

Exotic Brane Junctions from F-theory

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arXiv:1602.08606

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revised version

- What is exotic brane?
- How can we use exotic branes?

What is exotic brane?

Exotic brane is

- ✓ from standard brane via string dualities in lower dim
- ✓ vortex-like (codim 2)

Obers and Pioline: [hep-th/9809039](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/9809039)

Eyras and Lozano: [hep-th/9908094](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/9908094)

de Boer and Shigemori: [arXiv:1209.6056](https://arxiv.org/abs/1209.6056)

etc..

Exotic b_n^c -brane has a tension

$$\frac{R_1 R_2 \cdots R_b (R_{b+1} \cdots R_{b+c})^2}{g_s^n \ell_s^{b+2c+1}}$$

Performing string dualities, the tension is transformed :

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \mathbf{T}_y : & R_y \rightarrow \frac{\ell_s^2}{R_y}, \quad g_s \rightarrow \frac{\ell_s}{R_y} g_s \\
 \mathbf{S} : & g_s \rightarrow \frac{1}{g_s}, \quad \ell_s^2 \rightarrow g_s \ell_s^2
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{l}
 R_y : \text{ compact radius of } y\text{-direction} \\
 \ell_s : \text{ string length} \\
 g_s : \text{ string coupling constant}
 \end{array}$$

Example duality chain of 5-branes :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \text{D5}(12345) & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{S}} & \text{NS5}(12345) & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{T}_9} & \text{KK5}(12345,9) & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{T}_8} & 5_2^2(12345,89) & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{S}} & 5_3^2(12345,89) \\
 5_1 & & 5_2 & & 5_2^1 & & & &
 \end{array}$$

Exotic brane is

- ✓ from standard brane via string dualities in lower dim
- ✓ vortex-like (codim 2)

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etc..

NOTE

D7-brane is an object of codim 2 in 10D.

D7-brane physics has been studied for 20 years : F-theory

Vafa: [hep-th/9602022](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/9602022)

Sen: [hep-th/9605150](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/9605150)

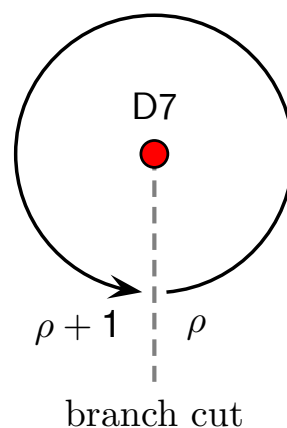
etc..

D7-brane :

$$\rho(z) \equiv C^{(0)} + i e^{-\phi} = \frac{\theta}{2\pi} + \frac{i}{2\pi} \log \left(\frac{\Lambda}{r} \right) \quad (z = x^8 + i x^9 = r e^{i\theta})$$

When ρ moves around D7-brane counterclockwise $\theta \rightarrow \theta + 2\pi$,

it receives a magnetic “charge” of D7-brane (**monodromy**) : $\rho \rightarrow \rho + 1$



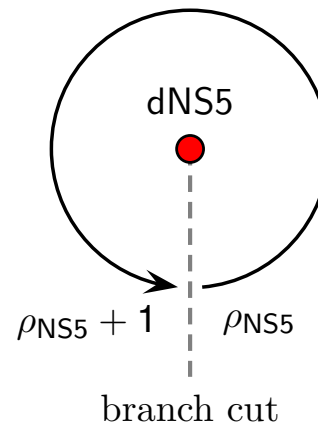
There exists a branch cut in z -plane.

defect NS5-brane : (transverse a, b directions are smeared)

$$\rho_{\text{NS5}}(z) \equiv B_{ab}^{(2)} + \mathbf{i}e^{+2\phi} = \frac{\theta}{2\pi} + \frac{\mathbf{i}}{2\pi} \log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{r}\right) \quad (z = x^8 + \mathbf{i}x^9 = r e^{\mathbf{i}\theta})$$

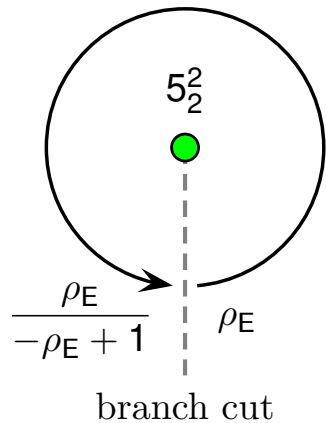
When ρ moves around NS5-brane counterclockwise $\theta \rightarrow \theta + 2\pi$,

it receives a magnetic “charge” of NS5-brane (**monodromy**) : $\rho_{\text{NS5}} \rightarrow \rho_{\text{NS5}} + 1$



~~In this case, we can identify $\rho_{\text{NS5}} + 1 \simeq \rho_{\text{NS5}}$ by B -field gauge transformation.~~

Exotic 5_2^2 -brane : (T_{ab} -dualized from defect NS5-brane)



$$\text{monodromy : } \frac{1}{\rho_E} \rightarrow \frac{1}{\rho_E} - 1 \quad \text{where } \rho_E = -\frac{1}{\rho_{\text{NS5}}}$$

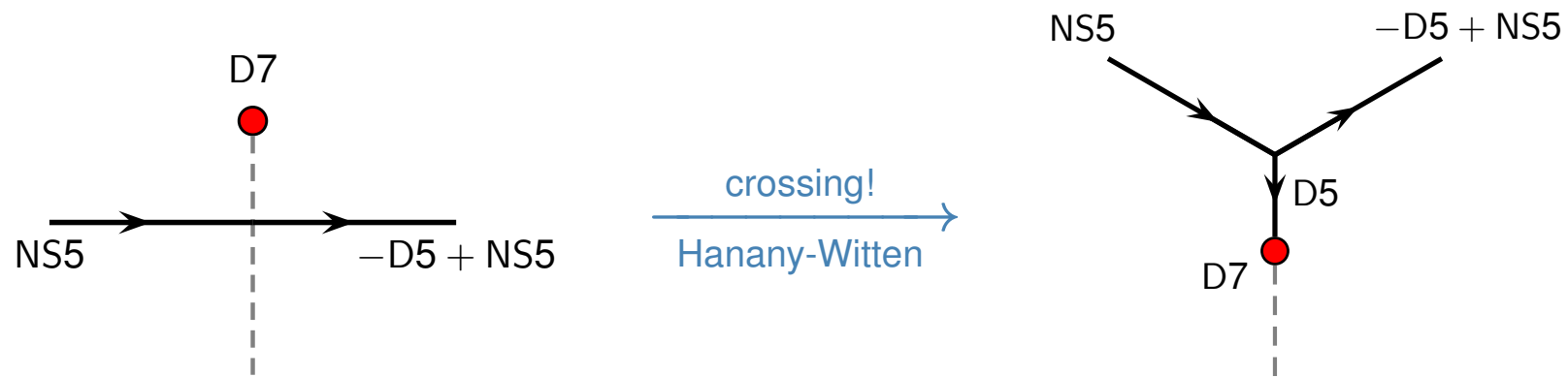
We **cannot** identify this monodromy change
by $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} B\text{-field gauge transformation} \\ \text{coordinate transformations} \end{array} \right.$

5_2^2 -brane's property is from that of defect NS5-brane

$$\text{via } SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \in SO(2, 2; \mathbb{Z}) \\ T_{ab}\text{-duality}$$

**How can we use
exotic branes?**

Consider an NS5-brane crossing the branch cut of D7-brane from the left.
 If D7-brane goes across NS5-brane,
 a new 5-brane and a junction appear (Hanany-Witten effect).



Note: D7-brane(1234567), D5(1234X), NS5(1234Y), $X, Y \in z$ -plane

This is a brane junction in F-theory.

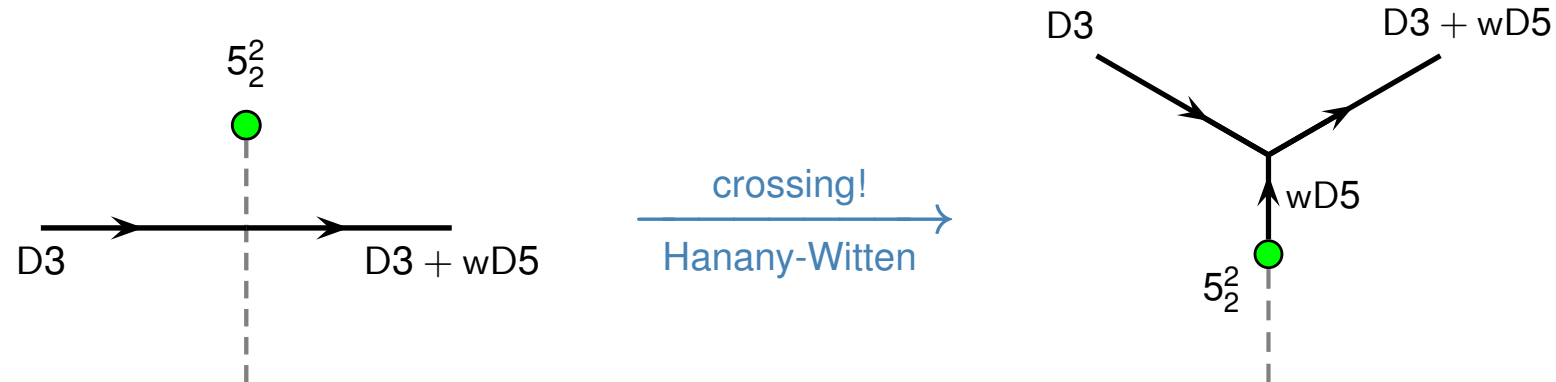
Gaberdiel and Zwiebach: [hep-th/9709013](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/9709013)

DeWolfe and Zwiebach: [hep-th/9804210](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/9804210)

etc..

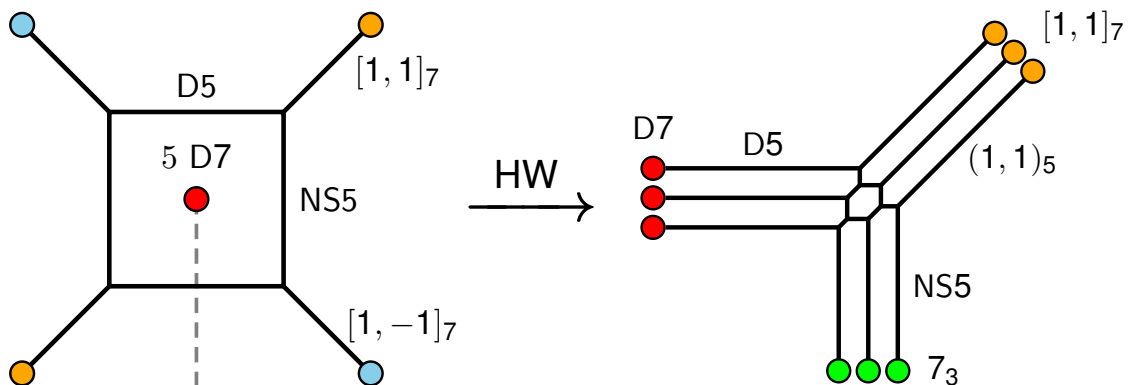
Perform the T_{34} - and S-duality of the system of NS5-brane with D7-brane.

We obtain a config. that a new “3-brane” with exotic 5_2^2 -brane :

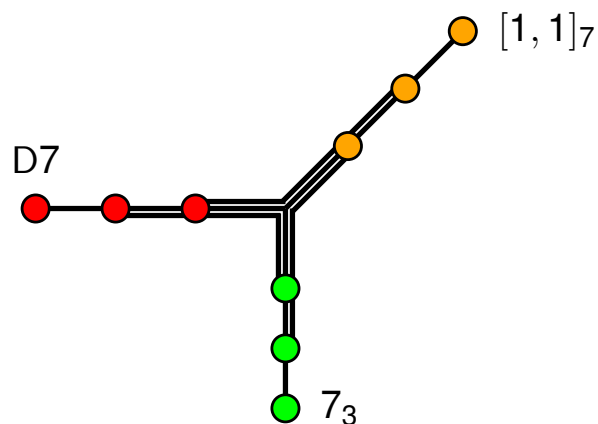


We find that **D5(1234Y)-brane wrapped on T_{34}^2 (\equiv wD5)**
is ending on 5_2^2 -brane.

5D theory on 5-branes with 5 D7-branes :



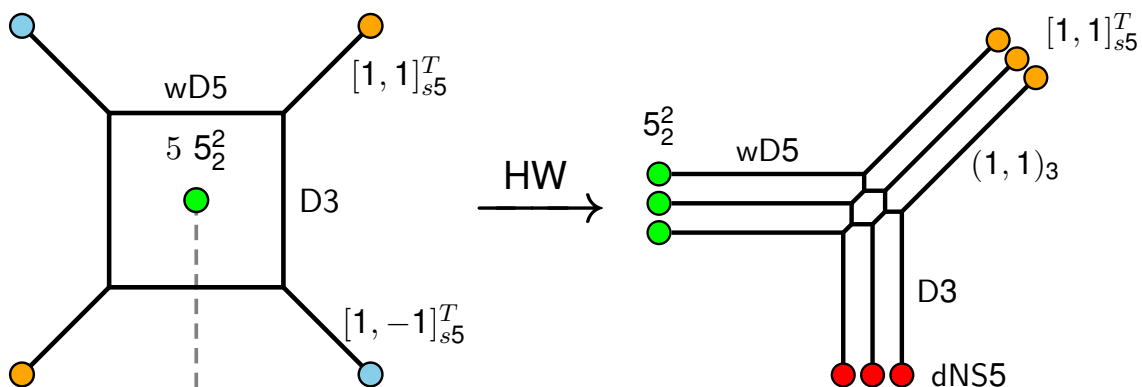
IIB	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5 D7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D5	-	-	-	-	-				-	-
NS5	-	-	-	-	-					-
$(1, 1)_5$	-	-	-	-	-				angle	



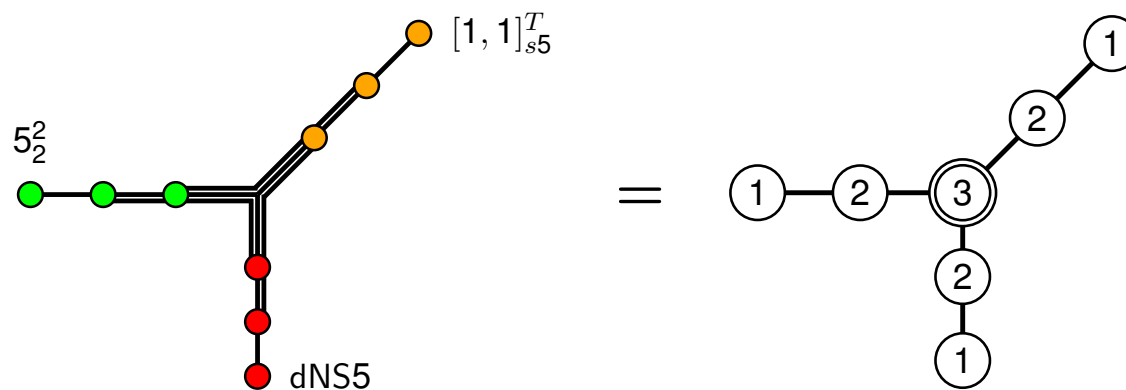
5D T_3 theory

Aharony and Hanany: [hep-th/9704170](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/9704170)
 DeWolfe, Hanany, Iqbal and Katz: [hep-th/9902179](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/9902179)
 Gaiotto and Witten: [arXiv:0804.2902](https://arxiv.org/abs/0804.2902), [0807.3720](https://arxiv.org/abs/0807.3720)
 Benini, Benvenuti and Tachikawa: [arXiv:0906.0359](https://arxiv.org/abs/0906.0359)

3D theory on “3-branes” with 5 exotic 5_2^2 -branes :



IIB	0	1	2	③	④	5	6	7	8	9
5 5_2^2	-	-	-	• ²	• ²	-	-	-		
wD5	-	-	-	-	-				-	
D3	-	-	-							-
$(1, 1)_3$	-	-	-							angle

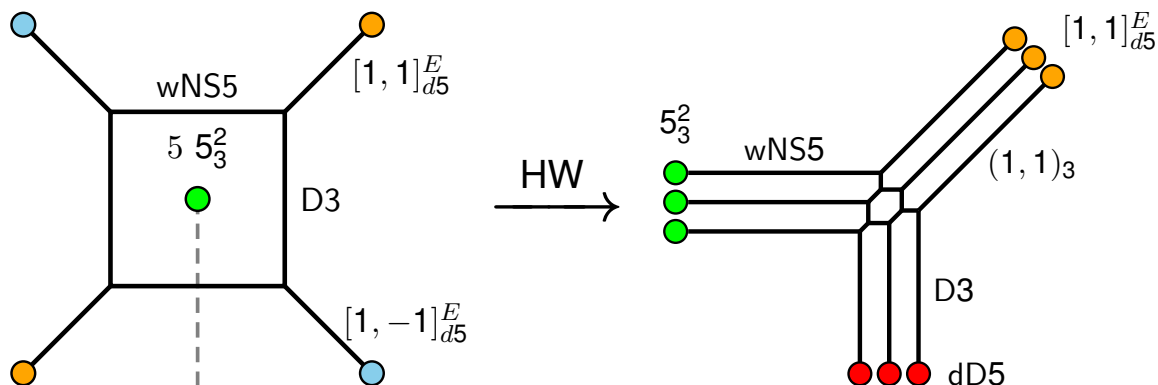


mirror of 3D T_3 theory

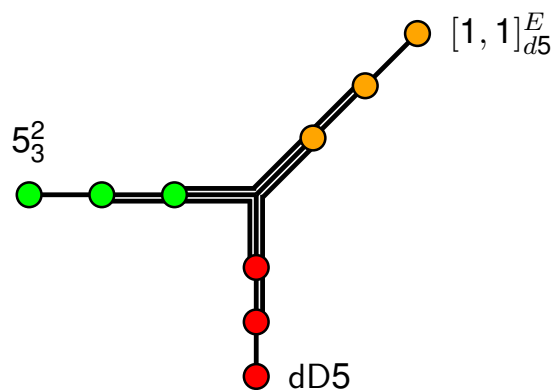
star-shaped quiver

5_2^2 -brane yields mirror of 3D T_3 theory.

3D theory on “3-branes” with 5 exotic 5_3^2 -branes :

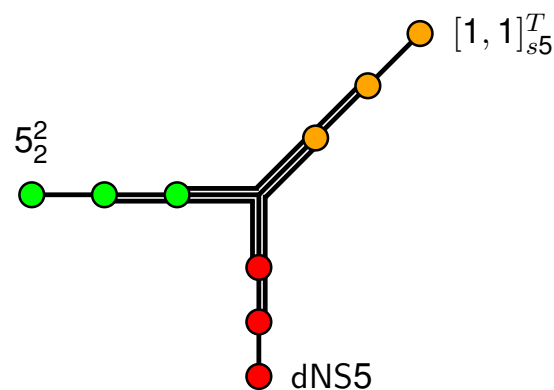


IIB	0	1	2	③	④	5	6	7	8	9
5_3^2	-	-	-	• ²	• ²	-	-	-	-	-
wNS5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
$(1, 1)_3$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	angle

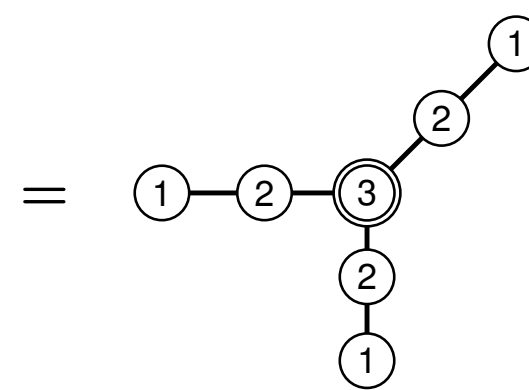


3D T_3 theory

mirror
S-duality



mirror of 3D T_3 theory



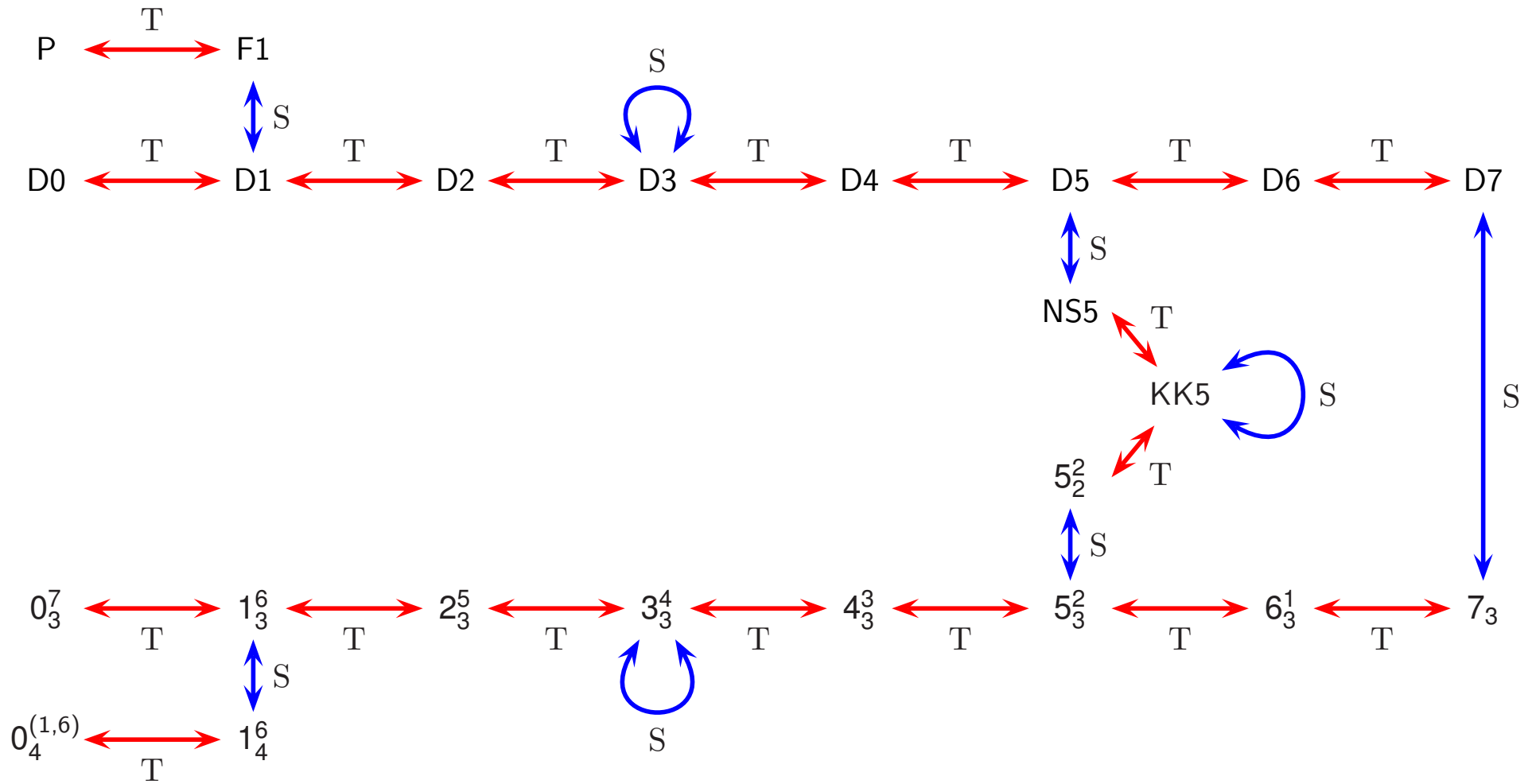
star-shaped quiver

5_3^2 -brane gives 3D T_3 theory.

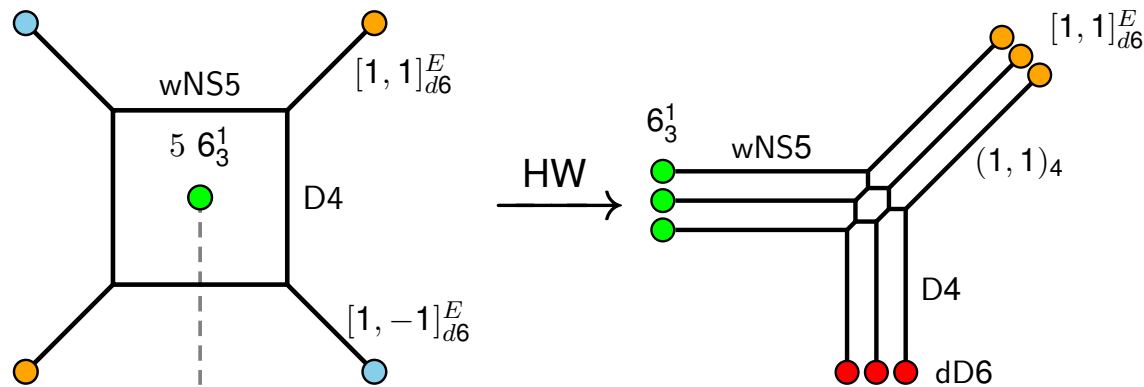
Exotic branes also play a role in generating (non-)Lagrangian theories.

Summary and Discussions

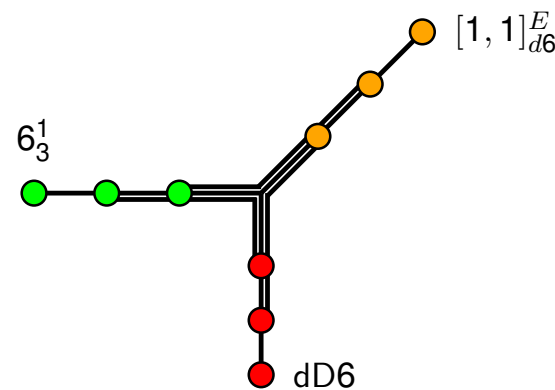
- Exotic brane has a monodromy (charge) with branch cut.
- When D3-brane cross the branch cut of 5_2^2 -brane, it jumps to D3 + “D5 wrapped on two-torus”.
- Exotic 5-branes are the building blocks of 3D T_3 -theory and its mirror theory.
- They correctly provide 3D theory even when spacetime is **compactified**.
- *Non-Lagrangian theory from non-geometric background*



4D theory on “4-branes” with 5 exotic 6_3^1 -branes :



IIA	0	1	2	3	④	5	6	7	8	9
$5\ 6_3^1$	-	-	-	-	• ²	-	-	-	-	-
wNS5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
$(1, 1)_4$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	angle



4D T_3 theory can be realized.

Uplift to M-theory : $dD6 \rightarrow KK6$, $6_3^1 \rightarrow KK6$; $D4 \rightarrow M5$, $wNS5 \rightarrow M5$

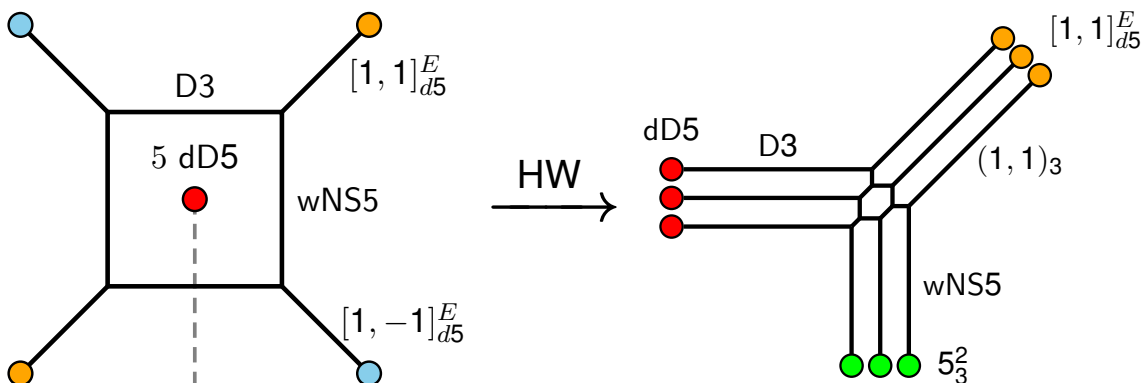
$$g_s \ell_s = R_{\text{q}}, \quad g_s \ell_s^3 = \ell_{\text{p}}^3$$

Gaiotto: arXiv:0904.2715

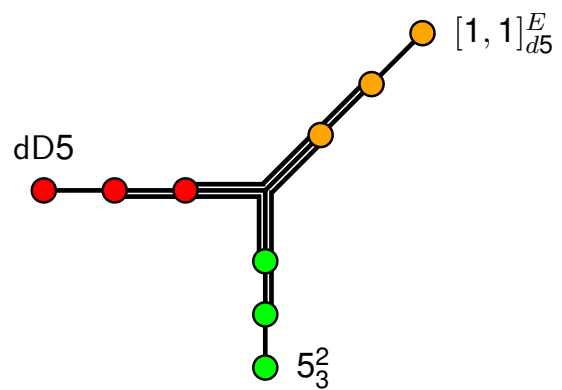
Thanks

Appendix

3D theory on “3-branes” with 5 defect D5-branes :

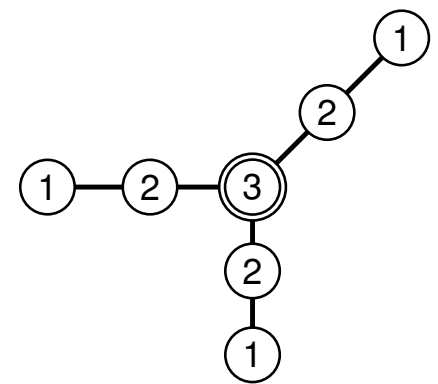


IIB	0	1	2	③	④	5	6	7	8	9
5 dD5	-	-	-			-	-	-		
D3	-	-	-						-	
wNS5	-	-	-	-	-					-
$(1,1)_3$	-	-	-							angle



3D T_3 theory

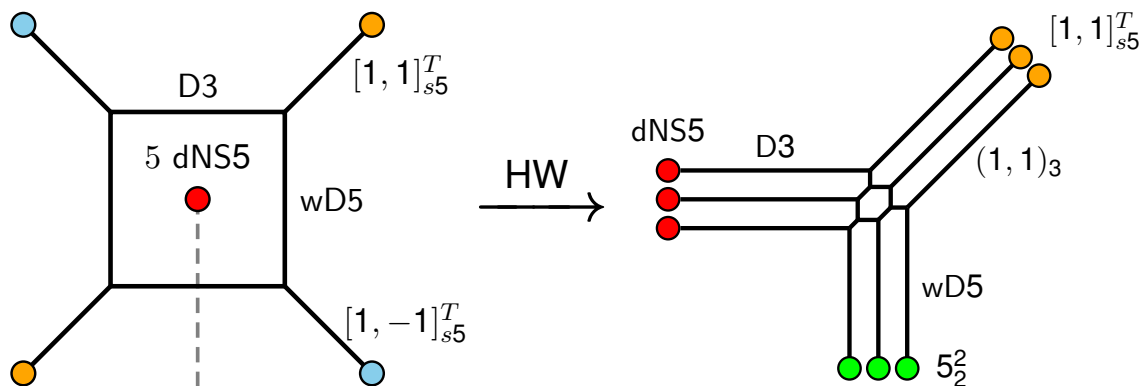
mirror
S-duality



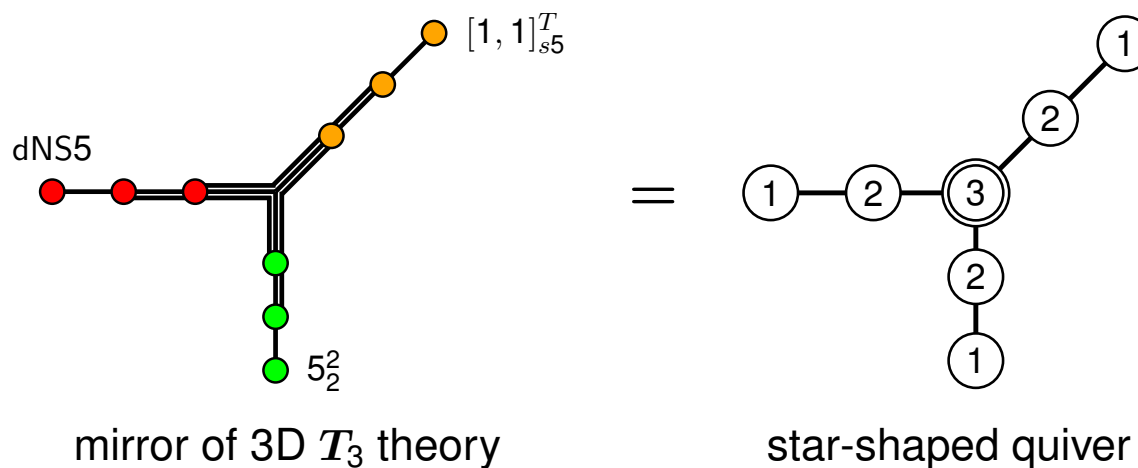
star-shaped quiver

3D T_3 theory is realized.

3D theory on “3-branes” with 5 defect NS5-branes :

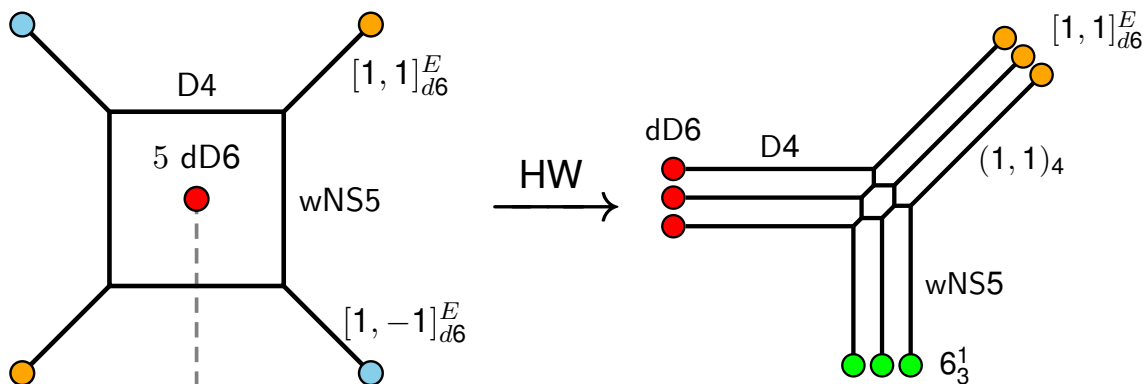


IIB	0	1	2	③	④	5	6	7	8	9
5 dNS5	-	-	-			-	-	-		
D3	-	-	-						-	
wD5	-	-	-	-	-					-
(1, 1) ₃	-	-	-							angle

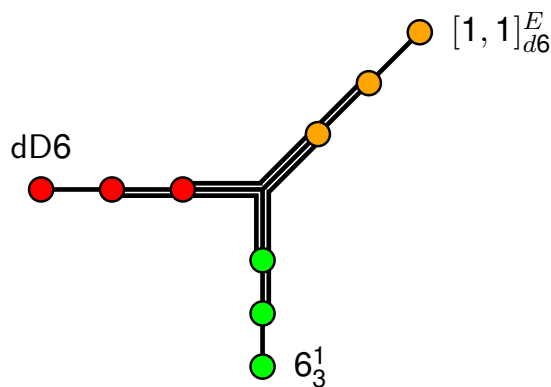


Mirror of 3D T_3 theory is realized.

4D theory on “4-branes” with 5 defect D6-branes :



IIA	0	1	2	3	④	5	6	7	8	9
5 dD6	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		
D4	-	-	-	-					-	
wNS5	-	-	-	-	-					-
(1, 1) ₄	-	-	-	-						angle



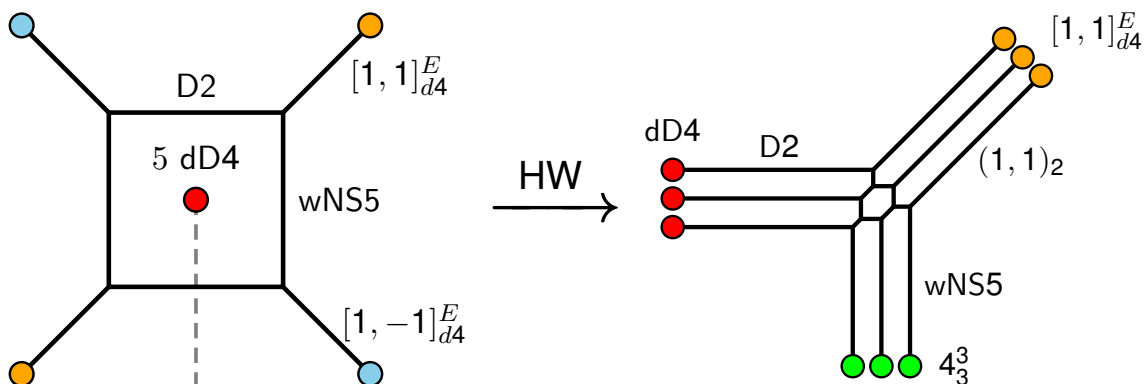
4D T_3 theory can be realized.

Uplift to M-theory : $dD6 \rightarrow KK6$, $6_3^1 \rightarrow KK6$; $D4 \rightarrow M5$, $wNS5 \rightarrow M5$

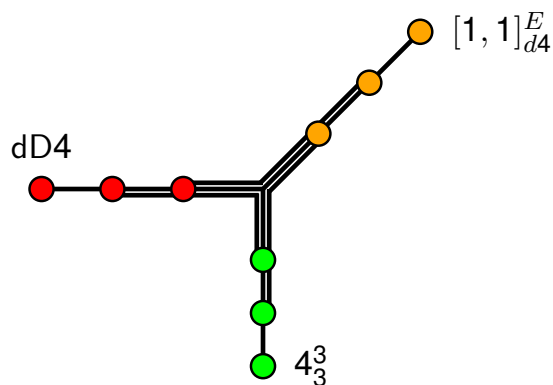
$$g_s \ell_s = R_{\text{q}}, \quad g_s \ell_s^3 = \ell_{\text{p}}^3$$

Gaiotto: arXiv:0904.2715

2D theory on “2-branes” with 5 defect D4-branes :



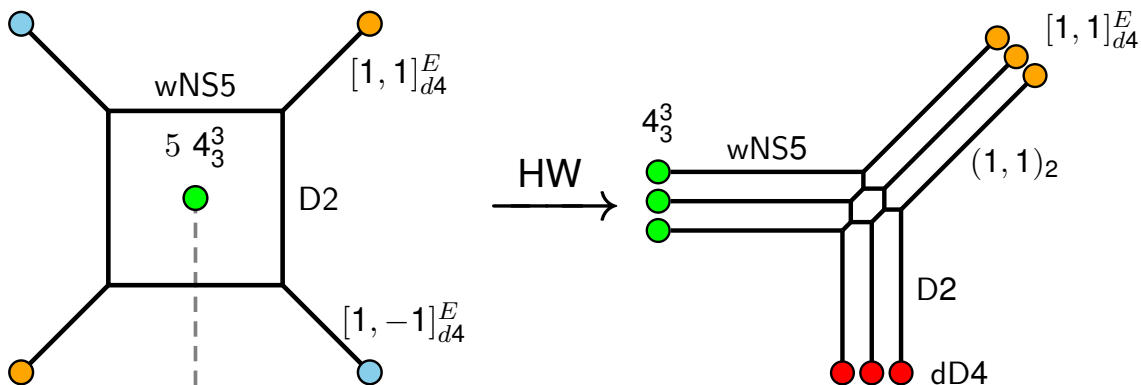
IIA	0	1	②	③	④	5	6	7	8	9
5 dD4	-	-				-	-	-		
D2	-	-							-	
wNS5	-	-	-	-	-					-
(1, 1)_2	-	-								angle



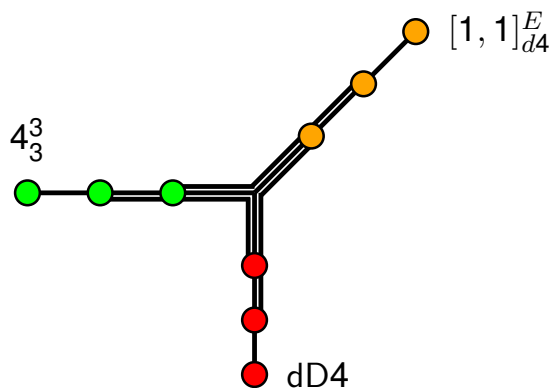
2D T_3 theory can be realized.

Uplift to M-theory : $dD4 \rightarrow M5$, $4^3_3 \rightarrow 5^3$; $wNS5 \rightarrow M5$, $D2 \rightarrow M2$

2D theory on “2-branes” with 5 exotic 4_3^3 -branes :



IIA	0	1	②	③	④	5	6	7	8	9
$5 4_3^3$	-	-	• ²	• ²	• ²	-	-	-	-	-
wNS5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
$(1, 1)_2$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	angle



2D T_3 theory can be realized.

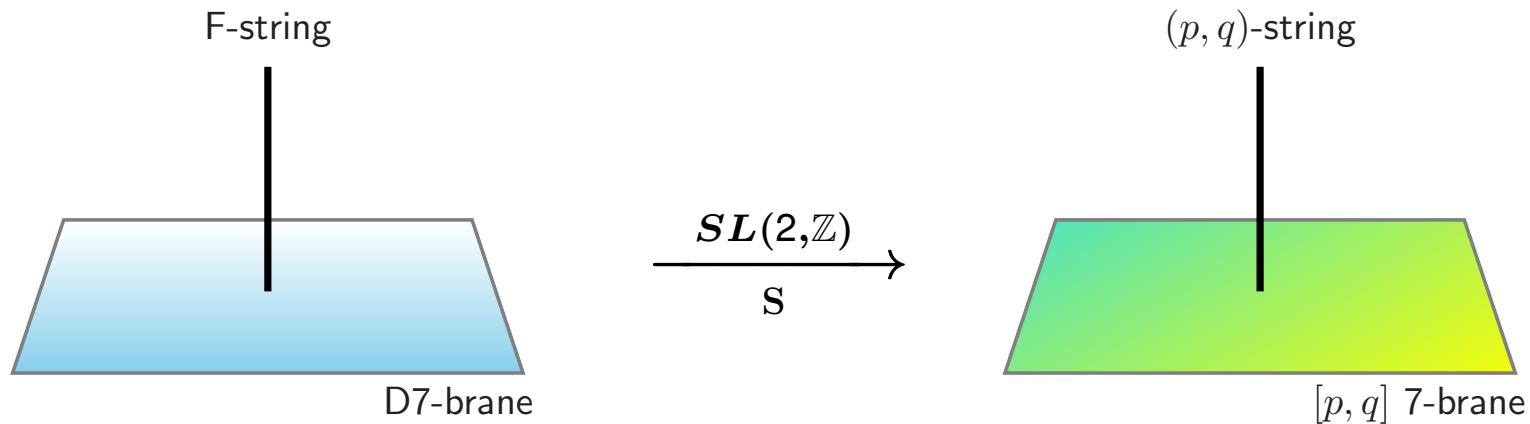
Uplift to M-theory : $dD4 \rightarrow M5$, $4_3^3 \rightarrow 5^3$; $wNS5 \rightarrow M5$, $D2 \rightarrow M2$

F-string : couple to $B_{(2)}$

D-string : couple to $C_{(2)}$

D7(1234567) : couple to $\rho(z) = C + i e^{-\phi}$ ($z = x^8 + i x^9 = r e^{i\theta}$)

$$\rho(z) = \frac{i}{2\pi} \log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{z}\right) = \frac{\theta}{2\pi} + \frac{i}{2\pi} \log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{r}\right)$$



(1, 0)-string = F1

[1, 0] 7-brane = D7(1234567)

(0, 1)-string = D1

[0, 1] 7-brane = $7_3(1234567)$

Open D-string is ending on $7_3(1234567)$.

This is a setup in F-theory. We perform ST_{67} -duality and reduce 67-directions.

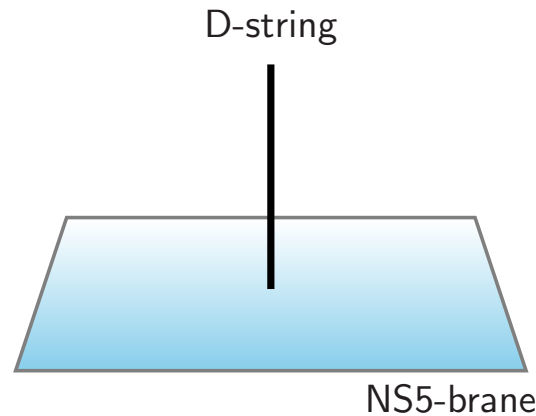
D-string : couple to $C_{(2)}$

D3-brane : couple to $C_{(4)}$

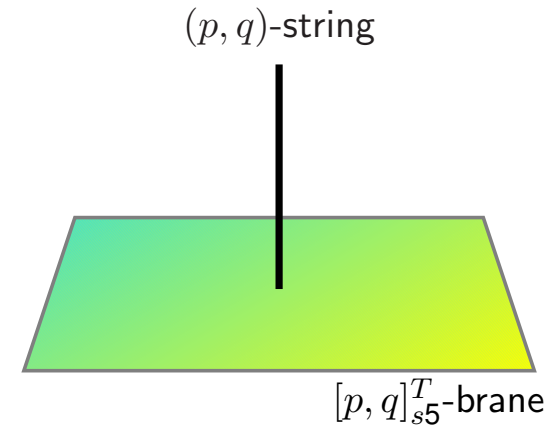
NS5(12345) : couple to $\rho(z) = B_{67}^{(2)} + i e^{+2\phi}$

$$\rho(z) = \frac{i}{2\pi} \log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{z}\right) = \frac{\theta}{2\pi} + \frac{i}{2\pi} \log\left(\frac{\Lambda}{r}\right)$$

$$(z = x^8 + i x^9 = r e^{i\theta})$$



$$\xrightarrow[ST_{76}ST_{67}S]{SL(2, \mathbb{Z})}$$



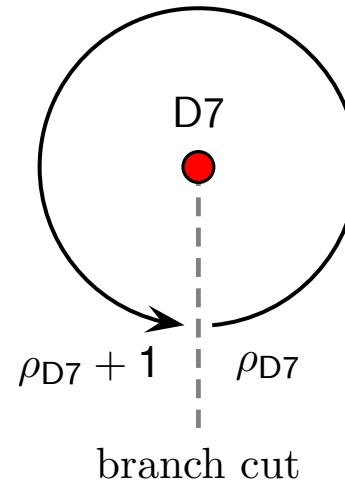
$(1, 0)$ -string = D1

$(0, 1)$ -string = D3 wrapped on T_{67}^2

$[1, 0]_{s5}^T$ -brane = NS5(12345)

$[0, 1]_{s5}^T$ -brane = $5_2^2(12345, 67)$

Open D3-brane wrapped on T_{67}^2 is ending on exotic $5_2^2(12345, 67)$.



$$\rho \rightarrow \rho + 1 = \frac{a\rho + b}{c\rho + d} \equiv M_{[1,0]} \cdot \rho, \quad M_{[1,0]} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$$

or

$$K_{[1,0]} \cdot (\rho + 1) = \rho, \quad K_{[1,0]} = (M_{[1,0]})^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

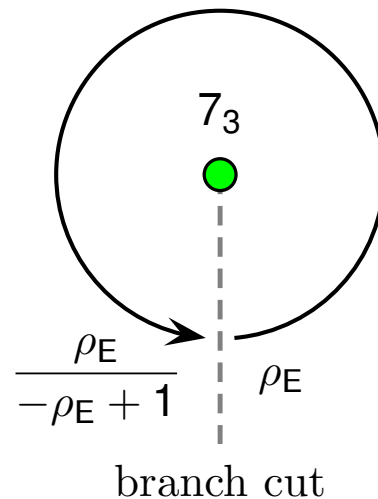
$M_{[p,q]}$: moving around the 7-brane

$K_{[p,q]}$: going across the branch cut

By $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$, the monodromy matrix for general $[p, q]$ 7-brane is given as

$$K_{[p,q]} = g K_{[1,0]} g^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + pq & -p^2 \\ q^2 & 1 - pq \end{pmatrix} \quad g \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$$

ex) monodromy $K_{[0,1]}$ for 7_3 -brane : $K_{[0,1]} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$



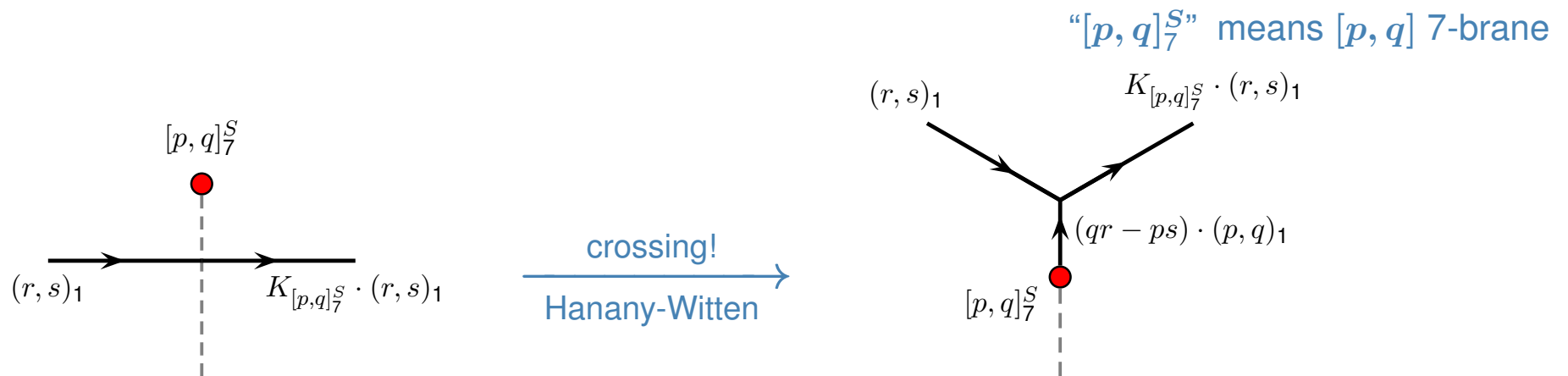
$$\rho_E = -\frac{1}{\rho_{D7}}$$

Consider an (r, s) -string crossing the branch cut of $[p, q]$ 7-brane from the left.

The string charge is jumped by monodromy.

If the 7-brane goes across the string, the string is no longer crossing the branch cut.

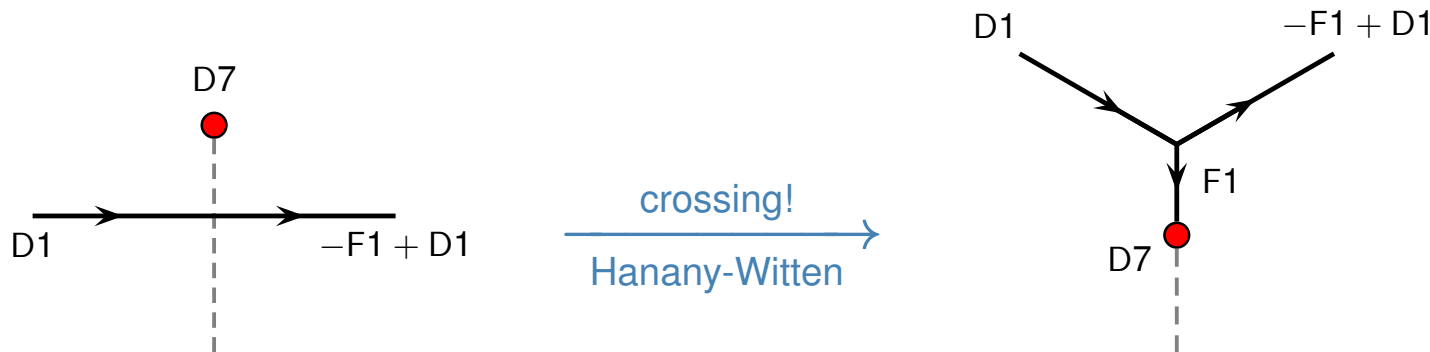
Further, a new string and a junction appear (Hanany-Witten effect).



Note: 7-brane is stretched in 1234567-directions.

This is a string junction in F-theory.

Consider a D-string crossing the branch cut of D7-brane from the left.
A new string and a junction appear by Hanany-Witten effect.



Note: D7-brane is stretched in 1234567-directions.

This is a string junction in F-theory.

Gaberdiel and Zwiebach: [hep-th/9709013](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/9709013)

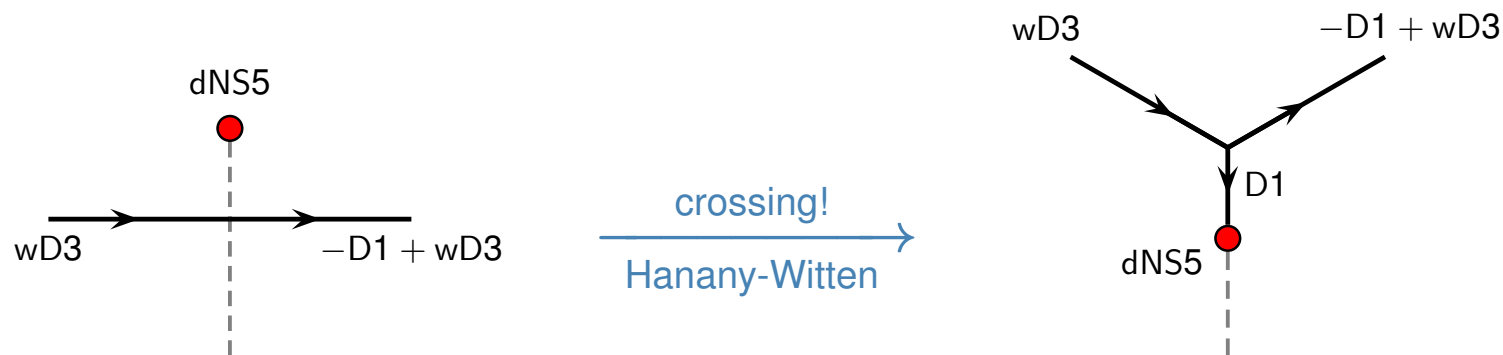
DeWolfe and Zwiebach: [hep-th/9804210](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/9804210)

etc..

Consider a D3-brane wrapped on T_{ab}^2 (wD3) and defect NS5-brane (dNS5).

If dNS5 goes across wD3,

a new D-string and a junction appear by Hanany-Witten effect.

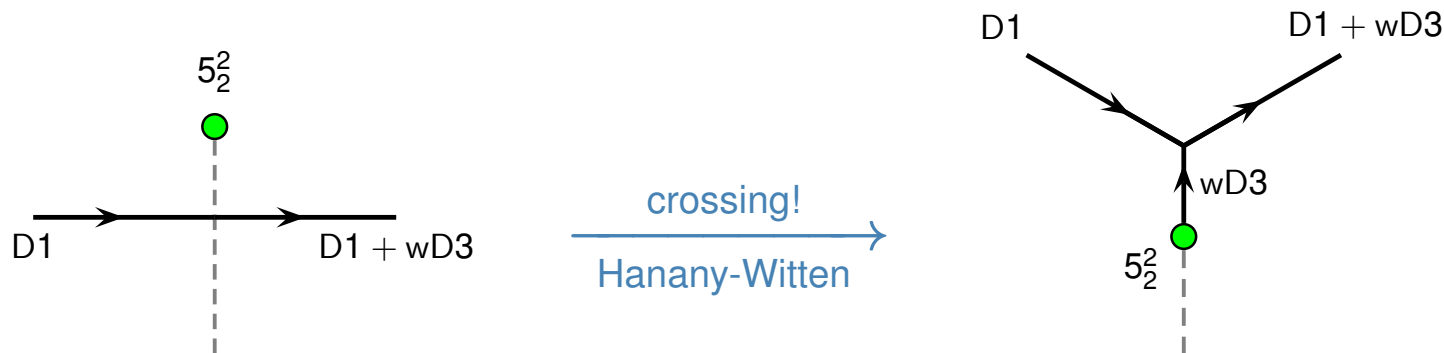


Consider a D-string and 5_2^2 -brane.

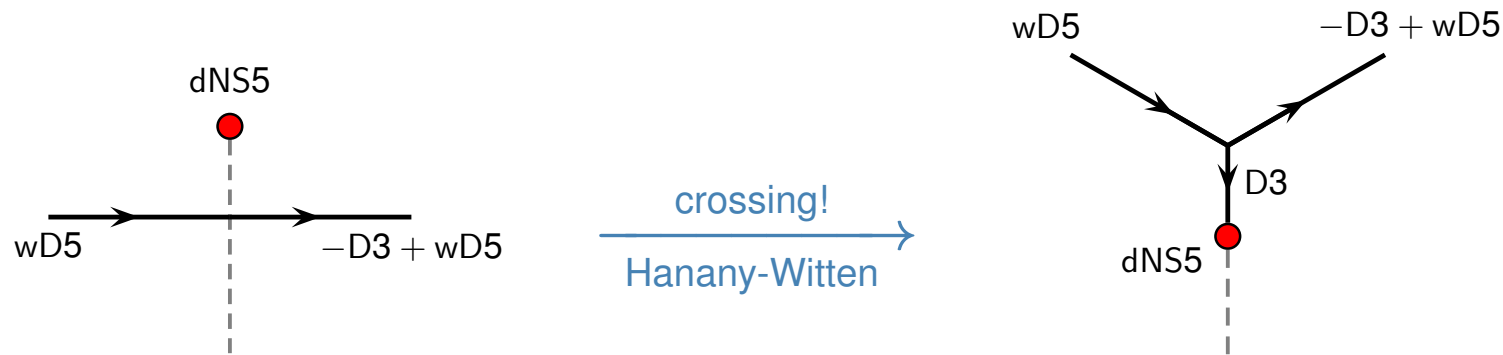
D-string charge is jumped by monodromy.

If 5_2^2 -brane goes across D-string,

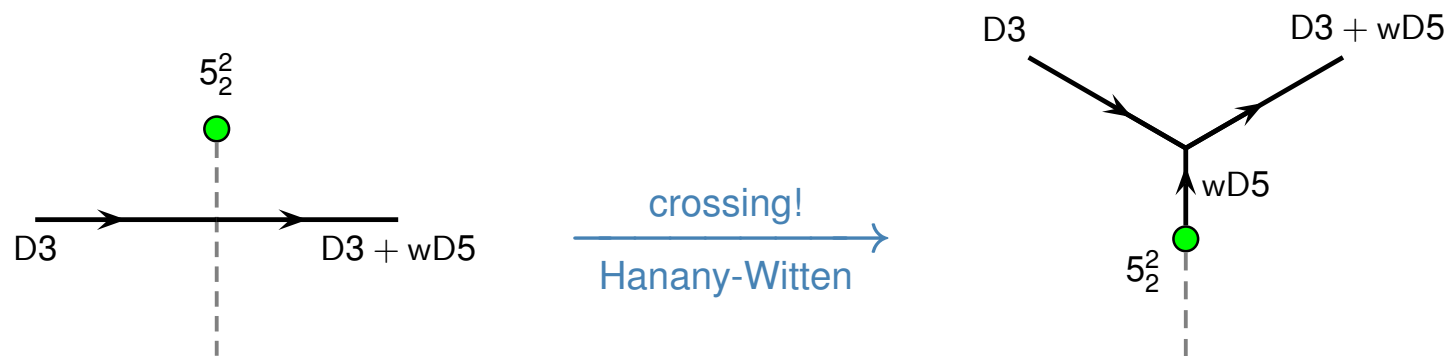
a new wD3 and a junction appear (Hanany-Witten effect).



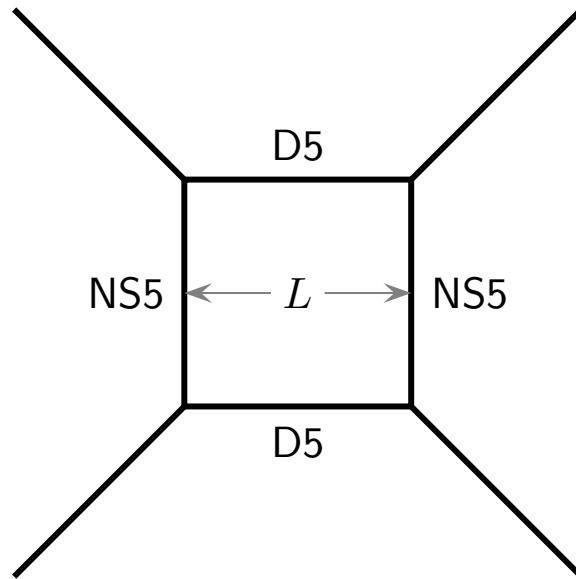
- defect NS5-brane and D5-brane wrapped on T_{ab}^2 :



- 5_2^2 -brane and D3-brane :



5D SUSY gauge theory can be realized by **brane construction** :



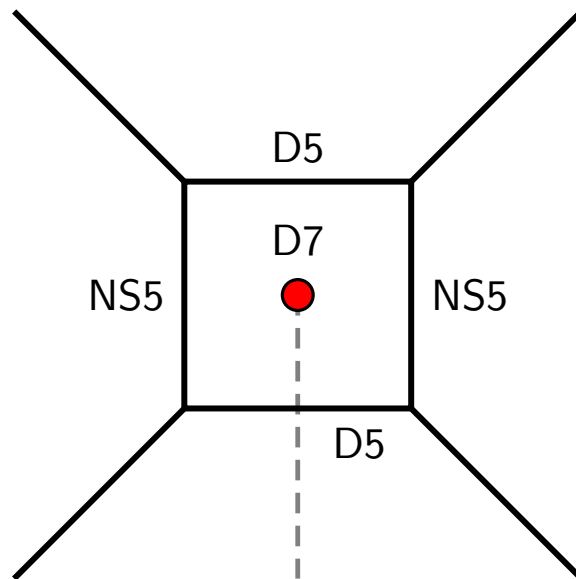
IIB	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
n D7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
D5	—	—	—	—	—				—	
NS5	—	—	—	—	—					—
$(1, 1)_5$	—	—	—	—	—				angle	

color : N_c D5 between 2 NS5 = $SU(N_c)$ gauge symmetry

flavor : N_f D5 outside 2 NS5 = N_f flavors

coupling : $\frac{1}{g_{\text{YM}}^2} \simeq \frac{L}{g_s \ell_s^2}$ (This can be derived from Dirac-Born-Infeld action of D5-brane.)

5D SUSY gauge theory can be realized by **brane construction** :



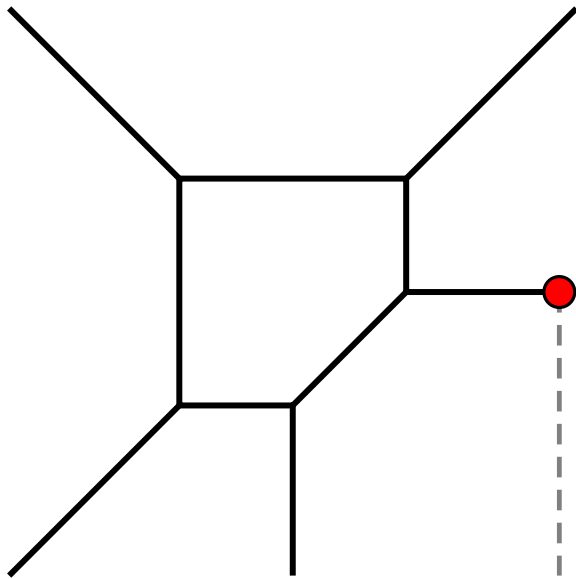
IIB	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
n D7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
D5	—	—	—	—	—				—	
NS5	—	—	—	—	—					—
$(1, 1)_5$	—	—	—	—	—				angle	

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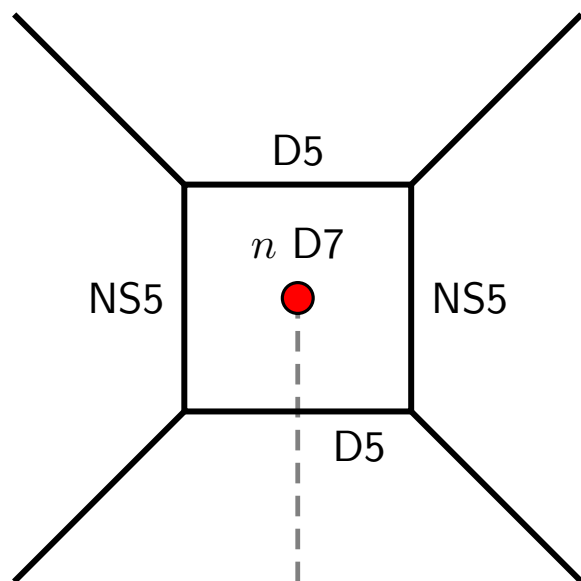
IIB	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
n D7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
D5	—	—	—	—	—				—	
NS5	—	—	—	—	—					—
$(1, 1)_5$	—	—	—	—	—				angle	

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5D SUSY gauge theory can be realized by **brane construction** :



IIB	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
n D7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
D5	—	—	—	—	—				—	
NS5	—	—	—	—	—					—
$(1, 1)_5$	—	—	—	—	—				angle	

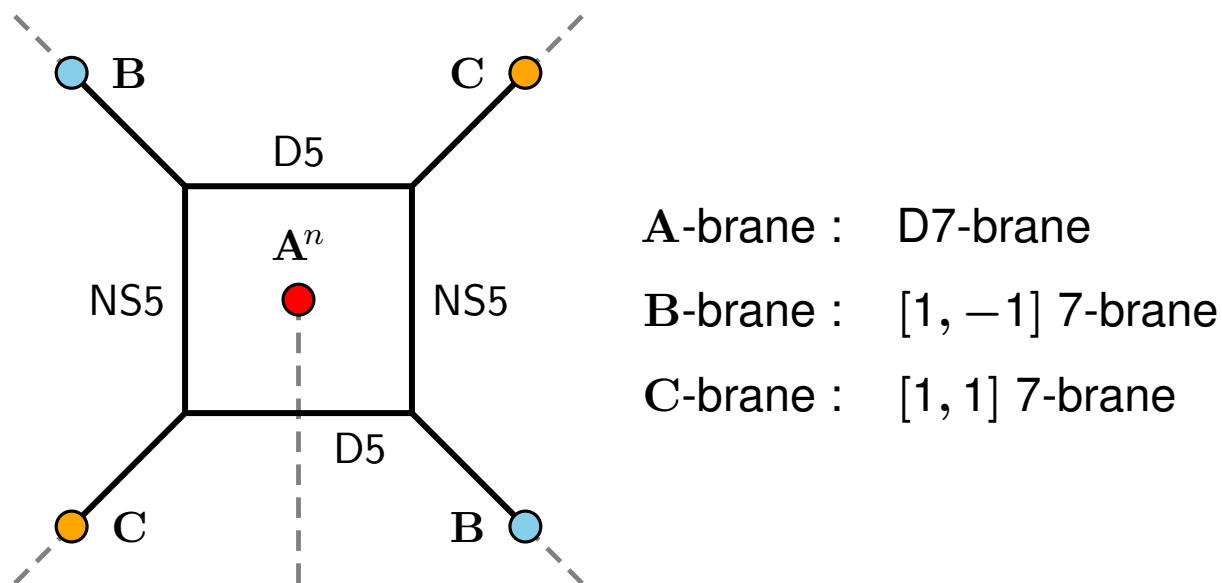
This config. indicates 5D $SU(2)$ gauge symmetry with n flavors on 01234-directions.

In the $L \propto 1/g_{\text{YM}}^2 \rightarrow 0$ limit, this gauge theory flows to SCFT with E_{n+1} symmetry.

(UV fixed point)

Let us consider a config. with $n = 5, 6, 7$ D7-branes.

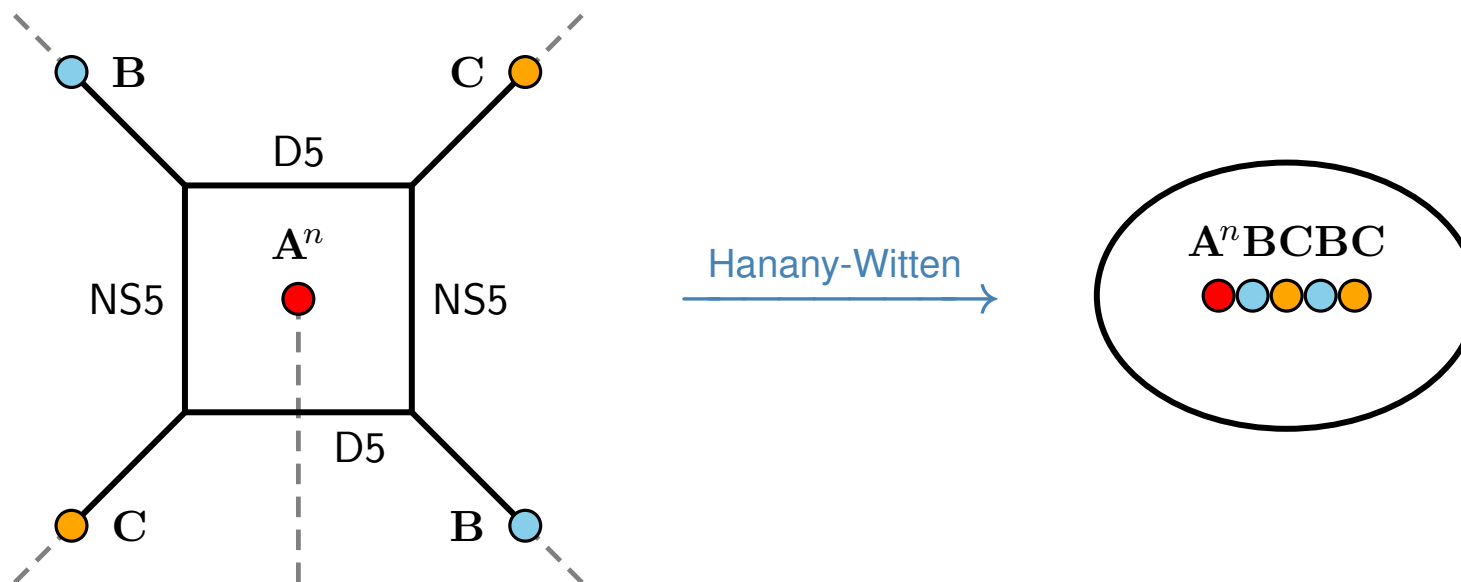
5D $\mathcal{N} = 1$ $SU(2)$ gauge theory with n flavors on D5-brane can be illustrated as



Without changing the 5D gauge theory on D5-brane,
 semi-infinite (p, q) 5-branes are terminated by $[p, q]$ 7-branes.

Let us consider a config. with $n = 5, 6, 7$ D7-branes.

5D $\mathcal{N} = 1$ $SU(2)$ gauge theory with n flavors on D5-brane can be illustrated as



Moving B- and C-branes along the (p, q) 5-branes and going inside the “box”, the (p, q) 5-branes are annihilated by the Hanany-Witten effect.

Further, the “box” becomes “loop” by back reaction of A^n -, B-, C-, B-, and C-branes.

(skipped drawing the branch cuts.)

Let us consider a config. with $n = 5, 6, 7$ D7-branes.

5D $\mathcal{N} = 1$ $SU(2)$ gauge theory with n flavors on D5-brane can be illustrated as



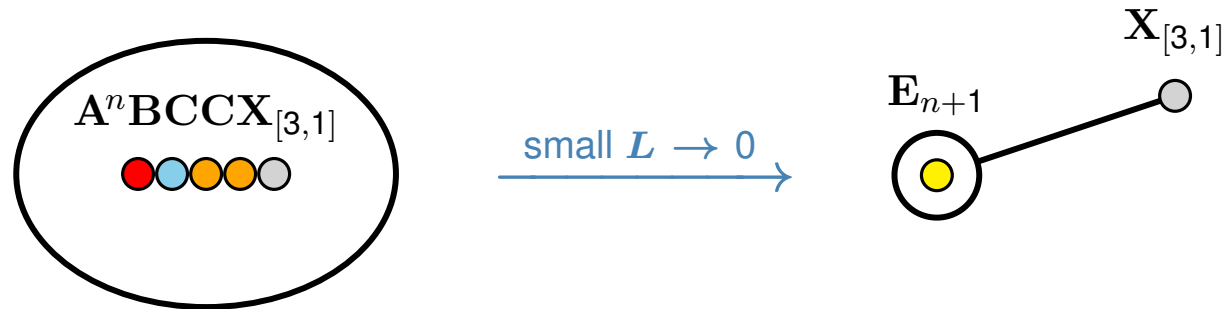
Perform the re-ordering of 7-branes with branch cuts.

When a 7-brane goes across another's branch cut, its monodromy is modified.

$$A^n BCBC \rightarrow A^n BCCX_{[3,1]} \quad \text{with } X_{[3,1]\text{-brane}} \equiv [3, 1]\text{-brane}$$

Let us consider a config. with $n = 5, 6, 7$ D7-branes.

5D $\mathcal{N} = 1$ $SU(2)$ gauge theory with n flavors on D5-brane can be illustrated as



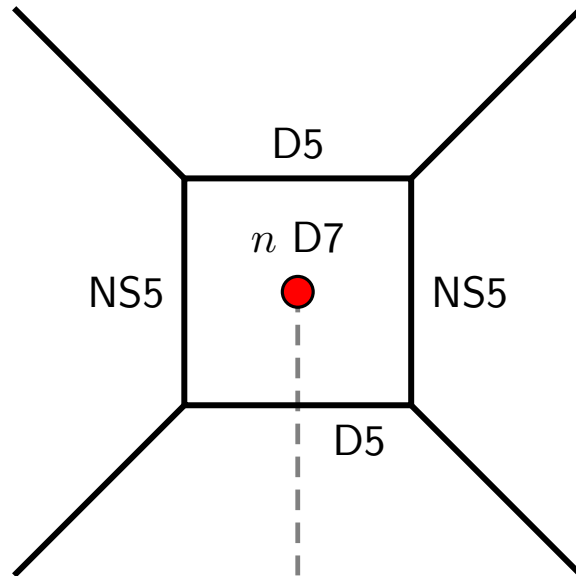
Perform the small loop limit $L \rightarrow 0$. This implies the strong coupling limit $g_{\text{YM}} \rightarrow \infty$.
There exists a non-trivial UV fixed point of 5D gauge theory \rightarrow CFT.

A^n -, B -, and C^2 -branes are collapsed to E_{n+1} -brane.

$X_{[3,1]}$ -brane is gone far away from E_{n+1} -brane.

Open string ending on 5-brane loop and E_{n+1} -brane provides E_{n+1} symmetry.

We argued 5D SUSY gauge theory and its strong coupling limit by **brane construction**.



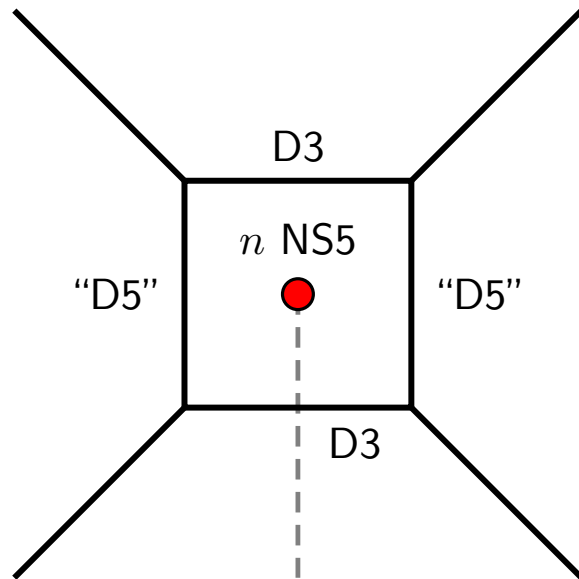
IIB	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
n D7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
D5	—	—	—	—	—				—	
NS5	—	—	—	—	—					—
$(1, 1)_5$	—	—	—	—	—					angle

ST_{67} -dual \rightarrow 5D

Perform string dualities : ST_{47} -dual \rightarrow 4D

ST_{34} -dual \rightarrow 3D

ST_{34} -dualized system :

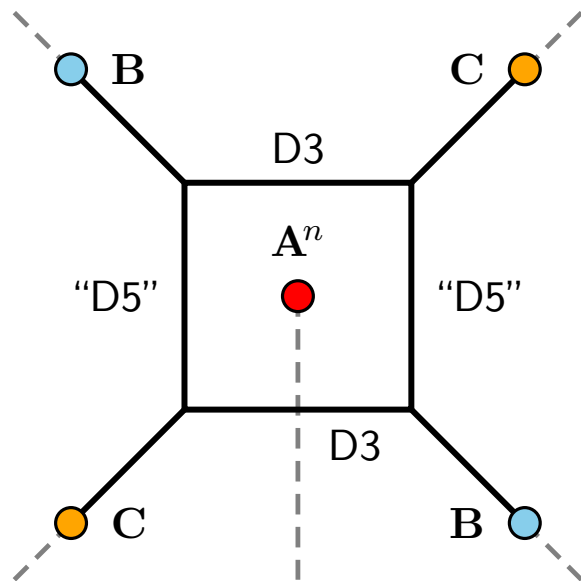


IIB	0	1	2	③	④	5	6	7	8	9
n NS5	—	—	—			—	—	—		
D3	—	—	—						—	
“D5”	—	—	—	—	—					—
$(1, 1)_3$	—	—	—						angle	

We can see 3D $SU(2)$ gauge symmetry with n flavors on 012-directions.

There exists IR fixed point.

ST₃₄-dualized system :



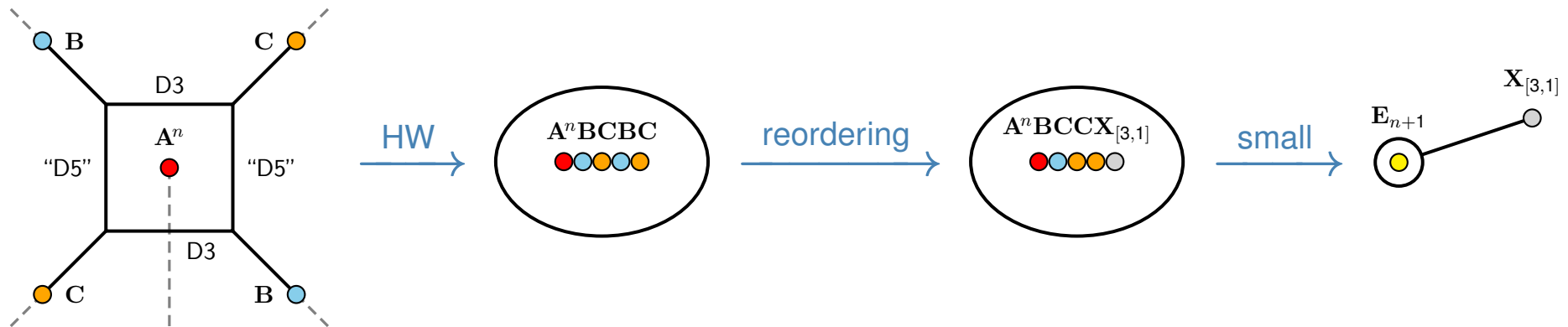
IIB	0	1	2	③	④	5	6	7	8	9
n NS5	—	—	—			—	—	—		
D3	—	—	—						—	
“D5”	—	—	—	—	—					—
$(1, 1)_3$	—	—	—							angle

A-brane : $[1, 0]_{s5}^T$ -brane = NS5

B-brane : $[1, -1]_{s5}^T$ -brane

C-brane : $[1, 1]_{s5}^T$ -brane

3D $\mathcal{N} = 4$ $SU(2)$ gauge with n flavors \rightarrow SCFT with E_{n+1} symmetry



3D gauge coupling is given by Dirac-Born-Infeld action of D3-brane :

$$\frac{1}{g_{\text{YM}}^2} \simeq \frac{L}{g_s}$$

Then the strong coupling limit is given by

$$L \rightarrow 0$$