

# Supergraviti**ES** in $d = 11$

Nucl. Phys. B **855** (2012) 308-319

Fernando Izaurieta and Eduardo Rodríguez

Department of Applied Mathematics and Physics,  
Universidad Católica de la Sma. Concepción, Chile

Iberian Strings 2012  
Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea  
Bilbao

# Contents

- 1 Motivation: Several SUGRAs in  $d = 11$ ? SUGRA is unique!
- 2 An Eccentric but Sensible Theory: Chern–Simons Supergravity
- 3 Subtle links between Supergravity and Chern–Simons Theories in  $d = 11$
- 4 Further Work & Questions

# Contents

- 1 Motivation: Several SUGRAs in  $d = 11$ ? SUGRA is unique!
- 2 An Eccentric but Sensible Theory: Chern–Simons Supergravity
- 3 Subtle links between Supergravity and Chern–Simons Theories in  $d = 11$
- 4 Further Work & Questions

# The Uniqueness of Supergravity in $d = 11$

- SUGRA in  $d = 11$  is unique!!

S. Deser, *The Uniqueness of  $D = 11$  Supergravity*, hep-th/9712064

- But there are exceptions!

It is necessary “to read the fine print”!!

# The Uniqueness of Supergravity in $d = 11$

- Underlying the uniqueness, there are some hypotheses which are very natural but not unbreakable.
- A simple way of breaking these hypotheses is through a **Chern–Simons Theory**.

# Contents

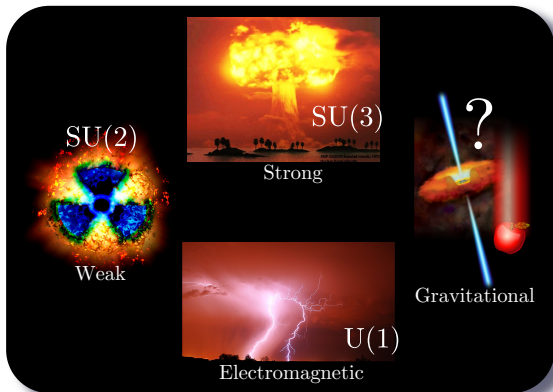
- 1 Motivation: Several SUGRAs in  $d = 11$ ? SUGRA is unique!
- 2 An Eccentric but Sensible Theory: Chern–Simons Supergravity
- 3 Subtle links between Supergravity and Chern–Simons Theories in  $d = 11$
- 4 Further Work & Questions

# Chern–Simons SUGRA

Chern–Simons theories in different odd dimensions  
started in the 80's-90's with the work of

A. Achúcarro,  
M. Bañados,  
A. Borowiec,  
A. H. Chamseddine,  
M. Ferraris,  
M. Francaviglia  
M. Henneaux  
P. K. Townsend,  
R. Troncoso,  
J. Zanelli,  
etc. . .

# Gauge Theories X-treme



Gauge theories **do** work.

What about a Supergravity theory where *every* field, *all* of them, belong only to a 1-form *connection*?



# Gauge Theories X-treme

$$\mathbf{A} = \frac{1}{2} \omega^{ab}{}_{\mu} dx^{\mu} \mathbf{J}_{ab} + \frac{1}{l} e^a{}_{\mu} dx^{\mu} \mathbf{P}_a + \frac{1}{\sqrt{l}} \bar{\psi}_{\mu} dx^{\mu} \mathbf{Q} + \text{extra bosonic terms.}$$

A really daring idea!

# Gauge Theories X-treme

And the Lagrangian??

# Gauge Theories X-treme

$$\langle \mathbf{F} \wedge * \mathbf{F} \rangle$$

# Gauge Theories X-treme

$$\langle \mathbf{F} \wedge * \mathbf{F} \rangle \quad \text{⊗}$$

Hodge dual  $*$   $\Rightarrow$  a metric field  $g_{\mu\nu}(x) \notin \mathbf{A}!!$

# Gauge Theories X-treme

:-(  
And then?

# Gauge Theories X-treme

## Chern–Simons Lagrangian Form

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CS}}^{(2n+1)}(\mathbf{A}) = \kappa(n+1) \int_{\tau=0}^{\tau=1} d\tau \left\langle \mathbf{A} \wedge (\tau d\mathbf{A} + \tau^2 \mathbf{A} \wedge \mathbf{A})^{\wedge n} \right\rangle$$

$\langle \mathbf{T}_{A_1} \cdots \mathbf{T}_{A_{n+1}} \rangle =$  (Super)Algebra Invariant Tensor  
(Close cousin of the superalgebra killing metric)

# Gauge Theories X-treme

## Advantages of CS Theories

- 1 The Lagrangian has a deep mathematical meaning (Chern–Weil)!
- 2 Genuine **gauge** theories, in fiber bundle sense.
- 3 Off-shell invariant (without auxiliary fields).
- 4 They *seem* to be renormalizable (only proven in  $d = 3$ ).
- 5 In general, no boson-fermion matching.
- 6 It does include **gravity** (Lanczos–Lovelock)!
- 7 No ghosts.
- 8 No higher spin fields.
- 9 Propagating degrees of freedom in  $d > 3$ .
- 10 Background-free.

# Gauge Theories X-treme

## Disadvantages of CS Theories

- 1 It works only in **odd** dimensions!
- 2 Each individual term is not explicitly invariant.
- 3 The number of terms grows exponentially with  $d$ .
- 4 **Highly non-linear** in  $d > 3$ !
- 5 Irregular constraint system (complex dynamics).
- 6 Quantum behavior is **unknown** in  $d > 3$ .



# Gauge Theories X-treme

An odd number...?

# Gauge Theories X-treme

11

# Contents

- 1 Motivation: Several SUGRAs in  $d = 11$ ? SUGRA is unique!
- 2 An Eccentric but Sensible Theory: Chern–Simons Supergravity
- 3 Subtle links between Supergravity and Chern–Simons Theories in  $d = 11$
- 4 Further Work & Questions

# $\mathfrak{osp}(32|1)$ -Chern–Simons SUGRA in $d = 11$

## Chern–Simons Lagrangian in $d = 11$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CS}}^{(11)}(A) = 6\kappa \int_{\tau=0}^{\tau=1} d\tau \left\langle A \wedge (\tau dA + \tau^2 A \wedge A)^{\wedge 5} \right\rangle$$

$\langle T_{A_1} \cdots T_{A_6} \rangle = \text{Superalgebra Invariant Tensor}$

# $\mathfrak{osp}(32|1)$ -Chern–Simons SUGRA in $d = 11$

$$\mathbf{A} = \frac{1}{2}\omega^{ab}\mathbf{J}_{ab} + \frac{1}{l}e^a\mathbf{P}_a + \frac{1}{5!l}b^{a_1\cdots a_5}\mathbf{Z}_{a_1\cdots a_5} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{l}}\bar{\psi}\mathbf{Q}$$

$\mathfrak{osp}(32|1)$ -connection 1-form.

R. Troncoso, J. Zanelli, Phys. Rev. D **58** (1998) 101703, hep-th/9710180

# SUGRAs in $d = 11$

But  $d = 11$  is already **inhabited!**

# SUGRAs in $d = 11$

Standard SUGRA, E. Cremmer, B. Julia and J. Scherk (1978),

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{CJS}}^{(11)} = & -\frac{1}{9!} \frac{1}{4\kappa^2} \epsilon_{a_1 \dots a_{11}} R^{a_1 a_2} \wedge e^{a_3} \wedge \dots \wedge e^{a_{11}} + \frac{i}{2} \bar{\psi} \wedge \Gamma_{(8)} \wedge D\psi + \\ & + \frac{i}{8} \left( T^a - \frac{i\kappa^2}{4} \bar{\psi} \wedge \Gamma^a \psi \right) \wedge e_a \wedge \bar{\psi} \wedge \Gamma_{(6)} \wedge \psi - \frac{1}{2} F \wedge *F + \\ & + (*F + b) \wedge (dA_3 - a) + \frac{1}{2} a \wedge b - \frac{1}{3} A_3 \wedge dA_3 \wedge dA_3, \end{aligned}$$

the “only” theory of SUGRA in  $d = 11$  (under several hypotheses).

B. Julia, S. Silva, JHEP **0001** (2000) 026, hep-th/9911035

# SUGRAs in $d = 11$

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_{(n)} &= \frac{1}{n!} \Gamma_{a_1 \dots a_n} e^{a_1} \wedge \dots \wedge e^{a_n} \\ a &= \frac{i\kappa}{4} \bar{\psi} \wedge \Gamma_{(2)} \wedge \psi, \\ b &= \frac{i\kappa}{4} \bar{\psi} \wedge \Gamma_{(5)} \wedge \psi.\end{aligned}$$



# SUGRAs in $d = 11$



What to do with two SUGRA theories in  $d = 11$ ?

# SUGRAs in $d = 11$

Could there be a link between both SUGRA theories?

Surprisingly hard to answer!

# SUGRAs in $d = 11$

In particular, could it be possible  
to consider standard SUGRA as a sector of a Chern–Simons system?  
(A priori, **it seems to be no reason to think so!**)

# WARNING!!!

- CS SUGRA is *very* complicated!  
Lagrangian with more than a 1000,  
non-explicitly invariant terms!
- Jumping to compare both of them  
would be hazardous for mental health!



# WARNING!!!

- The way of finding the “needle in the haystack” is (carefully) using
  - Cartan’s Homotopy Formula[1],
  - arguments of dimensional consistency and
  - numerical algorithms[2].

[1] hep-th/0603061

[2] 1106.1648 [math-ph]

## The Needle in the Haystack



# CS SUGRA and powers of $l$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CS}}^{(11)} = \sum_{n=0}^{11} l^{-n} \mathcal{L}_n$$

Just for the sake of simplicity, a very restricted sector will be explored:

- Order  $l^{-9}$ ,
- Only  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{CS}}^{(11)} \Big|_{b^{a_1 \dots a_5} = 0}$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{CJS}}^{(11)} \Big|_{A_3 = 0}$  will be compared!
- Only the most simple invariant tensor will be used!

# SUGRAs in $d = 11$

Restricted sector of  $osp(32|1)$ -CS Lagrangian:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{CS}}^{(11)} \Big|_{\substack{l=9 \\ b=0}} = & \frac{\lambda}{l^9} \left[ -\frac{1}{4 \times 9! \kappa_2^2} \epsilon_{a_1 \dots a_{11}} R^{a_1 a_2} \wedge e^{a_3} \wedge \dots \wedge e^{a_{11}} + \right. \\ & -\frac{7i}{4} \bar{\psi} \wedge \Gamma_{(8)} \wedge D_\omega \psi - \frac{1}{2} a \wedge b + \\ & + \frac{i}{8} \left( T^a - \frac{i\kappa_1^2}{4} \bar{\psi} \wedge \Gamma^a \psi \right) \wedge e_a \wedge \bar{\psi} \wedge \Gamma_{(6)} \wedge \psi + \\ & \left. + \frac{7}{2^4 \times 5} a \wedge * a - \frac{1}{2^{10} \times 3^2} \frac{(4!)^5}{6!} b \wedge * b \right]. \end{aligned}$$

# SUGRAs in $d = 11$

Standard SUGRA, E. Cremmer, B. Julia and J. Scherk (1978),

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{L}_{\text{CJS}}^{(11)} = & -\frac{1}{9!} \frac{1}{4\kappa^2} \epsilon_{a_1 \dots a_{11}} R^{a_1 a_2} \wedge e^{a_3} \wedge \dots \wedge e^{a_{11}} + \frac{i}{2} \bar{\psi} \wedge \Gamma_{(8)} \wedge \mathbf{D}\psi + \\
 & + \frac{i}{8} \left( T^a - \frac{i\kappa^2}{4} \bar{\psi} \wedge \Gamma^a \psi \right) \wedge e_a \wedge \bar{\psi} \wedge \Gamma_{(6)} \wedge \psi - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{F} \wedge * \mathbf{F} + \\
 & + (*\mathbf{F} + b) \wedge (\mathbf{d}A_3 - a) + \frac{1}{2} a \wedge b - \frac{1}{3} A_3 \wedge \mathbf{d}A_3 \wedge \mathbf{d}A_3,
 \end{aligned}$$



# SUGRAs in $d = 11$

$$A_3 = ?$$

# SUGRAs in $d = 11$

$$A_3 \sim \frac{1}{l^3}$$

## SUGRAs in $d = 11$

$$\begin{aligned} A_3 &= C_{a_1 \dots a_5 b c} b^{a_1 \dots a_5} \wedge e^b \wedge e^c \\ &+ C_{a_1 \dots a_5 b_1 \dots b_5 c} b^{a_1 \dots a_5} \wedge b^{b_1 \dots b_5} \wedge e^c + \\ &+ C_{a_1 \dots a_5 b_1 \dots b_5 c_1 \dots c_5} b^{a_1 \dots a_5} \wedge b^{b_1 \dots b_5} \wedge b^{c_1 \dots c_5} \end{aligned}$$

- $A_3$  seems to be related to the Chern–Simons **3**-form for  $\text{osp}(32|1)$ !!

# SUGRAs in $d = 11$

A deformed version of standard CJS SUGRA in  $d = 11$   
seems to be contained as a sector of the Chern–Simons Theory!

A priori, no reason to expect such “coincidence”!

# Contents

- 1 Motivation: Several SUGRAs in  $d = 11$ ? SUGRA is unique!
- 2 An Eccentric but Sensible Theory: Chern–Simons Supergravity
- 3 Subtle links between Supergravity and Chern–Simons Theories in  $d = 11$
- 4 Further Work & Questions

## Further Work & Questions

- It is very likely that standard CJS SUGRA can be considered as an small sector of a Chern–Simons system, when a more general invariant tensor is considered.

## Further Work & Questions

- What could this relationship between standard SUGRA and Chern–Simons theory in  $d = 11$  possibly mean...?

## Further Work & Questions

- Could a Chern–Simons theory in  $d = 11$  play a rôle in the net of dualities surrounding Strings / M Theory? [1, 2]
- If it does, to which kind of String theory it could be related?

[1] P. Horava, Phys. Rev. D **59** (1999) 046004, [hep-th/9712130](#)

[2] H. Nastase, [hep-th/0306269](#)



# Thank You!



wxMaxima  
Computational Algebra



Cadabra  
Computational Algebra  
for Quantum Field Theory



Kile  
L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X Editor



Evince  
PDF Viewer



Inkscape  
Vector Graphics Editor



Gimp  
Image Editor

To make this work, we used a bundle of great software, which was *libre* and *gratis*.

This software was created by the open source community  
of mathematicians, physicists, programmers and artists from all around the world.

## Thank You!

Thank You!



¡Muchas gracias! / Eskerrik asko!