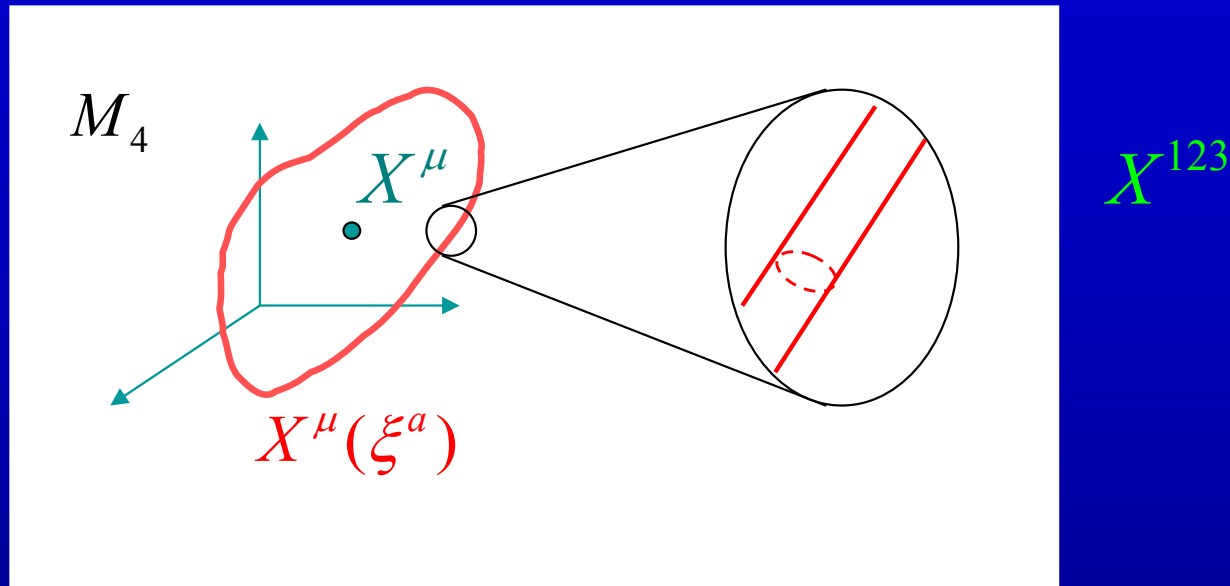


We may go further and search for eventual thickness of the object.

If the string has finite thickness, i.e., if actually it is not a string, but a 2-brane, then there exist the corresponding **volume degrees of freedom**.



In general, for an extended object in M_4 , we have 16 coordinates

$$x^M \equiv x^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_r}, \quad r = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$$

They are the projections of r-dimensional volumes (areas) onto the coordinate planes.

Oriented r-volumes can be elegantly described by Clifford algebra.