

# The 4D physics of 5D GUTs

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DESY



based on

arXiv:110x.xxxx with Sylvain Fichtel, Sabine Kraml

arXiv:1007.0321 with Sylvain Fichtel, Sabine Kraml, Ritesh Singh

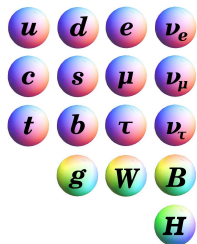
arXiv:0906.2957 with Sylvain Fichtel, Arthur Hebecker, Sabine Kraml

# Outline

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# Introduction and motivation

# The Standard Model



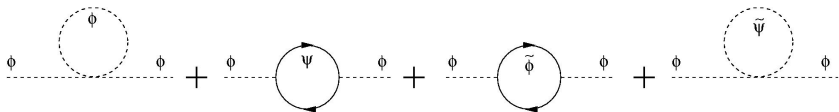
# Beyond the Standard Model: Supersymmetry



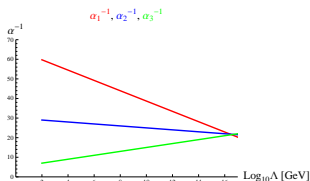
- MSSM = minimal SUSY extension of Standard Model
- each SM boson gets a fermionic superpartner
- each SM fermion gets a bosonic superpartner
- two Higgs doublets (+ “Higgsino” superpartners)

# Why SUSY?

- solves the hierarchy problem if broken at  $\lesssim$  TeV:  
Higgs mass corrections **cancel between superpartners**



- SUSY = **unique** non-trivial extension of Poincaré symmetry in 3+1 dimensions
- MSSM with R-parity contains **dark matter candidate**:  
LSP, “lightest supersymmetric particle”
- MSSM: gauge couplings **unify** at  $\sim 10^{16}$  GeV



→ pointing to **Grand Unification** of all three SM forces?

# A flaw of SUSY: too many parameters

SUSY breaking parameterised by

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} = & -\frac{1}{2} \left( M_3 \tilde{g}\tilde{g} + M_2 \widetilde{W}\widetilde{W} + M_1 \widetilde{B}\widetilde{B} + \text{h.c.} \right) \\ & - \left( a_u^{IJ} \tilde{u}_I^c \tilde{q}_J H_2 - a_d^{IJ} \tilde{d}_I^c \tilde{q}_J H_1 - a_e^{IJ} \tilde{e}_I^c \tilde{\ell}_J H_1 + \text{h.c.} \right) \\ & - m_{q_{IJ}}^2 \tilde{q}_I^* \tilde{q}_J - m_{\ell_{IJ}}^2 \tilde{\ell}_I^* \tilde{\ell}_J - m_{u_{IJ}}^2 \tilde{u}_I^{c*} \tilde{u}_J^c - m_{d_{IJ}}^2 \tilde{d}_I^{c*} \tilde{d}_J^c - m_{e_{IJ}}^2 \tilde{e}_I^{c*} \tilde{e}_J^c \\ & - m_{H_1}^2 |H_1|^2 - m_{H_2}^2 |H_2|^2 - (m_3^2 H_2 H_1 + \text{h.c.})\end{aligned}$$

In addition, gauge couplings + Yukawas + Higgsino mass  $\mu$ :  **$\sim 120$  free parameters** for the minimal model alone

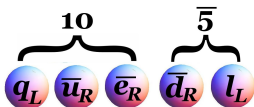
**More fundamental framework needed** to constrain parameters

# Grand Unification

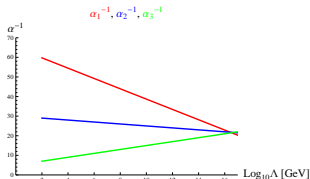
**(MS)SM:** gauge group  $SU(3)_C \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$ ,  
broken to  $SU(3)_C \times U(1)_{EM}$  at  $\langle H \rangle \approx 10^2$  GeV

## Observations:

- (MS)SM matter in complete representations of  $SU(5)$  or  $SO(10)$



- MSSM: gauge couplings unify at  $M_{GUT} \approx 10^{16}$  GeV



**GUT Hypothesis:** gauge group  $SU(5)$  (or larger),  
broken to  $SU(3)_C \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$  at  $M_{GUT}$



# Grand Unification: Problems

## In minimal models:

- (MS)SM Higgs fields **not** in SU(5) representations:  
**doublet-triplet splitting** problem
- Prediction: proton decay, **no evidence yet**
- Prediction: mass relations for (MS)SM fermions  
can be OK for 3rd generation, **violated** for light generations

## Problems can be solved in non-minimal models

Particularly elegant solutions involve **extra dimensions**

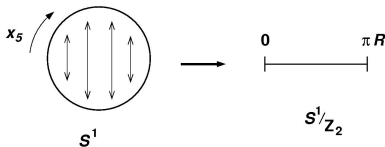
# Extra dimensions

**Idea:** 3 + 1 large dimensions,  $d$  small ones

“small” = compact, characteristic length  $< (\text{TeV})^{-1} \approx 10^{-18}$  m or smaller

**Simplest version:**  $d = 1$ , circle  $S^1 \rightarrow$  Kaluza, Klein 1920s

**More realistic:** interval  $S^1/\mathbb{Z}_2$  (“orbifold”)



- 5d “bulk” with 4d boundaries = “branes”
- $\mathbb{Z}_2$  projection allows for chiral fermions; only  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  SUSY
- new mechanisms for symmetry breaking by boundary conditions  
convenient for orbifold GUTs:  $\rightarrow$  Kawamura '00...  
choose radius  $1/M_{\text{GUT}} \Rightarrow$  4d effective field theory below  $10^{16}$  GeV

**Generalisation:** Toroidal orbifolds  $T^d/\mathbb{Z}_n$

# 5D SUSY GUTs

## Compactification provides natural mechanisms for solving these problems

D.o.f. of 4D effective theory = **bulk zero modes** and **brane-localised fields**

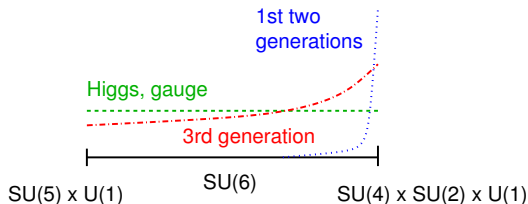
- Can use orbifold projection to **project out** part of gauge boson zero modes  
( $\Leftrightarrow$  assign specific boundary conditions to bulk fields)  
 $\Rightarrow$  **gauge symmetry partially broken** below compactification scale
- Similar: Can project out e.g. colour triplet component of Higgs zero mode  
 $\Rightarrow$  **natural doublet-triplet splitting**
- Or can put Higgs on a brane where GUT group is broken  
 $\Rightarrow$  **natural doublet-triplet splitting**
- Operators from such branes  
 $\Rightarrow$  small **violation of GUT fermion mass relations**
- Operators leading to fast proton decay: can be forbidden

# Models

# An example

→ Burdman/Nomura '03

4D gauge group =  $SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1) [\times U(1)]$



5d gauge supermultiplet  $\rightarrow$  4d gauge supermultiplet  $-\theta\bar{\theta}A_\mu\sigma^\mu + \dots$

$\oplus$  4d chiral adjoint  $\Phi = \Sigma + iA_5 + \dots$

- $\Phi$  zero modes  $\supset$  MSSM Higgs doublets: **Gauge-Higgs unification** at  $M_{\text{GUT}}$
- MSSM matter from bulk hypermultiplets. Must assign boundary conditions and introduce extra brane fields to decouple exotics.
- bulk mass terms  $\Rightarrow$  zero modes **distorted**  $\Rightarrow$  Yukawa hierarchies

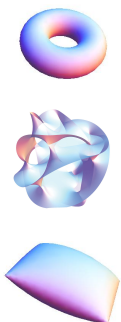
# 5D GUTs from heterotic string theory

→ Dixon et al. '85-'86, Hamidi/Vafa '86, Narain et al. '86, Ibáñez/Nilles/Quevedo '87,...

**UV completion:** orbifold compactifications of  $E_8 \times E_8$  heterotic string theory

Strings live in 10 dimensions → 6 compact (+ small)

- torus compactification on  $T^6$ : 4D theory calculable, but too much SUSY
- To get  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  SUSY in 4D must compactify on “Calabi-Yau” space: complicated, 4D theory unknown
- Calculable, singular limits of Calabi-Yau spaces: **Toroidal orbifolds**  $T^6/\mathbb{Z}_N$   
Effective field theory has **all essential features** of field theoretic orbifolds



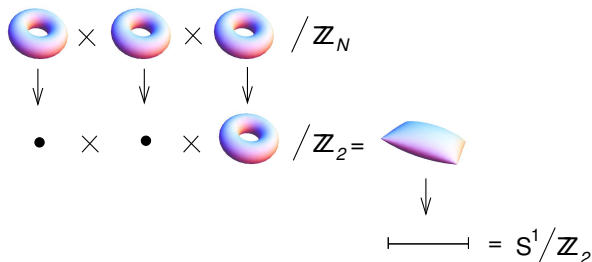
Recent realistic examples (4D theory = MSSM):

→ Buchmüller/Hamaguchi/Lebedev/Ratz '05/'06, Lebedev et al. '06-'08

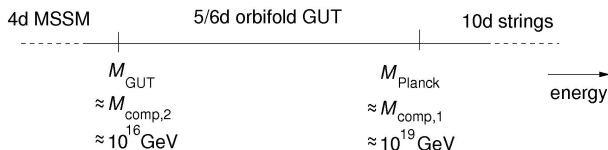
# 5D GUTs from heterotic string theory

## Anisotropic heterotic orbifold compactification:

Compactify 5 radii at  $\sim 1/M_{\text{Planck}}$ , one at  $\sim 1/M_{\text{GUT}}$



$\Rightarrow$  **effective 5D model** between  $M_{\text{GUT}}$  and  $M_{\text{Planck}}$ :



# 5D GUTs from holography

AdS/CFT: Duality between type IIB strings on  $\text{AdS}_5 \times S^5$  and 4D  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM

⇓ (much handwaving)

“duality” between weakly coupled **field theory on warped  $S^1/\mathbb{Z}_2$**   
and **strongly coupled gauge theory** on 4D Minkowski

**Heuristic picture:** → e.g. Arkani-Hamed/Porrati/Randall '00

- 5D Randall-Sundrum-like model with UV brane and IR brane
- UV brane fields  $\sim$  external states to 4D dual
- IR brane fields  $\sim$  composites of 4D dual
- bulk fields  $\sim$  partly elementary, partly composite

Can argue to get 5D calculable dual e.g. for technicolour-like theories  
**or for GUT breaking by strong dynamics** if IR brane scale  $\approx M_{\text{GUT}}$

**However:** all calculations done within **weakly coupled 5D framework**. 4D compositeness picture is nice but not too helpful. 4D dual always unknown.

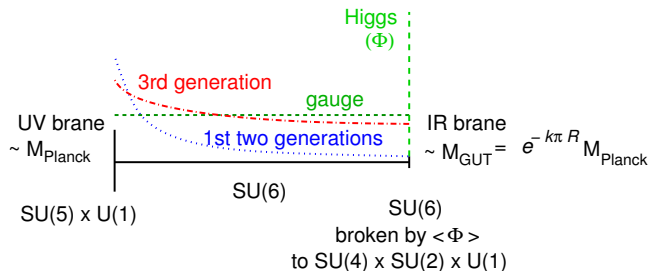


# An example

→ Nomura/Poland/Tweedie '06

Warped extra dimension, “slice of AdS<sub>5</sub>”

UV scale  $\sim$  Planck scale, IR scale  $\sim$  GUT scale



- Higgs doublets from brane field  $\Phi$ :  
pseudo-Goldstone bosons of SU(6) broken to SU(4) x SU(2) x U(1)
- matter fields from bulk hypermultiplets
- bulk mass terms  $\Rightarrow$  Yukawa hierarchies

# Soft term patterns

# 1. Gaugino mass unification

Assume SUSY breaking is separated from GUT breaking:  
Goldstino is gauge singlet

Leads to **gaugino mass unification**:

$$M_1 = M_2 = M_3 \quad \text{at } M_{\text{GUT}}$$

(Common assumption in most scenarios)

## 2. Degenerate Higgs mass matrix

Characteristic for our examples:

**Degenerate Higgs mass matrix** at the GUT scale,

$$m_{H_1}^2 + |\mu|^2 = m_{H_2}^2 + |\mu|^2 = |B\mu|, \quad \text{i.e.}$$

$$V_{\text{Higgs}} = \frac{1}{2} (\overline{H}_1 \ H_2) \begin{pmatrix} m^2 & m^2 \\ m^2 & m^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} H_1 \\ H_2 \end{pmatrix} + \text{quartic},$$

$$\text{where } m^2 \equiv m_{H_i}^2 + |\mu|^2 = |B\mu|$$

Reason: special structure of the Higgs sector

# Origin of degenerate Higgs mass matrix

SUSY GUT with chiral adjoint  $\Phi$

Adjoint of GUT group  $G$  decomposes under SM gauge group as

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{Ad}(G) &\rightarrow (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2})_{-1/2} \oplus (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2})_{1/2} \oplus \dots \\ \Phi &\rightarrow H_1 \quad \oplus \quad H_2 \quad \oplus \dots\end{aligned}$$

If Higgs part of  $\Phi - \Phi^\dagger$  massless at tree-level — e.g. being a

- pseudo-Nambu-Goldstone Boson
- gauge boson in higher dimensions
- ...

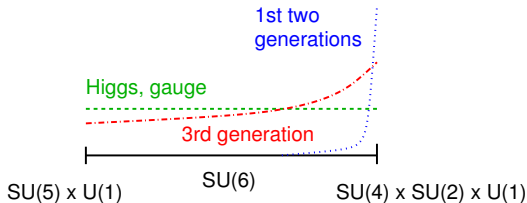
then

$$\begin{aligned}V \supset m^2 \text{tr} (\Phi + \Phi^\dagger)^2 &\supset m^2 (H_1 + \bar{H}_2)(\bar{H}_1 + H_2) \\ &= m^2 |H_1|^2 + m^2 |H_2|^2 + m^2 (H_1 H_2 + \text{h.c.})\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow m_{H_1}^2 + |\mu|^2 = m_{H_2}^2 + |\mu|^2 = |B\mu|$$

# DHMM in gauge-Higgs unification

Recall Burdman-Nomura model:



$$\begin{aligned} 5d \text{ gauge supermultiplet} &\rightarrow 4d \text{ gauge supermultiplet} - \theta \bar{\theta} A_\mu \sigma^\mu + \dots \\ &\oplus 4d \text{ chiral adjoint } \Phi = \Sigma + iA_5 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

5d gauge invariance: mass term only for  $\Sigma \sim \Phi + \Phi^\dagger$ , not for  $A_5 \sim \Phi - \Phi^\dagger$

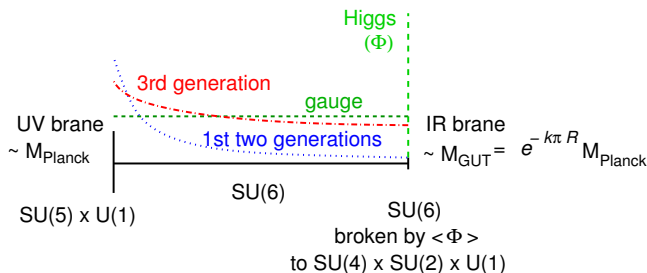
Boundary conditions: only  $H_1, H_2 \subset \Phi$  have zero modes

$$\Rightarrow V \supset m^2 (H_1 + \bar{H}_2)(\bar{H}_1 + H_2) + \dots$$

$\Leftrightarrow$  degenerate Higgs mass matrix

# DHMM in holographic GUTs

Recall holographic GUT model:



- In gaugeless limit:  $\Phi - \Phi^\dagger$  contains pseudo-Goldstones of broken  $SU(6)$
- With gauge couplings: not all pseudo-Goldstone bosons eaten, no  $H_1 - \bar{H}_2$  mass at tree-level  
 $\Rightarrow$  degenerate Higgs mass matrix

### 3. Sfermion masses and trilinears

Strongly dependent on details of SUSY breaking

Generic possibilities in 5D models:

- **Radion mediation:** Radius  $R$  extends to chiral multiplet  
 $T = R + iB_5 + \theta^2 F^T \rightarrow$  Chacko/Luty '00  
**Very constrained:** couplings mostly dictated by geometry
- **Brane fields:** 4D brane multiplet  $F$ -terms  $F_Z$   
**Less constrained:** couplings roughly  $\sim$  wave-function profiles at brane
- **Generically also:** SUSY breaking in 4D gravitational multiplet  
Parametrise by **chiral compensator**  $1 + \theta^2 F_\varphi$



# Phenomenology

# Analysis of gauge-Higgs unified model

Higgs mass degeneracy at GUT scale constrains Higgs potential at electroweak scale.

Can we get realistic phenomenology?

**Example model:** → Burdman/Nomura '03, Hebecker/March-Russell/Ziegler '08

- 5d gauge-Higgs unified model
- 3rd generation in bulk
- first two generations on brane (nearly)
- Radion-mediated SUSY breaking:  $F^T \neq 0$  and  $F^\varphi \neq 0$   
No brane sources (more predictivity)
- 5D Chern–Simons term crucial for gaugino masses  
→ extra parameter: CS coefficient  $c$
- 3rd generation matter soft terms ← 2 bulk-brane mixing angles  $\phi_Q, \phi_L$
- 1st two generation matter soft terms  $\sim$  Yukawas: neglect
- fundamental model parameters thus  $\{F^T, F^\varphi, c, \phi_Q, \phi_L\}$   
 $\leftrightarrow \{M_{1/2}, \tan \beta, M_Z, \phi_Q, \phi_L\}$

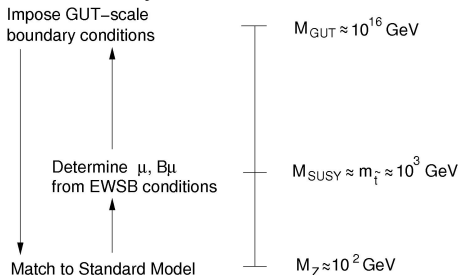
# How a SUSY spectrum generator works

- important dimensionful MSSM parameters:

- Higgs sector:  $m_{H_1}^2, m_{H_2}^2, B\mu, \mu$
- gaugino masses
- sfermion soft masses
- trilinear terms

Evolve to electroweak scale  $\rightarrow$  generically predicts wrong  $M_Z$ , cannot match to Standard Model

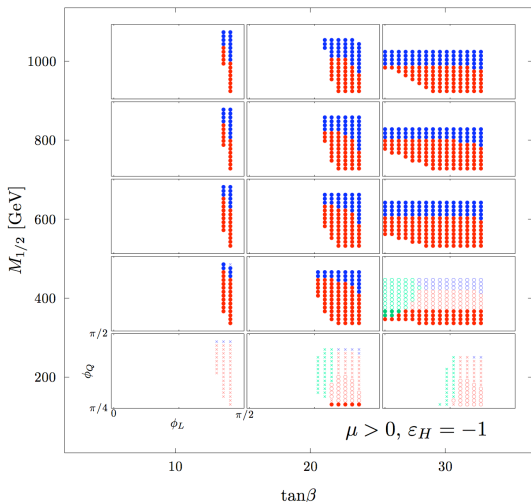
- usual procedure: exchange  $\mu$  and  $B\mu$  at high scale for  $M_Z$  and  $\tan\beta = \langle H_2 \rangle / \langle H_1 \rangle$  at low scale
- public codes (SuSpect  $\rightarrow$  Djouadi et al. '02 / SOFTSUSY  $\rightarrow$  Allanach '01) determine spectrum iteratively:



## Challenge for implementing DHMM relations:

- DHMM relation holds between  $\mu$ ,  $B\mu$ ,  $m_{H_i}^2$  at GUT scale, but  $\mu$  and  $B\mu$  are **outputs** in standard spectrum generators  
→ how to restrict scans to points with DHMM?
- Ideally would like  $\mu$  and  $B\mu$  to be inputs and predict  $\tan \beta$   
→ difficult to implement, numerical problems especially at large  $\tan \beta$
- Next best thing: still use  $\tan \beta$  and  $M_Z$  as inputs, **adjust  $m_{H_i}^2$  iteratively to satisfy DHMM relations**  
This turns out to be numerically stable

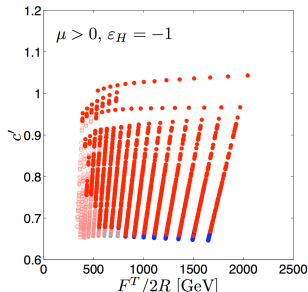
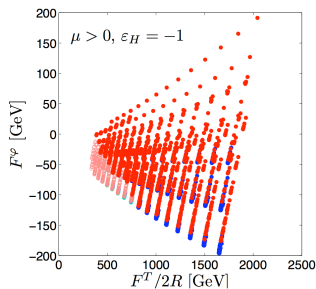
# Grid scan finds points with realistic EWSB



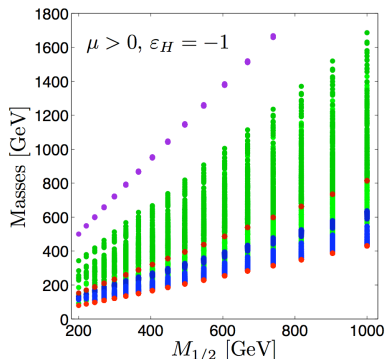
Neutralino, stau, selectron LSP.

Small points excluded by LEP or B-physics.

Note CS parameter necessary:  $c = 0$  excluded.



# Sparticle masses in neutralino LSP region



Neutralinos, staus, selectrons, gluino

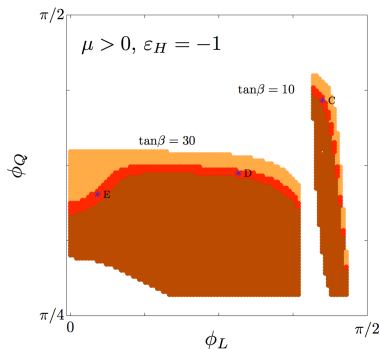
Note small NLSP-LSP mass difference

Also  $\tilde{\chi}_2^0$  heavier than selectrons (sometimes also heavier than stau):

decay  $\tilde{\chi}_2^0 \rightarrow \ell^\pm \tilde{\ell}^\mp \rightarrow \ell^\pm \ell^\mp \tilde{\chi}_1^0$  kinematically allowed, large BR

“Same-flavour-opposite-sign” dilepton signature at LHC

# Neutralino relic density



**Red band** = relic density lies within  $3\sigma$  of WMAP5 observation.

Orange region:  $\Omega h^2$  too low (other DM components besides  $\tilde{\chi}_0$  required)

Brown region:  $\Omega h^2$  too high (with standard cosmology)

# DHMM with MCMC

Now go beyond this example and do a more general MCMC scan

## Two representative choices for sfermion soft terms:

- universal sfermion soft terms  
(representing generic models)
- vanishing 1st and 2nd generation sfermion soft terms  
(for models where soft terms  $\sim$  Yukawa hierarchy, e.g. GHU)

Simplified picture: no flavour violation yet ( $\rightarrow$  later!)

## Two kinds of prior probability distribution:

- flat prior in dimensionful parameters and in  $\tan \beta$
- “naturalness prior”, disfavouring fine-tuned points:  
fine-tuning defined by

$$c = \max_i \left| \frac{d \log M_Z}{d \log a_i} \right|$$

where  $\{a_i\}$  = parameters. Weight all points with  $1/c$ .



# Universal sfermions

**Setup:** 10 chains with  $10^6$  points each

**Tools:** SOFTSUSY, microMEGAs  $\rightarrow$  Allanach '01,  
Bélanger/Boudjema/Pukhov/Semenov '01

## Parameter ranges:

parameters	from	to
$\tan\beta$	2	60
$M_{1/2}$	0	2 TeV
$m_{\text{sfermions}}$	0	5 TeV
$A_0$	-10 TeV	10 TeV

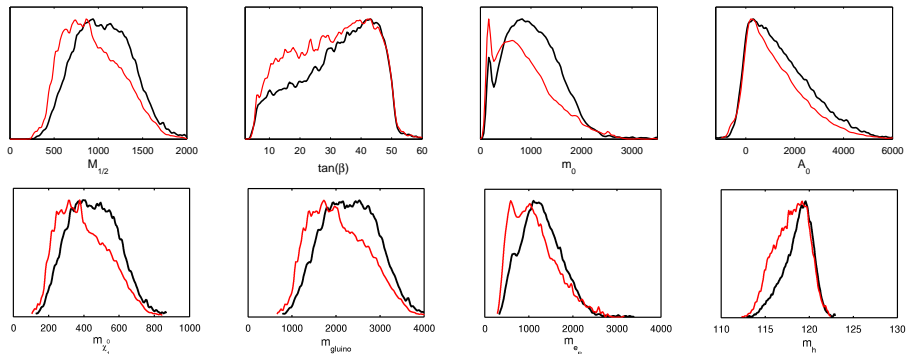
## Experimental constraints:

observable	value
$m_h$	$> 114.4$ GeV
$m_t$	$173.1 \pm 1.4$ GeV
$m_W$	$80.398 \pm 0.025$ GeV
$b \rightarrow s\gamma$	$(3.52 \pm 0.34) \times 10^{-4}$

observable	value
$B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$	$\leq 5.8 \times 10^{-8}$
$\Delta a_\mu^{\text{SUSY}}$	$\leq 4.48 \times 10^{-9}$
$\Omega h^2$	$0.113 \pm 0.0105$
SUSY masses	LEP + Tevatron limits

# Results for universal sfermions

## Marginalized posterior probability distributions:



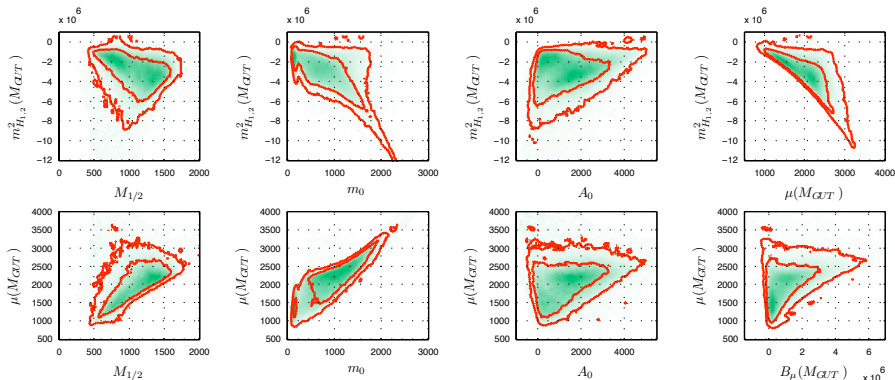
Black and red lines = flat and naturalness prior

Lower peak in  $m_0$  and  $m_{e_R}$  distributions:

DM relic density reduced by coannihilation with sleptons ( $\rightarrow$  later)

# Results for flat prior, universal sfermions

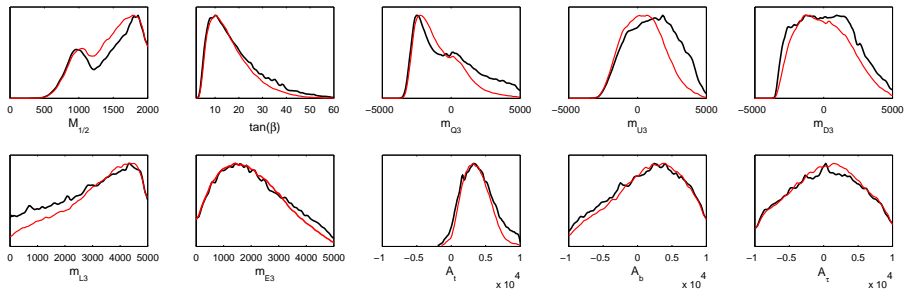
## Correlations:



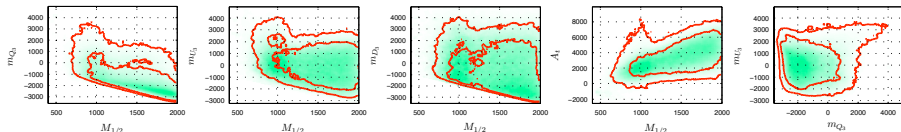
Green shades = likelihood;  
red contours = 68% and 95% probability

# Results for vanishing 1st and 2nd gen. soft terms

## Marginalized posterior probability distributions:



## Correlations (naturalness prior only):

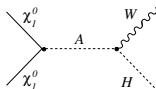


# The dark matter constraint

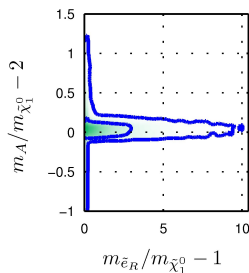
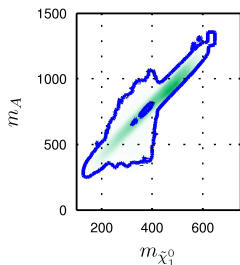
Assuming all dark matter is neutralino LSP:

**Stringent constraint** from  $\chi_1^0$  relic density,  $\Omega_{\text{DM}} h^2 = 0.113 \pm 0.011$  (WMAP)

- In generic regions of parameter space: relic density **too large**
- Need to enhance annihilation cross section. Most important mechanism: near-resonant **pseudoscalar Higgs exchange**, requires  $m_A \approx 2m_{\chi_1^0}$



- potentially also important: coannihilation with sleptons if  $m_{\tilde{e}, \tilde{\tau}} \approx m_{\chi_1^0}$





# In progress: The SUSY flavour problem in 5D

Yukawa matrices from wave function localisation: e.g. up-type quarks

$$y_u = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{11} \epsilon^4 & \lambda_{12} \epsilon^3 & \lambda_{13} \epsilon^2 \\ \lambda_{21} \epsilon^3 & \lambda_{22} \epsilon^2 & \lambda_{23} \epsilon \\ \lambda_{31} \epsilon^2 & \lambda_{32} \epsilon & \lambda_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

$\lambda_{ij} = \mathcal{O}(1)$  numbers,  $\epsilon \approx 0.1$  from wave functions evaluated on IR brane

Can reproduce observed masses and mixings

Soft scalar masses:

$$m_U^2 = \frac{|F_Z|^2}{M^2} \begin{pmatrix} \kappa_{11} \epsilon^4 & \kappa_{12} \epsilon^3 & \kappa_{13} \epsilon^2 \\ \kappa_{12}^* \epsilon^3 & \kappa_{22} \epsilon^2 & \kappa_{23} \epsilon \\ \kappa_{13}^* \epsilon^2 & \kappa_{23}^* \epsilon & \kappa_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

In general **not diagonal in CKM basis**  $\Rightarrow$  FCNCs

but **approximately** diagonal since right hierarchy structure

How much tuning of the  $\kappa_{ij}$  is still needed to evade FCNC constraints?

# Conclusions

- Can embed the MSSM into more fundamental frame: 5D GUTs
- Fifth dimension solves many problems of conventional 4D GUTs
- Interesting classes of models predictive on gaugino and Higgs soft terms:  
Degenerate Higgs mass matrix  $m_{H_1}^2 + |\mu|^2 = m_{H_2}^2 + |\mu|^2 = |B\mu|$
- Squark and slepton soft terms depend more on SUSY breaking details  
Fifth dimension can alleviate flavour problem
- Realistic examples can be found: e.g. gauge-Higgs unified model
- MCMC studies reveal allowed regions of general parameter space  
Most stringent constraint (as of 2010): Dark matter relic density
- Early LHC (2011/12) will start probing parameter space
- In progress: To what extent is tuning still needed to solve flavour problem?



Thank you!

# Backup

# How to scan a large-dimensional parameter space

## The problem:

Given

- a **model** (e.g. the MSSM) with some **parameters** (e.g. soft SUSY terms and SM couplings at the GUT scale)
- some **experimental data** (e.g. measurements of SM couplings, lower bounds on superpartner masses) with associated **uncertainties**

we can ask:

- What values for the parameters best describe the data?
- What regions of parameter space are experimentally ruled out?
- Which measurements provide the strongest constraints?

Note we do **not** (yet) **compare different models** (e.g. “does the MSSM fit the data better than the SM?”), just different parameter sets for the **same model**

# How to scan a large-dimensional parameter space

## Grid scans:

- inefficient
- need to know beforehand which parameter regions are promising
- strong correlations  $\Rightarrow$  resources wasted on less interesting regions

## Better: Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)

- “Random walk in parameter space”
- computationally less expensive
- more focus on interesting parameter regions, where data is well described by model
- allows for interpretation with methods of Bayesian statistics
- Application to MSSM:
  - $\rightarrow$  Baltz/Gondolo '04, Allanach/Lester '05, de Austri et al. '06...

# MCMC explained

Assuming a model and given some measurement data  $D$  with errors, we define for some parameter point  $P$

- the **likelihood**  $L(D|P)$  of  $P$   
≡ probability for  $P$  to reproduce  $D$  within errors,  $L(D|P) \sim e^{-\chi^2}$
- the **prior** (probability)  $\pi(P)$  of  $P$   
≡ probability assigned to  $P$  before consideration of data; **subjective!**
- the (posterior) **probability**  $\rho(P|D)$  of  $P$

$$\rho(P|D) \equiv \frac{L(D|P) \cdot \pi(P)}{\text{normalization}}$$

## A few remarks on priors:

The prior reflects **theoretical bias**.

E.g. for MSSM: soft masses should all be in TeV range (otherwise main motivations for SUSY are spoiled); disfavour points relying on large cancellations between parameters (fine-tuning is unnatural).

Once experimental constraints are strong enough, **probabilities become practically independent of prior**.

# MCMC explained

## The Metropolis algorithm

- Start with a parameter point  $P$  and calculate its probability  $p(P|D)$
- Pick a nearby parameter point  $P'$  at random and calculate  $p(P'|D)$
- If  $p(P'|D) > p(P|D)$ , append  $P'$  to the chain
- If  $p(P'|D) \leq p(P|D)$ , either append  $P'$  to the chain (with probability  $p(P'|D)/p(P|D)$ ), or otherwise append  $P$  to the chain again
- Iterate, starting from the newly appended point

# MCMC in practice

## Ideal outcome:

- Collection of points clustering in regions of higher probability
- more precisely: point distribution **samples** posterior probability (i.e. reproduces it in the limit of large number of points)
- “interesting” regions covered better
- well suited for Bayesian interpretation, “LHC weather forecasts” . . . (but that’s an **inexact science**: prior dependence!)

## Possible pitfalls:

- allowed region may be disconnected: run several chains
- “burn-in” phase required: discard initial points
- step size tricky. Adaptive algorithms no longer sample target distribution