

The problematic backreaction of SUSY-breaking branes

We investigate whether vacuum solutions in flux compactifications that are obtained with smeared sources (orientifolds or D-branes) still survive when the sources are localised. This seems to rely on whether the solutions are BPS or not. We then use a specific setup with SUSY-breaking branes to further investigate this issue and show, for a wide class of boundary conditions, that there is no flux vacuum when the branes are described by a genuine delta-function. Even more, we find that the smeared solution is the unique solution with a regular brane profile. Our setup consists of a non-BPS AdS7 solution in massive IIA supergravity with smeared anti-D6-branes and fluxes T-dual to ISD fluxes in IIB supergravity. This casts doubts on the stringy consistency of non-BPS solutions that are obtained in the limit of smeared sources.

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