Aspects of Extended Field Theories

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Over the last thirty years, duality in supergravity has taken on a central role . Rather than seeing a duality as a hidden symmetry, we wish to reformulate our theory so that these become manifest symmetries of our formalism. This talk will cover the emerging ideas of so called extended field theories where our usual notion of spacetime is augmented by the inclusion of additional dimensions that lift supergravity to a generalised geometry and make duality symmetries manifest. The consequences of this reformulation are to unify the usual different branes in string theory into a single "geometrical" self-dual object while also allowing the existence of new "exotic" brane states. The properties of these objects will be described and an outlook for future research in the field will be discussed.