
Metastable SUSY breaking: Predicting the end of the Universe

Joerg Jaeckel*

Steven Abel*, Callum Durnford*,
John Ellis^x, Valya Khoze*

*IPPP Durham, ^xCERN

In Memory of...

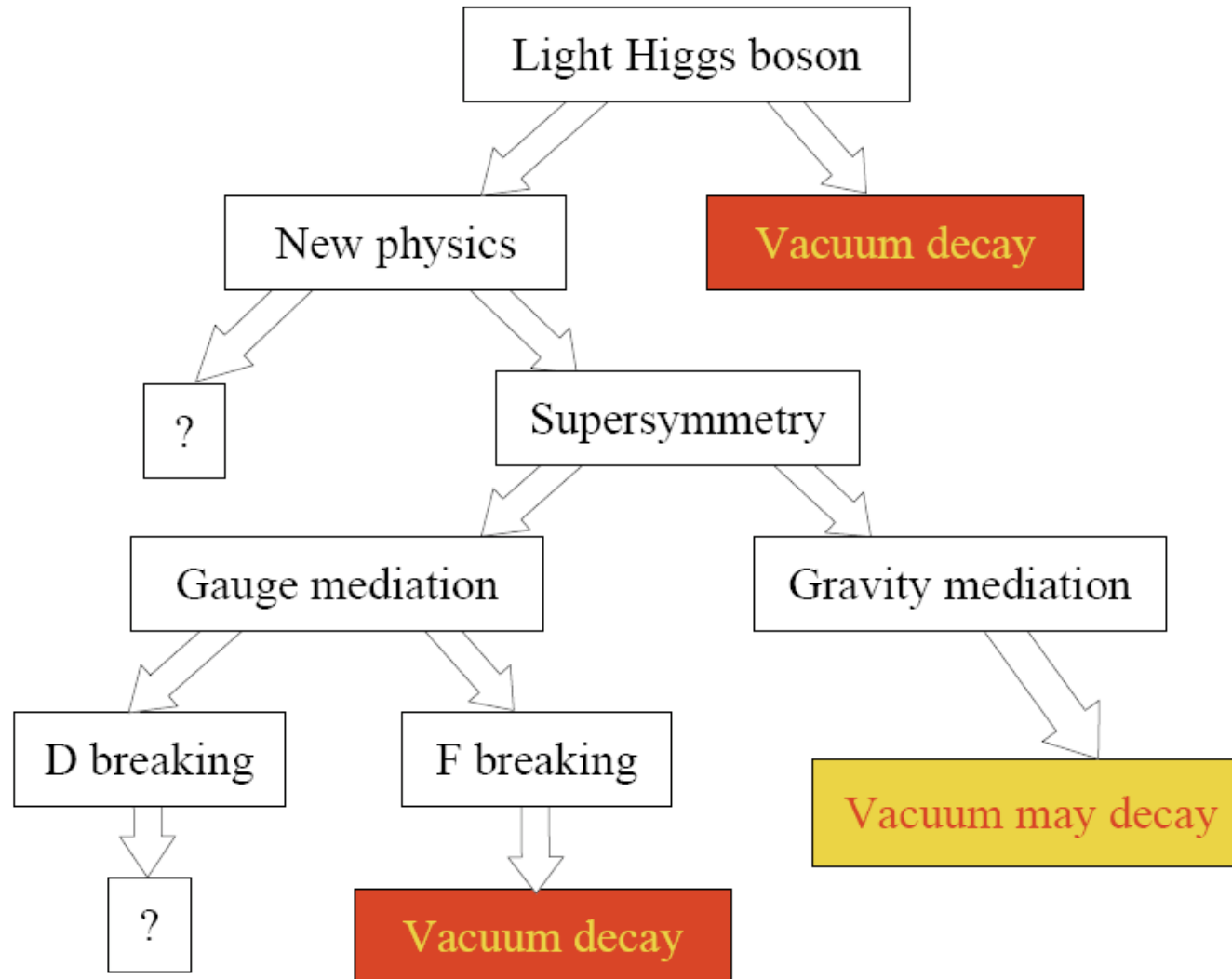
GEORGE D.D.
In Memory of ANN the
Wife of WILKINSON
MOWBRAY of the Parish of
SAINT NICHOLAS
who Died April 11th 1809
AGED 62 YEARS
also
of THOMAS MOWBRAY their Son
who died on the 10th of April 1812 aged
27 years

1809

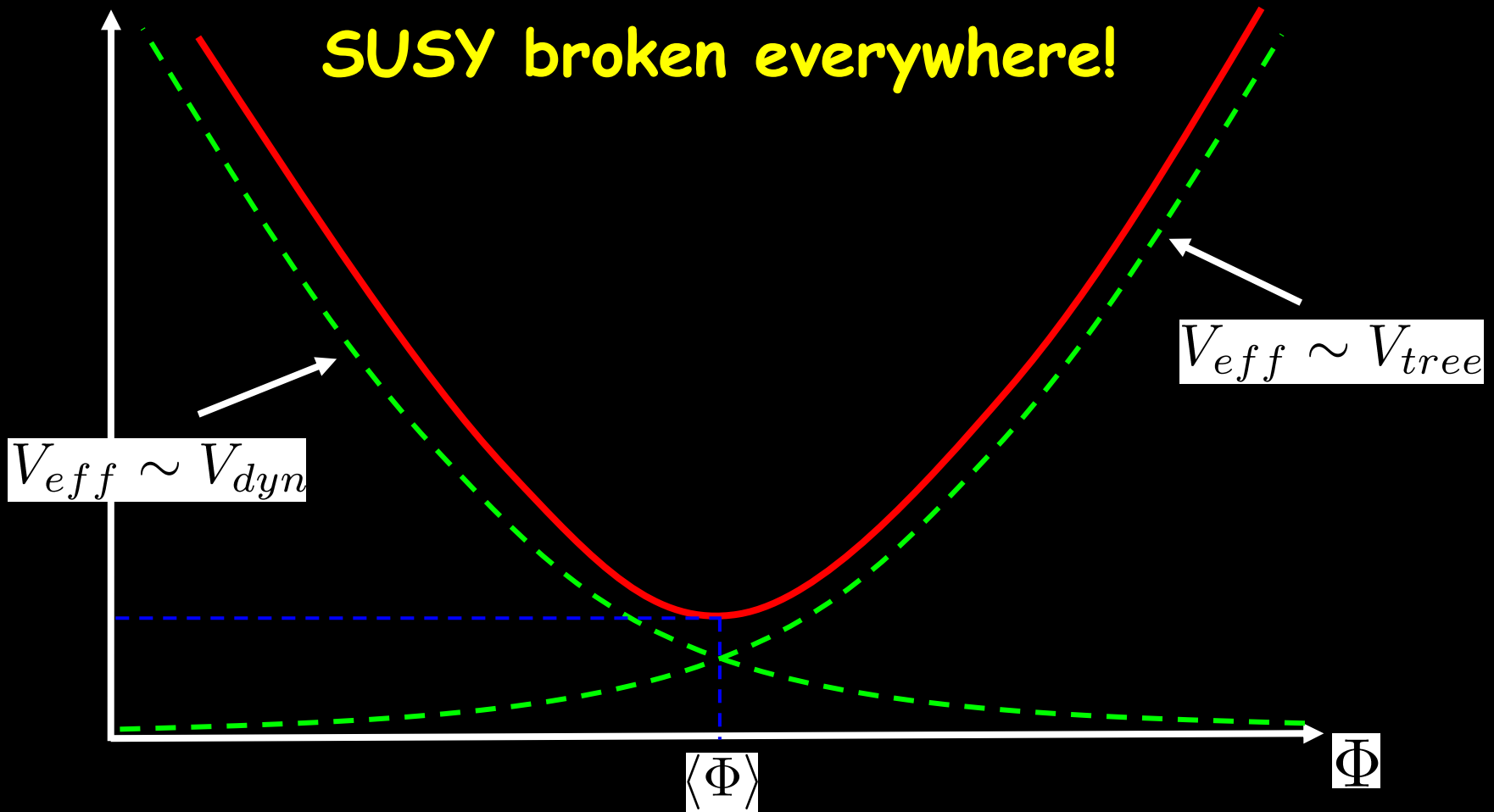
Prepare to follow.

1. Introduction

The LHC as a crystal ball for the fate of the Universe.



Conventional picture of SUSY breaking



Metastability hard to avoid!

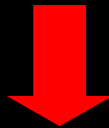
- We consider low scale SUSY breaking;

$$M_{\text{SUSY}} < 10^{11} \text{ GeV}$$

i.e. non-gravity mediated.

- Theorem (Nelson Seiberg):

SUSY breaking requires R-symmetry

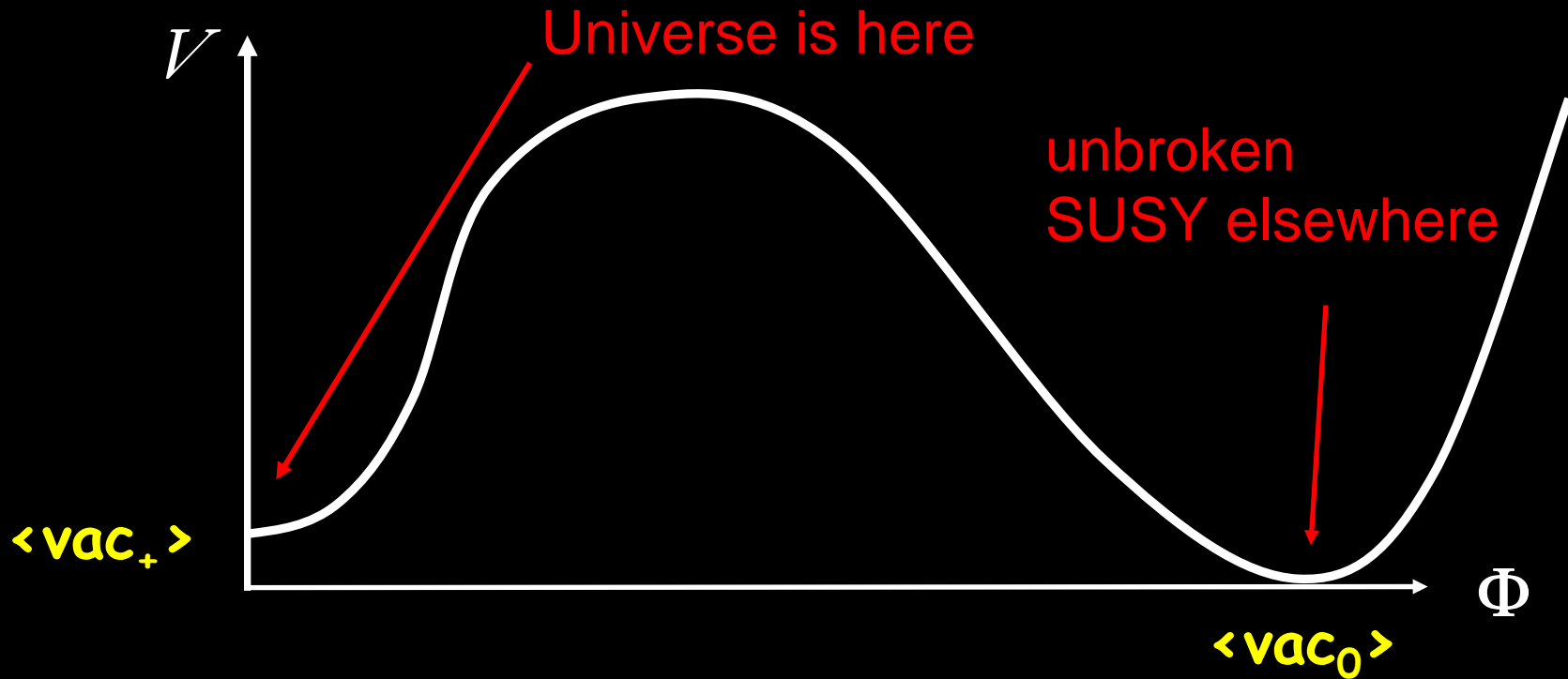


Massless gauginos or
Massless R-axion



Both phenomenologically unacceptable!

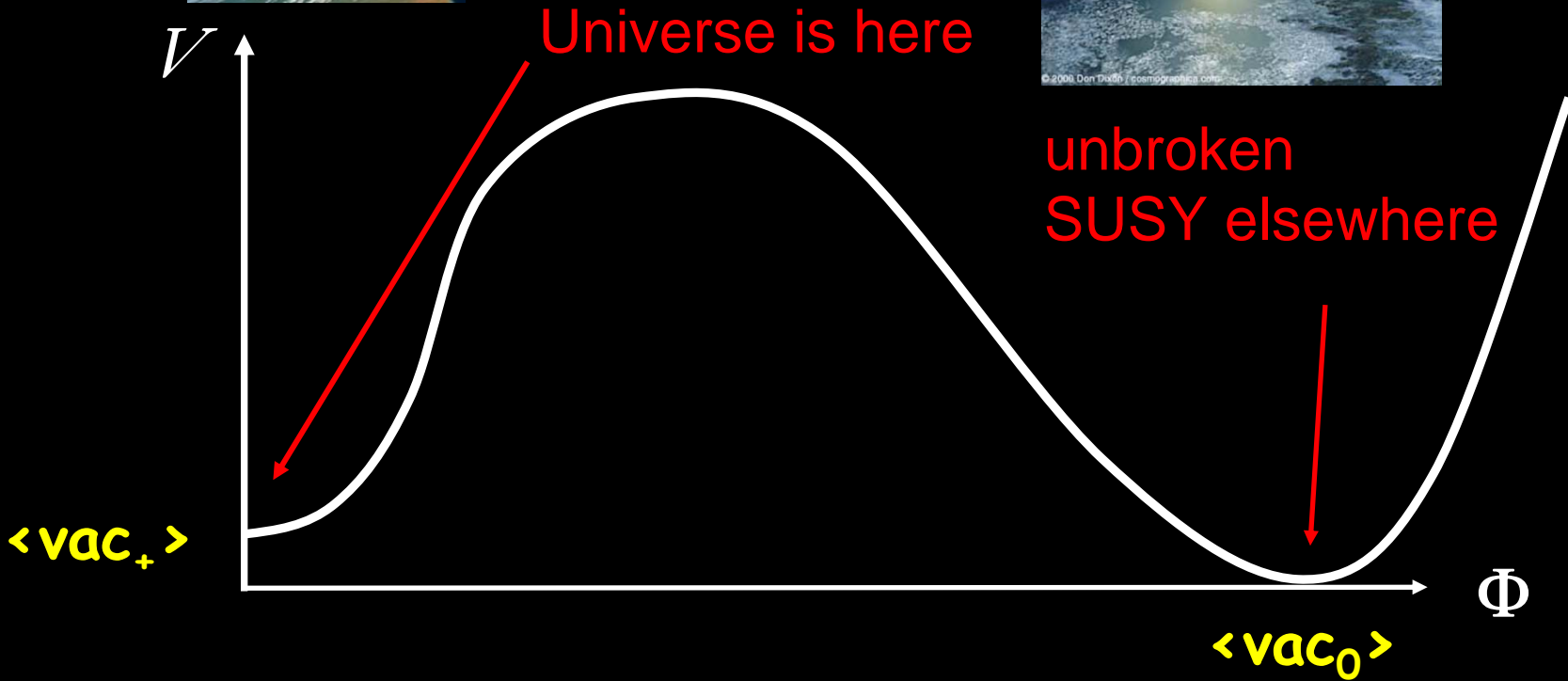
ISS picture of meta-stable SUSY breaking



➡ Many constraints do not apply!!!

➡ Successful Model Building!

ISS picture of meta-stable SUSY breaking



- Does the metastable vacuum live long enough?
 - Why should we end up in this vacuum??
-

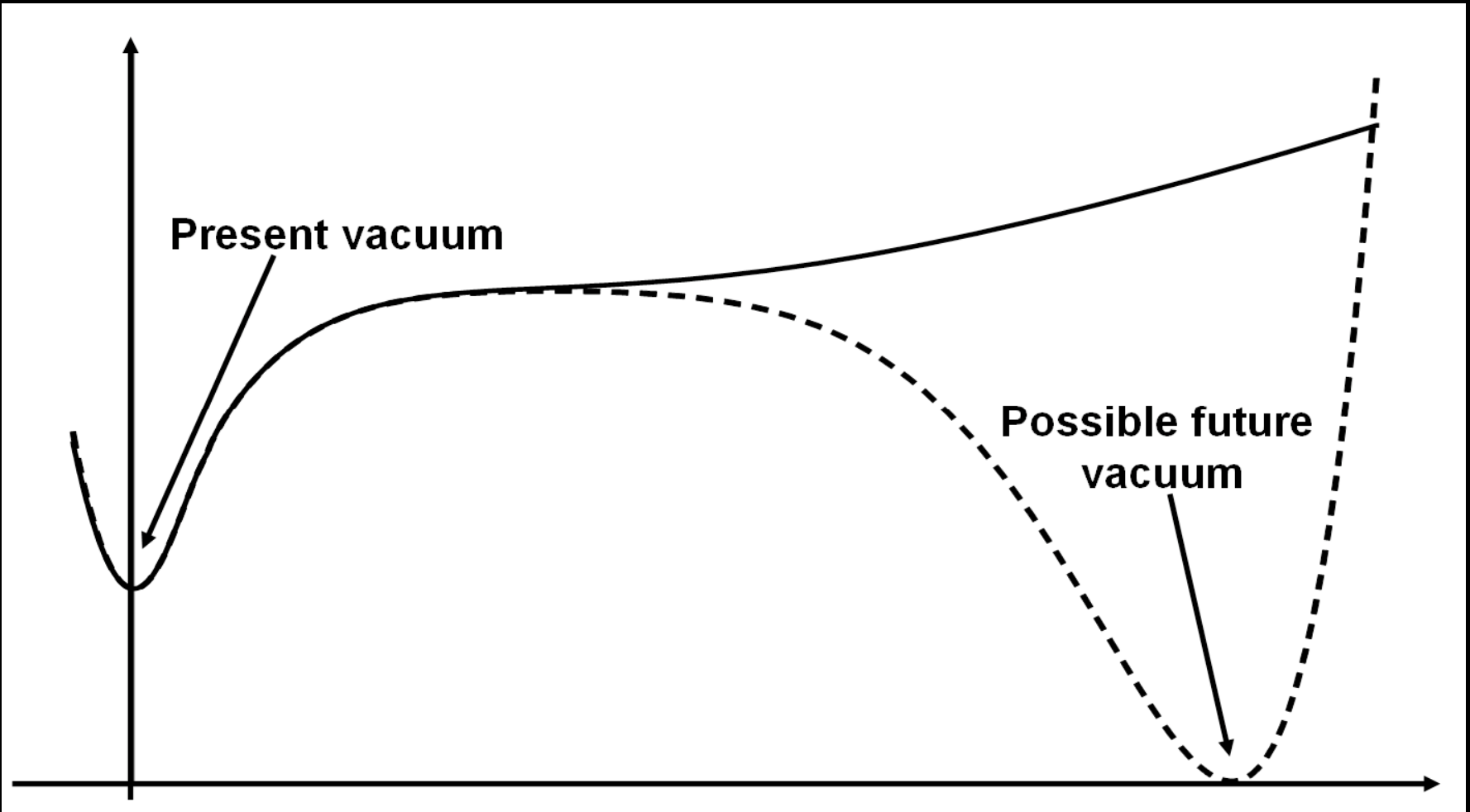
- Realistic models



- "Mediate" SUSY (and R) breaking to the SM!

Testing in the lab?

- Can we tell about metastability?



2. The ISS model

The ISS Model:

N=1 SQCD with massive Quarks

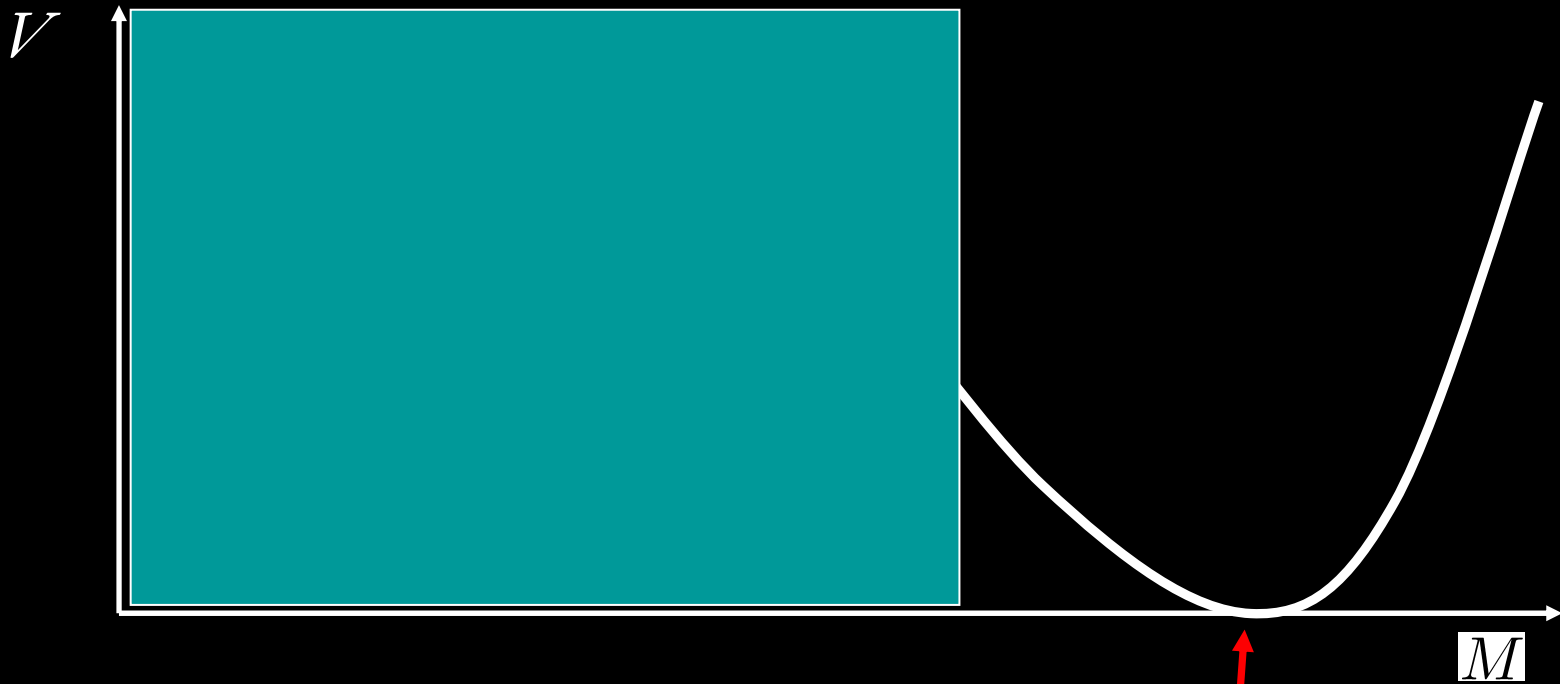
	$SU(N_c)_{\text{gauge}}$	$SU(N_f)$	$SU(N_f)$
Q	N_c	N_f	1
\tilde{Q}	\overline{N}_c	1	\overline{N}_f
$\Phi \sim M = Q\tilde{Q}$	1	N_f	\overline{N}_f

$$W_{\text{tree}} = \text{Tr } m Q \tilde{Q} = m \text{Tr } M = h \mu^2 \text{Tr } \Phi$$

This is a massive vector-like theory, thus it has

$$\text{Tr } (-1)^F = N_c \text{ supersymmetric vacua}$$

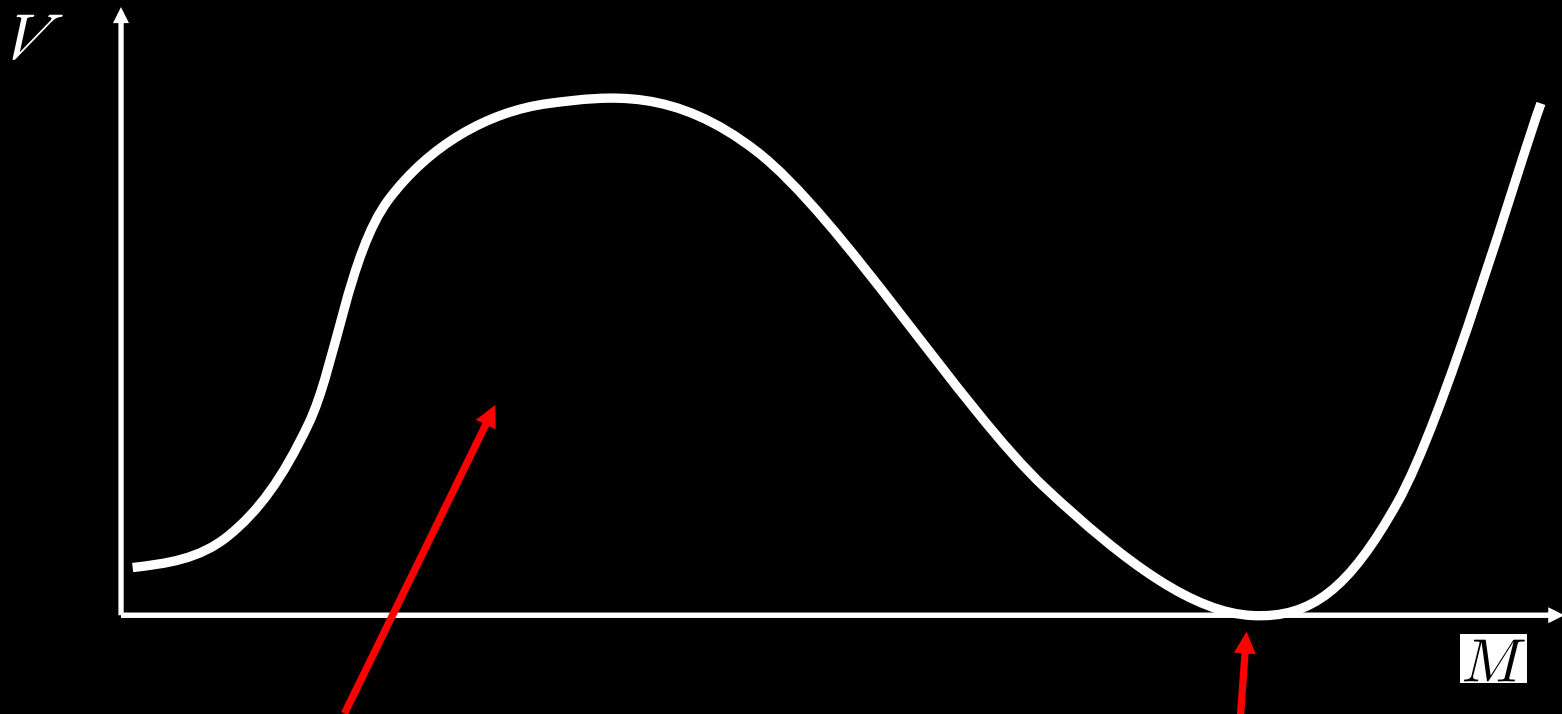
Effective potential of SQCD



N_c SUSY vacua

$$\langle M \rangle \sim (\Lambda^{3N_c - N_f} m^{N_f - N_c})^{1/N_c}$$

Effective potential of SQCD



Potential near the origin
can be uncovered using
Seiberg duality

N_c SUSY vacua

$$\langle M \rangle \sim (\Lambda^{3N_c - N_f} m^{N_f - N_c})^{1/N_c}$$

Seiberg duality sounds fancy...

- ... but it is basically the same as a pion description of low energy QCD
 - Weakly coupled theory using the 'right' degrees of freedom
-

Seiberg Duality

**Microscopic:
(electric)**

$$W_{cl} = m \text{Tr} Q \tilde{Q}$$

	$SU(N_c)_{\text{gauge}}$	$SU(N_f)$	$SU(N_f)$
Q	N_c	N_f	1
\tilde{Q}	\overline{N}_c	1	\overline{N}_f

Electric

$$SU(N_c)$$

$$\Lambda_L$$

Magnetic

$$SU(N_f - N_c)$$

**Macroscopic:
(magnetic)**

$$W_{cl} = h \text{Tr} \varphi \Phi \tilde{\varphi} + h \mu^2 \text{Tr} \Phi$$

	$SU(N_f - N_c)_{\text{gauge}}$	$SU(N_f)$	$SU(N_f)$
φ	$N_f - N_c$	N_f	1
$\tilde{\varphi}$	$\overline{N}_f - \overline{N}_c$	1	\overline{N}_f
Φ	1	\overline{N}_f	N_f

Classically: Different gauge theories

Quantum: Describe the same physics in the IR.

From now on: macroscopic theory

We take $N_c + 1 < N_f \leq \frac{3}{2}N_c$ where
the magnetic theory is IR free

	$SU(N)_{\text{gauge}}$	$SU(N_f)$	$SU(N_f)$	$N_f > 3N$
φ	N	N_f	1	$N := N_f - N_c$
$\tilde{\varphi}$	\overline{N}	1	\overline{N}_f	
Φ	1	\overline{N}_f	N_f	

$$e^{-8\pi^2/g^2(E)} = \left(\frac{E}{\Lambda_L}\right)^{-b_0}$$

$$b_0 = 3N - N_f < 0$$

- β -function is positive,
- the theory is free in the IR and
- strongly coupled in the UV
- develops a Landau pole at scale Λ_L

Minimal model

- Smallest N_f, N_c ?

$$N_c + 1 < N_f \leq \frac{3}{2}N_c$$



$$N_f = 7, N_c = 5$$

electric/UV

$$N_f = 7, N_c = 2$$

magnetic/IR

ISS model: Macroscopic theory

- Tree-level superpotential

$$W_{\text{cl}} = h \text{Tr} \varphi \Phi \tilde{\varphi} - h \text{Tr}(\mu^2 \Phi)$$

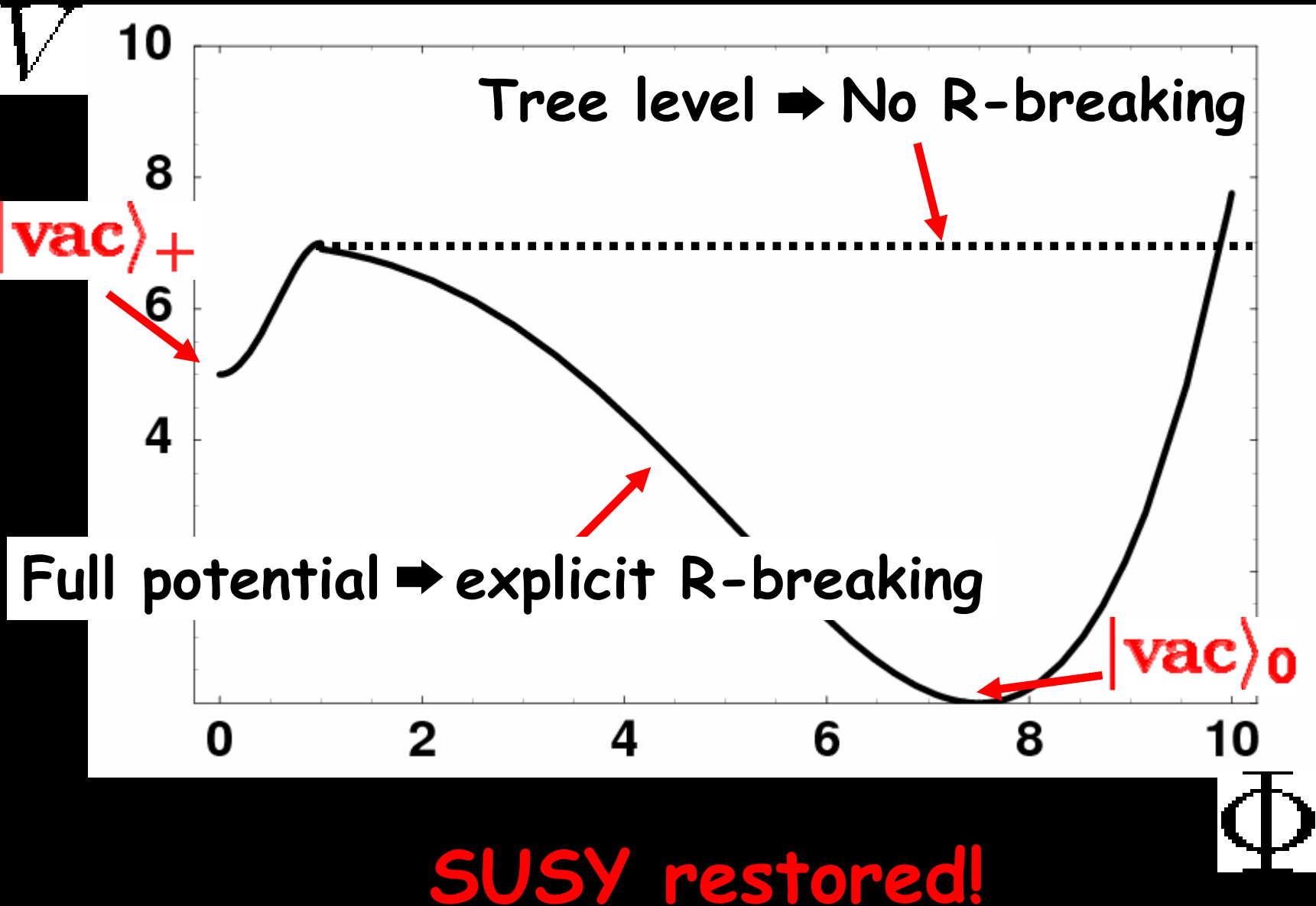
No corrections in perturbation theory!

- Full superpotential: $W = W_{\text{cl}} + W_{\text{dyn}}$
- With the exact dynamical superpotential

$$W_{\text{dyn}} = N \left(h^{N_f} \frac{\det \Phi}{\Lambda_L^{N_f - 3N}} \right)^{\frac{1}{N}}$$

Breaks R-symmetry explicitly!

Nelson Seiberg @ work



Doomsday?

- Lifetime of the metastable state

Transition rate: $\frac{\Gamma_4}{V_4} \sim \exp(-S_4)$

$$S_4 = 2\pi^2 \int dr r^3 \left(\frac{1}{2} Tr \left(\frac{d\Phi}{dr} \right)^2 + V_{T=0}(\Phi(r)) \right)$$
$$\approx \frac{2\pi^2 N^3}{3h^2 N_f^2} \left(\frac{\Phi_0}{\mu} \right)^4$$

Our survival requires:

$$S_4 \gtrsim 400$$



$$\left(\frac{\Phi_0}{\mu} \right) > 3\sqrt{h} \left(\frac{N_f^2}{N^3} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \sim 3 - 4$$

Our survival is easy to ensure!

3. Cosmology

-

Getting to the metastable
vacuum

Question:

Why did the Universe start from the non-supersymmetric vacuum in the first place ?
Our answer: thermal effects drive the Universe to the susy-breaking vacuum even if it starts after inflation in the susy-preserving one.

This happens for a large class of models that satisfy:

1. All fields of the theory (MSB, MSSM, messengers) are in thermal equilibrium. True for gauge mediation, direct mediation, and visible sector breaking.
(Excludes gravity-mediation.)
 2. SUSY preserving $\langle \text{vac}_0 \rangle$ contains fewer light fields than the meta-stable $\langle \text{vac}_+ \rangle$.
-

Thermal effective potential

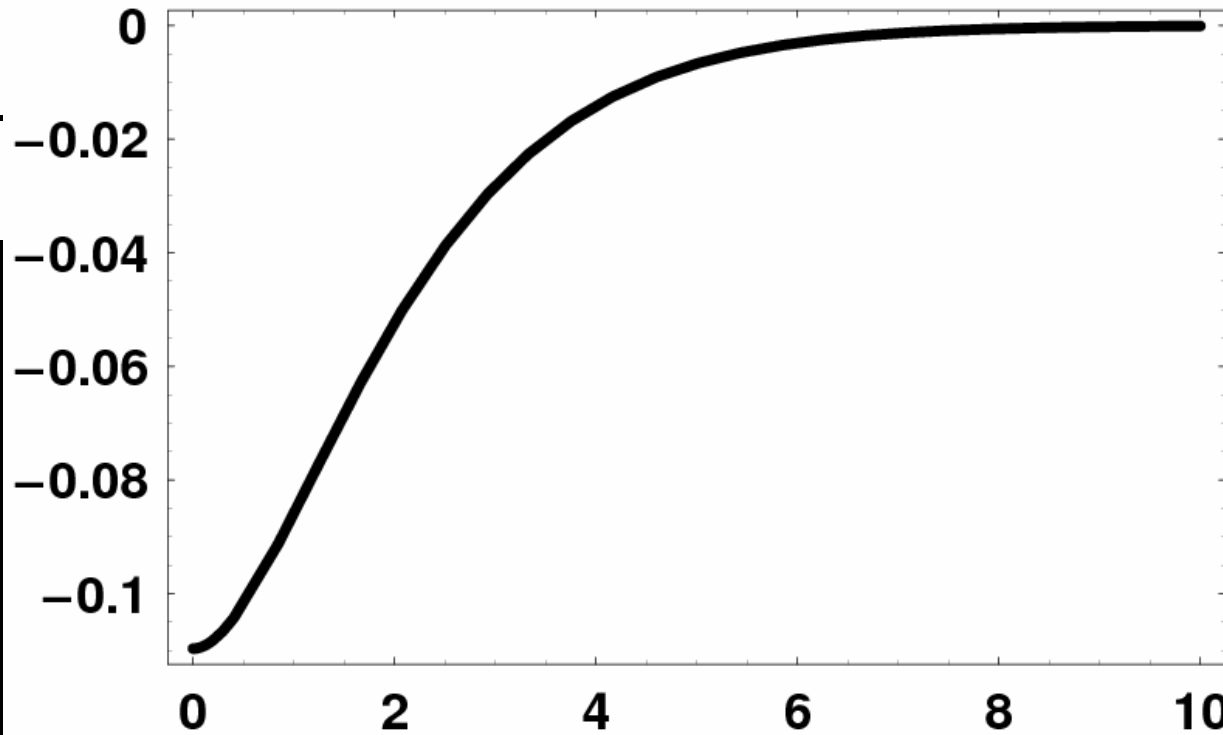
$$V_T(\Phi) = V_{T=0}(\Phi) + \frac{T^4}{2\pi^2} \sum_i \pm n_i \int_0^\infty dq q^2 \ln \left(1 \mp \exp(-\sqrt{q^2 + m_i^2(\Phi)}/T) \right)$$

- 1-loop expression (Dolan-Jackiw).
- n_i are the numbers of degrees of freedom (+ corresponds to bosons; - to fermions.)
- $m_i^2(\Phi)$ are their masses as functions of $\langle \Phi \rangle$.
- Φ -dependence in the thermal correction is only through $m_i^2(\Phi)$
- We are talking about free energy!

$$F = E - TS$$

Thermal effective Potential

$$\frac{\Delta V_T}{T^4}$$

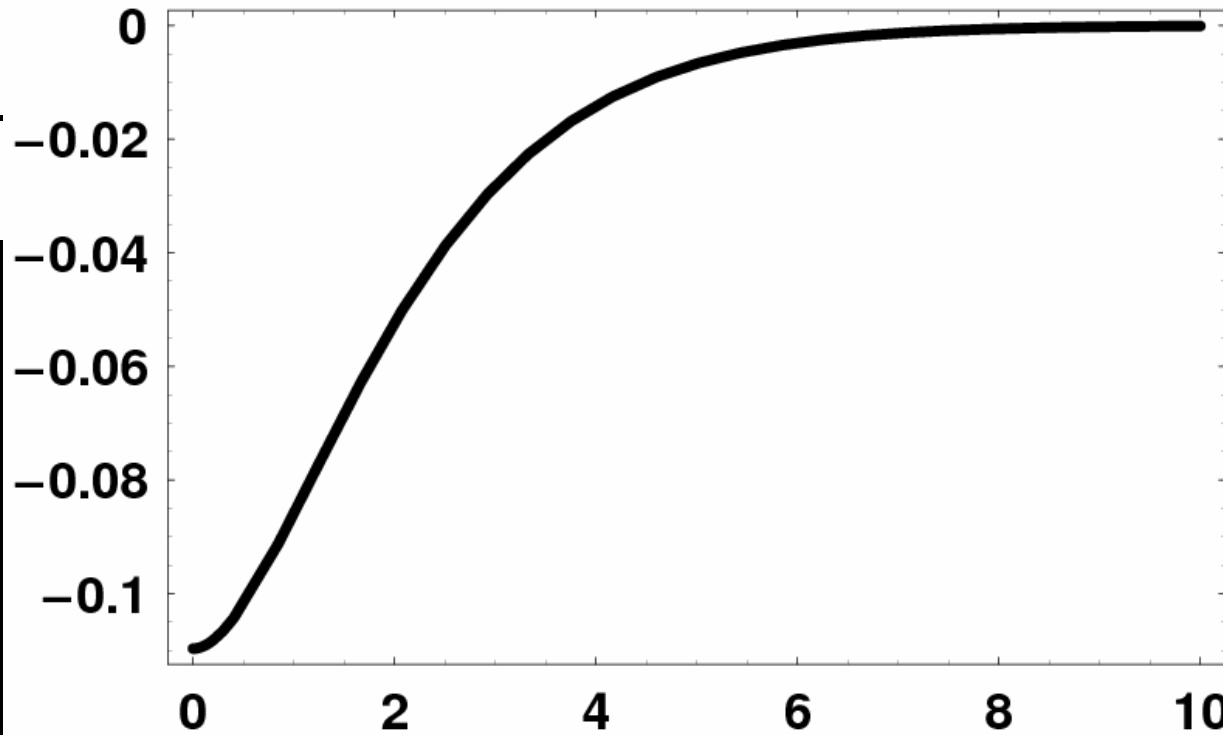


$$\Delta V_T(m = 0) = \frac{\pi^2}{90} \begin{cases} 1 & \text{bosons} \\ 7/8 & \text{fermions} \end{cases}$$

$$\Delta V_T(m \gg T) \approx 0$$

Thermal effective Potential

$$\frac{\Delta V_T}{T^4}$$



$$\frac{m}{T}$$

Preference of the SUSY breaking vacuum at high T arises because the SUSY breaking vacuum has more light d.o.f.!

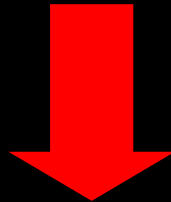
Particles get more massive with Φ

- Quark masses:

$$m_{\psi} \sim \Phi$$

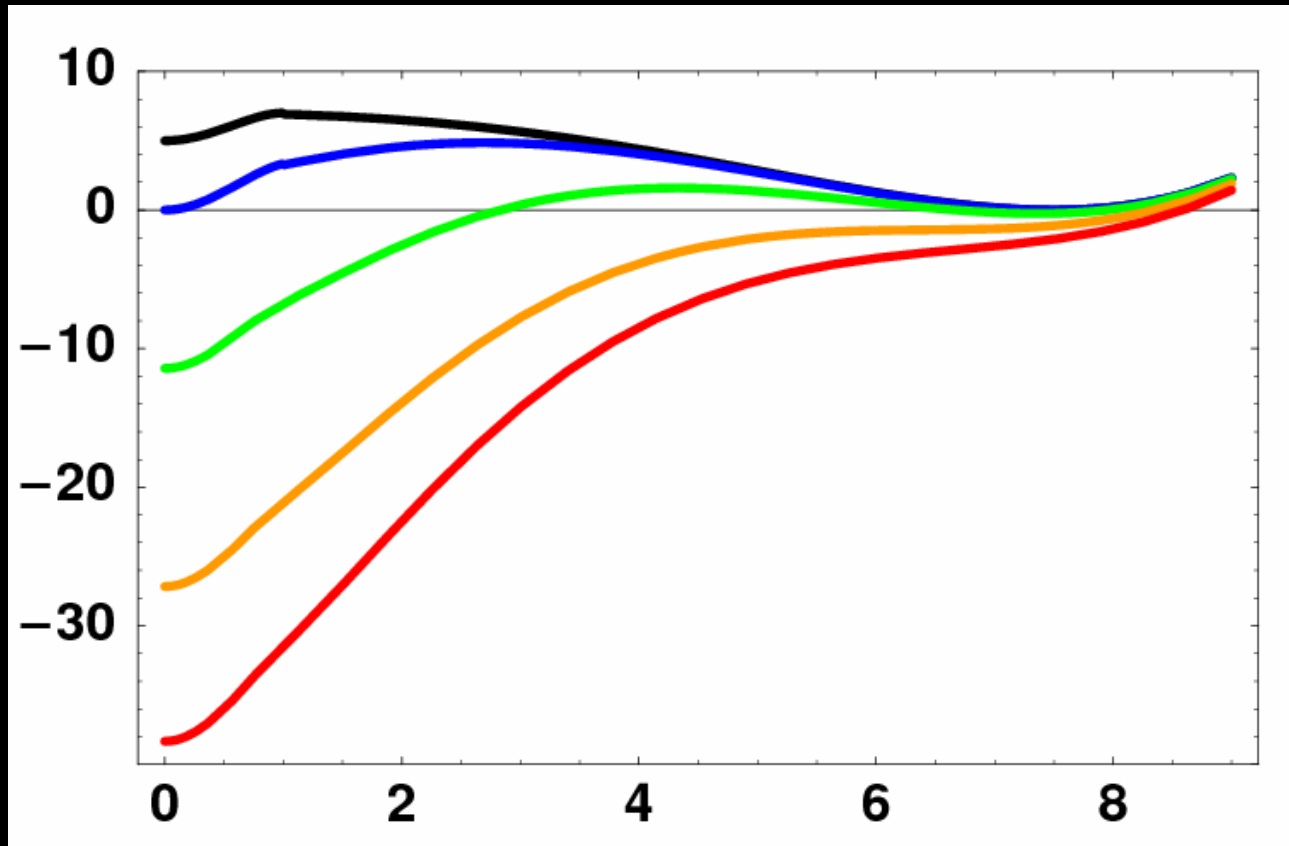
- Gluon masses:

$$m_{\text{gauge}}(\Phi) \sim \Phi^{\frac{1}{3}}$$



Particles are more massive at large Φ !

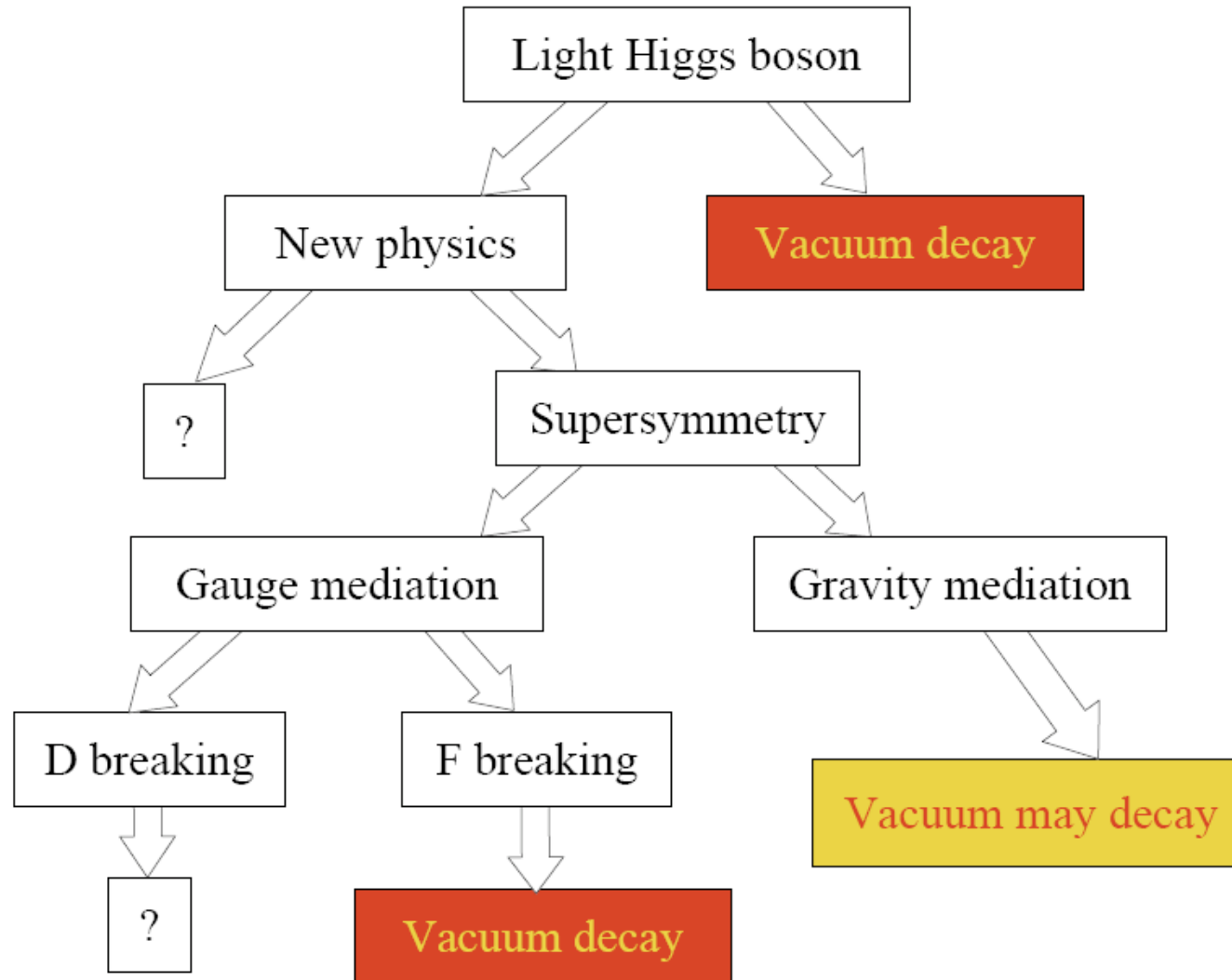
Thermal effect of magnetic quarks



No SUSY preserving Minimum $T > T_{\text{crit}}!$

4. 'Detecting' Metastability

The LHC as a crystal ball for the fate of the Universe.

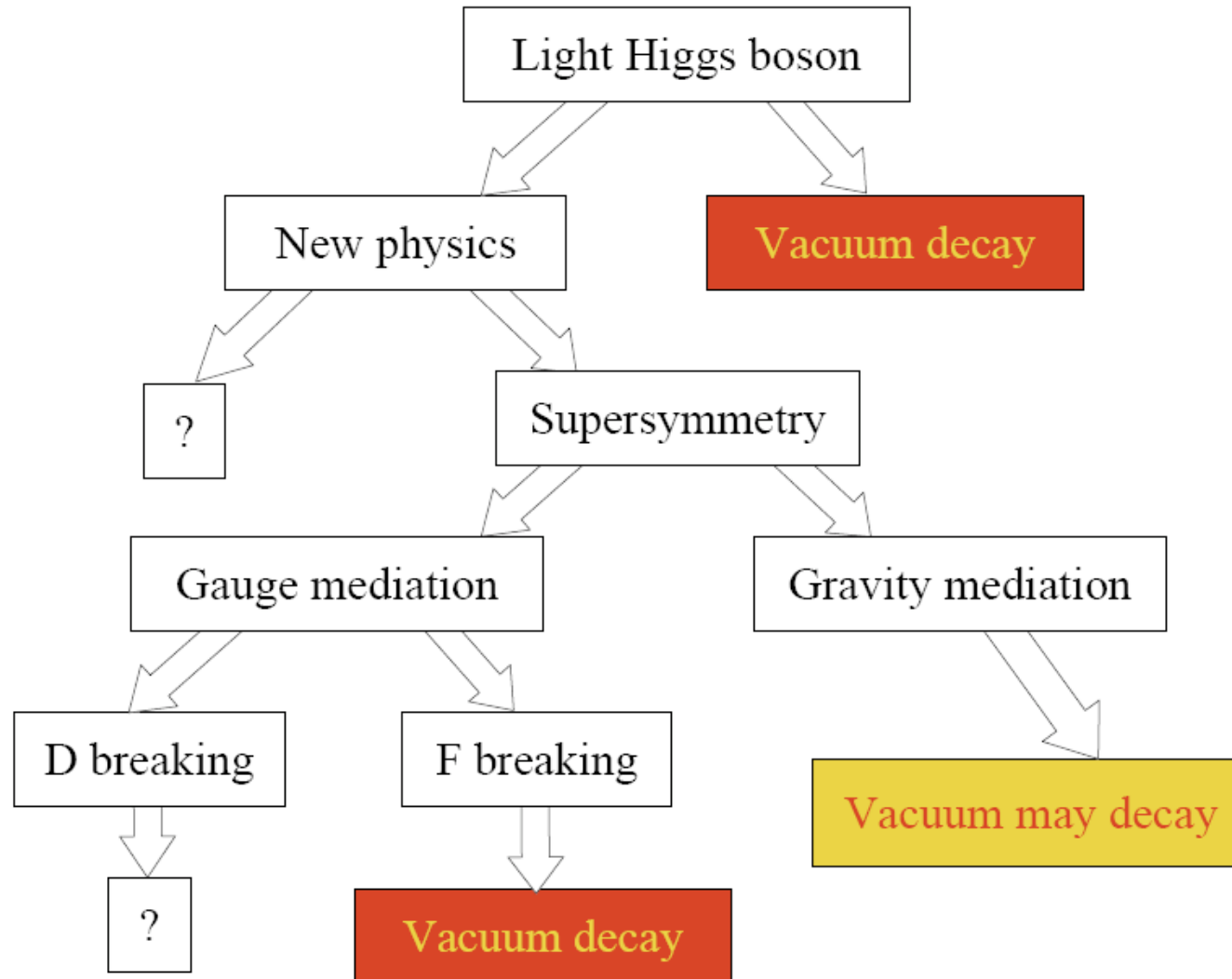


Gauge or gravity mediation?

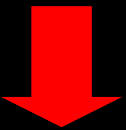
Signatures for gauge mediation:

- Light gravitino!
If NLSP decays within detector into gravitino we have a `smoking gun'
 - Gaugino and sfermion masses scale with gauge couplings → peculiar mass pattern!
E.g. squarks heavier than sleptons!
-

The LHC as a crystal ball for the fate of the Universe.



D- or F-term?

- More difficult.
 - Most D-term models have phenomenological problems (negative sfermion mass squareds).
or are in calculable (strong coupling etc.)

 - Theoretically F-term preferred.
-

5. Conclusions

Conclusions

- For `non-gravity' SUSY breaking metastability is nearly unavoidable
 - Long lived metastable vacua can be realised
 - In the early universe high temperatures typically favor the metastable state
 - the universe automatically ends in the metastable vacuum
 - Good chances to tell from future accelerators whether gauge mediation is realised. Then metastability is nearly unavoidable!
-

The End of the World is Nigh!



Conclusions

- For 'non-gravity' SUSY breaking metastability is nearly unavoidable
- Long lived metastable vacua can be realised
- In the early universe high temperatures typically favor the metastable state
- the universe automatically ends in the metastable vacuum
- Good chances to tell from future accelerators whether gauge mediation is realised. Then metastability is nearly unavoidable!

→ The End of the World is Nigh!



Conclusions

- For 'non-gravity' SUSY breaking metastability is nearly unavoidable
- Long lived metastable vacua can be realised
- In the early universe high temperatures typically favor the metastable state
- the universe automatically ends in the metastable vacuum
- Good chances to tell from future accelerators whether gauge mediation is realised. Then metastability is nearly unavoidable!

→ We are doomed!



Conclusions

- Metastable *SUSY* breaking allows for simple calculable models.
- In the early universe high temperatures typically favor the metastable state
→ the universe automatically ends in the metastable vacuum
- Knowledge of the *SUSY* breaking sector allows and is necessary for predictions of the mass spectrum.



- 1. Introduction
 - 2. The ISS model
 - 3. Cosmology -
Getting to the metastable vacuum
 - 4. Coupling to the SM -
“Predictions” for accelerators
 - 5. Conclusions
-

Corrections?

- Theory is weakly coupled in the IR



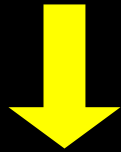
we can use canonical Kähler potential

$$K = \varphi\bar{\varphi} + \tilde{\varphi}\tilde{\varphi} + \Phi\bar{\Phi}$$

SUSY breaking at tree level!

- Tree-level superpotential

$$W_{cl} = h\varphi_i^a \Phi_j^i \tilde{\varphi}_a^j - h\mu^2 \delta_i^j \Phi_j^i$$



$$F_{\Phi_j^i} = h \left(\varphi_i^a \tilde{\varphi}_a^j - \mu^2 \delta_i^j \right) \neq 0$$

SUSY breaking because $\varphi_i^a \tilde{\varphi}_a^j$ has

Rank $N = N_f - N_c < N_f!$

Rank condition!

The metastable vacuum $\langle \text{vac} \rangle_+$

- The SUSY breaking vacuum becomes the metastable vacuum of the full theory!

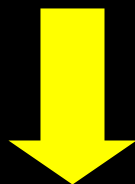
$$\langle \varphi \rangle = \langle \tilde{\varphi}^T \rangle = \mu \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1}_N \\ 0_{N_f - N} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \langle \Phi \rangle = 0, \quad V_+ = (N_f - N) |h^2 \mu^4|$$

- ~~SUSY~~ because $V_+ > 0$
 - Classically stable, i.e. no tachyonic directions
 - Gauge group is Higgsed $m_\gamma = g\mu$
-

Dynamical SUSY restoration

- We still need the N_c vacua required by the Witten index! \Rightarrow study full superpotential

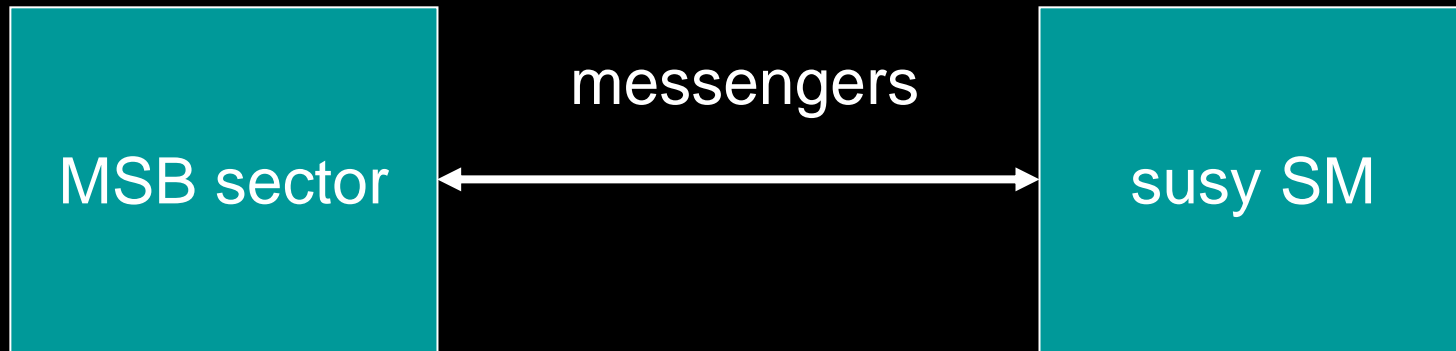
$$\varphi(\sigma) = \tilde{\varphi}^T(\sigma) = \sigma\mu \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1}_N \\ 0_{N_f-N} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Phi(\gamma) = \gamma\mu\mathbb{1}_{N_f}$$



$$\frac{1}{|h^2\mu^4|} V_{\text{eff}}(\sigma(\gamma), \gamma) = \begin{cases} N_f - N + 2N\gamma^2(1 - \gamma^2) & 0 \leq \gamma \leq 1 \\ N_f \left(\left(\frac{\gamma}{\gamma_0} \right)^{\frac{N_f-N}{N}} - 1 \right)^2 & 1 \leq \gamma \end{cases}$$

**Dynamical (nonperturbative)
contribution to the potential**

- **Realistic models**



- **We need to “mediate” SUSY breaking to the SM!**
 - **We need to get gaugino masses (broken R-symmetry)**
-

R-Symmetry

- Symmetry where fermions and bosons of the same SUSY multiplet transform differently!
- $U(1)_R$: Superpotential W has charge 2!
(under non-R-symmetries W is invariant!)
- Gauginos have R-charge 1:
 - Charged fermions cannot have Majorana masses!!

 R-symmetry forbids gaugino masses!

 Big Problem!

R-symmetry vs. SUSY breaking

- Theorem (Nelson-Seiberg):
Generic potential with SUSY breaking in
global minimum

→ R-Symmetry

→ Massless gaugino or
Massless Goldstone boson (R-axion)

Metastability evades this theorem
SUSY breaking in a local minimum!



R-Symmetry: ISS model

- ISS model has accidental approximate R-symmetry in metastable minimum



 We need to deform the model!

- Large explicit R-symmetry breaking is bad because it destabilises metastable vacuum!
-

R-symmetry: Solution.

- Deform ISS such that we have a (large) **spontaneous R-symmetry breaking**

 **Gaugino masses**

**R-axion is massive and therefore harmless
Because R-symmetry was only approximate**



Baryon deformed ISS

- Take $N_f=7$, $N_c=5$, $N=2$ ISS and add a baryon to the superpotential

$$W_{\text{cl}} = h \text{Tr} \varphi \Phi \tilde{\varphi} - h \text{Tr}(\mu^2 \Phi) + \epsilon_{ab} \epsilon_{rs} \varphi_r^a \varphi_s^b$$
$$\mu_{ij}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} \mu^2 \mathbf{I}_2 & 0 \\ 0 & \hat{\mu}^2 \mathbf{I}_5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

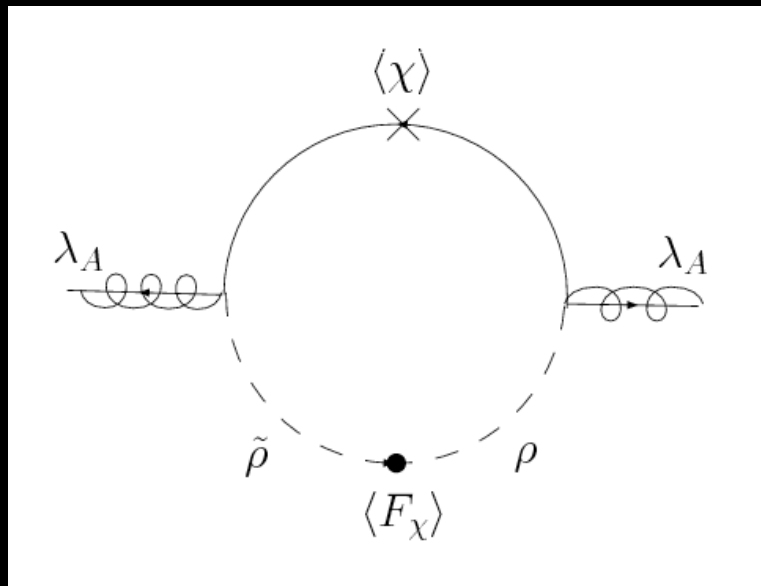
- This breaks the flavor symmetry $SU(7)$ down to $SU(2) \times SU(5)$

This model has spontaneous R-symmetry breaking!
(and a small anomalous one)

Messaging...

- Gauge $SU(5)$ flavor group
→ magnetic quarks act as messengers

E.g. gaugino masses



Phenomenology I: "Split SUSY"

- For $m \rightarrow 0$:

R-symmetry restored

→ no gaugino masses

But: SUSY is still broken!!! $M_{SUSY} \sim \hat{\mu}$

→ Squarks and sleptons get SUSY breaking masses! → They are heavy!

- For $m \ll \hat{\mu}$:

gauginos massive but much lighter than squarks and sleptons

→ Split-SUSY

- For $m \sim \hat{\mu}$:

Gauginos and sfermions have masses of similar size

Similar to “standard” gauge mediation



Message: Knowledge of the (hidden) SUSY breaking sector is required.
