

Branes, fermions & superspace

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Outline

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- 2 Branes and superspace
- 3 A superspace geometric approach to obtain θ expansions
- 4 The M2-brane action
- 5 Dimensional reduction and the D2-brane
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Motivation

- Gaugino condensates in KKLT from 10D:
after [Hamada,Hebecker,Shiu,Soler] interest on 4-fermion terms.
 - [Dine,Rohm,Seiberg,Witten] :(roughly) in several SUGRA theories
(e.g. Heterotic) **Supersymmetry** implies

$$\mathcal{S} \supset \int (F - \lambda\lambda)^2$$

- That's λ in codim=0.
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 - Speculation about e.g. fermion terms in brane actions
- Possible to say something from first principles? Yes!

Today:

- Goal: fermion expansion of brane actions
- This is general physics, this is not a KKLT talk

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$$\mathcal{S}_{M2} = -T_{M2} \int d^3\zeta \sqrt{-\det(P[G](Z))} + \mu_{M2} \int P[A_3](Z)$$

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$$\begin{aligned} S_{M2} &= -T_{M2} \int d^3\zeta \sqrt{-\det(P[G](Z))} + \mu_{M2} \int P[A_3](Z) \\ &= -T_{M2} \int d^3\zeta \left(\sqrt{-\det(G_{ij}(Z))} - \frac{1}{6} \epsilon^{ijk} A_{ijk}(Z) \right) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$G_{ij}(Z) = E_i^a(Z) E_j^b(Z) \eta_{ab} \quad , \quad A_{ijk}(Z) = E_i^A(Z) E_j^B(Z) E_k^C(Z) A_{ABC}(Z)$$

$$E_i^A(Z) = \frac{\partial Z^M}{\partial \zeta^i} E_M^A(Z)$$

and $A = (a, \alpha) \quad (a = 0, 1, \dots, 10 \text{ \& } \alpha = 1, \dots, 32) \quad i, j, k = 1, 2, 3$

Branes and superspace

Bulk: 1/2 supercharges (Q_α $\alpha = 1, \dots, 32$) spontaneously broken

Brane worldvolume: $\mathcal{S}(Z)$ built as product of *off-shell superfields*: it has a θ expansion to order 32

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- The other half are redundancies: κ -symmetry
[Bergshoeff, Sezgin, Townsend] (for M2-case, but it's general)

$$\delta_\kappa Z^M \text{ (at } \theta = 0 \text{)} = \begin{cases} \delta_\kappa X = 0 \\ \delta_\kappa \theta = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \Gamma_{M2(Dp)})\kappa \end{cases}, \quad \delta_\kappa \mathcal{S} = 0$$

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Indeed, in these backgrounds we can decompose

$$\kappa = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \Gamma_{M2(Dp)})\kappa + \frac{1}{2}(1 - \Gamma_{M2(Dp)})\kappa \equiv \epsilon + \theta$$

(WV κ -symmetry transformation = surviving bulk SUSY transformation)

A superspace geometric approach to obtain θ expansions

Goal: θ expansion of $S_{M2}(Z)$

\Rightarrow We obtain the dependence on any point in superspace by performing a Taylor expansion about a point where we have information

(Normal coordinate system method / background field method)

[Alvarez-Gaume, Freedmann, Mukhi; McArthur; Atick, Dhar; Grisaru, Knutt; ...]

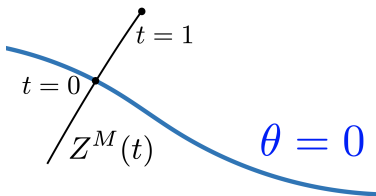
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$Z^M(t)$ is a particular geodesic in curved superspace satisfying:

$$v^B \nabla_B v^A = 0 \quad , \quad v^A(t=0) = (0, y^\alpha)$$

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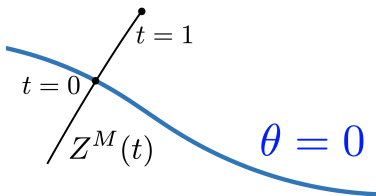
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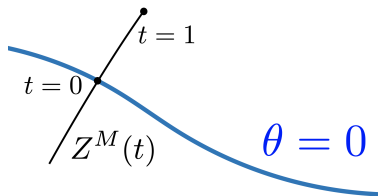
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$$\text{So } S(Z(t=1)) = \sum_n \frac{1}{n!} ((\mathcal{L}_v)^n S)_{t=0} = (e^{\mathcal{L}_v} S)_{t=0}$$

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$\mathcal{S}(Z(t=1)) = (e^{\mathcal{L}_y} \mathcal{S})_{t=0}$: what do we do with it?

- 1 Apply derivatives: $\mathcal{L}_y E_M^A = \nabla_M y^A + y^C E_M^B T_{BC}^A$

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WZ gauge $E_M^A(\theta=0) = \begin{pmatrix} e_m^a(x) & \psi_m^\alpha(x) \\ 0 & \delta_\mu^\alpha \end{pmatrix}, \quad Y^A = (0, y^\alpha)$

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- ③ Use superspace Bianchi IDs $dH_4 = 0$, $\nabla T^A = E^B R_B^A$, $\nabla R_B^A = 0$ to write superspace objects into familiar spacetime fields

$$\mathcal{L}_Y E_m^a = -iY^\alpha (\Gamma^a)_{\alpha\beta} \psi_m^\beta \quad , \quad \mathcal{L}_Y E_m^\alpha = \nabla_m Y^\alpha + e_m^b (T_b)^\alpha{}_\beta Y^\beta$$

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- 4 Replace tangent vector Y^A for θ and write superfield expansion:

$$E_m^a(Z) = e_m^a(x) - i\bar{\theta}\Gamma^a\psi_m(x) + \dots \quad , \quad E_m^\alpha(Z) = \psi_m^\alpha(x) + (D_m(x)\theta)^\alpha + \dots$$

- 5 We'll be interested in bosonic backgrounds, so we can take $\psi_m \rightarrow 0$

The M2-brane action (order $(\theta)^2$)

- We can do the same in 11D supergravity, Type IIA & IIB.
- Better: do it only in 11D for M2-brane

$$S_{M2} = -T_{M2} \int d^3\zeta \left(\sqrt{-\det(G_{ij}(Z))} - \frac{1}{6} \epsilon^{ijk} A_{ijk}(Z) \right)$$

where $G_{mn}(Z) = E_m^a(Z)E_n^b(Z)\eta_{ab}$, $A_{mnp}(Z) = E_{[m}^A(Z)E_n^B(Z)E_{p]}^C(Z)A_{ABC}(Z)$

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- Terms in S_{M2} up to order $(\theta)^2$ by [(Marolf, Martucci, Silva)]

$$\mathbf{G}_{mn} = g_{mn} - i(\bar{\theta} \Gamma_{(m} D_{n)} \theta) \quad , \quad \mathbf{A}_{mnp} = A_{mnp} - \frac{3i}{2} (\bar{\theta} \Gamma_{[mn} D_{p]} \theta)$$

It involves Γ matrices and (11D) supercovariant derivatives ($\delta\psi_m = D_m\epsilon$)

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The M2-brane action (order $(\theta)^4$)

The M2-brane action is obtained by performing a Taylor expansion of

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{G}_{mn} &= g_{mn} - i(\bar{\theta}\Gamma_{(m}D_{n)}\theta) - \frac{1}{4}(\bar{\theta}\Gamma_a D_{(m}\theta)(\bar{\theta}\Gamma^a D_{n)}\theta) \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{12}(\bar{\theta}\Gamma_{(m}|\mathcal{T}_b{}^{dfgh}\theta)(\bar{\theta}\mathcal{H}^b{}_{|n)dfgh}\theta) + \frac{1}{12}(\bar{\theta}\Gamma_{(m}\Gamma^{bc}\theta)(\bar{\theta}\mathcal{W}_{|n)bc}\theta) \\
 \mathbf{A}_{mnp} &= A_{mnp} - \frac{3i}{2}(\bar{\theta}\Gamma_{[mn}D_{p]}\theta) - \frac{3}{4}(\bar{\theta}\Gamma_{a[m}D_{n}\theta)(\bar{\theta}\Gamma^a D_{p]}\theta) \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{8}(\bar{\theta}\Gamma_{[mn}|\mathcal{T}_b{}^{dfgh}\theta)(\bar{\theta}\mathcal{H}^b{}_{|p]dfgh}\theta) + \frac{1}{8}(\bar{\theta}\Gamma_{[mn}\Gamma^{bc}\theta)(\bar{\theta}\mathcal{W}_{p]bc}\theta)
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where

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{H}^b{}_{mdfgh} &= \Gamma^b H_{dfgh} D_m - 6e_m^b \Gamma_{df} e_g^p e_h^q [D_p, D_q] \\
 \mathcal{W}_{mbc} &= \Sigma_{bc}^{dfgh} H_{dfgh} D_m + \frac{1}{8} \Gamma_f e_m^f e_b^p e_c^q [D_p, D_q] + \frac{1}{4} \Gamma_b e_c^q [D_m, D_q] \\
 \Sigma_{bc}^{dfgh} &= \frac{1}{576} \left(\Gamma_{bc} \Gamma^{dfgh} - 8\delta_{[c}^{[d} \Gamma_{b]} \Gamma^{fgh]} - 12\delta_{[c}^{[d} \delta_{b]}^f \Gamma^{gh]} \right) \\
 \mathcal{T}_c^{dfgh} &= \frac{1}{288} (\Gamma_c \Gamma^{dfgh} - 12\delta_c^{[d} \Gamma^{fgh]})
 \end{aligned}$$

- (Commutators of) Supercovariant derivatives + Flux

Dimensional reduction and the D2-brane

M2-brane lives in $(11|32)$ superspace, D2 brane in $(10|32)$ superspace

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- Usual S^1 compactification Ansatz in spacetime (not super)

$$\hat{G}_{\hat{m}\hat{n}} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-2\phi/3}(G_{mn} + e^{2\phi}C_m C_n) & e^{4\phi/3}C_m \\ e^{4\phi/3}C_n & e^{4\phi/3} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \hat{A}_{mnp} = C_{mnp}, \quad \hat{A}_{mn\,10} = B_{mn}$$

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- Bosonic brane action ($p_i = \partial_i x^{10} + \partial_i x^m C_m$, $f_2 = dA_1$)

$$\begin{aligned} S_{M2} + LM &= - \int d^3\zeta \left(\sqrt{-\det(\hat{G}_{ij})} - \frac{1}{6} \epsilon^{ijk} \hat{A}_{ijk} \right) + \int d^3\zeta \frac{\epsilon^{ijk}}{6} \left[3(p_i - C_i) f_{jk} \right] \\ &= - \int d^3\zeta e^{-\phi} \sqrt{-g} \sqrt{1 + e^{2\phi} p^2} + \int d^3\zeta \frac{\epsilon^{ijk}}{6} \left[C_{ijk} + 3(p_i - C_i)(B_{jk} + f_{jk}) \right] \\ &= - \int d^3\zeta e^{-\phi} \sqrt{-\det(g_{ij} + B_{ij} + f_{ij})} + \int (C_3 - C_1 \wedge (B_2 + f_2)) \\ &= S_{D2} \end{aligned}$$

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But how do those 10D superfields look like? We can use Normal coordinate methods in Type IIA.

Better: read them off from dimensional reduction

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\mathbf{G}}_{10\ 10} &= e^{4\Phi/3} = e^{4(\phi+\rho^{(2)}+\dots)/3} \\ \hat{G}_{10\ 10} - i\hat{\theta}\hat{\Gamma}_{10}\hat{D}_{10}\hat{\theta} + \dots &= e^{4\phi/3} \left(1 + \frac{4\rho^{(2)}}{3} + \dots \right)\end{aligned}$$

Dimensional reduction of 11D supercovariant derivative requires dim reduction of 11D gravitino ($\delta_\epsilon \lambda = \Delta \epsilon$)

$$\hat{D}_{10} = \frac{e^\phi}{3} \Gamma_* \Delta \quad , \quad \hat{\Gamma}_{10} = e^{2\phi/3} \Gamma_* \quad , \quad \hat{\theta} = e^{-\phi/6} \theta = e^{-\phi/6} (\theta_+ + \theta_-)$$

So

$$\rho^{(2)} = \frac{-i}{4} \bar{\theta} \Delta \theta \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Phi = \phi - \frac{i}{4} \bar{\theta} \Delta \theta + \dots$$

Dimensional reduction and the D2-brane

So the D2-brane action is

$$S_{D2} = - \int d^3\zeta e^{-\Phi} \sqrt{-\det(\mathbf{g}_{ij} + \mathbf{B}_{ij} + f_{ij})} + \int (\mathbf{C}_3 - \mathbf{C}_1 \wedge (\mathbf{B}_2 + f_2))$$

where

$$\mathbf{g}_{ij} = g_{ij} - i \bar{\theta} \Gamma_{(i} D_{j)} \theta + \dots$$

$$\Phi = \phi - \frac{i}{4} \bar{\theta} \Delta \theta + \dots$$

$$\mathbf{C}_i = C_i - \frac{i}{2} e^{-\phi} \bar{\theta} \Gamma_* \left(D_i - \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_i \Delta \right) \theta + \dots$$

$$\mathbf{C}_{ijk} = C_{ijk} - \frac{3i}{2} e^{-\phi} \bar{\theta} \left(\Gamma_{[ij} D_{k]} - \frac{1}{6} \Gamma_{ijk} \Delta \right) \theta - 3i C_{[i} \bar{\theta} \Gamma_* \Gamma_j D_{k]} \theta + \dots$$

$$\mathbf{B}_{ij} = B_{ij} - i \bar{\theta} \Gamma_* \Gamma_{[i} D_{j]} \theta + \dots$$

- Full agreement with [\[Marolf,Martucci,Silva\]](#) at order $(\theta)^2$

Dimensional reduction and the D2-brane

So the D2-brane action is

$$S_{D2} = - \int d^3\zeta e^{-\Phi} \sqrt{-\det(\mathbf{g}_{ij} + \mathbf{B}_{ij} + f_{ij})} + \int (\mathbf{C}_3 - \mathbf{C}_1 \wedge (\mathbf{B}_2 + f_2))$$

where

$$\mathbf{g}_{ij} = g_{ij} - i \bar{\theta} \Gamma_{(i} D_{j)} \theta + \dots$$

$$\Phi = \phi - \frac{i}{4} \bar{\theta} \Delta \theta + \dots$$

$$\mathbf{C}_i = C_i - \frac{i}{2} e^{-\phi} \bar{\theta} \Gamma_* \left(D_i - \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_i \Delta \right) \theta + \dots$$

$$\mathbf{C}_{ijk} = C_{ijk} - \frac{3i}{2} e^{-\phi} \bar{\theta} \left(\Gamma_{[ij} D_{k]} - \frac{1}{6} \Gamma_{ijk} \Delta \right) \theta - 3i C_{[i} \bar{\theta} \Gamma_* \Gamma_j D_{k]} \theta + \dots$$

$$\mathbf{B}_{ij} = B_{ij} - i \bar{\theta} \Gamma_* \Gamma_{[i} D_{j]} \theta + \dots$$

- Full agreement with [Marolf,Martucci,Silva] at order $(\theta)^2$
- Approach works at all orders and we computed $(\theta)^4$ terms

T-duality and Dp-branes

Dp-brane lives in certain $(10|32)$ superspace, $D(p \pm 1)$ brane in a related $(10|32)$ superspace

T-duality relates these superspaces

Approach:

- Promote (bosonic) T-duality relations to superfield level
- Taylor expand and identify terms order by order
- Use T-duality rules for fermions [Hassan]

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$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{\mathbf{G}}_{99} &= \frac{1}{\mathbf{G}_{99}} \quad , \quad \tilde{\Phi} = \Phi - \frac{1}{2} \log(\mathbf{G}_{99}) \quad , \quad \tilde{\mathbf{G}}_{9m} = -\frac{\mathbf{B}_{9m}}{\mathbf{G}_{99}} \quad , \quad \tilde{\mathbf{B}}_{9m} = -\frac{\mathbf{G}_{9m}}{\mathbf{G}_{99}} \\
 \tilde{\mathbf{G}}_{mn} &= \mathbf{G}_{mn} - \frac{\mathbf{G}_{9m}\mathbf{G}_{9n} - \mathbf{B}_{9m}\mathbf{B}_{9n}}{\mathbf{G}_{99}} \quad , \quad \tilde{\mathbf{B}}_{mn} = \mathbf{B}_{mn} - \frac{\mathbf{G}_{9m}\mathbf{B}_{9n} - \mathbf{B}_{9m}\mathbf{G}_{9n}}{\mathbf{G}_{99}} \\
 \left(\left(\sum_q \tilde{\mathbf{C}}_q \right) e^{-\tilde{\mathbf{B}}} \right)_{9m_1 \dots m_p} &= \left(\left(\sum_q \mathbf{C}_q \right) e^{-\mathbf{B}} \right)_{m_1 \dots m_p}
 \end{aligned}$$

T-duality and Dp-branes

An example in some detail (order $(\theta)^2$)

$$\begin{aligned}(\mathbf{G}_{99})^A &= \left(\frac{1}{\mathbf{G}_{99}} \right)^B \\(G_{99} - i\bar{\theta}\Gamma_9 D_9 \theta + \dots)^A &= \left(\frac{1}{G_{99} + \gamma_{mn}^{(2)} + \dots} \right)^B = \left(\frac{1}{G_{99}} - \frac{\gamma_{mn}^{(2)}}{(G_{99})^2} + \dots \right)^B\end{aligned}$$

At order $(\theta)^2$:

$$(-i\bar{\theta}\Gamma_9 D_9 \theta)^A = \{[\text{Hassan}] \text{ rules}\} = - \left(\frac{-i\bar{\theta}\Gamma_9 D_9 \theta}{(G_{99})^2} \right)^B = - \left(\frac{\gamma_{mn}^{(2)}}{(G_{99})^2} \right)^B$$

Outcome:

- NSNS superfield expansions look exactly the same at all orders
- RR superfield expansions need to be computed

T-duality and Dp-branes

With this we can compute the θ expansion for any Dp-brane

$$S_{Dp} = - \int d^{p+1} \zeta e^{-\Phi} \sqrt{-\det(\mathbf{g}_{ij} + \mathbf{B}_{ij} + f_{ij})} + \int \left(\sum_q \mathbf{C}_q e^{-(\mathbf{B}_2 + f_2)} \right)$$

Summary

- Fermions in branes are goldstinos of on-shell bulk configuration (asymptotically flat solutions)
- Branes are hypersurfaces in superspace
- θ expansion of brane action from expansion of superfields involved
- For M2-brane: $E_M^A(Z)$ is enough
- Normal coordinate method to obtain $E_M^A(Z)$ to order $(\theta)^4$
- D2-brane action from superspace dimensional reduction
- Dp-brane actions from superspace T-duality relations

Thank
you

Extra: KKLT and perfect squares

Approach:

- 1 Take D9-brane action and fix gauge for κ -symm:
 - [Grana,Kovensky,AR] : D9-brane action knows that it lives in Type I and not Type IIB
 - Identify $(\theta)^4$ terms leading to perfect square structure. What happens with flux?
- 2 Check those terms in the D7-brane (after gauge fixing). Perfect square?
- 3 Previous points were background independent for a 10D/8D gaugino condensate in Type I/KKLT. Next: compactify and consider 4D gaugino condensates