

SUSY and the brane: A σ -model story

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in collaboration with A. Sevrin and A. Wijns

based on: [0709.3733](#), [0809.3659](#), [0908.2756](#)

Vrije Universiteit Brussel and The International Solvay Institutes

07 September 2009, Zürich

Outline

Prologue

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The story of the Closed String

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- physics: Stringy description of flux compactifications without RR fluxes
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Here: Include **D-branes** in general NSNS background preserving half of the (world-sheet) SUSY

- physics: D-branes \sim gauge d.o.f and chiral matter (intersecting)
- mathematics: D-branes \sim subspaces of Generalized Kähler Geometry

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SUSY \rightarrow **Superspace**:

1. exhibits the relation between (extended) SUSY on world-sheet and (generalized) complex geometry on target space
2. facilitates the analysis
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Purpose of this talk

D-branes on Generalized Kähler Geometries using 2 dim SUSY σ -models in boundary superspace

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Σ : (super)world-sheet with coordinates

- (bosonic) light-cone coordinates: $\sigma^{\pm} \equiv \tau \pm \sigma$, $\sigma^{\mp} \equiv \tau - \sigma$
- (fermionic) coordinates θ^+ , θ^- with derivatives:
$$D_+^2 = -\frac{i}{2}\partial_{\mp} , \quad D_-^2 = -\frac{i}{2}\partial_{=} , \quad \{D_+, D_-\} = 0$$

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\mathcal{M} : target manifold with local coordinates X^a , $a \in \{1, \dots, d\}$

- metric $g_{ab}(X)$
- Closed 3-form (torsion) $H_{abc}(X)$, locally: $H_{abc} = -\frac{3}{2}\partial_{[a}B_{bc]}$
extra gauge symmetry $B \rightarrow B + dA$
- 2 connections $\Gamma_{(\pm)bc}^a \equiv \{^a_{bc}\} \pm H^a{}_{bc}$, **but** $\Gamma_{(+)bc}^a = \Gamma_{(-)cb}^a$

The action and extended SUSY

Using $\mathcal{N} = (1,1)$ superspace the action is simply

$$\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{N}=(1,1)} = \int d^2\sigma d^2\theta (G_{ab} + B_{ab}) D_+ X^a D_- X^b$$

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Additional world-sheet SUSY? [Alvarez-Gaumé - Freedman (1981);
Gates-Hull-Roček (1984)]

$$\delta X^a = \epsilon^+ J_{(+)b}^a(X) D_+ X^b + \epsilon^- J_{(-)b}^a(X) D_- X^b$$

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$\Rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ characterized by $(G_{ab}, H_{abc}, J_{\pm})$: Bihermitian Geometry or Generalized Kähler Geometry [Gualtieri math/0401221]

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 3. **SEMI-CHIRAL** $[J_{(+)}, J_{(-)}] \neq 0$: (l, \bar{l}, r, \bar{r})

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- toy examples: $T^4, SU(2) \times U(1)$

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- WZW model $SU(2) \times U(1)$ with $H \neq 0$
 - 1 chiral + 1 twisted chiral [Roček, Schoutens, Sevrin '91]
 - 1 Semi-chiral [Sevrin-Troost hep-th/9610102]

Conclusions for the closed string

- Extended SUSY on the world-sheet



Complex structure(s) on the target space

⇒ Target space geometry: $(G, H, J_{(\pm)})$

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- Conditions on target space geometry: solved in terms of a generalized Kähler potential V
- V is a real function of chiral, twisted chiral and semi-chiral superfields
- examples: T^{2n} , $SU(2) \times U(1)$, $D \times T^2$, $SU(2) \times SU(2)$,...

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Related and complementary work

- [Ooguri-Oz-Yin [hep-th/9606112](#)]

From $\mathcal{N} = (2,2)$ SCFT \rightarrow $\mathcal{N} = 2$ Boundary SCFT

\Rightarrow Boundary conditions: lagrangian (A) and holomorphic (B) branes

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$\mathcal{N} = 2$ boundary superfields

[Sevrin-WS-Wijns 0709.3733, 0809.3659, 0908.2756]

- boundary at $\sigma = 0, \theta' = 0, \hat{\theta}' = 0 : \mathcal{N} = (2, 2) \rightarrow \mathcal{N} = 2$
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- \Rightarrow possible spectrum of D-branes depends on field content

D-brane spectrum

Example: 4 dim target spaces T^4 , $SU(2) \times U(1)$, ...

field content	Geometry	spectrum
C C	Kähler	D0, D2, D4
C T	$[J_+, J_-] = 0$	D1, D3
T T	Kähler	D2, D4
S	$[J_+, J_-] \neq 0$	D2, D4

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Explicit examples:

- D1- and D3-branes on T^4 and $SU(2) \times U(1)$ [Sevrin-WS-Wijns: 0809.3659]
- D2- and D4-branes on T^4 and $SU(2) \times U(1)$ [Sevrin-WS-Wijns: 0908.2756]

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- most general $\mathcal{N} = 2$ action

$$\mathcal{S} = - \int d^2\sigma d\theta d\hat{\theta} D' \hat{D}' V(z, w, l, r) + i \int d\tau d\theta d\hat{\theta} W(z, w, l, r)$$

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- variation w.r.t. various superfields: $B_A \sim i \partial_A V$

$$\delta \mathcal{S}_{\text{boundary}} = i \int d\tau d^2\theta \left\{ \delta \Lambda^\alpha \bar{\mathbb{D}}' B_\alpha + \delta \Lambda^{\bar{\alpha}} \mathbb{D}' B_{\bar{\alpha}} + B_a \delta X^a + \delta W \right\}$$

- imposing appropriate boundary conditions: $\delta \mathcal{S}_{\text{boundary}} = 0$
- ⇒ Geometric properties of D-brane

Boundary analysis

Main message

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 - twisted chiral + semi-chiral \rightarrow lagrangian and coisotropic branes w.r.t. $\Omega^{(-)} \equiv 2G(J_+ - J_-)^{-1}$
 - general case \rightarrow not symplectic ?!

D3, D2 and D4 on T^4

- $ds^2 = dzd\bar{z} + dwd\bar{w}$, $H = 0 \rightarrow V = z\bar{z} - w\bar{w}$

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- T-dualization: $(z, w) \leftrightarrow (l, r)$
 $a = 1 \rightarrow$ D2-brane (lagrangian)
 $a \neq 1 \rightarrow$ D4-brane (coisotropic)

Outline

Prologue

The story of the Closed String

The story of the Open String

Conclusions and Outlook

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- Certain D-brane configurations are possible due to presence of worldvolume gauge field (can always be obtained in $\mathcal{N} = 2$ Boundary Superspace)
- T-Duality transformations \sim method to construct non-trivial examples of D-branes (e.g. $D4_c$ on T^4 , $SU(2) \times U(1)$, $D \times T^2$)

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- β -function in $\mathcal{N} = 2$ boundary superspace \rightarrow stability conditions for D-branes (in casu coisotropic branes)

To be continued...

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- boundary variation w.r.t. $X^a : (l, \bar{l}, r, \bar{r}, w, \bar{w})$

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 - all Neumann: $\hat{D}X^a = K^a_b(X) DX^b$
 \rightarrow complex structure $K + U(1)$ flux $F_{ab} = \Omega_{ac}^{(-)} K^c_b$,
 $\text{brane}^\perp = \{0\}$ $\dim \text{brane} > \frac{1}{2} \dim \text{target space}$

T-Duality in $\mathcal{N}=(2,2)$ Superspace

based on: [Gates-Hull-Roček '84], [Buscher '87], [Grisaru-Massar-Sevrin-Troost hep-th/9801080], etc.

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Tool to construct complicated (coisotropic) D-brane configurations

T-Duality in $\mathcal{N} = 2$ Boundary Superspace

Examples where $z \longleftrightarrow w$

[Sevrin-WS-Wijns: 0709.3733, 0809.3659, 0908.2756]

dual model	original model	dual model
D0 on \tilde{X}_4 $z_1 z_2$	D1 on X_4 $z w$	
D2 on \tilde{X}_4 $z_1 z_2$	D3 on X_4 $z w$	D2 _ℓ on \hat{X}_4 $w_1 w_2$
D4 on \tilde{X}_4 $z_1 z_2$		D4 _c on \hat{X}_4 $w_1 w_2$

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$$-i \ln \frac{w}{\bar{w}} = m_1 x + m_2 y, \quad x \equiv \ln(z\bar{z} + w\bar{w}), \quad y \equiv -i \ln \frac{z}{\bar{z}}$$

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 - 1 Dirichlet boundary condition

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D3 branes on $S^3 \times S^1$

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T-duality on the level of the boundary conditions

General facts

- T-duality

IIA String theory
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\leftrightarrow

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- magnetized Dp-brane \leftrightarrow rotated D(p-1)-brane

T-duality on the level of the action: basic idea

- based on: [Gates-Hull-Roček '84], [Buscher '87], [Alvarez-Barbon-Borlaf hep-th/9603089], [Roček-Verlinde hep-th/9110053]

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- e.g. Bosonic Sigma Model, $\mathcal{N}=(2,2)$ Sigma Model

T-Duality on the level of the action

To preserve isometry at boundary \rightarrow add boundary terms

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- original model on $S^1(R)$

$$\mathcal{S}_{original} = -\frac{1}{2} \int d^2\sigma \partial_\alpha X \partial^\alpha X$$

isometry: $X \rightarrow X + \text{constant}$

gauging: $\nabla_\alpha X = \partial_\alpha X + Y_\alpha$

Neumann boundary condition: $\partial_\sigma X = 0$

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- first order action

$$\mathcal{S}_{(1)} = \int d^2\sigma \left(-\frac{1}{2} \nabla_\alpha X \nabla^\alpha X + \tilde{X} \epsilon^{\alpha\beta} \partial_\beta Y_\alpha \right) - \int d\tau \tilde{X} Y_\tau$$

gauge choice: $\partial_\alpha X = 0 \rightarrow Y_\sigma = 0$ Neumann boundary

condition: $\nabla_\sigma X = 0$

Dirichlet boundary condition: $\delta \tilde{X} = 0$

gauge choice: $\partial_\alpha X = 0 \rightarrow Y_\sigma = 0$

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- Varying $Y_\alpha \rightarrow Y_\alpha = -\epsilon_\alpha^\beta \partial_\beta \tilde{X} \rightarrow$ dual model on $S^1(1/R)$
and boundary condition $Y_\sigma = \partial_\tau \tilde{X} = 0$ or $\delta \tilde{X} = 0$

$$S_{dual} = -\frac{1}{2} \int d^2\sigma \partial_\alpha \tilde{X} \partial^\alpha \tilde{X}$$

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- boundary term: $\int d\tau \tilde{X} \partial_\tau X$ introduced to preserve isometry
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- Note: D2-brane on T^2 with non-trivial magnetic flux F
 \rightarrow D1-brane on T^2 at an angle $\theta = \arctan F$

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- Note: same procedure for general string background
(including $B_{\mu\nu}$) with Killing-isometry \rightarrow Buscher rules

T-Duality in $\mathcal{N}=(2,2)$ Superspace: closed strings

chiral superfield: $\bar{\mathbb{D}}_{\pm} z = 0 + \text{c.c.}$

twisted chiral superfield $\bar{\mathbb{D}}_{+} w = 0 = \mathbb{D}_{-} w + \text{c.c.}$

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	chiral (z)	twisted chiral (w)
isometry	$z \rightarrow z + i\epsilon$	$w \rightarrow w + i\epsilon$
\mathbb{R} gauge field fieldstrengths	Y_z $\mathbb{D}_{-}\bar{\mathbb{D}}_{+}Y_z + \text{c.c.}$	Y_w $\bar{\mathbb{D}}_{-}\bar{\mathbb{D}}_{+}Y_w + \text{c.c.}$
potential	$\tilde{V} = V(Y_z) - (u + \bar{u})Y_z$ $u \equiv \bar{\mathbb{D}}_{+}\mathbb{D}_{-}\tilde{X}$	$\tilde{V} = V(Y_w) - (u + \bar{u})Y_w$ $u \equiv \bar{\mathbb{D}}_{+}\bar{\mathbb{D}}_{-}\tilde{X}$
varying \tilde{X}	$Y_z = z + \bar{z}$	$Y_w = w + \bar{w}$
varying Y	dual model u, \bar{u}	dual model u, \bar{u}

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T-Duality in $\mathcal{N}=(2,2)$ superspace = Legendre-transformation
interchanging chiral and twisted chiral superfields

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varying \tilde{X}	$Y_z = z + \bar{z}$	$Y_w = w + \bar{w}$
varying Y	dual model u, \bar{u}	dual model u, \bar{u}

T-Duality in $\mathcal{N}=(2,2)$ superspace = Legendre-transformation
interchanging different kinds of superfield