

Continuous symmetry defects and brane/anti-brane systems

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We study how certain “defects” tied to continuous symmetries affect correlation functions in bosonic field theories. We show that to match expected action, these defects must include a correction term as a kind of singular background gauge field. This fact has deep consequences in holography, where these defects are realized as $D(q-1)$ branes near the boundary of the bulk. We show that the regularization of the defects can be regarded as a system $Dq/\overline{Dq}$ branes that extend into the bulk, tying with the concept of regularization by “thickening”. An explicit example is presented in terms of the baryon symmetry in Klebanov-Witten theory.

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