Discussions

A Proposal for the Worldvolume Action of Multiple M5-Branes

Chong-Sun Chu

seminar at NTNU, 9/5/2013 qbased on

- 1. A Theory of Non-Abelian Tensor Gauge Field with Non-Abelian Gauge Symmetry G × G, Chong-Sun Chu, arXiv:1108.5131.
- 2. Non-abelian Action for Multiple Five-Branes with Self-Dual Tensors, Chong-Sun Chu, Sheng-Lan Ko, arXiv:1203.4224.
- 3. Non-Abelian Self-Dual String Solutions, Chong-Sun Chu, Sheng-Lan Ko, Pichet Vanichchapongjaroen, arXiv:1207.1095.
- Non-abelian Self-Dual String and M2-M5 Branes Intersection in Supergravity Chong-Sun Chu, Pichet Vanichchapongjaroen, arXiv:1304.4322.
 and unpublished results.

Outline



Non-abelian action for multiple M5-branes
 Perry-Schwarz action for a single M5-brane

3 Non-abelian self-dual string solution





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Mysteries of M5-branes

What we know:

• The low energy worldvolume dynamics is given by a 6d (2,0) SCFT with *SO*(5) R-symmetry.

(Strominger, Witten) The (2,0) tensor multiples contains 5 scalars and a selfdual antisymmetric 3-form field strength + fermions.

(Gibbons, Townsend; Strominger; Kaplan, Michelson)

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What we don't know:

- What is the form of the gauge symmetry for multiple M5-branes ?
- Interacting self-dual dynamics on M5-branes worldvolume?

Self-dual dynamics for multiple M5-branes (?)

• Generally, it is well known to be difficult to write down a Lorentz invariant action for self-dual dynamics.

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(Siegel 84; Floreanini, Jackiw 87)
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• For a single M5 case, problem solved by sacrificing manifest 6d Lorentz symmetry.

(Henneaux-Teitelboim 88; Perry-Schwarz 97) The action was later generalized to include kappa symmetry (Aganagic, Park, Popescu, Schwarz, 97) Covariant construction was given by PST

(Pasti-Sorokin-Tonin)

• Not clear how to do this for N > 1 due to the other problem that an appropriate generalization of the tensor gauge symmetry was not known.

Enhanced gauge symmetry of multiple M5-branes (?)

• For multiple D-branes, symmetry is enhanced from U(1) to U(N):

$$\delta A^{\mathfrak{a}}_{\mu} = \partial_{\mu} \Lambda^{\mathfrak{a}} + [A_{\mu}, \Lambda]^{\mathfrak{a}}, \quad F^{\mathfrak{a}}_{\mu\nu} = \partial_{\mu} A^{\mathfrak{a}}_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu} A^{\mathfrak{a}}_{\mu} + [A_{\mu}, A_{\nu}]^{\mathfrak{a}}.$$

• For multiple M5-branes, it is not known how to non-Abelianize 2-form (or higher form) gauge fields:

 $\delta B^{a}_{\mu\nu} = \partial_{\mu}\Lambda^{a}_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu}\Lambda^{a}_{\mu} + (?), \quad H^{a}_{\mu\nu\lambda} = \partial_{\mu}B^{a}_{\nu\lambda} + \partial_{\nu}B^{a}_{\lambda\mu} + \partial_{\lambda}B^{a}_{\mu\nu} + (?).$

to have nontrivial self interaction.

• Moreover, exists no-go theorems: there is no nontrivial deformation of the Abelian 2-form gauge theory if *locality* of the action and the transformation laws are assumed.

(Henneaux; Bekaert; Sevrin; Nepomechie)

• These no-go theorems, however, suggest an important direction of given up locality.

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- The need of nonlocality for M5-branes should not be surprising: ABJM and BLG theory for multiple M2-branes are also non-local.
- We will get around the no-go theorem by similarly introducing a set of auxillary fields: the theory become nonlocal when these fields are eliminated using their equations of motion.

- In this talk, I will explain a 6d proposal of the low energy worldvolume theory (Ko and Chu).
- There is also a 5d proposal of the (2,0) theory as strong coupling limit of 5d SYM. (Douglas; Lambert, Papageorgakis and Schmidt-Sommerfeld)
- analogy:

low energy SUGRA \leftarrow quantum mechanical M-theory (proposed to be defined by D0s' SQM) low energy theory of M5-branes \leftarrow quantum M5-branes theory (proposed to be defined by 5d SYM)

Other related works/approaches: Smith, Ho, Huang, Masuo, Samtleben, Sezgin, Wimmer, Wulff, Saemann, Wolf, Czech, Huang, Rozali, Tachikawa, H.C. Kim, S. Kim, Koh, K. Lee, S. Lee, Bolognesi, Maxfield, Sethi, Bak, Gustavsson, Hosomichi, Seong, Nosaka, Terashima, Kallen, Minahan, Nedelin, Zabzine, Palmer, Sorokin, Bandos, ...

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• Perry-Schwarz action for a single M5-brane

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Non-abelian action for multiple M5-branes

Review of the Perry-Schwarz formulation

• Perry-Schwarz formulation:

1. A direction, say x_5 , is treated differently: denote the 5d and 6d coord. by x^{μ} and $x^{M} = (x^{\mu}, x^{5})$.

2. the tensor gauge field potential is represented by a 5×5 antisymmetric tensor field $B_{\mu\nu}$. It can be thought of as a (tensor) gauge fixed formulation in which $B_{\mu5}$ never appear.

• Perry and Schwarz considered the action:

$$S_0(B) = rac{1}{2}\int d^6x\,\left(- ilde{H}^{\mu
u} ilde{H}_{\mu
u} + ilde{H}^{\mu
u}\partial_5B_{\mu
u}
ight)$$

where

$$ilde{H}^{\mu
u} := rac{1}{6} \epsilon^{\mu
u
ho\lambda\sigma} H_{
ho\lambda\sigma}.$$

Note that manifest Lorentz symmetry is lost.

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• EOM:

$$\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\lambda\sigma}\partial_{\rho}(\tilde{H}_{\lambda\sigma}-\partial_{5}B_{\lambda\sigma})=0$$

has the general solution

$$\tilde{H}_{\lambda\sigma} - \partial_5 B_{\lambda\sigma} = \partial_\mu \alpha_\nu - \partial_\nu \alpha_\mu$$
, for arbitrary α_μ .

• The action is invariant under the gauge symmetry

$$\delta B_{\mu\nu} = \partial_{\mu}\varphi_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu}\varphi_{\mu}, \quad \text{for arbitrary } \varphi_{\mu}.$$

This allows one to reduce the general solution to the EOM to the first order form

$$ilde{H}_{\mu
u}=\partial_5 B_{\mu
u}$$

This is the self-duality equation in this theory.

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Modified Lorentz symmetry

• The action has manifest 5d Lorentz invariance and a non-manifest Lorentz symmetry mixing μ with the 5 direction.

Lorentz transformation (active view)

Standard Lorentz transformation

$$\delta B_{\mu
u} = (\Lambda \cdot L) B_{\mu
u} + \delta_{
m spin} B_{\mu
u}$$

has a orbital part:

$$\Lambda \cdot L = (\Lambda \cdot x)\partial_5 - x_5(\Lambda \cdot \partial)$$

and a spin part:

$$\delta_{\rm spin}B_{\mu\nu}=\Lambda_{\nu}B_{\mu5}-\Lambda_{\mu}B_{\nu5}.$$

• PS proposed to consider the following transformation

$$\delta B_{\mu\nu} = (\Lambda \cdot x) \tilde{H}_{\mu\nu} - x_5 (\Lambda \cdot \partial) B_{\mu\nu},$$

where $\Lambda_{\mu}=\Lambda_{5\mu}$ denote the corresponding infinitesimal transformation parameters.

1. On shell, it is equal to the standard Lorentz transformation

$$\delta B_{\mu
u} = (\Lambda \cdot x) \tilde{H}_{\mu
u} - x_5 (\Lambda \cdot \partial) B_{\mu
u} = (\Lambda \cdot x) \partial_5 B_{\mu
u} - x_5 (\Lambda \cdot \partial) B_{\mu
u}$$

2. Commutator:

$$[\delta_{\Lambda_1}, \delta_{\Lambda_2}]B_{\mu\nu} = \delta^{(5d)}_{\Lambda_{\alpha\beta}}B_{\mu\nu} + \mathsf{EOM} + \mathsf{gauge symmetry}$$

where

$$\delta B_{\mu\nu} = \partial_{\mu}\varphi_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu}\varphi_{\mu}, \qquad \varphi_{\nu} = x^{\alpha}\Lambda_{\alpha\lambda}B_{\nu}{}^{\lambda}$$

is a gauge symmetry of the PS theory. So the PS transformation can be considered as a (modified) Lorentz transformation.

Note that modified Lorentz symmetry is typical of action of self-dual dynamics

(Siegel 84)

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Non-abelian action

The idea is to try to generalize the Perry-Schwarz approach:

- 1 Represent the self-dual tensor gauge field by a 5 \times 5 antisymmetric field $B^a_{\mu\nu}$ in the adjoint and giving up manifest 6d Lorentz symmetry
- 2 Moreover we'll introduce a set of YM gauge fields A^a_μ for gauge group G.

(Chu, Smith; Chu)

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The Action

Our proposed action $S = S_0 + S_E$ consists of two pieces:

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$$S_0 = \frac{1}{2} \int d^6 x \, \text{tr} \left(- \tilde{H}^{\mu\nu} \tilde{H}_{\mu\nu} + \tilde{H}^{\mu\nu} \partial_5 B_{\mu\nu} \right),$$

is the non-abelian generalization of the Perry-Schwarz action, where

$$\mathcal{H}_{\mu
u\lambda}=\mathcal{D}_{[\mu}\mathcal{B}_{
u\lambda]},\quad \mathcal{D}_{\mu}=\partial_{\mu}+\mathcal{A}_{\mu}.$$

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$$S_E = \int d^5 x \operatorname{tr} \left((F_{\mu\nu} - c \int dx_5 \ ilde{H}_{\mu
u}) E^{\mu
u}
ight).$$

where $E_{\mu\nu}$ is a 5d auxiliary field implementing the constraint

$$F_{\mu\nu}=c\int dx_5 \; \tilde{H}_{\mu\nu}$$

- Note that there is no $B_{\mu5}$ and A_5 . A_{μ} and $E_{\mu\nu}$ live in 5-dimensions - Note also the presence of fields A_{μ} , $E_{\mu\nu}$ that is not expected from (2,0) susy. The action is invariant under:

$$\delta A_{\mu} = \partial_{\mu} \Lambda + [A_{\mu}, \Lambda], \quad \delta B_{\mu\nu} = [B_{\mu\nu}, \Lambda], \quad \delta E_{\mu\nu} = [E_{\mu\nu}, \Lambda].$$

2. Tensor gauge symmetry:

$$\delta_T A_{\mu} = \mathbf{0}, \quad \delta_T B_{\mu\nu} = D_{[\mu} \Lambda_{\nu]}, \quad \delta_T E_{\mu\nu} = \mathbf{0},$$

for arbitrary $\Lambda_{\mu}(x^{M})$ such that $[F_{[\mu\nu}, \Lambda_{\lambda]}] = 0$.

3. Moreover there is a gauge symmetry

$$\delta E_{\mu\nu} = \alpha_{\mu\nu}$$

for arbitrary $\alpha(x^{\lambda})$ such that $D_{[\mu}\alpha_{\nu\lambda]} = 0$, $D^{\mu}\alpha_{\mu\lambda} = 0$.

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Property 1: Self-Duality

• EOM of $E_{\mu\nu}$ gives the constraint

$$F_{\mu
u}=c\int dx_5\; ilde{H}_{\mu
u}.$$

• EOM of $B_{\mu\nu}$

$$\epsilon^{\mu
u
ho\lambda\sigma}D_{
ho}(ilde{H}_{\lambda\sigma}-\partial_{5}B_{\lambda\sigma})=0$$

has the general solution

$$\tilde{H}_{\lambda\sigma} - \partial_5 B_{\lambda\sigma} = \Phi_{\lambda\sigma},$$

where $D_{[\lambda} \Phi_{\mu\nu]} = 0$.

• Again with an appropriate fixing of the tensor gauge symmetry, one can reduce the second order EOM to the self-duality equation

$$\tilde{H}_{\mu\nu} = \partial_5 B_{\mu\nu}.$$

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Property 2: Degrees of freedom

• After eliminating the aux field $E_{\mu\nu}$ and substituting the F = H constraint, the resulting action becomes highly nonlinear and interacting. To count the degrees of freedom, we use the linearized theory.

At the quadratic level, the non-abelian action is simply given by dimG copies of the Perry-Schwarz action. We obtain $3 \times \dim G$ degrees of freedom in $B_{\mu\nu}$.

• Our theory contains $3 \times \dim G$ degrees of freedom as required by (2,0) supersymmetry.

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Property 3: Lorentz Symmetry

• The action is invariant under the 5- μ Lorentz transformation:

$$\delta B_{\mu\nu} = (\Lambda \cdot x) \tilde{H}_{\mu\nu} + x_5 \Lambda^{\kappa} H_{\kappa\mu\nu} + \Lambda^{\kappa} \phi_{\mu\nu\kappa},$$

where

$$\phi^{a}_{\mu
u\kappa} = \int dy \; G^{ab\mu'
u'}_{\ \mu
u}(x,y) J^{b}_{\mu'
u'\kappa}(y)$$

 $J_{\mu\nu\kappa}$ is some expression linear in Hand $G^{ab}_{\mu\nu,\mu'\nu'}(x,y)$ is the Green function satisfying

$$\partial_{5}G^{ab\mu'\nu'}_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta\gamma}(D^{(y)}_{\alpha})^{a}_{c}G^{cb\mu'\nu'}_{\beta\gamma} = \delta^{\mu'\nu'}_{\mu\nu}\delta^{ab}\delta^{(6)}(x-y)$$

with the BC: $G^{ab\mu'\nu'}_{\mu\nu}(x,y) = 0, \quad |x_5| \to \infty.$

• As before, the commutator closes to the standard 5d Lorentz transformation plus terms vanishing onshell, plus a gauge transformation.

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• Note that our proposed Lorentz symmetry is nonlocal.

This is not unexpected since we are working in a gauge fixed formulation without $B_{\mu 5}$. The Lorentz symmetry is also nonlocal for QED in Coulomb gauge or string in lightcone gauge.

Property 4: Reduction to D4-branes

• Consider a compactification of x₅ on a circle of radius *R*. The dimensional reduced action reads

$$S=rac{2\pi R}{2}\int d^5x\,{
m tr}\left(- ilde{H}_{\mu
u}^2+(F_{\mu
u}-2\pi Rc ilde{H}_{\mu
u})E^{\mu
u}
ight)$$

• Integrate out $E_{\mu\nu}$, we obtain

$$F_{\mu\nu} = 2\pi Rc \tilde{H}_{\mu\nu}.$$

and eliminate $ilde{H}_{\mu
u}$, we obtain the 5d Yang-Mills action

$$S_{YM}=-rac{1}{4\pi Rc^2}\int d^5x\,{
m tr}\;F_{\mu
u}^2.$$

• This gives the YM coupling and the gauge group to be

$$g_{YM}^2 = Rc^2, \quad G = U(N)$$

for a system of N M5-branes.

However there is a subtilty.

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However there is a subtilty.

• EOM gives
$$D^{\mu}F_{\mu\nu} = 0$$
 instead of

$$D_{\mu}F^{\mu
u} = -rac{\pi R}{2}\epsilon^{
ulphaeta\gamma\delta}[F_{lphaeta},B_{\gamma\delta}]?$$

• Need to be more careful with the implementation of Delta function:

$$\int [DA][DB][DE]e^{-S} = \int [DA][DB]e^{-S_{YM}}\delta(F_{\mu\nu}-2\pi R\tilde{H}_{\mu\nu}) = \int [DA]e^{-S_{YM}-S'},$$

where consistency requires that

$$\frac{\delta S'}{\delta A_{\nu}} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\nu \alpha \beta \gamma \delta} [F_{\alpha \beta}, B_{\gamma \delta}]$$

• The 5d theory is thus given by the action $S_{5d} = S_{YM} + S'$. S' describes a higher derivative correction term to the Yang-Mills theory since $[F, B] \sim DDB$ and B is of the order of F. It might be possible that S' captures the non-abelian DBI action of D4-branes.

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- Summarizing, we have constructed a non-abelian action of tensor fields with the properties:
 - 1. the action admits a self-duality equation of motion,
 - 2. the action has manifest 5d Lorentz symmetry and a modified 6d Lorentz symmetry,
 - 3. on dimensional reduction, the action gives the 5d Yang-Mills action plus corrections.

Based on these properties, we propose our action to be the bosonic theory describing the gauge sector of coincident M5-branes in flat space.

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To do:

- We still need to include the scalar field and fermions, and to susy complete the action.
- Another interesting direction is to explore the dynamical content of the theory.

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Self-dual string on M5-brane

- M2-branes can end on M5-brane. The endpoint gives strings living on the M5-brane. These self-dual strings appear as solitons of the M5-brane theory.
- In the Abelian case, the self-dual string solition has been obtained by Perry-Schwarz (1996) and also by Howe-Lambert-West (1997).

• For the non-abelian theory, the equations of motion to be solved are:

$$\tilde{H}_{\mu\nu}=\partial_5 B_{\mu\nu}.$$

$$F_{\mu
u}=c\int dx_5\, ilde{H}_{\mu
u}$$

Need to do:

1. The gauge field is auxiliary:

$$F_{\mu
u}=c\int dx_5\, ilde{H}_{\mu
u}=c(B_{\mu
u}(x_5=\infty)-B_{\mu
u}(x_5=-\infty))$$

Therefore if the non-Abelian solution is translationally invariant along x^5 , then $F_{\mu\nu} = 0$ is trivial. construct a string aligns in a different direction, say x^4 .

2. supersymmetrize to get a BPS solution.

• For the abelian case, Perry-Schwarz has obtained a self-dual string solution:

$$B_{ij} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\beta \epsilon_{ijk} x_k}{r^3} \left(\frac{x^5 r}{\rho^2} + \tan^{-1} (x^5/r) \right), \qquad B_{04} = -\frac{\beta}{2\rho^2},$$

i, j = 1, 2, 3.

• Although the auxillary field does not appear in the PS construction, it is amazing that

$$F_{ij} = -\frac{c\beta\pi}{2}\frac{\epsilon_{ijk}x_k}{r^3}, \qquad F_{04} = 0$$

i.e. a Dirac monopole in the (x,y,z) subspace if $c\beta=-2/\pi$!

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- It turns out the use of an non-abelian monopole in place of the Dirac monopole is precisely what is needed to construct the non-abelian self-dual string solution.
- Here we have two candidates of non-abelian monopole: the Wu-Yang monopole (non-compact case) and the 't Hooft-Polyakov monopole (compact case).

Non-abelian Wu-Yang & 't Hooft-Polyakov monopole

Wu-Yang

• Consider SU(2) gauge group

$$[T^{a}, T^{b}] = i\epsilon^{abc}T^{c}, \quad a, b, c = 1, 2, 3.$$

• The non-abelian Wu-Yang monopole is given by

$$A_i^a = -\epsilon_{aik} \frac{x_k}{r^2}, \qquad F_{ij}^a = \epsilon_{ijm} \frac{x_m x_a}{r^4}, \qquad i, j = 1, 2, 3.$$

• Note that the field strength for the Wu-Yang solution is related to the field strength of the Dirac monopole by a simple relation:

$$F_{ij}^a = F_{ij}^{(\text{Dirac})} \frac{x^a}{r}.$$

• Note that the color magnetic charge vanishes

$$\int_{S^2} F^a = 0$$

and the Wu-Yang solution is actually not a monopole. Neverthless it plays a key role in the construction of non-abelian monopole of 't Hooft-Polyakov.

't Hooft-Polyakov

• In the BPS limit, the 't Hooft-Polyakov monopole satisfies

$$\frac{1}{2}\epsilon_{ijk}F_{ij}=D_k\phi,\quad D_k^2\phi=0$$

where ϕ is an adjoint Higgs scalar field.

• The solution is given by

$$A_i^a = -\epsilon_{aik} \frac{x^k}{r^2} (1 - k_v(r)), \qquad \phi^a = \frac{v x^a}{r} h_v(r),$$

where

$$k_v(r) := rac{vr}{\sinh(vr)}, \qquad h_v(r) := \coth(vr) - rac{1}{vr}$$

• Asymptotically $r \to \infty$, we have

$$A_i^a \to -\epsilon_{aik} \frac{x^k}{r^2}, \qquad \phi^a \to \frac{|v|x^a}{r} := \phi_\infty,$$

i.e. precisely the Wu-Yang monopole at infinity.

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• Unbroken U(1) gauge symmetry at infinity may be identified as the electromagnetic gauge group and the electromagnetic field strength can be obtained as a projection:

$$\mathcal{F}_{ij} = F_{ij}^{a} \frac{\phi^{a}}{|v|} = \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{x^{k}}{r^{3}}, \quad \text{for large } r.$$

The magnetic charge is given by $p = \int_{S^2} \mathcal{F} = 4\pi$, which corresponds to a magnetic monopole of unit charge.

• Note that at the core $r \rightarrow 0$, we have

$$A_i \to 0, \qquad \phi \to 0$$

and hence the SU(2) symmetry is restored at the monopole core.

- Although we do not have the full (2,0) supersymmetric theory, one can argue (a simple dimensional analysis) that the self-duality equation of motion is not modified by the presence of the scalar fields.
- As for the scalar field's EOM, the self-interacting potential vanishes if there is only one scalar field turned on (R-symmetry). As a result, the equation of motion of the scalar field is

$$D_M^2\phi=0.$$

• A reasonable form of the BPS equation is the non-abelian generalization of the BPS equation of Howe-Lambert-West:

$$H_{ijk} = \epsilon_{ijk} \partial_5 \phi, \qquad H_{ij5} = -\epsilon_{ijk} D_k \phi.$$

• This follows immediately from the supersymmetry transformation

$$\delta\psi = (\Gamma^{M}\Gamma^{\prime}D_{M}\phi^{\prime} + \frac{1}{3!2}\Gamma^{MNP}H_{MNP})\epsilon$$

and the 1/2 BPS condition

$$\Gamma^{046}\epsilon = -\epsilon.$$

Note: this is the most natural non-abelian generalization of the abelian (2,0) supersymmetry transformation.

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Non-abelian self-dual string solution

 Inspired by the relation of Dirac monopole to the Wu-Yang solution, try the ansatz

$$H^a_{\mu
u\lambda} = H^{(\mathrm{PS})}_{\mu
u\lambda} rac{x^a}{r}$$

Here $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$ and $H^{(PS)}_{\mu\nu\lambda}$ is the field strength for the linearized Perry-Schwarz solution aligning in the x^4 direction. Self-duality is automatically satisfied!

• B can be obtained by integrating $H_{\mu\nu5}=\partial_5 B_{\mu\nu}$ and we obtain

$$B^{a}_{\mu\nu}=B^{(\mathrm{PS})}_{\mu\nu}\frac{x^{a}}{r},$$

• It is amusing that the auxillary field configuration is given by

$$F^a_{ij} = -rac{ceta\pi}{2}rac{\epsilon_{ijm}x_mx_a}{r^4}, \qquad F^a_{tw} = 0.$$

This is the Wu-Yang monopole if we take $c\beta = -\frac{2}{\pi}$.

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• The BPS equation can be solved with

$$\phi^{\mathsf{a}} = -(u + \frac{\beta}{2\rho^2})\frac{x^{\mathsf{a}}}{r},$$

• The transverse distance $|\phi|$ defined by $|\phi|^2=\phi^a\phi^a$ gives

$$|\phi| = |u + \frac{\beta}{2\rho^2}|.$$

• This describes a system of M5-branes with a spike at $\rho = 0$ and level off to u as $\rho \to \infty$. Hence the physical interpretation of our self-dual string is that two M5-branes are separating by a distance u and with an M2-brane ending on them.



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• Asymptotic
$$U(1)$$
 B-field is ${\cal B}_{\mu
u}\equiv \hat{\phi}^a_\infty B^a_{\mu
u}=\pm B^{
m (PS)}_{\mu
u}$ and we obtain

$$P=Q=-\frac{4\pi}{|c|}.$$

Charge quantization

$$PQ' + QP' = 2\pi Z$$

fixes

$$c = \pm 4\sqrt{\pi}$$

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- One may generalize the above to a system of N_5 coincident M5-branes with a spike with N_2 self-dual strings.
- We find the spike

$$\phi|=u+\frac{N_2}{N_5}\frac{1}{\rho^2}.$$

The N_2 , N_5 dependence agree precisely with the supergravity solution for intersecting M2-M5 branes. (Niarchos, Siampos)

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- I. We have constructed a non-abelian action of tensor fields that we propose to be the bosonic theory describing the gauge sector of coincident M5-branes in flat space.
- II. We have also constructed the non-abelian string solutions of the theory. By including a scalar field, we argue how the solution can be promoted to become a solution of the (2,0) theory. This provides dynamical support to our proposed theory.

Further questions

- Supersymmetry: (2,0)? (1,0)? Scalar potential and BPS equation?
- Covariant PST extension of our model?
- Other solutions? M-wave (in progress with Isono)
- Classical integrability? (as compared to 4d self dual YM equation)
- Connection with other proposals? (such as deconstruction approach of Arkani-Hamad etal, instantonic quantum mechanics of Aharony etal, or the 5d SYM proposal of Douglas and Lambert etal?) Where is the *B*-field in these descriptions? (similar to the problem of extracting the gravity field in the BFSS matrix model?)