

# FIELD THEORY ACTIONS FOR AMBITWISTOR STRINGS\*

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*Strings - 09/07/2019*  
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## MOTIVATION

- CHY developed a string-like formulae for calculating tree-level amplitudes for  $n$  massless particles. (integral over moduli space of  $n$ -punctured Riemann sphere)
- Mason & Skinner introduced the ambitwistor string as a way to derive CHY formulas from a worldsheet perspective, then was extended to loops and pure spinor version
- Siegel introduced an approach closely related to standard string theory, by considering a singular gauge limit and a change in the worldsheet boundary conditions
- Toy model to study string field theory / New ways to evaluate Feynman diagrams in field theory

# AMBITWISTOR CRASH-COURSE

Gauge fixed action:

$$S = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int d^2z \left( \underbrace{P_m \bar{\partial} X^m}_{(1,0) \text{ Bosonic}} + \underbrace{b \bar{\partial} c + \tilde{b} \bar{\partial} \tilde{c}}_{(2,-1)} + \overbrace{\psi_1 \bar{\partial} \psi_1 + \beta_1 \bar{\partial} \gamma_1}^{\text{Type II}} + \underbrace{\psi_2 \bar{\partial} \psi_2 + \beta_2 \bar{\partial} \gamma_2}_{\text{Heterotic}} \right) + \underbrace{S_J}_{\text{Heterotic}}$$

(1/2)
(3/2, -1/2)

XX trivial OPE  $\rightarrow e^{ikX}$  No anomalous dimension

null constraint

BRST operator:

$$Q = \oint \frac{dz}{2\pi i} \left( cT^M + cT_{\tilde{b}\tilde{c}} + cT_{\beta_1\gamma_1} + cT_{\beta_2\gamma_2} + bc\partial c + \frac{1}{2}\tilde{c}P^2 + \gamma_1 P \cdot \psi_1 + \gamma_2 P \cdot \psi_2 - \gamma_1^2 \tilde{b} - \gamma_2^2 \tilde{b} \right)$$

$$Q^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \dim = \begin{cases} 26, \\ 10, \\ \frac{2}{5}(41 - c_j), \end{cases}$$

Bosonic

Type II

Heterotic

Does not describe the massless string spectrum

$$\bar{\delta}(k \cdot P)$$

SO(32) : 16

# BOSONIC SPECTRUM

Vertex operator with ghost number two:

$$V(z) = c\tilde{c}P_m P_n \mathbf{g}^{mn} + c\tilde{c}\partial X_m \partial X_n \mathbf{f}^{mn} + c\tilde{c}P_{(m} \partial X_{n)} \mathbf{r}^{mn} + c\tilde{c}P_{[m} \partial X_{n]} \mathbf{b}^{mn}$$

EOM:  $\square \mathbf{g}_{mn} = \partial^m \mathbf{g}_{mn} = 0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{A}_3(k_1, k_2, k_3) \propto k^6$

The amplitude does not describe gravity

The amplitude suggests a kinetic term proportional to  $k^6$

If you allow the vertex operator depend on  $\partial X$

$$Q_{brst} V(z) = 0$$

Sketch of the cohomology

EOM:  $\mathbf{r}_{mn} \propto \square \mathbf{g}_{mn}$ ,  $\mathbf{f}_{mn} \propto \square \mathbf{r}_{mn}$  and  $\square \mathbf{f}_{mn} = 0$

auxiliary fields

$$\square^3 \mathbf{g}_{mn} = 0$$

Kalb-Ramond field

$$\begin{aligned} \square \mathbf{b}_{mn} &= 0 \\ \partial^m \mathbf{b}_{mn} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

## KINETIC TERM: BOSONIC

$$S[\Psi] = \frac{1}{2} \langle \Psi | c_0 Q \Psi \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \langle I \circ V(0) | \partial c Q V(0) \rangle$$

Similar to closed string field theory

BPZ conjugate

$$\langle \Psi | = \langle 0 | I \circ V(0)$$

$$I(z) = 1/z.$$

Constraints

$$L_0 |\Psi\rangle = b_0 |\Psi\rangle = 0.$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \langle \Psi | (c_0 - \bar{c}_0) Q \Psi \rangle$$

Using normalization:  $\langle c_{-1} c_0 c_1 \tilde{c}_{-1} \tilde{c}_0 \tilde{c}_1 \rangle = 1$

Kalb-Ramond Field strength:

Action after a field redefinition:

$$S = - \int d^{26}x \left[ \frac{1}{2} h^{mn} \square^2 \left( R_{mn} - \frac{1}{2} \eta_{mn} R \right) - \phi R + (H^{mnp} H_{mnp}) \right]$$

almost gravity

$$\delta h_{mn} = \partial_{(m} \lambda_{n)}, \quad \delta \phi = 0, \quad \delta b_{mn} = \partial_{[m} \omega_{n]}$$

## TYPE II-NS

GSO(+): gravity + dilation + Kalb-Ramond

$$(e^{-\phi_1}, \psi_1^m) \rightarrow (-e^{-\phi_1}, -\psi_1^m)$$

$$V_{GSO+}^{-1} = e^{-\phi_1} e^{-\phi_2} c\tilde{c} (h_{mn} \psi_1^{(m} \psi_2^{n)} + b_{mn} \psi_1^{[m} \psi_2^{n]}) + \eta_1 \partial \xi_2 e^{-2\phi_2} c\tilde{c}s + \dots$$

Action:

$$S_+ = - \int d^{10}x \left[ \frac{1}{2} h^{mn} \left( R_{mn} - \frac{1}{2} \eta_{mn} R \right) - \phi R + (H^{mnp} H_{mnp}) \right]$$

GSO(-): gauge field + Kalb-Ramond + ...

$$V_{GSO-}^{-1} = e^{-\phi_1} e^{-\phi_2} c\tilde{c} (c_{mn} \psi_1^m \psi_1^n + d_{mn} \psi_2^m \psi_2^n + \partial X^m A_m) + \dots$$

$$b_{mn}^{\pm} = c_{mn} \pm d_{mn}$$

Action:

$$S_- = - \frac{1}{2} \int d^{10}x [H^{-mnp} H_{mnp}^- + H^{+mnp} H_{mnp}^+ + b^{+mn} \partial_{[m} A_{n]}]$$

Gauge trans:  $\delta b_{mn}^- = \partial_{[m} \sigma_{n]}, \quad \delta A_m = \partial_m \rho, \quad \delta b_{mn}^+ = 0$

# HETEROTIC - RNS

The theory contain **higher** derivative terms and has N=1 supersymmetry

Neveu- Schwarz sector:

$$V_{NS}^{-1} = e^{-\phi} c\tilde{c} \left[ g_{mn} P^{(m} \psi^{n)} + b_{[mn]} \partial x^m \psi^n + s \partial x^m \psi_m + C_{mnp} \psi^m \psi^n \psi^p + J^a \psi^m A_m^a \right] + \dots$$

Super Yang-Mills

$$S = - \int d^{10}x \left[ \frac{1}{2} h^{mn} \square \left( R_{mn} - \frac{1}{2} \eta_{mn} R \right) - \phi R + \frac{1}{4} \text{Tr}(F^{mn} F_{mn}) + \right. \\ \left. - C^{mnp} H_{mnp} + \frac{1}{2} C^{mnp} \left( \square C_{mnp} - \frac{1}{2} \partial_{[p} \partial^r C_{mn]r} \right) \right]$$

$$\delta h_{mn} = \partial_{(m} \lambda_{n)}, \quad \delta \phi = 0, \quad \delta b_{mn} = \partial_{[m} \omega_{n]}, \quad \delta C_{mnp} = 0, \quad \delta A_m = \partial_m \rho$$

Not gravity / Conf. Gravity

Ramond sector:

$$V_R^{-1/2} = c\tilde{c} S_\alpha e^{-\phi/2} \partial x^m \mathbf{C}_m^\alpha + c\tilde{c} S_\alpha e^{-\phi/2} P_m \mathbf{D}^{m\alpha} + c\tilde{c} \partial \tilde{c} \partial \xi S^\alpha e^{-3\phi/2} \mathbf{I}_\alpha + c\tilde{c} S_\beta e^{-\phi/2} J^a \chi^{a\beta}$$

$$S_R = - \int d^{10}x \left[ \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{d}^{m\alpha} \square \left( (\gamma^n \mathbf{F}_{mn})_\alpha - \frac{1}{2} (\gamma_m)_{\alpha\beta} (\gamma^{rs} \mathbf{F}_{rs})^\beta \right) + \frac{1}{2} (\gamma_m)_{\alpha\beta} (\gamma^{rs} \mathbf{F}_{rs})^\beta \mathbf{i}_\alpha - \frac{i}{2} \text{Tr} \left( \chi \not{\partial} \chi \right) \right]$$

$$\mathbf{F}_{mn}^\alpha = \partial_{[m} \mathbf{d}_{n]}^\alpha$$

$$\delta \mathbf{d}_m^\alpha = \partial_m \lambda^\alpha, \quad \delta \mathbf{i}_\alpha = 0$$

## CONCLUSIONS / OPEN PROBLEMS

- Type II GSO(+) and Heterotic Yang-Mills agrees with string theory. Bosonic / Heterotic (gravity) does not, but have a similar and interesting structure ( higher derivative )
- Still missing an interpretation for these theories
- Why does not agree with string theory\* / How can it be derived from usual closed string theory\*\* ?
- How to construct ambitwistor like models in curved spacetime (adS) ?

\*Null origin of the ambitwistor ( E.Cassali, P.Tourkine) :1606.05636

\*\*Left-handed string (W.Siegel): 1512.02569



# HETEROTIC - SUSY

$$S = - \int d^{10}x \left[ \frac{1}{2} h^{mn} \square \left( R_{mn} - \frac{1}{2} \eta_{mn} R \right) - \phi R + \frac{1}{4} \text{Tr}(F^{mn} F_{mn}) + \right. \\ \left. - C^{mnp} H_{mnp} + \frac{1}{2} C^{mnp} \left( \square C_{mnp} - \frac{1}{2} \partial_{[p} \partial^r C_{mn]r} \right) \right]$$

$$S_R = - \int d^{10}x \left[ \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{d}^{m\alpha} \square \left( (\gamma^n \mathbf{F}_{mn})_\alpha - \frac{1}{2} (\gamma_m)_{\alpha\beta} (\gamma^{rs} \mathbf{F}_{rs})^\beta \right) + \frac{1}{2} (\gamma_m)_{\alpha\beta} (\gamma^{rs} \mathbf{F}_{rs})^\beta \mathbf{i}_\alpha - \frac{i}{2} \text{Tr}(\chi \not{\partial} \chi) \right]$$

$$Q_\alpha^{-1/2} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint dz S_\alpha e^{-\phi_6/2}$$

Susy transformations:

$$\delta_\zeta h_{mn} = 2\zeta \gamma_{(m} \mathbf{d}_{n)}$$

$$\delta_\zeta \phi = \zeta \mathbf{i}$$

$$\delta_\zeta C_{mnp} = -3(\zeta \gamma_{t[mn} \mathbf{F}_{p]}^t) - 3(\zeta \gamma_{[m} \mathbf{F}_{np]})$$

$$\delta_\zeta b_{mn} = -2\square(\zeta \gamma_{[m} \mathbf{d}_{n]}) - (\zeta \gamma_{mn} \mathbf{i}) + \frac{1}{6}(\zeta \gamma_{mn} \partial_p \mathbf{F}^p)$$

$$\delta_\zeta A_m^a = \frac{i}{2}(\zeta \gamma_m \chi^a).$$

$$\delta_\zeta \mathbf{d}_m^\alpha = +(\gamma^{rs} \zeta)^\alpha \partial_s h_{mr} - 2(\gamma^{np} \zeta)^\alpha C_{mnp} + \frac{1}{3}(\gamma_{mnp} \zeta) C^{mps}$$

$$\delta_\zeta \mathbf{i}_\alpha = 2(\not{\partial} \zeta)_\alpha t - (\gamma^{mnp} \zeta)_\alpha H_{mnp} + \frac{1}{3}(\gamma^{mnp} \zeta)_\alpha \square C_{mnp}$$

$$\delta_\zeta \chi^{a\beta} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{mn} (\gamma^{mn} \zeta)^\beta$$

\*\*Pure spinor: Max Guillen