

# Conifold Vacua with Small Flux Superpotential

Manki Kim

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

based on 2009.xxxxx with Mehmet Demirtas, Liam McAllister, and Jakob Moritz.

# Opening Remarks

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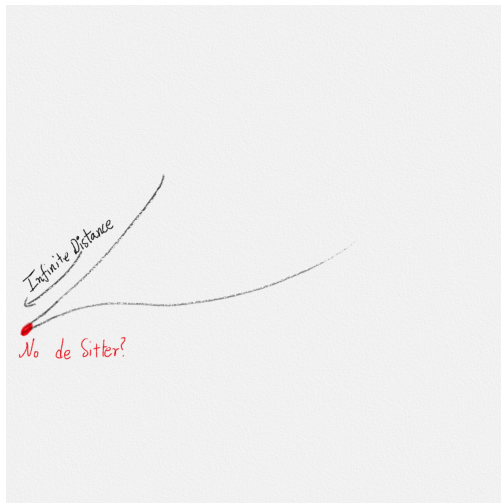
- Our universe is expanding at an accelerating rate.
- Yet, we still do not know if string theory is compatible with our universe.
- This is a serious problem. We should resolve this problem.

# Where is de Sitter?



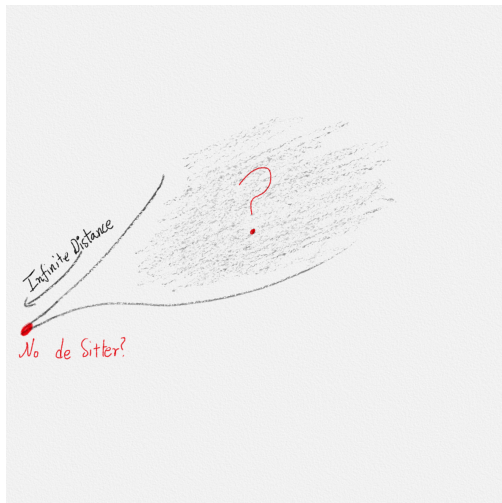
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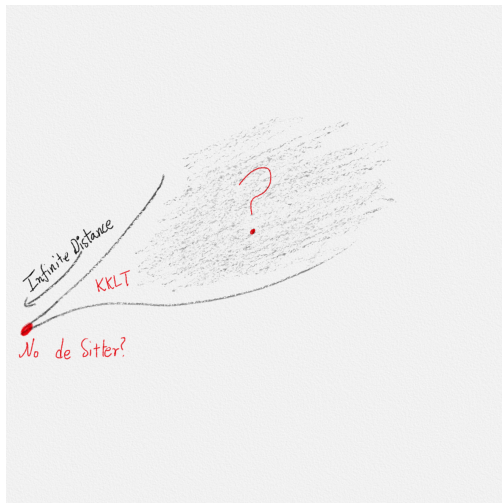
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# Modules for KKLT

In the context of KKLT scenario, in a given compactification one needs

- Exponentially small  $W_0 := \langle W_{flux} \rangle$ .

Ashok, Douglas 03, Denef, Douglas 04, Denef, Douglas, Florea 04, Cole, Schachner, Shiu 19, Demirtas, Kim, McAllister, Moritz 19

- At least one complex structure modulus stabilized near a conifold singularity.

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- Uplift to a meta-stable de Sitter vacuum.

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\*I will work in no-scale supergravity. For criticisms on this approach, see Sethi 17.

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- Analytic computation of prepotential near conifold singularities
- Mechanism to find small  $W_0$  near conifold singularities.
- Method to find orientifolds for CYs with  $h^{1,1} = \mathcal{O}(100)$ .

See also a nice work of Blumenhagen, Álvarez-García, Brinkmann, Schlechter on this subject which will appear tonight on arxiv simultaneously with ours.

# Review on Flux Vacua

- Consider type IIB on an O3/O7 orientifold of a CY threefold  $\tilde{X}$ .
- The no-scale 4d EFT consists of the following data

$$W_{flux} = \int_{\tilde{X}} (F - \tau H) \wedge \Omega,$$

$$\mathcal{K} = -\log \left( -i \int_{\tilde{X}} \Omega \wedge \overline{\Omega} \right) - \log(-i(\tau - \bar{\tau})).$$

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- VEVs of complex structure moduli are then dynamically determined.
- The game is to pick the fluxes such that the complex structure moduli are stabilized with the desired properties.  
We demand : small  $W_0 := \langle W_{flux} \rangle$ , near conifold singularities.

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We demand : small  $W_0 := \langle W_{flux} \rangle$ , near conifold singularities.
- How do we compute  $W_{flux}$ ?

# Review on Mirror Symmetry

- $\int_{\gamma} \Omega$  can be efficiently computed by mirror symmetry.

Greene, Plesser 90, Candelas, De La Ossa, Green, Parkes 90, Batyrev 93, Hosono, Klemm, Theisen, Yau 93, Candelas, Font, Katz, Morrison 94, Hosono, Klemm, Theisen, Yau 94

- Consider a symplectic basis  $\{\gamma_a, \gamma^b\}$  of  $H_3(\tilde{X}, \mathbb{Z})$ .  $a, b : 0, \dots, h^{2,1}(\tilde{X})$ .
- Mirror symmetry relates  $\int_{\gamma} \Omega$  at LCS with  $\int_{\Sigma_{(2d)}} e^J$  for a  $\Sigma_{(2d)} \in H_{2d}(X, \mathbb{Z})$ .

$\tilde{X}$	$\int_{\gamma_0} \Omega$	$\int_{\gamma_i} \Omega$	$\int_{\gamma^i} \Omega$	$\int_{\gamma^0} \Omega$
$X$	1	$\int_{\Sigma_{(2),i}} J$	$\int_{\Sigma_{(4)}^i} J^2/2 + \dots$	$\int_X J^3/6 + \dots$
$\Pi$	1	$z^i$	$\partial_{z^i} \mathcal{F}$	$2\mathcal{F} - z^i \partial_{z^i} \mathcal{F}$

- The mirror map can compute the non-perturbative corrections to volumes.



# Review on Flux Vacua with small $W_0$

- At LCS prepotential splits as,  $\mathcal{F}(z) = \mathcal{F}_{\text{cubic}}(z) + \mathcal{F}_{\text{inst}}(z)$ ,

$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{inst}} = -\frac{1}{(2\pi i)^3} \sum_{\Sigma_{(2)}} n_{\Sigma_{(2)}} \text{Li}_3(q^{\Sigma_{(2)}}),$$

$$q^{\Sigma_{(2)}} = \exp \left( 2\pi i \int_{\Sigma_{(2)}} (iJ - B) \right) = \exp(2\pi i z_{\Sigma_{(2)}}) .$$

- Non-perturbative corrections are encoded in GV-invariants  $n_{\Sigma_{(2)}}$ .

Gopakumar, Vafa 98

- $n_{\Sigma_{(2)}}$  counts number of D2-brane BPS states wrapped on  $\Sigma_{(2)}$  in  $X$ .
- Likewise, flux superpotential enjoys the same splitting

$$W_{\text{flux}}(z) = W_{\text{cubic}}(z) + W_{\text{inst}}(z), \quad W_{\text{inst}} = \mathcal{O}(e^{2\pi i z}) .$$

## Review on Flux Vacua with small $W_0$

- **Trick** : Choose fluxes  $F$ ,  $H$  such that there exists a perturbative moduli space  $W_{\text{cubic}} = dW_{\text{cubic}} = 0$ . Demirtas, Kim, McAllister, Moritz 19
- Remaining light moduli will then be stabilized by  $W_{\text{inst}}$ , à la racetrack.

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Choose  $\vec{m}, \vec{k} \in \mathbb{Z}^{h^{2,1}(\tilde{X})}$  and define  $p^i := (K_{ijk} m^k)^{-1} k_j$   
such that  $p \in \mathcal{K}(X)$  and  $k_i p^i = 0$ .

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Then, given the fluxes

$$\vec{F} = (F_0(m), F_i(m), 0, m^i), \quad \vec{H} = (0, k_i, 0, 0)$$

we find  $dW_{\text{cubic}}(z) = W_{\text{cubic}} = 0$  along  $\vec{z} = \vec{p}\tau$ .

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We are left with the perturbative moduli space parametrized by  $\tau$ .

# Review on Flux Vacua with small $W_0$

- The perturbative moduli space is lifted by type IIA worldsheet instantons

$$W_{\text{eff}}(\tau) = \sum_i A_i e^{2\pi i p_i \tau} .$$

- $p_i$  is a rational number determined by the fluxes and  $K_{ijk}$ .
- The prefactor  $A_i$  is determined by GV invariants and the fluxes.
- Resulting  $W_0 \simeq \mathcal{O}(|\langle e^{2\pi i z} \rangle|)$  is *exponentially* suppressed.
- In Demirtas et al. 19,  $W_0 \simeq 10^{-8}$  was found in  $\mathbb{P}_{[1,1,1,6,9]}$ [18].

# Towards Conifold Vacua

- We should find small  $W_0$  near to conifold singularities.
- Near a conifold singularity, as  $z_{cf} \equiv z_1 \rightarrow 0$

$$\partial_{z_{cf}} \mathcal{F} = n_{cf} \frac{z_{cf}}{2\pi i} \log(2\pi i z_{cf}) + f(z_{cf}, z), \quad f(0, z) = \mathcal{O}(1).$$

$$W_{flux} = W_{cf} + W_{bulk},$$

$$W_{cf} = M \left( \frac{n_{cf}}{2\pi i} z_{cf} \log(z_{cf}) + f(z_{cf}, z) \right) - \tau K z_{cf}, \quad z_{cf} \simeq \exp(-2\pi K / g_s M),$$

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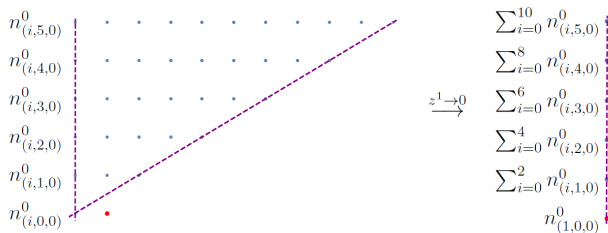
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with  $R_{tip} \simeq \sqrt{g_s M}$ .

- The challenge is to compute the holomorphic piece  $f(z_{cf}, z)$  accurately, while retaining the structure of LCS prepotential as much as possible to cancel  $Mf(z_{cf}, z)$  against  $W_{bulk}$ .

# Prepotential near $z_{cf} \simeq 0$

As an illustration of the method, we present a CY  $X$  with  $h^{1,1} = 3$ ,  $h^{2,1} = 99$ .



2d projection of the lattice of effective curves.  
GV invariants of marked curves are non-vanishing.

- Collapsing  $z_1 \rightarrow 0$  generates  $n_{(1,0,0)}^0$  massless BPS states wrapped on  $\Sigma_{(1,0,0)}$ .
- $z_1 \rightarrow 0$  in  $X$  is mirror dual to  $z_{cf} \rightarrow 0$  in  $\tilde{X}$  with  $z_{cf} \equiv z_1$  and  $n_{cf} = n_{(1,0,0)}$ .
- One can determine  $f(z_{cf}, z)$  by re-summing the instanton series.

## Prepotential near $z_{cf} \simeq 0$

- At LCS,  $\partial_{z_1} \mathcal{F}(z_1, z^i) = \partial_{z_1} \mathcal{F}_{\text{cubic}}(z_1, z^i) + \partial_{z_1} \mathcal{F}_{\text{inst}}(z_1, z^i)$

$$(2\pi i)^2 \partial_{z_1} \mathcal{F}_{\text{inst}}(z_1, z^i) = -n_{cf} \text{Li}_2(e^{2\pi i z_1}) - \sum_{\Sigma \neq (1,0,0)} n_{\Sigma} \int_{(1,0,0)} [\Sigma] \text{Li}_2(q^{\Sigma}).$$

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This expansion behaves well near  $z_1 = z_{cf} = 0$ .

- Near  $z_{cf} = 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_{z_{cf}} \mathcal{F}_{\text{inst}}(z_{cf}, z^i) = & n_{cf} \left( \frac{1}{24} + \frac{z_{cf}}{2\pi i} (\log(-2\pi i z_{cf}) - 1) \right) \\ & - \sum_{\Sigma \neq (1,0,0)} n_{\Sigma} \int_{(1,0,0)} [\Sigma] \text{Li}_2(q^{\Sigma}|_{z_{cf}=0}) + \mathcal{O}(z_{cf}^2, z_{cf} e^{2\pi i z}). \end{aligned}$$

## $W_{flux}$ near $z_{cf} = 0$

Let us work with the expansion scheme  $z_{cf} \ll \mathcal{O}(e^{2\pi iz^i})$

- Then  $W_{flux}$  enjoys the following expansion

$$W_{flux}(z_{cf}, z^i, \tau) = W^{(0)}(z^i, \tau) + W^{(1)}(z_{cf}, z^i, \tau)z_{cf} + \mathcal{O}(z_{cf}^2),$$

$$W^{(0)}(z^i, \tau) = W_{cubic}^{(0)}(z^i, \tau) + W_{inst}^{(0)}(z^i, \tau).$$

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- Treating  $z_{cf}$  as an exponentially suppressed variable, we can confirm that the structure of  $W_{flux}$  hasn't changed much from  $W_{flux}$  at LCS.

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- Let  $K_{abc}$  be the intersection number of  $X$ .  
 $a, b, c$  run  $1 \dots h^{2,1}$  and  $i, j, k$  run  $2 \dots h^{2,1}$ .



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Let us work with the expansion scheme  $z_{cf} \ll \mathcal{O}(e^{2\pi iz^i})$

- The effective flux superpotential is then

$$W_{eff}(z_{cf}, \tau) = M \frac{n_{cf}}{(2\pi i)^2} (\log(-2\pi i z_{cf}) - 1) - K' \tau z_{cf} + \sum_i A_i(m, k) e^{2\pi i p_i \tau}$$

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$$M := -m^1, \quad K' = K_1 - M^a K_{1ai} p^i.$$

- Solving F-term equations, we obtain

$$\langle W_{eff} \rangle \simeq \mathcal{O}(|\langle e^{2\pi iz^i} \rangle|),$$

$$z_{cf} \simeq \frac{1}{2\pi} \exp\left(\frac{2\pi i K' \tau}{n_{cf} M}\right)$$

Hence finding small  $W_0$  near  $z_{cf} = 0$ . Note that  $z_{cf}$  is set by  $\tau$ .

- For vacua with  $z_{cf}^{2/3} = e^{2A_{tip}} \simeq W_0$ ,  $m_{z_{cf}} \gg m_\tau$ .

# Orientifold of $\tilde{X}$

- $\tilde{X}$  has  $h_{\text{toric}}^{1,1}(\tilde{X}) = 97$ ,  $h^{1,1}(\tilde{X}) = 99$ , and  $h^{2,1}(\tilde{X}) = h_{\text{toric}}^{2,1}(\tilde{X}) = 3$ .

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- Hence  $h_{-}^{2,1} = 8 - 4 - 1 = 3$ .



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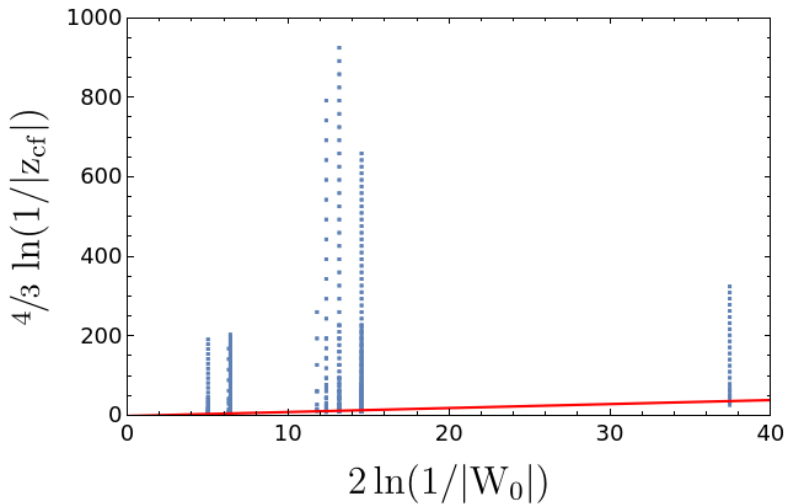
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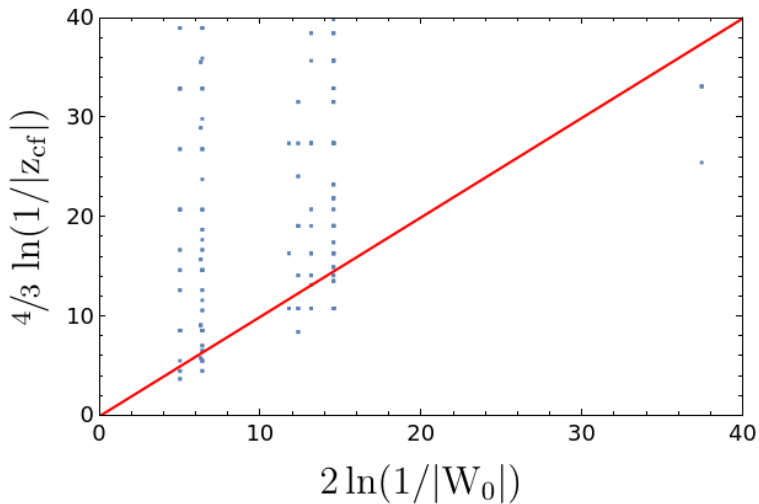
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- Placing 4 D7-branes on each O7-plane, we obtain  $Q_{D3} = \frac{\chi_f}{4} = 52$ .  
For more exciting details on the orientifolding, see our paper tonight!

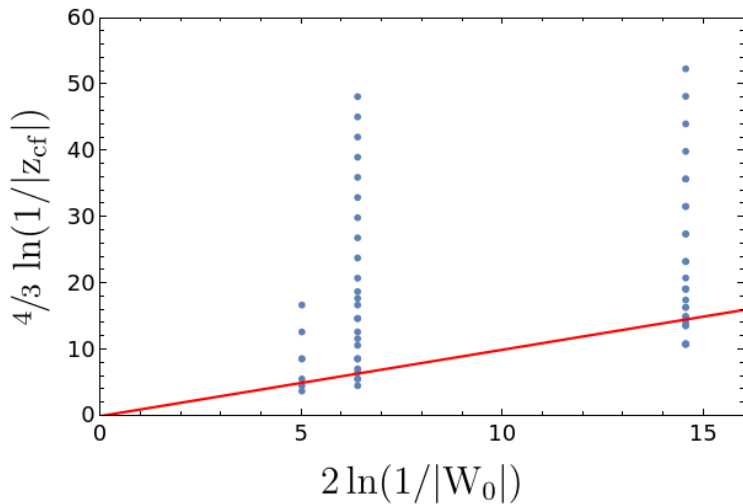
# Statistics of Conifold Vacua



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## Interesting Conifold Vacua

$\vec{M}$	$\vec{K}$	$ W_0 $	$ z_{cf} $	$\frac{ z_{cf} ^{2/3} -  W_0 }{ W_0 }$	$g_s M$
(4, -8, 10)	(-6, 3, -4)	$7.4 \times 10^{-9}$	$5.4 \times 10^{-14}$	-0.8	0.6
(8, -12, 6)	(-5, 1, -2)	$6.9 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.4 \times 10^{-5}$	-0.2	1.0
(-8, 4, 12)	(5, 1, -4)	$4.1 \times 10^{-2}$	$5.2 \times 10^{-3}$	-0.3	2.8
(-14, 6, 27)	(4, 1, -2)	$1.4 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.3 \times 10^{-5}$	0.03	0.9

- $g_s M$  is at the borderline of the regime of validity of 10d SUGRA near the tip.
- One can engineer generic D7-brane configurations to enlarge the tadpole bound to achieve larger  $g_s M$ .
- SUSY breaking in KS gauge theory?

# Conclusions

- We have found :  
a method to find  $\mathcal{F}_{cf}$ , small  $W_0$ , and orientifolds with  $h^{1,1} = \mathcal{O}(100)$ .
- We should explore more generic conifold singularities.
- Light complex structure moduli are inevitable in our construction.
- We should compute one-loop Pfaffian to stabilize Kähler moduli.
- Quest to find KKLT de Sitter vacua must continue!