

Title: Introduction to Flux Compactifications

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Abstract:

# INTRODUCTION TO FLUX COMPACTIFICATIONS

- ① Moduli stabilisation & flux vacua : general idea & challenges
- ② Explicit models in IIB (F-theory)
- ③ Living with the landscape

# INTRODUCTION TO FLUX COMPACTIFICATIONS

① Moduli stabilization & flux vacua : general idea & challenges

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Ⓐ Start with  $\mathcal{N}=(1,1)$  string compact. on  $X_6$   
 $\times$  flat  $\mathbb{R}^{1,3}$



e.g. - type III /  $CY_3$  orientifolds  
- het. /  $CY_3$   
- M /  $G_2$   
- F /  $CY_4$

} →  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  in 4d

e.g. - type III /  $CY_3$  orientifolds

- het. /  $CY_3$

- M /  $G_2$

- F /  $CY_4$

→ Always **MODULI**

$G_2$   
 $CY_4$

$\} \rightarrow N = 1$  in 4d

**MODULI** = def. of compactification at no cost in energy



$G_2$   
 $C \times 4$

MODULI

= def. of compactification at no cost in energy

→ massless scalars in 4d

Examples

- dilaton  $e^{\phi} = g_s$
- Kähler (size) moduli





-  $F / c \gamma_4$

→ Always MODULI = def. of compactification at  
cost in energy

[CLASSICALLY]

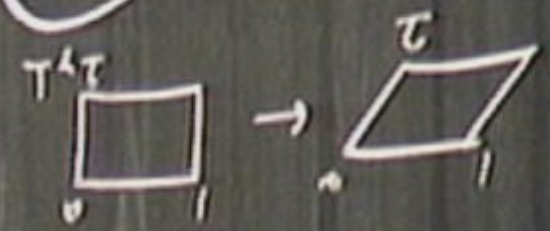
→ massless scalars in 4d

## Examples

- dilaton  $e^{\phi} = g_s$

- Kähler (size) moduli

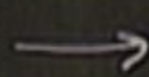
- Complex structure moduli (shape)



## Examples

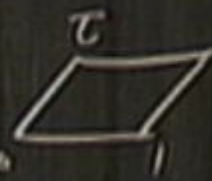
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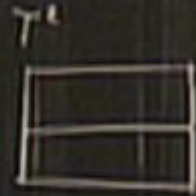


e.g. volume

- Complex structure moduli (shape)



- D-brane / bundle moduli



L • D-brane / bundle moduli

• Actions



$\int A$   
 $\gamma$

• Compact

• D-brane / bundle moduli



• Axions



$\oint A$   
 $\gamma$

$$\int B_2$$

- Complex manifolds
- D-brane / bundle moduli



- Actions



$$\oint_A$$

$$\gamma$$

$$\int_{\Sigma_2} B_2$$

$$\int_{\Sigma_P} C_P$$

Modules are **BAD**

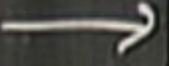
- Extra long range forces

**BAD**

FLUX COMPACTIFICATIONS

long range forces  $\rightarrow$  not observed

e.





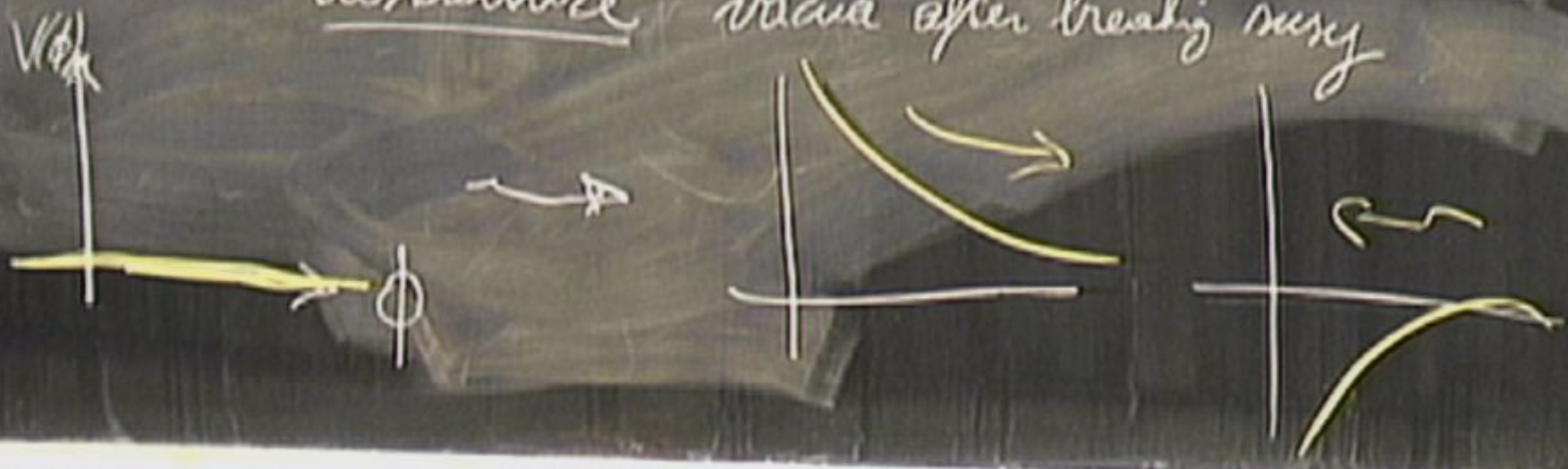
Modules are **BAD** FLUX COMPACT

- Extra long range forces  $\rightarrow$
- Screw up cosmology

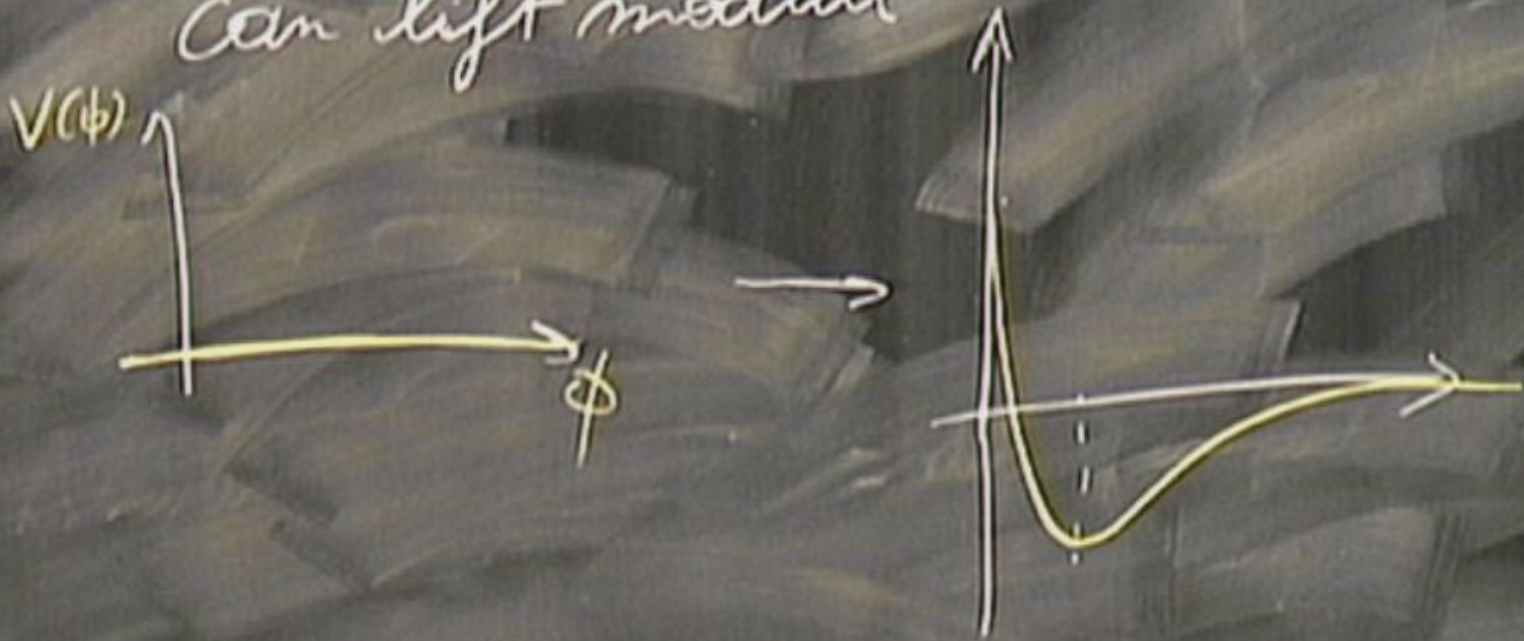
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- Screw up cosmology
- Tend to destabilize vacua after breaking SUSY

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- Screw up cosmology
- Tend to destabilize vacua after breaking symmetry



(B) Quantum corrections (pert. & nonpert.)  
can lift moduli

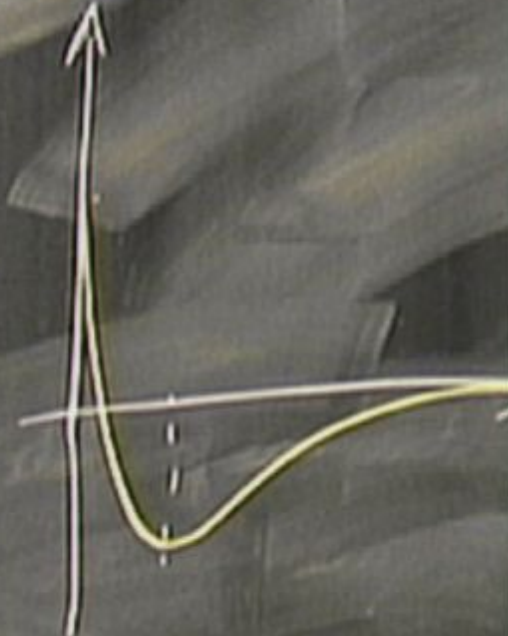
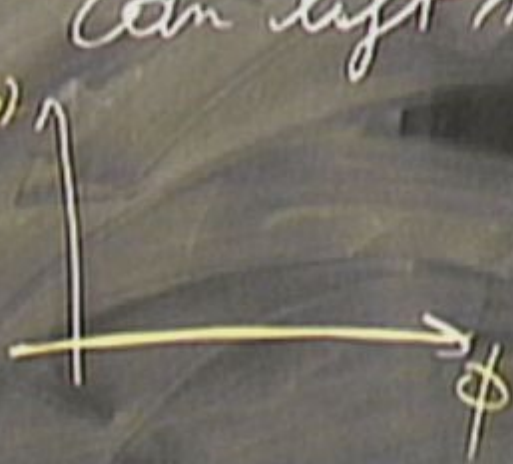


(B)

# Quantum corrections

can lift moduli

$V(\phi)$



→ CONTROL PROBLEM

Say  $\hbar$  is some modulus such that zero coupling /  
classical limit corresponds  $\hbar \rightarrow \infty$

Say  $\rho$  is some modulus such that zero coupling  
classical limit corresponds  $\rho \rightarrow \infty$

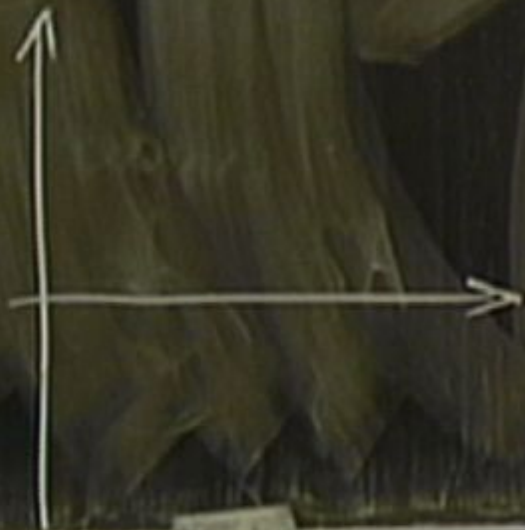
e.g.  $\rho = \text{Vol}(X)$     $\rho = e^{\text{Vol}(X)}$     $\rho = \frac{1}{g_s}$

$V \rightarrow 0$  when  $\rho \rightarrow \infty$

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$V \rightarrow 0$  when  $\rho \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow$  first correction  $V(\rho) \sim \frac{1}{\rho}$

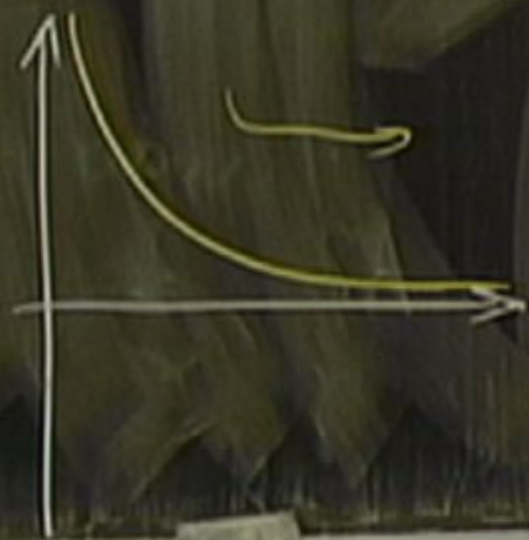




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e.g.  $\rho = \text{Vol}(X)$     $\rho = e^{\text{Vol}(X)}$     $\rho = \frac{1}{g_s}$    or ...

$V \rightarrow 0$  when  $\rho \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow$  first correction  $V(\rho) \sim \frac{1}{\rho}$



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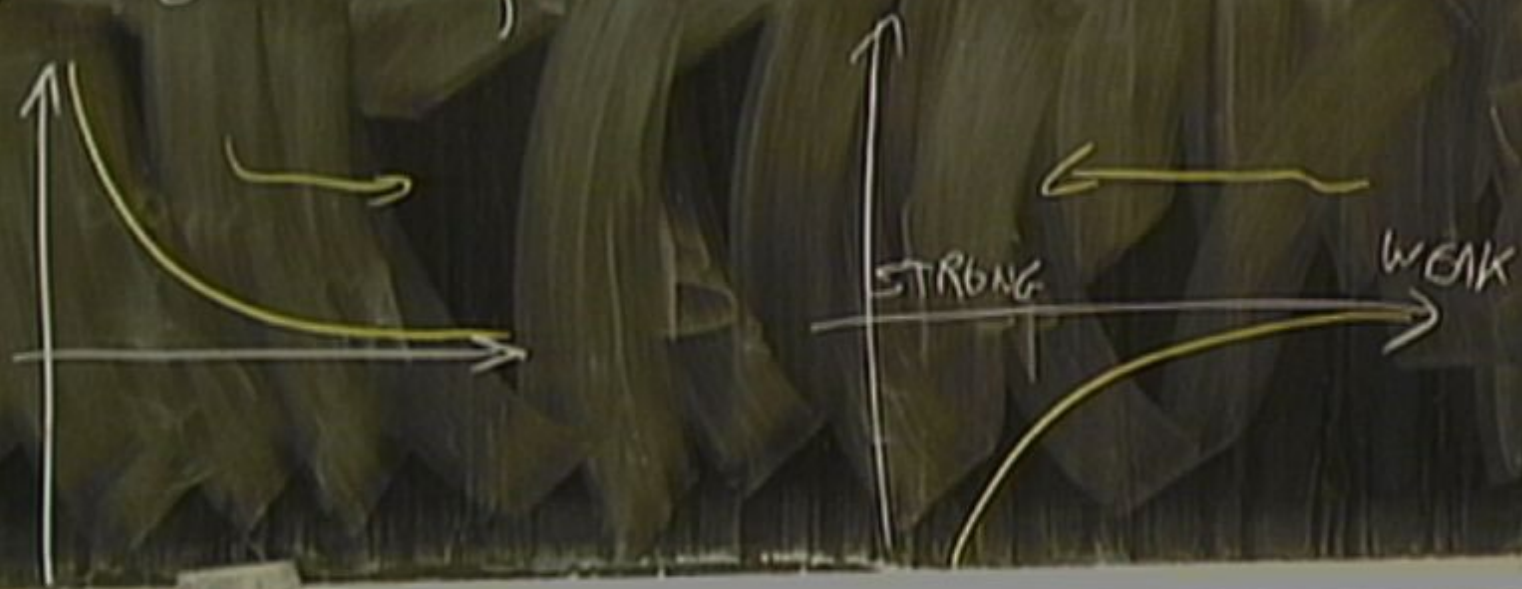
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$V \rightarrow 0$  when  $\rho \rightarrow \infty$     $\Rightarrow$  first correction  $V(\rho) \sim \pm \frac{1}{\rho}$



To stabilize at positive  $\alpha$ , need:



to maximize the function  $V$ , need:



→ Need at least 3 corrections

$$\Rightarrow V \sim \frac{a}{P} - \frac{b}{P^2} + \frac{c}{P^3}$$

to minimize or maximize  $\mathcal{L}$ , need



→ Need at least 3 corrections

$$\Rightarrow V \sim \frac{a}{f} - \frac{b}{f^2} + \frac{c}{f^3}$$

Typically  $a, b, c \sim \mathcal{O}(1) \Rightarrow \rho^* \in \mathcal{O}(1)$

• Typically  $a, b, c \sim \mathcal{O}(1) \Rightarrow \rho^* \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$

→ But then higher order corrections  
also important



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→ But then higher order corrections  
also important "

How get  $V \sim 10^{-120} M_p^4$  ???

© Key breakthrough: **FLUXES**

$$P = V_1(I_1) \quad P = e I_1 V_1$$

ough FLUXES (ORIENTIFOLDS  
& WARPING)

© Key breakthrough: **FLUXES** (ORIENTED & WARPING)

$$V(\phi) = V_0(\phi) + \int F \wedge * F$$

© Key breakthrough: **FLUXES** (ORIENTIFOLDS & WARPING)

$$V(\phi) = V_0(\phi) + \int_{X_4} F \wedge * F + V_g(\phi) \dots$$

Key breakthrough

**FLUXES**

(ORIENTIF  
& WARPING)

$$V(\phi) = V_0(\phi) + \int_{X_4} F \wedge * F + V_g(\phi)$$

↓  
O-planes (KO)  
CURVATURE (KO)

$$V(\phi) = V_0(\phi) + \int_{X_4} F \wedge * F + V_g$$



O-planes ( $K_0$ )  
CURVATURE ( $K_0$ )  
D-BRANES ( $>0$ )

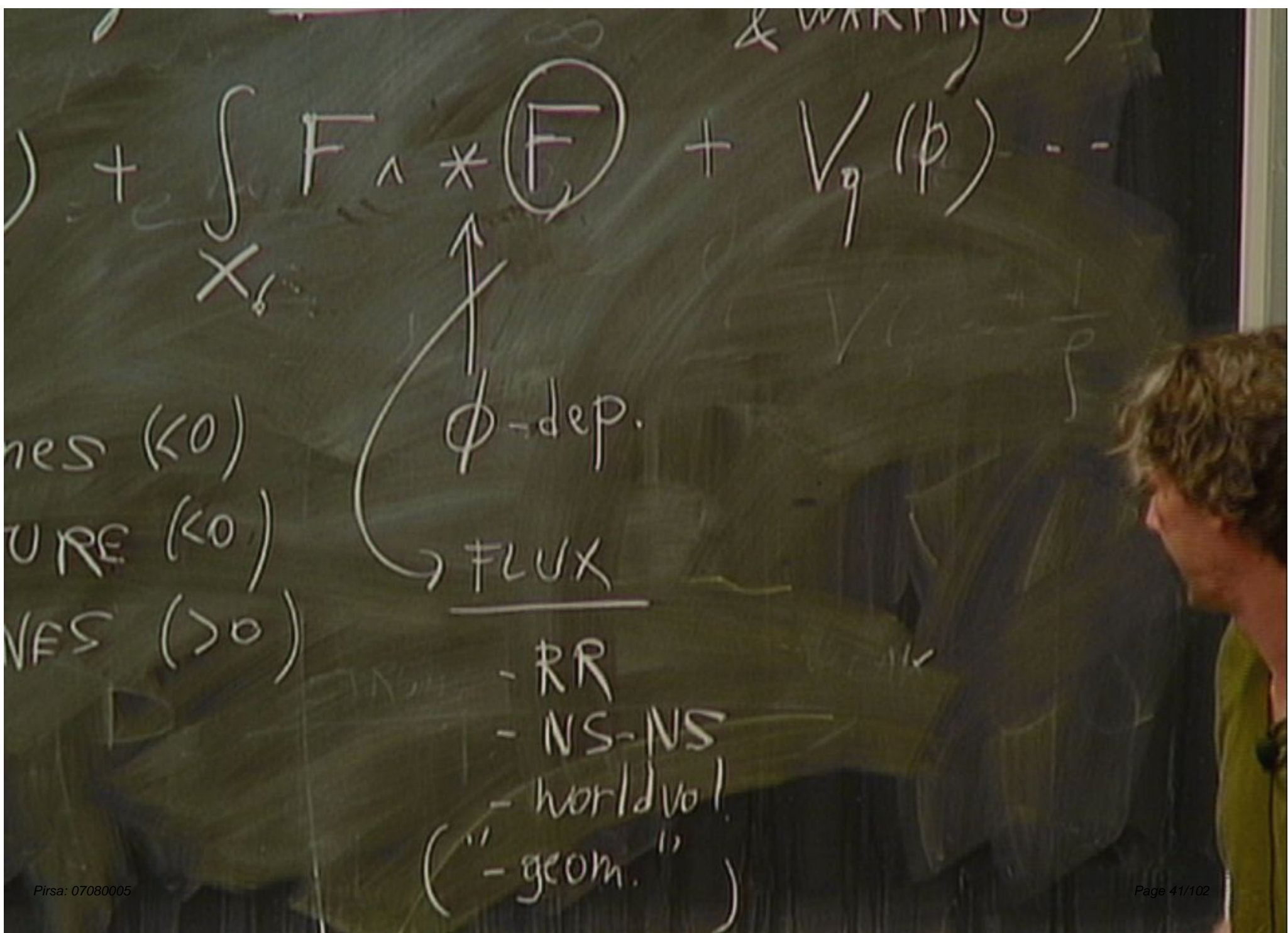
Energy (WARPING  $\sigma$ )

$$V_0(\phi) + \int_{X_6} F \wedge * F + V_g(\phi) \dots$$

- ↓  
D-planes ( $< 0$ )
- CURVATURE ( $< 0$ )
- D-BRANES ( $> 0$ )

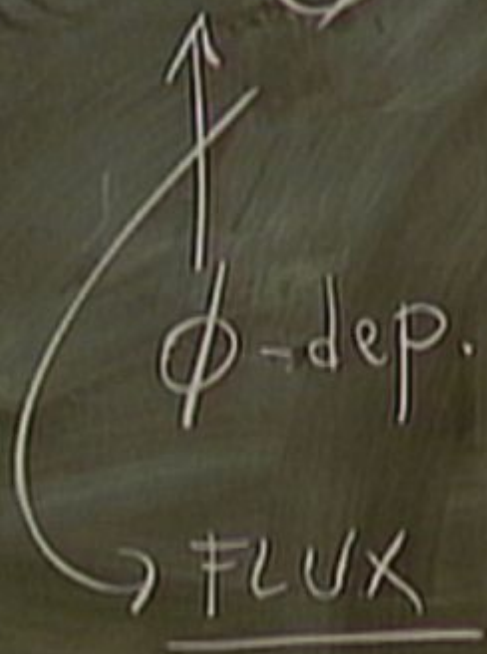
↑  
 $\phi$ -dep.





$$) + \int_{X_6} F \wedge * \textcircled{F} + V_g(p) \dots$$

nes ( $K=0$ )  
 URE ( $K=0$ )  
 VES ( $>0$ )



- RR
- NS-NS
- worldvol
- ( "geom." )

$\phi$ -dep.

→ FLUX

- RR →  $F_{\text{PHI}} = dC_p$
- NS-NS →  $H_3 = dB_2$
- worldvol →  $F_2 = dA$
- geom. " )

Flux characterized by integer flux quanta  $N_i$

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$$N_i = \int_{M_i} F$$

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$$N_i = \int_{M_i} F$$

$i = 1, \dots, \# \text{ indep. cycles}$   
in  $X$   
 $\equiv d$

$$V(\rho) = \frac{1}{\rho^3} (a_i N^i \rho - 1)^2$$

$$V(\rho) = \frac{1}{\rho^3} \left( \sum_i a_i N^i \rho - 1 \right)^2 \quad a_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{Minima } \rho_* = \frac{1}{\sum_i a_i N^i}$$

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$$\text{Minima } \rho_* = \frac{1}{\sum_i a_i N^i} = \frac{1}{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{N}} \quad \begin{array}{l} \vec{a} \in \mathbb{R}^d \\ \vec{N} \in \mathbb{Z}^d \end{array}$$



$$\text{Minima } \rho_* = \frac{1}{\sum_i R_i N_i} =$$

$$\sum_i N_i^2$$

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$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{N}$$

$$\sum_i N_i^2 \leq L$$

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$a_i \in \mathbb{R}^+$   
 $\vec{a} \in \mathbb{R}^+$   
 $N \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\sum_i N_i^2 \leq L \quad L \in \mathbb{R}^+$$

("-geom.")

$L$  large  $\Rightarrow$  # flux choices  $\sim$  Vol (  $d$ -dim sphere of radius  $\sqrt{L}$  )

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$$k! \approx \left(\frac{k}{e}\right)^k = \frac{(\pi L)^{d/2}}{(d/2)!} \approx \left(\frac{2\pi e L}{d}\right)^{d/2}$$

flux choices  $\sim$  Vol (<sup>d-dim.</sup> sphere of radius  $\sqrt{L}$ )

$$\frac{(\pi L)^{d/2}}{(d/2)!} \approx \left( \frac{2\pi e L}{d} \right)^{d/2} \rightarrow \text{EXP LARGE!}$$

$L$  large  $\Rightarrow$  # of

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$\Rightarrow \vec{a} \cdot \vec{N}$  can become exp small

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$\Rightarrow \vec{a} \cdot \vec{N}$  can become exp small

$\Rightarrow \rho_*$  can become exp LARGE



Many fixes  $\Rightarrow$  exp many discrete choices

many fluxes  $\Rightarrow$  exp many discrete choices  
 $\Rightarrow$  "discretuum"

ues  $\Rightarrow$  exp many discrete choices ("vacua")

$\Rightarrow$  "discretuum"

$\Rightarrow$  tunability of low-energy parameters  
but without massless scalars

⇒ "discretuum"

⇒ tunability of low-energy parameters  
but without massless scalars

{ Quantum effect : Dirac quat. }

but without massless scalars

{ Quantum effect : Dirac quant. }

\* Bousso Polchinski \*  $\rightarrow$  even  $\Lambda \sim 10^{-120} M_{\text{Pl}}^4$   
can be achieved with few  
hundred flux quanta

Problem: Consider

$$V(\rho) = \frac{1}{\rho^3} (a_i N^i \rho - 1)^2 + \frac{1}{\rho^4}$$

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For random  $\vec{a}$ ,  $|\vec{a}| = 1$ , how many  
nodes do you expect with c.c.  $V : 0 < V < \epsilon$

consider

$$V(\rho) = \frac{1}{\rho^3} (a_i N_i \rho - 1)^2 + \frac{1}{\rho^4}$$

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For random  $\vec{a}$ ,  $|\vec{a}| = 1$ , how many  
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 $\epsilon \ll 1$

## 2. EXPLICIT MODELS IN IB

## 2. EXPLICIT MODELS IN IIB

- A. CALABI-YAU'S
- B. ORIENTIFOLDS (& F-THEORY LIFTS)
- C. FLUX & MODULI STAB.
- D. KÄHLER (SIZE) STAB, SCENARIO'S : KKLT  
BBCQ

Ⓐ CONSTRUCTING CY'S

Quintic in  $\mathbb{CP}^4$ :

$$X_1^5 + X_2^5 + X_3^5 + X_4^5 + X_5^5 (+ \dots) = 0$$

$$(X_1, \dots, X_5) \simeq$$

# Ⓐ CONSTRUCTING CY'S

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$$(X_1, \dots, X_5) \neq (0, \dots, 0)$$

- other popular examples: toroidal orbifolds

$$T^6 / \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$$

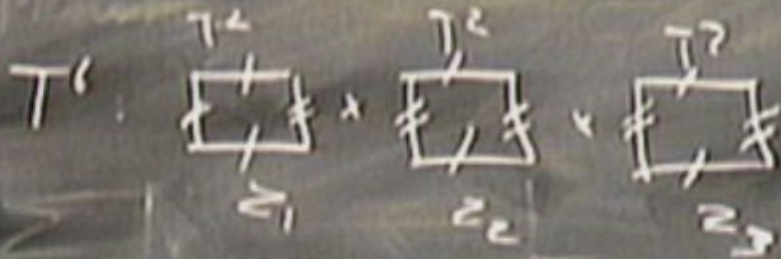


- other popular examples: toroidal orbifolds

e.g.  $T^6 / \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$

$$(z_1, z_2, z_3) \simeq (-z_1, -z_2, z_3)$$

$$\simeq (z_1, -z_2, -z_3)$$

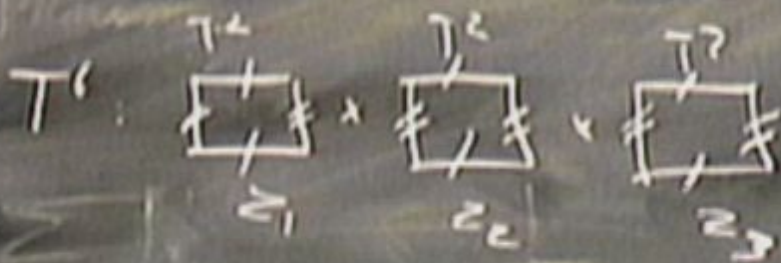


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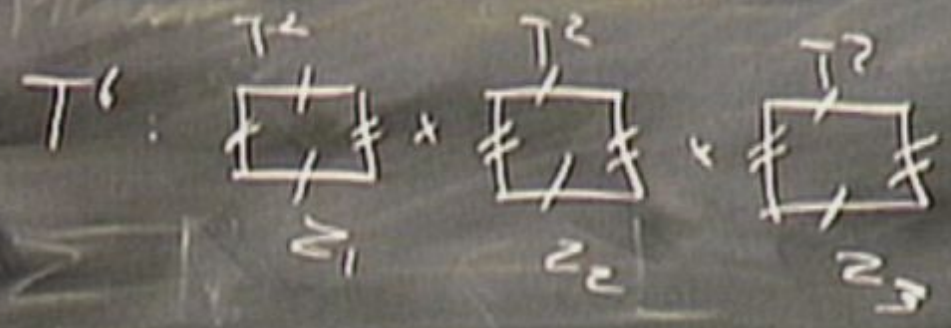
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e.g.  $T^6 / \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  (2,1,2)



→ Want more general construction

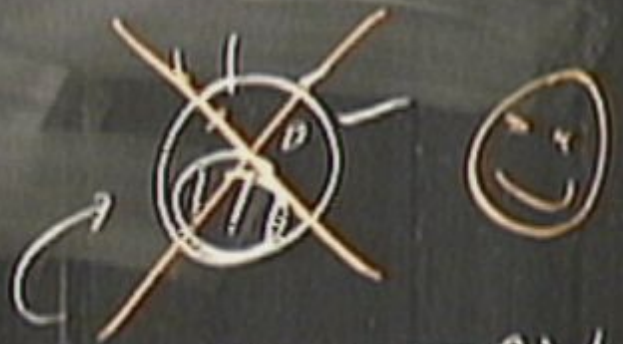
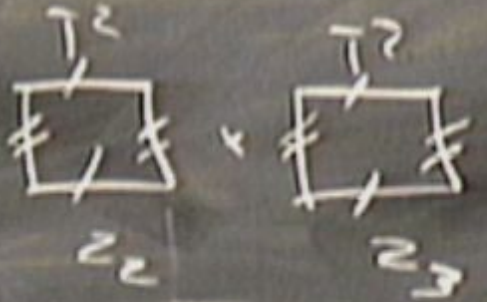


popular examples: toroidal orbifolds

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$$\simeq (z_1, -z_2, -z_3)$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$$



more general construction

→ TORIC GEOMETRY



\* Toric varieties from Gauged Linear Sigma Model  
-  $n$  chiral superfields

# Toric varieties from Gauged Linear Sigma Model

- $n$  chiral superfields  $X_i$   $i=1, \dots, n$   
with complex scalar components  $x_i$   $a=1, \dots, S$
- charged under  $U(1)^S$  with charges  $Q_i^a$

- Charged under  $U(1)^S$  with charges  $Q_i$

- If no superpotential

$$V = V_D = \sum_a \frac{e_a^2}{2} \left( \sum_i Q_i^a |x_i|^2 - \zeta^a \right)^2$$

of radius

$$\frac{(\pi L)^{d/2}}{(\pi L)^{d/2}} \approx \left( \frac{2\pi\epsilon L}{d} \right)^{d/2} \rightarrow E, \text{ LAR}$$

small

Subsy moduli space:  $V=0 \text{ mod } U(1)^S$

$$\mathcal{M} = \{x \in \mathbb{C}^n \mid \sum_i Q_i^a |x_i|^2 = \sum_a \alpha_a\} / U(1)^S$$

$$U(1)^S: x_i \rightarrow e^{iQ_i^a \varphi_a} x_i$$



Subsy moduli space:  $V=0 \text{ mod } U(1)^S$

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$$U(1)^S: x_i \rightarrow e^{iQ_i^a \varphi_a} x_i$$

If  $\sum^a$  such that  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{M} = n - S$

$Q_i^a \varphi_a x_i$

$n - S \rightarrow M$  toric variety

• EXAMPLE 1

$$M = \mathbb{C}P^4$$

$$m = 5$$

$$s = 1$$

$x_1$     $x_2$     $x_3$     $x_4$     $x_5$

Q

|

|

|

|

|

• EXAMPLE 1

$M = \mathbb{C}P^4$

$m=5$ ,  $s=1$

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$
$Q$					

$$\rightarrow M = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{C}^n \mid \sum_i |x_i|^2 = 1 \right\} / U(1)$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 x_1 \quad x_2 \quad x_3 \quad x_4 \quad x_5 \\
 Q \quad | \quad | \quad | \quad | \quad |
 \end{array}$$

$$\mathcal{M} = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{C}^n \mid \sum_i |x_i|^2 = r \right\} / \sim$$

$$r > 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{M} = \mathbb{C}P^4$$



◦ EXAMPLE 3 :  $PI_1^2$

$Q_1$   $x_1$   $x_2$   $x_3$   $x_4$   $x_5$   $x_6$   
 $Q_2$

What remains...



◦ EXAMPLE 3 :  $PI_1^2$   $n=6$   
 $S=2$

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$
$Q^1$	1	1	1	-1	0	2
$Q^2$	0	0	0	1	1	2

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$
$Q^1$	1	1	1	-1	0	2
$Q^2$	0	0	0	1	1	2

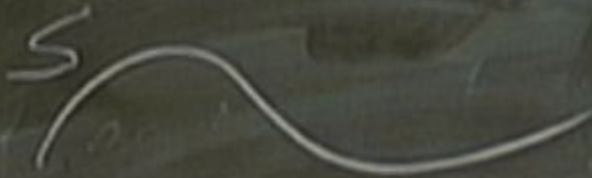
$M$  is CY iff  $\sum_i Q_i^a = 0 \quad \forall a$

e.g.  $Q = (1, 1, 1, -3)$

\* Hypersurfaces & "complete intersections" in toric varieties

→  $S: P(x) = 0$

$P$  homogeneous  
all terms same charge



$M = P = S \Rightarrow Y$  toric variety

toric varieties

$$S: P(x) = 0$$

$P$  homogeneous  
all terms same degree



$$S \text{ c.y.} \iff Q^a(P(x)) = \sum_i Q_i^a$$

If  $\exists^n$  such that  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} M = n - S \rightarrow M$  toric variety

$$S : P_1(x) = 0 \wedge P_2(x) = 0$$

$$\wedge \dots \wedge P_k(x) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LS } S : P_1(x) = 0 \quad \wedge \quad P_2(x) = 0 \\ \wedge \quad \dots \quad \wedge \quad P_k(x) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{is } CX \iff \sum_{\alpha} Q(P_{\alpha}(x)) = \sum_i Q_i$$

$$\iff \boxed{\sum Q(\text{eqs}) = \sum Q(\text{fields})}$$

# EXAMPLES

① Quintic in  $\mathbb{C}P^4$  -  $P_5(x) = 0$

$$Q(q) = 5 \quad \sum q_i = 5 \quad \checkmark$$

$$x_5^2$$

# EXAMPLES

① Quintic in  $\mathbb{C}P^4$   $= P_5(x) = 0$

$$Q(\text{eq}) = 5 \quad \sum_i Q_i = 5 \quad \checkmark$$

②  $x_5^2 = h_8(x_1, \dots, x_4)$

$$\left( = \sum_{i=1}^4 a_i x_i^8 + x_1^2 x_2^2 + x_1^2 x_3^2 + x_1^2 x_4^2 + \dots \right)$$



① Quintic in  $\mathbb{C}P^1$ ,  $\mathbb{P}_5(X) =$

$$Q(\text{eq}) = 5 \quad \sum_i Q_i = 5$$

②

$$x_5^2 = h_8(x_1, \dots, x_4)$$

$$\left( = \sum_{i=1}^4 \# x_i \right)$$

$$Q(\text{eq}) = 8 = Q(\text{fields})$$

C.Y.  $\sqrt{\dots}$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad x_6^2 = h_{4,4}(x_1, \dots, x_5)$$

$$\bullet \textcircled{3} \quad x_6^2 = h_{4,4}(x_1, \dots, x_5) \quad \text{in } \mathbb{P}^4,$$

$$Q(\text{eq}) = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \sum_i Q_i = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\Rightarrow$  CY  $\checkmark$       CY  $\mathbb{P}^4$

$\Rightarrow$  CY ✓

CYPII

PROB

$M$  built out of  $x_i$   $i=1 \dots n$   
w. charges  $Q_i^a$

$\rightarrow$  find charge assignment for  $x_{n+1}$   
(extra field) such that eq.

$\Rightarrow CY \checkmark$   $CYPI$

PROB

$M$  built out of  $x_i$   $i=1, \dots, n$   
w. charges  $Q_i^a$

$\rightarrow$  find charge assignment for  $x_{n+1}$   
(extra field) such that eq. of form

$$x_{n+1}^2 = h(x_1, \dots, x_n)^2$$

$\Rightarrow$  C.Y.  $\checkmark$  C.Y.P.S.I.

PROB

$M$  built out of  $x_i$   $(i=1, \dots, n)$   
w. charges  $Q_i^a$

$\rightarrow$  find charge assignment for  $x_{n+1}$   
(extra field) such that eq. of form

$$x_{n+1}^2 = h (x_{n-1} x_n)^2$$

defines a C.Y.