

Non-supersymmetric heterotic constructions

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Based on work together with:

**Michael Blaszczyk (Mainz), Orestis Loukas (Bern),
Erik Parr (Munich), Fabian Rühle (DESY),
Saul Ramos-Sánchez (Mexico)**

and publications:

JHEP 1410 (2014) 119 [arXiv:1407.6362]

DISCRETE'14 proceedings [arXiv:1502.03604]

JHEP 1510 (2015) 166 [arXiv:1507.06147]

Fortsch.Phys. 63 (2015) 609-632 [arXiv:1507.07559]

arXiv:1605.07470

Overview of this talk

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Non-supersymmetric heterotic strings
- 3 Effective Field Theory descriptions of non-susy strings
- 4 Calabi-Yau Compactifications
- 5 $(0,2)$ aspects of non-SUSY heterotic strings

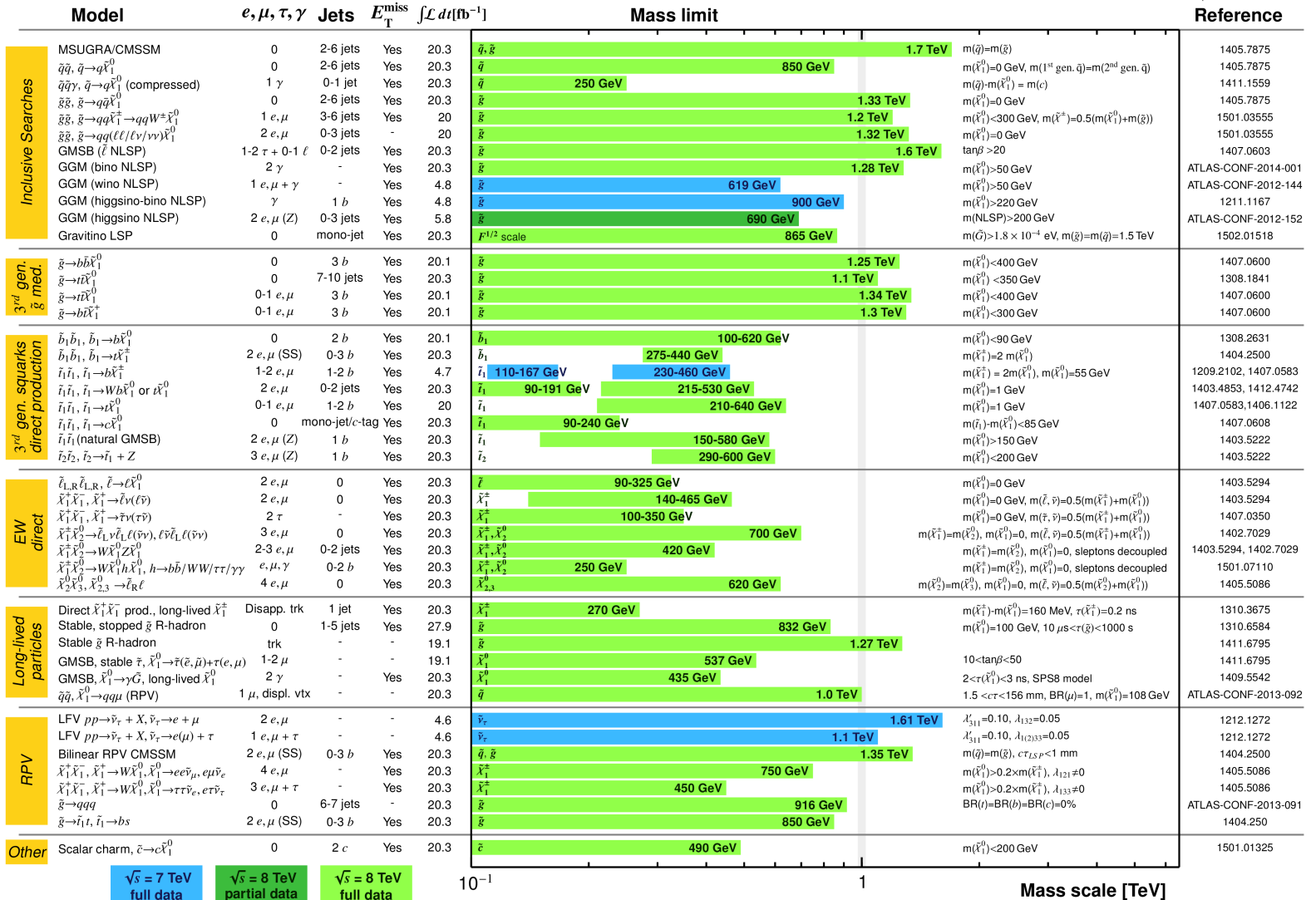
Main motivation: Where is Supersymmetry?

ATLAS SUSY Searches* - 95% CL Lower Limits

Status: Feb 2015

ATLAS Preliminary

$\sqrt{s} = 7, 8 \text{ TeV}$



$\sqrt{s} = 7 \text{ TeV}$ full data
 $\sqrt{s} = 8 \text{ TeV}$ partial data
 $\sqrt{s} = 8 \text{ TeV}$ full data

10⁻¹ 1 Mass scale [TeV]

Main motivating questions:

- **So far no hints for supersymmetry found, what if this stays this way?**
- **What could that mean for string theory?**
- **How to describe supersymmetry breaking within string theory?**
- **Can one do string model building without supersymmetry?**

Possible scales of supersymmetry breaking:

In light of these bounds there are a couple of options:

- the supersymmetry breaking scale is around a few TeV
- the supersymmetry breaking scale is somewhere between the Planck and electroweak scale
- the supersymmetry breaking happens at the Planck/String scale, i.e. there is no supersymmetry in target space

In this talk we will mostly entertain the extreme case:
Supersymmetry breaking at the string scale.

Past works on non-supersymmetric strings

- Non-supersymmetric (orbifolds of) heterotic theories

Dixon,Harvey'86, Alvarez-Gaume,Ginsparg,Moore,Vafa'86 Itoyahama,Taylor'87
Chamseddine,Derendinger,Quiros'88, Taylor'88, Toon'90, Sasada'95,
Font,Hernandez'02

- Free fermionic construction with non-supersymmetric boundary conditions

Dienes'94,'06, Faraggi,Tsulaia'07

- Non-supersymmetric orientifold type II theories

Sagnotti'95, Angelantonj'98 Blumenhagen,Font,Luest'99,
Aldazabal,Ibanez,Quevedo'99

- Non-supersymmetric RCFTs

Gato-Rivera,Schellekens'07

Recent renewed heterotic interest

- Non-supersymmetric heterotic model building

Blaszczyk,SGN,Loukas,Ramos-Sanchez'14

- Towards a non-supersymmetric string phenomenology

Abel,Dienses,Mavroudi'15

- Heterotic moduli stabilisation and non-supersymmetric vacua

Lukas,Lalak,Svanes'15

- Non-tachyonic semi-realistic non-supersymmetric heterotic string vacua

Ashfaque,Athanasopoulos,Faraggi,Sonmez'15

- Generalised universality of gauge thresholds in heterotic vacua with and without supersymmetry

Angelantonj, Florakis, Tsulaia'15

Non-supersymmetric heterotic strings



10D (non-)supersymmetric heterotic strings

Dixon,Harvey'86

Heterotic theory	SUSY	Tachyons	Fermions
$E_8 \times E_8$	yes	none	Superpartners
$\text{Spin}(32)/\mathbb{Z}_2$	yes	none	Superpartners
$\text{SO}(16) \times \text{SO}(16)$	no	none	$(\mathbf{128}; \mathbf{1})_+ + (\mathbf{1}; \mathbf{128})_+ + (\mathbf{16}; \mathbf{16})_-$
$E_8 \times \text{SO}(16)$	no	$(\mathbf{1}; \mathbf{16})$	$(\mathbf{1}; \mathbf{128}_+)_+ + (\mathbf{1}; \mathbf{128}_-)_-$
$(E_7 \times \text{SU}(2))^2$	no	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}; \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2})$	$(\mathbf{56}, \mathbf{2}; \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})_+ + (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}; \mathbf{56}, \mathbf{2})_+$ $(\mathbf{56}, \mathbf{1}; \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2})_- + (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}; \mathbf{56}, \mathbf{1})_-$
$\text{SO}(24) \times \text{SO}(8)$	no	$(\mathbf{1}; \mathbf{8}_s)$	$(\mathbf{24}; \mathbf{8})_+ + (\mathbf{24}; \mathbf{8})_-$
$\text{U}(16)$	no	$(\mathbf{1}_{+4}) + (\mathbf{1}_{-4})$	$(\mathbf{120}_{+2})_+ + (\overline{\mathbf{120}}_{-2})_+$
$\text{SO}(32)$	no	$(\mathbf{32})$	none

By considering Scherk-Schwarz supersymmetry breaking and Wilson lines on circle (torus) compactifications, one can show that all these theories are continuously connected to each other

Ginsparg, Vafa'87, Nair, Sharpere, Strominger, Wilczek'87

The non-supersymmetric heterotic string

The low-energy spectrum of the non-supersymmetric tachyon-free $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ heterotic string reads: Dixon,Harvey'86, Alvarez-Gaume,Ginsparg,Moore,Vafa'86

	Fields	10D space-time interpretation
Bosons	G_{MN}, B_{MN}, ϕ	Graviton, Kalb-Ramond 2-form, Dilaton
	A_M	$SO(16) \times SO(16)$ Gauge fields
Fermions	ψ_+	Spinors in the $(\mathbf{128}, \mathbf{1}) + (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{128})$
	ψ_-	Cospinors in the $(\mathbf{16}, \mathbf{16})$

This theory is also modular invariant, anomaly- and tachyon-free but obviously not supersymmetric

Effective field Theory descriptions for non-supersymmetric heterotic strings

Do these non-supersymmetric string constructions possess special properties?

- **Possible hidden fermionic symmetries**
- **Quantum properties**
- **Others ???**

Hidden fermionic symmetries in non-supersymmetric heterotic theories?



$E_8 \times E_8$ and $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ Partition functions

The partition functions of the non-supersymmetric heterotic $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ and the supersymmetric heterotic $E_8 \times E_8$ strings are closely related: [Dixon,Harvey'86](#), [Alvarez-Gaume,Ginsparg,Moore,Vafa'86](#)

Introduce SUSY breaking discrete torsion phases :

$$\mathbf{z}_{E_8^2} = \sum_{\text{spin}} \mathbf{z}_8^X(\tau, \bar{\tau}) \cdot \widehat{\mathbf{z}}_4 \left[\begin{smallmatrix} s \\ s' \end{smallmatrix} \right] (\tau) \cdot \overline{\widehat{\mathbf{z}}_8 \left[\begin{smallmatrix} t \\ t' \end{smallmatrix} \right] (\tau)} \cdot \overline{\widehat{\mathbf{z}}_8 \left[\begin{smallmatrix} u \\ u' \end{smallmatrix} \right] (\tau)}$$

(where s, t, u label the spin structures) by:

$$\mathbf{z}_{SO(16)^2} = \sum_{\text{spin}} T \cdot \mathbf{z}_8^X(\tau, \bar{\tau}) \cdot \widehat{\mathbf{z}}_4 \left[\begin{smallmatrix} s \\ s' \end{smallmatrix} \right] (\tau) \cdot \overline{\widehat{\mathbf{z}}_8 \left[\begin{smallmatrix} t \\ t' \end{smallmatrix} \right] (\tau)} \cdot \overline{\widehat{\mathbf{z}}_8 \left[\begin{smallmatrix} u \\ u' \end{smallmatrix} \right] (\tau)}$$

with torsion phases [Blaszczyk,SGN,Loukas,Ramos-Sanchez'14](#)

$$T = (-)^{st' - s't} * \dots * (-)^{s's + s' + s} * \dots$$

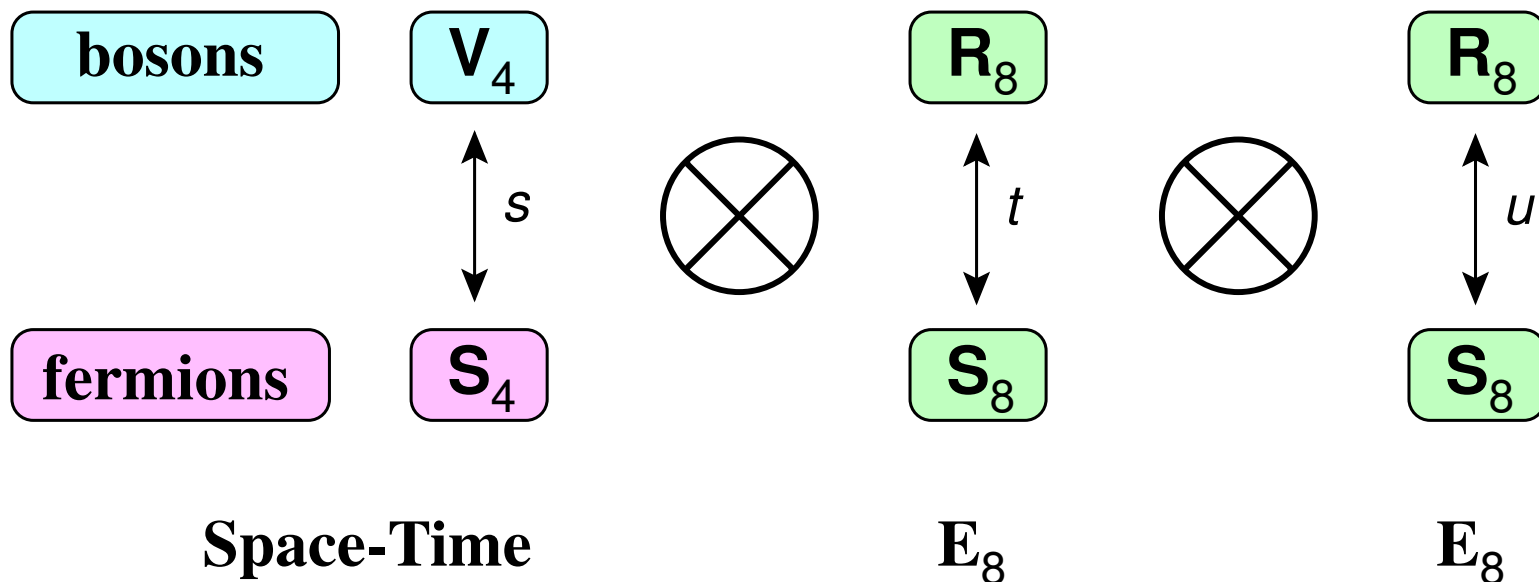
Heterotic weight lattices

The partition function can be viewed as lattice sums over the following lattices:

	Weight lattice	Lattice vectors	Lattice generators
\mathbf{R}_D	Root	$n \in \mathbb{Z}^D,$ $\sum n_i \in 2\mathbb{Z}$	$(\underline{\pm 1^2, 0^{D-2}})$
\mathbf{V}_D	Vector	$n \in \mathbb{Z}^D,$ $\sum n_i \in 2\mathbb{Z} + 1$	$(\underline{\pm 1, 0^{D-2}})$
\mathbf{S}_D	Spinor	$n \in \mathbb{Z}^D + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{e}_D,$ $\sum n_i \in 2\mathbb{Z}$	$(\underline{-\frac{1}{2}^{2n}, +\frac{1}{2}^{D-2n}})$
\mathbf{C}_D	Cospinor	$n \in \mathbb{Z}^D + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{e}_D,$ $\sum n_i \in 2\mathbb{Z} + 1$	$(\underline{-\frac{1}{2}^{2n+1}, +\frac{1}{2}^{D-2n-1}})$

Spin-structure s as supersymmetry generator

Standard $E_8 \times E_8$ theory:

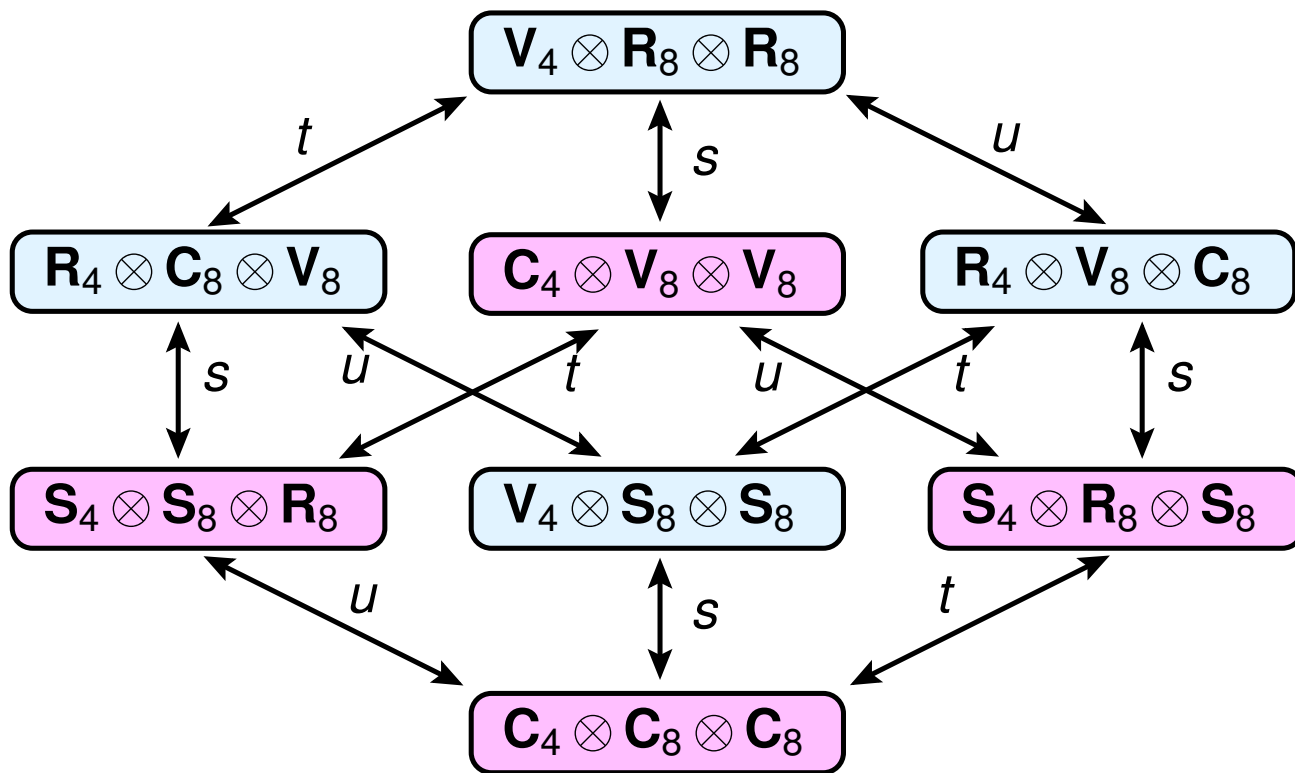


Supersymmetry :

$$\delta_s A_M^\alpha = \psi_+^\alpha, \quad \alpha \in E_8 \oplus E_8$$

Spin-structures as SUSY-like generators

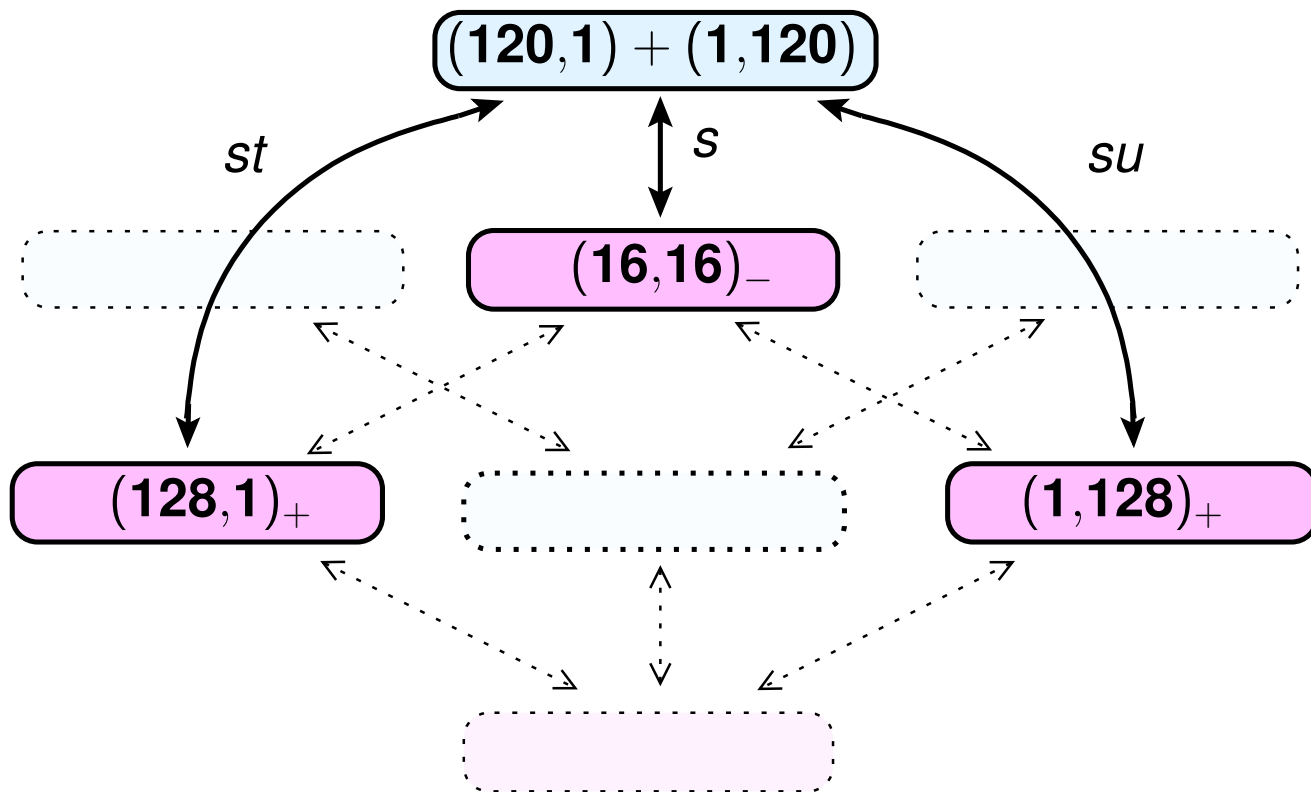
The $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ theory:



Possible similar induced transformations ???

Spin-structures as SUSY-like generators

The $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ theory:



Possible similar induced transformations ???

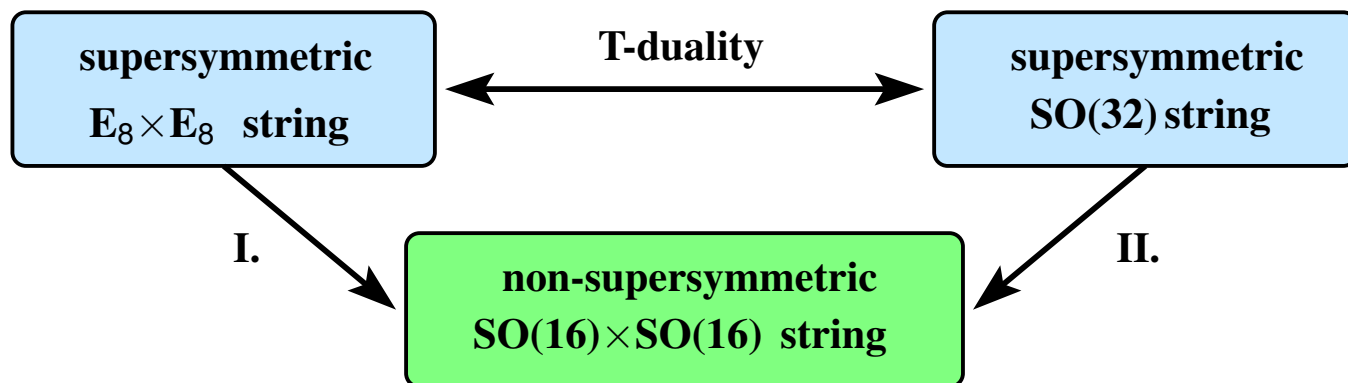
Fermionic SUSY-like transformations???

In the $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ theory this seems to suggest fermionic transformations, like: SGN,Parr'16

$$\delta_S A_M^{(120,1)} \sim \psi_-^{(16,16)}, \quad \delta_S \psi_-^{(16,16)} \sim A_N^{(120,1)}$$

This requires that the susy/gauge parameters carry both space-time spinors as well as non-trivial gauge indices

The $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ string as an orbifold



The $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ theory can be obtained by: [Dixon,Harvey'86](#),
[Alvarez-Gaume,Ginsparg,Moore,Vafa'86](#)

- **I. SUSY breaking orbifolding of the $E_8 \times E_8$ string**
- **II. SUSY breaking orbifolding of the $SO(32)$ string**

N=1 4D superfields for 10D super-Yang-Mills

The 10D super-Yang-Mills can be written as in terms of N=1 4D superfields [Marcus,Sagnotti,Siegel'83](#), [Arkani-Hamed,Gregoire,Wacker'01](#)

4D superfield :	Components	Interpretation
Vector :	$V : \begin{cases} [\bar{D}_{\dot{\alpha}}, D_{\alpha}] V = \sigma_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}}^{\mu} A_{\mu} \\ \bar{D}^2 D_{\alpha} V = \lambda_{\alpha} \end{cases}$	4D Minkowski gauge fields 4D gauginos
Chiral :	$\Phi_j : \begin{cases} \Phi_j = A_j \\ D_{\alpha} \Phi_j = \psi_{j\alpha} \end{cases}$	6D internal gauge fields N=4 gaugino partners

using complex coordinates $i = 1, 2, 3$ for the six internal directions

These superfields can be in the adjoint of $E_8 \times E_8$ or $SO(32)$

EFT description of the SUSY breaking twist

The supersymmetry breaking twist can be represented on N=1 4D superspace as

$$\theta \rightarrow -\theta, \quad \bar{\theta} \rightarrow -\bar{\theta}, \quad x \rightarrow x$$

and consequently on the superfields [Blaszczyk,SGN,Loukas,Ruehle'15](#)

$$V(\theta) \rightarrow V(-\theta) = Z V(\theta) Z, \quad \Phi_i(\theta) \rightarrow \Phi_i(-\theta) = Z \Phi_i(\theta) Z$$

where Z unitary matrix that squares to the identity:

$$Z^2 = \mathbb{1}, \quad Z^\dagger = Z^{-1} = Z$$

SUSY breaking twist invariant states

For example the supersymmetry breaking twist from $SO(32)$ to $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ can be realized by

$$\Phi_i(\theta) \rightarrow \Phi_i(-\theta) = Z \Phi_i(\theta) Z \quad , \quad Z = \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbb{1}_{16} & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbb{1}_{16} \end{pmatrix}$$

The supersymmetry breaking twist invariant states from

$$\Phi_i(\theta) = A_i + \theta^\alpha \psi_{i\alpha} + \theta^2 F_i = \begin{pmatrix} (120, 1) & (16, 16) \\ -(16, 16)^T & (1, 120) \end{pmatrix}$$

are the untwisted $SO(32)$ states of the $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ theory:

	Bosonic	Fermionic
States	10D gauge fields D-/F-fields	N=4 gauginos
Reprs	$(120, 1) + (1, 120)$	$(16, 16)$

Fermionic symmetries from super gauge transformations

We have a similar decomposition for the super gauge parameters

$$\Lambda(\theta) = \alpha + \theta^\alpha \rho_\alpha + \theta^2 f = \begin{pmatrix} (120, 1) & (16, 16) \\ -(\mathbf{16}, \mathbf{16})^T & (1, 120) \end{pmatrix}$$

in the super gauge transformations

$$V \rightarrow e^{\bar{\Lambda}} V e^{\Lambda}, \quad \Phi_i \rightarrow e^{-\Lambda} (\Phi_i + \partial_i) e^{\Lambda}$$

Hence, fermionic transformations like [SGN, Parr'16](#)

$$\psi_{i\alpha} \rightarrow \partial_i \rho_\alpha + [A_i, \rho_\alpha]$$

survive the supersymmetry breaking twist

Twisted superspace

The SUSY-breaking twist can obviously be generalized to any N=1 4D SUSY theory [SGN,Parr'16](#)

$$\theta \rightarrow -\theta, \quad \bar{\theta} \rightarrow -\bar{\theta}, \quad x \rightarrow x$$

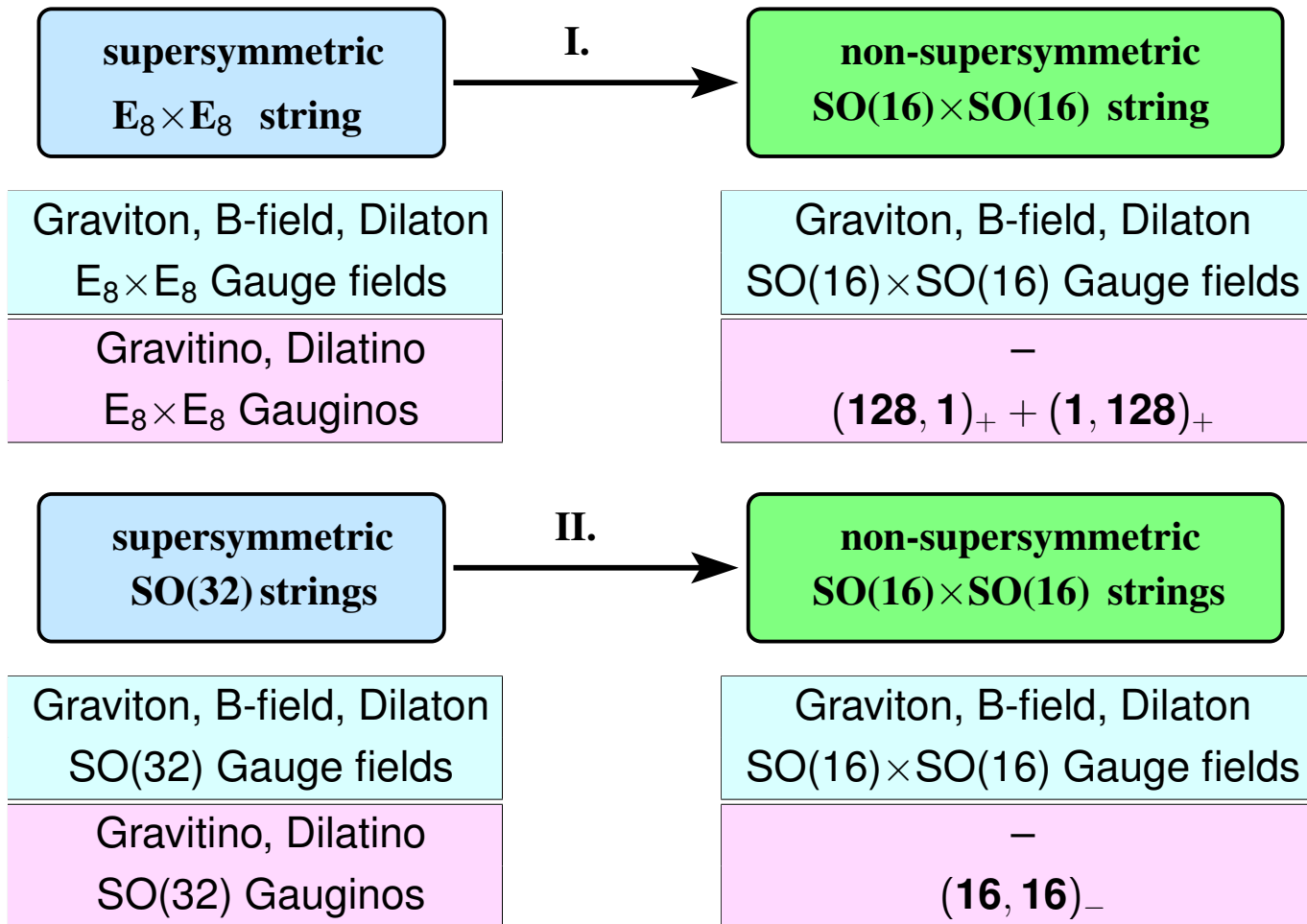
and consequently on the superfields

$$V(\theta) \rightarrow V(-\theta) = Z V(\theta) Z, \quad \Phi(\theta) \rightarrow \Phi(-\theta) = \mathcal{Z} \Phi(\theta)$$

$$\text{where } Z^2 = \mathbb{1}, \quad Z^\dagger = Z^{-1} = Z, \quad \mathcal{Z} = \varrho(Z)$$

Even if one starts with an anomaly-free spectrum, after the SUSY-breaking twist the spectrum will in general be anomalous

Untwisted sectors of the SUSY breaking twists:



All massless states of the $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ theory are untwisted states from either the $E_8 \times E_8$ or $SO(32)$ theory

Quantum corrections in non-supersymmetric theories



Wess-Zumino model with SUSY breaking twist

To systematically study quantum effects in an EFT language, we consider the simplest Wess-Zumino model

$$\mathcal{S} = \int d^4x d^4\theta \bar{\Phi}\Phi + \int d^4x d^2\theta W(\Phi) + \text{h.c.} ,$$

with

$$W(\Phi) = t\Phi_+ + \frac{1}{2}m(\Phi_+^2 + \Phi_-^2) + \frac{1}{2}\lambda\Phi_+^3 + \frac{1}{2}\lambda\Phi_+\Phi_-^2$$

The supersymmetry breaking twist

$$\Phi_{\pm}(\theta) \rightarrow \Phi_{\pm}(-\theta) = \pm \Phi_{\pm}(\theta)$$

keeps:

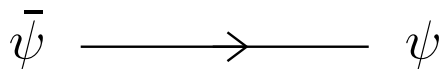
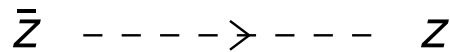
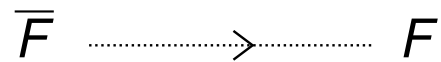
$Z = +1$	Φ_+	bosons : z, F
$Z = -1$	Φ_-	fermion : ψ_{α}

using the usual chiral superspace expansion

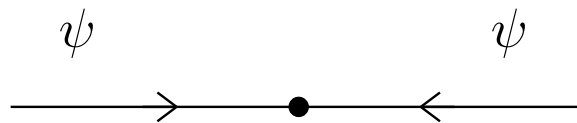
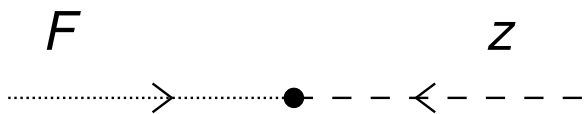
$$\Phi = z + \theta^{\alpha}\psi_{\alpha} + \theta^2 F$$

Component Feynman rules

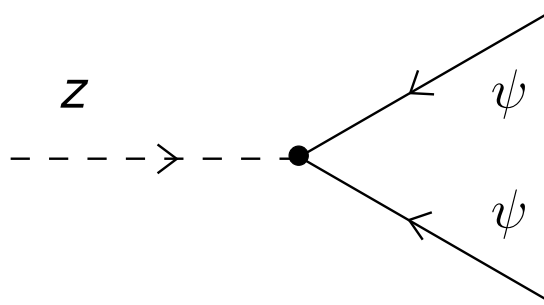
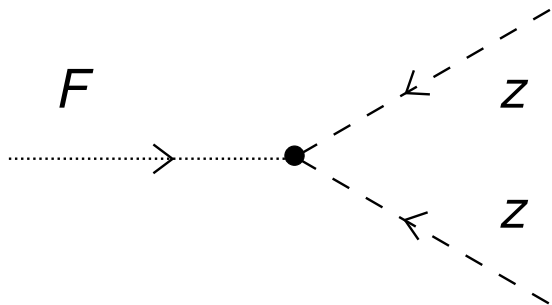
Propagators:



2-point (mass) vertices:

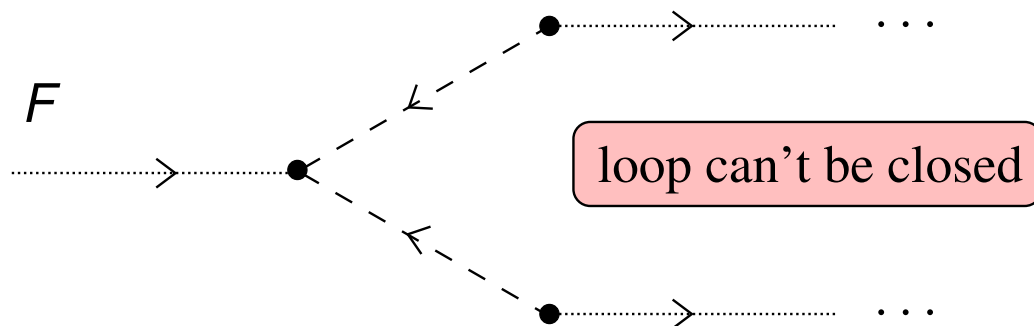


3-point vertices:



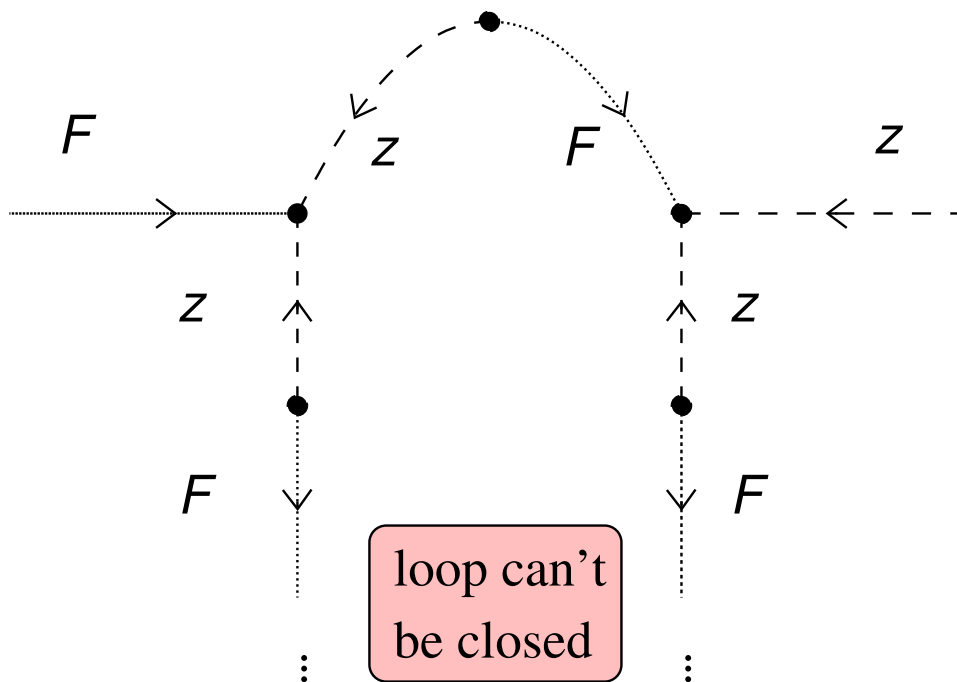
Non-renormalizations at one loop

No one-loop tadpole graph for F :



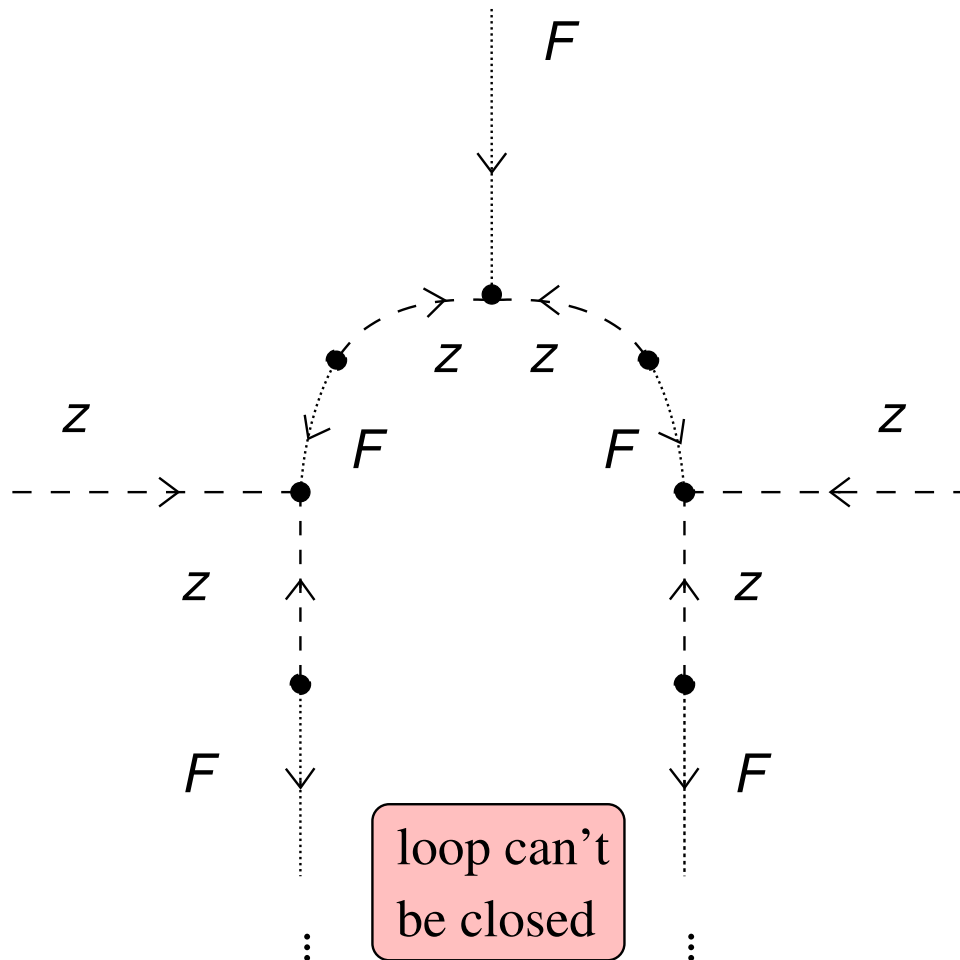
Non-renormalizations at one loop

No one-loop mass renormalization Fz :



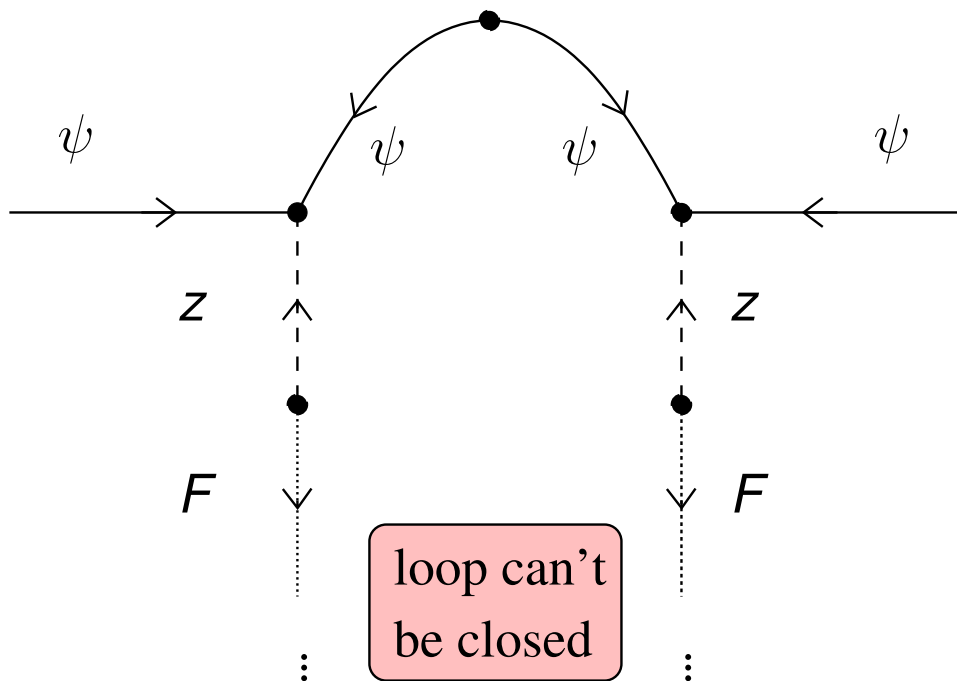
Non-renormalizations at one loop

No one-loop renormalization of the $Fz\bar{z}$ coupling:



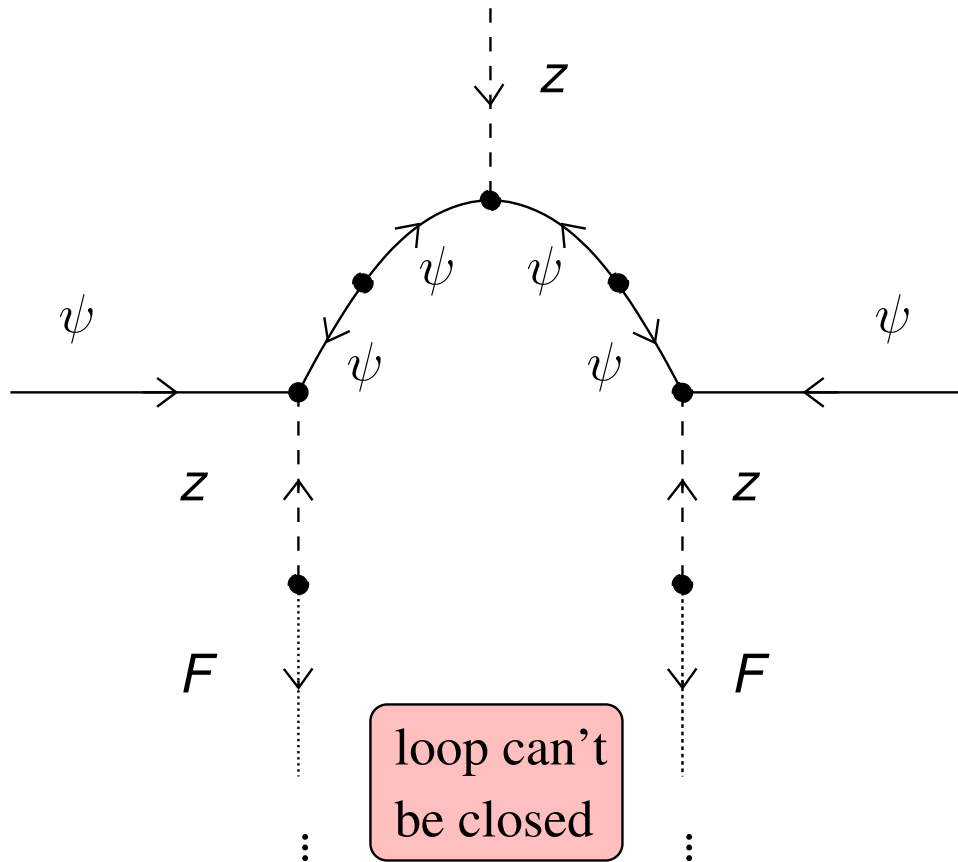
Non-renormalizations at one loop

No one-loop mass renormalization ψ :



Non-renormalizations at one loop

No one-loop renormalization of the $z\psi\psi$ Yukawa coupling:



Nonrenormalization at one loop

Conclusion:

The interactions derived from the superpotential

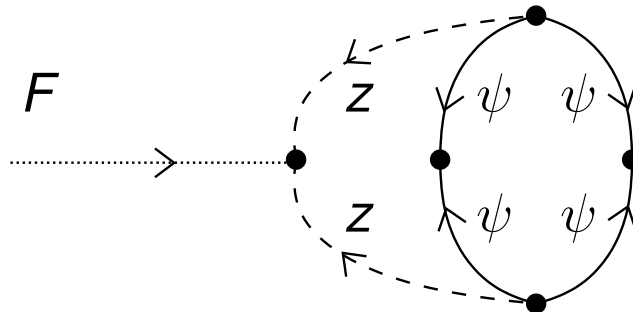
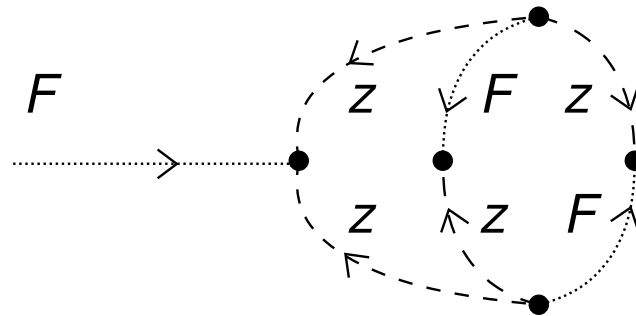
$$\int d^2\theta W(\Phi) = t F + m Fz + \frac{1}{2} \lambda Fz^2 + \frac{1}{2} (m + \lambda z) \psi^2$$

do not renormalize at the one-loop level

SGN,Parr'16

The superpotential renormalizes beyond 1 loop

The first non-trivial diagrams arise at the two-loop level:

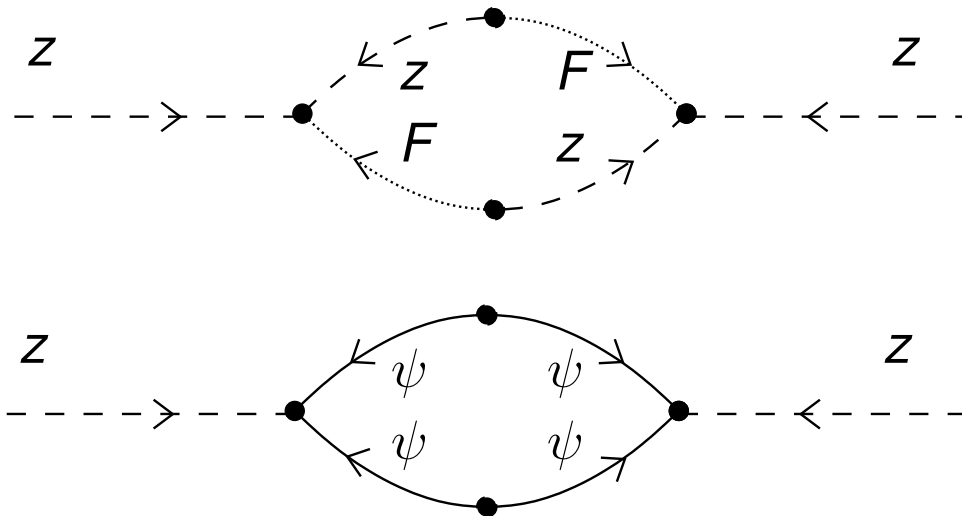


One loop renormalizations

One-loop tadpole graphs for z :



One-loop mass renormalization graphs for z :



One loop renormalizations

These diagrams generate “soft” terms

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}_{\text{“soft”}} &= \int d^4x d^2\theta \theta^2 \widetilde{W}(\phi), \quad \widetilde{W}(\phi) = \widetilde{t} \phi + \frac{1}{2} \widetilde{m} \phi^2 + \frac{1}{3!} \widetilde{\lambda} \phi^3 \\ &= \int d^4x \widetilde{t} z + \frac{1}{2} \widetilde{m} z^2 + \frac{1}{3!} \widetilde{\lambda} z^3 \end{aligned}$$

at one loop [SGN,Parr'16](#)

These interactions parameterized in terms of the spurion superfield θ^2

The tadpole is not “soft” but generically quadratically divergent

SUSY-twisted supergraphs

To define supergraphs one needs functional derivative w.r.t. the sources of the superfields in the theory.

Since the superfields now have SUSY-twisted boundary conditions

$$\Phi(-\theta) = \mathcal{Z} \Phi(\theta)$$

we need SUSY-compatible delta functions [SGN,Parr'16](#)

$$\frac{\delta J_1^a}{\delta J_2^b} = -\frac{1}{4} \overline{D}_2^2 (\tilde{\delta}_{21})^a_b$$

with

$$(\tilde{\delta}_{21})^a_b = \frac{1}{2} \delta^4(x_1 - x_2) \left\{ (\theta_2 - \theta_1)^4 \delta^a_b + (\theta_2 + \theta_1)^4 \mathcal{Z}^a_b \right\}$$

Tadpole for z

Consider the tadpole supergraph:

$$\begin{aligned}
 T &= \text{Diagram: } \frac{D^2}{-4\Box} \Phi_+ \text{ (incoming line) } \bullet \text{ (vertex) } \text{---} \text{ (loop) } \Phi_{\pm} \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \lambda_{\pm} \int (d^4x d^4\theta)_{12} \left[\frac{D^2}{-4\Box} \Phi_+ \right]_1 \tilde{\delta}_{12} \left[\frac{\bar{m}_{\pm}}{\Box - |m_{\pm}|^2} \frac{\bar{D}^2}{-4} \right]_2 \tilde{\delta}_{12}
 \end{aligned}$$

Inserting the twist compatible delta functions gives two types of contributions:

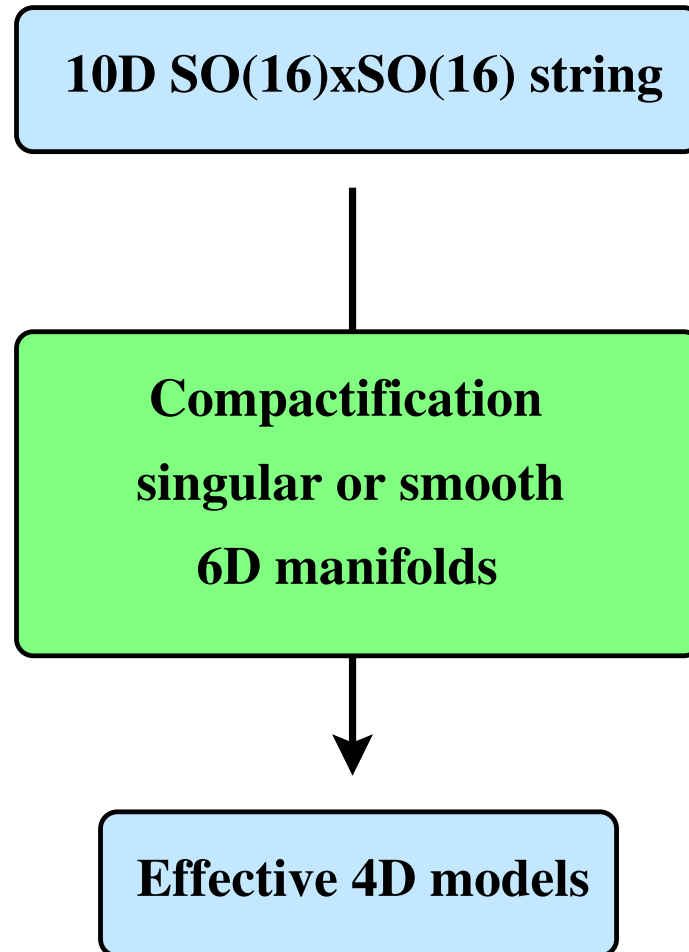
- one that vanishes (as in the SUSY case)
- a spurion θ^2 insertion:

$$T_{\text{div}} = \mp 2 \lambda_{\pm} \int \frac{d^4q}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{\bar{m}_{\pm}}{q^2 + |m_{\pm}|^2} \int d^4x d^4\theta \theta^2 \frac{D^2}{-4\Box} \Phi_+$$

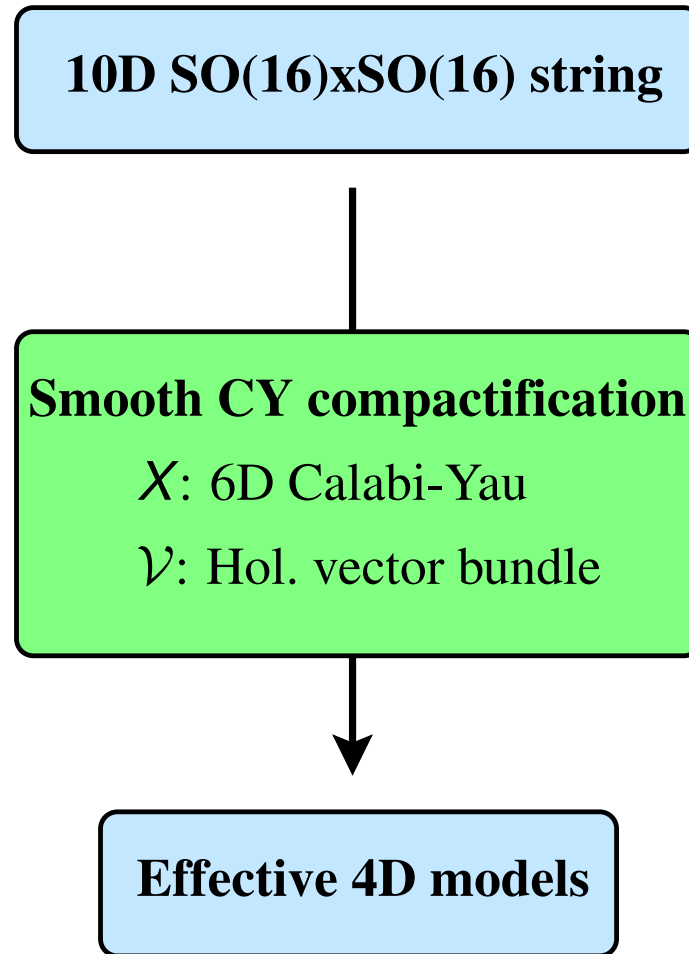
which is indeed a tadpole for z because

$$\int d^4\theta \theta^2 \frac{D^2}{-4\Box} \Phi_+ = z$$

Non-supersymmetric string compactifications



The $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ string on Calabi-Yaus



CY backgrounds for $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ string

Why consider CY backgrounds for non-SUSY strings?

- **Target space: Avoid tachyons**

Blaszczyk,SGN,Loukas,Ramos-Sanchez'14

To leading order there are no tachyon on smooth CY backgrounds in the large volume approximation:

The Laplace operator $\Delta \sim (i\mathcal{D})^2$ is related to the square of the Dirac operator $i\mathcal{D}$, hence its spectrum is non-negative

- **We can recycle many computational techniques**

Line bundles on smooth Calabi-Yaus

A crude topological characterization of a smooth Calabi-Yau is given by

- the Hodge numbers $h_{1,1}$ and $h_{2,1}$
- the second Chern class $c_2(X)$
- the divisor classes D_i
- their intersection numbers $\kappa_{ijk} = \int_X D_i D_j D_k$

A line bundle background can be defined as

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}_2}{2\pi} = V_i^I D_i H_I$$

where H_I are the Cartan generators of $\text{SO}(16) \times \text{SO}(16)$

Line bundles on smooth Calabi-Yaus

Such line bundle backgrounds have to satisfy various consistency conditions:

- **Flux quantization:**

$$\int_C \frac{\mathcal{F}_2}{2\pi} \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad V_i \in \mathbf{R}_8 \times \mathbf{R}_8$$

- **Bianchi identities:**

$$\int_D (\text{tr} \mathcal{F}_2^2 - \text{tr} \mathcal{F}_2^2) = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \kappa_{ijk} V_i \cdot V_j - 2 c_{2i} = 0$$

- **Tree-level DUY equations:**

$$\int J^2 \frac{\mathcal{F}_2}{2\pi} = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \text{Vol}(D_i) \cdot V_i = 0$$

Why does these define good backgrounds for the non-SUSY string?

The effective action of the non-SUSY heterotic $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ is the same as that of the SUSY $E_8 \times E_8$ or $SO(32)$ heterotic strings:

Blazczyk,SGN,Loukas,Ruehle'15

Their 10D bosonic actions are fixed by general coordinate and gauge invariance only!

The one-loop beta functions are identical as the worldsheet field content are all identical.

However, beyond leading order in g_s there will be modifications:

- cosmological constant
- dilaton-tadpole
- loop corrected DUY

SM-like model scans on smooth Calabi-Yaus

Inequivalent SU(5) models for SO(16)×SO(16) theory on smooth CYs									
h_{11}	Geometry Name (CICY #)	GUT- like	Chiral exact			SM- like	Chiral exact		
			Fermi	Scalar	Both		Fermi	Scalar	Both
4	Tetra-quartic (7862)	209,743	281	263	1	1,575,098	2,370	2,000	15
4	7491, 7522	1,873	0	1	0	14,651	0	11	0
5	7447, 7487	28,209	901	46	5	149,143	5,154	377	52
5	6770	65,888	173	85	0	437,327	914	707	0
5	6715, 6788, 6836, 6927	120	7	0	0	518	89	0	0
5	6732, 6802, 6834, 6896	460	33	0	0	3,119	275	0	0
5	6225	72	0	0	0	483	0	0	0
6	5302	355	22	0	0	1093	66	0	0
19	Schoen	456,594	5,169	2,745	30	3,002,353	37,276	21,955	237

SGN,Loukas,Ruehle'15

(CICY classifications [Candelas,Dale,Lutken,Schimmrigk'88](#), [Braun'10](#))

(0,2) aspects of non-SUSY heterotic strings



$E_8 \times E_8$ and $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ Partition functions

Dixon,Harvey'86, Alvarez-Gaume,Ginsparg,Moore,Vafa'86

$$\mathbf{z}_{E_8^2} = \sum_{\text{spin}} \mathbf{z}_8^X(\tau, \bar{\tau}) \cdot \widehat{\mathbf{z}}_4 \left[\begin{smallmatrix} s \\ s' \end{smallmatrix} \right] (\tau) \cdot \overline{\widehat{\mathbf{z}}_8 \left[\begin{smallmatrix} t \\ t' \end{smallmatrix} \right] (\tau)} \cdot \overline{\widehat{\mathbf{z}}_8 \left[\begin{smallmatrix} u \\ u' \end{smallmatrix} \right] (\tau)}$$

$$\mathbf{z}_{SO(16)^2} = \sum_{\text{spin}} T \cdot \mathbf{z}_8^X(\tau, \bar{\tau}) \cdot \widehat{\mathbf{z}}_4 \left[\begin{smallmatrix} s \\ s' \end{smallmatrix} \right] (\tau) \cdot \overline{\widehat{\mathbf{z}}_8 \left[\begin{smallmatrix} t \\ t' \end{smallmatrix} \right] (\tau)} \cdot \overline{\widehat{\mathbf{z}}_8 \left[\begin{smallmatrix} u \\ u' \end{smallmatrix} \right] (\tau)}$$

with torsion phases Blaszczyk,SGN,Loukas,Ramos-Sanchez'14

$$T = (-)^{st' - s't} * \dots * (-)^{s's + s' + s} * \dots$$

(0,2) aspects of non-SUSY heterotic strings

The SUSY $E_8 \times E_8$ and non-SUSY $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ strings

- the same worldsheet fields
- with the same boundary conditions (corresponding to the different spin-structures)
- and consequently identical partition functions in each of the spin-structure sectors
- except that they are combined in a different way because of the torsion phases

(0,2) aspects of non-SUSY heterotic strings

This seems to suggest that also worldsheet theories with enhanced symmetry, like (0,2) or (2,2) models and GLSMs, should still have very special properties

Moreover, various localization techniques to compute partition functions in the SUSY sectors on the worldsheet should still apply

- Which ones can simply be recycled and which have ones have to be recalculated?
- What would they compute in the non-SUSY context?

How do the one-loop in g_s induced vacuum energy and dilaton tadpole effects the (0,2) or (2,2) constructions?

Summary / Outlook

We have seen that studying non-supersymmetric models in string theory is interesting both theoretically and phenomenologically

But there are still many open difficult and fundamental questions here to be addressed...

Thank you!