Cosmology of String Moduli and the Swampland

Fernando Quevedo ICTP + Cambridge SILAFAE 2018 Lima, Peru, 2018

Based on Articles

- S. Antusch, F. Cefala, S. Krippendorf, F. Muia, S. Orani and FQ: *"Oscillons from String Moduli,"* JHEP {1801} (2018) 083, [arXiv:1708.08922.
- S. Krippendorf, F. Muia and FQ,
 `Moduli Stars,'' JHEP {1808} (2018) 070, [arXiv:1806.04690].
- M Cicoli, S. de Alwis, A. Maharana, F. Muia and FQ *"de Sitter vs Quintessence in String Theory,"* [arXiv:1808.08967].
- J.P. Conlon and FQ
 "Putting the Boot into the Swampland," [arXiv:1811.06276].

Strings and Moduli

- String theory predicts (6 or 7) extra dimensions
- Major problem: Fixing size and shape of extra dimensions (moduli)



• Progress to fix all moduli: only this century (GKP, KKLT, LVS,...)

In some cases the 4D space = de Sitter space (Λ>0)

Physics of Moduli

- Moduli: scalar particles in 4D: candidates for inflatons
- Gravitational strength couplings
- Mass of moduli ~ gravitino mass
- Each modulus equivalent to saxion+axion
- Number of moduli order 100-1000

Moduli Stabilisation in IIB

• Moduli S, T_i, U_a $V_F = e^K \left(K_{M\overline{N}}^{-1} D_M W \overline{D}_{\overline{M}} \overline{W} - 3|W|^2 \right)$

 $W_{\text{tree}} = W_{\text{flux}}(U, S) \qquad K_{i\overline{j}}^{-1}K_iK_{\overline{j}} = 3 \qquad \text{No-scale}$ $V_F = e^K \left(K_{a\overline{b}}^{-1}D_aWD_{\overline{b}}W \right) \ge 0$ Fix S,U but T arbitrary

- Quantum corrections $\delta V \propto W_0^2 \delta K + W_0 \delta W$
- Three options: $W_0 \gg \delta W$ $\delta K \gg \delta W$ Runaway: Dine-Seiberg problem

$$W_0 \sim \delta W = W_{
m np}.$$
 Fix T-modulus: KKLT $W_0 \ll 1$

 $\delta K \sim W_0 \delta W_{-}$ $\delta K \sim 1/\mathcal{V} \text{ and } \delta W \sim e^{-a\tau}$ Fix T-moduli: LVS

String Cosmology

- Epochs: Pre-inflation, inflation, post-inflation (pre-BBN)
- Chiral spectrum implies N=0,1 in 4D (work with N=1)
- Strings relevant in postinflation? (yes: moduli).

"Generically": If EFT is suspersymmetric then the moduli survive at low energies until susy breaks: mass_{moduli}≈ m_{gravitino}.

(but interesting exceptions!)

Kahler moduli



Post Inflation

Moduli Domination



Oscillons* from String Moduli

Antusch, Cefalá, Krippendorf, Muia, Orani, FQ arXiv:1708.08922

*localised, long-lived, non-linear excitations of the scalar fields.

Generalities

• Exponentially growing solutions:

$$\ddot{\phi}(t) + 3H\dot{\phi}(t) + V'(\phi(t)) = 0$$

$$\delta\ddot{\phi}_k + 3H\delta\dot{\phi}_k + \left(\frac{k^2}{a^2(t)} + V''(\phi(t))\right)\delta\phi_k = 0$$

$$V(\phi)$$

- Conditions for unstable solutions:
 - i. parametric resonance
 - ii. tachyonic preheating (modulus displaced in I) $k^2/a^2 + \partial^2 V/\partial \phi^2 < 0$

iii. tachyonic oscillations (oscillations reach I) $k_p \sim \sqrt{\partial^2 V / \partial \phi^2}|_{\min} \equiv m$

Necessary Conditions for Oscillons production

- Quantum fluctuations of the field grow as it oscillates around the minimum.
- The growth of fluctuations is sufficiently strong for non-linear interactions to become important.
- The potential is shallower than quadratic away from the minimum in some field space region relevant for the dynamics of the field.

$$V = \frac{m^2}{2}\phi^2 - \frac{\lambda}{4!}\phi^4 + \dots$$



Attractive 'force' for $\lambda > 0$

Lattice simulations*

• LatticeEasy: to analyse strong growth of perturbations.

$$\ddot{\phi} + 3H\dot{\phi} - rac{1}{a^2}
abla^2\phi + rac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} = 0 \qquad \qquad H^2 = rac{1}{3M_{
m Pl}^2}\left(V + rac{1}{2}\dot{\phi}^2 + rac{1}{2a^2}|
abla\phi|^2
ight)$$

 Modified version to calculate also metric perturbations:

$$ds^{2} = -dt^{2} + a^{2}(t)(\delta_{ij} + h_{ij})dx^{i}dx^{j}$$
$$\ddot{h}_{ij} + 3H\dot{h}_{ij} - \frac{1}{a^{2}}\nabla^{2}h_{ij} = \frac{2}{M_{\mathrm{Pl}}^{2}}\Pi_{ij}^{\mathrm{TT}} \qquad \Pi_{ij}^{\mathrm{TT}} = \frac{1}{a^{2}}\left[\partial_{i}\phi\partial_{j}\phi\right]^{\mathrm{TT}}$$
$$\Omega_{\mathrm{GW}}(k) = \frac{1}{\rho_{\mathrm{c}}}k\frac{d\rho_{\mathrm{GW}}}{dk} \qquad \rho_{\mathrm{GW}}(t) = \frac{M_{\mathrm{Pl}}^{2}}{4}\left\langle\dot{h}_{ij}(\mathbf{x},t)\dot{h}_{ij}(\mathbf{x},t)\right\rangle_{\mathrm{V}}$$

*Plus Floquet analysis

KKLT Oscillons

$$V/M_{\rm Pl}^4 = \frac{e^{K_{\rm cs}}}{6\tau^2} \left(aA^2 (3+a\tau)e^{-2a\tau} - 3aAe^{-a\tau}W_0 \right) .$$

$$\phi/M_{\rm Pl} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \log \left(T + \bar{T} \right) . \qquad 10^{-12} \le W_0 \le 10^{-5} , \quad 1 \le A \le 10 , \quad 1 \le a \le 2\pi .$$



KKLT results





Snapshots









GW spectrum: KKLT



 $f_{0,\text{peak}} \sim 10^9 \,\text{Hz}$ $\Omega_{\text{GW},0}(f_{0,\text{peak}}) \sim 3 \times 10^{-11}$

*Overall scaling can lower frequency but also lower the amplitude

Blow-up Potential in LVS





Oscillons from Blow-up mode

 $\rho / < \rho >$ at a=1.26 $\rho / < \rho >$ at a=2. 0 $\rho / < \rho >$ at a=3.02 $\rho / < \rho >$ at a=4.02 .

Gravitational Waves



 $f_0 \sim 10^8 \,\mathrm{Hz} - 10^9 \,\mathrm{Hz}$, with $\Omega_{\mathrm{GW},0} \sim 10^{-10} - 5 \times 10^{-10}$.

*No oscillons for volume nor fibre moduli but also no overshooting!

Moduli Stars

Krippendorf, Muia + FQ JHEP {1808} (2018) 070, [arXiv:1806.04690].

Boson and Fermion Stars

Fermion stars: Gravity vs fermion pressure

$$GM^2/R \sim N^{4/3}/R$$
, $N = M/m$
 $M_{\rm max} \sim \frac{M_{\rm P}^3}{m_f^2}$ $R_{\rm min} \sim \frac{M_{\rm P}}{m_f^2}$.
(e.g. $M \sim M_{\odot}$ for $m \sim 1 {
m ~GeV}$ neutron star)

Boson stars: Gravitational BEC

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Heisenberg R>1/m} \mbox{Schwarschild R~2GM} \ R_{\rm min} \sim \frac{1}{m} \ . \quad M_{\rm max} \sim \frac{M_{\rm P}^2}{m} \ . \end{array}$

But adding interactions $M_c \sim M_p^3/m^2$

Bosonic Compact Objects

• Q-balls

Oscillons

Repulsive pressure vs attractive interaction

- Gravity vs Repulsive pressure
- Boson stars
- Mini-boson stars
- Oscillatons (e.g. axion stars) (+ axion miniclusters)

Are there stringy boson/fermion stars?

Candidates:

Long-lived (stable) gravitationally coupled fields:

- hidden sector fermions/bosons,
- moduli,
- modulini,
- gravitini

Stringy Fermion Stars

Gravitino and modulini:

$$M_{\rm max} \sim \frac{M_{\rm P}^3}{m_f^2} \qquad \qquad m_f = m_{3/2} = \frac{W_0}{\mathcal{V}}$$

Validity of EFT and Cosmological moduli problem: $10^3 \leq \mathcal{V} \leq 10^9$

$$1 \,\mathrm{g} \lesssim M \lesssim 10^{15} \,\mathrm{g}, \qquad 10^{-27} \,\mathrm{cm} \lesssim R \lesssim 10^{-15} \,\mathrm{cm}$$

Recall: $M_{\odot} \simeq 2 \times 10^{33} \,\mathrm{g} \simeq 10^{57} \,\mathrm{GeV}$. $1 \,\mathrm{GeV} \simeq 1.8 \times 10^{-24} \,\mathrm{g}$

Volume modulus stars

$$S = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[-\frac{g^{\mu\nu}}{2} \partial_\mu \varphi \partial_\nu \varphi - V(\varphi) \right]$$

$$\begin{split} \varphi(r,t) &= \varphi_0(r) \cos\left(\omega t\right) \,, \qquad \qquad ds^2 = -(1+2\phi)dt^2 + (1-2\phi)\,dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega^2 \,, \\ \tilde{\varphi}_0''(\tilde{r}) + \frac{2}{\tilde{r}}\tilde{\varphi}_0'(\tilde{r}) &= 2\,(\phi(\tilde{r}) - \epsilon)\,\tilde{\varphi}_0(\tilde{r}) \,, \\ \phi''(\tilde{r}) + \frac{2}{\tilde{r}}\phi'(\tilde{r}) &= \frac{\tilde{\varphi}_0^2(\tilde{r})}{4} \,, \end{split}$$

$$M(r) = \left(\frac{\Lambda^2}{m}\right) \tilde{M}(\tilde{r}), \qquad \tilde{M}(\tilde{r}) = 4\pi \int_0^{\tilde{r}} d\tilde{r}' \, \tilde{r}'^2 \tilde{\rho}(\tilde{r}') \,.$$



Q-Balls*

...Coleman (1985)...

Complex scalar, U(1) global symmetry

$$\mathcal{L} = \int d^3x \left(\frac{1}{2} \partial^\mu \Phi \partial_\mu \Phi^* - U(|\Phi|) \right)$$

U minimum at $\Phi=0$

Noether current and conserved charge

$$J_{\mu} = \frac{1}{2i} \left(\Phi^* \partial_{\mu} \Phi - \Phi \partial_{\mu} \Phi^* \right); \qquad Q = \int d^3 x J^0 = \frac{1}{2i} \int d^3 x \left(\Phi^* \dot{\Phi} - h.c. \right)$$

Extrema of energy

$$\begin{split} E_{\omega} &= \int d^{3}x \left(\frac{1}{2} |\dot{\Phi}|^{2} + \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \Phi|^{2} + U(|\Phi|) \right) + \omega \left(Q - \frac{1}{2i} \int d^{3}x \left(\Phi^{*} \dot{\Phi} - h.c. \right) \right) \\ &= \int d^{3}x \left(\frac{1}{2} |\dot{\Phi} - i\omega \Phi|^{2} + \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \Phi|^{2} + \hat{U}(|\Phi|) \right) + \omega Q \qquad \hat{U}_{\omega}(|\Phi|) = U(|\Phi|) - \frac{1}{2} \omega^{2} |\Phi|^{2}. \\ \Phi(x, t) &= \varphi(x) e^{i\omega t} \end{split}$$

Thin wall approximation (large Q)

$$E = Q \sqrt{\frac{2U(\varphi_0)}{\varphi_0^2}}$$

Q-balls in string theory?*

Global symmetries?

From (non) anomalous U(1)
 From Peccei-Quinn symmetries

*Open strings:
$$U_{\rm D} = g^2 \left(\xi - \sum_i q_i |\Phi_i|^2 \right)^2$$

 $U_{\rm soft} = \sum_i m_i^2 |\Phi_i|^2 + \left(\sum_{ijk} A_{ijk} \Phi_i \Phi_j \Phi_k + \sum_{ij} B_{ij} \Phi_i \Phi_j + h.c. \right)$
 $E^2 = \frac{2U}{\sum_i q_i |\Phi_i|^2} = \frac{2(U_D + U_{soft})}{\sum_i q_i |\Phi_i|^2}$

MInimum for novanishing: $\rho^2 = \sum_i q_i \rho_i^2 = \sum_i q_i |\Phi_i|^2$

e.g. Kusenko (1997) for MSSM

Closed string sector*

 Massive moduli + axion (generalised axion stars, m> 1 TeV)

- Axion much lighter (Ultra-light axion) $V_{\psi} = \frac{g_s}{2\pi} a_b A_b \frac{e^{-a_b \tau_b}}{\tau_b^2} \left[1 + \cos\left(a_b \psi_b\right)\right],$
- PQ symmetry almost exact (PQ-balls?)

PQ Balls?*

$$S = \int d^4x \,\mathcal{L} = \int d^4x \,\left[-f(\tau) \left[\partial_\mu \tau \partial^\mu \tau + \partial_\mu \theta \partial^\mu \theta\right] - V(\tau)\right] \\ \dot{\theta} = \omega \,, \qquad \nabla \theta = 0 \,. \qquad \hat{V}(\tau) = V(\tau) - \omega^2 f(\tau)$$

$$Q = \omega \int d^3x f(\tau) \propto \int 4\pi r^2 dr \frac{\omega}{r^2} \to \infty \,.$$



Spinning Axions?*

$$\mathcal{S} = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[-g^{\mu\nu} \left(\partial_\mu \varphi \partial_\nu \varphi + f(\varphi) \partial_\mu \theta \partial_\nu \theta \right) - V \right]$$
$$f = \alpha / \tau^2 = \alpha e^{-\sqrt{2/\alpha}\varphi}.$$

$$\ddot{\varphi} + 3H\dot{\varphi} + \partial_{\varphi}V = \frac{q^2\partial_{\varphi}f}{4a^6f^2} \,.$$

$$V = V_0 e^{-\kappa_1 \varphi}, \qquad f = \alpha e^{-\kappa_2 \varphi},$$

 $\varphi(t) = B \ln t - C, \qquad a(t) = t^{\frac{\kappa_1 + \kappa_2}{3\kappa_1}} \qquad w(\varphi) = \frac{\kappa_1 - \kappa_2}{\kappa_1 + \kappa_2}.$ Similar to spintessence

Formation Mechanisms?

- I) There is some initial localized overdensity;
- II) The initial overdensity collapses due to the effect of attractive interactions.

$$\delta_{\mathrm{m,k}} \equiv \frac{\delta \rho_{\mathrm{m,k}}}{\langle \rho \rangle} \propto a(t) \sim t^{2/3}, \qquad k \gg aH.$$

$$\Psi = \frac{\delta_{\mathrm{m,k}}(t_{\mathrm{dec}})}{\delta_{\mathrm{m,k}}(t_{\mathrm{mat}})} \approx \left(\frac{t_{\mathrm{dec}}}{t_{\mathrm{mat}}}\right)^{2/3} \approx \left(\frac{H_{\mathrm{mat}}}{H_{\mathrm{dec}}}\right)^{2/3} \approx \left(\frac{m}{\Gamma}\right)^{2/3} \approx \left(\frac{M_{\mathrm{P}}}{m}\right)^{4/3},$$

$$\Psi = \frac{\delta_{\mathrm{m,k}}(\tau_{\mathrm{dec}})}{\delta_{\mathrm{m,k}}(\tau_{\mathrm{mat}})}\Big|_{\mathcal{V}} \approx \left(\frac{M_{\mathrm{P}}}{M_{\mathrm{P}}/\mathcal{V}^{3/2}}\right)^{4/3} = \mathcal{V}^{2}, \qquad \text{Enhacement factor!}$$

Properties of Moduli Stars

| Particle | State mass | Star mass | Star radius | Enhancement |
|--|--|---|--|---------------------------------|
| LVS volume modulus | $M_{ m P}/\mathcal{V}^{3/2}$ | $M_{ m P} \mathcal{V}^{3/2}$ | $l_{ m P} \mathcal{V}^{3/2}$ | \mathcal{V}^2 |
| LVS blow-up modulus Generic axion | $M_{ m P}/{\cal V}$ | $M_{ m P} {\cal V}$ | $l_{ m P} \mathcal{V}^{5/3}$ | $\mathcal{V}^{4/3}$ |
| LVS fibre moduli | $M_{ m P}/{\cal V}^{5/3}$ | $M_{ m P} {\cal V}^{5/3}$ | $l_{ m P} \mathcal{V}^{5/3}$ | $\mathcal{V}^{20/9}$ |
| LVS volume axion | $M_{\rm P}e^{-\alpha \mathcal{V}^{2/3}}$ | $M_{\rm P}e^{\alpha \mathcal{V}^{2/3}}$ | $l_{\rm P} e^{lpha \mathcal{V}^{2/3}}$ | $e^{4/3lpha \mathcal{V}^{2/3}}$ |
| KKLT volume modulus | $M_{ m P} W_0 /{\cal V}$ | $M_{\mathrm{P}} W_0 ^{-1}\mathcal{V}$ | $l_{ m P} W_0 ^{-1}\mathcal{V}$ | $(W_0 ^{-1}\mathcal{V})^{4/3}$ |
| Gravitino, modulini, unsequestered gauginos | $M_{ m P} W_0 /{\cal V}$ | $M_{\mathrm{P}}\mathcal{V}^2/ W_0 ^2$ | $l_{\mathrm{P}}\mathcal{V}^2/ W_0 ^2$ | $\mathcal{V}^{4/3}/ W_0 ^{4/3}$ |
| Sequestered gauginos | $M_{ m P}/{\cal V}^2$ | $M_{ m P} {\cal V}^4$ | $l_{ m P} \mathcal{V}^4$ | $\mathcal{V}^{8/3}$ |
| Unsequestered Q-balls | $M_{ m P}/{\cal V}$ | $M_{ m P} \mathcal{V}$ | $l_{ m P} {\cal V}$ | $\mathcal{V}^{4/3}$ |
| Sequestered Q-balls | $M_{ m P}/\mathcal{V}^{3/2}$ | $M_{ m P} \mathcal{V}^{3/2}$ | $l_{ m P} \mathcal{V}^{3/2}$ | \mathcal{V}^2 |

Size and Mass of Moduli Stars



de Sitter vs Quintessence

de Sitter Challenges

• Define S-matrix (resonance?)

 Classical no-go theorems (atoms are unstable classically!)

 No dS solution of string theory under full calculational control* (KKLT, LVS,...?)

* de Sitter solutions so far EFT "not under full control" ≠ "no control at all"!

Swampland conjectures

- Swampland: Quantum gravity vs EFT ! Vafa et al.
- Weak gravity conjecture
- Distance conjecture
- New (non) de Sitter conjecture: $M_p \frac{|\nabla V|}{V} \gtrsim c$,

(It would imply quintessence and no de Sitter Obied et al and difficult to have inflation!).

Challenges for the new conjecture

- Higgs potential with quintessence field? (at the <H>=0 point.
 Denef et al.
- If V asymptotes to infinite from above even Conlon supersymmetric AdS forbidden.
- Both addressed if modify conjecture (allow saddle points for V>0).

see e.g. Andriot Ooguri et al

Quintessence from Strings?

- Need stabilise all moduli except for quintessence field: as difficult as getting de Sitter
- Or have many fields rolling but slower than quintessence. Difficult.
- Fifth force and varying couplings constraints (e.g. volume modulus or dilaton problematic)

Quintessence Candidates

 Modulus (fibre, blow-up) that does not couple directly to SM. It also would require a very small string scale (e.g. Ms~TeV)

Cicoli, et al

Axions

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{2} \partial^{\mu} \theta \partial_{\mu} \theta - \mu^4 \left(1 - \cos \left(\frac{\theta}{f} \right) \right) \,,$$

K. Choi Panda et al Kaloper et al.

Axion Quintessence 1

$$m_a \simeq \sqrt{\frac{g_s}{8\pi}} \frac{M_p}{\mathcal{V}^{2/3}} e^{-\frac{\pi}{N} \mathcal{V}^{2/3}} M_p ,$$

Naturally very small!

$$V = \Lambda^4 - \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{ULA}}} \Lambda_i^4 \cos\left(\frac{a_i}{f_i}\right) + \cdots,$$

Minimum not necessarily at zero

$$\epsilon = \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\frac{\Lambda_{\ell}}{\Lambda} \right)^4 \frac{M_p}{f_{\ell}} \right]^2 \frac{\sin^2 \left(a_{\ell} / f_{\ell} \right)}{\left(1 - \left(\Lambda_{\ell} / \Lambda \right)^4 \cos \left(a_{\ell} / f_{\ell} \right) \right)^2} < 1.$$
 Slow-rol

 $f_{\ell} \gtrsim M_p$. Not necessarily

Axion Quintessence 2

• Hilltop Quintessence_{V(a)} $<math>\Lambda^4 + \Lambda_i^4 > 0$ </sub>





Quasi-natural quintessence



Oscillating quintessence



AdS/CFT and Bootland Conjectures

Bootland Conjecture

LVS/CFT correspondence?

$$\Delta = \frac{3(1+\sqrt{19})}{2} \left(1 - \sqrt{\frac{2}{27}} \frac{1}{\langle \Phi \rangle} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\langle \Phi \rangle}\right)^2 \right).$$
 For Volume mode
$$\Delta_a = 3.$$
 For volume axion mode

n-point functions

$$\mathcal{L}_{(\delta\Phi)^n} = (-1)^{n-1} \lambda^n (n-1) \left(-3 \frac{M_P^2}{R_{AdS}^2} \right) \frac{1}{n!} \left(\frac{\delta\Phi}{M_P} \right)^n \left(1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\lambda \langle \Phi \rangle} \right) \right),$$
$$\mathcal{L}_{(\delta\Phi)^{n-2}aa} = \left(-\sqrt{\frac{8}{3}} \right)^{(n-2)} \frac{1}{2(n-2)!} \left(\frac{\delta\Phi}{M_P} \right)^{n-2} \partial_\mu a \partial^\mu a,$$

 Bootland: bootstrap constraints in CFT side=Swampland constraints on AdS side.

Conclusions

- Rich spectrum of compact objects (stringy oscillons, gravitino, modulini, moduli, oscillatons, axion stars) Gravitational waves spectrum ('hear the shape of the extra dimensions?')
- de Sitter vs Quintessence: Many achievements, challenges, open questions (*experiments??)

The report of my death was an exaggeration. Mark Twain

- Swampland conjectures: interesting new perspective, e.g. "bootland" and LVS/CFT, KKLT/CFT
- More? "Standard Model Swampland Conjecture"??...

de Sitter Achievements

- Remarkable: well defined prescription exists that includes all stringy ingredients: branes, orientifolds, warping, anti (T)-branes, perturbative, non-perturbative effects, etc.
- IIB with fluxes~ Calabi-Yau (moduli space understood).
- W₀<<1 is plausible (not achieved yet) due to the large number of fluxes.
- Perturbative effects in LVS in better control as the volume is exponentially large. All computed so far harmless.
- Antibrane: nonlinearly realised SUSY (nilpotent superfield)
- Hierarchies: $E \ll M_{\rm KK} = \frac{M_s}{\mathcal{V}^{1/6}} \ll M_s \equiv \frac{1}{\ell_s} \equiv \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{\alpha'}} = g_s^{1/4} \frac{M_p}{\sqrt{4\pi\mathcal{V}}}$.

Inflation: Fibre+Blow-up





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 Swampland conjectures: interesting new perspective, e.g. "bootland" and LVS/CFT, KKLT/CFT

Challenges to KKLT, LVS,...

- Fluxes under full control only in SUSY 10D Sethi
- All SUSY breaking part is 4D EFT (with string inputs).
 Trust EFT?

Bena et al.

- Tuning $W_0 << 1?$ in KKLT
- Higher correction in LVS?
- Antibranes (by hand, non susy, singularity?)
- T-branes in a control region?
- Antibranes and non-perturbative effects? Moritz et al.

String Cosmology

- Some inflationary EFTs describe CMB + other data very well.
- Inflation needs an UV completion.
- Some EFTs of string compactification can describe inflation
- Challenges: Moduli stabilisation and

 $M_{planck} > M_{string} > M_{kk} > M_{inf}$.