

# Non-geometric fluxes versus (non)-geometry

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arXiv:1106.4015 by D. A., M. Larfors, D. Lüst, P. Patalong  
arXiv:1202.3060 by D. A., O. Hohm, M. Larfors, D. Lüst, P. Patalong  
arXiv:1204.1979 by D. A., O. Hohm, M. Larfors, D. Lüst, P. Patalong  
and work in progress...

18/07/2012, String-Math 2012,  
Bonn, Germany

# Introduction

Non-geometry in 10d and 4d SUGRA

Restrict to NSNS sector:  $g_{mn}$ ,  $b_{mn}$ ,  $\phi$ .

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String theory has more: T-duality...

↪ use stringy symmetries for gluing

[hep-th/0208174](#) by S. Hellerman, J. McGreevy, B. Williams

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(⇔ specific gaugings in gauged SUGRA).

[hep-th/0508133](#) by J. Shelton, W. Taylor, B. Wecht

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Terms ✓ for pheno. : stab. of moduli, de Sitter sol. ...

[hep-th/0607015](#) by J. Shelton, W. Taylor, B. Wecht, [hep-th/0701173](#) by A. Micu, E.

[Palti, G. Tasinato, arXiv:0911.2876](#) by B. de Carlos, A. Guarino, J. M. Moreno

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- Reveals more (geometrical) structure:
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 $\leftrightarrow$  manifestly covariant action w.r.t diffeomorphisms  
 $R$ -flux: tensor,  $Q$ -flux: connection  $\Rightarrow$  geom. role

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  - relations between non-geometry, the new fields, and non-commutative geometry

# Field redefinition

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Key object:  $\beta$ : antisymmetric bivector  $\beta^{mn}$ .

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Motivations from Generalized Complex Geometry/SUGRA

Arguments in GCG:  $\beta$  related to non-geometry / to  $Q_k^{mn}, R^{kmn}$

[hep-th/0609084](#), [arXiv:0708.2392](#) by P. Grange, S. Schäfer-Nameki

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$\beta$  appears via a reparametrization of the gen. metric  $\mathcal{H}$ :

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Apply it on NSNS Lagrangian?

 $\beta$  could be related to non-geo. fluxes  $\Rightarrow$  would they appear?

# Rewriting of the NSNS Lagrangian

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$$\mathcal{L} = e^{-2\phi} \sqrt{|g|} \left( \mathcal{R}(g) + 4(\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3!} H_{kmn} H_{pqr} g^{kp} g^{mq} g^{nr} \right)$$

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(assumption:  $\beta^{km} \partial_m \cdot = 0$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}(g) = \mathcal{R}(\tilde{g}) &- \partial_k \tilde{g}_{su} \partial_m \tilde{g}_{pq} \left( 2\tilde{g}^{km} \tilde{g}^{uq} \tilde{g}^{ps} + 2\tilde{g}^{pq} \tilde{g}^{ks} \tilde{g}^{mu} + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{g}^{uq} \tilde{g}^{sm} \tilde{g}^{kp} \right) \\ &- \tilde{g}_{pq} \partial_k \beta^{pk} \partial_m \beta^{qm} - \frac{1}{2} \tilde{g}_{pq} \partial_k \beta^{qm} \partial_m \beta^{pk} \\ &+ 2\tilde{g}^{km} \tilde{g}^{pq} \partial_k \partial_m \tilde{g}_{pq} + 2\tilde{g}^{km} (G^{-1})_{pq} \partial_k \partial_m G^{qp} \\ &+ \partial_m G^{vl} \left( -2\tilde{g}^{mr} \tilde{g}^{ks} (G^{-1})_{lv} \partial_k \tilde{g}_{rs} - \tilde{g}^{rs} \tilde{g}^{km} (G^{-1})_{lv} \partial_k \tilde{g}_{rs} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \tilde{g}^{ms} \tilde{g}^{ru} (G^{-1})_{lu} \partial_v \tilde{g}_{rs} - \tilde{g}^{km} \tilde{g}^{rs} (G^{-1})_{ls} \partial_k \tilde{g}_{vr} \right) \\ &+ \partial_m G^{vl} \left( (G^{-1})_{lq} \partial_v G^{qm} + \frac{1}{2} g_{lq} \partial_v G^{mq} \right) \\ &- \partial_m G^{vl} \partial_k G^{ps} \frac{1}{2} \tilde{g}^{km} \left( 2(G^{-1})_{lv} (G^{-1})_{sp} + 5(G^{-1})_{sv} (G^{-1})_{lp} + g_{sl} \tilde{g}_{pv} \right) \end{aligned}$$

where  $G = \tilde{g}^{-1} + \beta$ .

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where  $Q_k{}^{mn} = \partial_k \beta^{mn}$ ,  $|Q|^2 = \frac{1}{2!} Q_k{}^{mn} Q_p{}^{qr} \tilde{g}^{kp} \tilde{g}_{mq} \tilde{g}_{nr}$

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Without the assumption

$\Rightarrow$  also get  $R^{mnp} = 3 \beta^{k[m} \partial_k \beta^{np]}$ ,  $|R|^2 = \frac{1}{3!} R^{kmn} R^{pqr} \tilde{g}_{kp} \tilde{g}_{mq} \tilde{g}_{nr}$

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$Q$ -,  $R$ -fluxes appear in 10d NSNS via field redefinition  
Relation to 4d  $Q$ -,  $R$ -fluxes/non-geo. terms?

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$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} &= e^{-2\phi} \sqrt{|g|} \left( \mathcal{R}(g) + 4(\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3!} H_{kmn} H_{pqr} g^{kp} g^{mq} g^{nr} \right) \\ &= e^{-2\tilde{\phi}} \sqrt{|\tilde{g}|} \left( \mathcal{R}(\tilde{g}) + 4(\partial\tilde{\phi})^2 - \frac{1}{2} |Q|^2 + \dots - \frac{1}{2} |R|^2 \right) + \partial(\dots)\end{aligned}$$

where  $Q_k{}^{mn} = \partial_k \beta^{mn}$ ,  $|Q|^2 = \frac{1}{2!} Q_k{}^{mn} Q_p{}^{qr} \tilde{g}^{kp} \tilde{g}_{mq} \tilde{g}_{nr}$

(assumption:  $\beta^{km} \partial_m \cdot = 0$ )

Without the assumption

$\Rightarrow$  also get  $R^{mnp} = 3 \beta^{k[m} \partial_k \beta^{np]}$ ,  $|R|^2 = \frac{1}{3!} R^{kmn} R^{pqr} \tilde{g}_{kp} \tilde{g}_{mq} \tilde{g}_{nr}$

$Q$ -,  $R$ -fluxes appear in 10d NSNS via field redefinition

Relation to 4d  $Q$ -,  $R$ -fluxes/non-geo. terms?

$\Rightarrow$  dimensional reduction ( $\Rightarrow$  potential  $\checkmark$ , get a 10d origin)



# Rewriting of the NSNS Lagrangian

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$\hookrightarrow$  action, integration  $\Rightarrow$  global aspects

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We have shown

$$\mathcal{L}(g, b, \phi) = \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{g}, \beta, \tilde{\phi}) + \partial(\dots)$$

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Relation between 10d/4d non-geometry:  
for a 10d non-geometric configuration,  
field redefinition + dimensional reduction  
 $\Rightarrow$  generates 4d non-geometric terms

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[arXiv:0904.4664](#), [arXiv:0908.1792](#) by C. Hull, B. Zwiebach

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# Diffeomorphism covariance

Gauge sym. of DFT: diffeo.:  $x^i \rightarrow x^i - \xi^i(x, \tilde{x})$ ,  $\tilde{x}_i \rightarrow \tilde{x}_i - \tilde{\xi}_i(x, \tilde{x})$

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$\leftrightarrow$  Covariantize  $\tilde{\partial} \rightarrow \tilde{\nabla}$  w.r.t. unnatural diffeomorphism  $\xi^i$

$$\tilde{\nabla}^i V^j = \tilde{D}^i V^j - \check{\Gamma}_k{}^{ij} V^k \text{ where}$$

$$\tilde{D}^i \equiv \tilde{\partial}^i + \beta^{pi}\partial_p, \quad R^{ijk} = 3\tilde{D}^{[i}\beta^{jk]}$$

$$\check{\Gamma}_k{}^{ij} = \frac{1}{2}\tilde{g}_{kl}(\tilde{D}^i\tilde{g}^{jl} + \tilde{D}^j\tilde{g}^{il} - \tilde{D}^l\tilde{g}^{ij}) + \tilde{g}_{kl}\tilde{g}^{p(i}Q_p{}^{j)l} - \frac{1}{2}Q_k{}^{ij}$$

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$\leftrightarrow$  Covariantize  $\tilde{\partial} \rightarrow \tilde{\nabla}$  w.r.t. unnatural diffeomorphism  $\xi^i$

$$\tilde{\nabla}^i V^j = \tilde{D}^i V^j - \check{\Gamma}_k{}^{ij} V^k \text{ where}$$

$$\tilde{D}^i \equiv \tilde{\partial}^i + \beta^{pi}\partial_p, \quad R^{ijk} = 3\tilde{D}^{[i}\beta^{jk]}$$

$$\check{\Gamma}_k{}^{ij} = \frac{1}{2}\tilde{g}_{kl}(\tilde{D}^i\tilde{g}^{jl} + \tilde{D}^j\tilde{g}^{il} - \tilde{D}^l\tilde{g}^{ij}) + \tilde{g}_{kl}\tilde{g}^{p(i}Q_p{}^{j)l} - \frac{1}{2}Q_k{}^{ij}$$

Construct  $\check{\mathcal{R}}^{ij}{}_l{}^k$ ,  $\check{\mathcal{R}}^{ij}$ ,  $\check{\mathcal{R}}$

# Diffeomorphism covariance

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Gauge sym. of DFT: diffeo.:  $x^i \rightarrow x^i - \xi^i(x, \tilde{x})$ ,  $\tilde{x}_i \rightarrow \tilde{x}_i - \tilde{\xi}_i(x, \tilde{x})$

$$\frac{1}{e^{-2\tilde{\phi}}\sqrt{|\tilde{g}|}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{DFT}}(\tilde{g}, \beta, \tilde{\phi})$$

$$= \mathcal{R}(\tilde{g}, \partial) + \mathcal{R}(\tilde{g}^{-1}, \tilde{\partial}) + 4(\partial\tilde{\phi})^2 + 4(\tilde{\partial}\tilde{\phi})^2 - \frac{1}{2}|Q|^2 - \frac{1}{2}|R|^2 + \dots$$

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$Q$ -,  $R$ -fluxes help to make diffeomorphism cov. manifest in DFT  
+ they get a geometrical role:  $R$  is a tensor  
 $Q$  is not a tensor, rather a connection

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# Relations to non-commutative geometry

- Open string: T-dual of D-brane with a constant  $b$ -field  $B$  leads to  $[x^i(\tau), x^j(\tau)] = i\theta^{ij}$ ,  $\theta$  non-com. parameter

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[hep-th/9908142](#) by N. Seiberg, E. Witten

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- Closed string:  $[X^i(\tau, \sigma), X^j(\tau, \sigma)] \neq 0$  for some concrete (non-geometric) backgrounds

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Here,  $\beta^{ij} \neq \text{constant}$ , rather the non-geometric flux is  
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- Non-associativity:  $R$ -flux is the parameter...

$$[[X^i(\tau, \sigma), X^j(\tau, \sigma)], X^k(\tau, \sigma)] + \text{perm.} \sim R^{ijk}$$

(see talk of A. Deser)

R. Blumenhagen, et al.

# Conclusion and outlook

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- GCG  $\Rightarrow$  field redefinition  $(g, b, \phi) \leftrightarrow (\tilde{g}, \beta, \tilde{\phi})$   
Rewriting NSNS Lag.:  $\mathcal{L}(g, b, \phi) = \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{g}, \beta, \tilde{\phi}) + \partial(\dots)$   
10d  $Q_k^{mn} = \partial_k \beta^{mn}$  (for  $\beta^{km} \partial_m \cdot = 0$ ),  $R^{mnp} = 3 \beta^{k[m} \partial_k \beta^{np]}$
- 10d NSNS non-geometry  $\Rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\tilde{g}, \beta, \tilde{\phi})$  has no global issue...  
 $\hookrightarrow$  dim. reduction of  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}} \Rightarrow$  4d non-geometric potential  $\checkmark$   
Relation between 4d/10d non-geometry
- Manifestly covariant DFT action w.r.t. diffeomorphisms  
Geometrical role of non-geometric fluxes:  
 $R$ : tensor,  $Q$ : connection
- Non-commutativity, non-geometry and field redefinition  
Study relations, get more closed string examples...
- Extend to RR sector (S-duality)  
and D-brane/O-plane sources (new objects?)  
 $\hookrightarrow$  new interesting backgrounds, 10d de Sitter solutions...



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# The dimensional reduction

## The 4d scalar potential

Split 10d  $\Rightarrow$  4d max. sym. space-time  $\times$  6d compact  $\mathcal{M}$

Compactification ansatz:  $ds_{10}^2 = ds_4^2 + ds_6^2$  (no warp factor),

$b, \beta$  purely internal

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Only two 4d scalar fields: volume  $\rho$  and dilaton  $\sigma$ :

$$g_{6ij} = \rho g_{6ij}^{(0)}, \quad e^{-\phi} = e^{-\phi^{(0)}} \sigma \rho^{-\frac{3}{2}}, \quad e^{\phi^{(0)}} = g_s$$

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$\hookrightarrow$  in  $\mathcal{S}_{\text{NSNS}} = \frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int d^{10}x \mathcal{L}$ , integrate 6d, go to 4d Einstein fr.:

$$S_E = M_4^2 \int d^4x \sqrt{|g^E|} \left( \mathcal{R}_4^E + \text{kin} - \frac{1}{M_4^2} V(\rho, \sigma) \right)$$

arXiv:0712.1196 by E. Silverstein

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where  $V(\rho, \sigma) = \sigma^{-2} (\rho^{-3} V_H^0 + \rho^{-1} V_{\mathcal{R}}^0)$

$$V_H^0 = \frac{M_4^2}{v_0} \int d^6x \sqrt{|g_6^{(0)}|} \frac{1}{12} H_{ijk}^{(0)} H_{lmn}^{(0)} g_6^{il(0)} g_6^{jm(0)} g_6^{kn(0)}$$

$$V_{\mathcal{R}}^0 = -\frac{M_4^2}{v_0} \int d^6x \sqrt{|g_6^{(0)}|} \mathcal{R}_6^{(0)}$$

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Non-geometric terms? Most general (NSNS) potential:

$$V(\rho, \sigma) = \sigma^{-2} (\rho^{-3} V_H^0 + \rho^{-1} V_{\mathcal{R}}^0 + \rho V_Q^0 + \rho^3 V_R^0)$$

arXiv:0711.2512 by M. P. Hertzberg, S. Kachru, W. Taylor, M. Tegmark

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arXiv:0711.2512 by M. P. Hertzberg, S. Kachru, W. Taylor, M. Tegmark

With  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}$  instead of  $\mathcal{L}$ , we get the  $\checkmark$  4d potential

We get  $V(\rho, \sigma) = \sigma^{-2} (\rho^{-1} V_{\mathcal{R}}^0 + \rho V_Q^0 + \rho^3 V_R^0)$  where

$$V_{\mathcal{R}}^0 = -\frac{M_4^2}{v_0} \int d^6 x \sqrt{|\tilde{g}_6^{(0)}|} \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_6^{(0)}$$

$$V_R^0 = \frac{M_4^2}{v_0} \int d^6 x \sqrt{|\tilde{g}_6^{(0)}|} \frac{1}{12} R^{ijk(0)} R^{lmn(0)} \tilde{g}_{6il}^{(0)} \tilde{g}_{6jm}^{(0)} \tilde{g}_{6kn}^{(0)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_Q^0 = & -\frac{M_4^2}{v_0} \int d^6 x \sqrt{|\tilde{g}_6^{(0)}|} \left( -\frac{1}{4} \tilde{g}_{ik} \tilde{g}_{jl} \tilde{g}^{rs} Q_r^{kl} Q_s^{ij} + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{g}_{pq} Q_k^{lp} Q_l^{kq} \right. \\ & + \tilde{g}_{jl} \tilde{g}_{pq} \beta^{jm} \left( Q_k^{lp} \partial_m \tilde{g}^{kq} + \partial_k \tilde{g}^{lp} Q_m^{kq} \right) \\ & - \frac{1}{4} \tilde{g}_{ik} \tilde{g}_{jl} \tilde{g}_{pq} \left( \beta^{pr} \beta^{qs} \partial_r \tilde{g}^{kl} \partial_s \tilde{g}^{ij} - 2\beta^{ir} \beta^{js} \partial_r \tilde{g}^{lp} \partial_s \tilde{g}^{kq} \right) \\ & \left. + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{|\tilde{g}|}} \tilde{g}^{pq} \partial_k \tilde{g}_{pq} \partial_m \left( \sqrt{|\tilde{g}|} \tilde{g}_{ij} \beta^{ik} \beta^{jm} \right) \right)^{(0)}_6 \end{aligned}$$



We get  $V(\rho, \sigma) = \sigma^{-2} (\rho^{-1} V_{\mathcal{R}}^0 + \rho V_Q^0 + \rho^3 V_R^0)$  where

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$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}$  and 10d  $Q, R$  give the  $\checkmark$  4d potential (give a 10d origin)

We get  $V(\rho, \sigma) = \sigma^{-2} (\rho^{-1} V_{\mathcal{R}}^0 + \rho V_Q^0 + \rho^3 V_R^0)$  where

$$V_{\mathcal{R}}^0 = -\frac{M_4^2}{v_0} \int d^6 x \sqrt{|\tilde{g}_6^{(0)}|} \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_6^{(0)}$$

$$V_R^0 = \frac{M_4^2}{v_0} \int d^6 x \sqrt{|\tilde{g}_6^{(0)}|} \frac{1}{12} R^{ijk(0)} R^{lmn(0)} \tilde{g}_{6il}^{(0)} \tilde{g}_{6jm}^{(0)} \tilde{g}_{6kn}^{(0)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_Q^0 = & -\frac{M_4^2}{v_0} \int d^6 x \sqrt{|\tilde{g}_6^{(0)}|} \left( -\frac{1}{4} \tilde{g}_{ik} \tilde{g}_{jl} \tilde{g}^{rs} Q_r^{kl} Q_s^{ij} + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{g}_{pq} Q_k^{lp} Q_l^{kq} \right. \\ & + \tilde{g}_{jl} \tilde{g}_{pq} \beta^{jm} \left( Q_k^{lp} \partial_m \tilde{g}^{kq} + \partial_k \tilde{g}^{lp} Q_m^{kq} \right) \\ & - \frac{1}{4} \tilde{g}_{ik} \tilde{g}_{jl} \tilde{g}_{pq} \left( \beta^{pr} \beta^{qs} \partial_r \tilde{g}^{kl} \partial_s \tilde{g}^{ij} - 2\beta^{ir} \beta^{js} \partial_r \tilde{g}^{lp} \partial_s \tilde{g}^{kq} \right) \\ & \left. + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{|\tilde{g}|}} \tilde{g}^{pq} \partial_k \tilde{g}_{pq} \partial_m \left( \sqrt{|\tilde{g}|} \tilde{g}_{ij} \beta^{ik} \beta^{jm} \right) \right) \Bigg|_6^{(0)} \end{aligned}$$

$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}$  and 10d  $Q, R$  give the  $\checkmark$  4d potential (give a 10d origin)

4d  $Q$  is not clearly identified...

$\hookrightarrow$  DFT brings an interpretation for the  $Q$ -terms, the role of  $Q$