

# GSS 2.0: Gauge theories, supergravity and string theory

## National coordinator

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## Nodes

- Genova
- Lecce
- Milano Bicocca
- Milano
- Padova
- Pisa
- Torino

# The over-arching theme

- The research project of GSS 2.0 is devoted to the investigation of some challenging problems in **Supersymmetric Quantum Field Theories** for the unified description of **Gravity and Gauge interactions**.

## The main topics

- String Theory, M-Theory, Supergravity.
- Perturbative and non-perturbative properties of Gauge Theories.
- Topological field, integrable theories, boundary field theories.
- Black Hole physics.
- Supersymmetry in Cosmology and Particle Physics.

## The Genoa group 2021

- Carlo Becchi (Emeritus)
- Camillo Imbimbo, 100%
- Nicola Maggiore, 100%

## Financial requests 2021

- Missioni e partecipazioni a conferenze: 5 kE

## The specific themes of the Genoa group

The Genova node has focused and developed an expertise on **topological** quantum field theories and string theories, **boundary field theories**, **massive quantum gravity**, their non-perturbative dynamics and application to **supersymmetric theories**.

# Quantum field theories with boundaries

- Quantum Field Theories with Boundaries (BQFT) displays in presence of boundaries interesting non-trivial algebraic structures which have important applications, mainly in the framework of condensed matter, to the study of Fractional Quantum Hall Effect (FQHE) and Topological Insulators (TI).
- N. Maggiore in collaboration with **Erica Bertolini** (“Laurea Magistrale student) has investigated BQFT’s in both 3 and 4 dimensions, obtaining promising and interesting results also in the case of non-topological field theories, the simplest of which is Maxwell theory, which seems to display on the boundary a structure similar to that found for topological theories. The hope is that of being able to describe, with a unique theory, both the behaviours of the FQHE and of the TI.

# Supersymmetric Localization and Topological Gravity

- In Genova we developed an original approach to supersymmetric localization which is based on **emergent** topological structures sitting inside supergravity theory which had been identified in a series of works done in collaboration with **Dario Rosa** of the KIAS of Seoul.
- In a collaboration with **Valentina Pedemonte** (former student of Dept of Physics of Genova) a complete classification of the space of classical supersymmetric vacua of  $N = 4$   $d = 2$  supergravity was presented, discovering **new localizable backgrounds** and obtaining new insights about the moduli dependence of the localizable models.

# Ongoing and future projects

- In collaboration with **F. Bonucci** ("Laurea Magistrale" student) we are applying our methods to the challenging 4-dimensional  $N = 2$  supersymmetric gauge theories, with the goal of exploring and classifying the space of their supersymmetric vacua.
- In collaboration with **N. Risso**, ("Laurea Magistrale" student) we are attempting to elucidate the long standing and still not settled issue of **supersymmetry quantum anomalies** by putting those in relation with the topological multiplets sitting inside supergravity.



# Ongoing and future projects

- N. Maggiore, in collaboration with **G. Gambuti** ("Laurea Magistrale" student) , has addressed the problem of giving a graviton a mass, in the framework of Linearized Massive Gravity (LMG), with the goal of solving the problematic aspects of the standard Fierz-Pauli (FP) theory. The latter has the advantage of describing a graviton with 5 degrees of freedom (DOFs), together with the well known difficulty of not displaying a good massless limit and of showing the so called vDVZ discontinuity, which constitutes a strong discrepancy with the theory of General Relativity.
- The aim of this research is to solve both these flaws of the FP theory, by treating LMG as a gauge field theory, which should be given a gauge fixing term first, in order to have a well defined theory, and only after a mass term, which should be such that the graviton has five DOFs

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- M. Bonici, N. Maggiore, “Constraints on interacting dynamical dark energy and a new test for  $\Lambda$  CDM”, Eur.Phys.J.C 79 (2019) 8, 672.

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