

# Symplectic supermanifolds and non-geometric fluxes

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+ work in progress

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Motivation: Closed  
string theory

Two questions

Parity change and Lie  
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Taking the cotangent  
bundle

The Drinfel'd double

Application to double  
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C-bracket as derived  
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# Motivation: Closed string theory

## Canonical momenta and winding

- ▶ Sigma model  $X : \Sigma \rightarrow M = T^d$

$$S = \int_{\Sigma} h^{\alpha\beta} \partial_{\alpha} X^i \partial_{\beta} X^j G_{ij} d\mu_{\Sigma} + \int_{\Sigma} X^* B ,$$

where  $h \in \Gamma(\otimes^2 T^* \Sigma)$ ,  $G \in \Gamma(\otimes^2 TM)$ ,  $B \in \Gamma(\wedge^2 T^* M)$ .

- ▶ Classical solutions to e.o.m. (take *closed* string  $\Sigma = \mathbb{R} \times S^1$ )

$$X_R^i = x_{0R}^i + \alpha_0^i (\tau - \sigma) + i \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{1}{n} \alpha_n^i e^{-in(\tau - \sigma)} , \quad X_L^i = \dots ,$$

$$\alpha_0^i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} G^{ij} \left( p_j - (G_{jk} + B_{jk}) w^k \right) ,$$

- ▶  $p_k$ : Canonical momentum zero modes
- ▶  $w^k$ : *Winding* zero modes,  $w^k := \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \partial_{\sigma} X^k d\sigma$ .

# Motivation: Closed string theory

Two sets of differential operators

Siegel, Tseytlin, Hull, Zwiebach, Kugo, Hohm, Blumenhagen, Lüst, Hassler

- ▶ Two sets of momenta in  $\alpha_0^i \rightarrow$  differential operators:

$$p_i \simeq \frac{1}{i} \partial_k, \quad w^i \simeq \frac{1}{i} \tilde{\partial}^k. \quad (1)$$

- ▶ “Level matching condition” in string theory:

$$\partial_k \phi \tilde{\partial}^k \psi + \tilde{\partial}^k \phi \partial_k \psi = 0, \quad (2)$$

for all elements  $\phi, \psi$  of the algebra of observables.

Two different interpretations on observables  $\phi \in C^\infty(M)$ :

- ▶  $d_{dR}\phi = \partial_k \phi dx^k + \tilde{\partial}^k \phi d\tilde{x}_k$ : Double configuration space, algebra of observables on it: “Double field theory”.
- ▶ Here: Take Lie bialgebroid  $(A, A^*)$  and  $d_A \phi = \partial_k \phi e^k$ ,  $d_{A^*} \phi = \tilde{\partial}^k \phi e_k^*$ . **Make this precise and determine its relation to physics**

# Motivation: Generalized geometry

A word about notation

Hitchin, Gualtieri

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- ▶  $O(d, d)$ -transformations:  $A \in \text{Mat}(d, d)$ ,

$$A\eta A^t = \eta, \quad \eta_{MN} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \text{id} \\ \text{id} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- ▶ Generalized vectors:

$$V = X + \xi, \quad W = Y + \zeta \in \Gamma(TM \oplus T^*M).$$

- ▶ Component notation (fundamental rep of  $O(d, d)$ )

$$V^M = (V^m(x), V_m(x)) \quad \text{and} \quad \partial^M = (\tilde{\partial}^m, \partial_m)$$

- ▶ Bilinear pairing:

$$\langle V, W \rangle = \iota_Y \xi + \iota_X \zeta \quad \text{i.e.} \quad V^M W_M = V^k W_k + V_k W^k.$$

# Motivation: C for Courant?

The C-bracket in double field theory

Hull, Zwiebach, arXiv: 0908.1792

Double configuration space approach  $\rightarrow$ : action principle + gauge symmetry. Commutator of gauge trafos: C-bracket

$$\begin{aligned} ([V, W]_C)^M &= V^K \partial_K W^M - W^K \partial_K V^M \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \left( V^K \partial^M W_K - W^K \partial^M V_K \right). \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Observation for  $V = X + \xi, W = Y + \zeta \in \Gamma(TM \oplus T^*M)$ :

$\tilde{d}^k = 0$ : C-bracket reduces to Courant bracket.

$$[V, W]_C = [X, Y]_L + L_X \zeta - L_Y \xi + \frac{1}{2} d_{DR}(\iota_Y \xi - \iota_X \zeta).$$

# H-flux and “non-geometric” R-flux

Hull, Hohm, Zwiebach

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the famous “chain”

$$H_{ijk} \rightarrow f_{jk}^i \rightarrow Q_k^{ij} \xrightarrow{?} R^{ijk}$$

## 1. Generalized geometry

- ▶ Locally  $H = dB$ , i.e.  $H_{ijk} = \partial_{\underline{i}} B_{\underline{jk}}$ .
- ▶ Locally  $R = [\beta, \beta]_{SN}$ , i.e.  $R^{ijk} = \beta^{in} \partial_n \beta^{\underline{jk}}$ .

Can be implemented by *twists*, e.g. twisted Courant bracket.

## 2. DFT Only local expressions in the literature!

- ▶  $H_{ijk} = \partial_{\underline{i}} B_{\underline{jk}} + B_{\underline{in}} \tilde{\partial}^n B_{\underline{jk}}$ .
- ▶  $R^{ijk} = \tilde{\partial}^i \beta^{\underline{jk}} + \beta^{in} \partial_n \beta^{\underline{jk}}$ .

# Two questions

- ▶ Is it possible to understand the objects  $\langle, \rangle, \tilde{\partial}^k$  and  $[\cdot, \cdot]_C$  using Poisson brackets on the cotangent bundle of an appropriate space?
- ▶ Is there a geometric interpretation of the DFT versions of  $H_{ijk}$  and  $R^{ijk}$ ?



# Lie algebroids and parity change

Liu, Mackenzie, Roytenberg, Severa, Vaintrob, Voronov, Weinstein, Xu,

## Definition

A vector bundle  $A \rightarrow M$  is called *Lie algebroid*, if there exists a homological vector field  $d_A$  on the supermanifold  $\Pi A$ , i.e.

$$[d_A, d_A] = 0.$$

## Standard examples:

- ▶  $A = TM$ , basis of sections  $e_i$ ,  $[e_i, e_j]_A = f_{ij}^k e_k$   
label coordinates on  $\Pi A$  by  $(x^i, \xi^i)$ , then

$$d_A = a_j^i(x) \xi^j \partial_i - \frac{1}{2} f_{ij}^k(x) \xi^i \xi^j \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi^k}. \quad (4)$$

- ▶  $A^* = T^*M$ , basis  $e^i$ ,  $[e^i, e^j]_{A^*} = Q_k^{ij} e^k$ ,  
label coordinates on  $\Pi A^*$  by  $(x^i, \theta_i)$ , then

$$d_{A^*} = a^{ij}(x) \theta_i \partial_j - \frac{1}{2} Q_k^{ij}(x) \theta_i \theta_j \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_k}. \quad (5)$$

The pair  $(A, A^*)$  is an example of a *Lie bialgebroid*.

# Taking the cotangent bundle

Roytenberg, arXiv:math/9910078

Why? Idea:  $d_A$  gives  $\partial_i$  on functions. Relation of  $d_{A^*}$  to  $\tilde{\partial}^i$ ? - If so, we need to get expressions like  $\partial_i f + \tilde{\partial}^i f$ , i.e. *define a meaningful sum of  $d_A$  and  $d_{A^*}$ !*

$T^*\Pi A$ :

Coords:  $(x^i, \xi^i, x_j^*, \xi_j^*)$  and Poisson structure:

$$\{x^j, x_i^*\} = \delta_i^j, \quad \{\xi^j, \xi_i^*\} = \{\xi_i^*, \xi^j\} = \delta_i^j.$$

- ▶ De Rham differential: Take Poisson bracket with the function

$$h_{d_A} = a_j^i(x) x_j^* \xi^i - \frac{1}{2} f_{ij}^k \xi^i \xi^j \xi_k^*, \quad (6)$$

- ▶ Poisson-Lichnerowicz-differential:

$$L^* h_{d_{A^*}} = a^{ij} \xi_i^* x_j^* - \frac{1}{2} Q_k^{ij} \xi_i^* \xi_j^* \xi^k, \quad (7)$$

Now add:  $\mu := h_{d_A} + L^* h_{d_{A^*}}$ .

# The Drinfel'd double

Roytenberg, Weinstein

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## Theorem

*A pair of Lie algebroids  $(A, A^*)$  is a Lie bialgebroid, iff  $\{\mu, \mu\} = 0$ .*

Thus the following definition is justified:

## Definition

*The Drinfel'd double of a Lie bialgebroid  $(A, A^*)$  is given by  $T^*\Pi A$  together with the homological vector field  $\{\mu, \cdot\}$ .*

# Application to double field theory

Deser, Stasheff

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Two sets of momenta:

$$\begin{aligned}h_{d_A} &= \xi^i \left( a_i^j x_j^* - \frac{1}{2} f_{ij}^k \xi^j \xi_k^* \right) =: \xi^i p_i, \\L^* h_{d_{A^*}} &= \xi_i^* \left( a^{ij} x_j^* + Q_k^{ij} \xi^k \xi_j^* \right) =: \xi_i^* \tilde{p}^i.\end{aligned}\tag{8}$$

Thus, we get two derivative operators for  $f \in C^\infty(M)$ , seen as  $f \in C^\infty(T^*\Pi A)$ :

$$\partial_i f := \{p_i, f\}, \quad \tilde{\partial}^i f := \{\tilde{p}^i, f\},\tag{9}$$

More general: Lift of a generalized vector field:

$$V^m \partial_m + V_m dx^m \rightarrow V^m(x) \xi_m^* + V_m(x) \xi^m \in C^\infty(T^*\Pi A).$$

Now, what is the C-bracket?

# C-bracket as derived bracket

Deser, Stasheff

## Theorem

Let  $V^m e_m + V_m e^m$  and  $W^m e_m + W_m e^m$  be generalized vectors with corresponding lifts to  $T^*\Pi A$  given by  $V = V^m \xi_m^* + V_m \xi^m$  and  $W = W^m \xi_m^* + W_m \xi^m$ . In addition let the operation  $\circ$  be defined by:

$$V \circ W = \left\{ \left\{ \xi^i p_i + \xi_i^* \tilde{p}^i, V \right\}, W \right\},$$

Then, for vanishing fluxes  $f, Q$ , the C-bracket of  $V$  and  $W$  is given by

$$[V, W]_C = \frac{1}{2} (V \circ W - W \circ V). \quad (10)$$

Thus, the C-bracket can be seen as a Courant bracket, written in a form appropriate to DFT.

# Fibre translations on the Drinfel'd double

Roytenberg, 2002

Lifts of  $B$  and  $\beta$  to  $T^*\Pi A$  define vector fields

$$\begin{aligned} X_B &= \{B, \cdot\} = \left\{ \frac{1}{2} B_{ij} \xi^i \xi^j, \cdot \right\} \\ X_\beta &= \{\beta, \cdot\} = \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \beta^{ij} \xi_i^* \xi_j^*, \cdot \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Interpretation: For  $V = X + \alpha = X^i \xi_i^* + \alpha_i \xi^i$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} V \mapsto V + X_B V &= \left\{ \frac{1}{2} B_{ij} \xi^i \xi^j, X^i \xi_i^* + \alpha_i \xi^i \right\} \\ &= V + V^m B_{mj} \xi^j, \end{aligned}$$

i.e. we get  $V \mapsto V + \iota_X B$ , i.e.  $B$ -transform. Similar for  $\beta$ .

**Remark:** Together with  $X_A$  for  $A = A^i_j \xi_i^* \xi^j$ , they generate the *Atiyah algebra* of the Drinfel'd double.

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**Idea:** Twist the homological vector fields:

$$h_{d_A} \mapsto h_{d_A} + \{B, L^* h_{d_{A^*}}\} =: h_{d_A}^B. \quad (12)$$

Then the  $H$ -flux is

$$\begin{aligned} H &= \{h_{d_A}^B, B\} = \{h_{d_A}, B\} + \{\{B, L^* h_{d_{A^*}}\}, B\} \\ &= \left( \partial_i B_{jk} + B_{in} \tilde{\partial}^n B_{jk} \right) \xi^i \xi^j \xi^k. \end{aligned}$$

i.e. the DFT expression.

**Idea:** Twist the homological vector fields:

$$L^* h_{d_{A^*}} \mapsto L^* h_{d_{A^*}} + \{\beta, h_{d_A}\} =: L^* h_{d_{A^*}}^\beta . \quad (13)$$

Then the  $R$ -flux is

$$\begin{aligned} R &= \{L^* h_{d_{A^*}}^\beta, \beta\} = \{L^* h_{d_A}, \beta\} + \{\{\beta, h_{d_A}\}, \beta\} \\ &= \left( \beta^{in} \partial_n \beta^{jk} + \tilde{\partial}^i \beta^{jk} \right) \xi_i^* \xi_j^* \xi_k^* . \end{aligned}$$

i.e. the DFT expression.



- ▶ Interpretation of the C-bracket in terms of Poisson brackets on the Drinfel'd double
- ▶ Geometric understanding of the local structure of DFT fluxes
- ▶ **Q**: Relation to the phase space approach of **Aschieri, Mylonas, Schupp, Szabo**?
- ▶ **Q**: Deformation quantization leading to non-associative star products...is associativity restored if we apply the strong constraint?
- ▶ **Q**: Fluxed C-bracket?
- ▶ Many more...would be glad to discuss!

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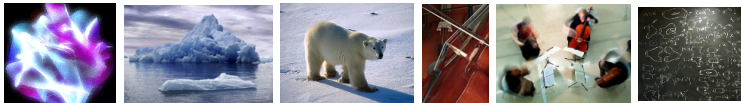
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## Nordic String Theory Meeting 2017



This workshop continues the tradition of the annual Nordic String Theory Meetings. As in the past, the idea is to have a short but intense meeting of stringy people from the "nordic" places Berlin(HU), Bremen(Jacobs), Copenhagen(NBI), Göttingen, Groningen, Hamburg(Uni/DESY), Hannover, Potsdam(AEI) and possibly some nordophilic people from not so nordic places.

Date: February/March 2017 (to be determined)  
Contact: Olaf Lechtenfeld

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