The Tadpole Problem

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Work in collaboration with

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Thomas Grimm, Damian van de Heisteeg, Alvaro Herraez, Erik Plauschinn Andreas Braun, Bernardo Fraiman, Severin Lust, Hector Parra De Freitas arXiv: 2010.10519 arXiv: 2103.03250 arXiv: 2112.00013 arXiv: 2204.05331 arXiv: 2205.xxxxx

Hamburg, May 2022

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Gukov, Vafa, Witten 99 Dasgupta, Rajesh, Sethi 99 Giddings, Kachru, Polchinski 01

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- Fluxes induce charges
- How large is the charge induced by fluxes needed to stabilize a given number of moduli?

Gukov, Vafa, Witten 99 Dasgupta, Rajesh, Sethi 99 Giddings, Kachru, Polchinski 01

→ Common lore: yes

 \rightarrow We argue: no

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The tadpole conjecture

Bena, Blåbäck, M.G., Lüst 20

• For a large number N of moduli

 $Q_{\rm flux}$ s.t. all mod stabilized $> \alpha N$ at a generic point in mod space

with $\alpha > \frac{1}{3}$

 $M_{10} = M_4 \times_w CY_3$

• h^{2,1} complex structure moduli (volumes of 3-cycles)

$$\sim \mathcal{O}(100)$$

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basis of 3-cycles $I=1,...,2h^{2,1}+2$

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depends on complex structure moduli

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- Fluxes induce D3-charge. In a compact space total charge should be zero

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- O3-planes

(maximum charge from O3-planes $100(-\frac{1}{4})$)

Carta, Moritz, Westphal 20

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• Unified description in F-theory



h^{2,1} complex structure moduli

D7-brane moduli

 $h^{3,1}$ complex structure moduli of CY₄

h^{2,1} complex structure moduli D7-brane moduli

3-form fluxes H₃, F₃2-form fluxes F₂ on D7

 $h^{3,1}$ complex structure moduli of CY_4

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 $\label{eq:F2} \mbox{2-form fluxes} \ F_2 \ \mbox{on} \ \ D7$

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Tadpole cancelation condition

$$Q_{\text{flux}} = \frac{1}{2} \int G_4 \wedge G_4$$

at minimum $\star G_4 = G_4$ > 0

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4-form flux G₄

$$Q_{\text{flux}} = \frac{1}{2} \int G_4 \wedge G_4 \leq \frac{\chi(CY_4)}{24} = \frac{1}{4} (h^{3,1} + h^{1,1} - h^{2,1} + 8)$$

at minimum
* $G_4 = G_4$
> 0 all the negative
3-charge
from D7/O7

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F-theory on CY₄

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Tadpole conjecture

$$\frac{1}{2} \int G_4 \wedge G_4 \Big|_{\text{all moduli are stabilized}} > \frac{1}{3} N$$

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Tadpole conjecture

$$\frac{1}{2} \int G_4 \wedge G_4 \Big|_{\text{all moduli are stabilized}} > \frac{1}{3}N$$

If true, cannot stabilize a large number of moduli!!

Supporting arguments

Tadpole conjecture $\alpha > \frac{1}{3}$

Description	Ν	Qflux	$\alpha = Q_{flux}/N$	Ref
IIB at highly symm pt in mod space	$h^{2,1} = 128$	48	0.38	Giryavets, Kachru, Tripathy, Trivedi 03
	$h^{2,1} = 272$	124	0.46	Demirtas, Kim, Mc Allister, Morritz 19
F-theory on sextic CY	$h^{3,1} = 426$	775/4	0.45	Braun, Valandro 20
F-theory on ℃₽³ base	$n_7 = 3728$	1638	0.44	Collinucci, Denef Esole 08
F-theory on any weak-Fano base	$n_7 = 58c_1^3(B) + 16$	$\frac{7}{16}(58c_1^3(B) + 15)$	0.44	Bena, Brodie, M.G. 21
M-theory on K3xK3	57	25	0.44	Bena, Blåbäck, M.G., Lust 20
F-theory close to boundaries of mod. space	N	> 0.5 N	> 0.5	M.G., Grimm, van de Heisteeg, Herraez, Plauschinn 22

$H^2(K3,\mathbb{Z}) = (-E_8) \oplus (-E_8) \oplus U \oplus U \oplus U$

lattice of signature (3,19)

• Fixing moduli on K3: choosing 3-plane Σ of self-dual 2-forms

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$$\Omega = \omega_1 + i\omega_2 \qquad J \sim \omega_3$$



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• We require smooth compactification (no orbifold singularity)

```
orbifold singularity if \exists
root \alpha \in H^2(K3, \mathbb{Z}) such that \alpha \perp \Sigma
(\alpha, \alpha) = -2
```





 $G_4 \in H^2(K3,\mathbb{Z}) \times H^2(K3',\mathbb{Z})$

basis of
$$H^2(K3,\mathbb{Z})$$
 $I = 1,...,22$
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22x22 integer
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Braun, Hebecker, Ludeling, Valandro 08

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-Define a map $M : H^2(K3) \rightarrow H^2(K3)$

$$M^{I}{}_{J} = N^{I\tilde{K}} d_{\tilde{K}\tilde{L}} N^{M\tilde{L}} d_{MJ}$$

• All moduli are stabilized at regular points iff

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(i) M is diagonalizable with non-negative eigenvalues

 $\{\underbrace{a_1^2, a_2^2, a_3^2, b_1^2, \dots, b_{19}^2}_{\checkmark}\}$

eigenvectors with positive norm negative norm

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• Goal: find N satisfying all three requirements and minimizing the flux charge

$$Q_{\text{flux}} = \frac{1}{2} \int G_4 \wedge G_4 = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(M)$$

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• Used evolutionary algorithm

- Optimization inspired by biological evolution (population, mutation, selection) 22×22
- Random initial population: P={ $N \in \mathbb{R}^{484}$ } (rounded to \mathbb{Z})
- For each N, mutate some entries using other elements of population
- From original and mutated, select the one that minimizes a fitness function

weights (determined empirically) $f = \sum_{k=1}^{3} w^{k} p_{k}(N) + w^{Q} Q_{\text{flux}}(N)$ $f = \sum_{k=1}^{3} w^{k} p_{k}(N) + w^{Q} Q_{\text{flux}}(N)$

(i) M is diagonalizable $\{a_1^2, a_2^2, a_3^2, b_1^2, ..., b_{19}^2\}$ (ii) $a \neq b$ (iii) No root Σ

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Note: condition (iii) No root in the lattice $\perp \Sigma$ is NP hard problem!

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• Perform local search (brute force) around minima

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• Cannot stabilize moduli at generic point !

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- Tadpole conjecture constant

$$\alpha = \frac{\min(Q_{\text{flux}})}{\text{moduli}} = \frac{25}{57} \approx 0.44 > \frac{1}{3}$$

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• This behavior confirmed by looking at smaller dimensional lattices

Bena, Blåbäck, M.G., Lüst 21

lattice Λ	$D = \dim(\Lambda)$	$Q_{\min}(\Lambda)$
3 U	6	5
$A_4 \oplus U$	6	6
$D_4\oplus U$	6	6
$A_4 \oplus 2 U$	8	7
$D_4 \oplus 2 U$	8	6
$E_6 \oplus U$	8	9
$A_4\oplus 3U$	10	9
$D_4\oplus 3U$	10	9
$E_8 \oplus U$	10	10
$E_8 \oplus 2 U$	12	12
$E_8 \oplus 3 U$	14	13
$2 E_6 \oplus 2 U$	16	14
$2 E_8 \oplus U$	18	20
$2 E_8 \oplus 2 U$	20	21
$2 E_8 \oplus 3 U$	22	25

• Minimum charge \geq D-I

Braun, Fraiman, M.G., Lüst, Parra De Freitas to appear

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• M-theory fluxes leading to "attractive K3"

Aspinwall, Kallosh 05

 $Pic(K3) = H^{1,1}(K3, \mathbb{R}) \cap H^2(K3, \mathbb{Z})$ rank 20 $Pic(K3)^{\perp} \equiv T_S$ rank 2

 $G_4 = \operatorname{Re}(\gamma \Omega_1 \wedge \overline{\Omega}_2)$ with $\operatorname{Re}\gamma \in \mathbb{Z} \implies$ gives attractive K3 x attractive K3, with complex structure moduli fixed by flux

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List of solutions with flux within/beyond tadpole bound

Braun, Kimura, Watari 14

Braun, Fraiman, M.G., Lüst, Parra De Freitas to appear

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List of solutions with flux within/beyond tadpole bound

Braun, Kimura, Watari 14

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Braun, Fraiman, M.G., Lüst, Parra De Freitas to appear

• M-theory fluxes leading to "attractive K3"

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- Using properties of lattice embeddings we proved: has no roots no roots in the lattice $\perp \Sigma \iff$ rank 6 lattice $T_S^{\perp} \subset E_8$

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- Stabilisation at a generic points in moduli space cost large $\,Q_{\mathrm{flux}}$
- One could think of this as a positive result, but non-Abelian gauge groups come with extra moduli (brane moduli) that need to be stabilised

- F-theory on CY 4-fold fibered over a base B3 in Sen limit
 - **D7-brane moduli** $n_7 = 58 \int_{B_3} c_1 (B_3)^3 + 16$



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Tadpole cancelation condition

$$Q_{\text{flux}} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{S} F_2 \wedge F_2 \leq 15 \int_{B_3} c_1 (B_3)^3 + 12$$

negative 3-charge from D7/O7







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- This reduces to the result for $B_3 = \mathbb{CP}^3$, genus 0

Collinucci, Denef, Esole 08

 $n_{\text{stab.moduli}} = 32d + 1$ = 3728 $Q_{\text{flux}} \ge 14d + 1$ ≥ 1640 $|Q_{\text{neg}}| = 972$ $\alpha \ge \frac{14}{32} \simeq 0.44$

Analytic supporting evidence: asymptotic limits

M.G., Grimm, van de Heisteeg, Herraez, Plauschinn 22

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gives good approximation

 $t^{i} = \phi^{i} + i s^{i}$ $i = 1, \dots, n \leq h^{3,1}$



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monodromy matrices



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- Allows to extract behavior of period vector and Hodge star in tⁱ

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$$T_i = e^{N_i}$$

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$$s^{i} \rightarrow \infty$$
$$f T_{i}$$
Moduli Space

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• *n* commuting sl(2) triplets: $\{N_i^-, N_i^+, N_i^0\}$

$$\begin{aligned} H_{\text{prim}}^{4}\left(Y_{4},\mathbb{R}\right) &= \bigoplus V_{\ell} \\ N_{i}^{0}v_{\ell} &= \left(\ell_{i} - \ell_{i-1}\right)v_{\ell} \\ v_{\ell} &\in V_{\ell} \end{aligned} \qquad \text{For a 4-fold} \end{aligned}$$



 $-4 \leq \ell_i \leq 4$

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$$\star_{\infty}: V_{\ell} \to V_{-\ell}$$

indep of sⁱ

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- Not hard to see that one (pair of) G_{ℓ} flux stabilises one modulus





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$$\geq \sum_{\ell \geq 0} \gamma^{\sum \ell_i} \|G_\ell\|_\infty^2$$



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Bena, Dudas, M.G., Lust 18

Moduli stabilization using warped effective field theory for conifold modulus Douglas, Torroba 08





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Need $\sqrt{g_s}M \ge 6.7$ to avoid collapse



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- Forced to work with CY manifolds with few moduli (or other geometries)