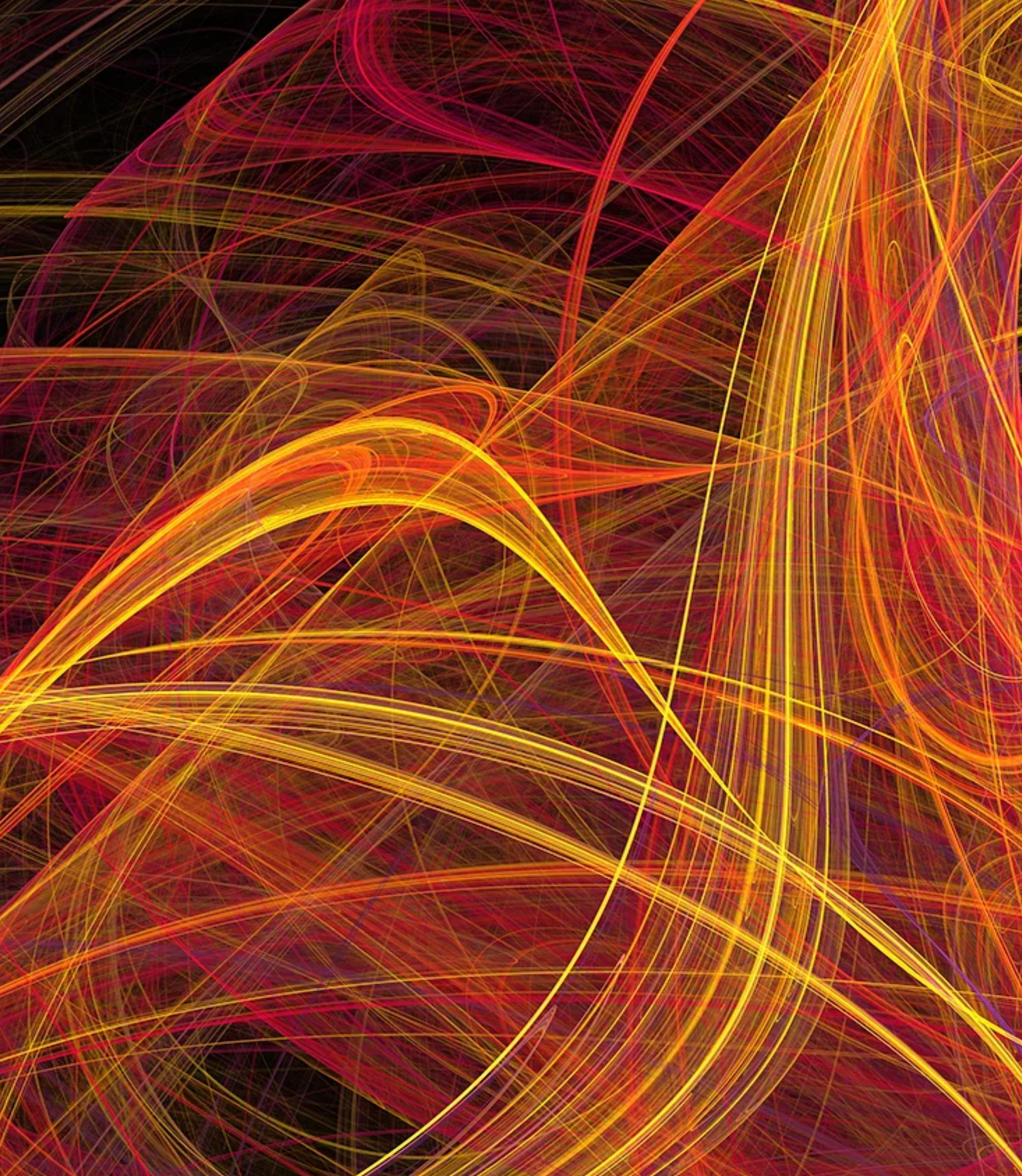


# NON-SUPERSYMMETRIC STRINGS

Ivano Basile | UMONS

*the good, the bad, and the swamp*

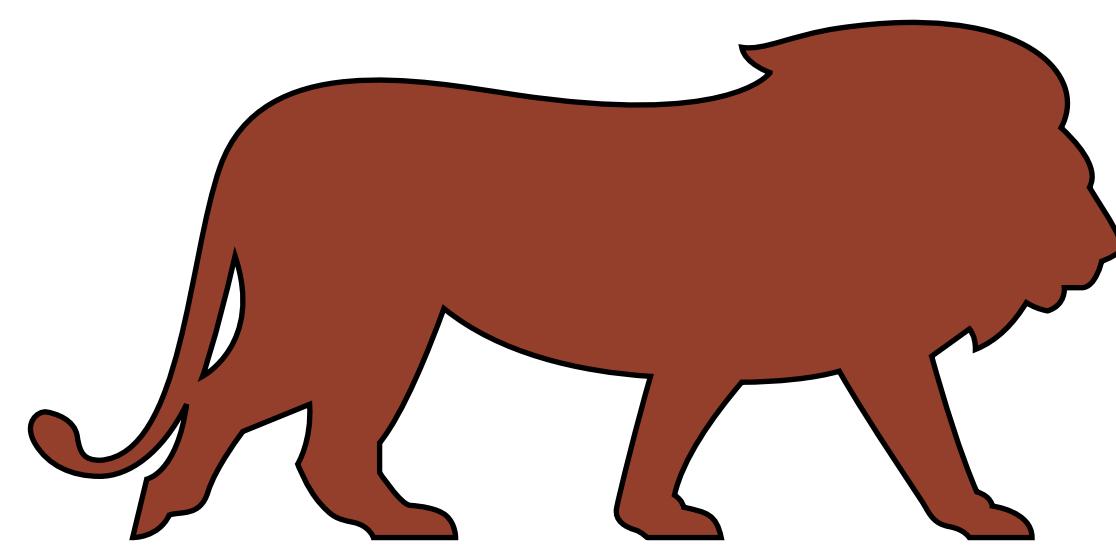


# BREAKING SUSY IN STRING THEORY

- the good: *controlled metastable vacua*
- the bad: *instabilities everywhere*
- the swamp:
  - *no scale separation*
  - *no de Sitter*
  - *WGC*
  - *SDC, ADC, ...*



“the pheno”: *de Sitter braneworlds?*



swampland...

*here be lions*

breaking SUSY

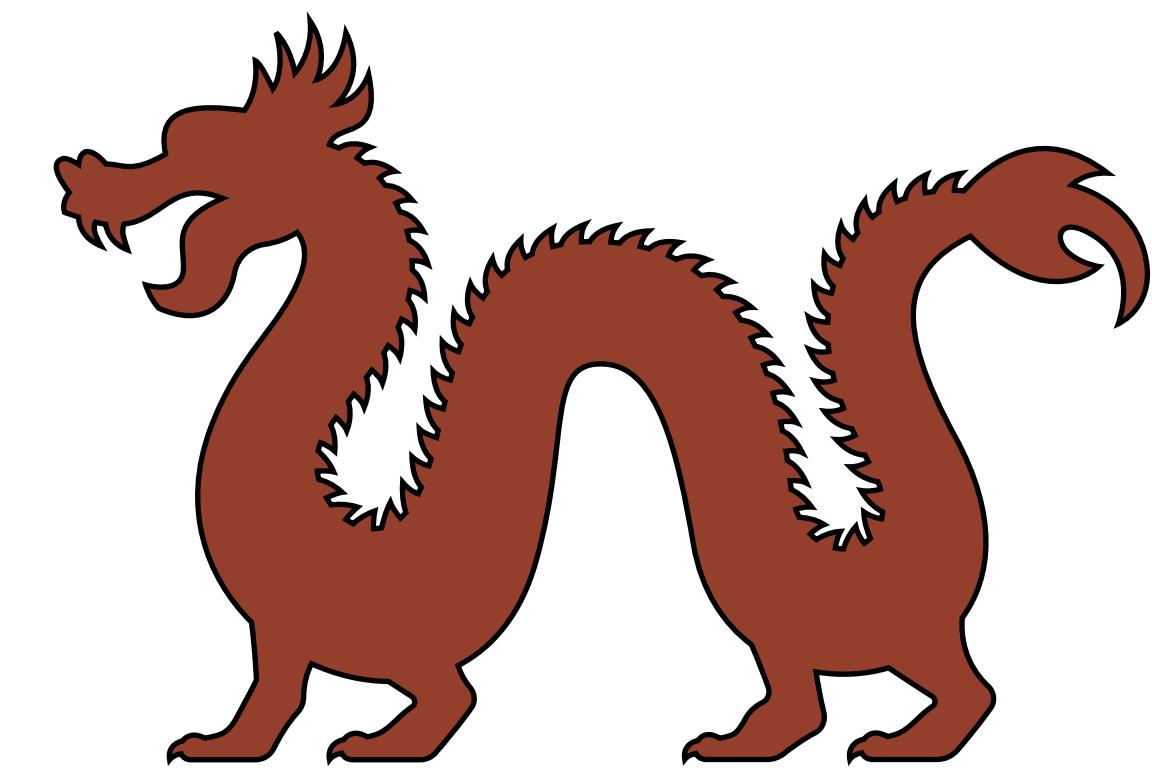
*instabilities*

*nucleation*

phenomenology?

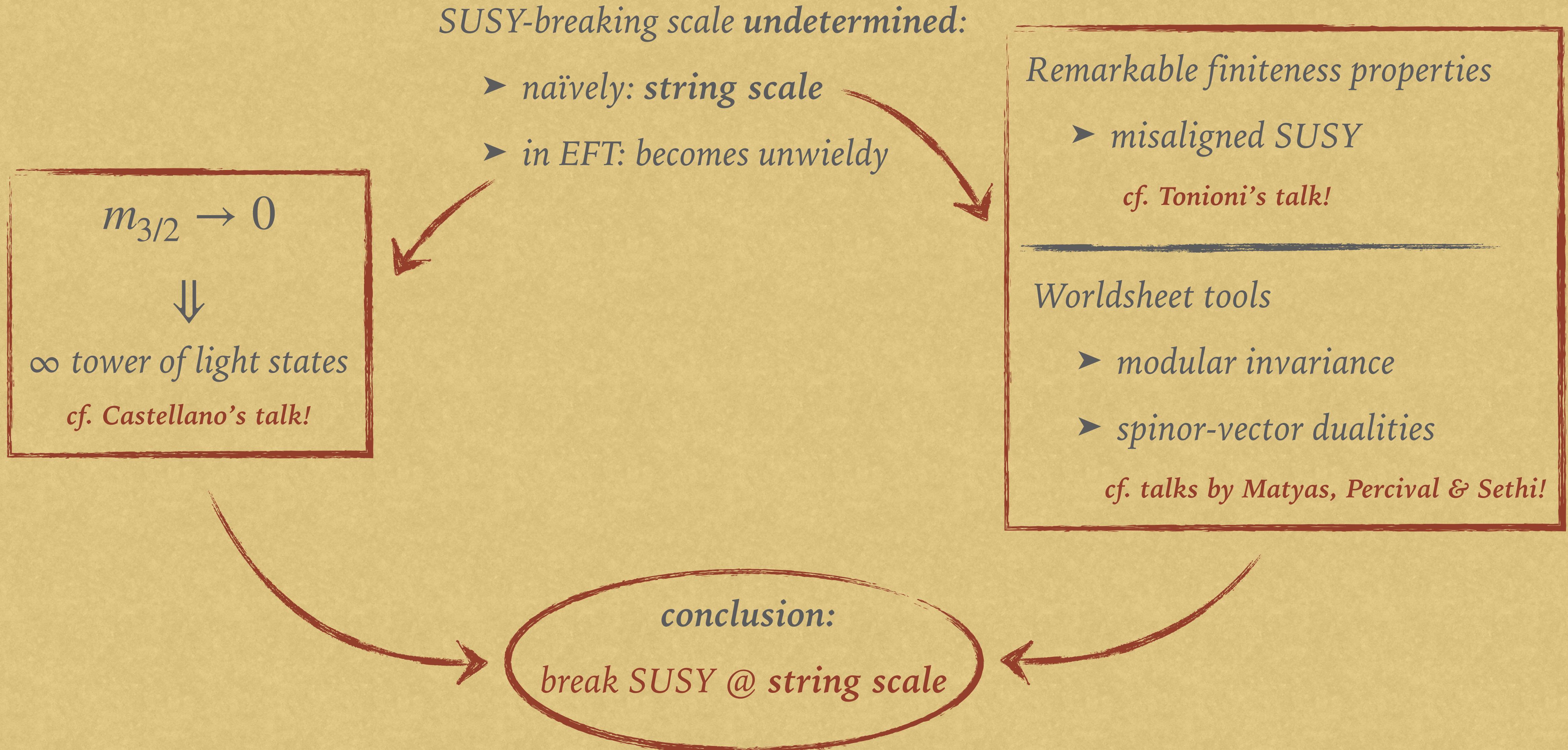


...constraints



*here be dragons*

# THE SWAMP PT. 0 — BREAKING SUSY



# THE SWAMP PT. 0 — BREAKING SUSY

$m_{3/2} \rightarrow 0$   
↓  
 $\infty$  tower of light states  
cf. Castellano's talk!

SUSY-breaking scale undetermined:

- naively: string scale
- in EFT: becomes unwieldy

...conspiracy or swampland?



(Cribiori, Lüst, Scalisi, 2021)

(Castellano, Font, Herráez, Ibáñez, 2021)

(Dall'Agata, Emelin, Farakos, Morittu, 2021)

Remarkable finiteness properties

- misaligned SUSY

cf. Tonioni's talk!

Worldsheet tools

- modular invariance
- spinor-vector dualities

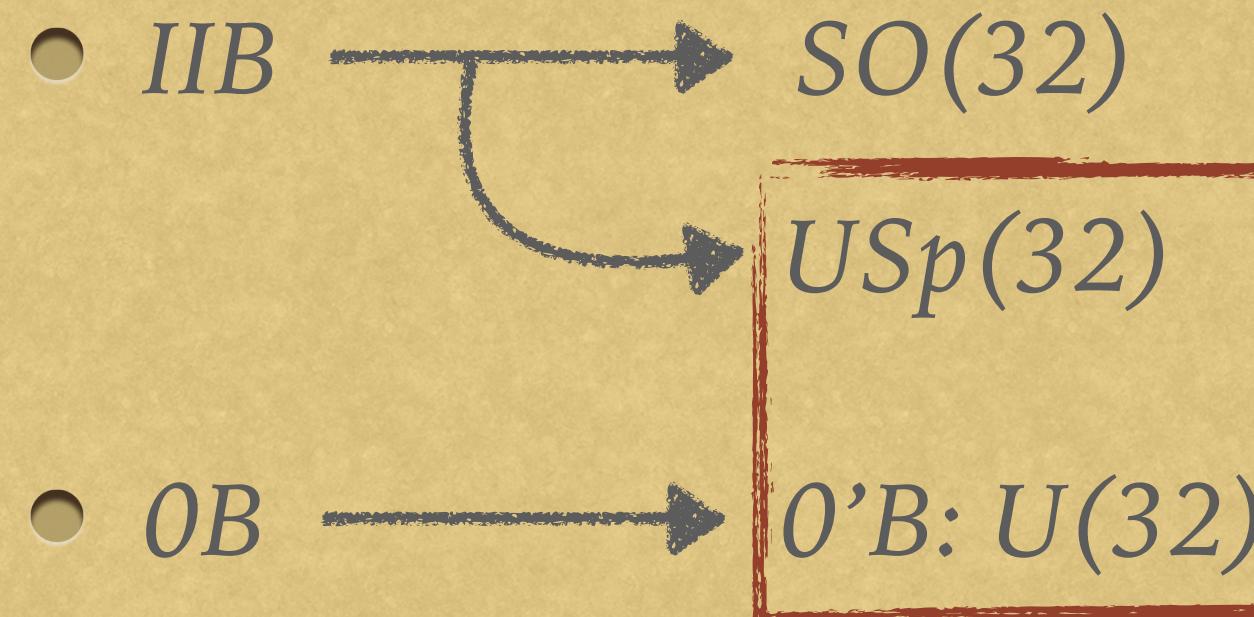
cf. talks by Matyas, Percival & Sethi!

conclusion:

break SUSY @ string scale

# BREAKING SUSY — BEYOND EFT

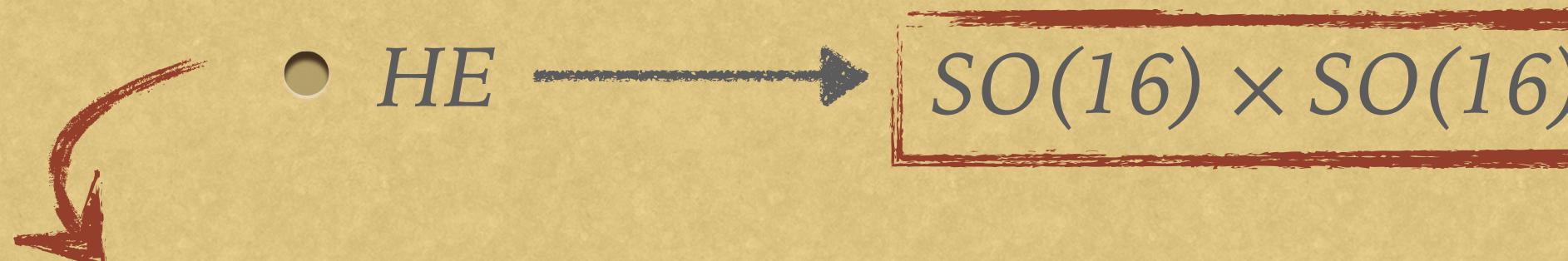
► orientifold models: IIB or OB



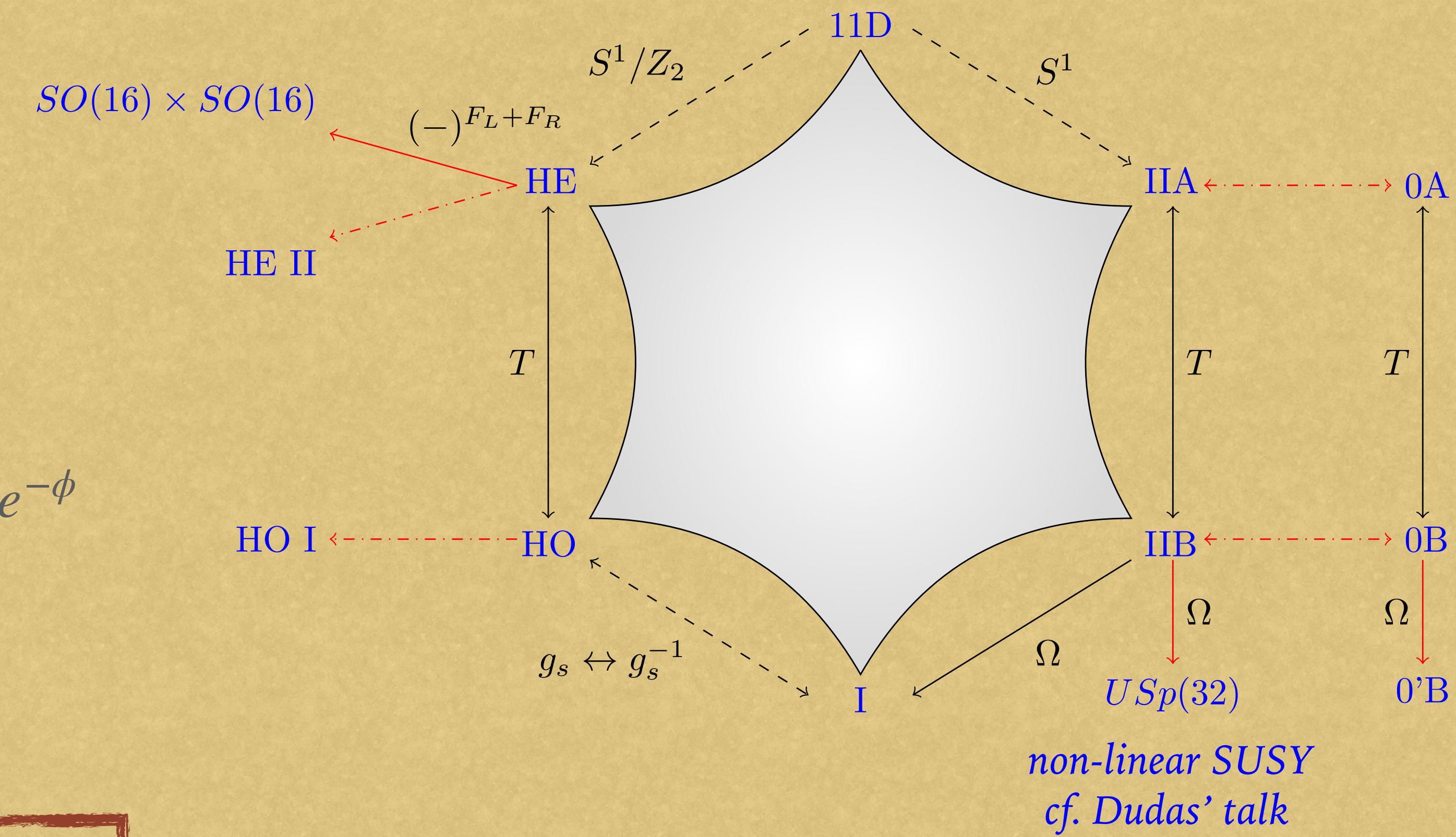
*tension:*  $2k_{10}^2 (32 T_{D9} + T_{O9}) = \frac{16}{\pi^2 \alpha'} e^{-\phi}$

---

► heterotic model:  $E_8 \times E_8$



*vacuum energy:*  $2k_{10}^2 \Lambda_{1-loop} = \frac{\mathcal{O}(1)}{\alpha'}$



*effective potential:*  $e^\gamma \phi \quad \gamma = \frac{3}{2}, \frac{5}{2}$

# LOW-ENERGY EFFECTIVE DESCRIPTION

$$\mathcal{L}_{10d} = R - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{12} e^{\alpha\phi} |H_3|^2 - V_0 e^\gamma \phi$$

- $D1, D5$  in orientifolds,  $\alpha = 1$
- $NS5$  in heterotic,  $\alpha = -1$

SUSY breaking tadpole

+  $D3, D7$  in  $O'B$

rest is uncharged

alternative: stringy effective potential?

(Angelantonj, Florakis, 2013) (Abel, Dienes, 2021) (Abel, IB, to appear)

# LOW-ENERGY EFFECTIVE DESCRIPTION

$$\mathcal{L}_{10d} = R - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{12} e^{\alpha\phi} |H_3|^2 - V_0 e^\gamma \phi$$

*positive potential.  
maybe de Sitter...?*



# THE SWAMP PT. 1 — DE SITTER NO-GO

generalize classic no-go theorem including tadpole

(Maldacena, Nuñez, 2000) (IB, Lanza, 2020) (see also Sethi's talk)

$$\Lambda_X = \left(1 - (q-1)\frac{\gamma}{\alpha}\right) \int_Y \star_Y e^{2c u + \gamma \phi}$$

always  $< 0!$  precise obstruction predicted by dS conjecture

(Obied, Ooguri, Spodyneiko, Vafa, 2018) (...many others)

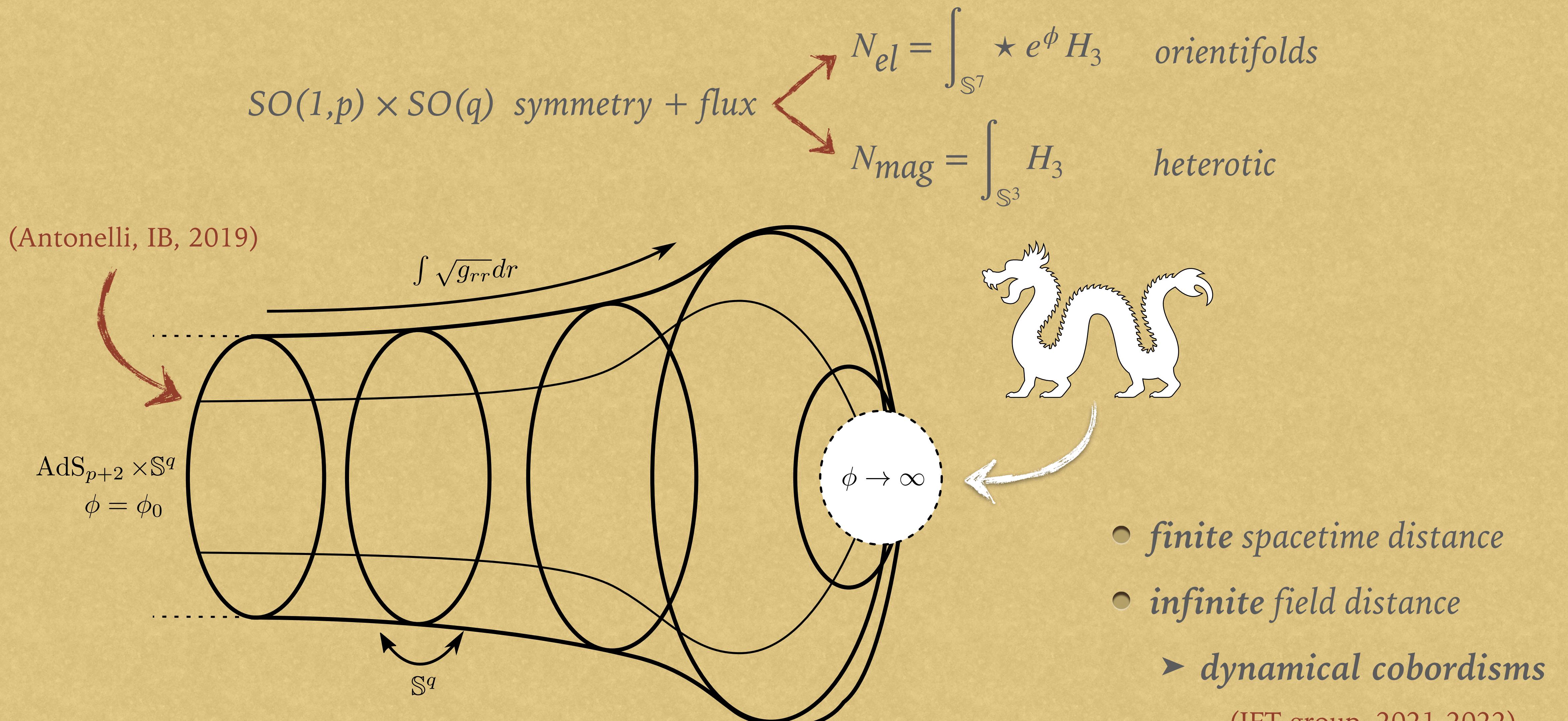
$$|\nabla V|_{V>0} \geq \mathcal{O}(1) V$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{10} &= X_{10-q} \times_u Y_q \\ ds_{10}^2 &= e^{2u(y)} ds_X^2 + ds_Y^2(y) \end{aligned}$$

me:  $V > 0$ , maybe dS?  
string theory:



# NEXT ATTEMPT... USING BRANES



(IFT group, 2021-2022)

cf. talks by Angius, Makridou, Huertas, Delgado & Calderón-Infante!

(Blumenhagen, Cribiori, Kneissl, Makridou, 2022)

# THE GOOD — CONTROLLED ADS VACUA

*near-horizon limit of branes:*  
*simple Freund-Rubin vacua*

$\xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}}$   
 $AdS_3 \times \mathcal{M}_7$  orientifolds  
(Mourad, Sagnotti, 2016)  
 $AdS_7 \times \mathcal{M}_3$  heterotic

*good stuff:*

- no moduli
- single discrete parameter
- parametric control

*bad stuff:*

- no scale separation
- unstable

*(more on that later)*

$$\alpha' R^2 \sim N^{\frac{3}{8}} \gg 1 \quad g_s \sim N^{-\frac{1}{4}} \ll 1$$

$$\alpha' R^2 \sim N^{\frac{5}{4}} \gg 1 \quad g_s \sim N^{-\frac{1}{2}} \ll 1$$

# THE SWAMP PT. 2 — NO SCALE SEPARATION

$$AdS \times \mathcal{M} \longrightarrow R \sim L_{AdS}$$

maybe 3 fluxes?

$AdS_3 \times \mathbb{S}^3 \times \mathbb{S}^3 \times \mathbb{S}^1$

cf. Sethi's talk!

► try heterotic  $AdS_4 \times \mathcal{M}_3 \times \mathcal{N}_3$

“inverse” scale separation!

$$L_{AdS} \sim R_1 \sim \left( \frac{n_1}{n_2} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} R_2 \ll R_2$$

is it an accident? can we cheat to get scale separation?

$$n_1 = \int_{\mathcal{M}_3} H_3$$

↓  
≪

$$n_2 = \int_{\mathcal{N}_3} H_3$$

cf. talks by Cribiori, Wiesner, Van Riet, Andriot & Prieto!

# THE SWAMP PT. 2 — NO SCALE SEPARATION

$$AdS \times \mathcal{M} \longrightarrow R \sim L_{AdS}$$

maybe 3 fluxes?

$AdS_3 \times \mathbb{S}^3 \times \mathbb{S}^3 \times \mathbb{S}^1$

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$$n_1 = \int_{\mathcal{M}_3} H_3$$

↓  
≪

$$n_2 = \int_{\mathcal{N}_3} H_3$$

...conspiracy or swampland?



(Gautason, Schillo, Van Riet, Williams, 2015)

(Lüst, Palti, Vafa, 2019) (Lüst, Tsimpis, 2020)

(Apers, Montero, Van Riet, Wrase, 2022)

(Lüst, Vafa, Wiesner, Xu, 2022) (...)

# THE BAD — INSTABILITIES

*perturbative: BF bound violations*

(IB, Mourad, Sagnotti, 2018)

*orientifolds*

- $\ell = 2, 3, 4$  on  $AdS_3 \times \mathbb{S}^7$
- couldn't find easy fix :(

*heterotic*

- $\ell = 1$  on  $AdS_7 \times \mathbb{S}^3$
- $\mathbb{S}^3/\mathbb{Z}_2$  stable!

*non-perturbative: brane nucleation*

(IB, Antonelli, 2019)

$$\log \Gamma \sim \begin{cases} -\sqrt{N} & \text{orientifolds} \\ -N^4 & \text{heterotic} \end{cases}$$

any Einstein works...

- Laplace spectrum hard

$\mathbb{S}^3/\mathbb{Z}_2$  stable!

*consistency: fixes brane tension*

requires

$$v_0(\gamma, \alpha) > 1$$

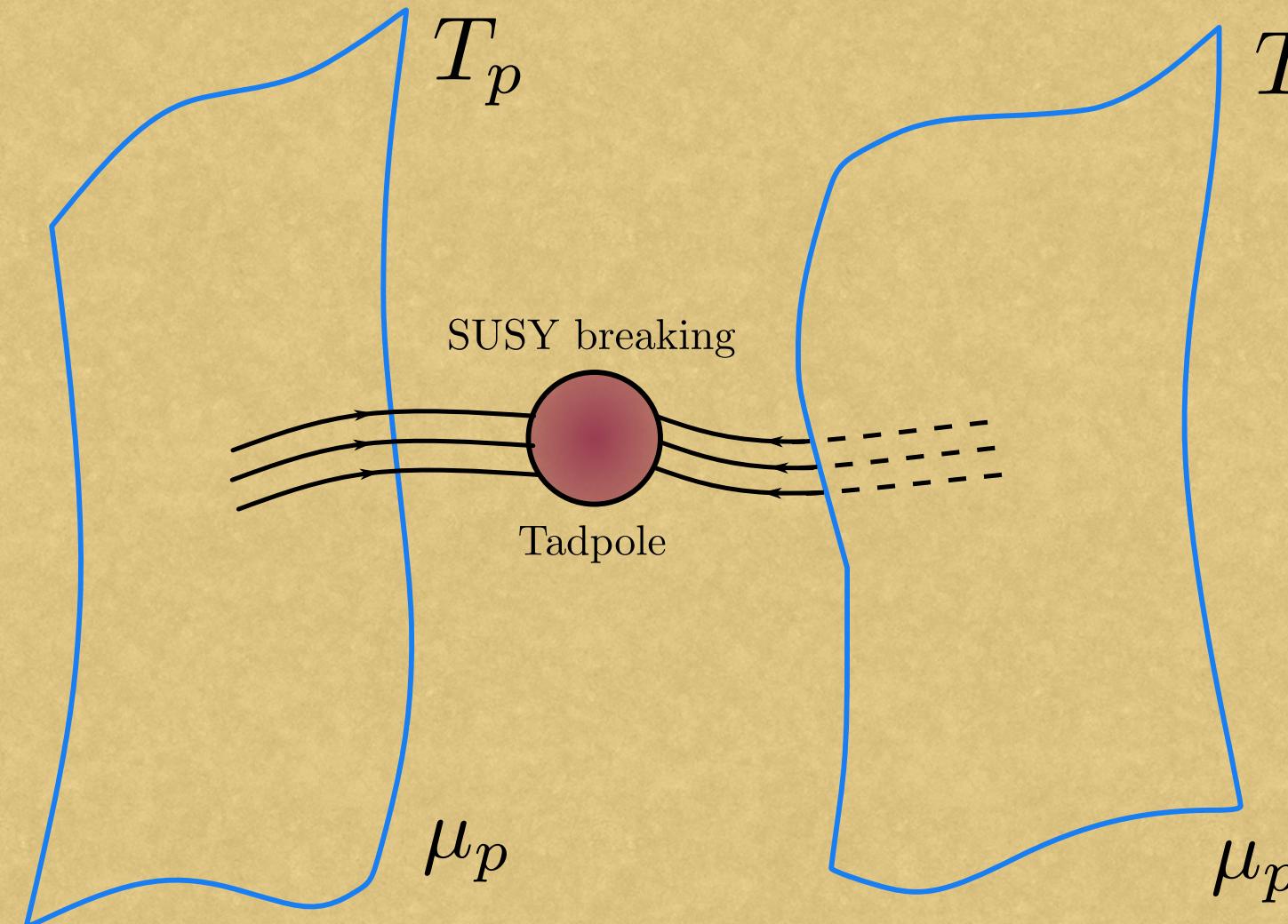
$$g_s^{-1-\alpha_s/2}$$

# THE SWAMP PT. 3 — WEAK GRAVITY CONJECTURE

*microscopic intuition:*

- nucleation from brane repulsion

(IB, Antonelli, 2019) (IB, 2021)

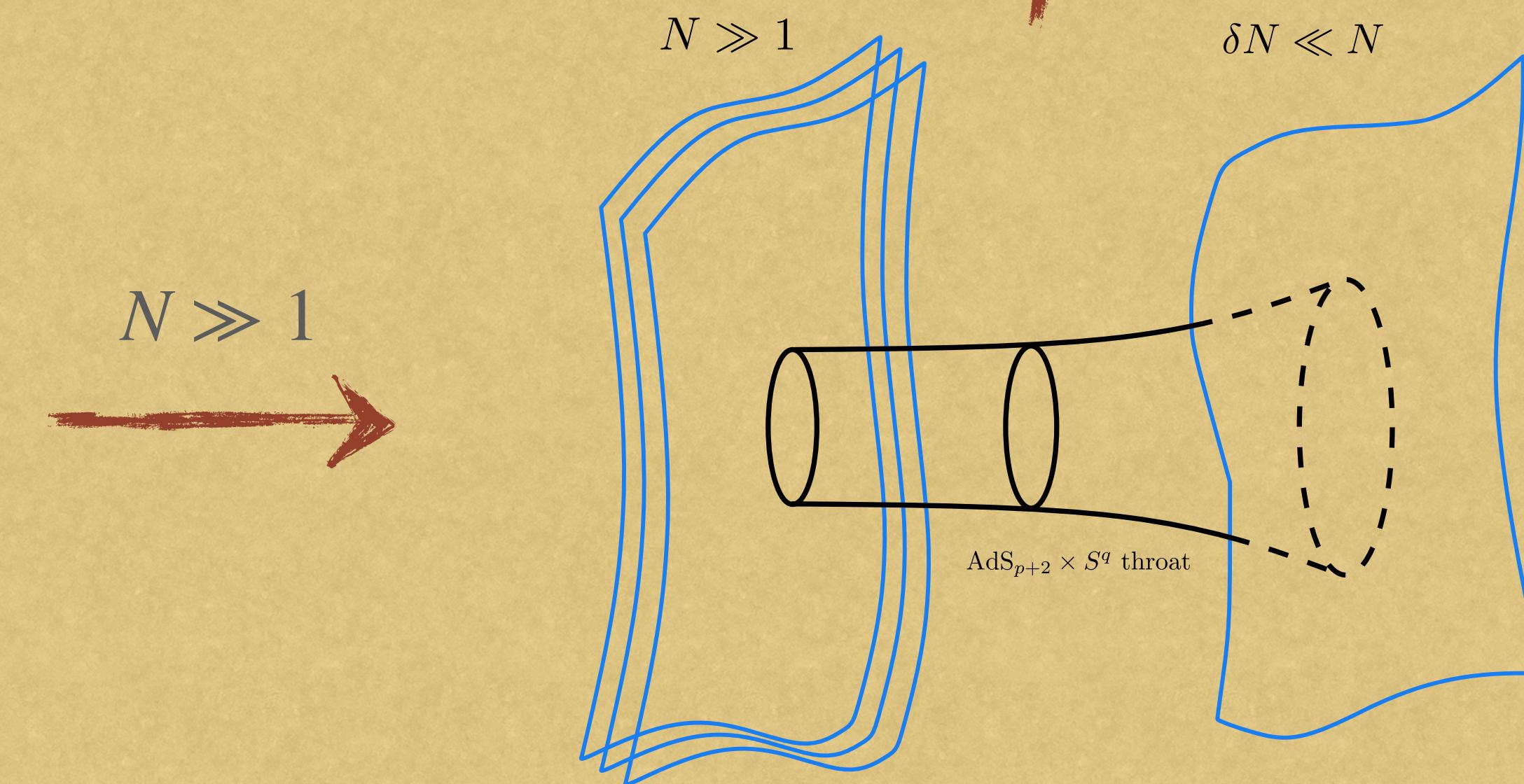


*stringy regime: tadpole-mediated*

$$V_{p-p}(r) = T_p L_{AdS}^{p+1} \left( 1 \pm \boxed{v_0(\gamma, \alpha)} \frac{\mu_p}{T_p} \right) e^{\frac{(p+1)}{L_{AdS}} r}$$

*same as decay!*

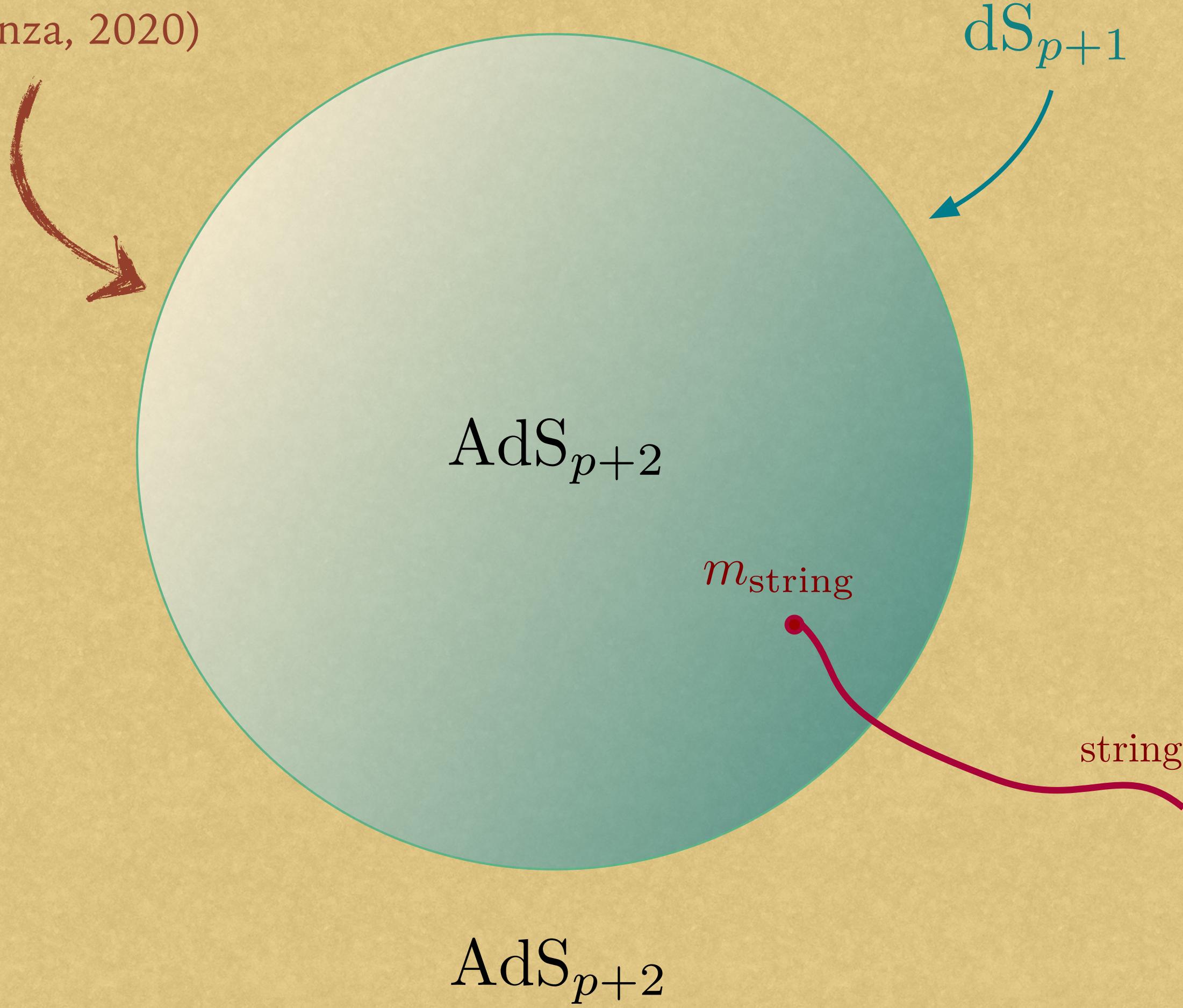
$$v_0 = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{5}{3}} > 1 \quad \checkmark$$



*EFT regime: probe brane in AdS throat*

# “RIDE THE BUBBLE” — DE SITTER BRANEWORLD COSMOLOGY

(IB, Lanza, 2020)



full Einstein eqs. w/ matter — EFT unknown

(Uppsala group, 2018-2021)

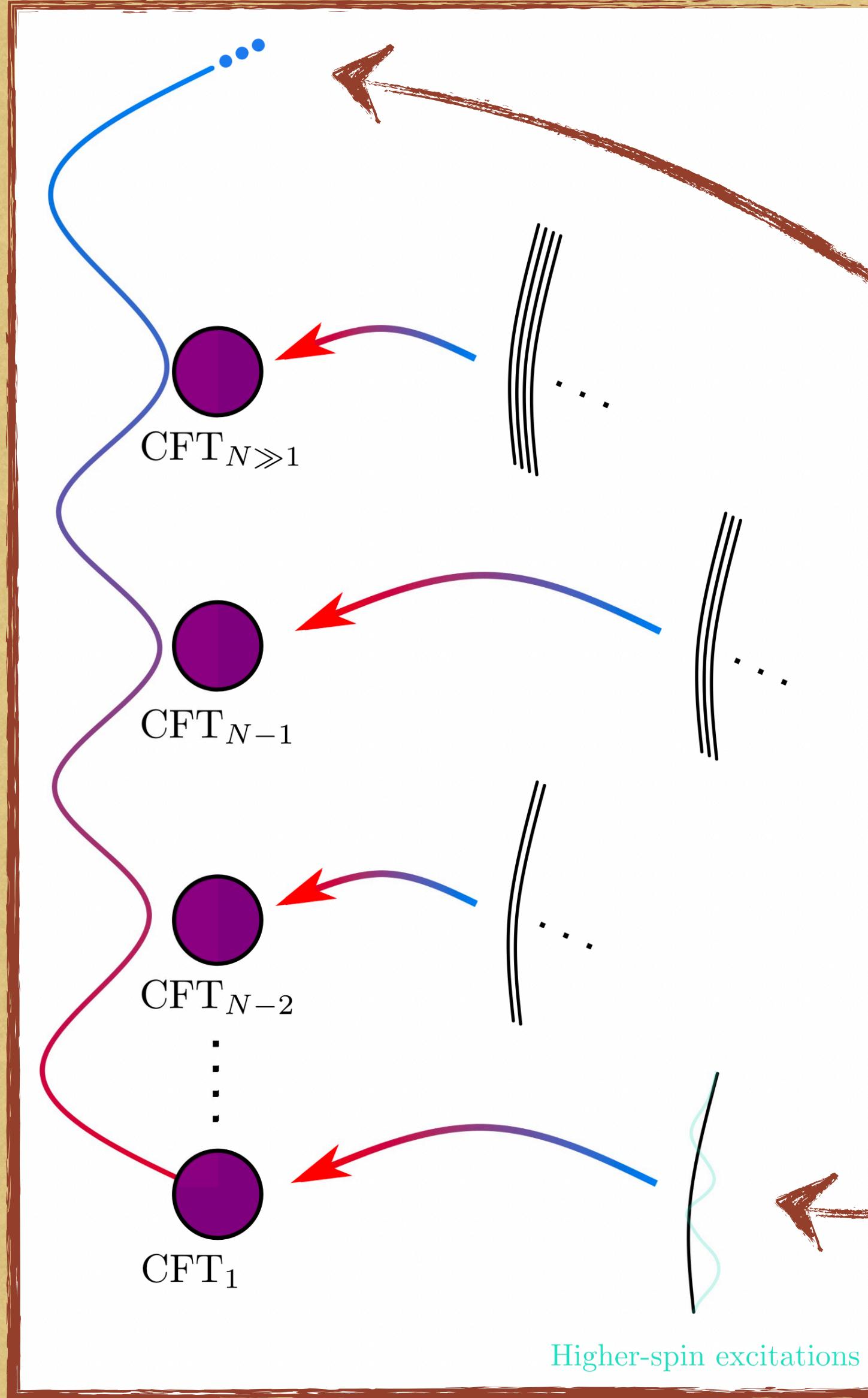
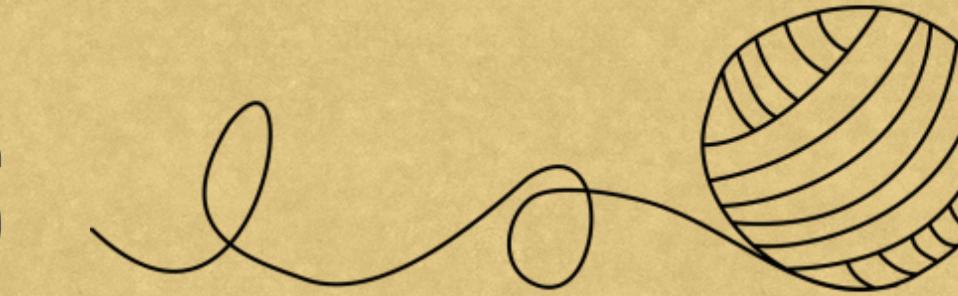
cf. Panizo's talk!

$$ds_{\text{induced}}^2 = -dt^2 + a^2(t) d\Omega_p^2$$

$$\left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 = -\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{(v_0 \mu_p/T_p)^2 - 1}{L_{\text{AdS}}^2}$$



# THE SWAMP PT. 4 — DISTANCE / DUALITY CONJECTURES



► extend moduli space metrics: RG & information theory

(O'Connor, Stephens, 1993) (Anselmi, Buttazzo, 2011)

► links w/ distance conjecture

(Stout, 2021) (IB, 2022)

cf. Stout's talk!

$$g_{ab} = \int dx \langle \mathcal{O}_a(x) \mathcal{O}_b(0) \rangle$$

all versions of the SDC work

(Lee, Lerche, Weigand, 2018-2019)

(Lüst, Palti, Vafa, 2019) cf. Kläwer's talk!

(Baume, Calderón-Infante, 2020)

(Perlmutter, Rastelli, Vafa, Valenzuela, 2020)

USp(32) recovers  $\mathcal{N} = (0,1)$  SUSY b/c Spin(8) triality:

only works for **D-strings** in  $10d = 2+8\dots$  heterotic S-dual?

# OUTLOOK

- consistency & naturalness with swampland conditions
- novel pheno: “*ride the bubble*” — stringy embedding

- 
- full gravity EFT on the branes?
  - final state: non-SUSY duality?

Thank you!

...btw, this is what strings do when you break SUSY

