

**LOW-ENERGY LIMIT OF STRING THEORY**

①

Nambu-Goto action

(1.1) 
$$S_{NG} = \frac{1}{4\pi\alpha'} \int d^2\sigma \sqrt{-\det\left(\frac{\partial X^\mu}{\partial \sigma^\alpha} \frac{\partial X^\nu}{\partial \sigma^\beta} \eta_{\mu\nu}\right)}$$

not easy to quantize; especially with Feynman path-integral approach.

Equivalent classically to Polyakov action

(1.2) 
$$S_p = -\frac{T}{2} \int d^2\sigma \sqrt{-\gamma} \gamma^{ab} \partial_a X^\mu \partial_b X^\nu \eta_{\mu\nu} + \lambda \left( \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_M d^2\sigma \sqrt{-\gamma} {}^{(2)}R + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\partial M} ds K \right)$$

- N.B. :
- gravity in 2d gets no kinetic term (not dynamical)
  - no cosmological constant - not conformally invt.

Consider piece in path integral

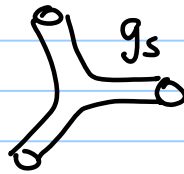
(1.3) 
$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}\{X, \text{etc}\} \exp(-S_E)$$
 like partition fn

Now, piece in  ${}^{(2)}R$  is topological &  $\rightarrow$  Euler #

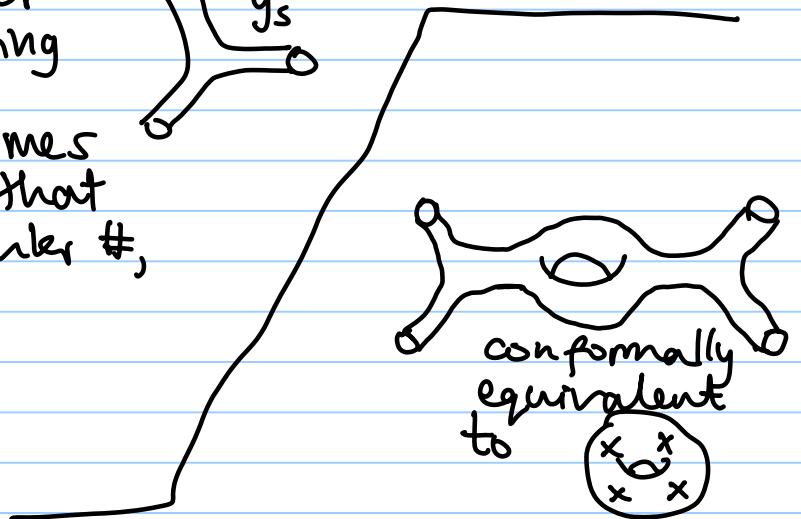
(1.4) 
$$\Rightarrow Z \propto \exp(-\lambda [2-2h-b-c])$$
  
 where  $\begin{cases} h = \# \text{ handles} \\ b = \# \text{ boundaries} \\ c = \# \text{ cross caps} \end{cases}$   $g_s = e^{-\lambda}$

$\langle e^\Phi \rangle \equiv g_s$

Coupling strength for 3-point closed string vertex.



Since # boundaries comes in with coeff half that of # handles in  $\chi$ , Euler #, find



(2.1) So split off constant piece into  $g_c$  &

$$S_{poly} = -\frac{1}{2} \int d^2\sigma \sqrt{-\gamma} \gamma^{ab} \partial_a X^M \partial_b X^N \eta_{\mu\nu}$$

Then this can be more easily quantized, particularly in CFT where keep covariance at price of Faddeev-Popov ghosts to do bookkeeping of gauge symmetry.

### Background fields

(2.2) Saw massless states of closed string included

$\begin{cases} g_{\mu\nu} \\ B_{[2]} \\ \Phi \end{cases}$	symmetric traceless	2-index tensor
	antisymmetric	" " "
	trace	scalar

Let's turn on these dudes!

(2.3)  $\Rightarrow$

$$S_{\text{model}} = \frac{-1}{4\pi\alpha'} \int d^2\sigma \sqrt{-\gamma} \gamma^{ab} \partial_a X^M \partial_b X^N G_{\mu\nu}(x) + \epsilon^{ab} \partial_a X^M \partial_b X^N B_{\mu\nu}(x) + \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^2\sigma \sqrt{-\gamma} {}^{(2)}R \Phi(x) + (\text{higher order in } \alpha')$$

Note that dilaton piece comes at order  $\alpha'$  by comparison with  $g$  &  $B$  terms.

Action (2.3) is only one possible consistent with symmetry (e.g. diffeo invariance) on string worldsheet and in bulk.

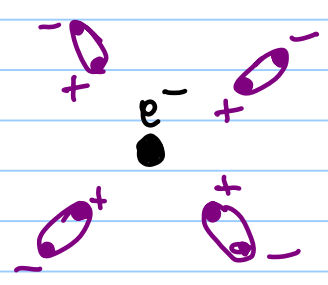
- \* Note that  $G_{\mu\nu}(x)$ ,  $B_{\mu\nu}(x)$ ,  $\Phi(x)$  are not (explicitly) functions of  $(\tau, \sigma) = \{\sigma^a\}$ ! They are therefore to be thought of as coupling functions of the theory like  $1/\alpha_{EM} = e^2/(hc)$  of QED.
- By analogy with E&M these coupling functions run with energy. But  $S_{poly}$  is conformal; demand in quantum theory too. Compute running of couplings.

# $\beta$ -functions

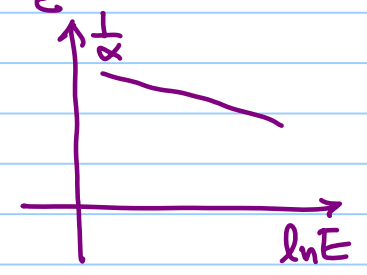
- In any theory the coupling 'constants' depend on energy. Quantum, relativistic phenomenon.
  - $\rightarrow \hbar$  (virtual particles) available
  - $\rightarrow c$  finite ( $\Rightarrow 2mc^2$  available)

- Pair-popping  $(e^-)$   $(e^+)$  for  $\Delta t \sim \frac{\hbar}{\Delta E} \sim \frac{\hbar}{mc^2} \sim 10^{-21}s$  for  $e^-/e^+$

- Consider strength of  $\vec{E}$  field of, say,  $e^-$ .

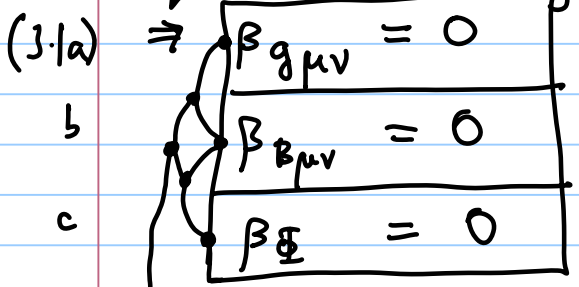


- Cloud of virtual  $e^+e^-$  dipoles
- Polarized by  $e^-$  field ( $\vec{E}$ )
- Virtual dipoles screen  $\vec{E}$
- $\Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial E} \alpha_{EM} > 0$  i.e.



[Running of couplings of SM  $\Rightarrow$  unification 'optional'..]

- In string context, want conformal invariance in quantum theory: full Virasoro algebra of  $L_m$ 's.



Techniques used:

- Background field method
- Riemann normal coord expansion
- Loop diagrams in 2-d QFT (worldsheet perturbation thy)

$\Rightarrow$  equations of motion for spacetime fields.  
i.e. Not any  $\{g, B, \Phi\}$  is consistent !!

Reconstruct action for spacetime fields.

Common Sector:  $\forall$  superstrings is  $\{g_{\mu\nu}, B_{[2]}, \Phi\}$

For IIA & IIB also see R-R fields  $\{C_{[n]}\}$ , n odd/even; heterotic also have gauge fields  $\{A_{[1]}^I\}$ ;

type I have  $\{A_{[1]}\}$  ← non-abelian.

⊕ fermions

$\Phi \rightarrow 0$  at  $\infty$ .  $\Phi_{\infty} \sim g_s$

(4.1) 
$$S_{NS}^{(bos)} = \frac{1}{16\pi G_{10}} \int d^{10}x \sqrt{-g} e^{-2\Phi} \left( R + 4(\nabla\Phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} |dB_{[2]}|^2 \right)$$

where  $dB_{[2]} \equiv H_{[3]}$  and  $|d\omega_{p-1}|^2 = \frac{1}{p!} (d\omega_{p-1})^{\mu\nu\dots\alpha} (d\omega_{p-1})_{\mu\nu\dots\alpha}$

(4.2) where  $16\pi G_{10} = (2\pi)^7 g_s^2 \ell_s^8$  is derived here 😊

• Can transform to Einstein metric  $\tilde{g}_{\mu\nu}$  from what string couples to, hence called "string metric"  $g_{\mu\nu}$

(4.3) 
$$\tilde{g}_{\mu\nu} = e^{-4\Phi/(D-2)} g_{\mu\nu}$$

Then

$$S_{NS}^{(bos)} = \frac{1}{16\pi G_{10}} \int d^{10}x \sqrt{\tilde{g}} \left\{ \tilde{R} - \frac{1}{2} (\tilde{\nabla}\Phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} |\tilde{d}B_{[2]}| e^{-\Phi} \right\}$$

(\*)  $\Rightarrow$  "right-sign" action for dilaton

'Gauge' fields

The other non-common sector depends on the superstring theory in question. We'll do IIA for definiteness - this is the nonchiral  $\mathcal{N}=2$  SUSY theory.

(4.4) 
$$S_{R-R}^{(bos)} (IIA) = \frac{1}{16\pi G_{10}} \left[ \int d^{10}x \sqrt{-g} \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} |dC_{[1]}|^2 - \frac{1}{2} |dC_{[3]} - H_{[3]} \wedge C_{[1]}|^2 \right\} + \int B_{[2]} \wedge dC_{[3]} \wedge dC_{[3]} \right]$$

(no br's here)

(4.5) Open string: SYM for  $A_{[1]}$  and  $g_{YM}^2 = (2\pi)^{p-2} g_s \ell_s^{p-3}$

→ See also my TASI notes

**THE DARK SIDE OF STRING THEORY** hep-th/0008241 (5)

GR with action

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G_N} \int d^D x \sqrt{-g} R$$

has Schwarzschild black hole solutions, which solve vacuum Einstein eqns

(5.1)  $R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} R = 0$  } Nonlinear eqn: support nonzero  $M_{ADM}$  although  $T_{\mu\nu} = 0$

Couple to matter via rough-&-ready rule (for bosons)

$$\eta_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow g_{\mu\nu}$$

$$\partial_\lambda \rightarrow \nabla_\lambda$$

(Need  $\partial \rightarrow \nabla = d + \omega_{ab} \Gamma^{ab}$  for fermions)

and

$$T_{\mu\nu} \equiv -\frac{2}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta \mathcal{L}_{matter}}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}}$$

includes measure-piece  $\sqrt{-g}$ , typically

e.g. scalar field  $\mathcal{L}^s = -\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{-g} g^{\mu\nu} \nabla_\mu \phi \nabla_\nu \phi = -\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{-g} (\partial\phi)^2$

EM field  $\mathcal{L}^{em} = -\frac{1}{4} \sqrt{-g} g^{\mu\nu} g^{\alpha\beta} F_{\mu\alpha} F_{\nu\beta}$

so  $T_{\mu\nu}^s = +\partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} (\partial\phi)^2$

$$T_{\mu\nu}^{em} = -F_{\mu\lambda} F^{\lambda\nu} + \frac{1}{4} g_{\mu\nu} F^{\lambda\sigma} F_{\lambda\sigma}$$

We can search for solutions to SUGRA action (44)!

- Simplest solutions are Stable p-branes (half susy unbroken)

(5.2) Satisfy tension =  $c(g_s)$ . |charge|  
 "BPS states"

higher-d version for p-form potentials

(5.3) e.g.  $\xrightarrow{B \text{ charge}} F_1$

$$\tau_F = \frac{1}{2\pi l_s^2} \quad (l_s = \sqrt{\alpha'})$$

NS5

$$\tau_{NS5} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^5 l_s^6 g_s^2}$$

(5.4)  $\xrightarrow{Dp}$

$$\tau_p = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^p l_s^{p+1} g_s}$$

$\uparrow$  B charge

(5.5)  $\rightarrow$  RR charge

Conserved charges carried?

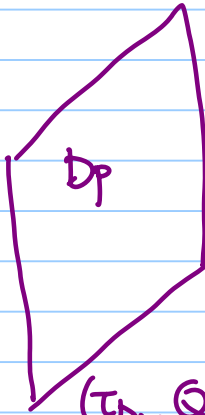
(6.1)  $Q_{F1} = \int_{S^7} * (e^{-2\Phi} dB_{[2]})$

(6.2)  $Q_{Dp} = \int_{S^{8-p}} *(dC_{[p+1]})$

$Q_{NS5} = \int_{S^3} e^{-2\Phi} dB_{[2]}$  (6)

∫ up flux through  $\perp S^{8-p}$

$\{t, \vec{x}_{||}, r, \Omega_{8-p}\}$   
 $[1+p+1+(8-p) = 10]$



$(\tau_{Dp}, Q_{Dp})$   
R-R charge

Couples naturally to  $C_{[p+1]}$

F1  
 $(\tau_{F1}, Q_{F1})$   
 NS charge  
 Couples naturally to  $B_{[2]}$

particle  
 •  $(m, q)$   
 EM charge  
 Couples naturally to  $A_{[1]}$

By solving eqns of motion for  $\{g_{\mu\nu}, B_{[2]}, \Phi, C_{[p+1]}\}$  find

(6.3)

$B_{[2]} = 0$

$e^{\Phi} = H^{(3-p)/4}$

$C_{[p+1]} = \left(\frac{1}{H} - 1\right) dx^0 \wedge dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^p$

$ds^2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{H}} (-dt^2 + d\vec{x}_{||}^2) + \sqrt{H} (dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega_{8-p}^2)$

where

(6.4)

$H = 1 + C_p g_s N \left(\frac{r_s}{r}\right)^{7-p}$

(6.5)

$C_p = \frac{2\sqrt{\pi}^{5-p}}{\Gamma((8-p)/2)}$

Possesses SUSY ;  $\Leftrightarrow$  Projection condition on spinors.

For  $F_1$

(7.1)

$$ds^2 = H^{-1}(-dt^2 + dx^2) + dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega_7^2$$

$$B[2] = \left(\frac{1}{H}\right) dt \wedge dx$$

$$e^{\Phi} = H^{-1}$$

(F1)

(7.2)

$$H = 1 + c_1 N \left(\frac{l_s}{r}\right)^6 g_s^2$$

while for NS5

(7.3)

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + dx_{||}^2 + H (dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega_3^2)$$

$$H[3] = Q e^{3\sigma}$$

$$e^{\Phi} = H$$

(NS5)

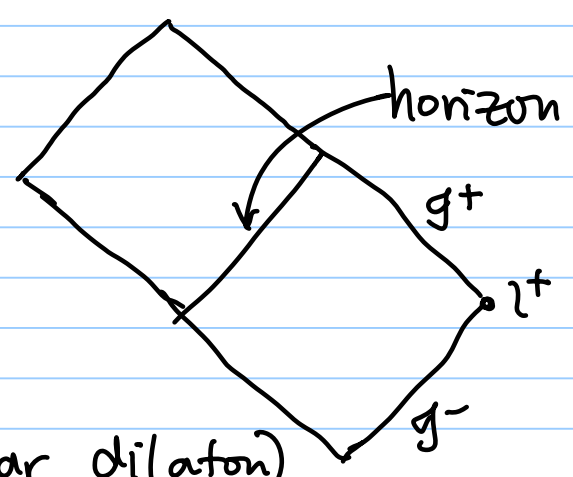
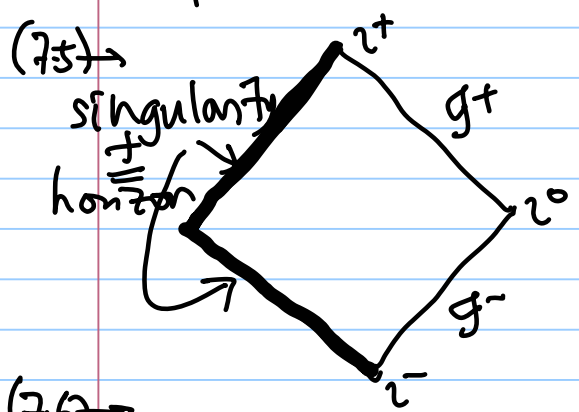
(7.4)

$$H = 1 + c_5 N \left(\frac{l_s}{r}\right)^2$$

- Causal structure?
  - light-cones always at 45° on Penrose diagram
  - bring  $\infty$  in to finite place via coord transf.

$D_p \neq 3, F_1$

D3



(7.6) →

(For NS5: geometry  $\rightarrow S^3 \times$  linear dilaton)

In GR, when horizon does not 'properly' cover singularity, questionable as to whether can call it censored - is the singularity really naked??

(8.1) Compute geodesic eqn  $p^\mu \nabla_\mu p^\nu = 0$  ; for photon  $\frac{dp^\mu}{d\lambda} + \Gamma^\mu_{\nu\lambda} p^\nu p^\lambda = 0$  where  $\lambda =$  affine param.

(8.2) Discover  $\otimes$  for  $p \leq 5$ , photon takes  $\Delta t \rightarrow +\infty$  to reach  $g^+$   $\Rightarrow$  censored; for  $p=6$ , naked [for  $p=7,8,9$  : different story ; not AF &  $\therefore$  N limited  $\Rightarrow$  SUGRA  $\sim$ ]

- Singularity can be resolved in a way I'll describe in the last lecture or two.
- Important : D3 geometry as  $r \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow AdS_5 \times S^5$   
NS5 " " " "  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{linear} \\ \text{dilaton} \\ \text{warp} \\ \text{factor} \end{array} \right\} \times S^3$

$(r, \Omega)$  are isotropic coords. They also happen to be harmonic coords, i.e.  $\square x^\alpha = 0$ , but this FAILS for p-brane spacetimes in general because introducing non-extremality makes isotropic coords (for which  $g_{\Omega\Omega} = g_{rr} \cdot r^2$ ) non-harmonic.

Important to note this fact for calculating  $M_{ADM}$  in more general spacetimes! in string theory SUGRA geometries.

- ▷ Hawking radiation
- ▷ Bekenstein-Hawking entropy
- ▷ Reissner-Nordström,  $M=|Q|$  BPS &  $AdS_2 \times S^2$
- ▷ Solution-generating : algebraic technique
- ▷ W solution & relationship to NS-NS BH

$\Rightarrow$  as desired, switch to TASI notes  $\ddot{\smile}$