

# Monopoles, Integrability and M-Theory

Christian Sämann



*School of Mathematical and Computer Sciences  
Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh*

Australian National University, 17.2.2011

Based on:

- Bogomolny, Atiyah, Drinfeld, Hitchin, Manin, Nahm
- Witten, Howe, Lambert, Basu, Harvey, Bagger
- CS, [arXiv:1007.3301](https://arxiv.org/abs/1007.3301), CMP ...

# Motivation - Physics

We want to learn more about M-theory.

- **String Theory**: Point particles  $\rightarrow$  (excitations of) strings
- Consistency requires that spacetime is **10-dimensional**.
- Also  $p + 1$ -dimensional objects appear: **D $p$ -branes**
- type **IIA**: D( $2p$ )-branes, type **IIB**: D( $2p + 1$ )-branes
- turning off gravity, they are described by a gauge theory:  
“Effective descript.”: **max. supersymmetric Yang-Mills theory**
- Several string theories (IIA, IIB, ...), unified in **M-theory**.
- In M-theory: only **M2-branes** and **M5-branes**.
- **Effective description of M2-branes** proposed in 2007.
- This created lots of interest:  
**BLG-model**: >440 citations, **ABJM-model**: >555 citations
- Open question: technicalities, **M5-branes**

# Motivation - Mathematics

Find an algorithm for the construction of self-dual string solutions

- Higher Gauge Theories: 2-connections
- Multisymplectic geometry, geometric quantization, ...
- New integrable structures, twistor spaces, etc.
- D-branes mathematically very useful. M-branes too?

# Outline

We will discuss the construction of monopoles and lift each ingredient to M-theory.

- Monopoles and the Bogomolny equation
- String theoretic interpretation of monopoles
- Monopoles in M-theory: Self-Dual Strings
- 3-Lie algebras
- Principal  $U(1)$ -bundles, abelian gerbes and loop space
- ADHMN construction and its lift
- Examples of self-dual string solutions
- Non-abelian tensor multiplet on loop space

# Magnetic monopoles

Magnetic monopoles are BPS solutions to the super Yang-Mills equations.

Consider a principal  $U(N)$ -bundle over a spacetime  $\mathbb{R}^d$

Endow with connection  $A$ , i.e. locally: Lie-algebra valued one-form

Maxwell/Yang-Mills (YM) equations:

$$d_A F = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad d_A \star F = J \quad \text{with} \quad F := d_A A := dA + A \wedge A$$

## BPS-equations

- first-order deq., solutions are a **subset of the solutions** to YM.
- The **action functional** evaluated at a solution is **finite**.
- The solution is **invariant under** some of the **supersymmetries**.
- Solutions classify **perturbative sectors** of the quantum theory.

Examples:

**Instanton:**  $d = 4$ :  $F = \star F$ ,  $J = 0$

**Monopole:**  $d = 3$ :  $F = \star d\Phi$ ,  $J = \star[\Phi, d_A \Phi]$

# Index notation and Einstein's summation convention

In our notation, we will make the components of all differential forms explicit.

For convenience, **change to index notation** as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}d_A = d + A &\quad \rightarrow \quad \nabla_\mu = \partial_\mu + A_\mu , \\F = dA + A \wedge A &\quad \rightarrow \quad F_{\mu\nu} = [\nabla_\mu, \nabla_\nu] = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu + [A_\mu, A_\nu] , \\0 = d_A \star F &\quad \rightarrow \quad 0 = \sum_\mu \nabla_\mu F_{\mu\nu} = \nabla_\mu F_{\mu\nu} , \\0 = d_A F &\quad \rightarrow \quad 0 = \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\kappa\dots} \nabla_\mu F_{\nu\kappa} , \\F = \star F &\quad \rightarrow \quad F_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} F_{\rho\sigma} , \\F = \star d_A \Phi &\quad \rightarrow \quad F_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ijk} \nabla_k \Phi .\end{aligned}$$

# D-branes and super Yang-Mills theory

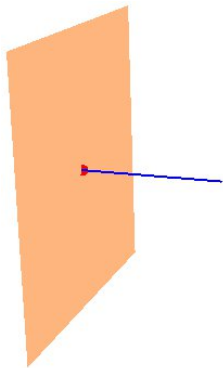
D-branes are effectively described in terms of super Yang-Mills theory.

- A flat D9-brane fills  $\mathbb{R}^{10}$ , described by  $U(1)$  Yang-Mills theory.
- $N$  flat D9-branes are described by  $U(N)$  Yang-Mills theory.
- **Lower dimensional** D $p$ -branes are obtained as follows:
  - Split index  $\mu = 0, \dots, 9 \rightarrow (m = 0, \dots, p, i = p + 1, \dots, 9)$
  - Put  $\partial_i = 0$ . That is:  $A_\mu \rightarrow (A_m, X^i)$
  - Eigenvalues of  $X^i$  describe transverse movement.
  - Alternatively:  $\mathbb{R}^{10} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{p+1} \times T^{9-p}$ , take **zero modes**
- If D-branes are **contained in** or **end on** other D-branes in a BPS way, fix some of the  $X^i$  and take **BPS equations**.
- Often, we are interested in **vacuum solutions** which are **time independent**.

# D1-D3-Branes and the Nahm Equation

D1-branes ending on D3-branes can be described by the Nahm equation.

dim	0	1	2	3	...	6
D1	×					×
D3	×	×	×	×		



$N$  D1-branes ending on D3-branes:

Time independent: **Monopole**.

$X^i \in \mathfrak{U}(N)$ : transverse fluctuations

**Nahm equation:** ( $s = x^6$ )

$$\frac{d}{ds} X^i + \varepsilon^{ijk} [X^j, X^k] = 0$$

**Solution:**  $X^i = r(s) G^i$  with

$$r(s) = \frac{1}{s}, \quad G^i = \varepsilon^{ijk} [G^j, G^k]$$



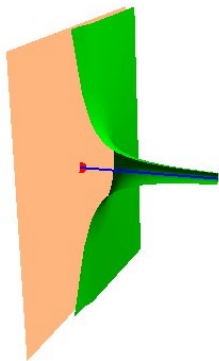
# D1-D3-Branes and the Nahm Equation

The D1-branes end on the D3-branes by forming a fuzzy funnel.

dim	0	1	2	3	...	6
D1	×					×
D3	×	×	×	×		

**Solution:**  $X^i = r(s)G^i$

$$r(s) = \frac{1}{s}, \quad G^i = \varepsilon^{ijk} [G^j, G^k]$$



The D1-branes form a **fuzzy funnel**:

$G^i$  form irrep of  $SU(2)$ :

coordinates on fuzzy sphere  $S_F^2$

(Berezin-quantized sphere  $S_F^2$ :

Hybrid of deformation and  
geometric quantization)

D1-worldvolume polarizes:  $2d \rightarrow 4d$

# Lifting D1-D3-Branes to M2-M5-Branes

The lift to M-theory is performed by a T-duality and an M-theory lift

IIB	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
D1	×						×
D3	×	×	×	×			

T-dualize along  $x^5$ :

IIA	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
D2	×					×	×
D4	×	×	×	×		×	

Interpret  $x^4$  as M-theory direction:

M	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
M2	×					×	×
M5	×	×	×	×	×	×	

# The Basu-Harvey lift of the Nahm Equation

M2-branes ending on M5-branes yield a Nahm equation with a cubic term.

M	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
M2	×					×	×
M5	×	×	×	×	×	×	

A **Self-Dual String** appears.

Substitute **SO(3)**-inv. **Nahm eqn.**

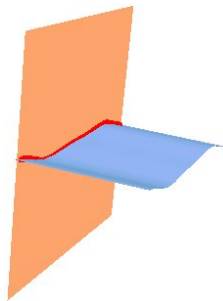
$$\frac{d}{ds}X^i + \varepsilon^{ijk}[X^j, X^k] = 0$$

by the **SO(4)**-invariant equation

$$\frac{d}{ds}X^\mu + \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}[X^\nu, X^\rho, X^\sigma] = 0$$

**Solution:**  $X^\mu = r(s)G^\mu$  with

$$r(s) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{s}}, \quad G^\mu = \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}[G^\nu, G^\rho, G^\sigma]$$



Basu, Harvey, hep-th/0412310

# The Basu-Harvey lift of the Nahm Equation

M2-branes ending on M5-branes yield a Nahm equation with a cubic term.

M	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
M2	×					×	×
M5	×	×	×	×	×	×	

**Solution:**  $X^\mu = r(s)G^\mu$

$$r(s) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{s}}, \quad G^\mu = \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}[G^\nu, G^\rho, G^\sigma]$$

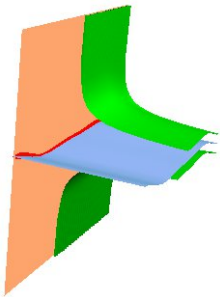
The M2-branes form a **fuzzy funnel**:

$G^\mu$  form a rep of  $SO(4)$ :

coordinates on fuzzy sphere  $S_F^3$

M2-worldvolume polarizes:  $3d \rightarrow 6d$

**What is this triple bracket?**



# What is the algebra behind the triple bracket?

In analogy with Lie algebras, we can introduce 3-Lie algebras.

## 3-Lie algebra

A **3-Lie algebra** is a vector space  $\mathcal{A}$  endowed with a totally antisymmetric, trilinear map  $[\cdot, \cdot, \cdot] : \mathcal{A}^{\wedge 3} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ , which satisfies for any  $A, B, C, D, E \in \mathcal{A}$  the fundamental identity

$$\begin{aligned} & [A, B, [C, D, E]] \\ &= [[A, B, C], D, E] + [C, [A, B, D], E] + [C, D, [A, B, E]]. \end{aligned}$$

There is an associated Lie algebra of **inner derivations**:

Triple bracket forms a map  $D : \mathcal{A} \wedge \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \text{Der}(\mathcal{A}) =: \mathfrak{g}_{\mathcal{A}}$  via

$$D(A, B) \triangleright C := [A, B, C]$$

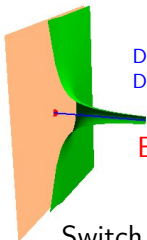
These inner derivations form indeed a **Lie algebra**:

$$[D(A, B), D(C, D)] \triangleright E := D(A, B) \triangleright (D(C, D) \triangleright E) - D(C, D) \triangleright (D(A, B) \triangleright E)$$

Bracket closes due to **fundamental identity**.

# Monopoles and Self-Dual Strings

Lifting monopoles to M-theory yields self-dual strings.



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
D1	×						×
D3	×	×	×	×			

**BPS configuration!**

Switch perspective:  $D1 \rightarrow D3$ :

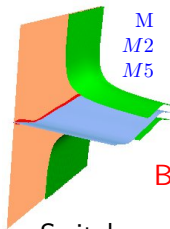
**Bogomolny monopole** eqn.:

$$F_{ij} = \varepsilon_{ijk} \nabla_k \Phi \Rightarrow \nabla^2 \Phi = 0$$

Single D3: **Dirac monopole**

$$\Phi = \frac{1}{r} \Rightarrow r(s) = \frac{1}{s}$$

$\Rightarrow$  **matching profile!**



	M	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
M2	×						×	×
M5	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	

**BPS configuration!**

Switch perspective:  $M2 \rightarrow M5$ :

**Self-dual string** eqn.:

$$H_{\mu\nu\rho} = \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \partial_\sigma \Phi \Rightarrow \partial^2 \Phi = 0$$

Only single M5 known:

$$\Phi = \frac{1}{r^2} \Rightarrow r(s) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{s}}$$

$\Rightarrow$  **matching profile!**

# Dirac Monopoles and Principal $U(1)$ -bundles

Dirac monopoles are described by principal  $U(1)$ -bundles over  $S^2$ .

Manifold  $M$  with cover  $(U_i)_i$ . **Principal  $U(1)$ -bundle** over  $M$ :

$$F \in \Omega^2(M, \mathfrak{u}(1)) ,$$

$$A_{(i)} \in \Omega^1(U_i, \mathfrak{u}(1)) \text{ with } F = dA_{(i)}$$

$$g_{ij} \in \Omega^0(U_i \cap U_j, U(1)) \text{ with } A_{(i)} - A_{(j)} = d \log g_{ij}$$

Consider monopole in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , **but** describe it on  $S^2$  around monopole:

$S^2$  with patches  $U_+, U_-$ ,  $U_+ \cap U_- \sim S^1$ :  $g_{+-} = e^{-in\phi}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$c_1 = \frac{i}{2\pi} \int_{S^2} F = \frac{i}{2\pi} \int_{S^1} A^+ - A^- = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} n d\phi = n$$

**Monopole charge:  $n$**

# Self-Dual Strings and Abelian Gerbes

Self-dual strings are described by abelian gerbes.

Manifold  $M$  with cover  $(U_i)_i$ . **Abelian (local) gerbe** over  $M$ :

$$H \in \Omega^3(M, \mathfrak{u}(1)) ,$$

$$B_{(i)} \in \Omega^2(U_i, \mathfrak{u}(1)) \text{ with } H = dB_{(i)}$$

$$A_{(ij)} \in \Omega^1(U_i \cap U_j, \mathfrak{u}(1)) \text{ with } B_{(i)} - B_{(j)} = dA_{ij}$$

$$h_{ijk} \in \Omega^0(U_i \cap U_j \cap U_k, \mathfrak{u}(1)) \text{ with } A_{(ij)} - A_{(ik)} + A_{(jk)} = dh_{ijk}$$

Note: Local gerbe: principal  $U(1)$ -bundles on intersections  $U_i \cap U_j$ .

Consider  $S^3$ , patches  $U_+, U_-, U_+ \cap U_- \sim S^2$ : **bundle over  $S^2$**

Reflected in:  $H^2(S^2, \mathbb{Z}) \cong H^3(S^3, \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$

$$\frac{i}{2\pi} \int_{S^3} H = \frac{i}{2\pi} \int_{S^2} B_+ - B_- = \dots = n$$

**Charge of self-dual string:  $n$**



# Abelian Gerbes and loop space

By going to loop space, one can reduce differential forms by one degree.

Consider the following **double fibration**:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathcal{L}M \times S^1 & \\ ev \swarrow & & \searrow \int_{S^1} \\ M & & \mathcal{L}M \end{array}$$

Identify  $T\mathcal{L}M = \mathcal{L}TM$ , then:  $x \in \mathcal{L}M \Rightarrow \dot{x}(\tau) \in \mathcal{L}TM$

## Transgression

$$\mathcal{T} : \Omega^{k+1}(M) \rightarrow \Omega^k(\mathcal{L}M), \quad \mathcal{T} = \int_{S^1} ! \circ ev^*$$

$$(\mathcal{T}\omega)_x(v_1(\tau), \dots, v_k(\tau)) := \int_{S^1} d\tau \omega(v_1(\tau), \dots, v_k(\tau), \dot{x}(\tau))$$

An abelian local gerbe over  $M$  is a principal  $U(1)$ -bundle over  $\mathcal{L}M$ .

Note: Most of the time, we will work on  $\mathcal{L}M \times S^1$ .

# The ADHMN construction

There is a map between solutions to the Nahm equations and monopoles.

**Nahm transform:** Instantons on  $T^4 \mapsto$  instantons on  $(T^4)^*$

Roughly here:

$$T^4: \begin{cases} 3 \text{ rad. } 0 \\ 1 \text{ rad. } \infty : \text{ D1 WV} \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad (T^4)^*: \begin{cases} 3 \text{ rad. } \infty : \text{ D3 WV} \\ 1 \text{ rad. } 0 \end{cases}$$

Introduce (twisted) “**Dirac operators**”: ( $\sigma^i$  gen.  $SU(2) = Spin(3)$ )

$$\nabla_{s,x} = -\mathbb{1} \frac{d}{ds} + \sigma^i \otimes (iX^i + x^i \mathbb{1}_k), \quad \bar{\nabla}_{s,x} := \mathbb{1} \frac{d}{ds} + \sigma^i \otimes (iX^i + x^i \mathbb{1}_k)$$

Properties:

$$\Delta_{s,x} := \bar{\nabla}_{s,x} \nabla_{s,x} > 0, \quad [\Delta_{s,x}, \sigma^i] = 0 \Leftrightarrow X^i \text{ satisfy Nahm eqn.}$$

Normalized **zero modes**:  $\bar{\nabla}_{s,x} \psi_{s,x,\alpha} = 0$ ,  $\mathbb{1} = \int_{\mathcal{I}} ds \bar{\psi}_{s,x} \psi_{s,x}$  yield:

$$A_\mu := \int_{\mathcal{I}} ds \bar{\psi}_{s,x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} \psi_{s,x} \quad \text{and} \quad \Phi := -i \int_{\mathcal{I}} ds \bar{\psi}_{s,x} s \psi_{s,x}$$

**This is a solution to the Bogomolny monopole equations!**

# Examples: Dirac monopoles

One can easily construct Dirac monopole solutions using the ADHMN construction.

**Charge 1:** U(1) Nahm eqn:  $\partial_s X^i = 0$ , so put  $X^i = 0$ . Zero mode:

$$\psi_+ = e^{-sR} \frac{\sqrt{R+x^3}}{x^1 - ix^2} \begin{pmatrix} x^1 - ix^2 \\ R - x^3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Monopole solution:

$$\Phi^+ = -\frac{i}{2R}, \quad A_i^+ = \frac{i}{2(x^1+x^2)^2} \left( x^2 \left( 1 - \frac{x^3}{R} \right), -x^1 \left( 1 - \frac{x^3}{R} \right), 0 \right)$$

**Charge 2:** U(2) Nahm eqn. nontrivial. Choose:

$$X^i = -\frac{1}{s} T^i \quad \text{with} \quad T^i = \frac{\sigma^i}{2i} = -\bar{T}^i$$

Resulting solution:

$$\Phi^+ = -\frac{i}{R}, \quad A_i^+ = \dots$$

# Lift of the “Dirac operator”

There is a natural lift of the Dirac operator to M-theory.

IIB (tw.):  $(\sigma^i : \text{Spin}(3))$

$$\nabla_{s,x}^{\text{IIB}} = -\mathbb{1} \frac{d}{ds} + \sigma^i (iX^i + x^i \mathbb{1}_k)$$

<b>IIB</b>	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>D1</i>	×						×
<i>D3</i>	×	×	×	×			

IIA (tw.):  $(\gamma^4 \gamma^i : \text{Spin}(3) \subset \text{Spin}(4))$

$$\nabla_{s,x}^{\text{IIA}} = -\gamma_5 \mathbb{1}_k \frac{d}{ds} + \gamma^4 \gamma^i (X^i - ix^i)$$

<b>IIA</b>	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>D2</i>	×					×	×
<i>D4</i>	×	×	×	×		×	

M (untw.):  $(\gamma^{\mu\nu} : \text{Spin}(4))$

$$\nabla_s^{\text{M}} = -\gamma_5 \frac{d}{ds} + \frac{1}{2} \gamma^{\mu\nu} D(X^\mu, X^\nu)$$

<b>M</b>	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>M2</i>	×					×	×
<i>M5</i>	×	×	×	×	×	×	

M-theory (twisted):

$$\nabla_{s,x(\tau)}^{\text{M}} = -\gamma_5 \frac{d}{ds} + \gamma^{\mu\nu} \left( \frac{1}{2} D^{(\rho)}(X^\mu, X^\nu) - ix^\mu(\tau) \dot{x}^\nu(\tau) \right)$$

# Lifted ADHMN Construction

The lifted ADHMN construction yields solutions to the loop space self-dual string eqns.

Recall:  $\Delta^{\text{IIB}} := \bar{\nabla}^{\text{IIB}} \nabla^{\text{IIB}}$ ,  $[\Delta^{\text{IIB}}, \sigma^i] = 0 \Leftrightarrow X^i$  satisfy Nahm eqn.

Here:  $\Delta^{\text{M}} := \bar{\nabla}^{\text{M}} \nabla^{\text{M}}$ ,  $[\Delta, \gamma^{\mu\nu}] = 0 \Leftrightarrow X^\mu$  satisfy BH eqn.

Our Dirac operator involved **loop space**, so we need to **transgress**:

$$H = \left( \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\sigma} \Phi \right) dx^\mu \wedge dx^\nu \wedge dx^\rho$$

is turned into

$$F_{\mu\nu}(x(\tau)) := \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{[\mu}} A_{\nu]}(x(\tau)) = \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \dot{x}^\rho(\tau) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\sigma} \Phi(x(\tau))$$

From normalized, **A-valued** zero modes  $\psi_{s,x(\tau)}$  of  $\bar{\nabla}^{\text{M}}$  construct

$$A_\mu = \int ds \bar{\psi}_{s,x(\tau)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} \psi_{s,x(\tau)}, \quad \Phi = -i \int ds \bar{\psi}_{s,x(\tau)} s \psi_{s,x(\tau)}$$

# Verification of the Construction

Verifying the construction is rather straightforward.

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_{\mu\nu} &= \int ds (\partial_{[\mu} \bar{\psi}_s) \partial_{\nu]} \psi_s \\
 &= \int ds \int dt (\partial_{[\mu} \bar{\psi}_s) (\psi_s \bar{\psi}_t - \nabla_s^M G^M(s, t) \bar{\nabla}_t^M) \partial_{\nu]} \psi_t \\
 &= \int ds \int dt \bar{\psi}_s \left( \gamma^{\mu\kappa} \dot{x}^\kappa G^M(s, t) \gamma^{\nu\lambda} \dot{x}^\lambda - \gamma^{\nu\kappa} \dot{x}^\kappa G^M(s, t) \gamma^{\mu\lambda} \dot{x}^\lambda \right) \psi_t
 \end{aligned}$$

**Identity :**  $[\gamma^{\mu\kappa}, \gamma^{\nu\lambda}] \dot{x}^\kappa \dot{x}^\lambda = -2\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \gamma^{\sigma\kappa} \gamma_5 \dot{x}^\rho \dot{x}^\kappa$

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_{\mu\nu} &= -\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \int ds \int dt \bar{\psi}_s (2\gamma^{\sigma\kappa} \gamma_5 G^M(s, t) \dot{x}^\rho \dot{x}^\kappa) \psi_t \\
 &= -i\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \dot{x}^\rho \int ds \int dt \left( (\partial_\sigma \bar{\psi}_s) (\psi_s \bar{\psi}_t - \nabla_s^M G^M(s, t) \bar{\nabla}_t^M) \psi_t + \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \bar{\psi}_s s (\psi_s \bar{\psi}_t - \nabla_s^M G^M(s, t) \bar{\nabla}_t^M) \partial_\sigma \psi_t \right) \\
 &= -i\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \dot{x}^\rho \int ds (\partial_\sigma \bar{\psi}_s) s \psi_s + \bar{\psi}_s s \partial_\sigma \psi_s \\
 &= \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \dot{x}^\rho \partial_\sigma \Phi
 \end{aligned}$$

# Reduction to the ADHMN Construction

The lift reduces in the expected way to the ADHMN construction.

On  $\mathcal{L}S^3 \subset \mathcal{L}\mathbb{R}^4$ :  $x^\mu x^\mu = \dot{x}^\mu \dot{x}^\mu = R^2$ ,  $x^\mu \dot{x}^\mu = 0$ .

Reduction (cf. Mukhi/Papageorgakis, 0803.3218):

$$\langle X^4 \rangle = \frac{r}{\ell_p^{3/2}} e_4 = g_{\text{YM}} e_4, \quad \dot{x}^4(\tau_0) = R \Rightarrow \dot{x}^i(\tau_0) = x^4(\tau_0) = 0$$

$$F_{\mu\nu} = \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \dot{x}^\rho \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\sigma} \Phi_{\text{SDS}} \quad \rightarrow \quad F_{ij} = \varepsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} R \Phi_{\text{SDS}} + \dots$$

$$\frac{d}{ds} X^\mu = \frac{1}{3!} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} [X^\nu, X^\rho, X^\sigma] \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{d}{ds} X^i = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon^{ijk} R [X^j, X^k] + \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla^{\text{M}} &= -\gamma_5 \frac{d}{ds} + \gamma^{\mu\nu} \left( \frac{1}{2} D^{(\rho)}(X^\mu, X^\nu) - i x^\mu(\tau) \dot{x}^\nu(\tau) \right) \\ &\rightarrow -\gamma_5 \frac{d}{ds} + \gamma^{\mu\nu} \left( \frac{1}{2} D^{(\rho)}(X^\mu, X^\nu) - i x^\mu(\tau_0) \dot{x}^\nu(\tau_0) \right) \\ &= -\gamma_5 \frac{d}{ds} + R \gamma^{4i} \left( X^{i\alpha} D^{(\rho)}(e_\alpha, e_4) - i x^i(\tau_0) \right) + \dots = \nabla^{\text{IIA}} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

# Examples

Our examples reproduce the expected solutions.

**Charge 1:** Choose again **trivial Nahm data**. Zero modes:

$$\psi \sim e^{-R^2 s} \begin{pmatrix} i(R^2 + x^2 \dot{x}^1 - x^1 \dot{x}^2 - x^4 \dot{x}^3 + x^3 \dot{x}^4) \\ x^3(\dot{x}^1 + i\dot{x}^2) + x^4(\dot{x}^2 - i\dot{x}^1) - (x^1 + ix^2)(\dot{x}^3 - i\dot{x}^4) \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solution:

$$\Phi = \frac{i}{2R^2}, \quad F = \frac{2i \sin \theta^1 \sin^2 \theta^2 (\dot{\theta}^2 d\phi \wedge d\theta^1 - \dot{\theta}^1 d\phi \wedge d\theta^2 + \dot{\phi} d\theta^1 \wedge d\theta^2)}{\sqrt{\dot{\phi}^2 + 2(\dot{\theta}^1)^2 + 4(\dot{\theta}^2)^2 - (\dot{\phi}^2 + 2(\dot{\theta}^1)^2) \cos(2\theta^2) - 2\dot{\phi}^2 \cos(2\theta^1) \sin^2 \theta^2}}$$

This solves the loop-space self-dual string equation.

**Regression:**

$$\begin{aligned} H &= F|_{\dot{\theta}^1=1, \dot{\theta}^2=0, \dot{\phi}=0} \wedge \sin \theta^2 d\theta^1 - F|_{\dot{\theta}^1=0, \dot{\theta}^2=1, \dot{\phi}=0} \wedge d\theta^2 \\ &\quad + F|_{\dot{\theta}^1=0, \dot{\theta}^2=0, \dot{\phi}=1} \wedge \sin \theta^1 \sin \theta^2 d\phi \\ &= 6i \sin \theta^1 \sin^2 \theta^2 d\theta^1 \wedge d\theta^2 \wedge d\phi, \end{aligned}$$

This is indeed the expected solution.



# Examples

Our examples reproduce the expected solutions.

Charge 2:

Nahm data:

$$X^\mu = \frac{e_\mu}{\sqrt{2s}}, \quad e_\mu \text{ generate } A_4$$

Solution:

$$\Phi(x) = \frac{i}{R^2}$$

As expected: twice the charge of the case  $k = 1$ .

# Remarks

Our lift of the ADHMN construction is very natural and rather straightforward.

- The **lift of the Dirac operator** was natural considering the corresponding brane configurations.
- It is natural to go to **loop space** to describe self-dual strings.
- The construction nicely involves the **Basu-Harvey equation**.
- It **reduces nicely** to the ADHMN construction.
- The construction does produce **transgressed self-dual strings**.
- A **regression** can be performed to get original self-dual string.

# The non-abelian tensor multiplet

A recently proposed 3-Lie algebra valued tensor-multiplet implies a transgression.

Recall the **transgression map**:

$$(\mathcal{T}\omega)_x(v_1(\tau), \dots, v_k(\tau)) := \int_{S^1} d\tau \omega(v_1(\tau), \dots, v_k(\tau), \dot{x}(\tau))$$

Equations found by **Lambert, Papageorgakis, 1007.2982**:

$$\nabla^2 X^I - \frac{i}{2}[\bar{\Psi}, \Gamma_\nu \Gamma^I \Psi, C^\nu] - [X^J, C^\nu, [X^J, C_\nu, X^I]] = 0$$

$$\Gamma^\mu \nabla_\mu \Psi - [X^I, C^\nu, \Gamma_\nu \Gamma^I \Psi] = 0$$

$$\nabla_{[\mu} H_{\nu\lambda\rho]} + \frac{1}{4}\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda\rho\sigma\tau}[X^I, \nabla^\tau X^I, C^\sigma] + \frac{i}{8}\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda\rho\sigma\tau}[\bar{\Psi}, \Gamma^\tau \Psi, C^\sigma] = 0$$

$$F_{\mu\nu} - D(C^\lambda, H_{\mu\nu\lambda}) = 0$$

$$\nabla_\mu C^\nu = D(C^\mu, C^\nu) = 0$$

$$D(C^\rho, \nabla_\rho X^I) = D(C^\rho, \nabla_\rho \Psi) = D(C^\rho, \nabla_\rho H_{\mu\nu\lambda}) = 0$$

**Factorization** of  $C^\rho = C\dot{x}^\rho$ . Here, **3-Lie algebra transgression**:

$$(\mathcal{T}\omega)_x(v_1(\tau), \dots, v_k(\tau)) := \int_{S^1} d\tau D(\omega(v_1(\tau), \dots, v_k(\tau), \dot{x}(\tau)), C)$$

# The non-abelian tensor multiplet on loop space

The corresponding equations can all be rewritten on loop space.

Transgression of other fields (missing in [Huang, Huang, 1008.3834](#))

$$\check{\Psi} = \dot{x}^\rho \Gamma_\rho D(C, \Psi) \quad \text{and} \quad \check{X}^I = D(C, X^I)$$

Equations of motion (SYM-like):

$$\nabla_\mu F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}[\check{X}^I, \nabla^\nu \check{X}^I] - \frac{i}{4} \left( -[\check{\Psi}, \Gamma^\nu \check{\Psi}] + [\check{\Psi}, \dot{x}^\nu \dot{x}^\rho \Gamma_\rho \check{\Psi}] \right) = 0$$

$$\nabla^2 \check{X}^I - \frac{i}{2}[\check{\Psi}, \dot{x}^\nu \Gamma_\nu \Gamma^I \check{\Psi}] - [\check{X}^J, [\check{X}^J, \check{X}^I]] = 0$$

$$\Gamma^\mu \dot{x}^\nu \Gamma_\nu \nabla_\mu \check{\Psi} - \Gamma^I [\check{X}^I, \check{\Psi}] = 0$$

Supersymmetry transformations (SYM-like):

$$\delta \check{X}^I = i\bar{\varepsilon} \Gamma^I \dot{x}^\rho \Gamma_\rho \check{\Psi}$$

$$\delta \check{\Psi} = \dot{x}_\nu \Gamma^{\nu\mu} \Gamma^I \nabla_\mu \check{X}^I \varepsilon + \frac{1}{2 \times 3!} \Gamma_{\mu\nu} \Gamma_{\text{ch}} F^{\mu\nu} \varepsilon - \frac{1}{2} \Gamma^{IJ} [\check{X}^I, \check{X}^J] \varepsilon$$

$$\delta A_\mu = i\bar{\varepsilon} \Gamma_\mu \check{\Psi}$$

$$\delta C^\mu = 0$$

# Remarks

The loop space tensor multiplet fits well into the picture.

- Note that this is **work in progress** (with C. Papageorgakis)
- Get **SYM theory on loop space** from the tensor multiplet
- $C$ -field blocks modes of the theory, need to get rid of it
- Our loop space self-dual string equation **extends compatibly**:

$$F_{\mu\nu} = \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \dot{x}^\rho D(C, \nabla^\sigma X^6)$$

- ADHMN construction for **two M5-branes** using this equation
- **Right direction**, more work necessary to get rid of  $C$  etc.

# Conclusions

## Summary and Outlook.

### Summary:

- ✓ Reformulation of self-dual string equation on **loop space**
- ✓ **Generalized ADHMN construction** for self-dual string
- ✓ Explicit construction of  $k = 1$  and  $k = 2$  **examples**
- ✓ Reformulate **non-abelian tensor multiplet** eqns. on loop space
- ✓ **Partially** generalized ADHMN construction

### Future directions:

- ▷ Extend constructions to **non-commutative/non-abelian** cases
- ▷ Study **classical integrability** in more detail
- ▷ Quantization of  $S^3$  via **gerbes** and **groupoids**

# Monopoles, Integrability and M-Theory

Christian Sämann



*School of Mathematical and Computer Sciences  
Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh*

Australian National University, 17.2.2011