# Non renormalisations theorems in superstring and maximal supergravity theories

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based on some work done in collaboration with M.B. Green and J.Russo

Gravity describes the interactions of a massless spin 2 particle with a dimensionfull coupling constant

$$[1/\kappa_{(D)}^2] = (1/length)^{D-2}$$

A *L*-loop n-point *pure* gravity amplitude in dimensions *D* has the *superficial* UV behaviour

$$[A_L^{(n)}] = \kappa_{(D)}^{2L-2+n} \Lambda^{(D-2)L+2}; \qquad \delta_L = (D-2)L+2$$

• The 4-graviton amplitude in D = 4 behaves as

1-loop: 
$$A_1^{(4)} \sim \kappa_{(4)}^4 \Lambda^4$$
  
2-loop:  $A_2^{(4)} \sim \kappa_{(4)}^6 \Lambda^6$ 

which requieres the following counter-terms to

$$\delta_1 A_1^{(4)} \sim \kappa_{(4)}^4 R_{mnpq}^2$$
  
 $\delta_2 A_2^{(4)} \sim \kappa_{(4)}^6 R_{mnpq}^3$ 

• Gravity is diverging at 1-loop when coupled to matter or at 2-loop for pure gravity 't Hooft/Veltman; Goroff/Sagnotti; van de ven

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• For  $N \ge 1$  susy the  $R^3$  counter-term is not allowed. Two-loop is finite. Tomboulis; Grisaru Howe, Lindstrom have constructed a possible counter-term at • L = 3 loop order for  $N \le 4$  on-shell supersymmetries

$$\mathcal{L}_{3}=\int d^{4N} heta\,(\kappa^{2}_{(4)}R_{lphaeta\gamma\delta}\, heta^{N})^{4}$$

• L = N - 1 loop order for  $N \ge 4$  on-shell supersymmetries.

$$\mathcal{L}_{N-1} = \int d^{4N}\theta \, (\kappa_{(4)}^2 R_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}\theta^{\alpha}\theta^{\beta}\theta^{\gamma}\theta^{\delta})^N$$

• But no divergence at L = 3 are found in D = 4 for the 4 graviton amplitude for N = 8 Bern et al.

Berkovits' formalism gives a different way of contructing superinvariants

$$\mathcal{L}_{g}=\int d^{16} heta_{L}d^{16} heta_{R}\, heta_{L}^{12-2g}\, heta_{R}^{12-2g}\,\mathcal{W}_{lphaeta}^{4}$$

with the chiral superfield ( $\alpha, \beta \in$  16 of SO(10) for instance)

$$\mathcal{W}_{\alpha\beta} = \mathcal{F}_{\alpha\beta} + \dots + \theta_L^{\gamma} \theta_R^{\delta} W_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} + \dotsb$$

entering the contribution of the vertex operators

$$V = \int d^2 z \left( G_{MN} \partial x^M \bar{\partial} x^N + \dots + d_L^{\alpha} d_R^{\beta} \mathcal{W}_{\alpha\beta} \right)$$

The measure of integration arise from the zero mode of a genus g string amplitude in the non-minimal pure spinor formalism.

# Superspace and counter-terms for Supergravity?

$$\mathcal{L}_{g} = \int d^{16}\theta_{L} d^{16}\theta_{R} \,\theta_{L}^{12-2g} \,\theta_{R}^{12-2g} \,(\theta_{L}\theta_{R} \,W)^{4}$$

- $\bullet$  Up to and including genus 5  $\mathcal{L}_g$  is a gravitational F-term
- $g \ge 6$  gives a D-term that is the *first* possible counter-term at 9 loops

$$\kappa_{(4)}^{20} \int d^{16} \theta_L d^{16} \theta_R \left( \theta_L \theta_R W \right)^4 \sim \kappa_{(4)}^{20} D^{12} R^4$$

This superspace formalism would give

$$\delta_L = (D - 2)L - 18$$

All the superspace argument presented above gives

$$\delta_L = (D-2)L - Cste <=>D \ge D_c = 2 + \frac{Cste}{L}$$

which means that only D = 2 supergravity would be finite.

Can we expect something better?

Considering a *n*-graviton one-loop amplitude a naive power counting argument indicate 2n powers of loop momenta in the numerator

$$\int d^{D}\ell \, \frac{\ell^{2n}}{\prod_{i=1}^{n} (\ell + K_{j_{1} \cdots j_{i}})^{2}} \sim \Lambda^{D}$$

Various computations of 4,5, ..., 7-graviton amplitudes at one-loop Bern et al.; Bjerrum-Bohr et al. indicate that

$$\int d^D \ell \, \frac{\ell^{n+4-\mathcal{N}}}{\prod_{i=1}^n (\ell + K_{j_1 \cdots j_i})^2} \sim \Lambda^{D-n+4-\mathcal{N}}$$

where  $0 \leq N \leq 8$  is the number of supersymmetries counted in 4d These cancellations can be tracked to the good high-energy behaviour of tree-level gravity amplitude Cachazo et al.; Bern et al.

• N = 8 supergravity factorizes extra powers of the external momenta

$$[A_L^{(4)}] = \Lambda^{(D-2)L-6-2\beta_L} [D^{2\beta_L} R^4]$$

• At one-loop one has  $\beta_1=0$  Green et al.

$$[A_1^{(4)}] = R^4 \Lambda^{D-8}$$

• At two-loop one has  $\beta_2 = 2$  Bern et al.

$$[A_2^{(4)}] = D^4 R^4 \Lambda^{2(D-7)}$$

• At higher loop we will except Green, Russo, Vanhove  $eta_L = L ext{ for } L \geq 2$ 

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we will discuss the validity of this relation

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• D = 11 four gravitons supergravity *L*-loop amplitudes

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \mathcal{A}_{L}^{(4)} &=& S^{\beta_{L}} R^{4} \, \mathcal{I}(s,t,u) + \textit{perms.} \\ &\sim& \Lambda^{9L-6-2\beta_{L}} \, D^{2\beta_{L}} R^{4} + \cdots \end{array}$$

• Compactifying on a circle of radius  $R_{11}$  the derivative expansion

$$A_{L} = \sum_{w,\nu} \ell_{P}^{9(L-1)} \frac{\Lambda^{9L-6-2\beta_{L}-w}}{R_{11}^{w}} (R_{11}^{2}D^{2})^{\nu} D^{2\beta_{L}} R^{4}$$

 $w \ge 0$  parametrizes the UV (sub-)divergences of the L-loop diagram

The relation between the Type II string and M-theory parameters

$$R_{11}^{3} = (g_{s}^{A})^{2} \ell_{P}^{3}$$
  
$$ds_{M-th}^{2} = \frac{\ell_{P}^{3}}{\ell_{s}^{2}} R_{11}^{-1} ds_{IIA}^{2} + R_{11}^{2} (dx^{11} - C_{m} dx^{m})^{2}$$

The derivative are rescaled as

$$D^2 
ightarrow R_{11} \, rac{\ell_P^3}{\ell_s^2} \, D^2$$

## Multiloop amplitudes in M-theory

$$A_{h} = \ell_{s}^{2k-2} \sum_{w,\nu} \Lambda^{\delta} c_{h} e^{2(h-1)\phi_{A}} D^{2k} R^{4}$$
$$\delta = 9L - 6 - 2\beta_{L} - w; \qquad h = 1 + k - \frac{w + 2\beta_{L}}{3}$$

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$$w \ge 0 <=>h \le k + 1 - \frac{2\beta_L}{3}$$

• At one-loop  $\beta_1 = 0$  and the only diverging term is  $R^4$ 

• Since at higher-loop we have  $\beta_L = 2$  for  $L \ge 2$  then

 $h \leq k$ 

- There are no contributions with string loop genus h > k.
- The contributions with h = k are **exactly** determined by the one-loop (L = 1) diagram in eleven dimensions.
- $\beta_L = L$  so  $\delta_L = (D-4)L 6$

$$[A_L^{(4)}] = \Lambda^{(D-4)L-6} [D^{2L} R^4]$$

• Same critical dimension for divergences as in N = 4 SYM

$$D \ge D_c = \mathbf{4} + \frac{6}{L}$$

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# One loop amplitude



 $\bullet$  The loop integral is the massless scalar  $\varphi^3$  box diagram

$$\int \frac{d^D p}{p^2 (p - k_1)^2 (p - k_1 - k_2)^2 (p + k_4)^2}$$

• There is no triangle or bubble loop integrals

• We have  $\beta_1 = 0$  and the degree of divergence  $\delta_1 = 3$  in D = 11

• Compactification on  $T^2$  to 9D gives type IIA/IIB string on circle

$$\mathcal{A}_{L=1}^{(4)} = r_{a} \left[ \frac{2\zeta(3)}{(g_{s}^{a})^{2}} + \frac{4\zeta(2)}{r_{a}^{2}} + (\ell_{P}\Lambda)^{3} \right] \mathcal{R}^{4} \\ + r_{a} \sum_{n \geq 2} \frac{\zeta^{*}(2n-1)}{n!} r_{a}^{2(n-1)} (\alpha'\mathcal{D}^{2})^{n} \mathcal{R}^{4} \\ + r_{a} \sum_{n \geq 2} \frac{\zeta(2n-2)}{n!} e^{2(n-1)\phi} (\alpha'\mathcal{D}^{2})^{n} \mathcal{R}^{4} \\ + \text{ non-anal. + non-pert.}$$

• Higher string genus contributions satisfying the bound  $\beta_h = h$ 

- The one-loop expressions are not T-duality  $r_a = 1/r_b$  invariant. To be cured by the higher-loop contributions
- Non analytic terms from the massless threshold, and non perturbative effects (D-branes)

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## Renormalisation the one-loop amplitude

• T-duality invariance of the 4 gravitons amplitude at one string-loop

$$r_a \leftrightarrow r_b = rac{1}{r_a}; \qquad rac{r_a}{(g_s^a)^2} = rac{r_b}{(g_s^b)^2}$$

$$A_{L=1} = \left( r_a \frac{2\zeta(3)}{(g_s^a)^2} + \frac{4\zeta(2)}{r_a} + r_a \left[ (\ell_P \Lambda)^3 + c_1 \right] \right) \mathcal{R}^4$$

 $\bullet~\text{RG}$  scheme: we substract the  $\Lambda^3$  divergence and leave a finite answer

$$4\zeta(2) = (\ell_P \Lambda)^3 + c_1$$

• The UV divergence is regulated by matching string perturbative answer.

# Two loops in 11D

•  $\mathcal{N}=8$  susy implies that the amplitude factorizes  $\mathcal{D}^4\,\mathcal{R}^4$  Bern et al.



• This has  $\beta_2 = 2$  and the superficial UV behaviour is  $\delta_2 = 8$ 

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Is N = 8 supergravity finite?

$$\delta A^{(L=2)} = c_8 D^4 R^4 + c_6 D^6 R^4 + \dots + c_0 D^{12} R^4$$

The  $D^4 R^4$  factor is given by Green et al.

$$D^4 R^4 \left(\Lambda^8 + \Lambda^3 rac{E_{5}(\Omega)}{\mathcal{V}^{5/2}} + rac{\zeta(3)\zeta(4)}{\mathcal{V}^4}
ight)$$

• The  $\Lambda^8$  term does not have an interpretation in string theory

$$(\ell_P \Lambda)^8 + c_2 = 0$$

- The 2nd term decompactifies to a 10d contribution
- The 3rd term is a genus one contribution to 9d effective action restauring the T-duality invariance  $r_a \rightarrow r_b = 1/r_a$

The set of counter-term needed to regularise the L = 2 amplitude is Green, Vanhove; Green, Russo, Vanhove

$$\delta_2 A_2 = \zeta(4) \, \ell_P^{12} \, D^6 R^4 + \zeta(6) \, \ell_P^{18} \, D^{12} R^4$$

together with the 1-loop counter we have the following correction to the M-theory effective action

$$S_{eff} = R_{(11)} + \ell_P^3 \zeta(2) R^4 + \zeta(4) \ell_P^{12} D^6 R^4 + \zeta(6) \ell_P^{18} D^{12} R^4$$

The series of  $R^{3m+1}$  corrections to the M-theory action compatible with the strong coupling limit of string theory Russo, Tseytlin

The L = 2 amplitude on  $T^2$  is compared with string theory on  $S^1$  in 9D

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}^{(L=2)} &= r_b \left( g_s^{-1/2} E_{\frac{5}{2}} D^4 R^4 + g_s \mathcal{E}_{(0,1)} D^6 R^4 + \frac{g_s^2}{r_b^2} \mathcal{E}_{(2,0)} D^8 R^4 \right. \\ &+ \frac{g_s^3}{r_b^4} \mathcal{F}_{(1,1)} D^{10} R^4 + \frac{g_s^4}{r_b^6} \mathcal{G}_{(3,0)}^{(\times)} D^{12} R^4 + \frac{g_s^4}{r_b^6} \mathcal{G}_{(0,2)}^{(\vee)} D^{12} R^4 + \cdots \right) \end{aligned}$$

• In 9d this gives terms that complete the *L* = 1 answer into T-duality invariant expressions

# Three loops in 11D



- The ladder diagram has  $\beta_3 = 4$
- Mondrian & Window diagrams have  $\beta_3 = 2$ No more reduction to pure  $\varphi^3$  diagrams
- No triangles

- Although the mondrian diagrams only have a  $D^4 R^4$  explicitly factorized the total amplitude starts with  $D^6 R^4$  at low-energy Bern et al. in agreement with the string predictions Green et al.
- The UV divergences up to this order is as for N = 4 SYM

$$\delta_L = (D-4)L - 6$$

• No L = 3 UV divergences in 4D Bern et al.

• Some couplings are given by Eisenstein series

Green, Gutperle; Green, Vanhove; Green, Sethi

$$lpha'$$
 :  $(\Delta - (\frac{1}{2} + g)(g - \frac{1}{2}))E_{\frac{1}{2} + g}(\Omega, \bar{\Omega}) = 0$ 

- with a maximum genus g contribution
- Gives the correct string perturbation contributions to the  $R^4$  (g=1) and  $D^4 R^4$  (g=2) couplings Green, Vanhove; D'Hoker, Phong; Berkovits

# Protected couplings in type IIB superstring

• At higher order the differential equation changes structure Green, Vanhove

$${\alpha'}^6$$
:  $(\Delta - (1 + 3) \times 3)\mathcal{E}_{(0,1)}(\Omega, \overline{\Omega}) = -6E_{\frac{3}{2}}^2$ 

$$\Omega_2^{-1}\mathcal{E}_{(0,1)} = 4\zeta(3)^2\Omega_2^2 + 8\zeta(2)\zeta(3) + \frac{48}{5}\frac{\zeta(2)^2}{\Omega_2^2} + \frac{8}{9}\frac{\zeta(6)}{\Omega_2^4} + o(e^{-2\pi\Omega_2})$$

- The highest genus contribution is 3
- The highest contribution matches the values from the L = 1 amplitude
- Exactness of the result no contributions from higher loop  $L \ge 3$  contributions

Although we extrapolated from strong  $R_{11} = \infty$  to weak string coupling  $R_{11} = 0$  we could reconstructing the string theory S-matrix up to high order in derivative expansion including higher loop contributions, and derive some important non renormalisation theorems. The results described in this talk *match* various result from string perturbation Green et al.







