

# 5d rank 2 SCFTs and 5-brane webs



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arXiv: 1801.03916, 1806.10569, 1812.xxxxx

- In this talk, we focus on 5d  $N=1$  supersymmetric gauge theories (with 8 supercharges).
  - superconformal at UV fixed point Seiberg 97
- 5-brane web diagram in Type IIB string theory has provided a powerful tool to study these 5d  $N=1$  gauge theories.Aharony, Hanany 97  
Aharony, Hanany, Kol 97
- E.g. Non-perturbative aspects and various dualities could be explicitly seen from their 5-brane constructions.
  - also quantitatively: partition function

- A 5-brane web for  $SU(N)_k$  gauge theories is obtained from  $N$  parallel D5 branes between 2 NS5 branes.
  - for small Chern-Simons level  $k$
- With the introduction of an orientifold 5-plane (or O7), one may realize an  $Sp(N)$  or an  $SO(N)$  gauge group.

Brunner, Karch 97,

Brandhuber, Itzhaki, Sonnenschein, Theisen, Yankielowicz 97

Hanany, Zaffaroni 99

Zafir 15

- Classification of 6d SCFTs

- (2,0) ADE classification

Witten'95, Strominger'95

- (1,0) classification via F-theory

Heckman, Morrison, Rudelius, Vafa:1502

- Possibly, all 5d SCFTs could be obtained from a circle compactification with some twist from 6d theories, full classification is still not complete

- dualities

- symmetries

- Recently there has been progress on classification of 5d SCFTs:

[17 Jefferson- HC Kim-Vafa-Zafrir]

- From the field theory:  
milder constraint on the theory in the Coulomb branch  
with **the positivity of the monopole string tension**  
—> a classification of 5d SCFTs of a single gauge group.

[18 Jefferson-Katz-HC Kim-Vafa]

- geometric construction  
M-theory on local shrinkable Calabi-Yau threefold  
**Rank 2 theories are classified (with duality).**

- In this talk, we propose **all the 5-brane webs for rank 2 SCFTs**

e.g.,

$G_2 + 6F$

$SU(3)_9$

$SU(3)_{3/2} + 1 \text{ Sym}$

- Employ them to **test duality** between different gauge descriptions

e.g.,

Pure  $G_2$   $\longleftrightarrow$   $SU(3)_7$

$G_2 + 2F$   $\longleftrightarrow$   $SU(3)_6 + 2F$   $\longleftrightarrow$   $Sp(2)_\pi + 2AS$

$Sp(2) + 1AS + 8F$   $\longleftrightarrow$   $SU(3)_{3/2} + 9F$

# Plan

- Review of 5d  $N = 1$  gauge theories
- Type IIB  $(p,q)$  5-brane webs: e.g. rank 1 theories.
- Explicit construction of 5-brane web
  - $G_2 - SU(3)_7$
  - $G_2 - SU(3) - Sp(2)$  sequences
  - $SU(3)_{3/2} + 9F = Sp(2) + 1AS + 8F$
  - $SU(3) + 1 \text{ Sym}$
- Conclusion

# 5d N = 1 gauge theory

5d N=1 supersymmetric gauge theories with gauge group G:

8 Supercharges and SU(2) R-symmetry

## Matter content

Vector multiplet:  $A_\mu, \phi; \lambda, \bar{\lambda}$

Hypermultiplet:  $q^A, \bar{q}_A; \psi, \bar{\psi}$  (A=1,2 SU(2)<sub>R</sub> index)

**Coulomb branch** is parametrized by vev of vec. mult. scalar  $\phi$

**Higgs branch** is parametrized by vev of hypermultiplet scalars

## Global symmetry

$G_{\text{Hypers}} \times U(1)_{\text{Instantons}}$

Instanton solitons with conserved current  $j = *(F \wedge F)$



# 5d Superconformal theories (SCFTs)

A certain class of 5d N=1 theories have **non-trivial UV fixed point**

[96 Seiberg]

[96 Morrison-Seiberg]

[97 Intriligator-Morrison-Seiberg]

with enhanced global symmetry

$$G_{\text{Hypers}} \times U(1)_{\text{Instantons}} \subset G_{\text{Global}}$$

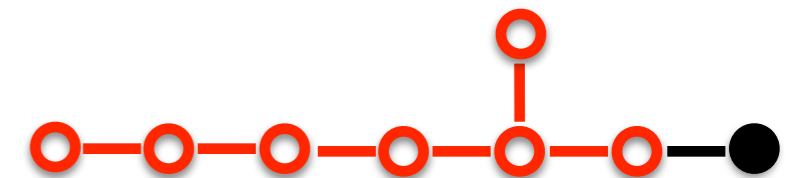
massless hypers + massless instanton

An example:  $SU(2)$  theory with  $N_f \leq 7$  **hypermultiplets** in fund. representation  
(flavors)

$$SO(2N_f) \times U(1)_I \subset E_{N_f+1}$$

flavor symmetry

Instanton (charged under spinor representation)



# Prepotential

- Along the Coulomb branch (  $G \rightarrow U(1)^{\text{rank}(G)}$  ), the theory is described by abelian low energy effective theory which is characterized by prepotential.
- Prepotential is at most cubic and 1-loop exact:

$$\mathcal{F} = \frac{1}{2g_0^2} h_{ij} \phi^i \phi^j + \frac{\kappa}{6} d_{ijk} \phi^i \phi^j \phi^k + \frac{1}{12} \left( \sum_{\text{Roots}} |R \cdot \phi|^3 - \sum_f \sum_{w \in W_f} |w \cdot \phi + m_f|^3 \right)$$

$$h_{ij} = \text{Tr}(T_i T_j), \quad d_{abc} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} T_a (T_b T_c + T_c T_b), \quad W_f = \text{Weight of } G \text{ in the rep. } r_f$$

[96 Morrison-Seiberg]  
[97 Intriligator-Morrison-Seiberg]

Magnetic monopole string tension:

$$\phi_{D_i} = \partial_i \mathcal{F}$$

Effective coupling:

$$\tau_{ij} = \partial_i \partial_j \mathcal{F}$$

Coulomb branch metric:

$$d^2 s = \tau_{ij} d\phi^i d\phi^j$$

# An example: SU(2) Prepotential

- With massless hypers

$$\mathcal{F}_{SU(2)} = \frac{1}{g_0^2} a^2 + \frac{1}{6} (8 - N_f) a^3$$

Magnetic monopole string tension:  $\phi_{D_i} = \partial_i \mathcal{F}$   $\frac{a}{2} \left( \frac{4}{g_0^2} + (8 - N_f) a \right)$

Effective coupling:  $\tau_{ij} = \partial_i \partial_j \mathcal{F}$   $\frac{2}{g_0^2} + (8 - N_f) a$

Notice that  $N_f > 8$ , Coulomb branch is not well defined  
→ theory is now well defined.

# M-theory/String constructions

Large class of 5d SCFTs can be engineered by M-theory or string theory.

**M- theory on non-compact Calabi-Yau 3 fold (CY3)** with some compact cycles shrunk to a point

[Witten'96],[Morrison,Seiberg'96],  
[Douglas,Katz,Vafa'96]  
[Katz,Klemm,Vafa'96],

M2 wrapping compact 2-cycles  $\Leftrightarrow$  BPS particle mass  
= vol(2-cycles)

M5 wrapping compact 4-cycles  $\Leftrightarrow$  monopole string tension  
= vol(4-cycles)

**Type IIB brane configuration**

[Aharony,Hanany'97]  
[Aharony,Hanany,Kol'97],  
[DeWolfe,Hanany,Iqbal,Katz'99]

BPS configuration with D5 and NS5 branes with their bound states [next slide]

Two descriptions are **equivalent**.

[Leung,Vafa'97]

# Type IIB (p,q) 5-brane

In 5d, D5 and NS5 make a configuration looks like a web: **(p,q) 5-brane web**

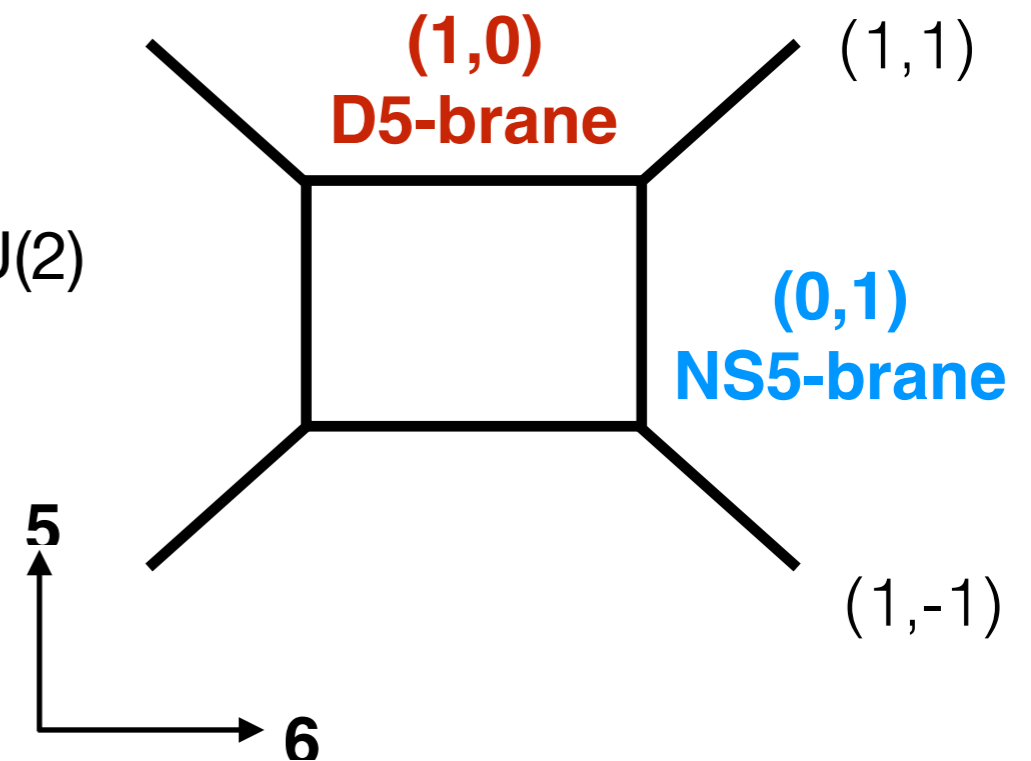
- charge conserving, tension is balanced

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
NS5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(p,q)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

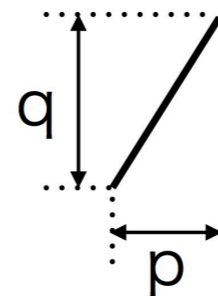
5d world vol.

e.g., SU(2)

(p,q) plane

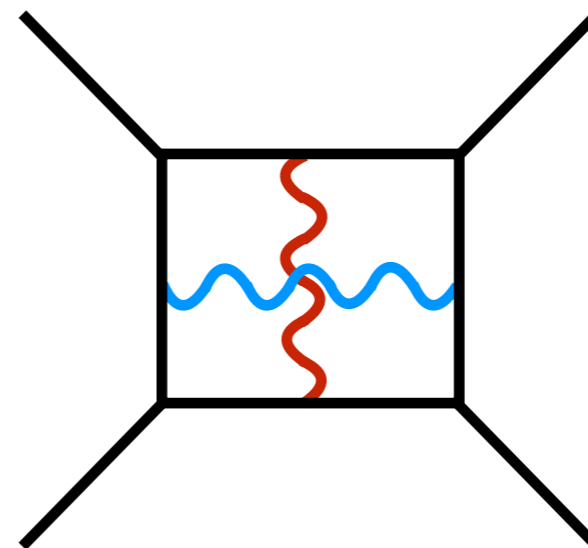


- (p,q) charges: p D5 charge + q NS5 charge,  
 (p,q) 5-brane has a slope q/p



# 5d pure SU(2) gauge theory

- Coulomb branch :  $a = \langle \phi \rangle / 2$



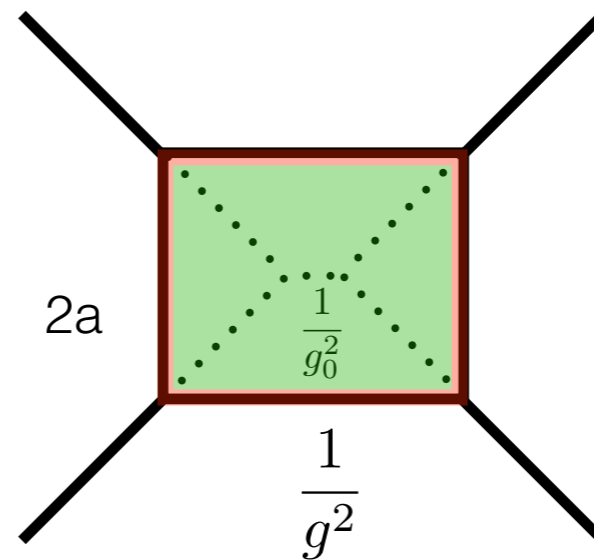
**F1** SU(2) W-bosons

**D1** SU(2) Instantons

- Monopole string tension

**Area**

$$2a \left( \frac{1}{g_0^2} + 2a \right)$$



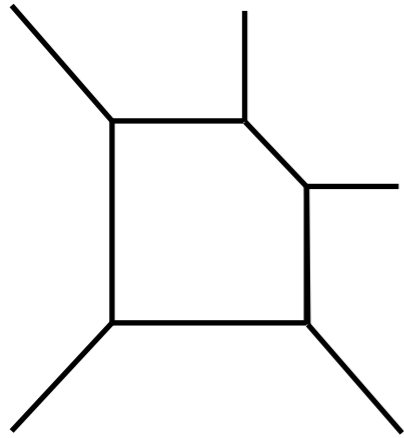
- Effective couplings

**Circumference**

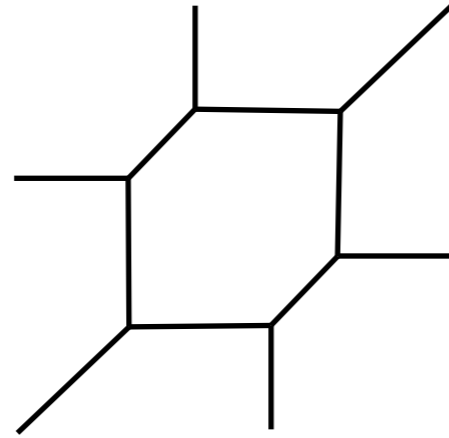
$$\frac{2}{g_0^2} + 8a$$

# Rank 1 theories

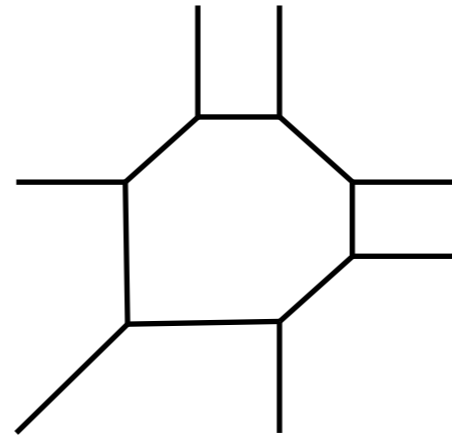
SU(2) theory with  $N_f \leq 7$  flavors



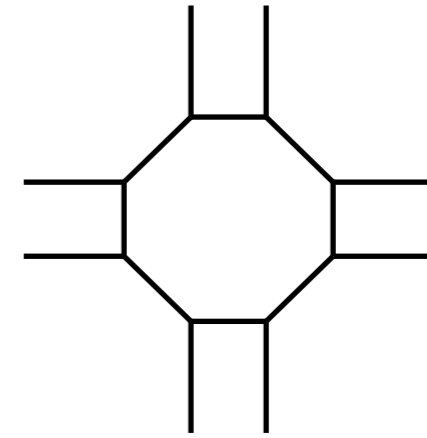
$N_f = 1$



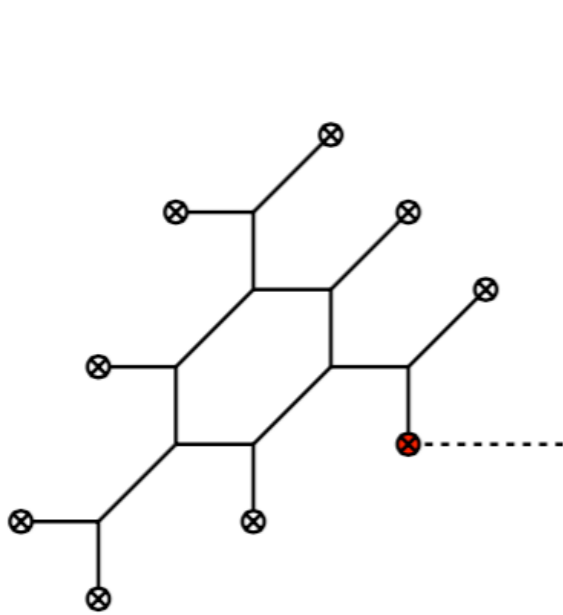
$N_f = 2$



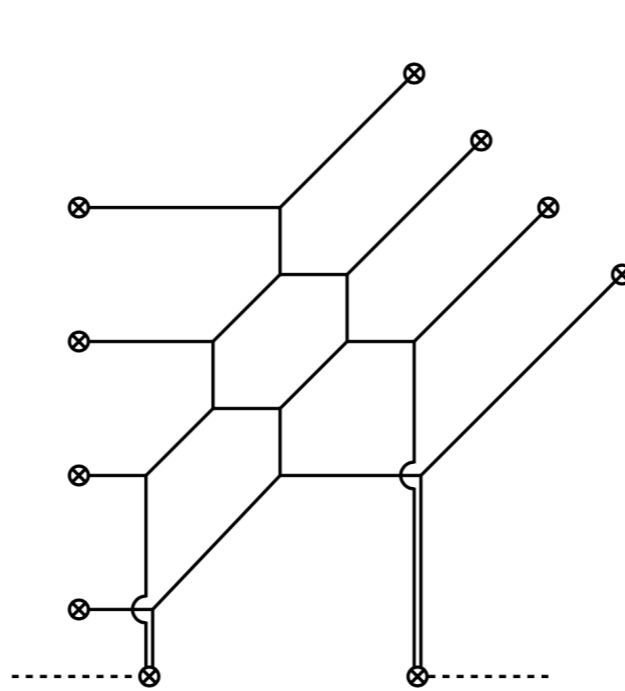
$N_f = 3$



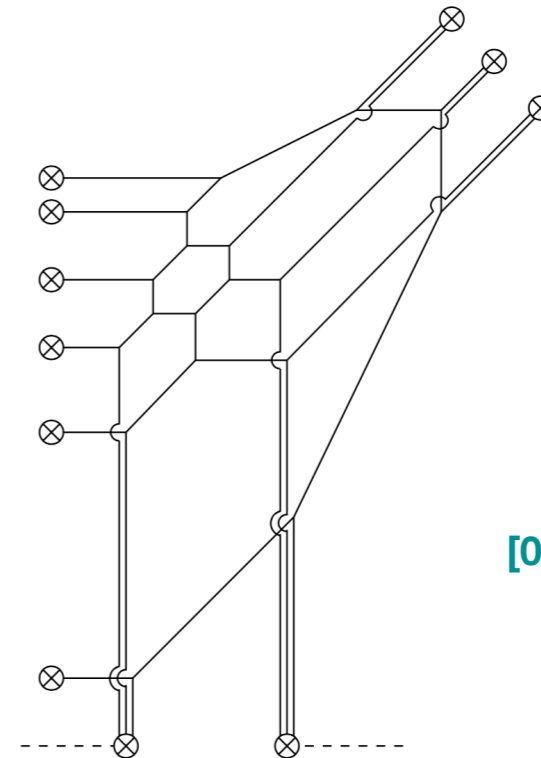
$N_f = 4$



$N_f = 5$



$N_f = 6$



$N_f = 7$

[09 Benini-Benvenuti  
-Tachikawa]

**Q: What happens  
if we add one more flavor?**



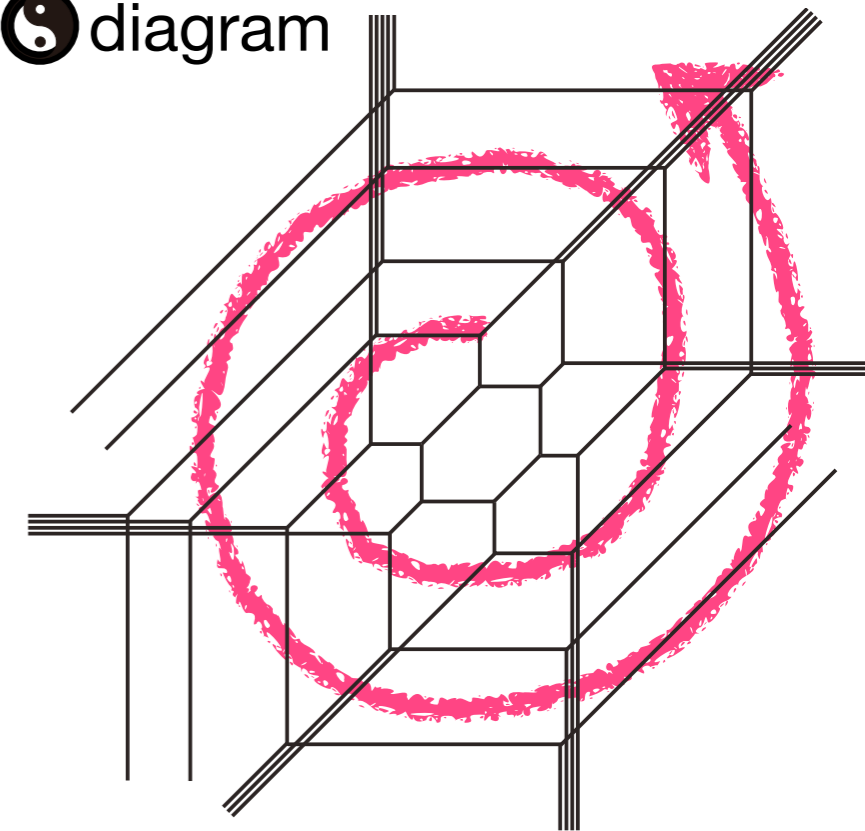
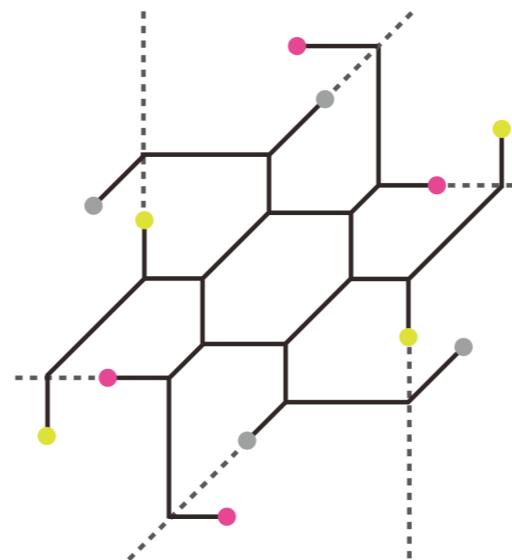
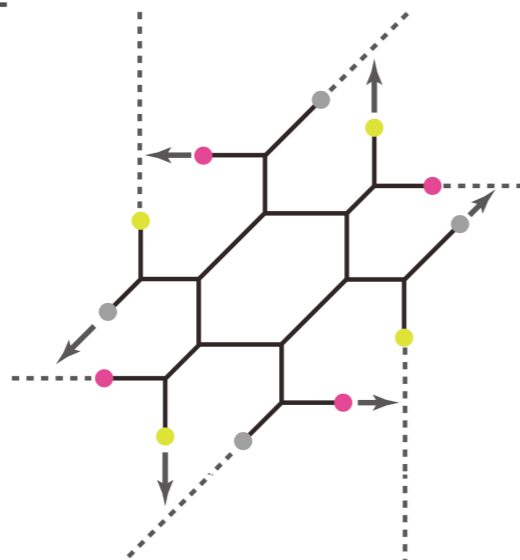
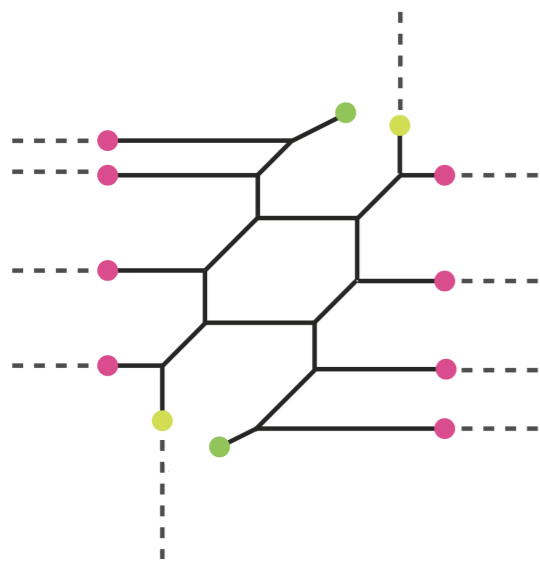
# New type of 5-brane configuration

When the number of hypermultiplets reach the marginal value,

- It is known that the theory has the UV fixed point **in 6d**.

e.g., SU(2) theory with  $N_f = 8$  flavors  $\iff$  6d E-string theory on a circle

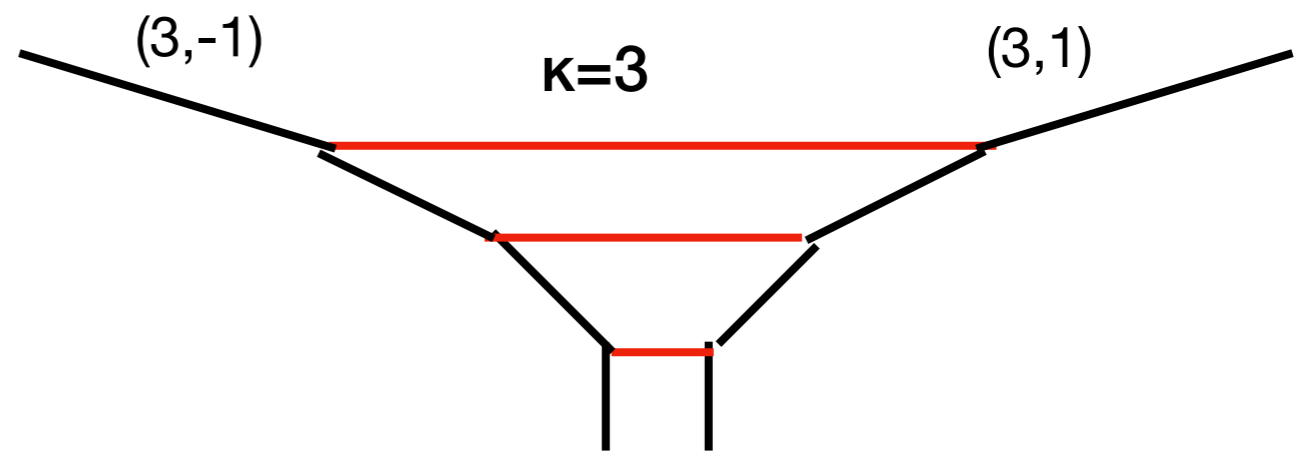
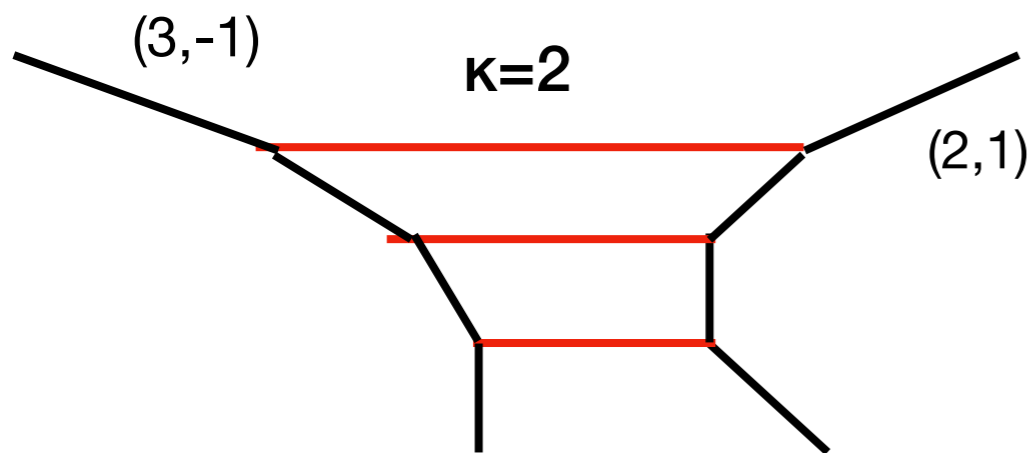
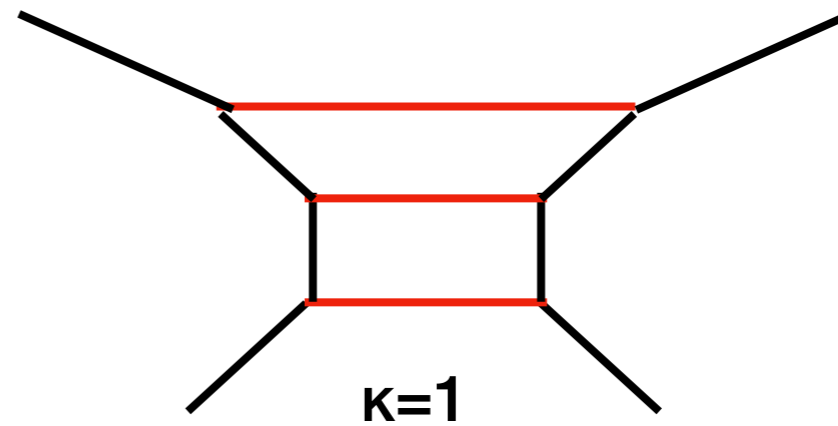
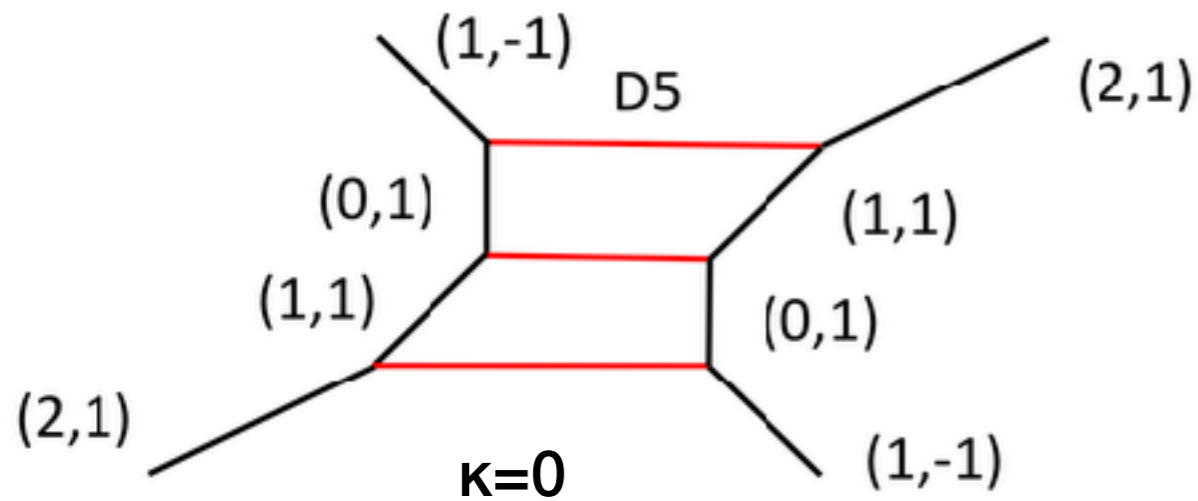
- A new type of (p,q) 5-brane configuration emerges: Tao  diagram



[15 SSK - Taki - Yagi]

**Explicit construction of  
5-brane webs for  
5d rank 2 theories:  
 $SU(3)$ ,  $Sp(2)=SO(5)$ ,  $G_2$**

- 5d pure SU(3) gauge theory with  $\kappa=0,1,2,3$



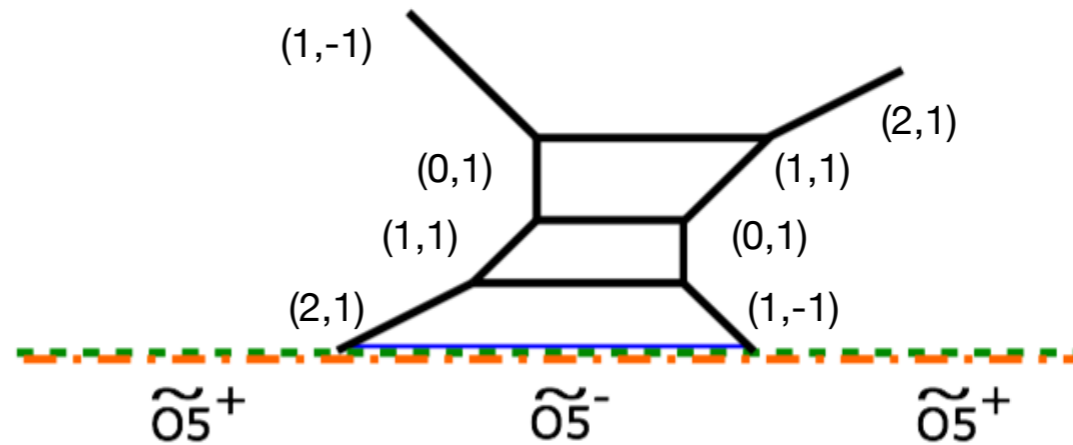
# 5d SO(7) gauge theories

$$\widetilde{O5}^- = O5^- + 1/2 D5 + 1/2 D7 \text{ cut}$$

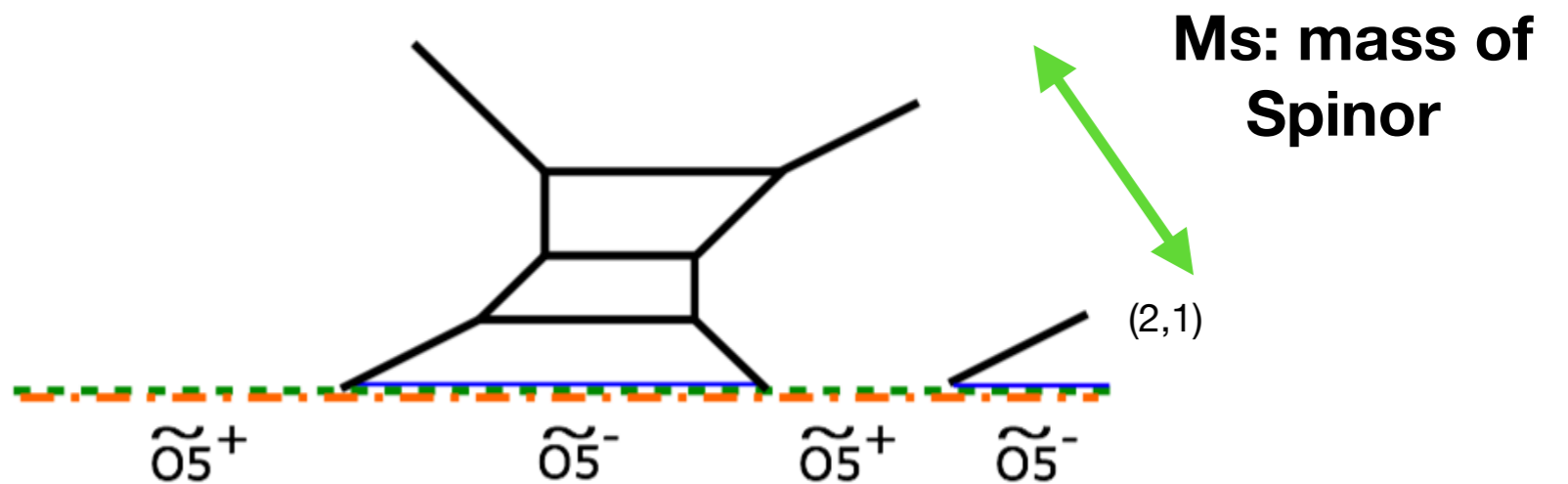
[Zafrir'15]

$$\widetilde{O5}^+ = O5^+ + 1/2 D7 \text{ cut}$$

Pure SO(7)



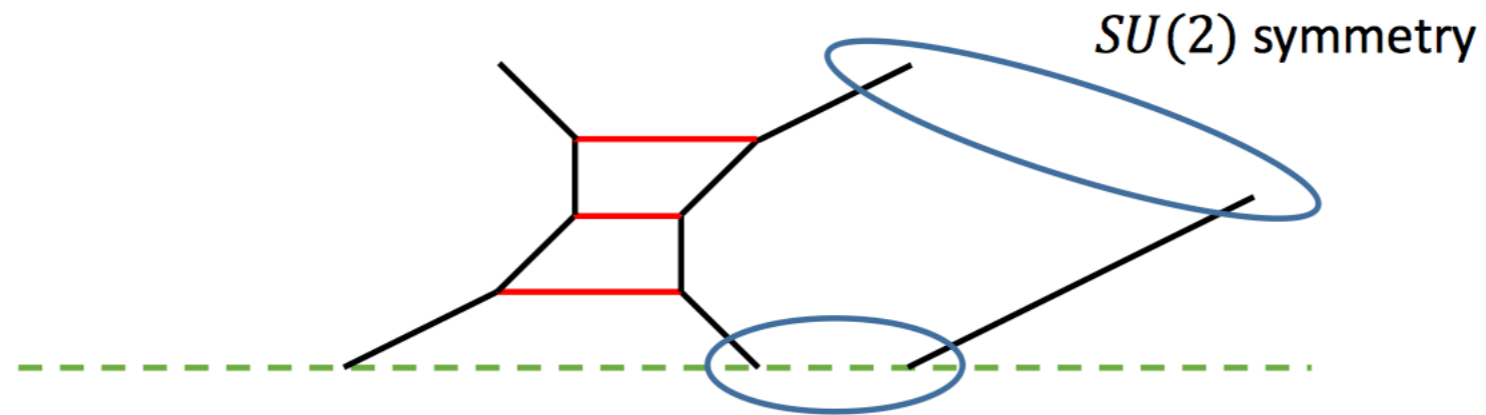
SO(7) + spinor matter



Sp(0) instantons=spinors

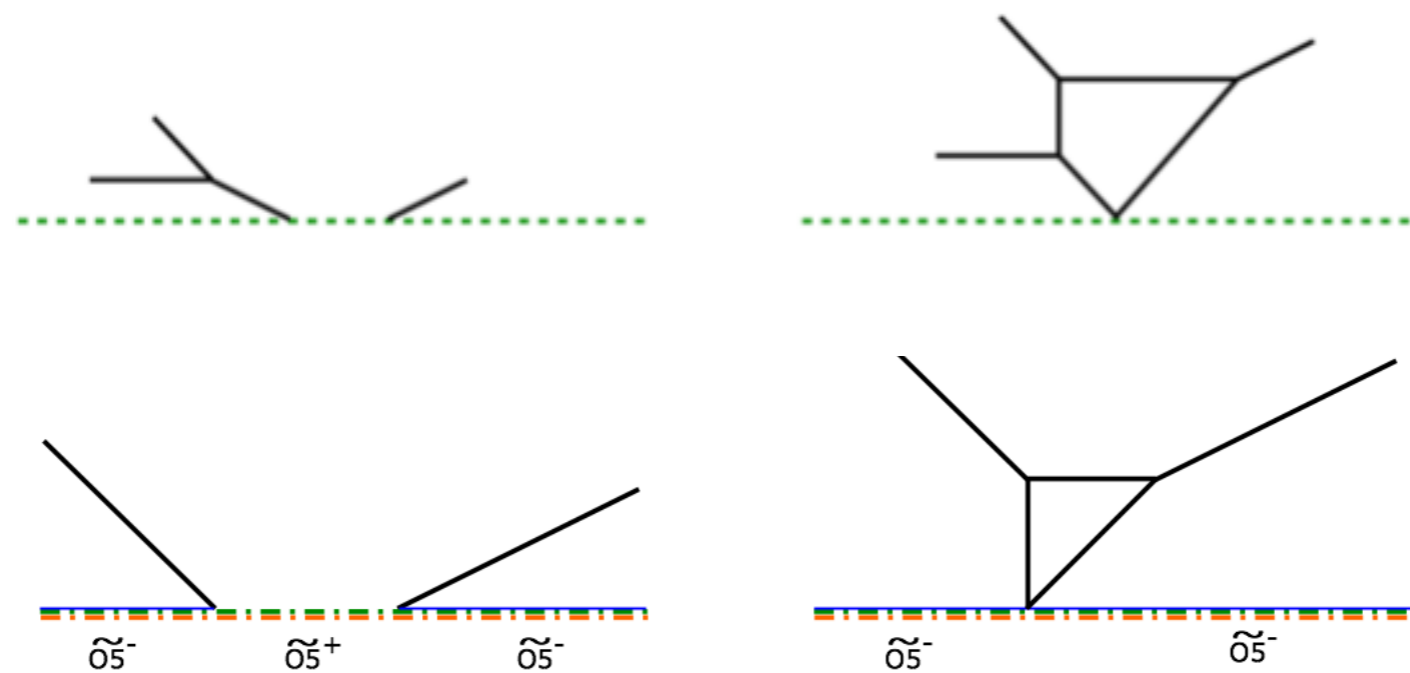
# $G_2 =$ Higgsing of $SO(7)$ with spinor

$M_s \rightarrow 0$  : Higgs branch

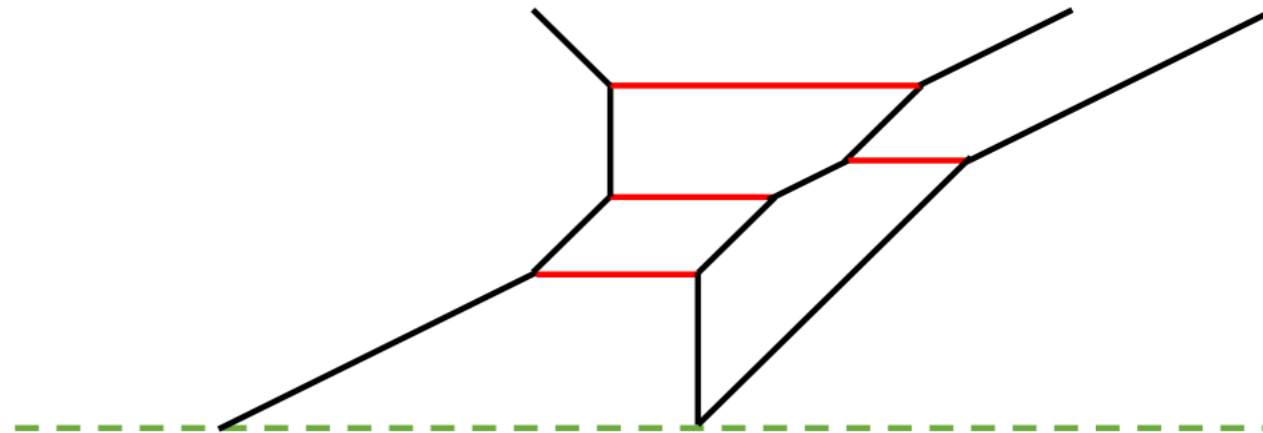
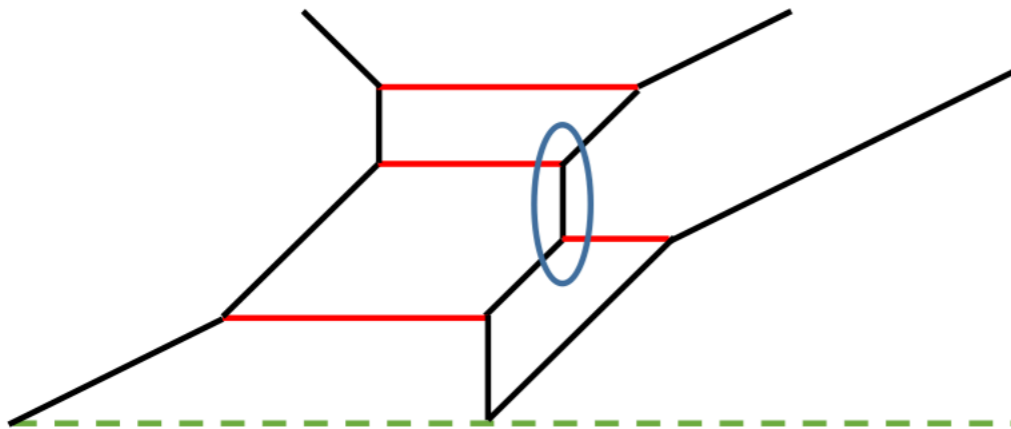
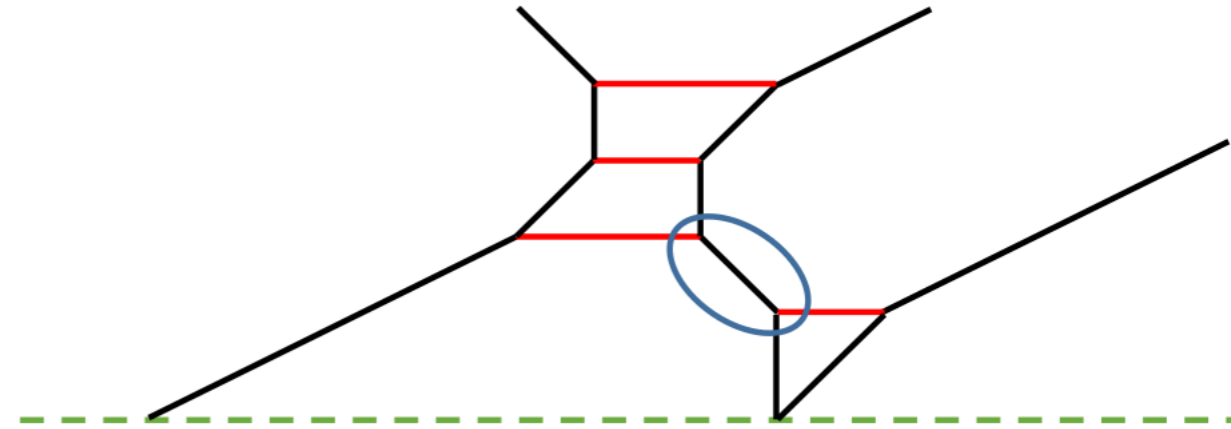
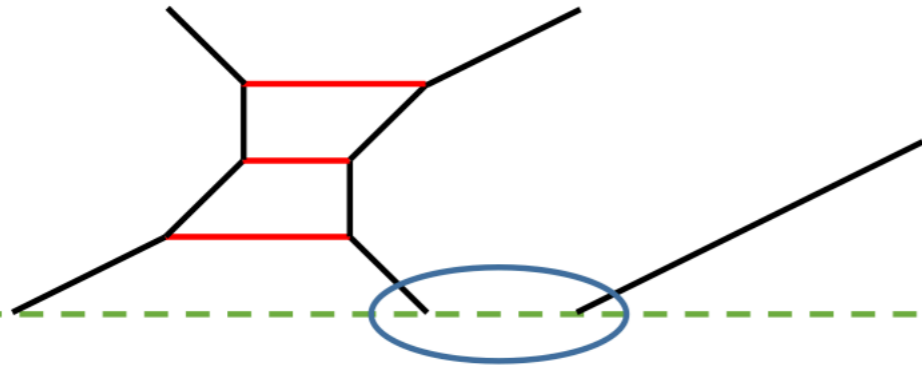


Generalized flop transitions

[Hayashi-SSK-Lee-Yagi'17]

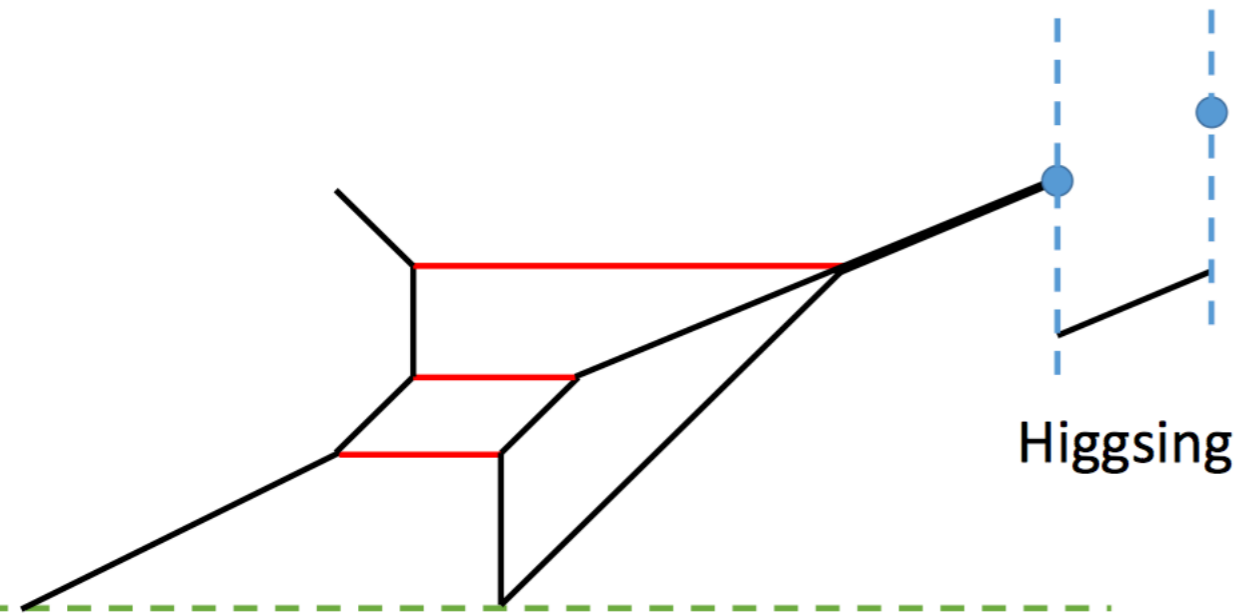
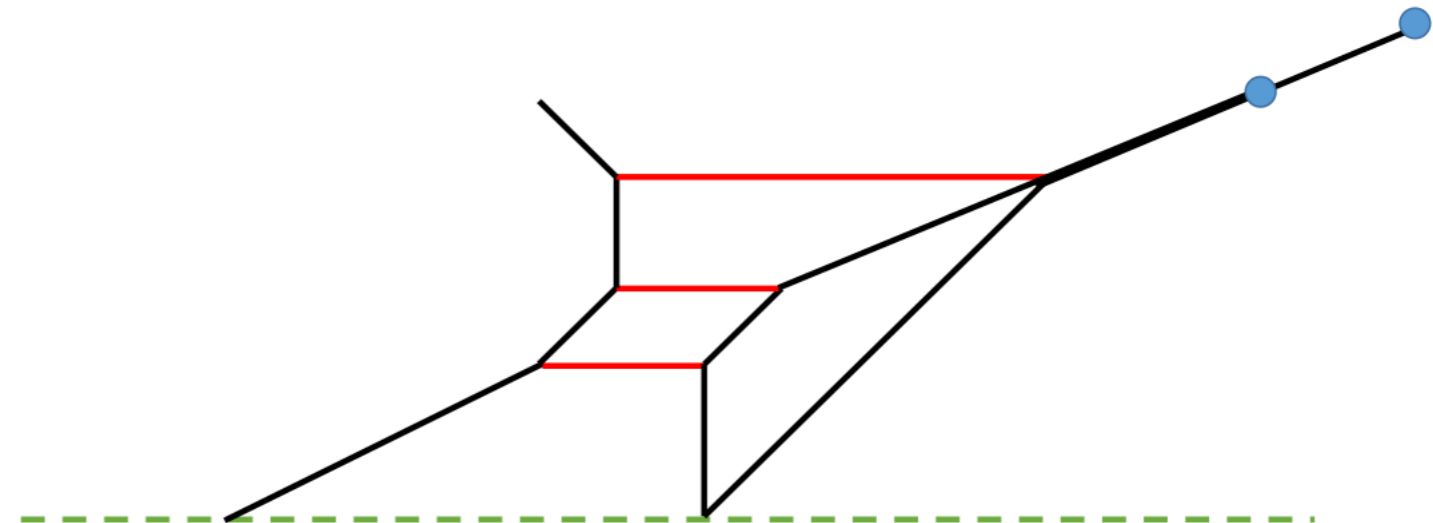
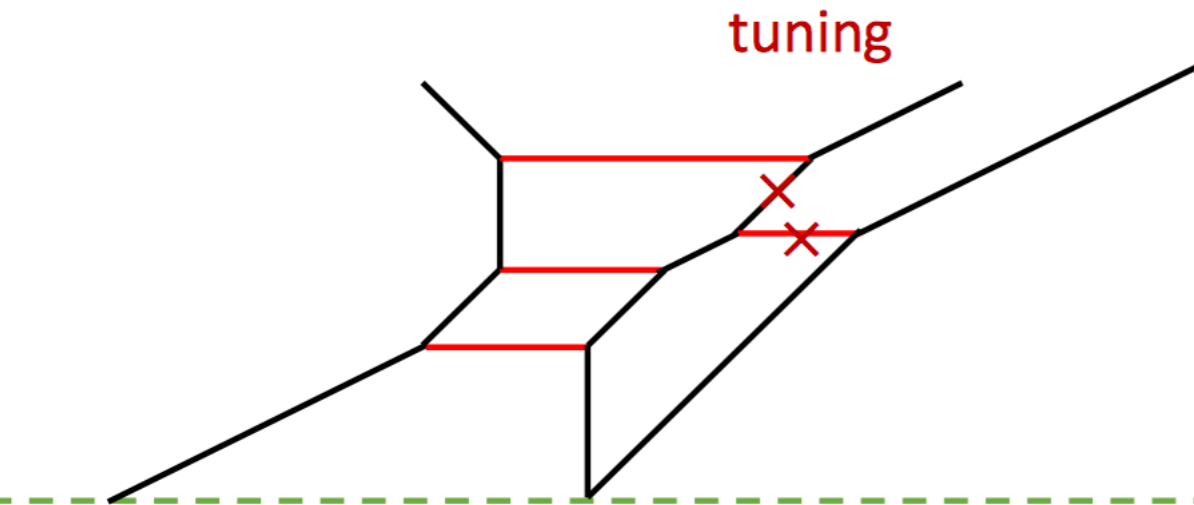


# G2 = Higgsing of SO(7) with spinor

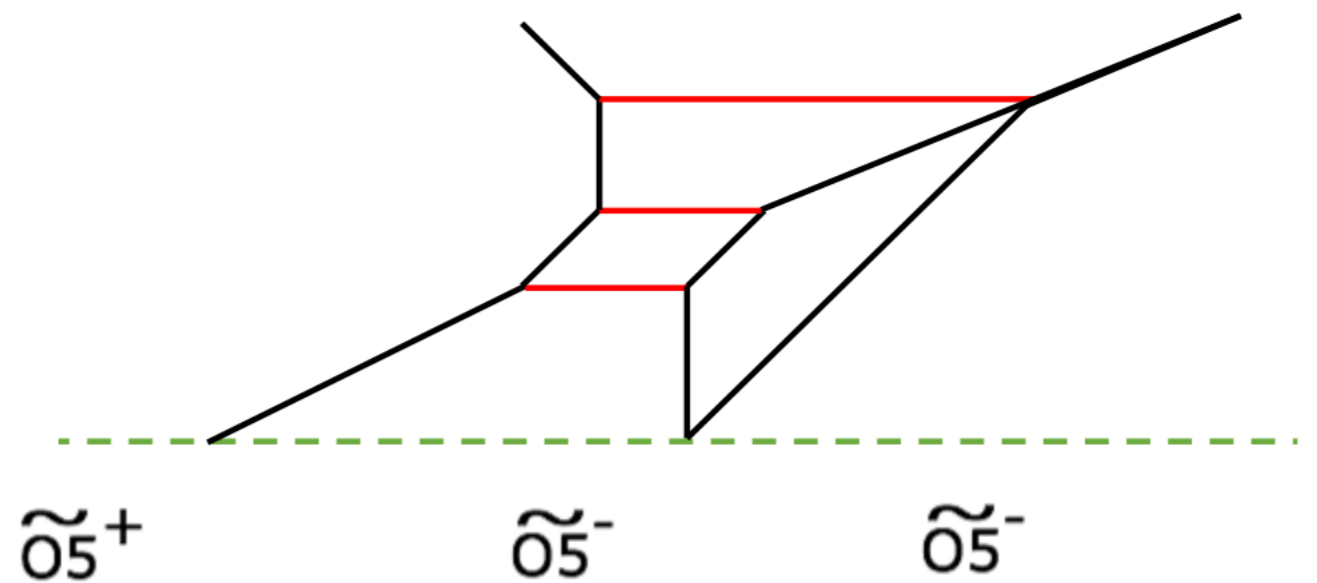


# G2 = Higgsing of SO(7) with spinor

5d SO(7) with a massless spinor

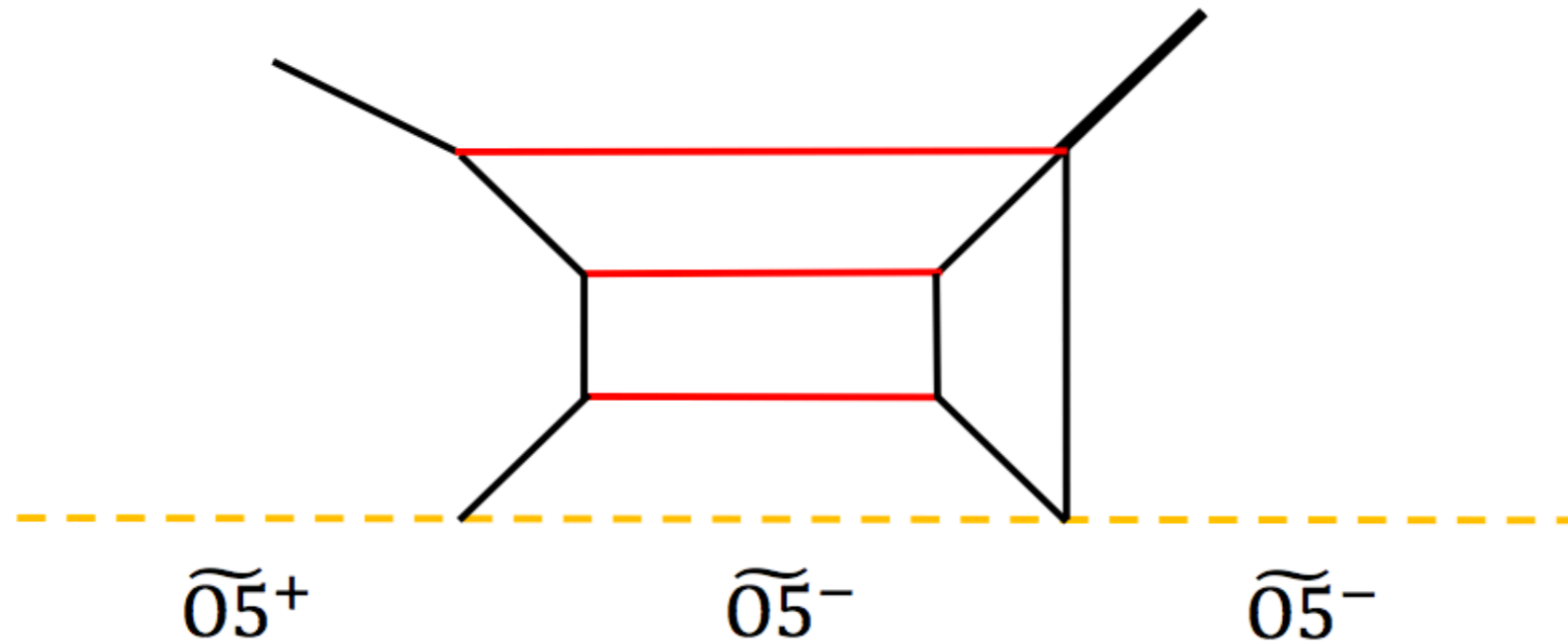


5d G<sub>2</sub> without matter



# Pure $G_2$ gauge theory

After an  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$



This 5-brane web reproduces the correct monopole string tension, consistent with the prepotential



- A 5-brane web configuration for the 5d pure  $G_2$

- $G_2 + N_F$  Fundamental hyper

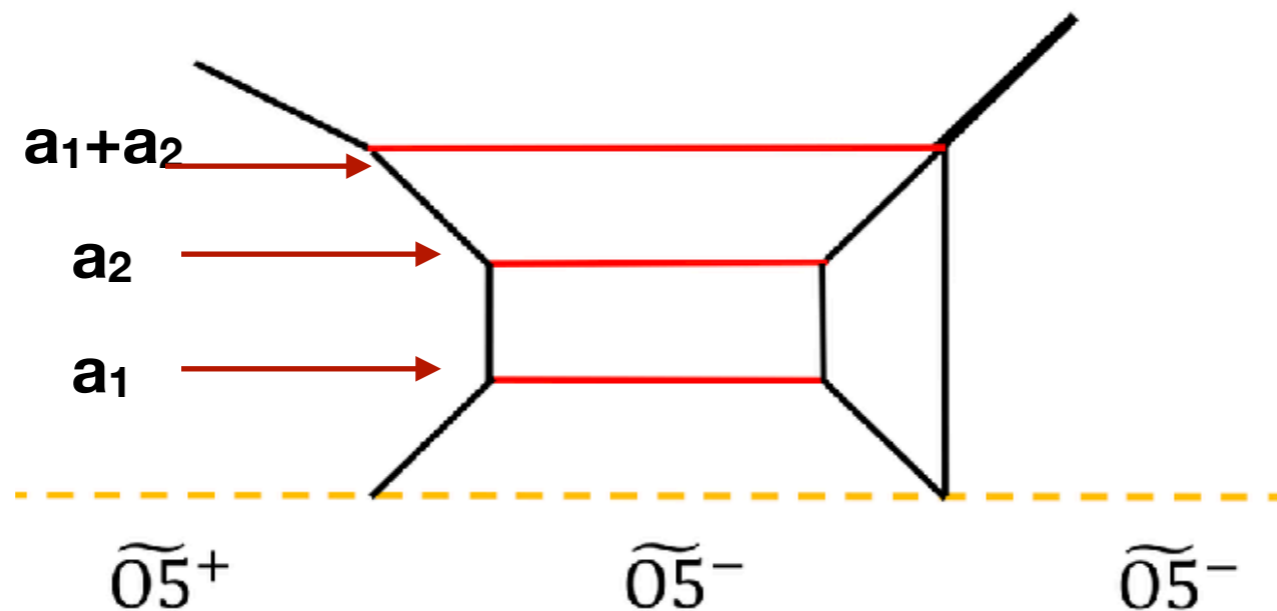
- Prepotential 
$$\mathcal{F} = \frac{m}{2} h_{ij} \phi_i \phi_j + \frac{1}{12} \left( \sum_{\mathbf{R}} |\mathbf{R} \cdot \phi|^3 - \sum_f \sum_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbf{W}_f} |\mathbf{w} \cdot \phi|^3 \right)$$

$$2\phi_1 - 3\phi_2 = a_2 - a_1, \quad -\phi_1 + 2\phi_2 = a_1$$

$$\mathcal{F}_{G_2} = m_0(\phi_1^2 - 3\phi_1\phi_2 + 3\phi_2^2) + \frac{4}{3}\phi_1^3 - 4\phi_1^2\phi_2 + 3\phi_1\phi_2^2 + \frac{4}{3}\phi_2^3$$

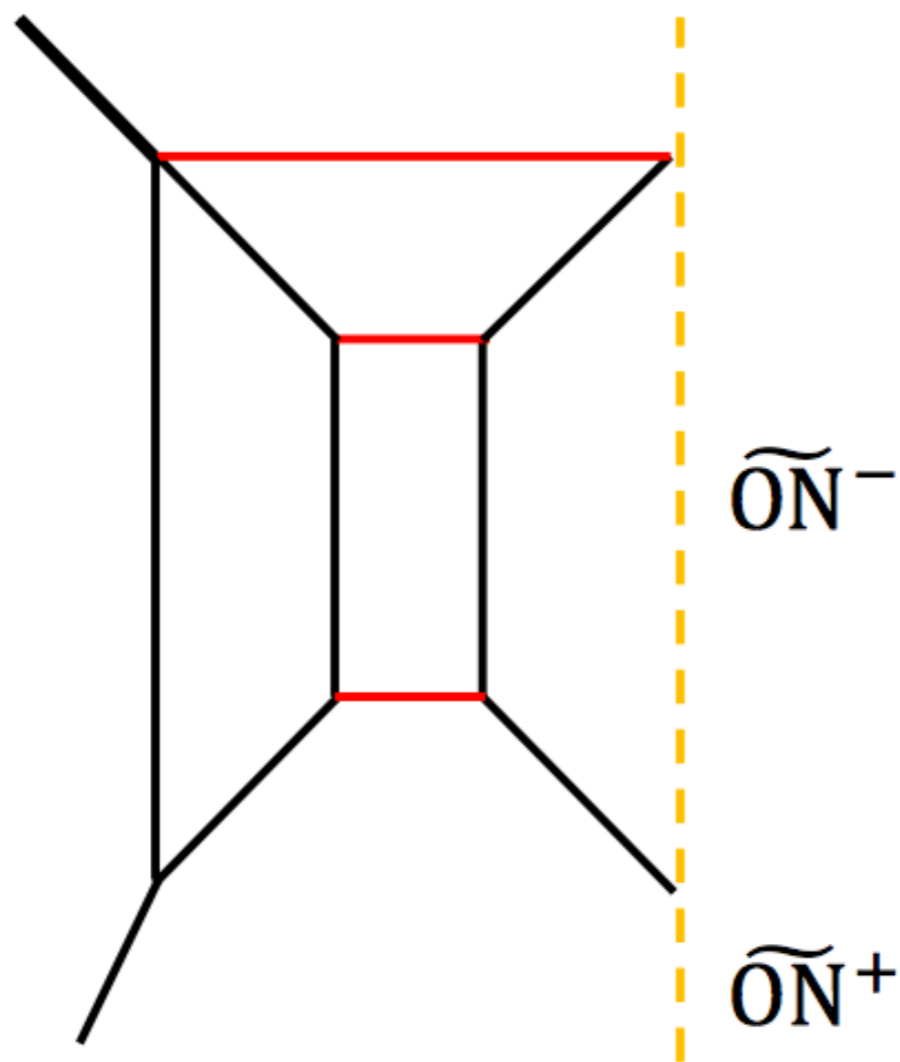
- Monopole tension

$$T_1 = \partial \mathcal{F} / \partial \phi_1, \quad T_2 = \partial \mathcal{F} / \partial \phi_2$$



# Duality

S-dual to the 5-brane web for the pure  $G_2$  gauge theory:



**3 color D5 branes**

SU(3) gauge theory

One may confirm the Chern-Simons level by computing the effective prepotential of the 5d theory

Or, we can compare the tension of a monopole string tension by a derivative of the effective prepotential

In 5-brane web, the monopole string tension corresponds to the area of a face.

We confirmed that this  $SU(3)$  gauge theory has  $\kappa = 7$

# SU(3)<sub>7</sub> gauge theory

- SU(N)<sub>κ</sub> + N<sub>F</sub> Fundamental hyper

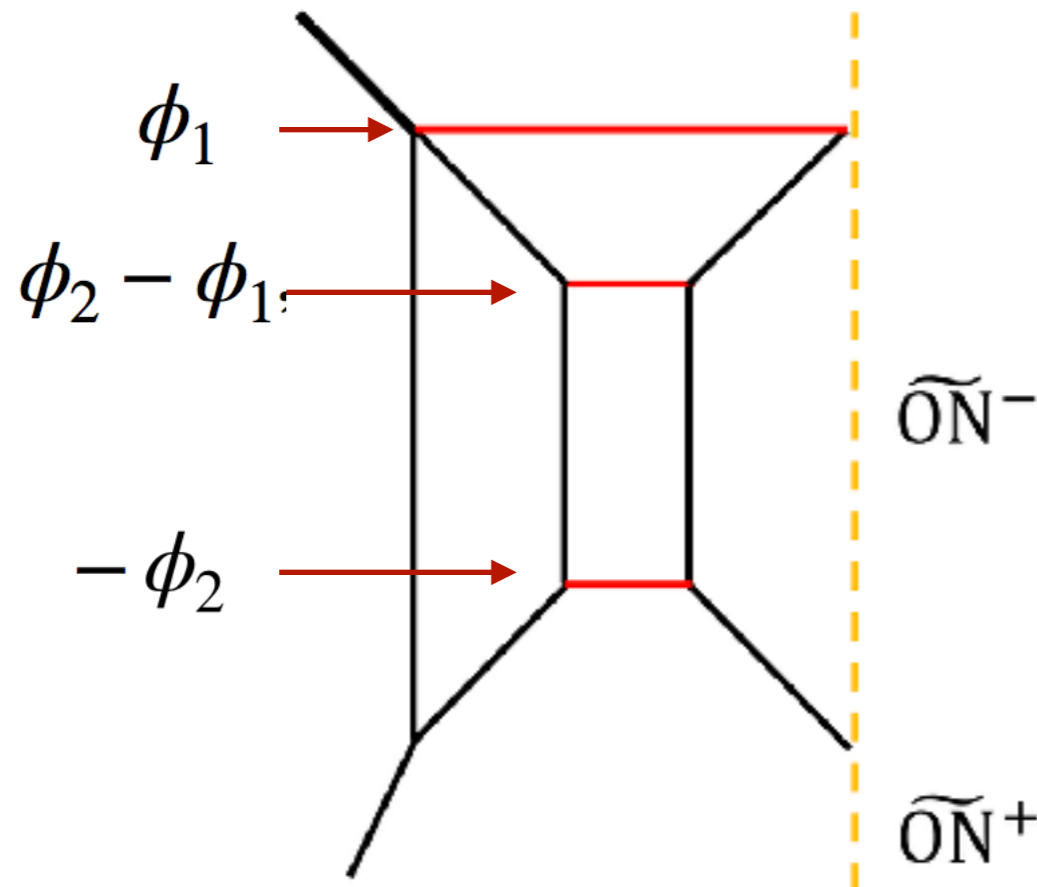
- Prepotential  $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_N, \sum_{i=1}^N a_i = 0$

$$\mathcal{F}_{SU(N)} = \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{m}{2} a_i^2 + \frac{\kappa}{6} a_i^3 \right) + \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i < j}^N |a_i - a_j|^3 - \frac{1}{12} \sum_F \sum_i^N |a_i - m_F|^3$$

$$\mathcal{F}_{SU(3)_7} = m_0(\phi_1^2 - \phi_1\phi_2 + \phi_2^2) + \frac{4}{3}\phi_1^3 + 3\phi_1^2\phi_2 - 4\phi_1\phi_2^2 + \frac{4}{3}\phi_2^3$$

- Monopole tension  $a_1 = \phi_1, a_2 = \phi_2 - \phi_1, a_3 = \phi_3 - \phi_2, \dots, a_N = -\phi_{N-1}$

$$T_i = \partial \mathcal{F} / \partial \phi_i, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N - 1$$



- Duality between  $G_2$  &  $SU(3)_7$

**Parameter Map**

$$m_0^{SU(3)} = -\frac{m_0^{G_2}}{3},$$

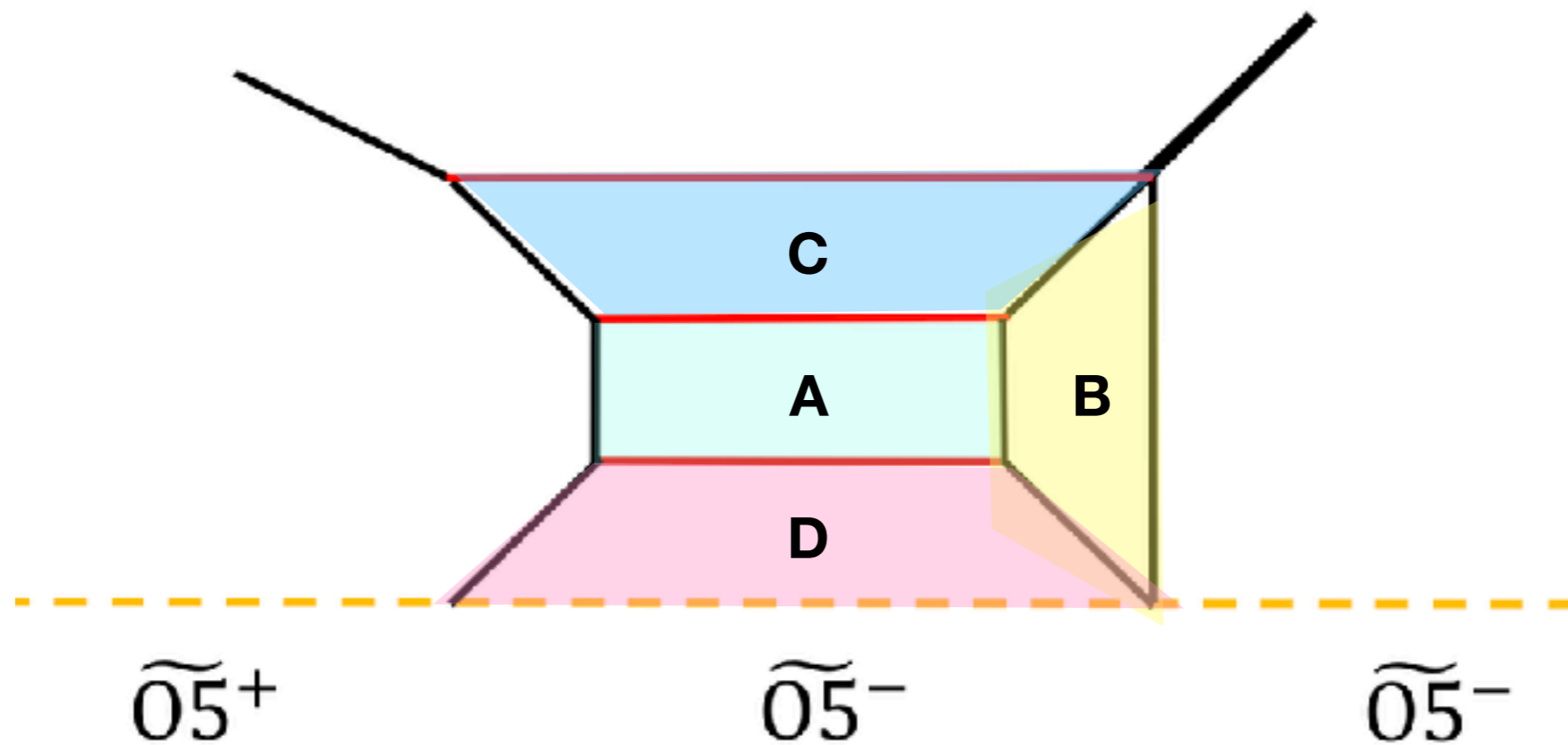
$$\phi_1^{SU(3)} = \phi_2^{G_2} + \frac{1}{3}m_0^{G_2},$$

$$\phi_2^{SU(3)} = \phi_1^{G_2} + \frac{2}{3}m_0^{G_2},$$

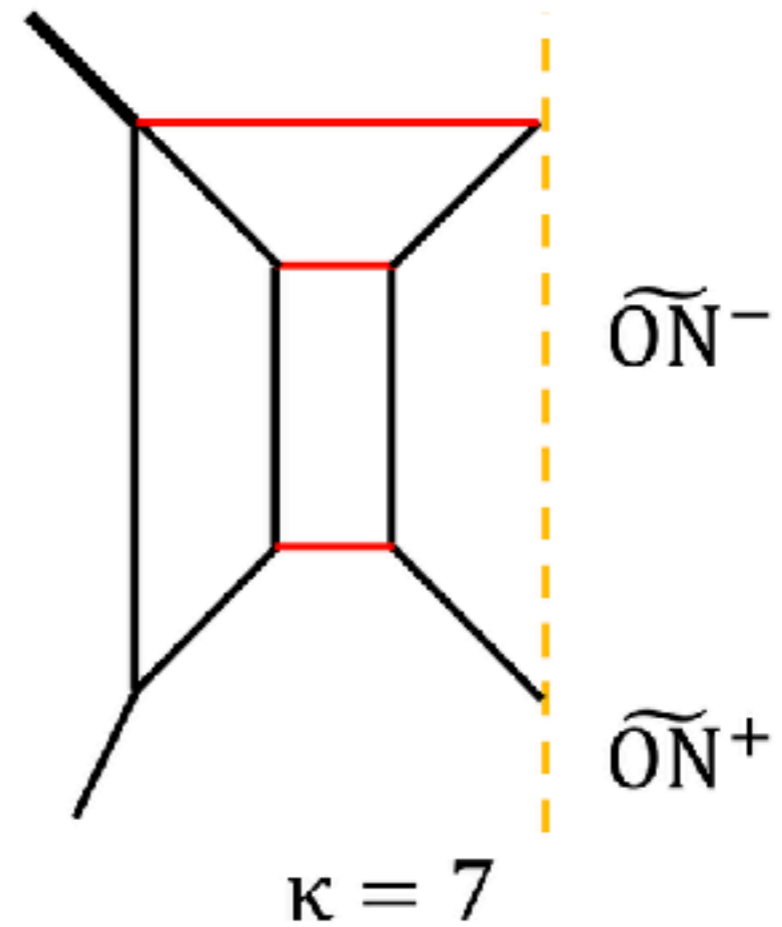
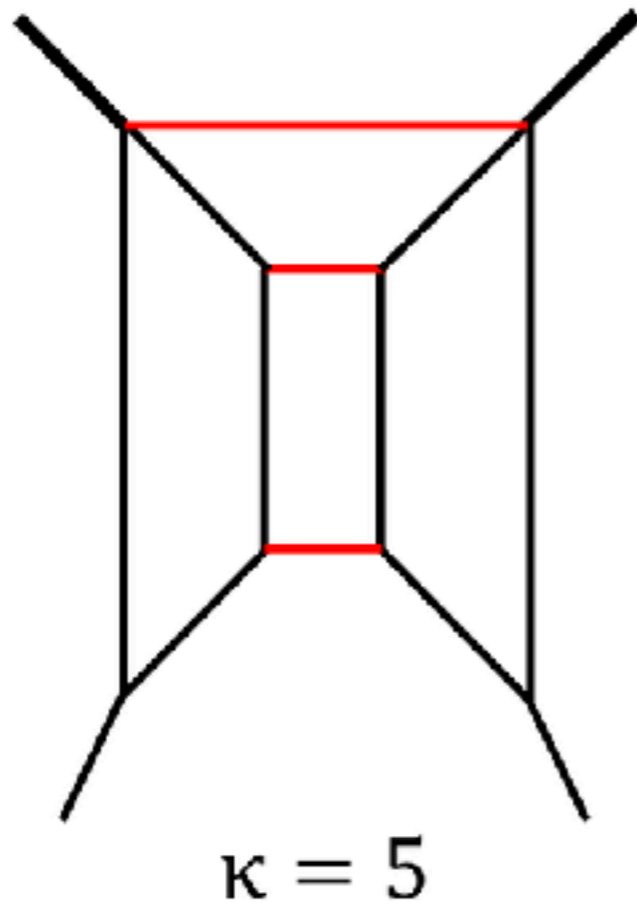
**Monopole tension**

$$T_1^{SU(3)_7} = T_2^{G_2} = \mathbf{B + C + 2D}$$

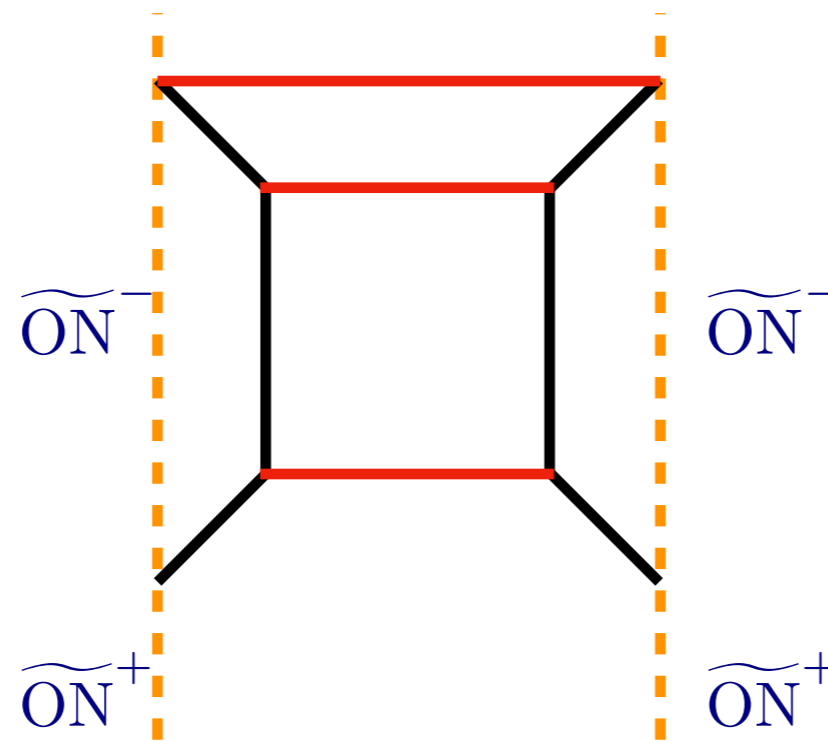
$$T_2^{SU(3)_7} = T_1^{G_2} = \mathbf{A}$$



- In fact, we can further increase the Chern-Simons levels.



- A 5-brane web diagram for  $SU(3)$  with Chern-Simons level  $\kappa=9$



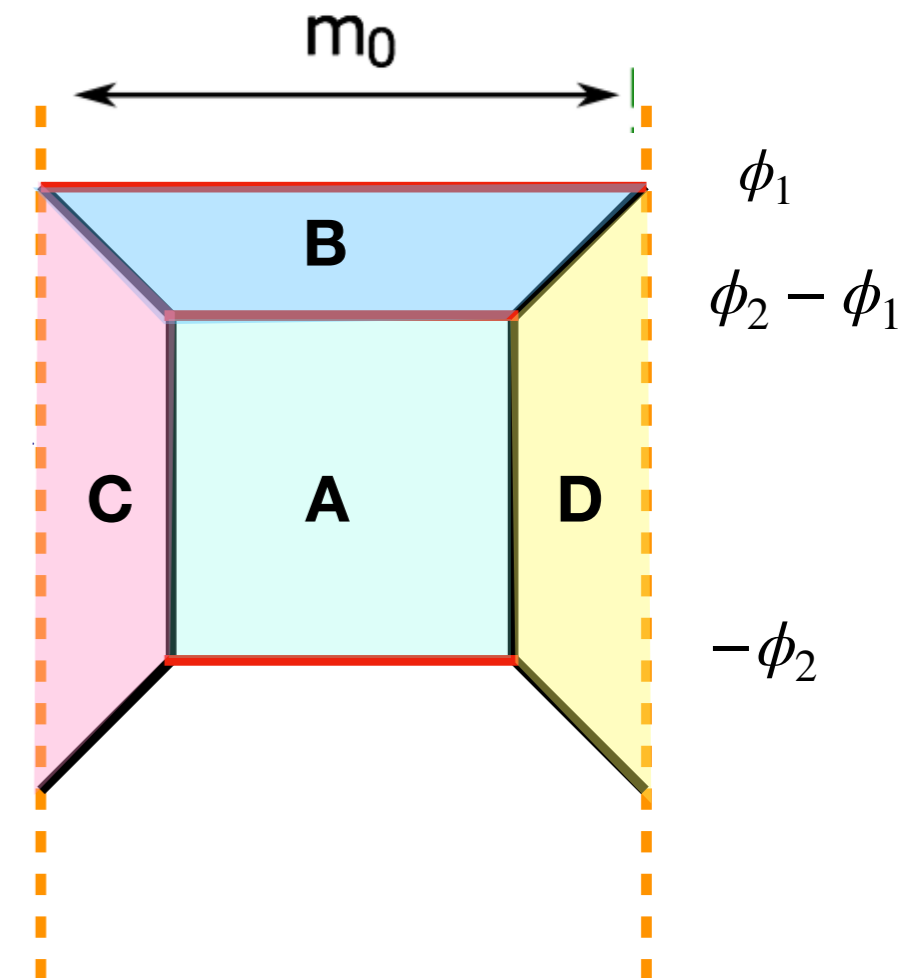
- The  $SU(3)_9$  theory has been found and constructed from geometry.

Jefferson, Kim, Vafa, Zafrir 17  
 Jefferson, Katz, Kim, Vafa 18

- Check: compare monopole tension from the prepotential and the 5-brane webs.

- Two independent D3 brane faces

- $A, B + 2C + 2D$



$$\mathcal{F}_{SU(3)_9} = m_0 (\phi_1^2 - \phi_1 \phi_2 + \phi_2^2) + \frac{4}{3} \phi_1^3 + 4\phi_1^2 \phi_2 - 5\phi_1 \phi_2^2 + \frac{4}{3} \phi_2^3,$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{F}_{SU(3)_9}}{\partial \phi_1} = (2\phi_1 - \phi_2)(m_0 + 2\phi_1 + 5\phi_2) = \mathbf{A}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{F}_{SU(3)_9}}{\partial \phi_2} = (-\phi_1 + 2\phi_2)(m_0 - 4\phi_1 + 2\phi_2) = \mathbf{B + 2C + 2D}$$



# **$G_2$ -SU(3) -Sp(2) sequences**

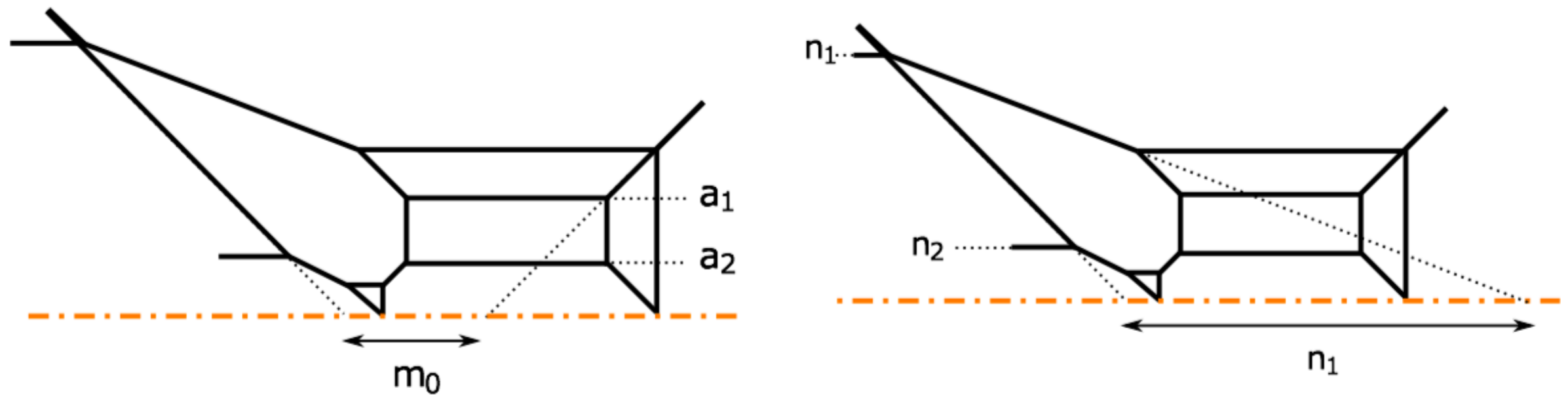
**$G_2 + 2F, SU(3)+ 2F, Sp(2)+2AS$**

•  
•  
•

**$G_2 + 6F, SU(3)+ 6F, Sp(2)+2AS+4F$**

- $G_2 + 2F$

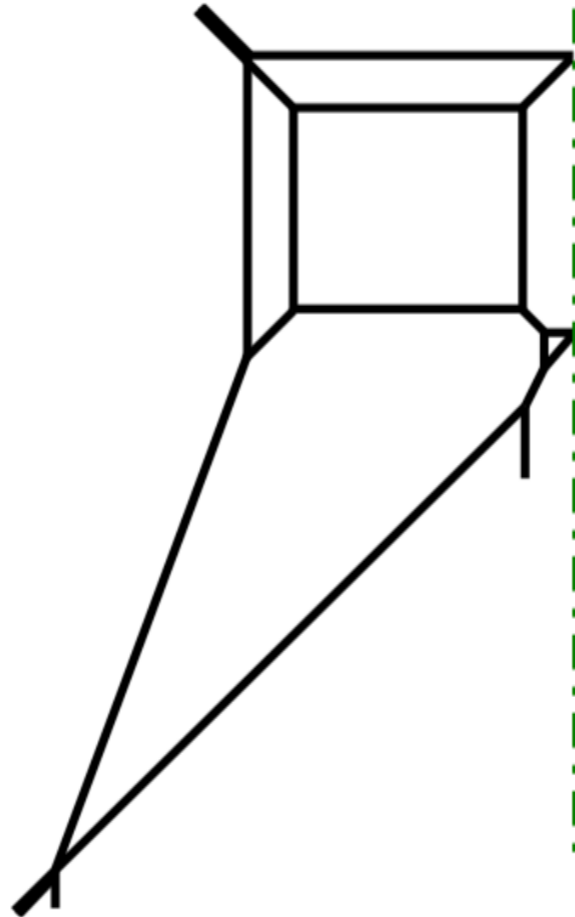
- $SO(7) + 3S \rightarrow G_2 + 2F + 2 \text{ singlets (after Higgsing with a spinor)}$



Area and the monopole string tension agree.

- $G_2 + 2F$

Again, S-dual diagram has 3 color D5-diagram, suggesting an  $SU(3)$



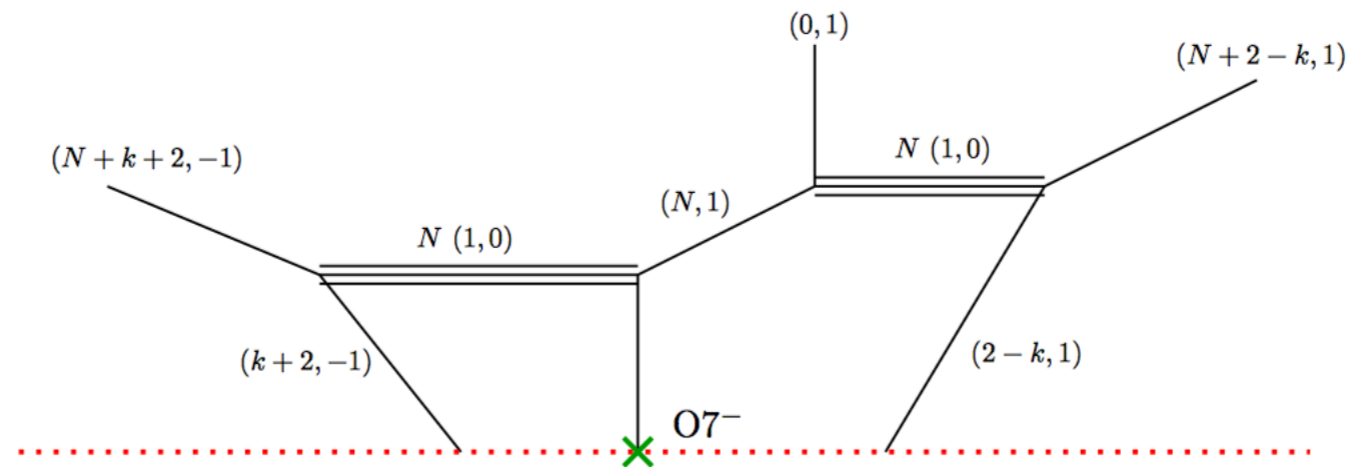
Flavors: external D5 (or D7)

- $SU(3)_6 + 2F$

$$SU(3)_6 + 2F = SU(3) + 2AS$$

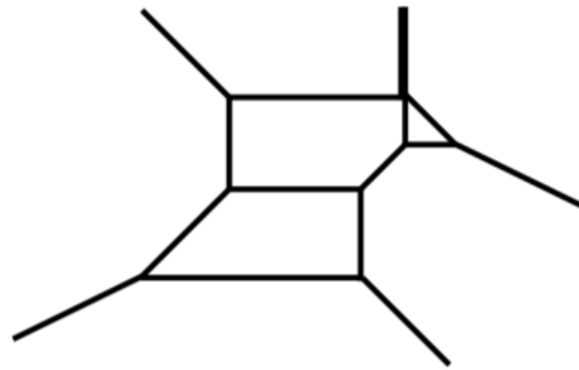
$$\square_3 = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}_{\bar{3}}$$

Antisymmetric matter of  $SU(3) = O7^-$  with NS5

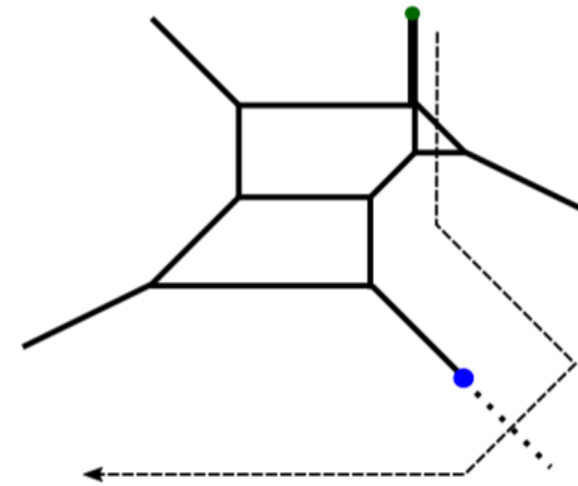


# A new way of obtaining AS of SU(3)

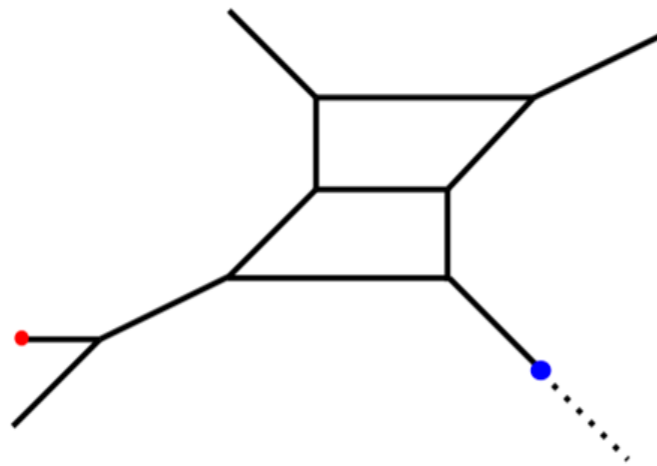
**Antisymmetric matter of SU(3) = Higgsing of SU(3) - SU(2)**



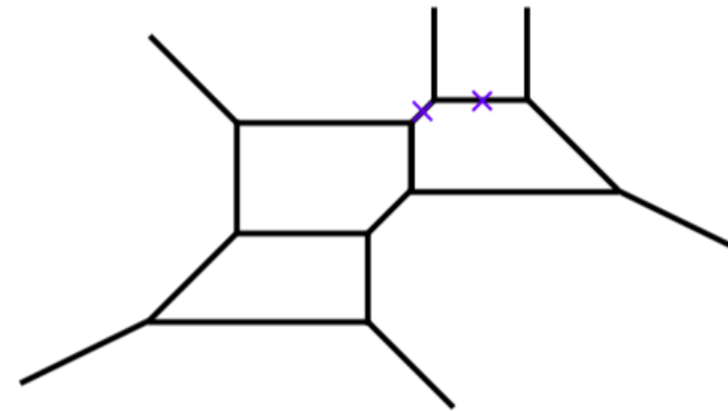
(a)



(b)



(c)



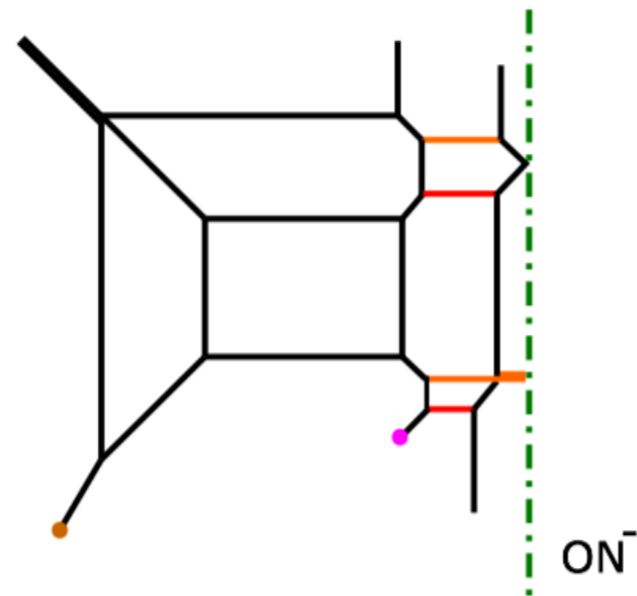
(d)

$$\text{SU}(3)_{-1} \times \text{SU}(2) \text{ Higgsed to } \text{SU}(3)_{1/2} + 1\text{AS} = \text{SU}(3)_{1/2} + 1\text{F}$$

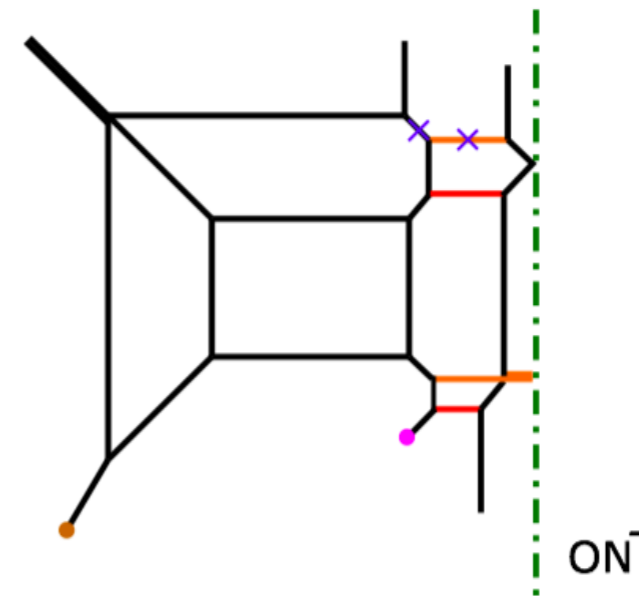
- $SU(3)_6 + 2F$

- $SU(2) \times SU(3)_3 \times SU(2)$  Higgsed to  $SU(3)_6 + 2AS$

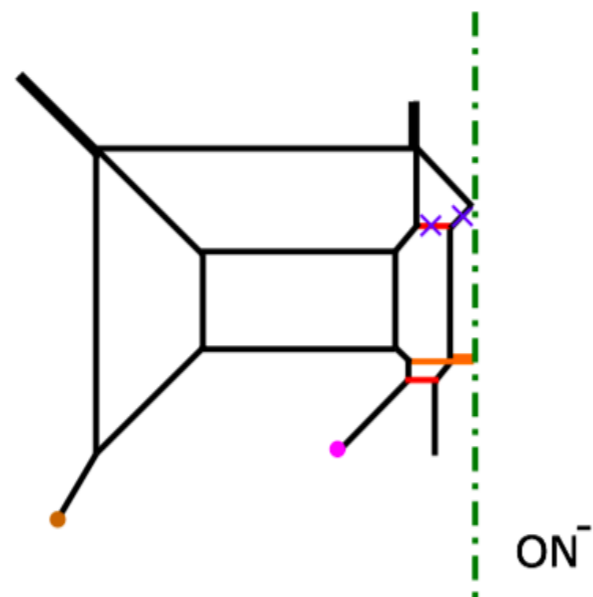
[99 Hanany-Zaffaroni]



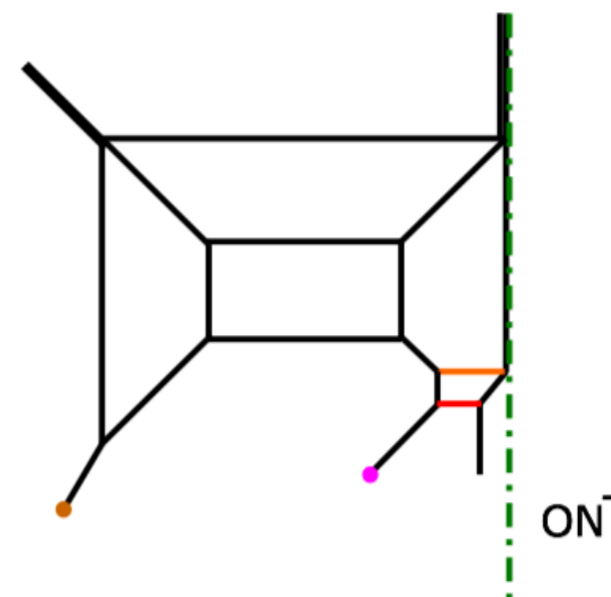
(a)



(b)

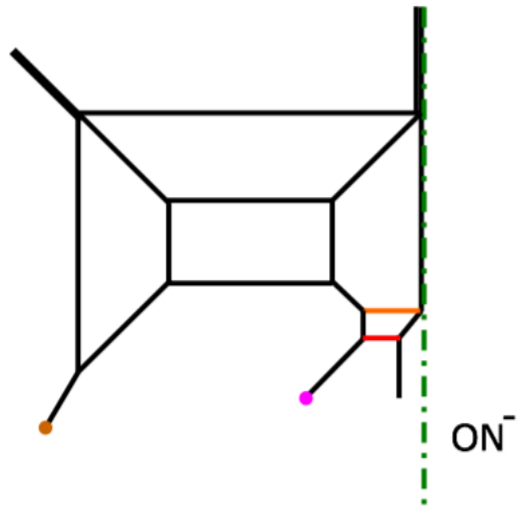


(c)

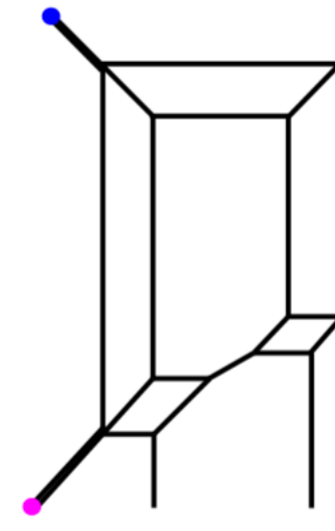


(d)

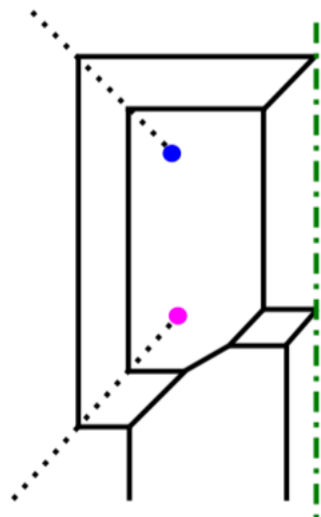
- $Sp(2)_{\pi+} + 2AS$



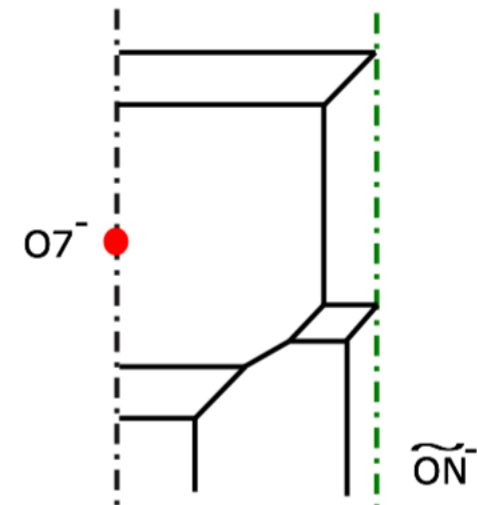
$SU(3)_6 + 2F$



Deform with flop transitions

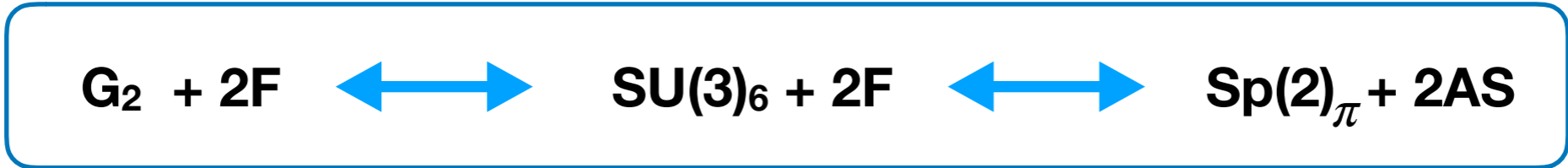


Pulling in two 7-branes



$[1,-1]$  and  $[1,1]$  7-branes to  $O7^-$ -plane

Hence, the 5-brane webs shows the non-trivial duality between  $G_2$ -SU(3)-Sp(2) theories



The **duality maps** can be read off from the 5-brane webs:

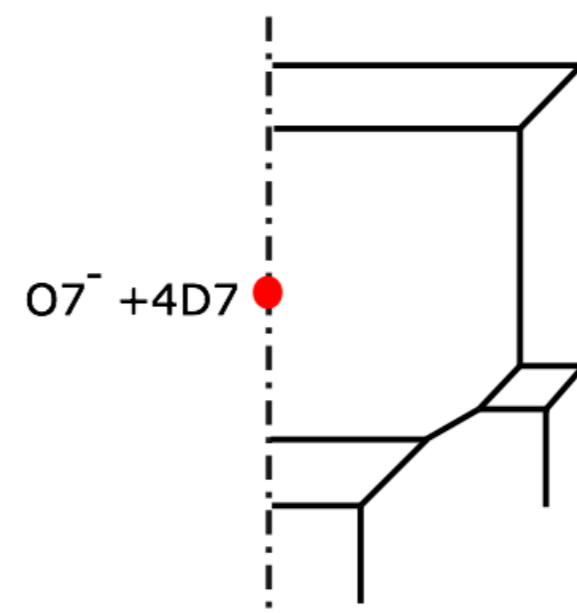
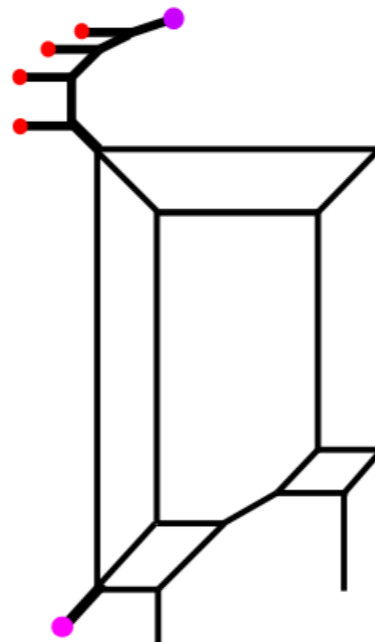
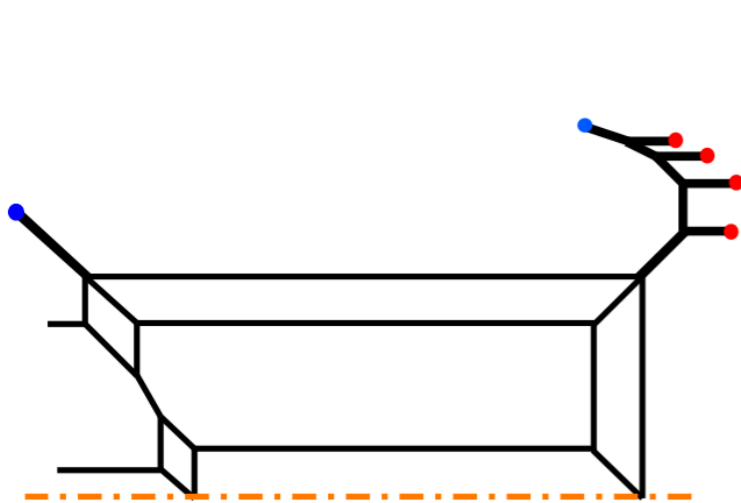
$$\begin{aligned}
 m_0^{SU(3)} &= \frac{m_{\mathbf{F},1}^{G_2} + m_{\mathbf{F},2}^{G_2}}{2}, \\
 m_{\mathbf{AS},1}^{SU(3)} &= \frac{1}{3} \left( -m_0^{G_2} + m_{\mathbf{F},1}^{G_2} - 2m_{\mathbf{F},2}^{G_2} \right), \\
 m_{\mathbf{AS},2}^{SU(3)} &= \frac{1}{3} \left( -m_0^{G_2} - 2m_{\mathbf{F},1}^{G_2} + m_{\mathbf{F},2}^{G_2} \right), \\
 \phi_1^{SU(3)} &= \phi_2^{G_2} + \frac{1}{3} \left( m_0^{G_2} - m_{\mathbf{F},1}^{G_2} - m_{\mathbf{F},2}^{G_2} \right), \\
 \phi_2^{SU(3)} &= \phi_1^{G_2} + \frac{1}{3} \left( 2m_0^{G_2} - 2m_{\mathbf{F},1}^{G_2} - 2m_{\mathbf{F},2}^{G_2} \right),
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 m_0^{Sp(2)} &= -\frac{m_0^{G_2}}{2}, \\
 m_{\mathbf{AS},1}^{Sp(2)} &= m_{\mathbf{F},1}^{G_2}, \\
 m_{\mathbf{AS},2}^{Sp(2)} &= m_{\mathbf{F},2}^{G_2}, \\
 \phi_1^{Sp(2)} &= \phi_2^{G_2} + \frac{1}{2}m_0^{G_2}, \\
 \phi_2^{Sp(2)} &= \phi_1^{G_2} + m_0^{G_2}.
 \end{aligned}$$



Adding 4 more Fundamental hypers yields **marginal** theories of  $G_2$ - $SU(3)$ - $Sp(2)$  sequences

$$G_2 + 6F \longleftrightarrow SU(3)_4 + 6F \longleftrightarrow Sp(2) + 2AS + 4F$$



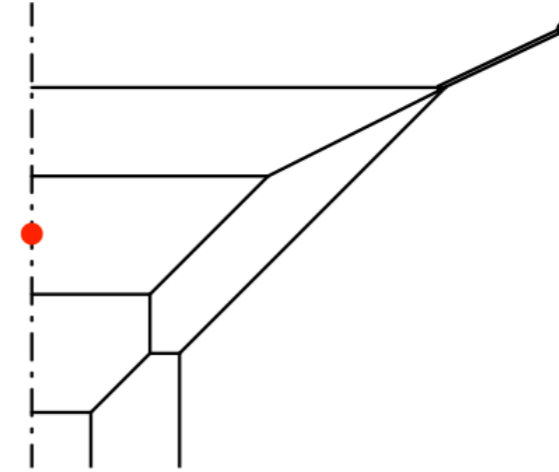
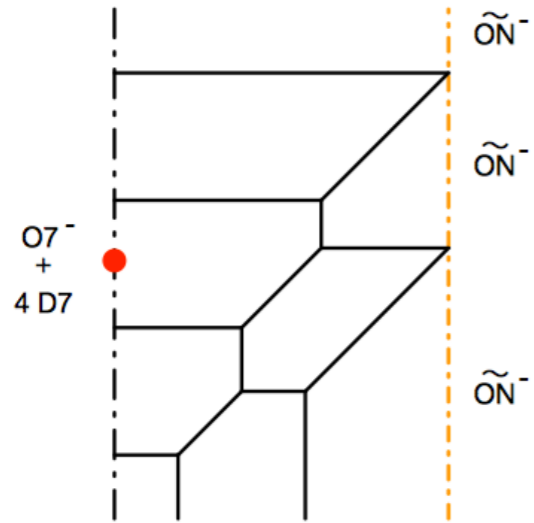
**Sp(2)+ 1AS + 8 F**

**and**

**SU(3)<sub>3/2</sub> + 9 F**

From  $Sp(2)+ 2AS + 4F$ , we decouple 1 AS to get

**$Sp(2)+ 1AS + 4F$  :**



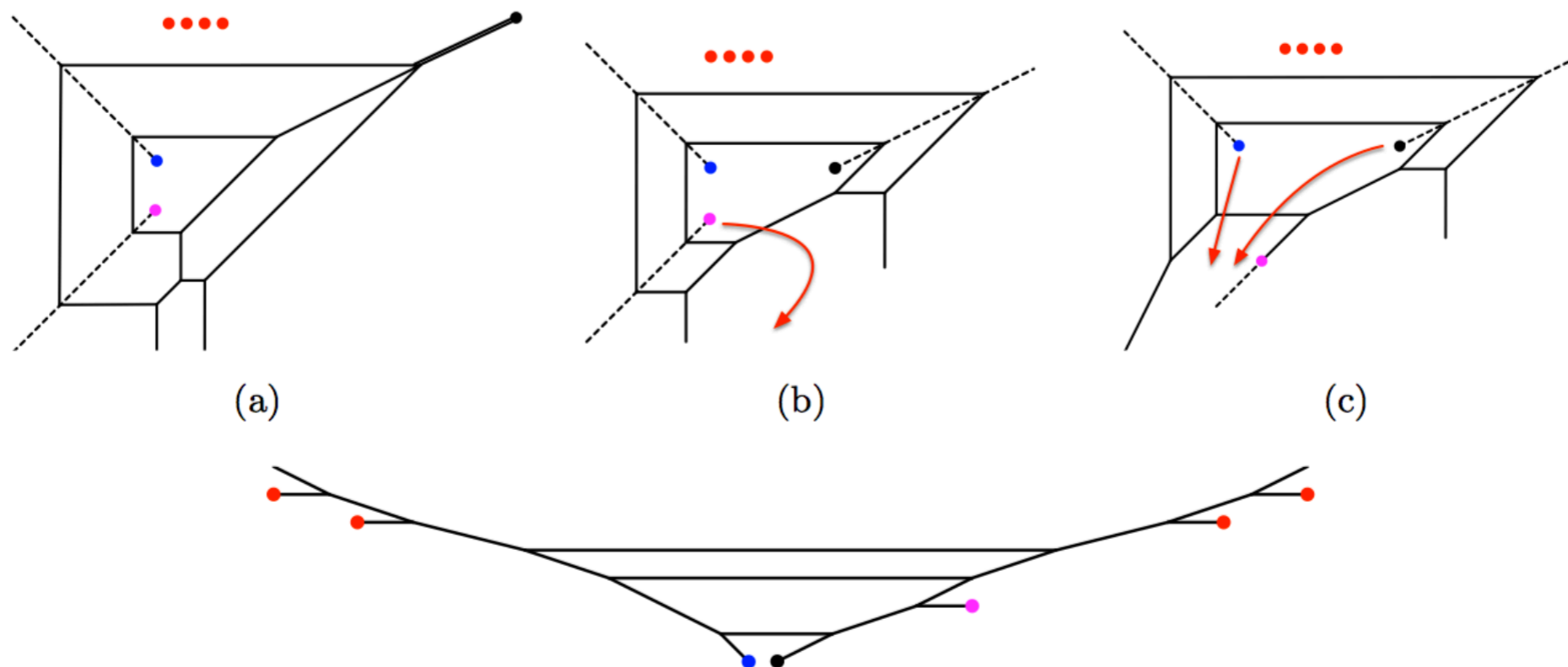
From  $Sp(2) + 2AS + 4F$ , we decouple 1 AS to get

**$Sp(2) + 1AS + 4F$**  :



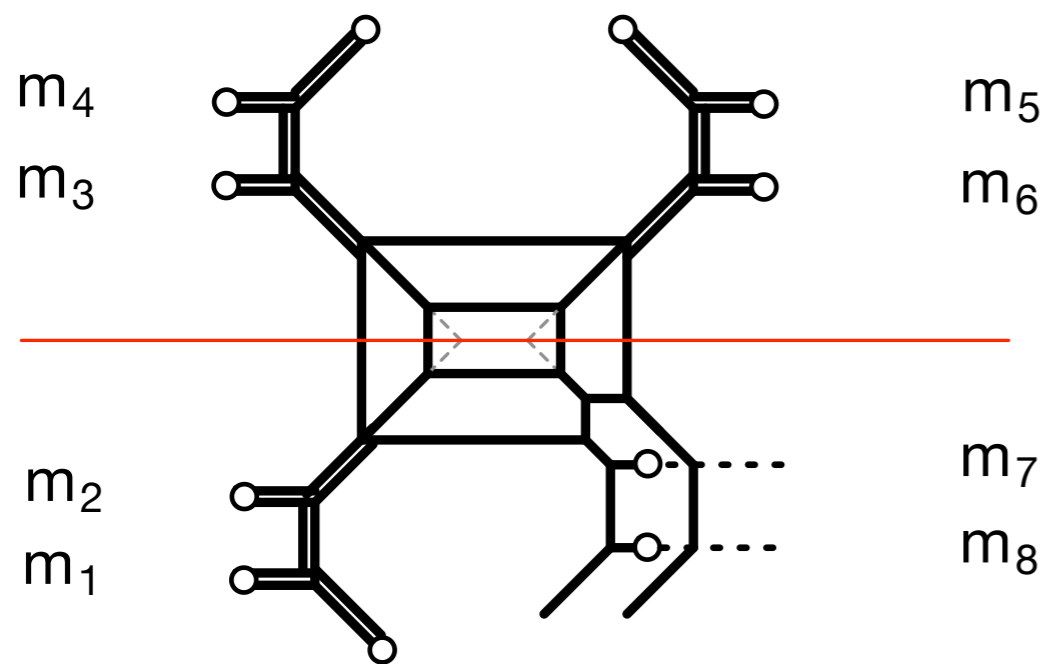
Then resolving O7-plane and moving 7-branes gives

**$SU(3)_{7/2} + 5F$**  :

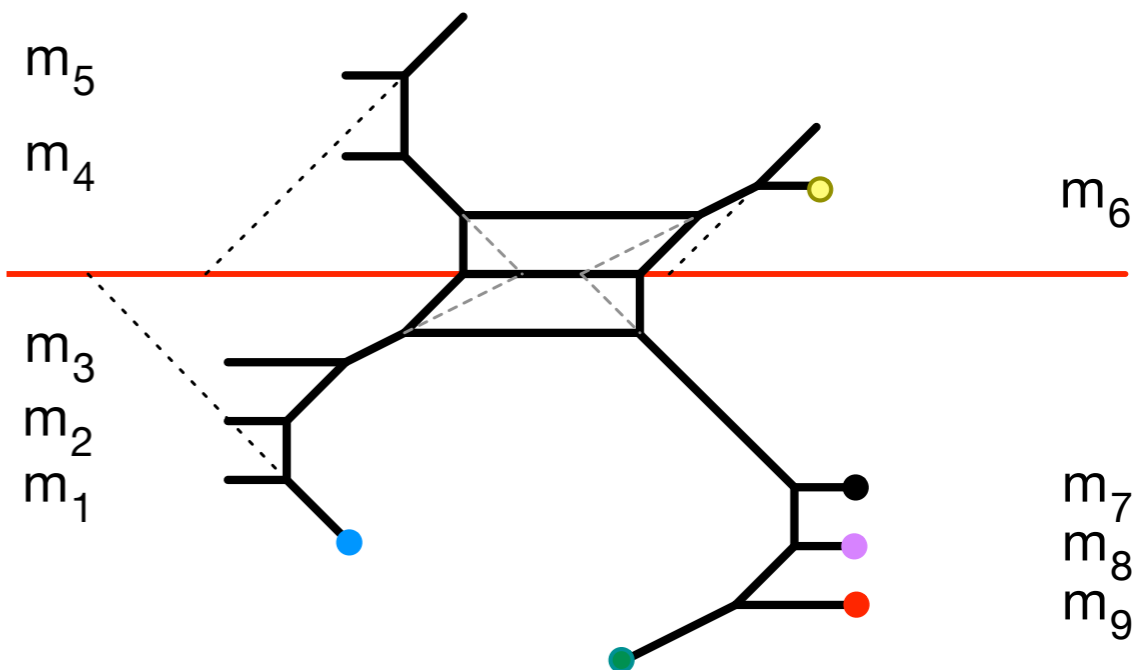


Adding 4 more Fundamental hypers gives

**Sp(2)+ 1AS + 8F**

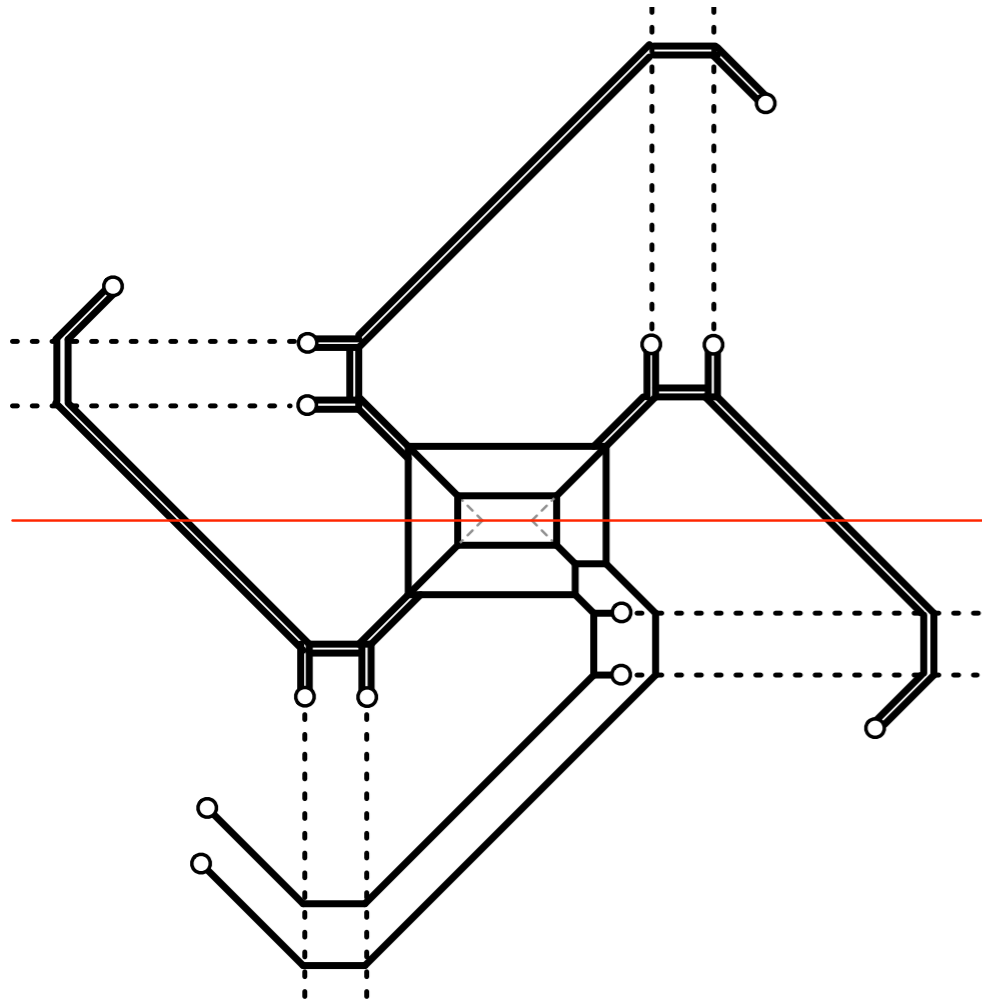


**SU(3)<sub>3/2</sub> + 9F**

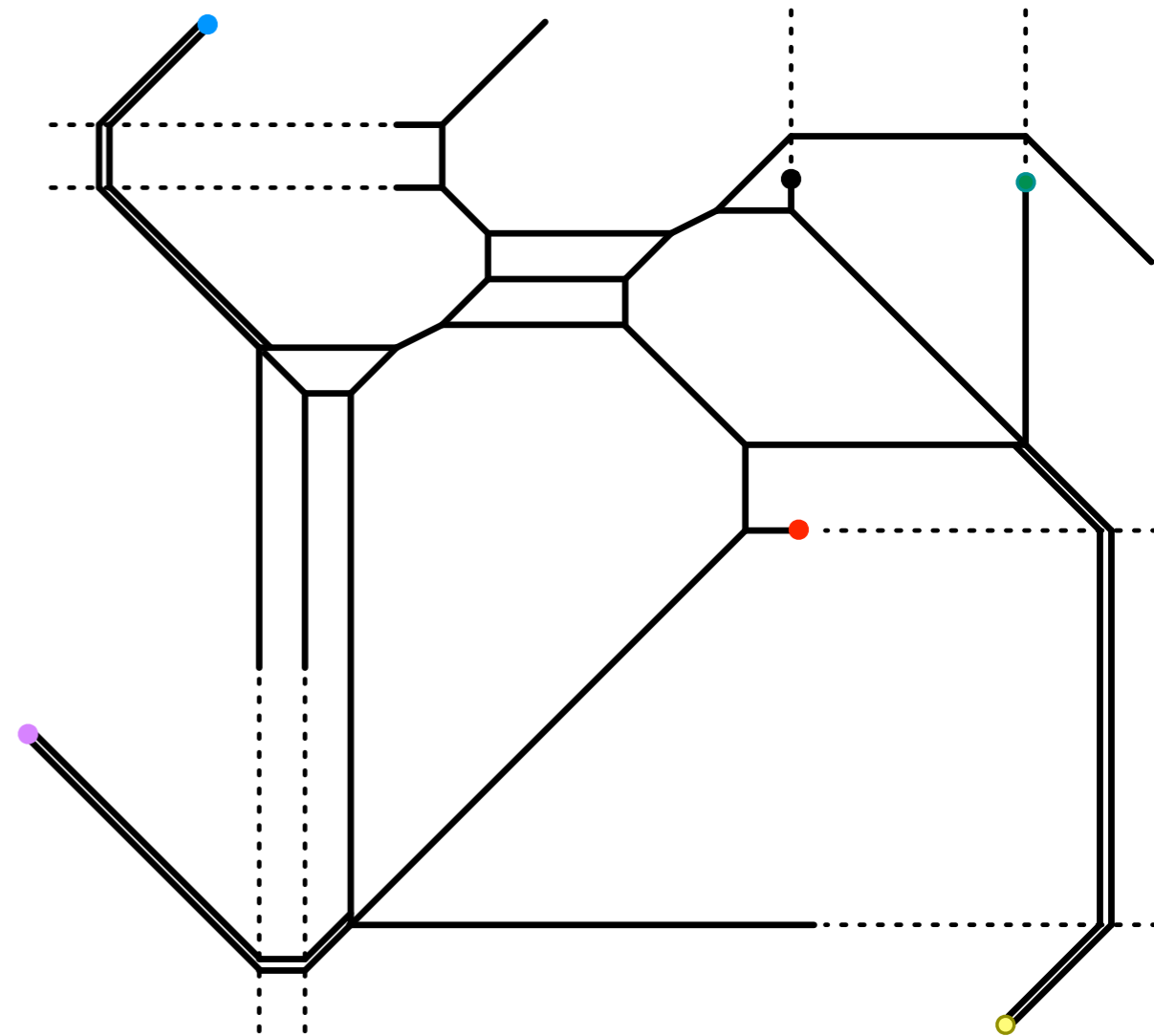


These marginal theories have a periodic spiral structure.  
In fact, their UV completion is 6d **rank 2 E-string theory**

**Sp(2) + 1AS + 8F**

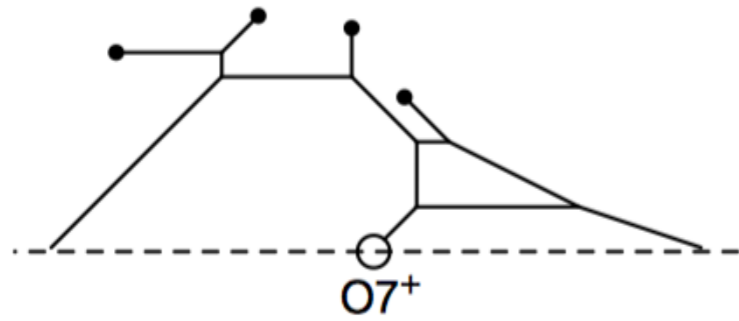


**SU(3)<sub>3/2</sub> + 9F**

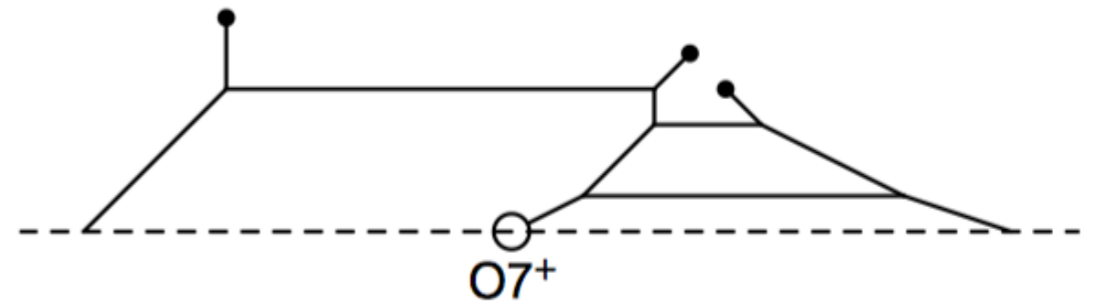


**SU(3) + 1 Sym**

**Two marginal theories of  $SU(3)+1\text{Sym} : O7^+$**



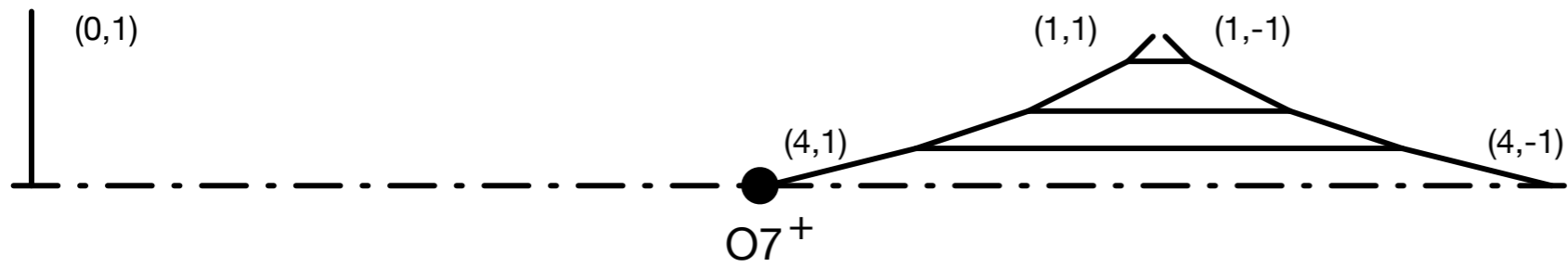
$SU(3)_0 + 1\text{Sym} + 1\text{F}$



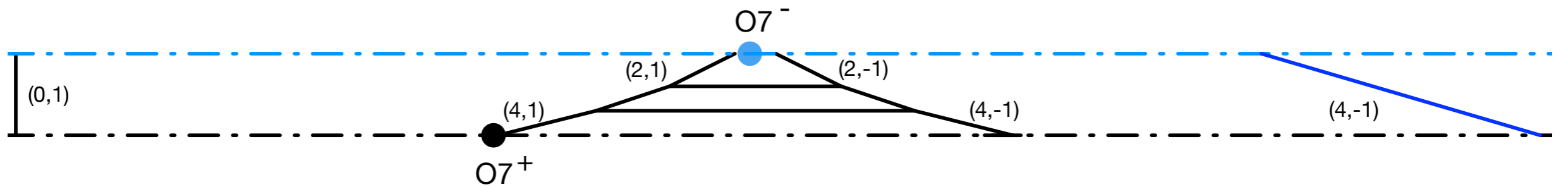
$SU(3)_{\frac{3}{2}} + 1\text{Sym}$



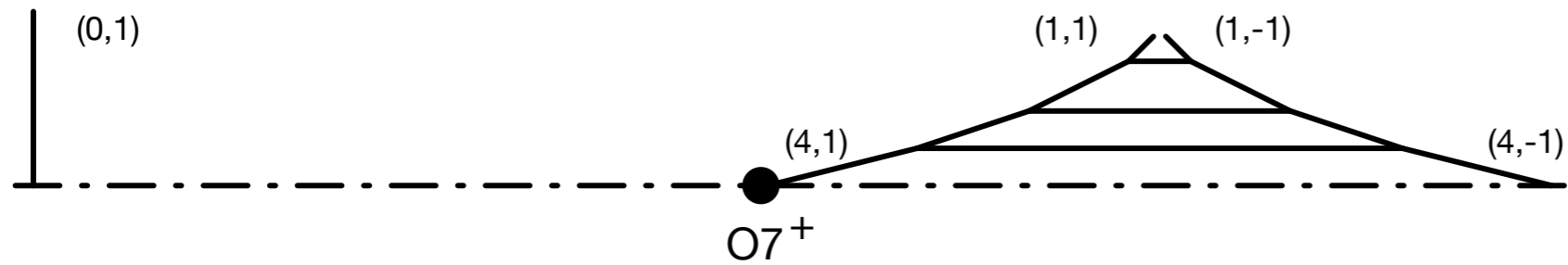
In particular,  $SU(3)_{\frac{3}{2}} + 1\mathbf{Sym}$



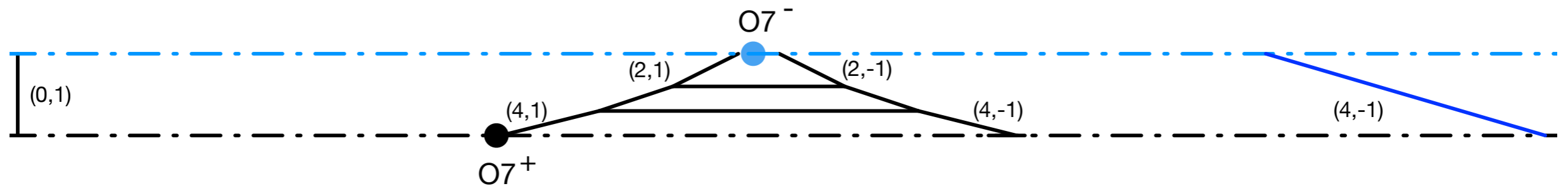
Making  $O7^-$  -plane from two 7-branes:



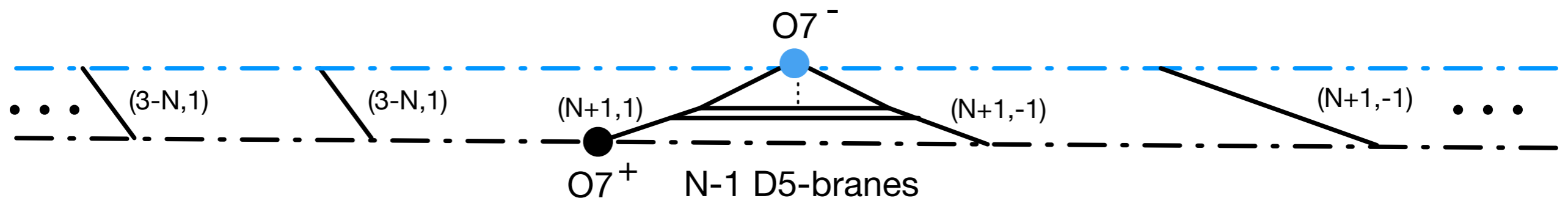
In particular,  $SU(3)_{\frac{3}{2}} + 1\text{Sym}$



Making O7- -plane from two 7-branes:



A **new periodic structure** appears, and can be generalized to rank N



# Conclusion

- **Obtained 5-brane webs for rank 2 SCFTs (including G2)**
- **Checked various dualities from 5-brane web**
- **Read off Duality map between different theories in the Coulomb phase.**  
— —
- **Partition functions and duality check?**
- **Higher rank SCFTs**
- **Higgs branch?**
- **Down to 4d theories**

Fig. 137  
 $SU(3)_9$

