

# Double Field Theory and strings at the self-dual radius

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In collaboration with

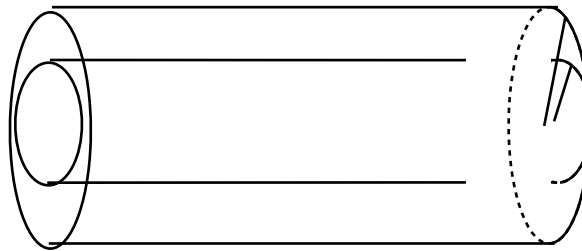
G.Aldazabal, S. Iguri, M. Mayo, C. Nuñez, A.Rosabal

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# Motivation

## Bosonic closed string



momentum # winding #

$$M^2 = \frac{2}{\alpha'}(N + \bar{N} - 2) + \frac{p^2}{R^2} + \frac{\tilde{p}^2}{\tilde{R}^2}$$

$$\tilde{R} = \frac{\alpha'}{R}$$

## Massless states:

$g_{mn}$ , dilaton

→

$g_{\mu\nu}$

$g_{\mu y}$

vector

$g_{yy}$

scalar

$$N = 0 \quad \bar{N} = 1 \quad p = \tilde{p} = \pm 1$$

2 vectors

2 scalars

$B_{mn}$

→

$B_{\mu\nu}$

$B_{\mu y}$

vector

+

$$N = 1 \quad \bar{N} = 0 \quad p = -\tilde{p} = \pm 1$$

2 vectors

2 scalars

$$N = \bar{N} = 0 \quad p = \pm 2 \quad 2 \text{ scalars}$$

$$\tilde{p} = \pm 2 \quad 2 \text{ scalars}$$

1 scalar  $SU(2) \times SU(2)$  9 scalars

Can we describe the physics using DFT ?

$$\bar{N} - N = p\tilde{p}$$



Some easy math...

$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_d \times S^1$$

$$g_{\mu\nu} \quad B_{\mu\nu} \quad \rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{dof} \\ d^2 \end{array}$$

$$6 \text{ vectors} \quad \rightarrow \quad 6d$$

$$9 \text{ scalars} \quad \rightarrow \quad 3^2$$

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$$(d+3)^2$$

$$\dim \left[ \frac{O(d+3, d+3)}{O(d+3) \times O(d+3)} \right] = (d+3)^2$$

# Outline

- Strings on  $S^1$
- Effective action from string theory
- DFT description
- Effective action from DFT
- “Internal double space”

## String theory on $\mathbb{R}$

Momentum state for non-compact coordinate  $x = x^L + x^R$

$$e^{ik(x^L(z) + x^R(\bar{z}))} \quad k \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$X(z, \bar{z}) = x^L(z) + x^R(\bar{z})$$

## String theory on $S^1$

Momentum state for compact coordinate  $y = y^L + y^R \simeq y + 2\pi R$

$$e^{i(k_L y^L(z) + k_R y^R(\bar{z}))} \quad k_{L,R} = \frac{p}{R} \pm \frac{\tilde{p}}{\tilde{R}}$$

$$Y(z, \bar{z}) = y^L(z) + y^R(\bar{z})$$

$$\tilde{Y}(z, \bar{z}) = y^L(z) - y^R(\bar{z})$$

DFT

$$\tilde{y} = y^L - y^R \simeq y + 2\pi \tilde{R}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_d \times S^1 \longrightarrow \mathcal{M}_d \times S^1 \times \tilde{S}^1$$

Massless states at  $R = \tilde{R} = 1$

$$M^2 = 2(N + \bar{N} - 2) + \frac{p^2}{R^2} + \frac{\tilde{p}^2}{\tilde{R}^2}$$

• **SU(2)<sub>L</sub>** Vectors  $\bar{N}_x = 1$

Level-matching  $\bar{N} - N = p\tilde{p}$

$$\alpha' = 1$$

-  $N_y = 1 \quad (g_{\mu y} + B_{\mu y}) \quad : A_\mu^3 \quad V \sim J^3(z) \cdot (\bar{\partial} X^\mu e^{ikX})$

-  $N_y = 0 \quad p = \tilde{p} = \pm 1 \quad (k_L = \pm 2) : A_\mu^\pm \quad V \sim J^\pm(z) \cdot (\bar{\partial} X^\mu e^{ikX})$

• **SU(2)<sub>R</sub>** Vectors  $N_x = 1 \quad A^i \rightarrow \bar{A}^i$

$$J^i(z) \rightarrow \bar{J}^i(\bar{z}) \quad y^L \rightarrow y^R$$

• Scalars **(3,3)**  $N_x = \bar{N}_x = 0$

$N_y = 1, \bar{N}_y = 1 \quad (g_{yy}) \quad : M^{33}$

$N_y = 1, p = -\tilde{p} = \pm 1 \quad (\bar{k} = \pm 2) \quad : M^{3\pm}$

$\bar{N}_y = 1, p = \tilde{p} = \pm 1 \quad (k = \pm 2) \quad : M^{\pm 3}$

$p = \pm 2, \tilde{p} = 0 \quad (k = \bar{k} = \pm 2) \quad : M^{\pm\pm}$

$p = 0, \tilde{p} = \pm 2 \quad (k = -\bar{k} = \pm 2) \quad : M^{\pm\mp}$

$$V^{ij} \sim J^i J^j e^{ikX}$$

$$J^3(z) = \partial y^L(z)$$

$$J^\pm(z) = e^{\pm 2iy^L(z)}$$

$$J^i(z) = \sum J_m^i z^{-(m+1)}$$

$$[J_m^i, J_n^j] = \frac{m}{2} \delta^{ij} \delta_{m,-n} + \epsilon^{ijk} J_{m+n}^k$$

SU(2)<sub>L</sub> current algebra

# Effective action from string theory

Computing 3-point functions  $\langle VVV \rangle$  we read off

Gerardo Aldazabal's talk

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & R - \frac{1}{12} H_{\mu\nu\rho} H^{\mu\nu\rho} + \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^i F^{i\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{4} \bar{F}_{\mu\nu}^i \bar{F}^{i\mu\nu} \\ & + \frac{1}{4} M^{ij} F_{\mu\nu}^i \bar{F}^{j\mu\nu} + \left( D_\mu M^{ij} D^\mu M^{ij} \right) - (\det M) \end{aligned}$$

$M^{\pm\pm}, M^{\pm\mp}$   
acquire mass<sup>2</sup> =  $\epsilon$

$$H = dB + A^i \wedge F^i - \bar{A}^i \wedge \bar{F}^i$$

$A^\pm$   
 $\bar{A}^\pm$  acquire mass<sup>2</sup> =  $\epsilon^2$

$$F^i = dA^i + \epsilon^{ijk} A^j \wedge A^k$$

$$\text{SU}(2) \times \text{SU}(2) \rightarrow \text{U}(1) \times \text{U}(1)$$

$$D_\mu M^{ij} = \partial_\mu M^{ij} + f^{ijk} A_\mu^j M^{ki} + f^{ijk} \bar{A}_\mu^j M^{ik}$$

## Higgs mechanism

$$M^{ij} \rightarrow \epsilon \delta_{33}^{ij} + M'^{ij}$$

# Double field theory

In DFT on  $S^1$

$$TS^1 \oplus T^*S^1$$

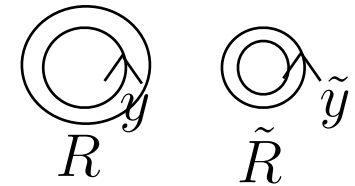
$$\begin{array}{c} \partial_y + dy \\ | \wr \\ \partial_{\tilde{y}} \end{array}$$

natural pairing

$$\langle \partial_y + dy, \partial_y + dy \rangle = 2\iota_{\partial_y} dy = 2$$

$$\langle V, V \rangle = \eta_{MN} V^M V^N$$

$$\langle \partial_y, \partial_{\tilde{y}} \rangle = 1$$



$$\eta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\eta^{LR} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Vertex operators: depend on  $y^L$  and  $y^R$   $\Rightarrow$  to reproduce string theory action we need dependence on  $y$  and  $\tilde{y}$

$$\begin{array}{cc} \parallel & \parallel \\ y + \tilde{y} & y - \tilde{y} \end{array}$$

Violating weak / strong constraint ?

Yes, as expected:

Level matching condition

$$\underbrace{\bar{N} - N}_{\neq 0 \text{ in usual massless states}} = \underbrace{p\tilde{p}}_{\neq 0}$$

$\partial_y$        $\partial_{\tilde{y}}$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \partial_y \partial_{\tilde{y}} ( \quad ) \neq 0 \\ \eta^{MN} \partial_M \partial_N ( \quad ) \neq 0 \end{array}$$

weak constraint

# GG/DFT

Frame on  $T\mathcal{M} \oplus T^*\mathcal{M}$

$\nearrow$  frame  $e_a$ 
 $\nwarrow$  dual frame  $e^a$

$$E_A = \begin{pmatrix} e_a - \iota_{e_a} B \\ e^a \end{pmatrix}$$

Generalized metric

$$\mathcal{H} = \delta^{AB} E_A \otimes E_B = \begin{pmatrix} g^{-1} & -g^{-1} B \\ B g^{-1} & g - B g^{-1} B \end{pmatrix}$$

Contains  $g, B$   
dof:  $\frac{O(D,D)}{O(D) \times O(D)}$

# Circle reduction

Frame on  $T\mathcal{M} \oplus T^*\mathcal{M}$

frame

$e_a$

dual  
frame

$e^a$

$$T\mathcal{M} = T\mathcal{M}_d \oplus TS^1$$

$$y \sim y + 2\pi$$

$$E_A = \begin{pmatrix} e_a - \iota_{e_a} B \\ e^a \end{pmatrix}$$

$\begin{matrix} \rightarrow \# \\ \rightarrow \phi^{-1}(\partial_y + B_1) \end{matrix}$

$\begin{matrix} \rightarrow e^{\hat{a}} \\ \rightarrow \phi(dy + V_1) \end{matrix}$

$\begin{matrix} \vdots B_{\mu y} \\ \downarrow \end{matrix}$

$\leftarrow \cdots g_{\mu y}$

$\begin{matrix} \vdots \sqrt{g_{yy}} = R \\ \uparrow \end{matrix}$



# Circle reduction

Frame on  $T\mathcal{M} \oplus T^*\mathcal{M}$

frame  $e_a$       dual frame  $e^a$

$$E_A = \begin{pmatrix} e_a - \iota_{e_a} B \\ e^a \end{pmatrix}$$

Diagram illustrating the frame reduction. The frame  $e_a$  is mapped to  $e^{\hat{a}}$  via the matrix  $E_A$ . The components of  $E_A$  are  $e_a - \iota_{e_a} B$  and  $e^a$ . The matrix  $E_A$  is shown as a block matrix with  $\phi^{-1}(\partial_y + B_1)$  and  $\phi(dy + V_1)$  in the off-diagonal blocks, highlighted by a red box. The metric  $g_{\mu y}$  is shown as a dashed arrow pointing to the  $\phi(dy + V_1)$  block. The determinant  $\sqrt{g_{yy}} = R = \langle \exp(\frac{1}{2} M^{33}) \rangle$  is shown as a dashed arrow pointing to the  $\phi(dy + V_1)$  block. The expression  $\approx 1 + \frac{1}{2} \langle \underbrace{M^{33}}_{\epsilon} \rangle$  is shown as a dashed arrow pointing to the  $\phi(dy + V_1)$  block.

$$T\mathcal{M} = T\mathcal{M}_d \oplus TS^1$$

$$y \sim y + 2\pi$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_d \\ E^d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \phi^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & \phi \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \partial_y + B_1 \\ dy + V_1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{LR} \begin{pmatrix} E^L \\ E^R \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U^+ & U^+_{\frac{1}{2}} M^{33} \\ \frac{1}{2} M^{33} U^+ & U^+ \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} J + A \\ \bar{J} - \bar{A} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$E_A(x, y) = U_A^{A'}(x) E'_{A'}(y) \quad \text{Scherk-Schwarz reduction}$$

$$\begin{aligned} U^+ &\approx 1 & U^\pm &= \frac{1}{2}(\phi^{-1} \pm \phi) & A &= V_1 + B_1 & J &= \partial_y + dy \\ U^- &\approx \frac{1}{2} M^{33} & & & \bar{A} &= V_1 - B_1 & \bar{J} &= \partial_y - dy \end{aligned}$$

Effective action valid at energies  $E \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha'}} \epsilon \ll \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha'}}$

So far, no enhancement of symmetry, no double field theory

# DFT & Enhancement of symmetry

$$T\mathcal{M} \oplus T^*\mathcal{M} \longrightarrow T\mathcal{M}_d \oplus TS^1 \oplus T\tilde{S}^1 \oplus T^*\mathcal{M}_d$$

$$dy \simeq \partial_{\tilde{y}}$$

$$\textcolor{red}{J} = \partial_y + dy = \partial_y + \partial_{\tilde{y}} = \textcolor{red}{\partial}_{y^L}$$

$$\textcolor{blue}{\bar{J}} = \partial_y - dy = \partial_y - \partial_{\tilde{y}} = \textcolor{blue}{\partial}_{y^R}$$

Still, this is formal. No dependence on  $y$  or  $\tilde{y}$

Of course, we have not included momentum/winding modes  $\sim e^{2iy} / e^{2i\tilde{y}}$

To include **winding modes** we need DFT:  $S^1, \tilde{S}^1$

To account for the enhancement of symmetry, we need to enlarge the generalized tangent space

$$\begin{array}{c} T\mathcal{M}_d \oplus TS^1 \oplus T\tilde{S}^1 \oplus T^*\mathcal{M}_d \\ \downarrow \\ T\mathcal{M}_d \oplus V_2 \oplus TS^1 \oplus T\tilde{S}^1 \oplus V_2^* \oplus T^*\mathcal{M}_d \\ \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} \\ \text{O}(3,3) \end{array}$$

# Enhancement of symmetry

$$T\mathcal{M}_d \oplus TS^1 \oplus T\tilde{S}^1 \oplus T^*\mathcal{M}_d$$



$$T\mathcal{M}_d \oplus V_2 \oplus TS^1 \oplus T\tilde{S}^1 \oplus V_2^* \oplus T^*\mathcal{M}_d$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} E^{\mathfrak{J}} \\ E^{\mathfrak{B}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2}M^{\mathfrak{B}\mathfrak{J}} \\ \frac{1}{2}M^{\mathfrak{J}\mathfrak{B}} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathfrak{J}^{\mathfrak{B}} + \mathfrak{A}^{\mathfrak{B}} \\ \mathfrak{J}^{\mathfrak{J}} - \mathfrak{A}^{\mathfrak{J}} \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} E^i \\ E^{\bar{i}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2}M^{i\bar{j}} \\ \frac{1}{2}M^{\bar{i}j} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} J^j + A^j \\ \bar{J}^{\bar{j}} - \bar{A}^{\bar{j}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$M^{i\bar{j}}(x)$$

9 scalar fields

$$\vdots$$

$$A^i(x)$$

$$\bar{A}^{\bar{i}}(x)$$

6 vector fields

Should satisfy  $\text{SU}(2)_L$  algebra  $J^i(y, \tilde{y})$

Should satisfy  $\text{SU}(2)_R$  algebra  $\bar{J}^{\bar{i}}(y, \tilde{y})$

under some bracket

Effective action

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_a \\ E^L \\ E^R \\ E^a \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} e_a & \iota_{e_a} A & \iota_{e_a} \bar{A} & \iota_{e_a} B \\ 0 & \boxed{1 \quad \frac{1}{2}M} & M\bar{A} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2}M^t & 1 & M^t A \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & e^a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \boxed{J \quad 0} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \bar{J} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$E_A(x,y) = U_A^{A'}(x) E'_{A'}(y)$$

Generalized Scherk-Schwarz reduction of DFT action Aldazabal, Baron, Marques, Nuñez II  
Geissbuhler II

$$\mathcal{L} = R - \frac{1}{12} H_{\mu\nu\rho} H^{\mu\nu\rho} + \frac{1}{4} \mathcal{H}_{IJ} F^{IJ\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{4} \bar{\mathcal{H}}_{\bar{I}\bar{J}} (\bar{F}^{\bar{I}\bar{J}\mu\nu} \mathcal{H})_{\bar{I}\bar{J}} (D^\mu \mathcal{H})^{\bar{I}\bar{J}} + D_\mu M^{ij} D^\mu M^{ij}$$
$$= \frac{1}{12} \det M_{IK} f_{LMN} (\mathcal{H}^{IL} \mathcal{H}^{JM} \mathcal{H}^{KN} - 3 \mathcal{H}^{IL} \eta^{JM} \eta^{KN} + 2 \mathcal{H}^{IL} \eta^{JM} \eta^{KN})$$

$I = i, \bar{i}$   
**Exactly string theory action!**

$$H = dB + F^I \wedge A_I$$
$$F^I = dA^I + \boxed{f^I{}_{JK}} A^J \wedge A^K$$

$[E'_J, E'_K]_C = f^I{}_{JK} E'_K$ 

$\uparrow \quad \uparrow$   
 $J, \bar{J}$

$\uparrow$   
 $\epsilon^{ijk}, \epsilon^{\bar{i}\bar{j}\bar{k}}$

# Algebra

## C-bracket

$$[V_1, V_2]_C = \frac{1}{2}(\mathcal{L}_{V_1} V_2 - \mathcal{L}_{V_2} V_1)$$

$$(\mathcal{L}_{V_1} V_2)^I = V_1^J \partial_J V_2^I + (\partial^I V_{1J} - \partial_J V_1^I) V_2^J$$

$$V_2 + TS^1 + T\tilde{S}^1 + V_2^* .$$

$\uparrow$   
 $v_1^L, v_2^L$

$\uparrow$   
 $v_1^R, v_2^R$

generalized Lie derivative

The following  $J$  and  $\bar{J}$  do the job

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2y^L & \sin 2y^L & 0 \\ -\sin 2y^L & \cos 2y^L & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1^L \\ v_2^L \\ dy^L \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\bar{J} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2y^R & \sin 2y^R & 0 \\ -\sin 2y^R & \cos 2y^R & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1^R \\ v_2^R \\ dy^R \end{pmatrix}$$

$$[E'_J, E'_K]_C = f^I{}_{JK} E'_K$$

$\uparrow$   
 $J, \bar{J}$

$\uparrow$   
 $\epsilon^{ijk}, \epsilon^{\overline{ijk}}$

# Geometry of the “internal space”

$$TM_2^2 \oplus TS^1 \oplus TS^1 \oplus \mathbb{V}_2 M^2$$

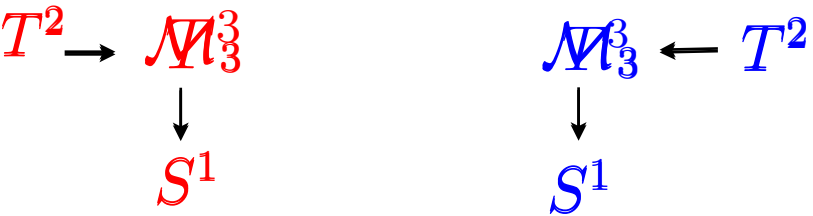
$T_2 \nearrow$ 
 $T_2 \nwarrow$

$$E'_L = J = \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2y^L & \sin 2y^L & 0 \\ -\sin 2y^L & \cos 2y^L & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v^{1L} \\ v^{2L} \\ dy^L \end{pmatrix} \quad E'_R = \bar{J} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2y^R & \sin 2y^R & 0 \\ -\sin 2y^R & \cos 2y^R & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v^{1R} \\ v^{2R} \\ dy^R \end{pmatrix}$$

The space is  $S^1 \times \tilde{S}^1$

$$E_A(x, y) = U_A^{A'}(x) E'_{A'}(y)$$

But if we want to “geometrize” the O(3,3)



HOWEVER  $\mathcal{H}(x, y, \tilde{y}) \equiv R^U E'^t U E'$

$$\begin{pmatrix} R^t & 0 \\ 0 & R^t \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & R^t M \\ M^t & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R & R_0 \\ 0 & R \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ R^t M & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R^t M R & \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

All dependence on  $y, \tilde{y}$  disappears!  
 when considering fluctuations M

# Conclusions

- **DFT** description of strings very close to self-dual radius
- **Enhancement of symmetry** → extend the generalized tangent space  $O(3,3)$
- **Winding modes** → explicit dependence on **dual coordinate**  
violate weak constraint  
satisfy level-matching
- When **M=0**, “6d double space” is a torus, no dependence on  $y$  or  $\tilde{y}$
- Moduli (**M≠0**) bring in dependence on  $y$  and  $\tilde{y}$
- By **appropriate** generalized Scherk-Schwarz reduction of **DFT action** we fully recover **string theory action**