

1 Stringy Physics!

$$T(z) = -\frac{1}{\alpha'} : \partial X^\mu \partial X_\mu : , \quad \tilde{T}(\bar{z}) = -\frac{1}{\alpha'} : \bar{\partial} X^\mu \bar{\partial} X_\mu : , \quad (1)$$

$$V_k = : e^{ik \cdot X(z, \bar{z})} : , \quad G_{e,k} = e_{\mu\nu} : \partial X^\mu_z \bar{\partial} X^\nu_{\bar{z}} e^{ik \cdot X(z, \bar{z})} : , \quad (2)$$

We sometimes use subscripts like ∂X^μ_z to denote variable dependence to avoid clutter.

(a) The weight of a primary operator is given by its OPE with T and \tilde{T} . For exponential operators, there is a neat formula for cross contractions¹:

$$\begin{aligned} T(z) V_k(w, \bar{w}) &= \exp \left\{ \int d^2 z' \int d^2 w' \overline{X^\mu_{z'} X^\nu_w} \frac{\delta}{\delta X^\mu_{z'}} \frac{\delta}{\delta X^\nu_{w'}} \right\} : T_z e^{ik \cdot X_w} : \\ &= \exp \left\{ \int d^2 z' \overline{X^\mu_{z'} X^\nu_w} \frac{\delta}{\delta X^\mu_{z'}} ik_\nu \right\} : T_z e^{ik \cdot X_w} : \\ &= : \left\{ \exp \left(ik_\nu \int d^2 z' \overline{X^\mu_{z'} X^\nu_w} \frac{\delta}{\delta X^\mu_{z'}} \right) T_z \right\} e^{ik \cdot X_w} : \\ &\sim -\frac{1}{\alpha'} : \left\{ 2\partial_z (ik_\sigma \overline{X^\mu_z X^\sigma_w}) \partial_z X_\mu + \partial_z (ik_\rho \overline{X^\mu_z X^\rho_w}) \partial_z (ik_\sigma \overline{X_{z,\mu} X^\sigma_w}) \right\} e^{ik \cdot X_w} : \\ &\sim -\frac{1}{\alpha'} : \left\{ 2 \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \frac{ik^\mu}{z-w} \right) \partial_z X_\mu + \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \frac{ik^\mu}{z-w} \right) \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \frac{ik_\mu}{z-w} \right) \right\} e^{ik \cdot X_w} : \\ &\sim \frac{\alpha' k^2}{4} \frac{V_k(w, \bar{w})}{(z-w)^2} + \frac{\partial V_k(w, \bar{w})}{z-w} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Here we've used the result that $ik_\sigma \overline{X^\mu_z X^\sigma_w} = ik^\mu (-\frac{\alpha'}{2}) \ln |z-w|^2$. We see that V_k is a primary of weight $(1, 1)$ iff. $\frac{\alpha' k^2}{4} = 1$, or $m^2 = -k^2 = -\frac{4}{\alpha'}$. This is the mass shell condition for the closed string tachyon (at level 0). On the other hand,

$$G_{e,k} = e_{\mu\nu} G_k^{\mu\nu}, \quad (4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(z) G_k^{\mu\nu}(0) &\sim : \overline{\partial X^\mu_0 \partial X^\nu_0} e^{ik \cdot X_0} : + : \overline{\cancel{\partial X^\mu_0 \partial X^\nu_0}} e^{ik \cdot X_0} : + : \overline{\partial X^\mu_0 \partial X^\nu_0} e^{ik \cdot X_0} : \\ &\quad + : \overline{\cancel{\partial X^\mu_0 \partial X^\nu_0}} e^{ik \cdot X_0} : + : \overline{\partial X^\mu_0 \partial X^\nu_0} e^{ik \cdot X_0} : \\ &\sim \left(\frac{1}{z^2} G_k^{\mu\nu}(0) + \frac{1}{z} : \partial^2 X^\mu_0 \bar{\partial} X^\nu_0 e^{ik \cdot X_0} : \right) + \left(\frac{\alpha' k^2}{4} \frac{1}{z^2} G_k^{\mu\nu}(0) + \frac{1}{z} : \partial X^\mu_0 \bar{\partial} X^\nu_0 \partial e^{ik \cdot X_0} : \right) \\ &\quad - \frac{2}{\alpha'} \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \eta^{\sigma\mu} \frac{1}{z^2} \right) \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \frac{ik_\sigma}{z} \right) : \bar{\partial} X^\nu_0 e^{ik \cdot X_0} : \\ &\sim ik^\mu : \bar{\partial} X^\nu_0 e^{ik \cdot X_0} : \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \right) \frac{1}{z^3} + \left(1 + \frac{\alpha' k^2}{4} \right) \frac{G_k^{\mu\nu}(0)}{z^2} + \frac{\partial G_k^{\mu\nu}(0)}{z}, \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

$$\tilde{T}(\bar{z}) G_k^{\mu\nu}(0) \sim ik^\nu : \partial X^\mu_0 e^{ik \cdot X_0} : \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \right) \frac{1}{\bar{z}^3} + \left(1 + \frac{\alpha' k^2}{4} \right) \frac{G_k^{\mu\nu}(0)}{\bar{z}^2} + \frac{\partial G_k^{\mu\nu}(0)}{\bar{z}}, \quad (6)$$

¹Reference: Polchinski, and physics.stackexchange.com/a/389193.

Therefore, $G_{e,k}$ is a primary of weight $(1,1)$ iff. $1 + \frac{\alpha' k^2}{4} = 1$ and $k^\mu e_{\mu\nu} = 0 = k^\nu e_{\mu\nu}$. The first equation gives the mass shell condition $m^2 = -k^2 = 0$ for a massless boson, while the second equation constrains the polarization to be transverse. These are the physical constraints for a massless gauge boson, which is the level 1 excitation for a bosonic closed string.

(b) The form of any primary 3-point function is completely fixed by $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{C})$ invariance². In fact, for any holomorphic $\phi_i(z_i)$ with weight h_i , by translational invariance, we have:

$$\langle \phi_1(z_1) \phi_2(z_2) \phi_3(z_3) \rangle = f(z_{12}, z_{23}, z_{31}), \quad z_{ij} = z_i - z_j, \quad (7)$$

Furthermore, scaling invariance requires that f is quasi-homogeneous:

$$\begin{aligned} z \mapsto z' = \lambda^{-1} z, \quad f &\mapsto \langle \lambda^{h_1} \phi_1(\lambda z_1) \lambda^{h_2} \phi_2(\lambda z_2) \lambda^{h_3} \phi_3(\lambda z_3) \rangle \\ &= \lambda^{h_1+h_2+h_3} f(\lambda z_{12}, \lambda z_{23}, \lambda z_{31}) \\ &= f(z_{12}, z_{23}, z_{31}), \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

$$f = \sum_{a+b+c=\sum_i h_i} f_{abc} = \sum_{a+b+c=\sum_i h_i} \frac{C_{abc}}{z_{12}^a z_{23}^b z_{31}^c} \quad (9)$$

On the other hand, for special conformal transformation³ $\frac{1}{z} \mapsto \frac{1}{z'} = \frac{1}{z} + a$, we have:

$$z \mapsto z' = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{z} + \bar{a}} = \frac{z}{1 + z\bar{a}} = w(z), \quad \frac{\partial z}{\partial z'} = \frac{1}{(1 - z\bar{a})^2} = \frac{1}{\kappa^2}, \quad z_{ij} = \frac{z'_{ij}}{\kappa_i \kappa_j}, \quad (10)$$

$$f \mapsto f(w^{-1}(z_{12}), w^{-1}(z_{23}), w^{-1}(z_{31})) \frac{1}{\kappa_1^{2h_1} \kappa_2^{2h_2} \kappa_3^{2h_3}} = f(z_{12}, z_{23}, z_{31}), \quad (11)$$

$$f_{abc}(w^{-1}(z_{12}), w^{-1}(z_{23}), w^{-1}(z_{31})) = f_{abc}(z_{12}, z_{23}, z_{31}) \kappa_1^{c+a} \kappa_2^{a+b} \kappa_3^{b+c}, \quad (12)$$

We see that f is invariant under special conformal transformation iff. $f = f_{abc}$ where:

$$c + a = 2h_1, \quad a + b = 2h_2, \quad b + c = 2h_3, \quad (13)$$

$$\text{i.e. } a = h_1 + h_2 - h_3, \quad b = h_2 + h_3 - h_1, \quad c = h_3 + h_1 - h_2, \quad (14)$$

In the above discussions we've restricted ϕ_i to be holomorphic; for *spin-less* $\phi_i = \phi_i(z, \bar{z})$, $h_i = \tilde{h}_i$, $\Delta_i = h_i + \tilde{h}_i$, the holomorphic and anti-holomorphic contributions can be nicely combined, and we have:

$$f = \frac{C}{|z_{12}|^{2a} |z_{23}|^{2b} |z_{31}|^{2c}}, \quad (15)$$

$$2a = \Delta_1 + \Delta_2 - \Delta_3, \quad 2b = \Delta_2 + \Delta_3 - \Delta_1, \quad 2c = \Delta_3 + \Delta_1 - \Delta_2, \quad (16)$$

$$\langle V_{k_1}(z_1, \bar{z}_1) V_{k_2}(z_2, \bar{z}_2) G_{e,k_3}(z_3, \bar{z}_3) \rangle = \frac{A(k_1, k_2, e)}{|z_{12}|^2 |z_{23}|^2 |z_{31}|^2} \quad (17)$$

²Reference: Blumenhagen, *Introduction to CFT*, and also *Di Francesco et al.*

³See *Di Francesco et al.* and also github.com/davidsd/ph229.

$$\begin{aligned}
G_{k_2}^{\rho\sigma}(z_2, \bar{z}_2) G_{k_3}^{\mu\nu}(z_3, \bar{z}_3) \sim \dots + \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \eta^{\rho\mu} \frac{1}{z_{23}^2}\right) \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \eta^{\sigma\nu} \frac{1}{\bar{z}_{23}^2}\right) \times 1 \\
+ \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \eta^{\rho\mu} \frac{1}{z_{23}^2}\right) \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \frac{ik_3^\sigma}{\bar{z}_{23}}\right) \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \frac{ik_2^\nu}{\bar{z}_{32}}\right) + (z \leftrightarrow \bar{z}, \rho \leftrightarrow \sigma, \mu \leftrightarrow \nu) \\
+ \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \frac{ik_2^\rho}{z_{23}}\right) \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \frac{ik_2^\sigma}{\bar{z}_{23}}\right) \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \frac{ik_3^\mu}{z_{32}}\right) \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \frac{ik_3^\nu}{\bar{z}_{32}}\right) + \dots \\
O_{k_1, k_2}(z_2, \bar{z}_2) G_{k_3}^{\mu\nu}(z_3, \bar{z}_3) \sim \dots - k_1^\mu k_1^\nu \left(\frac{\alpha'^2}{4}\right) \frac{1}{|z_{23}|^4} \\
- i^2 (k_1^\mu k_2^\nu + k_1^\nu k_2^\mu) \left(\frac{\alpha'}{2} (k_1 \cdot k_3)\right) \left(\frac{\alpha'^2}{4}\right) \frac{1}{|z_{23}|^4} \\
- i^4 k_3^\mu k_3^\nu \left(\frac{\alpha'}{2} (k_1 \cdot k_2)\right)^2 \left(\frac{\alpha'^2}{4}\right) \frac{1}{|z_{23}|^4} + \dots
\end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

Again, apply the on-shell conditions, and we find that:

$$\frac{\alpha'}{2} k_1 \cdot k_2 = -2, \quad \frac{\alpha'}{2} k_1 \cdot k_3 = -\frac{\alpha'}{2} k_1 \cdot (k_1 + k_2) = -\frac{\alpha'}{2} k_1^2 - \frac{\alpha'}{2} k_1 \cdot k_2 = -2 - (-2) = 0, \tag{27}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
A(k_1, k_2, e) &= -\frac{\alpha'^2}{4} (4e_{\mu\nu} k_3^\mu k_3^\nu + e_{\mu\nu} k_1^\mu k_1^\nu) = -\frac{\alpha'^2}{4} e_{\mu\nu} k_1^\mu k_1^\nu \\
&= -\frac{\alpha'^2}{4} e_{\mu\nu} (k_2 + k_3)^\mu (k_2 + k_3)^\nu = -\frac{\alpha'^2}{4} e_{\mu\nu} k_2^\mu k_2^\nu \\
&= -\frac{\alpha'^2}{8} e_{\mu\nu} (k_1^\mu k_1^\nu + k_2^\mu k_2^\nu) \\
&= -\frac{\alpha'^2}{8} e_{\mu\nu} (k_{12}^\mu k_{12}^\nu + (k_1^\mu k_2^\nu + k_1^\nu k_2^\mu)),
\end{aligned} \tag{28}$$

On the other hand,

$$0 = e_{\mu\nu} k_3^\mu k_3^\nu = e_{\mu\nu} (k_1 + k_2)^\mu (k_1 + k_2)^\nu = e_{\mu\nu} (k_{12}^\mu k_{12}^\nu + 2(k_1^\mu k_2^\nu + k_1^\nu k_2^\mu)) \tag{29}$$

$$A(k_1, k_2, e) = -\frac{\alpha'^2}{8} e_{\mu\nu} k_{12}^\mu k_{12}^\nu \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) = -\frac{\alpha'^2}{16} e_{\mu\nu} k_{12}^\mu k_{12}^\nu \tag{30}$$

2 Strings Scattering Off a Heavy Particle:

A heavy particle can be modeled by some D0-brane with Neumann boundary condition in the X_0 direction⁴. The scattering of a closed string tachyon off the heavy particle can then be computed via a disc diagram with two insertions.

(a) The conformal Killing group (CKG) of the disc is $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$. It is a 3 dimensional \mathbb{R} Lie group, generated by 3 conformal Killing vectors (CKV's); therefore, it is possible to partially fix the positions of the two insertions V_1, V_2 . On the upper half plane, this can be implemented by putting z_1, z_2 on the imaginary axis, with z_2 fixed and z_1 integrated⁵:

$$\mathcal{A} = g_c^2 e^{-\lambda} \int_0^{z_2} dz_1 \left\langle :c_1^x e^{ik_1 \cdot X_1} :: c_2 \tilde{c}_2 e^{ik_2 \cdot X_2}: \right\rangle, \quad z_2 = i, \quad z_1 = iy, \quad y \in [0, 1] \tag{31}$$

⁴Reference: [arXiv:hep-th/9611214](#), [arXiv:hep-th/9605168](#), and *Polchinski*.

⁵Reference: [arXiv:0812.4408](#). I would like to thank Lucy Smith for pointing this out.

Here c^x comes from the CKV that brings $z_1 \rightarrow iy$. On the disc this can be taken to be a rotation around z_2 ; when mapped to the upper half plane and at around the imaginary axis, this is simply a translation along the $x = \frac{1}{2}(z + \bar{z})$ direction⁶, i.e.

$$\text{CKV: } \partial_x = \delta_x^a \partial_a \implies \text{Ghost: } c^x, \quad (32)$$

$$c^x \partial_x + c^y \partial_y = c^z \partial_z + c^{\bar{z}} \partial_{\bar{z}}, \quad c^x = \frac{1}{2}(c^z + c^{\bar{z}}) = \frac{1}{2}(c(z) + \tilde{c}(\bar{z})), \quad (33)$$

The ghost contribution is then:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle c_1^x c_2 \tilde{c}_2 \rangle &= \langle c^x(z_1) c(z_2) \tilde{c}(\bar{z}_2) \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \left(\langle c(z_1) c(z_2) \tilde{c}(\bar{z}_2) \rangle + \langle \tilde{c}(z_1) c(z_2) \tilde{c}(\bar{z}_2) \rangle \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\langle c(z_1) c(z_2) c(z'_2) \rangle + \langle c(z'_1) c(z_2) c(z'_2) \rangle \right), \quad z' = \bar{z}, \\ &= \frac{C_{D^2}^g}{2} (z_{12} z_{12'} z_{22'} + z_{1'2} z_{1'2'} z_{22'}), \quad z_1, z_2 \in i\mathbb{R}, \\ &= 2C_{D^2}^g (z_1^2 - z_2^2) z_2 \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

On the other hand, the $e^{ik_j \cdot X_j}$ contribution is very similar to what we compute in [\[1\]](#), except that now we should be careful about the boundary conditions of X^μ on the upper half plane, which affect the XX contraction in the formulae. For Neumann boundary condition: $\partial_y X^0 = 0$, the half-plane propagator from z' can be constructed with an image at \bar{z}' with *the same charge*, i.e. we have:

$$\overline{X_1^0 X_2^0} = -\frac{\alpha'}{2} \eta^{00} \ln |z_1 - z_2|^2 - \frac{\alpha'}{2} \eta^{00} \ln |z_1 - \bar{z}_2|^2 \quad (35)$$

While for Dirichlet boundary $X^i = \text{const}$, we can always select the origin so that $X^i = 0$, and in this case the image should have *the opposite charge*, i.e.

$$\overline{X_1^i X_2^j} = -\frac{\alpha'}{2} \delta^{ij} \ln |z_1 - z_2|^2 + \frac{\alpha'}{2} \delta^{ij} \ln |z_1 - \bar{z}_2|^2, \quad (36)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies :e^{ik_1 \cdot X_1} : :e^{ik_2 \cdot X_2} : &= \exp \left(ik_{1,\mu} ik_{2,\nu} \overline{X_1^\mu X_2^\nu} \right) :e^{ik_1 \cdot X_1} e^{ik_2 \cdot X_2} : \\ &= |z_{12}|^{\alpha' k_1 \cdot k_2} |z_{1\bar{2}}|^{\alpha' (-k_1^0 k_2^0 - \delta_{ij} k_1^i k_2^j)} :e^{ik_1 \cdot X_1} e^{ik_2 \cdot X_2} : \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

Before further calculations, we note that the normal ordering defined here on D^2 differs from that on the usual \mathbb{C}^2 ; in fact, there are also self-contractions with image charge⁷:

$$\overline{X^\mu(z, \bar{z}) X^\nu(\bar{z}, z)} = G_r^{\mu\nu}(z, \bar{z}) = \mp \frac{\alpha'}{2} \eta^{\mu\nu} \ln |z - \bar{z}|^2, \quad (38)$$

$$\implies \left\langle :e^{ik_1 \cdot X_1} e^{ik_2 \cdot X_2} : \right\rangle_{D^2} = \left\langle :e^{ik_1 \cdot X_1} e^{ik_2 \cdot X_2} : \right\rangle_{\mathbb{C}^2} \exp \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_n ik_{n,\mu} ik_{n,\nu} \overline{X_n^\mu X_n^\nu} \right), \quad n = 1, 2 \quad (39)$$

The “ \mp ” sign choice depends on the boundary condition.

⁶Reference: *Polchinski*, Chapter 5 & 6.

⁷This is very much similar to the torus situation, where we also have to consider self-contractions with image charges. More rigorous discussion of G^r is given in *Polchinski*.

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
\left\langle :e^{ik_1 \cdot X_1} :: e^{ik_2 \cdot X_2}: \right\rangle_{D^2} &= \left\langle :e^{ik_1 \cdot X_1} e^{ik_2 \cdot X_2}: \right\rangle_{\mathbb{C}^2} \exp \left(ik_{1,\mu} ik_{2,\nu} \overline{X_1^\mu} X_2^\nu \right) \exp \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_n ik_{n,\mu} ik_{n,\nu} \overline{X_n^\mu} X_n^\nu \right) \\
&= \left\langle :e^{ik_1 \cdot X_1} e^{ik_2 \cdot X_2}: \right\rangle_{\mathbb{C}^2} \exp \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_{m,n} ik_{m,\mu} ik_{n,\nu} \overline{X_m^\mu} X_n^\nu \right) \\
&= \left\langle :e^{ik_1 \cdot X_1} e^{ik_2 \cdot X_2}: \right\rangle_{\mathbb{C}^2} |z_{12}|^{\alpha' k_1 \cdot k_2} |z_{1\bar{2}}|^{\alpha' (-k_1^0 k_2^0 - \mathbf{k}_1 \cdot \mathbf{k}_2)} \prod_n |z_{n\bar{n}}|^{\frac{\alpha'}{2} (-(k_n^0)^2 - \mathbf{k}_n^2)}
\end{aligned} \tag{40}$$

Note that X^i has no zero mode due to the Dirichlet boundary, hence $\int \mathcal{D}X$ gives a delta function in only the Neumann direction: $\delta(k_1^0 + k_2^0)$. Physically, this means that only the energy is conserved; the momentum k^i is not conserved since the heavy D0-brane does not recoil. It is therefore convenient to define these on shell variables:

$$s = \omega^2 = (k_1^0)^2 = (k_2^0)^2, \quad t = -(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2)^2 = -\mathbf{k}_1^2 - \mathbf{k}_2^2 - 2\mathbf{k}_1 \cdot \mathbf{k}_2 = 2 \left(-\omega^2 - \mathbf{k}_1 \cdot \mathbf{k}_2 - \frac{4}{\alpha'} \right), \tag{41}$$

$$\mathbf{k}_1 \cdot \mathbf{k}_2 = -\frac{t}{2} - \omega^2 - \frac{4}{\alpha'}, \quad k_1 \cdot k_2 = -\omega(-\omega) + \mathbf{k}_1 \cdot \mathbf{k}_2 \tag{42}$$

Here we've used the on-shell condition: $m^2 = -k^2 = \omega^2 - \mathbf{k}^2 = -\frac{4}{\alpha'}$ for tachyons. The previous expressions can then be simplified to:

$$\begin{aligned}
\left\langle :e^{ik_1 \cdot X_1} :: e^{ik_2 \cdot X_2}: \right\rangle_{D^2} &= \left\langle :e^{ik_1 \cdot X_1} e^{ik_2 \cdot X_2}: \right\rangle_{\mathbb{C}^2} |z_{12}|^{-\frac{\alpha' t}{2} - 4} |z_{1\bar{2}}|^{+\frac{\alpha' t}{2} + 4 + 2\alpha' \omega^2} \prod_n |z_n|^{-\alpha' \omega^2 - 2} \\
&= iC_{D^2}^X 2\pi \delta(k_1^0 + k_2^0) |z_{12}|^{-\frac{\alpha' t}{2} - 4} |z_{1\bar{2}}|^{+\frac{\alpha' t}{2} + 4 + 2\alpha' \omega^2} \prod_n |z_n|^{-\alpha' \omega^2 - 2} \\
&= iC_{D^2}^X 2\pi \delta(k_1^0 + k_2^0) f(|z_{12}|, |z_{1\bar{2}}|, |z_1|, |z_2|),
\end{aligned} \tag{43}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{A} &= g_c^2 e^{-\lambda} \cdot iC_{D^2}^X 2\pi \delta(k_1^0 + k_2^0) \cdot 2C_{D^2}^g \int_0^{z_2} dz_1 (z_1^2 - z_2^2) z_2 f(|z_{12}|, |z_{1\bar{2}}|, |z_1|, |z_2|) \\
&= g_c^2 C_{D^2} 2\pi \delta(k_1^0 + k_2^0) \cdot 2i \int_0^1 dy ((iy)^2 - i^2) i \cdot f(1-y, 1+y, 2y, 2) \\
&= -ig_c^2 C_{D^2} 2\pi \delta(k_1^0 + k_2^0) \cdot 2 \cdot 2^{-2\alpha' \omega^2 - 4} \int_0^1 dy (1-y^2) f(1-y, 1+y, y, 1),
\end{aligned} \tag{44}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^1 dy (1-y^2) f(1-y, 1+y, y, 1) &= \int_0^1 dy (1-y)^{-\frac{\alpha' t}{2} - 4 + 1} (1+y)^{+\frac{\alpha' t}{2} + 4 + 2\alpha' \omega^2 + 1} y^{-\alpha' \omega^2 - 2} \\
&= \int_0^1 dy y^{a-1} (1-y)^{2b-1} (1+y)^{-2a-2b+1}, \quad t = \frac{1-y}{1+y}, \\
&= -2^{1-2a} \int_0^1 dt (-t)^{2b-1} (1-t^2)^{a-1} \\
&= 2^{-2a} \int_0^1 d(t^2) (t^2)^{b-1} (1-t^2)^{a-1} \\
&= 2^{-2a} B \left(a = -\alpha' \omega^2 - 1, b = -\frac{\alpha' t}{4} - 1 \right)
\end{aligned} \tag{45}$$

Here $B(a, b) = \frac{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b)}$ is the Euler Beta function.

Putting everything together, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{A} &= -ig_c^2 C_{D^2} 2\pi \delta(k_1^0 + k_2^0) \cdot \frac{1}{2} B\left(-\alpha' \omega^2 - 1, -\frac{\alpha' t}{4} - 1\right) \\ &= -ig_c^2 C_{D^2} \pi \delta(k_1^0 + k_2^0) B\left(-\alpha' \omega^2 - 1, -\frac{\alpha' t}{4} - 1\right)\end{aligned}\quad (46)$$

In fact C_{D^2} can be further computed by path integral or by comparing physical results. Here we settle for this generic coefficient since it's already enough for our following discussions⁸.

(b) The Regge limit is found by taking the high energy limit while keeping the momentum transfer fixed; in this case it is achieved by:

$$\text{Regge: } s = \omega^2 \rightarrow \infty, \quad t = -(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2)^2 \text{ fixed}, \quad (47)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{A} \propto B\left(a = -\alpha' s - 1, b = -\frac{\alpha' t}{4} - 1\right) &= \frac{\Gamma(-\alpha' s - 1)}{\Gamma(-\alpha' s - \frac{\alpha' t}{4} - 2)} \Gamma\left(-\frac{\alpha' t}{4} - 1\right) \\ &\sim \left\{e\left(\alpha' s + \frac{\alpha' t}{4} + 3\right)\right\}^{\frac{\alpha' t}{4} + 1} \Gamma\left(-\frac{\alpha' t}{4} - 1\right) \\ &\sim (e\alpha' \omega^2)^{\frac{\alpha' t}{4} + 1} \Gamma\left(-\frac{\alpha' t}{4} - 1\right) \\ &\sim (\omega^2)^{\frac{\alpha' t}{4} + 1} \Gamma\left(-\frac{\alpha' t}{4} - 1\right)\end{aligned}\quad (48)$$

Here we've used the Stirling's approximation⁹: $\ln \Gamma(z + 1) = \ln z! \sim z \ln z - z$. On the other hand, the hard scattering limit is found by keeping the scattering angle fixed, i.e.

$$\text{Hard scattering: } s = \omega^2 \rightarrow \infty, \quad (t/s) \equiv \lambda \text{ fixed}, \quad (49)$$

$$\mathcal{A} \propto B(a, b) = \frac{\Gamma(a) \Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a + b)} \sim \exp \left\{ -\alpha' \left(s \ln(\alpha' s) + \frac{t}{4} \ln \frac{\alpha' t}{4} + \frac{u}{4} \ln \frac{\alpha' u}{4} \right) \right\}, \quad (50)$$

$$s = \omega^2 = (k_1^0)^2 = (k_2^0)^2, \quad t = -(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2)^2, \quad u = -(\mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2)^2, \quad (51)$$

$$s + \frac{t}{4} + \frac{u}{4} = -\frac{4}{\alpha'}, \quad (52)$$

Here we've introduced an additional u variable, and we see that the result is symmetric under $t \leftrightarrow u$. We find that the amplitude exhibits similar limits as the Veneziano amplitude.

(c)

⁸And I have run out of time and energy.

⁹For the validity of Stirling's approximation when $z \in \mathbb{C}$ and $|z| \rightarrow \infty$, see [Wikipedia: Stirling's formula for the gamma function](#).

☞ PAST WORK, AS TEMPLATE ☞

3 Strings on Curved Space:

$$S = \frac{1}{4\pi\alpha'} \int_M d^2\sigma \sqrt{g} \left(i\epsilon^{ab} B_{\mu\nu}(X) \partial_a X^\mu \partial_b X^\nu + \dots \right), \quad (53)$$

$$T^a_a = -\frac{1}{2\alpha'} \beta_{\mu\nu}^G g^{ab} \partial_a X^\mu \partial_b X^\nu + \dots, \quad (54)$$

$$\beta_{\mu\nu}^G = \alpha' R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4} \alpha' H_{\mu\lambda\omega} H_\nu^{\lambda\omega} + \dots + \mathcal{O}(\alpha'^2) \quad (55)$$

We want to verify the coefficient of $\alpha' H^2$ term in $\beta_{\mu\nu}^G$; for convenience we've omitted non-related terms in the above expressions.

Note that at $\mathcal{O}(\alpha')$ such term does not depend on the metric $G_{\mu\nu}$, and it depends only on the field strength $H = dB$, not the potential B , hence it's safe to assume:

$$G_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu}, \quad B_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{3} H_{\mu\nu\rho} X^\rho, \quad H = \text{const}, \quad (56)$$

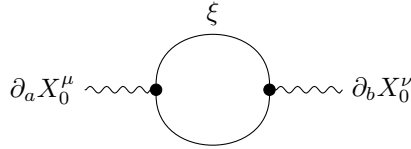
$$i\epsilon^{ab} B_{\mu\nu}(X) \partial_a X^\mu \partial_b X^\nu = \frac{i}{3} H_{\mu\nu\rho} X^\rho \epsilon^{ab} \partial_a X^\mu \partial_b X^\nu, \quad (57)$$

We consider small perturbation away from the classical saddle: $X = X_0 + \xi$, then the 1-loop effective action is obtained by integrating over $\mathcal{O}(\xi^2)$ terms in the perturbed action¹⁰:

$$\Gamma^{(1)}[X_0] = -\ln \int \mathcal{D}\xi e^{-S^{(2)}[X_0, \xi]}, \quad (58)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^{(2)} &= \frac{i}{3} H_{\mu\nu\rho} \epsilon^{ab} \left(\xi^\rho \partial_a X_0^\mu \partial_b \xi^\nu + \xi^\rho \partial_a \xi^\mu \partial_b X_0^\nu + X_0^\rho \partial_a \xi^\mu \partial_b \xi^\nu \right) \\ &\sim \frac{i}{3} H_{\mu\nu\rho} \epsilon^{ab} \left(\xi^\rho \partial_a X_0^\mu \partial_b \xi^\nu - \xi^\rho \partial_a X_0^\nu \partial_b \xi^\mu - \xi^\mu \partial_a X_0^\rho \partial_b \xi^\nu \right) \\ &= \frac{i}{3} H_{\mu\nu\rho} \epsilon^{ab} \cdot 3\xi^\rho \partial_a X_0^\mu \partial_b \xi^\nu \\ &= i H_{\mu\nu\rho} \epsilon^{ab} \partial_a X_0^\mu (\xi^\rho \partial_b \xi^\nu) \end{aligned} \quad (59)$$

Here we've used the anti-symmetric properties of $H_{\mu\nu\rho}, \epsilon^{ab}$, and ignored any total derivative after integration by parts. This term introduces a cubic interaction vertex in the free background; therefore, $\Gamma^{(1)}$ can be expressed in the following diagram¹¹:



¹⁰Reference: Prof. Xi Yin's String Notes, see also [arXiv:0812.4408](https://arxiv.org/abs/0812.4408).

¹¹References:

- David Tong, *String Theory*;
- Callan & Thorlacius, *Sigma Models and String Theory*;
- Timo Weigand, *Introduction to String Theory*.

$$\sim \frac{1}{2!} \left(\frac{1}{\alpha'} \right)^2 \int d^2 p \left(i H_{\mu\nu\rho} \epsilon^{ab} \partial_a X_0^\mu i p_b \right) \frac{2}{p^4} \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \right)^2 \left(i H_{\mu'}^{\nu\rho} \epsilon^{a'b'} \partial_{a'} X_0^{\mu'} i p_{b'} \right) \quad (60)$$

$$= \frac{2}{2!} \left(\frac{1}{\alpha'} \right)^2 \left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2} \right)^2 H_{\mu\lambda\omega} H_\nu^{\lambda\omega} \partial_a X_0^\mu \partial_b X_0^\nu \int d^2 p \frac{p^2 g^{ab} - p^a p^b}{p^4} \quad (61)$$

$$= \frac{2}{2!} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \right)^2 H_{\mu\lambda\omega} H_\nu^{\lambda\omega} \partial_a X_0^\mu \partial_b X_0^\nu \left(\frac{1}{2} g^{ab} \right) \int d^2 p \frac{1}{p^2} \quad (62)$$

$$= \frac{2}{2!} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \right)^2 \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) H_{\mu\lambda\omega} H_\nu^{\lambda\omega} \partial_a X_0^\mu \partial_b X_0^\nu g^{ab} \int d^2 p \frac{1}{p^2} \quad (63)$$

$$= \frac{1}{8} H_{\mu\lambda\omega} H_\nu^{\lambda\omega} g^{ab} \partial_a X_0^\mu \partial_b X_0^\nu \int d^2 p \frac{1}{p^2} \quad (64)$$

Here the $\left(\frac{1}{\alpha'}\right)^2$ coefficient comes from the vertices, while $\left(-\frac{\alpha'}{2}\right)^2$ comes from the propagators. The $p^a p^b$ integral provides an additional $\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$ factor. The overall normalization is chosen to match the $\alpha' R_{\mu\nu}$ coefficient in $\beta_{\mu\nu}^G \subset T_a^a$, which is $\frac{1}{1!} \times \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \times 1 = -\frac{1}{2}$. Therefore, we have:

$$T_a^a \supset \frac{1}{8} H_{\mu\lambda\omega} H_\nu^{\lambda\omega} g^{ab} \partial_a X_0^\mu \partial_b X_0^\nu, \quad (65)$$

$$\beta_{\mu\nu}^G \supset -\frac{1}{4} \alpha' H_{\mu\lambda\omega} H_\nu^{\lambda\omega} \quad (66)$$

■

[4] Classical Solutions of 11D SUGRA: Following the convention of *Polchinski*, we have bosonic action:

$$S = \frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int \left(d^{11}x \sqrt{-g} \mathcal{R} - \frac{1}{2} G \wedge * G - \frac{1}{6} C \wedge G \wedge G \right), \quad (67)$$

Here $G = dC$: a 4-form field. In components, the numerical coefficients would be $\frac{1}{2} \mapsto \frac{1}{2 \times 4!} = \frac{1}{48}$, and $\frac{1}{6} \mapsto \frac{1}{6 \times 3! \times 4! \times 4!} = \frac{1}{20736}$.

Variation of the action yields the EOMs of our theory¹²; Note that:

$$\delta \sqrt{-g} = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{-g} g^{\mu\nu} \delta g_{\mu\nu} = -\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{-g} g_{\mu\nu} \delta g^{\mu\nu} \quad (68)$$

$\frac{\delta S}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}}$ is easier to compute in components; note that the $C \wedge G \wedge G$ term does not depend on $g^{\mu\nu}$, therefore it does not contribute to the EOM. We have the usual Einstein's equations:

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{R} g_{\mu\nu} = \kappa^2 T_{\mu\nu}, \quad (69)$$

$$\begin{aligned} T_{\mu\nu} &= \frac{1}{\kappa^2} \left(\frac{4}{48} G_{\mu\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3} G_\nu^{\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} \cdot \frac{1}{48} G^{\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3\sigma_4} G_{\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3\sigma_4} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{12\kappa^2} \left(G_{\mu\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3} G_\nu^{\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3} - \frac{1}{8} g_{\mu\nu} G^{\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3\sigma_4} G_{\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3\sigma_4} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (70)$$

¹²Reference: [arXiv:hep-th/9912164](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/9912164). I would like to thank *Lucy Smith* for many helpful discussions.

On the other hand, $\frac{\delta S}{\delta C}$ is best carried out using differential forms:

$$\begin{aligned}
0 = \delta_C S &= -\frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int \left(\delta G \wedge *G + \frac{1}{6} (\delta C \wedge G \wedge G - 2C \wedge \delta G \wedge G) \right) \\
&= -\frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int \left(\delta(dC) \wedge *G + \frac{1}{6} (\delta C \wedge G \wedge G + 2\delta(dC) \wedge C \wedge G) \right) \\
&= -\frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int \left(-(-1)^3 \delta C \wedge d *G + \frac{1}{6} (\delta C \wedge G \wedge G - 2(-1)^3 \delta C \wedge d(C \wedge G)) \right) \quad (71) \\
&= -\frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int \delta C \wedge \left(d *G + \frac{1}{6} (G \wedge G + 2(G \wedge G - C \wedge d^2 C)) \right) \\
&= -\frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int \delta C \wedge \left(d *G + \frac{1}{2} G \wedge G \right),
\end{aligned}$$

$$d *G + \frac{1}{2} G \wedge G = 0 \quad (72)$$

(a) We hope to find a spacetime solution which is *maximally symmetric* in *some* directions; assume that these directions form a d -dimensional sub-manifold \mathcal{M}_d with:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Coordinates: } & x^{\mu'}, \mu' \in \Delta \subset \{0, 1, \dots, 11\}, \\
\text{Induced metric: } & g' = g|_{\mathcal{M}_d}
\end{aligned} \quad (73)$$

The entire spacetime is then a direct product: $\mathcal{M}_d \times \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_{11-d}$. For \mathcal{M}_d to be maximally symmetric, we expect that $\kappa^2 T_{\mu'\nu'} = -\Lambda g'_{\mu'\nu'}$, i.e. the G -field serves as a cosmological constant Λ . By staring at (70) we find that this can be achieved with¹³:

$$d = 4, \quad G_{\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_3 \sigma_4} = \alpha \sqrt{|g'|} \epsilon_{\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_3 \sigma_4}, \quad G^{\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_3 \sigma_4} = \alpha \frac{\text{sgn } g'}{\sqrt{|g'|}} \epsilon^{\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_3 \sigma_4}, \quad \{\sigma_i\} \subset \Delta, \quad (74)$$

$$G_{\dots \sigma \dots} = 0, \quad \sigma \notin \Delta, \quad (75)$$

$$T_{\mu\nu} = (\text{sgn } g') \frac{\alpha^2}{12\kappa^2} \left(3! g'_{\mu\nu} - \frac{4!}{8} g_{\mu\nu} \right) = (\text{sgn } g') \frac{\alpha^2}{2\kappa^2} \left(g'_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} \right), \quad (76)$$

$$\Lambda g_{\mu\nu} = \mp (\text{sgn } g') \frac{\alpha^2}{4\kappa^2} g_{\mu\nu}, \quad \begin{cases} -: \mu = \mu', \nu = \nu' \in \Delta, & \sim \mathcal{M}_4 \\ +: \mu, \nu \notin \Delta, & \sim \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_7 \end{cases} \quad (77)$$

Matter EOM is trivially satisfied due to anti-symmetry. We see that the other component $\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_7$ is also maximally symmetric, but with an opposite sign in its cosmological constant.

The field equations in \mathcal{M}_4 and $\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_7$ are both of the form $R_{\mu\nu} \propto g_{\mu\nu}$. For $\text{sgn } g' = -1$ i.e. Lorentzian signature, the solution is flat, AdS or dS, depending on the sign of Λ ; for $\text{sgn } g' = +1$, the solution is flat, spherical or hyperbolic. Therefore, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{sgn } g' = -1, \quad \Lambda_{4,7} &= \pm \frac{\alpha^2}{4\kappa^2}, \quad \mathcal{M}_4 = \text{AdS}_{3,1}, \quad \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_7 = S^7 \\
\text{sgn } g' = +1, \quad \Lambda_{4,7} &= \mp \frac{\alpha^2}{4\kappa^2}, \quad \mathcal{M}_4 = S^4, \quad \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_7 = \text{AdS}_{6,1}
\end{aligned} \quad (78)$$

¹³This is in fact the famous *Freund–Robin ansatz*; see Wikipedia: *Freund–Rubin compactification*, and also the original paper: Freund & Robin, *Dynamics of Dimensional Reduction*, 1980.

(b) Global supersymmetries of a theory with the above $\text{AdS}_{4/7} \times S^{4/7}$ background are given by the solutions of:

$$0 = \delta_\eta \psi^\mu \equiv D^\mu \eta(x), \quad \eta: \text{spinor}, \quad (79)$$

$$\begin{aligned} D^\mu &= \nabla^\mu + \frac{1}{288} G_{\nu\rho\sigma\lambda} (\Gamma^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma\lambda} - 8g^{\mu\nu}\Gamma^{\rho\sigma\lambda}) \\ &= \nabla^\mu + \frac{1}{288} G_{\nu'\rho'\sigma'\lambda'} (\Gamma^{\mu\nu'\rho'\sigma'\lambda'} - 8g^{\mu\nu'}\Gamma^{\rho'\sigma'\lambda'}) \\ &= \nabla^\mu + \alpha \begin{cases} \frac{-8 \times 3!}{288} (-\Gamma^\mu \gamma_5) = \frac{1}{6} \Gamma^\mu \gamma_5, & \mu = \mu' \in \Delta, \quad \sim \mathcal{M}_4 \\ \frac{4!}{288} (-\Gamma^\mu) = -\frac{1}{12} \Gamma^\mu, & \mu \notin \Delta, \quad \sim \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_7 \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (80)$$

Note that we've replaced the G indices with \mathcal{M}_4 indices, since G vanish in $\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_7$ directions; due to anti-symmetry, the G -term can be reduced to simple Γ^μ multiplications according to the μ -direction¹⁴. Furthermore, the spin connection in ∇^μ is also block diagonalized, same as $g_{\mu\nu}$; hence there is a natural separation of variable¹⁵:

$$\eta = \eta'(x') \eta''(x''), \quad D_{\mu'} \eta' = 0, \quad D_{\mu''} \eta'' = 0, \quad (81)$$

$$\mu', \eta', x' \sim \mathcal{M}_4, \quad \mu'', \eta'', x'' \sim \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_7, \quad (82)$$

Due to the presence of an additional Γ , $D_{\mu'} \eta' = 0$ has only 4 linearly independent solutions labeled by μ' , while $D_{\mu''} \eta'' = 0$ is $\text{Spin}(8)$ (or $\text{Spin}(7, 1)$, depending on the signature) invariant, and has $\frac{8 \times 7}{2} = 28$ linearly independent solutions¹⁶. Hence the total number of SUSYs is $4 + 28 = 32$, for $\text{AdS}_{4/7} \times S^{4/7}$ background.

5 SUSY Sigma Models via Superspace:

$$\begin{aligned} D_{\bar{\theta}} \mathbf{X}^\nu &= (\partial_{\bar{\theta}} + \bar{\theta} \partial_{\bar{z}}) (X^\nu + i\theta \psi^\nu + i\bar{\theta} \tilde{\psi}^\nu + \theta \bar{\theta} F^\nu) \\ &= i\tilde{\psi}^\nu - \theta F^\nu + \bar{\theta} \bar{\partial} X^\nu - i\theta \bar{\theta} \bar{\partial} \psi^\nu, \\ D_{\theta} \mathbf{X}^\mu &= i\psi^\mu + \bar{\theta} F^\mu + \theta \partial X^\mu + i\theta \bar{\theta} \partial \tilde{\psi}^\mu, \end{aligned} \quad (83)$$

$$\begin{aligned} D_{\bar{\theta}} \mathbf{X}^\nu D_{\theta} \mathbf{X}^\mu &= (i\tilde{\psi}^\nu - \theta F^\nu + \bar{\theta} \bar{\partial} X^\nu - i\theta \bar{\theta} \bar{\partial} \psi^\nu) (i\psi^\mu + \bar{\theta} F^\mu + \theta \partial X^\mu + i\theta \bar{\theta} \partial \tilde{\psi}^\mu) \\ &= -\tilde{\psi}^\nu \psi^\mu - i\theta (\tilde{\psi}^\nu \partial X^\mu + \psi^\mu F^\nu) + i\bar{\theta} (\psi^\mu \bar{\partial} X^\nu - \tilde{\psi}^\nu F^\mu) \\ &\quad - \theta \bar{\theta} (\bar{\partial} X^\nu \partial X^\mu + \tilde{\psi}^\nu \partial \tilde{\psi}^\mu - (\bar{\partial} \psi^\nu) \psi^\mu + F^\nu F^\mu), \end{aligned} \quad (84)$$

$$\begin{aligned} G_{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{X}) &= G_{\mu\nu} + (i\theta \psi^\lambda + i\bar{\theta} \tilde{\psi}^\lambda + \theta \bar{\theta} F^\lambda) \partial_\lambda G_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} \left\{ i\theta \psi^\rho \partial_\rho, i\bar{\theta} \tilde{\psi}^\sigma \partial_\sigma \right\} G_{\mu\nu} \\ &= G_{\mu\nu} + (i\theta \psi^\lambda + i\bar{\theta} \tilde{\psi}^\lambda) G_{\mu\nu, \lambda} + \theta \bar{\theta} (F^\lambda G_{\mu\nu, \lambda} + \psi^\rho \tilde{\psi}^\sigma G_{\mu\nu, \rho\sigma}), \end{aligned} \quad (85)$$

¹⁴Reference for Γ -matrices and spinors: *Polchinski* Vol. II, Appendix B. I'm a bit confused about all the complicated conventions, therefore the coefficients might be off by some factors...

¹⁵See [arXiv:hep-th/9912164](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/9912164) for more detailed discussions.

¹⁶Reference: Achilleas Passias, *Aspects of Supergravity in Eleven Dimensions*.

Note that $\int d^2\theta = \partial_\theta \bar{\partial}_\theta$, hence we need only focus on the $\theta\bar{\theta}$ term in the Lagrangian:

$$\begin{aligned}
4\pi S_G &= \int d^2z d^2\theta G_{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{X}) D_{\bar{\theta}} \mathbf{X}^\mu D_\theta \mathbf{X}^\nu = \int d^2z d^2\theta (-\theta\bar{\theta}) \left(G_{\mu\nu} (\partial X^\mu \bar{\partial} X^\nu + \dots) + \dots \right) \\
&= \int d^2z \left(G_{\mu\nu} \left(\partial X^\mu \bar{\partial} X^\nu + \tilde{\psi}^\nu \partial \tilde{\psi}^\mu - (\bar{\partial} \psi^\nu) \psi^\mu + F^\nu F^\mu \right) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \tilde{\psi}^\nu \psi^\mu \left(F^\lambda G_{\mu\nu,\lambda} + \psi^\rho \tilde{\psi}^\sigma G_{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} \right) \right. \\
&\quad \left. - G_{\mu\nu,\lambda} \left(\psi^\lambda (\psi^\mu \bar{\partial} X^\nu - \tilde{\psi}^\nu F^\mu) + \tilde{\psi}^\lambda (\tilde{\psi}^\nu \partial X^\mu + \psi^\mu F^\nu) \right) \right)
\end{aligned} \tag{86}$$

Similar result holds for the B contribution S_B . We see that there is no ∂F term in the action, hence F is not dynamical and can be integrated out; we have:

$$0 = \delta_F S = \delta_F (S_G + S_B), \tag{87}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
4\pi \delta S_G &= \int d^2z \left(2G_{\mu\nu} F^\mu \delta F^\nu + G_{\mu\nu,\lambda} (\tilde{\psi}^\nu \psi^\mu \delta F^\lambda - \tilde{\psi}^\nu \psi^\lambda \delta F^\mu - \tilde{\psi}^\lambda \psi^\mu \delta F^\nu) \right) \\
&= \int d^2z \left(2F_\lambda + (G_{\mu\nu,\lambda} - G_{\lambda\mu,\nu} - G_{\lambda\nu,\mu}) \tilde{\psi}^\nu \psi^\mu \right) \delta F^\lambda \\
&= \int d^2z \left(2F_\lambda - 2\Gamma_{\lambda\mu\nu} \tilde{\psi}^\nu \psi^\mu \right) \delta F^\lambda,
\end{aligned} \tag{88}$$

$$4\pi \delta S_B = \int d^2z \left(0 + (B_{\mu\nu,\lambda} + B_{\lambda\mu,\nu} + B_{\nu\lambda,\mu}) \tilde{\psi}^\nu \psi^\mu \right) \delta F^\lambda = \int d^2z H_{\lambda\mu\nu} \tilde{\psi}^\nu \psi^\mu \delta F^\lambda,$$

$$F_\lambda = \left(\Gamma_{\lambda\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} H_{\lambda\mu\nu} \right) \tilde{\psi}^\nu \psi^\mu, \tag{89}$$

$$F^\lambda = \left(\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\lambda - \frac{1}{2} H_{\mu\nu}^\lambda \right) \tilde{\psi}^\nu \psi^\mu, \tag{90}$$

Here we've used the (anti-)symmetry of $G_{\mu\nu}$ and $B_{\mu\nu}$, and we adopt the convention that the Levi-Civita connection $\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^\lambda = \Gamma_{\nu\mu}^\lambda = G^{\lambda\lambda'} \Gamma_{\lambda'\mu\nu}$; similar holds for $B_{\mu\nu}$ and $H_{\mu\nu}^\lambda$.

Substitute F_λ into S , collect the $\psi^0, \psi^2, \tilde{\psi}^2$ and $\psi^2 \tilde{\psi}^2$ terms respectively, and we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
4\pi S &= \int d^2z \left((G_{\mu\nu} + B_{\mu\nu}) \partial X^\mu \bar{\partial} X^\nu \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (G_{\mu\nu} + \cancel{B_{\mu\nu}}) \left(\tilde{\psi}^\mu \partial \tilde{\psi}^\nu - (\bar{\partial} \psi^\mu) \psi^\nu \right) \right. \\
&\quad \left. - (G_{\mu\nu,\lambda} + B_{\mu\nu,\lambda}) \left(\psi^\lambda \psi^\mu \bar{\partial} X^\nu + \tilde{\psi}^\lambda \tilde{\psi}^\nu \partial X^\mu \right) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + G_{\mu\nu} F^\mu F^\nu - 2 \left(\Gamma_{\lambda\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} H_{\lambda\mu\nu} \right) \tilde{\psi}^\nu \psi^\mu F^\lambda \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (G_{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} + B_{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma}) \tilde{\psi}^\nu \psi^\mu \psi^\rho \tilde{\psi}^\sigma \right) \\
&= \int d^2z \left((G_{\mu\nu} + B_{\mu\nu}) \partial X^\mu \bar{\partial} X^\nu \right. \\
&\quad \left. + G_{\mu\nu} \left(\tilde{\psi}^\mu \partial \tilde{\psi}^\nu + \psi^\mu \bar{\partial} \psi^\nu \right) - (G_{\mu\nu,\lambda} + B_{\mu\nu,\lambda}) \left(\psi^\lambda \psi^\mu \bar{\partial} X^\nu + \tilde{\psi}^\lambda \tilde{\psi}^\nu \partial X^\mu \right) \right. \\
&\quad \left. - F_\lambda F^\lambda + (G_{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} + B_{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma}) \psi^\mu \psi^\rho \tilde{\psi}^\nu \tilde{\psi}^\sigma \right)
\end{aligned} \tag{91}$$

Here we've performed some integration by parts to clean up the result. Note that some terms involving $B_{\mu\nu}$ vanish conveniently (up to integration by parts) due to anti-symmetry.

The $\psi^2, \tilde{\psi}^2$ terms in the integrand can be further simplified as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}_{\psi^2} &= G_{\mu\nu} \psi^\mu \bar{\partial} \psi^\nu - (G_{\mu\nu, \lambda} + B_{\mu\nu, \lambda}) \psi^\lambda \psi^\mu \bar{\partial} X^\nu \\
&= G_{\mu\nu} \psi^\mu \bar{\partial} \psi^\nu - (G_{\mu[\nu, \lambda]} + B_{\mu[\nu, \lambda]}) \psi^\lambda \psi^\mu \bar{\partial} X^\nu \\
&= G_{\mu\nu} \psi^\mu \bar{\partial} \psi^\nu - \left(-\Gamma_{\lambda\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} H_{\lambda\mu\nu} \right) \psi^\lambda \psi^\mu \bar{\partial} X^\nu \\
&= G_{\mu\nu} \psi^\mu \left(\bar{\partial} \psi^\nu + \left(\Gamma_{\rho\sigma}^\nu - \frac{1}{2} H_{\rho\sigma}^\nu \right) \psi^\rho \bar{\partial} X^\sigma \right) \\
&= G_{\mu\nu} \psi^\mu \left(\bar{\partial} \psi^\nu + \left(\Gamma_{\rho\sigma}^\nu + \frac{1}{2} H_{\rho\sigma}^\nu \right) \psi^\sigma \bar{\partial} X^\rho \right) = G_{\mu\nu} \psi^\mu \bar{\mathcal{D}} \psi^\nu, \\
\mathcal{L}_{\tilde{\psi}^2} &= G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{\psi}^\mu \partial \tilde{\psi}^\nu - (G_{\mu\nu, \lambda} + B_{\mu\nu, \lambda}) \tilde{\psi}^\lambda \tilde{\psi}^\mu \partial X^\nu \\
&= G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{\psi}^\mu \left(\partial \tilde{\psi}^\nu + \left(\Gamma_{\rho\sigma}^\nu - \frac{1}{2} H_{\rho\sigma}^\nu \right) \tilde{\psi}^\sigma \partial X^\rho \right) = G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{\psi}^\mu \mathcal{D} \tilde{\psi}^\nu,
\end{aligned} \tag{92}$$

For the $\psi^2 \tilde{\psi}^2$ term, recall that $R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} = e_\mu [\nabla_\rho, \nabla_\sigma] e_\nu$, $\nabla_\sigma e_\nu = e_\lambda \Gamma_{\sigma\nu}^\lambda$, and we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}_{\psi^2 \tilde{\psi}^2} &= \psi^\mu \psi^\nu \tilde{\psi}^\rho \tilde{\psi}^\sigma \left(G_{\mu\rho, \nu\sigma} + B_{\mu\rho, \nu\sigma} + \left(\Gamma_{\lambda\mu\rho} - \frac{1}{2} H_{\lambda\mu\rho} \right) \left(\Gamma_{\nu\sigma}^\lambda - \frac{1}{2} H_{\nu\sigma}^\lambda \right) \right) \\
&= \psi^\mu \psi^\nu \tilde{\psi}^\rho \tilde{\psi}^\sigma \left(G_{\mu\rho, \nu\sigma} + \Gamma_{\lambda\mu\rho} \Gamma_{\nu\sigma}^\lambda + B_{\mu\rho, \nu\sigma} - \frac{1}{2} \left(\Gamma_{\mu\rho}^\lambda H_{\lambda\nu\sigma} + \Gamma_{\nu\sigma}^\lambda H_{\lambda\mu\rho} \right) + \frac{1}{4} H_{\mu\rho}^\lambda H_{\lambda\nu\sigma} \right) \\
&= \mathcal{L}_G + \mathcal{L}_B + \frac{1}{4} H_{\mu\rho}^\lambda H_{\lambda\nu\sigma} \psi^\mu \psi^\nu \tilde{\psi}^\rho \tilde{\psi}^\sigma,
\end{aligned} \tag{93}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}_G &= \psi^\mu \psi^\nu \tilde{\psi}^\rho \tilde{\psi}^\sigma (G_{\mu\rho, \nu\sigma} + \Gamma_{\lambda\mu\rho} \Gamma_{\nu\sigma}^\lambda) \\
&= \psi^{[\mu} \psi^{\nu]} \tilde{\psi}^{[\rho} \tilde{\psi}^{\sigma]} (G_{\mu\rho, \nu\sigma} + \Gamma_{\lambda\mu\rho} \Gamma_{\nu\sigma}^\lambda) \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \psi^\mu \psi^\nu \tilde{\psi}^\rho \tilde{\psi}^\sigma \left\{ \left(\frac{1}{2} (G_{\mu\rho, \nu\sigma} - G_{\mu\sigma, \nu\rho}) + \Gamma_{\lambda\mu\rho} \Gamma_{\nu\sigma}^\lambda \right) - (\dots)_{\rho \leftrightarrow \sigma} \right\} \\
&= \frac{1}{2} R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \psi^\mu \psi^\nu \tilde{\psi}^\rho \tilde{\psi}^\sigma,
\end{aligned} \tag{94}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_B = \frac{1}{2} \nabla_\rho H_{\mu\nu\sigma} \psi^\mu \psi^\nu \tilde{\psi}^\rho \tilde{\psi}^\sigma,$$

Therefore, the total action is:

$$\begin{aligned}
S &= \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^2 z \left((G_{\mu\nu} + B_{\mu\nu}) \partial X^\mu \bar{\partial} X^\nu \right. \\
&\quad \left. + G_{\mu\nu} (\tilde{\psi}^\mu \mathcal{D} \tilde{\psi}^\nu + \psi^\mu \bar{\mathcal{D}} \psi^\nu) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \left(\frac{1}{2} R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} + \frac{1}{2} \nabla_\rho H_{\mu\nu\sigma} + \frac{1}{4} H_{\mu\rho}^\lambda H_{\lambda\nu\sigma} \right) \psi^\mu \psi^\nu \tilde{\psi}^\rho \tilde{\psi}^\sigma \right)
\end{aligned} \tag{95}$$

6 Mixed Anomaly Between Diffeomorphism and Axial $U(1)$ Symmetry:

(a) Calculations of such anomaly is (schematically) similar to the usual axial anomaly; instead of the A_μ legs, we now have two $h_{\mu\nu}$ legs in the triangular diagram.

Again we chose the Pauli–Villars regularization with a regulator field ψ' of mass $M \rightarrow \infty$. The $\partial^\mu J_\mu^A$ insertion is then reduced to:

$$\partial^\mu J_\mu^A = \partial_\mu (i \bar{\psi}' \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \psi') = i \bar{\psi}' (2M \gamma^5) \psi' \tag{96}$$

The fermion–fermion–graviton vertex is given by $h_{\mu\nu}T^{\mu\nu}$, and (up to integration by parts) we have:

$$T^{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{2}\bar{\psi}\gamma^{(\mu}\overleftrightarrow{\partial}^{\nu)}\psi \sim \frac{i}{2}\bar{\psi}\gamma^{(\mu}(-2\partial^{\nu)}\psi = -i\bar{\psi}\gamma^{(\mu}\partial^{\nu)}\psi, \quad (97)$$

$$h_{\mu\nu}T^{\mu\nu} = \bar{\psi}\left(-ih_{\mu\nu}\gamma^{(\mu}\partial^{\nu)}\right)\psi, \quad (98)$$

This is very similar to the A_μ coupling, except that there is an extra derivative ∂^ν . Denote the polarization of graviton as $\varepsilon_{\mu\nu}$, then in momentum space the interaction vertex $\sim \varepsilon_{\mu\nu}\gamma^{(\mu}(k_1^\nu + k_2^\nu)$, and we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \partial^\mu J_\mu^A \rangle_h &\sim \frac{1}{2!} \times 2 \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4} \text{Tr} \left(2M\gamma_5 \cdot \frac{k+M}{k^2+M^2} \cdot \cancel{\varepsilon_1(2k+p_1)} \cdot \frac{k+p_1+M}{(k+p_1)^2+M^2} \cdot \cancel{\varepsilon_2(2k+2p_1+p_2)} \cdot \frac{k+p_1+p_2+M}{(k+p_1+p_2)^2+M^2} \right) \\ &\sim \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4} 2M^2(4\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma})\varepsilon_1^{\mu\mu'}(2k+p_1)_{\mu'}p_1^\nu\varepsilon_2^{\rho\rho'}(2k+2p_1+p_2)_{\rho'}p_2^\sigma \left(\frac{1}{k^2+M^2} \cdots \right) \\ &\sim 8M^2\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}p_1^\nu p_2^\sigma \varepsilon_1^{\mu\mu'}\varepsilon_2^{\rho\rho'} \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{(2k+p_1)_{\mu'}(2k+2p_1+p_2)_{\rho'}}{(k^2+M^2)((k+p_1)^2+M^2)((k+p_1+p_2)^2+M^2)} \\ &\sim 8M^2\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}p_1^\nu p_2^\sigma \varepsilon_1^{\mu\mu'}\varepsilon_2^{\rho\rho'} \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{4k_{\mu'}k_{\rho'}+p_{1,\mu'}p_{2,\rho'}}{(k^2+M^2)^3} \end{aligned} \quad (99)$$

There are, in fact, 2 diagrams accounting for this amplitude with $1 \leftrightarrow 2$ symmetry; here we simply take one contribution with an additional factor of 2, and imply $1 \leftrightarrow 2$ symmetrization in the above expressions.

Note that due to the additional $k_{\mu'}k_{\rho'}$ the integral is no longer finite but logarithmic divergent: $\int^\Lambda d^4k \frac{k^2}{k^6} \sim \ln \Lambda$. More specifically¹⁷, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \partial^\mu J_\mu^A \rangle_h &\sim 8M^2\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}p_1^\nu p_2^\sigma \varepsilon_1^{\mu\mu'}\varepsilon_2^{\rho\rho'} \frac{\text{Vol } S^3}{(2\pi)^4} \int \left(\frac{4k_{\mu'}k_{\rho'}k^3 dk}{(k^2+M^2)^3} + p_{1,\mu'}p_{2,\rho'} \frac{k^3 dk}{(k^2+M^2)^3} \right) \\ &\sim 8M^2\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}p_1^\nu p_2^\sigma \varepsilon_1^{\mu\mu'}\varepsilon_2^{\rho\rho'} \frac{2\pi^2}{(2\pi)^4} \int \left(\delta_{\mu'\rho'} \frac{k^5 dk}{(k^2+M^2)^3} + p_{1,\mu'}p_{2,\rho'} \frac{k^3 dk}{(k^2+M^2)^3} \right) \\ &\sim 8M^2\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}p_1^\nu p_2^\sigma \varepsilon_1^{\mu\mu'}\varepsilon_2^{\rho\rho'} \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \left(\delta_{\mu'\rho'} \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{\Lambda^2}{M^2} + p_{1,\mu'}p_{2,\rho'} \frac{1}{4M^2} \right) \\ &\sim \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}p_1^\nu p_2^\sigma \varepsilon_1^{\mu\mu'}\varepsilon_2^{\rho\rho'} \left(2\delta_{\mu'\rho'} M^2 \ln \frac{\Lambda^2}{M^2} + p_{1,\mu'}p_{2,\rho'} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (100)$$

The second term is very much similar to the axial anomaly result, while the first term diverges.

However, we believe that the divergent term must be canceled by other diagrams; otherwise, it will contribute a $p^\nu p^\sigma \delta_{\mu'\rho'} \varepsilon_1^{\mu\mu'} \varepsilon_2^{\rho\rho'} = p^\nu p^\sigma (\varepsilon_1)^\mu{}_\alpha (\varepsilon_2)^{\rho\alpha} \sim (\partial h)^2$ term in the final result, which is not diff-invariant. The second term, on the other hand, is diff-invariant:

$$R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} = p_\beta p_{[\nu} \varepsilon_{\mu]\alpha} - p_\alpha p_{[\nu} \varepsilon_{\mu]\beta}, \quad (101)$$

¹⁷References:

- David Tong, *Gauge Theory*;
- A. Zee, *QFT in a Nutshell*;
- [arXiv:0802.0634](#);
- Wikipedia: *Common integrals in quantum field theory*.

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle \partial^\mu J_\mu^A \rangle_h &\sim \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} (\varepsilon^{\mu\mu'} p_{1,\mu'} p_1^\nu) (\varepsilon^{\rho\rho'} p_{2,\rho'} p_2^\sigma) \\
&\sim \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \frac{1}{4! \times 2 \times 2} \times \frac{1}{2} R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} R_{\rho\sigma}{}^{\alpha\beta} \\
&\sim \frac{1}{768\pi^2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} R_{\rho\sigma}{}^{\alpha\beta}
\end{aligned} \tag{102}$$

(b) The next order contribution would come from the covariant derivative¹⁸:

$$\nabla_\mu \psi = \partial_\mu \psi + \frac{1}{2} \omega_\mu{}^{ab} \sigma_{ab} \psi \tag{103}$$

Where $\omega_\mu{}^{ab}$ is the spin connections, and $\sigma_{ab} = \frac{1}{4}[\gamma_a, \gamma_b]$; when linearized this contributes to the following interaction vertex:

$$\mathcal{L}' = -\frac{i}{4} h_\lambda{}^\alpha \partial_\mu h_{\nu\alpha} \bar{\psi} \Gamma^{\mu\lambda\nu} \psi, \quad \Gamma^{\mu\lambda\nu} = \gamma^{[\mu} \gamma^\lambda \gamma^{\nu]}, \tag{104}$$

$$\text{Feynman rule:} \quad -\frac{i}{4} \Gamma^{\mu\lambda\nu} (p_1 - p_2)_\mu (\varepsilon_1)_\lambda{}^\alpha (\varepsilon_2)_{\nu\alpha}, \tag{105}$$

We see a $(\varepsilon_1)_\lambda{}^\alpha (\varepsilon_2)_{\nu\alpha}$ factor, much similar to the factor in the divergent term in (a). Note that this vertex already contains 3 γ -matrices; by joining it with the anomalous vertex $\partial_\mu J_A^\mu$, we obtain a simple 1-loop “seagull” diagram (with graviton wings) :



$$\begin{aligned}
\langle \partial^\mu J_\mu^A \rangle'_h &\sim 2 \int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} \text{Tr} \left(2M \gamma_5 \cdot \frac{\not{k} + M}{k^2 + M^2} \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{4} \right) \varepsilon_1 \varepsilon_2 (p_1 - p_2) \cdot \frac{\not{k} + \not{p}_1 + \not{p}_2 + M}{(k + p_1 + p_2)^2 + M^2} \right) \\
&\sim - \int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} M^2 (4\epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}) \delta_{\mu'\rho'} \varepsilon_1^{\mu\mu'} \varepsilon_2^{\rho\rho'} (p_1 - p_2)^\nu (p_1 + p_2)^\sigma \left(\frac{1}{k^2 + M^2} \dots \right) \\
&\sim -4M^2 \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} (2p_1^\nu p_2^\sigma) \varepsilon_1^{\mu\mu'} \varepsilon_2^{\rho\rho'} \int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{\delta_{\mu'\rho'}}{(k^2 + M^2)^2} \\
&\sim -8M^2 \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} p_1^\nu p_2^\sigma \varepsilon_1^{\mu\mu'} \varepsilon_2^{\rho\rho'} \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \left(\delta_{\mu'\rho'} \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{\Lambda^2}{M^2} \right)
\end{aligned} \tag{106}$$

Compare with the result in (a), and we see that the divergences cancel each other out precisely.

(c) For an anomalous vertex with hypercharge Y , there will be an additional Y factor in the front of $\langle \partial_\mu J_A^\mu \rangle$; summing over a family of matter gives the total anomaly¹⁹:

$$\langle \partial_\mu J_A^\mu \rangle \propto \sum \text{Tr } T_a T_b Y \propto \delta_{ab} \sum Y \tag{107}$$

When the summation goes over all states in a complete generation, we have $\sum Y = 0$, i.e. the anomaly cancels.

¹⁸Reference: Alvarez-Gaume & Witten, *Gravitational Anomalies*.

¹⁹Reference: Tong, and Wikipedia: *Anomaly (physics) # Anomaly cancellation*.