RR photons

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String theory compactifications with a semi-realistic spectrum generically lead to U(1) gauge symmetries beyond U(1)_Y



[Cremades, Ibanez, Marchesano '02]

• Some of these extra U(1) gauge symmetries acquire masses via the Stückelberg mechanism

$$\mathcal{L} \supset C_2 \wedge F_2 \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \mathcal{L}_{Stk} = \frac{1}{2} (d\rho + qA)^2 \qquad (d\rho = *_4 dC_2)$$

$$M_{U(1)_X} \sim M_s$$

global symmetries

broken by non-perturbative effects to discrete subgroups (e.g. matter parity, baryon triality...) [Berasaluce et al. '11]

Only detectable at experiments if $M_s \sim 1 \text{ TeV}$ (WIMPs)

[Ghilencea et al. '02]

• Other U(1)'s however may remain massless or very light (WISPs) and lead to light hidden U(1) gauge symmetries.

Light hidden U(1) gauge symmetries are a window of opportunity to hidden sector physics, even at large string scale

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4} X_{\mu\nu} X^{\mu\nu} - \frac{\chi}{2} X_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} m_{\gamma'}^2 X_{\mu} X^{\mu}$$



[Jaeckel, Ringwald '10]

• Hidden U(1)'s are also a possible mechanism for mediating SUSY breaking in a flavor independent way:



In type II string theory compactifications there are two sources of hidden U(1) gauge symmetries:

- D-branes located 'far away' from the MSSM D-brane sector
- Bulk U(1)'s arising from KK reduction of the Ramond-Ramond closed string fields is no massless matter charged under them

It is therefore natural to ask:

- Can RR U(1)'s mix with the hypercharge??
- If so, can we compute χ and $m_{\gamma'}$??
- Can we obtain new phenomenological scenarios ??

• Can RR U(1)'s mix with the hypercharge??

• If so, can we compute χ and $m_{\gamma'}$??

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Moreover, the distinction between RR and D-brane U(1)'s is arbitrary at strong coupling: in M-theory / F-theory both correspond to KK U(1)'s

Another related question is therefore:

• Is there a geometric understanding of the Stuckelberg mechanism??

Outline of the talk

- 1. U(1)'s in type IIA compactifications
- 2. 'Kinetic mixing' with RR photons
- 3. 'Mass mixing' with RR photons
- 4. Some phenomenological implications
- 5. The unified M-theory picture
- 6. Concluding remarks

Type IIA string theory on a CY orientifold $\mathbb{R}^{1,3} \times \mathcal{M}_6/\Omega_p(-1)^{F_L} \sigma$

$$\sigma J = -J , \qquad \sigma \Omega = \overline{\Omega}$$

• Closed string spectrum: one-to-one correspondence between massless 4d closed-string fields and harmonic forms

$h_{-}^{1,1} + h^{1,2} + 1$	N = 1 chiral multiplets
$h^{1,1}_+$	N = 1 vector multiplets

 $h_{-}^{1,1} + h^{1,2} + 1$ N = 1 chiral multiplets

Scalar components parametrize compactification moduli space:

$$J_c \equiv B_2 + iJ = T^{\hat{i}}\omega_{\hat{i}} , \qquad \Omega_c \equiv C_3 + i\operatorname{Re}(C\Omega) = N^I \alpha_I$$

Real parts of complex structure moduli



- Invariant under shift symmetries
- Can participate in Stückelberg mechanism

Dual 2-forms:
$$C_5 = \sum_I C_2^I \wedge \beta^I + \dots$$

 $h^{1,1}_+$ N = 1 vector multiplets

RR U(1) gauge bosons from the expansions:

$$C_3 = \sum_I \operatorname{Re}(N^I)\alpha_I + \sum_i A^i \wedge \omega_i$$

Dual magnetic d.o.f. from C_5

Gauge kinetic function

[Grimm, Louis '04]

$$f_{ij} = -i\mathcal{K}_{ij\hat{k}}T^{\hat{k}}$$

Each massless U(1)_{RR} has an element of $H_2^+(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{R})$ associated to it.

D6-brane N = 1 vector & chiral multiplets

D6-branes wrap special Lagrangian 3-cycles in the CY

$$J|_{\pi_a} = 0$$
, $\operatorname{Im}(\Omega)|_{\pi_a} = 0$



Standard Model located in this sector

 N_a D6-branes \implies $SU(N_a) \times U(1)_a$ $f_a = -iN_a \int_{\pi} \Omega_c$

Deformations preserving sLag parametrized by $b_1(\pi_a)$ open string moduli:



[McLean '98]

$$\Phi^j_a = \theta^j_a + \lambda^j_i \phi^i_a$$

$$\theta_a = \theta_a^j \zeta_j, \quad \phi_a = \phi_a^i X_i, \quad \iota_{X_i} J_c|_{\pi_a} = \lambda_i^j \zeta_j$$

D6-brane N = 1 vector & chiral multiplets

There is a Stückelberg mechanism for some of the D6-brane U(1)'s:

Nice interpretation geometric interpretation. Each D6-brane U(1)_a gauge symmetry has an element of $H_3^-(\mathcal{M}_6, \mathbb{R})$ associated to it, $\pi_a - \pi_a^*$

D6-brane N = 1 vector & chiral multiplets



 $U(2) \rightarrow U(1)_a \times U(1)_b$ $U(1)_a - U(1)_b$ massless $U(1)_a + U(1)_b$ massive





3. Kinetic mixing with RR photons

Can D6-brane and RR U(1)'s mix kinematically ??

$$S_{\rm 4d,mix} = -\int_{\mathbb{R}^{1,3}} \left[\operatorname{Re}(f_{ia}) F_{\rm RR}^i \wedge *_4 F_2^a + \operatorname{Im}(f_{ia}) F_{\rm RR}^i \wedge F_2^a \right]$$

 π_a X_i

 Σ_4

 $\partial \Sigma_4 = \pi_a - \pi_b$

 π_b

 π_a

From the D6-brane CS action:

$$\mathcal{F}_2^a \wedge C_5 + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{F}_2^a \wedge \mathcal{F}_2^a \wedge C_3 \quad \checkmark \quad f_{ia} = \Phi_a^j \int_{\pi_a} \omega_i \wedge \zeta^j + \dots$$

Requires non-trivial 2-cycle in π_a and \mathcal{M}_6

Well-defined for massless U(1)'s:

$$f_{i(a-b)} = (\Phi_a^j - \Phi_b^j) \int_{\rho_j} \omega_i + \dots \oint f_{ib} = \int_{\Sigma_4} (J_c + F_2^b) \wedge \omega_i$$

We have seen the following U(1) charge assignment:

 $H_3^-(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{R})$ \Longrightarrow D6-brane U(1)'s $H_2^+(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{R})$ \Longrightarrow RR U(1)'s

But shouldn't be $H_r(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{Z})$ the relevant classes??

$$H_{r}(\mathcal{M}_{6},\mathbb{Z}) = \underbrace{\mathbb{Z} \oplus \ldots \oplus \mathbb{Z}}_{b_{r}} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{k_{1}} \oplus \ldots \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{k_{n}}$$
$$\partial \Sigma_{r+1} = k\pi_{r}^{\mathrm{tor}}$$
$$\operatorname{Torsional cycles cannot be}_{detected by 4d massless fields}$$
$$\operatorname{because}_{f_{\pi_{r}^{\mathrm{tor}}}} \omega_{r} = \frac{1}{k} \int_{\Sigma_{r+1}} d\omega_{r} = 0$$

Some useful results in algebraic topology (UCT + Poincaré duality):

Tor $H_3(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{Z})\simeq$ Tor $H_2(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{Z})$

Tor $H_1(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{Z})\simeq$ Tor $H_4(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{Z})$

D2-brane wrapping π_2^{tor} \longrightarrow 4d particle D4-brane wrapping π_3^{tor} \longrightarrow 4d string

Non-BPS objects in 4d, but stable mod k

Aharanov-Bohm strings and particles [Alford, Krauss, Wilczek '89]



A-B strings and particles are the smoking gun of massive U(1)'s higgsed down to a discrete \mathbb{Z}_k gauge symmetry via the Stuckelberg mechanism [Banks, Seiberg '10]

We can see this more explicitly from dimensional reduction.

For that we introduce the set of forms which correspond to the generators of Tor $H^4(\mathcal{M}_6) \simeq \text{Tor } H_3(\mathcal{M}_6)$ and Tor $H^3(\mathcal{M}_6) \simeq \text{Tor } H_2(\mathcal{M}_6)$

 $d\omega_{\alpha}^{\text{tor}} = k_{\alpha}{}^{\beta}\alpha_{\beta}^{\text{tor}}, \quad d\beta^{\text{tor},\beta} = -k^{\beta}{}_{\alpha}\tilde{\omega}^{\text{tor},\alpha} \quad L([\pi_{2,\alpha}^{\text{tor}}], [\pi_{3}^{\text{tor},\beta}]) = (k^{-1})_{\alpha}{}^{\beta}$

Expanding in these,

$$C_{3} = \sum_{\alpha} \operatorname{Re}(N^{\alpha})\alpha_{\alpha}^{\operatorname{tor}} + A^{\alpha} \wedge \omega_{\alpha}^{\operatorname{tor}} + \dots$$
$$dC_{3} = [\operatorname{Re}(dN^{\beta}) + k^{\beta}{}_{\alpha}A^{\alpha}] \wedge \alpha_{\beta}^{\operatorname{tor}} + dA^{\alpha} \wedge \omega_{\alpha}^{\operatorname{tor}} + \dots$$

Massive RR U(1) gauge symmetries

Electric charges: A-B particles Magnetic charges: A-B strings

Massless RR U(1)'s Massive RR U(1)'s $H_2^+(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{R})$ Tor $H_2^+(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{Z})$ Hodge duality: $H_2^+(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{R})\simeq H_4^-(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{R})$ UCT+Poinc.: Tor $H_2^+(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{Z})\simeq \operatorname{Tor} H_3^-(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{Z})$ Intersection number Linking number Electric charges: D2 (4d particles) Electric charges: D2 (4d A-B particles) Magnetic charges: D4 (4d monopoles) Magnetic charges: D4 (4d A-B strings) U(1) gauge symmetry \mathbb{Z}_k gauge symmetry

Can D6-brane and RR U(1)'s mix through the Stuckelberg mechanism ??

We have seen that a D4-brane wrapping a torsional 3-cycle

$$[\pi_b^-] = \sum_\beta c_b^\beta [\pi_3^{\mathrm{tor},\beta}]$$

develops a coupling,

$$S_{4d} \supset \sum_{\beta} c_b^{\beta} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{1,3}} C_2^{\beta} \qquad \qquad C_2^{\beta} \equiv \int_{\pi_3^{\text{tor},\beta}} C_5$$

Similarly, a D6-brane wrapping the same 3-cycle develops a Stuckelberg coupling in its worldvolume,

$$-\sum_{\beta} c_b^{\beta} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{1,3}} C_2^{\beta} \wedge F_2^b$$

It can also be seen from dim. reduction of the CS D6-brane action

Therefore, massive RR U(1)'s couple to the same complex structure axions than D6-branes do.

Massive RR U(1)'s therefore may mix with D6-brane U(1)'s.

$$Q^{I} = \sum_{a} c^{I}_{a} N_{a} Q^{a}$$
$$Q^{\beta} = \sum_{\alpha} k^{\beta}{}_{\alpha} Q^{\alpha}_{RR} + \sum_{a} c^{\beta}_{a} N_{a} Q^{a}$$

Each linear combination of D6-brane and torsional RR U(1) gauge symmetries has an element of $H_3^-(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{Z})$ associated to it. Massless combinations of U(1)'s are trivial elements in *integer* homology.

$$Q_{0} = \sum_{a} n_{a}Q^{a} + \sum_{\alpha} \check{n}_{\alpha}Q^{\alpha}_{RR} \quad \text{massless}$$

$$\sum_{a} \frac{N_{a}n_{a}}{2}([\pi_{a}] - [\pi^{*}_{a}]) + \sum_{\alpha,\gamma} \check{n}_{\alpha}k^{\alpha}{}_{\gamma}[\pi^{\text{tor},\gamma}_{3}] = 0$$

Elements which are also trivial in de Rham do not mix with RR U(1)'s

Some examples: Type IIA orientifold of the Enriques CY 1 [Aspinwall '95] 0 0 $H_0(\mathcal{M}_6)$ $H_1(\mathcal{M}_6)$ $H_2(\mathcal{M}_6)$ $H_3(\mathcal{M}_6)$ $H_4(\mathcal{M}_6)$ $H_5(\mathcal{M}_6)$ $H_6(\mathcal{M}_6)$ 0 11 0 11 11 1 \mathbb{Z} $(\mathbb{Z})^{24} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \quad (\mathbb{Z})^{11} \oplus (\mathbb{Z}_2)^3$ $(\mathbb{Z}_{2})^{3}$ $(\mathbb{Z})^{11} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2$ 0 \mathbb{Z} 1 11 0 0 0 0 Freely-acting $T^6/(\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2)$ 1

RR U(1)'s allow for new phenomenological scenarios:

• Two stacks of fractional D6-branes which differ by $\pi_3^{
m tor}$



Massless: $U(1)_Y \sim 2U(1)_a - 2U(1)_b + U(1)_{RR}$ Massive: $U(1)_{G_1} \sim U(1)_a + U(1)_b$ $U(1)_{G_2} \sim U(1)_a - U(1)_b - 4U(1)_{RR}$

$$f_{YG_2} = -\frac{4i}{27}\sqrt{\frac{10}{3}}(N^0 - T^{\hat{1}})$$

- 5. Some phenomenological implications
- Two mutualy hidden brane sectors which comunicate via RR photons



Massless:

$$U(1)_{Y_k} \sim 2U(1)_{a_k} - 2U(1)_{b_k} + U(1)_{\text{RR}}, \quad k = 1, 2$$

Massive:

$$U(1)_{G_k} \sim U(1)_{a_k} + U(1)_{b_k}$$
$$U(1)_{G_3} \sim U(1)_{a_1} - U(1)_{b_1} + U(1)_{a_2} - U(1)_{b_2} - 4U(1)_{\text{RR}}$$
$$f_{Y_1Y_2} = -\frac{i}{80} (8T^{\hat{1}} - 9f_1 - 9f_2)$$

RR U(1)'s may also lead to new scenarios in the context of GUT models:

• Similar results for type IIB orientifolds with magnetized D7-branes (or their F-theory extension). RR photons arise from reduction of the RR 4-form on $H_3^+(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{Z})$

• Let us consider SU(5) GUT models

[Beasley, Heckman, Vafa '08] [Donagi, Wijnholt '08]



SU(5) 7-brane wraping 4-cycle S, matter

fields localized at intersections...

Hypercharge flux breaking

$$SU(5) \rightarrow SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$$

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^{1,3}\times S} C_4 \wedge F_Y \wedge \overline{F}_Y \to \int_{\mathbb{R}^{1,3}} C_2^Y \wedge F_Y$$

$$C_2^Y \ \equiv \int_S C_4 \wedge \overline{F}_Y \ = \ \int_{\rho^Y} C_4$$

- 2-cycle ρ^{Y} trivial in the CY₃ in order U(1)_Y to remain massless.
- Thresholds (F⁴) lead to wrong ordering of fine structure constants at M_s: [Blumenhagen '08]

$$\frac{1}{\alpha_3} < \frac{1}{\alpha_1} < \frac{1}{\alpha_2}$$

The above condition can be relaxed. We can take ho^Y to be trivial in $H_2^+(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{R})$ but still non trivial in $H_2^+(\mathcal{M}_6,\mathbb{Z})$

I.e, ρ^{Y} can be a torsional 2-cycle of the CY₃.

Mixing of the "hypercharge" with a $U(1)_{RR}$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{2} \left(\operatorname{Re}(dT) + k_{\operatorname{RR}}A_{\operatorname{RR}} + \frac{5k_Y}{3}A_Y \right)^2$$



Mass eigenstates:

The inverse fine structure constant of the massless U(1) is

$$\frac{1}{\alpha_1} = \frac{3}{5\alpha_{SU(5)}} + \frac{k_Y^2}{k_{\rm RR}^2 \alpha_{\rm RR}}$$

Could explain the known few percent discrepancy in MSSM gauge coupling unification. Similar to [Tatar, Watari '08]



6. The unified M-theory picture

M-theory provides a unifying picture for D-brane and RR U(1) gauge symmetries.

We consider M-theory on a G_2 manifold $\hat{\mathcal{M}}_7$ admitting at least one perturbative IIA CY₃ orientifold limit

$$\hat{\mathcal{M}}_7 \rightarrow (\mathcal{M}_6 \times S^1) / \hat{\sigma} \qquad \hat{\sigma} = (\sigma, -1)$$

 b_2 massless U(1)'s and b_3 massless complex scalars:

$$A_3 = \operatorname{Re}(M^I)\phi_I + A^{\alpha} \wedge \omega_{\alpha} \qquad \Phi_3 = \operatorname{Im}(M^I)\phi_I \qquad \begin{array}{l} I = 1, \dots, b_3(\hat{\mathcal{M}}_7) \\ \alpha = 1, \dots, b_2(\hat{\mathcal{M}}_7) \end{array}$$

In the IIA perturbative limit they become the massless D6-brane and RR U(1)'s and the massless closed and open string moduli.

If $\hat{\mathcal{M}}_7$ admits several IIA perturbative limits, open / closed string dualities may exchange D6-brane and RR U(1)'s.

6. The unified M-theory picture

Gauge kinetic function described geometrically by the triple intersection numbers of $\hat{\mathcal{M}}_7$

$$f_{\alpha\beta} = M^I \int_{\hat{\mathcal{M}}_7} \phi_I \wedge \omega_\alpha \wedge \omega_\beta$$

Massive U(1) gauge symmetries spontaneoulsy broken to discrete gauge symmetries arise from Tor $H_2(\hat{\mathcal{M}}_7,\mathbb{Z}) \simeq \text{Tor } H_4(\hat{\mathcal{M}}_7,\mathbb{Z})$

M2-branes wrapping torsional 2-cycles Ad Aharanov-Bohm particles

M5-branes wrapping torsional 4-cycles Ad Aharanov-Bohm strings

$$\hat{k}_{\alpha}{}^{\beta}\phi_{\beta}^{\text{tor}} = d\omega_{\alpha}^{\text{tor}} \qquad dA_3 = \left(\operatorname{Re}(dM^{\alpha}) + \hat{k}^{\alpha}{}_{\beta}A^{\beta}\right) \wedge \phi_{\alpha}^{\text{tor}} + dA^{\beta} \wedge \omega_{\beta}^{\text{tor}}$$

In the IIA perturbative limit they become the massive D6-brane and RR U(1)'s.

Thus, in a general compactification massless U(1)'s and discrete gauge symmetries are both classified by $H_2(\hat{M}_7, \mathbb{Z})$

7. Concluding remarks

• We have considered the interplay between open and closed string U(1) gauge symmetries.

• RR U(1)'s can play a prominent role. Mixing with the hypercharge can occur either via direct kinetic mixing or via the mass terms induced by Stückelberg couplings. Interesting phenomenological implications.

• We have provided a geometric description of mass mixing in terms of the torsional homology of the CY, and developped the right tools to compute the mixing parameters in specific models.

• As a byproduct, we have provided a stringy realization of discrete gauge symmetries and 4d A-B strings and particles in terms of the torsional homology. In particular Tor $H_2(\hat{\mathcal{M}}_7,\mathbb{Z})$ should contain the MSSM discrete symmetries of any semi-realistic model.