

# D-branes

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# Outline

- 1 String boundary conditions and a first glance to D-branes
  - Demotivation
  - Motivation
  - Interesting configurations:
    - Single Dp-brane
    - Parallel Dp-branes
    - Yang-Mills theories
- 2 T-duality for open strings
  - Recap T-duality for closed strings
  - T-duality in the presence of open strings
- 3 Gauge theories confined to D-branes
  - String endpoints coupling to D-branes
  - Dual description of a Dp-brane with E field
  - Dual description of a Dp-brane with B field
- 4 The Dirac-Born-Infeld action
  - Non-linear electrodynamics
  - Dirac-Born-Infeld Lagrangian

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# Starting point and background

- Theory is specified in terms of an action functional. The Nambu-Goto action:

$$S = \frac{1}{2\pi\alpha'} \int_{\tau_i}^{\tau_f} d\tau \int_0^{\sigma_1} d\sigma \sqrt{-\eta_{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial X^\mu}{\partial \tau} \frac{\partial X^\nu}{\partial \sigma}} = \frac{1}{2\pi\alpha'} \int_{\tau_i}^{\tau_f} d\tau \int_0^{\sigma_1} d\sigma \sqrt{(\dot{X} \cdot X')^2 - \dot{X}^2 X'^2}$$

- Dynamical information is extracted by varying the action:

$$\delta S = \int_{\tau_i}^{\tau_f} d\tau \int_0^{\sigma_1} d\sigma \partial_\tau \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{X}^\mu} \delta X^\mu \right) + \partial_\sigma \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial X'^\mu} \delta X^\mu \right) - (\partial_\tau \mathcal{P}_\mu^\tau + \partial_\sigma \mathcal{P}_\mu^\sigma) \delta X^\mu$$

- Equations of motion

$$\partial_\tau \mathcal{P}^{\mu\tau} + \partial_\sigma \mathcal{P}^{\mu\sigma} = 0$$

# Boundary Conditions

- Have to get rid of  $2(d + 1)$  boundary terms:

$$\int_{\tau_i}^{\tau_f} d\tau \int_0^{\sigma_1} d\sigma \partial_\sigma (\mathcal{P}_\mu^\sigma \delta X^\mu) = \int_{\tau_i}^{\tau_f} d\tau [\mathcal{P}_\mu^\sigma \delta X^\mu]_{\sigma=0}^{\sigma=\sigma_1}$$

- We need some boundary conditions. Two possibilities:
  - Neumann:  $\mathcal{P}_\mu^\sigma(\tau, \sigma_*) = 0 = \frac{\partial X^\mu}{\partial \sigma}(\tau, \sigma_*)$ ;  $\sigma_* = 0, \sigma_1$
  - Dirichlet:  $\delta X^\mu(\tau, \sigma_*) = 0 = \frac{\partial X^\mu}{\partial \tau}(\tau, \sigma_*)$ ;  $\sigma_* = 0, \sigma_1$
- For  $\mu = 0$  Dirichlet boundary conditions are not allowed.

## Is momentum conserved?

- The Nambu-Goto action is invariant under translations  $\delta X^\mu = \epsilon^\mu$ . Conserved current:  $\partial_\tau \mathcal{P}^{\tau\mu} + \partial_\sigma \mathcal{P}^{\sigma\mu} = 0$

$$p_\mu(\tau) \equiv \int_0^{\sigma_1} \mathcal{P}_\mu^\tau(\tau, \sigma) d\sigma$$

$$\frac{dp_\mu}{d\tau} = \int_0^{\sigma_1} \frac{\partial \mathcal{P}_\mu^\tau}{\partial \tau} d\sigma = - \int_0^{\sigma_1} \frac{\partial \mathcal{P}_\mu^\sigma}{\partial \sigma} d\sigma = -\mathcal{P}_\mu^\sigma|_0^{\sigma_1}$$

- This is not necessarily vanishing for Dirichlet boundary conditions
- Furthermore what interpretation should we give to these boundary conditions? Where are the string endpoints attached?



## There is more than just strings!

- A Dp-brane is an extended object with p spatial dimensions
- The endpoints of open strings are attached to D-branes
- D-branes have a personality of their own: energy density, momentum, charge...
- The overall momentum in the string and the D-brane is conserved
- In the presence of a Dp-brane the original Lorentz symmetry is broken:

$$SO(1, d) \rightarrow SO(1, p) \times SO(d - p)$$

## Conventions and notation

- Open strings have parameterization range  $[0, \pi]$
- Closed strings have parameterization range  $[0, 2\pi]$
- Different kind of indices:
  - $\mu, \nu, \dots$  are spacetime indices that run from 0 to  $d$
  - $m, n, \dots$  are world-brane indices that run from 0 to  $p$
  - $i, j, \dots$  are spatial indices on the brane that run from 1 to  $p$
  - $a, b, \dots$  are spatial indices normal to the brane that run from  $(p + 1)$  to  $d$
  - $l$  is a generic index that stands for all the transverse coordinates  $l \rightarrow (i, a)$

## Gauge coordinates and gauge fixing

- We work in light-cone coordinates:  $X^+, X^-, \{X^I\}_{I=2,\dots,d}$
- We work in light cone-gauge:

$$n \cdot X(\tau, \sigma) = \beta \alpha' (n \cdot p) \tau \quad n \cdot p = \frac{2\pi}{\beta} n \cdot \mathcal{P}^\tau$$

$$n_\mu = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(1, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$$

- Equations of motion are now easy wave equations:

$$\ddot{X}^\mu - X^{\mu''} = 0$$

- Two constraints:

$$(\dot{X} \pm X')^2 = 0 = -2(\dot{X}^+ \pm X^{+'})(\dot{X}^- \pm X^{-'}) + (\dot{X}^I \pm X^{I'})^2$$

- The full evolution of the string is determined by:

$$X^I(\tau, \sigma), \quad p^+, \quad x_0^-$$

## Solution of the wave equation for NN coordinates

- Coordinates satisfy the wave equation so:

$$X^i(\tau, \sigma) = \frac{1}{2} \left( f^i(\tau + \sigma) + g^i(\tau - \sigma) \right)$$

- Boundary conditions at  $\sigma = 0$  implies:

$$X^i(\tau, \sigma) = \frac{1}{2} \left( f^i(\tau + \sigma) + f^i(\tau - \sigma) \right)$$

- Boundary condition at  $\sigma = \pi$  implies that  $f^i$  is  $2\pi$  periodic

## Mode expansion for NN coordinates and quantization

- The mode expansion can be written as:

$$X^i(\tau, \sigma) = x_0^i + \sqrt{2\alpha'}\alpha_0^i\tau + i\sqrt{2\alpha'}\sum_{n\neq 0}\frac{1}{n}\alpha_n^i e^{-in\tau}\cos(n\sigma)$$

- Note that there is a term linear in  $\tau$  so the net momentum is not vanishing. In fact  $p^i = \frac{\alpha_0^i}{\sqrt{2\alpha'}}$
- To quantize we impose the commutation relations:

$$\left[ X^i(\tau, \sigma), \mathcal{P}^{Tj}(\tau, \sigma') \right] = i\eta^{ij}\delta(\sigma - \sigma')$$

$$[x_0^-, p^+] = -i$$

- In terms of oscillators the first commutator translates into:

$$\left[ \alpha_m^i, \alpha_n^j \right] = m\eta^{ij}\delta_{m+n,0} \quad \left[ x_0^i, p^j \right] = i\eta^{ij}$$

## States and mass operator for space-filling brane

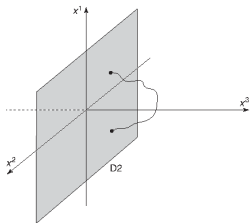
- A general state is of the form:

$$\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \prod_{i=2}^{25} \left( a_n^{i\dagger} \right)^{\lambda_{n,i}} |p^+, \vec{p}\rangle$$

- The mass operator is then:

$$\begin{aligned} M^2 &= -p^2 = 2p^+ p^- - p^i p^i = \\ &= \frac{1}{\alpha'} \left( -1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=2}^{25} n a_n^{i\dagger} a_n^i \right) = \frac{1}{\alpha'} (N^\perp - 1) \end{aligned}$$

## A single Dp-brane



- $1 \leq p \leq (d - 1) \longrightarrow NN$  and  $DD$  coordinates
- Remember the notation:

- Dp tangential coordinates:

$$x^0, x^1, \dots, x^p \rightarrow NN \longrightarrow X'^m(\tau, \sigma)|_{\sigma=0} = X'^m(\tau, \sigma)|_{\sigma=\pi} = 0$$

- Dp normal coordinates:

$$x^{p+1}, x^{p+2}, \dots, x^d \rightarrow DD \longrightarrow X^a(\tau, \sigma)|_{\sigma=0} = X^a(\tau, \sigma)|_{\sigma=\pi} = \bar{X}^a$$

## Solution of the wave equation for DD coordinates

- Solution of the wave equation for the DD coordinates is slightly different than for NN coordinates
- Coordinates satisfy the wave equation so:

$$X^a(\tau, \sigma) = \frac{1}{2} (f^a(\tau + \sigma) + g^a(\tau - \sigma))$$

- Boundary conditions at  $\sigma = 0$  implies:

$$X^a(\tau, \sigma) = \bar{x}^a + \frac{1}{2} (f^a(\tau + \sigma) - f^a(\tau - \sigma))$$

- Boundary condition at  $\sigma = \pi$  implies that the function  $f$  is  $2\pi$  periodic



## Mode expansion for DD coordinates and quantization

- The mode expansion can be written as:

$$X^a(\tau, \sigma) = \bar{x}^a + \sqrt{2\alpha'} \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{1}{n} \alpha_n^a e^{-in\tau} \sin(n\sigma)$$

- Note that the term linear in  $\tau$  present for  $NN$  coordinates is now missing  $\rightarrow$  No net time-averaged momentum, no zero mode
- To quantize we impose the commutation relations:

$$\left[ X^a(\tau, \sigma), \mathcal{P}^{\tau b}(\tau, \sigma') \right] = i\delta^{ab} \delta(\sigma - \sigma')$$

- In terms of oscillators this means:

$$\left[ \alpha_m^a, \alpha_n^b \right] = m\delta^{ab} \delta_{m+n,0} = 0, \quad m, n \neq 0$$

## States and mass operator for a Dp-brane

- A general state is of the form:

$$\left[ \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \prod_{i=2}^p (a_n^{i\dagger})^{\lambda_{n,i}} \right] \left[ \prod_{m=1}^{\infty} \prod_{a=p+1}^d (a_m^{a\dagger})^{\lambda_{m,a}} \right] |p^+, \vec{p}\rangle$$

- The mass operator is then:

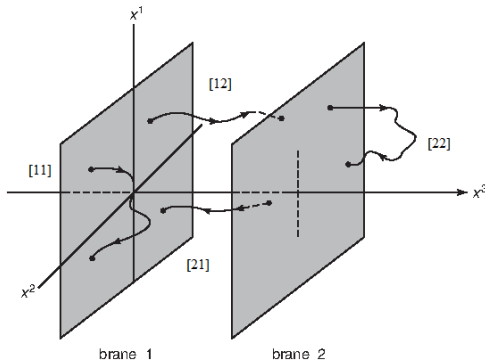
$$\begin{aligned} M^2 &= -p^2 = 2p^+ p^- - p^i p^i = \\ &= \frac{1}{\alpha'} \left( -1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=2}^p n a_n^{i\dagger} a_n^i + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{a=p+1}^d m a_m^{a\dagger} a_m^a \right) = \frac{1}{\alpha'} (N^{\perp} - 1) \end{aligned}$$

## Ground states and first excited states

- The ground states  $|p^+, \vec{p}\rangle$  have a mass  $M^2 = \frac{-1}{\alpha'}$ 
  - Tachyons
  - Lorentz scalars
- First excited states can be either tangent or normal to the brane:
  - Tangent:  $a_1^{i\dagger} |p^+, \vec{p}\rangle \quad i = 2, \dots, p$ 
    - p-1 massless states
    - Lorentz vector
    - Photons  $\rightarrow$  a Dp-brane has a Maxwell field living on its world volume
  - Normal :  $a_1^{a\dagger} |p^+, \vec{p}\rangle \quad a = p + 1, \dots, d$ 
    - d-p massless states
    - scalars  $\rightarrow$  a Dp-brane has a massless scalar field for each normal direction

## Parallel Dp-branes

- Different sectors, depending on which brane the string begins/ends. Chan-Paton indices  $[ij]$



## Mode expansion and Mass of stretched strings

- Mode expansion for the normal coordinates picks and extra term:

$$X^a(\tau, \sigma) = \bar{x}_1^a + (\bar{x}_2^a - \bar{x}_1^a) \frac{\sigma}{\pi} + \sqrt{2\alpha'} \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{1}{n} \alpha_n^a e^{-in\tau} \sin(n\sigma)$$

- Mass operator picks up an extra term accordingly:

$$M^2 = \left( \frac{\bar{x}_2^a - \bar{x}_1^a}{2\pi\alpha'} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{\alpha'} (N^\perp - 1)$$

## Sectors and states

- The vacuum state of sector  $[ij]$  is  $|\rho^+, \vec{p}; [ij]\rangle$ . It can be excited as usual:

$$\left[ \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \prod_{i=2}^{\rho} \left( a_n^{i\dagger} \right)^{\lambda_{n,i}} \right] \left[ \prod_{m=1}^{\infty} \prod_{a=\rho+1}^d \left( a_m^{a\dagger} \right)^{\lambda_{m,a}} \right] |\rho^+, \vec{p}; [ij]\rangle$$

- Excitations do not mix different sectors, so there is no need to label the operators

## Ground state of the [12] sector

- Where do the fields in a mixed sector live?
- The ground state  $|p^+, \vec{p}; [ij]\rangle$  is now massive:

$$M^2 = \left( \frac{\bar{x}_2^a - \bar{x}_1^a}{2\pi\alpha'} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{\alpha'}$$

- Depending on the separation of the branes we can have a massive, massless or tachyonic scalar field

## First excited states in the [12] sector

- First excited states can be either normal or tangent to the branes
  - Normal:  $a_1^{a\dagger} |\rho^+, \vec{p}; [12]\rangle$   $a = p + 1, \dots, d$ 
    - have mass  $M^2 = \left(\frac{\bar{x}_2^a - \bar{x}_1^a}{2\pi\alpha'}\right)^2$
    - d-p massive states
  - Tangent:  $a_1^{i\dagger} |\rho^+, \vec{p}; [12]\rangle$   $i = 2, \dots, p$ 
    - have mass  $M^2 = \left(\frac{\bar{x}_2^a - \bar{x}_1^a}{2\pi\alpha'}\right)^2$
    - p-1 massive states  $\rightarrow$  massive gauge field? Almost...
- These (p-1) states are not enough degrees of freedom to represent a massive gauge field
- One of the scalar states joins the (p-1) set and this new set transform as a massive gauge field

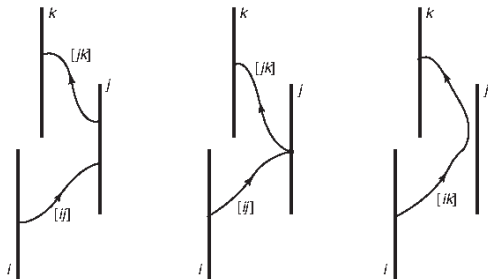
$$\sum_a (\bar{x}_2^a - \bar{x}_1^a) a_1^{a\dagger} |\rho^+, \vec{p}; [12]\rangle$$



# Yang-Mill theories

- If the two D-branes overlap the mass of all the first excited states vanishes and we are left with the same field content as in the case of a single  $D_p$ -brane: a massless gauge field and  $(d-p)$  massless scalar.
- Considering all sectors we have:
  - $4(d-p)$  massless scalars
  - Four massless gauge fields  $\implies U(2)$  Yang-Mills theory

- In general  $N$  coincident D-branes carry  $U(N)$  massless gauge fields  $\rightarrow$  AdS/CFT (Next talk)
- Can visualize interactions:



$$[ij] * [jk] = [ik]$$

## Recap T-duality for closed strings

- When a spatial dimension is compactified TWO interesting things happen:
  - The momentum gets quantized:  $p = \frac{n}{R}$
  - A new form of momentum (which is also quantized) appears: the winding  $\omega = \frac{mR}{\alpha'}$
- Mode expansion for a compactified coordinate:

$$X(\tau, \sigma) = x_0 + \alpha' p \tau + \alpha' \omega \sigma + i \sqrt{\frac{\alpha'}{2}} \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{e^{-in\tau}}{n} \left( \bar{\alpha}_n e^{-in\sigma} + \alpha_n e^{in\sigma} \right)$$

- There is an extra term and so the quantum theory will have an extra operator, the winding:  $\omega$ .
- This operator will also contribute to the mass square

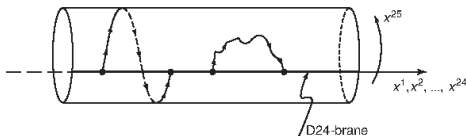
$$M^2 = \frac{n^2}{R^2} + \frac{m^2 R^2}{\alpha'^2} + \frac{2}{\alpha'} (N^\perp + \bar{N}^\perp - 2)$$

# T-duality in the presence of open strings

- When a spatial dimension is compactified ONE interesting thing happens:
  - Momentum gets quantized:  $p = \frac{n}{R}$
- T-duality is a good symmetry only if branes transform

$$(D25; R) \implies \left( D24; \tilde{R} = \frac{\alpha'}{R} \right)$$

- The brane has changed dimension as a consequence:
  - Nontrivial winding states appear
  - There is no momentum



## Left/right movers and dual coordinate

- For an  $NN$  coordinate:

$$X(\tau, \sigma) = x_0 + \sqrt{2\alpha'}\alpha_0\tau + i\sqrt{2\alpha'} \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{1}{n} \alpha_n \cos n\sigma e^{-in\tau}$$

- Right and left movers:

- $X_L = \frac{1}{2}(x_0 + q_0) + \sqrt{\frac{\alpha'}{2}}\alpha_0(\tau + \sigma) + \frac{i}{2}\sqrt{2\alpha'} \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{1}{n} \alpha_n e^{-in\tau} e^{-in\sigma}$

- $X_R = \frac{1}{2}(x_0 - q_0) + \sqrt{\frac{\alpha'}{2}}\alpha_0(\tau - \sigma) + \frac{i}{2}\sqrt{2\alpha'} \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{1}{n} \alpha_n e^{-in\tau} e^{in\sigma}$

- Guided by closed string T-duality we define the dual coordinate  $\tilde{X}(\tau, \sigma) \equiv X_L(\tau + \sigma) - X_R(\tau - \sigma)$

- $\tilde{X}(\tau, \sigma) = q_0 + \sqrt{2\alpha'}\alpha_0\sigma + \sqrt{2\alpha'} \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{1}{n} \alpha_n e^{-in\tau} \sin n\sigma$
- This is just the mode expansion of a *DD* coordinate since:

$$\sqrt{2\alpha'}\alpha_0 = \frac{(\bar{x}_2 - \bar{x}_1)}{\pi}$$

- $[\tilde{X}(\tau, \sigma), \tilde{\mathcal{P}}(\tau, \sigma')] = i\delta(\sigma - \sigma')$  provided  
 $[X(\tau, \sigma), \mathcal{P}(\tau, \sigma')] = i\delta(\sigma - \sigma')$
- $\tilde{X}(\tau, \pi) - \tilde{X}(\tau, 0) = \sqrt{2\alpha'}\alpha_0\pi = 2\pi\alpha'p = 2\pi\frac{\alpha'}{R}n = 2\pi\tilde{R}n$
- Note that the duality interchanges boundary conditions:
  - $\partial_\sigma X = X'_L(\tau + \sigma) - X'_R(\tau - \sigma) = \partial_\tau \tilde{X}$
  - $\partial_\tau X = X'_L(\tau + \sigma) + X'_R(\tau - \sigma) = \partial_\sigma \tilde{X}$

## Interacting Lagrangian and boundary conditions

- The Maxwell field that lives on a brane couples to the string's endpoints like if they were point charges:

$$S = S_{NG} + \int d\tau A_m(X) \frac{dX^m}{d\tau} \Big|_{\sigma=\pi} - \int d\tau A_m(X) \frac{dX^m}{d\tau} \Big|_{\sigma=0}$$

- We consider only field configurations such that  $F_{mn}$  is constant, thus:

$$A_n(X) = \frac{1}{2} F_{mn} X^m$$

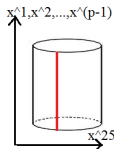
- Boundary conditions are:

$$\mathcal{P}_m^\sigma + F_{mn} \partial_\tau X^n = 0 \quad \sigma = 0, \pi$$

$$\partial_\sigma X_m - 2\pi\alpha' F_{mn} \partial_\tau X^n = 0 \quad \sigma = 0, \pi$$

# Dual description of a Dp-brane with E field

Scenario 1

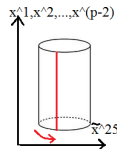


- Boundary conditions:

$$\partial_+ \begin{pmatrix} X^0 \\ X \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1+\mathcal{E}^2}{1-\mathcal{E}^2} & \frac{2\mathcal{E}}{1-\mathcal{E}^2} \\ \frac{2\mathcal{E}}{1-\mathcal{E}^2} & \frac{1+\mathcal{E}^2}{1-\mathcal{E}^2} \end{pmatrix} \partial_- \begin{pmatrix} X^0 \\ X \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{E} \equiv 2\pi\alpha' E$$

Scenario 2



- Boundary conditions:

$$\partial_+ \begin{pmatrix} X'^0 \\ \tilde{X}' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \partial_- \begin{pmatrix} X'^0 \\ \tilde{X}' \end{pmatrix}$$

- We can make a boost to express the boundary conditions in the system where the D(p-1)-brane is moving:

$$\partial_+ \begin{pmatrix} X^0 \\ \tilde{X} \end{pmatrix} = M^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} M \partial_- \begin{pmatrix} X^0 \\ \tilde{X} \end{pmatrix}$$



## Dual description of a Dp-brane with E field

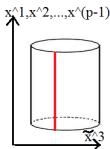
- Using the duality relations we obtain:

$$\partial_+ \begin{pmatrix} X^0 \\ X \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1+\beta^2}{1-\beta^2} & \frac{2\beta}{1-\beta^2} \\ \frac{2\beta}{1-\beta^2} & \frac{1+\beta^2}{1-\beta^2} \end{pmatrix} \partial_- \begin{pmatrix} X^0 \\ X \end{pmatrix}$$

- Boundary conditions match those of Scenario 1 provided we identify  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\beta \implies \mathcal{E} \equiv 2\pi\alpha' E = \beta$
- Since the brane can not move faster than light the  $E$  field is bounded:  $E \leq \frac{1}{2\pi\alpha'} = T_0$

# Dual description of a Dp-brane with B field

Scenario 1

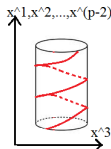


- Boundary conditions:

$$\partial_+ \begin{pmatrix} X^2 \\ \tilde{X}^3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1-\mathcal{B}^2}{1+\mathcal{B}^2} & \frac{2\mathcal{B}}{1-\mathcal{B}^2} \\ \frac{-2\mathcal{B}}{1+\mathcal{B}^2} & \frac{1-\mathcal{B}^2}{1+\mathcal{B}^2} \end{pmatrix} \partial_- \begin{pmatrix} X^2 \\ \tilde{X}^3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{B} \equiv 2\pi\alpha' B$$

Scenario 2



- Boundary conditions:

$$\partial_+ \begin{pmatrix} X'^2 \\ X'^3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \partial_- \begin{pmatrix} X'^2 \\ X'^3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- We can make a rotation to express the boundary conditions in the system where the D(p-1)-brane is not tilted:

$$\partial_+ \begin{pmatrix} X^2 \\ X^3 \end{pmatrix} = R^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} R \partial_- \begin{pmatrix} X^2 \\ X^3 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Dual description of a Dp-brane with B field

- Using the duality relations we obtain:

$$\partial_+ \begin{pmatrix} X^2 \\ \tilde{X}^3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2\alpha & -\sin 2\alpha \\ \sin 2\alpha & \cos 2\alpha \end{pmatrix} \partial_- \begin{pmatrix} X^2 \\ \tilde{X}^3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Boundary conditions match those of Scenario 1 provided we identify  $-\mathcal{B}$  and  $\tan \alpha \implies \mathcal{B} \equiv 2\pi\alpha' B = -\tan \alpha$
- A zero magnetic field produces no rotation, an infinite magnetic field is required to rotate the D-brane by ninety degrees

# Non-linear electrodynamics

- Relation  $(\vec{E}, \vec{B}) \sim (\vec{D}, \vec{H})$
- Maxwell theory allows arbitrary large  $E$  fields

# Dirac-Born-Infeld Lagrangian

- Dirac-Born-Infeld Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L} = -b^2 \sqrt{-\det \left( \eta_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{b} F_{\mu\nu} \right)} + b^2$$

- Gauge and Lorentz invariant but also:
  - Reduces to Maxwell Lagrangian for small  $E$  and  $B$
  - $E$  is bounded when  $B = 0$
  - Yields finite electrostatic self-energy:

$$U_Q = \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{1}{3} \left( \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \right)^2 b^{\frac{1}{2}} Q^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

# Bibliography

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# THANK YOU