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Modular invariance and the QCD θ angle

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Modular invariance and the QCD angle

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Workshop on GUTs: Phenomenology and Cosmology

HIAS, UCAS, Hangzhou, China

11 April 2024

Outline

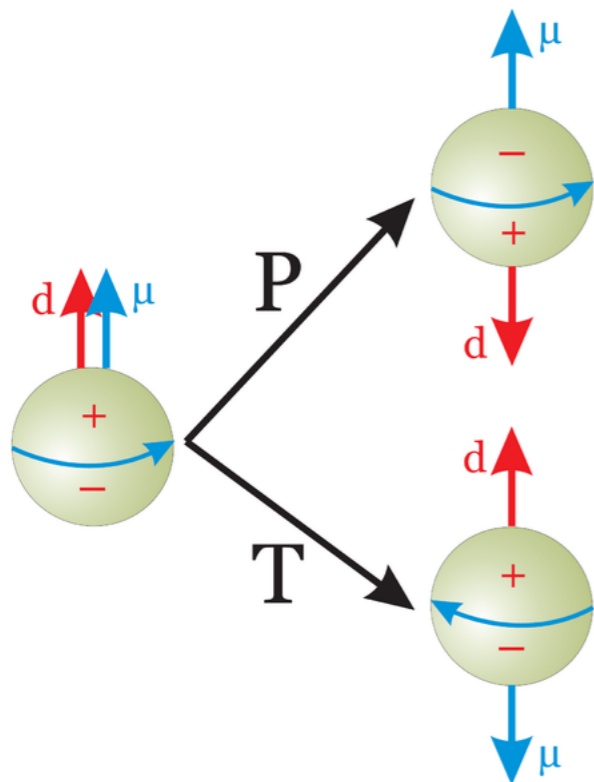
1. Strong CP problem
2. Existing solutions
3. **Modular invariance** and global supersymmetry
4. Modular anomalies and their cancellation
5. Corrections to $\bar{\theta} = 0$
6. Conclusions

The strong CP problem

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = \bar{q} \left(i\not{D} - M_q \right) q - \frac{1}{4} G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a,\mu\nu} + \theta_{\text{QCD}} \frac{g_3^2}{32\pi^2} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a,\mu\nu}$$

$$\bar{\theta} = \theta_{\text{QCD}} + \arg \det M_q \quad \text{CPV parameter}$$

Neutron EDM d



$$d = 2.4 \times 10^{-16} \bar{\theta} e \cdot \text{cm} \quad \text{Pospelov, Ritz, hep-ph/9908508v4}$$

$$|d| \leq 1.8 \times 10^{-26} e \cdot \text{cm} \quad (90\% \text{ C.L.}) \quad \text{Abel et al., 2001.11966}$$

$$|\bar{\theta}| \lesssim 10^{-10}$$

Why so small???

... and the CPV phase in the CKM matrix $\delta_{\text{CKM}} \approx 1.2$

Solution 1: the Axion

Promote $\bar{\theta}$ to a dynamical scalar field a , the **axion**, which washes out CP violation in QCD

$$\mathcal{L}_a = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu a)^2 + \frac{g_3^2}{32\pi^2} \frac{a}{f_a} G\tilde{G} + \dots$$

$$\bar{\theta} = \frac{\langle a \rangle}{f_a} \quad \text{with} \quad \langle a \rangle = 0$$

New global $U(1)_{\text{PQ}}$

Peccei, Quinn, PRL **38** (1977) 1440; PRD **16** (1977) 1791

- ▶ spontaneously broken \Rightarrow the axion is a NGB
- ▶ anomalous under QCD $(\partial_\mu J_{\text{PQ}}^\mu \propto G\tilde{G}) \Rightarrow$ the **axion is a pNGB**

Quality problem

- ▶ Corrections of order $(f_a/M_{\text{Pl}})^\#$ from higher-dimensional operators
- ▶ $U(1)_{\text{PQ}}$ should be an accidental symmetry in a complete model

Solution 2: CP (P) is symmetry of UV

- ▶ CP (P) is a symmetry of the UV
- ▶ It is broken spontaneously in such a way that $\bar{\theta} = 0$ and $\delta_{\text{CKM}} = \mathcal{O}(1)$

Nelson—Barr models

Nelson, PLB **136** (1984) 387; Barr, PRL **53** (1984) 329

New heavy vector-like quarks Q and scalars η with CPV complex VEVs $\langle \eta \rangle$

$$(q_R \ Q_R) M_q \begin{pmatrix} q_L \\ Q_L \end{pmatrix} = (q_R \ Q_R) \begin{pmatrix} y v_H & y' \langle \eta \rangle \\ 0 & \mu \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} q_L \\ Q_L \end{pmatrix}$$

- ▶ CP is a symmetry $\Rightarrow \theta_{\text{QCD}} = 0$ and the couplings (y, y', μ) are real
- ▶ $\det M_q = y v_H \mu$ is real (and positive) $\Rightarrow \arg \det M_q = 0$
- ▶ Effective light quark mass matrix depends on $\langle \eta \rangle \Rightarrow \delta_{\text{CKM}} \neq 0$

Additional matter, tuning, loop corrections...

Dine, Draper, 1506.05433

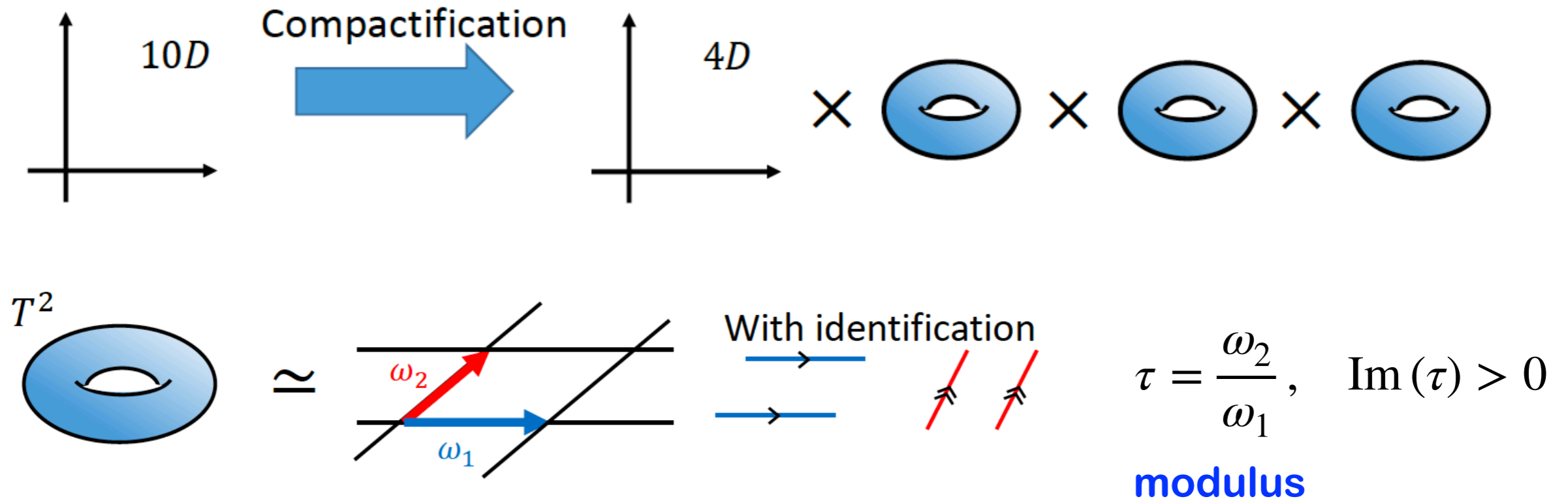
Our solution: CP + modular invariance

1. CP is a symmetry $\Rightarrow \theta_{\text{QCD}} = 0$ (and real Lagrangian couplings)
2. **Modular invariance**/anomaly cancellation $\Rightarrow \arg \det M_q = 0$
3. CP is broken spontaneously by the VEV of a single complex field, the modulus $\tau \Rightarrow \delta_{\text{CKM}} = \mathcal{O}(1)$
4. Quark mass hierarchies and mixing angles are reproduced by $\mathcal{O}(1)$ parameters
5. Corrections to $\bar{\theta} = 0$ are small under **certain assumptions on SUSY breaking**

Modular invariance

String theory requires extra dimensions

Images: [Takuya H. Tatsuishi](#)



Lattice left invariant by modular transformations

$$\tau \rightarrow \gamma\tau \equiv \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d} \quad a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z} \quad ad - bc = 1$$

These transformations form an infinite discrete group

Modular group

Homogeneous modular group

$$\Gamma = \langle S, T \mid S^4 = (ST)^3 = I \rangle \cong \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$$

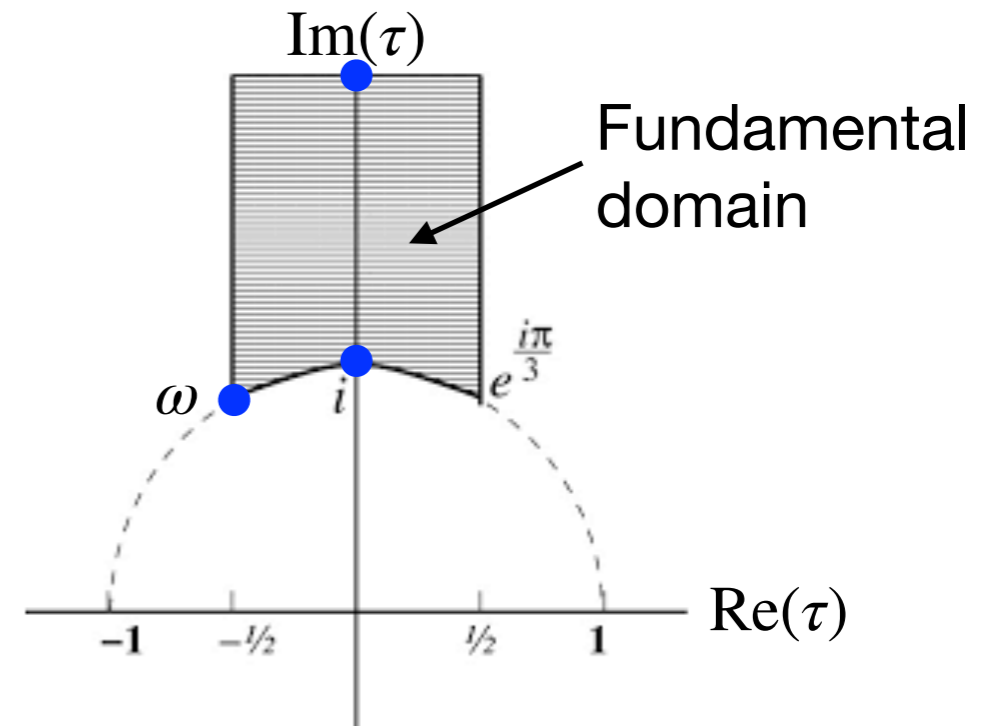
$$S = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\tau \xrightarrow{S} -\frac{1}{\tau}$$

duality

$$\tau \xrightarrow{T} \tau + 1$$

discrete shift symmetry



Special points

$$\blacktriangleright \tau = i: \quad i \xrightarrow{S} -\frac{1}{i} = i \quad \Rightarrow \quad Z_4^S$$

$$\blacktriangleright \tau = \omega \equiv e^{\frac{2\pi i}{3}}: \quad \omega \xrightarrow{ST} -\frac{1}{\omega + 1} = \omega \quad \Rightarrow \quad Z_3^{ST} \times Z_2^{S^2}$$

$$\blacktriangleright \tau = i\infty: \quad i\infty \xrightarrow{T} i\infty + 1 = i\infty \quad \Rightarrow \quad Z^T \times Z_2^{S^2}$$

Modular forms

Holomorphic functions on $\mathcal{H} = \{\tau \in \mathbb{C} : \text{Im}(\tau) > 0\}$ transforming under Γ as

$$f(\gamma\tau) = (c\tau + d)^k f(\tau), \quad \gamma \in \Gamma$$

k is **weight**, a non-negative even integer

Normalised Eisenstein series

$$E_k(\tau) = \frac{1}{2\zeta(k)} \sum_{(m,n) \neq (0,0)} \frac{1}{(m + n\tau)^k}$$

Each **modular form** can be written as a **polynomial in E_4 and E_6**

$$f(\tau) = \sum_{a,b \geq 0} c_{ab} E_4^a(\tau) E_6^b(\tau) \quad \text{with} \quad 4a + 6b = k$$

Modular weight k	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14
Modular forms	1	–	E_4	E_6	$E_8 = E_4^2$	$E_{10} = E_4 E_6$	E_4^3, E_6^2	$E_{14} = E_4^2 E_6$

Modular-invariant SUSY theories

$\mathcal{N} = 1$ global SUSY action

$$\mathcal{L} = \int d^2\theta d^2\bar{\theta} K(\tau, e^{2V}\Phi, \tau^\dagger, \Phi^\dagger) + \left[\int d^2\theta W(\tau, \Phi) + \frac{1}{16} \int d^2\theta f(\tau) \mathcal{G} \mathcal{G} + \text{h.c.} \right]$$

Kähler potential K
(kinetic terms,
gauge interactions)

Superpotential W
(Yukawa interactions)

Gauge kinetic function f
$$f_3 = \frac{1}{g_3^2} - i \frac{\theta_{\text{QCD}}}{8\pi^2}$$

Under modular transformations $\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma$

$$\begin{cases} \tau \rightarrow \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d} & \tau \text{ is promoted to a (dimensionless) superfield} \\ \Phi \rightarrow (c\tau + d)^{-k_\Phi} \Phi & \text{matter supermultiplets} \\ V \rightarrow V & \text{vector supermultiplets} \end{cases}$$

Modular symmetry acts **non-linearly**

Ferrara et al., PLB **225** (1989) 363; PLB **233** (1989) 147; Feruglio, 1706.08749

Modular-invariant SUSY theories

$\mathcal{N} = 1$ global SUSY action

$$\mathcal{L} = \int d^2\theta d^2\bar{\theta} K(\tau, e^{2V}\Phi, \tau^\dagger, \Phi^\dagger) + \left[\int d^2\theta W(\tau, \Phi) + \frac{1}{16} \int d^2\theta f(\tau) \mathcal{G} \mathcal{G} + \text{h.c.} \right]$$

Kähler potential K
(kinetic terms,
gauge interactions)

Superpotential W
(Yukawa interactions)

Gauge kinetic function f
$$f_3 = \frac{1}{g_3^2} - i \frac{\theta_{\text{QCD}}}{8\pi^2}$$

Modular invariance of the action requires

$$\begin{cases} K(\tau, \Phi, \tau^\dagger, \Phi^\dagger) \rightarrow K(\tau, \Phi, \tau^\dagger, \Phi^\dagger) + f_K(\tau, \Phi) + \bar{f}_K(\tau^\dagger, \Phi^\dagger) \\ W(\tau, \Phi) \rightarrow W(\tau, \Phi) \\ f(\tau) \rightarrow f(\tau) \end{cases}$$

Ferrara et al., PLB **225** (1989) 363; PLB **233** (1989) 147; Feruglio, 1706.08749

Modular-invariant SUSY theories

Minimal Kähler potential

$$K = -h^2 \log(-i\tau + i\tau^\dagger) + \sum_{\Phi} \frac{\Phi^\dagger e^{2V} \Phi}{(-i\tau + i\tau^\dagger)^{k_\Phi}}$$

Superpotential

$$W = Y_{ij}^u(\tau) u_{Ri} Q_j H_u + Y_{ij}^d(\tau) d_{Ri} Q_j H_d$$

τ -dependent Yukawa couplings

$$Y_{ij}^q(\tau) \rightarrow (c\tau + d)^{k_{ij}^q} Y_{ij}^q(\tau) \quad \text{with} \quad k_{ij}^q = k_{qRi} + k_{Q_j} + k_{H_q}$$

are modular forms!

$$Y_{ij}^q(\tau) = c_{ij}^q F_{k_{ij}^q}(\tau) \quad \text{with} \quad c_{ij}^q \in \mathbb{R} \quad \text{because of CP}$$

Gauge kinetic function

$$f = \frac{1}{g_3^2} \quad \theta_{\text{QCD}} = 0 \quad \text{because of CP}$$

Modular invariance and CP

Fields

$$\tau \xrightarrow{\text{CP}} -\tau^\dagger \quad \text{and} \quad \Phi \xrightarrow{\text{CP}} \Phi^\dagger$$

Modular forms

$$F(\tau) \xrightarrow{\text{CP}} F(-\tau^*) = F(\tau)^*$$

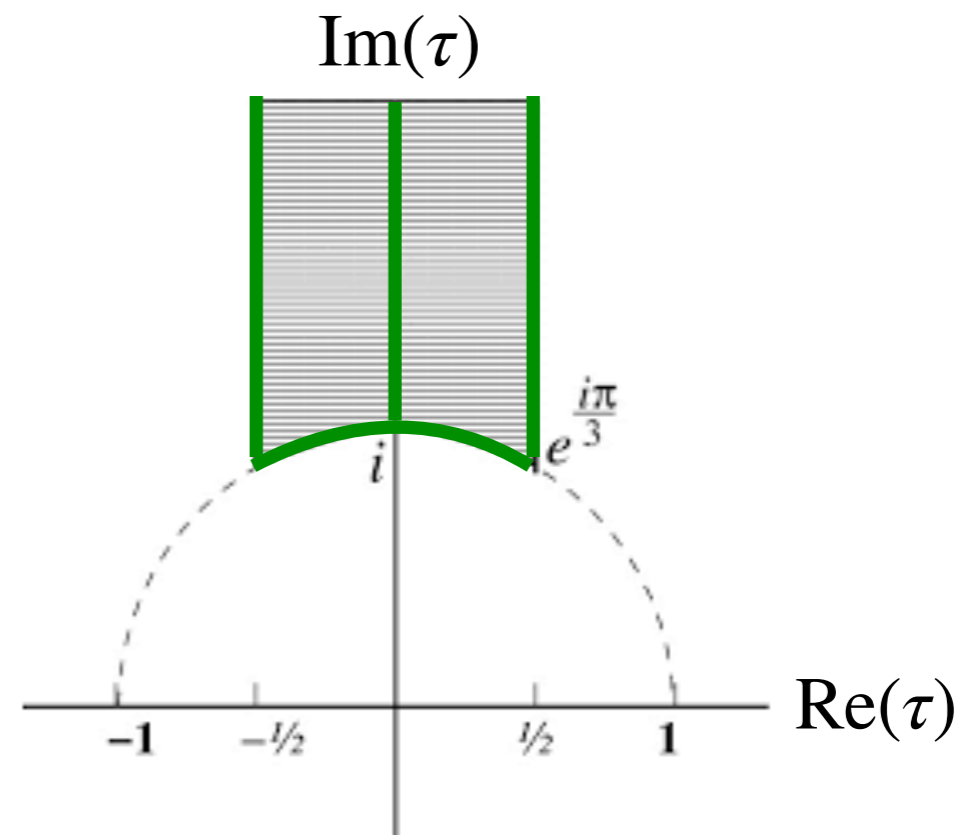
CP-conserving values of τ

$$\tau \xrightarrow{\text{CP}} -\tau^* = \gamma\tau \quad (\text{goes to itself up to } \gamma)$$

1. $\tau = iy \xrightarrow{\text{CP}} iy$

2. $\tau = -\frac{1}{2} + iy \xrightarrow{\text{CP}} \frac{1}{2} + iy = T\tau$

3. $\tau = e^{i\varphi} \xrightarrow{\text{CP}} -e^{-i\varphi} = S\tau$



Novichkov, Penedo, Petcov, **AT**, 1905.11970; Baur, Nilles, Trautner, Vaudrevange, 1901.03251

Determinant of quark mass matrix

$$M_u = v_u Y^u \quad M_d = v_d Y^d$$

$$\det M_q = \det M_u \det M_d \propto \det Y^u \det Y^d$$

$$Y^q(\tau) = \begin{pmatrix} F_{k_{11}^q} & F_{k_{12}^q} & F_{k_{13}^q} \\ F_{k_{21}^q} & F_{k_{22}^q} & F_{k_{23}^q} \\ F_{k_{31}^q} & F_{k_{32}^q} & F_{k_{33}^q} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \det Y^q(\tau) \text{ is a modular form of weight } k_{\det}^q$$

$$k_{\det}^q = k_{11}^q + k_{22}^q + k_{33}^q = \dots = \sum_{i=1}^3 (k_{q_{Ri}} + k_{Q_i}) + 3k_{H_q}$$

And $\det Y^u(\tau) \det Y^d(\tau)$ is a modular form of weight k_{\det}

$$k_{\det} = k_{\det}^u + k_{\det}^d = \sum_{i=1}^3 (2k_{Q_i} + k_{u_{Ri}} + k_{d_{Ri}}) + 3(k_{H_u} + k_{H_d})$$

$$k_{\det} = 0 \Rightarrow \det Y^u(\tau) \det Y^d(\tau) = (\text{real}) \text{ constant}$$

Matter fields and canonical normalisation

Gauge quantum numbers

	Q	u_R	d_R	L	e_R	H_u	H_d
$SU(3)_C$	3	$\bar{\mathbf{3}}$	$\bar{\mathbf{3}}$	1	1	1	1
$SU(2)_L$	2	1	1	2	1	2	2
$U(1)_Y$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$

Canonical normalisation

$$K \supset \frac{\Phi^\dagger \Phi}{(-i\tau + i\tau^\dagger)^{k_\Phi}} = \Phi_{\text{can}}^\dagger \Phi_{\text{can}} \quad \Phi_{\text{can}} = \{\phi_{\text{can}}, \psi_{\text{can}}\}$$

$$\psi_{\text{can}} \rightarrow \left(\frac{c\tau + d}{c\tau^\dagger + d} \right)^{-\frac{k_\Phi}{2}} \psi_{\text{can}} = e^{-ik_\Phi \alpha(\tau)} \psi_{\text{can}} \quad \alpha(\tau) = \arg(c\tau + d)$$

Modular symmetry acts on canonically normalised fields
as a τ -dependent phase rotation

Cancellation of modular anomalies

Conditions for modular-gauge anomaly cancellation

$$\text{SU}(3)_C : A \equiv \sum_{i=1}^3 \left(2k_{Q_i} + k_{u_{Ri}} + k_{d_{Ri}} \right) = 0$$

$$\text{SU}(2)_L : \sum_{i=1}^3 \left(3k_{Q_i} + k_{L_i} \right) + k_{H_u} + k_{H_d} = 0$$

$$\text{U}(1)_Y : \sum_{i=1}^3 \left(k_{Q_i} + 8k_{u_{Ri}} + 2k_{d_{Ri}} + 3k_{L_i} + 6k_{e_{Ri}} \right) + 3 \left(k_{H_u} + k_{H_d} \right) = 0$$

Simplest solution

$$k_Q = k_{u_R} = k_{d_R} = k_L = k_{e_R} = (-k, 0, k) \quad \text{and} \quad k_{H_u} + k_{H_d} = 0$$

Cancellation of modular-QCD anomaly along with $k_{H_u} + k_{H_d} = 0$ implies

$$k_{\text{det}} = \sum_{i=1}^3 \left(2k_{Q_i} + k_{u_{Ri}} + k_{d_{Ri}} \right) + 3 \left(k_{H_u} + k_{H_d} \right) = 0$$

Simplest example: quarks

Simplest non-trivial example giving $k_{\det} = 0$ and $A = 0$

$$k_Q = k_{u_R} = k_{d_R} = (-6, 0, 6) \quad \text{and} \quad k_{H_u} = k_{H_d} = 0$$

Yukawa matrices

$$Y^q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & c_{13}^q \\ 0 & c_{22}^q & c_{23}^q E_6 \\ c_{31}^q & c_{32}^q E_6 & c_{33}^q E_4^3 + c_{33}'^q E_6^2 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow Y^q|_{\text{can}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & c_{13}^q \\ 0 & c_{22}^q & c_{23}^q (2\text{Im}\tau)^3 E_6 \\ c_{31}^q & c_{32}^q (2\text{Im}\tau)^3 E_6 & (2\text{Im}\tau)^6 [c_{33}^q E_4^3 + c_{33}'^q E_6^2] \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det Y^q|_{\text{can}} = -c_{13}^q c_{22}^q c_{31}^q \in \mathbb{R}$$

Fixing $\tau = 1/8 + i$ and $\tan \beta = 10$

$$c_{ij}^u \approx 10^{-3} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1.56 \\ 0 & -1.86 & 0.87 \\ 1.29 & 4.14 & 3.51, 1.40 \end{pmatrix} \quad c_{ij}^d \approx 10^{-3} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1.55 \\ 0 & -2.59 & 4.59 \\ 0.378 & 0.710 & 0.734, 1.76 \end{pmatrix}$$

reproduce the quark masses, mixing angles and δ_{CKM} at the GUT scale

Simplest example: leptons

$$k_L = k_{e_R} = (-6, 0, 6)$$

Weinberg operator $\mathcal{C}_{ij}^\nu (L_i H_u)(L_j H_u)$ for neutrino masses

Charged lepton Yukawa matrix and coefficient of the Weinberg operator

$$Y^e = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & c_{13}^e \\ 0 & c_{22}^e & c_{23}^e E_6 \\ c_{31}^e & c_{32}^e E_6 & c_{33}^e E_4^3 + c'_{33}{}^e E_6^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathcal{C}^\nu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & c_{13}^\nu \\ 0 & c_{22}^\nu & c_{23}^\nu E_6 \\ c_{31}^\nu & c_{32}^\nu E_6 & c_{33}^\nu E_4^3 + c'_{33}{}^\nu E_6^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Fixing $\tau = 1/8 + i$ and $\tan \beta = 10$

$$c_{ij}^e = 10^{-3} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1.29 \\ 0 & 5.95 & 0.35 \\ -2.56 & 1.47 & 1.01, 1.32 \end{pmatrix} \quad c_{ij}^\nu = \frac{1}{10^{16} \text{ GeV}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 3.4 \\ 0 & 7.1 & 1.2 \\ 3.4 & 1.2 & 0.19, 0.95 \end{pmatrix}$$

reproduce the lepton masses and mixings, including δ_{PMNS}

Models with larger modular charges

Yukawa matrices $Y_{u,d}$	Modular weights			Alternative bigger weights		
	$(u_L, d_L)_{1,2,3}$	$u_{R1,2,3}$	$d_{R1,2,3}$	$(u_L, d_L)_{1,2,3}$	$u_{R1,2,3}$	$d_{R1,2,3}$
$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & E_6 \\ 1 & E_6 & E_4^3 + E_6^2 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 0 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 0 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 0 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 2 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$
$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & E_4^2 \\ 1 & E_4 & E_4^3 + E_6^2 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ -2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ -4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$
$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & E_4^2 \\ 1 & E_4^2 & E_4(E_4^3 + E_6^2) \end{pmatrix}$				$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 0 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 0 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 0 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$
$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & E_4 E_6 \\ 1 & E_6 & E_4(E_4^3 + E_6^2) \end{pmatrix}$				$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ -2 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 2 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 2 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$
$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & E_4^3 + E_6^2 \\ 1 & E_4 & E_4(E_4^3 + E_6^2) \end{pmatrix}$				$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ -4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$

Corrections to $\bar{\theta} = 0$

M_{Pl}	<p>SUSY unbroken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Modular invariance determines completely (up to real couplings) the functional dependence $W(\tau)$ ▶ It is not the case for K, but $\bar{\theta}$ is insensitive to K ▶ No-renormalisation theorems Ellis, Ferrara, Nanopoulos, PLB 114 (1982) 231
$\Lambda_{\text{flavour/CP}}$	
Λ_{SUSY}	<p>SUSY breaking corrections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ In general, can be large
m_{SUSY}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Small if $\Lambda_{\text{flavour/CP}} \gg \Lambda_{\text{SUSY}}$ (as e.g. in gauge mediation) and soft breaking terms respect the flavour structure of the SM
v	$\bar{\theta} \lesssim \frac{M_t^4 M_b^4 M_c^2 M_s^2}{v^{12}} J_{\text{CP}} \tan^6 \beta \sim 10^{-28} \tan^6 \beta$ <p>SM corrections are negligible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ $\bar{\theta} \sim 10^{-18}$ at four loops Khriplovich, PLB 173 (1986) 193 Ellis, Gaillard, NPB 150 (1979) 141

Conclusions

- ▶ **Modular invariance** is inherent to **toroidal compactifications** in string theory
- ▶ It can be consistently implemented in a **supersymmetric QFT**
- ▶ The VEV of the modulus τ is the only source of **spontaneous CP violation**

$$\bar{\theta} = \theta_{\text{QCD}} + \arg \det M_q$$

- ▶ $\theta_{\text{QCD}} = 0$ because the UV theory is CP-conserving
- ▶ $\arg \det M_q = 0$ because of **anomaly-free modular symmetry**
- ▶ Corrections to $\bar{\theta} = 0$ are small under certain assumptions on SUSY breaking

Back-up slides

Phenomenology and cosmology

- ▶ Couplings to matter are suppressed by $1/h$ ($1/M_{\text{Pl}}$ in SUGRA)
- ▶ No couplings to gauge bosons in the exact SUSY limit

- ▶ $m_\tau \gtrsim 10$ TeV not to spoil BBN

- ▶ Fermionic component of τ could be LSP and maybe DM

- ▶ Scalar potential $V(\tau) = V(-\tau^*) \Rightarrow$ CP-conjugated minima
(domain walls are inflated away if CP breaking occurs before inflation)

Modular group

Homogeneous modular group

$$\Gamma = \langle S, T \mid S^4 = (ST)^3 = I \rangle \cong \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$$

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\tau \xrightarrow{S} -\frac{1}{\tau}$$

duality

$$\tau \xrightarrow{T} \tau + 1$$

discrete shift symmetry

Inhomogeneous modular group

$$\bar{\Gamma} = \langle S, T \mid S^2 = (ST)^3 = I \rangle \cong \mathrm{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) = \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) / \{I, -I\}$$

In other words, $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$ matrices γ and $-\gamma$ are identified

$$\tau \xrightarrow{\gamma} \gamma\tau = \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d} \quad \tau \xrightarrow{-\gamma} (-\gamma)\tau = \frac{-a\tau - b}{-c\tau - d} = \gamma\tau$$

Modular forms

Holomorphic functions on $\mathcal{H} = \{\tau \in \mathbb{C} : \text{Im}(\tau) > 0\}$ transforming under Γ as

$$f(\gamma\tau) = (c\tau + d)^k f(\tau), \quad \gamma \in \Gamma$$

k is **weight**, a non-negative even integer

$$\gamma = -I \Rightarrow f(\tau) = (-1)^k f(\tau) \Rightarrow k \text{ is even}$$

Modular forms are periodic and admit **q -expansions**

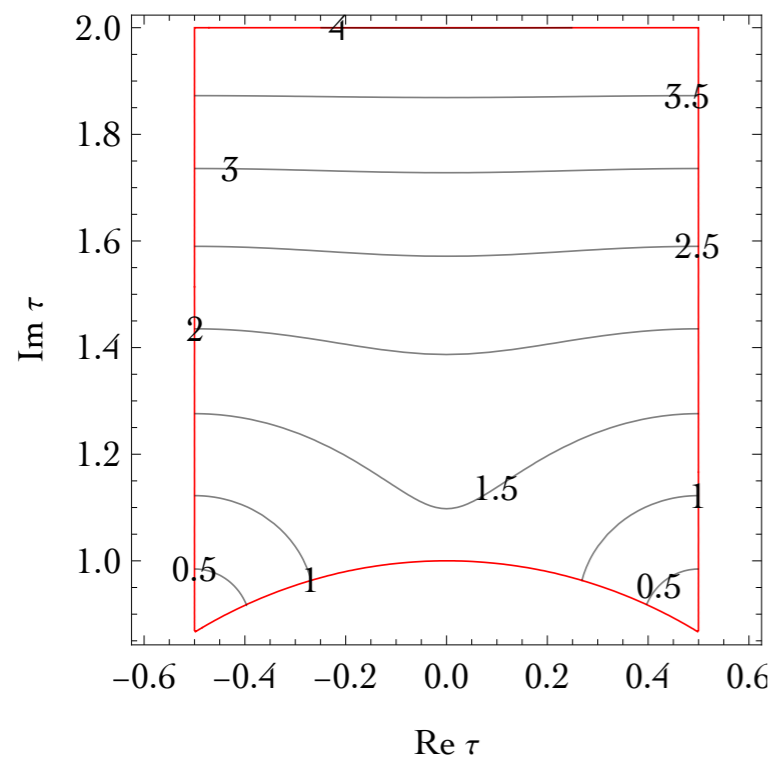
$$\gamma = T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow f(\tau + 1) = f(\tau) \Rightarrow f(\tau) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n q^n, \quad q = e^{2\pi i \tau}$$

Modular forms of weight k form a **linear space** \mathcal{M}_k of finite dimension

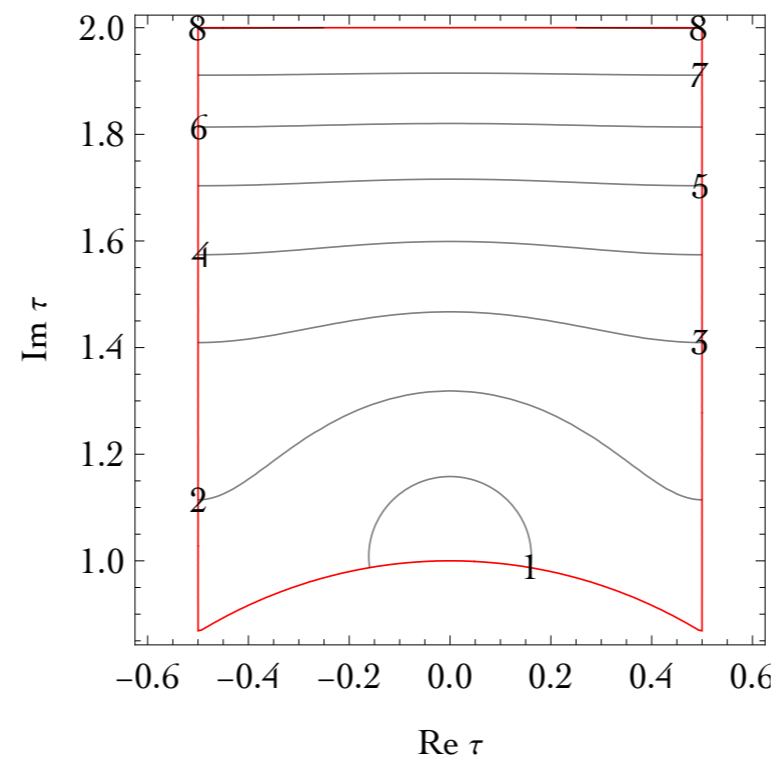
$$\dim \mathcal{M}_k = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } k \text{ is negative or odd} \\ \lfloor k/12 \rfloor & \text{if } k \equiv 2 \pmod{12} \\ \lfloor k/12 \rfloor + 1 & \text{if } k \not\equiv 2 \pmod{12} \end{cases}$$

E4 and E6

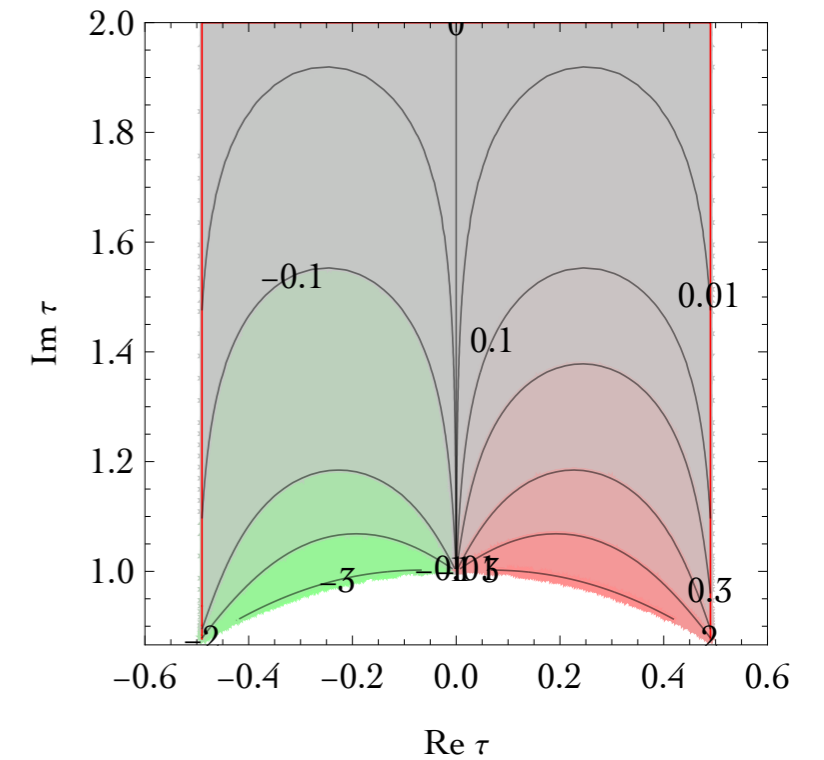
$|(\text{Im } \tau)^2 E_4(\tau)|$



$|(\text{Im } \tau)^3 E_6(\tau)|$



$\arg E_4^3/E_6^2$



Heavy quarks and singularities

- ▶ Heavy quarks are not needed for the mechanism to work, but assume they exist

$$k_q = (-6, -2, 0, +2, +6) \quad \text{and} \quad k_{H_u} = k_{H_d} = 0$$

Light chiral quarks Heavy vector-like quarks

- ▶ In the full theory $f_{UV} \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\det M_{\text{all}} \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow \bar{\theta} = 0$

$$M_{\text{all}} = \begin{pmatrix} M_{LL} & M_{LH} \\ M_{HL} & M_{HH} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$M_{\text{light}} \approx M_{LL} - M_{LH} M_{HH}^{-1} M_{HL} \quad M_{\text{heavy}} \approx M_{HH}$$

Singularities where $\det M_{\text{heavy}}(\tau) = 0$
(breakdown of EFT)

$$\det M_{\text{all}} = \det M_{\text{light}} \det M_{\text{heavy}}$$

$$\det M_{\text{light}} \rightarrow (c\tau + d)^{k_{\text{light}}} \det M_{\text{light}} \quad \det M_{\text{heavy}} \rightarrow (c\tau + d)^{k_{\text{heavy}}} \det M_{\text{heavy}}$$

$$k_{\text{all}} = k_{\text{light}} + k_{\text{heavy}} = 0$$

EFT of light quarks

In the EFT of light quarks

$$\bar{\theta} = \theta_{\text{QCD}} + \arg \det M_{\text{light}} = -8\pi^2 \text{Im} f_{\text{IR}} + \arg \det M_{\text{light}}$$

The EFT has anomalous field content with $k_q = (-6, -2, 0)$

Anomaly is cancelled by a new contribution to the gauge kinetic function arising from the integration over the heavy quarks

$$f_{\text{IR}} = f_{\text{UV}} - \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \log \det M_{\text{heavy}}$$

Thus

$$\bar{\theta} = \arg \det M_{\text{heavy}} + \arg \det M_{\text{light}} = \arg \det M_{\text{all}} = 0$$

Modular invariance and SUGRA

$\mathcal{N} = 1$ SUGRA action depends on

$$G = \frac{K}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} + \log \left| \frac{W}{M_{\text{Pl}}^3} \right|^2$$

For G to be invariant, both K and W have to transform

$$K \rightarrow K + M_{\text{Pl}}^2 (F + F^\dagger) \quad \text{and} \quad W \rightarrow e^{-F} W$$

In the case of modular transformations

$$F = \frac{h^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} \log(c\tau + d)$$

$$W \rightarrow (c\tau + d)^{-k_W} W \quad \text{with} \quad k_W = \frac{h^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^2} > 0$$

The superpotential is a **modular function**, having singularities at some values of τ

$$k_W \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{rigid SUSY limit}$$

Modular invariance and SUGRA

$$W = Y_{ij}^u(\tau) u_{Ri} Q_j H_u + Y_{ij}^d(\tau) d_{Ri} Q_j H_d$$

$$Y_{ij}^q(\tau) \rightarrow (c\tau + d)^{k_{ij}^q} Y_{ij}^q(\tau) \quad \text{with} \quad k_{ij}^q = k_{q_{Ri}} + k_{Q_j} + k_{H_q} - k_W$$

Furthermore, the Kähler transformation must be accompanied by a U(1) rotation

$$\psi \rightarrow e^{\frac{F-F^\dagger}{4}} \psi \quad \lambda \rightarrow e^{-\frac{F-F^\dagger}{4}} \lambda \quad \text{how gaugino enters the game}$$

$$\psi_{\text{can}} \rightarrow \left(\frac{c\tau + d}{c\tau^\dagger + d} \right)^{\frac{k_W}{4} - \frac{k_\Phi}{2}} \psi_{\text{can}} \quad \lambda \rightarrow \left(\frac{c\tau + d}{c\tau^\dagger + d} \right)^{-\frac{k_W}{4}} \lambda$$

Modular-QCD anomaly modifies as

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^3 \left(2k_{Q_i} + k_{u_{Ri}} + k_{d_{Ri}} - 2k_W \right) + Ck_W$$

$C = 3$ is quadratic Casimir of $\mathbf{8}$ of $SU(3)_C$

Glino mass

$$\bar{\theta} = \theta_{\text{QCD}} + \arg \det M_q + C \arg M_3$$

Assume $k_{\text{det}} = 0$ and the quark contribution to A vanishes. Then

$$\bar{\theta} = \theta_{\text{QCD}} + C \arg M_3$$

Glino mass requires SUSY breaking

$$M_3 = \frac{g_3^2}{2} e^{K/2M_{\text{Pl}}^2} K^{i\bar{j}} D_{\bar{j}} W^\dagger f_i$$

Assuming $D_\tau W = 0$ and no additional phases from SUSY breaking

$$\arg M_3 = - \arg W$$

$$W = \dots + \frac{c_0 M_{\text{Pl}}^3}{\eta(\tau)^{2k_W}} \quad \text{and} \quad f = \dots + \frac{C k_W}{4\pi^2} \log \eta(\tau)$$

$$\bar{\theta} = - 8\pi^2 \text{Im} f - C \arg W = 0$$

More on modular invariance in SUGRA

$$\det M_q \rightarrow \left(\frac{c\tau + d}{c\tau^\dagger + d} \right)^{\frac{k_{\text{det}}}{2}} \det M_q \quad k_{\text{det}} = \sum_{i=1}^3 \left(2k_{Q_i} + k_{u_{Ri}} + k_{d_{Ri}} - 2k_W \right) + 3 \left(k_{H_u} + k_{H_d} \right)$$

$$M_3 \rightarrow \left(\frac{c\tau + d}{c\tau^\dagger + d} \right)^{\frac{k_W}{2}} M_3 \quad (\text{gluino mass arises only if SUSY is broken})$$

Quark masses and mixings

At the GUT scale of 2×10^{16} GeV,
assuming MSSM with $\tan \beta = 10$ and SUSY breaking scale of 10 TeV

m_u/m_c	$(1.93 \pm 0.60) \times 10^{-3}$
m_c/m_t	$(2.82 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{-3}$
m_d/m_s	$(5.05 \pm 0.62) \times 10^{-2}$
m_s/m_b	$(1.82 \pm 0.10) \times 10^{-2}$
$\sin^2 \theta_{12}$	$(5.08 \pm 0.03) \times 10^{-2}$
$\sin^2 \theta_{13}$	$(1.22 \pm 0.09) \times 10^{-5}$
$\sin^2 \theta_{23}$	$(1.61 \pm 0.05) \times 10^{-3}$
δ/π	0.385 ± 0.017

$$m_t = 87.46 \text{ GeV}$$

$$m_b = 0.9682 \text{ GeV}$$

Antusch, Maurer, 1306.6879

Yao, Lu, Ding, 2012.13390

Lepton masses and mixings

NuFIT 5.2 (2022)

	Normal Ordering (best fit)		Inverted Ordering ($\Delta\chi^2 = 6.4$)		
	bfp $\pm 1\sigma$	3σ range	bfp $\pm 1\sigma$	3σ range	
with SK atmospheric data	$\sin^2 \theta_{12}$	$0.303^{+0.012}_{-0.012}$	0.270 \rightarrow 0.341	$0.303^{+0.012}_{-0.011}$	0.270 \rightarrow 0.341
	$\theta_{12}/^\circ$	$33.41^{+0.75}_{-0.72}$	31.31 \rightarrow 35.74	$33.41^{+0.75}_{-0.72}$	31.31 \rightarrow 35.74
	$\sin^2 \theta_{23}$	$0.451^{+0.019}_{-0.016}$	0.408 \rightarrow 0.603	$0.569^{+0.016}_{-0.021}$	0.412 \rightarrow 0.613
	$\theta_{23}/^\circ$	$42.2^{+1.1}_{-0.9}$	39.7 \rightarrow 51.0	$49.0^{+1.0}_{-1.2}$	39.9 \rightarrow 51.5
	$\sin^2 \theta_{13}$	$0.02225^{+0.00056}_{-0.00059}$	0.02052 \rightarrow 0.02398	$0.02223^{+0.00058}_{-0.00058}$	0.02048 \rightarrow 0.02416
	$\theta_{13}/^\circ$	$8.58^{+0.11}_{-0.11}$	8.23 \rightarrow 8.91	$8.57^{+0.11}_{-0.11}$	8.23 \rightarrow 8.94
	$\delta_{\text{CP}}/^\circ$	232^{+36}_{-26}	144 \rightarrow 350	276^{+22}_{-29}	194 \rightarrow 344
	$\frac{\Delta m_{21}^2}{10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2}$	$7.41^{+0.21}_{-0.20}$	6.82 \rightarrow 8.03	$7.41^{+0.21}_{-0.20}$	6.82 \rightarrow 8.03
	$\frac{\Delta m_{3\ell}^2}{10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2}$	$+2.507^{+0.026}_{-0.027}$	+2.427 \rightarrow +2.590	$-2.486^{+0.025}_{-0.028}$	-2.570 \rightarrow -2.406

$$m_e/m_\mu = 0.0048 \pm 0.0002$$

$$m_\mu/m_\tau = 0.0565 \pm 0.0045$$

Esteban et al., 2007.14792 and www.nu-fit.org

Finite modular groups

Infinite normal subgroups of $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$, $N = 2, 3, 4, \dots$

$$\Gamma(N) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z}), \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{N} \right\}$$

Principal congruence subgroups of the modular group

$$\bar{\Gamma}(2) \equiv \Gamma(2)/\{I, -I\} \quad \bar{\Gamma}(N) \equiv \Gamma(N), \quad N > 2$$

Finite modular groups

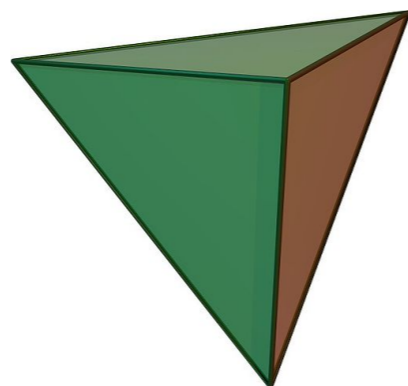
$$\Gamma_N \equiv \bar{\Gamma}/\bar{\Gamma}(N)$$

$$\Gamma_N = \langle S, T \mid S^2 = (ST)^3 = T^N = I \rangle, \quad N = 2, 3, 4, 5$$

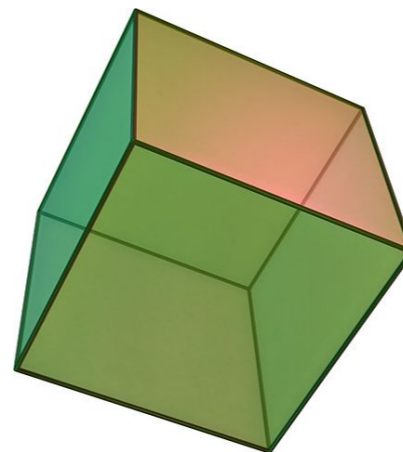
$$\Gamma_2 \cong S_3$$



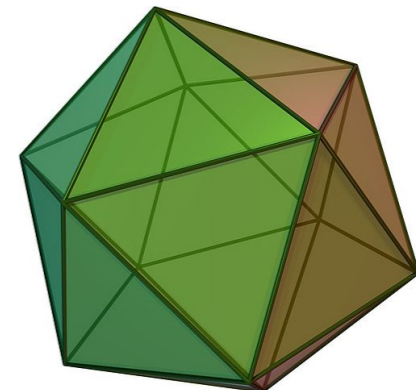
$$\Gamma_3 \cong A_4$$



$$\Gamma_4 \cong S_4$$



$$\Gamma_5 \cong A_5$$



Theories based on finite modular groups

$\mathcal{N} = 1$ rigid SUSY matter action

$$\mathcal{S} = \int d^4x d^2\theta d^2\bar{\theta} K(\tau, \bar{\tau}, \psi, \bar{\psi}) + \int d^4x d^2\theta W(\tau, \psi) + \int d^4x d^2\bar{\theta} \bar{W}(\bar{\tau}, \bar{\psi})$$

Ferrara, Lust, Shapere, Theisen, PLB **225** (1989) 363

Ferrara, Lust, Theisen, PLB **233** (1989) 147

$$\begin{cases} \tau \rightarrow \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d} \\ \psi_i \rightarrow (c\tau + d)^{-k_i} \rho_i(\tilde{\gamma}) \psi_i \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} W(\tau, \psi) \rightarrow W(\tau, \psi) \\ K(\tau, \bar{\tau}, \psi, \bar{\psi}) \rightarrow K(\tau, \bar{\tau}, \psi, \bar{\psi}) + f_K(\tau, \psi) + \bar{f}_K(\bar{\tau}, \bar{\psi}) \end{cases}$$

Feruglio, 1706.08749

unitary representation of Γ_N

$$W(\tau, \psi) = \sum_n \sum_{\{i_1, \dots, i_n\}} \sum_s g_{i_1 \dots i_n, s} \left(Y_{i_1 \dots i_n, s}(\tau) \psi_{i_1} \dots \psi_{i_n} \right)_{\mathbf{1}, s}$$

$$Y(\tau) \xrightarrow{\gamma} (c\tau + d)^{k_Y} \rho_Y(\tilde{\gamma}) Y(\tau)$$

$$k_Y = k_{i_1} + \dots + k_{i_n}$$

$$\rho_Y \otimes \rho_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \rho_{i_n} \supset \mathbf{1}$$

Yukawa couplings are modular forms!

Modular A_4 and the strong CP problem

Models based on modular A_4 that lead to similar quark mass matrices (texture zeroes) have been recently constructed in [Petcov, Tanimoto, 2404.00858](#)

They employ singlet representations $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{1}'$ of A_4

$$Y^q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & c_{13}^q \\ 0 & c_{22}^q & c_{23}^q Y_{\mathbf{1}'}^{(12)} \\ c_{31}^q & c_{32}^q Y_{\mathbf{1}}^{(4)} & c_{33}^q Y_{\mathbf{1}'A}^{(16)} + c'_{33}{}^q Y_{\mathbf{1}'B}^{(16)} \end{pmatrix} \quad q = u, d$$