

Towards
string field theory of tensionless strings
for
D=6 N=(2,0) CFT

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Based on [arxiv:1805.10297](https://arxiv.org/abs/1805.10297) with
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Main point of our work

N D-branes $\xrightarrow{\text{low energy}}$ Degrees of freedom(DOF):
 $N \times N$ matrix field
Yang-Mills theory

This fact is deeply relevant for various proposals of matrix models and also for matrix geometry.

N M5-brane $\xrightarrow{\text{low energy}}$ named “ $D=6$ $N=(2,0)$ CFT”
no consensus on its formulation

Our work: This theory should be formulated as
a string field theory of tensionless strings
DOF: $N \times N$ matrix-valued closed string field

String field theory(SFT)

- String field theory is 2nd-quantised form. of string theory.

• 1st quantised version

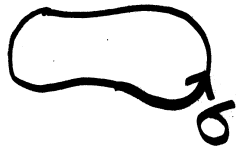
theory of particles

DOF: x^μ

•

theory of strings

DOF: $x^\mu(\sigma)$



2nd quantised version

field theory

$\phi(x^\mu)$

defined on spacetime

string field theory

$\phi[x^\mu(\sigma)]$

defined on a loop space

(=space of loops on spacetime)

- In the usual (tensile="tensionful") case, one can think of SFT as field theory with infinite number of fields (corresponding to the string spectrum).

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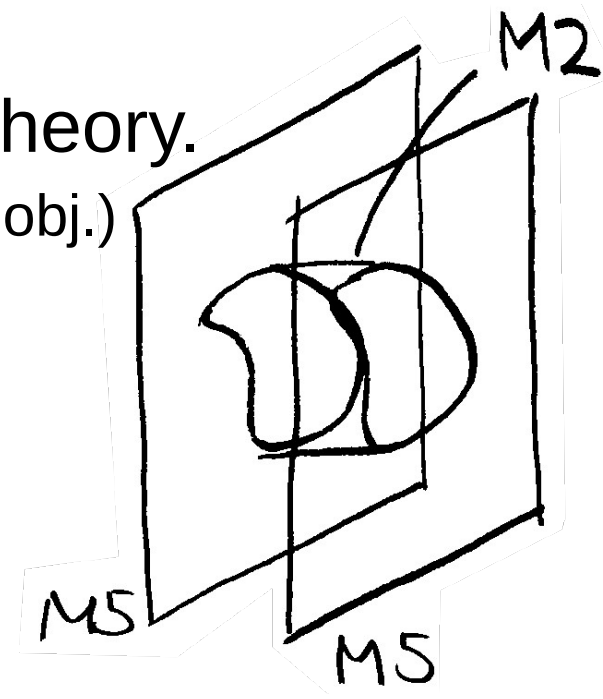
Our work: This theory should be formulated as
a string field theory of tensionless strings
DOF: $N \times N$ matrix-valued closed string field
= $N \times N$ matrix-valued field on a loop space
We constructed the theory partially
(=free part+cubic part.) using lightcone gauge

Introduction

- M-theory
- M5 branes
- D=6 N=(2,0) theory

- M-theory '94 Hull-Townsend, Witten
- The strong coupling limit of IIA superstring theory becomes **11 dimensional** (rather than 10 dimensional), with **membrane (M2)** DOF (rather than strings).
with no tunable coupling const.
- M-theory plays an important role in non-perturbative aspects of string theory. Understanding of **M-theory** at the classical level (for BPS=SUSY-protected sector) allows understanding (or interpretation) of non-perturbative phenomena such as S-duality of IIB superstring theory.
- Understanding (computing) quantum properties of M-theory (for non-BPS observables) is an important direction. One needs a formulation of M-theory. There is a good candidate, the matrix model. '88 deWit-Hoppe-Nicolai; '96 BFSS
Establishing the model, solving problems like large N limit and Lorentz invariance, is important.

- M5 branes
- In this talk I focus on a special sector of M-theory.
- M-theory contains **M5 branes** (5 space + 1 time obj.) in addition to **M2 branes**
- **M2** can end on **M5**. Analogous to **strings** vs **D-branes**.



- **M5** are less understood compared to **M2**.

☆ The matrix model

- contains **M2**. Matrices are regularised **M2**
 - M5** NOT understood. Cf. Proposal for BMN matrix model
- cf. '82 Goldstone; '82 Hoppe; '88 deWit-Hoppe-Nicolai
 '02 Maldacena-SheikhJabbari-vanRaamsdonk '02 Berenstein-Maldacena-Nastase
 '17 Asano-Ishiki-Terashima-Shimasaki

☆ Low energy effective theory of **coincident branes**

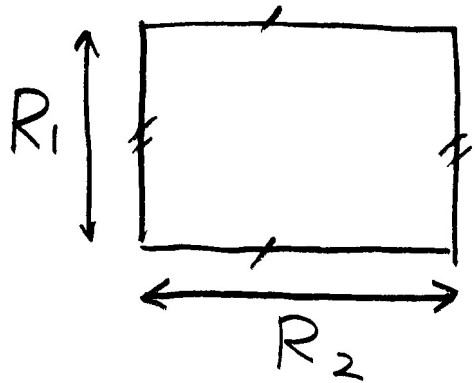
(cf. D-branes and $N \times N$ matrix field theory YM)

-for **M2**: $N \times N$ matrix-valued field theory

(level $k=1$ CS + matter) '06 **ABJM**

-for **M5**: named "**D=6 N=(2,0) CFT**" ← We focus on this

- D=6 N=(2,0) CFT
- The low energy theory for coincident M5 branes is conjectured to be a theory with conformal symmetry and N=(2,0) SUSY.
- Provides insights into properties of SUSY QFT's.



$$\frac{1}{g_{YM}^2} = \frac{R_2}{R_1} \text{ or } \frac{R_1}{R_2}$$

e.g. D=6 N=(2,0) CFT on $T^2 \times \mathbb{R}^4$ and S-duality of D=4 N=4 SYM

- BPS properties of the theory are studied extensively.
- No tunable coupling constants.
The theory is inherently strongly coupled.

Different motivation for studying $D=6$ $N=(2,0)$ CFT

Also interesting from general QFT point of view.

-Theory space of QFT is governed by the renormalisation group flow.

To understand the structure of the flow

it is natural to start from fixed pts. \longrightarrow CFT

- $D=5+1$ is the largest dimension in which superconformal theory (CFT + SUSY) can exist

(classification of superconformal algebra '78 Nahm).

$D=6$ $N=(2,0)$ CFT is the superconformal field theory in highest space dimension and with largest supersymmetry.

-mere existence of $D=6$ CFT is interesting:

Simple power counting argument

\longrightarrow dimensionless coupling constants in $D=6$ unlikely

(ϕ^3 theory is allowed but energy can become arbitrarily negative.)

- Formulation of D=6 N=(2,0) CFT
- No consensus on (existence of) Lagrangian description.
 - What are the fundamental DOF?
 - Lagrangian?
- There are several proposals for a Lagrangian description. E. g.
 - matrix model type (low energy limit) [Aharony-Berkooz-Seiberg'97](#)
 - D=5 max.SYM [Douglas;Lambert-Papageorgakis-SchmidtSommerfeld'10](#) (de-compactification limit)
- The conformal bootstrap method [Beem-Lemos-Rastelli-vanRees '15](#) is also interesting (including non-BPS) and do not rely on the existence of a Lagrangian.
- Lagrangian formulation is desirable for understanding the fundamental DOF and for studying non-BPS quantum properties of [M5 branes](#).

- In this talk, I will discuss a new approach for the formulation of $D=6$ $N=(2,0)$ CFT.
 - interacting theory of tensionless strings using lightcone(LC) string field theory(SFT)
 - We aim for a classical Lagrangian with correct symmetry (without taking any limit) $N=(2,0)$ SUSY + scale inv (=dim less coupling).
- We think our work provides the first steps and necessary tools. I will show how far we got, and discuss some features of the proposal.

Outline

1. Main idea:

SFT of tensionless strings with matrix-valued string field

- tensionless strings from M2 between M5
- Why SFT (i. e. why 2nd quantised formulation)?
- Lightcone(LC) gauge

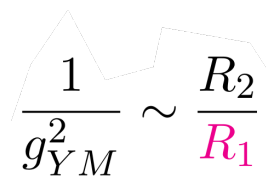
2. LC superstring field theory of

the tensionless strings: How far we got

- String field
- Free part
- Cubic part ansatz (fixed up to 2 parameters)

3. tensionless SFT and infamous difficulties in Lagrangian form.

- Power counting and coupling const.
- Reduction to D=4 N=4 SYM


$$g_{YM}^2 \sim \frac{R_2}{R_1}$$

4. Problems of observables

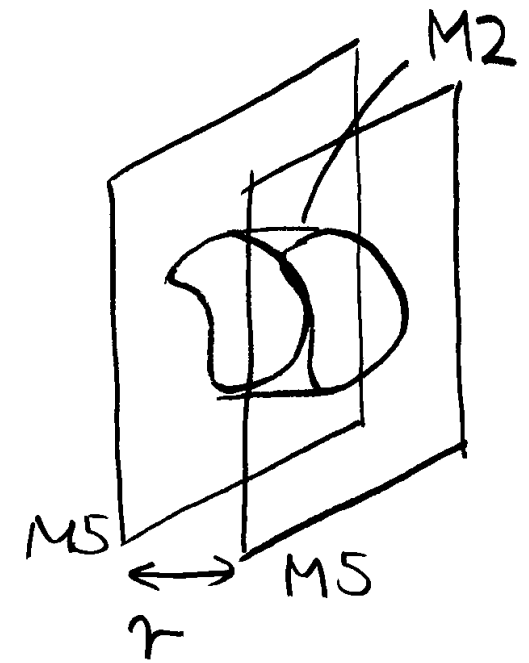
- a hint from AdS7/CFT6 and large R-charge
- a speculative idea : BMN-like operator on loop space

1. $D=6$ $N=(2,0)$ CFT as
lightcone(LC) gauge SFT
for tensionless strings
with matrix-valued string field

- tensionless strings from M2 between M5
- the main idea
- Why SFT?
- use of Lightcone gauge

Tensionless strings and M5

- Consider two parallel M5 branes with separation r and M2 between them



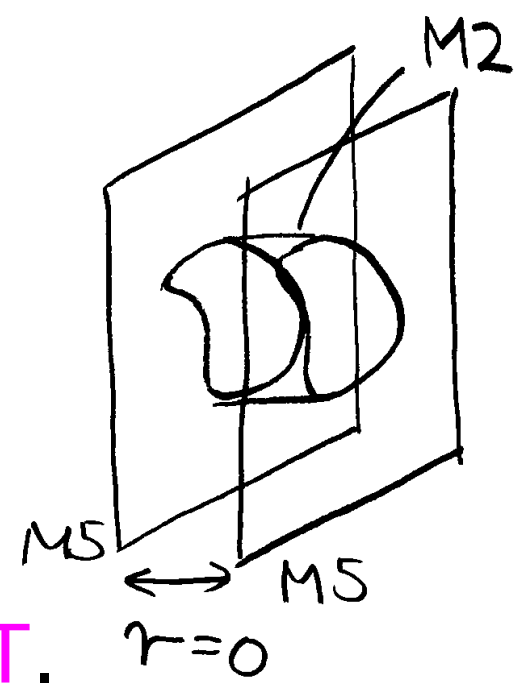
- When r is small compared with other length scales, the M2 would behave effectively as a string with the tension

$$(\text{tension}) = (\text{tension of M2}) \times r$$

- In the extreme case of coincident M5 branes (whose low energy theory is the D=6 N=(2,0)CFT) the strings will be tensionless

$$(\text{tension}) = 0$$

- $D=6$ $N=(2,0)$ CFT contains tensionless strings = M2 stretching between M5.

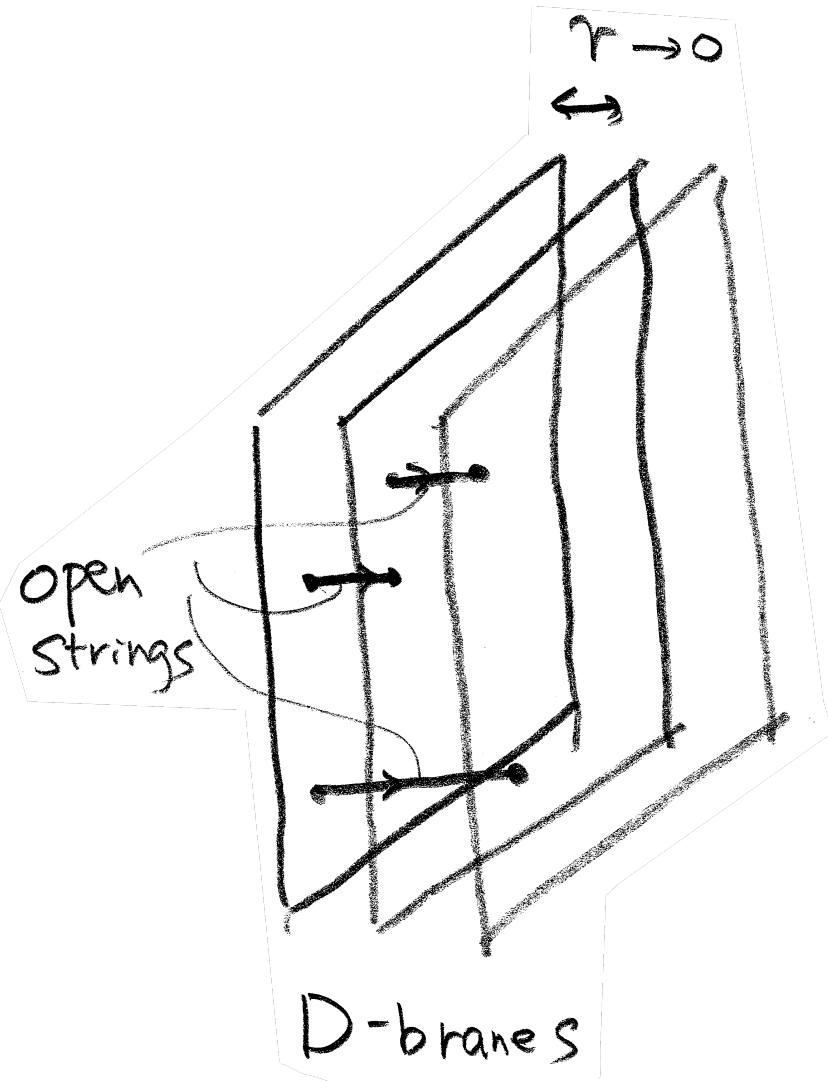


- Our idea is to consider tensionless strings as fundamental DOF of $D=6$ $N=(2,0)$ CFT.
- Of course having something as excitations does not mean that something is the fundamental DOF. But this is at least a natural idea.
- In case of D-branes, this idea does work.

- D-branes and YM • $N \times N$ species of **massless fields** from **open strings** connecting between i -th and j -th **D-branes** ($i=1, \dots, N; j=1, \dots, N$)

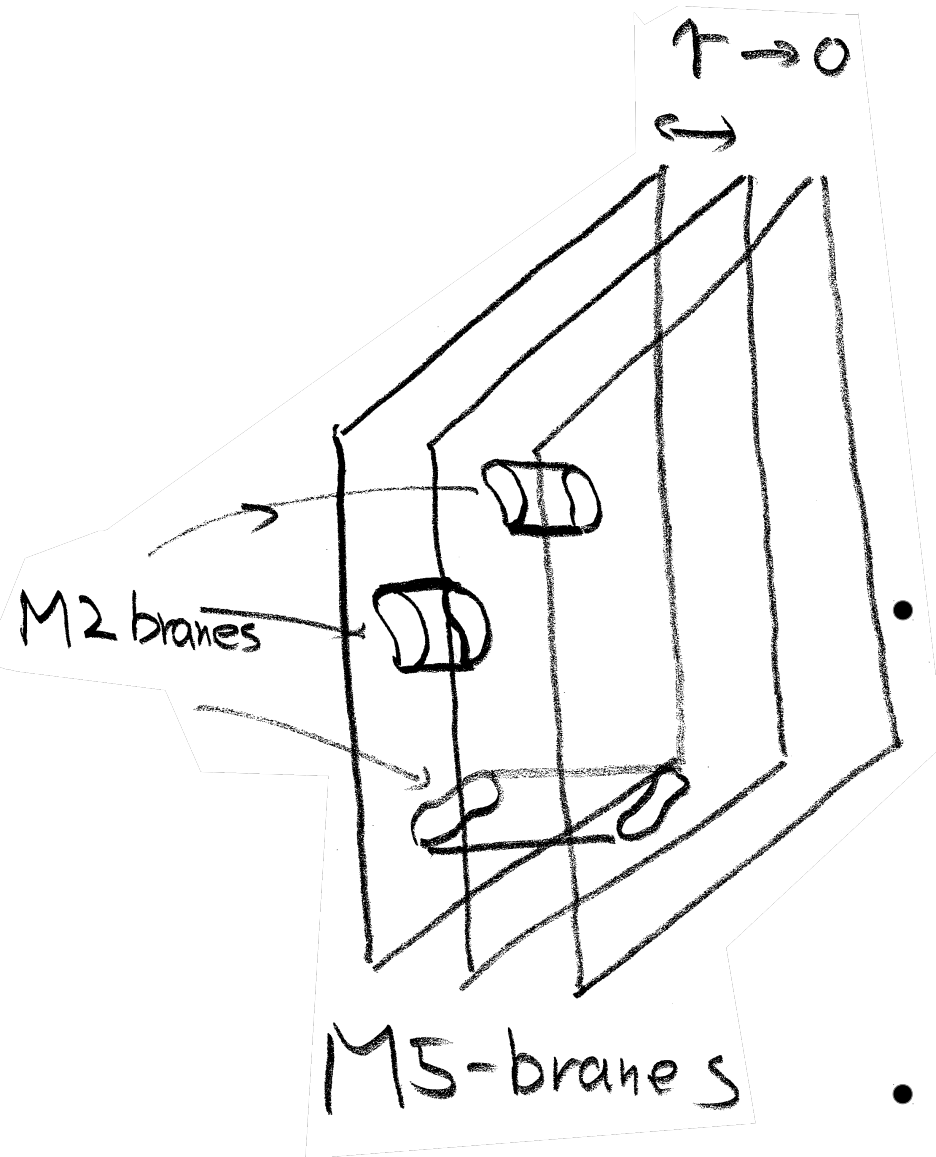
massless particles

= **open strings** stretching between **D-branes**



- The fields has a natural rep. as $N \times N$ matrices.
- The theory turns out to be **Super-Yang-Mills(SYM) theory** with **$U(N)$ gauge symmetry**.

Our proposal



- NxN species of **tensionless string** fields from **M2-branes** connecting between i-th and j-th **M5-branes** ($i=1, \dots, N; j=1, \dots, N$)

tensionless strings
=**M2 branes** stretching between **M5-branes**

- **Closed string fields** would be NxN matrix-valued.

$$\phi^i_j [x(\sigma)] \quad \text{for } \mathbf{M2} \text{ between } i\text{-th and } j\text{-th } \mathbf{M5}$$

- We would find **a theory** with **U(N) symmetry**
= D=6 (2,0) CFT

• Why string field theory(SFT) ?

- 2nd qtz form. may be suitable for **the tensionless case**.

$$-m \int ds \xrightarrow{m=0} ?$$
$$\int \phi(\square - m^2)\phi dx \xrightarrow{m=0} \int \phi \square \phi dx$$

Our strategy is to formulate **the tensionless case** right away; NOT to take tensionless limit of the tensile case cf. YM theory and mass

- Usual String theory
→ 1st quantised formulation = rules to compute S-matrix
construct **SFT** which recovers the rule
- However, we are now trying to define a **CFT**.
The good observables in **CFT** should be something like local correlators. S-matrix can be singular and it may be tricky to define it.
- Hence, it may make sense to break the usual order of logic and **start with SFT**. (cf. YM theory)

• Why string field theory(SFT) ?

- We
 - use 2nd quantised form. rather than 1st quantise form.
 - consider the tensionless case directly.
 - do NOT take the tensionless limit of the tensile case.
- Analogy to YM theory:
 - YM theory is considered in 2nd quantised form.
 - It is dangerous to consider massive vector theory and take the massless limit to define YM theory.
- Nature of observables:
 - We are now trying to define a CFT.
The good observables in CFT should be something like local correlators. S-matrix will be singular and it may be tricky to define it.
 - conventional 1st quantised form. of tensile string theory is aimed for computation of S-matrix.

- Use of lightcone(LC) gauge SFT
- In **LC gauge**, one can focus solely on the physical DOF, neglecting unphysical DOF
- The theory (action) of tensile **LC superstring field theory** is fixed up to cubic order by **the super-Poincare algebra** Green-Schwarz-Brink '83
- There is a **LC superspace** formulation of **D=4 N=4 SYM** Mandelstam, Brink-Lindgren-Nilsson '83
- Free **superparticle** with **D=6 N=(2,0) SUSY** can be formulated with a similar **LC superspace** (Ananth-Brink-Ramond; unpublished)

Properties of the LC formulation

- We introduce the LC coordinates,

$$x^+ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(x^0 + x^5), \quad x^- = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(x^0 - x^5), \quad x^\alpha \quad (\alpha = 1, 2, 3, 4)$$

x^+ plays the role of the time.

- Charges of super-Poincare alg. are divided into **dynamical**

$$P^-, Q_{D\dot{a}A}, M^{-\alpha}.$$

and **kinematical** ones

$$P^+, Q_{KaA}, P_\alpha, \dots$$

A=1,2,3,4: R-symmetry index

a, \dot{a} =1,2: little group SO(4) spinor index

- **Dynamical** symmetry transform fields **non-linearly**, **kinematical** ones **linearly**. E. g.

$$Q_D = Q_D^{(0)} + Q_D^{(1)} + \dots$$
$$= (\dots)\phi\phi + (\dots)\phi\phi\phi + \dots$$

$$Q_K = (\dots)\phi\phi.$$

• Properties of the LC formulation

- Considering the super Poincare algebra

$$\{Q_D, Q_D\} \sim P^-, \quad \{Q_K, Q_K\} \sim P^+, \quad \{Q_K, Q_D\} \sim P_\alpha, \dots$$

etc order by order, e.g.

$$\{Q_D^{(1)}, Q_D^{(0)}\} \sim P^{-(1)}, \quad \{Q_K, Q_D^{(1)}\} = 0, \dots$$

gives strong constraints on the theory.

- For example

type IIB Superstring field theory to cubic order

Green-Schwarz, Green-Schwarz-Brink '83 '84

Complete D=4 N=4 SYM LC superfield formulation fixed

(incl. Jacobi identities of the structure const.)

Ananth-Brink-Kim-Ramond '05

- Comparison to other theories in LC superspace
- Our aim is to construct something “in between” the **D=4 N=4 SYM** and **type IIB tensile super-SFT**.

	mass or tension	# of supercharge	DOF
$D = 4, \mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM	$= 0$	16	”particle”, matrix valued $\phi^i_j(x, \theta)$
$D = 10$ IIB super-SFT	$\neq 0$	32	”string”, not matrix valued $\phi[x(\sigma), \theta(\sigma)]$
$D = 6, \mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ tensionless super-SFT	$= 0$	16	”string”, matrix valued $\phi^i_j[x(\sigma), \theta(\sigma)]$

Summary of part 1.

- tensionless strings arise from M2 between M5
- We propose to formulate D=6 N=(2,0) CFT as SFT(string field theory) for tensionless strings with matrix-valued string field
- analogous to YM theory for D-branes
- lightcone gauge seems to be appropriate

2. LC SFT for the tensionless case

- String Field
- Free part
- Cubic interaction

- Free part of tensionless SFT

- The string field is

$$\phi_{P^+}^{\bar{I}} [x^\alpha(\sigma), \theta^{aA}(\sigma)]$$

$\alpha = 1, \dots, 4$ (trans. vector);
 $A = 1, \dots, 4$ (USp(4) R-symm.);
 $a, \dot{a} = 1, 2$: SO(4) spinor index;

I : “Lie alg.” index

- Chirality condition $d_{1A}(\sigma)\phi = 0$

where

$$d_{aA}(\sigma) = \frac{\delta}{\delta\theta^{aA}(\sigma)} + \frac{p^+}{\sqrt{2}}\theta^{bB}(\sigma)\epsilon_{ba}C_{BA}$$

$$q_{aA}(\sigma) = \frac{\delta}{\delta\theta^{aA}(\sigma)} - \frac{p^+}{\sqrt{2}}\theta^{bB}(\sigma)\epsilon_{ba}C_{BA}$$

- We constructed free part of the charges and verified the superalgebras (classically or at the Poisson bracket level)

$$[Q_{KaA}, \phi] = \left(- \int q_{aA}(\sigma) d\sigma \right) \phi$$

$$[Q_{D\dot{a}A}, \phi] = \left(- \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} q_{bA}(\sigma) \frac{1}{p^+} \epsilon^{bc} p^\alpha(\sigma) \sigma^\alpha{}_{c\dot{a}} d\sigma \right) \phi$$

$$[M^{\alpha\beta}, \phi] = \left(- \int x^\alpha(\sigma) p^\beta(\sigma) - x^\beta(\sigma) p^\alpha(\sigma) - i \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8} \frac{1}{p^+} \sigma^{\alpha\beta a}{}_{c} \epsilon^{cb} C^{-1AB} q_{aA}(\sigma) q_{bB}(\sigma) d\sigma \right) \phi$$

- Physics of **tensionless string**
- The Hamiltonian (in 1st quantised form) is

$$P^- = \int \frac{(p^\alpha(\sigma))^2}{2p^+} d\sigma + \int \frac{T^2 (\partial_\sigma x^\alpha(\sigma))^2}{2p^+} d\sigma$$

- an usual string = a collection of harmonic oscillators
- **a tensionless string** = a collection of free particles

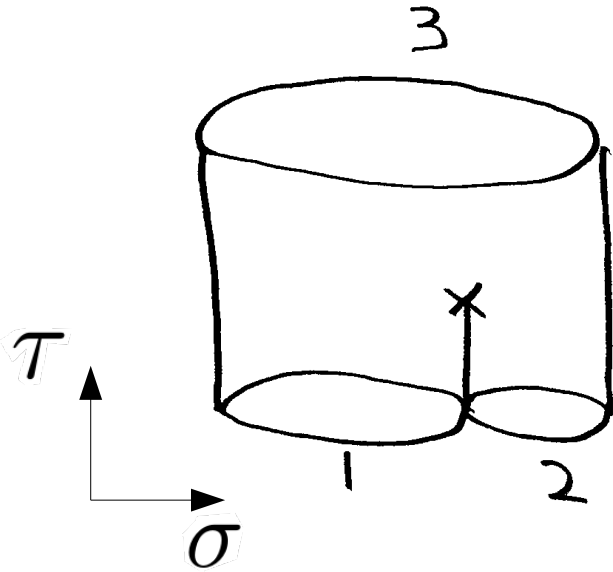
Has to deal with the continuous spectrum.

- Each part of the **tensionless string** moves freely = string bits
- Information of σ -coordinates is retained by x^- defined by

$$\partial_\sigma x^- = \frac{1}{p^+} x^\alpha \partial_\sigma p_\alpha$$

and through this, the level matching condition and $M^{-\alpha}$.

Cubic interaction part of tensionless SFT



“Length” of 1,2,3 strings

$$\propto P_1^+, P_2^+, P_3^+$$

Cubic part of charges in **LC SFT** consists of 2 ingredients
(insertions) \times (overlap) (Green-Schwarz-Brink '83)

where

(overlap) = δ -functional connecting 3rd to 1st, 2nd strings

(insertion) = local insertion at the interaction pt

We defined the overlap and insertion for the tensionless case as well.

- Cubic interaction part of tensionless SFT
- Our ansatz is e.g.

$$Q_{D\dot{a}A}^{(1)} \sim f^I{}_{JK} \int \prod_{r=1}^3 \mathcal{D}x_r dP_r^+ \mathcal{D}\theta_r \mathcal{D}\bar{\theta}_r \times \overline{\phi}_{P_3^+}{}^I[x_3, \theta_3, \bar{\theta}_3] \phi_{P_1^+}{}^J[x_1, \theta_1, \bar{\theta}_1] \phi_{P_2^+}{}^K[x_2, \theta_2, \bar{\theta}_2]$$

$$\times (p^+)^{-2} (P_1^+)^{\lambda_1} (P_2^+)^{\lambda_2} (P_3^+)^{\lambda_3} \delta(P_1^+ + P_2^+ - P_3^+)$$

$$\times p_\alpha \cdot w \sigma^{\alpha b}{}_{\dot{a}} d_{bA} \cdot w V[x_1, \theta_1, \bar{\theta}_1; x_2, \theta_2, \bar{\theta}_2; x_3, \theta_3, \bar{\theta}_3]$$

↖ insertion ↖ overlap

- Consistency with the SUSY algebra strongly restricts the form of the ansatz.
- Closure of algebra and power-counting yields

$$\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 = \frac{1}{2}$$

The ansatz is fixed up to 2 parameters
- Verified the algebra except for those involving $M^{-\alpha}$
 $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$ will be fixed if we study full superalgebra.

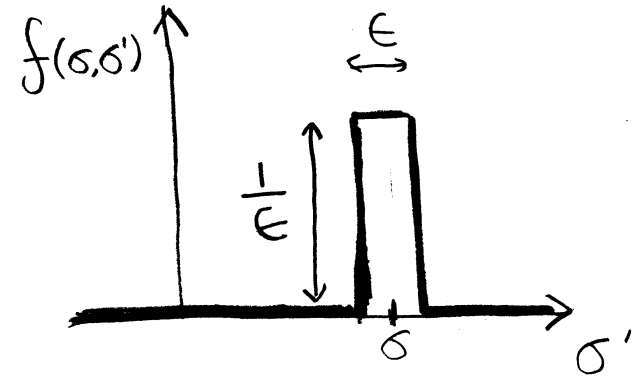
Technical tools: Smearing and test functional

- 1. Multiplication of operators at the same σ



→ We use smearing

$$p(\sigma) \longrightarrow \int f(\sigma, \sigma') p(\sigma') d\sigma'$$



- 2. Evaluation of complicated expression with delta-functional and delta-functions can be difficult

→ We sandwich the expression by test functionals

$$\phi[x(\sigma)] = e^{-\frac{\alpha}{4} p^+ \int x(\sigma)^2 d\sigma} \times e^{i \int k(\sigma) x(\sigma) d\sigma}$$

(generalised wave packets; natural for tensionless strings)

- Computation of sandwiching done by Wick contraction (cf. Brownian motion; analogous to matrix elements by 2DCFT in tensile string theory.)
- By using these method one can fix ambiguities in the insertion at the interaction point.

Summary of part 2.

- We constructed free part of **SFT**
- Cubic interaction part is partially fixed up to two parameters from part of the super-Poincare algebra
- We introduced **technical tools** (smearing and test functionals) to **perform computation in unambiguous manner.**

3. **Tensionless SFT** and infamous difficulties in the Lagrangian description.

- Power counting
- Reduction to $D=4$ $N=4$ SYM

Power counting

- In **usual field theory** the dimension of coupling const. **depends on** the spacetime dimensions D .

It is difficult to write (supersymmetric) action with dimensionless coupling in $D=6$ in **usual field theory**.

Power counting

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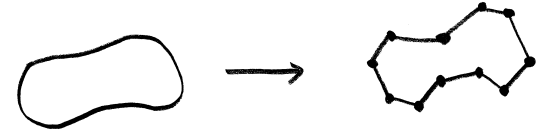
It is difficult to write (supersymmetric) action with dimensionless coupling in $D=6$ in **usual field theory**.

- In **SFT** dimension of coupling const. **does NOT depend** on the spacetime dimension D .
- **Use of SFT instead of usual field theory changes the power-counting in the favourable direction.**

• Power counting

- For SFT powercounting changes in a favourable direction.
- Use string bits regularisation. Omit Fermions and consider arbitrary spacetime dimensions.

$$\phi_{P^+}[x^\alpha(\sigma)] \rightarrow \phi_{P^+}(x_1^\alpha, \dots, x_N^\alpha)$$



- Using the form of a part of the quadratic part of the action

$$S \sim \int \dots \int d^{D-2}x_1 \dots d^{D-2}x_N dP^+ dx^+ \left(\overline{\phi_{P^+}}(x) \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_n^\alpha} \right)^2 \phi_{P^+}(x) \right)$$

we find

$$(\text{dim. of } \phi) = N \frac{(D-2)}{2} - 1$$

• Power counting

Now consider the cubic part of the action

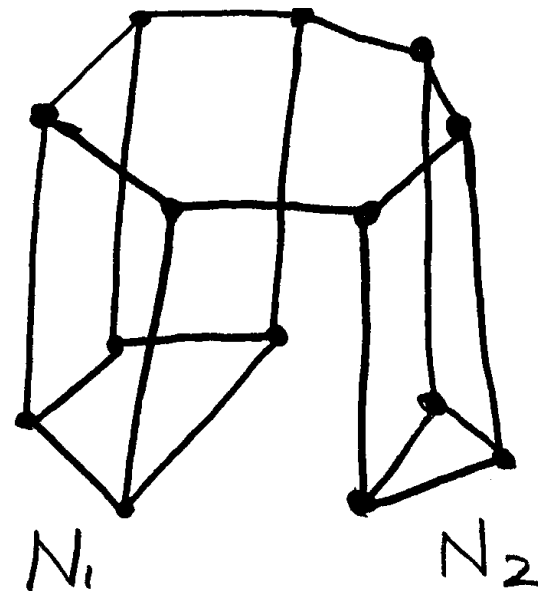
$$S \sim g \int \cdots \int d^{D-2}x_1 \cdots d^{D-2}x_{N_3} dP_1^+ dP_2^+ dP_3^+ dx^+ \delta(P_1^+ + P_2^+ - P_3^+) \\ (\cdots) \overline{\phi}_{P_3^+}(x_1, \cdots, x_{N_3}) \phi_{P_1^+}(x_1, \cdots, x_{N_1}) \phi_{P_2^+}(x_{N_1+1}, \cdots, x_{N_1+N_2})$$

using $(\text{dim. of } \phi) = N \frac{(D-2)}{2} - 1$ we find

$$(\text{dim. of } g) = (D-2)N_3 - (D-2) \left(\frac{N_1}{2} + \frac{N_2}{2} + \frac{N_3}{2} \right) + 2 - (\text{dim. of } (\cdots)) \\ = \text{does not depend on } D$$

Due to $N_3 = N_1 + N_2$

Dimension of coupling const in SFT does not depend on the spacetime dimension. (cf. usual QFT)



Power counting

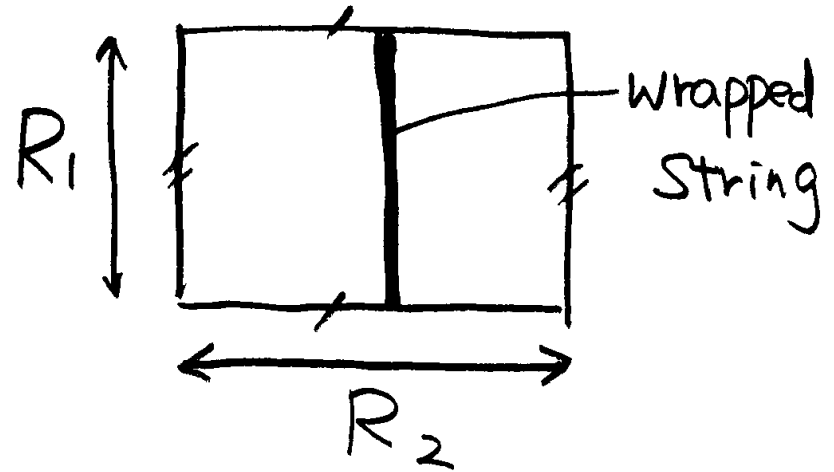
- Dimension of coupling const in SFT does not depends on the spacetime dimension. (cf. usual QFT)
- Follows from the fact that string interaction is locally a free propagation. (The cubic and the quadratic part of the action have the same structure dimension-wise.)
- This might have been expected: it is well known that the string coupling const. (in usual string theory) is dimensionless.

• Reduction to D=4 N=4 SYM

- D=6 N=(2,0) CFT reduces to D=4 N=4 SYM

$$\frac{1}{g_{YM}^2} \sim \frac{R_2}{R_1}$$

- Dep. on R_2 can be understood from simple KK red. In usual QFT deducing dep. on R_1 is hard. Even asymmetry between R_1 and R_2 is puzzling.
- In **tensionless SFT** one can define the reduction of the theory using **wrapped string**.



which introduces **natural distinction** between R_1, R_2 .

Summary of 3.

- Power-counting changes in the favourable direction. Dimension of coupling const. of SFT does not depends on spacetime dimesions.
- The asymmetry of dependence of coupling const. to two compactification radii can be attributed to the direction of the wrapping of tensionless strings.

4. Problem of Observables

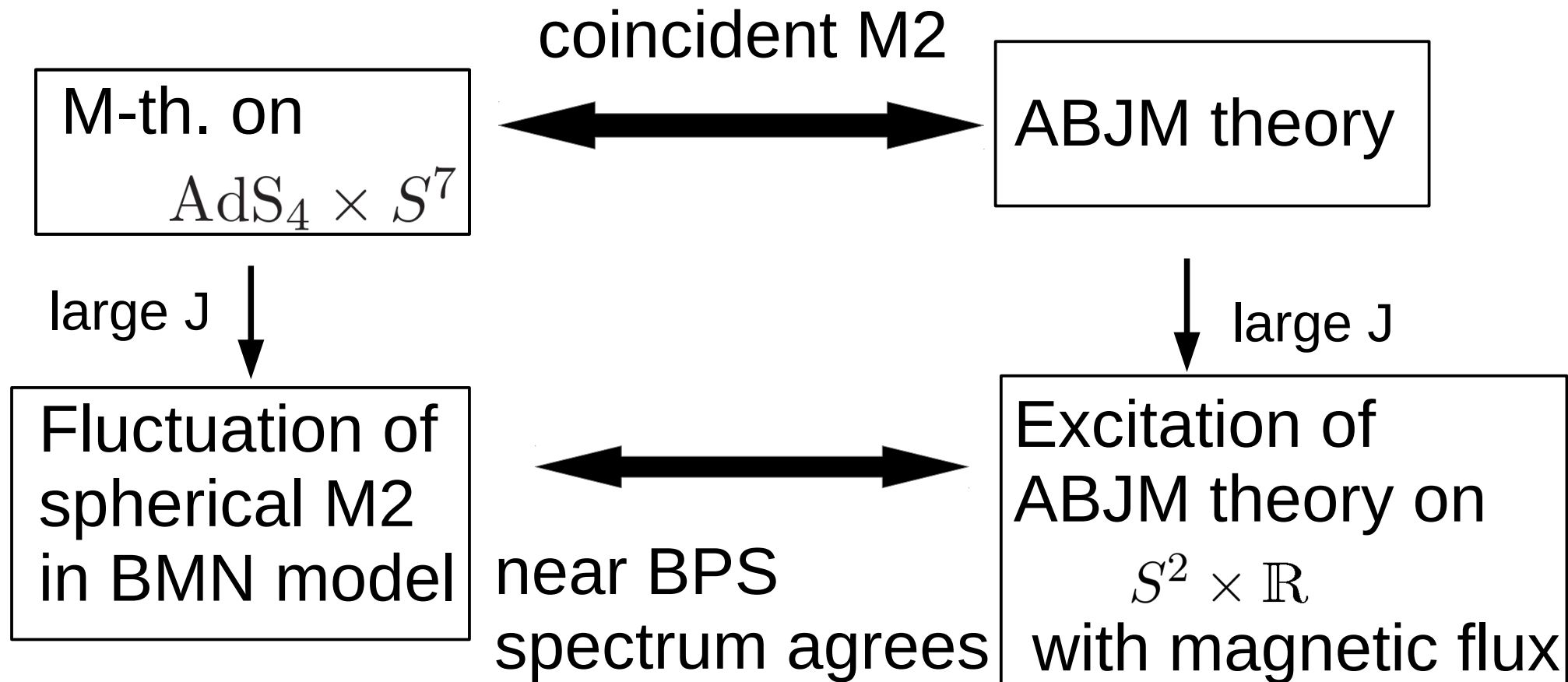
- “What are the observables of **tensionless SFT**?”
- AdS7/CFT6 & large J approx. gives hint.
- a speculative idea: BMN-like operators on a loop space

• Problem of Observables

- Our formulation contains lots of **light DOF**. Will they cause any singularities?
- Do **tensionless strings** really contain non-trivial dynamics?
- To address these questions, we first need to know what are good observables of tensionless SFT.
- This is probably the most important open problem in our approach at present.
- It is possible that while our theory uses very many DOF for Lagrangian formulation, there is a vast redundancy: The we identify correct observables in our model, the spectrum of these observables may be consistent with traditional point of view of local CFT.

Hint from AdS7/CFT6

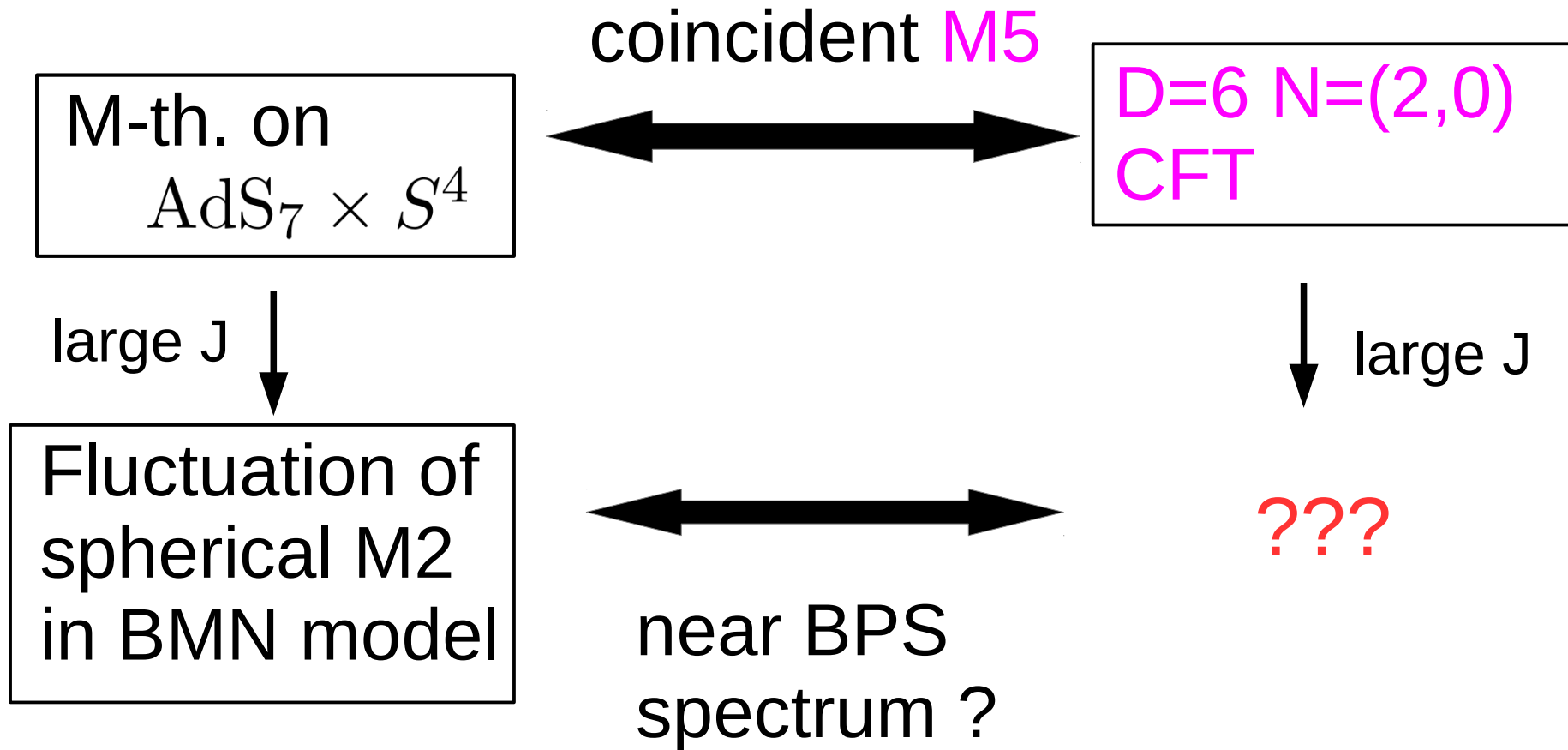
- Large J (R-charge) sector of AdS4/CFT3 [Kovacs-Sato-HS'13](#)



- "Can we do this for AdS7/CFT6?"

Hint from AdS7/CFT6

- Large J (R-charge) sector of AdS7/CFT6?



- Large J sector of $D=6$ $N=(2,0)$ CFT should contain **near-BPS operators corresponding to fluctuation of spherical M2**.
An important hint for any attempt to formulate $D=6$ $(2,0)$ CFT.

- operators corr. to fluct. of spherical M2?: a speculation
- For **D=6 N=(2,0) CFT**, the radial quantisation (which worked for D=3 ABJM theory) do not work.
- In AdS5/CFT4, **Berenstein-Maldacena-Nastase'02**

$$\text{Tr} Z(x) Z(x) Z(x) X(x) Z(x) Z(x) Z(x) X(x) Z(x) Z(x)$$
where $Z(x)$, $X(x)$ are matrix local fields of D=4, N=4 SYM, are the near-BPS operators corresponding to closed strings. The order of matrix products gives σ -coordinates.
- We need one more σ -coordinate for M2. Something like

$$\text{Tr} Z[x(\sigma)] Z[x(\sigma)] Z[x(\sigma)] X[x(\sigma)] Z[x(\sigma)] Z[x(\sigma)] Z[x(\sigma)] X[x(\sigma)] Z[x(\sigma)] Z[x(\sigma)]$$
in terms of matrix-valued field on **a loop space** corr. to **tensionless string** in **D=6 N=(2,0) CFT** ?
- This speculation lead us to study **tensionless SFT**.

Summary of 4.

- The important question is
“What are the observables of **tensionless SFT**?”
- AdS7/CFT6 & large J approx. gives a hint.
D=6 (2,0) CFT in the R-charge sector should contain an operator corr. to. fluctuation of spherical M2
- A speculation:
BMN-like operator on a loop space

Summary and discussion

Summary

1. We propose to construct **LC gauge SFT** of **tensionless strings** as a Lagrangian formulation of **D=6 N=(2,0) CFT**.
2. **Tensionless SFT** is **constrained by SUSY**
 - Free part is constructed
 - Ingredients of the cubic vertex: overlap and insertions for tensionless case are constructed.
 - Ansatz for cubic part is given partially fixed by part of SUSY algebra
3. **Tensionless SFT** may circumvent infamous difficulties
 - Power counting
 - string coupling const. is dimensionless**
 - Reduction to D=4 N=4 SYM
 - incorporates distinction between two compactification radii via **wrapped string**.
4. Crucial to understand observables of **tensionless SFT**
 - should contain near-BPS op. corresponding to fluct of spherical M2
 - BMN like op. on loop space?

Discussions

- It is possible that **tensionless SFT** may eventually be superceded by some kind of regularised (string-bits or matrix-model) description. Then the role of **tensionless SFT** is not a fundamental description but an effective theory for a class of light DOF(**tensionless strings**).
- By introducing VEV corresponding to the transverse distance of M5-branes, off-diagonal string fields should become tensile ~analogous to the Higgs effect of YM for D-branes. Should determine the yet undetermined parameters.
- If the **tensionless SFT** approach turns out to work, **it would extend the realm of both what we usually think of as string theory and CFT.**
- Our construction is not complete yet. But we believe that we introduced necessary tools so that **tensionless SFT** is now becoming something in which one can do concrete calculations to check whether the theory really works.