Mass gaps and braneworlds

K S Stelle

The Blackett Laboratory, Imperial College London Prince Consort Road London SW7 2AZ, United Kingdom

E-mail: k.stelle@imperial.ac.uk

Received 13 February 2020, revised 24 March 2020
Accepted for publication 26 March 2020
Published 29 April 2020

Abstract

Remembering the foundational contributions of Peter Freund to supergravity, and especially to the problems of dimensional compactification, reduction is considered with a non-compact space transverse to the lower dimensional theory. The known problem of a continuum of Kaluza–Klein states is avoided here by the occurrence of a mass gap between a single normalizable zero-eigenvalue transverse wavefunction and the edge of the transverse state continuum. This style of reduction does not yield a formally consistent truncation to the lower dimensional theory, so developing the lower-dimensional effective theory requires integrating out the Kaluza–Klein states lying above the mass gap.

Keywords: mass gap, effective theory, dimensional reduction, supergravity

(Some figures may appear in colour only in the online journal)

1. Memories of Peter Freund

It is with great fondness that I think back to all the various interactions that I had with Peter Freund throughout my career. Of course, there are the many shared interests in physics, especially in supersymmetry, nonabelian gauge theories of all sorts, dimensional reduction and string theory. But there are also the episodes, and especially the story telling about episodes, at which Peter was a world master. One could not say that Peter was generally softly spoken.

*In memory of Peter Freund.

Original content from this work may be used under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 licence. Any further distribution of this work must maintain attribution to the author(s) and the title of the work, journal citation and DOI.
One of my earliest memories of Peter was at an Institute for Theoretical Physics workshop at the University of California at Santa Barbara back in 1986. Peter was giving a seminar, and, as usual, electronic amplification was hardly needed for him. However, one of our senior colleagues (who shall remain nameless) was sitting in the front row and was actually managing to sleep during Peter’s seminar. This was in the original UCSB Institute, on the top floor of Ellison Hall. Achieving sleep during one of Peter’s seminars provoked a certain amount of amused commentary among the audience. However, at one point during the seminar a characteristically Californian event took place: an earthquake! And being at the top of the building, the motion was clearly felt. What did the audience do—run out? No: the main reaction was to lean forward and see if even an earthquake was not enough to disturb a slumberer able to sleep during one of Peter’s forcefully presented seminars.

2. Peter, dimensional reduction and other enduring topics

The fact that supergravity and superstring theories originate most naturally in higher space-time dimensions—11 for maximal supergravity and 10 for superstring theories—gave rise to intensive research on reduction schemes starting in the early 1980s. A key achievement was made in the 1980 paper by Peter Freund and Mark Rubin on the reduction via an $S^7$ transverse geometry from $D = 11$ down to $D = 4$ spacetime dimensions [1]. In this highly influential paper, the ‘ground state’ maximally symmetric geometry in $D = 4$ proved to be an anti de Sitter space. The reduction mechanism involved turning on flux for the 4-form antisymmetric-tensor field strength of the $D = 11$ theory, as well as a warped-product structure for the overall higher dimensional spacetime. All of these features have remained prominent in the subsequent development of string and supergravity theories: the key roles of warped products, anti de Sitter vacua and the importance of flux vacua.

In related work, Peter explored cosmological dimensional reduction schemes in which the effective dimensionality of spacetime is not maximally symmetric but time dependent [2]. Then, in a paper together with Oh [3], Peter attacked the thorny problem of reduction from $D = 10, N = 1$ supergravity plus Yang–Mills down to $D = 4$, for which a ‘no-go’ theorem had been claimed [4]. The metric of the $D = 4$ spacetime was again not maximally symmetric. At that time, before recognition of the rôle that could be played by Calabi–Yau reduction spaces, the focus was mainly on sphere and toroidal reductions. All of Peter’s 1980s contributions have continued to be greatly influential up to the present in the continuing effort to understand the cosmological implications of supergravity and superstring theories.

Of course, there is much more to learn from Peter’s large volume of original research. There is in particular the importance of topology in quantum gravity and the Higgs mechanism [5, 6]—a topic whose central importance is now widely recognized. Another of Peter’s topics which intertwines with much of current research was the characterization of gauge fields as Nambu–Goldstone fields for the nonlinear realization of a higher symmetry [7].

3. The Universe as a membrane

In contrast to dimensional reduction schemes on compact spaces, another possibility might be that a lower dimensional spacetime is embedded into a higher dimensional spacetime with a noncompact transverse space. The idea of formulating the cosmology of our Universe on a brane embedded in a higher-dimensional spacetime dates back, at least, to Rubakov and Shaposhnikov [8]. Attempts in a supergravity context to achieve a localization of gravity on a brane embedded in an infinite transverse space were made by Randall and Sundrum [9] and by
Karch and Randall [10] using patched-together sections of AdS$_5$ space with a delta-function source at the joining surface. This produced a ‘volcano potential’ for the effective Schrödinger problem in the direction transverse to the brane, giving rise to a bound state concentrating gravity in the 4D directions (see Figure 1).

Attempting to embed such models into a full supergravity/string-theory context proved to be problematic, however. Splicing together sections of AdS$_5$ is clearly an artificial construction that does not make use of the natural D-brane or NS-brane objects of string or supergravity theory.

These difficulties were studied more generally by Csaki et al [12] and then by Bachas and Estes [11], who traced the difficulty in obtaining localization within a string or supergravity context to the behavior of the warp factor for the 4D subspace. In the Karch–Randall spliced model, one obtains a peak in the warp factor at the junction (see figure 2).

However, in a string or supergravity context, warp factors tend to join smoothly, even in a ‘Janus’ type construction [11]. Here’s why Bachas and Estes considered that one could not have a natural localization of gravity on a brane with an infinite transverse space. Consider fluctuations away from a smooth $D$-dim background

$$
\tilde{\eta}^2 = e^{2A(z)} \left( \tilde{\eta}_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}(x)\xi(z) \right) dx^\mu dx^\nu + \tilde{g}_{ab}(z)dz^a dz^b, \tag{1}
$$
where $\xi(z)$ is the transverse wave function. Such a transverse wave function with eigenvalue $\lambda$ needs to satisfy the transverse wave equation

$$\frac{e^{-2A}}{\sqrt{g}} \partial_a \left( \sqrt{g} e^{4A} \hat{g}^{ab} \partial_b \right) \xi = -\lambda \xi. \quad (2)$$

The norm of $\xi(z)$ is then given by

$$\lambda \|\xi\|^2 = -\int d^{D-4}z \xi \left( \partial_a \sqrt{g} e^{4A} \hat{g}^{ab} \partial_b \xi \right). \quad (3)$$

If one assumes that one may integrate by parts without producing a surface term, then one would have $\lambda \|\xi\|^2 \to \int d^{D-4}z \sqrt{g} e^{4A} |\partial\xi|^2$. Consequently, if one is looking for a transverse wavefunction $\xi$ with $\lambda = 0$ as needed for massless 4D gravity, one would need to have $\partial_a \xi = 0$ yielding $\xi = \text{constant}$, which is not normalizable in an infinite transverse space.

The resolution of this problem requires very specific self-adjointness features of the transverse wavefunction problem, to which we shall return.

4. Another approach: Salam–Sezgin theory and its embedding

Abdus Salam and Ergin Sezgin constructed in 1984 a version of 6D minimal [chiral, i.e. (1,0)] supergravity coupled to a 6D 2-form tensor multiplet and a 6D super-Maxwell multiplet which gauges the $U(1)$ R-symmetry of the theory [13]. This Einstein-tensor-Maxwell system has the bosonic Lagrangian

$$L_{SS} = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{R} - \frac{1}{4g^2} e^\sigma F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{6} e^{-2\sigma} G_{\mu\nu\rho}G^{\mu\nu\rho} - \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \sigma \partial^\mu \sigma - g^2 e^{-\sigma}$$

$$G_{\mu\nu\rho} = 3\partial_{[\mu} B_{\nu\rho]} + 3F_{[\mu\nu} A_{\rho]}.$$

(4)

Note the positive potential term for the scalar field $\sigma$. This is a key feature of all R-symmetry gauged models generalizing the Salam–Sezgin model, leading to models with noncompact symmetries. For example, upon coupling to yet more vector multiplets, the sigma-model target space can have a structure $SO(p, q)/(SO(p) \times SO(q))$.

The Salam–Sezgin theory does not admit a maximally symmetric 6D solution, but it does admit a (Minkowski)$_4 \times S^2$ solution with the flux for a $U(1)$ monopole turned on in the $S^2$ directions

$$ds^2 = \eta_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu + a^2(d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2)$$

$$A_m dy^m = (n/2g)(\cos \theta = 1) d\phi$$

$$A_\mu = \sigma = \sigma_0 = \text{const} \quad B_{\mu\nu} = 0$$

$$g^2 = \frac{e^{\sigma_0}}{2a^2}, \quad n = \pm 1.$$ \quad (5)

Requiring the flux quantum number to be $n = \pm 1$ amounts to constructing the Hopf fibration of $S^3$.

A way to obtain the Salam–Sezgin theory from M theory was given by Cvetic et al [14]. This employed a reduction from 10D type IIA supergravity on the space $\mathcal{H}^{(2,2)}$, or, equivalently, from 11D supergravity on $S^1 \times \mathcal{H}^{(2,2)}$. The $\mathcal{H}^{(2,2)}$ space is a cohomogeneity-one 3D hyperbolic space which can be obtained by embedding into $R^4$ via the condition $\mu_1^2 + \mu_2^2 - \mu_3^2 - \mu_4^2 = 1$. 

4
This embedding condition is $SO(2, 2)$ invariant, but the embedding $\mathbb{R}^4$ space just has $SO(4)$ symmetry, so the linearly realized isometries of this space are just $SO(2, 2) \cap SO(4) = SO(2) \times SO(2)$. The cohomogeneity-one $H^{(2, 2)}$ metric can be written

$$
\text{d}s_7^2 = \cosh 2\rho \text{d}\rho^2 + \cosh^2 \rho \text{d}x^2 + \sinh^2 \rho \text{d}y^2.
$$

(6)

Since $H^{(2, 2)}$ admits a natural $SO(2, 2)$ group action, the resulting 7D supergravity theory has maximal (32 supercharge) supersymmetry and a gauged $SO(2, 2)$ symmetry, linearly realized on $SO(2) \times SO(2)$. Note how this fits neatly into the general scheme of extended Salam–Sezgin gauged models.

The reduced $D = 7$ bosonic Lagrangian is given by [14]

$$
\mathcal{L}_7 = \mathcal{R} \times 1 - \frac{5}{16} \Phi^{-2} \ast \ast \Phi \wedge \ast \Phi - p_{\alpha\beta} \wedge p^{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{2} \Phi^{-1} \ast H(3) \wedge H(3)
$$

$$
- \frac{1}{2} \Phi^{-1/2} \pi_A^\alpha \pi_B^\beta \pi_C^\alpha \pi_D^\beta \ast F_{AB} \wedge F_{CD} - \frac{1}{g} \cosh \Phi \wedge \ast \Phi,
$$

(7)

where $\pi^\alpha_A (A = 1, \ldots, 4)$ are scalar vielbeins describing 9 = 16 − 1 (det) − 6 (gauge) degrees of freedom.

- The global ‘composite’ group structure is revealed in the covariant derivative

$$
p_{\alpha\beta} = \pi^{-1} \alpha A [\delta_{A1} B + gA_{1A1} B] \pi_B^\gamma \delta_{\gamma\gamma},
$$

whose $\alpha, \beta$ indices are always raised and lowered with $\delta_{\alpha\beta}$, showing that there are no scalar ghosts.

- The local gauge symmetry (gauge field $A_{11\alpha B}$) acts on the $A, B$ indices, preserving a metric $\eta_{AB}$. If $\eta_{AB} = \text{diag}(++)$, then one has the standard local $SO(4)$ symmetry [15].

- If $\eta_{AB} = \text{diag}(++--)$, then one has a local $SO(2, 2)$ symmetry.

- The scalar field potential is given by

$$
V = \frac{1}{2} g^2 \Phi^{1/2} (2M_{\alpha\beta} M_{\alpha\beta} - (M_{\alpha\alpha})^2)
$$

built from the unimodular matrix

$$
M_{\alpha\beta} = \pi^{-1} \alpha A \pi^{-1} \beta B \eta_{AB}
$$

The $H^{(2, 2)}$ reduced theory in 7D can be further truncated to minimal (16 supercharge) 7D supersymmetry, and then yet further reduced on $S^1/Z_2$ to obtain precisely the (1, 0) 6D Salam–Sezgin gauged $U(1)$ supergravity theory. This naturally admits the (Minkowski)$_4 \times S^2$ Salam–Sezgin ‘ground state’ solution. Moreover, the result of this chain of reductions from 11D or 10D is a mathematically consistent truncation: every solution of the 6D Salam–Sezgin theory can be lifted to an exact solution in 10D type IIA or 11D supergravity. Such a consistent truncation needs to be made in the standard Kaluza–Klein fashion, however, supposing all dependence on the $H^{(2, 2)}$ reduction space coordinates.

At the quantum level, the original Salam–Sezgin theory has a $U(1)$ anomaly. Instead of dimensionally reducing the 7D precursor theory on $S^4$, however, the 7th dimension can be $S^1/Z_2$ compactified in a Hořava–Witten construction, producing naturally a chiral generalization of the Salam–Sezgin theory in six dimensions. Consideration of anomaly inflow together with coupling of appropriate boundary hypermultiplets and tensor multiplets then allows the construction of anomaly-free generalizations of the Salam–Sezgin model [16].
5. The Kaluza–Klein spectrum

Reduction on the non-compact $H^{(2,2)}$ space from ten to seven dimensions, despite its mathematical consistency, does not provide a full physical basis for compactification to 4D. The chief problem is that the truncated Kaluza–Klein modes form a continuum instead of a discrete set with mass gaps. Moreover, the wavefunction of ‘reduced’ 4D states when viewed from 10D or 11D in a standard Kaluza–Klein reduction includes a non-normalizable factor owing to the infinite $H^{(2,2)}$ directions. Accordingly, the higher-dimensional supergravity theory does not naturally localize gravity in the lower-dimensional subspace when handled by ordinary Kaluza–Klein methods.

The $D = 10$ lift of the Salam–Sezgin ‘vacuum’ solution yields the metric

$$ds_{10}^2 = (\cosh 2\rho)^{1/4} \left[ e^{-\frac{4}{5}\delta} \, d\bar{s}_{6}^2 + e^{\frac{4}{5}\delta} \, dy^2 + \frac{1}{2} e^{\frac{4}{5}\delta} \right] \times \left[ d\rho^2 + \frac{1}{4} \left( d\psi + \text{sech} \, 2(\rho - 2\bar{g}\bar{A}) \right)^2 + \frac{1}{4} \left( \tanh 2\rho \right)^2 (d\chi - 2\bar{g}\bar{A})^2 \right]$$

$$\tilde{A}_{(1)} = -\frac{1}{2\bar{g}} \cos \theta d\varphi$$

in which the $d\bar{s}_{6}^2$ metric has Minkowski $\times S^3$ structure

$$d\bar{s}_{6}^2 = dx^{\mu}dx^{\nu}\eta_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{8\bar{g}^2} (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\varphi^2).$$

Instead of suppressing dependence on all of the reduction coordinates, we now adopt a different procedure in developing the lower dimensional effective theory. The inclusion of gravitational fluctuations about the above background may be accomplished by replacing

$$\eta_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}(x,z),$$

where the $z^\mu$ are reduction-space coordinates transverse to the 4D coordinates $x^\mu$.

6. Bound states and mass gaps

An approach to obtaining the localization of gravity on the 4D subspace is to look for a normalizable transverse-space wavefunction $\xi(z)$ for $h_{\mu\nu}(x,z) = h_{\mu\nu}(x)\xi(z)$ with a mass gap before the onset of the continuous massive Kaluza–Klein spectrum. This could be viewed as analogous to an effective field theory for electrons confined to a metal by a nonzero work function.

General study of the fluctuation spectra about brane solutions shows that the mass spectrum of spin-two fluctuations about a brane background is given by the spectrum of the scalar Laplacian in the transverse embedding space of the brane [11, 12].

---

1This development was made in collaboration with Chris Pope and Ben Crampton [17].
\[ \Box_{(10)} F = \frac{1}{\sqrt{-\det g_{(10)}}} \partial_M \left( \sqrt{-\det g_{(10)}} g^{MN}_{(10)} \partial_N F \right) \]

\[ = H_{SS}^2 \left( \Box_{(4)} + g^2 \Delta_{\phi,\psi,\chi} + g^2 \Delta_{KK} \right) \]

warp factor: \[ H_{SS} = \text{sech}^2 \rho; \] \[ \Delta_{KK} = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \rho^2} + \frac{2}{\tanh(2\rho)} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho}. \]

The \( z^\mu \) directions \( \theta, \phi, y, \psi, \chi \) are all compact, and for them one can employ ordinary Kaluza–Klein reduction methods, truncating to the invariant sector for these coordinates, but retaining dependence on the single noncompact coordinate \( \rho \).

To handle the noncompact direction \( \rho \), one needs to expand all fields in eigenmodes of \( \Delta_{KK} \):

\[ \phi(x^\mu, \rho) = \sum_i \phi_{\lambda i}(x^\mu) \xi_{\lambda i}(\rho) + \int_{\Lambda} d\lambda \phi_{\lambda}(x^\mu) \xi_{\lambda}(\rho), \]

where the \( \phi_{\lambda i} \) are discrete eigenmodes and the \( \phi_{\lambda} \) are the continuous Kaluza–Klein eigenmodes. Their eigenvalues give the Kaluza–Klein masses in 4D from \( \Box_{(10)} \phi_{\lambda} = 0 \) using \( \Delta_{\phi,\psi,\chi}(\phi_{\lambda}) = 0 \) (with \( g = \sqrt{2g} \) now)

\[ \Delta_{KK} \xi_{\lambda} = -\lambda \xi_{\lambda} \]

\[ \Box_{(4)} \phi_{\lambda} = (g^2 \lambda) \phi_{\lambda}. \]

One can rewrite the \( \Delta_{KK} \) eigenvalue problem as a Schrödinger equation by making the substitution

\[ \Psi_{\lambda}(\rho) = \sqrt{\sinh(2\rho)} \xi_{\lambda}(\rho), \]

after which the eigenfunction equation takes the Schrödinger equation form

\[ -\frac{d^2 \Psi_{\lambda}}{d \rho^2} + V(\rho) \Psi_{\lambda} = \lambda \Psi_{\lambda} \]

where the potential is

\[ V(\rho) = 2 - \frac{1}{\tanh^2(2\rho)}. \]

The Salam–Sezgin Schrödinger equation potential \( V(\rho) \) asymptotes to the value 1 for large \( \rho \). In this limit, the Schrödinger equation becomes

\[ \frac{d^2 \Psi_{\lambda}}{d \rho^2} + 4 e^{-4\rho} \Psi_{\lambda} + (\lambda - 1) \Psi_{\lambda} = 0, \]

giving scattering-state solutions for \( \lambda > 1 \):

\[ \Psi_{\lambda}(\rho) \sim \left( A_{\lambda} e^{\sqrt{\lambda - 1} \rho} + B_{\lambda} e^{-\sqrt{\lambda - 1} \rho} \right) \text{ for large } \rho, \]

while for \( \lambda < 1 \) one can have \( L^2 \) normalizable bound states. Recalling the \( \rho \) dependence of the measure \( \sqrt{g_{(10)}} \sim (\cosh(2\rho))^{1/2} \sinh(2\rho) \), one finds for large \( \rho \)

\[ \int_{\rho_1 > 1} |\Psi_{\lambda}(\rho)|^2 d\rho < \infty \Rightarrow \Psi_{\lambda} \sim B_{\lambda} e^{-\sqrt{\lambda - 1} \rho} \text{ for } \lambda < 1, \]
so for $\lambda < 1$ one has candidates for bound states.

### 7. Puzzles of the Schrödinger problem and the zero-mode bound state

The limit as $\rho \to 0$ of the potential $V(\rho) = 2 - 1/tanh^2(2\rho)$ is just $V(\rho) = -1/(4\rho^2)$. The associated Schrödinger problem has a long history as one of the most puzzling cases in one-dimensional quantum mechanics. It has been studied and commented upon over the decades by Von Neumann; Pauli; Case; Landau & Lifshitz; de Alfaro, Fubini & Furlan; and many others.

A key feature of this 1D problem is its $SO(1, 2)$ conformal invariance. This symmetry has the consequence that, at the classical level, there is no way to form a definite scale for the transverse Laplacian eigenvalue of an $L^2$ normalizable ground state. (Except for the value zero, which is what will happen, as we shall see.) Discussion of the corresponding quantum theory requires a regularization that breaks this 1D conformal symmetry and gives rise to the choice of a self-adjoint extension for the domain of the Laplacian in order to determine the ground state.

The $-\frac{1}{4}$ coefficient is key to the peculiarity of this Schrödinger problem: for coefficients greater than $-\frac{1}{4}$, there is no $L^2$ normalizable ground state, while for coefficients less than $-\frac{1}{4}$, an infinity of $L^2$ normalizable discrete bound states appear. For the precise coefficient $-\frac{1}{4}$, a regularized treatment shows the existence of a single $L^2$ normalizable bound state separated by a mass gap and lying below the continuum of scattering states [18]. The precise eigenvalue of this ground state, however, is not fixed by normalizability considerations and hence remains, so far, a free parameter of the quantum theory.

Although the full $V(\rho) = 2 - 1/tanh^2(2\rho)$ potential breaks the 1D conformal invariance away from $\rho = 0$, it nonetheless shares with the $V = -1/(4\rho^2)$ problem the indeterminacy of the ground-state eigenvalue. The Schrödinger potential $V(\rho) = 2 - coth^2(2\rho)$ diverges as $\rho \to 0$; this is a regular singular point of the Schrödinger equation. Near $\rho = 0$, solutions have a structure given by a Frobenius expansion

$$\Psi_\lambda \sim \sqrt{\rho}(C_\lambda + D_\lambda \log \rho). \quad (20)$$

This behavior at the origin does not affect $L^2$ normalizability, but it does indicate that we have a family of candidate bound states characterized by $\theta = \arctan(C_\lambda/D_\lambda)$. Indeed, numerical study shows that there is a $1 \leftrightarrow 1$ relationship between $\theta$ and the eigenvalue $\lambda$. Moreover, the behavior of a candidate wavefunction $\xi_\lambda$ is logarithmic as $\rho \to 0$, in contrast to the non-singular character of the underlying Salam–Sezgin spacetime.

This 1D quantum mechanical system with the $V(\rho) = 2 - coth^2(2\rho)$ potential belongs to a special class of Pöschl–Teller integrable systems. Neither normalizability nor self-adjointness are by themselves sufficient to completely determine the transverse wavefunction for the reduced effective theory, i.e. the value of the parameter $\theta$. A key feature of such systems, however, is 1D supersymmetry and requiring that this be unbroken by the transverse wavefunction $\Psi_\lambda$ selects the value $\lambda = 0$.

The self-adjointness condition requires selection of just one value of $\theta = \arctan(D_{\lambda}/C_{\lambda})$. The structure of general candidate $\Psi_\lambda$ eigenfunctions cannot be given in terms of standard functions, but for $\lambda = 0$, the Schrödinger equation can be solved exactly. The normalized result, corresponding to $\theta = 0$, (see figure 3), is

$$\Psi_\rho(\rho) = \sqrt{\sinh(2\rho)}\xi_0(\rho) = \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{\pi} \sqrt{\sinh(2\rho)} \log(\tanh \rho). \quad (21)$$
Justifying the singularity of the bound state as \( \rho \to 0 \) requires introduction of some other element into the solution. It turns out that what can be included nicely is an NS-5 brane. The asymptotic structure of the Salam–Sezgin background as \( \rho \to 0 \) limits to the horizon structure of an NS-5 brane. This also allows for the inclusion of an additional NS-5 brane source as \( \rho \to 0 \). After such an inclusion, the zero-mode transverse wavefunction \( \xi_0 \) remains unchanged. Moreover, inclusion of such an additional NS-5 brane does not alter the 8 unbroken space-time supersymmetries possessed by the Salam–Sezgin background. The NS-5 modified \( D = 10 \) supergravity solution can still be given explicitly for the metric, dilaton and 2-form gauge field [17]:

\[
d\hat{s}^2_{10} = H^{-\frac{1}{4}}(dx^\mu dx_\mu + dy^2 + \frac{1}{4g^2} [d\psi + \text{sech}^2 \rho \cos \theta \, d\phi])^2) + H^\frac{3}{4} \, ds^2
\]

where now

\[
H = c_1 + c_2 \log \tanh \rho + \text{sech} \, 2\rho
\]

where \( c_1 \) and \( c_2 \) are integration constants (see figure 4).

8. Braneworld effective gravity

The effective action for 4D gravity reduced on the background Salam–Sezgin solution is obtained by letting the higher dimensional metric take the form

\[
d\hat{s}^2 = e^{2A(z)}(\eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}(x)\xi_0(\rho))dx^\mu dx^\nu + \hat{g}_{ab}(z)dz^a dz^b
\]

where the warp factor \( A(z) \) and the transverse metric \( \hat{g}_{ab}(z) \) are given by the Salam–Sezgin background.

Starting from the 10D Einstein gravitational action

\[
I_{10} = \frac{1}{16\pi G_{10}} \int d^{10}x \sqrt{\hat{g}} R(\hat{g})
\]
and making the reduction to 4D in accordance with the previous discussion, one obtains at quadratic order in $h_{\mu\nu}$ the linearized 4D Einstein (i.e. massless Fierz–Pauli) action with a prefactor $\nu_0^{-2}$

$$I_{\text{lin} 4} = \frac{1}{\nu_0^2} \int d^4x \left( -\frac{1}{2} \partial_\sigma h_{\mu\nu} \partial^\sigma h^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} \partial_\sigma h^{\mu} \partial^\sigma h_{\mu} + \partial^\sigma h_{\mu} \partial^\tau h_{\mu} + h_{\mu} \partial^\sigma \partial^\tau h_{\mu} \right).$$

(25)

The normalizing factor $\nu_0 = \left( \frac{16\pi G_{10}}{x_0^2 I_2} \right)^{1/2}$ involves the first of a series of integrals involving products of the transverse wavefunction $\xi_0$. For $\nu_0$ one needs

$$I_2 = \int_0^\infty d\rho \sinh^2 \rho \xi_0^2 = \frac{\pi^2}{12}. \tag{26}$$

The ability to explicitly evaluate such integrals of products of transverse wave functions is directly related to the integrable-model Pöschl–Teller structure of the transverse wavefunction Schrödinger equation with $V(\rho) = 2 - \coth^2(2\rho)$. This is reminiscent of the way in which analogous integrals for the hydrogen atom can be evaluated using the integrable structure following from its $SO(4)$ symmetry [19].

In order to obtain the effective 4D Newton constant, one first needs to rescale $h_{\mu\nu} = \nu_0 \tilde{h}_{\mu\nu}$ in order to obtain a canonically-normalized kinetic term for $\tilde{h}_{\mu\nu}$. Then the leading effective 4D coupling $\kappa_4 = \sqrt{32\pi G_4}$ for gravitational self-interactions is obtained from the coefficient in front of the trilinear terms in $\tilde{h}_{\mu\nu}$ in the 4D effective action. These involve the integral

$$I_3 = \int_0^\infty d\rho \sinh^3 \rho \xi_0^3 = -\frac{3\zeta(3)}{4}; \tag{27}$$

where $\zeta(3) = \frac{\pi^3}{12}$.
accordingly, the 4D Newton constant is given by

\[ G_4 = \frac{486 \zeta(3)^2 G_{10g}^5}{\pi^8 E_y} \]  

(28)

with corresponding 4D expansion coupling constant

\[ \kappa_4 = 72 \sqrt{3} \zeta(3) \left( \frac{G_{10g}^5}{\pi E_y} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \]  

(29)

Note that the convergence of the \( I_2 \) and \( I_3 \) integrals in the evaluation of \( G_4 \) is ensured by the presence of the \( \sinh 2\rho \) factor as \( \rho \rightarrow 0 \) and by the asymptotic falloff of \( \xi_0(\rho) \) as \( \rho \rightarrow \infty \).

By contrast, in a standard Kaluza–Klein reduction down to 4D, the transverse wavefunction would just be \( \xi = \text{const} \), causing the \( I_2 \) integral to diverge. This would, however, give rise to a vanishing 4D Newton constant. The problem of a vanishing Newton constant after such a standard reduction on a noncompact space was pointed out early on by Hull and Warner [20].

As mentioned above, the standard \( \xi_0 = \text{constant} \) Kaluza–Klein reduction in this case yields a formally consistent truncation [14], but the price one pays for this with an infinite transverse space is to have \( G_{4 \xi_0}^\text{const} = 0 \).

The reduction with a normalizable transverse wavefunction \( \xi_\lambda(\rho) \) yields an acceptably finite \( G_4 \), but at the price that the reduction does not produce a formally consistent truncation. This can be thought of as a feature rather than a bug, however, as what it means is that instead of suppressing the massive Kaluza–Klein modes, one should properly integrate them out in deriving the 4D effective theory.

The Pöschl–Teller integrable structure of the transverse Schrödinger problem enables much of this to be done explicitly. The other \( \xi_n \) integrals needed in evaluating the leading effective theory can also be done explicitly. One finds

\[ I_n \equiv \int_0^\infty d\rho \sinh 2\rho \xi_0^n(\rho) = (-1)^n n! 2^{-n} \zeta(n). \]  

(30)

Moreover, integrating out the continuum of massive modes requires performing integrals like

\[ \int_0^\infty d\rho \sinh 2\rho \xi_\lambda^0(\rho) \xi_\lambda(\rho) \]  

(31)

which also can be evaluated and the results given in terms of Legendre functions. Integrating out the \( \xi_\lambda \) contributions then produces a series of corrections to the leading-order effective theory.

The ‘inconsistency’ of the reduction to \( D = 4 \) is revealed in the types of corrections to the lower-dimensional effective theory that can arise from integrating out the massive modes. There are some similarities here to compactification on Calabi–Yau spaces [21]. However, in such CY compactifications, if one focuses on the parts of the leading order effective theory without scalar potentials, the result of integrating out the massive KK modes is purely to generate higher-derivative corrections to the leading order effective theory.

In the present case, however, important corrections can be obtained also in the leading order two-derivative part of the effective theory. One can see this thanks to the special integrability features of the Pöschl–Teller transverse wavefunctions, which allow for transverse integrals actually to be done explicitly. Note, for example that quartic terms in \( h_{\mu\nu}(x) \) involve the integral
\[ I_4 = 4!2^{-4}\zeta(4). \] This, however, does not yet yield the expected quartic term with a coefficient \((\kappa_4)^2\): \(I_4\) involves \(\zeta(4)\), while \((\kappa_4)^2\) involves \((\zeta(3))^2\).

The deficit has to arise from the result of integrating out massive modes. The pattern is rather intricate, and involves special properties of products of the transverse wavefunctions \(\xi_0\) and \(\xi_\lambda\). In fact, one good way to discover such properties is to start from the ten-dimensional theory and demand that the expansion in four dimensional massless \(h_{\mu\nu}\) modes and the massive \(h_{\mu\nu}^{(N)}\) modes reproduce ten-dimensional general covariance.

A study of how higher-dimensional general covariance transmits local spin-2 gauge symmetry down to the effective lower dimensional theory will be given elsewhere [23]. One clue to the resolution of this problem is the fact that in an appropriately constructed first-order formalism, the gravitational action can be written in a form that involves no higher than trilinear terms [24, 25].

9. Coda

Of Peter and his stories and his intelligence, there is much more that could be recounted. Mainly what I remember, however, is his passionate (and, at times, loud!) engagement with physics, and especially the search for fundamental theory which has engaged our community for most of our scientific lives. Peter is sorely missed, both as a pathfinding physicist and as a treasured colleague, with lifetimes of stories to tell.

Acknowledgment

This work was supported in part by the STFC under Consolidated Grant ST/P000762/1.

ORCID IDs

K S Stelle https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9779-995X

References


\(^2\)That the true test of a gauge invariance characteristically arises at fourth order in such an expansion has been underlined in reference [22].


[15] Nastase H, Vaman D and van Nieuwenhuizen P 1999 Consistent nonlinear K K reduction of 11-d supergravity on $AdS(7) \times S(4)$ and selfduality in odd dimensions *Phys. Lett.* B 469 96


[20] Hull C M and Warner N P 1988 Noncompact gaugings from higher dimensions *Class. Quantum Grav.* 5 1517


