

# Geometric M-theory backgrounds

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## Aim



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**Aim:** To classify/characterise supergravity backgrounds with classical geometric interpretation.

# References for this talk

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- purely gravitational backgrounds of  $D=11$  supergravity  
[\[hep-th/9904124\]](#)

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- Freund–Rubin backgrounds of type IIB and  $D=11$  supergravity  
[Acharya–FO–Hull–Spence [hep-th/9808014](#), [hep-th/9910086](#)]  
[FO–Leitner–Simón, in preparation]

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[Acharya–FO–Hull–Spence hep-th/9808014, hep-th/9910086]  
[FO–Leitner–Simón, in preparation]
- parallelisable backgrounds in ten-dimensional string theory  
[hep-th/0305079, FO–Kawano–Yamaguchi hep-th/0308141]

# Supergravity backgrounds

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 In lorentzian geometry

$\exists$  parallel spinors does not imply Ricci-flatness

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Possible  $G$  follow from orbit decomposition of the spinor representation under  $\text{Spin}(1, n)$

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[Bryant math.DG/0004073]

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[Sorkin, Gross–Perry (1983); Han–Koh (1985)]

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$d$	$H \subset \text{SO}(d)$	$\nu$
10	$\text{SU}(5)$	$\frac{1}{16}$
10	$\text{SU}(2) \times \text{SU}(3)$	$\frac{1}{8}$
8	$\text{Spin}(7)$	$\frac{1}{16}$
8	$\text{SU}(4)$	$\frac{1}{8}$
8	$\text{Sp}(2)$	$\frac{3}{16}$

$d$	$H \subset \text{SO}(d)$	$\nu$
8	$\text{Sp}(1) \times \text{Sp}(1)$	$\frac{1}{4}$
7	$G_2$	$\frac{1}{8}$
6	$\text{SU}(3)$	$\frac{1}{4}$
4	$\text{SU}(2) \cong \text{Sp}(1)$	$\frac{1}{2}$
0	$\{1\}$	1

[Wang (1989)]

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[Leistner math.DG/0309274]

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- $(M, g)$  and  $(N, h)$  Einstein with scalar curvatures  $\pm \frac{4}{3}f^2$  and  $\mp \frac{7}{6}f^2$ , respectively.

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 In lorentzian geometry

$\exists$  Killing spinors does not imply Einstein

# Riemannian manifolds admitting Killing spinors



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[Kath (1999)]  Wang's list not known in signature  $(2, n)$

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[Baum (2000), Baum–Leitner [math.DG/0305063](#)]

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For  $d = 4, 5$  the most general such metric is known.

[[hep-th/9904124](#)]

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[Leitner math.DG/0302024]

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Others thus far lack a clear physical interpretation.

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This turns  $M$  into a Lie group with bi-invariant metric.

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Only the first two have  $dH = 0$ .



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They are all Lie groups with bi-invariant metrics, whence  $dH = 0$ .



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Space	Torsion
$\text{AdS}_3$	$dH = 0 \quad  H ^2 < 0$
$\mathbb{R}^{1,n}, \quad n \geq 0$	$H = 0$
$\mathbb{R}^n, \quad n \geq 1$	$H = 0$
$S^3$	$dH = 0 \quad  H ^2 > 0$
$S^7$	$dH \neq 0 \quad  H ^2 > 0$
$\text{SU}(3)$	$dH = 0 \quad  H ^2 > 0$
$\text{CW}_{2n+2}(J)$	$dH = 0 \quad  H ^2 = 0$

# Ten-dimensional parallelisable geometries

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$$\text{AdS}_3 \times S^7$$

$$\text{AdS}_3 \times S^3 \times \mathbb{R}^4$$

$$\mathbb{R}^{1,0} \times S^3 \times S^3 \times S^3$$

$$\mathbb{R}^{1,2} \times S^7$$

$$\mathbb{R}^{1,6} \times S^3$$

$$\text{CW}_{10}(J)$$

$$\text{CW}_6(J) \times S^3 \times \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{CW}_4(J) \times S^3 \times S^3$$

$$\text{CW}_4(J) \times \mathbb{R}^6$$

$$\text{AdS}_3 \times S^3 \times S^3 \times \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{AdS}_3 \times \mathbb{R}^7$$

$$\mathbb{R}^{1,1} \times \text{SU}(3)$$

$$\mathbb{R}^{1,3} \times S^3 \times S^3$$

$$\mathbb{R}^{1,9}$$

$$\text{CW}_8(J) \times \mathbb{R}^2$$

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The case of linear dilaton was analysed by Kawano and Yamaguchi.

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For non-dilatonic backgrounds, this equation has solutions if and only if  $|H|^2 = 0$ ; which restricts the possible geometries.

Spacetime	Supersymmetry
$\text{AdS}_3 \times S^3 \times S^3 \times \mathbb{R}$	16
$\text{AdS}_3 \times S^3 \times \mathbb{R}^4$	16
$\text{CW}_{10}(J)$	16,18(A),20,22(A),24(B),28(B)
$\text{CW}_8(J) \times \mathbb{R}^2$	16,20
$\text{CW}_6(J) \times \mathbb{R}^4$	16,24
$\text{CW}_4(J) \times \mathbb{R}^6$	16
$\mathbb{R}^{1,9}$	32

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[Kawano–Yamaguchi hep-th/0306038]

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$\mathbb{R}^{1,3} \times S^3 \times S^3$	$\text{CW}_6(J) \times S^3 \times \mathbb{R}$
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All these backgrounds are exact string backgrounds: coupling a WZW model for  $(M, g, H)$  to a Liouville field theory for  $\phi$ .

# Parallelisable heterotic backgrounds

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$$\int_M e^{-2\phi} \left( R + 4|d\phi|^2 - \frac{1}{2}|H|^2 - \frac{N}{2}|F|^2 \right) \text{dvol}_g$$

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[Bryant `math.DG/0004073`]

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for a supersymmetric background.

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**Linear dilaton:** all backgrounds are  $\frac{1}{2}$ -BPS, whereas for **constant dilaton** one has:

Spacetime	Supersymmetry
$\text{AdS}_3 \times S^3 \times S^3 \times \mathbb{R}$	8
$\text{AdS}_3 \times S^3 \times \mathbb{R}^4$	8
$\text{CW}_{10}(J)$	8,10,12,14
$\text{CW}_8(J) \times \mathbb{R}^2$	8,10
$\text{CW}_6(J) \times \mathbb{R}^4$	8,12
$\text{CW}_4(J) \times \mathbb{R}^6$	8
$\mathbb{R}^{1,9}$	16

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- $AdS_3 \times S^3 \times \mathbb{R}^4 \rightsquigarrow CW_6(J) \times \mathbb{R}^4$ , and  $AdS_3 \times S^3 \times S^3 \times \mathbb{R} \rightsquigarrow CW_8(J) \times \mathbb{R}^2$  by taking a Penrose limit

Thank you.