

Introduction to string  
theory and the  
gauge theory/string theory  
correspondence.

# Plan

- String theory
- Relations among string theories
- D-branes
- Gauge-gravity correspondence. (general considerations)
- AdS / CFT
- Another view: the matrix model.



# String theory

①

A theory introduced because it incorporates (quantized) gravity.

Unlike other interactions the short-distance infinities of gravity are un-controllable

→ Non-renormalizability

String theory predicts (perturbatively) quantized gravity.



②  
fundamental objects  
of string theory are  
strings (open and closed

- closed string always  
• provide a graviton

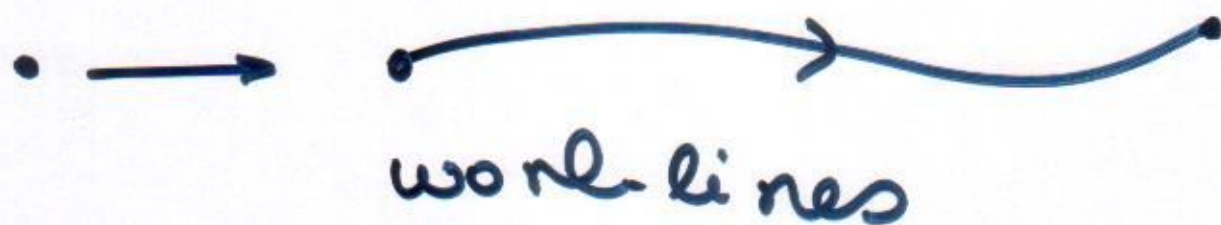
- The theory contains  
gauge interactions (SM)

- Existence of fermions  
implies supersymmetry

- The theory is UV  
finite.

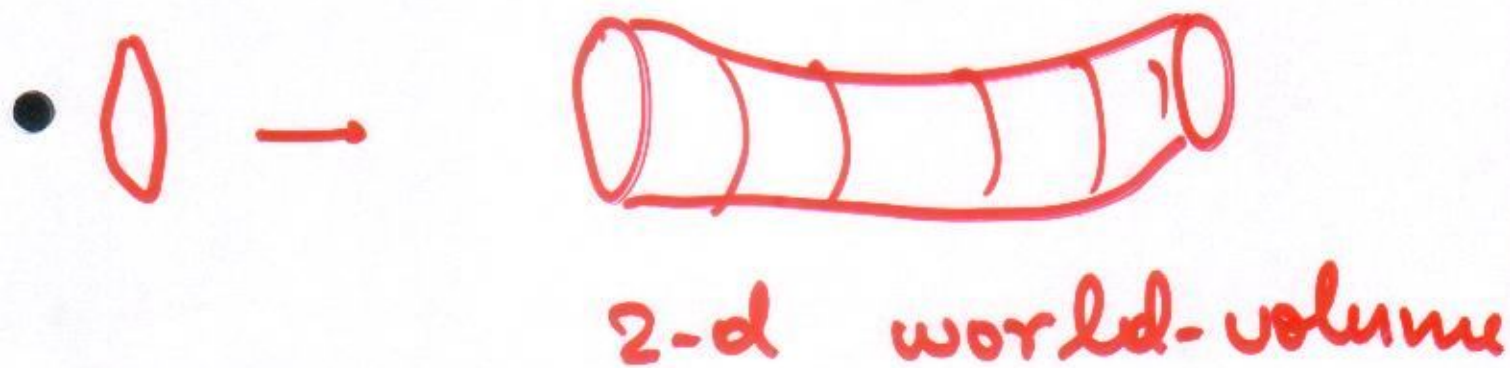


In field + heavy, fields (partic.) <sup>③</sup>  
are point-like.



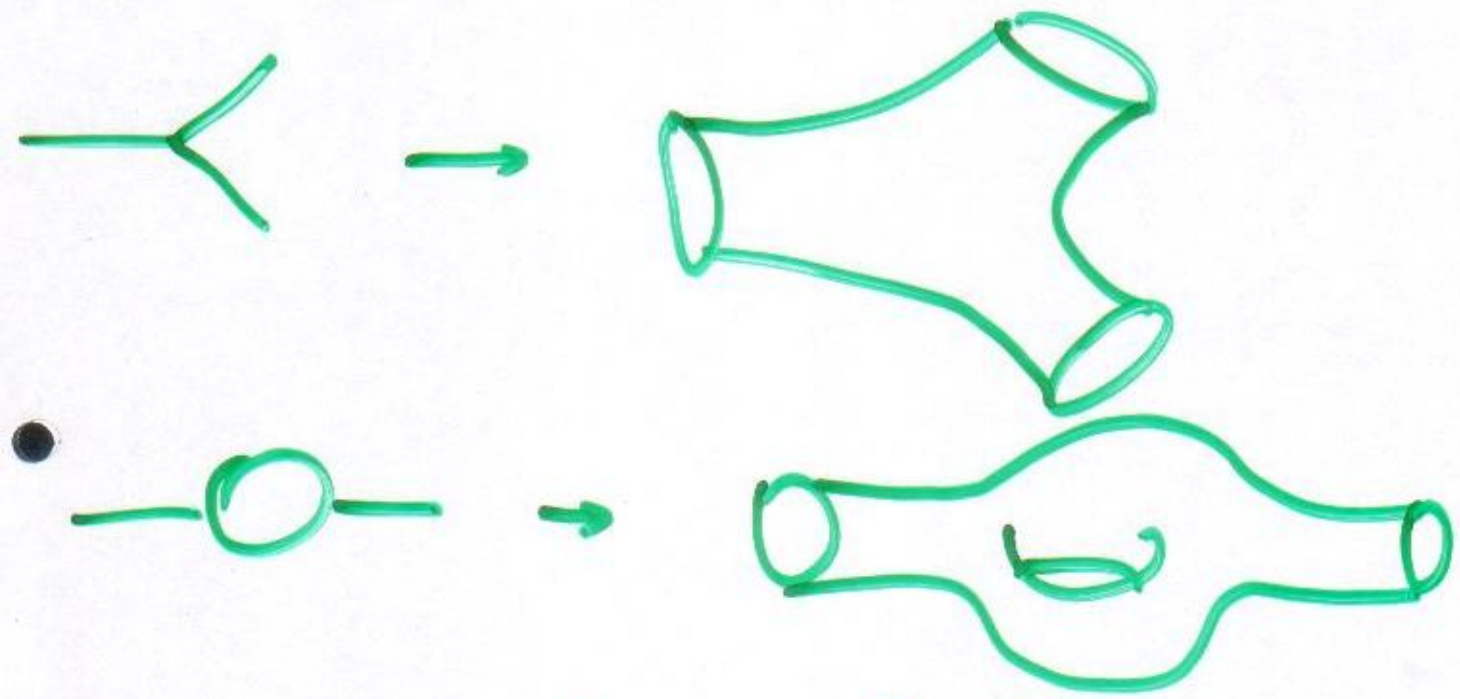
• quantum-mechanics

~  $\int (\text{paths}) e^{-\text{length}}$   
↓  
world-lines



~  $\int (mv) e^{-\text{Area}}$

Unlike FT, in ST the interactions are unique:



⇒ geometry of Riemann surfaces

The theory is tightly constrained.

(resembles a theory with a smart cut-off)



The theory has one scale :  $M_s \rightarrow$  string scale

and  $l_s \sim M_s^{-1} \sim \sqrt{\alpha'}$

$T \sim \frac{1}{\alpha'}$

A string gives rise to an infinite ladder of particles with

$M^2 \sim n M_s^2$

When  $E \ll M_s$  they are "invisible"

$\Rightarrow$  We must look at  $l \sim l_s$  to see a string

Other "parameters" depend <sup>⑥</sup> on the background.

Superstring theory lives in  $9+1$  dimensions.

• the string coupling constant  $g_s$  is an expectation value:

•  $g_s = \langle e^{\Phi} \rangle \rightarrow$  dilaton scalar



$$g_s^{-2} \sim g_s^{-2+2g}$$



# Compactification

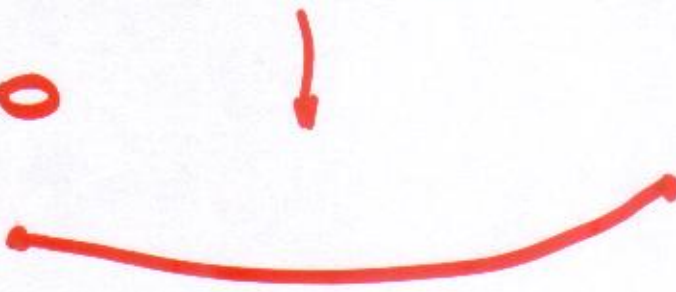
(7)

How are ten dimensions,  
compatible with observations?

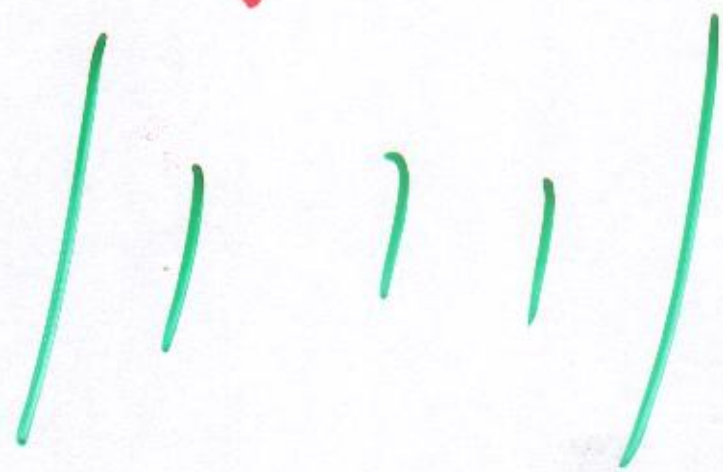
Kaluza-Klein idea



$R \rightarrow 0$



$R \rightarrow \infty$



Example: 4+1 dimensions 8

circle of radius  $R$ .

and a scalar  $\Phi$  (massless)

$$\square \Phi = 0$$

$$\bullet \Rightarrow P_0^2 - \vec{P}^2 - P_S^2 = 0$$

wave function  $e^{i P_S \cdot x^S}$

must be invariant under  $x^S \rightarrow$

$$x^S + 2\pi R$$

$$\bullet \Downarrow P_S = \frac{n}{R} \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\rightarrow P_0^2 - \vec{P}^2 = \frac{n^2}{R^2}$$

Infinite collection of particles (1/2 part)  
with  $M_n^2 = \frac{n^2}{R^2}$



# T-duality

⑨

In string theory there are other configurations.

a string can wrap a compact dimension ( $m$  times)



energy cost  
 $= T \cdot (2\pi m R)$

• mass formula:

$$M^2 = \frac{\eta^2}{R^2} + T^2 (2\pi m R)^2$$

invariant under:

$$R \rightarrow \frac{1}{2\pi T \cdot R}$$

$\partial_\sigma X^\mu \leftrightarrow \partial_\tau X^\mu$
$\partial_{\sigma+\tau} X^\mu \rightarrow \text{inv}$
$\partial_{\sigma-\tau} X^\mu \rightarrow -()$

# Consistent supersymmetric string theories in $D=10$ (10)

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## • Closed strings (type II)

•  $\bigcirc \xrightarrow{\text{(super)}} \alpha' \rightarrow 10D$

left movers  $\sim$  Right movers

Subtle difference in fermion sector  $\rightarrow$  IIA, IB.

• For both,

NSNS  $\rightarrow G_{\mu\nu}, B_{\mu\nu}, \Phi$

RR  $\rightarrow$

IIA:  $A_\mu, C_{\mu\nu\rho}$

IIB:  $\alpha, G_{\mu\nu}, C_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}^+$



IIA: massless sector (11)  
=  $N=2$  supergravity  
(non-chiral)

IIB: massless sector

$N=2$  supergravity (IIB)  
chiral (+ anomaly free)

Heterotic super-string  
theory

Closed strings:

left movers: superstring

$\alpha^\mu, \psi^\mu$   
 $\mu=0, 1, \dots, 9$

Right movers  $\rightarrow$  non-susy  
 $\alpha^\mu, X^{I=1, \dots, 16}$

(12)

$X^I$  compactified on even  
self-dual lattice  $\left[ \begin{array}{l} E_8 \times E_8 \\ O(32) \end{array} \right.$

• massless fields:

$G_{\mu\nu}, B_{\mu\nu}, \phi + \text{fermions}$

$N=1$  supergravity  
multiplet in  $d=10$

$A_\mu^\alpha + \text{fermions}$

$S$  Yang Mills multiplet  
for  $SO(32), E_8 \times E_8$



# Type I string

(13)

Closed unoriented strings.

projected by orientation reversal  $\Omega :: L \leftrightarrow R$

- $G_{\mu\nu}, \phi, C_{\mu\nu}$  remain  
( $B_{\mu\nu}, \alpha, C^+_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}$ )  $\rightarrow$  projected out.

$N=1, d=10$  sugra multiplet.

Open (unoriented) strings

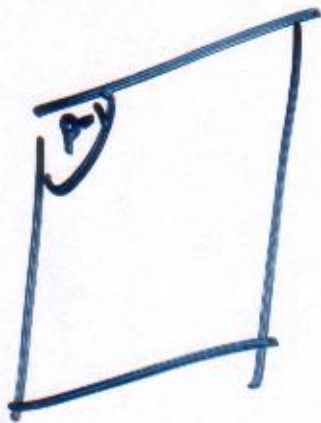
$O(32), N=1, d=10$  SYM multiplet.

# Antisymmetric tensors and $p$ -branes.

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$A_{\mu_1, \dots, \mu_p}$   $\rightarrow$  is a massless  
gauge field

- it couples minimally  
to a  $(p-1)$ -brane



$$\mathcal{Q}_{p-1} \int_{M_p} A_{\mu_1, \dots, \mu_p} \epsilon^{\mu_1, \dots, \mu_p}$$

generalization of the  
EM coupling of point  
particles.

$$\sim e \int dx^\mu A_\mu$$



All string theories (except-I) (15)  
have  $\alpha$   $B_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow$  couples to  
 $\alpha$  1-brane  $\approx$  string

This is the fundamental  
string itself ( $F_1$ )

There are no perturbative  
states that couples to  
the R-R forms in  
type-II string theory.

such configurations must  
be p-brane-like

IIA:  $A_\mu$   $\begin{cases} \rightarrow 0\text{-brane (electric)} \\ \rightarrow 6\text{-brane (magnetic)} \end{cases}$  (16)

$C_{\mu\nu\rho}$   $\begin{cases} \rightarrow 2\text{-brane (E)} \\ \rightarrow 4\text{-brane (M)} \end{cases}$

II B  $\alpha$   $\begin{cases} \rightarrow (-1)\text{-brane (?) } \\ \rightarrow 7\text{-brane (M)} \end{cases}$

$C_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}^+$   $\begin{cases} \rightarrow 3\text{-brane} \end{cases}$

$C_{\mu\nu}$   $\begin{cases} \rightarrow 1\text{-brane (string)} \\ \rightarrow 5\text{-brane (M)} \end{cases}$



Such p-brane solutions arise as quasi-solitonic solutions of the low-energy effective supergravity.

However, such solutions are

- generically singular

(Dirac, us, t'Hooft monopoles)

Do they correspond to

- states in the quantum theory?

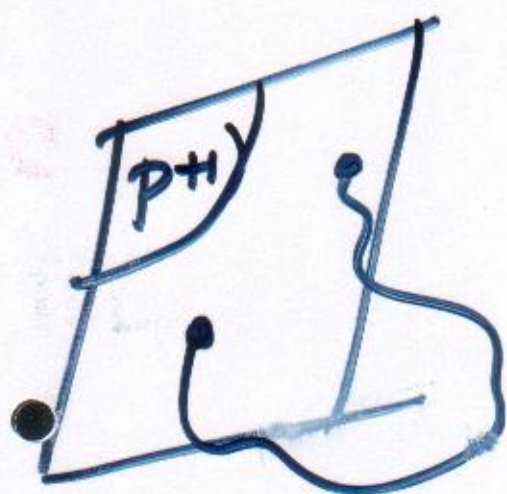
Non-perturbative dualities "symmetries" indicate that they should



# D-branes

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Consider a  $(p+1)$ -dimensional subspace (plane) of 10-d spacetime. We will describe open strings "stuck" on this subspace



$X^{\mu} \rightarrow$  longitudinal

$X^I \rightarrow$  transverse

$\alpha^{\mu} \rightarrow$  Neuman boundary conditions

(free end points)

$$\left. \partial_{\sigma} X^{\mu} \right|_{\text{end point}} = 0$$



$X^I \rightarrow$  Dirichlet bc  
(fixed end)

$$\partial_\tau X^I \Big|_{\text{end point}} = 0$$

•  $\sim X^I \Big|_{\text{end point}} = 0 \rightarrow$  (fixed)

Nbc allow momentum only  
D-bc " winding only  
(in compact cases)

### Spectrum:

a vector  $\Rightarrow \psi_{-1/2}^{\mu} |0\rangle$

(transverse) scalar  $\Rightarrow \psi_{-1/2}^I |0\rangle$

+ fermions.



Special case  $p=9$

$\Rightarrow$  Neuman only

$\rightarrow$  one vector  $A_\mu(x)$

one MW spinor  $\Psi_a$

$\bullet \rightarrow N=1$   $D=10$  vector multiplet

arbitrary  $p$ :

one vector ( $D=p+1$ )  $A_\mu(x)$

$\bullet$   $9-p$  scalars  $\Phi^I(x)$

plus the fermions.

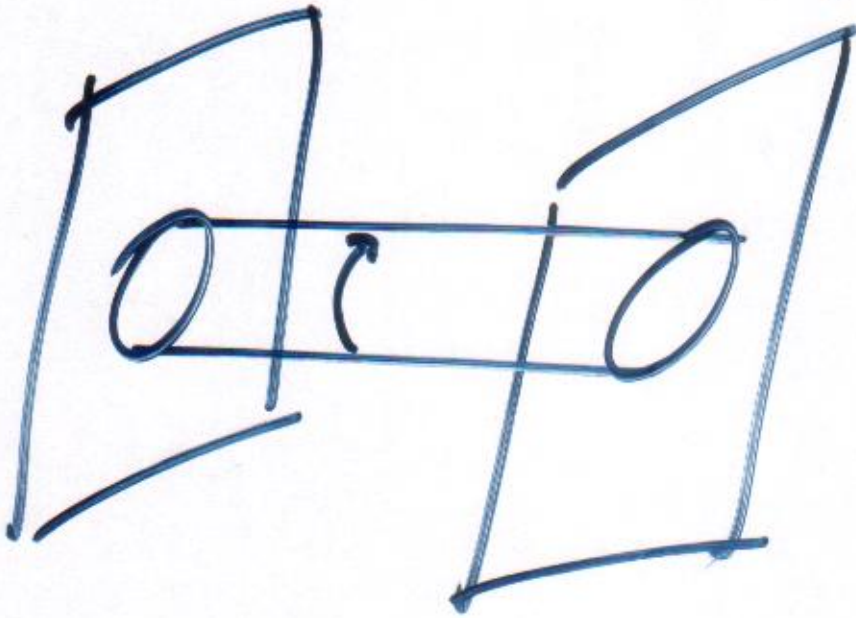
Dimensional reduction to  $D=10$  vector multiplet.



# D-branes

(21)

Force between D-branes  
(at distance  $\vec{d}$ )



one-loop open string amplitude

= tree-level exchange  
of closed strings.

massless contribution  
due to  $g_{\mu\nu}, \phi$  (attractive)  
and RR field (repulsive)  
total = 0

D-branes carry

(22)

RR charge.  $\rightarrow$  a stringy description of such solitons.

• So ...

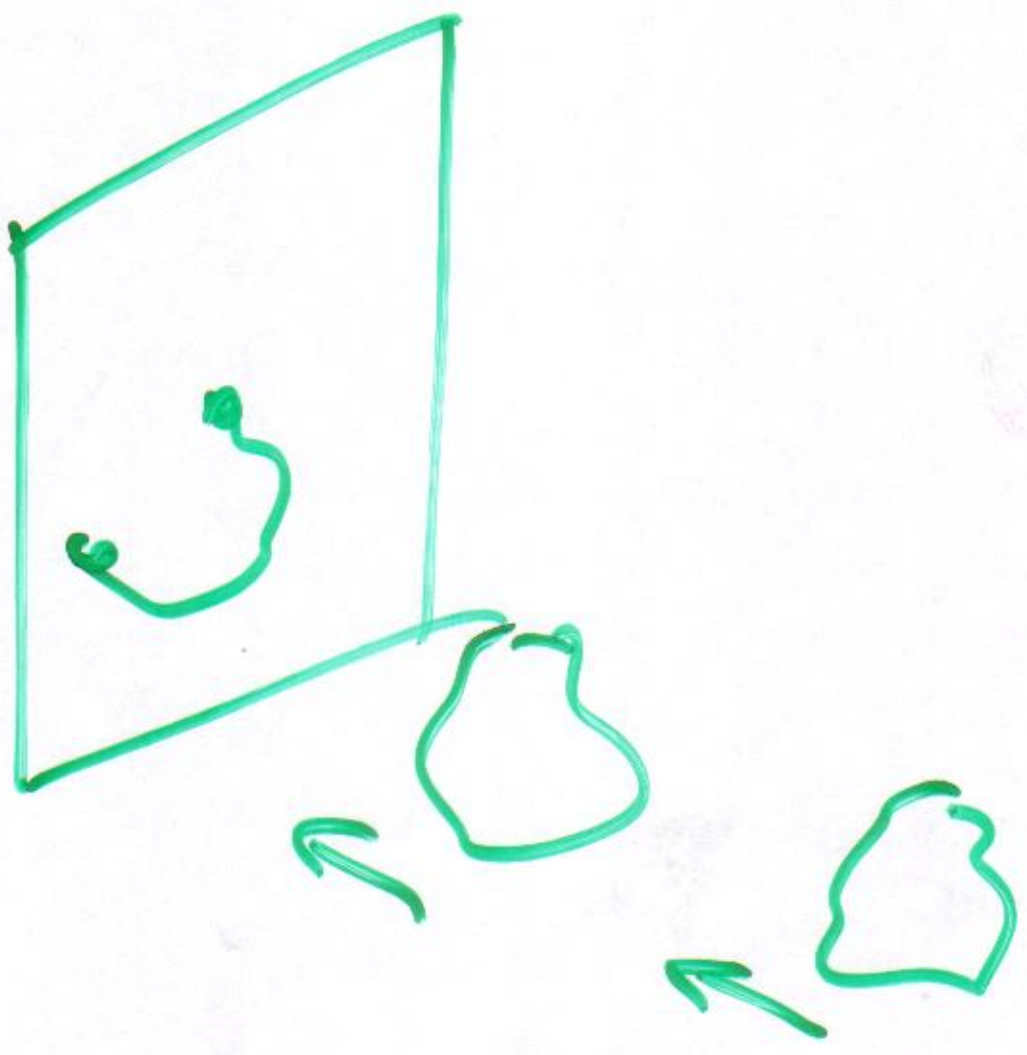
D-branes are stringy solitons. Their tension

• 
$$T_p \sim \frac{M_s^{p+1}}{g_s} = Q_p \text{ (BPS)}$$

Their fluctuating modes are the open strings with end points on the brane.



They must interact  
with the closed super-  
string modes (graviton  
dilaton, RR-forms)  
since they are charged



# IIB self duality

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-31

Scalars:  $\phi$  (dilaton)

$\alpha$  (axion) RR

• Define:  $S = \alpha + i e^{\phi}$

Classical equations inv.  
under:

•  $S \rightarrow \frac{aS' + b}{cS' + d}$

$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$  is an  $SL(2)$  matrix

exchanges weak with strong  
coupling







# M-theory

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What is the strong coupling limit of IIA string?

•  $\rightarrow$  M-theory ( $E \rightarrow 0$ ,  
D=11 supergravity)

$\rightarrow G_{AB}, C_{ABC}$

• Compactification on  
circle of radius  $R$

$\Rightarrow$  IIA with coupling

$$g_s \sim R^{3/2}$$



$G_{AB} \rightarrow G_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow$  metric

$G_{\mu 11} \rightarrow A_\mu$  RR 1-form

$G_{11} \rightarrow \phi \rightarrow$  dilaton

$C_{ABC} \rightarrow C_{\mu\nu e} \rightarrow$  RB 3-form

$C_{\mu\nu 11} \rightarrow B_{\mu\nu}$

M5  $\begin{cases} \rightarrow$  NS5 \\  $\rightarrow$  D4 \end{cases}

M2  $\begin{cases} \rightarrow$  D2 \\  $\rightarrow$  F1 \end{cases}

KK-gravitons  $\rightarrow$  D0 branes

# Heterotic M-theory (28)

Orbifold M-theory  
on  $S^1$  by Parity

$$x'' \rightarrow -x''$$

$$g_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow g_{\mu\nu} \quad C_{\mu\nu e} \rightarrow -C_{\mu\nu e}$$

$$g_{\mu,11} \sim A_\mu \rightarrow -A_\mu \quad B_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow B_{\mu\nu}$$

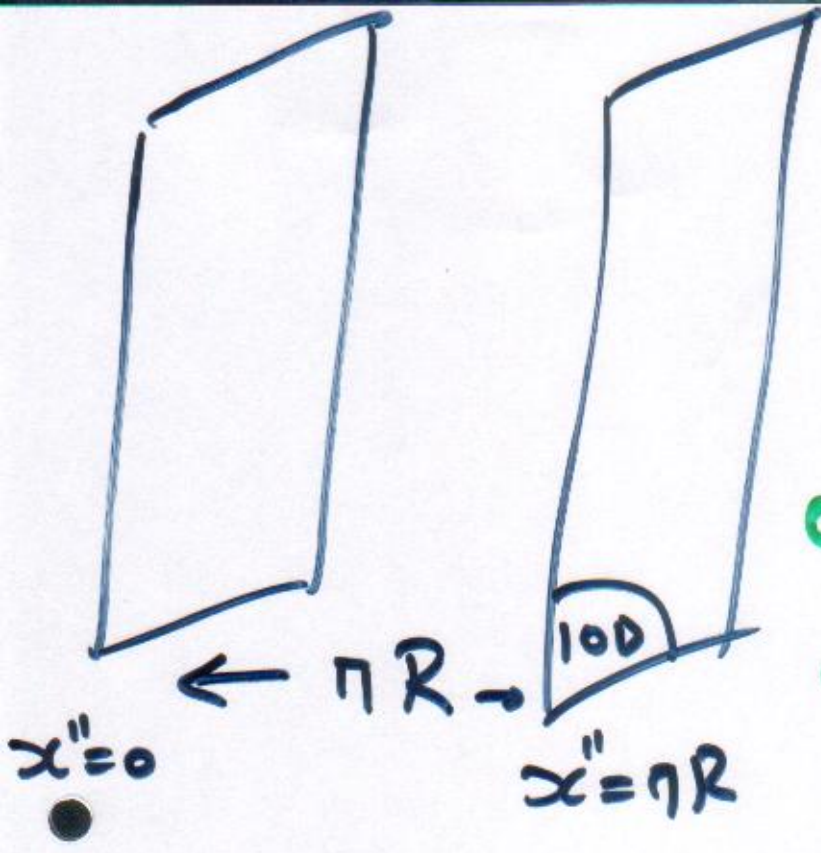
$$\phi \rightarrow \phi$$

$N=1, D=10$  supergravity  
(anomalous)

must have "twisted sector"

Fixed points:  $x'' = 0$   
 $x'' = \pi R$





For anomaly cancellation

one  $E_8$  multiplet on each 10-plane

This corresponds to the  $E_8 \times E_8$  heterotic string with

$$g_s \sim R^{3/2}$$



# Heterotic/Type-I duality

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Both Theories have the same massless spectrum (0,3,2).

$$S_{\text{het}} \sim \int \sqrt{g} e^{-2\phi} \left( R + (\nabla\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{12} H^2 - \frac{1}{4} F^2 + \dots \right)$$

$$S_{\text{I}} \sim \int \sqrt{g} \underbrace{e^{-2\phi}}_{\text{green wavy}} \left( R + (\nabla\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{12} H^2 - \frac{1}{4} \underbrace{e^{-\phi}}_{\text{green wavy}} F^2 \right)$$



(31)

scale  $g \rightarrow g e^{+\varphi/2}$   
to  $g_0$  to Einstein frame

$$S_{\text{het}} \sim \int \sqrt{g} \left( R - (\nabla\varphi)^2 - \frac{e^{-\varphi/2}}{4} F^2 - \frac{1}{12} e^{-\varphi} H_{+...}^2 \right)$$

$$S_{\text{I}} \sim \int \sqrt{g} \left( R - (\nabla\varphi)^2 - \frac{1}{4} e^{+\varphi/2} F^2 - \frac{1}{12} e^{+\varphi} H_{+...}^2 \right)$$

$$\Phi \rightarrow -\Phi$$

strong/weak coupling  
duality.

# T-duality and D-branes (31)

Consider a  $D_p$  brane and the end-point of an open string

- $\partial_\sigma X^\mu \Big|_{\text{end}} = 0$  Neumann

- $\partial_\tau X^I \Big|_{\text{end}} = 0$

- T-duality along direction  $x^i$ :

$$\partial_\sigma X^i \leftrightarrow \partial_\tau X^i$$

Along longitudinal:  $D_p \rightarrow D_{p-1}$

" transverse:  $D_p \rightarrow D_{p+1}$

$$(2\pi\alpha') A_i \leftrightarrow x^i$$



# D-brane effective action (32)



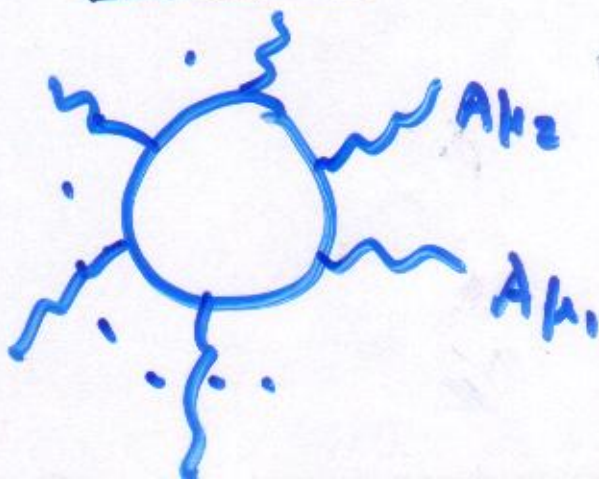
Spectrum:  $A_\mu, \bar{\Phi}^I$   
fermions

(Dim. red. of  $N=1$   $D=10$   
SYM multiplet)

Invariance under 16 supercharges

Leading contributions come from  $\mathcal{O}(k)$  (tree-level)

in  $p=9$   $\rightarrow$  only  $A_\mu$





Direct \* calculation of string amplitudes in flat space 33

$$S_D = T_9 \int d^{10}x e^{-\phi} \sqrt{\det(\delta_{\mu\nu} + 2\pi\alpha' F_{\mu\nu})}$$

disk  $\leftarrow \frac{1}{g_s}$

• Dirac-Born-Infeld action

Weak field limit

•  $S_D \sim \int T_9 e^{-\phi} \left\{ 1 + \frac{1}{2} (2\pi\alpha' F)^2 + \dots \right\}$

What happens when  $p < 9$ ?

→ Dimensional reduction

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} A_\mu(x) \\ A_I(x) \end{array} \right\} (p+1) \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} A_\mu(x) \\ A_I(x) \end{array}} \right\} \partial_I \rightarrow 0$$



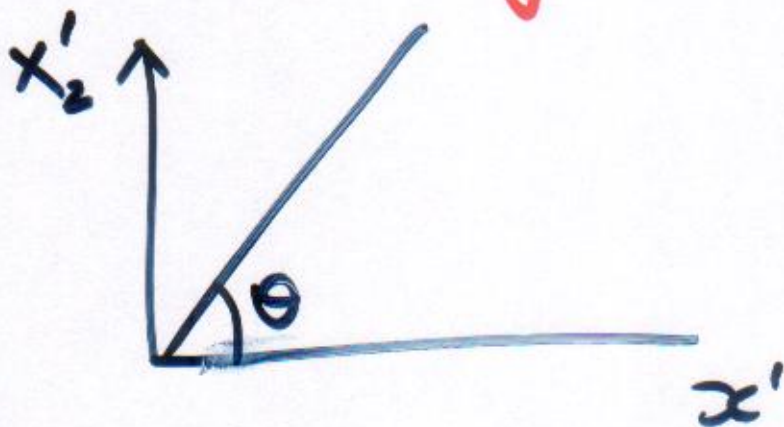
Another "quick argument" (33')

D2 brane with constant  $F_{12}$

$$\Rightarrow A_2 = x^1 F_{12}$$

T-dualize  $x^2 \Rightarrow x'^2 = (2\pi\alpha') x^1 F_{12}$

this is a D1 brane  
at an angle ( $x^1 x^2$  axis)



$$\tan \theta = (2\pi\alpha') F_{12}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_{D1} &= \int ds = \int dx^1 \sqrt{1 + (\partial_1 x^2)^2} \\ &= \int dx^1 \sqrt{1 + (2\pi\alpha' F_{12})^2} \end{aligned}$$

Generalizes to other dimensions

$$\left( \mathbb{1} + (2n\alpha') F_{\mu\nu} \right)$$

$$\partial_I \rightarrow 0$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \mu \quad \downarrow \quad \nu \\ \left( \begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{1} + 2n\alpha' F_{\mu\nu} & \vdots & \partial_\mu A_\nu \\ \dots & \vdots & \dots \\ -\partial_\mu A_I & \vdots & \mathbb{1} \end{array} \right) \end{array}$$

$$\det \left( \begin{array}{c} \downarrow \\ \end{array} \right) =$$

$$= \det \left( \delta_{\mu\nu} + (2n\alpha') \partial_\mu A^I \partial_\nu A^I + (2n\alpha') F_{\mu\nu} \right)$$

$$= \det \left( \delta_{\mu\nu} + \partial_\mu X^I \partial_\nu X^I + (2n\alpha') F_{\mu\nu} \right)$$

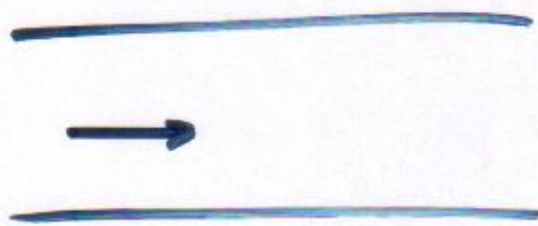


# The B-dependence.

35  
SKIP

Comes from gauge-invariance and boundaries.

Open string:



•

→ conf. map



disk

$\sigma$ -model:  $\sim \frac{1}{2\pi\alpha'} \int_M d^2\sigma \epsilon^{\alpha\beta} \partial_\alpha x^\mu \partial_\beta x^\nu B_{\mu\nu}$

•

$$+ \int_{\partial M} dz A_\mu \partial_\tau \tilde{x}^\mu$$

gauge invariance  $A_\mu \rightarrow A_\mu + \partial_\mu \epsilon$

$$\delta S \sim \int_{\partial M} dz \partial_\tau \epsilon = 0$$



# B-gauge invariance.

(36)

$$B \rightarrow B + d\Lambda$$

$$\frac{1}{2\pi\alpha'} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \hat{B} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2\pi\alpha'} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \hat{B} + \frac{1}{2\pi\alpha'} \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \hat{\Lambda}$$

For no boundaries this is zero  
→ this is cancelled

by  $A \rightarrow A - \Lambda$

•  $\Rightarrow \hat{B}_{\mu\nu} + 2\pi\alpha' F_{\mu\nu}$   
is gauge-invariant  
 $B_{IJ} \partial_\mu X^I \partial_\nu X^J$



Introducing also a spacetime metric  $G_{\mu\nu}$

$$S_D^{\text{even}} = T_{p+1} \int d^{p+1} \xi e^{-\Phi}$$

$$\times \sqrt{\det (\hat{G}_{\alpha\beta} + \hat{B}_{\alpha\beta} + (2\pi\alpha') F_{\alpha\beta})}$$

$\xi^a$  are world volume coordinates

$$\hat{G}_{\alpha\beta} = G_{\mu\nu} \partial_\alpha x^\mu \partial_\beta x^\nu$$

$$\hat{B}_{\alpha\beta} = B_{\mu\nu} \partial_\alpha x^\mu \partial_\beta x^\nu$$

This gives the couplings of  $G_{\mu\nu}$ ,  $B_{\mu\nu}$ ,  $\Phi$  to the D-brane

a p-branes couples minimally to a (p+1)-form

- $$S_D^{\text{odd}} = Q_p \int_{M_{p+1}} \hat{C}_{p+1}$$

There are also subleading terms for gauge invariance that depend on  $C_{q < p}$ ,  $F$ ,  $B$ , metric



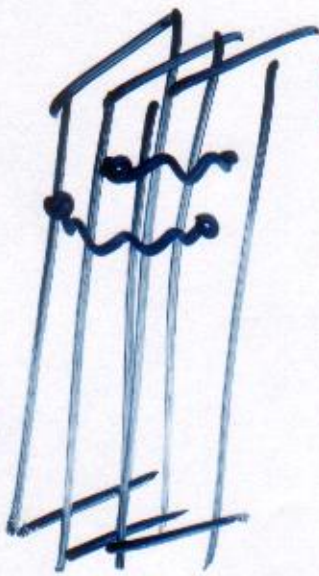
# Non-abelian symmetry (39)

try:

We will consider  $N$ , identical parallel, coinciding  $D_p$ -branes

• Only way to distinguish

→ index  $i=1, \dots, N$



$N^2$  open strings →  $(i, j)$

• Massless spectrum

$A_{ij}^{\mu\nu}$ ,  $\Phi_{ij}^{\pm}$  →  $N \times N$  matrices  
+ fermions

string interactions have now

a  $U(N)$  non-abelian gauge symmetry



$$E_{\alpha\beta} \equiv (G_{\mu\nu} + B_{\mu\nu}) \text{ on the brane}$$

$$\equiv (G_{\mu\nu} + B_{\mu\nu}) D_\alpha X^\mu D_\beta X^\nu$$

$$D_\alpha X^\mu = \partial_\alpha X^\mu + [A_\alpha, X^\mu]$$

↳  $X^i \equiv \phi^i$

$$\mathcal{L}_N \sim \text{STr} \sqrt{\det \left( E_{\alpha\beta} + 2\pi\alpha' F_{\alpha\beta}^+ + E_{\alpha i} (Q^{-1} - 1)^{ij} E_{j\beta} \right)} \times \det(Q^i_j)$$

$$Q^i_j = \delta^i_j + 2\pi\alpha' E^i_k [\phi^k, \phi^j] E_{kj}$$

$$E_{ij} = G_{ij} + B_{ij}$$

Expanding:

$$\frac{1}{g_{\text{YM}}^2} = \frac{T_P}{g_s} \left( 2\pi\alpha' \right)^2 + [\phi^i, \phi^j]^2$$

$$\mathcal{L} \sim - \frac{(2\pi\alpha')^2 T_P}{4} \int e^{-\frac{\phi}{f_v}} \left( F^2 + 2D\phi^i D\phi^i \right)$$



By a  $U(N)$  rotation  
we can diagonalize

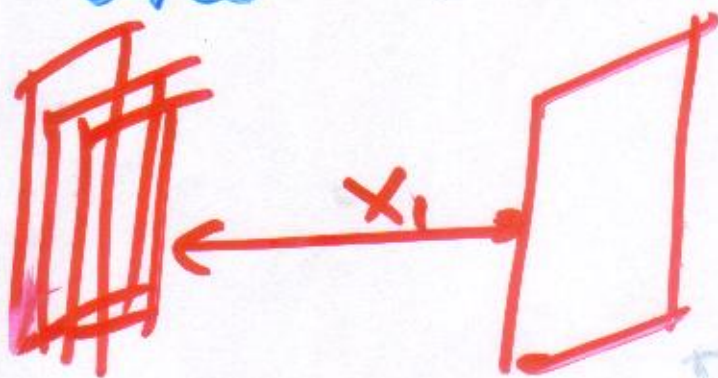
(41)

$\Phi^I$  (hermitian)

$$\Phi^I \sim \begin{pmatrix} x_1^I & & & & \\ & x_2^I & & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & x_N^I \end{pmatrix}$$

$x_a^i$  can be thought of as  
the transverse coordinates  
of the  $N$  D-branes

Giving  $x_i^i$  a <sup>non-zero</sup> expectation  
value amounts to pulling  
one D-brane away





There is no energy cost  $(42)$   
for such an expectation  
value.

From  $N=4$   $U(N)$  SYM  
action we see that

•  $U(N) \rightarrow U(N-1) \times U(1)$  } Higgs

• From  $D_\alpha \Phi^i D_\alpha \Phi^i$

• the  $2 \times N$  gauge bosons  
pick a mass  $\sim |x_1|$

(energy of the strings  
stretched between the  
branes)



# "Geometrization" of gauge dynamics.

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A new viewpoint on

- the description of  
Spacetime via non-  
commutative coordi-  
nates.
-

# The EFT viewpoint (44)

$$S \sim \int e^{-2\Phi} \left\{ R + 4(\nabla\Phi)^2 \right\}$$

- $-\frac{1}{2(p+2)!} (dC_{p+1})^2$

- Find spherically symmetric (in transverse space) solution with RR charge  $N Q_p$

p-brane extends along  $x^{\mu}$  coordinates ( $\mu=0, 1, \dots, p$ )

transverse to  $x^i$  coordinates







$r=0$  is a horizon

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(of zero <sup>( $p > 3$ )</sup> area, except at  $p=3$ )

The solution is BPS

- (preserves half of spacetime susy)

The  $N$  branes can be put elsewhere by

- $$H_p = 1 + \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{L^{7-p}}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}_i|^{7-p}}$$

The solution generalises to a Black-brane sol.

$$ds^2 = \frac{-dt^2 \cdot f + d\vec{x}^2}{\sqrt{H_p}} + \sqrt{H_p} \left( \frac{dr^2}{f} + r^2 d\Omega^2 \right)$$

$f \sim 1 - (r_0/r)^{7-p}$



The near-horizon limit. (47)

$p=3$  : take  $r \rightarrow 0$

$$H_3 \rightarrow \left(\frac{L}{r}\right)^4$$

$$ds^2 = \frac{r^2}{L^2} (\eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu) + \frac{L^2}{r^2} dr^2 + L^2 d\Omega_5^2$$

$AdS_5 \times S_5$   
geometry

(high symmetry)

# Gauge theories at large $N_c$

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It is expected that AF gauge theories confine e-flux into flux tubes



closed and open string-like objects.

Find alternative low energy description.

At large  $N$  this picture becomes plausible



Consider an  $N \times N$  hermitian matrix  $M$ . (49)

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{g^2} \text{Tr} \left\{ (\partial M)^2 + M^2 + M^3 + \dots \right\}$$

$$\equiv \frac{1}{g^2} \text{Tr} \left\{ (\partial M)^2 + V(M) \right\}$$

$U(N)$  invariance:  $M \rightarrow U M U^\dagger$

similar to Yang-Mills.

Double line notation:

$M_{ij} \rightarrow$    $\sim g^2$  propagator



$\sim \frac{1}{g^2}$

vertices.



Each closed line

(50)

  $\sim N$  (because of sum)

Diagram:  $\sim (g^2)$  Prop - vertices

$\times N$  Closed lines

$\sim N$  Faces - Edges + vertices  
 $\chi = 2 - 2h$

$\times (g^2 N)$  Edges - vertices



planar

$\sim N^3 g^2 \sim N^2 (g^2 N)$

sphere





$$\sim N g^2 \sim N^0 (g^2 N)$$

(51)

torus:



Non-planar diagram

leading at large- $N \rightarrow$  planar

$$N^2 (C_0 + C_1(g^2 N) + \dots)$$

$$\sim N^2 f(g^2 N)$$

Full generating function

$$\log Z = \sum_{h=0}^{\infty} N^{2-2h} f_h(g^2 N)$$



# 't Hooft limit:

52

$$N \rightarrow \infty \quad \lambda = g^2 N = \text{fixed}$$

- $\lambda = \text{large}$ , large diagrams are expected to contribute.

- generate the Riemann surfaces of some string theory (with  $g_s \sim \frac{1}{N}$ ) (closed)

if there are fundamentals

→ boundaries → open strings

→ mesons ↔  $q\bar{q}$



QCD at large- $N$  has 53  
strings, Regge trajectories,  $q\bar{q}$  mesons  
which are weakly coupled etc

What could the associated string theory look like?

4-D YM  $\rightarrow$  4D string theory

but no-Weyl invariance  
 $\Rightarrow$  Liouville mode  $\phi$  is dynamical

What is the associated 5d background?

$$ds^2 = W(z)^2 (d\vec{x}^2 + dz^2)$$



if YM has a scaling

Symmetry:  $x \rightarrow \lambda x$

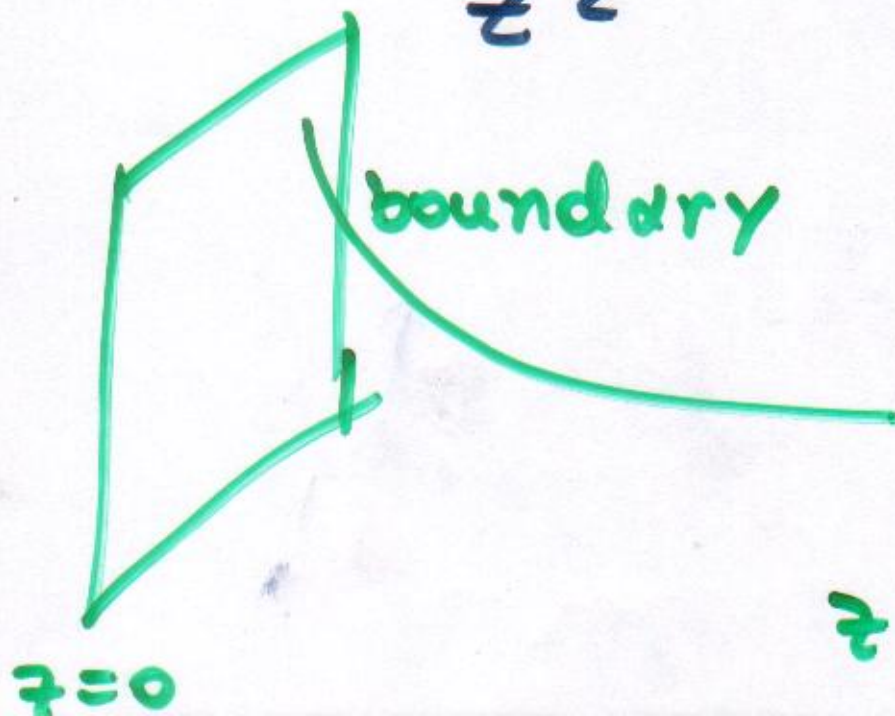
this should be a symmetry in string theory:

$$z \rightarrow \lambda z$$

$$W(z) = \frac{R}{z}$$

$$\Rightarrow ds^2 = R^2 \frac{d\bar{x}^2 + dz^2}{z^2}$$

$\rightarrow$  AdS<sub>5</sub>





Back to D3 branes  
and the near-horizon limit

$$ds^2 = \frac{d\vec{x}^2}{\sqrt{H}} + \sqrt{H} (dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega_5^2)$$

$$H = 1 + \frac{L^4}{r^4}, \quad L^4 = g_s N l_s^4$$

gravity is a good approximation  
iff  $L \gg l_s$

↑  
curvature

$$\Rightarrow g_s N \gg 1$$

perturbative  $g_s \ll 1$  ok iff  $N \rightarrow \infty$



We now take  $l_s \rightarrow 0$

keeping  $\frac{r}{l_s^2} \equiv u$  fixed

$u \rightarrow$  W-boson mass on a probe

$$H = 1 + g_s N \left( \frac{r}{l_s} \right)^4$$

$$= 1 + g_s N \left( \frac{l_s^2}{r} \right)^4 l_s^{-4}$$

$$\approx \frac{g_s N}{l_s^4} \frac{1}{u^4}$$

$$ds^2 = \frac{r^2}{L^2} d\bar{x}^2 + \frac{L^2}{r^2} dr^2$$

$$+ L^2 d\Omega_5^2$$

$$L^4 = g_s N l_s^4$$



$$S = S_{\text{brane}} + S_{\text{bulk}} + S_{\text{inter.}}$$

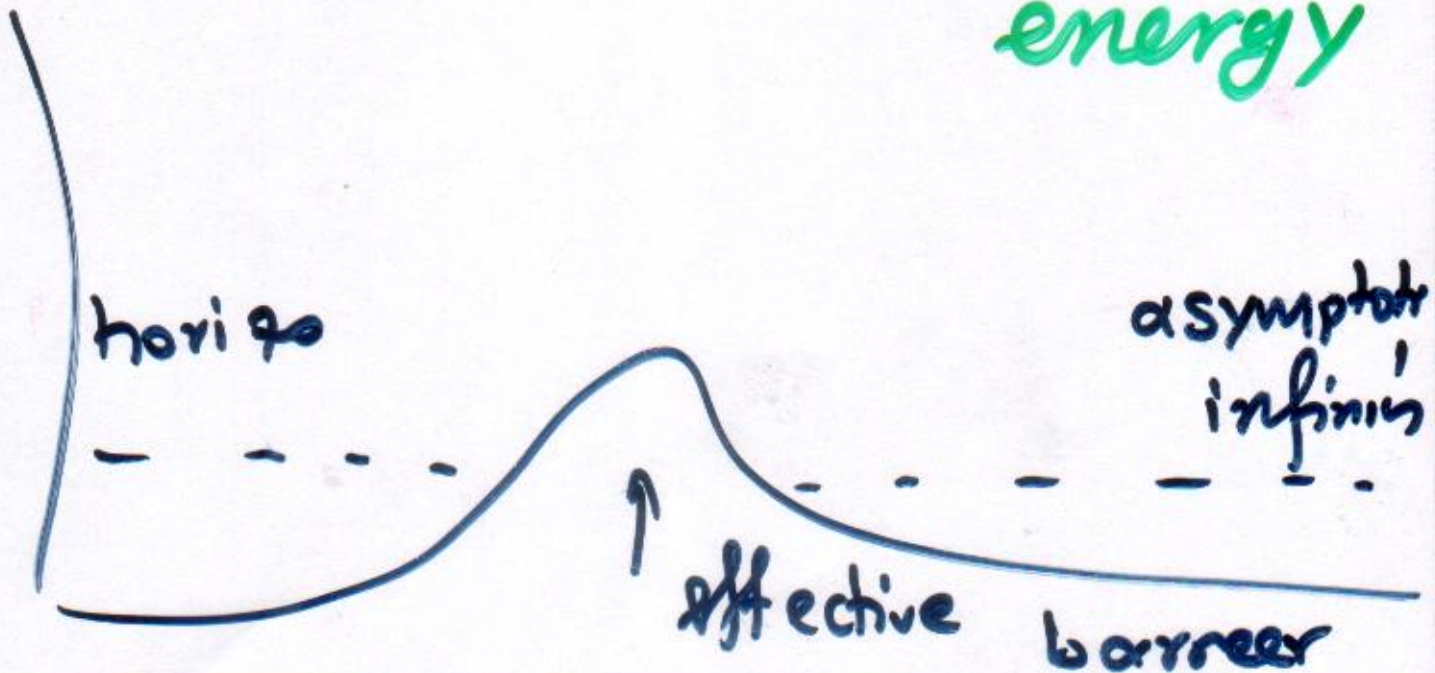
as  $l_s \rightarrow 0$   $S_{\text{bulk}} \rightarrow \text{free}$

$$M_p \rightarrow \infty$$

• Sinteraction  $\rightarrow 0$

(Non-trivial) calculation of greybody factors

•  $\sigma \sim \omega^3 L^8 \rightarrow 0$  with energy





Since  $g_s = g_{YM}^2$

$\lambda = g_s N$ :

When  $\lambda \ll 1 \rightarrow$  gauge theory description perturbative

$\lambda \gg 1 \Rightarrow L \gg l_s$

$\Rightarrow$  gravitational description

• (stringy corrections  $\sim \left(\frac{L}{l_s}\right)^{-1}$   
 $\sim \lambda^{-\frac{1}{4}}$  suppressed

at  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$

ex:  $M_p^2 \left\{ R + l_s^6 R^4 + \dots \right.$   
 $\sim \left(\frac{l_s}{L}\right)^6 \cdot R$



# AdS/CFT correspondence. (59)

N=4 SYM

$\lambda = g^2 N$

- N
- 9

AdS<sub>5</sub> string

$\frac{l_s}{L} = \lambda^{-\frac{1}{4}}$

$g_s = \frac{\lambda}{N} \sim \frac{1}{N}$

X

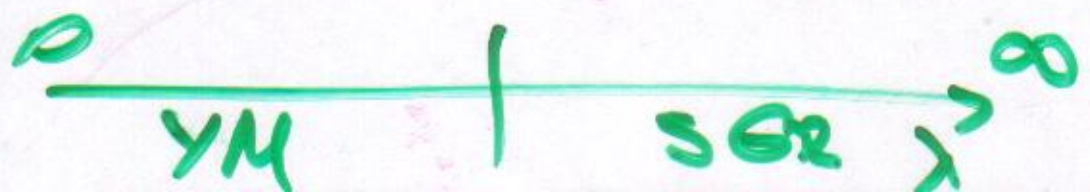
5d Planck scale

$$M_5^3 = M_{10}^8 \cdot R^5$$

$$= \frac{l_s^{-8}}{g_s^2} \cdot (g_s N)^{\frac{5}{4}} l_s^5$$

$$= \frac{N^2}{R^3}$$

This is a duality



# Symmetries

$N=4$  SYM is invariant under:

- 4D conformal symmetry\*
- $\sim O(2,4)$  (Minkowski)

- $O(6)$  R-symmetry

$\phi^i \rightarrow$  vector

$\chi^a \rightarrow$  spinor

$A_\mu \rightarrow$  singlet

- $N=4$  supersymmetry



# \* Conformal symmetry (6)

Scale invariance usually  
 $\Rightarrow$  conformal invariance

$$\bullet \quad \delta S = \int T^{\mu\nu} \delta g_{\mu\nu}$$

$$x^\mu \rightarrow x^\mu + \xi^\mu : \delta g_{\mu\nu} = \nabla_\mu \xi_\nu + \nabla_\nu \xi_\mu$$

$$x^\mu \rightarrow \lambda x^\mu \Rightarrow \delta g_{\mu\nu} = 2\delta\lambda \cdot g_{\mu\nu}$$

$$\bullet \Rightarrow \delta S = 0 \text{ iff: } T^\mu{}_\mu = 0$$

(any  $\delta g_{\mu\nu} = h(x) g_{\mu\nu}$  is a symmetric traceless)

Conformal group = Poincaré  
+ scale transf +  $(\vec{x} \rightarrow -\frac{\vec{x}}{|\vec{x}|^2})$   
|||  
 $O(2,4)$



$$AdS_5 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2,4}$$

$$-X_{-1}^2 - X_0^2 + X_1^2 + X_2^2 + X_3^2 + X_4^2 = -R^2$$

(one time is orthogonal)

Solve by  $X_{-1} + X_4 = \frac{R}{z}$   
 $X_4 = \frac{R X_{-1}}{z}$

Ex: solve for  $x_0, x_{-1}$  to derive  
 from  $-dx_{-1}^2 - dx_0^2 + dx_i^2 \rightarrow \frac{dx_{-1}^2 + dx_0^2}{z^2}$

• Not global coordinates.

Another set

$$X_1^2 + X_2^2 + X_3^2 + X_4^2 = R^2 \sinh^2 \rho$$

$$X_{-1}^2 + X_0^2 = R^2 \cosh^2 \rho$$

$$X_{-1} = R \cosh \rho \cos \tau$$

$$X_0 = R \cosh \rho \sin \tau$$



$$ds^2 = R^2 \left( -\cosh^2 \rho d\tau^2 + dp^2 + \sinh^2 \rho d\Omega_3^2 \right)$$

We may go to the covering

Space :  $-\infty < \tau < \infty$

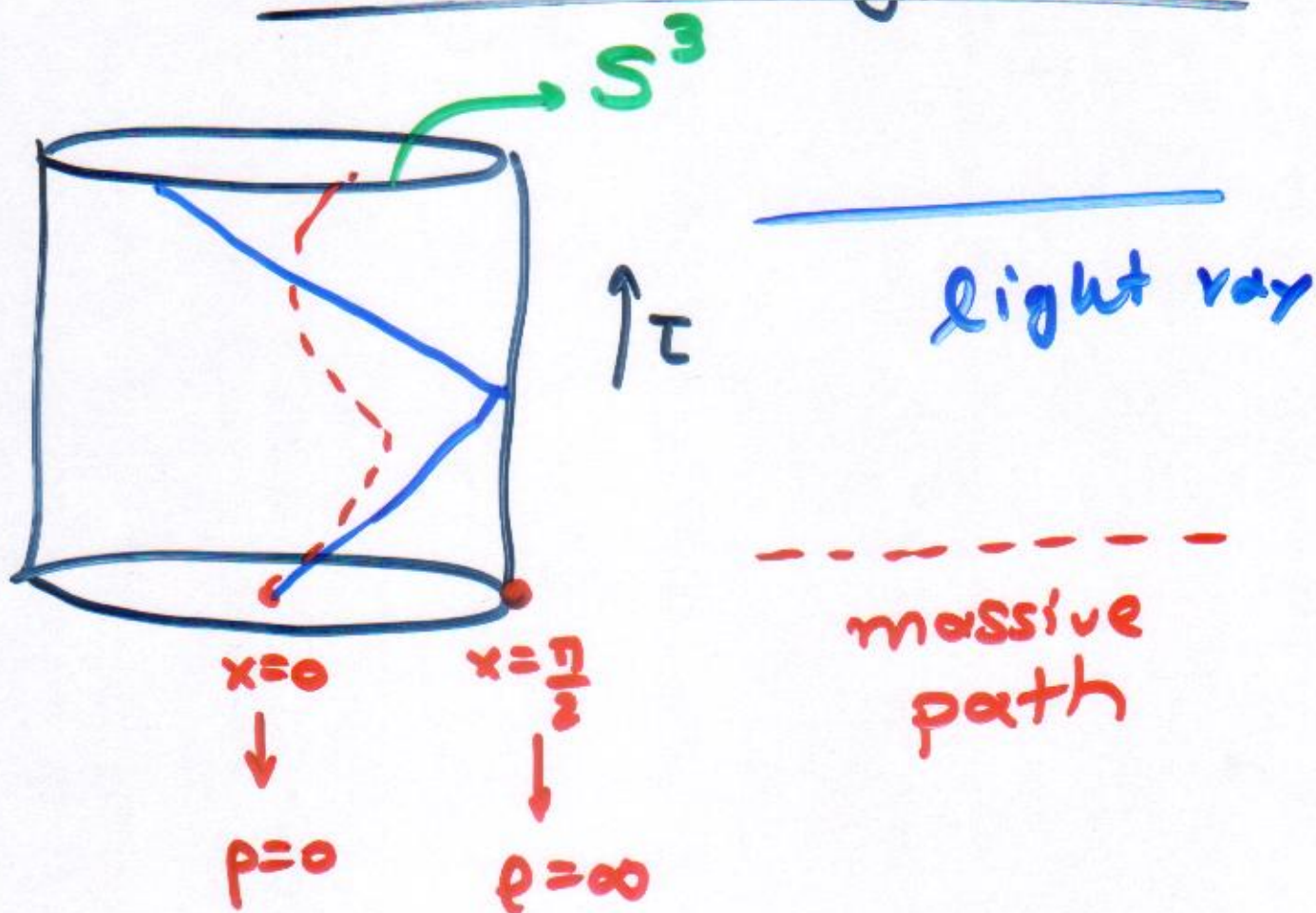
def:  $dx = \frac{dp}{\cosh \rho} \Rightarrow \tan \frac{x}{2} = \tanh \frac{\rho}{2}$   
 $0 < x < \frac{\pi}{2}$

$$ds^2 = R^2 \cosh^2 \rho \left\{ -d\tau^2 + dx^2 + \sin^2 x d\Omega_3^2 \right\}$$

$\downarrow$   
 $\cos^2 x$

# Penrose diagrams

64



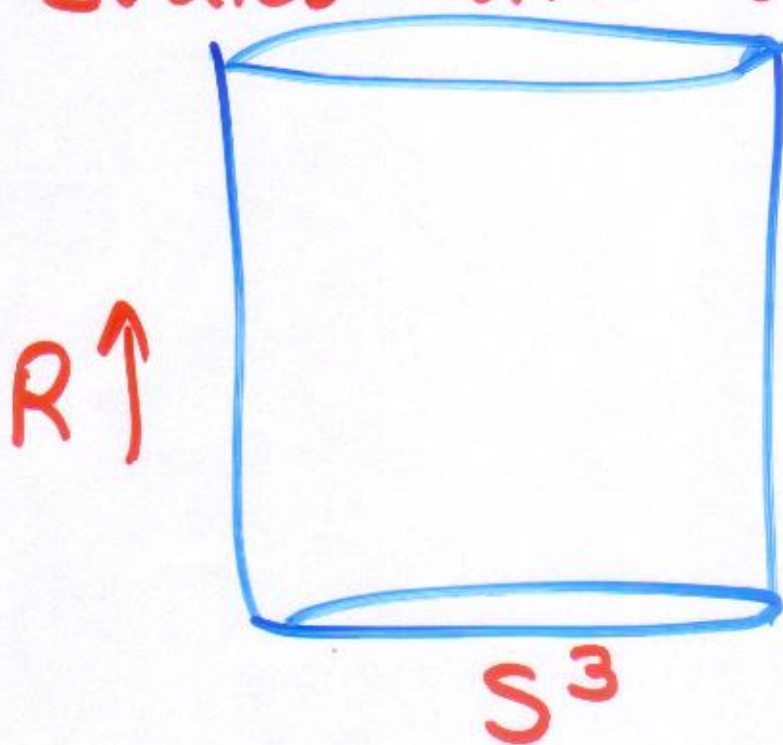
boundary is  $\rho = \infty$   
(the surface of cylinder)

proper distance to boundary  
is finite



The  $O(2,4)$  isometries <sup>(65)</sup> of the AdS act as the standard conformal transformations on the boundary coordinates.

States and operators in CFT



States on  $S^3 \times \mathbb{R}$



Operators on  $\mathbb{R}^4$

Eyclidv =  $\Delta$  plane



# The correspondence.

66

In AdS we can consider the string theory partition function as a functional of boundary sources

$$Z_{\text{Bulk}}(\phi(z, \vec{x})|_{z \rightarrow 0} = \phi_0(\vec{x})) = e^{-N^2 S_{\text{class.}}(\phi_0) + O(1)}$$

[1 \* Quantum Corrections]



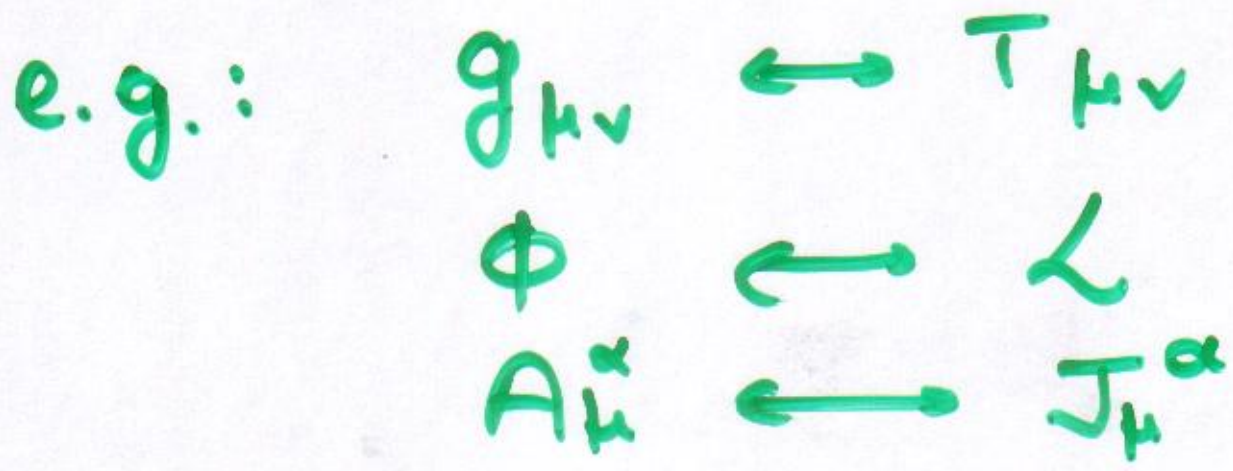
$$\alpha' \sim \frac{1}{\lambda^{1/2}}$$

$$g_s \sim \frac{1}{N}$$

Each field in the bulk

- $\phi(z, \vec{x})$  corresponds to a specific operator in boundary theory.

(via bulk boundary coupling)



# the correspondence

68

$$Z_{\text{BULK}}(\phi_0(\bar{x})) =$$

$$= \left\langle e^{\int d^4x \phi_0(\bar{x}) \mathcal{O}(\bar{x})} \right\rangle_{\text{FT}}$$

Example: scalar

$$ds^2 = \frac{R^2}{z^2} (dz^2 + d\bar{x}^2)$$

$$S = N^2 \int \frac{d^4x dz}{z^5} \left[ z^2 (\partial\phi)^2 + m^2 R^2 \phi^2 \right]$$

Equations:

$$z^3 \partial_z \left( \frac{1}{z^3} \partial_z \phi \right) - p^2 z^2 \phi - m^2 R^2 \phi = 0$$

(after Fourier Tr. in 4D)



Near the boundary:  $z=0$

(69)

$$\phi(z) \sim z^\alpha$$

$$\alpha(\alpha-4) - m^2 R^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha_{\pm} = 2 \pm \sqrt{4 + m^2 R^2}$$

$\alpha_- \rightarrow$  dominates at  $z \rightarrow 0$   
 $\Rightarrow$  determines the bc.

$$\phi(\vec{x}, z) \Big|_{z=\epsilon} = \epsilon^{\alpha_-} \phi_0(\vec{x})$$

(regularisation and renormalisation)

a scale transformation

$z \rightarrow \lambda z, \vec{x} \rightarrow \lambda \vec{x}$  leaves

$\phi$  invariant  $\Rightarrow$



$$\Rightarrow \Delta = 4 - \alpha_- = \alpha_+$$

from  $e \int d^4x \phi_0(\vec{x}) O(\vec{x})$

$$\text{So } \Delta = 2 + \sqrt{4 + (mR)^2}$$

- For massless fields  $\Delta = 4$   
like  $L$  or  $T_{\mu\nu}$

To make this comparison  
we must reduce the 10-d  
fields to 5d by compactifying on  $S^5$

For a 10-d massless field

The KK masses

$$\text{are } m_e^2 = \frac{l(l+4)}{R^2}$$



$$\Rightarrow \Delta = 4 + l$$

(71)

For  $\phi_0 \sim \text{Tr}(F^2 + \dots)$

$$\rightarrow \text{Tr}(F^2 \phi^{I_1} \dots \phi^{I_l})$$

- $\hookrightarrow$  BPS multiplets  
 $\rightarrow$  protected

All SYM BPS operators

- correspond to the KK modes of 10-d massless fields.

$\rightarrow$  matching is not trivial

Others  $m \sim \frac{1}{L_s} \sim \sqrt{g} N \rightarrow \infty$

# Singletons

The representation with  $\Delta=1$  is special

Unitarity  $\rightarrow$  free field.

- Come from  $U(1)$  factors

ex:  $\text{Tr} [\phi^I]$  for  $U(N)$

- No corresponding bulk field.



FT  $\rightarrow$  distance + time  $\rightarrow \vec{x}$  (73)

Not equal to bulk distances  
due to "warp" factor  $\frac{R^2}{z^2}$

- $ds^2 = w^2 (dz^2 + d\vec{x}^2)$

$$w = \frac{R}{z}$$

- $\alpha$  mass scale of energy in bulk gets scaled

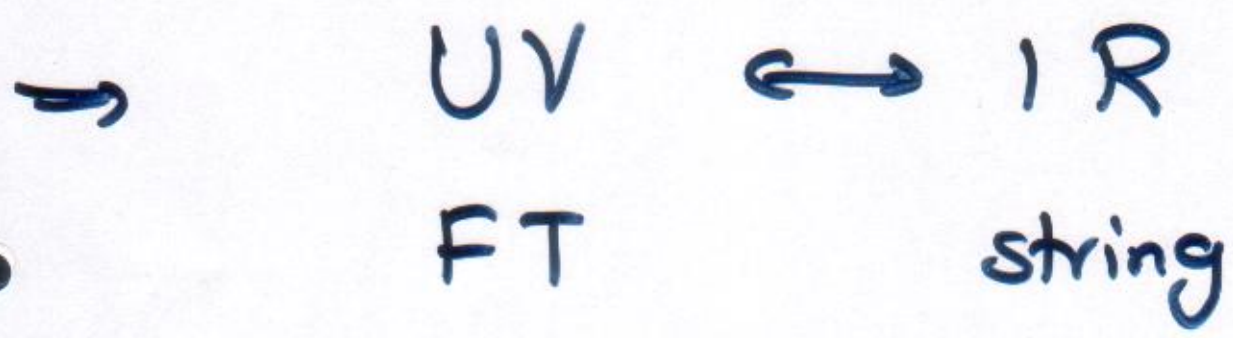
$$E_{FT} = w(z) E_{proper}$$

$$(Size)_{FT} = \frac{1}{w(z)} (\text{proper size})$$

$z \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow$  (small size, high energy)  $\rightarrow$  UV

from bulk point of view

$z \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow$  large distance



consequence of  
 open-closed string  
 duality.



Another instance of (75)  
bulk - boundary  
correspondence:

D=2 (good laboratory)

• simple background:

$$G_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu}, \quad B=0, \quad \Phi = \frac{\alpha'}{2} x'$$

bosonic

$$Q^2 = \frac{24}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow C = 2 + 3Q^2 = 26.$$

superstring

$$Q^2 = \frac{8}{3}$$

need to "block" strong coupling  
at  $x' \rightarrow \infty$  |  $g_s \rightarrow \infty$

One way is to turn on  
the "tachyon"



$$S = \frac{i}{8\pi} \int d^2\sigma \left\{ \sqrt{g} g^{\alpha\beta} \eta_{\mu\nu} \partial_\alpha x^\mu \partial_\beta x^\nu \right. \\ \left. + Q \sqrt{g} R^{(2)} x^\perp + \mu e^{\alpha x'} \right\}$$

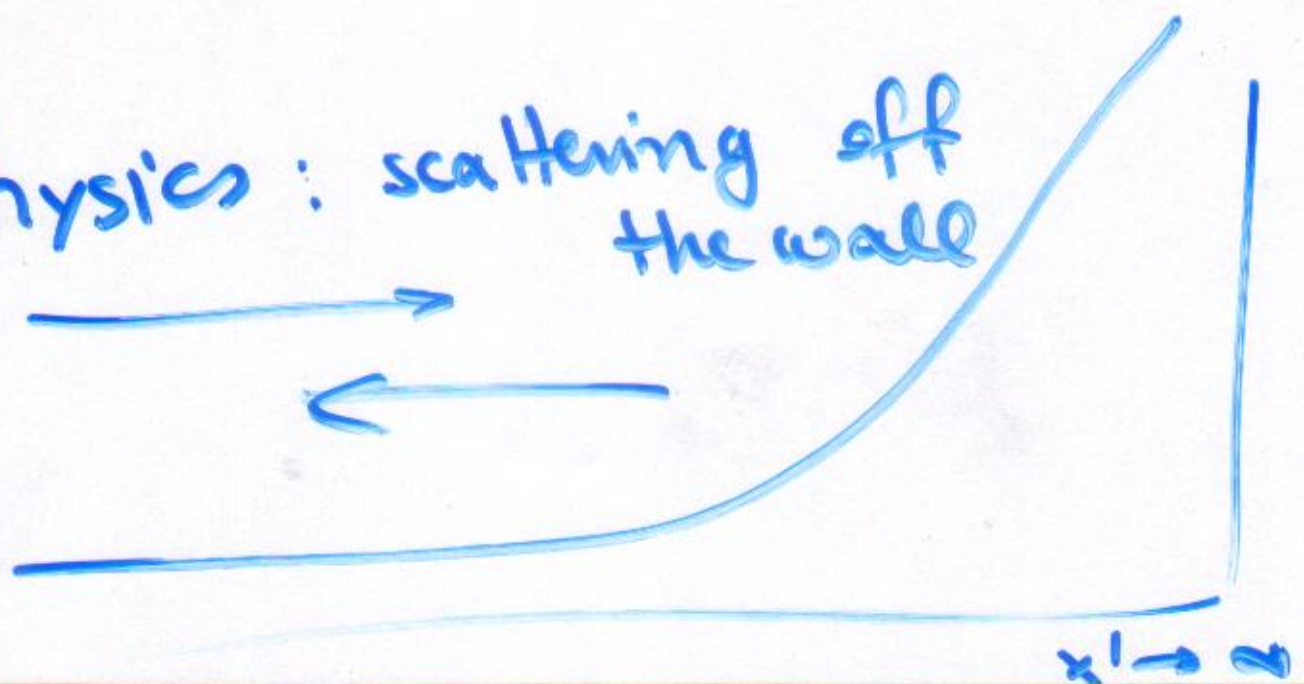
↓  
Liouville wall

One propagating <sup>\*</sup> degree of freedom (massless

$$i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} + \frac{1}{2} Q x^\perp$$

"Tachyon"  $\sim e$

Physics: scattering off the wall





Could this be dual to  
a 1-d "boundary" theory?

"Dld" matrix model:

new light: world volume  
theory of  
unstable D-brane

$M_{ij} \sim$  "tachyon" (open).  $N \times N$   
Hermitian

$A_{\mu}^{ij} \rightarrow$  imposes Gauss' law

$$S = bN \int dt \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \dot{M}^2 + \text{Tr} V(M) \right\}$$

The large- $N$  expansion  
generates the sum over  
Riemann surfaces



(78)

$$H = -\frac{1}{2bN} \sum_{ij} \frac{\partial}{\partial M_{ij}} \frac{\partial}{\partial M_{ji}} + bN \times \text{Tr}(V(M))$$

unitary  
invariance

$$M \rightarrow U M U^{-1}$$

$A_0 \rightarrow$  implies singlet  
condition

use invariance to

$$M \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & & \\ & \lambda_2 & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & \lambda_N \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \lambda \leftarrow \lambda'$$

$$H \Psi(\lambda) = \left\{ \sum_k -\frac{1}{2bN} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \lambda_k^2} + \frac{1}{bN} \sum_{l \neq k} \frac{1}{\lambda_l - \lambda_k} \times \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda_k} + bN V(\lambda_k) \right\} \Psi(\lambda)$$



$$H \Psi(\lambda) = \frac{1}{\Delta} H' \Delta \Psi$$

$$\Delta(\lambda) = \prod_{i < j} (\lambda_i - \lambda_j)$$

•  $H' = \mathcal{B}N \sum_k \left[ -\frac{1}{2\mathcal{B}^2 N^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \lambda_k^2} + V(\lambda_k) \right]$

absorb  $\Delta$  :

$$\Psi(\lambda) \cdot \Delta(\lambda) = P(\lambda)$$

•  $N$  coordinates  $\lambda_k$ , non-interacting

and fermionic

or a non-relativistic 1-d fermion  $\tilde{\psi}$  :

$$H' = \mathcal{B}N \int d\lambda \left\{ \frac{1}{2\mathcal{B}^2 N^2} \partial \tilde{\psi}^+ \partial \tilde{\psi} + \tilde{\psi}^+ \tilde{\psi} V(\lambda) \right\}$$



large N limit is controlled by sphere

$$\lambda = bN$$

standard large N limit

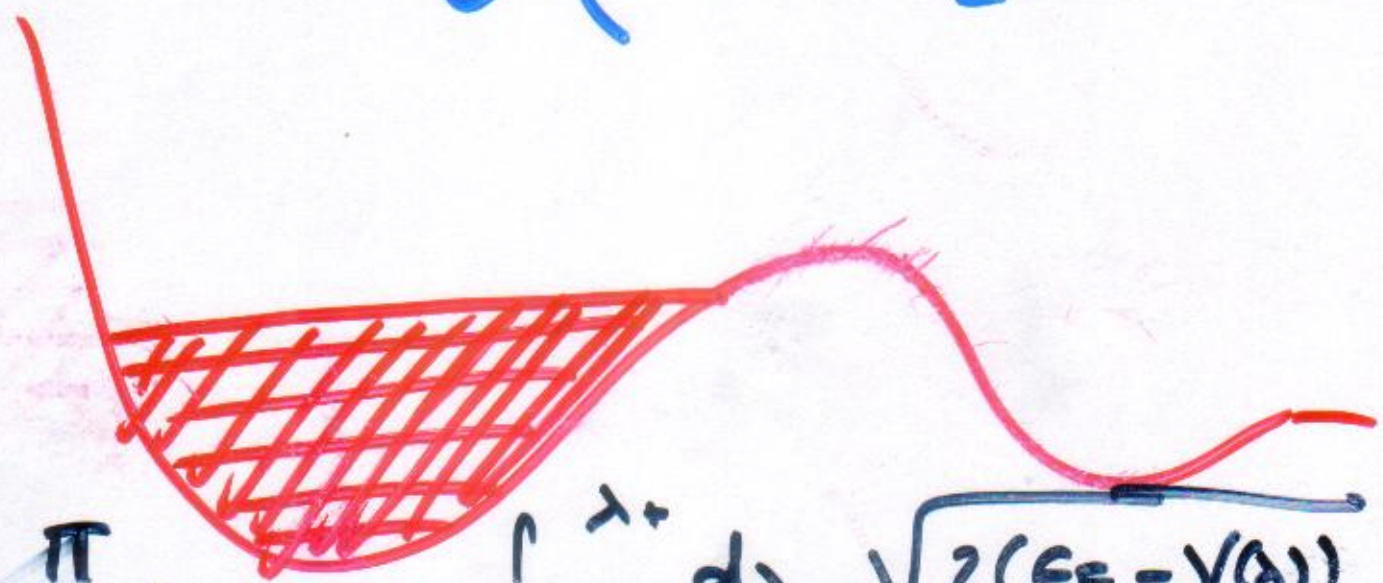
analogue of 'Hofstadter' cond

$N \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $b \rightarrow \text{fixed}$

### Filling the Fermi-sea

$$N = bN \int \frac{dp d\lambda}{2\pi} \times \frac{1}{\hbar}$$

$$\times \Theta \left( E_F - \frac{p^2}{2} - V(\lambda) \right)$$



$$* \frac{\pi}{2b} = \int_{\lambda_-}^{\lambda_+} d\lambda \sqrt{2(E_F - V(\lambda))}$$



We will need to take  $\textcircled{81}$   
 $b \rightarrow \infty$  to get continuous  
surfaces ( $b$  controls the  
interaction)

as  $b \rightarrow \infty$  there is  
• a critical point  $b_c$   
so that  $\langle 0|H'|0\rangle$  are  
non-analytic (singular)

•  $b - b_c \sim (\epsilon_* - \epsilon_F) \log |\epsilon_* - \epsilon_F|$   
 $\langle 0|H|0\rangle \sim \left( \downarrow \right)^2 \log | \quad |$

Double scaling:

$$N \rightarrow \infty$$
$$b \rightarrow b_c$$

$$\psi = bN(\epsilon - \epsilon_F)$$

↓  
fixed



The topologies sum  
is controlled now from  
→  $\mu^x$  (related to  
string coupling)

• At the level of hamiltonian:

$$\lambda - \lambda_{max} = (bN)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \kappa$$

$$J = (bN)^{\frac{1}{4}} \Psi$$

$$H' - bN E_F = \int dx \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \partial_x \Psi^\dagger \partial_x \Psi - \frac{\alpha^2}{2} \Psi^\dagger \Psi + \mu \Psi^\dagger \Psi \right\}$$



In terms of the rescaled variables:

(85)

$$\mu \sim \frac{1}{g_s}$$



the physical degrees of freedom are ripples of the Fermi sea ("tachyons")

The string theory has  $t$  and  $\phi \rightarrow$  Liouville

the tachyons are the bosonized fermions.