## Local SUSY: An unconventional approach

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Supersymmetry (SUSY) is a spacetime symmetry between bosons and fermions. In SUSY, each particle from one class would have an associated particle in the other, known as its *superpartner*, the spin of which differs by a half-integer.

Wikipedia

$$\begin{bmatrix} B' \\ F' \end{bmatrix} = Q \begin{bmatrix} B \\ F \end{bmatrix}$$

F.A. Berezin and G.I. Kac, Math. Sbornik **82** (1970) 343 Yu.A. Golfand and E. P. Likhtman, JETP Lett.**13** (1971) 323 J.-L. Gervais and B. Sakita, Nucl. Phys. **B34** (1971) 632 In our youth, we all fell in love with supersymmetry SUSY:

- Makes **fermions** and **bosons** necessary
- Restricts particle multiplets
- Relates masses and coupling constants
- Provides  $E \ge 0$  theorems, stability
- Improves renormalizability (cancellation of infinities)
- Respects hierarchies (protects mass scales)

#### ... after five decades of active search, no evidence of SUSY has been found.



By Natalie Wolchover, Quanta Magazine on November 29, 2012

## I. What was SUSY expected to solve?



Can these two symmetries combine into a larger one?

*Coleman–Mandula Theorem* (1967): Lie algebras representing spacetime and internal symmetries of the S-matrix can only be combined in a trivial manner (as a direct sum):

$$\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}_S \oplus \mathcal{G}_I$$

C-M theorem notwithstanding, a few years later, a nontrivial extension of the Poincaré group was found...

Volume 46B, number 1	PHYSICS LETTERS		3 September 1973	
IS	THE NEUTRINO A GOLDSTONE PARTICLE?	2		
Physico-Technic	D.V. VOLKOV and V.P. AKULOV cal Institute, Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR, Kharko	v 108, USS.	R	
	Received 5 March 1973			
Using the hypotheses, the which describes an interact	hat the neutrino is a goldstone particle, a phenomenological Lagration of the neutrino with itself and with other particles.	angian is co	nstructed,	

where a Lagrangian invariant under combined spacetime translations and shifts in the fermion field was proposed,

$$x^{\mu} 
ightarrow x^{\mu} + ar{\epsilon} \gamma^{\mu} \psi$$
 ,  $\psi 
ightarrow \psi + \epsilon$ 

which seems to violate the C-M theorem...



Spacetime and gauge symmetries can be part of a larger graded Lie algebra



Fermions belong to nontrivial irreducible representations of Lorentz and gauge groups; they couple naturally to the connections for spacetime and internal symmetries  $\bar{\psi} \not \phi \psi$ ,  $\bar{\psi} \not A \psi$  Fermions (matter) couple to internal gauge fields and to the spacetime geometry





Standard (rigid/global) SUSY

$$\begin{bmatrix} B' \\ F' \end{bmatrix} = Q \begin{bmatrix} B \\ F \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_{BB} & S_{BF} \\ S_{FB} & S_{FF} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B \\ F \end{bmatrix}$$
 "Vector" representation

Global (rigid) SUSY [Wess&Zumino, Ramond, Salam&Strathdee, Iliopoulos, Shifman, ...]  $\{Q^{\alpha}, \overline{Q}_{\beta}\} = H(\Gamma_0)^{\alpha}_{\beta}, \ [H,Q] = 0$ 

→ Energy states are degenerate: m<sub>B</sub> = m<sub>F</sub>
 → Equal numbers of *B*- and *F*-states

Not even approximately true: SUSY must be severely broken

*"If this symmetry were true it would have been discovered long ago."* P. A. M. Dirac to A. Salam, 1976(?)

## II. Standard Model of particle physics

## Fermions (matter) Bosons (interaction carriers)



### **Standard Model**

<u>Matter</u> <u>Sources</u> (ψ)

- Fermions, S=1/2
- Gauge vectors (fundamental rep.)
- Spacetime scalars (zero forms)
- Lorentz spinors

• 1<sup>st</sup> order field eqs.



**Interaction Carriers** (A)

- Bosons S=1
- Gauge connections (adjoint rep.)
- Spacetime vectors (one-forms)
- Lorentz scalars
- 2<sup>nd</sup> order field eqs.

(BEGH boson ?)

**Fermions** 
$$(l, 7; q, \overline{q})$$

$$L = \overline{\psi}_a (\partial - iA + m)^a_b \psi^b$$

- Spin ½ ir.-rep. of Lorentz group -
- Fundamental ir.-rep. of gauge group

• Spinor under local Lorentz transformations:  $\psi'^{\alpha}(x) = S^{\alpha}{}_{\beta}(x)\psi^{\beta}(x)$   $\alpha a$ 

• Vector under internal gauge transformations:  $\psi'^{a}(x) = [g^{-1}(x)]^{a}{}_{b}\psi^{b}(x)$ 

Bosons (
$$\gamma$$
, Z, W<sup>±</sup>, gluons)  

$$L = \left\langle -\frac{1}{4}F \wedge *F - A \wedge *j \right\rangle$$
• Adjoint representation of gauge group

Under internal gauge transformations:  $A'(x) = g^{-1}[A(x) + d]g, \quad A = A_{\mu}dx^{\mu}$ 

### "SUSY-SM": for each observed particle, include a partner with equal mass and other q-numbers, but different spin:

#### **SUPERSYMMETRY** g ĩ $\widetilde{V}_{\tau}$ H H v. Higgsino Higgs W e Quarks Force particles Squarka Sleptons SUSY force **Standard particles SUSY** particles **Observed** Not observed (Dark matter?)

- SUSY breaking mechanism?
- Why are these so heavy?

Spin	Superpartners	Spin
2	Gravitino	3/2
1	Photino	1/2
1	Gluino	1/2
1	Wino <sup>±</sup>	1/2
1	Zino	1/2
0	Higgsino	1/2
1/2	Selectron	0
1/2	Smuon	0
1/2	Stau	0
1/2	Sneutrino	0
1/2	Squark	0
	Spin           2           1           1           1           1           1           1           1           1           1           1           1/2           1/2           1/2           1/2           1/2           1/2           1/2           1/2	SpinSuperpartners2Gravitino1Photino1Gluino1Gluino1Vino <sup>±</sup> 1Zino0Higgsino1/2Selectron1/2Smuon1/2Stau1/2Sneutrino1/2Squark



## The soft SUSY-breaking Lagrangian of the MSSM contains 105 new parameters not found in the Standard Model.

#### Graham Kribs, Supersymmetry, 2012



Alfonso X, the Wise, commenting on Ptolemy's epicycles (~ 1280) Combine **B** and **F** under a <u>local</u> (graded)symmetry that would:  $\blacklozenge$  Respect their roles as connections (**B**) and sections (**F**) in a fiber bundle • Give the right kinetic terms  $(\bar{\psi}\partial\psi, F * F)$  and couplings  $(\bar{\psi}A\psi)$ ♦ No duplicate fields (no SUSY superpartners)  $\diamond$  Allow for massive **F** and massless **B** fields  $\bullet$  Contain only spins 1 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  (the rest can be composites)

◆ Allow for curved, dynamic spacetime (Gravity)

These features are generically violated by SUSY and SUGRA

## III. Unconventional SUSY

#### How to combine fields in different representations?

N.B.: It is often possible to combine an adjoint representation and a vector into an adjoint of a larger group:



This allows to combine connections and vectors of a given group into a connection for a larger group.

#### <u>Generalizing the idea</u>:

Combine an internal gauge connection  $A^r_{\mu}dx^{\mu}$ , a spinor  $\chi^{\alpha}$  and the Lorentz connection  $\omega^{ab}$  into a single <u>connection</u> field:



This is still rather conventional

- → McDowell-Mansouri SUGRA in 4D (1976)
- $\rightarrow$  Chern-Simons Supergravity in odd Dimensions, any  $\langle \dots \rangle$

Technical issue:  $\mathcal{A}$  is a connection 1-form  $\rightarrow$  the spinor  $\chi^{\alpha}$  must also be a 1-form,  $\chi^{\alpha} = \chi^{\alpha}_{\ \mu} dx^{\mu} \Rightarrow s = \frac{3}{2}$  gravitino (not in the SM)

There is an alternative: 
$$\chi^{\alpha}{}_{\mu} \equiv (\Gamma_{\mu})^{\alpha}{}_{\beta}\psi^{\beta}$$
 (*Matter Ansatz*)  
where  $\Gamma_{\mu} = \Gamma_{a}e^{a}_{\mu}$   
*Standard*  $s = \frac{1}{2}$  *spinor*

Dirac matrices (tangent space)  $\{\Gamma_a, \Gamma_b\} = 2\eta_{ab}I$ 

Vielbein/soldering form: Projects from tangent space onto the spacetime manifold.

Fermion: 
$$\chi^{\alpha}{}_{\mu} \in 1 \otimes \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{2} \oplus \frac{1}{2}$$
  
Matter ansatz:  $\chi_{\mu} = \Gamma_{\mu} \psi \implies \psi = \frac{1}{4} \Gamma^{\mu} \chi_{\mu}$  (D=4)  
 $\implies \left(\delta^{\nu}_{\mu} - \frac{1}{4} \Gamma_{\mu} \Gamma^{\nu}\right) \chi_{\nu} = 0$ 

Standard Supergravity: 
$$\Gamma^{\mu}\chi_{\mu} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \chi^{\alpha}{}_{\mu} \in 1 \otimes \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{2} \bigoplus \chi^{\mu}$$
  
U-SUSY:  $\left(\delta^{\mu}_{\nu} - \frac{1}{4}\Gamma_{\nu}\Gamma^{\mu}\right)\chi_{\mu} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \chi^{\alpha}{}_{\mu} \in 1 \otimes \frac{1}{2} = \chi^{0} \oplus \frac{1}{2}$ 

Unconventional SUSY uses the discarded spin-1/2 sector of Supergravity

#### Example in 3 dimensions

Consider a connection for an algebra that includes internal, spacetime, and supersymmetry generators





- Superalgebra su(1,2|2)

The one-form 
$$\mathcal{A} = A^{A}T_{A} + \frac{1}{2}\omega^{ab}J_{ab} + \overline{\psi}_{\alpha}^{r}(\Gamma)_{\beta}^{\alpha}Q_{r}^{\beta} + \overline{Q}_{\alpha}^{r}(\Gamma)_{\beta}^{\alpha}\psi_{r}^{\beta}$$
 transforms as  
a connection under the  $su(1,2|2)$  superalgebra:  $\delta \mathcal{A} = d\Lambda + [\mathcal{A},\Lambda] = D_{\mathcal{A}}\Lambda$   
SO(1,2):  $[J^{ab}, J^{cd}] = \eta^{bc}J^{ad} - \eta^{ac}J^{bd} + \eta^{ad}J^{bc} - \eta^{bd}J^{ac},$   
SU(2):  $[T_{A}, T_{B}] = i\varepsilon_{ABC}T_{C}, \qquad [T_{A}, J^{ab}] = 0$   
SUSY:  $\{Q_{r}^{\alpha}, \overline{Q}_{\beta}^{s}\} = i\delta_{\beta}^{\alpha}T_{A}(\sigma^{A})_{r}^{s} + \frac{1}{2}\delta_{r}^{s}J^{ab}(\Gamma_{ab})_{\beta}^{\alpha}$   
 $[J^{ab}, Q] = \frac{1}{2}\Gamma^{ab}Q; \qquad [J^{ab}, \overline{Q}] = -\frac{1}{2}\Gamma^{ab}\overline{Q},$   
 $[T,Q] \sim Q; \qquad [T,\overline{Q}] \sim -\overline{Q},$ 

All fields are scalars under general coordinate transformations (diff. forms). General covariance is automatically built in

The system has a metric structure and local Lorentz symmetry: Gravity!

## IV. Unconventional Actions

The action is the integral of a gauge-invariant D-form.

$$I = \int L(\mathcal{A}) = \int L(A, \psi, ...)$$

There are two standard options:

• <u>Chern-Simons</u> (odd *D* only)

$$L_{2n+1} = \left\langle \mathcal{A}(d\mathcal{A})^n + c_1 \mathcal{A}^3 (d\mathcal{A})^{n-1} + \dots + c_n \mathcal{A}^{2n+1} \right\rangle$$

and

• Yang-Mills (any *D*)

$$L_{\mathrm{YM}} = \langle \mathcal{F} \wedge \mathfrak{F} \rangle$$

where  $\mathcal{F} = d\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{A}\mathcal{A}$ , () = invariant trace, and  $\circledast$  = Hodge dual

<u>3D</u>: The Chern-Simons form gives a gauge (quasi-) invariant action for  $\mathcal{A}$ :  $L = \frac{1}{2} \left\langle \mathcal{A}d\mathcal{A} + \frac{2}{3} \mathcal{A}\mathcal{A}\mathcal{A} \right\rangle$ 

where the bracket is the invariant symmetric trace in the algebra.



Long wavelength limit of graphene, including curvature, torsion, SU(2). The only propagating degree of freedom is the spin-1/2 Dirac fermion.

Field equations:

$$\delta A: \qquad F^{A} = \frac{i}{2} \varepsilon_{abc} \overline{\psi} \Gamma^{A} \Gamma^{a} \psi e^{b} e^{c} \qquad (1)$$

$$(F^{A}_{\mu\nu} = \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda} j^{\lambda A}) \qquad (F^{ab}_{\mu\nu} = \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda} j^{\lambda A}) \qquad (2)$$

$$\delta \omega^{ab}: \qquad R^{ab} = -2 \overline{\psi} \psi e^{a} e^{b} \qquad (2)$$

$$\delta \overline{\psi}: \qquad [\vartheta + iA - \frac{1}{4} \Gamma^{a} \omega_{ab} \Gamma^{b} + \omega] \psi = 0 \qquad (3)$$

$$\delta e^{a}: \qquad \overline{\psi} \varepsilon_{abc} \Gamma^{c} [\overline{d} e^{b} - e^{b} \overline{d} + 2iA e^{b}] \psi = 2 \overline{\psi} \psi T_{a} \qquad (4)$$
• Standard equations for CS *SU*(2), gravity and spin ½ in 2+1 dimensions.

• Standard equations for CS SU(2), gravity and sp •  $\psi$  gets "mass" from torsion:  $\mu = \eta_{ab} e^a_{\mu} T^b_{\nu\lambda} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda}$ 

$$DT^{a} = 0 \Rightarrow T_{a} = \frac{1}{6}\mu\varepsilon_{abc}e^{b}e^{c}, \ \mu = \text{const}$$

#### Example in 4 dimensions

• Minimal susy extension of SU(2), SO(3,1) leads to osp(4|2):

$$\mathcal{A} = A_r \mathbf{K}^r + A \mathbf{Z} + \bar{Q}_i \Gamma \psi^i + \bar{\psi}_i \Gamma Q^i + f^a \mathbf{J}_a + \frac{1}{2} \omega^{ab} \mathbf{J}_{ab}$$
  

$$SU(2) \times U(1)$$
  
Internal symmetry  

$$SU(2) \times U(1)$$
  

$$SU(2)$$

$$\left\{\bar{Q}_{\alpha}^{i}, Q_{j}^{\beta}\right\} = -i\delta_{\alpha}^{\beta} \left(\sigma^{r}\right)_{j}^{i} \mathbf{K}_{r} + \left(\frac{1}{2}(\Gamma^{a})_{\ \alpha}^{\beta} \mathbf{J}_{a} - \frac{1}{2}(\Sigma^{ab})_{\ \alpha}^{\beta} \mathbf{J}_{ab}\right)\delta_{j}^{i}$$

• Curvature:

$$\mathcal{F} = d\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{A} \mathcal{A} = F_r \mathbf{K}^r + F\mathbf{Z} + \overline{Q}_i \mathcal{F}^i + \overline{\mathcal{F}}_i Q^i + F^a \mathbf{J}_a + \frac{1}{2} F^{ab} \mathbf{J}_{ab}$$

Type equation here.

Where:

$$F = dA - \frac{i}{4}\overline{\psi}_{i} \notin \psi^{i} \qquad U(1)$$

$$F_{r} = dA_{r} + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_{r}^{st} A_{s} A_{t} - \frac{i}{2}\overline{\psi} \notin \sigma_{r} \notin \psi \qquad SU(2)$$

$$\mathcal{F}^{i} = d(\notin\psi^{i}) + iA_{r}(\sigma^{r})^{i}_{j}\psi^{j} + \frac{1}{4}\Omega^{AB}\Gamma_{AB}\psi^{i} \qquad SUSY$$

$$F^{a} = df^{a} + \frac{1}{2}\omega^{a}_{b}f^{b} + \frac{1}{2}\overline{\psi}_{i}\notin\Gamma^{a}\notin\psi^{i}$$

$$F^{ab} = R^{ab} + f^{a}f^{b} - \overline{\psi}_{i}\notin\Gamma^{ab}\notin\psi^{i}$$

$$SO(3,2)$$



- *Osp*(4|2) or SO(3,2)-invariant traces in 4D. The largest symmetry group that has an invariant trace is  $SU(2) \times U(1) \times SO(3,1) \rightarrow Largest$  gauge symmetry of the action.
- $f^a$  is no longer a gauge field

4D Lagrangian (identifying  $f_{\mu}^{a} = \lambda^{1/2} e_{\mu}^{a}$ ):

$$L = \left\{ -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} & Maxwell / YM \right\}$$
  
+  $\frac{i}{2} [\bar{\psi} \bar{\nabla} \psi - \bar{\psi} \bar{\nabla} \psi] + \bar{\psi} \Gamma_5 \Gamma_a T^a \psi & Dirac \right\}$   
+  $\mu^{-2} [(\bar{\psi} \psi)^2 - (\bar{\psi} \Gamma_5 \psi)^2] \left\{ \sqrt{-g} d^4 x \frac{Nambu-Jona \ Lasinio}{\sqrt{-g} d^4 x} \frac{Nambu-Jona \ Lasinio}{\sqrt{-g} d^4 x} + \frac{1}{16} \varepsilon_{abcd} [R^{ab} - \lambda e^a e^b] [R^{cd} - \lambda e^c e^d] \frac{Einstein + cc}{\sqrt{-g} d^4 x} \right\}$ 

- Standard couplings:  $\nabla_{v} = \partial_{v} iA_{v} + \frac{1}{4}\Gamma_{ab}\omega_{v}^{ab} \frac{i\mu}{2}\Gamma_{v}$
- No  $\partial_{\mu}\partial_{\nu}\psi$  terms: fermions behave as standard matter
- Cosmological constant  $\Lambda \sim -\lambda^2$
- Newton's constant  $G \sim \lambda^{-1}$

Phenomenological, low energy, 4D theory.

## V. SUSY breaking

For D=4, the only invariant 4-forms are *characteristic classes* (Chern-Weil theorem).

This rules out locally SO(3,2) -invariant actions.

- $\rightarrow$  SO(3,2) is broken down to SO(3,1)
- → Local SUSY must also be broken
- The surviving local symmetry is  $U(1) \times SU(2) \times SO(3,1)$

There might exist SUSY-invariant vacua, but this is not a invariance of the action.

Local SUSY could be an approximate symmetry for some configurations or in asymptotic regions, like Poincaré or AdS invariance. (Contingent symmetries)

In odd *D* SUSY transformations such as

$$\begin{aligned} \delta A_{\mu} &= -\frac{i}{2} \left( \overline{\varepsilon} \Gamma_{\mu} \psi + \overline{\psi} \Gamma_{\mu} \varepsilon \right) \\ \delta \omega_{\mu}^{a} &= \overline{\varepsilon} \Gamma^{a} \Gamma_{\mu} \psi + \overline{\psi} \Gamma^{a} \Gamma_{\mu} \varepsilon \\ \delta \psi &= \frac{1}{2} \nabla \varepsilon , \qquad \delta e_{\mu}^{a} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

change the action by a boundary term. However, the condition

$$\left(\delta^{\mu}_{\nu} - \frac{1}{4}\Gamma_{\nu}\Gamma^{\mu}\right)\nabla_{\mu}\epsilon = 0$$

restricts this possibility to certain backgrounds (BPS states).

A bosonic vacuum ( $\psi = 0$ ) is invariant provided [ $\nabla \varepsilon = 0$ ] [Killing spinor]

 $\mathcal{N}$  globally defined Killing spinors implies  $\mathcal{N}$  unbroken global (rigid) SUSYs. Hence, SUSY is again a conditional symmetry that depends on the vacuum.

## VI. Overview and summary

#### Ingredients:

•  $\operatorname{Ad}_G + \operatorname{Fund}_G \hookrightarrow \operatorname{Ad}_{G'} G \subseteq G'$ 

# • Superconnection: $\mathcal{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2}\omega^{ab}\mathbf{J}_{ab} + \cdots \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \bar{Q}^{i}\chi_{i} + \bar{\chi}^{i}Q_{i} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} A^{r}\mathbf{T}_{r} \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} \text{spacetime} \\ \text{symmetry} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \text{charged} \\ \text{fermion} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \text{internal} \\ \text{symmetry} \end{bmatrix}$

- Matter ansatz:  $\chi^{\alpha}_{\mu} = (\Gamma_{\mu})^{\alpha}_{\ \beta} \psi^{\beta}, \ \left(\delta^{\mu}_{\nu} \frac{1}{D}\Gamma_{\nu}\Gamma^{\mu}\right)\chi_{\mu} \equiv 0$
- Invariant trace for the largest subgroup:
- Hodge dual <sup>⊛</sup>

#### <u>Consequences of u-SUSY</u> (What is new?)

- All fields are part of the same superconnection A
   F (matter) sections
   B (interactions) connections
- Not all internal and spacetime symmetries are allowed
- Only  $s = \frac{1}{2}$ , 1 fundamental fields ( $s = 0, \frac{3}{2}$ , 2 are composite)
- Only standard kinetic terms (Yang-Mills, Dirac, Chern-Simons)
- Only standard gauge couplings  $(\sim \overline{\psi} A \psi \checkmark, \overline{\psi} A_1 A_2 A_3 \psi \bigstar)$
- No SUSY pairs, no matching d.o.f., no hidden sectors

#### (What is new?)

- (Bare) coupling constants and masses are fixed
- Odd *D*: action is invariant under gauge supergroup
- Even *D*: Action is not SUSY invariant
- F = 0 vacua have full SUSY
- Nambu Jona-Lasinio couplings
- Gravity is necessarily included:
  - Spinors in tangent space  $\rightarrow$  Vielbein
  - Local Lorentz symmetry  $\rightarrow$  spin connection

Gravity!

#### In the end, what is the role of SUSY?

## **Guiding principle**

- Relates spacetime and internal groups that can be combined
- Superalgebra, gauge couplings, coupling constants, masses
- Necessary presence of gravity
- Invariance under supergroup broken down to (Internal gauge group) X (Lorentz group)
- Invariance under entire supergroup for some vacua: BPS states

#### Open questions

• Observable effects (e.g., in graphene)

• Vacua

- Renormalizability? Hierarchy? ...
- $U(1) \times SU(2) \times SU(3)$ ?
- Unconventional SUGRA:

$$\overline{\chi}_{\mu}\Gamma^{\mu\nu\lambda}\nabla_{\nu}\chi_{\lambda} \rightarrow \frac{(D-1)(D-2)}{2} \ \overline{\psi}\phi\psi$$

• B-E-G-H-boson?

Perhaps we have been living with SUSY all along but looking for the wrong signals.

The reports of my death have been greatly exaggerated... (Mark Twain)

