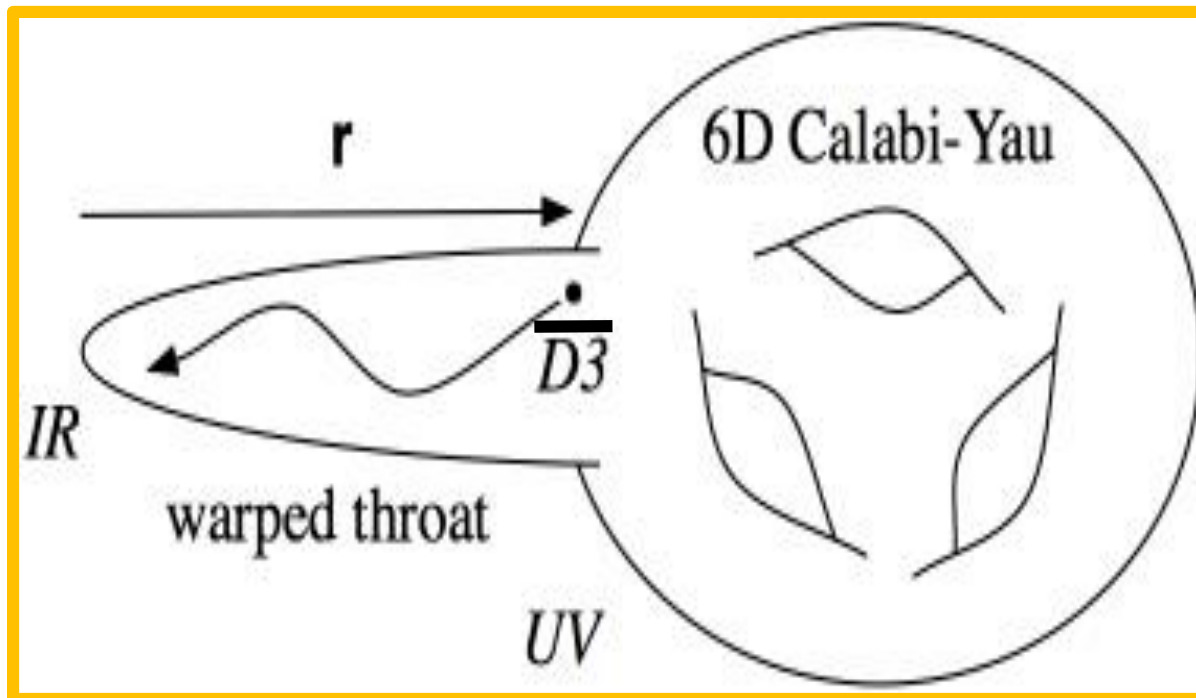


# The pros and cons of anti-brane SUSY-breaking (La jodida anti-brane)



Thomas Van Riet – K.U.Leuven

1. Motivation & background

2. Brane-flux annihilation

3. Backreaction

4. [Finite temperature]

5. Conclusions

(politically incorrect) referencing



KKLT, KKLMMT, KPV,  
Dymarsky, Hartnett,  
Michel, Mintun, Puhm,  
Polchinski, Saad,...

Cohen-Maldonado, Cottrell, Halmagyi,  
Kutasov, Wisanji, McGuirk, Massai,  
Shiu, Sumitomo, Puhm, Vercnocke,  
Wrase,...

Bena, Blaback, Buchel,  
Danielsson, Dias, Diaz, Galante,  
Gautason, Grana, Giecold,  
Kuperstein, Junghans, Orsi, VR,  
Vargas, Truijen, Zagermann, ...

Motivation & background

Anti-branes?

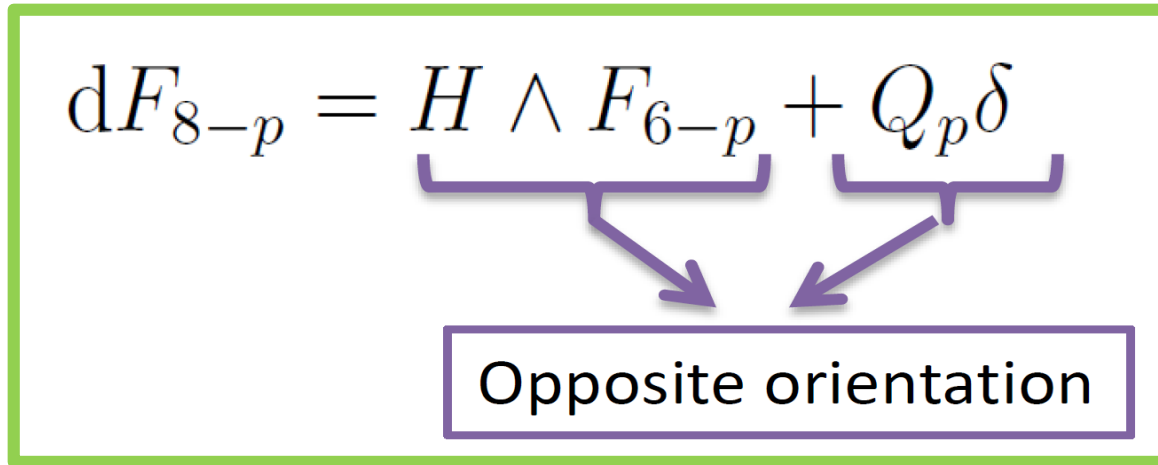
$$dF_{8-p} = \underbrace{H \wedge F_{6-p}} + \underbrace{Q_p \delta}$$


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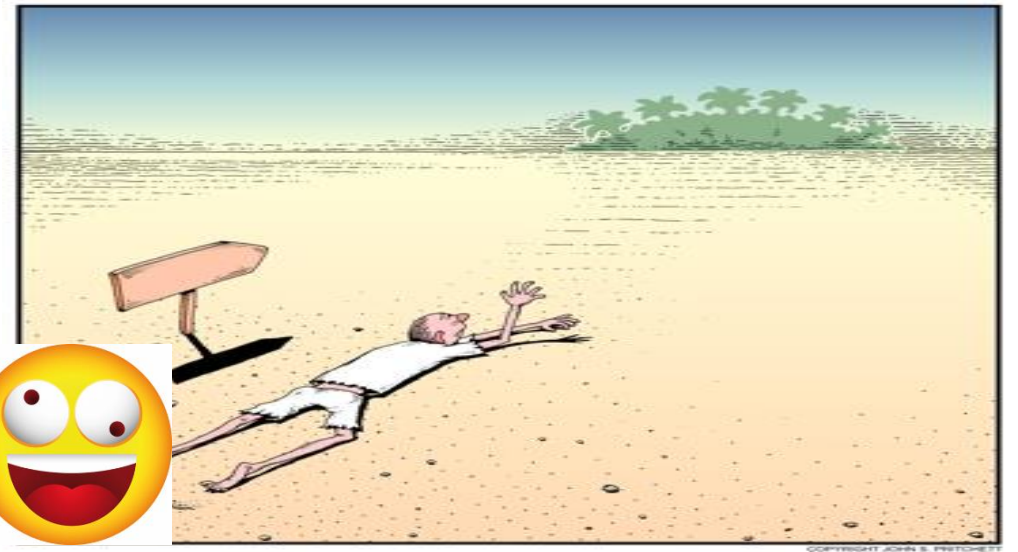


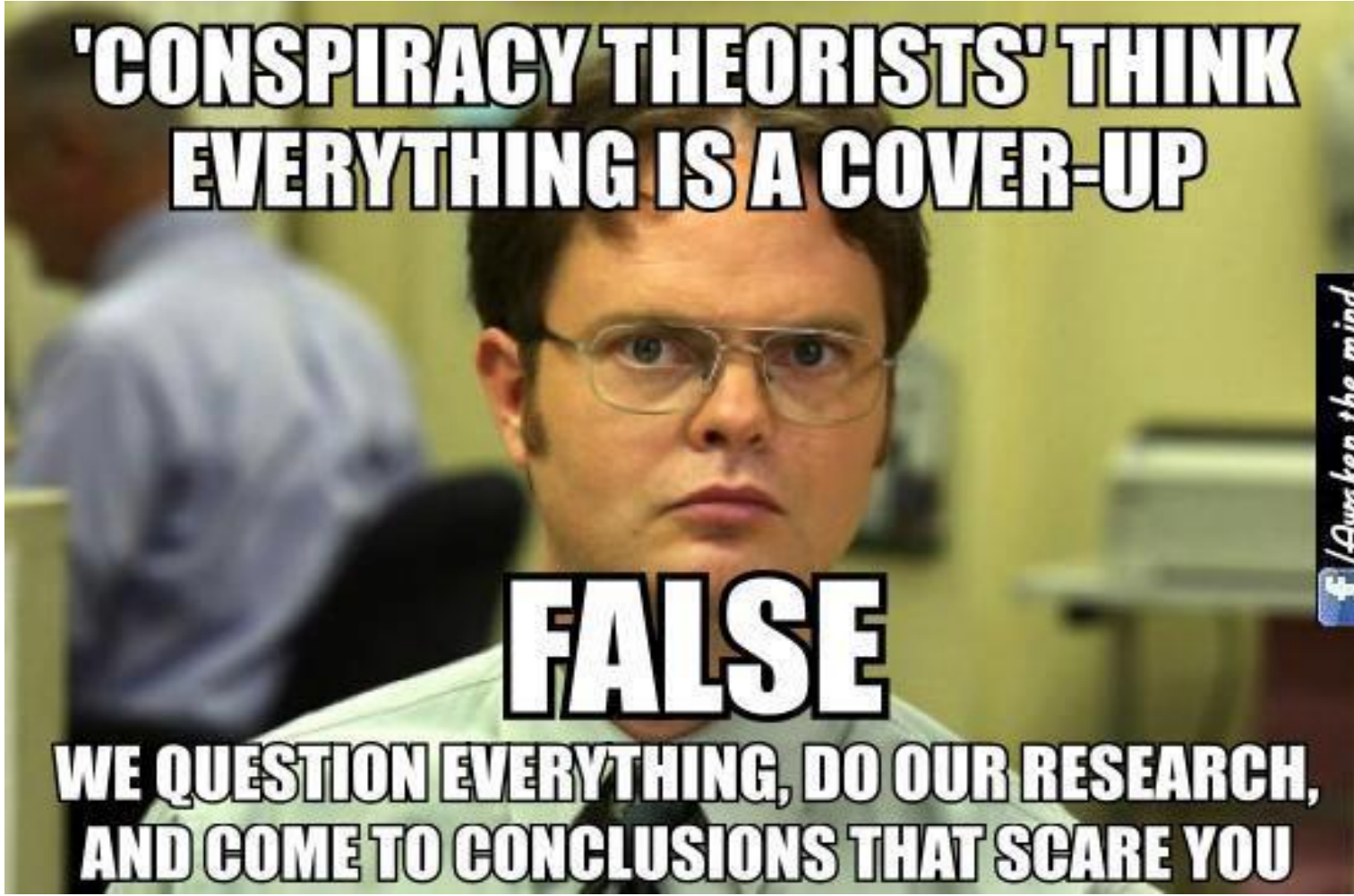
Why care? (Why all the fuzz?)

1. dS vacua (KKLT)
2. Inflation (KKLMMT)
3. Holographic models of dynamical SUSY breaking (Maldacena & Nastase, KPV, ...)
4. Microscopic description of near extremal black holes



# De Sitter vacua in string theory?





**'CONSPIRACY THEORISTS' THINK EVERYTHING IS A COVER-UP**

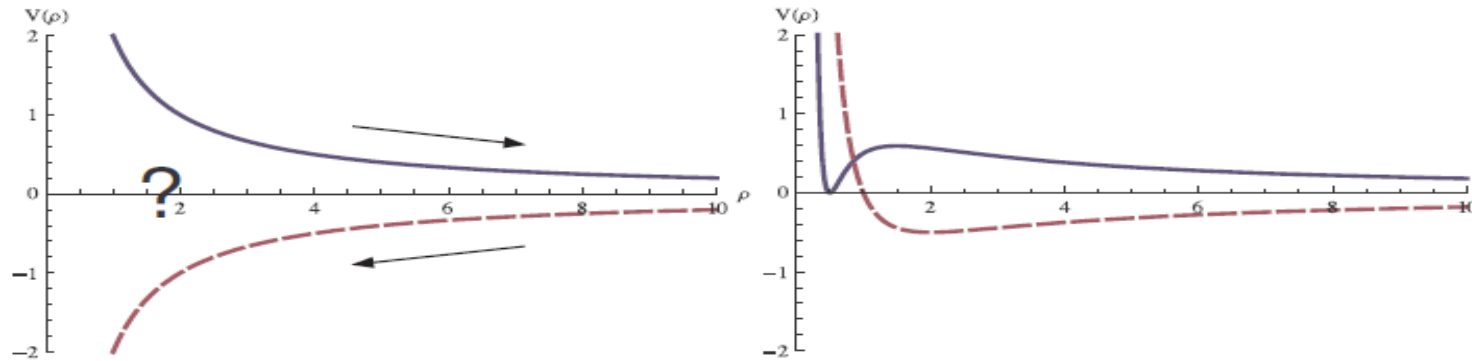
**FALSE**

**WE QUESTION EVERYTHING, DO OUR RESEARCH, AND COME TO CONCLUSIONS THAT SCARE YOU**

f /Awaken the mind

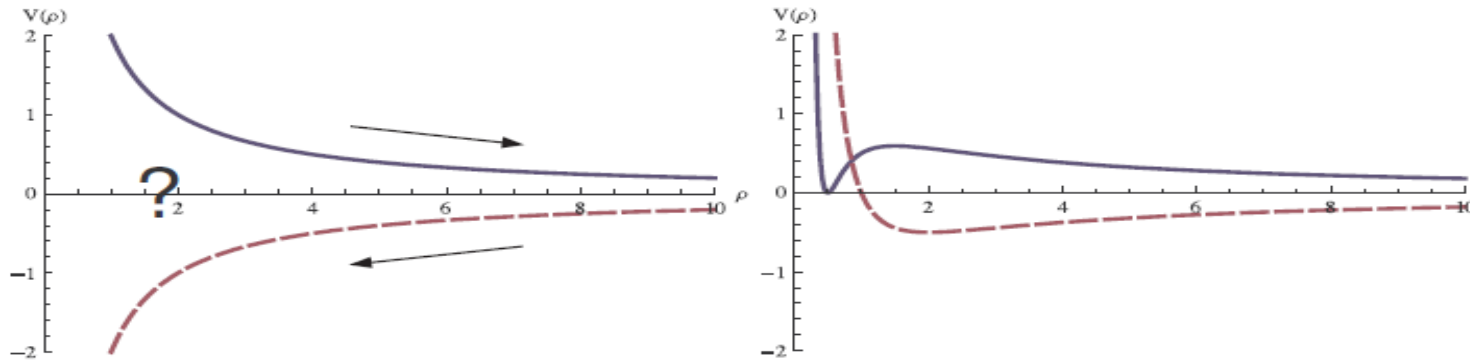


- Dine-Seiberg problem. Vacua are typically **not calculable**:



- Fluxes are a way out. *Aim of flux compactification program is to construct **calculable vacua**.* Solutions “under control”. [small curvatures, small string coupling, etc.]

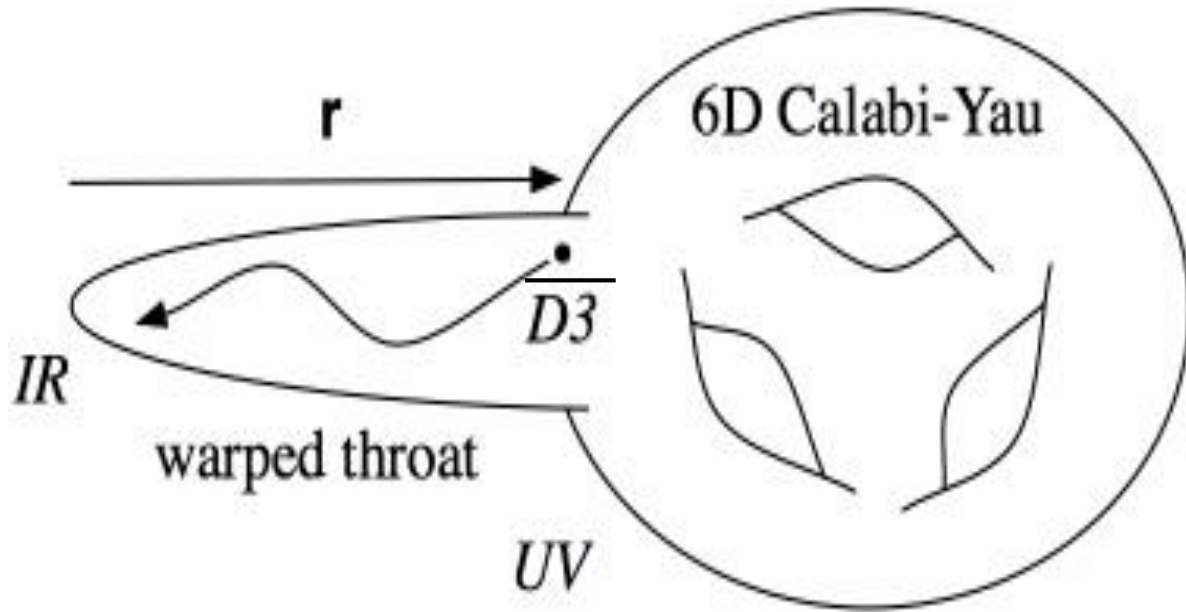
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- Relation to anti-branes?

Lets decide stability of anti-branes within SUGRA.

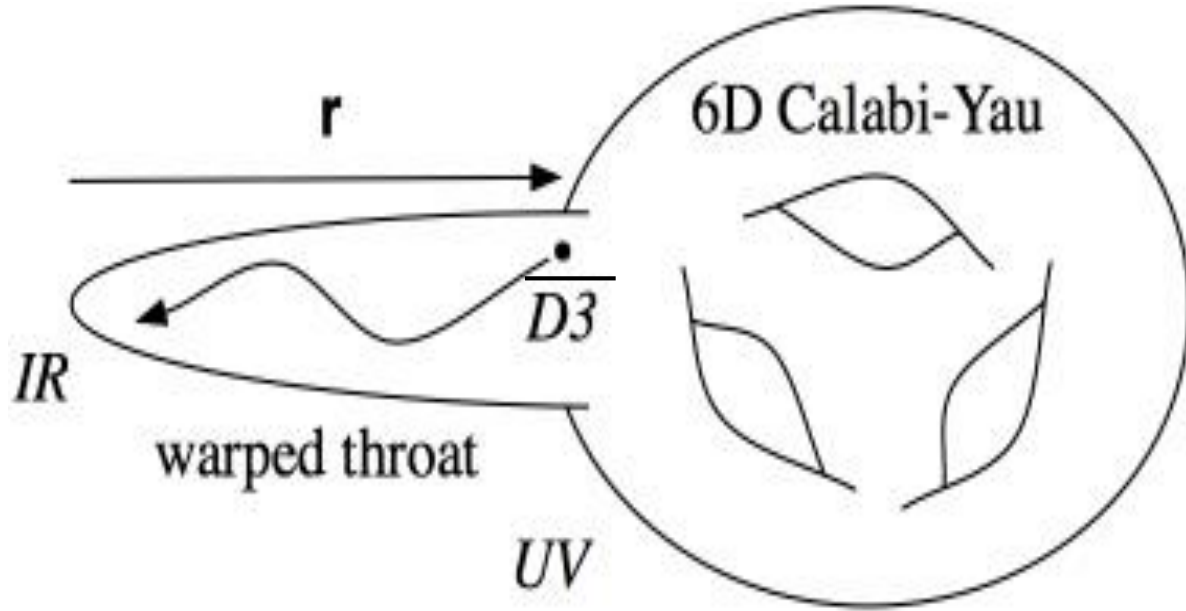
# KKLT (anti-D3 uplifting)



$$\delta E = 2T_3 e^{4A}$$

1. SUSY-breaking & uplifting from a 'natural' source.
2. SUSY-breaking is in principle entirely 10D, entirely within SUGRA

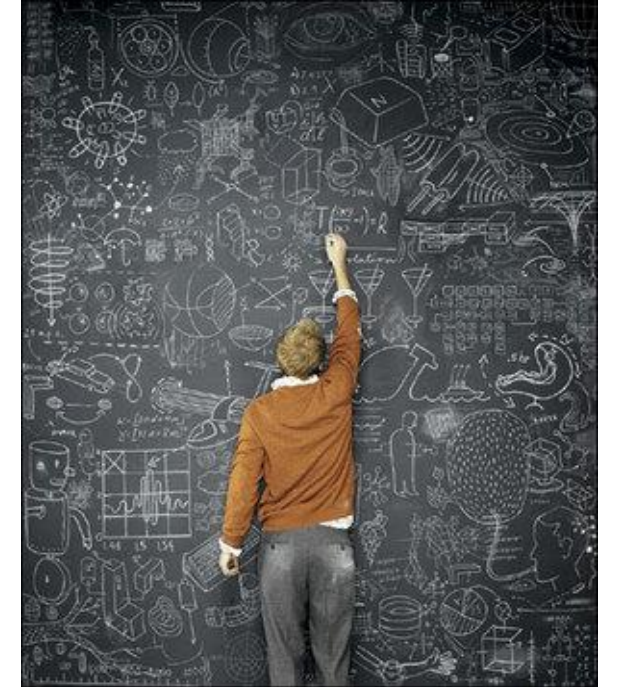
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→ *a unique model to study in all its complex glory.*



# A study from supergravity?

1. Pick a local model: Klebanov—Strassler (holographic viewpoint).
2. Enforce consistent SUGRA limit

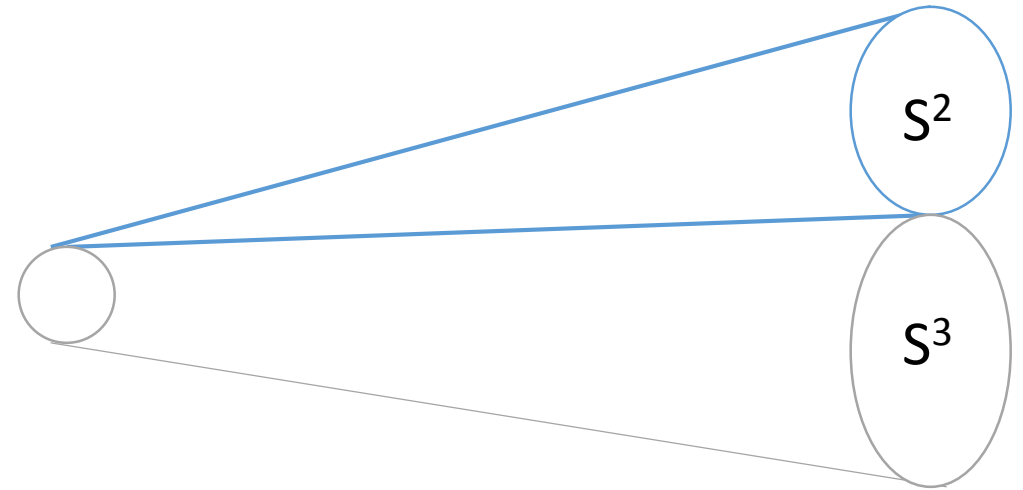


- Flux:  $\int_A F_3 = M$

- Number of anti-branes:  $p$

Size of tip:  $R_{\text{tip}} \sim g_s M$

Size of anti-branes:  $R_{\overline{D3}} \sim g_s p$





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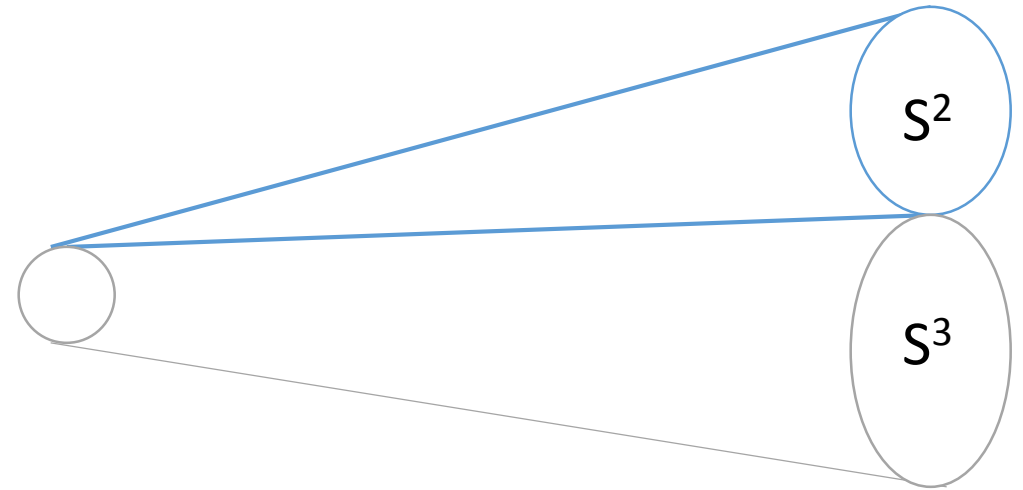


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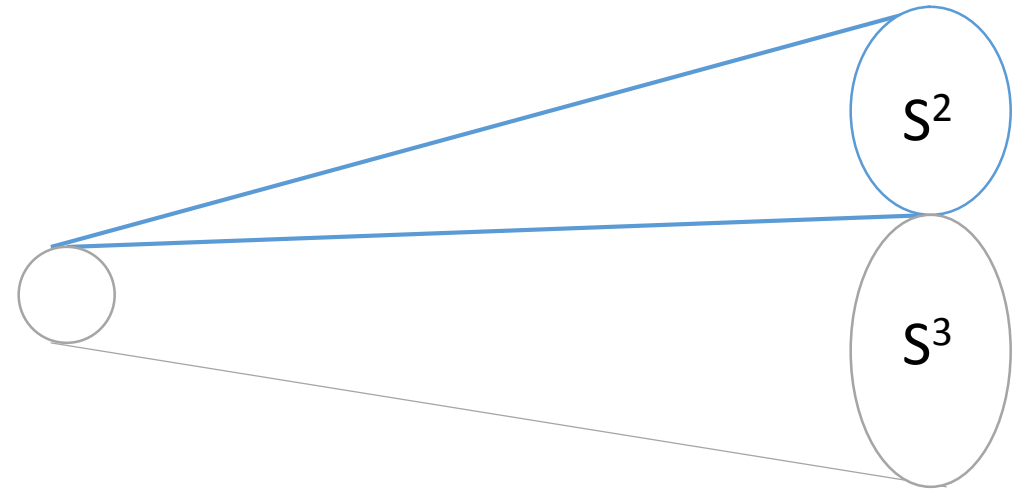


- SUGRA :

$$g_s \ll 1, \quad g_s p \gg 1, \quad g_s M \gg 1$$

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$$g_s \ll 1, \quad g_s p \gg 1, \quad g_s M \gg 1$$

- Local confined backreaction :

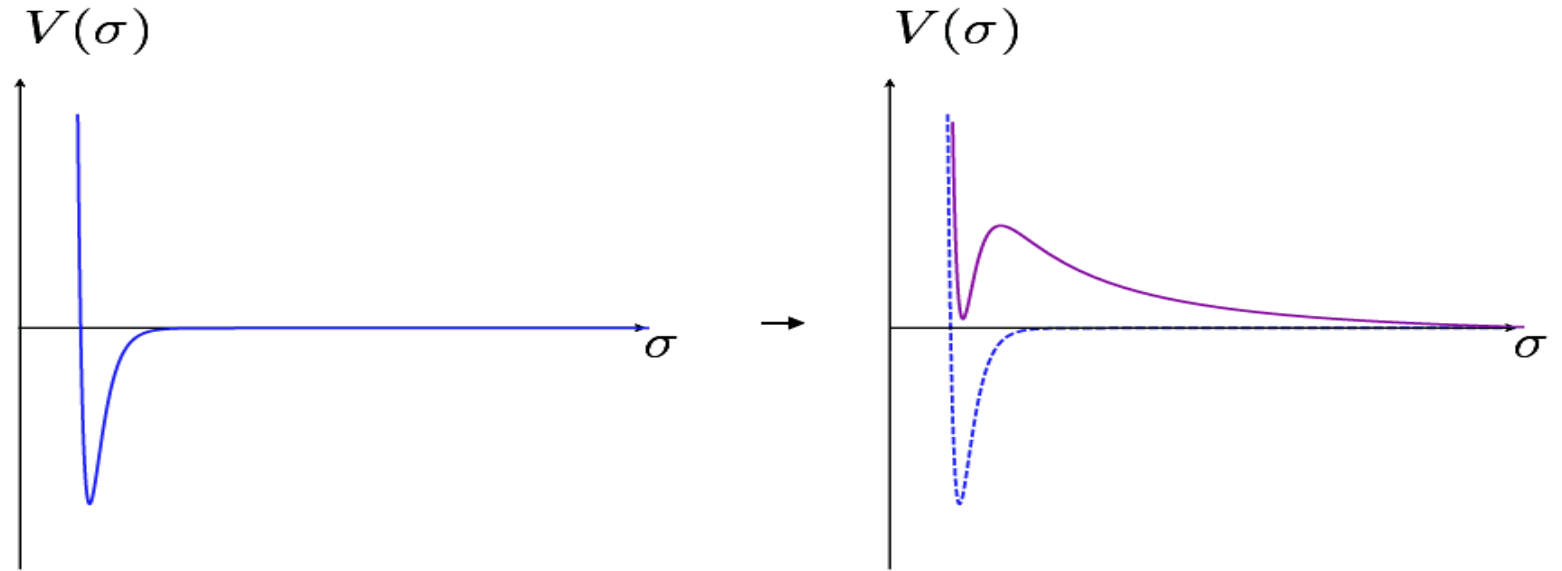
$$p/M \ll 1$$



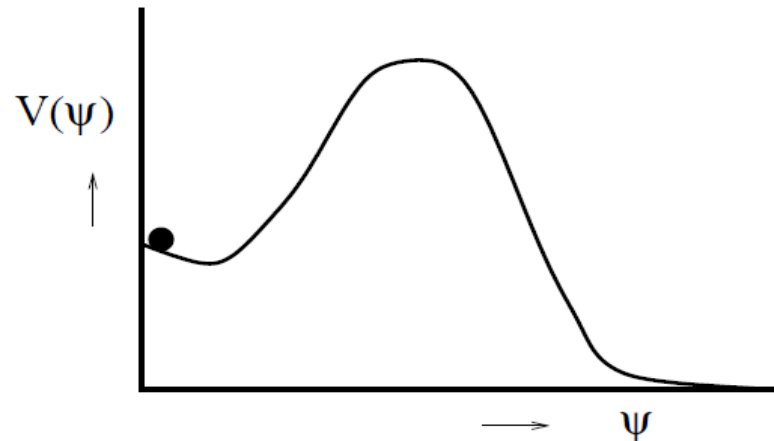
Equals condition for stability!  
[Kachru & Pearson & Verlinde  
2001]

## 2 decay channels

1. In compact space: “closed string” stability = KKLT (2003)



2. In compact/non-compact space: “open string” stability = KPV (2001)



BRANE-FLUX DECAY

Debate since 2009

[Bena, Grana, Halmagyi & McGuirk, Shiu, Sumitomo]

# BRANE-FLUX DECAY

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$$dF_5 = H \wedge F_3 + Q_3 \delta$$



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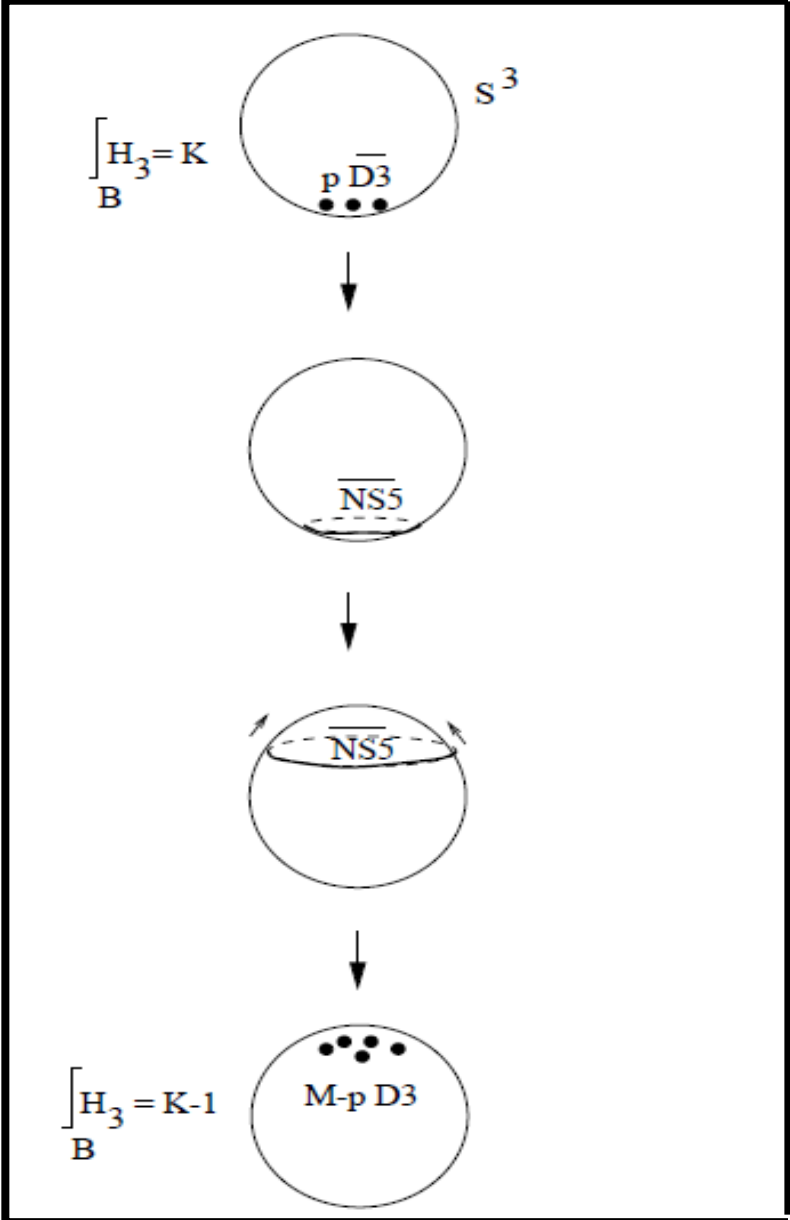
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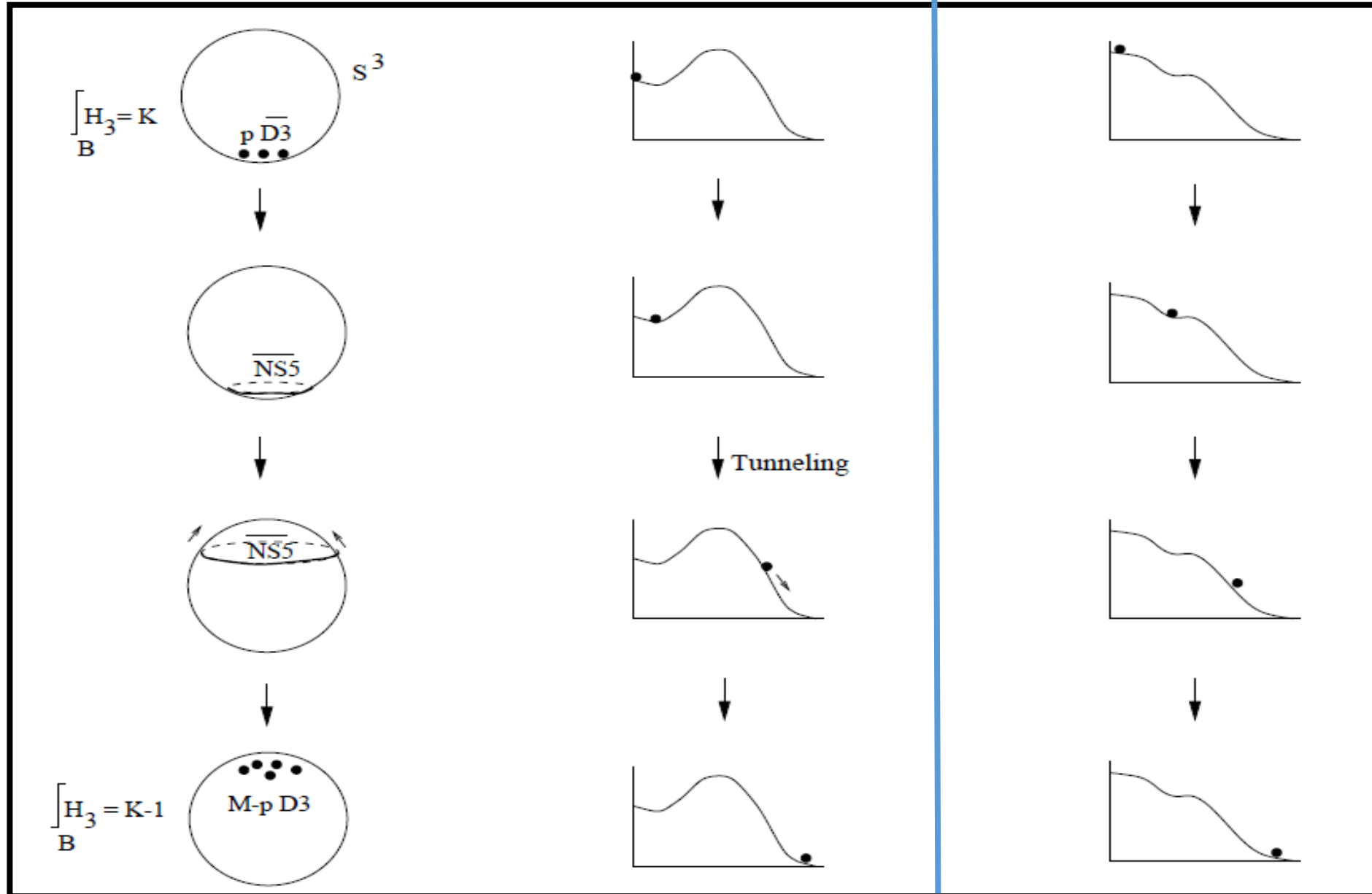
$p$  D3 branes annihilate  
with the anti-branes

- Key processes: Brane polarisation (Myers) + bubble nucleation (Brown-Teitelboim)



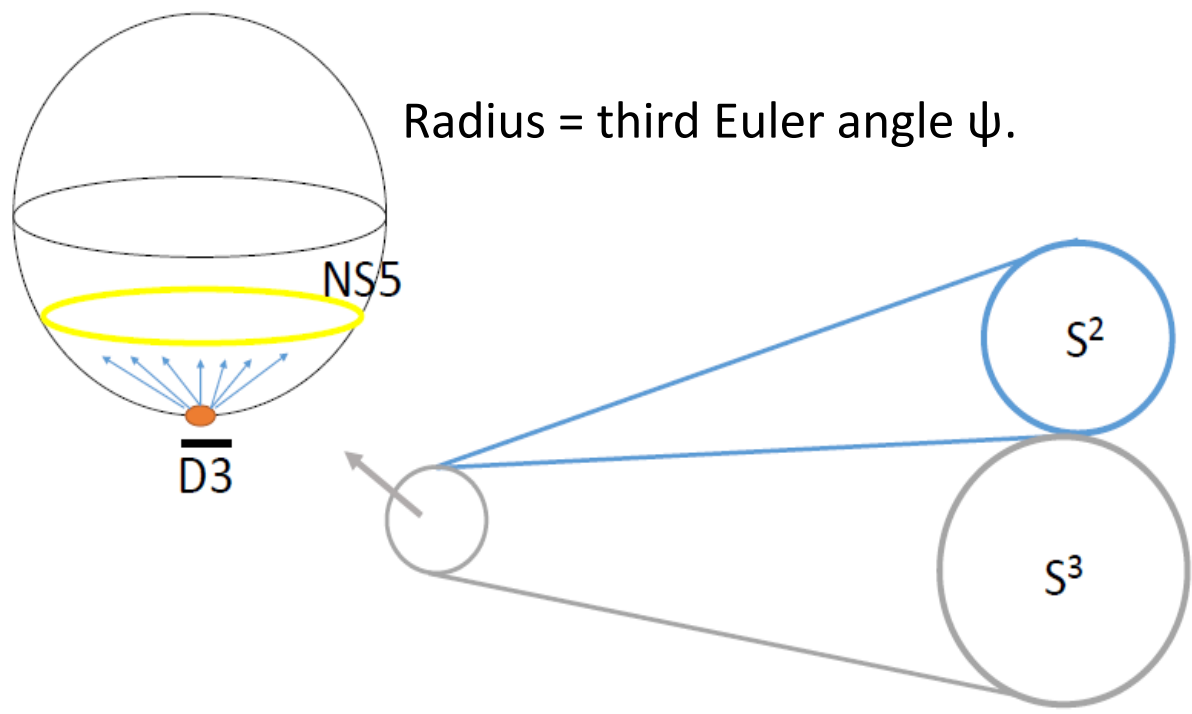
$P/M < 0,08$

$P/M > 0,08$



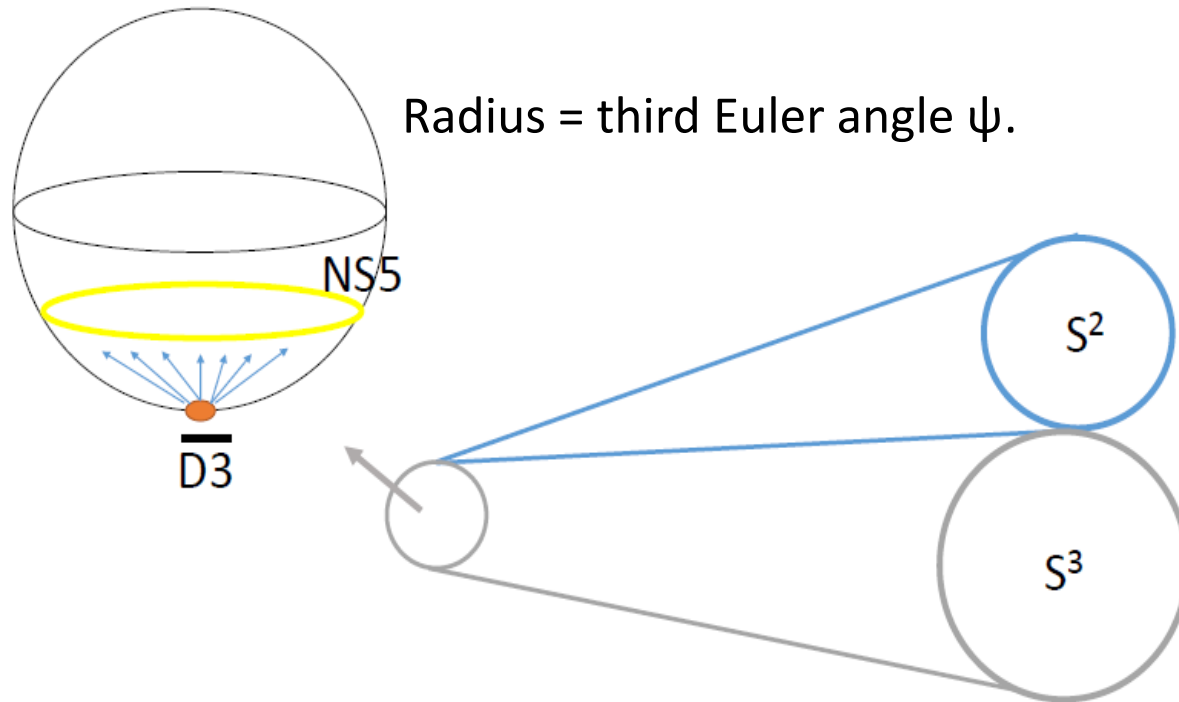


HOW?



At  $\psi=0$  the NS5 induces  $p$  anti-D3 charges and at  $\psi= \pi$  it induces  $M-p$  D3 charges

HOW?



WZ action NS5: 
$$\mu_5 \int B_6 + 2\pi \mathcal{F}_2 \wedge C_4$$

where: 
$$2\pi \mathcal{F}_2 = 2\pi F_2 - C_2$$

$$\int_{S^2} C_2 = 4\pi M \left( \psi - \frac{1}{2} \sin(2\psi) \right)$$

$$2\pi \int_{S^2} F_2 = 4\pi^2 p.$$

---

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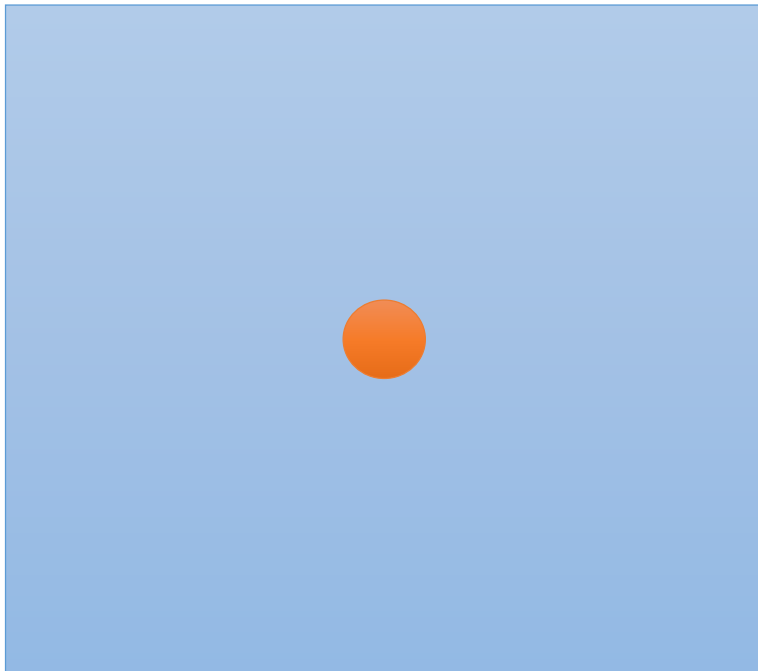
Back-reaction

Back-reacted solutions near the sources:

$$e^{-\phi} H^2 \rightarrow \infty$$

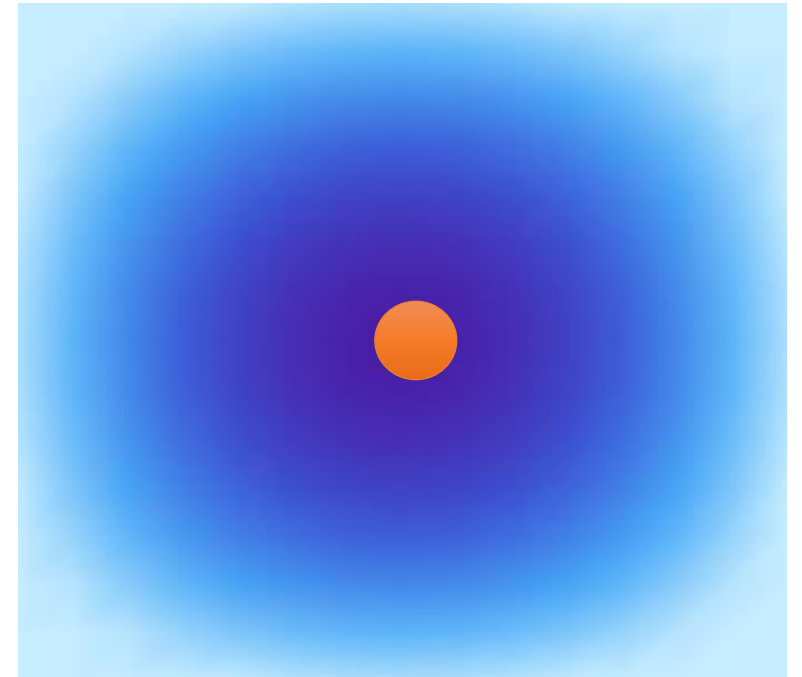
Due to “flux-clumping” or “screening”:

KPV computation: no backreaction



Flux is attracted towards anti-branes both gravitationally and electromagnetically

With backreaction



*KPV paper: "... inclusion of the backreaction of the NS5-brane might trigger the classical instability for smaller values of  $p/M$  than found above..."*

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Indeed (Blaback, Danielsson, TVR 2012, Danielsson, VR 2014)

$$H = \lambda g_s \star_6 F_3$$

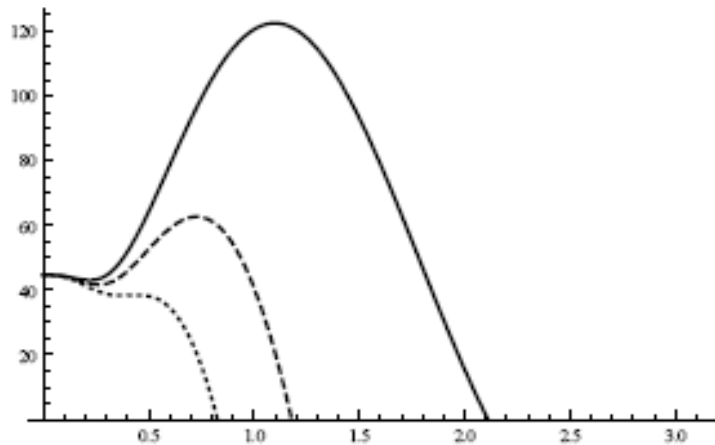


Figure 2: *The effective potential relevant for the NS5-motion, plotted for different values of  $\lambda$ .*

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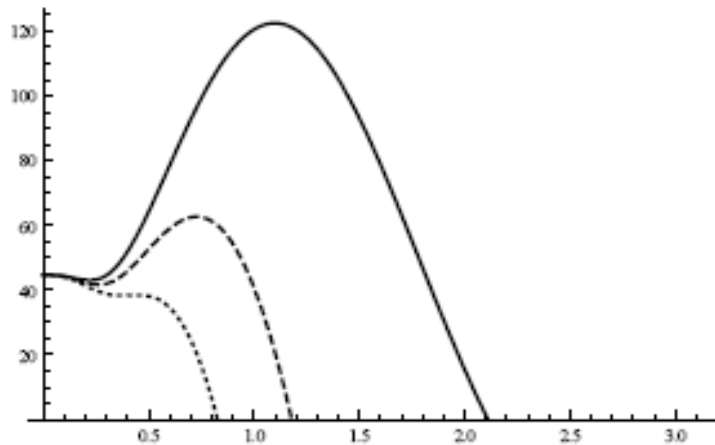


Figure 2: The effective potential relevant for the NS5-motion, plotted for different values of  $\lambda$ .

Resolution of singularity due to **time-dependence**

1. Singularity around antiD3 represents singular pile up of *charge dissolved in flux*
2. If too much D3 charge dissolved in flux near anti-D3: direct annihilation.
3. Hence no vacuum but “side of the hill” .

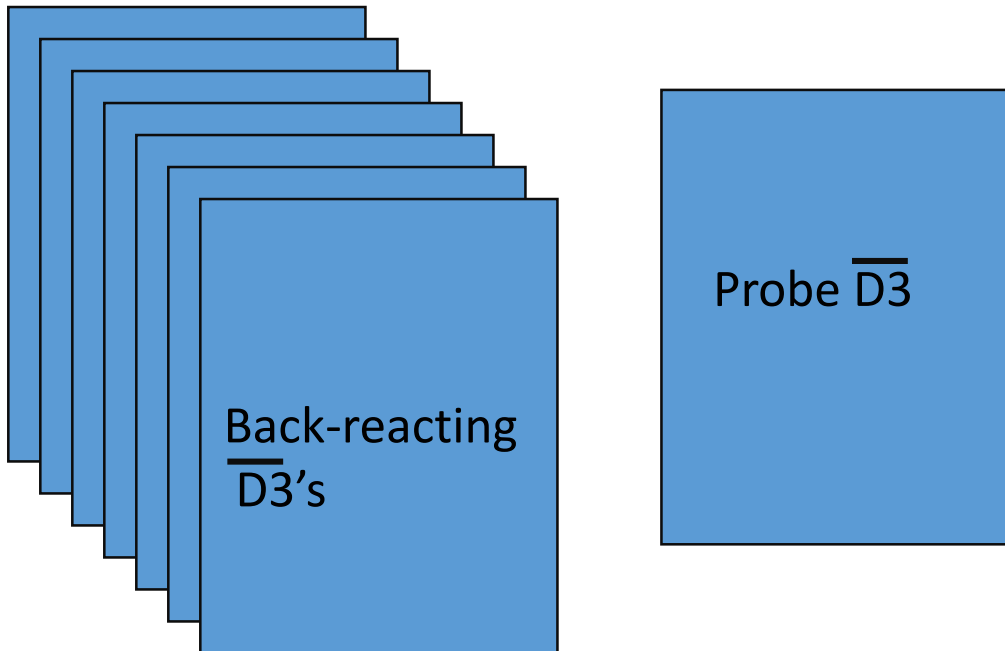
## Arguments beyond heuristic approach

1. Backreaction corrections to a probe computation: Both methods are free of infinities
  - Method 1: EFT approach a la Goldberger & Wise: Mintun, Michel, Polchinski, Puhm, Saad. Applicable most easily for  $p=1$ . Outside of SUGRA regime. See talk A. Puhm.



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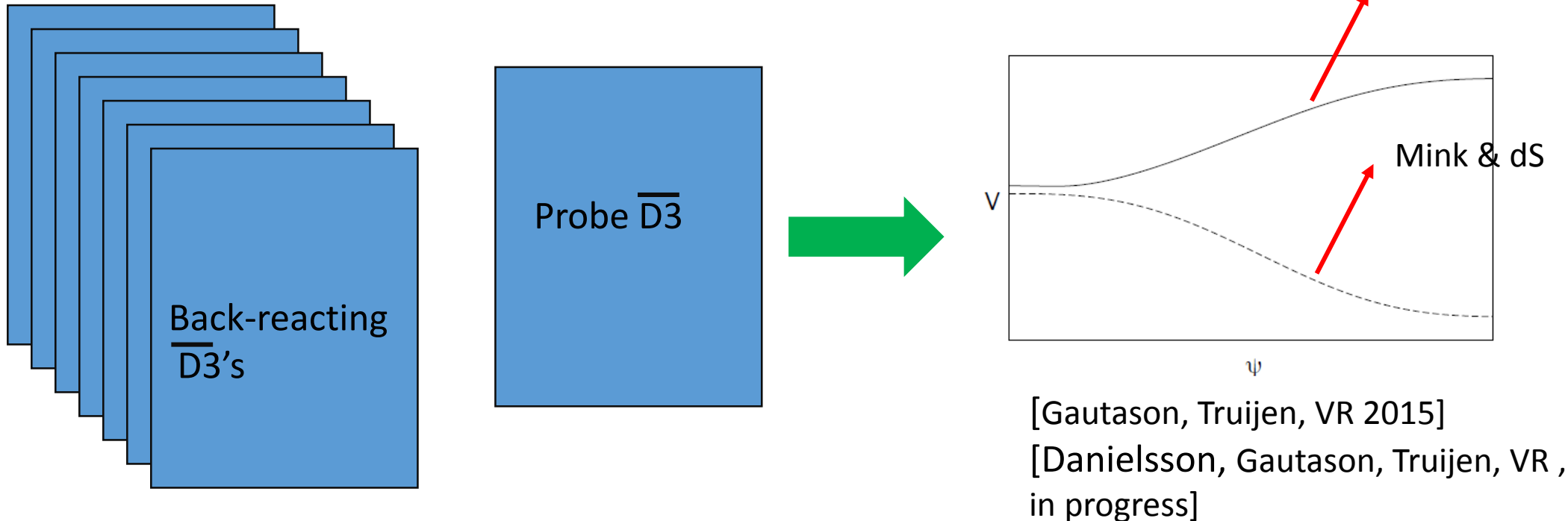
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## 2. Full SUGRA solution of backreacting NS5 branes?

- Singular flux clumping is NOT replaced by ordinary singular 3-form flux of NS5 branes

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Natural singularity sourced by NS5

**But also singular  
flux clumping!**

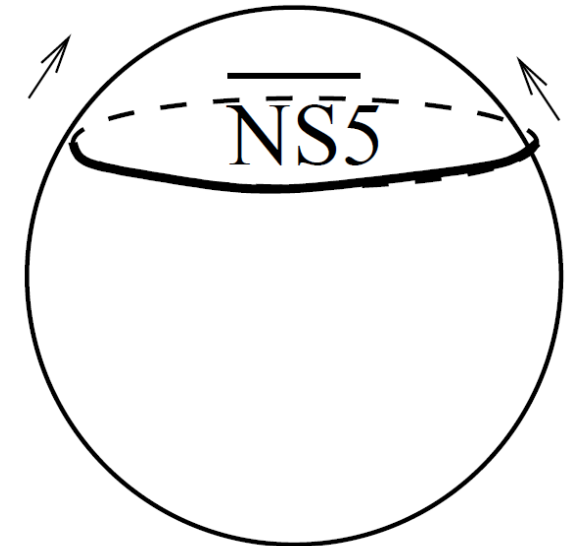
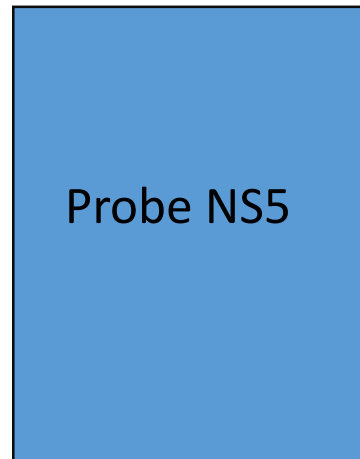
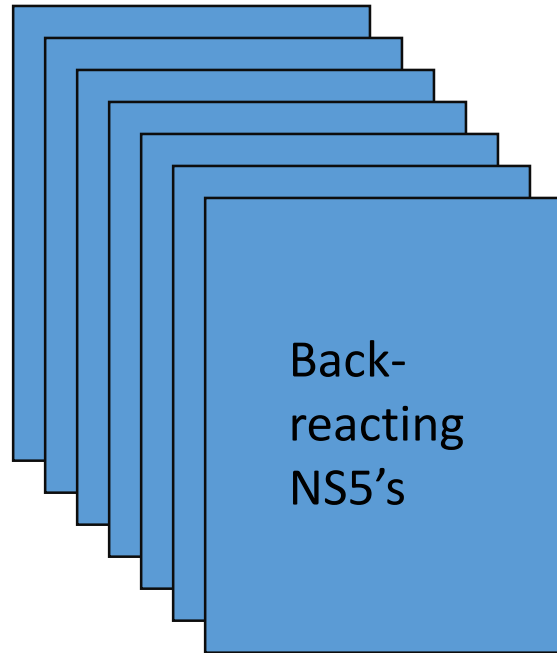
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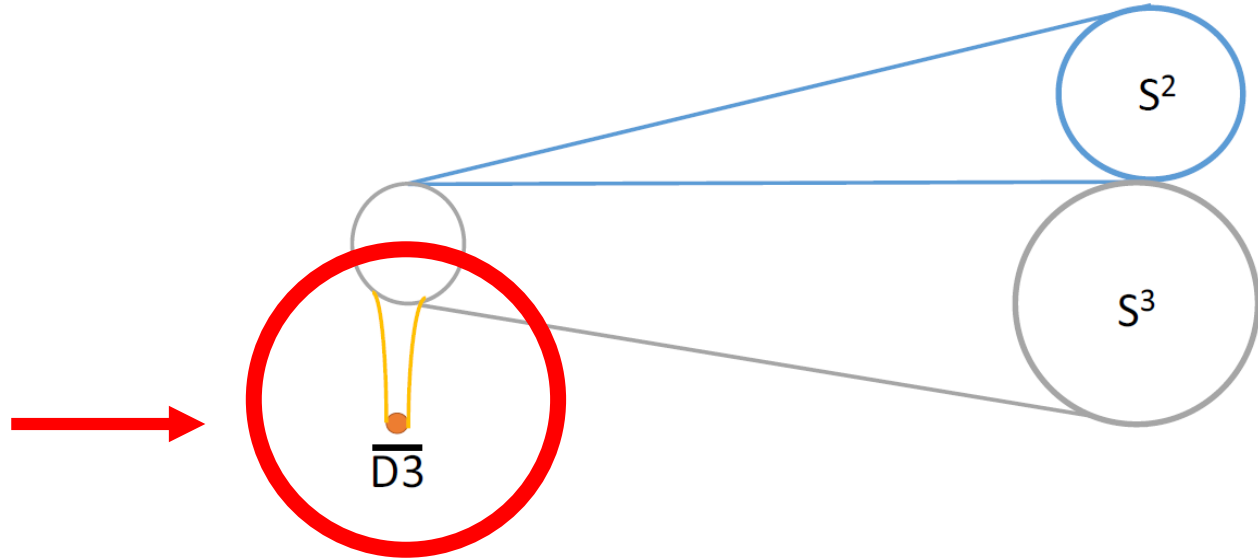


Probe is pushed away: stack is unstable. NS5's want to Move upward towards the North Pole = SUSY vacuum!

## What others think:

See talk S. Massai

- Bena, Grana, Kuperstein, Massai:

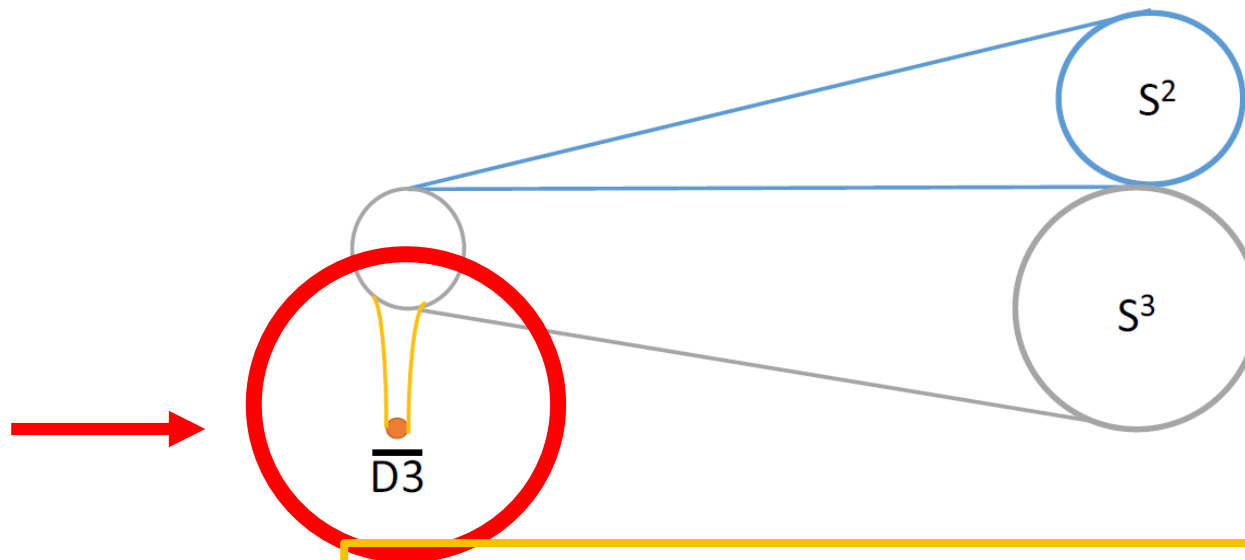


- Assume local PS throat, no singularities anymore.
- The gluing to KS implies specific non-SUSY PS model
- Tachyonic! Anti-D3 branes repel each other.
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### My speculations:

- Branes can never be pushed out of KS throat.
  - BUT can be pushed out of local PS throat.  
Towards....moving over the compact A-cycle!
  - End point: brane flux decay.
- Consistent with our probe NS5 being pushed away.

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See talk A. Puhm

- Mintun, Michel, Polchinski, Puhm, Saad:



- Leave SUGRA and go to  $p=1$ .
- Myers picture not relevant anymore. Stringy regime.
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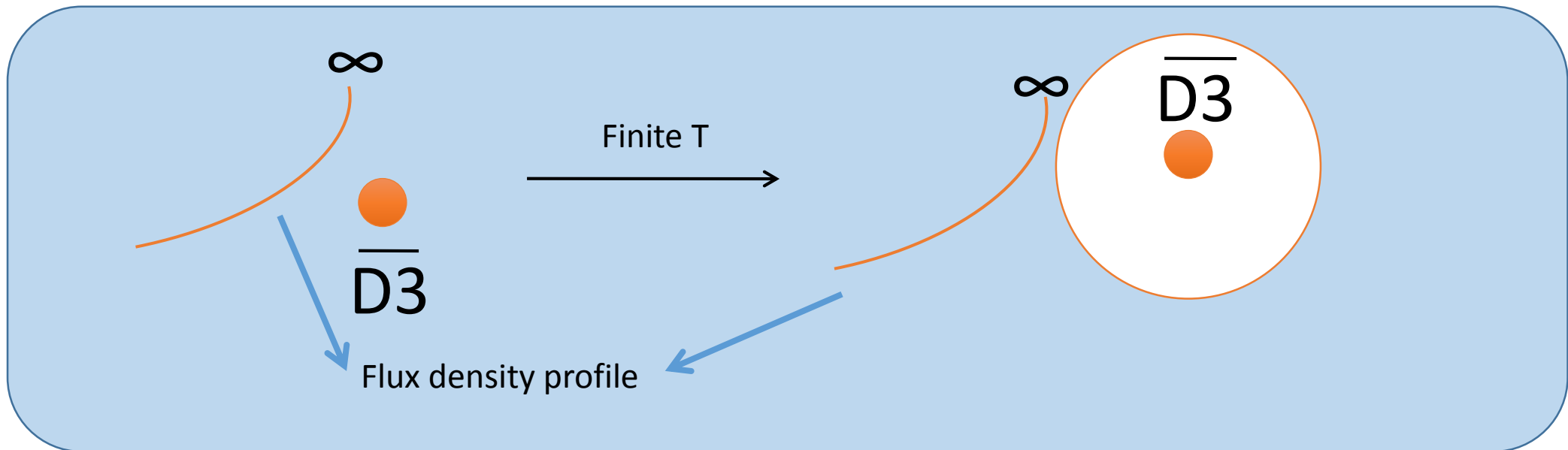
- If stable then also in SUGRA regime, as long as  $p/M \ll 1$ .
- What is decay mechanism when  $p=1$ ?
- Aim of flux vacua is to construct vacua as explicit as possible. Within SUGRA regime.



Finite temperature

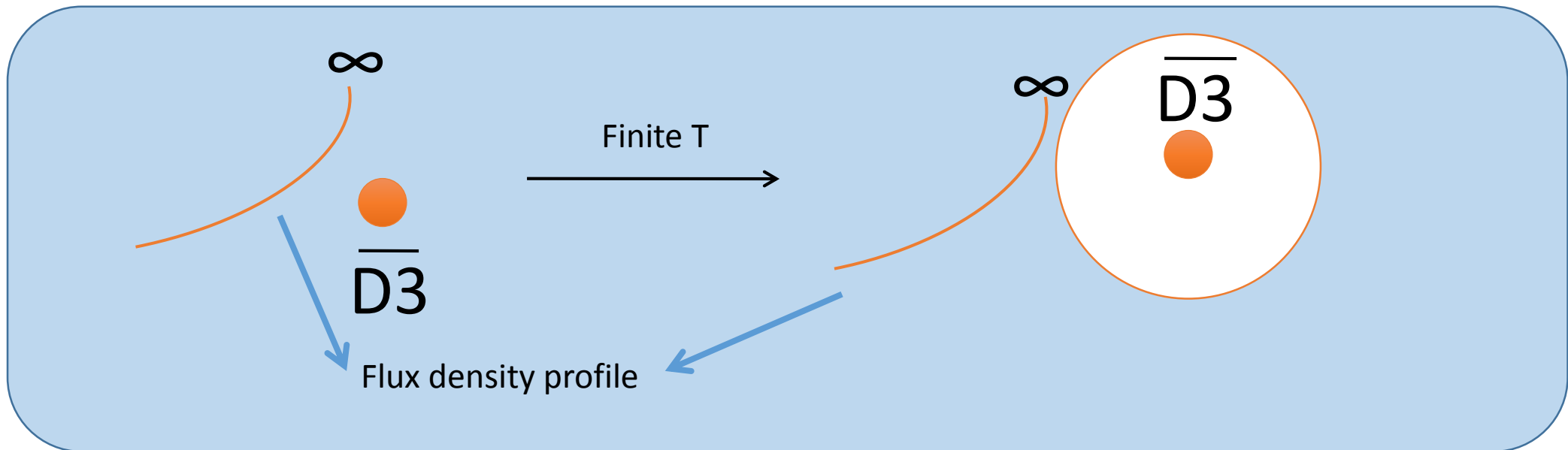
A “good” singularity can be cloaked behind finite T horizon? [Gubser 2000]

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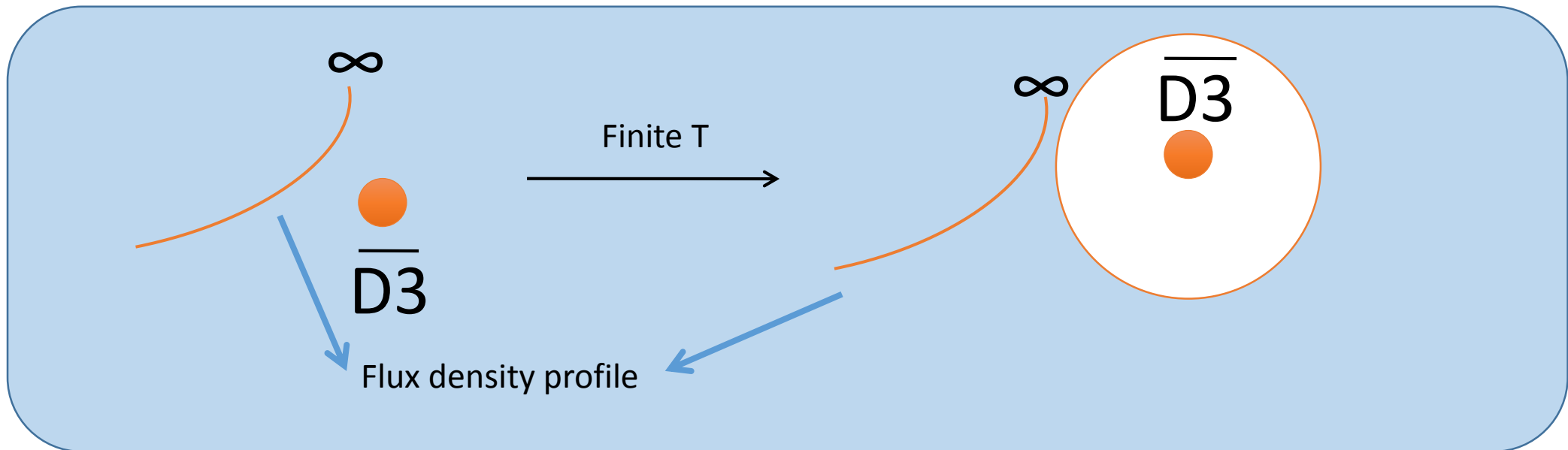
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- *Could work* [Cohen-Maldonado, Diaz, VR, Vercoocke] for  $p < 6$ , but unclear if it will.

Conclusions

## The pros

1. Very natural & 10D way of breaking SUSY by tunable amount.



## The cons

1. 10d back-reaction obscures things. Dine-Seiberg again?

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6. Are we 100% certain we understand  $p=1$ ? Why then possible failure for larger  $p$ ?

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Singularities & related instabilities do not appear for anti-brane SUSY breaking in black holes microstates if one works with horizonless “anti-branes” [Cohen-Maldonado, Diaz, VR, Vercoocke, *in progress*].

Thanks!

BACK UP SLIDES



## General process/principle [Gautason, Truijen, VR (2015)]

- RR tadpole  $\int_M H_3 \wedge F_{6-p} = 2\kappa_{10}^2 Q_p$



$$N_p = KM$$

- $\int_B H_3 \sim K$
- $\int_A F_{6-p} \sim M$
- $Q \sim N_p$

- Hence

$$\text{NSNS decay} \quad : \quad K \rightarrow K - 1 \quad , \quad N_p \rightarrow N_p - M ,$$

$$\text{RR decay} \quad : \quad M \rightarrow M - 1 \quad , \quad N_p \rightarrow N_p - K .$$

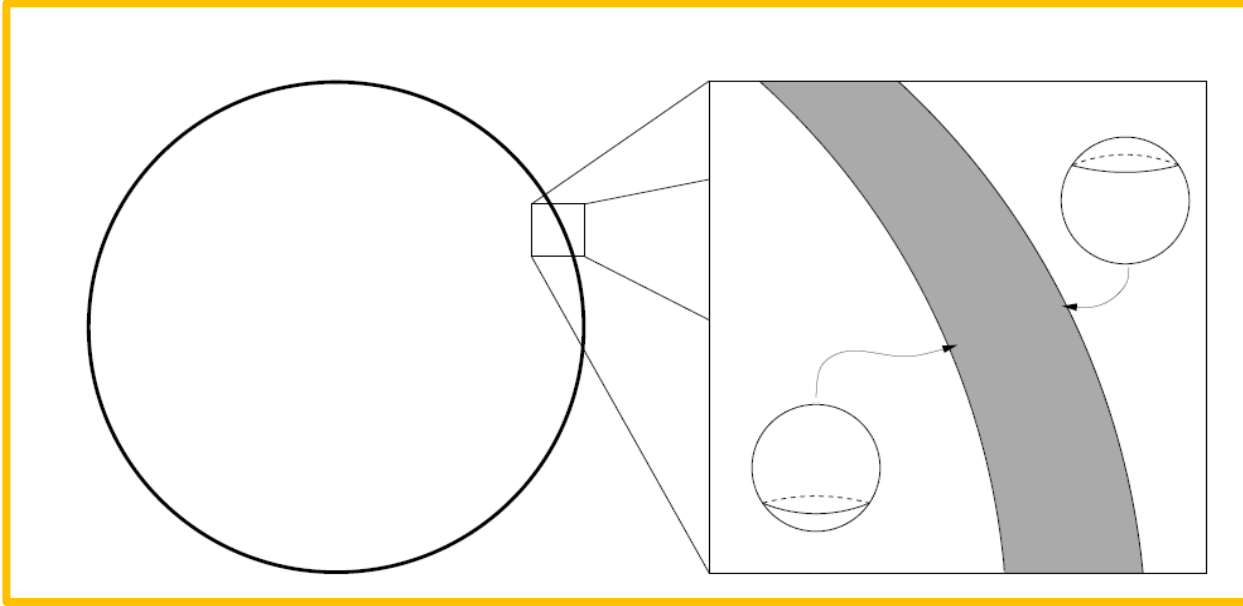
- For  $p < 6$ :

	Thin wall	$p + 1$	$A$ -cycle	$B$ -cycle
	$Op/Dp$	$\times \dots \times$	$- \dots -$	$- \dots -$
NSNS decay:	NS5	$\times \dots \uparrow$	$\times \dots \times$	$- \dots -$
RR decay:	$D(p + 2)$	$\times \dots \uparrow$	$- \dots -$	$\times \dots \times$

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RR decay:	$D(p + 2)$	$\times \dots \times$	$- \dots -$	$\times \dots \uparrow$

- For  $p=6$  : NSNS thick wall, via KK5 branes inside D6 branes.

WZ couplings for thick wall process (brane decay/nucleation):

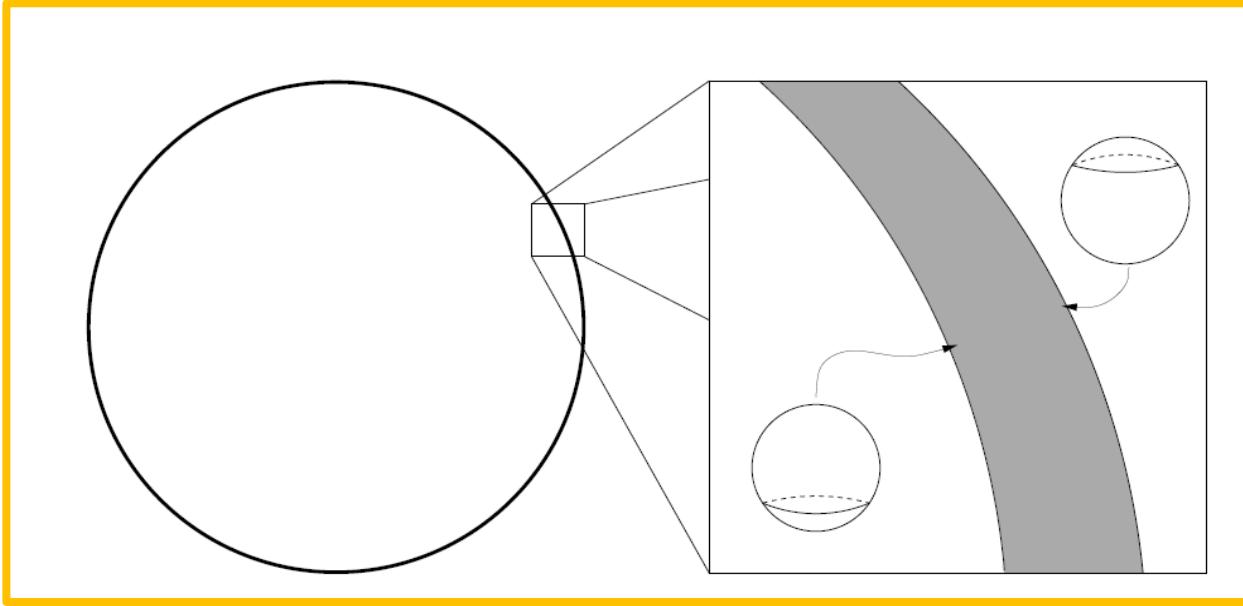


$$\mu_{\text{NS5}} \int (da_{4-p} - C_{5-p}) \wedge \sigma(C_{p+1}) ,$$



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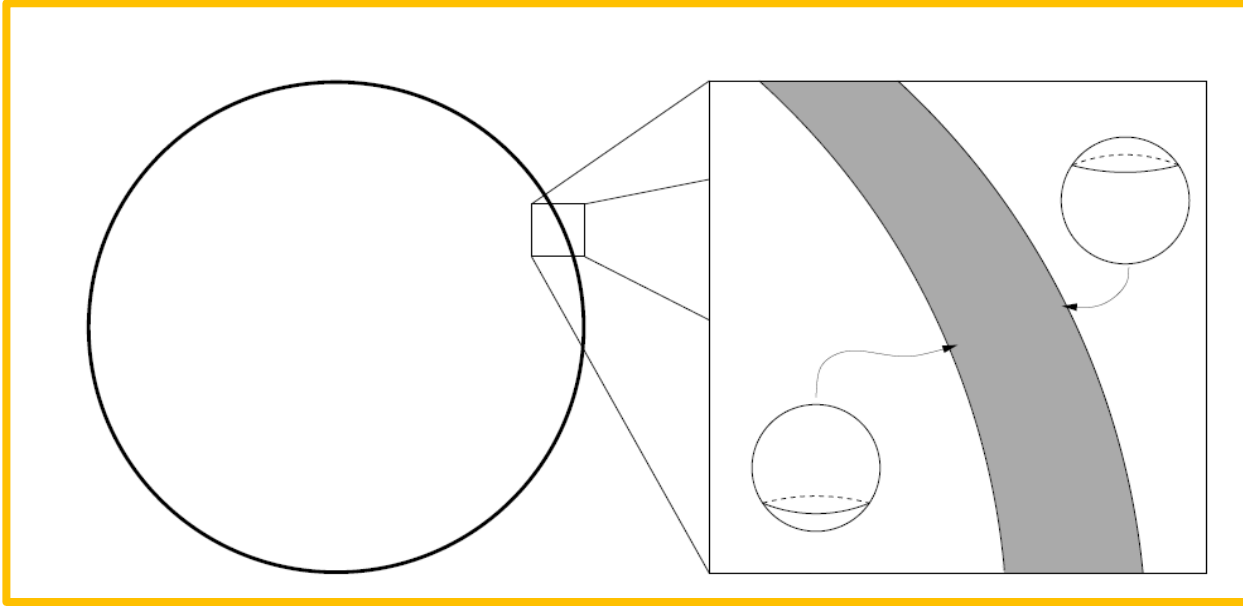
- Quantised worldvolume flux:

$$\int_{\Sigma_{5-p}(x)} da_{4-p} = (2\pi)^{\frac{5-p}{2}} n .$$

- Stokes theorem:

$$\int_{x \rightarrow 1} C_{5-p} - \int_{x \rightarrow 0} C_{5-p} = \int_A F_{6-p} = (2\pi)^{\frac{5-p}{2}} M .$$

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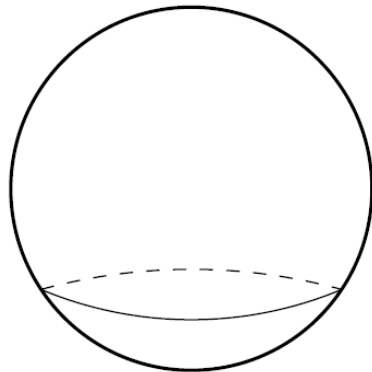


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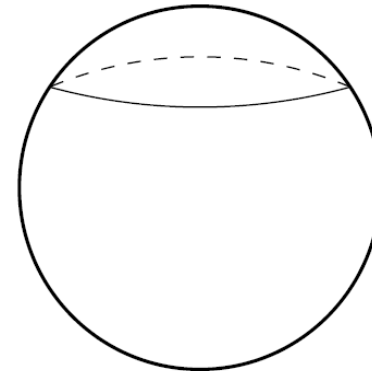


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Consistency conditions for gluing UV KS throat to IR anti-D3 throat.

[ Blaback, Danielsson, Junghans, VR, Vargas, 2014]  
based on [Gautason, Junghans, Zagermann 2013]

Ansatz:

$$ds_{10}^2 = e^{2A} g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu + ds_6^2,$$

$$C_4 = \tilde{\star}_4 \alpha,$$

$$H_3 = e^{\phi - 4A} \star_6 \left( [\alpha + \alpha_0] F_3 + X_3 \right)$$

Where

$$F_3 = M \epsilon_A + \hat{F}_3$$

$$g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = -e^{2f} dt^2 + \delta_{ij} dx^i dx^j$$

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$$e^{-\phi} |H_3|^2 \sim e^{-2f} |\underbrace{\alpha F_3 + X_3}_{\text{When non-zero?}}|^2$$

$$e^{-\phi} H^2 \rightarrow \infty$$

→ Argue from a conserved current!

- The following 9-form:

$$\mathcal{B} = -C_4 \wedge F_5 - \star_4 1 \wedge B_2 \wedge X_3 + \star_{10} d(\phi - 4A - f)$$

obeys:

$$0 = \oint_{\partial \mathcal{M}_{\text{empty}}} \mathcal{B} = \oint_{\text{IR}} \mathcal{B} - \oint_{\text{UV}} \mathcal{B}.$$



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- *This is enough info about the fluxes in the IR to see whether singularity is absent or not.*