

# Type II model building at the crossroads between (astro)particle physics and moduli stabilisation

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based on various collaborations, in particular with  
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**Alexander Seifert**, **Wieland Staessens**

hep-th/ 1606.04926, 1509.00048, 1507.07568, 1409.1236, 1403.2394, 1312.4517 ...

*String Pheno 2016, Ioannina, 23 June 2016*



# Motivation: String Theory - Anything / Nothing Goes??

## Current Status:

### ▶ particle physics

- ▶ several landscapes of (B)SM vacua (✓)

see e.g. talks by Nilles, Faraggi, Ovrut, Palti, Cvetič, Lukas, Abel

- ▶ typically SUSY @  $M_{\text{string}}$

- ▶ controlled SUSY: gaugino condensate

- ▶ ...? Fluxes? Polonyi term?

- ▶ non-SUSY possible if  $M_{\text{string}} \sim \mathcal{O}(\text{TeV})$

- ▶ ... excess of vector-like states ... **BSM signatures** at colliders?

see e.g. talks by Antoniadis, Lüst

### ▶ cosmology

- ▶ dS vacua?

- ▶ complete **moduli** stabilisation?

- ▶ inflationary potentials e.g. with **axions**?

see e.g. plenary talks by Shiu, Blumenhagen, Partouche, Kallosh, Kiritsis, Cicoli, Quevedo, Marchesano,

Staessens, Ibáñez, Hebecker, Reece + many parallel talks

### ▶ mutual consistency??

↪ need to **reunite** (astro)particle & cosmological considerations

## Old paradigm in Type II:

- ▶ gravity on closed strings
- ▶ gauge sector on D-branes

↪ cosmo & particle physics decoupled

## But:

- ▶ 4D (matter) field theory depends on dilaton & moduli
- ▶ moduli stabilisation changes geometry ↪ D-branes affected
- ▶ '*(anti) D-brane uplifting*' used to generate dS vacua
- ▶ ~~SUSY~~ mediation (hidden → observable sector) via gravity
- ▶ open & closed (pseudo)scalars mix,  $\nu$ 's,  $U(1)$ 's ...

↪ see later

## Technically challenging:

- ▶ geometric understanding with fluxes
- ▶ control over field theory  
for general ( $CY_3$ ) backgrounds (without/with fluxes)

## Vast misconception:

- ▶ large string landscape does **not** lead to arbitrary new physics

# BSM Features: Particle Spectrum

# BSM Features from Type II String Theory

## Group theory on D-branes:

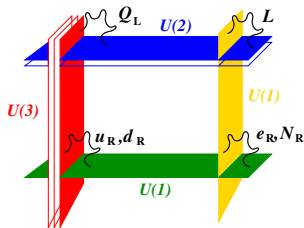
- ▶ charges at endpoints of open strings:  
( $\mathbf{N}_a, \overline{\mathbf{N}}_b$ ), ( $\mathbf{Adj}_a$ ) of  $U(N_a) \times U(N_b)$   
( $\mathbf{N}_a, \mathbf{N}_b$ ), ( $\mathbf{Anti}_a$ ), ( $\mathbf{Sym}_a$ )
- ▶  $U(1)_{\text{massless/massive}}$  linear combinations
  - ▶  $SU(5)$  GUTs
  - ▶  $SU(4) \times SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$  ✓
  - ▶  $SU(3) \times SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \times U(1)_{B-L}$  ✓
  - ▶  $SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)_Y$  ✓

Cvetič *et al.*; G.H. with Ott, Gmeiner, Ripka, Staessens, Ecker; ...

- ▶  $U(N) \rightarrow SO(2N)$ : no spinor reps.  
↪ very limited choice of gauge groups & reps.

## Hidden sectors & SM exotics:

- ▶ typically small rank, e.g. at most  $SU(4)$ 
  - ▶ critical for ~~SUSY~~ via gaugino condensation
- ▶ since  $\prod_a U(N_a) \subset SO(32)$ : hard to hide  $G_{\text{hidden}}$  completely
  - ▶ vector-like exotics can acquire masses



## Heterotic $SO(32)$

- ▶ S-dual to Type I

## Heterotic $E_8 \times E_8$ & F-Theory

- ▶ slight enhancement of representations  $\subset (\mathbf{Adj}_{E_8})$
- ▶ completely *hidden* sector ✓
- ▶ het.: geometric intuition?
- ▶ F-theory: control over field theory for  $g_{\text{string}}$  large??

# Type IIA Example



# Example: D6-Branes on $T^6/(\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_6 \times \Omega\mathcal{R})$

## Why IIA string theory on $T^6/(\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_6 \times \Omega\mathcal{R})$ ?

▶ on **orbifolds**:

- ▶ SUSY (D6-branes) = *sLag* condition ✓
- ▶ CFT methods for spectrum ✓ & interactions (✓)

$$\theta^m \omega^n : z^k \rightarrow e^{2\pi i m v_k + n w_k} z^k \quad \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}_2 : \vec{v} = \frac{1}{2}(1, -1, 0) \\ \mathbb{Z}_6 : \vec{w} = \frac{1}{6}(0, 1, -1) \end{cases} \quad \mathcal{R} : z^k \rightarrow \bar{z}^k$$

- ▶ discrete torsion possible due to  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  subgroup:

$$\begin{pmatrix} h_{11} \\ h_{21} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 + 2 \times 4_{\mathbb{Z}_6} + 8_{\mathbb{Z}_3} \\ 1_{\text{bulk}} + 2_{\mathbb{Z}_6} + 2_{\mathbb{Z}_3} + (6 + 2 \times 4)_{\mathbb{Z}_2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 19 \\ 19 \end{pmatrix}$$

- ▶ many **3-cycles** to wrap D6-branes

# Ex: MSSM on rigid D6-branes on $T^6/(\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_6 \times \Omega\mathcal{R})$

Ecker, G.H., Staessens '15

► **MSSM matter** of  $(SU(3)_a \times USp(2)_b \times SU(4)_h)_{U(1)_Y}^{(U(1)_{PQ}, \mathbb{Z}_3)}$ :

$$3 \times \left[ (\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1})_{1/6}^{(0),0} + 2 \times \underbrace{(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})_{1/3}^{(1),1} + (\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})_{-1/3}^{(1),1} + (\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})_{-2/3}^{(1),1}} \right]$$

$$+ 3 \times \left[ \underbrace{(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1})_{1/2}^{(1),1} + 2 \times (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1})_{-1/2}^{(1),1}} + (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})_0^{(-2),1} + (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})_1^{(0),0} \right]$$

$$= 3 \times [Q_L + \overbrace{2 \times d_R + \bar{d}_R} + U_R] + 3 \times [\overbrace{H_u/\bar{L} + 2 \times L + \nu_R} + e_R]$$

► **Higgses:**  $3 \times [(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1})_{1/2}^{(1),1} + h.c.] + \tilde{2} \times [(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1})_{1/2}^{(-1),2} + h.c.]$

► **axions:**  $3 \times [\Sigma^{cd} + \tilde{\Sigma}^{cd}] = 3 \times [(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})_0^{(-2),1} + h.c.]$

► **SM vector-like states:**  $(5_{\text{Anti}_b} + 4_{\text{Adj}_c} + 5_{\text{Adj}_d}) \times (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})_0^{(0),0} +$

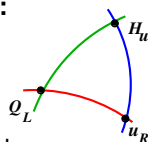
$$+ \left[ 2 \times (\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, \bar{\mathbf{4}})_{1/6}^{(0),1} + (\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{4})_{1/6}^{(0),2} + 2 \times (\mathbf{3}_A, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})_{1/3}^{(0),0} + h.c. \right]$$

$$+ \left[ 3 \times (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})_1^{(0),0} + (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})_1^{(-2),1} + 2 \times (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{6}_A)_0^{(0),1} + h.c. \right]$$

$$+ 3 \times (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{4})_0^{(0),2} + 6 \times (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, \bar{\mathbf{4}})_{-1/2}^{(-1),0} + 3 \times (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, \bar{\mathbf{4}})_{1/2}^{(-1),0} + 3 \times (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{4})_{1/2}^{(-1),1}$$

## Matter couplings from D-brane intersections:

▶ e.g.:  $y_u^{(ijk)} Q_L^{(i)} \cdot \tilde{H}_u^{(j)} u_R^{(k)}$



off-diagonal	diagonal
$y_u^{(221)} \sim \mathcal{O}\left(e^{-\frac{16v_2+v_3}{48}}\right)$	$y_u^{(121)} \sim \mathcal{O}\left(e^{-\frac{4v_2+v_3}{48}}\right)$
$y_u^{(312)} \sim \mathcal{O}\left(e^{-\frac{v_2+16v_3}{48}}\right)$	$y_u^{(313)} \sim \mathcal{O}\left(e^{-\frac{v_2+4v_3}{48}}\right)$

$v_i$ : volume of  $T^2_{(i)}$

- ▶ 3<sup>rd</sup> generation heavier if  $v_3 < v_2$
- ▶ diagonal terms dominant if  $v_2 < 5v_3$

$\rightsquigarrow$  **mild anisotropy** phenomenologically favoured

**Here:** free choice of parameters fits to pheno. acceptable scales

$\rightsquigarrow$  fits for **gauge couplings** along same lines

**Challenge:** large masses from e.g.  $\bar{d}_R^{(3)} \Sigma^{cd(2)} d_R^{(6)} \sim \mathcal{O}\left(e^{-\frac{v_2+v_3}{12}}\right)$

# Gauge Couplings @ 1-Loop and the Value of $M_{\text{string}}$

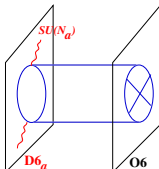
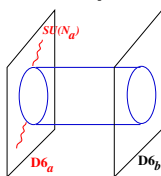
Gauge couplings  $\leftrightarrow$  tuning of volumes:

- ▶ tree-level gauge coupling

$$\mu_6 \int_{\Pi} e^{-\Phi} \text{tr} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \rightarrow \frac{\text{Vol}_3}{4 g_{\text{string}}} \int_{4D} \text{tr} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$$

on  $(T^2)^3/\Gamma$ :  $\text{Vol}_3 = \sqrt{v_1 v_2 v_3}$

- ▶ 1-loop correction via CFT - works on orbifolds only:



$$\sim \frac{b_a}{2} \ln \frac{M_{\text{string}}^2}{\mu^2} + \frac{\Delta_a}{2}$$

Lüst, Stieberger '03; Blumenhagen *et al.* '07; Gmeiner, G.H. '09

- ▶ from  $\Delta_a$ :

$v_i$ : Kähler modulus of  $T^2_{(i)}$

$$\Re(\delta_b^{1\text{-loop}} f_{SU(N_a)}) \supset -\frac{\tilde{b}_{ab}^{\mathcal{A},(i)}}{4\pi^2} \ln \left( e^{-\frac{\pi(\sigma_{ab}^i)^2 v_i}{4}} \vartheta_1 \left( \frac{\tau_{ab}^i - i\sigma_{ab}^i v_i}{2}, i v_i \right) \right) \quad v_i \rightarrow \infty \quad \pm v_i$$

- ▶  $M_{\text{string}} \ll M_{\text{GUT}}$ : tree  $\leftrightarrow$  1-loop cancellation

$\rightsquigarrow$  new avenues for string phenomenology

G.H., Ripka, Staessens '12 ...

# Example of Fine Tuning in Gauge Couplings @ 1-Loop

G.H., Koltermann, Staessens: in preparation

**MSSM example on**  $T^6/(\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_6 \times \Omega\mathcal{R})$

- ▶  $\text{Vol}(\Pi_{a,h}) = R_1^{(1)} r^{(2)} r^{(3)} = \frac{1}{3} \text{Vol}(\Pi_{b,c,d})$  with  $\frac{1}{g_{a,\text{tree}}^2} \propto \frac{\text{Vol}(\Pi_a)}{k_a}$   
 $k_a = 1, 2$  for  $SU(N_a), USp(2N_a)$

$$\frac{1}{g_{SU(3)_a}^2} = \frac{1}{g_{SU(4)_h}^2} = \frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{g_{USp(2)_b}^2} = \frac{6}{19} \frac{1}{g_{U(1)_Y}^2} \quad \text{@ tree level}$$

- ▶ **1-loop corrections: annulus contributions only**

$$\delta_{\mathcal{A}}^{\text{loop}} \frac{1}{g_{SU(3)_a/SU(4)_h}^2} \xrightarrow{v_i \rightarrow \infty} \frac{v_1}{4} \pm \frac{v_2}{24}$$

$$\delta_{\mathcal{A}}^{\text{loop}} \frac{1}{g_{USp(2)_b}^2} \xrightarrow{v_i \rightarrow \infty} \frac{7}{12} \frac{v_1}{24} - \frac{v_2}{24} - \frac{v_3}{16}$$

$$\delta_{\mathcal{A}}^{\text{loop}} \frac{1}{g_{U(1)_Y}^2} \xrightarrow{v_i \rightarrow \infty} \frac{25}{18} \frac{v_1}{72} + \frac{7}{72} \frac{v_2}{72}$$

- ▶ degeneracy lifted:  $\frac{1}{g_{SU(3)_a,\text{loop}}^2} > \frac{1}{g_{SU(4)_h,\text{loop}}^2}$

- ▶ if  $v_2 \gg v_1$ :  $\frac{1}{g_{G,\text{loop}}^2} < \frac{1}{g_{G,\text{tree}}^2}$  for  $G = SU(4)_h, USp(2)_b$

# Generic BSM Features: Scales & Field Theory

## General insight from Type II:

- ▶  $M_{\text{string}} \ll M_{\text{GUT}}$  possible
  - ▶ depends on 1-loop cancellations for gauge couplings
- ▶ unisotropic compact directions often pheno. preferred
- ▶ fine tuning of SM singlet vevs for Yukawas & masses<sub>vector-like</sub>  
*↪ further complicated by interplay with cosmological constraints*
- ▶ discrete  $\mathbb{Z}_n \subset U(1)_{\text{massive}}$  symmetries  
Berasaluze-Gonzalez, Ibáñez, Soler, Uranga '11; G.H., Staessens '13
- ▶ new particles severely constrained by  ~~$(\mathbf{N}_a, \mathbf{N}_b, \mathbf{N}_c)$~~ ,  ~~$(\mathbf{N}_a, \mathbf{Adj}_b)$~~ ,  
 ~~$(\mathbf{N}_a, \mathbf{Anti}_b)$~~  ...

## So far:

- ▶ all closed string moduli (& dilaton) as free parameters

# Moduli Stabilisation at the orbifold point



# Twisted Moduli Stabilisation on Orbifolds

Blaszczyk, G.H., Koltermann '14-15

- ▶ IIA language: **complex structures** couple to D6-branes
  - ▶ **stabilisation** by **D-terms** of  $U(1)$  factors ( $\Leftrightarrow \int_{\Pi_a} \text{Im}(\Omega_3) \neq 0$ )

$$\Pi_a^{\text{frac}} = \frac{1}{4} \Pi_a^{\text{bulk}} + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i=1}^3 \Pi_a^{Z_2^{(i)}} = \Pi_{a,\text{even}}^{\text{frac}} + \Pi_{a,\text{odd}}^{\text{frac}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} (P_a \rho_1 + Q_a \rho_2 + U_a \rho_3 + V_a \rho_4) + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\alpha=0}^5 \left( x_{\alpha,a}^{(1)} \varepsilon_{\alpha}^{(1)} + y_{\alpha,a}^{(1)} \tilde{\varepsilon}_{\alpha}^{(1)} \right) + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{l=2,3} \sum_{\alpha=1}^4 \left( x_{\alpha,a}^{(l)} \varepsilon_{\alpha}^{(l)} + y_{\alpha,a}^{(l)} \tilde{\varepsilon}_{\alpha}^{(l)} \right),$$

- ▶ modulus stabilised if  $\Pi_{a,\text{odd}}^{\text{frac}} \neq 0$  contribution ( $\leq h_{21}^1 + \mathbb{Z}_2$ )
- ▶ flat direction otherwise
  - ▶ either: gauge couplings change
  - ▶ or: particle physics insensitive

models from Ecker, G.H., Staessens '14-15

Counting of stabilised complex structure moduli & flat directions with  $1/\varepsilon_{D6}^2$  dependence

$\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_6$	$\varrho$	$\varepsilon_{0,1,2}^{(1)}$	$\varepsilon_3^{(1)}$	$\varepsilon_{4+5}^{(1)}$	$\varepsilon_{4-5}^{(1)}$	$\varepsilon_{1,2}^{(2)}$	$\varepsilon_{3,4}^{(2)}$	$\varepsilon_{1,2}^{(3)}$	$\varepsilon_{3,4}^{(3)}$	#stab
<b>MSSM</b>	none		$a, c, h$		$[b, d]_{\text{flat}}$	$c, d$	none	$a, d, h$	none	6
<b>PS I</b>	none		$a, h$		$[b, c]_{\text{flat}}$	$[a, b, c, h]_{\text{flat}}$	none	$a, h$	none	4
<b>PS II</b>	none	$h$	$a, h$	$a$	$[b, c]_{\text{flat}}$	$[a, b, c, h]_{\text{flat}}$	none	$a, h$	none	7
<b>L-R I</b>	none	$h_{1,2}$	$a, d, h_{1,2}$	$a, d$	$[b, c]_{\text{flat}}$	$h_{1,2}$	none	$a, d$	none	9
<b>L-R II</b>	none	$h_{1,2}$	$a, d, h_{1,2}$	$a, d$	$[b, c]_{\text{flat}}$	$[a, b, c, d, h_{1,2}]_{\text{flat}}$	none	$a, d, h_{1,2}$	none	7
<b>L-R IIb</b>	none	$h_{1,2}$	$a, d, h_{1,2}$	$a, d$	$[b, c]_{\text{flat}}$	$[a, b, c, d]_{\text{flat}}$	$[h_{1,2}]_{\text{flat}}$	$a, d$	$h_{1,2}$	9
<b>L-R IIc</b>	none		$a, d$	$a, d$	$[b, c, h_{1,2}]_{\text{flat}}$	$h_1$	$h_2$	$a, d, h_1$	$h_2$	10

# Twisted Moduli Stabilisation on Orbifolds cont'd

- ▶ SM example on  $T^6/(\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_6 \times \Omega\mathcal{R})$ :
  - ▶ 6 c.s. expected to be stabilised
  - ▶  $8 = 1_{\text{bulk}} + 7_{\mathbb{Z}_2}$  c.s. flat & decoupled
  - ▶  $1_{\mathbb{Z}_2}$  c.s. flat & coupling to  $USp(2)_b \times U(1)_Y$   
( $\frac{1}{g_x^2} \propto \text{Vol}_x \propto \text{Vol}_x^0 \mp \sqrt{\varepsilon_{4-5}^{(1)}}$  behaviour expected)  
 $\Leftrightarrow$  interplay with 1-loop corrections to gauge couplings

G.H., Koltermann, Staessens in progress

- ▶ twisted **Kähler** moduli **decoupled** from particle physics

## Further stabilisation by fluxes:

- ▶ backreaction on geometry
- ▶ fluxes & chirality per sector exclude each other ( $\frac{1}{2}$ )

# Towards Moduli Stabilisation by Non-Factorisable Tori

# Towards Model Building on Non-Factorisable Backgrounds

Berasaluze-González, G.H., Seifert '16, cf. Seifert's talk on Tuesday

## Motivation:

- ▶ 3-form flux on  $T^3 \times \dots$  geometry
- ▶ *a priori* less closed string moduli

cf. CFT methods "local" RR tadpole cancellation: Blumenhagen, Conlon, Suruliz '04

**Example:**  $T^6/(\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \Omega\mathcal{R})$  with  $\vec{v} = \frac{1}{4}(1, -2, 1)$

- ▶ possible:  $(T^2)^3$  or  $(T^3)^2$  or  $T^3 \times T^1 \times T^2$ 
  - ▶ 3-cycle geometry rich enough for model building
  - ▶ (pairwise) symmetries between lattice orientations under  $\Omega\mathcal{R}$ 
    - ▶ twice as many backgrounds /Blumenhagen et al./:  $\mathbf{A}_a\mathbf{AA}$  and  $\mathbf{A}_b\mathbf{AA}$
    - ▶ geometric method for generic values of moduli
  - ▶ **new:** fractional *Lags* can be rewritten on  $(T^2)^3$   
↪ CFT methods accessible for spectrum & interactions

Berasaluze-González, G.H., Seifert: in progress

# Open String Axions & Open-Closed Mixing

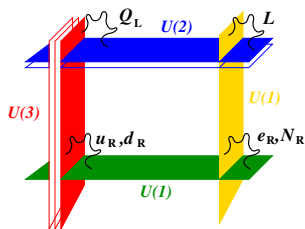
# Axions in Type II: from QCD to the Dark Sector

- ▶ closed string axions = partners to Kähler & c.s. moduli
- ▶ **open string axions** can carry  $U(1)_{PQ}$  charge: **QCD axion**

G.H., Staessens '13

- ▶ **limited choice** of  $U(1)_{PQ}$   
 $(\perp U(1)_Y = \frac{U(1)_{a/3} + U(1)_c + U(1)_d}{2})$

- ▶  $U(1)_b$  with  $(\mathbf{1}_{\text{Anti}_b})_2$  or  $(\overline{\mathbf{1}}_{\text{Anti}_b})_{-2}$
- ▶ or  $U(1)_{c-d}$  with  $(\mathbf{1}^{cd})_{\pm 2}$   
 $\leftrightarrow$  scalars  $\tilde{\nu}_R$



- ▶ fits into **SUSY DFSZ axion model** with twice axion charge

$$V = V_F + V_D + V_{\text{soft}}$$

- ▶ in the **explicit example** on  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_6$ :

Ecker, G.H., Staessens '15

- ▶  $U(1)_{PQ} \times \mathbb{Z}_3$  charges  $\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{W}_{\text{DFSZ}} = \mu \Sigma H_u \cdot \tilde{H}_d + \tilde{\mu} \tilde{\Sigma} \tilde{H}_u \cdot H_d$
- ▶  $\Sigma$  also generates other mass terms:  $\mathcal{W} \supset \kappa \bar{d}_R \Sigma d_R$

# Open & Closed Axion Mixing in Field Theory

- ▶ open string axion  $a$  from  $\sigma = \frac{v+s(x)}{\sqrt{2}} e^{i\frac{a(x)}{v}}$
- ▶ **open** axion  $a$  mixes with **closed** axion  $\xi$  ( $\leftarrow U(1)_{\text{massive}}$ )

$$\zeta_{\text{massive}} = \frac{M_{\text{string}} \xi + qv a}{\sqrt{M_{\text{string}}^2 + q^2 v^2}}, \quad \alpha_{\text{massless}} = \frac{M_{\text{string}} a - qv \xi}{\sqrt{M_{\text{string}}^2 + q^2 v^2}}$$

- ▶ axion **decay constants** from dim. reduction:

$$f_{\zeta} = \frac{\sqrt{M_{\text{string}}^2 + (qv)^2}}{2}, \quad f_{\alpha} = \frac{M_{\text{string}} qv \sqrt{M_{\text{string}}^2 + (qv)^2}}{(M_{\text{string}}^2 - (qv)^2)}$$

- ▶ For  $M_{\text{string}} \gg v$  (field theory regime):  $\zeta \simeq \xi_{\text{closed}}$ ,  $\alpha \simeq a_{\text{open}}$

$\rightsquigarrow$  approximation of purely **open string** as **QCD axion** good

# Conclusions & Outlook

- ▶ string theory as unification of gravity & QFT very **predictive**
  - ▶ Type II: endpoints of open strings constrain new physics
- ▶ need to re-combine **particle physics & cosmological** issues
  - natural starting point: open/closed axions*
- ▶ **partial** moduli **stabilisation** by D-branes
- ▶ **complete** moduli **stabilisation** might be very **unattractive**
  - ▶ fits to particle physics data
  - ▶ slow roll inflation
- ▶ **plethora** of stringy SM & GUT **spectra**, but missing: exact **field theory** results
  - ▶ tree level Yukawas on  $T^6/\Gamma$
  - ▶ moduli dependence after deformation ... on generic  $CY_3$
  - ▶ instanton corrections computationally intensive
  - ▶ **reliable** results on moduli potentials ...