

# Supersymmetric Backgrounds and Generalised Holonomy

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Recent Advances in T/U-dualities and Generalized Geometries  
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7th June 2017

[1411.5721](#) with André Coimbra and Daniel Waldram  
and [1504.02465](#) & [1606.09304](#) with André Coimbra

# Introduction

Minkowski backgrounds :  $M^{D-1,1} \times_w M_{\text{int}}$

- ▶ No fluxes  $\rightarrow \nabla \epsilon = 0$ 
  - $\rightarrow$  Special holonomy! E.g. CY<sub>3</sub>, G<sub>2</sub> holonomy, etc.
  - $\rightarrow$  Integrable! [Candelas, Horowitz, Strominger & Witten '85]
- ▶ Fluxes  $\rightarrow \nabla \epsilon = (\text{"Flux"}) \cdot \epsilon \neq 0$  [Strominger '86, Hull '86]
  - $\rightarrow$  G structure [Gauntlett, Martelli, Pakis & Waldram '02]
  - $\rightarrow$  intrinsic torsion
- ▶ Generalised Geometry on  $T \oplus T^*$  includes H flux!
  - $\rightarrow$  Generalised Calabi-Yau  $d_H \Phi^\pm = 0$
  - $\rightarrow$  Integrable! (If no RR) [Graña, Minasian, Petrini & Tomasiello '04]
- ▶ Integrable structure  $\forall$  fluxes? Generalised special holonomy?

# Outline of talk

- ▶ Review: 4d SUSY Minkowski backgrounds of 11d sugra
- ▶ Review: G structures and intrinsic torsion
  - Apply to SUSY backgrounds
- ▶  $E_{d(d)} \times \mathbb{R}^+$  Generalised Geometry
- ▶  $\mathcal{N} \leq 2$  SUSY backgrounds  $\leftrightarrow$  Generalised Special Holonomy
- ▶  $\mathcal{N} \geq 3$  SUSY backgrounds  $\leftrightarrow$  Generalised Special Holonomy
- ▶ Killing superalgebra

# 11D Supergravity [Cremmer, Julia & Scherk '78]

- ▶ Field content  $\{g_{\mu\nu}, \mathcal{A}_{\mu\nu\rho}, \psi_\mu\}$  with  $\mathcal{F}_4 = d\mathcal{A}_3$
- ▶ Bosonic Action

$$S_B \sim \int (\text{vol}_g \mathcal{R} - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{F} \wedge * \mathcal{F} - \frac{1}{6} \mathcal{A} \wedge \mathcal{F} \wedge \mathcal{F})$$

- ▶ Supersymmetry

$$\delta\psi_\mu = \nabla_\mu \varepsilon + \frac{1}{288} (\Gamma_\mu^{\nu_1 \dots \nu_4} - 8\delta_\mu^{\nu_1} \Gamma^{\nu_2 \nu_3 \nu_4}) \mathcal{F}_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_4} \varepsilon$$

Remark:

Could examine holonomy of  $\tilde{D}_\mu \varepsilon = \uparrow$  [Duff & Stelle '91; Duff & Liu '03; Hull '03]

We take different approach...

# Restricting to 7 dimensions

- ▶ Warped metric ansatz ( $\mu, \nu = 0, \dots, 3$ ) ( $m, n = 1, \dots, 7$ )

$$ds_{11}^2 = e^{2\Delta(x)} \eta_{\mu\nu} dy^\mu dy^\nu + g_{mn}(x) dx^m dx^n$$

- ▶ Internal fields:  $\{g_{mn}, A_{mnp}, \tilde{A}_{m_1\dots m_6}, \Delta; \psi_m, \rho\}$
- ▶ Field strengths

$$F_4 = dA_3 \quad \tilde{F}_7 = d\tilde{A}_6 - \frac{1}{2} A_3 \wedge F_4,$$

- ▶ Gauge transformation:  $(\Lambda \in \Lambda^2 T^*M, \tilde{\Lambda} \in \Lambda^5 T^*M)$

$$A' = A + d\Lambda \quad \tilde{A}' = \tilde{A} + d\tilde{\Lambda} - \frac{1}{2} d\Lambda \wedge A$$

# Restricting to 7 dimensions

- ▶ Spinor decomposition

$$\varepsilon = \eta_+ \otimes \epsilon + \eta_- \otimes \epsilon^c$$

- ▶ Internal SUSY variations / Killing spinor equations

$$\begin{aligned}\delta\psi_m = \nabla_m \epsilon + \frac{1}{288} (\gamma_m{}^{n_1 \dots n_4} - 8\delta_m{}^{n_1} \gamma^{n_2 n_3 n_4}) F_{n_1 \dots n_4} \epsilon \\ - \frac{1}{12} \frac{1}{6!} \tilde{F}_{mn_1 \dots n_6} \gamma^{n_1 \dots n_6} \epsilon = 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\delta\rho = \not\nabla \epsilon + (\not\nabla \Delta) \epsilon - \frac{1}{4} \not F \epsilon - \frac{1}{4} \tilde{F} \epsilon = 0$$

- ▶  $\mathcal{N} = N$  SUSY background iff

$\exists N$  independent **non-vanishing complex**  $\epsilon$  satisfying  $\uparrow$

# $G$ -structures

Definition:

**$G$ -structure**  $\equiv$  covering with local frames related by  $G$

E.g. Orthonormal frames  $g(\hat{e}_a, \hat{e}_b) = \delta_{ab}$

$\hat{e}'_a = \Lambda_a{}^b \hat{e}_b$  with  $\Lambda \in SO(d)$   $\rightarrow$   $SO(d)$  structure

E.g. real spinor  $\epsilon$  in 7d  $\rightarrow$  Stabiliser  $G_2 \subset spin(7)$

$\rightarrow$  frames  $\hat{e}_a$  with  $\epsilon \propto (1, 0, \dots, 0)$   $\rightarrow$   $G_2$  structure

# Intrinsic Torsion

- Given  $\hat{\nabla}^g \epsilon = 0$ , any  $G$ -connection can be written

$$\nabla^g = \hat{\nabla}^g + \Omega \quad \Omega \in T^* \otimes \mathfrak{g}$$

- Let  $W = T \otimes \Lambda^2 T^* \sim \{\text{Torsions}\}$

- Torsion map on  $\Omega$ :

$$\tau(\Omega) = T(\nabla^g) - T(\hat{\nabla}^g)$$

- $G$ -structure defines section of  $W/\text{Im}(\tau)$   $\rightarrow$  **Intrinsic torsion!**

$\exists G\text{-compatible torsion-free } \nabla^g \Leftrightarrow \text{Intrinsic torsion vanishes}$

$\Leftrightarrow$  Special holonomy  $G$

# Intrinsic Torsion

Set:  $\nabla^g = \nabla^{LC} + \Sigma \quad \Sigma \in T^* \otimes \mathfrak{so}(d)$

Intrinsic torsion  $\equiv$  some ( $G$  irreducible) parts of  $\Sigma$

Which?

→ Calculate  $W/\text{Im}(\tau)$  by linear algebra

# Intrinsic Torsion

Appears via:

- ▶  $\Phi$  an invariant tensor of  $G$
- ▶ Operator  $\mathcal{D}$  such that  $\mathcal{D}^{(\nabla)}$  sees only  $T(\nabla) = 0$
- ▶ Then  $\mathcal{D}\Phi = \mathcal{D}^{(\nabla^{\text{LC}})} = \mathcal{D}^{(\nabla^{\mathfrak{g}} - \Sigma)}\Phi = -\tau^{\text{int}}(\Sigma) \circ \Phi$   
→ linear dependence on intrinsic torsion.

Example:

- ▶ Form bilinear  $\Phi_{(k)} \sim \epsilon \gamma_{m_1 \dots m_k} \epsilon$
- ▶  $\mathcal{D} = d$        $(\nabla_{[m} \omega_{n_1 \dots n_k]} = \partial_{[m} \omega_{n_1 \dots n_k]} - T_{[m}{}^p{}_{n_1} \omega_{|p|n_2 \dots n_k]})$
- ▶  $\Rightarrow d\Phi_{(k)}$  is part of intrinsic torsion.

# $G$ -structures and SUSY backgrounds

- ▶  $\epsilon = \epsilon_1 + i\epsilon_2$  stabilised by  $\begin{cases} G_2 & \epsilon_1 \propto \epsilon_2 \\ SU(3) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
- ▶ So  $\epsilon$  defines local  $G_2$  or  $SU(3)$  structure
- ▶ Form bilinears  $\Phi_k \sim \epsilon \gamma_{m_1 \dots m_k} \epsilon$
- ▶ Find: **intrinsic torsion**  $\sim$  Flux

$$\nabla \epsilon = (\text{"Flux"}) \cdot \epsilon \quad \Rightarrow \quad d\Phi_k \sim \text{"Flux"}$$

[Gauntlett, Martelli, Pakis & Waldram '02] [Cardoso, Curio, Dall'Agata, Lüst, Manousselis & Zoupanos '02]

[Kaste, Minasian & Tomasiello '03] [Lukas & Saffin '04]

# Generalised Tangent Bundle

[Hull '07; Pacheco & Waldram '08; CSW '11]

- ▶ Consider a bundle

$$E \simeq \textcolor{blue}{TM}_7 \oplus \textcolor{red}{\Lambda^2 T^* M_7} \oplus \textcolor{green}{\Lambda^5 T^* M_7} \oplus (T^* M_7 \otimes \Lambda^7 T^* M_7)$$

- ▶ Sections of  $E \leftrightarrow$  infinitesimal **diffeos** + **gauge** transformations
- ▶ Carries action of  $E_{7(7)} \times \mathbb{R}^+$  in **56<sub>+1</sub>** representation
- ▶ **Dorfman derivative:**

$$\begin{aligned} L_V &= \partial_V - (\partial \times_{\text{ad}} V) \cdot \\ &\sim \mathcal{L}_v + (\textcolor{red}{d}\Lambda_{(2)} \cdot) + (\textcolor{green}{d}\tilde{\Lambda}_{(5)} \cdot) \end{aligned}$$

# Generalised Connections and Torsion

[Gualtieri '07, CSW '11]

- ▶ **Connection:** For  $\Omega_M \in \text{ad}(E_{7(7)} \times \mathbb{R}^+)$

$$D : E \rightarrow E^* \otimes E$$

$$D_M V^A = \partial_M V^A + \Omega_M{}^A{}_B V^B$$

- ▶ **Torsion:** Define  $T(V) \in \text{ad}(E_{7(7)} \times \mathbb{R}^+)$

$$T(V) \cdot = L_V^{(\partial \rightarrow D)} - L_V$$

- ▶ For a **torsion-free** connection  $D$

$$L_V = \partial_V - (\partial \times_{\text{ad}} V) \cdot = D_V - (D \times_{\text{ad}} V) \cdot$$

# Supergravity Fields and the Generalised Metric

- ▶ Can build generalised metric

$$G \sim \{g_{mn}, A_{mnp}, \tilde{A}_{m_1\dots m_6}, \Delta\} \in \frac{E_{7(7)} \times \mathbb{R}^+}{SU(8)}$$

→ Defines  **$SU(8)$  structure** on  $E$

- ▶ Supergravity fermions →  $SU(8)$  representations

$$\epsilon^\alpha \in \mathbf{8} \quad \rho_\alpha \in \bar{\mathbf{8}} \quad \psi^{[\alpha\beta\gamma]} \in \mathbf{56}$$

- ▶ Generalised vector in  $SU(8)$  indices

$$\mathbf{56} \rightarrow \mathbf{28} + \bar{\mathbf{28}} \quad V = (V^{[\alpha\beta]}, \bar{V}_{[\alpha\beta]})$$

- ▶  $SU(8)$  (metric) compatible connection defined by

$$DG = 0$$

- ▶  $\exists$  family of  $D$  torsion-free & compatible (**Not unique!!!**)
- ▶  $T = 0 \Rightarrow$  Some cpts fixed to be  $\nabla, F, \tilde{F}, d\Delta$
- ▶ SUSY variations are:

$$\delta\rho_\alpha = \bar{D}_{\alpha\beta}\epsilon^\beta \quad \delta\psi^{[\alpha\beta\gamma]} = D^{[\alpha\beta}\epsilon^{\gamma]}$$

- ▶ These operators are **unique!**
- ▶ Write them collectively as  $(\delta\psi, \delta\rho) = D \times_{\text{SUSY}} \epsilon$

# Generalised Intrinsic Torsion

Set:

$$D^{\mathfrak{g}} = D^{\text{LC}} + \Sigma \quad \Sigma \in E^* \otimes \mathfrak{su}(8)$$

Generalised Intrinsic torsion  $\equiv$  some ( $G$  irreducible) parts of  $\Sigma$

Which?

→ Calculate  $W/\text{Im}(\tau)$  by linear algebra

Or look at:

→ Unique operators  $\mathcal{D}$  acting on  $G$ -invariant tensors  $\Phi$

$$\mathcal{D}\Phi = -\tau^{\text{int}}(\Sigma) \cdot \Phi$$

- ▶  $\epsilon$  defines (global)  $SU(7)$  structure on  $E$

Key result:

Killing spinor eqns  $(D \times_{\text{SUSY}} \epsilon) \equiv SU(7)$  Intrinsic torsion

- ▶ I.e SUSY  $\Rightarrow$   $SU(7)$  structure has vanishing intrinsic torsion
- ▶ Analogue of spaces with special holonomy
- ▶  $SU(7)$  “generalised holonomy”

# Generalised special holonomy! [CSW '14]

$\mathcal{N} = 1$  Minkowski background  $\Leftrightarrow SU(7)$  generalised holonomy

Comment:

- ▶  $D^{[\alpha\beta}\epsilon^{\gamma]} = 0$  and  $\bar{D}_{\alpha\beta}\epsilon^\beta = 0$  (SUSY)  
 $\Rightarrow$  Generalised Ricci flat (Eqns of motion)

- ▶  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  AdS backgrounds

$$D^{[\alpha\beta}\epsilon^{\gamma]} = 0 \quad D_{\alpha\beta}\epsilon^{\beta} = \Lambda \bar{\epsilon}_{\alpha}$$

$\Lambda \rightarrow$  (generalised) singlet torsion

- ▶ “Weak generalised holonomy”  
[ c.f. Sasaki-Einstein, weak  $G_2$  etc.]
- ▶ SUSY  $\Rightarrow$  Generalised Einstein

$$R_{MN} \sim \Lambda^2 G_{MN}$$

# Extension : Higher $\mathcal{N}$ backgrounds?

Would like that:

$$\mathcal{N} = \textcolor{blue}{N} \text{ Minkowski background} \stackrel{?}{\Leftrightarrow} SU(8 - \textcolor{blue}{N}) \text{ generalised holonomy}$$

- ▶  $\mathcal{N} = 2 \rightarrow$  torsion-free  $SU(6)$  structure

(**same proof**:  $(D \times_{\text{SUSY}} \epsilon_{1,2}) \equiv$  Intrinsic torsion)

(Also  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  AdS [Ashmore, Petrini & Waldram '16])

- ▶  $\mathcal{N} \geq 3$  **more difficult**:  $(D \times_{\text{SUSY}} \epsilon_i) \subsetneq$  Intrinsic torsion

→ What happens then?...

# Mulitple Killing spinors [c.f. Gabella, Martelli, Sparks & Passias '12]

- ▶ Basis  $\epsilon_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, N$  of  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space of Killing spinors
- ▶ SUSY  $\Rightarrow$  rescaled  $\hat{\epsilon}_i = e^{-\Delta/2} \epsilon_i$  satisfies

$$\tilde{\nabla}_m \hat{\epsilon} = \nabla_m \hat{\epsilon} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{3!} F_{mnpq} \gamma^{npq} \hat{\epsilon} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{6!} \tilde{F}_{mn_1 \dots n_6} \gamma^{n_1 \dots n_6} \hat{\epsilon} = 0$$

- ▶  $\{\gamma^{(2)}, \gamma^{(3)}, \gamma^{(6)}\}$  generate  $SU(8)$  so  $SU(8)$  connection!
- ▶  $\Rightarrow$  preserves inner products  $\hat{\epsilon}_i^\dagger \hat{\epsilon}_j$
- ▶ So  $\exists$  **unitary** basis  $\boxed{\hat{\epsilon}_i^\dagger \hat{\epsilon}_j = \delta_{ij}}$

# $SU(8 - N)$ Intrinsic torsion

- ▶ Split  $SU(8)$  index :  $\alpha = (i, a)$ , where  $i \leftrightarrow$  Killing spinors.
- ▶ Let  $D^g = D^{LC} + \Sigma$  where
  - ▶  $D^g$  an  $SU(8 - N)$  connection  $D\epsilon_i = 0$
  - ▶  $D^{LC}$  a torsion-free  $SU(8)$  connection
  - ▶  $\Sigma = (\Sigma_{[\alpha\beta]}{}^\gamma{}_\delta, \Sigma^{[\alpha\beta]\gamma}{}_\delta) \in E^* \otimes \text{ad } SU(8)$     ← **torsion is here!**
- ▶  $SU(8 - N)$  intrinsic torsion

$$\hat{\tau}_{\text{int}} = (\Sigma_{\alpha\gamma}{}^\gamma{}_i, \Sigma_{[\alpha\beta}{}^i{}_{\gamma]}, \Sigma_{[ij}{}^a{}_{k]}) + (\text{c.c.})$$

# $SU(8 - N)$ Intrinsic torsion vs SUSY

- ▶  $SU(8 - N)$  intrinsic torsion

$$\hat{\tau}_{\text{int}} = (\Sigma_{\alpha\gamma}{}^\gamma{}_i, \Sigma_{[\alpha\beta}{}^i{}_{\gamma]}, \Sigma_{[ij}{}^a{}_{k]}) + (\text{c.c.})$$

- ▶ Supersymmetry operators are

$$D_{[\alpha\beta}^{\text{LC}} \bar{\epsilon}_{\gamma]}^i = -\Sigma_{[\alpha\beta}{}^i{}_{\gamma]} \quad D_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{LC}} \epsilon_i^\beta = -\Sigma_{\alpha\gamma}{}^\gamma{}_i$$

- ▶  $\Sigma_{[ij}{}^a{}_{k]}$  does not appear!
- ▶ Looks impossible that SUSY could  $\Rightarrow \hat{\tau}_{\text{int}} = 0$
- ▶ For  $\mathcal{N} \leq 2$  have  $\Sigma_{[ij}{}^a{}_{k]} = 0$  so matches

# Killing vectors

Killing vectors have

$$\mathcal{L}_v g = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \nabla_{(m} v_{n)} = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \nabla_m v_n = \nabla_{[m} v_{n]}$$

- ▶ So  $(\nabla v) \in \text{ad}(SO(d)) \subset \text{ad}(GL(d, \mathbb{R}))$
- ▶ So  $\nabla$  and  $(\nabla v)$  can act on arbitrary  $Spin(d)$  objects
- ▶ → Kosmann's spinorial Lie derivative

$$\mathcal{L}_v^\kappa \epsilon = \nabla_v \epsilon + \frac{1}{4} (\nabla_{[a} v_{b]}) \gamma^{ab} \epsilon$$

- ▶ “Agrees” with Lie derivative if  $v$  a Killing vector!

$$\mathcal{L}_v = \nabla_v - (\nabla \times_{\text{ad}} GL(d, \mathbb{R}) v) \cdot = \nabla_v - (\nabla \times_{\text{ad}} SO(d) v) \cdot$$

# Generalised Killing vectors (GKVs)

[Grana, Minasian, Petrini & Waldram '08]

Generalised Killing vectors (**GKVs**) have

$$L_V G = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad D \times_{\text{ad}(E_{7(7)} \times \mathbb{R}^+)} V = D \times_{\text{ad}(SU(8))} V$$

⇒ Dorfman derivative can naturally act on  $SU(8)$  objects!

$$L_V = D_V - (D \times_{\text{ad}(E_{7(7)} \times \mathbb{R}^+)} V) \cdot = D_V - (D \times_{\text{ad}(SU(8))} V) \cdot$$

**Comment:**

Vector part  $V = v + \dots$  is flux-preserving **isometry**

$$\mathcal{L}_v g = \mathcal{L}_v \Delta = \mathcal{L}_v F = \mathcal{L}_v \tilde{F} = 0$$

# Kosmann-Dorfman (KD) derivative

Define:

$$L_V = D_V - (D \times_{\text{ad}(\textcolor{blue}{SU}(8))} V) \cdot$$

For **GKVs**:

- ▶ “Agrees” with Dorfman derivative
- ▶ Algebra closes:  $[L_V, L_{V'}] = L_{L_V V'}$
- ▶ Commutes with SUSY operators

$$L_V(D \times_{\text{SUSY}} \epsilon) = D \times_{\text{SUSY}} (L_V \epsilon)$$

# Kosmann-Dorfman and Killing spinors

- )  $\Rightarrow$  For  $V$  a GKV

$$D \times_{\text{SUSY}} \epsilon = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad D \times_{\text{SUSY}} (L_V \epsilon) = 0$$

- )  $\{ \text{Killing spinors} \} \sim \text{representation}$  of isometry group
- )  $\Rightarrow$  If  $V$  a GKV then  $\exists$  **constant** matrix  $X_i^j$  s.t.

$$L_V \epsilon_i = X_i^j \epsilon_j$$

# Spinor bilinears and trilinears

Complex generalised vectors  $V_{ij}$  and  $W^{ij} = (V_{ij})^*$

$$(V_{ij})^{\alpha\beta} = \epsilon_i^{[\alpha} \epsilon_j^{\beta]} \quad (V_{ij})_{\alpha\beta} = 0$$

SUSY  $\Rightarrow$  GKVs  $(D \times_{\text{ad}(SU(8))^\perp} V = 0)$

$$D^{[\alpha\beta}(\epsilon_i^\gamma \epsilon_j^{\delta]}) = 0, \quad D_{\alpha\beta}(\epsilon_i^{[\alpha} \epsilon_j^{\beta]}) = 0,$$

$\Rightarrow \exists$  constants  $X_{ijk}{}^l$  s.t.

$$L_{V_{ij}} \epsilon_k = X_{ijk}{}^l \epsilon_l$$

$\rightarrow$  Closure of some algebra? See later...

# More on trilinears

Find (using SUSY and  $\epsilon_i^\dagger \epsilon_j = \delta_{ij}$ ):

$$L_{V_{ij}} \epsilon_k = D_{V_{[ij}}} \epsilon_k] \quad L_{W^{ij}} \epsilon_k = 0$$

Then “closure” (and  $\epsilon_i^\dagger \epsilon_j = \delta_{ij}$ )

$$\Rightarrow L_{V_{ij}} \epsilon_k = 0 \quad L_{W^{ij}} \epsilon_k = 0$$

GKVs preserving the Killing spinors!

# $SU(8 - N)$ Intrinsic torsion revisited

Return to setup  $D^{SU(8-N)} = \hat{D}^{\text{LC}} + \Sigma$  from before

We have that:

$$(L_{V_{ij}} \epsilon_k)^a \sim \epsilon_{[i}^\gamma \epsilon_j^{\gamma'} (\bar{\hat{D}}_{|\gamma\gamma'|} \epsilon_k^a) \sim \Sigma_{[ij}{}^a{}_{k]}$$

This was the missing component of the **intrinsic torsion!**

Further: showed that SUSY  $\Rightarrow L_{V_{ij}} \epsilon_k = 0$ , so **it vanishes!**

# Generalised special holonomy!!!

Result:

$$\mathcal{N} = \textcolor{blue}{N} \text{ Minkowski background} \Leftrightarrow SU(8 - \textcolor{blue}{N}) \text{ generalised holonomy}$$

In other dimensions:

$d$	$\tilde{H}_d$	Generalised Holonomy
7	$SU(8)$	$SU(8 - \mathcal{N})$
6	$Sp(8)$	$Sp(8 - 2\mathcal{N})$
5	$Sp(4) \times Sp(4)$	$Sp(4 - 2\mathcal{N}_+) \times Sp(4 - 2\mathcal{N}_-)$
4	$Sp(4)$	$Sp(4 - 2\mathcal{N})$

Also for type IIA and IIB

# Internal Killing superalgebra

Reminiscent of “superalgebra”

$$[\epsilon_i, \epsilon_j] = V_{ij}$$

$$[Q, Q] = P$$

$$[V_{ij}, \epsilon_k] = L_{V_{ij}} \epsilon_k = 0$$

$$[P, Q] = 0$$

$$[V_{ii'}, V_{jj'}] = L_{V_{ii'}} V_{jj'} = 0$$

$$[P, P] = 0$$

Not a coincidence – “internal sector” of [Killing superalgebra](#)

# 11d Killing superalgebra (KSA)

[Figueroa-O'Farrill, Meessen & Philip '04]

Lie Superalgebra on { Killing vectors }  $\oplus$  { Killing spinors }

$$[\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2] = v(\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2)$$

$$[v, \varepsilon] = \mathcal{L}_v \varepsilon$$

$$[v_1, v_2] = \mathcal{L}_{v_1} v_2$$

Algebra of “super-isometries”

# 11d Killing superalgebra (KSA)

Introduce basis of external Weyl spinors  $\eta_1 = (1, 0)$ ,  $\eta_2 = (0, 1)$

$$Q_{i,\alpha} = \eta_\alpha \otimes \epsilon_i, \quad \bar{Q}_i{}^{\dot{\alpha}} = \bar{\eta}{}^{\dot{\alpha}} \otimes \epsilon_i^c,$$

and internal (complex) vectors  $z_{ij} = (\epsilon_i^c \gamma^m \epsilon_j) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^m}$

$$[Q_{i,\alpha}, \bar{Q}_{j,\dot{\beta}}] = \delta_{ij} (\sigma^\mu)_{\alpha\dot{\beta}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu},$$

$$[Q_{i,\alpha}, Q_{j,\beta}] = \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} z_{ij},$$

$$[\bar{Q}_i{}^{\dot{\alpha}}, \bar{Q}_j{}^{\dot{\beta}}] = \epsilon_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \bar{z}_{ij},$$

KSA  $\cong$  Supertranslational part of **super-Poincaré algebra**

Crucially: Internal isometries always central  $[z_{ij}, \cdot] = 0$

# Conclusions

Result:

$$\mathcal{N} = \textcolor{blue}{N} \text{ Minkowski background} \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{G}_{\textcolor{blue}{N}} \text{ generalised holonomy}$$

$d$	$\tilde{H}_d$	$\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{N}}$
7	$SU(8)$	$SU(8 - \mathcal{N})$
6	$Sp(8)$	$Sp(8 - 2\mathcal{N})$
5	$Sp(4) \times Sp(4)$	$Sp(4 - 2\mathcal{N}_+) \times Sp(4 - 2\mathcal{N}_-)$
4	$Sp(4)$	$Sp(4 - 2\mathcal{N})$

KSA  $\cong$  Supertranslational part of super-Poincaré algebra

(Central charges  $\simeq$  generalised Killing vectors)

# Further extensions?

- ▶  $\mathcal{N} = N$  AdS? - works the same way!
  - (but some subtleties) [work in progress]
- ▶ Definition of “generalised holonomy”?
- ▶ Moduli? [Garcia-Fernandez, Rubio & Tipler '15; Ashmore & Waldram '15]  
[Ashmore, Petrini & Waldram '15; Ashmore, Gabella, Grana, Petrini & Waldram '16]
- ▶ Higher derivative corrections? [Garcia-Fernandez '13]  
[Coimbra, Minasian, Triendl & Waldram '14]
- ▶ Non-geometric backgrounds? [Grana, Minasian, Petrini & Waldram '08]

# The End

- ▶ Thanks for your attention!