



# On Minimal Supergravities in $d > 4$

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Based on work with: HCT & Cumrun Vafa

Hamada & Montero & HCT & Cumrun Vafa

and previous work with: HCT & Cumrun Vafa (2106.10839)

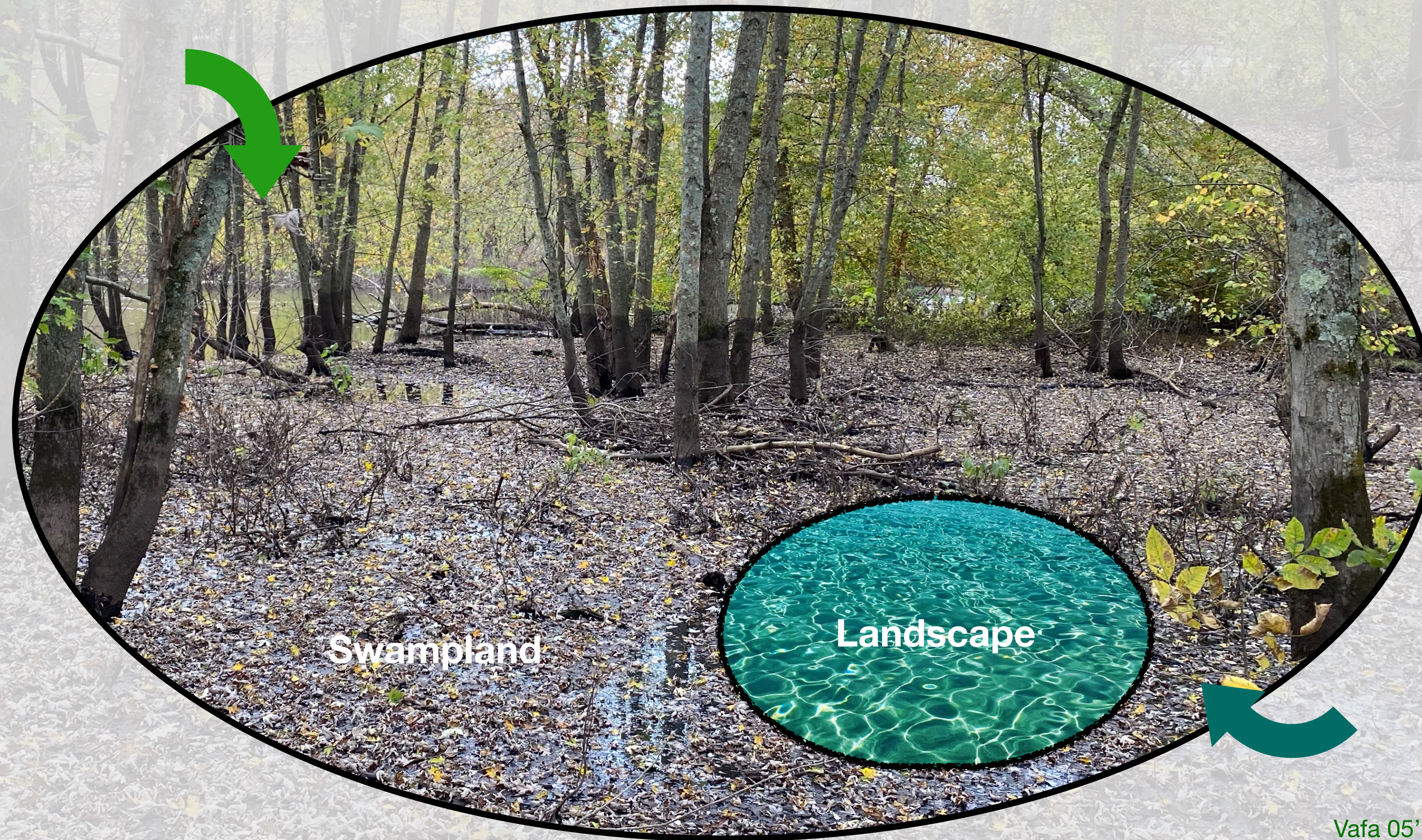
Sheldon Katz, Hee-Cheol Kim, HCT, Cumrun Vafa (2004.14401)



# Swampland Program

What conditions can we use to distinguish between consistent QFT's which cannot couple to gravity and those that can arise in the low energy limit of a quantum gravity?

consistent QFT  
Not Consistent with QG

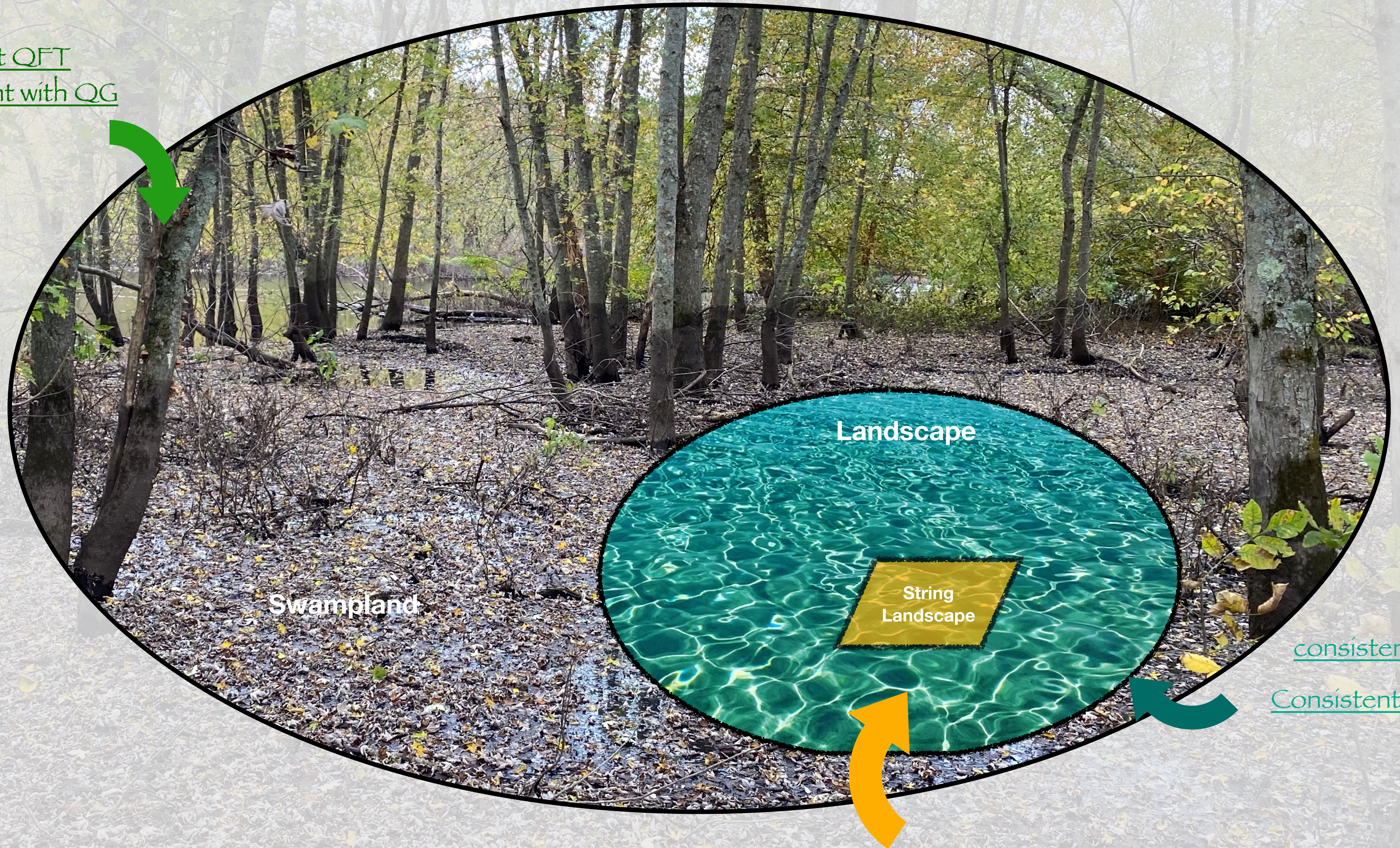


consistent QFT  
Consistent with QG

Vafa 05'



consistent QFT  
Not Consistent with QG



consistent QFT  
Consistent with QG

Do all the theories in the Landscape also belong in the String Landscape (SLP: YES)?



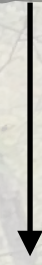
Is there a way to use fundamental ideas that are believed to be true for Quantum gravitational theories to construct such condition?

### **Unitarity**

Every Quantum  
Gravity  
should be  
Unitary



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### Unitarity

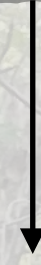
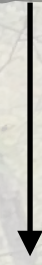
Every Quantum Gravity should be Unitary

### Anomaly Cancellation

All gauge-gravitational anomalies should cancel



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### Completeness of Spectrum

In a quantum gravity for any p-form gauge field, every charged (p-1)-brane state should appear in the spectrum

Polchinski 03'  
Banks, Seiberg 10'  
Harlow, Ooguri 18'



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### Cobordism Conjecture:

All the cobordism classes in a consistent theory of quantum gravity must vanish

McNamara, Vafa 19'



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### Distance Conjecture:

In a quantum gravity at infinite distance in the scalar moduli space an infinite tower of states becomes exponentially light

Ooguri, Vafa 06'

Many more Swampland conditions exist .....



D	8 Supercharges	16 Supercharges	32 Supercharges
11	×	×	M-theory
10	×	Anomaly cancellation $G = E_8 \times E_8, SO(32), E_8 \times U(1)^{248}, U(1)^{496}$ <div>             [Kim, Shiu, Vafa 19']              [Adams, Dewolfe, Taylor 10']           </div>	IIA & IIB
9	×	$r \equiv 1 \pmod 2$ [Alvarez-Gaume and E. Witten '84] $Sp(n)$ [Bedroya, Hamada, Montero, Vafa 21'] $r = 1$ , M-theory on KB or IIB on DP $r = 9$ : CHL string $r = 17$ : Heterotic on $S^1$	
8	×	$\downarrow$ $S^1 \quad r \equiv 0 \pmod 2$ String Theory allows only for $8d : SU(N), SO(2N), Sp(N), e_6, e_7, e_8$ but not $SO(2N+1), \underbrace{f_4}, \underbrace{g_2}$ <div>             [García-Etxebarria, Hayashi ,Ohmori, Tachikawa, Yonekura 17']              [Hamada, Vafa 21']           </div>	$(S^1)^d$
7	×	$rank(G) = 1 \pmod 2$ <div>Montero, Vafa 20'</div> $r = 3,5,7,11,19$ Can be realized.	
6	[Morrison, ,Kumar, Taylor,.....09'/10'../] Various Conditions <div>[Kim, Shiu, Vafa 19'] [Lee,Weigand 19'] [HCT, Vafa 21']</div>	6d (2,0), which is unique and realized through IIB on K3 6d (1,1) $rank(G) \leq 20$ [Kim, HCT, Vafa 19']	
5	Various Conditions <div>[Katz, Kim, HCT, Vafa 21']</div>	$rank(G) \leq 21$ <div>[Kim, HCT, Vafa 19']</div>	<div>↓</div>



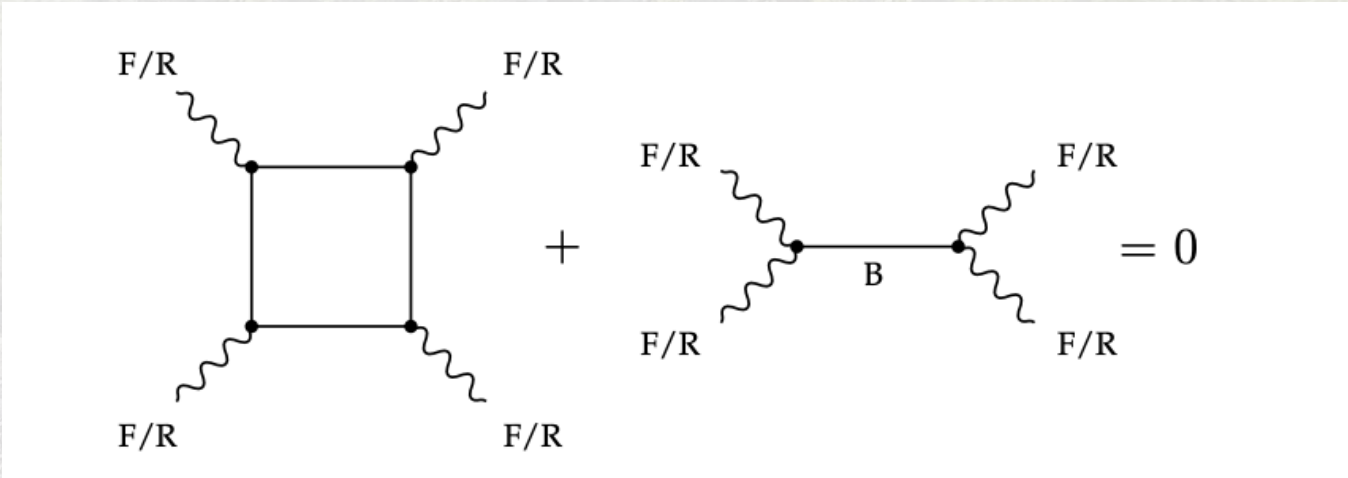
# 6d $\mathcal{N} = 1$ Supergravity theories

### Super-multiplets:

Supergravity-multiplet	$(g_{\mu\nu}, B_{\mu\nu}, \psi_\mu^-)$
Tensor-multiplet(T)	$(B_{\mu\nu}, \phi, \chi^+)$
Vector-multiplet(V)	$(A_\mu, \lambda^-)$
Hyper-multiplet(H)	$(4h, \psi^+)$

}

**Chiral fields** contribute to gauge/gravitational anomalies  
Cancelled by the **Green-Schwarz-Sagnotti Mechanism**



**Anomaly polynomial factorizes as:**

$$I_8 = \frac{1}{2} \Omega_{\alpha\beta} X_4^\alpha X_4^\beta$$
$$X^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} a^\alpha \text{tr} R^2 + \sum_i b_i^\alpha \left( \frac{2}{\lambda_i} \text{tr} F_i^2 \right)$$

$\Omega_{\alpha\beta}$  symmetric of signature (1,T)

$$a^\alpha, b_i^\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^{1,T}$$

### Anomaly Cancellation:

$$R^4 : H - V = 273 - 29T$$

$$F^4 : 0 = B_{Adj}^i - \sum n_R^i B_R^i$$

$$(R^2)^2 : a \cdot a = 9 - T \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$F^2 R^2 : a \cdot b_i = \frac{1}{6} \lambda_i (A_{Adj}^i - \sum_R n_R^i A_R^i) \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$(F^2)^2 : b_i \cdot b_i = \frac{1}{3} \lambda_i^2 \left( \sum_R n_R^i C_R^i - C_{Adj}^i \right) \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$F_i^2 F_j^2 : b_i \cdot b_j = \sum_{R,S} \lambda_i \lambda_j n_{RS}^{ij} A_R^i A_S^j \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad i \neq j$$

$A_R, B_R, C_R$  group theory coefficients

$$\text{tr}_R F^2 = A_R \text{tr} F^2, \quad \text{tr}_R F^4 = B_R \text{tr} F^4 + C_R (\text{tr} F^2)^2$$

$n_R^i$  = hypers in number of in R

[Taylor, Kumar, Morison,....]

The number of theories that satisfy these anomaly conditions are infinite.  
SLP would though suggest that only a finite number of those can truly be UV-completed in a quantum gravity.



# • 6d $\mathcal{N} = 1$ Supergravity theories

## Completeness of Spectrum

- For 6d  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  supergravity there exist (anti-)shelf dual BPS strings charged under  $B_2$

→ (0,4) SCFT at low energy

- The vertex operator of the massless modes with representation  $\mathbf{R}$  of  $G$  with conformal weight  $\Delta_{\mathbf{R}} = \frac{C_2(\mathbf{R})}{2(k + h^\vee)}$  where  $C_2(\mathbf{R})$  is the second Casimir of the  $\mathbf{R}$  must obey:

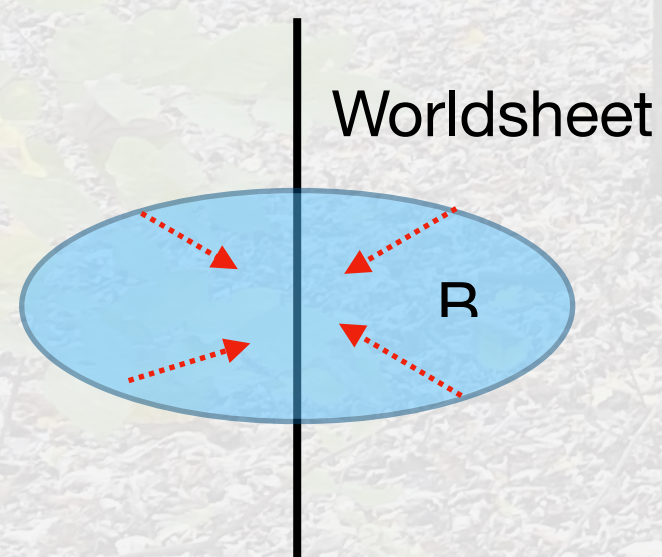
$$\Delta_{\mathbf{R}} \leq 1$$

[HCT, Vafa'21]

## Unitarity of the string worldsheet

$$\sum_i c_{G_i} = \frac{k_i \dim G}{k_i + h_i^\vee} \leq c_L$$

## Anomaly cancellation for string of charge $Q$



$$-I_4^{inflow} + I_4^{WS} = 0$$

where  $k$  is the level of the current algebra of  $G$  on the worldsheet.

- Central charges:**  $\hat{c}_L = 3Q \cdot Q - 9Q \cdot a + 2$ ,  $\hat{c}_R = 3Q \cdot Q - 3Q \cdot a \geq 0$

- Levels of  $G_i$ ,  $SU(2)_i$ :**  $k_i = Q \cdot b_i$ ,  $k_l = \frac{1}{2}(Q \cdot Q + Q \cdot a + 2) \geq 0$

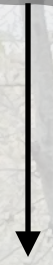
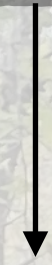
Supergravity Strings  $Q^2 \geq 0$

[Kim, Kim, Park 16']

[Shimizu, Tachikawa 16']



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## Emergent String Proposal

Infinite Distance Limit-  
Emergence of  
Tensionless String



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**Assumption:** The string lattice  $\Lambda$  is generated by Supergravity strings  $Q_i^2 \geq 0$ ,  $Q_i \cdot Q_j \geq 0$  [HCT, Vafa'21]

The moduli space of the theory is  $SO(1,T)/SO(T)$  parametrized by  $j \in \mathbb{R}^{1,T}$

Consider a theory with Gauge group  $G$  associated with vector  $b$

**Claim:** in the limit  $\frac{1}{g_{YM}^2} \sim j \cdot b \rightarrow +\infty$  while keeping  $M_{pl}^2 \sim j^2$  finite

[Lee,Lerche,Weigand'18]

one can express  $j = t Q_0 + \sum_i s_i Q_i$  in a basis of supergravity strings  $\{Q_i\}$  with  $Q_0^2 = 0$

where there must exist an asymptotically tensionless string  $Q_0$  with

$$Q_0 \cdot b > 0$$

And

$$T_0 = j \cdot Q_0 \sim \frac{1}{t} \rightarrow 0 \quad \& \quad T_b = j \cdot b \sim t \rightarrow +\infty \text{ as } t \rightarrow +\infty$$

- $j \cdot b_i \text{ tr} F^2 \implies j \cdot b_i > 0$
- $j \cdot j > 0$
- Tension:  $Q \cdot j \geq 0$
- $-j \cdot a \text{ tr} R^2 \implies j \cdot a > 0$

Unitarity on the String

$$-a \cdot Q_0 = 2$$

Heterotic string of [Lee,Lerche,Weigand'18]



- Asymptotically tensionless string with  $Q_0^2 = 0$  &  $Q_0 \cdot b > 0$
- “Zariski Decomposition”: unique way to write  $v=P+N$

[Lee,Lerche,Weigand’18]

[Bauer, Caib  r, Kennedy ‘09]

[Kumar, Morrison, Taylor 20’]

**Example 1:**  $SU(N)$  with  $(N - 8) F + 1 S$  with  $T \leq 10$  and  $N \leq 30$  (with  $N = 30$  for  $T = 1$ ) No F-theory realisation for any  $N$

This theory has  $-a \cdot b = -1$ ,  $b \cdot b = -1$  therefore  $-a = m b + N$  with  $m > 0$  which implies that  $(-a - b) \cdot Q_0 \geq 0 \implies 2 \geq k = Q_0 \cdot b > 0$

But symmetric matter has highest weight  $(2,0,\dots,0)$ .

$$\sum_i^{N-1} \Lambda_i \leq 1$$

Independent of choice  
of vectors  $a, b, Q_0$

with  $T = 1$  unique solution

[HCT, Vafa 21’]

[Angelantonj, Bonnefoy, Condeescu, Dudas 20’]

**Example 2:**  $SU(24) \times SO(8)$  with 3 (A,1),  $T = 1$

With  $a^2 = 8$ ,  $a \cdot b_1 = 3$ ,  $a \cdot b_2 = -1$ ,  $b_1^2 = 1$ ,  $b_2^2 = -1$ ,  $b_1 \cdot b_2 = 0$

Linear algebra implies :  $Q \cdot b_1 \neq 0$

Unitarity:  $\frac{k_1 (24^2 - 1)}{k_1 + 24} > 20$

No F-theory realisation for any  $N$

Generally, any gauge group with  $b^2 > 0$  is restricted by unitarity since  $Q \cdot b > 0$

E.g. for general  $SU(N)$

$N$	$k \leq$
5	25
6	8
7	5
8	3
9	3
10	2
11	2

$N$	$k \leq$
12	1
13	1
14	1
15	1
16	1
17	1
18	1
19	1
20	1
21	1

Matter:  $\sum_i^{N-1} \Lambda_i \leq 1$



Example 3:  $SU(N) \times SU(N), T = 9$

With  $a^2 = 0, b_1^2 = -2, b_2^2 = -2, b_1 \cdot b_2 = 2, a \cdot b_{1,2} = 0$

Linear algebra shows that  $-a = m(b_1 + b_2), m \in \mathbb{Q}^+$

But  $-a \cdot Q = 2$ , hence  $2 = m(k_1 + k_2)$  and  $m = 1$  since  $a$  characteristic vector

Unitarity:  $\frac{k_1(N^2 - 1)}{k_1 + N} + \frac{k_2(N^2 - 1)}{k_2 + N} \leq 20$

$(k_1, k_2) = (2,0), (1,1) : N \leq 11$

Gauge Group	Matter content
$SU(N) \times SU(N)$	$2(\square, \bar{\square})$
$SO(2N + 8) \times Sp(N)$	$(\square, \square)$
$SU(N) \times SO(N + 8)$	$(\square, \square) + (\bar{\square}, 1)$
$SU(N) \times SU(N + 8)$	$(\square, \square) + (\bar{\square}, 1) + (1, \square\square)$
$Sp(N) \times SU(2N + 8)$	$(\square, \square) + (1, \square\square)$

[Dabholkar and J. Park'96]

String realisation:  $N \leq 8$

For a specific choice:  $N \leq 9$

[Shiu, Kim, Vafa'19]

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}

Similar analysis shows that they are all finite for independent of the choice of vectors!

- There are in fact more theories allowed by anomalies with  $k$  number of simple factors and excluded with similar tools as above:

$Sp((N - 8)/2) \times SU(N) \times SU(N + 8) \times \cdots \times SO(N + 8(k - 2))$   
 $\quad \quad \quad \widetilde{F \otimes F} \quad \quad \quad \widetilde{F \otimes F} \quad \quad \quad \widetilde{F \otimes F}$

$SU(N - 8) \times SU(N) \times SU(N + 8) \times \cdots \times SO(N + 8(k - 2))$   
 $\quad \quad \quad \begin{matrix} | \\ A \end{matrix} \quad \quad \quad \widetilde{F \otimes F} \quad \quad \quad \widetilde{F \otimes F} \quad \quad \quad \widetilde{F \otimes F}$

$SU(N) \times SU(N) \times \cdots \times SU(N)$   
 $\quad \quad \quad \begin{matrix} \widetilde{F \otimes F} \\ | \end{matrix} \quad \quad \quad \begin{matrix} \widetilde{F \otimes F} \\ | \end{matrix} \quad \quad \quad \begin{matrix} \widetilde{F \otimes F} \\ | \end{matrix}$

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# Minimal Matter

D	8 Supercharges	16 Supercharges	32 Supercharges
11	x	x	M-theory
10	x	Anomaly cancellation $G = E_8 \times E_8, SO(32), E_8 \times U(1)^{248}, U(1)^{496}$	IIA & IIB
9	x	$r = 1$ , M-theory on KB or IIB on DP ↓	
8	x	$S^1$	$(S^1)^d$
7	x	$rank(G) = 1 \mod 2$ Montero, Vafa 20'	
6	$H - V = 273 - 29T$	6d (2,0), unique, IIB on K3 $T = 21$	6d (1,1) Asymmetric Orbifold: $\Gamma^{4,4}(A_4)$ with $\mathbb{Z}_5$ twist
5	??????	5d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ Asymmetric Orbifold : $\Gamma^{5,5}(D5)$ with $\mathbb{Z}_{12}$ twist	



Gravity multiplet:	$(g_{\mu\nu}, A_\mu, 2\psi_\mu)$
Vector multiplet:	$(A_\mu, 2\chi, \phi)$
Hypermultiplet:	$(2\psi_-, 4\phi)$

← **No Dilaton!**  
 cannot be realized as low-energy theories of any perturbative string compactifications

**Bosonic Action**

$$S = \int \star R + \frac{1}{4} F \wedge \star F + \frac{c}{6} A \wedge F \wedge F + \frac{\kappa}{96} A \wedge R \wedge R$$

$$c \in \mathbb{N} \ \& \ \kappa \in 2\mathbb{Z}$$

How can one find such a theory?

Similar to M-theory so could one find a 4d  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  supergravity with one vector multiplet(coming from the 5d reduction)  
 whose strong coupling limit is the pure 5d theory?

[Mizoguchi '01]

Attempt: Non-geometric compactification using some asymmetric orbifold

DID NOT WORK!

Weyl group elements	Eigenvalues	Order
$E_6(a_1)$	$(\epsilon^1, \epsilon^2, \epsilon^4, \epsilon^5, \epsilon^7, \epsilon^8)$	9
$A_4 \oplus A_2$	$(\epsilon^3, \epsilon^6, \epsilon^9, \epsilon^{12}, \epsilon^5, \epsilon^{10})$	15
$D_4(a_1) \oplus A_2$	$(\epsilon^3, \epsilon^3, \epsilon^9, \epsilon^9, \epsilon^4, \epsilon^8)$	12
$A_2 \oplus A_1 \oplus A_1 \oplus A_1 \oplus A_1$	$(\epsilon^2, \epsilon^4, \epsilon^3, \epsilon^3, \epsilon^3)$	6

All the examples attempted had extra states in the twisted sectors

**In fact it should not work!**



# The reason is rather simple!

The exact statement is: The 5d pure supergravity can not be a strong coupling limit of 4d perturbative string.

Consider the 5d action with 5d Planck mass  $M_5$  being the only scale in the theory then the action is given by

$$S = M_5^3 \int R_5$$

And the tension of the string magnetically charged under the graviphoton is

$$T_5 = \frac{1}{2} M_5^2$$

Meanwhile, in 4d the supergravity action would be given by:

$$S = M_4^2 \int R_4$$

Comparing now this with the action of the 5d theory on a circle  $S^1$  of radius  $L$  leads to

$$S = M_5^3 L \int R_4 \qquad M_5^3 L = M_4^2$$

By the dimensional reduction, the monopole string must become 4d BPS string.

The tensions of 4d BPS strings are

$$T_4 = \begin{cases} M_s^2 & \text{F-string} \\ \frac{M_s^2}{g_s} & \text{D-string} \end{cases} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} L = \frac{M_s^2}{g_s^2 M_5^3} = \frac{1}{g_s^2 M_s} \\ L = \frac{1}{\sqrt{g_s} M_s} \end{array} \right.$$



# Swampland or Landscape?

Anomalies



Swampland Conjectures



Self-Consistency



Possibilities



Existence of Holographic Dual



Connectedness to string theory

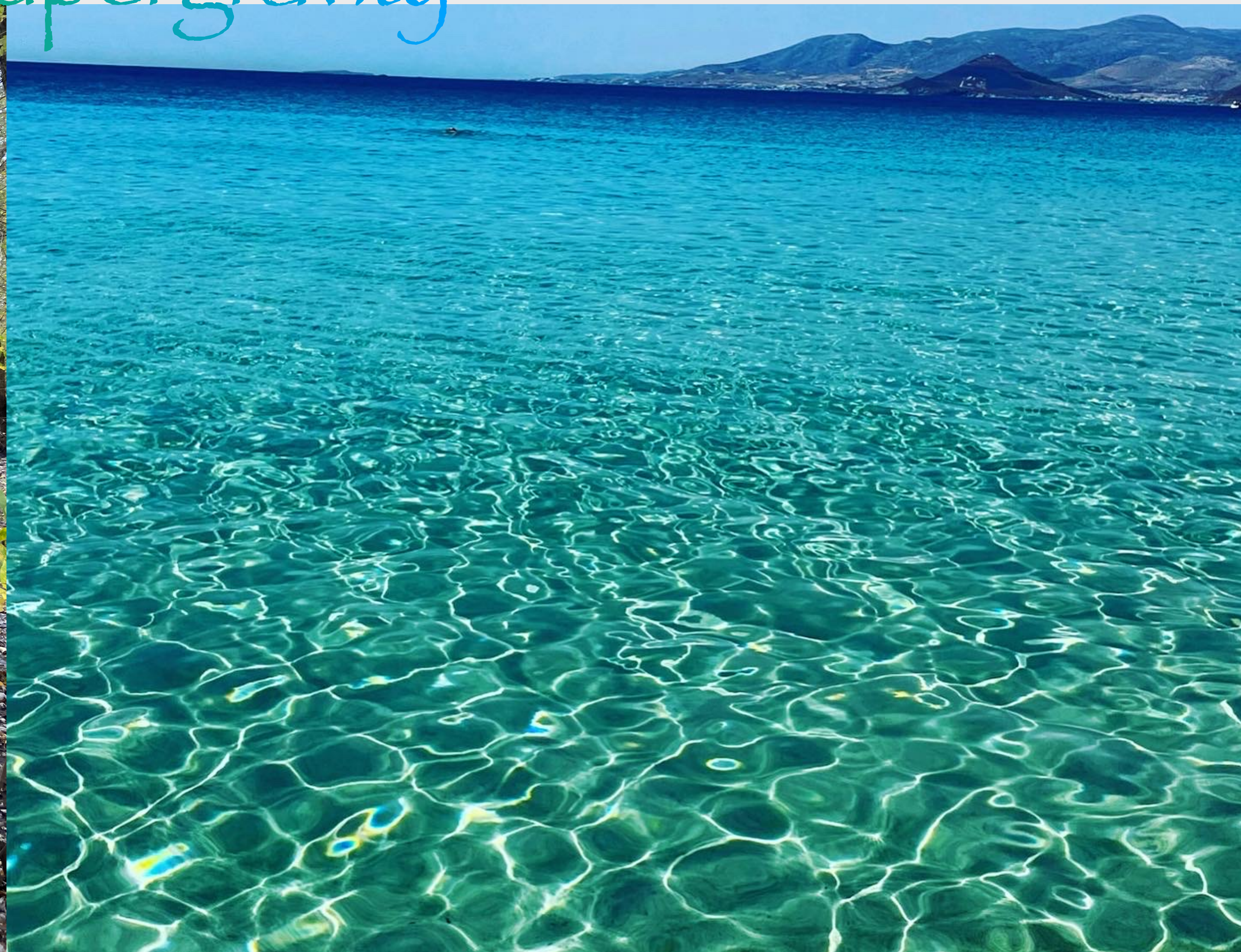




# Proof by Vote 5d Minimal Supergravity



Boston, MA



Naxos, Greece

Thank you very much!