

# Perturbing gauge/gravity duals by Romans mass

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# Introduction

Our main character: **Romans mass**  $F_0$

originally introduced as a ‘cosmological constant’ in IIA supergravity

[Romans '86]

Later understood as **RR flux**; equal dignity as any  $F_k$  [Polchinski '95]

[for example, mixed with the others by **T-duality**]

It also helps produce **many more vacua** with stabilized moduli

[deWolfe, Giryavets, Kachru, Taylor '05]

internal flux  $F_k$  contributes to the 4d **potential**  $\sim \frac{e^{4\phi_4}}{r^{6-2k}}$

Nevertheless,  
still mysterious:

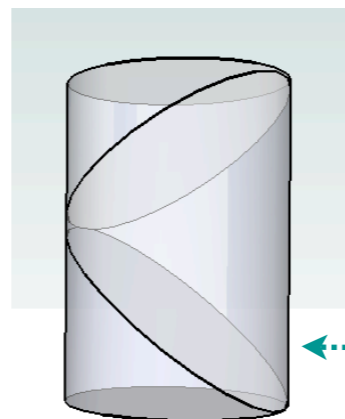
- its M-theory interpretation is **not known**
- couples to D8-branes [whose gravity grows with distance]
- field strength with no potential...

On some backgrounds, a nonperturbative understanding of string theory:

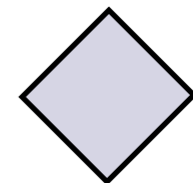
 gauge/gravity correspondence 

it relates [for example]

a gravity theory in  
 $\text{AdS}_{d+1}$



a conformal theory in  
 $\text{Minkowski}_d$



$F_0$  has a coupling to D2-branes  $\int F_0 CS(\mathcal{A})$

but the near-horizon limit of D2 branes is **not**  $AdS_4 \times$  anything

the n.h. limit of **M2** branes is  $AdS_4 \times S^7$  ... but again, we don't know what  $F_0$  is in M-theory.

Fortunately:

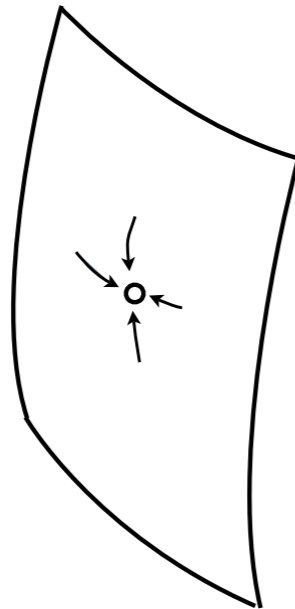
a Chern-Simons-matter theory  
(with explicit Lagrangian) is dual to  $\longleftrightarrow$  old  $AdS_4 \times CP^3$  solution  
(with  $F_0 = 0$ )

[Aharony, Bergman,  
Jafferis, Maldacena '08]

- We will achieve gauge/gravity duals with lower supersymmetry:

one CFT

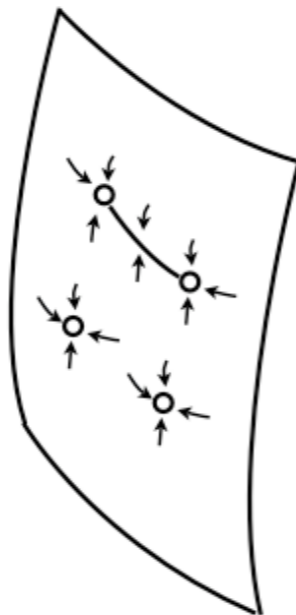
$$\mathcal{N} = 6$$



$$F_0 = 0$$

several CFTs

$$0 \leq \mathcal{N} \leq 3$$



$$F_0 \neq 0$$

[Gaiotto's talk here]

- The new theories will help us find new string vacua!

We will find the gravity duals  
perturbatively in  $F_0$

At first order:

- superpotential drives the solution
- already some constraints on allowed superpotentials
- automatic procedure; also possible  
for more general topologies

# Plan

- Review: Chern-Simons-matter theories
  - ABJM theory, and its lower susy deformations
- Review: some of the geometry behind supersymmetry
- The perturbative procedure

# Chern-Simons-matter CFTs

- in 2d the conformal group is  $\infty$ -dimensional
- in 4d, gauge couplings are dimensionless
- in 3d?

Chern-Simons action:

another gauge action  
with dimensionless coupling:

$$S = \frac{k}{4\pi} \int \text{Tr} \left( A dA + \frac{2}{3} A^3 \right)$$

integer!

unfortunately: this  
theory is topological

EoM:  
 $F = 0$

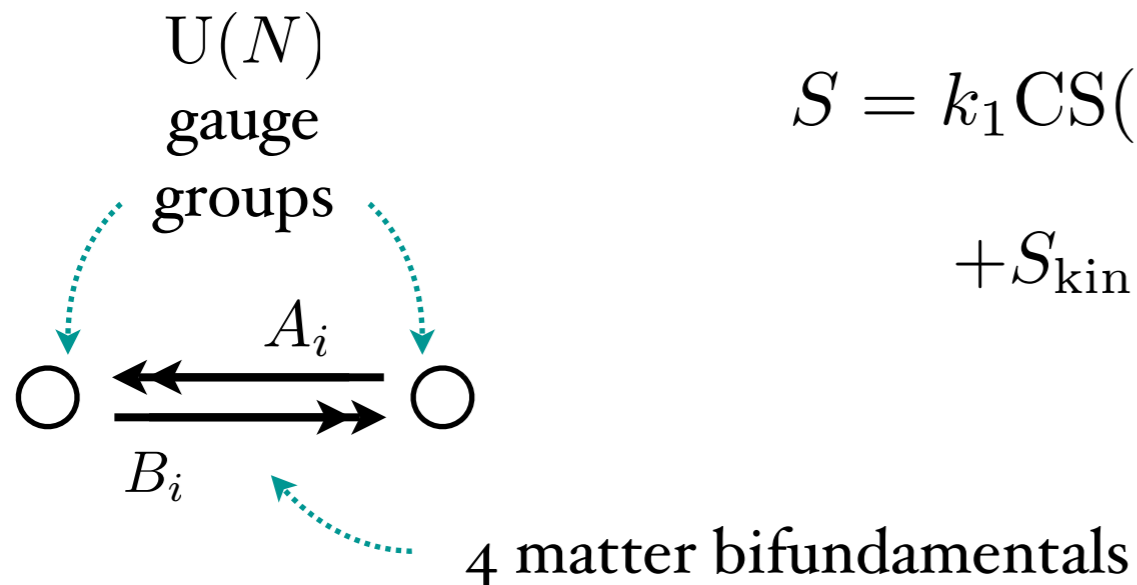
But: susy adds matter  $\rightarrow$  nontrivial CFT<sub>3</sub>

[Avdeev, Kazakhov, Kondrashuk '93;  
Kao, Lee '92; Gaiotto, Yin '07]



- The  $\mathcal{N} = 6$  theory [“preaching to the pope”]

[Aharony, Bergman,  
Jafferis, Maldacena'08]



$$S = k_1 \text{CS}(\mathcal{A}_1) + k_2 \text{CS}(\mathcal{A}_2) + S_{\text{kin}}(A_i, B_i) + \frac{2\pi}{k} \int d^2\theta \left[ \text{Tr}(A_i B_i)^2 - \text{Tr}(B_i A_i)^2 \right]$$

If

$$\begin{aligned} k_1 &= k \\ k_2 &= -k \end{aligned}$$

this theory has  $\mathcal{N} = 6$

- It is also possible to write the theory with  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  superfields:

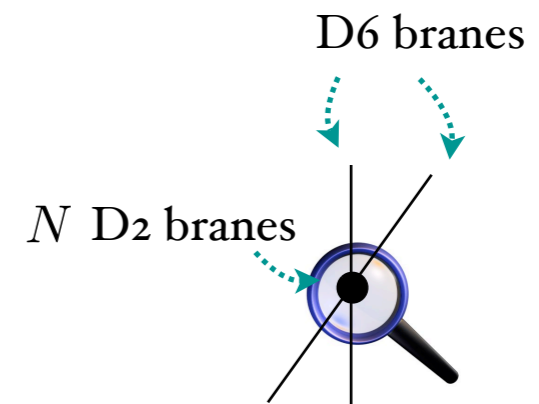
introduce  $X^I = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 \\ A_2 \\ B_1^\dagger \\ B_2^\dagger \end{pmatrix}$  then  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  superpotential is

$$\frac{2\pi}{k} \int d^2\theta (X_I^\dagger X^I X_J^\dagger X^J - X_I^\dagger X^J X_J^\dagger X^I - 2\omega^{IK}\omega_{JL} X_I^\dagger X^J X_K^\dagger X^L)$$

in this form,  $\text{Sp}(2) \cong \text{SO}(5)$  is manifest.

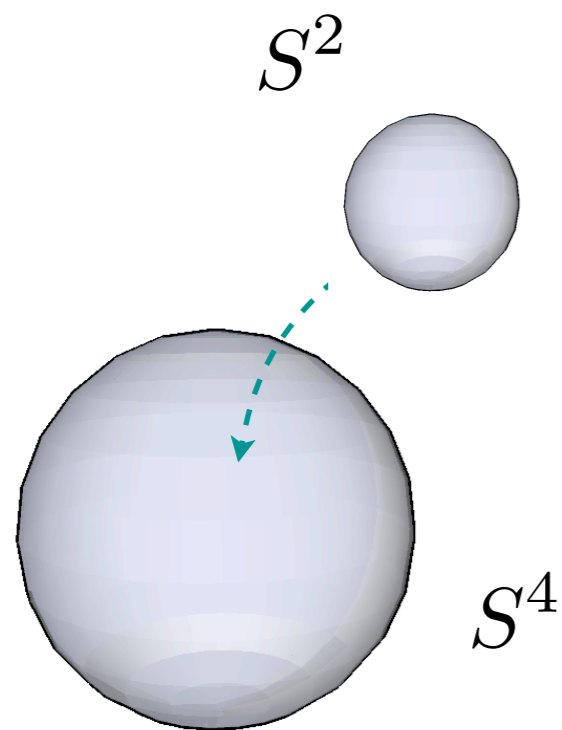
duality with  $\text{AdS}_4 \times \mathbb{CP}^3$

- by zooming in on brane systems whose effective action is known.



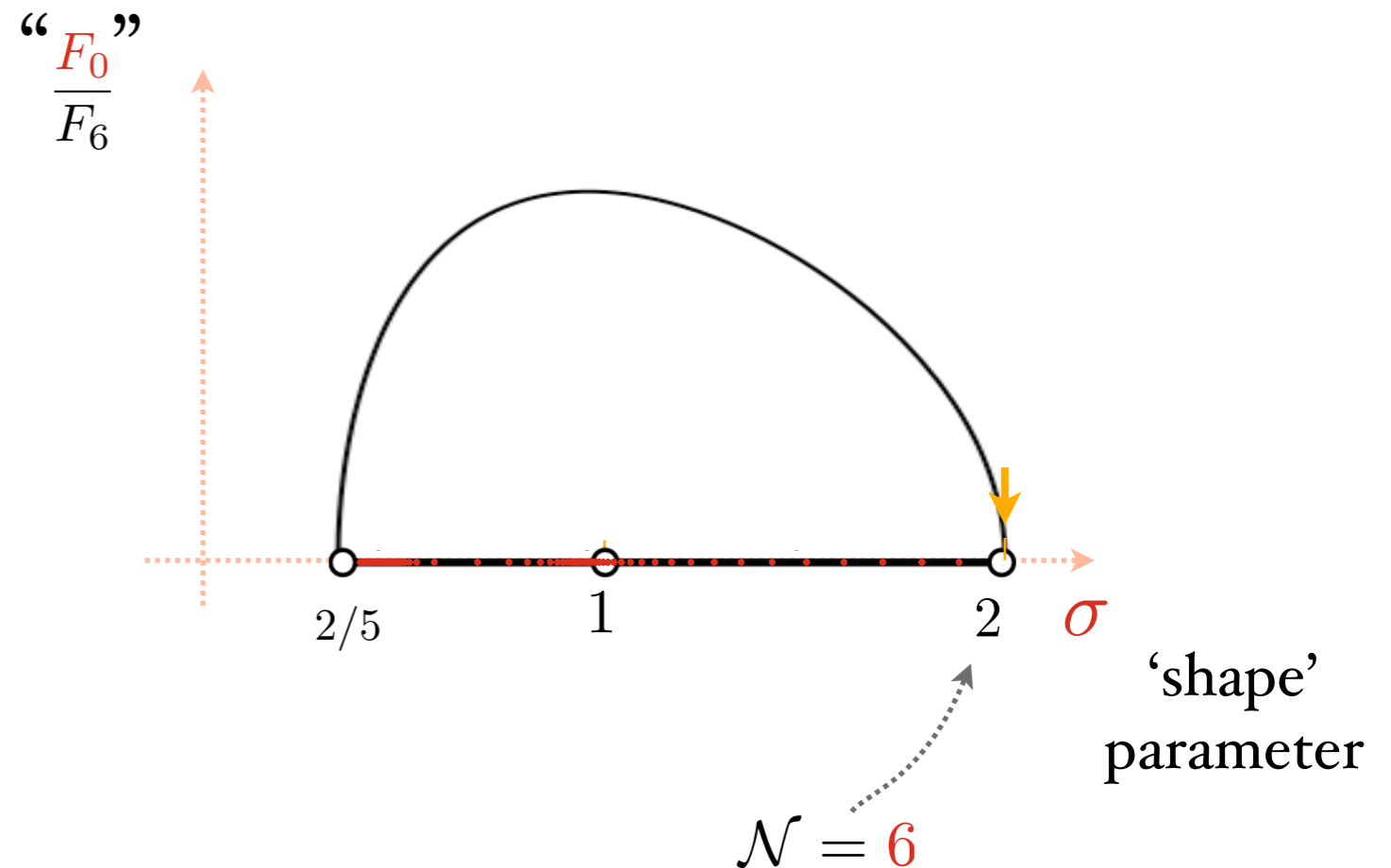
- There are actually more vacua on  $\text{AdS}_4 \times \mathbb{CP}^3$  [AT, '07] if one allows for non-zero **Romans mass**

$\mathbb{CP}^3$  is a sphere fibration:



supersymmetry equations  
boil down to:

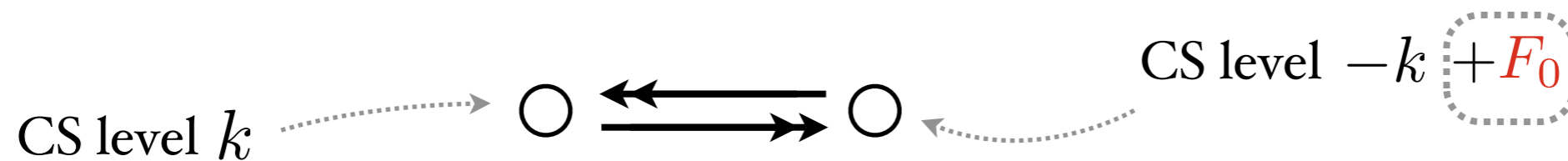
$$\frac{F_0}{F_6} = \frac{\sqrt{(\sigma - \frac{2}{5})(2 - \sigma)}}{\sigma + 2}$$



$F_0$  has a coupling to D2-branes

$$\int F_0 CS(\mathcal{A})$$

one can show:



[Gaiotto, AT'09]

the enhancement to  $\mathcal{N} = 6$  doesn't work now;

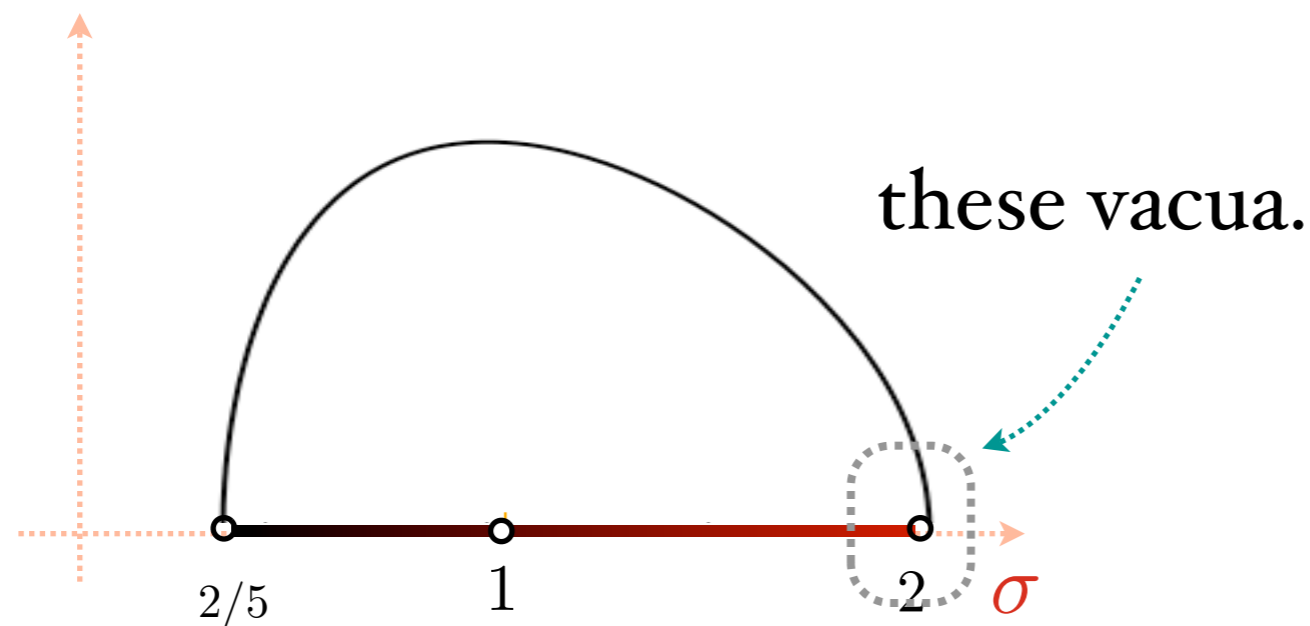
accidental  $SO(5)$  and R-symmetry  $SO(1)$  now commute.

However: If  $F_0 \ll k$

one can still argue for a fixed point with these symmetries.

$\mathcal{N} = 1$   
superpotential:  $\int d^2\theta (c_1 X_I^\dagger X^I X_J^\dagger X^J + c_2 X_I^\dagger X^J X_J^\dagger X^I + c_3 \omega^{IK} \omega_{JL} X_I^\dagger X^J X_K^\dagger X^L)$

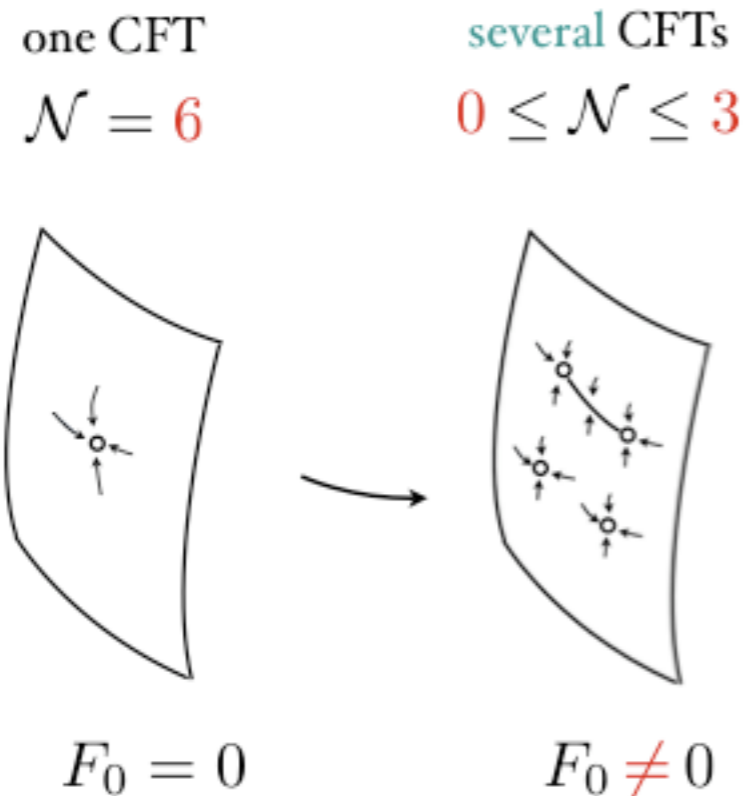
So the **proposal** is  
that these theories  
should be dual to



$F_0 \ll$  other fluxes;

small perturbation  
around  $\mathcal{N} = 6$  solution.

This logic also leads to other theories.



supersymmetry	global symmetry
$\mathcal{N} = 0$	SO(6)
$\mathcal{N} = 1$	SO(5)
$\mathcal{N} = 2$	$\text{SO}(2)_{\text{R}} \times \text{SO}(4)$
$\mathcal{N} = 3$	$\text{SO}(3)_{\text{R}} \times \text{SO}(3)$

the last two are connected by a line:

$$W_{\mathcal{N}=2} = c_1 \text{Tr}(A_i B_i)^2 + c_2 \text{Tr}(B_i A_i)^2$$

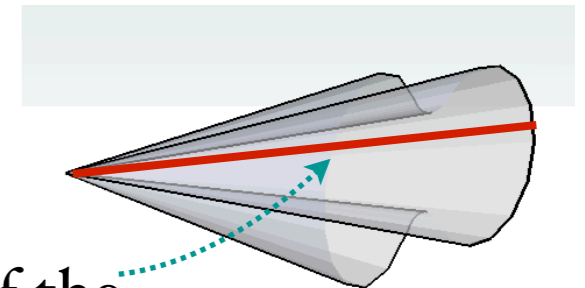
Can we find their **gravity duals**?

# Supersymmetry

The superpotential  $W_{\mathcal{N}=2} = c_1 \text{Tr}(A_i B_i)^2 + c_2 \text{Tr}(B_i A_i)^2$

doesn't vanish even in the abelian case.

**Moduli space** has dimension 4!



some subspace of the  
original 8d cone.

This is the hallmark of  
**generalized complex geometry (GCG)**

[Hitchin '02; Gualtieri '04;  
Graña, Minasian, Petrini, AT '05]

It is a way of writing the supersymmetry conditions

in terms of  $\Phi_+$  and  $\Phi_-$  differential forms  
with some constraints  
[“pure spinors”]

- For example: “SU(3) structure” case

almost like a CY:

$$\Phi_+ = e^{i\theta} e^{-iJ} \quad \text{two-form}$$

$$\Phi_- = \Omega \quad \text{“holomorphic” three-form}$$

- More generally:

“SU(3) × SU(3)  
structure”

$$\Phi_- = v \wedge e^\omega \quad \text{“holomorphic” two-form}$$

This general case is the one of interest to us.



One susy equation is a first-order equation purely on the geometry:

$$d\Phi_+ = -2\sqrt{-\Lambda} e^{-A} \text{Re}\Phi_-$$

cosmological constant
warping

[There is **one more** susy equation; and Bianchi]

$$\Phi_+ = \rho e^{i\theta} e^{-iJ}$$

$$\Phi_- = v \wedge e^\omega$$

In particular:

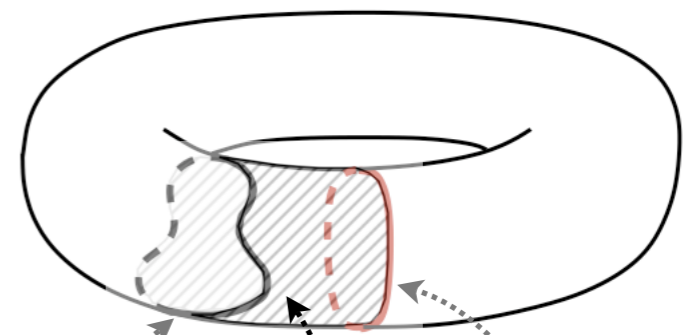
$$\frac{d\theta}{\sin^2(\theta)} = -2\sqrt{-\Lambda} e^{-A} \text{Re}v$$

These forms are related to the **brane superpotentials...**

- Step back: superpotential for D5 wrapping **two-cycles**

$$W = \int_{\Gamma} \Omega$$

[Witten '97]



reference two-cycle  $B_0$

two-cycle  $B$

'difference':  $\Gamma$

$$\partial\Gamma = B - B_0$$

- same for D2 wrapping **points**

$$\partial\gamma = p - p_0$$



[Martucci '06]

'difference': path  $\gamma$

$$\begin{aligned} W &= \int_{\gamma} \text{Re}\Phi_- \\ &= \int_{\gamma} \text{Re}v \propto \int_{\gamma} d(\cot(\theta)) \\ &= \cot(\theta) \end{aligned}$$

- Susy conditions in terms of ‘pure spinors’
- A small piece of these ‘pure spinors’ is the superpotential of the CFT

This is not enough to find explicit solutions. **But:**

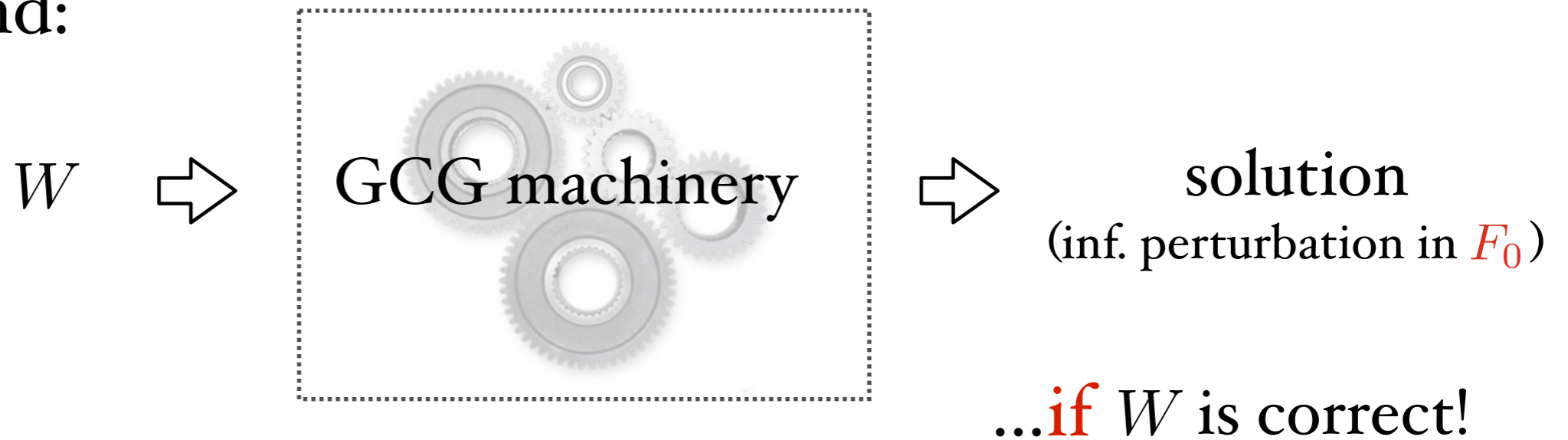
# Perturbative solutions

[Gaiotto, AT'09]

perturbative parameter:  $F_0 = k_1 + k_2$  [sum of CS levels]

$$\theta = \frac{\pi}{2} + F_0 \delta\theta + O(F_0^2) \quad \Rightarrow \quad W = F_0 \delta\theta + O(F_0^2)$$

We find:



[ For  $\text{AdS}_5$  , any  $W$  works at first order [Graña, Polchinski'00] ]

At first order:

- metric doesn't change
- $F_2, F_6$  don't change
- B-field changes (becomes  $\neq 0$ )
- $F_0, F_4$  change (become  $\neq 0$ )

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 W & \longrightarrow & v = \partial W & \xrightarrow{\text{w.r.t. almost complex structure}} & \omega = v \lrcorner \Omega \\
 & & \swarrow & & \searrow \\
 \Phi_- = v \wedge e^\omega & & & & B = W J + \text{Im} \omega \\
 & & & & *F_4 = d\text{Im} v + B
 \end{array}$$

...it remains  
to check Bianchi.

So, on  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3$ , to summarize:

supersymmetry	global symmetry
$\mathcal{N} = 0$	$SO(6)$
$\mathcal{N} = 1$	$SO(5)$
$\mathcal{N} = 2$	$SO(2)_{\mathbb{R}} \times SO(4)$
$\mathcal{N} = 3$	$SO(3)_{\mathbb{R}} \times SO(3)$

gravity dual

$SU(3)$  structure:  $\Phi_- = \Omega$

$SU(3) \times SU(3)$  structure:  $\Phi_- = v \wedge e^\omega$

What about other spaces?

- Most other IIA solutions with  $F_0 = 0$  have nonconstant dilaton



no  $F_0 \neq 0$  deformation with  $SU(3)$  structure

However, no obstruction to  
 $SU(3) \times SU(3)$  structure

An example has already appeared

[Petrini, Zaffaroni '09]

Hopefully, most Freund-Rubin vacua ( $F_0 = 0$ )

will spawn many more vacua upon switching on  $F_0$

# Conclusions

- AdS/CFT: Romans mass = “overall” Chern-Simons coupling
  - New CFT<sub>3</sub>'s with low supersymmetry
    - many new string theory vacua