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# SWAMPLAND, STRING DEFECTS AND (BRANE) SUPERSYMMETRY BREAKING

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Based on arXiv:2007.12722  
in collaboration with Bonnefoy, Condeescu, Dudas + ...

*WE LEARN IN BOOKS THAT A THEORY TO BE  
CONSISTENT MUST BE FREE FROM ANOMALIES*

*HOWEVER, THIS IS NOT ENOUGH TO BE IN THE LANDSCAPE*

*HOW TO FURTHER CONSTRAIN IT?*

*KIM, SHIU AND VAFA SUGGESTED TO LOOK AT THE  
CONSISTENCY OF EFFECTIVE THEORY ON DEFECTS*

[Kim, Shiu, Vafa 2019]

*THIS APPROACH IS PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE IN  $D=10$  AND  
 $D=6$  DIMENSIONS WHERE ANOMALIES ARE VERY RICH*

*(IN  $D=10$  KSV MANAGED TO RULE OUT  $U(1)^{96}$  AND  $E_8 \times U(1)^{48}$ )*

## OUTLINE

The  $\mathcal{N}=(0,1)$  (SUSY) vacuum

String defects and anomaly inflow

A conjecture

(Brane) Supersymmetry Breaking

Reducible anomaly and couplings in the LEEA

## THE $\mathcal{N}=(0,1)$ VACUUM IN D=6

A generic 6d vacuum with minimal supersymmetry  
has four different types of matter

*Gravity multiplet:*  $\{g_{\mu\nu}, C_{\mu\nu}^+; \psi_{\mu\alpha}\}$

*Tensor multiplet:*  $\{\phi, C_{\mu\nu}^-; \tau_{\dot{\alpha}}\}$

*Vector multiplet:*  $\{A_{\mu}; \lambda_{\alpha}\} \longrightarrow G = \prod_i G_i$

*Hyper multiplet:*  $\{4\phi; \zeta_{\dot{\alpha}}\} \longrightarrow R_G$

THE  $\mathcal{N}=(0,1)$  VACUUM IN D=6

Absence of irreducible (gravitational) anomaly ( $\text{tr}R^4$ ):

$$273 - 29\, n_{\text{T}} + n_{\text{V}} - n_{\text{H}} = 0$$

The reducible anomaly polynomial

$$I_8 = \frac{1}{2} X_4^\alpha \, \Omega_{\alpha\beta} \, X_4^\beta \qquad SO(1, n_T)$$

$$X_4^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} a^\alpha \, \text{tr} R^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \frac{b_i^\alpha}{\lambda_i} \, \text{tr} F_i^2$$

## THE $\mathcal{N}=(0,1)$ VACUUM IN D=6

The reducible anomaly is then cancelled by the  
*Sagnotti-Green-Schwarz* counter-term

$$S_{\text{GS}} = \int \Omega_{\alpha\beta} C_2^\alpha \wedge X_4^\beta$$

which implies a redefinition of the two-form curvature

$$H_3 = dC_2 + \omega_3$$

Supersymmetry relates this term to other couplings in the action

$$S \supset \int \sum_i J(\phi) \cdot b_i \text{tr}(F_i^2)$$

$$A \cdot B = \Omega_{\alpha\beta} A^\alpha B^\beta$$

$$J \cdot J > 0, \quad J \cdot b_i > 0, \quad J \cdot a < 0$$

## STRING DEFECTS AND ANOMALY INFLOW

One can (should) consider one-dimensional defects in these theories.

If BPS they preserve four supercharges  
and have  $\mathcal{N}=(0,4)$  supersymmetry on the two-dimensional world sheet

KSV derived consistency conditions for the  
consistency of the 2D/6D system

[Kim, Shiu, Vafa 2019]

## STRING DEFECTS AND ANOMALY INFLOW

$$S_{\text{D1}} \supset -Q^\alpha \Omega_{\alpha\beta} \int C_2^\beta$$

and from the anomalous transformation of  $C_2$  so that the  
d.o.f. on the defect must cancel the anomaly inflow

$$\begin{aligned} I_4 &= \Omega_{\alpha\beta} Q^\alpha \left( X_4^\beta + \frac{1}{2} Q^\beta \chi(N) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} Q \cdot a \operatorname{tr} R^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{Q \cdot b_i}{\lambda_i} \operatorname{tr} F_i^2 + \frac{1}{2} Q \cdot Q \chi(N) \end{aligned}$$

## STRING DEFECTS AND ANOMALY INFLOW

From the anomaly inflow we can extract the CFT data

$$c_L - c_R = 6Q \cdot a + 2, \quad k_i = Q \cdot b_i$$

If one can (unambiguously) identify a  $SU(2)_R$  symmetry

$$c_L = 3Q \cdot Q - 9Q \cdot a + 2,$$

$$c_R = 3Q \cdot Q - 3Q \cdot a.$$

KSV CONSISTENCY CONDITIONS

[Kim, Shiu, Vafa 2019]

$$J \cdot J > 0$$

tensor metric  
positivity

$$J \cdot a < 0$$

Gauss-Bonnet  
positivity

$$J \cdot b_i > 0$$

vector metric  
positivity

conditions on 6D SUGRA

$$Q \cdot J \geq 0$$

$$Q \cdot Q \geq -1$$

$$Q \cdot Q + Q \cdot a \geq -2$$

$$k_i \geq 0$$

non-degenerate strings

positivity  
D1 tension

positivity of central charges ( $c_R$  and  $k_l$ )

unitarity

$$\sum_i \frac{k_i \dim G_i}{k_i + h_i^\vee} \leq c_L$$

## A CONJECTURE

[C.A., Bonnefoy, Condeescu, Dudas 2019]

In all consistent (F-theory or orientifold) constructions we have analysed  
we have always found defects with *null-charge*

$$Q \cdot Q = 0$$

In string compactification this clearly follows from the D1 string existing in 10D

What about really  
non-geometric  
constructions?

*Null-charge defects should exist for any model in the landscape*  
(clearly, for vacua with at least one tensor multiplet)

**New conjecture**

## A CONJECTURE

[C.A., Bonnefoy, Condeescu, Dudas 2019]

### Example 1

$n_T = 1,$        $G = \mathrm{SU}(N),$        $\frac{1}{2}N(N+1) + (N-8) \times N$   
 $a = (-3, 1),$        $b = (0, -1),$        $Q = (\pm q, q)$  does not satisfy KSV constraints

Previous restrictions  
 $N < 31$  (anomaly)  
 $N < 118$  (KSV)

### Example 2

$n_T = 1,$        $G = \mathrm{SU}(24) \times \mathrm{SO}(8),$        $3 \times 276$   
 $a = (-3, 1),$        $b_1 = (1, 0),$        $b_2 = (0, -2),$        $Q = (\pm q, q)$  does not satisfy KSV constraints

NO previous  
restrictions

Examples from:

[Kumar, Morrison, Taylor 2010]

*These models are ruled out by the null-charge conjecture*

# BREAKING SUPERSYMMETRY IN THE VACUUM

*Do KSV CONSISTENCY CONDITIONS HOLD  
WHEN SUPERSYMMETRY IS BROKEN?*

spontaneous breaking

*continuous* deformation of  
supersymmetric models  
(Scherk-Schwarz)

string-scale breaking

*isolated* vacua disconnected  
from supersymmetric ones  
(Brane Supersymmetry  
Breaking — BSB)

# BRANE BREAKING SUPERSYMMETRY IN THE VACUUM

[Sugimoto 1999; Antoniadis, Dudas, Sagnotti 1999]

Supersymmetry is exact in the closed-string sector:

mutually BPS configurations of Orientifold planes

$O9_+$      $O9_+/O5_-$      $O9_-/O5_+$      $O9_+/O5_+$

*RR tadpole cancellation implies*

Supersymmetry is explicitly broken in the open-string sector:

non-BPS combinations of D-branes and Orientifold planes

$\overline{D9}$      $\overline{D9}/D5$      $D9/\overline{D5}$      $\overline{D9}/\overline{D5}$

# BRANE BREAKING SUPERSYMMETRY IN THE VACUUM

closed strings

O9<sub>-</sub>/O5<sub>+</sub>

$\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$  SUGRA with

$$n_{\text{T}} = 17, \quad n_{\text{H}} = 4$$

*this model does not admit a  
supersymmetric version with the  
same fermionic spectrum*

open strings

D9/ $\overline{\text{D5}}$

$$G_{\text{CP}} = \text{SO}(16)_9 \times \text{SO}(16)_9 \times \text{USp}(16)_{\bar{5}} \times \text{USp}(16)_{\bar{5}}$$

$$\psi_{\text{L}} \sim (120, 1; 1, 1) + (1, 120; 1, 1) + (1, 1; 120, 1) + (1, 1; 1, 120)$$

$$\psi_{\text{R}} \sim (16, 16; 1, 1) + (1, 1; 16, 16)$$

$$4\phi \sim (16, 16; 1, 1) + (1, 1; 16, 16)$$

$$\psi_{\text{L}}^{\text{SMW}} \sim (16, 1; 16, 1) + (1, 16; 1, 16)$$

$$2\phi \sim (16, 1; 1, 16) + (1, 16; 16, 1)$$

# BRANE BREAKING SUPERSYMMETRY IN THE VACUUM

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_8 = & \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{tr} R^2 + \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} F_2^2 - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} G_1^2 - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} G_2^2 \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{tr} R^2 - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} G_2^2 \right)^2 \\
 & - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} R^2 + \frac{1}{4} \text{tr} F_2^2 - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} G_2^2 \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} R^2 + \frac{1}{4} \text{tr} F_2^2 - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} G_1^2 \right)^2 \\
 & - \left( \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} R^2 - \frac{1}{4} \text{tr} F_2^2 \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left( \text{tr} R^2 - \frac{1}{4} \text{tr} F_1^2 + \frac{1}{4} \text{tr} F_2^2 - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} G_1^2 \right)^2 - \frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{1}{4} \text{tr} F_1^2 - \frac{1}{4} \text{tr} F_2^2 \right)^2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$a \cdot a = -8, \qquad a \cdot b_i = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$b_i \cdot b_j = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 4 & -1 & 0 \\ 4 & -4 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

An integral basis

Existence of a Kähler form

$$\begin{aligned}
 a &= (2, -2, 0, 0, 0, -1^3, 1, 0, 2, 0^7), & J \cdot J &> 0, & J \cdot a &< 0, & J \cdot b_i &> 0 \\
 b_1 &= (0, 1^4, 0^{13}), \\
 b_2 &= (2, -1^4, 1, -1, 1^2, 0^9), & |J_0| &> |J_1|, & J_1 &< 0, & J_0 - J_1 &> 0, & J_0 + J_1 &< 0, \\
 b_3 &= (-1, 1, 0^4, 1, 0^{11}), \\
 b_4 &= (-1, 0^7, -1, 0, -1, 0^7)
 \end{aligned}$$

**NO SOLUTION**

# BRANE BREAKING SUPERSYMMETRY IN THE VACUUM

D1 branes at the orbifold fixed point with  $G_{\text{CP}} = \text{SO}(r)$

| representation      | $\text{SO}(1, 1) \times \text{SU}(2)_{\text{L}} \times \text{SU}(2)_{\text{R}} \times \text{SO}(4)$ |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| $\frac{1}{2}r(r-1)$ | $(0, 1, 1, 1) + (\frac{1}{2}, 1, 2, 2')_{\text{L}}$                                                 |
| $\frac{1}{2}r(r+1)$ | $(1, 2, 2, 1) + (\frac{1}{2}, 2, 1, 2')_{\text{R}}$                                                 |
| $(r; 16, 1; 1, 1)$  | $(\frac{1}{2}, 1, 1, 1)_{\text{L}}$                                                                 |
| $(r; 1, 1; 16, 1)$  | $(\frac{1}{2}, 1, 1, 2')_{\text{L}}$                                                                |
| $(r; 1, 1; 1, 16)$  | $(\frac{1}{2}, 1, 1, 2)_{\text{R}}$                                                                 |

$$c_{\text{L}} = 4_{\text{CM}} + 8 + 16_{\overline{\text{D5}}}, \qquad c_{\text{R}} = 6_{\text{CM}} + 0 + 16_{\overline{\text{D5}}} \qquad k_i = Q \cdot b_i = (1, 0, 1, -1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} c_{\text{L}} &= 3Q \cdot Q - 9Q \cdot a + 2, \\ c_{\text{R}} &= 3Q \cdot Q - 3Q \cdot a. \\ Q \cdot Q &= Q \cdot a = -1 \end{aligned}$$

## BRANE BREAKING SUPERSYMMETRY IN THE VACUUM

What does it mean that one cannot find  $J$ ?

Re-think the anomaly polynomial

$$I_8 = \frac{1}{64} (\text{tr } F_1^2 + \text{tr } F_2^2 - \text{tr } G_1^2 - \text{tr } G_2^2)^2 - \frac{1}{64} (8 \text{tr } R^2 - \text{tr } F_1^2 - \text{tr } F_2^2 - \text{tr } G_1^2 - \text{tr } G_2^2)^2 \\ - \frac{1}{128} (\text{tr } F_1^2 - \text{tr } F_2^2 + 4 \text{tr } G_1^2 - 4 \text{tr } G_2^2)^2 - \frac{15}{128} (\text{tr } F_1^2 - \text{tr } F_2^2)^2$$

in the *string basis*

$$I_8 \sim ((Q_{O9} + Q_{O5}) \text{tr } R^2 - Q_{D9} \text{tr } F_9^2 - Q_{D5} \text{tr } F_5^2)^2 - ((Q_{O9} - Q_{O5}) \text{tr } R^2 - Q_{D9} \text{tr } F_9^2 + Q_{D5} \text{tr } F_5^2)^2 \\ - \sum_{a \in \{\text{fixed points}\}} ((Q_{O9}^a + Q_{O5}^a) \text{tr } R^2 - Q_{D9}^a \text{tr } F_9^2 - Q_{D5}^a \text{tr } F_5^2)^2$$

reflects the structure of RR tadpoles

# BRANE BREAKING SUPERSYMMETRY IN THE VACUUM

The gauge kinetic terms should not be determined by the RR tadpoles

$$S \supset \int \sum_i J(\phi) \cdot b_i \operatorname{tr}(F_i^2)$$

On the contrary, they are determined by the NS-NS tadpoles

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( (T_{O9} + T_{O5}) \operatorname{tr} R^2 - T_{D9} \operatorname{tr} F_9^2 - T_{D5} \operatorname{tr} F_5^2 \right)^2 - \left( (T_{O9} - T_{O5}) \operatorname{tr} R^2 - T_{D9} \operatorname{tr} F_9^2 + T_{D5} \operatorname{tr} F_5^2 \right)^2 \\ & - \sum_{a \in \{\text{fixed points}\}} \left( (T_{O9}^a + T_{O5}^a) \operatorname{tr} R^2 - T_{D9}^a \operatorname{tr} F_9^2 - T_{D5}^a \operatorname{tr} F_5^2 \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \rightarrow \frac{1}{64} \left( \operatorname{tr} F_1^2 + \operatorname{tr} F_2^2 + \operatorname{tr} G_1^2 + \operatorname{tr} G_2^2 \right)^2 - \frac{1}{64} \left( 8 \operatorname{tr} R^2 - \operatorname{tr} F_1^2 - \operatorname{tr} F_2^2 + \operatorname{tr} G_1^2 + \operatorname{tr} G_2^2 \right)^2 \\ & - \frac{1}{128} \left( \operatorname{tr} F_1^2 - \operatorname{tr} F_2^2 - 4 \operatorname{tr} G_1^2 + 4 \operatorname{tr} G_2^2 \right)^2 - \frac{15}{128} \left( \operatorname{tr} F_1^2 - \operatorname{tr} F_2^2 \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

extract

$\tilde{a}, \quad \tilde{b}_i$

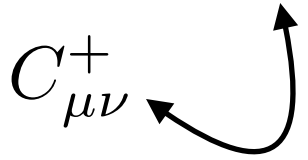
# BRANE BREAKING SUPERSYMMETRY IN THE VACUUM

Tadpole conditions in BSB:  $\text{SO}(N_1) \times \text{SO}(N_2) \Big|_9 \times \text{USp}(D_1) \times \text{USp}(D_2) \Big|_{\bar{5}}$

$$V_4 O_4 (O_4 V_4) : \quad (N_1 + N_2 - 32)\sqrt{v} \pm (D_1 + D_2 + 32)\frac{1}{\sqrt{v}} = 0$$

untwisted tadpoles

$$C_4 C_4 (S_4 S_4) : \quad (N_1 + N_2 - 32)\sqrt{v} \mp (D_1 + D_2 - 32)\frac{1}{\sqrt{v}} = 0$$

$C_{\mu\nu}^+$    $C_{\mu\nu}^-$

$$O_4 C_4 : \quad (N_1 - N_2) - 4(D_1 - D_2) = 0 \Big|_{\text{fp}=1}, \quad (N_1 - N_2) = 0 \Big|_{\text{fp}=2, \dots, 16} = 0$$

twisted tadpoles

$$S_4 O_4 : \quad (N_1 - N_2) + 4(D_1 - D_2) = 0 \Big|_{\text{fp}=1}, \quad (N_1 - N_2) = 0 \Big|_{\text{fp}=2, \dots, 16} = 0$$

  $C_{\mu\nu}^-$

**BSB: NEW CONSISTENCY CONDITIONS(?)**

$$J \cdot J > 0$$

tensor metric  
positivity

$$J \cdot \tilde{a} < 0$$

Gauss-Bonnet  
positivity

$$J \cdot \tilde{b}_i > 0$$

vector metric  
positivity

$$Q \cdot J \geq 0$$

positivity  
D1 tension

$$Q \cdot Q \geq -1$$

$$Q \cdot Q + Q \cdot a \geq -2$$

$$k_i = Q \cdot b_i \geq 0$$

positivity of central charges ( $c_R$  and  $k_l$ )

unitarity

$$\sum_i \frac{k_i \dim G_i}{k_i + h_i^\vee} \leq c_L$$

## OUTLOOK

Which are the consistency conditions when supersymmetry is broken?

What determines the sign of  $k_i$ ?

How to generalise these consistency conditions to four dimensions?

**THANK YOU**