

# Fricke S-duality and BPS-state counting

Daniel Persson

*Chalmers University of Technology*

*“New Moonshines, Mock Modular Forms and String Theory”*

*LMS - EPSRC Durham Symposium,*

*August 11, 2015*

Talk based on:

[\[arXiv:1504.07260\]](#) (w/ R. Volpato)

[\[arXiv:1312.0622\]](#) (w/ R. Volpato)

[\[arXiv:1302.5425\]](#) (w/ M. Gaberdiel, & R. Volpato)

[\[arXiv:1211.7074\]](#) (w/ M. Gaberdiel, H. Ronellenfitsch, R. Volpato)

**Moonshine conjecture** (Conway-Norton): The McKay-Thompson series are **modular-invariant** under some **genus zero**  $\Gamma_g \subset SL(2, \mathbb{R})$

$\Gamma_g$  **genus zero**



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$$N = \mathcal{O}(g)$$

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This is a big remaining mystery of monstrous moonshine!

Is there any situation in string theory where we have discrete “**S-duality symmetries**”

$$\Gamma \subset SL(2, \mathbb{R})$$

but which lie *outside* of  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ ?

In our earlier work we defined a class of functions on the Siegel upper half plane:

$$\Phi_{g,h} : \mathbb{H}^{(2)} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

for each commuting pair  $g, h \in M_{24}$   $\Phi_{g,h}$



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**Theorem (D.P.-Volpato):**

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What is the physical interpretation of these Siegel modular forms?

For  $(g, h) = (1, 1)$  we obtain

$$q = e^{2\pi i\tau}, y = e^{2\pi iz}$$

$$\Phi_{1,1} = \Phi_{10} = pqy \prod_{(m,n,\ell) > 0} (1 - p^m q^n y^\ell)^{c(m,n,\ell)}$$

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$$\chi(K3; \tau, z) = \sum_{n \geq 0, \ell \in \mathbb{Z}} c(n, \ell) q^n y^\ell$$

**K3 elliptic genus**

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The 'Igusa cusp form'  $\Phi_{10}$  is the generating function of 1/4 BPS-states in N=4 string theory: [\[Dijkgraaf, Verlinde, Verlinde\]](#)[\[Shih, Strominger, Yin\]](#)

$$\frac{1}{\Phi_{10}} = \sum_{Q^2/2, P^2/2, P \cdot Q \in \mathbb{Z}} B_6(P, Q) p^{Q^2/2} q^{P^2/2} y^{P \cdot Q}$$

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electric-magnetic charges

$$(Q, P) \in \Gamma^{6,22} \oplus \Gamma^{6,22}$$

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where the coefficients encode the **sixth helicity supertrace**: [\[Kiritsis\]](#)

$$B_6(P, Q) := \frac{1}{6!} \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_{P,Q}} \left( (-1)^J (2J)^6 \right) \quad J = \text{helicity}$$

**Conjecture (Cheng, Govindarajan, DP-Volpato):**

*The Siegel modular forms  $\Phi_{g,h}$  count 'twisted dyons' in  $N=4$  orbifolds by the symmetry  $g$  (CHL-models)*



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The curious modular property

$$N = \mathcal{O}(g)$$

$$\Phi_{g,h}(\sigma, \tau, z) = \Phi_{g,h'}(\tau/N, N\sigma, z)$$

then suggests a new 'electric-magnetic duality' in CHL-models:

$$\begin{pmatrix} Q \\ P \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}P \\ -\sqrt{N}Q \end{pmatrix}$$

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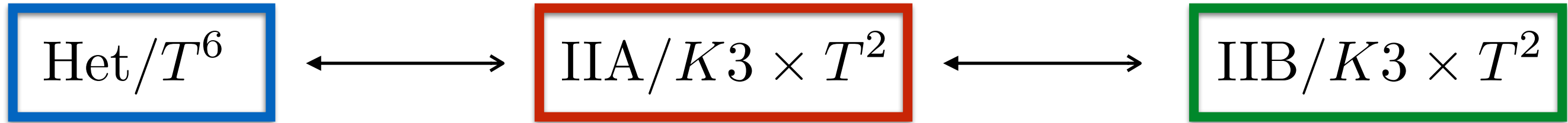
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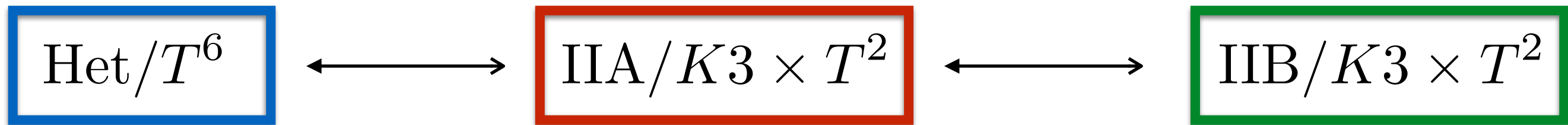
In this talk I will show that this is a consequence of a novel **Fricke S-duality** in CHL-models!

# **I. Fricke S-duality in CHL-models**

# $\mathcal{N} = 4$ string theory



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- Gauge group is generically  $U(1)^{28}$
- Electric-magnetic charges  $(P, Q) \in \Gamma = \Gamma^{6,22} \oplus \Gamma^{6,22}$
- Duality group  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \times O(6, 22; \mathbb{Z})$
- Moduli space

$$SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \backslash SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) / SO(2) \times O(6, 22; \mathbb{Z}) \backslash O(6, 22; \mathbb{R}) / (O(6) \times O(22))$$

# CHL-models

Consider  $\text{IIA}/K3 \times T^2$  and orbifold this theory by  $(g, \delta)$ :

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- $\delta$  a shift of order  $N$  along  $T^2$
- $g \in O(\Gamma^{4,20})$  a symmetry of the K3 non-linear sigma model:
  - which has order  $N$
  - preserves all spacetime supersymmetries
  - exists at generic points where the gauge group is  $U(1)^{28}$



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This construction yields a class of 4d  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  string theories

# Dualities of CHL-models

$$\text{Het} / \frac{T^4 \times T^2}{\langle (g, \delta) \rangle}$$

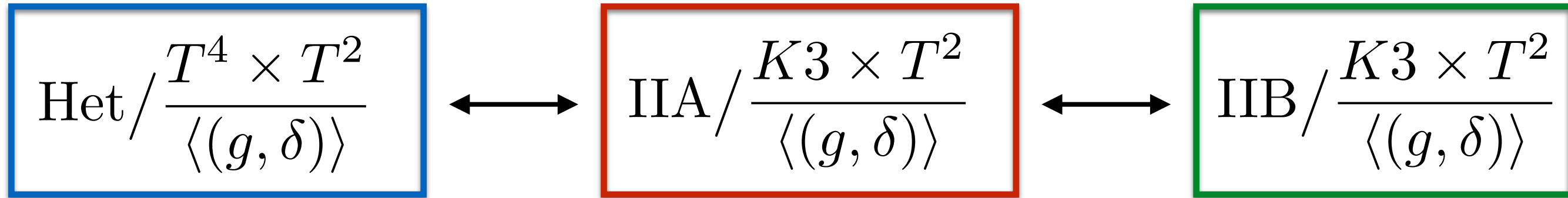


$$\text{IIA} / \frac{K3 \times T^2}{\langle (g, \delta) \rangle}$$



$$\text{IIB} / \frac{K3 \times T^2}{\langle (g, \delta) \rangle}$$

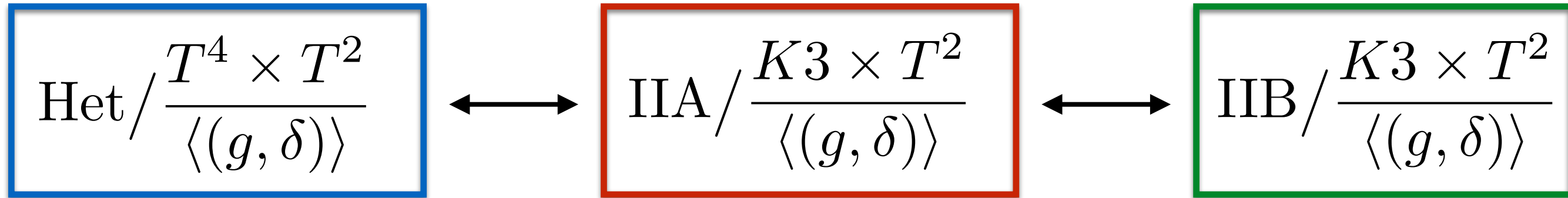
# Dualities of CHL-models



- At least 3 moduli in each sector:

**Heterotic:**  $S_{\text{het}}$   $T_{\text{het}}$   $U_{\text{het}}$

# Dualities of CHL-models



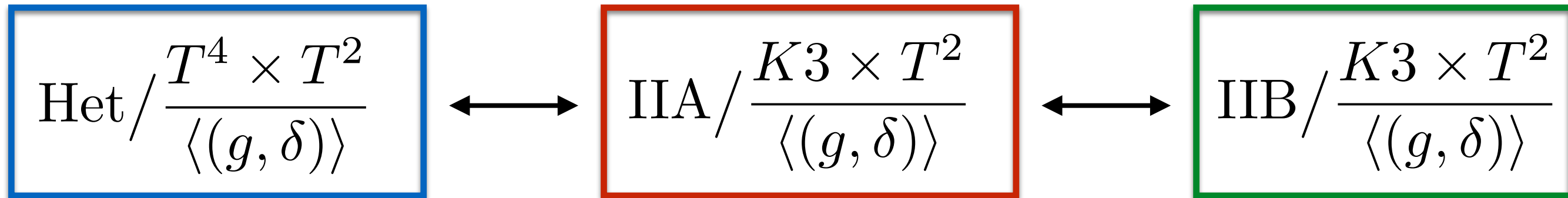
- At least 3 moduli in each sector:

**Heterotic:**  $S_{\text{het}}$   
 axio-dilaton  $\nearrow$

$T_{\text{het}}$   
 $\uparrow$   
 Kähler mod.  
 of  $T^2$

$U_{\text{het}}$   
 $\nwarrow$   
 Cplx. str. mod.  
 of  $T^2$

# Dualities of CHL-models

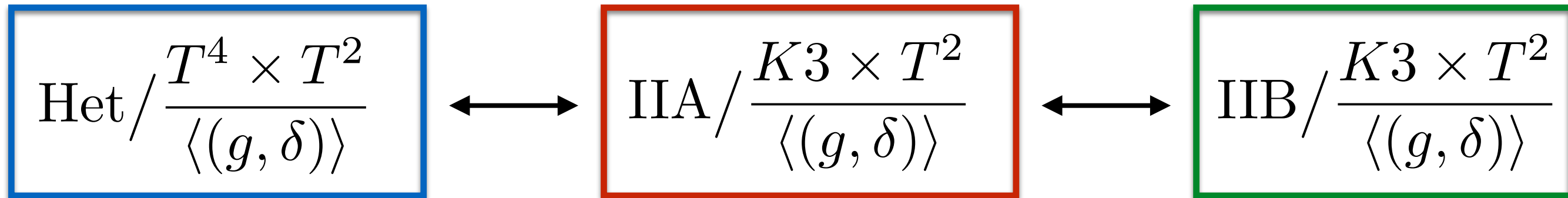


- At least 3 moduli in each sector:

**Heterotic:**  $S_{\text{het}}$   $T_{\text{het}}$   $U_{\text{het}}$

**IIA:**  $S_{\text{IIA}}$   $T_{\text{IIA}}$   $U_{\text{IIA}}$

# Dualities of CHL-models



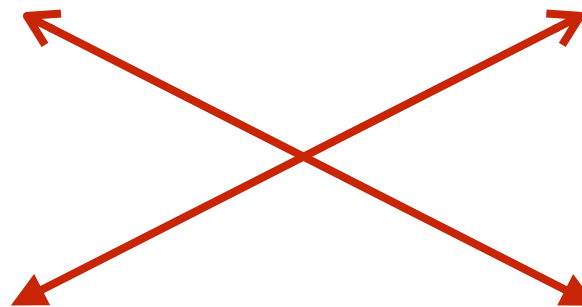
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*string-string duality*



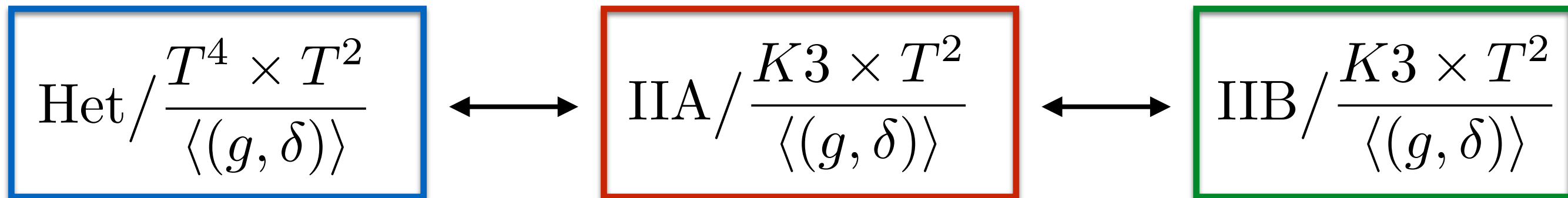
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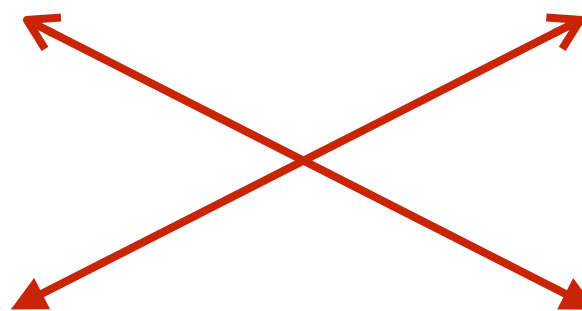
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**Heterotic:**

$S_{\text{het}}$

$T_{\text{het}}$

$U_{\text{het}}$



*string-string duality*



**IIA:**

$S_{\text{IIA}}$

$T_{\text{IIA}}$

$U_{\text{IIA}}$

- The **S-duality group**  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  is broken to

$$\Gamma_1(N) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \mid a \equiv 1 \pmod{N}, c \equiv 0 \pmod{N} \right\}$$

# Classification of CHL-models

All symmetries of K3 sigma models have been classified by [Gaberdiel, Hoheneegger, Volpato](#):

→ Each  $g \in O(\Gamma^{4,20})$  that preserves the sigma model corresponds to an element of the Conway group  $Co_0$



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This implies that inequivalent CHL-models are characterised by the eigenvalues of  $g$  in the defining 24-dimensional reps of  $Co_0$

**Frame shape:**  $g \leftrightarrow \prod_{a|N} a^{m(a)}$  where  $\sum_{a|N} am(a) = 24$

**Ex:**  $g = \text{identity} \leftrightarrow 1^{24}$  *product of 24 identity permutations*

The orbifold groups  $\langle(\delta, g)\rangle$  are defined up to  $O(\Gamma^{6,22})$ -conjugation

$O(\Gamma^{6,22})$ -classes  $\langle(\delta, g)\rangle$



conjugacy class  $[g] \in Co_0$



Frame shape  $\prod_{a|N} a^{m(a)}$

The orbifold groups  $\langle(\delta, g)\rangle$  are defined up to  $O(\Gamma^{6,22})$ -conjugation

$O(\Gamma^{6,22})$ -classes  $\langle(\delta, g)\rangle$

*Inequivalent CHL-models associated to pairs  $(\delta, g)$  are classified by the frame shape of  $[g] \in Co_0$*

conjugacy class  $[g] \in Co_0$

Frame shape  $\prod_{a|N} a^{m(a)}$

# Fricke T-duality

$$\text{IIA} / \frac{K3 \times T^2}{\langle (\delta, g) \rangle}$$

$$T^2 = S^1 \times \tilde{S}^1$$



special circle on which  $\delta$   
acts by an order  $N$  shift

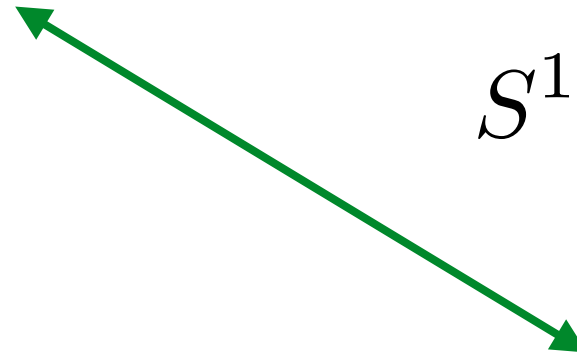
# Fricke T-duality

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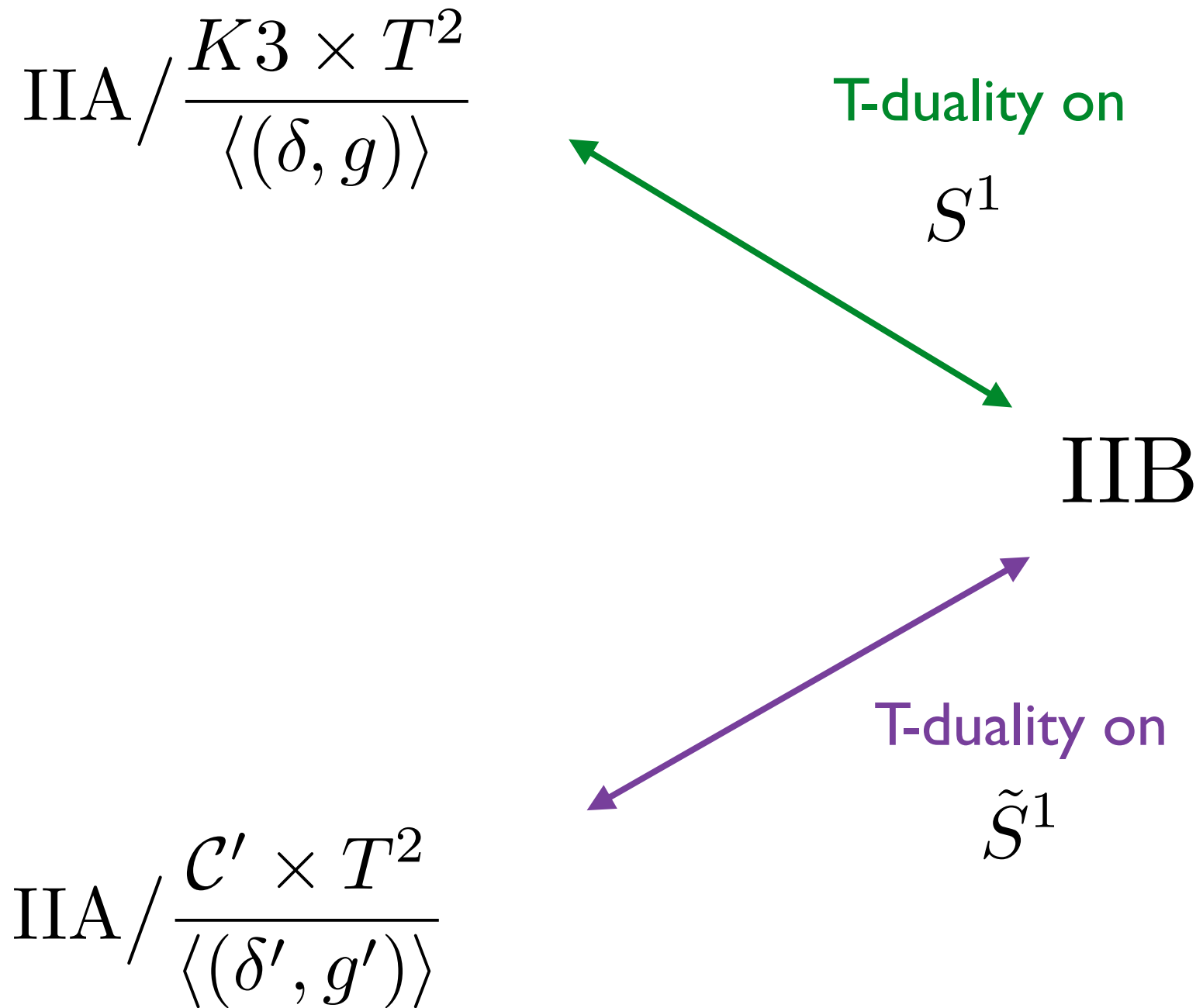
T-duality on

$S^1$

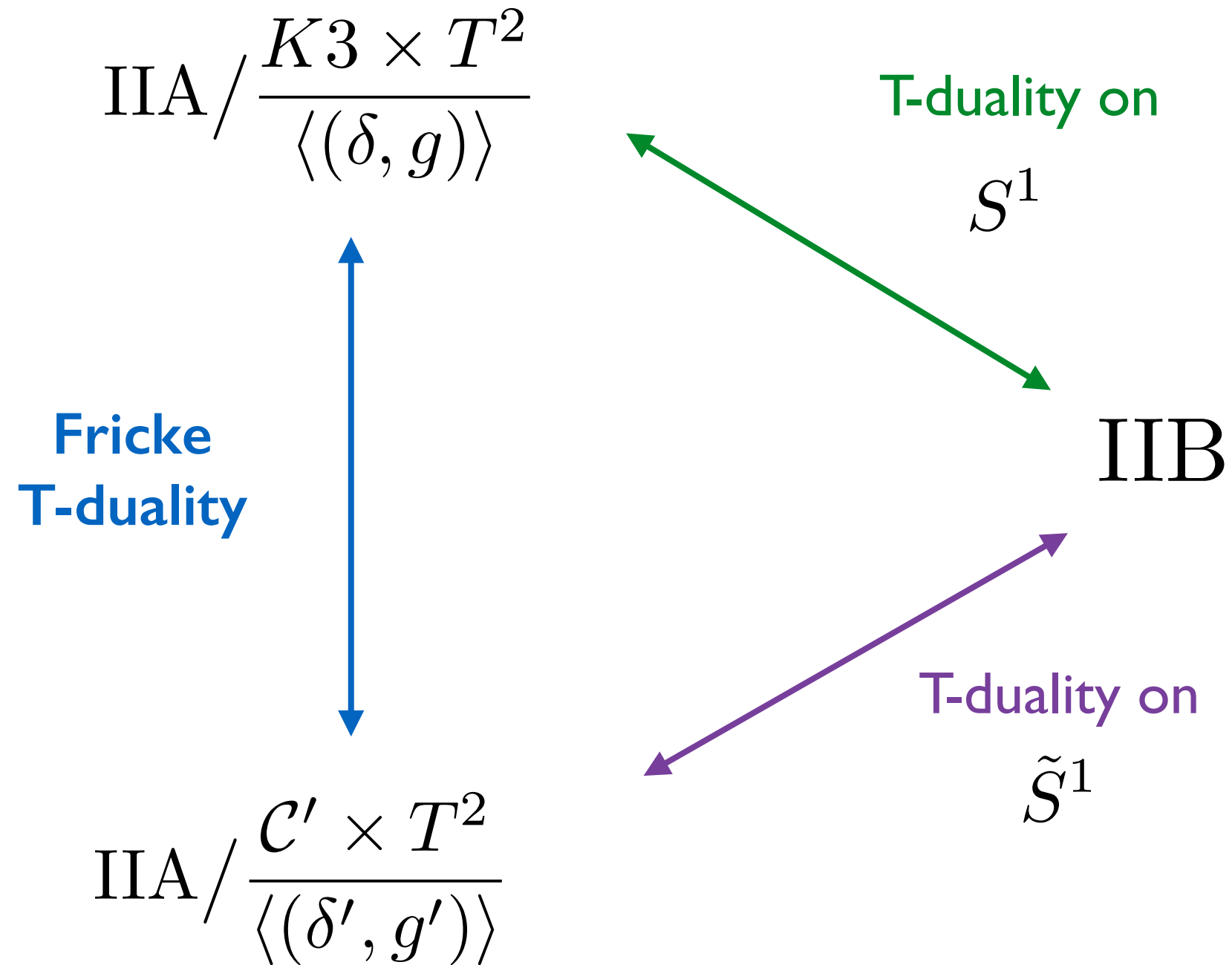
IIB



# Fricke T-duality



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# Fricke T-duality

$$\text{IIA} / \frac{K3 \times T^2}{\langle(\delta, g)\rangle}$$

↑  
**Fricke  
T-duality**  
↓

$$\text{IIA} / \frac{C' \times T^2}{\langle(\delta', g')\rangle}$$

acts on the moduli by:

$$T_{\text{IIA}} \rightarrow -\frac{1}{NT_{\text{IIA}}}$$

$$U_{\text{IIA}} \rightarrow -\frac{1}{NU_{\text{IIA}}}$$

$$S_{\text{IIA}} \rightarrow S_{\text{IIA}}$$

(similar to earlier work by Vafa in the non-compact setting)

# 3 possible cases

The image of the Fricke T-duality is a **non-linear sigma model**  $\mathcal{C}'$

Compute the **Witten index** (Euler characteristic):

$$I^{\mathcal{C}'} = \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{C}'} (-1)^{F_L + F_R}$$

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Non-linear sigma model on K3:  $I^{\mathcal{C}'} = 24$

Non-linear sigma model on  $T^4$ :  $I^{\mathcal{C}'} = 0$

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We find 3 possibilities

- $I^{\mathcal{C}'} = 24$  and  $(g, g')$  have the **same** Frame shape
- $I^{\mathcal{C}'} = 24$  and  $(g, g')$  have **different** Frame shapes
- $I^{\mathcal{C}'} = 0$

# Case I

Frame shape is **balanced**:  $m(a) = m(N/a)$

The CHL-model is self-dual under Fricke T-duality:  $T_{\text{IIA}} \rightarrow -\frac{1}{NT_{\text{IIA}}}$


In the heterotic picture this yields a new **Fricke S-duality**

$$S_{\text{het}} \rightarrow -\frac{1}{NS_{\text{het}}}$$

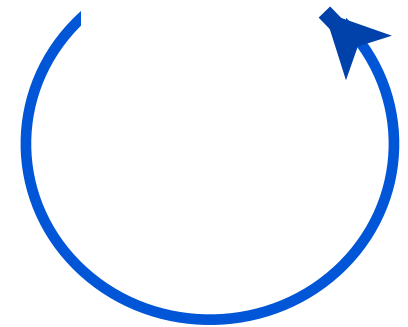
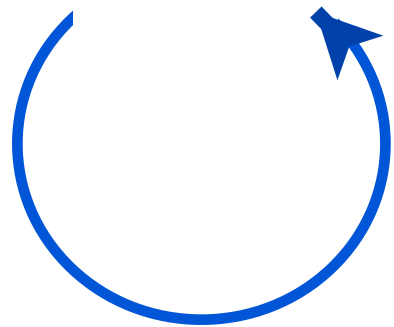
This is a new symmetry of CHL-models which lies outside of the  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ -symmetry of the parent theory  $\text{Het}/T^6$  !

# Case 1 (self-dual)

$$\text{Het} / \frac{T^4 \times S^1}{\mathbb{Z}_N} \times \tilde{S}^1$$

$$S_{\text{het}} \leftrightarrow T_{\text{IIA}}$$


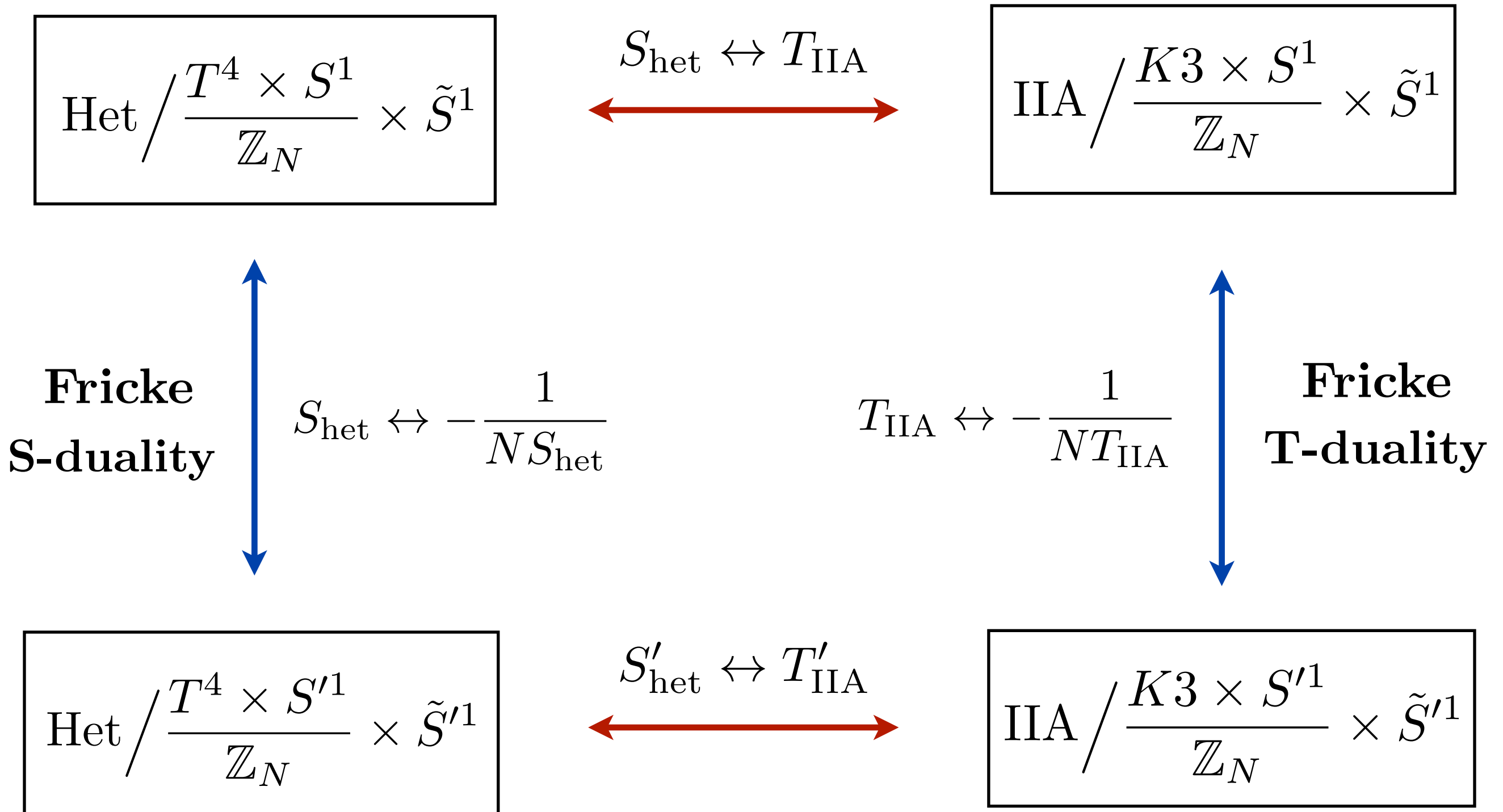
$$\text{IIA} / \frac{K3 \times S^1}{\mathbb{Z}_N} \times \tilde{S}^1$$



**Fricke  
S-duality**  $S_{\text{het}} \leftrightarrow -\frac{1}{NS_{\text{het}}}$

**Fricke  
T-duality**  $T_{\text{IIA}} \leftrightarrow -\frac{1}{NT_{\text{IIA}}}$

## Case 2 (non-self-dual)



### Case 3 (non-self-dual)

$$\text{Het} / \frac{T^4 \times S^1}{\mathbb{Z}_N} \times \tilde{S}^1$$

$$S_{\text{het}} \leftrightarrow T_{\text{IIA}}$$

$$\text{IIA} / \frac{K3 \times S^1}{\mathbb{Z}_N} \times \tilde{S}^1$$

**Fricke  
S-duality**



$$S_{\text{het}} \leftrightarrow -\frac{1}{NS_{\text{het}}}$$

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**Fricke  
T-duality**



$$\text{IIA} / \frac{T^4 \times S'^1}{\mathbb{Z}'_N} \times \tilde{S}'^1$$

$$S'_{\text{het}} \leftrightarrow T'_{\text{IIA}}$$

$$\text{IIA} / \frac{T^4 \times S'^1}{\mathbb{Z}_N} \times \tilde{S}'^1$$



# Electric-magnetic duality and N-modularity

Consider now the **self-dual case**. The full **S-duality** group is

$$\Gamma_g = \left\langle \Gamma_0(N), \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1/\sqrt{N} \\ \sqrt{N} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$$

This acts by:

**axiodilaton**

$$S_{\text{het}} \rightarrow \frac{aS_{\text{het}} + b}{cS_{\text{het}} + d}$$

**electric-magnetic charges**

$$\begin{pmatrix} Q \\ P \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Q \\ P \end{pmatrix}$$

Restricting to the Fricke part we find

**electric-magnetic charges**  $\begin{pmatrix} Q \\ P \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} Q \\ -\sqrt{N} P \end{pmatrix}$

As a consequence the charge lattices  $\Gamma = \Gamma_e \oplus \Gamma_m$  must satisfy

$$\Gamma_m \cong \sqrt{N} \Gamma_e$$

But we also have  $\Gamma_m \cong \Gamma_e^*$  which yields

$$\Gamma_e^* \cong \sqrt{N} \Gamma_e \quad N\text{-modular}$$

**This is a non-trivial prediction of Fricke S-duality!**

### **3. BPS-state counting**

# Counting of Dabholkar-Harvey states

$\text{Het}/T^6$  has a set of 1/2 BPS-states corresponding to right-moving ground states and arbitrary left-moving excitations

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The degeneracy  $\Omega(Q)$  of such states is captured by

$$\frac{1}{\Delta(\tau)} = \frac{1}{\eta(\tau)^{24}} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} d(n) q^n$$

$$\Omega(Q) = d(Q^2/2)$$

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$$\Omega(Q) = d(Q^2/2)$$

In the type IIB picture these correspond to certain bound states of D0-D4-NS5-branes on  $K3 \times T^2$  with momentum along the torus.

These are ‘small black holes’ with zero classical entropy:

$$\log \Omega(Q) \sim 4\pi \sqrt{Q^2}$$

# Topological BPS-couplings

In general, 1/2 BPS-states in  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  theories are counted by the **4th helicity supertrace**: [\[Kiritsis\]](#)

$$B_4 = \text{Tr}(-1)^F J^4 \quad J = \text{helicity}$$



# Topological BPS-couplings

In general, 1/2 BPS-states in  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  theories are counted by the **4th helicity supertrace**: [\[Kiritsis\]](#)

$$B_4 = \text{Tr}(-1)^F J^4 \quad J = \text{helicity}$$

In IIA/ $K3 \times T^2$  this determines the **topological 1-loop amplitude**:

$$\begin{aligned} F_1 &= \int_{SL(2,\mathbb{Z}) \backslash \mathbb{H}} \frac{d^2\tau}{\tau_2} B_4(T, U) \\ &= \log(T_2^{24} |\Delta(T)|^4) + \log(U_2^{24} |\Delta(U)|^4) + \text{const} \end{aligned}$$

[\[Harvey, Moore\]](#)

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Notice that the discriminant  $\Delta$  now appears as a function of the **spacetime** moduli  $(T, U)$  rather than the worldsheet  $\mathcal{T}$

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This is not a coincidence but follows from the OSV-conjecture:

$$Z_{CFT} = Z_{BH} = |Z_{top}|^2$$

which requires a particular identification of worldsheet and spacetime variables. In the case at hand we indeed have:

$$Z_{CFT}(\tau) = \frac{1}{\Delta(\tau)} \quad Z_{BH}(T) = e^{F_1^{hol}(T)} = e^{-\log \Delta(T)}$$

which coincide provided we identify  $\tau = T$

# BPS-counting in CHL-models

In general the **n:th helicity supertraces** can be calculated via: [\[Kiritsis\]](#)

$$B_n = \left( \frac{1}{2\pi i} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{v}} \right)^n Z(v, \bar{v}) \Big|_{v=\bar{v}=0}$$

where the **generating function** is defined by

$$Z(v, \bar{v}) = \text{Tr}(-1)^F e^{2\pi i v J_3^R} e^{2\pi i \bar{v} J_3^L} q^{L_0} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0}$$

# BPS-counting in CHL-models

For the type IIA CHL-model  $\text{IIA} / \frac{K3 \times T^2}{\langle(\delta, g)\rangle}$  with Frame shape

$$g \leftrightarrow \prod_{a|N} a^{m(a)}$$

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**Siegel-Narain theta function** for the lattice  $\Gamma^{2,2}$

The associated 1/2 BPS-saturated topological amplitude is

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and we obtain

$$F_1^{[g]}(T) = \log \prod_{a|N} (aT_2 |\eta(aT)|^4)^{m(a)} = \log (T_2^{24} |\eta_g(T)|^4)$$

where the eta-product is defined by

$$\eta_g(T) = \prod_{a|N} \eta(aT)^{m(a)}$$

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This generalizes earlier results in the literature. For example:

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**Frame shape**

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$$F_1^{[g]} = 24 \log(T_2 |\eta(T)|^4)$$

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$$2^{12}$$

$$F_1^{[g]} = 12 \log(T_2 |\eta(T)^2 \theta_4(T)^2|)$$

Matches with [Antoniadis, Gava, Narain, Taylor][Dabholkar, Denef, Moore, Pioline]

# Fricke duality of BPS-couplings

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$$T \longrightarrow -\frac{1}{NT}$$

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$$F_1^{[g]}(-1/NT) = \log \prod_{a|N} (aT_2 |\eta(aT)|^4)^{m(N/a)}$$

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This is precisely the case for the self-dual models!

By heterotic-type II duality the corresponding heterotic coupling is invariant under **Fricke S-duality**

$$S \longrightarrow -\frac{1}{NS}$$



# Summary

- Uncovered novel Fricke dualities in a large class of CHL-models
- Demonstrated consistency with heterotic-type II duality
- Checked the prediction of N-modularity of charge lattices
- Demonstrated that  $1/2$  BPS-couplings are Fricke invariant
- Physical interpretation of the modular properties of Siegel modular forms arising in Mathieu moonshine

# Outlook

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- connection with Fricke symmetries observed in topological strings?

[Alim, Scheidegger, Yau, Zhou]

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**Conjecture:**

$$\int_{SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \backslash \mathbb{H}} B_6^{[g]} = \log \left( (\det \Im \Omega)^{w_{g,e}} |\Phi_{g,e}(T, U, V)|^2 \right)$$

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➔ Do the Siegel modular forms  $\Phi_{g,e}$  count **reduced**  
**Gromov-Witten invariants** on  $(K3 \times T^2) / \langle (\delta, g) \rangle$  ?

This would generalise a recent conjecture of [Oberdieck, Pandharipande]  
corresponding to the case  $g = e$

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➔ Can we make a similar “CHL-version” of the monster CFT to shed light on the elusive genus zero property of moonshine?

[Paquette, D.P., Volpato] (in progress)

**See Roberto's talk tomorrow!**

**Thank you!**

