

# Aspects of string phenomenology in the LHC era

## I. Antoniadis



- High string scale, SUSY and 125 GeV Higgs
- Low scale strings and extra dimensions
- Extra  $U(1)$ 's
- Tiny string coupling and linear dilaton background

# Connect string theory to the real world:

## What is the value of the string scale $M_s$ ?

- arbitrary parameter : Planck mass  $M_P \longrightarrow$  TeV

- physical motivations  $\Rightarrow$  favored energy regions:

- High :  $\begin{cases} M_P^* \simeq 10^{18} \text{ GeV} & \text{Heterotic scale} \\ M_{\text{GUT}} \simeq 10^{16} \text{ GeV} & \text{Unification scale} \end{cases}$

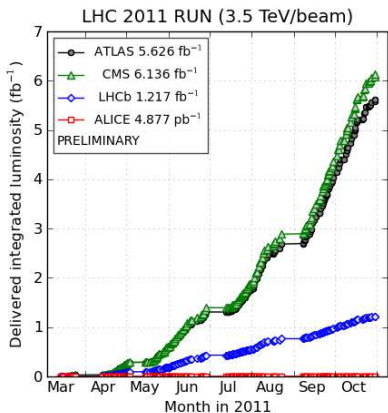
- Intermediate : around  $10^{11}$  GeV ( $M_s^2/M_P \sim \text{TeV}$ )

SUSY breaking, strong CP axion, see-saw scale

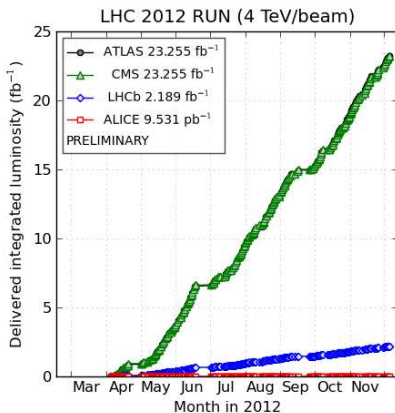
- Low : TeV (hierarchy problem)

# Excellent LHC performance

Number of events = Cross section  $\times$  Luminosity

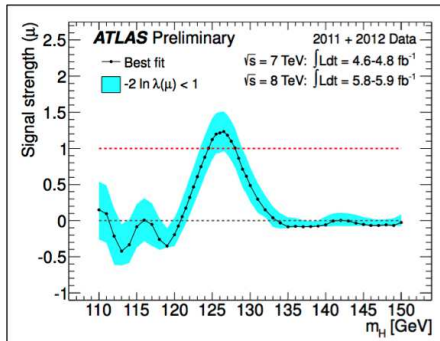


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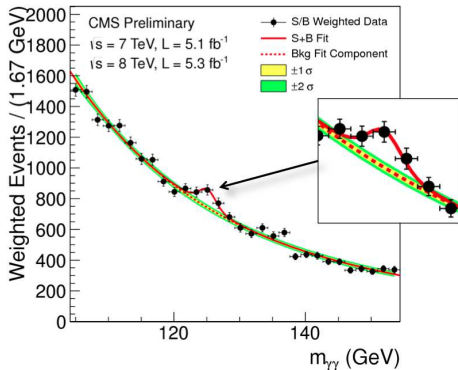


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# Higgs boson discovery



$$m_H = 125.5 \pm 0.2 \text{ (stat.)} \pm 0.5 \text{ (syst.)}$$



$$m_H = 125.7 \pm 0.3 \pm 0.3 \text{ GeV}$$

# Beyond the Standard Model of Particle Physics: driven by the mass hierarchy problem

Standard picture: low energy supersymmetry

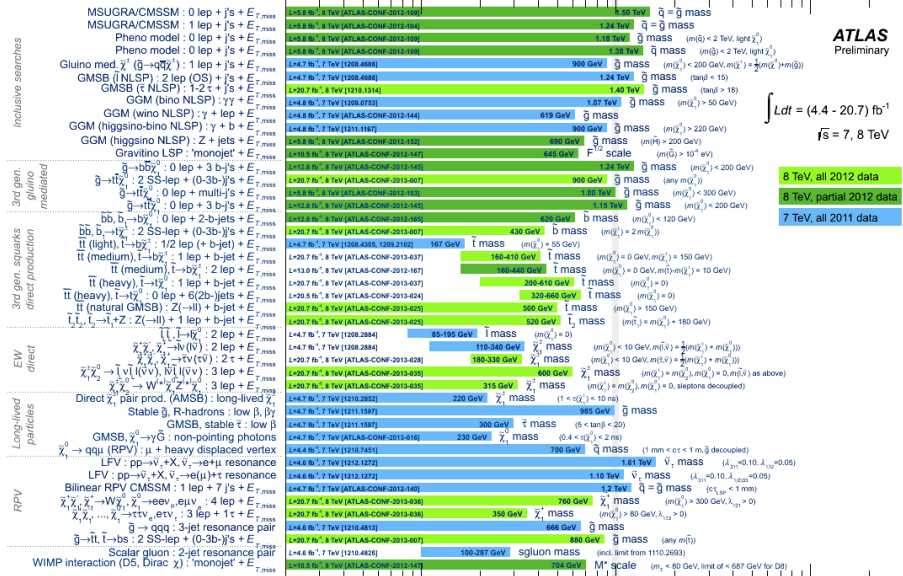
Natural framework: Heterotic string (or high-scale M/F) theory

## Advantages:

- natural elementary scalars
- gauge coupling unification
- LSP: natural dark matter candidate
- radiative EWSB

## Problems:

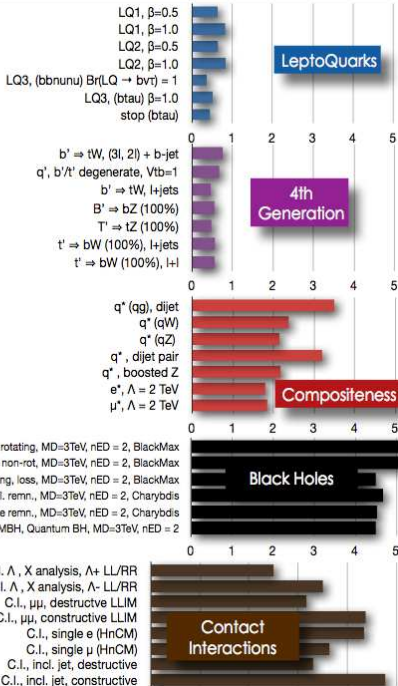
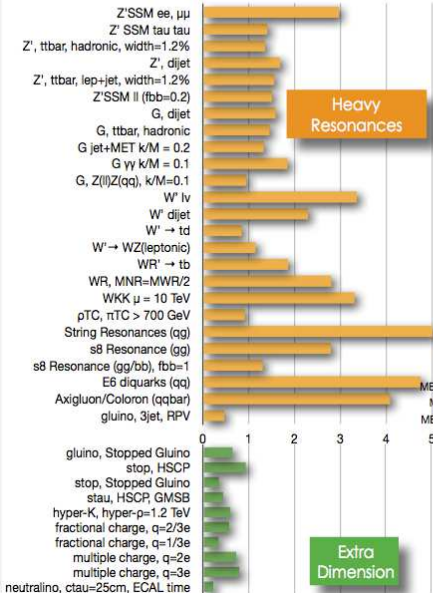
- too many parameters: soft breaking terms
- MSSM : already a % - %<sub>00</sub> fine-tuning     'little' hierarchy problem



\*Only a selection of the available mass limits on new states or phenomena shown. All limits quoted are observed minus  $1\sigma$  theoretical signal cross section uncertainty.

# CMS EXOTICA

95% CL EXCLUSION LIMITS (TeV)



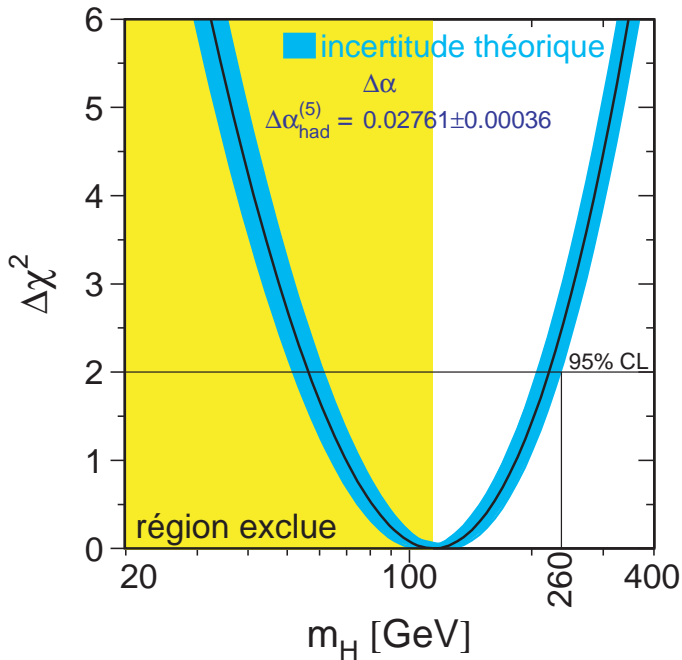
# Remarks on the value of the Higgs mass $\sim 125$ GeV

- consistent with expectation from precision tests of the SM
- favors perturbative physics      quartic coupling  $\lambda = m_H^2/v^2 \simeq 1/8$

## Window to new physics

- compatible with supersymmetry  
but appears fine-tuned in its minimal version [10]  
early to draw a general conclusion before LHC13/14  
e.g. an extra singlet or split families can alleviate the fine tuning [11]
- very important to measure its properties and couplings [15]  
any deviation of its couplings to top, bottom and EW gauge bosons  
implies new light states involved in the EWSB altering the fine-tuning





# Fine-tuning in MSSM

Upper bound on the lightest scalar mass:

$$m_h^2 \lesssim m_Z^2 \cos^2 2\beta + \frac{3}{(4\pi)^2} \frac{m_t^4}{v^2} \left[ \ln \frac{m_{\tilde{t}}^2}{m_t^2} + \frac{A_t^2}{m_{\tilde{t}}^2} \left( 1 - \frac{A_t^2}{12m_{\tilde{t}}^2} \right) \right] \lesssim (130 \text{ GeV})^2$$

$$m_h \simeq 126 \text{ GeV} \Rightarrow m_{\tilde{t}} \simeq 3 \text{ TeV or } A_t \simeq 3m_{\tilde{t}} \simeq 1.5 \text{ TeV}$$

$\Rightarrow$  % to a few ‰ fine-tuning

$$\text{minimum of the potential: } m_Z^2 = 2 \frac{m_1^1 - m_2^2 \tan^2 \beta}{\tan^2 \beta - 1} \sim -2m_2^2 + \dots$$

$$\text{RG evolution: } m_2^2 = m_2^2(M_{\text{GUT}}) - \frac{3\lambda_t^2}{4\pi^2} m_{\tilde{t}}^2 \ln \frac{M_{\text{GUT}}}{m_{\tilde{t}}} + \dots \quad [26]$$

$$\sim m_2^2(M_{\text{GUT}}) - \mathcal{O}(1)m_{\tilde{t}}^2 + \dots \quad [8]$$

# MSSM with dim-5 and 6 operators

I.A.-Dudas-Ghilencea-Tziveloglou '08, '09, '10

parametrize new physics above MSSM by higher-dim effective operators

relevant super potential operators of dimension-5:

$$\mathcal{L}^{(5)} = \frac{1}{M} \int d^2\theta (\eta_1 + \eta_2 S) (H_1 H_2)^2$$

$\eta_1$  : generated for instance by a singlet

$$W = \lambda \sigma H_1 H_2 + M \sigma^2 \quad \rightarrow \quad W_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\lambda^2}{M} (H_1 H_2)^2$$

Strumia '99 ; Brignole-Casas-Espinosa-Navarro '03

Dine-Seiberg-Thomas '07

$\eta_1$  : corresponding soft breaking term      spurion  $S \equiv m_S \theta^2$

# Physical consequences of MSSM<sub>5</sub>: Scalar potential

$$\mathcal{V} = m_1^2 |h_1|^2 + m_2^2 |h_2|^2 + B\mu(h_1 h_2 + \text{h.c.}) + \frac{g_2^2 + g_Y^2}{8} (|h_1|^2 - |h_2|^2)^2 \\ + (|h_1|^2 + |h_2|^2) (\eta_1 h_1 h_2 + \text{h.c.}) + \frac{1}{2} [\eta_2 (h_1 h_2)^2 + \text{h.c.}] + \mathcal{O}(\eta_i^2)$$

- $\eta_{1,2} \Rightarrow$  quartic terms along the D-flat direction  $|h_1| = |h_2|$
- potential stability  $\Rightarrow \eta_2 \geq 4|\eta_1|$

requiring  $\eta$ -corrections to be smaller than MSSM mass matrix elements  $\Rightarrow$

only  $\eta_2$  can change the tree-level bound  $m_h \leq m_Z$  but marginally

# Relevance of dim-6 operators

Relaxing the condition on potential positivity: guaranteed by dim-6 ops

only one dim-6 along the D-flat direction induced by dim-5:  $\propto \eta_1^2$

$$W = \eta_1 (H_1 H_2)^2 \longrightarrow V = \left| \frac{\partial W}{\partial H_i} \right|^2 \sim \eta_1^2 |H_1 H_2|^2 (|H_1|^2 + |H_2|^2)$$

- tree-level mass can increase significantly
- bigger parameter space for LSP being dark matter

Bernal-Blum-Nir-Losada '09

# MSSM Higgs with dim-6 operators

**dim-6 operators can have an independent scale from dim-5**

Classification of all dim-6 contributing to the scalar potential

(without SUSY)  $\Rightarrow$

large  $\tan \beta$  expansion:  $\delta_6 m_h^2 = f v^2 + \dots$

constant receiving contributions from several operators

$f \sim f_0 \times (\mu^2/M^2, m_S^2/M^2, \mu m_S/M^2, v^2/M^2)$

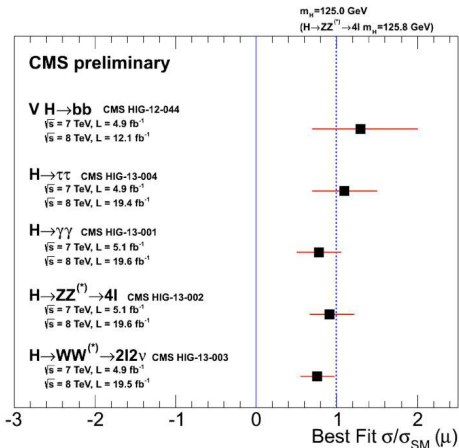
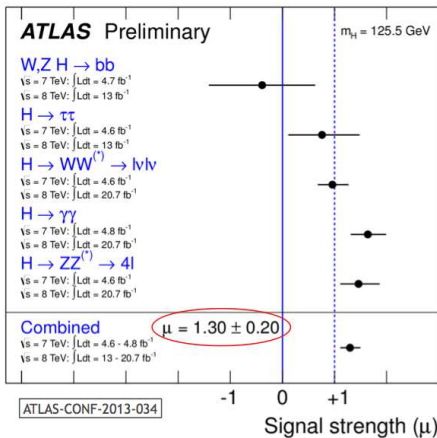
$m_S = 1 \text{ TeV}, M = 10 \text{ TeV}, f_0 \sim 1 - 2.5$  for each operator

$\Rightarrow m_h \simeq 103 - 119 \text{ GeV}$

$\Rightarrow$  MSSM with dim-5 and dim-6 operators:

possible resolution of the MSSM fine-tuning problem [8]

# Couplings of the new boson vs SM

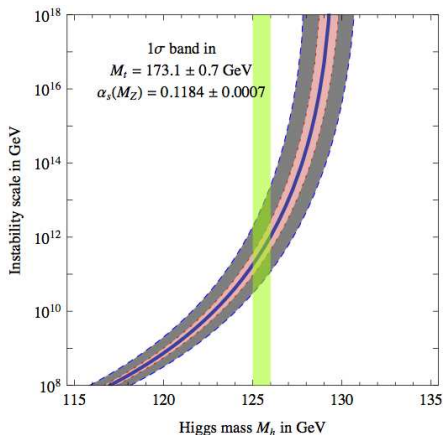
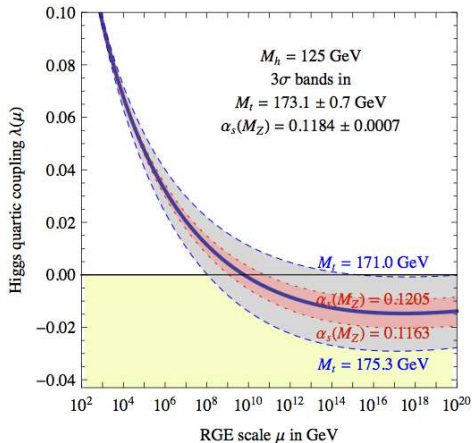


exclusion : spin 2 and pseudoscalar at 95% CL

Agreement with Standard Model expectation at  $\sim 2\sigma$

# Can the SM be valid at high energies?

Degrassi-Di Vita-Elias Miró-Espinosa-Giudice-Isidori-Strumia '12



Instability of the SM Higgs potential  $\Rightarrow$  metastability of the EW vacuum

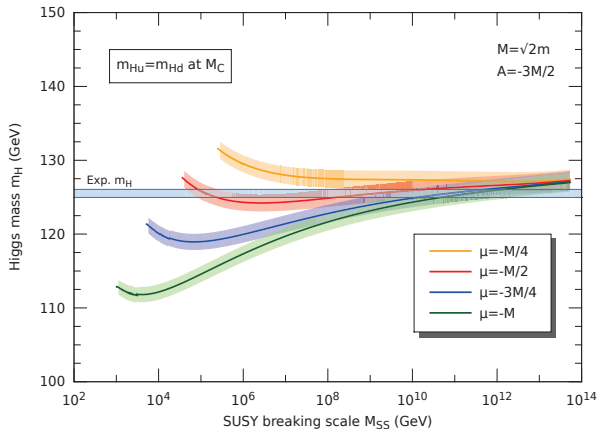


SUSY :  $\lambda = 0 \Rightarrow \tan \beta = 1$

$$H_{SM} = \sin \beta H_u - \cos \beta H_d^* \quad \lambda = \frac{1}{8}(g_2^2 + g'^2) \cos^2 2\beta$$

$\lambda = 0$  at a scale  $\geq 10^{10}$  GeV  $\Rightarrow m_H = 126 \pm 3$  GeV

Ibanez-Valenzuela '13



e.g. for universal  $\sqrt{2}m = M = M_{SS}$ ,  $A = -3/2M$

If the weak scale is tuned  $\Rightarrow$  split supersymmetry is a possibility

Arkani Hamed-Dimopoulos '04, Giudice-Romanino '04

- natural splitting: gauginos, higgsinos carry R-symmetry, scalars do not
- main good properties of SUSY are maintained
  - gauge coupling unification and dark matter candidate
- also no dangerous FCNC, CP violation, ...
- experimentally allowed Higgs mass  $\Rightarrow$  'moderate' split

$m_S \sim \text{few} - \text{thousands TeV}$

gauginos: a loop factor lighter than scalars ( $\sim m_{3/2}$ )

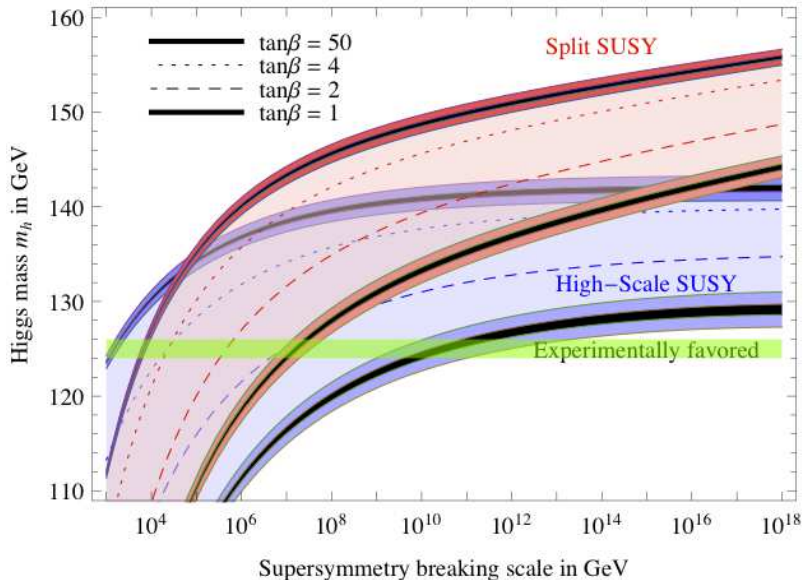
- natural string framework: intersecting (or magnetized) branes

IA-Dimopoulos '04

D-brane stacks are supersymmetric with massless gauginos

intersections have chiral fermions with broken SUSY & massive scalars

## Predicted range for the Higgs mass

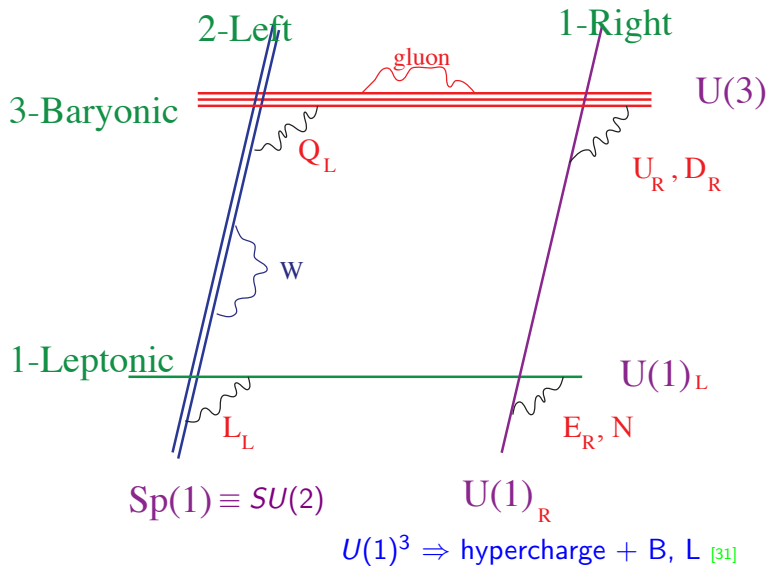


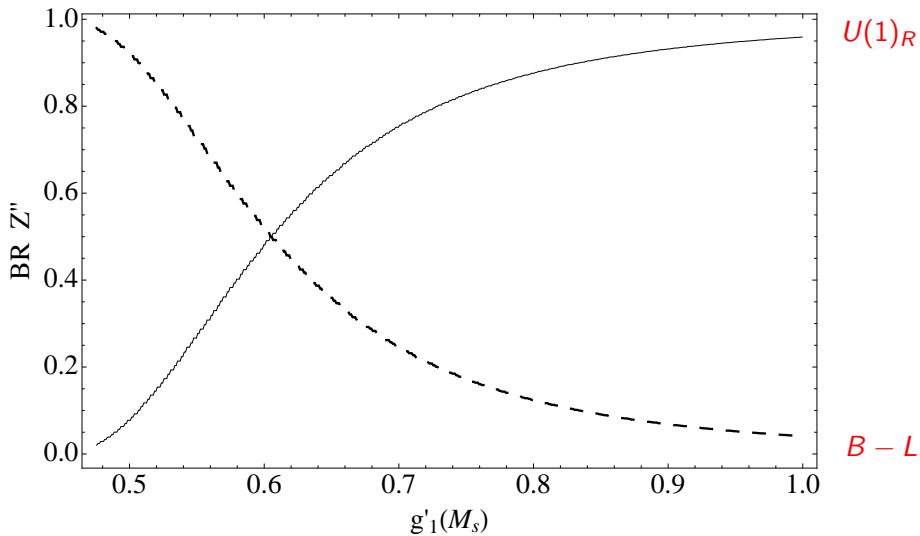
# An extra $U(1)$ can also cure the instability problem

Anchordoqui-IA-Goldberg-Huang-Lüst-Taylor-Vlcek '12

- $B$  anomalous and superheavy
- $B - L$  massless at the string scale (no associated 6d anomaly)  
but broken at TeV by a scalar VEV with the quantum numbers of  $N_R$
- $L$ -violation from higher-dim operators suppressed by the string scale
- $U(3)$  unification,  $Y$  combination  $\Rightarrow$  2 parameters: 1 coupling +  $m_{Z''}$
- perturbativity  $\Rightarrow 0.5 \lesssim g_{U(1)_R} \lesssim 1$
- interesting LHC phenomenology and cosmology [23]

# Standard Model on D-branes : SM<sup>++</sup>





- Rotation of  $U(1)$ 's from the string to low energy basis  $Z, Z', Z''$ :  
completely fixed in terms of the couplings
  - Decoupling of anomalous  $Z' \simeq B$
  - $Z''$  linear combination of  $B - L$  and  $U(1)_R$
- Recent cosmological observations indicate extra relativistic component  
dark radiation parametrized by an effective  $\nu$ -number close to 4 \*  
→ use the 3  $\nu_R$ 's interacting with SM fermions via  $Z''$   
data: their decoupling during the quark-hadron transition  
⇒  $3.5 \lesssim M_{Z''} \lesssim 7 \text{ TeV}$  (within LHC14 discovery potential)

\* before Planck results

Scalar potential:

$$V(H, H'') = \mu^2 |H|^2 + \mu'^2 |H''|^2 + \lambda_1 |H|^4 + \lambda_2 |H''|^4 + \lambda_3 |H|^2 |H''|^2$$

5 parameters  $\Rightarrow v, m_h, v'', m_{h''}$  + a scalar mixing angle  $\alpha$

$\Rightarrow$  3 free parameters :  $m_{h''}, \alpha, v'' \leftrightarrow M_{Z''}$

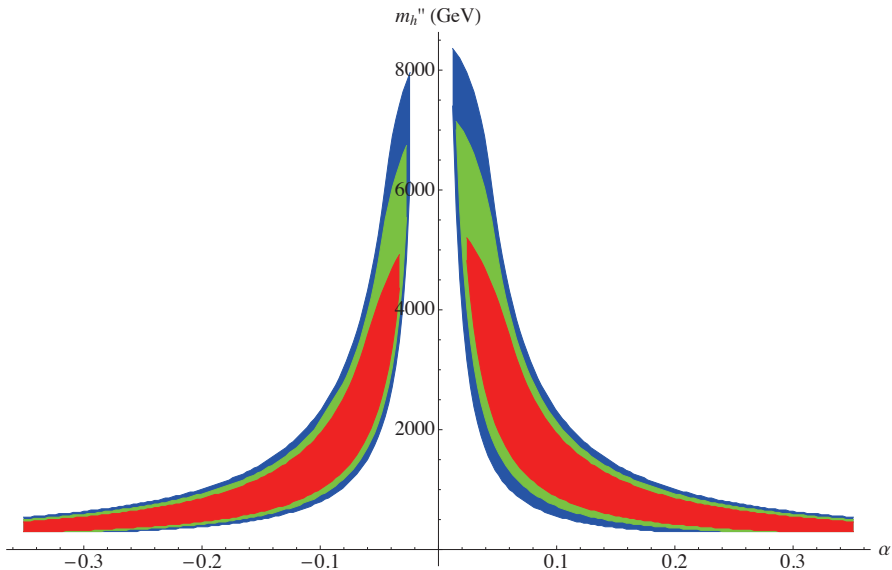
Stability conditions:  $\lambda_1 > 0, \quad \lambda_2 > 0, \quad \lambda_1 \lambda_2 > \frac{1}{4} \lambda_3^2$

RGE analysis up to  $M_s \Rightarrow$  stability is possible in SM<sup>++</sup>

for  $0.02 \lesssim |\alpha| \lesssim 0.35$  and  $500 \text{ GeV} \lesssim m_{h''} \lesssim 5 \text{ TeV}$



$$M_{Z''} = 4.5 \text{ TeV}; \quad M_S = 10^{14}, 10^{16}, 10^{19} \text{ GeV}$$



## Alternative answer: Low UV cutoff $\Lambda \sim \text{TeV}$

- low scale gravity  $\Rightarrow$  extra dimensions: large flat or warped
- low string scale  $\Rightarrow$  low scale gravity, ultra weak string coupling

$M_s \sim 1 \text{ TeV} \Rightarrow$  volume  $R_{\perp}^n = 10^{32} l_s^n$  [33] ( $R_{\perp} \sim .1 - 10^{-13} \text{ mm}$  for  $n = 2 - 6$ )

- spectacular model independent predictions
- radical change of high energy physics at the TeV scale

Moreover no little hierarchy problem:

radiative electroweak symmetry breaking with no logs

$\Lambda \sim$  a few TeV and  $m_H^2 =$  a loop factor  $\times \Lambda^2$  [10]

But unification has to be probably dropped

New Dark Matter candidates e.g. in the extra dims

# Origin of EW symmetry breaking?

possible answer: radiative breaking

I.A.-Benakli-Quiros '00

$$V = \mu^2 H^\dagger H + \lambda (H^\dagger H)^2$$

$\mu^2 = 0$  at tree but becomes  $< 0$  at one loop

non-susy vacuum

simplest case: one scalar doublet from the same brane

$\Rightarrow$  tree-level  $V$  same as susy:  $\lambda = \frac{1}{8}(g_2^2 + g'^2)$

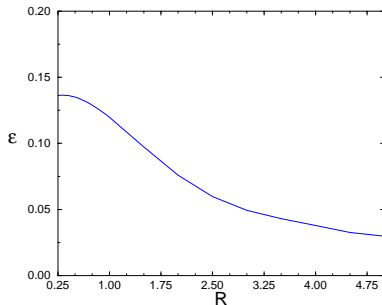
D-terms

$\mu^2 = -g^2 \epsilon^2 M_5^2 \leftarrow$  effective UV cutoff

$$\epsilon^2(R) = \frac{R^3}{2\pi^2} \int_0^\infty dl l^{3/2} \frac{\theta_2^4}{16l^4 \eta^{12}} \left( il + \frac{1}{2} \right) \sum_n n^2 e^{-2\pi n^2 R^2 l}$$

Diagrammatic annotations for the integral:

- UV  $\swarrow$  (points to the upper limit  $\infty$ )
- IR  $\nearrow$  (points to the lower limit  $0$ )
- $e^{-\pi l}$   $\nearrow$  (points to the exponential term)
- $1$   $\swarrow$  (points to the constant term  $\frac{1}{2}$  in the parentheses)



$R \rightarrow 0 : \varepsilon(R) \simeq 0.14$     large transverse dim     $R_{\perp} = l_s^2/R \rightarrow \infty$

$R \rightarrow \infty : \varepsilon(R)M_s \sim \varepsilon_{\infty}/R$      $\varepsilon_{\infty} \simeq 0.008$     UV cutoff:  $M_s \rightarrow 1/R$

Higgs scalar = component of a higher dimensional gauge field

$\Rightarrow \varepsilon_{\infty}$  calculable in the effective field theory

$\lambda = g^2/4 \sim 1/8 \quad \Rightarrow \quad M_H \simeq v/2 = 125 \text{ GeV}$

$M_s$  or  $1/R \sim$  a few or several TeV

# Accelerator signatures: 4 different scales

- Gravitational radiation in the bulk  $\Rightarrow$  missing energy

present LHC bounds:  $M_* \gtrsim 3 - 5$  TeV

- Massive string vibrations  $\Rightarrow$  e.g. resonances in dijet distribution

$$M_j^2 = M_0^2 + M_s^2 j \quad ; \quad \text{maximal spin : } j + 1$$

higher spin excitations of quarks and gluons with strong interactions

present LHC limits:  $M_s \gtrsim 5$  TeV

- Large TeV dimensions  $\Rightarrow$  KK resonances of SM gauge bosons I.A. '90

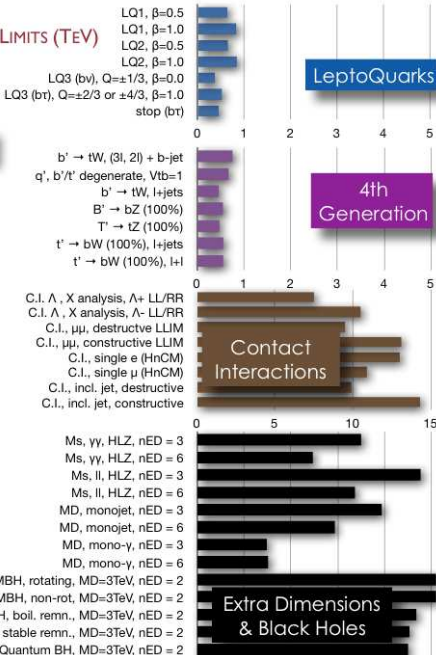
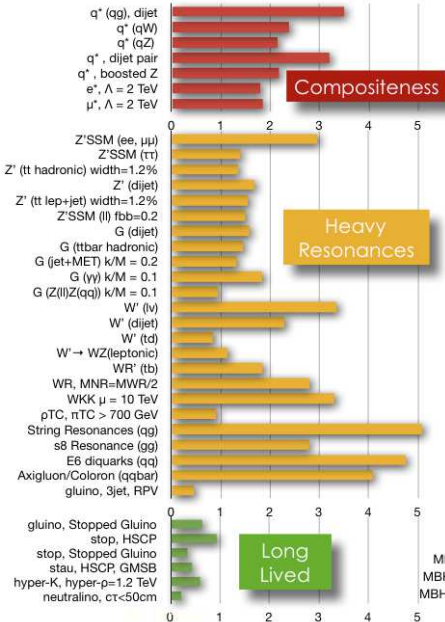
$$M_k^2 = M_0^2 + k^2/R^2 \quad ; \quad k = \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

experimental limits:  $R^{-1} \gtrsim 0.5 - 4$  TeV (UED - localized fermions)

- extra  $U(1)$ 's and anomaly induced terms

masses suppressed by a loop factor from  $M_s$  [31]

# CMS EXOTICA 95% CL EXCLUSION LIMITS (TeV)



# Extra $U(1)$ 's and anomaly induced terms

masses suppressed by a loop factor

usually associated to known global symmetries of the SM

(anomalous or not) such as (combinations of)

Baryon and Lepton number, or PQ symmetry

Two kinds of massive  $U(1)$ 's:

I.A.-Kiritsis-Rizos '02

- 4d anomalous  $U(1)$ 's:  $M_A \simeq g_A M_s$

- 4d non-anomalous  $U(1)$ 's: (but masses related to 6d anomalies)

$$M_{NA} \simeq g_A M_s V_2 \leftarrow (6d \rightarrow 4d) \text{ internal space} \Rightarrow M_{NA} \geq M_A$$

or massless in the absence of such anomalies [21]


- $B$  and  $L$  become massive due to anomalies

Green-Schwarz terms

- the global symmetries remain in perturbation

- Baryon number  $\Rightarrow$  proton stability

- Lepton number  $\Rightarrow$  protect small neutrino masses

no Lepton number  $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{M_s} LLHH \rightarrow$  Majorana mass:  $\frac{\langle H \rangle^2}{M_s} LL$   


- $B, L \Rightarrow$  extra  $Z'$ 's

with possible leptophobic couplings leading to CDF-type  $Wjj$  events

$Z' \simeq B$  lighter than 4d anomaly free  $Z'' \simeq B - L$  [42]



# More general framework: large number of species

$N$  particle species  $\Rightarrow$  lower quantum gravity scale :  $M_*^2 = M_p^2/N$

Dvali '07, Dvali, Redi, Brustein, Veneziano, Gomez, Lüst '07-'10

derivation from: black hole evaporation or quantum information storage

$$M_* \simeq 1 \text{ TeV} \Rightarrow N \sim 10^{32} \text{ particle species !}$$

2 ways to realize it lowering the string scale

① Large extra dimensions      SM on D-branes [26]

$N = R_{\perp}^n / l_s^n$  : number of KK modes up to energies of order  $M_* \simeq M_s$

② Effective number of string modes contributing to the BH bound

$N = \frac{1}{g_s^2}$  with  $g_s \simeq 10^{-16}$       SM on NS5-branes

I.A.-Pioline '99, I.A.-Dimopoulos-Giveon '01

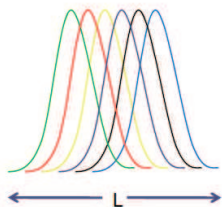
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derivation from: black hole evaporation or quantum information storage

Pixel of size  $L$  containing  $N$  species storing information:



localization energy  $E \gtrsim N/L \rightarrow$

Schwarzschild radius  $R_s = N/(LM_p^2)$

no collapse to a black hole :  $L \gtrsim R_s \Rightarrow L \gtrsim \sqrt{N}/M_p = 1/M_*$

$M_* \simeq 1 \text{ TeV} \Rightarrow N \sim 10^{32}$  particle species !

# Decouple gravity from NS5-branes

Analogy from D3-branes : decouple gravity  $\Rightarrow M_s \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $g_s$  fixed  
 $\rightarrow$  (conformal) Field Theory (CFT)

simplest case: 4d  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  super Yang Mills  $SU(N)$

parameters: number of branes  $N$ , gauge coupling  $g_{YM}$

NS-5 branes:  $M_s$  finite,  $g_s \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow$  (little) String Theory without gravity

simplest case: 6d LST (chiral IIA or non-chiral IIB)

massless sector: 6d  $SU(N)$  of tensors (IIA) or vectors (IIB)

at a non-trivial fixed point

parameters: number of branes  $N$ , string scale  $M_s$

# How to study LST ? Using gauge/gravity duality

Gravity background : near horizon geometry (holography) Maldacena '98

Analogy from D3-branes :  $AdS_5 \times S^5$

parameters:  $AdS$  radius  $r_{AdS} M_s$ ,  $g_s \leftrightarrow N, g_{YM}$

supergravity validity:  $r_{AdS} M_s \gg 1$ ,  $g_s \ll 1 \Rightarrow$  large  $N$ ,  $g_{YM}^2 N$

$\rightarrow$  model independent part :  $AdS_5$

NS-5 branes :  $(\mathcal{M}_6 \otimes R_+) \times SU(2) \equiv S^3$

$\uparrow$   
linear dilaton background in 7d flat string-frame metric  $\Phi = -\alpha|y|$

Aharony-Berkooz-Kutasov-Seiberg '98

parameters:  $M_s$ ,  $\alpha$  (or  $S^3$  radius)  $\leftrightarrow N$

sugra validity: small  $\alpha \Rightarrow$  large  $N$

compactify to  $d = 4$  ( $\mathcal{M}_6 \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_4$ )  $\Rightarrow g_{YM} \sim$  2d volume

$\rightarrow$  model independent part : linear dilaton

# Put gravity back **but weakly coupled**

“cut” the space of the extra dimension  $\Rightarrow$  gravity on the brane

Toy 5d bulk model

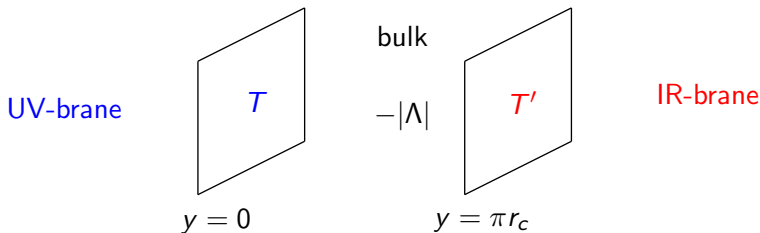
$$S_{bulk} = \int d^4x \int_0^{r_c} dy \sqrt{-g} e^{-\Phi} (M_5^3 R + M_5^3 (\nabla\Phi)^2 - \Lambda)$$

$$S_{vis(hid)} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} (e^{-\Phi}) (L_{SM(hid)} - T_{vis(hid)})$$

Tuning conditions:  $T_{vis} = -T_{hid} \leftrightarrow \Lambda < 0$  [39]

# Constant dilaton and AdS metric : Randal Sundrum model

spacetime = slice of AdS<sub>5</sub> :  $ds^2 = e^{-2k|y|} \eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu + dy^2$   $k^2 \sim \Lambda/M_5^3$



• exponential hierarchy:  $M_W = M_P e^{-2kr_c}$   $M_P^2 \sim M_5^3/k$   $M_5 \sim M_{GUT}$

• 4d gravity localized on the UV-brane, but KK gravitons on the IR

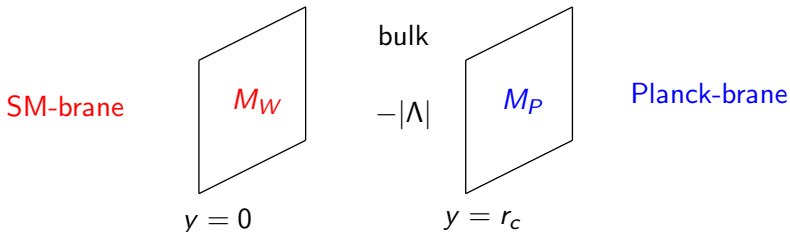
$$m_n = c_n k e^{-2kr_c} \sim \text{TeV} \quad c_n \simeq (n + 1/4) \text{ for large } n$$

$\Rightarrow$  spin-2 TeV resonances in di-lepton or di-jet channels

dilaton  $\Phi = -\alpha|y|$  and flat metric  $\Rightarrow$

$$g_s^2 = e^{-\alpha|y|} ; ds^2 = e^{\frac{2}{3}\alpha|y|} (\eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu + dy^2) \leftarrow \text{Einstein frame}$$

$z \sim e^{\alpha y/3} \Rightarrow$  polynomial warp factor + log varying dilaton



- exponential hierarchy:  $g_s^2 = e^{-\alpha|y|}$   $M_P^2 \sim \frac{M_5^3}{\alpha} e^{\alpha r_c}$   $\alpha \equiv k_{RS}$
- 4d graviton flat, KK gravitons localized near SM

# LST KK graviton phenomenology

- KK spectrum :  $m_n^2 = \left(\frac{n\pi}{r_c}\right)^2 + \frac{\alpha^2}{4}$  ;  $n = 1, 2, \dots$

⇒ mass gap + dense KK modes      $\alpha \sim 1 \text{ TeV}$       $r_c^{-1} \sim 30 \text{ GeV}$

- couplings :  $\frac{1}{\Lambda_n} \sim \frac{1}{(\alpha r_c) M_5}$

⇒ extra suppression by a factor  $(\alpha r_c) \simeq 30$

- width :  $1/(\alpha r_c)^2$  suppression  $\sim 1 \text{ GeV}$

⇒ narrow resonant peaks in di-lepton or di-jet channels

- extrapolates between RS and flat extra dims ( $n = 1$ )

⇒ distinct experimental signals



Similar to RS using the dilaton as the Goldberger-Wise scalar

add dilaton boundary potentials  $\Rightarrow$

radion stabilization with the desired hierarchy

Radion phenomenology different from RS:

- mass spectrum: similar to the graviton KK modes  
with possible lower parametrically mass gap
- new radion couplings to SM fields besides to the trace of  $T_{\mu\nu}$
- larger coupling to the radion 0-mode relative to KK excitations
- Higgs-radion mixing  $\Rightarrow$

branching fraction to  $\gamma\gamma$  can be significantly enhanced

# Conclusions

- Higgs discovery at the LHC:  
important milestone of the LHC research program
  - Precise measurement of its couplings is of primary importance
  - Hint on the origin of mass hierarchy and of BSM physics
    - natural or unnatural SUSY?
    - low string scale in some realization?
    - something new and unexpected?
- all options are still open
- LHC enters a new era with possible new discoveries