#### 10d Description of 4d de Sitter Vacua

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### Based on work with:



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- "On brane gaugino condensates in 10d," JHEP 1904, 008 (2019) [arXiv:1812.06097 [hep-th]].
- "Understanding KKLT from a 10d perspective," JHEP 1906, 019 (2019) [arXiv:1902.01410 [hep-th]].
- + work in progress















# de Sitter and the Swampland

- The recent debate of whether de Sitter is in the Swampland is *not* about questioning individual modules in specific constructions or whether these constructions are *reasonable* from a 4d EFT point of view.
- Swampland criteria do not follow from EFT considerations alone.
   Furthermore, they are global constraints:



At **non-zero gravitational coupling**, these modules are not independent of each other; we must consider the **compactification in full**.

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# KKLT

- While de Sitter in string theory does not mean exclusively KKLT [Kachru, Kallosh, Linde, Trivedi], some no-goes which plagued simple de Sitter constructions [See Panel Discussion 5] do not obviously apply.
- To show that KKLT is not in the swampland, we ought to show that all the modules can be consistently put together in a compactification:



This question triggers the recent interest in understanding KKLT from a 10d perspective; a 4d analysis may obscure potential incompatibilities.

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## KKLT in 4d

Type IIB on CY orientifold with all complex structure moduli ξ<sub>a</sub> and the axio-dilaton τ stabilized by fluxes:

$$W = \int G_3 \wedge \Omega$$
 [Gukov, Vafa, Witten]

• Assuming CY with  $h_{+}^{1,1} = 1$ , the low energy 4d EFT below the KK and complex structure moduli/axio-dilaton mass scale is described by:

$$K = -3\log(T + \overline{T})$$
 with  $T = \mathcal{V}^{2/3} + ia$ ,

 $W = W_0 = \text{constant} \Rightarrow V = 0$  (no scale)

• Gaugino condensate on D7 (or ED3):

$$W = W_0 + e^{-T}$$



• Uplift by p anti-D3 in a warped throat:  $V = V_F + 2p\mu_3 e^{4A-12u}$ 

# KKLT in 10d

#### • This is a tall order!

- Does there exist an explicit CY orientifold which allows for an exponentially small IW<sub>0</sub>I, a strongly warped throat, and W<sub>NP</sub>?
   [Partially in Panel Discussion 4, 5]
- Separation of scales ? [Panel Discussion 1]
- Controlled corrections ? [Panel Discussion 1]. For one, to stay in the geometric regime, Re T > 1 requires

$$\frac{\log |W_0|^{-1}}{2\pi k} \gg 1 \text{ with } k = \text{constant that increases with } h_+^{1,1}$$

so far only  $W_0 \approx 10^{-2}$  has been demonstrated [Denef, Douglas, Florea].

- Backreaction of antibranes and metastability? [Panel Discussion 2]
- Gaugino condensate and flattening? [Panel Discussion 3]

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# KKLT and the de Sitter Conjectures

- The recent de Sitter conjectures [Danielsson, Van Riet];[Obied, Ooguri, Spodyneiko, Vafa];[Ooguri, Palti, GS, Vafa]; [Andriot]; ... should not be seen as discouraging de Sitter constructions in string theory.
- Rather, they open more doors for further investigations:
- Careful studies of string theory vacua (going beyond 4d EFT).

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- Quantifying corrections and sharpening estimate of errors.
- Developing more powerful tools for constructing de Sitter or its alternatives.



# Brane Gauginos in 10d

### **Trace-reversed Einstein Equation**

• In a 10d approach, the trace-reversed EE + Bianchi identity gives:

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$$\mathcal{VR}_{\eta} = \int d^6 y \sqrt{g} \left( -a \left| \partial \Phi^- \right|^2 - b \Omega^8 \frac{|G_3^-|^2}{\mathrm{Im}(\tau)} - 2\Omega^8 \Delta^{other} \right) \,.$$

includes contributions from D7 gauginos & anti D3-branes

- This is equivalent to  $\mathcal{R}_4$  obtained by minimizing the 4D potential wrt the moduli [Giddings, Maharana];[Danielsson, Haque, GS, Van Riet];[Danielsson, Haque, Koerber, GS, Van Riet, Wrase]; ...
- This [Maldacena. Nunez] style relation has been used to argue that an anti D3brane does not uplift but rather flattens the potential [Moritz, Retolaza, Westphal]; [Gautason, Van Hemelryck, Van Riet].
- Making a definitive statement requires a precise determination of the D7brane gaugino action [Hamada, Hebecker, GS, Soler, '18]; [Kallosh, '19].
  - Using our regularized action, several groups have revisited KKLT [Hamada, Hebecker, GS, Soler, '19]; [Carta, Moritz, Westphal, '19]; [Gautason, Van Hemelryck, Van Riet, Venken, '19]

# Regularizing the D7-brane Action

 This earlier concern about flattening by anti D3-branes was rooted in possibly too simplistic treatment of D7-brane-gaugino bulk coupling:

$$\mathcal{L}_{10} \supset |G_3|^2 + G_3 \cdot \Omega_3 < \lambda \lambda > \delta_{D7}$$

[Camara, Ibanez, Uranga, '04];
[Koerber, Martucci, '07];
[Baumann, Dymarsky, Klebanov, Maldacena, McAllister, '06];
[Heidenreich, McAllister, Torroba, '10], ...

- $G_3$  backreacts, and becomes singular at the D7-brane.
- Plugging this back into the action, one gets a  $(\delta_{D7})^2$  divergence.
- Without regularizing this divergence in the action, one cannot extract physically meaningful answers.

# Regularizing the D7-brane Action

- Singular gaugino effects have made their appearance in other string models [Horava, Witten, '96] (see also [Ferrara, Giradello, Nilles, '83]; [Dine, Rohm, Seiberg, Witten '85]; [Cardoso, Curio, Dall'Agata, Lust, '03], ...)
- It has been shown that SUSY implies an additional highly singular  $<\lambda\lambda>^2$  term which saves the day by "completing the square".
- For the case of interest:

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$$\mathscr{L}_{10} \supset |G_3 + \Omega_3 < \lambda\lambda > \delta_{D7}|^2$$
 [Hamada, Hebecker, GS, Soler, '18];  
(see also [Kallosh, '19])

Very roughly speaking, one writes  $G_3 = G_3^{flux} + \delta G_3$  and let  $\delta G_3$  cancel (most of) the  $\delta$  function.

Schematically:  $\mathscr{L}_{10} \supset |G_3^{flux} + \langle \lambda \lambda \rangle|^2 \rightarrow |D_T W_0 + \partial_T e^{-T}|^2$ 

# Perfect Square Structure in M-theory

Compactifying M theory on an interval:

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It is well-known that the divergence problem is resolved by the perfect-square action (enforced by SUSY):

$$S \sim -\int_{11} \left( G_4 - \frac{1}{2} \delta(x^{11}) j \right)^2$$
 [Horava, Witten]

### Warm-up: 5d Toy Model

Better illustrated w/ a 5d toy model (inspired by [Mirabelli, Peskin, '97]); keeping track of the  $y \equiv x^5$  dependence:

$$S = -\int_{5} \left( d\varphi - j\delta(y) dy \right) \wedge * \left( d\varphi - j\delta(y) dy \right)$$

The equation of motion:

$$d*\left(d\varphi - j\delta(y)dy\right) = 0$$

which is solved by

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$$d\varphi = j\delta(y)dy + \alpha_M dx^M$$

Crucially,  $\alpha = \alpha_M dx^M$  is co-closed, i.e.,

$$d \ast \alpha = 0$$

# **Obtaining a Finite Action**

Neglecting x<sup>µ</sup> dependence, the EOM reads:

$$\partial_{y} \left[ \partial_{y} \varphi - j \delta(y) \right] = 0$$

• The solution is given by:

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$$\partial_y \varphi = j\delta(y) + \alpha_5$$
 with  $\alpha_5 = \text{constant}$ 

Flux quantization implies:

$$\int_{S^1} dy \partial_y \varphi = j + \alpha_5 = n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

The resulting action is:

$$S = -(n-j)^2$$

**Upshot:**  $\partial_y \varphi$  cancels the singular term and develops a finite action.

# Obtaining a Finite Action (Continued)

• Illustration for n=0:

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- The "step" in  $\partial_y \varphi$  cancels the source term j $\delta(y)$ .
- Flux quantization enforces a non-trivial slope proportional to this step.
- If  $n \neq 0$ , continuity is replaced by an extra step of size n at boundary:

$$\mathscr{L} = \int_{R} |d\varphi - j\delta|^{2} = -\frac{(n-j)^{2}}{R}$$

restore R dependence which was previously set to 1

Crucial: Radius dependence of j<sup>2</sup> term.

#### **Co-dimension 2 Brane**

- The case of interest is co-dimension  $2 \Rightarrow$  generalize toy model to 6d
- Similar brane-bulk coupling:

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$$\mathscr{L} = -\int dz^2 \left( |G_1|^2 - G_1 \cdot \overline{j}_1 + c \cdot c \cdot \right) \quad \text{with} \quad \overline{j}_1 = j \, dz \, \delta^2(z, \overline{z})$$

Naively, the perfect square action for the co-dimension 2 case is:

$$\mathscr{L} = -\int d^2 z \, |G_1 - \overline{j}_1|^2$$

**<u>BUT</u>**: the singular source-form is **not closed** and hence cannot be compensated by  $G_1$  (assumed to be closed):

$$d\left(jdz\delta^2(z,\overline{z})\right)\neq 0$$

## Co-dimension 2 Brane (Continued)

To allow  $G_1$  to compensate, we project the source on the closed part using the unique decomposition:

$$\omega = \alpha + d\beta + d^{\dagger}\gamma$$
;  $P(\omega) = \alpha + d\beta$ 

This does not change the EOMs since the inner product:

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$$(G_1, d^{\dagger} \gamma) = (dG_1, \gamma) = 0$$

Using indices h, e, c for harmonic exact, and co-exact:

$$\mathscr{L} = = \int_{z} - |\overline{G}_{1}^{h} + \overline{G}_{1}^{e} - j_{1}^{h} - j_{1}^{e}|^{2}$$

Here the exact piece of  $G_1$  cancels the exact piece of  $j_{1.}$ 

# From Toy Model to D7-brane Gauginos

We are left with:

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$$\mathscr{L} = -\int_{z} |\overline{G}_{1}^{h} - j_{1}^{h}|^{2}$$

The former is the quantized flux, so it cannot compensate for the continuous

$$j_1^h \sim \lambda^2 dz / A_\perp$$
,  $A_\perp$  = transverse volume

This perfect square of the quantized flux and the finite  $\lambda^2$  term is the sole remainder in the action.

Generalizing to the case of interest: D7-brane gauginos

$$\mathscr{L} \supset |\overline{G}_3 - P(\lambda \lambda \Omega_3 \delta_{D7})|^2$$

### **Cross-Checks with KKLT**

As before, the singular parts cancel and using  $\int G_3^{(0)} \wedge \Omega \sim W_0$ , one arrives at (after 4d normalization of the gauginos):

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$$K^{T\overline{T}} |e^{K/2} K_T W_0 + \lambda \lambda|^2$$

 This is precisely the perfect square structure that one finds in the SUGRA + gauge theory formulae of Wess and Bagger.

• With the substitution  $e^{-K/2}\lambda\lambda \rightarrow e^{-T}$ , one arrives at (pre-uplift) KKLT:

$$e^{K}K^{T\overline{T}}|D_{T}\left(W_{0}+e^{-aT}\right)|^{2}$$

 In the above, we neglect terms subleading in 1/T. We can recover these subleading terms by including loop corrections to the gauge kinetic function in the running from UV to IR. [Kaplunovsky, Louis]

# Generalized Complex Geometry

The backreaction of gaugino condensates in SUSY AdS<sub>4</sub> Type II flux compactification was described using GCG recently in [Bena, Graña, Kovensky, Retolaza, '19];[Kachru, Kim, McAllister, Zimet, '19] (earlier works by [Koerber, Martucci];[Dymarsky, Martucci]; ...)

Using the two 6d spinors  $\eta^1 \eta^2$  define two polyforms (or bispinors):

$$\Psi_1 \sim \sum \eta^{2\dagger} \Gamma_{m_1 \cdots m_p} \eta^1 dy^{m_1} \cdots dy^{m_p} \quad \Psi_2 \sim \sum \eta^{2\ast\dagger} \Gamma_{m_1 \cdots m_p} \eta^1 dy^{m_1} \cdots dy^{m_p}$$

which  $enc^{p}de$  the full metric and background field information.

- SUSY conditions (and hence EOMs) can be compactly expressed in terms of the polyforms.
  - Using 4d SUSY, the AdS curvature can be related to a parameter in 10d SUSY conditions  $\Rightarrow$  fully 10d-local check of pre-uplift KKLT [Bena,

Grana, Kovensky, Retolaza, '19].

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# **Generalized Complex Geometry**

- In related work, [Kachru, Kim, McAllister, Zimet, '19] used GCG to discuss:
  - the cancellation of singular terms

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• a recasting of KKLT in 10d component fields

However, a concern with this approach is that the D7-brane  $\lambda^4$  term that they found by T-dualizing the known Type I action is **non-local**:

$$\mu_7 \int \sqrt{-g_8} \frac{1}{A_\perp} \lambda^4$$

Another concern: while the cancellation of the divergence in  $G_3 \lambda^2$  was discussed, the cancellation of the divergence in the kinetic term

$$\int_{6} |G_3|^2$$
, with  $G_3 \sim \delta_{D7} + \frac{1}{z^2}$ 

has not been demonstrated.

# T-duality and Locality

- Starting with the manifestly local perfect square action of Horava-Witten and compactify it on an S<sup>1</sup>, one should obtain a local-action.
  - However, by a 9-11 flip,

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M theory on  $S^1/\mathbb{Z}_2 \times S^1 \equiv \text{IIA}$  on  $S^1/\mathbb{Z}_2$  with D8 branes at endpoints

- If we try to obtain the action for the latter by T-dualizing the action for Type IIB orientifold with D9-branes (i.e., Type I), we find instead a **non-local action**.
- The original Type I action reduced on S<sup>1</sup> is valid in the large radius regime where the higher KK modes can be ignored.
- This theory is mapped to Type IIA on a small interval (not our regime of interest). The sum over the KK modes leads to a non-local action.

# Back to our D7-brane Gaugino Action

While the backreaction of gaugino condensates can be elegantly recast in the language of GCG, some issues remain to be better understood using our manifestly finite action.

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In our approach, the cancellation of the divergence in the flux kinetic term is manifest, but locality is not (though in a milder way). In projecting the source, we drop the co-exact piece:

$$|j_3^C|^2 \supset \left(\frac{1}{z^2}\right)^2$$

which has a non-local tail. In contrast the full source  $j_3 = j_3^h + j_3^e + j_3^c$  is completely D7-localized.

A direct derivation of the perfect square action by completing the action under SUSY transformations would settle these issues [work in progress].

### **Electro-Magnetic Interpretation**

- The non-local tail of the projected source may be a red herring as the Type IIB action used is not manifestly EM duality invariant.
- Consider the brane-bulk coupling

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$$G_3 \wedge {}^*\overline{j}_3 = G_3 \wedge {}^*\left(\overline{j}_3^h + \overline{j}_3^e + \overline{j}_3^c\right)$$

the exact & co-exact pieces are the **electric** & magnetic currents:

$$G_3 \wedge *\bar{j}_3^c \sim *G_3 \wedge \bar{j}_3^c \sim G_7 \wedge \bar{j}_3^c \sim dA_6 \wedge \bar{j}_3^c \sim A_6 \wedge J_{mag}$$

- The exact piece would not have contributed since it is exact. Likewise, the co-exact piece couples to  $A_2$  but not to  $A_6$ .
- The usual Type IIB action keeps only p-forms with  $p \le 5$  and with self-duality of the 5-form imposed.

#### Electro-Magnetic Interpretation (Continued)

If instead G<sub>3</sub> is sourced by both electric and magnetic currents, we do not need to project the source:

$$\left|G_3+j_3\right|^2$$
 with  $j_3 \sim \lambda^2 \delta_{D7} \overline{\Omega}$ 

as the EOMs are:

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$$dG_3 = J_{mag} \equiv d\overline{j}_3^e$$
 and  $d * G_3 = J_{el} \equiv d\overline{j}_3^c$ 

The non-flux part of  $G_3$  would cancel all but the harmonic part of  $j_{3.}$ 

We have a completely local action throughout and still find a finite result:

$$G_3^{(0)} + j_3^h \Big|^2 \sim \left| G_3^{(0)} + \lambda^2 \Omega / A_\perp \right|^2 \quad \text{[work in progress]}$$

# **Revisiting KKLT**

Concerning KKLT, the above are fine points. In the end, one has (possibly without the need for the projection):

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$$\mathscr{L} \supset \left| \overline{G}_3 - P\left( \lambda \lambda \Omega_3 \delta_{D7} \right) \right|^2$$

- 4d Approach: From this action, we can derive the 4d effective potential (with or without the anti-D3 uplift) in agreement with KKLT.
  - **10d Approach:** One can also plug this action into the 10d Einstein equations, and again obtain the 4d curvature (with or without uplift).
- Our results are in agreement with [Carta, Moritz, Westphal] but in some (partial) disagreement with [Gustason, Van Hemelryck, Van Riet, Venken].

# Revisiting KKLT (Continued)

As we have shown, 4d EOMs imply the integrated 10d Einstein eqs. and so the match with the 4d description of KKLT should work.



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Uplift is due to shift of T along a steep slope by anti D3-brane.

[Hamada, Hebecker, GS, Soler];[Carta, Moritz, Westphal]

The disagreement with [Gautason, Van Hemelryck, Van Riet, Venkens] is on the treatment of the T dependence in the 10d energy-momentum tensor, which we now briefly comment. Treatment of 10d Stress Tensor of Gaugino Condensate

Our approach:

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$$g_{mn} \frac{\delta}{\delta g_{mn}} S_{eff} \to T \frac{\partial}{\partial T} S_{eff} \to T \frac{\partial}{\partial T} e^{-T}$$

- The derivative acting on  $e^{-T}$  gives the crucial dominant term that stops the runaway to large volume.
- The approach of Gautason et al (disregarding the red part):

$$T\frac{\delta}{\partial T}S_{class}$$
 with  $S_{class} \supset T\left[G_3\lambda^2 + \left(F_{\mu\nu}\right)^2\right]$ 

- Subsequent quantum averaging gives  $< \lambda^2 > \sim e^{-T}$  but the T-derivative never gets to act on the exponent.
- We believe the later treatment misses some key effects from say terms like  $\langle G_3 \lambda^2 (F_{\mu\nu})^2 \rangle$  (see "Note added" in v3 of our paper).

Conclusions

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- Backreaction of antibranes and metastability? [Panel Discussion 2]
- Gaugino condensate and flattening? [Panel Discussion 3]



# Summary

- The recent de Sitter conjectures have significantly elevated the level of discussion on de Sitter vacua in string theory.
- Many of the issues currently being discussed/debated were not anticipated before; opening new doors for future investigations.

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- Our regularized D7-brane gaugino action has alleviated one of the concerns of KKLT, but more remains to be done (e.g., direct SUSY derivation of  $\lambda^4$  term, ...) [Hamada, Hebecker, GS, Soler, in progress]
  - New concerns have been raised [Carta, Moritz, Westphal]; [Das, Haque, Underwood];[Bena, Dudas, Grana, Lust]; [Blumenhagen, Klaewer, Schlechter]; [Dasgupta, Emelin, Faruk, Tatar]; ...
  - It is sometimes said that the same level of rigor is not achieved in realizing the SM + Einstein gravity in string theory (with all moduli fixed), are we aiming too high? IMHO, this is not a fair comparison.
- Hopefully, these efforts will bring us closer to a genuine string theoretical understanding of de Sitter vacua in string theory.