

Fixing Moduli in Exact Type IIA Flux Vacua

Francesco Benini

SISSA/ISAS
Trieste, Italy

RTN Workshop, Napoli
10 October 2006

(based on hep-th/0607223 in collaboration with B.S. Acharya and R. Valandro)

1 Motivations

- Calabi-Yau with Fluxes Approximation
- Moduli Stabilization
- The $T^6/(\mathbb{Z}_3)^2$ Orientifold Model

2 Supergravity Solution

- The Full 10d Description
- Type IIA with O6-planes
- Smearing of O6-planes: an Exact Solution

3 Moduli Stabilization

- Strategy
- General Calabi-Yau with Fluxes

4 Summary and Future Directions

Motivations

Calabi-Yau with Fluxes Approximation

Calabi-Yau with fluxes approximation:
take **fluxes** small compared to the **curvature**

- **Approximation** in Einstein equations:
in the **large volume limit**
neglect the fluxes and their backreaction on geometry



Calabi-Yau manifold

- Nothing more than supergravity limit: $L^2 \gg \alpha'$
- Villadoro, Zwirner, '05
DeWolfe, Gyravets, Kachru, Taylor, '05: IIA Flux Vacua can have **ALL**
moduli stabilized **classically**.
- **Problem**: even the minimum amount of flux (Dirac quantization) can
change the topology!

Calabi-Yau with fluxes approximation:
take **fluxes** small compared to the **curvature**

- **Approximation** in Einstein equations:
in the **large volume limit**
neglect the fluxes and their backreaction on geometry



Calabi-Yau manifold

- Nothing more than supergravity limit: $L^2 \gg \alpha'$
- Villadoro, Zwirner, '05
DeWolfe, Gyration, Kachru, Taylor, '05: IIA Flux Vacua can have **ALL** moduli stabilized **classically**.
- **Problem**: even the minimum amount of flux (Dirac quantization) can change the topology!

Motivations

Moduli Stabilization

- Moduli fixing usually studied from a **4d point of view** (effective potential V)
- **Good:**
 - stability issues studied more easily
 - non SUSY vacua can be studied
 - control on *exotic* vacua, e.g. non geometric vacua
- **Bad:**
 - work in Kaluza-Klein approximation (with Calabi-Yau basis)
 - could not be sure about uplift to 10d

We study moduli stabilization from a **10d point of view**.

Motivations

Moduli Stabilization

- Moduli fixing usually studied from a **4d point of view** (effective potential V)
- **Good:**
 - stability issues studied more easily
 - non SUSY vacua can be studied
 - control on *exotic* vacua, e.g. non geometric vacua
- **Bad:**
 - work in Kaluza-Klein approximation (with Calabi-Yau basis)
 - could not be sure about uplift to 10d

We study moduli stabilization from a **10d point of view**.

The $T^6/(\mathbb{Z}_3)^2$ Orientifold Model

Type IIA SUGRA on T^6 , orbifolded by $(\mathbb{Z}_3)^2$
and orientifolded by O6-planes:

(DeWolfe,Giryavets,Kachru,Taylor,'05)

- It was analysed in the large volume limit and classically.
- Superpotential:

$$W = p S + e_6 + e_a T^a + \kappa_{abc} b_a T^b T^c + \kappa_{abc} T^a T^b T^c$$

(Grimm,Louis,'04)

- ALL the moduli are fixed (NO massless fields)

Our main result: a full 10d description (which reproduces their results)

The $T^6/(\mathbb{Z}_3)^2$ Orientifold Model

Type IIA SUGRA on T^6 , orbifolded by $(\mathbb{Z}_3)^2$ and orientifolded by O6-planes:

(DeWolfe, Giriyavets, Kachru, Taylor, '05)

- It was analysed in the large volume limit and classically.
- Superpotential:

$$W = p S + e_6 + e_a T^a + \kappa_{abc} b_a T^b T^c + \kappa_{abc} T^a T^b T^c$$

(Grimm, Louis, '04)

- ALL the moduli are fixed (NO massless fields)

Our main result: a full 10d description (which reproduces their results)

The $T^6/(\mathbb{Z}_3)^2$ Orientifold Model

Type IIA SUGRA on T^6 , orbifolded by $(\mathbb{Z}_3)^2$ and orientifolded by O6-planes:

(DeWolfe,Giryavets,Kachru,Taylor,'05)

- It was analysed in the large volume limit and classically.
- Superpotential:

$$W = p S + e_6 + e_a T^a + \kappa_{abc} b_a T^b T^c + \kappa_{abc} T^a T^b T^c$$

(Grimm,Louis,'04)

- ALL the moduli are fixed (NO massless fields)

Our main result: a full 10d description (which reproduces their results)

Full 10d description

Strategy

We are looking for a **full 10d description** of these vacua.

Strategy:

Lust-Tsimpis solution ('04)

- the most general solution on AdS_4 with internal **SU(3)-structure** manifold \Rightarrow **$\mathcal{N} = 1$ SUSY vacua**
- all the fluxes compatible with 4d Poincaré switched on
- “mass parameter” $F_0 \equiv m$ (**massive IIA SUGRA**)

Add O6-planes

- realize the $T^6/(\mathbb{Z}_3)^2$ orientifold model

Full 10d description

Strategy

We are looking for a **full 10d description** of these vacua.

Strategy:

Lust-Tsimpis solution ('04)

- the most general solution on AdS_4 with internal **SU(3)-structure** manifold \Rightarrow **$\mathcal{N} = 1$ SUSY vacua**
- all the fluxes compatible with 4d Poincaré switched on
- “mass parameter” $F_0 \equiv m$ (**massive IIA SUGRA**)

Add O6-planes

- realize the $T^6/(\mathbb{Z}_3)^2$ orientifold model

(Lust, Tsimpis, '04)

- **$SU(3)$ structure** is described by Kähler 2-form J and holomorphic 3-form Ω , like on Calabi-Yau.

Torsions:

$$dJ = -\frac{3}{2} \text{Im}(\mathcal{W}_1^{1\oplus 1} \Omega^*) + \mathcal{W}_4^{3\oplus \bar{3}} \wedge J + \mathcal{W}_3^{6\oplus \bar{6}}$$
$$d\Omega = \mathcal{W}_1^{1\oplus 1} J \wedge J + \mathcal{W}_2^{8\oplus 8} \wedge J + \mathcal{W}_5^{3\oplus \bar{3}*} \wedge \Omega$$

- The only non-vanishing **torsion classes** are \mathcal{W}_1^- and \mathcal{W}_2^-
- Special case of **half-flat** manifold.

(Lust, Tsimpis, '04)

- **$SU(3)$ structure** is described by Kähler 2-form J and holomorphic 3-form Ω , like on Calabi-Yau.

Torsions:

$$dJ = -\frac{3}{2} \text{Im}(\mathcal{W}_1^{1\oplus 1} \Omega^*) + \mathcal{W}_4^{3\oplus \bar{3}} \wedge J + \mathcal{W}_3^{6\oplus \bar{6}}$$
$$d\Omega = \mathcal{W}_1^{1\oplus 1} J \wedge J + \mathcal{W}_2^{8\oplus 8} \wedge J + \mathcal{W}_5^{3\oplus \bar{3}*} \wedge \Omega$$

- The only non-vanishing **torsion classes** are \mathcal{W}_1^- and \mathcal{W}_2^-
- Special case of **half-flat** manifold.

SUGRA solution (scheme)

$$\phi, \Delta, f = \text{constant}$$

F_2, H_3, G_4 in terms of J, Ω, \tilde{F}_2 .

\tilde{F}_2 is only constrained:

- to be in $\mathfrak{8}$ of $SU(3)$
- $d\tilde{F}_2 \sim \text{Re } \Omega + \mu_6 \delta_3$

Special case of **half-flat**:

$$W_1^- \sim f \quad W_2^- \sim \tilde{F}_2$$

Derived conditions:

$$e^{7\phi/4} \sim \frac{\mu_6}{2\text{Vol}_6(X_6)^{1/2}}$$

$$f^2 \gtrsim m^2$$

Notice:

$$m > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad f > 0 \\ \Rightarrow \quad W_1^- \neq 0$$

No Calabi-Yau solutions

SUGRA solution (scheme)

$$\phi, \Delta, f = \text{constant}$$

F_2, H_3, G_4 in terms of J, Ω, \tilde{F}_2 .

\tilde{F}_2 is only constrained:

- to be in $\mathfrak{8}$ of $SU(3)$
- $d\tilde{F}_2 \sim \text{Re } \Omega + \mu_6 \delta_3$

Special case of **half-flat**:

$$W_1^- \sim f \quad W_2^- \sim \tilde{F}_2$$

Derived conditions:

$$e^{7\phi/4} \sim \frac{\mu_6}{2\text{Vol}_6(X_6)^{1/2}}$$

$$f^2 \gtrsim m^2$$

Notice:

$$m > 0 \Rightarrow f > 0 \\ \Rightarrow W_1^- \neq 0$$

No Calabi-Yau solutions

SUGRA solution (scheme)

$$\phi, \Delta, f = \text{constant}$$

F_2, H_3, G_4 in terms of J, Ω, \tilde{F}_2 .

\tilde{F}_2 is only constrained:

- to be in $\mathfrak{8}$ of $SU(3)$
- $d\tilde{F}_2 \sim \text{Re}\Omega + \mu_6 \delta_3$

Special case of **half-flat**:

$$W_1^- \sim f \quad W_2^- \sim \tilde{F}_2$$

Derived conditions:

$$e^{7\phi/4} \sim \frac{\mu_6}{2\text{Vol}_6(X_6)^{1/2}}$$

$$f^2 \gtrsim m^2$$

Notice:

$$m > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad f > 0 \\ \Rightarrow \quad W_1^- \neq 0$$

No Calabi-Yau solutions

Smearing of O6-planes: an Exact Solution

In **no case** with non-vanishing mass and localized sources, is the geometry **Calabi-Yau**.

⇒ To construct explicit examples is *hard*.

Smearing of O6-planes

Much like the **smearing** of D-branes:

- the charge is homogeneously distributed: $\delta_3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}e \Omega$
- the orientifold projection is kept untouched.

We get:

$$m^2 > 0 \quad f = 0 \quad \tilde{F}_2 = F_2 = 0$$

Calabi-Yau geometry! with backreacting fluxes

In a **long wavelength** approximation, it describes the same physics as the localized solution.

Smearing of O6-planes: an Exact Solution

In **no case** with non-vanishing mass and localized sources, is the geometry **Calabi-Yau**.

⇒ To construct explicit examples is *hard*.

Smearing of O6-planes

Much like the **smearing** of D-branes:

- the charge is homogeneously distributed: $\delta_3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}e \Omega$
- the orientifold projection is kept untouched.

We get:

$$m^2 > 0 \quad f = 0 \quad \tilde{F}_2 = F_2 = 0$$

Calabi-Yau geometry! with backreacting fluxes

In a **long wavelength** approximation, it describes the same physics as the localized solution.

Smearing of O6-planes: an Exact Solution

In **no case** with non-vanishing mass and localized sources, is the geometry **Calabi-Yau**.

⇒ To construct explicit examples is *hard*.

Smearing of O6-planes

Much like the **smearing** of D-branes:

- the charge is homogeneously distributed: $\delta_3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}e \Omega$
- the orientifold projection is kept untouched.

We get:

$$m^2 > 0 \quad f = 0 \quad \tilde{F}_2 = F_2 = 0$$

Calabi-Yau geometry! with backreacting fluxes

In a **long wavelength** approximation, it describes the same physics as the localized solution.

Moduli Stabilization

General Strategy (example of the Smearred Calabi-Yau Solution)

Is there a **continuous family** of vacua or a **discrete set**?

- 1 A VEV for a field-strength can be **split** in two pieces:

$$H_3 = H_3^{\text{flux}} + dB_2$$

- 2 Solution: the total H_3 is **harmonic**.
- 3 **Choose** H_3^{flux} harmonic (as rep. of cohomology class) and use gauge freedom to put B_2 harmonic.

There **cannot** be any (*physical*) non harmonic component in B_2



they have vanishing VEV and are massive!

- 4 Expand H_3^{flux} , B_2 in harmonic basis and substitute in the solution.

Moduli Stabilization

General Strategy (example of the Smearred Calabi-Yau Solution)

Is there a **continuous family** of vacua or a **discrete set**?

- 1 A VEV for a field-strength can be **split** in two pieces:

$$H_3 = H_3^{\text{flux}} + dB_2$$

- 2 Solution: the total H_3 is **harmonic**.
- 3 **Choose** H_3^{flux} harmonic (as rep. of cohomology class) and use gauge freedom to put B_2 harmonic.

There **cannot** be any (*physical*) non harmonic component in B_2



they have vanishing VEV and are massive!

- 4 Expand H_3^{flux} , B_2 in harmonic basis and substitute in the solution.

Moduli Stabilization

General Strategy (example of the Smearred Calabi-Yau Solution)

Is there a **continuous family** of vacua or a **discrete set**?

- 1 A VEV for a field-strength can be **split** in two pieces:

$$H_3 = H_3^{\text{flux}} + dB_2$$

- 2 Solution: the total H_3 is **harmonic**.
- 3 **Choose** H_3^{flux} harmonic (as rep. of cohomology class) and use gauge freedom to put B_2 harmonic.

There **cannot** be any (*physical*) non harmonic component in B_2



they have vanishing VEV and are massive!

- 4 Expand H_3^{flux} , B_2 in harmonic basis and substitute in the solution.

Moduli Stabilization

General Calabi-Yau with Fluxes

This machinery applies to **general Calabi-Yau** solutions with **general (backreacting) fluxes** and smeared O6-planes.

1 Enough equations to **fix** (almost) **everything**:

- Kähler and complex structure moduli
- dilaton
- all axions from B_2 and one axion from C_3

2 Some C_3 axions yet **not fixed**: not a problem.
Axions take values on a compact S^1 , so any other correction can lift them.

Moduli Stabilization

General Calabi-Yau with Fluxes

This machinery applies to **general Calabi-Yau** solutions with **general (backreacting) fluxes** and smeared O6-planes.

- 1 Enough equations to **fix** (almost) **everything**:
 - Kähler and complex structure moduli
 - dilaton
 - all axions from B_2 and one axion from C_3
- 2 Some C_3 axions yet **not fixed**: not a problem. Axions take values on a compact S^1 , so any other correction can lift them.

Summary and Future Directions

Summary

- 1 Solutions of IIA Supergravity with O6-planes can realize complete moduli stabilization.
- 2 Look for solutions of IIA with **backreacting** fluxes and O6's, (so going beyond the Calabi-Yau with fluxes approximation); but giving explicit examples is *hard*.
- 3 **Smearing** procedure on O6-charge: there are Calabi-Yau solutions → explicit examples.
- 4 Complete **stabilization of moduli** is confirmed.

Future directions

- Study compactifications on **$SU(3)$ -structure** manifolds with localized sources.
- Localized solutions: describe **$D2 - O6$** in massive F_0 background. Relates 2+1 gauge theories and uplift of **massive IIA to M-theory**.

Summary and Future Directions

Summary

- 1 Solutions of IIA Supergravity with O6-planes can realize complete moduli stabilization.
- 2 Look for solutions of IIA with **backreacting** fluxes and O6's, (so going beyond the Calabi-Yau with fluxes approximation); but giving explicit examples is *hard*.
- 3 **Smearing** procedure on O6-charge: there are Calabi-Yau solutions → explicit examples.
- 4 Complete **stabilization of moduli** is confirmed.

Future directions

- Study compactifications on **$SU(3)$ -structure** manifolds with localized sources.
- Localized solutions: describe **$D2 - O6$** in massive F_0 background. Relates 2+1 gauge theories and uplift of **massive IIA to M-theory**.

Topology Changings: an example

Even if the contribution of fluxes can be **locally** neglected in the Equations of Motion,

the minimum amount allowed by Dirac quantization can still produce **global** modifications.

Smearred vs Localized solution

Smearred source δ_3

- Calabi-Yau: $dJ = 0$
- $\delta_3 \sim \text{Re } \Omega$



- δ_3 **non-trivial** in cohomology

Localized source δ_3

- Half-flat: $dJ \sim \text{Re } \Omega$
- $d\tilde{F}_2 \sim \text{Re } \Omega + \delta_3$



- δ_3 is **trivial** in cohomology