

Integrability of Green-Schwarz sigma models with boundaries

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ABSTRACT: We construct integrability preserving boundary conditions for Green-Schwarz sigma-models on semi-symmetric spaces. The boundary conditions are expressed as gluing conditions of the flat-connection, using an involutive metric preserving automorphism. We show that the boundary conditions preserve half of the space-time supersymmetry and an infinite set of conserved charges. We find integrable D-brane configurations for $\text{AdS}_5 \times S^5$ and $\text{AdS}_4 \times \text{CP}^3$ backgrounds.

KEYWORDS: D-branes, AdS-CFT Correspondence, Integrable Field Theories

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Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Boundary conditions for Green-Schwarz sigma-models	3
3	Integrable D-brane configurations	5
4	Integrable configurations for the $\text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^5$ background	7
4.1	The $\text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^5$ bosonic background in global coordinates	8
4.2	The maximal giant graviton D3-brane	8
4.3	Karch-Randall D5-brane	10
4.4	Other integrable configurations	11
5	Integrable configurations for the $\text{AdS}_4 \times \text{CP}^3$ background	14
5.1	The $\text{AdS}_4 \times \text{CP}^3$ bosonic background in global coordinates	15
5.2	Karch-Randall D4-brane	15
5.3	Other integrable configurations	16
6	Discussion	16
A	The $\text{PSU}(2, 2 4)$ superconformal algebra	18
B	The $\text{OSP}(6 4)$ superconformal algebra	19
C	More parameterizations for the $\text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^5$ coset	20

1 Introduction

Green-Schwarz sigma models ($\text{GS}\sigma\text{M}$) on the semi-symmetric spaces $\frac{\text{PSU}(2,2|4)}{\text{SO}(4,1) \times \text{SO}(5)} \supset \text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^5$ [1] is known to be classically integrable [2]. Similarly, any such $\text{GS}\sigma\text{M}$ on semi-symmetric space is classically integrable as well [3]. The existence of the infinite set of conserved charges depends on the boundary conditions of the string. Usually in this context, the boundary conditions are taken to be either periodic, or the string's length being taken to infinity, where suitable boundary conditions are fixed. When considering finite open strings, the quantities that are conserved for closed strings are in general no longer conserved, since the monodromy matrix that generates the charges is not conserved.

In some cases, an infinite set of conserved charges can be generated from of an object that is constructed using the transition matrix and reflection matrices, and the model remains integrable. These constructions were introduced first by Sklyanin in [4, 5], and were used to exhibit integrability of the affine Toda theory [6] and the $\text{O}(N)$ non-linear

sigma-model [7] on the half infinite line. In [8] the construction was generalized for the principal chiral model (PCM) on the finite line (open strings), and was used to find integrable D-brane configurations for the bosonic sector of $\text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^5$ background. Some of the D-brane configurations, such as the maximal giant graviton, were shown to be integrable, while the method failed in other cases such as the $\text{AdS}_4 \times \text{S}^2$ configuration. The success of the construction is only a sufficient condition for integrability, thus a failure of the construction does not imply that the model is not integrable. While analyzing the bosonic sector, the fermionic sector was ignored.

In this paper we generalize the analysis of [8] in two directions. First, we consider the complete sectors including the fermionic degrees of freedom, i.e. we consider the $\text{GS}\sigma\text{M}$ on supercoset backgrounds. Second, we do not limit ourselves to using reflection matrices, rather we consider more general boundary conditions involving all involutive automorphisms of the superalgebra. We express the boundary conditions in terms of relations between the Maurer-Cartan one form's components with respect to the \mathbb{Z}_4 automorphism. We find that in case where the boundary conditions break half of the supersymmetry, they can be written as

$$a(z) = \Omega(\bar{a}(z^{-1})), \quad (1.1)$$

where $a(z)$ is the flat connection in the fixed frame, z is the spectral parameter, $a = a_\tau + a_\sigma$, $\bar{a} = a_\tau - a_\sigma$ and Ω is an involutive metric preserving automorphism (not to be confused with the \mathbb{Z}_4 automorphism). In these cases we can construct a generating function for an infinite set of non-local conserved charges (similar to the methods described above).

We use the method to find integrable D-brane configurations for $\text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^5$ and $\text{AdS}_4 \times \text{CP}^3$ backgrounds. In the case of $\text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^5$ we find that the configurations that were shown to be integrable in [8] (i.e. the maximal giant graviton and $\text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^3$) remain integrable when considering also the fermionic degrees of freedom. On the gauge theory side, configurations of open strings ending on giant gravitons are known to have integrable structure [9–12].¹ In addition, we show that the $\text{AdS}_4 \times \text{S}^2$ configuration is integrable by using outer automorphism of the $\text{PSU}(2,2|4)$ superalgebra. On the gauge theory side, an evidence for integrability of the $\text{AdS}_4 \times \text{S}^2$ configuration at weak coupling was presented in [18]. However, attempts to prove integrability at strong coupling were not successful [8]. In [19] it was suggested that the integrable structure found at one-loop in [18] is accidental. Recently, it was realized in [20–22] that this configuration is indeed integrable using achiral boundary conditions in the scattering theory and achiral automorphism for the PCM. We will find rather general solutions for automorphisms and construct more examples of integrable D-brane configurations.

The paper is organized as follows. In section 2 we construct a class of boundary conditions for the $\text{GS}\sigma\text{M}$. We check the consistency of the boundary conditions with by analyzing kappa symmetry and supersymmetry. In section 3 we construct the generating function for the conserved charges, and show that the existence of such a function is

¹See also [13–16] for some recent developments and [17] for a recent review on open boundaries and references therein.

equivalent to the boundary conditions found in section 2 if half of the supersymmetry is conserved. In section 4 we use the construction for the $\text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^5$ background and in section 5 for the $\text{AdS}_4 \times \text{CP}^3$ background. Section 6 is devoted to a discussion and outlook. Details of the $\text{PSU}(2, 2|4)$ and $\text{OSP}(6|4)$ superalgebras are given in appendices A and B, respectively. In appendix C we provide a parameterizations of the $\text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^5$ background.

2 Boundary conditions for Green-Schwarz sigma-models

The GS σ M action on a semi-symmetric spaces G/H is given by [1]

$$S = \int d^2\sigma \text{Str}(J^{(2)} \wedge *J^{(2)} + J^{(1)} \wedge J^{(3)}), \quad (2.1)$$

where $J = g^{-1}dg$, $g \in G$ is the Maurer-Cartan one-form, and

$$J^{(a)} = \frac{1}{4}(1 + (-i)^a \hat{\Omega} + ((-i)^a \hat{\Omega})^2 + ((-i)^a \hat{\Omega})^3)J,$$

with $a = 0, \dots, 3$ and $\hat{\Omega}$ is the \mathbb{Z}_4 automorphism map.

Next we derive the EOM's and find the boundary term. We note that

$$\delta J = \delta(g^{-1}dg) = -g^{-1}\delta g J + g^{-1}d\delta g = [J, \Delta] - \Delta d(\cdot) + d(\Delta \cdot), \quad (2.2)$$

where we defined $\Delta \equiv g^{-1}\delta g$. Therefore, the variation of the action is

$$\begin{aligned} \delta S &= \int \text{Str} \left(\delta J \wedge (2 * J^{(2)} + J^{(3)} - J^{(1)}) \right) \\ &= \int \text{Str} \left(-\Delta (J \wedge (2 * J^{(2)} + J^{(3)} - J^{(1)})) + (2 * J^{(2)} + J^{(3)} - J^{(1)}) \wedge J + d(2 * J^{(2)} + J^{(3)} - J^{(1)}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + d(\Delta (2 * J^{(2)} + J^{(3)} - J^{(1)})) \right). \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

The equations of motion read

$$\begin{aligned} d * J^{(2)} + J^{(0)} \wedge * J^{(2)} + * J^{(2)} \wedge J^{(0)} + J^{(3)} \wedge J^{(3)} - J^{(1)} \wedge J^{(1)} &= 0, \\ J^{(2)} \wedge (* J^{(3)} - J^{(3)}) + (* J^{(3)} - J^{(3)}) \wedge J^{(2)} &= 0, \\ J^{(2)} \wedge (* J^{(1)} + J^{(1)}) + (* J^{(1)} + J^{(1)}) \wedge J^{(2)} &= 0, \end{aligned} \quad (2.4)$$

where we made used the MC equations, $dJ + J \wedge J = 0$. The boundary term is

$$\begin{aligned} \delta S_B &= \int \text{Str} \left(d(\Delta (2 * J^{(2)} + J^{(3)} - J^{(1)})) \right) \\ &= \int d\tau \text{Str} \left(\Delta (-2\sqrt{-h} J_\sigma^{(2)} - J_\tau^{(3)} + J_\tau^{(1)}) \right) \Big|_{\sigma=0}^{\sigma=\pi}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

where h is the determinant of the induced metric $h_{\alpha\beta}(\tau, \sigma)$. Let us define $J_\delta \equiv \Delta = g^{-1}\delta g$, that we find in the conformal gauge

$$\delta S_B = \int d\tau \text{Str} \left(-2J_\delta^{(2)} J_\sigma^{(2)} - J_\delta^{(1)} J_\tau^{(3)} + J_\delta^{(3)} J_\tau^{(1)} \right) \Big|_{\sigma=0}^{\sigma=\pi}. \quad (2.6)$$

Next, we express boundary conditions for which the boundary term vanishes in terms of the currents. We use conformal coordinates, $z = \tau + \sigma, \bar{z} = \tau - \sigma$ so that $J \equiv J_\tau + J_\sigma$ and $\bar{J} \equiv J_\tau - J_\sigma$. The boundary term (2.6) vanishes for the following boundary conditions:²

$$J^{(2)} = \Omega(\bar{J}^{(2)}), \quad J^{(1)} = \Omega(\bar{J}^{(3)}), \quad J^{(3)} = \Omega(\bar{J}^{(1)}), \quad \text{at } \sigma = 0, \pi \quad (2.7)$$

with Ω a metric preserving involutive automorphism map³ ($\text{Str}(\Omega(A)\Omega(B)) = \text{Str}(AB)$, $\Omega^2 = 1$). These boundary conditions leave the action invariant. Equation (2.7) may be summarized using the moving frame's flat-connection $A(z)$ as

$$A(z) - J^{(0)} = \Omega(\bar{A}(z^{-1}) - \bar{J}^{(0)}) \quad \text{at } \sigma = 0, \pi \quad (2.8)$$

with⁴

$$\begin{aligned} A(z) - J^{(0)} &= zJ^{(1)} + z^{-2}J^{(2)} + z^{-1}J^{(3)}, \\ \bar{A}(z) - \bar{J}^{(0)} &= z\bar{J}^{(1)} + z^2\bar{J}^{(2)} + z^{-1}\bar{J}^{(3)}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.9)$$

$z \in \mathbb{C}$ the spectral parameter (not to be confused with the conformal coordinate z).

In order for this boundary condition to be consistent it should respect the kappa-symmetry of the action. Kappa symmetry acts as $g \rightarrow ge^{\hat{\kappa}}$ [1, 3] with

$$\hat{\kappa} = [J_\alpha^{(2)}, \kappa_{(1)-}^\alpha] + [J_\alpha^{(2)}, \kappa_{(3)+}^\alpha] \quad (2.10)$$

so the kappa-symmetry variation is $\Delta = g^{-1}\delta g = \hat{\kappa}$. If $\Omega(\hat{\kappa}) = \hat{\kappa}$, the boundary term vanishes. Let us act on (2.10) with Ω , then

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega(\hat{\kappa}) &= \Omega([J_\alpha^{(2)}, \kappa_{(1)-}^\alpha] + [J_\alpha^{(2)}, \kappa_{(3)+}^\alpha]) \\ &= [J_\tau^{(2)}, \Omega(\kappa_{(1)-}^\tau)] - [J_\sigma^{(2)}, \Omega(\kappa_{(1)-}^\sigma)] + [J_\tau^{(2)}, \Omega(\kappa_{(3)+}^\tau)] - [J_\sigma^{(2)}, \Omega(\kappa_{(3)+}^\sigma)], \end{aligned} \quad (2.11)$$

where $\kappa_\pm^\alpha = P_\pm^{\alpha\beta} \kappa_\beta = \frac{1}{2}(h^{\alpha\beta} \pm \epsilon^{\alpha\beta}/\sqrt{-h})\kappa_\beta$. Requiring $\Omega(\hat{\kappa}) = \hat{\kappa}$ we get

$$\Omega(\kappa) = \bar{\kappa}, \quad \text{with } \Omega^2 = 1, \quad \text{and } \kappa = \kappa_{(1)-} + \kappa_{(3)+}. \quad (2.12)$$

Thus, we conclude that our boundary conditions (2.7) are consistent.⁵

Let us now consider the supersymmetry breaking. The supersymmetry transformation is given by $g \rightarrow e^\epsilon g$, $\epsilon = \epsilon^1 + \epsilon^3 \in \mathfrak{g}_1$, so $g^{-1}\delta g = g^{-1}\epsilon g$. On the boundary we should have $\Omega(g^{-1}\delta g) = g^{-1}\delta g$. We will encounter two types of automorphisms [31], one in which $\Omega(AB) = \Omega(A)\Omega(B)$ and the second in which $\Omega(AB) = -\Omega(B)\Omega(A)$. In the first case, if $\Omega(g) = g$ we should have $\Omega(\epsilon) = \epsilon$ which breaks half of the supersymmetry, since the

²Gluing conditions in CFT's in terms of the currents were introduced in [23]. There are many cases where the gluing conditions were given in terms of automorphisms in the analysis of D-branes, e.g. for Gepner-models [24], WZW-models on group manifolds [25] and supergroup manifolds [26, 27], PCM's on symmetric spaces [28] etc.

³Note that the automorphism map Ω is not related to the \mathbb{Z}_4 automorphism which we denote by $\hat{\Omega}$.

⁴Taking $A(z)$ is related to $\bar{A}(z^{-1})$ through a parity transformation [29].,Bena:2003wd,Beisert:2005bm

⁵We assumed that the automorphism acts as a linear transformation, see [31] for a classification of superalgebras automorphisms.

relation is linear. In the second case, if $\Omega(g) = -g^{-1}$ we also find that $\Omega(\epsilon) = \epsilon$ which breaks half of the supersymmetry.

If the configuration breaks half of the supersymmetry as explained above, then equation (2.7) may be rewritten in the form

$$a(z) = \Omega(\bar{a}(z^{-1})) \quad \text{at } \sigma = 0, \pi \tag{2.13}$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} a(z) &= (z-1)j^{(1)} + (z^{-1}-1)j^{(3)} + (z^{-2}-1)j^{(2)}, \\ \bar{a}(z) &= (z-1)\bar{j}^{(1)} + (z^{-1}-1)\bar{j}^{(3)} + (z^2-1)\bar{j}^{(2)}, \end{aligned} \tag{2.14}$$

the flat connection in the fixed-frame and $j^{(m)} = gJ^{(m)}g^{-1}$.

Finally, we note that the boundary conditions do not modify the Virasoro constraint

$$\text{Str} \left(J_\alpha^{(2)} J_\beta^{(2)} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\alpha\beta} g^{\gamma\delta} J_\gamma^{(2)} J_\delta^{(2)} \right) = 0 \tag{2.15}$$

on the boundary.

3 Integrable D-brane configurations

Adding boundaries to (1+1)-dimensional integrable models (originally with periodic boundary conditions) may break the integrable structure, since the monodromy matrix ceases to be conserved. It is sometimes possible to construct a generating function for an infinite set of conserved charges for models with boundaries by using the bulk transition matrix together with appropriate reflection matrices [4, 5]. The construction was used for $O(N)$ sigma models on the half infinite line in [7], and was generalized to the finite line (open strings) in [8] for the bosonic principal chiral model (PCM). In this section we generalize the procedure for Green-Schwarz sigma-models (GS σ M's) on supercoset backgrounds.

The GS σ M [1] has a flat-connection one-form $a(z)$, namely $da(z) + a(z) \wedge a(z) = 0$ with $z \in \mathbb{C}$ the spectral parameter [2]. This property allows one to construct the transition matrix given by [32]

$$T(\sigma_2, \sigma_1; z) = \mathcal{P} e^{\int_{\sigma_1}^{\sigma_2} da_\sigma(\sigma; z)}, \tag{3.1}$$

where \mathcal{P} is the path ordering symbol. Using the flatness of $a(z)$, it follows that the transition matrix satisfies

$$\partial_\tau T(\sigma_2, \sigma_1; z) = a_\tau(\sigma_2; z) T(\sigma_2, \sigma_1; z) - T(\sigma_2, \sigma_1; z) a_\tau(\tau_1; z). \tag{3.2}$$

Defining the monodromy matrix $T_\gamma(z) \equiv T(2\pi, 0; z)$, we see that if the boundary conditions are periodic (namely, $a(0; z) = a(2\pi; z)$) then

$$\partial_\tau \text{Str}(T_\gamma(z)) = 0, \tag{3.3}$$

so $\text{Str}(T_\gamma(z))$ is a generating function for integrals of motion. Note, that in fact these boundary conditions imply $\text{Str}(T_\gamma(z)^n) = 0$ for any $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$. Obviously, without the

periodic boundary conditions the monodromy matrix is generally not conserved. Next we describe how to construct a generating function for integrals of motion in the case of open string boundary conditions.

We start by following the construction given in [8] (though we use different notations). First we define the function

$$T(z) \equiv U_0 T^{-1}(\pi, 0; z^{-1}) U_\pi T(\pi, 0; z). \quad (3.4)$$

The $U_{0/\pi}$ matrices are the reflection matrices at the two ends of the string. We take them to be constant matrices as explained in [8]. Generally U may depend on z , but as we explain at the end of the section, the relevant U 's for our constructions are z -independent. In [8] our $T^{-1}(\pi, 0; z^{-1})$ is denoted by a function T_R , which is equivalent to our T^{-1} at the bosonic level. Furthermore, note that we work with a \mathbb{Z}_4 coset sigma-model while in [8] the PCM was analyzed, so the flat-connection takes a different form, and also our string range is $\sigma \in (0, \pi)$.

Next we show under what conditions $\text{Str}(T(z))$ is conserved. Using (3.2) we differentiate (3.4) with respect to τ , so

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_\tau T(z) = & U_0 T^{-1}(\pi, 0; z^{-1}) U_\pi \left(a_\tau(\pi; z) T(\pi, 0; z) - T(\pi, 0; z) a_\tau(0; z) \right) \\ & + U_0 \left(a_\tau(0; z^{-1}) T^{-1}(\pi, 0; z^{-1}) - T^{-1}(\pi, 0; z^{-1}) a_\tau(\pi; z^{-1}) \right) U_\pi T(\pi, 0; z). \end{aligned} \quad (3.5)$$

Requiring $\partial_\tau \text{Str}(T(z)) = 0$ we find that

$$U_\pi a_\tau(\pi; z) - a_\tau(\pi; z^{-1}) U_\pi = 0, \quad U_0 a_\tau(0; z^{-1}) - a_\tau(0; z) U_0 = 0. \quad (3.6)$$

As in the closed string, the boundary conditions (3.6) imply that $\partial_\tau \text{Str}(T(z)^n) = 0$, where n is a positive integer. If we identify

$$\Omega_U(x) \equiv UxU^{-1}, \quad x \in \mathfrak{g} \quad (3.7)$$

as an automorphism, then (3.6) defines a consistent boundary condition given that $\Omega^2 = 1$ and $\Omega_U(g) = g$. To be more precise, (2.13) with Ω_U should also be satisfied so that the action will be invariant. Throughout the analysis we assume that the reflection matrices U are invertible. To summarize, we find that if

$$\Omega_{U_0}(a_\tau(0, z)) = a_\tau(0, z^{-1}), \quad \text{and} \quad \Omega_{U_\pi}(a_\tau(\pi, z^{-1})) = a_\tau(\pi, z), \quad (3.8)$$

the model is classically integrable. Plugging the GS σ M's flat-connection

$$a(z) = (z-1)j^{(1)} + \frac{1}{2}(z-z^{-1})^2 j^{(2)} + (z^{-1}-1)j^{(3)} - \frac{1}{2}(z^2-z^{-2}) * j^{(2)}, \quad (3.9)$$

where $j^{(m)} = gJ^{(m)}g^{-1}$, in (3.8), we get the explicit relations for integrability

$$[U, j_\tau^{(2)}] = \{U, j_\sigma^{(2)}\} = 0, \quad (3.10)$$

$$j_\tau^{(1)} = U^{-1} j_\tau^{(3)} U, \quad j_\tau^{(3)} = U^{-1} j_\tau^{(1)} U, \quad (3.11)$$

$$j_\sigma^{(1)} = -U^{-1} j_\sigma^{(3)} U, \quad j_\sigma^{(3)} = -U^{-1} j_\sigma^{(1)} U, \quad (3.12)$$

with $U^2 = \pm 1$. The last equation follows from the invariance of the action, or equivalently, the EOM. If $\Omega_U(g) = g$, then the same equations apply for J (the moving frame current).

The result (3.8) calls for a more general condition for integrability, that is, we may consider a general automorphisms not necessarily restricting ourselves to matrix conjugation.⁶ This is what we will do next. We define the matrices

$$T(\pi, 0; z) = \mathcal{P} \exp \left(\int_0^\pi a(z) \right), \quad T_{\tilde{\Omega}}(0, \pi; z^{-1}) = \mathcal{P} \exp \left(\int_0^\pi \tilde{\Omega}(a(z^{-1})) \right), \quad (3.13)$$

with $\tilde{\Omega}$ an automorphism map, and define a new object

$$T(z) \equiv U_0 T_{\tilde{\Omega}}^{-1}(\pi, 0; z^{-1}) U_\pi T(\pi, 0; z) \quad (3.14)$$

(so taking $\tilde{\Omega}$ to be the identity map, we return to the old definition (3.4)). Differentiating $\text{Str}(T(z))$ as before, we end up with the integrability conditions

$$U_\pi a_\tau(\pi; z) - \tilde{\Omega}(a_\tau(\pi; z^{-1})) U_\pi = 0, \quad U_0 \tilde{\Omega}(a_\tau(0; z^{-1})) - a_\tau(0; z) U_0 = 0. \quad (3.15)$$

From now on we will consider only the $\sigma = 0$ boundary conditions since the $\sigma = \pi$ boundary conditions are equivalent. Let us also introduce the notation $\Omega(x) \equiv U_0 \tilde{\Omega}(x) U_0^{-1}$, which is a composition of two automorphisms. Finally, combining the integrability conditions together with consistency of the equations of motion we obtain the conditions

$$a_\tau(0; z) = \Omega(a_\tau(0; z^{-1})), \quad a_\sigma(0; z) = -\Omega(a_\sigma(0; z^{-1})) \quad (3.16)$$

In order for these boundary conditions to be consistent, it is obvious that Ω should be an involutive automorphism. This definition is not restricted to similarity transformation automorphisms as the previous one. In the next section we will show that allowing a general automorphism, changes significantly the classification of integrable boundary conditions.

Comparing to the boundary conditions we found for half-BPS D-branes, we conclude that all half-BPS D-branes described by the gluing conditions, given in the previous section, are also integrable.

Let us comment about the z -independence of U . The explicit relations (3.10)–(3.12) follows from (3.8) by identifying the z -dependent coefficients of the flat-connection. This means that unless we have the same coefficient functions in front of the \mathbb{Z}_4 graded one-forms, they will have to vanish by the boundary conditions (both their σ and τ components). If U depends on z , it will change the coefficients according to their charge under U , and we do not find such U which will transform all the coefficient functions by just interchanging between them up to some constants, in a way that is consistent with (2.13).

4 Integrable configurations for the $\text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^5$ background

In this section we will first present some general results for the $\text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^5$ background in global coordinates. We will then take a closer look at the giant-graviton configuration in

⁶Automorphisms of superalgebras are classified in [31].

order to demonstrate how the prescription for finding the integrable structure works. Next we will consider the Karch-Randall configuration in some detail, since we will use there a different type of automorphism involving the supertranspose operation, which allows us to prove integrability of the configuration (some previous attempt to find integrable structure using reflection matrices failed [8, 19], although recent attempts on the gauge theory side [20] were successful, see also [21, 22]). We will outline general solutions for allowed automorphisms and integrable D-brane configurations in $\text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^5$. The required details of the $\text{PSU}(2, 2|4)$ superconformal algebra are given in appendix A.

4.1 The $\text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^5$ bosonic background in global coordinates

The $\text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^5$ background metric in global coordinates is given by $ds^2 = ds_{\text{AdS}_5}^2 + ds_{\text{S}^5}^2$ with

$$ds_{\text{AdS}_5}^2 = d\rho^2 - \cosh^2 \rho dt^2 + \sinh^2 \rho (d\alpha^2 + \sin^2 \alpha d\beta^2 + \cos^2 \alpha d\gamma^2), \quad (4.1)$$

$$ds_{\text{S}^5}^2 = d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2 + \cos^2 \theta (d\psi^2 + \sin^2 \psi d\eta^2 + \cos^2 \psi d\varphi^2). \quad (4.2)$$

Concentrating on the bosonic sector, we have only the kinetic term in the action, $\text{Str}(J^{(2)} \wedge *J^{(2)})$, where the \mathcal{H}_2 space is spanned by the P 's (translation generators). In order to get the desired metric we use the coset element representative $g = g_{\text{AdS}_5} g_{\text{S}^5}$ with

$$g_{\text{AdS}_5} = e^{-P_0 t} e^{-J_{13}\gamma} e^{J_{24}\beta} e^{-J_{14}\alpha} e^{P_1 \rho}, \quad (4.3)$$

$$g_{\text{S}^5} = e^{-J_{79}\phi} e^{P_8 \varphi} e^{J_{56}\eta} e^{P_6 \psi} e^{P_7 \theta}. \quad (4.4)$$

The bosonic sector's $J^{(2)}$ is given by

$$J^{(2)} = P_0 \cosh \rho dt + P_1 d\rho + P_2 \sinh \rho \sin \alpha d\beta + P_3 \sinh \rho \cos \alpha d\gamma + P_4 \sinh \rho d\alpha \\ + P_5 \cos \theta \sin \psi d\eta + P_6 \cos \theta d\psi + P_7 d\theta + P_8 \cos \theta \cos \psi d\varphi + P_9 \sin \theta d\phi. \quad (4.5)$$

The vielbeins are given by

$$e_t^0 = \cosh \rho, \quad e_\rho^1 = 1, \quad e_\beta^2 = \sinh \rho \sin \alpha, \quad e_\gamma^3 = \sinh \rho \cos \alpha, \quad e_\alpha^4 = \sinh \rho, \quad (4.6)$$

$$e_\eta^5 = \cos \theta \sin \psi, \quad e_\psi^6 = \cos \theta, \quad e_\theta^7 = 1, \quad e_\varphi^8 = \cos \theta \cos \psi, \quad e_\phi^9 = \sin \theta. \quad (4.7)$$

We constructed the $P_{\hat{a}}$ and $J_{\hat{a}\hat{b}}$ matrices using the 4×4 gamma matrices (given in (A.2)) and their commutators respectively, so we will be able to use their Clifford algebra when computing their anti-commutation relations.

4.2 The maximal giant graviton D3-brane

The maximal giant graviton [33] is defined by the boundary conditions

$$\rho = 0, \quad \theta = 0, \quad t = \phi = \phi(\tau), \quad (4.8)$$

and Neumann boundary conditions for the rest of the coordinates, so the D-brane geometry is $\mathbb{R}^1 \times \text{S}^3$. At the boundary, the bosonic sector's current (4.5) is reduced to

$$J^{(2)} = P_0 dt + P_1 d\rho + P_5 \sin \psi d\eta + P_6 d\psi + P_7 d\theta + P_8 \cos \psi d\varphi, \quad (4.9)$$

and in worldsheet components to

$$J_\tau^{(2)} = P_0 \partial_\tau t + P_5 \sin \psi \partial_\tau \eta + P_6 \partial_\tau \psi + P_8 \cos \psi \partial_\tau \varphi, \quad (4.10)$$

$$J_\sigma^{(2)} = P_1 \partial_\sigma \rho + P_7 \partial_\sigma \theta. \quad (4.11)$$

In order to satisfy the integrability conditions we should take $U = aP_0 + bJ_{7,9}$, where $a, b \in \mathbb{C}$ are arbitrary for the moment (this result follows easily by using the commutation relations together with the Clifford algebra). On the boundary $[U, g] = 0$, so the lower-case $j^{(2)} = gJ^{(2)}g^{-1}$ also satisfy

$$[j_\tau^{(2)}, U] = \{j_\sigma^{(2)}, U\} = 0. \quad (4.12)$$

Next, we introduce the fermions. We take the super-coset representative to be

$$g = g_F g_B, \quad g_B = g_{\text{AdS}_5} g_{\text{S}^5}, \quad g_F = e^F, \quad (4.13)$$

where

$$F = \theta \cdot Q = \theta_{I\alpha\alpha'a} Q_{I\beta\beta'b} C^{\alpha\beta} C'^{\alpha'\beta'} (i\sigma_2)^{ab} S^{IJ} \quad (4.14)$$

and

$$\theta_{I\alpha\alpha'1} = \theta_{I\alpha\alpha'}, \quad \theta_{I\alpha\alpha'2} = 0, \quad Q_{I\beta\beta'1} = 0, \quad Q_{I\beta\beta'2} = -Q_{I\beta\beta'}. \quad (4.15)$$

α, α', a and I are the AdS_5 -spinor, S^5 -spinor, chirality and internal indices respectively. The 32×32 gamma matrices that act on the α, α', a indices are tensor products of the α, α' and a spaces (see appendix A). θ and Q have opposite chirality, while θ_1 and θ_2 have the same chirality, and so do the Q 's. We take S^{IJ} to be diagonal 2×2 matrix.

The current J decomposes to

$$J = g_B^{-1} (g_F^{-1} dg_F) g_B + g_B^{-1} dg_B, \quad (4.16)$$

where we have already analyzed above the second term, and realized that g_B on the boundary commutes with U . The $j_\tau^{(1)}$ and $j_\tau^{(3)}$ should satisfy

$$j_\tau^{(1)} = U j_\tau^{(3)} U^{-1}, \quad [U^2, j_\tau^{(1)}] = [U^2, j_\tau^{(3)}] = 0. \quad (4.17)$$

In order for these relations to be satisfied, they should be satisfied for the moving frame's currents, namely

$$J_\tau^{(1)} = U J_\tau^{(3)} U^{-1}, \quad [U^2, J_\tau^{(1)}] = [U^2, J_\tau^{(3)}] = 0. \quad (4.18)$$

We note that the matrix transformation given by U , induces a transformation in the spinor space⁷

$$U Q_{I\alpha\alpha'a} U^{-1} = U_{\alpha\alpha'a}^{(s)\beta\beta'b} \epsilon_{IJ} Q_{J\beta\beta'b} = (\gamma_A)_\alpha^\beta (\gamma_S)_{\alpha'}^{\beta'} \sigma_a^b \epsilon_{IJ} Q_{J\beta\beta'b}. \quad (4.19)$$

We require F to be invariant under the similarity transformation ($UFU^{-1} = F$), so the θ 's should satisfy on the boundary

$$\theta_J^{\beta\beta'b} = \theta_I^{\alpha\alpha'a} U_{\alpha\alpha'a}^{(s)\beta\beta'b} \epsilon_{IJ} = -\theta_J^{\gamma\gamma'c} U_{\gamma\gamma'c}^{(s)\alpha\alpha'a} U_{\alpha\alpha'a}^{(s)\beta\beta'b}. \quad (4.20)$$

⁷We use the ϵ_{IJ} symbol since Q^1 and Q^2 should transform with a relative sign. This can be seen by noting that $Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^1 = i\Sigma Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^2$ where $\Sigma = \text{diag}(+, +, +, +, -, -, -, -)$, and $[U, \Sigma] = 0$.

In order not to reduce further the number of degrees of freedom we should have $(U^{(s)})^2 = -1$, with $U^{(s)} = \gamma_A \otimes \gamma_S \otimes \sigma$.

The invariance of F on the boundary guarantees that $[U, g_F] = 0$. The boundary condition for $\partial_\tau \theta$ is the same as (4.20), so the first condition in (4.18) is satisfied. Taking the boundary condition for $\partial_\sigma \theta$ to be the same as (4.20) but with a minus sign on the l.h.s., then $U J_\sigma^{(1)} U^{-1} = -J_\sigma^{(3)}$ is satisfied. Finally, the second part of (4.18) is satisfied if $U_A^2 = U_S^2 \propto 1_{4 \times 4}$.

Since we chose the bosons and fermions boundary conditions such that

$$U \partial_\tau F U^{-1} = \partial_\tau F, \quad U \partial_\sigma F U^{-1} = -\partial_\sigma F, \quad U F U^{-1} = F, \quad U g_B U^{-1} = g_B,$$

it follows that the fermions contribution to $J^{(2)}$ does not modify (3.10).

These conditions fix the a and b coefficients up to normalization and relative sign to be

$$U = 2P_0 - i2^3 P_5 P_6 P_8, \tag{4.21}$$

in the superalgebra basis, and

$$U^{(s)} \otimes \epsilon = \Gamma^0 \Gamma^5 \Gamma^6 \Gamma^8 \otimes \epsilon = \gamma^0 \otimes \gamma^5 \gamma^6 \gamma^8 \otimes (i\sigma^3) \otimes \epsilon, \tag{4.22}$$

in the spinor basis, so the chirality is preserved, and $U^2 = -1_{8 \times 8}$, so all the conditions for integrability are satisfied and consistent. We can identify the gamma-matrices indices with the Neumann directions using the vielbeins given in (4.6), so 0, 5, 6, 8 are associated with the t, η, ψ, φ directions respectively. The Majorana condition is also satisfied upon the identification (4.20) will be explained later.

4.3 Karch-Randall D5-brane

Consider the Karch-Randall D5-Brane [34] wrapping $\text{AdS}_4 \times \text{S}^2$. In the analysis of [8] it is shown that applying the finite line integrability procedure fails for this configuration, but recent attempts have shown that it is indeed integrable upon using *twisted* or *achiral* boundary conditions [20–22]. We will show that this configuration is integrable by using an automorphism of the form $\Omega(x) = -U x^{st} U^{-1}$.

We use the parametrization given in appendix C for the Poincaré and spherical coordinates, and take the boundary conditions

$$x_2 = 0, \quad \theta_7 = \theta_8 = \theta_9 = 0. \tag{4.23}$$

The bosonic sector's current $J^{(2)}$ in worldsheet coordinates is reduced to

$$J_\tau^{(2)} = \frac{1}{y} (P_0 \partial_\tau t + P_1 \partial_\tau x_1 + P_3 \partial_\tau x_3 - P_4 \partial_\tau y) + (P_8 \partial_\tau \theta_8 + \cos \theta_8 (P_5 \partial_\tau \theta_5)) \tag{4.24}$$

$$J_\sigma^{(2)} = P_2 \frac{\partial_\sigma x_2}{y} + P_9 \partial_\sigma \theta_9 + P_6 \partial_\sigma \theta_6 + P_7 \partial_\sigma \theta_7. \tag{4.25}$$

The automorphism which respects the boundary conditions is

$$\Omega(x) = -U x^{st} U^{-1}, \quad U = 2P_4 - 4P_6 P_7. \tag{4.26}$$

U	γ^1	γ^{12}	γ^{123}	γ^{1234}	γ^{12340}
comm	γ^1	$\gamma^3, \gamma^4, \gamma^0$	$\gamma^1, \gamma^2, \gamma^3$	γ^0	$\gamma^1, \gamma^2, \gamma^3, \gamma^4, \gamma^0$
anti-comm	$\gamma^2, \gamma^3, \gamma^4, \gamma^0$	γ^1, γ^2	γ^4, γ^0	$\gamma^1, \gamma^2, \gamma^3, \gamma^4$	\emptyset

Table 1. Commutation and anti-commutation of the gamma matrices. The first row represents the different U matrices. The second (third) row gives the gamma matrices that (anti-)commutes with U . The analysis is the same for the AdS and sphere's 4×4 gamma matrices.

This automorphism transformation can be checked to be involutive, and satisfying $\Omega(AB) = -\Omega(B)\Omega(A)$ and $\Omega(g_B) = -g_B^{-1}$. The spinors transformation is given by

$$U^{(s)} = \gamma_5 \gamma_6 \otimes \gamma_0 \gamma_1 \gamma_3 \gamma_4 \otimes 1, \tag{4.27}$$

and we see that the supertranspose operation interchanges the role of the two spinor indices, $\alpha \leftrightarrow \alpha'$. In any case, these gamma indices correspond to the Neumann directions, as can be read from the expressions for $J^{(2)}$ in appendix A.

4.4 Other integrable configurations

Any metric preserving involutive automorphism of the $\text{PSU}(2, 2|4)$ superalgebra may serve in principle for the gluing of the currents on the boundary. The automorphisms for simple superalgebras were classified in [31]. We consider two types of automorphisms,

$$\Omega(x) = UxU^{-1}, \quad \Omega_{st}(x) = -Ux^{st}U^{-1}, \quad U \in \text{GL}(4|4)_{\bar{0}}. \tag{4.28}$$

Let us consider Ω first. In this case we represent the U matrix as a product of P_a matrices plus a product of $P_{a'}$ matrices, that is $U = \prod_a c_a P_a + \prod_{a'} c_{a'} P_{a'} \equiv U_A + U_S$ with $c_a, c_{a'} \in \mathbb{C}$ for some set $\{a, a'\}$. The P matrices represent the 4×4 gamma matrices (A.2), so we can immediately find which P commutes or anti-commutes with U , see table 1. Using the relation $\gamma^4 \sim \gamma^0 \gamma^1 \gamma^2 \gamma^3$, we can always use $U \sim \gamma^{p+1, \dots, 4}$ instead of $U \sim \gamma^{0, \dots, p}$. Then whenever p is even, it is natural to consider $U \sim \gamma^{p+1, \dots, 4}$ since then the $a = P + 1, \dots, 4$ directions are the Neumann directions (the ones that commutes with U , so their translation symmetry is not broken). Then, we see that the number of Neumann directions is always odd for the AdS and sphere's subspace, and so totally even for the entire space as should be for IIB.

Next we find the allowed U matrices. The consistency conditions are $U^2 = \pm 1$, Ω -should interchange generators $\mathcal{H}_1 \leftrightarrow \mathcal{H}_3$, so should have $\hat{\Omega}(\Omega(X^1)) = -i\Omega(X^1)$ (where $\hat{\Omega}(X^1) = iX^1$) and finally the Majorana condition should be preserved (since the total

number of gamma matrices is even the chirality of the spinors is not changed). The second condition implies

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\Omega}(\Omega(X^1)) &= \hat{\Omega}(UX^1U^{-1}) = i\hat{\Omega}(U^{-1})X^1\hat{\Omega}(U) = i\hat{\Omega}(U)X^1\hat{\Omega}(U^{-1}) \\ &= iKU^tK^{-1}X^1KU^{t-1}K^{-1} = ikU^tk^{-1}X^1kU^{t-1}k^{-1}\end{aligned}\quad (4.29)$$

where we used $U^2 = \pm 1$ in the third equality, and $\hat{\Omega}(x) = -Kx^{st}K^{-1}$ (see appendix A). We also defined

$$K = \begin{pmatrix} C & \\ & iC \end{pmatrix}, \quad k = \begin{pmatrix} C & \\ & C \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (4.30)$$

where C is the charge conjugation matrix defined in appendix A. Then it follows that U must satisfy

$$kU^tk^{-1} = \pm U\Sigma. \quad (4.31)$$

Then we can use the charge conjugation matrix properties, namely $C\gamma_\mu^tC^{-1} = \gamma_\mu$ with $C^2 = -1$, so $C\gamma_{\mu\nu\rho\dots}^tC^{-1}$ equals $\gamma_{\mu\nu\rho\dots}$ for 1, 4 and 5 Lorentz indices and equals $-\gamma_{\mu\nu\rho\dots}$ for 2 and 3 indices. Let us denote $U = \begin{pmatrix} U_A & 0 \\ 0 & U_S \end{pmatrix}$, so U_A is a product of 1, 4 or 5 γ -matrices and U_S a product of 2 or 3 γ -matrices, or vice-versa. As explained above we trade a product of two and four γ -matrices with three and one γ -matrices respectively, so we are left with (1,3), (3,1), (3,5) and (5,3) D-branes only (the notation gives the number of dimensions the D-brane fills in the AdS and sphere subspaces).

Next we consider the Majorana condition. The odd generators satisfy $Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^{I\dagger} = kQ_{\alpha\alpha'}^I k^{-1}$, so if $Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^{1\dagger} = kQ_{\alpha\alpha'}^1 k^{-1}$, then applying Ω we have

$$\Omega(Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^{1\dagger}) = \Omega(k)\Omega(Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^1)\Omega(k^{-1}), \quad (4.32)$$

but $\Omega(Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^{1\dagger})$ is in \mathcal{H}_3 and should also satisfy

$$\Omega(Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^{1\dagger}) = k\Omega(Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^1)k^{-1}, \quad (4.33)$$

so $\Omega(k) = \pm k$. This relation can also be written as

$$kUk^{-1} = \pm U, \quad \text{or} \quad [k, U] = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \{k, U\} = 0. \quad (4.34)$$

In practice it means that both U_A and U_S should commute or anti-commute with C . Any U_A (U_S) which contain in its product of P generators P_2 or P_4 (P_7 or P_9) but not both anti-commutes with C , else it commutes with C . Together with (4.31) it leaves us with

$$U = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} P_a/P_{abcde} & \\ & P_{a'b'c'}/P_{a'\tilde{b}'\tilde{c}'} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} P_{\tilde{a}} & \\ & P_{a'b'\tilde{c}'} \end{pmatrix}, \right. \\ \left. \begin{pmatrix} P_{abc}/P_{a\tilde{b}\tilde{c}} & \\ & P_{a'}/P_{a'b'c'\tilde{d}'\tilde{e}'} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} P_{a\tilde{b}\tilde{c}} & \\ & P_{\tilde{a}} \end{pmatrix} \right\}, \quad (4.35)$$

AdS ₂	$U = P_3 + P_{7,9}$	$\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 0; \theta = \psi = \varphi = 0$
$S^2 \subset S^5$	$U = P_{2,4} + iP_6$	$\rho = 0, t = 0; \theta_6 = \theta_7 = \theta_9 = 0$
\mathbb{H}^2	$U = P_0 + iP_{7,9}$	$t = 0, \alpha = 0; \theta = \psi = \varphi = 0$
AdS ₂ × S ⁴	$U = P_{0,2} + P_7$	$x^i = 0; \theta_9 = 0$
$\mathbb{H}^2 \times S^4$	$U = P_0 + iP_{6,8}$	$t = 0, \alpha = 0; \theta_5 = 0$
AdS ₄ × S ²	$U = P_4 - P_{6,7}$	$x^2 = 0; \theta_5 = \theta_7 = \theta_8 = 0$
$\mathbb{H}^4 \times S^2$	$U = P_{1,3} + iP_6$	$t = 0; \theta_6 = \theta_7 = \theta_9 = 0$

Table 3. Integrable half-BPS D-brane configurations for AdS₅ × S⁵ with $\Omega_{st}(x) = -Ux^{st}U^{-1}$. We give some of the integrable D-brane configurations with the gluing conditions involving $\Omega(x) = -Ux^{st}U^{-1}$ automorphism. The second column gives the U matrices in terms of the superalgebra generators $P_{\tilde{a}}$, the notation is $P_{a,b,c,\dots} = (2P_a)(2P_b)(2P_c)\dots$. For each boundary condition (3.6) is satisfied with $\Omega(g) = -g^{-1}$ on the boundary.

result is also consistent with the classification of [35, 36]⁸ and preserve the chirality. As for the previous type of automorphism, we can find several half-BPS integrable D-branes, see table 3 for examples.

Again we summarize the possible U 's

$$U = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} P_a/P_{01234} & \\ & P_{a'b'}/P_{\tilde{a}'\tilde{b}'} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} P_{\tilde{a}} & \\ & P_{\tilde{a}'b'} \end{pmatrix}, \right. \quad (4.40)$$

$$\left. \begin{pmatrix} P_{ab}/P_{\tilde{a}\tilde{b}} & \\ & P_{a'}/P_{5,6,7,8,9} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} P_{\tilde{a}\tilde{b}} & \\ & P_{\tilde{a}t} \end{pmatrix} \right\},$$

where $a, b = 0, 1, 3$, $\tilde{a}, \tilde{b} = 2, 4$, $a', b' = 5, 6, 8$ and $\tilde{a}', \tilde{b}' = 7, 9$. We do not give the relative coefficient between the two block. $P_a, P_{\tilde{a}}, P_{ab}, P_{\tilde{a}\tilde{b}}, P_{\tilde{a}b}$ and $P_{1,2,3,4,5}$ gives 2, 4, 4, 0, 2 and 2-dimensional Neumann boundary conditions respectively and similarly for the P 's with the primed indices.

5 Integrable configurations for the AdS₄ × CP³ background

As for the AdS₅ × S⁵ case we can analyze the AdS₄ × CP³ background and find integrable configurations. The AdS₄ × CP³ background is constructed using the supercoset $\frac{\text{OSP}(6|4)}{\text{U}(3) \times \text{SO}(3,1)}$, which has \mathbb{Z}_4 grading structure and so is an integrable background, see [37, 38]. First we present general results for this background for the bosonic sector and then we examine the AdS₃ × CP¹ configuration. Finally, we carry out a more general analysis and find more examples of integrable configurations.

The relevant superalgebra is OSP(6|4), the details are found in appendix B. The outer automorphism for the OSP(2k|2n) superalgebra is [31] Ad $J_{k,n}$, with $J_{k,n} \in \text{GL}(2k, 2n)$, $\det J_{k,n} = -1$, $J_{k,n}^2 = 1_{2k+2n}$ and $J_{k,n}B_{2k,n}J_{k,n} = B_{2k,n}$ where $B_{2k,n} = \text{diag}(1_{2k}, J_n)$,

⁸Note, however, that the D(-1)-brane is not in this class of integrable boundary conditions.

$J_n = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1_n \\ -1_n & 0 \end{pmatrix}$. So we consider the automorphism generally acting as $\Omega(x) = UxU^{-1}$ with $U \in \text{GL}(6|4)_{\bar{0}}$.

5.1 The $\text{AdS}_4 \times \text{CP}^3$ bosonic background in global coordinates

We write the $\text{AdS}_4 \times \text{CP}^3$ metric in global coordinates as $ds^2 = ds_{\text{AdS}_4}^2 + 4ds_{\text{CP}^3}^2$ with

$$ds_{\text{AdS}_4}^2 = d\rho^2 - \cosh^2 \rho dt^2 + \sinh^2 \rho (d\alpha^2 + \sin^2 \alpha d\beta^2) \quad (5.1)$$

$$ds_{\text{CP}^3}^2 = d\mu^2 + \cos^2 \mu \sin^2 \mu \left(d\psi - \frac{1}{2} \cos \theta_1 d\varphi_1 + \frac{1}{2} \cos \theta_2 d\varphi_2 \right)^2 \quad (5.2)$$

$$+ \frac{1}{4} \sin^2 \mu (d\theta_1^2 + \sin^2 \theta_1 d\varphi_1^2) + \frac{1}{4} \cos^2 \mu (d\theta_2^2 + \sin^2 \theta_2 d\varphi_2^2).$$

In order to get this form of the metric we take the coset representative to be

$$g_{\text{AdS}_4} = e^{P_0 t} e^{J_{12} \beta} e^{J_{13} \alpha} e^{P_3 \rho} \quad (5.3)$$

$$g_{\text{CP}^3} = e^{M_{25} \psi} e^{-R_4 \varphi_2} e^{R_3 (\theta_2 + \frac{\pi}{2})} e^{T_4 \varphi_1} e^{T_3 (\theta_1 + \frac{\pi}{2})} e^{2R_6 \mu} \quad (5.4)$$

where the generators are defined in appendix B.

Then the bosonic sector's $J^{(2)}$ is given by

$$J^{(2)} = -P_0 \cosh \rho dt - P_1 \sinh \rho d\alpha - P_2 \sinh \rho \sin \alpha d\beta + P_3 d\rho \quad (5.5)$$

$$+ R_1 \sin \mu d\theta_1 + R_2 \sin \mu \sin \theta_1 d\varphi_1 + R_3 \cos \mu d\theta_2 + R_4 \cos \mu \sin \theta_2 d\varphi_2$$

$$- R_5 \cos \mu \sin \mu (\cos \theta_1 d\varphi_1 - \cos \theta_2 d\varphi_2 - 2d\psi) + 2R_6 d\mu.$$

In order for the transformed generator $\Omega(x)$, $x \in \mathfrak{g}$ to be in the superalgebra U must satisfy

$$U^t = \pm B U^{-1} B^{-1}, \quad B = 1_6 \oplus J_4, \quad (5.6)$$

see appendix B for notations.

5.2 Karch-Randall D4-brane

In this case the D4-brane has the topology $\text{AdS}_3 \times \text{CP}^1$. We take the boundary conditions $\beta = 0$ and $\mu = 0$. Then we find that

$$J^{(2)} = -P_0 \cosh \rho dt - P_1 \sinh \rho d\alpha - P_2 \sinh \rho \sin \alpha d\beta + P_3 d\rho \quad (5.7)$$

$$+ R_3 d\theta_2 + R_4 \sin \theta_2 d\varphi_2 + 2R_6 d\mu,$$

and in worldsheet components

$$J_\tau^{(2)} = -P_0 \cosh \rho \partial_\tau t - P_1 \sinh \rho \partial_\tau \alpha + P_3 \partial_\tau \rho + R_3 \partial_\tau \theta_2 + R_4 \sin \theta_2 \partial_\tau \varphi_2, \quad (5.8)$$

$$J_\sigma^{(2)} = -P_2 \sinh \rho \sin \alpha \partial_\sigma \beta + 2R_6 \partial_\sigma \mu. \quad (5.9)$$

The matrix that satisfies (3.10) is

$$U = a P_0 P_1 P_3 + b (M_{14}^2 - M_{25}^2 + M_{36}^2), \quad a, b \in \mathbb{C}. \quad (5.10)$$

This U also satisfies $[U, g] = 0$ at the boundary. In order for this automorphism to be involutive we must have $b = \pm a$. We further need the transformed generators $\Omega(x)$, $x \in \mathfrak{g}$ to be in the superalgebra so U must satisfy

$$U^t = \pm BU^{-1}B^{-1}, \quad B = 1_6 \oplus J_4, \quad (5.11)$$

see appendix B for notations. The relation $a = \pm b$ can be checked to be consistent with (5.11). We fix $U = 8P_0P_1P_3 + (M_{14}^2 - M_{25}^2 + M_{36}^2)$ so that we have a solution to (3.11), with

$$UQ_{\alpha\alpha'}^1U^{-1} = (U_A)_\alpha^\beta(U_{CP})_{\alpha'}^{b'}Q_{\beta b'}^3, \quad UQ_{\alpha\alpha'}^3U^{-1} = (U_A)_\alpha^\beta(U_{CP})_{\alpha'}^{b'}Q_{\beta b'}^1, \quad (5.12)$$

where we defined

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} U_{CP} & 0 \\ 0 & U_A \end{pmatrix}. \quad (5.13)$$

Note there is no relative minus sign for the Q^1 and Q^3 transformations as was in the $AdS_5 \times S^5$ case. Similarly to the $AdS_5 \times S^5$ case we define $F = Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^I \theta^{I\alpha\alpha'}$. We require F to be invariant under the U conjugation, and so impose the boundary conditions

$$(U_A)_\alpha^\beta(U_{CP})_{\alpha'}^{b'}\theta^{1\alpha\alpha'} = \theta^{3\beta b'}, \quad (U_A)_\alpha^\beta(U_{CP})_{\alpha'}^{b'}\theta^{3\alpha\alpha'} = \theta^{1\beta b'}. \quad (5.14)$$

Then (3.11) is satisfied. We conclude that the D-brane configuration is integrable, preserving half of the supersymmetry.

5.3 Other integrable configurations

Similarly to the $AdS_5 \times S^5$ we can find other integrable D-brane configurations repeating the analysis above. We note that at the bosonic level we can always find U which commutes with any set of P 's and anti-commute with the rest.

In table 4 we give examples of integrable D-brane configurations. Our analysis for the $AdS_4 \times CP^3$ background is less systematic than the one we gave for the $AdS_5 \times S^5$ background. Generally, we have automorphisms that work as conjugation with some invertible matrix U . We require equations (3.10)–(3.12) to be satisfied with Ω being an involutive automorphism. We further require (5.11) to be satisfied so that the transformed generators will stay in the superalgebra. We do not know of a complete classification of half-BPS D-branes in this background, see [39] for some results.

6 Discussion

In this paper we introduced a procedure for constructing a generating function for an infinite set of conserved charges for the $GS\sigma M$ with boundaries, by generalizing methods that were used for (1+1)-dimensional bosonic sigma-models. We considered the full sector including the fermionic degrees of freedom, and found a class of boundary conditions that break half of the supersymmetry. The boundary conditions are expressed using the simple equation

$$a(z) = \Omega(\bar{a}(z^{-1})), \quad (6.1)$$

$\mathbb{R}^{1,0}$	$U = P_0 + (M_{14} + M_{25} + M_{36})$	$\rho = 0; \mu = 0, \theta_2 = -\frac{\pi}{2}, \varphi_2 = 0$
$\mathbb{R}_+^{0,1}$	$U = P_3 + i(M_{14} + M_{25} + M_{36})$	$t = 0, \alpha = 0; \mu = 0, \theta_2 = -\frac{\pi}{2}, \varphi_2 = 0$
$S^3 \subset \mathbb{CP}^3$	$U = P_{0,1,2,3} + 2i(T_1 R_1 + T_3 R_3 + T_6 R_6)$	$\rho = 0, t = 0; \varphi_1 = \varphi_2 = \psi = 0$
$\text{AdS}_2 \times S^3$	$U = P_{0,3} + 2i(T_1 R_1 + T_3 R_3 + T_6 R_6)$	$\alpha = 0; \varphi_1 = \varphi_2 = \psi = 0$
$\text{AdS}_3 \times S^2$	$U = P_{0,1,3} + (M_{14}^2 - M_{25}^2 + M_{36}^2)$	$\beta = 0, \mu = 0$
$\mathbb{H}^3 \times S^2$	$U = P_{1,2,3} + i(M_{14}^2 - M_{25}^2 + M_{36}^2)$	$t = 0, \mu = 0$
$\text{AdS}_4 \times S^3$	$U = P_{1,1} + 2(T_1 R_1 + T_3 R_3 + T_6 R_6)$	$\varphi_1 = \varphi_2 = \psi = 0$
$\text{AdS}_3 \times \mathbb{CP}^3$	$U = P_{0,1,3} + (M_{14}^2 + M_{25}^2 + M_{36}^2)$	$\beta = 0$
$\mathbb{H}^3 \times \mathbb{CP}^3$	$U = P_{1,2,3} + i(M_{14}^2 + M_{25}^2 + M_{36}^2)$	$t = 0$

Table 4. Integrable half-BPS D-brane configurations for $\text{AdS}_4 \times \mathbb{CP}^3$ with $\Omega(x) = UxU^{-1}$. We give some of the integrable D-brane configurations with the gluing conditions involving $\Omega(x) = UxU^{-1}$ automorphism. The second column gives the U matrices in terms of the superalgebra generators. The notation is such that $P_{a,b,c,\dots} = (2P_a)(2P_b)(2P_c)\dots$. For each boundary condition (3.6) is satisfied with $\Omega(g) = g$ on the boundary.

where a is the flat connection and Ω is an involutive metric preserving automorphism. We found that these boundary conditions imply integrability of the boundary configuration.

We constructed some general solutions for the automorphism maps Ω for the $\text{AdS}_5 \times S^5$ and $\text{AdS}_4 \times \mathbb{CP}^3$ backgrounds, and gave examples of integrable configurations in both cases, see tables 2, 3 and 4. Among these examples we found the $\text{AdS}_4 \times S^2$ configuration to be integrable, which was recently claimed to be so, see [20–22].

Our analysis of integrability is classical, it will be interesting to find whether the integrable structure that we found survives quantization.

The integrable D-brane configurations we constructed are half-BPS. It is interesting to check, whether there are D-brane configurations that breaks more than one-half of the supersymmetries and are still integrable. As for flat-space, we can find open strings stretching between half-BPS D-brane configurations that will preserve some of the supersymmetry, e.g a string stretching between $\mathbb{R}^1 \times S^3$ and $\text{AdS}_5 \times S^3$ (with the same S^3) preserves 1/4 of the supersymmetries. Using our construction these configurations should also be integrable.

The gluing conditions that we used are not the most general ones for which the boundary term vanishes and the action is invariant. Nonetheless, if we are interested in integrable configurations it is plausible that the automorphism should relate the flat-connection to some other flat-connection as in (2.13) (possibly with a different function of the spectral parameter), which seems to be satisfied only for the gluing conditions that we used. The gluing condition (2.8) with z^{-1} replaced with $(iz)^{-1}$ seems to be as a good candidate, but the analog of (2.13) is not satisfied.

It will be interesting to consider the gauge dual operators corresponding to the integrable D-brane configurations that we found, and compare the integrable structure.

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A The PSU(2, 2|4) superconformal algebra

The PSU(2, 2|4) superconformal algebra in the $\mathfrak{so}(4, 1) \otimes \mathfrak{so}(5)$ basis, which will be convenient for treating the background in global coordinates is given by⁹

$$\begin{aligned}
 [P_a, P_b] &= J_{ab}, & [P_{a'}, P_{b'}] &= -J_{a'b'} & (A.1) \\
 [P_a, J_{bc}] &= \eta_{ab}P_c - \eta_{ac}P_b, & [P_{a'}, J_{b'c'}] &= \eta_{a'b'}P_{c'} - \eta_{a'c'}P_{b'}, \\
 [J_{ab}, J_{cd}] &= \eta_{bc}J_{ad} + \text{perm}, & [J_{a'b'}, J_{c'd'}] &= \eta_{b'c'}J_{a'd'} + \text{perm}, \\
 [Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^I, P_a] &= \frac{i}{2}\epsilon^{IJ}Q_{\beta\alpha'}^J(\gamma_a)_{\alpha}^{\beta}, & [Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^I, P_{a'}] &= -\frac{1}{2}\epsilon^{IJ}Q_{\alpha\beta'}^J(\gamma_{a'})_{\alpha'}^{\beta'}, \\
 [Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^I, J_{ab}] &= -\frac{1}{2}Q_{\beta\alpha'}^I(\gamma_{ab})_{\alpha}^{\beta}, & [Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^I, J_{a'b'}] &= -\frac{1}{2}Q_{\alpha\beta'}^I(\gamma_{a'b'})_{\alpha'}^{\beta'}, \\
 \{Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^I, Q_{\beta\beta'}^J\} &= \delta^{IJ} \left(C'_{\alpha'\beta'}(C\gamma^a)_{\alpha\beta}P_a + iC_{\alpha\beta}(C'\gamma^{a'})_{\alpha'\beta'}P_{a'} + C'_{\alpha'\beta'}C_{\alpha\beta}A \right) \\
 &\quad - i\epsilon^{IJ}\frac{1}{2} \left(C'_{\alpha'\beta'}(C\gamma^{ab})_{\alpha\beta}J_{ab} - C_{\alpha\beta}(C'\gamma^{a'b'})_{\alpha'\beta'}J_{a'b'} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

with $a = 0, \dots, 4$, $a' = 5, \dots, 9$, $\alpha = 1, 2$, $\alpha' = 1, 2$, $I = 1, 2$. The 32×32 gamma matrices are given by $\Gamma_a = \gamma_a \otimes 1 \otimes \sigma_1$, $\Gamma_{a'} = 1 \otimes \gamma_{a'} \otimes \sigma_2$ with

$$\begin{aligned}
 \gamma_0 &= i\sigma_3 \otimes 1, & \gamma_1 &= \sigma_2 \otimes \sigma_2, & \gamma_2 &= -\sigma_2 \otimes \sigma_1, & \gamma_3 &= \sigma_1 \otimes 1, & \gamma_4 &= \sigma_2 \otimes \sigma_3, & (A.2) \\
 \gamma_5 &= \sigma_3 \otimes 1, & \gamma_6 &= \sigma_2 \otimes \sigma_2, & \gamma_7 &= \sigma_2 \otimes \sigma_1, & \gamma_8 &= \sigma_1 \otimes 1, & \gamma_9 &= -\sigma_2 \otimes \sigma_3,
 \end{aligned}$$

and the charge conjugation matrix $\mathcal{C} = C \otimes C \otimes i\sigma_2$ with $C_{\alpha\beta} = (\gamma_2\gamma_4)_{\alpha}^{\beta} = i1 \otimes \sigma_2$ and $C'_{\alpha'\beta'} = (\gamma_7\gamma_9)_{\alpha'}^{\beta'} = i1 \otimes \sigma_2$ the charge conjugation matrices of the $\mathfrak{so}(4, 1)$ and $\mathfrak{so}(5)$ spinors respectively ($C\gamma^a C^{-1} = \gamma^{at}$, $a = 0, \dots, 4$). We normalize $\gamma^{ab} = \frac{1}{2}[\gamma^a, \gamma^b]$. A is the U(1) factor of the SU(2, 2|4) superconformal-algebra, which we drop in order to get PSU(2, 2|4). The charge conjugation matrix acts on the gamma matrices in the standard way, $C\Gamma^{\hat{a}}C^{-1} = -(\Gamma^{\hat{a}})^t$. The odd matrices satisfy $(Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^I)^\dagger = C^{\alpha\beta}C^{\alpha'\beta'}Q_{\beta\beta'}^I$, or in the super-matrix algebra basis $(Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^I)^\dagger = kQ_{\alpha\alpha'}^I k^{-1}$ with $k = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma^2\gamma^4 & 0 \\ 0 & \gamma^7\gamma^9 \end{pmatrix}$.

The \mathbb{Z}_4 automorphism map is given by

$$\hat{\Omega}(X) = -KX^{st}K^{-1}, \quad K = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma^2\gamma^4 & 0 \\ 0 & i\gamma^7\gamma^9 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} i \otimes \sigma_2 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \otimes \sigma_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (A.3)$$

where

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}^{st} = \begin{pmatrix} A^t & C^t \\ -B^t & D^t \end{pmatrix}. \quad (A.4)$$

⁹This superalgebra agrees with the one in [1] up to normalization of the odd generators by factor of $\sqrt{-2i}$ and $P \rightarrow -P$.

The \mathbb{Z}_4 grading subspaces are spanned by

$$\mathcal{H}_0 = \{J_{\hat{a}\hat{b}}\}, \quad \mathcal{H}_1 = \{Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^1\}, \quad \mathcal{H}_2 = \{P_{\hat{a}}\}, \quad \mathcal{H}_3 = \{Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^2\}. \quad (\text{A.5})$$

B The OSP(6|4) superconformal algebra

The bosonic $\text{sp}(4)$ subalgebra is given by

$$[P_a, P_b] = J_{ab}, \quad [P_a, J_{bc}] = \eta_{ab}P_c - \eta_{ac}P_b, \quad [J_{ab}, J_{cd}] = \eta_{bc}J_{ad} + \text{perm}, \quad (\text{B.1})$$

with $a, b = 0, \dots, 3$, with $\eta = (-, +, +, +)$. The $\text{so}(6)$ algebra is given by

$$[M_{a'b'}, M_{c'd'}] = \delta_{b'c'}M_{a'd'} + \text{perm}, \quad (\text{B.2})$$

with $a', b' = 1, \dots, 6$. The commutation with the odd generators is given by

$$[M_{a'b'}, Q_{\alpha\alpha'}] = \delta_{a'c'}Q_{\alpha b'} - \delta_{b'c'}Q_{\alpha\alpha'}, \quad (\text{B.3})$$

$$[P_a, Q_{\alpha\alpha'}] = -\frac{1}{2}Q_{\beta c'}(\gamma_a)_{\alpha}^{\beta}, \quad [J_{ab}, Q_{\alpha\alpha'}] = -\frac{1}{2}Q_{\beta c'}(\gamma_{ab})_{\alpha}^{\beta}, \quad (\text{B.4})$$

$$\{Q_{\alpha\alpha'}, Q_{\beta\beta'}\} = \delta_{a'b'}(P_a(\gamma^a C)_{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{2}J_{ab}(\gamma^{ab} C)_{\alpha\beta}) - C_{\alpha\beta}M_{a'b'}, \quad (\text{B.5})$$

with $\alpha = 1, \dots, 4$. The gamma matrices are given by

$$(\gamma^0)_{\alpha}^{\beta} = i \otimes \sigma^2, \quad (\gamma^1)_{\alpha}^{\beta} = \sigma^3 \otimes \sigma^1, \quad (\gamma^2)_{\alpha}^{\beta} = \sigma^1 \otimes \sigma^1, \quad (\gamma^3)_{\alpha}^{\beta} = -\sigma^2 \otimes \sigma^1, \quad (\text{B.6})$$

and the C.C matrix is given by $C_{\alpha\beta} = i\sigma^2 \otimes 1$.

The \mathbb{Z}_4 automorphism map that gives $\text{AdS}_4 \times \text{CP}^3$ is given by [40]

$$\hat{\Omega}(x) = KxK^{-1}, \quad K = J_6 \oplus I_2^1 \oplus I_2^1, \quad J_{2k} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1_k \\ -1_k & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad I_n^l = \text{diag}(1_l, -1_{n-l}). \quad (\text{B.7})$$

The automorphism decomposes the $\text{so}(6)$ algebra with respect to its $\text{u}(3)$ subalgebra. The coset graded-2 generators are¹⁰

$$\begin{aligned} R_1 &= \frac{1}{2}(M_{1,2} - M_{4,5}), & R_2 &= \frac{1}{2}(M_{1,5} - M_{2,4}), & R_3 &= \frac{1}{2}(M_{1,3} - M_{4,6}), & (\text{B.8}) \\ R_4 &= \frac{1}{2}(M_{1,6} - M_{3,4}), & R_5 &= \frac{1}{2}(M_{2,6} - M_{3,5}), & R_6 &= \frac{1}{2}(M_{2,3} - M_{5,6}), \end{aligned}$$

and the graded-0 $\text{u}(3)$ generators are

$$\begin{aligned} T_1 &= \frac{1}{2}(M_{1,2} + M_{4,5}), & T_2 &= \frac{1}{2}(M_{1,5} + M_{2,4}), & T_3 &= \frac{1}{2}(M_{1,3} + M_{4,6}), & (\text{B.9}) \\ T_4 &= \frac{1}{2}(M_{1,6} + M_{3,4}), & T_5 &= \frac{1}{2}(M_{2,6} + M_{3,5}), & T_6 &= \frac{1}{2}(M_{2,3} + M_{5,6}), \\ T_7 &= M_{1,4}, & T_8 &= M_{2,5}, & T_9 &= M_{3,6}. \end{aligned}$$

We note that

$$\hat{\Omega}(Q_{\alpha\alpha'}) = -(I_2^1 \oplus I_2^1)_{\alpha}^{\beta}(J_6)_{a'}^{b'}Q_{\beta b'}, \quad (\text{B.10})$$

so

$$Q_{\alpha\alpha'}^{(1)/(3)} = \frac{1}{2}(\delta_{\alpha}^{\beta}\delta_{a'}^{b'} \mp i(I_2^1 \oplus I_2^1)_{\alpha}^{\beta}(J_6)_{a'}^{b'})Q_{\beta b'} \quad (\text{B.11})$$

for $\alpha = 1, \dots, 4$, $a' = 1, 2, 3$.

¹⁰A similar decomposition is given in [41].

C More parameterizations for the $\text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^5$ coset

In the main text we gave a parametrization for the $\text{AdS}_5 \times \text{S}^5$ background in global coordinates for the AdS and Hopf coordinates for the sphere. Here we give a parametrization for the AdS subspace in Poincaré coordinates. We use the parametrization

$$g = \exp(p_\mu x^\mu) y^D \tag{C.1}$$

where

$$p_\mu = P_\mu - J_{\mu,4}, \quad D = P_4. \tag{C.2}$$

The metric in this case is

$$ds_{\text{AdS}_5}^2 = \frac{dx^\mu dx_\mu + dy^2}{y^2} \tag{C.3}$$

with $\eta = \text{diag}(-, +, +, +)$. The current $J^{(2)}$ for the bosonic sector is

$$J_{\text{AdS}_5}^{(2)} = \frac{1}{y} (P_0 dt + P_1 dx_1 + P_2 dx_2 + P_3 dx_3 - P_4 dy). \tag{C.4}$$

The sphere's metric can be written in the usual spherical coordinates using the parametrization

$$g = \prod_{a'=5}^9 \exp(P_{a'} \theta_{a'}) = \exp(P_5 \theta_5) \exp(P_6 \theta_6) \dots \tag{C.5}$$

so that

$$ds_{\text{S}^5}^2 = d\theta_9^2 + \cos^2 \theta_9 (d\theta_8^2 + \cos^2 \theta_8 (d\theta_7^2 + \cos^2 \theta_7 (d\theta_6^2 + \cos^2 \theta_6 d\theta_5^2))). \tag{C.6}$$

The current $J^{(2)}$ for the bosonic sector is

$$J_{\text{S}^5}^{(2)} = P_9 d\theta_9 + \cos \theta_9 (P_8 d\theta_8 + \cos \theta_8 (P_7 d\theta_7 + \cos \theta_7 (P_6 d\theta_6 + \cos \theta_6 P_5 d\theta_5))). \tag{C.7}$$

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