

Title: Coupling variations and equivalence principle violations in string inspired scenarios

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Abstract: <span>I will describe how and why coupling variations and violations of the equivalence principle are generally expected in string theory and focus on two main scenarios/realizations: the Damour-Polyakov and the runaway dilaton.</span>

# Coupling variations, equivalence principle violations and the runaway dilaton

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Federico Piazza

# Plan of the Talk

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- Alpha variations and EP violations in scalar tensor theories
- The runaway dilaton

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## Coupling variations and extra forces

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$\phi = \text{dark energy}$ )  $\frac{d \ln \alpha_{EM}}{d\phi} \sqrt{3(1+w)(1-\Omega_m)}$

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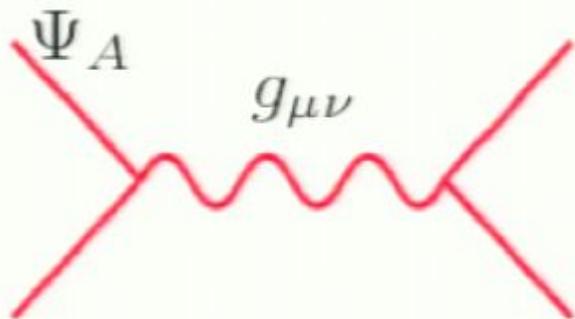
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$\sim \text{MeV}$ , independent (EW) origin

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Dominated by collective Coulomb binding.

Bethe-Weizacker formula:

$$m_{\text{QED}} \simeq \alpha_{EM} \frac{Z(Z-1)}{(N+Z)^{1/3}} 100 \text{ MeV}$$

Responsible for **Composition Dependent** effects.

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(Bertotti et. al. 2003)

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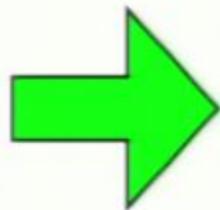
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e.g. Dvali Zaldarriaga Page 24/48

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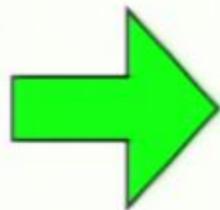
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However...

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In scenarios where couplings are unified at some scale  $M_{GUT}$ ,  $\Lambda_{QCD}$  inherits a  $\phi$ -dependence:

$$\Lambda_{QCD} \simeq M_{GUT} e^{-\beta/\alpha_{GUT}}$$

$$c_{\text{had}} = \frac{d \ln \Lambda_{QCD}}{d\phi} \simeq \ln \frac{M_{GUT}}{\Lambda_{QCD}} \frac{d \ln \alpha}{d\phi}$$

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$$c_{\text{had}} \simeq 30 \frac{d \ln \alpha_{EM}}{d\phi} \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{d \ln \alpha_{EM}}{d\phi} \lesssim 10^{-5}$$

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$c_{\text{had}}$



$d\phi$

$\sim \dots$

## Future experiments (composition-dependent)

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MICROSCOPE

$10^{-15}$

STEP

$10^{-18}$

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Damour F.P. Veneziano 2002

quintessence/k-essence models:

Gasperini F.P. Veneziano 2001

F.P. Tsujikawa 2004

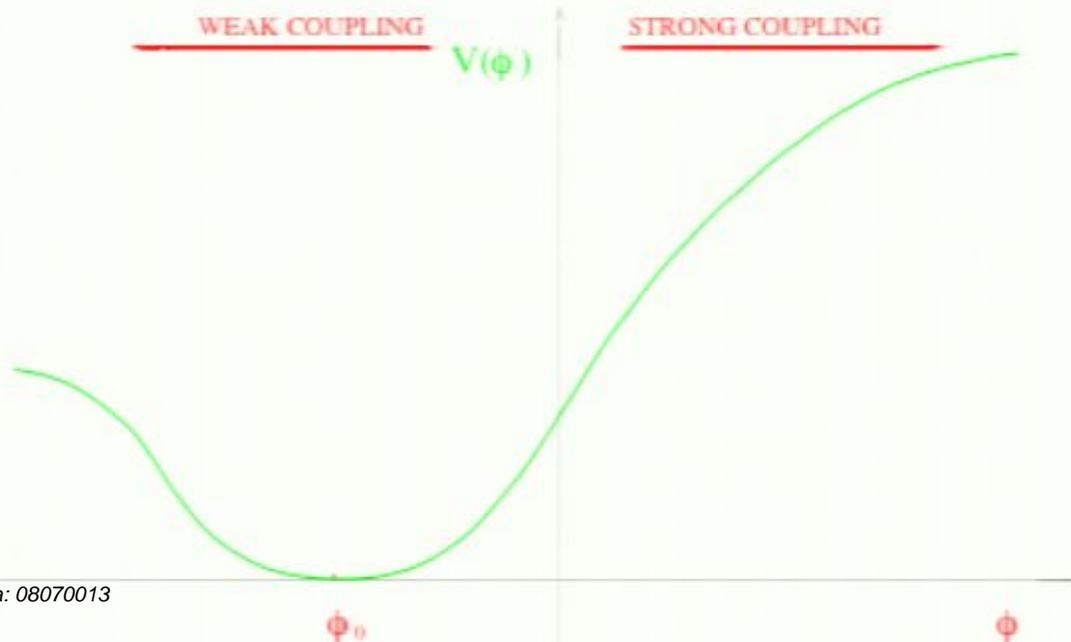
more recently:

Chiba et al. 2007

## Gravity and String: “conventional wisdom”

$$S = \frac{M_s^2}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} e^{-\phi} [R + (\nabla\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{4M_s^2} F_{\mu\nu}^2 + \dots]$$

The dilaton can stabilize with a potential of non-perturbative origin (Taylor Veneziano '88)



$$\alpha_{GUT} \simeq e^{\langle\phi\rangle}$$

$$\langle\phi\rangle \simeq -3$$

## A toy model (Veneziano 2001)

Gravity + (rank  $N_1$ ) gauge fields +  $N_{1/2}$  fermions +  $N_0$  scalars. Cut off  $\Lambda$

$$S_0 = \frac{1}{2} \int d^D x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \kappa_0^{-2} R - g_0^{-2} \sum_{k=1}^{N_1} F_{\mu\nu}^k F^{k\mu\nu} \right] + \\ + \sum_{i=1}^{N_0} S_{\text{scalar}}[\varphi_i] + \sum_{k=1}^{N_{1/2}} S_{\text{fermion}}[\psi_i]$$

$$\kappa_0^{-2} \implies \kappa^{-2} \simeq \kappa_0^{-2} + \Lambda^{D-2} \mathcal{O}(N) + \dots$$

$$g_0^{-2} \implies g^{-2} \simeq g_0^{-2} + \Lambda^{D-4} \mathcal{O}(N) + \dots$$

Effective  
couplings

What does that say about string effective action?

---

$$\Gamma = \frac{M_s^2}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} [B_g(\phi)R + -B_\phi(\phi)(\nabla\phi)^2 - M_s^{-2}B_F(\phi)F^2 + \dots]$$

Cut-off  $\rightarrow \Lambda \sim M_s$ , bare inverse coupling  $\rightarrow g_0^{-2} \sim e^{-\phi}$

Renormalized inverse coupling  $\rightarrow g^{-2} \sim B_F(\phi)$

$$B_i(\phi) \underset{\phi \rightarrow \infty}{=} C_i + b_i e^{-\phi}$$

$$C_i = \mathcal{O}(10^2)$$

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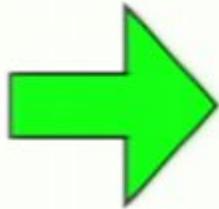
the theory allows a strong coupling, "runaway" scenario

## The value of the dilaton now

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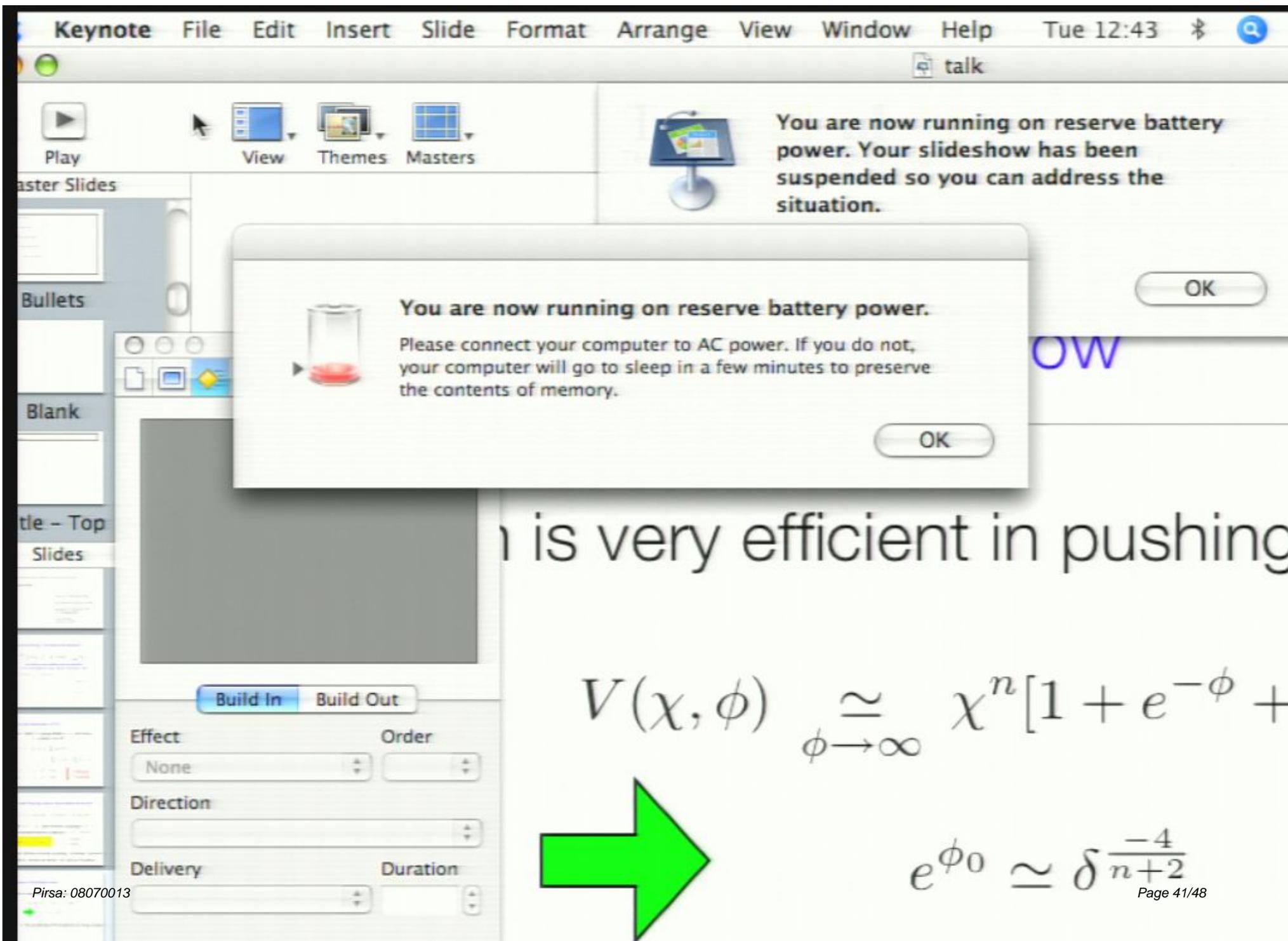
Inflation is very efficient in pushing  $\phi \rightarrow \infty$

$$V(\chi, \phi) \underset{\phi \rightarrow \infty}{\simeq} \chi^n [1 + e^{-\phi} + \mathcal{O}(e^{-2\phi})]$$



$$e^{\phi_0} \simeq \delta^{\frac{-4}{n+2}}$$

$\simeq 10^{-5}$  is the amplitude of fluctuations on large scales



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View



Themes



Masters



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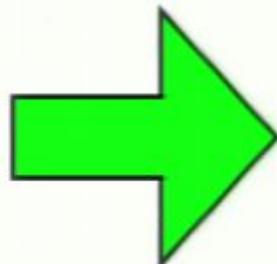
Please connect your computer to AC power. If you do not, your computer will go to sleep in a few minutes to preserve the contents of memory.

OK

OK

n is very efficient in pushing

$$V(\chi, \phi) \underset{\phi \rightarrow \infty}{\approx} \chi^n [1 + e^{-\phi} + \dots]$$



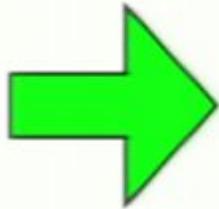
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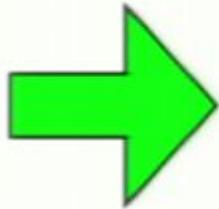
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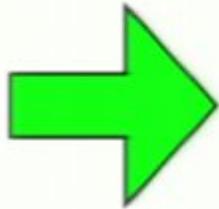
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## Expected EP violations

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$$c_{\text{had}} \simeq 40 \cdot \delta_H^{\frac{4}{n+2}} \quad \begin{array}{l} n=2 \\ \simeq 10^{-4} \\ n=4 \\ \simeq 10^{-3} \end{array}$$

Ok with tested composition independent violations

(Bertotti et al:  $c_{\text{had}} \lesssim 3 \cdot 10^{-2}$ )

## Expected EP violations

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$$\left(\frac{\Delta a}{a}\right) \simeq 10^{-4} \cdot \delta_H^{\frac{8}{n+2}} \quad \begin{array}{l} n=2 \\ \simeq 10^{-12} \\ \\ n=4 \\ \simeq 10^{-9} \end{array}$$

Composition dependent: n=4 ruled out. n=2 very close to present experimental limits

## EP violations and alpha variations in the runaway dilaton scenario

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If the dilaton plays a major contribution today  
(e.g. quintessence):

$$\frac{d \ln \alpha_{EM}}{H_0 dt} \simeq \pm 3.5 \times 10^{-6} \sqrt{1 + q_0 - 3\Omega_m/2} \sqrt{10^{12} \frac{\Delta a}{a}}$$

$$\frac{\Delta a}{a} \sim 10^{-12} \implies \frac{d \ln \alpha_{EM}}{dt} \sim 10^{-16} \text{yr}^{-1}$$

- Close to present experimental limits
- Difficult to accomodate a  $\sim 10^{-5}$  variation at  $z \sim 1$   
(see however Chiba et al. 2007)