

# Flux compactifications

## and their application(s)

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**based on:** several works with W. Buchmuller, F. Ruehle, and J. Schweizer and  
**1611.03798** (JHEP) with W. Buchmuller, E. Dudas and J. Schweizer  
**1804.07497** (JHEP) with W. Buchmuller and E. Dudas



# Outlook

- **Compactifications**

- Kaluza-Klein (KK) tower of effective fields
- Lorentz structure of fields
- Problems for compactifications

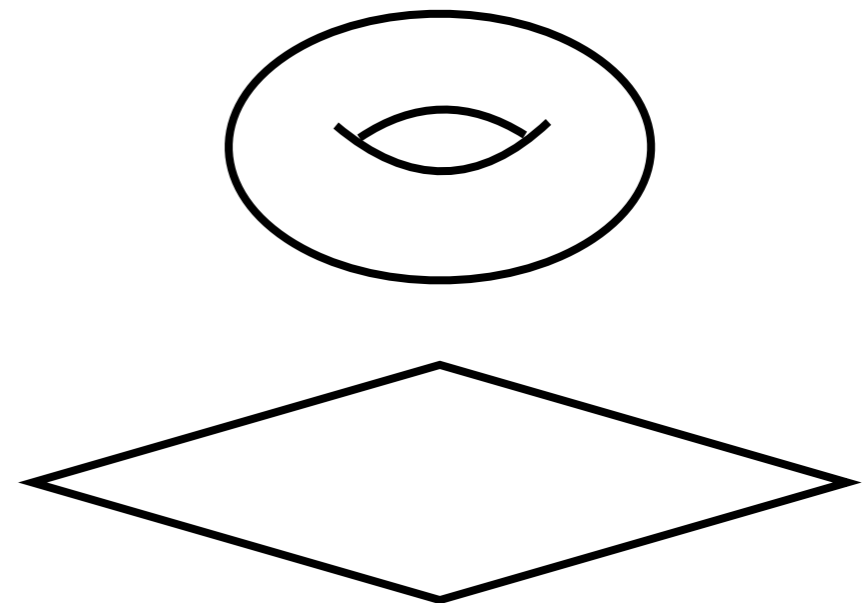
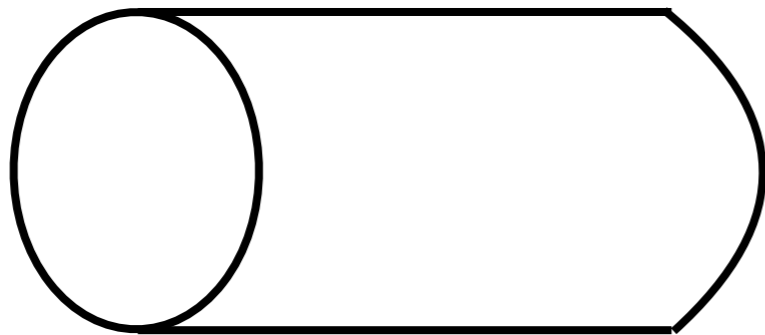
- **Magnetic flux**

- Vector field background
- Effect on charged states
- Application for GUTs

- **Massless scalar field**
  - Review: **Hierarchy problem** for scalar fields
  - **5d example** with **finite corrections**
  - **6d with flux** leads to **vanishing corrections**
    - **Explicitly** for **1-loop**
    - **Symmetry arguments** for **all-loop**
- **Conclusion (Summary and Outlook)**

# Compactification

- Start with **higher-dimensional** quantum field theory
- In order to account for our visible dimensions keep **four non-compact dimensions**
- The remaining dimensions should be “invisible” at our energies and have to be **compact** (here: circle or torus)



# KK-tower in circle compactification

Assume a **complex scalar field in 5d** compactified on a circle:

$$\varphi(x_\mu, y + 2\pi L) = \varphi(x_\mu, y)$$

Can be decomposed into **Fourier modes**

$$\varphi(x_\mu, y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi L}} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{in\frac{y}{L}} \varphi_n(x_\mu)$$

with mode functions only depending on non-compact coordinates

**What does this imply in lower-dimensional effective theory?**

The 4d action is obtained by **integrating over internal space**:

$$\begin{aligned}
 S &= \int d^4x \, dy \left( \partial_\mu \bar{\varphi} \partial^\mu \varphi - \partial_y \bar{\varphi} \partial_y \varphi \right) \\
 &= \int d^4x \int_0^{2\pi L} dy \sum_{n,m} \frac{1}{2\pi L} e^{i(n-m)\frac{y}{L}} \left( \partial_\mu \bar{\varphi}_m \partial^\mu \varphi_n - \frac{nm}{L^2} \bar{\varphi}_m \varphi_n \right) \\
 &= \int d^4x \sum_n \left( \partial_\mu \bar{\varphi}_n \partial^\mu \varphi_n - \frac{n^2}{L^2} \bar{\varphi}_n \varphi_n \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

- **Infinite number** of 4d fields
- Most of the fields are **massive** of the **order of the compactification scale**
- The collection of fields is called **Kaluza-Klein tower**

# Lorentz structure in compactification

- **All type of fields** have similar **Kaluza-Klein** expansion
- The **Lorentz character** can be **affected by compactification**

Consider **5d theory on circle**:

$$\text{Scalar: } \varphi \rightarrow \varphi_n$$

$$\text{Vector: } A_M \rightarrow (A_\mu)_n, (A_y)_n$$

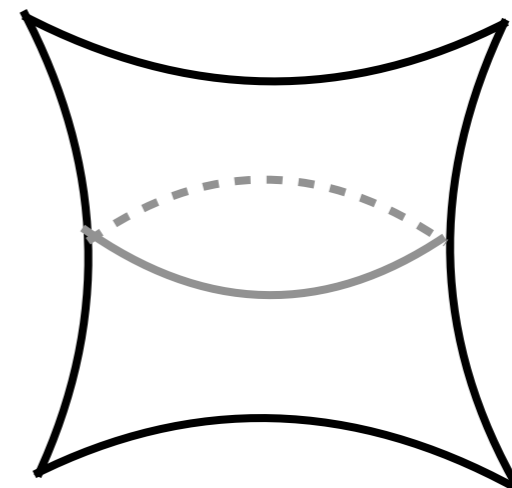
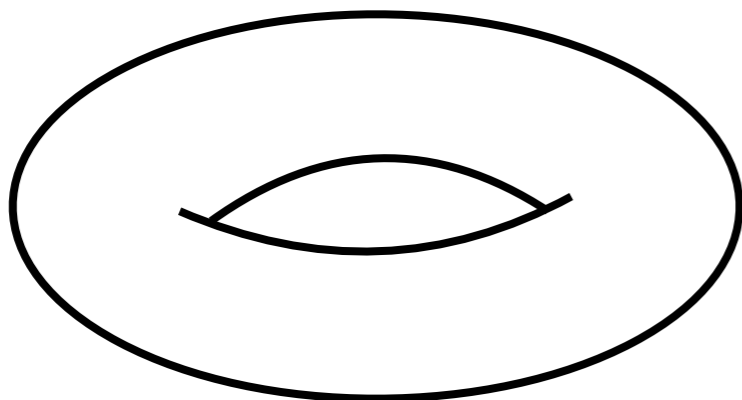
$$\text{Metric: } g_{MN} \rightarrow (g_{\mu\nu})_n, (g_{5\mu})_n, (g_{55})_n$$

[Kaluza '21, Klein '26]

$$\text{Fermion : } \Psi \rightarrow (\psi_L)_n, (\psi_R)_n$$

# Other internal spaces

- **Many properties** of the lower dimensional action depend on the **geometry of the internal space**
- **Torus:** Two circles lead in general to two KK-towers
- **Orbifold:** “Folding” of a smooth space
- **Calabi-Yau compactifications:** Used in string theory (becomes complicated and mathematical fast)





# Challenges

- In presence of **gravity** the **geometry** becomes **dynamical** (the internal space has to satisfy Einstein equations, one has to find minima for geometrical parameters with large enough masses) → **Moduli stabilization**
- **Fermions not chiral** (higher-dimensional give rise to both four-dimensional chiralities)
- Hard to generate **hierarchies** in interactions (fields are spread in internal space, lower-dimensional interactions are determined by overlap)

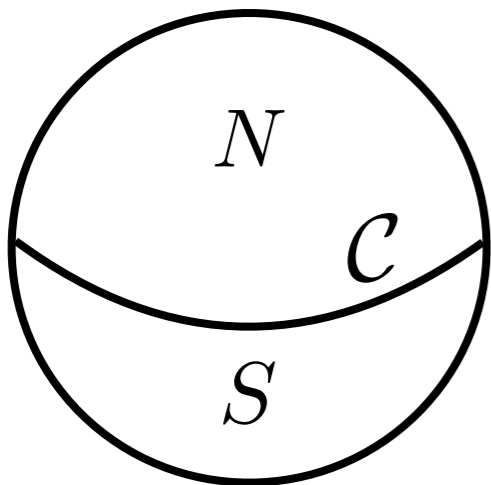
# Magnetic Flux

- **Magnetic field in higher dimensions:**

$$F_{MN} = \partial_M A_N - \partial_N A_M$$

$$\text{electric : } F_{0i}, \quad \text{magnetic : } F_{ij}$$

- **Internal magnetic field: at least two extra dimensions**
- **In compact space the magnetic flux is quantized**



$$e^{i \int_N F} = e^{i \oint_C A} = e^{-i \int_S F}$$

$$e^{i \int_{S+N} F} = 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \int_{S^2} F = 2\pi N \quad \text{with } N \in \mathbb{Z}$$

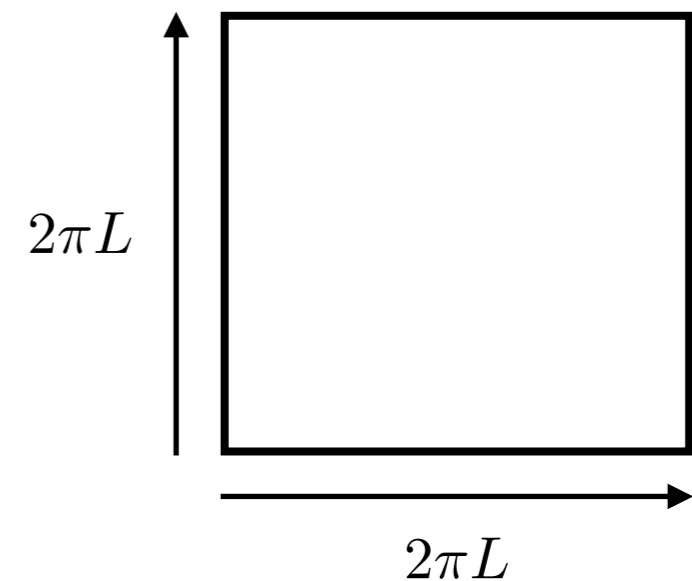
# Magnetic flux on torus

We want a **constant magnetic field in torus directions**:

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{T^2} F = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{T^2} dy_5 dy_6 F_{56} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \text{Area}(T^2) f$$

For a **square torus**:

$$f = \frac{N}{2\pi L^2}$$



Possible choice:

$$A_5 = -\frac{1}{2} f x_6, \quad A_6 = \frac{1}{2} f x_5$$

Needs **patches and transition functions!**

[Buchmuller, MD, Tatsuta '18]

# Wilson lines

There can be **fluctuations around the flux background**:

$$A_m = \langle A_m \rangle + a_m$$

One important fluctuation is the **lowest KK-mode**:

$$a_5(x_\mu), \quad a_6(x_\mu)$$

Does not depend on internal direction  $\longrightarrow$  **tree-level massless**

Can be combined into a **complex scalar field** in 4d:

$$\varphi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(a_6 + ia_5)$$

so-called **Wilson line**

# Effect on charged fields

- **Magnetic field has effect on charged fields**
  - Modifies KK-tower to **Landau levels**
  - **Splits masses chirality sensitive**
  - **Localizes field profile in internal space**

In the following we study a **complex scalar field of charge  $q$** :

$$\partial_m Q \rightarrow D_M Q = (\partial_m + iqA_M)Q$$

# Landau levels

**Effective 4d masses from internal part of kinetic term**

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{6d} &\supset -\bar{D}_5 \bar{Q} D_5 Q - \bar{D}_6 \bar{Q} D_6 Q \\ &= \bar{Q} (D_5^2 + D_6^2) Q\end{aligned}$$

**Analyse the algebra of covariant derivatives in flux background:**

$$[D_5, D_6] = iq\partial_5 A_6 - iq\partial_6 A_5 = iqF_{56} = iqf$$

**Identical to harmonic oscillator algebra with:**

$$D_5 \sim \hat{x} = x,$$

$$D_6 \sim \hat{p} = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x},$$

$$\hbar \sim qf$$

Proceed as for **quantum harmonic oscillator** by introducing **ladder operators**:

$$a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2qf}}(D_5 + iD_6), \quad a^\dagger = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2qf}}(D_5 - iD_6)$$

They satisfy:

$$[a, a^\dagger] = -\frac{i}{qf}[D_5, D_6] = 1$$

Rewrite the **internal part of the kinetic term as**:

$$D_5^2 + D_6^2 = qf(aa^\dagger + a^\dagger a) = 2qf\left(a^\dagger a + \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

Leads to **oscillator mass spectrum in 4d**.

A **complex scalar of charge  $q$**  in **6d** with **flux** leads to:

- **Infinite tower of states** parameterized by “**Landau level**”  $n$ , and **multiplicity  $j$**
- **Masses depend only on  $n$**  not on  $j$  (going from 1 to  $|N|$ )
- **Masses** again depend **on compactification scale**

$$m_n^2 = 2qf \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{N}{\pi L^2} \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

**Lowest mass state in 4d:**

$$m_0^2 = \frac{N}{2\pi L^2}$$



# Fermions with flux

Fermions more complicated due to **non-trivial Lorentz structure**:

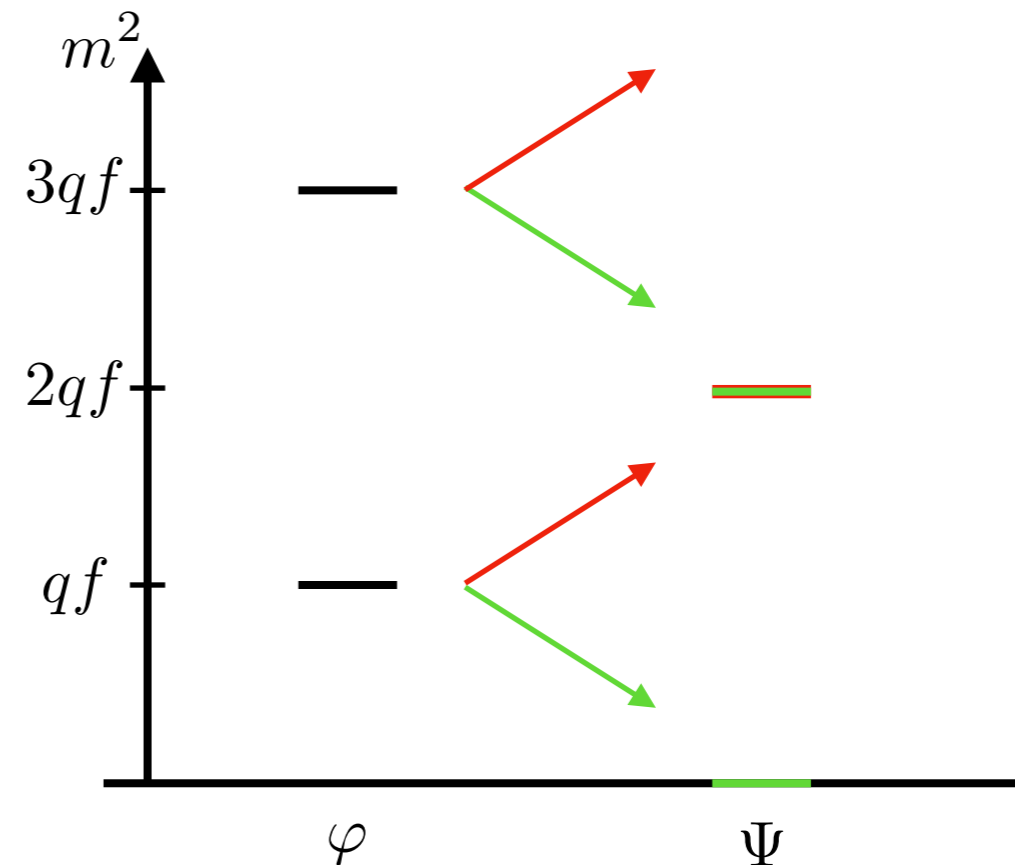
$$\mathcal{L}_{6d} = i \bar{\Psi} \Gamma^M D_M \Psi$$

Analyze structure of squared internal Dirac operator

$$M_n^2 = m_n^2 + qf \Gamma^5 \Gamma^6$$

Depends on internal helicity!

**Chiral 4d zero modes**  
**(Index theorem)**  
[Atiyah, Patodi, Singer]



# Internal field profiles

see e.g. [Cremades, Ibanez, Marchesano '04]

Push oscillator analogy even further:

$$a \xi_0 = 0$$

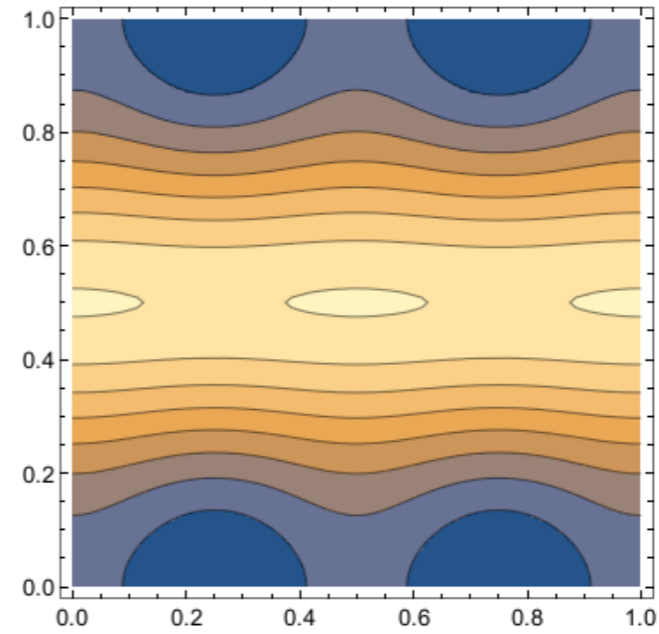
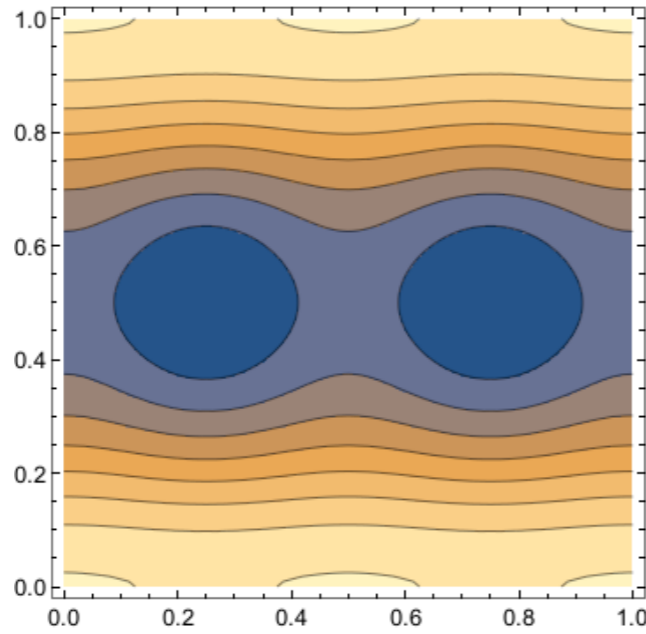
**“Groundstate annihilated by annihilation operator”**

- One finds **N linearly independent field profiles** (degeneracy index j)
- The **same for bosons and fermions**
- **Higher modes** from application of **creation operator**

# Localized in internal space

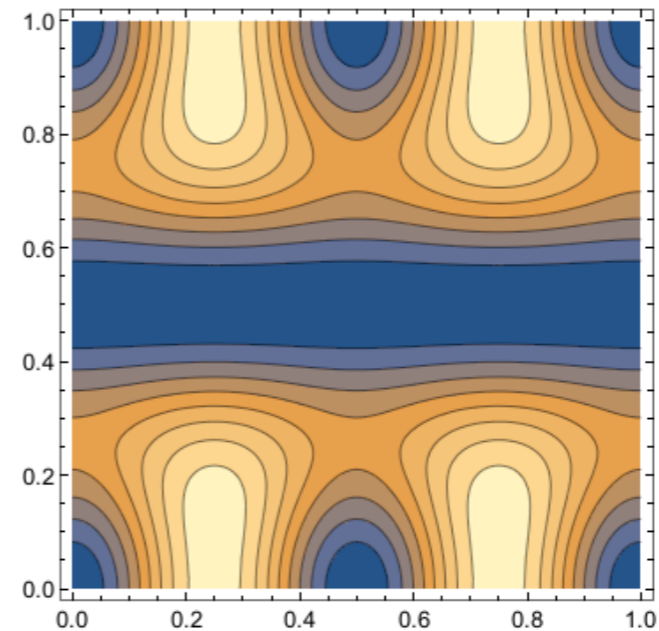
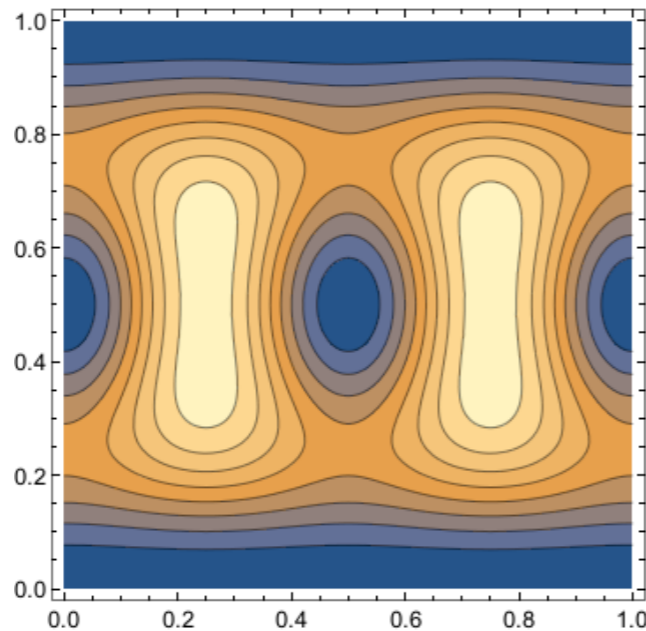
(opens up possibilities for hierarchies in overlap integrals):

$$|\xi_{0,j}|^2$$



**Groundstates for N=2**

$$|\xi_{1,j}|^2$$



**First excited level for N=2**

# Application $SO(10)$ GUT

[Asaka, Buchmuller, Covi '01][Buchmuller, MD, Ruehle, Schweizer '15]

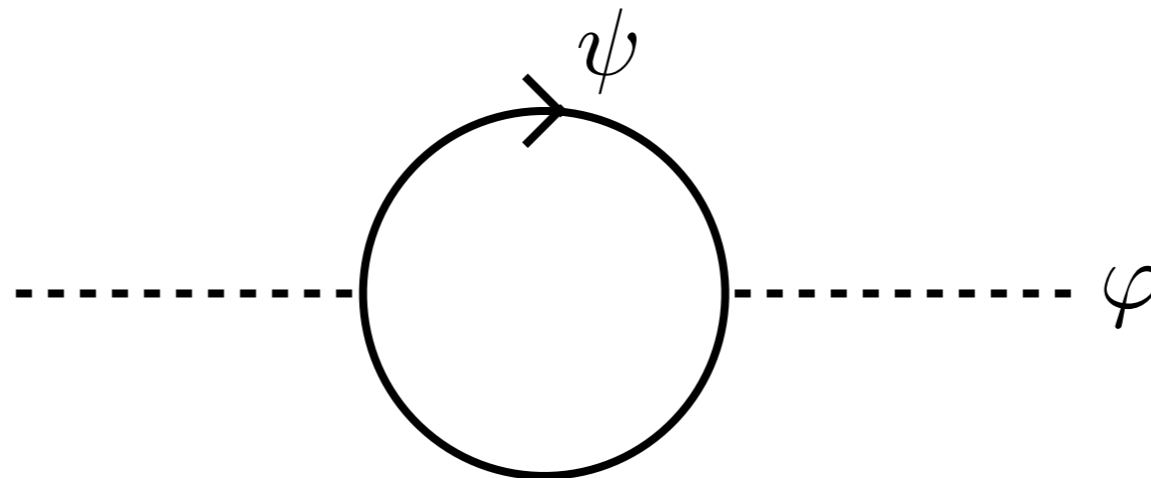
- **Minimal supersymmetric** model in **6d**
- **Gauge group:  $SO(10) \times U(1)$**
- **Compactification on orbifold**
- Wilson line breaking to  **$SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1) \times U(1) \times U(1)$**
- **Three flux quanta** in additional  $U(1)$  (SUSY broken at compactification scale)
- **charged 16-plet** leads to **chiral fermion zero-modes** and **three generations** (separated in bulk)
- **Uncharged 10-plet** only leaves **Higgs doublet as zero-mode**

# Summary

- **Flux enhances possibilities for model building**
  - **Fermion zero-modes** (scalars lifted)
  - **Bulk localization** (split of different components)
  - **Multiplicity** (number of generations)
- **Flux breaks supersymmetry**
- Can be used to **stabilize extra dimensions** [Buchmuller, MD, Ruehle, Schweizer '16]
- **Interesting pattern of quantum corrections**

# Mass of scalar fields

- The **bare mass** of a scalar field is subject to **quantum corrections**
- In a theory where the **scalar couples to fermions via Yukawa** interaction  $y\bar{\psi}\varphi\psi$  corrections are induced by



- The induced quantum correction is:

$$\delta m^2 \propto -y^2 \int \frac{d^4 k}{k^2} \propto -y^2 \int_0^\Lambda dk k \propto \Lambda^2$$

- From **experiment** the quantum corrections to the Higgs mass should be

$$\delta m^2 \propto \Lambda^2 \quad \text{with} \quad \Lambda = \mathcal{O}(\text{TeV})$$

- From **consistency** the quantum corrections to the Higgs mass can be

$$\delta m^2 \propto \Lambda^2 \quad \text{with} \quad \Lambda = M_P \sim 10^{19} \text{GeV}$$

- But **measured Higgs mass** is about **125 GeV**

## **The so-called Hierarchy Problem**

(exists for scalar fields with small masses in general)

# Theories with extra dimensions

- **Infinite number of fields**
- In principle **all contribute to the mass correction**

**Compactification on circle:**

$$\mathcal{L}_{5d} \supset y\phi\bar{\Psi}\Psi \rightarrow \sum_n y\phi_0\bar{\psi}_n\psi_n$$

**Each contributes quadratically with cut-off.**

- **Add supersymmetry** (still some hierarchy necessary)
- Find **different way out**



# Wilson line as Higgs

We have seen that the **Lorentz type of field changes under compactifications.**

## Yukawa interaction from gauge fields

[Hosotani '83], [Hatanaka, Inami, Lim '98], [Hall, Nomura '01], [Arkani-Hamed, Cohen, Georgi '01] [Antoniadis, Benakli, Quiros '01], ...

Schematically (again for circle compactification):

$$\mathcal{L}_{5d} \supset i \bar{\Psi} \Gamma^M D_M \Psi \supset -q \sum_n a_5 \bar{\psi}_n \psi_n$$

**Wilson line as Higgs scalar with Yukawa interaction**  
(for complex Higgs go to torus)

# Without flux

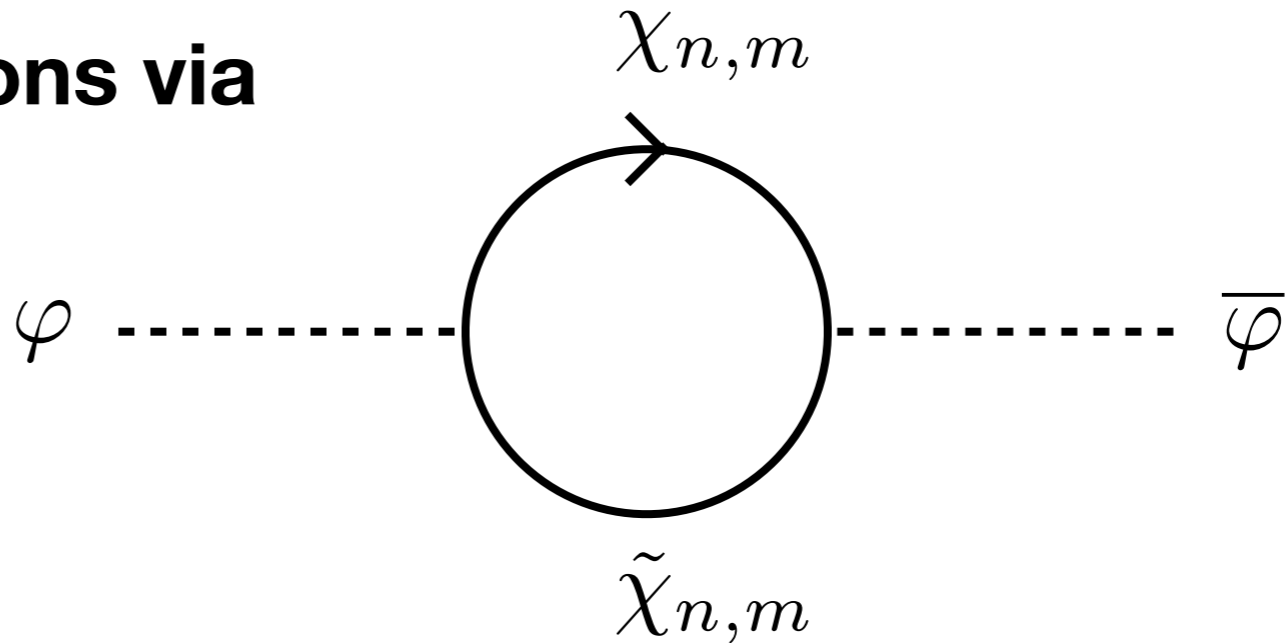
- Calculate **effective action** in four dimensions [Antoniadis, Benakli, Quiros '01], [Buchmuller, MD, Dudas, Schweizer '16]

- Calculate **quantum corrections** or **effective potential**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{4d} \subset & -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - \partial_\mu \bar{\varphi} \partial^\mu \varphi \\ & \sum_{m,n} \left( -i \chi_{n,m} \sigma^\mu D_\mu \bar{\chi}_{n,m} - i \tilde{\chi}_{n,m} \sigma^\mu D_\mu \bar{\tilde{\chi}}_{n,m} \right. \\ & \left. + \left( \frac{1}{L} (m + in) + \sqrt{2} g q \varphi \right) \tilde{\chi}_{n,m} \chi_{n,m} + \text{h.c.} \right) \end{aligned}$$

- Only **zero-mode** for **6d gauge field**
- **Full tower of charged fermions** (use orthonormality of internal field profiles)

- **Quantum corrections via**



$$\begin{aligned}
 \delta m^2 &= -4g^2 q^2 \sum_{n,m} \int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{k^2}{\left(k^2 + \frac{1}{L^2}(m^2 + n^2)\right)^2} \\
 &= -4g^2 q^2 \sum_{n,m} \int_0^\infty dt t e^{-\frac{1}{L}(n^2 + m^2)t} \int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} k^2 e^{k^2 t} \\
 &= -\frac{g^2 q^2}{2\pi^2} \int_0^\infty \frac{dt}{t^2} \Theta_3\left(0; \frac{it}{\pi L^2}\right)^2 = -\frac{g^2 q^2}{2\pi^5 L^2} \sum_{r,s} \frac{1}{(r^2 + s^2)^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

- **All divergence in  $r=s=0$**  (can also be obtained via Poisson resummation), use this as renormalization prescription  $\longrightarrow$  Finite mass

- **Finite result** for the **Higgs mass**, i.e. **no cut-off dependence** (no SUSY)
- **Mass correction of the order of the compactifications scale** (for pheno: large extra dimensions needed)

### **How is this possible?**

- **Higgs** is “**extended object**” (Wilson line)
- **built in cut-off** of the size of object (compactification scale)

# With flux

- Do the same calculation **with flux** [Buchmuller, MD, Dudas, Schweizer '16] [Buchmuller, MD, Dudas '18]
- Combine internal coordinates to complex coordinate, introduce background for gauge field:

$$z = \frac{1}{2}(y_5 + iy_6), \quad \partial_z = \partial_5 - i\partial_6$$

$$\phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(A_6 + iA_5)$$

$$\phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}f\bar{z} + \varphi$$

- The **6d action** (flux and one chiral fermion) can be written as:

$$\begin{aligned}
S_6 = \int d^6x \left( & -\frac{1}{4} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} - \partial^\mu \bar{\varphi} \partial_\mu \varphi - \frac{1}{4} (\partial_z \bar{\varphi} + \partial_{\bar{z}} \varphi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} f^2 \right. \\
& - \frac{1}{2} \partial_{\bar{z}} A^\mu \partial_z A_\mu - \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \partial_\mu A^\mu (\partial_z \bar{\varphi} - \partial_{\bar{z}} \varphi) \\
& - i\psi \sigma^\mu \bar{D}_\mu \bar{\psi} - i\chi \sigma^\mu D_\mu \bar{\chi} \\
& \left. - \chi (\partial_z + qf\bar{z} + \sqrt{2}q\varphi) \psi - \bar{\chi} (\partial_{\bar{z}} + qfz + \sqrt{2}q\bar{\varphi}) \bar{\psi} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

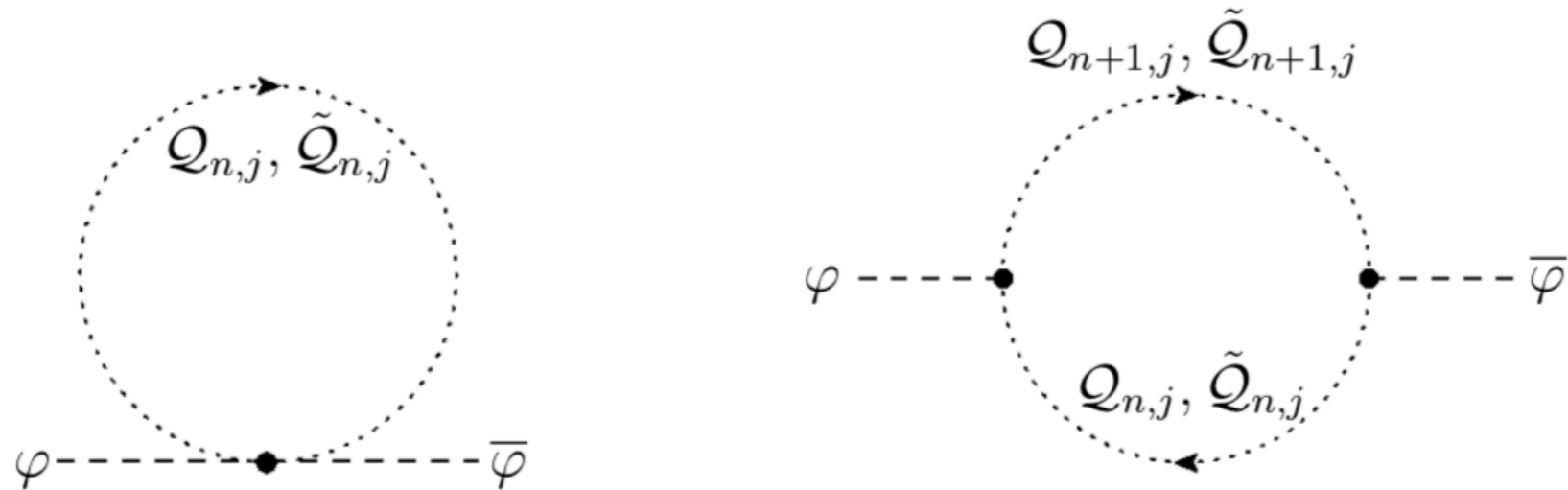
- Use **mode decomposition** and **restrict to zero-modes** for **uncharged fields**
- **Uncharged complex scalar field** coupling to the **whole tower of charged fermions**

- The **effective action** reads:

$$S_4 = \int d^4x \left( -\partial^\mu \bar{\varphi}_0 \partial_\mu \varphi_0 + \sum_{n,j} \left( -i\psi_{n,j} \sigma^\mu \bar{D}_\mu \bar{\psi}_{n,j} - i\chi_{n,j} \sigma^\mu D_\mu \bar{\chi}_{n,j} \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. - \sqrt{2qf(n+1)} \chi_{n,j} \psi_{n+1,j} - \sqrt{2q}\varphi_0 \chi_{n,j} \psi_{n,j} + \text{h.c.} \right) \right)$$

- Similar action can be derived for **charged 6d scalar fields**
- Even a description in terms of **superfields with spontaneously broken SUSY** (D-terms) can be derived **[Buchmuller, MD, Dudas, Schweizer '16]**
- **Tree-level massless scalar**
- Calculate **quantum corrections to mass and potential**

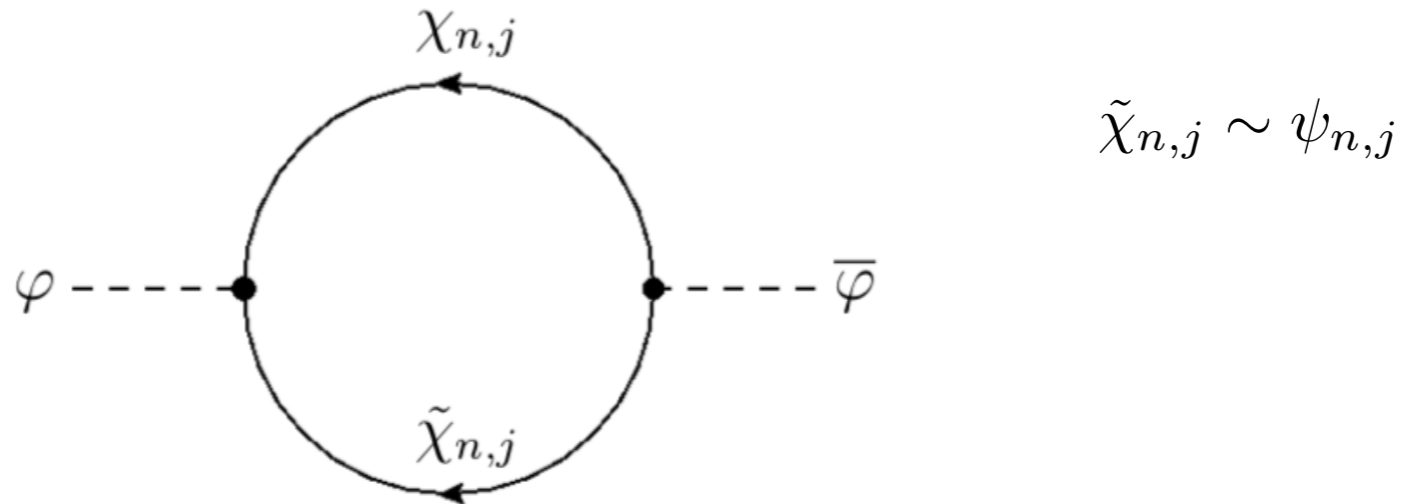
- **Mass-correction from charged boson**



$$\begin{aligned}
 \delta m_b^2 &= 2q^2 g^2 |N| \sum_n \int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} \left( \frac{2}{k^2 + \alpha(n + \frac{1}{2})} - \frac{2\alpha(n + 1)}{(k^2 + \alpha(n + \frac{3}{2}))(k^2 + \alpha(n + \frac{1}{2}))} \right) \\
 &= -4q^2 g^2 |N| \sum_n \int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} \left( \frac{n}{k^2 + \alpha(n + \frac{1}{2})} - \frac{n + 1}{k^2 + \alpha(n + \frac{3}{2})} \right) \\
 &= -\frac{q^2 g^2}{4\pi^2} |N| \sum_n \int_0^\infty dt \frac{1}{t^2} \left( n e^{-\alpha(n + \frac{1}{2})t} - (n + 1) e^{-\alpha(n + \frac{3}{2})t} \right) \\
 &= -\frac{q^2 g^2}{4\pi^2} |N| \int \frac{dt}{t^2} \left( \frac{e^{\frac{1}{2}\alpha t}}{(e^{\alpha t} - 1)^2} - \frac{e^{\frac{1}{2}\alpha t}}{(e^{\alpha t} - 1)^2} \right) \quad \alpha = 2qgf \\
 &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

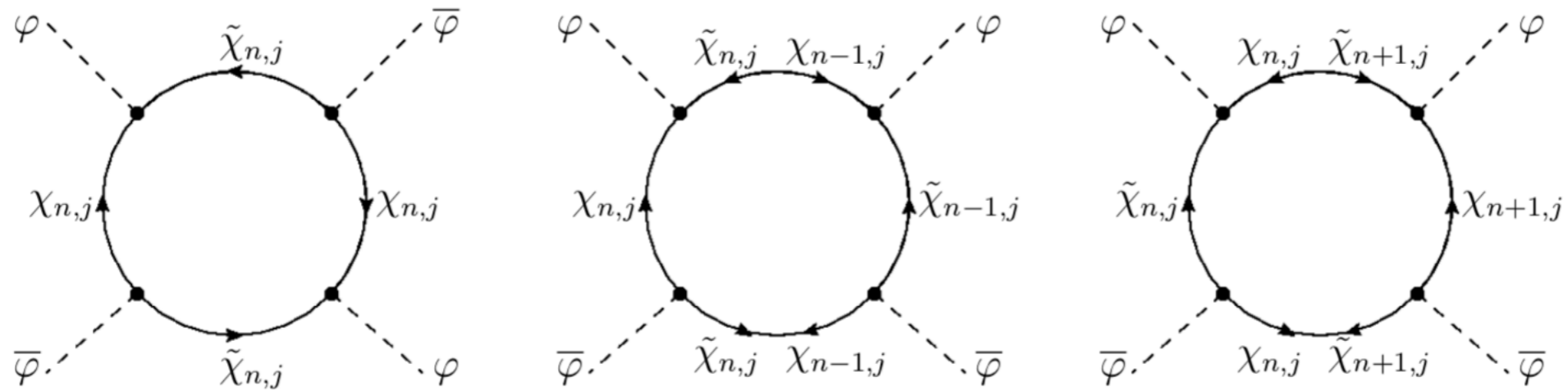


- **Mass-correction from charged fermion**

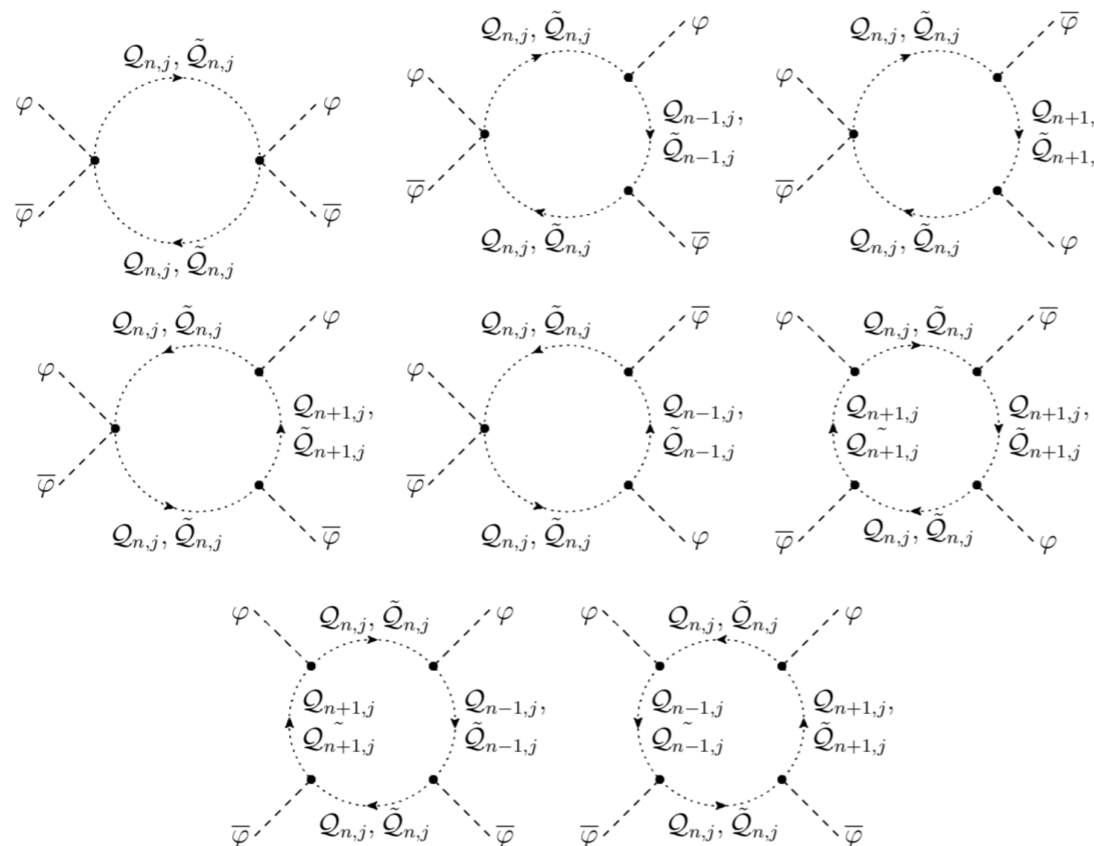


$$\begin{aligned}
 \delta m_f^2 &= -2q^2 g^2 |N| \sum_n \int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{2k^2}{(k^2 + \alpha n)(k^2 + \alpha(n+1))} \\
 &= 4q^2 g^2 |N| \sum_n \int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} \left( \frac{n}{k^2 + \alpha n} - \frac{n+1}{k^2 + \alpha(n+1)} \right) \\
 &= \frac{q^2 g^2}{4\pi^2} |N| \sum_n \int_0^\infty dt \frac{1}{t^2} (n e^{-\alpha n t} - (n+1) e^{-\alpha(n+1)t}) \\
 &= \frac{q^2 g^2}{4\pi^2} |N| \int \frac{dt}{t^2} \left( \frac{e^{\alpha t}}{(e^{\alpha t} - 1)^2} - \frac{e^{\alpha t}}{(e^{\alpha t} - 1)^2} \right) \\
 &= \mathbf{0}
 \end{aligned}$$

- **Correction to quartic interaction by fermions:**



- **Correction to quartic interaction by bosons:**



**ALL VANISH!**

# All order from symmetries

[Buchmuller, MD, Dudas '18]

- The **flux background breaks the translational symmetry** along the torus directions  $z$
- **6d action invariant** with respect to **modified shift** (including shift of Wilson line)

$$\delta_T X = (\epsilon \partial_z + \bar{\epsilon} \partial_{\bar{z}}) X, \quad \text{for } X = A_\mu, \psi, \chi$$

$$\delta_T \varphi = (\epsilon \partial_z + \bar{\epsilon} \partial_{\bar{z}}) \varphi + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{\epsilon} f$$

- **6d action invariant** with respect to **transformation** (changes boundary conditions for fermions)

$$\varphi_\Lambda = \varphi - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \partial_z \Lambda, \quad \psi_\Lambda = e^{q\Lambda} \psi, \quad \chi_\Lambda = e^{-q\Lambda} \chi, \quad \Lambda = f(\alpha \bar{z} - \bar{\alpha} z)$$

- **For infinitesimal transformation**

$$\delta_{\Lambda}\varphi = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\partial_z\Lambda = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\bar{\alpha}f, \quad \delta_{\Lambda}\psi = q\Lambda\psi, \quad \delta_{\Lambda}\chi = -q\Lambda\chi$$

- **Combine the two transformations**

$$\delta = \delta_T + \delta_{\Lambda, \alpha=\epsilon}$$

- **Acts as shift of Wilson line** (symmetry of 6d action)

**How does the symmetry act  
in terms of 4d fields?**  
(relevant for perturbative corrections)

- **Action on 4d component fields**

$$\delta\psi_{n,j} = \sqrt{2qf}(\epsilon\sqrt{n+1}\psi_{n+1,j} - \bar{\epsilon}\sqrt{n}\psi_{n-1,j}),$$

$$\delta\chi_{n,j} = \sqrt{2qf}(-\epsilon\sqrt{n}\chi_{n-1,j} + \bar{\epsilon}\sqrt{n+1}\chi_{n+1,j}),$$

$$\delta\varphi_{l,m} = (\epsilon M_{l,m} - \bar{\epsilon}\bar{M}_{l,m})\varphi_{l,m}, \quad M_{l,m} = \frac{1}{L}(m + il),$$

$$\delta A_{\mu,l,m} = (\epsilon M_{l,m} - \bar{\epsilon}\bar{M}_{l,m})A_{\mu,l,m},$$

$$\delta\varphi_0 = \sqrt{2}\bar{\epsilon}f$$

- **Invariance guarantees no mass-correction and potential for massless scalar at perturbative level**
- **Transformation mixes the complete tower**
- **Descends from higher dimensions**

# Summary

- **Many applications of flux compactifications** (SUSY breaking, moduli stabilization, hierarchies via localization of field profiles, multiplicity of generations, chirality)
- **Completely changes charged particle spectrum**
- **Still has mild behavior with respect to quantum corrections**
- **Leads to massless scalar** (“broken translational invariance”, mixing of whole tower, all-loop order)
- **Explicit form of (effective) action, transformations,...**

# Outlook

- **Some problems:**
  - Scalar field only **couple**s to **one zero-mode**
  - **Eaten up by graviphoton** (gravity switched on)
  - **Scalar field is uncharged**
- **Some solutions (?):**
  - **More than one flux** (several gauge fields, more dimensions)  $\rightarrow$  accidental shift symmetries, protection at 1-loop level
  - **Flux in non-Abelian** (tachyonic, stabilization)