

# Contents

<b>1. Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
Outline and results . . . . .	7
<b>2. Conclusions</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>I. Type IIA brane engineering and supergravity solutions</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>3. Hanany–Witten setups in six dimensions</b>	<b>15</b>
3.1. The gauge theory – brane worldvolume correspondence . . . . .	15
3.2. The main idea . . . . .	18
3.2.1. NS5-D4 . . . . .	19
3.2.2. Adding flavors . . . . .	24
3.2.3. D3-D5 and Nahm poles . . . . .	27
3.2.4. The decoupling limit . . . . .	31
3.3. NS5-D6-D8 brane systems . . . . .	32
3.3.1. D6 . . . . .	33
3.3.2. Reduction from M-theory . . . . .	37
3.3.3. D8 . . . . .	40
3.3.4. O8 . . . . .	47
3.3.5. O6 . . . . .	51
3.4. Constructing linear quiver theories . . . . .	53
3.4.1. Flows to interesting theories . . . . .	59
3.4.2. The holographic limit . . . . .	61
<b>4. Ten-dimensional supergravity solutions</b>	<b>63</b>
4.1. Holography . . . . .	63
4.1.1. The D3 case . . . . .	64
4.1.2. The NS5-D6-D8 case . . . . .	69
4.2. The holographic conformal anomaly of $(1,0)$ theories . . . . .	70
4.2.1. A sketch of the computation . . . . .	72
4.3. The ten-dimensional system equivalent to supersymmetry . . . . .	74
4.3.1. Elements of type II supergravity . . . . .	74
4.3.2. The system of equations . . . . .	79

<b>II. Original contributions</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>5. All AdS<sub>7</sub> solutions of type II supergravity</b>	<b>86</b>
5.1. Relation to six-dimensional Hanany–Witten setups . . . . .	86
5.1.1. Supergravity solutions of brane setups . . . . .	91
5.2. Introduction . . . . .	92
5.3. Pure spinor equations in three dimensions . . . . .	94
5.3.1. Mink <sub>6</sub> × M <sub>4</sub> . . . . .	94
5.3.2. AdS <sub>7</sub> × M <sub>3</sub> . . . . .	96
5.4. Parameterization of the pure spinors . . . . .	98
5.4.1. One spinor . . . . .	99
5.4.2. Two spinors . . . . .	100
5.5. General results . . . . .	102
5.5.1. Purely geometrical equations . . . . .	102
5.5.2. Fluxes . . . . .	104
5.5.3. The system of ODEs . . . . .	106
5.5.4. Metric . . . . .	107
5.5.5. SU(2) covariance . . . . .	109
5.5.6. Topology . . . . .	110
5.5.7. Local analysis around poles . . . . .	111
5.5.8. D8-branes . . . . .	113
5.5.9. Summary of this section . . . . .	118
5.6. Explicit solutions . . . . .	118
5.6.1. Warm-up: review of the $F_0 = 0$ solution . . . . .	118
5.6.2. Massive solution without D8-branes . . . . .	122
5.6.3. Regular massive solution with D8-branes . . . . .	124
<b>6. AdS<sub>5</sub> solutions of massive type IIA supergravity</b>	<b>136</b>
6.1. Relation to six-dimensional Hanany–Witten setups . . . . .	136
6.2. Introduction . . . . .	137
6.3. The conditions for supersymmetry . . . . .	141
6.3.1. Mink <sub>4</sub> × M <sub>6</sub> . . . . .	141
6.3.2. AdS <sub>5</sub> × M <sub>5</sub> . . . . .	142
6.3.3. Parameterization of $\psi^1, \psi^2$ . . . . .	144
6.4. Analysis of the conditions for supersymmetry . . . . .	146
6.4.1. Geometry . . . . .	146
6.4.2. Fluxes . . . . .	150
6.4.3. Bianchi identities . . . . .	151
6.4.4. Summary so far . . . . .	152
6.5. A simple Ansatz . . . . .	153
6.5.1. $F_0 = 0$ . . . . .	154

## Contents

6.5.2. $F_0 \neq 0$ . . . . .	155
6.6. A compactification Ansatz . . . . .	155
6.6.1. Simplifying the PDEs . . . . .	156
6.6.2. $F_0 = 0$ . . . . .	158
6.6.3. $F_0 \neq 0$ . . . . .	159
6.7. Recovered solutions . . . . .	161
6.7.1. The Gauntlett–Martelli–Sparks–Waldram solution . . .	161
6.7.2. The Itsios–Núñez–Sfetsos–Thompson solution . . . . .	161
6.7.3. The Maldacena–Núñez solution . . . . .	162
6.7.4. The Bah–Beem–Bobev–Wecht solution . . . . .	164
6.8. Compactification solutions . . . . .	166
6.8.1. Metric and fluxes . . . . .	166
6.8.2. Correspondence with AdS <sub>7</sub> . . . . .	169
6.8.3. Regularity analysis . . . . .	171
6.8.4. Flux quantization and D8-branes . . . . .	173
6.8.5. The simplest massive solution . . . . .	178
6.8.6. General massive solution . . . . .	180
6.8.7. Some solutions with D8-branes . . . . .	183
6.8.8. Field theory interpretation . . . . .	186
6.9. Results and conclusions . . . . .	189
<b>7. AdS<sub>6</sub> solutions of type II supergravity</b>	<b>191</b>
7.1. Five-dimensional field theories . . . . .	191
7.2. Introduction . . . . .	198
7.3. Supersymmetry and pure spinor equations for AdS <sub>6</sub> . . . . .	201
7.4. Parameterization of the pure spinors . . . . .	207
7.4.1. Even forms . . . . .	207
7.4.2. Odd forms . . . . .	209
7.5. General analysis . . . . .	211
7.5.1. Zero-form equations . . . . .	211
7.5.2. Geometry . . . . .	213
7.5.3. Fluxes . . . . .	215
7.5.4. The case $x = 0$ . . . . .	216
7.6. The PDEs . . . . .	219
7.6.1. General considerations . . . . .	219
7.6.2. A local solution: nonabelian T-duality . . . . .	222

*Contents*

<b>Appendices</b>	<b>224</b>
<b>A. More on AdS<sub>7</sub></b>	<b>225</b>
A.1. Supercharges . . . . .	225
A.2. Killing spinors on $S^4$ . . . . .	228
A.3. Sufficiency of the system (5.22) . . . . .	229
<b>B. More on AdS<sub>6</sub></b>	<b>233</b>
B.1. Derivation of (7.13) . . . . .	233
B.1.1. Derivation of the system . . . . .	233
B.1.2. Redundancy of pairing equations . . . . .	239
B.2. AdS <sub>6</sub> solutions of eleven-dimensional supergravity . . . . .	241
B.3. The massive IIA solution . . . . .	244
<b>C. More on AdS<sub>5</sub></b>	<b>246</b>
C.1. Supersymmetry variations and the Killing vector . . . . .	246

# List of Figures

3.1. A D4 . . . . .	19
3.2. A D4 ending on two consecutive NS5's . . . . .	20
3.3. Branes ending on branes . . . . .	22
3.4. Semi-infinite D4's beyond NS5's . . . . .	24
3.5. A simple NS5-D4-D6 Hanany–Witten setup . . . . .	25
3.6. Transpose partition . . . . .	30
3.7. D3-branes ending on D5-branes . . . . .	30
3.8. D3-D5 fuzzy funnels . . . . .	31
3.9. A chain of NS5-branes with suspended D6-branes . . . . .	34
3.10. Two NS5-branes with suspended D6-branes . . . . .	34
3.11. Two NS5-branes with suspended D6-branes and D8-branes . . . . .	42
3.12. A trivial partition . . . . .	45
3.13. A nontrivial partition: the full pole . . . . .	46
3.14. Ordered D6-D8 fuzzy funnels . . . . .	47
3.15. O8-plane and NS5-branes: nonstuck case . . . . .	49
3.16. O8-plane and NS5-branes: stuck case . . . . .	50
3.17. O6-planes crossing an NS5-brane . . . . .	51
3.18. O6-planes on top of D6-branes crossing NS5-branes . . . . .	52
3.19. The basic node of a six-dimensional linear quiver . . . . .	57
3.20. A generic Hanany–Witten NS5-D6-D8 brane system . . . . .	58
3.21. A generic six-dimensional linear quiver . . . . .	59
4.1. The AdS/CFT correspondence . . . . .	65
5.1. Massless Hanany–Witten setup . . . . .	128
5.2. Massive Hanany–Witten setup without D8's . . . . .	129
5.3. Massive Hanany–Witten setup with D8's . . . . .	130
5.4. Vector field for ODEs in AdS <sub>7</sub> . . . . .	131
5.5. Massless solution in IIA . . . . .	132
5.6. Massive solution in IIA without D8-branes . . . . .	133
5.7. Massive solution in IIA with one D8 stack . . . . .	134
5.8. Massive solution in IIA with two D8 stacks . . . . .	135
6.1. Two simple Hanany–Witten setups . . . . .	188

*List of Figures*

7.1. A simple $(p, q)$ -fivebrane web . . . . .	195
7.2. $d = 5$ $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SU(2) gauge theory . . . . .	195
7.3. $d = 5$ $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SU(3) gauge theory . . . . .	197

# List of Tables

- 3.1. Dimensional reduction of  $d = 10$  vector multiplet . . . . . 16
- 3.2. Supersymmetric theories in diverse dimensions . . . . . 17
- 3.3. Directions spanned by NS5, D4, D6-branes . . . . . 25
- 3.4. Directions spanned by D3, D5-branes . . . . . 27
- 3.5. Directions spanned by NS5,  $Dp$ ,  $Dp + 2$ -branes . . . . . 32
- 3.6. Multiplets in a general NS5-D6-D8 Hanany–Witten setup . . . . . 55
  
- 7.1. Directions spanned by NS5, D5,  $(p, q)$ -fivebranes . . . . . 194