

5d SCFTs, Flavors and BPS States

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1906.11820 and (to appear soon)², with
Fabio Apruzzi, Craig Lawrie, Ling Lin, Yi-Nan Wang
(Oxford/UPenn)

5d $\mathcal{N} = 1$ Gauge Theories and SCFTs

5d $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SCFTs are intrinsically non-perturbative quantum field theories. At low energies: there can be an effective descriptions in terms of weakly coupled gauge theories.

5d $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SUSY massless multiplets:

$$\text{Vector multiplet: } \mathcal{A} = (A_\mu, \phi^i, \lambda)$$

$$\text{Hyper-multiplet: } \mathbf{h} = (h \oplus h^c, \psi)$$

Coulomb branch: $\langle \phi^i \rangle \neq 0$.

Example: [Seiberg][Morrison, Seiberg]

$G_{\text{gauge}} = SU(2)$ with N_F . Coulomb branch is 1d ("rank 1") and weakly couple flavor symmetry $SO(2N_F)$ enhances to E_{N_F+1} in the UV.

In general: difficult to come by properties of the UV fixed points.

Motivation

- **Classification of 6d (1, 0) SCFTs:** F-theory on elliptically fibered Calabi-Yau threefolds (CY3). [Heckman, Morrison, (Rudelius), Vafa][Bhardwaj]
- 6d to 5d:
 - ⇒ Compactification on S^1 : 5d marginal theory (UV completes in 6d).
 - ⇒ Add masses to flavors: **flows to a 5d UV fixed point.**
- Can we identify and characterize all such 5d SCFTs?
 - ⇒ **Yes and we propose a systematic, combinatorial way to do so**
- Whether these are *all* 5d SCFTs remains to be seen (hinges on the classification of canonical singularities in CY3, and whether these are all obtained from elliptic models). See [Xie, Yau]

Proposal

[Apruzzi, Lawrie, Lin, SSN, Wang]

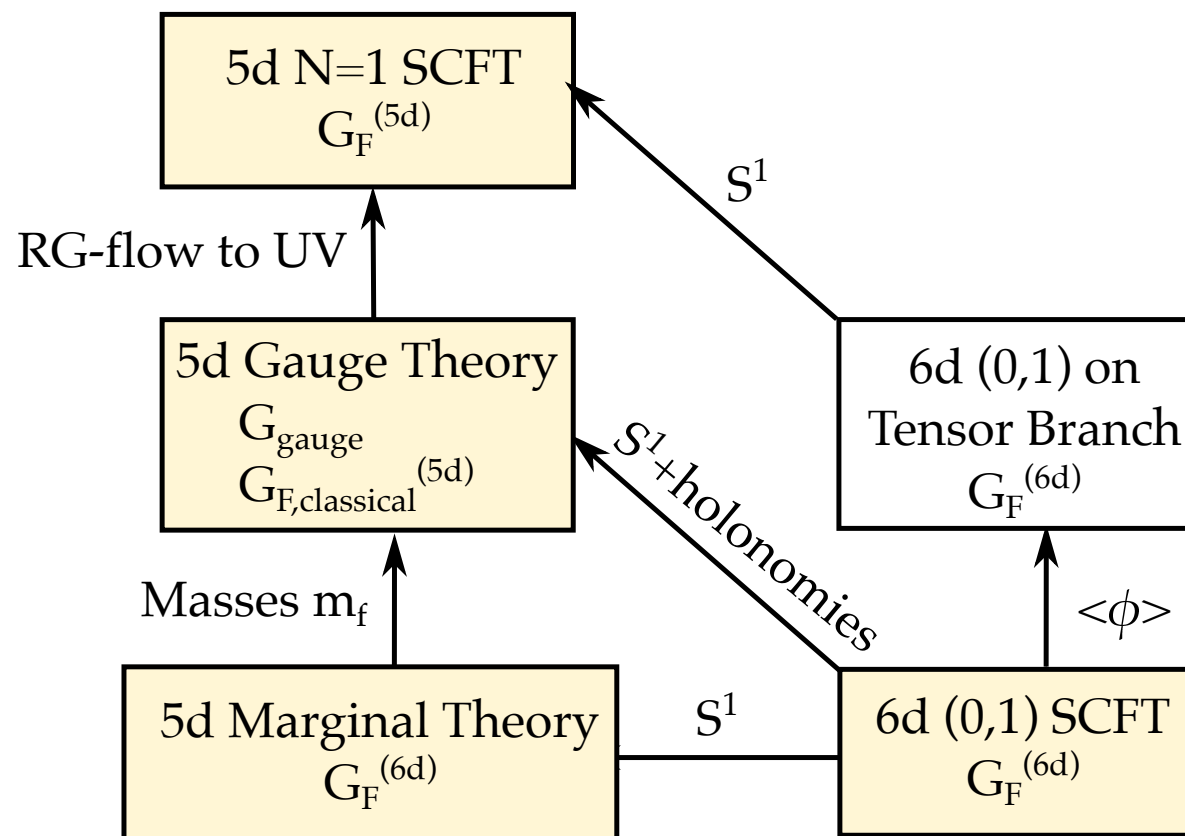
5d SCFTs from M-theory on elliptic CY3 with non-flat fibers

Extended Coulomb branch phases ($\langle\phi\rangle$ + Coulomb branch parameters to weakly gauge the classical flavors) are matched with geometric moduli space (resolutions of singular elliptic fibrations)

We find a systematic, combinatorial description in terms of graphs (“Combined Fiber Diagrams” (CFDs)) which describe 5d SCFTs including

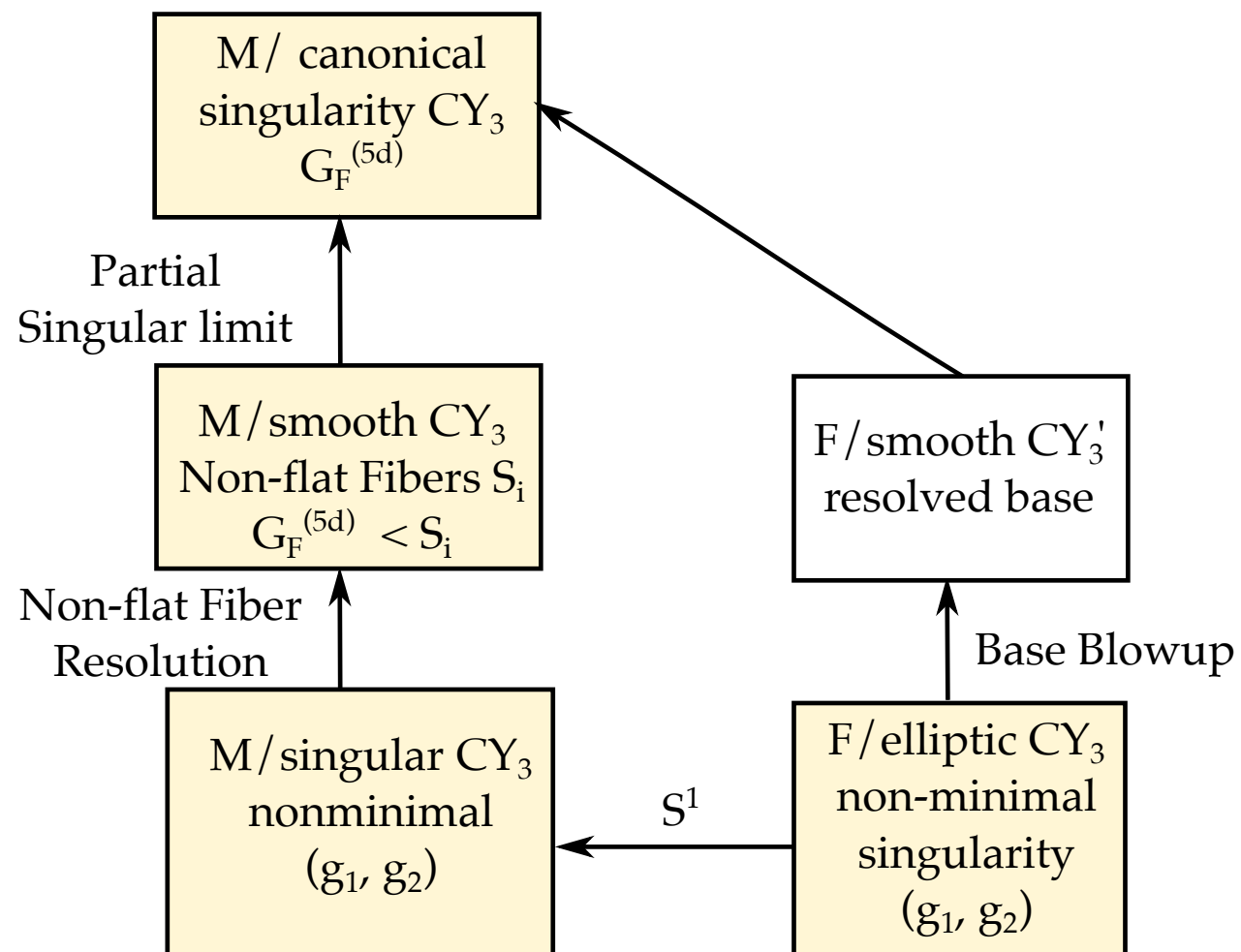
- ★ strongly coupled (usually enhanced) flavor symmetry
- ★ Mass deformations, i.e. descendant SCFTs
- ★ BPS states

General Strategy: 6d to 5d



Refined Strategy

[Apruzzi, Lawrie, Lin, SSN, Wang]



6d to 5d SCFT

Earlier developments: [Intrilligator, Morrison, Seiberg][Klemm, Mayr, Vafa][Aharony, Hanany, Kol]

Recently, different approach from 6d SCFT on S^1 : [Del Zotto, Heckman, Morrison][Jefferson, Katz, Kim, Vafa][Bhardwaj, Jefferson][Apruzzi, Lin, Mayrhofer][Closset, Del Zotto, Saxena]. The strategy so far:

- Tensor branch of 6d on S^1 (base blowup)
- To reach SCFT usually need to flop surfaces in the CY3
⇒ does not retain elliptic fibration structure
- SCFT enhanced flavor symmetries not manifest in geometry

Main new idea [ALLSW]: non-flat resolution of the elliptic fibration, retains info about flavor symmetry, and even BPS states! Succinct description in terms of simple graphs “CFDs”

6d SCFTs from F-theory on CY3

F-theory on non-compact CY3:

- Elliptic CY3 $\mathbb{E}_\tau \hookrightarrow Y_3 \rightarrow B$, with a section has Weierstrass form

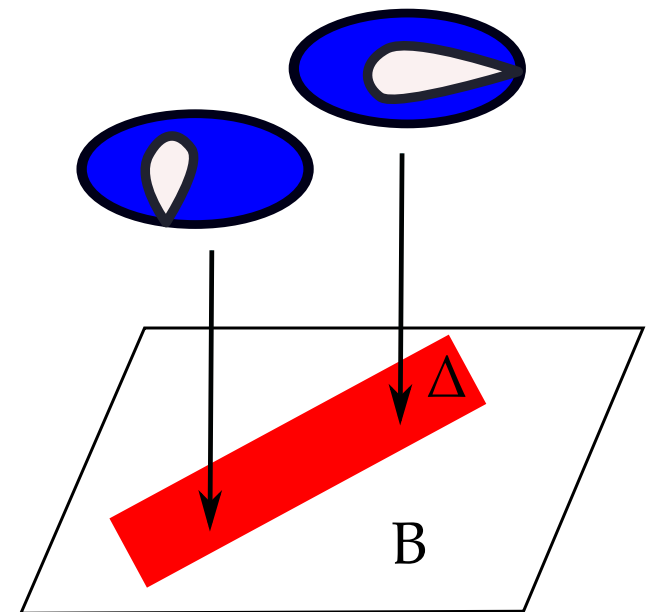
$$y^2 = x^3 + fx + g, \quad f, g \in H^0(K_B^{-4/6}).$$

Noncompact base $B: \mathbb{C}^2$, coordinates u, v

- Discriminant: Singular fiber above $u = 0$:

$$\Delta = 4f^3 + 27g^2 = O(u^n)$$

- Kodaira fiber above $u = 0$, i.e. in codim 1.



Classification of Singular Fibers

Codim 1 in base: **Kodaira** classified singular fibers

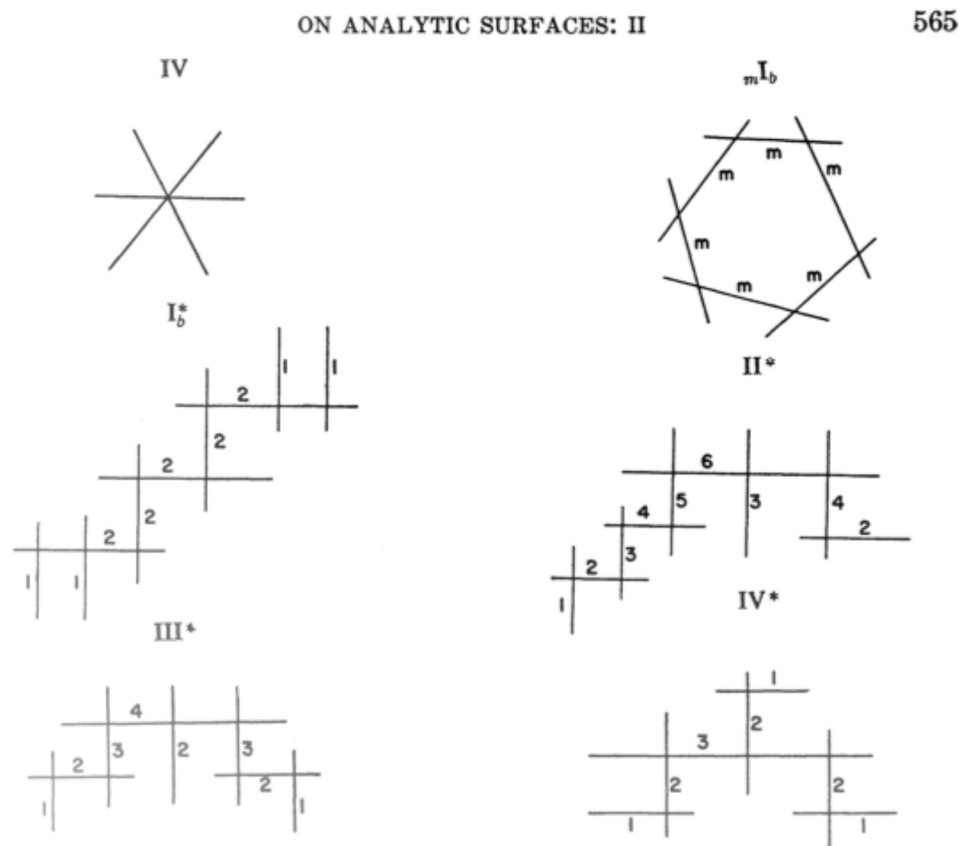


FIGURE 1. Each line represents $\Theta_{\rho\sigma}$; the integer attached to the line gives $n_{\rho\sigma}$.

	$\text{ord}_S(f)$	$\text{ord}_S(g)$	$\text{ord}_S(\Delta)$	singularity	local gauge group factor
I_0	≥ 0	≥ 0	0	none	–
I_1	0	0	1	none	–
I_2	0	0	2	A_1	$SU(2)$
$I_m, m \geq 1$	0	0	m	A_{m-1}	$Sp(\lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor)$ or $SU(m)$
II	≥ 1	1	2	none	–
III	1	≥ 2	3	A_1	$SU(2)$
IV	≥ 2	2	4	A_2	$Sp(1)$ or $SU(3)$
I_0^*	≥ 2	≥ 3	6	D_4	G_2 or $SO(7)$ or $SO(8)$
$I_m^*, m \geq 1$	2	3	$m + 6$	D_{m+4}	$SO(2m + 7)$ or $SO(2m + 8)$
IV^*	≥ 3	4	8	E_6	F_4 or E_6
III^*	3	≥ 5	9	E_7	E_7
II^*	≥ 4	5	10	E_8	E_8
non-minimal	≥ 4	≥ 6	≥ 12	non-canonical	–

Kodaira's classification of singular fibers and gauge groups

Minimal versus non-minimal: **codimension 2**

In codimension 2: $u = v = 0$ in the base:

1. Minimal: ordinary bifundamental matter, and codimension two fiber are (monodromy-reduced) Kodaira fibers (collection of rational curves).
2. Non-minimal: Weierstrass model

$$y^2 = x^3 + fx + g, \quad \text{ord}_{u=v=0}(f, g, \Delta) \geq (4, 6, 12)$$

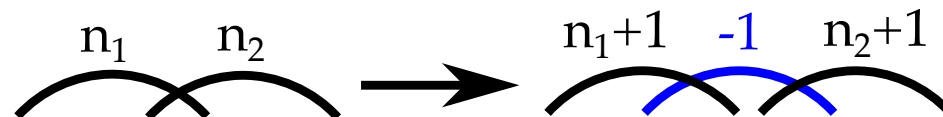
no crepant resolution of fiber possible that keeps complex 1d fiber.

Two options:

- (1) Blowup the base (6d approach)
- (2) **Blowup fiber with non-flat fibers**

Non-minimal Singularities: (1) Base-blowup

Blowup the base: $u = v = 0$ non-minimal point p : blowup by blowing in \mathbb{P}^1 .
 $\Sigma_i \cong \mathbb{P}^1$ with $\Sigma_i^2 = n_i$ (degree of the normal bundle in B)



Example: Conformal Matter

[del Zotto, Heckman, Tomasiello, Vafa]

Start with singularities $G_1 - G_2$ colliding at a point, e.g.

$$(E_6, E_6) : \quad y^2 = x^3 + u^4 v^4$$

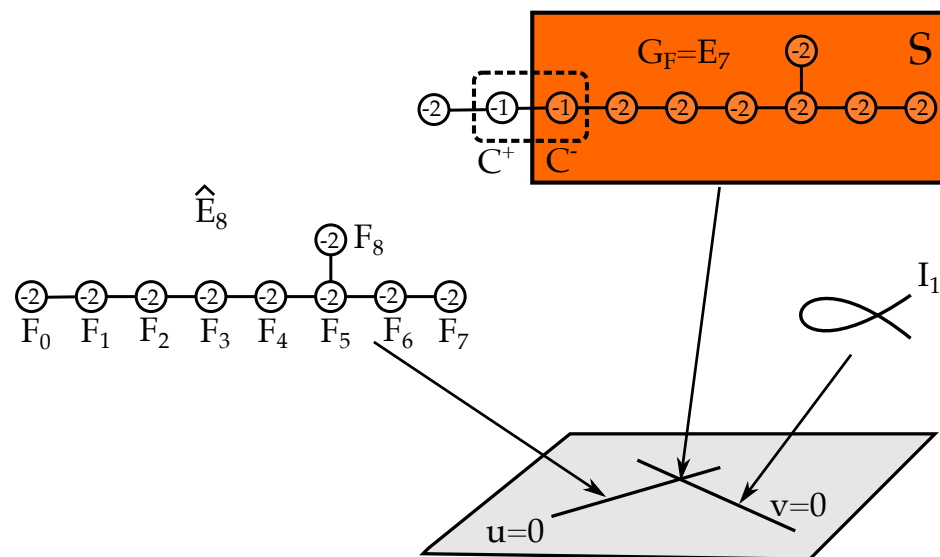
Blowup the point $u = v = 0$ repeatedly, until model is minimal:

$$[E_6](-1)(-3)(-1)[E_6]$$

Has E_6^2 flavor symmetry and an $\mathfrak{su}(3)$ gauge group on the -3 curve.

Non-minimal Singularities: (2) Non-Flat Fibers

Non-flat fiber resolution: crepant resolution, but includes **complex surface components** S_i , in addition to rational curves:



Physics:

Non-flat fiber surfaces are compact $S_i \leftrightarrow U(1)$ gauge fields.

Flavor \mathbb{P}^1 s contained in S_i remain flavor symmetries as $\text{vol}(S_i) \rightarrow 0$ limit.

M/CY3 — 5d Dictionary

[Intriligator, Morrison, Seiberg]

New insight: for non-flat fibration: S_i are non-flat fiber components

1. S_i compact divisors $i = 1, \dots, r = \text{rank} \Rightarrow U(1)^r$ gauge bosons
2. $S_i \rightarrow C_i$ (collapse to curve) \Rightarrow enhancement of $U(1)^r \subset G_{\text{gauge}}$
3. $S_i \rightarrow \text{point}$ (collapse to point) \Rightarrow strong coupling
4. Coulomb branch including hypers in \mathbf{R}_F of $G_{\mathbb{F}, \text{classical}}^{5d}$:

$$\mathcal{F}_{1\text{-loop}} = \frac{1}{12} \left(\sum_{\alpha} |\phi \cdot \alpha|^3 - \sum_{\lambda_F \in \mathbf{R}_F} |\lambda_F \cdot \phi + m_F|^3 \right)$$

\Rightarrow Extended Kähler cone: m_F = mass deformations, or CB parameters for weakly gauging flavor symmetry.

5. **Flavor symmetry**: determined by ADE singularities over non-compact curves, whose fibral curves are contained in S_i
6. M2-wrapping modes on curves: BPS states

Example: The E-string and 5d rank 1 SCFTs

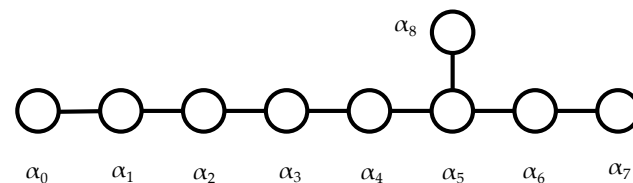
1. Starting point 6d: non-compact base with coordinates u, v : $E_8 - I_1$
with Tate model: $\text{ord}_u(b_i) = (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)$ and $\text{ord}_v(b_i) = (0, 0, 0, 0, 1)$

$$y^2 + b_1 u x y + b_3 u^3 = x^3 + b_2 u^2 x^2 + b_4 u^4 x + b_6 u^5 v$$

2. Non-flat Resolution: sequence of blowup

1. $\mathbb{P}_i^1 \hookrightarrow D_i \rightarrow (u = 0) : \text{non-compact divisors}$

$$D_0, D_1, \dots, D_8 \longleftrightarrow \text{Affine roots of } E_8$$



2. $S_1 \longleftrightarrow \text{Non-flat fiber, i.e. surface}$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Cartan of rank 1 gauge group}$$

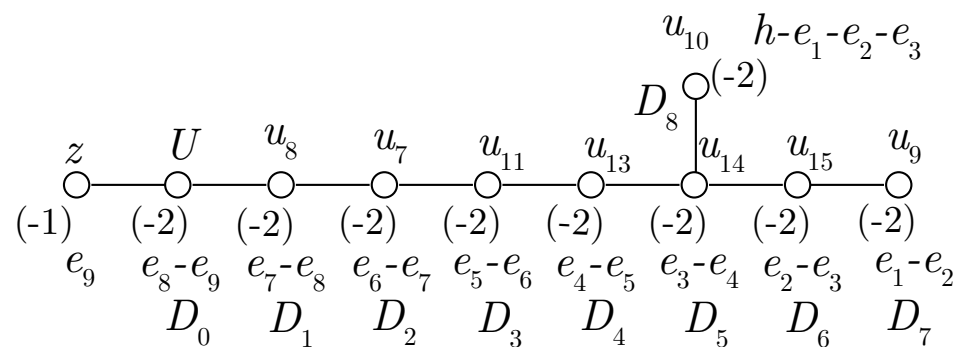
3. Different resolutions: S_1 contain different subset of \mathbb{P}_i^1

Geometrically:

- Different resolution sequences of the E_8 and codim 2 non-flat locus, yield different 5d theories.
- They are related by **flops**: shrinking -1 curves and transforming them out of the surface S_1 .
- Strategy: start with “marginal” theory, i.e. $\mathbb{P}_i^1 \subset S_1$ for all $i = 0, \dots, 8$, and descend to other models by flops.

Marginal model for rank one theories: $S_1 = gdP_9$ showing curves

$$\mathbb{P}_i^1 = S_1 \cdot D_i$$



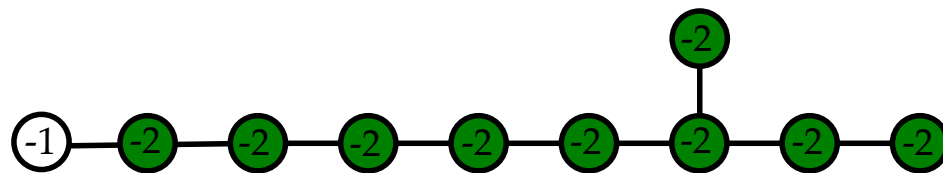
This is the fiber for the marginal 5d theory. We can proceed by computing other blowups.... or be more efficient.

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Non-flat Resolutions as Graph-Transitions

Start with diagram of curves that are contained in non-flat fiber S_1 .
For higher rank: Consider Mori cone generators of reducible surface $\cup_k S_k$.

Combined Fiber Diagram (CFD):

CFDs are graphs with:

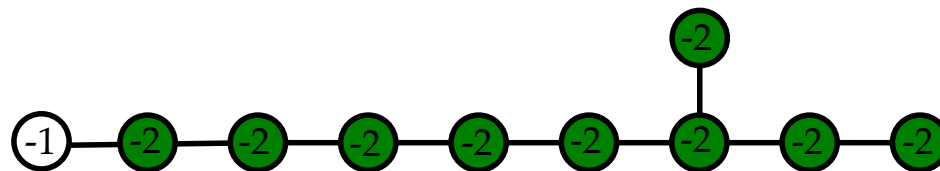
Vertices: Curves C_i , labeled by $C_i^2 = n_i$

Edges: $C_i \cdot C_j = m_{i,j}$ edges connecting vertices

Marked vertices: $n_i = -2$ colored

\Rightarrow subgraph = Dynkin of superconformal flavor symmetry

Marginal rank 1 CFD:



CFD Transitions

Given a CFD, the descendant CFDs are obtained by **removing** $n_i = (-1)$ **vertex** and updating

$$n'_j = n_j + m_{i,j}^2$$

$$m'_{j,k} = m_{j,k} + m_{i,j}m_{i,k}$$

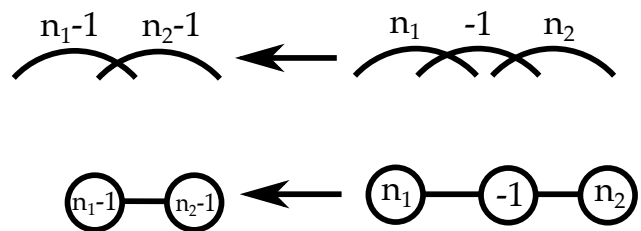
Any (-2) -vertex whose n_j changes becomes unmarked.

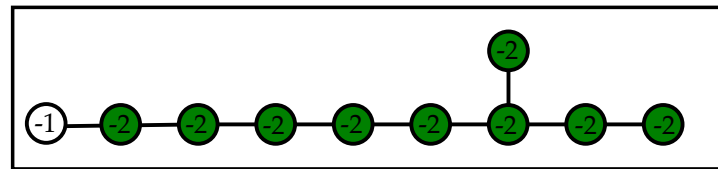
⇒ Network of CFDs/SCFTs

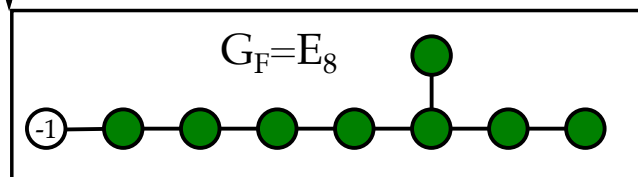
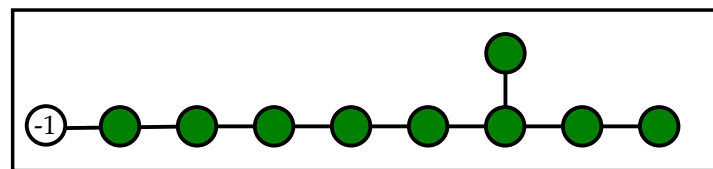
What are these?

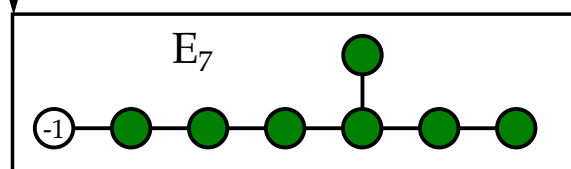
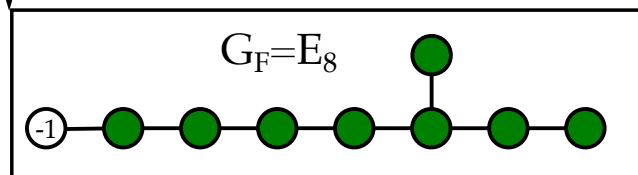
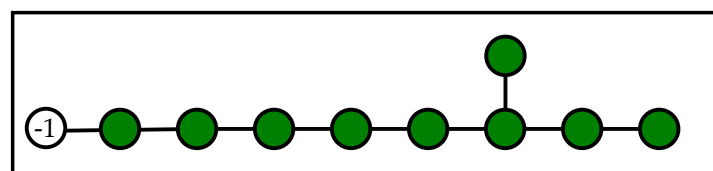
5d SCFT: gives mass to flavors and triggers RG-flow to another SCFT

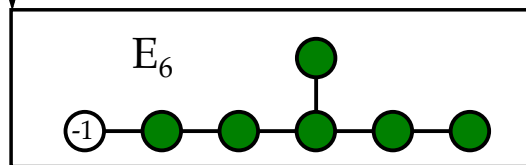
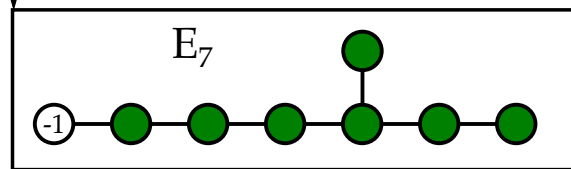
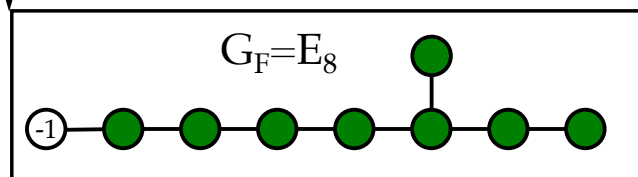
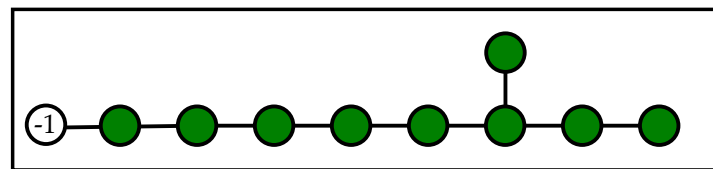
Geometry: (-1) curves can be contracted and flopped out of S_i :

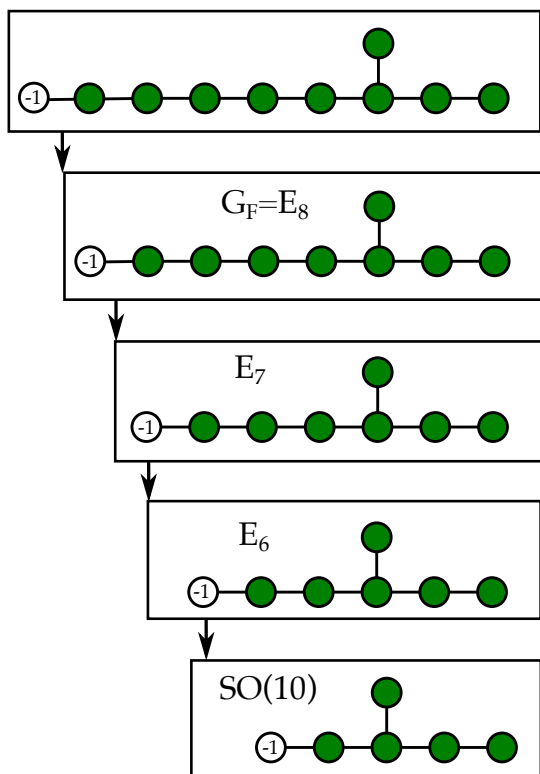


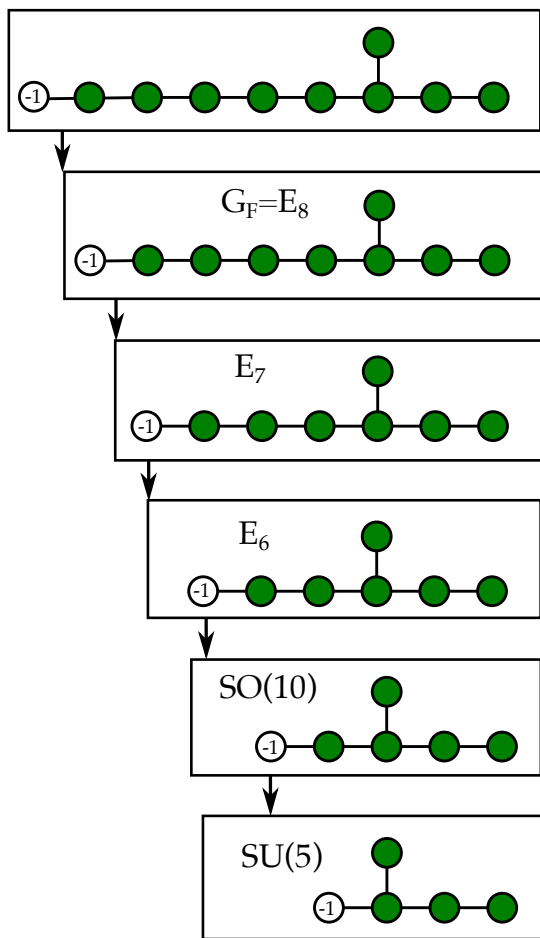


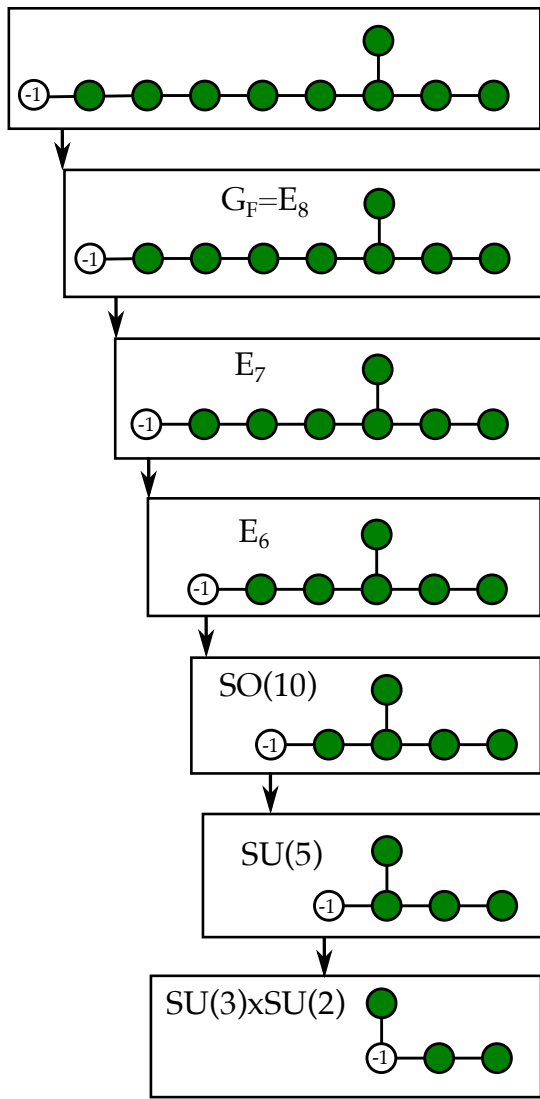


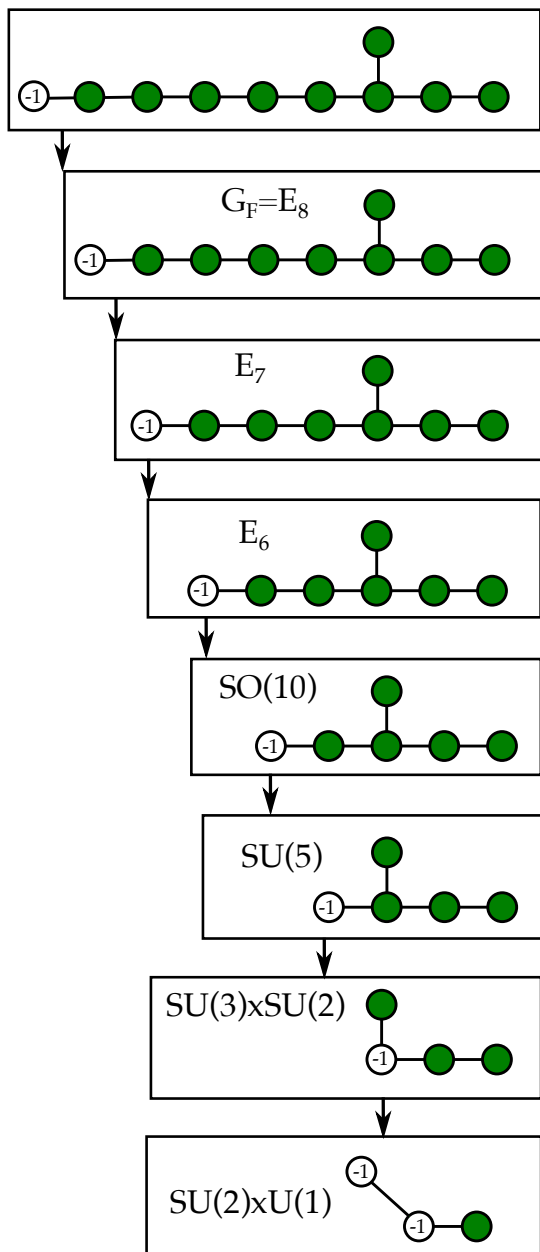


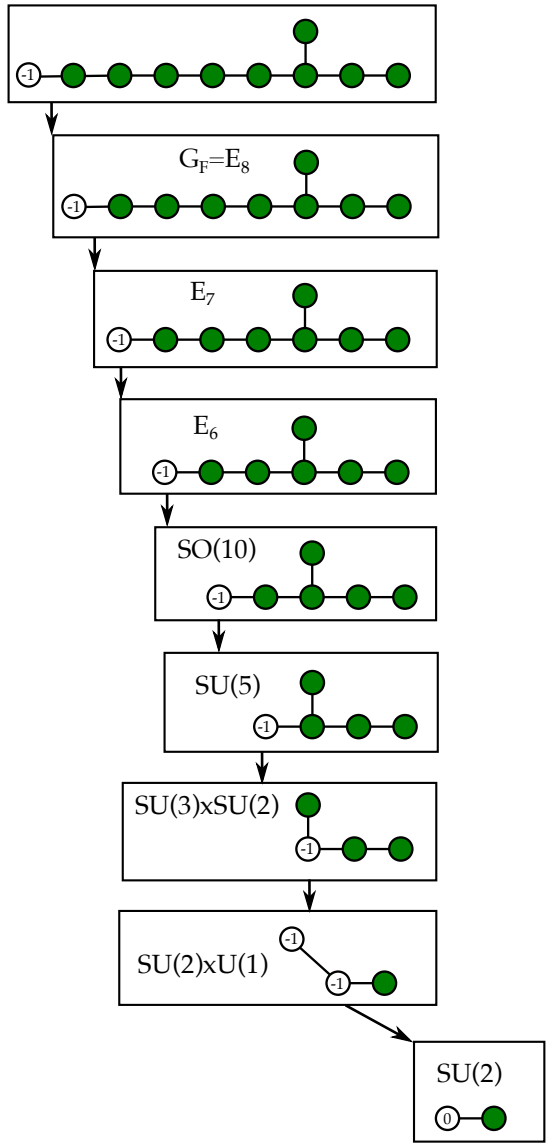


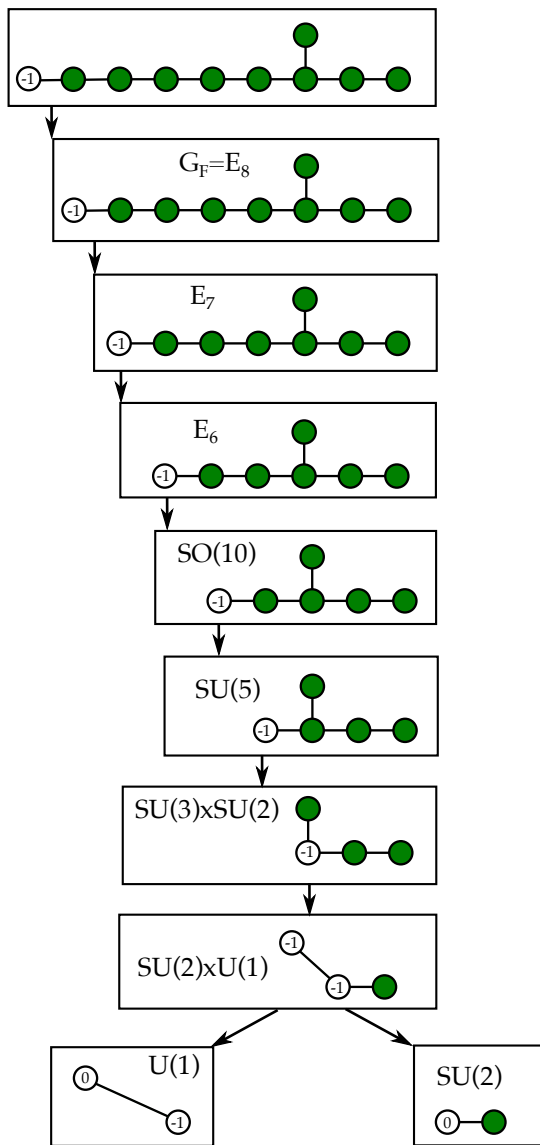


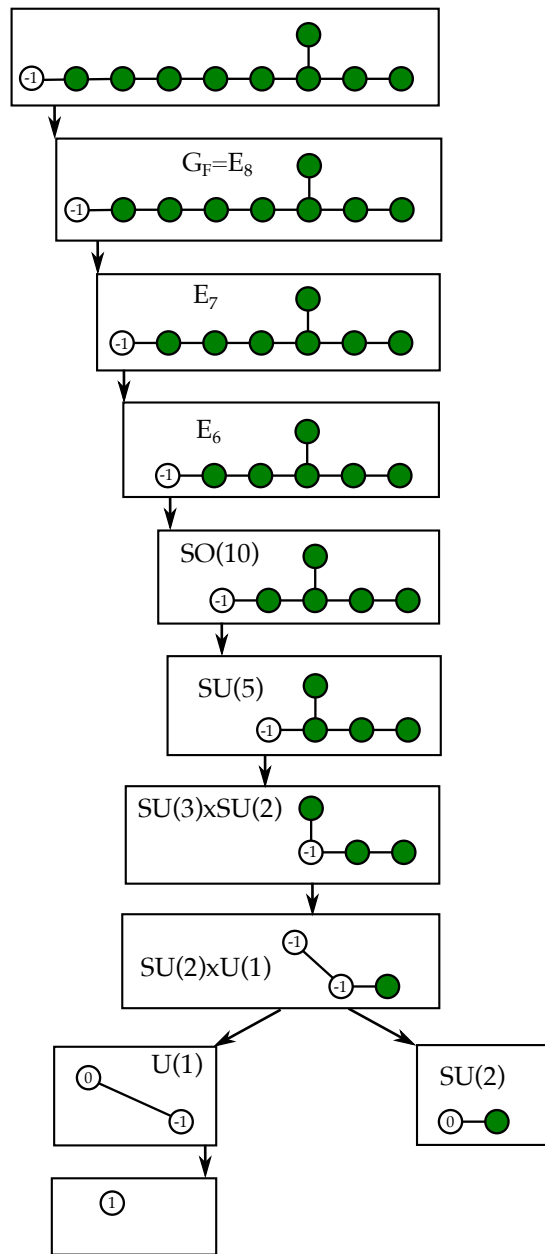


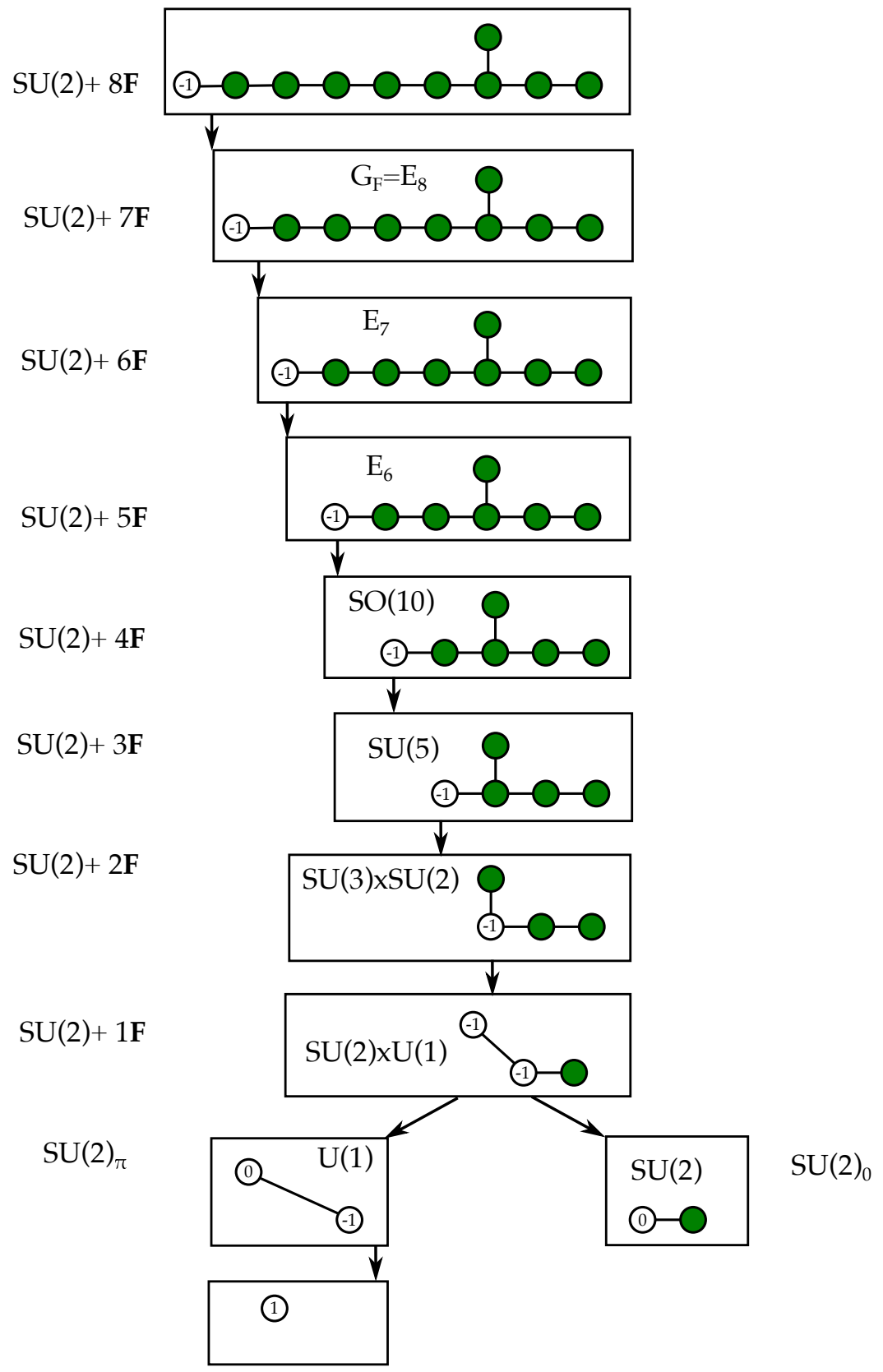












Rank 1 CFDs

This constructs precisely the known theories:

- ★ $SU(2)$ gauge theory with N_F flavors, which **enhances to E_{N_F+1} flavor symmetry at SCFT point**
⇒ this reproduces known facts about rank 1 [Seiberg]
- ★ From non-flat fiber: \mathbb{P}^1 s that are contained in S_1 (green) encode superconformal flavor symmetry G_F
- ★ Includes 5d SCFT without weakly coupled gauge theory description, geometry of $S_1 = \mathbb{P}^2$ (no ruling)

What about higher rank? Rank 2 ✓

Rank 2 theories:

geometric classification was recently obtained in [Jefferson, Katz, Kim, Vafa],
and from 5-brane webs by [Hayashi, Kim, Lee, Yagi].

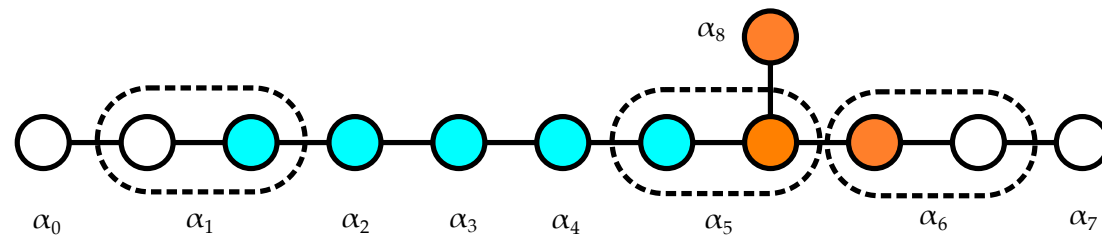
This network of SCFTs can be reconstructed from CFDs, in addition to the full flavor symmetry, and some BPS states.

Strategy: determine the marginal theories and apply CFD-transitions.

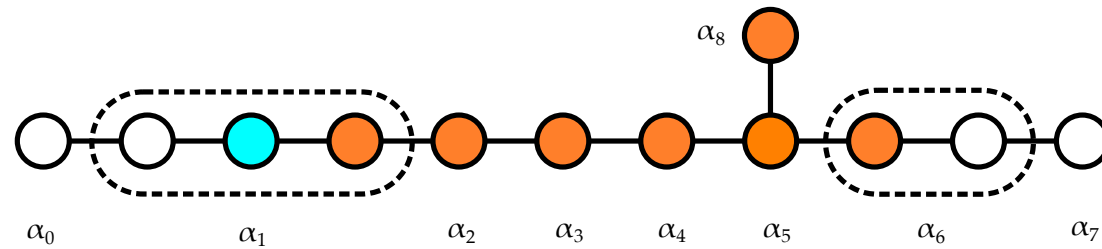
A flavor of Non-flat Resolutions: Rank 2 E-string

Codimension two collision of $E_8 - I_2$:

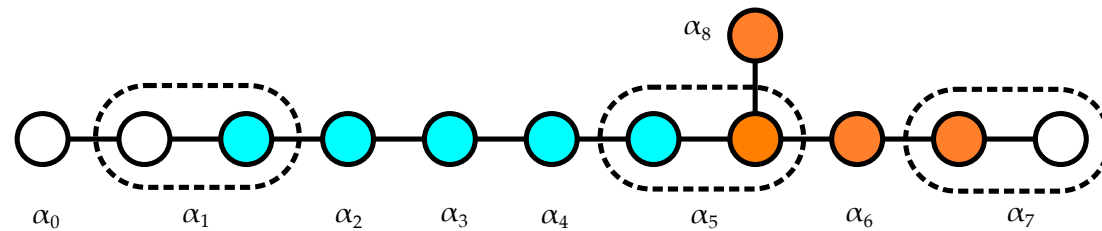
$SU(6) \times U(1)$



$SU(6) \times U(1)$



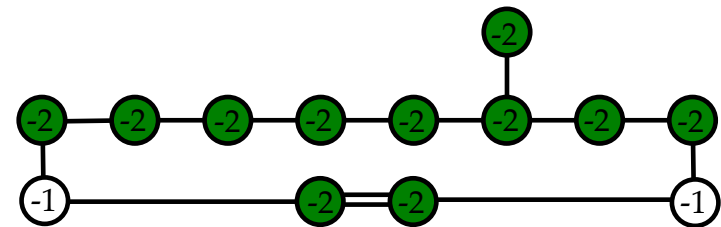
$SO(12) \times U(1)$



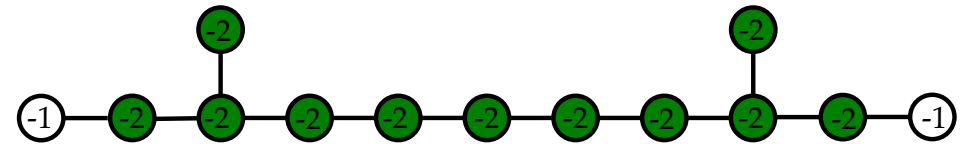
Generating all Rank 2 Theories

Rank 2 theories: marginal theories have CFDs

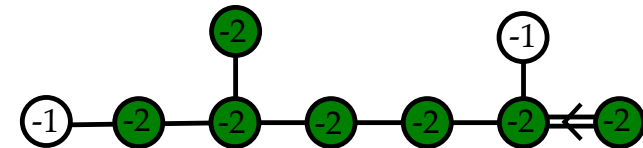
$E_8 \times SU(2)$



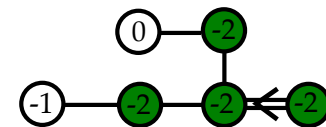
$D_5 - D_5$

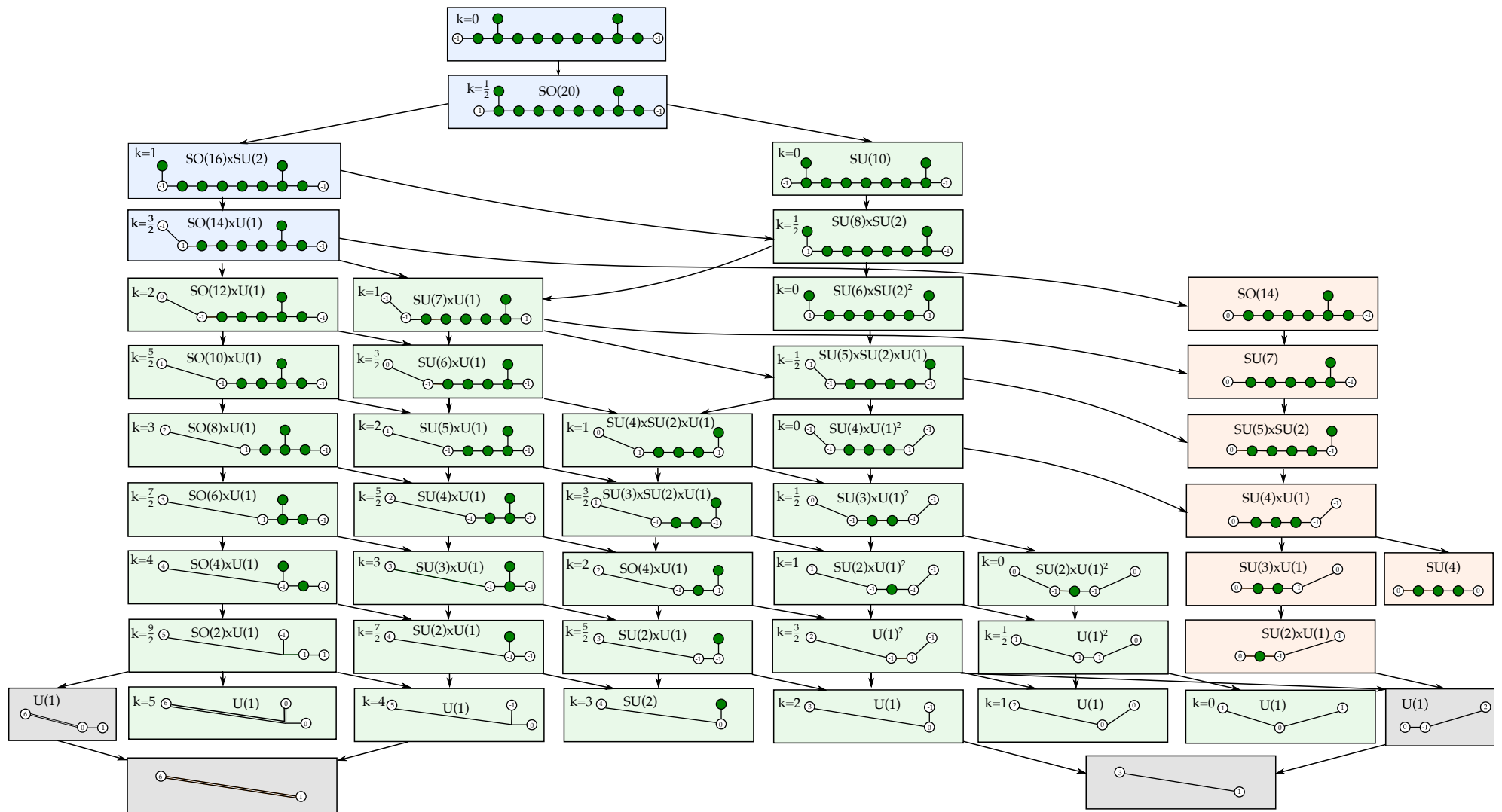


$SU(3)$ on a (-1) -curve + 12 hypers

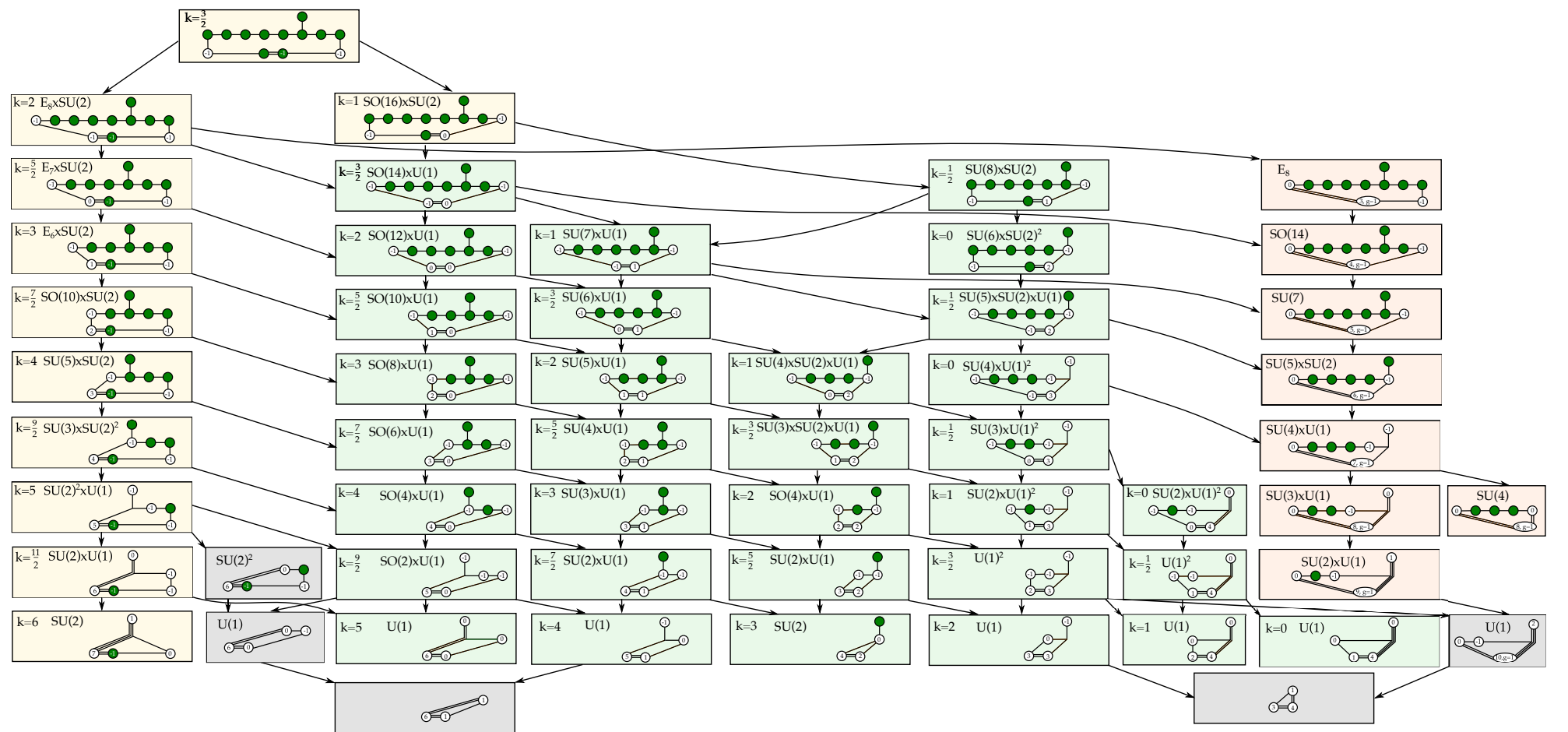


$SU(3)$ on a (-2) -curve + 6 hypers

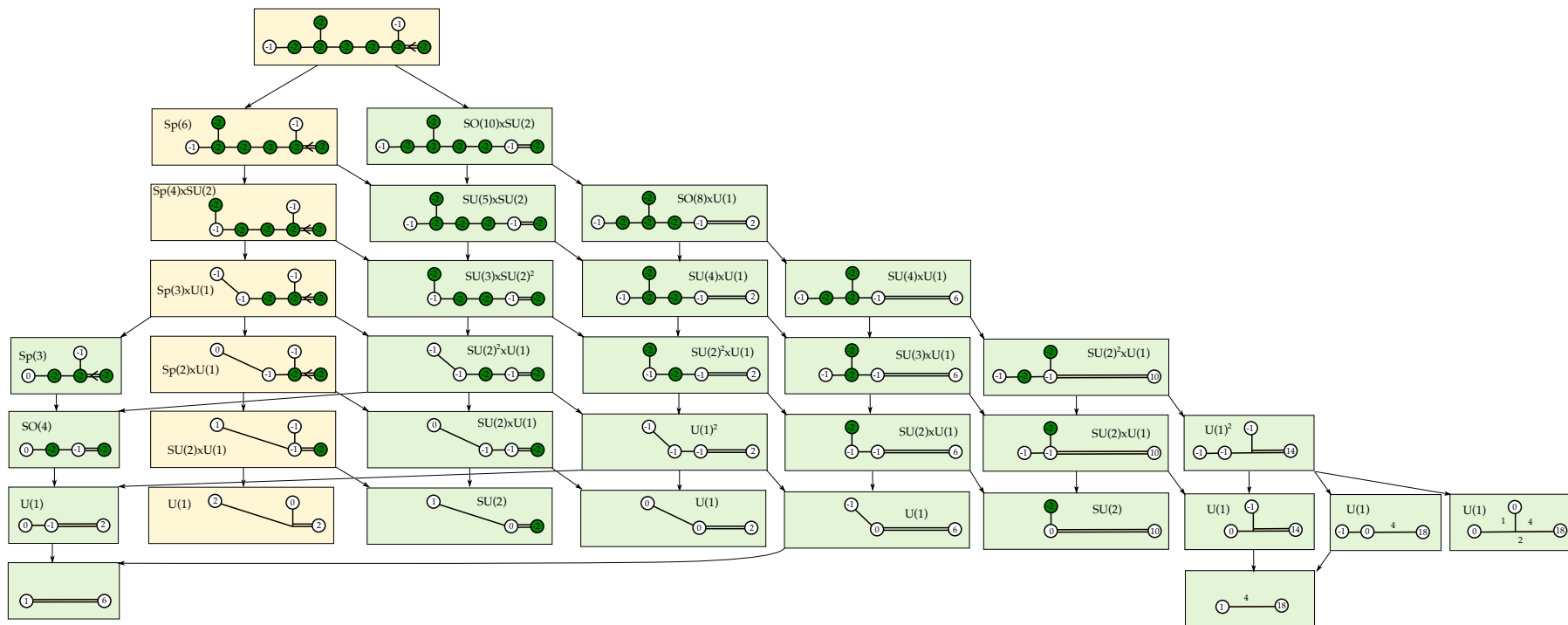




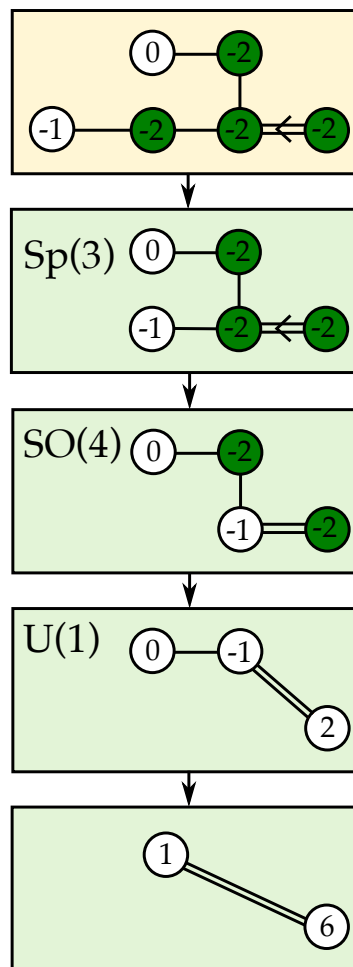
blue: only D_{10} realization; green: also rank 2 E-string realization; levels: $SU(3)$; pink: $SU(2)^2$; grey: no weakly-coupled gauge theory realization.



$SU(3)$ on a (-1) -curve + 12 hypers



$SU(3)$ on a (-2) -curve + 6 hypers



Cross-checks:

- Rank 1/2: complete agreement with expected network and enhanced flavor symmetry.
- Only resolution necessary to determine the CFD of the marginal theory.
- Cross-checks 1: Explicit geometric non-flat resolutions confirms the models in low rank (using methods from [Lawrie, SSN])
- Cross-checks 2: Models with weakly coupled gauge theory description [Apruzzi, Lawrie, Lin, SSN, Wang, to appear Part I] reconstruct all fibers (as well as all gauge theory phases) from systematic analysis of the Coulomb branch using methods of [Hayashi, Lawrie, Morrison SSN]: for rank 2: $SU(3)$, $Sp(2)$ and $SU(2) \times SU(2)$ gauge theory descriptions. [Apruzzi, Lawrie, Lin, SSN, Wang, to appear Part II]

BPS States

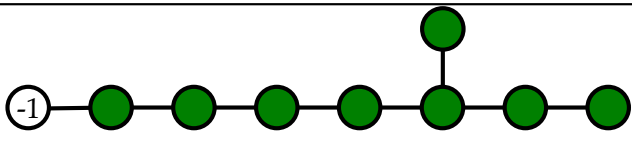
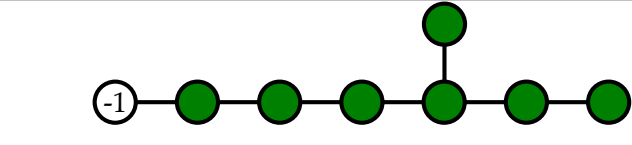
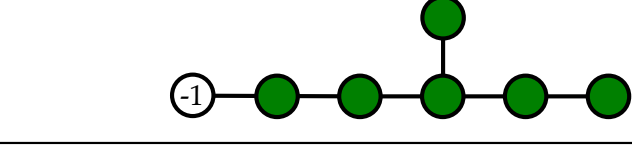
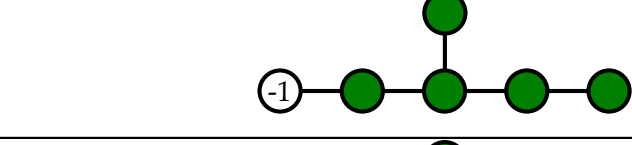
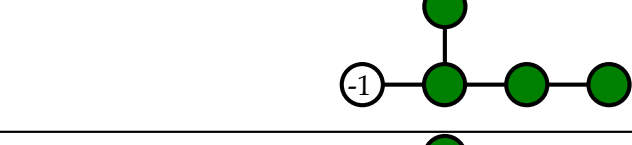
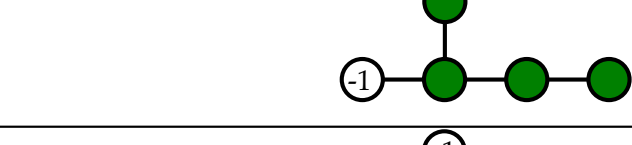

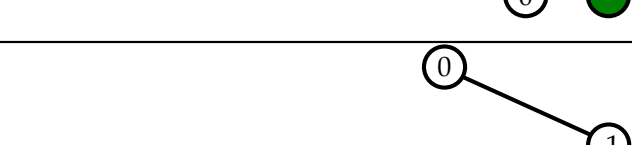
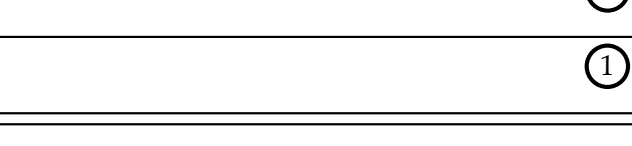

BPS states of 5d gauge theories arise as M2-branes wrapped on curves C . For rational curves, i.e. $g(C) = 0$, the BPS states transform under the 5d massive little group $SO(4)$ as

$$R_n = \left(\frac{n}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right) \oplus 2 \left(\frac{n}{2}, 0 \right) ,$$

n =dimension of the moduli space \mathcal{M}_C [Gopakumar, Vafa].

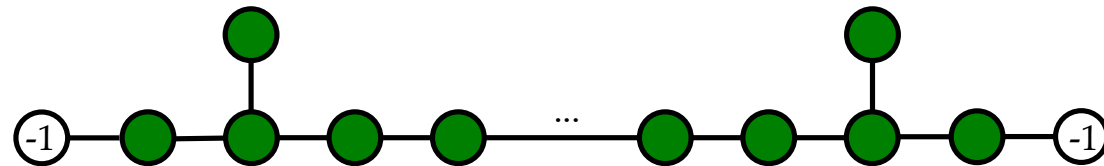
Here: C = non-negative linear combination of curves in the CFD.

For $n = 0$ 'spin 0' states we find e.g. for the E_n theories (rank 1): agreeing with [Huang, Klemm, Poretschkin]

CFD for SCFT	SCFT Flavor	Gauge Theory	BPS Spin 0
	E_8	$SU(2) + 7\mathbf{F}$	248
	E_7	$SU(2) + 6\mathbf{F}$	56
	E_6	$SU(2) + 5\mathbf{F}$	27
	$SO(10)$	$SU(2) + 4\mathbf{F}$	16
	$SU(5)$	$SU(2) + 3\mathbf{F}$	10
	$SU(3) \times SU(2)$	$SU(2) + 2\mathbf{F}$	(3, 2)
	$SU(2) \times U(1)$	$SU(2) + 1\mathbf{F}$	$\mathbf{1}_{-1}, \mathbf{2}_1$
	$SU(2)$	$SU(2)_0$	
	$U(1)$	$SU(2)_\pi$	1
	-	-	

Higher Rank? Sure, all we need is the Marginal CFD

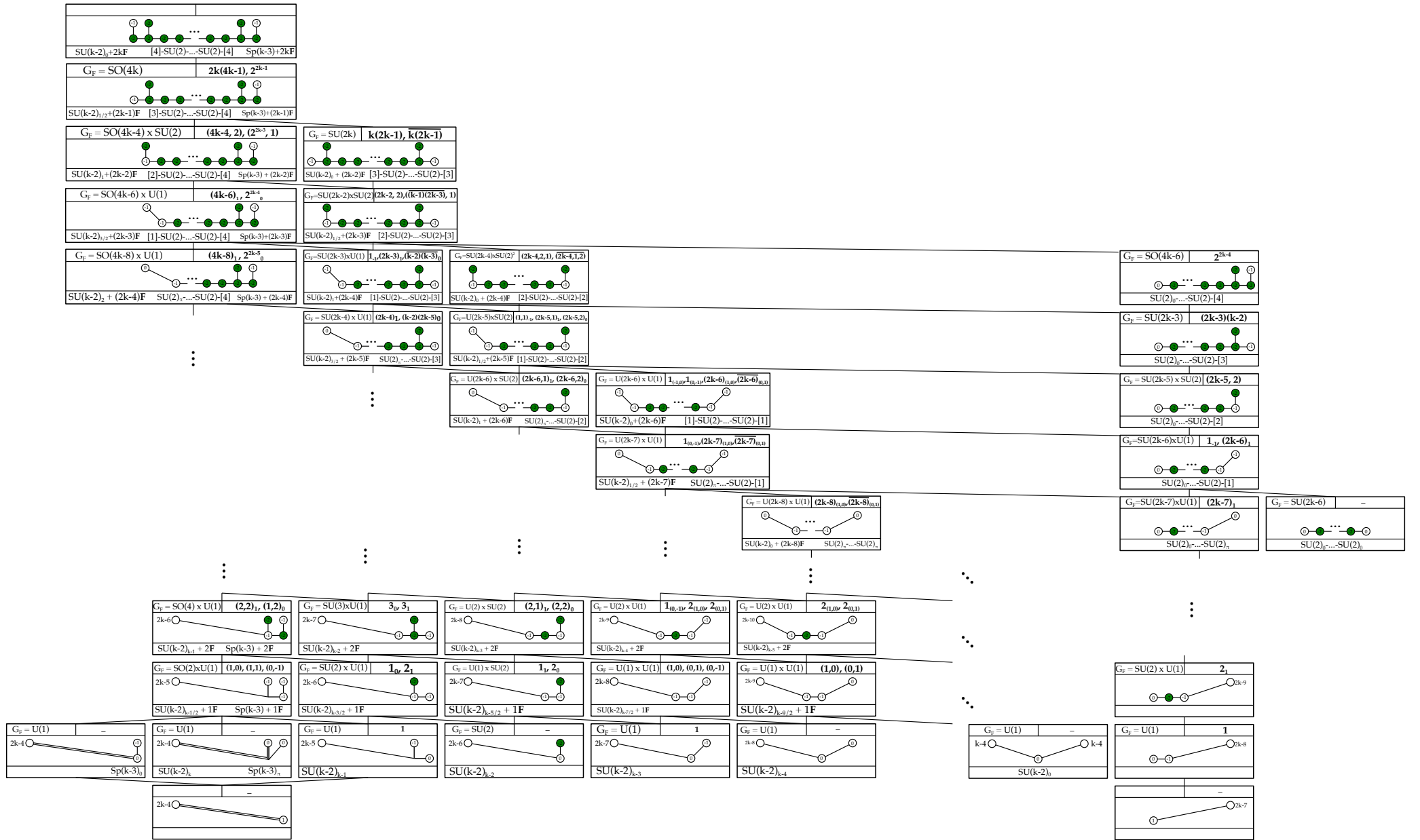
$D_k - D_k$ minimal Conformal Matter. Marginal CFD is



Weakly coupled gauge theory descriptions of marginal theory:

- $SU(k - 2)_0$ with $2k\mathbf{F}$
- $4\mathbf{F} - SU(2) - \dots - SU(2) - 4\mathbf{F}$, with $k - 5$ $SU(2)$ s nodes and theta angle 0
- $Sp(k - 3)$ with $2k\mathbf{F}$.

To determine the daughter CFDs, run algorithm:



$D_k - D_k$ cont'd.

$(k - 2)^2 - 3$ descendant SCFTs,

$2k - 6$ without known gauge theory description.

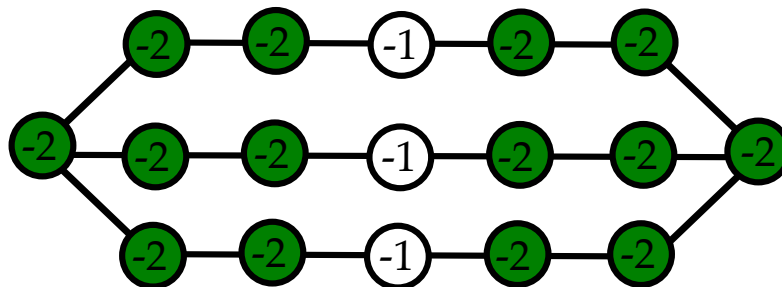
Flavor enhancement, e.g. for models with $SU(k - 2)_\kappa + m\mathbf{F}$ gauge descr.

κ	SCFT Flavor Symmetry G_F
$k - \frac{m}{2} :$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} SO(4k) & m = 2k - 1 \\ SO(4k - 4) \times SU(2) & m = 2k - 2 \\ SO(2m) \times U(1) & m = 0, \dots, 2k - 3 \end{array} \right.$
$k - 1 - \frac{m}{2} :$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} SU(2k) & m = 2k - 2 \\ SU(2k - 2) \times SU(2) & m = 2k - 3 \\ SU(m + 1) \times U(1) & m = 0, \dots, 2k - 4 \end{array} \right.$
$k - 2 - \frac{m}{2} :$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} SU(2k - 4) \times SU(2)^2 & m = 2k - 4 \\ U(m) \times SU(2) & m = 0, \dots, 2k - 5 \end{array} \right.$

In agreement with recent results in [\[Cabrera, Hanany, Zajac, 10/2018\]](#).

Higher Rank, cont'd

(E_6, E_6) minimal Conformal Matter (CM): marginal theory has CFD



We find **207 descendant CFDs/SCFTs**, including flavor symmetry and tree structure. Only known [\[del Zotto, Heckman, Tomasiello, Vafa\]](#) weakly coupled quiver description

$$\begin{array}{c}
 [2] \\
 | \\
 SU(2) \\
 | \\
 [2] - SU(2) - SU(3)_0 - SU(2) - [2].
 \end{array}$$

We find additional 195 theories that have no known gauge theory description. Similar structure for other CM matter theories.

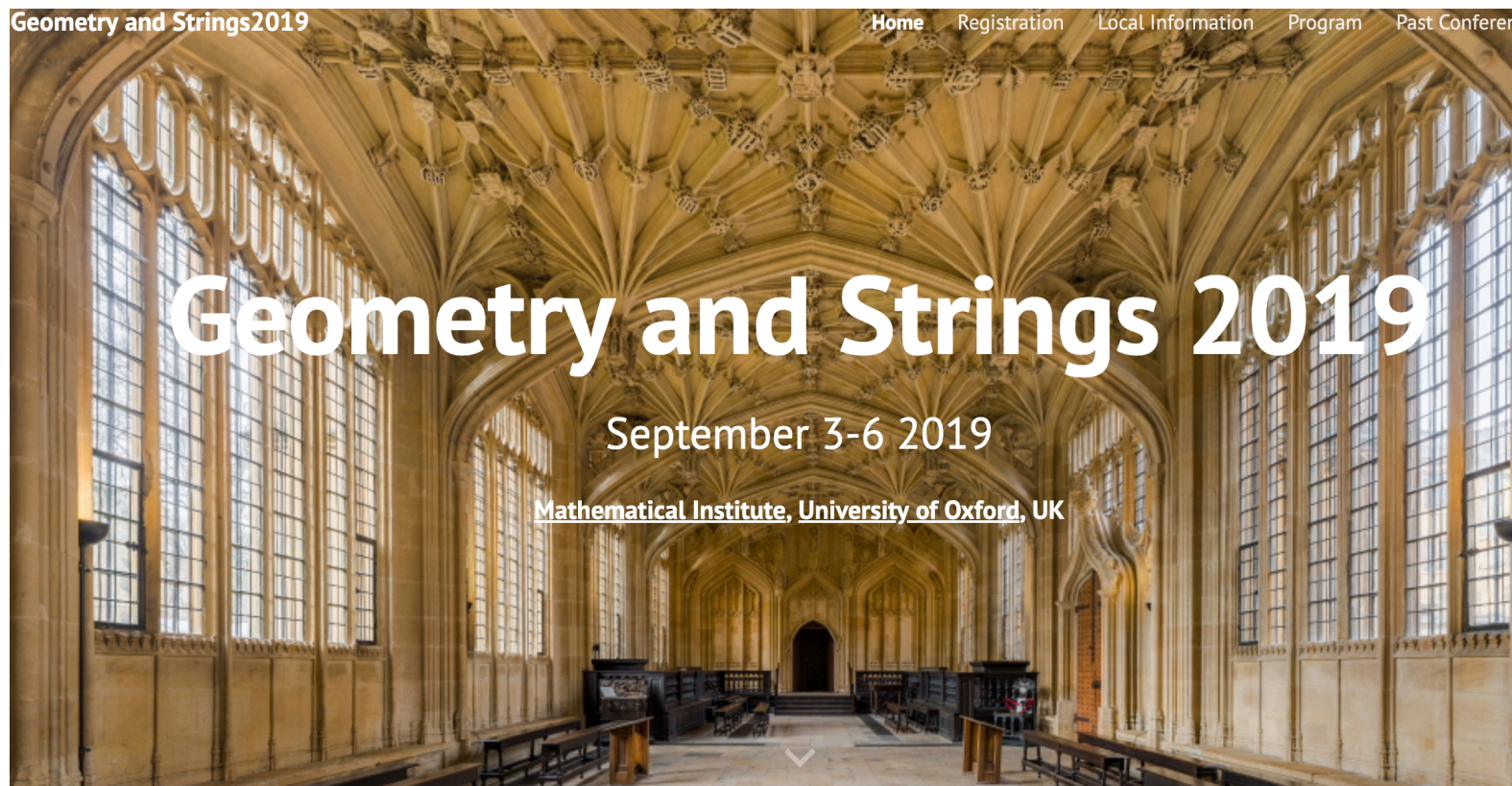


.... because they add flavor to 5d SCFTs!

Summary and Outlook

- Given a 6d SCFT, we provide a systematic exploration of all descendant 5d SCFTs.
- Each 5d SCFT is characterized in terms of a CFD graph, which manifestly encodes the superconformal flavor symmetry, and spin 0 BPS states.
- Provides classification of 5d SCFTs under assumption that they all descend from 6d ones.

“Geometry and Strings 2019”
(aka Geometry and Physics of F-theory)



<https://sites.google.com/view/geometryandstrings2019/home>