

# *Strings at the LHC*

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## Outline

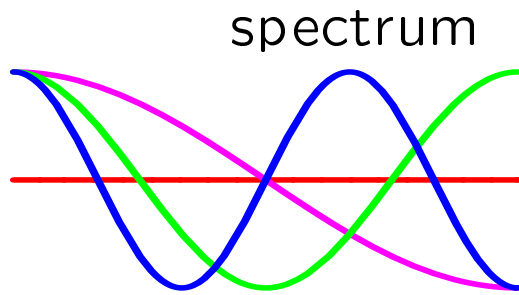
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- (1) (Brief) introduction into string theory and string phenomenology
- (2) (Universal) string quantities relevant for QCD jets
- (3) Physics of large extra dimensions (= low string scale  $M_{\text{string}}$ )
- (4) Jet cross sections and universal string signals and predictions at LHC

## String theory: strings and membranes

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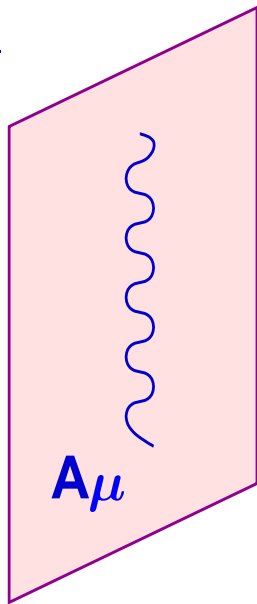
Strings:



spectrum

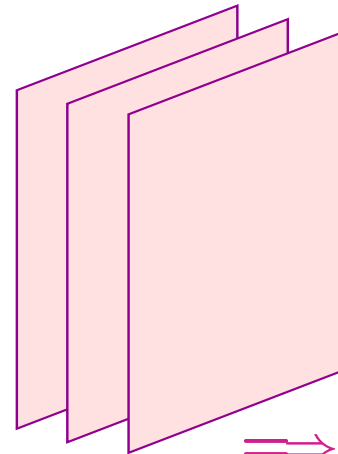
- massless modes  $m = 0$  ,  
(graviton  $G_{mn}$ , gauge field  $A_\mu, \dots$ )
- massive modes  $m \sim M_{\text{string}} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha'}}$

D-branes:



gauge fields live  $A_\mu$  on membrane

$\implies$  gauge interactions localized on membrane



$\implies U(3)$  gauge group

$\hookrightarrow$  A variety of string theories contain gauge theories in their  $\alpha' \rightarrow 0$  limits

## String theory: compactification

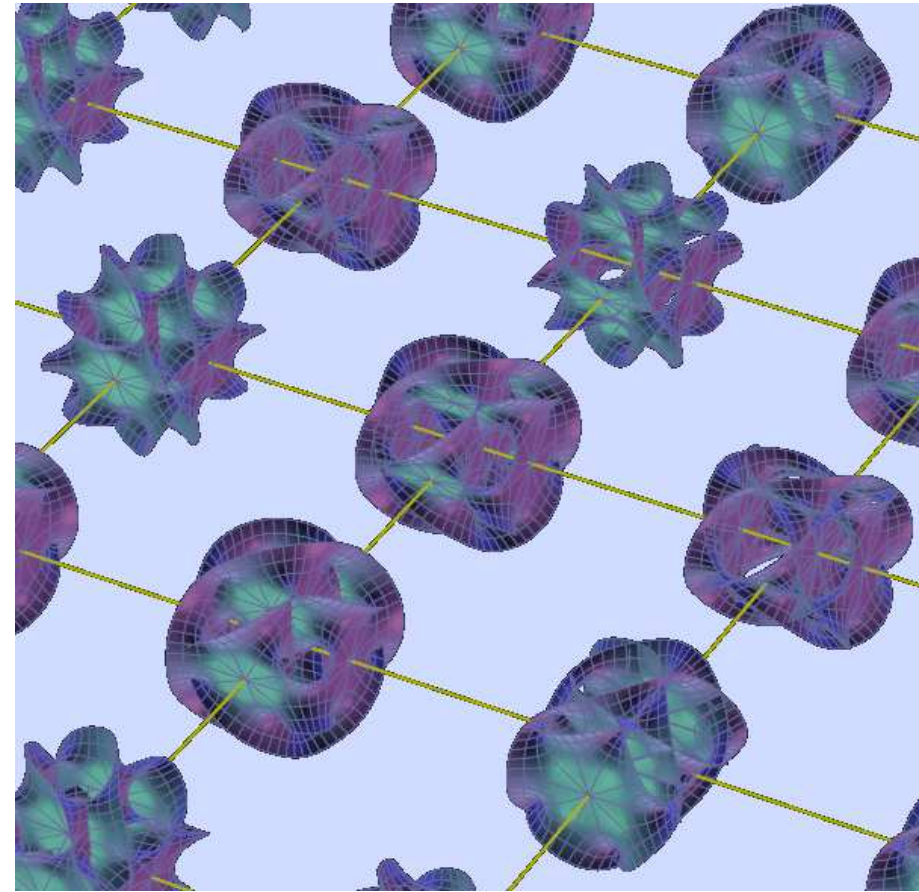
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String theory is only consistent and unique  
in  $D = 10$  space-time dimensions

$\implies$  compactification on manifold  $X_6$

space-time  $M_4 \times X_6$

$$\begin{pmatrix} y^i \\ x^\mu \end{pmatrix}, \quad i = 4, \dots, 9, \quad \mu = 0, \dots, 3$$



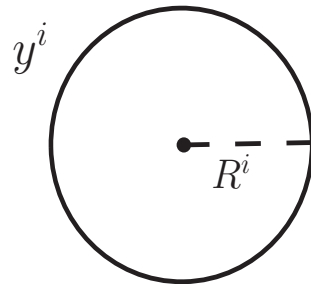
many possible manifolds  $X_6 \implies$  huge number of  $D = 4$  string vacua

## New string states from compactification

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Each compactified coordinate  $y^i$  may be considered as circle of radius  $R^i$

Kaluza–Klein states:



$$y^i \simeq y^i + 2\pi R^i$$

$$\psi(x^\mu, y^i) = e^{ik_\mu x^\mu} e^{ik_i y^i}, \quad k_i \in \frac{n^i}{R^i}, \quad n^i \in \mathbf{Z}$$

$$H = k^2 + m^2 = k_\mu k^\mu + \left(\frac{n^i}{R^i}\right)^2 + m^2$$

Moduli fields: massless scalars  $R^i$  generic to any compactification  $X_6$

## String phenomenology

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In addition to the usual string excitations **new string states** appear:

- Kaluza–Klein states (KK)  $m_{KK} \sim \frac{1}{R}$
- windings states  $m \sim R$
- massless moduli fields (generic to any compactification)  $m \sim 0$

In  $D = 4$  many **new effects** and **problems**: {

- computing particle masses,
- supersymmetry breaking,
- many free parameter (moduli),
- moduli stabilization, . . .

**Standard approach to string phenomenology:**

**investigate properties of vacua, make *model – dependent* predictions**

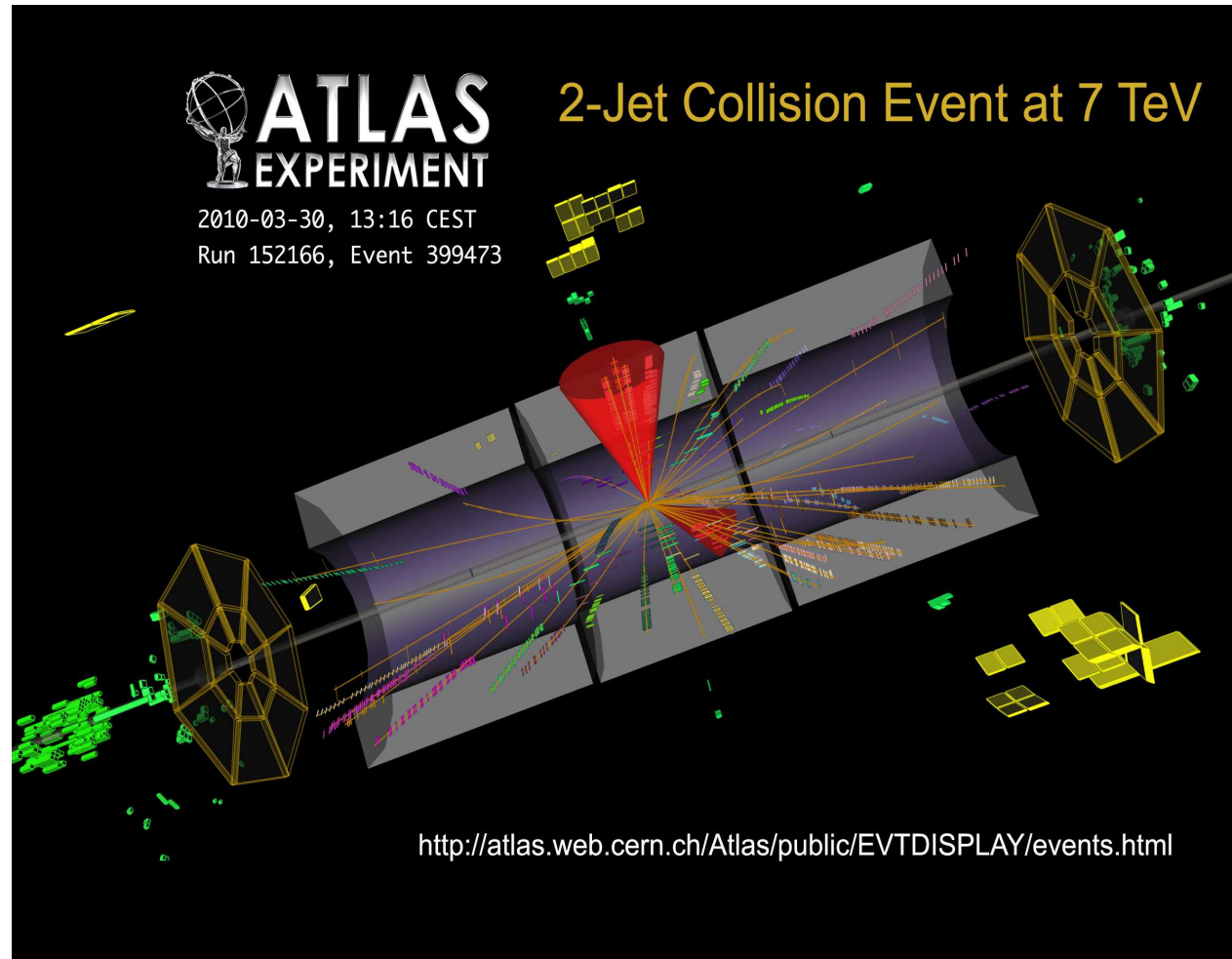
Problem: predictive power of string theory is lost !

## Model-independent string predictions

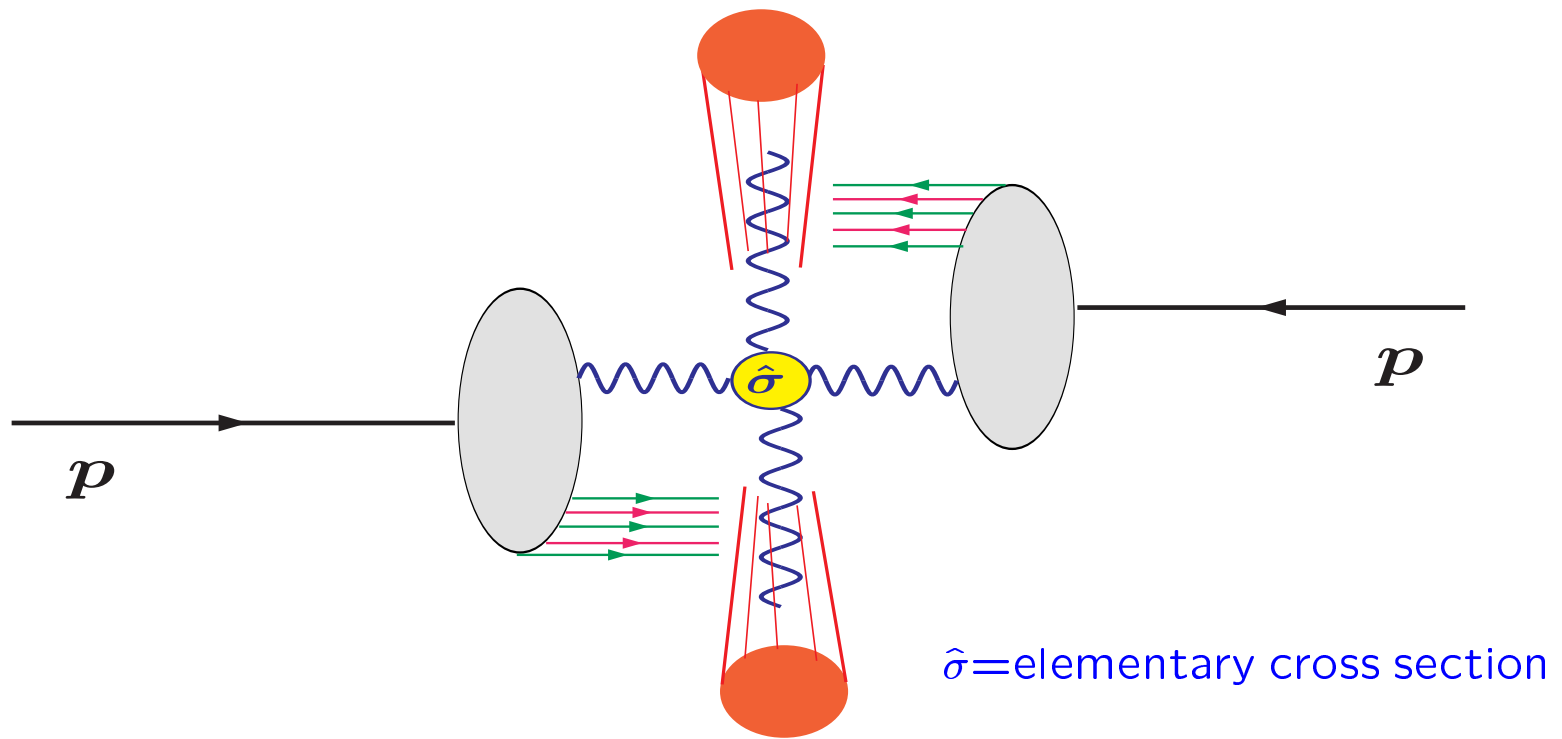
Question:

Can we make **model-independent**  
low-energy **string predictions**  
from parton amplitudes  
in superstring theory ?

String signatures at LHC ?

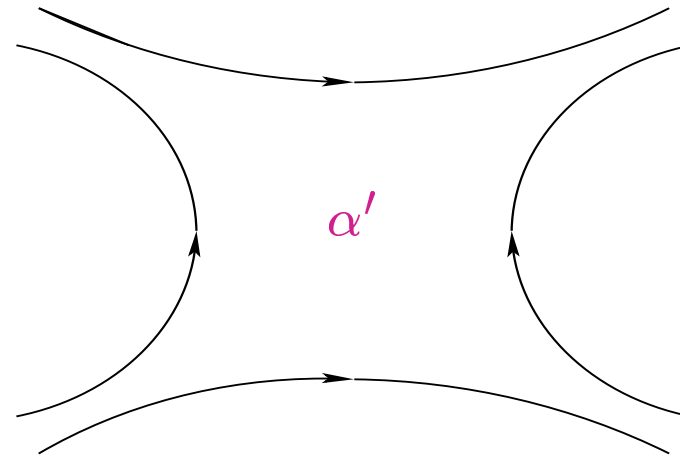
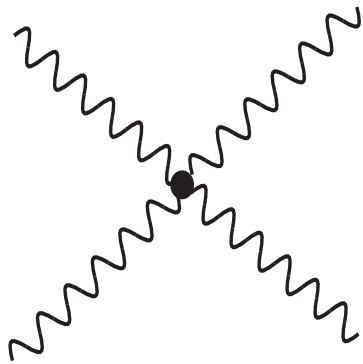


Yes: String theory can make **universal predictions** for QCD jets at LHC !



Parton amplitudes are important for (collider) phenomenology

LHC: Multijet production is dominated by tree-level QCD-scattering



*Feynman 4-vertex in field-theory*

*string world-sheet of four interacting strings*

*Relevant objects:  $N$ -point parton amplitudes in  $D = 4$*

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Task: compute amplitudes  $\hat{\sigma}$  in string theory

$$\left. \begin{aligned} &A(g^{a_1} \dots g^{a_N}) \\ &A(\chi^{a_1} \bar{\chi}^{a_2} g^{a_3} \dots g^{a_N}) \\ &A(\psi^{a_1} \bar{\psi}^{a_2} g^{a_3} \dots g^{a_N}) \\ &A(\phi^{a_1} \bar{\phi}^{a_2} g^{a_3} \dots g^{a_N}) \end{aligned} \right\}$$

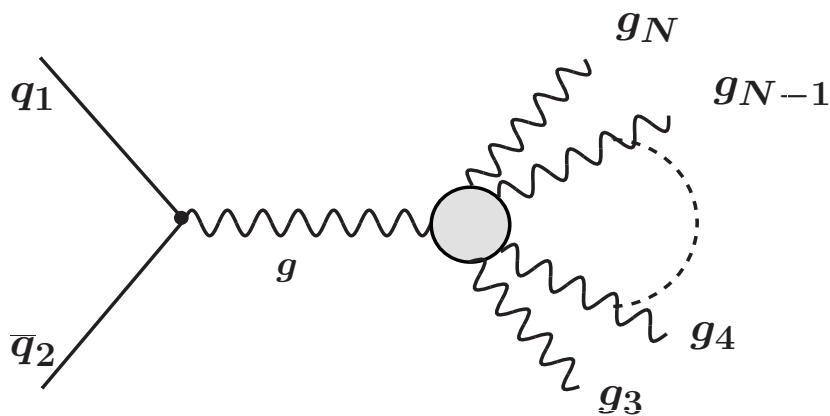
- completely model independent
- for any string compactification
- any number of supersymmetries
- even with broken supersymmetry

$g$ =gluon,  $\chi$ =gaugino,  $\psi$ =fermion,  $\phi$ =scalar

$$\begin{aligned} A_\rho(g_1^-, g_2^-, g_3^+, g_4^+) &= 4 g_{YM}^2 V^{(4)}(\alpha') \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^4}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 41 \rangle} \\ A_\rho(g_1^-, g_2^+, g_3^-, g_4^+) &= 2 g_{YM}^2 V^{(4)}(\alpha') \frac{\langle 13 \rangle^4 \langle 14 \rangle}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 41 \rangle} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
A_\rho(g_1^-, g_2^-, g_3^+, g_4^+, g_5^+) &= i g_{YM}^3 \frac{\langle 12 \rangle^4}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle \langle 51 \rangle} \\
&\times [ V^{(5)}(\alpha') - 2i P^{(5)}(\alpha') \epsilon(1, 2, 3, 4) ] \\
A_\rho(g_1^-, g_2^+, g_3^+, g_4^-, g_5^+) &= 4 g_{YM}^3 \frac{\langle 14 \rangle^4 \langle 15 \rangle}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \langle 34 \rangle \langle 45 \rangle \langle 51 \rangle} \\
&\times [ V^{(5)}(\alpha') - 2i P^{(5)}(\alpha') \epsilon(1, 2, 3, 4) ]
\end{aligned}$$

Lüst, Schlotterer, St.St., Taylor, arXiv:0908.0409

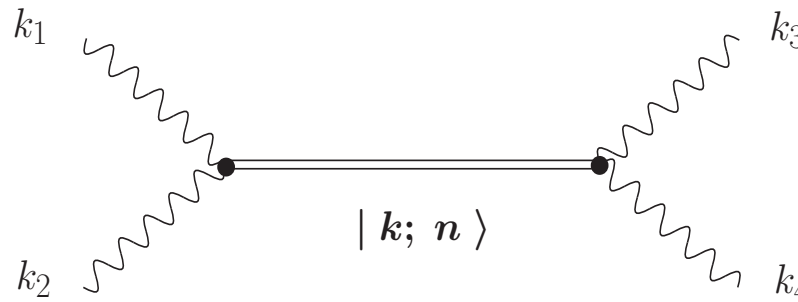


**No intermediate exchange of Kaluza–Klein, winding states nor emission of graviton !**

## Exchange of string Regge excitations of SM particles

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Universal sum over infinite s-channel poles:



s-channel  
 $k = k_1 + k_2$

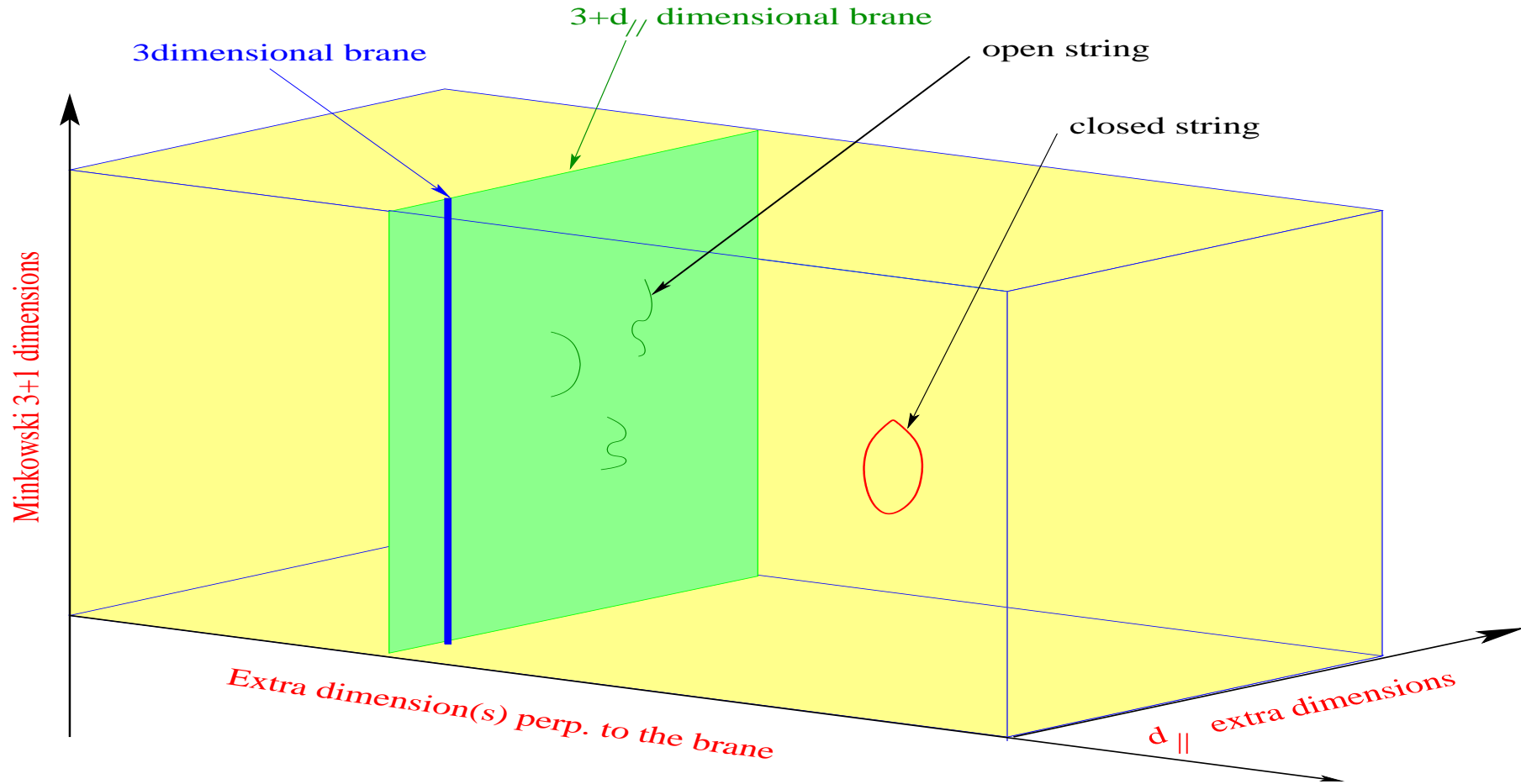
$$\begin{aligned} s &= -2k_1k_2, \\ t &= -2k_1k_3, \\ u &= -2k_1k_4, \\ s + t + u &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$A(k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4; \alpha') \sim \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\gamma(n)}{s - M_n^2} = -\frac{\Gamma(-\alpha's) \Gamma(1 - \alpha'u)}{\Gamma(-\alpha's - \alpha'u)}$$

with  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{intermediate masses: } M_n^2 = M_{\text{string}}^2 n \\ \text{residua: } \gamma(n) = t \frac{(u \alpha', n)}{n!} \end{array} \right.$

$$\gamma(n) = \frac{t}{n!} \prod_{j=1}^n [a(u) + j] \sim (\alpha' u)^n, \quad a(u) = u\alpha' - 1 = \text{Regge trajectory highest possible spin} = n + 1$$

## String compactification with $D_p$ -branes



$$\begin{aligned}
 p + 1 &= 4 + d_{||} , \\
 d_{\perp} &= \text{number of transverse directions} , \\
 d_{||} &= \text{number of longitudinal directions} , \\
 d_{||} + d_{\perp} &= 6
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{10} = M_{\text{string}}^8 \int d^{10}X \sqrt{-g_{10}} R + M_{\text{string}}^{p-3} \int d^{p+1}X \sqrt{-g_{p+1}} F^2$$

$\Downarrow$   
*compactification*

$$\mathcal{L}_4 = \underbrace{M_{\text{string}}^8 \int d^6y \sqrt{g_6}}_{V_6} \underbrace{\int d^4x \sqrt{-g_4} R}_{\text{Einstein}} + \underbrace{M_{\text{string}}^{p-3} \int d^{p-3}x \sqrt{g_{p+1}}}_{V_{p+1-4}} \underbrace{\int d^4x \sqrt{-g_4} F^2}_{\text{Yang-Mills}}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} V_6 = M_{\text{string}}^8 \prod_{j=1}^6 R_j = M_{\text{string}}^8 \prod_{i=1}^{d_{\parallel}} R_i^{\parallel} \prod_{j=1}^{d_{\perp}} R_j^{\perp} \stackrel{!}{=} G_N^{-1} = M_{\text{Planck}}^2 = 8\pi\kappa_4^{-2} \\ V_{p-3} = \prod_{i=1}^{d_{\parallel}} (M_{\text{string}} R_i^{\parallel}) \stackrel{!}{=} g_{Dp}^{-2} \quad \implies \prod_{i=1}^{d_{\parallel}} R_i^{\parallel} \sim M_{\text{string}}^{-d_{\parallel}} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\implies g_{Dp}^2 M_{\text{Planck}} = 2^{5/2} \pi M_{\text{string}}^{7-p} \left( \prod_{j=1}^{d_{\perp}} R_j^{\perp} \right)^{1/2} \left( \prod_{i=1}^{d_{\parallel}} R_i^{\parallel} \right)^{-1/2}$$

## Physics of large extra dimensions

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$$\Rightarrow \boxed{R_j^\perp \uparrow \iff M_{\text{string}} \downarrow}$$

Antoniadis, Arkani-Hamed  
Dimopoulos, Dvali

- gravity and gauge interactions unified at  $M_{\text{weak}}$
- weakness of gravity due to large extra dimensions

	$d_\perp = 1$	$d_\perp = 2$	$d_\perp = 3$	$d_\perp = 4$	$d_\perp = 5$	$d_\perp = 6$
$R^\perp [GeV^{-1}]$	$1.6 \cdot 10^{26}$	$4 \cdot 10^{11}$	$5.4 \cdot 10^6$	$2 \cdot 10^4$	693	74
$R^\perp [m]$	$1.6 \cdot 10^{11}$	$4 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$5.4 \cdot 10^{-9}$	$2 \cdot 10^{-11}$	$7 \cdot 10^{-13}$	$7 \cdot 10^{-14}$
$E_R [MeV]$	$7.7 \cdot 10^{-24}$	$3 \cdot 10^{-9}$	$2 \cdot 10^{-4}$	0.06	1	16

Size of  $d_\perp$  large extra dimensions for a string scale of  $M_{\text{string}} = 1 \text{ TeV}$   
 (for  $g_{\text{string}} \simeq g^2 = \frac{1}{25}$ ,  $\alpha = \frac{g^2}{4\pi} = 0.003$ ,  $E_R = \frac{hc}{R^\perp}$  and  $1 \text{ GeV}^{-1} \sim 10^{-15} \text{ m}$ )

## Physics of large extra dimensions and low string scale

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- **Cavendish type** experiments test **Newton's law** up to a scale of millimeters. This provides an upper bound on the large extra dimensions  $R_j^\perp$  to be in the **millimeter range**.
- **QCD and electroweak scattering** experiments give an upper bound on the small extra dimensions  $R_i^\parallel \sim M_{EW}^{-1}$ .

### States:

- massless string states: MSSM and graviton  $M = 0$
- string Regge (**SR**) excitations:  $M_{SR} \sim 1 \text{ TeV}$
- **KK** modes w.r.t.  $R_i^\parallel$ :  $M_{KK^\parallel} \sim M_{\text{string}}$
- **winding** modes w.r.t.  $R_j^\perp$ :  $M_{W^\perp} \sim M_{\text{string}}$
- **KK** modes w.r.t.  $R_j^\perp$ :  $M_{KK^\perp} \sim 10^{-3} \text{ eV}$
- **black holes**:  $M_{BH} \sim M_{\text{string}}/g_{\text{string}}^2$

## Physics of large extra dimensions and low string scale

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Dominance of SR over KK effects is generic  
in string theories with  $g_{\text{string}} \sim g_{YM}^2 < 1$  !

What about strong gravity effects ?

Black hole production at energies  $\sim \frac{M_{\text{string}}}{g_{\text{string}}^2}$

Horowitz, Polchinski 1996  
Meade, Randall 2007

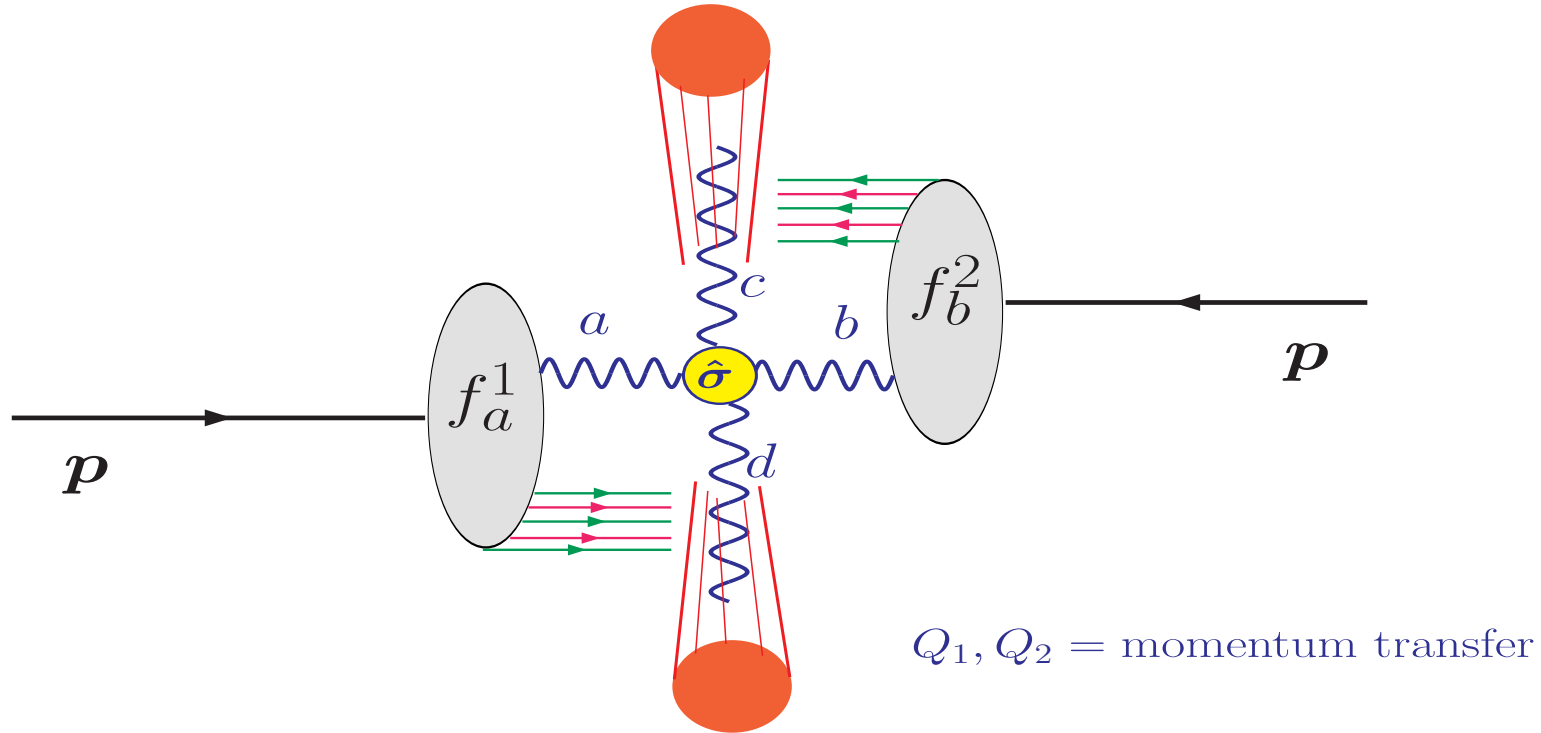
$$n \sim g_{\text{string}}^{-4}$$

⇒ For  $g_{\text{string}} < 1$  strong gravity effects occur above  $M_{\text{string}}$

⇒ We may first see SR's from 1-st, ...,  $n$ -th level

## Dijet signals for low $M_{\text{string}}$ at LHC

Two jets:



$$\sigma(pp \rightarrow 2 \text{ jets}) = \sum_{a,b,c,d} \int dx_1 dx_2 f_a^1(x_1; Q_1^2) f_b^2(x_2; Q_2^2) \hat{\sigma}_{ab \rightarrow cd}(\underbrace{sx_1x_2}_{\hat{s}}; \underbrace{Q_1^2, Q_2^2}_{Q_1^2=Q_2^2=\hat{t}}, \alpha')$$

Look for **resonances of string Regge excitations** propagating in  $s$ -channel

## Cross sections

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Compute cross sections:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} |\mathcal{M}(gg \rightarrow gg)|^2, \quad |\mathcal{M}(gg \rightarrow q\bar{q})|^2 \\ |\mathcal{M}(q\bar{q} \rightarrow gg)|^2, \quad |\mathcal{M}(qg \rightarrow qg)|^2 \end{array} \right\} \text{completely model-independent:} \\ \text{for any CY orientifold !}$$

Result:

tabulated in Lüster, Schlotterer, St. St., Taylor, arXiv:0807.3333, arXiv:0908.0409

$$|\mathcal{M}(gg \rightarrow gg)|^2 = g_{Dp_a}^4 \left( \frac{1}{\hat{s}^2} + \frac{1}{\hat{t}^2} + \frac{1}{\hat{u}^2} \right) \left\{ C(N) \left( \hat{s}^2 V_{\hat{s}}^2 + \hat{t}^2 V_{\hat{t}}^2 + \hat{u}^2 V_{\hat{u}}^2 \right) + D(N) \left( \hat{s} V_{\hat{s}} + \hat{t} V_{\hat{t}} + \hat{u} V_{\hat{u}} \right)^2 \right\}$$

$$\text{with } C(N) = \frac{2N^2}{N^2-1} \text{ and } D(N) = \frac{4(-N^2+3)}{N^2(N^2-1)}$$

$$|\mathcal{M}(gg \rightarrow q\bar{q})|^2 = g_{Dp_a}^4 \frac{N_f}{2N} \left\{ \frac{\hat{t}^2 + \hat{u}^2}{\hat{u}\hat{t}\hat{s}^2} (\hat{t} V_{\hat{t}} + \hat{u} V_{\hat{u}})^2 - \frac{2N^2}{(N^2-1)} \frac{\hat{t}^2 + \hat{u}^2}{\hat{s}^2} V_{\hat{t}} V_{\hat{u}} \right\}$$

For  $N = N_f = 3$  YM-limits agree with book "**Collider Physics**" by Barger, Phillips

## Cross sections

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In addition we need:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} |\mathcal{M}(q\bar{q} \rightarrow q\bar{q})|^2 \quad , \quad |\mathcal{M}(qq \rightarrow qq)|^2 \\ |\mathcal{M}(q\bar{q} \rightarrow q'\bar{q}')|^2 \quad , \quad \begin{array}{l} |\mathcal{M}(qq' \rightarrow qq')|^2 \\ |\mathcal{M}(q\bar{q}' \rightarrow q\bar{q}')|^2 \end{array} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{depend on geometry:} \\ \text{KK and windings} \end{array}$$

tabulated in Lüst, St. St., Taylor, arXiv:0807.3333

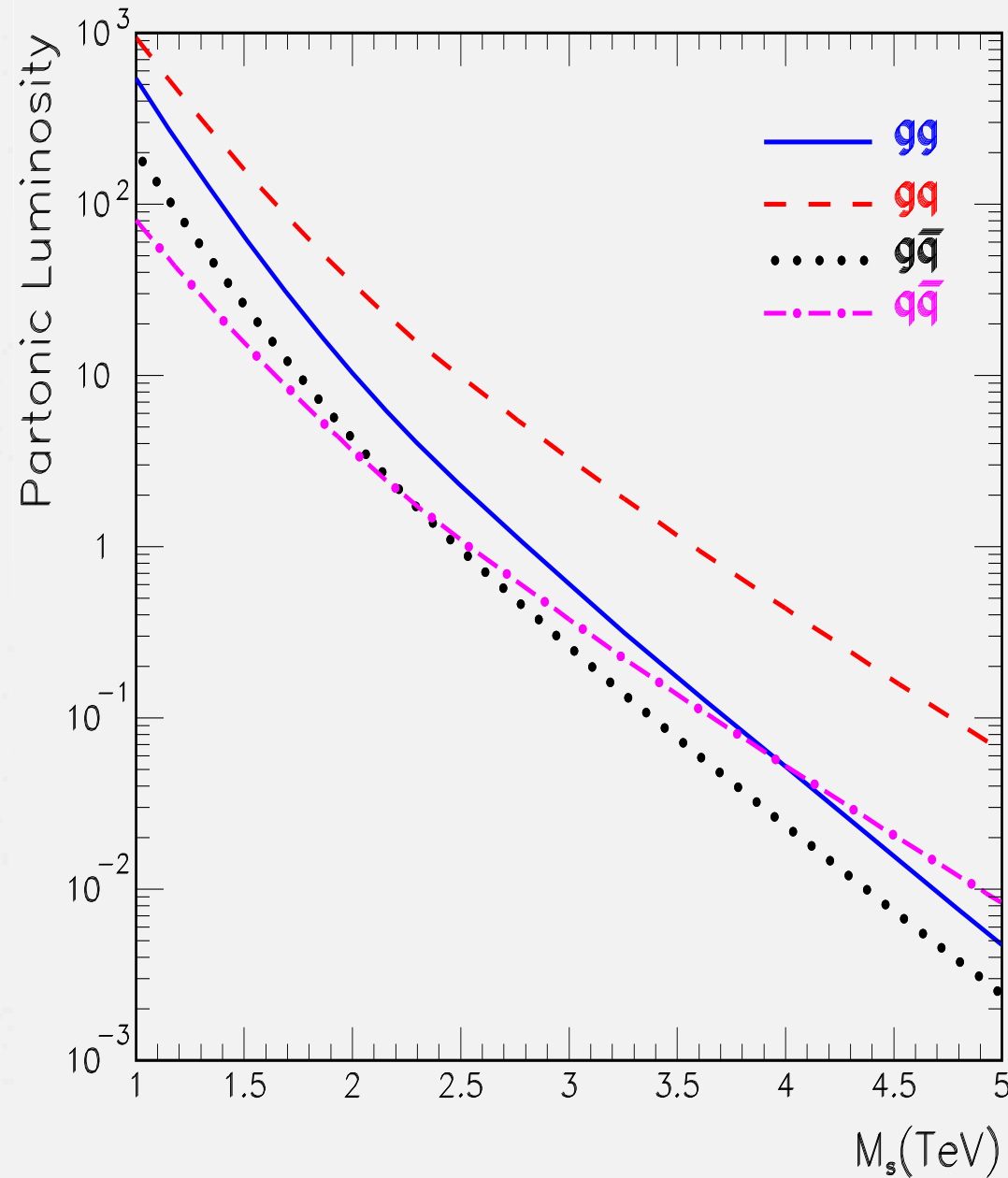
however they are suppressed:

- QCD  $SU(3)$  color group factors favor gluons over quarks in the initial state
- Parton luminosities in pp-collisions, at the parton center of mass energies above 1TeV, are significantly lower for  $q\bar{q}$  subprocesses than for  $gg$  or  $gq$

At any rate: they may be used to probe the internal geometry  
(“precision tests”)

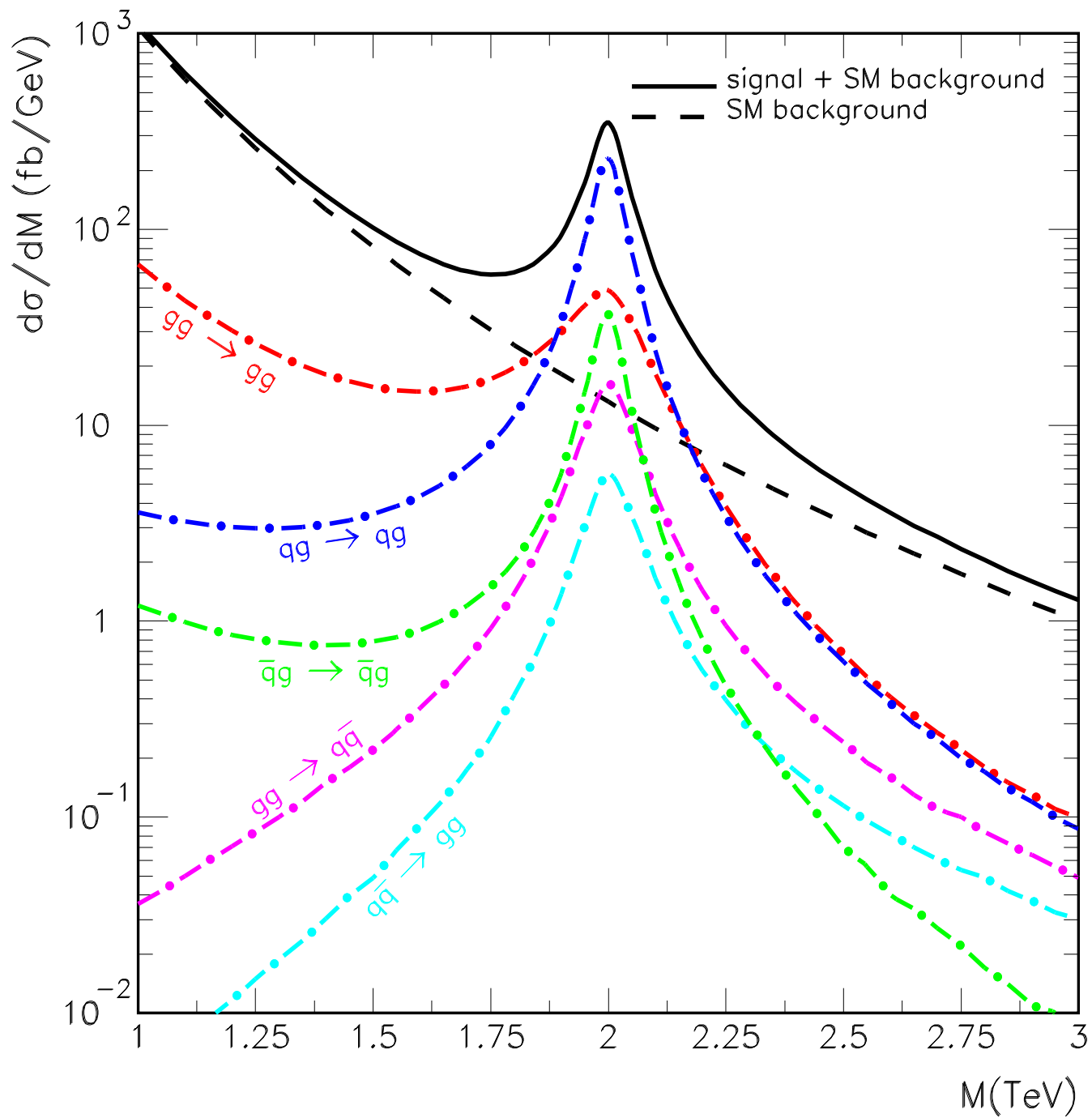
**Table 9.1.** Squared matrix elements for  $2 \rightarrow 2$  parton-parton subprocesses in QCD:  $q$  and  $q'$  denote distinct flavors of quark,  $g_s^2 = 4\pi\alpha_s$  is the coupling squared.

Subprocess	$ \mathcal{M} ^2/g_s^4$	$ \mathcal{M}(90^\circ) ^2/g_s^4$
$qq' \rightarrow qq'$ $q\bar{q}' \rightarrow q\bar{q}'$	$\frac{4}{9} \frac{\hat{s}^2 + \hat{u}^2}{\hat{t}^2}$	2.2
$qq \rightarrow qq$	$\frac{4}{9} \left( \frac{\hat{s}^2 + \hat{u}^2}{\hat{t}^2} + \frac{\hat{s}^2 + \hat{t}^2}{\hat{u}^2} \right) - \frac{8}{27} \frac{\hat{s}^2}{\hat{u}\hat{t}}$	3.3
$q\bar{q} \rightarrow q'\bar{q}'$	$\frac{4}{9} \frac{\hat{t}^2 + \hat{u}^2}{\hat{s}^2}$	0.2
$q\bar{q} \rightarrow q\bar{q}$	$\frac{4}{9} \left( \frac{\hat{s}^2 + \hat{u}^2}{\hat{t}^2} + \frac{\hat{t}^2 + \hat{u}^2}{\hat{s}^2} \right) - \frac{8}{27} \frac{\hat{u}^2}{\hat{s}\hat{t}}$	2.6
$q\bar{q} \rightarrow gg$	$\frac{32}{27} \frac{\hat{u}^2 + \hat{t}^2}{\hat{u}\hat{t}} - \frac{8}{3} \frac{\hat{u}^2 + \hat{t}^2}{\hat{s}^2}$	1.0
$gg \rightarrow q\bar{q}$	$\frac{1}{6} \frac{\hat{u}^2 + \hat{t}^2}{\hat{u}\hat{t}} - \frac{3}{8} \frac{\hat{u}^2 + \hat{t}^2}{\hat{s}^2}$	0.1
$gg \rightarrow qq$	$\frac{\hat{s}^2 + \hat{u}^2}{\hat{t}^2} - \frac{4}{9} \frac{\hat{s}^2 + \hat{u}^2}{\hat{u}\hat{s}}$	6.1
$gg \rightarrow gg$	$\frac{9}{4} \left( \frac{\hat{s}^2 + \hat{u}^2}{\hat{t}^2} + \frac{\hat{s}^2 + \hat{t}^2}{\hat{u}^2} + \frac{\hat{u}^2 + \hat{t}^2}{\hat{s}^2} + 3 \right)$	30.4



from "Collider Physics" by Barger, Phillips

Anchordoqui et al. arXiv:0804.2013



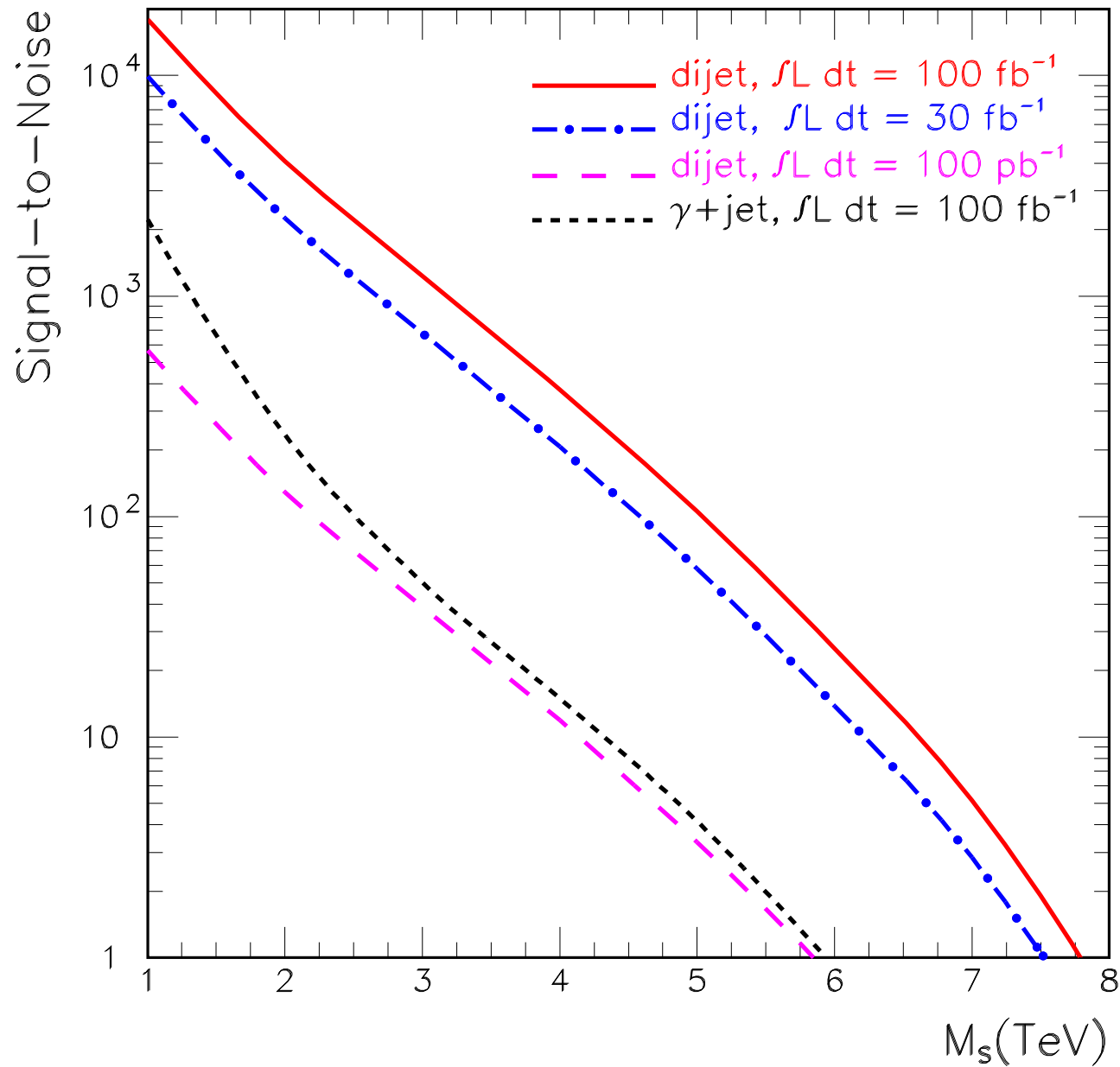
Any superstring theory with  
low  $M_{\text{string}}$  and  $g_{\text{string}} < 1$

Universal deviation from SM  
in jet distribution

$M_{\text{string}} = 2 \text{ TeV}$   
 $\Gamma_{SR} = 15 - 150 \text{ GeV}$

Anchordoqui, Goldberg, Lüst,  
Nawata, Taylor, St. St.,  
arXiv:0808.0497, arXiv:0904.3547

# Discovery reach: integrated luminosities



$\Rightarrow$  LHC Laboratory for string theory effects ?!

## Future projects

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While two–jet cross sections and angular distributions can provide first indications for the existence of excited states of fundamental superstrings many properties of these string resonances like their **spin and couplings to quarks and leptons** can be studied with **much higher precision** in **multi-jet processes**, in which two initial partons produce three or more particles. In these inelastic processes **string states** appear as resonances **in more than one decay channel**, therefore experimental **studies of acoplanarity and various quantities characterizing multi–jet distributions** allow more precise determination of the properties of string resonances.

- Five–parton amplitudes: *analysis for three–jet events*  
(Five–parton amplitudes computed in  
Lüst, Schlotterer, St. St., Taylor, [arXiv:0908.0409](#))
- SR as external states in jets: *analysis for emission of strings*  
(Lüst, Schlotterer, St. St., Taylor, to appear)