

# The Tadpole Conjecture in non-geometric backgrounds

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Work in collaboration with

Katrin Becker, Nathan Brady, Miguel Morros, Anindya Sengupta and Qin You [arXiv: 2407.16758](https://arxiv.org/abs/2407.16758)

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September 2024

# Introduction

- Flux compactifications: building block in string pheno because of moduli stabilization

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Giddings, Kachru, Polchinski 01

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(1) fluxes back-react on geometry

(2) fluxes induce positive **charges** that need to be cancelled globally

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→ **Drawback**: odd fluxes  $(H_3, F_3) \Rightarrow$  only complex structure mod stabilized  
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- **Tadpole conjecture**: common lore not true!

# The tadpole conjecture

Bena, Blåbäck, M.G., S. Lust 20

For a large number of **moduli stabilized** at a generic point in moduli space, the **induced charge**  $N_{\text{flux}}$  satisfies

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(3) Very nice byproduct! Stay awake longer

# Tadpole cancelation condition

- Fluxes induce **D3-charge**. In a compact space total charge should be zero
- In type IIB with 3-form fluxes

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 $H_3, F_3$  and  
flux on D7

all the negative  
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c.s., dilaton and D7 moduli  
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⋮  
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$$\frac{\chi}{24} = \frac{1}{4}(h^{3,1} + h^{1,1} - h^{2,1} + 8)$$

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# Tadpole conjecture

$$N_{\text{flux}} > \alpha n_{\text{stab}}$$

If  $\alpha > \frac{1}{4}$ , cannot stabilize all moduli in F-theory (if number is large)!

# Supporting examples for $\frac{N_{\text{flux}}}{n_{\text{stab}}} > \frac{1}{3}$ in CY

Description	$n_{\text{stab}}$	$N_{\text{flux}}$	$\alpha = \frac{N_{\text{flux}}}{n_{\text{stab}}}$	Ref
IIB at symm pt in mod space	$h^{2,1} = 128$	48	0.38	Giryavets, Kachru, Tripathy, Trivedi 03
	$h^{2,1} = 272$	124	0.46	Demirtas, Kim, Mc Allister, Moritz 19
F-theory on sextic CY at symm point	$h^{3,1} = 426$	775/4	0.45	Braun, Valandro 20
		587/4	0.34	Braun, Fortin, Lopez Garcia, Villaflor Loyola 24
F-theory on $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3$ base	$n_7 = 3728$	1638	0.44	Collinucci, Denef Esole 08
F-theory on K3xK3	$n_{\text{mod}} = 57$	25	0.44	Bena, Blåbäck, M.G., Lust 20
IIB on (3,51) CY <sub>3</sub> at large complex structure	95	32	0.34	Coudarchet, Marchesano, Prieto, Urkiola '23

# Supporting examples for linear behavior $N_{\text{flux}} > \alpha n_{\text{stab}}$

Description	$n_{\text{stab}}$	$N_{\text{flux}}$	$\alpha = \frac{N_{\text{flux}}}{n_{\text{stab}}}$	Ref
F-theory on any weak-Fano base	$n_7 = 58c_1^3(B) + 16$	$\frac{7}{16}(58c_1^3(B) + 15)$	0.44	Bena, Brodie, M.G. 21
F-theory on CY in asympt region (large complex structure or close to conifold)	$n_{\text{stab}} \leq n_{\text{mod}}$	$\alpha n$	In all examples out of a large set $\alpha > 0.7$	M.G., Grimm, van de Heisteeg, Herraez, Plauschinn 22

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<b>HERE!</b>				

Non-geometric backgrounds:  
mirror duals of rigid Calabi-Yau manifolds



# Non-geometric backgrounds: mirror duals of rigid Calabi-Yau manifolds

Hodge diamond of a Calabi-Yau

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & 1 & & \\ & 0 & & 0 & \\ & 0 & h^{1,1} & & 0 \\ 1 & h^{2,1} & & h^{1,2} & 1 \\ & 0 & h^{2,2} & & 0 \\ & 0 & & 0 & \\ & & 1 & & \end{array}$$

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On the two-dimensional (2,2) SCFT on the world-sheet of strings in CY:

$h^{2,1}$  : marginal deformations in the (c,c) ring

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Lecher, Vafa, Warner '89

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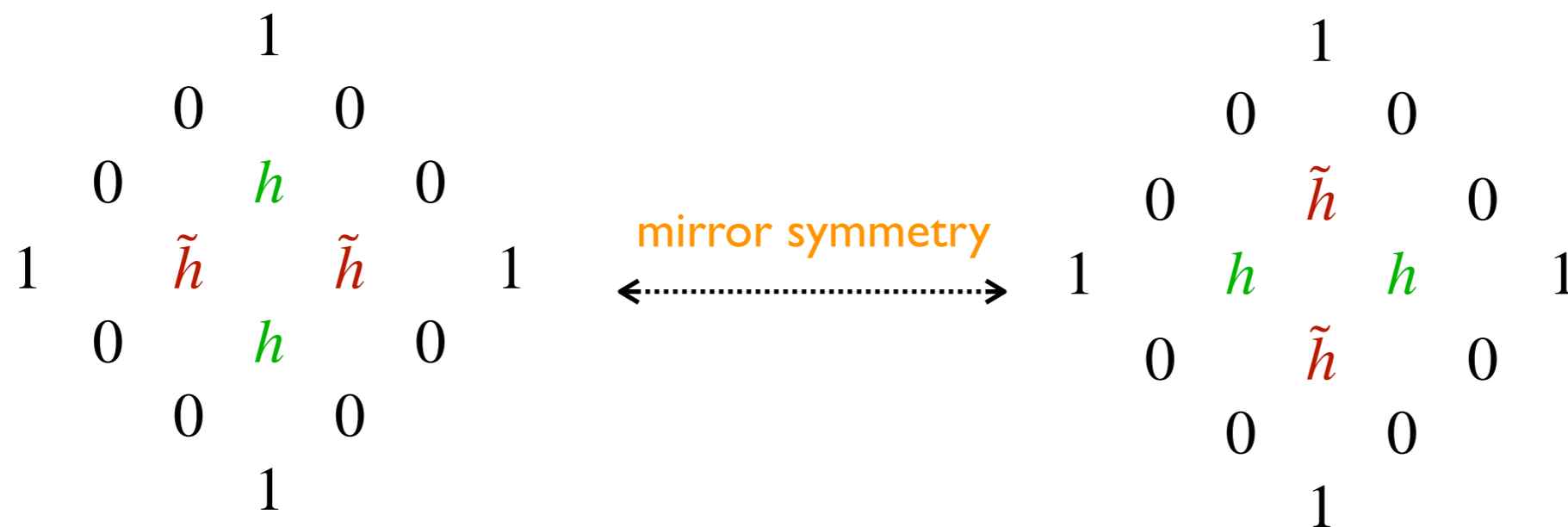
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 \leftarrow \text{-----} \rightarrow
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1 No volume form

$$J \wedge J \wedge J = \text{vol}$$

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But perfectly fine from the world-sheet point of view

Description in terms of Landau-Ginzburg models

Vafa '89

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Vafa '89

Standard notions in geometric flux compactifications (flux superpotential, tadpole) still apply

Becker, Becker, Vafa, Walcher '06

# IIB Landau Ginzburg models with flux

- $h^{2,1}$  complex structure moduli ((c,c) marginal deformations or RR ground states in CFT)

- Add 3-form fluxes

$$\int_{\Gamma_n} F_3 = M^n \quad \int_{\Gamma_n} H_3 = K^n \quad n = 1, \dots, 2h^{2,1} + 2$$

$\swarrow \in \mathbb{Z}$

basis of 3-cycles (susy cycles wrapped by A-branes  $\leftrightarrow$  bdy cond in the CFT)

- 4d  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  EFT

$$V = e^K \left( |D_I W|^2 - 3 |W|^2 \right)$$

with  
Becker, Becker,  
Vafa, Walcher 06

$$G_3 = F_3 - \tau H_3$$
$$W = \int_{CY} G_3 \wedge \Omega \sim (M - \tau K) f(\mathbf{z})$$

exact (no perturbative or  
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Gukov, Vafa, Witten 99

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- Minima at

- $D_I W = 0 \rightarrow$  equation for **complex structure moduli**: get a vev depending on  $M^n, K^n$

$$D_I W = \int_{CY} G_3 \wedge \chi_I \quad \Rightarrow \quad G^{(1,2)} = 0$$

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- $D_I W = 0 \rightarrow$  equation for **complex structure moduli**: get a vev depending on  $M^n, K^n$

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- Tadpole cancelation condition  $N_{\text{flux}} = \int F_3 \wedge H_3 = \underbrace{M^n K_n}_{> 0} \leq |Q_{O3}|$   
at Mink minimum  $H_3 = \star F_3$

# Landau Ginzburg models

Vafa '89

Lerche, Vafa, Warner '89

- 2d  $\mathcal{N} = (2,2)$  theories of  $r$  chiral fields  $\Phi_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, r$

$$S_{2d} = \int d^2z d^4\theta \mathcal{K}(\Phi_i, \bar{\Phi}_i) + \int d^2z d^2\theta \mathcal{W}(\Phi_i)$$

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- Lead to 4-dimensional  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  string vacua (as CY)

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$1^9$						$2^6$					
			1					1			
		0		0				0		0	
	0		0		0		0		0		
1		63		63	1	1		90		90	1
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$|Q_{O3}| = 12$   
 mirror of  $\frac{T^6}{\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3}$

$|Q_{O3}| = 40$   
 mirror of  $\frac{T^6}{\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_4}$

# Moduli stabilisation in these Landau Ginzburg models

Becker, Becker, Vafa, Walcher 06

arXiv:hep-th/0611001v2 20 Nov 2006

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### Abstract

Type II orientifolds based on Landau-Ginzburg models are used to describe moduli stabilization for flux compactifications of type II theories from the world-sheet CFT point of view. We show that for certain types of type IIB orientifolds which have no Kähler moduli and are therefore intrinsically non-geometric, all moduli can be *explicitly* stabilized in terms of fluxes. The resulting four-dimensional theories can describe Minkowski as well as Anti-de-Sitter vacua. This construction provides the first string vacuum with all moduli frozen and leading to a 4D Minkowski background.

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$$\text{If } N_{\text{flux}} > \frac{1}{3} n_{\text{stab}} \Rightarrow \text{to fix all moduli need} \rightarrow 1^9 : N_{\text{flux}} > \frac{1}{3} 63 = 21$$

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# Fluxes & Moduli stabilisation

- Fluxes

$$\int_{\Gamma_N} F_3 = M^N \int_{\Gamma_N} H_3 = K^N$$

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## - Moduli stabilisation

$$W = \int G_3 \wedge \Omega = \sum_N (M^N - \tau K^N) \Omega_N,$$

$$\Omega_N = \int_{\Gamma_N} e^{-\mathcal{W}(\Phi, t)} d^4\Phi \sim \sum_p t_1 \dots t_p i^{(L_1 + \dots + L_p) \cdot N}$$



# Fluxes & Moduli stabilisation

- Massive moduli

$$\Sigma l_i = 10 \Rightarrow I$$

$$n_{\text{mass}} = \text{rank } M$$

$$\Sigma l_i = 14 \Rightarrow \bar{I}$$

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- Note!

$$n_{\text{mass}} \leq n_{\text{stab}} < 3 N_{\text{flux}}$$

tadpole conjecture

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tadpole conjecture

- Here testing a weaker form of tadpole conjecture

## Two alternative procedures

- Turn on  $G_3$  on one, two, three, ...  $L^I$  component ( $\sum l_i = 10$ )
  - $\in H^{(2,1)}$  automatic
  - $M^N, K^N \in \mathbb{Z}$  to be imposed
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- Beyond: use algorithms for smart search (start from a set of minimal length vectors)
- Compute  $N_{\text{flux}}, n_{\text{mass}}$

$$N_{\text{flux}} = \int F_3 \wedge H_3 = M^N K_N$$

$$N_{\text{flux}} = \frac{i}{\tau - \bar{\tau}} \int G_3 \wedge \bar{G}_3 = \frac{1}{2\tau_2} |G_I|^2$$

$$n_{\text{mass}} = \text{rank}(\partial_I \partial_J W)$$



# Results: $1^9$

$$|Q_{03}| = 12$$

$$h^{2,1} = 63$$

$$\tau = e^{2\pi i/3}$$

Not weak coupling!

Becker, Gonazlo, Walcher, Wrase '22

Becker, Brady, Sengupta '23

Becker, Rajagaru, Sengupta, Walcher, Wrase '24

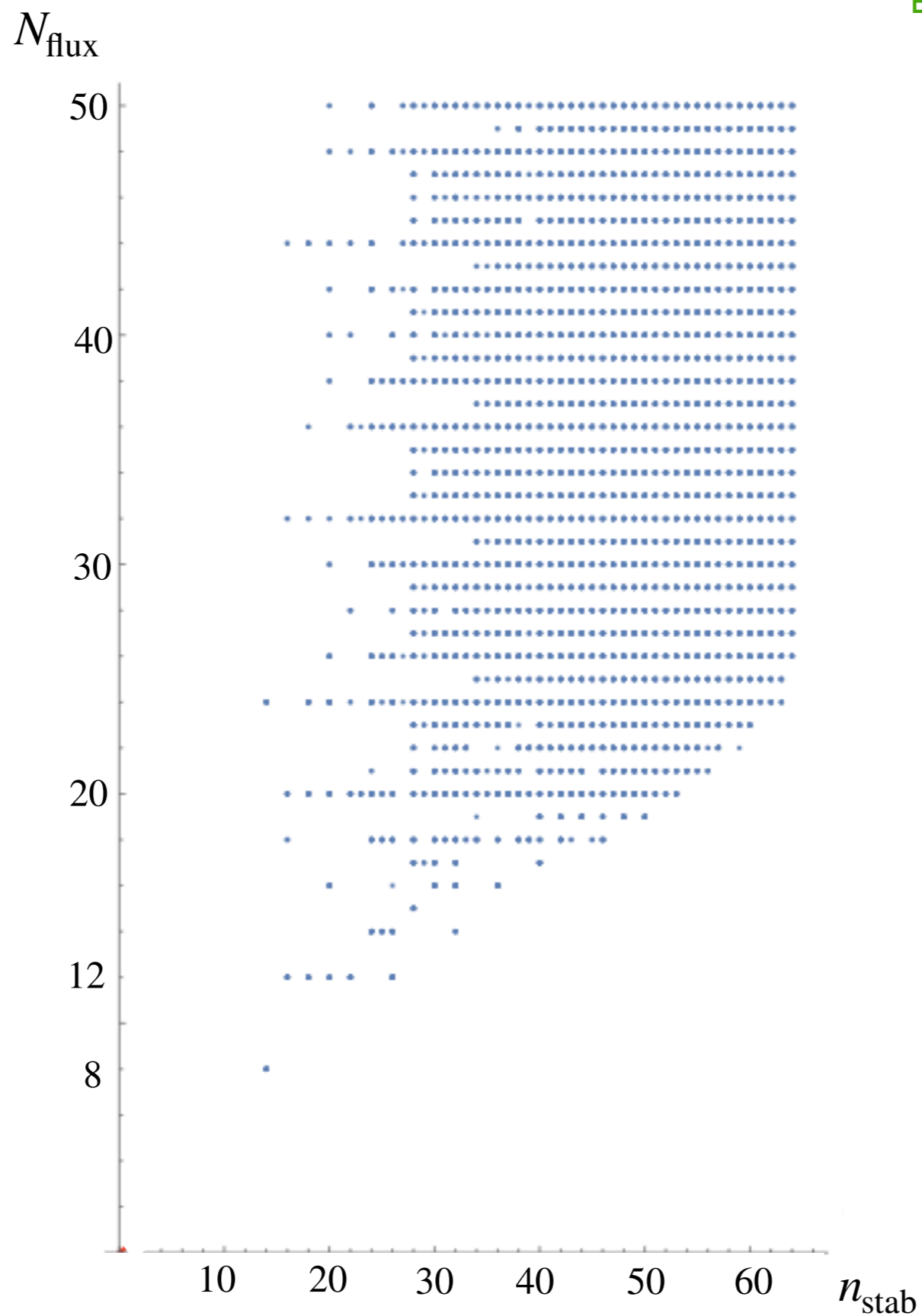
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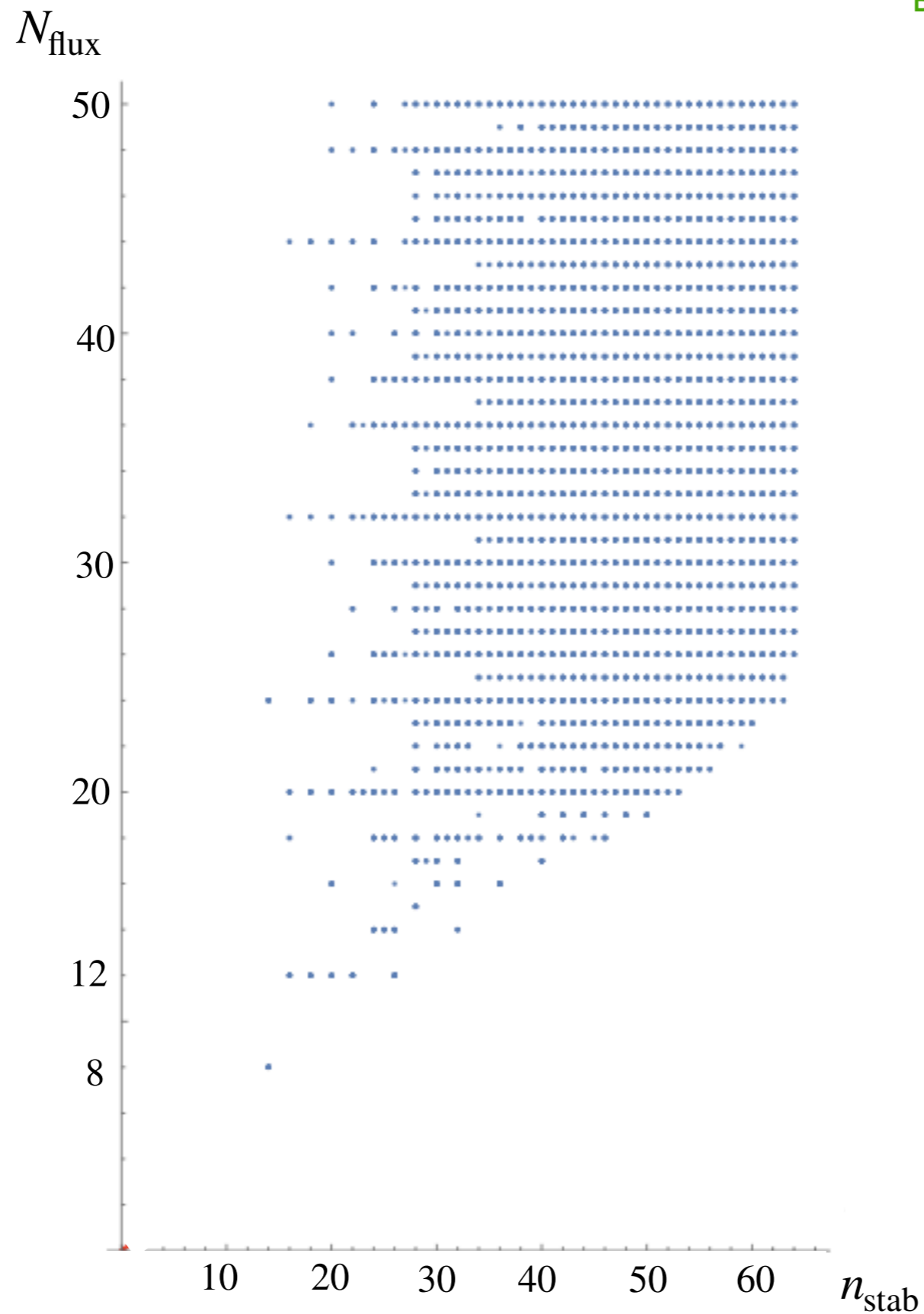
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## Tadpole conjecture

$$N_{\text{flux}} > \alpha n_{\text{stab}}$$

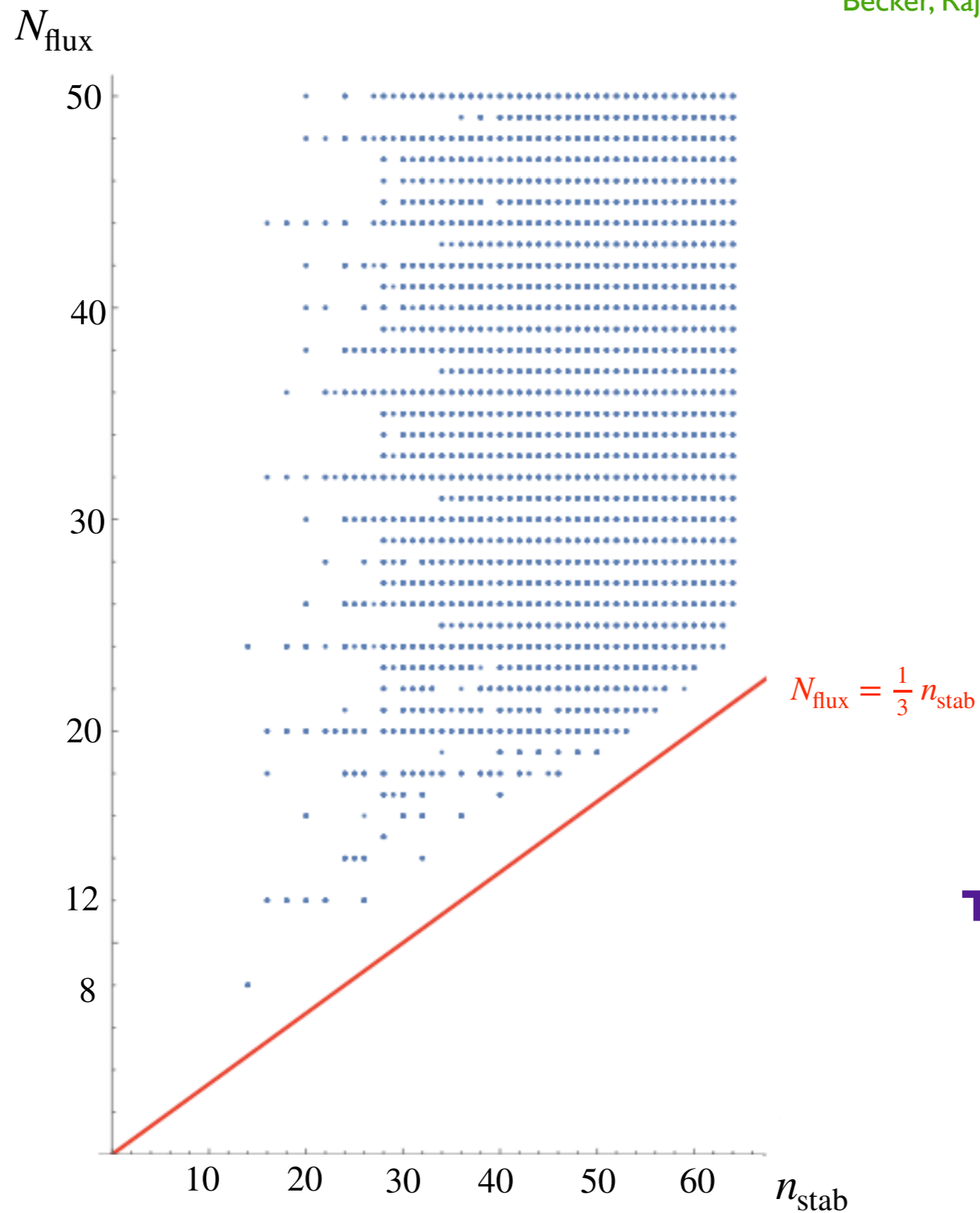
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**Tadpole conjecture**

$$N_{\text{flux}} > \frac{1}{3} n_{\text{stab}}$$

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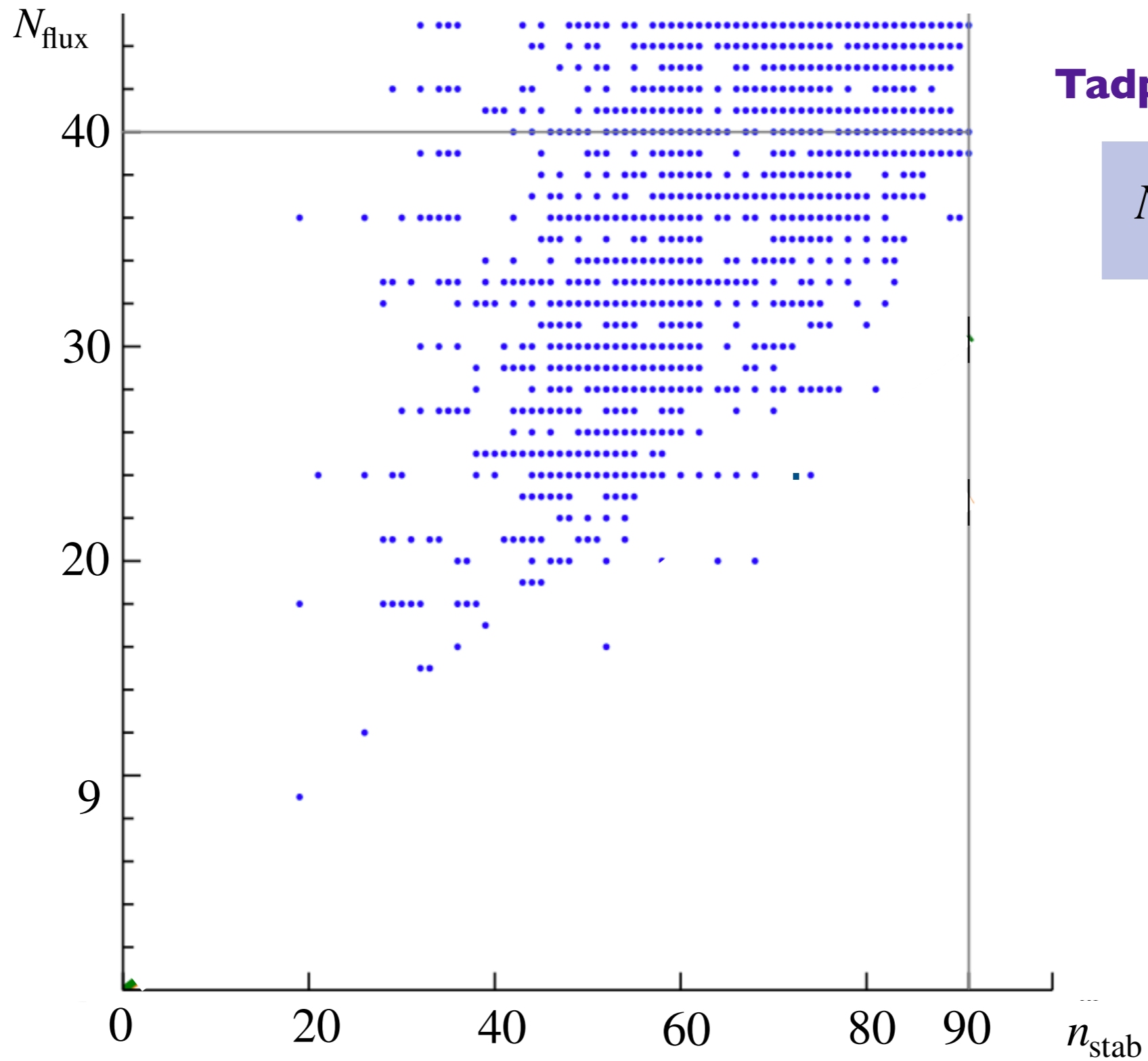
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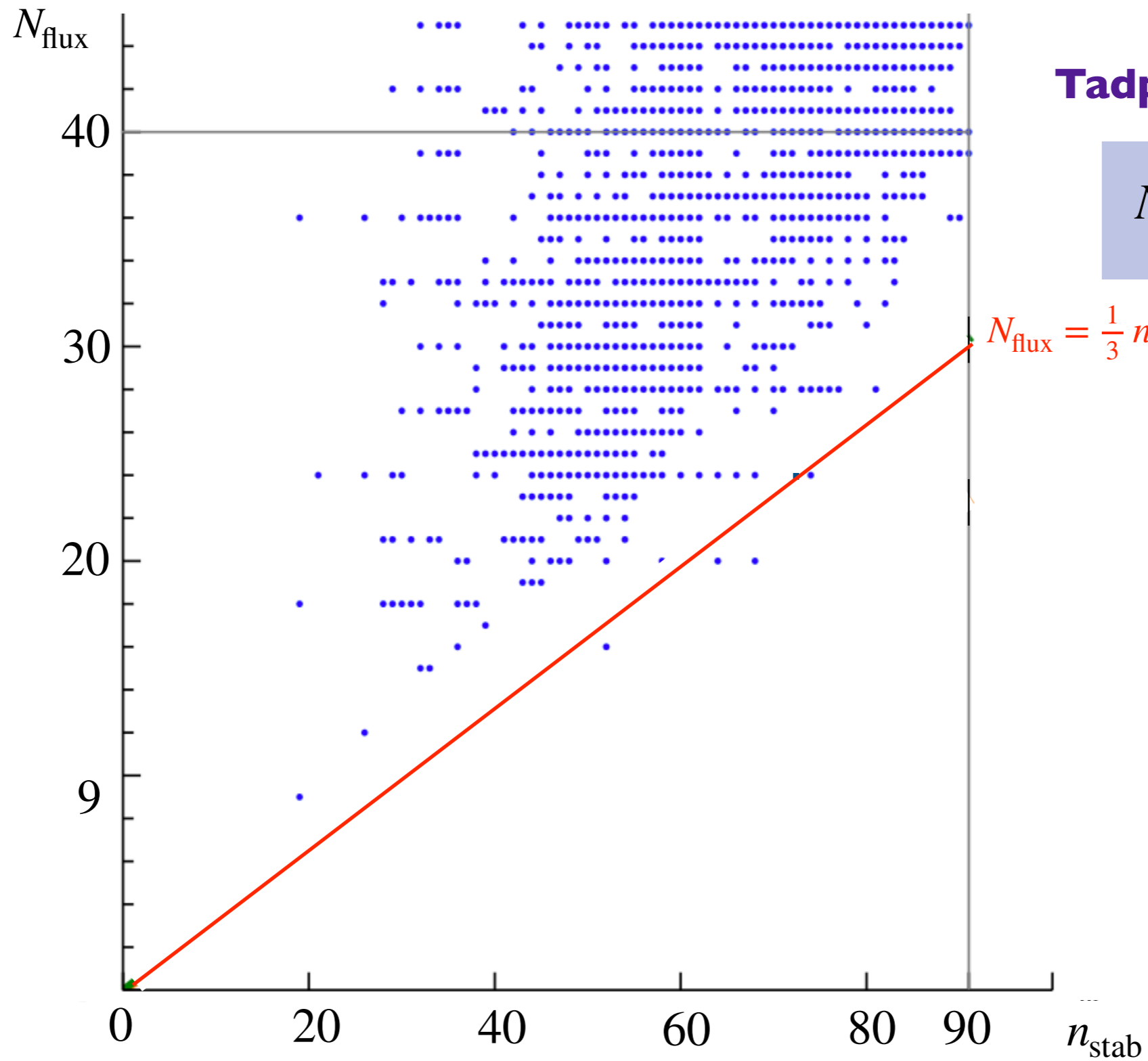
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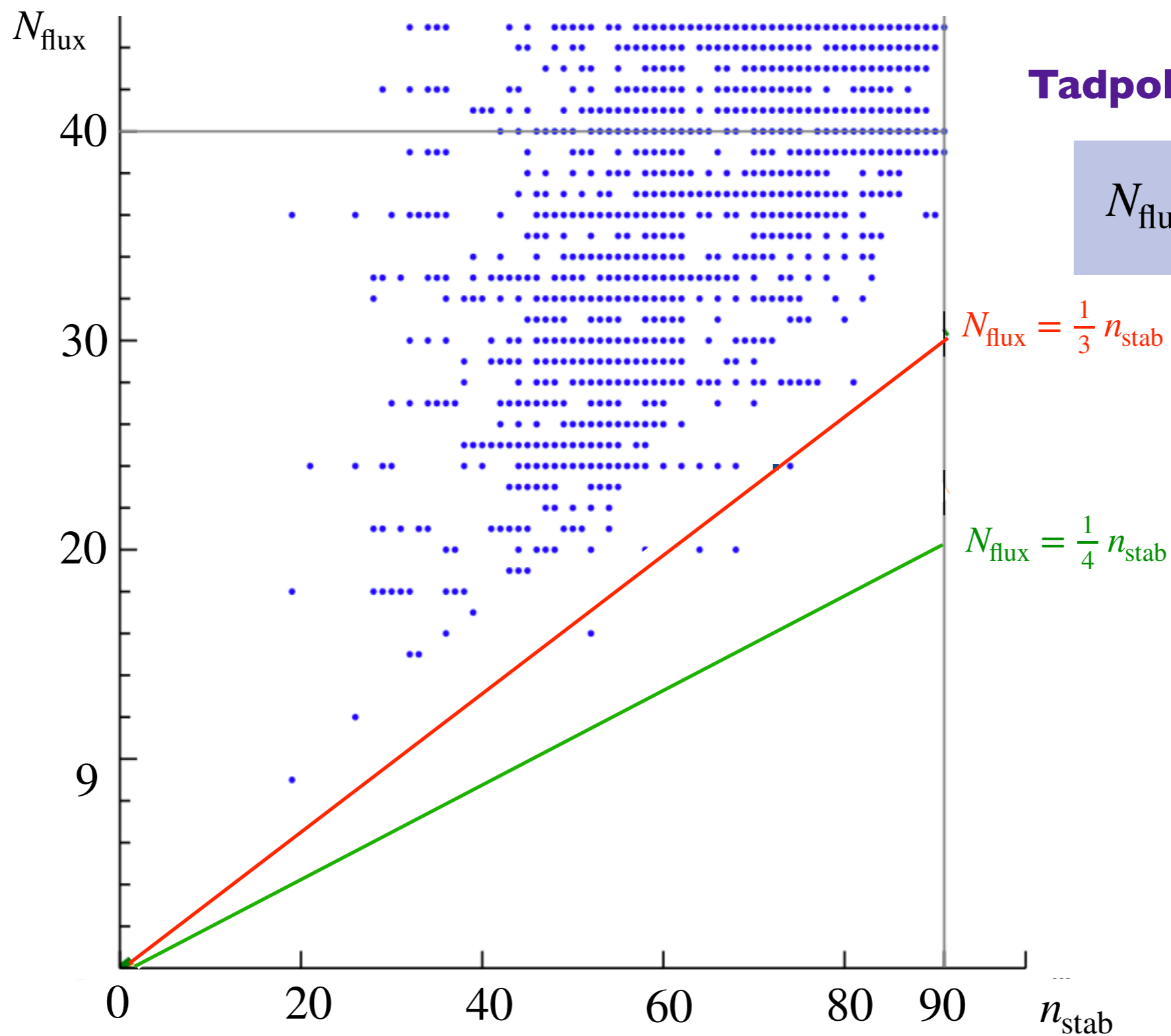
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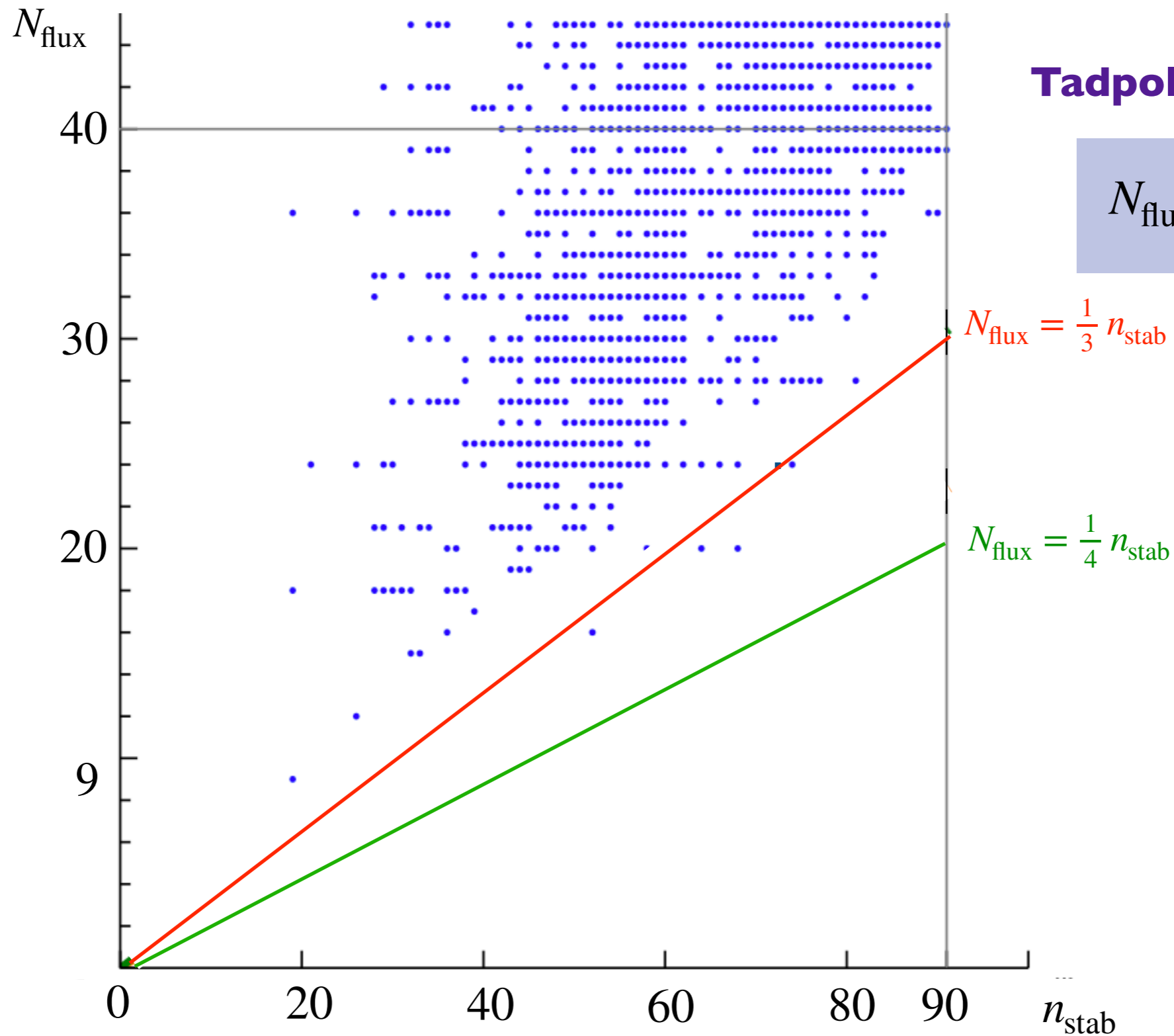
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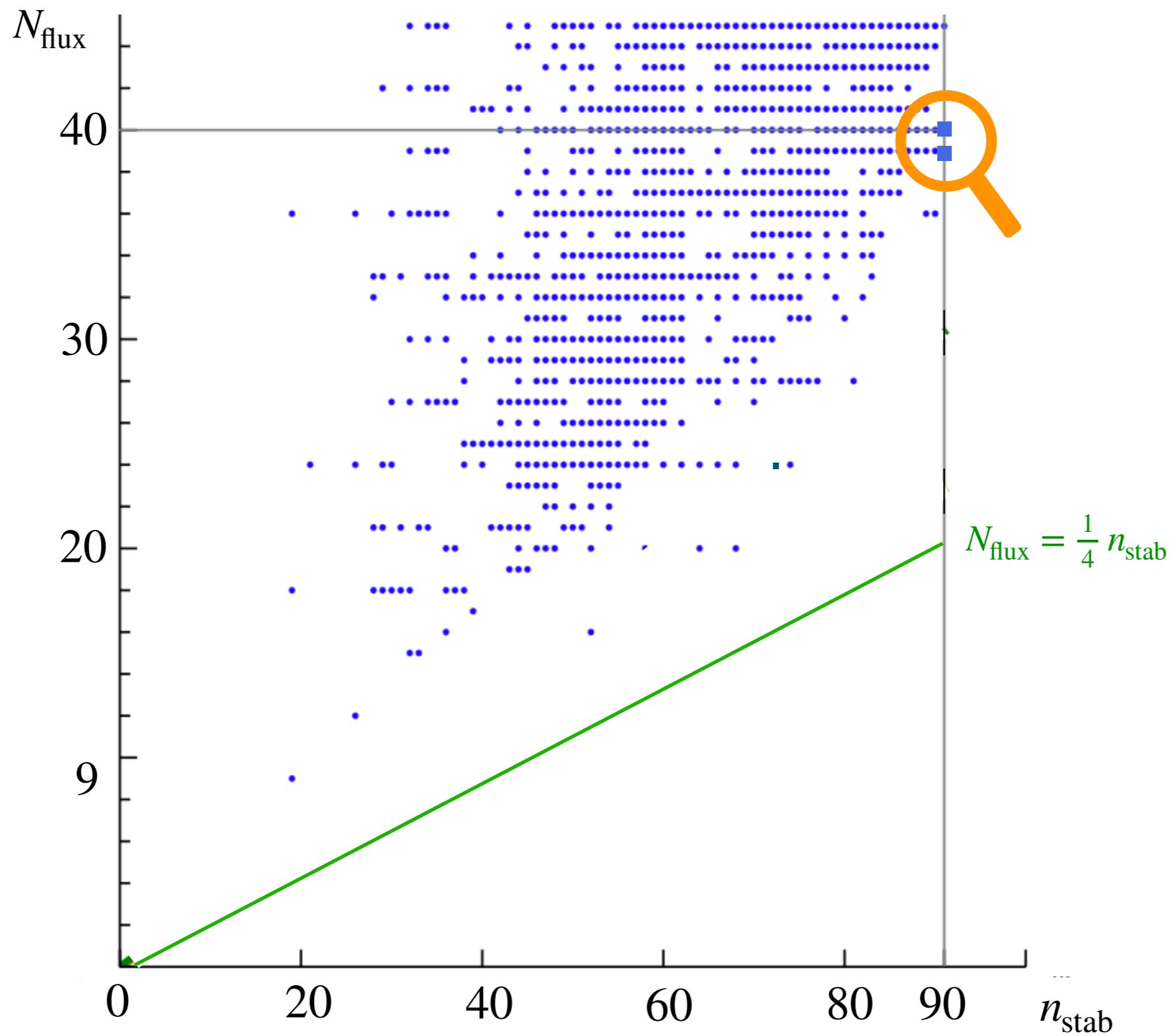
In F-theory  
tadpole cond: 
$$N_{\text{flux}} \leq \frac{\chi}{24} \simeq \frac{1}{4} n_{\text{mod}}$$

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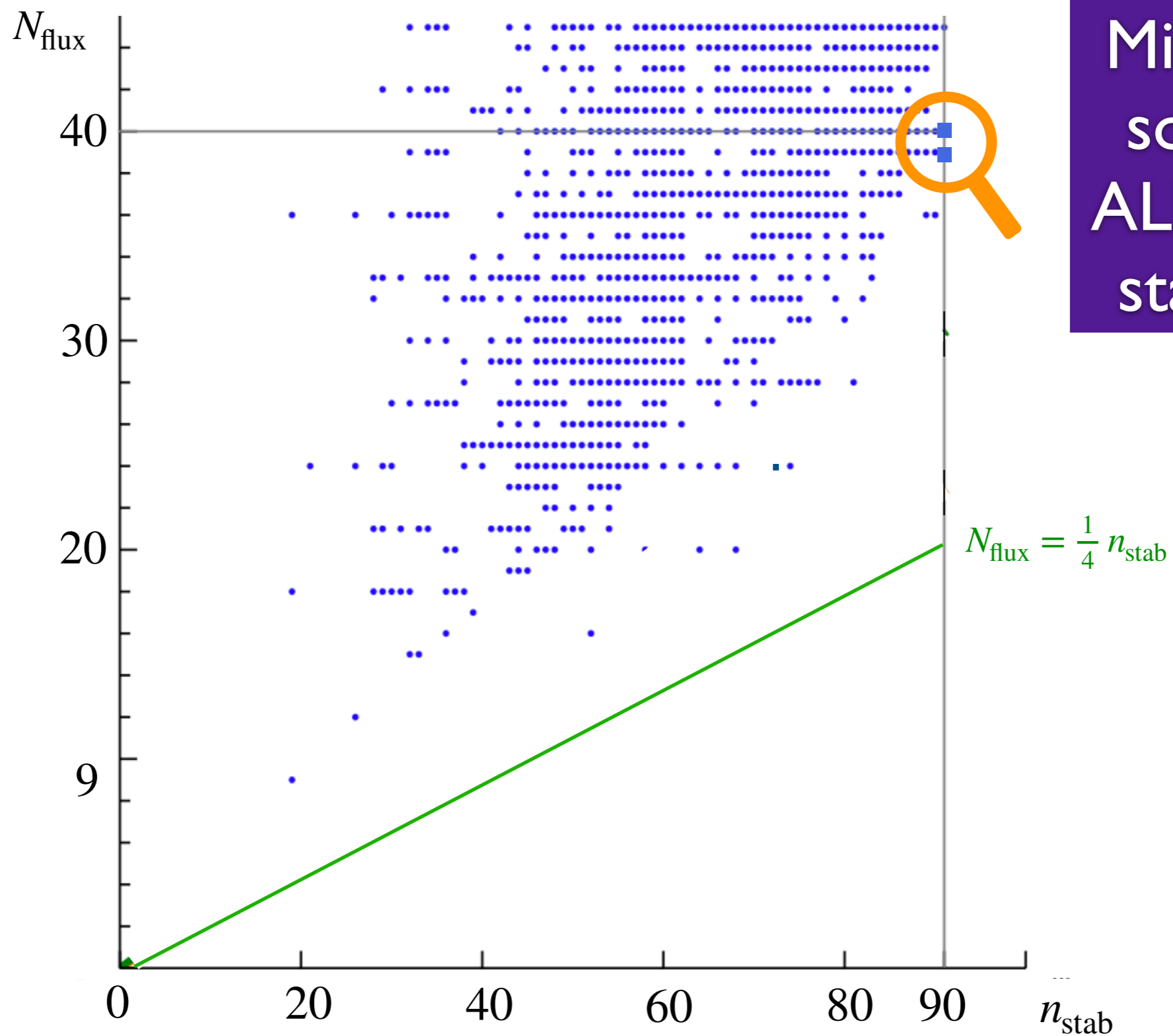


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Minkowski  
sols. with  
ALL moduli  
stabilised!

## One solution with all moduli stabilised with $N_{flux} = 40$

$$G = \frac{1}{128} \left[ -2i\chi_{111133} + (1+i)\chi_{111232} - (1+i)\chi_{112231} + 2i\chi_{113131} - (1+i)\chi_{121321} \right. \\ - \chi_{122212} + i\chi_{122221} + (1-i)\chi_{123121} - 2i\chi_{123211} + 2i\chi_{131311} - 2i\chi_{132112} \\ + (1-i)\chi_{132211} + 2\chi_{133111} + (1+i)\chi_{211123} - \chi_{211222} + (1-i)\chi_{211321} + \chi_{212212} \\ + 2i\chi_{213211} + \chi_{221212} + i\chi_{222112} + i\chi_{222211} - 2\chi_{223111} + 2i\chi_{231112} - 2\chi_{232111} \\ \left. - 2\chi_{311113} - (1+i)\chi_{311212} + 2i\chi_{311311} - 2i\chi_{312211} - 2i\chi_{321112} + 2\chi_{322111} \right]$$

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- Found the first Minkowski solutions with ALL moduli stabilised!
- Massless Minkowski conjecture (always some massless modulus)  
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Andriot, Horer, Marconnet 22

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We/many others checked massive, but results in  $1^9$  and  $2^6$  at higher order indicate  
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→ Does it apply beyond tadpole bound?

Yes!

# Conclusions

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$$M|_{DW=0} = \begin{pmatrix} D_I D_J W & g_{I\bar{J}} \bar{W} \\ g_{\bar{I}J} W & D_{\bar{I}} D_{\bar{J}} \bar{W} \end{pmatrix}$$

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S.Lust, Wiesner22

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S.Lust, Wiesner22

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→ What does generic point mean?

A point where non-Abelian gauge symmetries is not generic (K3 x K3)

Bena, Blåbäck, M.G., Lüst 20

Braun, Fraiman, MG, Lust, Parra de Freitas 23

A point with discrete symmetries (Fermat) satisfies tadpole conjecture

Generic = no non-Abelian gauge symmetries?

# Conclusions

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**THANK YOU!**