

# New gravity duals for higher-dimensional superconformal theories

Alessandro Tomasiello

based on

1309.2949 with [F. Apruzzi](#), [M. Fazzi](#), [D. Rosa](#)

1404.0711 with [D. Gaiotto](#)

1406.0852 with [F. Apruzzi](#), [M. Fazzi](#), [A. Passias](#), [D. Rosa](#)



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- String theory:
  - $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$  theory on M5-branes
  - theories arising at singularities
  - intersecting branes

[Witten '96; Seiberg, Witten '96;  
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In this talk, we will see some **holographic** classification results  
for superconformal theories in  $d = 5, 6$ :


- A classification of  $\text{AdS}_7$  BPS solutions in type II sugra.
  - in 11d, only  $\text{AdS}_7 \times S^4/\Gamma$

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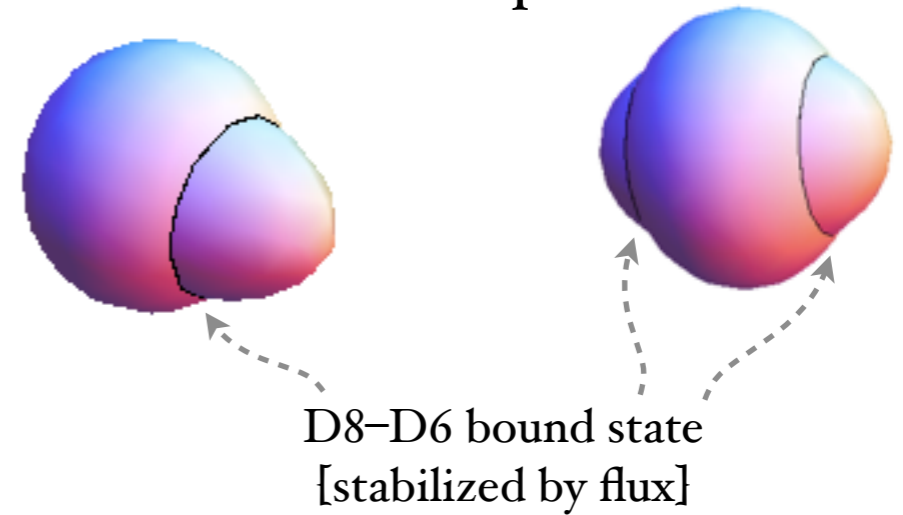
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- but in **massive** IIA, many new solutions!

Romans mass  $F_0 \neq 0$ :  
no lift to 11d

$\text{AdS}_7 \times M_3$   
  
 'distorted  $S^3$ '

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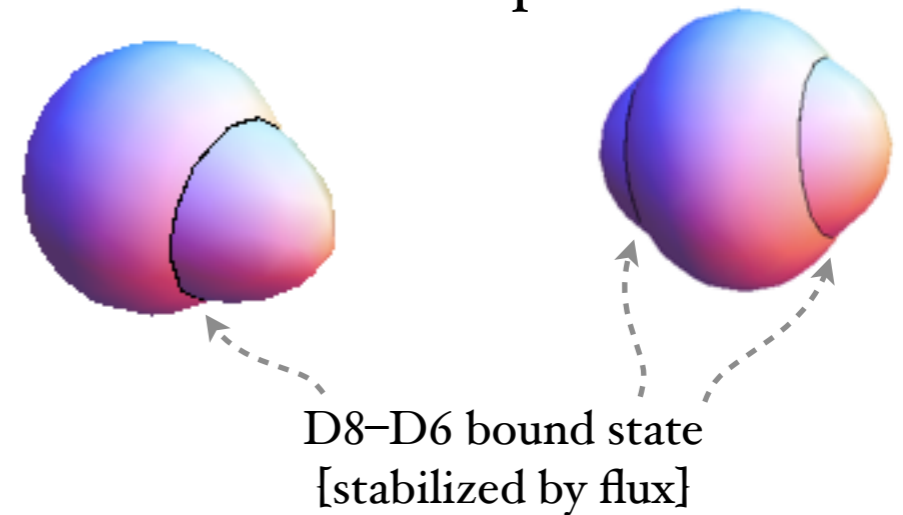
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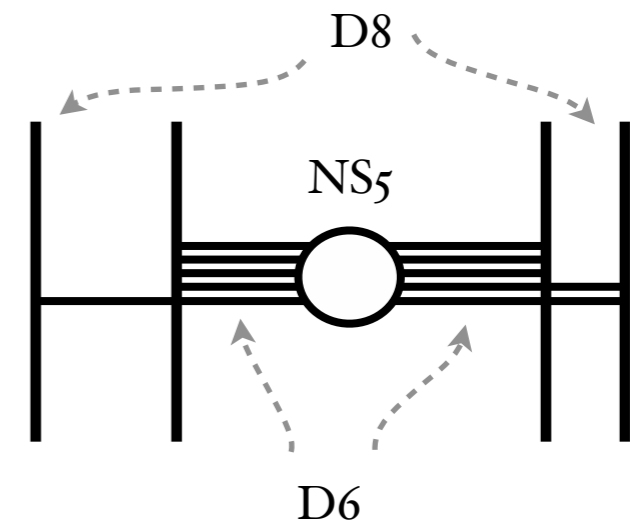


- Their  $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$   $\text{CFT}_6$  duals.

- near-horizon limits of brane systems

- quiver descriptions on tensor branch

- via T-duality: 'Hitchin pole' extension of F-theory classification in [Heckman, Morrison, Vafa '13]




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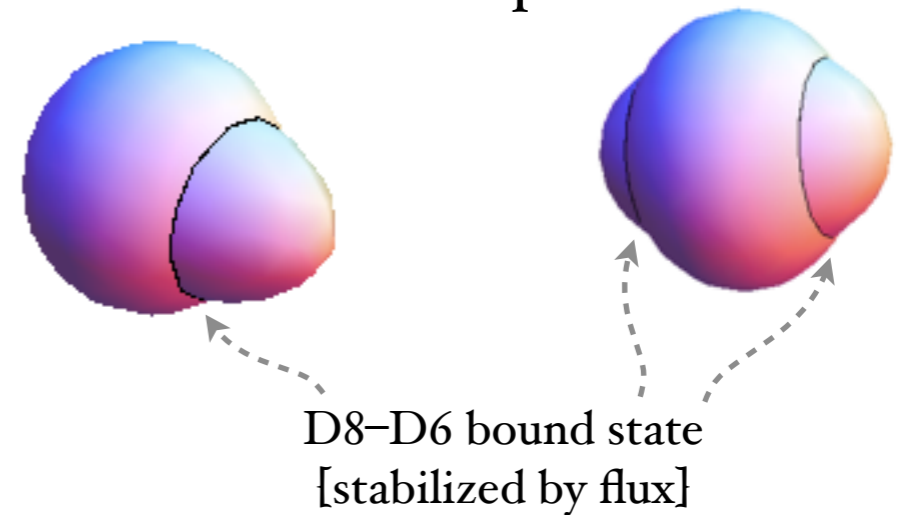
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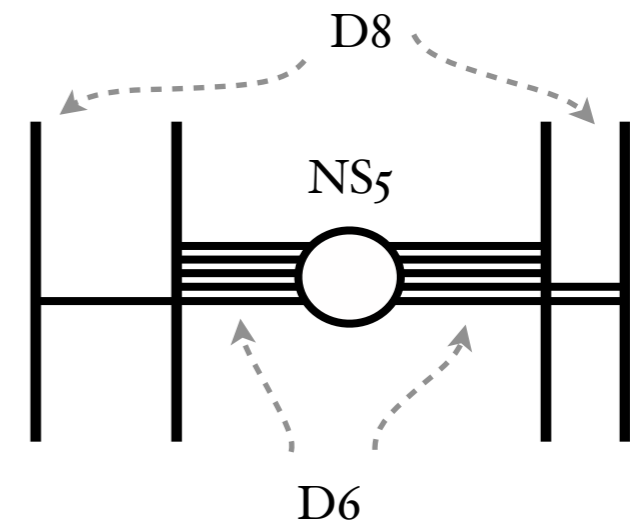


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- A similar (but less complete) classification of  $\text{AdS}_6$  solutions.

# Plan

1. Methods: Pure spinors
2. Classification of  $\text{AdS}_7$  solutions
3.  $\text{CFT}_6$  duals
4.  $\text{AdS}_6$  solutions



# **I. Methods: Pure spinors**

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‘generalized tangent bundle’: vectors  $\oplus$  1-forms

forms obeying algebraic constraints:  
often ‘pure spinors’

nicer equations; easier classifications

original example

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Mink}_4 \\ \text{AdS}_4 \end{array} \right\} \times M_6$$

[Graña, Minasian,  
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$SU(3) \times SU(3)$  structure

[Hitchin's "generalized complex geometry"]

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$(\text{Spin}(7) \ltimes \mathbb{R}^8)^2$  structure\*

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total RR flux

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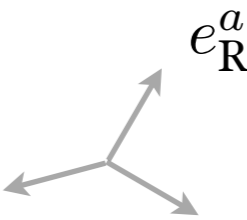
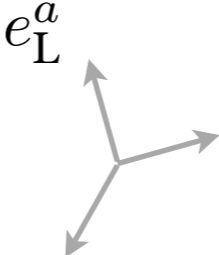
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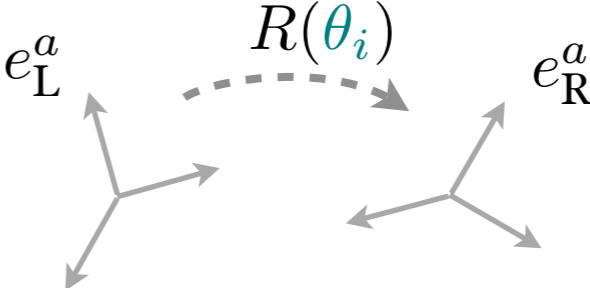
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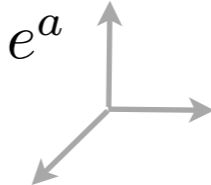
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we prefer working with one 'average' of the two



+ some 'Euler angles'  $\theta_i$  (functions on  $M_3$ )

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of the metric:  $ds^2 \sim dr^2 + v^2(r) ds^2_{S^2}$

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When the dust settles:  
 we have a local solution  
 provided we solve a system of **3 ODEs**

warping  $\dashrightarrow$

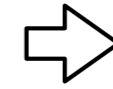
$$\begin{cases} \partial_r A = \dots \\ \partial_r v = \dots \\ \partial_r \phi = \dots \end{cases}$$

dilaton  $\dashleftarrow$

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$\text{AdS}_7 \times M_4$   
in 11d sugra:

cone over  $M_4$  should have  
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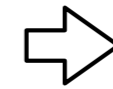


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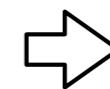
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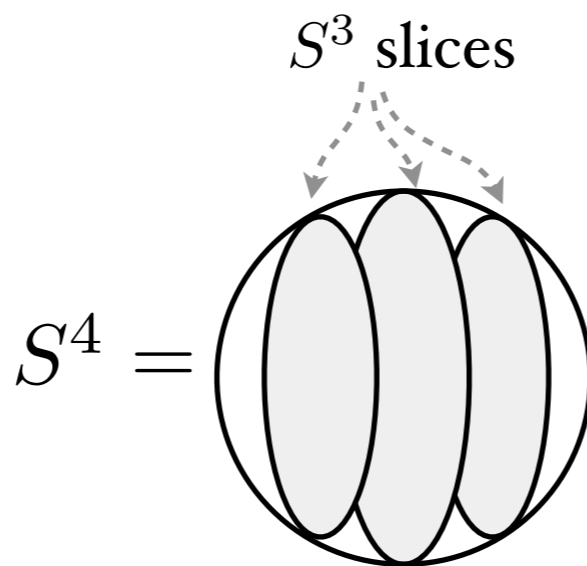
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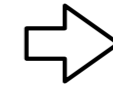
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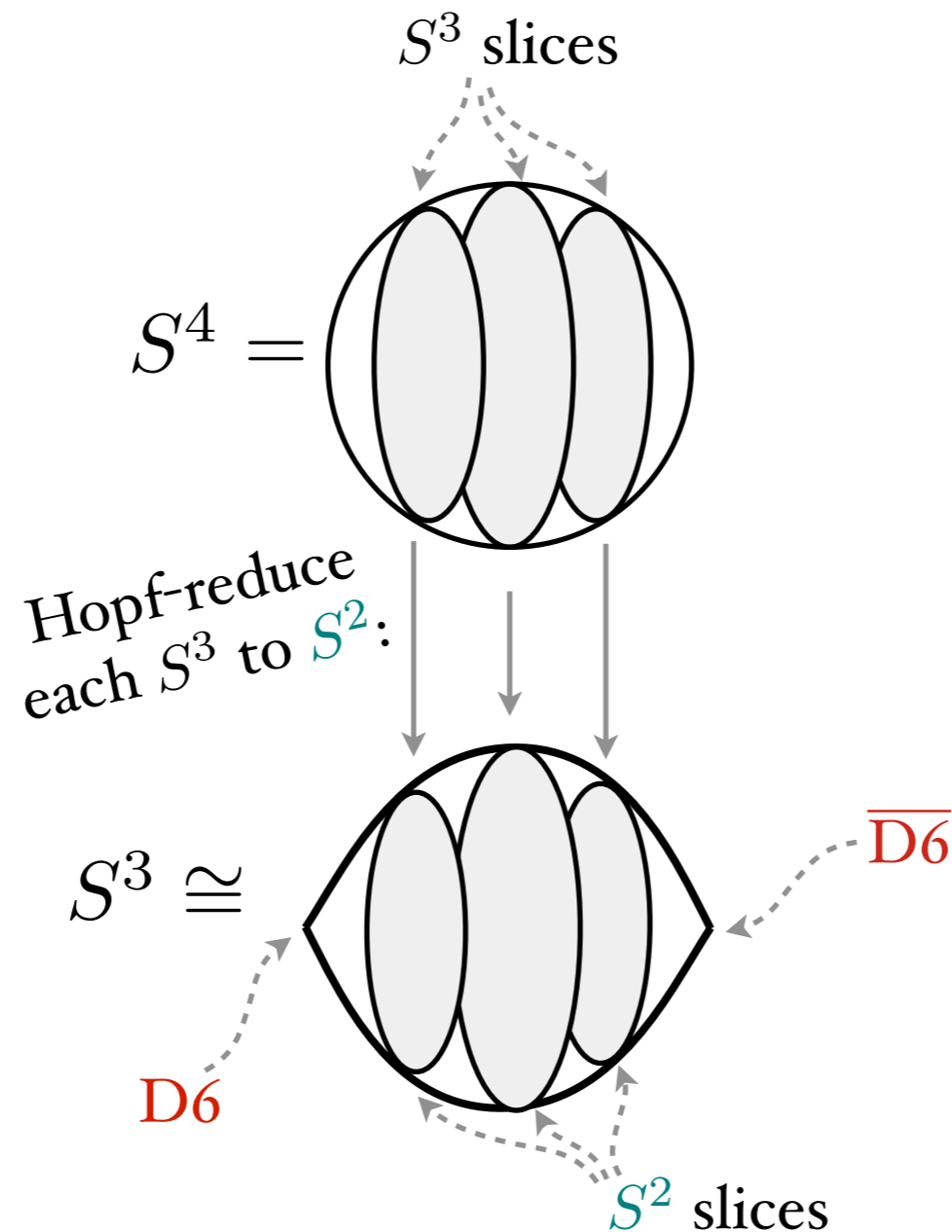
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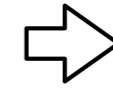
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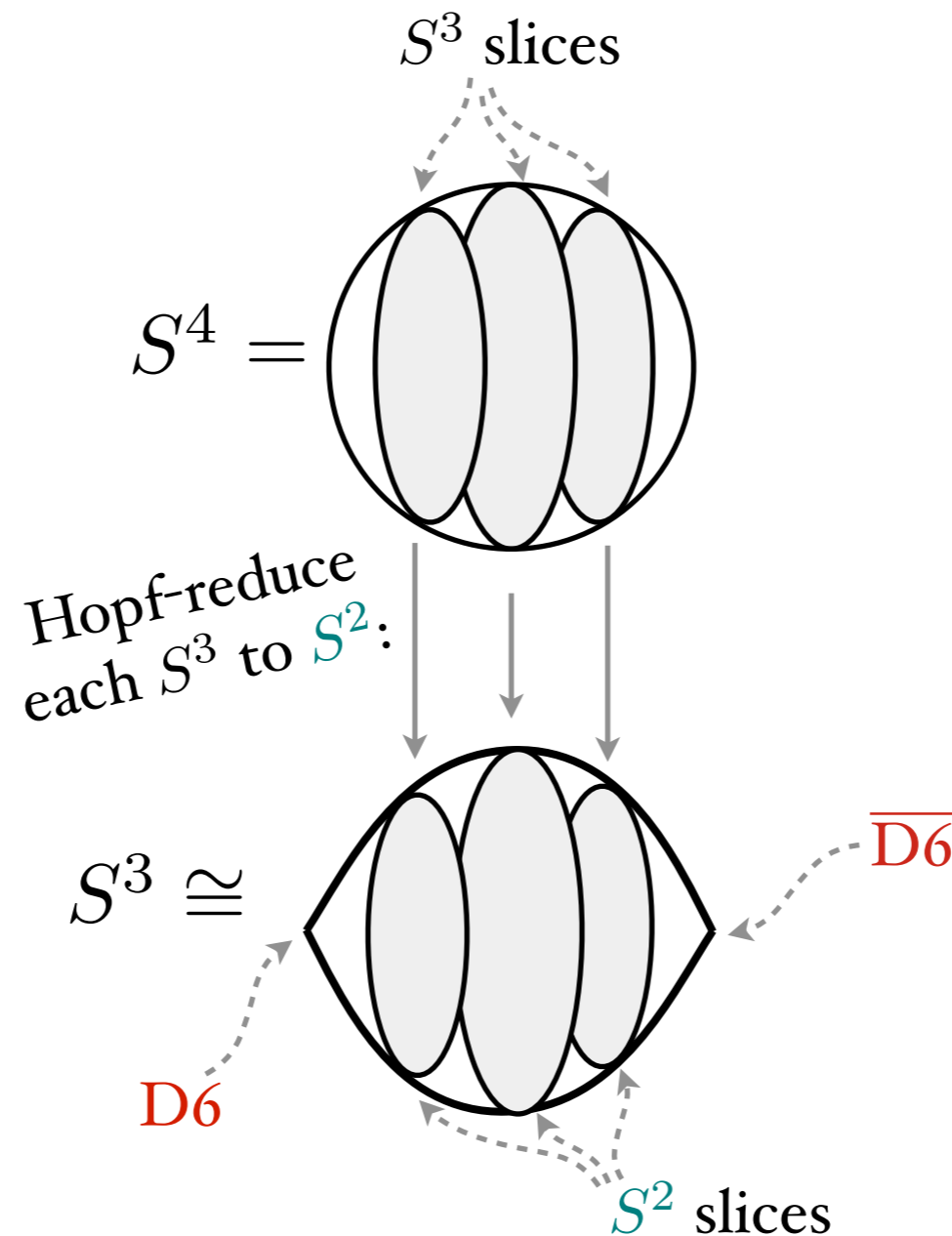
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[ agrees with  
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previous slide ]

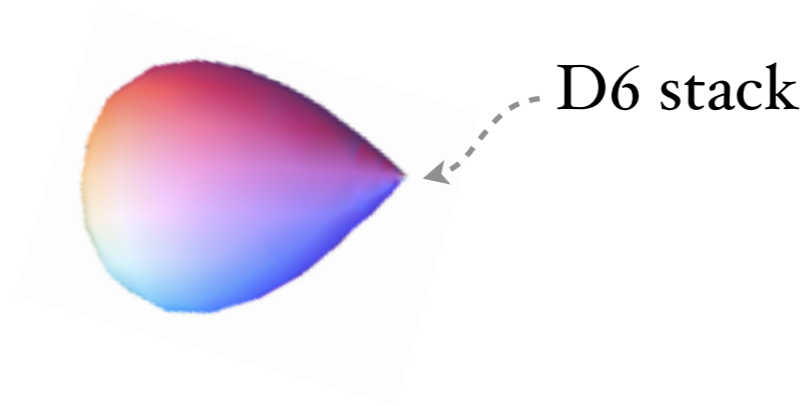


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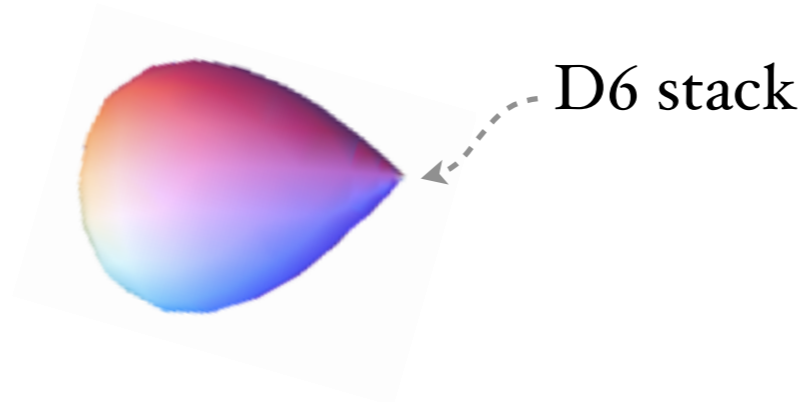
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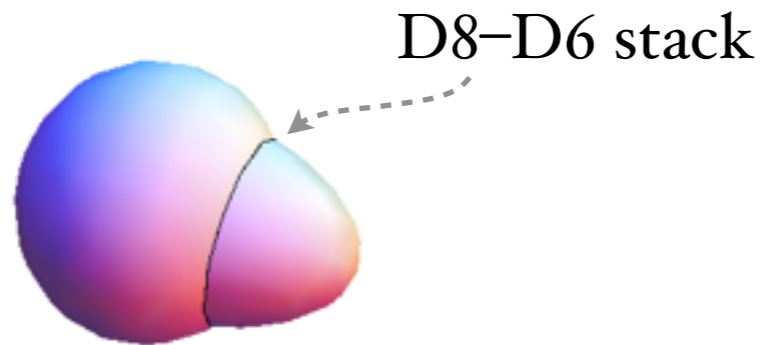
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or both,  
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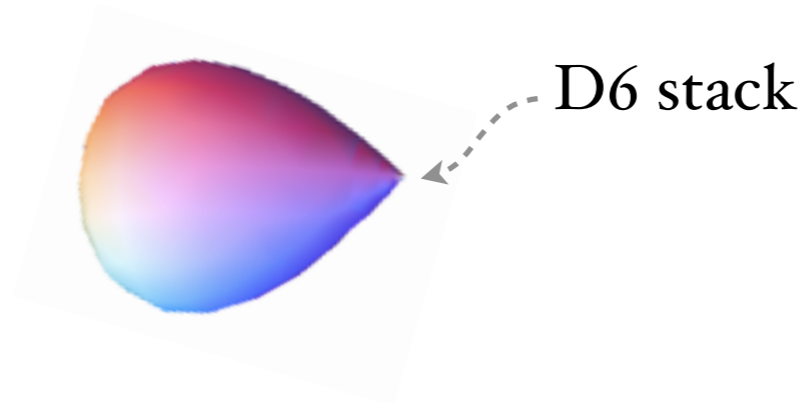
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||  
D8-D6 **bound states**



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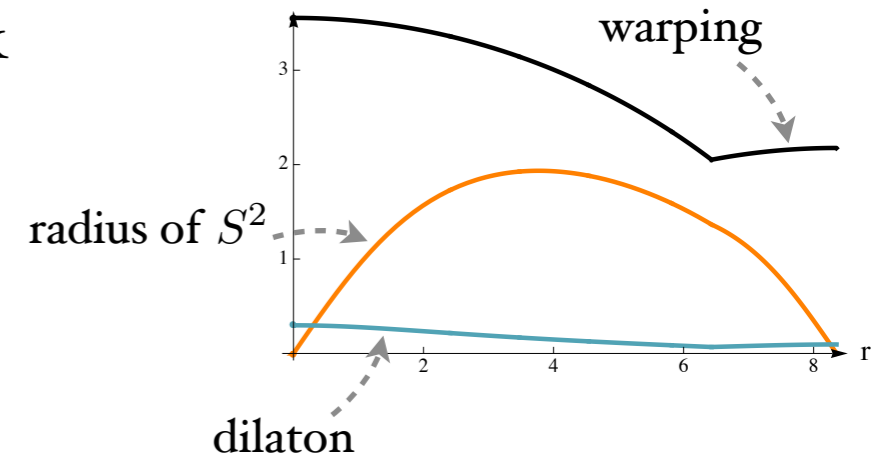
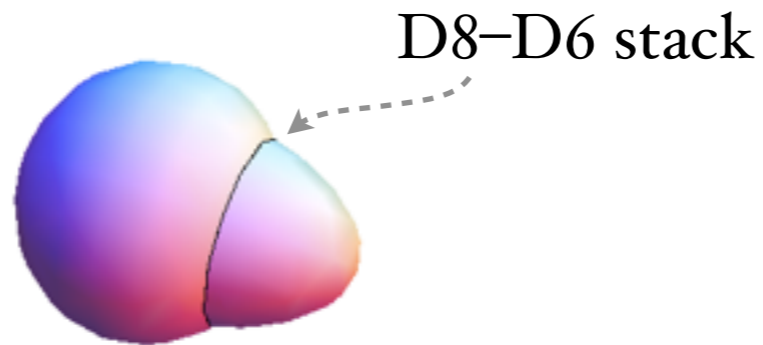
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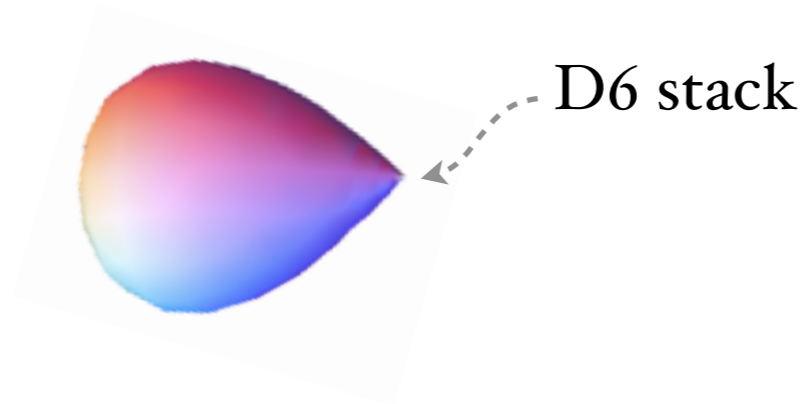
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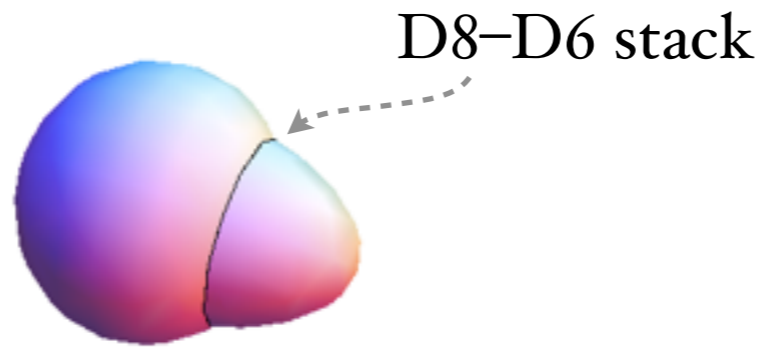
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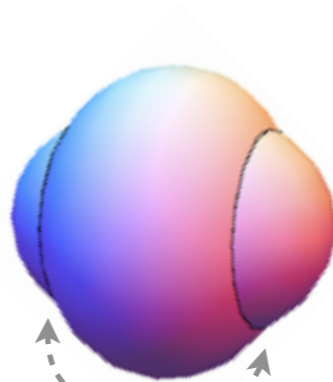
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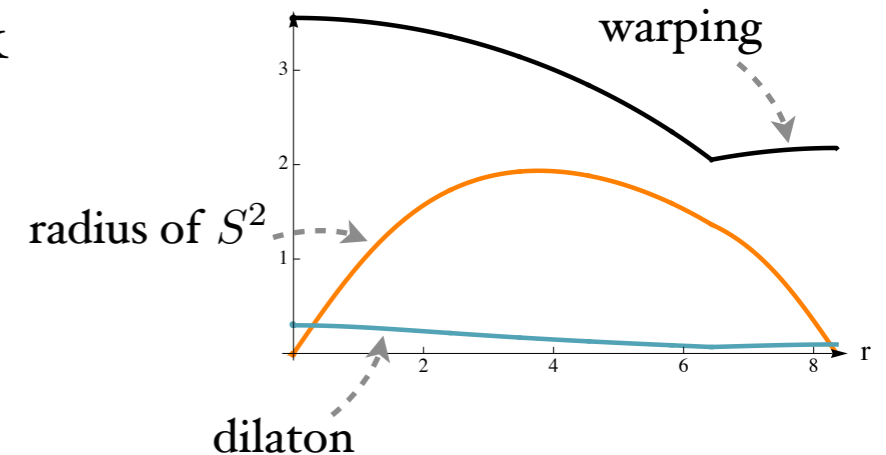
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or include several  
D8/D6 stacks:



stacks with opposite D6 charge

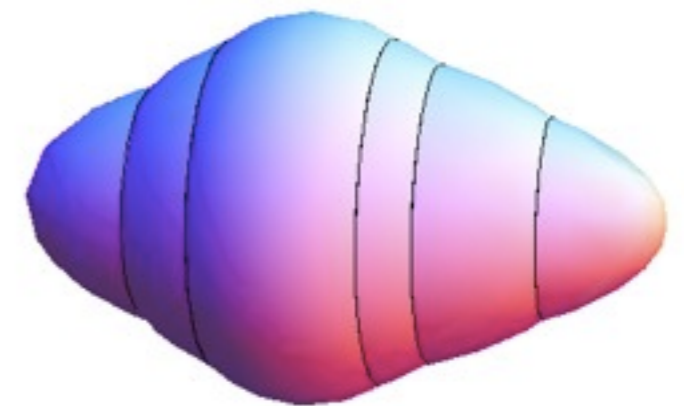


intuitively: D8's don't slip off  
because of **electric attraction**

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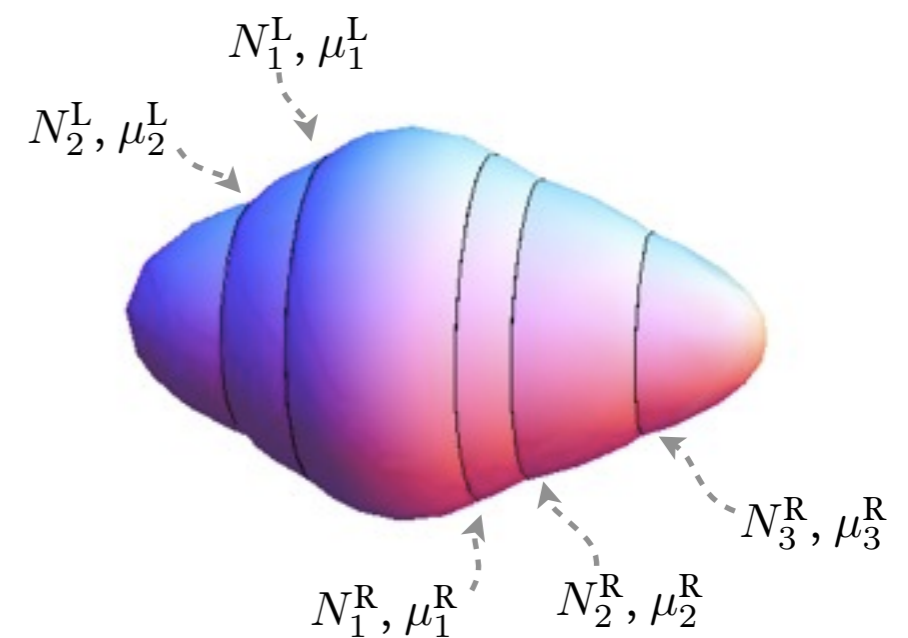


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[D8's with same D6 charge  
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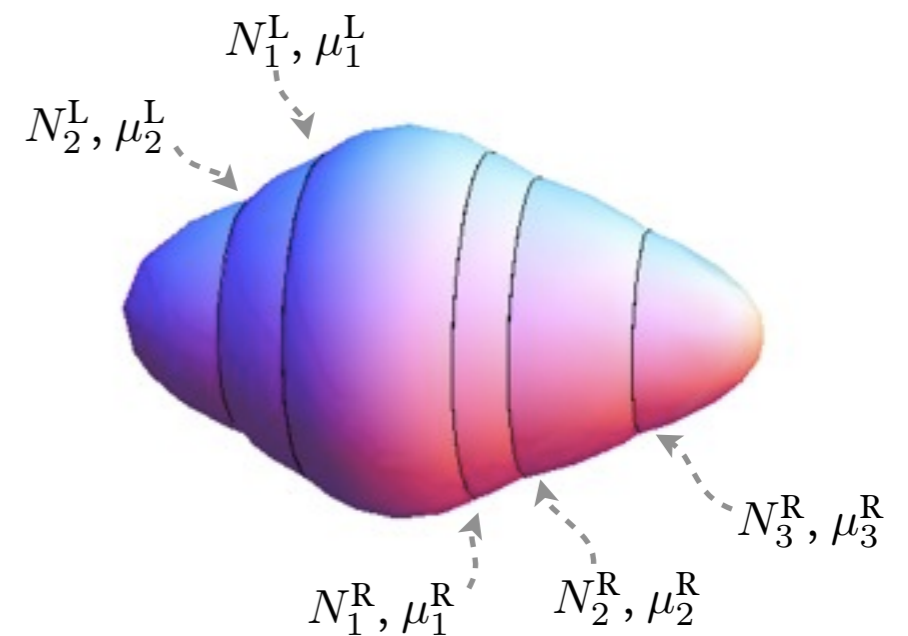


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- flux integer  $N \equiv \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \int H$

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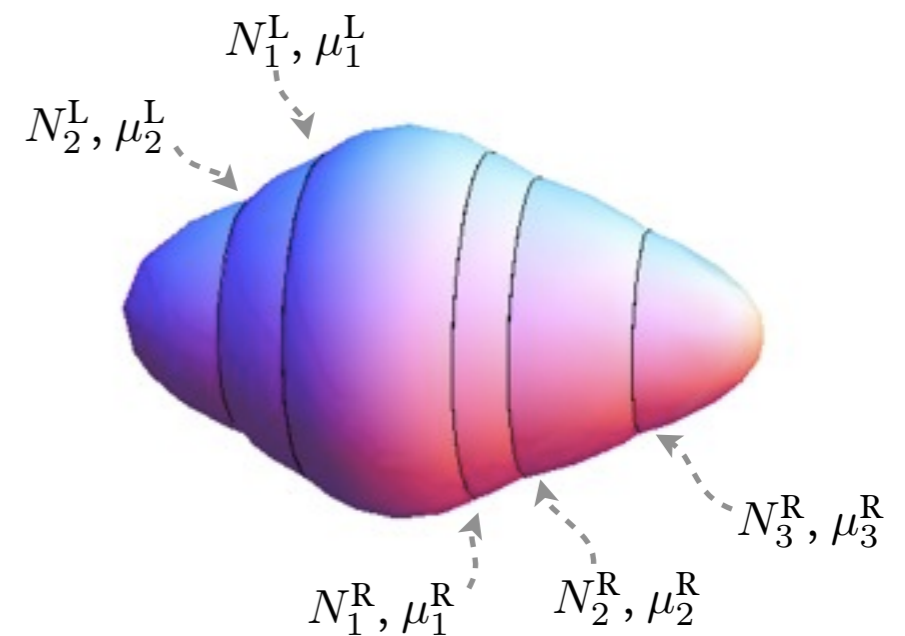
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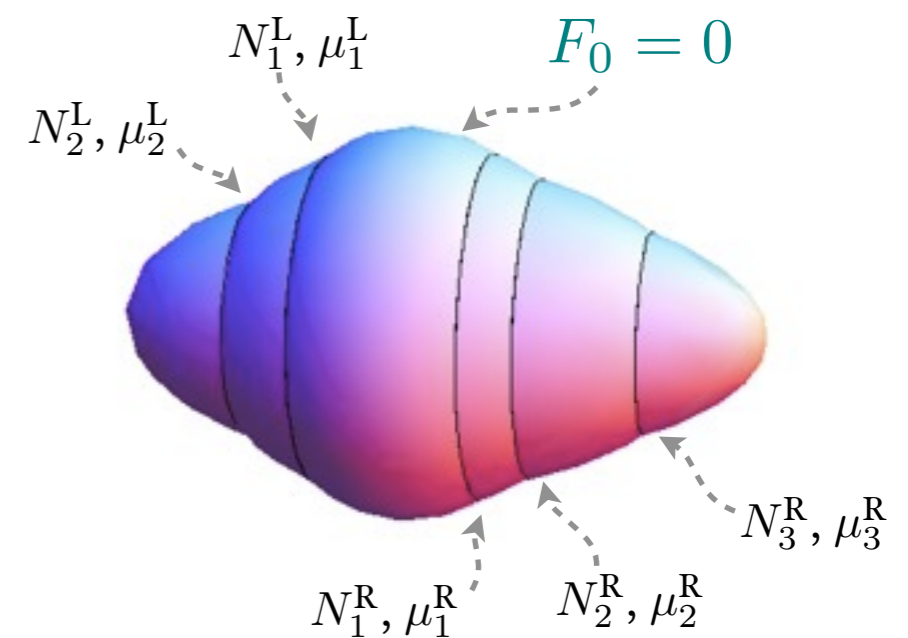
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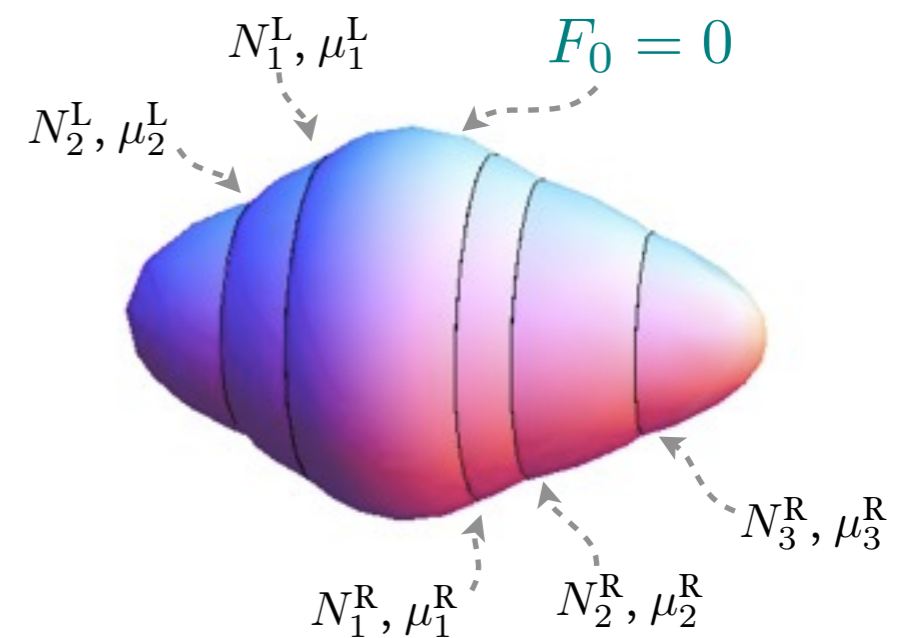
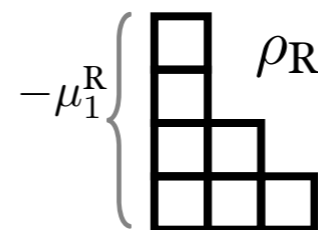
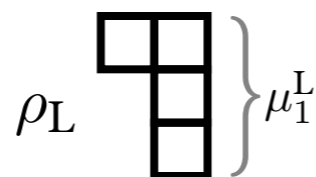
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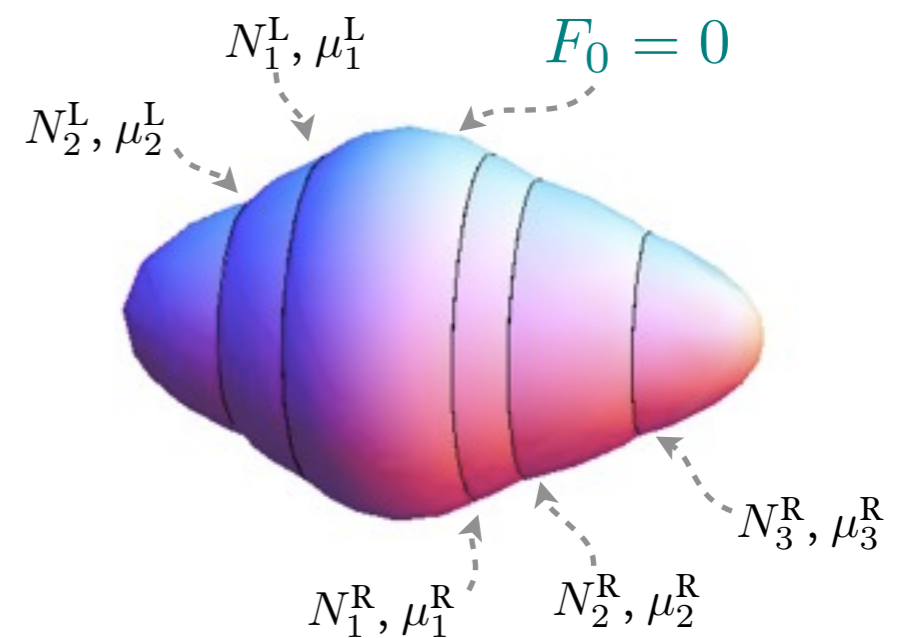
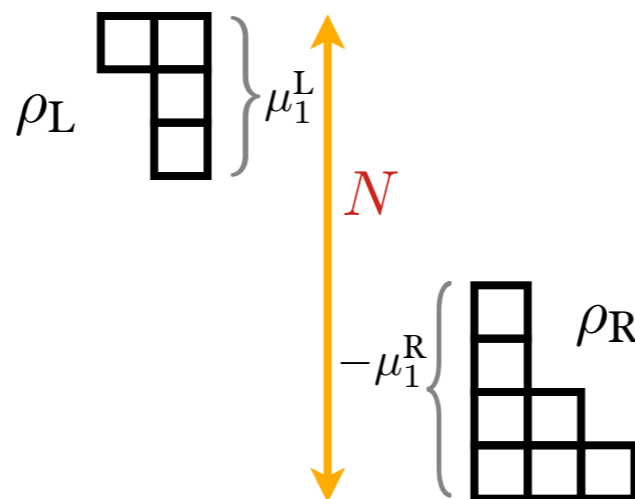
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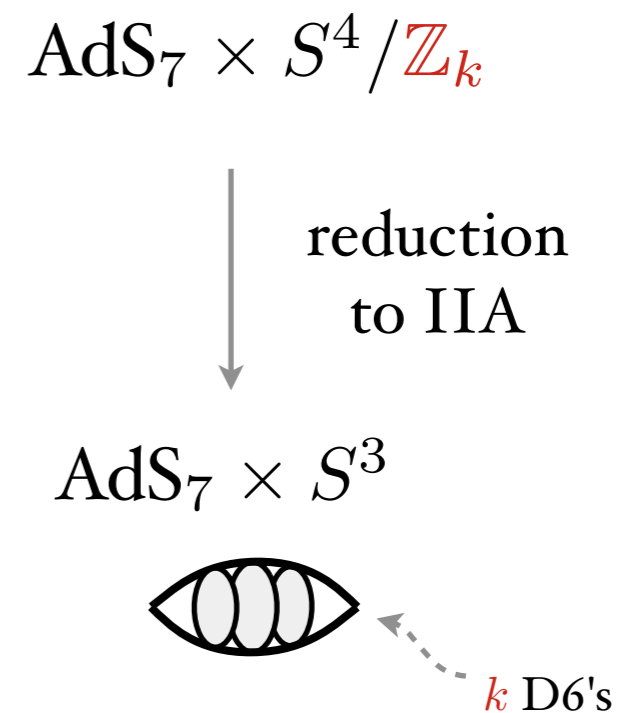
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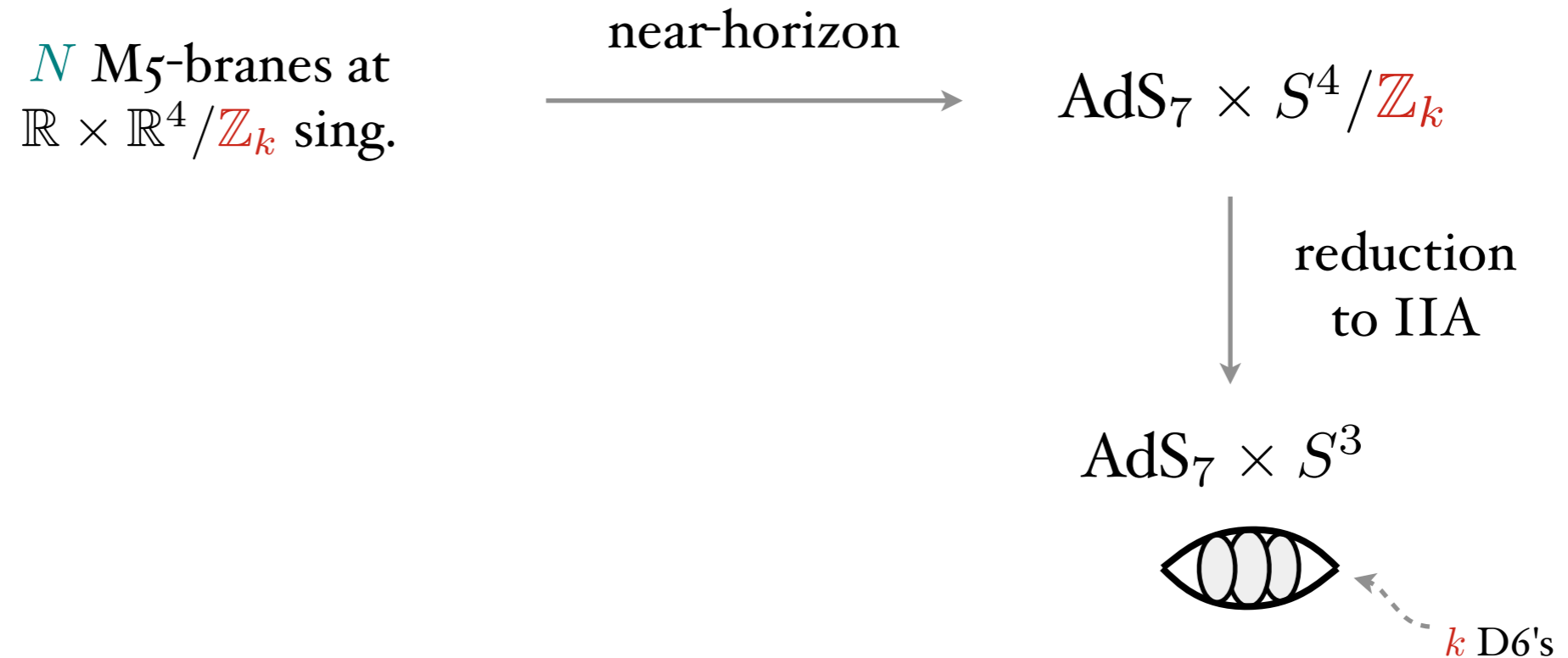


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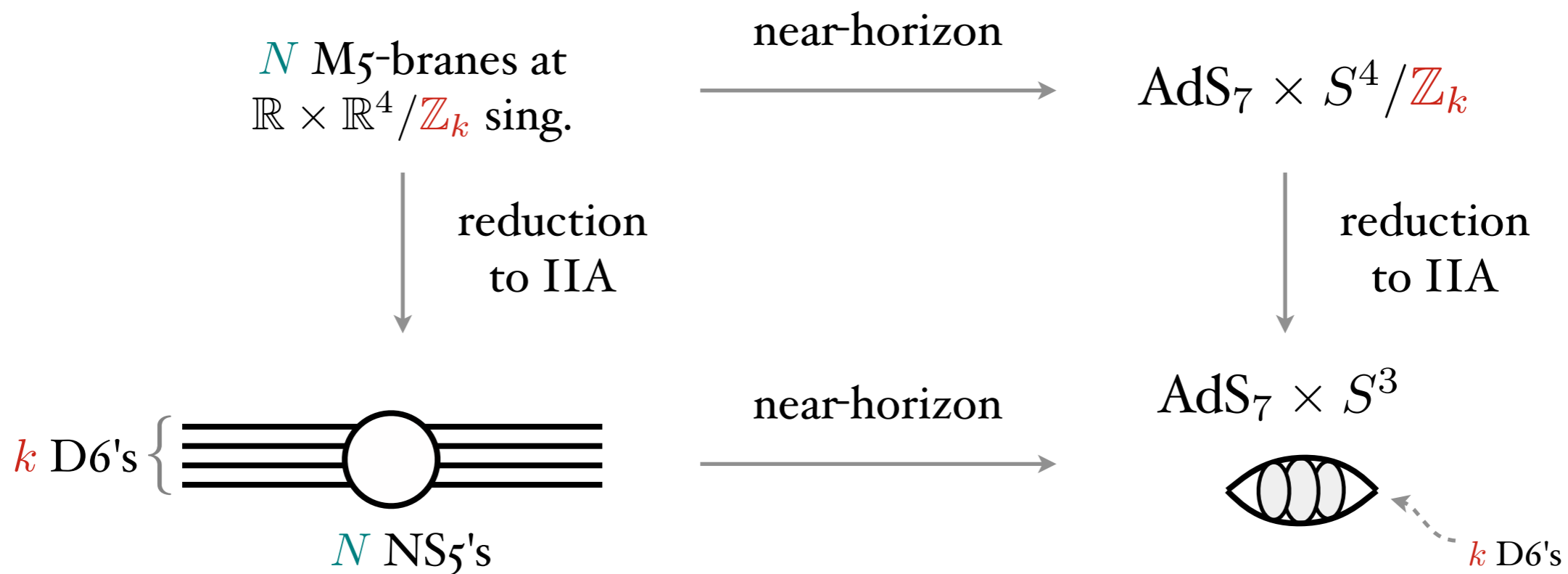


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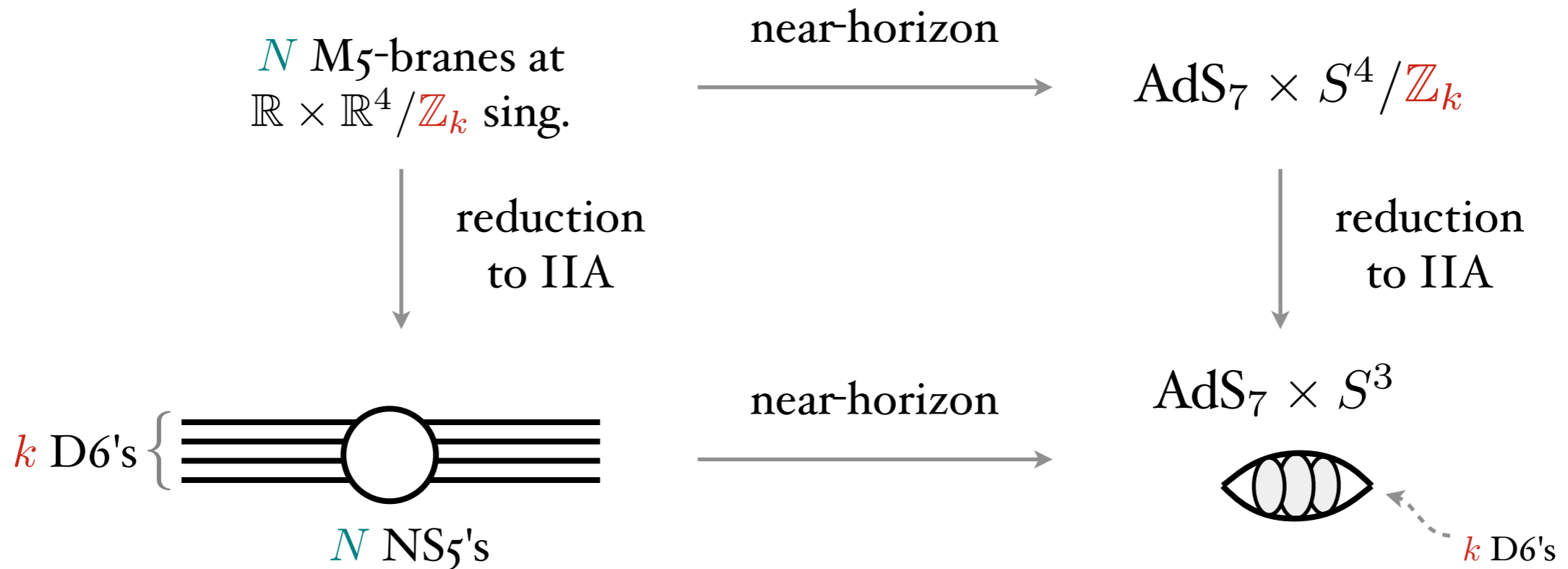


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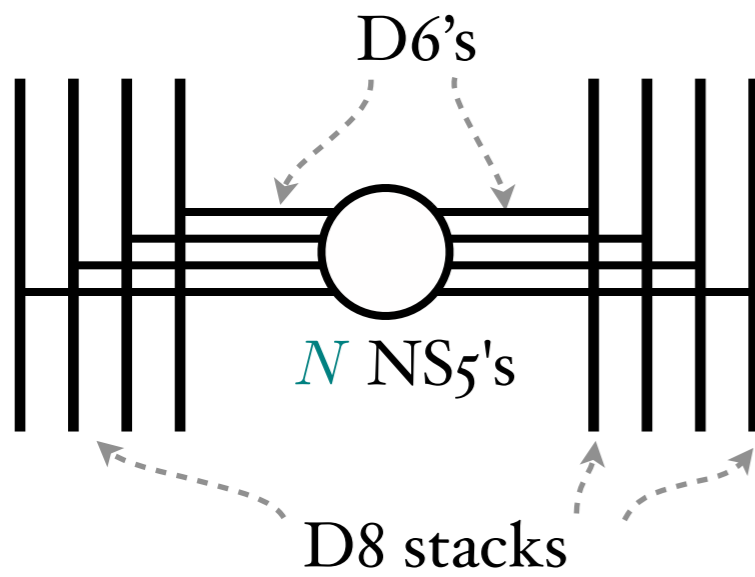
- $(1, 0)$  supersymmetry
- $N^3 k^2$  degrees of freedom
- $\text{SU}(k) \times \text{SU}(k)$  flavor symmetry

To include  $F_0 \neq 0$ , we should introduce **D8-branes**

Adapting methods developed  
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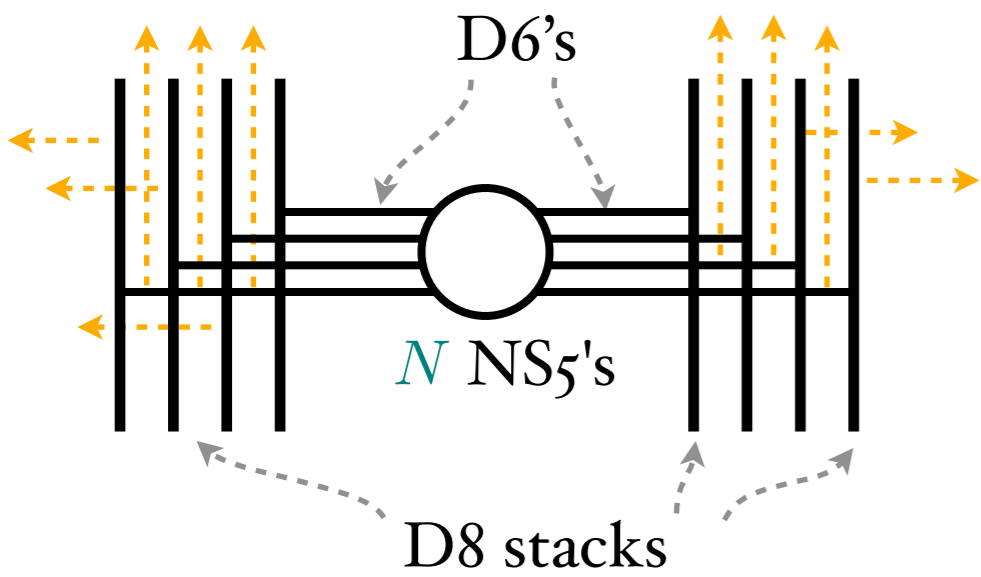
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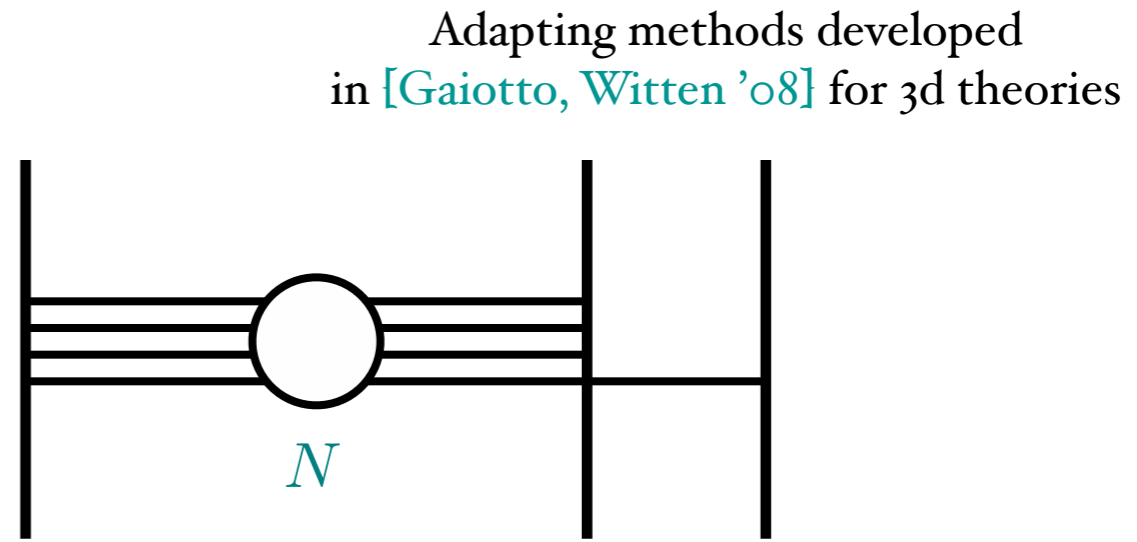
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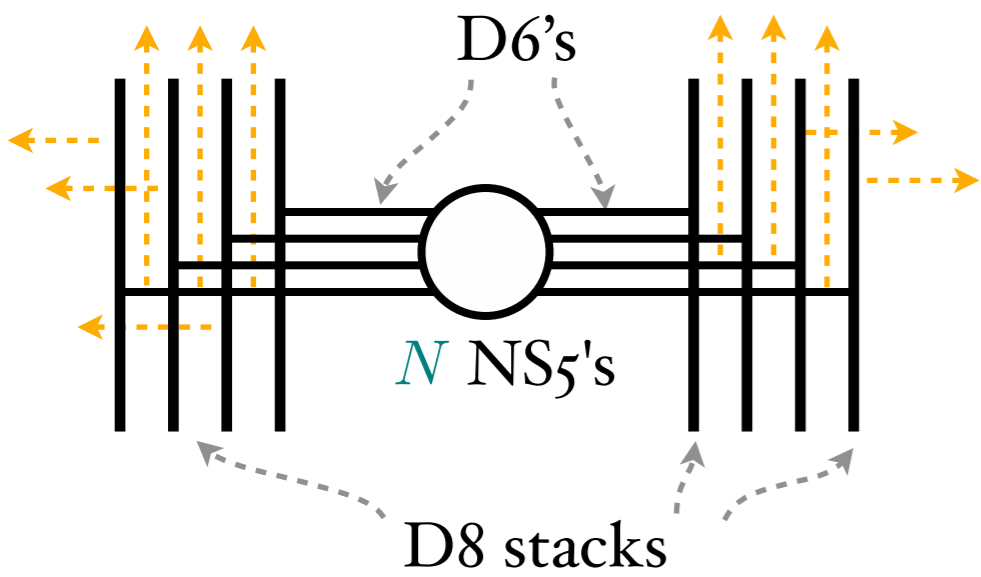
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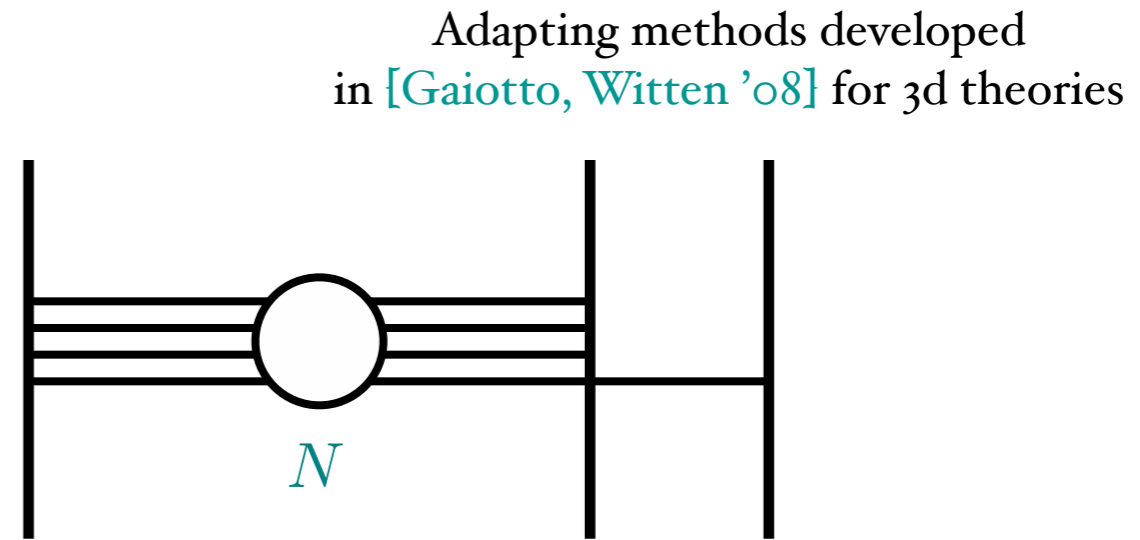
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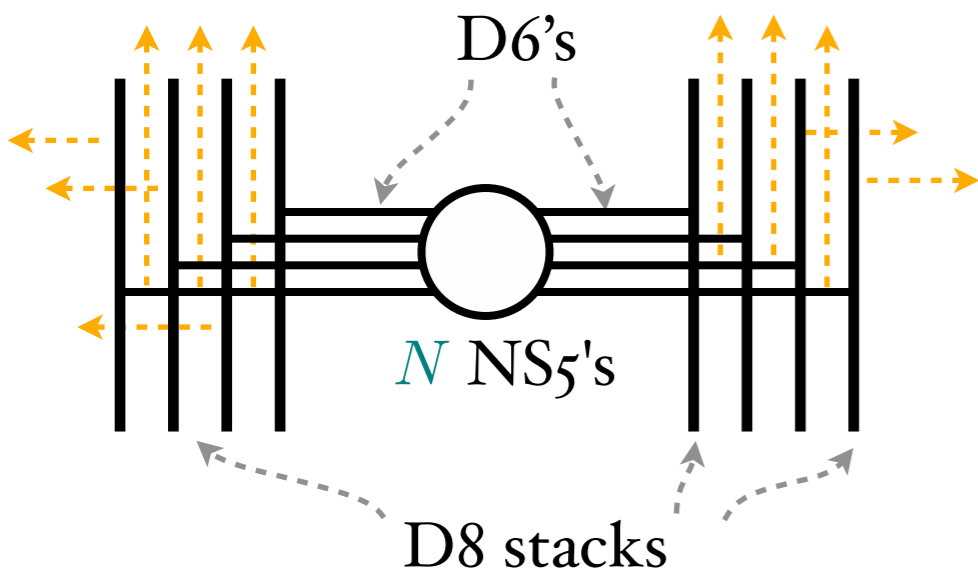
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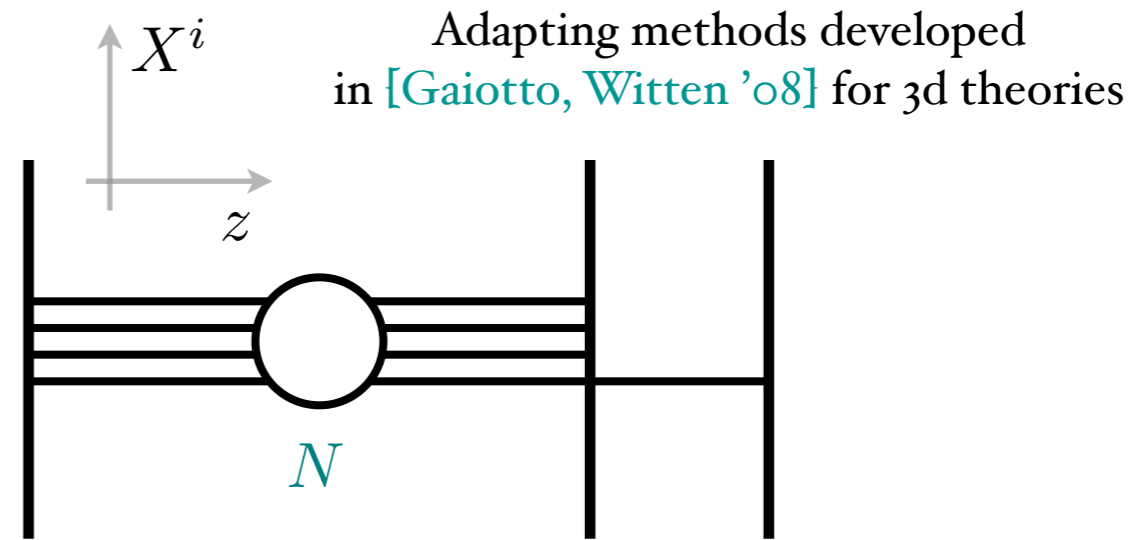
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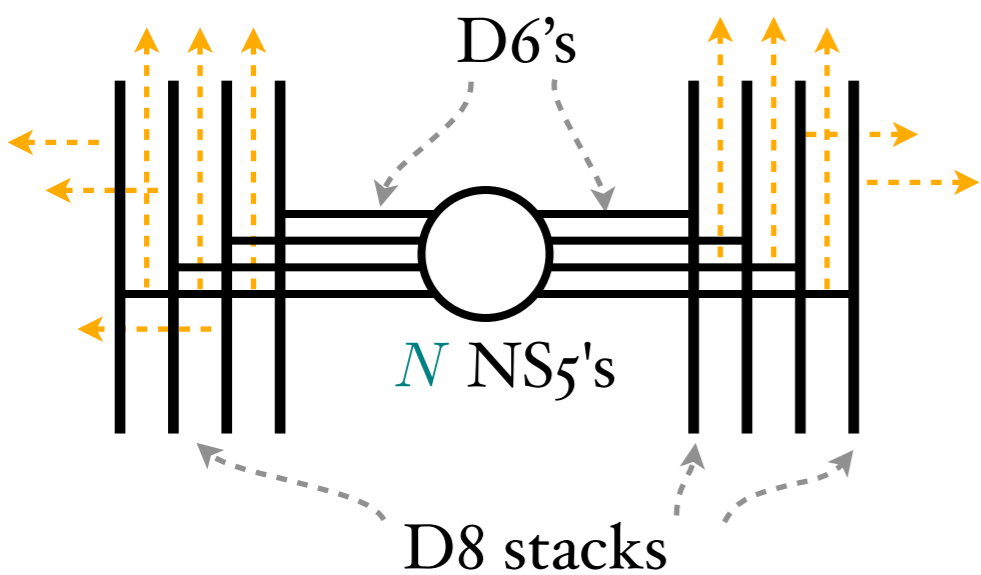
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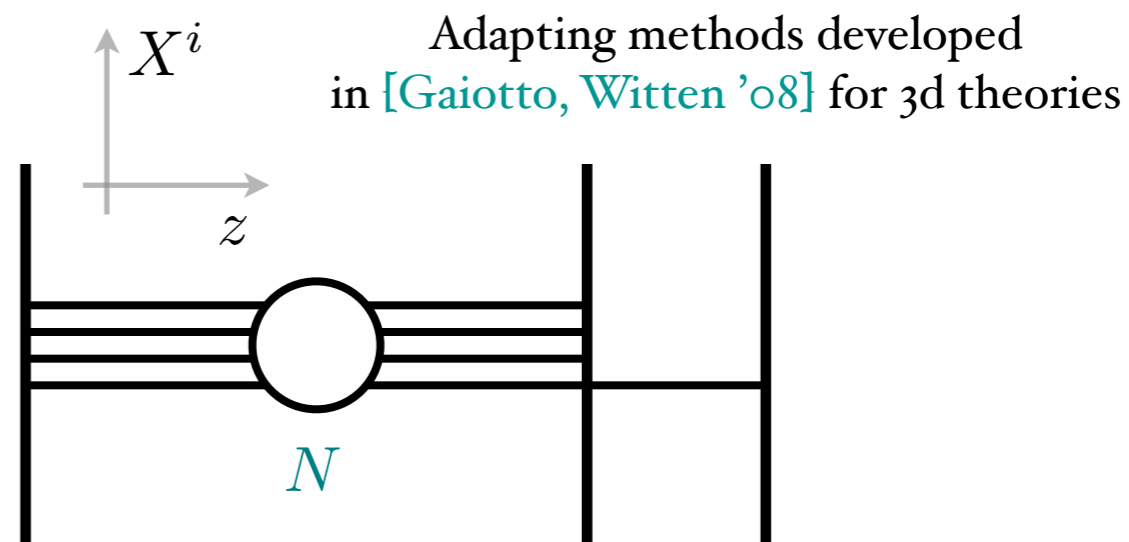


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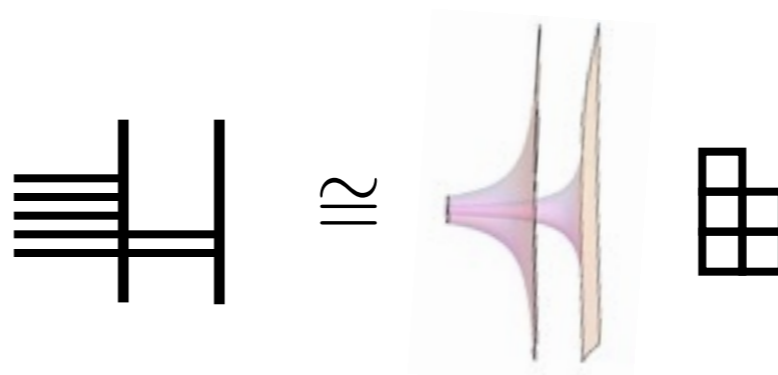
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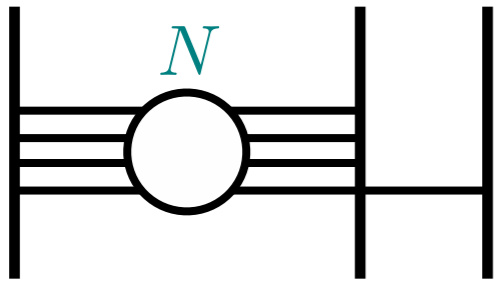
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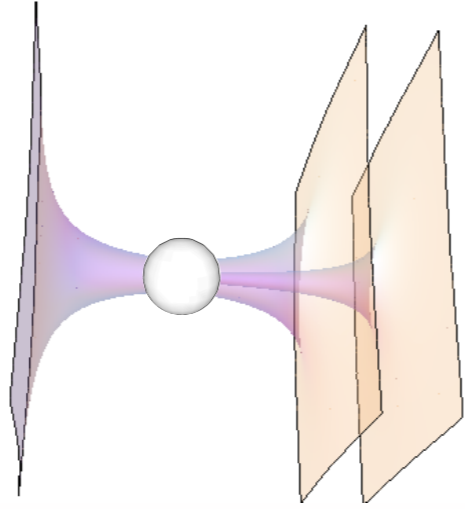
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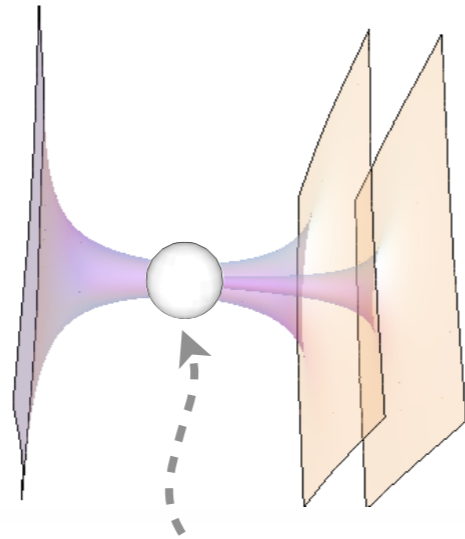
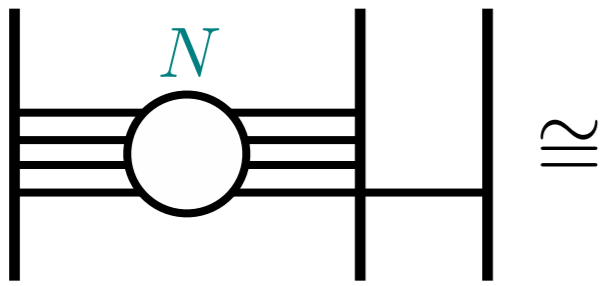
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$\mathbb{R}^2$



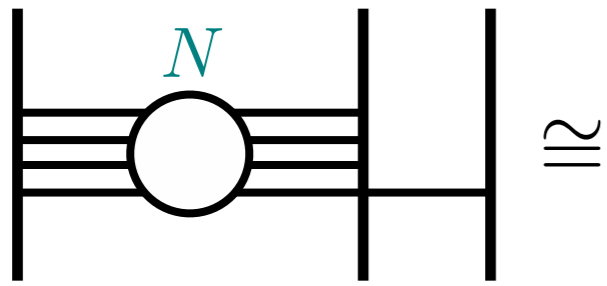
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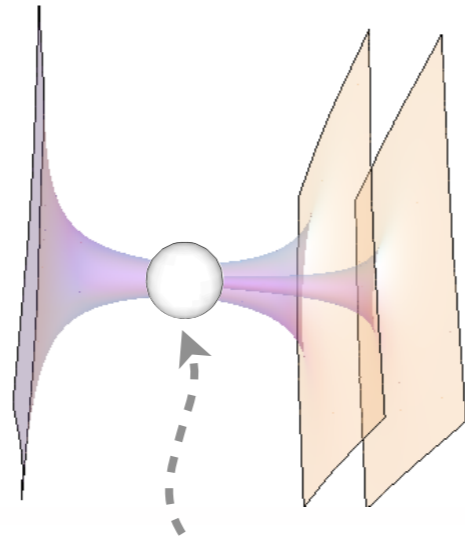
Conjecture:

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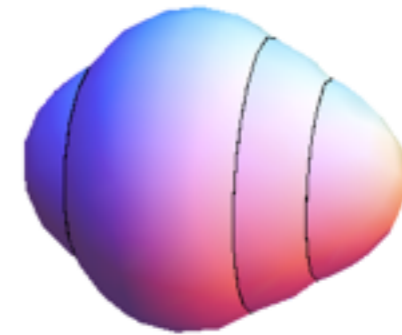
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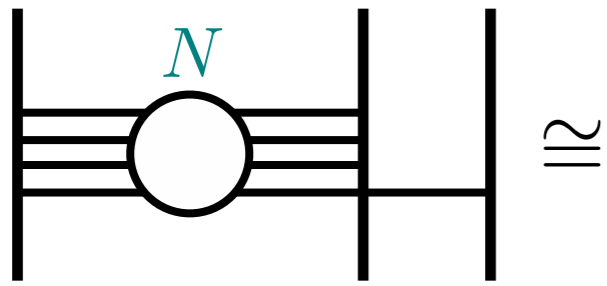


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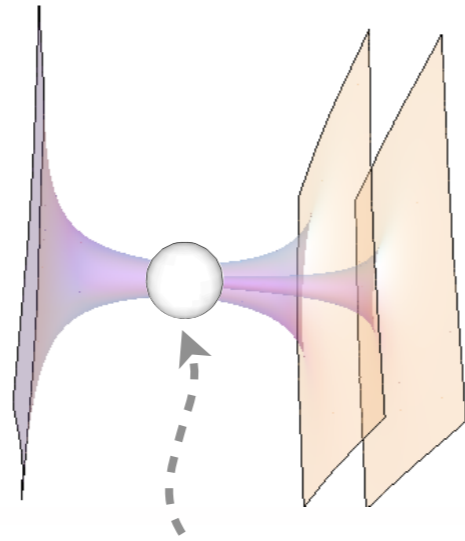


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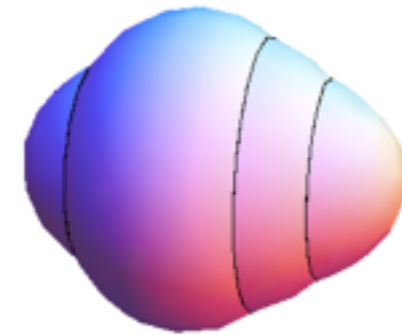
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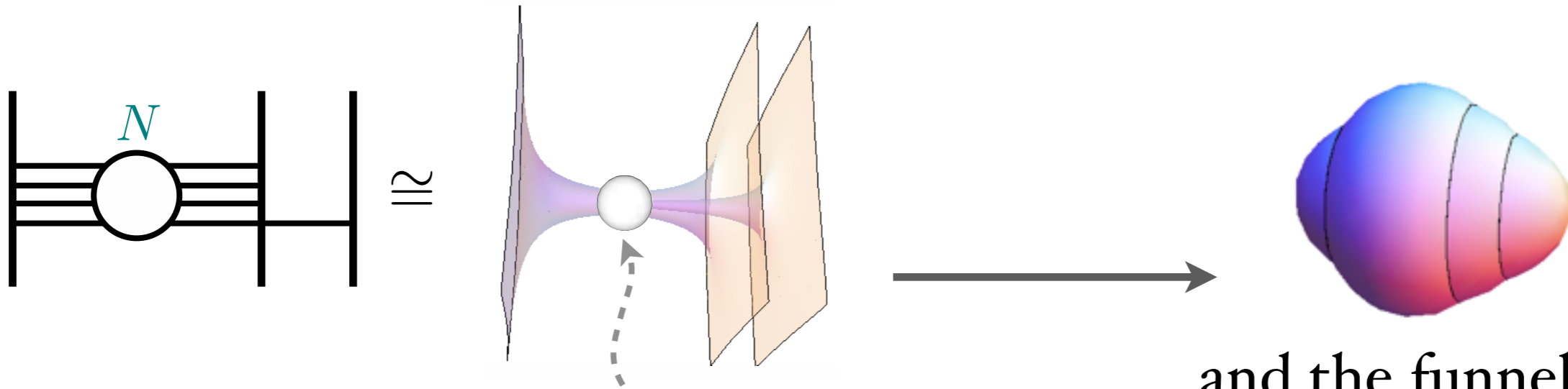
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Indeed the brane pictures would generically lead to predict a CFT:

- coinciding NS5's  $\Rightarrow$  tensionless strings

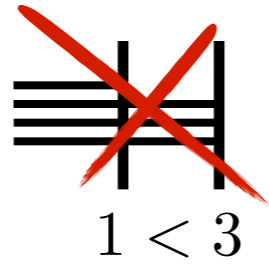
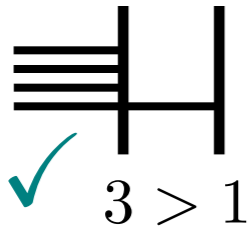
- nontrivial moduli spaces [singularities in the Higgs moduli space of massless theory]

[Hanany, Zaffaroni '97;  
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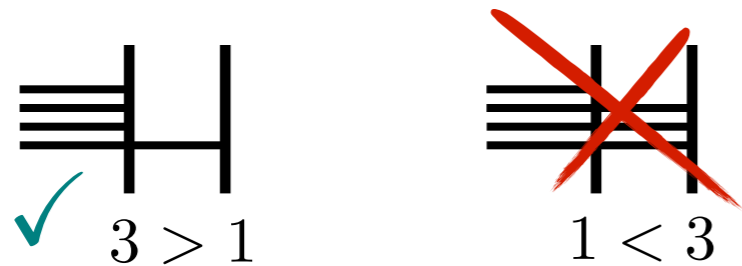
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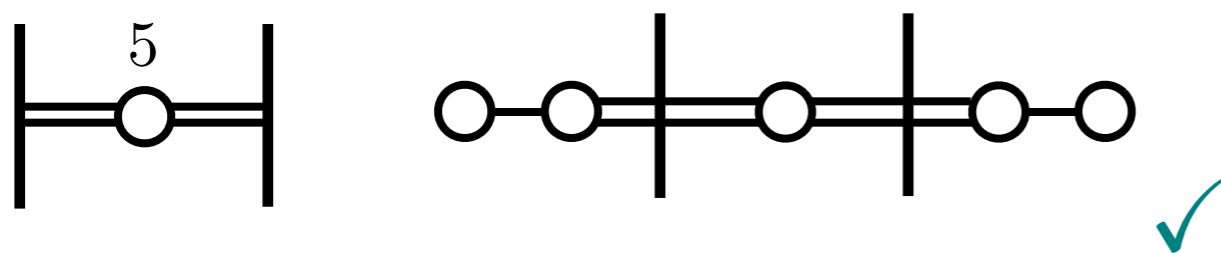
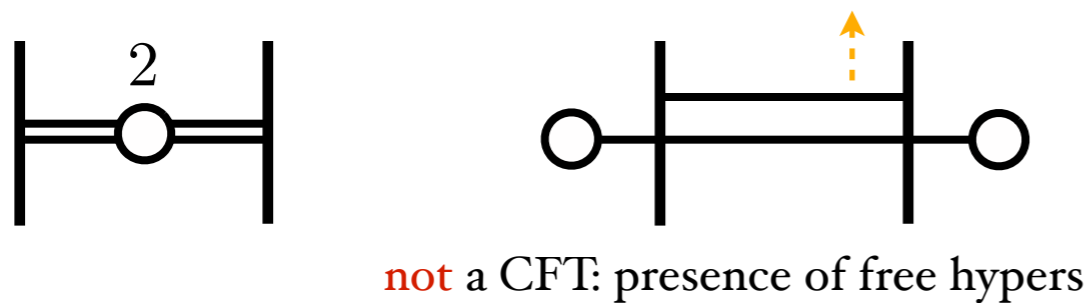


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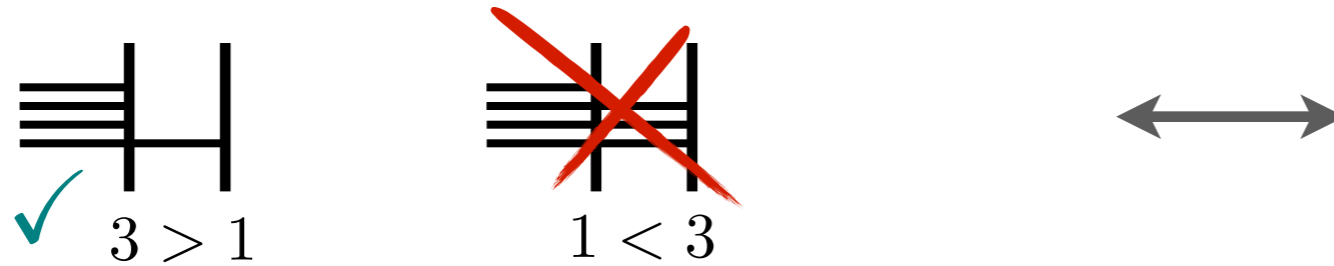


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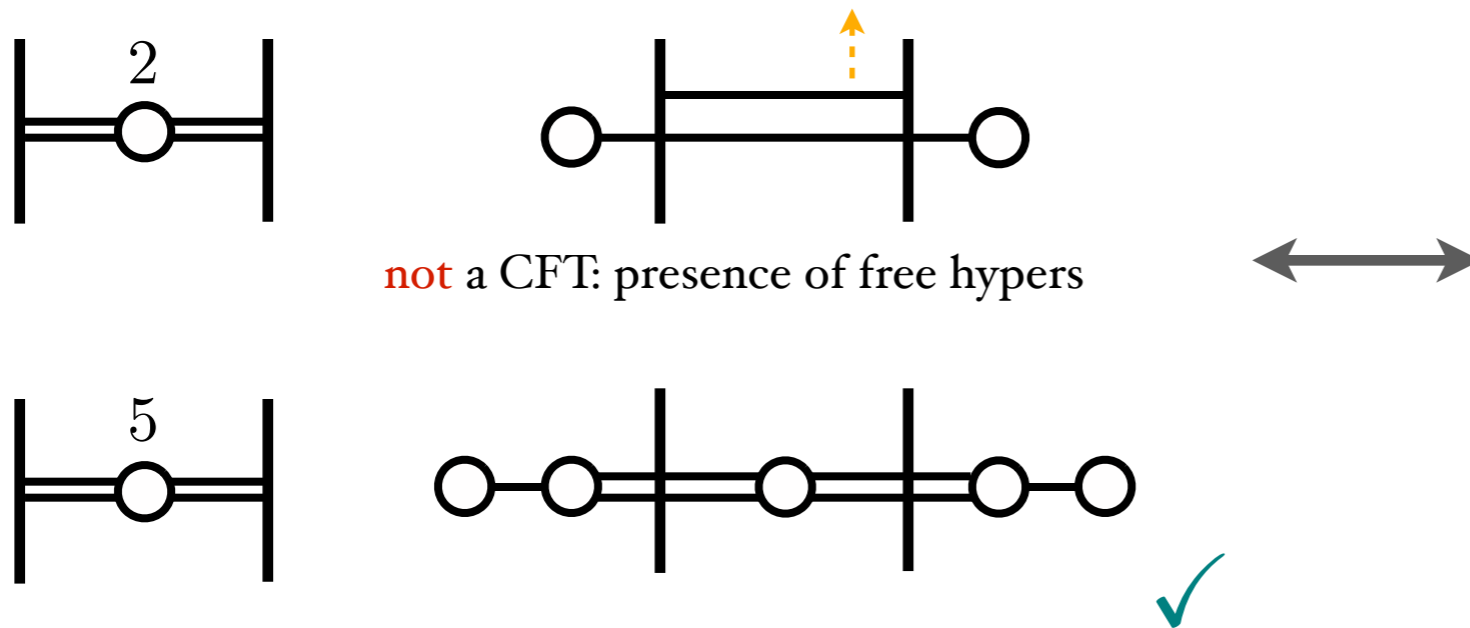
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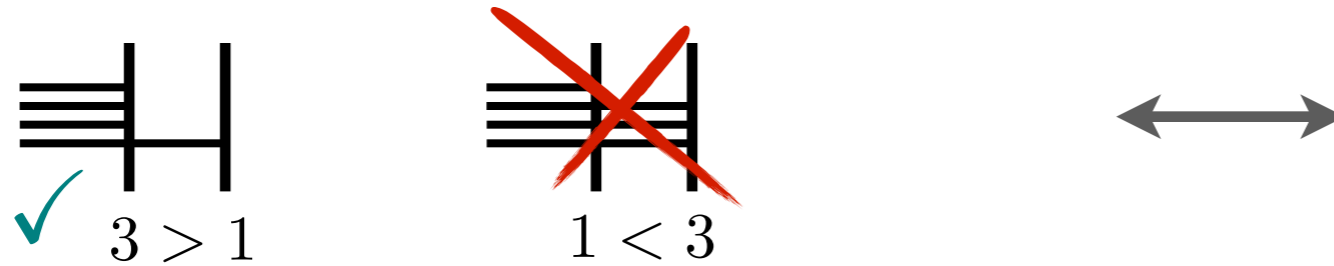


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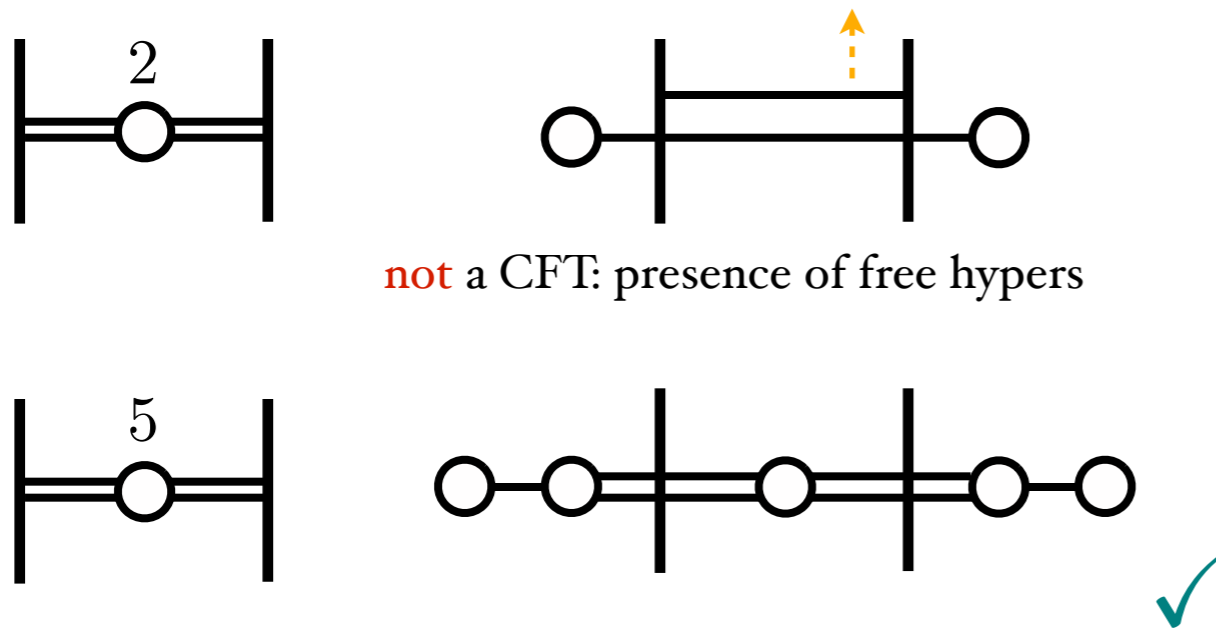
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# Coda: Comparison to F-theory

[wip. with del Zotto, Heckman, Vafa];  
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Many new  $(1, 0)$  CFTs from **chains** of intersecting curves

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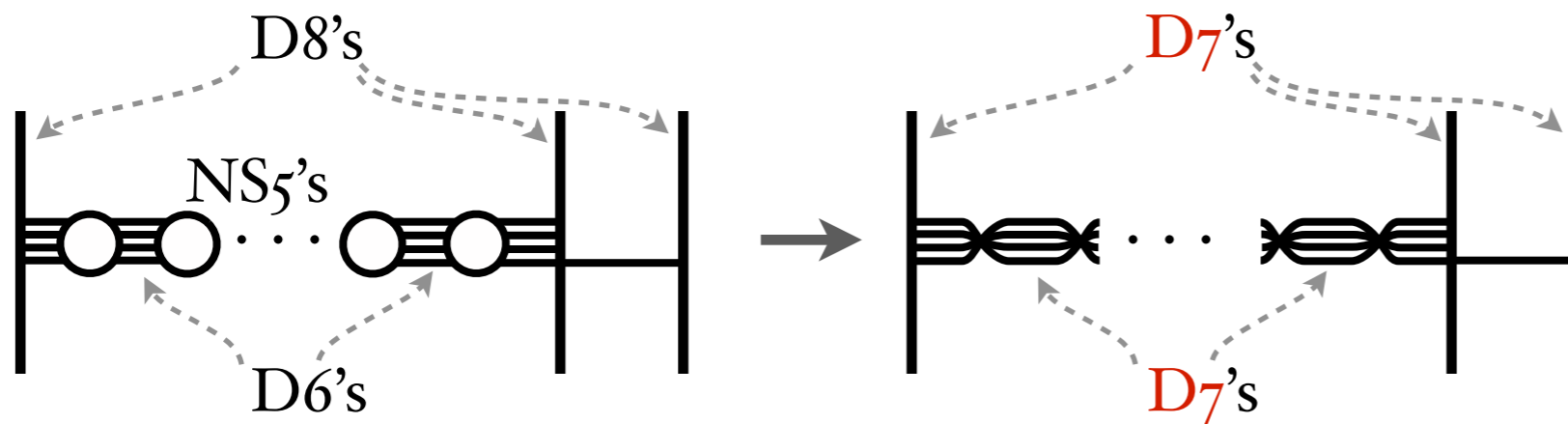
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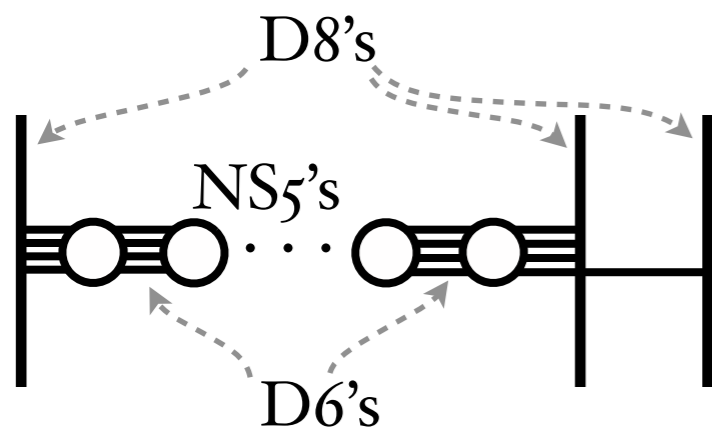
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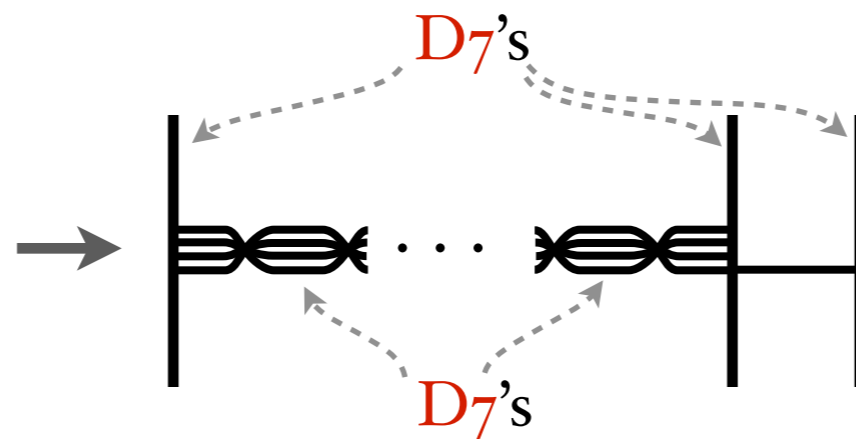
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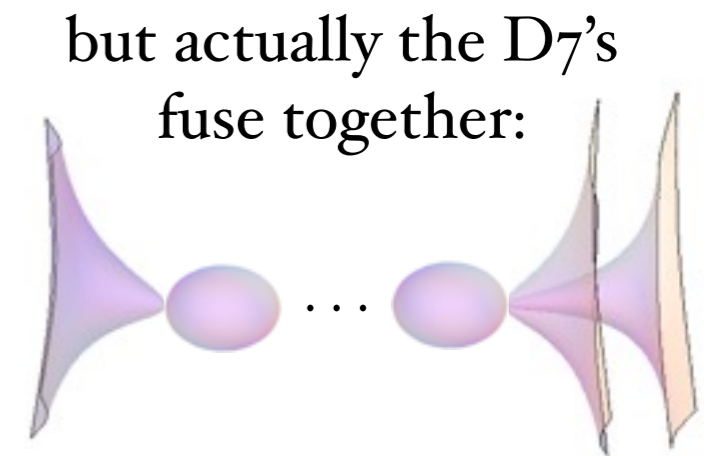


Nahm's equations



Hitchin's equations

$\cong$



One of their chains of intersecting curves, decorated by **Hitchin poles**

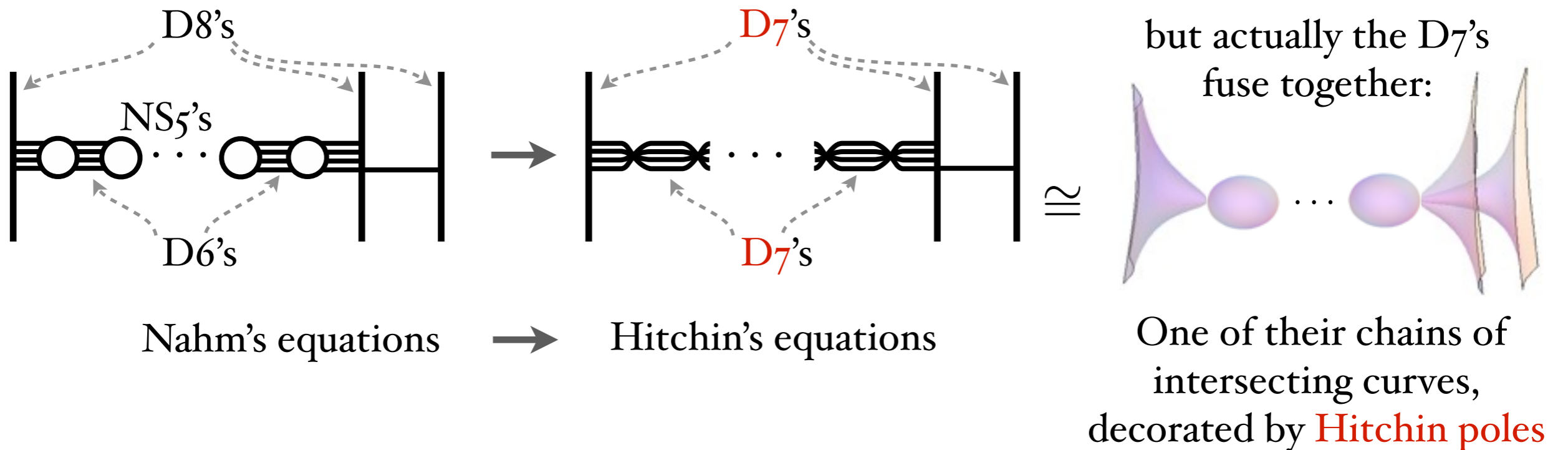
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This suggests that one should add Hitchin poles to the chains of non-perturbative F-theory 7-branes as well.

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e.g. a chain of curves with self-intersection  $12; 1, 2, 2, 3, 1, 5, 1, 3, 2, 2, 1, 12; 1, 2, 2, \dots$   
⏟  
pattern repeated  $N$  times  
 and gauge groups  $\text{SU}(2) \times G_2 \times F_4 \times G_2 \times \text{SU}(2) \times E_8 \times \text{SU}(2) \times \dots$

“fractional  $M_5$ ’s”

is dual to  $\text{AdS}_7 \times S^4 / \Gamma_{E_8}$

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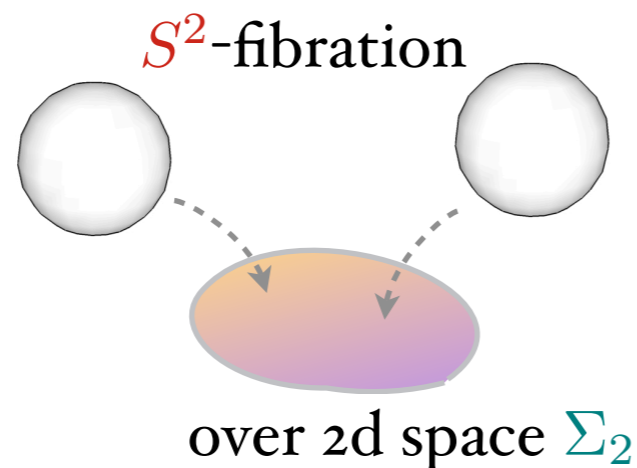
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IIB: again we determined  
the local form of the metric:



the  $S^2$  realizes  
the **SU(2)** R-symmetry  
of a 5d theory.

we also determined all fluxes;  
they obey Bianchi automatically

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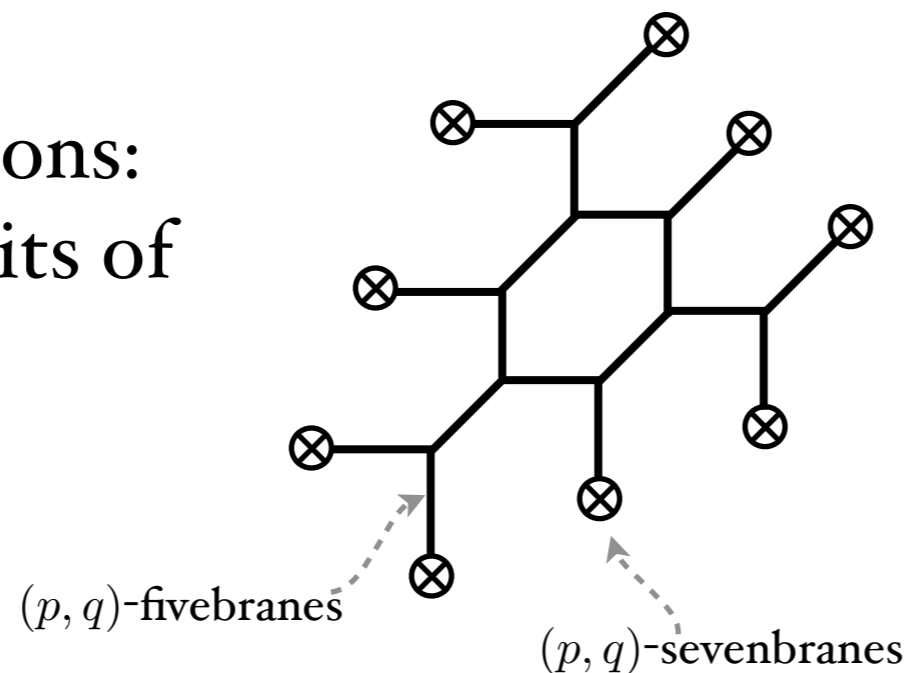
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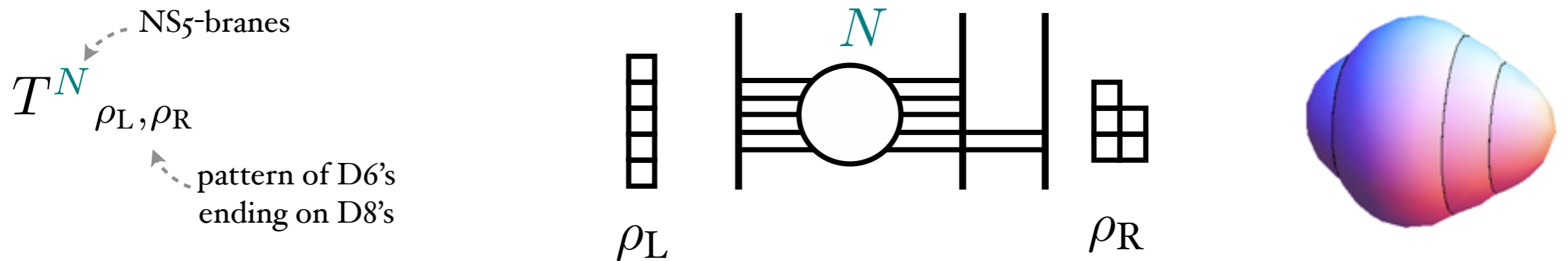
Expected solutions:  
near-horizon limits of  
 **$(p, q)$ -webs**



e.g. [Aharony, Hanany '97; deWolfe, Hanany Iqbal, Katz '99;  
Benini, Benvenuti, Tachikawa '08; Bergman, Rodriguez-Gomez '12]

# Conclusions

- Gravity duals for infinite family of  $(1, 0)$  6d CFTs



with effective quiver description on 'tensor branch'

- Possible generalizations: include O6's, O8's
- Hints of more general story from F-theory
- Gravity duals for 5d CFTs?