

# Large hierarchies from approximate $R$ symmetries



Michael Ratz



Warsaw, 16.6.2009

Based on:

R. Kappi, H.P. Nilles, S. Ramos-Sánchez, M.R., K. Schmidt-Hoberg  
& P. Vaudrevange, Phys. Rev. Lett. **102**, 121602 (2009)  
(=arXiv:0812.2120)

# Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Hierarchically small vacuum expectation value of the perturbative superpotential due to an approximate  $R$  symmetry
- 3 Explicit string theory realization
- 4 Application to moduli stabilization

# Motivation

# Large hierarchies in Nature

☞ Observed hierarchy:  $M_P/m_W \sim 10^{17}$

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Witten (1981)

$$\Lambda \sim M_P \exp(-b/g^2)$$

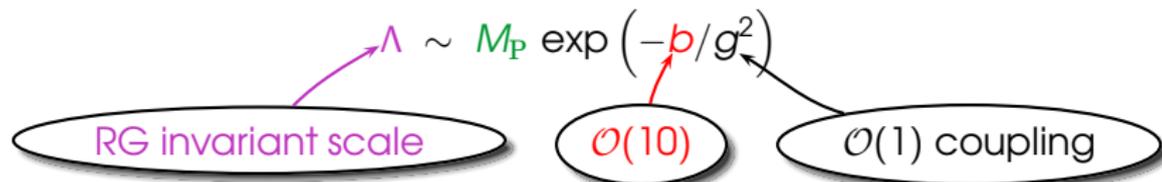
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☞ hierarchically small gravitino mass ('gaugino condensation')

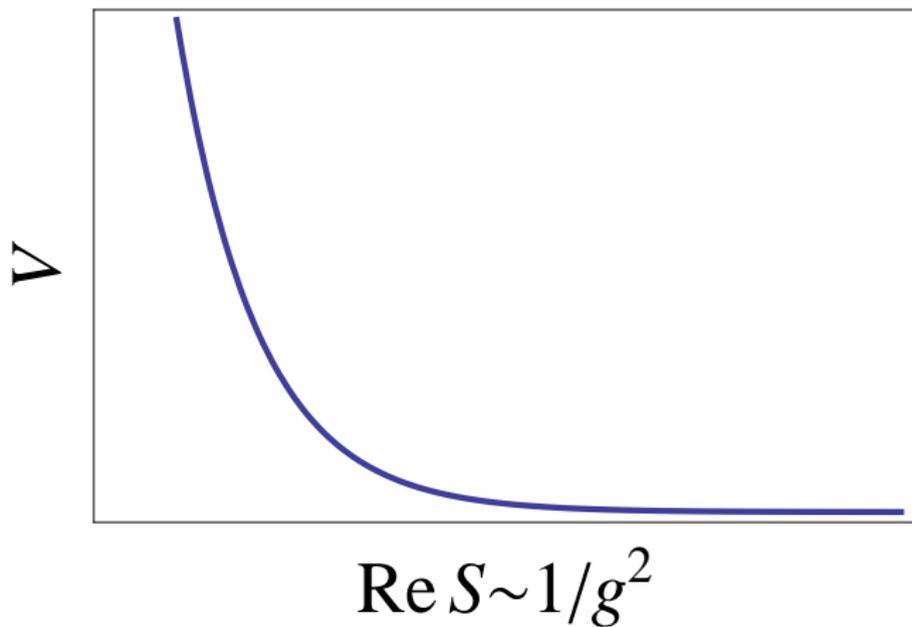
Nilles (1982)

$$m_W \sim m_{3/2} \sim \frac{\Lambda^3}{M_P^2}$$

# Problem with string theory realization

☞ **However:** embedding into string theory  $\leadsto$  run-away problem

Dine, Seiberg (1985)



# Moduli fixing and non-perturbative terms

There exist various possibilities to fix the gauge coupling/stabilize the **dilaton**:

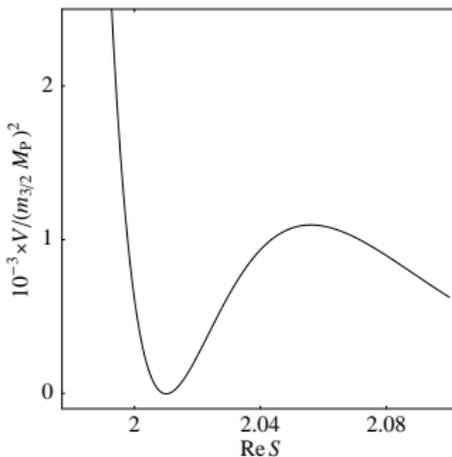
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- Race-track

Krasnikov (1987)

use several gaugino  
condensates

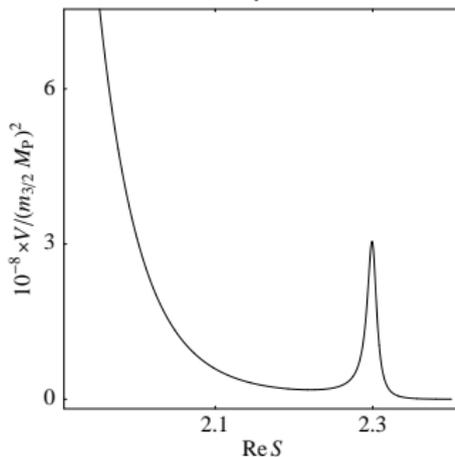


# Moduli fixing and non-perturbative terms

There exist various possibilities to fix the gauge coupling/stabilize the **dilaton**:

- Race-track
- Kähler stabilization
  - Casas (1996)
  - Binétruy, Gaillard & Wu (1996)
  - ...

non-perturbative corrections  
to the Kähler potential



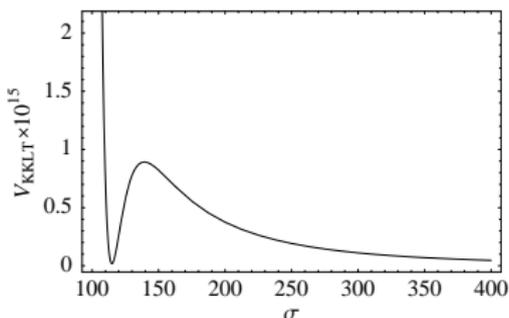
# Moduli fixing and non-perturbative terms

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- Flux compactification

e.g. Kachru, Kallosh, Linde & Trivedi (2003)

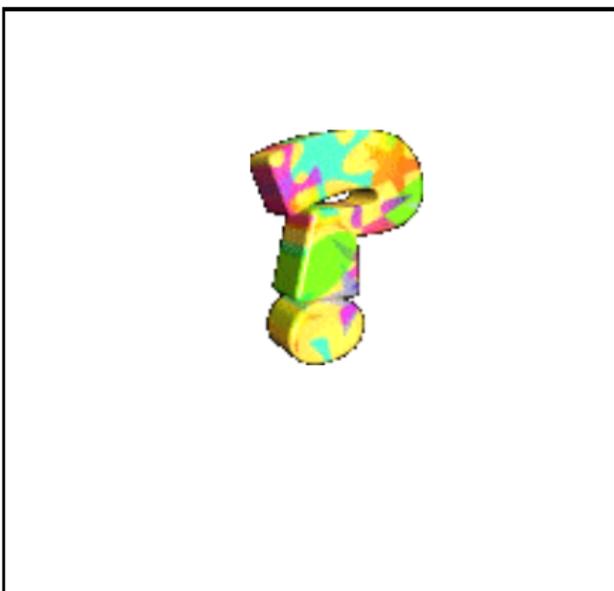
e.g. KKLT proposal



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- etc. ...



# Constant + exponential scheme

☞ KKLT type proposal:  $\mathcal{W}_{\text{eff}} \Rightarrow c + Ae^{-aS}$

constant

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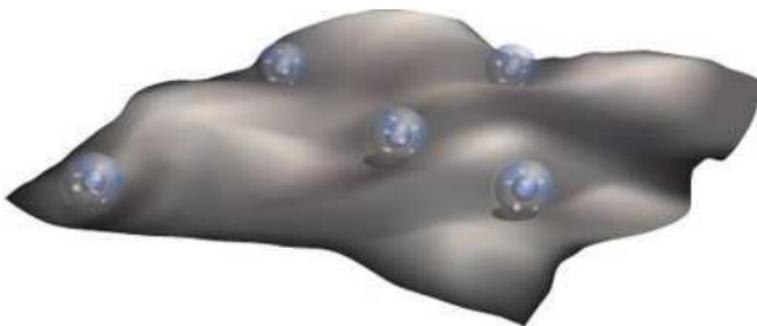
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☞ Our proposal: hierarchically small expectation of the perturbative superpotential due to **approximate  $U(1)_R$  symmetry**

$$c \rightarrow \langle \mathcal{W}_{\text{pert}} \rangle \sim \langle \phi \rangle^N \text{ with } N = \mathcal{O}(10)$$

typical VEV  $< 1$

order of  ~~$U(1)_R$~~

**Small superpotential VEVs**

**from**

**approximate R symmetries**

Hierarchically small  $\langle \mathcal{W} \rangle$ 

Two ingredients:

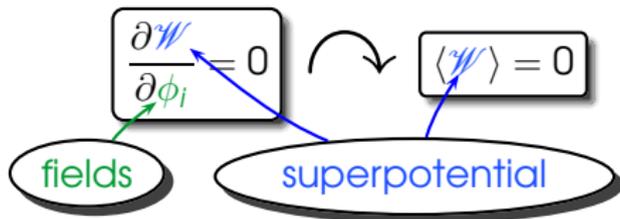
- 1 in the presence of an **exact  $U(1)_R$  symmetry**

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{W}}{\partial \phi_i} = 0 \quad \curvearrowright \quad \langle \mathcal{W} \rangle = 0$$

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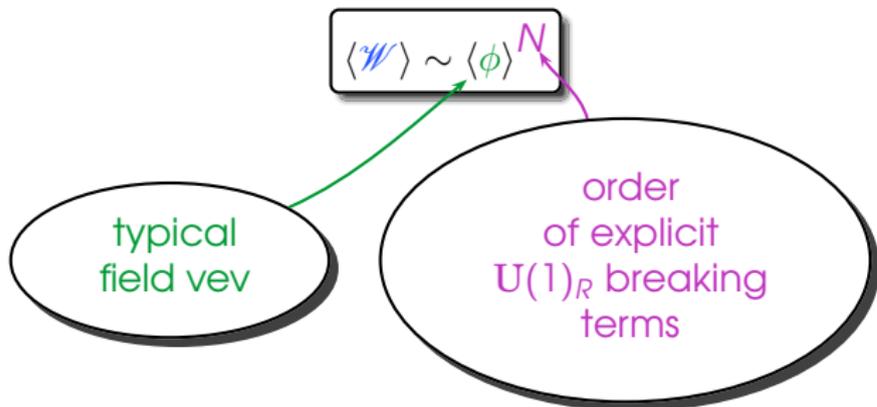
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- 2 for an **approximate  $R$  symmetries**



$$\langle \mathcal{W} \rangle = 0 \text{ because of } \mathbb{U}(1)_R \quad (I)$$

**aim:** show that

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Consider a superpotential

$$\mathcal{W} = \sum c_{n_1 \dots n_M} \phi_1^{n_1} \dots \phi_M^{n_M}$$

with an exact  $R$ -symmetry

$$\mathcal{W} \rightarrow e^{2i\alpha} \mathcal{W}, \quad \phi_j \rightarrow \phi'_j = e^{i r_j \alpha} \phi_j$$

where each monomial in  $\mathcal{W}$  has total  $R$ -charge 2

$$\langle \mathcal{W} \rangle = 0 \text{ because of } \mathbf{U}(1)_R \quad (\text{II})$$

Consider a field configuration  $\langle \phi_i \rangle$  with

$$F_i = \frac{\partial \mathcal{W}}{\partial \phi_i} = 0 \quad \text{at } \phi_j = \langle \phi_j \rangle$$

Under an infinitesimal  $\mathbf{U}(1)_R$  transformation, the superpotential transforms nontrivially

$$\mathcal{W}(\phi_j) \rightarrow \mathcal{W}(\phi'_j) = \mathcal{W}(\phi_j) + \sum_i \frac{\partial \mathcal{W}}{\partial \phi_i} \Delta \phi_i$$

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This is only possible if  $\langle \mathcal{W} \rangle = 0$ !

**bottom-line:**

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial \mathcal{W}}{\partial \phi_i} = 0} \quad \curvearrowright \quad \boxed{\langle \mathcal{W} \rangle = 0}$$

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Nelson & Seiberg (1994)

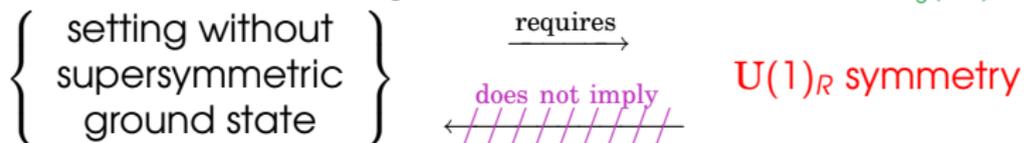
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{setting without} \\ \text{supersymmetric} \\ \text{ground state} \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow{\text{requires}} U(1)_R \text{ symmetry}$$

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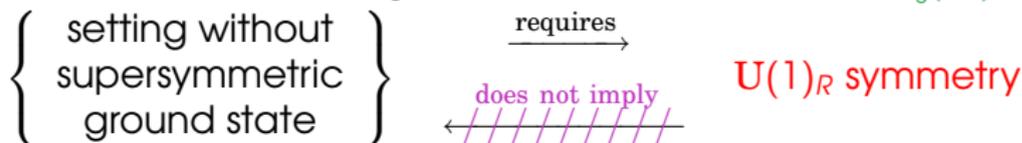


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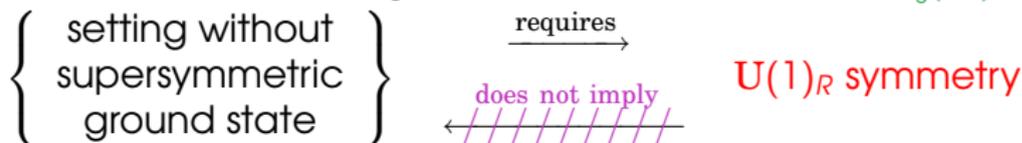
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- 4 in 'no-scale' type settings

solutions of  
global SUSY  
 $F$  term eq.'s

=

stationary points  
of supergravity  
scalar potential

Weinberg (1989)

# Approximate $R$ symmetries

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- ☞ This allows us to avoid certain problems:
  - for a continuous  **$U(1)_R$  symmetry** we would have
    - a supersymmetric ground state with  $\langle \mathcal{W} \rangle = 0$  and  **$U(1)_R$**  spontaneously broken
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☞ Such **approximate  $U(1)_R$  symmetries** can be a consequence of **discrete  $\mathbb{Z}_N^R$  symmetries**

**Explicit  
string theory  
realization**

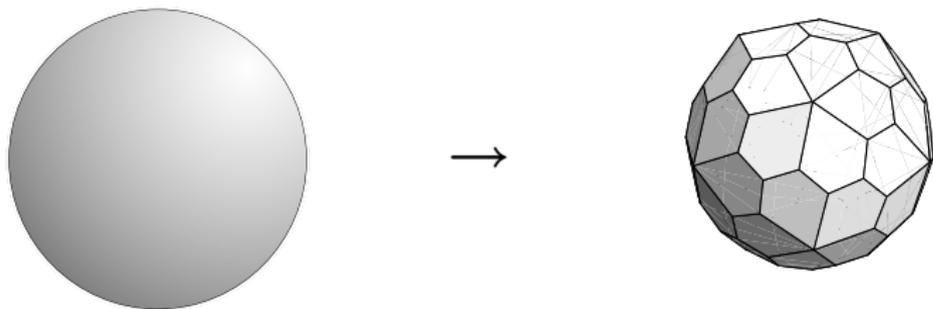
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- Orbifolds break  $SO(6) \simeq SU(4)$  Lorentz symmetry of compact space to discrete subgroups
- For example, in  $\mathbb{Z}_6$ -II orbifolds one has

$$G_R = [\mathbb{Z}_6 \times \mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_2]_R$$

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= potentially realistic string derived models with nice features:
  - **MSSM spectrum** with **one Higgs pair**
  - potentially realistic flavor structure, see-saw,  $R$  parity, ...
  - many standard model singlets  $S_i$

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- ☞ In a large subset of the mini-landscape models, there is a correlation between the MSSM  $\mu$  term and  $\langle \mathcal{W} \rangle$

$$\mu \sim \langle \mathcal{W} \rangle$$

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### bottom-line:

straightforward embedding in heterotic orbifolds

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approximate  
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## bottom-line:

- dilaton fixed
- true origin of hierarchically small  $m_{3/2} (\sim m_W)$ :  
approximate  $R$  symmetry

**Summary**

**&**

**outlook**

# Summary & outlook

- ☞ **Approximate  $R$  symmetries** can explain a **suppressed expectation value of the perturbative superpotential**

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order of  ~~$U(1)_R$~~

typical VEV

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**Bardzo**

**Dziękuję!**

**'Appendix'**

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☞ **question:** is the dilaton fixed at realistic values?

# Hidden sector strong dynamics

- ☞ Relation between  $m_{3/2} \ll M_{\text{P}}$  and the scale of hidden sector strong dynamics

$$G = G_{\text{SM}} \times G_4$$

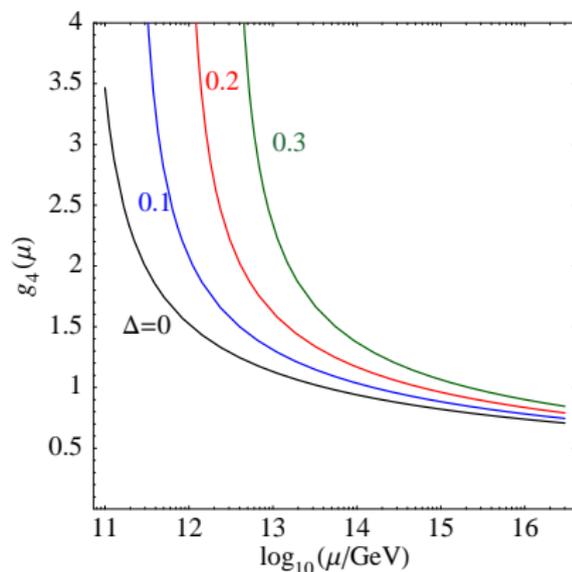
$$m_{3/2} \simeq \frac{\Lambda^3}{M_{\text{P}}^2}$$

gravitino mass

scale of hidden sector strong dynamics

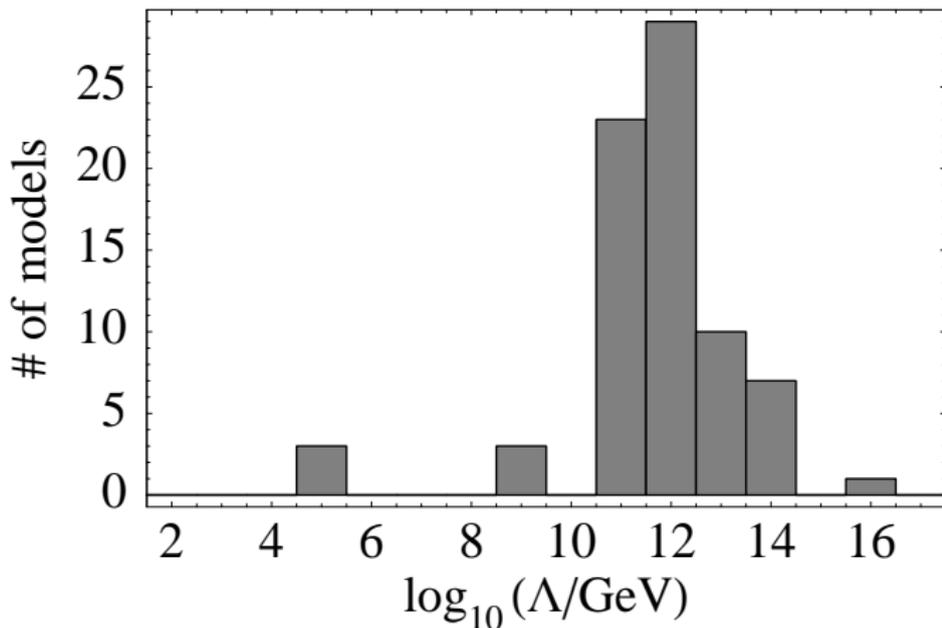
# Hidden sector strong dynamics

- Relation between  $m_{3/2} \ll M_{\text{P}}$  and the scale of hidden sector strong dynamics
- We *estimate* the scale of hidden sector strong dynamics (i.e. calculate the  $\beta$ -function)



# Properties of the hidden sector

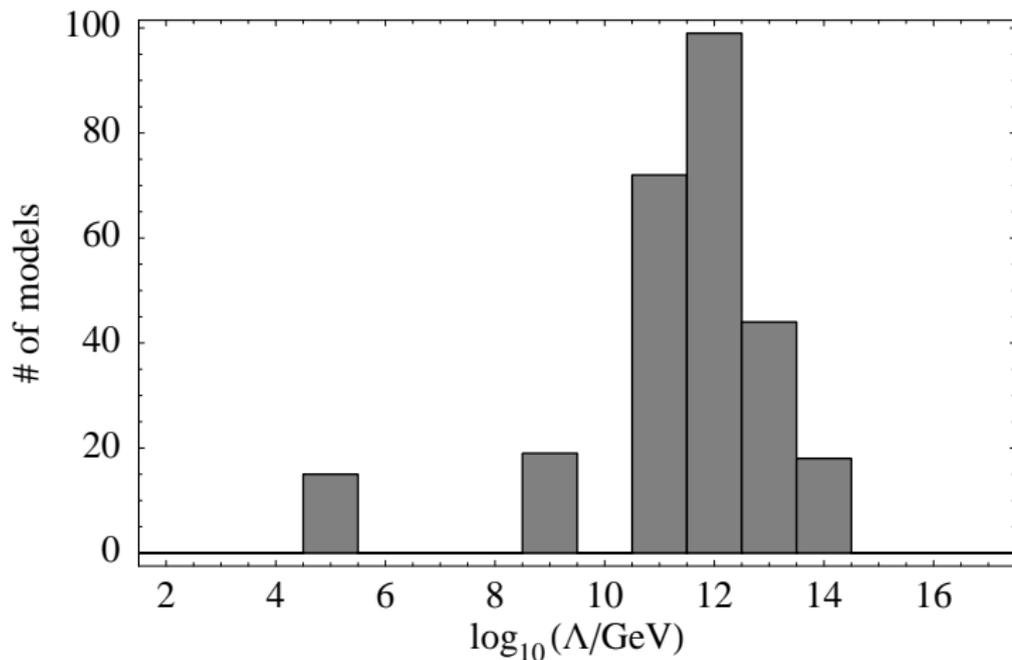
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2 Wilson line case

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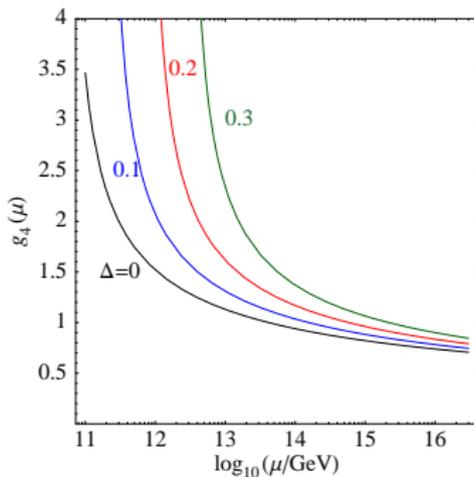
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2+3 Wilson line case (heavy top)

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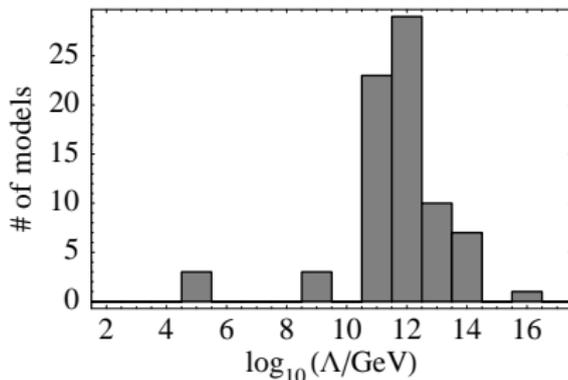
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## bottom-line:

statistical preference for intermediate scale of condensation / a realistic gauge coupling