

Title: Holographic Systematics of D-Brane Inflation

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URL: <http://pirsa.org/09050050>

Abstract:

# D-brane Potentials via AdS/CFT

Liam McAllister  
Cornell

Effective Field Theories in Inflation  
PI

## Based on:

D. Baumann, A. Dymarsky, S. Kachru, I. Klebanov, & L.M., [0808.2811](#).

D. Baumann, A. Dymarsky, S. Kachru, I. Klebanov, & L.M., [in preparation](#).

S. Gandhi & L.M., [in preparation](#).

## Building on:

D. Baumann, A. Dymarsky, I. Klebanov, J. Maldacena, L.M.,  
& A. Murugan, [hep-th/0607050](#).

D. Baumann, A. Dymarsky, I. Klebanov, L.M., & P. Steinhardt, [0705.3837](#).

D. Baumann, A. Dymarsky, I. Klebanov, & L.M., [0706.0360](#).

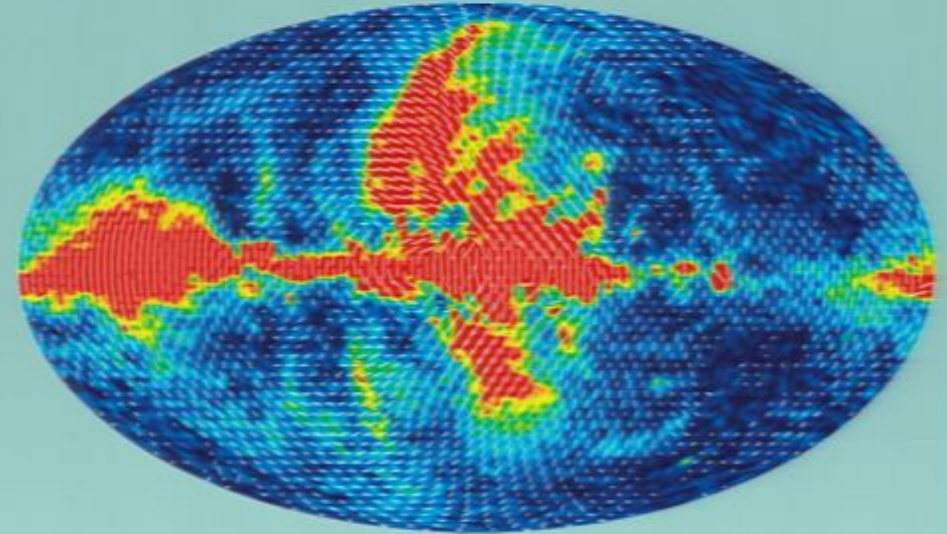
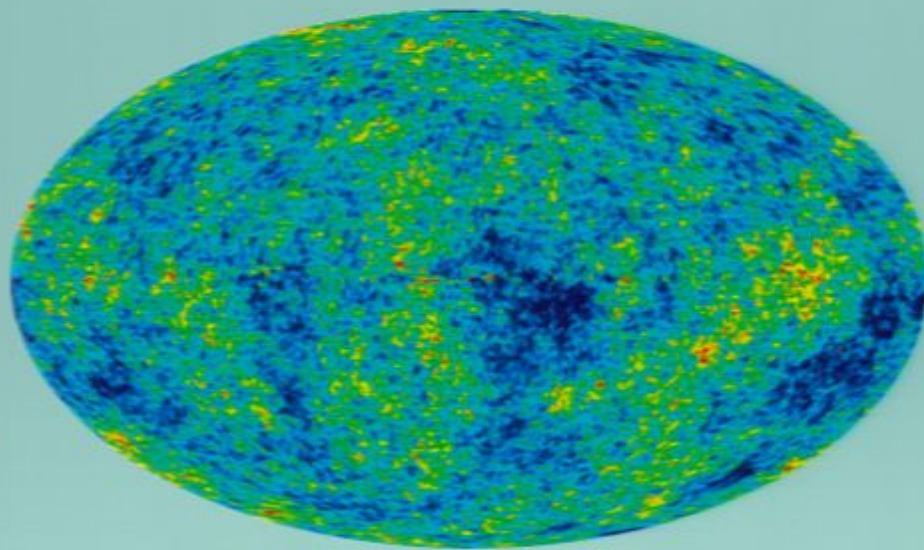
## See also:

C. Burgess, J. Cline, K. Dasgupta, & H. Firouzjahi, [hep-th/0610320](#).

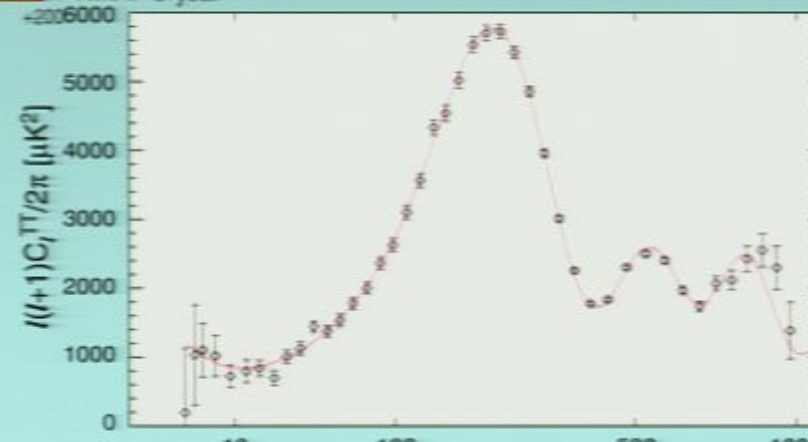
O. DeWolfe, L.M., G. Shiu, & B. Underwood, [hep-th/0703088](#).

A. Krause & E. Pajer, [0705.4682](#).

Goal: develop theoretical models of the early universe suitable for an era of precision cosmology.

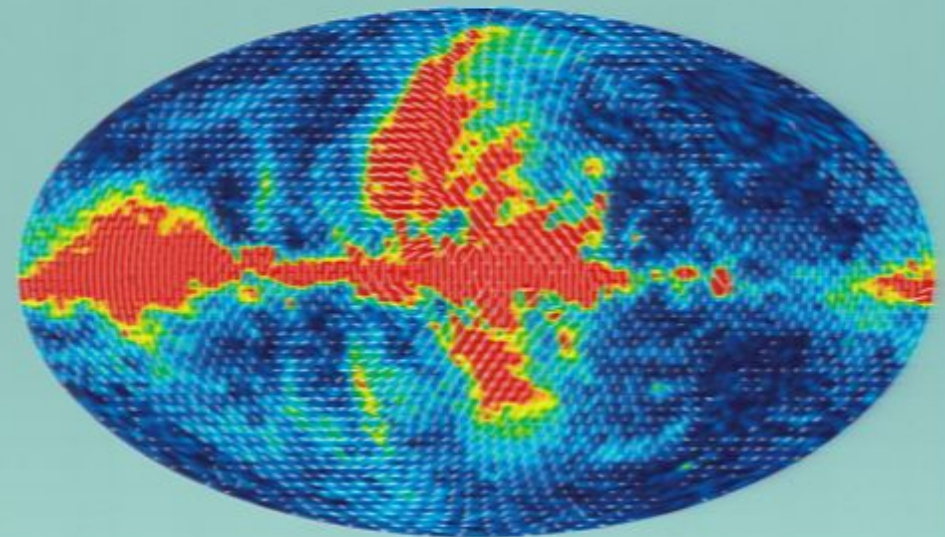
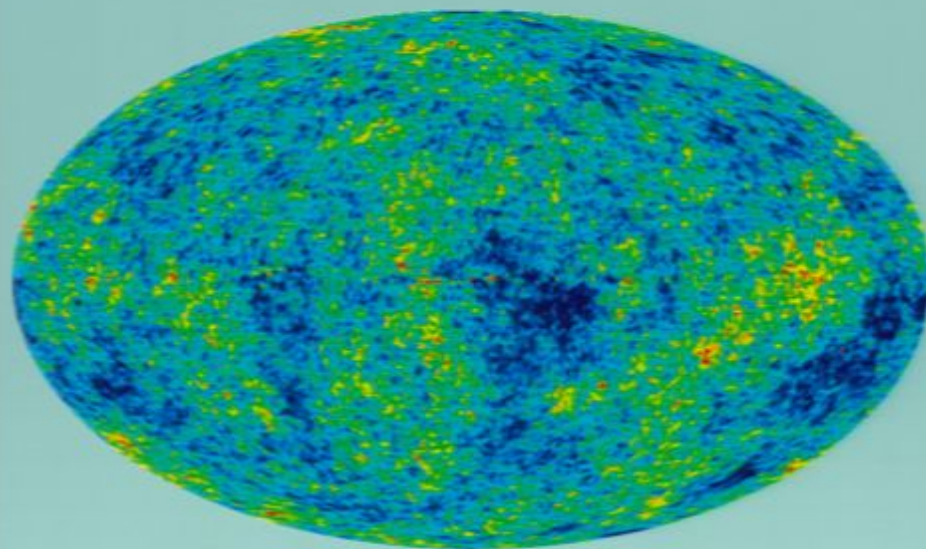


WMAP 5-year  
-200  $T(\mu\text{K})$  +200

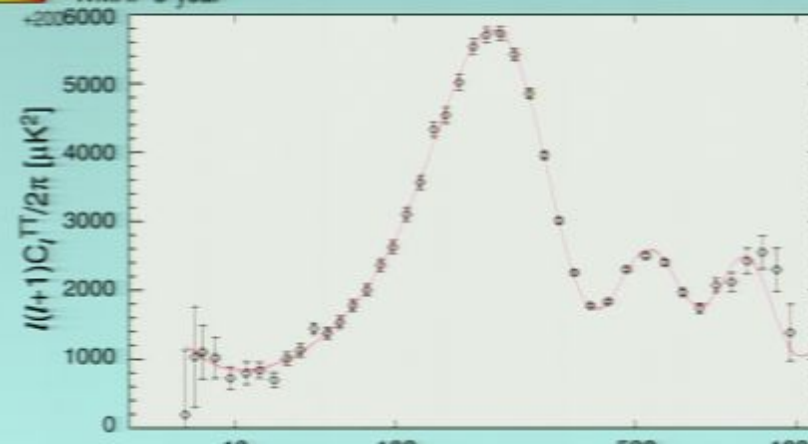




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Propose and constrain mechanisms for inflation in string theory.

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e.g. for D3-brane inflation.

Dvali&Tye 1998

Dvali,Shafi,Solganik 2001

Burgess,Majumdar,Nolte,Quevedo,Rajesh,Zhang 2001

Kachru, Kallosh, Linde, Maldacena, L.M., Trivedi, 2003



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Propose and constrain mechanisms for inflation in string theory.

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## Challenge:

Common approximation schemes often fail to incorporate relevant effects of massive moduli.

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## Challenge:

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## Method:

Study D-branes probing compact warped throats, where noncompact approximations and AdS/CFT are applicable, and compactification effects can be included systematically.

# Plan

- I. Brief review of the problem.
- II. Systematic method:
  - I. Gravity side: leading solution to 10d equations of motion
  - II. Gauge theory side: enumeration of contributing operators
- III. Implication: D7-brane superpotentials  
source fluxes
- IV. Conclusions

# I. The problem



# Inflation is sensitive to Planck-scale physics.

- Inflationary Lagrangian generically receives critical contributions from  $\Delta \lesssim 6$  Planck-suppressed operators.
  - Very generally, we expect contributions from integrating out massive degrees of freedom to which the inflaton couples.
  - The key point is that for inflation, even **Planck-mass** degrees of freedom are important. Moreover, we know that some new degrees of freedom **must** appear at (or well below) the Planck scale.

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  - The key point is that for inflation, even **Planck-mass** degrees of freedom are important. Moreover, we know that some new degrees of freedom **must** appear at (or well below) the Planck scale.
  - One important contribution:

$$V \rightarrow V + \frac{\phi^2}{M_P^2} V \Rightarrow \delta m_\phi^2 = 6H^2 \Rightarrow \delta\eta = 2$$

$$\eta \equiv \frac{m_\phi^2}{3H^2} \ll 1$$

- Problem persists even for small-field, low-scale inflation.
- Clear in effective field theory; corroborated by essentially all string inflation models.

# Options for dealing with the sensitivity to Planck-scale physics.

- I. Invoke a symmetry strong enough to forbid all such contributions.
  - i.e., forbid the inflaton from coupling to massive d.o.f.

Freese, Frieman, Olinto 90;

Kalosh, Hsu, Prokushkin 04;

Dimopoulos, Kachru, McGreevy, Wacker 05;

Conlon & Quevedo 05;

L.M., Silverstein, Westphal 08



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- II. Enumerate all relevant contributions and determine whether fine-tuned inflation can occur.
  - i.e., arrange for cancellations.

Baumann, Dymarsky, Klebanov, L.M., 07;

Haack, Kalosh, Krause, Linde, Lust, Zagermann, 08;

Baumann, Dymarsky, Kachru, Klebanov, L.M., 08



# Moduli stabilization and the eta problem

- In string inflation, the Planck-suppressed contributions take various forms (string loop and  $\alpha'$  corrections, both perturbative and nonperturbative; Euclidean D-brane contributions; backreaction effects; ...)
- In practice, most of these contributions may be understood as arising from integrating out massive moduli.
- Knowing (and controlling) the inflaton potential therefore **requires detailed information about moduli stabilization**, i.e., one needs the full effective action in a stabilized vacuum.
- This talk: use AdS/CFT to systematically enumerate these compactification effects.

# Why should you care?

- Inflation is highly compelling.
- Sensitivity to Planck-scale physics provides a rare opportunity to probe processes at high energies.
- Inflation in string theory provides added value
  - New mechanisms (e.g. DBI, monodromy)
  - Constraints on parameters (e.g. tensors in some classes of models but not in others)
  - Framework for dealing with Planck-sensitive problems.... but only if done carefully enough to expose the novel content.
  - in particular, requires rather thorough dimensional reduction.
- Therefore, we should study one or more models for long enough to get everything right!

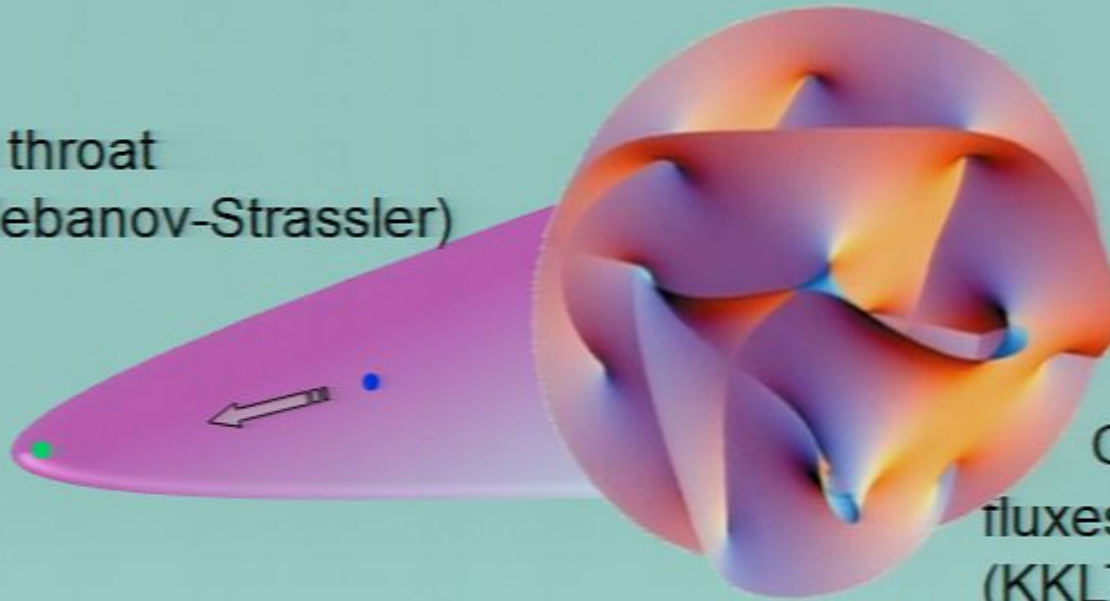


# Today's talk

- Focus on a D3-brane in a warped throat.
- Determine form of D3-brane potential, including all relevant contributions.
- Concretely, I will compute the potential for a D3-brane in a compact Klebanov-Strassler throat attached to a general bulk whose Kahler moduli are assumed to be stabilized nonperturbatively.
- In practice, will use Klebanov-Witten SCFT for most of the computation.
- Result leads to interesting ten-dimensional perspective on nonperturbative effects.

# Warped D-brane inflation

warped throat  
(e.g. Klebanov-Strassler)



CY orientifold, with  
fluxes and nonperturbative  $W$   
(KKLT 2003)

D3-brane

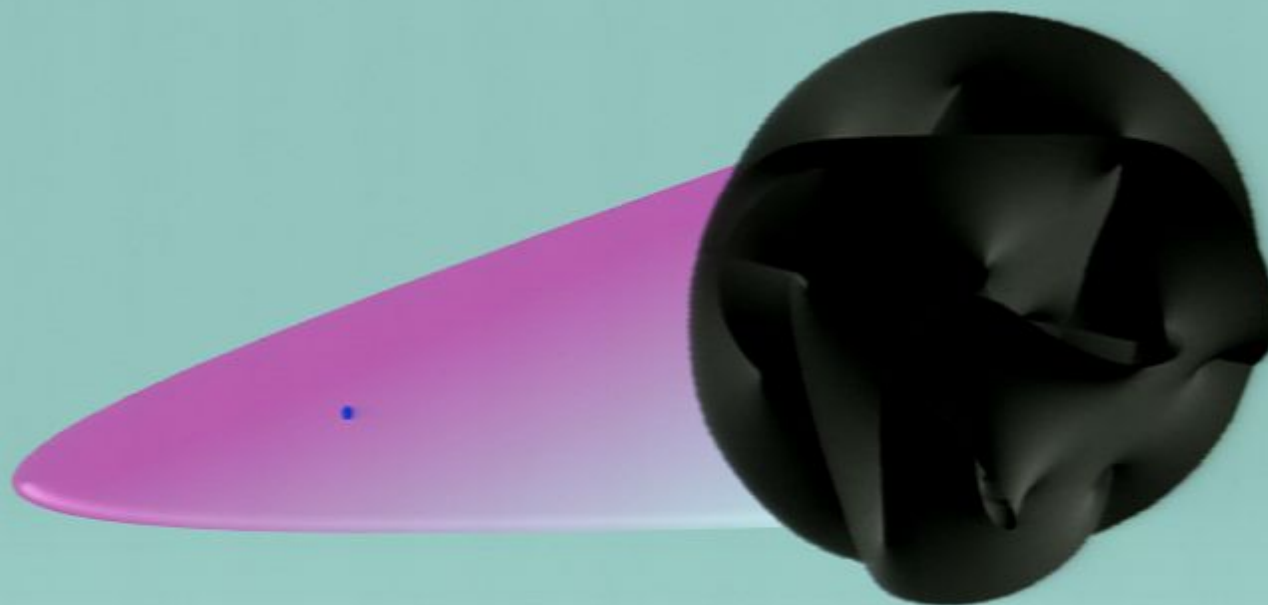


anti-D3-brane

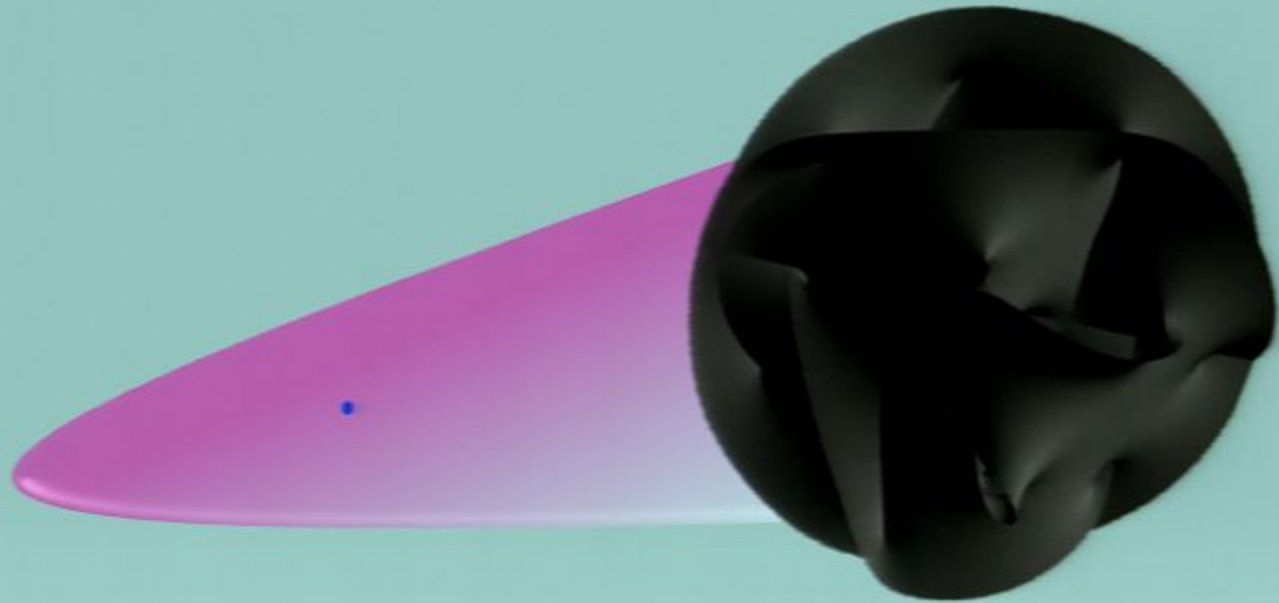
warped throat gives:  
weak Coulomb potential  
control of energy scales  
explicit local geometry  
dual CFT



# What is the D3-brane potential?



# What is the D3-brane potential?



Specifically, what is the **leading effect** of moduli stabilization on the potential for a D3-brane in a throat?

# D3-branes in flux compactifications

$$ds^2 = e^{2A(y)} g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu + e^{-2A(y)} \tilde{g}_{mn}(y) dy^m dy^n$$

$$\tilde{F}_5 = (1 + \star_{10}) [d\alpha(y) \wedge dx^0 \wedge dx^1 \wedge dx^2 \wedge dx^3]$$

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$$\Phi_{\pm} \equiv e^{4A} \pm \alpha$$

$$G_{\pm} \equiv (i \pm \star_6) G_3$$

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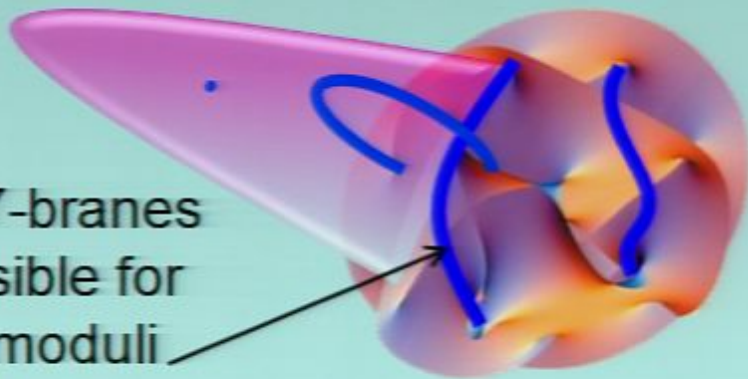
$$G_{\pm} \equiv (i \pm \star_6) G_3$$

D3-branes feel no potential in ISD solutions ('no-scale'),  
but  
nonperturbative stabilization of Kahler moduli will spoil this.



# D3-branes in KKLT compactifications

$$W = \int G_3 \wedge \Omega + A(y)e^{-a\rho}, \quad \mathcal{K} = -3 \log(\rho + \bar{\rho} - k(y, \bar{y}))$$



ED3/D7-branes  
responsible for  
Kahler moduli  
stabilization

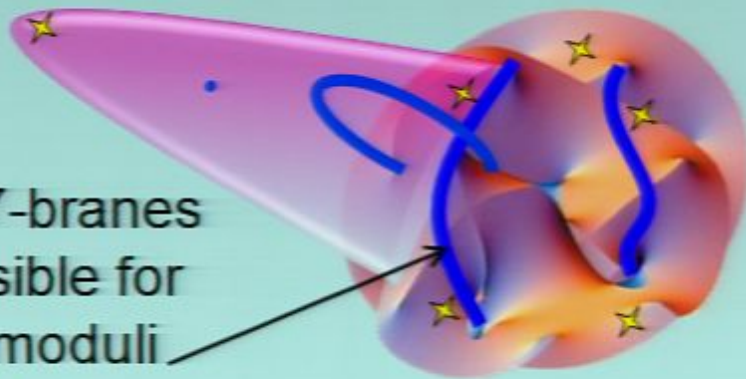
# D3-branes in KKLT compactifications

$$W = \int G_3 \wedge \Omega + A(y)e^{-a\rho}, \quad \mathcal{K} = -3 \log(\rho + \bar{\rho} - k(y, \bar{y}))$$

For generic  $A(y)$ , **solutions** to  $D_\rho W = D_y W = 0$

i.e., **supersymmetric D3-brane vacua**, are **isolated**. But where are they, and what is the potential in between?

ED3/D7-branes  
responsible for  
Kahler moduli



Prsa, 09050050  
stabilization

## Options:

- Compute  $A(y)$  in a special case.

Berg, Haack, Kors, [hep-th/0404087](#)

Baumann, Dymarsky, Klebanov, Maldacena, L.M., & Murugan, [hep-th/0607050](#).

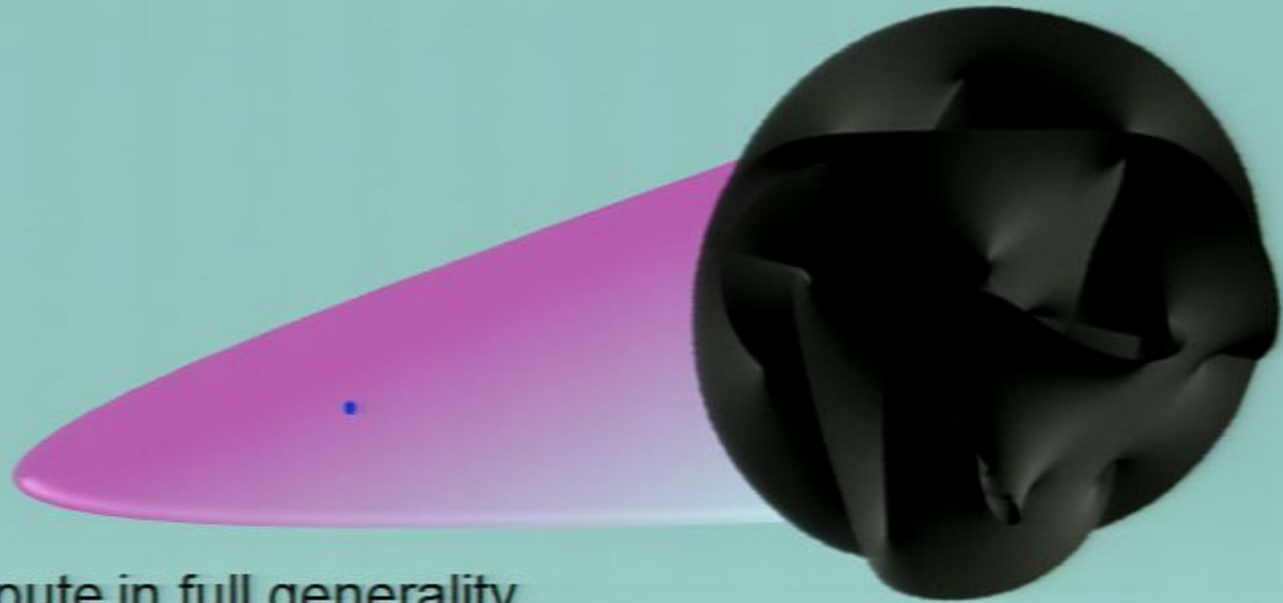
- Characterize the structure of the potential more generally.

Baumann, Dymarsky, Kachru, Klebanov, & L.M., [0808.2811](#).

Baumann, Dymarsky, Kachru, Klebanov, & L.M., [in preparation](#).

Today: understand the **leading term** both ways.

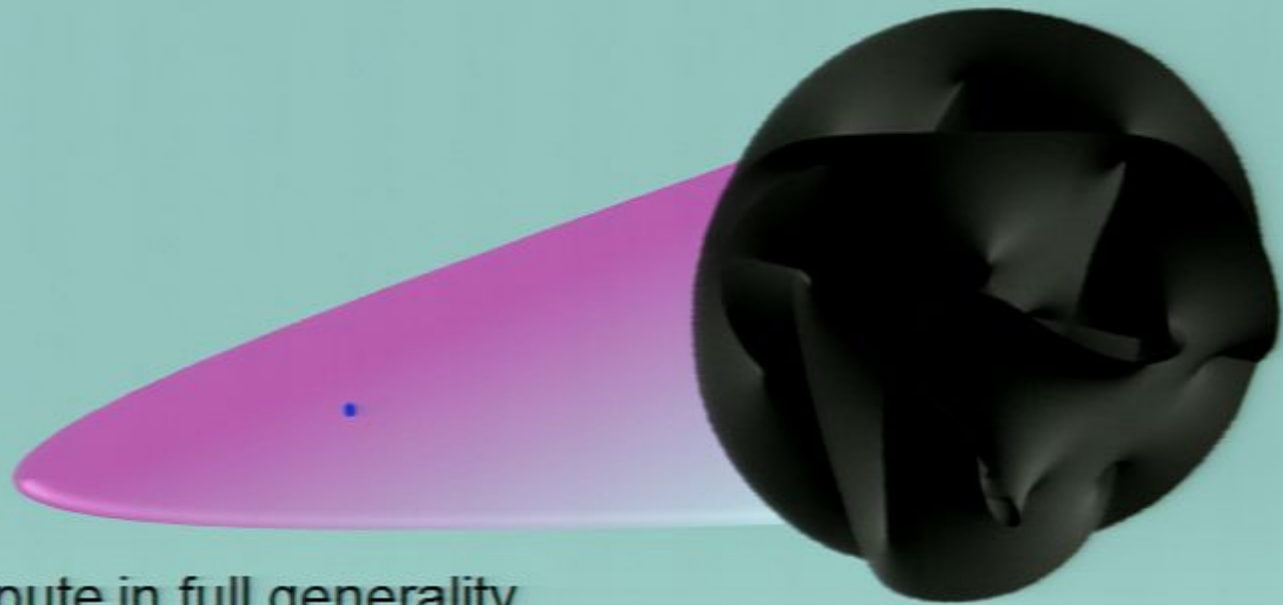
# General structure of the D3-brane potential?



Clearly hard to compute in full generality.



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Idea: for a D3-brane well inside a warped throat, leading effects captured by structure of throat + some information about boundary conditions in UV.

Intuitive in CFT: leading terms in the potential on the Coulomb branch captured by perturbations by the handful of most relevant operators.

$$\mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathcal{L} + \sum c_i \mathcal{O}_i$$



## II. The potential in 10D supergravity

# A Simple Idea

The D3-brane potential comes from  $\Phi_{\pm}$  alone. So we are interested in the profile of  $\Phi_{\pm}$ .

$$V = T_3 \Phi_{\pm}$$

$$\Phi_{\pm} \equiv e^{4A} \pm \alpha$$

# A Simple Idea

The D3-brane potential comes from  $\Phi_2$  alone. So we are interested in the profile of  $\Phi_2$ .

Arbitrary **compactification effects** can be represented by specifying boundary conditions for  $\Phi_2$  in the UV of the throat, i.e. by allowing arbitrary **non-normalizable  $\Phi_2$  profiles**.

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# Filtering in the throat

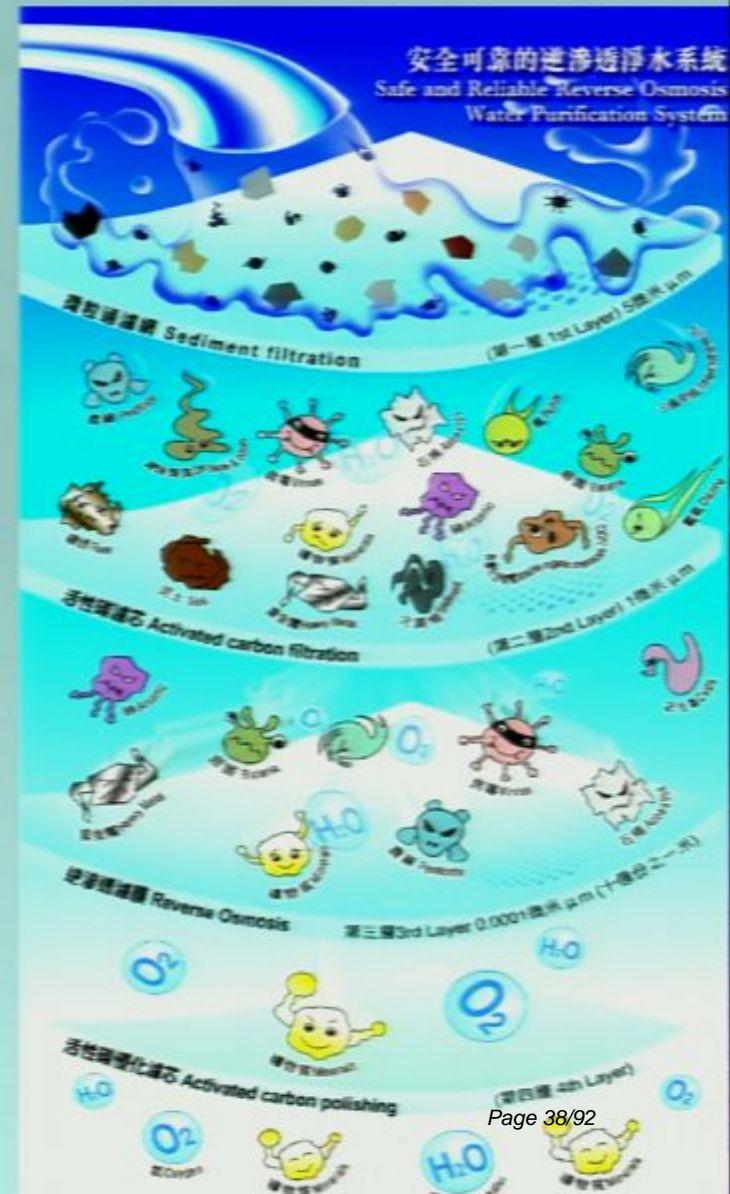
The warped geometry **filters** the compactification effects; in gauge theory variables,

$$V(\Lambda) \propto \sum_i c_i \left( \frac{\Lambda}{\Lambda_{UV}} \right)^{\Delta_i}$$

The leading contributions are those that diminish least rapidly towards the IR, i.e. the most relevant operators in the gauge theory.

By determining the spectrum of dimensions  $\Delta_i$  we can extract the **leading terms** in the potential.

$$V(r) = \sum_i c_i r^{\Delta_i} f_i(\Psi)$$



# Concrete example, gravity side

Consider linearized  $\Phi_-$  perturbations around a finite-length KS throat, which we approximate by  $\text{AdS}_5 \times T^{1,1}$ .

$$ds^2 = h^{-1/2} \eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu + h^{1/2} (dr^2 + r^2 ds_{T^{1,1}}^2)$$

$$h(r) = \frac{27\pi g_s}{4r^4} \alpha'^2 N$$

In general, many other modes are turned on, but at the *linear* level they do not couple to D3-branes.

# EOM linearized around ISD compactifications

$$ds^2 = e^{2A(y)} g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu + e^{-2A(y)} \tilde{g}_{mn}(y) dy^m dy^n$$

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# Linearization around ISD compactifications

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Linearity + absence of sources.

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**If**  $G_- = 0$ , this is the Laplace equation in the conifold.

Warmup: let's solve the Laplace equation.

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Caution: we'll see that  $G_-$  sources (inhomogeneous solution)

actually give the leading effect.



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But first, let's solve the Laplace equation in the conifold.



# Solution:

Kim, Romans, & van Nieuwenhuizen, 1985.  
Gubser, 1998.  
Ceresole, Dall'Agata, D'Auria, Ferrara, 1999.

$$\Phi_{-}(r, \Psi) = \sum_{L,M} \Phi_{LM} \left( \frac{r}{r_{UV}} \right)^{\Delta(L)} Y_{LM}(\Psi) + c.c.$$

$$\square_5 Y_{LM} = -\Lambda Y_{LM}$$

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$$L \equiv \{J_1, J_2, R\} \iff SU(2) \times SU(2) \times U(1)_R$$

$$\Lambda \equiv 6 \left[ J_1(J_1 + 1) + J_2(J_2 + 1) - R^2/8 \right]$$

$$\Delta \equiv -2 + \sqrt{6 \left[ J_1(J_1 + 1) + J_2(J_2 + 1) - R^2/8 \right] + 4}$$

$$V(r) = \sum_i c_i r^{\Delta_i} f_i(\Psi)$$

# What are the lowest modes?

$$\{J_1, J_2, R\} = \left\{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 1\right\}$$

$\Delta=3/2$  chiral mode

$$\Phi_{-}^{(3/2)}$$

$$\{J_1, J_2, R\} = \{1, 0, 0\} \text{ and } \{0, 1, 0\}$$

$\Delta=2$  nonchiral mode

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$$V(r) = c_{3/2} r^{3/2} + c_2 r^2 + \dots$$

# Are these the leading terms?

We've found the leading contributions from the **homogeneous** solution for  $\Phi_{\pm}$ ,

$$V(r) = c_{3/2} r^{3/2} + c_2 r^2 + \dots$$

i.e. ignoring IASD flux as a source in

$$\tilde{\nabla}^2 \Phi_{\pm} = \frac{e^{8A+\phi}}{24} |\tilde{G}_{\pm}|^2$$

We should check this.

# The potential from IASD flux

We should solve  $\tilde{\nabla}^2 \Phi_{\pm} = \frac{e^{8A+\phi}}{24} |\tilde{G}_{\pm}|^2$   
incorporating a source.

$$G_- = \sum_{\lambda} r^{\lambda} f_{\lambda}(\Psi)$$

To do this, one of us (A.Dymarsky) finds the spectrum of  $G_-$  turns on a general  $G$  background, and extracts the leading term in  $\Phi_-$ .

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Result:  $V(r) = c_1 r^1 + c_2 r^2 \dots$

So the **leading** term in the D3-brane potential comes from IASD flux.



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Kim, Romans, & van Nieuwenhuizen, 1985.

Gubser, 1998.

Ceresole, Dall'Agata, D'Auria, Ferrara, 1999.

$$\Phi_-(r, \Psi) = \sum_{L, M} \Phi_{LM} \left( \frac{r}{r_{UV}} \right)^{\Delta(L)} Y_{LM}(\Psi) + c.c.$$

$$\square_5 Y_{LM} = -\Lambda Y_{LM}$$

$$L \equiv \{J_1, J_2, R\} \iff SU(2) \times SU(2) \times U(1)_R$$

$$\Lambda \equiv 6 \left[ J_1(J_1 + 1) + J_2(J_2 + 1) - R^2/8 \right]$$

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$$V(r) = \sum_i c_i r^{\Delta_i} f_i(\Psi)$$

# Linearization around ISD compactifications

$$ds^2 = e^{2A(y)} g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu + e^{-2A(y)} \tilde{g}_{mn}(y) dy^m dy^n$$

$$\tilde{F}_5 = (1 + \star_{10}) [d\alpha(y) \wedge dx^0 \wedge dx^1 \wedge dx^2 \wedge dx^3]$$

$$V = T_3 \Phi_- \quad \Phi_\pm \equiv e^{4A} \pm \alpha$$

$$G_\pm \equiv (i \pm \star_6) G_3$$

$$\tilde{\nabla}^2 \Phi_\pm = \frac{e^{8A+\phi}}{24} |\tilde{G}_\pm|^2$$

But first, let's solve the Laplace equation in the conifold.

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# The potential from IASD flux

We should solve  $\tilde{\nabla}^2 \Phi_{\pm} = \frac{e^{8A+\phi}}{24} |\tilde{G}_{\pm}|^2$   
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To do this, one of us (A.Dymarsky) finds the spectrum of  $G_-$  turns on a general  $G$  background, and extracts the leading term in  $\Phi_-$ .

Result:  $V(r) = c_1 r^1 + c_2 r^2 \dots$

So the **leading** term in the D3-brane potential comes from IASD flux.



# The leading terms, gravity side

Recap: after solving  $\tilde{\nabla}^2 \Phi_{\pm} = \frac{e^{8A+\phi}}{24} |\tilde{G}_{\pm}|^2$

with a general  $G$  background, the D3-brane potential is

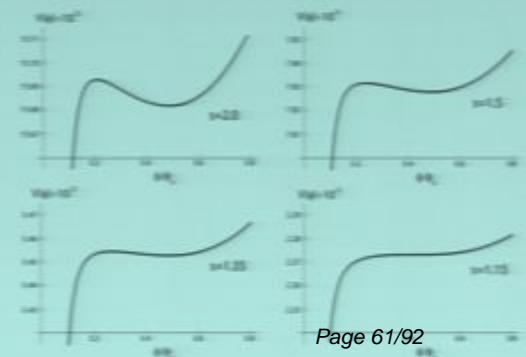
$$V(r) = c_1 r^1 + c_{3/2} r^{3/2} + c_2 r^2 + \dots$$

supported by  $G_- \neq 0$

from homogeneous solution

So the D3-brane potential originates in UV perturbations of  $G_-$  and  $\Phi_-$ .

For a better understanding, let's try another perspective.





III.

# The potential in the dual gauge theory

# Gauge theory version

**Normalizable** perturbations in supergravity correspond to perturbations of the state of the dual CFT. These IR contributions typically decouple from the compactification, and hence are easily included.

$$\varphi(r) = \alpha r^{-\Delta} + \beta r^{\Delta-4}$$

**Non-normalizable** perturbations in supergravity correspond to perturbations of the Lagrangian of the dual CFT. These UV contributions originate in the compact region.

Maldacena, 1997

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# Gauge theory version

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$$\mathcal{L}_0 + \delta\mathcal{L} = \int d^2\theta d^2\bar{\theta} (K_0 + \delta K) + \int d^2\theta (W_0 + \delta W) + h.c.$$

$$\delta K = \sum c_i \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_i} \quad \delta W = \sum d_i \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_i}^{chiral}$$

(In general, these operators may involve 4D curvature or hidden sector fields.)



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The RG flow filters these effects; the leading contributions are those that diminish least rapidly towards the IR, i.e. **the most relevant contributions**.

The structure of the potential on the Coulomb branch is therefore determined by the lowest-dimension operators in the CFT.

# Concrete example, CFT side

Klebanov-Witten SCFT:

$SU(N) \times SU(N)$  gauge group

$SU(2) \times SU(2) \times U(1)_R$  global symmetry

bifundamentals  $A_i, B_i$

Klebanov & Witten, [hep-th/9807080](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/9807080)

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contributing  
chiral operators:

$$\mathcal{O}_\Delta = \text{Tr} \left( A^{(i_1} B_{j_1} A^{i_2} B_{j_2} \dots A^{i_R)} B_{j_R} \right) + c.c.$$

most relevant  
chiral operators:

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# Leading perturbations, CFT side

$$\delta K = c_{3/2} \mathcal{O}_{3/2} X^\dagger X$$

$$\delta W = d_{3/2} \mathcal{O}_{3/2}$$

most relevant perturbation:

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The potential that results is

$$V = c_1 r^1$$



One can check that the higher terms also match the gravity side.

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- We have one more perspective to try: 4D supergravity.

We can try to compute  $A(y)$  and plug into

$$W = \int G_3 \wedge \Omega + A(y)e^{-a\rho}, \quad \mathcal{K} = -3 \log(\rho + \bar{\rho} - k(y, \bar{y}))$$

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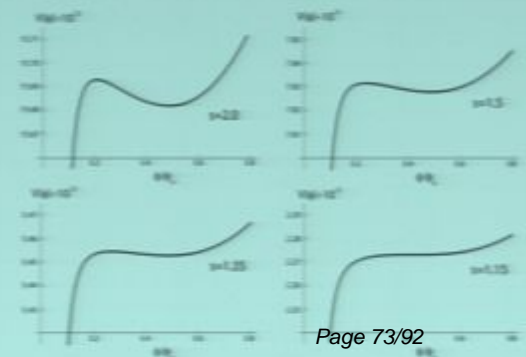
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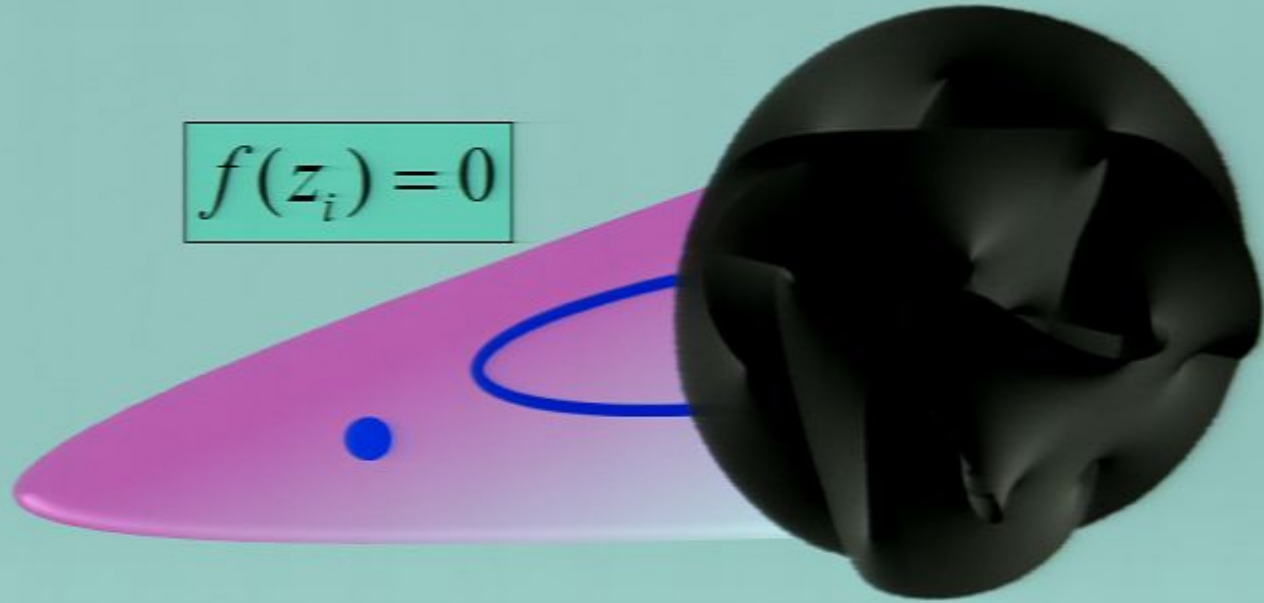
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# A background for computing $A(y)$ : a four-cycle embedded in the throat

$$f(z_i) = 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^4 z_i^2 = \varepsilon^2$$



D3-brane is a source for a perturbation of the warped metric.

It corrects the warped volume of the four-cycle  $\Sigma_4$  and hence corrects the nonperturbative superpotential.

$$W_{NP} = \exp(-T_3 V_{\Sigma_4}^w)$$

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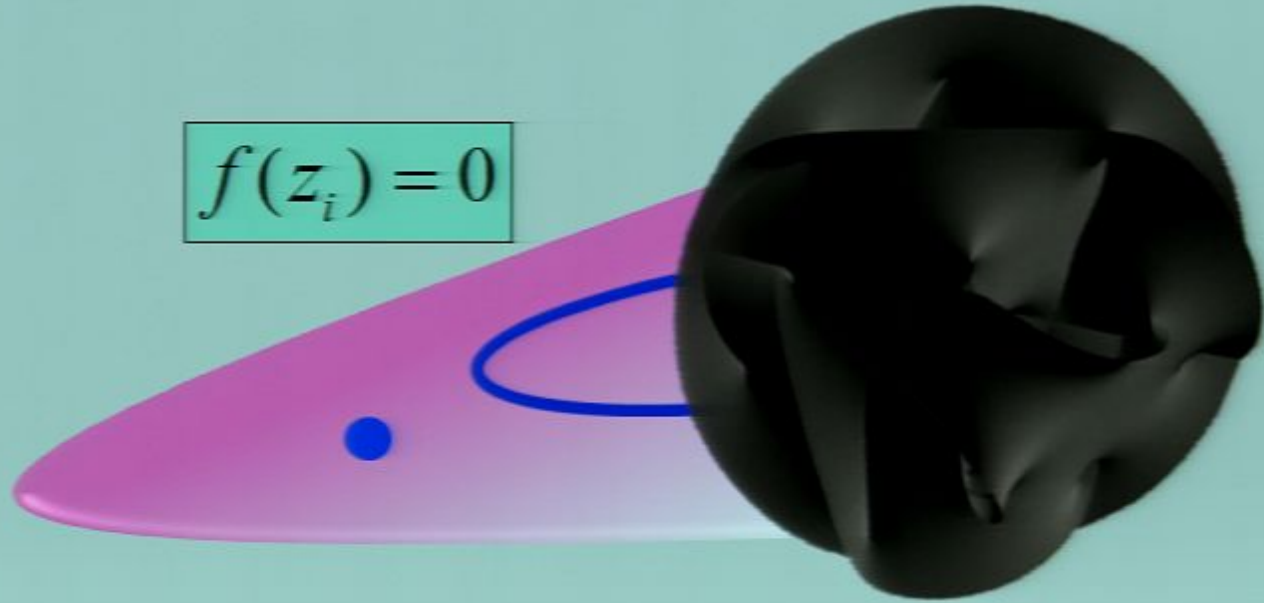
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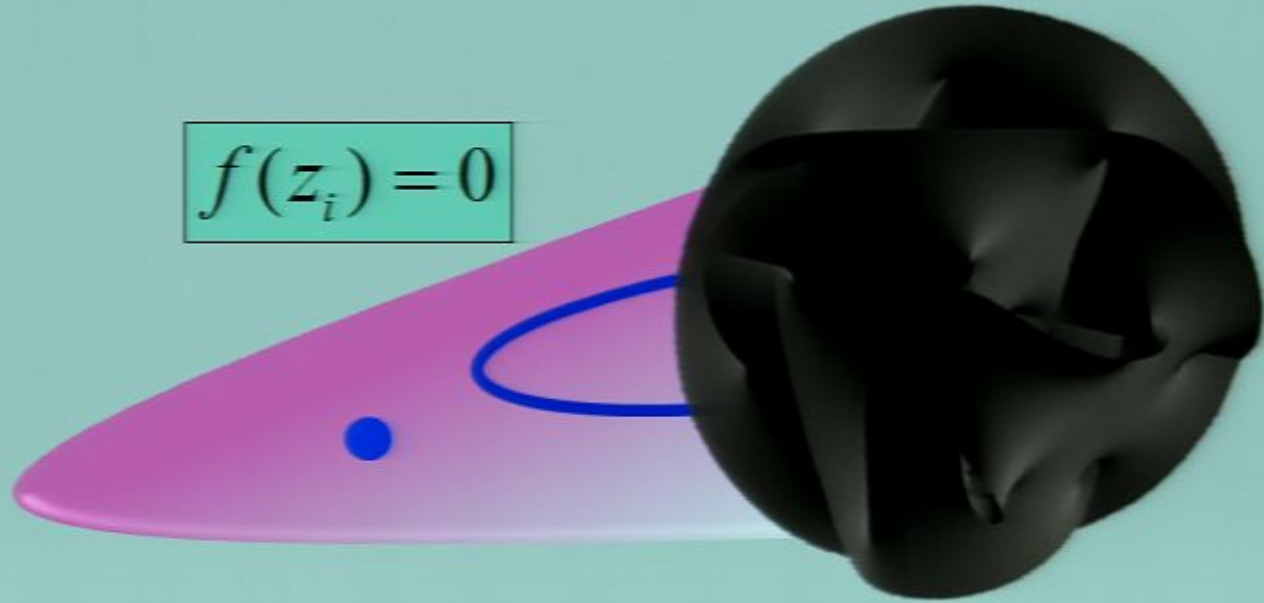
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# Result for a general warped throat

Ganor, [hep-th/9612007](#)

Baumann, Dymarsky, Klebanov, Maldacena, L.M., & Murugan,  
[hep-th/0607050](#).

If  $N$  wrapped branes are embedded along

$$f(z_i) = 0$$

then the superpotential correction is

$$A = A_0 f(z_i)^{1/N}$$

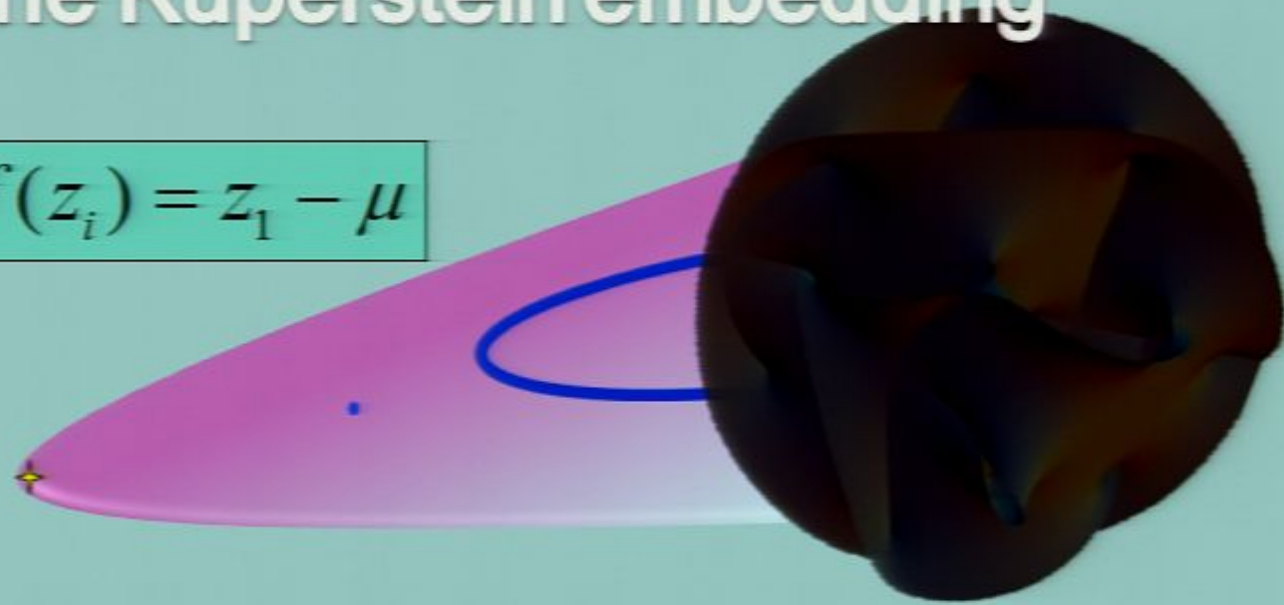
so the superpotential is

$$W_{KKLT} = \int G \wedge \Omega + A_0 f(z_i)^{1/N} e^{-a\rho}$$

# Example: the Kuperstein embedding

Kuperstein,  
hep-th/0411097

$$f(z_i) = z_1 - \mu$$



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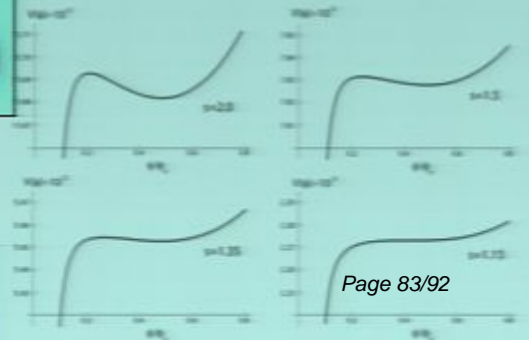
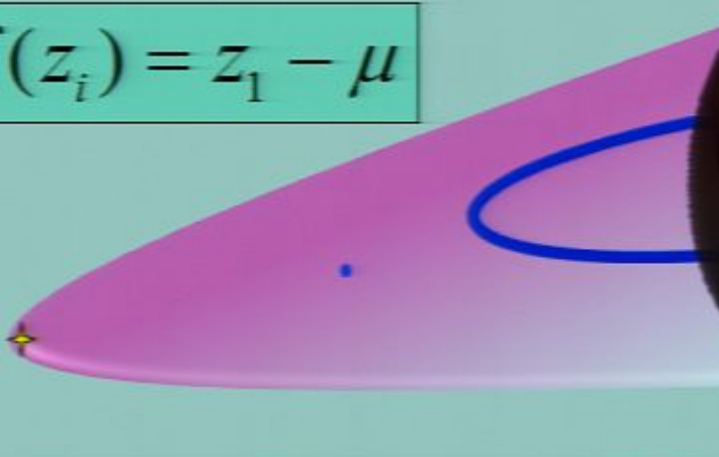
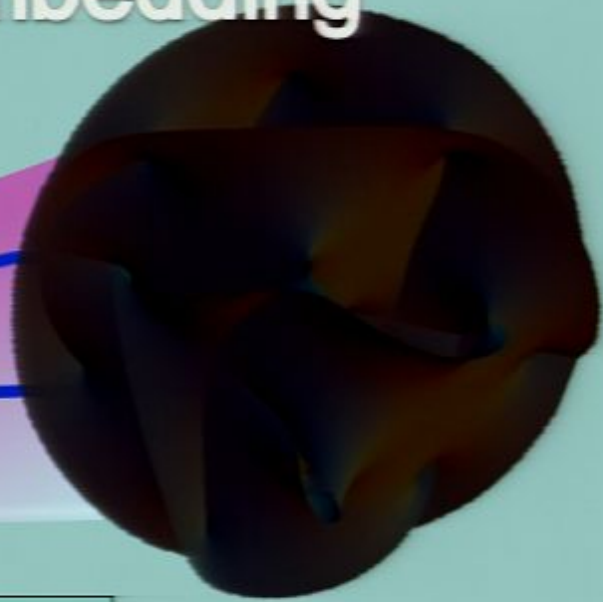
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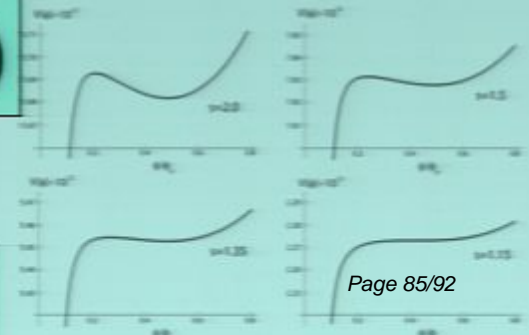
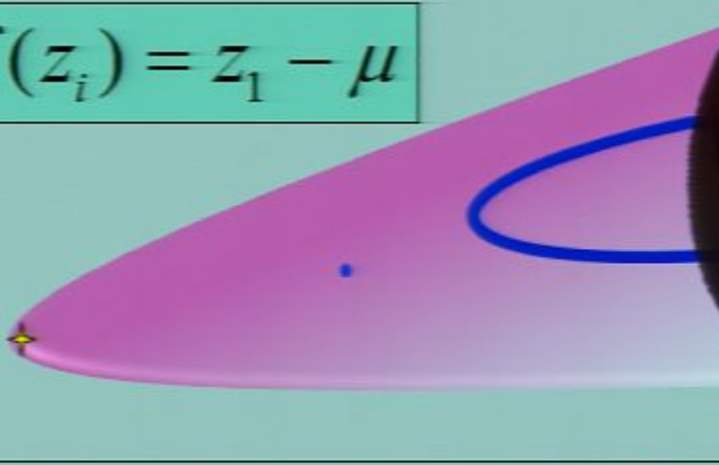
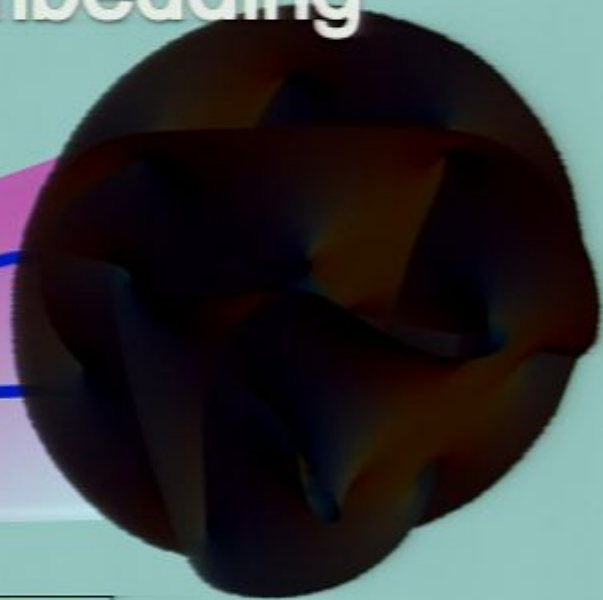
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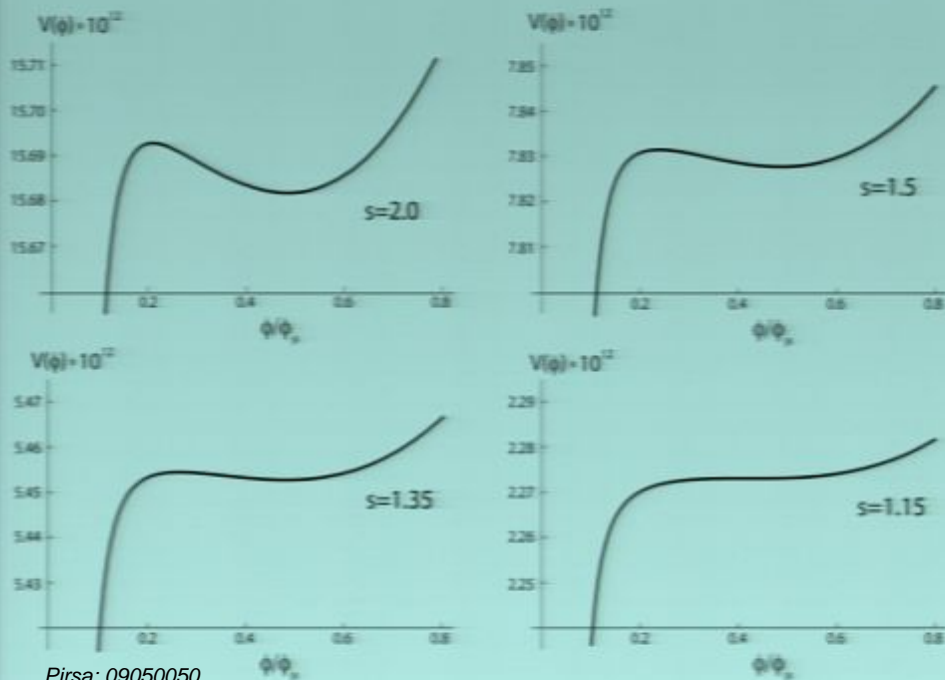
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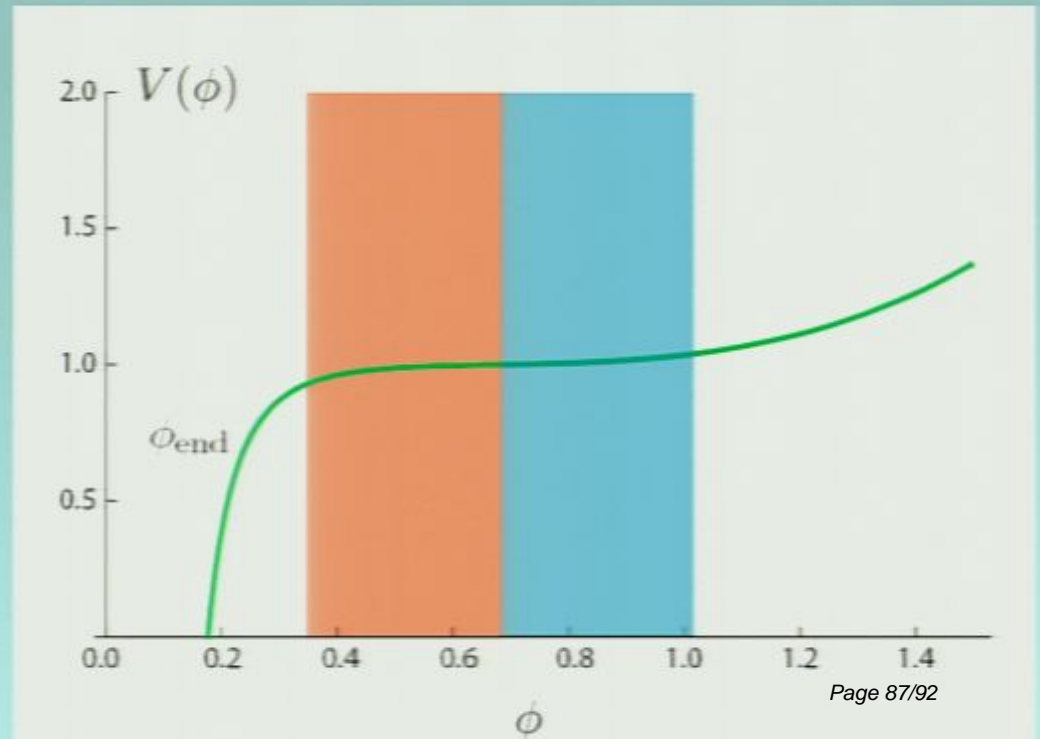
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# Phenomenology: Inflection point inflation

$$V(r) = c_1 r^1 + c_{3/2} r^{3/2} + c_2 r^2 + \dots$$

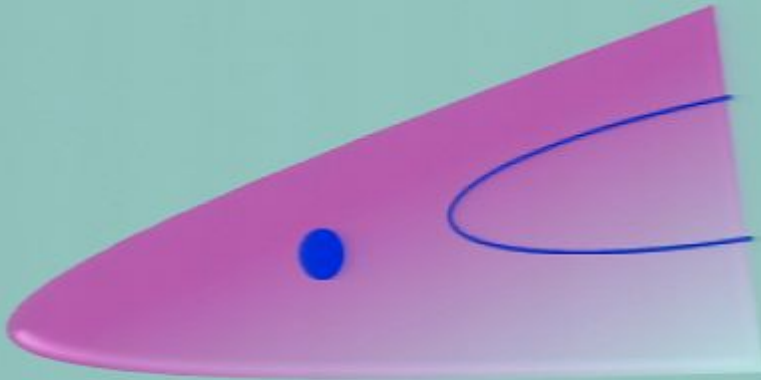


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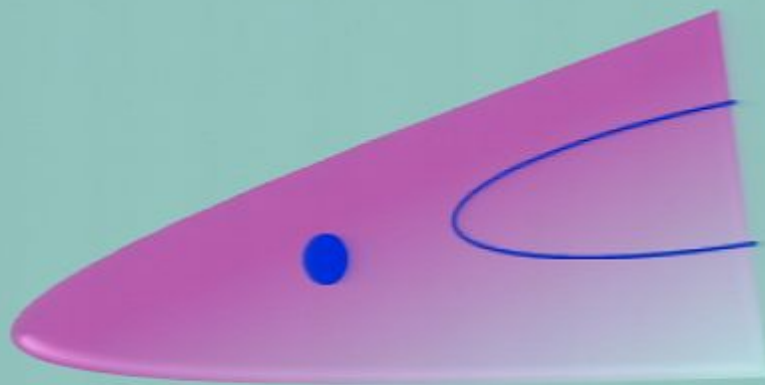
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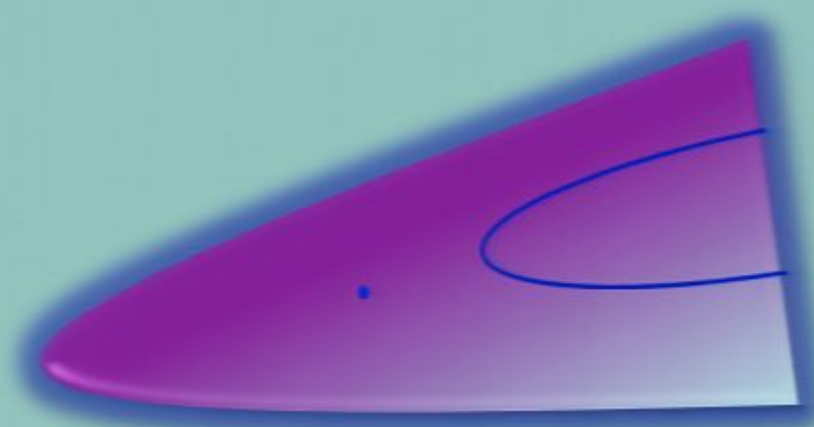
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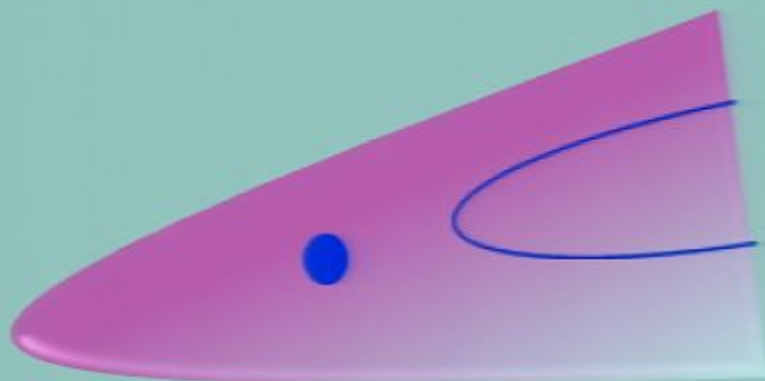
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A. (Nonperturbative effects on) the D7 branes.



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# What coupling sources the flux?

$$W_{NP} = A_0 g(z_i)^{1/N} e^{-a\rho} = \exp\left(-\frac{f_{D7}}{N}\right)$$

$$f_{D7} \propto 2\pi\rho - \log g(z_i)$$

superspace completion:

$$\int d^2\theta \Phi W^\alpha W_\alpha = (2\pi\rho - \log g(z_i)) F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} + F_\Phi \lambda^\alpha \lambda_\alpha$$

auxiliary component:  $F_z \propto C - ig_s^{-1} B$

implies a gaugino coupling:

$$(C - ig_s^{-1} B) \lambda^\alpha \lambda_\alpha$$

# Conclusions

- We have a systematic approach to computing the structure of the inflaton potential in warped brane inflation.
- Method: consider generic perturbations of ultraviolet region, and focus on most relevant terms.
- Equivalently, perturb dual CFT by most relevant operators.
- Our approach reproduces, extends, and simplifies the results of direct computation of  $W$  from wrapped D7-branes.
- We capture general effects of compactification, provided that the D3-brane is far from the top and from the tip.
- Leading effect comes from IASD flux sourced by D7-brane superpotential.
- Phenomenology: inflection-point inflation.