

Geometry and Physics of F-theory 2017  
ICTP, Trieste, February 27-March 2, 2017

# (Non-) Abelian Discrete Symmetries in String (F-) Theory

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# Outline (Summary)

Progress report since F-theory'16, Caltech

I. Abelian discrete gauge symmetries in F-theory  
multi-sections & Tate-Shafarevich group – highlight  $Z_3$   
highlight Heterotic duality and Mirror symmetry

II. Non-Abelian discrete gauge symmetries in F-theory  
relatively unexplored



stoop down to weakly coupled regime

Non-Abelian discrete symmetries in Type IIB String  
Explicit construction of CY-threefold, resulting in a four-dimensional  
Heisenberg-type discrete symmetry

## Abelian discrete symmetries in Heterotic/F-theory

M.C., A. Grassi and M. Poretschkin,

“Discrete Symmetries in Heterotic/F-theory Duality and Mirror Symmetry,” arXiv:1607.03176 [hep-th]

## Non-Abelian discrete symmetries in Type IIB string

V. Braun, M.C., R. Donagi and M. Poretschkin,

“Type II String Theory on Calabi-Yau Manifolds with Torsion and Non-Abelian Discrete Gauge Symmetries,”  
arXiv:1702.08071 [hep-th]

# Abelian Discrete Symmetries in F-theory

Calabi-Yau geometries with genus-one fibrations

These geometries do not admit a section, but a multi-section

Earlier work: [Witten; deBoer, Dijkgraaf, Hori, Keurentjes, Morgan, Morrison, Sethi;...]

Recent extensive efforts'14-'16: [Braun, Morrison; Morrison, Taylor; Klevers, Mayorga-Pena, Oehlmann, Piragua, Reuter; Anderson, Garcia-Etxebarria, Grimm; Braun, Grimm, Keitel; Mayrhofer, Palti, Till, Weigand; M.C., Donagi, Klevers, Piragua, Poretschkin; Grimm, Pugh, Regalado; M.C., Grassi, Poretschkin;...]

## Key features:

Higgsing models w/ $U(1)$ , charge- $n$   $\langle \Phi \rangle \neq 0$  – conifold transition

Geometries with  $n$ -section  $\longleftrightarrow$  Tate-Shafarevich Group  $Z_n$

$Z_2$  [Anderson, Garcia-Etxebarria, Grimm; Braun, Grimm, Keitel; Mayrhofer, Palti, Till, Weigand'14]

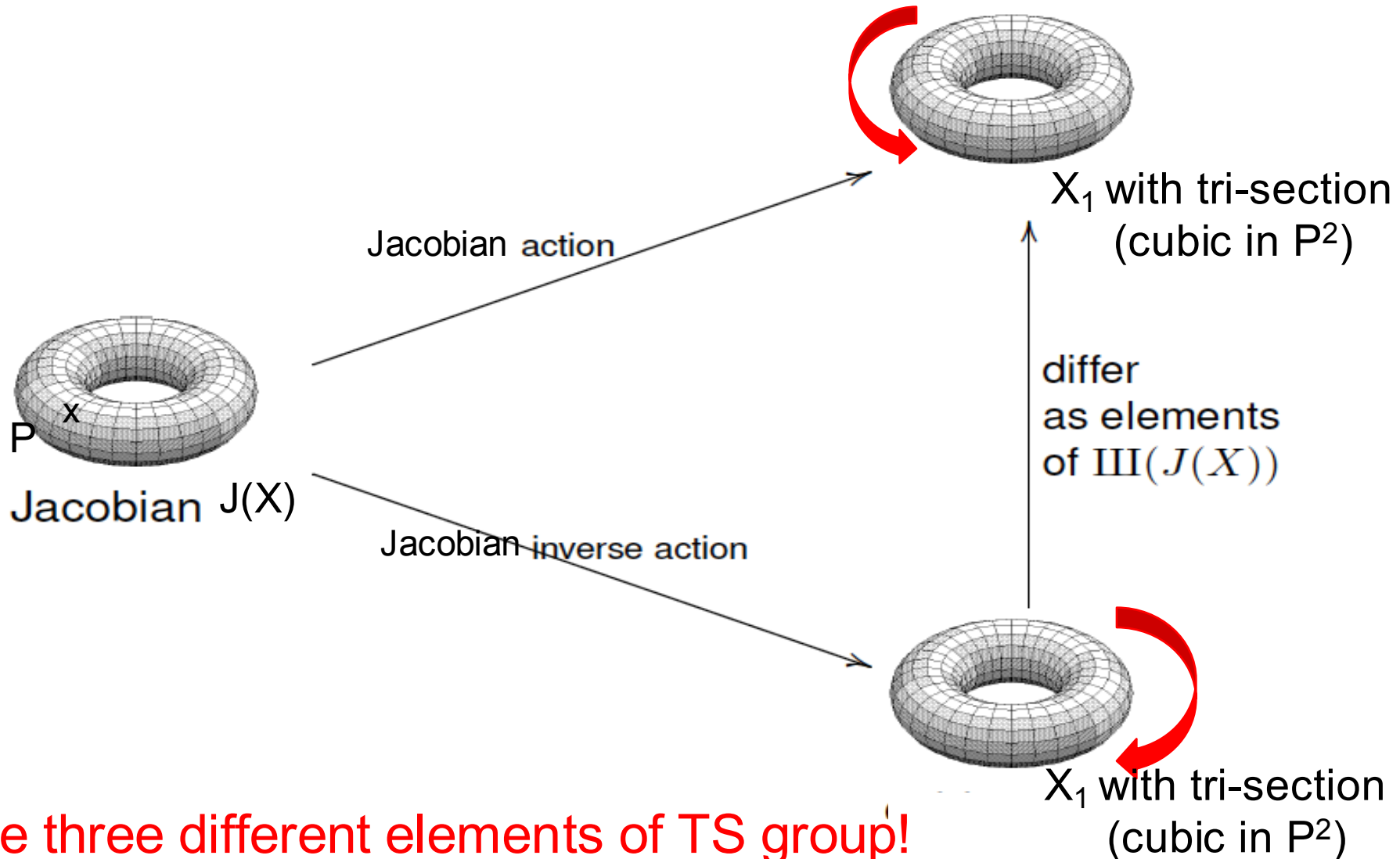
$Z_3$  [M.C., Donagi, Klevers, Piragua, Poretschkin 1502.06953]



# Tate-Shafarevich group and $Z_3$

[M.C., Donagi, Klevers, Piragua, Poretschkin 1502.06953]

Only two geometries:  $X_1$  w/ trisection and Jacobian  $J(X_1)$



There are three different elements of TS group!

Shown to be in one-to-one correspondence with three M-theory vacua.

# Discrete Symmetries & Heterotic/F-theory Duality

[Morrison, Vafa '96; Friedman, Morgan, Witten '97]

Basic Duality (8D):

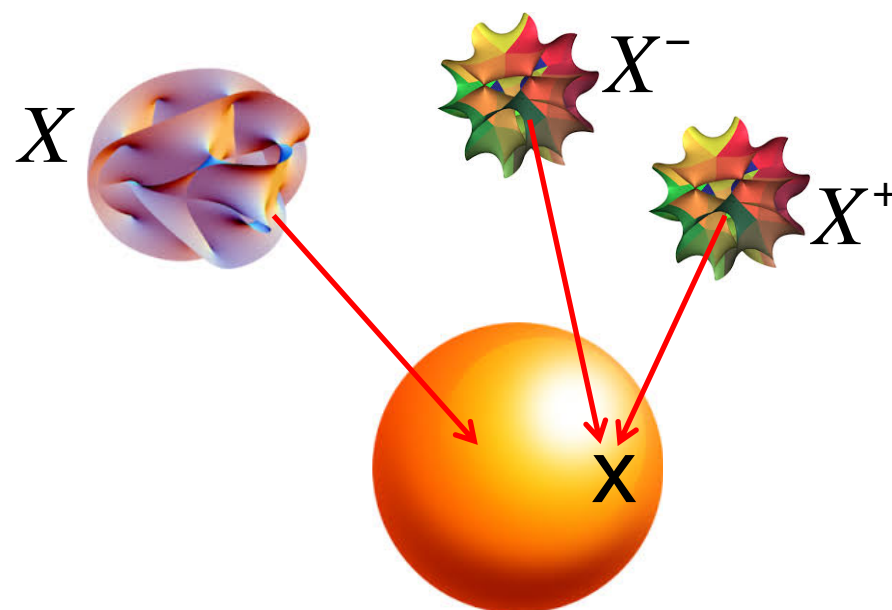
Manifest in stable degeneration limit:

Heterotic  $E_8 \times E_8$  String on  $T^2$

↕ dual to

F-Theory on elliptically fibered  
K3 surface  $X$

K3 surface  $X$  splits into  
two half-K3 surfaces  $X^+$  and  $X^-$



Dictionary:

- $X^+$  and  $X^- \rightarrow$  background bundles  $V_1$  and  $V_2$
- Heterotic gauge group  $G = G_1 \times G_2$      $G_i = [E_8, V_i]$
- The Heterotic geometry  $T^2$ : at intersection of  $X^+$  and  $X^-$

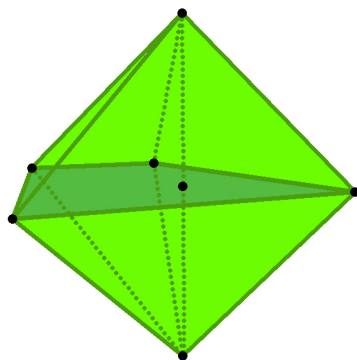
K3-fibration over  $P^1$   
(moduli)

# Heterotic/F-theory Duality

[Morrison, Vafa '96], [Berglund, Mayr '98]

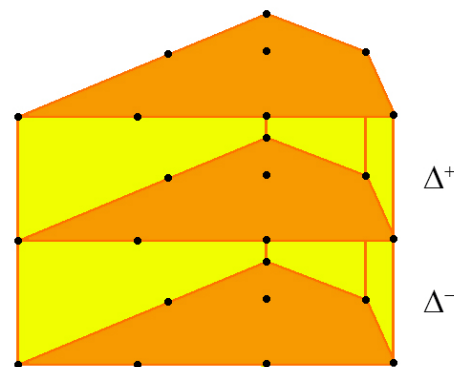
Employ toric geometry techniques in 8D/6D to study  
stable degeneration limit of F-theory

Toric polytope:



specifies the ambient  
space  $X$

Dual polytope:



specifies the elements of  $O(-K_X)$  -  
monomials in ambient space

6D: fiber this construction over another  $P^1$

Study:


$U(1)$ 's [M.C., Grassi, Klevers, Poretschkin, Song 1511.08208]  
at F-theory'16, Caltech

Discrete symmetries [M.C., Grassi, Poretschkin 1607.03176]  
highlights here

# Discrete Symmetry in Heterotic/F-theory Duality

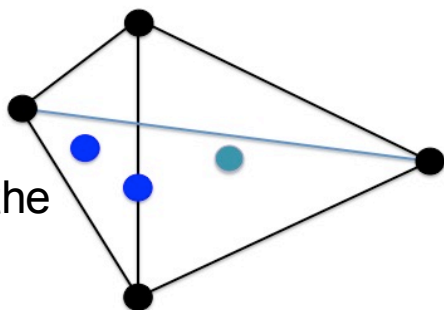
[M.C., Grassi, Poretschkin 1607.03176]

**Goal:** Trace the origin of discrete symmetry  $D$

- **Conjecture** for  $P^2(1,2,3)$  fibration [Berglund, Mayr '98]  
 $X_2$  elliptically fibered, toric K3 with singularities (gauge groups)  
of type  $G_1$  in  $X^+$  and  $G_2$  in  $X^-$   
  
its mirror dual  $Y_2$  with singularities (gauge groups) of type  
 $H_1$  in  $X^+$  and  $H_2$  in  $X^-$  with  $H_i = [E_8, G_i]$
- Employ the conjecture to construct background bundles with  
structure group  $G$  where  $D = [E_8, G]$  beyond  $P^2(1,2,3)$
- Explore “symmetric” stable degeneration with  $G_1 = G_2$   
→ symmetric appearance of discrete symmetry  $D$

# Example with $Z_2$ symmetry

Polytope:



(monomials of the ambient space)

8D:  $((E_7 \times SU(2))/Z_2)^2$  - gauge symmetry  
 $Z_2^2$  - vector bundle

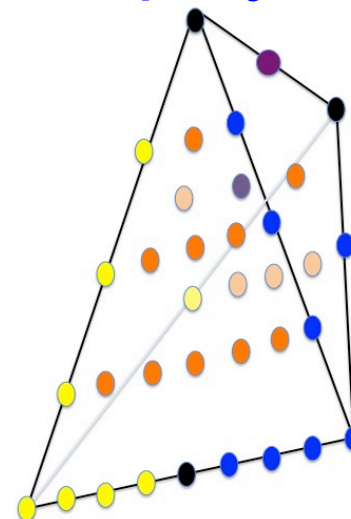
6D:  $(E_7 \times SU(2))/Z_2$  - gauge symmetry

Field theory: Higgsing symmetric  $U(1)$  model:

only one (symm. comb.)  $U(1)$ -massless

→ only one  $Z_2$  - ``massless''

Dual polytope:

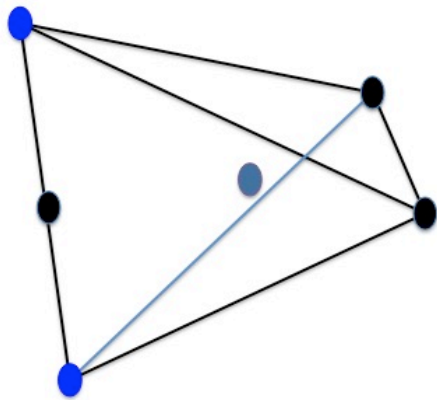


$Z_2^2$  - gauge symmetry  
 $((E_7 \times SU(2))/Z_2)^2$  - vector bundle

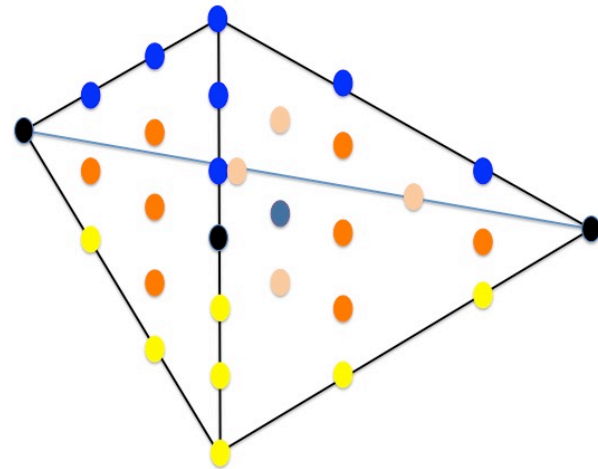
$Z_2$  - gauge symmetry

# Example with $Z_3$ symmetry

Polytope:



Dual polytope:



6D:  $(E_6 \times E_6 \times SU(3))/Z_3$  - gauge symmetry

$Z_3$  - gauge symmetry

These examples demonstrate:

toric CY's with MW torsion of order-n,



mirror dual toric CY's with n-section.

via Heterotic duality related to

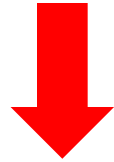
Related: [Klevers, Peña, Piragua, Oehlmann, Reuter '14]

# Non-Abelian Discrete Symmetries – less understood

F-theory - limited exploration

[Grimm, Pugh, Regalado '15], c.f., T. Grimm's talk

[M.C., Lawrie, Lin, work in progress] [M.C., Donagi, Lin, work progress]



stoop down to weak coupling

Type II string compactification

Important progress in these directions builds on the work

[Camara, Ibanez, Marchesano '11]

Abelian discrete gauge symmetries realized on Calabi-Yau threefolds with torsion.

Non-Abelian Heisenberg-type discrete symmetries realized on Calabi-Yau threefolds with torsion classes that have specific non-trivial cup-products.

[Berasaluce-Gonzales, Camara, Marchesano, Regalado, Uranga '12]

# Calabi-Yau threefold $X_6$ with Torsion

$$\text{Torsion}(H^5(X_6, \mathbb{Z})) \simeq \text{Torsion}(H^2(X_6, \mathbb{Z})) = \mathbb{Z}_k \quad \text{example}$$

$$\text{Torsion}(H^4(X_6, \mathbb{Z})) \simeq \text{Torsion}(H^3(X_6, \mathbb{Z})) = \mathbb{Z}_{k'}$$

[Camara, Ibanez, Marchesano '11]

$\rho_2, \beta_3, \tilde{\omega}_4$ , and  $\zeta_5$  represent the generators of the torsion cohomologies w/

$$d\gamma_1 = k\rho_2, \quad d\tilde{\rho}_4 = k\zeta_5,$$

$k^{-1}$  and  $k'^{-1}$  torsion linking numbers

$$d\alpha_3 = k'\tilde{\omega}_4, \quad d\omega_2 = k'\beta_3$$

$\gamma_1, \omega_2, \alpha_3$  and  $\tilde{\rho}_4$  are non-closed forms satisfying:

(consequence of  
expressions for torsion  
linking numbers)

$$\int_{X_6} \gamma_1 \wedge \zeta_5 = \int_{X_6} \rho_2 \wedge \tilde{\rho}_4 = \int_{X_6} \alpha_3 \wedge \beta_3 = \int_{X_6} \omega_2 \wedge \tilde{\omega}_4 = 1$$

Upon Type IIB KK reduction of  $C_2, B_2, C_4$  gauge potentials on  $X_6$

$\rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_k \times \mathbb{Z}_{k'}$  discrete symmetry, realized in the Stückelberg mass  $\mathcal{G}_{ij} \eta_\mu^i \eta^{\mu j}$

[Berasaluce-Gonzales, Camara, Marchesano, Regalado, Uranga '12]

**When:**  $\rho_2 \wedge \rho_2 = M \tilde{\omega}_4, \quad M \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad M \text{ non-vanishing}$

**Upon KK reduction, Heisenberg discrete symmetry specified by  $k, k', M$ :**

$$\mathcal{G}_{ij} \eta_\mu^i \eta^{\mu j} \quad \text{w/} \quad \begin{aligned} \eta_\mu^i &= \partial_\mu b^i - k A_\mu^i, & i &= 1, 2, \\ \eta_\mu^3 &= \partial_\mu b^3 - k' A_\mu^3 - M b^2 (\partial_\mu b^1 - k A_\mu^1) \end{aligned}$$



# Calabi-Yau threefold $X_6$ with Torsion

$$\text{Torsion}(H^5(X_6, \mathbb{Z})) \simeq \text{Torsion}(H^2(X_6, \mathbb{Z})) = \mathbb{Z}_{k_1} \times \mathbb{Z}_{k_2} \quad \text{another example}$$

$$\text{Torsion}(H^4(X_6, \mathbb{Z})) \simeq \text{Torsion}(H^3(X_6, \mathbb{Z})) = \mathbb{Z}_{k_3}$$

**When:**  $\rho_2 \wedge \rho_2 = M \tilde{\omega}_4$ ,  $M \in \mathbb{Z}$ , w/  $M$  non-vanishing

**→ Heisenberg discrete symmetry specified by  $k_1, k_2, k_3$  and  $M$ :**

$$\mathcal{G}_{IJ*} \eta_\mu^I \eta^{\mu J*} \quad \text{w/} \quad \begin{aligned} \eta_{\mu(i)} &= \partial_\mu b_{(i)}^2 - \tau \partial_\mu b_{(i)}^1 + k_i (A_{\mu(i)}^2 - \tau A_{\mu(i)}^1) & i = 1, 2 \\ \eta_\mu^3 &= \partial_\mu b^3 + k_3 A_\mu^3 - M (b_{(1)}^2 - \tau b_{(1)}^1) k_2 A_{\mu(2)}^1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\tau = C_0 + i e^{-\phi}$$

[Grimm, Pugh, Regalado '15]

Dilaton-axion coupling

# Non-Abelian Discrete Symmetry in Type IIB

Requires the study of Calabi-Yau threefolds with torsion by determining torsion cohomology groups and their cup-products  
→ technically challenging

Choose a specific Calabi-Yau threefold  $X_6$ :

free quotient of  $T^6$  by a fixed point free action of  $Z_2 \times Z_2$ :

[part of a general classification [Donagi, Wendland'09]]

$$g_1 : (z_0, z_1, z_2) \mapsto \left(z_0 + \frac{1}{2}, -z_1, -z_2\right),$$

$$g_2 : (z_0, z_1, z_2) \mapsto \left(-z_0, z_1 + \frac{1}{2}, -z_2 + \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$\mathbb{C}/(\mathbb{Z} + \tau_i \mathbb{Z}) \ni z_i = \mathbf{x}_i + \tau_i \mathbf{y}_i \\ i=0,1,2$$

# Computation of cup-products:

Strategy: relate  $X_6$  to a submanifold  $Y_0$  :

$$Y_0 \hookrightarrow X, \quad (x_0, x_1, x_2, y_0) \mapsto (x_0 + \tau_0 y_0, x_1, x_2),$$

four-dimensional sub-torus quotient, invariant under  $Z_2 \times Z_2$ .  
 $z_i = x_i + \tau_i y_i$

Cup-products in  $Y_0$  could be done explicitly by hand, but obtained as part of a computational scheme

(cellular model  $\rightarrow$  co-chains of cubical cells)

that gives, among others, full integer cohomology of  $X_6$ .

Restriction  $i^*: H^*(X_6, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^*(Y_0, \mathbb{Z})$  - surjective,

and exhibits  $H^*(Y_0, \mathbb{Z})$  as a direct summand of  $H^*(X_6, \mathbb{Z})$ ,

along with the multiplicative structure of the cohomology ring of  $Y_0$



Determine cup-products of  $H^2(X_6, \mathbb{Z})$  torsion classes that are non-vanishing in  $H^4(X_6, \mathbb{Z})$ .

# Results:

Full cohomology for  $Y_0$ :

$$H^d(Y_0, \mathbb{Z}) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}_2 & d = 4 \\ \mathbb{Z}^2 & d = 3 \\ \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4 \oplus \mathbb{Z} & d = 2 \\ 0 & d = 1 \\ \mathbb{Z} & d = 0 \end{cases}$$

$c_0$     $c_1$     $c_2$     $c_3$

For  $X_6$ :

$$H^d(X_6, \mathbb{Z}) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & d = 6 \\ \mathbb{Z}_4^2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2^3 & d = 5 \\ \mathbb{Z}^3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2^3 & d = 4 \\ \mathbb{Z}^8 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2^3 & d = 3 \\ \mathbb{Z}^3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4^2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2^3 & d = 2 \\ 0 & d = 1 \\ \mathbb{Z} & d = 0 \end{cases}$$

Non-vanishing cup-products for  $Y_0$ :

$$\cup : H^2(Y_0, \mathbb{Z}) \times H^2(Y_0, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^4(Y_0, \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}_2$$

$$c_0 \cup c_1 = c_2 \cup c_3 \neq 0$$

For  $X_6$ :

$$\bar{c}_i \in H^2(X_6, \mathbb{Z}) \quad i^*(\bar{c}_i) = c_i$$

$$\bar{c}_0 \cup \bar{c}_1, \bar{c}_2 \cup \bar{c}_3 \in H^4(X_6, \mathbb{Z})$$

First explicit construction of a Type IIB a Calabi-Yau manifold  
that exhibits a Heisenberg- type discrete symmetry  
w/  $k_1=2, k_2=4, k_3=2, M=1$  ( earlier example)

# Summary

- Abelian Discrete Symmetries in F-theory  
Highlight insights into heterotic duality
- Non-Abelian discrete symmetries in  
Type IIB: Construction of CY manifold whose torsional  
classes have non-trivial cup-products  
→ Heisenberg discrete group - first explicit example

## Outlook

- Techniques presented here applicable to F-theory  
study of Heisenberg symmetries ([Grimm, Pugh, Regalado'15]  
c.f, T. Grimm's talk)
- Non-Abelian discrete symmetry in F-theory via Higgsing of  
higher index representations ([M.C., Klevers, Taylor'15],  
[Klevers, Taylor'16], c.f., W. Taylor's talk)  
[M.C., Lawrie, Lin, work in progress]

Presented at the next meeting on Geometry of String Theory