# Supergeometry in Effective **QFTs**

#### Viola Gattus

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Based on V. Gattus and A. Pilaftsis, *Minimal supergeometric quantum field theories*, *Phys. Lett. B* **846** (2023) 138234 [2307.01126]



The University of Manchester







#### Motivation

#### Disclaimer: Supergeometry ≠ supersymmetry



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A theory with fermions and bosons with no extra symmetry

**Why supergeometry?**

 $\Box$  Off-shell calculations are sensitive to choice of parametrisation

Remove gauge-dependence in off-shell calculations

- Unique field-reparametrisation invariant expansion of geometric EFTs
- Frame covariant description of cosmological inflation

[Alonso, Jenkins, Manohar (2016), Cohen, Craig, Sutherland (2021), Talbert (2023), Assi, Helset, Manohar, Pagès, Shen (2023) ...]

> [Burns, Karamitsos, Pilaftsis (2016), Falls, Herrero-Valea (2019), Finn, Karamitsos, Pilaftsis (2020) ..]



### The Set-Up

- $\Box$  Field-space supermanifold of dimension (N|8M) in 4D spacetime
- $\Box$  Now fermions in the chart

[DeWitt (2012)]

$$
\Phi \;\equiv\; \{\Phi^{\alpha}\} \;=\; \left(\phi^A ~,~ \psi^X ~,~ {\overline{\psi}}^{Y,\mathsf{T}} ~\right)^\mathsf{T}
$$

 $\Box$  Field reparameterization = diffeomorphism

$$
\Phi^\alpha\;\rightarrow\; \widetilde{\Phi}^\alpha\,=\,\widetilde{\Phi}^\alpha(\Phi)
$$

 $\Box$  Diffeomorphically - or frame invariant Lagrangian

$$
\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} g^{\mu\nu} \partial_{\mu} \Phi^{\alpha}{}_{\alpha} k_{\beta}(\Phi) \, \partial_{\nu} \Phi^{\beta} + \frac{i}{2} \zeta^{\mu}_{\alpha}(\Phi) \, \partial_{\mu} \Phi^{\alpha} - U(\Phi)
$$



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$$
  

$$
\zeta^{\mu}{}_{\beta} (\overleftarrow{\Sigma}_{\mu})_{\alpha} = \zeta_{\alpha} \stackrel{\mathcal{L}}{\leftarrow} \text{where} \qquad \overleftarrow{\Sigma}_{\mu} = \frac{1}{D} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\overleftarrow{\partial}}{\partial \gamma^{\mu}} & 0 \\ 0 & \Gamma_{\mu} \end{pmatrix}
$$



## The Set-Up (continued)

#### $\Box$  Endow supermanifold with metric

$$
_{\alpha }G_{\beta } \ = \ (\ _{\alpha }G_{\beta })^{{\mathtt{s}}{\mathtt{T}}}
$$

- supersymmetric rank-2 FS tensor

- ultralocal
- determined from action



## The Set-Up (continued)

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$$
  

$$
- - - \rightarrow
$$

- supersymmetric rank-2 FS tensor
- ultralocal
- determined from action

 $\Box$  Global metric found from vielbeins and local metric

[Finn, Karamitsos, Pilaftsis (2021), VG, Finn, Karamitsos, Pilaftsis (2022)]

$$
\alpha G_{\beta} = \alpha e^{a} \left[ {}_{a}H_{b} \right]^{b} e_{\beta}^{s} \left\{ A_{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1_{N} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1_{4M} \\ 0 & -1_{4M} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}
$$



□ Flat field space can always be reparametrized into canonical Cartesian form

$$
\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{2}\boldsymbol{h}(\phi)\,\overline{\boldsymbol{\psi}}\gamma^{\mu}\boldsymbol{\psi}(\partial_{\mu}\phi) + \frac{i}{2}\,\boldsymbol{g}(\phi)\left[\overline{\boldsymbol{\psi}}\gamma^{\mu}(\partial_{\mu}\boldsymbol{\psi}) - (\partial_{\mu}\overline{\boldsymbol{\psi}})\gamma^{\mu}\boldsymbol{\psi}\right]
$$



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$$

$$
\overline{\boldsymbol{\psi}} = {\boldsymbol{\psi}^{X}\atop \psi} \qquad \boldsymbol{\psi} = {\boldsymbol{\psi}^{X}\atop \psi} \qquad \qquad \boldsymbol{\psi} = {\boldsymbol{\psi}^{X}\atop \psi}
$$



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$$

 $\Box$  Reparameterise fields to make canonical

$$
\boldsymbol{\psi} \ \longrightarrow \ \tilde{\boldsymbol{\psi}} \,=\, \boldsymbol{K}(\phi)^{-1} \, \boldsymbol{\psi}
$$



**□** Flat field space can **always** be reparametrized into canonical Cartesian form

$$
\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{2}\boldsymbol{h}(\phi)\overline{\boldsymbol{\psi}}\gamma^{\mu}\boldsymbol{\psi}(\partial_{\mu}\phi) + \frac{i}{2}\boldsymbol{g}(\phi)\left[\overline{\boldsymbol{\psi}}\gamma^{\mu}(\partial_{\mu}\boldsymbol{\psi}) - (\partial_{\mu}\overline{\boldsymbol{\psi}})\gamma^{\mu}\boldsymbol{\psi}\right] \n\overline{\boldsymbol{\psi}} = \{\overline{\boldsymbol{\psi}}^{X}\} \qquad \boldsymbol{\psi} = \{\psi^{X}\} \qquad \blacktriangleleft \qquad \boldsymbol{g}(\phi) = \{g_{XY}\}
$$

 $\Box$  Reparameterise fields to make canonical

$$
\psi \longrightarrow \widetilde{\psi} = \begin{bmatrix} K(\phi)^{-1} \psi \\ \downarrow \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow K(\phi) = \exp \left( -\frac{i}{2} \int_0^{\phi} g^{-1} h \ d\phi \right)
$$

 $\Box$   $\phi$  acts as external parameter in the fermionic sector



 $\Box$  Flatness confirmed by vanishing of Riemann tensor

$$
{}_{\alpha}G_{\beta}\;=\;\left(\begin{array}{ccc} k-\frac{1}{2}\overline{\psi}\left(\boldsymbol{g}'-i\boldsymbol{h}\right)\boldsymbol{g}^{-1}\left(\boldsymbol{g}'+i\boldsymbol{h}\right)\psi & -\frac{1}{2}\overline{\psi}\left(\boldsymbol{g}'-i\boldsymbol{h}\right) & \frac{1}{2}\psi^{\top}\left(\boldsymbol{g}'^{\top}+i\boldsymbol{h}^{\top}\right) \\ \frac{1}{2}\left(\boldsymbol{g}'^{\top}-i\boldsymbol{h}^{\top}\right)\overline{\psi}^{\top} & 0 & \boldsymbol{g}^{\top}1_{4} \\ -\frac{1}{2}\left(\boldsymbol{g}'+i\boldsymbol{h}\right)\psi & -\boldsymbol{g}1_{4} & 0 \end{array}\right)
$$

$$
R^{\alpha}_{\ \beta\gamma\delta} = 0 \qquad \qquad \text{[VG, Pilaftsis (2023)]}
$$



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$$
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$$

$$
\longrightarrow \longrightarrow R^{\alpha}_{\ \beta\gamma\delta} = 0 \qquad \qquad \text{[VG, Pilaftsis (2023)]}
$$

#### **Take home message:**

Non-zero fermionic curvature effects cannot be generated if  $\zeta^{\mu}_{\alpha}$  depends **linearly** on  $\psi$  and  $\overline{\psi}$ 



 $\Box$  A 2D factorizable model

$$
\mathcal{L}_{\text{I}} \ = \ \frac{1}{2} k \, (\partial_\mu \phi) \, (\partial^\mu \phi) \ + \ \frac{i}{2} \left( g_0 + g_1 \overline{\psi} \psi \right) \left[ \overline{\psi} \gamma^\mu (\partial_\mu \psi) \ - \ (\partial_\mu \overline{\psi}) \gamma^\mu \psi \right]
$$



$$
\mathcal{L}_{I} = \frac{1}{2}k(\partial_{\mu}\phi)(\partial^{\mu}\phi) + \frac{i}{2}(g_{0} + g_{1}\overline{\psi}\psi)\left[\overline{\psi}\gamma^{\mu}(\partial_{\mu}\psi) - (\partial_{\mu}\overline{\psi})\gamma^{\mu}\psi\right]
$$
  

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$$

 $\Box$  FS metric

$$
\boldsymbol{G} \, = \, \left(\begin{array}{ccc} k\; +\; b^{\mathsf{T}}(d^{-1})^{\mathsf{T}}a^{\mathsf{T}}\; -\; a\,d^{-1}\,b & \; -a\; & \; b^{\mathsf{T}}\; \\ a^{\mathsf{T}} & \; 0 & \; d^{\mathsf{T}}\; \\ & \; -b & \; -d\; & \; 0\end{array}\right) \qquad \begin{array}{c} a\; =\; \frac{1}{2}\,\overline{\psi}\left(g_0^{\prime} + g_1^{\prime}\overline{\psi}\psi\right) \\ b\; =\; \frac{1}{2}\left(g_0^{\prime} + g_1^{\prime}\overline{\psi}\psi\right)\psi \\ b\; =\; \frac{1}{2}\left(g_0^{\prime} + g_1^{\prime}\overline{\psi}\psi\right)\psi \\ d\; =\; \left(g_0 + g_1\overline{\psi}\psi\right)1_2\, +\, g_1\psi\overline{\psi} \end{array}
$$



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$$

 $\Box$  Ricci scalar is fermion dependent

$$
R = \frac{4g_1}{g_0^2} + \left(\frac{2g_1g'_0g'_1}{g_0^3k} - \frac{2g_1^2g'_0}{g_0^4k} - \frac{g'_1^2}{2g_0^2k}\right)(\overline{\psi}\psi)^2
$$



The goal: off-shell vertices in the non-static limit for scalar-fermion theories

 $\Box$  Notation

$$
\partial_{\mu} \Phi^{\alpha}_{;\beta} = \partial_{\mu}^{(\alpha)} \delta(x_{\alpha} - x_{\beta}) \delta^{\alpha}_{\beta} + \Gamma^{\alpha}_{\beta \rho} \partial_{\mu} \Phi^{\rho} \delta(x_{\alpha} - x_{\beta}) := (D_{\mu})^{\alpha}_{\beta}
$$

$$
\{\alpha \beta\} = \alpha \beta + (-1)^{\alpha \beta} \beta \alpha
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$$

[VG, Pilaftsis, 2023/2024]

 $\Box$  Complete covariant inverse superpropagator

$$
S_{;\hat{\alpha}\hat{\beta}} = \partial_{\mu} \Phi^{\rho} \left( \,_{\rho} k_{\gamma} \, R^{\gamma}_{\alpha\beta\delta} \, \partial^{\mu} \Phi^{\delta} + (-1)^{\alpha\gamma} \,_{\rho} k_{\gamma;\{\alpha}} \, (D^{\mu})^{\gamma}_{\beta\}} \right. \\
\left. + \frac{1}{2} (-1)^{\gamma(\alpha+\beta)} \,_{\rho} k_{\gamma;\alpha\beta} \, \partial^{\mu} \Phi^{\gamma} \right) + (-1)^{\alpha\rho} (D_{\mu})^{\rho}_{\alpha \rho} k_{\gamma} \, (D^{\mu})^{\gamma}_{\beta} \\
+ i(-1)^{\alpha} \left( \,_{\alpha} \lambda^{\mu}_{\rho} (D_{\mu})^{\rho}_{\beta} + (-1)^{\beta\rho} \,_{\alpha} \lambda^{\mu}_{\rho;\beta} \, \partial_{\mu} \Phi^{\rho} \right)
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\{\alpha \beta\} = \alpha \beta + (-1)^{\alpha \beta} \beta \alpha
$$

[VG, Pilaftsis, 2023/2024]

□ Complete covariant inverse superpropagator  
\n
$$
S_{;\hat{\alpha}\hat{\beta}} = \frac{\partial_{\mu} \Phi^{\rho} \left( \rho k_{\gamma} R^{\gamma}_{\alpha\beta\delta} \partial^{\mu} \Phi^{\delta} + (-1)^{\alpha\gamma} \rho k_{\gamma;\{\alpha}} (D^{\mu})^{\gamma}_{\beta\}} + \frac{1}{2} (-1)^{\gamma(\alpha+\beta)} \rho k_{\gamma;\alpha\beta} \partial^{\mu} \Phi^{\gamma} \right) + (-1)^{\alpha\rho} (D_{\mu})^{\rho}_{\alpha} \rho k_{\gamma} (D^{\mu})^{\gamma}_{\beta} + i(-1)^{\alpha} \left( \alpha \lambda^{\mu}_{\rho} (D_{\mu})^{\rho}_{\beta} + (-1)^{\beta\rho}_{\alpha} \lambda^{\mu}_{\rho;\beta} \partial_{\mu} \Phi^{\rho} \right)}
$$



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$$
\{\alpha \beta\} = \alpha \beta + (-1)^{\alpha \beta} \beta \alpha
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[VG, Pilaftsis, 2023/2024]

 $\bigcap$ 

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$$
  
fermionic 
$$
+ i (-1)^{\alpha} \left( \,_{\alpha} \lambda^{\mu}_{\rho} (D_{\mu})^{\rho}_{\, \beta} + (-1)^{\beta\rho} \,_{\alpha} \lambda^{\mu}_{\rho;\beta} \, \partial_{\mu} \Phi^{\rho} \right)
$$



[Vilkovisky (1984), DeWitt (1985), Finn, Karamitsos, Pilaftsis, 2022]

 $\Box$  Implicit equation for the effective action using VDW

$$
\exp\left(\frac{i}{\hbar}\Gamma[\boldsymbol{\Phi}_0]\right)=\int \sqrt{|\operatorname{sdet} G|}\, [\mathcal{D}\boldsymbol{\Phi}]\exp\left(\frac{i}{\hbar}S\left[\boldsymbol{\Phi}\right]+\frac{i}{\hbar}\int d^4x\sqrt{-g}\,\Gamma[\boldsymbol{\Phi}_0]_{,\alpha}\,\Sigma^{\alpha}\left[\boldsymbol{\Phi}_0,\boldsymbol{\Phi}\right]\right)
$$



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$$

 $\Box$  One and two loop expressions

$$
\Gamma^{(1)}[\boldsymbol{\Phi}_0]=\frac{i}{2}\ln \operatorname{sdet}\, \,{}^{\hat{\alpha}}S_{\hat{\beta}}=\frac{i}{2}\operatorname{str}\ln\, {}^{\hat{\alpha}}S_{\hat{\beta}}
$$



[Vilkovisky (1984), DeWitt (1985), Finn, Karamitsos, Pilaftsis, 2022]

 $\exp\left(\frac{i}{\hbar}\Gamma[\Phi_0]\right) = \int \sqrt{|\operatorname{sdet} G|} \left[ \mathcal{D}\Phi \right] \exp\left(\frac{i}{\hbar}S[\Phi] + \frac{i}{\hbar}\int d^4x \sqrt{-g}\,\Gamma[\Phi_0]_{,\alpha}\,\Sigma^{\alpha}[\Phi_0,\Phi] \right)$ 

Implicit equation for the effective action using VDW

One and two loop expressions

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$$
\n
$$
\xrightarrow{\hat{\alpha} S_{\hat{\beta}}} = \frac{\hat{\alpha} \overrightarrow{\nabla} S \overleftarrow{\nabla}_{\hat{\beta}}}{\hat{\beta}}
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$$
\n
$$
\Gamma^{(2)}[\Phi_0] = -\frac{1}{8} S_{\{\hat{\alpha}\hat{\beta}\hat{\gamma}\hat{\delta}\}} \Delta^{\delta\hat{\gamma}} \Delta^{\hat{\beta}\hat{\alpha}}
$$
\n
$$
+ \frac{1}{12} (-1)^{\hat{\beta}\hat{\gamma} + \hat{\epsilon}(\hat{\beta} + \hat{\delta})} S_{\{\hat{\epsilon}\hat{\gamma}\hat{\alpha}\}} \Delta^{\hat{\alpha}\hat{\beta}} \Delta^{\hat{\gamma}\delta} \Delta^{\hat{\epsilon}\hat{\zeta}} \{\hat{\zeta}\hat{\delta}\hat{\beta}\} S
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$$

 $\Box$  One and two loop expressions

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\Gamma^{(1)}[\Phi_0] = \frac{i}{2} \ln \operatorname{sdet} {\,^{\hat{\alpha}}S_{\hat{\beta}}} = \frac{i}{2} \operatorname{str} \ln {\,^{\hat{\alpha}}S_{\hat{\beta}}} \n\Gamma^{(2)}[\Phi_0] = -\frac{1}{8} S_{\{\hat{\alpha}\hat{\beta}\hat{\gamma}\hat{\delta}\}} \Delta^{\delta\hat{\gamma}} \Delta^{\hat{\beta}\hat{\alpha}} \n+ \frac{1}{12} (-1)^{\hat{\beta}\hat{\gamma} + \hat{\epsilon}(\hat{\beta} + \hat{\delta})} S_{\{\hat{\epsilon}\hat{\gamma}\hat{\alpha}\}} \Delta^{\hat{\alpha}\hat{\beta}} \Delta^{\hat{\gamma}\delta} \Delta^{\hat{\epsilon}\hat{\zeta}} {\{^{\hat{\zeta}\hat{\delta}\hat{\beta}\}}} S \n\Delta^{\hat{\alpha}\hat{\gamma}}{}_{\hat{\gamma}} S_{\hat{\beta}} = {\,^{\hat{\alpha}}S_{\hat{\beta}}} ,
$$



 $\Box$  Flat FS example

$$
\mathcal{L}=\frac{1}{2}\partial_{\mu}\phi\partial^{\mu}\phi+\frac{i}{2}\bar{\psi}\gamma^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}\psi-\frac{i}{2}\partial_{\mu}\bar{\psi}\gamma^{\mu}\psi-Y(\phi)\bar{\psi}\psi-V(\phi)
$$

 $\Box$  One-loop covariant effective action

$$
\Gamma[\Phi] = \frac{i}{2} \operatorname{Tr} \ln \left\{ \Box + V''(\phi) - \bar{\psi} \left[ 2Y'(\phi)(-i\partial \!\!\!/ + Y(\phi))^{-1} Y'(\phi) - Y''(\phi) \right] \psi \right\} - i \operatorname{Tr} \ln \left( -i\partial \!\!\!/ + Y(\phi) \right)
$$



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$$
\mathcal{L}=\frac{1}{2}\partial_{\mu}\phi\partial^{\mu}\phi+\frac{i}{2}\bar{\psi}\gamma^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}\psi-\frac{i}{2}\partial_{\mu}\bar{\psi}\gamma^{\mu}\psi-Y(\phi)\bar{\psi}\psi-V(\phi)
$$

#### $\Box$  One-loop covariant effective action

Schwinger's proper time representation + Zassenhaus formula



 $\Box$  Flat FS example

$$
\mathcal{L}=\frac{1}{2}\partial_{\mu}\phi\partial^{\mu}\phi+\frac{i}{2}\bar{\psi}\gamma^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}\psi-\frac{i}{2}\partial_{\mu}\bar{\psi}\gamma^{\mu}\psi-Y(\phi)\bar{\psi}\psi-V(\phi)
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$$

 $\Box$  Compute second term explicitly  $\Box$ 

$$
\propto \frac{i}{2}\,\mathrm{Tr}\int_0^\infty \frac{dt}{t} e^{-t\left[\Box + (m_f + h\phi)^2 - ih\partial\phi\right]}
$$



 $\Box$  Flat FS example

$$
\mathcal{L}=\frac{1}{2}\partial_{\mu}\phi\partial^{\mu}\phi+\frac{i}{2}\bar{\psi}\gamma^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}\psi-\frac{i}{2}\partial_{\mu}\bar{\psi}\gamma^{\mu}\psi-Y(\phi)\bar{\psi}\psi-V(\phi)
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$$
  
\n
$$
- i \left[ \text{Tr} \ln (-i\partial + Y(\phi)) \right]
$$
  
\n
$$
\square \text{ Extract UV poles}
$$
  
\n
$$
= \frac{i}{2} \int d^d x \frac{d}{(4\pi)^{d/2}} \left\{ - \left( h^2 \phi^2 + 2h m_f \phi \right) \Gamma \left( 1 - \frac{d}{2} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \left( \left( h^2 \phi^2 + 2h m_f \phi \right)^2 + h^2 (\partial_\mu \phi)^2 \right) \Gamma \left( 2 - \frac{d}{2} \right) + \text{finite} \right\}
$$

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## Summary and Outlook

- $\Box$  Fermionic curvature arises from non-linearity
- $\Box$  Unlike supergravity, curvature not real-valued
- $\Box$  Derived generalised expressions for covariant scalar-fermion vertices





## Summary and Outlook

- $\Box$  Fermionic curvature arises from non-linearity
- Unlike supergravity, curvature not real-valued
- $\Box$  Derived generalised expressions for covariant scalar-fermion vertices

#### What next?

- Compute higher loop effective actions
- Add symmetries
- Compute amplitudes







