



On Higher-Spin Algebras

Euihun JOUNG
APC, Université Paris 7

What is Higher-Spin Algebra (HSA) ?



- Higher-spin extension of $\{ P_a , M_{ab} \}$

- ▶ Gauging $\{ P_a , M_{ab} \} \rightarrow$ Gravity 
- ▶ Gauging HSA $\rightarrow$ Higher-spin Gauge Theory
- ▶ Q) but, must we have HSA ?
 - A) Yes, because ... 
- ▶ Q) so, what is HSA?
 - A) inf. dim. Lie algebra such that ...

HS Gauge Theory given by $S[g_{\mu\nu}, \varphi_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}, \dots]$

Gauge Sym

$$\delta g_{\mu\nu} = \nabla_{(\mu} \xi_{\nu)} + \mathcal{O}(\varphi)$$

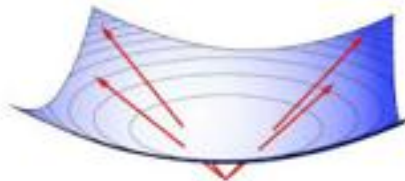
$$\delta \varphi_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s} = \nabla_{(\mu_1} \varepsilon_{\mu_2 \dots \mu_s)} + \mathcal{O}(\varphi)$$



Background

$$\bar{g}_{\mu\nu}, \bar{\varphi}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s}$$

(A)dS metric



Global Sym

$$\bar{\nabla}_{(\mu} \bar{\xi}_{\nu)} + \cancel{\mathcal{O}(\varphi)} = 0$$

$$\bar{\nabla}_{(\mu_1} \bar{\varepsilon}_{\mu_2 \dots \mu_s)} + \cancel{\mathcal{O}(\varphi)} = 0$$



Killing Eq. $\bar{\nabla}_{(\mu_1} \bar{\xi}_{\mu_2 \cdots \mu_s)} = 0$

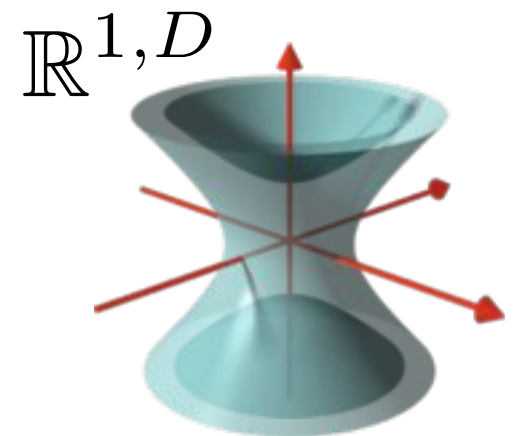
ex. flat bg

$$\bar{\xi}_\mu = v_a (P^a)_\mu + w_{ab} (M^{ab})_\mu$$

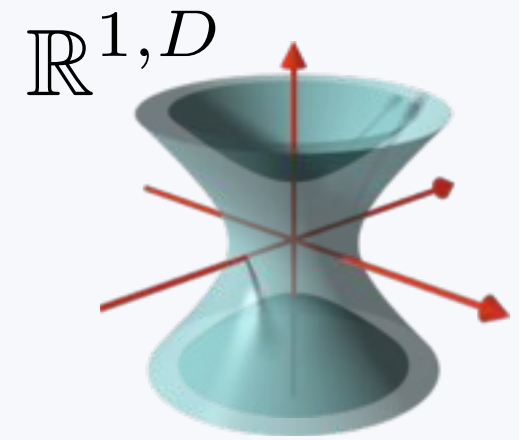
$$\partial_{(\mu} \bar{\xi}_{\nu)} = 0$$

with $(P^a)_\mu = \delta^a_\mu$ and $(M^{ab})_\mu = x^{[a} \delta^b]_\mu$

✱ Ambient-Space formulation



* Ambient-Space formulation



(A)dS tensor field

Amb-Space tensor field

$$f_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_r}(x) \longleftrightarrow F_{M_1 \dots M_r}(X)$$

with $(X \cdot \partial_X - \Delta_h)F = 0 = X \cdot \partial_U F$

$$F(X, U) = \frac{1}{r!} F_{M_1 \dots M_r}(X) U^{M_1} \dots U^{M_r}$$

Gauge field & parameter

$$\varphi_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s}(x), \quad \varepsilon_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_r}(x) \longleftrightarrow \Phi(X, U), \quad E(X, U)$$

with $(X \cdot \partial_X - U \cdot \partial_U + 2)\Phi = 0 = X \cdot \partial_U \Phi$
 $(X \cdot \partial_X - U \cdot \partial_U)E = 0 = X \cdot \partial_U E$

then

$$\delta \varphi_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s} = \bar{\nabla}_{(\mu_1} \varepsilon_{\mu_2 \dots \mu_s)} \longleftrightarrow \delta \Phi = U \cdot \partial_X E$$

traceless condition

Killing Eq. $\bar{\nabla}_{(\mu_1} \bar{\varepsilon}_{\mu_2 \dots \mu_s)} = 0$ $\eta^{\mu_1 \mu_2} \bar{\varepsilon}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_r} = 0$

ex. flat bg

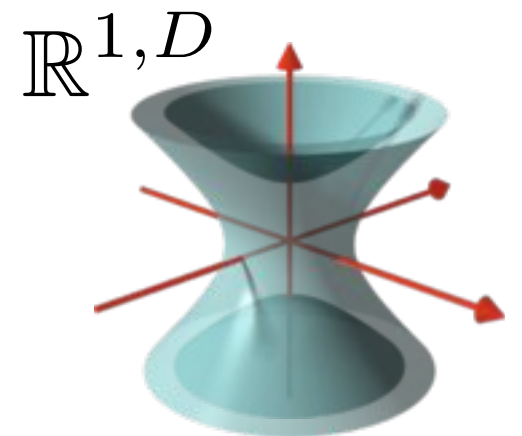
$$\bar{\xi}_\mu = v_a (P^a)_\mu + w_{ab} (M^{ab})_\mu$$

$$\partial_{(\mu} \bar{\xi}_{\nu)} = 0$$

with $(P^a)_\mu = \delta_\mu^a$ and $(M^{ab})_\mu = x^{[a} \delta_{\mu}^{b]}$

* Ambient-Space formulation

sp_2 $U \cdot \partial_X \bar{E} = 0$ $\partial_U^2 \bar{E} = 0$
 $X \cdot \partial_U \bar{E} = 0$ $(X \cdot \partial_X - U \cdot \partial_U) \bar{E} = 0$



traceless
 $\bar{E} = W_{A_1 B_1, \dots, A_r B_r} M^{A_1 B_1, \dots, A_r B_r}$

with $M^{A_1 B_1, \dots, A_r B_r} (X, U) = X^{[A_1} U^{B_1]} \dots X^{[A_r} U^{B_r]}$

– traces

Higher-Spin Lie Algebra

- Vector space

$$\text{Span} \{ M^{A_1 B_1, \dots, A_r B_r} \}$$

		...		
		...		

 $O(D+1)$

branching ex.

$$\begin{array}{c} M^{AB} \\ \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} O(D+1) \end{array} \Big|_{O(D)} = \begin{array}{c} M^{ab} \\ \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} O(D) \end{array} \oplus \begin{array}{c} P^a \\ \square O(D) \end{array}$$

- Lie bracket

- Covariant HS charges:

$$[M^{A_1 B_1, \dots, A_r B_r}, M^{CD}] = \eta^{A_1 C} M^{DB_1, \dots, A_r B_r} + \dots$$

- Other brackets?

Action with Gauge Sym

Consider a theory with **fields** φ_i and an **action** $S[\varphi_i]$
deWitt notation

- Gauge sym $\delta_\varepsilon \varphi_i$

$$\delta_\varepsilon S[\varphi_i] = 0$$

Consequences

- **Closure**
symmetry

$$[\delta_{\varepsilon_1}, \delta_{\varepsilon_2}] = \delta_{[\varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_1]} + C_{ij}(\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2) \frac{\delta S}{\delta \varphi_i} \frac{\delta}{\delta \varphi_j}$$

- **Jacobi identity**
transformation

$$\sum_{\text{cyclic}} [\delta_{\varepsilon_1}, [\delta_{\varepsilon_2}, \delta_{\varepsilon_3}]] = 0$$

Expanding in φ_i and Considering
 bg $\bar{\varphi}_i = 0$ and global sym $\bar{\varepsilon}$ s.t. $\delta_{\bar{\varepsilon}}^{(0)} = 0$

$$\delta_{[\bar{\varepsilon}_1, \bar{\varepsilon}_2]^{(0)}}^{(0)} = 0$$



► Global sym is closed under $[,]^{(0)}$
 Lie bracket

Admissibility condition Konstein, Vasiliev

$$\delta_{\bar{\varepsilon}}^{(1)} S^{(2)} = 0 \quad \left[\delta_{\bar{\varepsilon}_1}^{(1)}, \delta_{\bar{\varepsilon}_2}^{(1)} \right] S^{(2)} = \delta_{[\bar{\varepsilon}_2, \bar{\varepsilon}_1]^{(0)}}^{(1)} S^{(2)}$$



► $\delta_{\bar{\varepsilon}}^{(1)}$: Rep. of global sym Lie algebra
 with Jacobi identity



HSA (and its Rep) and Cubic Interactions

Consistent **Lie brackets** of HSA can be

- **extracted from** cubic interactions EJ, Taronna '13

Brink, Bengtsson, Metsaev, Bekaert, Boulanger,
Fotopoulos, Tsulaia, Manvelyan, Mkrtchyan, Ruehl, ...

- **used to construct non-Abelian** cubic interactions

Fradkin, Vasiliev, Skvortsov, Boulanger, Ponomarev, ...

- ▶ **Lie brackets** $\Leftrightarrow$ **non-Abelian (NA)** cubic couplings
- ▶ **Jacobi id.** $\Leftrightarrow$ Coupling Cnst of **NA** couplings
- ▶ **Represent.** $\Leftrightarrow$ Coupling Cnst of **Current** couplings

What is this Lie algebra?

- Oscillator-based construction

► 4D $[y_\alpha \star y_\beta] = \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} \quad [\bar{y}_{\dot{\alpha}} \star \bar{y}_{\dot{\beta}}] = \epsilon_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \quad \alpha, \beta = 1, 2$

Fradkin, Vasiliev

► 3D $[y_\alpha \star y_\beta] = \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} (1 + \overset{\text{arbi. para.}}{\nu} k) \quad \alpha, \beta = 1, 2$

Bergshoeff, Blencowe, Stelle; Vasiliev; Pope, Romans, Shen; ...

► 5D $[y_\alpha \star \bar{y}^\beta] = \delta_\alpha^\beta \quad y_\alpha \bar{y}^\alpha \sim 0 \quad \alpha, \beta = 1, 2, 3, 4$

Fradkin, Linetsky; Sezgin, Sundell; Vasiliev

► Any D $[Y_\alpha^a \star Y_\beta^b] = \eta^{ab} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} \quad \eta_{ab} Y_\alpha^a Y_\beta^b \sim 0$
 $\alpha, \beta = 1, 2 \quad a, b = 0, 1, \dots, D$

Vasiliev

- Construction from **UEA** of isometry algebra

$$\text{HSA} = \text{UEA} / \text{Ideal}$$

Iazeolla, Sundell

“ Determine the **least number** of **DoF** for which
a **QM system** admits a given semisimple **Lie algebra** ”
and construct the corresponding class of realizations ”
abstract “Minimal Realizations and Spectrum Generating Algebras” — Joseph '74



Minimum number of **oscillator pairs** necessary
to represent a given semisimple **Lie algebra**

Minimal Representation:

- Irrep with the **minimum** Gelfand-Kirillov (GK) dim
of continuous variables necessary
to describe the rep. vector space

	minimum GK dim
$\mathfrak{sp}_{2N}$	N
$\mathfrak{sl}_N$	$N - 1$
$\mathfrak{so}_N$	$N - 3$

Minimal Representation:

- Irrep with the **minimum Gelfand-Kirillov (GK) dim**
of continuous variables necessary
to describe the rep. vector space

Remarks

- ▶ GK dim of a D -dim “**particle**”: $D - 1$
- ▶ GK dim of **MR** of $\mathfrak{so}_{D+1}$ (iso of AdS_D): $D - 2$
- ▶ **Flato-Fronsal**: $2 \times (D - 2) = (D - 1) + (D - 3)$
- ▶ **HSA** $\mathfrak{g}$ of D -dim theory with a **finite spectrum**

$$\mathfrak{g} \supset \mathfrak{so}_{D+1} \quad D - 2 \leq \pi(\mathfrak{g}) \leq D - 1$$

GK dim of MR

Minimal Representation:

- Irrep with the **minimum** Gelfand-Kirillov (GK) dim

of continuous variables necessary
to describe the rep. vector space

minimum GK dim	
$\mathfrak{sp}_{2N}$	N
$\mathfrak{sl}_N$	$N - 1$
$\mathfrak{so}_N$	$N - 3$

- **Unique** except for $\mathfrak{sl}_N$ cf. Boulanger, Ponomarev, Skvortsov, Taronna
- Associated with the **minimal** (nilpotent coadj.) orbit
- Joseph ideal: **annihilator** of **MR** in UEA

Classical Lie algebras (notation)

$\mathfrak{sp}_{2N}$	$[[N_{AB}, N_{CD}] = \Omega_{A(C} N_{D)B} + \Omega_{B(C} N_{D)A}$
$\mathfrak{sl}_N$	$[[L^a_b, L^c_d] = \delta^c_b L^a_d - \delta^a_d L^c_b$
$\mathfrak{so}_N$	$[[M_{ab}, M_{cd}] = 2(\eta_{a[c} M_{d]b} - \eta_{b[c} M_{d]a})$

$$N_{AB} = N_{BA} \quad \Omega_{AB} = -\Omega_{BA} \quad M_{ab} = -M_{ba}$$

$$A, B, \dots = 1, \dots, 2N \quad a, b, \dots = 1, \dots, N$$

Minimal (nilpotent coadjoint) orbit

$$N(U) = \frac{1}{2} N_{AB} U^{AB}, \quad L(V) = L^a_b V_a^b, \quad M(W) = \frac{1}{2} M_{ab} W^{ab}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\min}(\mathfrak{sp}_{2N}) : U^{A[B} U^{D]C} = 0,$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\min}(\mathfrak{sl}_N) : V_{[a}^b V_{c]}^d = 0,$$

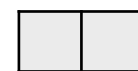
$$\mathcal{O}_{\min}(\mathfrak{so}_N) : W^{a[b} W^{cd]} = 0 = W^{ab} W_b^c,$$

Joseph ideal Joseph; ... ; Fronsdal; ...

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}(\mathfrak{sp}_{2N}) : \quad & N_{A[B} \otimes N_{C]D} + \frac{\hbar}{2} (\Omega_{A[B} N_{C]D} + \Omega_{D[B} N_{C]A} - \Omega_{BC} N_{AD}) \\ & + \frac{\hbar^2}{2} (\Omega_{A[B} \Omega_{C]D} - \Omega_{BC} \Omega_{AD}) \sim 0, \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{J}(\mathfrak{sl}_N) : L^{[a}_b \otimes L^{c]}_d + \hbar \left(\delta^{[a}_{(\beta} L^{c]}_d) + \lambda \delta^{[a}_{[b} L^{c]}_d] \right) + \hbar^2 \frac{\lambda^2 - 1}{4} \delta^{[a}_{[b} \delta^{c]}_d] \sim 0,$$

$$\mathcal{J}(\mathfrak{so}_N) : M_{a[b} \otimes M_{cd]} - \hbar \eta_{a[b} M_{cd]} \sim 0 \sim M_{c(a} \otimes M_{b)}^c - \hbar^2 \frac{N-4}{2} \eta_{ab},$$



Minimal Representation

$\mathfrak{sp}_{2N}$: quadratic in $\mathbf{N}$ oscillator(-pair)s (metaplectic rep)

$\mathfrak{sl}_N$: linear, quadratic and cubic in $\mathbf{N}-1$ oscillators

$\mathfrak{so}_N$: non-polynomial in $\mathbf{N}-3$ oscillators Gunaydin, et al

Reductive Dual Pair Correspondence (Howe duality)

$$(G_1, G_2) \subset Sp_{2N}$$

1-dim rep

π_1



π_2

$$\begin{aligned} [y_{\alpha a}^*, y_{\beta b}] &= \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} \eta_{ab} \\ \alpha, \beta &= \pm \quad a, b = 1, \dots, N \end{aligned}$$

$$(G_1, G_2) = (\mathfrak{sl}_N, GL_1, GL_N) \quad \text{and}$$

$$(\mathfrak{so}_N, Sp_2, O_N)$$

$$y_{+a} y_{-}^a \sim \lambda$$

$$y_{\alpha a} y_{\beta}^a \sim 0$$

Some Generalizations

$$hs = \mathcal{U} / \left(\left(\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \oplus \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \right) \right) \rightarrow$$

A $\mathcal{I}(\nu) = \left(\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \oplus (C_2 - \nu) \right)$

B $\mathcal{J}(\nu) = \left(\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \oplus (C_2 - \nu) \right)$

Boulanger, Skvortsov

A Partially-massless related

- **ideal** for $\nu_\ell = -\frac{(D-1-2\ell)(D-1+2\ell)}{4}$

- **coset algebra** $\mathfrak{p}_\ell \simeq \bigoplus_{p=0}^{\ell-1} \bigoplus_{r=2p}^{\infty}$

	r	
	$r-2p$	$2p$

Partially-massless HSA

Eastwood, Leistner; Gover, Silhan; Michel; Bekaert, Grigoriev

- directly obtainable with $\mathcal{I}_\ell = \left(\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & 2\ell & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \oplus \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \right)$
- correspond to ℓ -dim rep of Sp_2

Some Generalizations

$$hs = \mathcal{U} / \left(\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \square \oplus \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \hline \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

A $\mathcal{I}(\nu) = \left(\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \oplus (C_2 - \nu) \right)$

B $\mathcal{J}(\nu) = \left(\square \square \oplus (C_2 - \nu) \right)$

Boulanger, Skvortsov

B Mixed-symmetry related

even D

- quotienting out

$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \quad D$$

$$(\nu - \nu_2) \cdots (\nu - \nu_{D/2}) = 0$$

scalar

spinor

$$\nu_k = \frac{D+1}{2} (k-1) \left(k - \frac{D+1}{2} \right)$$

odd D

- split into two copies

- **ideal** for $\nu(h) = \frac{D+1}{2} (h-1) \left(h + \frac{D-3}{2} \right)$ **helicity-h singleton rep**

Vasiliev; Bekaert, Grigoriev

- directly obtainable with

$$\mathcal{J}_h = \left(\square \square \oplus \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline & 2h-1 \\ \hline \end{array} \right),$$

$$\mathcal{J}'_h = \left(\square \square \oplus \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline & 2h+1 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right)$$



Thank you