Boundary terms for supergravity and heterotic $M$-theory

Ian G. Moss
School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 7RU, UK
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This paper considers eleven dimensional supergravity on a manifold with boundary and the theories related to heterotic $M$-theory, in which the matter is confined to the boundary. New low energy actions and boundary conditions on supergravity fields are derived. Previous problems with infinite constants in the action are overcome. The new boundary conditions are shown to be consistent with supersymmetry, and their role in the ten dimensional reduction and gaugino condensation is briefly discussed.

I. INTRODUCTION

One of the interesting low energy limits of $M$-theory is thought to correspond to eleven-dimensional supergravity with matter fields placed on two separate ten-dimensional hypersurfaces. Horava and Witten have argued that this theory, heterotic $M$-theory, describes the strongly coupled limit of the $E_8 \times E_8$ heterotic string in ten dimensions \cite{1, 2}. The theory can be compactified on a Calabi-Yau manifold to obtain a four dimensional effective theory which is interesting from the point of view of particle physics phenomenology \cite{3, 4, 5, 6, 7}.

The interaction terms in heterotic $M$-theory are constructed as an expansion in $\kappa^{2/3}$, where $\kappa$ is the eleven dimensional gravitational coupling constant. At leading order, the theory is simply eleven-dimensional supergravity on the background $R^{10} \times S^1/Z_2$. Since the orbifold part of the background $S^1/Z_2$ is identical to an interval $I$, the background has a boundary consisting of two timelike ten-dimensional surfaces. These provide the support for ten-dimensional gauge supermultiplets which include Yang-mills and matter fields with Lagrangians which enter the model at order $\kappa^{2/3}$. The gauge coupling constant and the gauge group $E_8$ are fixed by anomaly cancellation.

Previous attempts to construct an action have been hampered by the appearance of the square of the Dirac delta function in the interactions at order $\kappa^{4/3}$. This paper presents the details of an improved construction which results in a consistent set of interaction terms up to order $\kappa^2$ \cite{8}. The main change is a modification of order $\kappa^{2/3}$ to the boundary conditions on the gravitino and the supergravity three-form. These changes to the boundary conditions play a similar role to the delta function terms in the original Horava-Witten model, but remove the singularities in the Horava-Witten model associated with having squares of the delta function.

At leading order in $\kappa$, taking the gravitino to be a chiral field on the boundary is consistent with the underlying eleven dimensional supergravity. We shall see that corrections to the chirality condition of order $\kappa^{2/3}$ are needed to ensure that the boundary condition remains supersymmetric when the boundary matter is added into the picture. The correction terms depend on the gauge field strength and a bilinear combination of the gaugino.

The changes in the gravitino boundary condition are connected through the supersymmetry to modifications to the supergravity three-form boundary conditions depending on the gauge field strength and the gaugino. These corrections to the boundary conditions are important when considering the ten dimensional reduction of the eleven dimensional theory, where they give rise to interaction terms between the gravity and Yang-Mills fields. Furthermore, since gaugino condensation is a possible mechanism for supersymmetry breaking in low energy heterotic $M$-theory \cite{9}, these corrections to the boundary conditions can be particularly important when the supersymmetry is broken.

The theory is presented here from the point of view of a manifold with boundary, purely as a matter of technical convenience. The theory can also be described on the covering space $R^{10} \times S^1$, where the boundary condition on the gravitino can be viewed as a junction condition across the hypersurface of fixed points of a $Z_2$ symmetry. The junction condition picks up corrections from interaction terms between the gravitino and the matter fields which live on the junction, and these corrections appear as the extra matter terms in the boundary conditions.

The plan of this paper is as follows. The second section describes the relationship between the covering space viewpoint and the manifold with boundary picture, and provided the first indication that the gravitino boundary condition has to be modified. The third section considers pure supergravity on a manifold with boundary. The fourth section extends the discussion of pure supergravity to include matter fields on the boundary, starting off with a simplified description which neglects the four-fermi terms and then going into technical detail to justify the full theory up to order $\kappa^2$. This section ends with a brief discussion of the reduction of the theory to ten dimensions. The

$^*$Electronic address: ian.moss@ncl.ac.uk
following section shows that the action is supersymmetric up to order $\kappa^2$. The conclusion discusses some implications, particularly to supersymmetry breaking.

In this paper the metric signature is $- + \ldots +$. Eleven dimensional vector indices are denoted by $I, J, \ldots$. The coordinate indices on the boundary are denoted by $A, B, \ldots$ and in the (outward unit) normal direction by $N$. Eleven dimensional volume integrals are expressed in terms of $dv = \sqrt{|g|} d^{11}x$, where $|g|$ is the modulus of the determinant of the metric $g_{IJ}$. The exterior derivative of an $n$-form $\alpha$ has components $(d\alpha)_{I_1 \ldots I_{n+1}} = (n+1)^{-1} \partial_{I_1} \alpha_{I_2 \ldots I_{n+1}}$ and the wedge product has components $(\alpha \wedge \beta)_{I_1 \ldots I_m} = \binom{m}{n} \alpha_{I_1 \ldots I_n} \beta_{I_{n+1} \ldots I_m}$ where $\binom{m}{n}$ is a binomial coefficient. The gamma matrices satisfy $\{ \Gamma_I, \Gamma_J \} = 2g_{IJ}$ and $\Gamma^I \ldots \Gamma^K = \Gamma^I \ldots \Gamma^K$. The spinors are Majorana, and $\bar{\psi} = \psi^T \Gamma^0$.

## II. JUNCTION CONDITIONS AND BOUNDARY TERMS

Junction conditions arise when we have field equations with sources which are confined to hypersurfaces. In the situation where the hypersurface is fixed under a reflection symmetry of the fields, it can easily be shown that the junction conditions are equivalent to a set of boundary conditions. This gives us two ways of describing the field theory: an ‘upstairs’ distributional description on the covering space or a ‘downstairs’ description in terms of fields and boundaries.

Consider the gravitational field with matter confined to a hypersurface $\Sigma$ with surface stress-energy tensor $T_{AB}$. The Einstein equation implies the Israel junction conditions \[ \{ \Gamma_I, \Gamma_J \} = 2g_{IJ} \] on the extrinsic curvature,

\[ [K_{AB} - g_{AB}K]_- = -\kappa^2 T_{AB}, \] (1)

where $[f]_-$ denotes the change of a function $f$ across the surface and $\kappa^2$ is the gravitational coupling constant.

Suppose that the hypersurface is fixed by the reflection symmetry $x \to Rx$. In the neighbourhood of $\Sigma$, we can set up hypersurfaces $\Sigma_t$ which are a distance $t$ from $\Sigma$ along the normal direction. The extrinsic curvatures will transform by reflections according to

\[ K_{AB}(x) = -K_{AB}(Rx). \] (2)

In the limit $t \to 0$,

\[ [K_{AB} - g_{AB}K]_+ = 0, \] (3)

where $[f]_+$ denotes the sum of the values of $f$ on either side of the hypersurface. Consequently,

\[ K_{AB} - g_{AB}K = \frac{1}{2} \kappa^2 T_{AB} \] (4)

on the inside (ie the side from which the normal points) of the hypersurface.

The next example is a Rarita-Schwinger field with a distributional source $J^A \delta_\Sigma$, where $\delta_\Sigma$ is a delta function. The source appears in the Rarita-Schwinger equation

\[ \Gamma^{AJK} D_J \psi_K = -J^A \delta_\Sigma. \] (5)

Integrating this along a direction normal to the hypersurface gives a junction condition,

\[ \Gamma^{AB} [\psi_B]_- = -J^A. \] (6)

We also have the $Z_2$ symmetry acting on the covering space,

\[ \psi_A(x) = S \psi_A(Rx), \] (7)

where $S$ is a spinor transformation corresponding to the reflection symmetry. We can choose this to be $S = \mp \Gamma_N$, where $\Gamma_N$ is the gamma matrix associated with the normal direction. As the distance between $x$ and the surface is reduced to zero, we obtain two alternative boundary conditions

\[ \Gamma^{AB} P_{\pm} \psi_B = \frac{1}{2} J^A \] (8)

on the inside of $\Sigma$, where $P_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2} (1 \pm \Gamma_N)$. Either case fixes exactly half of the fermion components on the boundary and gives a complete set of boundary conditions for the Rarita-Schwinger equation. Note that, for consistency, we also require $P_{\pm} J^A = 0$. 

This introduces one of the main points of this paper. The situation described above applies to the low energy limit of the strongly coupled heterotic string. Surface terms in the Lagrangian which include the gravitino lead to surface sources and modifications to the gravitino boundary condition. The chirality condition $\Gamma_{11} \psi_A = \psi_A$, which is often applied at the boundary \[1\], should be modified to include extra terms. These terms will be obtained later in the paper.

A similar argument applied to the normal component of the Rarita-Schwinger field suggests that $P_\mp \psi_N = 0$, because $\psi_N$ has the opposite reflection parity to $\psi_A$. However, having fixed $\psi_A$, the boundary conditions on $\psi_N$ can only be determined modulo a supersymmetry transformation. The boundary conditions will therefore depend on the gauge fixing condition which is used.

For the remainder of this section, we turn to the question of whether the boundary conditions can be derived from an action principle. This will allow us to use the ‘downstairs’ description of a manifold with boundaries and avoid the use of distributions. The action principle which generates the correct gravitational junction conditions was found in \[12\], and combined with reflection symmetry to produce boundary conditions in reference \[13\]. Here we shall extend this to the Rarita-Schwinger field.

Let $M$ be a manifold with boundary, obtained by identifying the points $x$ and $Rx$. On a manifold with boundary, the Einstein-Hilbert action on $M$ is supplemented by an extrinsic curvature term \[14, 15\]. We can also include some matter fields $\chi$ on the boundary, with a surface Lagrangian $L_s$. The natural candidate for the total action is therefore

$$S_G = -\frac{1}{\kappa^2} \int_M R dv + \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial M} K dv + \int_{\partial M} L_s dv. \quad (9)$$

Note that $\kappa$ denotes the Planck length on the covering space and this results in a non-standard normalisation of the Einstein-Hilbert term on $M$.

The functional variation of the action arising from variations of the metric is given by the results of appendix A,

$$\delta S_G = -\frac{1}{\kappa^2} \int_M G^{IJ} \delta g_{IJ} dv - \frac{1}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial M} \left( K^{AB} - Kg^{AB} - \frac{1}{2} \kappa^2 T^{AB} \right) \delta g_{AB} dv. \quad (10)$$

The action principle implies the Einstein equations $G_{IJ} = 0$ and the boundary condition (4).

The Rarita-Schwinger field can be introduced by including the action

$$S_{RS} = -\frac{1}{\kappa^2} \int_M \bar{\psi}_I \Gamma^{IJK} D_J(\omega) \psi_K dv, \quad (11)$$

where $\omega$ is the tetrad connection (assumed torsion-free for the present). The functional variation of the Rarita-Schwinger action includes a surface term

$$\delta S_{RS} = -\frac{1}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial M} \delta \bar{\psi}_A \Gamma^{AB} \Gamma_N \psi_B dv. \quad (12)$$

If this was to vanish, the Rarita-Schwinger field equation would be overconstrained. We can solve this problem by introducing an extra boundary term (first used in \[16\]). The proposed form of the total action is

$$S = \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_M \left( -\frac{1}{2} R - \frac{1}{2} \bar{\psi}_I \Gamma^{IJK} D_J(\omega) \psi_K \right) dv + \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial M} \left( K + \frac{1}{4} \bar{\psi}_A \Gamma^{AB} \psi_B + \frac{\kappa^2}{2} L_s \right) dv, \quad (13)$$

where $L_s \equiv L(\chi, \psi_A)$ and either choice of sign is allowed.

A useful technique, described in appendix B, allows us to replace tetrad variations by metric variations. The surface terms in the variation of the action are then

$$\delta S = \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial M} \left( \delta g_{AB} p^{AB} + \delta \bar{\psi}_A \theta^A \right) dv, \quad (14)$$

where

$$\theta^A = \mp \Gamma^{AB} P_{\mp} \psi_B \pm \frac{1}{2} J^A \quad (15)$$

$$p^{AB} = -\frac{1}{2} \left( K^{AB} - Kg^{AB} + \frac{1}{4} \kappa^2 T^{AB} \right) \quad (16)$$
and the sources are,

\[ J^A = \pm \kappa^2 \frac{\partial L_s}{\partial \psi_A} \]  

\[ T^{AB} = 2 \frac{\partial L_s}{\partial g_{AB}} + g^{AB} \mathcal{L}_s \pm 2 \bar{\psi}^{(A} \Gamma^{B)}C P_{\pm} \psi_C \mp g^{AB} \bar{\psi}_C \Gamma^{CD} P_{\pm} \psi_D. \]  

The action principle \( \delta S = 0 \) gives the correct boundary conditions for both fields confirming that we have the correct action. In general, the Rarita-Schwinger field gives a contribution to the surface stress-energy tensor, although this contribution vanishes if \( P_{\pm} \psi_A = 0 \).

III. BOUNDARY TERMS FOR SUPERGRAVITY

In this section we shall construct the boundary terms for eleven-dimensional supergravity. We shall be guided by the principle that the boundary conditions should, as far as possible, be derivable from the extrema of the action. We shall then show that the resulting action is supersymmetric.

The fields are the metric \( g \), gravitino \( \psi_I \) and three-form \( C \). The usual supergravity action is

\[ S_{SG} = \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_M \left( -\frac{1}{2} R(\Omega) - \frac{1}{2} \bar{\psi}_I \Gamma^{IJK} D_J(\Omega^I) \psi_K - \frac{1}{48} G_{IJKLM} G^{IJKLM} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{192} (\bar{\psi}_I \Gamma^{IJKLM} \psi_P + 12 \bar{\psi}^J \Gamma^{KLM} \psi^M) G^*_{JJKLM} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{10!} \epsilon_{I_1 \ldots I_{11}} (C \wedge G)_{I_1 \ldots I_{11}} \right) dv, \]  

where \( G \) is the abelian field strength and \( \Omega \) is the tetrad connection.

The combination \( G^* = (G + \hat{G})/2 \), where hats denote a standardised subtraction of gravitino terms to make a supercovariant expression,

\[ \hat{G}_{IJKLM} = G_{IJKLM} + \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{\psi}_I \Gamma_{IJKLM} \psi_L. \]  

Similarly, the combination \( \Omega^* = (\Omega + \hat{\Omega})/2 \). If \( \omega \) is the Levi-Civita connection, then

\[ \hat{\Omega}_{IJK} = \omega_{IJK} + \frac{1}{4} \left( \bar{\psi}_I \Gamma_j \psi_K - \bar{\psi}_I \Gamma_K \psi_J + \bar{\psi}_J \Gamma_I \psi_K \right). \]  

The connection \( \Omega \) is given by

\[ \Omega_{IJK} = \hat{\Omega}_{IJK} + \frac{1}{8} \bar{\psi}_I \Gamma_{IJKLM} \psi^M. \]  

In the usual 1.5 order formalism, the spin connection \( \Omega \) is varied as an independent field. Equation (22) results in the cancellation of the terms which contain \( \delta \Omega \). With the inclusion of the boundary, we either have to modify equation (22), or to retain the \( \delta \Omega \) terms on the boundary. We shall keep the \( \delta \Omega \) terms.

The boundary variation of the gravitational action must also include the effects of torsion. The contorsion tensor \( \mathcal{K} \) is defined by

\[ \Omega_{IJK} = \omega_{IJK} + \mathcal{K}_{IJK}. \]  

The contorsion changes the Ricci scalar according to

\[ R(\Omega) = R(\omega) + 2 D_J(\omega) \mathcal{K}_I^{JJ} - \mathcal{K}_I^{JK} \mathcal{K}_J^J - \mathcal{K}_I^{JK} \mathcal{K}^{J.I}. \]  

The variation of the derivative leads to a boundary term. The simplest way to cancel this term is to include the trace of the contorsion tensor \( \mathcal{K}^I_{MN} \) in the boundary part of the action. When combined with the action for the torsion-free theory \( S_0 \), we lead to the boundary action

\[ S_0 = \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial M} \left( K + \frac{1}{4} \bar{\psi}_A \Gamma^{AB} \psi_B + \frac{1}{2} \bar{\psi}_A \Gamma^A \psi_N \right) dv. \]
The two sign choices are equivalent to each other and only the plus sign will be retained from now on. The full action $S = S_{SG} + S_0$.

It still remains to discuss the three-form field $C$. In the ‘upstairs’ description, the Bianchi identity leads to a junction condition $[G_{ABCD}]_+ = 0$. However, the negative parity of the three-form field implies that $[G_{ABCD}]_- = 0$, consequently $G_{ABCD} = 0$. This boundary condition is not obtained from the variation of the action, in the same way that the Bianchi identity is not one of the field equations obtained from the action principle.

Now we are ready to check that the action $S$ is invariant under supersymmetry transformations. To be more precise, we shall show that the supersymmetric variation of the action vanishes after imposing the boundary conditions $P_+ \psi_A = 0$ and $G_{ABCD} = 0$.

The usual supersymmetry transformations for eleven-dimensional supergravity are

$$
\delta e^I_j = \frac{1}{2} \eta^I \psi_j \tag{26}
$$

$$
\delta \psi_I = D_I(\hat{\Omega}) \eta + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{288} (\Gamma_I^{JKLM} - 8 \delta_I^J \Gamma^{JKLM}) \eta \hat{G}_{JKLM} \tag{27}
$$

$$
\delta C_{IJK} = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{8} \eta \Gamma_{[IJ} \psi_{K]} \tag{28}
$$

Some of the supersymmetry is broken by the boundary conditions $P_+ \psi_A = 0$ and $G_{ABCD} = 0$, which are only preserved by supersymmetry transformations which satisfy

$$
P_+ \eta = 0 \tag{29}
$$
on the boundary.

Consider first of all a general variation of the action, using the tetrad formalism of appendix B,

$$
\delta S = \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_M dv \left( \delta g_{IJ} E^{IJ} + \delta \hat{r}_{IJ} Q^{IJ} + \delta \bar{\psi}_I L^I + \delta C_{IJK} E^{IJK} \right) + \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial M} dv \left( \delta g_{AB} p^{AB} + \delta \bar{\psi}_A \theta^A + \delta C_{ABC} \theta^{ABC} + \delta r_{AB} q^{AB} \right). \tag{30}
$$

We will require explicit expressions for two of the boundary terms,

$$
\theta^A = -\Gamma^{AB} P_+ \psi_B \tag{31}
$$

$$
p^{AB} = -\frac{1}{2} (K^{AB} - Kg^{AB}) + 2 \bar{\psi}_A (\Gamma^{BC})^C P_+ \psi_C - g^{AB} \bar{\psi}_C \Gamma^{CD} P_+ \psi_D \tag{32}
$$

which follow from equations (15) and (16).

Now use the supersymmetry transformations (26-28). The volume terms in the variation must cancel because of the invariance of the supergravity action. Some additional boundary terms will arise from integration by parts of the $\delta \psi_I L^I$ term,

$$
\delta S = \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial M} dv \left( \bar{\eta} L_N + \delta g_{AB} p^{AB} + \delta \bar{\psi}_A \theta^A + \delta C_{ABC} \theta^{ABC} + \delta r_{AB} q^{AB} \right), \tag{33}
$$

After imposing the boundary condition $P_+ \psi_A = 0$ (which implies $\theta^A = q^{AB} = \delta C_{ABC} = 0$), we have

$$
\delta S = \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial M} dv \left( \bar{\eta} L_N + \delta g_{AB} p^{AB} \right). \tag{34}
$$

Let us examine the gravitino term more closely,

$$
L_N = -\Gamma_N \Gamma^{AB} D_A(\hat{\Omega}) \psi_B - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{96} \Gamma_N \Gamma^{ABCD} \psi_A \hat{G}_{BCDE} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8} \Gamma_N \psi^C \hat{G}_{ABCN}. \tag{35}
$$

(The simplest way to obtain $L'$ is to find the one-fermi terms in the variation of the action and then use the fact that $L'$ must be supercovariant.) A slight rearrangement gives

$$
\bar{\eta} L_N = \bar{\eta} D_A(\hat{\Omega}) \theta^A + \frac{1}{2} K_{AC} \bar{\eta} \Gamma^{AB} \Gamma^C \psi_B - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{96} \bar{\eta} \Gamma^{ABCD} \psi_A \hat{G}_{BCDE} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8} \bar{\eta} \Gamma^{AB} \psi^C \hat{G}_{ABCN}. \tag{36}
$$
Imposing the boundary conditions \( P_+ \psi_A = 0 \) and \( G_{ABCD} = 0 \), together with the gamma-matrix identity (36), gives

\[
\tilde{\eta} L_N = \frac{1}{2} \left( K^{AB} - K y^{AB} \right) \tilde{\eta} \Gamma_A \psi_B. \tag{37}
\]

The two terms in equation (37) cancel and we conclude that the action is supersymmetric.

We finish this section with some alternative ways to represent the boundary action. In the first place, we can introduce the supercovariant form of the extrinsic curvature,

\[
\hat{K}^{AB} = K^{AB} + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\psi} \Gamma^B \psi_N + \frac{1}{4} \tilde{\psi}^A \psi^B, \tag{38}
\]

and the boundary action becomes

\[
S_0 = \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial M} \left( \hat{K} - \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\psi} \Gamma^A \Gamma^B \psi_B \right) dv. \tag{39}
\]

We can also improve the action by adding

\[
S_c = \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial M} dv \sqrt{2} \left( \frac{1}{8} C_{ABC} \tilde{\psi}_D \Gamma^{DEABC} \psi_E \right). \tag{40}
\]

The \( \delta C_{ABC} \tilde{G}^{ABCN} \) term in the variation of the total action then takes a supercovariant form \( \delta C_{ABC} \hat{G}^{ABCN} \). There is no need to include \( S_c \) if we impose the boundary conditions on the three-form when varying the action. In the following sections these restrictions will be used and the boundary action \( S_c \) omitted.

IV. HETEROTIC M-THEORY

A. Leading order

Horava and Witten have argued that the low energy limit of the heterotic string is given by eleven dimensional supergravity on the background \( R^{10} \times S^1 / \mathbb{Z}_2 \), with \( E_8 \) gauge multiplets on the two ten dimensional fixed points of the \( \mathbb{Z}_2 \) symmetry, or the boundary branes as they are being described here. The action is constructed by an expansion in powers of \( \kappa^{2/3} \), relying heavily on the restrictions of supersymmetry and the cancellation of anomalies. A new gauge action and boundary conditions will be described in this section at leading order, including terms with up to two fermion fields and neglecting \( R^2 \) terms.

The gauge multiplets contain an \( E_8 \) gauge field \( A_a^A \) and chiral fermions \( \chi^a \), which are in the adjoint representation. We begin with the Super-Yang-Mills gauge action coupled to the Rarita-Schwinger field,

\[
S'_1 = -\frac{2 \epsilon}{\kappa} \int_{\partial M} \left( \frac{1}{4} F_{aAB} F^{aAB} + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\psi}^a \Gamma^A D_A (\Omega) \chi^a + \frac{1}{4} \tilde{\psi}^a \Gamma^{BCD} \Gamma^A F^{a}_{BCD} \chi^a \right) dv. \tag{41}
\]

The constant \( \epsilon \) sets the relative scale of the matter coupling.

The usual supersymmetry transformations for gauge multiplet fields are

\[
\delta A^a_A = \frac{1}{2} \eta \Gamma_A \chi^a \tag{42}
\]

\[
\delta \chi^a = -\frac{1}{4} \Gamma^{AB} F^a_{AB} \eta. \tag{43}
\]

These are used alongside the rules for the supergravity fields (26-28).

In the original work of Horava and Witten, the supersymmetry transformation rules where supplemented by extra terms containing distributions. Extra terms also appeared in the gauge action. The combined effect lead to squares of distributions at higher orders in \( \kappa \). We argue here that modifications have to be made to the boundary conditions and there is no need to modify the supersymmetry transformations. Distributions never appear explicitly, and problems with squares of distributions never arise.

In pure supergravity, the gravitino satisfied a chirality condition \( P_+ \psi_A = 0 \) on the boundary. To leading order in fermion fields, the supersymmetric variation of this chiral component is given by

\[
\delta (P_+ \psi_A) = P_+ D_A \eta + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{288} \left( \Gamma_A^{BCDE} - 8 \delta_A^B \Gamma^{CDE} \right) \eta G_{BCDE}. \tag{44}
\]
Assuming that $\eta$ has fixed chirality on the boundary implies that $D_A(P_+ \eta) = 0$, and we have

$$P_+ D_A \eta = -\frac{1}{2} D_A \Gamma_N = \frac{1}{2} K_{AB} \Gamma^B \eta.$$  \hfill (45)

The extrinsic curvature is fixed by the stress energy tensor of the gauge multiplet fields as in equation (4). To leading order in fermion fields,

$$K_{AB} = F^a_A C F^a_{BC} - \frac{1}{12} g_{AB} F^{aCD} F^a_{CD}.$$  \hfill (46)

The supersymmetric variation of the gravitino chirality condition to this order in fermion fields is now

$$\delta(P_+ \psi_A) = -\frac{1}{2} \left( F^a_A C F^a_{BC} - \frac{1}{12} g_{AB} F^{aCD} F^a_{CD} \right) \Gamma^B \eta$$

$$+ \frac{\sqrt{2}}{288} \left( \Gamma_A^{BCDE} - 8 \delta_A^B \Gamma^{CDE} \right) \eta G_{BCDE}.$$  \hfill (47)

The boundary conditions $P_+ \psi_A = 0$ and $G_{ABCD} = 0$ imply that $\delta(P_+ \psi_A) \neq 0$ for most choices of the non-abelian gauge field, breaking the supersymmetry.

We would like to find a supersymmetric set of boundary conditions. In order to be consistent with the boundary conditions for eleven dimensional supergravity when $\epsilon = 0$, we can deduce that any modifications to the boundary conditions on the gravitino and three-form field should take the form

$$P_+ \psi_A = \epsilon f_A(\chi, A)$$

$$G_{ABCD} = \epsilon f_{ABCD}(\chi, A)$$  \hfill (49)

where $f_A$ is linear in $\chi$ and $f_{ABCD}$ contains terms up to quadratic order in $\chi$. Gauge invariance and dimensional analysis restricts the possible terms to ‘$F\chi$’ combinations in $f_A$ and ‘$FF$’ or ‘$\chi \chi$’ terms in $f_{ABCD}$. By taking a linear combination of these terms it is possible to show that

$$P_+ \psi_A = \frac{\epsilon}{12} \left( \Gamma_A^{BC} - 10 \delta_A^B \Gamma^C \right) F^a_{BC} \chi^a$$

$$G_{ABCD} = -3\sqrt{2} \epsilon F^a_{[AB} F^a_{CD]} + \sqrt{2} \epsilon \bar{\chi} \Gamma_{[ABC} D_D(\Omega) \chi^a$$  \hfill (52)

is the unique supersymmetric combination.

We could impose a stronger condition on the three-form field by integrating equation (52),

$$C_{ABC} = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{12} \epsilon \omega_{ABC} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{48} \epsilon \bar{\chi} \Gamma_{ABC} \chi^a$$  \hfill (53)

where the Chern-Simons form

$$\omega = \text{tr} \left( A \wedge dA + \frac{2}{3} A \wedge A \wedge A \right).$$  \hfill (54)

We shall see in the next section that this boundary condition is still supersymmetric if we modify the transformation rule for $C_{ABC}$ to include an abelian gauge transformation.

It is interesting to check consistency of the boundary condition on $C_{ABC}$ with the non-abelian gauge symmetry. Under a non-abelian gauge transformation with $\delta A^a_A = -D_{Ac} \epsilon^c$, the variation in the Chern-Simons form becomes $\delta \omega = d(\epsilon^a F^a)$. The non-abelian gauge transformation of the Chern-Simons form can therefore be absorbed by an abelian gauge transformation of the three-form (in analogy with Yang-Mills Supergravity [18]). Let

$$\delta C_{ABC} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \epsilon \partial_{[A} a_{BC]},$$  \hfill (55)

where $a_{AB}$ is an arbitrary two-form except that it must satisfy the boundary condition

$$a_{AB} = \epsilon^a F^a_{AB}.$$  \hfill (56)

The action is unchanged, apart from a boundary term which comes from the $C \wedge G \wedge G$ term in the supergravity action. This can be combined with the quantum gauge anomaly to restore gauge invariance.
The mechanism described above is a simple variation of the generalised Green-Schwarz mechanism found by Horava and Witten, and it fixes the expansion parameter,

\[ \epsilon = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\kappa}{4\pi} \right)^{2/3}. \]  

Furthermore, extending the argument to gravitational and mixed anomalies suggests that the \( F \wedge F \) term in (52) should be replaced by \( F \wedge F - \frac{1}{2} R \wedge R \), but we shall drop the \( R^2 \) terms from further discussion for the present.

The boundary conditions were chosen for consistency with the supersymmetry transformations. We shall now find that the gravitino boundary condition can be derived completely independently from the extrema of the boundary action given at the beginning of this section. The total action is given by

\[ S = S_{SG} + S_1', \]

where \( S_{SG} \) is the supergravity action and \( S_1' \) is the boundary term.

We vary the tetrad as described in appendix A. The boundary terms in the variation of the total action are then

\[ \delta S = \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial M} dv \left( \delta g_{AB} p^{AB} + \delta \bar{\psi}_A \theta^A + \delta C_{ABC} p^{ABC} + \delta \bar{\chi} \Xi + \delta A_A Y_A \right), \]

(58)

Variation of the gravitino field in \( S_1' \) is elementary, and combines with the supergravity results from the previous section to give

\[ \theta^A = -\Gamma^{AB} P_+ \psi_B - \frac{\epsilon}{4} \Gamma^{BC} \Gamma^A F^a_{BC} \chi^a. \]

(59)

The boundary condition \( \theta^A = 0 \) can be manipulated using the gamma-matrix identities in appendix C into the previous form

\[ P_+ \psi_A = \frac{\epsilon}{12} \left( \Gamma_A^{BC} - 10 \delta_A^B \Gamma^C \right) F_{BC} \chi. \]

(60)

The remaining terms in the variation of the action give the graviton boundary condition, as in equation (4), and the field equations for \( \chi^a \) and \( A^a_A \).

The action is supersymmetric subject to the boundary conditions on the gravitino and the antisymmetric gauge field. For example, the variation of the \('F\psi\chi'\) term in the surface action produces expressions of the form \( 'F^2 \psi\eta' \) and \( 'GF\chi\eta' \). These terms cancel with \( 'G\psi\eta' \) terms from the variation of the supergravity action when we apply the boundary conditions on \( G \) and \( \psi \). (In the original Horava-Witten model, an extra term in the boundary action was needed to cancel the \( 'GF\chi\eta' \) variation.) A more detailed discussion of the supersymmetric invariance of the action will be given in a later section.

### B. Boundary conditions

In this section we shall construct a supersymmetric set of boundary conditions on the gravitino and three-form field which include all of the fermion terms (but still ignoring the \( R^2 \) terms). The most important new feature is the appearance of bilinear gaugino terms, not only in the gravitino and three-form boundary conditions, but also in the boundary conditions on the supersymmetry parameter.

The supersymmetry transformations of the fields will be almost as before,

\[ \delta A^a_A = \frac{1}{2} \bar{\eta} \Gamma_A \chi^a, \]

(61)

\[ P_- \delta \chi^a = -\frac{1}{4} \Gamma^{AB} \tilde{F}^a_{AB} \eta. \]

(62)

The field strength is now in supercovariantised form

\[ \tilde{F}^a_{IJ} = F^a_{IJ} - \bar{\psi}_I [1 \Gamma_J] \chi. \]

(63)

We now have to allow for the possibility that \( P_+ \delta \chi \neq 0 \). This can be accomodated as described in appendix B.

The boundary condition on the tangential components of the three-form which we saw in the previous section can be imposed as a constraint \( c_{ABC} = 0 \), where

\[ c_{ABC} = C_{ABC} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{12} \epsilon \omega_{ABC} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{48} \chi^a \Gamma_{ABC} \chi^a. \]

(64)
By dimension counting, this boundary condition cannot contain four-fermi terms unless we go to higher orders in the expansion parameter $\epsilon$.

We need to pay special attention to the supersymmetric variation of the Chern-Simons form. This decomposes into a gauge invariant part and a total derivative,

$$\delta \omega = 2\delta A^a \wedge F^a - d(A^a \wedge \delta A^a)$$  \hspace{1cm} (65)

We will require that $c_{ABC}$ should be invariant under supersymmetry transformations modulo abelian gauge transformations. We could absorb the abelian transformation by modifying the supersymmetry transformation,

$$\delta C_{IJK} = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{8}\bar{\eta}\Gamma_{[IJ}\psi_{K]} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{4}\epsilon\partial_{[I}f_{JK]},$$  \hspace{1cm} (66)

where the two-form $f$ can be chosen arbitrarily except that it must satisfy the boundary condition

$$f_{AB} = \frac{1}{2}A^a [A \delta A^a B].$$  \hspace{1cm} (67)

This modification would have no effect on the variation of gauge invariant terms in the action.

The one-fermi terms in the gravitino boundary condition which were evaluated in the previous section suggest that a suitable anzatz for the gravitino boundary condition would be

$$P_+ \psi_A = \frac{\epsilon}{12} (\Gamma_A^{BC} - 10\delta_A^{B} \Gamma^C) \dot{F}^{a}_{BC} \chi^a - \epsilon \Gamma P_- \psi_A.$$  \hspace{1cm} (68)

The term involving $\Gamma$, where $\Gamma$ is a $'\chi\chi'$ bilinear, is allowed on dimensional grounds. Note that if we apply $P_-$ to the anzatz we find that $P_- \Gamma = \Gamma P_+$. The gravitino anzatz could also be put into a more suggestive form

$$\tilde{P}_+ \psi_A = \frac{\epsilon}{12} (\Gamma_A^{BC} - 10\delta_A^{B} \Gamma^C) \dot{F}^{a}_{BC} \chi^a.$$  \hspace{1cm} (69)

where a new projection operator is defined by

$$\tilde{P}_+ = P_+ + \epsilon \Gamma P_-.$$  \hspace{1cm} (70)

This also suggests that we should consider a modification to the supersymmetry parameter, and impose

$$\tilde{P}_+ \eta = 0.$$  \hspace{1cm} (71)

on the boundary.

Now we are ready to examine the variation of the three terms in $c_{ABC}$ under supersymmetry transformations. (We shall omit the abelian gauge transformation (67).) Firstly, using the transformation (28), equations (68), (71) and gamma-matrix identities

$$\delta c_{ABC} = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{96}\bar{\eta}\Gamma_{ABC}^{DE} \dot{F}^{a}_{DE} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{16}\epsilon\bar{\eta}\Gamma_{[AB}^{D} \dot{F}^{a}_{C]D} - \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{16}\epsilon\bar{\eta}\Gamma_{[AB}^{D} \dot{F}^{a}_{BC]} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8}\epsilon\bar{\eta}\{\Gamma_{[AB}, \Gamma_{BC]} P_- \psi_C\}$$  \hspace{1cm} (72)

Secondly, the variation of the Chern-Simons terms gives

$$\delta \omega_{ABC} = 3\bar{\eta}\Gamma_{[AB} \dot{F}^{a}_{BC]} + 3\bar{\eta}\Gamma_{[AB} \chi \Gamma B \psi_C]$$  \hspace{1cm} (73)

up to an abelian gauge transformation. Thirdly, the gaugino term produces

$$\delta (\bar{\chi} \Gamma_{ABC} \chi) = \frac{1}{2}\bar{\eta}\Gamma_{ABC}^{DE} \dot{F}^{a}_{DE} - 3\bar{\eta}\Gamma_{[AB}^{D} \dot{F}^{a}_{C]D} + \frac{3}{2}\epsilon\bar{\eta}\Gamma_{[AB} \psi_D \Gamma_B \chi].$$  \hspace{1cm} (74)

We may combine the three expressions together and use a Fierz rearrangement (C12) to get

$$\delta c_{ABC} = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{768}\bar{\chi}\Gamma_{DEF} \bar{\eta}\{\Gamma^{DEF}, \Gamma_{[AB]} P_- \psi_C] + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8}\epsilon\bar{\eta}\{\Gamma_{[AB]} P_- \psi_C].$$  \hspace{1cm} (75)

From this we can read off

$$\Gamma = \frac{1}{96}\bar{\chi}\Gamma_{ABC} \chi^A.$$  \hspace{1cm} (76)
With this choice, the boundary condition on the three-form field is supersymmetric modulo an abelian gauge transformation, with no approximations. Note that $P_+ \chi = P_+ \chi = 0$ due to a convenient Fierz identity.

Taking the exterior derivative of $c_{ABC} = 0$ puts the boundary condition in manifestly gauge invariant (and super-covariant) form,

$$\hat{G}^{ABCD} = -3\sqrt{2}\varepsilon \hat{F}^a_{[AB} \hat{F}^a_{CD]} + \sqrt{2}\varepsilon \chi^a \Gamma_{[ABC} D_D[\hat{\Omega}] \chi^a + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} (\varepsilon \chi^a \Gamma_{[ABC} \Gamma^{EF} \psi_D) \hat{F}^a_{EF}. \quad (77)$$

Again, this is an exact result (neglecting $R \wedge R$ terms) and improves on the approximate result given in the previous section. The derivation of $(77)$ requires use of the gravitino boundary condition, providing a check on the expression $(48)$. It is easy to confirm that the boundary condition is supersymmetric up to at least the one-fermi terms.

This can be combined with the supergravity result to get the $\theta^A$ term in equation $(1)$:

$$\theta^A = -\Gamma^{AB} P_+ \chi^B - \frac{\varepsilon}{4} \Gamma^{BC} \Gamma^A \hat{F}^a_{BC} \chi^a - \frac{\epsilon}{96} \Gamma^{AB} \Gamma^{CDE} \psi_B \chi^a \Gamma^{CDE} \chi^a. \quad (83)$$

The boundary condition $\theta^A = 0$, obtained by variation of the action, can be rewritten using gamma-matrix identities as equation $(68)$. We recover the boundary condition which was derived from supersymmetry in the previous section.

C. The Lagrangian

The boundary terms in the action can be constructed by imposing the basic requirement that the extrema of the action should generate the boundary conditions of the previous sections. There is one exception, which is the boundary condition $c_{ABC} = 0$ on the three-form field, which has to be imposed separately. The boundary conditions on the gravitino field, in particular, restrict the possible four-fermi terms in the Lagrangian. In the next section, it will be shown that the action is supersymmetric up order $\epsilon^3$.

Consider the following boundary action to replace the boundary action of section $[IVA]$

$$S_1 = -\frac{2\epsilon}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial M} dv \left( \frac{1}{4} F^a_{AB} F^a_{AB} + \frac{1}{4} \hat{\chi}^a \Gamma^A D_A(\hat{\Omega}) \chi^a + \frac{1}{3} \hat{\psi}_A \Gamma^{BC} \Gamma^A \hat{F}^a_{BC} \chi^a + \frac{1}{192} \Gamma_{ABC} \chi^a \hat{\psi}_B \Gamma_{CDE} \psi_E \right) \quad (78)$$

where $F^a = (F + \hat{F})/2$. The coefficient of the four-fermi term has been chosen with some fore-knowledge. This coefficient depends on whether we use $\hat{\Omega}$ or $\Omega^*$ in the gaugino derivative.

The total action

$$S = S_G + S_0 + S_1. \quad (79)$$

At the extrema of the action, it is possible to read off the field equations and the boundary conditions. We shall examine these in more detail in the next section.

As a check, consider the variation of the action due to a variation of the gravitino field. The surface term

$$\delta_\psi S_1 = -\frac{2\epsilon}{\kappa^2} \int_M dv \left( \frac{1}{4} \delta \hat{\psi}_A \Gamma^{BC} \Gamma^A \hat{F}^a_{BC} \chi^a - \frac{1}{8} \hat{\psi}_A \Gamma^{BC} \Gamma^A \chi^a \delta \hat{\psi}_B \Gamma \chi^a \
+ \frac{1}{16} \delta \hat{\psi}_A \Gamma_B \psi_C \chi^a \Gamma^{ABC} \chi^a + \frac{1}{96} \delta \hat{\psi}_A \Gamma^{ABCD} \psi_B \chi^a \Gamma_{CDE} \chi^a \right). \quad (80)$$

By a Fierz rearrangement $(C_{11})$,

$$\delta_\psi S_1 = -\frac{2\epsilon}{\kappa^2} \int_M dv \left( \frac{1}{4} \delta \hat{\psi}_A \Gamma^{BC} \Gamma^A \hat{F}^a_{BC} \chi^a + \frac{1}{16} \delta \hat{\psi}_A \Gamma_B \psi_C \chi^a \Gamma^{ABC} \chi^a \
+ \frac{1}{192} \delta \hat{\psi}_A \Gamma^A \Gamma^{CDE} \psi_B \chi^a \Gamma_{CDE} \chi^a + \frac{1}{96} \delta \hat{\psi}_A \Gamma^{ABCD} \psi_B \chi^a \Gamma_{CDE} \chi^a \right) \quad (81)$$

Using the gamma-matrix identities $(C_{66})$,$(C_{89})$,

$$\delta_\psi S_1 = -\frac{2\epsilon}{\kappa^2} \int_M dv \left( \frac{1}{4} \delta \hat{\psi}_A \Gamma^{BC} \Gamma^A \hat{F}^a_{BC} \chi^a + \frac{1}{96} \delta \hat{\psi}_A \Gamma^{ABCD} \psi_B \chi^a \Gamma_{CDE} \chi^a \right). \quad (82)$$

This can be combined with the supergravity result to get the $\theta^A$ term in equation $(1)$.

The boundary condition $\theta^A = 0$, obtained by variation of the action, can be rewritten using gamma-matrix identities as equation $(68)$. We recover the boundary condition which was derived from supersymmetry in the previous section.
D. Ten dimensional reduction

This is a good place to consider the relationship between the new 11-dimensional theory and $N = 1$ Yang-Mills supergravity in ten dimensions. We shall see how some important features of the ten-dimensional theory are explained by their eleven dimensional precursor. In order to keep the description manageable, we shall not go into the full details of the reduction from eleven to ten dimensions, but focus rather on the important features.

The general procedure for reducing the eleven dimensional theory is identical to the reduction of the Horava-Witten model \[20, 21\]. This reduction depends on two small parameters. In the first place we have the parameter $\epsilon$ in the matter action. The reduction also assumes that the length scales characterising the variation of the fields in ten dimensions are much larger than the brane separation $L$. Since the matter fields appear in the boundary conditions, the bulk fields will in general depend on the eleventh dimension. The first step in the reduction is to solve the field equations for the bulk to order $\epsilon$ with the matter fields held constant. This forms the beginning of a perturbative solution with small $\epsilon$ and small ten-dimensional derivatives. The $O(\epsilon^0)$ terms give the ten-dimensional supergravity action and additional terms give rise to the matter couplings.

Consider one of the boundary surfaces $\partial M^1$ placed at $x^{11} = 0$ and another $\partial M^2$ at $x^{11} = L$. In this section, we shall use $n$ to denote the outgoing normal to the surface at $x^{11} = L$. To leading order, we can take the metric to be

$$g = e^{-2\phi} g_{AB} dx^A dx^B + e^{4\phi/3} dx^{11} dx^{11}$$  \hspace{1cm} (84)

with 10-dimensional metric $g_{AB}^\prime$ and dilaton $\phi$. However, for this brief account it is sufficient to express results in terms of 11-dimensional metric and gamma matrix components.

A feature of new boundary Lagrangian (78) is that contains no $\chi\chi G^1$ term. This term plays an important role in Horava-Witten theory where it combines with other terms to form a perfect square involving the 3-form field strength $H_{ABC}$ in the 10-dimensional reduction \[9\]. In the new theory, we turn instead to the boundary conditions (79),

$$C_{ABC}^+ = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{12} \epsilon \tilde{\omega}^1_{ABC} \text{ on } \partial M^1$$  \hspace{1cm} (85)

$$C_{ABC}^- = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{12} \epsilon \tilde{\omega}^2_{ABC} \text{ on } \partial M^2$$  \hspace{1cm} (86)

where

$$\tilde{\omega}_{ABC} = \omega_{ABC} + \frac{1}{4} \chi^a \Gamma_{ABC} \chi^a$$  \hspace{1cm} (87)

The change of sign at the boundary surface $\partial M^1$ is due to the normal vector $n$ being an ingoing normal there rather than an outgoing normal.

The bulk solution is determined by the boundary conditions, the Bianchi identity (with no source terms) and the divergence of $G$. In our approximation, the general solution is

$$C_{ABC} = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{12} y \tilde{\omega}^{(2)}_{ABC} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{12} \epsilon (1 - y) \tilde{\omega}^{(1)}_{ABC}$$  \hspace{1cm} (88)

$$C_{11AB} = \frac{1}{6} B_{AB}$$  \hspace{1cm} (89)

where $y = x^{11}/L$ and $B_{AB}$ is a constant of integration which becomes our ten dimensional 2-form field with field strength related to $H_{ABC}$. Terms in the ten-dimensional theory depending on $B_{AB}$ come from the field strength components $G_{11ABC}$,

$$G_{11ABC} = 3 \partial_A B_{BC} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2 L} \left( \tilde{\omega}^1_{ABC} + \tilde{\omega}^2_{ABC} \right)$$  \hspace{1cm} (90)

The $H_{ABC}$ terms appear as a perfect square in the Lagrangian due to the term $G_{11ABC} G^{11ABC}$ in the 11-dimensional action. This reproduces the same low energy behavior as the Horava-Witten theory, but in our case no modification of the field strength (singular or non-singular) is involved.

We can also see how the $H_{ABC}$ fields and the gaugino enter some of the supersymmetry transformation rules of the ten-dimensional theory. Consider the dilatino $\psi_{11}$ with 11-dimensional transformation

$$\delta \psi_{11} = D_{11}(\hat{\Omega}) \eta - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{36} \Gamma^{ABC} \tilde{G}_{11ABC} \eta + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{24} \Gamma^{ABCD} \tilde{G}_{ABCD} \eta$$  \hspace{1cm} (91)
and keep only $B_{AB}$ and $\chi^a$ non-zero. We have to find a way of evaluating $D_{11}(\tilde{\Omega})\eta$. The boundary conditions (71) for $\eta$ are

\begin{align}
P_+\eta &= +\frac{\epsilon}{96} \Gamma^{ABC} \chi^{1\alpha} \Gamma_{ABC} \chi^{1\alpha} P_- \eta \text{ on } \partial\mathcal{M}^1 \quad \text{(92)}
\end{align}

\begin{align}
P_+\eta &= -\frac{\epsilon}{96} \Gamma^{ABC} \chi^{2\alpha} \Gamma_{ABC} \chi^{2\alpha} P_- \eta \text{ on } \partial\mathcal{M}^2. \quad \text{(93)}
\end{align}

At leading order in our expansion the supersymmetry parameter must be the same as the 10-dimensional supersymmetry parameter $\eta'$. At order $\epsilon$ the supersymmetry parameter has to depend on $x^{11}$ in order to satisfy the boundary conditions. We can choose

\begin{align}
\eta = \eta' - \frac{\epsilon}{96} \Gamma^{ABC} \left(y \chi^{2\alpha} \Gamma_{ABC} \chi^{2\alpha} - (1-y) \chi^{1\alpha} \Gamma_{ABC} \chi^{1\alpha}\right) \eta'
\end{align}

where $P_+\eta' = 0$. Consequently, the $D_{11}(\tilde{\Omega})\eta$ term depends on the gaugino field. The dilatino transformation becomes

\begin{align}
\delta\psi_{11} = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{36} \Gamma^{ABC} H_{ABC} \eta' - \frac{1}{256} \frac{\epsilon}{L} \Gamma^{ABC} \chi' \Gamma_{ABC} \chi' \eta'.
\end{align}

where $\chi' = (\chi^{1\alpha}, \chi^{2\alpha})$.

This reduction of the 11-dimensional theory explains why the combination of $H_{ABC}$ and $\chi^a$ terms which appear in the 10-dimensional action as a perfect square does not also appear in the dilatino supersymmetry transformation. The reason for the difference can be traced back to the strange extra bilinear terms (76) which we found in the 11-dimensional action leads to the usual supergravity action at leading order (22). Interaction terms involving $'\chi F\psi_A'$ arise from the order $\epsilon$ terms in (76). Beyond order $\epsilon$, the background spinor field $\psi^{(1)}$ starts to appear in the action and may cause difficulties, but this remains to be investigated.

V. SUPERSYMMETRY

We turn now to the supersymmetric variation of the action. We shall make use of the supersymmetric invariance of the 11-dimensional supergravity action without boundaries and follow a similar route to the one used earlier in section III. We shall see below how the most of the two-fermi terms in the supersymmetric variation of the action cancel. Only one term remains, which is of order $\kappa^2$. An outline of the treatment of the four-fermi terms is given in appendix D.

To begin, consider the general variation of the action rather than a supersymmetric one. Using the tetrad formalism of appendix B, we are able to write a general variation of the action in the form

\begin{align}
\delta S &= \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left( \delta g_{IJ} E^{IJ} + \delta r_{IJ} Q^{IJ} + \delta \tilde{\psi}_I L^I + \delta C_{IJK} E^{IJK} \right)
\end{align}

\begin{align}
+ \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \left( \delta g_{AB} p^{AB} + \delta \tilde{\psi}_A q^A + \delta C_{ABC} p^{ABC} + \delta \chi \Xi + \delta A_A Y^A + \delta r_{AB} q^{AB} \right), \quad \text{(99)}
\end{align}
The coefficients appearing here are the field equations and boundary conditions, given explicitly by

\[
p^{AB} = -\frac{1}{2} (K^{AB} - \hat{K}^{AB}) + \frac{1}{4} \kappa^2 \hat{T}^{AB} \tag{100}
\]

\[
p^{ABC} = \hat{G}^{ABCN} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} \hat{\psi}_D \Gamma^{DEABC} P_4 \hat{\psi}_E - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3} \epsilon^{ABCD_1...D_7} (C \land G)_{D_1...D_7} \tag{101}
\]

\[
\Xi = \epsilon \left( -\Gamma^A D_A(\hat{\Omega}) \chi - \frac{1}{4} \Gamma^{ABC} \hat{F}_{BC} \psi_A \right) \tag{102}
\]

\[
Y^A = \epsilon \left( -\hat{D}_B(\omega) \hat{F}^{AB} + \frac{1}{2} \hat{D}_B(\omega)(\bar{\psi}_C \Gamma^{BAC} \chi) + \frac{1}{8} \bar{\psi}_D \Gamma^{ABCDE} \psi_E \hat{F}_{BC} \right) \tag{103}
\]

The variation of the metric is the most complicated. This has been simplified by assuming that \( \hat{T}^{AB} \) is in supercovariant form,

\[
\frac{1}{4} \kappa^2 \hat{T}^{AB} = \epsilon \left( \frac{1}{2} \hat{\Gamma}^{aAC} \hat{\Gamma}^{aB} c - \frac{1}{8} g^{AB} \hat{\Gamma}^{aCD} \hat{F}^{a} \hat{F}^{CD} + \frac{1}{4} \hbar^{A} \Gamma^{B} \hat{D}(\hat{\Omega}) \chi^{a} - \frac{1}{4} g^{AB} \hat{\chi}^{C} D_{C}(\hat{\Omega}) \chi^{a} \right)
\]

\[
+ \frac{1}{16} \chi^{A} \Gamma^{CD} \psi^{B} \hat{F}^{a} \hat{F}^{CD} - \frac{1}{16} \chi^{A} \Gamma^{BCD} \psi^{E} \hat{F}^{a} \hat{F}^{DE} g^{AB} \tag{104}
\]

Furthermore, the condition \( \delta \xi_{IJK} = 0 \) has been used to simplify equation (101). This is equivalent to the addition of equation (10). The supersymmetric variation can be found by substituting the supersymmetry transformations into the general expression for the variation of the action. We know that the volume terms in the variation cancel because of the invariance of the supergravity action without boundaries. As in section III, additional boundary terms arise from integration by parts of the \( \delta \psi_{I} \partial_{I} \) term. Terms which vanish when \( \theta^{A} = 0 \) can be dropped, leaving

\[
\delta S = \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial M} d\nu (\tilde{\eta} L_{N} + \delta g_{AB} p^{AB} + \delta C_{ABC} p^{ABC} + \delta \chi \Xi + \delta A_{A} Y^{A} + \delta r_{AB} q^{AB} ) \tag{105}
\]

The global supersymmetry of the Super-Yang-Mills action is related to the identity

\[
\delta A_{A}(\hat{D}_{B}(\hat{\Xi}) \hat{F}^{AB} + \delta \hat{\chi} \Gamma^{A} D_{A}(\hat{\Omega}) \chi = \frac{1}{2} \bar{\eta} D_{A}(\hat{\Omega}) J^{A} - \frac{1}{4} \bar{\eta} \Gamma^{ABC} \chi D_{A}(\hat{\Omega}) (\bar{\psi}_{B} \Gamma_{C} \chi), \tag{106}
\]

where \( J^{A} \) is the supercovariantised supercurrent of the gauge multiplet. Inserting this into \( \delta S \) and dropping the four-fermi terms gives

\[
\delta S = \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial M} d\nu \left( \bar{\eta} L_{N} + \delta g_{AB} p^{AB} + \delta C_{ABC} p^{ABC} + \frac{1}{2} \bar{\eta} D_{A}(\hat{\Omega}) J^{A} - \epsilon \delta \chi \Gamma^{A} \Gamma^{BC} \hat{F}_{BC} \psi_{A} \right) \tag{107}
\]

The expression of \( L_{N} \) was given in an earlier section (65). We can rearrange \( \bar{\eta} L_{N} \) into the suggestive form

\[
\bar{\eta} L_{N} = \frac{1}{2} \bar{\eta} D_{A}(\hat{\Omega}) \theta^{A} - \frac{1}{2} (K^{AB} - \hat{K}^{AB}) \bar{\eta} \Gamma_{A} \psi_{B} - \frac{1}{2} \bar{\eta} D_{A}(\hat{\Omega}) J^{A} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{96} \bar{\eta} \Gamma^{ABCDE} \psi_{A} \hat{G}_{BCDE} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8} \bar{\eta} \Gamma^{ABC} \psi_{C} \hat{G}_{ABCN} \tag{108}
\]

There are also additional four-fermi contributions from the modification to the projection operator \( \hat{P}_{+} \).

The \( \delta \chi \) term can be replaced by using the identity

\[
\delta \chi \Gamma^{A} \Gamma^{BC} \hat{F}_{BC} \psi_{A} = \frac{1}{4} \bar{\eta} \Gamma^{ABCDE} \psi_{A} \hat{F}_{BC} \hat{F}_{DE} - 2 \bar{\eta} \Gamma_{A} \psi_{B} \left( \hat{F}^{CA} \hat{F}_{C}^{B} - \frac{1}{4} g^{AB} \hat{F}^{CD} \hat{F}_{CD} \right) \tag{109}
\]

which follows from the gamma-matrix identities (60, 60).

Putting these together, the two-fermi terms in the supersymmetric variation of the action are

\[
\delta S = \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial M} d\nu \left( \delta g_{AB} \left( p^{AB} + \frac{1}{2} (K^{AB} - \hat{K}^{AB}) - \left( \hat{F}^{CA} \hat{F}_{C}^{B} - \frac{1}{4} g^{AB} \hat{F}^{CD} \hat{F}_{CD} \right) \right) + \delta C_{ABC} \left( p^{ABC} - \hat{G}^{ABCN} \right) - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{96} \bar{\eta} \Gamma^{ABCDE} \psi_{A} \left( \hat{G}_{BCDE} + 3 \sqrt{2} \hat{F}_{AB} \hat{F}_{CD} \right) \right) \tag{109}
\]
Examination of the field equations and the boundary condition shows immediately that most of the two-fermi terms in $\delta S$ cancel. The only term remaining comes from $p^{ABC}$ and it is

$$\delta S = \frac{2}{k^2} \int_{\partial M} d^2x \sqrt{g} A_{1\ldots A_{10}}(\delta C \wedge C \wedge G)_{A_1\ldots A_{10}}. \quad (110)$$

Since $\delta C_{ABC}, C_{ABC}$ and $G_{ABCD}$ are all of order $\epsilon$, the variation $\delta S$ is of order $\epsilon^3$, or equivalently $k^2$.

VI. CONCLUSION

The strongly coupled limit of the heterotic string is believed to be related to eleven-dimensional supergravity on a manifold with boundary. The main results of this paper have been the construction of a consistent set of boundary conditions and a corresponding supersymmetric action, including the effects of gauge fields on the boundary. A major missing ingredient so far has been the $R^2$ terms, but otherwise the theory is a possible candidate for heterotic $M$ theory.

The main differences between the new theory and Horava-Witten theory are the following:

1. Terms involving the square of the Dirac delta function do not occur in the new theory.

2. The gravitino boundary condition $\Gamma_1 \psi_A = \psi_A$ has been replaced by the boundary condition

$$\hat{P}_+ \psi_A = \frac{\epsilon}{12} (\Gamma_A^{BC} - 10 \delta_A^B \Gamma_C) \hat{F}_a^{BC} \chi^a, \quad (111)$$

where $\hat{P}_+ = P_+ + e \Gamma P_-$ is a modified projection operator which depends on the gaugino expectation value $\Gamma$, and the constant $\epsilon = O(k^2/3)$ by a modification of the usual anomaly cancellation argument. The new boundary condition is supersymmetric, consistent with junction conditions across the brane and consistent with boundary variations of the action.

3. The new boundary Lagrangian contains no $`\chi \chi G'$ term. This term plays an important role for the Horava-Witten theory where it combines with other terms to form a perfect square in the 10-dimensional reduction. In the new theory, the boundary conditions

$$\hat{G}_{ABCD} = -3\sqrt{2} \epsilon \hat{F}_a^{[AB} \hat{F}_c^{aCD]} + \sqrt{2} \epsilon \chi_a \Gamma_{[ABC} D_D] (\hat{\Omega}) \chi^a + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} \epsilon \chi_a \Gamma_{[ABC} \Gamma^{EF} \psi_D] \hat{F}_a^{EF} \quad (112)$$

lead to a similar effect.

The differences between the low energy theory obtained here and the original formulation of Horava and Witten leads to some modifications to the effects of gaugino condensation. The gaugino condensate appears in the supersymmetry transformations of the dilatino, as it does in Horava-Witten theory. In the new formulation, the gaugino condensate also appears in the gravitino boundary conditions, through the bilinear expression $\Gamma$ defined in equation (76). To examine the effects of the gaugino terms in the graviton boundary condition, suppose that the two boundaries are at $x^{11} = 0$ and $x^{11} = L$, with a gaugino condensate on $x^{11} = L$. If the expectation values of linear gaugino terms vanish, then the gravitino boundary condition (111) becomes

$$P_+ \psi_A = 0, \quad x^{11} = 0 \quad (113)$$

$$(P_- + e \Gamma P_+) \psi_A = 0, \quad x^{11} = L \quad (114)$$

The fermion boundary condition on $x^{11} = L$ can be put into a more familiar form when the condensate has the property that the matrix $\Gamma = \sigma I$, where $I^2 = -1$. In this case this boundary condition becomes

$$(1 + \epsilon \Gamma \Gamma N \epsilon) \psi_A = 0, \quad (115)$$

where $\tan \theta = \epsilon \sigma$. These boundary conditions are themselves sufficient to break the supersymmetry, and they have been introduced before, usually in contexts which were unconnected to gaugino condensation. We are able to conclude that, in heterotic $M$-theory, $\theta$ depends on the magnitude of the gaugino condensate. (A similar condition is also induced by the $\kappa$-symmetry of a $D$ brane, where instead of depending on the condensate, $\theta$ depends on the Born Infeld-field.)

The results have been obtained in the very lowest energy regime where higher derivative terms can be neglected. This is not a consistent approximation if we would like to reduce the theory to lower dimensions. The $R^2$ terms in the action and the Lorentz Chern-Simons form can simply be added in a way which reduces to the correct 10-dimensional theory. One direction in which the current discussion needs to be improved is to include these terms in a supersymmetric fashion on the boundary in 11 dimensions, but this is a complicated task.
Acknowledgments

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APPENDIX A: METRIC VARIATIONS

Standard formulae for the variation of the curvature and the extrinsic curvature which have been used in the text have been collected together in this appendix. Further details can be found in [11, 12, 13]. Let $n^I$ be the outward normal to the boundary. The intrinsic metric and extrinsic curvatures of the boundary are defined by

$$h_{IJ} = g_{IJ} - n_In_J$$

and

$$K_{IJ} = h_{IK}h_{JL}h^{KL},$$

where $; I$ denotes the components of the covariant derivative using the Levi-Civita connection. Note that $h_{AB} = g_{AB}$.

The variation of the Ricci scalar $R$ is given by [11]

$$\delta R = g^{IJ}g^{KL}(\delta g_{IJ;KL} - \delta g_{IK;JL}) - R^{IJ}\delta g_{IJ}$$

(A3)

Variation of the volume integral of $R$ gives a boundary term which can be decomposed into,

$$n^Ig^{JK}(\delta g_{JK;I} - \delta g_{IJ;K}) = -h^{JK}(n^I\delta h_{IJ};K) + K^{IJ}\delta h_{IJ} + h^{JK}n^I\delta h_{JK;I} - 2n^I K\delta n_I.$$  

(A4)

The only restriction which has been imposed is that $\delta(n^I n_I) = 0$. The variation of the trace of the extrinsic curvature can be arranged into

$$\delta K = -h^{JK}(n^I\delta h_{IJ};K) + \frac{1}{2}n^I h^{JK}\delta h_{JK;I} - n^I K\delta n_I.$$  

(A5)

These two variations can be combined to give

$$-\int_M dv \, \delta R + 2\int_{\partial M} dv \, \delta K = \int_M dv \, R^{IJ}\delta g_{IJ} - \int_{\partial M} dv \, K^{IJ}\delta h_{IJ},$$

assuming that the boundary consists of smooth components.

APPENDIX B: TETRAD VARIATIONS

This appendix explains how the variation of the action with respect to the tetrad can be simplified by making use of Lorentz invariance. It particular, it will be shown that it is possible to vary the action in a restricted way which is analogous to fixing the connection in the 1.5 order formalism.

We first decompose the tetrad variation into a metric variation and a Lorentz transformation. Since the metric

$$g_{IJ} = e^I_I e_{IJ},$$

we have

$$\delta g_{IJ} = \delta e^I_I e_{IJ} + e^I_I \delta e_{IJ}.$$  

(B2)

We now define the antisymmetric combination to represent Lorentz transformations

$$\delta r_{IJ} = \delta e^I_I e_{IJ} - e^I_I \delta e_{IJ}.$$  

(B3)

An arbitrary tetrad variation can then be decomposed according to the equation

$$\delta e^I_I = \frac{1}{2}(\delta g_{IJ} + \delta r_{IJ})e^I_J.$$  

(B4)
The variation of the tetrad connection $\omega_{IJK} = e_I \cdot D_K e_J$, is given by

$$\delta \omega_{IJK} = \delta g_{[I,J,K]} - \delta r_{IJK}.$$ \hspace{1cm} (B5)

We can make use of these relations to replace the tetrad variations in the variation of the action by $\delta g_{IJ}$ and $\delta r_{IJ}$.

Consider a Lagrangian $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}(e_I, \psi_I)$ for fields on a manifold $\mathcal{M}$ with no boundary. The general variation of the action takes the following form

$$\delta S = \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left( \delta g_{IJ} E^{IJ} + \delta r_{IJ} Q^{IJ} + \delta \bar{\psi}_I \theta^I \right) dv$$ \hspace{1cm} (B6)

If we restrict the variation to a local Lorentz transformation of the tetrad $e_I$ and the spinors, then the action must be unchanged, hence

$$0 = \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left( \delta r_{IJ} Q^{IJ} - \frac{1}{8} \delta r_{IJ} \bar{\psi}_K \Gamma^{IJ} \theta^K \right) dv.$$ \hspace{1cm} (B7)

We therefore deduce that

$$Q^{IJ} = \frac{1}{8} \bar{\psi}_K \Gamma^{IJ} \theta^K.$$ \hspace{1cm} (B8)

Now consider the introduction of a boundary $\partial \mathcal{M}$ and a fermion field $\chi$ on the boundary. In an adaptive coordinate system $e_{N_i} = \delta_{NI}$, and the terms allowed in the boundary part of the variation are

$$\delta S = \int_{\partial \mathcal{M}} dv \left( \delta g_{AB} P^{AB} + \delta r_{AB} q^{AB} + (\delta g_{AN} + \delta r_{AN}) q^{AN} + \delta \bar{\psi}_I \theta^I + \delta \bar{\chi} \right).$$ \hspace{1cm} (B9)

Local Lorentz invariance implies

$$q_{IJ} = \frac{1}{8} \bar{\psi}_K \Gamma^{IJ} \theta^K + \frac{1}{8} \bar{\chi} \Gamma^{IJ} \Xi.$$ \hspace{1cm} (B10)

These results allow a considerable reduction in the amount of effort required to find the variation of the action. The variation can be done initially with $\delta r_{AB} = 0$, and then the $\delta r_{AB}$ terms can be recovered from the fermion variations. Similarly, if $\theta^A = 0$ and $\chi$ is a chiral fermion, then $q^{AN} = 0$ and the variation of the action can be obtained by setting $\delta g_{AN} = \delta r_{AN} = 0$.

The tetrad variations also affect the variation of the gaugino. The chirality condition $P_+ \chi = 0$ implies that

$$P_+ \delta \chi = -(\delta P_+) \chi = -\frac{1}{2} \Gamma^A (\delta g_{AN} + \delta r_{AN}).$$ \hspace{1cm} (B11)

However, when $q^{AN} = 0$ these terms must cancel with other terms in the variation of the action. Similarly, $\delta g_{AN}$ can be ignored in the boundary variation of the contorsion terms in the Ricci tensor.

**APPENDIX C: SPINOR IDENTITIES**

The gamma-matrix conventions used in this paper are

$$\{ \Gamma_I, \Gamma_J \} = 2 g_{IJ}, \quad \Gamma^{I_1 \ldots I_n} = \Gamma^{[I_1} \ldots \Gamma^{I_n]}.$$ \hspace{1cm} (C1)

The covariant derivative of a spinor $\zeta$ is

$$D_I(\omega) \zeta = \partial_I \zeta + \frac{1}{4} \omega_{IKJ} \Gamma^{JK} \zeta.$$ \hspace{1cm} (C2)

All of the spinors are Majorana and we have

$$\bar{\epsilon} \Gamma^{I_1 \ldots I_n} \eta = = \sigma_n \bar{\eta} \Gamma^{I_1 \ldots I_n} \epsilon.$$ \hspace{1cm} (C3)

where $\sigma_r = (-1)^{(r+1)/2} = +, - , + , +$ for $r = 0, 1, 2, 3 \mod 4$. 


Some other examples are given in table I. Following examples make use of the Fierz identity (C10) and the product formulae, and

\[ \bar{\chi}\eta_L \]

\( \) The full expression for \( \bar{\chi}\eta_L \) is

\[ \eta_L = \bar{\eta} D_{\hat{\chi}}(\hat{\Omega}) \theta^A + \frac{1}{2} (K^{AB} - K g^{AB}) \bar{\eta} \gamma_\mu \psi_B - \frac{1}{2} \eta D_{\hat{\Omega}}(\hat{\Omega}) J^A \]

\[ + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{96} \bar{\eta} \Gamma_{ABCD} \psi_A \hat{G}_{BCDE} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8} \bar{\eta} \Gamma^{AB} \psi_c \hat{G}_{ABC} \]

\[ + e \bar{\eta} \Gamma^{AB} (D_{\hat{\Omega}}(\hat{\Omega}) \psi_B - e \bar{\eta} [\Gamma, \Gamma^{AB}] P_D A(\hat{\Omega}) \psi_B) . \]

APPENDIX D: SUPERSYMMETRY OF THE ACTION

The version of equation (107) which describes the supersymmetric variation of the action and includes the four fermi terms is

\[ \delta S = \frac{2}{k^2} \int d^4x \left( \bar{\eta} L_N + \delta g_{AB} \theta^A + \delta r_{AB} q^A + \delta C_{ABC} p^{ABC} + \frac{1}{2} \bar{\eta} D_{\hat{A}}(\hat{\Omega}) J^A - \bar{\eta} \Gamma_{ABCD} \psi_A + \bar{\eta} \Gamma^{AB} \psi_B + \bar{\eta} \Gamma^{ABC} \psi_C \right) . \]
The last two terms are four-fermi contributions which arise from the modification to the projection operator \( \tilde{P}_+ = P_+ + \epsilon \Gamma P_- \).

We make use of the Fierz identity
\[
\bar{\eta} \Gamma B \chi D A (\bar{\psi}_C \Gamma^{ABC} \chi) - \bar{\eta} \Gamma^{ABC} \chi D A (\bar{\psi}_B \Gamma C \chi) = 4 \bar{\eta} [\Gamma, \Gamma^{AB}] P_- D A \psi_B + 2 \bar{\eta} [(D_A \Gamma), \Gamma^{AB}] P_- \psi_B
\]
(D3)
to obtain the supersymmetric variation of the action
\[
\delta S = \frac{2}{\kappa^2} \int_{\partial M} dv \left( \delta g_{AB} \left( p^{AB} + \frac{1}{2}(K^{AB} - Kg^{AB}) - \left( \hat{F}^{CA} \hat{F}_C^B - \frac{1}{4} g^{AB} \hat{F}^{CD} \hat{F}_{CD} \right) \right) \\
+ \delta C_{ABC} \left( p^{ABC} - \hat{G}^{ABCN} \right) - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{96} \bar{\eta} \Gamma^{ABCDE} \psi_A \left( \hat{G}_{BCDE} + 3\sqrt{2} \hat{F}_{AB} \hat{F}_{CD} \right) \\
+ \delta r_{AB} q^{AB} + \frac{1}{2} \bar{\eta} \{\Gamma^{AB}, (D(\tilde{\Omega}) \Gamma)\} \psi_B + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon \bar{\eta} \Gamma_{ABC} D_B (\tilde{K}) \hat{F}^{AB} \right) .
\]
(D4)

The field equations \[\text{[10a] 10b}\] and the boundary condition \[\text{[7]}\] can now be used. Only two types of four fermi terms remain, ‘\(\eta \psi \chi D \chi\)’ and ‘\(\eta \chi \psi \psi\)’. It is relatively straight forward to show that the ‘\(\eta \psi \chi D \chi\)’ terms cancel. The ‘\(\eta \chi \psi \psi\)’ terms are much more complicated and remain to be investigated fully.

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