

Contents

Abstract	vii
Zusammenfassung	ix
Publications connected to the thesis	xi
Acknowledgements	xiii
1. Introduction	I
1.1. Quantum gravity	I
1.2. The topic of this thesis	2
2. Supergeometry	9
2.1. Introduction	9
2.2. Three roads towards a theory of supermanifolds	II
2.2.1. Algebro-geometric supermanifolds	II
2.2.2. Algebro-geometric and H^∞ supermanifolds: An equivalence of categories	18
2.3. Super Lie groups and Lie superalgebras	23
2.4. Super fiber bundles	37
2.5. $\mathcal{S}$ -relative super connection forms	53
2.6. Graded principal bundles and graded connections	68
2.7. Parallel transport map	73
2.7.1. Preliminaries and first construction	73
2.7.2. Parallel transport map revisited	78
2.8. Discussion	89
3. Supergravity and super Cartan geometry	91
3.1. Introduction	91
3.2. Review: Gravity as Cartan geometry	92
3.3. Super Cartan geometry	98
3.4. Supergravity as super Cartan geometry and the Castellani-D'Auria-Fré approach	106
3.5. Application: Killing vector fields and Killing spinors	115
3.6. On the role of the parametrizing supermanifold	119
3.7. Discussion	123
4. Loop quantum supergravity and the quantum SUSY constraint	125
4.1. Introduction	125
4.2. Some notes on Clifford algebras and Majorana spinors	127

4.3.	Holst action for Supergravity in $D = 4$ and its $3 + 1$ decomposition	132
4.3.1.	Introducing half-densitized fermion fields	145
4.4.	Anti-de Sitter Supergravity	150
4.5.	Quantum theory	151
4.5.1.	Quantization of the Rarita-Schwinger field	151
4.5.2.	Quantization of the SUSY constraint	156
4.5.3.	Solutions of the quantum SUSY constraint	181
4.6.	Discussion	183
5.	Holst-MacDowell-Mansouri action for (extended) supergravity with boundaries, and chiral LQSG	185
5.1.	Introduction	185
5.2.	Geometric $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supergravity with boundaries	188
5.2.1.	Holst-MacDowell-Mansouri action of $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SUGRA	191
5.3.	$\mathcal{N} = 2$ pure SUGRA with boundaries	196
5.3.1.	Holst action for $\mathcal{N} = 2$ pure SUGRA	199
5.4.	Chiral supergravity and the super Ashtekar connection	206
5.4.1.	The super Ashtekar connection	206
5.4.2.	$\mathcal{N} = 1$ chiral SUGRA: Chiral Palatini action and super Chern-Simons theory on the boundary	210
5.4.3.	$\mathcal{N} = 2$ chiral SUGRA with boundaries	217
5.4.4.	Reality conditions	221
5.5.	The state space of chiral LQSG	223
5.5.1.	The graded holonomy-flux algebra	223
5.5.2.	Haar measures on super Lie groups and super Hilbert spaces	233
5.5.3.	Loop quantization	244
5.5.4.	Comparison: Quantization of fermions in standard LQG	253
5.6.	The boundary theory	258
5.6.1.	The super Chern-Simons action	258
5.6.2.	Towards black hole entropy in LQSG – an outlook	260
5.7.	Some results on super Peter Weyl theory	267
5.8.	Discussion	274
6.	Supersymmetric minisuperspace models in self-dual loop quantum cosmology	279
6.1.	Introduction	279
6.2.	Preliminaries: Homogeneous isotropic cosmology	280
6.3.	Symmetry reduction in supersymmetric field theories	283
6.4.	Canonical decomposition of chiral $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supergravity	288
6.5.	The symmetry reduced model	292
6.5.1.	Homogeneous (isotropic) super connection forms	292

6.5.2.	Symmetry reduction of the chiral action	296
6.5.3.	Half densitized fermion fields	303
6.5.4.	Constraint algebra	307
6.6.	Quantum theory	310
6.6.1.	Construction of the classical algebra	310
6.6.2.	The kinematical Hilbert space	316
6.6.3.	Solution of the residual Gauss constraint	319
6.6.4.	The SUSY constraints and the quantum algebra	320
6.6.5.	The semi-classical limit	327
6.7.	Discussion	330
7.	Conclusions and outlook	333
7.1.	Summary of the results	333
7.2.	Future research	338
Appendix		343
A.	Super linear algebra	343
B.	Categories, sheaves and locally ringed spaces	346
C.	Rogers-DeWitt supermanifolds	356
D.	Irreducible representations of $\mathrm{OSp}(\mathcal{N} 2)$	359
E.	Space forms	364
F.	Proof of Proposition 2.6.10	366
List of symbols, notations and conventions		371
Bibliography		383