

# Twistors, Killing spinors and extended superalgebras

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# Spin geometry

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  - **Dirac operator**
  - **twistor operator**

# Dirac operator

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$$\not{D} = e^a \cdot \nabla_{X_a}$$

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- Massive Dirac equation

$$\not{D}\psi = m\psi$$

# Twistor spinors

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$$\mathcal{P}_X = \nabla_X - \frac{1}{n} \tilde{X} \cdot \not{D}$$

- Spinors that are in the kernel of the twistor operator, namely the solutions of the following twistor equation are called **twistor spinors**

$$\nabla_X \psi = \frac{1}{n} \tilde{X} \cdot \not{D} \psi$$

## Killing spinors

- If a spinor is solution of both massive Dirac equation and twistor equation, then it is called a **Killing spinor** (geometric Killing spinor) and it satisfies the following Killing spinor equation

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- $\lambda$  is a real or pure imaginary number which is called the **Killing number**
- The existence of Killing spinors confines the geometry of the manifold such that the curvature scalar becomes

$$\mathcal{R} = -4\lambda^2 n(n-1)$$

# Cone construction

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- **Cone construction**

There is 1:1 correspondence between the Killing spinors on  $(M, g)$  and the parallel spinors on the metric cone of  $M$  that is  $(\mathbb{R} \times M, \bar{g})$  with  $\bar{g} = dr^2 + r^2g$

(Bär 1993)

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- The variation with respect to gravitino field gives a **differential** equation for the spinor parameters
- The variation with respect to other fermionic fields gives **algebraic** constraints
- The number of solutions of supergravity Killing spinor equations determine the number of **preserved supersymmetries** on the supergravity background

# 11D and 10D sugra Killing spinors

- 11D supergravity Killing spinor equation

$$\nabla_X \epsilon = \frac{1}{12}(\tilde{X} \wedge F) \cdot \epsilon - \frac{1}{6}i_X F \cdot \epsilon$$

$F$  4-form field



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- heterotic supergravity Killing spinor equations

$$\nabla_X \epsilon = \frac{1}{4}i_X H_3 \cdot \epsilon$$

$$(d\phi + \frac{1}{2}H_3) \cdot \epsilon = 0$$

$$F_2 \cdot \epsilon = 0$$

$H_3$  3-form field,  $F_2$  2-form field,  $\phi$  dilaton

## Supergravity spinor connection

- One can define new supergravity spinor connections in 11D and heterotic cases as

$$\mathcal{D}_X = \nabla_X - \frac{1}{12} \tilde{X} \wedge F + \frac{1}{6} i_X F$$

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- Supergravity Killing spinors correspond to **parallel spinors** w.r.t. supergravity spinor connection

$$\mathcal{D}_X \epsilon = 0$$

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- **Supergravity** Killing spinors can be constructed from **geometric** Killing spinors in component spaces

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$$\nabla_X^A \epsilon = \frac{1}{n} \tilde{X} \cdot \not{D}^A \epsilon$$

- where gauged connection and Dirac operator are defined as

$$\nabla_X^A = \nabla_X + i_X A$$

$$\not{D}^A = \not{D} + A$$

for a 1-form gauge field  $A$

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$$\epsilon\bar{\epsilon} = (\epsilon, \epsilon) + (\epsilon, e_a\epsilon)e^a + (\epsilon, e_{ba}\epsilon)e^{ab} + \dots + (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} (\epsilon, z\epsilon)z$$

where  $(,)$  is the spinor inner product,  $e^{ab} = e^a \wedge e^b = e^a e^b$  and  $z$  is the volume form

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- **p-form Dirac current**

$$(\epsilon \bar{\epsilon})_p = (\epsilon, e_{a_p \dots a_2 a_1} \epsilon) e^{a_1 a_2 \dots a_p}$$

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$$\mathcal{L}_K g = 0$$

- For **twistor spinors**, 1-form Dirac currents correspond to metric duals of **conformal Killing vector fields**

$$\mathcal{L}_K g = 2\lambda g$$

where  $\mathcal{L}$  is the Lie derivative and  $\lambda$  is a function



# Lie derivative of spinors

- **Lie derivative** of a spinor  $\psi$  w.r.t a Killing vector field  $K$  is defined as

$$\mathcal{L}_K \psi = \nabla_K \psi + \frac{1}{4} d\tilde{K} \cdot \psi$$

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- where  $[\cdot, \cdot]_{Cl}$  is the **Clifford bracket**

# Symmetry operators

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- Symmetry operator of a **twistor spinor**

$$\mathcal{L}_K - \frac{1}{2}\lambda$$

where  $K$  is a **conformal Killing vector**

# Superalgebras

- A **Superalgebra**  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{g}_1$  consists of an algebra  $\mathfrak{g}_0$  and a  $\mathfrak{g}_0$ -module  $\mathfrak{g}_1$  with a bilinear multiplication

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- $(i, j = 0, 1)$  such that

$$[\mathfrak{g}_0, \mathfrak{g}_0] \subset \mathfrak{g}_0 \quad [\mathfrak{g}_0, \mathfrak{g}_1] \subset \mathfrak{g}_1 \quad [\mathfrak{g}_1, \mathfrak{g}_1] \subset \mathfrak{g}_0$$



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- which satisfies the skew-supersymmetry identities

$$[a, b] = -(-1)^{|a||b|}[b, a]$$

$|a|$  denotes the degree of  $a$ , which corresponds to 0 or 1 depending on that  $a$  is in  $\mathfrak{g}_0$  or  $\mathfrak{g}_1$

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- Then  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_0 \oplus \mathfrak{g}_1$  is called a **Lie superalgebra**

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- graded-Jacobi identities correspond to the Jacobi identity of the Lie bracket of vector fields ( $X, Y, Z \in \mathfrak{g}_0$ )

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- The last identity is not automatically satisfied and have to be checked for different cases to obtain a Lie superalgebra structure

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- In general, the conformal superalgebra of conformal Killing vectors and twistor spinors does not correspond to a Lie superalgebra
- To obtain a **Lie superalgebra**, one should add extra  $\mathcal{R}$ -**symmetries** which correspond to an extra gauge symmetry that is a Lie algebra with constant parameters (de Medeiros, Hollands 2013)
- Then, the **even part** of the Lie superalgebra corresponds to conformal Killing vectors and  $\mathcal{R}$ -symmetries  
the **odd part** consists of  $\mathcal{R}$ -module valued twistor spinors and the graded Jacobi identities are satisfied

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- **Killing superalgebras:**  
Classification of supergravity backgrounds in various dimensions (Figuroa O'Farrill, Papadopoulos, Meessen, Philip, Hackett-Jones, Moutsopoulos 2005-2007)
- **Conformal superalgebras:**  
Classification of conformal backgrounds for supersymmetric field theories  
(de Medeiros, Hollands 2013)

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- and we have used only the 1-form Dirac currents  $(\epsilon\bar{\epsilon})_1$
- but we still have **p-form Dirac currents** for  $p > 1$

$$(\epsilon\bar{\epsilon})_p = (\epsilon, e_{a_p \dots a_2 a_1} \epsilon) e^{a_1 a_2 \dots a_p}$$

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- A KY  $p$ -form  $\omega$  satisfies the following equation

$$\nabla_X \omega = \frac{1}{p+1} i_X d\omega$$

for every vector field  $X$

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- CKY forms are generalizations of conformal Killing vectors to higher degree forms
- A CKY  $p$ -form  $\omega$  satisfies the following equation

$$\nabla_X \omega = \frac{1}{p+1} i_X d\omega - \frac{1}{n-p+1} \tilde{X} \wedge \delta\omega$$

for every vector field  $X$

KY forms are co-closed CKY forms ( $\delta\omega = 0$ )

# Symmetry operators of Killing spinors

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- in **constant curvature backgrounds**
- and from a **normal CKY p-form**  $\omega$   
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## Normal CKY forms

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- In constant curvature spacetimes, all CKY forms are normal CKY forms

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$$[\omega_1, \omega_2]_{SN} = i_{X^a} \omega_1 \wedge \nabla_{X_a} \omega_2 + (-1)^{pq} i_{X^a} \omega_2 \wedge \nabla_{X_a} \omega_1$$

(Kastor, Ray, Traschen 2007)

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- and it is also relevant for **normal** CKY forms in **Einstein** manifolds (Ertem 2016)

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- The **even-even** bracket corresponds to the SN bracket of KY forms

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$$2^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} + 1$$

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- Symmetry operators of Killing spinors and twistor spinors can be constructed from KY forms and CKY forms respectively in conformally flat backgrounds
- So, Killing superalgebras and conformal superalgebras can be extended to include KY forms and CKY forms respectively
- This may give hints about the classification problems of supergravity backgrounds and supersymmetric field theories in conformal backgrounds