

An introduction to string phenomenology

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Outline

- ➊ String phenomenology: what for? Physical context and motivations
- ➋ High string scale - heterotic string
- ➌ High string scale - type II and D-branes
- ➍ Low string scale and large extra dimensions
- ➎ Experimental predictions
- ➏ Warped spaces and holography

Bibliography

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e-Print: hep-th/9906108
- *Topics on String Phenomenology*
I. Antoniadis
e-Print: arXiv:0710.4267 [hep-th]
- *String theory in a nutshell*
E. Kiritsis
Princeton University Press, 2007
- *String theory and particle physics: An introduction to string phenomenology*
Luis E. Ibanez, Angel M. Uranga
Published in Cambridge, UK: Univ. Pr. (2012) 673 p

Fundamental interactions

force	range	intensity of 2 protons	intensity at 10^{-16} cm
Gravitation	∞	10^{-38}	10^{-30}
Electromagnetic	∞	10^{-2}	10^{-2}
Weak (radioactivity β)	10^{-15} cm	10^{-5}	10^{-2}
Strong (nuclear forces)	10^{-12} cm	1	10^{-1}

At what distance, gravitation becomes comparable to the other interactions?

Planck length: 10^{-33} cm $\rightarrow M_{\text{Planck}} \simeq 10^{15} \times$ the LHC energy!

Newton's law

$$m \bullet \xleftarrow{r} m \quad F_{\text{grav}} = G_N \frac{m^2}{r^2} \quad G_N^{-1/2} = M_{\text{Planck}} = 10^{19} \text{ GeV}$$

Compare with electric force: $F_{\text{el}} = \frac{e^2}{r^2} \Rightarrow$

effective dimensionless coupling $G_N m^2$ or in general $G_N E^2$ at energies E

$$E = m_{\text{proton}} \Rightarrow \frac{F_{\text{grav}}}{F_{\text{el}}} = \frac{G_N m_{\text{proton}}^2}{e^2} \simeq 10^{-40} \quad [19]$$

\Rightarrow Gravity is very weak !

Weak Gravity Conjecture: it is the weakest force in Nature

\Rightarrow minimal non-trivial charge $e \geq m$ in Planck units

Arkani-Hamed, Motl, Nicolis, Vafa '06

Standard Model of electroweak + strong forces

- Quantum Field Theory Quantum Mechanics + Special Relativity
 - Principle: gauge invariance $U(1) \times SU(2) \times SU(3)$

Very accurate description of physics at present energies 17 parameters

- ① mediators of gauge interactions (vectors): photon, W^\pm , Z + 8 gluons
 - ② matter (fermions): (leptons + quarks) $\times 3$
 - electron, positron, neutrino (up, down) 3 colors
 - ③ Electroweak symmetry breaking sector: new scalar(s) particle(s)

Electroweak symmetry : spontaneously broken

$SU(2) \times U(1) \rightarrow U(1)_{\text{photon}} \Rightarrow W^\pm, Z^0$ massive, photon massless

↑
observed at LEP

a new particle is needed : Higgs boson (scalar)

- break the EW symmetry at ~ 250 GeV
- generate mass for all elementary particles

through their interaction with the Higgs field

Englert-Brout-Higgs mechanism

Englert-Brout; Higgs; Guralnik-Hagen-Kibble '64

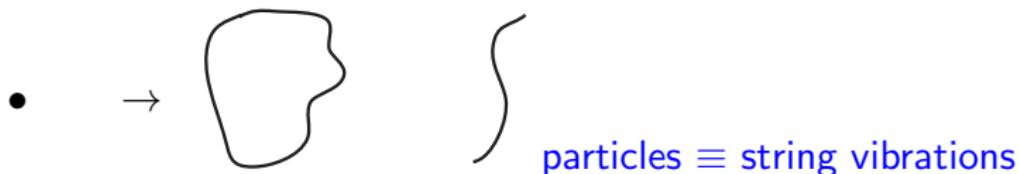
Its discovery in 2012 was one of the main goals of LHC

Beyond the Standard Model : Why?

- to include gravity in a consistent quantum theory
longstanding dream of unification of all fundamental forces of Nature
- origin of electroweak (EW) symmetry breaking
what is behind the Brout-Englert-Higgs mechanism?
- hierarchy of masses and force intensities $\text{EW/gravity} \sim 10^{32}$
stability at the quantum level \Rightarrow
fine-tuning of parameters in 32 decimal places!
- neutrino masses and oscillations
- origin of Dark Matter in the Universe

String theory: Quantum Mechanics + General Relativity

point particle → extended objects



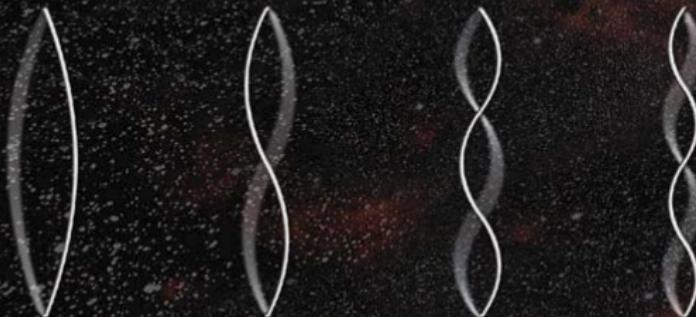
- quantum gravity
- framework of unification of all interactions
- “ultimate” theory:
 - ultraviolet finite
 - no free parameters

mass scale (tension): $M_{\text{string}} \leftrightarrow$ size: l_{string}

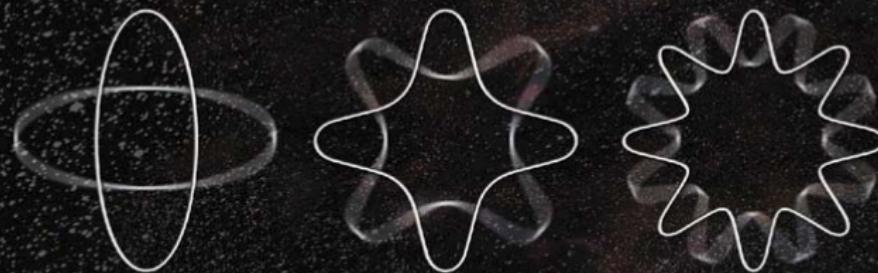
rigid string : known particles (massless)

vibrations : infinity of massive particles

cordes ouvertes



cordes fermées



Strings and extra dimensions

Consistent theory \Rightarrow 9 spatial dimensions ! (10 in M-theory)

six new dimensions of space

matter and gauge interactions may be localized

in less than 9 dimensions \Rightarrow

our universe on a membrane ? [15]

p -plane: extended in p spatial dimensions

$p = 0$: particle, $p = 1$: string, . . .

how they escape observation?

finite size R

energy cost to send a signal:

$$E > R^{-1} \leftarrow \text{compactification scale}$$

experimental limits on their size

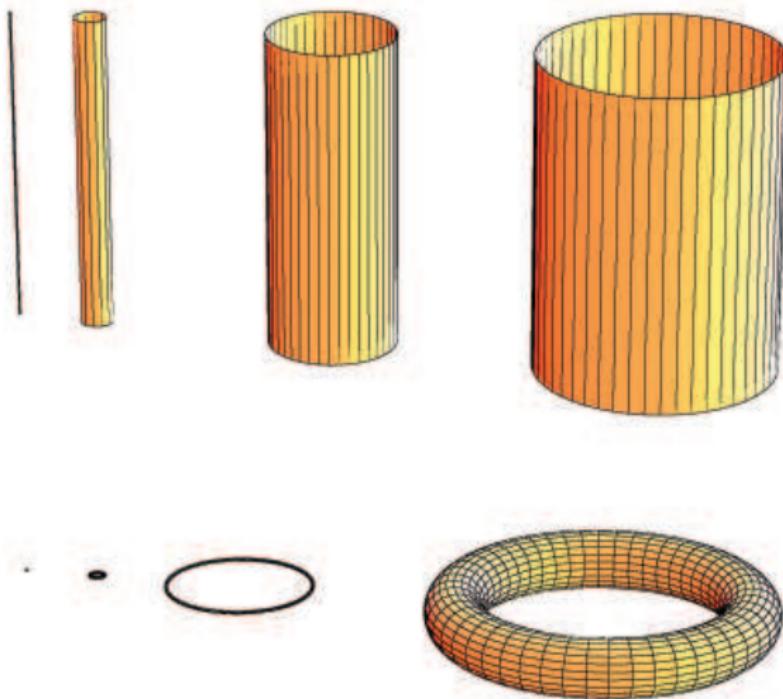
light signal $\Rightarrow E \gtrsim 1 \text{ TeV}$

$$R \lesssim 10^{-16} \text{ cm}$$

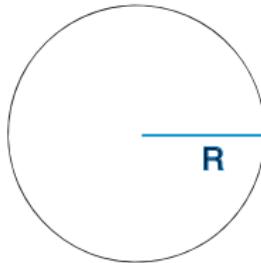
how to detect their existence?

motion in the internal space \Rightarrow mass spectrum in 3d

Dimensions D=??



- example:
- one internal circular dimension
 - light signal



plane waves e^{ipy} periodic under $y \rightarrow y + 2\pi R$

\Rightarrow quantization of internal momenta: $p = \frac{n}{R}; n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$

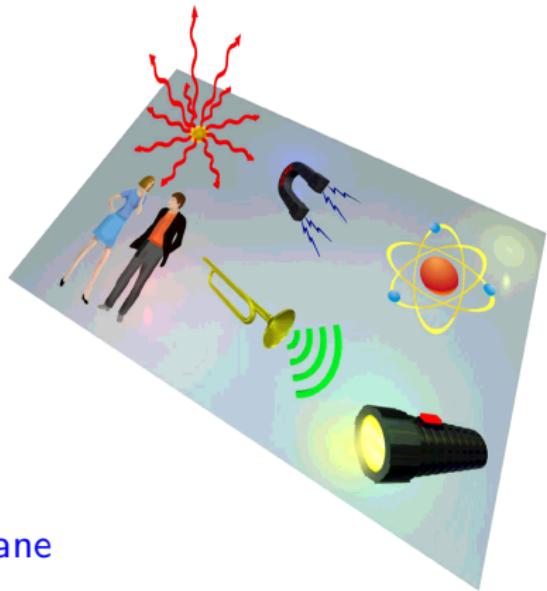
\Rightarrow 3d: tower of Kaluza Klein particles with masses $M_n = |n|/R$

$$p_0^2 - \vec{p}^2 - p_5^2 = 0 \Rightarrow p^2 = p_5^2 = \frac{n^2}{R^2}$$

$E \gg R^{-1}$: emission of many massive photons

\Leftrightarrow propagation in the internal space [11]

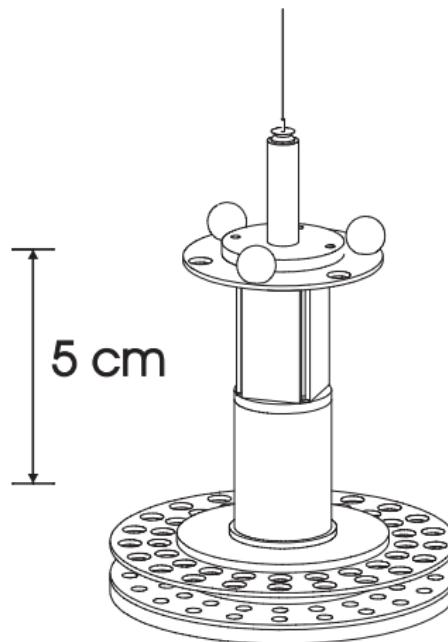
Our universe on a membrane



Two types of new dimensions:

- longitudinal: along the membrane
- transverse: “hidden” dimensions

only gravitational signal $\Rightarrow R_{\perp} \lesssim 1 \text{ mm}$!



$R_{\perp} \lesssim 45 \mu\text{m}$ at 95% CL

- dark-energy length scale $\approx 85 \mu\text{m}$

Relativistic dark energy 70-75% of the observable universe

negative pressure: $p = -\rho \Rightarrow$ cosmological constant

$$R_{ab} - \frac{1}{2}Rg_{ab} + \Lambda g_{ab} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T_{ab} \Rightarrow \rho_\Lambda = \frac{c^4 \Lambda}{8\pi G} = -p_\Lambda$$

Two length scales:

- $[\Lambda] = L^{-2} \leftarrow$ size of the observable Universe

$$\Lambda_{obs} \simeq 0.74 \times 3H_0^2/c^2 \simeq 1.4 \times (10^{26} \text{ m})^{-2}$$

Hubble parameter $\simeq 73 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$

- $[\frac{\Lambda}{G} \times \frac{c^3}{\hbar}] = L^{-4} \leftarrow$ dark energy length $\simeq 85 \mu\text{m}$

Low scale gravity

Extra large \perp dimensions can explain the apparent weakness of gravity

total force = observed force \times volume \perp

total force $\simeq \mathcal{O}(1)$ at 1 TeV n dimensions of size R_\perp

$n = 1 : R_\perp \simeq 10^8$ km excluded

$n = 2 : R_\perp \simeq 0.1$ mm $(10^{-12}$ GeV) possible

$n = 6 : R_\perp \simeq 10^{-13}$ mm $(10^{-2}$ GeV)

- distances $> R_\perp$: gravity 3d

however for $< R_\perp$: gravity $(3+n)d$ [20]

- strong gravity at 10^{-16} cm \leftrightarrow TeV

10³⁰ times stronger than thought previously! [22]

Low scale gravity

Extra large \perp dimensions can explain the apparent weakness of gravity

total force = observed force \times volume \perp [5]

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ G_N^* E^{2+n} & = & G_N E^2 \times V_{\perp} E^n \end{array}$$

$$G_N^* = M_*^{-(2+n)} : (4+n)\text{-dim gravitational constant}$$

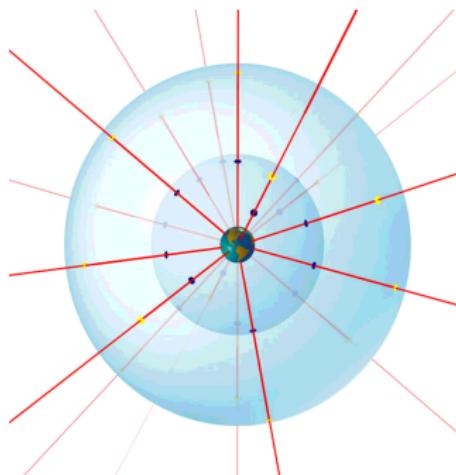
total force $\simeq \mathcal{O}(1)$ at 1 TeV n dimensions of size R_{\perp}

$$\Rightarrow V_{\perp} = R_{\perp}^n$$

$$\Rightarrow M_P^2 = M_*^{2+n} R_{\perp}^n \text{ for } M_* \simeq 1 \text{ TeV} \Rightarrow (R_{\perp} M_*)^n \sim 10^{32}$$

Gravity modification at submillimeter distances

Newton's law: force decreases with area



$$3d: \text{force} \sim 1/r^2$$

$$(3+n)d: \text{force} \sim 1/r^{2+n}$$

observable for $n = 2$: $1/r^4$ with $r \ll .1 \text{ mm}$ [18]

Gravity modification at submillimeter distances

Gradual change of force behaviour at short distances

Exchange of a massive particle \Rightarrow Yukawa potential

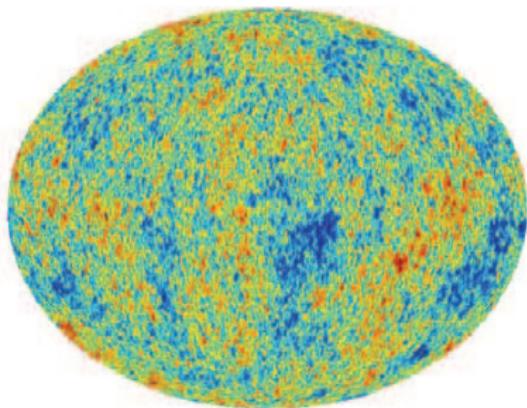
$$V_m = \frac{e^{-mr}}{r}$$

Sum over exchange of KK modes with masses $|n|/R$, $n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$:

$$\begin{aligned} V &= \frac{1}{r} \left(1 + 2e^{-r/R} + 2e^{-2r/R} + \dots \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{r} \left(1 + \frac{2}{e^{r/R} - 1} \right) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{r} & \text{for } r \gg R \\ \frac{2R}{r^2} & \text{for } r \ll R \end{cases} \quad Q_5 = 2RQ_4 \end{aligned}$$

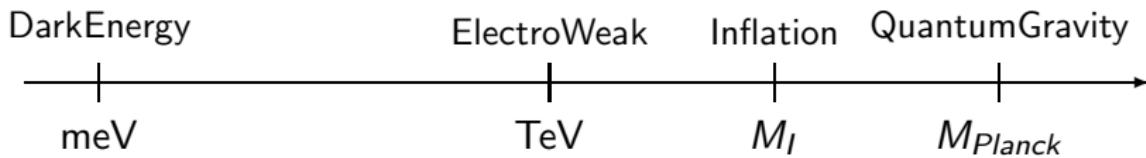
Connect string theory to the real world

- Is it a tool for strong coupling dynamics or a theory of fundamental forces?
- Can string theory describe both particle physics and cosmology?



Problem of scales

- describe high energy (SUSY?) extension of the Standard Model
unification of all fundamental interactions
 - incorporate Dark Energy
simplest case: infinitesimal (tunable) +ve cosmological constant
 - describe possible accelerated expanding phase of our universe
models of inflation (approximate de Sitter)
- ⇒ 3 very different scales besides M_{Planck} :



At what energies strings may be observed?

Very different answers depending mainly on the value of the string scale M_s

Before 1994: $M_s \simeq M_{\text{Planck}} \sim 10^{18} \text{ GeV}$ $l_s \simeq 10^{-32} \text{ cm}$ After 1998:

- arbitrary parameter : Planck mass $M_P \longrightarrow \text{TeV}$
- physical motivations \Rightarrow favored energy regions:

- High :
$$\begin{cases} M_P^* \simeq 10^{18} \text{ GeV} & \text{Heterotic scale} \\ M_{\text{GUT}} \simeq 10^{16} \text{ GeV} & \text{Unification scale} \end{cases}$$
- Intermediate : around 10^{11} GeV ($M_s^2/M_P \sim \text{TeV}$)
SUSY breaking, strong CP axion, see-saw scale
- Low : (multi) TeV (hierarchy problem)

High string scale

perturbative heterotic string : the most natural for SUSY and unification

gravity and gauge interactions have same origin

massless excitations of the closed string

But mismatch between string and GUT scales:

$$M_s = g M_P \simeq 50 M_{\text{GUT}} \quad g^2 \simeq \alpha_{\text{GUT}} \simeq 1/25 \text{ [46]}$$

in GUTs only one prediction from 3 gauge couplings unification: $\sin^2 \theta_W$ [27]

introduce large threshold corrections or strong coupling $\rightarrow M_s \simeq M_{\text{GUT}}$

but loose predictivity [28]

Heterotic string

gravity + gauge kinetic terms [47]

$$\int [d^{10}x] \frac{1}{g_H^2} M_H^8 \mathcal{R}^{(10)} + \int [d^{10}x] \frac{1}{g_H^2} M_H^6 \mathcal{F}_{MN}^2 \quad \text{simplified units: } 2 = \pi = 1$$

Compactification in 4 dims on a 6-dim manifold of volume $V_6 \Rightarrow$

$$\int [d^4x] \frac{V_6}{g_H^2} M_H^8 \mathcal{R}^{(4)} + \int [d^4x] \frac{V_6}{g_H^2} M_H^6 \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu}^2$$

\parallel \parallel \Rightarrow

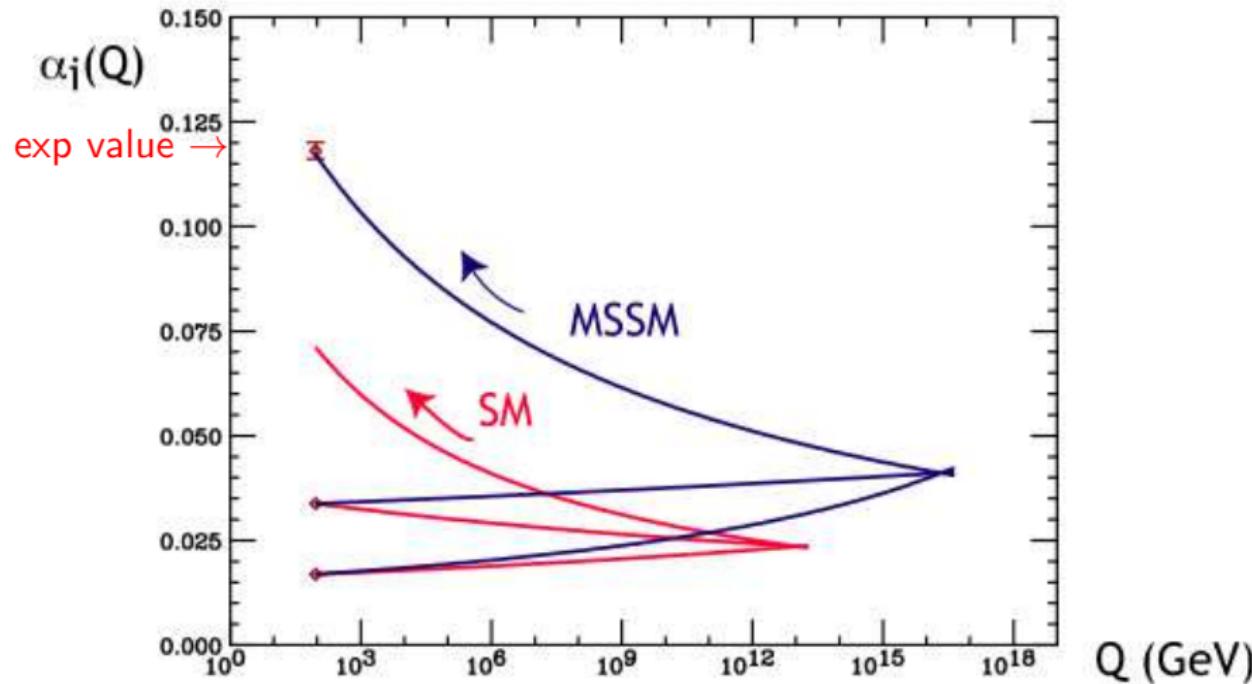
$$M_P^2 \qquad \qquad \qquad 1/g^2$$

$$M_P^2 = \frac{1}{g^2} M_H^2 \quad \frac{1}{g^2} = \frac{1}{g_H^2} V_6 M_H^6 \quad \Rightarrow \quad M_H = g M_P \quad g_H = g \sqrt{V_6} M_H^3$$

$$g_H \lesssim 1 \Rightarrow V_6 \sim \text{string size}$$

GUT prediction of QCD coupling

input α_{em} , $\sin^2 \theta_W$ \Rightarrow output α_3 [25] [47]



Heterotic string: Spectrum

Gauge group $G \leftrightarrow$ affine current algebra in the R-movers (bosonic) CFT

$$[J_n^a, J_m^b] = f^{abc} J_{n+m}^c + k_G \delta^{ab} \delta_{n+m} \quad k_G : \text{integer level of central extension}$$

- $g_G^2 = g_H^2/k_G$
 - dims of allowed matter reps constrained by k_G
- $\Rightarrow k_G = 1 :$
- simplest constructions (CY's, orbifolds, lattices, free fermions)
 - maximum rank: 22
 - guarantee gauge coupling unification at M_H
 - allowed reps: fundamentals & 2-index antisym of unitary groups,
spinors of orthogonal groups

However: - no adjoints to break GUT groups

- in SM $\sin^2 \theta_W = 3/8 \Rightarrow$ fractional electric charges

Schellekens '90

(Hyper)charge quantization

All color singlet states have integer charges

fractional electric charged states: nice prediction or problematic?

lightest is stable \Rightarrow problematic?

ways out: - superheavy + inflate away

- be confined to integrally charged by extra gauge group

live without adjoints \Rightarrow non conventional ‘semi’-GUTs

e.g. break fictitious $SO(10)$ by discrete Wilson lines or projection to

flipped $SU(5) \times U(1)$, Pati-Salam type $SU(4) \times SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$, or direct SM

Heterotic models revived: Orbifold GUTs

groups in Munich, Bonn, Hamburg, Ohio, U Penn

Flipped $SU(5)$: explicit string construction

IA-Ellis-Hagelin-Nanopoulos '87-'89

Framework: 4d heterotic strings in the 2d free-fermionic formulation
describing the internal (6,22)-dim compactification
with parameters the boundary conditions and corresponding coefficients
IA-Bachas-Kounnas-Windey '86, ABK '86, AB '87; Kawai-Lewellen-Tye '86, '87

Flipped $SU(5)$: minimal variation of $SU(5)$

that does not require GUT Higgs adjoints

explicit string construction with realistic phenomenology [32]

Flipped $SU(5)$: the model

matter representations: exchange d^c and u^c between $\bar{\mathbf{5}}$ and $\mathbf{10} \Rightarrow$

$$\bar{\mathbf{5}}_{\bar{F}} = (u^c, I), \mathbf{10}_F = [Q, d^c, \nu^c], I^c, \text{extra } U(1): SU(5) \times U(1)$$

Higgs representations: $10_H + \overline{10}_{\bar{H}}, 5_h + \bar{5}_{\bar{h}}$

$SU(5) \times U(1) \rightarrow SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$ via $\langle H \rangle = \langle \bar{H} \rangle \neq 0$ along $\nu_H^c, \bar{\nu}_{\bar{H}}^c$

$5_h = (d_h, h_2), \bar{5}_{\bar{h}} = (d_h^c, h_1)$ contain the electroweak higgses h_1, h_2

General superpotential invariant under $H \rightarrow -H$ in presence of singlets ϕ

$$W = \lambda_d FFh + \lambda_u F\bar{f}\bar{h} + \lambda_e I^c \bar{f}h + \lambda_4 HHh + \lambda_5 \bar{H}\bar{H}\bar{h} + \lambda_6 F\bar{H}\phi + \lambda_7 h\bar{h}\phi + \lambda_8 \phi^3$$

- $\lambda_4, \lambda_5 \Rightarrow$ doublet-triplet splitting with GUT masses $d_h d_H^c + \bar{d}_{\bar{h}} \bar{d}_{\bar{H}}^c$
- $\lambda_u \Rightarrow m_u = m_\nu$

however see-saw mechanism with ν^c and ϕ via λ_6 and λ_8

- Higgs from untwisted sector \Rightarrow gauge-Higgs unification

$$\lambda_{\text{top}} = g_{\text{GUT}} \Rightarrow m_{\text{top}} \sim \text{IR fixed point} \simeq 170 \text{ GeV}$$

- Yukawa couplings: hierarchies à la Froggatt-Nielsen

discrete symmetries \Rightarrow couplings allowed with powers of a singlet field

$$\lambda_n \sim \Phi^n \quad \langle \Phi \rangle \sim 0.1 M_H \rightarrow \text{hierarchies}$$

A single anomalous $U(1) \Rightarrow \langle \Phi \rangle \neq 0$ to cancel the FI D-term

D-term is shifted to $D + \frac{\text{Tr} Q}{192\pi^2} g_H^2$ [69]

- R-neutrinos: natural framework for see-saw mechanism

$$\langle h \rangle \nu_L \nu_R + M \nu_R \nu_R \quad \langle h \rangle = v \ll M \Rightarrow m_R \sim M; m_L \sim v^2/M$$

- proton decay: problematic dim-5 operators

in general need suppression higher than M_H or small couplings

- SUSY in a hidden sector from the other $E_8 \rightarrow$ gravity mediation

Open strings and D-branes

string propagation in space-time \Rightarrow 2-dim world-sheet (τ, σ) $X^\mu(\tau, \sigma)$

τ : time, $\sigma \in [0, \pi]$: spatial extension of the string

closed strings $\Rightarrow \sigma$: periodic $X^\mu(\tau, 0) = X^\mu(\tau, \pi)$

open string \Rightarrow endpoints: $\sigma = 0, \pi$ world-sheet boundaries

they also carry gauge charges

D-branes = hypersurfaces where open strings can end

D p -brane: parallel dimensions: X^1, \dots, X^p (also time X^0)

$\partial_\sigma X^\mu = 0$ at $\sigma = 0$ normal derivative vanishes

Newmann boundary conditions \Rightarrow free propagation along the boundary

transverse dimensions: X^{p+1}, \dots, X^9

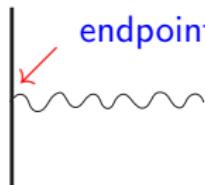
$X^\mu = X_0^\mu$ at $\sigma = 0$ ($\partial_\tau X^\mu = 0$ at $\sigma = 0$)

Dirichlet conditions: endpoint fixed at the boundary

D-brane spectrum

Generic spectrum: N coincident branes $\Rightarrow U(N)$

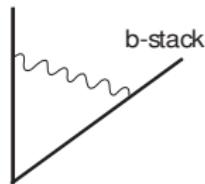
a-stack



endpoint transformation: N_a or \bar{N}_a $U(1)_a$ charge: +1 or -1
 \Rightarrow "baryon" number

- open strings from the same stack \Rightarrow adjoint gauge multiplets of $U(N_a)$
- stretched between two stacks \Rightarrow bifundamentals of $U(N_a) \times U(N_b)$

a-stack



non-oriented strings \Rightarrow also:

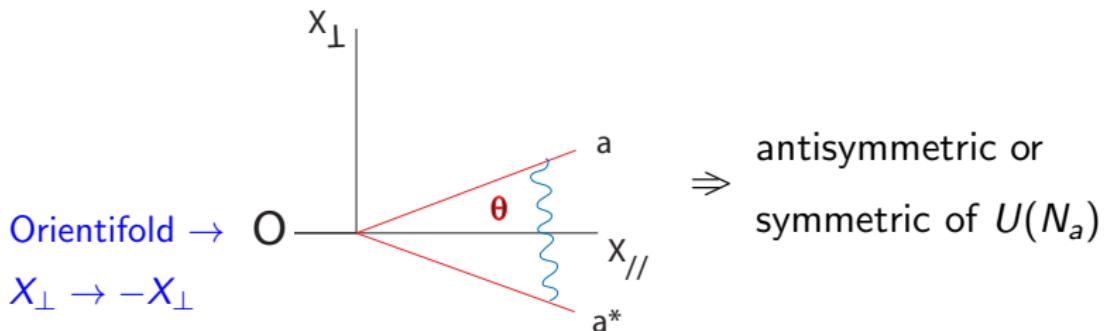
- orthogonal and symplectic groups $SO(N), Sp(N)$
- matter in antisymmetric + symmetric reps

Non oriented strings \Rightarrow orientifold planes

where closed strings change orientation

\Rightarrow mirror branes identified with branes under orientifold action

- strings stretched between two mirror stacks



Minimal Standard Model embedding

General analysis using 3 brane stacks [70]

$$\Rightarrow U(3) \times U(2) \times U(1)$$

antiquarks u^c, d^c ($\bar{3}, 1$) :

antisymmetric of $U(3)$ or bifundamental $U(3) \leftrightarrow U(1)$

\Rightarrow 3 models: antisymmetric is u^c, d^c or none

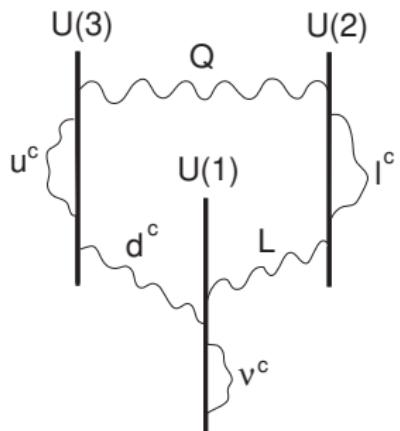
N_i stack of D-branes: $U(N_i) = SU(N_i) \times U(1)_i$

gauge couplings: $\alpha_{N_i} = \frac{g_{N_i}^2}{4\pi}$ and α_i

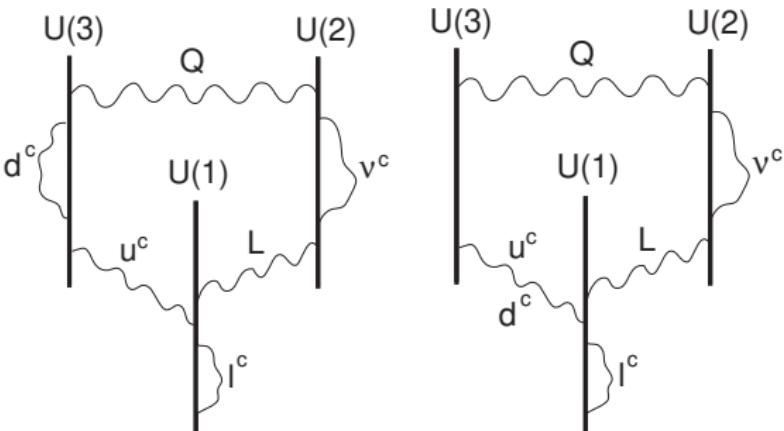
normalization: $\text{Tr } T^a T^b = \frac{1}{2} \delta^{ab} \Rightarrow \alpha_i = \frac{\alpha_{N_i}}{2N_i}$

$$Y = c_1 Q_1 + \textcolor{red}{c_2 Q_2} + \textcolor{blue}{c_3 Q_3} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{g_Y^2} = \frac{2c_1^2}{g_1^2} + \frac{4c_2^2}{g_2^2} + \frac{6c_3^2}{g_3^2}$$

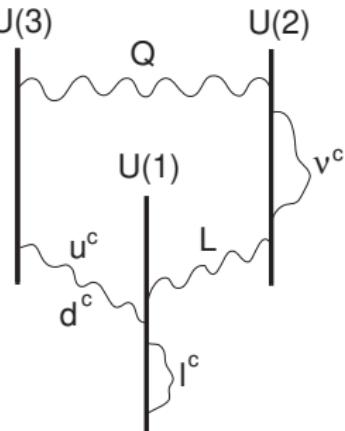
$$\sin^2 \theta_W = \frac{g_Y^2}{g_2^2 + g_Y^2} = \frac{1}{g_2^2/g_Y^2 + 1} = \frac{1}{1 + 4c_2^2 + 2c_1^2 g_2^2/g_1^2 + 6c_3^2 g_2^2/g_3^2}$$



Model A

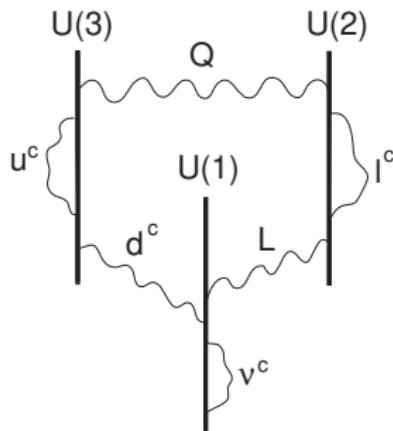


Model B

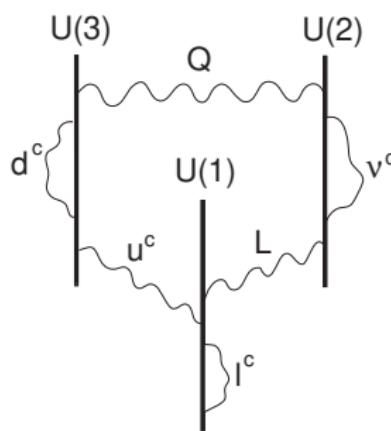


Model C

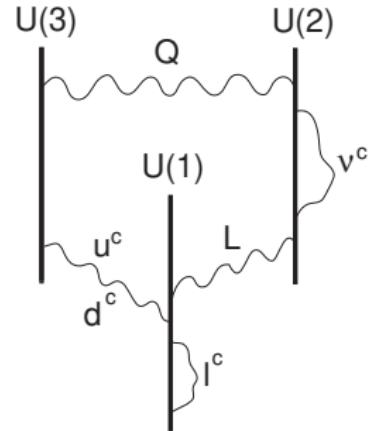
Q	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}; 1, 1, 0)_{1/6}$	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}; 1, \varepsilon_Q, 0)_{1/6}$	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}; 1, \varepsilon_Q, 0)_{1/6}$
u^c	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}; 2, 0, 0)_{-2/3}$	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}; -1, 0, 1)_{-2/3}$	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}; -1, 0, 1)_{-2/3}$
d^c	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}; -1, 0, \varepsilon_d)_{1/3}$	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}; 2, 0, 0)_{1/3}$	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}; -1, 0, -1)_{1/3}$
L	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}; 0, -1, \varepsilon_L)_{-1/2}$	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}; 0, \varepsilon_L, 1)_{-1/2}$	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}; 0, \varepsilon_L, 1)_{-1/2}$
l^c	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}; 0, 2, 0)_1$	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}; 0, 0, -2)_1$	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}; 0, 0, -2)_1$
ν^c	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}; 0, 0, 2\varepsilon_\nu)_0$	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}; 0, 2\varepsilon_\nu, 0)_0$	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}; 0, 2\varepsilon_\nu, 0)_0$



Model A



Model B



Model C

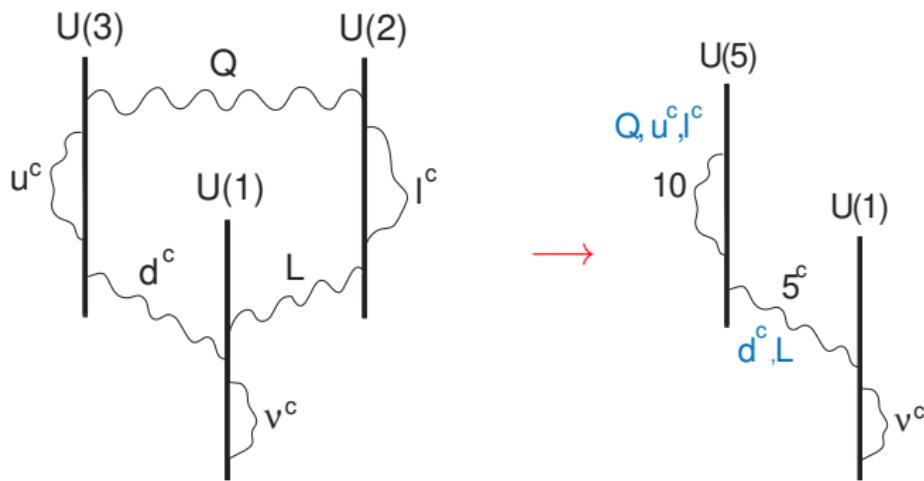
$$Y_A = -\frac{1}{3}Q_3 + \frac{1}{2}Q_2$$

$$Y_{B,C} = \frac{1}{6}Q_3 - \frac{1}{2}Q_1$$

$$\sin^2 \theta_W = \left. \frac{1}{2 + 2\alpha_2/3\alpha_3} \right|_{\alpha_2=\alpha_3} = \frac{3}{8}$$

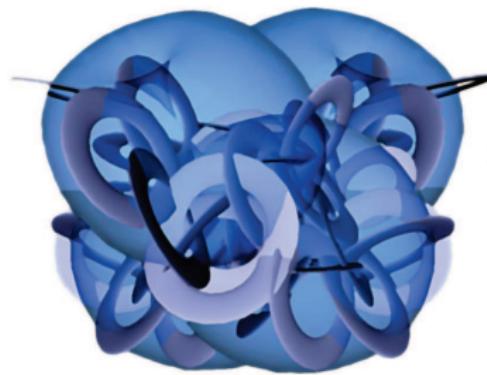
$$\left. \frac{1}{1 + \alpha_2/2\alpha_1 + \alpha_2/6\alpha_3} \right|_{\alpha_2=\alpha_3} = \frac{6}{7 + 3\alpha_2/\alpha_1}$$

$SU(5)$ GUT



String moduli

String compactifications from 10/11 to 4 dims → scalar moduli
arbitrary VEVs: parametrize the compactification manifold



size of cycles, shapes, . . . , string coupling

- $N = 1$ SUSY \Rightarrow complexification: scalar + i pseudoscalar $\equiv \phi_i$
- Low energy couplings: functions of moduli

e.g. gauge couplings: $\frac{1}{g_a^2} F_a^2$ *a: gauge group*

$N = 1$ SUSY \Rightarrow holomorphicity: $\frac{1}{g_a^2} = \text{Re } f_a(\phi_i)$

SUSY transformation \Rightarrow moduli-dependent θ -angles:

$$\theta_a F_a \tilde{F}_a \quad \text{with} \quad \theta_a = \text{Im } f_a(\phi_i)$$

In superspace: $\int d^2\theta \, f(\phi_i) W_a^2 \leftarrow \text{gauge field-strength chiral superfield}$

Moduli stabilization

If moduli massless \rightarrow inconsistent

long range forces, cosmological production, accelerators

Outstanding problem: moduli stabilization

- avoid experimental conflict
- fix their VEVs \Rightarrow compute low energy couplings

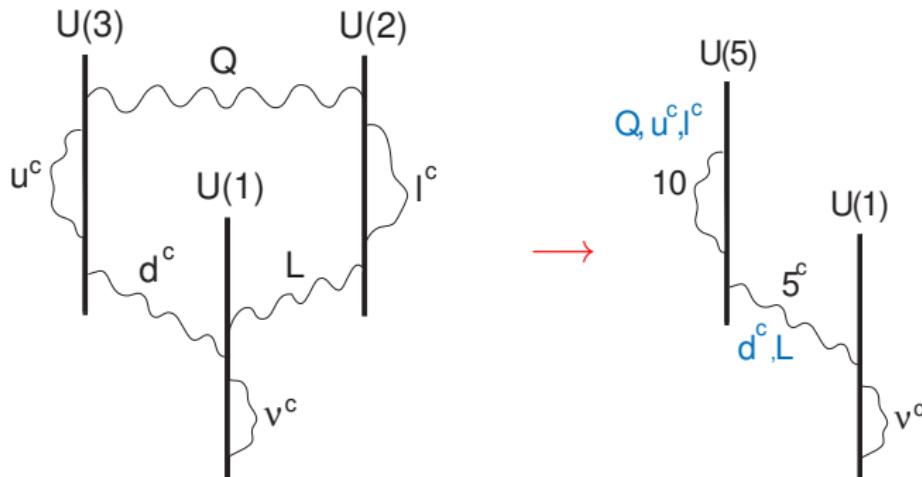
- preserving SUSY

Generate moduli potential: via
- after SUSY breaking

- non-perturbative effects or by
- turn-on fluxes: constant field-strengths of generalized gauge potentials

gauge fields: internal magnetic fields

generalization: higher rank antisymmetric tensors



Full string embedding with all geometric moduli stabilized:

- all extra $U(1)$'s broken \Rightarrow gauge group just **susy** $SU(5)$
- gauge non-singlet chiral spectrum: 3 generations of quarks + leptons
- SUSY can be broken in an extra $U(1)$ factor by D-term
 \rightarrow gauge mediation

Intersecting branes: ‘perfect’ for SM embedding

product of unitary gauge groups (**brane stacks**) and bi-fundamental reps

but no unification: no prediction for M_s , independent gauge couplings

however GUTs: problematic:

- no perturbative $SO(10)$ spinors
- no top-quark Yukawa coupling in $SU(5)$: $10\ 10\ 5_H$

$SU(5)$ is part of $U(5) \Rightarrow U(1)$ charges : 10 charge 2 ; 5_H charge ± 1

\Rightarrow cannot balance charges with $SU(5)$ singlets

can be generated by D-brane instantons but ...

→ Non-perturbative M/F-theory models:

combine good properties of heterotic and intersecting branes

but lack exact description for systematic studies

Type I string theory \Rightarrow D-brane world

I.A.-Arkani-Hamed-Dimopoulos-Dvali '98

- gravity: closed strings propagating in 10 dims
- gauge interactions: open strings with their ends attached on D-branes

Dimensions of finite size: n transverse $6 - n$ parallel [49]

calculability $\Rightarrow R_{\parallel} \simeq l_{\text{string}}$; R_{\perp} arbitrary

$$M_p^2 \simeq \frac{1}{g_s^2} M_s^{2+n} R_{\perp}^n \quad g_s = \alpha : \text{weak string coupling}$$

Planck mass in $4 + n$ dims: M_*^{2+n}

$$M_s \sim 1 \text{ TeV} \Rightarrow R_{\perp}^n = 10^{32} l_s^n \quad \text{small } M_s/M_P \Rightarrow \text{extra-large } R_{\perp}$$

$$R_{\perp} \sim .1 - 10^{-13} \text{ mm for } n = 2 - 6$$

distances $< R_{\perp}$: gravity $(4+n)$ -dim \rightarrow strong at 10^{-16} cm

Type I/II strings: gravity and gauge interactions have different origin

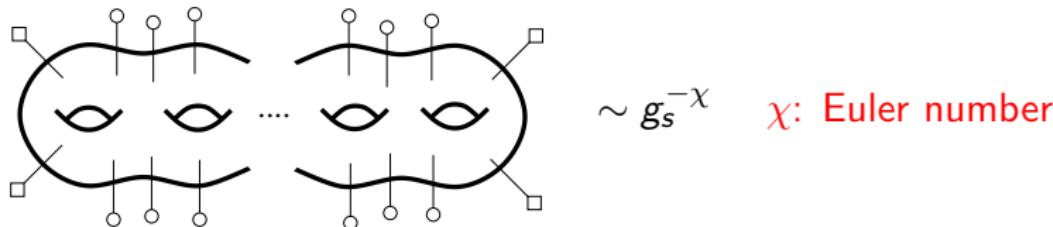
$$\text{gravity} + \text{gauge} \quad \text{kinetic terms}$$

$$\int [d^{10}x] \frac{1}{g_s^2} M_s^8 \mathcal{R}^{(10)} + \int [d^{p+1}x] \frac{1}{g_s} M_s^{p-3} \mathcal{F}_{MN}^2 \quad [26]$$

Compactification in 4 dims \Rightarrow

string propagation in space-time \Rightarrow 2-dim world-sheet

string perturbation theory : world-sheet topological expansion



general characterization of 2-dim Riemann surfaces:

$$\chi = 2 - 2h - b - c$$

genus=nb of handles boundaries (branes) crosscaps (orientifolds)

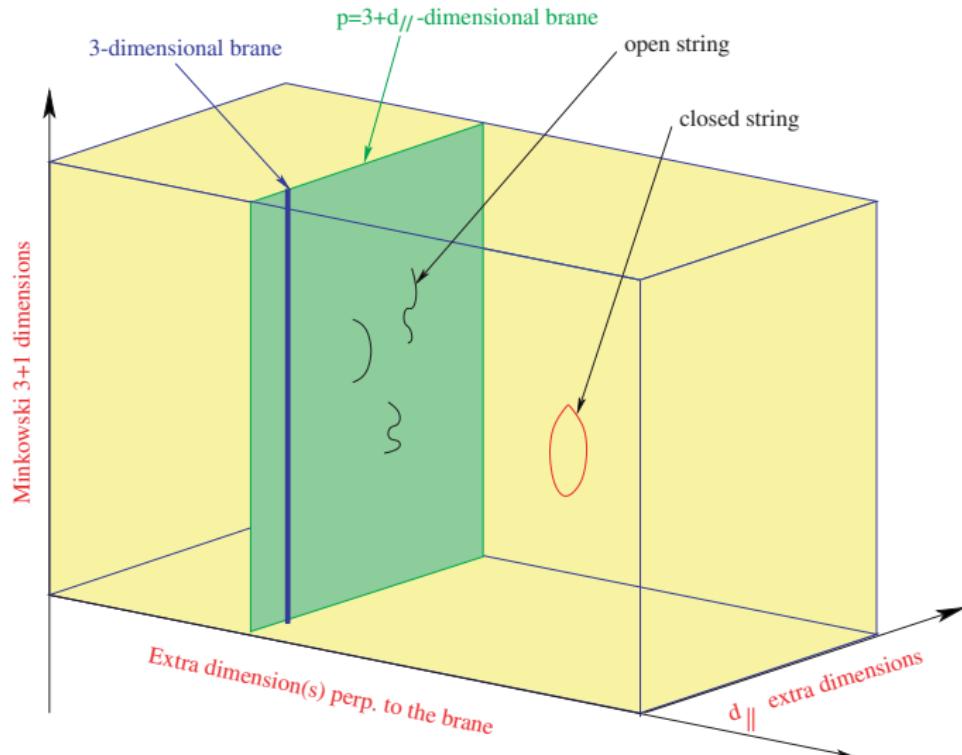
tree-level: $h = b = c = 0 \Rightarrow 1/g_s^2$

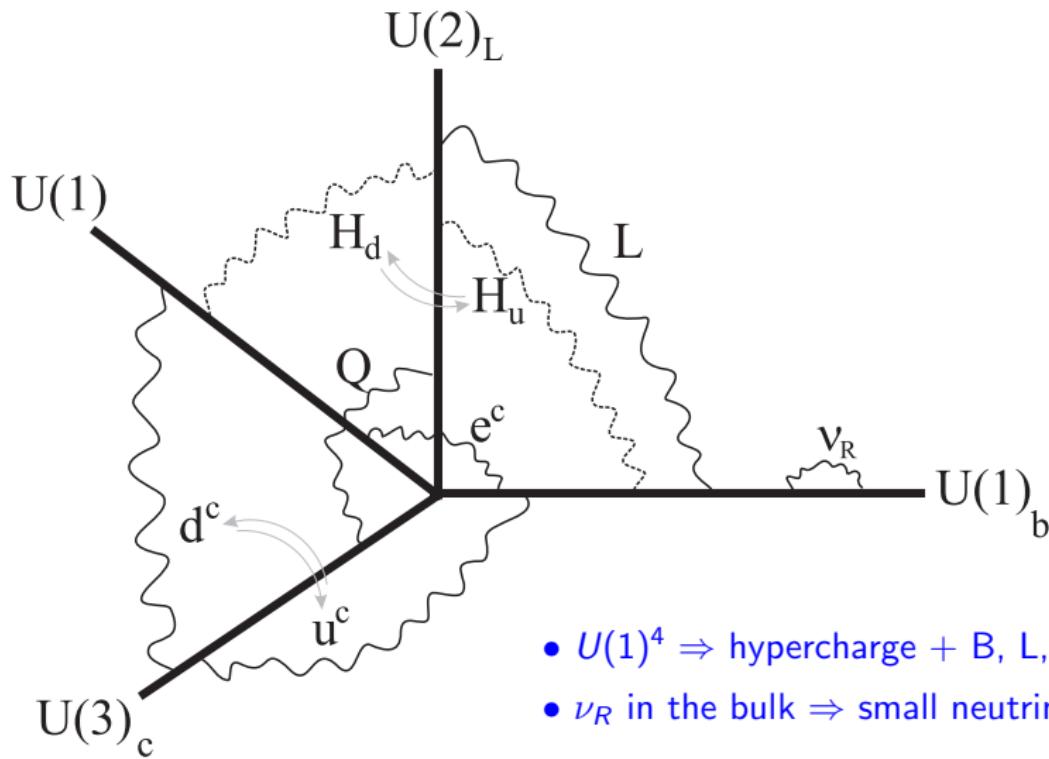
"tree-level" open strings: $h = c = 0, b = 1 \Rightarrow 1/g_s$

Braneworld

2 types of compact extra dimensions:

- parallel (d_{\parallel}): $\lesssim 10^{-16}$ cm (TeV) [46]
- transverse (\perp): $\lesssim 0.1$ mm (meV)





- $U(1)^4 \Rightarrow$ hypercharge + B, L, PQ global [70]
- ν_R in the bulk \Rightarrow small neutrino masses

R-neutrinos: in the bulk

Arkani Hamed-Dimopoulos-Dvali-March Russell '98
Dienes-Dudas-Gherghetta '98 Dvali-Smirnov '98

R-neutrino: $\nu_R(x, \textcolor{blue}{y})$ y : bulk coordinates

$$S_{int} = g_s \int d^4x H(x) L(x) \nu_R(x, y=0)$$

$$\langle H \rangle = v \Rightarrow \text{mass-term: } \frac{g_s v}{R_\perp^{n/2}} \nu_L \nu_R^0 \leftarrow \text{4d zero-mode}$$

$$\text{Dirac neutrino masses: } m_\nu \simeq \frac{g_s v}{R_\perp^{n/2}} \simeq v \frac{M_*}{M_p}$$

$$\simeq 10^{-3} - 10^{-2} \text{ eV} \text{ for } M_* \simeq 1 - 10 \text{ TeV}$$

$$m_\nu \ll 1/R_\perp \Rightarrow \text{KK modes unaffected}$$

Experimental predictions

- No little hierarchy problem:
 - radiative electroweak symmetry breaking with no logs
 - $\Lambda \sim \text{a few TeV}$ and $m_H^2 = \text{a loop factor} \times \Lambda^2$
- particle accelerators [55]
 - Large TeV dimensions seen by gauge interactions
 - Extra large hidden dimensions transverse \Rightarrow strong gravity
 - other accelerator signatures
- microgravity experiments [72]
 - gravity modifications at short distances
 - new submillimeter forces

Origin of EW symmetry breaking?

possible answer: radiative breaking

I.A.-Benakli-Quiros '00

$$V = \mu^2 H^\dagger H + \lambda(H^\dagger H)^2$$

$\mu^2 = 0$ at tree but becomes < 0 at one loop

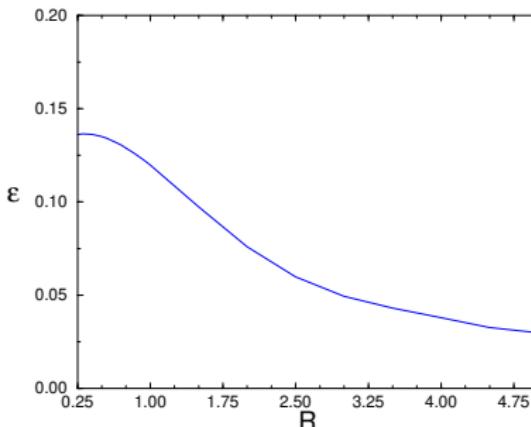
non-susy vacuum

simplest case: one Higgs from the same brane

\Rightarrow tree-level V same as susy: $\lambda = \frac{1}{8}(g_2^2 + g_Y^2)$ D-terms

$\mu^2 = -g^2 \varepsilon^2 M_s^2 \leftarrow$ effective UV cutoff

$$\varepsilon^2(R) = \frac{R^3}{2\pi^2} \int_0^\infty dl l^{3/2} \frac{\theta_2^4}{16 l^4 \eta^{12}} \left(il + \frac{1}{2} \right) \sum_n n^2 e^{-2\pi n^2 R^2 l}$$



$R \rightarrow 0$: $\varepsilon(R) \simeq 0.14$ large transverse dim $R_\perp = l_s^2/R \rightarrow \infty$

$R \rightarrow \infty$: $\varepsilon(R) M_s \sim \varepsilon_\infty / R$ $\varepsilon_\infty \simeq 0.008$ UV cutoff: $M_s \rightarrow 1/R$

Higgs scalar = component of a higher dimensional gauge field

$\Rightarrow \varepsilon_\infty$ calculable in the effective field theory

$\lambda = g^2/4 \sim 1/8 \quad \Rightarrow \quad M_H \simeq v/2 = 125 \text{ GeV}$

M_s or $1/R \sim \text{a few or several TeV}$ [52]

Accelerator signatures: 4 different scales

- Gravitational radiation in the bulk \Rightarrow missing energy [57]
present LHC bounds: $M_* \gtrsim 3 - 11 \text{ TeV}$
- Massive string vibrations \Rightarrow e.g. resonances in dijet distribution [59]

$$M_j^2 = M_0^2 + M_s^2 j \quad ; \quad \text{maximal spin : } j+1$$

higher spin excitations of quarks and gluons with strong interactions

$$\text{present LHC limits: } M_s \gtrsim 8 \text{ TeV}$$

- Large TeV dimensions \Rightarrow KK resonances of SM gauge bosons I.A. '90

$$M_k^2 = M_0^2 + k^2/R^2 \quad ; \quad k = \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

experimental limits: $R^{-1} \gtrsim 2 - 6 \text{ TeV}$ (UED - localized fermions) [63]

- extra $U(1)$'s and anomaly induced terms

masses suppressed by a loop factor from M_s [68]

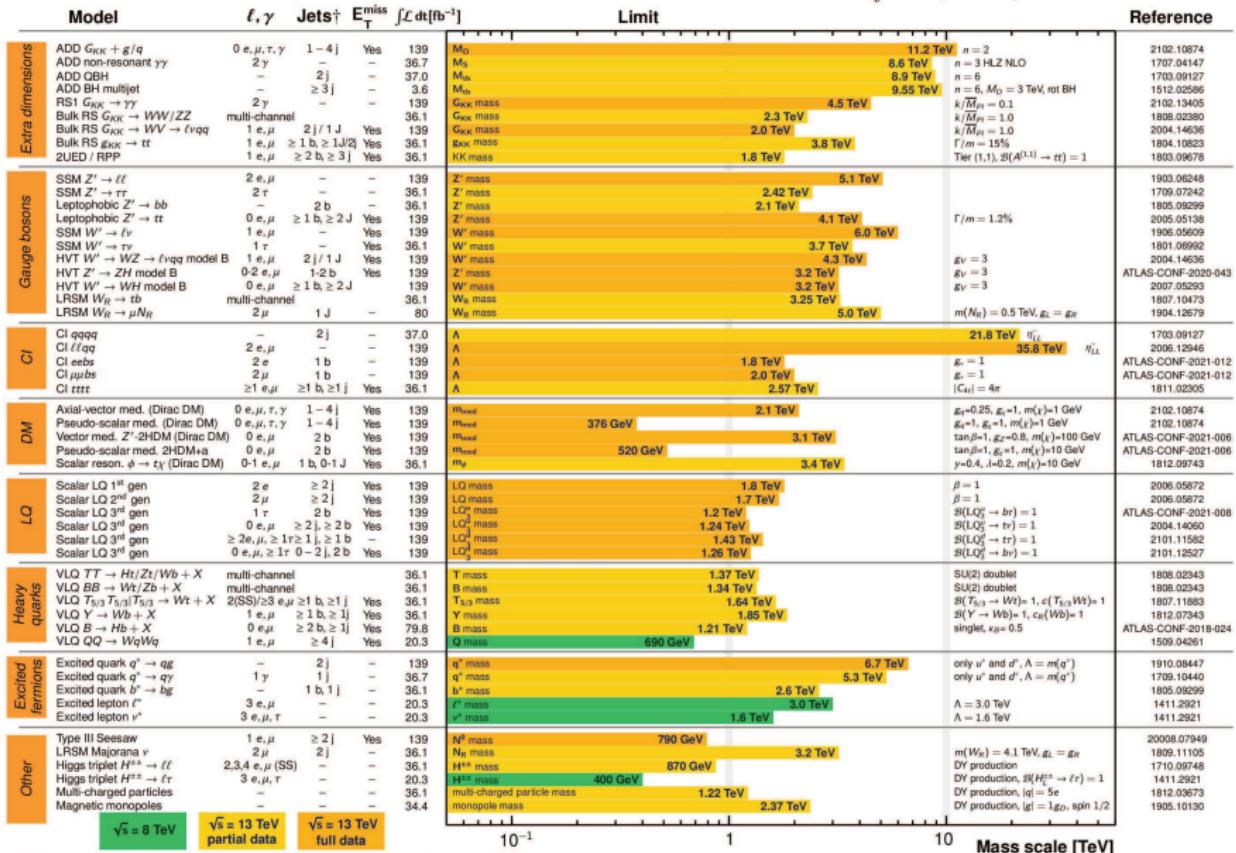
ATLAS Exotics Searches* - 95% CL Upper Exclusion Limits

Status: March 2021

ATLAS Preliminary

$$\int \mathcal{L} dt = (3.6 - 139) \text{ fb}^{-1}$$

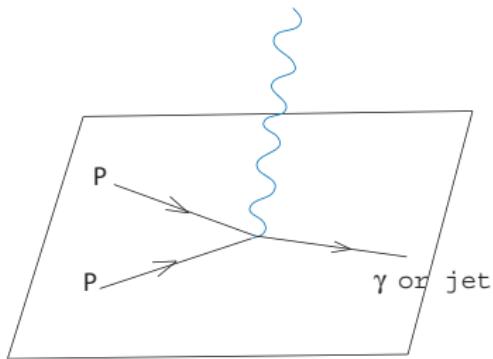
$\sqrt{s} = 8, 13 \text{ TeV}$



*Only a selection of the available mass limits on new states or phenomena is shown.

†Small-radius (large-radius) jets are denoted by the letter j (J).

Gravitational radiation in the bulk \Rightarrow missing energy



Angular distribution \Rightarrow spin of the graviton

Black hole production

String-size black hole energy threshold : $M_{\text{BH}} \simeq M_s/g_s^2$

Horowitz-Polchinski '96, Meade-Randall '07

- string size black hole: $r_H \sim l_s = M_s^{-1}$
- black hole mass: $M_{\text{BH}} \sim r_H^{d-3}/G_N \quad G_N \sim l_s^{d-2} g_s^2$

weakly coupled theory \Rightarrow strong gravity effects occur much above M_s, M_*

$$g_s \sim 0.1 \text{ (gauge coupling)} \quad \Rightarrow \quad M_{\text{BH}} \sim 100M_s$$

Comparison with Regge excitations : $M_n = M_s \sqrt{n} \Rightarrow$

production of $n \sim 1/g_s^4 \sim 10^4$ string states before reach M_{BH} [55]

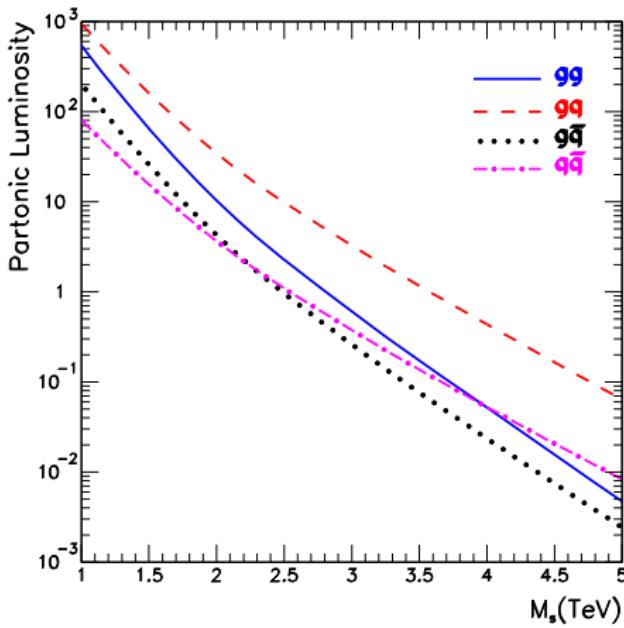
Tree level superstring amplitudes involving at most 2 fermions and gluons:
model independent for any compactification, # of susy's, even none
no intermediate exchange of KK, windings or graviton emmission
Universal sum over infinite exchange of string (Regge) excitations

Parton luminosities in pp above TeV

are dominated by gq, gg

⇒ model independent

$gq \rightarrow gq, gg \rightarrow gg, gg \rightarrow q\bar{q}$



Cross sections

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} |\mathcal{M}(gg \rightarrow gg)|^2 , \quad |\mathcal{M}(gg \rightarrow q\bar{q})|^2 \\ |\mathcal{M}(q\bar{q} \rightarrow gg)|^2 , \quad |\mathcal{M}(qg \rightarrow qg)|^2 \end{array} \right\}$$

model independent
for any compactification

$$|\mathcal{M}(gg \rightarrow gg)|^2 = g_{YM}^4 \left(\frac{1}{s^2} + \frac{1}{t^2} + \frac{1}{u^2} \right) \times \left[\frac{9}{4} (s^2 V_s^2 + t^2 V_t^2 + u^2 V_u^2) - \frac{1}{3} (s V_s + t V_t + u V_u)^2 \right]$$

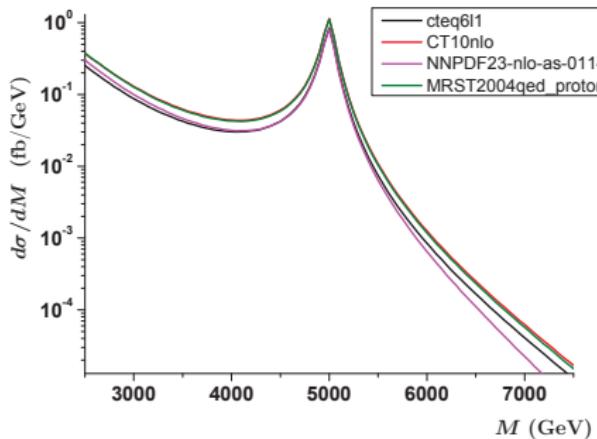
$$|\mathcal{M}(gg \rightarrow q\bar{q})|^2 = g_{YM}^4 \frac{t^2 + u^2}{s^2} \left[\frac{1}{6} \frac{1}{tu} (t V_t + u V_u)^2 - \frac{3}{8} V_t V_u \right] \quad M_s = 1$$

$$V_s = -\frac{tu}{s} \quad B(t, u) = 1 - \frac{2}{3}\pi^2 tu + \dots \quad V_t : s \leftrightarrow t \quad V_u : s \leftrightarrow u$$

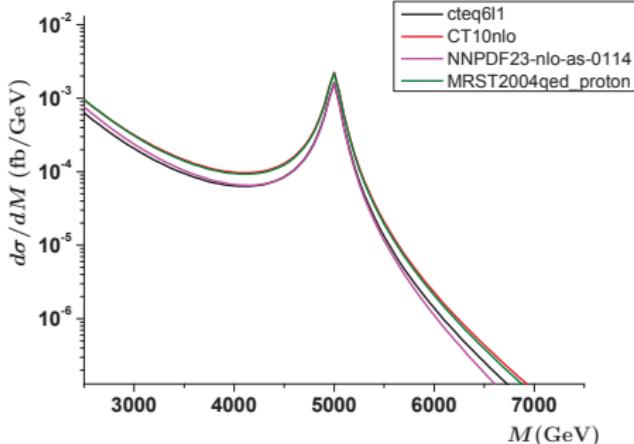
YM limits agree with e.g. book "Collider Physics" by Barger, Phillips

String Resonances production at Hadron Colliders

I.A.-Anchordoqui-Dai-Feng-Goldberg-Huang-Lüst-Stojkovic-Taylor '14



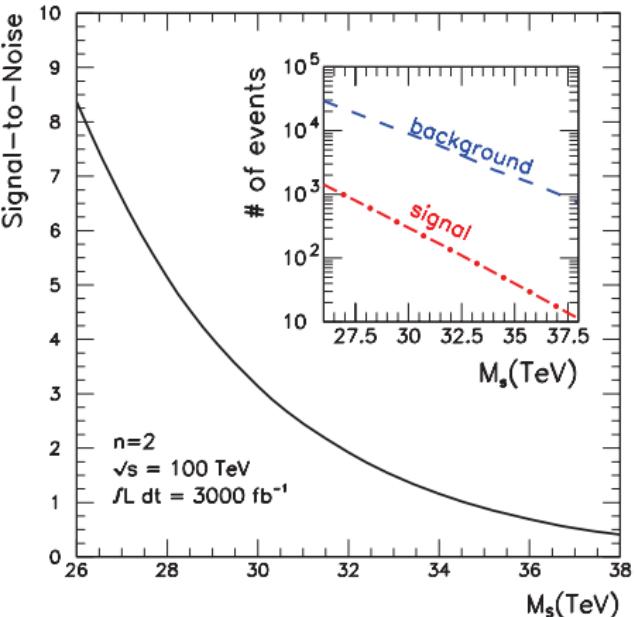
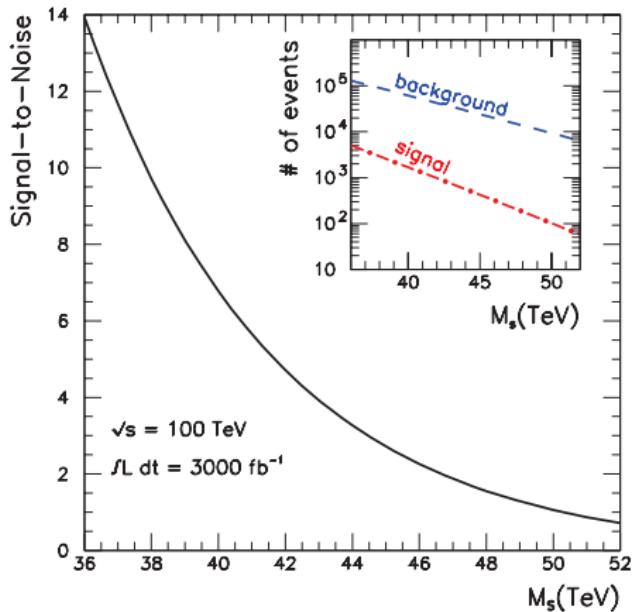
$M_s = 5$ TeV: dijet at LHC14



$\gamma +$ jet

String Resonances production at Hadron Colliders

I.A.-Anchordoqui-Dai-Feng-Goldberg-Huang-Lüst-Stojkovic-Taylor '14

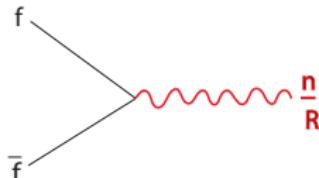


[55]

Localized fermions (on 3-brane intersections)

⇒ single production of KK modes

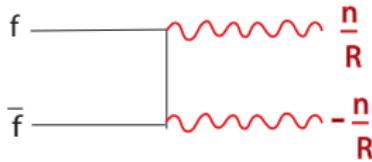
I.A.-Benakli '94



- strong bounds indirect effects: $R^{-1} \gtrsim 5 \text{ TeV}$
- new resonances but at most $n = 1$

Otherwise KK momentum conservation [65]

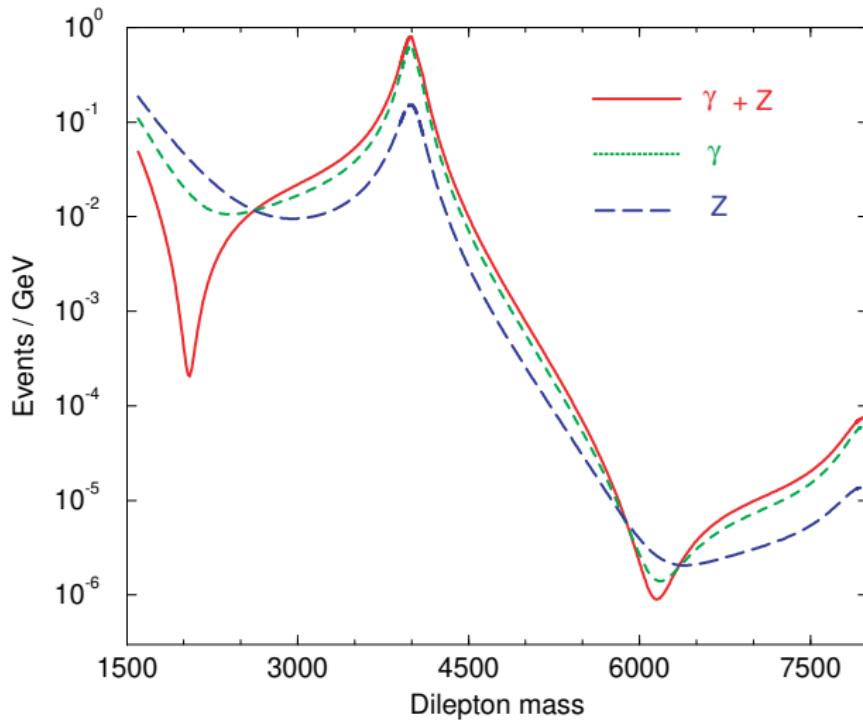
⇒ pair production of KK modes (universal dims)



- weak bounds $R^{-1} \gtrsim 1 \text{ TeV}$
- no resonances
- lightest KK stable ⇒ dark matter candidate

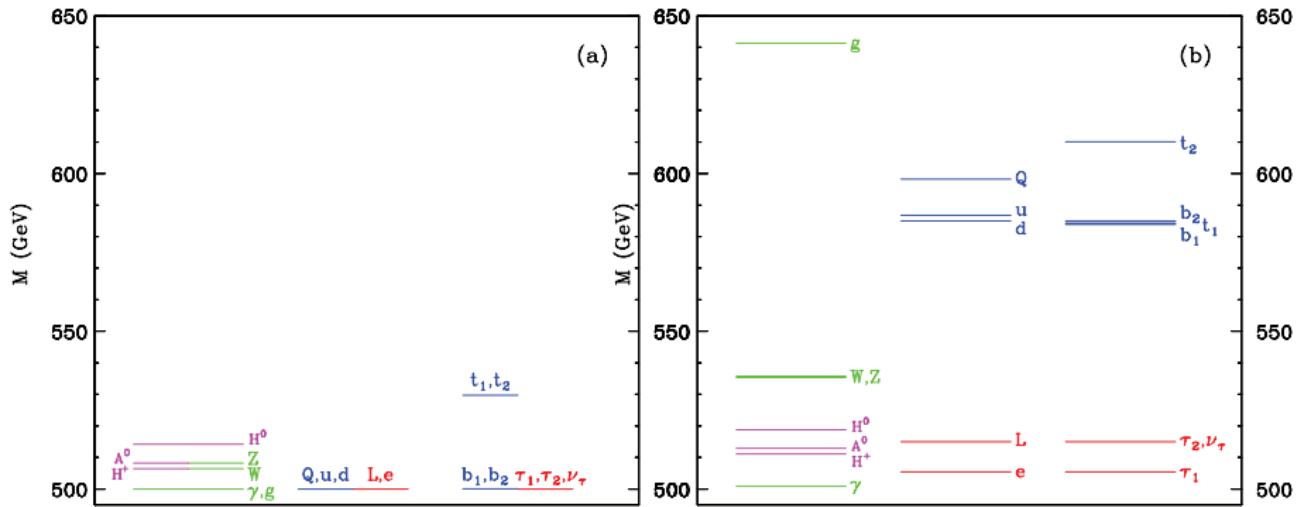
Servant-Tait '02

$$R^{-1} = 4 \text{ TeV}$$



Universal extra dimensions (UED) : Mass spectrum

Radiative corrections \Rightarrow mass shifts that lift degeneracy at lowest KK level
divergent sum over KK modes in the loop \Rightarrow cutoff scale $\Lambda \simeq 10/R$



UED hadron collider phenomenology

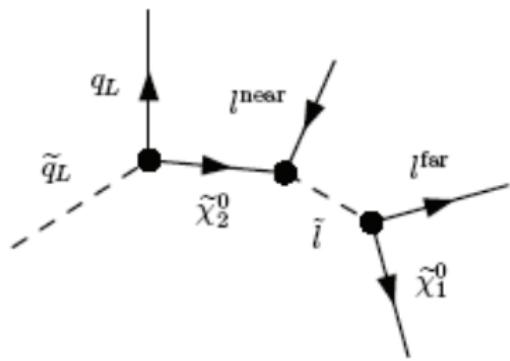
- large rates for KK-quark and KK-gluon production
- cascade decays via KK- W bosons and KK-leptons
 - determine particle properties from different distributions
- missing energy from LKP: weakly interacting escaping detection
- phenomenology similar to supersymmetry
 - spin determination important for distinguishing SUSY and UED [55]

gluino	1/2	KK-gluon	1
squark	0	KK-quark	1/2
chargino	1/2	KK- W boson	1
slepton	0	KK-lepton	1/2
neutralino	1/2	KK- Z boson	1

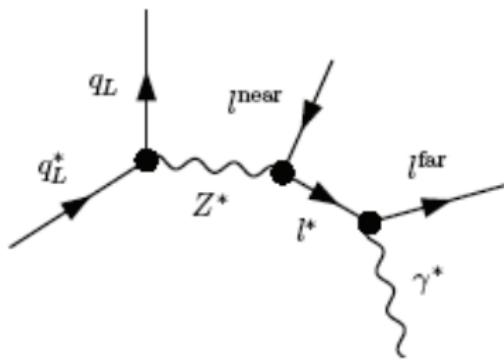
SUSY vs UED signals at LHC

Example: jet dilepton final state

SUSY



UED



Extra $U(1)$'s and anomaly induced terms

masses suppressed by a loop factor

usually associated to known global symmetries of the SM

(anomalous or not) such as (combinations of)

Baryon and Lepton number, or PQ symmetry

Two kinds of massive $U(1)$'s:

I.A.-Kiritsis-Rizos '02

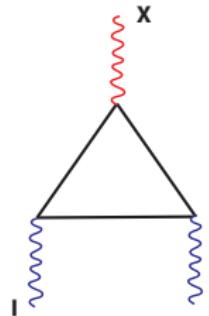
- 4d anomalous $U(1)$'s: $M_A \simeq g_A M_s$

- 4d non-anomalous $U(1)$'s: (but masses related to 6d anomalies)

$$M_{NA} \simeq g_A M_s V_2 \xleftarrow{(6d \rightarrow 4d) \text{ internal space}} \Rightarrow M_{NA} \geq M_A$$

or massless in the absence of such anomalies

Green-Schwarz anomaly cancellation


$$= k_I^A \sim \text{Tr} Q_A Q_I^2 \rightarrow \text{axion } \theta : \delta A = d\Lambda \quad \delta\theta = -m_A \Lambda$$
$$-\frac{1}{4g_I^2} F_I^2 - \frac{1}{2} (d\theta + m_A A)^2 + \frac{\theta}{m_A} k_I^A \text{Tr} F_I \wedge F_I$$

cancel the anomaly

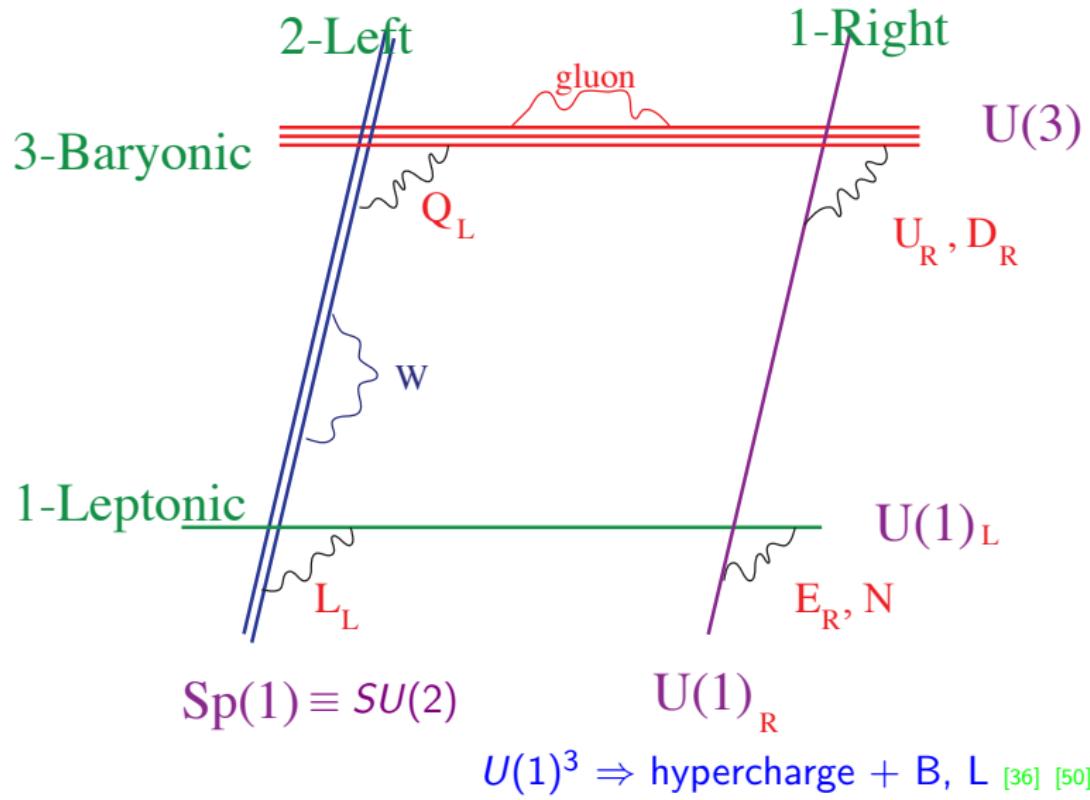
string theory: $\theta = \text{Poincaré dual of a 2-form}$ $d\theta = *dB_2$

Heterotic: single universal axion [32]

D-brane models: $U(1)_A$ gauge boson acquires a mass

but global symmetry remains in perturbation theory

Standard Model on D-branes : SM⁺⁺



global symmetries

- B and L become massive due to anomalies
Green-Schwarz terms
- the global symmetries remain in perturbation
 - Baryon number \Rightarrow proton stability
 - Lepton number \Rightarrow protect small neutrino masses
- no Lepton number $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{M_s} LLHH \rightarrow$ Majorana mass: $\frac{\langle H \rangle^2}{M_s} LL$

 $\sim \text{GeV}$
- $B, L \Rightarrow$ extra Z' s
- Leptophilic $U(1)$ s that could explain the $g_\mu - 2$ discrepancy [52]

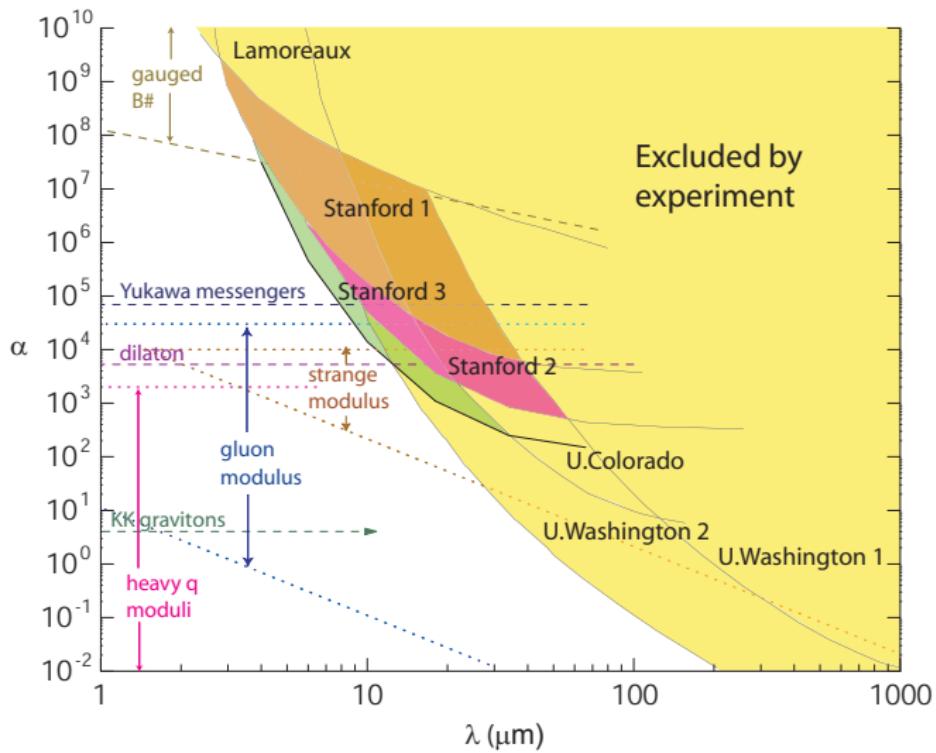
I.A.-Anchordoqui-Huang-Lüst-Stojkovic-Taylor '21

microgravity experiments

- change of Newton's law at short distances
detectable only in the case of two large extra dimensions
 - new short range forces
light scalars and gauge fields if SUSY in the bulk
 - or broken by the compactification on the brane
- I.A.-Dimopoulos-Dvali '98, I.A.-Benakli-Maillard-Laugier '02
- such as radion and lepton number
- volume suppressed mass: $(\text{TeV})^2/M_P \sim 10^{-4}$ eV \rightarrow mm range
- can be experimentally tested for any number of extra dimensions
- Light $U(1)$ gauge bosons: no derivative couplings
 - \Rightarrow for the same mass much stronger than gravity: $\gtrsim 10^6$ [82]

Experimental limits on short distance forces

$$V(r) = -G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r} \left(1 + \alpha e^{-r/\lambda}\right)$$



More general framework: large number of species

N particle species \Rightarrow lower quantum gravity scale : $M_*^2 = M_p^2/N$

Dvali '07, Dvali, Redi, Brustein, Veneziano, Gomez, Lüst '07-'10

derivation from: black hole evaporation or quantum information storage

$M_* \simeq 1 \text{ TeV} \Rightarrow N \sim 10^{32}$ particle species !

2 ways to realize it lowering the string scale

- ① Large extra dimensions SM on D-branes [46]

$N = R_\perp^n I_s^n$: number of KK modes up to energies of order $M_* \simeq M_s$

- ② Effective number of string modes contributing to the BH bound

$N = \frac{1}{g_s^2}$ with $g_s \simeq 10^{-16}$ SM on NS5-branes in LST

I.A.-Pioline '99, I.A.-Dimopoulos-Giveon '01

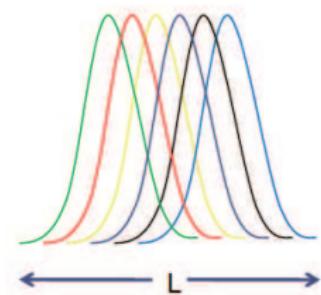
More general framework: large number of species

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Dvali '07, Dvali, Redi, Brustein, Veneziano, Gomez, Lüst '07-'10

derivation from: black hole evaporation or quantum information storage

Pixel of size L containing N species storing information:



localization energy $E \gtrsim N/L \rightarrow$

Schwarzschild radius $R_s = N/(LM_p^2)$

no collapse to a black hole : $L \gtrsim R_s \Rightarrow L \gtrsim \sqrt{N}/M_p = 1/M_*$

$M_* \simeq 1 \text{ TeV} \Rightarrow N \sim 10^{32} \text{ particle species !}$

What is LST ? Decouple gravity from NS5-branes

Analogy from D3-branes : decouple gravity $\Rightarrow M_s \rightarrow \infty$, g_s fixed

\rightarrow (conformal) Field Theory (CFT)

simplest case: 4d $\mathcal{N} = 4$ super Yang Mills $SU(N)$

parameters: number of branes N , gauge coupling g_{YM}

NS-5 branes: M_s finite, $g_s \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow$ (little) String Theory without gravity

simplest case: 6d LST (chiral IIA or non-chiral IIB)

massless sector: 6d $SU(N)$ of tensors (IIA) or vectors (IIB)

at a non-trivial fixed point

parameters: number of branes N , string scale M_s

How to study LST ? Using gauge/gravity duality

Gravity background : near horizon geometry (holography) Maldacena '98

Analogy from D3-branes : $AdS_5 \times S^5$

parameters: AdS radius $r_{AdS} M_s$, $g_s \leftrightarrow N, g_{YM}$

supergravity validity: $r_{AdS} M_s \gg 1, g_s \ll 1 \Rightarrow$ large $N, g_{YM}^2 N$

→ model independent part : AdS_5

NS-5 branes : $(\mathcal{M}_6 \otimes R_+) \times SU(2) \equiv S^3$



linear dilaton background in 7d flat string-frame metric $\Phi = -\alpha|y|$

Aharony-Berkooz-Kutasov-Seiberg '98

parameters: M_s, α (or S^3 radius) $\leftrightarrow N$

sugra validity: small $\alpha \Rightarrow$ large N

compactify to $d = 4$ ($\mathcal{M}_6 \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_4$) $\Rightarrow g_{YM} \sim 2d$ volume

→ model independent part : linear dilaton

Put gravity back but weakly coupled

“cut” the space of the extra dimension \Rightarrow gravity on the brane

Toy 5d bulk model

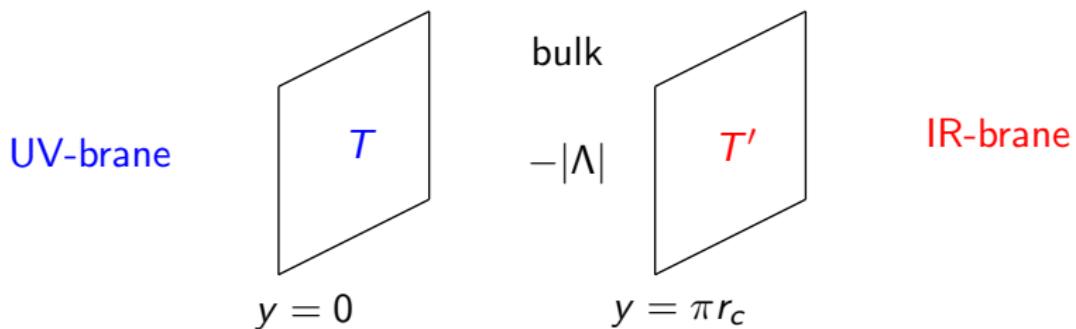
$$S_{bulk} = \int d^4x \int_0^{r_c} dy \sqrt{-g} e^{-\Phi} (M_5^3 R + M_5^3 (\nabla \Phi)^2 - \Lambda)$$

$$S_{vis(hid)} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} (e^{-\Phi}) (L_{SM(hid)} - T_{vis(hid)})$$

Tuning conditions: $T_{vis} = -T_{hid} \leftrightarrow \Lambda < 0$ [80]

Constant dilaton and AdS metric : Randal Sundrum model

spacetime = slice of AdS_5 : $ds^2 = e^{-2k|y|} \eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu + dy^2$ $k^2 \sim \Lambda/M_5^3$



- exponential hierarchy: $M_W = M_P e^{-2kr_c}$ $M_P^2 \sim M_5^3/k$ $M_5 \sim M_{GUT}$
- 4d gravity localized on the UV-brane, but KK gravitons on the IR

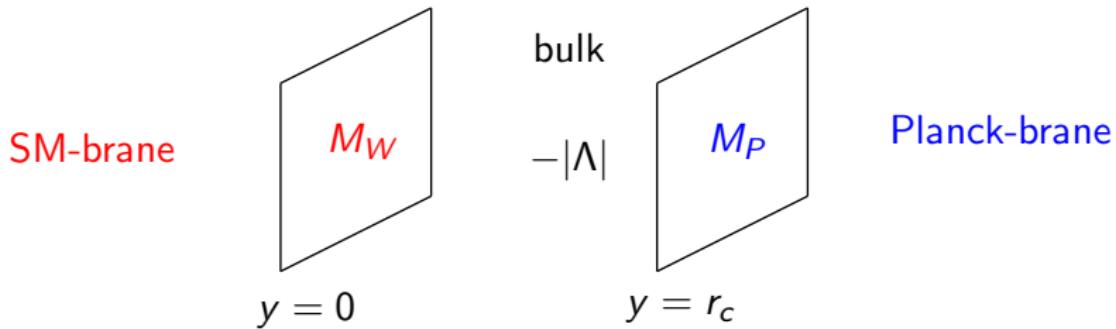
$$m_n = c_n k e^{-2kr_c} \sim \text{TeV} \quad c_n \simeq (n + 1/4) \text{ for large } n$$

⇒ spin-2 TeV resonances in di-lepton or di-jet channels

dilaton $\Phi = -\alpha|y|$ and flat metric \Rightarrow

$$g_s^2 = e^{-\alpha|y|} ; \quad ds^2 = e^{\frac{2}{3}\alpha|y|} (\eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu + dy^2) \leftarrow \text{Einstein frame}$$

$z \sim e^{\alpha y/3} \Rightarrow$ polynomial warp factor + log varying dilaton



- exponential hierarchy: $g_s^2 = e^{-\alpha|y|} \quad M_P^2 \sim \frac{M_5^3}{\alpha} e^{\alpha r_c} \quad \alpha \equiv k_{RS}$
- 4d graviton flat, KK gravitons localized near SM

LST KK graviton phenomenology

- KK spectrum : $m_n^2 = \left(\frac{n\pi}{r_c}\right)^2 + \frac{\alpha^2}{4}$; $n = 1, 2, \dots$
⇒ mass gap + dense KK modes $\alpha \sim 1 \text{ TeV}$ $r_c^{-1} \sim 30 \text{ GeV}$
- couplings : $\frac{1}{\Lambda_n} \sim \frac{1}{(\alpha r_c) M_5}$
⇒ extra suppression by a factor $(\alpha r_c) \simeq 30$
- width : $1/(\alpha r_c)^2$ suppression $\sim 1 \text{ GeV}$
⇒ narrow resonant peaks in di-lepton or di-jet channels
- extrapolates between RS and flat extra dims ($n = 1$)
⇒ distinct experimental signals

Conclusions

String theory has many appealing properties:

- it provides a consistent quantization of gravity
- it gives a framework of unification of all interactions
- it inspired most of BSM new ideas
- it also inspired new results in mathematics
- it is a tool for strong coupling dynamics
- it has spectacular predictions if its scale is accessible to accelerators

It remains to be seen if it is a Theory of Nature