Localized Kaluza-Klein 6-brane

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ABSTRACT: We study the membrane wrapping mode corrections to the Kaluza-Klein (KK) 6-brane in eleven dimensions. We examine the localized KK6-brane in the extended space in $E_{7(7)}$ exceptional field theory. In order to discuss the physical origin of the localization in the extended space, we consider a probe M2-brane in eleven dimensions. We show that a three-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = 4$ gauge theory is naturally interpreted as a membrane generalization of the two-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$ gauged linear sigma model for the fundamental string. We point out that the vector field in the $\mathcal{N} = 4$ model is identified as a dual coordinate of the KK6-brane geometry. We find that the BPS vortex in the gauge theory gives rise to the violation of the isometry along the dual direction. We then show that the vortex corrections are regarded as an instanton effect in M-theory induced by the probe M2-brane wrapping around the M-circle.

KEYWORDS: $	extit{p}$-branes, String Duality, M-Theory

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1 Introduction

Dualities are key ingredients to understand the whole picture of string and M-theories. In particular, T-duality is one of the most intrinsic properties in string theory. It arises from the strings wrapped around compactified spaces and never appears from the viewpoint of particles. Dp-branes, which are indispensable objects in string theory, are related by T-dualities. The other extended objects such as NS5-branes, F-strings, waves and exotic branes are also related to the D-branes via S- and T-dualities. Among other things, the relation between the NS5-branes and the Kaluza-Klein (KK) 5-branes has been paid much attention [1]. The famous Buscher rule [2, 3] of T-duality exchanges the NS5-brane smeared along one transverse direction and the KK5-brane. The transverse geometry of the KK5-brane is given by the four-dimensional Taub-NUT space whose isometry comes from the smeared direction in the NS5-brane. This specific T-duality relation gets more involved when one takes into account the worldsheet instanton effects [4].

In [5], it was pointed out that the isometry in the smeared NS5-brane is broken due to the worldsheet instanton effects. The worldsheet instantons are studied through the examination of BPS vortices in the two-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$ gauged linear sigma model (GLSM). In the IR limit, the vortices are interpreted as worldsheet point-like instantons defined in the string non-linear sigma model. The violation of the isometry stands for the
introduction of the KK massive modes to the smeared background and the brane is localized in the compactified direction. This results in the recovery of the original NS5-brane. Since T-duality exchanges the KK modes and the winding modes, it is natural to expect that the KK5-brane geometry is modified by the winding modes. In fact, the worldsheet instanton effects for the KK5-brane geometry were studied and it was shown that the instantons break the isometry along the winding direction \[\tilde{x}\] \[\sim, 7\]. The resulting geometry depends on the dual winding coordinate \(\tilde{x}\) and the modified background of the KK5-brane ceases to be a solution to supergravity. Although it no longer satisfies the supergravity equations of motion, it is the genuine T-dual counterpart of the original, non-smeared, NS5-brane. The same observation holds even for exotic branes \[8\].

These results lead to difficulties on the interpretation of the modified— the winding coordinate dependent— geometries. However, this problem is naturally solved in the philosophy of double field theory (DFT) \[9–12\]. DFT is a supergravity theory where T-duality symmetry is realized manifestly in the doubled spacetime \((x^\mu, \tilde{x}_\mu)\). Since the DFT fields all depend not only on the spacetime coordinate \(x^\mu\) but also on the string winding coordinate \(\tilde{x}_\mu\), it is conceivable to incorporate the winding dependent solutions in the context of DFT. Indeed, the localized KK5-brane in the winding space is shown to be a solution to DFT \[13, 14\]. Analogous solutions, such as exotic branes localized in the winding space were discussed in \[15\].

The idea of DFT is inherited by exceptional field theory (EFT) \[16–25\] where U-duality is realized manifestly (see \[26\] for recent progress and vast applications). EFT is defined in the extended spaces that are characterized by the geometric coordinates together with the wrapping coordinates of M-theory branes. With this generalization, it is therefore legitimate to examine the localized solutions in the extended space of M-theory branes and their physical origins. To this end, we focus on the wrapping corrections to the KK6-brane in eleven dimensions. This is the natural M-theory uplifting of the winding corrected KK5-branes in type IIA string theory.

The organization of this paper is as follows. In the next section, we first introduce the localized KK5-brane in DFT and discuss its string winding coordinate dependence. We observe that the localization of the KK5-brane in the winding space is caused by the string worldsheet instanton effects. We then derive the localized KK6-brane solution in \(E_{7(7)}\) exceptional field theory. We find that the KK6-brane, whose isometry along the dual direction is broken, is a solution to \(E_{7(7)}\) EFT. In section 3, we discuss an interpretation of the dual coordinate dependence of the localized KK6-brane. We clarify that this is due to instantons caused by the membrane wrapped around the M-circle. In section 4, we introduce the three-dimensional \(\mathcal{N} = 4\) Abelian gauge theory and show that this is a natural membrane generalization of the \(\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)\) gauged linear sigma model for an F-string propagating on the KK5-brane background. We write down the corresponding BPS condition in the three-dimensional gauge theory and find that it is the vortex configuration. The harmonic function for the deformed solution exhibits the desired property expected by the instanton effects. Section 5 is devoted to conclusion and discussions. The explicit solution of the localized KK6-brane in \(E_{7(7)}\) EFT is found in appendix A. Details, conventions and notations of superfields in three dimensions are found in appendix B.
2 KK6-brane in $E_{7(7)}$ exceptional field theory

2.1 Preliminary example — winding corrections and localized KK5-brane

Before we discuss the localized KK6-brane solution in eleven dimensions, we first introduce the KK5-brane localized in the string winding space. This is a solution to DFT. The dynamical fields of DFT are the generalized metric $\mathcal{H}$ and the generalized dilation $d$. They are defined in the 2D-dimensional doubled space characterized by the doubled coordinates $X^M = (x^\mu, \tilde{x}_\mu)$, $(\mu = 1, \ldots, D)$. The DFT action is given by [27]:

$$ S_{\text{DFT}} = \int d^{2D}X e^{-2d} \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{H}, d), $$

where the generalized Ricci scalar $\mathcal{R}$ is constructed by $\mathcal{H}$ and $d$. The action is manifestly invariant under the $O(D, D)$ transformation. The standard parameterization of the generalized metric $\mathcal{H}$ is

$$ \mathcal{H}_{MN} = \begin{pmatrix} g^{\mu\nu} & -g^{\mu\rho} B_{\rho\nu} \\ B_{\mu\nu} g^{\rho\sigma} g_{\mu\nu} - B_{\mu\nu} g^{\rho\sigma} B_{\rho\nu} & e^{-2d} = \sqrt{-g} e^{-2\phi}, \end{pmatrix} $$

where $g_{\mu\nu}, B_{\mu\nu}, \phi$ are the metric, the Kalb-Ramond $B$-field and the dilation in type II supergravities. The $D$-dimensional physical spacetime is a slice in the 2D-dimensional doubled space. This is defined through the imposition of the strong constraint $\eta^{MN} \partial_M * \partial_N * = 0$ where $\eta^{MN}$ is the $O(D, D)$ invariant metric. Note that any type II supergravity solutions satisfy this constraint.

We focus on the NS5- and the KK5-brane solutions in ten dimensions. They are incorporated in the following localized DFT monopole ansatz [13, 15]:

$$ ds^2_{\mathcal{H}} = H(\delta_{ab} - H^{-2} b_{ac} b^c_b) dy^a dy^b + H^{-1} \delta^{ab} d\tilde{y}_a d\tilde{y}_b + 2H^{-1} a^b d_9 y^a d\tilde{y}_b $$

$$ + \eta_{mn} dx^m dx^n + \eta^{mn} d\tilde{x}_m d\tilde{x}_n, $$

$$ d = \text{const.} - \frac{1}{2} \log H, $$

where the DFT line element is understood as $ds^2_{\mathcal{H}} = \mathcal{H}_{MN} dX^M dX^N$. Here we label the doubled coordinate as $X^M = (x^m, y^a; \tilde{x}_m, \tilde{y}_a), (m = 0, \ldots, 5, a = 6, \ldots, 9)$. We define $x^m, y^a$ as the worldvolume and the transverse directions, respectively. The others $\tilde{x}_m, \tilde{y}_a$ are their dual counterparts, namely, the winding coordinates. The flat metric $\eta_{mn}$ and its inverse $\eta^{mn}$ are defined by $\eta_{mn} = \text{diag}(-1, \ldots, 1)$. The harmonic function $H$ satisfies $\Box H = 0$ where $\Box = \delta^{ab} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^a} \frac{\partial}{\partial y^b}$ and $b_{ab}$ is a function satisfying $3\partial_9 b_{bc} = \varepsilon_{abcd}\partial_d H(y)$ Here $\varepsilon_{abcd}$ is the totally antisymmetric symbol. In the following, we choose specific T-duality frames and extract physical solutions from (2.3). We start with a solution with the geometrical coordinates $x^\mu = (x^m, y^i, y^b)$, $(i = 6, 7, 8)$. From (2.3) we obtain the following solution for $g_{\mu\nu}, B_{\mu\nu}, \phi$:

$$ ds^2 = \eta_{mn} dx^m dx^n + H(\delta_{ij} dy^i dy^j + (dy^b)^2), $$

$$ B = \frac{1}{2} (b_{ij} dy^i - 2 b_{ij} dy^b) \wedge dy^i, $$

$$ e^{2\phi} = H, $$

$$ \text{(2.4)} $$
where $ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu}dx^\mu dx^\nu$, $H(y^i, y^9) = 1 + \frac{Q}{r^2}$, $r^2 = (y^i)^2 + (y^9)^2$. Here $Q$ is a constant. This is the ordinary NS5-brane solution in type II supergravities and hence satisfies the section constraint trivially. We next perform the T-duality transformation of this solution along the $y^9$-direction. This is implemented by the swap of the coordinates $y^9 \leftrightarrow \tilde{y}_9$. After the swapping of the coordinate, we extract the metric from the ansatz (2.3). We then obtain another solution:

$$ds^2 = \eta_{mn} dx^m dx^n + H^{-1}(dy^9 + b_{ij} dy^i) + H\delta_{ij} dy^i dy^j,$$

$$B = \frac{1}{2} b_{ij} dy^i \wedge dy^j,$$

$$e^{2\phi} = \text{const.} \quad (2.5)$$

This is essentially the KK5-brane solution but the non-trivial $B$-field is excited. In particular, the harmonic function is given by $H(y^i, \tilde{y}_9) = 1 + \frac{Q'}{r'^2}$, $r'^2 = (y^i)^2 + (\tilde{y}_9)^2$. One notices that the coordinate $\tilde{y}_9$ is not the geometrical one but the T-dualized winding coordinate. We therefore call the solution (2.5) the localized KK5-brane since the brane is localized not only in the ordinary space but also in the winding space. Such kind of solutions have been discussed in the literature [13–15, 28–31]. Note that the solution (2.5) obtained by the $O(D, D)$ transformation from (2.4) also satisfies the $O(D, D)$ invariant strong constraint.

The physical meaning of the winding coordinate dependence of the solution becomes apparent when we recover the radius $R_9$ of the compactified direction and rewrite the harmonic function. Since the $y^9$- (and $\tilde{y}_9$-) direction is compactified, the branes are aligned periodically:

$$H(y^i, \tilde{y}_9) = 1 + \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{Q}{(r'^2 + (\tilde{y}_9 - 2\pi R_9 n)^2)},$$

$$= 1 + \frac{Q'}{r'} \left[ 1 + \sum_{n \neq 0} \exp \left( \frac{\tilde{y}_9}{R_9} - r' \left| \frac{n}{R_9} \right| \right) \right], \quad (2.6)$$

where we have define a constant $Q' = \frac{Q}{2\pi R_9}$ and $(r')^2 = (y^6)^2 + (y^7)^2 + (y^8)^2$. Here the periodic array of the branes along the compactified direction is evaluated with the Poisson resummation formula,

$$\sum_{n=\infty}^{\infty} f(2\pi n) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt f(t)e^{int}. \quad (2.7)$$

It is obvious that $1 + \frac{Q'}{r'}$ is the harmonic function for the ordinary KK5-brane of codimension three. The suggestive form of the $n \neq 0$ corrections in (2.6) makes us evoke instantons. Indeed, the worldsheet instanton corrections to the KK5-brane geometry was studied in [6].

In order to study instantons, it is rather useful to start with the two-dimensional $N = (4, 4)$ gauged linear sigma model (GLSM). The IR limit of this GLSM is reduced to the string worldsheetsigma model whose target space is the Taub-NUT geometry, namely, the transverse space of the KK5-brane. GLSM is particularly suitable for evaluating the instanton effects. In a specific limit of a parameter, it is shown that the two-dimensional GLSM action is extremized by the BPS vortex configuration. The corresponding bound of the Euclidean action is given by

$$S_n = |n| \zeta - in\theta. \quad (2.8)$$
Here \( n \) is the vortex (instanton) number, \( \zeta \) is a Fayet-Iliopoulos (FI) parameter (cf. (4.15) in section 4.) which is identified with \( r' \) of the Taub-NUT space in the IR. Remarkably, \( \theta \) is identified with the dual winding coordinate \( \tilde{y}_9 \) along the isometry direction. The standard gauge instanton calculus is available in the two-dimensional GLSM and the corrections by (2.8) are encoded into the ones to the harmonic function for the KK5-brane as (in our units) [6] 

\[
H(r') = 1 + \frac{Q'}{r'} \quad \rightarrow \quad H = 1 + \frac{Q'}{r'} \left[ 1 + \sum_{n \neq 0} \exp \left( \frac{\tilde{y}_9}{R_9} - r' \left| \frac{n}{R_9} \right| \right) \right].
\]  

(2.9)

This precisely agrees with the one in the DFT solution (2.6). We note that the gauge instantons in GLSM is interpreted as worldsheet instantons in its IR regime. Therefore the origin of the \( \tilde{y}_9 \)-dependence in the localized KK5-brane solution (2.5) is the worldsheet instanton effects.

2.2 Localized KK6-brane solution in M-theory

Now we examine an analogous solution that depends on the dual coordinates in M-theory. To make contact with the extended space in M-theory, we focus on the duality relation between the M5-brane and the KK6-brane in eleven dimensions. The eleven-dimensional spacetime \( M_{11} \) is decomposed into \( M_4 \times M_7 \) where \( M_4 \) and \( M_7 \) are the external and the internal spaces. Since we are interested in the M5- and KK6-branes, we consider the truncated \( E_7(7) \) model [32] where the external four-dimensional space \( M_4 \) is identified with the smeared worldvolume directions of the branes and they are essentially ignored. The resulting solutions are all defined in seven dimensions. We also ignore all the off-diagonal part between \( M_4 \) and \( M_7 \). The coordinate of the seven-dimensional space \( X^\mu (\mu = 1, \ldots, 7) \) together with the M2, M5, KK6 wrapping coordinates span the extended space. The extended space is given by [33] 

\[
TM_7 \oplus \wedge^2 T^* M_7 \oplus \wedge^5 T^* M_7 \oplus (T^* M_7 \otimes \wedge^7 T^* M_7).
\]  

(2.10)

The extended space that consists of \( 56 \) representation of \( E_7(7) \) is characterized by the coordinates 

\[
X^M = (X^\mu, Y_{\mu\nu}, Z^{\mu\nu}, W_\mu), \quad (M = 1, \ldots, 56).
\]  

(2.11)

The dynamical field of the exceptional field theory is the generalized metric \( M_{MN} \) which encodes the metric and the 3-form (and possibly its magnetic dual 6-form) field in eleven-dimensional supergravity. All the fields and gauge parameters should satisfy the section constraints [17–19] 

\[
(t_\alpha)^{MN} \partial_M \partial_N^* = 0, \quad (t_\alpha)^{MN} \partial_M \ast \partial_N^* = 0, \quad \Omega^{MN} \partial_M \ast \partial_N^* = 0.
\]  

(2.12)

Here \( (t_\alpha)^{MN} \) is the generators of \( E_7(7) \) in the fundamental representation and \( \Omega^{MN} \) is the symplectic invariant matrix of \( E_7(7) \).

A parameterization of the generalized metric \( M_{MN} \) in \( E_7(7) \) EFT is derived from the generalized vielbein given in [32]. In our analysis, the 3-form potential \( C^{(3)} \) rather than its
magnetic dual 6-form $C^{(6)}$ is relevant. We therefore keep the metric $g_{\mu\nu}$ and $C^{(3)}$ non-zero and do not explicitly use $C^{(6)}$ in the generalized metric. The result is

$$
\begin{align*}
\mathrm{d}s^2_M &= g^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left\{ g_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{C}_{\mu\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma,\lambda\tau} C_{\lambda\tau\nu} + \frac{1}{32} X_\mu^\rho g_{\rho,\alpha\beta} X_\nu^\alpha \beta + \frac{1}{24} X_\mu^\rho g_{\rho,\alpha\beta} g^{\alpha\beta} X_\nu^\lambda \lambda C_{\lambda\tau\nu} \right\} \mathrm{d}X^\mu \mathrm{d}X^\nu \\
&\quad + \left[ g^{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} + \frac{1}{2} V^{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} g_{\alpha\beta,\lambda\tau} V^{\lambda\tau\rho\sigma} + \frac{1}{32} X_\alpha^{\mu\nu} g^{\rho\sigma,\lambda\tau} X_\beta^\rho \sigma \right] \mathrm{d}Y_{\mu\nu} \mathrm{d}Y_{\rho\sigma} \\
&\quad + g^{-1} g_{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} + \frac{1}{2} C_{\mu\rho\sigma} g^{\alpha\beta,\lambda\tau} C_{\beta\gamma,\lambda\tau} \right\} \mathrm{d}Z_{\mu\nu} \mathrm{d}Z_{\rho\sigma} \\
&\quad + \left[ \sqrt{2} C_{\mu\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma,\lambda\tau} + \frac{1}{4} X_\mu^\rho g_{\rho,\alpha\beta} V^{\lambda\tau\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{48 \sqrt{2}} X_\mu^\rho g_{\rho,\alpha\beta} g^{\alpha\beta,\lambda\tau} \right] \mathrm{d}X_{\mu\nu} \mathrm{d}Y_{\lambda\tau} \\
&\quad + \left[ \sqrt{2} g^{-\frac{1}{2}} C_{\mu\rho\sigma} g^{\alpha\beta,\lambda\tau} + \frac{1}{4} X_\mu^\rho g_{\rho,\alpha\beta} C_{\beta,\lambda\tau} \right] \mathrm{d}Y_{\mu\nu} \mathrm{d}Z_{\lambda\tau} \\
&\quad + \left[ g^{-\frac{1}{2}} C_{\mu\rho\sigma} g^{\alpha\beta,\lambda\tau} + \frac{1}{12} X_\mu^\rho C_{\rho,\alpha\beta} g^{\gamma,\lambda\tau} \right] \mathrm{d}X_{\mu\nu} \mathrm{d}Z_{\lambda\tau} \\
&\quad + \left[ \frac{1}{12} g^{-\frac{1}{2}} X_\mu C_{\rho} g^{\alpha\beta,\lambda\tau} \mathrm{d}X_{\mu} \mathrm{d}W_{\alpha} + \frac{1}{24} g^{-\frac{1}{2}} X_\alpha^{\mu\nu} g^{\rho\sigma,\lambda\tau} \mathrm{d}Y_{\mu\nu} \mathrm{d}W_{\rho} \right].
\end{align*}
\tag{2.13}$$

In this stage we have performed the sign flipping of the $C$-field from [32]. We also have introduced the following definition:

$$
g_{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} = \frac{1}{2} (g_{\mu\rho} g_{\nu\sigma} - g_{\mu\sigma} g_{\nu\rho}) \quad V^{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} = \frac{1}{3} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma\alpha\beta} C_{\alpha\beta} \gamma \quad X_{\mu,\rho\sigma} = C_{\mu,\gamma} V^{\gamma,\rho\sigma} \tag{2.14}\$$

Here again the line element is understood as $\mathrm{d}s^2_M = \mathcal{M}_{MN} \mathrm{d}X^M \mathrm{d}X^N$. As in the case of DFT, we can extract solutions for the metric and the $C$-field from this parameterization in a fixed U-duality frame.

**From KK6-brane to smeared M5-brane.** We first start with the ordinary KK6-brane and see how this is dualized to the M5-brane. The eleven-dimensional spacetime coordinate $x^\mu$ is labeled by $x^\mu = (t, x^a, y^i, z)$, $(a = 1, \ldots, 6, i = 1, \ldots, 3)$. Here $(t, x^a)$ and $(y^i, z)$ are identified with the worldvolume and the transverse directions of the KK6-brane, respectively. We choose the seven-dimensional internal space as $X^\mu = (u, v, w, y^i, z)$ and $x^{3,4,5}$ are the external reduced directions. Here we denote $x^1 = u, x^2 = v, x^6 = w$. The ordinary KK6-brane of codimension three in seven dimensions is given by

$$
\mathrm{d}s^2 = \mathrm{d}u^2 + \mathrm{d}v^2 + \mathrm{d}w^2 + H^{-1} \left[ \mathrm{d}z + A_i \mathrm{d}y^i \right]^2 + H \, \mathrm{d}y^2, \tag{2.15}
$$

where the KK vector $A_i$ satisfies $\partial_i A_j = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ijk} \partial_k H$ and the harmonic function is defined by $H = 1 + \frac{A_i}{|y^i|}$. Here $h$ is a constant. This background metric is embedded into the generalized metric $\mathcal{M}_{MN}$ by using the parameterization (2.13) (see the equation (3.21) in [13]\(^\dagger\)). Since (2.15) is a solution to ordinary supergravity, it trivially satisfies the section

\(^\dagger\)Note that the parameterization of the generalized metric in [13] is slightly different from (2.13). This results in the different scaling factors discussed in [13] as we will see in due course.
constraints (2.12). We stress that $X_{\mu}^{\rho\sigma}$-dependent parts all vanish for the solution of codimension three. This drastically simplify the calculations. The duality transformation from the KK6-brane to the M5-brane is implemented by the swaps of the extended coordinates together with appropriate scaling transformations [13]. The swaps of the coordinates are given by

$$X^z \leftrightarrow -Y_{wz} \quad W_z \leftrightarrow Z^{uz}$$

$$X^w \leftrightarrow Y_{uz} \quad W_w \leftrightarrow Z^{uw}$$

$$Y_{ui} \leftrightarrow -Y_{iz} \quad Z^{ui} \leftrightarrow Z^{iz}$$

$$Y_{vi} \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ijk} Z^{jk} \quad Z^{vi} \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ijk} Y_{jk}.$$ (2.16)

The dualized metric and the $C$-field are extracted from the following ansatz:

$$d\mathcal{M}^2 = g^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left\{ g_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} e^{2\gamma_1} g_{\rho\sigma,\lambda\tau} C^{\rho\sigma,\lambda\tau} + \frac{1}{2} e^{2\gamma_2} V^{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} C^{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} C_{\lambda\tau} + \frac{1}{2} e^{2\gamma_3} V^{\mu\nu=12} g_{\alpha\rho,\lambda\tau} C_{\alpha\rho} C_{\beta\sigma} C_{\lambda\tau} \right\} dX^\mu dX^\nu$$

$$+ \left[ e^{2\alpha_1} g_{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} + \frac{1}{2} e^{2\gamma_2} V^{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} g_{\alpha\beta,\lambda\tau} V^{\lambda\tau,\rho\sigma} \right] dY_{\mu\nu} dY_{\rho\sigma}$$

$$+ \left[ e^{2\alpha_2} g_{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} + \frac{1}{2} e^{2\gamma_3} C_{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} g_{\alpha\beta,\lambda\tau} C^{\alpha\beta,\lambda\tau} \right] dZ^{\mu\nu} dZ^{\rho\sigma}$$

$$+ e^{2\alpha_3} g_{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} dW_{\mu} dW_{\nu} + \sqrt{2} e^{2\beta_1} C_{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma,\lambda\tau} dX^\mu dX^\lambda dX^\rho dX^\tau$$

$$+ \sqrt{2} e^{2\beta_2} g_{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} dY_{\mu\nu} dZ^{\rho\sigma} + \sqrt{2} e^{2\beta_3} g_{\mu\nu,\rho\sigma} dZ^{\mu\nu} dW_{\rho} \right\}. \quad (2.17)$$

Here $\alpha_i, \beta_i, \gamma_i (i = 1, 2, 3)$ are the scale parameters. After the swapping of the coordinates (2.16), the explicit form of the components of $g_{\mu\nu}$ and $C_{\mu\nu\rho}$ together with the scaling factors are determined consistently. The result is

$$e^{2\alpha_1} = \frac{1}{2} H^{-\frac{4}{5}}, \quad e^{2\beta_1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} H^{-\frac{2}{5}}, \quad e^{2\gamma_1} = H^{-\frac{4}{5}},$$

$$e^{2\alpha_2} = \frac{1}{2} H^{-\frac{8}{5}}, \quad e^{2\beta_2} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} H^{-2}, \quad e^{2\gamma_2} = \frac{1}{4} H^{-\frac{12}{5}},$$

$$e^{2\alpha_3} = H^{-\frac{12}{5}}, \quad e^{2\beta_3} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} H^{-\frac{14}{5}}, \quad e^{2\gamma_3} = \frac{1}{2} H^{-\frac{16}{5}}. \quad (2.18)$$

and

$$ds^2 = H^{-\frac{4}{5}} [du^2 + dv^2] + H^{-\frac{2}{5}} [dw^2 + dy^2 + dz^2],$$

$$C_{izw} = A_i, \quad H = 1 + \frac{h}{r}, \quad r^2 = y^2. \quad (2.19)$$

This is the M5-brane dimensionally reduced to seven dimensions. Note that all the solutions are given in the Einstein frame. We stress that the resulting solution has non-zero components of the $C$-field only in $C_{izw}$. This is the direct consequence of the M5-brane
of codimension three — the M5-brane smeared along the two transverse directions. As we will see in the following, when we consider the M5-brane of higher codimensions, there are more non-zero components of the C-field which inevitably changes the structure of the generalized metric.

**Localized KK6-brane from M5-brane of codimension four.** We next examine a backward transformation from the M5-brane to the KK6-brane but with the assumption of codimension four solution. This will provide the direct M-theory uplifting of the localized KK5-brane in DFT.

The M5-brane of codimension four dimensionally reduced to seven dimensions is apparently a solution to supergravity:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{ds}^2 &= H^{-\frac{2}{3}}(du^2 + dv^2) + H^2 (dw^2 + dy^2 + dz^2), \\
C &= \frac{1}{2} C_{ijw} dy^i \wedge dy^j \wedge dw + C_{izw} dy^i \wedge dz \wedge dw, \\
H &= 1 + \frac{h}{y^2 + z^2}.
\end{align*}
\]

(2.20)

This is obtained by the dimensional reduction of the M5-brane solution in eleven-dimensional supergravity to seven dimensions and by moving to the Einstein frame. Since the C-field is determined by the relation

\[
4\partial_{[a} C_{bcd]} = \varepsilon_{abcde} \partial_e H,
\]

(2.21)

there are more non-zero components than \(C_{izw}\) for the C-field. This results in \(X_\mu^{\rho\sigma} \neq 0\) which distinguishes the analysis from that of codimension three and the embedding of the solution (2.20) into the generalized metric is treated with care. We have

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{ds}^2_{\mathcal{M}} &= g^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left\{ \left[ g_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{\rho\sigma} C_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} X_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{32} \varepsilon_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} X_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta} \right] dX^\mu dX^\nu \\
&\quad + \left[ \varepsilon_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} X_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{\rho\sigma} C_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} X_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta} \right] dY_{\mu\nu} dY_{\rho\sigma} \\
&\quad + \left[ \varepsilon_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} X_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{\rho\sigma} C_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} X_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta} \right] dZ_{\mu\nu} dZ_{\rho\sigma} \\
&\quad + \left[ \varepsilon_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} X_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{\rho\sigma} C_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} X_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta} \right] dY_{\mu\rho} dY_{\nu\sigma} \\
&\quad + \left[ \varepsilon_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} X_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{\rho\sigma} C_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} X_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta} \right] dZ_{\mu\rho} dZ_{\nu\sigma} \\
&\quad + \left[ \varepsilon_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} X_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{\rho\sigma} C_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} X_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta} \right] dY_{\mu\rho} dZ_{\nu\sigma} \\
&\quad + \left[ \varepsilon_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} X_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{\rho\sigma} C_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} X_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta} \right] dZ_{\mu\rho} dY_{\nu\sigma} \\
&\quad + \left[ \varepsilon_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} X_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{\rho\sigma} C_{\rho\sigma} g^{\rho\sigma} X_{\nu}^{\alpha\beta} \right] dZ_{\mu\rho} dZ_{\nu\sigma} \right\}. 
\end{align*}
\]

(2.22)
where we have introduced the scaling factors \( \alpha_i, \beta_i, \gamma_i, (i = 1, 2, 3) \) determined in \((2.18)\).

Unlike the case of the codimension three, we also introduce the new scaling factors \( \delta_i (i = 1, \ldots, 10) \) in the \( X_\mu^{\rho\sigma} \) sector for later convenience. They are

\[
\begin{align*}
e^{2a_1} &= H^{-\frac{12}{\pi}}, & e^{2\delta_3} &= \frac{1}{2} H^{-4}, & e^{2\delta_4} &= \frac{1}{2} H^{-\frac{12}{\pi}}, \\
e^{2\delta_6} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} H^{-2}, & e^{2\delta_9} &= \frac{1}{2} H^{-\frac{16}{\pi}}, & e^{2\delta_{10}} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} H^{-\frac{14}{\pi}},
\end{align*}
\]  

(2.23)

and \( e^{2\delta_2} = e^{2\delta_5} = e^{2\delta_7} = e^{2\delta_8} = 1 \).

Now we perform the backward duality transformation. This is achieved again by the swaps of the coordinates \((2.16)\) and the scale transformation. After the coordinate swaps, the metric and the \( C \)-field are extracted from the same form of the generalized metric \((2.22)\) but with the new scaling factors \( \alpha'_i, \beta'_i, \gamma'_i, \delta'_i \). We find that they are consistently determined to be (see appendix for details)

\[
\begin{align*}
e^{2a'_1} &= \frac{1}{2}, & e^{2\beta'_i} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, & e^{2\gamma'_i} &= 1, \\
e^{2a'_2} &= \frac{1}{2}, & e^{2\beta'_2} &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} H^{-1}, & e^{2\gamma'_2} &= \frac{1}{4} H^{-2}, \\
e^{2a'_3} &= 1, & e^{2\beta'_3} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} H^{-1}, & e^{2\gamma'_3} &= \frac{1}{2} H^{-2}.
\end{align*}
\]  

(2.24)

Then the KK6-brane of codimension four is given by

\[
\begin{align*}
ds^2 &= du^2 + dv^2 + dw^2 + Hdy^2 + H^{-1}(dz + C_{izw} dy^i)^2, \\
C &= \frac{1}{2!} C_{ijw} dy^i \wedge dy^j \wedge dw.
\end{align*}
\]  

(2.25)

We find that \( X_\mu^{\rho\sigma} = 0 \) for this metric and the \( C \)-field and terms with the scaling factors \( \delta'_j \) all vanish. Most notably, the harmonic function in the solution \((2.25)\) is given by

\[
H = 1 + \frac{h}{y^2 + Y_{uwz}^2}.
\]

(2.26)

Since the geometrical coordinates are \((t, x^a, y^i, z)\) in this frame, the solution depends on the dual (wrapping) coordinate \( Y_{uwz} \) as expected. Once the \( Y_{uwz} \) direction is smeared, this solution reduces to the ordinary KK6-brane. When one takes the \( w \)-direction as the M-circle and relabel \( B_{ij} = C_{ijw}, \ Y_{uw} = \bar{y}_0 \), the solution \((2.25)\) reduces to the localized KK5-brane discussed in section 2 (figure 1). Hence the solution \((2.25)\) is the M-theory analogue of the localized KK5-brane \((2.5)\). We call \((2.25)\) the localized KK6-brane solution.

When we recover the radius \( R \) of the compactified direction and rewrite the harmonic function \((2.26)\), we have

\[
H = 1 + \frac{h'}{|y|} \left[ 1 + \sum_{n \neq 0} \exp \left( \frac{Y_{uwz}}{R} - \frac{|n|}{R} \right) \right],
\]

(2.27)

where \( h' = \frac{h}{2R} \). Once again, \( 1 + \frac{h'}{|y|} \) part is the harmonic function for the ordinary KK6-brane of codimension three \((2.15)\). The \( n \neq 0 \) corrections strongly suggest the existence of instantons. In order to reveal the origin of the “instantons” appear in \((2.27)\), we next discuss the geometry of the KK6-brane.
3 Membrane and worldsheet instantons in KK6 and KK5 geometries

In this section, we examine the instanton effects in eleven dimensions and discuss the origin of the wrapping corrections to the KK6-brane geometry.

As we have mentioned in the introduction, the winding corrections to the KK5-brane geometry in type IIA string theory is induced by the string worldsheet instantons. The worldsheet instantons are defined as a map \( \Sigma_2 \to \gamma_2 \) where \( \Sigma_2 \) and \( \gamma_2 \) are the Euclidean worldsheet and a two-cycle in spacetime, respectively. We consider \( S^2 \) as the topology of \( \Sigma_2 \). The transverse geometry of the multiple KK5-branes in ten dimensions is the multi-centered Taub-NUT space \([15, 34]\), where an \( S^2 \) appears between the centers. Then the worldsheet instantons are classified by the homotopy group \( \pi_2(S^2) = \mathbb{Z} \). Since the KK5-brane is obtained by the dimensional reduction of the KK6-brane in eleven dimensions, a natural candidate of the M-theory origin of the winding corrections is the membrane instantons \([35, 36]\). The membrane instantons are defined by a map \( \Sigma_3 \to \gamma_3 \) where \( \Sigma_3 = S^3 \) is the Euclidean M2-brane worldvolume and \( \gamma_3 \) is a three-cycle in eleven-dimensional spacetime. However, since the background geometry of the multiple KK6-brane is again the multi-centered Taub-NUT space, there are no three-cycles in the geometry and the Euclidean M2-brane seems not to wrap on the geometry. This apparent puzzle can be reconciled as follows.

We consider the brane configuration in table 1. One finds that the Euclidean M2-brane can wrap on the M-circle \( S^1 \) and the two-sphere \( S^2 \) in the Taub-NUT geometry. Indeed, the homology group for the three-cycles is calculated as

\[
H_3(S^1 \times S^2) = \mathbb{Z}.
\]  

(3.1)

Then the membrane instantons are classified by the homotopy group

\[
\pi_3(S^1 \times S^2) \simeq \pi_3(S^1) \oplus \pi_3(S^2) = \{e\} \oplus \mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z}.
\]  

(3.2)

Therefore by the introduction of the M-circle, the Euclidean M2-brane can wrap on the three-cycle and the KK6 geometry supports the membrane instantons. This is a natural
Table 1. The configuration of Euclidean M2-brane wrapping on the M-circle $S^1$ and $S^2$ in the KK6 geometry. The worldvolume and the isometry directions are denoted as × and ◦, respectively. The lower table is the corresponding configuration in ten-dimensional type IIA theory.

|          | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | M |
|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| KK6      |   | × | × | × | × | × | × |   | × |   |   |
| M2       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | × | × | × |   |
| cycles   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | $S^2$ $S^1$ |

Table 1. The configuration of Euclidean M2-brane wrapping on the M-circle $S^1$ and $S^2$ in the KK6 geometry. The worldvolume and the isometry directions are denoted as × and ◦, respectively. The lower table is the corresponding configuration in ten-dimensional type IIA theory.

M-theory origin of the worldsheet instanton corrections to the KK5-brane. Schematically, this is sketched out as

$$\text{(membrane instanton)} \sim \exp \left[ -\frac{\text{vol}(\Sigma_3)}{l_{11}^3} \right] = \exp \left[ -\frac{\text{vol}(S^2)}{\alpha'} \right] \sim \text{(worldsheet instanton)},$$

where we have used the relation $l_{11} = g_s l_s$ among the eleven-dimensional Planck length $l_{11}$, the string coupling constant $g_s$ and the string length $l_s$. The M-circle radius is given by $R_M = g_s l_s$. The analogous mechanism on the moduli spaces for the vector and the hypermultiplets in four and five dimensions was studied [35].

When there is only a single KK6-brane, the geometry involves an open cigar and there are no two-cycles anymore. However we find a kind of instantons in this geometry. We regard the closed membrane worldvolume $S^3$ as the Hopf fibration $S^1$ over $S^2$. The $S^1$ is identified with the M-circle and the remaining $S^2$ is decomposed into a disk and an infinity point: $S^2 = D^2_\Sigma \cup \{\infty_{\Sigma}\}$. Then we find out a map:

$$D^2_\Sigma \rightarrow D^2, \quad \{\infty_{\Sigma}\} \rightarrow \{\infty\},$$

where $D^2$ is a disk defined by the open cigar in the KK6 geometry and $\{\infty\}$ is the infinity point in the spacetime. This is an analogy of the disk instantons for the worldsheet [15, 34].

In order to specify the field configuration that corresponds to the wrapped membrane instantons, we next introduce a three-dimensional gauge theory which is a membrane generalization of the two-dimensional GLSM discussed in [5, 6].

### 4 Three-dimensional gauge theory

In this section we study three-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = 4$ gauge theory whose low energy theory could be interpreted as the worldvolume sigma model whose target space is the Taub-NUT space. This is also an explicit description of an Abelian gauge theory studied in [37]. Analyzing its quantum corrections by instanton effects, we could discuss the physical meaning of the corrections in EFT in the previous sections.
4.1 Lagrangian

First, we describe a three-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = 4$ Abelian gauge theory. This is easily discussed by uplifting the two-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$ GLSM for a KK5-brane in the superfield formalism [5, 6, 34, 38]:

\begin{equation}
\mathcal{L}_{3d} = \frac{1}{e^2} \int d^4 \theta \left\{ - \Sigma^2 + |\Phi|^2 \right\} + \int d^4 \theta \left\{ \frac{1}{g^2} |\Psi|^2 + \frac{g^2}{2} (\Gamma + \Gamma + 2cV)^2 \right\} \\
+ \int d^4 \theta \left\{ |Q|^2 e^{+2V} + |\tilde{Q}|^2 e^{-2V} \right\} \\
+ \left\{ \sqrt{2} \int d^2 \theta \left( \tilde{\Phi} Q - c (s - \Psi) \Phi \right) + \text{(h.c.)} \right\} + 2\sqrt{2} c \int d^4 \theta t^3 V \\
- \sqrt{2} c \varepsilon^{mnp} \partial_m (B_n A_p). \tag{4.1}
\end{equation}

Let us explain various parameters and fields in this Lagrangian.

- $e$ is the gauge coupling constant whose mass dimension is $1/2$. $g$ is the dimensionless sigma model coupling. $c$ is a constant whose dimension is $1/2$. This is reduced to a dimensionless constant when we perform the dimensional reduction of this three-dimensional theory to two-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$ GLSM.

- The $\mathcal{N} = 4$ vector multiplet consists of an $\mathcal{N} = 2$ real linear superfield $\Sigma$ and an $\mathcal{N} = 2$ chiral superfield $\Phi$. The pair $(\Psi, \Gamma)$ builds an $\mathcal{N} = 4$ neutral hypermultiplet. Notice that the chiral superfield $\Gamma$ is coupled to the vector superfield $V$ via the Stückelberg coupling. The pair of two $\mathcal{N} = 2$ charged chiral superfields $(Q, \tilde{Q})$ builds an $\mathcal{N} = 4$ charged hypermultiplet.

- The parameter $s$ in the third line is complex, while $t$ is real. They are the Fayet-Iliopoulos (FI) parameters. They behave as a triplet under the $\text{SU}(2)$ R-symmetry rotation.\footnote{The definition and the component expansion of superfields are exhibited in appendix B.}

- The term in the fourth line is an uplifted version of $\varepsilon^{mnp} \partial_m (\theta A_n)$ in two-dimensional theory [6], which plays a central role in analyzing the winding corrections in the Taub-NUT space [6]. A vector field $B_m$ is the uplifted field of the periodic scalar $\theta$ in the two-dimensional GLSM, where $\theta$ represents “winding coordinate” in the Taub-NUT space. Note that $\varepsilon^{mnp}$ is the totally antisymmetric symbol whose normalization is $\varepsilon^{012} = +1$.

\footnote{Compared with these references, we can change the relative signs in the third line via flipping the signs of $\Phi$, $s$, $\Psi$, and $\tilde{Q}Q$ appropriately. We can also extend the model to $U(1)^N$ gauge theory.}

\footnote{More precisely, the $\text{SU}(2)_H$ R-symmetry in the Higgs branch which rotates three real scalar fields $(r^1, r^2, -g^2 r^3)$ in the $\mathcal{N} = 4$ neutral hypermultiplet $(\Psi, \Gamma)$.}
Expanding all the superfields and integrating their auxiliary fields out, we obtain the interacting Lagrangian given by component fields:

\[
\mathcal{L} = - \frac{1}{e^2} \left\{ \frac{1}{4} F_{mn} F^{mn} + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_m \sigma)^2 + |\partial_m \phi|^2 \right\} - \sqrt{2} c \varepsilon^{mnp} \partial_m (B_n A_p) \\
- \frac{1}{2 g^2} \left\{ \left( \partial_m r^1 \right)^2 + \left( \partial_m r^2 \right)^2 + \left( \partial_m \left( - g^2 r^3 \right) \right)^2 \right\} - \frac{g^2}{2} \left( \partial_m r^4 + \sqrt{2} c A_m \right)^2 \\
+ \frac{1}{e^2} \left\{ i \left( \partial_m \bar{\chi}^m \lambda \right) + i \left( \partial_m \bar{\chi}^m \bar{\lambda} \right) \right\} + \frac{i}{g^2} \left( \partial_m \bar{\chi}^m \chi \right) + ig^2 \left( \partial_m \bar{\chi}^m \bar{\chi} \right) \\
- |D_m q|^2 - |D_m \bar{q}|^2 + i(D_m \bar{\psi} \gamma^m \bar{\psi}) + i(D_m \bar{\psi} \gamma^m \bar{\psi}) \\
- (\sigma^2 + 2 |\phi|^2) (c^2 g^2 + |q|^2 + |\bar{q}|^2) \\
- e^2 \left( \sqrt{2} \bar{q} q + c \left( (r^1 + i r^2) - (s^1 + i s^2) \right) \right)^2 - \frac{e^2}{2} \left\{ (|q|^2 - |\bar{q}|^2) - \sqrt{2} c \left( - g^2 r^3 - t^3 \right) \right\}^2 \\
+ \sqrt{2} c \left\{ (\chi \bar{\lambda}) - (\bar{\chi} \lambda) - g^2 (\chi \lambda) + g^2 (\bar{\chi} \bar{\lambda}) \right\} - i \left\{ \sigma (\bar{\psi} \psi) - \sigma (\bar{\psi} \bar{\psi}) \right\} + \sqrt{2} \left\{ \phi (\bar{\psi} \psi) - \bar{\phi} (\bar{\psi} \bar{\psi}) \right\} \\
+ \sqrt{2} \left\{ q (\bar{\psi} \lambda) + q (\bar{\psi} \bar{\lambda}) - q (\psi \bar{\lambda}) - q (\bar{\psi} \lambda) + q (\bar{\psi} \bar{\lambda}) + q (\psi \lambda) - q (\bar{\psi} \lambda) \right\} .
\]

(4.2)

Note that we introduced a gauge covariant derivative acting on charged fields:

- \[ D_m q = \partial_m q + i A_m q, \quad D_m \bar{q} = \partial_m \bar{q} - i A_m \bar{q}, \]  \hspace{1cm} (4.3a)
- \[ D_m \psi_\alpha = \partial_m \psi_\alpha + i A_m \psi_\alpha, \quad D_m \bar{\psi}_\alpha = \partial_m \bar{\psi}_\alpha - i A_m \bar{\psi}_\alpha. \]  \hspace{1cm} (4.3b)

Hereafter, we focus only on the bosonic sector to consider classical vacuum and the low energy theory on it as discussed in the references [5, 6, 34, 38].

### 4.2 Low energy theory

Let us study supersymmetric low energy theory of the Lagrangian (4.2).\(^5\) First, we find three non-trivial equations which make vanish the scalar potential:

- \[ 0 = (\sigma^2 + 2 |\phi|^2) (c^2 g^2 + |q|^2 + |\bar{q}|^2), \]  \hspace{1cm} (4.4a)
- \[ 0 = \sqrt{2} \bar{q} q + c \left( (r^1 + i r^2) - (s^1 + i s^2) \right), \]  \hspace{1cm} (4.4b)
- \[ 0 = (|q|^2 - |\bar{q}|^2) - \sqrt{2} c \left( - g^2 r^3 - t^3 \right). \]  \hspace{1cm} (4.4c)

In this paper we are interested in the Higgs branch where the scalar fields of the hypermultiplets are non-trivial. Hence, from the equation (4.4a), we can set

- \[ \sigma = 0 = \phi. \]  \hspace{1cm} (4.5)

For later convenience, we express \( r^3 := - g^2 \bar{r}^3 \) for short. Analyzing the equations (4.4b) and (4.4c) simultaneously, we can read a non-trivial solution of the charged scalars \( (q, \bar{q}) \) in such a way that

\[
q = \frac{i}{2^{1/4} \sqrt{|c|}} e^{+i \alpha} \sqrt{R + \frac{c}{|c|} (r^3 - t^3)}, \quad \bar{q} = \frac{i}{2^{1/4} \sqrt{|c|}} e^{-i \alpha} \frac{(r^1 - s^1) + i(r^2 - s^2)}{\sqrt{R + \frac{c}{|c|} (r^3 - t^3)}}.
\]  \hspace{1cm} (4.6)

\(^5\)We comment that this discussion is parallel to that in the two-dimensional GLSM for KK5-branes.
Here $\alpha$ is a gauge parameter of the Abelian gauge symmetry, and the value $R$ is defined as

$$
2\sqrt{2}\bar{q}q + |q|^2 - |\bar{q}|^2)^2 = 2c^2\{(r^3 - s^3)^2 + (r^2 - s^2)^2 + (r^3 - s^3)^2\}
= 2c^2 R^2 .
$$

By using the solution (4.6), we can rewrite the kinetic terms of the charged scalar fields ($q, \bar{q}$) in terms of the kinetic terms of the neutral scalar fields ($r^1, r^2, r^3$) and the gauge fields $A_m$ as follows:

$$
-D_mq^2 - D_m\bar{q}^2 = -\frac{|c|}{2\sqrt{2} R}\left\{ (\partial_m r^1)^2 + (\partial_m r^2)^2 + (\partial_m r^3)^2 \right\}
- \sqrt{2}|c|R \left\{ A_m + \partial_m\alpha + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\Omega_i \partial_m r^i \right\}^2 ,
$$

where $\Omega_i$ in the second line is defined as

$$
\Omega_i \partial_m r^i = \frac{(r^1 - s^1)\partial_m r^2 + (r^2 - s^2)\partial_m r^1}{\sqrt{2} R (R + \frac{c}{\sqrt{2}}(r^3 - s^3))} .
$$

Substituting the above configuration we obtain

$$
\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4e^2} F^m_{\mu\nu} F^{m\mu\nu} - \sqrt{2} c \varepsilon^{mnp} \partial_m (B_n A_p) 
- \left( \frac{1}{2g^2} + \frac{|c|}{2\sqrt{2} R} \right) \left\{ (\partial_m r^1)^2 + (\partial_m r^2)^2 + (\partial_m r^3)^2 \right\}
- \sqrt{2}|c|R \left\{ A_m + \partial_m\alpha + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\Omega_i \partial_m r^i \right\}^2 - \frac{g^2}{2} \left( \partial_m \tilde{r}^4 + \sqrt{2} c A_m \right)^2 
+ \text{(fermionic terms)} .
$$

Now let us consider the low energy limit. Since the gauge coupling constant $e$ is dimensionful, this grows up to infinity in the IR low energy limit.\textsuperscript{6} In this limit the kinetic term of the gauge fields are frozen and they become auxiliary fields. Then it is easy to solve the equation of motion for the gauge fields:

$$
A_m = -\frac{c}{2|c|R H} \left( \partial_m \tilde{\theta} - c \Omega_i \partial_m r^i \right) - \partial_m\alpha - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\Omega_i \partial_m r^i ,
$$

where we introduced the following expressions:

$$
H := \frac{1}{g^2} + \frac{|c|}{\sqrt{2} R} , \quad \tilde{\theta} := \tilde{r}^4 - \sqrt{2} c \alpha .
$$

Substituting this into the Lagrangian (4.10) with $e \to \infty$, we obtain the IR theory as the nonlinear sigma model whose target space is the Taub-NUT space:

$$
\mathcal{L}^{\text{IR}}_{\text{bos.}} = -\frac{H}{2} \left\{ (\partial_m r^1)^2 + (\partial_m r^2)^2 + (\partial_m r^3)^2 \right\} - \frac{1}{2H} \left( \partial_m \tilde{\theta} - c \Omega_i \partial_m r^i \right)^2 
- \sqrt{2} c \varepsilon^{mnp} \partial_m (B_n A_p) .
$$

\textsuperscript{6}Although the FI parameters are also dimensionful, they are protected by the SU(2) R-symmetry and are not changed by virtue of the non-renormalization theorem [39, 40]. Hence we can set them to be finite, as in the literature [41–43].
Note that $\hat{A}_p$ in the total derivative term is a short expression of the solution (4.11). The function $H$ is a harmonic function, and $\Omega_i$ is the KK-vector. They are related via $$(\nabla \times \Omega_i) = \nabla_i H$$ in the three-dimensional space with coordinates $(r^1, r^2, r^3)$. The variable $\hat{\theta}$ represents nothing but the Taub-NUT circle. We are able to interpret this model as the “worldvolume theory of a probe membrane” moving on the KK6-brane in M-theory.

4.3 Isometry breaking by instantons

Now we examine the instantons in the membrane gauge theory. The bosonic sector of the Lagrangian (4.2) is

$$\mathcal{L}_{bos.} = -\frac{1}{e^2} \left\{ \frac{1}{4} F_{mn} F^{mn} + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_m \sigma)^2 + |\partial_m \phi|^2 \right\} - \sqrt{2} c \varepsilon^{mnp} \partial_m (B_n A_p)$$

$$- \frac{1}{2g^2} \left\{ (\partial_m r^1)^2 + (\partial_m r^2)^2 + (\partial_m (g^2 \tilde{r}^3))^2 \right\} - \frac{g^2}{2} (\partial_m \tilde{r}^4 + \sqrt{2} c A_m)^2 - |D_m q|^2 - |D_m \tilde{q}|^2$$

$$- (\sigma^2 + 2|\phi|^2) (\tilde{c}^2 g^2 + |q|^2 - |\tilde{q}|^2) - \epsilon^2 \left| \sqrt{2} \tilde{q} q + c ((r^1 - s^1) + i(r^2 - s^2)) \right|^2$$

$$- \frac{\epsilon^2}{2} \left\{ (|q|^2 - |\tilde{q}|^2) - \sqrt{2} c (r^3 - \tilde{r}^3) \right\}^2. \quad (4.14)$$

Following the discussions by [5, 6, 8], we take the limit $g \to 0$ by which the asymptotic radius of the Taub-NUT circle reduces to zero. Then the fields $r^1, r^2, r^3$ are frozen and they become constants. We assume that they are in the vacuum:

$$r^1 = s^1, \quad r^2 = s^2, \quad r^3 = \zeta. \quad (4.15)$$

Here we take the VEV of $r^3$ as a constant $\zeta$. By the SU(2) rotation, we make the field $\tilde{q}$ be the vacuum configuration $\tilde{q} = 0$. By the same way, we fix $\sigma, \phi$ to their VEVs:

$$\sigma = 0 = \phi. \quad (4.16)$$

In the following, we assume $t^3 = 0$ without loss of generality. Then we find that the truncate Lagrangian is given by

$$\mathcal{L}_t = -\frac{1}{4e^2} F_{mn} F^{mn} - |D_m q|^2 - \frac{\epsilon^2}{2} (|q|^2 - \sqrt{2} c \zeta)^2 - \sqrt{2} c \varepsilon^{mnp} \partial_m (B_n A_p). \quad (4.17)$$

This is almost the three-dimensional Abelian-Higgs model but the topological term is induced from the BF-like term $\varepsilon^{mnp} \partial_m (B_n A_p)$ [37, 44].

By the Wick rotation $x^0 \to ix^3$, we find that the Lagrangian in the Euclidean space is given by

$$\mathcal{L}_E = \frac{1}{4e^2} F_{mn} F^{mn} + |D_m q|^2 + \frac{\epsilon^2}{2} (|q|^2 - \sqrt{2} c \zeta)^2 + i\sqrt{2} c \varepsilon^{mnp} \partial_m (B_n A_p), \quad (4.18)$$

where $m, n = 1, 2, 3$. Since we are looking for the M2-brane probing the KK6-brane and wrapping along the M-circle, one of the three-dimensional worldvolume direction is compactified. We take the $x^3$-direction as the compactified space and all the fields are independent of $x^3$. We further assume the ansatz:

$$A_1, A_2, B_3 \neq 0, \quad A_3 = B_1 = B_2 = 0, \quad (4.19)$$

-15-
and $B_3 = \text{const}$. Then the Euclidean action becomes

$$S_E = \int d^3 x \left[ \frac{1}{2e^2} \left\{ F_{12} \pm e^2 (|q|^2 - \sqrt{2} \, c \, \zeta) \right\}^2 + |D_1 q \pm i D_2 q|^2 - i \sqrt{2} \, c \, B_3 F_{12} \pm \frac{c \zeta}{2\sqrt{2}} F_{12} \right].$$

(4.20)

The Bogomol’nyi bound is saturated if and only if the following equations are satisfied:

$$F_{12} \pm e^2 (|q|^2 - \sqrt{2} \, c \, \zeta) = 0, \quad D_1 q \pm i D_2 q = 0. \quad (4.21)$$

This is nothing but the Abrikosov-Nielsen-Olesen vortex equations. The BPS bound is

$$S_E = 2\pi R_M \left( \pm \frac{c \zeta}{2\sqrt{2}} - i \sqrt{2} \, c \, B_3 \right) \int d^2 x F_{12}. \quad (4.22)$$

Here $2\pi R_M$ is the length of the M-circle. From this expression, we find that the isometry along the VEV of $B_3$ is broken by the non-zero topological number $\frac{1}{2\pi} \int d^2 x F_{12} = n$.

Since the three-dimensional Lorentz symmetry is broken on the vortex (4.21) and the model (4.1) is reduced to the two-dimensional GLSM for the KK5-brane, the instanton calculus is essentially the same with those in [6]. One finds that the instanton induces corrections to the four fermion coupling which are interpreted as corrections to the spacetime metric. The harmonic function in the metric receives the $B_3$ corrections through the factor $e^{-S_E}$ with the bound (4.22). Actually, this vector field $B_m$ is dual to the scalar field $\tilde{r}^4 \sim \tilde{\theta}$ in the chiral superfield $\Gamma$. As we have clarified above, the dimensional reduction unravels that the field $B_3$ is interpreted as the geometric coordinate in the smeared NS5-brane geometry. From the equation (4.22) it is apparent that the BPS vortices break the isometry along the $B_3$ direction. This is the direct analogue of the worldsheet instanton effects [5]. Since this $B_3$ appears in the dual side in (4.22), it should be interpreted as the dual coordinate corrections to the KK6-brane.

Finally, we have a short comment. In order to investigate instanton corrections in a deeper level, it might be interesting to perform the localization of the three-dimensional gauge theory for KK6-brane (4.1), and compare it with the localization of the two-dimensional GLSM for KK5-brane [45, 46] via the double dimensional reduction.

5 Conclusion and discussions

In this paper, we studied the KK6-brane localized in the extended space in M-theory. This analysis is motivated by the T-duality relation between the NS5-brane and the KK5-brane in type IIA string theory. The winding mode corrections to the KK5-brane is recast in the form of the localization in the winding space. We examined the KK6-brane solutions in the truncated $E_{7(7)}$ exceptional field theory. We found that the appropriate coordinate swaps together with the non-trivial scaling transformations on the M5-brane of codimension four results in the localized KK6-brane in the extended space. We found that the localized solution exhibits non-trivial $C$-field components due to the dual coordinate dependence. This is a natural M-theory generalization of the localized KK5-brane in DFT [15] where the non-trivial $B$-field is excited due to the winding mode corrections.

We then discussed the physical origin of the dual coordinate dependence of the localized KK6-brane solution. Although there are no three-cycles in the multi-centered Taub-NUT
geometry, the introduction of the M-circle enables us to define membrane instantons in
eleven dimensions. We also pointed out that even for the single-centered Taub-NUT space,
a configuration analogous to the disk instantons for fundamental strings is possible for mem-
branes. This membrane configuration is expected to induce the dual coordinate dependence
on the KK6-brane geometry. In order to elucidate the membrane instanton corrections, we
next introduce the three-dimensional gauge theory that describe the probe M2-brane.

We showed that the three-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = 4$ Abelian gauge theory is naturally
interpreted as a membrane generalization of the two-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$ GLSM for
the fundamental string. To elucidate this, we performed the dimensional reduction of the
$\mathcal{N} = 4$ theory to two dimensions and find that it gives the GLSM discussed in [6]. In this
process, we found that the vector field in the $\mathcal{N} = 4$ theory plays a key role of the dual
coordinate. In order to find the field configuration that represents the membrane instantons
in the gauge theory, we considered the limit where the asymptotic Taub-NUT circle shrinks
to zero [5, 6, 8]. In this limit, we obtained the truncated gauge model. We then wrote down
the BPS equations for the wrapped membrane and found that they are vortex equations.
We showed that the topological term is given by the BF-like term and this induces the
violation of the isometry along the dual direction.

We focused on the codimension four solutions in our analysis. In this case, the instanton
calculus is essentially the same with the ones in the type IIA theory. The most intrinsic
nature of membrane instantons would come from the localized KK6-brane originating from
the non-smeared M5-brane of codimension five. Although, we have more components of
the C-field and the full analysis gets more involved for the codimension five case, we can
extract the metric of the KK6 from EFT. The result is the one in (2.15) but the harmonic
function given by

$$H = 1 + \frac{h}{(y^2 + Y^2_{uz} + Y^2_{wz})^{2}}. \quad \quad (5.1)$$

For such solution, we expect that membrane instanton effects are captured by a codimension
three BPS configuration in the three-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = 4$ gauge theory. This BPS solution
should break the isometry along the dual direction $Y_{uz}$ in addition to the $Y_{wz}$ direction.

Since EFTs involve many U-duality brane multiplets, there should be the vast of
localized solutions in the extended space. It would be interesting to study such solutions and
discuss physical origins of wrapping corrections by M-theory branes. Regarding on
the three-dimensional theory, it is interesting to study the U-duality transformation of the
membrane gauge theory. Since the vector field $B_m$ is interpreted as the dual coordinate, we
expect that the dual M-theory brane such as the M5-brane geometry would be described
by the field $B_m$. This picture would provide a notable understanding of the dual geometry.
We leave these issues for future works.

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A  Localized KK6-brane solution

In this appendix, we exhibit the precise form of the localized KK6-brane solution in $E_7(7)$ EFT. After the embedding of (2.20) into (2.22) and performing the swap of the coordinates (2.16), we obtain the explicit form of the generalized metric:

$$\begin{align*}
&\text{In this appendix, we exhibit the precise form of the localized KK6-brane solution in } E_7(7) \text{ EFT. After the embedding of (2.20) into (2.22) and performing the swap of the coordinates (2.16), we obtain the explicit form of the generalized metric:} \\
&\text{We have the precise form of the localized KK6-brane solution in } E_7(7) \text{ EFT. After the embedding of (2.20) into (2.22) and performing the swap of the coordinates (2.16), we obtain the explicit form of the generalized metric:}
\end{align*}$$
\[ + 2C_{\mu \nu \rho} g^{\alpha \beta} dZ^\alpha dW^\mu dW^\rho \]

We work in the Mathematica to calculate this result. From the \( g^{-1} g^\mu \nu dW^\mu dW^\nu \) sector, we determine the scale factor \( e^{2 \Phi_{\mu}} = 1 \) and the metric as

\[ ds^2 = du^2 + dv^2 + dw^2 + Hdg^2 + H^{-1}(dz + C_{12u} dy^i)^2. \]

From the \( g^{-1} C_{\mu \nu \rho} g^{\alpha \beta} dZ^\alpha dW^\mu dW^\rho \) sector, we determined the C-field as

\[ C = \frac{1}{2!} C_{ijw} dy^i \wedge dy^j \wedge dw. \]
They are used to determine the scaling factors in the other sectors. By substituting (A.2) and (A.3) into the other parts in the generalized metric (2.22) and comparing it with (A.1), we determine all the scaling factors (2.24) consistently.

B Superfields in (2 + 1) dimensions

In this appendix we briefly discuss various tools and expansion of superfields in (2 + 1) dimensions. Details of the exhibition might be a bit different from literature, though their physical meaning is the same, of course.

B.1 Preliminary

Since Lorentz group in (2 + 1)-dimensional spacetime is SO(2, 1) ≃ SL(2, R), the representation 2 is equal to its conjugate ̄2. Then spinors in this spacetime obey a bit different contraction rule from that in (3 + 1) dimensions. That is, we do not have to distinguish dotted spinor indices and undotted ones, for instance, ψα = ̄ψα where α = 1, 2. Therefore we define the contraction rule in (2 + 1) dimensions as follows:

\[ \theta \psi := \theta^\alpha \psi_\alpha, \quad \overline{\theta \psi} := \overline{\psi}^\alpha \theta_\alpha = -\theta_\alpha \overline{\psi}^\alpha, \]  

(B.1)

where we raise and lower the spinor index α in terms of ε_{αβ} and ε^αβ in the same way as [47]: ψα = ε_{αβ}ψβ\ and \ ψ^\alpha = ε^{αβ}ψ_β. Here the explicit form of ε_{αβ} is ε_{12} = −1 = −ε_{21} and ε^12 = +1 = −ε^21. Next, we introduce the gamma matrices in (2 + 1) dimensions. It is useful to exhibit the following explicit expression:

\[ (\gamma^m)^{αβ} = + (\gamma^m)βα = \{(-\mathbb{1})_{αβ}, (τ_2)_{αβ}, (τ_3)_{αβ}\} \quad \text{for} \ m = 0, 1, 2, \]  

(B.2)

where τ_2 and τ_3 are the Pauli matrices.\footnote{The spinor indices are raised and lowered in such a way that \( (\gamma^m)^{αβ} = \varepsilon^αγ^m(γ^m)_βα \), \( (\gamma^m)_αβ = \varepsilon^βγ^m(γ^m)_αγ \), \ and \( (\gamma^m)_α^β = \varepsilon^αγ^m(γ^m)_γ^β \).}

They are used to determine all the scaling factors (2.24) consistently.

Then the integrals are given in the following forms:

\[ \int d^2θ (θθ) = +1, \quad \int d^2θ (θθ) = −1, \quad \int d^4θ (θθθθ) = −1. \]  

(B.5b)
B.2 Superfields

In the main text, we use various superfields to construct a gauge theory. It is worth mentioning their expansion in terms of ordinary fields.

**Chiral superfields.** Chiral superfields \( \Phi, Q, \tilde{Q}, \Psi \) and \( \Gamma \) in the main text are, as in \((3 + 1)\) dimensions, defined as \( 0 = \overline{D}_\alpha \Phi \), and so forth. Their expansions are given as

\[
\Phi = \phi + i \sqrt{2} (\bar{\theta} \tilde{\lambda}) + i (\theta \theta) F \phi + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\theta \gamma^m \bar{\theta}) (\bar{\theta} \gamma^m \partial_m \tilde{\lambda}) - \frac{1}{4} (\theta \theta \Theta \bar{\theta} \bar{\theta}) \partial_m^2 \phi, \tag{B.6a}
\]

\[
Q = q + i \sqrt{2} (\theta \psi) + i (\theta \theta) F + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\theta \gamma^m \bar{\theta}) (\bar{\theta} \gamma^m \partial_m \psi) - \frac{1}{4} (\theta \theta \Theta \bar{\theta} \bar{\theta}) \partial_m^2 q, \tag{B.6b}
\]

\[
\tilde{Q} = \tilde{q} + i \sqrt{2} (\bar{\theta} \bar{\psi}) + i (\theta \theta) \tilde{F} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\theta \gamma^m \bar{\theta}) (\bar{\theta} \gamma^m \partial_m \tilde{\psi}) - \frac{1}{4} (\theta \theta \Theta \bar{\theta} \bar{\theta}) \partial_m^2 \tilde{q}, \tag{B.6c}
\]

\[
\Psi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (r^1 + i r^2) + i \sqrt{2} (\theta \chi) + i (\theta \theta) G \phi + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\theta \gamma^m \bar{\theta}) \partial_m (r^1 + i r^2) \tag{B.6d}
\]

\[
\Gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (r^3 + i r^4) + i \sqrt{2} (\theta \chi) + i (\theta \theta) G \natural + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\theta \gamma^m \bar{\theta}) \partial_m (r^3 + i r^4). \tag{B.6e}
\]

**Vector superfield in the Wess-Zumino gauge.** A vector superfield \( V \) also appears in \((3 + 1)\) dimensions. This is defined by the reality condition \( V^\dagger = V \). Removing many redundant degrees of freedom via the Wess-Zumino gauge fixing, we describe \( V_{\text{WZ}} \) as

\[
V_{\text{WZ}} = -i (\theta \bar{\theta}) \sigma - (\theta \gamma^m \bar{\theta}) A_m - i (\theta \theta) (\bar{\theta} \lambda) + i (\bar{\theta} \theta) (\bar{\gamma} \lambda) - \frac{1}{2} (\theta \theta \Theta \bar{\theta} \bar{\theta}) D. \tag{B.7}
\]

**Real linear superfield for gauge field strength.** A real linear superfield \( \Sigma = \Sigma^\dagger \) is generically defined as \( 0 = \overline{D}^a D_a \Sigma = D^a D_a \Sigma \). If we set a real linear superfield to \( \Sigma := + \frac{1}{2} \overline{D}^a D_a V_{\text{WZ}} \), this contains an (Abelian) gauge field strength \( F_{mn} = \partial_m A_n - \partial_n A_m \) in such a way that\(^8\)

\[
\Sigma = \sigma - (\theta \bar{\lambda}) + i (\bar{\theta} \lambda) + i \frac{1}{2} (\theta \gamma^m \bar{\theta}) \varepsilon^{mnp} F_{mn} + \frac{1}{2} (\theta \theta) (\bar{\gamma} \gamma^m \partial_m \lambda) - \frac{1}{2} (\theta \theta) (\bar{\gamma} \gamma^m \partial_m \lambda) + \frac{1}{4} (\theta \theta \Theta \bar{\theta} \bar{\theta}) \partial_m^2 \sigma. \tag{B.8}
\]

where \( \varepsilon^{mnp} \) is the totally antisymmetric symbol in \((2 + 1)\) dimensions whose normalization is \( \varepsilon^{012} = +1 \).

\(^8\)This is analogous to a spinorial superfield \( W_a = -\frac{1}{4} \overline{D}^a D_a V \) in [47].
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