

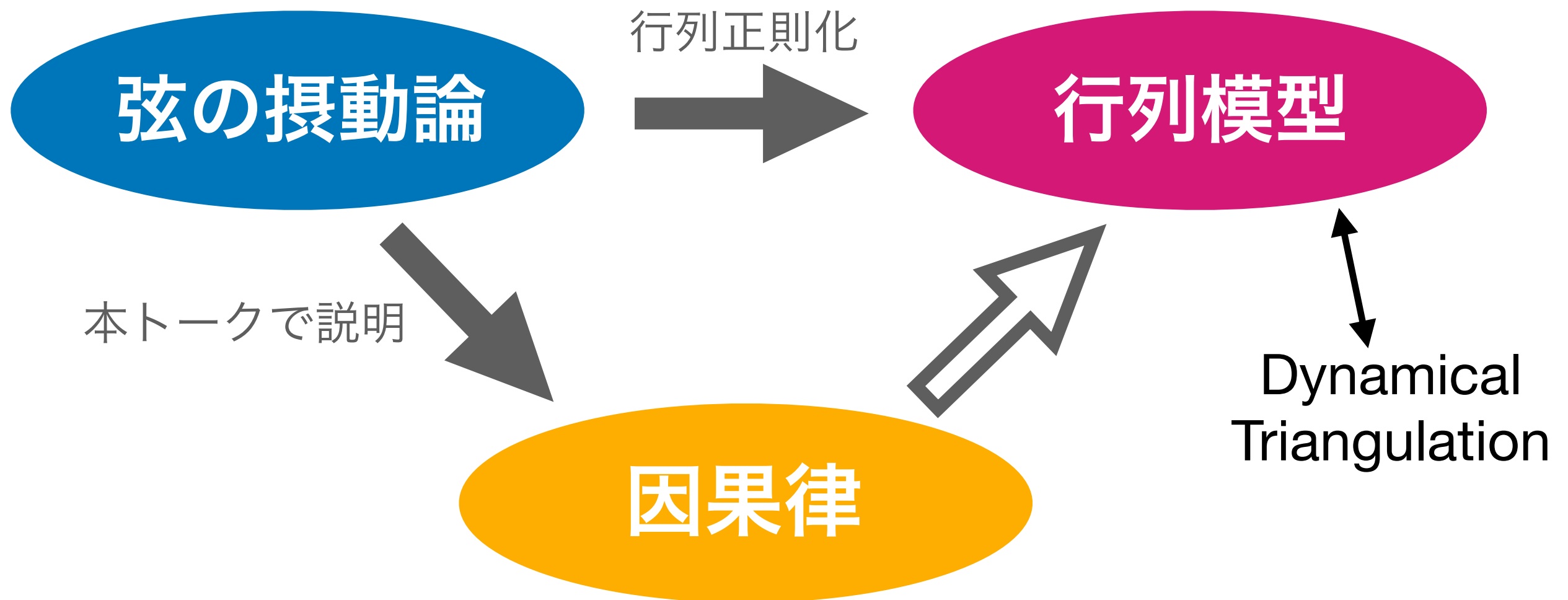
超弦理論における因果律と行列模型

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Based on JHEP10 (2024) 082 [arXiv: 2408.04000]

Overview



行列模型における因果律とは何か？

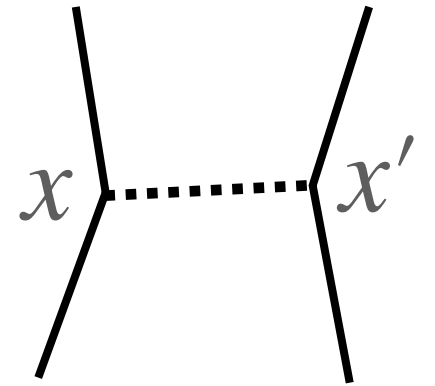
逆に、弦理論で実現される因果律を通して
“因果的”行列模型を導き出したい。

Overview

因果律

普通のQFTでの因果律: $[\mathcal{H}_{\text{int}}(x), \mathcal{H}_{\text{int}}(x')] = 0$

これは反粒子の存在によって実現されていた。

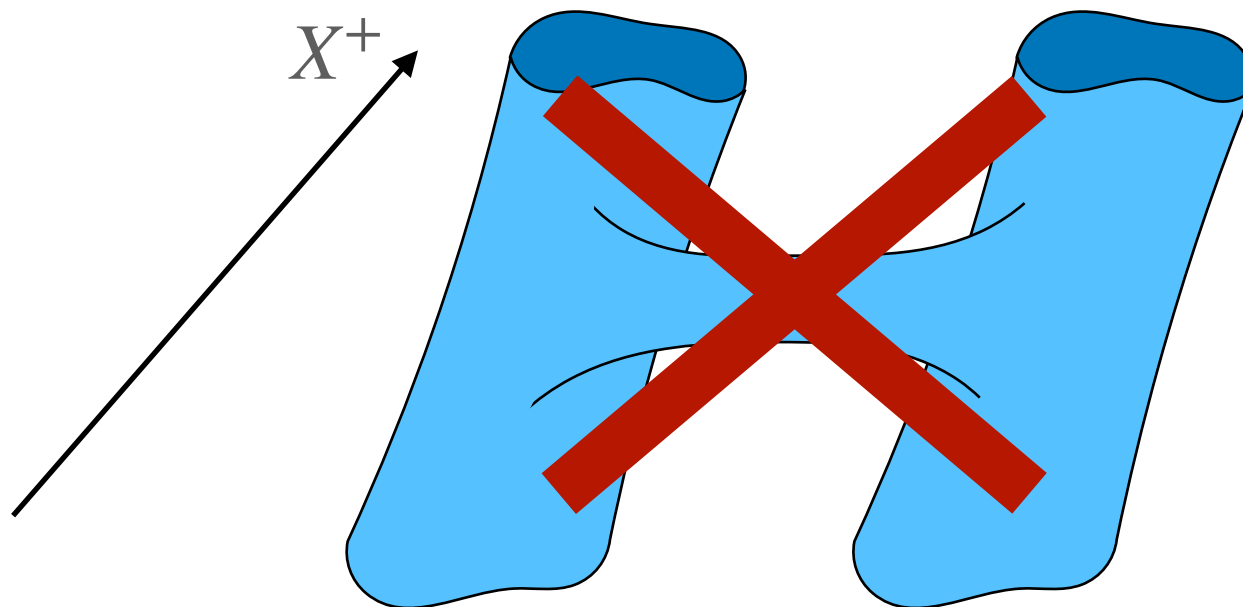


$$[\phi(x), \phi^\dagger(x')]_{\mp} = 0 \quad \text{for space-like separation } (x - x')^2 > 0$$

摂動的弦理論では、

因果律を実現する明らかな方法がなさそうに見える。 cf. [Witten '13]

素朴にはspace-likeな“伝播”が禁止されることが期待される。



Overview

Matrix model

Matrix model is proposed as a **non-perturbative formulation**.

- $c=1$ matrix model: 1D matrix Q.M. (bosonic)
... 2D bosonic/0B string theory
- BFSS model: 1D matrix Q.M. w/ SUSY
... DLCQ M-theory
- **IKKT model**: 0D matrix model w/ SUSY
... type IIB string theory

E.g. One-matrix model (0D matrix model)

$$S_{1M} = N \operatorname{tr} \left(\frac{1}{2} M^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} M^4 \right)$$

correlator:

$$A(N, \lambda) = A_0 + \frac{(\lambda + \frac{1}{12})^{-\frac{5}{2}} A_1}{N^2} + \frac{(\lambda + \frac{1}{12})^{-5} A_2}{N^4} + \dots$$

$$\rightarrow A_{\text{DSL}}(g_s) = \sum_{h=0}^{\infty} g_s^{2h} \left(A_h + e^{-\alpha/g_s} A_h^{(1)} + \dots \right)$$

$$N \rightarrow \infty \text{ with } g_s = N^{-1}(\lambda + \frac{1}{12})^{-5/4} \text{ fixed}$$

This model describes 2D pure gravity/1D critical bosonic string

Overview

The IKKT matrix model

[Ishibashi, Kawai, Kitazawa, Tsuchiya '96]

$$S[X, \psi] = N \operatorname{tr} \left[\frac{1}{4} [X^\mu, X^\nu] [X_\mu, X_\nu] + \frac{1}{2} \psi^T \Gamma^\mu [X_\mu, \psi] \right]$$

X^μ : bosonic $N \times N$ matrices ($\mu = 0, \dots, 9$) ψ : Majorana-Weyl fermionic $N \times N$ matrices

This **0-dimensional theory** is considered to describe type IIB superstring theory non-perturbatively. We believe this because it:

- has **supersymmetry** identical to that of type IIB string: $\mathcal{N} = (2,0)$ in (9+1)D
- reproduces **perturbative results**
(graviton-exchange potential, D-brane scattering amplitudes, etc.)
- can reproduce the light-cone **string field theory** by the Schwinger-Dyson eq.
[Fukuma, Kawai, Kitazawa, Tsuchiya '97]
- has potential to dynamically realise **(3+1)D space-time** at large N
 - Dynamics of the diagonal elements of X^μ forms 4D [Aoki, Iso, Kawai, Kitazawa, Tada '98]
 - SSB to $SO(3)$ is observed [Anagnostopoulos, Azuma, Ito, Nishimura, Okubo, Papadoudis '20; Kumar, Joseph, Kumar '22]

Overview

Problem: How is the 0D theory defined?

The IKKT action:

$$S[X, \psi; G_{\mu\nu}] = N \operatorname{tr} \left[\frac{1}{4} G_{\mu\rho} G_{\nu\sigma} [X^\mu, X^\nu] [X^\rho, X^\sigma] + \frac{1}{2} \psi^T G_{\mu\nu} \Gamma^\mu [X^\nu, \psi] \right]$$

However, we don't really know how the IKKT action enters in the partition fn.

$$Z = \int [dX][d\psi] e^{iS[X, \psi; \eta_{\mu\nu}]} \quad ? \quad \left(\eta_{\mu\nu} = \operatorname{diag}(-1, 1, \dots, 1)_{\mu\nu} \right)$$

		metric in the action	
		Euclidean	Minkowski
weight	Euclidean	$e^{-S[X, \psi; \delta_{\mu\nu}]}$	$e^{-S[X, \psi; \eta_{\mu\nu}]}$
	Minkowski	$e^{iS[X, \psi; \delta_{\mu\nu}]}$	$e^{iS[X, \psi; \eta_{\mu\nu}]}$

“Euclidean IKKT model”

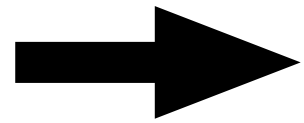
(Lorentzian)
“Minkowskian IKKT model”

We will try to answer this by revisiting perturbative string theory.

Overview

Ambiguity of the Minkowskian IKKT model

The Minkowskian IKKT w/ e^{iS} w/o regulators is **conditionally** convergent.



There are various definitions
depending on how to make it finite.

E.g.

1. Mass term + Lorentz-sym. breaking cutoff

$$S = N \operatorname{tr} \left[\frac{1}{4} [X^\mu, X^\nu]^2 + \gamma \operatorname{tr} (e^{i\epsilon} X^i X^i - e^{-i\epsilon} X^0 X^0) \right]$$

- $\gamma \rightarrow 0^-$: equiv. to the Euclidean IKKT $\left(X^i = e^{-\frac{i}{4}\theta} \tilde{X}^i, X^0 = e^{\frac{3i}{4}\theta} \tilde{X}^{10}, \theta : 0 \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2} \right)$

- $\gamma \rightarrow 0^+$: a different theory

[Y.A., Nishimura, Piensuk, Yamamori, to appear]

2. Lorentz symmetry “gauge-fixed” model

$$Z = \int DX D\psi \Delta_{\text{FP}}[X] \prod_{i=1}^9 \delta(\operatorname{tr}(X^0 X^i)) e^{iS[X, \psi; \eta_{\mu\nu}]}$$

[Y.A., Nishimura, Piensuk, Yamamori '24;
Chou, Nishimura, Tripathi '25]

We do not discuss such ambiguity in this talk.

Overview

“Causal” matrix model

Matrix regularisation of type IIB superstring: IKKT matrix model

$$S_{\text{IKKT}} = N \text{tr} \left[\frac{1}{4} [X^\mu, X^\nu] [X_\mu, X_\nu] + \frac{1}{2} \psi^T \Gamma^\mu [X_\mu, \psi] \right]$$

If we change how we apply the regularisation,

$$S_{\text{NBI}} = N \text{tr} \left[\frac{1}{4} Y^{-1} [X^\mu, X^\nu]^2 + \frac{1}{2} \psi^T \Gamma^\mu [X_\mu, \psi] + Y + \frac{i}{N} (N + \frac{1}{2}) \ln(-iY) \right]$$

Y : bosonic $N \times N$ matrix

This is a Minkowski ver. of the NBI matrix model and “causal”.

[Fayyazuddin, Makeenko, Olesen, Smith, Zarembo '96]

Table of contents

1. Introduction

2. Classical Perturbative String

Equivalence between the 3 types of formulation

3. Quantum Perturbative String

4. “Derivation” of the Matrix Model

5. Summary

Introduction

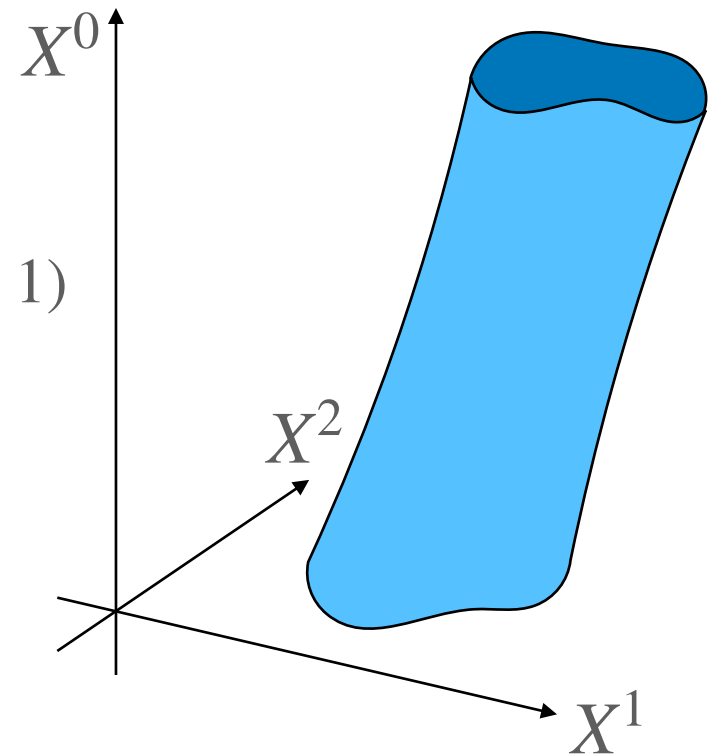
Definition of string theory

We usually start with the Nambu-Goto action:

$$S_{\text{NG}} = -\frac{1}{2\pi\alpha'} \int d\sigma^0 d\sigma^1 \sqrt{-\det \partial_a X_\mu \partial_b X^\mu} \quad (\mu = 0, \dots, D-1)$$

$$S_{\text{P}}^{(\text{E})} = \frac{1}{4\pi\alpha'} \int d\sigma^1 d\sigma^2 \sqrt{g} g^{ab} \partial_a X_m \partial_b X^m$$

Euclidean Polyakov-type action $(m = 1, \dots, D)$



An S-matrix is defined by

$$A_{j_1, \dots, j_n}(k_1, \dots, k_n) = \sum_{\chi=2,0,-2,\dots} g_s^{-\chi} \int DX Dg V_{j_1}(k_1) \cdots V_{j_n}(k_n) \exp[-S_{\text{P}}^{(\text{E})}]$$

[Polyakov '81]

... but this is **just perturbative expansion** and
no non-perturbative information is included.

E.g. the true vacuum cannot be determined.

Introduction

Perturbative string theory

(Euclidean)
 $S_P^{(E)}$: Polyakov-type action

$$A_{j_1, \dots, j_n}(k_1, \dots, k_n) = \sum_{\chi=2,0,-2,\dots} g_s^{-\chi} \int DX D\theta Dg V_{j_1}(k_1) \cdots V_{j_n}(k_n) \exp[-S_P^{(E)}]$$

Questions:

- Is it equivalent to the Minkowskian theory?
- Is it equivalent to the Nambu-Goto-type formulation?
- For a Minkowskian theory, how do we define the Nambu-Goto-type formulation in a path integral?
- Does it have the same features as standard QFT? Causality?

$$\exp \left[-i \int d^2\sigma \sqrt{-\det h_{ab}} \right]$$

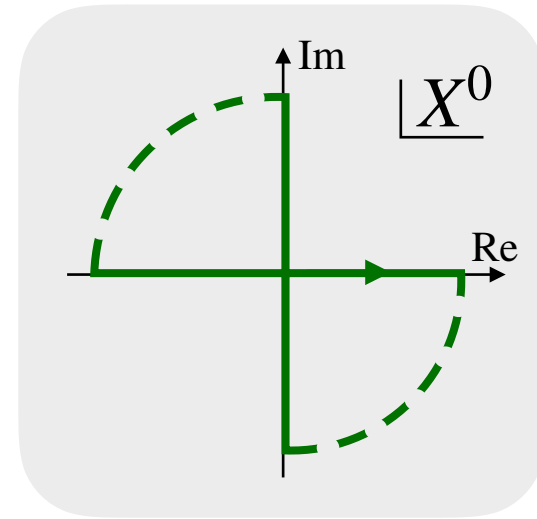
Introduction

Euclidean v. Minkowskian

We start with the Minkowski signature but at some point, **Wick-rotate** the theory to the Euclidean signature.

... Because Euclidean theory is usually well-defined

But we should NOT naively Wick-rotate it; otherwise, we might arrive at a different theory.



$$X^0 = e^{-i\theta} X^D, \quad e_0^a = e^{i\theta} e_2^a \quad \left(\theta : 0 \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int DX Dg \exp \left[-i \int d^2\sigma \sqrt{-g} g^{ab} \partial_a X^\mu \partial_b X_\mu \right] \\ & \quad g^{ab} = e_\alpha^a \eta^{\alpha\beta} e_\beta^b \\ & = \int DX Dg \exp \left[-i \int d^2\sigma \sqrt{e^2} (e^{-i\theta} e_1^a e_1^b \partial_a X^i \partial_b X^i - e^{i\theta} e_2^a e_2^b \partial_a X^i \partial_b X^i \right. \\ & \quad \left. \underline{-e^{-3i\theta} e_1^a e_1^b \partial_a X^D \partial_b X^D} + e^{-i\theta} e_2^a e_2^b \partial_a X^D \partial_b X^D) \right] \end{aligned}$$

Cauchy's integral thm. **cannot** be applied.

Introduction

3 different types of world-sheet formulation

Nambu-Goto type

$$S_{\text{NG}} = - \int d^2\sigma \sqrt{-h}$$

$$h_{ab} = \partial_a X^\mu \partial_b X_\mu, \quad h = \det h_{ab}$$

Schild type

$$S_{\text{Schild}} = - \frac{1}{2} \int d^2\sigma \left(\frac{-h}{e_g} + e_g \right)$$

Polyakov type

$$S_{\text{P}} = - \frac{1}{2} \int d^2\sigma \sqrt{-g} g^{ab} h_{ab}$$

Quantum mechanically
Equivalent?

The Euclidean case was
discussed long time ago.

[Polyakov '87; Yoneya '97]

Introduction

Perturbative string theory

$$A_{j_1, \dots, j_n}(k_1, \dots, k_n) = \sum_{\chi=2,0,-2,\dots} g_s^{-\chi} \int DX D\theta Dg V_{j_1}(k_1) \cdots V_{j_n}(k_n) \exp[-S_P^{(E)}]$$

Questions:

- Is it equivalent to the Minkowskian theory?

➡ Yes!

- Is it equivalent to the Nambu-Goto-type formulation?

➡ Yes!

- For a Minkowskian theory, how do we define the Nambu-Goto-type formulation in a path integral?

➡ $i\epsilon$ terms select a branch

- Does it have the same features as standard QFT? Causality?

➡ $\det h_{ab} > 0$ does not contribute

$$\exp \left[-i \int d^2\sigma \sqrt{-\det h_{ab}} \right]$$

Table of contents

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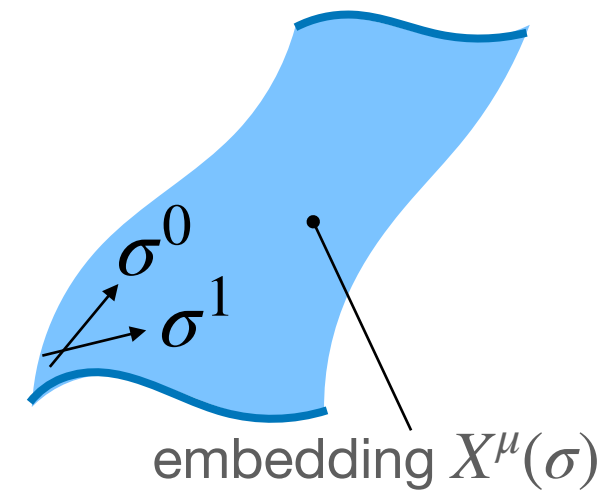
4. “Derivation” of the Matrix Model

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Green-Schwarz formalism

Nambu-Goto-type action

The following respects target-space supersymmetry.



$$S_{\text{GS}} = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \underbrace{\sqrt{-h}}_{\text{area of the worldsheet}} - i\varepsilon^{ab} \partial_a X^\mu (\theta^{1T} \Gamma_\mu \partial_b \theta^1 - \theta^{2T} \Gamma_\mu \partial_b \theta^2) + \varepsilon^{ab} \theta^{1T} \Gamma^\mu \partial_a \theta^1 \theta^{2T} \Gamma_\mu \partial_b \theta^2 \right\}$$

X^μ : bosons (position of a string) θ^A : Majorana-Weyl fermions ($A = 1, 2$)

worldsheet index: $a = 0, 1$

target space index: $\mu = 0, \dots, 9$

$$h = \det h_{ab} \quad h_{ab} = \eta_{\mu\nu} \Pi_a^\mu \Pi_b^\nu, \quad \Pi_a^\mu = \partial_a X^\mu - i(\theta^{1T} \Gamma^\mu \partial_a \theta^1 + \theta^{2T} \Gamma^\mu \partial_a \theta^2)$$

$$\text{SUSY (10D type II):} \quad \delta^s \theta^A = \epsilon^A \quad \delta^s X^\mu = i\epsilon^{AT} \Gamma^\mu \theta^A$$

$$\kappa \text{ symmetry:} \quad \delta^f \theta^A = (1 - (-1)^A \tilde{\Gamma}) \kappa^A(\sigma) \quad \delta^f X^\mu = -i\delta^f \theta^{AT} \Gamma^\mu \theta^A$$

$$\tilde{\Gamma}^2 = 1$$

[Green, Schwarz '84]

Hamiltonian and the Polyakov type

The theory has **constraints** corresponding to gauge symmetry:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \chi_b^0 &= (P_\mu - i(\theta^{1T}\Gamma_\mu\partial_1\theta^1 - \theta^{2T}\Gamma_\mu\partial_1\theta^2))^2 + \Pi_1^\mu\Pi_{1\mu} \approx 0 \\ \chi_b^1 &= P_\mu\partial_1X^\mu + \pi^A\partial_1\theta^A \approx 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (\text{diffeo.})$$

$$\chi_f^A = \pi^A + i(P_\mu + (-1)^{A+1}\partial_1X_\mu - (-1)^{A+1}i\theta^{AT}\Gamma_\mu\partial_1\theta^A)(\theta^{AT}\Gamma^\mu) \approx 0 \quad (\kappa \text{ sym.})$$

P_μ : momenta for X^μ

π^A : momenta for θ^A ($A = 1,2$)

The Hamiltonian of the system is then

$$\mathcal{H} = \Lambda_0\chi_b^0 + \Lambda_1\chi_b^1 + \chi_f^{1T}\Lambda_f^1 + \chi_f^{2T}\Lambda_f^2$$

By Legendre-transforming it back, we get the **Polyakov-type** action

$$S_P = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{-g} g^{ab} h_{ab} - i\varepsilon^{ab} \partial_a X^\mu (\theta^{1T}\Gamma_\mu\partial_b\theta^1 - \theta^{2T}\Gamma_\mu\partial_b\theta^2) \right. \\ \left. + \varepsilon^{ab} \theta^{1T}\Gamma^\mu\partial_a\theta^1 \theta^{2T}\Gamma_\mu\partial_b\theta^2 \right\}$$

$$\sqrt{-g} g^{ab} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{\Lambda_0} & \frac{\Lambda_1}{\Lambda_0} \\ \frac{\Lambda_1}{\Lambda_0} & \frac{-\Lambda_1^2 + \Lambda_0^2}{\Lambda_0} \end{pmatrix}$$

Schild-type action

$$S_P = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{-g} g^{ab} h_{ab} - i\varepsilon^{ab} \partial_a X^\mu (\theta^{1T} \Gamma_\mu \partial_b \theta^1 - \theta^{2T} \Gamma_\mu \partial_b \theta^2) + \varepsilon^{ab} \theta^{1T} \Gamma^\mu \partial_a \theta^1 \theta^{2T} \Gamma_\mu \partial_b \theta^2 \right\}$$

$$= -\frac{h_{11}}{\Lambda_0} \left(\Lambda_1 - \frac{h_{01}}{h_{11}} \right)^2 - \frac{h_{00}h_{11} - h_{01}^2}{\Lambda_0 h_{11}} + \Lambda_0 h_{11}$$

Integrating out Λ_1 , we arrive at the **Schild-type** action

$$S_{\text{Schild}} = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{-h}{e_g} + e_g \right) - i\varepsilon^{ab} \partial_a X^\mu (\theta^{1T} \Gamma_\mu \partial_b \theta^1 - \theta^{2T} \Gamma_\mu \partial_b \theta^2) + \varepsilon^{ab} \theta^{1T} \Gamma^\mu \partial_a \theta^1 \theta^{2T} \Gamma_\mu \partial_b \theta^2 \right\}$$

$$e_g = \Lambda_0 h_{11}$$

✧ Integrating out e_g brings this back to the Nambu-Goto-type action.

Table of contents

1. Introduction

2. Classical Perturbative String

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3. Quantum Perturbative String

4. “Derivation” of the Matrix Model

5. Summary

Overview of the equivalences

$$A_{j_1, \dots, j_n}(k_1, \dots, k_n) = \sum_{\chi=2,0,-2,\dots} g_s^{-\chi} \int DX D\theta Dg V_{j_1}(k_1) \cdots V_{j_n}(k_n) \exp[-S_P^{(E)}]$$

Polyakov's Euclidean path int.

\Updownarrow \ast equiv. at least after gauge-fixing κ sym.

Minkowskian path int. w/ the Polyakov-type action

\Updownarrow
Schild-type action

\Updownarrow
Nambu-Goto-type action

The equivalences hold for **critical type IIB and IIA** string and **critical bosonic** string theory on the **flat target space**.

Path integral—Euclidean to Minkowskian

Let's start with Polyakov's Euclidean path integral in the case of **critical** bosonic string theory for simplicity.

$$Z = \int DX Dg \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \int d^2\sigma \sqrt{g} g^{ab} h_{ab} \right] \quad \text{Polyakov-type}$$

$$Dg = D\phi \prod_{\sigma} \frac{2e^{\phi} d\Lambda_1 d\Lambda_2}{(\Lambda_2)^2} \quad g^{ab} = e^{-\phi} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\Lambda_1^2 + \Lambda_2^2}{\Lambda_2} & -\frac{\Lambda_1}{\Lambda_2} \\ -\frac{\Lambda_1}{\Lambda_2} & \frac{1}{\Lambda_2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\|\delta g\|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \int d^2\sigma \sqrt{g} g^{ab} \delta g_{bc} g^{cd} \delta g_{da} = \int d^2\sigma e^{\phi} \left(\frac{\delta\Lambda_1^2 + \delta\Lambda_2^2}{(\Lambda_2)^2} + \delta\phi^2 \right)$$

$$= \int DX Dg \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{h_{11}}{\Lambda_2} \left(\Lambda_1 - \frac{h_{12}}{h_{11}} \right)^2 + \frac{h_{11}h_{22} - h_{12}^2}{\Lambda_2 h_{11}} + \Lambda_2 h_{11} \right\} \right]$$

$$= \int DX \left[\prod_{\sigma} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{2d\Lambda_2}{\sqrt{\Lambda_2^3 h_{11}}} \right] \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{h_{11}h_{22} - h_{12}^2}{\Lambda_2 h_{11}} + \Lambda_2 h_{11} \right\} \right]$$

Schild-type

Path integral—Euclidean to Minkowskian

Cauchy's integral thm. equates the path integral to its Minkowskian version by the following deformation of the contour:

$$X^D = e^{i\theta} X^0, \quad \Lambda_2 h_{11} =: e_g^{(E)} = e^{i\theta} e_g, \quad \sigma^2 \rightarrow \sigma^0 \quad \left(\theta : 0 \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ for } e_g > 0 \right)$$

$$Z = \int DX \left[\prod_{\sigma} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{2de_g^{(E)}}{e_g^{(E)3/2}} \right] \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{h_{11}h_{22} - h_{12}^2}{e_g^{(E)}} + e_g^{(E)} \right\} \right]$$

$$h = \frac{1}{2} \{ (\varepsilon^{ab} \partial_a X^i \partial_b X^j)^2 + 2(\varepsilon^{ab} \partial_a X^D \partial_b X^i)^2 \} > 0$$

$$-\frac{1}{2} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{e^{-i\theta} (\varepsilon^{ab} \partial_a X^i \partial_b X^j)^2 + 2e^{i\theta} (\varepsilon^{ab} \partial_a X^0 \partial_b X^i)^2}{2e_g} + e^{i\theta} e_g \right\}$$

Path integral—Euclidean to Minkowskian

Cauchy's integral thm. equates the path integral to its Minkowskian version by the following deformation of the contour:

$$X^D = e^{i\theta} X^0, \quad \Lambda_2 h_{11} =: e_g^{(E)} = e^{i\theta} e_g, \quad \sigma^2 \rightarrow \sigma^0 \quad \left(\theta : 0 \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ for } e_g > 0 \right)$$

$$Z = \int DX \left[\prod_{\sigma} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{2de_g^{(E)}}{e_g^{(E)3/2}} \right] \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{h_{11}h_{22} - h_{12}^2}{e_g^{(E)}} + e_g^{(E)} \right\} \right]$$

$$h = \frac{1}{2} \{ (\varepsilon^{ab} \partial_a X^i \partial_b X^j)^2 + 2(\varepsilon^{ab} \partial_a X^D \partial_b X^i)^2 \} > 0$$

$$\stackrel{\theta = \pi/2}{=} -\frac{i}{2} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{-(\varepsilon^{ab} \partial_a X^i \partial_b X^j)^2 + 2(\varepsilon^{ab} \partial_a X^0 \partial_b X^i)^2}{2e_g} + e_g \right\}$$

$$= \int DX \left[\prod_{\sigma} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{-2de_g}{(ie_g)^{3/2}} \right] \exp \left[-\frac{i}{2} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{-(h_{11}h_{00} - h_{10}^2)}{e_g} + e_g \right\} \right]$$

$$= \int DX \left[\prod_{\sigma} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{-de_g}{(ie_g)^{3/2}} \right] \exp \left[-\frac{i}{2} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{-(h_{11}h_{00} - h_{10}^2)}{e_g} + e_g \right\} \right]$$

(※ Another deformation, $\theta : 0 \rightarrow -\frac{\pi}{2}$, gives integration over $e_g \in (-\infty, 0)$.)

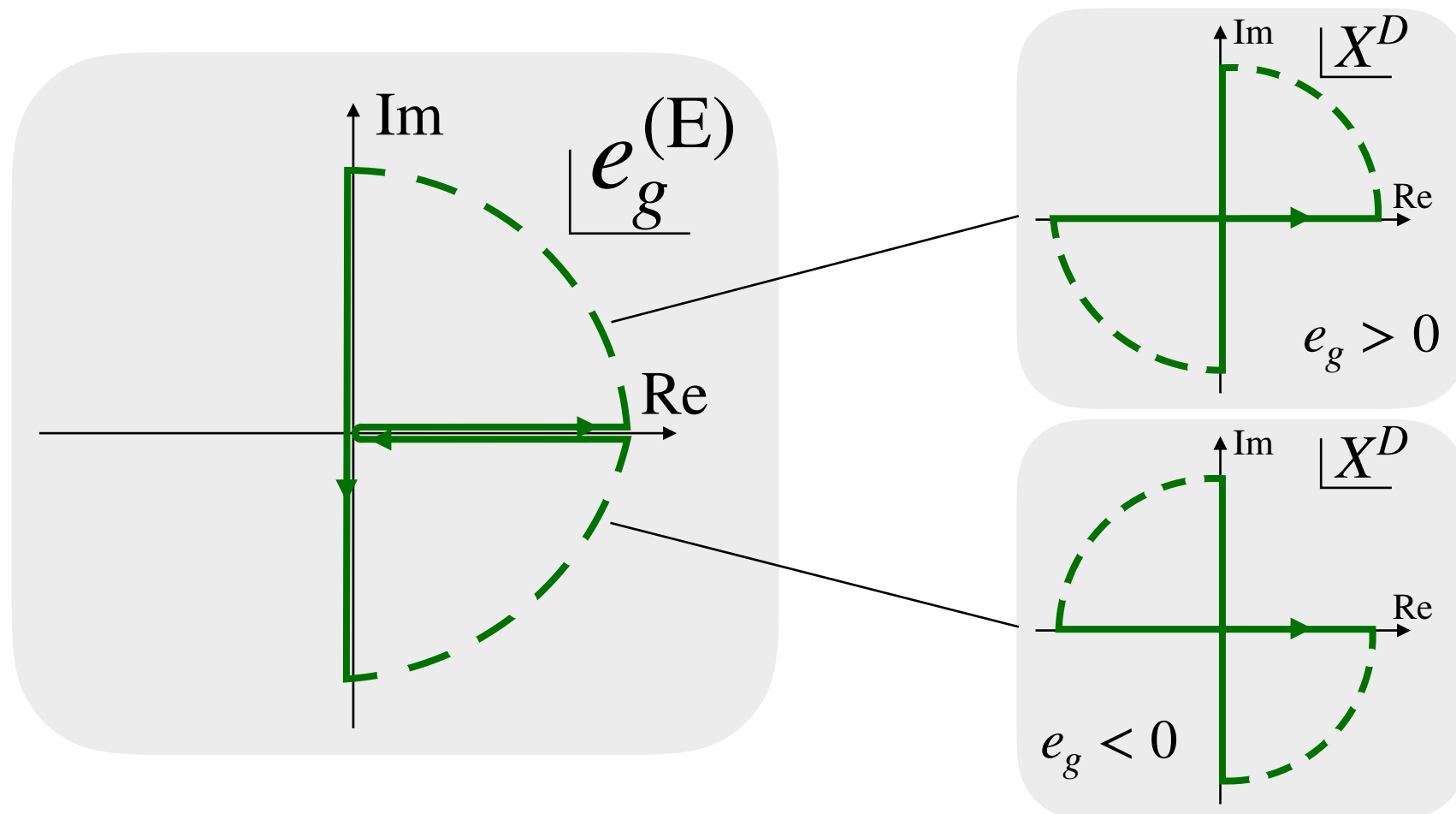
Path integral—Euclidean to Minkowskian

The deformation of the contour:

$$X^D = e^{i\theta} X^0, \quad \Lambda_2 h_{11} =: e_g^{(E)} = e^{i\theta} e_g, \quad \sigma^2 \rightarrow \sigma^0$$

$$Z = \int DX \left[\prod_{\sigma} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{2de_g^{(E)}}{e_g^{(E)3/2}} \right] \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{h_{11}h_{22} - h_{12}^2}{e_g^{(E)}} + e_g^{(E)} \right\} \right]$$

$$= \int DX \left[\prod_{\sigma} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{-de_g}{(ie_g)^{3/2}} \right] \exp \left[-\frac{i}{2} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{-(h_{11}h_{00} - h_{10}^2)}{e_g} + e_g \right\} \right]$$



Path integral—Euclidean to Minkowskian

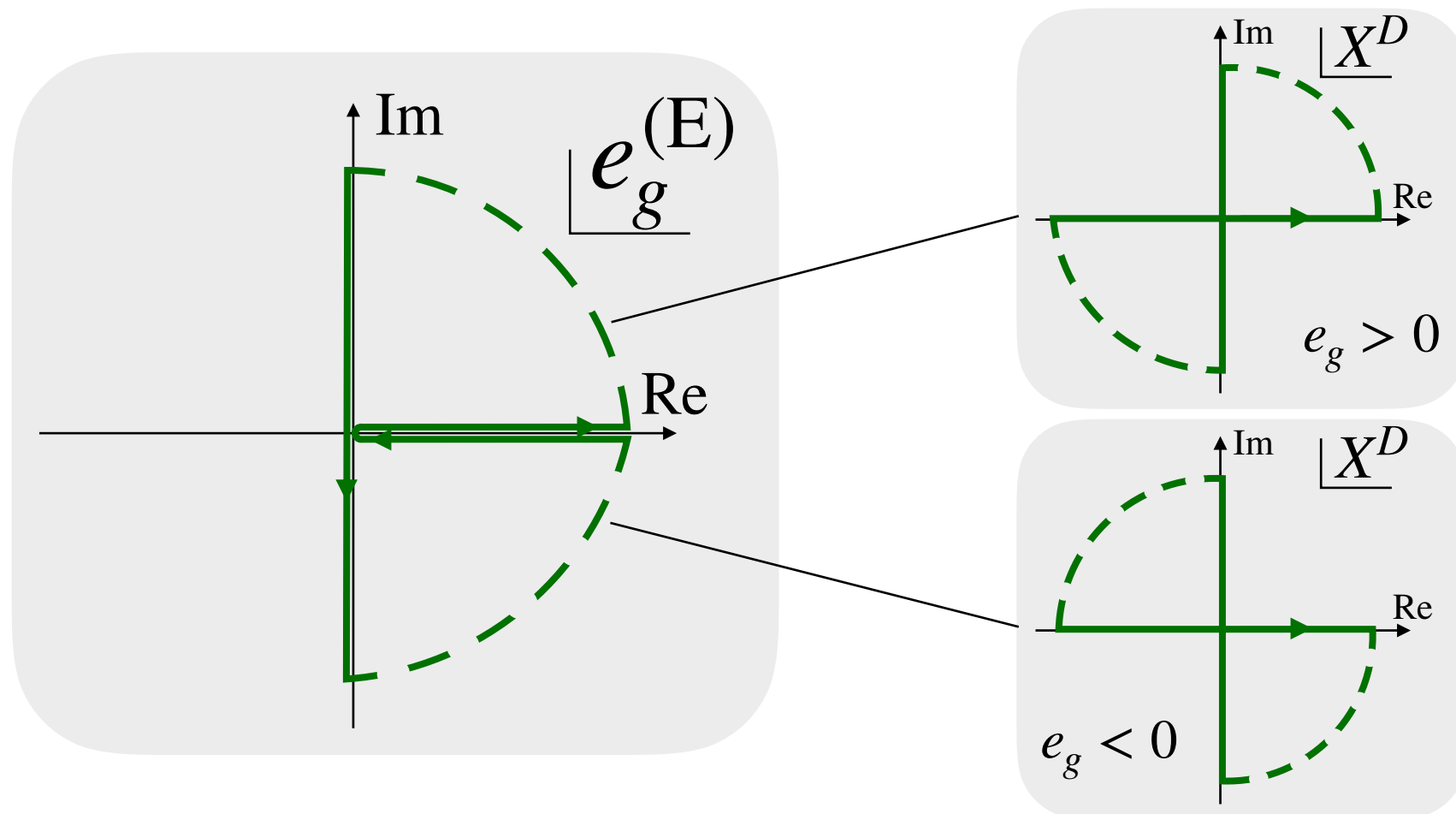
The deformation of the contour:

$$X^D = e^{i\theta} X^0, \quad \Lambda_2 h_{11} =: e_g^{(E)} = e^{i\theta} e_g, \quad \sigma^2 \rightarrow \sigma^0$$

$$Z = \int DX \left[\prod_{\sigma} \int_{\mathcal{C}} \frac{-ide_g^{(E)}}{(-e_g^{(E)})^{3/2}} \right] \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{h_{11}h_{22} - h_{12}^2}{e_g^{(E)}} + e_g^{(E)} \right\} \right]$$

$\mathcal{C} : +\infty - i0 \rightarrow -0 \rightarrow +\infty + i0$

$$= \int DX \left[\prod_{\sigma} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{-de_g}{(ie_g)^{3/2}} \right] \exp \left[-\frac{i}{2} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{-(h_{11}h_{00} - h_{10}^2)}{e_g} + e_g \right\} \right]$$



Path integral—Euclidean to Minkowskian

$$Z = \int DX \left[\prod_{\sigma} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{-de_g}{(ie_g)^{3/2}} \right] \exp \left[-\frac{i}{2} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{-(h_{11}h_{00} - h_{10}^2)}{e_g} + e_g \right\} \right]$$

$$1 = \left[\prod_{\sigma} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\Lambda_1}{(i\Lambda_0/h_{11})^{1/2}} \right] \exp \left[\frac{i}{2} \int d^2\sigma \frac{h_{11}}{\Lambda_0} \left(\Lambda_1 - \frac{h_{10}}{h_{11}} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$e_g = \Lambda_0 h_{11}$$

$$g^{ab} = e^{-\phi} \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{\Lambda_0} & \frac{\Lambda_1}{\Lambda_0} \\ \frac{\Lambda_1}{\Lambda_0} & \frac{-\Lambda_1^2 + \Lambda_0^2}{\Lambda_0} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \int DX \left[\prod_{\sigma} \frac{d\Lambda_0 d\Lambda_1}{(\Lambda_0)^2} \right] \exp \left[-\frac{i}{2} \int d^2\sigma \sqrt{-g} g^{ab} h_{ab} \right]$$

Polyakov-type

Polyakov's **Euclidean** path int. is **equivalent** to its **Minkowskian** ver.

[Y.A. '24]

Path integral—Polyakov to Nambu-Goto

The obtained Minkowskian Schild-type path integral effectively contains $i\epsilon$ terms:

$$Z = \int DX \left[\prod_{\sigma} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{-de_g}{(ie_g)^{3/2}} \right] \exp \left[-\frac{i}{2} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{-h}{e_g} + e_g - i\epsilon |e_g| - i \frac{\tilde{\epsilon}}{|e_g|} \right\} \right]$$

Schild-type

$e_g = \Lambda_0 h_{11}$

Regulators for the convergence of the path integral:

- $i\epsilon$ terms are regarded as terms from the ground state wave function
- gauge invariant
- Λ_a correspond to constraints: $\delta(\chi) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\Lambda}{2\pi} e^{i\Lambda\chi - \epsilon|\Lambda|} \rightarrow \Lambda_a \in (-\infty, \infty)$

Path integral—Polyakov to Nambu-Goto

$$\left[\prod_{\sigma} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{-de_g}{(ie_g)^{3/2}} \right] \exp \left[-\frac{i}{2} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \frac{-h}{e_g} + e_g - i\epsilon |e_g| - i \frac{\tilde{\epsilon}}{|e_g|} \right\} \right]$$

Schild-type

$$= \prod_{\sigma} \left(\frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{\sqrt{-h - i\epsilon}} e^{-i\Delta\Sigma\sqrt{-h - i\epsilon}} + \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{\sqrt{-h + i\epsilon}} e^{i\Delta\Sigma\sqrt{-h + i\epsilon}} \right)$$

cancel if $h > 0$

$$= \left[\prod_{\sigma} \sum_{s(\sigma)=\pm 1} \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{\sqrt{-h - i\epsilon s}} \right] \exp \left[-i \int d^2\sigma s \sqrt{-h - i\epsilon s} \right] \quad \begin{cases} s = 1: \text{F1} \\ s = -1: \text{anti-F1} \end{cases}$$

Nambu-Goto-type

The Polyakov, Schild and Nambu-Goto types are
quantum mechanically equivalent.

The causality is realised by an anti-F1.

[Y.A. '24]

“Negative-energy” anti-F-string

What is this anti-F-string? Looks traveling backward in time.

- This is not very weird because there'd be no worldsheet time direction in the first place.

$$\text{Time evolution: } \exp\left[-i \int (\Lambda_0 \chi_b^0 + \Lambda_1 \chi_b^1 + \chi_f^{AT} \Lambda_f^A) d^2\sigma\right] \approx 1$$

- The anti-string w/ $\Lambda_0 < 0$ is dual to a string w/ $\Lambda_0 > 0$ by $\sigma^0 \leftrightarrow \sigma^1$.
... open-closed string duality

i.e. if $\overline{g_{00}}$ is positive (“wrong” sign), the exchange of σ^a leads us to the “right” sign.
$$\sim -\frac{1}{\Lambda_0}$$

The stringy causality may suggest its interpretation as an anti-string w/ “negative energy” (the wrong sign), which corresponds to a “positive-energy” string, like standard QFT.

Propagator for space-like separation

In standard QFT, a **space-like propagator** is non-zero, which seems contradicting the stringy causality?

In string theory, a 2-point function is $V(k, \sigma) \sim \int_{\text{on-shell}} d^2\sigma e^{ik \cdot X(\sigma)}$

$$A_2(k, k') = \int d\mu \exp[iS_{\text{NG}}] V(k') V(k) \propto 2k^0 \delta^{D-1}(k - k')$$

since the Minkowskian theory is **equivalent** to the Euclidean ver.

Its (Lorentz invariant) Fourier transform gives a propagator:

$$\tilde{A}_2(x, x') = \int \frac{d^{D-1}\mathbf{k}}{2k^0} \int \frac{d^{D-1}\mathbf{k}'}{2k'^0} e^{i(k \cdot x - k' \cdot x')} A_2(k, k') \propto \int \frac{d^{D-1}\mathbf{k}}{2k^0} e^{ik \cdot (x - x')}$$

... **No contradiction**

Table of contents

1. Introduction

2. Classical Perturbative String

Equivalence between the 3 types of formulation

3. Quantum Perturbative String

4. “Derivation” of the Matrix Model

5. Summary

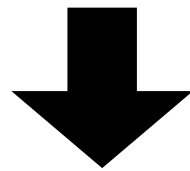
Toward the non-pert. definition

The path integral of perturbative string theory:

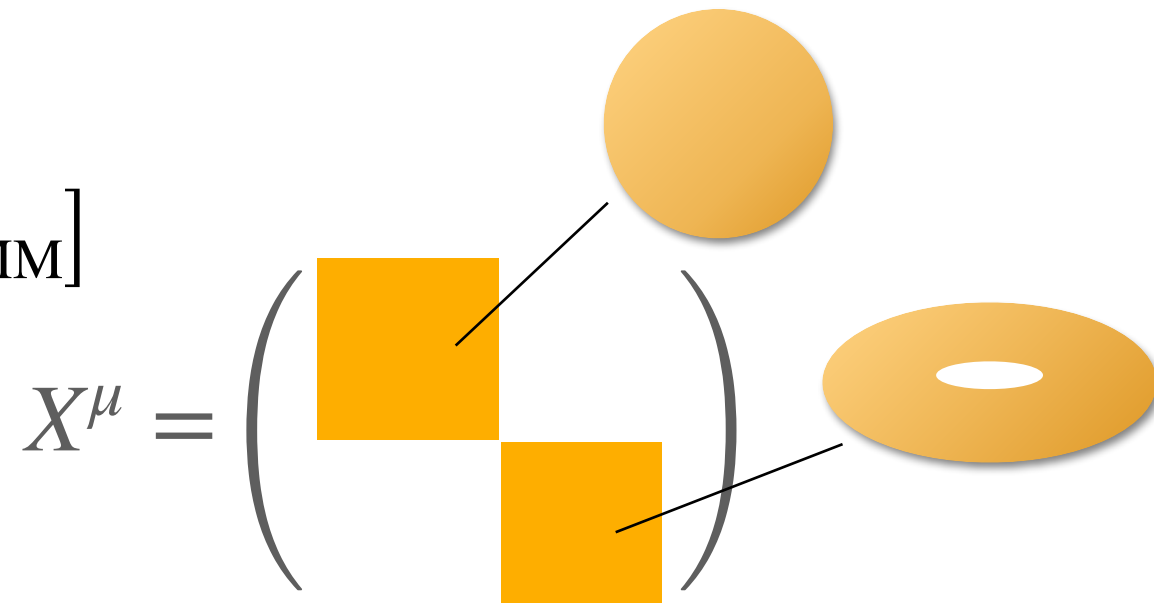
$$A(k_1, \dots, k_n) = \sum_{\chi=2,0,-2,\dots} g_s^{-\chi} \int DX D\theta De_g V(k_1) \cdots V(k_n) \exp[iS_{\text{Schild}}]$$

... This is merely perturbation theory around the 10D flat spacetime.

Matrix regularisation



$$A(k_1, \dots, k_n) = \int d\mu V(k_1) \cdots V(k_n) \exp[iS_{\text{MM}}]$$



We expect the matrices describe multi-body systems of superstrings.

Matrix regularisation

A map of functions on a **compact** space to matrices

[Hoppe '82]

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f(\sigma) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l}^l f_{lm} \underline{Y_{lm}(\sigma)} & \longmapsto & \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} \sum_{m=-l}^l f_{lm} (Y_{lm})_{ij} = f_{ij} \\ \text{fn. on } S^2 & & \text{matrix} \\ & \text{spherical harmonics} & \end{array}$$

Matrix regularisation of the Schild-type theory

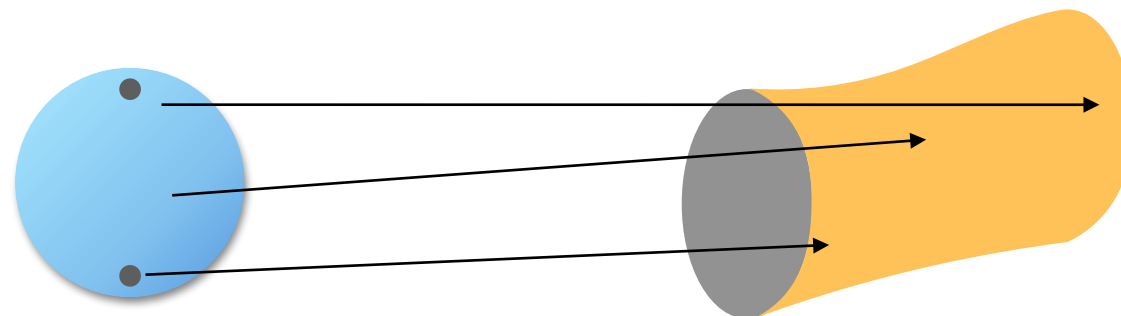
1. Matrix Regularisation after the Wick rotation

Cauchy's thm. equates the Euclidean theory to the original.

The regularisation is **manifestly well-defined** because the worldsheet and the target space are Riemannian.

2. Matrix Regularisation w/o Wick rotation

Though the **target space** is Lorentzian, the **worldsheet** coordinates are just parameters. Consider **compact worldsheet** with punctures.



Toward the non-pert. definition

We **fix the fermionic gauge** of the Schild-type theory by

$$\varphi = \theta^1 + i\theta^2 = 0 \quad \psi = \theta^1 - i\theta^2$$

Then we obtain

$$\{f, g\}_{\hat{\mathbb{P}}} := \varepsilon^{ab} \partial_a f \partial_b g$$

$$S_{\text{Schild}} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int d^2\sigma \left[\frac{1}{4e_g} \{X^\mu, X^\nu\}_{\hat{\mathbb{P}}}^2 + 2i\psi^T \Gamma_\mu \{X^\mu, \psi\}_{\hat{\mathbb{P}}} - \frac{e_g}{2} \right] \quad [\text{Ishibashi, Kawai, Kitazawa, Tsuchiya '96}]$$

By matrix regularisation, $\{\cdot, \cdot\}_{\hat{\mathbb{P}}} \mapsto \frac{N}{i} [\cdot, \cdot]$, $\frac{1}{\pi} \int d^2\sigma \mapsto \frac{1}{N} \text{tr}$,

with $e_g \mapsto -Y$, **without Wick rotation**

$$\int DX D\psi De_g e^{iS_{\text{Schild}}} \longrightarrow \int DX D\psi DY e^{iS_{\text{NBI}}}$$

$$S_{\text{NBI}} = N \text{tr} \left(\frac{1}{4} Y^{-1} [X^\mu, X^\nu]^2 + \frac{1}{2} \psi^T \Gamma_\mu [X^\mu, \psi] + Y + \frac{i}{N} (N + \frac{1}{2}) \ln(-iY) \right)$$

cf. [Fayyazuddin, Makeenko, Olesen, Smith, Zarembo '96]

※ The Euclidean IKKT is obtained by MR after Wick rot. w/ $e_g^2 = 1$

Minkowskian “dielectric” NBI IKKT model

$$S_{\text{NBI}} = N \text{tr} \left(\frac{1}{4} Y^{-1} [X^\mu, X^\nu]^2 + \frac{1}{2} \psi^T \Gamma_\mu [X^\mu, \psi] + Y + \frac{i}{N} (N + \frac{1}{2}) \ln(-iY) \right)$$

cf. [Fayyazuddin, Makeenko, Olesen, Smith, Zarembo '96]

Unlike the IKKT model,
this NBI-type IKKT model explicitly holds the “causality” property:

$$\int DY \exp \left[iN \text{tr} \left(\frac{1}{4} Y^{-1} M + \frac{1}{N^2} Y + \frac{i}{N} \left(N + \frac{1}{2} \right) \ln(-iY) + i\epsilon Y^2 + i\tilde{\epsilon} Y^{-2} \right) \right]$$

$$\propto \Delta(m)^{-1} \det_{i,j} \left[\left(iN \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \right)^{j-1} \left(\frac{e^{-i\sqrt{m_i - i\epsilon'}\sqrt{\alpha}}}{\sqrt{m_i - i\epsilon'}} + \frac{e^{i\sqrt{m_i + i\epsilon'}\sqrt{\alpha}}}{\sqrt{m_i + i\epsilon'}} \right) \right]_{\alpha \rightarrow 1}$$

$M := [X^\mu, X^\nu]^2$, m_i : the i th eigenvalue of M

This is zero if at least one eigenvalue of M is negative.

... similar to the cancellation in perturbative string theory

Minkowskian “dielectric” NBI IKKT model

The large- N limit reproduces the perturbative string theory up to a measure factor.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int DY \exp \left[iN \operatorname{tr} \left(\frac{1}{4} Y^{-1} M + \frac{1}{N^2} Y + \frac{i}{N} \left(N + \frac{1}{2} \right) \ln(-iY) + i\epsilon Y^2 + i\tilde{\epsilon} Y^{-2} \right) \right] \\
 & \propto \Delta(m)^{-1} \det_{i,j} \left[\left(iN \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \right)^{j-1} \left(\frac{e^{-i\sqrt{m_i - i\epsilon'}\sqrt{\alpha}}}{\sqrt{m_i - i\epsilon'}} + \frac{e^{i\sqrt{m_i + i\epsilon'}\sqrt{\alpha}}}{\sqrt{m_i + i\epsilon'}} \right) \right]_{\alpha \rightarrow 1} \\
 & = \left(\frac{N}{2} \right)^N \left[\prod_{i=1}^N \sum_{s_i = \pm 1} \right] \frac{1}{\prod_{i,j < i} (s_i \sqrt{m_i - i\epsilon' s_i} + s_j \sqrt{m_j - i\epsilon' s_j})} \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{e^{-is_i \sqrt{m_i - i\epsilon' s_i}}}{\sqrt{m_i - i\epsilon' s_i}} \\
 & \rightarrow \left[\prod_{\sigma} \sum_{s(\sigma) = \pm 1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{-h - i\epsilon s}} \right] \frac{\mathcal{M}[-h(\sigma), s(\sigma)]}{\text{---}} \exp \left[-i \int d^2\sigma s \sqrt{-h - i\epsilon s} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

cf. [Fayyazuddin, Makeenko, Olesen, Smith, Zarembo '96]

$$* \sum_i \sqrt{m_i} \rightarrow \int d^2\sigma \sqrt{-\frac{1}{2} \{X^\mu, X^\nu\}^2} = \int d^2\sigma \sqrt{-h} \quad \text{as } N \rightarrow \infty$$

... the inverse of matrix regularisation

Euclidean “dielectric” NBI IKKT model

Some remarks on the Euclidean NBI model

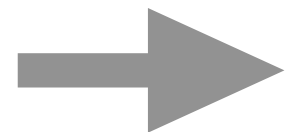
$$Z_{\text{NBI}}^{(\text{E})} = \int DX D\psi DY \exp \left[-N \text{tr} \left(-\frac{1}{4} Y^{-1} [X^m, X^n]^2 + \frac{1}{2} \psi^T \Gamma_\mu [X^\mu, \psi] + \frac{1}{N^2} Y + \gamma \ln(Y) \right) \right]$$

- It has terms reminiscent of the **Penner model**.

$$Z_{\text{Penner}} = \int DY \exp[-Nt \text{tr}[-Y + \ln(Y)]]$$

The NBI model has a critical behaviour at $\gamma \rightarrow 1$ for large N .

[Chekhov, Zarembo '97; Kristjansen, Olesen '97]



The genus expansion of a string amplitude is reproduced?

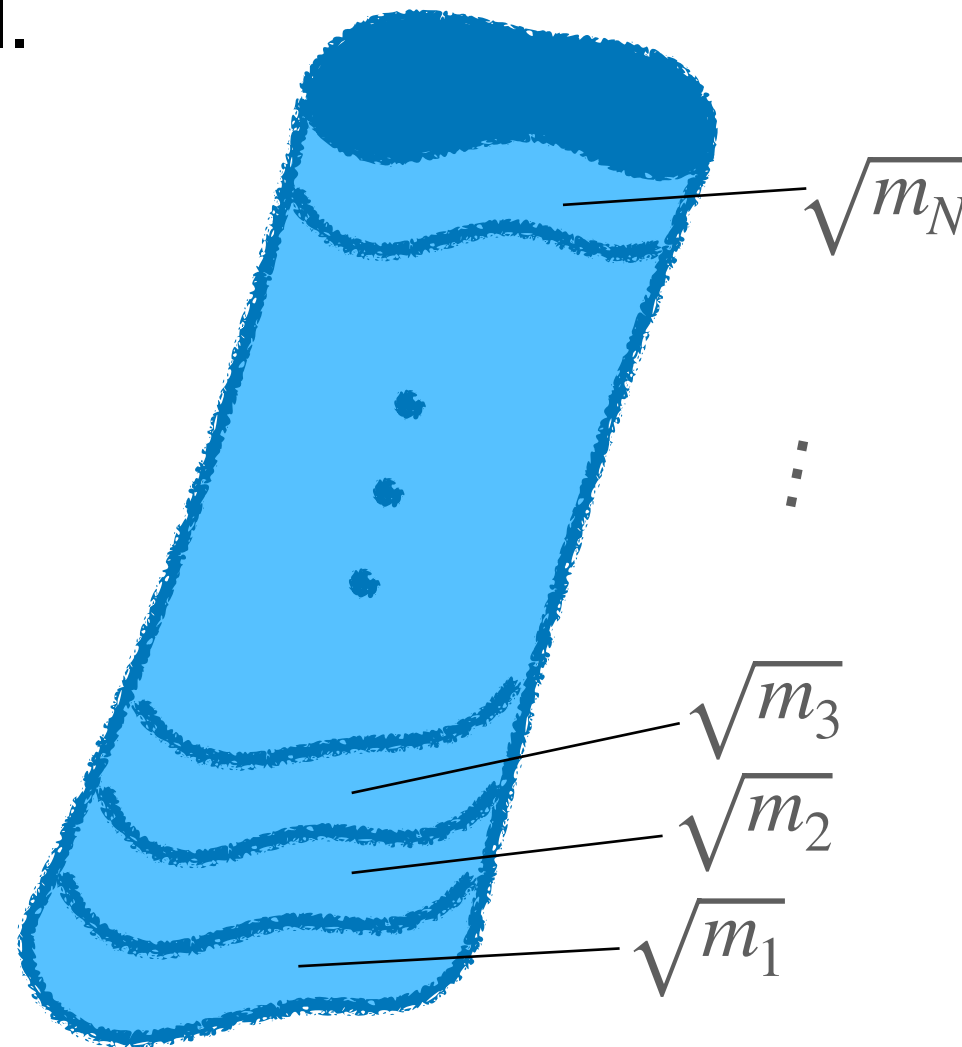
[Distler, Vafa '91] [Kristjansen, Olesen '97]

- The Y -part is equivalent to the **Kontsevich model**. [Ambjorn, Chekhov, '98]

$$Z_{\text{Kontsevich}} = \int DY' \exp \left[-\gamma' \text{tr} \left[\frac{1}{2} \Lambda Y'^2 - \frac{i}{6} Y'^3 \right] \right]$$
$$\Lambda \sim \sqrt{-[X^m, X^n]^2}$$

Minkowskian “dielectric” NBI IKKT model

In summary, the Minkowskian NBI model can be interpreted as a causal matrix model.



The matrix $M^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{[X^\mu, X^\nu]^2}$ ($[X^\mu, X^\nu]^2 > 0$) approaches a time-like area $\sqrt{-h}$ ($h < 0$) as $N \rightarrow \infty$, and only a time-like area contributes.

Table of contents

1. Introduction

2. Classical Perturbative String

Equivalence between the 3 types of formulation

3. Quantum Perturbative String

4. “Derivation” of the Matrix Model

5. Summary

Summary

- The Minkowskian perturbative superstring theory is **quantum mechanically equivalent** to its Euclidean version in terms of path integration.
- The **Polyakov**, **Schild** and **Nambu-Goto**-type formulations are **quantum mechanically equivalent** in the case of critical string theory (bosonic & type II).
- Full integration over the worldsheet metric provides the stringy **causality**. Since configs. with $\det h_{ab} > 0$ don't contribute to the path integral, string propagation with a space-like area is prohibited.
- We obtained the **Minkowskian NBI-type IKKT** model as a causal matrix model by matrix regularisation of IIB string. This partially **answers how we define the IKKT model** in the path-integral formalism, but it doesn't uniquely determine the matrix model (even whether it's Euclidean or Minkowskian).

Future work

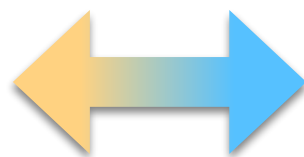
- It's important to establish the **exact relationship between perturbative superstring d.o.f. and matrix d.o.f.** cf. SFT: [Fukuma, Kawai, Kitazawa, Tsuchiya '97]
string states: [Iso, Kawai, Kitazawa '00; Steinacker '16]

In the matrix model, we have a vertex op. $V^\Phi = \text{tr } e^{ik_\mu X^\mu}$

This forms **a massless multiplet of type-IIB SUGRA**
by acting the supercharge operator Q onto this vertex.

[Kitazawa '02; Iso, Terachi, Umetsu '04; Kitazawa, Mizoguchi, Saito '07]

Perturbative
String states



Matrix model
Operators

Amplitudes computed by the vertex operators in the NBI model are expected to reproduce the genus expansion via the matrix reg.

Is it also obtained by a $1/N$ expansion?

- A mass term may be essential to define the IKKT model.

The Polarised IKKT model is singular and subtle. [Hartnoll, Liu '24; Komatsu et al. '24]
[Benelli '02]

➡ Double scaling limit as $\Omega \rightarrow 0$ (massless lim.)?