

Non-Linear Invariance of Black Hole Entropy

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Freudenthal duality is an anti-involutive, non-linear map acting on symplectic spaces. It generally holds in four-dimensional Maxwell-Einstein theories coupled to a non-linear sigma model of scalar fields. It is here reviewed, with some emphasis on its relation to the U -duality Lie groups of type E_7 in extended supergravity theories.

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1. Freudenthal Duality

We start and consider the following Lagrangian density in four dimensions (*cfr. e.g. [1]*):

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{R}{2} + \frac{1}{2}g_{ij}(\varphi)\partial_\mu\varphi^i\partial^\mu\varphi^j + \frac{1}{4}I_{\Lambda\Sigma}(\varphi)F_{\mu\nu}^\Lambda F^{\Sigma\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{8\sqrt{-G}}R_{\Lambda\Sigma}(\varphi)\varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}F_{\mu\nu}^\Lambda F_{\rho\sigma}^\Sigma, \quad (1.1)$$

describing Einstein gravity coupled to Maxwell (Abelian) vector fields and to a non-linear sigma model of scalar fields (with no potential); note that \mathcal{L} may -but does not necessarily need to - be conceived as the bosonic sector of $D = 4$ (*ungauged*) supergravity theory. Out of the Abelian two-form field strengths F^Λ 's, one can define their duals G_Λ , and construct a symplectic vector :

$$H := (F^\Lambda, G_\Lambda)^T, \quad *G_{\Lambda|\mu\nu} := 2\frac{\delta\mathcal{L}}{\delta F^{\Lambda|\mu\nu}}. \quad (1.2)$$

We then consider the simplest solution of the equations of motion deriving from \mathcal{L} , namely a static, spherically symmetric, asymptotically flat, dyonic extremal black hole with metric [2]

$$ds^2 = -e^{2U(\tau)}d\tau^2 + e^{-2U(\tau)}\left[\frac{d\tau^2}{\tau^4} + \frac{1}{\tau^2}(d\theta^2 + \sin\theta d\psi^2)\right], \quad (1.3)$$

where $\tau := -1/r$. Thus, the two-form field strengths and their duals can be fluxed on the two-sphere at infinity S_∞^2 in such a background, respectively yielding the electric and magnetic charges of the black hole itself, which can be arranged in a symplectic vector \mathcal{Q} :

$$p^\Lambda := \frac{1}{4\pi}\int_{S_\infty^2} F^\Lambda, \quad q_\Lambda := \frac{1}{4\pi}\int_{S_\infty^2} G_\Lambda, \quad (1.4)$$

$$\mathcal{Q} := (p^\Lambda, q_\Lambda)^T. \quad (1.5)$$

Then, by exploiting the symmetries of the background (1.3), the Lagrangian (1.1) can be dimensionally reduced from $D = 4$ to $D = 1$, obtaining a 1-dimensional effective Lagrangian ($' := d/d\tau$) [3]:

$$\mathcal{L}_{D=1} = (U')^2 + g_{ij}(\varphi)\varphi^i\varphi^{j'} + e^{2U}V_{BH}(\varphi, \mathcal{Q}) \quad (1.6)$$

along with the Hamiltonian constraint [3]

$$(U')^2 + g_{ij}(\varphi)\varphi^i\varphi^{j'} - e^{2U}V_{BH}(\varphi, \mathcal{Q}) = 0. \quad (1.7)$$

The so-called ‘‘effective black hole potential’’ V_{BH} appearing in (1.6) and (1.7) is defined as [3]

$$V_{BH}(\varphi, \mathcal{Q}) := -\frac{1}{2}\mathcal{Q}^T \mathcal{M}(\varphi) \mathcal{Q}, \quad (1.8)$$

in terms of the symplectic and symmetric matrix [1]

$$\mathcal{M} := \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{I} & -R \\ 0 & \mathbb{I} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & I^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{I} & 0 \\ -R & \mathbb{I} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} I + RI^{-1}R & -RI^{-1} \\ -I^{-1}R & I^{-1} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (1.9)$$

$$\mathcal{M}^T = \mathcal{M}; \quad \mathcal{M}\Omega\mathcal{M} = \Omega, \quad (1.10)$$

where \mathbb{I} denotes the identity, and $R(\varphi)$ and $I(\varphi)$ are the scalar-dependent matrices occurring in (1.1); moreover, Ω stands for the symplectic metric ($\Omega^2 = -\mathbb{I}$). Note that, regardless of the invertibility of $R(\varphi)$ and as a consequence of the physical consistence of the kinetic vector matrix $I(\varphi)$, \mathcal{M} is negative-definite; thus, the effective black hole potential (1.8) is positive-definite.

By virtue of the matrix \mathcal{M} , one can introduce a (scalar-dependent) *anti-involution* \mathcal{S} in any Maxwell-Einstein-scalar theory described by (1.1) with a symplectic structure Ω , as follows :

$$\mathcal{S}(\varphi) : = \Omega \mathcal{M}(\varphi); \quad (1.11)$$

$$\mathcal{S}^2(\varphi) = \Omega \mathcal{M}(\varphi) \Omega \mathcal{M}(\varphi) = \Omega^2 = -\mathbb{I}; \quad (1.12)$$

in turn, this allows to define an anti-involution on the dyonic charge vector \mathcal{Q} , which has been called (scalar-dependent) *Freudenthal duality* [4, 5, 6]:

$$\mathfrak{F}(\mathcal{Q}; \varphi) : = -\mathcal{S}(\varphi) \mathcal{Q}; \quad (1.13)$$

$$\mathfrak{F}^2 = -\mathbb{I}, \quad (\forall \{\varphi\}). \quad (1.14)$$

By recalling (1.8) and (1.11), the action of \mathfrak{F} on \mathcal{Q} , defining the so-called (φ -dependent) Freudenthal dual of \mathcal{Q} itself, can be related to the symplectic gradient of the effective black hole potential V_{BH} :

$$\mathfrak{F}(\mathcal{Q}; \varphi) = \Omega \frac{\partial V_{BH}(\varphi, \mathcal{Q})}{\partial \mathcal{Q}}. \quad (1.15)$$

Through the attractor mechanism [7], all this enjoys an interesting physical interpretation when evaluated at the (unique) event horizon of the extremal black hole (1.3) (denoted below by the subscript “H”); indeed

$$\partial_\varphi V_{BH} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lim_{\tau \rightarrow -\infty} \varphi^i(\tau) = \varphi_H^i(\mathcal{Q}); \quad (1.16)$$

$$S_{BH}(\mathcal{Q}) = \frac{A_H}{4} = \pi V_{BH}|_{\partial_\varphi V_{BH}=0} = -\frac{\pi}{2} \mathcal{Q}^T \mathcal{M}_H(\mathcal{Q}) \mathcal{Q}, \quad (1.17)$$

where S_{BH} and A_H respectively denote the Bekenstein-Hawking entropy [8] and the area of the horizon of the extremal black hole, and the matrix horizon value \mathcal{M}_H is defined as

$$\mathcal{M}_H(\mathcal{Q}) := \lim_{\tau \rightarrow -\infty} \mathcal{M}(\varphi(\tau)). \quad (1.18)$$

Correspondingly, one can define the (scalar-independent) horizon Freudenthal duality \mathfrak{F}_H as the horizon limit of (1.13) :

$$\tilde{\mathcal{Q}} \equiv \mathfrak{F}_H(\mathcal{Q}) := \lim_{\tau \rightarrow -\infty} \mathfrak{F}(\mathcal{Q}; \varphi(\tau)) = -\Omega \mathcal{M}_H(\mathcal{Q}) \mathcal{Q} = \frac{1}{\pi} \Omega \frac{\partial S_{BH}(\mathcal{Q})}{\partial \mathcal{Q}}. \quad (1.19)$$

Remarkably, the (horizon) Freudenthal dual of \mathcal{Q} is nothing but ($1/\pi$ times) the symplectic gradient of the Bekenstein-Hawking black hole entropy S_{BH} ; this latter, from dimensional considerations, is only constrained to be an homogeneous function of degree two in \mathcal{Q} . As a result, $\tilde{\mathcal{Q}} = \tilde{\mathcal{Q}}(\mathcal{Q})$ is generally a complicated (non-linear) function, homogeneous of degree one in \mathcal{Q} .

It can be proved that the entropy S_{BH} itself is invariant along the flow in the charge space \mathcal{Q} defined by the symplectic gradient (or, equivalently, by the horizon Freudenthal dual) of \mathcal{Q} itself :

$$S_{BH}(\mathcal{Q}) = S_{BH}(\mathfrak{F}_H(\mathcal{Q})) = S_{BH}\left(\frac{1}{\pi} \Omega \frac{\partial S_{BH}(\mathcal{Q})}{\partial \mathcal{Q}}\right) = S_{BH}(\tilde{\mathcal{Q}}). \quad (1.20)$$

It is here worth pointing out that this invariance is pretty remarkable : the (semi-classical) Bekenstein-Hawking entropy of an extremal black hole turns out to be invariant under a generally non-linear map acting on the black hole charges themselves, and corresponding to a symplectic gradient flow in their corresponding vector space.

For other applications and instances of Freudenthal duality, see [9, 10, 11, 12].

2. Groups of Type E_7

The concept of Lie groups *of type E_7* as introduced in the 60s by Brown [13], and then later developed *e.g.* by [14, 15, 16, 17, 18]. Starting from a pair (G, \mathbf{R}) made of a Lie group G and its faithful representation \mathbf{R} , the three axioms defining (G, \mathbf{R}) as a group of type E_7 read as follows :

1. Existence of a (unique) symplectic invariant structure Ω in \mathbf{R} :

$$\exists! \Omega \equiv \mathbf{1} \in \mathbf{R} \times_a \mathbf{R}, \quad (2.1)$$

which then allows to define a symplectic product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ among two vectors in the representation space \mathbf{R} itself :

$$\langle Q_1, Q_2 \rangle := Q_1^M Q_2^N \Omega_{MN} = -\langle Q_2, Q_1 \rangle. \quad (2.2)$$

2. Existence of (unique) rank-4 completely symmetric invariant tensor (K -tensor) in \mathbf{R} :

$$\exists! K \equiv \mathbf{1} \in (\mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R})_s, \quad (2.3)$$

which then allows to define a degree-4 invariant polynomial I_4 in \mathbf{R} itself :

$$I_4 := K_{MNPQ} Q^M Q^N Q^P Q^Q. \quad (2.4)$$

3. Defining a triple map T in \mathbf{R} as

$$T : \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}; \quad (2.5)$$

$$\langle T(Q_1, Q_2, Q_3), Q_4 \rangle := K_{MNPQ} Q_1^M Q_2^N Q_3^P Q_4^Q, \quad (2.6)$$

it holds that

$$\langle T(Q_1, Q_1, Q_2), T(Q_2, Q_2, Q_2) \rangle = \langle Q_1, Q_2 \rangle K_{MNPQ} Q_1^M Q_2^N Q_2^P Q_2^Q. \quad (2.7)$$

This property makes a group of type E_7 amenable to a description as an automorphism group of a *Freudenthal triple system* (or, equivalently, as the conformal groups of the underlying Jordan triple system - whose a Jordan algebra is a particular case -).

All electric-magnetic duality (U -duality¹) groups of $\mathcal{N} \geq 2$ -extended $D = 4$ supergravity theories with symmetric scalar manifolds are of type E_7 . Among these, degenerate groups of type E_7 are those in which the K -tensor is actually reducible, and thus I_4 is the square of a quadratic

¹Here U -duality is referred to as the “continuous” symmetries of [19]. Their discrete versions are the U -duality non-perturbative string theory symmetries introduced by Hull and Townsend [20].

invariant polynomial I_2 . In fact, in general, in theories with electric-magnetic duality groups of type E_7 holds that

$$S_{BH} = \pi \sqrt{|I_4(\mathcal{Q})|} = \pi \sqrt{|K_{MNPQ} \mathcal{Q}^M \mathcal{Q}^N \mathcal{Q}^P \mathcal{Q}^Q|}, \quad (2.8)$$

whereas in the case of degenerate groups of type E_7 it holds that $I_4(\mathcal{Q}) = (I_2(\mathcal{Q}))^2$, and therefore the latter formula simplifies to

$$S_{BH} = \pi \sqrt{|I_4(\mathcal{Q})|} = \pi |I_2(\mathcal{Q})|. \quad (2.9)$$

Simple, non-degenerate groups of type E_7 relevant to $\mathcal{N} \geq 2$ -extended $D = 4$ supergravity theories with symmetric scalar manifolds are listed *e.g.* in Table 1 of [21].

Semi-simple, non-degenerate groups of type E_7 of the same kind are given by $G = SL(2, \mathbb{R}) \times SO(2, n)$ and $G = SL(2, \mathbb{R}) \times SO(6, n)$, with $\mathbf{R} = (\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{2} + \mathbf{n})$ and $\mathbf{R} = (\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{6} + \mathbf{n})$, respectively relevant for $\mathcal{N} = 2$ and $\mathcal{N} = 4$ supergravity.

Moreover, degenerate (simple) groups of type E_7 relevant to the same class of theories are $G = U(1, n)$ and $G = U(3, n)$, with complex fundamental representations $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{3} + \mathbf{n}$, respectively relevant for $\mathcal{N} = 2$ and $\mathcal{N} = 3$ supergravity [17].

The classification of groups of type E_7 is still an open problem, even if some progress have been recently made *e.g.* in [22] (in particular, *cf.* Table D therein).

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