

Chapter 14

Strings at Strong Coupling

Following “*String Theory*” by J. Polchinski, Vol.II.
Notes written by students (work still in progress).

For more information contact George Siopsis
gsiopsis@utk.edu

$$Z = \text{[torus]} + g \text{[genus 2 surface]} + g^2 \text{[genus 3 surface]} + \dots$$

g is a dimensionless coupling constant where $\alpha' = l_s^2(\text{length}^2)$. This series is valid for small g and breaks down when g is large, eg. black holes or low energy case. Before considers strings at strong coupling let look at a simple black hole, Schwarzschild black hole.

Schwarzschild black hole

$$ds^2 = - \left(1 - \frac{r_0}{r}\right) dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{1 - \frac{r_0}{r}} + r^2 (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta \phi^2) \quad (14.1)$$

The horizon is $r_0 = 2GM_{\text{b.h.}}$, which's obtained from $-g_{tt} = 1 - r_0/r$ by letting $r \rightarrow \infty$ and expanding in term of $1/r$. The first order is $2V(r)$, where $V(r) = GM/r$. The black hole radiates giving a Hawking temperature, ie.

$$T_H = \frac{\hbar}{4\pi} h'(r_0) = \frac{1}{4\pi r_0}, \quad (14.2)$$

where $h(r) = 1 - r_0/r$ and set $\hbar = 1$. The entropy is

$$S = \frac{A_H}{4G}, \quad A_H = \text{area of horizon.} \quad (14.3)$$

From the second law of thermodymaics

$$\begin{aligned} dU &= TdS & (14.4) \\ T_H dS_{\text{b.h.}} &= \frac{1}{4\pi r_H} d\left(\frac{4\pi r_H^2}{4G}\right) \\ &= d\left(\frac{r_H}{2G}\right) = dM_{\text{b.h.}} & (14.5) \end{aligned}$$

which is agree with the second law. From classical thermodymaics a sphere will radiate with energy density, u

$$\begin{aligned} u &\propto T^4 \\ U &= uV \propto T^4 R^3. \end{aligned}$$

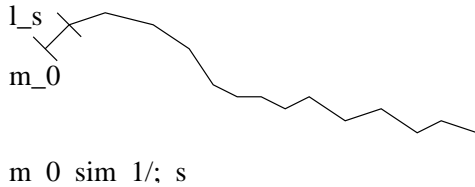
and from schwarzschild black hole

$$\begin{aligned} r_0 &\propto M_{\text{b.h.}} = U \propto T^4 R^3 \text{ but} \\ T &\propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{r_0}} \\ S &\sim \frac{U}{T} \sim T^3 V = r_0^{-3/2} r_0^3 \sim r_0^{3/2} \sim M_{\text{b.h.}}^{3/2} \ll M_{\text{b.h.}}^2. \end{aligned} \quad (14.6)$$

which is disagree with the second law. Next try to reconcile by considering strings. From Hamiltonian eigenvalue,

$$\begin{aligned} H &\sim \alpha' p^2 + N \\ M^2 &\sim \frac{N}{\alpha'} = \frac{N}{l_s^2}, \quad \alpha' = l_s^2. \end{aligned}$$

At high excited strings, $N \gg 1$,



Strings live in D dimensions, therefore there are D possible directions for strings to move to or $D \times D \times \dots$, for n steps, D^n possibilities, ie.

$$\begin{aligned} S &\sim \ln D^n = n \ln D \sim n \\ \text{total mass } M &= n m_0 \sim \frac{n}{l_s} \sim \frac{S}{l_s}, \text{ then} \\ S &\sim M l_s \end{aligned} \quad (14.7)$$

but black holes have a strong coupling g or strong gravitational interaction. Therefore let take the strong coupling g into consideration. From classical physics, we know that G is a constant and has unit time^2 and from strings $G \sim g^2 \alpha' \sim g^2 l_s^2$ (in everyday life experience, curvature $< 1/l_s$ making Einstien's equation still valid). With $G \sim g^2 l_s^2$ constant, there are two possibilities.

(i) If g small, then string perturbation thoery is still valid.

(ii) If g large (l_s small) or $M \sim \frac{\sqrt{N}}{l_s}$ increase, then l_s small enough $l_s \sim r_0$ and $S_{\text{b.h.}} \sim \frac{r_0^2}{G} \sim \frac{1}{g^2}$. Then $S \rightarrow S_{\text{b.h.}}$ and

$$\begin{aligned} S_{\text{b.h.}}^{1/2} M G^{1/2} &\sim S_{\text{b.h.}} \text{ or} \\ S_{\text{b.h.}} &\sim M^2. \end{aligned} \quad (14.8)$$

Next let consider Kaluza-Klein black hole with the metric and following properties

$$ds^2 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{f}} \left(1 - \frac{r_0}{r}\right) dt^2 + \sqrt{f} \frac{dr^2}{1 - \frac{r_0}{r}} + \sqrt{f} r^2 (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2) \quad (14.9)$$

$$f(r) = 1 + \frac{r_0 \sinh^2 \gamma}{r} \quad (14.10)$$

$$\begin{aligned} h(r) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{f}} \left(1 - \frac{r_0}{r}\right) \\ &\approx \left(1 - \frac{r_0 \sinh^2 \gamma}{2r}\right) \left(1 - \frac{r_0}{r}\right) \\ &\approx 1 - \frac{r_0}{r} \left(1 + \frac{\sinh^2 \gamma}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$2GM = r_0 \left(1 + \frac{\sinh^2 \gamma}{2}\right) \quad (14.11)$$

$$T_H = \frac{h'(r_0)}{4\pi} = \frac{1}{4\pi r_0 \sqrt{f}} = \frac{1}{4\pi r_0 \cosh \gamma} \quad (14.12)$$

$$A_H = 4\pi \sqrt{f} r_0^2 = 4\pi r_0^2 \cosh \gamma \quad (14.13)$$

$$Q = \frac{r_0}{2G} \sinh(2\gamma) \quad (14.14)$$

$$n = \frac{r_0 R}{2G} \sinh(2\gamma) \quad (14.15)$$

where Q , a charge, comes from momentum in the extra dimension and n , a number of state, relates to momentum and the extra dimension radius, R , by

$$\begin{aligned} p &= \frac{n}{R} \\ Q &= \frac{p}{2} = \frac{n}{2R}. \end{aligned}$$

The 10 dimensional Kaluza-Klein metric, reduced to 4-D, and its properties are

$$ds^2 = -h(r)dt^2 + \frac{dr^2}{h(r)} + \sqrt{\Delta}r^2(d\theta^2 + \sin^2\theta d\phi^2) \quad (14.16)$$

$$\begin{aligned} h(r) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\Delta}} \left(1 - \frac{r_0}{r}\right) \\ \Delta &= f_1(r)f_2(r)f_3(r)f_4(r) \end{aligned} \quad (14.17)$$

$$Q_i = \frac{\lambda_i r_0}{G} \sinh(2\gamma_i) \quad (14.18)$$

$$M_{\text{b.h.}} = \frac{r_0}{8G} \prod_{i=1}^4 \cosh(2\gamma_i) \quad (14.19)$$

$$S = \frac{A_H}{4G} = \frac{\pi r_0^2}{G} \prod_{i=1}^4 \cosh \gamma_i \quad (14.20)$$

$$T_H = \frac{1}{4\pi r_0} \prod_{i=1}^4 \frac{1}{\cosh \gamma_i} \quad (14.21)$$

$$dU = TdS + \sum_i \Phi_i dQ_i. \quad (14.22)$$

If consider in an extremal case, with fixed Q_i , $r_0 \rightarrow 0$, then $\gamma_i \rightarrow \infty$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \sinh(2\gamma_i) &\sim \frac{e^{2\gamma_i}}{2} \\ \frac{GQ_i}{\lambda_i} &\sim \frac{r_0}{2} e^{2\gamma_i} \end{aligned}$$

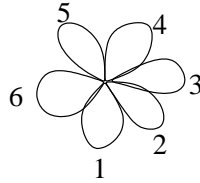
$$\begin{aligned}
\sqrt{r_0}e^{\gamma_i} &= \sqrt{\frac{2GQ_i}{\lambda_i}} \\
S &= \frac{\pi r_0^2}{G} \prod_i \frac{e^{\gamma_i}}{2} \\
&= \frac{\pi G}{4} \prod_i \sqrt{\frac{Q_i}{\lambda_i}}
\end{aligned} \tag{14.23}$$

$$M \sim \frac{1}{8} \sum_{i=1}^4 \frac{Q_i}{\lambda_i} \tag{14.24}$$

$$T_H = \frac{r_0^2}{4\pi r_0} \prod_{i=1}^4 \frac{2}{e^{\gamma_i} \sqrt{r_0}}. \tag{14.25}$$

As $r_0 \rightarrow 0$, $T_H \rightarrow 0$ or no radiation but S still constant, ie. the black hole is still stable(no quantum corrections needed) or no g expansion or this is non-perturbative result.

From string theory, six dimensions are compactified. Let try to do different combinations of D-brane.



R_i , $i = 1, \dots, 6$, compactified dimension index. D6-brane is on (x^1, \dots, x^6) with Q_1 , D2-brane is on (x^1, x^2) with Q_2 , and D5-brane is on (x^2, \dots, x^6) with Q_3 , where $p_i = n/R_i$. And count the states on the branes. The entropy and λ_i will be

$$S = 2 \prod_{i=1}^4 \sqrt{Q_i} \tag{14.26}$$

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{g l_s^7}{8R_1 \dots R_6}$$

$$\lambda_2 = \frac{g l_s^3}{8R_1 R_2}$$

$$\lambda_3 = \frac{g^2 l_s^6}{8R_2 R_3 R_4 R_5 R_6}$$

$$\lambda_4 = \frac{R_2}{8}$$

$$G = \frac{g^2 l_s^8}{8R_1 \dots R_6}. \tag{14.27}$$

This is agree with the result from GR.