

StringPheno 2019

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Moduli Stabilisation and Inflation in Type IIB/F-theory

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GREECE

based on work with Ignatios Antoniadis and Yifan Chen

arXiv: [1803.08941](#) ; [1809.05060](#) & to appear

Aim of our Work

- ▲ Propose a solution to the **Moduli** Stabilisation problem
- ▲ Examine whether a *dS* vacuum exists in String Theory
(... based on **perturbative** quantum corrections **only!**)
- ▲ If **yes**,
examine if **slow roll inflation** can be accommodated.

Outline of the Talk

- ▲ II-B/ \mathcal{F} -Theory bosonic spectrum and Moduli fields
- ▲ *Effective Supergravity from type II-B & effective potential*
- ▲ D7 branes and logarithmic corrections
- ▲ Inflation
- ▲ Concluding Remarks

★ Type II-B/F-theory

★ Bosonic Spectrum - Moduli Space

▲ Graviton, dilaton and Kalb-Ramond (KR)-field

$$g_{\mu\nu}, \phi, B_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow B_2$$

▲ Scalar, 2- and 4-index fields (*p*-form potentials)

$$C_0, C_{\mu\nu}, C_{\kappa\lambda\mu\nu} \rightarrow C_p, p = 0, 2, 4$$

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

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

2. z_a : *Complex Structure (CS)* moduli (*shape*)

3. T_i : **Kähler** (*size*) moduli ($\tau_i = \text{Re}T$).

▲ \exists plethora of moduli fields in *CY compactifications* →
... if massless → problems with **fifth forces** and other cosmological
issues...

▲ **Important Task** ▲

▲ Generate a potential and assure **positive mass-squared** for all
moduli fields \Rightarrow

\Rightarrow *Moduli Stabilisation* \Leftarrow

Type II-B effective Supergravity

Basic ‘ingredients’:

Superpotential \mathcal{W} and Kähler potential \mathcal{K}

▲ The Superpotential \mathcal{W} ▲

▲ *Field strengths:*

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

▲ *Holomorphic (3,0)-form: $\Omega(z_a)$*

Flux-induced superpotential (G.V.W. hep-th/9906070):

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

▲ *Supersymmetric 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 scalar potential ▲

$$\begin{aligned} V &= e^{\mathcal{K}} \left(\sum_{I,J} \mathcal{D}_I \mathcal{W}_0 \mathcal{K}^{I\bar{J}} \mathcal{D}_{\bar{J}} \mathcal{W}_0 - 3|\mathcal{W}_0|^2 \right) \\ &= e^{\mathcal{K}} \sum_{I,J=z_a, \neq T_i} \mathcal{D}_I \mathcal{W}_0 \mathcal{K}_{I\bar{J}}^{-1} \mathcal{D}_{\bar{J}} \mathcal{W}_0 \quad (D_I \mathcal{W}_0 = 0, \text{ flatness}) \\ &\quad + e^{\mathcal{K}} \left(\sum_{I,J=T_i} \mathcal{K}_0^{I\bar{J}} \mathcal{D}_I \mathcal{W}_0 \mathcal{D}_{\bar{J}} \mathcal{W}_0 - 3|\mathcal{W}_0|^2 \right) \quad (= 0, \text{ no scale}) \end{aligned}$$

Kähler moduli completely **undetermined!**

⇒ ...need to include **Quantum corrections** ... $f(\tau)$...

“breaking” **no-scale structure**:

$$\mathcal{K} = -2 \log \left(\tau^{\frac{3}{2}} + \gamma f(\tau) \right), \quad \mathcal{V} = \tau^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

Resulting F-term potential (γ -expansion):

$$V_F \propto \gamma \tau^{-\frac{9}{2}} (3f(\tau) - 4\tau f'(\tau) + 4\tau^2 f''(\tau))$$

Some possible $f(\tau)$ functions:

▲▲ α) power-law corrections (V_F : homogeneous) $f(\lambda\tau) = \lambda^n f(\tau)$

$$f(\tau) \propto \tau^n \Rightarrow \boxed{V_F \propto \tau^{n-\frac{9}{2}}} \Rightarrow \nexists (V_F)_{min}$$

▲▲β) logarithmic $f(\tau) \propto \log \tau$:

$$\boxed{V_F \propto \gamma \tau^{-\frac{9}{2}} \left(\log(\tau) - \frac{8}{3} \right) + \dots} \Rightarrow \exists (V_F)_{min} \forall \gamma < 0$$

▲ Moreover, adding a constant $\xi = \gamma \log(\mu)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{K} &= -2 \log \left(\mathcal{V} + \gamma \log(\mathcal{V}) + \xi + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\mathcal{V}}\right) \right) \\ &= -2 \log \left(\mathcal{V} + \gamma \log(\mu \mathcal{V}) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\mathcal{V}}\right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

At $(V_F)_{min}$ volume size controlled by μ :

$$\mathcal{V}_{min} = \frac{1}{\mu} e^{\frac{13}{3}}$$

\Rightarrow large volume expansion for $\mu = e^{-\frac{\xi}{|\gamma|}} \ll 1$

Origin of ξ and $f(\tau)$
from
PERTURBATIVE
String Loop Corrections

Quantum Corrections

1. α' -corrections

shifting volume by a constant (Becker et al, hep-th:0204254)

$$\mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{V} + \xi, \quad \xi = -\frac{\zeta(3)}{4(2\pi)^3} \chi$$

2. Perturbative string loop-corrections

important in the presence of D -branes

(Antoniadis, Chen, G.K.L.: hep-th/1803.08941 & to appear)

▲▲ String Coupling Loop Corrections ▲▲

In **String Theory**:

Multigraviton scattering generates higher derivative couplings in curvature

Leading term in type II-B:

$$\propto R^4$$

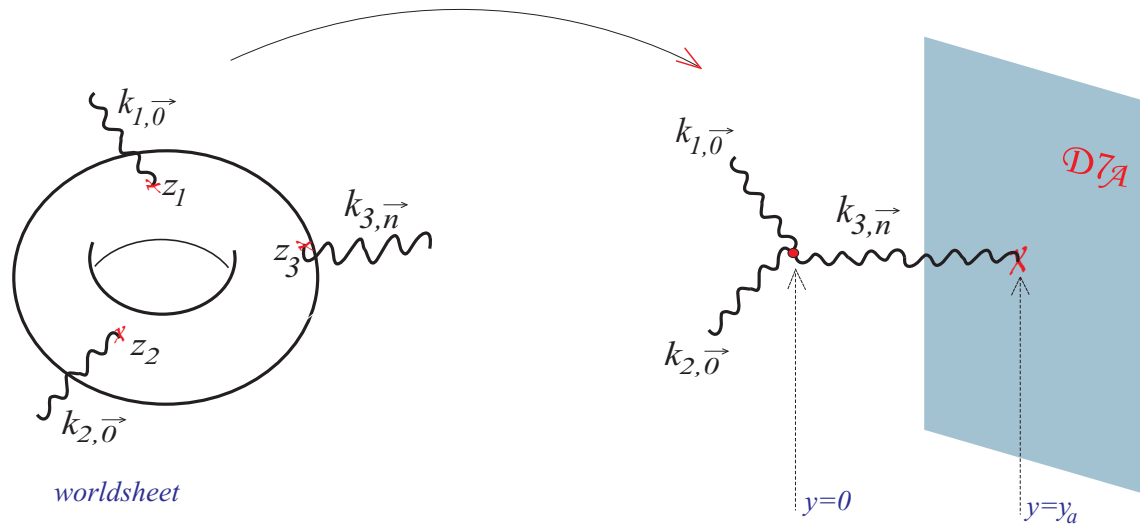
Reduction on $\mathcal{M}_4 \times \mathcal{X}_6$, (with \mathcal{M}_4 4-d Minkowski) induces:

localised Einstein Hilbert (\mathcal{EH}) term \propto Euler characteristic

$$\frac{1}{3!(2\pi)^3} \chi = \int R \wedge R \wedge R$$

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

Localised vertices can *emit* gravitons and *KK*-excitations in *6d*
 \Rightarrow *KK*-exchange between graviton vertices and *D7*-branes



Non-zero contribution from 1-loop; 3-graviton scattering amplitude
2 massless 1 KK:

$$\text{Correction} \propto \chi \int_{M_4} \left(1 - \sum_{i=1,2,3} e^{\phi} T_i \log(R_{\perp}^i) \right) \mathcal{R}_{(4)}$$



▲▲ Analogously, the corrections to the Kähler potential involve the corresponding **Kähler** moduli and have the form:

$$\delta = \sum_{i=1}^3 \gamma_i \log(\tau_i)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{K} &= -2 \ln [e^{-2\phi}(\mathcal{V} + \xi) + \delta] \\ &= -\ln[-i(S - \bar{S})] - 2 \ln (\hat{\mathcal{V}} + \hat{\xi} + \hat{\delta}) \end{aligned}$$

with $S = b + ie^{-\phi}$, $\hat{\delta} = \delta g_s^{1/2}$

▲▼ ξ and δ break **no-scale** structure of **Kähler potential**

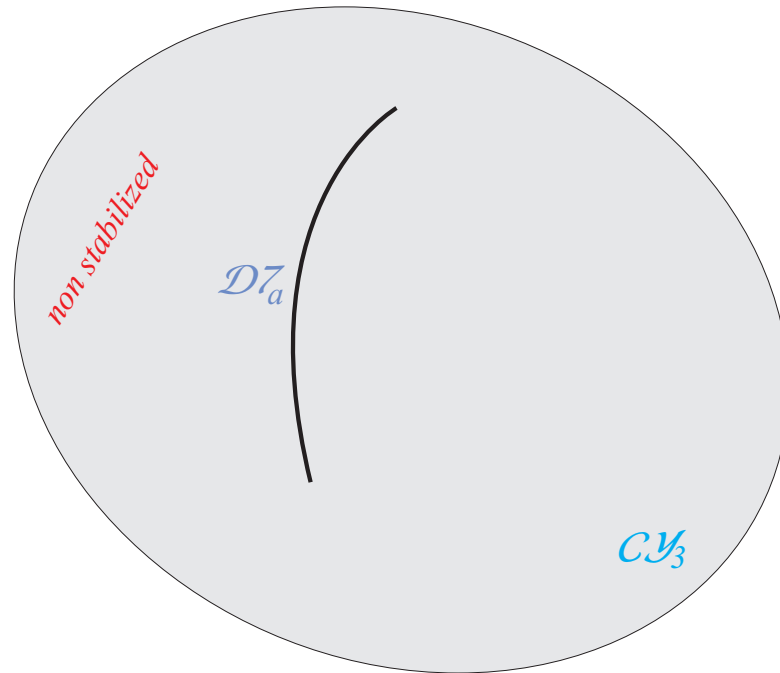
Stabilisation and $D7$ Branes

Looking for the minimum number of $D7$ branes required to stabilise the T_i -fields and lead to a dS minimum.

Quantum corrections from a single $D7$ Brane

▲ volume parametrised in terms of τ, u 4-cycle moduli: $\mathcal{V} = \tau\sqrt{u}$

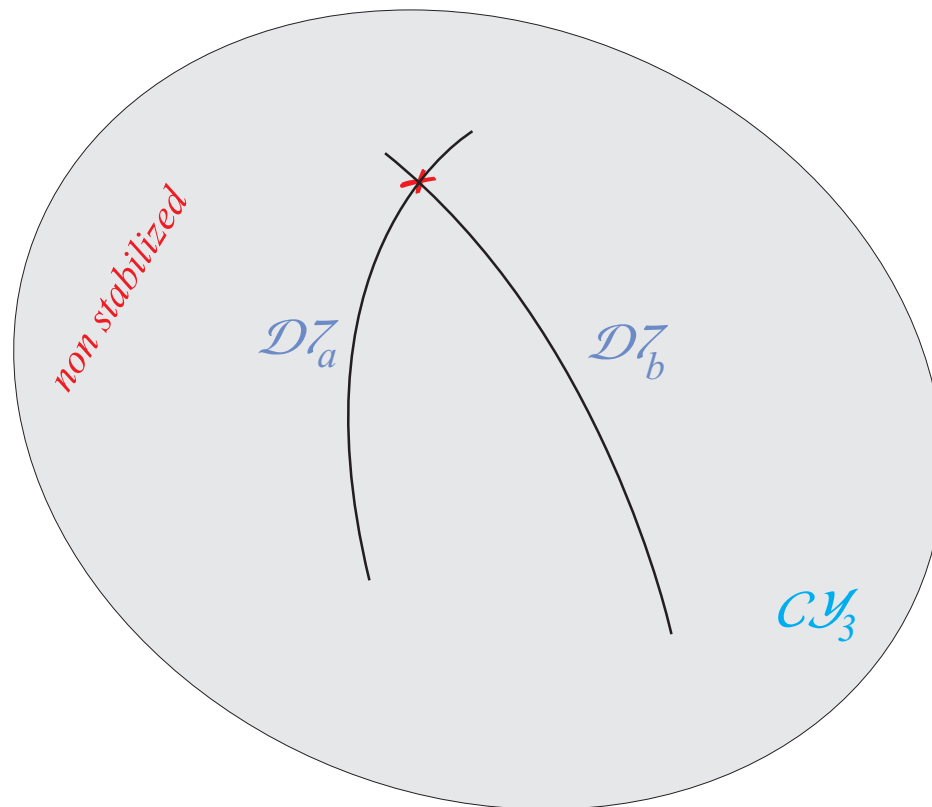
$$\mathcal{K} = -2 \ln (\tau\sqrt{u} + \xi + \eta \ln u)$$



▲ \exists minimum for u -direction iff $\eta < 0$, however ...

▲ stabilisation of τ -direction not possible with only one $D7$!

$$\mathcal{K} = -2 \ln (\mathcal{V} + \xi + \gamma_1 \ln u_1 + \gamma_2 \ln u_2)$$



▲ ... not even for *two* intersecting $\mathcal{D}7$ s!

Stabilisation requires **three** intersecting $D7$ s! (at least)

▲ Kähler potential including loop corrections: from $3 \times D7$:

$$\mathcal{K} = -2 \ln \left\{ \mathcal{V} + \sum_{k=1}^3 \gamma_k \ln(\mathcal{V}/\tau_k) \right\}$$

F-term potential (assuming $\gamma_k \rightarrow \gamma, \xi = 0$):

$$V_F \approx 3\gamma \frac{\ln \mathcal{V} - 4}{\mathcal{V}^3} + \mathcal{O}(\gamma^3)$$

▲ Inclusion of \mathcal{D} -terms:

$$V_{\mathcal{D}} = \sum_a \frac{d_a}{\tau_a} \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{K}}{\partial \tau_a} \right)^2 \approx \sum_a \frac{d_a}{\tau_a^3} + \dots$$

Minimisation of $V_{\text{eff}} = V_F + V_{\mathcal{D}}$ w.r.t.:

$$\tau_1, \tau_2 \text{ and } \mathcal{V} = \sqrt{\tau_1 \tau_2 \tau_3} \Rightarrow$$

$$V_{\text{eff}} \propto \gamma \frac{\ln \mathcal{V} - 4}{\mathcal{V}^3} + \frac{d}{\mathcal{V}^2}$$

▲ focusing on $\frac{dV_{eff}}{d\mathcal{V}} = 0$ condition:▲

$$w e^w = z$$

where: $w = \frac{13}{3} - \ln \mathcal{V}$, $z \propto \frac{d}{\gamma}$

▲ Solution \rightarrow multivalued Lambert W -function: $w \Rightarrow W(z)$

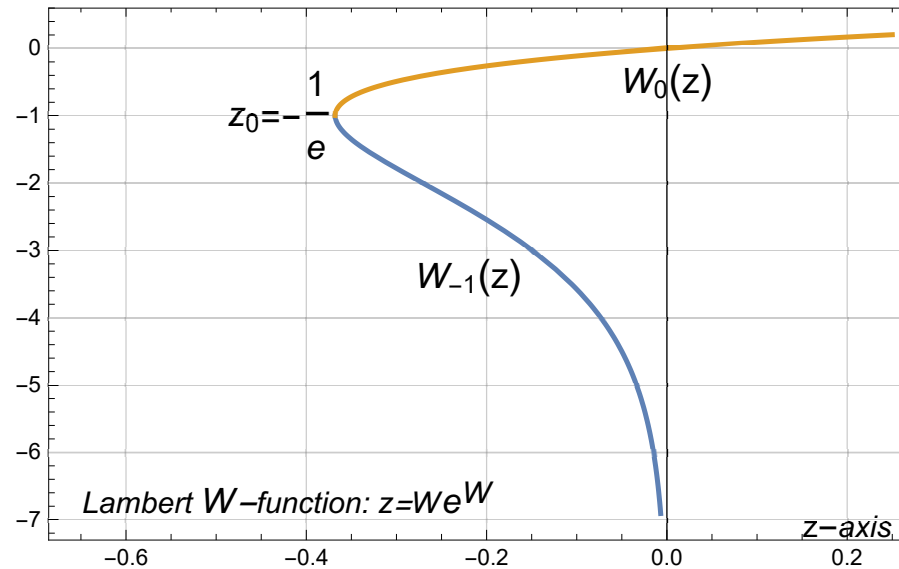
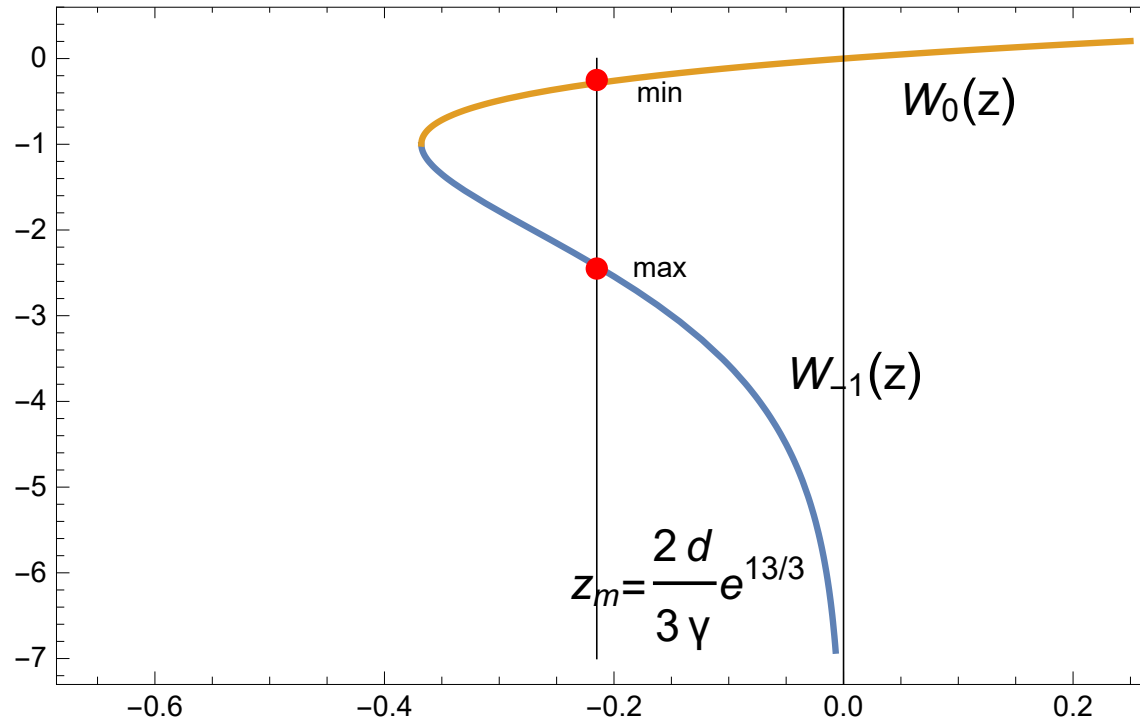


Figure 1: ▲▲ The two branches of the Lambert function.

▲▲ \Rightarrow Real, double valued for $-e^{-1} < z < 0 \Rightarrow V_{max}$ and V_{min}

vertical line represents any value of $z_m = \frac{2d}{3\gamma} e^{\frac{13}{3}}$ between $(-e^{-1}, 0)$ where *min* and *max* can coexist.

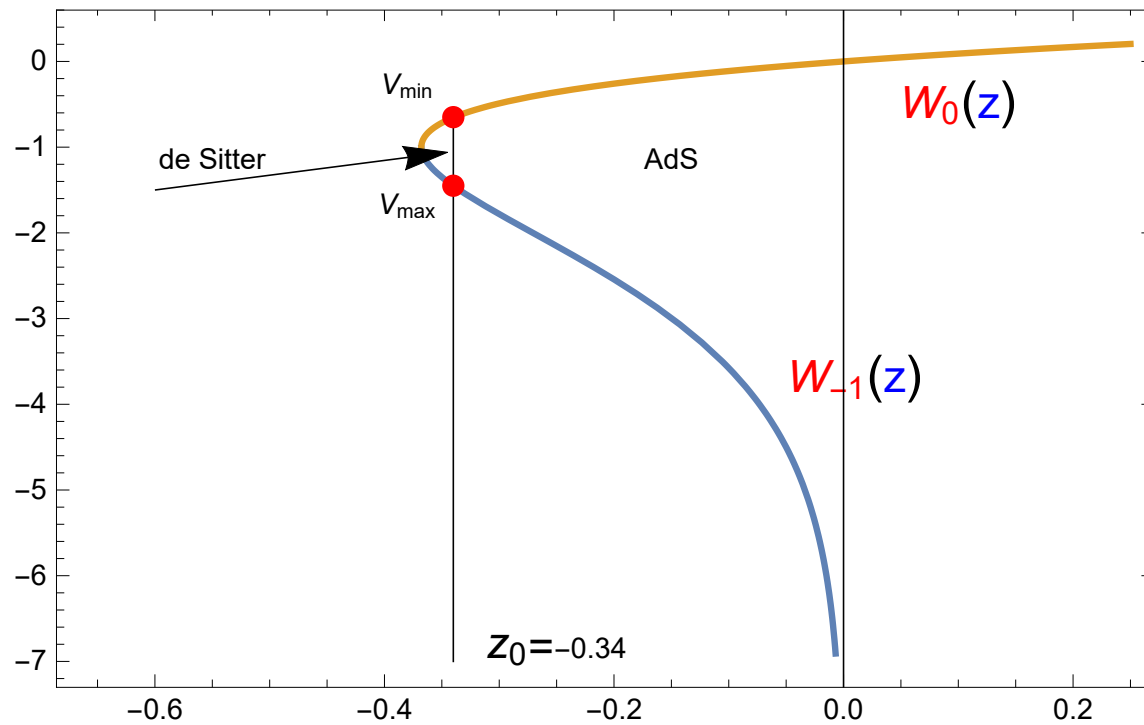


but! requirement for *de Sitter* vacua puts *additional restrictions*

▲ de Sitter vacua ▲

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

$$V_{\text{eff}}^{\text{min}} = \frac{\gamma}{\mathcal{V}_0^3} + \frac{d}{\mathcal{V}_0^2} > 0 \rightarrow -7.24 < 10^3 \frac{d}{\gamma} < -6.74$$



INFLATION

I. Antoniadis, Yifan Chen, GKL
(hep-th/1809.05060)

Although a dS minimum exists, allowed region too restrictive.
 Additional requirements for *slow-roll* inflation hard to be met.

two ways out of this impasse

A) Fayet-Iliopoulos (**FI**) contributions \rightarrow uplift of V_{eff}

▲ *Novel* ways to construct **FI**-terms suggested in 1712.08601

B) introducing a nilpotent field X , $X^2 = 0$:

$$\Delta\mathcal{W} = fX, \quad \Delta\mathcal{K} = \frac{X\bar{X}}{\tau_1^{n_1}\tau_2^{n_2}\tau_3^{n_3}},$$

$$\text{for } n_i = n \rightarrow V_{up} = \frac{f^2}{\mathcal{V}^{2-2n}}$$

▲ Total scalar potential

$$V_{total} = V_F + V_{\mathcal{D}} + V_{up}$$

normalised kinetic terms require redefinition of moduli fields :

$$t_i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \ln \tau_i$$

Inflaton is associated with volume \mathcal{V} :

$$t = \frac{t_1 + t_2 + t_3}{\sqrt{3}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \ln(\mathcal{V}),$$

minimum and maximum w.r.t t :

$$t_{min/max} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \left(\frac{13}{3} - \mathcal{W}_{0/-1} \left(\frac{2}{3} \frac{d}{\gamma} e^{\frac{13}{3}} \right) \right) \quad (1)$$

Redefining remaining two moduli fields to be “orthogonal” to t :

$$u = \frac{t_1 - t_2}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad v = \frac{t_1 + t_2 - 2t_3}{\sqrt{6}}$$

Inflation period should be constrained between t_{max}, t_{min}

Constraints from slow-roll conditions

Ending point of inflation $t_{min} < t_{end} < t_{max}$:

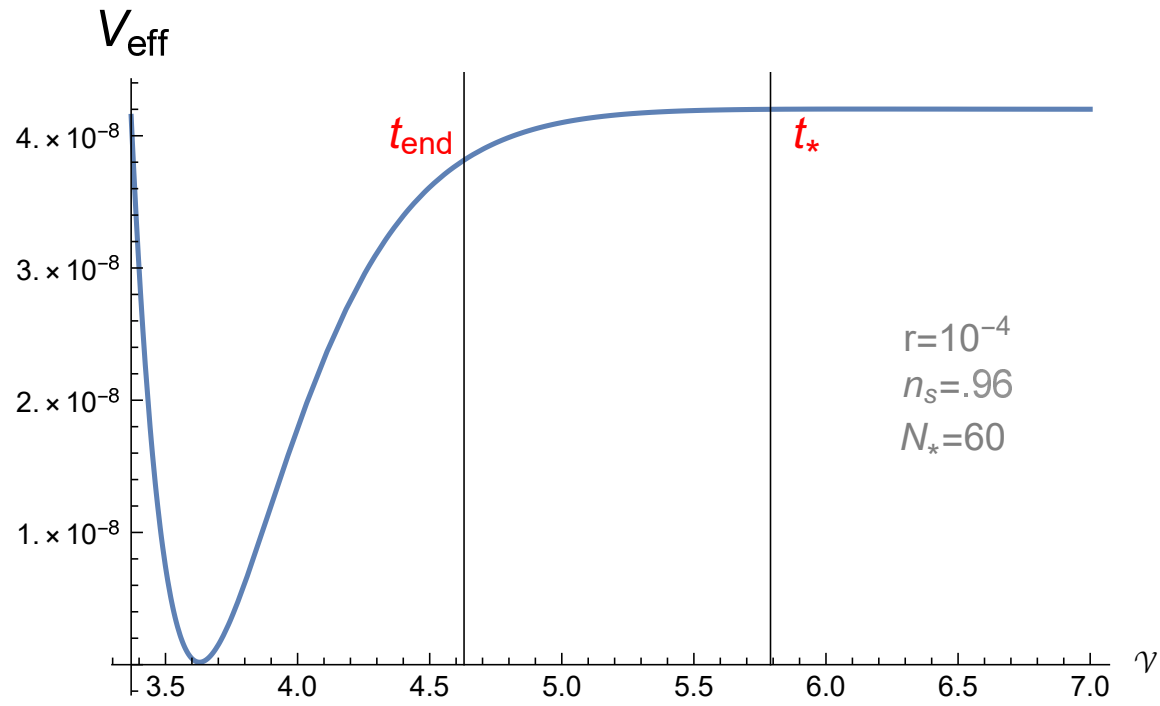
$$t_{end} = \max\left\{t \mid \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{V_t}{V}\right)^2 \simeq 1, t \mid \left|\frac{V_{tt}}{V}\right| \simeq 1\right\},$$

Finding point t_* such that $t_{min} < t_{end} < t_* < t_{max}$ where e-folds:

$$N_* = \int_{t_{end}}^{t_*} \frac{V}{V_t} dt \sim 50 - 60$$

Spectral index at t_* :

$$n_s = 1 - 3 \left(\frac{V_t}{V}\right)^2 + 2 \frac{V_{tt}}{V} \Big|_{t_*} \approx 0.96$$



Plot of V_{eff} vs ν . Inflation occurs between t_ and t_{end}*

★ Conclusions ★

★ *IIB/F-theory*:

- *Stabilisation* of Kähler MF possible with
Perturbative Corrections:

$$\mathcal{K} = -2 \ln (\mathcal{V} + \xi + \gamma_i \ln \tau_i)$$

Origin of log-corrections:

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

This *EH*-term \exists in *4d* only!



In the present context, *induced* EH-term ... indispensable element
for a *4d de Sitter* Universe

★ Thank you for your attention ★

APPENDIX

Type II 10-d **effective action** with $\mathcal{E}\mathcal{H}$ & R^4 terms:
 (see *hep-th/9704145; hep-th/9707013, hep-th/9707018*)

$$\mathcal{S} \supset \frac{c}{l_s^8} \int_{M_{10}} e^{-2\phi} \mathcal{R}_{(10)} + \frac{d}{l_s^2} \int_{M_{10}} (-2\zeta(3)e^{-2\phi} + 4\zeta(2)) R^4 \wedge e^2$$

Compactifying on \mathcal{CY} they give rise to **localised $\mathcal{E}\mathcal{H}$** -term in 4-d:

$$\Rightarrow \frac{c}{l_s^8} \int_{M_4 \times \mathcal{X}_6} e^{-2\phi} \mathcal{R}_{(10)} + \underbrace{2d \frac{\chi}{l_s^2} \int_{M_4} (\zeta(2) - \zeta(3)e^{-2\phi}) \mathcal{R}_{(4)}}_{\text{induced } \mathcal{E}\mathcal{H} \text{ term}},$$



$\chi \neq 0 \Rightarrow$ **localised** graviton kinetic terms: $\dots (\mathcal{V} + \beta\chi) \mathcal{R} \dots \Rightarrow$

A few details on
localised graviton vertices

- Tree-level contribution to $\mathcal{E}\mathcal{H}$ -term vanishes in orbifold background $CY = T^6/Z_N$.
- 1-loop contribution from SUSY preserving $\mathcal{N} = (1, 1)$ odd-odd spin structure of partition function

$$Z_{odd}^{(1,1)} \rightarrow \sum_{f=0, \dots, n_f} \chi_f \equiv \chi$$

$(0, \dots, n_f = \text{fixed points})$

1-loop amplitude: two massless gravitons and one KK-excitation.
(in odd-odd spin structure \rightarrow one graviton vertex must be taken in $(-1, -1)$ -ghost picture.)

localisation property of w/f of $R_{(4)}$.

Amplitude:

$$\langle V_{(0,0)}^2 V_{(-1,-1)} \rangle = -\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{R}} \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{\substack{f=0,\dots,n_f \\ k=0,\dots,N-1}} e^{i\gamma^k q \cdot x_f} \int_{\mathcal{F}} \frac{d^2\tau}{\tau_2^2} \int \prod_{i=1,2,3} \frac{d^2z_i}{\tau_2} \sum'_{(h,g)} e^{\alpha' q^2 F_{(h,g)}(\tau, z_i)}$$

- $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{R}}$ tensor structure,
- $F_{(h,g)}(\tau, z_i) \rightarrow$ twisted sectors $(f, g) = (l, m) \frac{v}{N}$

Fourier transform \Rightarrow **Gaussian** profile:

$$\rightarrow \frac{N}{w^6} e^{-\frac{y^2}{2w^2}}, \quad w^2 \sim \alpha' F_{(f,g)} \sim \frac{\ell_s^2}{N} \rightarrow \text{eff. width}$$