

Heterotic Twistor - String - Theory -

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based on work w/ Lionel Mason

+ Witten 0504078,

Nekrasov 0511008,

Katz + Sharpe 0406226,

Adams, Distler + Erniebjerg 0506263

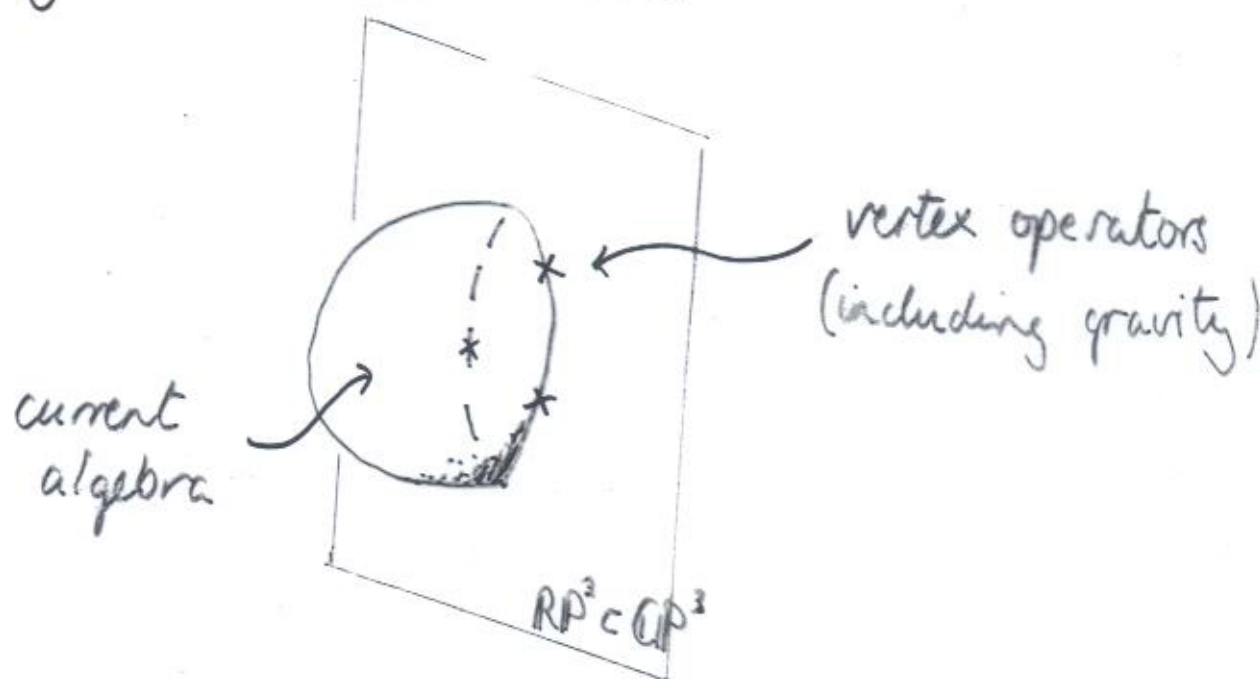
+ standard twistor-string papers.

Why heterotic?

1. GRAVITY

- Perturbatively, the open B-model does not contain gravity. We would appear to need to understand string field theory at a non-perturbative level.

- Gravity and YM arise perturbatively, but unusually in Berkovits' model



2. "UNIFIED VIEW" OF TWISTOR STRINGS

Heterotic

Witten
Dolbeault

Berkovits
Čech

5. OTHER PROBLEMS

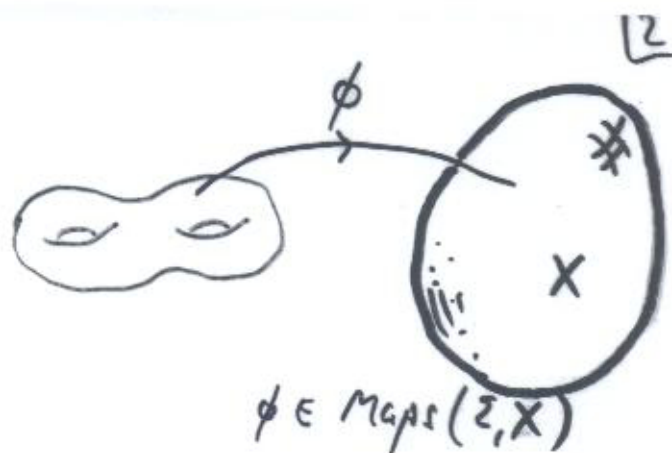
- Topological B-model on supermanifold
 - is $\mathbb{P}^{3|4}$ a CY threefold?
- Role of D1-D1 strings / other D-branes?
- Measure on curves $g \geq 1$
- Spacetime signature
-

• SLOGAN

"Just as low-energy limit of physical heterotic string is sugra + SYM, for topologically twisted heterotic string these states are all that survive"

Twisted (0,2) Basics, I

$$\phi: \Sigma \rightarrow X$$



Twisted (0,2) susy requires that we also introduce
 $\rho^i_{\bar{z}} \in \Gamma(\Sigma, \bar{K}_{\Sigma} \otimes \phi^* T_X)$ $\rho^{\bar{j}} \in \Gamma(\Sigma, \phi^* \bar{T}_X)$
 related to ϕ by the (0,2) transformations

$$\{\bar{Q}, \phi^i\} = 0$$

$$\{\bar{Q}, \rho^i_{\bar{z}}\} = \partial_{\bar{z}} \phi^i$$

$$\{\bar{Q}, \phi^{\bar{j}}\} = \rho^{\bar{j}}$$

$$\{\bar{Q}, \rho^{\bar{j}}\} = 0$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \{\bar{Q}^{\dagger}_{\bar{z}}, \phi^i\} = \rho^i_{\bar{z}} \\ \{\bar{Q}^{\dagger}_{\bar{z}}, \rho^i_{\bar{z}}\} = 0 \end{array} \right. \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \{\bar{Q}^{\dagger}_{\bar{z}}, \phi^{\bar{j}}\} = 0 \\ \{\bar{Q}^{\dagger}_{\bar{z}}, \rho^{\bar{j}}\} = \partial_{\bar{z}} \phi^{\bar{j}} \end{array} \right)$$

where $\{\bar{Q}, \bar{Q}^{\dagger}_{\bar{z}}\} = \partial_{\bar{z}}$, $\bar{Q}^2 = 0 = \bar{Q}^{\dagger}_{\bar{z}}{}^2$ and
 $\bar{Q}$ is a scalar operator $\Rightarrow$ BRST operator.

$\bar{Q}$ is the $\bar{\partial}$ operator on the
 space of maps $\Sigma \rightarrow X$ and $\bar{Q}$ -
 invariant configurations are holomorphic maps

Just as for the physical heterotic string, we can couple our sigma-model to a bundle $V \rightarrow X$ by introducing left-moving fermions

$$\Psi^a \in \Gamma(\Sigma, \phi^* V) \quad \bar{\Psi}_{a\bar{z}} \in \Gamma(\Sigma, K_\Sigma \otimes \phi^* V^\vee)$$

with $(0,2)$ transformations

$$\{\bar{Q}, \Psi^a\} = 0 \quad \{\bar{Q}, \bar{\Psi}_{a\bar{z}}\} = \bar{r}_{a\bar{z}}$$

$$\{\bar{Q}, r_{\bar{z}}^a\} = \partial_{\bar{z}} \Psi^a + F_{i\bar{j}}^a \Psi^b \rho_{\bar{z}}^i \rho^{\bar{j}} \quad \{\bar{Q}, \bar{r}_{a\bar{z}}\} = 0$$

$(0,2)$ SUSY $\Rightarrow V$ a holomorphic bundle

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \int_{\Sigma} \left\{ \bar{Q}, g_{i\bar{j}} \rho_{\bar{z}}^i \partial_z \phi^{\bar{j}} + \bar{\Psi}_{a\bar{z}} r_{\bar{z}}^a \right\} d^2z \\ &= \int_{\Sigma} g_{i\bar{j}} \left(\partial_{\bar{z}} \phi^i \partial_z \phi^{\bar{j}} + \rho_{\bar{z}}^i \nabla_z \rho^{\bar{j}} \right) \\ &\quad + \bar{\Psi}_{a\bar{z}} \partial_{\bar{z}} \Psi^a + \bar{\Psi}_{a\bar{z}} F_{i\bar{j}}^a \Psi^b \rho_{\bar{z}}^i \rho^{\bar{j}} + \bar{r}_{a\bar{z}} r_{\bar{z}}^a \end{aligned}$$

- Can also add $\int \phi^*(\omega - iB)$ if $\bar{\partial}B = 0$
- Reduces to the A-model action if $V = T_X$ only using $\bar{Q}$ as the BRST operator
- In general ($\bar{\partial}B \neq 0$), target must be "Kähler + torsion"

Twistor Target

Could try $X = \mathbb{P}^{3|4}$ with no bundle,
but

- can't set $\bar{\Psi} = 0$ using D-branes
- have to understand $\bar{r}(= \delta \bar{\Psi})$
- dynamical fields

Another approach : choose $X = \mathbb{P}^3$, $V = \mathcal{O}(1)^{\oplus 4}$

Basic idea : $\Psi^a \in \Gamma(\Sigma, \phi^* \mathcal{O}(1)^{\oplus 4})$ are
exactly same type of field as Witten/Berkovits
use to describe odd directions of $\mathbb{P}^{3|4}$

$$\int_{\text{kin}}^{\phi} = \int_{\Sigma} |d^2 z| g_{i\bar{j}} \partial_{\bar{z}} \phi^i \partial_z \phi^{\bar{j}}$$

$$\int_{\text{kin}}^{\psi} = \int_{\Sigma} |d^2 z| \bar{\Psi}_{a\bar{z}} \partial_{\bar{z}} \Psi^a$$

'hybrid' σ -model / AX -system

□

Anomalies

$$S = \int \frac{d^2 z}{z} g_{ij} \rho^i_{\bar{z}} \bar{\nabla}_{\bar{z}} \rho^j + \bar{\Psi}_{a\bar{z}} D_{\bar{z}} \chi^a$$

chiral fermions $\rightarrow$ possible σ -model anomaly

$$\det'(\partial_{\phi^*} T_X) \det'(\bar{\partial}_{\psi^*} U) \in \Gamma(\mathbb{Z})$$

$$F(\mathbb{Z}) = \underbrace{\int \phi^*(ch_2(U) - ch_2(T_X))}_{\text{usual Green-Schwarz condition}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} c_1(T_X) \phi^*(c_1(U) - c_1(T_X))}_{\text{arises because of twisting}}$$

usual Green-Schwarz
condition

arises because of
twisting

When $X = \mathbb{P}^3$ and $U = \mathcal{O}(1)^{\oplus 4}$ we have

$$c(T_{\mathbb{P}^3}) = c(\mathcal{O}(1)^{\oplus 4}) \text{ for all Chern classes}$$

$$\text{c.f. } ch_0(T_{\mathbb{P}^3/4}) = -1, \quad ch_i(T_{\mathbb{P}^3/4}) = 0 \quad i \geq 1$$

so no σ -model anomaly.

Aside: for A-model, $U = T_X$ so always anomaly-free,
for B-model, $U = T_X^*$ so anom. free iff $c_1(T_X) = 0$

Global symmetries

	ϕ	ρ	$\bar{\rho}$	ψ	$\bar{\psi}$	r	$\bar{r}$
$U(1)_R$	-	-1	+1	.	-	-1	+1
$U(1)_F$	-	.	.	+1	-1	+1	-1

$$U(1)_R : \text{ind } \bar{\partial}_{\phi^* T_{P^2}} = 4d + 3(1-g)$$

$$U(1)_F : \text{ind } \bar{\partial}_{\phi^* \mathcal{O}(1)^{\otimes 2}} = 4(d+1-g)$$

Generically, have $4(d+1-g)$ zero modes of ψ which must be absorbed by inserted vertex operators.

Vertex operator for SYM state of helicity h has $2h+2$ associated ψ s (see later...).

Amplitudes with n_h external SYM states of helicity h generically supported on curves of degree

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{d = g - 1 + \sum \frac{h+1}{2} n_h}$$

If $\phi: \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^3$ is holomorphic, nearby map $\phi + \delta\phi$ is too iff $\delta\phi \in H^0(\Sigma, \phi^* T_{\mathbb{P}^3})$.

But $\bar{\rho}$ zero-mode is an anticommuting element of $H^0(\Sigma, \phi^* T_{\mathbb{P}^3})$

$\bar{\rho}$ zero modes $\iff$ $(0,1)$ forms on $\mathcal{M}$
(instanton moduli space)

At genus zero, can show $\bar{\mathcal{M}} = \mathbb{P}^{3+4d}$.

How do we interpret ψ zero-modes, which lie in $H^0(\Sigma, \phi^* V)$? Construct a sheaf $\mathcal{W}$ on $\mathcal{M}$ as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{M} \times \Sigma & \xrightarrow{\Phi} & \mathbb{P}^3 \\ \pi \downarrow & & \\ \mathcal{M} & & \end{array}$$

$$\mathcal{W}(U) = \pi_* \Phi^* V(U) = \Phi^* V(\pi^{-1}U) = H^0(U \times \Sigma, \Phi^* V)$$

By definition $\mathcal{W}|_{\Sigma} = H^0(\Sigma, \phi^* V)$

At genus zero, can show $W = \mathcal{O}_M(1)^{\oplus 4d+4}$,
and in particular

$$\left(\Lambda^{\text{top}} \mathcal{O}_M(1)^{\oplus 4d+4} \right)^{\vee} \simeq K_M$$

... analogue of $\mathbb{P}^{3+4d/4+4d}$ instanton
moduli space being super-CY.

More generally ($g > 0$) it is difficult to
describe either M or W explicitly, but can
still show $(\Lambda^{\text{top}} W)^{\vee} \simeq K_M$

$\Rightarrow$ instanton moduli spaces at $g \geq 1$
are still "super-CY", for fixed
worldsheet complex structure.

Vertex Operators in $\bar{Q}$ cohomology

$T_{\bar{z}\bar{z}} = g_{i\bar{j}} (\partial_{\bar{z}} \phi^i \partial_{\bar{z}} \phi^{\bar{j}} + \rho_{\bar{z}}^i \nabla_{\bar{z}} \rho^{\bar{j}}) = \{ \bar{Q}, g_{i\bar{j}} \rho_{\bar{z}}^i \partial_{\bar{z}} \phi^{\bar{j}} \}$
 so all the antiholomorphic Virasoro generators $\bar{L}_n$ are $\bar{Q}$ -exact.

$[\bar{L}_0, \mathcal{O}] = \bar{h} \mathcal{O}$, but if $\bar{L}_0 = \{ \bar{Q}, \bar{\xi}_0 \}$ then

$$\bar{h} \mathcal{O} = [\{ \bar{Q}, \bar{\xi}_0 \}, \mathcal{O}] = \underbrace{\{ \bar{Q}, [\bar{\xi}_0, \mathcal{O}] \}}_{\bar{Q}\text{-exact}} + \underbrace{\{ [\bar{Q}, \mathcal{O}], \bar{\xi}_0 \}}_{=0}$$

Conclude that $\bar{Q}$ cohomology is trivial except on states with $\bar{h} = 0$.

In the A- or B-model, similarly we'd find $h=0$, but here there is no holomorphic susy algebra, so all $h \geq 0$ are allowed

We've found an infinite tower of vertex operators - far too many for twistor-string theory - reflecting the fact that twisted $(0,2)$ theories are CFTs (albeit with special properties) and not TFTs.

Coupling to Yang-Mills

Introduce a new bundle $E \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^3$ and

$$\lambda^\alpha \in \Gamma(\Sigma, K_\Sigma^{1/2} \otimes \phi^* E)$$

$$\bar{\lambda}_\alpha \in \Gamma(\Sigma, K_\Sigma^{1/2} \otimes \phi^* E^\vee)$$

w/s spinors

$$S = \int_\Sigma |d^4z| \bar{\lambda}_\alpha D_\mu \lambda^\alpha + \bar{\lambda}_\alpha F_{ij}^\alpha \lambda^\beta \rho^i \rho^j \bar{\lambda}^\alpha (+ \text{auxiliary})$$

(0,2) susy requires $E \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^3$ holomorphic.

Conf invariance " $g^{i\bar{j}} F_{i\bar{j}} = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{c_1(E) = 0}$

No σ -model anomalies if $c_2(E) = 0$ also, implying the YM bundle on spacetime has no instantons.

In fact, we can couple heterotic twisted strings to instanton bundles.

- Heterotic strings contain NS branes
- ⇒ which couple magnetically to B-field.

Physical Heterotic Theory $\Rightarrow$ NS 5-branes

Twisted (0,2) on threefold $\Rightarrow$ NS 1-brane

If background contains an NS brane wrapping a 2-cycle $C \subset X$, Green-Schwarz condition is modified

$$dH = \overbrace{\text{tr } R^2 - \text{tr } F_V^2}^{\text{cancel}} - \text{tr } F_E^2 + \tilde{C}$$

where $[\tilde{C}] \in H^4(X, \mathbb{Z})$ is Poincaré dual to class of C .

$$\boxed{C_2(E) = [\tilde{C}]}$$

In fact, connection between twistor curves and YM instantons known to Atiyah + Ward, Hitchcock in '70s.

$$\text{eg } A = dx^\mu \sigma_{\mu\nu} \partial^\nu \log \Phi \quad ; \quad \Phi = \sum_{i=0}^K \frac{\lambda_i}{(x-x_i)^2}$$

$SU(2)$ 't Hooft K -instanton

$\Rightarrow$ wrap NS branes on twistor $\mathbb{P}^1$'s corresponding

- The $\bar{\lambda}\lambda$ system is precisely the current algebra on Witten's D-instantons or on Berkovits' worldsheet. It's incorporated very naturally in the heterotic framework.

- Get another vertex operator at $(h, \bar{h}) = (1, 0)$ and $U(1)_R$ charge $+1$:

$$\bar{\lambda}_\alpha A_{\bar{J} \bar{P}}^\alpha(\phi, \bar{\phi}, \psi) \lambda^{\bar{P}} \rho^{\bar{J}}$$

non-trivial in $\bar{Q}$ -homology iff

$$[\lambda] \neq 0 \in H^{0,1}(\mathbb{P}T', \text{End } E \otimes \wedge^1 V^v)$$

giving an $N=4$ SYM multiplet via Penrose transform.

- Henceforth choose E trivial, rank r , vanishing background connection (free current $\Rightarrow$ abelian)

Coupling to Worldsheet Gravity

(0,2) models inherently depend on a choice of complex structure on Σ .

$$T_{\bar{z}\bar{z}} = \{ \bar{Q}, g_{\bar{z}\bar{z}} \} \quad T_{zz} \neq \{ \bar{Q}, - \}$$

To integrate over moduli space $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$ we can use $g_{\bar{z}\bar{z}}$ as " $\bar{b}$ -antighosts" to provide a top antiholomorphic form on $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$, but need to introduce holomorphic reparametrization ghosts $c \in \Gamma(\Sigma, T_\Sigma)$ $b \in \Gamma(\Sigma, K_\Sigma \otimes K_\Sigma)$

(Related fact: (0,2) models are only "half topological")

$$Q_{\text{BRST}} = Q_{\text{phys}} + \bar{Q}$$

$Q_{\text{BRST}}^2 = 0$ requires $rk(E) = 28$ (as per Berkovits). Exactly analogous to $c_{YM} = 16$ in physical heterotic string. Troubling result!!!

	Physical Heterotic	Twistor String
c_{YM}	16	28
spacetime field theory	$SO(32), E_8 \times E_8,$ $E_8 \times U(1)^{248}, U(1)^{496}$	$SU(2) \times U(1)$ $U(1)^4$
modular invariance	$SO(32), E_8 \times E_8$	?

- Change level of current algebra ?
- Include additional fields to make up c ?
- Avoid introducing bc system so requirement becomes $c_{YM} = 2$? (... sits well with $U(1)^4$)

Clear that modular invariance is key test - at present, $g > 0$ twistor strings seem not to be SYM + Conf. SUSRA, but just plain inconsistent!

16] ... perhaps that's not such a bad thing!

Amplitudes

(Fixed) vertex operators in the string theory must be $\text{diff} \times \text{Weyl}$ invariant (so must have $(h, \bar{h}) = (0, 0)$) and linear in the c -ghost.

$$V_{\text{string}} = c^z U_z$$

$\nwarrow$ σ -model vertex operator
of $(h, \bar{h}) = (1, 0)$

eg
$$V_{\text{YM}} = c \bar{\lambda}_\alpha A_{\bar{j}}(\phi, \bar{\phi}, \psi)^\alpha_{\bar{j}} \lambda^\alpha \rho^{\bar{j}}$$

Out of the entire sheaf of chiral algebras, only these moduli survive as vertex operators in the string theory.

There's a standard 'descent' procedure to produce an integrated vertex operator, involving both the $\bar{Q}_z^+$ supercharge and b antighost zero-mode.

$\square$

Wish to compute

$$\langle V_{YM}^1 \dots V_{YM}^n \rangle$$

$$\stackrel{?}{=} \int [d\Phi] e^{-S} \prod_{i=1}^{3g-3+n} (\mu^i, b) (\bar{\mu}^i, \bar{q}) \\ \times V_{YM}^1 \dots V_{YM}^n$$

Anomaly in bc-system ghost number:

$$\text{ind } \bar{\partial}_{T_E} = 3 - 3g$$

completely absorbed by $3g-3+n$ factors of (μ^i, b) together with n vertex operators.

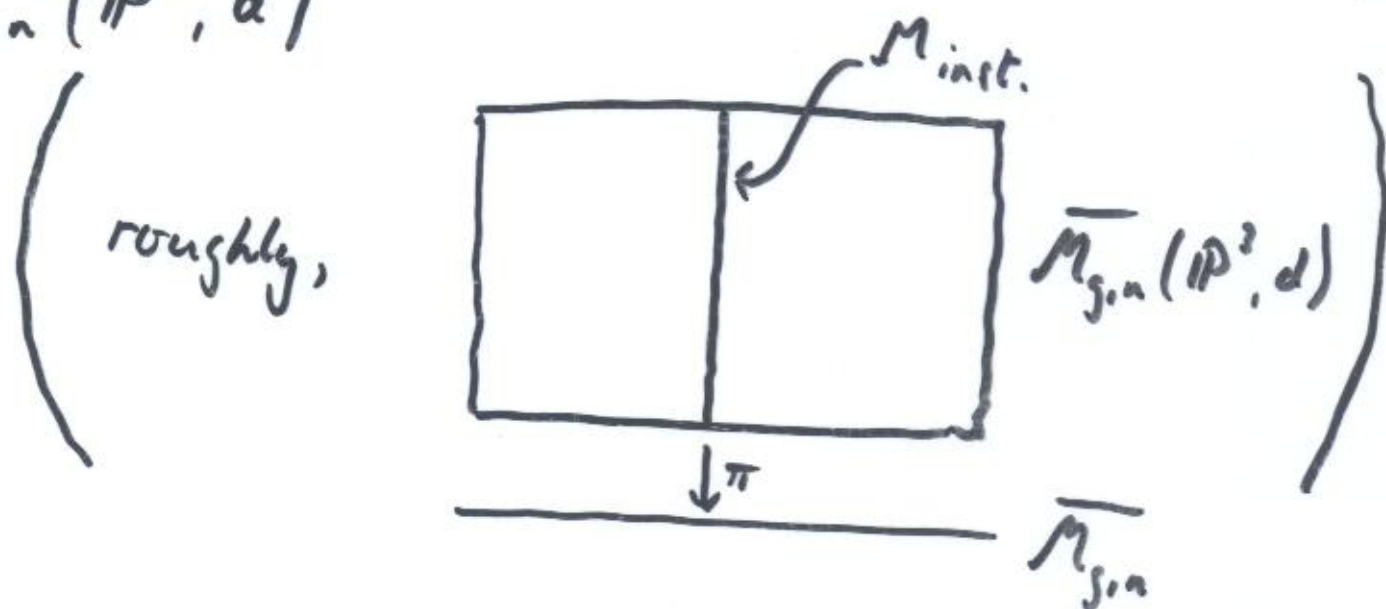
Anomaly in $U(1)_R$ (or $(0,2)$ ghost number):

$$\text{ind } \bar{\partial}_{\phi^* T_{P^2}} = 3 - 3g + 4d$$

but now anomaly of $4d$ still remains.

Easy to interpret : path integral of zero modes is over "moduli space of stable maps"

$$\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}(\mathbb{P}^3, d)$$



Easy to compute $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(\mathbb{P}^3, d) = 4d$.

- Path integral provides a $(4d, 0)$ -form on this moduli space.

- Should be integrating over a half-dimensional real slice - i.e. a contour.

How do we implement this in the path integral?

- Pick a contour of appropriate dimension and find Poincaré dual.
- This $4d$ -form will have a $(0, 4d)$ component $\Gamma_{\bar{A}_1 \dots \bar{A}_{4d}} d\bar{t}^{\bar{A}_1} \wedge \dots \wedge d\bar{t}^{\bar{A}_{4d}}$
- Pick a basis of $\bar{\rho}$ zero-modes $\{\bar{\rho}^{\bar{A}}\}$ with $\bar{\rho}^{\bar{J}} = \bar{\rho}^{\bar{A}} \frac{\partial \phi^{\bar{J}}}{\partial \bar{t}^{\bar{A}}}$; ϕ holomorphic
- Insert

$$\Gamma := \Gamma_{\bar{A}_1 \dots \bar{A}_{4d}} \bar{\rho}^{\bar{A}_1} \dots \bar{\rho}^{\bar{A}_{4d}}$$

into path integral

The remaining anomaly is now saturated, and the path integral reduces to an integral over the contour. From here on, can follow the calculation word-for-word

Is there a more systematic way to include the contour?

Contour is real slice of $\overline{M}_{g,0}(\mathbb{P}^3, d)$,
and at $d=0$ is just a real slice of
complexified spacetime.

Given real structures on Σ and on
 $\mathbb{P}^3$ we can induce a preferred real structure
on the (moduli) space of maps by considering
only equivariant maps

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Sigma & \xrightarrow{\text{c.c.}} & \Sigma \\ \phi \downarrow & & \downarrow \phi \\ \mathbb{P}^3 & \xrightarrow{\text{c.c.}} & \mathbb{P}^3 \end{array}$$

Simplest example $z^{\mu} \mapsto \bar{z}^{\mu}$, $z \mapsto 1/\bar{z}$

- Fixes $\mathbb{RP}^3 \subset \mathbb{CP}^3$

$$S' \subset \mathbb{P}' \quad (g=0)$$

- Equivariant maps must have

$$\phi(\partial\Sigma) \rightarrow \mathbb{RP}^3$$

with vertex operators inserted only on $\partial\Sigma$

- Amounts to orientifold projection of the string theory, with $\mathbb{RP}^3$ an orientifold fixed plane (not a D-brane!)

Also possible to construct a projection giving Euclidean signature (though less successful)

Not possible to get Lorentz signature this way

Relation to Berkovits' model

$$\int_{D \subset \mathbb{C}} dz \wedge d\bar{z} \delta^2(z, \bar{z}) f(z) = \frac{i}{2\pi} \oint_{\Gamma} \frac{f(z)}{z} dz$$

$$= \frac{i}{2\pi} \int_{|z|=r} f(re^{i\theta}) d\theta$$

We'd like a path integral analogue of the second integral above so as to apply Cauchy's th^d

standard relation (Witten, Nekrasov)

$(0, 2)$ models $\Leftrightarrow$ $\beta\gamma$ systems

Consider sigma model $\phi: \Sigma \rightarrow U \subset \mathbb{P}^3$
for U a contractible open patch. Within
 U can choose flat metric $g_{ij} = \delta_{ij}$ and

$$H^{0,p}(U, \cdot) = 0 \quad \text{for } p > 0$$

$\Rightarrow$ non-trivial vertex operators are independent of $\bar{\rho}$ and may equally well be constructed from the action

$$S' = \int \frac{d^2z}{2} \beta_{i\bar{j}} \partial_{\bar{z}} \gamma^i + \bar{\Psi}_{a\bar{z}} \partial_{\bar{z}} \psi^a$$

where $\gamma^i = \phi^i$, $\beta_{i\bar{j}} = \delta_{ij} \partial_{\bar{z}} \phi^{\bar{j}}$.

Note that target space susy has been restored.

Obtain full theory by piecing together such $\beta\gamma$ systems over the whole target, subject to consistency conditions on the overlaps.

Higher vertex operators represented by hol functions on overlaps that ~~cannot~~ be split into difference of two holomorphic f 's on open sets.

A QFT version of Čech - Dolbeault isomorphism

Towards the Googly Problem?

Stringy vertex operators $\Leftrightarrow$ Cohomology grps on $P\mathbb{T}^2 \Leftrightarrow$ Sol^s of LINEARIZED field equations

However, descendant vertex operators give infinitesimal deformations of the worldsheet action

eg. $c\delta A_{\bar{J}}^{\alpha} \bar{\lambda}_{\alpha} \lambda^{\rho} \rho^{\bar{J}}$ pointlike vertex operator for δA



$$\delta S = \int_{\Sigma} \bar{\lambda}_{\alpha} \phi^* (\delta A)_{\bar{J}}^{\alpha} \lambda^{\rho} + \bar{\lambda}_{\alpha} (D_{\bar{J}} \delta A_{\bar{J}})^{\alpha} \lambda^{\rho} \rho^{\bar{J}}$$

integrated (1,1)-form descendant

so, just as in the A- and B- models, we have

Stringy vertex operators $\Leftrightarrow$	Tangent space to "moduli space of (0,2) model"
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What is this moduli space? With a non-trivial B-field, target space of (0,2) model must be "Kähler + torsion", or a twisted generalized complex manifold. (Hitchin, Gualtieri)

Can get some insight as follows:

When integrating out non-zero modes from $(0,2)$ path integral (in physical gauge) one meets the expression

$$\exp\left(i\int_{\mathcal{C}} B\right) \frac{\det(\bar{\partial}_{\epsilon})}{\det(\bar{\partial}_{N_{\mathcal{C}}/\mathbb{P}^{3/4}})}.$$

On shell with fixed background, this ratio is just a constant (provided $c_{\text{YM}} = 28$) but in SFT natural to consider how this object varies as f^2 of background $J, H, \bar{\partial} + A$.

This is exactly the way instanton corrections to spacetime ($d=4$) superpotential are computed in the physical heterotic string.

Precisely this type of structure is also found in twistor space "lift" of CSUGRA action.