
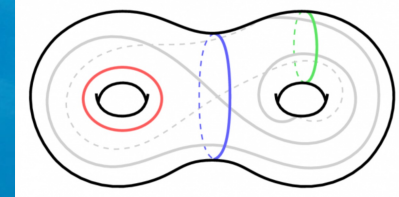


# Modular Invariance and the Strong CP problem

Ferruccio Feruglio    INFN Padova


$$\Delta(N) = q \prod_{n>0} (1-q^n)^{24} = \sum_{n>0} \tau(n) q^n \quad |\tau(p)| \leq 2p^{\frac{11}{2}}$$
$$L(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\chi(n)}{n^s} \quad \sum_{n>0} \tau(n) q^n$$
$$\begin{matrix} \sigma_1 & \sigma_2 & \sigma_3 & \sigma_4 \\ \hline \rho & \rho & \rho & \rho \end{matrix}$$
$$\leq \frac{q \prod_{n>0} (1-q^n)^{24}}{2p^{\frac{11}{2}}}$$

$$\tau \rightarrow \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}$$



Corfu Summer Institute 2024  
Workshop on the Standard Model and Beyond

in collaboration with:

Matteo Parricciatu (Rome III), Alessandro Strumia and Arsenii Titov (Pisa)

& Robert Ziegler, in preparation

[2305.08908, 2406.01689]

# the strong CP problem

$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD} = \bar{q}(i\not{D} - m)q - \frac{1}{4g_3^2} G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu} + \frac{\theta_{QCD}}{32\pi^2} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a\mu\nu}$$

$$\bar{\theta} = \theta_{QCD} + \arg \det m$$

$$d_n \approx 1.2 \times 10^{-16} \bar{\theta} e \cdot \text{cm}$$

$$|\bar{\theta}| \lesssim 10^{-10} \quad \& \quad \delta_{CKM} \approx \mathcal{O}(1)$$

solutions

1.  $\bar{\theta}$  promoted to a field, the axion, pseudoGB of a global, anomalous  $U(1)_{PQ}$  symmetry  
VEV dynamically relaxed to zero by QCD dynamics

2. CP (or P) is a symmetry of the UV

CP



$$\theta_{QCD} = 0$$

CP spontaneously broken such that  $\arg \det m = 0$

$$|\bar{\theta}| \lesssim 10^{-10}$$

&

$$\delta_{CKM} \approx \mathcal{O}(1)$$

our solution: CP symmetry of the UV theory

no heavy VL quarks as in

A.E. Nelson, 'Naturally Weak CP Violation',  
Phys.Lett.B 136 (1984) 387.

S.M. Barr, 'Solving the Strong CP Problem Without the Peccei-Quinn Symmetry',  
Phys.Rev.Lett. 53 (1984) 329.

no extra Higgs doublets as in

H. Georgi, Hadronic J. 1, 155 (1978).

L. Hall, C. A. Manzari, and B. Noether (2024).

Ferro-Hernandez, Morisi, Peinado 2407.18161

in its minimal version, SM extended by a gauge singlet complex scalar field:  
the modulus

# $\arg \det m = 0$

$$m = m(z)$$

$z$  gauge-invariant (dimensionless)  
complex scalar fields

in string theory  $z = z(\tau)$   
are moduli describing e.g. sizes and shapes  
of the compactified dimensions

in d and u sectors

$$m(z) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & c_{13} \\ 0 & c_{22} & \cdot \\ c_{31} & \cdot & \cdot \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\det m = -c_{13} c_{13} c_{13}$$

$c_{13}, c_{13}, c_{13}$  real constants

# arg det $m = 0$

$$m = m(z)$$

$z$  gauge-invariant (dimensionless)  
complex scalar fields

in string theory  $z = z(\tau)$   
are moduli describing e.g. sizes and shapes  
of the compactified dimensions

same pattern in d and u sectors

$$m(z) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & c_{13} \\ 0 & c_{22} & \cdot \\ c_{31} & \cdot & \cdot \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\det m = -c_{13} c_{13} c_{13}$$

$c_{13}, c_{13}, c_{13}$  real constants

CKM phase generated by this block

$$m(z) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & c_{13} \\ 0 & c_{22} & c_{23}(z) \\ c_{31} & c_{32}(z) & c_{33}(z) \end{pmatrix}$$



picks up a nontrivial  
phase from the  $z$  - VEV

this pattern can be generated by two simple requirements

1. assign a weight to each field

field	$D_i^c$	$Q_i$	$z_a$	...
weight	$k_{D_i^c}$	$k_{Q_i}$	$k_{z_a} > 0$	...

require 
$$\sum_i (k_{D_i^c} + k_{Q_i}) = 0$$

example

$$k_{D_i^c} = (-1, 0, +1)$$

$$k_{Q_i} = (-1, 0, +1)$$

$$k_{z_1} = +1$$

$$k_{z_2} = +2$$

2. require  $m_{ij}(z)$  to be a polynomial in  $z_a$  of weight  $(k_{D_i^c} + k_{Q_j})$

in previous

example  $(k_{D_i^c} + k_{Q_j}) =$

$$\overbrace{\begin{matrix} -1 & 0 & +1 \end{matrix}}^{k_{Q_j}}$$

$$k_{D_i^c} \begin{cases} -1 \\ 0 \\ +1 \end{cases} \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & +1 \\ 0 & +1 & +2 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$m_{ij}(z) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & c_{13} \\ 0 & c_{22} & c_{23} z_1 \\ c_{31} & c_{31} z_1 & c_{33} z_1^2 + c'_{33} z_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

so far only a mathematical trick...

## physics

above rules mandatory in a CP-invariant gauge theory

- modular-invariant



a weight to each field

- anomaly-free



sum of the weights should vanish

- supersymmetric



$Y_{ij}^q(z)$  a polynomial in  $z_a$

(other realizations are also possible)

string-theory motivated

ST has no free parameters. Yukawa couplings are field-dependent quantities

4D CP symmetry is a gauge symmetry in ST compactifications

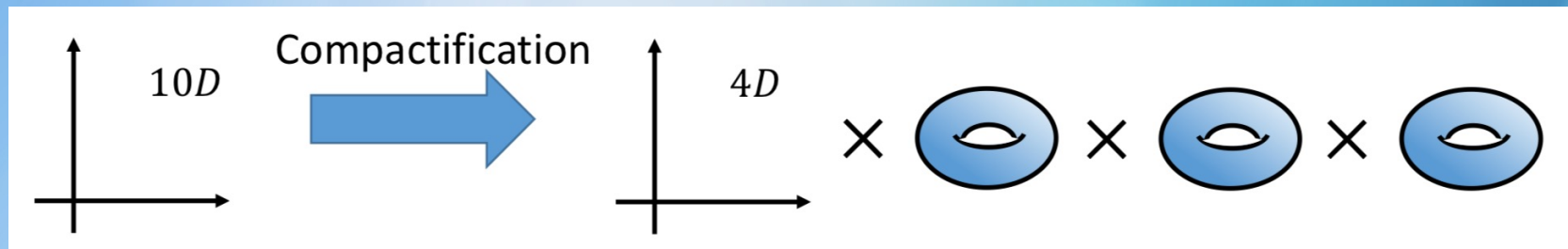
modular invariance is a key aspect of most ST compactifications



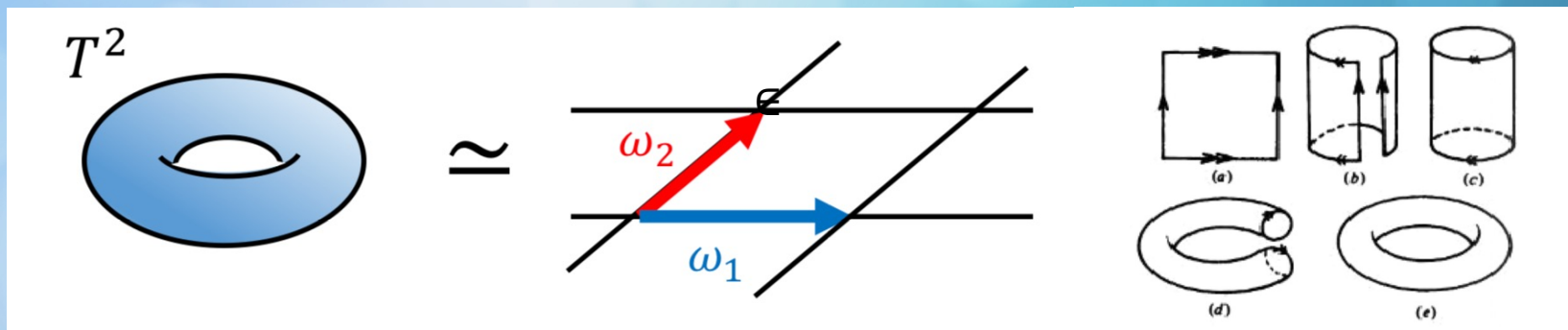
# modular invariance

[see H.P. Nilles talk]

string theory in  $d=10$  need 6 compact dimensions



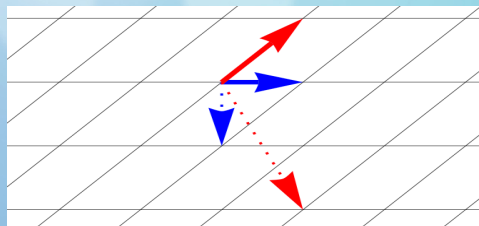
simplest compactification: 3 copies of a torus  $T^2$



tori parametrized by

$$\mathcal{M} = \left\{ \tau = \frac{\omega_2}{\omega_1} \mid \text{Im}(\tau) > 0 \right\}$$

lattice left invariant by modular transformations:



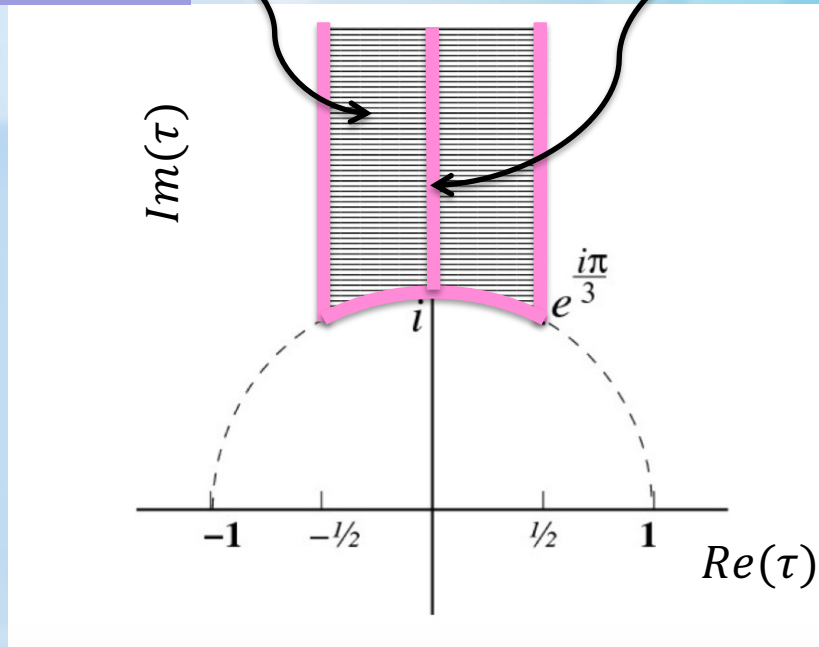
$$\tau \rightarrow \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$$

$a, b, c, d$  integers  
 $ad - bc = 1$

$\tau$  promoted to a field. Through a gauge choice we can restrict  $\tau$  to the fundamental domain

fundamental domain

unbroken CP



CP

$$\tau \rightarrow -\tau^*$$

[up to modular transformations]

# $\mathcal{N}=1$ SUSY CP & modular-invariant theories

$$\mathcal{L} = \int d^2\theta d^2\bar{\theta} K(\tau, e^{2V}\varphi, \bar{\tau}, \bar{\varphi}) + \left[ \int d^2\theta w(\tau, \varphi) + \frac{1}{16} \int d^2\theta f WW + h.c \right]$$

kinetic terms

Yukawa couplings  $\mathcal{Y}(\tau)$

gauge kinetic function

$$f_3 = \frac{1}{g_3^2} - i \frac{\theta_{QCD}}{8\pi^2}$$

$$\arg \det m(\tau) = \arg \det Y(\tau) \nu$$

G. Hiller, M. Schmaltz, 'Solving the Strong CP Problem with Supersymmetry', *Phys.Lett.B* 514 (2001) 263 [arXiv:hep-ph/0105254].

$$\bar{\theta} = -8\pi^2 \text{Im} f + \arg \det Y(\tau) \nu$$

no dependence on K

$\bar{\theta}$  holomorphic

A note on the predictions of models with modular flavor symmetries

Mu-Chun Chen (UC, Irvine), Saúl Ramos-Sánchez (Mexico U. and Munich, Tech. U.), Michael Ratz (UC, Irvine) 15, 2019)

Published in: *Phys.Lett.B* 801 (2020) 135153 • e-Print: 1909.06910 [hep-ph]

# CP & modular-invariance

CP  $\leftrightarrow$  real coupling constants

modular invariance

$$\tau \rightarrow \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}$$

$$\varphi \rightarrow (c\tau + d)^{-k_\varphi} \varphi$$

matter multiplets

$$V \rightarrow V$$

vector multiplets

$$f_3 = \frac{1}{g_3^2} \quad (\theta_{QCD} = 0)$$

$$w(\tau, \varphi) = U_i^c Y_{ij}^u(\tau) Q_j H_u + D_i^c Y_{ij}^d(\tau) Q_j H_d + E_i^c Y_{ij}^e(\tau) L_j H_d + \dots$$

$$Y_{ij}^q(\tau) \rightarrow (c\tau + d)^{k_{ij}^q} Y_{ij}^q(\tau)$$

$$k_{ij}^u = k_{Q_j} + k_{U_i^c} + k_{H_u}$$

$$k_{ij}^d = k_{Q_j} + k_{D_i^c} + k_{H_d}$$

assuming no singularities:  $Y_{ij}^q(\tau)$  are modular forms of weight  $k_{ij}^q$

$k_{ij}^q < 0$ : no modular forms

$k_{ij}^q = 0$ : modular forms are constants

$k_{ij}^q > 0$ : modular forms polynomials in  $E_4(\tau), E_6(\tau)$

Modular weight $k$	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14
Number of forms	1	0	1	1	1	1	2	1
Modular forms	1	-	$E_4$	$E_6$	$E_8 = E_4^2$	$E_{10} = E_4 E_6$	$E_4^3, E_6^2$	$E_{14} = E_4^2 E_6$

$$\det Y(\tau) \equiv \det Y^u(\tau) \det Y^d(\tau)$$

$$\det Y(\tau) \rightarrow (c\tau + d)^{k_{\det}} \det Y(\tau)$$

$$k_{\det} = \sum_{i=1}^3 \left( 2k_{Q_i} + k_{U_i^c} + k_{D_i^c} \right) + 3k_{H_u} + 3k_{H_d}$$

$$k_{\det} = 0$$



$$\det Y(\tau) = (\text{real}) \text{ constant}$$

# cancellation of modular anomalies

$$\psi_{can} \rightarrow \left( \frac{c\tau + d}{c\tau^+ + d} \right)^{-\frac{k_\varphi}{2}} \psi_{can}$$

conditions for gauge-modular anomaly cancellation

$$SU(3) \quad \sum_{i=1}^3 (2k_{Q_i} + k_{U_i^c} + k_{D_i^c}) = 0$$

$$SU(2) \quad \sum_{i=1}^3 (3k_{Q_i} + k_{L_i}) + k_{H_u} + k_{H_d} = 0$$

$$U(1) \quad \sum_{i=1}^3 (k_{Q_i} + 8k_{U_i^c} + 2k_{D_i^c} + 3k_{L_i} + 6k_{E_i^c}) + 3(k_{H_u} + k_{H_d}) = 0$$

# cancellation of modular anomalies

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simplest solution:

$$k_{H_u} + k_{H_d} = 0$$

$$k_{Q_i} = k_{U_i^c} = k_{D_i^c} = k_{L_i} = k_{E_i^c} = (-k, 0, k)$$



$$k_{\det} = 0$$

$\det Y(\tau)$  &  $f$  real constants

$$\bar{\theta} = -8\pi^2 \text{Im} f + \arg \det Y = 0$$

holds also after SUSY breaking,  
if no new phases in SUSY  
breaking sector

Example  $k_{Q_i} = k_{U_i^c} = k_{D_i^c} = (-6, 0, +6)$

$$Y_q(\tau) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & c_{13}^q \\ 0 & c_{22}^q & c_{23}^q E_6 \\ c_{31}^q & c_{32}^q E_6 & c_{33}^q E_4^3 + c_{33}^{q'} E_6^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\tan \beta = 10 \quad \tau = 0.125 + i$$

$$c_{ij}^u \approx 10^{-3} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1.56 \\ 0 & -1.86 & 0.87 \\ 1.29 & 4.14 & 3.51, 1.40 \end{pmatrix}, \quad c_{ij}^d \approx 10^{-3} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1.55 \\ 0 & -2.59 & 4.59 \\ 0.378 & 0.710 & 0.734, 1.76 \end{pmatrix}$$

reproduce quark masses, mixing angles and CKM phase

$$\delta_{CKM} \neq 0$$



$$\text{Im} \det[Y_u^+ Y_u, Y_d^+ Y_d] \neq 0 \quad \text{non-holomorphic}$$

Leptons:  $k_{L_i} = k_{E_i^c} = (-6, 0, +6)$

$$c_{ij}^e = 10^{-3} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1.29 \\ 0 & 5.95 & 0.35 \\ -2.56 & 1.47 & 1.01, 1.32 \end{pmatrix}, \quad c_{ij}^\nu = \frac{1}{10^{16} \text{ GeV}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 3.4 \\ 0 & 7.1 & 1.2 \\ 3.4 & 1.2 & 0.19, 0.95 \end{pmatrix}$$



# deviations from $\bar{\theta} = 0$

## SUSY unbroken

no corrections from K

no corrections from nonrenormalizable operators:  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$

no corrections from additional moduli/singlets under reasonable assumptions

## SUSY breaking corrections

potentially big if soft terms violate flavour in a generic way

minimized if  $\Lambda_{CP} \gg \Lambda_{SUSY}$  (as e.g. in gauge mediation)

and soft breaking terms respect the flavour structure of the SM

$$\bar{\theta} \lesssim \frac{M_t^4 M_b^4 M_c^2 M_s^2}{v^{12}} J_{CP} \tan^6 \beta \sim 10^{-28} \tan^6 \beta.$$

## SM corrections

negligible:  $\bar{\theta} \leq 10^{-18}$  at four loops

J.R. Ellis, M.K. Gaillard, 'Strong and Weak CP Violation', Nucl.Phys.B 150 (1979) 141.

I.B. Khriplovich, 'Quark Electric Dipole Moment and Induced  $\theta$  Term in the Kobayashi-Maskawa Model', Phys.Lett.B 173 (1986) 193.

# variants

## Solving the strong CP problem without axions

#1

Ferruccio Feruglio (INFN, Padua), Matteo Parriciatu (INFN, Rome and Rome III U.), Alessandro Strumia (Pisa U.), Arsenii Titov (Pisa U.) (Jun 3, 2024)

e-Print: 2406.01689 [hep-ph]

higher levels, smaller weight

modular forms associated with subgroups of  $SL(2, Z)$



$$k_{Q_i} = k_{U_i^c} = k_{D_i^c} = (-1, 0 + 1) \text{ or } (-2, 0 + 2)$$

perhaps easier to occur in string theory

With heavy vector-like quarks

anomaly of IR theory canceled by a nontrivial gauge kinetic function

$$f_{IR} = f_{UV} - \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \log \det Y_{Heavy}(\tau)$$

many more viable patterns of quark mass matrices

can be extended to supergravity

## Modular invariance and the QCD angle

#3

Ferruccio Feruglio (INFN, Padua), Alessandro Strumia (Pisa U.), Arsenii Titov (Pisa U.) (May 15, 2023)

Published in: *JHEP* 07 (2023) 027 • e-Print: 2305.08908 [hep-ph]

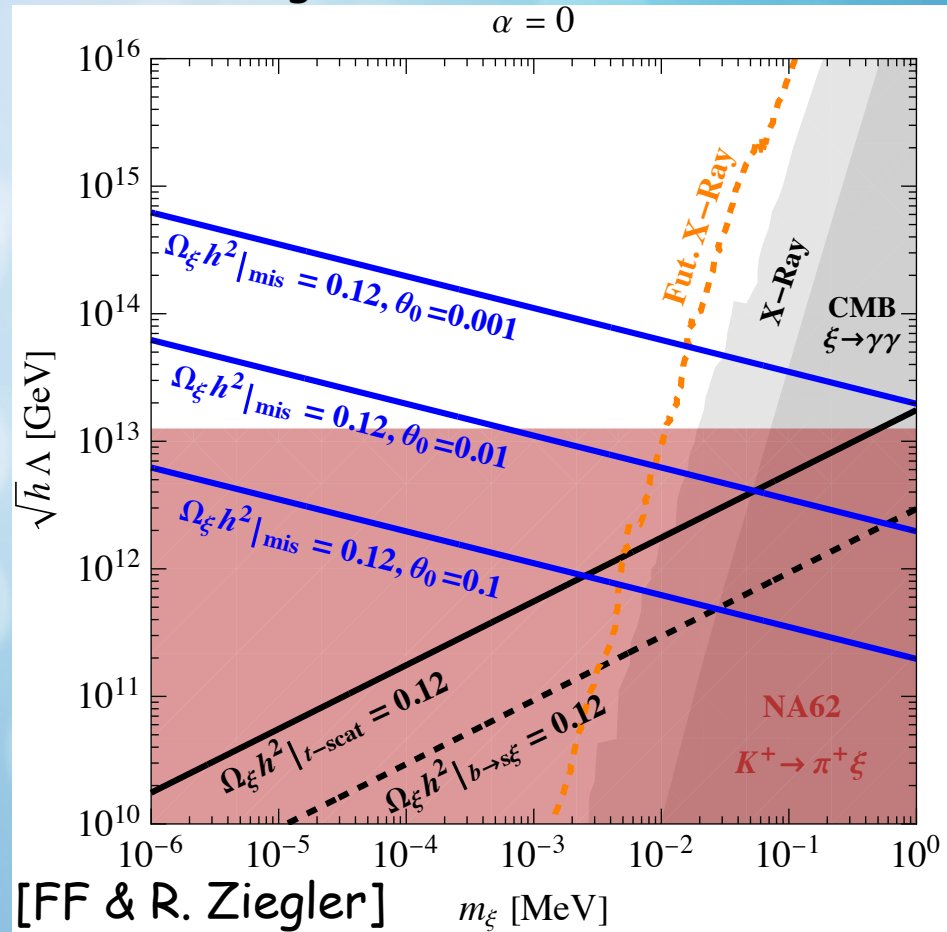
# phenomenology

couplings to matter suppressed by  $1/\Lambda$  ( $1/M_{Pl}$  in SUGRA)

difficult to test if modulus heavy

if light, modulus  $\approx$  CP-violating ALP [see G. Levati talk at this meeting]

DM candidate if  
modulus mass  
below 1 MeV



# Ingredients

1. CP in the UV
2. Yukawa couplings are field-dependent quantities
3. the vacuum has a redundant description: vacua related by  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  are equivalent
4. CP and  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  are unified in a gauge flavour symmetry
5. absence of anomalies
6. no singularities in the UV theory

# Ingredients

1.  $CP$  in the UV
2. Yukawa couplings are field-dependent quantities
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4.  $CP$  and  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  are unified in a gauge flavour symmetry
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# String Theory

the four-dimensional  $CP$  symmetry is a gauge symmetry in most string theory compactifications.

string theory has no free parameters and Yukawa couplings are set by moduli VEVs

modular invariance is a key ingredient of string theory compactifications

## Unification of Flavor, CP, and Modular Symmetries

Alexander Baur (Munich, Tech. U.), Hans Peter Nilles (Bonn U. and Bonn U., HISK), Patrick K.S. Vaudrevange (Munich, Tech. U.)

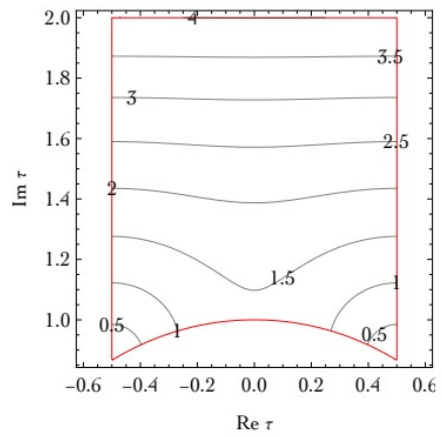
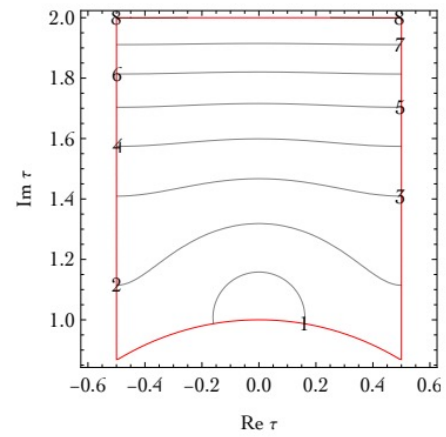
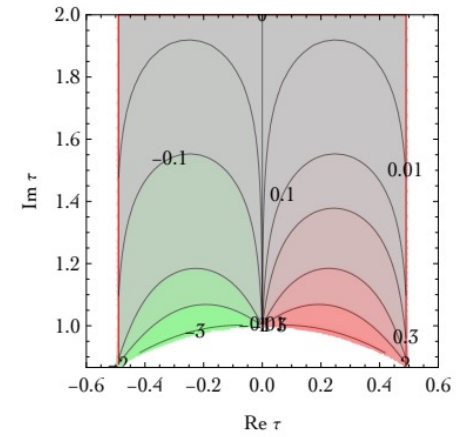
Published in: *Phys.Lett.B* 795 (2019) 7-14 • e-Print: [1901.03251](https://arxiv.org/abs/1901.03251) [hep-th]

mandatory in string theory

string theory is free of singularities. These arise in the IR when some UV modes become massless

**THANK  
YOU!**

back-up slides

$|(\text{Im } \tau)^2 E_4(\tau)|$  $|(\text{Im } \tau)^3 E_6(\tau)|$  $\arg E_4^5 / E_6^2$ 



# axion solution

$\bar{\theta}$  dynamically relaxed to zero by the axion, would-be GB of a global, anomalous  $U(1)_{PQ}$  symmetry

provides a candidate for DM

many axion candidates in e.g. superstring theories

axion quality problem

minimum of  $V(a)$  should be at  $a = 0$

$$V(a) = V_{QCD}(a) - M^4 e^{-S} \cos\left(\frac{a}{f_a} + \delta\right)$$

$$M = M_P$$
$$\delta = \mathcal{O}(1)$$



$$S \geq 200$$

axion undetected, so far

# Nelson-Barr solution

# our solution

CP is a symmetry of the UV,  
SB to get  $\bar{\theta} = 0$  &  $\delta_{CKM} = \mathcal{O}(1)$

CP  $\rightarrow$   $\theta_{QCD} = 0$

heavy vector-like quark sector

$$m = \begin{array}{c|c} Q & q \\ \hline \left( \begin{array}{c} \mu \\ 0 \end{array} \right) & \left( \begin{array}{c} \lambda_a \eta_a \\ y v \end{array} \right) \end{array}$$

CP spontaneously broken  
by  $\langle \eta_a \rangle$  complex

[one is not enough]

$\mu \approx \lambda_a \eta_a$  [tuning]

no extra matter

CP spontaneously broken  
by  $\tau$  alone

no tuning

Yukawa matrices $Y_{u,d}$	Modular weights			Alternative bigger weights		
	$(u_L, d_L)_{1,2,3}$	$u_{R1,2,3}$	$d_{R1,2,3}$	$(u_L, d_L)_{1,2,3}$	$u_{R1,2,3}$	$d_{R1,2,3}$
$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & E_6 \\ 1 & E_6 & E_4^3 + E_6^2 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 0 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 0 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 0 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 2 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$
$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & E_4^2 \\ 1 & E_4 & E_4^3 + E_6^2 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ -2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ -4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$
$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & E_4^2 \\ 1 & E_4^2 & E_4(E_4^3 + E_6^2) \end{pmatrix}$				$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 0 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 0 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 0 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$
$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & E_4 E_6 \\ 1 & E_6 & E_4(E_4^3 + E_6^2) \end{pmatrix}$				$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ -2 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 2 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 2 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$
$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & E_4^3 + E_6^2 \\ 1 & E_4 & E_4(E_4^3 + E_6^2) \end{pmatrix}$				$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ -4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$

Table 2: *Simplest modular weights that lead to Yukawa matrices such that  $\bar{\theta} = 0$  and  $\delta_{\text{CKM}} \neq 0$ . The list is complete up to permutations and transpositions, and assumes vanishing modular weights of the Higgs doublets and of the super-potential. Real constants  $c_{ij}^a$  are here omitted.*

fixed point

●  $\tau = i$

$$S: \tau \rightarrow -\frac{1}{\tau}$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_4^S$$

residual symmetry

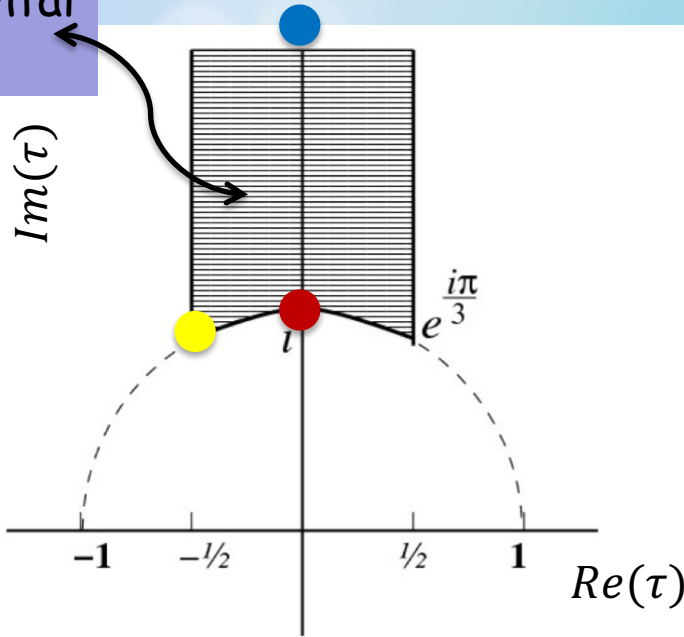
●  $\tau = e^{i2\pi/3}$   $ST: \tau \rightarrow -\frac{1}{\tau+1}$

$$\mathbb{Z}_2^{ST} \times \mathbb{Z}_2^{S^2}$$

●  $\tau = i\infty$   $T: \tau \rightarrow \tau + 1$

$$\mathbb{Z}^T \times \mathbb{Z}_2^{S^2}$$

fundamental domain



modular invariance completely broken everywhere but at three fixed points

$SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  generated by

$$S: \tau \rightarrow -\frac{1}{\tau}, \quad T: \tau \rightarrow \tau + 1$$

# heavy quarks and singularities

heavy quarks not needed, but they can exist in the UV

example

$$k_\varphi = (-6, -2, 0, +2, +6)$$

chiral      heavy vector-like quark

$$k_{H_u} + k_{H_d} = 0$$

UV theory       $\bar{\theta} = -8\pi^2 \text{Im } f_{UV} + \arg \det Y_{UV} = 0$

IR theory has an anomalous field content, anomaly cancelled by:

$$f_{IR} = f_{UV} - \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \log \det Y_{Heavy}(\tau)$$

$$\bar{\theta} = -8\pi^2 \text{Im } f_{IR}(\tau) + \arg \det Y_{Light}(\tau) =$$

$$= +\arg \det Y_{Heavy}(\tau) + \arg \det Y_{Light}(\tau)$$

$$= \arg \det Y_{UV} = 0$$

$Y_{Light}(\tau)$  is singular at  $\tau$  values such that  $\det Y_{Heavy}(\tau) = 0$

# $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supergravity

$$K = -h^2 \log(-i\tau + i\tau^+) + \dots$$

corrections of  $\mathcal{O}(k_W)$  ?

$$k_W = \frac{h^2}{M_{Pl}^2} \rightarrow 0$$

back to the rigid case

$K$  and  $w$  no more independent

$$\mathcal{G} = \frac{K}{M_{Pl}^2} + \log \left| \frac{w}{M_{Pl}^3} \right|^2$$

$$w(\tau) \rightarrow (c\tau + d)^{-k_W} w(\tau)$$

$$k_W > 0$$

no negative weight modular forms,  $w(\tau)$  singular somewhere

modular-QCD anomaly modified into

$$\sum_{i=1}^3 \left( 2k_{Q_i} + k_{U_i^c} + k_{D_i^c} - 2k_W \right) + 3k_W$$

can be rotated away  
if gluino is massless

V. Kaplunovsky, J. Louis, 'On Gauge couplings in string theory', Nucl.Phys.B 444 (1995) 191 [arXiv:hep-th/9502077].

J.P. Derendinger, S. Ferrara, C. Kounnas, F. Zwirner, 'On loop corrections to string effective field theories: Field dependent gauge couplings and sigma model anomalies', Nucl.Phys.B 372 (1992) 145.

L.J. Dixon, V. Kaplunovsky, J. Louis, 'Moduli dependence of string loop corrections to gauge coupling constants', Nucl.Phys.B 355 (1991) 649.

# spontaneously broken supergravity

$$\bar{\theta} = -8\pi^2 \text{Im } f + \arg \det M_{quark} + 3 \arg M_3 = 0$$

$$\arg \det M_{quark} = 0$$

$$\leftarrow \sum_{i=1}^3 (2k_{Q_i} + k_{U_i^c} + k_{D_i^c} - 2k_W) = k_{H_u} + k_{H_d} = 0$$

$$\arg M_3 = -\arg w$$

if no other phases from SUSY breaking

$$M_3 = \frac{1}{2} e^{\frac{K}{2M_{Pl}^2}} K^{i\bar{j}} D_{\bar{j}} w^+ f_i$$

assume unique singularity at  $\tau = i\infty$

$$w(\tau) = \dots + c_0 M_{Pl}^3 \eta(\tau)^{-2k_W}$$

$\eta(\tau)$  Dedekind eta function

H. Rademacher, H.S. Zuckerman, 'On the Fourier coefficients of certain modular forms of positive dimensions', Annals of Mathematics 39 (1938) 433.

$$f = \dots + 3 \frac{k_W}{4\pi^2} \log \eta(\tau)$$

← cancels the gluino anomaly

$$\bar{\theta} = -8\pi^2 \text{Im } f + 3 \arg M_3 = 0$$