

F-Theory

Gary Shiu

F-term Axion Monodromy Inflationary Theory

Gary Shiu

Based on: Marchesano, GS, Uranga, arXiv:1404.3040 [hep-th]

[See Uranga's talk on Wednesday]

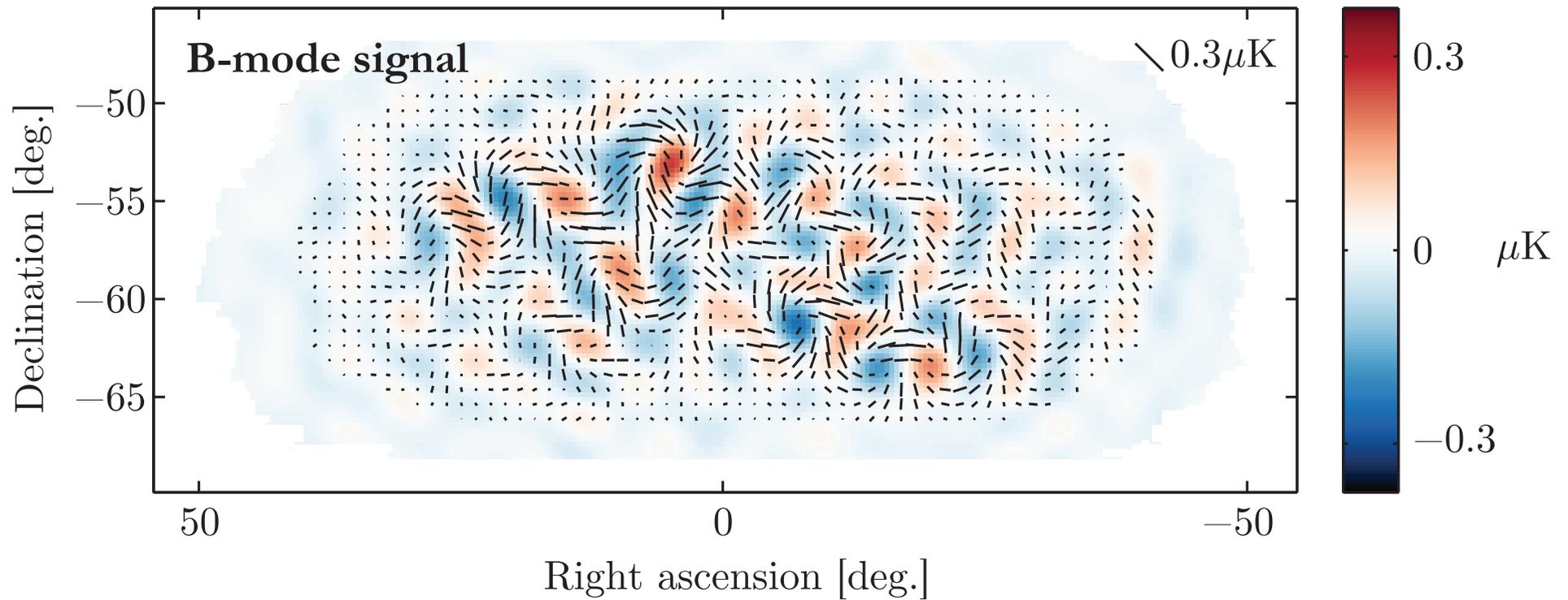
Brane Curvature Corrections to F-Theory EFT

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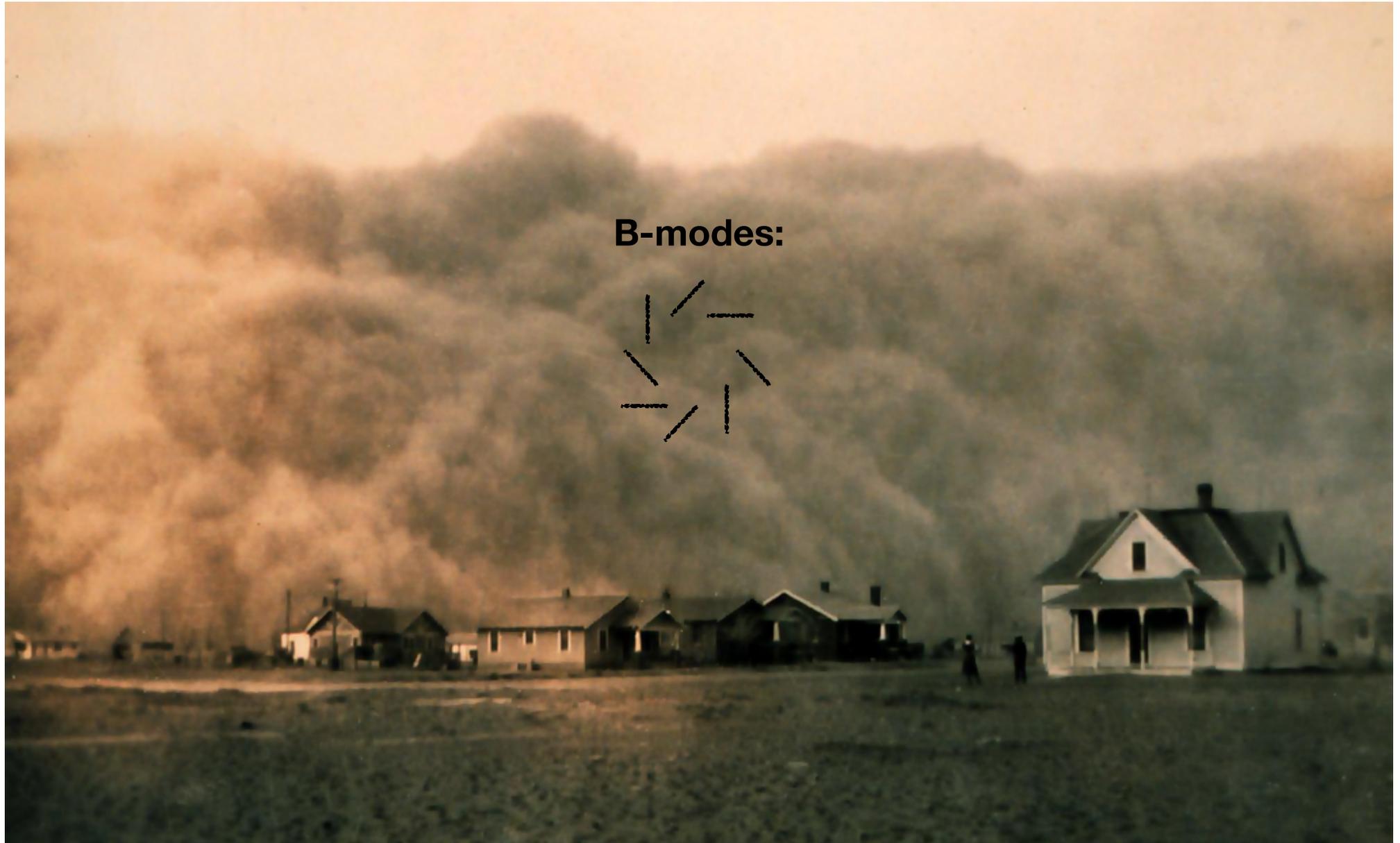
Junghans, GS, arXiv:1407.0019 [hep-th]

[See Junghans's talk on Wednesday]

Primordial B-mode?



Dust is not entirely settled ...



[Mortonson & Seljak]
[Flauger, Hill & Spergel]

Possible “Tension” with PLANCK



BICEP2 and Inflation

If the BICEP2 results are confirmed to be primordial, natural interpretations:

- ◆ Inflation took place
- ◆ The energy scale of inflation is the GUT scale

$$E_{\text{inf}} \simeq 0.75 \times \left(\frac{r}{0.1} \right)^{1/4} \times 10^{-2} M_{\text{Pl}}$$

- ◆ The inflaton field excursion was super-Planckian

$$\Delta\phi \gtrsim \left(\frac{r}{0.01} \right)^{1/2} M_{\text{Pl}}$$

Lyth '96

- ◆ Great news for string theory due to strong UV sensitivity!

Assumptions in the Lyth Bound

- ▶ single field
- ▶ slow-roll
- ▶ Bunch-Davies initial conditions
- ▶ vacuum fluctuations

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**Particle production during inflation
can be a source of GWs**

Cook and Sorbo

Senatore, Silverstein, Zaldarriaga

Barnaby, Moxon, Namba, Peloso, GS, Zhou

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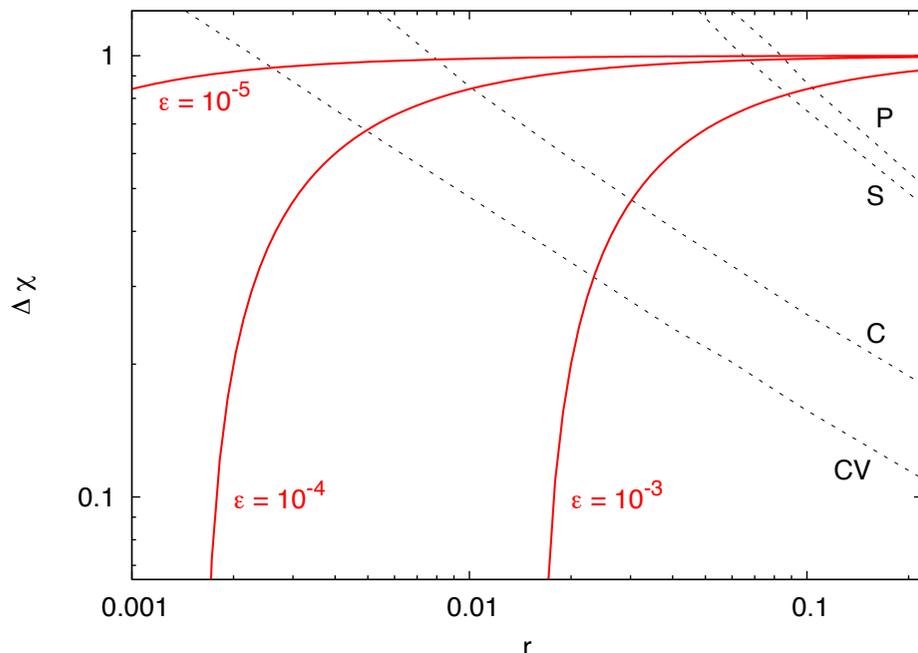
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Only known model of particle production that:

- Detectable tensors w/o too large non-Gaussianity
- **Chiral, non-Gaussian** tensor spectrum
- Can accommodate a blue tensor tilt

due to an **axionic** $F \wedge F$ coupling

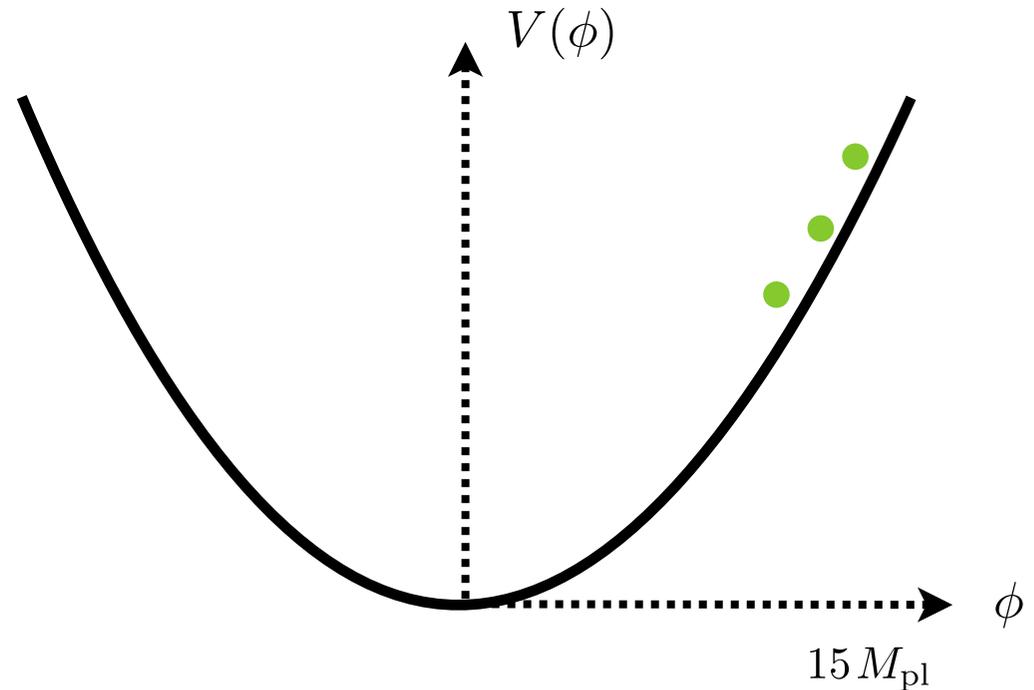
Chaotic Inflation

Linde '86

❖ A poster child inflation model (also seems **avored**) is $V = m^2\phi^2$:

- ◆ Loop corrections involving inflaton and gravitons are small due to **approximate shift symmetry**

$$\phi \mapsto \phi + \text{const.}$$



- ◆ Coupling to **UV degrees of freedom** in quantum gravity a priori breaks this shift symmetry and lead to corrections that **spoil inflation**, because of the large field excursions

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}[\phi] = \frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2}m^2\phi^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} c_i \phi^{2i} \Lambda^{4-2i}$$

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figure taken from Baumann & McAllister '14

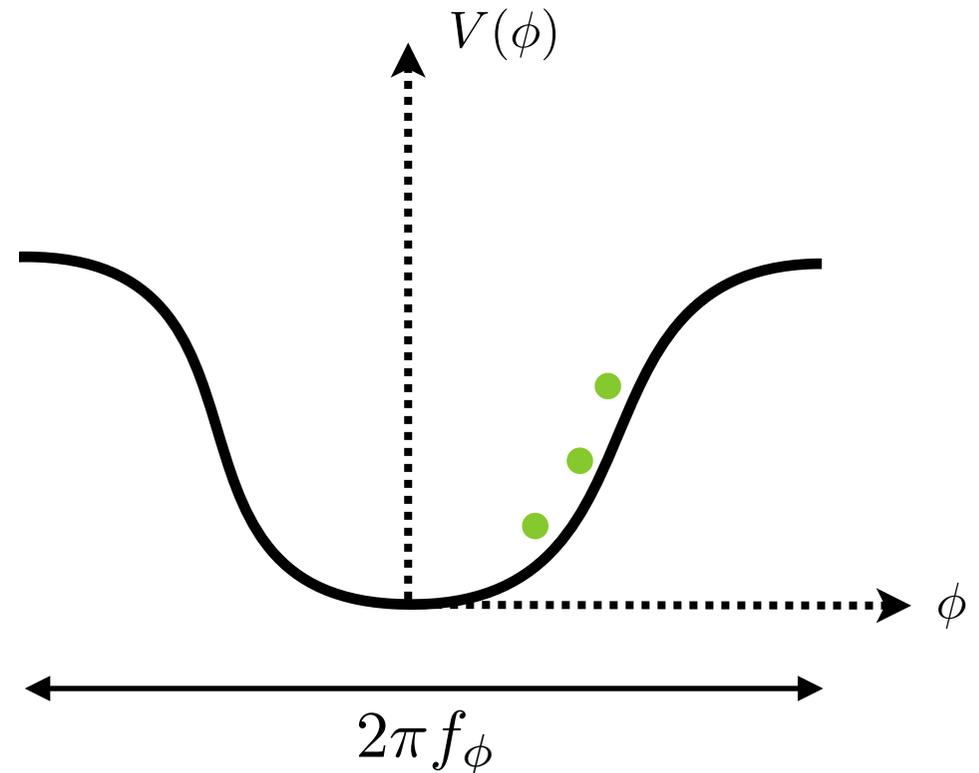
Natural Inflation

Freese, Frieman, Olinto '90

❖ String models where the **inflaton is an axion** in principle can avoid this problem

◆ Shift symmetry broken by non-perturbative effects+UV completion, but **periodicity is exact**

◆ In string theory axions generically come from p-forms, so **above the KK scale** the shift symmetry becomes a **gauge symmetry**



$$\phi = \int_{\pi_p} C_p$$

$$F_{p+1} = dC_p$$
$$C_p \rightarrow C_p + d\Lambda_{p-1}$$

Dimopoulos et al. '05

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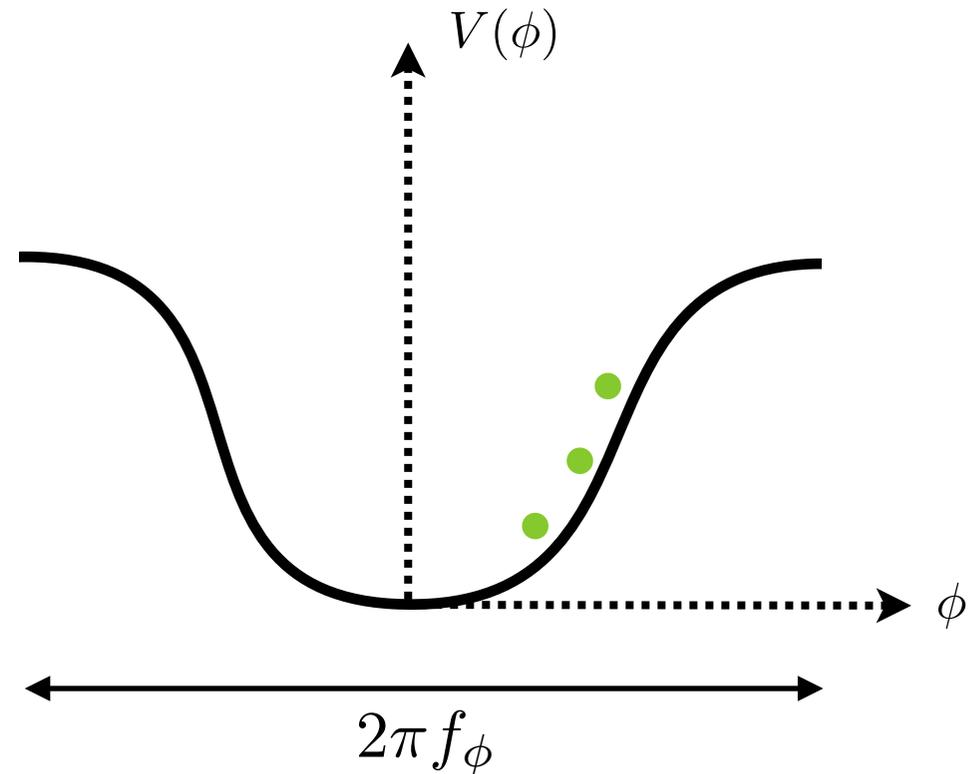
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◆ Shift symmetry broken by non-perturbative effects+UV completion, but **periodicity is exact**

◆ In string theory axions generically come from p-forms, so **above the KK scale** the shift symmetry becomes a **gauge symmetry**

◆ However, these axions have **sub-Planckian** decay constants



$$\phi = \int_{\pi_p} C_p$$

$$F_{p+1} = dC_p$$

$$C_p \rightarrow C_p + d\Lambda_{p-1}$$

Banks et al. '03

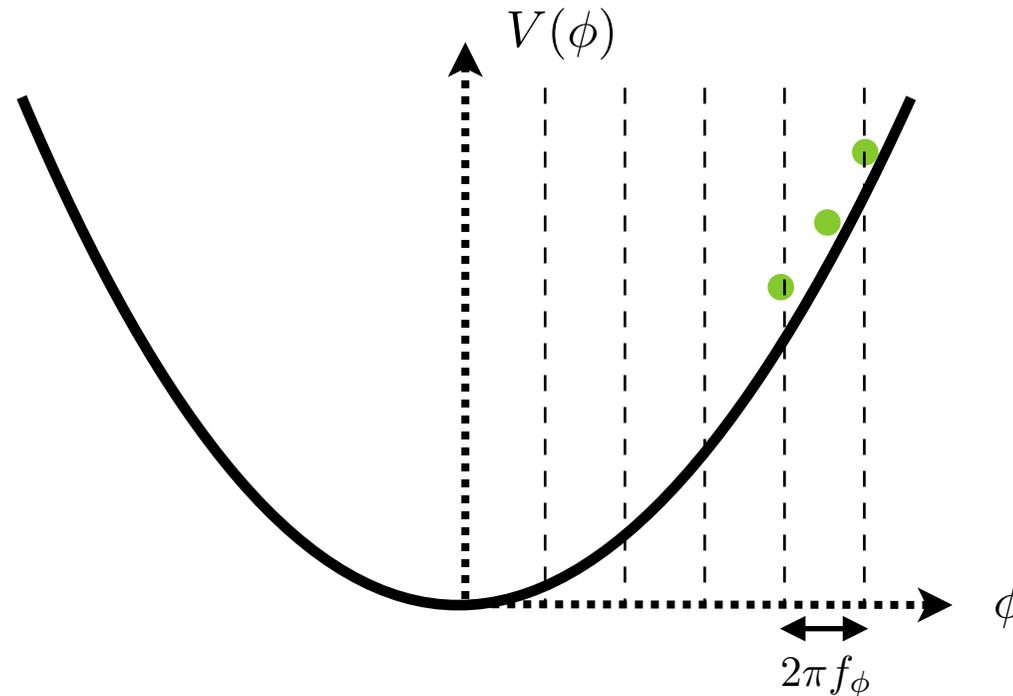
Suracek & Witten '06

Axion Monodromy Inflation

Siverstein & Westphal '08

Idea:

Combine chaotic inflation and natural inflation



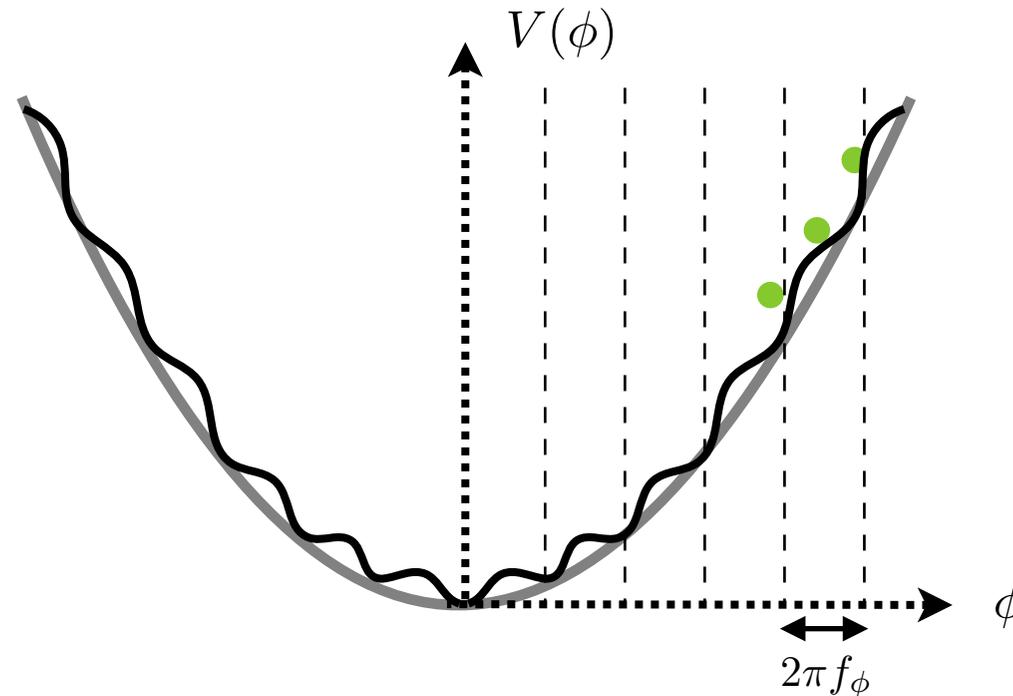
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Early developments: *see Westphal's talk*

- ◆ McAllister, Silverstein, Westphal → String scenarios
- ◆ Kaloper, Lawrence, Sorbo → 4d framework

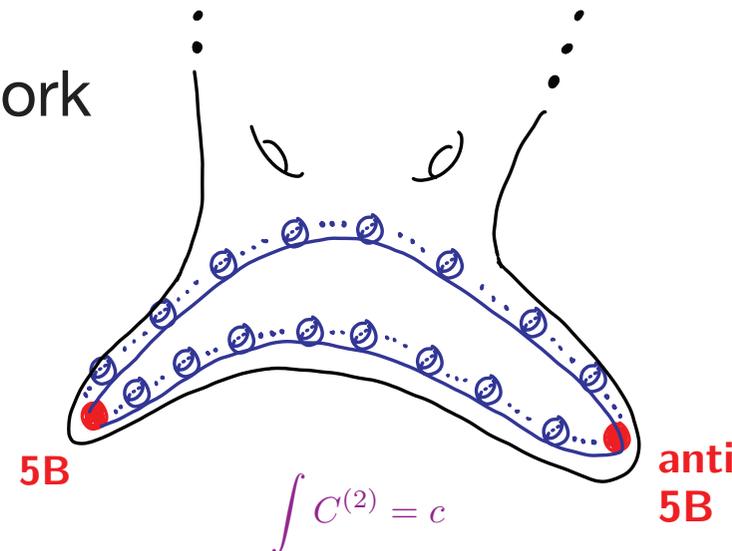


figure taken from McAllister, Silverstein, Westphal '08

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exceedingly complicated, uncontrollable ingredients, backreaction, ...
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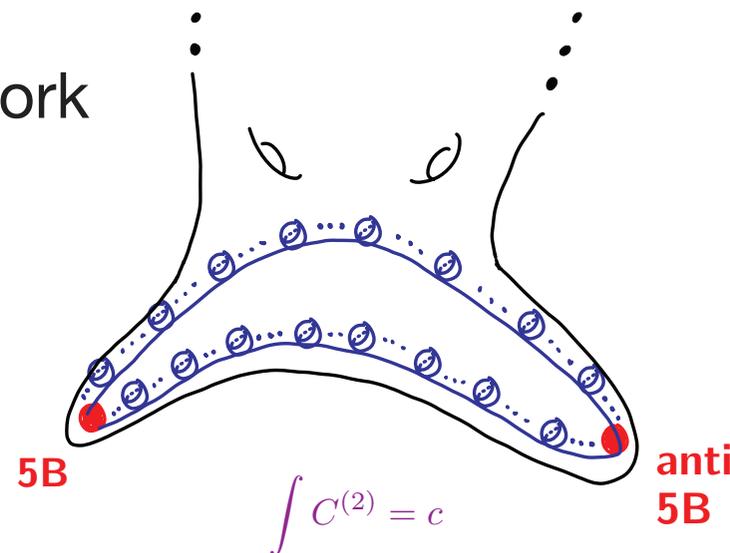


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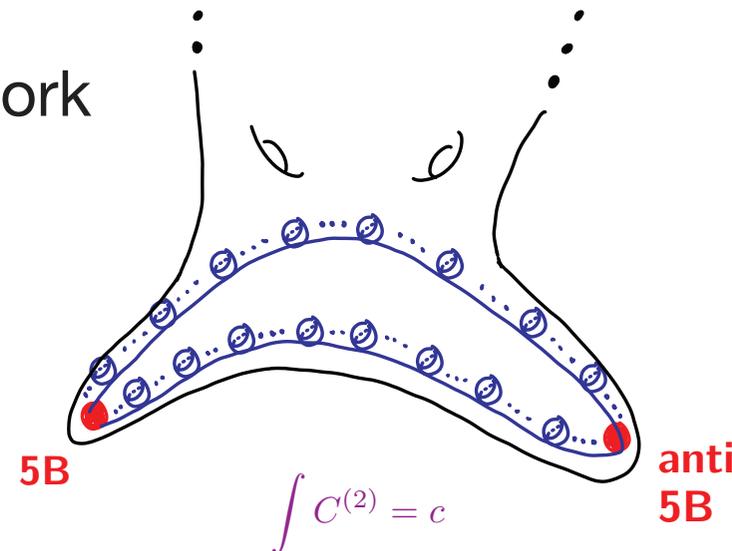


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UV completion?

See also talks of Nilles, Hebecker, Witowski, Uranga, Retolaza, Valenzuela, and references therein.

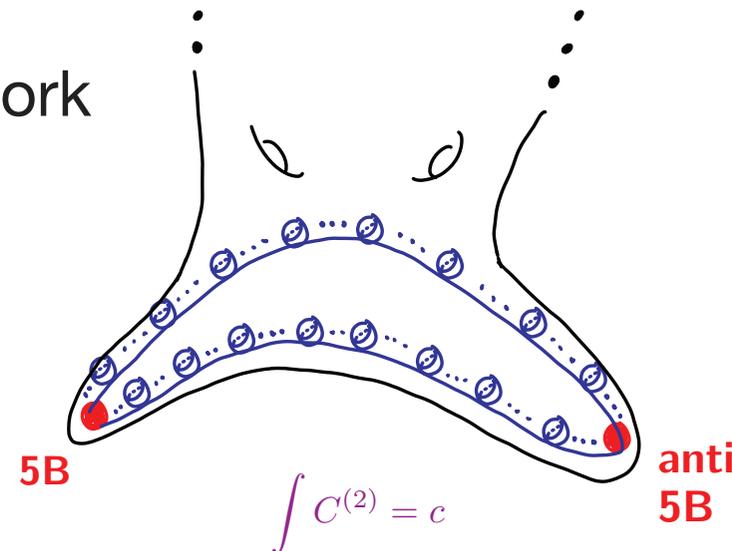


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F-term Axion Monodromy Inflation

Obs:

Axion Monodromy

~

Giving a mass to an axion

- ◆ Done in string theory within the **moduli stabilization** program: adding ingredients like background fluxes generate **superpotentials** in the effective 4d theory

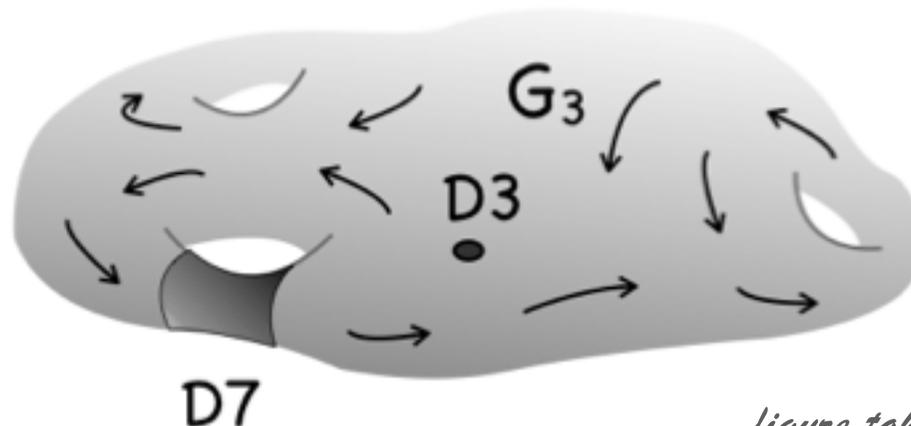


figure taken from Ibáñez & Uranga '12

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Use same techniques to generate an inflation potential

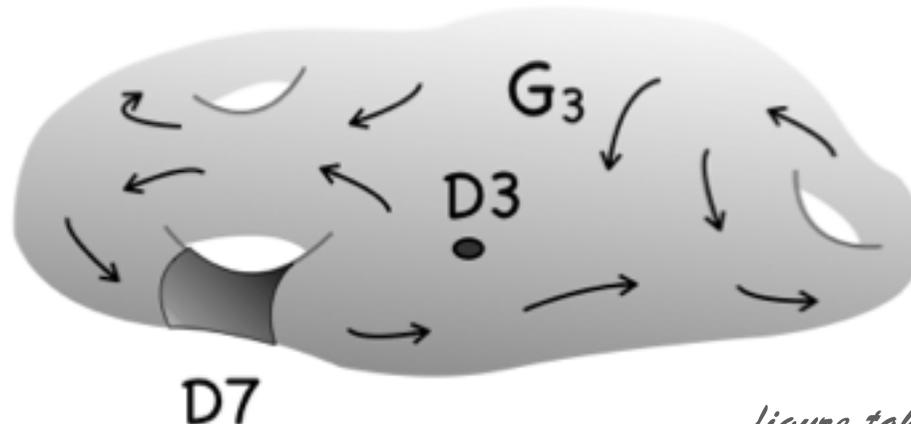


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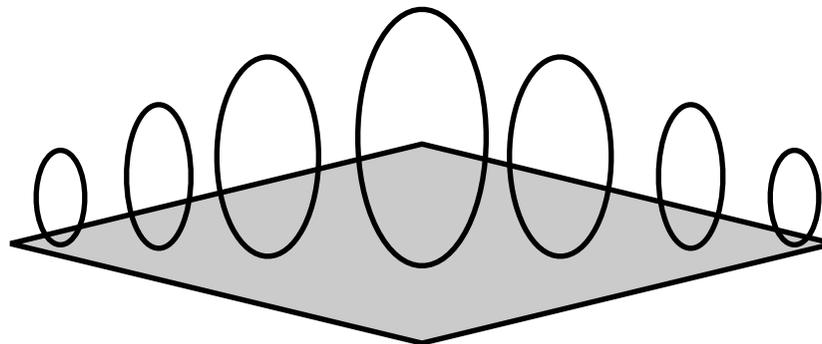
- **Simpler** models, all sectors understood at weak coupling
- **Spontaneous SUSY breaking**, no need for brane-anti-brane
- **Clear endpoint of inflation**, allows to address reheating

Toy Example: Massive Wilson line

- ✿ Simple example of axion: (4+d)-dimensional gauge field integrated over a circle in a compact space Π_d

$$\phi = \int_{S^1} A_1 \quad \text{or} \quad A_1 = \phi(x) \eta_1(y)$$

- ◆ ϕ massless if $\Delta\eta_1 = 0 \Rightarrow S^1$ is a non-trivial circle in Π_d
exact periodicity and (pert.) shift symmetry
- ◆ ϕ massive if $\Delta\eta_1 = -\mu^2 \eta_1 \Rightarrow kS^1$ homologically trivial in Π_d
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$$F_2 = dA_1 = \phi d\eta_1 \sim \mu\phi\omega_2 \Rightarrow \text{shifts in } \phi \text{ increase energy via the induced flux } F_2$$

\Rightarrow periodicity is broken and shift symmetry approximate

MWL and twisted tori

- ❖ Simple way to construct massive Wilson lines: consider **compact extra dimensions** Π_d with circles fibered over a base, like the **twisted tori** that appear in flux compactifications
- ❖ There are **circles** that are **not contractible but** do not correspond to any harmonic 1-form. Instead, they correspond to **torsional elements in homology** and cohomology groups

$$\text{Tor } H_1(\Pi_d, \mathbb{Z}) = \text{Tor } H^2(\Pi_d, \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}_k$$

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- ❖ Simplest example: **twisted 3-torus** $\tilde{\mathbb{T}}^3$

$$H_1(\tilde{\mathbb{T}}^3, \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}_k$$

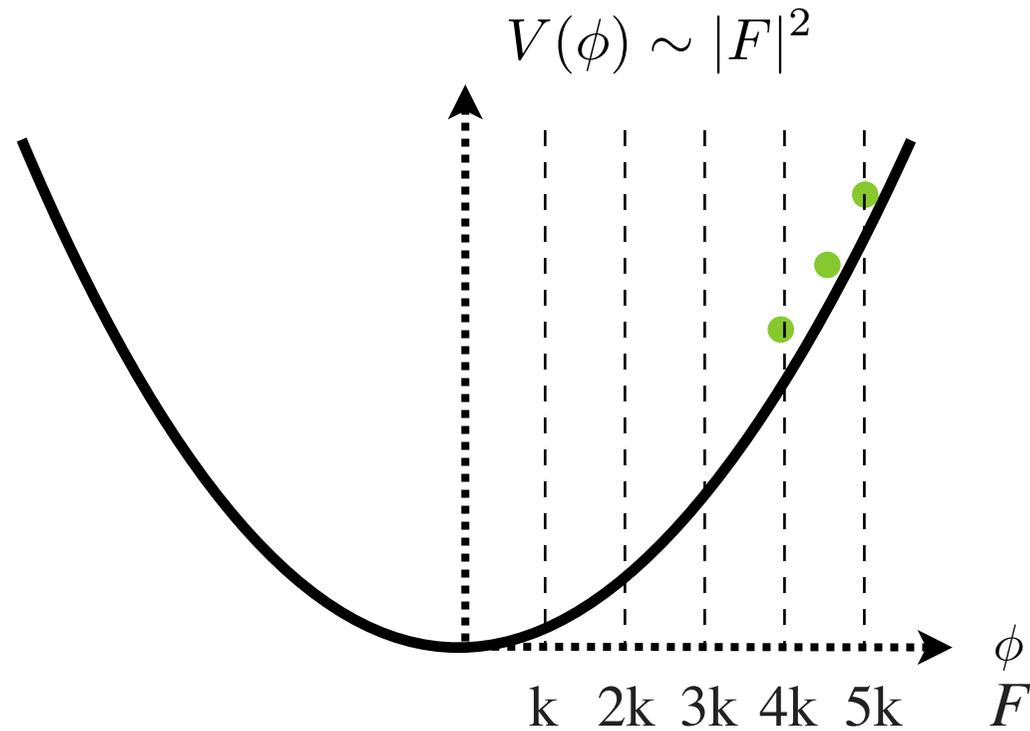
$$d\eta_1 = k dx^2 \wedge dx^3 \rightarrow F = \phi k dx^2 \wedge dx^3$$


 two normal 1-cycles one torsional 1-cycle

$$\mu = \frac{k R_1}{R_2 R_3}$$

under a **shift** $\phi \rightarrow \phi + 1$
 F_2 increases by k units

MWL and monodromy



Question:

How does monodromy and approximate shift symmetry help prevent wild UV corrections?

Torsion and gauge invariance

- ❖ Twisted tori **torsional invariants** are not just a fancy way of detecting non-harmonic forms, but are related to a **hidden gauge invariance** of these axion-monodromy models
- ❖ Let us again consider a **7d gauge theory on $M^{1,3} \times \tilde{\mathbb{T}}^3$**
 - ◆ Instead of A_1 we consider its **magnetic dual V_4**

$$V_4 = C_3 \wedge \eta_1 + b_2 \wedge \sigma_2 \xrightarrow{d\eta_1 = k\sigma_2} dV_4 = dC_3 \wedge \eta_1 + (db_2 - kC_3) \wedge \sigma_2$$

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◆ From dimensional reduction of the **kinetic term**:

$$\int d^7x |dV_4|^2 \longrightarrow \int d^4x |dC_3|^2 + \frac{\mu^2}{k^2} |db_2 - kC_3|^2$$

• Gauge invariance $C_3 \rightarrow C_3 + d\Lambda_2$ $b_2 \rightarrow b_2 + k\Lambda_2$

• Generalization of the Stückelberg Lagrangian

Zuevedo & Trugenberger '96

Effective 4d theory

- ✿ The effective 4d Lagrangian

$$\int d^4x |dC_3|^2 + \frac{\mu^2}{k^2} |db_2 - kC_3|^2$$

describes a **massive axion**, has been applied to QCD axion \Rightarrow generalized to **arbitrary $V(\phi)$**

Kallosh et al. '95

Dvali, Jackiw, Pi '05

Dvali, Folkerts, Franca '13

- ✿ Reproduces the **axion-four-form Lagrangian** proposed by Kaloper and Sorbo as **4d model of axion-monodromy inflation** with mild UV corrections

$$\int d^4x |F_4|^2 + |d\phi|^2 + \phi F_4$$

$$F_4 = dC_3$$

$$d\phi = *_4 db_2$$

Kaloper & Sorbo '08

- ✿ It is related to an **F-term** generated mass term

Groh, Louis, Sommerfeld '12

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✿ Gauge symmetry \Rightarrow UV corrections only depend on F_4

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}[\phi] = \frac{1}{2}(\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2}\mu^2\phi^2 + \Lambda^4 \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} c_i \frac{\phi^{2i}}{\Lambda^{2i}}$$

$$\sum_n c_n \frac{F^{2n}}{\Lambda^{4n}} \rightarrow \mu^2\phi^2 \sum_n c_n \left(\frac{\mu^2\phi^2}{\Lambda^4}\right)^n$$

\Rightarrow suppressed corrections up to the scale where $V(\phi) \sim \Lambda^4$

\Rightarrow effective scale for corrections $\Lambda \rightarrow \Lambda_{\text{eff}} = \Lambda^2/\mu$

Effective 4d theory

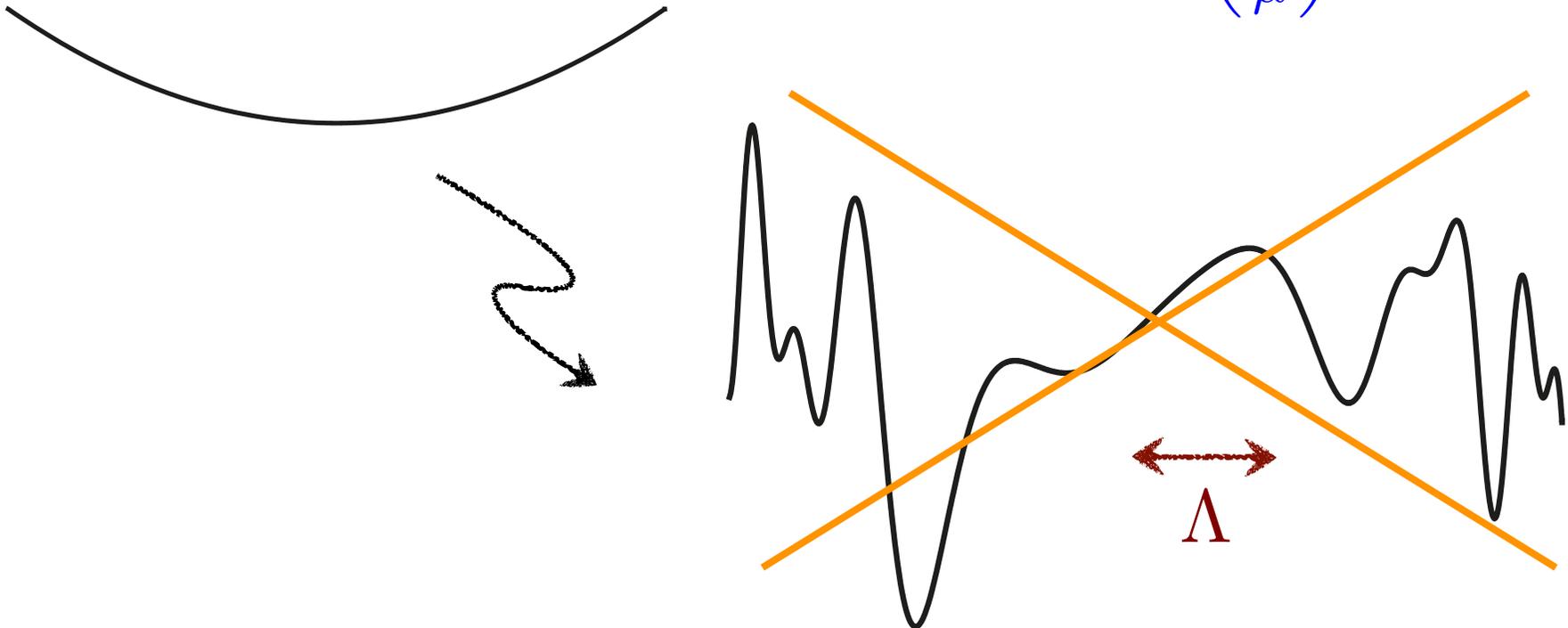
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$$\Lambda \rightarrow \Lambda_{\text{eff}} = \Lambda \left(\frac{\Lambda}{\mu} \right)$$



Discrete symmetries and domain walls

❖ The integer k in the Lagrangian

$$\int d^4x |F_4|^2 + \frac{\mu^2}{k^2} |db_2 - kC_3|^2$$

corresponds to a **discrete symmetry of the theory broken spontaneously** once a choice of four-form flux is made. This amounts to choose a **branch of the scalar potential**

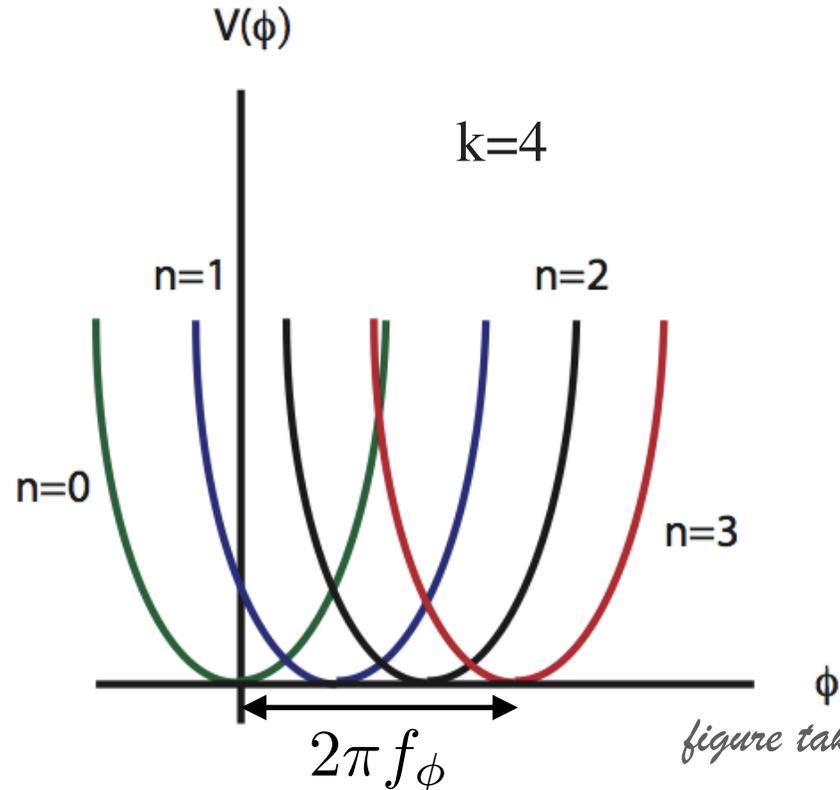


figure taken from Kaloper & Lawrence '14

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- ❖ Branch jumps are made via nucleation of domain walls that couple to C_3 , and this puts a maximum to the inflaton range
- ❖ Domain walls analysed in string constructions [Uranga's talk]:
Berasaluce-Gonzalez, Camara, Marchesano, Uranga '12
 - They correspond to discrete symmetries of the superpotential/landscape of vacua, and appear whenever axions are stabilised
 - k domain walls decay in a cosmic string implementing $\phi \rightarrow \phi+1$

Massive Wilson lines in string theory

- ❖ Simple example of MWL in string theory: D6-brane on $M^{1,3} \times \tilde{\mathbb{T}}^3$
- ❖ An inflaton vev induces a non-trivial flux F_2 proportional to ϕ but now this flux enters the DBI action

$$\sqrt{\det(G + 2\pi\alpha' F_2)} = d\text{vol}_{M^{1,3}} (|F_2|^2 + \text{corrections})$$

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- ❖ For small values of ϕ we recover chaotic inflation, but for large values the corrections are important and we have a potential of the form

$$V = \sqrt{L^4 + \langle\phi\rangle^2} - L^2$$

Similar to the D4-brane model of Silverstein and Westphal except for the inflation endpoint

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Massive Wilson lines and flattening

- ❖ The DBI modification

$$\langle \phi \rangle^2 \rightarrow \sqrt{L^4 + \langle \phi \rangle^2} - L^2$$

can be interpreted as **corrections due to UV completion**

- ❖ E.g., **integrating out moduli** such that $H < m_{\text{mod}} < M_{\text{GUT}}$ will correct the potential, although not destabilise it

Kaloper, Lawrence, Sorbo '11

- ❖ In the DBI case the **potential is flattened**: argued general effect due to couplings to heavy fields

Dong, Horn, Silverstein, Westphal '10

- ❖ **Large vev flattening** also observed in examples of confining gauge theories whose **gravity dual** is known [Witten'98]

Dubovsky, Lawrence, Roberts '11

Other string examples

- ❖ We can integrate a **bulk p-form potential** C_p over a p-cycle to get an axion

$$F_{p+1} = dC_p, \quad C_p \rightarrow C_p + d\Lambda_{p-1} \quad c = \int_{\pi_p} C_p$$

- ❖ If the **p-cycle is torsional** we will get the **same effective action**

$$\int d^{10}x |F_{9-p}|^2 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \int d^4x |dC_3|^2 + \frac{\mu^2}{k^2} |db_2 - kC_3|^2$$

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- ❖ The **topological groups** that detect this possibility are

$$\text{Tor } H_p(\mathbf{X}_6, \mathbb{Z}) = \text{Tor } H^{p+1}(\mathbf{X}_6, \mathbb{Z}) = \text{Tor } H^{6-p}(\mathbf{X}_6, \mathbb{Z}) = \text{Tor } H_{5-p}(\mathbf{X}_6, \mathbb{Z})$$

one should make sure that the corresponding axion mass is well below the compactification scale (e.g., using warping)

Other string examples

- ❖ Axions also obtain a mass with **background fluxes**
- ❖ **Simplest example: $\phi = C_0$** in the presence of NSNS flux H_3

$$W = \int_{\mathbf{X}_6} (F_3 - \tau H_3) \wedge \Omega \quad \tau = C_0 + i/g_s$$

- ❖ We also recover the **axion-four-form potential**

$$\int_{M^{1,3} \times \mathbf{X}_6} C_0 H_3 \wedge F_7 = \int_{M^{1,3}} C_0 F_4 \quad F_4 = \int_{\text{PD}[H_3]} F_7$$

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- ❖ M-theory version: *Beasley, Witten '02*

- ❖ A rich set of superpotentials obtained with **type IIA fluxes**

$$\int_{\mathbf{X}_6} e^{J_c} \wedge (F_0 + F_2 + F_4) \quad J_c = J + iB$$

➔ **potentials higher than quadratic**

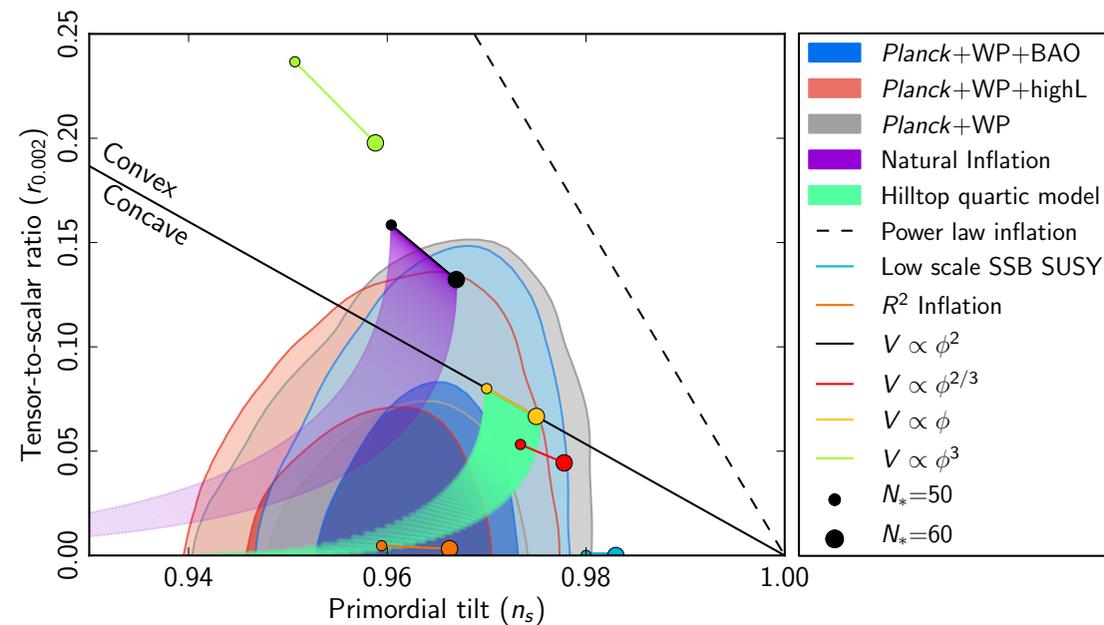
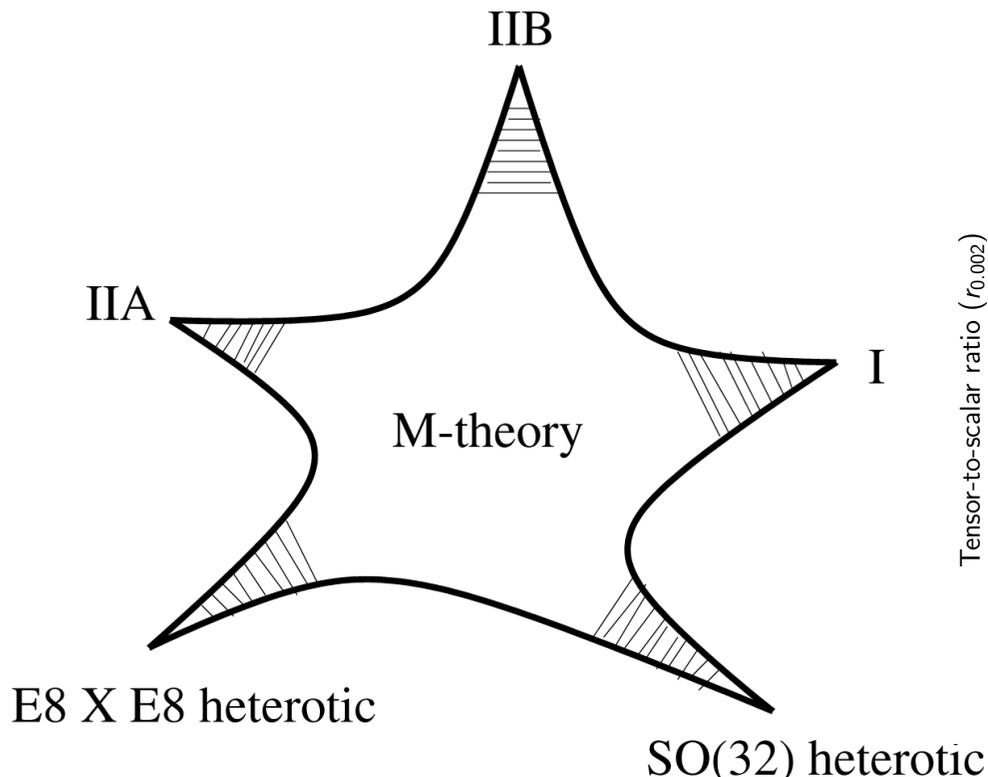
- ❖ Massive axions detected by **torsion groups** in K-theory

Conclusions

- ❖ Axion monodromy is an elegant idea that combines chaotic and natural inflation, aiming to prevent disastrous UV corrections to the inflaton potential.
- ❖ We have discussed its **concrete** implementation in a **new framework**, dubbed **F-term axion monodromy inflation** compatible with spontaneous supersymmetry breaking.
- ❖ In a simple set of models the inflaton is a **massive Wilson line**. They show the **mild UV corrections** for large inflaton vev.
- ❖ **Effective action** reproduces the axion-four-form action proposed by **Kaloper and Sorbo**. Discrete symmetries classified by K-theory torsion groups.
- ❖ α' corrections to EFT [See Junghans's talk and references therein] are important for **inflation** and **moduli stabilization**.

Conclusions

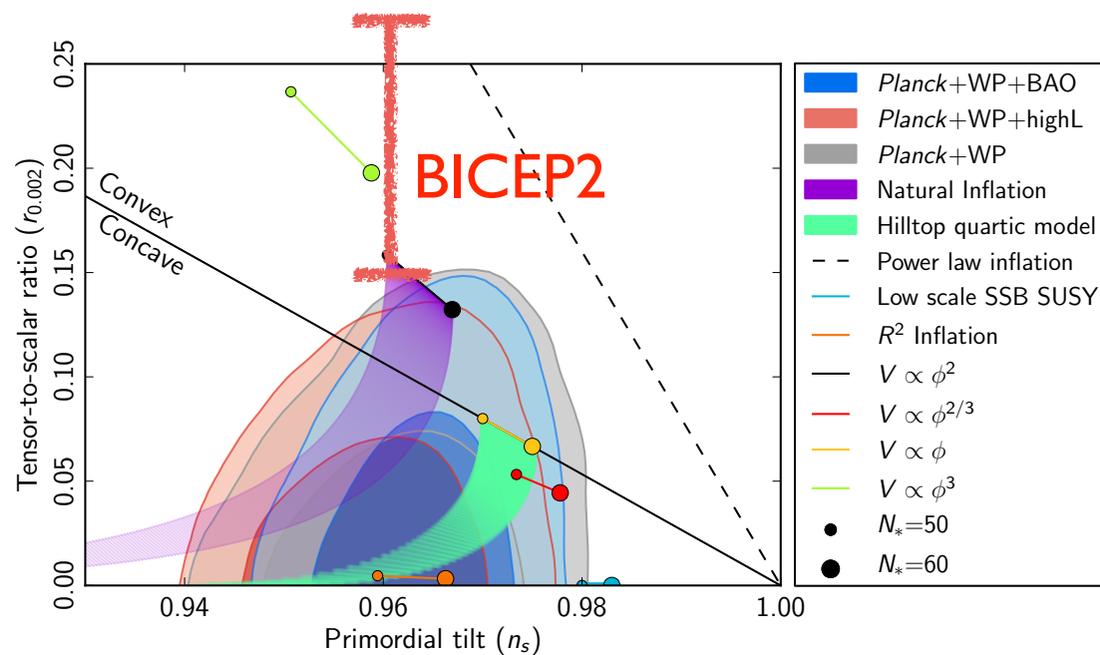
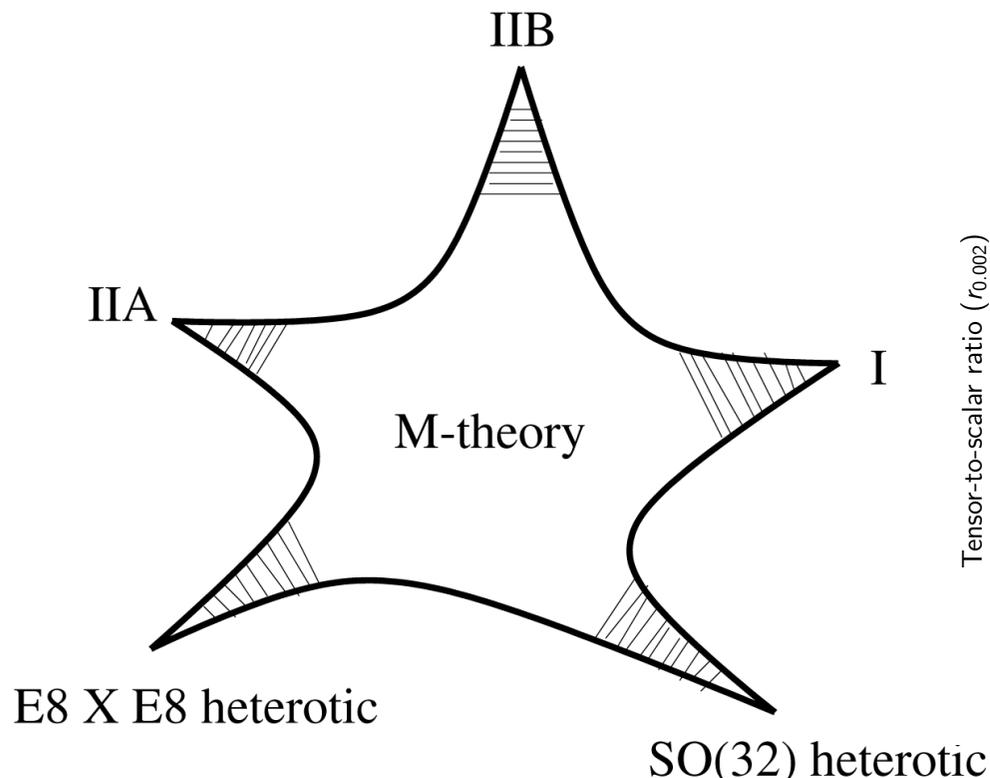
- ❖ A broad class of large field inflationary scenarios that can be implemented in any limit of string theory w/ rich pheno:



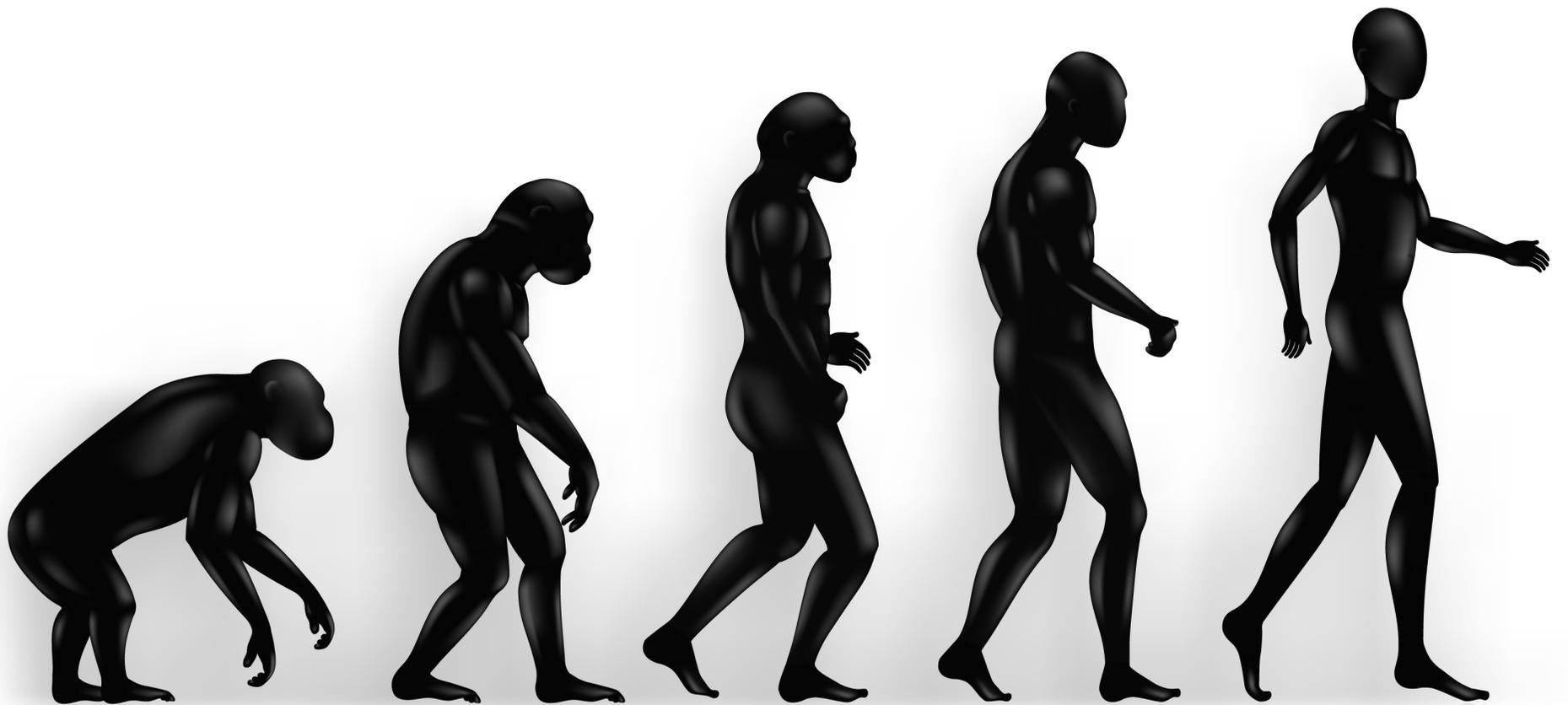
- ❖ Moduli stabilization needs to be addressed in detailed models
[See Hebecker's talk and references therein]

Conclusions

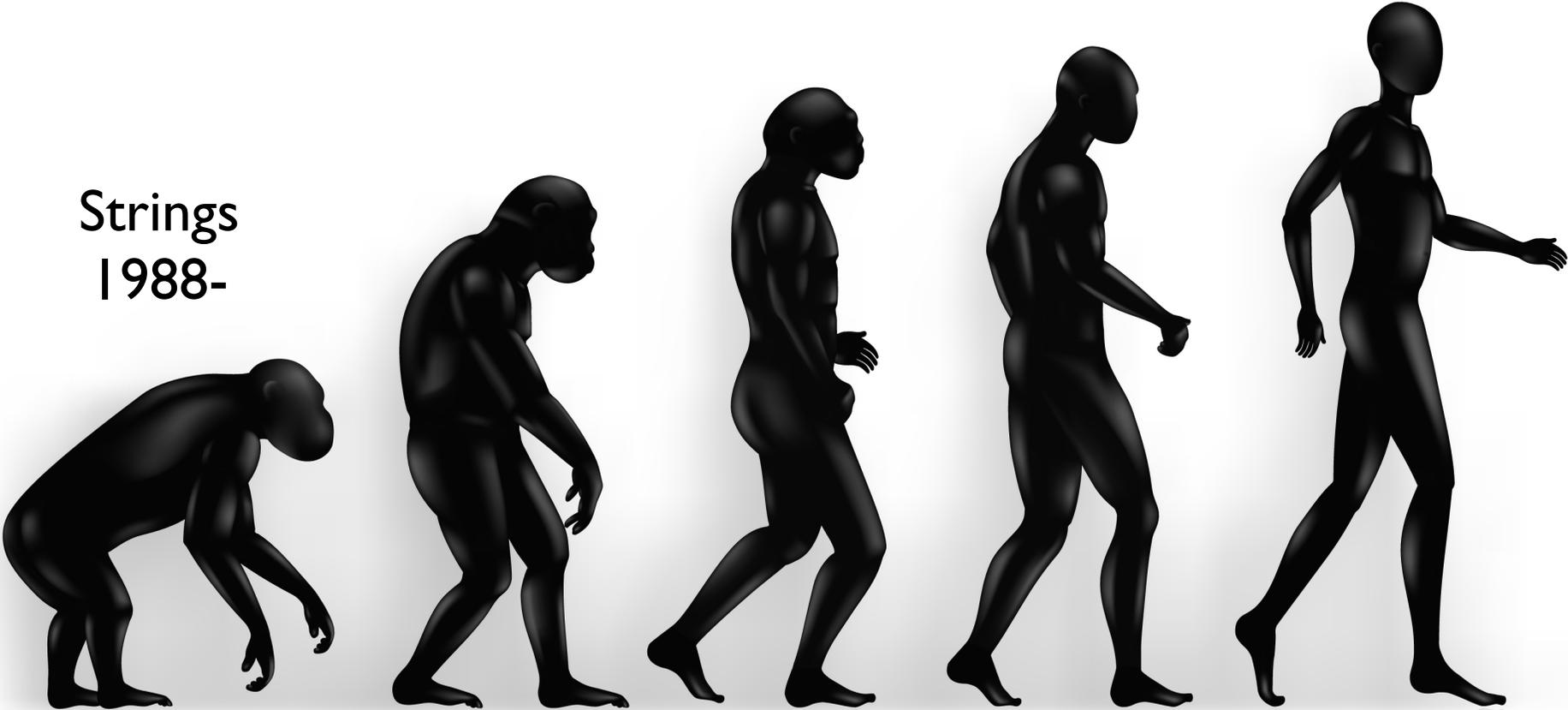
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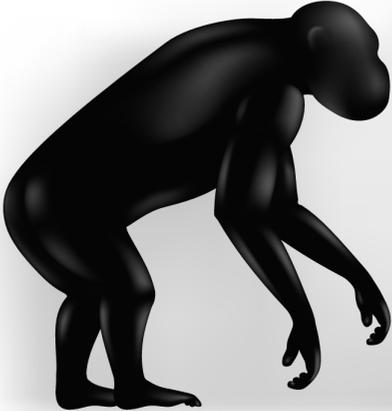
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Strings
1988-



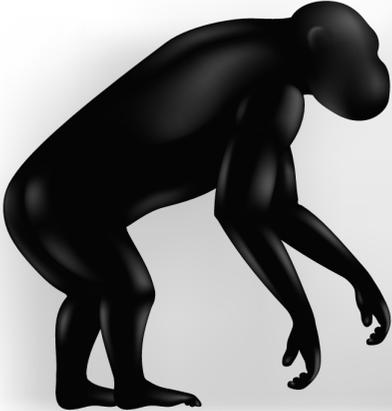
Strings
1988-



String Pheno
2002-



Strings
1988-



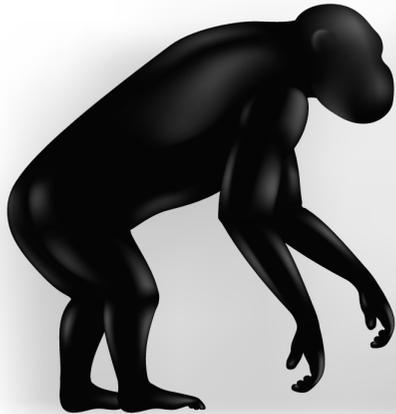
String Pheno
2002-



String Math
2011-



Strings
1988-



String Pheno
2002-



String Math
2011-



String Cosmo
2015-



String Theory & Cosmology

New Ideas Meet New Experimental Data

May 31 - June 5, 2015

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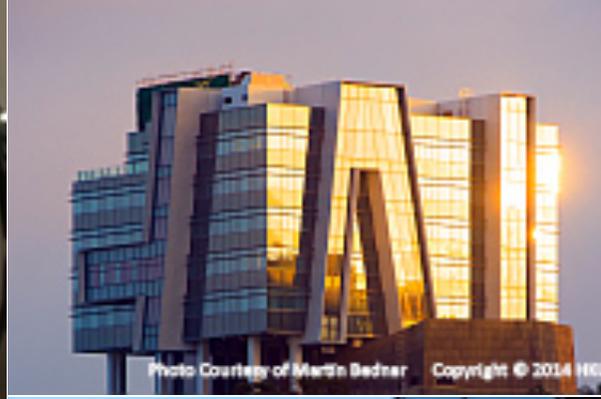
Application Deadline

Applications for this meeting must be submitted by **May 3, 2015**. Please apply early, as some meetings become oversubscribed (full) before this deadline. If the meeting is oversubscribed, it will be stated here. *Note:* Applications for oversubscribed meetings will only be considered by the Conference Chair if more seats become available due to cancellations.

Check out the website: <http://www.grc.org/programs.aspx?id=16938>

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Grazie!