# R-Symmetries from Heterotic Orbifolds

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Based on arXiv: 1301.2322, 1308.5669 in collaboration with N. Cabo Bizet, T. Kobayashi, S. Parameswaran, M. Schmitz and I. Zavala



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# Plan

- Motivation
- Orbifolds and their CFT
- R-Symmetries from Orbifold Isometries
- Universal R-Anomalies
- Conclusions and Prospects



#### Motivation

• Many MSSM like models can be obtained from the Heterotic orbifolds such as  $\mathbb{Z}_{6II}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$ ,...

see e.g. talks by N. Cabo Bizet, S Ramos Sánchez

- Their success is mostly due to the many orbifold symmetries present in the effective field theory
  - non-R-Symmetries: Remnants of U(1)-symmetries, permutations of fixed points,...
     → Flavor symmetries, etc
    - R-Symmetries:

Surviving components of the Lorentz group in compact space.

 $\rightarrow$  Well motivated in SUSY-pheno

see talk by P. Pais

 $\rightarrow$  Stringy R-symmetries could solve the  $\mu\text{-problem}$ 

Casas, Munoz'93; Lebedev et. al.'08, Kappl et. al.'09



Assume the target space of the heterotic string to be of the form

$$\mathcal{M}_{10} = \mathcal{M}_{3,1} \times \frac{T^6}{P} = \mathcal{M}_{3,1} \times \frac{\mathbb{C}^3}{P \ltimes \Gamma_6} = \mathcal{M}_{3,1} \times \frac{\mathbb{C}^3}{S}$$

P is an isometry of  $\Gamma_6$  which we take as  $\mathbb{Z}_N$ , with

$$\theta = (e^{2\pi i v^1}, e^{2\pi i v^2}, e^{2\pi i v^3})$$

its generating element.

• String boundary conditions:

$$Z(\sigma + \pi, \tau) = \theta^k Z(\sigma, \tau) + \lambda \quad (\theta^k, \lambda) \in S$$



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• P has some fixed points  $z_{\rm f}$ , which fall into conjugacy classes

$$[z_{\mathbf{f}}] = \{z_{\mathbf{f}}' \mid z_{\mathbf{f}}' = hz_{\mathbf{f}} \text{ for some } h \in S\},\$$

supporting twisted string states.



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• The space group also acts one the gauge coords.

$$g = (\theta^k, n_\alpha e_\alpha) \hookrightarrow V_g = kV + n_\alpha W_\alpha$$

the shift V and the Wilson lines  $W_{\alpha}$  are fractional vectors from the  $E_8\times E_8$  lattice.



**Building Blocks for Massless States** 

Dixon, Friedan, Marinec, Shenker'87

Internal space coords.

 $\rightarrow$  Oscillators  $\partial Z^i$ ,  $\partial \overline{Z}$ 

Gauge coords.

 $\rightarrow$  Gauge weights  $e^{2\pi \mathrm{i} p^I_{sh} X^I}$  , I=1,...,16

Right moving fermions

 $\rightarrow$  Reps. under the little group  $e^{2\pi i q_{sh}^{b,f} \cdot H}$ 

$$q^b_{sh} = q^f_{sh} + (\tfrac{1}{2}, -\tfrac{1}{2}, -\tfrac{1}{2}, -\tfrac{1}{2})$$

Space group

 $\rightarrow$  Twist fields creating vacua from the untwisted ones:

$$\sigma = \sum_{z'_{\rm f} \in [z_{\rm f}]} e^{-2\pi \mathrm{i} r \tilde{\gamma}(z'_{\rm f})} \sigma_{z'_{\rm f}} \,,$$

#### **Physical States**

The physical vertices take the form:

$$V_{b,f} = e^{-a\phi} \left( \prod_{i=1}^{3} (\partial X^{i})^{\mathcal{N}_{\mathrm{L}}^{i}} (\partial \bar{X}^{i})^{\bar{\mathcal{N}}_{\mathrm{L}}^{i}} \right) \ e^{\mathrm{i}q_{sh}^{b,f} \cdot H^{m}} e^{\mathrm{i}p_{sh}^{I} X^{I}} \sigma$$

• Any state must be invariant under the full space group. Take a generic  $h=(\theta^m,\mu)$ 

$$\frac{\partial Z^i}{\partial t} \xrightarrow{h} e^{2\pi i v_h^i} \frac{\partial Z^i}{\partial z^i} \quad X^I \xrightarrow{h} X^I + 2\pi V_h^I \,, \quad H^i \to H^i - v_h^i \,.$$

• What about the twist fields? ...auxiliary pieces

$$\sigma_{z_{\rm f}'} \xrightarrow{h} e^{2\pi i \Phi(h, z_{\rm f}')} \sigma_{h z_{\rm f}'} \,.$$

 $\Phi(h,z_{\rm f}')$  is a vacuum phase fixed by modular invariance.



Hamidi, Vafa'87; Font, Ibanez, Nilles, Quevedo'88

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Hence

$$\sigma \xrightarrow{h} e^{2\pi i [\gamma(h) + \Phi(h, z_{f}')]} \sigma.$$

where  $\gamma(h) = \tilde{\gamma}(hz_{\mathrm{f}}') - \tilde{\gamma}(z_{\mathrm{f}}')$ 



Hamidi, Vafa'87; Font, Ibanez, Nilles, Quevedo'88

#### Orbifolds CFTs Physical States

Putting all pieces together we get the following

• If 
$$hz'_{
m f}=z'_{
m f}\Rightarrow\gamma(h)=0.$$
 Thus

$$p_{sh} \cdot V_h - v_h^i (q_{sh}^{b,f \ i} - \mathcal{N}_L^i + \bar{\mathcal{N}}_L^i) + \Phi(h, z_f') \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

 $\Rightarrow$  these conds. project out some states

...otherwise

$$\boldsymbol{\gamma}(h) = -p_{sh} \cdot V_h + v_h^i (q_{sh}^{b,f~i} - \mathcal{N}_L^i + \bar{\mathcal{N}}_L^i) - \Phi(h, z_f')$$

the values of  $\gamma(h)$  fix all  $\tilde{\gamma}(hz'_{\rm f})$  in  $\sigma$  up to an overall phase.



Orbifold Isometries: Lattice automorphisms which survive the orbifolding.  $\rightarrow$  these are rotations which leave fixed points invariant



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• For Example:  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  The  $\theta^2$  sector



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# R-Symmetries from the CFT



• L-point coupling  $\psi\psi\Phi^{L-3} \subset \int d\theta^2 \mathcal{W}$  given by the correlator of the emission vertices

$$\mathcal{F} = \langle V_1 V_2 \dots V_L \rangle$$

• Given an orbifold isometry

$$\varrho = (e^{2\pi\mathrm{i}\xi^1}, e^{2\pi\mathrm{i}\xi^2}, e^{2\pi\mathrm{i}\xi^3})$$

 ${\mathcal F}$  vanishes unless  $\sum_{\alpha=1}^N r_\alpha = R \, \operatorname{mod} M$  , where

$$r_{\alpha} = \sum_{i=1}^{3} M \xi^{i} \left( q_{\alpha} - \mathcal{N}_{\mathrm{L}}^{i} + \bar{\mathcal{N}}_{\mathrm{L}}^{i} \right) - M \gamma(h_{\varrho})$$

M is the smallest integer s.t.  $-M\sum_{i=1}^{3}\xi^{i}=R\in\mathbb{Z}.$ 



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 $h_{\varrho}$  is a space group element s.t.  $h_{\varrho}z'_{\rm f} = \varrho z'_{\rm f}$ .



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Now we have a  $\mathbb{Z}_M^R$  symmetry in the field theory.



• Heterotic Orbifold model possess only one axion field.

All anomalies must be cancelled by the same axion shift (anomaly universality).

• For the  $\mathbb{Z}_M^R$ 

The Anomaly coefficients read

$$\begin{split} A_{G_a^2 - \mathbb{Z}_M^R} &= C_2(G_a) \frac{R}{2} + \sum_{\alpha} \left( r_\alpha - \frac{R}{2} \right) T(\mathbf{R}_a^\alpha) \,, \\ A_{\mathrm{grav}.^2 - \mathbb{Z}_M^R} &= \left( -21 - 1 - N_T - N_U + \sum_a \dim\{\mathrm{adj}(G_a)\} \right) \frac{R}{2} \\ &+ \sum_{\alpha} \left( r_\alpha - \frac{R}{2} \right) \cdot \dim\{\mathbf{R}^\alpha\} \,, \end{split}$$

for  $G_a \subset E_8 \times E_8$  a gauge factor and  $\alpha$  running over all matter reps.





• Heterotic Orbifold model possess only one axion field.

All anomalies must be cancelled by the same axion shift *(anomaly universality)*.

• For the  $\mathbb{Z}_M^R$ 

Anomaly universality implies

$$A_{G_a^2-\mathbb{Z}_M^R} \bmod MT(\mathbf{N}_a) = A_{G_b^2-\mathbb{Z}_M^R} \bmod MT(\mathbf{N}_b)\,,$$

$$A_{G_a^2-\mathbb{Z}_M^R} \bmod MT(\mathbf{N}_a) = \frac{1}{24} \left( A_{\mathsf{grav}.^2-\mathbb{Z}_M^R} \ \mathsf{mod} \ \frac{M}{2} \right) \,,$$

for any pair of non-Abelian gauge factors  $G_a$  and  $G_b$ .

#### • Results

orbifold	lattice	twist	Q			R	M
			ξ1	$\xi_2$	ξ3		
$\mathbb{Z}_4$	$SO(4)^2 \times SU(2)^2$	$(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, -\frac{2}{4})$	1/4	1/4	0	-1	2
			1/2	0	0	-1	2
			0	0	1/2	$^{+1}$	2
$\mathbb{Z}_{6I}$	$G_2 \times G_2 \times SU(3)$	$(\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{6}, -\frac{2}{6})$	1/6	1/6	0	-1	3
			0	0	-1/3	$^{+1}$	3
$\mathbb{Z}_{6II}$	$G_2 \times SU(3) \times SU(2)^2$	$(\frac{1}{6}, \frac{2}{6}, -\frac{3}{6})$	1/6	0	0	-1	6
			0	1/3	0	-1	3
			0	-1/2	0	$^{+1}$	2
$\mathbb{Z}_{8I}$	$SO(9) \times SO(5)$	$(\frac{1}{8}, -\frac{3}{8}, \frac{2}{8})$	1/4	-3/4	0	-1	2
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• We constructed the models for all inequivalent shift embeddings, the symmetries of interest were found to give universal anomalies.





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• For each shift embedding 10.000 Wilson line configurations were randomly generated, again we see universal anomaly coefficients.



#### Conclusions and Outlook

- Orbifold isometries were identified as symmetries of the worldsheet instantons, and thus explicit symmetries of the three point correlators.
- The universality of the anomalies found for these new *R*-charges in all models explored gives confidence on the robustness of these results.
- The new *R*-charges contain now gauge information, it is worth studying what is the counterpart of this phenomenon in the context of smooth CY manifolds, or the orbifold regime in GLSMs.
- From the Orbifold point there is a long way down to the (...N)MSSM. Phenomenologically viable *R*-symmetries from stringy models are to be found.

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#### Molte Grazie

