

Classification of nonsupersymmetric Pati-Salam heterotic string models

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We extend the classification of fermionic $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ heterotic string orbifolds to nonsupersymmetric Pati-Salam models in two classes of vacua, that we dub \tilde{S} models and S models. The first corresponds to compactifications of a tachyonic ten-dimensional vacuum, whereas the second corresponds to compactifications of the ten-dimensional tachyon-free $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ heterotic string. In both cases we develop a systematic method to extract tachyon-free four-dimensional models. We show that tachyon-free configurations arise with probability ~ 0.002 and ~ 0.01 in the first and second case, respectively. We adapt the ‘fertility methodology’ that facilitates the extraction of phenomenological models. We show that Pati-Salam \tilde{S} models do not contain heavy Higgs scalar representations that are required to break the PS symmetry to the Standard Model and are therefore not phenomenologically viable. Hence, we argue that in \tilde{S} models the $SO(10)$ grand unified theory symmetry must be broken at the string scale to the Standard-like Model subgroup. We extract tachyon-free three generation models in both cases that contain an equal number of massless bosonic and fermionic degrees of freedom i.e., with $a_{00} = N_b^0 - N_f^0 = 0$, and analyze their one-loop partition function.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Standard Model of particle physics provides viable parametrization of most observable subatomic data to date. Nevertheless, it is clear that the Standard Model (SM) is merely an effective field theory description, albeit one that may be effective up to the grand unified theory (GUT) or Planck scales. The first evidence for the need to go beyond the Standard Model stems from the observation of non-vanishing neutrino masses, which requires the augmentation of the Standard Model spectrum with right-handed neutrinos, or the introduction of nonrenormalizable interactions, that are suppressed by some cutoff scale, at which the Standard Model ceases to provide viable parametrization. Ultimately, the Standard Model is formulated using the framework of point quantum field theory, which is fundamentally incompatible with gravity.

An early construction to accommodate nontrivial neutrino masses was the Pati-Salam (PS) model [1] that sought to introduce a symmetry between quarks and leptons. This rightly celebrated insight was vindicated by experiments [2].

It paved the road for the so-called GUTs that aim to unify all the subatomic gauge interactions into a simple or semisimple gauge group [3]. Experimental constraints stemming from proton longevity and suppression of left-handed neutrino masses mandate that the unification scale is much higher than the electroweak scale, which is currently being actively probed by experiments. The GUT scale is in fact an order of magnitude or two below the Planck scale, the scale at which the gauge and gravitational interactions are of comparable strength.

It is therefore sensible to construct GUT models in a framework that incorporates gravity into the fold. Building quantum field theory models at a scale which is one or two orders of magnitude below the Planck scale is fraught with uncertainties as quantum gravity effects may become dominant. String theory provides a framework that enables the construction of particle physics models within a perturbatively consistent theory of quantum gravity [4]. String theory gives rise to a large number of vacuum solutions that may *a priori* be relevant for the particle physics data. The way forward is to explore the properties of classes of string vacua that share some common characteristics and to develop the tools to discern them from other classes. While the majority of models studied to date possess $N = 1$ spacetime supersymmetry, nonsupersymmetric vacua that correspond to compactifications of the tachyon-free ten-dimensional $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ heterotic string have been of interest as well as [5–10]. It is well known that in addition to the tachyon-free vacua, string theory gives rise to tachyonic vacua in ten dimensions [5,11,12]. Recently, it was argued

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that these ten-dimensional vacua may serve as good starting points for the construction of phenomenological models, provided that the tachyonic states are projected out from the physical spectrum in the four-dimensional models, and may offer some novel perspectives on some of the outstanding issues in string phenomenology [13–15]. A three generation Standard-like Model in this class was presented in [14], and it was argued that all the moduli are projected out in the model and that it may therefore be stable [14].

The free fermionic formulation [16] of the heterotic string gave rise to a large space of phenomenological string vacua, which correspond to compactifications of the ten-dimensional heterotic string on $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ toroidal orbifolds. The initial constructions corresponded to isolated examples with $SU(5) \times U(1)$ (FSU5) [17], $SO(6) \times SO(4)$ (PS) [18], $SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)^2$ (SLM) [19,20] and $SU(3) \times U(1) \times SU(2)^2$ (LRS) [21], unbroken subgroups of $SO(10)$, with the GUT embedding of the electroweak hypercharge, producing the canonical prediction for the Weinberg angle $\sin^2 \theta_W = 3/8$ at M_{String} . Systematic methods to classify large numbers of free fermionic models were developed over the past two decades [22–30]. In Ref. [31] the classification program was extended to tachyon-free models with unbroken $SO(10)$ subgroups that may be regarded as compactifications of a tachyonic ten-dimensional vacuum. Numerous models with an equal number of massless bosons and fermions were found and an analysis of the one-loop vacuum amplitude was presented. Of particular interest was the observation of the misaligned supersymmetry phenomena [32], which guarantees the finiteness of the string amplitude in the absence of spacetime supersymmetry.

In this paper we extend the free fermionic classification program to nonsupersymmetric models with PS gauge symmetry. We develop the classification method both for compactifications of the $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ heterotic string as well as for compactifications of the tachyonic ten-dimensional vacuum. Preliminary development of the methodology in the first case was carried out in Ref. [10], but only with respect to simultaneous shifts of tori, whereas here we include independent shifts with respect to the six internal circles. In the fermionic language this entails enlarging the basis vectors that span the models to include shifts with respect to circles, rather than tori.

We show that the \tilde{S} models cannot in fact give rise to viable models, due to the absence from the spectrum of the states required to break the PS gauge group to the Standard Model. We remark that this result is similar to the absence of viable supersymmetric models with $SO(10) \rightarrow SU(4) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$ [33].

A particular focus of our analysis here is the adaptation of the ‘fertility methodology’ to the class of nonsupersymmetric PS models. These methods were applied in the case of standard-like models (SLM) [28] and left-right symmetric (LRS) [30] models and is very efficient in extracting phenomenologically viable vacua. The new element of the fertility

methodology in the nonsupersymmetric models involves the extraction of tachyon-free models, which occur with low frequency in the total space of vacua. To contrast the cases of the \tilde{S} models with that of the S models, we apply a parallel set of phenomenological criteria, despite the fact that they do not hold in the case of the \tilde{S} models due to the absence of heavy Higgs scalar representations. In addition we analyze the partition function of the models. A particular interest is in models with equal numbers of massless bosons and fermions. We present exemplary three generation \tilde{S} and S models that satisfy this criteria.

Our paper is organized as follows: in Sec. II we discuss the general structure of \tilde{S} vs S models. In Sec. III we elaborate on the analysis of the massless spectrum in PS \tilde{S} models, whereas in Sec. IV we discuss the fertility methodology in \tilde{S} models. The corresponding analysis in the S models is discussed in Sec. V. In Sec. VI we discuss the analysis of the partition functions. Section VII presents the results of the analysis and Sec. VIII concludes our paper.

II. S vs \tilde{S} -MODELS

We will explore four-dimensional nonsupersymmetric Pati-Salam models via two distinct routes. Firstly, we will explore those PS models descending from the tachyonic ten-dimensional heterotic string which utilize the vector \tilde{S} . We will refer to these models as (PS) \tilde{S} models. Secondly, we will explore models derived from the $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ heterotic string which contain the SUSY-generating basis vector S and thus we will refer to these as S models.

String models in the free fermionic formulation are defined in terms of boundary condition basis vectors and one-loop generalized GSO (GGSO) phases [16]. The $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ and $E_8 \times E_8$ heterotic-models in ten dimensions are specified in terms of a common set of basis vectors

$$\begin{aligned} v_1 &= \mathbb{1} = \{\psi^\mu, \chi^{1,\dots,6} | \bar{\eta}^{1,2,3}, \bar{\psi}^{1,\dots,5}, \bar{\phi}^{1,\dots,8}\}, \\ v_2 &= z_1 = \{\bar{\psi}^{1,\dots,5}, \bar{\eta}^{1,2,3}\}, \\ v_3 &= z_2 = \{\bar{\phi}^{1,\dots,8}\}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.1)$$

where we employed the common notation used in the free fermionic models [17,18,20–29]. The spacetime supersymmetry generator arises from the combination

$$S = \mathbb{1} + z_1 + z_2 = \{\psi^\mu, \chi^{1,\dots,6}\}. \quad (2.2)$$

The choice of GGSO phase $C_{z_2}^{[z_1]} = \pm 1$ selects between the $E_8 \times E_8$ or $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ heterotic strings in ten dimensions. Equation (2.2) implies that the breaking of spacetime supersymmetry in ten dimensions is correlated with the breaking pattern $E_8 \times E_8 \rightarrow SO(16) \times SO(16)$. The would-be tachyons in these models arise from the Neveu-Schwarz (NS) sector, by acting on the right-moving vacuum with a fermionic oscillator

$$|0\rangle_L \otimes \bar{\phi}^a |0\rangle_R, \quad (2.3)$$

where $a = 1, \dots, 16$. The GSO projection induced by the S vector projects out these NS tachyons, producing tachyon-free models in both cases.

In lower dimensions Eq. (2.2) does not hold and the two breakings are not correlated. In lower dimensions the projection of the $N = 1$ supersymmetry generator from the S sector is induced by an alternative phase. In this manner nonsupersymmetric vacua are constructed. In the orbifold representation, these free fermion models correspond to compactifications of the ten-dimensional $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ heterotic string, where the detailed dictionary of Ref. [34], can be used to translate the free fermion data to the toroidal orbifold data. Tachyon producing sectors proliferate in the lower dimensional models [8], and can be projected out for special choices of the GGSO projection coefficients.

As discussed in Refs. [13,14,31], the ten-dimensional tachyonic vacua in the free fermionic formulation are obtained by removing the S vector from the construction, or by augmenting it with four periodic right-moving worldsheet fermions. These ten-dimensional configurations do contain the NS tachyons appearing in Eq. (2.3) (or a subset of them) and are connected by interpolations or orbifolds along the lines of Ref. [12,35]. Similarly, the construction of the four-dimensional free fermion models that descend from the ten-dimensional tachyonic vacua amounts to removing the vector S from the set of basis vectors that are used to build the models. Alternatively, the S vector can be augmented with a set of four right-moving periodic fermions [13,14,31]. A convenient choice is given by

$$\tilde{S} = \{\psi^{1,2}, \chi^{1,2}, \chi^{3,4}, \chi^{5,6} | \bar{\phi}^{3,\dots,6}\}. \quad (2.4)$$

In this case there are no massless gravitinos, and the untwisted tachyonic states

$$|0\rangle_L \otimes \bar{\phi}^{3,\dots,6} |0\rangle_R \quad (2.5)$$

are invariant under the \tilde{S} -vector projection, and therefore are the NS tachyons that descend from the ten-dimensional vacuum. We denote the general map, which is induced by the exchange

$$S \leftrightarrow \tilde{S}, \quad (2.6)$$

as the \tilde{S} map. This map was used in the $\overline{\text{NAHE}}$ -based model of Ref. [14] and in the classification of the $SO(10)$ GUT models in Ref. [31]. As for the S -based models that correspond to compactifications of the $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ heterotic string, the tachyonic states in the \tilde{S} models are projected out for discrete choices of the GGSO projection coefficients. Thus, these models should be taken on equal footing as the S models. However, the characteristics of the

spectra in the two cases are different. Our aim here is to explore these different characteristics.

III. PATI-SALAM \tilde{S} -MODELS

Let us turn our attention to the classification setup for the Pati-Salam \tilde{S} models which descend from the 10D tachyonic heterotic string. We can build these models by first defining a set of 12 basis vectors that generate $SO(10)$ GUT \tilde{S} models which were used in the classification performed in [31]

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{1} &= \{\psi^\mu, \chi^{1,\dots,6}, y^{1,\dots,6}, w^{1,\dots,6} | \bar{y}^{1,\dots,6}, \bar{w}^{1,\dots,6}, \\ &\quad \bar{\psi}^{1,\dots,5}, \bar{\eta}^{1,2,3}, \bar{\phi}^{1,\dots,8}\}, \\ \tilde{S} &= \{\psi^\mu, \chi^{1,\dots,6} | \bar{\phi}^{3,4,5,6}\}, \\ e_i &= \{y^i, w^i | \bar{y}^i, \bar{w}^i\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, 6 \\ b_1 &= \{\psi^\mu, \chi^{12}, y^{34}, y^{56} | \bar{y}^{34}, \bar{y}^{56}, \bar{\eta}^1, \bar{\psi}^{1,\dots,5}\}, \\ b_2 &= \{\psi^\mu, \chi^{34}, y^{12}, y^{56} | \bar{y}^{12}, \bar{y}^{56}, \bar{\eta}^2, \bar{\psi}^{1,\dots,5}\}, \\ b_3 &= \{\psi^\mu, \chi^{56}, y^{12}, y^{34} | \bar{y}^{12}, \bar{y}^{34}, \bar{\eta}^3, \bar{\psi}^{1,\dots,5}\}, \\ z_1 &= \{\bar{\phi}^{1,\dots,4}\}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

where we note that the $\{y^i, w^i | \bar{y}^i, \bar{w}^i\}$ are fermionized coordinates of the internal toroidal $\Gamma_{6,6}$ lattice such that $i\partial X_L^i = y^i w^i$ and the e_i 's allow for all symmetric shifts of the six internal circles. Furthermore, we note the existence of a vector combination

$$z_2 = \mathbb{1} + \sum_{i=1}^6 e_i + \sum_{k=1}^3 b_k + z_1 = \{\bar{\phi}^{5,6,7,8}\} \quad (3.2)$$

in these models, which is typically its own basis vector in the supersymmetric classifications of [23,25,27–30].

In order to extend this structure to only those models realizing the $SO(6) \times SO(4)$ PS subgroup of $SO(10)$ we supplement this basis with the vector:

$$\alpha = \{\bar{\psi}^{4,5}, \bar{\phi}^{1,2}\}. \quad (3.3)$$

Having fixed our basis we can now specify a model by fixing a set of GGSO phases $C_{[v_j]}^{[v_i]}$, which for our Pati-Salam basis here involves 78 free phases with all others specified by modular invariance. Hence, the full space of models is of size $2^{78} \sim 3 \times 10^{23}$ models. This is considerably larger than the space of supersymmetric Pati-Salam models classified in [25] where supersymmetry constraints reduce the parameter space.

With the basis and GGSO phases fixed we can then construct the modular invariant Hilbert space \mathcal{H} of states $|S_{\vec{e}}\rangle$ for a model through the one-loop GGSO projections

$$\mathcal{H} = \bigoplus_{\xi \in \Xi} \prod_{i=1}^k \left\{ e^{i\pi v_i F_\xi} |S_\xi\rangle = \delta_\xi C \begin{bmatrix} \xi \\ v_i \end{bmatrix}^* |S_\xi\rangle \right\}, \quad (3.4)$$

where the ξ are sectors formed as a linear combination of the basis vectors which span an additive group Ξ , F_ξ is the fermion number operator and $\delta_\xi = 1, -1$ is the spin-statistics index.

The sectors in the model can be characterized according to the left- and right-moving vacuum separately

$$\begin{aligned} M_L^2 &= -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\xi_L \cdot \xi_L}{8} + N_L \\ M_R^2 &= -1 + \frac{\xi_R \cdot \xi_R}{8} + N_R \end{aligned} \quad (3.5)$$

where N_L and N_R are sums over left- and right-moving oscillators, respectively. Physical states must then additionally satisfy the Virasoro matching condition, $M_L^2 = M_R^2$. States not satisfying this condition are off shell.

It will be useful to distinguish between those features of our models depending on the presence of the PS breaking vector (3.3) and those features present at the level of $SO(10)$ defined by the basis set (3.1) and explored in detail in our recent work [31]. This distinction will be crucial in how we define our methodology for efficiently scanning the space of PS \tilde{S} models using the so-called ‘fertility’ methodology.

A. Gauge group and enhancements

The untwisted sector gauge vector bosons for our PS \tilde{S} models give rise to the gauge group

$$SO(6) \times SO(4) \times U(1)_1 \times U(1)_2 \times U(1)_3 \times SO(4)^4. \quad (3.6)$$

The gauge group of a model may be enhanced by additional gauge bosons. The $SO(10)$ enhancements arise from $\psi^\mu \{ \bar{\lambda}^i \} |z_1\rangle$, $\psi^\mu \{ \bar{\lambda}^i \} |z_2\rangle$, and $\psi^\mu |z_1 + z_2\rangle$ sectors, where $\bar{\lambda}^i$ are right moving oscillators. These were discussed in Ref. [31] and so we will focus our analysis on enhancements at the PS level arising from

$$G_{\text{PS}} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \psi^\mu |\alpha\rangle_L \otimes \{ \bar{\lambda}^i \} |\alpha\rangle_R, \quad \psi^\mu |z_1 + \alpha\rangle_L \otimes \{ \bar{\lambda}^i \} |z_1 + \alpha\rangle_R \\ \psi^\mu |z_2 + \alpha\rangle_L \otimes |z_2 + \alpha\rangle_R, \\ \psi^\mu |z_1 + z_2 + \alpha\rangle_L \otimes |z_1 + z_2 + \alpha\rangle_R \\ \psi^\mu | \tilde{S} + \tilde{x} + z_1 + \alpha\rangle_L \otimes | \tilde{S} + \tilde{x} + z_1 + \alpha\rangle_R, \\ \psi^\mu | \tilde{S} + \tilde{x} + z_1 + z_2 + \alpha\rangle_L \otimes | \tilde{S} + \tilde{x} + z_1 + z_2 + \alpha\rangle_R \end{array} \right\}, \quad (3.7)$$

where we have made use of the important vector combination

$$\tilde{x} = b_1 + b_2 + b_3 = \{ \psi^\mu, \chi^{1,2,3,4,5,6} | \bar{\psi}^{1,\dots,5}, \bar{\eta}^{1,2,3} \}, \quad (3.8)$$

the properties of which are discussed in some detail in Ref. [31].

These enhancements are all ‘mixed’ enhancements in the sense that they affect both the observable and hidden gauge group factors. The presence of these gauge bosons is model dependent since it depends on the survival of the sectors under the GGSO projections. It turns out that the survival of $\psi^\mu |\alpha\rangle_L \otimes \{ \bar{\psi}^{1,2,3}, \bar{\eta}^{1,2,3} \} |\alpha\rangle_R$ and $\psi^\mu |z_1 + \alpha\rangle_L \otimes \{ \bar{\psi}^{1,2,3}, \bar{\eta}^{1,2,3} \} |z_1 + \alpha\rangle_R$ is correlated exactly with the survival of the tachyonic sectors $|\alpha\rangle$ and $|z_1 + \alpha\rangle$. Hence, the absence of tachyons necessitates the projection of these mixed gauge enhancements. We note that this is similar to the result for mixed $SO(10)$ enhancements $\psi^\mu \{ \bar{\psi}^a \} |z_1\rangle$, $\psi^\mu \{ \bar{\psi}^a \} |z_2\rangle$, $a = 1, \dots, 5$, which must be projected for models free from $|z_1\rangle$ and $|z_2\rangle$ tachyonic sectors. However, the other right-moving oscillator cases for these enhancement sectors have to be checked carefully as they also can affect the observable gauge group. The analysis of the level-matched tachyonic sectors in our PS case is presented in the following section.

B. Analysis of tachyonic sectors

Due to the absence of supersymmetry the analysis of whether on-shell tachyons arise in the spectrum of our models is of utmost importance. Since the details of how to project the tachyonic sectors within the $SO(10)$ construction are shown in [31], we will focus on the tachyonic sectors at the PS level i.e., those arising due to the inclusion of the α vector. However, there is one amendment to the projection conditions in Sec. 4 of Ref. [31] required, which is that we must account for the fact that the α vector can be used as a projector for many of the tachyonic sectors at the $SO(10)$ level. In particular, it can project any of the tachyonic sectors except for those involving z_1 . This is an important detail when we turn to the fertility analysis in Sec. IV.

Turning our attention to the tachyonic sectors introduced at the PS level, we note that on-shell tachyonic sectors will arise when

$$M_L^2 = M_R^2 < 0, \quad (3.9)$$

which corresponds to left and right products of $\xi_L \cdot \xi_L = 0, 1, 2, 3$ and $\xi_R \cdot \xi_R = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7$. The presence of such tachyonic sectors in the physical spectrum indicates the instability of the string vacuum with respect to the background on which the theory is defined.

We can deduce that there are 84 PS tachyonic sectors for us to consider once the $SO(10)$ tachyons are projected. These sectors are displayed in Table I. In Table II the conditions on the projection of these tachyonic sectors are delineated. We only show the cases when $i = 1, j = 2$ and $k = 3$ as the other combinations are similar.

C. Massless sectors

Now that we have a way to check that models are free of on-shell tachyons, we can turn our attention to the massless

TABLE I. Level-matched PS tachyonic sectors and their mass level, where $i \neq j \neq k = 1, \dots, 6$.

Mass Level	Sectors
$(-1/2, -1/2)$	$\alpha, z_1 + \alpha$
$(-3/8, -3/8)$	$e_i + \alpha, e_i + z_1 + \alpha$
$(-1/4, -1/4)$	$e_i + e_j + \alpha, e_i + e_j + z_1 + \alpha$
$(-1/8, -1/8)$	$e_i + e_j + e_k + \alpha, e_i + e_j + e_k + z_1 + \alpha$

sectors and their representations. In Sec. 5 of [31] a detailed analysis of the $SO(10)$ massless sectors was presented. In this section we will only mention the sectors from the $SO(10)$ level relevant for determining the observable phenomenology of a model. Otherwise we will focus on the new sectors to the PS models.

1. Observable massless sectors

The spinorial $\mathbf{16}/\overline{\mathbf{16}}$ representations of $SO(10)$ arise from the 48 sectors (16 from each orbifold plane)

$$\begin{aligned}
 B_{pqrs}^{(1)} &= b_1 + pe_3 + qe_4 + re_5 + se_6 \\
 &= \{\psi^\mu, \chi^{1,2}, (1-p)y^3\bar{y}^3, pw^3\bar{w}^3, (1-q)y^4\bar{y}^4, qw^4\bar{w}^4, \\
 &\quad \times (1-r)y^5\bar{y}^5, rw^5\bar{w}^5, (1-s)y^6\bar{y}^6, sw^6\bar{w}^6, \bar{\eta}^1, \bar{\psi}^1, \dots, 5\} \\
 B_{pqrs}^{(2)} &= b_2 + pe_1 + qe_2 + re_5 + se_6 \\
 B_{pqrs}^{(3)} &= b_3 + pe_1 + qe_2 + re_3 + se_4,
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.10}$$

where $p, q, r, s = 0, 1$ account for all combinations of shift vectors of the internal fermions $\{y^i, w^i | \bar{y}^i, \bar{w}^i\}$. As in previous classifications, we can now write down generic algebraic equations to determine the number of $\mathbf{16}$ and $\overline{\mathbf{16}}$, N_{16} and $N_{\overline{16}}$, as a function of the GGSO coefficients. To do this we first utilize the following projectors to determine which of the 48 spinorial sectors survive

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_{pqrs}^1 &= \frac{1}{2^4} \prod_{i=1,2} \left(1 - C \left[\begin{matrix} B_{pqrs}^1 \\ e_i \end{matrix} \right]^* \right) \prod_{a=1,2} \left(1 - C \left[\begin{matrix} B_{pqrs}^1 \\ z_a \end{matrix} \right]^* \right) \\
 P_{pqrs}^2 &= \frac{1}{2^4} \prod_{i=3,4} \left(1 - C \left[\begin{matrix} B_{pqrs}^2 \\ e_i \end{matrix} \right]^* \right) \prod_{a=1,2} \left(1 - C \left[\begin{matrix} B_{pqrs}^2 \\ z_a \end{matrix} \right]^* \right) \\
 P_{pqrs}^3 &= \frac{1}{2^4} \prod_{i=5,6} \left(1 - C \left[\begin{matrix} B_{pqrs}^3 \\ e_i \end{matrix} \right]^* \right) \prod_{a=1,2} \left(1 - C \left[\begin{matrix} B_{pqrs}^3 \\ z_a \end{matrix} \right]^* \right)
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.11}$$

where we recall that the vector $z_2 = \{\bar{\phi}^{5,6,7,8}\}$ is the combination defined in Eq. (3.2). Then we define the chirality phases

$$\begin{aligned}
 X_{pqrs}^1 &= -C \left[\begin{matrix} B_{pqrs}^1 \\ b_2 + (1-r)e_5 + (1-s)e_6 \end{matrix} \right]^* \\
 X_{pqrs}^2 &= -C \left[\begin{matrix} B_{pqrs}^2 \\ b_1 + (1-r)e_5 + (1-s)e_6 \end{matrix} \right]^* \\
 X_{pqrs}^3 &= -C \left[\begin{matrix} B_{pqrs}^3 \\ b_1 + (1-r)e_3 + (1-s)e_4 \end{matrix} \right]^*
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.12}$$

 TABLE II. Conditions on GGSO coefficients for survival of the on-shell PS tachyons for \tilde{S} models.

Tachyonic Sector	Survival conditions
α	$C_{[e_1]}^{[\alpha]} = C_{[e_2]}^{[\alpha]} = C_{[e_3]}^{[\alpha]} = C_{[e_4]}^{[\alpha]} = C_{[e_5]}^{[\alpha]} = C_{[e_6]}^{[\alpha]} = +1$ $C_{[z_2]}^{[\alpha]} = C_{[z_1 + \alpha + \bar{x}]}^{[\alpha]} = +1$
$z_1 + \alpha$	$C_{[e_1]}^{[z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_2]}^{[z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_3]}^{[z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_4]}^{[z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_5]}^{[z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_6]}^{[z_1 + \alpha]} = +1$ $C_{[z_2]}^{[z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[\alpha + \bar{x}]}^{[z_1 + \alpha]} = +1$
$e_1 + \alpha$	$C_{[e_2]}^{[e_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_3]}^{[e_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_4]}^{[e_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_5]}^{[e_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_6]}^{[e_1 + \alpha]} = +1$ $C_{[b_1 + z_1 + \alpha]}^{[e_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[\bar{x} + z_1 + \alpha]}^{[e_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[z_2]}^{[e_1 + \alpha]} = +1$
$e_1 + z_1 + \alpha$	$C_{[e_2]}^{[e_1 + z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_3]}^{[e_1 + z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_4]}^{[e_1 + z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_5]}^{[e_1 + z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_6]}^{[e_1 + z_1 + \alpha]} = +1$ $C_{[b_1 + \alpha]}^{[e_1 + z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[\bar{x} + \alpha]}^{[e_1 + z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[z_2]}^{[e_1 + z_1 + \alpha]} = +1$
$e_1 + e_2 + \alpha$	$C_{[e_3]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_4]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_5]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_6]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + \alpha]} = +1$ $C_{[b_1 + z_1 + \alpha]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + \alpha]} = C_{[\bar{x} + z_1 + \alpha]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + \alpha]} = C_{[z_2]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + \alpha]} = +1$
$e_1 + e_2 + z_1 + \alpha$	$C_{[e_3]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_4]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_5]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_6]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + z_1 + \alpha]} = +1$ $C_{[b_1 + \alpha]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[\bar{x} + \alpha]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[z_2]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + z_1 + \alpha]} = +1$
$e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + \alpha$	$C_{[e_4]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_5]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_6]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + \alpha]} = +1$ $C_{[\bar{x} + z_1 + \alpha]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + \alpha]} = C_{[z_2]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + \alpha]} = +1$
$e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + z_1 + \alpha$	$C_{[e_4]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_5]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[e_6]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + z_1 + \alpha]} = +1$ $C_{[\bar{x} + \alpha]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + z_1 + \alpha]} = C_{[z_2]}^{[e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + z_1 + \alpha]} = +1$

to determine whether a sector will give rise to a $\mathbf{16}$ or a $\overline{\mathbf{16}}$. With these definitions we can write compact expressions for $N_{\mathbf{16}}$ and $N_{\overline{\mathbf{16}}}$

$$\begin{aligned} N_{\mathbf{16}} &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{A=1,2,3 \\ p,q,r,s=0,1}} P_{pqrs}^A (1 + X_{pqrs}^A) \\ N_{\overline{\mathbf{16}}} &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{A=1,2,3 \\ p,q,r,s=0,1}} P_{pqrs}^A (1 - X_{pqrs}^A). \end{aligned} \quad (3.13)$$

In order to describe the phenomenological properties of the models under consideration we need to also consider what happens to the components of the $\mathbf{16}/\overline{\mathbf{16}}$'s as the $SO(10)$ GUT is broken to the PS subgroup.

Recall that the basis vector α (3.3) induces $SO(10)$ gauge symmetry breaking. The spinorial $\mathbf{16}/\overline{\mathbf{16}}$ representations of $SO(10)$ decompose under the $SO(6) \times SO(4) \equiv SU(4) \times SU(2) \times SU(2)$ gauge group as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{16} &= (\mathbf{4}, \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1}) + (\overline{\mathbf{4}}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}) = n_{4L} + n_{\overline{4}R} \\ \overline{\mathbf{16}} &= (\overline{\mathbf{4}}, \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1}) + (\mathbf{4}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}) = n_{4R} + n_{\overline{4}L}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.14)$$

The GGSO projection under α determines which of the two possible PS representations a particular $\mathbf{16}$ or $\overline{\mathbf{16}}$ will fall into. Furthermore, we can make the connection to the Standard Model by noting that after Higgsing the $SU(2)_R$ gauge symmetry, the $\mathbf{16}$ representation decomposes as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{16} &= Q \left(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}, \frac{1}{6} \right) + L \left(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, -\frac{1}{2} \right) \\ &+ u^c \left(\overline{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, -\frac{2}{3} \right) + d^c \left(\overline{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, \frac{1}{3} \right) + e^c (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, 1) \\ &+ \nu^c (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}, 0) \end{aligned} \quad (3.15)$$

under the SM gauge group.

A phenomenological issue arises due to the fact \tilde{S} maps makes the would-be scalar degrees of freedom $\tilde{S} + B_{pqrs}^i$ massive. In the supersymmetric models, the $\mathbf{16}$ and $\overline{\mathbf{16}}$ include the scalar superpartners, in particular those of the $n_{\overline{4}R}$ and n_{4R} , which are used to break the intermediate PS gauge symmetry down to the Standard Model gauge group. Since there are no such states for our \tilde{S} models and no suitable scalar exotic sectors or scalars from higher Kac-Moody level representations [36], the phenomenology of these models is seemingly incomplete. In the case of Standard-like \tilde{S} models such as [14], however, the breaking of the additional $U(1)_Z$ may be achieved by a scalar from the exotic sectors [37]. Despite this gap in the analysis of these \tilde{S} models we continue with the analysis since our main aim here is to build up the tools for the classification for the \tilde{S} and S models of non-SUSY string models and to do a comparison of their key characteristics.

The other key states for observable physics are obtained from the vectorial $\mathbf{10}$ representations of $SO(10)$. We note that the vector \tilde{x} defined in (3.8) induces a map between the fermionic spinorial sectors $B_{pqrs}^{1,2,3}$ and the bosonic vectorial sectors

$$\begin{aligned} V_{pqrs}^{(1)} &= B_{pqrs}^{(1)} + \tilde{x} \\ &= b_2 + b_3 + pe_3 + qe_4 + re_5 + se_6 \\ &= \{ \chi^{3,4,5,6}, (1-p)y^3\bar{y}^3, pw^3\bar{w}^3, (1-q)y^4\bar{y}^4, qw^4\bar{w}^4, \\ &\quad \times (1-r)y^5\bar{y}^5, rw^5\bar{w}^5, (1-s)y^6\bar{y}^6, sw^6\bar{w}^6, \bar{\eta}^{2,3} \}, \\ V_{pqrs}^{(2)} &= B_{pqrs}^{(2)} + \tilde{x}, \\ V_{pqrs}^{(3)} &= B_{pqrs}^{(3)} + \tilde{x}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.16)$$

The observable states will arise from these sectors when there is a right moving oscillator of $\tilde{\psi}^{a(*)}$, $a = 1, \dots, 5$. To determine the number of such observable vectorial sectors we use the projectors

$$\begin{aligned} R_{pqrs}^{(1)} &= \frac{1}{2^4} \prod_{i=1,2} \left(1 + C \left[V_{pqrs}^{(1)} \right] \right) \prod_{a=1,2} \left[1 + C \left[V_{pqrs}^{(1)} \right] \right] \\ R_{pqrs}^{(2)} &= \frac{1}{2^4} \prod_{i=3,4} \left(1 + C \left[V_{pqrs}^{(2)} \right] \right) \prod_{a=1,2} \left(1 + C \left[V_{pqrs}^{(2)} \right] \right) \end{aligned} \quad (3.17)$$

Then we can write the number of vectorial $\mathbf{10}$'s arising from these sectors as

$$N_{\mathbf{10}} = \sum_{\substack{A=1,2,3 \\ p,q,r,s=0,1}} R_{pqrs}^A. \quad (3.18)$$

A GGSO projection with the vector α can then be used to induce doublet-triplet splitting in these models and tell us whether a particular $\mathbf{10}$ produces a bidoublet or a triplet. In particular, the $\mathbf{10}$ representation is decomposed under $SU(4) \times SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$ as

$$\mathbf{10} = D(\mathbf{6}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}) + h(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{2}), \quad (3.19)$$

where the colored triplets are generated by the $\tilde{\psi}_{1/2}^{1,2,3} / \tilde{\psi}_{1/2}^{*1,2,3}$ and the bidoublet is generated by $\tilde{\psi}_{1/2}^{4,5} / \tilde{\psi}_{1/2}^{*4,5}$ oscillators. We can write the number of bidoublets, n_h , and number of triplets, n_6 , algebraically as

$$\begin{aligned} n_h &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{A=1,2,3 \\ p,q,r,s=0,1}} R_{pqrs}^A \left(1 - C \left[\begin{matrix} V_{pqrs}^A \\ \alpha \end{matrix} \right] \right) \\ n_6 &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{A=1,2,3 \\ p,q,r,s=0,1}} R_{pqrs}^A \left(1 + C \left[\begin{matrix} V_{pqrs}^A \\ \alpha \end{matrix} \right] \right). \end{aligned} \quad (3.20)$$

2. Pati-Salam exotics

Having reviewed the key elements of the observable massless sectors, we can turn our attention to the new features of the massless spectrum due to the PS vector α . Such sectors are exotic in the sense they transform under both the hidden and observable gauge groups and carry fractional electric charge.

For the purposes of our analysis we will only classify the fermionic exotic sectors and ensure that any potentially viable models are checked for the absence of chiral exotics. In a classification of supersymmetric models it would be sufficient to classify only the fermionic exotic sectors and then know that the equivalent scalar exotic sectors will be in a model with $+\mathcal{S}$. However, in our nonsupersymmetric models we have no control over how many scalar exotics will arise in a model when we check the fermionic exotic sectors. We note that the scalar exotics can always gain heavy mass since they are not chiral. We remark that the Higgs bidoublet field is also nonchiral with respect to the Standard Model (SM) gauge group, whereas the mass of other SM fields is protected by chirality. Keeping the Higgs bidoublet light requires careful analysis of the singlet VEVs, which in supersymmetric models are

subjected to F and D flatness constraints. Solutions that give heavy mass to the exotics, while allowing for the Higgs doublets to remain light, are found [19]. Furthermore, there are string models in which exotic states only appear in the massive string spectrum [25], while the required Higgs fields exist in the massless spectrum, again indicating that the decoupling of exotic states can be compatible with the requirement of a light Higgs field. We note, however, that this question requires a more detailed analysis in specific models and goes beyond the scope of our analysis here.

First of all we note two fermionic vectorial exotic sectors

$$\tilde{V}_{\text{PS}} = \{ \{ \bar{\lambda}^i \} | \tilde{\mathcal{S}} + z_1 + \alpha \}, \quad \{ \bar{\lambda}^i \} | \tilde{\mathcal{S}} + z_1 + z_2 + \alpha \}. \quad (3.21)$$

Then we have in total 196 fermionic spinorial exotics. Of these, 96 arise from sectors transforming as $(\mathbf{4}, \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1})$, $(\mathbf{4}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2})$, $(\bar{\mathbf{4}}, \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1})$ or $(\bar{\mathbf{4}}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2})$ where $\mathbf{4}$ and $\bar{\mathbf{4}}$ are spinorial and anti-spinorial representations of the observable $SO(6)$, respectively, and the $\mathbf{2}$ are doublet representations of either the first or second hidden $SO(4)$ factor. Explicitly, these sectors are

$$\begin{aligned} E_{pqrs}^{(1)} &= B_{pqrs}^{(1)} + \alpha \\ &= \{ \psi^\mu, \chi^{1,2}, (1-p)y^3\bar{y}^3, pw^3\bar{w}^3, (1-q)y^4\bar{y}^4, qw^4\bar{w}^4, (1-r)y^5\bar{y}^5, rw^5\bar{w}^5, (1-s)y^6\bar{y}^6, sw^6\bar{w}^6, \bar{\eta}^1, \bar{\psi}^{1,2,3}, \bar{\phi}^{1,2} \} \\ E_{pqrs}^{(2)} &= B_{pqrs}^{(2)} + \alpha \\ E_{pqrs}^{(3)} &= B_{pqrs}^{(3)} + \alpha \\ E_{pqrs}^{(4)} &= B_{pqrs}^{(1)} + z_1 + \alpha \\ &= \{ \psi^\mu, \chi^{1,2}, (1-p)y^3\bar{y}^3, pw^3\bar{w}^3, (1-q)y^4\bar{y}^4, qw^4\bar{w}^4, (1-r)y^5\bar{y}^5, rw^5\bar{w}^5, (1-s)y^6\bar{y}^6, sw^6\bar{w}^6, \bar{\eta}^1, \bar{\psi}^{1,2,3}, \bar{\phi}^{3,4} \} \\ E_{pqrs}^{(5)} &= B_{pqrs}^{(2)} + z_1 + \alpha \\ E_{pqrs}^{(6)} &= B_{pqrs}^{(3)} + z_1 + \alpha. \end{aligned} \quad (3.22)$$

A further 96 exotic sectors arise from

$$\begin{aligned} E_{pqrs}^{(7)} &= \tilde{\mathcal{S}} + V_{pqrs}^{(1)} + z_1 + \alpha \\ &= \{ \psi^\mu, \chi^{1,2}, (1-p)y^3\bar{y}^3, pw^3\bar{w}^3, (1-q)y^4\bar{y}^4, qw^4\bar{w}^4, (1-r)y^5\bar{y}^5, rw^5\bar{w}^5, (1-s)y^6\bar{y}^6, sw^6\bar{w}^6, \bar{\eta}^{2,3}, \bar{\psi}^{4,5}, \bar{\phi}^{5,6} \} \\ E_{pqrs}^{(8)} &= \tilde{\mathcal{S}} + V_{pqrs}^{(2)} + z_1 + \alpha \\ E_{pqrs}^{(9)} &= \tilde{\mathcal{S}} + V_{pqrs}^{(3)} + z_1 + \alpha \\ E_{pqrs}^{(10)} &= \tilde{\mathcal{S}} + V_{pqrs}^{(1)} + z_1 + z_2 + \alpha \\ &= \{ \psi^\mu, \chi^{1,2}, (1-p)y^3\bar{y}^3, pw^3\bar{w}^3, (1-q)y^4\bar{y}^4, qw^4\bar{w}^4, (1-r)y^5\bar{y}^5, rw^5\bar{w}^5, (1-s)y^6\bar{y}^6, sw^6\bar{w}^6, \bar{\eta}^{2,3}, \bar{\psi}^{4,5}, \bar{\phi}^{7,8} \} \\ E_{pqrs}^{(11)} &= \tilde{\mathcal{S}} + V_{pqrs}^{(2)} + z_1 + z_2 + \alpha \\ E_{pqrs}^{(12)} &= \tilde{\mathcal{S}} + V_{pqrs}^{(3)} + z_1 + z_2 + \alpha \end{aligned} \quad (3.23)$$

which give representations $((\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1}), (\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1})), ((\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1}), (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2})), ((\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}), (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}))$ or $((\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}), (\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1}))$ under $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \times SO(4)_{3/4}$.

Finally, there are four additional fermionic spinorial exotics from the sectors

$$\{\tilde{S} + \alpha, \tilde{S} + z_2 + \alpha, \tilde{x} + \alpha, \tilde{x} + z_1 + \alpha\}, \quad (3.24)$$

which transform as a doublet under one of the observable $SU(2)$ factors and doublets under three of the hidden $SO(4)$ gauge factors.

In regard to phenomenology, we are interested in ensuring that there are no chiral exotics in our models, which is why we look at the fermionic exotic sectors only. In order to check this we can classify the exotics in Eq. (3.22) with the numbers $n_4, n_{\bar{4}}$ counting the number of $4/\bar{4}$'s under the $SU(4)$ gauge factor and count the numbers n_{2L}, n_{2R} of $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2})/(\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1})$'s from Eqs. (3.23) and (3.24) under the $SU(2) \times SU(2)$ gauge factors.

IV. FERTILITY METHODOLOGY IN \tilde{S} MODELS

The application of the fertility methodology was employed very successfully in the case of the supersymmetric standard-like models in [28] and left-right symmetric models in [30]. The methodology was particularly useful in these cases due to the scarcity of phenomenologically viable vacua, which was largely due to the abundance of exotic sectors in these models. The key notable feature of our \tilde{S} models which make them ripe for a fertility methodology is the abundance of tachyonic models. It was noted in [31] that the probability of tachyon-free $SO(10)$ models was $\sim 5 \times 10^{-3}$, and we can similarly find that the probability for PS \tilde{S} models to be tachyon-free is $\sim 2 \times 10^{-3}$, i.e., we have to filter out all but around 1 in 500 GGSO configurations.

The fertility methodology involves splitting the full parameter space of, in this case, PS models into two components $\Pi = \Pi_{SO(10)} \times \Pi_\alpha$ and performing a classification in two steps. The first step is to take the $SO(10)$ subspace $\Pi_{SO(10)}$, which is the space of 2^{66} independent GGSO phase configurations for the 12 basis vectors (3.1), and checking for a set of phenomenological conditions which can solely be evaluated within this subspace. These conditions we call ‘fertility conditions’ and the $SO(10)$ models satisfying them ‘fertile cores’. The fertility conditions we impose in our analysis of the \tilde{S} models are listed below.

Once we have these $SO(10)$ fertile cores, we perform the second step which is to evaluate them in the space Π_α , which means iterating over all independent choices of the GGSO phases involving α around these cores. We then collect statistics for these PS models and find a much increased efficiency in finding models satisfying phenomenological constraints owing to this fertility methodology,

compared with a random classification in the full space of PS models.

A. \tilde{S} Fertility conditions

The set of fertility conditions we will use to derive fertile $SO(10)$ \tilde{S} cores can be listed as follows:

- (1) Absence of the tachyonic sectors

$$z_1, e_i + z_1, e_i + e_j + z_1, e_i + e_j + e_k + z_1, \\ i \neq j \neq k = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 \quad (4.1)$$

using the set of projection conditions delineated in Sec. 4 of [31].

- (2) Constraints on $SO(10)$ spinorial states

$$n_{4L} - n_{\bar{4}L} = n_{\bar{4}R} - n_{4R} \geq 6, \quad n_{\bar{4}R}^F > 6. \quad (4.2)$$

The first condition results in a high likelihood of having (at least) three fermion families and the second condition is used as a fermionic analogy to the condition for a heavy Higgs, which would be $n_{\bar{4}R}^B > 1$ if the \tilde{S} -models had the scalar partners of $B^{(1,2,3)}$.

- (iii) For the presence of a SM Higgs i.e., $n_h \geq 1$, and a $D(6, 1, 1)$ i.e., $n_6 \geq 1$, we can impose

$$N_{10} \geq 2 \quad (4.3)$$

at the $SO(10)$ level.

- (4) Presence of a top quark mass coupling (TQMC) which amounts to fixing the following GGSO coefficients

$$C \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ e_1 \end{bmatrix} = C \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ e_2 \end{bmatrix} = C \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ z_1 \end{bmatrix} = C \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ z_2 \end{bmatrix} = -1, \\ C \begin{bmatrix} b_2 \\ e_3 \end{bmatrix} = C \begin{bmatrix} b_2 \\ e_4 \end{bmatrix} = C \begin{bmatrix} b_2 \\ z_1 \end{bmatrix} = C \begin{bmatrix} b_2 \\ z_2 \end{bmatrix} = -1, \\ C \begin{bmatrix} e_5 \\ b_1 \end{bmatrix} C \begin{bmatrix} e_5 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix} = C \begin{bmatrix} e_6 \\ b_1 \end{bmatrix} C \begin{bmatrix} e_6 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix} = 1 \\ C \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix} = -C \begin{bmatrix} e_5 \\ b_1 \end{bmatrix} C \begin{bmatrix} e_6 \\ b_1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (4.4)$$

at the $SO(10)$ level.

Since z_2 is a combination of basis vectors we can rewrite the conditions $C \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ z_2 \end{bmatrix} = C \begin{bmatrix} b_2 \\ z_2 \end{bmatrix} = -1$ in terms of the GGSO phases between basis vectors using the Eqs. (4.4) and Antoniadis-Bachas-Kounnas rules, choosing to fix the phases

$$\begin{aligned} C \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix} &= -C \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ e_3 \end{bmatrix} C \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ e_4 \end{bmatrix} \\ C \begin{bmatrix} b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix} &= -C \begin{bmatrix} b_2 \\ e_1 \end{bmatrix} C \begin{bmatrix} b_2 \\ e_2 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.5)$$

Having listed the conditions 1–4, we will now explain them in more detail.

In regard to condition (1), we should note that these 42 tachyonic sectors (4.1) involving z_1 are the only $SO(10)$ tachyonic sectors we can use as a fertility condition, since the others can be projected by an α GGSO projection as mentioned in Sec. III B. For example, we could have an $SO(10)$ core with a spinorial tachyon from the z_2 sector which is in fact absent at the PS level due to $C \begin{bmatrix} z_2 \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix} = -1$. However, the z_1 tachyonic sectors must be projected at the $SO(10)$ level as a necessary condition on the absence of all tachyons at the PS level.

In regard to the second part of condition (2), having a $n_{4R}^B - n_{\bar{4}R}^B$ present we typically call having a heavy Higgs, where we use the B superscript to make it clear that this is a bosonic (scalar) sector. However, as already mentioned, the \tilde{S} models have no such scalar components and so we cannot implement this condition. Instead we implement a condition on having the fermionic representations $n_{\bar{4}R}, n_{4R}$ in the spectrum in order to draw a parallel with the heavy Higgs condition which we can implement for the S models analyzed in the next section. We further must note that the condition $n_6 \geq 1$ in (3), relates to the so-called missing partner mechanism of Pati-Salam models [38] for which we also require the $n_{4R}^{(B)}, n_{\bar{4}R}^{(B)}$. Again, since we have no heavy Higgs for the \tilde{S} models we implement this $n_6 \geq 1$ condition purely to draw the parallel to the methodology we can apply for the S models. In analogy with the missing partner mechanism we will say that the requirement of $n_6 \geq 1$ is required for a ‘heavy triplet constraint’.

The conditions on the GGSO phases from (4) in Eqs. (4.4) and (4.5) for the existence of the TQMC is a necessary condition for the presence of a TQMC at the PS level and can be made into a sufficient condition by fixing the phases

$$C \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix} = -C \begin{bmatrix} b_2 \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix} = -1 \quad (4.6)$$

at the PS level. The derivation of these results in a supersymmetric PS construction can be found in Ref. [39]. It is derived through choosing $B_{0000}^1 = b_1$ and $B_{0000}^2 = b_2$ to survive the GGSO projections (3.11), along with a bidoublet Higgs from the sector $V_{0000}^3 = b_1 + b_2$ surviving the projector (3.20). Furthermore, using (3.13) we can ensure b_1 and b_2 give rise to $\mathbf{16}$'s such that $X_{0000}^1 = X_{0000}^2 = 1$ through the condition (4.4). Then the GGSO phase conditions (4.6) ensures that b_1 generates a $n_{4L}(\mathbf{4}, \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1})$, b_2 generates a

$n_{\bar{4}R}(\mathbf{\bar{4}}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2})$ and then $b_1 + b_2$ generates the $h(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{2})$. We thus obtain the TQMC via the term

$$n_{4L}^{(1)F} n_{\bar{4}R}^{(2)F} h^{(3)B} = Qu^c H^u + Qd^c H^d + Le^c H^d + Lv^c H^u. \quad (4.7)$$

Since we have guaranteed that a bidoublet Higgs arises from the sector $b_1 + b_2$ we can note this overlaps with condition (3) since we automatically have $N_{10} \geq 1$.

Having defined the fertility methodology and the details of the construction of PS \tilde{S} models, in the next section we present the construction of the nonsupersymmetric S models which descend from the nontachyonic $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ 10D string. The results of the classification of PS \tilde{S} models and S models are given in Sec. VII.

V. $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ DERIVED 4D MODELS

We now turn to look at what we will refer to as the S models, which are the nonsupersymmetric class of models descending from the $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ heterotic string. We can employ the same basis as used for the classification of supersymmetric PS models in [25]

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{1} &= \{\psi^\mu, \chi^{1,\dots,6}, y^{1,\dots,6}, w^{1,\dots,6} | \bar{y}^{1,\dots,6}, \bar{w}^{1,\dots,6}, \\ &\quad \bar{\psi}^{1,\dots,5}, \bar{\eta}^{1,2,3}, \bar{\phi}^{1,\dots,8}\}, \\ S &= \{\psi^\mu, \chi^{1,\dots,6}\}, \\ e_i &= \{y^i, w^i | \bar{y}^i, \bar{w}^i\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, 6 \\ b_1 &= \{\chi^{34}, \chi^{56}, y^{34}, y^{56} | \bar{y}^{34}, \bar{y}^{56}, \bar{\eta}^1, \bar{\psi}^{1,\dots,5}\}, \\ b_2 &= \{\chi^{12}, \chi^{56}, y^{12}, y^{56} | \bar{y}^{12}, \bar{y}^{56}, \bar{\eta}^2, \bar{\psi}^{1,\dots,5}\}, \\ z_1 &= \{\bar{\phi}^{1,\dots,4}\}, \\ z_2 &= \{\bar{\phi}^{5,\dots,8}\}, \\ \alpha &= \{\bar{\psi}^{4,5}, \bar{\phi}^{1,2}\} \end{aligned} \quad (5.1)$$

We will also make regular use of the combination

$$x = 1 + S + \sum_{i=1}^6 e_i + \sum_{k=1}^2 z_k = \{\bar{\psi}^{1,\dots,5}, \bar{\eta}^{1,2,3}\}. \quad (5.2)$$

The non-SUSY models are those in which the gravitino is projected from the S massless sector. This means, in other words, that SUSY is broken by a GGSO phase in these S models. Therefore, the total space of nonsupersymmetric models is the total space of all PS models which is $2^{13(13-1)/2} = 2^{78}$ models¹ minus the space of supersymmetric configurations. The necessary and sufficient condition for the presence of supersymmetry is the fixing of the nine GGSO phases

¹The phase $C \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ can, without loss of generality, be fixed to $+1$ or -1 , which just leaves the upper triangle of the GGSO phase matrix as free phases, with the rest fixed by modular invariance.

TABLE III. Conditions on GGSO coefficients for survival of spinorial $SO(10)$ level on-shell tachyons for S models. Only $e_1, e_1 + e_2, e_1 + e_2 + e_3$ combinations are detailed but other combinations of e_i 's are similar.

Tachyonic Sector	Survival conditions
z_1	$C_{e_1}^{[z_1]} = C_{e_2}^{[z_1]} = C_{e_3}^{[z_1]} = C_{e_4}^{[z_1]} = C_{e_5}^{[z_1]} = C_{e_6}^{[z_1]} = +1$ $C_S^{[z_1]} = C_{z_2}^{[z_1]} = C_{b_1}^{[z_1]} = C_{b_2}^{[z_1]} = C_x^{[z_1]} = +1$
$e_1 + z_1$	$C_{e_2}^{[e_1+z_1]} = C_{e_3}^{[e_1+z_1]} = C_{e_4}^{[e_1+z_1]} = C_{e_5}^{[e_1+z_1]} = C_{e_6}^{[e_1+z_1]} = +1$ $C_S^{[e_1+z_1]} = C_{b_1}^{[e_1+z_1]} = C_{z_2}^{[e_1+z_1]} = C_x^{[e_1+z_1]} = +1$
$e_1 + e_2 + z_1$	$C_{e_3}^{[e_1+e_2+z_1]} = C_{e_4}^{[e_1+e_2+z_1]} = C_{e_5}^{[e_1+e_2+z_1]} = C_{e_6}^{[e_1+e_2+z_1]} = +1$ $C_S^{[e_1+e_2+z_1]} = C_{b_1}^{[e_1+e_2+z_1]} = C_x^{[e_1+e_2+z_1]} = C_{z_2}^{[e_1+e_2+z_1]} = +1$
$e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + z_1$	$C_{e_4}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_1]} = C_{e_5}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_1]} = C_{e_6}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_1]} = +1$ $C_S^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_1]} = C_x^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_1]} = C_{z_2}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_1]} = +1$
z_2	$C_{e_1}^{[z_2]} = C_{e_2}^{[z_2]} = C_{e_3}^{[z_2]} = C_{e_4}^{[z_2]} = C_{e_5}^{[z_2]} = C_{e_6}^{[z_2]} = +1$ $C_S^{[z_2]} = C_{z_1}^{[z_2]} = C_{b_1}^{[z_2]} = C_{b_2}^{[z_2]} = C_x^{[z_2]} = +1$
$e_1 + z_2$	$C_{e_2}^{[e_1+z_2]} = C_{e_3}^{[e_1+z_2]} = C_{e_4}^{[e_1+z_2]} = C_{e_5}^{[e_1+z_2]} = C_{e_6}^{[e_1+z_2]} = +1$ $C_S^{[e_1+z_2]} = C_{z_1}^{[e_1+z_2]} = C_{b_1}^{[e_1+z_2]} = C_x^{[e_1+z_2]} = C_{z_2}^{[e_1+z_2]} = +1$
$e_1 + e_2 + z_2$	$C_{e_3}^{[e_1+e_2+z_2]} = C_{e_4}^{[e_1+e_2+z_2]} = C_{e_5}^{[e_1+e_2+z_2]} = C_{e_6}^{[e_1+e_2+z_2]} = +1$ $C_S^{[e_1+e_2+z_2]} = C_{z_1}^{[e_1+e_2+z_2]} = C_{b_1}^{[e_1+e_2+z_2]} = C_x^{[e_1+e_2+z_2]} = C_{z_2}^{[e_1+e_2+z_2]} = +1$
$e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + z_2$	$C_{e_4}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_2]} = C_{e_5}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_2]} = C_{e_6}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_2]} = +1$ $C_S^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_2]} = C_{z_1}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_2]} = C_x^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_2]} = C_{z_2}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_2]} = +1$

$$C \begin{bmatrix} S \\ e_i \end{bmatrix} = C \begin{bmatrix} S \\ z_n \end{bmatrix} = C \begin{bmatrix} S \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix} = -1, \quad (5.3)$$

with $i = 1, \dots, 6$, $m = 1, 2$ and $n = 1, 2$. These phase choices ensure the gravitino is not projected. Therefore the total space of non-SUSY PS models has size $2^{78} - 2^{78-9} \sim 3 \times 10^{23}$.

The untwisted sector gauge vector bosons for these models generate the gauge group

$$SO(6) \times SO(4) \times U(1)_1 \times U(1)_2 \times U(1)_3 \\ \times SO(4)^2 \times SO(8). \quad (5.4)$$

which only differ from the \tilde{S} models in that the gauge bosons generating the $SO(8)$ hidden group factor $\psi^\mu \bar{\phi}^c \bar{\phi}^d |NS\rangle$, $c, d = 5, 6, 7, 8$, are unbroken, unlike in the case of the \tilde{S} projection. Additional gauge bosons arise from enhanced sectors which are exactly those listed in the supersymmetric case from Sec. 3.1 of [25].

A. Analysis of Tachyonic Sectors

The tachyonic sectors for the S models are identical to the \tilde{S} case, however the projection/survival conditions differ. Having S in our basis (5.1), means it can be used as a possible projector of all the tachyonic sectors depending on the GGSO phases involving S . Of course, in the SUSY case where Eq. (5.3) holds, all the tachyonic sectors

are automatically projected by the S projection, which is the origin of SUSY models being tachyon free in the free fermionic construction.

Due to this special property of S , in terms of computational efficiency it makes sense to implement the S projection first on all the tachyonic sectors and then only apply the further GGSO projections to sectors surviving S . Concretely, for a generic tachyonic sector ξ , in which Eq. (3.9) holds, we can first check

$$C \begin{bmatrix} \xi \\ S \end{bmatrix} = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{survives} \\ -1 & \text{projected} \end{cases} \quad (5.5)$$

and if ξ survives this then we can move on to check the other GGSO projections for its survival/absence.

The conditions for the survival of all $SO(10)$ tachyonic sectors are detailed in Tables III and IV before the PS tachyonic sectors survival conditions are explicated in Table V.

B. Massless sectors

Since the basis is identical to that analyzed in [25], the massless sectors are the same, and we will not repeat all the details here. The aspects of the analysis which deserve further exploration are those in which the absence of supersymmetry manifests itself. Of particular interest is how the breaking of SUSY by a GGSO phase in S models

TABLE IV. Conditions on GGSO coefficients for the survival of vectorial $SO(10)$ level on-shell tachyons in S models. Only $e_1, e_{12} := e_1 + e_2$ and $e_{123} := e_1 + e_2 + e_3$ combinations are detailed but other combinations of e_i 's are similar.

Tachyonic Sector	Survival conditions
$\{\bar{\lambda}\} e_1\rangle$	$S_O = \{C_{e_3}^{[e_1]}, C_{e_4}^{[e_1]}, C_{e_5}^{[e_1]}, C_{e_6}^{[e_1]}, C_{z_1}^{[e_1]}, C_{z_2}^{[e_1]}, C_{\alpha}^{[e_1]}, C_{b_1}^{[e_1]}, C_x^{[e_1]}\}$
$\bar{\lambda} = \bar{\psi}^{1,2,3}/\bar{\eta}^1$	$C_S^{[e_1]} = 1$ and $\#(x \in S_O x = -1) = 2$ s.t. $C_{b_1}^{[e_1]} = C_x^{[e_1]} = -1$
$\bar{\lambda} = \bar{\phi}^{1,2}$	or $C_S^{[e_1]} = 1$ and $\#(x \in S_O x = -1) = 2$ s.t. $C_{z_1}^{[e_1]} = C_{\alpha}^{[e_1]} = -1$
$\bar{\lambda} = \bar{y}^{3,4,5,6}$	or $C_S^{[e_1]} = 1$ and $\#(x \in S_O x = -1) = 2$ s.t. $C_{b_1}^{[e_1]} = C_{e_{3,4,5,6}}^{[e_1]} = -1$
$\bar{\lambda} = \bar{\psi}^{4,5}$	or $C_S^{[e_1]} = 1$ and $\#(x \in S_O x = -1) = 3$ s.t. $C_{b_1}^{[e_1]} = C_x^{[e_1]} = C_{\alpha}^{[e_1]} - 1$
$\bar{\lambda} = \text{else}$	or $C_S^{[e_1]} = 1$ and $\#(x \in S_O x = -1) = 1$
$\{\bar{\lambda}\} e_{12}\rangle$	$S_O = \{C_{e_3}^{[e_{12}]}, C_{e_4}^{[e_{12}]}, C_{e_5}^{[e_{12}]}, C_{e_6}^{[e_{12}]}, C_{z_1}^{[e_{12}]}, C_{z_2}^{[e_{12}]}, C_{\alpha}^{[e_{12}]}, C_{b_1}^{[e_{12}]}, C_x^{[e_{12}]}\}$
$\bar{\lambda} = \bar{\psi}^{1,2,3}/\bar{\eta}^1$	$C_S^{[e_{12}]} = 1$ and $\#(x \in S_O x = -1) = 2$ s.t. $C_{b_1}^{[e_{12}]} = C_x^{[e_{12}]} = -1$
$\bar{\lambda} = \bar{\phi}^{1,2}$	or $C_S^{[e_{12}]} = 1$ and $\#(x \in S_O x = -1) = 2$ s.t. $C_{z_1}^{[e_{12}]} = C_{\alpha}^{[e_{12}]} = -1$
$\bar{\lambda} = \bar{y}^{3,4,5,6}$	or $C_S^{[e_{12}]} = 1$ and $\#(x \in S_O x = -1) = 2$ s.t. $C_{b_1}^{[e_{12}]} = C_{e_{3,4,5,6}}^{[e_{12}]} = -1$
$\bar{\lambda} = \bar{\psi}^{4,5}$	or $C_S^{[e_{12}]} = 1$ and $\#(x \in S_O x = -1) = 3$ s.t. $C_{b_1}^{[e_{12}]} = C_x^{[e_{12}]} = C_{\alpha}^{[e_{12}]} - 1$
$\bar{\lambda} = \text{else}$	or $C_S^{[e_{12}]} = 1$ and $\#(x \in S_O x = -1) = 1$
$\{\bar{\lambda}\} e_{123}\rangle$	$S_O = \{C_{e_4}^{[e_{123}]}, C_{e_5}^{[e_{123}]}, C_{e_6}^{[e_{123}]}, C_{z_1}^{[e_{123}]}, C_{z_2}^{[e_{123}]}, C_{\alpha}^{[e_{123}]}, C_x^{[e_{123}]}\}$
$\bar{\lambda} = \bar{\psi}^{4,5}$	$C_S^{[e_{123}]} = 1$ and $\#(x \in S_O x = -1) = 2$ s.t. $C_{\alpha}^{[e_{123}]} = C_x^{[e_{123}]} = -1$
$\bar{\lambda} = \bar{\phi}^{1,2}$	or $C_S^{[e_{123}]} = 1$ and $\#(x \in S_O x = -1) = 2$ s.t. $C_{z_1}^{[e_{123}]} = C_{\alpha}^{[e_{123}]} = -1$
$\bar{\lambda} = \text{else}$	or $C_S^{[e_{123}]} = 1$ and $\#(x \in S_O x = -1) = 1$

causes differences to where it is broken explicitly in the \tilde{S} models.

The way of breaking SUSY in the S models (by a GGSO phase) allows the possibility of spontaneous SUSY

breaking of Scherk-Schwarz type [40,41], which cannot be the case for any \tilde{S} models. In particular, it is well known in orbifold compactifications that if a freely acting orbifold gives a mass contribution to a gravitino then the SUSY

 TABLE V. Conditions on GGSO coefficients for the survival of spinorial PS level on-shell tachyons in S models. Only $e_1, e_1 + e_2, e_1 + e_2 + e_3$ combinations are detailed but other combinations of e_i 's are similar.

Tachyonic sector	Survival conditions
α	$C_{e_1}^{[\alpha]} = C_{e_2}^{[\alpha]} = C_{e_3}^{[\alpha]} = C_{e_4}^{[\alpha]} = C_{e_5}^{[\alpha]} = C_{e_6}^{[\alpha]} = +1$ $C_S^{[\alpha]} = C_{z_2}^{[\alpha]} = C_{b_1+z_1+\alpha}^{[\alpha]} = C_{b_2+z_1+\alpha}^{[\alpha]} = +1$
$z_1 + \alpha$	$C_{e_3}^{[z_1+\alpha]} = C_{e_4}^{[z_1+\alpha]} = C_{e_5}^{[z_1+\alpha]} = C_{e_6}^{[z_1+\alpha]} = +1$ $C_S^{[z_1+\alpha]} = C_{z_2}^{[z_1+\alpha]} = C_{b_1+\alpha}^{[z_1+\alpha]} = C_{b_2+\alpha}^{[z_1+\alpha]} = +1$
$e_1 + \alpha$	$C_{e_2}^{[e_1+\alpha]} = C_{e_3}^{[e_1+\alpha]} = C_{e_4}^{[e_1+\alpha]} = C_{e_5}^{[e_1+\alpha]} = C_{e_6}^{[e_1+\alpha]} = +1$ $C_S^{[e_1+\alpha]} = C_{b_1+z_1+\alpha}^{[e_1+\alpha]} = C_{\bar{x}+z_1+\alpha}^{[e_1+\alpha]} = C_{z_2}^{[e_1+\alpha]} = +1$
$e_1 + z_1 + \alpha$	$C_{e_2}^{[e_1+z_1+\alpha]} = C_{e_3}^{[e_1+z_1+\alpha]} = C_{e_4}^{[e_1+z_1+\alpha]} = C_{e_5}^{[e_1+z_1+\alpha]} = C_{e_6}^{[e_1+z_1+\alpha]} = +1$ $C_S^{[e_1+z_1+\alpha]} = C_{b_1+\alpha}^{[e_1+z_1+\alpha]} = C_{\bar{x}+\alpha}^{[e_1+z_1+\alpha]} = C_{z_2}^{[e_1+z_1+\alpha]} = +1$
$e_1 + e_2 + \alpha$	$C_{e_3}^{[e_1+e_2+\alpha]} = C_{e_4}^{[e_1+e_2+\alpha]} = C_{e_5}^{[e_1+e_2+\alpha]} = C_{e_6}^{[e_1+e_2+\alpha]} = +1$ $C_S^{[e_1+e_2+\alpha]} = C_{b_1+z_1+\alpha}^{[e_1+e_2+\alpha]} = C_{\bar{x}+z_1+\alpha}^{[e_1+e_2+\alpha]} = C_{z_2}^{[e_1+e_2+\alpha]} = +1$
$e_1 + e_2 + z_1 + \alpha$	$C_{e_3}^{[e_1+e_2+z_1+\alpha]} = C_{e_4}^{[e_1+e_2+z_1+\alpha]} = C_{e_5}^{[e_1+e_2+z_1+\alpha]} = C_{e_6}^{[e_1+e_2+z_1+\alpha]} = +1$ $C_S^{[e_1+e_2+z_1+\alpha]} = C_{b_1+\alpha}^{[e_1+e_2+z_1+\alpha]} = C_{\bar{x}+\alpha}^{[e_1+e_2+z_1+\alpha]} = C_{z_2}^{[e_1+e_2+z_1+\alpha]} = +1$
$e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + \alpha$	$C_{e_4}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+\alpha]} = C_{e_5}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+\alpha]} = C_{e_6}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+\alpha]} = +1$ $C_S^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+\alpha]} = C_{\bar{x}+z_1+\alpha}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+\alpha]} = C_{z_2}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+\alpha]} = +1$
$e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + z_1 + \alpha$	$C_{e_4}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_1+\alpha]} = C_{e_5}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_1+\alpha]} = C_{e_6}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_1+\alpha]} = +1$ $C_S^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_1+\alpha]} = C_{\bar{x}+\alpha}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_1+\alpha]} = C_{z_2}^{[e_1+e_2+e_3+z_1+\alpha]} = +1$

breaking is spontaneous and above the gravitino mass scale SUSY is effectively restored. In such cases, the orbifold model is an example of a stringy Scherk-Schwarz compactification. In order to see how this is implemented within our S models, we could transform it into an orbifold model with freely acting action using the dictionary of [34]. Such an analysis is done explicitly for several $SO(10)$ models in Ref. [10] but doing so for the S models under analysis is left for future work.

As in the supersymmetric case, spinorial $\mathbf{16}/\overline{\mathbf{16}}$'s arise from the sectors

$$\begin{aligned} B_{pqrs}^{(1)} &= S + b_1 + pe_3 + qe_4 + re_5 + se_6 \\ &= \{\psi^\mu, \chi^{1,2}, (1-p)y^3\bar{y}^3, pw^3\bar{w}^3, (1-q)y^4\bar{y}^4, qw^4\bar{w}^4, \\ &\quad (1-r)y^5\bar{y}^5, rw^5\bar{w}^5, (1-s)y^6\bar{y}^6, sw^6\bar{w}^6, \bar{\eta}^1, \bar{\psi}^{1,\dots,5}\} \\ B_{pqrs}^{(2)} &= S + b_2 + pe_1 + qe_2 + re_5 + se_6 \\ B_{pqrs}^{(3)} &= S + b_3 + pe_1 + qe_2 + re_3 + se_4 \end{aligned} \quad (5.6)$$

where $p, q, r, s = 0, 1$ and $b_3 = b_1 + b_2 + x$ and vectorial $\mathbf{10}$'s from the sectors

$$V_{pqrs}^{(I)} = B_{pqrs}^{(I)} + x, \quad I = 1, 2, 3. \quad (5.7)$$

However, in the SUSY case we know that any states in the Hilbert space of a model will be accompanied by their superpartners, generated through the addition of the S vector. In the non-SUSY case under consideration here, due to the S projection, the would-be superpartners can either be projected or have mismatched charges.

Since the same formulas can be found for the SUSY classifications we will write the equations for the key classification numbers related to the observable gauge factors without further explanation. From the spinorial $\mathbf{16}/\overline{\mathbf{16}}$ we get the PS numbers

$$n_{4L} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\substack{A=1,2,3 \\ p,q,r,s=0,1}} P_{pqrs}^A (1 + X_{pqrs}^A) \left(1 + C \left[\begin{matrix} B_{pqrs}^A \\ \alpha \end{matrix} \right] \right) \quad (5.8)$$

$$n_{4R} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\substack{A=1,2,3 \\ p,q,r,s=0,1}} P_{pqrs}^A (1 - X_{pqrs}^A) \left(1 - C \left[\begin{matrix} B_{pqrs}^A \\ \alpha \end{matrix} \right] \right) \quad (5.9)$$

$$n_{\bar{4}L} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\substack{A=1,2,3 \\ p,q,r,s=0,1}} P_{pqrs}^A (1 - X_{pqrs}^A) \left(1 + C \left[\begin{matrix} B_{pqrs}^A \\ \alpha \end{matrix} \right] \right) \quad (5.10)$$

$$n_{\bar{4}R} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\substack{A=1,2,3 \\ p,q,r,s=0,1}} P_{pqrs}^A (1 + X_{pqrs}^A) \left(1 - C \left[\begin{matrix} B_{pqrs}^A \\ \alpha \end{matrix} \right] \right). \quad (5.11)$$

where X_{pqrs}^A determines the chirality $\mathbf{16}/\overline{\mathbf{16}}$ of a $B_{pqrs}^{1,2,3}$ sector given by Eq. (5.6) and P_{pqrs}^A are the projectors (3.11)

for $B_{pqrs}^{1,2,3}$. Meanwhile, from the $\mathbf{10}$ we can write the bidoublet and $D(\mathbf{6}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})$ numbers as

$$n_h = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{A=1,2,3 \\ p,q,r,s=0,1}} R_{pqrs}^{(A)} \left(1 - C \left[\begin{matrix} V_{pqrs}^A \\ \alpha \end{matrix} \right] \right) \quad (5.12)$$

$$n_6 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{A=1,2,3 \\ p,q,r,s=0,1}} R_{pqrs}^{(A)} \left(1 + C \left[\begin{matrix} V_{pqrs}^A \\ \alpha \end{matrix} \right] \right) \quad (5.13)$$

where $R_{pqrs}^{(A)}$ are the vectorial projectors in this case.

The other important aspects of these models that we will need for a phenomenological analysis are the absence of gauge enhancements affecting the observable gauge factors and the absence of chiral exotic sectors. The exotic sectors listed in Sec. II of the SUSY PS classification of [25] are also present in our analysis. However, by analyzing the fermionic exotics in our S models we cannot say anything about the would-be superpartner scalar exotics. For example, in the SUSY case, if you find an absence of any fermionic exotic sectors then a model can be declared exophobic (free of all exotic sectors) since the scalar superpartners will also be absent. For our purposes we will not classify these scalar exotic sectors but only seek to ensure the absence of chiral exotics by inspecting the fermionic exotics.

A further difference to our exotics analysis is that we have the exotic sectors

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \{ \bar{\lambda}^i \} |S + \alpha\rangle, & \{ \bar{\lambda}^i \} |S + z_1 + \alpha\rangle \\ |S + z_2 + \alpha\rangle, & |S + z_1 + z_2 + \alpha\rangle \\ |S + \alpha + x\rangle, & |S + z_1 + \alpha + x\rangle \end{array} \right\} \quad (5.14)$$

which in SUSY models are thought of as (gaugino) superpartners of mixed enhancement sectors generating additional gauge bosons. In the SUSY case, such sectors can be assured to be projected out whenever the enhancements are projected. Since the absence of observable enhancements is a fundamental phenomenological constraint to impose, once checked we can be sure that these sectors (5.14) are projected too. For the non-SUSY case, we cannot be sure that the absence of enhancements to the observable gauge group will result in the projection of these exotic states (5.14) so we must account for them when looking at the absence of a chiral exotic anomaly.

C. Fertility conditions

We will use a similar fertility methodology as in the \tilde{S} case except in this case we can consistently enforce conditions on the presence of a heavy Higgs to break the PS group and have the accompanying missing partner mechanism. We can list the set of fertility conditions as follows:

- (1) Absence of the tachyonic sectors

$$z_1, \quad e_i + z_1, \quad e_i + e_j + z_1, \quad e_i + e_j + e_k + z_1 \quad (5.15)$$

using the set of conditions delineated in Table III.

- (2) Constraints on $SO(10)$ spinorial states related to the presence of complete fermion families and a heavy Higgs

$$n_{4L} - n_{4\bar{L}} = n_{4R} - n_{4\bar{R}} \geq 6, \quad n_{4R}^{(B)} > 1. \quad (5.16)$$

- (3) For the presence of a SM Higgs, i.e., $n_h \geq 1$, and a $D(6, 1, 1)$, i.e., $n_6 \geq 1$, we can impose

$$N_{10} \geq 2 \quad (5.17)$$

at the $SO(10)$ level.

- (4) Presence of a top quark mass coupling which amounts to fixing the following GGSO coefficients following the methodology of [39]

$$C \begin{bmatrix} e_i \\ b_1 \end{bmatrix} = -C \begin{bmatrix} e_i \\ S \end{bmatrix}, \quad i = 1, 2 \quad (5.18)$$

$$C \begin{bmatrix} e_j \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix} = -C \begin{bmatrix} e_j \\ S \end{bmatrix}, \quad j = 3, 4 \quad (5.19)$$

$$C \begin{bmatrix} z_k \\ b_1 \end{bmatrix} = -C \begin{bmatrix} z_k \\ S \end{bmatrix}, \\ C \begin{bmatrix} z_k \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix} = -C \begin{bmatrix} z_k \\ S \end{bmatrix}, \quad k = 1, 2 \quad (5.20)$$

$$C \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ e_5 \end{bmatrix} = C \begin{bmatrix} b_2 \\ e_5 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ e_6 \end{bmatrix} = C \begin{bmatrix} b_2 \\ e_6 \end{bmatrix} \quad (5.21)$$

at the $SO(10)$ level, and

$$C \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix} = -C \begin{bmatrix} b_2 \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix} = C \begin{bmatrix} S \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix} \quad (5.22)$$

at the PS level.

A few comments on these conditions are in order.

In condition (2) the equation $n_{4R}^{(B)} > 1$ is a necessary, but not sufficient, condition on the presence of a heavy Higgs to break the PS gauge symmetry. We specify that these come from the bosonic sectors $B_{pqrs}^{(1,2,3)B} = S + B_{pqrs}^{(1,2,3)F}$. We note that any such sector, ξ , that survives the GGSO projections and has a GGSO phase $C_{\alpha}^{[\xi]} = 1$ will give rise to the scalars with observable representations

$$\left[\binom{3}{\text{even}}_{\bar{\psi}^{1,2,3}} + \binom{3}{\text{odd}}_{\bar{\psi}^{1,2,3}} \right] \binom{2}{\text{even}}_{\bar{\psi}^{4,5}} =: n_{4R}^{(B)} + n_{4\bar{R}}^{(B)}, \quad (5.23)$$

where we employ the convenient notation $\binom{3}{\text{even}} = \{|\pm \pm \pm\rangle | \#(|-\rangle) \bmod 2 = 0\}$. These $n_{4R}^{(B)} + n_{4\bar{R}}^{(B)}$ states are those we want to break the PS gauge group. Furthermore, with both of them we can allow for breaking along a D-flat direction, which enables hierarchical SUSY breaking via Scherk-Schwarz, although this would need to be evaluated carefully for a specific model.

In condition (3) imposing $n_6 \geq 1$ is required for the implementation of the Missing Partner Mechanism of PS models. This occurs once the PS group is broken and the heavy Higgs has acquired a VEV. With a $(\mathbf{6}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})$ triplet/antitriplet field we induce couplings to d/\bar{d} SM fields of the form $\sim \langle n_{4R} \rangle d^c D_3$ and $\sim \langle n_{4R} \rangle \bar{d}^c \bar{D}_3$. These form massive states at the GUT scale which protect proton decay from happening too quickly.

VI. PARTITION FUNCTION OF PATI-SALAM MODELS

The analysis of the partition function is particularly important in nonsupersymmetric constructions, as it gives a complementary tool to analyze the structure of the theory. It also provides the necessary tools to count the total number of states at each mass level and hence check for the existence of on- and off-shell tachyons in any specific model. Moreover, its integration over the fundamental domain corresponds to the cosmological constant.

The partition function for free fermionic theories is given by the integral

$$Z = \int_{\mathcal{F}} \frac{d^2\tau}{\tau_2^2} Z_B \sum_{\alpha, \beta} C \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} \prod_f Z \begin{bmatrix} \alpha(f) \\ \beta(f) \end{bmatrix}, \quad (6.1)$$

where $d^2\tau/\tau_2^2$ is the modular invariant measure and Z_B is the bosonic contribution arising from the world-sheet bosons. The sum gives the contributions from the world-sheet fermions and involves all combinations of basis vectors α, β from a given basis set, which in our case are the ones given in (3.1) and (5.1). The integral is over the fundamental domain of the modular group

$$\mathcal{F} = \{\tau \in \mathbb{C} \mid |\tau|^2 > 1 \wedge |\tau_1| < 1/2\},$$

which ensures that only physically inequivalent geometries are counted. The above integral specifically represents the one-loop vacuum energy Λ of our theory. Note that this is the cosmological constant from the world-sheet point of view and hence is a dimensionless quantity [42]. It is related to the spacetime cosmological constant, λ , by $\lambda = -\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{M}^4 \Lambda$, where $\mathcal{M} = M_{\text{String}}/2\pi$. For simplicity, in

the following we will refer to Λ as the cosmological constant.

The best way to perform this integral is as presented in [31,43] using the expansion of the η and θ functions in terms of the modular parameter τ , or more precisely, in terms of $q \equiv e^{2\pi i\tau}$ and $\bar{q} \equiv e^{-2\pi i\bar{\tau}}$. This leads to a series expansion of the one-loop partition function

$$Z = \sum_{n,m} a_{mn} \int_{\mathcal{F}} \frac{d^2\tau}{\tau_2^3} q^m \bar{q}^n. \quad (6.2)$$

The benefit of such an expansion to the partition function is that the a_{mn} represent the difference between bosonic and fermionic degrees of freedom at each mass level, i.e., $a_{mn} = N_b - N_f$. As expected, on-shell tachyonic states, i.e., states with $m = n < 0$, have an infinite contribution. On the other hand off-shell tachyonic states may contribute a finite value to the partition function. It is indeed known that such off-shell tachyonic states are necessarily present in the spectrum of non-SUSY theories [43] and so all of our Pati-Salam models possess such states. It is also important to note that modular invariance constraints imposed on the basis and GGSO phases only allows states with $m - n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

In theories with spacetime supersymmetry, it is ensured that the bosonic and fermionic degrees of freedom are exactly matched at each mass level. That is, we necessarily have that $a_{mn} = 0$ for all m and n , which in turn causes the vanishing of the cosmological constant. For nonsupersymmetric models like the ones introduced in Secs. III and V, this level-by-level cancellation is not ensured and so in general produce a nonzero value for Λ . This value, however, is specific to the fermionic point in the orbifold moduli space and hence moving away from this point can in principle change Λ as discussed in [10].

An interesting possibility is to try to suppress the value of the cosmological constant so that we are guaranteed a small value. It has been shown in [44–48] that such a mechanism may be possible for models which satisfy the constraint $N_b^0 = N_f^0$ or in the above language $a_{00} = 0$. These rely on a Scherk–Schwarz SUSY breaking in which the internal dimensions of the compactification space R are used to suppress the next-to-leading order contributions to Λ in the large volume $R \rightarrow \infty$ limit. This is because in this setup, the dependence of the cosmological constant on the compactification radius schematically becomes

$$\Lambda \propto (N_b^0 - N_f^0) \frac{1}{R^4} + \mathcal{O}(e^{-\alpha R^2}), \quad (6.3)$$

and thus in the large R limit, Λ is exponentially suppressed given that $N_b^0 = N_f^0$. Thus in our classification program, we also try to find models which fulfil this condition and so may be good candidates to further explore this idea. It is important to note, however, that since the above mechanism relies on a Scherk-Schwarz breaking, it can only be applied to (some) S -models. This is because in \tilde{S} -models, SUSY is

broken explicitly. Moreover, since in the free fermionic formulation the models are evaluated at a specific self dual point in the moduli space, more work needs to be done to analyze the behavior of $N_b^0 - N_f^0$ away from this point. This is indeed possible and requires the translation of the free fermionic model into the orbifold picture where we can reintroduce the dependence on the geometric moduli [10].

VII. RESULTS OF CLASSIFICATION

Using the methodology built up in the previous sections, we can now turn towards analysing samples of PS \tilde{S} and S models with respect to standard phenomenological criteria. First of all, we perform a random classification in the space of PS \tilde{S} and S models. This works by generating random GGSO phase configurations and classifying according to the absence of tachyons and the classification numbers: n_{4L} , n_{4L} , n_{4R} , n_{4R} , n_h , n_6 , n_4 , $n_{\bar{4}}$, n_{2L} , n_{2R} which are common to \tilde{S} and S models and are defined in previous sections. For the \tilde{S} models there are a further two classification numbers, n_{V2L} , n_{V2R} , relating to the vectorial exotics (3.21). The results of the random classification for a sample of 10^9 GGSO configurations in both the \tilde{S} and S model cases are displayed in Tables VI and VII, respectively.

From these results we can first note a higher probability of ~ 0.01 that an S -model is tachyon-free compared with an \tilde{S} model which has probability ~ 0.002 . This is likely due to the power of GGSO phases involving S in projecting the tachyons. Another notable result is the absence of PS \tilde{S} models without massless fermionic exotics in the final criteria (10), whereas we find vacua for the S models where all fermionic exotic sectors are projected. As mentioned in previous sections, we are not classifying the scalar exotic sectors here and so we can not say whether there are exophobic models, which were found in the SUSY PS classification of [25]. Due to the absence of SUSY it appears that finding such exophobic models would be much less likely due to having to check the bosonic exotic sectors independently to the fermionic ones.

As explained in earlier sections, the PS \tilde{S} model analysis is unphysical in the sense that we implement the condition (6) for the presence of n_{4R}^F , n_{4R}^F and condition (8) for the presence of a $D(\mathbf{6}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})$ in order to draw an analogy with the analysis of the S models where a heavy Higgs can be found from the bosonic component of the $\mathbf{16}/\overline{\mathbf{16}}$ and a missing partner mechanism can be implemented requiring the $D(\mathbf{6}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})$ state. The difference in condition (6) skew the numbers a bit since requiring a PS Higgs for the S models is a weak condition, whereas the symbolic condition for a n_{4R}^F , n_{4R}^F in the \tilde{S} models is stronger.

In order to find more models satisfying our phenomenological constraints we can now turn to utilizing the fertility methodology outlined in Secs. IVA and VC for the \tilde{S} and S cases, respectively. Explicitly, we do this by

TABLE VI. Phenomenological statistics from a sample of 10^9 randomly generated Pati-Salam \tilde{S} models.

Constraints		Total models in sample	Probability
No Constraints		10^9	1
(1)	+ Tachyon free	2038657	2.04×10^{-3}
(2)	+ No Observable Enhancements	2014917	2.01×10^{-3}
(3)	+ Complete Families	572411	5.72×10^{-4}
(4)	+ No Chiral Exotics	403989	4.04×10^{-4}
(5)	+ 3 Generations	3074	3.07×10^{-6}
(6)	+ n_{4R}^F, n_{4R}^F Present	346	3.46×10^{-7}
(7)	+ SM Higgs	314	3.14×10^{-7}
(8)	+ Heavy Triplet Constraint	298	2.98×10^{-7}
(9)	+ TQMC	289	2.89×10^{-7}
(10)	+ No Fermionic Exotics	0	0

 TABLE VII. Phenomenological statistics from a sample of 10^9 randomly generated Pati-Salam S models.

Constraints		Total models in sample	Probability
No Constraints		10^9	1
(1)	+ Tachyon free	10578258	1.06×10^{-2}
(2)	+ No Observable Enhancements	10246688	1.02×10^{-2}
(3)	+ Complete Families	2730363	2.73×10^{-3}
(4)	+ No Chiral Exotics	461666	4.62×10^{-4}
(5)	+ 3 Generations	3103	3.10×10^{-6}
(6)	+ PS Higgs	2684	2.68×10^{-7}
(7)	+ SM Higgs	2263	2.26×10^{-7}
(8)	+ Partner Mechanism	1934	1.93×10^{-7}
(9)	+ TQMC	1878	1.88×10^{-7}
(10)	+ No Fermionic Exotics	36	3.6×10^{-9}

implementing the conditions 1–4 in Secs. IV A and V C in the space of $SO(10)$ models, $\Pi_{SO(10)}$, and collect 200,000 fertile \tilde{S} $SO(10)$ cores and 550,000 S cores. Once we have the cores, we look at the space Π_α and, in particular, we iterate over all independent choices of α GGSO phases. When Eqs. (4.6) and (5.22) are accounted for we are left with ten independent such phases. However, a subtlety arises here due to how to avoid SUSY configurations in the S models. We must allow for the possibility that some $SO(10)$ cores are supersymmetric in the S models because we can still get non-SUSY models in the case where SUSY is broken by α i.e., $C_\alpha^{[S]} = +1$. The logical procedure to deal with this is to check if the condition (5.3) holds for the $SO(10)$ phases and then fix $C_\alpha^{[S]} = +1$ and iterate over the reduced Π_α space spanned by nine independent GGSO phases involving α . In our sample of S $SO(10)$ cores we extracted 50,000 such SUSY cores and 500,000 non-SUSY cores.

The results of this fertility classification are displayed in Tables VIII and IX.

The first thing to note from these results is that owing to the fertility analysis the number of models meeting the

phenomenological criteria has improved by around 3 orders of magnitude compared with the random classification. Furthermore, as expected, we see that all PS models derived in the fertility methodology will come with a SM Higgs and TQMC automatically.

The final classification data we will display can be found in Tables X–XII of the Appendix, where the quantum numbers for models satisfying constraints (1)–(9) in Tables VII and IX are displayed.

A. Results for $N_b^0 - N_f^0$

As discussed in Sec. VI, the constant term of the partition function, $a_{00} = N_b^0 - N_f^0$, is an important quantity. It quantifies the Bose-Fermi degeneracy at the massless level and so is of phenomenological significance. It also provides the leading order behavior of the vacuum energy, and thus models with $N_b^0 - N_f^0$ can be of particular interest. Thus, in our classification program we have taken a close look at this value. Its distribution for a sample of 2×10^3 is shown in Figs. 1 and 2 for \tilde{S} and S models respectively. We have included a random sample of nontachyonic vacua along with a sample of models satisfying the criteria (1)–(9) in order to

TABLE VIII. Phenomenological statistics for Pati-Salam \tilde{S} models derived from 200,000 fertile $SO(10)$ \tilde{S} cores.

Constraints		Total models in sample	Probability
No Constraints		204800000	1
(1)	+ Tachyon free	2417463	1.18×10^{-2}
(2)	+ No Observable Enhancements	2406298	1.17×10^{-2}
(3)	+ Complete Families	623004	3.04×10^{-3}
(4)	+ No Chiral Exotics	438280	2.14×10^{-3}
(5)	+ 3 Generations	327463	1.60×10^{-3}
(6)	+ n_{4R}^F, n_{4R}^F	190766	9.31×10^{-4}
(7)	+ SM Higgs	190766	9.31×10^{-4}
(8)	+ Partner Mechanism	183753	8.97×10^{-4}
(9)	+ TQMC	183753	8.97×10^{-4}
(10)	+ No Fermionic Exotics	0	0

TABLE IX. Phenomenological statistics for 537,600,000 PS S models derived from 550,000 fertile $SO(10)$ S cores.

Constraints		Total models in sample	Probability
No Constraints		537600000	1
(1)	+ Tachyon free	11770044	2.19×10^{-2}
(2)	+ No Observable Enhancements	11431950	2.12×10^{-2}
(3)	+ Complete Families	3020242	5.62×10^{-3}
(4)	+ No Chiral Exotics	723352	1.35×10^{-3}
(5)	+ 3 Generations	488802	9.09×10^{-4}
(6)	+ PS Higgs	444454	8.27×10^{-4}
(7)	+ SM Higgs	444454	8.27×10^{-4}
(8)	+ Partner Mechanism	384080	7.14×10^{-4}
(9)	+ TQMC	384080	7.14×10^{-4}
(10)	+ No Fermionic Exotics	16030	2.98×10^{-5}

see what effect the imposition of certain phenomenological features have on this net Bose-Fermi degeneracy. The distributions show that for both sets of models it should be

possible to find ones which satisfy the condition $N_b^0 = N_f^0$. Indeed, from the sample of 2×10^3 we have found 14 such models for both \tilde{S} and S .

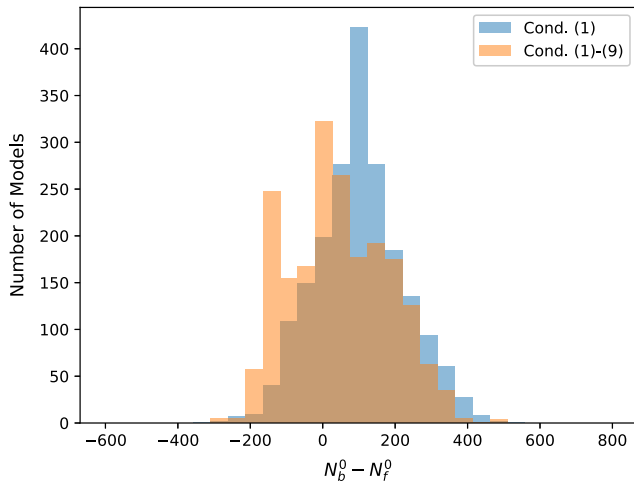


FIG. 1. The distribution of the constant term $a_{00} = N_b^0 - N_f^0$ for a sample of 2×10^3 \tilde{S} models satisfying conditions (1) and (1)–(9) of Table VIII.

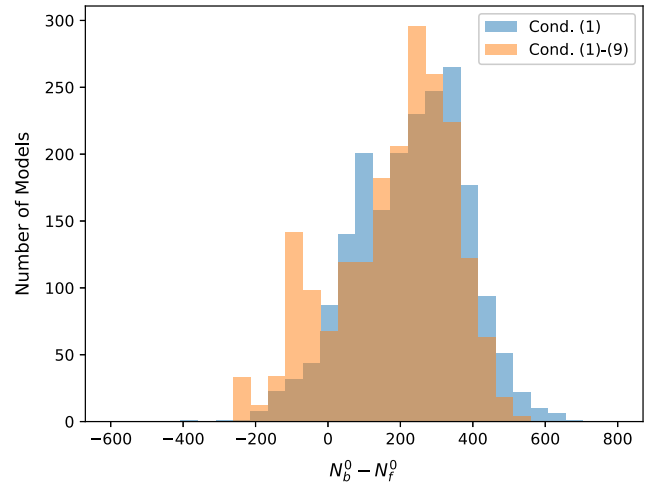


FIG. 2. The distribution of the constant term $a_{00} = N_b^0 - N_f^0$ for a sample of 2×10^3 S models satisfying conditions (1) and (1)–(9) of Table IX.

B. Example models with $N_b^0 = N_f^0$

Having found $\mathcal{O}(10^5)$ \tilde{S} models satisfying all phenomenological constraints (1)–(9) in Table VIII we can do a subsequent search for such models that additionally satisfy

$$C \begin{bmatrix} v_i \\ v_j \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1} & \tilde{S} & e_1 & e_2 & e_3 & e_4 & e_5 & e_6 & b_1 & b_2 & b_3 & z_1 & \alpha \\ \mathbb{1} & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ \tilde{S} & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ e_1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ e_2 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ e_3 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ e_4 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ e_5 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ e_6 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ b_1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ b_2 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ b_3 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ z_1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ \alpha & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (7.1)$$

Furthermore, as desired, it enjoys three chiral generations with PS quantum numbers $n_{4L} = 3$, $n_{\bar{4}L} = 0$, $n_{4R} = 1$, and $n_{\bar{4}R} = 4$. Furthermore, the model has the necessary SM Higgs and $D(6, 1, 1)$ for the unphysical ‘heavy triplet constraint’, such that $n_h = 3$ and $n_6 = 5$. The model also has exotic quantum numbers $n_4 = n_{\bar{4}} = 1$, $n_{2L} = n_{2R} = 6$, and $n_{V2L} = n_{V2R} = 0$ which allows for the generation of vectorlike exotics at high mass scale so as not to have fractionally charged states at lower mass scales which violates experimental observation. The top quark mass coupling is guaranteed by the conditions (5.18) and (5.22). We also note that the \tilde{x} sector arises in the spectrum of this model. This is important since it is charged under the observable group and in this case generates four extra $n_{\bar{4}R}$ and n_{4R} charged under each $U_{1,2,3}$ factor, leaving the number of generations still equal to 3. It was noted in [31] that the \tilde{x} sector corresponds to the sector producing the fermionic superpartners of the states from the x sector i.e., $S + x$, which enhance the $SO(10)$ symmetry to E_6 . The \tilde{x} sector therefore gives rise to the fermionic superpartners of the spacetime vector bosons from the x sector, which do not arise in the construction of our \tilde{S} models. We can also calculate the traces under the $U(1)_{i=1,2,3}$ associated with the right-moving currents $\bar{\eta}^i \eta^i$, which are

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}U(1)_1 &= -24, & \text{Tr}U(1)_2 &= -24 & \text{and} \\ \text{Tr}U(1)_3 &= 48, & & & \end{aligned} \quad (7.2)$$

the condition $a_{00} = N_b^0 - N_f^0 = 0$ which may suppresses the leading order contribution to the cosmological constant of the model. The following GGSO phase configuration meets this condition

such that the combination $U(1)_1 + U(1)_2 - U(1)_3$ is anomalous and we can choose $U(1)_1 - U(1)_2$ and $U(1)_1 + U(1)_2 + U(1)_3$ as anomaly-free combinations. The partition function for this model is given by

$$\begin{aligned} Z &= 2q^0 \bar{q}^{-1} + 0q^0 \bar{q}^0 - 668q^{1/8} \bar{q}^{1/8} - 4224q^{1/4} \bar{q}^{1/4} \\ &\quad + 32q^{3/8} \bar{q}^{-5/8} + \dots, \end{aligned} \quad (7.3)$$

where we see that there are no on-shell tachyons and that we have equal number of bosons and fermions at the massless level as advertised. We can further note the off-shell model-independent term $2q^0 \bar{q}^{-1}$ obtained from the so-called ‘proto-graviton’ resulting from the state $\psi^\mu |0\rangle_L \otimes |0\rangle_R$. This expression (7.3) integrates via (6.2) to give a cosmological constant

$$\Lambda = -166.42.$$

Recall that, as described in Sec. VI, this is the dimensionless world-sheet vacuum energy and hence has the opposite sign compared to the 4D spacetime cosmological constant.

Turning our attention to the analysis of S models, we can achieve $N_b^0 = N_f^0$ and meet the phenomenological constraints (1)–(9) with the following GGSO phase configuration

$$C \begin{bmatrix} v_i \\ v_j \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1} & S & e_1 & e_2 & e_3 & e_4 & e_5 & e_6 & b_1 & b_2 & z_1 & z_2 & \alpha \\ \mathbb{1} & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ S & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ e_1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ e_2 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ e_3 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ e_4 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ e_5 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ e_6 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ b_1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ b_2 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ z_1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ z_2 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ \alpha & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (7.4)$$

which enjoys a PS-breaking Higgs with $\#(n_{4R}/n_{\bar{4}R}) = 3$ and three chiral generations with quantum numbers $n_{4L} = 4$, $n_{\bar{4}L} = 1$, $n_{4R} = 1$ and $n_{\bar{4}R} = 4$. Furthermore, the model has the necessary SM Higgs and $D(6, 1, 1)$ for the missing partner mechanism such that $n_h = 2$, $n_6 = 2$. The model also has exotic quantum numbers $n_4 = n_{\bar{4}} = 0$ and $n_{2L} = n_{2R} = 4$, which ensures the absence of chiral exotic states. We note that exophobic vacua with $N_b^0 = N_f^0$ were not found in our analysis. The top quark mass coupling is guaranteed by the conditions (5.18) and (5.22). The traces of $U(1)_{1,2,3}$ for this model are given by

$$\text{Tr}U(1)_1 = 0, \quad \text{Tr}U(1)_2 = 0, \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Tr}U(1)_3 = 0, \quad (7.5)$$

such that each of the $U(1)_{1,2,3}$ are anomaly free independently. For $U(1)_1$ this cancellation occurs between the trace in the observable $\mathbf{16}/\overline{\mathbf{16}}$ and the trace from hidden sectors. For the $U(1)_2$ and $U(1)_3$ the cancellation happens in each type of sectors (observables, hidden, exotics) independently.

Inspecting the GGSO phase matrix (7.4) we see that supersymmetry is only broken by one phase $C_{[z_1]}^S = 1$. It is not too surprising that configurations close to supersymmetric ones are common origins of potentially viable models since they preserve some of the benefits from having supersymmetry. In particular, having most of the GGSO phases involving S equal to -1 will help to ensure the absence of tachyons. The gravitino is of course projected but we note that the following states from the S sector: $\{\bar{\psi}^{1,2,3}, \bar{\eta}^{1,2,3}\}\{\bar{\phi}^{3,4}\}|S\rangle$ and $\{\bar{\psi}^{4,5}\}\{\bar{\phi}^{1,2}\}|S\rangle$ are retained.

The partition function for this S model is given by

$$Z = 2q^0\bar{q}^{-1} + 0q^0\bar{q}^0 + 16q^{1/8}\bar{q}^{1/8} - 192q^{1/4}\bar{q}^{1/4} + 192q^{3/8}\bar{q}^{3/8} - 4q^{1/2}\bar{q}^{-1/2} + \dots, \quad (7.6)$$

resulting in a world-sheet vacuum energy

$$\Lambda = -62.66.$$

We see that we indeed have $N_b^0 = N_f^0$, hence the lack of constant term in both models above. We also observe the necessary off-shell tachyon at \bar{q}^{-1} and the lack of physical tachyons. As eluded to before, the suppression of the cosmological constant in this S case may be possible in the large-volume limit, however the above value is evaluated at the self-dual free fermionic point.

VIII. CONCLUSIONS

The free fermionic representation of the heterotic string in four dimensions gave rise to an abundance of three generation models with varying unbroken $SO(10)$ subgroups and the canonical GUT embedding of the weak hypercharge. These models correspond to $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ orbifold of six-dimensional compactified tori at special points in the moduli space [34,49]. The free fermionic formalism was used to develop a systematic classification of the $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ toroidal orbifolds, leading to numerous fundamental observations, among them: the construction of the first known string models that produce in the low energy effective field theory solely the spectrum of the minimal supersymmetric Standard Model [20], the discovery of spinor-vector duality in the space of $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ orbifold compactifications [24,50], the discovery of exophobic string models [25].

In this paper we extended the systematic classification of free fermionic $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ orbifolds to nonsupersymmetric Pati-Salam models. We pursued the construction of such models via two routes, based on the \tilde{S} models and S models, where the first class descend from a tachyonic ten-dimensional vacuum, whereas the second correspond to compactifications of the ten-dimensional nonsupersymmetric $SO(16) \times SO(16)$ heterotic string. A first task in the construction of nonsupersymmetric models is to ensure that all the physical tachyonic states are projected out from the physical spectrum. Systematic classification rules were developed to analyze the tachyon producing sectors and to extract tachyon-free vacua in the two classes of models. Tachyon-free models were found with probability 0.002 and 0.01 in \tilde{S} and S models, respectively. To facilitate the extraction of phenomenological vacua merits the development of the ‘fertility methodology’ [28,30] that preselects $SO(10)$ preserving GGSO configuration that are amenable for producing viable phenomenological models. We demonstrated that application of the ‘fertility methodology’ increases the frequency of models that satisfy key phenomenological criteria by three orders of magnitude. We note that whereas S models contain the heavy Higgs scalar representations required to break the Pati-Salam gauge symmetry down to the Standard Model gauge group, they are in fact absent in Pati-Salam \tilde{S} models. Construction of \tilde{S} models that satisfy this criteria is only possible by breaking the $SO(10)$ gauge symmetry to the Standard Model subgroup directly at the string scale. This follows from the fact that the heavy Higgs scalar representations are also absent in $SU(5) \times U(1)$ \tilde{S} models, as well as in those with $SU(3) \times U(1) \times SO(4)$ unbroken $SO(10)$ subgroup, whereas the Standard-like models utilize Standard Model singlet states that are obtained from exotic sectors, as shown in Ref. [14]. Additionally, we analyzed the partition function several exemplary models and demonstrated the existence of three generation models that satisfy the desired criteria $a_{00} = N_b^0 - N_f^0 = 0$ i.e., with equal number of bosonic and fermionic massless degrees of freedom. The fermionic $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ orbifolds provide the tools to develop the phenomenological approach to string theory. With an abundance of models and tools to explore this space of string vacua, the stage is now ripe to explore the larger space of unviable constructions, *à la* Ref. [51] and the dynamics that may lie behind the string vacuum selection.

We would like also to comment on several issues that warrant further analysis in nonsupersymmetric string configurations. It is well known that in the minimal supersymmetric Standard Model (MSSM) the gauge couplings of the Standard Model tend to merge together at a scale of the order of the GUT scale, whereas they do not if the spectrum consists solely of the Standard Model states [52]. While the naive MSSM realization of supersymmetry is under increasing strain from experimental observations, it may well exist at scales beyond those of contemporary experiments, and serve

to mitigate the unification of the couplings at the string scale. In this respect we note that the picture in nonsupersymmetric string vacua is more complex. In the first place, many observable sectors in the string models may still exhibit Bose-Fermi degeneracy of the Standard Model states, while differing in their charges under some other symmetries of the models [8]. Because supersymmetry is broken, these states can no longer sit in super-multiplets, but as far as the Standard Model charges are concerned they appear just as in the supersymmetric models. Furthermore, there may be intermediate states between the string and electroweak scale that modify the naive picture of the MSSM, resulting in agreement of the string scale coupling unification with the low energy data [53]. The issue of gauge coupling unification can therefore only be examined on a model by model basis and cannot be addressed in a broad classification, such as the one that we presented here.

Another problem of interest in nonsupersymmetric string vacua is the existence of large tadpole diagrams that are generated due to the nonvanishing vacuum energy and reflect the instability of the string vacuum. As we cautioned above, in our view any argument of stability in nonsupersymmetric string vacua is at best speculative. Nevertheless, we can propose a possibility of how the issue of tadpole diagrams might be addressed in the class of models under investigation here. As is well known, heterotic-string models often contain an anomalous $U(1)_A$ symmetry. This anomalous $U(1)_A$ generates a nonvanishing amplitude at one-loop order in string perturbation theory, and one can envision that it can be used to cancel the one-loop diagram arising from the nonvanishing vacuum energy. While this can be expected in general, its realization can only be implemented in case by case basis, as is the case in supersymmetric vacua. There are subtleties associated with the calculation in nonsupersymmetric backgrounds, that we hope to return to in a future publication.

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APPENDIX: KEY CLASSIFICATION NUMBER TABLES

TABLE X. Main characteristic quantum numbers of \tilde{S} models satisfying all constraints (1)–(9) from Tables VII and IX.

n_{4L}	$n_{\bar{4}L}$	n_{4R}	$n_{\bar{4}R}$	n_h	n_6	No Fermionic Exotics	Frequency
3	0	1	4	5	3	False	50988
4	1	1	4	5	5	False	27602
3	0	1	4	3	5	False	25090

(Table continued)

TABLE X. (Continued)

n_{4L}	$n_{\bar{4}L}$	n_{4R}	$n_{\bar{4}R}$	n_h	n_6	No Fermionic Exotics	Frequency
3	0	1	4	3	1	False	12526
3	0	1	4	3	3	False	10259
4	1	1	4	3	3	False	8450
3	0	1	4	4	2	False	6717
3	0	1	4	7	1	False	4618
3	0	1	4	1	3	False	4568
4	1	1	4	6	4	False	3934
4	1	1	4	1	1	False	3753
3	0	2	5	7	3	False	3294
3	0	1	4	2	4	False	2496
3	0	1	4	1	1	False	2418
3	0	1	4	2	2	False	1997
3	0	1	4	5	1	False	1951
4	1	1	4	4	6	False	1620
3	0	2	5	3	7	False	1278
3	0	2	5	3	3	False	1137
3	0	1	4	1	7	False	1052
3	0	1	4	1	5	False	904
3	0	2	5	5	1	False	834
4	1	1	4	4	4	False	578
4	1	1	4	2	2	False	571
5	2	1	4	7	5	False	555
4	1	1	4	5	1	False	530
4	1	1	4	9	1	False	493
4	1	2	5	7	5	False	493
4	1	1	4	3	1	False	336
5	2	1	4	5	7	False	334
4	1	1	4	1	5	False	287
3	0	2	5	1	5	False	267
3	0	2	5	1	1	False	244
4	1	2	5	5	7	False	240
5	2	1	4	1	1	False	219
4	1	2	5	1	1	False	209
4	1	1	4	6	6	False	176
5	2	1	4	5	5	False	162
4	1	2	5	5	5	False	120
4	1	1	4	1	9	False	108
4	1	1	4	7	7	False	104
3	0	2	5	6	2	False	80
4	1	2	5	6	4	False	78
5	2	1	4	6	4	False	67
4	1	2	5	3	1	False	59
3	0	2	5	2	6	False	55
5	2	1	4	3	1	False	52
3	0	2	5	2	2	False	39
4	1	2	5	4	4	False	26
5	2	1	4	4	6	False	22
4	1	2	5	4	6	False	20
4	1	1	4	7	5	False	16
4	1	2	5	1	3	False	11
3	0	3	6	3	1	False	11
3	0	3	6	3	9	False	3

TABLE XI. Part 1: Main characteristic quantum numbers of 411578 S models satisfying all constraints (1)–(8) from Tables VII and IX.

n_{4L}	$n_{\bar{4}L}$	n_{4R}	$n_{\bar{4}R}$	n_h	n_6	No Fermionic Exotics	Frequency
3	0	1	4	5	3	False	31059
4	1	0	3	5	3	False	31044
3	0	1	4	3	1	False	28885
4	1	0	3	3	1	False	28510
3	0	0	3	2	2	False	20833
3	0	1	4	3	5	False	18083
4	1	0	3	3	5	False	17269
4	1	1	4	3	3	False	16309
4	1	1	4	1	1	False	16230
4	1	1	4	5	5	False	14956
3	0	1	4	3	3	False	11068
4	1	0	3	3	3	False	11033
3	0	1	4	1	1	False	10871
3	0	0	3	3	3	False	10614
4	1	0	3	1	1	False	10379
3	0	1	4	1	3	False	9237
3	0	0	3	1	1	False	9045
4	1	0	3	1	3	False	8610
4	1	0	3	4	2	False	8317
3	0	1	4	4	2	False	8098
4	1	1	4	2	2	False	6928
4	1	1	4	5	5	True	5841
4	1	0	3	7	1	False	4658
3	0	1	4	7	1	False	4512
4	1	1	4	4	4	False	3616
4	1	0	3	2	4	False	3111
3	0	1	4	2	2	False	3043
3	0	1	4	2	4	False	2897
4	1	1	4	6	4	False	2742
4	1	0	3	5	1	False	2508
4	1	0	3	2	2	False	2439
3	0	1	4	5	1	False	2379
3	0	0	3	5	5	False	1992
4	1	1	4	3	3	True	1960
4	1	0	3	5	3	True	1944
3	0	0	3	4	4	False	1918
5	2	1	4	3	1	False	1692
4	1	2	5	3	1	False	1656
3	0	1	4	5	3	True	1564
5	2	0	3	7	3	False	1382
3	0	2	5	7	3	False	1366
3	0	0	3	3	1	False	1227
3	0	1	4	1	7	False	1188
3	0	1	4	1	5	False	1164
4	1	0	3	1	7	False	1090
4	1	0	3	1	5	False	1084
4	1	1	4	3	1	False	1053
4	1	2	5	1	1	False	996
4	1	0	3	3	5	True	974
4	1	1	4	6	6	False	903

(Table continued)

TABLE XI. (Continued)

n_{4L}	$n_{\bar{4}L}$	n_{4R}	$n_{\bar{4}R}$	n_h	n_6	No Fermionic Exotics	Frequency
5	2	1	4	1	1	False	890
4	1	1	4	1	1	True	824
4	1	1	4	4	6	False	778
3	0	2	5	3	3	False	760
3	0	0	3	5	1	False	757
5	2	0	3	3	3	False	705
5	2	1	4	7	5	False	690
3	0	2	5	5	1	False	662
4	1	2	5	7	5	False	660
5	2	0	3	5	1	False	660
5	2	0	3	1	1	False	660
3	0	0	3	4	2	False	643
5	2	0	3	3	7	False	620
3	0	1	4	3	5	True	592
4	1	1	4	5	1	False	580
3	0	2	5	3	7	False	528
3	0	0	3	5	5	True	512
4	1	2	5	6	4	False	502
4	1	2	5	1	3	False	499
4	1	0	3	3	1	True	468
5	2	1	4	1	3	False	456
3	0	1	4	3	1	True	452
4	1	2	5	5	7	False	440
3	0	2	5	1	1	False	420
3	0	0	3	3	3	True	415

TABLE XII. (Continued)

n_{4L}	$n_{\bar{4}L}$	n_{4R}	$n_{\bar{4}R}$	n_h	n_6	No Fermionic Exotics	Frequency
5	2	0	3	1	5	False	163
3	0	2	5	6	2	False	148
4	1	0	3	1	3	True	132
5	2	1	4	5	7	True	120
3	0	1	4	1	3	True	116
4	1	2	5	3	1	True	112
4	1	2	5	5	7	True	112
5	2	1	4	5	5	False	108
4	1	1	4	1	9	False	102
5	2	0	3	2	6	False	98
3	0	0	3	7	3	False	92
4	1	1	4	7	5	False	86
5	2	1	4	1	3	True	84
5	2	1	4	4	6	False	80
3	0	0	3	7	7	True	80
5	2	2	5	2	2	False	72
3	0	1	4	4	2	True	72
3	0	3	6	3	1	False	72
4	1	0	3	4	2	True	72
3	0	0	3	5	3	False	71
5	2	0	3	2	2	False	68
6	3	0	3	3	1	False	62
3	0	0	3	6	6	False	60
3	0	0	3	6	2	False	58
3	0	2	5	2	2	False	54
6	3	0	3	1	1	False	48
4	1	1	4	2	2	True	48
3	0	0	3	2	4	False	45
3	0	3	6	1	1	False	44
4	1	2	5	4	4	False	36
3	0	0	3	1	5	False	33
3	0	0	3	7	7	False	24
3	0	0	3	9	1	False	24
6	3	0	3	2	8	False	24
3	0	3	6	3	9	False	20
4	1	2	5	1	3	True	16
6	3	0	3	3	9	False	14
3	0	2	5	2	6	False	12
6	3	0	3	1	3	False	10
3	0	3	6	1	3	False	10
3	0	3	6	1	9	False	10
3	0	1	4	2	4	True	8
4	1	2	5	6	4	True	8
5	2	1	4	6	4	True	8
4	1	0	3	2	4	True	8
5	2	1	4	4	4	False	4
3	0	0	3	1	1	True	4
6	3	0	3	1	11	False	4
3	0	0	3	3	5	False	3
6	3	0	3	1	9	False	2
3	0	0	3	11	3	False	2
3	0	0	3	4	4	True	1
3	0	0	3	2	2	True	1

TABLE XII. Part 2: Main characteristic quantum numbers of 411578 S models satisfying all constraints (1)–(8) from Tables VII and IX.

n_{4L}	$n_{\bar{4}L}$	n_{4R}	$n_{\bar{4}R}$	n_h	n_6	No Fermionic Exotics	Frequency
5	2	1	4	5	7	False	348
4	1	1	4	9	1	False	328
4	1	1	4	7	7	False	320
4	1	2	5	5	5	False	314
5	2	1	4	6	4	False	302
4	1	1	4	1	5	False	252
3	0	2	5	1	5	False	210
5	2	1	4	7	5	True	208
4	1	2	5	7	5	True	200
5	2	0	3	6	2	False	188
5	2	1	4	3	1	True	180
3	0	0	3	1	3	False	177
4	1	2	5	4	6	False	168
5	2	2	5	1	1	False	168

(Table continued)

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