



INSTITUT  
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# NEW VARIATIONS ON BRANE SUPERSYMMETRY BREAKING

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to appear soon, with

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nov. 22, 2023

« YOUNGST&RS: Strings Breaking SUSY »



# Outline

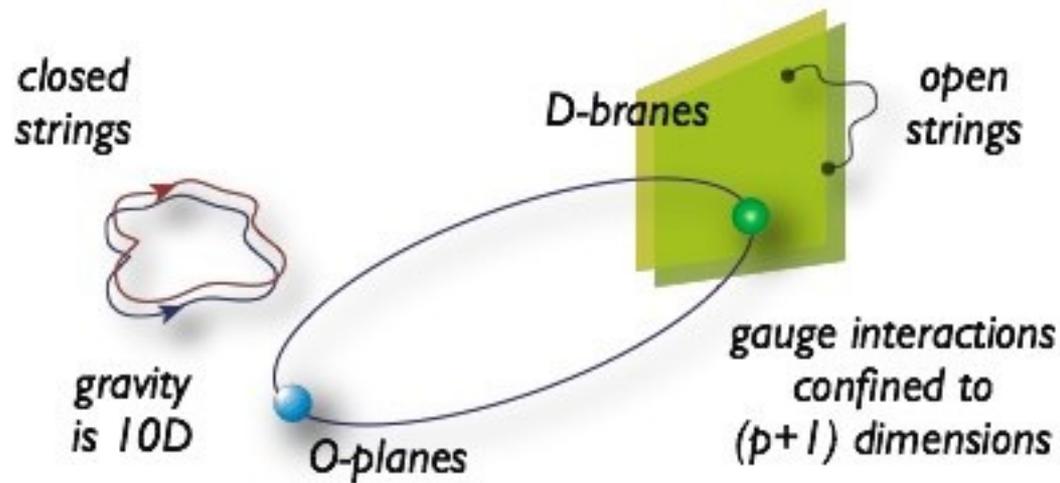


- 1) Brane supersymmetry breaking (BSB)
- 2) New variations: islands of BSB vacua
- 3) A 4d example
- 4)\* Comments on string defects

# 1) Brane supersymmetry breaking

(Antoniadis, E.D., Sagnotti; Angelantonj; Aldazabal, Uranga 1999;  
 review Mourad, Sagnotti, 2017; recent twist on classical solutions Madrid and Munich groups;  
 talks R. Angius, A. Makridou, S. Raucci)

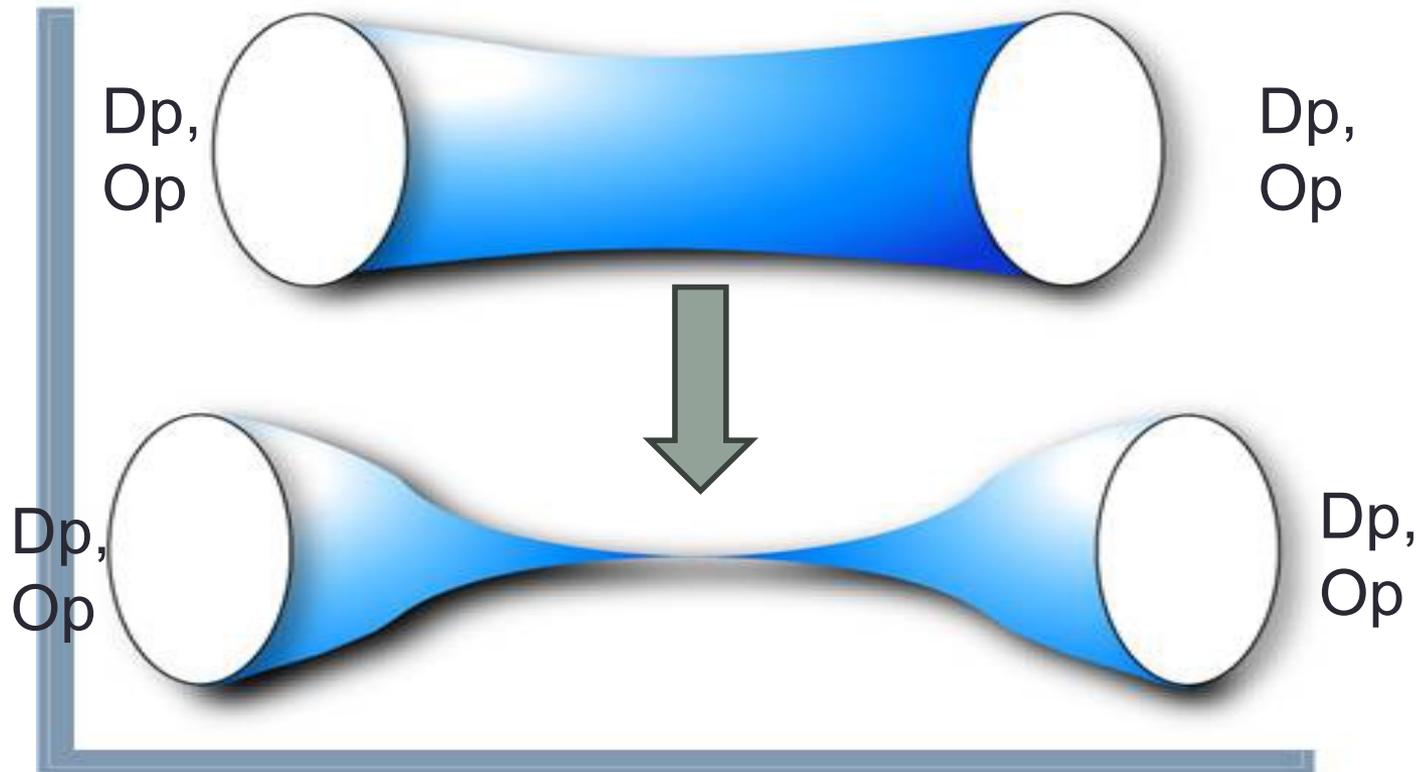
Orientifold constructions contain “bulk” closed strings and localized Dp-branes and Orientifold Op-planes (Rome II / Pisa group...).



Tadpole conditions  $\longleftrightarrow$  Gauss law enforce

$$\sum Q_{Dp} + \sum Q_{Op} = 0$$

for background branes/O-planes



# Perturbative orientifold constructions contain

Object

RR charge

NS-NS tension

$Dp$

+

+

with

$\overline{Dp}$

-

+

$$Q_{Dp} = \pm 2^{5-p} Q_{Op}$$

$Op_-$

-

-

$Op_+$

+

+

$\overline{Op_-}$

+

-

$\overline{Op_+}$

-

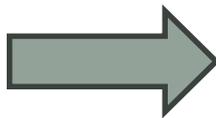
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Rome II group found in the 90's puzzling orientifold projections with consistent SUSY closed string spectra:  
**no way to cancel RR tadpoles** adding open strings/ D-branes.

It took a couple of years to realize that these models contained  $O_{p+}$  planes: only way to cancel RR tadpoles was adding **anti-branes**  $\overline{Dp}$  (ADS, 1999)

But  $\overline{Dp} - O_{p+}$  are mutually non-BPS



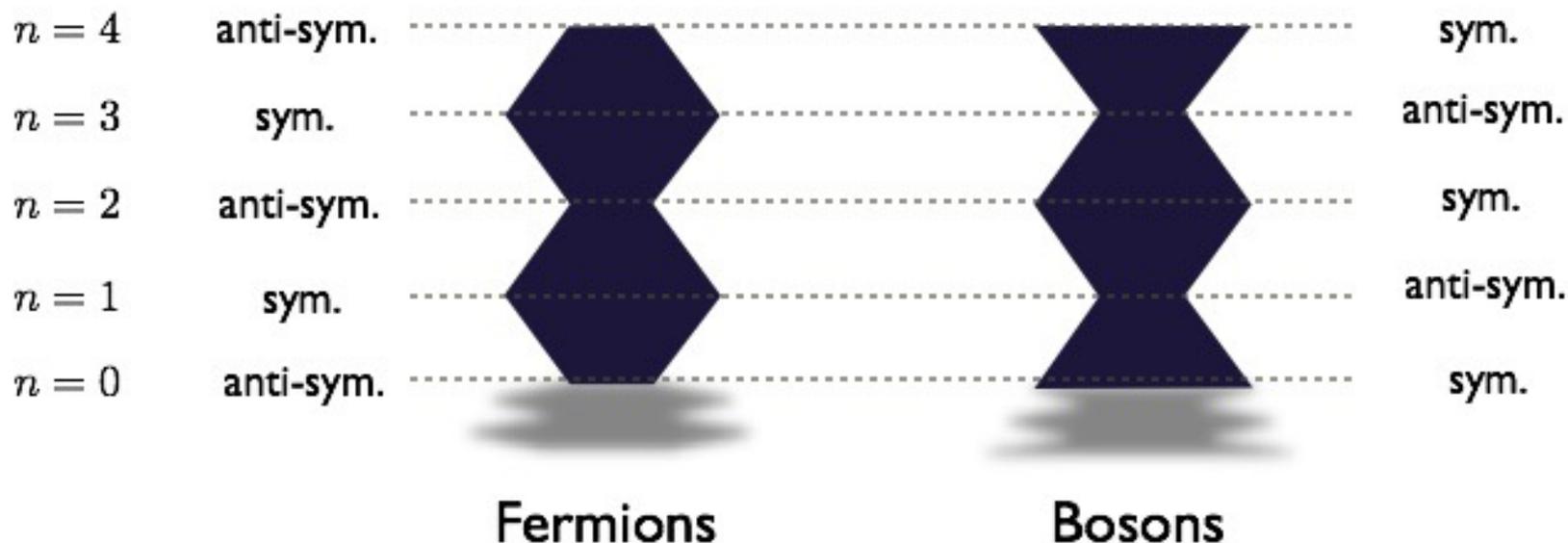
**SUSY breaking** on anti-branes, with **no tachyonic instability**.

Price to pay: NS-NS tadpole

$\overline{Dp} - O_{p+}$	RR charge 0	NS-NS tension +
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The spectrum of bosons in fermions is “misaligned”  
(see talk Giorgio) in this case, **SUSY breaking at the string scale**

## open-string spectrum





6d ex: (ADS,1999)



$T^4/Z_2$  orbifold of type I,  $D9/O9_-$  and  $\overline{D}5/O5_+$  stable non-BPS configs.

Gravity (closed string) sector:  
SUSY

Multiplicity	Multiplet	Sector
1	Gravity	Untwisted
1	Tensor	Untwisted
4	Hypers	Untwisted
16	Tensors	Twisted

Gauge (open string) sector:

$$G = SO(16)_9^2 \times USp(16)_5^2$$

SUSY breaking,  
non-linear SUSY

(E.D.,Mourad,2000;  
Pradisi-Riccioni, 2001)

Field/Multiplet	Representation
$A_\mu$	$(120, 1; 1, 1) + (1, 120; 1, 1) + (1, 1; 136, 1) + (1, 1; 1, 136)$
$\chi_L$	$(120, 1; 1, 1) + (1, 120; 1, 1) + (1, 1; 120, 1) + (1, 1; 1, 120)$
$(4\phi, \psi_R)$	$(16, 16; 1, 1) + (1, 1; 16, 16)$
MW $\psi_L$	$(16, 1; 16, 1) + (1, 16; 1, 16)$
$2\phi$	$(16, 1; 1, 16) + (1, 16; 16, 1)$



# Charges / geometry : (all $\overline{D5}$ at fixed points)



	untwisted charges/tension	twisted RR/NS-NS charges/tension	Gauge group
O9-	(-32,-32)	(0,0)	
O5+	(+32,+32)	(0,0)	
$n_1 D9_1$	$n_1 (1,1)$	$n_1 (1,1)$	SO ( $n_1$ )
$n_2 D9_2$	$n_2 (1,1)$	$n_2 (-1,-1)$	SO ( $n_2$ )
$d_1 \overline{D5}_1$	$d_1 (-1,1)$	$d_1 (-4,-4)$	USp ( $d_1$ )
$d_2 \overline{D5}_2$	$d_2 (-1,1)$	$d_2 (4,4)$	USp ( $d_2$ )

⇒ a total number of 32 D9 and D5 **fractional branes**, tadpoles:

$$\text{UT:} \quad n_1 + n_2 = 32, \quad \sum_i (d_1^i + d_2^i) = 32,$$

$$\text{T:} \quad n_1 - n_2 - 4(d_1^i - d_2^i) = 0 \quad i = 1 \dots 16$$

Simplest (ADS) solution:  $n_1 = n_2 = d_1 = d_2 = 16$

All branes have positions/WL, but in order to move them, they have to leave in pairs of zero twisted charge.

- Condensing  $(16, 16; 1, 1)$  breaks D9 gauge group

$$SO(16)_9 \times SO(16)_9 \rightarrow SO(16)_D$$

- Condensing  $(1, 1; 16, 16)$  moves  $\overline{D5}$  into the bulk

$$USp(16)_{\overline{5}} \times USp(16)_{\overline{5}} \rightarrow USp(16)_D$$

- Condensing  $(16, 1; 1, 16) + (1, 16; 16, 1)$  recombines

$D9$  and  $\overline{D5}$   $\longleftrightarrow$  magnetize the D9 branes, “dissolve”  $\overline{D5}$



## 2) New variations: BSB Islands

- The original BSB gauge group was based (common in the literature) on cancelling twisted charges separately for D9 branes and D5 antibranes, allowing motions/Wilson lines and brane recombination.
- There is another, **unique disconnected solution** to tadpole conditions for  $T^4/Z_2$  BSB orbifold, in which **twisted couplings cancel nontrivially** between D9 and D5 antibranes, distributed democratically among the fixed points.

$$n_1 = 20, n_2 = 12, d_1^i = 2, d_2^i = 0$$

The  $\overline{D5}$  are **rigid\***, they have **no positions**.

\*In a **different sense** compared to usual terminology



$$G = SO(20)_9 \times SO(12)_9 \times [USp(2)_{\bar{5}}]^{16}$$



Twisted charges:  $20 \times 1_i$        $12 \times (-1)_i$        $2 \times (-4)_i$

Massless open string spectrum :

L-fermions:  $(190, 1, 1_{16}) + (1, 66, 1_{16}) + 16(1, 1, \frac{2 \times 1}{2})$

L-MW fermions :  $\sum_i (20, 1, 2_i)$

R-fermions:  $(20, 12, 1_{16})$

**Scalars:**  $4 \times (20, 12, 1_{16}) + 2 \times \sum_i (20, 1, 2_i)$

- As anticipated, **no positions or motions in the bulk** for  $\overline{D5}$  antibranes

Only **part** of the D9 branes can move/have Wilson lines, compatible with **twisted charge cancelation**.

Condensing the scalars  $4 \times (20, 12, 1_{16})$ , one breaks/move D9 gauge group

$$SO(20)_9 \times SO(12)_9 \rightarrow SO(12)_D \times SO(8)_9$$

**bulk** D9 branes

**fractional** D9 branes

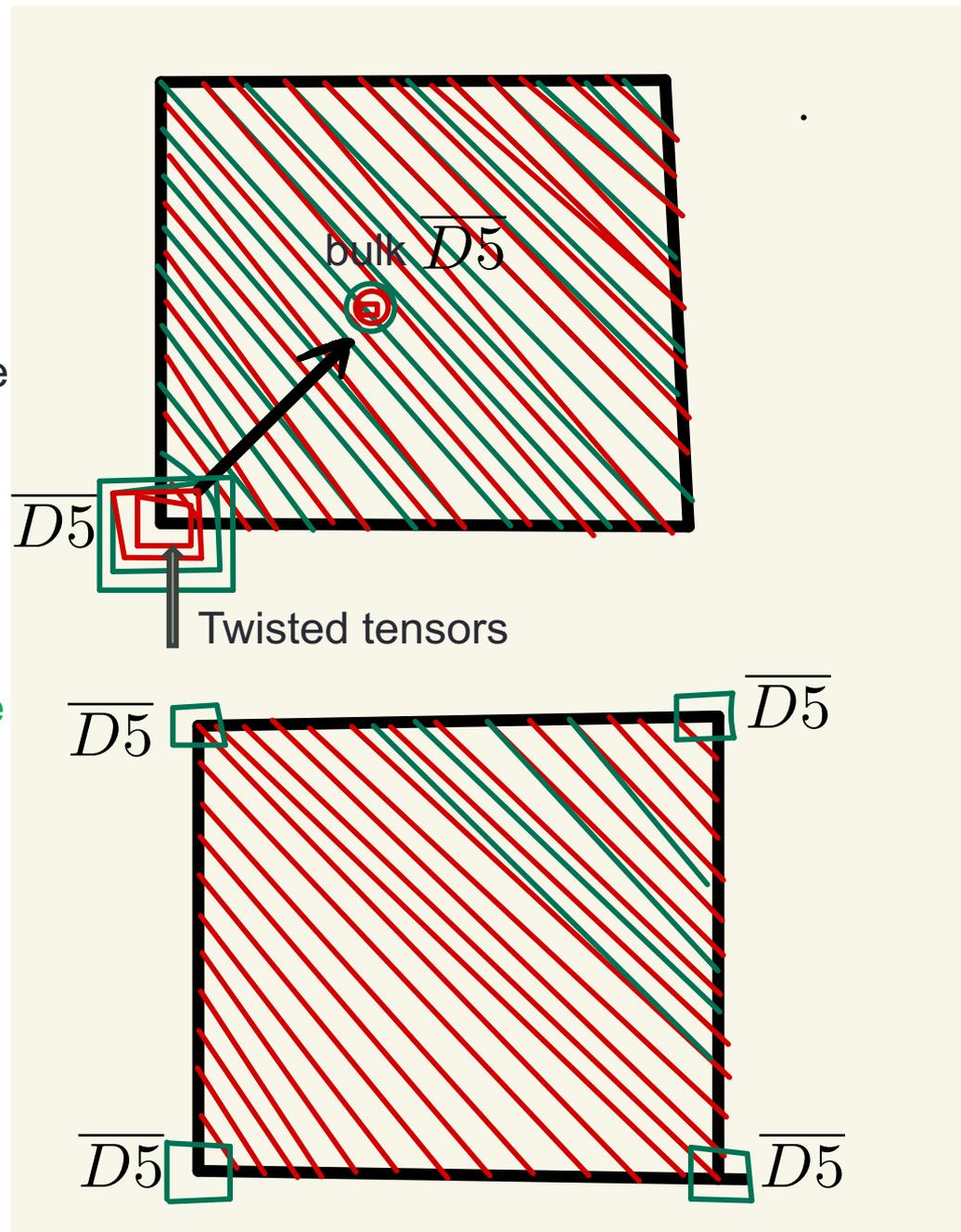
A **minimum of 8** fractional D9 branes have to couple (no WL) to all twisted tensors to cancel the twisted charges of each  $D5$ .

Easy to check in the brane recombination picture : **T-dual picture** with D7 and  $D7$

Standard  
BSB: D5 antibranes  
can recombine and move  
into the bulk

Red brane:  
positive twisted charge  
Green brane:  
negative twisted charge

“Island” BSB branes:  
Green D5 antibranes  
cannot move





- D5 branes can be understood as :
  - gauge instantons on D9 branes in the zero-size limit (Witten)

This is true if all (twisted and untwisted) charges of D9 and D5 **match** and can be realized by **condensing** the massless 95 scalars

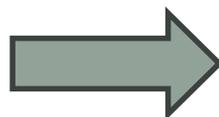
- **Our** models:  $\overline{D5}$  are instantons of part of D9,  
only 95 scalars  $2 \times \sum_i (20, 1, 2_i)$



Using T-dual language with intersecting  $D7/\overline{D7'}$  branes

→ partial recombination of branes/antibranes not possible,

but one can (non-perturbatively) **recombine simultaneously all branes.**



$\overline{D7'}$  antibranes are **almost rigid.**

If not possible to recombine at the non-perturbative level, the branes are **truly rigid.** Examples:  $T^4/Z_4$  orbifold ( $O5_+$  planes have **non-vanishing twisted charges**).



The low-energy effective action in this case has also additional features. Original BSB vacua: **untwisted NS-NS tadpoles**

$$\mathcal{S} = - \int d^6x \sqrt{g} (d_1 + d_2 + 32) e^{-\Phi} + \dots$$

Our new BSB variation: **also twisted NS-NS tadpoles/potentials**

$$\mathcal{S} = - \int d^6x \sqrt{g} \left\{ (d_1 + d_2 + 32) e^{-\Phi} + \sum_i (n_1 - n_2 + 4d_1^i) e^{-\Phi} \varphi_i + \dots \right\}$$

twisted scalars 

Effects on the **classical background/compactification, stability** ?



# 3) 4d example: $Z_2 \times Z_2$ with BSB



Orbifold operations:  $g(z_1, z_2, z_3) = (z_1, -z_2, -z_3)$   
 $f(z_1, z_2, z_3) = (-z_1, z_2, -z_3)$        $h(z_1, z_2, z_3) = (-z_1, -z_2, z_3)$

4d type I  $Z_2 \times Z_2$  orbifolds have O9 and O5 planes, D9 and D5 branes. They fall into two classes, depending on **discrete deformations**

$$\epsilon = \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2 \epsilon_3 \quad \text{with} \quad \epsilon_i = \pm 1$$

$\epsilon = -1$  : **discrete torsion**. Consider the case

$$(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \epsilon_3) = (1, 1, -1)$$

Exotic

The O-planes are:  $O9^-$ ,  $O5_1^-$ ,  $O5_2^-$ ,  $O5_3^+$

**BSB solution:**  $D9$ ,  $D5_1$ ,  $D5_2$ ,  $\overline{D5}_3$  (anti)branes



## Twisted (RR) charges for various branes



	$D9$	$D5_1$	$D5_2$	$\overline{D5}_3$
Gauge group	$U \times U$	$U \times U$	$U \times U$	$USp^4$
g	0	0	(2,-2)	(1,1,-1,-1)
f	0	(2,-2)	0	(1,-1,1,-1)
h	(2,-2)	0	0	(1,-1,-1,1)

All O-planes have **zero twisted charges**.

**Original BSB solution** (ADS+Angelantonj,D'Appollonio,1999) to RR tadpoles:

$$G = [U(8)^2]_{D9} \times [U(8)^2]_{D5_1} \times [U(8)^2]_{D5_2} \times [USp(8)^4]_{\overline{D5}_3}$$



New, unique BSB solution has **all D5 branes distributed democratically** (ACDL) over all fixed points

$$G = [U(10) \times U(6)]_{D9} \times [U(1)^{16}]_{D5_1} \times [U(1)^{16}]_{D5_2} \times [USp(2)^{16}]_{D5_3}$$

Several **twisted NS-NS tadpoles**/scalar potentials:

$$V = \int d^6 x \sqrt{-g_6} e^{-\phi} \left[ \left( \sum_{i=1}^{16} D_{h_i, o} + 32 \right) + \sum_{i=1}^{16} (N_h + 4D_{h_i, h}) \chi_h^i \right] +$$

$$+ \int d^4 x \sqrt{-g_4} e^{-\phi} \left[ 2 \sum_{i=1}^{16} (D_{h_i, g} - D_{f_i, g}) \chi_g^i + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{16} (D_{h_i, f} - D_{g_i, f}) \chi_f^i \right]$$

where  $\chi_g^i$  is the twisted scalar sitting at the  $i$ th fixed point of the  $g$ -operation, etc.

- Interesting to discuss the **dynamics of the orbifold blowing-up modes, time-dependence** classical solution

## 4) Comments on string defects

Anomaly cancelation conditions in 6d are very strong:

The anomaly polynomial should **factorize** as (Sagnotti, 1995)

$$I_8 = \frac{1}{2} \Omega_{\alpha\beta} X_4^\alpha X_4^\beta \quad (\text{we neglect abelian factors})$$

where  $\Omega_{\alpha\beta}$  has signature  $(1, N_T)$  and

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

The anomaly can be canceled by adding Green-Schwarz couplings

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

Strings coupling to tensors in 6d have **charges** described by an  $N_T + 1$  dimensional vector  $Q$ . The couplings are

$$S_{2d} \supset -\Omega_{\alpha\beta} Q^\alpha \int C_2^\beta$$

Anomaly inflow  $\Rightarrow$  anomaly polynomial of the 2d CFT is

$$I_4 = \Omega_{\alpha\beta} Q^\alpha \left( X_4^\beta + \frac{1}{2} Q^\beta \chi(N) \right)$$

normal bundle



Consistency of the moduli space of scalars in tensor multiplets  $\longrightarrow$  **Kahler form**  $J$  satisfies

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

(Kim, Shiu, Vafa, 2019)

Positivity of gauge kinetic terms

- In SUSY models, all data is encoded in the anomaly polynomial (RR couplings). In BSB models, there are **changes (NS-NS couplings)** :

- $J \cdot b'_i > 0$  where  $b'_i = b_i$  for branes and  $b'_i = -b_i$  for **antibranes**

- $Q_{D1} = \frac{b_{D5}}{\lambda_{D5}}$  (branes) ,  $Q_{D1} = -\frac{b_{D5}}{\lambda_{D5}}$  (**antibranes**)



# Conclusions and Perspectives



- Brane Supersymmetry Breaking Vacua provide **various puzzles** for string constructions : absence of an order parameter for SUSY breaking, transitions to SUSY vacua, ground state, etc
- We worked out variants in 6d and 4d: **unmovable branes**, some D9/D5 (anti)brane **recombinations forbidden**, **few open-string moduli**
- **Twisted NS-NS tadpoles** (blow-up orbifold singularities ?)
- We also worked out lower-dim. **D-brane/defects**. Their “data” not encoded in the anomaly polynomial.



Thank You !