

Supersymmetry and the Supergravity Landscape

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Seminar given on **October 6th 2005** at the **University of Groningen**

Based on [hep-th/0506056](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/0506056) and on work in preparation. Work done in collaboration with

Jorge Bellorín and Mechthild Hübscher (I.F.T., Madrid)

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- ☞ In **Kaluza-Klein** theories, the symmetries of the **vacuum** state also determine the interactions.
- ☞ However, in theories **that include gravity**, the energies of different **vacua** cannot be compared and it is not known how **the** vacuum is chosen, and, therefore, why our Universe is the way it is.
- ☞ This is an old and very well known problem. It is also of crucial importance. And it is still **UNSOLVED**.

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But, first, we are going to review briefly how we have come to consider this scenario in our quest for UNIFICATION.

Plan of the Talk:

- 1 Unification & Landscape
- 9 Susy Solutions
- 11 Tod's problem
- 15 Solving it
- 19 Conclusion

1 – Unification & Landscape

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or

“How We Got Into This Mess”



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Let's review first how the pursuit of **unification** has led to the (key, but yet unsolved) **vacuum selection problem** and this to the idea of **landscape**. There have been many instances of **unification**:

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1 Electricity ⊕ Magnetism $\xRightarrow{\text{Faraday, Maxwell}}$ Electromagnetism

$$\vec{E}, \vec{B} \longrightarrow (F_{\mu\nu}) \equiv \left(\begin{array}{c|c} 0 & -\vec{E}^T \\ \hline \vec{E} & \star \vec{B} \end{array} \right)$$

Required by the **Special Theory of Relativity** just as Newtonian gravity and gravitomagnetism are combined in **General Relativity**.

2 Space \oplus Time $\xRightarrow{\text{Einstein, Minkowski}}$ Spacetime

$$t, \vec{x} \longrightarrow (x^\mu) \equiv (ct, \vec{x}).$$

Strongly related to the former, is associated to an **enhancement of symmetry** from the **Galileo** to the **Poincaré** group which is not apparent at low speeds, but is never broken.

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▮ There is **enhancement of local symmetry** from g.c.t.'s in $d = 4$ to g.c.t.'s in $d = 5$, but this symmetry is **spontaneously broken** (in modern parlance) to g.c.t.'s in $d = 4$ and $U(1)$ due to the (completely **arbitrary**) choice of **vacuum**. The rule is always:

global symmetry of the vacuum \sim local symmetry of the reduced theory.

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The extraordinary success of this model has made of it the **paradigm of unification** schemes.

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An unsuccessful generalization of the electroweak **unification** scheme based on a semisimple gauge group ($SO(10)$, $SU(5)$, \dots) **spontaneously broken** by a generalized **Higgs** mechanism to $SU(3) \times U(1)$

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This is a new kind of **unification** based in an **enhancement of (global spacetime) symmetry** to **supersymmetry**, which should also be **spontaneously broken** by a yet unknown **super-Higgs** mechanism.

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- » It is the most general extension of the **Poincaré** and **Yang-Mills** symmetries of the S-matrix (**Haag-Lopuszanski-Sohnius**).
- » It can also be combined with g.c.t.'s, making it local (**supergravity** theories). We can have **supergravity** theories with **Yang-Mills** fields etc. etc. But in most of these theories **gravity** is not **unified** with the other interactions.

- ▶ However, **extended** ($N > 1$) **supergravities** contain in the same supermultiplet of the **graviton** additional bosonic fields that may describe the other interactions. In this scheme all interactions would be described in a **unified** way.

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- ▶▶▶ These **extended supergravities** can in general be obtained from compactification of simpler higher-dimensional **supergravities**. It was also discovered that many $N = 1$ **supergravities** coupled to **Yang-Mills** fields could also be obtained in the same way, by a careful choice of compact manifold (i.e. **Kaluza-Klein vacuum**). This lead to a new brand of **unified** theories which could describe everything: **Theories Of Everything**.

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- ☞ The **vacuum** of this theory was arbitrarily chosen to recover the **Standard Model**. Conceptually, the arbitrariness in the choice of **vacuum** replaces that of the choice of **Higgs** field and potential (and gauge interactions, dimensionality...).

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- ☞ But these theories are **anomalous** and it is impossible to obtain the **chiral structure** of the **Standard Model** by compactification on **smooth manifolds** (Witten).
- ☞ These problems and the advent of **String Theory**, **anomaly-free** and with **chiral fermions** were possible, killed these theories, although they have resurrected again.
- ☞ The **vacuum** of this theory was arbitrarily chosen to recover the **Standard Model**. Conceptually, the arbitrariness in the choice of **vacuum** replaces that of the choice of **Higgs** field and potential (and gauge interactions, dimensionality...).

The rule of this game is:

global supersymmetry of the vacuum \sim **local supersymmetry of the reduced theory**.

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This theory could satisfy all our desires for **unification**, but we have to find in it our Universe's **vacuum** and explain **why** and **how** it is selected.

Since many things seem to work, the vacuum-selection problem (of which the moduli stabilization problem is just another manifestation) becomes more acute.

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But this is only a (computationally necessary) simplification of the genuine problem in which all possible compactifications should be considered.

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- Application to $N = 1, 2, d = 4$ **supergravity**.

2 – Susy Solutions

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2 – Susy Solutions

Supersymmetric solutions (a.k.a. solutions with residual or unbroken or preserved supersymmetry) are classical bosonic solutions of supergravity (SUGRA) theories which are invariant under some supersymmetry transformations.

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Generically, the supersymmetry transformations take the form

$$\delta_\epsilon \phi^b \sim \bar{\epsilon} \phi^f, \quad \delta_\epsilon \phi^f \sim \partial \epsilon + \phi^b \epsilon. \quad (1)$$

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This is a generalization of the concept of *isometry*, an infinitesimal general coordinate transformation generated by $\xi^\mu(x)$ that leaves the metric $g_{\mu\nu}$ invariant because it satisfies the *Killing (vector) equation*

$$\delta_\xi g_{\mu\nu} = 2\nabla_{(\mu} \xi_{\nu)} = 0. \quad (3)$$

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When the **supersymmetric vacuum** solution has a clear (possibly **warped**) product structure we distinguish internal and spacetime **symmetries**
→ **spontaneous compactification**.

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This is the problem of finding **all** the **bosonic** field configurations ϕ^b for which a **SUGRA's Killing spinor equations**

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The **supersymmetry** invariance of the action implies

$$\delta_\epsilon S = \int d^d x (S_{,b} \delta_\epsilon \phi^b + S_{,f} \delta_\epsilon \phi^f) = 0,$$

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The **supersymmetry** invariance of the action implies after taking the functional derivative w.r.t. **fermions** and setting them to zero

$$(\delta_\epsilon S)_{,f_1} \Big|_{\phi^f=0} = \left\{ \int d^d x (S_{,b} \delta_\epsilon \phi^b + S_{,f} \delta_\epsilon \phi^f) \right\}_{,f_1} \Big|_{\phi^f=0} = 0,$$

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Many terms vanish automatically because they are odd in **fermion** fields ϕ^f

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This is valid for any fields ϕ^b and any **supersymmetry** parameter ϵ . For a **supersymmetric** field configuration ϵ is a **Killing spinor** $\delta_\epsilon \phi^f \Big|_{\phi^f=0}$ and we obtain the **Killing spinor identities**

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These **non-trivial** identities are linear relations between the **bosonic** equations of motion and can be used to solve **Tod's** problem, obtain **BPS** bounds etc. Let's see some examples.

$N = 1, d = 4$ supergravity

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Its field content is $\{e^a{}_\mu, \psi_\mu\}$. The bosonic action is just the Einstein-Hilbert action

$$S|_{\psi_\mu=0} = \int d^4x \sqrt{|g|} R, \Rightarrow \mathcal{E}_a{}^\mu(e) \sim G_a{}^\mu,$$

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The K.S.I.s are

$$-i\bar{\epsilon}\gamma^a G_a{}^\mu = 0, \Rightarrow R = 0, \quad -i\bar{\epsilon}\gamma^a R_a{}^\mu = 0.$$

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We will see later how to obtain more information from these identities.

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$$\Rightarrow \{\mathcal{E}_a{}^\mu(e)\gamma^a + 2[\mathcal{E}^\mu(A) + \mathcal{B}^\mu(A)\gamma_5]\}\epsilon = 0.$$

4 – Solving it

★ (1983) Tod showed in that in $N = 2, d = 4$ SUGRA the problem could be completely solved using just integrability and consistency conditions.

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III One can get an expression of all the gauge field strengths of the theory (the main ingredient of Ω_μ) in terms of the **scalar** bilinears M and the **Killing vector** V_μ from **tensorial** equations.

IV The **Maxwell** equations and **Bianchi** identities are imposed on those field strengths, getting equations for the **scalar** bilinears.

V The **Einstein** equations are imposed and the **K.S.I.**s used to find relations between **scalar** bilinears and metric components.

There is by now a well-defined **recipe** to attack this problem starting with only one assumption: the existence of **one Killing spinor** ϵ .

I Translate the **Killing spinor** equations and **K.S.I.**s into **tensorial** equations.

With the **Killing spinor** ϵ one can construct **scalar**, **vector**, and **p -form** bilinears $M \sim \bar{\epsilon}\epsilon$, $V_\mu \sim \bar{\epsilon}\gamma_\mu\epsilon$, \dots that are related by **Fierz** identities and satisfy equivalent equations:

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Let us see some examples.

$N = 1, d = 4$ supergravity

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All the metrics with covariantly constant null vectors are Brinkmann pp-waves and have the form

$$ds^2 = 2du(dv + Kdu + A_i dx^i) + \tilde{g}_{ij} dx^i dx^j,$$

where all the components are independent of v $V^\mu \partial_\mu \equiv \partial/\partial v$.

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These metrics are the supersymmetric field configurations of $N = 1, d = 4$ SUGRA, but only those with $R_{\mu\nu} = 0$ are supersymmetric solutions.

$N = 2, d = 4$ supergravity

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With two Weyl spinors ϵ^I one can construct the following independent bilinears

- A complex scalar $\bar{\epsilon}^I \epsilon^J \equiv M \epsilon^{IJ}$
- A Hermitean matrix of null vectors (4) $V^I_{J\mu} \equiv i \bar{\epsilon}^I \gamma_\mu \epsilon_J$

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so $V^\mu \equiv V^I_{I\mu}$ is Killing and the other three are exact forms. $V^\mu V_\mu \sim |M|^2 \geq 0$ can be timelike or null.

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When it is timelike, $V^\mu \partial_\mu \equiv \sqrt{2} \partial / \partial t$ and

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SUSY $\Rightarrow d\omega = i |M|^{-2*} [M dM^* - \text{c.c.}]$,
 Solutions $\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla}^2 M^{-1} = 0$. (Israel-Wilson-Perjes)

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Work on the last topics is in progress.

This is

THE END