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Seeking de Sitter Vacua in the String Landscape

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*In memory of our late colleague and friend Graham*

## A few facts about Cosmology and de Sitter Vacua

▲  $\exists$  ongoing **Accelerating Expansion of the Universe**

▲ *Standard Interpretation:*

Universe dominated by **Dark Energy** permeating all of space

▲ *in G.R. framework:*

Einstein's equs with a positive cosmological constant of the order:

$$\Lambda \approx 10^{-120} \text{ (in } M_{Planck}^4 \text{ units)}$$

▲ A rather intriguing coincidence:

$$m_\nu^4 \lesssim 10^{-116} \text{ (in } M_{Planck}^4 \text{ units)}$$

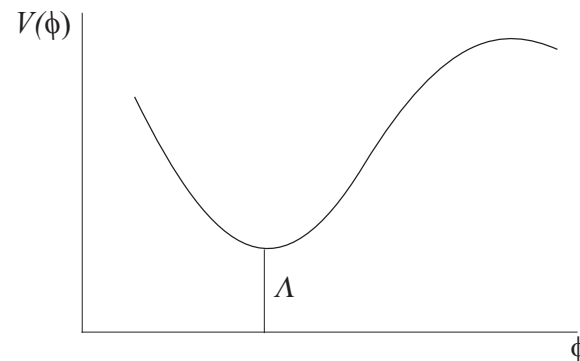
*possible link between the two scales?*

▲ *Simple Effective Field Theory description:*

with a scalar field,  $\phi$  acquiring

Potential Energy  $V(\phi)$

with **positive** vacuum energy  $\Lambda$ :



▲ **de Sitter vacua** ▲

*...with some additional requirements:*

$\phi \rightarrow$  **inflaton** suitable for **inflation**

*The inference from the previous observations and remarks is that a variety of **fundamental open questions** involving a **vast range of scales** are intertwined !*

*Thence, it would be desirable to contemplate an effective theory with UV completion where Planck-scale Physics are naturally integrated*

*Currently, the most successful and robust candidate towards a UV completion is*

**String Theory**

▲ **String Derived Effective Field Theories (EFT)** ▲

Focus of this talk:

**EFT** from **type II-B/F-theory**

compactified on a Calabi-Yau (CY) Manifold

However



▲ **Compactifications** characterised by **large numbers** of  
**massless scalar fields (moduli)**

★ Two basic classes of moduli ★

Recall that a **CY** is a compact **Kähler** manifold which admits a Ricci-flat metric  $g$  with (closed) (1,1)-Kähler form:

$$J = g_{i\bar{j}} dz^i \wedge d\bar{z}^{\bar{j}} , \quad dJ = 0$$

▲ A **CY** can be **deformed** in two ways:

1. Variation of the Kähler structure  $\delta g_{i\bar{j}}$  (mixed type), gives  $h^{1,1}$  parameters <sup>a</sup>, the Kähler moduli  $T^k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots, h^{1,1}$ .
2. Pure type metric variations  $g_{ij}$ ,  $g_{\bar{i}\bar{j}}$  giving rise to  $h^{2,1}$  complex structure (**CS**) parameters  $z^a$ ,  $a = 1, 2, \dots, h^{2,1}$ , associated with:

$$\Omega_{ijk} g^{k\bar{l}} \delta g_{\bar{l}\bar{m}} dz^i \wedge dz^j \wedge d\bar{z}^{\bar{m}}$$

where  $\Omega$  is a holomorphic 3-form.

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<sup>a</sup> $h^{r,s}$  dim. of Dolbeault cohomology  $H^{r,s} = \frac{\{\omega^{r,s} | \bar{\partial}\omega^{r,s}=0\}}{\{\alpha^{r,s} | \alpha^{r,s}=\bar{\partial}\beta^{r,s-1}\}}$

*In addition:*

$\exists$  *moduli* and other *fields* associated with *Type II-B closed string* spectrum from L- and R-moving open strings with **NS** and **R** b.c.

▲ (NS<sub>+</sub>, NS<sub>+</sub>) : Graviton, **dilaton** and Kalb-Ramond (**KR**)-field

$$g_{\mu\nu}, \phi, B_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow B_2, \quad (\text{def} : e^\phi = g_s)$$

▲ (R<sub>-</sub>, R<sub>-</sub>) : **Scalar**, 2- and 4-index fields ( *p*-form potentials)

$$\mathbf{C}_0, C_{\mu\nu}, C_{\kappa\lambda\mu\nu} \rightarrow C_p, \quad p = 0, 2, 4$$

1. ▲  $C_0, \phi \rightarrow$  combined to **axion-dilaton** modulus:

$$S = C_0 + i e^{-\phi} \equiv C_0 + \frac{i}{g_s}$$

2. ▲ *Field strengths/magnetic fluxes:*

$$F_p := dC_{p-1}, \quad H_3 := dB_2, \quad \Rightarrow \mathbf{G}_3 := F_3 - SH_3$$



▲ **we conclude** that: ▲  
# **CY** of **Compactifications** and # **fluxes**  $\Rightarrow$   
**Enormous** number of **String Vacua**



### **String Landscape**

▲ **Long standing Question** ▲

▲ Are there any **de Sitter vacua** in the **Landscape**?

... even if the answer is **Yes**... we know that they are...

$\Rightarrow$  *Certainly Scarce*  $\Leftarrow$



Hence

*A Reasonable* sequence of *T*asks  
in the context of type *IIB* theory:

- ▲ Provide masses to *moduli fields*  $\Rightarrow$  **Stabilisation**
  
- ▲ The quest for a *de Sitter* vacuum in *String Theory*  
(if possible... based only on **perturbative** corrections)
  
- ▲ Cosmological implications such as *inflation*

## Implementation



▲ **Geometry of internal space.** Assuming:

*i)*: a factorised  $T^6 = T^2 \times T^2 \times T^2$ -torus.

*ii)*:  $3 \times D7$  brane-stacks, each one spans 4 compact dimensions while localised at the remaining 2-d.

D7s	<span style="color: blue;">Minkowski</span> <span style="color: red;">Compact Dimensions</span>									
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
$D7_a$		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	.	.
$D7_b$		*	*	*	*	*	.	.	*	*
$D7_c$		*	*	*	.	.	*	*	*	*

▲ **Context:** Type II-B effective Supergravity: *Basic ‘ingredients’*:  
Superpotential  $\mathcal{W}$  and Kähler potential  $\mathcal{K}$

▲ The Superpotential  $\mathcal{W}$  ▲

▲ A *Flux-induced superpotential* has been constructed (*G.V.W. hep-th/9906070*) using  $G_3 = F_3 - SH_3$  and (3, 0)-form  $\Omega(z_a)$ :

$$\mathcal{W}_0 = \int \mathbf{G}_3 \wedge \Omega(z_a) \Rightarrow \mathcal{W}_0 = \mathcal{W}_0(z_a, S)$$

$\Rightarrow$  does not depend on Kähler moduli  $T_i$ .  $\mathcal{W}_0$  must satisfy:

▲ Flatness conditions ▲

$$\mathcal{D}_{z_a} \mathcal{W} = 0, \quad \mathcal{D}_S \mathcal{W} = 0 :$$

$\Rightarrow z_a$  and  $S$  stabilised  $\Leftarrow$

**but!**

▲ Kähler moduli  $\notin \mathcal{W}_0 \Rightarrow$  remain unfixed! ▲

▲ The Kähler potential ▲

$$\mathcal{K}_0 = - \sum_{i=1}^3 \ln(-i(T_i - \bar{T}_i)) - \ln(-i(S - \bar{S})) - \ln(i \int \Omega \wedge \bar{\Omega}) .$$

▲ The classical scalar potential identically zero: ▲

$$V = e^{\mathcal{K}} \left( \sum_{I,J} \mathcal{D}_I \mathcal{W}_0 \mathcal{K}^{I\bar{J}} \mathcal{D}_{\bar{J}} \mathcal{W}_0 - 3|\mathcal{W}_0|^2 \right) \equiv 0,$$

due to *flatness* conditions and the *no-scale* structure.



Kähler moduli completely **undetermined!**



**Task:** Engineer the appropriate geometric set up and compute:

**Kähler** moduli-dependent **QUANTUM** corrections

*The Kähler potential  $\mathcal{K}$*   
*and*  
*PERTURBATIVE*  
String Loop Corrections

*Two types of expansions in String Theory:*

- i) Inverse string tension  $\propto \alpha'$ .*
- ii) String coupling  $g_s$*

### ▲ $\alpha'^3$ Corrections

10-d action with  $\alpha'^3$  (see Becker et al hep-th/0204254):

$$\mathbf{S} \propto \int d^{10} \sqrt{-g} e^{-2\phi} \left( R + 4(\partial\phi)^2 + \alpha'^3 \nabla^2 \phi Q \right)^a$$

Compactification  $\rightarrow$  redefinition of 4-d dilaton:

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-2\phi_4} &= e^{-2\phi_{10}} (\mathcal{V} + \xi/2) \\ &= e^{-\frac{1}{2}\phi_{10}} (\hat{\mathcal{V}} + \hat{\xi}/2) \quad (\text{Einstein frame}) \end{aligned}$$

where the 6d volume  $\hat{\mathcal{V}}$  in Einstein frame are:

$$\hat{\mathcal{V}} = \frac{1}{3!} \kappa_{ijk} \hat{t}^i \hat{t}^j \hat{t}^k$$

with  $\hat{t}^i$  defined through:

$$t^k = -\text{Im}(T^k) = \hat{t}^k \left( \frac{S - \bar{S}}{2i} \right)^{-1/2} \equiv \hat{t}^k g_s^{1/2}$$

---

<sup>a</sup> $Q \rightarrow$  generalisation of 6-d Euler integrand  $\int d^6 x \sqrt{g} Q = \chi$

$\xi$  is expressed in terms of the Euler characteristic  $\chi$  of the manifold:

$$\xi = -\frac{\zeta(3)}{4(2\pi)^3} \chi = \hat{\xi} \left( \frac{S - \bar{S}}{2i} \right)^{-3/2} \equiv \hat{\xi} g_s^{3/2}$$

$\hat{\xi}$  is incorporated into the **Kähler** potential through the **shift** <sup>a</sup>

$$\hat{\mathcal{V}} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_0 = \hat{\mathcal{V}} + \frac{\hat{\xi}}{2} \equiv \hat{\mathcal{V}} + \frac{\xi}{2} \left( \frac{S - \bar{S}}{2i} \right)^{3/2} \equiv \hat{\mathcal{V}} + \frac{\xi}{2} \frac{1}{g_s^{3/2}}$$

$\alpha'^3$ -modified Kähler potential:

$$\mathcal{K}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{K} = -\log(-i(S - \bar{S})) - 2 \log \mathcal{U}_0 + \mathcal{K}_{cs}$$

$$(where: \mathcal{K}_{cs} = -\ln(i \int \Omega \wedge \bar{\Omega}))$$

---

<sup>a</sup> $\xi$  in the prepotential  $F = \frac{i}{3!} k_{abc} \frac{X^a X^b X^c}{X^0} + \xi X_0$ , Candelas et al, NPB (91)

▲ Loop Corrections ▲

▲ Previous  $\alpha'^3$  corrections at “tree-level” w.r.t. *string-loop* series.

▲ Hypothesis: ▲

▲ Generic type of **one-loop correction** is captured by

$$u_1 = \left( \frac{S - \bar{S}}{2i} \right)^{-1/2} f(\hat{\mathcal{V}}) \equiv g_s^{1/2} f(\hat{\mathcal{V}})$$

▲ These are included by another *shift*:

$$\hat{\mathcal{V}} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{U} \equiv \hat{\mathcal{V}} + \frac{\xi}{2} \frac{1}{g_s^{3/2}} + g_s^{1/2} f(\hat{\mathcal{V}})$$

So, the final form of the corresponding Kähler potential is

$$\mathcal{K} = -\log(-i(S - \bar{S})) - 2 \log \mathcal{U} + \mathcal{K}_{cs}$$



**Evidence:** recall that type IIB string theory admits  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$   
 This implies invariance of the resulting EFT under some subgroup  
 $\Gamma_s \subset SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ .



**Motivation** to look for a  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  completion.

Consider the non-holomorphic Eisenstein series:  $\mathcal{E}_{\frac{3}{2}} \equiv E_{\frac{3}{2}}(S, \bar{S})$ :

$$\mathcal{E}_{\frac{3}{2}} = \underbrace{2\zeta(3) \left( \frac{S - \bar{S}}{2i} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}}}_{\alpha'^3\text{-part}} + \underbrace{4\zeta(2) \left( \frac{S - \bar{S}}{2i} \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}}}_{\text{loop-part}} + \underbrace{\left( \frac{S - \bar{S}}{2i} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}}_{\text{non-pert.part}} \mathcal{O}(e^{-2\pi\text{Re}S})$$

**Observation:**

first and second terms are associated with  $\alpha'^3$  and **loop** corrections.

▲ The form of  $f(\mathcal{V})$  ▲

(*Antoniadis, Chen, GKL, 1803.08941, EPJC-2019*)

Consider the set up :

▲ Configuration of **Three** intersecting **D7-brane stacks**

▲▲ A 4-d **Einstein-Hilbert** ( $\mathcal{EH}$ ) term  $\mathcal{R}_4$  in the **bulk**, generated from higher derivative terms in the 10-d string action  
(*Antoniadis et al hep-th/9707013, etc.* )



$$f(\hat{\mathcal{V}}) = \sigma + \eta \log(\hat{\mathcal{V}})$$

The coefficients  $\eta$  and  $\sigma$  are expressed in terms of  $\xi \propto \chi$   
(*Antoniadis, Chen, GKL, JHEP-2020*):

$$\sigma = -\eta = \frac{\zeta(2)}{\zeta(3)} \xi,$$

The following ratio is of particular interest:

$$\frac{\hat{\xi}}{\hat{\eta}} = -\frac{\zeta(3)}{\zeta(2)} \frac{1}{g_s^2}$$

with

$$\hat{\xi} = \xi g_s^{-3/2} ; \quad \hat{\eta} = g_s^{1/2} \eta$$

Kähler moduli

*STABILISATION*

within a concrete Global Model:

(*GKL & Pramod Shukla* **2203.03362** ; *JHEP-2022*)

Kreuzer-Skarke (*KS*) in *hep-th/0002240* introduced toric methods to  
construct Calabi-Yau manifolds in terms of  
*Reflexive Polyhedra*

*...exploring the KS dataset ...⇒*

## Explicit $CY_3$ Manifold

$$h^{1,1} = 3, \quad h^{2,1} = 115, \quad \chi \equiv 2(h^{1,1} - h^{2,1}) = -224$$

Assuming a basis of smooth divisors  $D_1, D_2, D_3$ , the Kähler form is

$$J = 2 \sum_{k=1}^3 t^k D_k$$

and the case under consideration gives intersection polynomial with **only one non-zero** intersection:

$$I_3 = 2D_1D_2D_3$$

The 6d-volume :

$$\mathcal{V} = 2 t^1 t^2 t^3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{\tau_1 \tau_2 \tau_3}$$

( $t^i \rightarrow 2$ -cycle,  $\tau_i \rightarrow 4$ -cycle moduli, subject to  $\tau_i = 2 t^j t^k$ )

▲ Kähler potential including  $\alpha'$  and loop corrections:

$$\mathcal{K}(T_i, S, z_a) = -\log\{-i(S - \bar{S})\} - 2 \ln \mathcal{U} + K_{cs}(z_a) \quad (1)$$

$$\mathcal{U}(T_i, S) = \mathcal{V} + \frac{\hat{\xi}}{2} + \mathcal{U}_1 \quad (2)$$

Assuming generic  $\mathcal{U}_1(S, T^i)$  incorporating any loop corrections.

### The effective potential

*Identities to compute  $K_j = \frac{\partial \mathcal{K}}{\partial T_j}$ ,  $K_{ij} = \frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{K}}{\partial T_i \partial T_j}$ ,  $K_{Sj} = \frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{K}}{\partial S \partial T_j}$  etc:*

$$\tau_i = \frac{\partial \mathcal{V}}{\partial t_i} = \frac{1}{2} \kappa_{ijk} t^j t^k, \quad A_{ij} t^i t^j = 6\mathcal{V}, \quad A^{ij} \tau_i \tau_j = 3\mathcal{V}/2$$

*with  $A_{ij}$  the second derivatives of  $\mathcal{V}$  and their inverse:*

$$A_{ij} = \frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{V}}{\partial t_i \partial t_j} = \kappa_{ijk} t^k, \quad A^{ij} = (\kappa_{ijk} t^k)^{-1}, \quad A_{ik} A^{kj} = \delta_i^j \quad (3)$$

Computing the inverse Kähler metric  $K^{\bar{C}B}$  using  $K_{AC}K^{\bar{C}B} = \delta_A^B$ :

$$K_{S\bar{S}}K^{\bar{S}S} + K_{S\bar{T}_j}K^{\bar{T}_jS} = 1$$

$$K_{S\bar{S}}K^{\bar{S}T_j} + K_{S\bar{T}_i}K^{\bar{T}_iT_j} = 0 \quad (4)$$

$$K_{T_i\bar{S}}K^{\bar{S}T_j} + K_{T_i\bar{T}_k}K^{\bar{T}_kT_j} = \delta_i^j .$$

These lead to a simple analytic form in the basis  $S, T^i, z^a$ :

$$K^{A\bar{B}} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\mathcal{P}}_1 & k_\alpha \tilde{\mathcal{P}}_2 & \mathcal{O} \\ k_\alpha \tilde{\mathcal{P}}_2 & k_\alpha k_\beta \tilde{\mathcal{P}}_3 - k_{\alpha\beta} \tilde{\mathcal{P}}_4 & \mathcal{O} \\ \mathcal{O} & \mathcal{O} & K_{cs}^{i\bar{j}} \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

$\Rightarrow$  block-diagonal for  $K_{cs}^{i\bar{j}}$  but  $S$  and  $T_i$  ( $\mathcal{V}$ ) mix :  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}_I = \tilde{\mathcal{P}}_I(\mathcal{V}, S)$ .

## Master formula for F-term potential

(for generic  $\mathcal{U}_1$  loop corrections)



$$V_{\alpha'+\text{generic}} = e^{\kappa} \left( \frac{3\mathcal{V}}{2\mathcal{U}^2} \left( 1 + \frac{\partial \mathcal{U}_1}{\partial \mathcal{V}} \right)^2 \frac{4\mathcal{V}^2 + \mathcal{V}\hat{\xi} + 4\hat{\xi}^2}{\mathcal{V} - \hat{\xi}} - 3 \right) |W_0|^2$$

▲▲ For  $\alpha'$  and logarithmic corrections:  $\mathcal{U}_1 = -\hat{\eta} + \hat{\eta} \log \mathcal{V}$  :

$$V_{\alpha'+\log} = 12g_s e^{K_{cs}} |W_0|^2 \underbrace{\hat{\xi} \frac{\mathcal{V}^2 + 7\hat{\xi}\mathcal{V} + \hat{\xi}^2}{(\mathcal{V} - \hat{\xi})(2\mathcal{V} + \hat{\xi})^4}}_{\alpha'^3\text{-corrections}} - \frac{3\kappa}{2} |W_0|^2 \underbrace{\frac{2\hat{\eta} - \hat{\eta} \log \mathcal{V}}{2\mathcal{V}^3}}_{\text{logarithmic}} + \dots$$



## Large Volume Limit

$$V_F \approx C \frac{\hat{\xi} - 4\hat{\eta} + 2\hat{\eta} \log(\mathcal{V})}{\mathcal{V}^3}$$

### Properties

- ▲ Minimum exists for  $\hat{\eta} < 0$ .
- ▲ Stabilisation at **large volume** (*in weak coupling  $g_s$  regime*):

$$\mathcal{V}_{\min} = e^{\frac{7}{3} + \frac{\hat{\xi}}{2|\hat{\eta}|}} \sim e^{\frac{1}{g_s^2}}$$

- ▲ For F-term potential, **AdS**-minimum

$$(V_F)_{\min} \propto \frac{\hat{\eta}}{\mathcal{V}^3} < 0$$

- ▲ *New contributions required to **uplift** to **dS** vacuum*

▲ **Uplift** to dS occurs through **D-terms**

(Lüst et al hep-th/0609211; Antoniadis, Chen, GKL 1803.08941 )

associated with universal  $U(1)$ 's of D7-stacks:

$$V_{\mathcal{D}} = \frac{g_{D7_i}^2}{2} \left( Q_i \partial_{T_i} K + \sum_j q_j |\Phi_j|^2 \right)^2, \quad \frac{1}{g_{D7_i}^2} = \text{Re} T_i + \dots$$

Minimising the total potential:

$$V_{\text{eff}} = V_F + V_{\mathcal{D}}$$

⇒ a minimum and a maximum defined by the

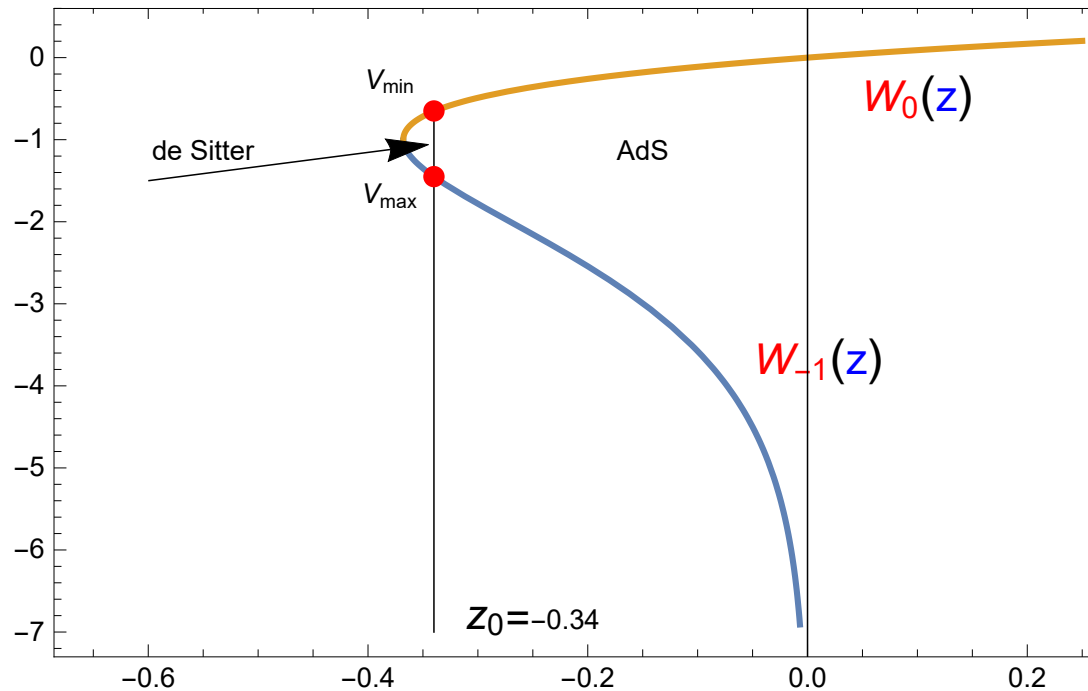
**double-valued Lambert W-function** (i.e., solution of  $\mathbf{W}e^{\mathbf{W}} = z$ ):

$$\mathcal{V}_{\min} = \frac{\hat{n}}{d} \mathbf{W}_{0/-1} \left( \frac{d}{\hat{n}} e^{\frac{7}{3} - \frac{\hat{\xi}}{2\hat{n}}} \right)$$

▲ de Sitter vacua ▲

minimum  $V_{\text{eff}} = V_F + V_D$  at  $\mathcal{V}_0$  must be positive:

$$V_{\text{eff}}^{\text{min}} = \frac{c}{\mathcal{V}_0^3} + \frac{d}{\mathcal{V}_0^2} > 0$$



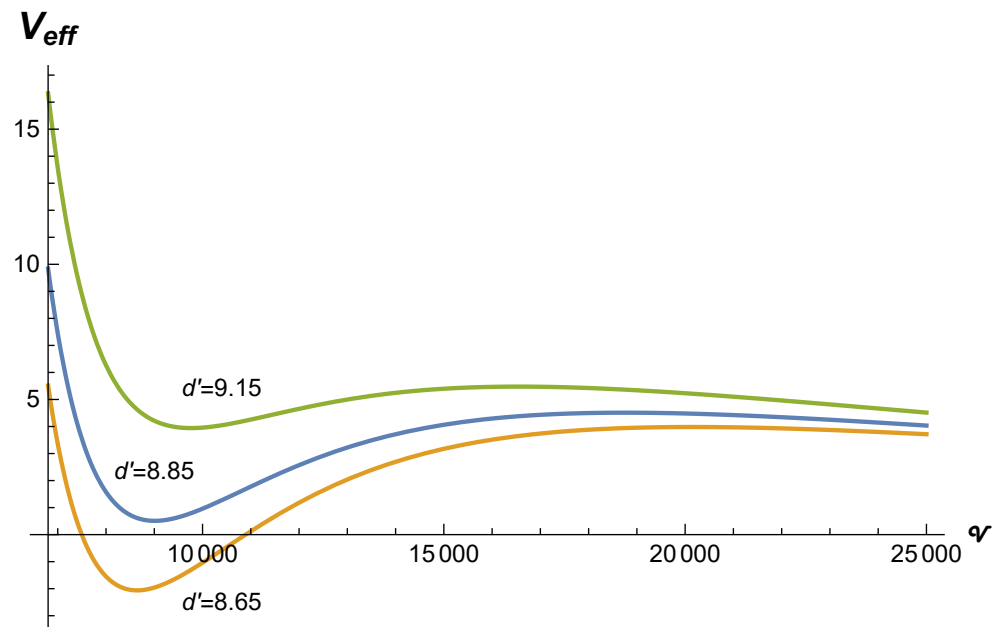
*This dramatically constrains acceptable string vacua (fluxes etc)*

## de Sitter

Plot of  $V_{\text{eff}}$  vs  $\mathcal{V}$  for  $d' = 10^4 d = \{8.65, 8.85, 9.15\}$ .

The lower curve corresponds to AdS vacuum.

At large volume, the potential vanishes asymptotically



## Inflation

*Hybrid scenario* can be realised with **open string states**  $\chi$  at  $D7$ -brane intersections playing the role of waterfall fields  
(*Antoniadis, Lacombe, GKL, 2109.03243, JHEP 2022*)

Shape of  $V_{total}$  in the presence of  $\chi$  at large  $\mathcal{V}$  regime:

$$V_{total} = C \frac{\hat{\xi} - 4\hat{\eta} + 2\hat{\eta} \log(\mathcal{V})}{\mathcal{V}^3} + \frac{d}{\mathcal{V}^2} + V_{\chi}$$

with  $V_{\chi}$  the waterfall field potential:

$$V_{\chi} = \sim m^2(\mathcal{V})\chi^2 + \lambda(\mathcal{V})\chi^4$$

- ▲ The volume modulus can play the role of **Inflaton** field

$$\phi \propto \log \mathcal{V}$$

- ▲ We find that inflation can be realised with most of the 60 efolds collected near the **metastable local** minimum  $V_{total}(\mathcal{V}_{min})$ .

- ▲ **Inflation** ends and false vacuum decays to **Global** minimum through a

$$\text{waterfall field } \chi: V_\chi \sim m^2(\mathcal{V})\chi^2 + \lambda(\mathcal{V})\chi^4 .$$

For  $m^2 > 0$  minimum in the  $\chi$ -field direction is at the origin

$$m^2 > 0 \rightarrow \langle \chi \rangle = 0$$

When the mass of  $\chi$  becomes tachyonic, a phase transition occurs and the new vacuum is obtained at a non-vanishing  $\langle \chi \rangle$ :

$$m^2 < 0 \rightarrow \langle \chi \rangle \neq 0$$

A configuration to realise the hybrid scenario in our  $D7$  set-up

	$\mathcal{T}_{(45)}^2$	$\mathcal{T}_{(67)}^2$	$\mathcal{T}_{(89)}^2$
$D7_1$	$\cdot$	$\otimes$	$\times \mathcal{A}_1$
$D7_2$	$\times$	$\cdot \pm \mathbf{x}_2$	$\otimes$
$D7_3$	$\otimes$	$\times \mathcal{A}_3$	$\cdot$

▲ A circled cross shows **magnetic field** on specific  $D7$  and  $\mathcal{T}^2$ .

▲  $\mathcal{A}_{1,3}$  denote Wilson lines

▲  $\pm \mathbf{x}_2$  brane separations (uplifting tachyons)

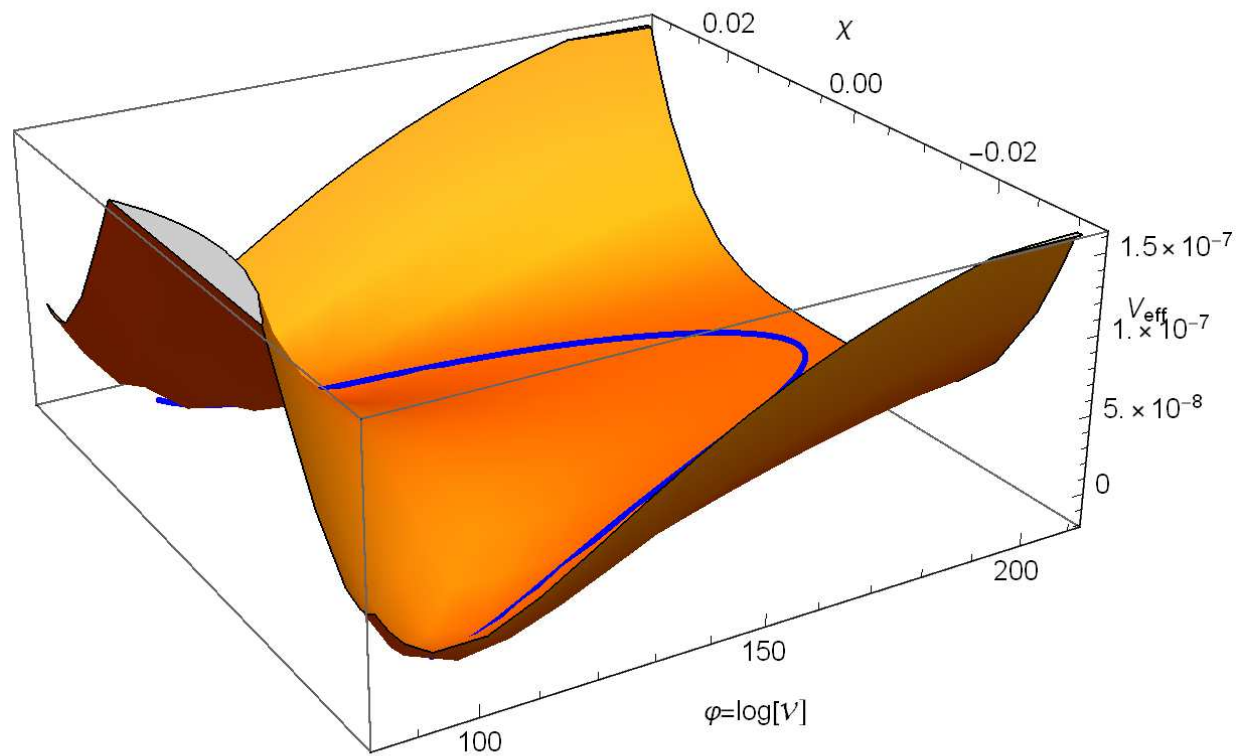
⇒ only one tachyonic state playing the role of **waterfall field**:

$$\alpha' m_{22}^2 \approx -\frac{A}{\nu^{1/3}} + B\nu^{1/3}, \quad (A, B) \rightarrow \text{positive constants}$$

$\langle \chi \rangle \neq 0$  for

$$\nu < \nu_{\text{critical}} = \left( \frac{A}{B} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

- ▲ Hybrid scenario: Inflaton:  $\phi \propto \log \mathcal{V}$
- ▲ Blue curve: waterfall field  $\chi$  trajectory





★ Conclusions ★

★ *IIB/F-theory*:

- Stabilisation of Kähler Moduli possible with  
Perturbative corrections only:

$$\mathcal{K} = -2 \ln \left( \mathcal{V} + \hat{\xi}/2 + \hat{\eta} \ln \mathcal{V} \right) + \dots$$

Origin of log-corrections:

Induced Einstein-Hilbert terms from  $R^4$ -couplings in 10-d theory.

This  $\mathcal{EH}$ -term  $\exists$  in  $4d$  only!



★ *induced*  $\mathcal{EH}$ -term ... indispensable element for a:  
 $4d$  de Sitter Universe

★ Hybrid Inflation with inflaton  $\phi \sim \log \mathcal{V}$  and  
waterfall fields open string states attached on  $D7$ 's.

*APPENDIX*



## D7-branes and Logarithmic corrections

*Two ingredients needed for log-corrections:*



*A)* Intersecting D7-brane configuration:

D7s	Compact Dimensions									
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
$D7_a$		*	*	*	*	*	*	*		
$D7_b$		*	*	*	*	*			*	*
$D7_c$		*	*	*			*	*	*	*

## B) Higher derivative couplings in curvature

*(generated by multigraviton scattering)*

*(see hep-th/9704145; 9707013; 9707018)*

*Leading correction term in type II-B action:*

*proportional to the fourth power of curvature:*

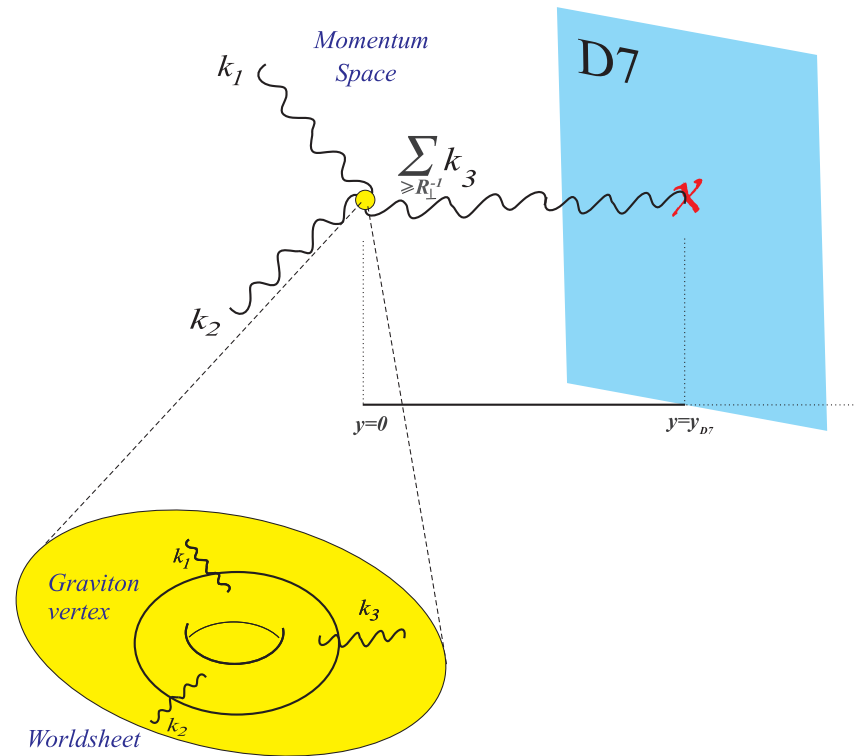
$$\boxed{\propto R^4}$$

After reduction on  $\mathcal{M}_4 \times \mathcal{X}_6$ , (with  $\mathcal{M}_4$  4-d Minkowski)  $R^4$  induces a **novel Einstein-Hilbert** term  $\mathcal{R}_{(4)} \propto$  by the Euler characteristic  $\chi$ :

$$\propto \underbrace{\chi \int_{\mathcal{M}_4} (\zeta(2) - \zeta(3)e^{-2\phi}) \mathcal{R}_{(4)}}_{\text{induced } \mathcal{EH} \text{ term}},$$

▲▲ *this  $\mathcal{EH}$  term possible in 4-dimensions only!*

▲▲ New  $\mathcal{EH}$ -term localised at points with  $\chi \neq 0$ ▲▲  
KK-exchange between graviton vertex and a  $D7$ -brane



## Corrections

$$\propto \zeta(2) \chi \int_{M_4} \left( 1 + \sum_{i=1,2,3} e^{2\phi} \mathcal{T}_i \log(R_{\perp}^i) \mathcal{R}_{(4)} \right),$$

▲  $\mathcal{T}_i$  : D7-brane tension ( $= g_s T_0$ )

▲  $R_{\perp}^i$  : D7-transverse 2-dimension

Kähler potential :

$$\mathcal{K} = -\log(-i(S - \bar{S})) - 2 \log(\mathcal{V} + \xi/2 + \eta \log \mathcal{V}) + K_{cs}$$

$$\eta = -\frac{1}{2} g_s T_0 \xi \quad ; \quad \xi = -\frac{\chi}{4} \times \begin{cases} \frac{\pi^2}{3} g_s^2 & \text{for orbifolds} \\ \zeta(3) & \text{for smooth CY} \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

### Details of the Specific CY manifold

The analysis of the divisor topologies using *cohomCalc* shows that divisors are of *K3* and *SD* types and can be represented by the following Hodge diamonds:

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 & & 1 & & & & 1 & & \\
 & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \\
 K3 \equiv & 1 & & 20 & & 1 & , & SD \equiv & 27 & & 184 & & 27 & . \\
 & & 0 & & 0 & & & & 0 & & 0 & & & \\
 & & & & 1 & & & & & & 1 & & & 
 \end{array}$$



## Cancellation of all D7-charges

Introduce  $N_a$  D7-branes wrapped around divisors  $D_a$  and orientifold images  $D'_a$  (0811.2936)

$$\sum_k N_k ([D_k + D'_k]) = 8[O7]$$

D7-branes and O7-planes also give rise to D3-tadpoles which receive contributions also from background 3-form fluxes

Assuming simple case:

D7-tadpoles are cancelled by placing 4  $D7 + D7'$ -branes on top of O7-plane:

$$N_{D3} + \frac{1}{2}N_{\text{flux}} + N_{\text{gauge}} = \frac{1}{4}(O3 + \chi(O7))$$

## Example

Specific brane setting involving 2 stacks of  $D7$ -branes wrapping the divisors  $D_1, D_6$  in the basis,

$$8[O7] = 4([D_1 + D'_1]) + 4([D_6 + D'_6])$$

$D3$  tadpole condition

$$N_{D3} + \frac{1}{2}N_{flux} + N_{gauge} = 12$$

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