

New  $G_2$ -manifolds and Their Physical Interpretations  
Physics of Codimension Six Singularities  
in  $G_2$ -holonomy Spaces

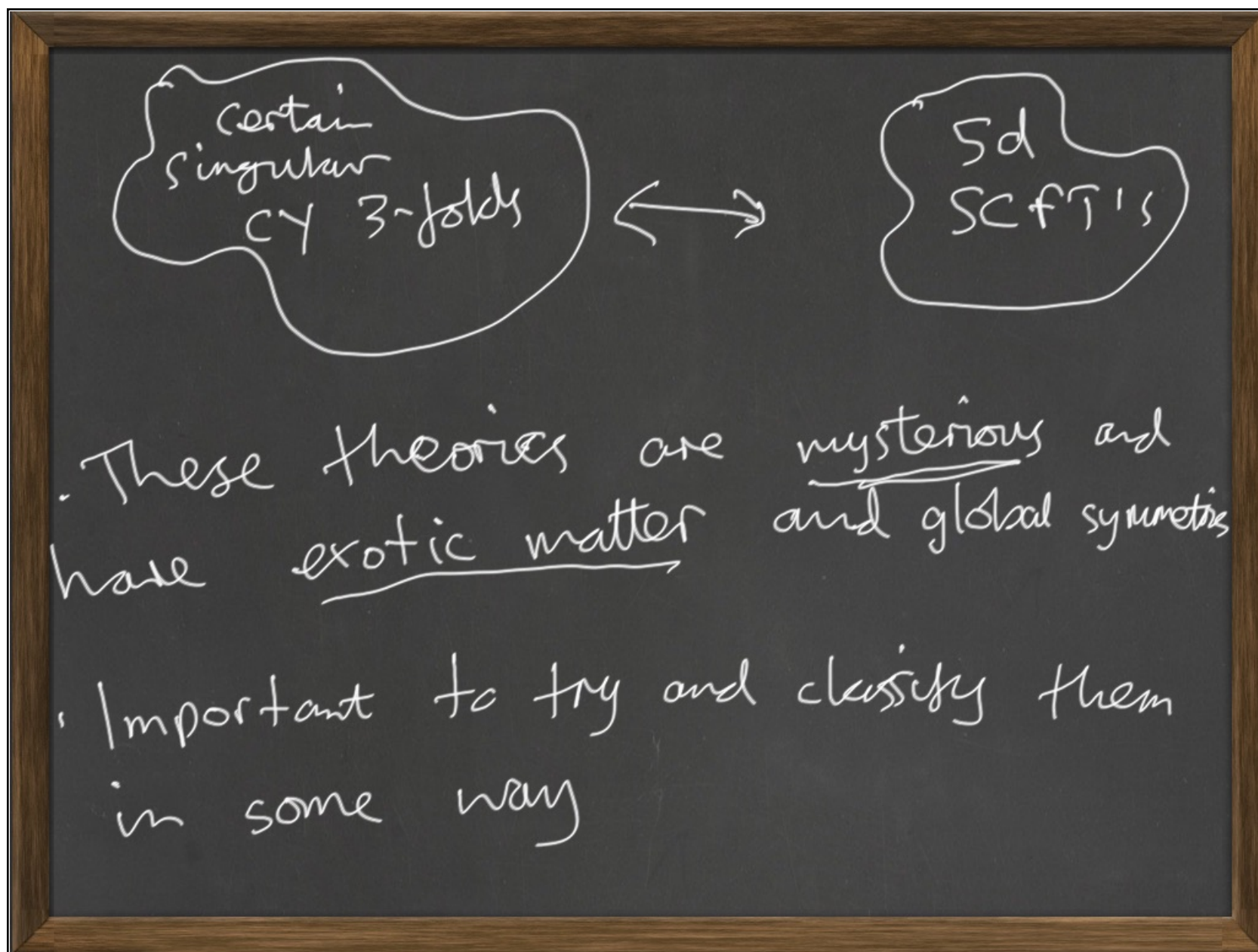
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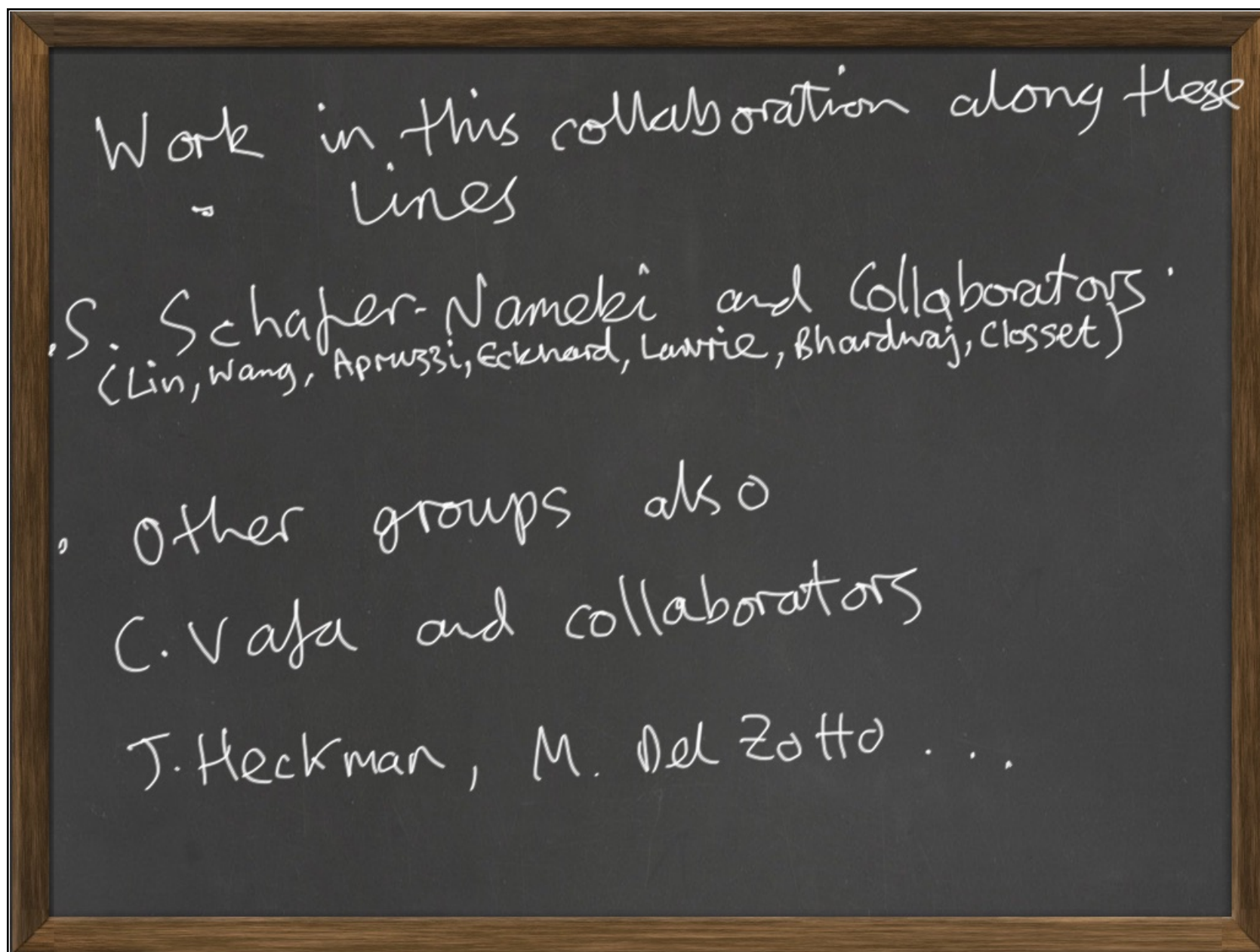
Simons Collaboration on Special Holonomy  
in Geometry, Analysis and Physics Workshop

14<sup>th</sup> Sep 2020

## 5d Superconformal Field Theories - and Singular spaces of $SU(3)$ holonomy

- Work of Seiberg ('96) showed the existence of non-trivial 5d theories with supersymmetry and conformal symmetry
- D. Morrison and N. Seiberg: interpret these as M-theory on a singular (eg conical) Calabi-Yau threefold

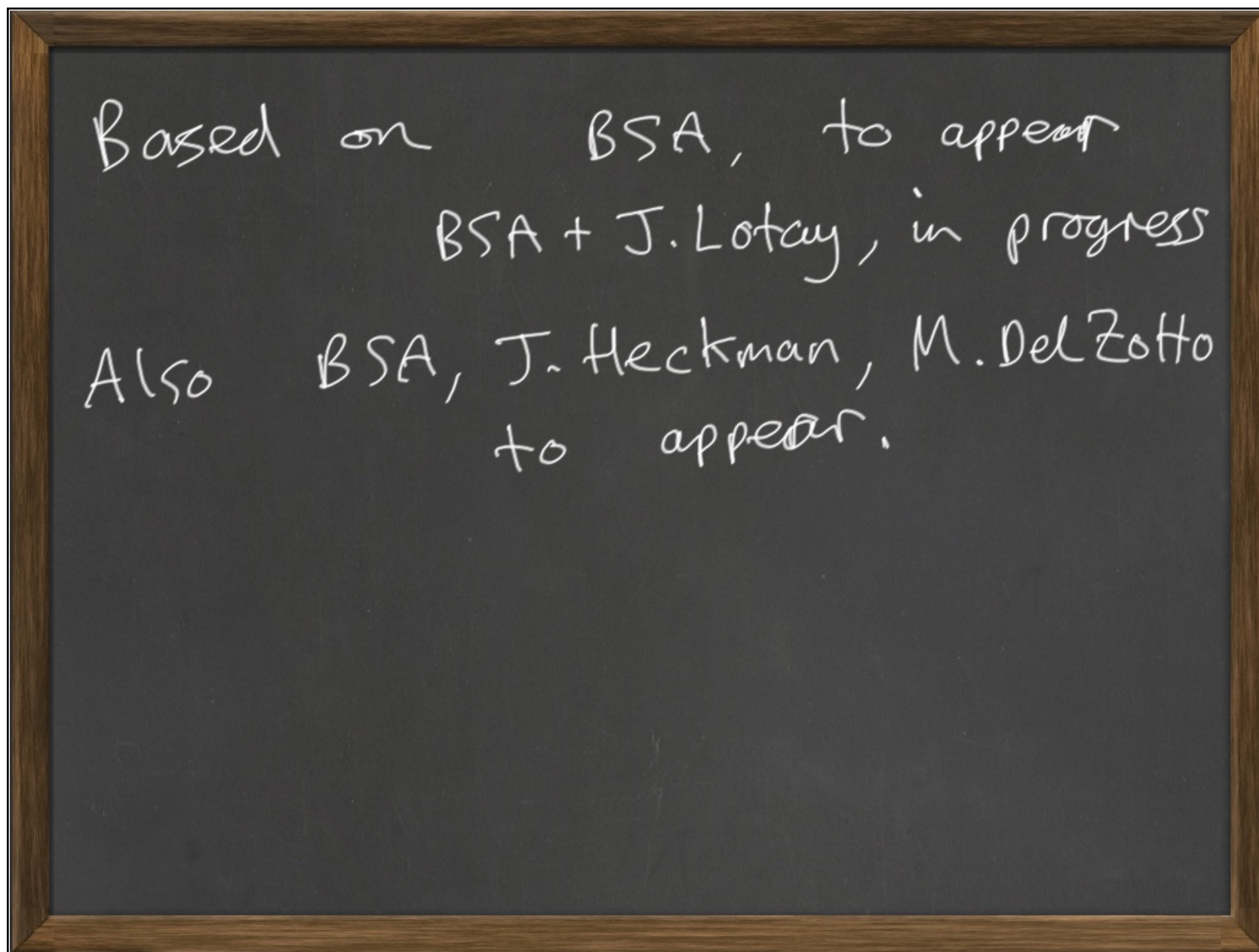


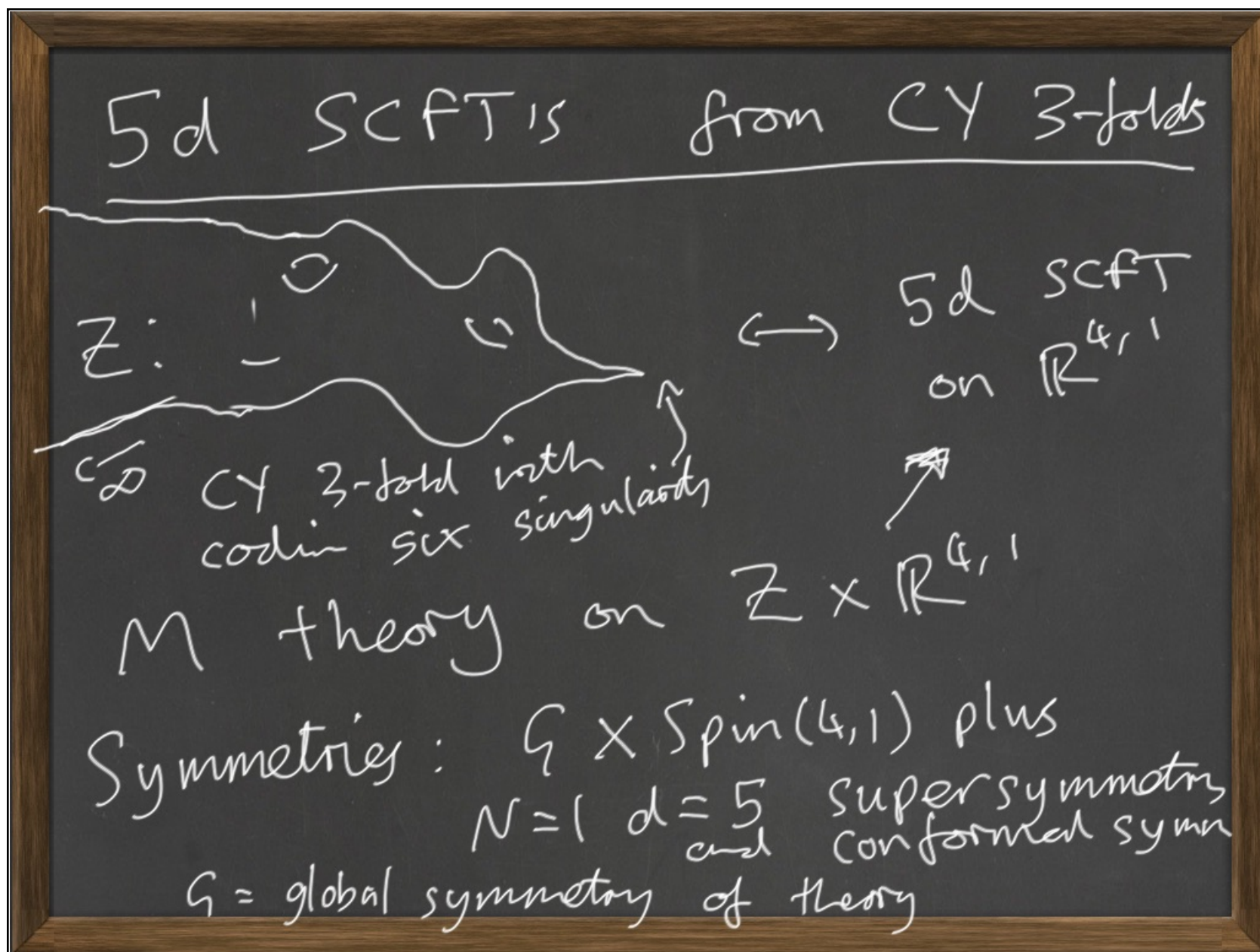


Such "Calabi-Yau singularities" can arise naturally inside  $G_2$ -holonomy spaces and a VERY broad question is

What is the physics of codimension six singularities in  $G_2$ -holonomy spaces?

This will take some years to explore. Here I will make some general remarks, introduce a <sup>(large)</sup> class of examples and study one particular case.





$\zeta$ : codimension four singularities of  $Z$ ,  
supported on non-compact curves.  
(compactly supported ADE sing give  
gauge symmetries).

What if this singularity occurs  
inside a  $G_2$ -holonomy space  $X$ ?

M-theory on  $X \times \mathbb{R}^{3,1}$

General Properties :

5d  $N=1$  SUSY  $\longrightarrow$  4d  $N=1$  SUSY

$Spin(4,1) \longrightarrow Spin(3,1)$

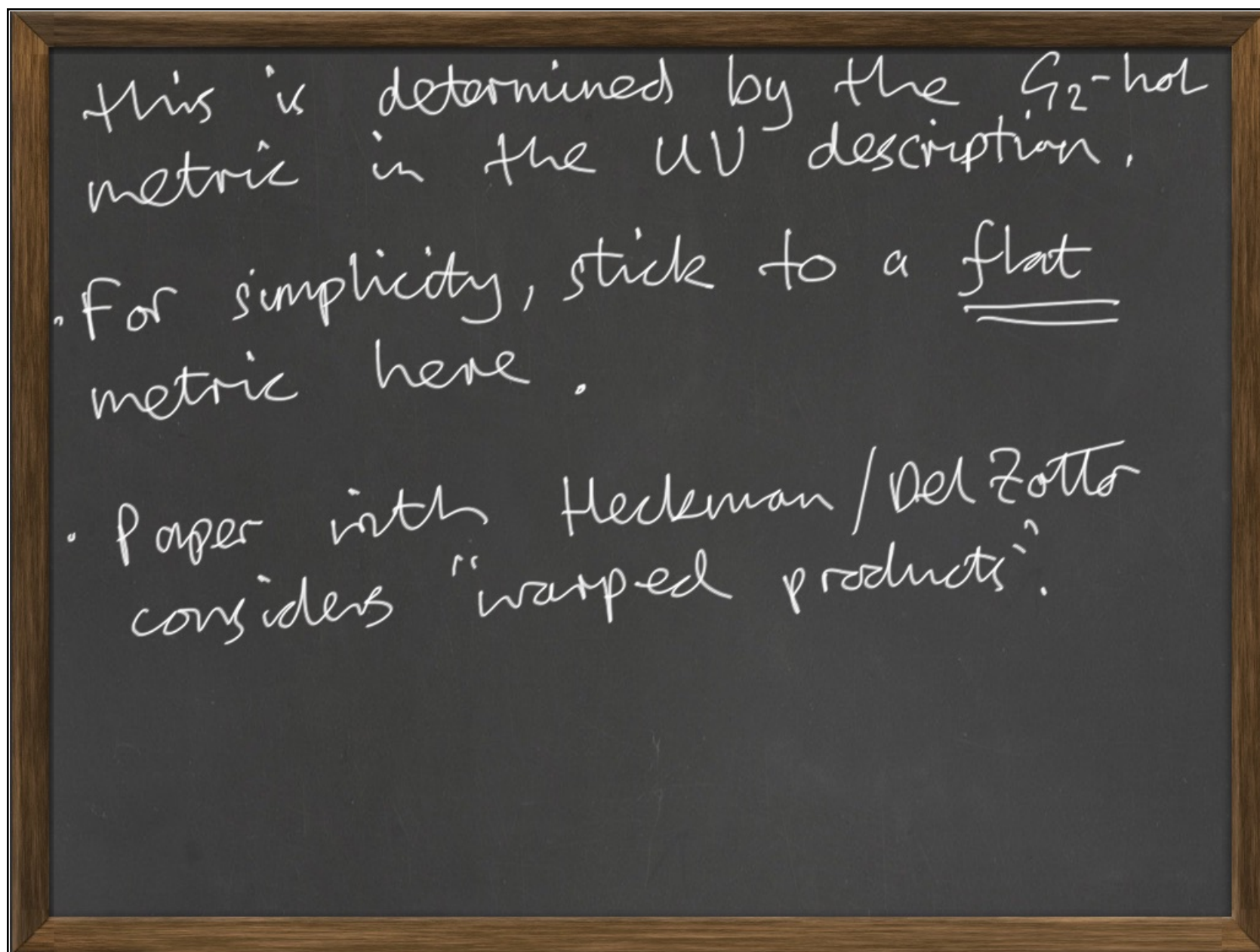
$\mathcal{G} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G} ?$  DEPENDS ON  
DETAILS

Consider our 5d theory, but on a spacetime with only 4d Lorentz symmetry:

5d SCFT on

$\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^{3,1}$	0
$\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^{3,1}$	1
$S^1 \times \mathbb{R}^{3,1}$	2
$I \times \mathbb{R}^{3,1}$	3

- We will consider case 1 and 3 here
- In general, details depend on the metric on the 5-manifold and



For flat spacetime we have:

$$0 \quad \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^{3,1} = \mathbb{R}^{4,1} \text{ with full symmetry.}$$

$$1 \quad \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^{3,1} = \frac{\mathbb{R}}{\mathbb{Z}_2} \times \mathbb{R}^{3,1}$$

$$2 \quad S^1 \times \mathbb{R}^{3,1} = S^1 \times \mathbb{R}^{3,1} \text{ is just reduction of 5d theory on } S^1 \text{ has } N=2 \text{ susy}$$

$$3 \quad \mathbb{I} \times \mathbb{R}^{3,1} = \frac{S^1}{\mathbb{Z}_2} \times \mathbb{R}^{3,1}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Stick to cases 1 and 3.

Q: How Does  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  act on states  
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A:  $\mathbb{Z}_2 =$  CP symmetry of 5d theory

$P: y \rightarrow -y$        $C =$  charge conjugation

## CP symmetry

C takes particles in  $\text{rep}^n$   $R$  to  $\overline{R}$

P reflects some number of space coords.

CP is violated in nature leading to subtle differences between particles and anti particles.

$$1) \quad \frac{\mathbb{R}}{\mathbb{Z}_2} \times \mathbb{R}^{3,1} \Leftrightarrow \text{M-theory on } X = \frac{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{Z}}{\mathbb{Z}_2}$$

$$3) \quad \frac{S^1}{\mathbb{Z}_2} \times \mathbb{R}^{3,1} \Leftrightarrow \text{M-theory on } X = \frac{S^1 \times \mathbb{Z}}{\mathbb{Z}_2}$$

If  $(Z, \omega, \Omega)$  is CY metric then  $X$   
has  $G_2$ -structure  $\varphi = \text{d}y \wedge \omega + \text{Re} \Omega$

$$\mathbb{Z}_2: (y, Z) \rightarrow (-y, \sigma(Z))$$

$\sigma$ : real structure on  $Z$

$$\sigma: (w, \Omega) \rightarrow (-w, \overline{\Omega}) .$$

The fact that  $\sigma$  acts as "complex conjugation" naturally identifies it as a "charge conjugation operator" in 5d theory.

In particular  $\sigma$  reverses the orientation of  $Z$ .

• Obviously require that  $(Z, w, \Omega)$  has a real structure  $\sigma$ .

- Such  $G_2$ -orbifolds were considered by Joyce and Joyce-Karigiannis in compact setting.
- Here we are interested in both non-compact and compact setting

Using this geometric embedding, we have the following general results:

In the 5d theory from  $Z$ , key role is played by compact, holomorphic divisors  $D \subset Z$  which collapse at the singularity. MS-branes wrapping such  $D$ 's give BPS strings in 5d whose mass/length  $\rightarrow 0$ .

## Tensionless Strings in 4d

6 : typically will act as a  
 real structure on  $D$ , which  
 therefore preserves  $[D]$ .

• Hence  $D$  is coassociative in  $X$ .

• Hence, such strings are also BPS  
 in 4d theory with  $M/L \rightarrow 0$

• Hence, we expect an interesting 4d  
 theory.

General Properties continued . . .

$SU(2)$  global symmetry.

In general,  $Z^6 =$  special Lagrangian  
submanifold  $\subset Z$   
 $L$

Along  $L$ ,  $X$  has a codim four

$A_1$ -singularity  $\Rightarrow$  4d theory has  
 $SU(2)$  global symmetry! (at  $(0,L) \subset (y,Z)$ )

· If eg  $L \cap D \neq \emptyset$  we might expect something interesting to happen. ?

A (large) Class of Examples:  $\frac{\mathbb{R}^7}{\mathbb{Z}_2 \rtimes \Gamma}$

• Here  $\frac{\mathbb{R}^7}{\mathbb{Z}_2 \rtimes \Gamma} = \underbrace{\left( \mathbb{R} \times \frac{\mathbb{C}^3}{\Gamma} \right)}_{\mathbb{Z}_2}$  FLAT  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

$\Gamma =$  Any finite subgroup of  $SU(3)$

$$\mathbb{Z}_2: (y, z_{1,2,3}) \rightarrow (-y, z_{1,2,3}^*)$$

$\mathbb{Z}_2 \rtimes \Gamma$  is clearly a finite subgroup of  $G_2$ , for all  $\Gamma$ .

$\mathbb{C}^3$  admits (at least one) crepant  
 $\frac{1}{r}$  resolution  $Z_r \cong \widehat{\mathbb{C}^3_r}$  (S.S. Roan)  
 Hori, Reid, ...

$\mathbb{C}^3$  has codim six conical singularities  
 $\frac{1}{r}$  avoid this giving a 5d SCFT.

Only well studied for Abelian  $r$ 's  
 (Some non-Abelian cases being studied  
 in (BSA, Lambert, Nijjar, Svane))

• Resolving  $\mathbb{C}^3/r$  to  $\mathbb{Z}_r$  physically means we are on the Coulomb branch, where a weakly coupled IR gauge theory description exists

Question: What is the physics  
of M theory on  $\frac{\mathbb{R}^7}{G'}$   $G' \subset G_2$ ?  
finite

Question: When can we desingularise  
 $\frac{\mathbb{R}^7}{\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \Gamma}$  within  $G_2$ -holonomy?

Example (w J. Lotay)

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$r = \mathbb{U}_3 = \text{centre of } SU(3)$

$\sqrt{\mathbb{C}^3} / \mathbb{U}_3 = O(-3) | \mathbb{CP}^2$  and admits  
a (highly symmetric) <sup>complete</sup> metric of  
 $SU(3)$  holonomy, due to Calabi.

• Metric is Asymptotically Conical  
 $g_{r \rightarrow \infty} \approx dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega_s^2 \quad \mathbb{R}^+ \times \frac{S^5}{\mathbb{U}_3}$

$$L \equiv Z^6 = O(-3)|_{\mathbb{CP}^2}^6 = O(-3)_{\mathbb{RP}^2}$$

$$O(-3)_{\mathbb{RP}^2} = \frac{\mathbb{R} \times S^2}{\mathbb{Z}_2} \quad (\mathbb{Z}_2 \text{ is not our involution})$$

We have  $A_1$ -singularity along  $\frac{\mathbb{R} \times S^2}{\mathbb{Z}_2}$ .

Joyce-Karigiannis: if  $Z^6$  has nowhere zero harmonic 1-form (or  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -twisted)

$\Rightarrow$  can resolve singularities by gluing in  $M_{\text{EH}}^4 \times L$  (or  $\frac{M^4 \times \hat{L}}{\mathbb{Z}_2}$ ) where  $M_{\text{EH}}^4$  is  $T^4 S^2$ .

$J-k$  is in compact case.

However, if 1-form  $\alpha$  in non-compact case is  $L^2$ -normalisable and decays sufficiently fast, their results should also go through.

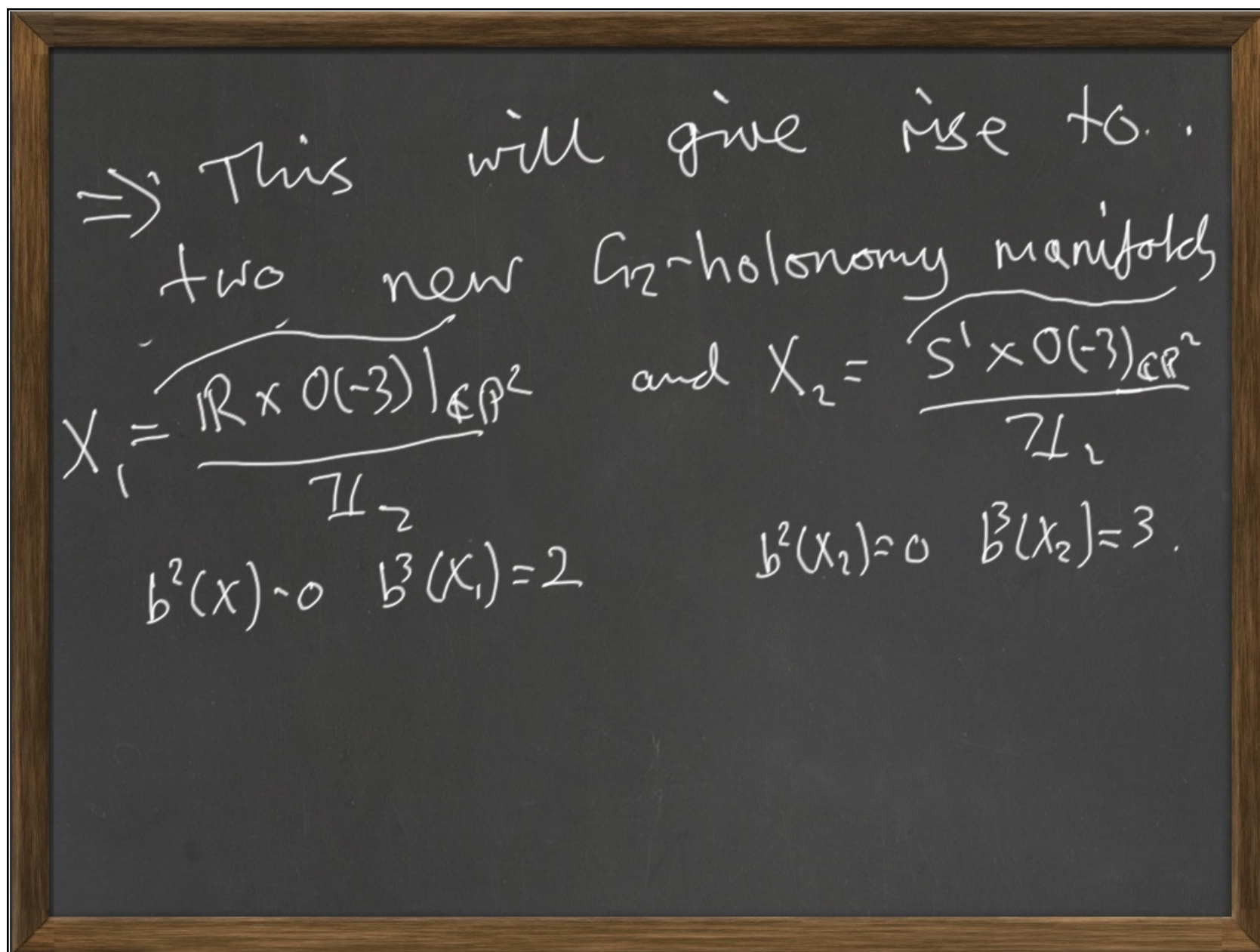
However, now have to ensure that  $(L, g_L)$  has appropriate behaviour at  $\infty$

$$\Rightarrow g_L \rightarrow \text{ALE at } \infty.$$

Remarkably, this turns out to be true for  $Z_{\mathbb{H}_3} = O(-3)|_{\mathbb{CP}^2}$  with Calabi metric!

- $(L, g_L)$  admits a nowhere zero,  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -twisted harmonic 1-form, with fast decay at  $\infty$
- $g_L$  is flat at  $\infty$

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In general one can consider, for any finite  $\Gamma \subset SU(3)$ ,

$$\underbrace{(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{Z}_\Gamma)}_{\mathbb{Z}_2} = \underbrace{(\mathbb{R} \times \widehat{\frac{\mathbb{C}^3}{\Gamma}})}_{\mathbb{Z}_2}$$

and would like to know about the  $G_2$ -holonomy metrics and possible desingularisations. But this of course requires a better understanding of Calabi-Yau metrics on  $\widehat{\frac{\mathbb{C}^3}{\Gamma}}$ .

Compact case: a surprise

• Instead of  $\underbrace{(S' \times \frac{\mathbb{C}^3}{\mathbb{Z}_3})}_{\mathbb{Z}_2}$ , can

consider  $\underbrace{(S' \times \frac{T^6}{\mathbb{Z}_3})}_{\mathbb{Z}_2}$

Where  $T^6 = \left(\frac{\mathbb{C}}{\Lambda}\right)^3$   $\Lambda = \text{Hexagonal Lattice}$

• Locally the singularities are all either modelled on  $\frac{\mathbb{C}^3}{\mathbb{Z}_3}$  or

$\frac{(\mathbb{R} \times \frac{\mathbb{C}^3}{\mathbb{Z}_3})}{\mathbb{Z}_2}$  which we know

how to resolve

• But for the latter we still require a nowhere zero harmonic 1-form

• In fact in  $\left( S^1 \times \underbrace{\frac{T^6}{\mathbb{Z}_3}}_{\mathbb{Z}_2} \right)$ , the singularity at the origin is along

$$L = \underbrace{T^3 \# \frac{S^1 \times S^2}{\mathbb{Z}_2}}$$

In local case this was  $\mathbb{R}^3 \# \frac{\mathbb{R} \times S^2}{\mathbb{Z}_2} \cong O(-3)_{\mathbb{R}P^2}$

So to use Joyce-Karigiannis need  
 a nowhere zero harmonic 1-form on  
 $T^3 \# \frac{S^1 \times S^2}{\mathbb{Z}_2}$

General topological consideration  
 show that extending our local model  
 1-form into the  $T^3$  directions will  
always produce a zero.

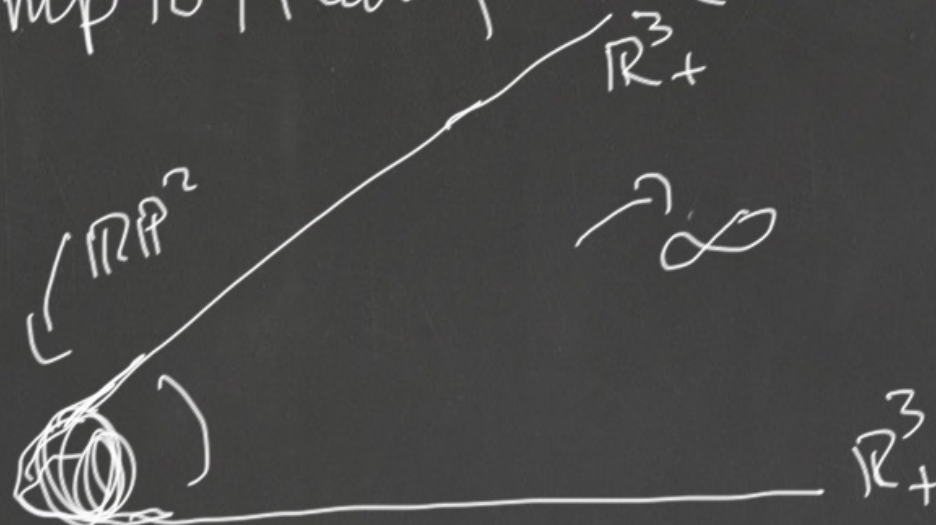
- If this zero is "generic", it will give a codimension 7 singularity with topology  $\mathbb{R}^4 \times \mathbb{C}P^3$
- If one were able to have a controlled model for this one might be able to produce compact  $G_2$ -holonomy spaces with codimension 7 singularities.

## A Physical Interpretation

The fixed pt set of  $\sigma$  in  $\mathbb{C}^3$  is  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . But  $\mathbb{R}^3 = \mathbb{R}_+^3 \cup \mathbb{R}_-^3$  with a conical singularity at  $\{0\}$ .

Resolving to  $O(-3)\mathbb{CP}^2$ , replaces  $\{0\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  by  $\mathbb{RP}^2$  ie a real blow up

But asymptotically we have:



The two ends can be interpreted  
as D6-branes in Type IIA theory  
(plus O6-planes)

In the compact model, the  
2 D6-brane ends have no  
choice but to intersect  
somewhere and this produces  
chiral fermions and codimension 7  
singularity

- So this (and examples like it) could be promising for understanding better codimension 7 singularities in  $G_2$ -holonomy.
- In general, understanding codimension six singularities in  $G_2$ -hol spaces seems both physically and mathematically interesting.

