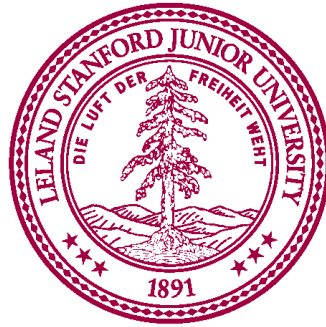


Mathieu Moonshine and Heterotic String Compactifications

Timm Wrase



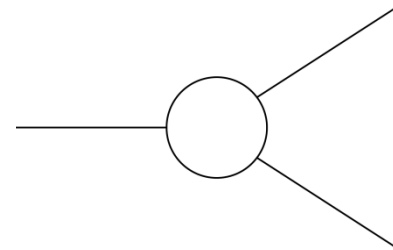
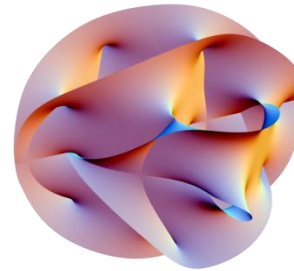
Texas A&M

April 30, 2014

Based on: M. Cheng, X. Dong, J. Duncan, S. Harrison, S. Kachru, TW to appear
N. Paquette, TW to appear
TW 1402.2973
M. Cheng, X. Dong, J. Duncan, J. Harvey, S. Kachru, TW 1306.4981

Outline

- Introduction to moonshine
- Mathieu Moonshine and string compactifications
- Physical implications
- A new moonshine phenomena



Finite simple groups

There are **18 infinite families**, e.g.

- Alternating group of n elements A_n

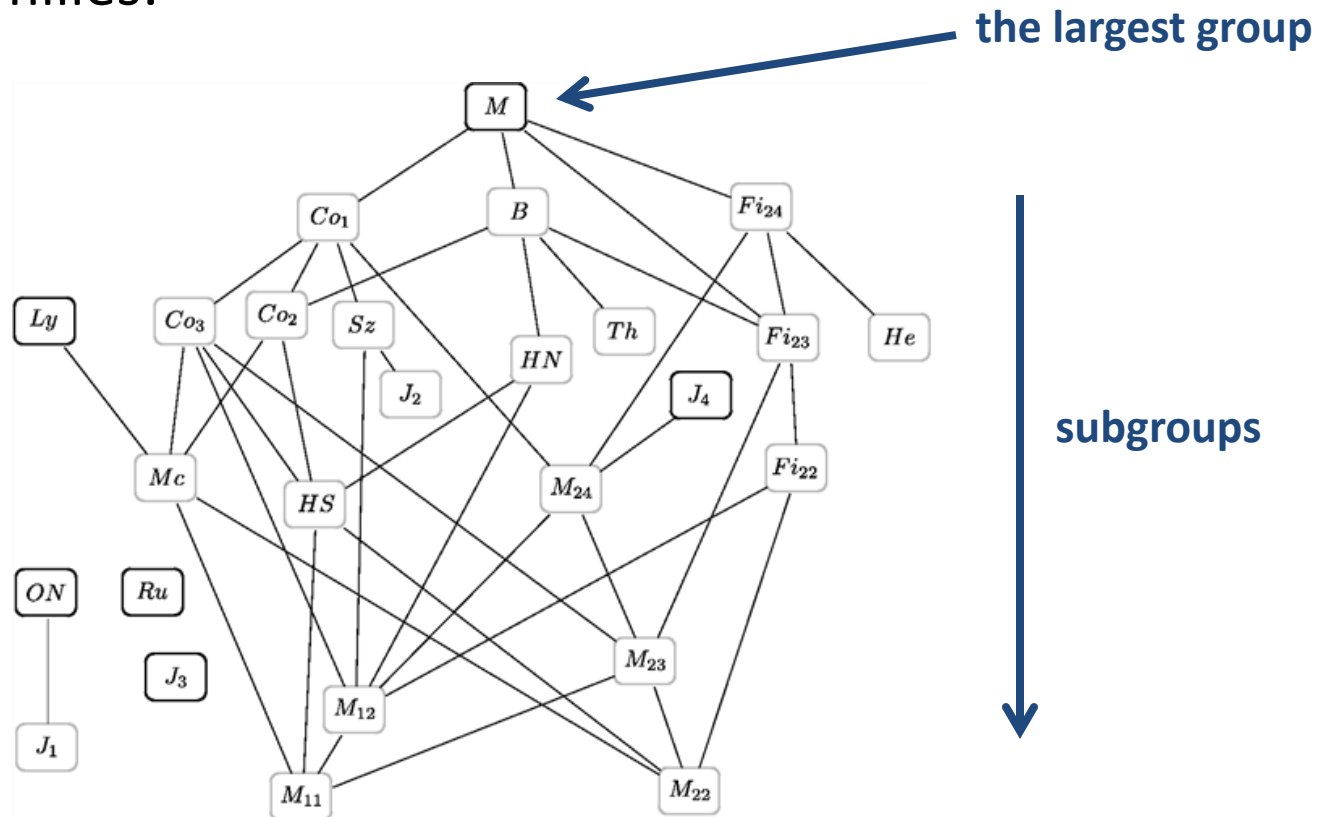
e.g. A_3 : $(123) \leftrightarrow (231) \leftrightarrow (312)$

- Cyclic groups of prime order C_p

e.g.: $C_p = \mathbb{Z}_p = \langle e^{2\pi i/p} \rangle$

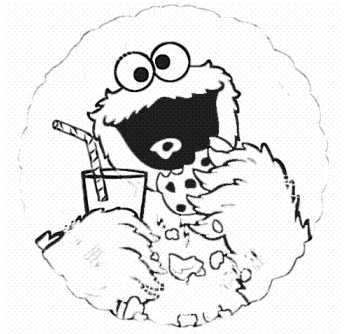
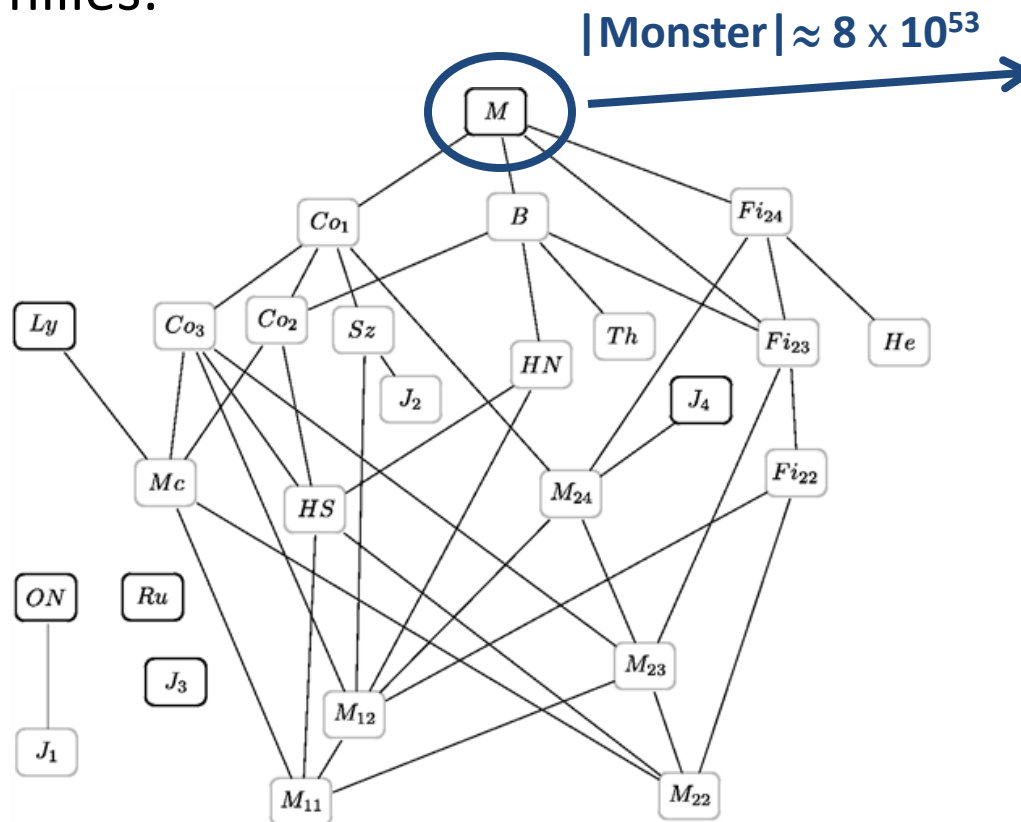
Finite simple groups

There are also 26 so called **sporadic groups** that do not come in infinite families:



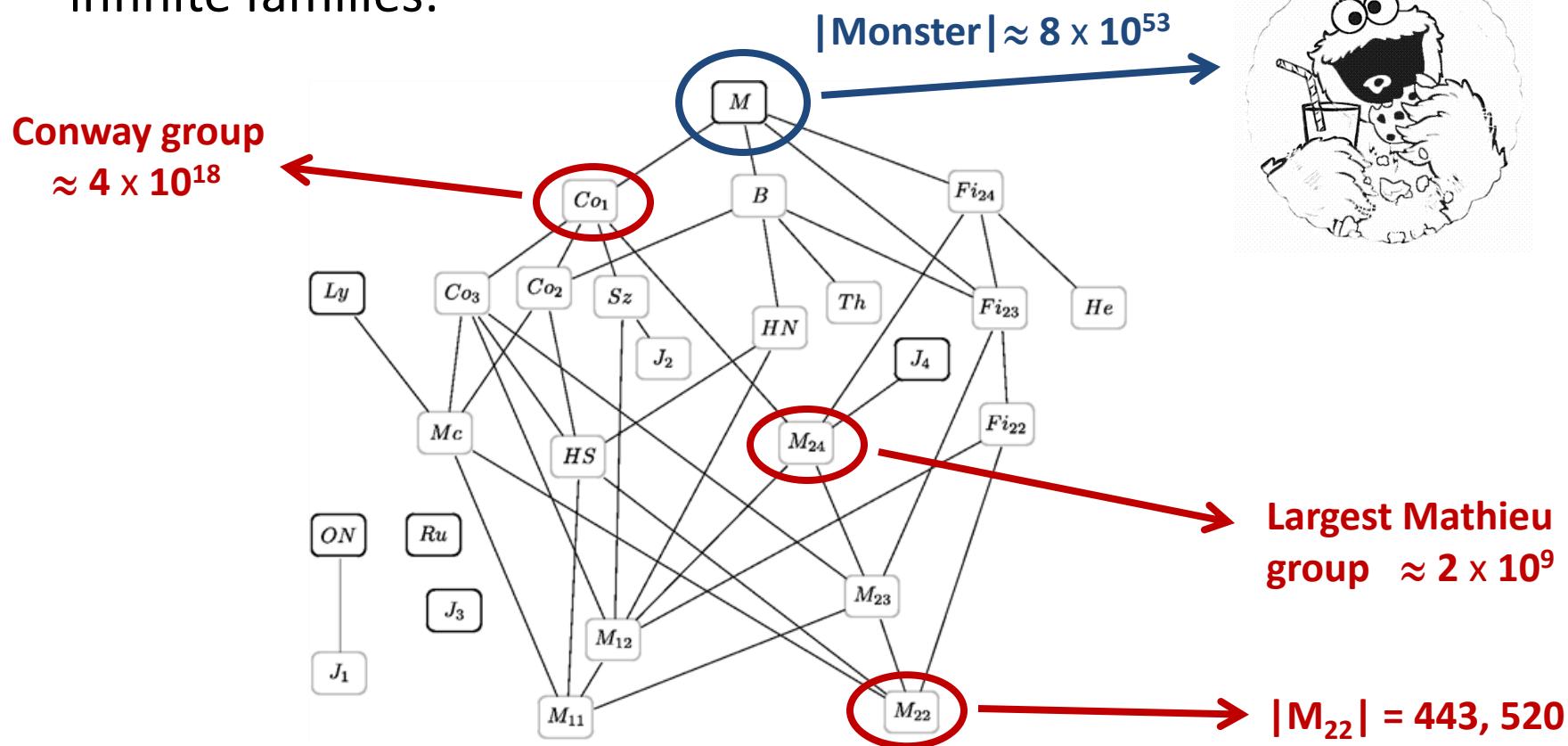
Finite simple groups

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Finite simple groups

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Modular Forms

Modular function of weight k

$$f\left(\frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}\right) = (c\tau + d)^k f(\tau), \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$$

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Jacobi form of weight k and index m

$$f\left(\frac{a\tau+b}{c\tau+d}, \frac{z}{c\tau+d}\right) = (c\tau+d)^k e^{\frac{2\pi i m c z^2}{c\tau+d}} f(\tau, z)$$

$$f(\tau, z + \lambda\tau + \mu) = e^{-2\pi i m(\lambda^2\tau + \lambda z)} f(\tau, z), \quad \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{Z}$$

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$$f(\tau, z + \lambda\tau + \mu) = e^{-2\pi i m(\lambda^2\tau + \lambda z)} f(\tau, z), \quad \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Can Fourier expand

$$f(\tau, z) = f(q = \exp[2\pi i \tau], y = \exp[2\pi i z]) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{r^2 \leq 4mn} c(n, r) q^n y^r$$

Monstrous Moonshine

- The irreducible representations of the Monster group have dimensions 1, 196 883, 21 296 876, ...
- The J-function, that appears in many places in string theory, enjoys the expansion

$$J(q) = \frac{1}{q} + 196884q + 21493760q^2 + \dots$$

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1 + 196883 + 21296876

- as observed by John McKay

Monstrous Moonshine

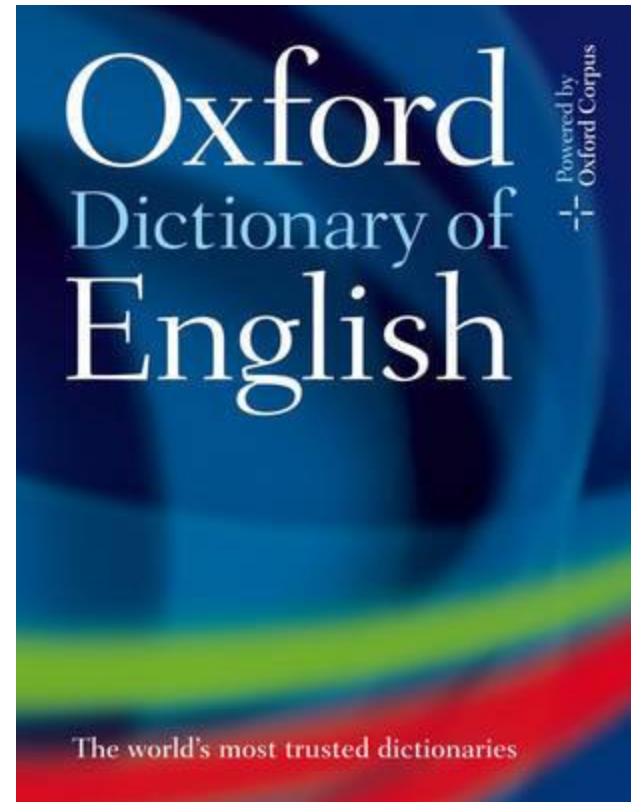
moon·shine

'mōn,SHīn/ 

noun informal

noun: **moonshine**

1. foolish talk or ideas.



Monstrous Moonshine

moon·shine

'mōn, SHīn/ 

noun informal

noun: **moonshine**

1. foolish talk or ideas.

2. NORTH AMERICAN

illicitly distilled or smuggled liquor.



Monstrous Moonshine

This surprising connection can be explained by string theory:

- The (left-moving) bosonic string compactified on a \mathbb{Z}_2 orbifold of \mathbb{R}^{24}/Λ with Λ the Leech lattice has as its **1-loop partition function** the $J(q)$ -function

$$Z(q) = \text{Tr}_{\text{H}} q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} = J(q) = \frac{1}{q} + 196884q + 21493760q^2 + \dots$$

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no massless q^0 states
tachyon of the bosonic string
supermassive string states

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$$Z(q) = \text{Tr}_{\text{H}} q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} = J(q) = \frac{1}{q} + 196884q + 21493760q^2 + \dots$$

- The symmetry group of the compactification space $\mathbb{R}^{24}/\Lambda/\mathbb{Z}_2$ is the **Monster group**.

Monstrous Moonshine

Since we have a Virasoro algebra we can expand the $J(q)$ -function in terms of Virasoro characters (traces of Verma modules)

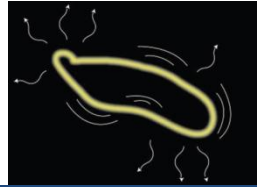
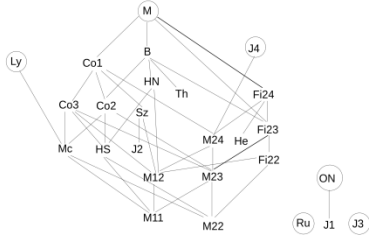
$$\text{ch}_{h=0}(q) = \frac{q^{-c/24}}{\prod_{n=2}^{\infty} (1 - q^n)}, \quad \text{ch}_h(q) = \frac{q^{h-c/24}}{\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n)}$$

$$J(q) = \frac{1}{q} + 196884q + 21493760q^2 + \dots$$

$$= \boxed{1} \text{ch}_0(q) + \boxed{196883} \text{ch}_2(q) + \boxed{21296876} \text{ch}_3(q) + \dots$$

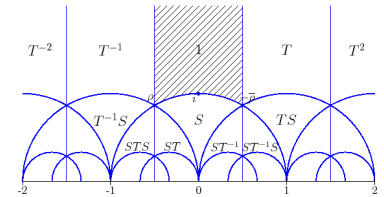
Monstrous Moonshine

Group Theory
Representation Theory
 finite (sporadic) groups



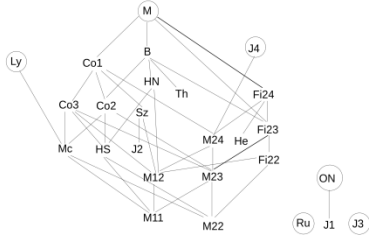
String Theory

Complex Analysis
Number Theory
 (mock) modular forms,
 Jacobi forms



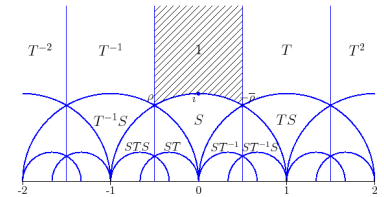
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Very interesting for mathematicians!

Monstrous Moonshine

Compactification of the bosonic string:

\Rightarrow we have a tachyon (instability)

\Rightarrow spacetime theory has no fermions

Additionally

- Only two spacetime dimensions are non-compact

Monstrous Moonshine

Compactification of the bosonic string:

⇒ we have a tachyon (instability)

⇒ spacetime theory has no fermions

Additionally

- Only two spacetime dimensions are non-compact

Not so interesting for physicists!

Mathieu Moonshine


- In 2010 Eguchi, Ooguri and Tachikawa discovered a new moonshine phenomenon that connects K3 to the largest Mathieu group M_{24}

Eguchi, Ooguri, Tachikawa 1004.0956

- They considered a $N=(4,4)$ SCFT with K3 target and calculate an index that is called elliptic genus

Mathieu Moonshine

Chemical potential for U(1)
in left-moving N=2 theory


$$Z_{\text{elliptic}}(q, y) = \text{Tr}_{\text{RR}} \left((-1)^{F_L} q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} y^{J_0} \underbrace{(-1)^{F_R} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - \frac{\bar{c}}{24}}}_{\text{Witten index}} \right)$$

Witten index:
No dependence on \bar{q}

Mathieu Moonshine

$$Z_{\text{elliptic}}^{\text{K3}}(q, y) = 8 \left(\frac{\theta_2(q, y)^2}{\theta_2(q, 1)^2} + \frac{\theta_3(q, y)^2}{\theta_3(q, 1)^2} + \frac{\theta_4(q, y)^2}{\theta_4(q, 1)^2} \right)$$

T. Eguchi, H. Ooguri, A. Taormina, S. -K. Yang Nucl. Phys. B 315, 193 (1989)

We have N=(4,4) world sheet supersymmetry

⇒ expand in N=4 Virasoro characters

Mathieu Moonshine

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We have $N=(4,4)$ world sheet supersymmetry

\Rightarrow expand in $N=4$ Virasoro characters

$N=4$ Virasoro characters are defined by the trace over the highest weight state and all its descendants

$$\text{ch}_{h,1}(q, y) = \text{Tr} \left(q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} y^{J_0} \right)$$

For the case $h=c/24$ there are short BPS multiplets

Mathieu Moonshine

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T. Eguchi, K. Hikami 0904.0911

$$Z_{\text{elliptic}}^{\text{K3}} = 24 \text{ch}_{h=\frac{1}{4}, l=0}^{\text{short}} - 2 \text{ch}_{h=\frac{1}{4}, l=\frac{1}{2}}^{\text{long}} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \text{ch}_{h=\frac{1}{4}+n, l=\frac{1}{2}}^{\text{long}}$$

$$A_n = \{90, 462, 1440, \dots\}$$

Mathieu Moonshine

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$23+1$

T. Eguchi, H. Ooguri, Y. Tachikawa 1004.0956

$$A_n = \{ 45 + \overline{45}, 231 + \overline{231}, 770 + \overline{770}, \dots \}$$

**Dimensions of
Irreps of M_{24}**

Mathieu Moonshine

Does this imply a connection between M_{24} and K3?

- The geometric symmetries of K3 are contained in $M_{23} \subset M_{24}$

Mukai, Kondo 1988, 1998

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Gaberdiel, Hohenegger, Volpato 1106.4315

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Gaberdiel, Hohenegger, Volpato 1106.4315

- However, all coefficients $Z_{\text{elliptic}}^{\text{K3}}$ are positive sums of dimensions of M_{24}

Gannon 1211.5531

Mathieu Moonshine

- K3 has played a central role in string compactifications and string dualities
- What are implications we can derive from Mathieu moonshine for string compactifications?
- Has the elliptic genus of K3 already appeared in the string theory literature?

Mathieu Moonshine

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- What are implications we can derive from Mathieu moonshine for string compactifications?
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YES!


Heterotic String Theory

- Consider the heterotic $E_8 \times E_8$ string theory compactified on $K3 \times T^2$
- We need to embed 24 instantons into $E_8 \times E_8 \longrightarrow (12+n, 12-n)$
 $n = 0, 1, \dots, 12$ to satisfy the Bianchi identity for H_3

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- We need to embed 24 instantons into $E_8 \times E_8 \longrightarrow (12+n, 12-n)$
 $n = 0, 1, \dots, 12$ to satisfy the Bianchi identity for H_3
- The resulting four dimensional theories preserves **$N=2$ spacetime supersymmetry**
- The 1-loop corrections to the prepotential are related to the new supersymmetric index Z_{new}

Dixon, Kaplunovsky, Louis, de Wit, Lüst,
Stieberger, Antoniadis, Narain, Taylor, Gava,
Kiritsis, Kounnas, Harvey, Moore,


$$h(S, T, U) = h^{\text{tree}} + h^{1\text{-loop}} + O(e^{-2\pi i S})$$

Heterotic String Theory

- The new supersymmetric index is defined as

$$Z_{\text{new}} = \text{Tr}_{\text{R}} \left(\bar{J}_0 (-1)^{\bar{J}_0} q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - \frac{\bar{c}}{24}} \right)$$

- The trace is over our internal (22,9) conformal field theory for the heterotic $E_8 \times E_8$ string theory compactified on $K3 \times T^2$

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- The trace is over our internal (22,9) conformal field theory for the heterotic $E_8 \times E_8$ string theory compactified on $K3 \times T^2$
- We have a right moving N=2 SCFT from the T^2 and we denote its U(1) generator $\bar{J}^{(1)}$
- For the K3 we have an N=4 SCFT with a level one SU(2). We define $\bar{J}^{(2)} = 2 \bar{J}^3$ where \bar{J}^3 is the SU(2) Cartan current
- Then $\bar{J} = \bar{J}^{(1)} + \bar{J}^{(2)}$

Heterotic String Theory

- The new supersymmetric index is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{\text{new}} &= \text{Tr}_{\text{R}} \left((\bar{J}_0^{(1)} + \bar{J}_0^{(2)}) (-1)^{\bar{J}_0^{(1)} + \bar{J}_0^{(2)}} q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - \frac{\bar{c}}{24}} \right) \\ &= \text{Tr}_{\text{R}} \bar{J}_0^{(1)} (-1)^{\bar{J}_0^{(1)} + \bar{J}_0^{(2)}} q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - \frac{\bar{c}}{24}} \\ &\quad + \text{Tr}_{\text{R}} (-1)^{\bar{J}_0^{(1)}} q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} \bar{J}_0^{(2)} (-1)^{\bar{J}_0^{(2)}} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - \frac{\bar{c}}{24}} \end{aligned}$$

Heterotic String Theory

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 &= \text{Tr}_{\text{R}} \bar{J}_0^{(1)} (-1)^{\bar{J}_0^{(1)} + \bar{J}_0^{(2)}} q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - \frac{\bar{c}}{24}} \\
 &\quad + \text{Tr}_{\text{R}} (-1)^{\bar{J}_0^{(1)}} q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} \bar{J}_0^{(2)} (-1)^{\bar{J}_0^{(2)}} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - \frac{\bar{c}}{24}}
 \end{aligned}$$

For SU(2) representations eigenvalues of $J^{(2)}$ come in opposite pairs

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\text{Tr}_{\text{K3}} \bar{J}_0^{(2)} (-1)^{\bar{J}_0^{(2)}} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - \frac{\bar{c}}{24}} \\
 &\approx \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} (n (-1)^n - n (-1)^{-n}) [\dots] = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Heterotic String Theory

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0

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 &= \text{Tr}_{\text{R}} q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} \bar{J}_0^{(1)} (-1)^{\bar{J}_0^{(1)} + \bar{J}_0^{(2)}} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - \frac{\bar{c}}{24}}
 \end{aligned}$$

0

- Now we calculate it for the standard embedding $SU(2) \subset E_8$ for a compactification on $K3 \times T^2$

Heterotic String Theory

For $K3 \times T^2$ compactifications we have for the standard embedding that preserves $N=(4,4)$

$$Z_{\text{new}} = \text{Tr}_R q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} \overline{J}_0^{(1)} \overbrace{(-1)^{\bar{J}_0^{(1)} + \bar{J}_0^{(2)}}}^{\text{Witten index}} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - \frac{\bar{c}}{24}}$$

Compare to

$$Z_{\text{elliptic}}(q, y) = \text{Tr}_{RR} \left((-1)^{F_L} q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} y^{J_0} (-1)^{F_R} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - \frac{\bar{c}}{24}} \right)$$

We will get contributions from $Z_{\text{elliptic}}^{K3}(q, y)$ at different y -values

Heterotic String Theory

For $K3 \times T^2$ compactifications we have for the standard embedding that preserves $N=(4,4)$

$$Z_{\text{new}}(q; T, U) = \frac{i}{2} \frac{\Theta_{\Gamma_{2,2}}(T, U)}{\eta(q)^4} \frac{E_4(q)}{\eta(q)^8} \left[\left(\frac{\theta_2(q)}{\eta(q)} \right)^6 Z_{\text{elliptic}}^{K3}(q, -1) \right. \\ \left. + \left(\frac{\theta_3(q)}{\eta(q)} \right)^6 q^{\frac{1}{4}} Z_{\text{elliptic}}^{K3}(q, -q^{\frac{1}{2}}) + \left(\frac{\theta_4(q)}{\eta(q)} \right)^6 q^{\frac{1}{4}} Z_{\text{elliptic}}^{K3}(q, q^{\frac{1}{2}}) \right]$$

Affine E_8 SO(12) characters

SO(12) characters Harvey, Moore hep-th/9510182

T is the complexified Kähler modulus, U the complex structure modulus of the T^2

Heterotic String Theory

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$$Z_{\text{new}}(q; T, U) = \frac{i}{2} \frac{\Theta_{\Gamma_{2,2}}(T, U)}{\eta(q)^4} \frac{E_4(q)}{\eta(q)^8} \left[\left(\frac{\theta_2(q)}{\eta(q)} \right)^6 Z_{\text{elliptic}}^{K3}(q, -1) \right. \\ \left. + \left(\frac{\theta_3(q)}{\eta(q)} \right)^6 q^{\frac{1}{4}} Z_{\text{elliptic}}^{K3}(q, -q^{\frac{1}{2}}) + \left(\frac{\theta_4(q)}{\eta(q)} \right)^6 q^{\frac{1}{4}} Z_{\text{elliptic}}^{K3}(q, q^{\frac{1}{2}}) \right]$$

Affine E_8 SO(12) characters

SO(12) characters Harvey, Moore hep-th/9510182

So in particular the [...] part has an “ $SO(12) \times M_{24}$ ”-expansion: exactly the same M_{24} as in Mathieu Moonshine due to $N=(4,4)$

Heterotic String Theory

For $K3 \times T^2$ compactifications we have for the standard embedding that preserves $N=(4,4)$

$$Z_{\text{new}}(q; T, U) = \frac{i}{2} \frac{\Theta_{\Gamma_{2,2}}(T, U)}{\eta(q)^4} \frac{E_4(q)}{\eta(q)^8} \left[\begin{aligned} &+ 24 \left(\left(\frac{\theta_2(q)}{\eta(q)} \right)^6 \text{ch}_{h=\frac{1}{4}, l=0}^{\text{short}}(q, -1) + \left(\frac{\theta_3(q)}{\eta(q)} \right)^6 q^{\frac{1}{4}} \text{ch}_{h=\frac{1}{4}, l=0}^{\text{short}}(q, -q^{\frac{1}{2}}) - \left(\frac{\theta_4(q)}{\eta(q)} \right)^6 q^{\frac{1}{4}} \text{ch}_{h=\frac{1}{4}, l=0}^{\text{short}}(q, q^{\frac{1}{2}}) \right) \\ &- 2 \left(\left(\frac{\theta_2(q)}{\eta(q)} \right)^6 \text{ch}_{h=\frac{1}{4}, l=\frac{1}{2}}^{\text{short}}(q, -1) + \left(\frac{\theta_3(q)}{\eta(q)} \right)^6 q^{\frac{1}{4}} \text{ch}_{h=\frac{1}{4}, l=\frac{1}{2}}^{\text{short}}(q, -q^{\frac{1}{2}}) - \left(\frac{\theta_4(q)}{\eta(q)} \right)^6 q^{\frac{1}{4}} \text{ch}_{h=\frac{1}{4}, l=\frac{1}{2}}^{\text{short}}(q, q^{\frac{1}{2}}) \right) \\ &+ \left(\left(\frac{\theta_2(q)}{\eta(q)} \right)^6 \text{ch}_{h=\frac{1}{4}, l=\frac{1}{2}}^{\text{long}}(q, -1) + \left(\frac{\theta_3(q)}{\eta(q)} \right)^6 q^{\frac{1}{4}} \text{ch}_{h=\frac{1}{4}, l=\frac{1}{2}}^{\text{long}}(q, -q^{\frac{1}{2}}) - \left(\frac{\theta_4(q)}{\eta(q)} \right)^6 q^{\frac{1}{4}} \text{ch}_{h=\frac{1}{4}, l=\frac{1}{2}}^{\text{long}}(q, q^{\frac{1}{2}}) \right) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n q^n \end{aligned} \right]$$

$$A_n = \{ 45 + \overline{45}, 231 + \overline{231}, 770 + \overline{770}, \dots \}$$

**Dimensions of
Irreps of M_{24}**

Heterotic String Theory

For $K3 \times T^2$ compactifications we have for the standard $(24,0)$ instanton embedding

Affine E_8
↓

$$Z_{\text{new}}(q; T, U) = \frac{i}{2} \frac{\Theta_{\Gamma_{2,2}}(T, U)}{\eta(q)^4} \frac{E_4(q)}{\eta(q)^8} \frac{E_6(q)}{\eta(q)^{12}} = \frac{i}{2} \frac{\Theta_{\Gamma_{2,2}}(T, U) E_4(q) E_6(q)}{\eta(q)^{24}}$$

Harvey, Moore [hep-th/9510182](#)

So in particular the $E_6(q)$ has an “ $SO(12) \times M_{24}$ ”-expansion

Heterotic String Theory

For $K3 \times T^2$ compactifications we have for the standard embedding that preserves $N=(4,4)$

Take away message:

**Z_{new} depends on T and U and is connected
to Z_{elliptic} and therefore to M_{24}**

T is the complexified Kähler modulus, U the complex structure modulus of the T^2

Heterotic String Theory

The 1-loop correction to the prepotential is roughly determined by

$$\Delta(T,U) = \int \frac{d^2\tau}{\tau_2} Z_{\text{new}}(q = e^{2\pi i\tau}; T, U) (Q^2 - \frac{1}{8\pi\tau_2})$$

and knows about M_{24} since Z_{new} does

M. Cheng, X. Dong, J. Duncan, J. Harvey, S. Kachru, TW 1306.4981

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M. Cheng, X. Dong, J. Duncan, J. Harvey, S. Kachru, TW 1306.4981

The modular invariance of $\tau_2 Z_{\text{new}}(Q^2 - \frac{1}{8\pi\tau_2})$ actually tells us that there is a unique solution. So for all instanton embeddings $(12+n, 12-n)$ the answer is the same.

Kiritsis, Kounnas, Petropoulos, Rizos hep-th/9608034

Henningson, Moore hep-th/9608145

Heterotic String Theory

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M. Cheng, X. Dong, J. Duncan, J. Harvey, S. Kachru, TW 1306.4981

We have to solve the following second order differential equation

Harvey, Moore hep-th/9510182

$$\begin{aligned} & -\text{Re} \left(\partial_T \partial_U h^{1\text{-loop}} + \frac{1}{T_1 U_1} (1 - T_1 \partial_T - U_1 \partial_U) h^{1\text{-loop}} \right) - \frac{1}{\pi} \text{Re}(\log[J(iT) - J(iU)]) \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int \frac{d^2\tau}{\tau_2} \left(-i Z_{\text{new}}(q; T, U) \cdot \left(Q_{E_8}^2 - \frac{1}{8\pi_2} \right) - b(E_8) \right) + \frac{b(E_8)}{2\pi} (\log[2T_1 U_1] + 4 \text{Re}(\log[\eta(iT) \eta(iU)])) \end{aligned}$$

Heterotic String Theory

The solution is given by

$$h^{1-loop} = -\frac{1}{3}U^3 + C + \sum_{k,l} c(kl) Li_3(e^{2\pi i(kT+lU)})$$

where the polylogarithm is given by $Li_3(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n^3}$

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and the expansion coefficients are the same as in our index (they go along for the ride when integrating)

$$Z_{\text{new}}(q; T, U) = \frac{i}{2} \Theta_{\Gamma_{2,2}}(T, U) \left(\sum_{m \geq -1} c(m) q^m \right)$$


 Dimensions of M_{24}

Heterotic String Theory

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Dimensions of M_{24}
(appearing in a spacetime quantity)



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Dimensions of M_{24}



Type IIA on CY_3

String duality

Heterotic string
on $K3 \times T^2$ with
instanton embedding
 $(12+n, 12-n)$

Type IIA string theory
on elliptic fibrations
over F_n (Hirzebruch
surface)

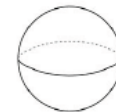
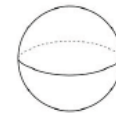
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F_n



dilaton S



Size of base S^2

Type IIA on CY_3

Type IIA string theory on elliptic fibrations over F_n :

- Prepotential receives instanton corrections
- These are determined by the Gromov-Witten invariants \approx curve counting (S^2 , T^2 , ...)

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M. Cheng, X. Dong, J. Duncan,
J. Harvey, S. Kachru, TW 1306.4981

$$h(S, T, U) = -STU - \frac{1}{3}U^3 + C + \sum_{k,l} c(kl) Li_3(e^{2\pi i(kT+lU)}) + O(e^{-2\pi iS})$$

M. Alim, E. Scheidegger 1205.1784

A. Klemm, J. Manschot, T. Wotschke 1205.1795

Dimensions of M_{24}
(appearing in a spacetime quantity)

Type IIB on CY_3

String duality

Type IIA string theory
on elliptic fibrations over
 F_n (Hirzebruch surface)

Type IIB string theory
on mirror manifold

Type IIB on CY_3

String duality

Type IIA string theory
on elliptic fibrations over
 F_n (Hirzebruch surface)

Type IIB string theory
on mirror manifold

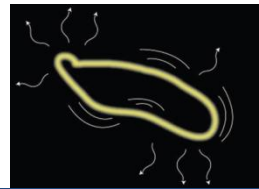
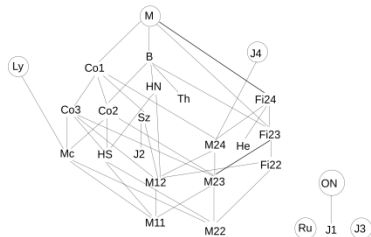
CY_3 manifold X_n \longleftrightarrow CY_3 manifold Y_n

Gromov-Witten
invariants \longleftrightarrow Periods of the holo-
morphic 3-form Ω

Cool new math connections!

Group Theory Representation Theory

finite (sporadic) groups

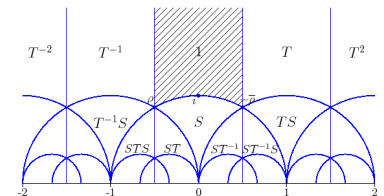


String Theory

**N
E
W**

Complex Analysis Number Theory

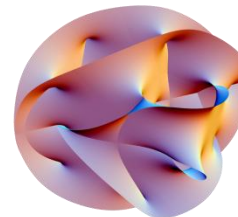
(mock) modular forms,
Jacobi forms



(Algebraic) Geometry

periods of Calabi-Yau manifolds,
Gromov-Witten
invariants,
elliptic genus,

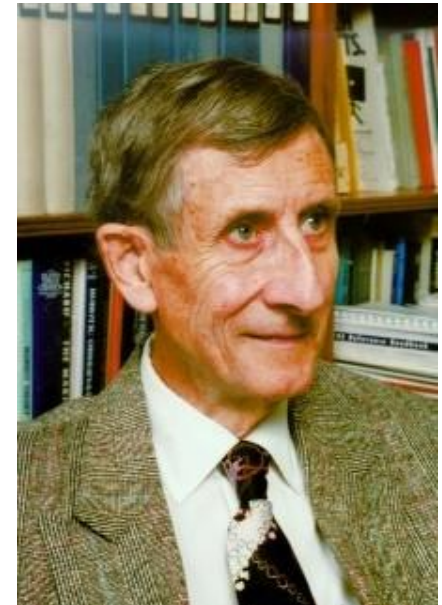
...



Moonshine and physics

“I have a sneaking hope, a hope unsupported by any facts or any evidence, that sometime in the twenty-first century physicists will stumble upon the Monster group, built in some unsuspected way into the structure of the Universe.”

– Freeman Dyson (1983)



Moonshine and physics

For the $K3 \times T^2$ compactifications, the 1-loop prepotential controls the 1-loop corrections to the gauge couplings in the $N=2$ spacetime theory

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For **four dimensional $N=1$ models** obtained from orbifold compactifications of the heterotic $E_8 \times E_8$ string theory:

$$f_\alpha(S, T, U) = S + f_\alpha^{1\text{-loop}}(T, U) + O(e^{-2\pi i S})$$

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The (bulk) moduli dependent 1-loop correction to the **gauge kinetic function** arises only from $N=2$ subsectors!

Dixon, Louis, Kaplunovsky Nuclear Physics B 355 (1991)

Moonshine and physics

Example $T^6/\mathbb{Z}_{6-II} = T^2 \times T^2 \times T^2/\mathbb{Z}_{6-II}$:

$$\mathbb{Z}_{6-II} = \langle g \rangle, \quad g : (z_1, z_2, z_3) \rightarrow (e^{\pi i/3} z_1, e^{2\pi i/3} z_2, -z_3)$$

Moonshine and physics

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has two N=2 subsector

$$\mathbb{Z}_3 = \{1, g^2, g^4\}, \quad g^2 : (z_1, z_2, z_3) \rightarrow (e^{2\pi i/3} z_1, e^{4\pi i/3} z_2, z_3)$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_2 = \{1, g^3\}, \quad g^3 : (z_1, z_2, z_3) \rightarrow (-z_1, z_2, -z_3)$$

Moonshine and physics

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For which the internal space is $T^4/\mathbb{Z}_3 \times T^2$ or $T^4/\mathbb{Z}_2 \times T^2$ respectively and therefore an orbifold limit of $T^2 \times K3$.

Moonshine and physics

N=2 sectors lead to 1-loop corrections

N=2 prepotential

$$f_{\alpha}^{1\text{-loop}}(T, U) = \sum_{i=1,2,3} \frac{|G_i'|}{|G|} \left[-\frac{1}{2} \partial_{T_i} \partial_{U_i} h_i^{1\text{-loop}}(T_i, U_i) \right. \\ \left. - \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \log[J(iT_i) - J(iU_i) - \frac{b_{\alpha,i}^{N=2}}{4\pi^2} (\log[\eta(iT_i) \eta(iU_i)])] \right]$$

N=1 gauge kinetic coupling

Moonshine and physics

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N=2 prepotential

$$f_{\alpha}^{1-loop}(T, U) = \sum_{i=1,2,3} \frac{|G_i'|}{|G|} \left[-\frac{1}{2} \partial_{T_i} \partial_{U_i} h_i^{1-loop}(T_i, U_i) \right. \\ \left. - \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \log[J(iT_i) - J(iU_i) - \frac{b_{\alpha,i}^{N=2}}{4\pi^2} (\log[\eta(iT_i)\eta(iU_i)])] \right]$$

N=1 gauge kinetic coupling

where the prepotential was calculated above


$$h^{1-loop}(T, U) = -\frac{1}{3} U^3 + C + \sum_{k,l} c(kl) Li_3(e^{2\pi i(kT+lU)})$$

Dimensions of M_{24}

Moonshine and physics

Group \mathbb{Z}_N	Generator $\frac{1}{N}(\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \varphi_3)$	$\mathcal{N} = 2$ moduli
\mathbb{Z}_3	$\frac{1}{3}(1, 1, 1)$	-
\mathbb{Z}_4	$\frac{1}{4}(1, 1, 2)$	T_3, U_3
\mathbb{Z}_{6-I}	$\frac{1}{6}(1, 1, 4)$	T_3
\mathbb{Z}_{6-II}	$\frac{1}{6}(1, 2, 3)$	T_2, T_3, U_3
\mathbb{Z}_7	$\frac{1}{7}(1, 2, 4)$	-
\mathbb{Z}_{8-I}	$\frac{1}{8}(1, 2, 5)$	T_2
\mathbb{Z}_{8-II}	$\frac{1}{8}(1, 3, 4)$	T_3, U_3
\mathbb{Z}_{12-I}	$\frac{1}{12}(1, 4, 7)$	T_2
\mathbb{Z}_{12-II}	$\frac{1}{12}(1, 5, 6)$	T_3, U_3

No $\mathcal{N}=2$ sectors



Moonshine and physics

$\mathbb{Z}_N \times \mathbb{Z}_M$	1 st generator $\frac{1}{N}(\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \varphi_3)$	2 nd generator $\frac{1}{M}(\hat{\varphi}_1, \hat{\varphi}_2, \hat{\varphi}_3)$	$\mathcal{N} = 2$ moduli
$\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$\frac{1}{2}(1, 0, 1)$	$\frac{1}{2}(0, 1, 1)$	$T_1, U_1, T_2, U_2, T_3, U_3$
$\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$	$\frac{1}{2}(1, 0, 1)$	$\frac{1}{4}(0, 1, 3)$	T_1, U_1, T_2, T_3
$\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_6$	$\frac{1}{2}(1, 0, 1)$	$\frac{1}{6}(0, 1, 5)$	T_1, U_1, T_2, T_3
$\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}'_6$	$\frac{1}{2}(1, 0, 1)$	$\frac{1}{6}(1, 1, 4)$	T_1, T_2, T_3
$\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3$	$\frac{1}{3}(1, 0, 2)$	$\frac{1}{3}(0, 1, 2)$	T_1, T_2, T_3
$\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_6$	$\frac{1}{3}(1, 0, 2)$	$\frac{1}{6}(0, 1, 5)$	T_1, T_2, T_3
$\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$	$\frac{1}{4}(1, 0, 3)$	$\frac{1}{4}(0, 1, 3)$	T_1, T_2, T_3
$\mathbb{Z}_6 \times \mathbb{Z}_6$	$\frac{1}{6}(1, 0, 5)$	$\frac{1}{6}(0, 1, 5)$	T_1, T_2, T_3

Moonshine and physics

Four dimensional $N=1$ models obtained from orbifold compactifications of the heterotic $E_8 \times E_8$ string theory receive universal 1-loop corrections to their gauge kinetic functions that are related to M_{24}

TW 1402.2973

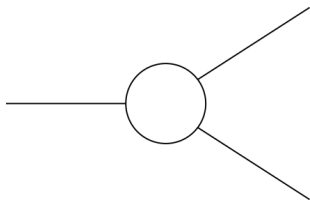
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Four dimensional N=1 models obtained from orbifold compactifications of the heterotic $E_8 \times E_8$ string theory receive universal 1-loop corrections to their gauge kinetic functions that are related to M_{24}

TW 1402.2973

For all T^6/\mathbb{Z}_N , $N \neq 3, 7$, and all $T^6/\mathbb{Z}_N \times \mathbb{Z}_M$

$$f(S, T, U) \approx S + \partial_T \partial_U \sum_{k,l} c(kl) Li_3(e^{2\pi i(kT+lU)}) + \dots + O(e^{-2\pi i S})$$



Dimensions of M_{24}

Moonshine and physics

N. Paquette, TW work in progress:

- The holomorphic 3-form Ω plays a role in flux compactifications

Gukov, Vafa, Witten hep-th/9906070

Giddings, Kachru, Polchinski hep-th/0105097

$$W = \int H \wedge \Omega + \dots$$

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Flux vacua might have large symmetry groups: $|M_{24}| \approx 2 \times 10^9$

Moonshine and physics

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Gukov, Vafa, Witten [hep-th/9906070](#)
Giddings, Kachru, Polchinski [hep-th/0105097](#)

$$W = \int H \wedge \Omega + \dots$$

- The Yukawa couplings in heterotic models are given by the third derivative of Ω with respect to the moduli

Hosono, Klemm, Theisen, Yau [hep-th/9308122](#)

$$Y_{IJK} \approx \partial_I \partial_J \partial_K h(S, T, U)$$

New Moonshine phenomena

Consider eight (left-moving) bosons and fermions compactified on the orbifold $T^8/\mathbb{Z}_2 = \mathbb{R}^8/\Lambda_{E8}/\mathbb{Z}_2$

The partition function in the NS sector is

Frenkel, Lepowsky, Meurman 1985

[Duncan math/0502267](#)

$$Z(q) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{q}} + 276\sqrt{q} + 2048q + 11202q^{\frac{3}{2}} + \dots$$

Sums of dimensions of Conway group



New Moonshine phenomena

Consider eight (left-moving) bosons and fermions compactified on the orbifold $T^8/\mathbb{Z}_2 = \mathbb{R}^8/\Lambda_{E8}/\mathbb{Z}_2$

Tensor left- and right movers together in an asymmetric orbifold where we act with one \mathbb{Z}_2 on the left and with another one only on the right:

$$Z^{\text{partition}}(q, \bar{q}) = Z(q) Z(\bar{q})$$

The asymmetric orbifold preserves $N=(4,4)$ symmetry

New Moonshine phenomena

Asymmetric orbifold $T^8/\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 = \mathbb{R}^8/\Lambda_{E8}/\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$

Calculate the elliptic genus and expand in N=4 characters:

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{\text{elliptic}} &= 21 \text{ch}_{h=\frac{1}{2}, l=0}^{\text{short}} + \text{ch}_{h=\frac{1}{2}, l=1}^{\text{short}} \\ &\quad + 560 \text{ch}_{h=\frac{3}{2}, l=\frac{1}{2}}^{\text{long}} + 8470 \text{ch}_{h=\frac{5}{2}, l=\frac{1}{2}}^{\text{long}} + \dots \\ &\quad + 210 \text{ch}_{h=\frac{3}{2}, l=1}^{\text{long}} + 4444 \text{ch}_{h=\frac{5}{2}, l=1}^{\text{long}} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Two infinite series, coefficients unrelated to Conway

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All coefficients are dimensions of the Mathieu group M_{22} !

Checks all work and one can see $M_{22} \subset \text{Co}$ preserving N=4

M. Cheng, X. Dong, J. Duncan, S. Harrison, S. Kachru, TW to appear

Conclusion

- Mathieu Moonshine involves K3 that has played a crucial role in superstring compactifications and string dualities
- Certain CY_3 manifolds are now also implicated in Mathieu Moonshine
- This leads to a variety of intriguing implications for physically interesting string compactifications
- Much more to come!

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THANK YOU!