#### de Sitter Constructions from String Theory

Fernando Quevedo (discussion with Shamit Kachru) University of Cambridge Strings 2021 ICTP-SAIFR June/July 2021

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#### **Two related string challenges**

#### Moduli stabilization



• De Sitter



#### **Dine-Seiberg Problem**



 $V \longrightarrow 0$  at weak coupling and large volume. If quantum corrections lead to another minimum it most probably be at strong coupling, unless...

### **String Compactifications**

- No free parameters in string theory
- But many discrete parameters after compactification: (topological numbers of compact manifold, ranks of gauge groups, dimensionality of spacetime, fluxes of different forms,...)
- Not only g<sub>s</sub> and 1/V expansions but many expansions if there are many moduli.
- Never have full control but may lead to weak enough coupling and large enough volumes

#### **Moduli Stabilisation in IIB**

• Moduli S, T<sub>i</sub>, U<sub>a</sub>  $V_F = e^K \left( K_{M\overline{N}}^{-1} D_M W \overline{D}_{\overline{M}} \overline{W} - 3|W|^2 \right)$ 

 $W_{\text{tree}} = W_{\text{flux}}(U, S) \qquad K_{i\overline{j}}^{-1}K_iK_{\overline{j}} = 3 \qquad \text{No-scale}$  $V_F = e^K \left( K_{a\overline{b}}^{-1}D_aWD_{\overline{b}}W \right) \ge 0$ 

Fix S,U but T arbitrary

- Quantum corrections  $\delta V \propto W_0^2 \delta K + W_0 \delta W$
- Three options:  $W_0 \gg \delta W$   $\delta K \gg \delta W$  Runaway: Dine-Seiberg problem

 $W_0 \sim \delta W$  =  $W_{
m np}.$  Fix T-modulus: KKLT  $W_0 \ll 1$ 

 $\frac{\delta K \sim W_0 \delta W}{\delta K \sim 1/\mathcal{V} \text{ and } \delta W \sim e^{-a\tau}}$  Fix T-moduli: LVS

#### AdS: N=1, 4D Effective Field Theory

$$K = -2\log(\mathcal{V}_{\rm CY}) - \log(S + \bar{S}) - \log\left(\int \Omega \wedge \bar{\Omega}\right)$$

$$W = W_0 + Ae^{-aT_i}$$

$$W_0 = \int G_3 \wedge \Omega$$
e.g. KKLT
$$V/M_{\rm Pl}^4 = \frac{e^{K_{\rm cs}}}{6\tau^2} \left(aA^2(3 + a\tau)e^{-2a\tau} - 3aAe^{-a\tau}W_0\right) \quad V_{\rm up} \simeq \left(\frac{T + \overline{T}}{2}\right)^{-2}$$

e.g. LVS

$$V_F \propto \left(\frac{K^{S\bar{S}}|D_SW|^2 + K^{a\bar{b}}D_aW\bar{D}_{\bar{b}}\bar{W}}{\mathcal{V}^2}\right) + \left(\frac{Ae^{-2a\tau}}{\mathcal{V}} - \frac{Be^{-a\tau}W_0}{\mathcal{V}^2} + \frac{C|W_0|^2}{\mathcal{V}^3}\right)$$
$$\mathcal{V} \sim e^{a_s\tau_s} \gg 1 \text{ with } \tau_s \sim \frac{\xi^{2/3}}{g_s}.$$

#### **IIB Features**

- Fluxes imply (warped) Calabi-Yau
- No-scale structure
- Scales m<sub>3/2</sub> << M<sub>KK</sub> << M<sub>s</sub> << M<sub>p</sub>
- Two sets of 3-fluxes F<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>3</sub> (allows `tuning')
- GVW Superpotential W(S,U) not renormalised!
- Many loop (g<sub>s</sub>) and  $\alpha'$  corrections to K computed
- Kahler moduli gauge couplings W<sub>np</sub>(T)

### de Sitter?

Anti D3 brane



- D+F terms in EFT or T-branes
- **Complex structure/Dilaton uplift**  $(D_UW \neq 0, D_SW \neq 0)$
- Non critical strings, negative curvature
- Kahler uplift
- Nonperturbative effects on D3 branes, ...

### Achievements

- Well defined prescription exists that includes general stringy ingredients: branes, orientifolds, warping, anti (T)-branes, perturbative, non-perturbative effects, etc.
- $W_0 <<1$  is plausible due to the large number of fluxes.
- Perturbative effects in LVS in control as the volume is exponentially large. All computed so far harmless.
- Antibrane: nonlinearly realised SUSY (nilpotent goldstino)
- Hierarchies:

$$E \ll M_{\rm KK} = \frac{M_s}{\mathcal{V}^{1/6}} \ll M_s \equiv \frac{1}{\ell_s} \equiv \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{\alpha'}} = g_s^{1/4} \frac{M_p}{\sqrt{4\pi\mathcal{V}}}$$

 $m_{3/2} \simeq W_0 M_P / \mathcal{V} \qquad \qquad m_{3/2} / M_{KK} \ll 1$ 

# Challenges to KKLT, LVS,...

- Fluxes under control only in SUSY 10D? (Sethi, Kachru-Trivedi, de Alwis et al...)
- All SUSY breaking part is 4D EFT. Trust EFT? (Carta, et al, Moritz et al, Kallosh, Gautason et al, Hamada et al, Kachru et al.)
- **Tuning W<sub>0</sub><<1? in KKLT** (Demirtas et al, Alvarez-Garcia et al)
- Higher corrections in LVS? (Cicoli et al.)
- Antibranes (non susy, singularity?) (Bena et al, Moritz et al, Cohen-Maldonado et al, Gao et al, Crino et al.)
- **Tadpole problem** (Bena et al., see Grana's talk)

# **Quintessence from Strings?**

- Need stabilise all moduli except for quintessence field: as difficult as getting de Sitter
- Or have many fields rolling but slower than quintessence. Difficult.
- Fifth force and varying couplings constraints (e.g. volume modulus or dilaton problematic)

e.g. Banks, Dine, Douglas '00

Yukawa's

$$\hat{Y}_{ijk} = e^{K/2} \, \frac{Y_{ijk}(U)}{\sqrt{\tilde{K}_i \tilde{K}_j \tilde{K}_k}} \, , \label{eq:Yijk}$$

## **Open Questions**

- Control of quantum and  $\alpha$ ' corrections
- Realistic phenomenology (de Sitter but no SM?)
- Moduli Stabilisation in F-Theory
- Populating the landscape (large # of U moduli + vacuum transitions)





See A. Schachner's poster