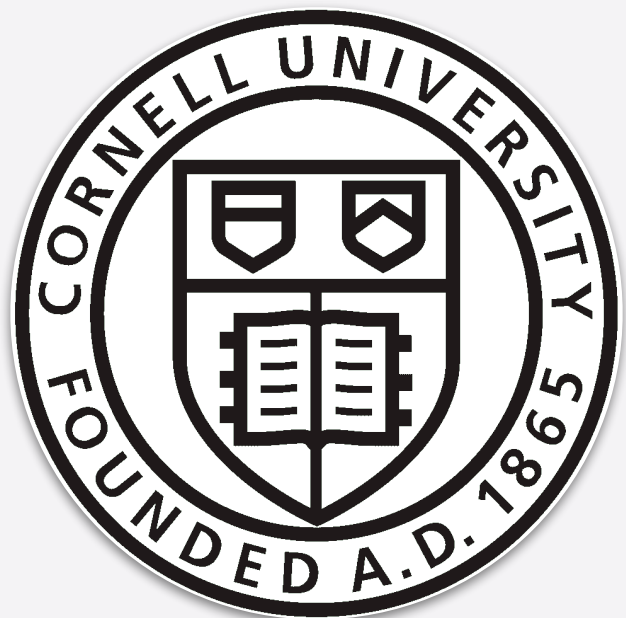


Modular completions and RR sector couplings in Type II at higher derivatives

Andreas Schachner

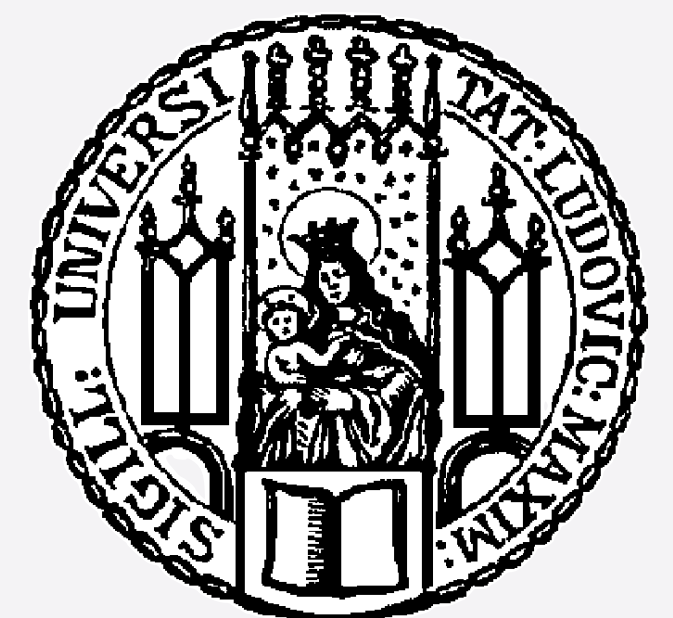


Cornell University

Corfu 2025: Workshop on Quantum Gravity and Strings

Corfu, Greece

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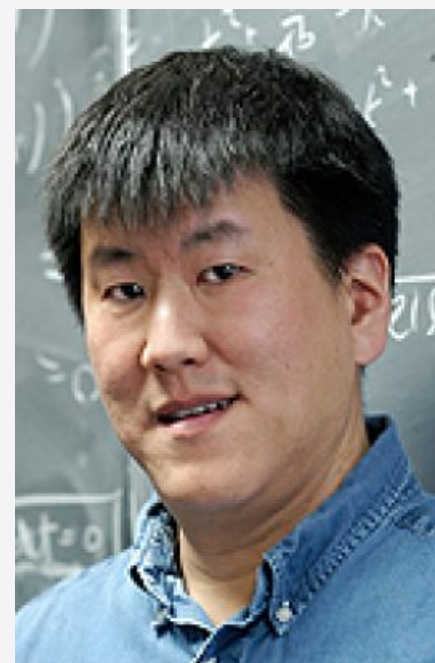
LMU Munich

Upshot

We compute **new Ramond-Ramond (RR) couplings** in the 10D Type II effective actions from 5-point string scattering and demonstrate **consistency** with **modular invariance, supersymmetry, T-duality and M-theory!**

2205.11530: Type IIB at eight derivatives: insights from superstrings, superfields and superparticles

2507.07934: Type IIB at eight derivatives: five-point axio-dilaton couplings



James Liu
U. of Michigan



Ruben Minasian
Saclay



Raffaele Savelli
Tor Vergata



Outline

1

Introduction

2

Five-point kinematics
for 3-forms in Type IIB

[2205.11530](#)

3

The scalar-graviton
sector at five points

[2507.07934](#)

4

M-theory vs. Type IIA
vs. Type IIB

[2507.07934](#)

5

Conclusions

Introduction

The α' expansion in Type IIB supergravity

Schematic α' expansion of Type IIB supergravity

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}^{\text{tree}} + (\alpha')^3 \mathcal{L}^{(3)} + \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} (\alpha')^n \mathcal{L}^{(n)}$$

Massless bosonic fields

$$\tau = \chi + ie^{-\phi}, \quad \mathcal{P}_m = \frac{i}{2\text{Im}(\tau)} \nabla_m \tau, \quad G_3 = \frac{1}{\text{Im}(\tau)^{1/2}} (F_3 - \tau H_3)$$

The tree level supergravity action for these fields is

$$\mathcal{L}^{\text{tree}} = R - 2 \left| \mathcal{P} \right|^2 - \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3!} \left| G_3 \right|^2 - \frac{1}{4 \cdot 5!} F_5^2$$

Operators in $\mathcal{L}^{(3)}$ correspond to 8-derivative terms

$$\mathcal{L}^{(3)} \sim \left\{ R^4 + R^3 (G_3^2 + \left| G_3 \right|^2 + \bar{G}_3^2 + \left| \mathcal{P} \right|^2) + \dots \right\}$$

The full action is invariant under $\text{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$ transformations

$$\tau \rightarrow \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}, \quad \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \frac{c\bar{\tau} + d}{c\tau + d} \mathcal{P}, \quad G_3 \rightarrow \left(\frac{c\bar{\tau} + d}{c\tau + d} \right)^{1/2} G_3 \longrightarrow$$

**MODULAR INVARIANCE
OF TERMS IN $\mathcal{L}^{(3)}$**

Introduction

The quartic action of Type IIB

Policastro, Tsimpis [hep-th/0603165](#), [0812.3138](#)

Quartic action completely determined using pure spinor formalism

$$\mathcal{L}^{(3)} \supset f_0(\tau, \bar{\tau}) \left(t_8 t_8 + \frac{1}{8} \epsilon_{10} \epsilon_{10} \right) \left\{ R^4 + 6R^2 \left(\left| \nabla \mathcal{P} \right|^2 + \left| \nabla G_3 \right|^2 \right) + \dots \right\} + \dots$$

SL(2, $\mathbb{Z}$)-invariance through **Eisenstein series of weight 3/2** [\[Green hep-th/9706175\]](#)

$$f_0(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = 2\zeta(3) \text{Im}(\tau)^{3/2} + \frac{2\pi^2}{3} \text{Im}(\tau)^{-1/2} + \mathcal{O}(e^{-\text{Im}(\tau)})$$

Kinematics (mostly) fixed by **index structures** t_8 and ϵ_{10}

$$t_8 M^4 = 6 \left(4 \text{tr}(M^4) - \text{tr}(M^2)^2 \right) \quad \epsilon_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_m \mu_1 \dots \mu_n} \epsilon^{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_m \nu_1 \dots \nu_n} = - (m!) (n!) \delta_{\mu_1}^{[\nu_1} \dots \delta_{\mu_n}^{\nu_n]}$$

Introduction

The role of $U(1)$ violation — Part 1

Fields are charged under $U(1)$ R-symmetry

$$Q_R(\mathcal{P}) = 2 \quad , \quad Q_R(G_3) = 1 \quad , \quad Q_R(g_{MN}) = Q_R(F_5) = 0$$

P -POINT INTERACTIONS CARRY A MAXIMAL $U(1)$ CHARGE $|Q_{U(1)}| \leq 2(P - 4)$

Green hep-th/9903124

Maximally $U(1)$ -violating (MUV) couplings $|Q_{U(1)}| \equiv 2(P - 4)$ are special:

- unique modular completion,
- protected by supersymmetry (1/2-BPS), and
- kinematic information determined by a linearised superfield.

Green hep-th/9903124

Boels 1204.4208

Green et al. 1904.13394

Introduction

The role of $U(1)$ violation — Part 2

Green et al. [hep-th/9808061](#), [1904.13394](#)

Total $U(1)$ charge $\rightarrow$ organisational principle at 8-derivatives

$$\mathcal{L}^{(3)} = f_{12} \Lambda^{16} + \dots + f_4 G_3^8 + \dots + f_1 G_3^2 R^3 + f_0 (R^4 + |G_3|^2 R^3 + \dots) + f_{-1} \bar{G}_3^2 R^3 + \dots + f_{-12} (\Lambda^*)^{16}$$

For example, the dilatino Λ^{16} terms were obtained in [\[Green et al. hep-th/9710151\]](#)
matching supersymmetry approach of [\[Green, Sethi hep-th/9808061\]](#)

$SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ -invariance through suitable $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ -covariant modular forms

$$f_w(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = \sum_{(\hat{l}_1, \hat{l}_2) \neq (0,0)} \frac{\text{Im}(\tau)^{3/2}}{(\hat{l}_1 + \tau \hat{l}_2)^{3/2+w} (\hat{l}_1 + \bar{\tau} \hat{l}_2)^{3/2-w}} \quad f_w\left(\frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}, \frac{a\bar{\tau} + b}{c\bar{\tau} + d}\right) = \left(\frac{c\tau + d}{c\bar{\tau} + d}\right)^w f_w(\tau, \bar{\tau})$$

Introduction

Schwinger-time computations in M-theory

Green et al. hep-th/9706175, hep-th/9710151, hep-th/9907155

How can we compute $(\alpha')^3$ corrections to the Type IIB effective action beyond four points?

We compute **Schwinger-like** amplitudes in M-theory compactified on **2-torus** T^2

$$\mathcal{A}_P(h, C_3) = \int \frac{dt}{t} \int d^9 p e^{-t p^2} \sum_{l_1, l_2} e^{-t g^{ab} l_a l_b} \text{Tr}_S \left\langle \prod_{r=1}^P \int_0^t dt^{(r)} V_r(h, C_3; t^{(r)}) \right\rangle \xrightarrow{v_0 \rightarrow 0} \text{Effective Vertices in 10D type IIB action}$$

Integral over non-compact momenta
 Trace over fermion operators
 Vertex operators of 9D M-theory
 Sum of KK/winding states along T^2
 Integration over points on the worldline
 $\text{Vol}(T^2) = v_0$

Reviews and introductions:

[Strassler hep-ph/9205205, Russo, Tseytlin: hep-th/9707134, Schubert hep-th/0101036]

Introduction

Example: 4-graviton amplitude — schematics

Green, Gutperle, Vanhove: [hep-th/9706175](#)

Graviton vertex operator

$$V_h \supset 2h_{ij}(\theta\Gamma^{il}\theta)(\theta\Gamma^{jm}\theta)k_l k_m$$

$$\mathcal{A}_4(h^4) \sim \int \frac{dt}{t^{3/2}} \sum_{l_1, l_2} e^{-t g^{ab} l_a l_b} \text{Tr} \langle V_h^4 \rangle \xrightarrow{v_0 \rightarrow 0} t_8 t_8 R^4 \left(\underbrace{2\zeta(3) e^{-3\phi/2}}_{\text{tree}} + \underbrace{\frac{2\pi^2}{3} e^{\phi/2}}_{\text{1-loop}} \right) + \dots$$

Green, Gutperle, Vanhove [[hep-th/9706175](#)] showed that this amplitude matches closed superstring scattering at tree and 1-loop [[Gross, Witten 1986](#), [Sasaki et al. 1986](#)] ...

... but there is more!

Introduction

Example: 4-graviton amplitude — details

Green, Gutperle, Vanhove: [hep-th/9706175](#)

Kinematics from trace over fermion zero modes

$$t_{16} R^4 = \text{Tr}(\theta \Gamma^{i_1 i_2} \theta \dots \theta \Gamma^{i_{15} i_{16}} \theta) R_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4} \dots R_{i_{13} i_{14} i_{15} i_{16}} \supset t_8 t_8 R^4$$
$$\mathcal{A}_4(h^4) = t_{16} R^4 \left(C v_0 + \frac{f_0(\tau, \bar{\tau})}{\sqrt{v_0}} \right)$$

Introduction

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M-theory R^4 -term in
decompactification limit $v_0 \rightarrow \infty$

Divergence $C = \infty$ in this formalism



regularisation scheme proposed in

[Blumenhagen, Cribiori, Gligovic,
Paraskevopoulou: [2404.01371](#)]

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Contribution in Type IIB limit $v_0 \rightarrow 0$

M-theory R^4 -term in decompactification limit $v_0 \rightarrow \infty$

Divergence $C = \infty$ in this formalism

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M-theory R^4 -term in decompactification limit $v_0 \rightarrow \infty$

Contribution in Type IIB limit $v_0 \rightarrow 0$

Winding modes on T^2 give rise to modular function

$$f_0(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = \sum_{(\hat{l}_1, \hat{l}_2) \neq (0,0)} \frac{\text{Im}(\tau)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{\hat{l}_1 + \tau \hat{l}_2}^3 = 2\zeta(3) \text{Im}(\tau)^{3/2} + \frac{2\pi^2}{3} \text{Im}(\tau)^{-1/2} + \mathcal{O}(e^{-\text{Im}(\tau)})$$

VERIFIES EXPECTED $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ MODULAR COMPLETION OF R^4 IN TYPE IIB

Green, Gutperle hep-th/9612127, hep-th/9701093, Kiritsis, Pioline hep-th/9707018

Five-point Kinematics for 3-forms in Type IIB

MUV contact terms from M-theory

Liu, Minasian, Savelli, **AS**: 2205.11530

Compute MUV amplitudes for 3-forms and gravitons in M-theory on T^2

Graviton vertex operator

$$V_h \supset 2(k_l k_m h_{ij}) (\theta \Gamma^{il} \theta) (\theta \Gamma^{jm} \theta)$$

3-form vertex operator

$$V_{G_3} \supset -\sqrt{2} G_{lmn} P_z (\theta \Gamma^{lmn} \theta)$$

KK-momenta

$$P_z = \frac{1}{\sqrt{v_0 \tau_2}} (l_1 - \tau l_2)$$

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MUV P -point amplitudes of U(1) charge $2w$

$$\mathcal{A}(G_3^{2w} h^{4-w}) = \frac{2^{4-w} 2^w}{2^6 \Gamma(3/2)} I(P, w) t_{16+2w} G_3^{2w} R^{4-w}$$

$$t_{16+2w} = \text{Tr} \left(\underbrace{\theta \Gamma^{(2)} \theta \dots \theta \Gamma^{(3)} \theta \dots}_{2(4-w)} \right)$$

where upon Poisson resummation

$$I(P, w) = \int_0^\infty \frac{dt}{t^{\frac{11}{2}-P}} \sum_{l_1, l_2 \in \mathbb{Z}} P_z^{2w} e^{-t g_{T^2}^{ab} l_a l_b} = 4v_0^{-1/2} \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2} + w\right) f_w(\tau, \bar{\tau})$$

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U(1) NON-EXISTENT IN M-THEORY
→ NO TERM $\sim v_0$

Green, Gutperle, Kwon: hep-th/9907155

Five-point Kinematics for 3-forms in Type IIB

MUV contact terms and supersymmetry

Liu, Minasian, Savelli, **AS**: 2205.11530

In the limit $v_0 \rightarrow 0$, we obtain MUV contact terms in 10D Type IIB effective action

$$\mathcal{L}^{MUV}(G_3, \bar{G}_3, R) = \sum_{w=0}^4 c_w f_w(\tau, \bar{\tau}) t_{16+2w} G_3^{2w} R^{4-w} + \text{c.c.} \quad , \quad c_w = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2} + w\right)$$

Coefficients c_w are consistent with SUSY [Green et al. hep-th/9808061, 1904.13394]

$$c_w f_w = 2^w \mathcal{D}_{w-1} \dots \mathcal{D}_0 f_0 \quad \mathcal{D}_w f_w = i\left(\tau_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} - \frac{iw}{2}\right) f_w = \frac{3+2w}{4} f_{w+1}$$

Index structures expected from linearised superspace description [Howe, West 1983]

$$\Phi(x, \Theta) = \tau + \Theta^2 G_3 + \Theta^4 R + \dots \quad \Rightarrow \quad \int d^{10}x d^{16}\Theta e^{\Phi} \Phi^{4+w} \supset t_{16+2w} G_3^{2w} R^{4-w}$$

Five-point Kinematics for 3-forms in Type IIB

Superparticles vs. Superstrings

So far, effective supergravity amplitudes in compactified M-theory.

**How does this compare against fully fledged
closed string amplitudes?**

Five-point Kinematics for 3-forms in Type IIB

Superparticles vs. Superstrings

So far, effective supergravity amplitudes in compactified M-theory.

How does this compare against fully fledged
closed string amplitudes?

Let us make a comparison at the **5-point function** level:

$$G_3^2 R^3 \quad \left| G_3 \right|^2 R^3 \quad \bar{G}_3^2 R^3$$

Closed string 5-point amplitudes

1-loop: [Richards 0807.2421, 0807.3453]

tree: [Schlotterer et al. 1205.1516, 1307.3534]

The corresponding effective actions obtained in

[Liu, Minasian 1304.3137, 1912.10974]

Five-point Kinematics for 3-forms in Type IIB

Effective actions from string scattering

Liu, Minasian 1304.3137, 1912.10974

From pure NSNS five-point scattering, one determines the string effective action

$$\mathcal{L}_{R(\Omega_+)^4} = \alpha f_0(\tau, \bar{\tau}) \left[t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 \right] (R^4 + 6 \left| \nabla G_3 \right|^2 R^2 + 2 \left| G_3 \right|^2 R^3)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{G_3^2 R^3} = \alpha f_0(\tau, \bar{\tau}) \left[-\frac{1}{2} t_8 t_8 \left| G_3 \right|^2 R^3 - \frac{7}{24} \epsilon_9 \epsilon_9 \left| G_3 \right|^2 + 2 \cdot 4! \sum_i d_i G_3^{\mu\nu\lambda} \bar{G}_3^{\rho\sigma\zeta} (R^3)^{(i)}_{\mu\nu\lambda\rho\sigma\zeta} \right]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{G_3^2 R^3} = \alpha f_1(\tau, \bar{\tau}) \left[\frac{3}{4} t_8 t_8 G_3^2 R^3 - \frac{1}{16} \epsilon_9 \epsilon_9 G_3^2 R^3 - 3 \cdot 4! \sum_i d_i G_3^{\mu\nu\lambda} G_3^{\rho\sigma\zeta} (R^3)^{(i)}_{\mu\nu\lambda\rho\sigma\zeta} \right]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\bar{G}_3^2 R^3} = \alpha f_{-1}(\tau, \bar{\tau}) \left[\frac{3}{4} t_8 t_8 \bar{G}_3^2 R^3 - \frac{1}{16} \epsilon_9 \epsilon_9 \bar{G}_3^2 R^3 - 3 \cdot 4! \sum_i d_i \bar{G}_3^{\mu\nu\lambda} \bar{G}_3^{\rho\sigma\zeta} (R^3)^{(i)}_{\mu\nu\lambda\rho\sigma\zeta} \right]$$

YES, IT'S A MESS...

Five-point Kinematics for 3-forms in Type IIB

11D superparticles vs. 10D string scattering

Liu, Minasian, Savelli, **AS**: 2205.11530

Try to match MUV couplings derived independently from **string theory** vs. **M-theory**:

$$\alpha f_1(\tau, \bar{\tau}) \left[\frac{3}{4} t_8 t_8 G_3^2 R^3 - \frac{1}{16} \epsilon_9 \epsilon_9 G_3^2 R^3 - 3 \cdot 4! \sum_i d_i G_3^{\mu\nu\lambda} G_3^{\rho\sigma\zeta} (R^3)_{\mu\nu\lambda\rho\sigma\zeta}^{(i)} \right] \stackrel{???}{=} \frac{3\alpha}{2} f_1(\tau, \bar{\tau}) t_{18} G_3^2 R^3$$

Five-point Kinematics for 3-forms in Type IIB

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Higher dimensional index structures:

[Green et al. hep-th/0506161,

Peeters et al. hep-th/0507178]

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We compute the tensor structure $t_{18} = \text{Tr}((\theta \Gamma^{(2)} \theta)^6 (\theta \Gamma^{(3)} \theta)^2)$ using group theory.

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We define 24-dimensional basis of R^3 and expand various expressions into this basis finding e.g.

	a_1	a_2	b_1	b_2	b_3	c_1	c_2	c_3	c_4	c_5	c_6	c_7	c_8	c_9	c_{10}	c_{11}	d_1	d_2	d_3	d_4	d_5	d_6	d_7	d_8
$\epsilon_9 \epsilon_9 G_3^2 R^3$	$\frac{1}{72}$	$\frac{1}{36}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$-\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{32}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	0	-1	$\frac{1}{4}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	0	$-\frac{1}{4}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	-1	$-\frac{1}{4}$	2	$-\frac{1}{8}$
$t_{18} G_3^2 R^3$	$\frac{1}{72}$	$\frac{1}{36}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$-\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-2	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	1	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	0	0	0

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We define 24-dimensional basis of R^3 and expand various expressions into this basis finding e.g.

	a_1	a_2	b_1	b_2	b_3	c_1	c_2	c_3	c_4	c_5	c_6	c_7	c_8	c_9	c_{10}	c_{11}	d_1	d_2	d_3	d_4	d_5	d_6	d_7	d_8
$\epsilon_9 \epsilon_9 G_3^2 R^3$	$\frac{1}{72}$	$\frac{1}{36}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$-\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{32}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	0	-1	$\frac{1}{4}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	0	$-\frac{1}{4}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	-1	$-\frac{1}{4}$	2	$-\frac{1}{8}$
$t_{18} G_3^2 R^3$	$\frac{1}{72}$	$\frac{1}{36}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$-\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-2	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	1	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	0	0	0

Five-point Kinematics for 3-forms in Type IIB

5-point contact terms — Summary

Liu, Minasian, Savelli, **AS**: 2205.11530

Overall, the revised string effective action from 5-point scattering of two 3-forms can be written as

$$\mathcal{L}^{(3)} \supset f_0 t_{16} R^4 + f_0 \left[2 t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 - \frac{1}{3} \epsilon_9 \epsilon_9 - t_{18} \right] |G_3|^2 R^3 + \frac{3}{2} \left(f_1 t_{18} G_3^2 R^3 + f_{-1} t_{18} \bar{G}_3^2 R^3 \right)$$

Comments:

- huge simplification due to generalised index structure t_{18}
- modular forms $f_w(\tau, \bar{\tau})$ derived from first principles via M-theory
- MUV kinematics completely specified by t_{18} due to linearised superfield [Howe, West 1983]

The scalar-graviton sector at five points

Hide and Seek with the Dilaton

Liu, Minasian, Savelli, **AS**: 2507.07934

Let us look interactions involving dilatons ϕ and axions χ at the five-point level!

We need to compute **mixed RR/NSNS-sector amplitudes** to determine full modular completion!

The scalar-graviton sector at five points

Hide and Seek with the Dilaton

Liu, Minasian, Savelli, **AS**: 2507.07934

Let us look interactions involving dilatons ϕ and axions χ at the five-point level!

We need to compute **mixed RR/NSNS-sector amplitudes** to determine full modular completion!



Attempting to find $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ completions **just from the structure of NSNS vertex operators** as in [Kehagias, Partouche [hep-th/9710023](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/9710023)] gives **incomplete result**:

- mixed RR/NSNS-sector couplings contribute new kinematics,
- bound on maximal $U(1)$ charge has to be respected, and
- pole subtraction discriminates between RR- and NSNS-sector.

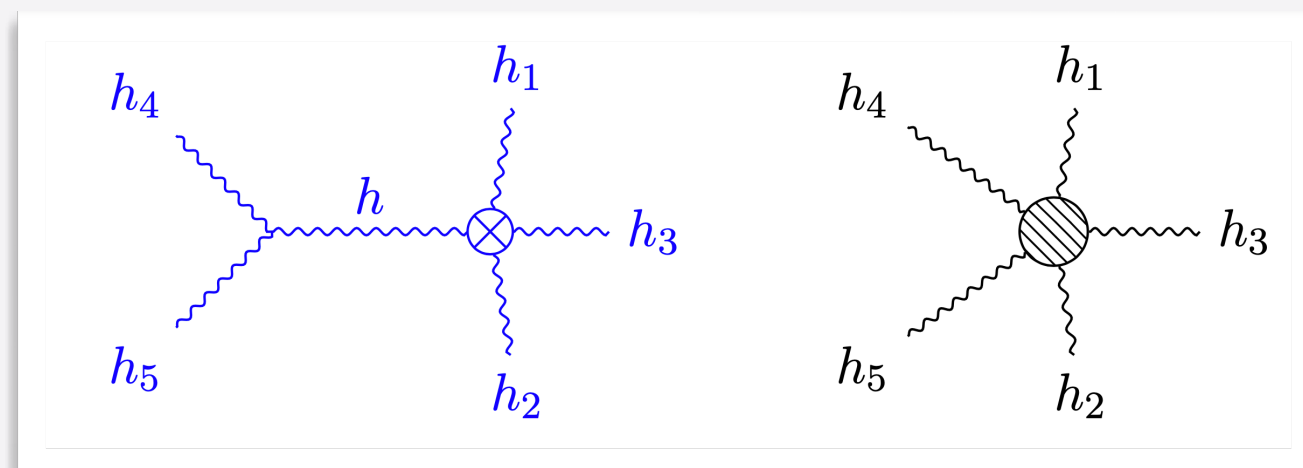
The scalar-graviton sector at five points

String scattering and pole subtraction in the NSNS-sector — Part 1

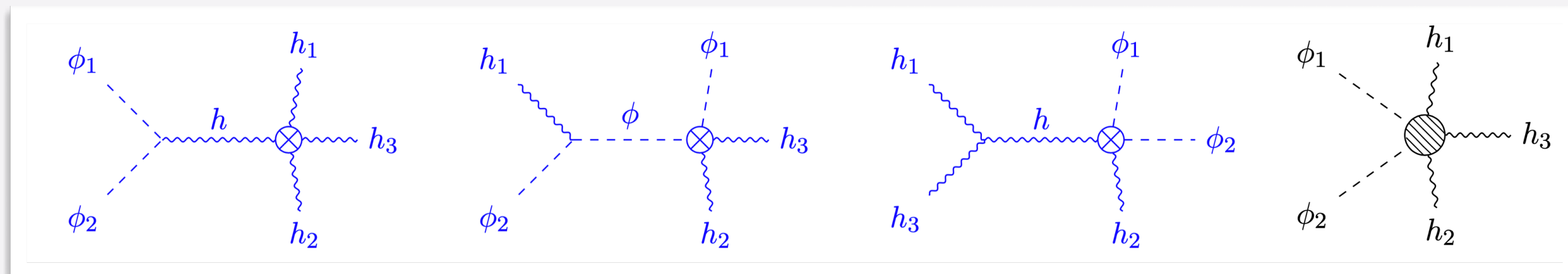
Liu, Minasian, Savelli, **AS**: 2507.07934

Five-point scattering for **dilatons** ϕ and **gravitons** h

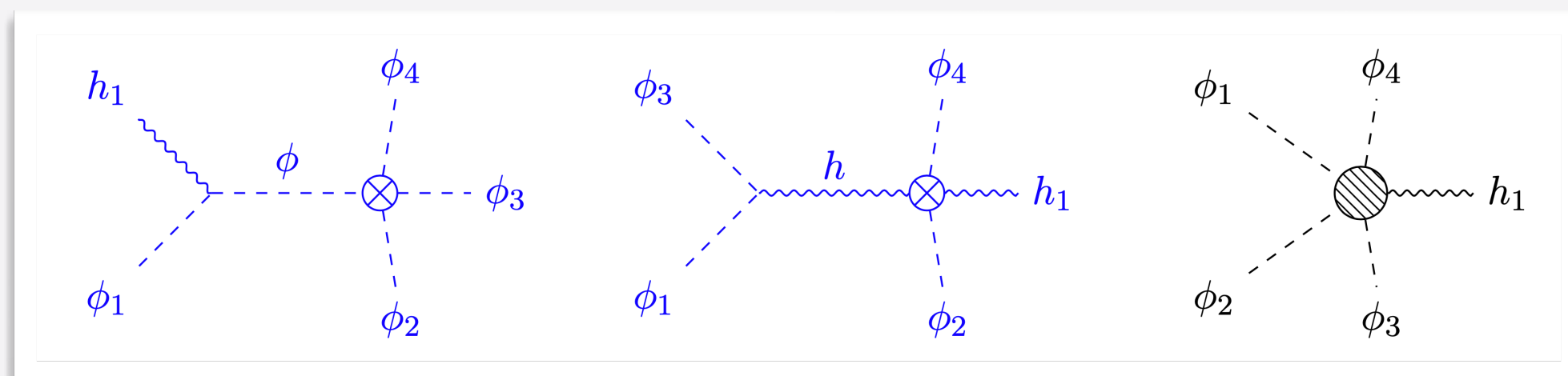
h^5



$\phi^2 h^3$



$\phi^4 h$



The scalar-graviton sector at five points

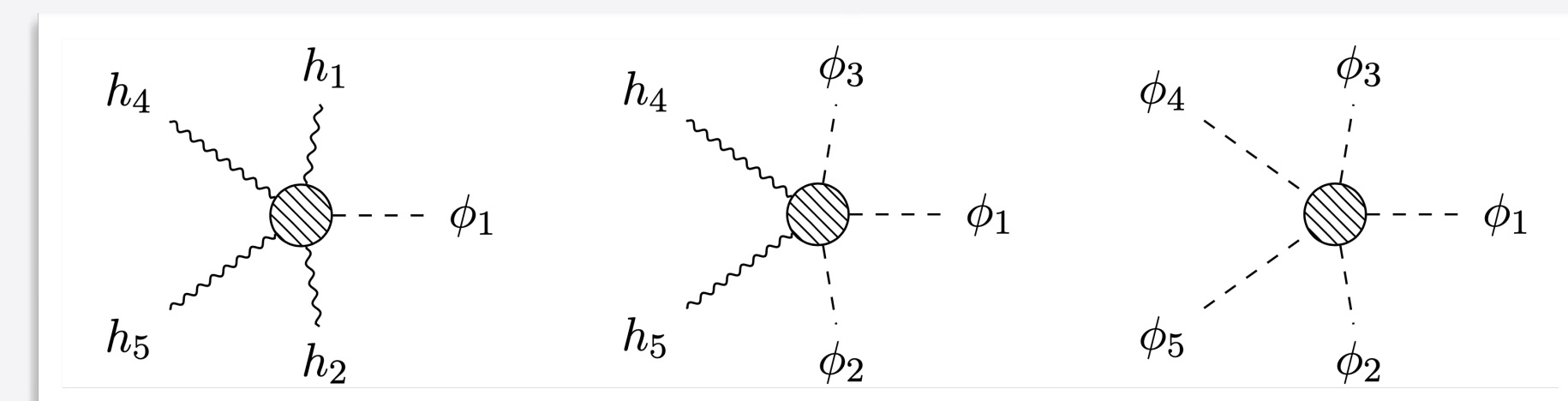
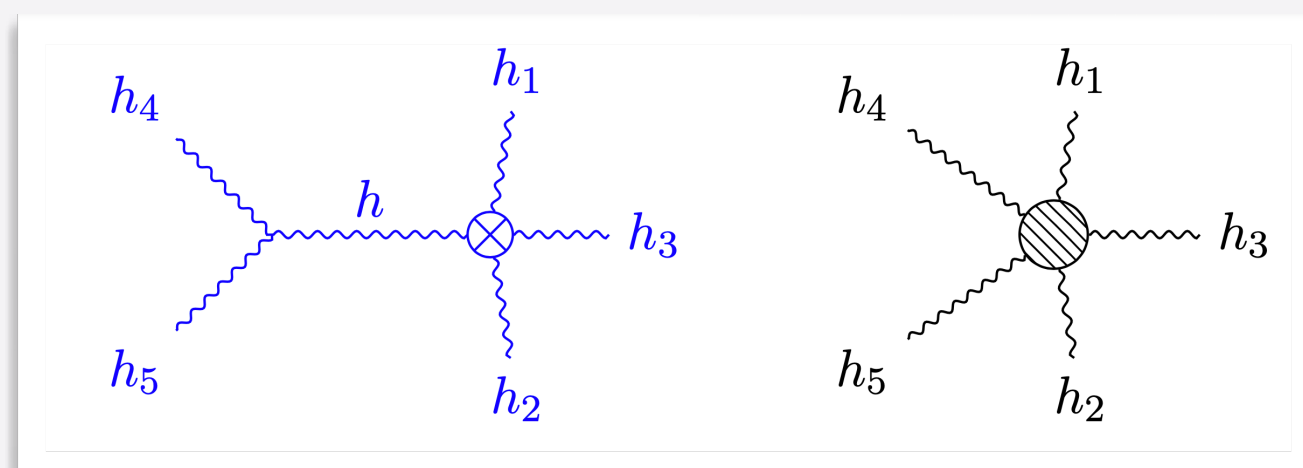
String scattering and pole subtraction in the NSNS-sector — Part 1

Liu, Minasian, Savelli, **AS**: 2507.07934

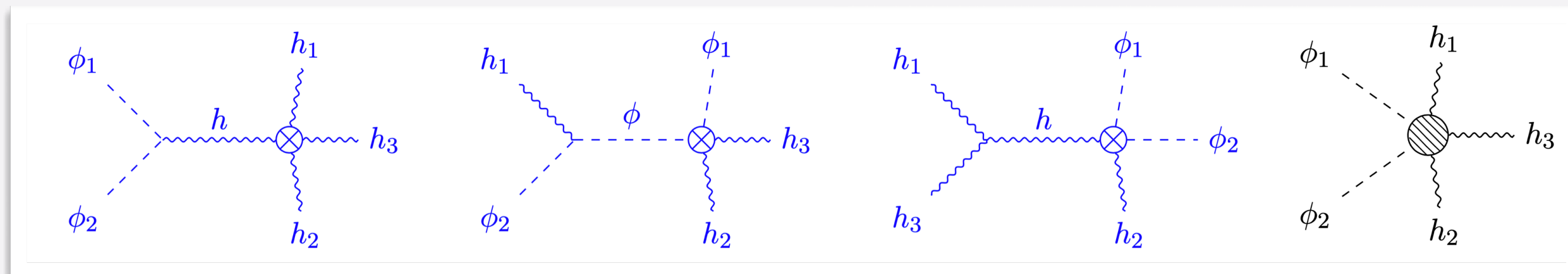
Five-point scattering for **dilatons** ϕ and **gravitons** h

For odd number of ϕ , no pole subtraction

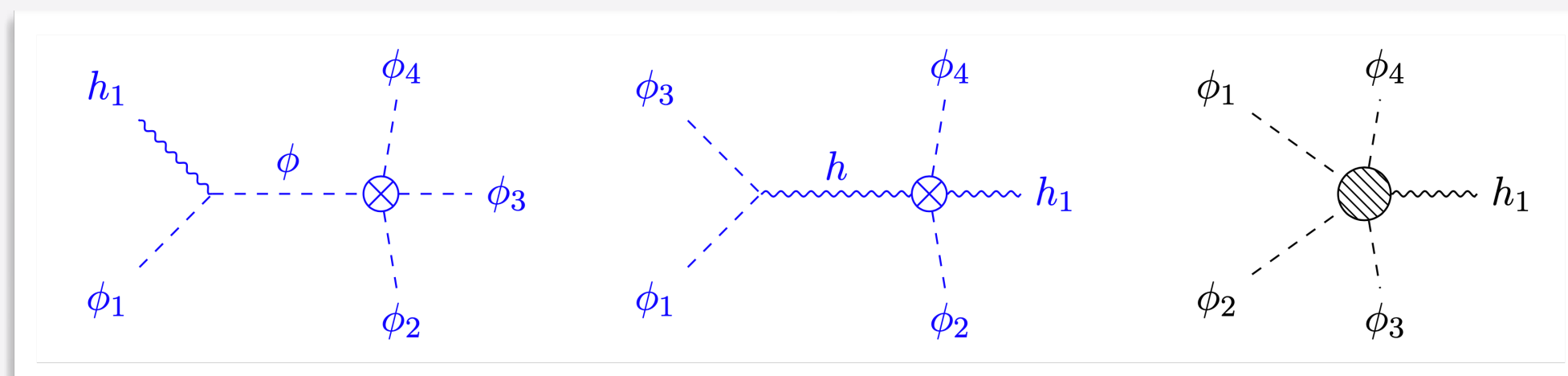
h^5



$\phi^2 h^3$



$\phi^4 h$



Five-point scattering amplitudes obtained from

- Tree level: Eq. (3.2) in [Sannan [PRD34 \(1986\) 1749](#)]
- 1-loop: Eq. (5.26) in [Richards [0807.2421](#)]

The scalar-graviton sector at five points

String scattering and pole subtraction in the NSNS-sector — Part 2

Contact terms **after pole subtraction** (schematically)

	Tree	Loop
h^5	$(t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) R^4 _{5 \text{ pts}}$	
ϕh^4	$-\frac{3\phi}{2} (t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) R^4$	$\frac{\phi}{2} (t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) R^4$
$\phi^2 h^3$	$(t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) (6R^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^2 _{5 \text{ pts}} + 4R^3 [\frac{3}{4} \delta_\mu^\nu (\partial_\sigma \phi) (\partial^\lambda \phi) - \frac{1}{24} \delta_\mu^\nu \delta_\sigma^\lambda (\partial \phi)^2])$	
$\phi^3 h^2$	$-\frac{3\phi}{2} (t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{36} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) 6R^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^2$	$\frac{\phi}{2} (t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{36} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) 6R^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^2$
$\phi^4 h$	$96((\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \phi)^2)^2 _{5 \text{ pts}} + 24R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} (\nabla_\mu \nabla_\rho \phi \nabla_\nu \nabla_\sigma \phi (\partial \phi)^2 - 4 \nabla_\mu \nabla_\alpha \phi \nabla_\rho \nabla^\alpha \phi \partial_\nu \phi \partial_\sigma \phi)$	
ϕ^5	$-\frac{3\phi}{2} 96((\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \phi)^2)^2 + \frac{4}{75} \phi \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^4$	$\frac{\phi}{2} 96((\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \phi)^2)^2 - \frac{4}{225} \phi \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^4$

The scalar-graviton sector at five points

String scattering and pole subtraction in the NSNS-sector — Part 2

Contact terms **after pole subtraction** (schematically)

	Tree	$e^{-3\phi/2} R^4 \rightarrow R^4 \left(1 - \frac{3}{2}\phi + \dots\right)$
h^5	$(t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) R^4 _{5 \text{ pts}}$	
ϕh^4	$-\frac{3\phi}{2} (t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) R^4$	$\frac{\phi}{2} (t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) R^4$
$\phi^2 h^3$	$(t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) (6R^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^2 _{5 \text{ pts}} + 4R^3 [\frac{3}{4} \delta_\mu^\nu (\partial_\sigma \phi) (\partial^\lambda \phi) - \frac{1}{24} \delta_\mu^\nu \delta_\sigma^\lambda (\partial \phi)^2])$	
$\phi^3 h^2$	$-\frac{3\phi}{2} (t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{36} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) 6R^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^2$	$\frac{\phi}{2} (t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{36} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) 6R^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^2$
$\phi^4 h$	$96((\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \phi)^2)^2 _{5 \text{ pts}} + 24R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} (\nabla_\mu \nabla_\rho \phi \nabla_\nu \nabla_\sigma \phi (\partial \phi)^2 - 4\nabla_\mu \nabla_\alpha \phi \nabla_\rho \nabla^\alpha \phi \partial_\nu \phi \partial_\sigma \phi)$	
ϕ^5	$-\frac{3\phi}{2} 96((\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \phi)^2)^2 + \frac{4}{75} \phi \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^4$	$\frac{\phi}{2} 96((\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \phi)^2)^2 - \frac{4}{225} \phi \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^4$

BUT some terms arise from **4-point function** to non-linear order in the perturbations...

The scalar-graviton sector at five points

String scattering and pole subtraction in the NSNS-sector — Part 3

Contact terms **after subtracting 4-point function**

	Tree	Loop
h^5	0	
ϕh^4	0	0
$\phi^2 h^3$	$(t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) 4R^3 [\frac{3}{4} \delta_\mu^\nu (\partial_\sigma \phi) (\partial^\lambda \phi) - \frac{1}{24} \delta_\mu^\nu \delta_\sigma^\lambda (\partial \phi)^2]$	
$\phi^3 h^2$	$2\epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 (\partial \phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)$	$-\frac{2}{3} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 (\partial \phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)$
$\phi^4 h$	$24R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} (\nabla_\mu \nabla_\rho \phi \nabla_\nu \nabla_\sigma \phi (\partial \phi)^2 - 4\nabla_\mu \nabla_\alpha \phi \nabla_\rho \nabla^\alpha \phi \partial_\nu \phi \partial_\sigma \phi)$	
ϕ^5	$-\frac{4}{75} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\partial \phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^3$	$\frac{4}{225} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\partial \phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^3$

The scalar-graviton sector at five points

String scattering and pole subtraction in the NSNS-sector — Part 3

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	Tree	Loop
h^5		0
ϕh^4	0	0
$\phi^2 h^3$	$(t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) 4R^3 [\frac{3}{4} \delta_\mu^\nu (\partial_\sigma \phi) (\partial^\lambda \phi) - \frac{1}{24} \delta_\mu^\nu \delta_\sigma^\lambda (\partial \phi)^2]$	
$\phi^3 h^2$	$2\epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 (\partial \phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)$	$-\frac{2}{3} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 (\partial \phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)$
$\phi^4 h$	$24R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} (\nabla_\mu \nabla_\rho \phi \nabla_\nu \nabla_\sigma \phi (\partial \phi)^2 - 4\nabla_\mu \nabla_\alpha \phi \nabla_\rho \nabla^\alpha \phi \partial_\nu \phi \partial_\sigma \phi)$	
ϕ^5	$-\frac{4}{75} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\partial \phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^3$	$\frac{4}{225} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\partial \phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^3$

Tree level terms match T-duality
results of [Garousi 2012.15091].

The scalar-graviton sector at five points

String scattering and pole subtraction in the NSNS-sector — Part 3

Contact terms **after subtracting 4-point function**

	Tree	Loop
h^5	Kinematic structures factorises at tree level and 1-loop!	
ϕh^4		0
$\phi^2 h^3$	$(t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) 4R^3 [\frac{3}{4} \delta_\mu^\nu (\partial_\sigma \phi) (\partial^\lambda \phi) - \frac{1}{24} \delta_\mu^\nu \delta_\sigma^\lambda (\partial \phi)^2]$	
$\phi^3 h^2$	$2\epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 (\partial \phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)$	$-\frac{2}{3} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 (\partial \phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)$
$\phi^4 h$	$24 R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} (\nabla_\mu \nabla_\rho \phi \nabla_\nu \nabla_\sigma \phi (\partial \phi)^2 - 4 \nabla_\mu \nabla_\alpha \phi \nabla_\rho \nabla^\alpha \phi \partial_\nu \phi \partial_\sigma \phi)$	
ϕ^5	$-\frac{4}{75} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\partial \phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^3$	$\frac{4}{225} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\partial \phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^3$

Tree level terms match T-duality
results of [Garousi 2012.15091].

The scalar-graviton sector at five points

Towards modular completions

RESULTS CONSISTENT WITH $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ UPON $\partial\phi \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$, $\partial\partial\phi \rightarrow \nabla \mathcal{P}$?

Even #dilaton $\rightarrow$ U(1)-preserving $\Rightarrow (\partial\phi)^2 R^3 \rightarrow |\mathcal{P}|^2 R^3$

Odd #dilaton $\rightarrow$ MUV $\Rightarrow (\partial\phi)^2 (\partial\partial\phi) R^2 \rightarrow |\mathcal{P}|^2 \nabla \mathcal{P} R^3 + \dots$

$$\tau = \chi + ie^{-\phi} , \quad \mathcal{P}_m = \frac{i}{2\text{Im}(\tau)} \nabla_m \tau$$

The scalar-graviton sector at five points

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	Tree	Loop
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$\phi^3 h^2$	$2\epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 (\partial\phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)$	$-\frac{2}{3} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 (\partial\phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)$
$\phi^4 h$	$24R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} (\nabla_\mu \nabla_\rho \phi \nabla_\nu \nabla_\sigma \phi (\partial\phi)^2 - 4\nabla_\mu \nabla_\alpha \phi \nabla_\rho \nabla^\alpha \phi \partial_\nu \phi \partial_\sigma \phi)$	
ϕ^5	$-\frac{4}{75} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\partial\phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^3$	$\frac{4}{225} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\partial\phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^3$

Even dilaton couplings

$$\frac{\text{tree}}{\text{loop}} = 1 \Rightarrow f_0(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = a_T + a_L + \dots$$

$$f_w(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = a_T + \frac{a_L}{1 - 4w^2} + \mathcal{O}(e^{-\text{Im}(\tau)})$$

$$a_T = 2\zeta(3) e^{-3\phi/2} , \quad a_L = \frac{2\pi^2}{3} e^{\phi/2}$$

The scalar-graviton sector at five points

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$$\tau = \chi + ie^{-\phi} , \quad \mathcal{P}_m = \frac{i}{2\text{Im}(\tau)} \nabla_m \tau$$

	Tree	Loop
$\phi^2 h^3$	$(t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) 4R^3 [\frac{3}{4} \delta_\mu^\nu (\partial_\sigma \phi) (\partial^\lambda \phi) - \frac{1}{24} \delta_\mu^\nu \delta_\sigma^\lambda (\partial\phi)^2]$	
$\phi^3 h^2$	$2\epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 (\partial\phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)$	$-\frac{2}{3} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 (\partial\phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)$
$\phi^4 h$	$24R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} (\nabla_\mu \nabla_\rho \phi \nabla_\nu \nabla_\sigma \phi (\partial\phi)^2 - 4\nabla_\mu \nabla_\alpha \phi \nabla_\rho \nabla^\alpha \phi \partial_\nu \phi \partial_\sigma \phi)$	
ϕ^5	$-\frac{4}{75} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\partial\phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^3$	$\frac{4}{225} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\partial\phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^3$

Even dilaton couplings

$$\frac{\text{tree}}{\text{loop}} = 1 \Rightarrow f_0(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = a_T + a_L + \dots$$

Odd dilaton couplings

$$\frac{\text{tree}}{\text{loop}} = -3 \Rightarrow f_{\pm 1}(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = a_T - \frac{a_L}{3} + \dots$$

$$f_w(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = a_T + \frac{a_L}{1 - 4w^2} + \mathcal{O}(e^{-\text{Im}(\tau)})$$

$$a_T = 2\zeta(3) e^{-3\phi/2}, \quad a_L = \frac{2\pi^2}{3} e^{\phi/2}$$

The scalar-graviton sector at five points

RR-sector couplings at five points

Liu, Minasian, Savelli, **AS**: 2507.07934

To fully determine the $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ invariant action, we need additional information about the RR-sector!

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RR-sector couplings at five points

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To fully determine the $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ invariant action, we need additional information about the RR-sector!

We work in **pure spinor formalism** [Berkovits hep-th/0001035] and repeat process from above (pole subtraction etc.) ...

We compute closed tree amplitudes for RR zero-form χ by using **KLT relations** [Kawai et al. 1988]

closed tree amplitudes $\Leftrightarrow$ combination of open tree amplitudes

In the limit $\alpha' \rightarrow 0$, this implies

SUGRA amplitudes $\mathcal{A}_{SUGRA} \Leftrightarrow$ "square" of SYM amplitudes $\mathcal{A}_{SYM}$

$$\mathcal{A}_{SUGRA} = \mathcal{A}_{SYM} \cdot S_{KLT} \cdot \widetilde{\mathcal{A}}_{SYM}$$

We obtain $\mathcal{A}_{SYM}$ from database of open string amplitudes: <https://tools.aei.mpg.de/purespinor/pss.html>

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Liu, Minasian, Savelli, **AS**: 2507.07934

Let us look at amplitudes with **two axion insertions** χ^2

	Tree
$\chi^2 h^3$	$(t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) 4R^3 \left[\frac{3}{4} \delta_\mu^\nu (\partial_\sigma \chi) (\partial^\lambda \chi) - \frac{1}{24} \delta_\mu^\nu \delta_\sigma^\lambda (\partial \chi)^2 \right]$

	Tree	Loop
$\phi^2 h^3$	$(t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) 4R^3 \left[\frac{3}{4} \delta_\mu^\nu (\partial_\sigma \phi) (\partial^\lambda \phi) - \frac{1}{24} \delta_\mu^\nu \delta_\sigma^\lambda (\partial \phi)^2 \right]$	

MATCH EXACTLY!

The contribution in the Lagrangian is given by

$$\mathcal{L}^{(3)} \supset f_0(\tau, \bar{\tau}) \left(t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 \right) R^3 \left[3 \delta_\mu^\nu \mathcal{P}_\sigma \overline{\mathcal{P}}^\lambda - \frac{1}{6} \delta_\mu^\nu \delta_\sigma^\lambda \left| \mathcal{P} \right|^2 \right]$$

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	Tree	Loop
$\phi^2 h^3$	$(t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) 4R^3 \left[\frac{3}{4} \delta_\mu^\nu (\partial_\sigma \phi) (\partial^\lambda \phi) - \frac{1}{24} \delta_\mu^\nu \delta_\sigma^\lambda (\partial \phi)^2 \right]$	

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Consistent with $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SUSY in **four dimensions!**

[BBHL hep-th/0204254, Bonetti et al. 1608.01300]

The scalar-graviton sector at five points

RR-sector couplings at five points

Liu, Minasian, Savelli, **AS**: 2507.07934

Let us look at amplitudes with **two axion insertions** χ^2

	Tree
$\chi^2 h^3$	$(t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) 4R^3 [\frac{3}{4} \delta_\mu^\nu (\partial_\sigma \chi) (\partial^\lambda \chi) - \frac{1}{24} \delta_\mu^\nu \delta_\sigma^\lambda (\partial \chi)^2]$
$\chi^2 \phi h^2$	$-2\phi \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 (\nabla \nabla \chi)^2 + \frac{3}{20} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 ((\delta \delta \partial \chi \cdot \partial \chi) (\nabla \nabla \phi) - (\delta \delta \partial \chi \cdot \partial \phi) (\nabla \nabla \chi))$

	Tree
$\phi^2 h^3$	$(t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) 4R^3$
$\phi^3 h^2$	$-2\phi \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^2$

The $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ -completed expression is

$$\mathcal{L}^{(3)} \supset f_1(\tau, \bar{\tau}) \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 \left[-\delta |\mathcal{P}|^2 (\nabla \mathcal{P}) - (\delta \mathcal{P}^2) (\nabla \bar{\mathcal{P}}) + \frac{3}{40} \{ (\delta \delta \mathcal{P}_\alpha \bar{\mathcal{P}}^\alpha) (\nabla \mathcal{P}) - (\delta \delta \mathcal{P}_\alpha \mathcal{P}^\alpha) (\nabla \bar{\mathcal{P}}) \} \right] + \text{c.c.}$$

The scalar-graviton sector at five points

RR-sector couplings at five points

Liu, Minasian, Savelli, **AS**: 2507.07934

Let us look at amplitudes with **two axion insertions** χ^2

	Tree
$\chi^2 h^3$	$(t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) 4R^3 \left[\frac{3}{4} \delta_\mu^\nu (\partial_\sigma \chi) (\partial^\lambda \chi) - \frac{1}{24} \delta_\mu^\nu \delta_\sigma^\lambda (\partial \chi)^2 \right]$
$\chi^2 \phi h^2$	$-2\phi \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 (\nabla \nabla \chi)^2 + \frac{3}{20} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 ((\delta \delta \partial \chi \cdot \partial \chi) (\nabla \nabla \phi) - (\delta \delta \partial \chi \cdot \partial \phi) (\nabla \nabla \chi))$

	Tree
$\phi^2 h^3$	$(t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) 4R^3$
$\phi^3 h^2$	$-2\phi \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^2$

“Funny kinematics!”

The $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ -completed expression is

$$\mathcal{L}^{(3)} \supset f_1(\tau, \bar{\tau}) \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 \left[-\delta |\mathcal{P}|^2 (\nabla \mathcal{P}) - (\delta \mathcal{P}^2) (\nabla \bar{\mathcal{P}}) + \frac{3}{40} \{ (\delta \delta \mathcal{P}_\alpha \bar{\mathcal{P}}^\alpha) (\nabla \mathcal{P}) - (\delta \delta \mathcal{P}_\alpha \mathcal{P}^\alpha) (\nabla \bar{\mathcal{P}}) \} \right] + \text{c.c.}$$

In particular, there are terms that **vanish in the pure NSNS-sector**:

$$(\delta \delta \mathcal{P}_\alpha \bar{\mathcal{P}}^\alpha) (\nabla \mathcal{P}) - (\delta \delta \mathcal{P}_\alpha \mathcal{P}^\alpha) (\nabla \bar{\mathcal{P}}) \sim (\delta \delta \partial \chi \cdot \partial \chi) (\nabla \nabla \phi) - (\delta \delta \partial \chi \cdot \partial \phi) (\nabla \nabla \chi)$$

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RR-sector couplings at five points

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Remaining 2-axion couplings...

$$\chi^2 \phi^2 h$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\chi^2 \phi^2 h}^{\text{tree}} = & 96 \left[4(\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \phi \nabla^\mu \nabla^\nu \chi)^2 - 2(\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \phi)^2 (\nabla_\sigma \nabla_\rho \chi)^2 \right]_{5\text{pt}} \\ & + 24 R^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \left[-4(\nabla_\mu \nabla^\alpha \phi)(\nabla_\sigma \nabla_\alpha \phi)(\nabla_\nu \chi)(\nabla_\rho \chi) - 4(\nabla_\mu \nabla^\alpha \chi)(\nabla_\sigma \nabla_\alpha \chi)(\nabla_\nu \phi)(\nabla_\rho \phi) \right. \\ & + 8(\nabla_\mu \nabla^\alpha \phi)(\nabla_\sigma \nabla_\alpha \chi)(\nabla_\nu \phi)(\nabla_\rho \chi) - 8(\nabla_\mu \nabla^\alpha \phi)(\nabla_\sigma \nabla_\alpha \chi)(\nabla_\nu \chi)(\nabla_\rho \phi) \\ & + 24(\nabla_\mu \nabla^\alpha \phi)(\nabla_\nu \nabla_\alpha \chi)(\partial_\sigma \phi)(\partial_\rho \chi) - 24(\nabla_\mu \nabla^\alpha \phi)(\nabla_\nu \nabla_\alpha \chi)(\partial_\sigma \chi)(\partial_\rho \phi) \\ & - 19(\nabla_\mu \nabla_\sigma \phi)(\nabla_\nu \nabla_\rho \phi)(\partial \chi)^2 - 19(\nabla_\mu \nabla_\sigma \chi)(\nabla_\nu \nabla_\rho \chi)(\partial \phi)^2 \\ & \left. + 40(\nabla_\mu \nabla_\sigma \phi)(\nabla_\nu \nabla_\rho \chi)(\partial^\alpha \phi)(\partial^\alpha \chi) \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\chi^2 \phi^3}^{\text{tree}} = & 96 \left[\frac{\phi}{2} (4(\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \phi \nabla^\mu \nabla^\nu \chi)^2 - 2(\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \phi)^2 (\nabla_\sigma \nabla_\rho \chi)^2) \right. \\ & + 8(\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \phi \nabla^\mu \nabla^\nu \chi)(\nabla_\sigma \nabla_\rho \phi \partial^\sigma \phi \partial^\rho \chi) - 4(\nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu \phi)^2 (\nabla_\sigma \nabla_\rho \chi \partial^\sigma \phi \partial^\rho \chi) \left. \right] \\ & + \frac{8}{75} \phi \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^2 (\nabla \nabla \chi) + \frac{4}{175} \left(3 \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 \nabla \nabla \phi (\nabla \nabla \chi)^2 (\delta \delta (\partial \phi)^2) \right. \\ & \left. - 4 \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^2 \nabla \nabla \chi (\delta \delta (\partial \phi) (\partial \chi)) + \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\nabla \nabla \phi)^3 (\delta \delta (\partial \chi)^2) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\chi^2 \phi^3$$

The scalar-graviton sector at five points

RR-sector completion — Summary

Liu, Minasian, Savelli, **AS**: 2507.07934

To summarise, the full action is given by

$$\mathcal{L}^{(5)} = \alpha f_0(\tau, \bar{\tau}) [\mathcal{L}_{2 \text{ scalars}} + \mathcal{L}_{4 \text{ scalars}}] + \alpha f_1(\tau, \bar{\tau}) [\mathcal{L}_{3 \text{ scalars}} + \mathcal{L}_{5 \text{ scalars}}] + \text{h.c.}$$

where the **even-scalar** contributions are

$$\mathcal{L}_{2 \text{ scalars}} = (t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8) R^3 \left(12 \delta \mathcal{P} \bar{\mathcal{P}} - \frac{2}{3} \delta \delta \left| \mathcal{P} \right|^2 \right)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{4 \text{ scalars}} = 384 R^{\mu\nu\sigma\rho} \left(5 (\nabla_\mu \bar{\mathcal{P}}_\sigma) (\nabla_\nu \bar{\mathcal{P}}_\rho) \mathcal{P}^2 + (\nabla_\mu \mathcal{P}_\sigma) [5 (\nabla_\nu \mathcal{P}_\rho) \bar{\mathcal{P}}^2 - 9 (\nabla_\nu \bar{\mathcal{P}}_\rho) \left| \mathcal{P} \right|^2] + \dots \right)$$

and the **odd-scalar** interactions are

$$\mathcal{L}_{3 \text{ scalars}} = \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 R^2 \left[8 (\nabla \mathcal{P}) (\delta \mathcal{P} \bar{\mathcal{P}}) + \frac{3}{10} \left((\nabla \mathcal{P}) (\delta \delta \mathcal{P} \cdot \bar{\mathcal{P}}) - (\nabla \bar{\mathcal{P}}) (\delta \delta \mathcal{P} \cdot \mathcal{P}) \right) \right]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{5 \text{ scalars}} = \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 (\nabla \mathcal{P}) \left[-\frac{64}{75} (\nabla \mathcal{P})^2 (\delta \bar{\mathcal{P}}^2) + \frac{16}{175} \left\{ -3 (\nabla \mathcal{P})^2 (\delta \delta \bar{\mathcal{P}}^2) + 2 \nabla \mathcal{P}^2 \delta \delta \left| \mathcal{P} \right|^2 + (\nabla \bar{\mathcal{P}})^2 (\delta \delta \mathcal{P}^2) \right\} \right]$$

M-theory vs. Type IIA vs. Type IIB

Dilaton? What Dilaton?

Liu, Minasian, Savelli, **AS**: 2507.07934

In the pure NSNS sector, the tree-level $(\alpha')^3$ action of Type II can be written without explicit dilaton couplings in string frame.

σ -model [Tseytlin hep-th/0612296] T-duality [Garousi 2012.15091]

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This is **not true** anymore in the mixed NSNS/RR-sector.

This has led to some confusion and potential inconsistencies in the duality web (IIB $\leftrightarrow$ IIA $\leftrightarrow$ M-theory) already at the 4-point function level, see in particular [Wulff et al. [2506.16391](#)]

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We show that there are no such inconsistencies

- by computing missing RR-sector 4-point couplings in Type IIA, and
- after carefully applying field redefinitions.

M-theory vs. Type IIA vs. Type IIB

Duality web for scalar couplings

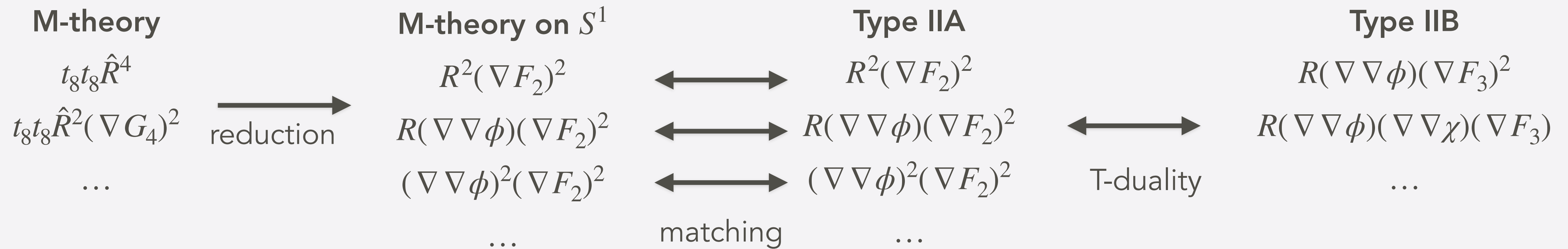
Liu, Minasian, Savelli, **AS**: 2507.07934

M-theory		M-theory on S^1
$t_8 t_8 \hat{R}^4$		$R^2 (\nabla F_2)^2$
$t_8 t_8 \hat{R}^2 (\nabla G_4)^2$	$\xrightarrow{\text{reduction}}$	$R (\nabla \nabla \phi) (\nabla F_2)^2$
$\dots$		$(\nabla \nabla \phi)^2 (\nabla F_2)^2$
		$\dots$

M-theory vs. Type IIA vs. Type IIB

Duality web for scalar couplings

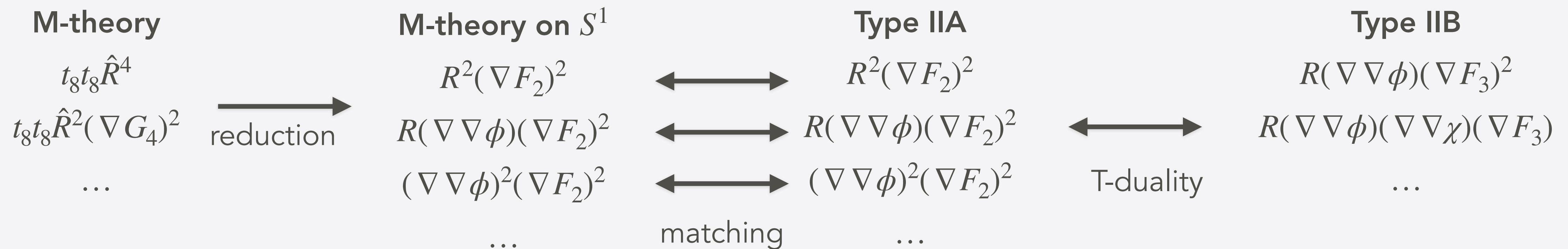
Liu, Minasian, Savelli, **AS**: 2507.07934



M-theory vs. Type IIA vs. Type IIB

Duality web for scalar couplings

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4-point effective actions in Type II

[Policastro, Tsimpis hep-th/0603165]

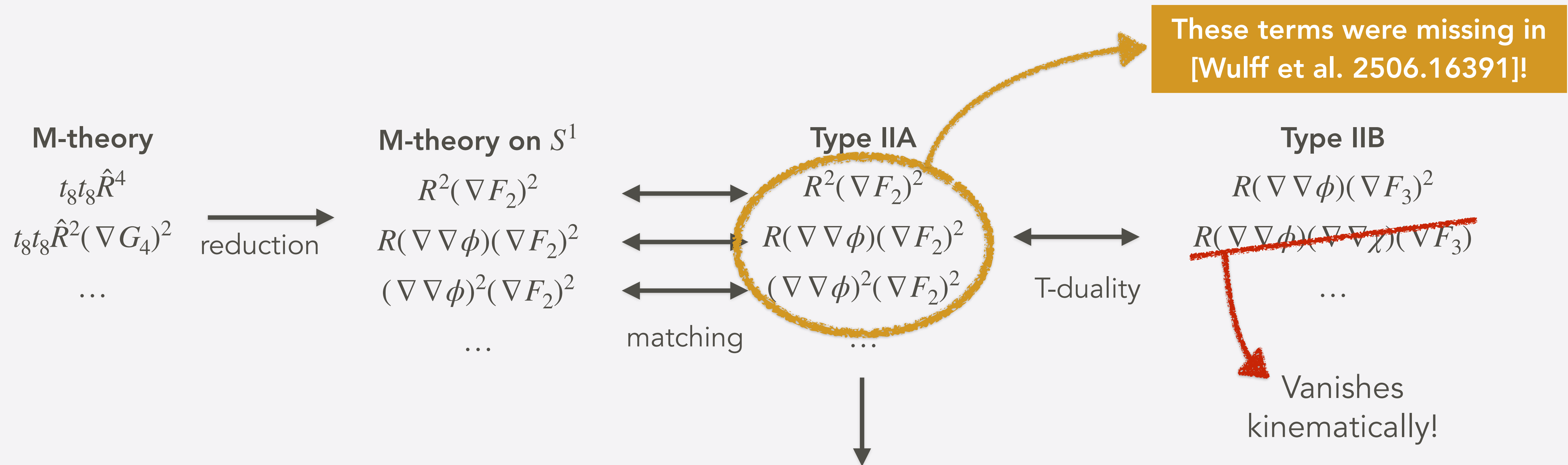
[Liu, Minasian 1304.3137, 1912.10974]

We computed the tree/one-loop 4-point amplitudes $h^2 F_2^2$, $h \phi F_2^2$, $\phi^2 F_2^2$ directly!

M-theory vs. Type IIA vs. Type IIB

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Conclusions

We provided an incomplete list of $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$ -invariant contact terms from 5-point scattering such as $G_3^2 R^3$ or $|\mathcal{P}|^2 (\nabla \mathcal{P}) R^2 \dots$

- Computed RR-couplings that **cannot be unambiguously** inferred from just the NSNS-sector
- Found expected matching of tree/one-loop kinematics for scalars (**special at 5-points**)
- Proved **consistency with T-duality** and circle reductions of **M-theory**

... but a more systematic approach is required to determine the structure of couplings from amplitudes with $P > 5$ points

Thank you!



CY compactifications

K3 reductions to 6 dimensions

[Liu, Minasian, Savelli, **AS**: [2205.11530](#)]

$$\mathcal{L} = f_0 t_{16} R^4 + f_0 [T(t_8, \epsilon_{10}) - t_{18}] |G_3|^2 R^3 + \frac{3}{2} (f_1 t_{18} G_3^2 R^3 + f_{-1} t_{18} \bar{G}_3^2 R^3) \quad T(t_8, \epsilon_{10}) = 2 t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 - \frac{1}{3} \epsilon_9 \epsilon_9$$

We extend results of [Liu, Minasian [1304.3137](#), [1912.10974](#)] to RR-sector by focussing on factorised pieces:

$$\int_{K3} G_3^2 R^3 \supset G_3^2 R \int_{K3} R^2$$

As required by SUSY [Lin et al. [1508.07305](#)], we verify that the 3-point functions $|G_3|^2 R, G_3^2 R$ vanish:

- There is no factorised piece coming from t_{18} :

$$t_{18} |G_3|^2 R^3 = t_{18} G_3^2 R^3 = t_{18} \bar{G}_3^2 R^3 = 0$$

- The kinematics from generalised geometry cancels

$$\left(2t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 \right) |G_3|^2 R^3 = 0$$

- After integrating by parts and using the Bianchi identity (ignoring the dilaton), one arrives at

$$-\frac{1}{3} \epsilon_9 \epsilon_9 |G_3|^2 R^3 + 6 \left(t_8 t_8 - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_8 \epsilon_8 \right) |\nabla G_3|^2 R^2 = 0$$

TESTS ONLY ODD-ODD SECTOR COUPLINGS LIKE $\epsilon_9 \epsilon_9$ AND $\epsilon_8 \epsilon_8$ TO WHICH CY THREEFOLD REDUCTIONS ARE INSENSITIVE TO!

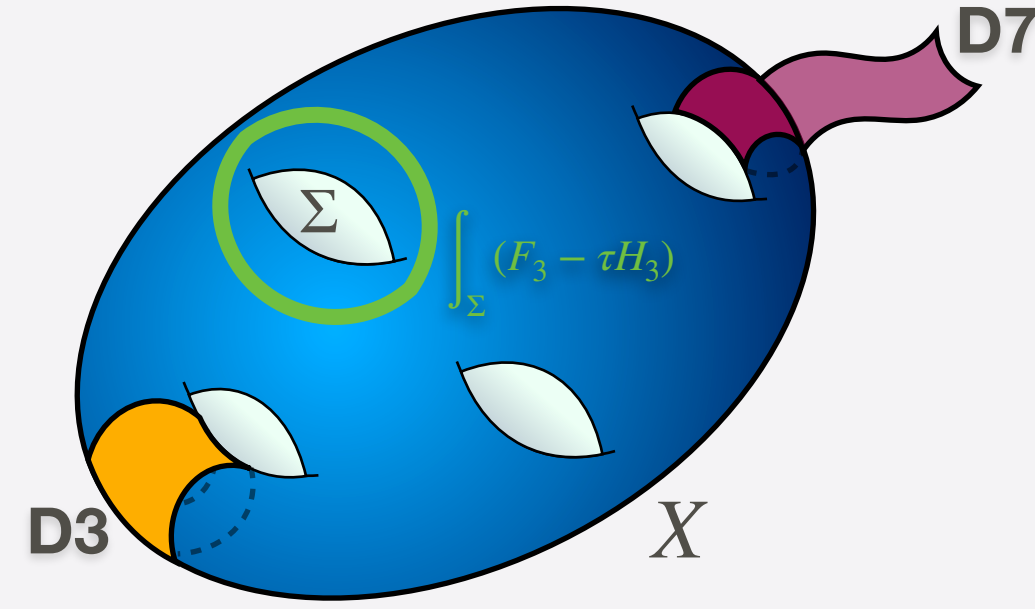
CY compactifications

Kinetic terms for B_2/C_2 -axions

We also derived 4D kinetic terms, but issues remain! At NSNS tree level, we trivially agree with [\[Grimm et al.: 1702.08404\]](#).

CY3 reductions to 4 dimensions

[\[Liu, Minasian, Savelli, AS: 2205.11530\]](#)



From reducing $f_0 t_{16} R^4$, we can identify the correction to the Kähler potential [\[Antoniadis et al. hep-th/9707013\]](#)

$$K = K^{(0)} - 2 \log \left[\mathcal{V} + \frac{\zeta}{4} f_0(\tau, \bar{\tau}) \right], \quad \zeta = -\frac{\chi(X_3)}{2(2\pi)^3}, \quad K^{(0)} = -\log[-i(\tau - \bar{\tau})] - \log \left[-i \int_{X_3} \Omega \wedge \bar{\Omega} \right], \quad W = \int_{X_3} G_3 \wedge \Omega$$

The 4D F-term scalar potential to order $(\alpha')^3$ originating from the reduction of 10D 8-derivative terms reads

$$V_\zeta = \frac{3\zeta e^{K^{(0)}}}{8\mathcal{V}^3} \left[f_0 (|W|^2 - (\tau - \bar{\tau})^2 |D_\tau W|^2) + (\tau - \bar{\tau}) (f_{-1} \bar{W} D_\tau W - f_1 W \bar{D}_\tau \bar{W}) \right]$$

$$V_\zeta = \frac{\zeta e^{K^{(0)}}}{\mathcal{V}^3} \left(-\frac{1}{4} \right) \left[(-6a_T - 2a_L) e^{-2\phi} \int_{X_3} H_3 \wedge \Omega \int_{X_3} H_3 \wedge \bar{\Omega} + (-4a_L) \int_{X_3} F_3 \wedge \Omega \int_{X_3} F_3 \wedge \bar{\Omega} + \dots \right]$$

$f_w(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = a_T + \frac{a_L}{1 - 4w^2} + \mathcal{O}(e^{-\text{Im}(\tau)})$

4D SUSY implies that F_3 flux does not contribute to V_ζ at tree level [\[Becker et al. hep-th/0204254\]](#).

We find that **our results are consistent** with the 4D perspective **provided** (equivalently for $H_3^2 R^3$ as well as $|G_3|^2 R^3, G_3^2 R^3$)

$$\alpha \int_{X_3} \left(t_{18} + \frac{2}{3} \delta_1 \right) F_3^2 R^3 = -\frac{\zeta e^{K^{(0)}}}{4\mathcal{V}^3} \int_{X_3} F_3 \wedge \Omega \int_{X_3} F_3 \wedge \bar{\Omega}$$

Here, δ_1 is a potential backreaction effect entering in the MUV sector. Apart from that, **only the MUV kinematics t_{18} is relevant to determine V_ζ !**