

What's New in Moonshine?

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Based on joint work with
Anagiannis, Duncan, Harrison, Kachru, Mertens, Volpato, Zimet
and work by **many others**.



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**More Umbral Moonshine
Modules Constructed!**

**K3 Elliptic Genus
Symmetries Classified**

**Genus zero mystery
of Monstrous Moonshine explained!**

**Experts agreed:
moonshine proliferation is inevitable!**

Moonshine for a Pariah!

M5 branes moonshine

Yet Another Case?

Moonshine news on both the physical and the mathematical front, at a conceptual and a technical level!

Outline

- I. Old News
- II. Umbral Moonshine and K3 String Theory
- III. Moonshine Proliferation

Monstrous Moonshine

Member of the Associated Press .
Aenean commodo ligula eget dolor.
Aenean. Aenean commodo ligula eget
dolor. Aenhswe. Cejhciebee fcdeded.

Est. 1869

Late 70's ~Early 90's, last century

Price 6d

J and M. In 1973 a finite simple group of monstrous size was suspected to exist. Its character table was computed in 1978, and it was soon realised that it has a bizarre relation with the coefficients of the canonical modular function, called J -invariant.

$$J : \mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$J(\tau) = J(\tau + 1) = J(-1/\tau) \quad (q := e^{2\pi i\tau})$$

$$= (1)q^{-1} + (1 + 196883)q^2 + (1 + 196883 + 21296876)q^3 + \dots$$

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The **Monstrous Moonshine Conjecture** of Conway-Norton ('79) states the existence of a Monster representation $V^{\mathfrak{h}} = \bigoplus_n V_n^{\mathfrak{h}}$ such that its graded character

$$J_g(\tau) := \sum_{n=-1}^{\infty} q^n (\text{Tr}_{V_n^{\mathfrak{h}}} g)$$

is the **unique**

$$J_g: \mathbb{H} / \Gamma_g \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathbb{P}^1$$

and $J_g(\tau) = q^{-1} + 0 + \dots$ for some $\Gamma_g \subset SL_2(\mathbb{R})$.

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The Theory. In 1984, Frenkel, Lepowsky and Meurman constructed V^{\natural} by \mathbb{Z}_2 -orbifolding the $c=24$ chiral CFT constructed by 24 bosons on a 24-dimensional torus defined by the *Leech lattice*.

Niemeier (1973): There are 24 even, self-dual lattices in 24 dimensions with a def. signature.

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Lambda_L \quad (\text{Leech Lattice}) \\ N^X \quad (\text{labelled by 23 ADE root systems } X) \end{array} \right.$

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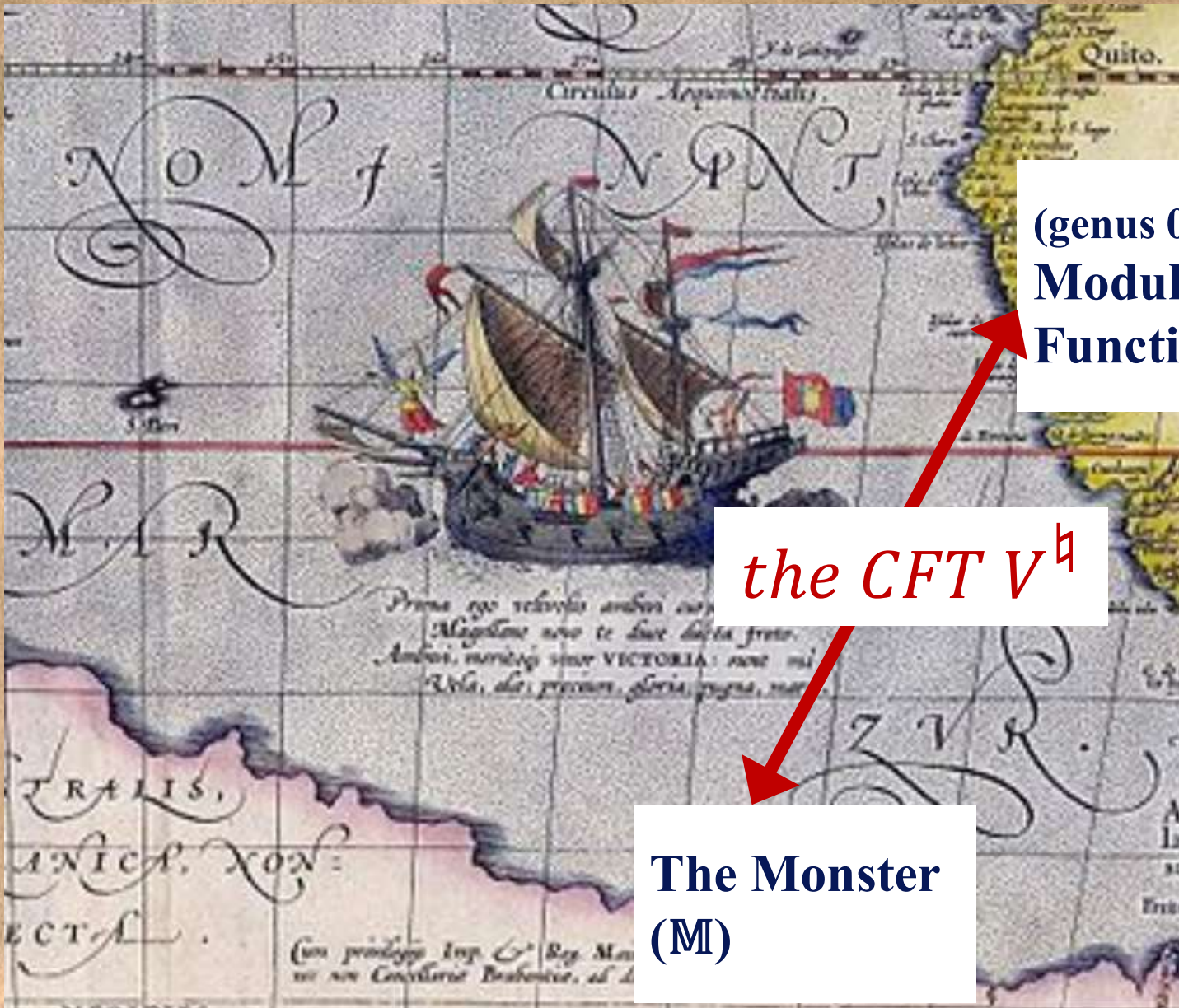
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Niemeier (1973): There are 24 even, self-dual lattices in 24 dimensions with a def. signature.

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Lambda_L \\ N^X \end{array} \right.$ (Leech Lattice)
(labelled by 23 *ADE* root systems *X*)

The FLM construction was verified by Borcherds in '92 using ideas from string theory.

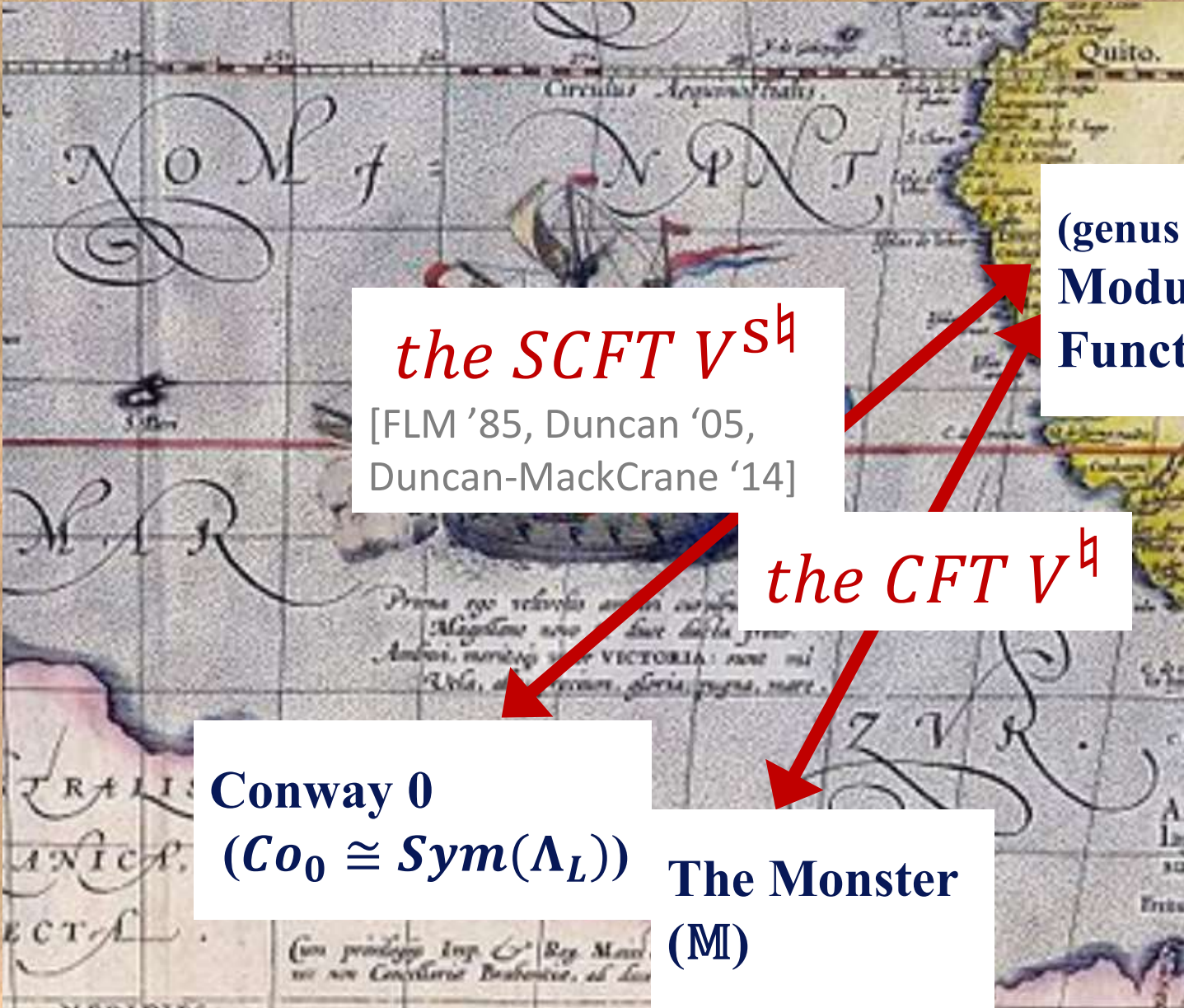
The physical meaning of Borcherd's proof is further illuminated by the work by Paquette-Persson-Volpato [2016-17], in terms of 1-dim heterotic strings.



**(genus 0)
Modular
Functions**

the CFT V^h

**The Monster
(M)**



the SCFT V^{sh}
[FLM '85, Duncan '05,
Duncan-MackCrane '14]

**(genus 0)
Modular
Functions**

the CFT V^h

**Conway 0
($Co_0 \cong Sym(\Lambda_L)$)**

**The Monster
(M)**



MATHIEU AND UMBRAL MOONSHINE

MOONSHINE REVIVAL

WORLD EXCLUSIVES

K3 elliptic genus displays moonshine behavior! Recall that the non-linear sigma model on K3 – the non-trivial CY 2-fold – is a N=(4,4) SCFT. The elliptic genus computes the BPS spectrum and is rigid. When decomposed into N=4 characters, we obtain a nice infinite q -series that encodes representations of another sporadic group, M_{24} . [Eguchi-Ooguri-Tachikawa, '10]

$$\begin{aligned} EG(K3; \tau, z) &:= \text{Tr}_{H_{RR}} \left((-1)^F q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - \frac{c}{24}} e^{2\pi i z J_0} \right) \\ &= \frac{\theta_1(\tau, z)^2}{\eta(\tau, z)^3} (24\mu(\tau, z) + H(\tau)) \end{aligned}$$

of massive rep of N=4 SCA

$$H(\tau) = 2 q^{-\frac{1}{8}} (-1 + 45 q + 231 q^2 + 770 q^3 + \dots)$$

dim. of irreps of M_{24}

MATHIEU AND UMBRAL MOONSHINE

MOONSHINE REVIVAL

WORLD EXCLUSIVES

Mock modular property is another important feature of this q -series.

$$\widehat{H}(\tau) := H(\tau) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{4i}} \int_{-\bar{\tau}}^{\infty} d\tau' (\tau + \tau')^{-\frac{1}{2}} (24 \eta^3(\tau'))$$



Non-holom,
transforms well



**mock
modular form**



shadow

$$\sim \widehat{H}\left(\frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}\right)$$

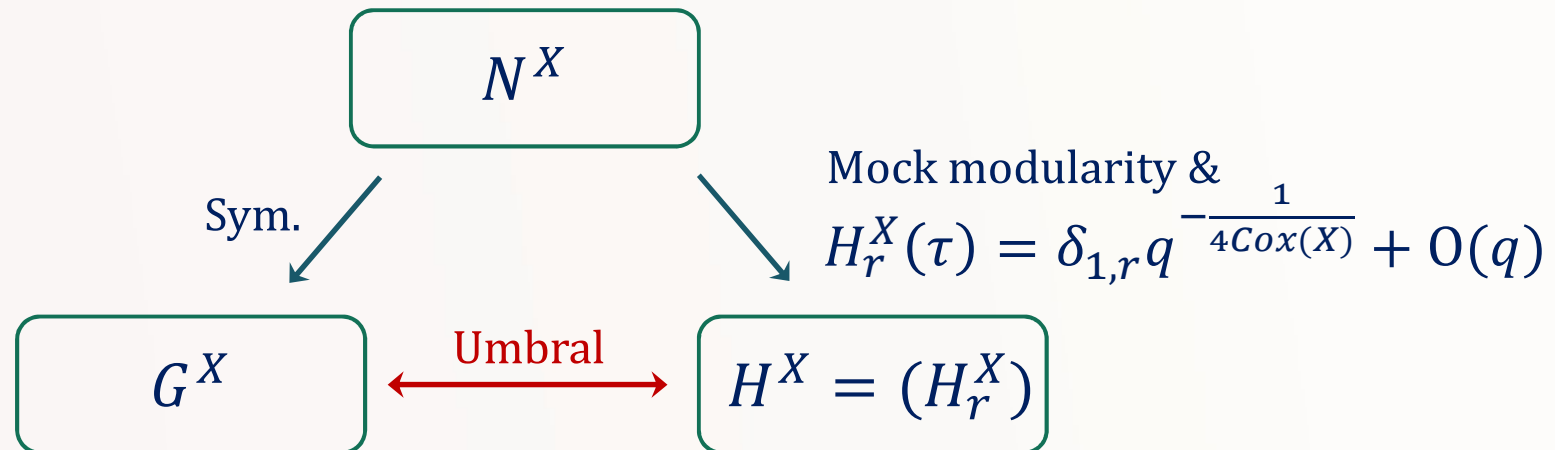
MATHIEU AND UMBRAL MOONSHINE

MOONSHINE REVIVAL

WORLD EXCLUSIVES

Umbral Moonshine was found to be the natural generalisation of Mathieu moonshine. For each of the 23 Niemeier lattices N^X , the lattice symmetries define a finite group G^X , while the root system X determines a vector of mock modular forms $H^X = (H_r^X)$.

[MC-Duncan-Harvey, '13]



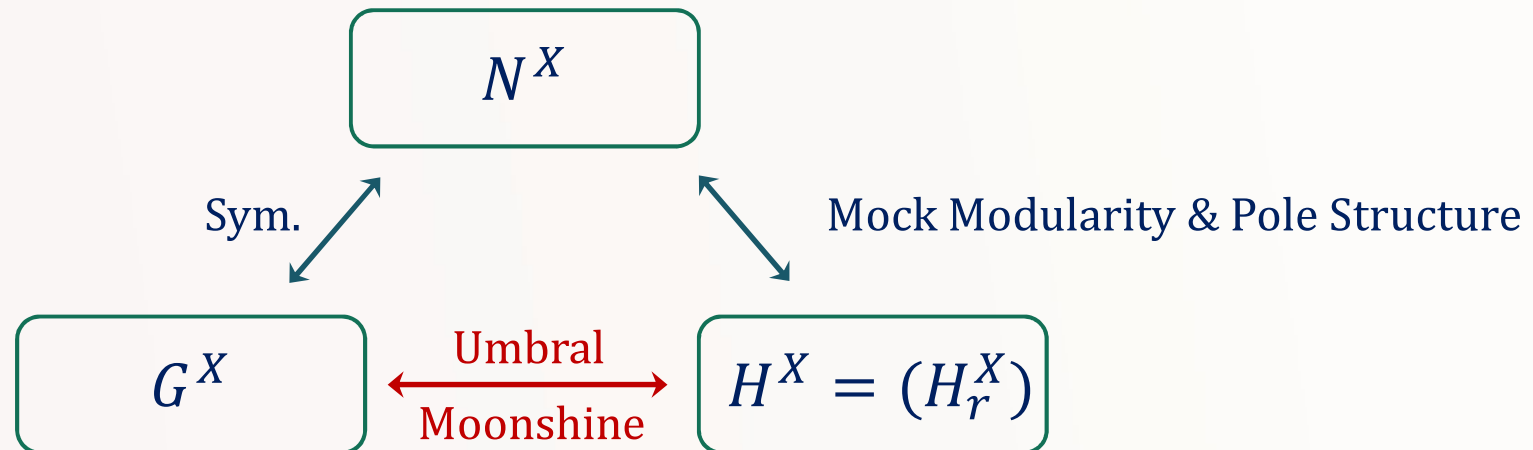
MATHIEU AND UMBRAL MOONSHINE

MOONSHINE REVIVAL

WORLD EXCLUSIVES

Umbral Moonshine was found to be the natural generalisation of Mathieu moonshine. *e.g.* When taking $X = 24 A_1$, then $G^X \cong M_{24}$,

$$H_1^X(\tau) = H(\tau) = 2 q^{-\frac{1}{8}}(-1 + 45 q + 231 q^2 + 770 q^3 + \dots).$$

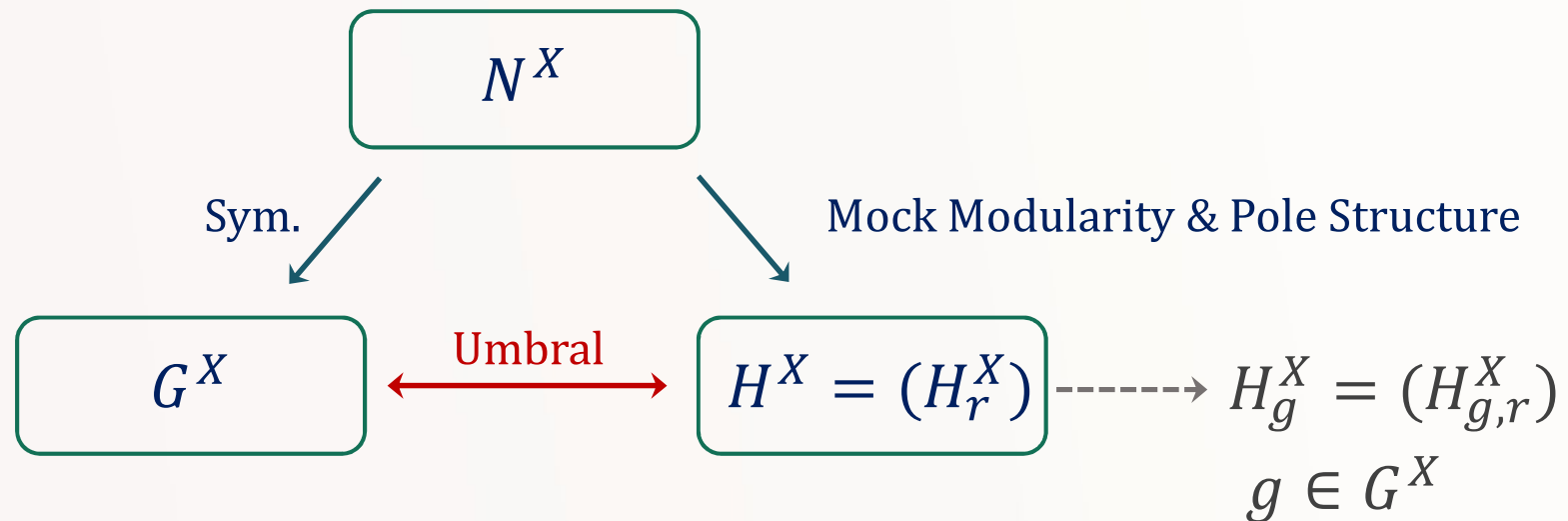


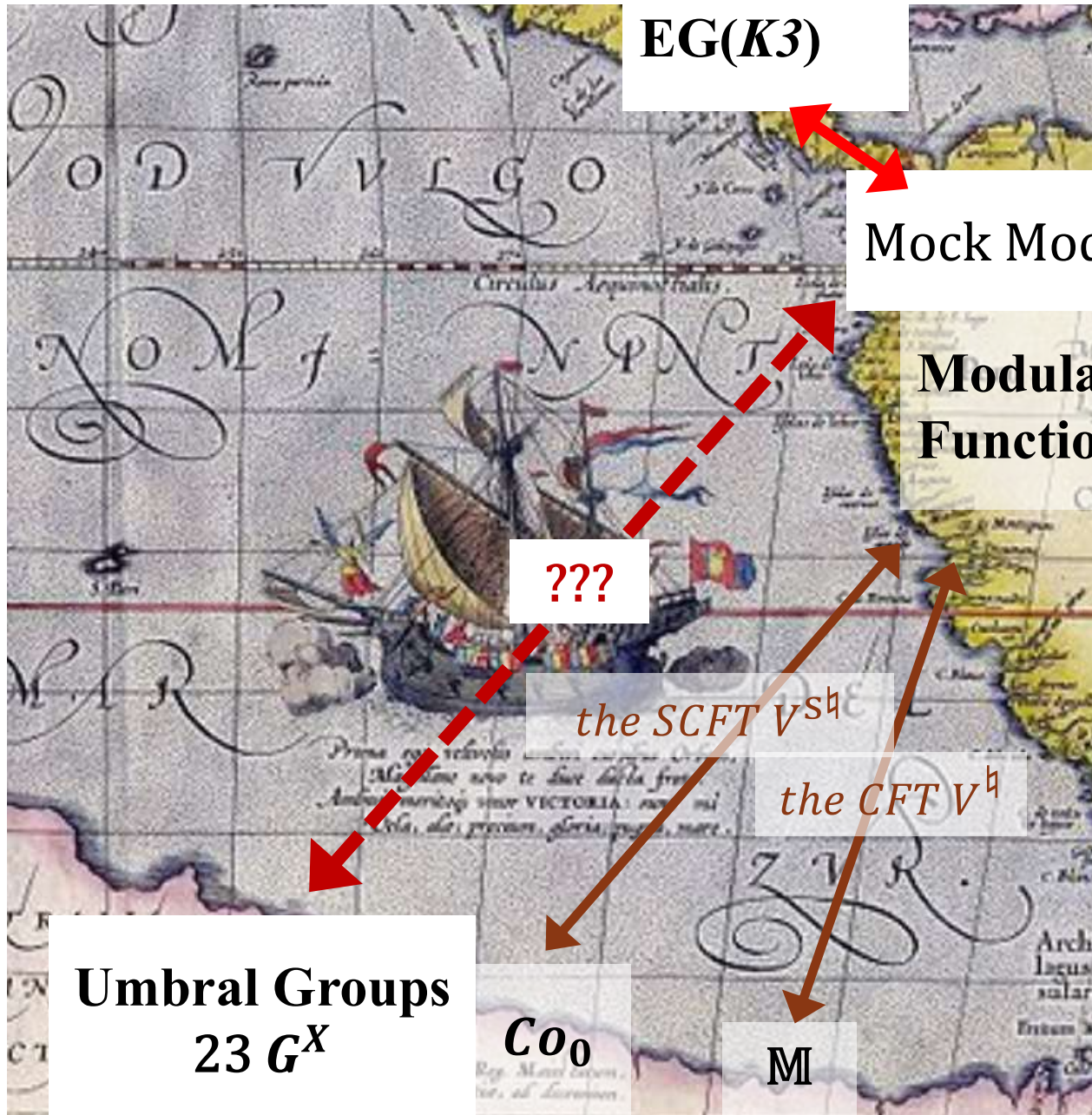
MATHIEU AND UMBRAL MOONSHINE

MOONSHINE REVIVAL

WORLD EXCLUSIVES

The **Umbral Moonshine Conjecture** states the existence of the natural G^X -representations that whose graded character coincides with some specific mock modular form $H_g^X = (H_{g,r}^X) \forall g \in G^X$.





EG(K3)

Mock Modular Forms

Modular Functions

???

the SCFT V^{S_h}

the CFT V^h

Umbral Groups
23 G^X

Co₀

MI

Part II
Umbral Moonshine (UM)
and K3 String Theory

All cases of UM related to K3 string theory

For all 23 X :

[MC-Harrison '14]

$$EG(K3; \tau, z) = \underbrace{EG(X; \tau, z)} + \underbrace{\frac{\theta_1(\tau, z)^2}{\eta(\tau)^6} \left(\frac{1}{2\pi i} \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \Psi^X(\tau, w) \Big|_{w=0} \right)}$$

EG of corresponding
ADE singularities

Contribution from the mmf

$$\Psi^X(\tau, z) = H^X(\tau) * \theta_{\text{cox}(X)}(\tau, z)$$

All cases of UM related to K3 string theory

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EG of corresponding
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Contribution from the mmf

$$\Psi^X(\tau, z) = H^X(\tau) * \theta_{\text{cox}(X)}(\tau, z)$$

twining

$$\underline{EG_g^X(\tau, z)} = EG_g(X; \tau, z) + \frac{\theta_1(\tau, z)^2}{\eta(\tau)^6} \left(\frac{1}{2\pi i} \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \Psi_g^X(\tau, w) \Big|_{w=0} \right)$$

$$EG_g := \text{Tr}_{H_{RR}}(g \dots)$$

What are the symmetry groups* of SM(K3)?

* : we restrict to sym. preserving (4,4) susy.

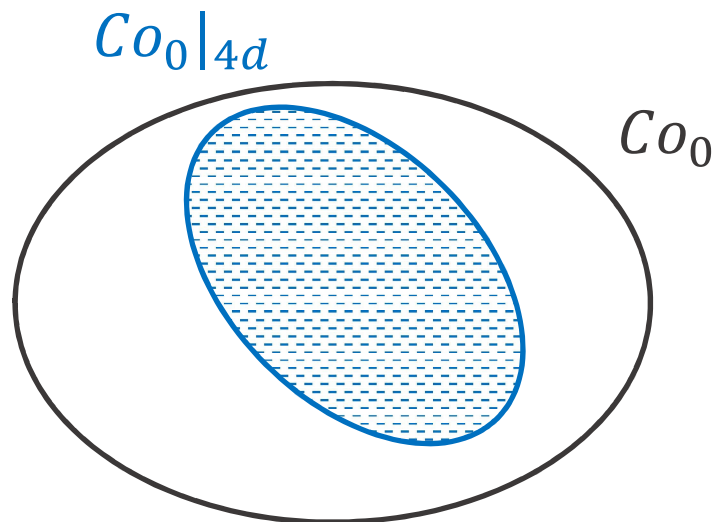
$G \cong \text{Sym}(SM_x(K3))$ for some point x in the moduli space



[Gaberdiel-Hohenegger-Volpato '11]

$G \in \text{Co}_0|_{4d}$

$:= \{\text{Co}_0 \text{ subgroups fixing pointwise a 4-dim subspace in } \Lambda_L \otimes \mathbb{R}\}$

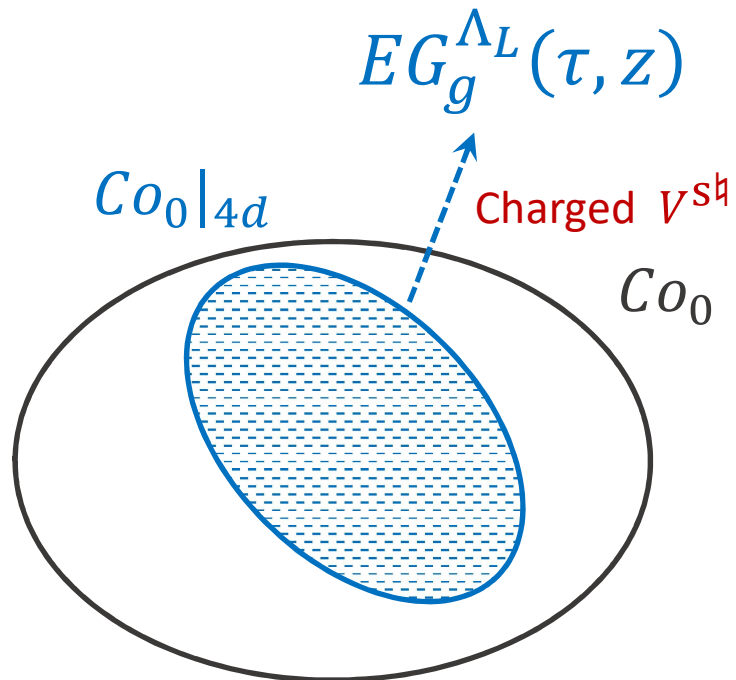


 : relevant for SM(K3)

Charged Conway Moonshine and EG(K3)

Charging $V^{S\mathfrak{h}}$: build $U(1)$ current from 4 of the 24 fermions, add fugacity.

Charged P.F. = $EG(K3; \tau, z)$



[Duncan-MackCrane '15]

How do the symmetry groups act on SM(K3)?

$G \cong G' \not\Rightarrow G, G'$ equivalent for SM(K3) $\Leftarrow G, G'$ conjugate under T-duality group

- Classifying conjugate classes of $O^+(4,20; \mathbb{Z})|_{4d} \Rightarrow$ at most **81** distinct (physical) $EG_g(K3; \tau, z)$ at can be realised at a given point of mod. spc. [MC-Harrison-Volpato-Zimet '16]

- **56** have been explicated realised in actual SM(K3) computations.

\cap

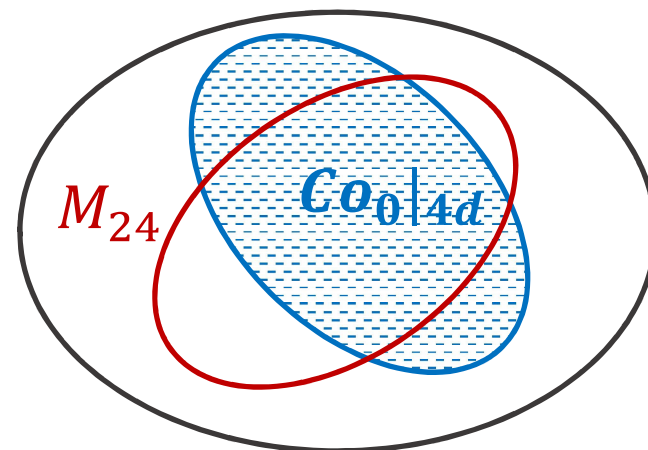
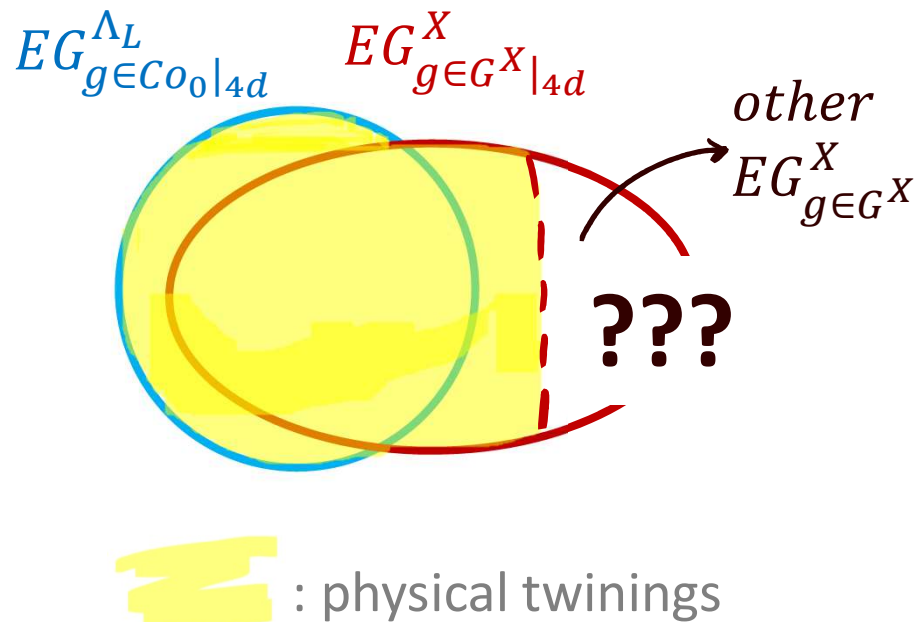
- From UM & Co-moonshine we obtain **69** distinct (fictious) elligible twining functions EG_g^X & $EG_g^{\Lambda_L}$.

How do the symmetry groups act on SM(K3)?

A : dictated by moonshine!

From UM & Co-moonshine we obtain **69** distinct (fictious) eligible twining functions EG_g^X & $EG_g^{\Lambda_L}$. These are in fact *all there & all there is* for all SM(K3)s!

[Conjectured in MC-Harrison-Volpato-Zimet '16
proven in Paquette-Volpato-Zimet '17]



UM Modules So Far ... 8 out of 23

X	G^X	max. dim. Irrep.
$3E_8$	Sym_3	2
$2A_{12}$	$SL_2(\mathbb{F}_3)$	3
$4A_6$	$\mathbb{Z}/4$	1
$4D_6$	Sym_4	3
$3D_8$	Sym_3	2
$2D_{12}$	$\mathbb{Z}/2$	1
D_{24}	1	1
$6D_4$	$3.Sym_6$	30

UM Modules So Far ... 8 out of 23

[Duncan-Harvey '14]

$$\begin{aligned}
 & H_1^{3E_8}(\tau) \\
 &= \frac{2 q^{-\frac{1}{120}}}{\prod_n (1 - q^n)^2} \sum_{k,l,m} q^{b(k,l,m)} \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{k,l,m}$
 $G^{3E_8} \cong \text{Sym}_3$

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D_{24}	1	1
$6D_4$	$3 \cdot \text{Sym}_6$	30

UM Modules So Far ... 8 out of 23

[Duncan-O'Desky, MC-Duncan '17]

$\Psi_{mer.}^X$ = P.F. of chiral ghost CFT

E.g. $\Psi_{mer.}^{4D_6} \sim$

$$\prod_n \frac{\{(1 - y^{-2}q^{n-1})(1 - y^2q^n)\}^2}{\{(1 - y^{-1}q^{n-1})(1 - y^1q^n)\}^3}$$

$$\Psi_{mer.}^X(\tau, z) = \Psi_{polar}^X + \Psi^X,$$

$$\Psi^X(\tau, z) = H^X(\tau) * \theta_{Cox(X)}(\tau, z)$$

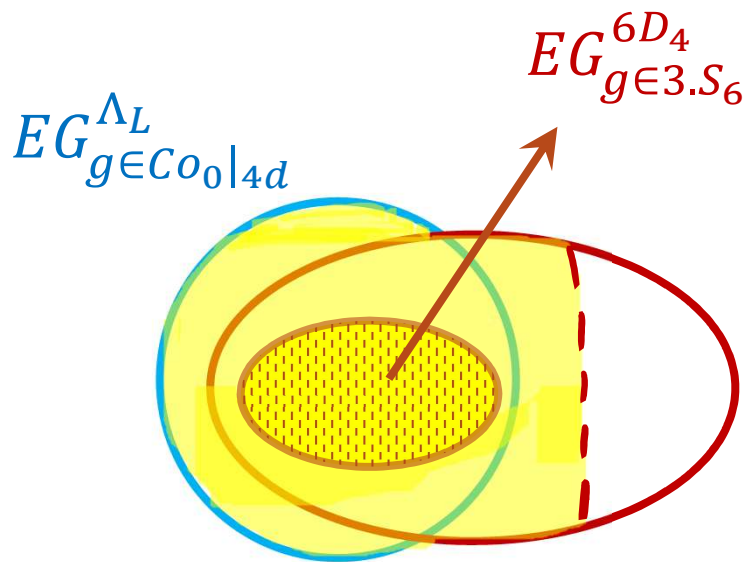
[Zwegers '05,
Dabolkar-Murthy-Zagier '12]

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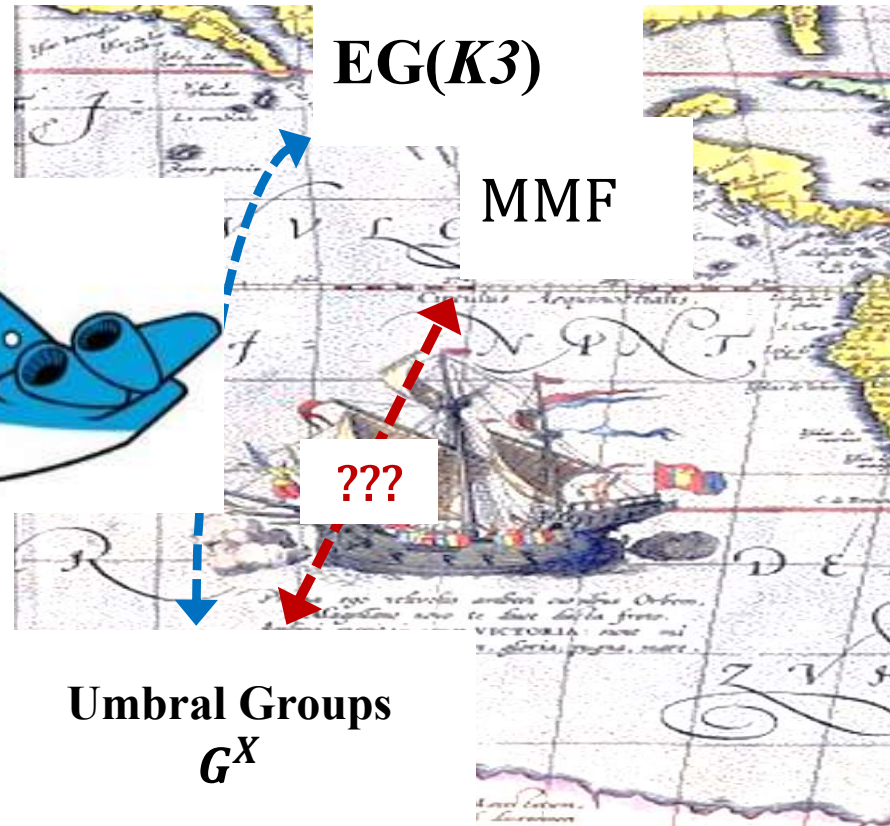
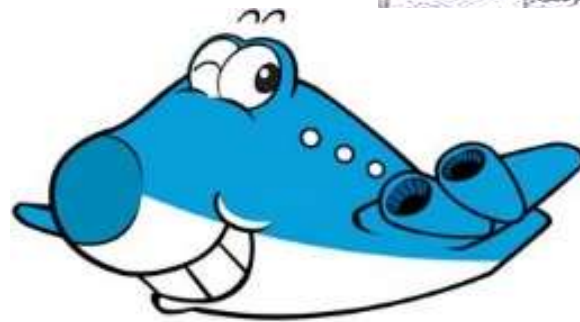
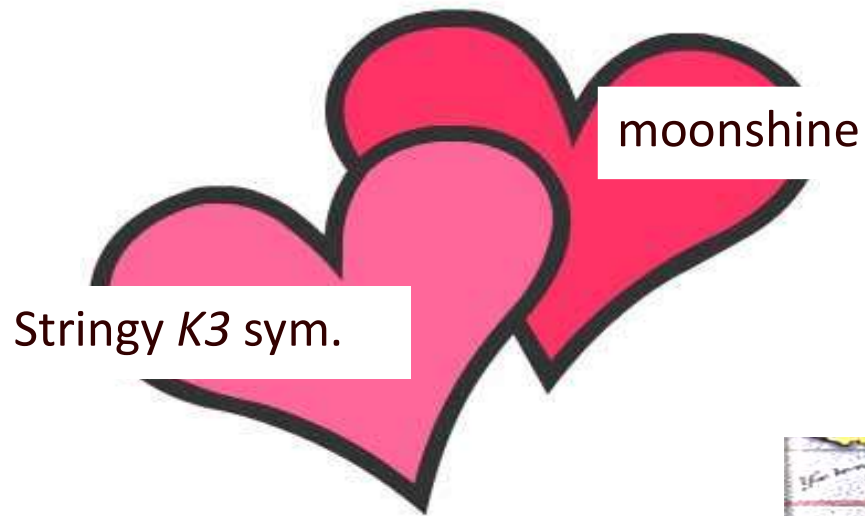
UM Modules So Far ... 8 out of 23

[Anagiannis-MC-Harrison '17]

Build a ghosts + fermion orbifold
which gives



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1. Combining sym at different points in mod. space?
2. Down to lower dim?
3. Reduce susy?

Part III

Moonshine Proliferation

- New examples keep appearing.
- A Paradigm Shift: the New Order?

Some Examples of New Moonshine Cases

Tweets



Moonshine News @realMoonshineNews 2 years

Thompson moonshine found in weight $\frac{1}{2}$ modular forms!
[@HarveyRayhaun](#) #moremoonshine

617 1.6K 4.9K



Moonshine News @realMoonshineNews 4 months

Moonshine for a Pariah group! O’Nan moonshine found in weight $\frac{3}{2}$! [@DuncanMertensOno](#) #moremoonshine

179 609 1.8K



Moonshine News @realMoonshineNews 2 days

Moonshine for class numbers too! Seen on M5 branes!
[@MCDuncanHarrisonKachruetal](#) #moremoonshine

12 63 219



Moonshine News @realMoonshineNews 2 min

New Moonshine on M5 Branes

An M5 branes on divisor $P \subset CY_3$ is described by an effective “MSW String”, an $N=(0,4)$ SCFT. Define generalised EG:

$$Z(\tau, \zeta) := \text{Tr}'_R (F^2(-1)^F q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} \bar{q}^{\tilde{L}_0 - \frac{\tilde{c}}{24}} e^{2\pi i \zeta \cdot q})$$

[Maldacena-Strominger-Witten '97]

E.g. wrapping 2 M5 branes on $P = \mathbb{CP}^2$

$$Z_{\mathbb{CP}^2, 2}(\tau, \zeta) = \frac{3 \hat{h}_0(\tau)}{\eta(\tau)^6} \theta_{1,1}(-\bar{\tau}, \zeta) - \frac{3 \hat{h}_1(\tau)}{\eta(\tau)^6} \theta_{1,0}(-\bar{\tau}, \zeta)$$

$$\underline{h_i(\tau)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \underline{H(4n + 3i)q^{\frac{4n+3i}{4}}}, \quad i = 0, 1.$$

[Vafa-Witten '94]

a mock modular form

Hurwitz class number

$48 \times h_i(\tau)$: M_{23} moonshine function

[MC-Duncan-Mertens ??]

New Moonshine on M5 Branes

[Minahan-Nemeschansky-Vafa-Warner '98]

E.g. wrapping a single M5 branes on $P = del\ Pezzo\ B_9\ (\frac{1}{2}K3)$

$$Z_{\frac{1}{2}K3}(\tau, \zeta) = \frac{f_1(\tau)}{\eta(\tau)^6} \theta_{1,1}(-\bar{\tau}, \zeta) - \frac{f_0(\tau)}{\eta(\tau)^6} \theta_{1,0}(-\bar{\tau}, \zeta)$$

$$\underline{f_0(\tau) + f_1(\tau)} = \frac{E_4(\tau)}{\eta(\tau)^6} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} (-1)^n q^{\frac{n^2}{4}}$$

a modular form

M_{11} moonshine function

New Paradigm: Is this Moonshine?

Connections between modular objects and finite groups seem more common if we allow for the following new features:

1. Group rep's come with signs:

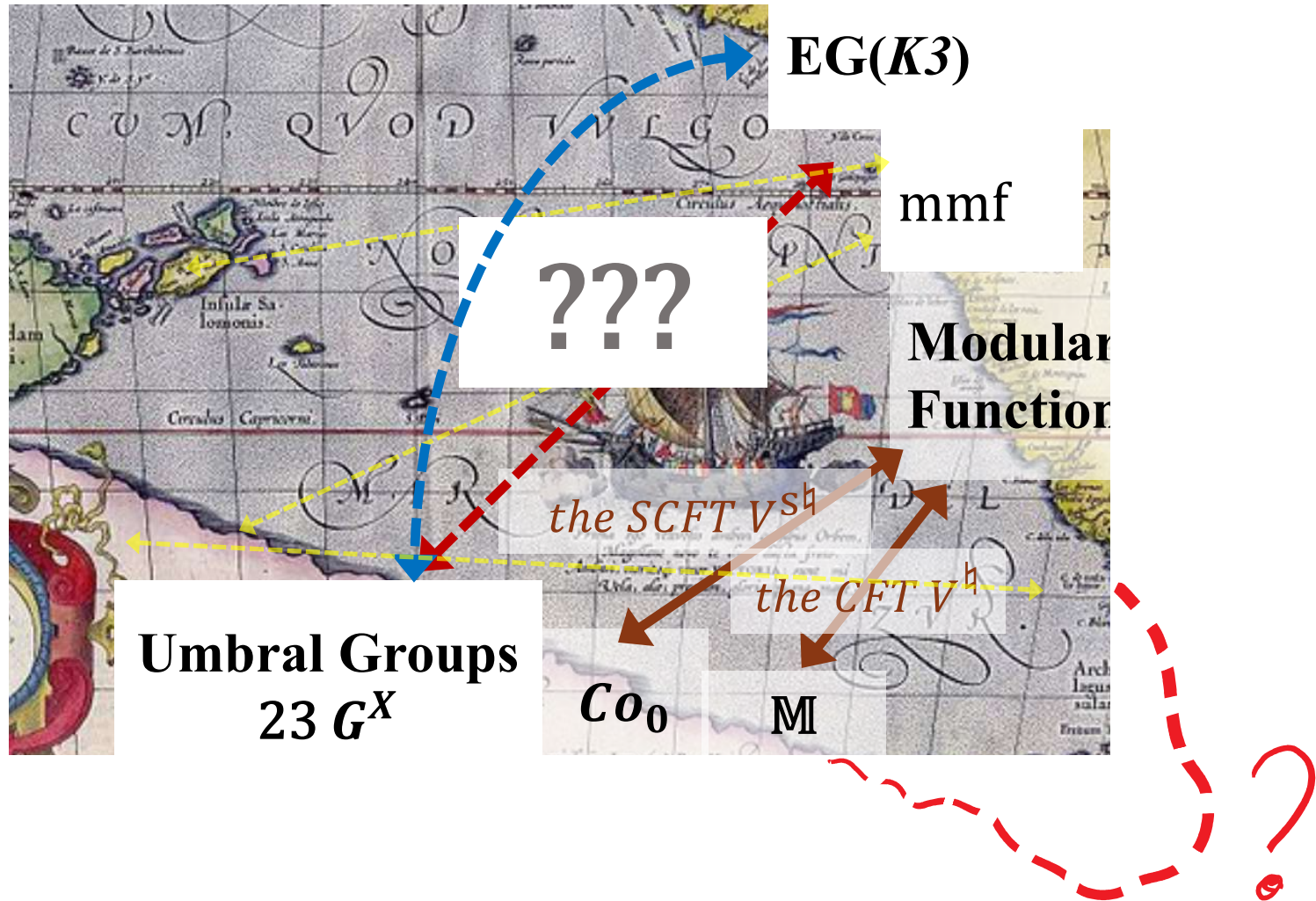
$$V = \bigoplus_n (V_{0,n} \oplus V_{1,n}), \quad f_g(\tau) := \sum_n q^n \sum_{i \in \{0,1\}} (-1)^i (\text{Tr}_{V_{i,n}} g)$$

2. The functions are no longer determined uniquely by modularity and pole structure; there are cusp forms to add.

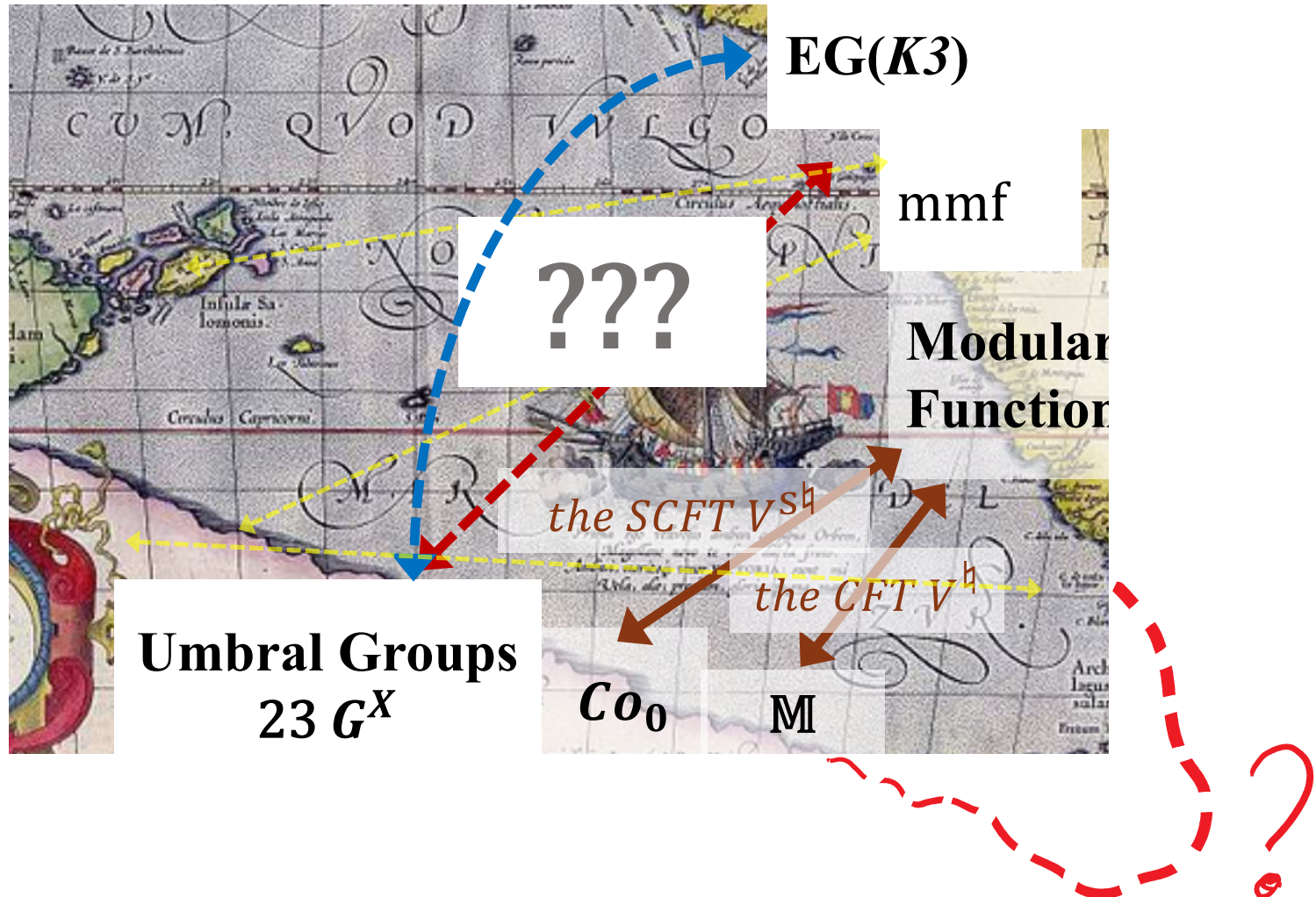
A much more flexible game!



What's the landscape? What's the Physics?



What's the landscape? What's the Physics?



THANK YOU!