

# A Connection for Born Geometry and its Application to DFT

## String and M-theory Geometries

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## Key Points

- ▶ What is Born Geometry? (idea of dynamical phase space)
- ▶ Connections for various geometries
- ▶ Torsion and integrability
- ▶ Relevance to Double Field Theory

# Outline

Born Geometry

A Connection for Born Geometry

Application to DFT

# Born Geometry

## Born Reciprocity

### In Quantum Mechanics

- ▶ symmetry between spacetime and momentum space
- ▶ freedom to choose a basis of states

### In General Relativity

- ▶ this symmetry is broken:

spacetime  
is curved

energy-momentum  
space is flat

Max Born (1935):

"To unify QM and GR need momentum space to be curved"

# Born Geometry

[Freidel, Leigh, Minic]

## Classical Mechanics

- ▶ (almost) symplectic structure  $\omega$  on phase space  $\mathcal{P}$   $Sp(2d)$

## Quantum Mechanics

- ▶ complex structure  $I$ :

$$x \rightarrow p, \quad p \rightarrow -x \quad \text{with} \quad I^2 = -1$$

- ▶ compatibility:  $I^T \omega I = \omega$
- ▶ defines a metric on phase space  $\mathcal{H} = \omega I$   $O(2d, 0)$
- ▶ "quantum" or "generalized" metric

# Born Geometry

To split phase space into spacetime and momentum space

- ▶ bi-Lagrangian (real) structure  $K: T\mathcal{P} = L \oplus \tilde{L}$

$$K|_L = +1, \quad K|_{\tilde{L}} = -1 \quad \text{with} \quad K^2 = +1$$

- ▶ compatibility:  $K^T \omega K = -\omega$
- ▶ defines another metric on phase space  $\eta = \omega K$   $O(d, d)$
- ▶ "polarization" or "neutral" metric
- ▶ spacetime is maximal null subspace w.r.t.  $\eta$

$$\mathcal{H}|_L = g$$

# Born Geometry

The Born Geometry  $(\mathcal{P}; \eta, \omega, \mathcal{H})$  unifies

- ▶ symplectic structure of classical mechanics
- ▶ complex structure of quantum mechanics
- ▶ real structure of general relativity

Quantum gravity needs a dynamical phase space

String theory provides a realization of these concepts and  
geometric structure



# String Theory

Tseytlin Action on phase space with  $X = (x/\lambda, y/\epsilon)$

$$S = \frac{1}{2} \int d\tau d\sigma [(\eta_{AB} + \omega_{AB})\partial_\tau X^A \partial_\sigma X^B - \mathcal{H}_{AB} \partial_\sigma X^A \partial_\sigma X^B]$$

- ▶ including topological term

[Giveon, Rocek; Hull]

## String Theory

- ▶ chiral structure:  $J = \eta^{-1} \mathcal{H}$
- ▶ T-duality on target space:  $X \rightarrow J(X)$
- ▶  $\omega$  and  $K$  not required, but present

## Para-quaternionic Manifold

Born Geometry  $(\mathcal{P}; \eta, \omega, \mathcal{H}) \longrightarrow$  para-quaternions  $(I, J, K)$

- ▶ complex structure  $I = \mathcal{H}^{-1}\omega \quad (I^2 = -1)$
- ▶ chiral structure  $J = \eta^{-1}\mathcal{H} \quad (J^2 = +1)$
- ▶ real structure  $K = \eta^{-1}\omega \quad (K^2 = +1)$

All mutually anti-commute

$$\begin{aligned}
 I &= JK = -KJ, \\
 J &= IK = -KI, \\
 K &= JI = -IJ,
 \end{aligned}
 \qquad
 IJK = -1$$

# Integrability

## Almost bi-Lagrangian structure $K$

- ▶ Splitting into Lagrangian distributions:  $T\mathcal{P} = L \oplus \tilde{L}$
- ▶  $K^T \omega K = -\omega \rightarrow$  Lagrangian eigenspace  $\omega|_L = \omega|_{\tilde{L}} = 0$
- ▶  $K^T \eta K = -\eta \rightarrow$  Null eigenspace  $\eta|_L = \eta|_{\tilde{L}} = 0$

## If $K$ integrable:

- ▶  $[L, L] \subset L$  and  $[\tilde{L}, \tilde{L}] \subset \tilde{L}$
- ▶ Induces a polarization
- ▶ Darboux coordinates  $(x, \tilde{x})$  spanning  $L$  and  $\tilde{L}$

## Projectors of $(3, 0)$ -tensors

Lagrangian Subspaces (Polarizations):  $T\mathcal{P} = L \oplus \tilde{L}$

$$\blacktriangleright (\mathcal{K}^\pm)^2 = \mathcal{K}^\pm, \quad \mathcal{K}^+ \mathcal{K}^- = 0$$

$$4\mathcal{K}^\pm N(X, Y, Z) := N(X, Y, Z) + N(K(X), K(Y), Z) \\ \pm N(X, K(Y), K(Z)) \pm N(K(X), Y, K(Z))$$

Chiral subspaces:  $T\mathcal{P} = C_+ \oplus C_-$

$$\blacktriangleright (\mathcal{J}^\pm)^2 = \mathcal{J}^\pm, \quad \mathcal{J}^+ \mathcal{J}^- = 0$$

$$4\mathcal{J}^\pm N(X, Y, Z) := N(X, Y, Z) + N(J(X), J(Y), Z) \\ \pm N(X, J(Y), J(Z)) \pm N(J(X), Y, J(Z))$$

# Torsion

For a connection  $\nabla = \partial + \Gamma$

## Usual Torsion

- ▶  $T(X, Y) = \nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X - [X, Y]$
- ▶  $T_{ij}{}^k = \Gamma_{ij}{}^k - \Gamma_{ji}{}^k$

## Generalized Torsion

- ▶  $\mathcal{T}(X, Y) = \mathcal{L}_X^\nabla Y - \mathcal{L}_X^\partial Y$
- ▶  $\mathcal{T}_{ij}{}^k = \Gamma_{ij}{}^k - \Gamma_{ji}{}^k - \Gamma^k{}_{ji}$
- ▶  $\mathcal{T} \in \Gamma(\Lambda^2(\mathcal{P}) \otimes \mathfrak{X}(\mathcal{P}))$

## Contorsion

For any metric-compatible connection  $\nabla$  and Levi-Civita connection  $\overset{\circ}{\nabla}$ :

### Contorsion tensor $\Omega$

- ▶  $\nabla = \overset{\circ}{\nabla} + \Omega$  or  $\Gamma = \overset{\circ}{\Gamma} + \Omega$
- ▶  $\Omega_{ijk} = \frac{1}{2}(T_{ijk} - T_{jki} + T_{kij})$
- ▶  $\mathcal{T}_{ijk} = \Omega_{ijk} + \Omega_{jki} + \Omega_{kij} = \frac{1}{2}(T_{ijk} + T_{jki} + T_{kij})$

# The Nijenhuis Tensor

The Nijenhuis Tensor of a tangent bundle structure  $A$

$$N_A \in \Gamma(\Lambda^2(\mathcal{P}) \otimes \mathfrak{X}(\mathcal{P}))$$

$$N_A(X, Y) = A([A(X), Y] + [X, A(Y)]) - [A(X), A(Y)] - A^2[X, Y]$$

If  $A$  is integrable,  $N_A = 0$ .

# The Nijenhuis Tensor

Need it for bi-Lagrangian structure  $K = \eta^{-1}\omega$

$$\begin{aligned} N_K(X, Y, Z) &= \overset{\circ}{\nabla}_Y \omega(X, K(Z)) - \overset{\circ}{\nabla}_X \omega(Y, K(Z)) \\ &\quad + \overset{\circ}{\nabla}_{K(Y)} \omega(X, Z) - \overset{\circ}{\nabla}_{K(X)} \omega(Y, Z) \\ &= d\omega(K(X), K(Y), K(Z)) + d\omega(X, Y, K(Z)) \\ &\quad + 2\overset{\circ}{\nabla}_{K(Z)} \omega(X, Y) \end{aligned}$$



# A Connection for Born Geometry

## Connections for various geometries

### Levi-Civita Connection

- ▶ Riemannian geometry: metric  $\eta$
- ▶ Unique, compatible, symmetric, torsion-free

### Fedosov Connection

- ▶ Symplectic geometry: almost symplectic form  $\omega$
- ▶ Family of compatible, symmetric, torsion-free

### Bismut Connection

- ▶ Hermitian geometry: almost complex structure  $I$ , metric  $\mathcal{H}$
- ▶ Unique, compatible with  $\mathcal{H}$  &  $I$ , totally skew torsion

## Connections for various geometries

### Fedosov + metric = Levi-Civita

- ▶ Symplectic manifold with metric (real structure  $K = \eta^{-1}\omega$ )
- ▶ Unique, compatible with  $\omega$  &  $\eta$ , symmetric, torsion-free

### Doubled space of DFT

- ▶ Two metrics:  $\eta$  and  $\mathcal{H}$  (chiral structure  $J = \eta^{-1}\mathcal{H}$ )
- ▶ DFT connection not fully determined

### Born Connection

- ▶ Born geometry  $(\mathcal{P}; \eta, \omega, \mathcal{H})$  with para-quaternions  $(I, J, K)$
- ▶ Unique, compatible, (generalized) torsion is chiral

## The Born Connection

### Defining Properties

- ▶ Compatibility with Born geometry  $(\eta, \omega, \mathcal{H})$

$$\nabla\eta = \nabla\omega = \nabla\mathcal{H} = 0$$

- ▶ Generalized torsion is chiral

$$\mathcal{T} \sim \mathcal{J}^+ N_K$$

Vanishing generalized torsion  $\mathcal{T}$  if  $K$  integrable

$$N_K = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{T} = 0$$

# The Born Connection

Born Connection  $\nabla$  given by

$$\eta(\nabla_X Y, Z) = \eta(\overset{\circ}{\nabla}_X Y, Z) + \eta(X, \Omega(Y, Z))$$

where

- ▶  $\overset{\circ}{\nabla}$  is the Levi-Civita connection of  $\eta$
- ▶  $\Omega$  is the contorsion

## The Born Connection

### Contorsion

$$\begin{aligned}
 \eta(X, \Omega(Y, Z)) &= \frac{1}{2} \mathring{\nabla}_X H(Y, J(Z)) \\
 &+ \frac{1}{4} [\mathring{\nabla}_Y \mathcal{H}(J(Z), X) - \mathring{\nabla}_{K(Y)} \mathcal{H}(I(Z), X) \\
 &\quad - \mathring{\nabla}_{J(Z)} \mathcal{H}(X, Y) + \mathring{\nabla}_{I(Z)} \mathcal{H}(X, K(Y))] \\
 &- \frac{1}{4} [\mathring{\nabla}_Z \mathcal{H}(X, J(Y)) - \mathring{\nabla}_{K(Z)} \mathcal{H}(X, I(Y)) \\
 &\quad - \mathring{\nabla}_{J(Y)} \mathcal{H}(Z, X) + \mathring{\nabla}_{I(Y)} \mathcal{H}(K(Z), X)] \\
 &+ \frac{1}{4} [\mathring{\nabla}_{J(X)} \omega(I(Y), Z) + \mathring{\nabla}_{J(X)} \omega(Y, I(Z)) \\
 &\quad - \mathring{\nabla}_X \omega(Y, K(Z)) + \mathring{\nabla}_X \omega(J(Y), I(Z))]
 \end{aligned}$$

## Properties and Identities

e.g.  $\eta$ -compatibility  $\Rightarrow$  skew-symmetry

$$\Omega(X, Y) = -\Omega(Y, X)$$

Some identities needed for proofs

$$\begin{aligned}\overset{\circ}{\nabla}_X \mathcal{H}(Y, Z) &= \Omega(X, Y, J(Z)) - \Omega(X, J(Y), Z), \\ -\overset{\circ}{\nabla}_X \omega(Y, Z) &= \Omega(X, Y, K(Z)) + \Omega(X, K(Y), Z)\end{aligned}$$

# Existence and Uniqueness

## Uniqueness

- ▶ If such a connection exists, it is unique and given by  $\Omega$
- ▶ Fully determined in terms of  $(\eta, \omega, \mathcal{H})$

## Existence

- ▶ Constructive proof
- ▶ Properties of a connection



## Vanishing Generalized Torsion

Need the following objects

- ▶ Chiral Nijenhuis tensor for  $K$

$$\mathcal{J}^+ N_K(X, Y, Z)$$

measures integrability along the chiral subspaces  $C_{\pm}$

- ▶ Polarized component of generalized torsion

$$\mathcal{K}^+ \mathcal{T}(X, Y, Z) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{cycl}(X, Y, Z)} N_K(X, Y, Z)$$

## Vanishing Generalized Torsion

Can express  $\mathcal{T}$  in terms of  $N_K$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{T}(X, Y, Z) &= \mathcal{J}^+ \mathcal{K}^+ \mathcal{T}(X, Y, Z) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{cycl}(X, Y, Z)} \mathcal{J}^+ N_K(X, Y, Z)\end{aligned}$$

Generalized torsion vanishes if  $K$  is integrable

$$N_K = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{T} = 0$$

## Fluxes

No flux:  $B = 0, d\omega = 0$

- ▶  $\overset{\circ}{\nabla}_X \omega(Y, Z) = 0$
- ▶ Levi-Civita = Fedosov connection

Turn on H-flux  $H = dB$

- ▶  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}(g, B)$  and  $d\omega \sim H \neq 0$
- ▶ flux appears in torsion ( $\mathcal{T} \sim \mathcal{J}^+ N_K$  with  $N_K \sim H$ )
- ▶ Bismut connection - torsion is totally skew [Ellwood; Gualtieri]

More general fluxes  $(H, f, Q, R) \subset \mathcal{F}$

- ▶  $d\omega \sim \mathcal{F} \neq 0$

## Structure group

Have the following groups

$$O(d, d) \cap Sp(2d) \cap O(2d, 0) = O(d)$$

- ▶ Born connection reduces to  $O(d)$  connection on Lagrangian submanifold with metric  $g$
- ▶ Levi-Civita connection of  $g$  ?

# Application to DFT

## Coordinate Expression

### Introduce frame field

- ▶ Frame field  $E_A$
- ▶ Local coordinates  $X = X^A E_A$

$$\eta_{AB} = \eta(E_A, E_B), \quad \omega_{AB} = \omega(E_A, E_B), \quad \mathcal{H}_{AB} = \mathcal{H}(E_A, E_B)$$

### Covariant derivative of a vector

$$\nabla_A X^B = \overset{\circ}{\nabla}_A X^B + \Omega_{AC}{}^B X^C$$

## Coordinate Expression

Born connection given by

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_{ABC} = & \frac{1}{2} \overset{\circ}{\nabla}_A \mathcal{H}_{BD} J^D{}_C + \left( \delta^{[D}{}_{[B} J^{E]}{}_C] - K^{[D}{}_{[B} I^{E]}{}_C] \right) \overset{\circ}{\nabla}_D \mathcal{H}_{EA} \\ & - \frac{1}{2} \overset{\circ}{\nabla}_D \omega_{E[B} I^E{}_C] J^D{}_A - \frac{1}{4} \left( \delta^D{}_B K^E{}_C - J^D{}_B I^E{}_C \right) \overset{\circ}{\nabla}_A \omega_{DE} \end{aligned}$$

## Application to Double Field Theory

DFT Limit of Born Geometry:  $\eta$  and  $\omega$  flat

$$\eta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \omega = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{H} = \begin{pmatrix} g & 0 \\ 0 & g^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

Connection reduces to ( $\overset{\circ}{\nabla} \rightarrow \partial$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_{ABC} = & \frac{1}{2} \partial_A \mathcal{H}_{BD} J^D{}_C + \frac{1}{2} (\delta^D{}_{[B} J^E{}_{C]} + J^D{}_{[B} \delta^E{}_{C]}) \partial_D \mathcal{H}_{EA} \\ & - \frac{1}{2} (K^D{}_{[B} I^E{}_{C]} - K^E{}_{[B} I^D{}_{C]}) \partial_D \mathcal{H}_{EA} \end{aligned}$$



## Application to Double Field Theory

Determined part of DFT connection [Coimbra, Strickland-Constable,  
Waldram; Hohm, Zwiebach;  
Jeon, Lee, Park]

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{MNK} &= \frac{1}{2} \partial_M \mathcal{H}_{NL} J^L{}_K + \frac{1}{2} (\delta^P{}_{[N} J^Q{}_{K]} + J^P{}_{[N} \delta^Q{}_{K]}) \partial_P \mathcal{H}_{QM} \\ &+ \frac{2}{D-1} (\eta_{M[N} \delta^L{}_{K]} + \mathcal{H}_{M[N} J^L{}_{K]}) \left( \partial_L d + \frac{1}{4} \mathcal{H}^{PQ} \partial_Q \mathcal{H}_{PL} \right) \\ &+ \hat{\Gamma}_{MNK} \end{aligned}$$

DFT dilaton  $d$  not yet included

$$O(d, d) \rightarrow O(d, d) \times \mathbb{R}^+$$

## Summary

- ▶ Born geometry  $(\mathcal{P}; \eta, \omega, \mathcal{H}) \rightarrow$  dynamical phase space
- ▶ Unique, compatible connection  $\nabla = \overset{\circ}{\nabla} + \Omega$   
with chiral torsion  $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{J}^+ N_K$
- ▶ Integrability condition:  $N_K = 0 \Rightarrow \mathcal{T} = 0$
- ▶ DFT limit of Born geometry reproduces DFT connection



# Doubled String Model

## Setting the Scale

▶ length scale:  $\lambda = \sqrt{\hbar\alpha'}$

$$\alpha' = \lambda/\epsilon$$

▶ energy scale:  $\epsilon = \sqrt{\hbar/\alpha'}$

## Doubled Coordinates

$$X^A = \begin{pmatrix} x^\mu/\sqrt{\alpha'} \\ y_\mu\sqrt{\alpha'} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x^\mu/\lambda \\ y_\mu/\epsilon \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2\pi}{R}x^\mu \\ R\tilde{x}_\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

## Quasi-periodicity and Monodromies

String action needs to be single-valued

- ▶  $dX^\mu(\sigma, \tau)$  is periodic
- ▶ not necessary that  $X^\mu(\sigma, \tau)$  is periodic

Quasi-periodic

$$X^\mu(\sigma + 2\pi, \tau) = X^\mu(\sigma, \tau) + \tilde{p}^\mu$$

- ▶ if  $\tilde{p} \neq 0 \rightarrow$  no a priori geometrical interpretation of closed string propagating in flat spacetime
- ▶ for compact, spacelike direction  $\rightarrow \tilde{p}$  is interpreted as winding

## Quasi-periodicity and Monodromies

In the dual picture also have



$$\oint \star dY = \tilde{p}/\alpha' = \oint dX$$



$$\oint \star dX = \alpha' p = \oint dY$$