

Generalized Chern-Simons terms in $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supergravity

Jan Rosseel (ITF, K. U. Leuven)

Based on: J. De Rydt, T. Schmidt, A. Van Proeyen, M. Zagermann, J.R., [arXiv:0705.4216](#)

Manchester, HEP 2007, 20/07/2007

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2. Symplectic transformations in $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supergravity
3. The kinetic terms of the vector multiplets
4. Generalized Chern-Simons terms
5. Anomalies
6. Cancellation
7. Supergravity and extended supersymmetry
8. Conclusions

Introduction

- ▶ Generalized Chern-Simons terms are terms of the form

$$C_{AB,C}^{(\text{CS})} W^C \wedge W^A \wedge F^B .$$

- ▶ They can appear in certain flux compactifications and Scherk-Schwarz compactifications, where they are associated with the gauging of certain axionic shift symmetries (Andrianopoli, d'Auria, Ferrara, Lledo, de Wit, Samtleben, Trigiante).
- ▶ Recently their importance has been stressed in anomaly cancellation in orientifold models with intersecting D-branes (Anastasopoulos, Bianchi, Dudas, Kiritsis).
- ▶ In extended supersymmetry and supergravity, their presence is well-known (de Wit, Lauwers, Van Proeyen).
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Symplectic transformations in $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supergravity

- ▶ Consider $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supergravity coupled to chiral multiplets and vector multiplets.
- ▶ The kinetic terms for the vector fields read:

$$e^{-1} \mathcal{L}_1 = -\frac{1}{4} \operatorname{Re} f_{AB} F_{\mu\nu}^A F^{\mu\nu B} + \frac{1}{4} i \operatorname{Im} f_{AB} F_{\mu\nu}^A \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu B}$$

The gauge kinetic function $f_{AB}(z)$ depends holomorphically on the scalar fields z^i .

- ▶ Gauge transformation under which z^i transform non-trivially can induce a gauge transformation of $f_{AB}(z)$.
- ▶ E.g. : gauge kinetic function transforms as a symmetric two-tensor in the adjoint representation.

$$\delta(\Lambda) f_{AB} = \Lambda^C \delta_C f_{AB}, \quad \delta_C f_{AB} = f_{CA}^D f_{BD} + f_{CB}^D f_{AD},$$

where $\Lambda^A(x)$ are the parameters of the gauge transformations and f_{AB}^C are the structure constants.

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$$e^{-1} \mathcal{L}_1 = -\frac{1}{2} \text{Im} \left(F_{\mu\nu}^{-A} G_A^{\mu\nu -} \right), \quad G_A^{\mu\nu -} = -2i \frac{\partial e^{-1} \mathcal{L}_1}{\partial F_{\mu\nu}^{-A}} = i f_{AB} F^{\mu\nu - B}.$$

The combined set of field equations and Bianchi identities

$$\begin{aligned} \partial^\mu \text{Im} F_{\mu\nu}^{-A} &= 0 && \text{Bianchi identities,} \\ \partial_\mu \text{Im} G_A^{\mu\nu -} &= 0 && \text{Equations of motion.} \end{aligned}$$

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Symplectic transformations in $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supergravity

- ▶ Under these symplectic transformations, the gauge kinetic function transforms as:

$$if' = (C + Dif)(A + Bif)^{-1}.$$

- ▶ Symmetries of the action then correspond to transformations with $B = 0$. If $C \neq 0$:

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-1} \mathcal{L}'_1 &= -\frac{1}{2} \text{Im}(F'^{-A} G'^{\mu\nu-}) \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \text{Im}(F'^{-A} G'^{\mu\nu-} + F'^{-A} (C^T A)_{AB} F'^{B\mu\nu-}). \end{aligned} \quad (2.1)$$

For rigid symmetries, the last term represents a total derivative.

- ▶ In order to promote rigid symmetries to gauge symmetries, the $F'^A_{\mu\nu}$ have to transform in adjoint representation of the gauge group. For these transformations, the symplectic matrix reads

$$\mathcal{S} = \mathbb{1} - \Lambda^C \mathcal{S}_C, \quad \mathcal{S}_C = \begin{pmatrix} f_{CB}{}^A & 0 \\ C_{AB,C} & -f_{CA}{}^B \end{pmatrix},$$

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- ▶ This reasoning suggests that we can allow for a more general transformation rule for the gauge kinetic function:

$$\delta_C f_{AB} = f_{CA}{}^D f_{BD} + f_{CB}{}^D f_{AD} + i C_{AB,C}.$$

- ▶ Example:

$$f_{AB} = h_{ABi} z^i, \quad \delta z^i = i M_C^i \Lambda^C \Rightarrow C_{AB,C} = h_{ABi} M_C^i,$$

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The kinetic terms of the vector multiplet

- ▶ Consider the full kinetic terms of the vector multiplet in $\mathcal{N} = 1$ rigid supersymmetry:

$$\begin{aligned} S_f &= \int d^4x d^2\theta f_{AB}(X) W_\alpha^A W_\beta^B \varepsilon^{\alpha\beta} + c.c. \\ &= \int d^4x \left[-\frac{1}{4} \operatorname{Re} f_{AB} \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu}^A \mathcal{F}^{\mu\nu B} - \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Re} f_{AB} \bar{\lambda}^A \not{D} \lambda^B \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{4} i \operatorname{Im} f_{AB} \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu}^A \tilde{\mathcal{F}}^{\mu\nu B} + \frac{1}{4} i (\mathcal{D}_\mu \operatorname{Im} f_{AB}) \bar{\lambda}^A \gamma^5 \gamma^\mu \lambda^B \right], \\ \mathcal{D}_\mu f_{AB} &= \partial_\mu f_{AB} - 2W_\mu^C f_{C(A} \mathcal{D} f_{B)D}. \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ To covariantize with respect to the more general transformation rule of f_{AB}

$$\hat{\mathcal{D}}_\mu f_{AB} = \partial_\mu f_{AB} - 2W_\mu^C f_{C(A} \mathcal{D} f_{B)D} - iW_\mu^C C_{AB,C}.$$

From now on we will consider the action \hat{S}_f , where $\mathcal{D}_\mu \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{D}}_\mu$.

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- ▶ In this way, the gauge non-invariance only originates from one term:

$$\delta_{\text{gauge}} e^{-1} \mathcal{L}_1 = \frac{1}{4} i C_{AB,C} \Lambda^C \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu}^A \tilde{\mathcal{F}}^{\mu\nu B} .$$

- ▶ Note the relation between gauge non-invariance and supersymmetry non-invariance:

$$\left\{ Q_\alpha, Q_{\dot{\alpha}}^\dagger \right\} = \sigma_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}}^\mu \mathcal{D}_\mu = \sigma_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}}^\mu (\partial_\mu - W_\mu^A \delta_A) . \quad (3.1)$$

- ▶ Indeed, the action is not invariant under supersymmetry either:

$$\delta(\epsilon) \hat{\mathcal{S}}_f = \int d^4x \operatorname{Re} \left(\frac{1}{2} C_{AB,C} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} W_\mu^C \mathcal{F}_{\nu\rho}^A \bar{\epsilon}_R \gamma_\sigma \lambda_L^B - \frac{3}{2} i C_{(AB,C)} \bar{\epsilon}_R \lambda_R^C \bar{\lambda}_L^A \lambda_L^B \right) .$$

Note that this expression only depends on the fields of the vector multiplets.

- ▶ In the following we will attempt to construct an action that is invariant under gauge and supersymmetry, by means of *generalized Chern-Simons terms* and *anomalies*.

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The kinetic terms of the vector multiplet

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Proportional to a three-index tensor $C_{AB,C}^{(\text{CS})}$, not necessarily equal to $C_{AB,C}$.

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- ▶ For semi-simple algebras, GCS terms do not bring anything new (de Wit, Hull, Rocek). In that case, one can find a constant, real, symmetric matrix Z_{AB} , such that:

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Anomalies

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$$e^{-\Gamma[W_\mu]} = \int \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi} \mathcal{D}\phi e^{-S(W_\mu, \bar{\phi}, \phi)}.$$

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$$\mathcal{A}_A \sim \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \text{Tr} \left(T_A \partial_\mu (W_\nu \partial_\rho W_\sigma + \frac{1}{2} W_\nu W_\rho W_\sigma) \right),$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_C &= -\frac{1}{4}i [d_{ABC} F_{\mu\nu}^B + (d_{ABD} f_{CE}^B + \frac{3}{2}d_{ABC} f_{DE}^B) W_\mu^D W_\nu^E] \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu A} , \\ \bar{\epsilon} \mathcal{A}_\epsilon &= \text{Re} \left[\frac{3}{2}i d_{ABC} \bar{\epsilon}_R \lambda_R^C \bar{\lambda}_L^A \lambda_L^B + i d_{ABC} W_\nu^C \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu A} \bar{\epsilon}_L \gamma_\mu \lambda_R^B \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{3}{8} d_{ABC} f_{DE}^A \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} W_\mu^D W_\nu^E W_\sigma^C \bar{\epsilon}_L \gamma_\rho \lambda_R^B \right] . \end{aligned}$$

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$$C_{AB,C}^{(\text{CS})} = C_{AB,C}^{(m)} = C_{AB,C} - C_{AB,C}^{(\text{CS})}.$$

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Supergravity and extended supersymmetry

- ▶ So far, we considered rigid supersymmetry. What about supergravity?
No extra GCS terms are needed to achieve cancellation.
- ▶ All extra contributions (e.g. gravitino contributions) that were not present in susy variation for rigid supersymmetry, vanish without need of extra terms.
- ▶ No new contributions to gauge non-invariance.
- ▶ In extended supersymmetry : Generalized Chern-Simons terms have been considered, for restoring gauge and supersymmetry invariance.
- ▶ Note that in extended supersymmetry, one can show that:

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Conclusions

- ▶ We considered gauge and supersymmetry invariance of matter coupled $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supergravity with Peccei-Quinn terms, generalized Chern-Simons terms and anomalies.
- ▶ 1. Gauge non-invariance of PQ terms is parametrized by $C_{AB,C} = C_{AB,C}^{(s)} + C_{AB,C}^{(m)}$.
- ▶ 2. GCS terms are defined by a tensor $C_{AB,C}^{(CS)}$ of mixed symmetry.
- ▶ 3. Anomalies are proportional to a symmetric tensor d_{ABC} .

Invariance is restored when

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- ▶ Presence of symmetric part in $C_{AB,C}$ and of anomalies is different from extended supersymmetry.
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