## Generalized Geometry and String Theory



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# Generalised Geometry

- Much recent work in string theory, supergravity... GG and its generalisations
- Geometric framework for metric + p-form gauge fields
- Unification of various geometric structures
- Organizing principle : <u>Duality symmetries</u>
- New mathematics for old geometries
- New 'non-geometries' in string theory

## Generalised Geometry

Studies structures on a d-dimensional manifold M on which there is a natural action of O(d,d) Hitchin

Manifold with metric + B-field, natural action of O(d,d), tangent space "doubled" to  $T \oplus T^*$ 

Extended/Exceptional Geometry: O(d,d) replaced by  $E_{d+1}$  acting on extended tangent bundle

Organizing principle : Duality symmetries e.g. O(d,d), E<sub>d</sub>

#### **Geometry of String Theory**

<u>Spacetime</u>: supergravity background. 10-dimensional manifold M with metric + p-form gauge fields

Type II strings

Metric, signature 9+1 $g_{\mu\nu}$ Dilaton: scalar field $\phi$ 2-form Gauge field $B_{\mu\nu}$ H = dB

p-form gauge fields  $C_p$ 

$$\delta C_p = d\lambda_{p-1} + \dots, \quad G_{p+1} = G_p + \dots, \quad G_{p+1} = *G_{9-p}$$

Type IIA: p odd. Type IIB: p even

### Calabi-Yau

 $M = \mathbb{R}^{3,1} \times K_6$ 

Supersymmetric background: admits <u>Killing spinors</u> Spinor fields generating supersymmetries preserving soln

- 6-fold K: Calabi-Yau if Kahler Ricci-flat
- complex structure J: integrable map  $J: TK \to TK$
- Hermitian metric g
- Kahler 2-form  $\omega$   $\omega_{ij} = g_{ik}J^k{}_j = -\omega_{ji}$
- Holomorphic (3,0) form  $\Omega$

$$d\omega = 0, \quad \nabla \omega = 0$$
$$d\Omega = 0, \quad \nabla \Omega = 0$$

Forms from Killing spinor bilinears

 $J^2 = -1$ 

#### Generalisation to FLUX BACKGROUNDS? $B_2, C_p \neq 0$

## Duality Symmetries fromTorus Reductions

- Compactify gravity or supergravity on T<sup>d</sup>
- Scalars in coset space G/H,
- Truncated theory: non-comapact G symmetry
- Full theory: discrete subgroup G(Z)

- General Relativity in 3+1 dimensions on S<sup>1</sup> EHLERS SYMMETRY  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ Scalars in coset space  $\frac{SL(2, \mathbb{R})}{U(1)}$
- GR in D dimensions, reduced on torus T<sup>d</sup>, Symmetry  $GL(d, \mathbb{R})$ Scalars  $g_{ij}$  in coset space  $\frac{GL(d, \mathbb{R})}{O(d)}$
- Full theory: Kaluza-Klein spectrum, discrete momentum p, breaking  $GL(d, \mathbb{R})$  to  $GL(d, \mathbb{Z})$ Group of large diffeomorphisms of d-torus

- Metric, 2-form gauge field B, reduced on T<sup>d</sup> Symmetry O(d, d)Scalars  $g_{ij}$   $B_{ij}$  in target space  $\frac{O(d, d)}{O(d) \times O(d)}$
- Type II Supergravity, reduced on T<sup>d</sup>
   Symmetry E<sub>d+1</sub> (Cremmer-Julia)
   Scalars g<sub>ij</sub>, B<sub>ij</sub>, C<sub>i1...ip</sub>, φ in target space

Full theory:  $GL(d, \mathbb{R}) \subseteq G$  breaks to  $GL(d, \mathbb{Z})$ 

String Theory: Discrete Symmetries of full theory $O(d,d) \rightarrow O(d,d;\mathbb{Z})$ <u>T-duality</u>, on p + string winding $E_{d+1} \rightarrow E_{d+1}(\mathbb{Z})$ <u>U-duality</u>, on p + brane wrapping

 $\underline{E_{d+1}}$ 

 $H_{d+1}$ 

## Generalised Geometry

Conventional manifold M, doubled tangent space

 $GL(d,\mathbb{R})$  acting on  $TM \implies O(d,d)$  acting on  $T\oplus T^*$ 

Natural structure (M,g,B) instead of (M,g)

### Doubled Geometry

 $GL(d, \mathbb{Z})$  acting on T<sup>d</sup>  $\Longrightarrow O(d, d, \mathbb{Z})$  acting on T<sup>2d</sup> Doubled manifold

### Generalised Geometry Hitchin, Gualtieri

Generalised Vector = Vector + 1-form

$$V = v + \xi \in T \oplus T^* \qquad V^I = \begin{pmatrix} v^i \\ \xi_i \end{pmatrix}$$

O(d,d)  $V \to gV$ O(d,d) Metric  $\eta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbb{1} \\ \mathbb{1} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$   $g^t \eta g = \eta$ 

$$\eta(v+\xi,v+\xi) = V^t \eta V = 2v^i \xi_i$$

Lie Bracket - Courant Bracket

#### <u>Generalised Metric</u> $\mathcal{H}_{IJ}$

Positive definite metric on  $T \oplus T^*$  compatible with  $\eta$ 

$$\eta^{-1}\mathcal{H}\eta^{-1} = \mathcal{H}^{-1}$$

 $S = \eta^{-1} \mathcal{H}$  satisfies  $S^2 = \mathbb{1}$ Real structure Parameterised by  $G = G^t$ ,  $B = -B^t$ E = G + BMetric G and B-field B  $\mathcal{H} = \begin{pmatrix} G - BG^{-1}B & BG^{-1} \\ -G^{-1}B & G^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$ O(d,d):  $\mathcal{H} \to q^t \mathcal{H} q \qquad E \to (aE+b)(cE+d)^{-1}$  $\frac{O(d,d)}{O(d) \times O(d)}$ G,B combined in Parameterise coset gen metric

O(d,d) spinors  $\Lambda^{\bullet}T^*$ Forms on M  $\phi = \alpha + \beta_i dX^i + \gamma_{ij} dX^i \wedge dX^j + \delta_{ijk} dX^i \wedge dX^j \wedge dX^k + \dots$ 2<sup>d</sup> components Clifford action on forms  $V = v + \xi \in T \oplus T^*$  $\Gamma_V : \Lambda^{\bullet} T^* \to \Lambda^{\bullet} T^*$  $\Gamma_V: \phi \mapsto \iota_v \phi + \xi \wedge \phi$  $\Gamma_V \Gamma_{V'} + \Gamma_{V'} \Gamma_V = -2\eta(V, V')\mathbb{1}$ Even forms Chiral spinor  $C_0 + C_2 + C_4 + \dots$  $C^+$ Anti-Chiral spinor Odd forms  $C_1 + C_3 + C_5 + \dots$  $C^{-}$ 

Generalised Complex Structure  $\mathcal{J}$  Hitchin

Endomorphism of  $T \oplus T^*$   $\mathcal{J}^2 = -\mathbb{1}$ 

Courant-integrable  $\eta$  hermitian

Interpolates between symplectic & complex structures, generalising both.

Gualtieri

**Generalised Kahler**  $\mathcal{H}$   $\mathcal{T}$ 

$$[S, \mathcal{J}] = 0 \qquad \mathcal{J}' = \mathcal{J}S$$



Two Complex structures on M, G Hermitian  $\nabla^{\pm} J_{\pm} = 0$   $\nabla^{\pm} = \nabla \pm G^{-1} H$ 

(2,2) SUSY Sigma Model with torsion Gates, CMH, Rocek SUSY analysis gives general structure, potential Lindstrom, Rocek, von Unge, Zabzine

### Generalised Calabi-Yau

- Gen Complex geometry can be encoded by pair of (pure) O(d,d) spinors i.e. differential forms  $\Phi \sim \Omega, \Psi \sim e^{B+i\omega}$
- <u>Generalised CY</u>: these forms closed, and the spinors non-degenerate <u>Hitchin, Gualtieri</u>
- RR fields are also an O(d,d) spinor
- <u>Gen CY with flux</u>: Conditions for SUSY have elegant formulation in terms of these spinors
   <u>Grana, Minasian, Petrini, Tomasiello</u>

# Strings on Circle

#### $M = S^1 \times X$

Discrete momentum p=n/RIf it winds m times round S<sup>1</sup>, winding energy w=mRT Energy =  $p^2+w^2+...$ 

#### T-duality: Symmetry of string theory

| Ρ | $\leftrightarrow$ | W   |
|---|-------------------|-----|
| m | $\leftrightarrow$ | n   |
| R | $\leftrightarrow$ | /RT |

Fourier transf of discrete p,w gives periodic coordinates X, X̃ Circle + dual circle
Stringy symmetry, not in field theory
On d torus, T-duality group O(d, d; Z)

# **T-Duality**

- Space has d-torus fibration
- G,B on fibres
- T-Duality O(d,d;Z), mixes G,B
- Mixes Momentum and Winding
- Changes geometry and topology  $E \rightarrow (aE+b)(cE+d)^{-1}$  $h = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in O(d, d; Z) \qquad E_{ij} = G_{ij} + B_{ij}$ On circle, radius R:  $O(1, 1; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}_2 : R \mapsto \frac{1}{R}$







 $X^i$ 

 $Y^m$ 

# Symmetry & Geometry

- Spacetime constructed from local patches
- All symmetries of physics used in patching
- Patching with diffeomorphisms, gives manifold
- Patching with gauge symmetries: bundles
- String theory has new symmetries, not present in field theory. New <u>non-geometric</u> string backgrounds
   Hull
- Patching with T-duality: **T-FOLDS**
- Patching with U-duality: U-FOLDS



Glue big circle (R) to small (I/R) Glue momentum modes to winding modes (or linear combination of momentum and winding) Not conventional smooth geometry



Geometric background: G, H=dB tensorial

**T-fold**: Transition functions involve T-dualities (as well as diffeomorphisms and 2-form gauge transformations) E=G+B Non-tensorial $O(d,d;\mathbb{Z}) \qquad E' = (aE+b)(cE+d)^{-1} \text{ in } U \cap U'$  $Glue \text{ using T-dualities also} \rightarrow \text{ T-fold}$  $Physics \text{ smooth, as T-duality a symmetry} \qquad Fixes Mot conventional smooth geometry} \qquad moduli!$ 

### Double Field Theory Hull & Zwiebach

- From sector of String Theory. Features some stringy physics, including T-duality, in simpler setting
- Strings see a doubled space-time
- Necessary consequence of string theory
- Needed for non-geometric backgrounds

# Strings on a Torus

- States: momentum p, winding w
- String: Infinite set of fields  $\psi(p,w)$
- Fourier transform to doubled space:  $\psi(x, \tilde{x})$
- "Double Field Theory" from closed string field theory. Some non-locality in doubled space
- Subsector? e.g.  $g_{ij}(x, \tilde{x}), b_{ij}(x, \tilde{x}), \phi(x, \tilde{x})$

## Double Field Theory

- Double field theory on doubled torus
- General solution of string theory: involves doubled fields  $\psi(x, \tilde{x})$
- Real dependence on full doubled geometry, dual dimensions not auxiliary or gauge artifact.
   Double geom. physical and dynamical
- Strong constraint restricts to subsector in which extra coordinates auxiliary: get conventional field theory locally. Recover Siegel's duality covariant formulation of (super)gravity, GG.

O(D,D) covariant action using generalised metric, dilaton d

$$S = \int dx d\tilde{x} e^{-2d} L$$
$$L = \frac{1}{8} \mathcal{H}^{MN} \partial_M \mathcal{H}^{KL} \partial_N \mathcal{H}_{KL} - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{H}^{MN} \partial_N \mathcal{H}^{KL} \partial_L \mathcal{H}_{MK}$$
$$- 2 \partial_M d \partial_N \mathcal{H}^{MN} + 4 \mathcal{H}^{MN} \partial_M d \partial_N d$$
$$\operatorname{Hohm, Hull \& Zwiebac}$$

#### L cubic! Indices raised and lowered with $\,\eta$

If independent of dual coord,  $\tilde{X}$ Gives usual action (+ surface term)

$$\int dx \sqrt{-g} e^{-2\phi} \left[ R + 4(\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{12} H^2 \right]$$

### Extended Geometry, M-Theory

 $T \oplus \Lambda^2 T^* \oplus \Lambda^5 T^* \oplus \Lambda^6 T$  Hull; Pacheco & Waldram

- Extended geometry: extends tangent space
- Metric and 3-form gauge field, action of exceptional U-duality group
- I0-d type II and II-d sugra in terms of extended geometry Coimbra, Strickland-Constable & Waldram
- Double field theory generalises

Berman, Perry et al, Hohm & Sambtleben, ...

## Generalised Parallelalisability

Lee, Strickland Constable, Waldram

- Generalised (or extended) tangent space is generalised parallelalisable if it admits a global frame. Important examples include S<sup>3</sup>,S<sup>4</sup>,S<sup>7</sup>
- Explains consistent truncations of supergravity on S<sup>3</sup>,S<sup>4</sup>,S<sup>7</sup>
- Gives insights into exotic supergravity gaugings of Dell'Agata, Inverso, Trigiante

## Conclusions

- Generalised geometry gives elegant formulation for gravity + p-form gauge fields
- Unified treatment of various structures, allows general results
- Generalised complex geometry, generalised
   CY, superymmetric spaces. Gen parallelisability.
- String theory sees a doubled or extended spacetime, physical extra dimensions
- String theory has non-geometric solns, which look geometric in doubled formulation

### Doubled Geometry for T-fold

- T<sup>d</sup> torus fibres have<br/>doubled coords $\mathbb{X}^I = \begin{pmatrix} X^i \\ \widetilde{X}_i \end{pmatrix}$ Hull<br/>I = 1, ..., 2d
- Transforms linearly under  $O(d, d; \mathbb{Z})$ T-fold transition: mixes  $X, \tilde{X}$ No global way of separating "real" space coordinate X from "auxiliary"  $\tilde{X}$
- Duality covariant formulation in terms of XTransition functions  $O(d, d; Z) \subset GL(2d; Z)$ can be used to construct bundle with fibres T<sup>2d</sup>

#### **Doubled space is smooth manifold!**

Sigma Model on doubled space

### Type I Extended Geometry

#### Action of O(d,d)

 $T \oplus T^*$ 

 $G, B_2$ 



cf Brane charges

Generalised metric



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Generalised metric



#### Type II: $O(d,d) \longrightarrow E_{d+1}$ , add RR fields

### Type I Extended Geometry

#### Action of O(d,d)

 $T \oplus T^*$ 

 $G, B_2$ 





Generalised metric





### **Type II Extended Geometry** $d \le 4$

#### Action of E<sub>d+1</sub>

 $T \oplus T^* \oplus S^{\pm}$ 

 $G, B_2, \Phi, C^{\mp}$ 



cf Brane charges

Generalised metric

| $\mathcal{H}_{IJ}$ | $\in$ | $E_{d+1}$            |
|--------------------|-------|----------------------|
|                    |       | $\overline{H_{d+1}}$ |

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mathsf{IIB} & C^+ \\ \mathsf{IIA} & C^- \end{array}$ 

 $C_0 + C_2 + C_4 + \dots$  $C_1 + C_3 + C_5 + \dots$ 

RR fields

### **Type II Extended Geometry** $d \le 6$

#### Action of E<sub>d+1</sub>



### **Type M Extended Geometry** $d \le 4$

#### Action of $E_d$

 $T\oplus \Lambda^2 T^*$ 

 $G, C_3$ 



cf Brane charges

Generalised metric

$$\mathcal{H}_{IJ} \in \frac{E_d}{H_d}$$

### Type M Extended Geometry $d \le 7$

#### Action of $E_d$

 $T \oplus \Lambda^2 T^* \oplus \Lambda^5 T^* \oplus \Lambda^6 T$ 

 $G, C_3, \tilde{C}_6$ 



cf Brane charges

Generalised metric

$$\mathcal{H}_{IJ} \in \frac{E_d}{H_d}$$

 More general non-geometric backgrounds. Gives uplift of GENERIC gauged Sugras
 Shelton, Taylor & Wecht 2005

Dabholkar & Hull 2005

 Explicit doubled geometries constructed for T-folds and "spaces with R-flux"

Hull & Reid-Edwards 2008-9

- Sigma models on doubled spaces; quantisation Hull 2004-6
- Other approaches to quantisation

Tseytlin; Berman, Thompson, Copland; Hackett-Jones & Motsopoulos

# Strings on T<sup>d</sup>

$$X = X_L(\sigma + \tau) + X_R(\sigma - \tau), \qquad \tilde{X} = X_L - X_R$$

X conjugate to momentum,  $\tilde{X}$  to winding no.

$$dX = *d\tilde{X} \qquad \qquad \partial_a X = \epsilon_{ab} \partial^b \tilde{X}$$

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Need "auxiliary"  $\tilde{X}$  for interacting theory i) Vertex operators  $e^{ik_L \cdot X_L}$ ,  $e^{ik_R \cdot X_R}$ ii) String field Kugo & Zwiebach  $\Phi[x, \tilde{x}, a, \tilde{a}]$ 

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X conjugate to momentum,  $\tilde{X}$  to winding no.  $dX = *d\tilde{X}$   $\partial_a X = \epsilon_{ab} \partial^b \tilde{X}$ 

Strings on torus see **DOUBLED GEOMETRY**! **T-duality** group  $O(d, d; \mathbb{Z})$ 

**Doubled Torus** 2d coordinates Transform linearly under  $O(d, d; \mathbb{Z})$   $X \equiv \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{x}_i \\ x^i \end{pmatrix}$ Sigma model on doubled torus **Tseytlin; Hull** 

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