY_2} \wedge d\rho, & F_{10} &= -\frac{4L^6 \rho^2 M^4}{\rho^2 - 4L^4} \text{vol}_{AdS_2} \wedge \text{vol}_{S^3} \wedge \text{vol}_{CY_2} \wedge d\rho.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{2.17}$$

Here we have parametrised the Lagrange multipliers as in (2.11) in order to manifestly realise the  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$  residual global symmetries. Indeed, from the original  $SO(2, 2)$  isometry group, after the dualisation, an  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$  subgroup survives, which is geometrically realised by a warped  $AdS_2 \times \mathbf{R}^+$  subspace.

The background (2.17) is a solution to the massive Type IIA supergravity EOMs. As we will see in section 4, it is an explicit solution in the classification provided in [1]. In order to have the right signature and avoid singularities we are forced to set  $\rho^2 - 4L^4 > 0$ . Namely, we get a well-defined geometry for,

$$\rho > \rho_0 = 2L^2, \tag{2.18}$$

where the  $\rho$  coordinate begins.

The asymptotic behaviour of the metric and dilaton in (2.17) at the beginning of the space, around  $\rho = \rho_0$  is,

$$ds^2 \sim \frac{a_1}{x} ds_{\text{AdS}_2}^2 + a_2 ds_{\text{S}^3}^2 + M^2 ds_{\text{CY}_2}^2 + a_3 dx^2, \quad e^\Phi \sim a_4 x^{-1/2}, \tag{2.19}$$

with  $x = \rho - \rho_0 > 0$  and  $a_i$  are constants. Here the warp factor reproduces the behaviour of an OF1 plane extended in  $\text{AdS}_2$  and smeared over  $\text{S}^3$ , this is also consistent with additional coincident fundamental strings if they are smeared on the  $\text{S}^3$  and the  $\text{CY}_2$ . Further, in section 4.1, we will provide a concrete completion for the background (2.17), where at both ends of the space the behaviour given in (2.19) is identified.

We conclude this section with some comments about the supersymmetry of the solution (2.17). On one hand, as we mentioned before (and we will show in section 4) the background (2.17) fits in the class of  $\text{AdS}_2 \times \text{S}^3 \times \text{CY}_2 \times \text{I}$  solutions to massive Type IIA constructed in [1], which contain eight supersymmetries, four Poincaré and four conformal. Second, it is well established by now [56, 60] that performing non-Abelian T-duality on a round 3-sphere projects out the spinors charged under either the  $\text{SU}(2)_L$  or  $\text{SU}(2)_R$  subgroup of the global  $\text{SO}(4)$  factor of  $\text{S}^3$ , leaving the rest intact. This amounts to a halving of supersymmetry in the non-Abelian T-dual of  $\text{AdS}_3 \times \text{S}^3 \times \text{CY}_2$  [56]. The  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$ -NATD works analogously, this time one projects out the spinors charged under one of the  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$  factors of the global  $\text{SO}(2, 2) \cong \text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})_L \times \text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})_R$  isometry, keeping the rest intact. As such  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$ -NATD on the  $\text{AdS}_3 \times \text{S}^3 \times \text{CY}_2$  solution also reduces the supersymmetry by half. That this mirrors the halving of the supersymmetries as in the  $\text{SU}(2)$ -NATD case is hardly surprising, the solutions are after all related by a double analytic continuation (as we will explain around the equation (4.2)).

### 2.3 Brane set-up and charges

Non-Abelian T-dualisation under a freely acting  $\text{SU}(2)$  subgroup of an  $\text{SO}(4)$  symmetry reduces the isometry group to  $\text{SU}(2)$ . Geometrically, the  $\text{S}^3$  is replaced by its Lie algebra,  $\mathbf{R}^3$ , which is locally  $\mathbf{R} \times \text{S}^2$ . This isometry is reflected in the dual fields, for instance a  $B_2$  over the  $\text{S}^2$  is generated after the dualisation, which is  $\rho$  dependent (like the  $B_2$  in (2.17)). This  $\rho$  dependence in  $B_2$  implies that large gauge transformations must be included such that  $\frac{1}{4\pi^2} |\int B_2|$  remains in the fundamental region as we move in the  $\rho$  direction. This argument was developed in [64, 66, 74] where the non-compactness in the  $\rho$  coordinate — in backgrounds like (2.17) — was addressed with the introduction of large gauge transformations in the dual geometry.



	$x^0$	$x^1$	$x^2$	$x^3$	$x^4$	$x^5$	$x^6$	$x^7$	$x^8$	$x^9$
D0	x									
D4	x	x	x	x	x					
D4'	x						x	x	x	x
D8	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
F1	x					x				

**Table 2.** Brane set-up associated to our solution. Here x denotes the spacetime directions spanned by the various branes.  $x^0$  corresponds to the time direction of the ten dimensional spacetime,  $x^1, \dots, x^4$  are the coordinates spanned by the  $CY_2$ ,  $x^5$  is the direction where the F1-strings are stretched, and  $x^6, x^7, x^8, x^9$  are the coordinates where the  $SO(4)$  symmetry is realised.

The  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$ -NATD, as shown in the previous section, produces an antisymmetric Kalb-Ramond tensor over the  $AdS_2$  directions, signaling the presence of fundamental strings in the solution. We use the same argument as in the  $SU(2)$ -NATD case to determine the range of the  $\rho$  coordinate, (see [1] for more details). Namely, we impose that the quantity,

$$\frac{1}{4\pi^2} \left| \int_{AdS_2} B_2 \right| \in [0, 1), \quad (2.20)$$

is bounded and use a regularised volume for  $AdS_2$ ,<sup>3</sup>

$$Vol_{AdS_2} = 4\pi^2. \quad (2.21)$$

For  $B_2$  in (2.17) to satisfy (2.20) a large gauge transformation is needed as we move along  $\rho$ . Namely, for  $\rho \in [\rho_k, \rho_{k+1}]$  we need to perform  $B_2 \rightarrow B_2 + \pi k vol_{AdS_2}$ , with

$$\frac{\rho_k^3}{\rho_k^2 - \rho_0^2} = 2\pi k. \quad (2.22)$$

We continue the study of the background (2.17) by computing the associated charges, obtained from the Page fluxes, defined by  $\hat{F} = e^{-B_2} \wedge F$ , given by,

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{F}_0 &= L^2, & \hat{F}_2 &= -L^2 k \pi vol_{AdS_2}, & \hat{F}_4 &= -L^2 (M^4 vol_{CY_2} - 2\rho d\rho \wedge vol_{S^3}), \\ \hat{F}_6 &= L^2 (\pi k M^4 vol_{CY_2} + \rho(\rho - 2\pi k) d\rho \wedge vol_{S^3}) \wedge vol_{AdS_2}, \\ \hat{F}_8 &= 2L^2 M^4 \rho vol_{S^3} \wedge vol_{CY_2} \wedge d\rho, \\ \hat{F}_{10} &= L^2 M^4 \rho (\rho - 2\pi k) vol_{AdS_2} \wedge vol_{S^3} \wedge vol_{CY_2} \wedge d\rho, \end{aligned} \quad (2.23)$$

where we have taken into account the large gauge transformations  $B_2 \rightarrow B_2 + \pi k vol_{AdS_2}$ . Inspecting the Page fluxes (2.23), we determine the type of branes that we have in the system. This is the D0-D4-D4'-D8-F1 brane intersection depicted in table 2.

Using the expressions for the Page fluxes (2.23) we compute the magnetic charges of  $D_p$ -branes using,

$$Q_{D_p}^m = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{7-p}} \int_{\Sigma_{8-p}} \hat{F}_{8-p}, \quad (2.24)$$

<sup>3</sup>This regularisation prescription is taken from [1].

where  $\Sigma_{8-p}$  is a  $(8-p)$ -dimensional manifold transverse to the directions of the Dp-brane. Furthermore, we define the electric charge of a Dp-brane as follows,

$$Q_{\text{Dp}}^e = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{p+1}} \int_{\text{AdS}_2 \times \tilde{\Sigma}_p} \hat{F}_{p+2}, \quad (2.25)$$

here  $\tilde{\Sigma}_p$  is defined as a  $p$ -dimensional manifold on which the brane extends. Both expressions, (2.24) and (2.25) are written in units of  $\alpha' = g_s = 1$ .

As we anticipated, the background (2.17) fits in the class of solutions presented in [1], that we briefly summarise in the next section. In such geometries, the D0 and D4-branes are interpreted in the dual field theory as instantons carrying electric charge. In turn, the D4' and D8-branes have an interpretation as magnetically charged branes where the instantons lie. In the interval  $[\rho_k, \rho_{k+1}]$ , these charges look in the following fashion,

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{\text{D8}}^m &= 2\pi \hat{F}_0 = 2\pi L^2, \\ Q_{\text{D4}'}^m &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{\text{CY}_2} \hat{F}_4 = 2\pi L^2 M^4, \\ Q_{\text{D0}}^e &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\text{AdS}_2} \hat{F}_2 = 2\pi k L^2 = k Q_{\text{D8}}^m, \\ Q_{\text{D4}}^e &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^5} \int_{\text{AdS}_2 \times \text{CY}_2} \hat{F}_6 = 2\pi k L^2 M^4 = k Q_{\text{D4}'}^m, \end{aligned} \quad (2.26)$$

where we have used  $\text{Vol}_{\text{CY}_2} = 16\pi^4$ . Furthermore, the fundamental strings are electrically charged with respect to the 3-form  $H_3$ ,

$$Q_{\text{F1}}^e = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int_{\text{AdS}_2 \times I_\rho} H_3 = \frac{1}{\pi} B_2 \Big|_{\rho_k}^{\rho_{k+1}} = 1. \quad (2.27)$$

One fundamental string is produced every time we cross the value  $\rho = \rho_k$ . Therefore in the interval  $[0, \rho_k]$  there are  $k$  F1-strings.

## 2.4 Holographic central charge

In the spirit of the AdS/CFT correspondence, the study of  $\text{AdS}_2$  geometries leads to consider one-dimensional dual field theories, where the definition of the central charge is subtle. In a conformal quantum mechanics the energy momentum tensor has only one component, and as the theory is conformal, it must vanish. We will interpret the central charge as counting the number of vacuum states in the dual superconformal quantum mechanics, along the lines of [1, 38, 41].

We compute the holographic central charge following the prescription in [69, 79], where this quantity is obtained from the volume of the internal manifold, accounting for a non-trivial dilaton,

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\text{int}} &= \int d^8x e^{-2\Phi} \sqrt{\det g_{8,\text{ind}}} = 2^5 \pi^6 L^4 M^4 \int_{I_\rho} (\rho^2 - 4L^4) d\rho, \\ c_{\text{hol}} &= \frac{3V_{\text{int}}}{4\pi G_N} = \frac{3L^4 M^4}{\pi} \int_{I_\rho} (\rho^2 - 4L^4) d\rho, \end{aligned} \quad (2.28)$$

where  $G_N = 8\pi^6$  in units  $g_s = \alpha' = 1$ . Since the dual manifold is non-compact the new background has an internal space of infinite volume that leads to an infinite holographic central charge, which points the solution needs a completion, as is shown in expression (2.28).

In the next section, we review the solutions constructed in [1] in order to see that the background (2.17) fits in that class of solutions. In turn, using the developments of [1], a concrete completion to the background (2.17) generated by  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$ -NATD is proposed. Such completion in the geometry implies also a completion in the quiver, letting us to describe a well-defined CFT.

### 3 The $AdS_2 \times S^3 \times CY_2$ solutions to massive IIA and their dual SCQM

In [26] a classification of  $AdS_3 \times S^2$  solutions to massive IIA supergravity with small (0,4) supersymmetry and  $SU(2)$ -structure was obtained. These solutions are warped products of the form  $AdS_3 \times S^2 \times M_4 \times I$  preserving an  $SU(2)$  structure on the internal five-dimensional space. The  $M_4$  is either a  $CY_2$  or a 4d Kähler manifold. The respective classes of solutions are referred as class I and class II. In this section we briefly discuss the  $AdS_2 \times S^3 \times CY_2$  solutions obtained via a double analytical continuation of the class I solutions above. These solutions were first constructed in [34] and then studied in detail in [1]. These backgrounds are dual to SCQMs which were also studied in [1], and that we also review. The study of the solutions constructed in [1, 34] allows us to propose a concrete completion for the solution (2.17) and therefore a well-defined central charge. We present the details of this completion in section 4.

A subset of the backgrounds studied in [1, 34] — where we assume that the symmetries of the  $CY_2$  are respected by the full solution — read,

$$\begin{aligned}
 ds^2 &= \frac{u}{\sqrt{h_4 h_8}} \left( \frac{h_4 h_8}{\Delta} ds_{AdS_2}^2 + ds_{S^3}^2 \right) + \sqrt{\frac{h_4}{h_8}} ds_{CY_2}^2 + \frac{\sqrt{h_4 h_8}}{u} d\rho^2, & \Delta &= 4h_4 h_8 - (u')^2, \\
 e^{-2\Phi} &= \frac{h_8^{3/2} \Delta}{4h_4^{1/2} u}, & B_2 &= -\frac{1}{2} \left( \rho - 2\pi k + \frac{uu'}{\Delta} \right) \text{vol}_{AdS_2}, \\
 \hat{F}_0 &= h'_8, & \hat{F}_2 &= -\frac{1}{2} \left( h_8 - h'_8 (\rho - 2\pi k) \right) \text{vol}_{AdS_2}, \\
 \hat{F}_4 &= \left( 2h_8 d\rho - d \left( \frac{u'u}{2h_4} \right) \right) \wedge \text{vol}_{S^3} - \partial_\rho h_4 \text{vol}_{CY_2}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{3.1}$$

Here  $\Phi$  is the dilaton and  $B_2$  is the Kalb-Ramond field. The warping functions  $h_8, h_4$  and  $u$  have support on  $\rho$ , with  $u' = \partial_\rho u$ . We have quoted the Page fluxes,  $\hat{F} = e^{-B_2} \wedge F$ , and included large gauge transformations<sup>4</sup> of  $B_2$  of parameter  $k$ ,  $B_2 \rightarrow B_2 + \pi k \text{vol}_{AdS_2}$ . The higher dimensional fluxes can be obtained as  $F_p = (-1)^{[p/2]} \star_{10} F_{10-p}$ . Note that  $\Delta > 0$ , in order to guarantee a real dilaton and a metric with the correct signature.

<sup>4</sup>Like those that were studied in section 2.3.

Supersymmetry holds whenever  $u'' = 0$ . In turn, the Bianchi identities of the fluxes impose,

$$h_8'' = 0, \quad h_4'' = 0, \quad (3.2)$$

away from localised sources, which makes  $h_8$  and  $h_4$  are piecewise linear functions of  $\rho$ .

Particular solutions were studied in [1] where the functions  $h_4$  and  $h_8$  are piecewise continuous as follows,

$$h_4(\rho) = \begin{cases} \frac{\beta_0}{2\pi}\rho & 0 \leq \rho \leq 2\pi, \\ \alpha_k + \frac{\beta_k}{2\pi}(\rho - 2\pi k) & 2\pi k \leq \rho \leq 2\pi(k+1), \quad k = 1, \dots, P-1 \\ \alpha_P - \frac{\alpha_P}{2\pi}(\rho - 2\pi P) & 2\pi P \leq \rho \leq 2\pi(P+1), \end{cases} \quad (3.3)$$

$$h_8(\rho) = \begin{cases} \frac{\nu_0}{2\pi}\rho & 0 \leq \rho \leq 2\pi, \\ \mu_k + \frac{\nu_k}{2\pi}(\rho - 2\pi k) & 2\pi k \leq \rho \leq 2\pi(k+1), \quad k = 1, \dots, P-1 \\ \mu_P - \frac{\mu_P}{2\pi}(\rho - 2\pi P) & 2\pi P \leq \rho \leq 2\pi(P+1). \end{cases} \quad (3.4)$$

For  $u' = 0$  the previous functions vanish at  $\rho = 0$  and  $\rho = 2\pi(P+1)$ , where the space begins and ends. The  $\alpha_k$ ,  $\beta_k$ ,  $\mu_k$  and  $\nu_k$  are integration constants, which are determined by imposing continuity of the NS sector as,

$$\mu_k = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \nu_j, \quad \alpha_k = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \beta_j. \quad (3.5)$$

Using the piecewise functions (3.3) and (3.4) in the  $[\rho_k, \rho_{k+1}]$  interval and the definitions (2.24)–(2.25), the expressions for the charges are,

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{D0}^e &= h_8 - (\rho - 2\pi k)h_8' = \mu_k, & Q_{D4}^e &= h_4 - (\rho - 2\pi k)h_4' = \alpha_k, \\ Q_{D4'}^m &= 2\pi h_4' = \beta_k, & Q_{D8}^m &= 2\pi h_8' = \nu_k, \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

and given that,

$$d\hat{F}_0 = h_8'' d\rho, \quad d\hat{F}_4 = h_4'' d\rho \wedge \text{vol}_{\text{AdS}_2}, \quad (3.7)$$

with,

$$h_8'' = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{j=1}^P (\nu_{j-1} - \nu_j) \delta(\rho - 2\pi j), \quad h_4'' = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{j=1}^P (\beta_{j-1} - \beta_j) \delta(\rho - 2\pi j), \quad (3.8)$$

there are D8 and D4' brane sources localised in the  $\rho$  direction. In turn, both  $d\hat{F}_8$  and the  $\text{vol}_{S^3}$  component of  $d\hat{F}_4$  vanish identically, which implies that D0 and D4 branes play the rôle of colour branes. The brane set-up associated to the solution (3.1) consists of a D0-F1-D4-D4'-D8 brane intersection, as depicted in table 2.

In addition, in [1] the number of vacua was computed. For the solutions defined by the above functions, it was shown that the holographic central charge is given by,

$$c_{\text{hol,1d}} = \frac{3V_{\text{int}}}{4\pi G_N} = \frac{3}{4\pi} \frac{\text{Vol}_{\text{CY}_2}}{(2\pi)^4} \int_0^{2\pi(P+1)} (4h_4 h_8 - (u')^2) d\rho. \quad (3.9)$$

In the next section we briefly describe the SCQM proposed in [1] in order to extract information about the field theory associated to the background (2.17).

### 3.1 The dual superconformal quantum mechanics

In [1], a proposal for the quantum mechanics living on the D0-D4-D4'-D8-F1 brane intersection was given in terms of an ADHM quantum mechanics that generalises the one discussed in [80]. This quantum mechanics was interpreted as describing the interactions between instantons and Wilson lines in 5d gauge theories with 8 Poincaré supersymmetries living in D4-D8 intersections. The complete D0-D4-D4'-D8-F1 brane intersection was split into two subsystems, D4-D4'-F1 and D0-D8-F1, that were first studied independently.

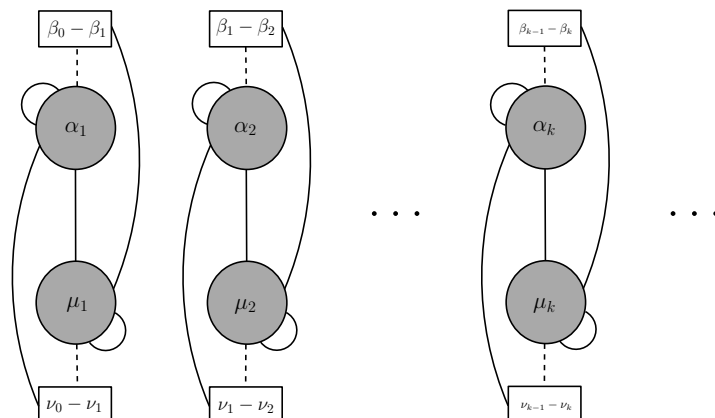
Let us start considering the D4-D4'-F1 brane subsystem. This subsystem was interpreted as a BPS Wilson line in the 5d theory living on the D4-branes. When probing the D4-branes with fundamental strings, D4'-branes transverse to the D4-branes are originated. These orthogonal D4'-branes carry a magnetic charge  $Q_{D4'}^m = 2\pi h'_4$  proportional to the number of fundamental strings dissolved in the world-volume of the D4'-branes. Additionally, the D4-branes can be seen as instantons in the world-volume of the D8-branes [81], where the D4-brane wrapped on the  $CY_2$  can be absorbed by a D8-brane and converted into an instanton.

The D0-D8-F1 brane subsystem is distributed as the D4-D4'-F1 previous case. Here a Wilson line is introduced into the QM living on the D0-branes, in this case D8-branes are originated by probing D0-branes with fundamental strings. The number of fundamental strings dissolved in the world-volume of D8-branes is in correspondence with the magnetic charge of the D8-branes,  $Q_{D8}^m = 2\pi h'_8$ . In terms of instantons, the D0-brane is absorbed by a D4'-brane and converted into an instanton.

The proposal in [1] is that the one dimensional  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  quantum mechanics living on the complete D0-D4-D4'-D8-F1 brane intersection describes the interactions between the two types of instantons and two types of Wilson loops in the  $Q_{D4'}^m \times Q_{D8}^m$  antisymmetric representation of  $U(Q_{D4}^e) \times U(Q_{D0}^e)$ .

The SCQMs that live on these brane set-ups were analysed in [1]. They are described in terms of a set of disconnected quivers as shown in figure 1, with gauge groups associated to the colour D0 and D4 branes (the latter wrapped on the  $CY_2$ ) coupled to the D4' and D8 flavour branes. The dynamics is described in terms of (4,4) vector multiplets, associated to gauge nodes (circles); (4,4) hypermultiplets in the adjoint representation connecting one gauge node to itself (semicircles in black lines); and (4,4) hypermultiplets in the bifundamental representation of the two gauge groups (vertical black lines). The connection with the flavour groups is through twisted (4,4) bifundamental hypermultiplets, connecting the D0-branes with the D4'-branes and the D4-branes with the D8-branes (bent black lines), and (0,2) bifundamental Fermi multiplets, connecting the D4-branes with the D4'-branes and the D0-branes with the D8-branes (dashed lines) — see [1] for more details.

Such quivers, depicted in figure 1, can be read from the Hanany-Witten like brane set-up depicted at the top of figure 2. Here in each  $[\rho_k, \rho_{k+1}]$  interval there are  $\mu_k$  D0-branes and  $\alpha_k$  D4-branes, playing the rôle of colour branes. Orthogonal to them there are  $\nu_k$  D8-branes and  $\beta_k$  D4'-branes, interpreted as flavour branes. In order to see the interpretation as Wilson lines one can proceed as follows (see [1]). The D0-D4-D4'-D8-F1 brane set-up is taken to an F1-D3-NS5-NS7-D1 system in Type IIB through a T+S duality transfor-



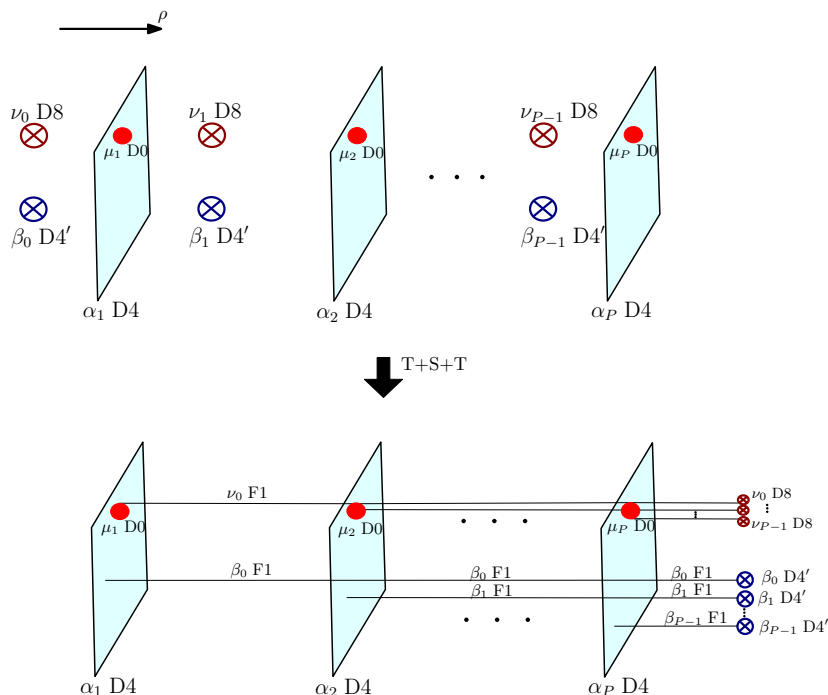
**Figure 1.** A generic one dimensional quiver field theory whose IR limit is dual to the  $\text{AdS}_2$  backgrounds given in [1].

mation. In this set-up, Hanany-Witten moves can be performed, which upon T-duality give the Type IIA configuration depicted at the bottom of figure 2. This configuration consists of  $\nu_k$  coincident stacks of D8-branes and  $\beta_k$  coincident stacks of D4'-branes, with  $\mu_k$  and  $\alpha_k$  F1-strings originating in the different  $(\nu_0, \nu_1, \dots, \nu_{k-1}; \beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_{k-1})$  coincident stacks of D8- and D4'-branes. The other endpoint of the F1-strings is on each stack of  $\mu_k$  D0-branes and  $\alpha_k$  D4-branes. From this picture the description of Wilson loops in the  $(\nu_0, \nu_1, \dots, \nu_{k-1}; \beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_{k-1})$  completely antisymmetric representation of  $U(\mu_k)$  and  $U(\alpha_k)$ , respectively, is recovered. In [1], this was interpreted as describing Wilson lines for each of the D0 and D4 gauge groups, given that they are in the completely antisymmetric representation they actually described backreacted D4-D0 baryon vertices [82] within the 5d CFT living in D4'-D8 brane intersections. The reader is referred to [1] for more details on this construction.

In [1], it was shown that the holographic central charge (given by (3.9)), matches the field theory central charge, computed using the expression,

$$c_{\text{ft}} = 6(n_{\text{hyp}} - n_{\text{vec}}), \tag{3.10}$$

where  $n_{\text{hyp}}$  counts the number of bifundamental, fundamental and adjoint (0,4) hypermultiplets and  $n_{\text{vec}}$  counts the number of (0,4) vector multiplets, both in the UV description. The equation (3.10) was obtained in [83] for two-dimensional conformal field theories, and was determined by identifying the right-handed central charge with the  $U(1)_R$  current two-point function. With the expression (3.10), both results, holographic and field theory central charge have been shown to agree for the 2d  $\mathcal{N} = (0, 4)$  quiver CFTs constructed in [27–29], as well as for the  $\text{AdS}_2/\text{SCQM}$  pairs proposed in [1, 38, 41]. In [38], the agreement is kept since the one-dimensional quiver QMs are originated from the two-dimensional  $\mathcal{N} = (0, 4)$  CFTs upon dimensional reduction. However, in [1, 41], the equation (3.10) matches with the holographic result even though the 1d CFTs have not originated from the 2d “mother” CFTs.



**Figure 2.** (Top) Hanany-Witten like brane set-up associated with the quivers depicted in figure 1. Brane set-up equivalent to the previous one after a T+S+T duality transformation and Hanany-Witten moves (bottom).

As we anticipated, the background (2.17) belongs to the classification provided in [1]. Therefore, we will use the expression (3.10) to obtain the number of vacua of the superconformal quantum mechanics dual to our solution. The previous analysis guarantees its agreement with the holographic result.

After this summary, we turn to the solution (2.17), the main focus of this paper and show that it fits locally in the previous class of  $AdS_2 \times S^3 \times CY_2 \times I$  solutions to Type IIA supergravity constructed in [1].

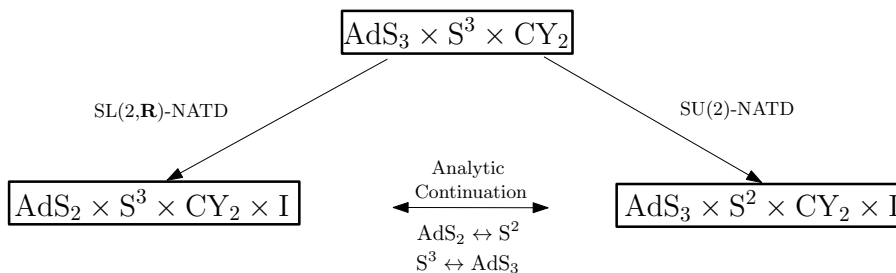
#### 4 SCQM dual to the non-Abelian T-dual solution

In this section we show that the solution (2.17), obtained as the  $SL(2, \mathbf{R})$ -NATD of the  $AdS_3 \times S^3 \times CY_2$  solution to Type IIB supergravity, fits in the class of geometries constructed in [1], that we have just reviewed. We will also provide a global completion to this solution by glueing it to itself.

Consider the backgrounds (3.1). It is easy to see that the background (2.17) fits locally in this class of solutions, with the simple choices,

$$u = 4L^4 M^2 \rho, \quad h_4 = L^2 M^4 \rho, \quad h_8 = F_0 \rho. \tag{4.1}$$

In [29], it was studied that the  $AdS_3 \times S^2 \times CY_2 \times I$  solution constructed in [56], by acting  $SU(2)$ -NATD on the near horizon limit of the D1-D5 system, belongs to a subset of the geometries classified in [26]. Therefore, since both classifications, [26] and [1, 34], are related



**Figure 3.** Relation between the solution (2.17) and the solution obtained in [56] through SU(2)-NATD.

by a double analytical continuation, this fact strongly suggests that the background (2.17) should be related to the solution obtained in [56], upon an analytical continuation prescription.

This double analytical continuation works as follows, we focus on the Type IIA background given by (2.17) and the AdS<sub>2</sub> and S<sub>3</sub> factors are interchanged as,

$$ds_{\text{AdS}_2}^2 \rightarrow -ds_{\text{S}^2}^2, \quad ds_{\text{S}^3}^2 \rightarrow -ds_{\text{AdS}_3}^2. \quad (4.2)$$

In order to get well-defined supergravity fields, we also need to analytically continue the following terms,

$$\rho \rightarrow i\rho, \quad L \rightarrow iL, \quad F_i \rightarrow -F_i, \quad (4.3)$$

where  $F_i$  are the RR fluxes. Thus, applying this set of transformations one finds the AdS<sub>3</sub>×S<sup>2</sup>×CY<sub>2</sub>×I solution to massive Type IIA supergravity with four Poincaré supersymmetries constructed for the first time in [56]. We summarise these connections in figure 3.

### 4.1 Completed NATD solution

According to (3.3)–(3.4) one can choose a profile for the piecewise linear functions  $h_4$ ,  $h_8$  and propose a concrete way to complete the solution (2.17). In turn, completing the geometry implies a completion in the quiver, allowing us to match between holographic and field theory computations.

We can complete the solution (2.17) by terminating the  $\rho$  interval at a certain value  $\rho_{2P}$  with  $P \in \mathbb{Z}$ .<sup>5</sup> Then, the piecewise functions (3.3)–(3.4) read,

$$u = 4L^4 M^2 \rho, \quad (4.4)$$

$$h_4(\rho) = L^2 M^4 \begin{cases} \rho & \rho_0 \leq \rho \leq \rho_P, \\ \rho_0 - (\rho - \rho_{2P}) & \rho_P \leq \rho \leq \rho_{2P}, \end{cases} \quad (4.5)$$

$$h_8(\rho) = L^2 \begin{cases} \rho & \rho_0 \leq \rho \leq \rho_P, \\ \rho_0 - (\rho - \rho_{2P}) & \rho_P \leq \rho \leq \rho_{2P}. \end{cases} \quad (4.6)$$

<sup>5</sup>We choose the value  $\rho_{2P}$  due to the completion is composed by two copies of the SL(2,R)-NATD solution, glued between them.



The previous functions reproduce the behaviour (2.19) for the metric and dilaton at both ends of the space and one can check that the NS sector is continuous at  $\rho_P$  when  $\rho_P = \frac{\rho_0 + \rho_{2P}}{2}$ . Hereinafter, we take the value  $\rho_{2P} = \rho_0 (2P - 1)$  and use  $\frac{\rho_0}{2\pi}$  dimensionless, namely  $\frac{\rho_0}{2\pi} \rightarrow 1$ , in order to obtain well-quantised charges. Thus, we get  $\rho_P = 2\pi P$ .

Notice that the functions (4.5)–(4.6) are a simple example, with  $\beta_k = \beta$  and  $\nu_k = \nu$ , for all intervals. This implies there are no flavour branes at the different intervals — with the exception of the  $[\rho_{P-1}, \rho_P]$  interval, that we will analyse later.

The Page fluxes (2.23) in each  $[\rho_k, \rho_{k+1}]$  interval then read as follows,

$$\hat{F}_0 = L^2 \begin{cases} 1 & k = 0, \dots, P - 1, \\ -1 & k = P, \dots, (2P - 1), \end{cases} \quad (4.7)$$

$$\hat{F}_2 = \pi L^2 \text{vol}_{\text{AdS}_2} \begin{cases} -k & k = 0, \dots, P - 1, \\ -(2P - k) & k = P, \dots, (2P - 1), \end{cases} \quad (4.8)$$

$$\hat{F}_4^{\text{CY}_2} = L^2 M^4 \text{vol}_{\text{CY}_2} \begin{cases} -1 & k = 0, \dots, P - 1, \\ 1 & k = P, \dots, (2P - 1), \end{cases} \quad (4.9)$$

$$\hat{F}_6^{\text{CY}_2} = \pi L^2 M^4 \text{vol}_{\text{AdS}_2} \wedge \text{vol}_{\text{CY}_2} \begin{cases} k & k = 0, \dots, P - 1, \\ (2P - k) & k = P, \dots, (2P - 1), \end{cases} \quad (4.10)$$

Here we show the component over  $\text{CY}_2$  for  $\hat{F}_4$  and  $\hat{F}_6$ . The 2-form and 6-form Page fluxes are continuous at  $\rho_P$  and the change of sign in the 0-form and 4-form Page fluxes is due to the presence of D8 and D4' flavour branes at  $[\rho_{P-1}, \rho_P]$  interval.

The corresponding quantised charges read,

$$Q_{\text{D8}}^m = 2\pi L^2 \begin{cases} 1 & k = 0, \dots, P - 1, \\ -1 & k = P, \dots, (2P - 1), \end{cases} \quad (4.11)$$

$$Q_{\text{D0}}^e = Q_{\text{D8}}^m \begin{cases} -k & k = 0, \dots, P - 1, \\ -(2P - k) & k = P, \dots, (2P - 1), \end{cases} \quad (4.12)$$

$$Q_{\text{D4}'}^m = 2\pi L^2 M^4 \begin{cases} -1 & k = 0, \dots, P - 1, \\ 1 & k = P, \dots, (2P - 1), \end{cases} \quad (4.13)$$

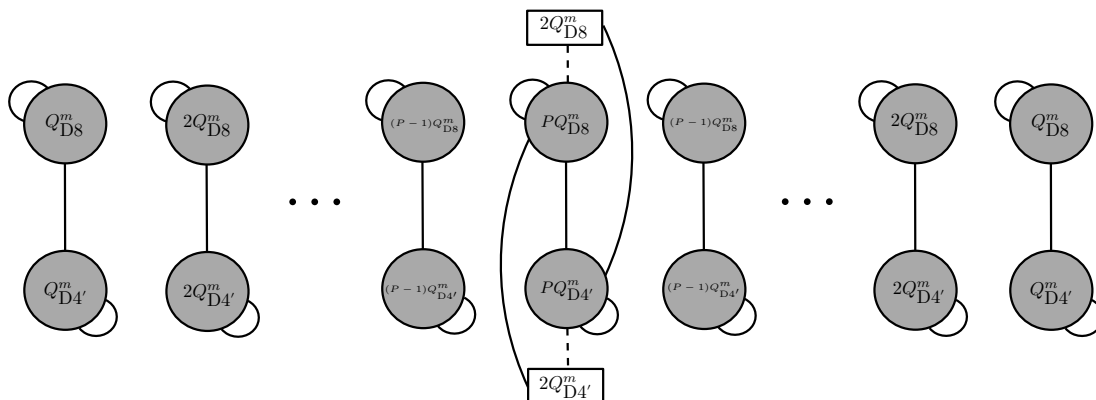
$$Q_{\text{D4}}^e = Q_{\text{D4}'}^m \begin{cases} k & k = 0, \dots, P - 1, \\ (2P - k) & k = P, \dots, (2P - 1). \end{cases} \quad (4.14)$$

Thus, the D0 and D4 brane charges increase linearly in the  $0 \leq k \leq P$  region, and decrease linearly in the  $P + 1 \leq k \leq 2P - 1$  region, until the value  $k = 2P - 1$  is reached. Here the minus sign in the charges denotes anti-Dp brane charge. The quiver for the configuration (4.5)–(4.6) is depicted in figure 4.

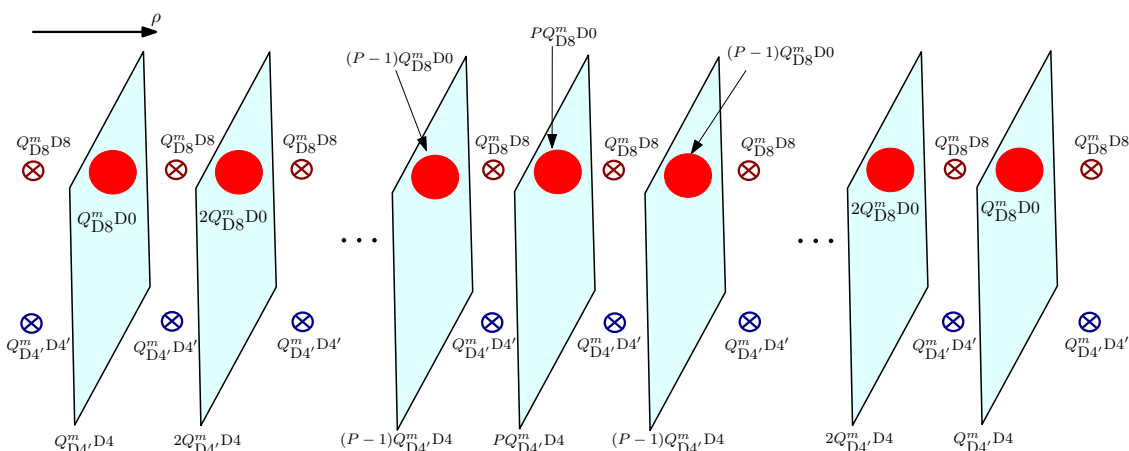
The discontinuities at  $\rho_P$  are translated into  $2Q_{\text{D4}'}^m$  and  $2Q_{\text{D8}}^m$  flavour groups according to,

$$N_{\text{D4}'}^{[P-1, P]} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{\text{CY}_2} \hat{F}_4 = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{\text{CY}_2 \times I_\rho} d\hat{F}_4 = \beta_{P-1} - \beta_P = 2Q_{\text{D4}'}^m \quad (4.15)$$

$$N_{\text{D8}}^{[P-1, P]} = 2\pi \hat{F}_0 = 2\pi \int_{I_\rho} d\hat{F}_0 = \nu_{P-1} - \nu_P = 2Q_{\text{D8}}^m \quad (4.16)$$



**Figure 4.** Symmetric completed quiver associated to the NATD solution.



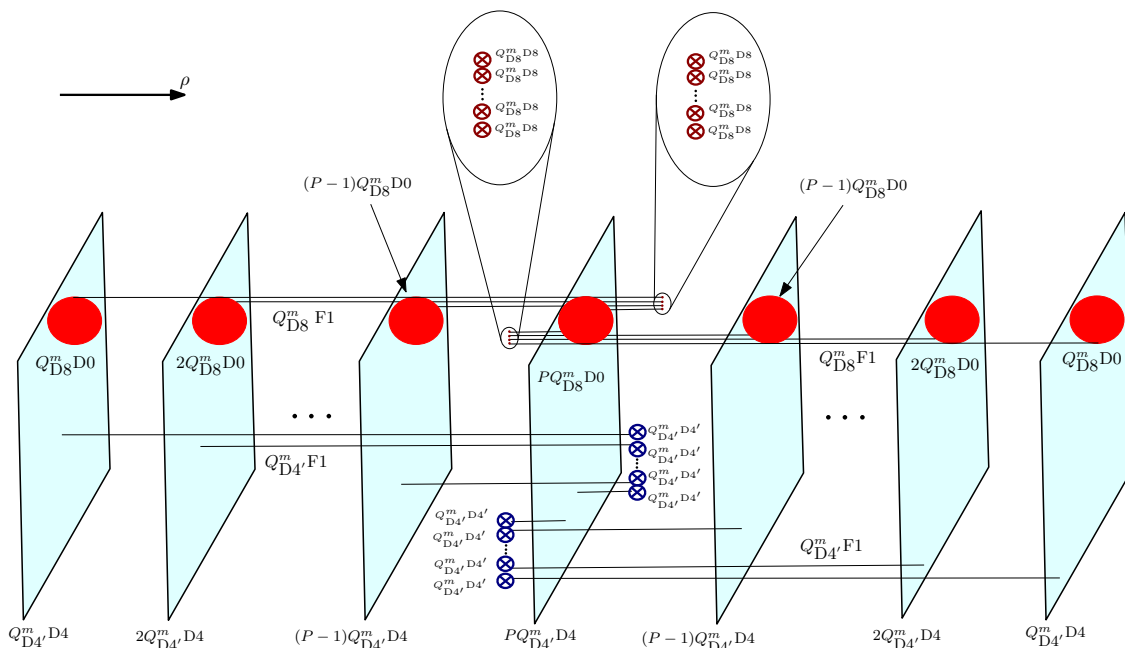
**Figure 5.** The Hanany-Witten like brane set-up for the completed non-Abelian T-dual solution, underlying the quiver depicted in figure 4.

where we used the expressions (3.7)–(3.8) with  $\beta_{P-1} = 2\pi L^2 M^4$ ,  $\beta_P = -2\pi L^2 M^4$ ,  $\nu_{P-1} = 2\pi L^2$  and  $\nu_P = -2\pi L^2$ .

The quiver shown in figure 4 can be translated to the description reviewed in section 3.1. The Hanany-Witten like brane set-up is shown in figure 5. In each  $[\rho_k, \rho_{k+1}]$  interval, for  $k = 0, \dots, P-1$ , we have  $kQ_{D8}^m$  D0-branes and  $kQ_{D4'}^m$  D4-branes. For  $k = P, \dots, 2P-1$  we have  $(2P-k)Q_{D8}^m$  D0-branes and  $(2P-k)Q_{D4'}^m$  D4-branes. Orthogonal to them, in each interval, there are  $Q_{D8}^m$  D8-branes and  $Q_{D4'}^m$  D4'-branes, playing the rôle of flavour branes.

As proposed in [1] and we reviewed in section 3.1, one can perform a T-S-T duality transformation<sup>6</sup> to the D0-D4-D4'-D8-F1 system. Consider the left-hand side of the Hanany-Witten like brane set-up shown in figure 5, from the first  $Q_{D8}^m$  D8- and  $Q_{D4'}^m$  D4'-branes until the  $PQ_{D8}^m$  D0- and  $PQ_{D4'}^m$  D4-branes. It is easy to see that this subsystem is equivalent to the brane set-up depicted on the top of figure 2 (with  $\nu_i = Q_{D8}^m$ ,  $\beta_i = Q_{D4'}^m$ ,  $\mu_j = jQ_{D8}^m$  and  $\alpha_j = jQ_{D4'}^m$ , for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, P-1$  and  $j = 1, \dots, P$ ). When we perform the T+S+T transformation on the left-hand configuration an equivalent system to the bottom

<sup>6</sup>That is a T-(S-duality)-T transformation.



**Figure 6.** Symmetric brane set-up after a T+S+T duality transformation and Hanany-Witten moves from the brane set-up depicted in figure 5.

in figure 2 is obtained. This is depicted on the left-hand side in figure 6, here the now coincident D8-branes and D4'-branes are to the right of the  $PQ_{D8}^m D0$  and  $PQ_{D4'}^m D4$  stacks. On the right-hand side of the Hanany-Witten like brane set-ups, shown in figure 5 and figure 6, we have the same configuration that on the left-hand side, since the right-hand side is the symmetric part of the left-hand side. That is, the complete configuration is the left-hand side glued to itself.

Let us focus on the D0-D8-F1 system on the left-hand side of the Hanany-Witten like brane set-up shown in figure 6 (from  $Q_{D8}^m D0$  until  $PQ_{D8}^m D0$ ).<sup>7</sup> After the T+S+T transformation, we obtain  $P$  stacks of  $Q_{D8}^m D8$ -branes — depicted in figure 6 to the right of the  $PQ_{D8}^m D0$ -branes — with  $PQ_{D8}^m F1$ -strings originating in the different coincident stacks of D8-branes. The other endpoint of the F1-strings is on each stack of  $kQ_{D8}^m D0$ -branes. For the D4-D4'-F1 system we have a similar configuration, namely  $P$  stacks of  $Q_{D4'}^m D4'$ -branes, with  $PQ_{D4'}^m F1$ -strings attached to them. These F1-strings have the other end point on the different  $kQ_{D4'}^m$  stacks of D4-branes. Thus, as we reviewed in section 3.1, the system can be interpreted as Wilson loops in the  $Q_{D8}^m \times Q_{D4'}^m$  completely antisymmetric representation of the gauge groups  $U(kQ_{D8}^m) \times U(kQ_{D4'}^m)$ , that we interpret as describing the backreaction of the D4-D0 baryon vertices of a D4'-D8 brane intersection.

To be concrete, consider the SCQM that arises in the very low energy limit of a D4'-D8 brane intersection, dual to a 5d QFT, where D4- and D0-brane baryon vertices are introduced. Namely, D4-brane (D0-brane) baryon vertices are linked to D4'-branes (D8-branes) with fundamental strings. In the IR these branes change their rôle, that is the

<sup>7</sup>Since on the right-hand side we have the same configuration.

gauge symmetry on both D4'- and D8-branes becomes global, shifting D4' and D8 from colour to flavour branes and the D0- and D4-branes play now the rôle of colour branes of the backreacted geometry.

Furthermore, with the piecewise linear functions (4.4), (4.5) and (4.6) we can compute the holographic central charge,<sup>8</sup>

$$\begin{aligned}
 c_{\text{hol}} &= \frac{3}{\pi} L^4 M^4 \left( \int_{\rho_0}^{\rho_P} (\rho^2 - \rho_0^2) d\rho + \int_{\rho_P}^{\rho_{2P}} \left( (\rho_0 - (\rho - \rho_{2P}))^2 - \rho_0^2 \right) d\rho \right) \\
 &= Q_{\text{D4}'}^m Q_{\text{D8}}^m (4P^3 - 12P + 8).
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{4.17}$$

In order to compare this result with the field theory computation in (3.10), we need to compute the number of hypermultiplets and vector multiplets. For the quiver in figure 4 we obtain,

$$\begin{aligned}
 n_{\text{hyp}} &= \left( (Q_{\text{D4}'}^m)^2 + (Q_{\text{D8}}^m)^2 + Q_{\text{D4}'}^m Q_{\text{D8}}^m \right) \left( P^2 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{P-1} i^2 \right), \\
 n_{\text{vec}} &= \left( (Q_{\text{D4}'}^m)^2 + (Q_{\text{D8}}^m)^2 \right) \left( P^2 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{P-1} i^2 \right).
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{4.18}$$

Thus, when the sums are performed we get the following expression for the field theory central charge,

$$\begin{aligned}
 c_{\text{ft}} = 6(n_{\text{hyp}} - n_{\text{vec}}) &= 6Q_{\text{D4}'}^m Q_{\text{D8}}^m \left( P^2 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{P-1} i^2 \right) \\
 &= Q_{\text{D4}'}^m Q_{\text{D8}}^m (4P^3 + 2P).
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{4.19}$$

We see that at large  $Q_{\text{D8}}^m$ ,  $Q_{\text{D4}'}^m$  and  $P$  (in the holographic limit, which is long quivers with large ranks) the results (4.17) and (4.19) coincide.

## 5 Conclusions

In this paper we developed the implementation of NATD in supergravity backgrounds supporting an  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$  subgroup as part of their full isometry group. Namely, we implemented the solution generating technique in non-compact spaces exhibiting an  $\text{SO}(2,2) \cong \text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})_L \times \text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})_R$  isometry group geometrically realised by an  $\text{AdS}_3$  space. After the dualisation, the resultant dual geometry exhibits an  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$  isometry reflected geometrically as an  $\text{AdS}_2$  space plus a non-compact new direction in the internal space. This non-compact direction arises since the Lagrange multipliers live in the Lie algebra of the  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$  group, which is by construction a vector space,  $\mathbf{R}^3$ . That is, the space dual to  $\text{AdS}_3$  is locally  $\text{AdS}_2 \times \mathbf{R}^+$ .

We worked out in detail the  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$ -NATD solution of the  $\text{AdS}_3 \times \text{S}^3 \times \text{CY}_2$  solution that arises in the near horizon limit of the D1-D5 brane intersection. We found that the  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$ -NATD solution is a simple example in the classification constructed in [1].

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<sup>8</sup>We used  $\frac{\rho_0}{2\pi} \rightarrow 1$  as explained above.

Further, our background (2.17) is related through an analytic continuation prescription to the  $\text{AdS}_3 \times \text{S}^2 \times \text{CY}_2 \times \text{I}$  solution obtained in [56], as one of the first examples of AdS backgrounds generated through  $\text{SU}(2)$  non-Abelian T-duality.

An important drawback of non-Abelian T-duality is the lack of global information about the dual geometry, which cannot be inferred from the transformation itself. For this we used the fact that our solution (2.17) fits in the classification constructed in [1] which allowed us to propose an explicit completion for the geometry. Unlike the two completions worked out in [29] for the  $\text{SU}(2)$ -NATD solution constructed therein, continuity of the NS sector allows only one possible completion for the geometry given in (2.17). Our completion, shown in section 4.1, is obtained by glueing the  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbf{R})$ -NATD solution to itself. We proposed a well-defined quiver quantum mechanics, dual to our  $\text{AdS}_2$  solution, that flows in the IR to a superconformal quantum mechanics (based on the Hanany-Witten brane set-ups and Page charges), which admits an interpretation in terms of backreacted D4-D0 baryon vertices within the 5d QFT living in a  $\text{D4}'$ -D8 brane intersection. In support of our proposal we checked the agreement between the holographic and field theory central charges.

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