

Generalized Symmetries & Gravity

WIP w/ Cvetič, Heckman, Torres

See also: 2203.10102, 2209.03343, 2212.09743, 2304.0330
2305.09665 w/ " & Adharya, Del Zotto, Yu, Zhang

- Motivation:
- Generalized Global Symmetries are ubiquitous in QFTs, but often rely on educated Lagrangian gauge theory constructions.
 - Cobordism conjecture / No global symmetries

Data: Topological Symmetry Ops. σ
 \Downarrow + Fusion
Non-dynamical Defect Ops \mathcal{D}

Example: 4D $U(1)$ Maxwell theory

$$\text{Flux Ops: } \mathcal{U}_\alpha^{(e)}(\Sigma) = \exp\left(i\alpha \int_\Sigma *F\right)$$

$$\mathcal{U}_\alpha^{(m)}(\Sigma) = \exp\left(i\alpha \int_\Sigma F\right)$$

\Downarrow

Defect Ops: Wilson & 't Hooft lines

Question 1: If the QFT w/ GAS admits an embedding into string / M-th: How do σ, \mathcal{D} lift?

Question 2: If the local string / M-th model embeds into a global model: what happens to GAS?

① Geometric Engineering - Local Models

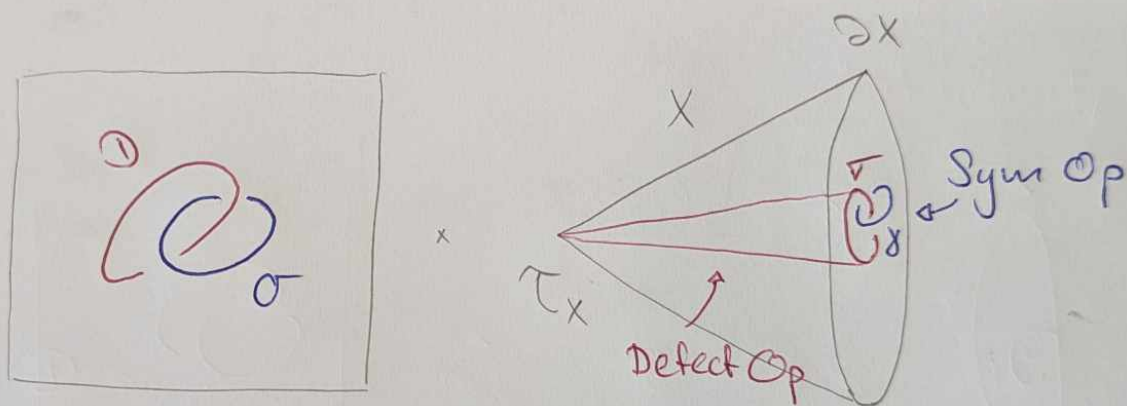
IIA / IIB / M-theory

Non-compact geometry $X \rightarrow$ Relative theory τ_X

$X = \mathbb{C}^2/\Gamma, \mathbb{C}^3/\Gamma, \text{Elliptic CB}, G_2\text{-Mfd}, \dots$ (∂X smooth)

Defect Ops.: Branes wrapped on non-compact relative cycles

Sym. Ops.: (Flux-) Branes wrapped on asymptotic cycles
"at infinity"



Defect Group: $\mathbb{D} = \bigoplus_{\text{link}} \mathbb{D}^{(m)}$, $\mathbb{D}^{(m)} \cong \bigoplus_{p-k=m-1} \frac{H_k(X, \partial X)}{H_k(X)}$
(p-Branes)

Discrete Sym.: $\begin{matrix} \nabla \\ \gamma \end{matrix}$ is torsional
wrapped by EM-dual q-brane,

Continuous Sym.: $\begin{matrix} \nabla \\ \gamma \end{matrix}$ is free
" Flux (q+1)-brane
intersect

Remarks:

- Non-Lagrangian characterization for D's & O's
- Streamlined prescription + natural generalizations
- Computationally useful, draws on anomaly theory developed in string theory

Eg.: D-branes

$$\mathcal{O}(M) = \int \mathcal{D}A_1 \exp \left[2\pi i \int_{M \times \mathbb{R}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{top}}^{\text{DP}} \right]$$

$$S_{\text{top}}^{\text{DP}} = 2\pi i \int_{M=M \times \mathbb{R}} \exp(F_2 - B_2) \sqrt{\frac{\hat{A}(TM)}{\hat{A}(NM)}} \oplus \mathbb{C}_{\text{odd/even}}$$

\uparrow $\mathcal{D}A_1$

Note: Gauge field A_1 is path-integrated over

\Rightarrow World volume TFT_M \neq Non-inv. Action

② Geometric Engineering - Global Models

M / IIA / IIB

compact geometry $X \rightarrow$ SUGRA theory S_X

Singularities \rightarrow localized degrees of freedom $\mathcal{T} \subset S_X$

\rightarrow local model $X^{loc} \subset X$ s.t.

$$\mathcal{T} \equiv \mathcal{T}_{X^{loc}}$$

SUGRA completion: $\mathcal{T}_{X^{loc}} \triangleleft \triangleright S_X$

\Rightarrow symmetries gauge / break

Geometry: $X^{loc} \leftrightarrow X$

- Defect Op. supports compactify
 \rightarrow Extra massive matter
- Sym. Op. supports trivialize
 \rightarrow Gauging / trivialization of sym.

Quantified via Mayer-Vietoris LES:

$$\rightarrow H_n(X) \rightarrow H_{n-1}(\partial X^{loc}) \rightarrow H_{n-1}(X^o) \oplus H_{n-1}(X^{loc})$$

w/ covering

$$X = X^{loc} \cup X^o$$

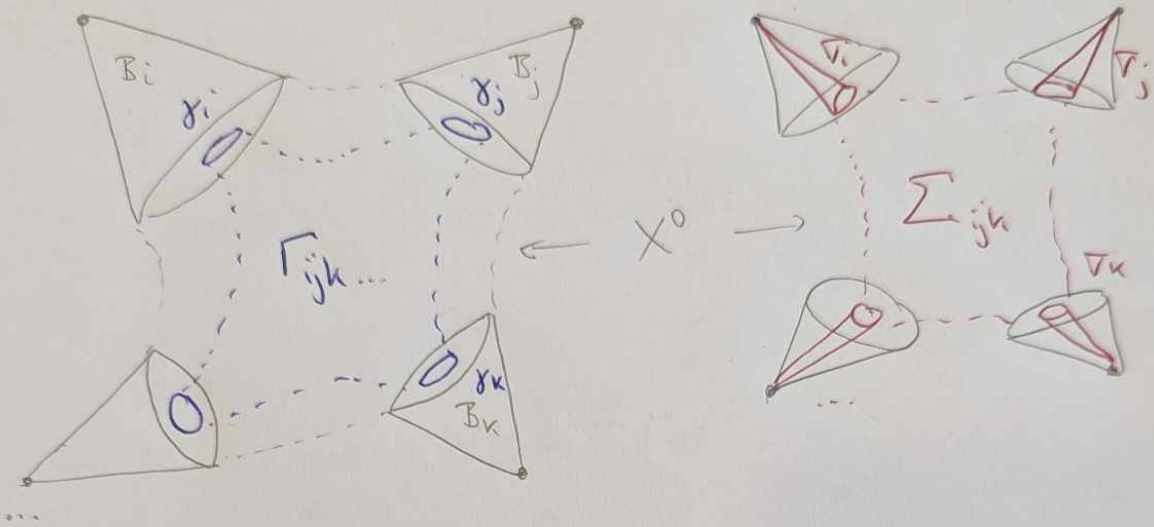
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$$X \setminus X^{loc}$$

$\rightarrow \dots$

Singularities of X have multiple connected components

$$\rightarrow X^{loc} = \coprod_i B_i$$



③ Example: K3 Surfaces

^{M-theory}
 X singular K3 \rightarrow ADE singularities at $\{x_i\}$

M-theory on $X \rightarrow$ 7D SUGRA S_X

w/ local 7D SYM sectors

w/ Lie Algebra \mathfrak{g}_i

\Rightarrow Local Model: $X_i^{loc} = \mathbb{C}^2/\Gamma_i$ w/ $\partial X_i^{loc} = S^1/\Gamma_i$

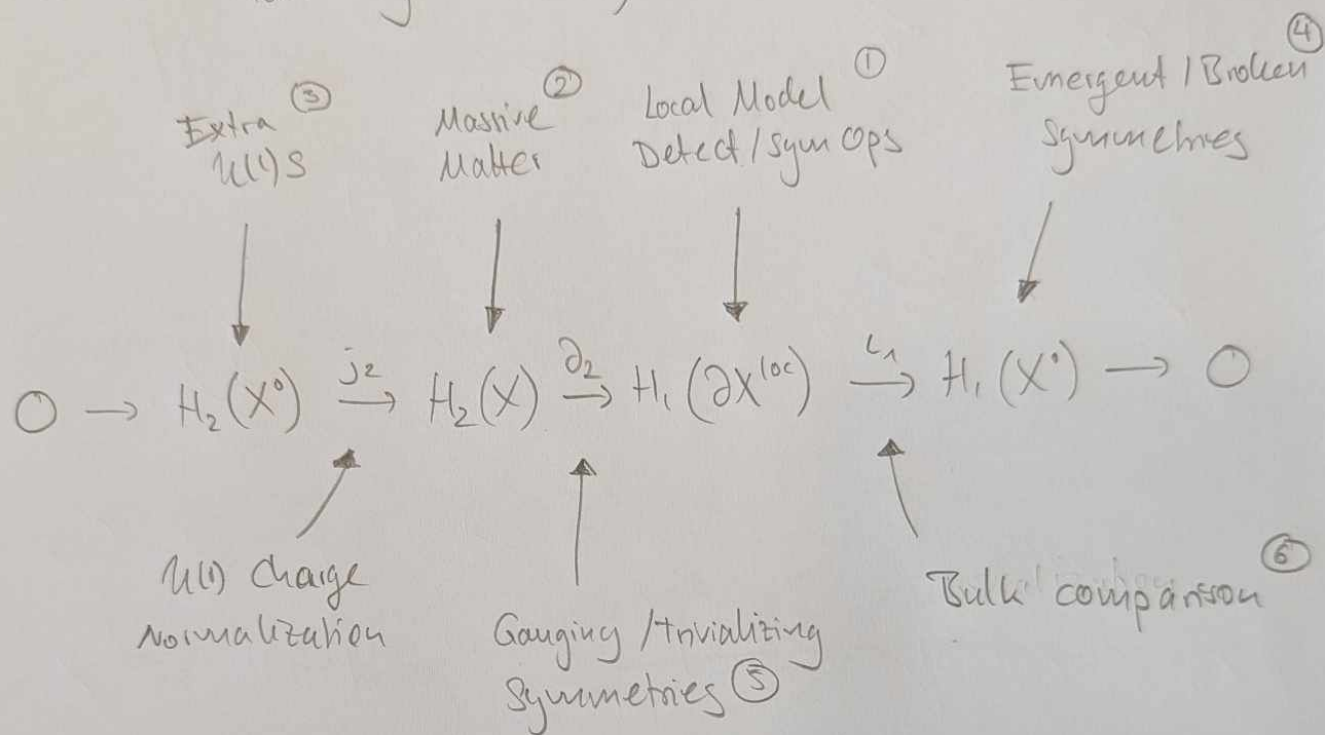
- Defect Ops.: M2-/M5-brane wrapped on $\text{Cone}(x_i)$
- Sym Ops.: M5-/M2-brane wrapped on x_i

where $\langle x_i \rangle = \text{Tor } H_1(\partial X_i^{loc})$

Overall : $X^{loc} = \coprod_i X_i^{loc}$

w/ defect & sym ops in each component

Extract following exact sequence from MV :



Important Duality chain :

$$H_1(X^0) \stackrel{PL}{=} H^3(X^0, \partial X^0) \stackrel{EX}{=} H^3(X, \{x_i\}) \stackrel{RH}{=} H^3(X)$$

$$UCT : \text{Tor } H_1(X^0) = \text{Tor } H_2(X) \vee \leftarrow \text{Pontryagin Dual}$$

Perfect Pairing

No Global Symmetries \leftrightarrow Exactness of Mayer-Vietoris

$X^{loc} \hookrightarrow X$ specifies field theory manipulations
gauging / breaking all symmetries.

$$0 \rightarrow \frac{\text{Free } H_2(X)}{\text{Im } j_2} \oplus T_{0,1} H_2(X) \rightarrow \bigoplus_i H_1(\partial X_i^{loc}) \rightarrow H_1(X^0) \rightarrow 0$$

Explicitly: Kummer T^4/\mathbb{Z}_2

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^6 \xrightarrow{-2} \mathbb{Z}^6 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2^5 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2^{16} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2^5 \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Rightarrow G_{\text{SUGRA}} = \frac{(SU(2)^{16} / \mathbb{Z}_2^5) \times U(1)^6}{\mathbb{Z}_2^6}$$

Example: M-theory on T^6/\mathbb{Z}_3

$$X^{\text{loc}} = 27 \times \mathbb{C}^3/\mathbb{Z}_3$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{X^{\text{loc}}} = \mathbb{F}_0^{27} \quad (\text{Seiberg SCFT JD})$$

$$0 \rightarrow H_4(X^0) \rightarrow H_4(X) \rightarrow H_3(\partial X^{\text{loc}}) \rightarrow \text{Tor } H_3(X^0) \rightarrow 0$$
$$\mathbb{Z}^9 \quad \mathbb{Z}^9 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3^4 \quad \mathbb{Z}_3^{27} \quad \mathbb{Z}_3^{17}$$

$$0 \rightarrow H_2(X^0) \rightarrow H_2(X) \rightarrow H_1(\partial X^{\text{loc}}) \rightarrow \text{Tor } H_1(X^0) \rightarrow 0$$
$$\mathbb{Z}^9 \quad \mathbb{Z}^9 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3^{17} \quad \mathbb{Z}_3^{27} \quad \mathbb{Z}_3^4$$

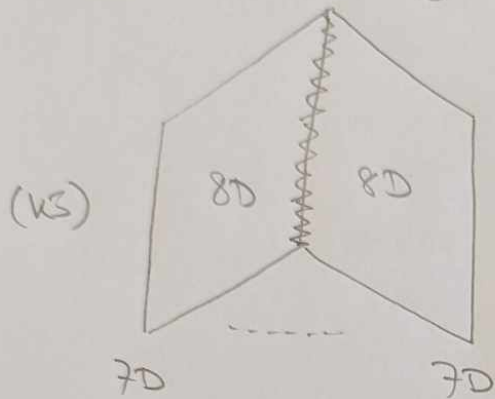
$$G_{\text{SUGRA}} = \frac{\mathbb{Z}_3^{27} / \mathbb{Z}_3^4 + \mathcal{N}(1)^9}{\mathbb{Z}_3^6}$$

④ IR Limits

local

$G_N \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow$ projects onto field theory sector
+ top. interactions

\Rightarrow Book of symmetry TFTs



Pages : local physics X^{10d}

Spine : bulk X^0

\Rightarrow Non-invertible symmetries

(CR3) 5D CS-terms $\sim \frac{K_{IJK}}{24\pi^2} \int A_{\pm 1} F_J \wedge F_K$

$$\Rightarrow d * F_{\pm} = \sum_{JK} \frac{K_{IJK}}{8\pi^2} F_J \wedge F_K$$