

by changing coordinates to  $U = r/\alpha'$  the  $\alpha'$  dependence drops out of  $S_{D3}$ . The controlling parameter for Eq. (2.42) then turns out to be  $g_s N (\partial U)^2 / U^4$  [322]. The lowest order term from the action yields  $\mathcal{N} = 4$   $SU(N)$  super-Yang-Mills from the  $F_{\alpha\beta}$  term. The quadratic term has no quantum corrections and the quartic term has only a one-loop correction, consistent with  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM [326, 327]. This loop correction has been calculated from the gauge theory and string theory, and the two agree [328]. Moreover, it can be argued that all higher order terms in Eq. (2.42) are determined from the fourth-order term [312]. In order for this series to make sense  $g_s N (\partial U)^2 / U^4 \ll 1$ . In particular in the supergravity regime of the AdS/CFT duality  $g_s N \gg 1$ , and the higher order terms beyond  $SU(N)$  may become important.

### 2.3.3 Motivation for the AdS/CFT Correspondence

In this section we will follow [322] closely for a schematic motivation of the AdS/CFT conjecture (see the same for a very good review of the correspondence as well as an extensive bibliography). Consider from a field theoretic standpoint Type IIB string theory in a 10 dimensional spacetime with a stack of  $N$  coincident extremal ( $r_+ = r_- \equiv R$ )  $D3$  branes at the origin. At energies small compared to the string scale  $1/l_s = 1/\sqrt{\alpha'}$  only the massless string modes can be excited. The full low energy effective action is then

$$S = S_{\text{bulk}} + S_{\text{branes}} + S_{\text{int}}. \quad (2.44)$$