Title: Supersymmetry and RCHO revisited

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Collection: Octonions and the Standard Model

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Abstract: Various links between supersymmetry and the normed division algebras

R,C,H,O were found in the

1980s. This talk will focus on the link between K=R,C,H,0 and supersymmetric field theories in a Minkowski spacetime of dimension D=3,4,6,10. The first half will survey the history starting with a 1944/5 paper of Dirac and heading towards the links found in 1986/7 between R,C,H,O and super-Yang-Mills theories. The second half will review a result from 1993 that connects, via a twistor-type transform, the superfield equations of super-Maxwell theory in D=3,4,6,10 to a K-chirality constraint on a K-valued worldline superfield of N=1,2,4,8 worldline supersymmetry. This provide an explicit connection of octonions to the free-field D=10 super-Maxwell theory.

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- D=3,4,6,10 and  $\mathbb{K}=\mathbb{R},\mathbb{C},\mathbb{H},\mathbb{O}$  and supersymmetry. Some history: 1945-1990
- Massless particles, Lorentz harmonics and celestial spheres.
   1991-2 work of Delduc, Galperin, Howe, Sokatchev, Stelle
- Twistor-like transform for D=3,4,6,10 super-Maxwell equations and  $\mathbb{K}$ -chirality for N=1,2,4,8 worldline superfields (Galperin, Howe, PKT, 1993)

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#### Dirac's wartime 'braneworld'

The 1944/5 Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy includes a paper by Dirac on "Applications of Quaternions to Lorentz Transformations". This paper cites no one and has rarely been cited. It contains the following observations:

- Lorentz group in a 6D Minkowski spacetime is  $SL(2; \mathbb{H})$
- $SL(2; \mathbb{H})$  acts by fractional linear transformations on the celestial 4-sphere  $\mathbb{HP}^1$ .
- $\bullet$  Restricting to  $\mathrm{Mink_4} \subset \mathrm{Mink_6}$  one finds that

$$SL(2; \mathbb{H}) \rightarrow SL(2; \mathbb{C}) \times U(1)$$

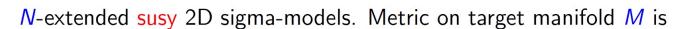
where  $SL(2;\mathbb{C})$  acts by fractional linear transformations on the celestial 2-sphere  $\mathbb{CP}^1 \subset \mathbb{HP}^1$ 

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### Many years later ...



- Real for N=1
- Kähler for N = 2 (Zumino, 1979)
- HyperKähler for N = 4 (Alvarez-Gaumé & Freedman, 1981)
- Flat for N = 8, but  $\dim M = 8m$  for integer m

In addition, a superspace formulation of N-extended 4D SYM suggested a connection of N=1,2 with  $\mathbb{C},\mathbb{H}$  (Ivanov, 1982).

By considering the maximal (Minkowski) spacetime dimension *D* permitted by susy, one sees that (Kugo, PKT, 1982)

$$D = 2 + \dim \mathbb{K}, \qquad \mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{H}, \mathbb{O}.$$

Expected for  $\mathbb{RCH}$  (and  $\mathbb{O}$ ?) from  $|Spin(1, 1 + \dim \mathbb{K})) \cong SL(2; \mathbb{K})$ 

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### Lorentz groups in D = 3, 4, 6, 10

- D = 3:  $SL(2; \mathbb{R}) \cong Spin(1, 2)$
- D = 4:  $SL_1(2; \mathbb{C}) \cong Spin(1,3) \times U(1)$
- D = 6:  $SL(2; \mathbb{H}) \cong Spin(1, 5)$
- D = 10:  $SL(2; \mathbb{O}) \cong Spin(1, 9)$  [algebra: (Sudbery, 1983); group: (Tachibana, Imaeda, 1989; Manogue, Schray 1993; Viera 2015)]

Check:  $S/(2; \mathbb{K})$  has  $4 \dim \mathbb{K} - 1$  generators for  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{H}$ , but

(naive) dim sl(2; 
$$\mathbb{O}$$
)  $\neq 4 \times 8 - 1 = 31$  (?)

Problem due to failure of Jacobi identity [Sudbery]:

$$[A, [B, X]] - [B, [A, X]] = [[A, B], X] + E(A, B)X$$

where  $E(A, B) \in G_2$ . Since dim  $G_2 = 14$ , the correct count is

$$\dim[sl(2;\mathbb{O})] = 31 + 14 = 45$$

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### Super-Yang-Mills and RCHO

- 1976. Brink, Schwarz & Scherk construct SYM for D=2,4,6,10. An identity cubic in D-dim **commuting** spinors is required. However, D=3 is maximal for the assumed (1,1) susy, not D=2, so no connection to  $\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{H}, \mathbb{O}$  was suspected.
- 1984. Green & Schwarz find same cubic identity for GS superstring: now D = 3, 4, 6, 10.
- 1986. Sierra interprets cubic identity as Jordan identity for  $3 \times 3$  hermitian matrices over  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{H}, \mathbb{O}$  (as does Schray in 1994)
- 1987. Evans interprets cubic identity in terms of the Adams "trialities" that are satisfied only for  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{H}, \mathbb{O}$ .

#### Aside: Supersymmetry and the Magic square

1983. Günaydin, Sierra, PKT relate D=5 Maxwell-Einstein supergravity theories to cubic-norm Jordan algebras, and recover Freudenthal-Tits magic square by dimensional reduction to D=4,3.

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### Conformal groups for D = 3, 4, 6, 10



Define  $Sp^{\dagger}(2n; \mathbb{K})$  as group preserving skew-hermitian quadratic form For n=2 we have the conformal isometry groups of Minkowski spacetime in D=3,4,6,10

```
• D = 3. Sp(4; \mathbb{R}) \equiv Spin(2,3)
```

• 
$$D = 4$$
.  $Sp^{\dagger}(4; \mathbb{C}) \equiv Spin(2, 4) \times U(1)$ 

• 
$$D = 6$$
.  $Sp^{\dagger}(4; \mathbb{H}) \equiv Spin(2, 6)$ 

• 
$$D = 10 \ Sp^{\dagger}(4; \mathbb{O}) \equiv Spin(2, 10)$$
 (Chung & Sudbery, 1987)

These are conformal isometries of Mink<sub>d</sub> except extra U(1) for  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}$ For  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{H}$ , we have  $\dim[sp(4; \mathbb{K})] = 6 \dim \mathbb{K} + 4$ 

For  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{O}$  the add 14 rule again applies:

$$\dim sp(4; \mathbb{O}) = 6 \times 8 + 4 + 14 = 66$$

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## Rotation subgroups of $SL(2; \mathbb{K})$



Define  $SO^{\dagger}(n; \mathbb{K})$  as group preserving Hermitian quadratic form. For n=2 we get rotation groups for D=3,4,6,10:

- $\bullet$  D = 3.  $SO(2; \mathbb{R}) \equiv U(1) \cong Spin(2)$
- D = 4.  $SO^{\dagger}(2; \mathbb{C}) \equiv U(2) \cong Spin(3) \times U(1)$
- D = 6.  $SO^{\dagger}(2; \mathbb{H}) \cong Sp_2 \cong Spin(5)$
- d = 10.  $SO^{\dagger}(2; \mathbb{O}) \cong Spin(9)$  (Sudbery, ...)

These are rotation subgroups except extra U(1) for  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}$ .

For  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{H}$ , we have  $\dim[so(2; \mathbb{K})] = 3 \dim \mathbb{K} - 2$ 

For  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{O}$  apply add 14 rule

$$\dim[so(2;\mathbb{O})] = (3 \times 8 - 2) + 14 = 36$$



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### A String/M-theory digression

Fluctuations of planar static M2,D3,M5 branes of string/M-theory yield maximal-susy field theories on a Minkowski worldvolume of dimension d=3,4,6 [and d=10 if we count the  $E_8$  SYM on the 11D-spacetime boundaries of "Heterotic M-theory" (Horava, Witten, 1996)].

Corresponding planar static supergravity solutions have near-horizon 'AdS× S' geometries (Gibbons, PKT, 1993). Note sequence of super-isometry groups (Arvanitakis, Barns-Graham, PKT, 2017):

```
• d = 3. M2-brane : OSp(8|4; \mathbb{R})
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• d = 4. D3-brane : (OSp)^{\dagger}(4|4; \mathbb{C})
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• d = 6. M5-brane : (OSp)^{\dagger}(2|4; \mathbb{H})
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• d = 10. HM9-'brane':  $(OSp)^{\dagger}(1|4; \mathbb{O})$  ?

[This has been interpreted as "D=11 de Sitter-like superalgebra" (Hasiewicz, Lukierski, 1984)]

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## Lorentz (co)vectors and RCHO

For spacetime dimension D=3,4,6,10 we can represent position in Minkowski spacetime by a  $2\times 2$  Hermitian matrix  $\mathbb{X}$  over  $\mathbb{R},\mathbb{C},\mathbb{H},\mathbb{O}$ :

$$\mathbb{X} = \left( \begin{array}{cc} -X^0 + X^1 & \mathbf{X} \\ \overline{\mathbf{X}} & -X^0 - X^1 \end{array} \right) \qquad (\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{K}) \ .$$

For  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{H}$ , Lorentz transformation of D-vector is

$$\mathbb{X} o \mathbb{L} \mathbb{X} \, \mathbb{L}^\dagger \,, \qquad \boxed{ \det(\mathbb{L} \mathbb{L}^\dagger) = 1 } \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbb{L} \in \mathit{SL}(2; \mathbb{K})$$

For co-vector, e.g. particle momentum, we have

$$\mathbb{P} o (\mathbb{L}^\dagger)^{-1} \mathbb{P} \mathbb{L}^{-1}$$

#### Trace reversal [Schray]

If hermitian  $\mathbb{M}$  is a vector then  $\mathbb{M}:=\mathbb{M}-(\operatorname{tr}\mathbb{M})\mathbb{I}_2$  is a covector. And

$$\widetilde{\widetilde{\mathbb{M}}} = \mathbb{M}\,, \qquad \mathbb{M}\widetilde{\mathbb{M}} = -(\det\mathbb{M})\mathbb{I}_2$$

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# The (super)particle and RCHO



Action for particle of mass m in D = 3, 4, 6, 10 is

$$S = \int dt \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{tr}_{\mathbb{R}}(\dot{\mathbb{X}}\mathbb{P}) + \frac{1}{2} e \left( \det \mathbb{P} - m^2 \right) \right\}$$

The Casalbuoni-Brink-Schwarz superparticle for D = 3, 4, 6, 10 requires

$$d\mathbb{X} 
ightarrow d\mathbb{X} + (\Theta d\Theta^\dagger - \Theta^\dagger d\Theta)$$
 .

for Grassmann-odd  $SI(2; \mathbb{K})$  spinor  $\Theta$ .

D = 6,10 constructions for  $m^2 = 0$  using  $\mathbb{H}$ ,  $\mathbb{O}$  spinors were given in 1988 (Kimura, Oda & Oda, Kimura, Nakamura) and again in 1994 (Schray); Schray also found a simple presentation of the 'cubic identity', discussed further in Baez, Huerta, 2009.

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## Solving the mass-shell constraint



For massless particle we have  $\det \mathbb{P} = 0$ . We may solve this in terms of an  $SI(2; \mathbb{K})$  spinor U since

$$\mathbb{P} = UU^{\dagger} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \det \mathbb{P} = 0$$

Whereas U has  $2\dim \mathbb{K}$  components, the null D-vector  $\mathbb{P}$  has only  $D-1=\dim \mathbb{K}+1$ , so U is subject to gauge transformation, which is right-multiplication by a unit-norm element of  $\mathbb{K}$ . These are the groups

$$Z_2$$
,  $U(1)$ ,  $SU(2)$ ,  $S^7$  [?(Sohnius, 1984; Cederwall, 1992)]

For massive particle  $\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{U}\mathbb{U}^{\dagger}$  for invertible matrix  $\mathbb{U}$ 

Now gauge invariance is  $\mathbb{U} \to \mathbb{U}\mathbb{R}$  for  $\mathbb{R} \in SO^{\dagger}(2; \mathbb{K})$ .

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## Celestial spheres as $SL(2; \mathbb{K})$ coset spaces



For any D, the Lorentz algebra spin(1, D-1) has the decomposition

$$h_- \oplus h_0 \oplus h_+$$
;  $h_0 = spin(D-2) \oplus so(1,1)$ ,

where the (D-2)-vectors  $h_{\pm}$  are raising/lowering operators for SO(1,1) weight. The subalgebra  $h_B = h_0 \oplus h_+$  generates a maximal parabolic (Borel) subgroup  $H_B$  of Spin(1, D-1), and the celestial (D-2)-sphere is the coset space (Galperin, Howe, Stelle, 1991).

$$Spin(1, D-1)/H_B$$
,  $H_B = [Spin(D-2) \times SO(1,1)] \ltimes H_+$ .

ightharpoonup For D=3,4,6,10 we may write  $\mathbb{L}\in SL(2;\mathbb{K})$  as a pair of spinors:

$$\mathbb{L} = (U^+, U^-), \quad [\text{equivalently}, (\mathbb{L}^{\dagger})^{-1} = (V_+, V_-)]$$

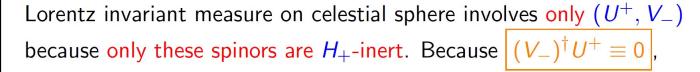
where  $(U^+, V_-)$  have weight +1 (and the others -1)

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### Integrating over a celestial sphere



$$\omega^{++} = V_-^{\dagger} dU^+$$

is  $H_B$ -invariant except for its non-zero weight. It can be used to construct a measure  $d\mu$  of weight  $2\dim \mathbb{K}$ , so an integral is  $H_B$ -invariant if the integrand has weight  $-2\dim \mathbb{K}$  (Delduc, Galperin, Sokatchev 1992).

 $\rightarrow$  For D=3,4 the spinors  $U^+$  and  $V_-$  are in equivalent Lorentz reps.

#### Celstial spheres as projective lines

 $H_B$  acts on  $U^+$  as right-multiplication by a non-zero element of  $\mathbb{K}$ . This tells us that  $SL(2;\mathbb{K})/H_B=\mathbb{KP}^1$ 

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## Solving the 3D wave-equation



A positive-energy solution to  $\Box \phi(x) = 0$  can be written as

$$\phi(x) = \int d^3p \, e^{ip \cdot x} \delta(p^2) \tilde{\varphi}(p) = \int \frac{d^2\mathbf{p}}{2p^0} \, e^{ip \cdot x} \tilde{\varphi}(p) \qquad (p^0 = |\mathbf{p}|).$$

Set  $p = \Omega \bar{u}^+ \gamma u^+$  and use  $dp_1 \wedge dp_2 = 2p^0 d\Omega \wedge \bar{u}^+ du^+$  to get

$$\phi(x) = \int_{S^1} \bar{u}^+ du^+ \left[ \int_0^\infty d\Omega \, e^{i\Omega x^{++}} \tilde{\varphi}(p) \right] = \int_{S^1} d\mu \, f(x^{++}, u^+)$$

with  $x^{++} = (\bar{u}^+ \not x u^+)$ . By construction  $f(\lambda^2 x^{++}, \lambda u^+) = \lambda^{-2} f(x^{++}, u^+)$ 

$$\Box \phi = \int_{S^1} d\mu \ (u^+ \gamma u)^2 \ \partial_{++}^2 f = 0 \qquad (\partial_{++} = \frac{\partial}{\partial_{X^{++}}})$$

$$= 0 \qquad \text{(because } \overline{u}^+ \gamma u^+ \text{ is null)}$$



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### 4D and the twistor transform



A positive-energy solution to  $\Box \phi(x) = 0$  can be written as

$$\phi(x) = \int_{S^2} d\mu \ f(x^{++}, u^+) \qquad x^{++} = x^{\alpha \dot{\beta}} u^+_{\alpha} \bar{u}^+_{\dot{\beta}}$$

where  $u^+$  is complex 2-cpt Weyl spinor, and f has weight -4 since

$$d\mu = (\varepsilon^{\alpha\beta} u_{\alpha}^{+} du_{\beta}^{+}) \wedge (\varepsilon^{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \bar{u}_{\dot{\alpha}}^{+} d\bar{u}_{\dot{\beta}}^{+}) = |u_{1}|^{4} dz \wedge d\bar{z} \qquad (z = u_{2}/u_{1})$$

 $\Rightarrow d\mu f = dz \wedge d\bar{z} F$  for zero-weight function  $F = |u_1|^4 f$ .

As  $S^2$  is symplectic manifold we can use the Duistermaat-Heckman theorem to localise contributions to points on  $S^2$ , which can be expressed as contour integrals  $\rightarrow$  Penrose's twistor transform solution.

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## Solving 3D super-Maxwell equations



The 3D superMaxwell equations are equivalent to the following equation for anticommuting spinor superfield  $\Psi(x,\theta)$ :

$$D_{\alpha}\Psi^{\alpha}=0\,,\qquad \{D_{\alpha},D_{\beta}\}=rac{\partial}{\partial x^{lphaeta}}$$

Solutions to this equation can be written as

$$\Psi_{\alpha} = \int_{S^1} d\mu \ u_{\alpha}^+ \ \psi(x^{++}, \theta^+, u^+), \qquad (\theta^+ = \bar{\theta}u^+)$$

where  $\psi$  is any (anticommuting) worldline superfield of weight -3:

$$D_{\alpha}\Psi^{\alpha} = \int_{S^{1}} d\mu \, \left(\varepsilon^{\alpha\beta} u_{\beta}^{+} u_{\alpha}^{+}\right) D_{+} \psi(x^{++}, \theta^{+}, u^{+}), \qquad \{D_{+}, D_{+}\} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{++}}$$

= 0 (because  $u^+$  is commuting spinor)

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## Solving 4D super-Maxwell



Now we have  $D_{\alpha}\Psi^{\alpha}=0$  for anticommuting complex Weyl-spinor superfield  $\Psi(x,\theta,\bar{\theta})$ . As for 3D, solutions can be expressed as

$$\Psi_{\alpha} = \int_{S^2} d\mu \ u_{\alpha}^+ \ \psi(x^{++}, \theta^+, \bar{\theta}^+ u^+) \qquad (\theta^+ = \theta^{\alpha} u_{\alpha}^+, \ \bar{\theta}^+ = \bar{\theta}^{\dot{\alpha}} \bar{u}_{\dot{\alpha}}^+)]$$

where  $\psi$  is now an N=2 worldline superfield of weight -5. However, it is now constrained by the chirality condition on  $\Psi$ :

$$0 = \bar{D}_{\dot{\alpha}} \Psi_{\alpha} = \int_{S^2} d\mu \ u_{\alpha}^+ \bar{u}_{\dot{\alpha}}^+ \bar{D}_+ \psi \qquad \{ D_+, \bar{D}_+ \} = \partial_{++}$$

 $\Rightarrow \bar{D}_+\psi=0$  i.e.  $\psi$  must be a chiral N=2 worldline superfield.



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## Solving 6D super-Maxwell I



Use  $SL(2; \mathbb{H}) \cong SU^*(4)$  to replace  $U^+(V_-)$  by 4-cpt chiral 'symplectic-Majorana' spinors:

$$U^{+} \rightarrow u_{\alpha}^{+A}, \qquad V_{-} \rightarrow v_{-\dot{A}}^{\alpha} \qquad (\alpha = 1, 2, 3, 4; A, \dot{A} = 1, 2)$$

The 6D Maxwell antichiral spinor superfield  $\Psi_i^{\alpha}(x,\theta)$  satisfies

(i) 
$$D_{\alpha}^{i}\Psi_{j}^{\alpha}=0$$
, (ii)  $D_{\alpha}^{(i}\Psi^{j)\beta}=0$   $D_{\alpha}^{i},D_{\beta}^{j}\}=\varepsilon^{ij}\partial_{\alpha\beta}$ 

Using i  $v^{\alpha}_{\dot{A}}u^{A}_{\alpha}\equiv 0$ , solve (i) by

$$\Psi_j^{\alpha} = \int_{S^4} d\mu \ v_{-\dot{A}}^{\alpha} \ \psi_j^{\dot{A}}(x^{++}, \theta^+, u^+), \qquad \left[ (\theta^+)^{iA} = \theta^{\alpha i} u_{\alpha}^{A} \right]$$

for  $[SU(2) \times SU(2)]$ -vector N = 4 worldline superfield  $\psi$  of weight -9.

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### 10D preliminaries



Use 16-cpt chiral spinors of Spin(1, D - 1). Write  $L \in Spin(1, D - 1)$  as

$$L = (u_{\alpha}^{+A} u_{\alpha}^{-\dot{A}}) \quad \rightarrow \quad (L^{-1})^T = (v_{+\dot{A}}^{\alpha}, v_{-A}^{\alpha})$$

where the 16 spinors are separated into two Spin(8) 8-plets of of opposite chirality and SO(1,1) weight. As before, we can use only the positive-weight spinors  $(u_{\alpha}^{+A}, v_{-\dot{A}}^{\alpha})$  for integration over the celestial sphere.

It is essential that the 10-vector  $\bar{u}^{+A}\gamma u^{+A}$  (summed on A) is null. It is null (by cubic identity) because  $(u_{\alpha}^+, u_{\alpha}^-) \in Spin(1, 9)$  imposes (Galperin, Howe, Stelle 1991 & Delduc, Sokatchev, 1992)

$$\bar{u}^{+A}\gamma u^{+B} = \frac{1}{8}\delta^{AB}(\bar{u}^{+C}\gamma u^{+C})$$

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## Solving 6D super-Maxwell II



To solve (ii) we need to impose the following worldline superfield constraint:

$$(ii)' \quad D_{+A}^{(i}\psi^{j)\dot{A}} = 0 \qquad \{D_{+A}^{i}, D_{+B}^{j}\} = \varepsilon^{ij}\varepsilon_{AB}\partial_{++}$$

There are four components of  $\psi^j_{\dot{A}}$  and four supercovariant derivatives:

$$\psi^{j}_{\dot{A}} = \delta^{i}_{\dot{A}} \psi_{*} + i(\boldsymbol{\sigma})_{\dot{A}}{}^{i} \cdot \boldsymbol{\psi}, \qquad D^{i}_{+A} = \delta^{i}_{A} D_{*} - i(\boldsymbol{\tau})_{A}{}^{i} \cdot \mathbf{D}$$

where  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  are two triplets of Pauli-matrices. In terms of the quaternionic worldline superfield  $\psi = \psi_* + \mathbf{i} \cdot \boldsymbol{\psi}$ , the equations (ii)' can be written as

$$\mathbf{D}\psi + \mathbf{i} \cdot D_*\psi = 0$$
,  $\mathbf{i} = (i, j, k)$ 

 $\longrightarrow$  Generalizes N=2 chirality condition  $(D_2+iD_1)\psi=0$  for complex  $\psi$ 



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## Solving 10D super-Maxwell



(i) 
$$D_{\alpha}\Psi^{\alpha}=0$$
, (ii)  $[\gamma^{abcd}D]_{\alpha}\Psi^{\alpha}=0$ 

We can solve (i) by

$$\Psi^{\alpha} = \int_{S^8} d\mu \ v^{\alpha}_{-\dot{A}} \psi^{\dot{A}}(x^{++}, \theta^+, u^+) \qquad (\theta^+)^{\dot{A}} = \theta^{\alpha} u^{+\dot{A}}_{\alpha}$$

Now have an 8-plet of N=8 worldline superfields; equivalently an octonionic-valued superfield  $\psi$  on an octonionic worldline superspace with supercovariant derivatives  $D=D_*+\mathbf{e}\cdot\mathbf{D}$ , where  $\mathbf{e}$  are the 7 imaginary units. Then (ii) is solved by imposing (Galperin, Howe, PKT 1992)

$$\mathbf{D}\psi + \mathbf{e} \cdot D_*\psi = 0.$$

An octonionic analog of the N=2 chirality condition.

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### Last thoughts



For a superparticle in a target space of dimension  $D = 2 + \dim \mathbb{K}$ , the number of worldline susy charges is

$$N = \dim \mathbb{K}$$

while the number of susy charges of the field theory in  $D=2+\dim\mathbb{K}$  is

$$N_s = 2 \dim \mathbb{K}$$

But the susy field theories describe fluctuations of BPS on worldvolumes of dimension  $d = 2 + \dim \mathbb{K}$ , and these are sources in supergravity theories for which the number of supersymmetry charges is

$$N_S = 4 \dim \mathbb{K}$$

and  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{O}$  yields 32 supersymmetry charges.

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## Solving 6D super-Maxwell II



To solve (ii) we need to impose the following worldline superfield constraint:

$$(ii)' \quad D_{+A}^{(i}\psi^{j)\dot{A}} = 0 \qquad \{D_{+A}^{i}, D_{+B}^{j}\} = \varepsilon^{ij}\varepsilon_{AB}\partial_{++}$$

There are four components of  $\psi^j_{\dot{A}}$  and four supercovariant derivatives:

$$\psi^{j}_{\dot{\Delta}} = \delta^{i}_{\dot{A}} \psi_{*} + i(\boldsymbol{\sigma})_{\dot{A}}{}^{i} \cdot \boldsymbol{\psi}, \qquad D^{i}_{+A} = \delta^{i}_{A} D_{*} - i(\boldsymbol{\tau})_{A}{}^{i} \cdot \mathbf{D}$$

where  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  are two triplets of Pauli-matrices. In terms of the quaternionic worldline superfield  $\psi = \psi_* + \mathbf{i} \cdot \boldsymbol{\psi}$ , the equations (ii)' can be written as

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 $\longrightarrow$  Generalizes N=2 chirality condition  $(D_2+iD_1)\psi=0$  for complex  $\psi$ 



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## Solving the mass-shell constraint



For massless particle we have  $\det \mathbb{P} = 0$ . We may solve this in terms of an  $SI(2; \mathbb{K})$  spinor U since

$$\mathbb{P} = UU^{\dagger} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \det \mathbb{P} = 0$$

Whereas U has  $2\dim \mathbb{K}$  components, the null D-vector  $\mathbb{P}$  has only  $D-1=\dim \mathbb{K}+1$ , so U is subject to gauge transformation, which is right-multiplication by a unit-norm element of  $\mathbb{K}$ . These are the groups

$$Z_2$$
,  $U(1)$ ,  $SU(2)$ ,  $S^7$  [?(Sohnius, 1984; Cederwall, 1992)]

For massive particle  $\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{U}\mathbb{U}^{\dagger}$  for invertible matrix  $\mathbb{U}$ 

Now gauge invariance is  $\mathbb{U} \to \mathbb{U}\mathbb{R}$  for  $\mathbb{R} \in SO^{\dagger}(2; \mathbb{K})$ .

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### A String/M-theory digression

Fluctuations of planar static M2,D3,M5 branes of string/M-theory yield maximal-susy field theories on a Minkowski worldvolume of dimension d=3,4,6 [and d=10 if we count the  $E_8$  SYM on the 11D-spacetime boundaries of "Heterotic M-theory" (Horava, Witten, 1996)].

Corresponding planar static supergravity solutions have near-horizon 'AdS× S' geometries (Gibbons, PKT, 1993). Note sequence of super-isometry groups (Arvanitakis, Barns-Graham, PKT, 2017):

```
• d = 3. M2-brane : OSp(8|4; \mathbb{R})
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• d = 4. D3-brane : (OSp)^{\dagger}(4|4; \mathbb{C})
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• d = 6. M5-brane : (OSp)^{\dagger}(2|4; \mathbb{H})
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• d = 10. HM9-'brane': (OSp)^{\dagger}(1|4; \mathbb{O}) ?
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[This has been interpreted as "D=11 de Sitter-like superalgebra" (Hasiewicz, Lukierski, 1984)]

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