

# Attractor mechanism in gauged supergravity

Karthik Inbasekar

Institute of Mathematical Sciences

Asian Winter School, Kusatsu, Japan

Jan 10-20 , 2012

Based on ongoing work with Prasanta K. Tripathy

# Introduction

- Gauged supergravities are the low energy effective theories that describe flux compactifications of string theory.<sup>1</sup>
- In the AdS/CFT correspondence, the supergravity regime of the bulk theory is described by a gauged supergravity.<sup>2</sup>
- For AdS supergravity, there exist extremal black brane solutions with Lifshitz like near-horizon geometries.<sup>3</sup>
- For ungauged supergravities ( $\mathcal{N} = 2, d = 4$ ) the attractor mechanism<sup>4</sup> characterizes the near horizon geometries of extremal BPS black hole solutions.
- Studying the attractor mechanism in generic gauged supergravities may be useful to understand generic properties of extremal solutions in these theories.

---

<sup>1</sup>Samtelbean 0808.4076

<sup>2</sup>Aharony et.al hep-th/9905111

<sup>3</sup>Goldstein et. al 0911.3586, 1007.2490

<sup>4</sup>hep-th/9602136

# Attractor mechanism for gauged supergravities

- Recently<sup>5</sup> there has been a generalization of the attractor mechanism for  $\mathcal{N} = 2$   $d = 4$  gauged supergravities coupled to vector and hyper multiplets.

## "Generalized Attractors": Features

- The scalars  $z^i$ , quaternions  $q^u$ , gauge fields  $A_a$ , field strengths  $F_{ab}$  all take constant values in tangent space.
- The attractor geometries are characterized by constant anholonomy coefficients  $c_{ab}{}^c \Rightarrow R_{ab}{}^{cd} = \text{const} \Rightarrow$  regular geometries.
- All the field equations become algebraic at the attractor points.
- Examples for  $c_{ab}{}^c = \text{const}$  include  $\text{AdS}_4$ ,  $\text{dS}_4$ , Lifshitz, Schrodinger geometries and other planar geometries.

---

<sup>5</sup>Kachru et.al 1104.2882

## Scalar potential and Attractor potential

- For  $d = 4$   $\mathcal{N} = 2$  gauged supergravity the scalar potential<sup>6</sup> is expressed in terms of squares of fermionic shifts  $\delta_A \chi^\alpha$  that arise in susy transformations due to gauging.

$$\delta_A^B V(z, \bar{z}, q) = Z_{\alpha\beta} \delta_A \chi^\alpha \delta^B \bar{\chi}^\beta - 3\mathcal{M}_{AC} \bar{\mathcal{M}}^{CB}$$

- The attractor potential<sup>7</sup> also has a similar structure

$$\delta_A^B \mathcal{V}_{\text{attractor}}(z, \bar{z}, q) = Z_{\alpha\beta} \tilde{\delta}_A \chi^\alpha \tilde{\delta}^B \bar{\chi}^\beta - 3\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{AC} \tilde{\mathcal{M}}^{CB}$$

where the shifts  $\tilde{\delta}_A \chi^\alpha$  and  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{AC}$  include terms depending on constant gauge fields and constant field strengths.

- The variation of the scalars in the theory is an extremum of the attractor potential.

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{V}_{\text{attractor}}[\phi]}{\partial \phi} = 0$$

- We are in the process of generalizing this construction to  $\mathcal{N} = 2$   $d = 5$  gauged supergravity.

---

<sup>6</sup>Adrianopoli et.al. hep-th/9605032

<sup>7</sup>Kachru et.al 1104.2882

## 5d gauged sugra

- The 5d  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  gauged sugra<sup>8</sup> has the field content gravity coupled to vector, tensor and hyper multiplets.
- The scalars of the theory parametrize a manifold

$$\mathcal{M}_{scalar} = \mathcal{S}(n_V + n_T) \otimes \mathcal{Q}(n_H)$$

- gauging: a) by  $K \subset G$  of  $\mathcal{M}_{scalar}$ :  $K = U(1)^{n_V+1}$  with gauge coupling  $g$ ,  
b) R-symmetry  $SU(2)_R$  with coupling  $g_R$ .
- Gauging by  $K$  amounts to replacing the derivatives of the scalars and fermions with  $K$ -covariant derivatives. Gauging the  $R$  symmetry replaces the  $SU(2)_R$  connection with its gauged counterpart.
- The scalar potential is again expressed as squares of fermionic shifts that arise in the supersymmetry transformations due to gauging.

$$\delta_{\tilde{b}}^{\tilde{a}} \mathcal{V}(h, q) = 2g^2 W^{\tilde{a}} W_{\tilde{b}} + 2g^2 \mathcal{N}_{iA} \mathcal{N}^{iA} \delta_{\tilde{b}}^{\tilde{a}} - g_R^2 [2P_{ij} P^{ij} - P_{ij}^{\tilde{a}} P_{\tilde{a}}^{ij}]$$

---

<sup>8</sup>Ceresole, Dall'Agata hep-th/0004111

## Results+In Progress...

- The ansatz used by Kachru<sup>9</sup> et.al to derive the  $\mathcal{N} = 2, d = 4$  generalized attractors also works in 5d.
- The attractor potential can be expressed in terms of shifts and mass matrix that depend on the constant scalars and gauge fields.
- The attractor points are similar to the ones obtained in the 4d case. In particular, planar geometries ( $C^a_{bc} = \text{const}$ ).
- Further checks in progress.
- presence of tensor field + chern-simons term, possibilities of more general ansatzes for getting the attractor equations ?
- eg, instead of having scalars and quaternions as constants, one could also have scalars and quaternions to be covariantly constant. Are there interesting solutions in the theory with such properties ?
- It would be nice if this procedure gives some insight towards the classification of extremal black brane geometries.

---

<sup>9</sup>1104.2882

# Thank You!