

# The Giant Graviton on $\text{AdS}_4 \times \text{CP}^3$

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DG, JM & AP: 1108.3084 [hep-th]

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# Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Giant Gravitons
- 3 ABJM Duality
- 4 Four-brane Giant Graviton
- 5 Fluctuation Analysis
- 6 Summary & Future Research

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## Gauge theory / gravity dualities

Quantum field theories in flat space with very large local symmetry groups (gauge groups) at strong coupling  $\lambda$  are dual to weakly coupled theories of gravity.

This leads naturally to the following question:

How are geometry and topology  
(both of spacetime and membranes embedded in spacetime)  
encoded in long, gauge invariant operators?

## Gauge theory / gravity dualities

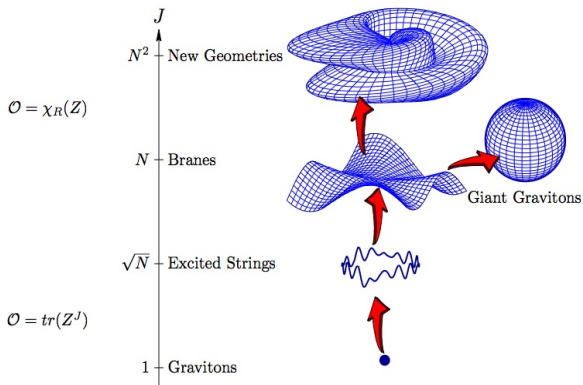
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Gauge Theory

Gravity Theory



The four-brane giant graviton on  $AdS_4 \times CP^3$  is a *non-spherical membrane*, embedded and moving in the complex projective space, which *changes shape as it grows*.

We asked the question:

How is the changing shape of this membrane visible in the dual ABJM model?

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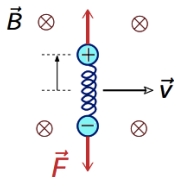
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# Giant gravitons

## A lower dimensional analogy: An electric dipole

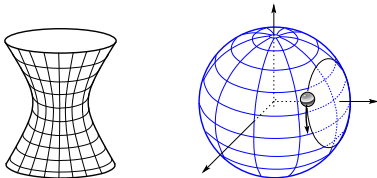
An electric dipole moving perpendicular to a magnetic field  $\vec{B}$  (coupling to the EM one-form potential  $A_1 = A_\mu dx^\mu$ ) experiences a force which keeps the charges separated.



The faster it moves, the bigger the dipole! (The greater the equilibrium separation distance between the +ve and -ve charges.)

## Sphere giant gravitons on $\text{AdS}_5 \times S^5$

The sphere giant is a D3-brane embedded on an  $S^3 \subset S^5$ . It is both embedded and moving on the five-sphere space in the background spacetime. The extension of this  $\frac{1}{2}$ -BPS object is supported by a coupling to the 4-form potential  $C_4$ .



[McGreevy, Susskind & Toumbas: hep-th/0003075]

[Grisaru, Myers & Tafjord: hep-th/0008015]

The dual operator in  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SYM is Schur polynomial, constructed from  $n \sim O(N)$  single complex scalar field  $Z$  and labeled by the totally antisymmetric representation of  $S_n$ :

$$\chi_{\square}(Z) \propto \mathcal{O}_n^{\text{subdet}}(Z) = \epsilon_{a_1 \dots a_n a_{n+1} \dots a_N} \epsilon^{b_1 \dots b_n a_{n+1} \dots a_N} Z_{b_1}^{a_1} \dots Z_{b_n}^{a_n}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\square$$

proportional to a subdeterminant with maximum size  $n = N$ .

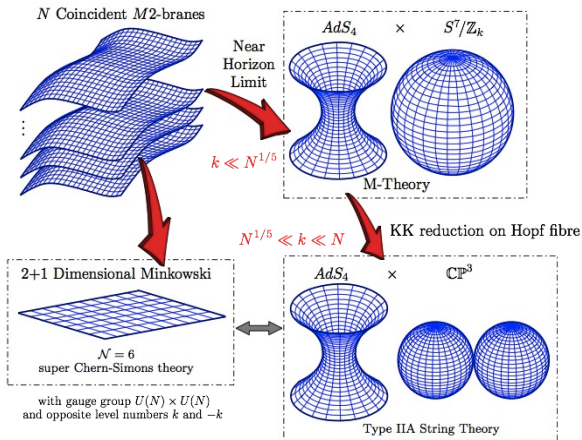
[Balasubramanian et. al.: [hep-th/0107119](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/0107119)]

[Corley, Jevicki & Ramgoolam: [hep-th/0111222](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/0111222)]

A natural interpretation of this maximum length from the string theory point of view is that the sphere giant cannot grow to be bigger than the compact  $S^5$  space.

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[Aharony, Bergman, Jafferis & Maldacena (ABJM): 0806.1218 [hep-th]]

## ABJM Model

**t'Hooft coupling:**  $\lambda = \frac{N}{k}$

**two sets of two complex scalars:**  $(A_1)_\alpha^a, (A_2)_\alpha^a, (B_1)_\alpha^a, (B_2)_\alpha^a$   
in the bifundamental representation of the  $U(N) \times U(N)$  gauge group. (Here  $a$  and  $\alpha$  are indices in different  $U(N)$ 's.)

**four composite scalars:**

We can build composite scalars

$$\begin{aligned}(\phi_{11})_b^a &= (A_1)_\alpha^a (B_1^\dagger)_b^\alpha, & (\phi_{12})_b^a &= (A_1)_\alpha^a (B_2^\dagger)_b^\alpha, \\(\phi_{21})_b^a &= (A_2)_\alpha^a (B_1^\dagger)_b^\alpha, & (\phi_{22})_b^a &= (A_2)_\alpha^a (B_2^\dagger)_b^\alpha\end{aligned}$$

transforming in the first  $U(N)$  of the product gauge group, out of which we can build long, gauge invariant operators.

## Type IIA string theory on $\text{AdS}_4 \times \mathbb{CP}^3$

The metric of the  $\text{AdS}_4 \times \mathbb{CP}^3$  background is

$$ds^2 = R^2 (ds_{\text{AdS}_4}^2 + 4 ds_{\mathbb{CP}^3}^2)$$

There is a constant non-zero dilaton  $\Phi$  satisfying  $e^{2\Phi} = \frac{4R^2}{k^2}$ . The field strength forms are given by

$$F_2 \equiv dC_1 = 2k dJ \quad \text{with} \quad C_1 = 2kJ$$

$$F_8 = *F_2$$

$$F_4 \equiv dC_3 = -\frac{3}{2}kR^2 \text{vol}(\text{AdS}_4)$$

$$F_6 = *F_4 \equiv dC_5 = \frac{3}{2}(2^6)R^4 \text{vol}(\mathbb{CP}^3)$$



## The $\mathbb{CP}^3$ giant graviton on $\text{AdS}_4 \times \mathbb{CP}^3$

The  $\mathbb{CP}^3$  giant graviton is a D4-brane extended and moving in the complex projective space. Its extension is supported by a coupling to the 5-form potential  $C_5$ .

If we turn on a worldvolume gauge field, then this D4-brane will also couple to the  $C_1$  potential through  $F \wedge F \wedge C_1$ .

The dual operator of length  $n \sim O(N)$  is a Schur polynomial constructed from the single composite field  $A_1 B_1^\dagger$  and labeled by the totally antisymmetric representation of  $S_n$ :

$$\chi_{\square}(A_1 B_1^\dagger) \propto \mathcal{O}_n^{\text{subdet}}(A_1 B_1^\dagger) = \epsilon_{a_1 \dots a_n a_{n+1} \dots a_N} \epsilon^{b_1 \dots b_n a_{n+1} \dots a_N} (A_1 B_1^\dagger)_{b_1}^{a_1} \dots (A_1 B_1^\dagger)_{b_n}^{a_n}$$

⋮  
□

which factorizes at maximum size into the product of two full determinants

$$\mathcal{O}_N^{\text{subdet}}(A_1 B_1^\dagger) = (\det A_1) (\det B_1^\dagger)$$

These are ABJM dibaryons, which are dual to four-branes wrapped on different non-trivial  $\mathbb{CP}^2 \subset \mathbb{CP}^3$  subspaces.

[Gutiérrez, Lozano & Rodríguez-Gómez: 1004.2826 [hep-th]]

[JM & AP: 1103.1163 [hep-th]]

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## Parameterization of the complex projective space

Let us now parameterize the homogenous coordinates  $z^a$  of the complex projective space  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} z^1 &= \cos \zeta \sin \frac{\theta_1}{2} e^{i(\frac{1}{2}\chi - \frac{1}{4}\varphi_1 + \frac{1}{4}\varphi_2)} & z^2 &= \cos \zeta \cos \frac{\theta_1}{2} e^{i(\frac{1}{2}\chi + \frac{3}{4}\varphi_1 + \frac{1}{4}\varphi_2)} \\ z^3 &= \sin \zeta \sin \frac{\theta_2}{2} e^{i(-\frac{1}{2}\chi - \frac{1}{4}\varphi_1 + \frac{1}{4}\varphi_2)} & z^4 &= \sin \zeta \cos \frac{\theta_2}{2} e^{i(-\frac{1}{2}\chi - \frac{1}{4}\varphi_1 - \frac{3}{4}\varphi_2)} \end{aligned}$$

so that the  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3$  metric becomes

$$\begin{aligned} ds_{\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^3}^2 &= d\zeta^2 + \cos^2 \zeta \sin^2 \zeta \left[ d\chi + \cos^2 \frac{\theta_1}{2} d\varphi_1 + \cos^2 \frac{\theta_2}{2} d\varphi_2 \right]^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{4} \cos^2 \zeta \left( d\theta_1^2 + \sin^2 \theta_1 d\varphi_1^2 \right) + \frac{1}{4} \sin^2 \zeta \left( d\theta_2^2 + \sin^2 \theta_2 d\varphi_2^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $\theta_1 = \pi$  and  $\theta_2 = \pi$  define two  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$  subspaces.

We can split the metric of the complex projective space into radial and angular parts:

$$ds_{\mathbb{CP}^3}^2 = \frac{1}{4} \{ ds_{\text{rad}}^2 + ds_{\text{ang}}^2 \},$$

where

$$ds_{\text{rad}}^2 = 4 d\zeta^2 + \cos^2 \zeta d\theta_1^2 + \sin^2 \zeta d\theta_2^2$$

$$ds_{\text{ang}}^2 = 4 \cos^2 \zeta \sin^2 \zeta [d\chi + \cos^2 \frac{\theta_1}{2} d\varphi_1 + \cos^2 \frac{\theta_2}{2} d\varphi_2]^2 \\ + \cos^2 \zeta \sin^2 \theta_1 d\varphi_1^2 + \sin^2 \zeta \sin^2 \theta_2 d\varphi_2^2.$$

The homogeneous coordinates of  $\mathbb{CP}^3$  can be associated with the scalars in ABJM theory

$$z^1 \longrightarrow A_1, \quad z^2 \longrightarrow A_2, \quad z^3 \longrightarrow B_1, \quad z^4 \longrightarrow B_2$$

in that the momenta in these directions can be associated with the  $\mathcal{R}$ -charges of the scalar fields. Hence we deduce

$$\begin{aligned}
 z^1 \bar{z}_3 &= \frac{1}{2} \overset{\text{radial direction } \sqrt{1-\alpha^2}}{\boxed{\sin(2\zeta) \sin \frac{\theta_1}{2} \sin \frac{\theta_2}{2}}} \overset{\text{direction of motion}}{e^{i\chi}} \longrightarrow A_1 B_1^\dagger \\
 z^2 \bar{z}_4 &= \frac{1}{2} \sin(2\zeta) \cos \frac{\theta_1}{2} \cos \frac{\theta_2}{2} e^{i(\chi+\varphi_1+\varphi_2)} \longrightarrow A_2 B_2^\dagger \\
 z^2 \bar{z}_3 &= \frac{1}{2} \sin(2\zeta) \cos \frac{\theta_1}{2} \sin \frac{\theta_2}{2} e^{\frac{1}{2}i(\chi+\varphi_1)} \longrightarrow A_2 B_1^\dagger \\
 z^1 \bar{z}_4 &= \frac{1}{2} \sin(2\zeta) \sin \frac{\theta_1}{2} \cos \frac{\theta_2}{2} e^{\frac{1}{2}i(\chi+\varphi_2)} \longrightarrow A_1 B_2^\dagger
 \end{aligned}$$

## Giant Graviton Ansatz

- \* Point-like in the  $\text{AdS}_4$  (with  $r = 0$ ) and moving only in time  $t$ .
- \* Radial ansatz in the  $\mathbb{CP}^3$

$$\sin(2\zeta) \sin \frac{\theta_1}{2} \sin \frac{\theta_2}{2} = \sqrt{1 - \alpha^2},$$

- \* Motion in  $\mathbb{CP}^3$  along the angular direction  $\chi = \chi(t)$ .
- \* Turn off the worldvolume field strength  $F = dA = 0$ .
- \* We shall make use of the worldvolume coordinates

$$\sigma^a = (t, y, z_1, \varphi_1, \varphi_2)$$

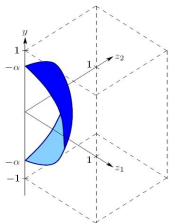
Here we define the radial coordinates

$$y \equiv \cos(2\zeta) \quad z_1 \equiv \cos^2 \frac{\theta_1}{2} \quad z_2 \equiv \cos^2 \frac{\theta_2}{2}$$

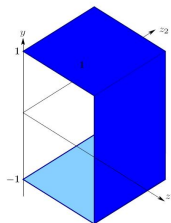
and the ansatz becomes

$$(1 - y^2)(1 - z_1)(1 - z_2) = 1 - \alpha^2$$

A sketch of the submaximal and maximal  $\mathbb{CP}^3$  giants in radial  $(y, z_1, z_2)$  space.



(a) Submaximal giant graviton  $0 < \alpha < 1$



(b) Maximal giant graviton  $\alpha = 1$



The shape of this four-brane changes as the size  $\alpha$  increases:

**The small giant graviton:**  $\alpha \ll 1$

The giant graviton ansatz becomes

$$y^2 + z_1 + z_2 \approx \alpha^2$$

which describes a two-sphere in radial  $(y, \sqrt{z_1}, \sqrt{z_2})$  space.

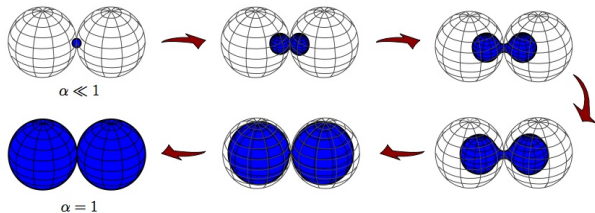
**The maximal giant graviton:**  $\alpha = 1$

The giant graviton ansatz becomes

$$z_1 = 1 \quad \text{or} \quad z_2 = 1$$

which describes two separate  $\mathbb{CP}^2$  cycles.

Cartoon representation of the growth of the four-brane giant graviton:



The small giant graviton with  $\alpha \ll 1$  is nearly spherical, but pinches off as it grows, until it factorizes at maximum size  $\alpha = 1$  into two four-branes, each wrapped on a  $\mathbb{C}P^2 \subset \mathbb{C}P^3$  cycle.

## D4-brane Action

The D4-brane action  $S_{D4} = S_{\text{DBI}} + S_{\text{WZ}}$ , which describes the dynamics of the four-brane giant graviton. Here

$$S_{\text{DBI}} = -T_4 \int_{\Sigma} d^5\sigma e^{-\Phi} \sqrt{-\det(\mathcal{P}[g] + 2\pi F)},$$

and

$$S_{\text{WZ}} = T_4 \int_{\Sigma} \left\{ \mathcal{P}[C_5] + \mathcal{P}[C_3] \wedge (2\pi F) + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{P}[C_1] \wedge (2\pi F) \wedge (2\pi F) \right\},$$

with  $T_4 \equiv \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4}$  the tension and  $\Sigma$  the worldvolume of the giant.

Substituting this ansatz into the D4-brane action

$$S_{D4} = \int dt L_{D4} \quad \text{with} \quad L_{D4} = \int_{-\alpha}^{\alpha} dy \int_0^{\frac{\alpha^2 - y^2}{1 - y^2}} dz_1 \mathcal{L}_{D4}(y, z_1)$$

associated with the radial Lagrangian density

$$\mathcal{L}_{D4}(y, z_1) = -\frac{N}{2} \frac{1}{(1 - z_1)} \left[ \frac{1}{2} (1 + y)(1 - z_1) + \frac{1}{2} (1 - y)(1 - z_2) - (1 - \alpha^2) \right] \\ \times \left\{ \sqrt{1 + \frac{(1 - \dot{x}^2)(1 - \alpha^2)}{\left[ \frac{1}{2} (1 + y)(1 - z_1) + \frac{1}{2} (1 - y)(1 - z_2) - (1 - \alpha^2) \right]}} - \dot{x} \right\},$$

where  $z_2(z_1) = 1 - \frac{(1 - \alpha^2)}{(1 - y^2)(1 - z_1)}$  and  $N \equiv \frac{kR^4}{2\pi^2}$  denotes the flux of the 6-form field strength through the complex projective space.

The conserved momentum conjugate to the  $\chi$  takes the form

$$P_\chi = \int_{-\alpha}^{\alpha} dy \int_0^{\frac{\alpha^2 - y^2}{1 - y^2}} dz_1 \mathcal{P}_\chi(y, z_1),$$

written in terms of the radial momentum density

$$\mathcal{P}_\chi(y, z_1) = \frac{N}{2} \frac{1}{(1 - z_1)} \left[ \frac{1}{2} (1 + y)(1 - z_1) + \frac{1}{2} (1 - y)(1 - z_2) - (1 - \alpha^2) \right] \\
\times \left\{ \frac{\frac{(1 - \alpha^2)\dot{\chi}}{\left[ \frac{1}{2}(1 + y)(1 - z_1) + \frac{1}{2}(1 - y)(1 - z_2) - (1 - \alpha^2) \right]}}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{(1 - \dot{\chi}^2)(1 - \alpha^2)}{\left[ \frac{1}{2}(1 + y)(1 - z_1) + \frac{1}{2}(1 - y)(1 - z_2) - (1 - \alpha^2) \right]}}} + 1 \right\}.$$

The energy  $H = P_\chi \dot{\chi} - L$  of this D4-brane configuration can hence be determined as a function of its size  $\alpha$  and angular velocity  $\dot{\chi}$ :

$$H = \int_{-\alpha}^{\alpha} dy \int_0^{\frac{\alpha^2 - y^2}{1 - y^2}} dz_1 \mathcal{H}(y, z_1)$$

with radial Hamiltonian density

$$\mathcal{H}(y, z_1) = \frac{N}{2} \frac{1}{(1 - z_1)} \frac{\left[ \frac{1}{2} (1 + y) (1 - z_1) + \frac{1}{2} (1 - y) (1 - z_2) \right]}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{(1 - \dot{\chi}^2)(1 - \alpha^2)}{\left[ \frac{1}{2} (1 + y) (1 - z_1) + \frac{1}{2} (1 - y) (1 - z_2) - (1 - \alpha^2) \right]}}}$$

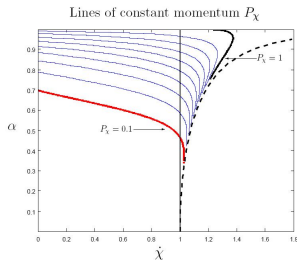
where  $z_2(z_1) = 1 - \frac{(1 - \alpha^2)}{(1 - y^2)(1 - z_1)}$ .

## Note on the Numerics:

The D4-brane energy  $H(\alpha, \dot{\chi})$  and momentum  $P_\chi(\alpha, \dot{\chi})$  become singular along the curve

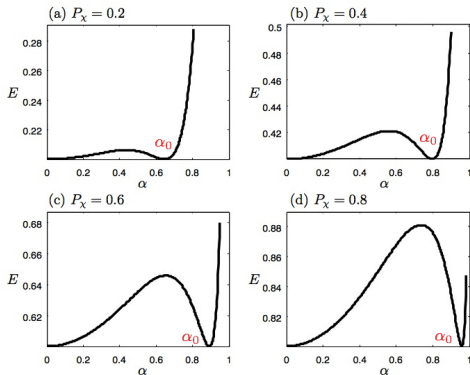
$$\dot{\chi}^4 = \frac{1}{(1 - \alpha^2)}$$

Decreasing  $\alpha$  from the maximal size  $\alpha = 1$ , the lines of constant momentum  $P_\chi$  approach this curve in  $(\dot{\chi}, \alpha)$ -space. At small  $\alpha$ , the numerics therefore become problematic.



## Energy Plots:

The energy of the four-brane, plotted as a function of the size  $\alpha_0$  at fixed momentum  $P_\chi$ , in units of the flux  $N$ :

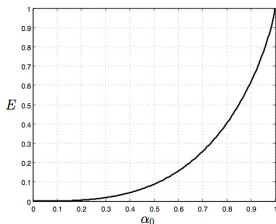




The finite  $\alpha = \alpha_0$  degenerate minimum in the energy occurs when  $\dot{\chi} = 1$  and the four-brane energy is

$$H = P_\chi = N \left\{ \alpha_0 + \frac{1}{2} (1 - \alpha_0^2) \ln \left( \frac{1 - \alpha_0}{1 + \alpha_0} \right) \right\}$$

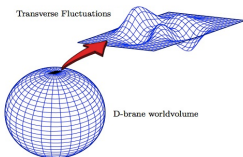
indicating a BPS configuration - this is the  $\mathbb{CP}^3$  giant graviton.



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Let us consider small fluctuations about the worldvolume of the four-brane giant graviton:



**transverse or scalar fluctuations:**

$$v_k(\sigma^a) = \varepsilon \delta v_k(\sigma^a), \quad \alpha(\sigma^a) = \alpha_0 + \varepsilon \delta \alpha(\sigma^a), \quad \chi(\sigma^a) = t + \varepsilon \delta \chi(\sigma^a)$$

**longitudinal or worldvolume fluctuations:**

$$F(\sigma^a) = \varepsilon \frac{R^2}{2\pi} \delta F(\sigma^a),$$

A suitable choice of worldvolume coordinates was a problem!

In the fluctuation analysis, we made use of

$$\sigma^a = (t, x_1, x_2, \varphi_1, \varphi_2)$$

with  $x_i(\alpha, z_i)$  any generic radial worldvolume coordinates, with ranges independent of  $\alpha_0$ .

The equations of motion for the small fluctuations are

$$(\square \delta v_k) + h^{tt} \delta v_k = 0$$

$$(\square \delta \alpha) + g_{\text{rad}}^{\alpha\alpha} \partial_a \left( \frac{1}{g_{\text{rad}}^{\alpha\alpha}} \right) h^{ab} (\partial_b \delta \alpha) - \frac{g_{\text{rad}}^{\alpha\alpha}}{\sqrt{-h}} \partial_i \left( \sqrt{-h} \frac{g_{\text{rad}}^{\alpha i}}{g_{\text{rad}}^{\alpha\alpha}} h^{tb} \right) (\partial_b \delta \alpha) = 0$$

$$(\square \delta \chi) + (g_{\text{ang}}^{\chi\chi} - 1) \partial_a \left( \frac{1}{g_{\text{ang}}^{\chi\chi} - 1} \right) h^{ab} (\partial_b \delta \chi) + \frac{(g_{\text{ang}}^{\chi\chi} - 1)}{\sqrt{-h}} \partial_i \left( \sqrt{-h} \frac{g_{\text{rad}}^{\alpha i}}{g_{\text{rad}}^{\alpha\alpha}} h^{tb} \right) (\partial_b \delta \alpha) = 0.$$

with  $h_{ab}$  the worldvolume metric.

The  $\mathbb{CP}^3$  fluctuations  $\delta\alpha$  and  $\delta\chi$  are clearly coupled. It is not immediately obvious, without making a specific choice for the radial worldvolume coordinates  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , how to define new  $\mathbb{CP}^3$  fluctuations  $\delta\beta_{\pm}$ , in terms of a linear combination of  $\delta\alpha$  and  $\delta\chi$ , such that the equations of motion for  $\delta\beta_+$  and  $\delta\beta_-$  decouple.

However, once these equations of motion have been decoupled, the obvious ansätze

$$\begin{aligned}\delta v_k(t, x_1, x_2, \varphi_1, \varphi_2) &= e^{i\omega_k t} e^{im_k \varphi_1} e^{in_k \varphi_2} f_k(x_1, x_2) \\ \delta \beta_{\pm}(t, x_1, x_2, \varphi_1, \varphi_2) &= e^{i\omega_{\pm} t} e^{im_{\pm} \varphi_1} e^{in_{\pm} \varphi_2} f_{\pm}(x_1, x_2)\end{aligned}$$

should reduce these problems to second order decoupled partial differential equations for  $f_k(x_1, x_2)$  and  $f_{\pm}(x_1, x_2)$ . We are interested in solving for the spectrum of eigenfrequencies  $\omega_k$  and  $\omega_{\pm}$  in terms of the two pairs of integers  $m_k$  and  $n_k$ , and  $m_{\pm}$  and  $n_{\pm}$  respectively.

## Radial worldvolume coordinates:

The radial worldvolume shall now be described using two sets of nested polar coordinates  $(r_1, \theta)$  and  $(r_2, \phi)$ :

$$y = r_1(\alpha, \theta) \cos \theta, \quad z_1 = r_2^2(\alpha, \theta, \phi) \cos^2 \phi, \quad z_2 = r_2^2(\alpha, \theta, \phi) \sin^2 \phi,$$

with the polar radii  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  the positive roots of

$$r_1^2(\alpha, \theta) = \frac{2}{\sin^2(2\theta)} \left\{ 1 - \sqrt{1 - \alpha^2 \sin^2(2\theta)} \right\}$$

$$r_2^2(\alpha, \theta, \phi) = \frac{2}{\sin^2(2\phi)} \left\{ 1 - \sqrt{1 - r_1^2(\alpha, \theta) \sin^2 \theta \sin^2(2\phi)} \right\},$$

where we observe that  $\alpha = \alpha_0$  describes the radial worldvolume of the submaximal giant graviton. Here the radial worldvolume coordinates  $x_1 \equiv \theta \in [0, \pi]$  and  $x_2 \equiv \phi \in [0, \frac{\pi}{2}]$  have fixed ranges.

## Small giant graviton $\alpha_0 \ll 1$

We can expand the square roots in  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  in orders of  $\alpha$ . The first term in the expansion gives  $r_1(\theta) \approx \alpha$  and  $r_2(\theta, \phi) \approx \alpha \sin \theta$ .

Our radial coordinates then become

$$y \approx \alpha \cos \theta$$

$$z_1 \approx \alpha^2 \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \phi$$

$$z_2 \approx \alpha^2 \sin^2 \theta \sin^2 \phi$$

in the vicinity of the  $\alpha = \alpha_0$  surface. This approximate radial projection of the giant is a 2-sphere in  $(y, \sqrt{z_1}, \sqrt{z_2})$ -space.



## Leading order analysis

- \* The leading-order equations of motion can easily be decoupled.
- \* Analytic solutions can be obtained in terms of hypergeometric and Heun functions.
- \* The spectrum is independence of the size  $\alpha_0$  to leading order.
- \* However, this leading order spectrum is different from that of the maximal giant graviton (dual to two dibaryons).

[JM & AP: 1103.1163 [hep-th]]

## Next-to-leading order analysis

- \* The next-to-leading-order equations of motion also decouple.
- \* The next-to-leading order equations of motion are dependent on the size  $\alpha_0$  and hence the shape of the giant graviton.
- \* These equations of motion did *not*, however, admit any obvious analytic solution. We were not able to verify this dependence at the level of the spectrum.

# Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Giant Gravitons
- 3 ABJM Duality
- 4 Four-brane Giant Graviton
- 5 Fluctuation Analysis
- 6 Summary & Future Research

## Take home message

Membranes in the ABJM duality have non-trivial geometries!

It appears that traces of this non-trivial geometry are visible in the fluctuation spectrum.

## Future Research

We would now like to understand how this non-trivial geometry is encoded in the dual ABJM model. In particular, we would like to

- \* Find a complete, orthogonal basis for operators in the holomorphic sector of the ABJM model and study the action of the dilatation operator to leading order in  $\frac{1}{N}$ .  
[de Mello Koch, JM & AP: work in progress]
- \* Note that this semiclassical  $\frac{1}{N}$  limit includes contributions from non-planar diagrams (and must therefore be seen as distinct from the usual t'Hooft limit) and describes membrane interactions from the point of view of the dual ABJM model.