# Poisson-sigma model for 2D gravity with non-metricity 

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#### Abstract

We present a Poisson-sigma model describing general 2D dilaton gravity with non-metricity, torsion and curvature. It involves three arbitrary functions of the dilaton field, two of which are well known from metric compatible theories, while the third one characterizes the local strength of non-metricity. As an example we show that $\alpha^{\prime}$ corrections in 2D string theory can generate (target space) non-metricity.

PACS numbers: $04.60 . \mathrm{Kz}, 02.30 . \mathrm{Ik}, 04.70 .-\mathrm{s}$ Dedicated to Wolfgang Kummer, a pioneer of classical and quantum gravity in two dimensions.


## 1. Introduction

Dilaton gravity in two dimensions has found many classical, semiclassical and quantum applications [1]. A very efficient way to describe it and to exhibit integrability is by means of a first order formulation [2] in terms of Cartan variables, dyad $e_{\mu}^{a}$ and connection $\omega^{a}{ }_{b \mu}$. It is closely related to a specific type of nonlinear gauge theory [3], a Poisson-sigma model (PSM) [4]. However, it needs some extra structure beyond the one provided by the PSM, namely the specification of a tangent space metric $\eta_{a b}$. The metric then follows uniquely from this specification, $g_{\mu \nu}=e_{\mu}^{a} e_{\nu}^{b} \eta_{a b}$, where the fields $e_{\mu}^{a}$ are determined from the dynamics of the PSM. In [5] it was suggested to introduce the tangent space metric as an external tensor, whose compatibility with the PSM structure was analyzed carefully. All relevant examples presented there introduce $\eta_{a b}$ as a fixed metric depending on certain 0 -form fields. Thus $\eta_{a b}$ is not considered as an independent field. It would be nice if there was a pure PSM formulation that allowed us to introduce the tangent space metric as an independent field. This is the first problem we would like to address. A related issue with the standard PSM formulation is the difficulty of incorporating non-metricity. So far only isolated second order models are
known (or equivalent first order formulations that are not manifestly a PSM) [6-8], which considerably complicates their classical (and quantum) analysis. This is the second problem we would like to address. In fact, we shall demonstrate in this communication that both problems can be solved in a simple way. Namely, we propose to employ the first order action ( $U, V$ and $W$ are some functions defining the model)

$$
\begin{gather*}
I=k \int_{\mathcal{M}_{2}}\left[X \mathrm{~d} \omega+X^{a}\left(\delta_{a}^{b} \mathrm{~d}+\epsilon_{a}^{b} \omega\right) \wedge e_{b}+\rho_{a b} \wedge\left(\mathrm{~d} \eta^{a b}-W(X) \eta^{a b} X^{c} \epsilon_{c}{ }^{d} e_{d}\right)\right. \\
\left.+\frac{1}{2}\left(V(X) \eta^{a c}+U(X) X^{a} X^{c}\right) \epsilon_{c}{ }^{b} e_{b} \wedge e_{a}\right] . \tag{1}
\end{gather*}
$$

We shall prove in section 2 that (1) is a specific PSM. Our notation is explained there as well. Section 3 provides a derivation of all classical solutions descending from (1). The final section 4 contains a discussion, an application and a comparison with existing special cases of two-dimensional dilaton gravity models with (or without) non-metricity.

## 2. Action

Let us consider a PSM [4] (we drop all boundary terms in this work)
$I=k \int_{\mathcal{M}_{2}}\left[A_{I} \mathrm{~d} X^{I}-\frac{1}{2} P^{I J} A_{J} \wedge A_{I}\right]=k \int_{\mathcal{M}_{2}}\left[X^{I} \mathrm{~d} A_{I}-\frac{1}{2} P^{I J} A_{J} \wedge A_{I}\right]$,
with the field content $X^{I}=\left(X, X^{a}, \eta^{a b}\right)$ and $A_{I}=\left(\omega, e_{a}, \rho_{a b}\right)$. The former are the target space coordinates of a Poisson manifold with the Poisson tensor $P^{I J}$ depending on them, while the latter are gauge field 1-forms, e.g. $e_{a}=e_{a \mu} \mathrm{~d} x^{\mu}$. Here the index $a$ runs over two values, which we denote by,+- , while the index $a b$ runs over three values, which we denote by,,+++--- . For convenience we also introduce the value -+ for $a b$ and assume $\eta^{a b}=\eta^{b a}$ and $\rho_{a b}=\rho_{b a}$. This allows us to consider the index $a b$ as an index pair. The indices $I, J, \ldots$ always run over the full set $X,+,-,++,+-,--$. The index position was chosen for sake of similarity with the PSM notation, but one could equally define target space coordinates of the form $X_{a}, \eta_{a b}$ and gauge fields $e^{a}, \rho^{a b}$. The construction of a metric $g=e^{a} e^{b} \eta_{a b}$ or $g=e_{a} e_{b} \eta^{a b}$ requires that $X^{a}$ and $\eta^{a b}$ have the same index positions. A priori there is no device to manipulate indices, besides the Levi-Civita and Kronecker symbols. The real coupling constant $k$ is irrelevant for our discussion. The suggestive notation is chosen for the sake of clarity, but we emphasize that at this point the fields do not have some geometric interpretation in terms of 'dilaton field', 'Zweibeine' or 'connection'. Neither do the indices $\pm$ necessarily imply light cone variables, the use of which is very convenient in two-dimensional gravity [9, 10]. We employ the Einstein summation convention and introduce the abbreviation

$$
\begin{equation*}
\epsilon_{a}{ }^{b}:=\tilde{\epsilon}_{a c} \eta^{c b} \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

with the Levi-Civita symbol $\tilde{\epsilon}_{a b}=-\tilde{\epsilon}_{b a}$, where $\tilde{\epsilon}_{-+}=1$. From these definitions we derive the useful relations $\epsilon_{a}{ }^{a}=0$ and $\epsilon_{a}{ }^{c} \epsilon_{c}{ }^{b}=(-\operatorname{det} \eta) \delta_{a}^{b}$, where $\operatorname{det} \eta:=\eta^{++} \eta^{--}-\eta^{+-} \eta^{+-}$and $\delta_{a}^{b}$ is the Kronecker symbol. For the Poisson tensor $P^{I J}=-P^{J I}$ we choose ${ }^{3}$

$$
\begin{align*}
& P^{X, a}=X^{b} \epsilon_{b}^{a}  \tag{4}\\
& P^{a, b}=-\frac{1}{2} V(X)\left(\eta^{a c} \epsilon_{c}^{b}-\eta^{b c} \epsilon_{c}^{a}\right)-\frac{1}{2} U(X)\left(X^{a} X^{c} \epsilon_{c}^{b}-X^{b} X^{c} \epsilon_{c}{ }^{a}\right)  \tag{5}\\
& P^{X, a b}=0 \tag{6}
\end{align*}
$$

[^0]\[

$$
\begin{align*}
& P^{a b, c d}=0  \tag{7}\\
& P^{a, b c}=W(X) X^{d} \epsilon_{d}^{a} \eta^{b c} \tag{8}
\end{align*}
$$
\]

We shall comment on the specific form of $P^{I J}$ in section 4 and confine ourselves to a couple of immediate remarks. The choices (4) and (5) are standard [1, 4], while (6) and (7) were chosen for simplicity. With (4)-(7) as ansatz the non-trivial entry (8) emerges as solution of the nonlinear Jacobi identities

$$
\begin{equation*}
J^{I J K}:=P^{I L} \partial_{L} P^{J K}+P^{J L} \partial_{L} P^{K I}+P^{K L} \partial_{L} P^{I J}=0 . \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

Only if they are fulfilled then $P^{I J}$ as defined in (4)-(8) really is a Poisson tensor and the action (2) is a PSM (or, equivalently up to a surface term, the action (1)).

We now check the validity of (9). To reduce clutter we shall immediately drop all terms containing $P^{X, a b}$ or $P^{a b, c d}$ or derivatives thereof. Decomposing the generic indices $I, J, \ldots$ into $X, a, a b$, the identities we have to check split into $J^{X, a, b}=J^{X, a, b c}=J^{X, a b, c d}=J^{a, b, c d}=$ $J^{a, b c, d e}=J^{a b, c d, e f}=0$. Let us start with the first one: without loss of generality we can simplify $J^{X, a, b}=0$ to $J^{X,+,-}=0$ and get

$$
\begin{equation*}
P^{X, c} \partial_{c} P^{+,-}+P^{+,-} \partial_{a} P^{a, X}+P^{+, c d} \partial_{c d} P^{-, X}+P^{-, c d} \partial_{c d} P^{X,+}=0 . \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

The first term $P^{X, c} \partial_{c} P^{+,-} \propto X^{b} \epsilon_{b}^{c} \partial_{c}\left(X^{-} X^{d} \epsilon_{d}{ }^{+}-X^{+} X^{d} \epsilon_{d}{ }^{-}\right)=0$ vanishes by itself. The second term vanishes because $\partial_{a} P^{a, X}=0$. Therefore we obtain the condition

$$
\begin{equation*}
X^{-}\left(P^{+,+-}-P^{-,++}\right)=X^{+}\left(P^{+,--}-P^{-,+-}\right), \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

which is fulfilled for (8). The second identity $J^{X, a, b c}=0$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
P^{X, d} \partial_{d} P^{a, b c}=P^{d, b c} \partial_{d} P^{X, a}, \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

holds because (8) has a structure very similar to (4). The third identity $J^{X, a b, c d}=0$ holds identically because $P^{X, a b}$ and $P^{a b, c d}$ vanish. The fourth identity $J^{a, b, c d}=0$ splits into three parts,

$$
\begin{equation*}
P^{a, I} \partial_{I} P^{b, c d}-P^{b, I} \partial_{I} P^{a, c d}=P^{e, c d} \partial_{e} P^{a, b} \tag{13}
\end{equation*}
$$

The terms on the left-hand side actually cancel each other, so the right-hand side must vanish by itself, which indeed is the case: $P^{e, c d} \partial_{e} P^{a, b}=-1 / 2 U W \eta^{c d} X^{f} \epsilon_{f}^{e} \partial_{e}\left(X^{a} X^{g} \epsilon_{g}{ }^{b}-\right.$ $\left.X^{b} X^{g} \epsilon_{g}{ }^{a}\right)=0$. The fifth identity $J^{a, b c, d e}=0$ simplifies to

$$
\begin{equation*}
P^{f, b c} \partial_{f} P^{a, d e}=P^{f, d e} \partial_{f} P^{a, b c} . \tag{14}
\end{equation*}
$$

Evidently this relation holds for (8). The sixth and final identity, $J^{a b, c d, e f}=0$, is trivially fulfilled because of the choice (7). Thus we conclude that (4)-(8) is a valid Poisson tensor because all Jacobi identities (9) hold.

## 3. Classical solutions

The gauge symmetries [3] of the PSM action (2),

$$
\begin{equation*}
\delta_{\varepsilon} X^{I}=P^{I J} \varepsilon_{J}, \quad \delta_{\varepsilon} A_{I}=-\mathrm{d} \varepsilon_{I}-\left(\partial_{I} P^{J K}\right) \varepsilon_{K} A_{J} \tag{15}
\end{equation*}
$$

render the model a topological one in the sense that there are no propagating physical degrees of freedom [4]. The integration of the equations of motion,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{d} X^{I}+P^{I J} A_{J}=0, \quad \mathrm{~d} A_{I}-\frac{1}{2}\left(\partial_{I} P^{J K}\right) A_{K} \wedge A_{J}=0, \tag{16}
\end{equation*}
$$

leads to four conserved quantities in the present case. This can be deduced from the form of the Poisson tensor (4)-(8): its dimension is six, but its rank equals to two, so there is a four-dimensional kernel corresponding to the four conserved quantities, also known as Casimir
functions. We demonstrate now explicitly how to obtain them using the equations of motion (16). We shall need only the first set of equations $\left(\hat{X}^{a}:=X^{b} \epsilon_{b}{ }^{a}\right)$,

$$
\begin{align*}
& \mathrm{d} X=-\hat{X}^{a} e_{a},  \tag{17}\\
& \mathrm{~d} X^{a}=\hat{X}^{a} \omega-P^{a, b} e_{b}-W(X) \hat{X}^{a} \eta^{b c} \rho_{b c},  \tag{18}\\
& \mathrm{~d} \eta^{a b}=W(X) \hat{X}^{c} e_{c} \eta^{a b} . \tag{19}
\end{align*}
$$

The first and third equation lead to three conserved quantities $\eta_{(0)}^{a b}$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{d}\left(e^{P(X)} \eta^{a b}\right)=0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \eta^{a b}=\eta_{(0)}^{a b} e^{-P(X)}, \tag{20}
\end{equation*}
$$

with

$$
\begin{equation*}
P(X):=\int^{X} \mathrm{~d} y W(y) \tag{21}
\end{equation*}
$$

It is now obvious that the function $W$ is responsible for non-metricity because $\mathrm{d} \eta^{a b}$ vanishes if $W$ vanishes. Introducing

$$
\begin{equation*}
Y:=X^{a} \hat{X}^{b} \tilde{\epsilon}_{b a}=X^{a} X^{b} \epsilon_{b}{ }^{c} \tilde{\epsilon}_{c a} \tag{22}
\end{equation*}
$$

and manipulating (18) (inserting repeatedly (17) and exploiting (19) to simplify $\mathrm{d} \hat{X}^{a}=$ $\epsilon_{b}{ }^{a} \mathrm{~d} X^{b}+W \hat{X}^{a} \hat{X}^{b} e_{b}$ ) yields

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{d} Y=-2 \hat{X}^{a} \tilde{\epsilon}_{a b} P^{b, c} e_{c}-W Y \mathrm{~d} X=[2 V \operatorname{det} \eta-(U+W) Y] \mathrm{d} X \tag{23}
\end{equation*}
$$

The last equation together with (20) establishes the fourth conserved quantity $M$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{d}\left(e^{Q(X)+P(X)} Y+w(X)\right)=0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad e^{Q(X)+P(X)} Y+w(X)=M \tag{24}
\end{equation*}
$$

Here we have defined
$Q(X):=\int^{X} \mathrm{~d} y U(y), \quad w(X):=-2 \operatorname{det} \eta_{(0)} \int^{X} \mathrm{~d} y e^{Q(y)-P(y)} V(y)$.
We would like to comment on the integration constants inherent to the definitions (21) and (25). Obviously, a constant shift in $P$ is of no relevance and can be absorbed into a redefinition of $\eta_{(0)}^{a b}$. A constant shift of $Q$ corresponds to a rescaling of the physical units for length and mass, a well-known feature of the metric-compatible case where the same issue arises [1, 11]. A constant shift of $w$ can be absorbed into a redefinition of $M$.

Much like in the metric-compatible case [1], $M$ has an interpretation as 'mass'. We show this by constructing the metric

$$
\begin{equation*}
g_{\mu \nu}=e_{a \mu} e_{b \nu} \eta_{(0)}^{a b} e^{-P(X)} \tag{26}
\end{equation*}
$$

To simplify the discussion we shall assume ${ }^{4} \eta_{(0)}^{ \pm \mp}=1$ and $\eta_{(0)}^{ \pm \pm}=0$, which establishes $\epsilon_{+}^{+}=-\epsilon_{-}^{-}=-e^{-P}$ and $Y=2 e^{-P} X^{+} X^{-}$. A simple class of solutions is obtained for $X^{ \pm}=0$, which by virtue of (17) leads to constant $X$. Equation (18) then requires that $X$ be a solution of $V(X)=0$ and (19) establishes metricity, $\mathrm{d} \eta^{a b}=0$. These solutions, so-called 'constant dilaton vacua', are therefore the same as in the metric compatible case and allow only for constant curvature solutions, cf e.g. [11]. They are non-generic because $V(X)=0$ need not have any solution in the range of definition of $X$. We shall now discuss the generic class of solutions, which requires $X \neq$ const. Following [1, 12] we make the ansatz $e_{-}=X^{+} Z$, where $Z$ is a 1 -form. This ansatz is valid in a patch where $X^{+} \neq 0$. Then (17) yields

[^1]$e_{+}=e^{P} \mathrm{~d} X / X^{+}+X^{-} Z$, while (18) yields $\omega-W \eta^{a b} \rho_{a b}=-e^{P} \mathrm{~d} X^{+} / X^{+}-e^{P} P^{+,-} Z$. Due to redundancy only one of the right equations (16),
\[

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{d} e_{-}+e^{-P}\left(\omega-W \eta^{a b} \rho_{a b}\right) \wedge e_{-}=\partial_{-} P^{+,-} e_{-} \wedge e_{+} \tag{27}
\end{equation*}
$$

\]

is needed. Defining $Z=e^{Q} \hat{Z}$ and using the previous equations simplifies (27) to $\mathrm{d} \hat{Z}=0$. Since $\hat{Z}$ is closed, locally it is exact, $\hat{Z}=\mathrm{d} u$. This yields $e_{-}=X^{+} e^{Q} \mathrm{~d} u$ and $e_{+}=e^{P} \mathrm{~d} X / X^{+}+X^{-} e^{Q} \mathrm{~d} u$. Using $X$ and $u$ as coordinates we obtain from (24) and (26) the line element

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{d} s^{2}=g_{\mu \nu} \mathrm{d} x^{\mu} \mathrm{d} x^{\nu}=e^{Q(X)}\left[2 \mathrm{~d} X \mathrm{~d} u+e^{-P(X)}(M-w(X)) \mathrm{d} u^{2}\right] \tag{28}
\end{equation*}
$$

in the Eddington-Finkelstein gauge. Besides the 'constant dilaton vacua' above, this is the most general classical solution for the line element in an Eddington-Finkelstein patch. It is parameterized by a single constant of motion $M$ and exhibits a Killing vector $\partial_{u}$. For $P=0$ equation (28) agrees with results of the metric-compatible case [1, 12].

On a sidenote we mention that it is possible to obtain the same classical solutions (28) also from a Riemannian second order action,

$$
\begin{equation*}
I_{2} \propto \int_{\mathcal{M}_{2}} \mathrm{~d}^{2} x \sqrt{-g}\left[\tilde{X} R+\tilde{U}(\tilde{X})(\nabla \tilde{X})^{2}-2 \tilde{V}(\tilde{X})\right], \tag{29}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathrm{d} \tilde{X}=e^{P(X)} \mathrm{d} X$ and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\tilde{U}(\tilde{X})=(U(X)-W(X)) e^{-P(X)}, \quad \tilde{V}(\tilde{X})=V(X) e^{-P(X)} \tag{30}
\end{equation*}
$$

The reformulation (29) and (30) is useful for deriving thermodynamical properties (after adding appropriate boundary terms) [13]. One remarkable consequence of non-metricity is that the black hole entropy no longer is proportional to the original dilaton $X$, but rather to $\tilde{X}$.

## 4. Discussion

We demonstrated that (4)-(8) is a valid Poisson tensor for a PSM (2) which allows an interpretation as a first-order gravity system with non-metricity (1). We then constructed all classical solutions for the line element in a basic Eddington-Finkelstein patch (28). We did not address global properties, but such a discussion can be performed in analogy ${ }^{5}$ to $[1,12]$. For vanishing non-metricity potential, $W=0$, we recovered well-known results.

Actually the last point can already be seen at the level of the action. Consider (1) with $W=0$. Then the $\eta, \rho$ sector can be integrated out trivially, leading to three Casimirs $\eta^{a b}=\eta_{(0)}^{a b}$. Let us choose them as $\eta^{ \pm \pm}=0$ and $\eta^{ \pm \mp}=1$. Then (3) simplifies to $\epsilon_{\mp}{ }^{\mp}= \pm 1$ and the action (1) simplifies to
$I=k \int_{\mathcal{M}_{2}}\left[X \mathrm{~d} \omega+X^{ \pm}(\mathrm{d} \mp \omega) \wedge e_{ \pm}+\left(V(X)+X^{+} X^{-} U(X)\right) e_{-} \wedge e_{+}\right]$.
This coincides with the PSM action for ordinary dilaton gravity, parameterized by the potentials $U$ and $V$. For instance, with $k=-1$ and $e^{ \pm}=e_{\mp}$ the result (31) coincides with equation (2.2) in [11]. So the simple case $W=0$ is well understood. The conceptual difference to previous approaches is that the tangent space metric $\eta^{a b}$ here is not an external input but rather emerges from the integration of (19). By choosing different values for the constants of motion $\eta_{(0)}^{a b}$ we can obtain either signature of the tangent space metric. Thus, the choice of signature in our approach happens only at the level of the equations of motion and not at the level of the action.

[^2]We discuss now in a bit more detail the specific form (4)-(8) of the Poisson tensor and the geometric interpretation of our fields. The entry (4) is basically fixed by requiring that the torsion 2-form ${ }^{6}$

$$
\begin{equation*}
T_{a}:=\mathrm{d} e_{a}+\omega_{a}{ }^{b} \wedge e_{b}=\mathrm{d} e_{a}+\epsilon_{a}{ }^{b} \omega \wedge e_{b} \tag{32}
\end{equation*}
$$

appears in the actions (1) and (2). This interpretation, however, requires anti-symmetry of the connection $\omega_{a}{ }^{b}$. We achieve this via (6) which eliminates any coupling of the connection different from (32). Since this does not seem to be the usual way of introducing non-metricity [14] we feel obliged to explain this point. Traditionally non-metricity,

$$
\begin{equation*}
Q^{a b}:=\mathrm{d} \eta^{a b}+\Lambda^{a b}+\Lambda^{b a}, \tag{33}
\end{equation*}
$$

requires a symmetric contribution to the full connection, $\Lambda^{a b} \neq-\Lambda^{b a}$, because normally the term $\mathrm{d} \eta^{a b}$ vanishes since the tangent space metric is assumed to be constant. However, rather than shifting the burden of non-metricity to the symmetric part of the full connection one can achieve non-metricity also with an anti-symmetric connection $\omega_{a}{ }^{b}$ by choosing a tangent space metric which is not constant. A reasonable non-trivial choice for $\eta^{a b}$ in physical applications could be an $(A) d S$ metric, for instance. This reinterpretation of non-metricity is not tied to our two-dimensional discussion but generalizes to higher dimensions. For the sake of completeness we mention that the full 2 D curvature

$$
\begin{equation*}
R_{a}{ }^{b}=\mathrm{d} \omega_{a}{ }^{b}=\epsilon_{a}{ }^{b} \mathrm{~d} \omega-\tilde{\epsilon}_{a c} \omega \wedge \mathrm{~d} \eta^{c b} \tag{34}
\end{equation*}
$$

is in general inequivalent to the Riemannian curvature derived from our solution for the line element (28). Solely for $U=W=0$ both notions of curvature agree with each other, because then torsion and non-metricity vanish. After this digression we return to the discussion of the Poisson tensor. The choice (5) appears to be the most general expression compatible with the index structure, anti-symmetry and the Jacobi identities. A novel feature is that (5) contains terms at most quadratic in $X^{a}$, whereas in the traditional approach arbitrary coupling to $X^{a} X^{b} \eta_{a b}$ is allowed since $\eta_{a b}$ is introduced there as an external structure. This is interesting by itself because supergravity imposes a similar restriction to quadratic coupling [15], but we shall not pursue this issue any further here. As mentioned before the choice (7) was made for simplicity. However, the Jacobi identities (9) are very restrictive concerning contributions to (7) and it could well be they imply $P^{a b, c d}=0$. The main purpose of our Poisson tensor is to produce non-metricity,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{d} \eta^{b c}=e_{a} f^{a b c}, \tag{35}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $f^{a b c}=f^{a c b}$. This is the generic form of non-metricity because we can decompose any 1 -form into basis 1 -forms $e_{a}$. The equations of motion (16) imply $f^{a b c}=P^{a, b c}$ if $P^{X, a b}=P^{a b, c d}=0$. Thus, it is natural to introduce a non-vanishing $P^{a, b c}$ component, but no $P^{a b, c d}$ component is required to generate non-metricity. Our choice (8) contains one free function parameterizing the strength of non-metricity and appears to be the generic solution of the Jacobi identities (9) once the ansatz (4)-(7) is taken for granted. It is evident from (19) that we have only a trace part of non-metricity. So either a PSM formulation does not allow for a tracefree contribution to non-metricity or it requires a different choice of the Poisson tensor. Therefore it would be interesting to check in what sense our choice (4)-(8) is generic, possibly by adapting the discussion in [5].

It is worth mentioning that the symmetries (15) are nonlinear because the Poisson tensor (4)-(8) is at least quadratic in the target space coordinates. Hence the quantities $\partial_{I} P^{J K}$ become structure functions rather than structure constants. Even for the metric-compatible

[^3]case $W=0$ this differs from the simpler situation in (31): there the Jackiw-Teitelboim model $V \propto X, U=0$ [16] simplifies to a $S O(1,2)$ gauge theory. The reason for this difference comes from our treatment of $\eta^{a b}$ as target space coordinates.

Our main result derived from the action is the line element (28), which depends on one additional function $P(X)$ as compared to standard results. This additional freedom can be useful in 'reverse-engineering procedures' where one attempts to construct an action for a given family of classical solutions for dilaton field and line element. For instance, it provides a new possibility to evade the no-go argument of [17] and to construct a PSM action for the exact string black hole [18] which differs from the one constructed in [19]. A possible choice for the exact string black hole potentials is
$U=-\frac{X}{X^{2}+1}, \quad V=-\lambda X \frac{1+\sqrt{X^{2}+1}}{\sqrt{X^{2}+1}}, \quad W=\frac{U}{1+\sqrt{X^{2}+1}}$.
In this way the $\alpha^{\prime}$ corrections contained in the exact string black hole are encoded in nonmetricity. In the weak coupling limit $(X \rightarrow \infty)$ non-metricity becomes irrelevant $(P \rightarrow 1 / X)$ and the model asymptotes to the Witten black hole [20].

Finally, we would like to comment on the relation to previous approaches. The action (1) contains as special cases all models with non-metricity constructed so far (in the sense that the respective classical solutions for line element, curvature, torsion and non-metricity coincide with each other). In particular, the results of [8] are recovered for
$U=-e^{-1-W_{0}(z)}\left[\frac{A}{1+W_{0}(z)}+\frac{B}{\left(1+W_{0}(z)\right)^{2}}\right], \quad V=\frac{2 \beta}{k^{2}} e^{-1-W_{0}(z)}\left(1+W_{0}(z)\right)^{2}$,
$W=-\frac{k^{2}}{8} \frac{e^{-1-W_{0}(z)}}{\left(1+W_{0}(z)\right)}, \quad z:=\frac{k^{2} X}{8 e}-\frac{1}{e}$.
The real parameters $A=(k+p) k / 2+k^{2} / 8$ and $B=k^{2}\left(\alpha+\mu k^{2}+\nu\left(p^{2}-q^{2}\right)\right) / 16$ are related to parameters defined in that work $(k, p, q, \alpha, \beta, \mu, \nu)$. For brevity we have set an additional parameter to zero, $l=0$, but also the case $l \neq 0$ allows a comparison and leads to somewhat lengthy expressions for $U, V$ and $W$. The function $W_{0}$ denotes the principal branch of the Lambert $W$ function [21]. It is convenient to choose the free integration constant in $P$ such that $P=-1-W_{0}(z)$ (since $X$ typically is non-negative $z \geqslant-1 / e$ and $W_{0}(z) \geqslant-1$, so that $P \leqslant 0$ ). The results of [6] are a special case of [8] for $p=q=v=0$. The results of [7] are recovered for

$$
\begin{equation*}
U(X)=B \tilde{X}, \quad V(X)=C \tilde{X}+D \tilde{X}^{2}+E \tilde{X}^{3}, \quad W(X)=A . \tag{38}
\end{equation*}
$$

The real parameters $A=a_{1} / a, B=a_{1}^{2} / a^{2}, C=\lambda / a+D / a_{1}, D=a_{1}\left(4 a_{2}-1\right) /(2 a b)$ and $E=-a_{1}^{2} /(4 a b)$ are related to parameters defined in that work $\left(a, a_{1}, a_{2}, b, \lambda\right)$. The dilaton $X$ is determined from $\tilde{X}$ by the relation between equations (29) and (30), which integrates to $A X=\ln (A \tilde{X})$. Our action (1) not only encompasses all these special cases, but generalizes them while maintaining integrability. It could be interesting to couple matter to the system, to supersymmetrize it and/or to quantize it. This should be possible by analogy to the metric compatible case [1], even though there will be technical and conceptual differences because the tangent-space metric $\eta^{a b}$ now is dynamical.

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[^0]:    3 For transparency we introduce a comma between the first and second index.

[^1]:    ${ }^{4}$ Other choices for $\eta_{(0)}^{a b}$ would lead to a similar discussion provided det $\eta_{(0)} \neq 0$.

[^2]:    5 It would be interesting to see the effect of $W \neq 0$ on global properties. Singularities of the non-metricity potential $W$ typically do not change the number and types of Killing horizons, but they can be of relevance for the asymptotic structure of space-time or geodesic (in)completeness properties.

[^3]:    ${ }^{6}$ Because we demand compatibility with the PSM index structure quantities such as torsion and curvature have non-standard index positions of the tangent space indices.

