

**CONSTRAINTS IN THE BV FORMALISM:
SIX-DIMENSIONAL SUPERSYMMETRY AND ITS TWISTS**

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ABSTRACT. We formulate the abelian six-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ theory perturbatively, in a generalization of the Batalin–Vilkovisky formalism. Using this description, we compute the holomorphic and non-minimal twists at the perturbative level. This calculation hinges on the existence of an L_∞ action of the supersymmetry algebra on the abelian tensor multiplet, which we describe in detail. Our formulation appears naturally in the pure spinor superfield formalism, but understanding it requires developing a presymplectic generalization of the BV formalism, inspired by Dirac’s theory of constraints. The holomorphic twist consists of symplectic-valued holomorphic bosons from the $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ hypermultiplet, together with a degenerate holomorphic theory of holomorphic one-forms from the $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ tensor multiplet, which can be seen to describe the infinitesimal intermediate Jacobian variety. We check that our formulation and our results match with known ones under various dimensional reductions, as well as comparing the holomorphic twist to Kodaira–Spencer theory. Matching our formalism to five-dimensional Yang–Mills theory after reduction leads to some issues related to electric–magnetic duality; we offer some speculation on a nonperturbative resolution.

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1. INTRODUCTION

There is a supersymmetric theory in six dimensions whose fields include a two-form with self-dual field strength. Concrete and direct formulations of this theory, whose field content is referred to as the tensor multiplet, have remained elusive, despite an enormous amount of work and numerous applications, predictions, and consistency checks. One main difficulty is that the theory is believed not to admit a Lagrangian description, meaning that its equations of motion—even for the free theory—do not arise from a standard covariant action functional via the usual methods of variational calculus.

Part of the desire to better understand theories of tensor multiplets is due to their ubiquity in the context of string theory and M -theory. A nonabelian theory of tensor multiplets with $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ supersymmetry, associated to the A_{N-1} series of Lie algebras, is famously expected to appear as the worldvolume theory of N coincident $M5$ -branes; this theory has been the topic of, and inspiration for, an enormous amount of research. The literature is too large to survey here, but we give a few selected references below.

Our main objective in this paper is to compute the twists of the abelian tensor multiplet. (We restrict to a perturbative analysis of the free theory with abelian gauge group; as such, we do not touch on issues relating to the interacting superconformal theories expected in the nonabelian case $N > 1$, although we believe that some of our structural insights should be of use in that setting as well.) On general grounds, the $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ supersymmetry algebra in six dimensions admits two twists: a holomorphic or minimal twist, together with a non-minimal twist that is defined on the product of a Riemann surface and a smooth four-manifold. Just at the level of the physical fields, a first rough statement of our results is as follows.

Theorem. *The abelian $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ admits two inequivalent classes of twists described as follows.*

- (1) *The holomorphic twist exists on any complex three-fold X equipped with a square-root of the canonical bundle $K_X^{\frac{1}{2}}$. It is equivalent to a theory whose physical fields are a $(1, 1)$ -form $\chi^{1,1}$, a $(0, 2)$ -form $\chi^{0,2}$, and a symplectic pair of fermionic fields $\varphi^{3/2,1}$, $i = 1, 2$,*

which transform as $(0, 1)$ forms with values in $K_X^{\frac{1}{2}}$. These fields obey the equations

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\partial}\chi^{1,1} + \partial\chi^{0,2} &= 0, \\ \bar{\partial}\chi^{0,2} &= 0, \\ \bar{\partial}\varphi_i^{3/2,1} &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

The gauge symmetries of this theory are parameterized by form fields $\chi^{0,1}$ and $\chi^{1,0}$, together with a pair of symplectic bosonic gauge fields $\varphi_i^{3/2,0}$, $i = 1, 2$, which are sections of $K_X^{\frac{1}{2}}$. They act by the formulas

$$\begin{aligned}\chi^{1,1} &\mapsto \chi^{1,1} + \partial\chi^{0,1} + \bar{\partial}\chi^{1,0}, \\ \chi^{0,2} &\mapsto \chi^{0,2} + \bar{\partial}\chi^{0,1}, \\ \varphi_i^{3/2,1} &\mapsto \varphi_i^{3/2,1} + \bar{\partial}\varphi_i^{3/2,0}.\end{aligned}$$

- (2) The non-minimal twist exists on any manifold of the form $M \times C$, where M is a smooth four-manifold and C is a Riemann surface. It is equivalent to a theory whose physical fields are a pair

$$(\chi^{2;0,0}, \chi^{1;0,1}) \in \Omega^2(M) \otimes \Omega^0(C) \oplus \Omega^1(M) \otimes \Omega^{0,1}(C).$$

This pair obeys the equations of motion

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\partial}\chi^{2;0,0} + d\chi^{1;0,1} &= 0 \\ d\chi^{2;0,0} &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

Here $\bar{\partial}$ is the $\bar{\partial}$ -operator on C and d is the de Rham operator on M . The theory has gauge symmetries by fields $\chi^{1;0,0}$ and $\chi^{0;0,1}$, which act via $\chi^{2;0,0} \mapsto \chi^{2;0,0} + d\chi^{1;0,0}$ and $\chi^{1;0,1} \mapsto \chi^{1;0,1} + d\chi^{0;0,1} + \bar{\partial}\chi^{1;0,0}$.

The full statements of these results appear below in Theorems 4.2 and 5.9. Making sense of these twists and proving the theorems rigorously requires a great deal of groundwork, which leads us to develop some general theoretical tools that we expect to be of use outside the context of six-dimensional supersymmetry.

The main subtlety of the $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ theory, and the twists above, is that they do *not* arise as the variational equations of motion of a local action functional. Thus, our first goal is to give a precise mathematical formulation of the perturbative theory of the free $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ tensor multiplet. (Of course, a corresponding formulation of the $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ tensor multiplet follows immediately from this.) Throughout the paper, we make use of the Batalin–Vilkovisky (BV) formalism; see [CG; Cos11] for a modern treatment of this setup, and [Sch93; BV84] for a more traditional outlook. Roughly, the data of a classical theory in the BV formalism is a graded space of fields \mathcal{E}_{BV} (given as the space of sections of some graded vector bundle on spacetime), together with a symplectic form ω_{BV} of cohomological degree (-1) on \mathcal{E}_{BV} and an action functional. The (degree-one) Hamiltonian vector field associated to the action functional defines a differential on \mathcal{E}_{BV} . Under appropriate conditions, this differential provides a free resolution to the sheaf of solutions to the equations of motion of the theory, modulo gauge equivalence.

It is clear that this formalism does not extend to the tensor multiplet in a straightforward way. The issue arises from the presence of the self-duality constraint on the field strength of the two-form, and is independent of supersymmetry and of other details about this particular theory. In Lorentzian signature, self-dual constraints on real $2k$ -form fields can be imposed in spacetime dimension $4k + 2$, where $k = 0, 1, \dots$ ¹ We will always work in Euclidean signature in this paper, and therefore also with complexified coefficients; for us, the self-dual constraint in six dimensions therefore takes the form

$$(1) \quad b \in \Omega^2(M^6), \quad \star db = \sqrt{-1} db.$$

The Yang–Mills style action of a higher form gauge theory would be given by the L^2 -norm $\|db\|_{L^2} = \int db \wedge \star db$. It is clear that the self-duality condition implies the norm vanishes identically, so an action functional of Yang–Mills type is not feasible [Wit04]. Writing a covariant Lagrangian of any standard form for the tensor multiplet has been the subject of much effort, and is generally thought to be impossible (although various formulations have been proposed in the abelian case; see, for example, [Ban+97a; Aga+97; HS97a; HS97b]). A standard BV formulation of the theory, along the lines of more familiar examples, is thus out of reach for this reason alone.

The formulation we use was motivated by the desire to understand the pure spinor superfield formalism for $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ supersymmetry; the relevant cohomology was first computed in [CNT02], and was rediscovered and reinterpreted in [ESW18]. Roughly speaking, this formalism takes as input an equivariant sheaf over the space of Maurer–Cartan elements, or nilpotence variety, of the supertranslation algebra, and produces a chain complex of locally free sheaves over the spacetime, together with a homotopy action of the corresponding supersymmetry algebra. The resulting multiplet can be interpreted as the BRST or BV formulation of the corresponding free multiplet, according to whether the action of the supersymmetry algebra closes on shell or not; the differential, which is also an output of the formalism, corresponds in the latter case to the Hamiltonian vector field mentioned above.

In the case of $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ supersymmetry, the action of the algebra is, as always, guaranteed on general grounds. The fields exhibit an obvious match to the content of the $(2, 0)$ tensor multiplet, and the differential includes the correct linearized equations of motion. (In fact, the resulting multiplet contains no auxiliary fields at all.) One thus expects to have obtained an on-shell formalism, but the interpretation of the resulting resolution as a BV theory is subtle for a new reason: there is no obvious or natural shifted symplectic pairing. In fact, developing a framework for studying the multiplets produced by pure-spinor techniques requires a generalization of the standard formalism, which necessarily allows for *degenerate* pairings.

In classical symplectic geometry, symplectic pairings that are not required to be nondegenerate are called *presymplectic*. In fact, presymplectic structures have played a role in physics before, in Dirac’s theory of constrained systems. In this context, the origin is clear: while symplectic structures do not pull back, presymplectic structures (which are just closed two-forms) do. Any submanifold of a symplectic phase space, such as a constraint surface, thus naturally inherits a presymplectic structure.

¹In the literature, such constraints are sometimes called “chiral.” To avoid confusion, we will reserve this term for a different constraint that can be defined on complex geometries, and that will play a large role in what follows.

The simplest situation where the issues of self-duality constraints arise occurs for $k = 0$, in the context of two-dimensional conformal field theory. Here, the constraint is precisely the condition of holomorphy, and the theory of a self-dual zero-form is just the well-known chiral boson. We take a brief intermezzo to remark on this theory briefly, to offer the reader some familiar context for our more general considerations.

The chiral boson. In Lorentzian signature, the theory of the (periodic) chiral boson describes left-moving circle-valued maps. Working perturbatively, as we do throughout this paper, the periodicity plays no role, so that the field is simply a left-moving real function; after switching to Euclidean signature (and correspondingly complexifying), we have a theory of maps χ that are simply holomorphic functions on a Riemann surface.

As discussed above, one role of the BV formalism is to provide a resolution of the sheaf of solutions to the equations of motion by smooth vector bundles. For the sheaf of holomorphic functions, such a resolution is straightforward to write down: it is just given by the Dolbeault complex $\Omega^{0,\bullet}(C)$.

The chiral boson is not a theory in the usual sense of the word, perturbatively or otherwise, as it is not described by an action functional: the equations of motion, namely that χ be holomorphic, do not arise as the variational problem of a classical action functional. Relatedly, the free resolution $\Omega^{0,\bullet}(C)$ is not a BV theory, as it does not admit a nondegenerate pairing of an appropriate kind. Nevertheless, there is a way to formulate the chiral boson in a slightly modified version of the BV formalism, by interpreting holomorphy (which, in this setting, is the same as self-duality) as a *constraint*.

To do this, we first consider a closely related theory, the (non-chiral) free boson, which does have a description in the BV formalism. The free boson is a two-dimensional conformal field theory whose perturbative fields, in Euclidean signature, are just a smooth complex-valued function σ on C ; the equations of motion impose that σ is harmonic. In the BV formalism, one can model this free theory by the following two-term cochain complex

$$(2) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \underline{0} & & \underline{1} \\ \mathcal{E}_{\text{BV}} = \Omega^0(C) & \xrightarrow{\partial\bar{\partial}} & \Omega^2(C). \end{array}$$

We can equip \mathcal{E} with a degree (-1) antisymmetric non-degenerate pairing, which in this case is just given by multiplication and integration. That is

$$\omega_{\text{BV}}(\sigma, \sigma^+) = \int \sigma \sigma^+$$

where $\sigma \in \Omega^0(C)$ and $\sigma^+ \in \Omega^2(C)$. This is the (-1) -shifted symplectic form, and the differential in (2) is the Hamiltonian vector field associated to the free action functional, as described in general above.

Now, there is a natural map of cochain complexes

$$i : \Omega^{0,\bullet}(C) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_{\text{BV}}$$

which in degree zero is the identity map on smooth functions, and in degree one is defined by the holomorphic de Rham operator $\partial : \Omega^{0,1}(C) \rightarrow \Omega^2(C)$. We can pull back the degree (-1)

symplectic form ω on \mathcal{E} to a two-form $i^*\omega$ on $\Omega^{0,\bullet}(C)$, which is closed because i is a cochain map. Explicitly, this two-form on the space $\Omega^{0,\bullet}(C)$ is $(i^*\omega)(\chi, \chi') = \int \chi \partial \chi'$.

Since i is not a quasi-isomorphism, $i^*\omega$ is degenerate, and hence does not endow $\Omega^{0,\bullet}(C)$ with a BV structure. However, it is useful to think of $i^*\omega$ as a shifted *presymplectic* structure on the chiral boson, encoding “what remains” of the standard BV structure after the constraint of holomorphy has been imposed.

In analogy with ordinary symplectic geometry, we will refer to the data of a pair (\mathcal{E}, ω) where \mathcal{E} is a graded space of fields, and ω is a closed two-form on \mathcal{E} , as a *presymplectic* BV theory. We make this precise in Definition 2.1, at least for the case of free theories. In the example of the chiral boson this pair is $(\Omega^{0,\bullet}(C), i^*\omega_{\text{BV}})$.

The theory of the self-dual two-form in six-dimensions (more generally a self-dual $2k$ -form in $4k + 2$ dimensions) arises in an analogous fashion. There is an honest BV theory of a nondegenerate two-form on a Riemannian six-manifold, which endows the theory of the self-dual two-form with the structure of a presymplectic BV theory. Among other examples, we give a precise formulation of the self-dual two-form in §2.

As for standard BV theories, one would hope to have a theory of observables, techniques for quantization, and so on in the context of presymplectic BV theories. To develop a theory of classical observables, we make use of the theory of *factorization algebras*. Costello and Gwilliam have developed a mathematical approach to the study of observables in perturbative field theory, of which local operators are a special case. The general philosophy is that the observables of a perturbative (quantum) field theory have the structure of a factorization algebra on spacetime [CG17; CG]. Roughly, this factorization algebra of observables assigns to an open set U of spacetime a cochain complex $\text{Obs}(U)$ of “observables with support contained in U .” When two open sets U and V are disjoint and contained in some bigger open set W , the factorization algebra structure defines a rule of how to “multiply” observables $\text{Obs}(U) \otimes \text{Obs}(V) \rightarrow \text{Obs}(W)$. For local operators, one should think of this as organizing the operator product expansion in a sufficiently coherent way.

In the ordinary BV formalism, the factorization algebra of observables has a very important structure, namely a Poisson bracket of cohomological degree $+1$ induced from the shifted symplectic form ω_{BV} . This is reminiscent of the Poisson structure on functions on an ordinary symplectic manifold, and is a key ingredient in quantization.

In the case of a presymplectic manifold, the full algebra of functions does *not* carry such a bracket. But there is a subalgebra of functions, called the *Hamiltonian* functions, that does. This issue persists in the presymplectic BV formalism, and some care must be taken to define a notion of observables that carries such a shifted Poisson structure. We tentatively solve this problem, and for special classes of free presymplectic BV theories we provide an appropriate notion of “Hamiltonian observables.” The corresponding factorization algebra carries a shifted Poisson structure, which is a direct generalization of the work of Costello–Gwilliam that works to include presymplectic BV theories.² While the Hamiltonian observables provide a way of

²The development of the theory of observables for more general presymplectic BV theories is part of ongoing work with Eugene Rabinovich.

understanding a large class of observables in presymplectic BV theories, we emphasize that a full theory should be expected to contain additional, nonperturbative observables: the Hamiltonian observables of the chiral boson, for example, agree with the $U(1)$ current algebra, and therefore do *not* see observables (such as vertex operators) that have to do with the bosonic zero mode.

Using this formalism, we formulate the abelian tensor multiplet as a presymplectic BV theory, and go on to work out the full L_∞ module structure encoding the on-shell action of supersymmetry. Our formalism is distinguished from other formulations of the abelian tensor multiplet in that it extends supersymmetry off-shell *without* using any auxiliary fields, in the homotopy-algebraic spirit of the BV formalism. Using this L_∞ module structure, we rigorously compute both twists; like the full theory, these are presymplectic BV theories. In eliminating acyclic pairs to obtain more natural descriptions of the twisted theories, we are forced to carefully consider what it means for a quasi-isomorphism to induce an equivalence of shifted presymplectic structures; understanding these equivalences is crucial for correctly describing both the presymplectic structure on the holomorphic twist and the action of the residual supersymmetry there.

Our results allow us to compare concretely to Kodaira–Spencer theory on Calabi–Yau threefolds, which is expected to play a role in the proposed description of holomorphically twisted supergravity theories due to Costello and Li [CL16a]. It would be interesting to try and incorporate our results into the framework of the nonminimal twist of 11d supergravity, which we expect to agree with the proposals for “topological M-theory” considered in the literature [Dij+05; GS04; Nek05]; branes in topological M-theory were considered in [BCN08]. However, we reserve more substantial comparisons for future work.

We are also able to perform a number of consistency checks with known results on holomorphic twists of theories arising by dimensional reduction of the tensor multiplet. At the level of the holomorphic twist, we show that the reduction to four-dimensions yields the expected supersymmetric Yang–Mills theories. Furthermore, when we compactify along a four-manifold we recover the ordinary chiral boson on Riemann surfaces.

Finally, we discuss dimensional reduction to five-dimensional Yang–Mills theory at the level of the *untwisted* theory. Issues related to electric–magnetic duality appear naturally and play a key role here; furthermore, obtaining the correct result on the nose requires correctly accounting for nonperturbative phenomena that are missed by our perturbative approach. Although we do not rigorously develop the presymplectic BV formalism at a nonperturbative level in this work, we speculate about a nonperturbative formulation for gauge group $U(1)$, and argue that our proposal gives the correct dimensional reduction on the nose at the level of chain complexes of sheaves. Doing this requires a conjectural description of the theory of abelian p -form fields in terms of a direct sum of two Deligne cohomology groups, which can be interpreted as a complete (nonperturbative) presymplectic BV theory in novel fashion.

Previous work. There has been an enormous amount of previous work in the physics literature on topics related to M5 branes and $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ superconformal theories in six dimensions, and any attempt to provide exhaustive references is doomed to fail. In light of this, our bibliography makes no pretense to be complete or even representative. The best we can offer is an extremely brief and cursory overview of some selected past literature, which may serve to orient the reader;

for more complete background, the reader is referred to the references in the cited literature, and in particular to the reviews [SS99; Ber08; Dij98].

Tensor multiplets in six dimensions were constructed in [HST83]. The earliest approaches to the M5-brane involved the study of relevant “black brane” solutions in eleven-dimensional supergravity theory [Güv92]; perhaps the first intimation that corresponding six-dimensional theories should exist was made by considering type IIB superstring theory on K3 singularities in [Wit95]. The abelian M5-brane theory was worked out, including various proposals for Lagrangian formulations, in [HS97a; HS97b], in [Aga+97], in [CNS98], and in [Ban+97a], following the general framework for chiral fields in [PST97]. These formulations were later shown to be equivalent in [Ban+97b]. The connection of the tensor multiplet to supergravity solutions on $\text{AdS}_7 \times S^4$ was discussed in [CKVP98] with an emphasis on $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ superconformal symmetry.

As to twisting the theory, the non-minimal twist was studied in [AL14; GLN14], and a close relative earlier in [BW98]. (The approach of the latter paper effectively made use of the twisting homomorphism appropriate to the unique topological twist in five-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetry; this is the dimensional reduction of the six-dimensional non-minimal twist.) While these studies compute the nonminimal twist at a nonperturbative level, [AL14; GLN14] do so only after compactification to four dimensions along the Riemann surface in the spacetime $C \times M^4$, and thus do not see the holomorphic dependence on C explicitly. Our results are thus in some sense orthogonal. The relevance of the full nonminimal twist for the AGT correspondence was emphasized in [Yag12]; it would be interesting to connect our results to the AGT [AGT10] and 3d-3d [DGG14] correspondences.

The holomorphic twist has, as far as we know, not been considered explicitly before, although the supersymmetric index of the abelian theory was computed in [BG16]. We expect agreement between the character of local operators in the holomorphic theory [SW20] and the index studied there, after correctly accounting for nonperturbative operators, but do not consider that question in the present work and hope to study it in the future. We note, however, that the \mathbb{P}_0 factorization algebra arising as the Hamiltonian observables of the holomorphically twisted (1,0) theory was studied in [GRW20] as a boundary system for seven-dimensional abelian Chern–Simons theory. (The relation between the six-dimensional self-dual theory and seven-dimensional Chern–Simons theory is the subject of earlier work by [BM06], among others.) We see both these results and our results here as progress towards an understanding of the holomorphically twisted version of the $\text{AdS}_7/\text{CFT}_6$ correspondence.

Recently, there has been new progress on the question of finding a formulation of the non-abelian theory; much of this progress makes use of higher algebraic or homotopy-algebraic structure. See, for example, [FSS14], [SS18], and [LP10; Lam19]. It would be interesting either to study twisting some of these proposals, or to attempt to make further progress on these questions by searching for nonabelian or interacting generalizations of the twisted theories studied here. These might be easier to find than their nontwisted counterparts and offer new insight into the nature of the interacting (2, 0) theory. We look forward to working on such questions in the future, and hope that others are inspired to pursue similar lines of attack.

For the physicist reader, we emphasize that we deal here with a formulation that is lacking, even at a purely classical level, in at least three respects. Firstly, we make no rigorous effort to formulate the theory non-perturbatively, even for gauge group $U(1)$; in a sense, our discussion

deals only with the gauge group \mathbb{R} . (Some more speculative remarks about nonperturbative versions of the abelian theory, though, are given in §7.) In keeping with this, our analysis here does not yet deal carefully with issues of charge quantization; as such, the subtle issues considered in [Wit97; HS05] and generalized in [Fre02] make no appearance, although we expect them to play a role in correctly extending our theory to the “nonperturbative” setting of gauge group $U(1)$. Lastly, we start with a formulation which does not involve any coupling to eleven-dimensional supergravity, and makes no attempt to connect to the M5 brane, in the sense that we ignore the formulation of the theory in terms of a theory of maps. Associated issues (such as WZW terms and kappa symmetry) therefore make no appearance, although the connection to Kodaira–Spencer theory is indicated to show how we see our results as fitting into a larger story about twisted supergravity theories in the sense of Costello and Li [CL16a], as mentioned above.

An outline of the paper. We begin in §2 by setting up a presymplectic version of the BV formalism for free theories. After stating some general results and reviewing a list of examples, the section culminates with a definition of the factorization algebra of Hamiltonian observables for a class of presymplectic BV theories. In §3 we recall the necessary tools of six-dimensional supersymmetry and provide a definition of the $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ and $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ versions of the tensor multiplet in the presymplectic BV formalism. We review the classification of possible twists, and then give an explicit description of the presymplectic BV theory as an L_∞ module for the supersymmetry algebra. We perform the calculation of the minimal twist of the tensor multiplet in §4, and of the non-minimal twist in §5. We touch back with string theory in §6, where we relate our twisted theories to the conjectural twist of Type IIB supergravity due to Costello–Li. Finally, in §7, we explore some consequences of our description of the twisted theories upon dimensional reduction. We perform some sanity checks with theories that are conjecturally obtained as the reduction of the theory on the M5 brane, culminating in a computation of the dimensional reduction of the *untwisted* theory along a circle. Some interesting issues related to electric-magnetic duality appear naturally; we discuss these, and end with some speculative remarks on nonperturbative generalizations of our results.

Conventions and notations.

- If $E \rightarrow M$ is a graded vector bundle on a smooth manifold M , then we define the new vector bundle $E^\dagger = E^* \otimes \text{Dens}_M$, where E^* is the linear dual and Dens_M is the bundle of densities on M . We denote by \mathcal{E} the space of smooth sections of E , and \mathcal{E}^\dagger the space of sections of E^\dagger . The notation \mathcal{E}_c refers to the space of compactly supported sections of E . The notation $(\overline{\mathcal{E}}_c) \overline{\mathcal{E}}$ refers to the space of (compactly supported) distributional sections of E .
- The sheaf of (smooth) p -forms on a smooth manifold M will be denoted $\Omega^p(M)$ and $\Omega^\bullet(M) = \bigoplus \Omega^p(M)[-p]$ is the \mathbb{Z} -graded sheaf of de Rham forms, with $\Omega^p(M)$ in degree p . Often times when M is understood we will denote the space of p -forms by Ω^p . More generally, our grading conventions are cohomological, and are chosen such that the cohomological degree of a chain complex of differential forms is determined by the (total) form degree, but always taken to start with the lowest term of the complex in degree zero. Thus Ω^p is a degree-zero object, $\Omega^{\leq p}$ is a chain complex with support in degrees

zero to p , and $\Omega^{\geq p}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ begins with p -forms in degree zero and runs up to d -forms in degree $d - p$.

- On a complex manifold X , we have the sheaves $\Omega^{i,\text{hol}},g(X)$ of holomorphic forms of type $(i, 0)$. The operator $\partial : \Omega^{i,\text{hol}},g(X) \rightarrow \Omega^{i+1,\text{hol}}(X)$ is the holomorphic de Rham operator. The standard Dolbeault resolution of holomorphic i -forms is $(\Omega^{i,\bullet}(X), \bar{\partial})$ where $\Omega^{i,\bullet}(X) = \bigoplus_k \Omega^{i,k}(X)[-k]$ is the complex of Dolbeault forms of type (i, \bullet) with (i, k) in cohomological degree $+k$. Again, when X is understood we will denote forms of type (i, j) by $\Omega^{i,j}$.
- We attempt to adhere to the following notational convention for fields in the various theories we will consider (see §2 for definitions): χ for chiral $2k$ -forms, including the chiral boson; b for self-dual $2k$ -forms for $k > 0$; σ for free bosons (or, more generally, nondegenerate $2k$ -forms); φ for symplectic bosons (or odd abelian Chern–Simons theories); β and γ for the $\beta\gamma$ system; ψ for chiral fermions. We will use ϕ to generically denote any field in any theory without further specification.

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2. A PRESYMPLECTIC BATALIN–VILKOVISKY FORMALISM

In the standard Batalin–Vilkovisky (BV) formalism [Sch93], one is interested in studying the (derived) critical locus of an action functional. On general grounds, derived critical loci are equipped with canonical (-1) -shifted symplectic structures [Pan+13]. In perturbation theory, where we work around a fixed classical solution, we can assume that the space of BV fields \mathcal{E} are given as the space of sections of some graded vector bundle $E \rightarrow M$, where M is the spacetime. In this context, the (-1) -symplectic structure boils down to an equivalence of graded vector bundles $\omega : E \cong E^![-1]$.

We remind the reader that in the standard examples of “cotangent” perturbative BV theories, E is of the form

$$(3) \quad E = T^*[-1]F \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} F \oplus F^![-1],$$

where F is some graded vector bundle, which carries a natural (-1) -symplectic structure. The differential Q_{BV} is constructed such that

$$(4) \quad H^0(\mathcal{E}, Q_{\text{BV}}) \cong \text{Crit}(S),$$

i.e. so that the sheaf of chain complexes $(\mathcal{E}, Q_{\text{BV}})$ is a model of the derived critical locus.

In general, we can think of the (-1) -symplectic structure ω as a two-form (with constant coefficients) on the infinite-dimensional linear space \mathcal{E} . Moreover, this two-form is of a very special nature: it arises locally on spacetime. For a more detailed introduction to the BV formalism its description of perturbative classical field theory, see [Cos11; CG].

We will be interested in a generalization of the BV formalism, motivated by the classical theory of presymplectic geometry and its appearance in Dirac's theory of constrained systems in quantum mechanics. In ordinary geometry, a presymplectic manifold is a smooth manifold M equipped with a closed two-form $\omega \in \Omega^2(M)$, $d\omega = 0$. Equivalently, ω can be viewed as a skew map of bundles $TM \rightarrow T^*M$. This is our starting point for the presymplectic version of the BV formalism in the derived and infinite dimensional setting of field theory.

2.1. Presymplectic BV formalism. We begin by introducing the presymplectic version of the BV formalism in terms of a two-form on the space of classical fields. This generalization shares many features with the usual BV setup: the two-form of degree (-1) on arises "locally" on spacetime, in the sense that it is defined by a differential operator acting on the fields. In this paper we are only concerned with free theories, so we immediately restrict our attention to this case.

It is important for us that our complexes are bigraded by the abelian group $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2$. We will refer to the integer grading as the *cohomological* or *ghost degree*, and the supplemental $\mathbb{Z}/2$ grading as *parity* or *fermion number*.

Before stating the definition of a free presymplectic BV theory, we set up the following notion about the skewness of a differential operator. Let E be a vector bundle on M and suppose $D : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}^![n]$ is a differential operator of degree n . The continuous linear dual of \mathcal{E} is $\mathcal{E}^\vee = \bar{\mathcal{E}}_c^!$ (see §1). So, D defines the following composition

$$\bar{D} : \mathcal{E}_c \hookrightarrow \mathcal{E} \xrightarrow{D} \mathcal{E}^![n] \hookrightarrow \bar{\mathcal{E}}^![n].$$

The continuous linear dual of \bar{D} is a linear map of the same form $\bar{D}^\vee : \mathcal{E}_c \rightarrow \bar{\mathcal{E}}^![n]$. We say the original operator D is *graded skew symmetric* if $\bar{D} = (-1)^{n+1} \bar{D}^\vee$.

Definition 2.1. A (perturbative) **free presymplectic BV theory** on a manifold M is a tuple $(E, Q_{\text{BV}}, \omega)$ where:

- E is a finite-rank, $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded vector bundle on M , equipped with a differential operator

$$Q_{\text{BV}} \in \text{Diff}(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E})[1]$$

of bidegree $(1, 0)$;

- a differential operator

$$\omega \in \text{Diff}(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E}^!)[-1]$$

of bidegree $(-1, 0)$;

which satisfy:

- (1) the operator Q_{BV} satisfies $(Q_{\text{BV}})^2 = 0$, and the resulting complex $(\mathcal{E}, Q_{\text{BV}})$ is elliptic;
- (2) the operator ω is graded skew symmetric with regard to the totalized $\mathbb{Z}/2$ grading;
- (3) the operators ω and Q_{BV} are compatible: $[Q_{\text{BV}}, \omega] = 0$.

We refer to the fields $\phi \in \mathcal{E}$ of cohomological degree zero as the “physical fields”. For free theories, the linearized equations of motion can be read off as $Q_{\text{BV}}\phi = 0$. As is usual in the BRST/BV formalism, gauge symmetries are imposed by the fields of cohomological degree -1 .

The differential operator ω determines a bilinear pairing of the form

$$\int_M \omega : \mathcal{E}_c \times \mathcal{E}_c \rightarrow \text{Dens}_M[-1] \xrightarrow{\int_M} \mathbb{C}[-1]$$

which endows the compactly supported sections \mathcal{E}_c with the structure of a (-1) -shifted presymplectic vector space. Often, we will refer to a shifted presymplectic structure by prescribing the data of such a bilinear form on compactly supported sections.

Of course, it should be clear that a (perturbative) free BV theory [CG, Definition 7.2.1.1] is a free presymplectic BV theory such that ω is induced from a bilinear map of vector bundles which is fiberwise non-degenerate. The notion of a free presymplectic BV theory is thus a weakening of the more familiar definition. Indeed, when ω is an order zero differential operator such that $\omega : \mathcal{E} \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{E}^![-1]$ is an isomorphism, the tuple $(E, Q_{\text{BV}}, \omega)$ defines a free BV theory in the usual sense.

Remark 2.2. There are two natural ways to generalize Definition 2.1 that we do not pursue here:

- *Non-constant coefficient presymplectic forms:* More generally, one can ask that ω be given as a polydifferential operator of the form

$$\omega \in \prod_{n \geq 0} \text{PolyDiff}(\mathcal{E}^{\otimes n} \otimes \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E}^!)[-1].$$

The right-hand side is what one should think of as the space of “local” two-forms on \mathcal{E} .

- *“Interacting” presymplectic BV formalism:* Here, we require that $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{E}[-1]$ be equipped with the structure of a local L_∞ algebra. Thus, the space of fields \mathcal{E} should be thought of as the formal moduli space given by the classifying space $B\mathcal{L}$. In the situation above, the free theory corresponds to an abelian local L_∞ algebra, in which only the unary operation (differential) is nontrivial.

There is a natural compatibility between these two more general structures that is required. Using the description of the fields as the formal moduli space $B\mathcal{L}$, for some L_∞ algebra \mathcal{L} , one can view ω as a two-form $\omega \in \Omega^2(B\mathcal{L}) = C^\bullet(\mathcal{L}, \wedge^2 \mathcal{L}[1]^*)$. There is an internal differential on the space of two-forms given by the Chevalley–Eilenberg differential d_{CE} corresponding to the L_∞ structure. There is also an external, de Rham type, differential of the form $d_{\text{dR}} : \Omega^2(B\mathcal{L}) \rightarrow \Omega^3(B\mathcal{L})$. In this setup we require $d_{\text{CE}}\omega = 0$ and $d_{\text{dR}}\omega = 0$. We could weaken this condition further by replacing strictly closed two-forms on $B\mathcal{L}$ by $\Omega^{\geq 2}(B\mathcal{L})$ and asking that ω be a cocycle here.

Since we only consider *free* presymplectic BV theories in this paper, we will simply refer to them as presymplectic BV theories.

2.2. Examples of presymplectic BV theories. We proceed to give some examples of presymplectic BV theories, beginning with simple examples of degenerate pairings and proceeding to more ones more relevant to six-dimensional theories. The secondary goal of this section is to set up notation and terminology that will be used in the rest of the paper.

Example 2.3. Suppose (V, w) is a finite dimensional presymplectic vector space. That is, V is a finite dimensional vector space and $w : V \rightarrow V^*$ is a (degree zero) linear map which satisfies $w^* = -w$. Then, for any 1-manifold L , the elliptic complex

$$(\mathcal{E}, Q_{\text{BV}}) = (\Omega^\bullet \otimes V, d_{\text{dR}})$$

is a presymplectic BV theory on L with

$$\omega = \mathbb{1}_{\Omega^\bullet} \otimes w : \Omega^\bullet \otimes V \rightarrow \Omega_L^\bullet \otimes V^* = \mathcal{E}^![-1].$$

Similarly, if C is a Riemann surface equipped with a spin structure $K^{\frac{1}{2}}$, then the elliptic complex

$$(\mathcal{E}, Q_{\text{BV}}) = \left(\Omega^{0,\bullet} \otimes K^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes V, \bar{\partial} \right)$$

is a presymplectic BV theory on C with

$$\omega = \mathbb{1}_{\Omega^{0,\bullet} \otimes K^{\frac{1}{2}}} \otimes w : \Omega^{0,\bullet} \otimes K^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes V \rightarrow \Omega^{0,\bullet} \otimes K^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes V^*.$$

Each theory in this example arose from an ordinary presymplectic vector space, which was also the source of the degeneracy of ω . The first example that is really intrinsic to field theory, and also relevant for the further discussion in this paper, is the following.

Example 2.4. Let C be a Riemann surface and suppose (W, h) is a finite dimensional vector space equipped with a symmetric bilinear form thought of as a linear map $h : W \rightarrow W^*$. Then

$$(\mathcal{E}, Q_{\text{BV}}) = (\Omega^{0,\bullet} \otimes W, \bar{\partial})$$

is a presymplectic BV theory with

$$\omega = \bar{\partial} \otimes h : \Omega^{0,\bullet} \otimes W \rightarrow \Omega^{1,\bullet} \otimes W^* = \mathcal{E}^![-1].$$

We refer to this free presymplectic BV theory as the *chiral boson* with values in W , and will denote it by $\chi(0, W)$ (see the next example). In the case that $W = \mathbb{C}$, we will simply denote this by $\chi(0)$.

There is an immediate generalization of the above definition that allows W to be a graded vector space or a cochain complex. We will not make much use of this here, though we remark that the nonminimal twist of the $(2, 0)$ theory can be understood in this way.

Remark 2.5. While we did not require (W, h) to be nondegenerate in the above example, the theory is a genuinely presymplectic BV theory even if h is nondegenerate. This corresponds to the standard notion of the chiral boson in the physics literature, and we will have no cause to consider degenerate pairings h in what follows.

Example 2.6. Suppose X is a $(2k+1)$ -dimensional complex manifold. Let $\Omega^{\bullet, \text{hol}} = (\Omega^{\bullet, \text{hol}}, \partial)$ be the holomorphic de Rham complex and let $\Omega^{\geq k+1, \text{hol}}$ be the complex of forms of degree $\geq k+1$. By the holomorphic Poincaré lemma, $\Omega^{\geq k+1, \text{hol}}, g$ is a resolution of the sheaf of holomorphic closed $(k+1)$ -forms. Further, $\Omega^{\geq k+1, \text{hol}}[-k-1]$ is a subcomplex of $\Omega^{\bullet, \text{hol}}$ and there is a short exact sequence of sheaves of cochain complexes

$$\Omega^{\geq k+1, \text{hol}}[-k-1] \rightarrow \Omega^{\bullet, \text{hol}}, g \rightarrow \Omega^{\leq k, \text{hol}}$$

which has a locally free resolution of the form

$$(5) \quad \Omega^{\geq k+1, \bullet}[-k-1] \rightarrow \Omega^{\bullet, \bullet} \rightarrow \Omega^{\leq k, \bullet}.$$

In this sequence, all forms are smooth and the total differential is $\partial + \bar{\partial}$ in each term. We use this quotient complex $\Omega^{\leq k, \bullet}$ to define another class of presymplectic BV theories.

Let (W, h) be as in the previous example. (Following Remark 2.5, it may as well be nondegenerate.) The elliptic complex

$$(\mathcal{E}, Q_{\text{BV}}) = \left(\Omega_X^{\leq k, \bullet} \otimes W[2k], d = \partial + \bar{\partial} \right).$$

is a presymplectic BV theory with

$$\omega = \partial \otimes h : \Omega_X^{\leq k, \bullet} \otimes W[2k] \rightarrow \Omega_X^{\geq k+1, \bullet} \otimes W^*[k].$$

We denote this presymplectic BV theory by $\chi(2k, W)$, which we will refer to as the *chiral* $2k$ -**form** with values in W . In the case $W = \mathbb{C}$ we will simply denote this by $\chi(2k)$.

Remark 2.7. When $W = \mathbb{C}$, the sheaf of cochain complexes $\Omega_X^{\geq k+1, \bullet}[k-1]$ is a resolution for the sheaf of holomorphic ∂ -closed $(k+1)$ -forms $\Omega_{X, \text{cl}}^{k+1, \text{hol}}[k-1]$ placed in cohomological degree $-k+1$. Similarly, the sheaf $\Omega_X^{\leq k, \bullet}[2k]$ is the quotient of the full de Rham complex shifted by $2k$ by the subspace $\Omega_X^{\geq k+1, \bullet}[k-1]$. Thought of as an *abelian* dg Lie algebra, the complex $\Omega_X^{\leq k, \bullet}[2k]$ underlying $\chi(2k)$ is a model for the infinitesimal neighborhood at zero of the intermediate Jacobian variety of X [FM20; Gre94].

Example 2.8. Let M be a Riemannian $(4k+2)$ -manifold, and (W, h) as above. The Hodge star operator \star defines a decomposition

$$(6) \quad \Omega^{2k+1}(M) = \Omega_+^{2k+1}(M) \oplus \Omega_-^{2k+1}(M)$$

on the middle de Rham forms, where \star acts by $\pm\sqrt{-1}$ on $\Omega_{\pm}^{2k+1}(M)$.

Consider the following exact sequence of sheaves of cochain complexes:

$$(7) \quad 0 \rightarrow \Omega_-^{\geq 2k+1}[-2k-1] \rightarrow \Omega^{\bullet} \rightarrow \Omega_+^{\leq 2k+1} \rightarrow 0$$

where

$$(8) \quad \Omega_+^{\leq 2k+1} = \left(\Omega^0 \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^1[-1] \xrightarrow{d} \dots \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^{2k}[-2k] \xrightarrow{d_+} \Omega_+^{2k+1}[-2k-1] \right),$$

with $d_+ = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \sqrt{-1}\star)d$, and

$$(9) \quad \Omega_-^{\geq 2k+1} = \left(\Omega_-^{2k+1} \xrightarrow{d} \Omega_-^{2k+2}[-1] \xrightarrow{d} \dots \xrightarrow{d} \Omega_-^{4k+2}[-2k-1] \right).$$

Let

$$(10) \quad (\mathcal{E}, Q_{\text{BV}}) = (\Omega_+^{\leq 2k+1} \otimes W[2k], d)$$

and

$$\omega = d \otimes h : \Omega_+^{\leq 2k+1} \otimes W[2k] \rightarrow \Omega_-^{\geq 2k+1} \otimes W^*.$$

This data defines a presymplectic BV theory $\chi_+(2k, W)$ on any Riemannian $(4k + 2)$ -manifold, which we will refer to as the **self-dual $2k$ -form** with values in W . Again, in the case $W = \mathbb{C}$ we will simply denote this by $\chi_+(2k)$.

Remark 2.9. In general, the theories $\chi(2k)$ and $\chi_+(2k)$ are defined on different classes of manifolds; they can, however, be simultaneously defined when X is a complex manifold equipped with a Kähler metric. Even in this case, they are distinct theories (although, for $k = 1$, their dimensional reductions along $\mathbb{C}P^2$ both agree with the usual chiral boson; see §7). In §4 we will show explicitly that the $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ tensor multiplet (which consists of $\chi_+(2)$ together with fermions and one scalar) becomes precisely $\chi(2)$ under a holomorphic twist.

There is, however, one case where the two theories $\chi(2k)$ and $\chi_+(2k)$ coincide. A choice of metric on a Riemann surface determines a conformal class, which then corresponds precisely to a complex structure. As such, both of the theories $\chi(0)$ and $\chi_+(0)$ are always well-defined, and in fact agree; both are the theory of the chiral boson defined in Example 2.4.

We now recall a couple of examples of nondegenerate theories, for later convenience and to fix notation, that fit the definition of a standard free BV theory [CG, Definition 7.2.1.1].

Example 2.10. Let M be a Riemannian manifold of dimension d . Let (W, h) be a complex vector space equipped with a non-degenerate symmetric bilinear pairing $h : W \cong W^*$. The theory $\Sigma(0, W)$ of the **free boson with values in W** is the data

$$(11) \quad (\mathcal{E}, Q_{\text{BV}}) = \left(\Omega^0(M) \otimes W \xrightarrow{d \star d \otimes \mathbb{1}_W} \Omega^d(M) \otimes W[-1] \right),$$

and $\omega = \mathbb{1}_{\Omega^0} \otimes h + \mathbb{1}_{\Omega^d} \otimes h$. Notice this is a BV theory, the (-1) presymplectic structure is non-degenerate.

Example 2.11. Let (W, h) be as in the previous example, $p \geq 0$ an integer, and suppose M is a Riemannian manifold of dimension $d \geq p$. The theory $\Sigma(p, W)$ of **free p -form fields valued in W** is defined [Ell19] by the data

$$(12) \quad (\mathcal{E}, Q_{\text{BV}}) = \left(\Omega^{\leq p} \otimes W[p] \xrightarrow{d \star d \otimes \mathbb{1}_W} \Omega^{\geq d-p} \otimes W[p-1] \right),$$

with (-1) -symplectic structure $\omega = \mathbb{1}_{\Omega^{\leq p}} \otimes h + \mathbb{1}_{\Omega^{\geq d-p}} \otimes h$. Notice again this is an honest BV theory, the presymplectic structure is non-degenerate. If $\sigma \in \mathcal{E}$ denotes a field, the classical action functional reads $\frac{1}{2} \int h(\sigma, d \star d\sigma)$.

This example clearly generalizes the free scalar field theory, and also does not depend in any way on our special choice of dimension. We will simply write $\Sigma(p)$ for the case $W = \mathbb{C}$ when the spacetime M is understood.

Example 2.12. Let M be as in the last example, and suppose in addition it carries a spin structure compatible with the Riemannian metric. Let (R, w) be a complex vector space equipped with an antisymmetric non-degenerate bilinear pairing. The theory $\Psi_-(R)$ of **chiral fermions valued in R** is the data

$$(13) \quad (\mathcal{E}, Q_{\text{BV}}) = \Gamma(\Pi S_- \otimes R) \xrightarrow{\not{d} \otimes \mathbb{1}_R} \Gamma(\Pi S_+ \otimes R)[-1],$$

with (-1) -symplectic structure $\omega = \text{id}_{S_+} \otimes w + \text{id}_{S_-} \otimes w$.

We depart from the world of Riemannian manifolds to exhibit theories natural to the world of complex geometry that will play an essential role later on in the paper.

Example 2.13. Suppose X is a complex manifold of complex dimension 3 which is equipped with a square-root of its canonical bundle $K_X^{\frac{1}{2}}$. Let (S, w) be a $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded vector space equipped with a graded symmetric non-degenerate pairing. **Abelian holomorphic Chern–Simons theory** valued in S is the free BV theory $\text{hCS}(S)$ whose complex of fields is

$$\Omega^{0,\bullet}(X, K_X^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes S)[1]$$

with (-1) -symplectic structure $\omega = \text{id}_{\Omega^{0,\bullet}} \otimes w$. This theory is naturally $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded and has action functional $\frac{1}{2} \int w(\varphi \wedge \bar{\partial}\varphi)$. Notice that the fields in cohomological degree zero consist of $\varphi \in \Omega^{0,1}(X, K_X^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes S)$, and the equation of motion is $\bar{\partial}\varphi = 0$. This theory thus describes deformations of complex structure of the $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded bundle $K_X^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes S$.

We will be most interested in the case $S = \Pi R$ where R is an ordinary (even) symplectic vector space; see Theorem 4.2. In this case, we can think of the theory as (an appropriate shift of) the theory of holomorphic maps from X to R ; thinking of it this way, we could generalize the theory to non-flat target spaces. For this reason, we prefer to call it the theory of *symplectic bosons*, and will use the notation $\Phi(R)$, where R is a symplectic manifold; for flat targets, R is a symplectic vector space, and $\Phi(R) = \text{hCS}(\Pi R)$. Nontrivial targets will play no role in this paper.

2.3. Presymplectic BV theories and constraints. Perturbative presymplectic BV theories stand in the same relationship to perturbative BV theories as presymplectic manifolds do to symplectic manifolds. Presymplectic structures obviously pull back along embeddings, whereas symplectic structures do not. There is thus always a preferred presymplectic structure on submanifolds of any (pre)symplectic manifold. In fact, this is the starting point for Dirac’s theory of constrained mechanical systems [Dir50; GNH78].

Each of the examples of presymplectic BV theories we have given so far can be similarly understood as constrained systems relative to some (symplectic) BV theory. By this, we mean that the presymplectic BV theory maps to a nondegenerate theory, and that presymplectic structure arises by pullback.

Example 2.14 (The chiral boson and the free scalar). The chiral boson $\chi(0, W)$ on a Riemann surface C , from Example 2.4, can be understood as a constrained system relative to the free scalar $\Sigma(0, W)$, see Example 2.10. At the level of the equations of motion this is obvious: the constrained system picks out the harmonic functions that are holomorphic.

In the BV formalism, this constraint is realized by the following diagram of sheaves on C :

$$(14) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \Omega^{0,0} & \xrightarrow{\partial\bar{\partial}} & \Omega^{1,1} \\ \uparrow \mathbb{1} & & \uparrow \partial \\ \Omega^{0,0} & \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} & \Omega^{0,1} \end{array}$$

It is evident that the diagram commutes, and that the vertical arrows define a cochain map upon tensoring with W :

$$(15) \quad \chi(0, W) \rightarrow \Sigma(0, W).$$

Furthermore, a moment's thought reveals that the (-1) -shifted presymplectic pairing on $\chi(0, W)$ arises by pulling back the (-1) -shifted symplectic pairing on $\Sigma(0, W)$.

Example 2.15 (The self-dual $2k$ -form and the free $2k$ -form). It is easy to form generalizations of the previous example. Consider the following diagram of sheaves on a Riemannian $(4k + 2)$ -manifold:

$$(16) \quad \begin{array}{ccccccc} \Omega^0 & \longrightarrow & \dots & \longrightarrow & \Omega^{2k} & \xrightarrow{d^*d} & \Omega^{2k+2} & \longrightarrow & \dots & \longrightarrow & \Omega^{4k+2} \\ \uparrow \mathbb{1} & & & & \uparrow \mathbb{1} & & \uparrow d & & & & \\ \Omega^0 & \longrightarrow & \dots & \longrightarrow & \Omega^{2k} & \xrightarrow{d_+} & \Omega_+^{2k+1} & & & & \end{array}$$

Just as above, the vertical arrows of this commuting diagram define a cochain map

$$(17) \quad \chi_+(2k, W) \rightarrow \Sigma(2k, W),$$

under which the natural (-1) -shifted presymplectic structure of Example 2.8 arises by pulling back the (-1) -shifted symplectic form on $\Sigma(2k, W)$.

If X is a complex manifold of complex dimension $2k + 1$, the presymplectic BV theory of the chiral $2k$ -form $\chi(2k)$ is defined, see Example 2.6. As a higher dimensional generalization of Example 2.14, $\chi(2k)$ can also be understood as a constrained system relative to theory of the free $2k$ -form $\Sigma(2k, W)$, see Example 2.11. It is an instructive exercise to construct the similar diagram that witnesses the presymplectic structure on the chiral $2k$ -form $\chi(2k, W)$ by pullback from the ordinary (nondegenerate) BV structure on $\Sigma(2k, W)$.

2.4. The observables of a presymplectic BV theory. The classical BV formalism, as formulated in [CG], constructs a factorization algebra from a classical BV theory, which plays the role of functions on a symplectic manifold in the ordinary finite dimensional situation.

In symplectic geometry, functions carry a Poisson bracket. In the classical BV formalism there is a shifted version of Poisson algebras that play a similar role. By definition, a \mathbb{P}_0 -algebra is a commutative dg algebra together with a graded skew-symmetric bracket of cohomological degree $+1$ which acts as a graded derivation with respect to the commutative product. Classically, the BV formalism outputs a \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebra of classical observables [CG, §5.2].

In this section, we will see that there is a \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebra associated to a *presymplectic* BV theory, which agrees with the construction of [CG] in the case that the presymplectic BV theory is nondegenerate. Unlike the usual situation, this algebra is not simply the functions on the space of fields, but consists of certain class of functions. We begin by recalling the situation in presymplectic mechanics.

To any presymplectic manifold (M, ω) one can associate a Poisson algebra. This construction generalizes the usual Poisson algebra of functions in the symplectic case, and goes as follows. Let $\text{Vect}(M)$ be the Lie algebra of vector fields on M , and define the space of *Hamiltonian pairs*

$$(18) \quad \text{Ham}(M, \omega) \subset \text{Vect}(M) \oplus \mathcal{O}(M)$$

to be the linear subspace of pairs (X, f) satisfying $i_X\omega = df$. Correspondingly, we can define the space of *Hamiltonian functions* or *Hamiltonian vector fields* to be the image of $\text{Ham}(M, \omega)$ under the obvious (forgetful) maps to $\mathcal{O}(M)$ or $\text{Vect}(M)$ respectively. We will denote these spaces by $\mathcal{O}^\omega(M)$ and $\text{Vect}^\omega(M)$. Notice that $\mathcal{O}^\omega(M)$ is the quotient of $\text{Ham}(M, \omega)$ by the Lie ideal $\ker(\omega) \subset \text{Ham}(M, \omega)$.

There is a bracket on $\text{Ham}(M, \omega)$, defined by

$$[(X, f), (Y, g)] = ([X, Y], i_X i_Y(\omega)).$$

On the right-hand side the bracket $[-, -]$ is the usual Lie bracket of vector fields. Furthermore, there is a commutative product on $\text{Ham}(M, \omega)$ defined by

$$(X, f) \cdot (Y, g) = (gX + fY, fg).$$

Together, they endow $\text{Ham}(M, \omega)$ with the structure of a Poisson algebra. This Poisson bracket on Hamiltonian pairs induces a Poisson algebra structure on the algebra of Hamiltonian functions $\mathcal{O}^\omega(M)$.

In some situations, one can realize the Poisson algebra of Hamiltonian functions $\mathcal{O}^\omega(M)$ as functions on a particular symplectic manifold. Associated to the presymplectic form ω is the subbundle

$$(19) \quad \ker(\omega) \subseteq TM$$

of the tangent bundle. The closure condition on ω ensures that $\ker(\omega)$ is always involutive. If one further assumes that the leaf space $M/\ker(\omega)$ is a smooth manifold, then ω automatically descends to a symplectic structure along the quotient map $q : M \rightarrow M/\ker(\omega)$. Pulling back along this map determines an isomorphism of Poisson algebras

$$q^* : \mathcal{O}(M/\ker(\omega)) \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{O}^\omega(M).$$

In particular, one can view the Poisson algebra of Hamiltonian functions as the $\ker(\omega)$ -invariants of the algebra of functions $\mathcal{O}^\omega(M) = \mathcal{O}(M)^{\ker(\omega)}$. Notice that this formula makes sense without any conditions on the niceness of the quotient $M/\ker(\omega)$.

In our setting, the presymplectic data is given by a presymplectic BV theory. A natural problem is to define and characterize a version of Hamiltonian functions in this setting.

2.4.1. The factorization algebra of observables. As we've already mentioned, given a (nondegenerate) BV theory the work of [CG] produces a factorization algebra of classical observables. If $(\mathcal{E}, \omega, Q_{\text{BV}})$ is the space of fields of a free BV theory on a manifold M then this factorization algebra $\text{Obs}_\mathcal{E}$ assigns to the open set $U \subset M$ the cochain complex $\text{Obs}_\mathcal{E}(U) = (\mathcal{O}^{\text{sm}}(\mathcal{E}(U)), Q_{\text{BV}})$. Here $\mathcal{O}^{\text{sm}}(\mathcal{E}(U))$ refers to the ‘‘smooth’’ functionals on $\mathcal{E}(U)$, which by definition are³

$$\mathcal{O}^{\text{sm}}(\mathcal{E}(U)) = \text{Sym} \left(\mathcal{E}_c^!(U) \right).$$

Furthermore, since ω is an isomorphism, it induces a bilinear pairing

$$\omega^{-1} : \mathcal{E}_c^! \times \mathcal{E}_c^! \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[1].$$

³Notice $\mathcal{E}_c^!(U) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{E}(U)^\vee$, so \mathcal{O}^{sm} is a subspace of the space of all functionals on $\mathcal{E}(U)$.

By the graded Leibniz rule, this then determines a bracket

$$\{-, -\} : \mathcal{O}^{sm}(\mathcal{E}(U)) \times \mathcal{O}^{sm}(\mathcal{E}(U)) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}^{sm}(\mathcal{E}(U))[1]$$

endowing $\text{Obs}_{\mathcal{E}}$ with the structure of a \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebra, see [CG, Lemma 5.3.0.1].

In this section, we turn our attention to defining the observables of a presymplectic BV theory, modeled on the notion of the algebra of Hamiltonian functions in the finite dimensional presymplectic setting. Suppose that $(\mathcal{E}, \omega, Q_{\text{BV}})$ is a free presymplectic BV theory. The shifted presymplectic structure is defined by a differential operator

$$\omega : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}^![-1].$$

In order to implement the structures we recounted in the ordinary presymplectic setting, the first object we must come to terms with is the solution sheaf of this differential operator $\ker(\omega) \subset \mathcal{E}$.

In general $\ker(\omega)$ is not given as the smooth sections of a finite rank vector bundle, so it is outside of our usual context of perturbative field theory. However, suppose we could find a semi-free resolution $(\mathcal{K}_{\omega}^{\bullet}, D)$ by finite rank bundles

$$\ker(\omega) \xrightarrow{\cong} (\mathcal{K}_{\omega}^{\bullet}, D)$$

which fits in a commuting diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \ker(\omega) & \xrightarrow{\cong} & \mathcal{K}_{\omega}^{\bullet} \\ & \searrow & \swarrow \pi \\ & \mathcal{E} & \end{array}$$

where the bottom left arrow is the natural inclusion, and π is a linear differential operator. In the more general case, where ω is nonlinear, we would require that $\mathcal{K}_{\omega}^{\bullet}$ have the structure of a dg Lie algebra resolving $\ker(\omega) \subset \text{Vect}(\mathcal{E})$.

Given this data, the natural ansatz for the classical observables is the (derived) invariants of $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})$ by $\mathcal{K}_{\omega}^{\bullet}$. A model for this is the Lie algebra cohomology:

$$C^{\bullet}(\mathcal{K}_{\omega}^{\bullet}, \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})) = C^{\bullet}(\mathcal{K}_{\omega}^{\bullet} \oplus \mathcal{E}[-1]).$$

In this free case that we are in, this cochain complex is isomorphic to functions on the dg vector space $\mathcal{K}_{\omega}^{\bullet}[1] \oplus \mathcal{E}$ where the differential is $D + Q_{\text{BV}} + \pi$.

As in the case of the ordinary BV formalism, in the free case we can use the smoothed version of functions on fields.

Definition 2.16. Let $(\mathcal{E}, \omega, Q_{\text{BV}})$ be a free presymplectic BV theory on M , and suppose $(\mathcal{K}^{\bullet}, D)$ is a semi-free resolution of $\ker(\omega) \subset \mathcal{E}$ as above. The cochain complex of *classical observables supported on the open set* $U \subset M$ is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Obs}_{\mathcal{E}}^{\omega}(U) &= \mathcal{O}^{sm}(\mathcal{K}_{\omega}^{\bullet}(U) \oplus \mathcal{E}(U)[-1], D + Q_{\text{BV}} + \pi) \\ &= \left(\text{Sym} \left((\mathcal{K}_{\omega}^{\bullet})_c^!(U) \oplus \mathcal{E}_c^!(U)[1] \right), D + Q_{\text{BV}} + \pi \right). \end{aligned}$$

By [CG17, Theorem 6.0.1] the assignment $U \mapsto \text{Obs}_{\mathcal{E}}^{\omega}(U)$ defines a factorization algebra on M , which we will denote by $\text{Obs}_{\mathcal{E}}^{\omega}$.

Example 2.17. Consider the chiral boson presymplectic BV theory $\chi(0)$, see Example 2.4, on a Riemann surface C . The kernel of $\omega = \partial$ is the sheaf of constant functions

$$\ker(\omega) = \underline{\mathbb{C}}_C \subset \Omega^{0,\bullet}(C).$$

By the Poincaré lemma, the de Rham complex $(\Omega_C^\bullet, d_{\text{dR}} = \partial + \bar{\partial})$ is a semi-free resolution of $\underline{\mathbb{C}}_C$. Thus, the classical observables are given as the Lie algebra cohomology of the abelian dg Lie algebra

$$\left(\Omega_C^\bullet \oplus \Omega_C^{0,\bullet}[-1], d_{\text{dR}} + \bar{\partial} + \pi \right)$$

where $\pi : \Omega_C^\bullet \rightarrow \Omega_C^{0,\bullet}$ is the projection. This dg Lie algebra is quasi-isomorphic to the abelian dg Lie algebra $\Omega_C^{1,\bullet}[-1]$, so the factorization algebra of classical observables is

$$\text{Obs}_{\chi(0)}^\omega \simeq \mathcal{O}^{sm}(\Omega_C^{1,\bullet}) = \text{Sym} \left(\Omega_{C,c}^{0,\bullet}[1] \right).$$

There are two special cases to point out.

- (1) Suppose the shifted presymplectic form ω is an order zero differential operator. Then, $\ker(\omega)$ is a subbundle of \mathcal{E} , so there is no need to seek a resolution. Furthermore, in this case $\mathcal{E}/\ker(\omega)$ is also given as the sheaf of sections of a graded vector bundle $E/\ker(\omega)$, and ω descends to a bundle isomorphism $\omega : E/\ker(\omega) \xrightarrow{\cong} (E/\ker(\omega))^![-1]$.

In other words, $(\mathcal{E}/\ker(\omega), \omega, Q_{\text{BV}})$ defines a (nondegenerate) free BV theory. The factorization algebra of the classical observables of the pre BV theory $\text{Obs}_{\mathcal{E}}^\omega$ agrees with the factorization algebra of the BV theory $\mathcal{E}/\ker(\omega)$

$$\text{Obs}_{\mathcal{E}/\ker(\omega)} = (\mathcal{O}^{sm}(\mathcal{E}/\ker(\omega)), Q_{\text{BV}}).$$

In this case, the observables inherit a \mathbb{P}_0 -structure by [CG, Lemma 5.3.0.1].

- (2) This next case may seem obtuse, but fits in with many of the examples we consider. Suppose that the two-term complex

$$\text{Cone}(\omega)[-1] : \begin{array}{ccc} \underline{0} & & \underline{1} \\ & \xrightarrow{\omega} & \mathcal{E}^![-1], \end{array}$$

defined by the presymplectic form ω , is itself a semi-free resolution of $\ker(\omega)$. (Though it is not quite precise, one can imagine this condition as requiring that ω have trivial cokernel.) In this case, it is immediate to verify that the factorization algebra of observables is

$$\text{Obs}_{\mathcal{E}}^\omega = \left(\mathcal{O}^{sm}(\mathcal{E}^![-1]), Q_{\text{BV}} \right).$$

We mention that in this case $\text{Obs}_{\mathcal{E}}^\omega$ is also endowed with a \mathbb{P}_0 -structure defined directly by ω .

We can summarize the discussion in the two points above as follows.

Proposition 2.18. *If the presymplectic BV theory $(\mathcal{E}, \omega, Q_{\text{BV}})$ satisfies (1) or (2) above then the classical observables $\text{Obs}_{\mathcal{E}}^\omega$ form a \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebra.*

Remark 2.19. Generally speaking, the resolution of the solution sheaf $\ker(\omega)$ is given by the Spencer resolution. We expect a definition of a \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebra of observables associated to any (non-linear) presymplectic BV theory, though we do not pursue that here.

For any k , the self-dual $2k$ -form $\chi(2k, W)$ and the chiral $2k$ -form satisfy condition (2) and so give rise to a \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebra of Hamiltonian observables. We will study this factorization algebra in depth in §6.

3. THE ABELIAN TENSOR MULTIPLY

We provide a definition of the (perturbative) abelian $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ tensor multiplet in the presymplectic BV formalism, together with the $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ tensor multiplet and hypermultiplet. As discussed in the previous section, in the BV formalism one must specify a (-1) -shifted symplectic (infinite dimensional) manifold, the fields, together with the data of a homological vector field which is compatible with the shifted symplectic form. The tensor multiplets in six dimensions are peculiar, because they only carry a presymplectic BV (shifted presymplectic) structure, as opposed to a symplectic one.

Roughly speaking, the fundamental fields of the tensor multiplet consist of a two-form field whose field strength is constrained to be self-dual, a scalar field valued in some R -symmetry representation, and fermions transforming in the positive spin representation of $\text{Spin}(6)$. The degeneracy of the shifted symplectic structure arises from the presence of the self-duality constraint on the two-form in the multiplet, just as in the examples in §2.2.

We begin by defining the field content of each multiplet precisely and giving the presymplectic BV structure. A source for the definition of the fields of the tensor multiplet in the BV formalism can be traced to the description in terms of the six-dimensional nilpotence variety given in [ESW]. See Remark 3.2.

The next step is to formulate the action of supersymmetry on the $(1, 0)$ and $(2, 0)$ tensor multiplets at the level of the BV formalism. Here, one makes use of the well-known linear transformations on physical fields that are given in the physics literature. See, for example, [BSVP99] for the full superconformal transformations of the $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ multiplet; we will review the linearized super-Poincaré transformations below.

However, these transformations do not define an action of $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$ on the space of fields. In the physics terminology, they close only on-shell (and after accounting for gauge equivalence). In the BV formalism, this is rectified by extending the action to an L_∞ action on the BV fields. (See, just for example, [Bau+90] for an application of this technique.) For the hypermultiplet, this was performed explicitly in [ESW]; the hypermultiplet, however, is a symplectic BV theory in the standard sense. For the tensor multiplet, supersymmetry also only exists on-shell; no strict Lie module structure can be given. We work out the required L_∞ correction terms, which play a nontrivial role in our later calculation of the non-minimal twist.

We will first recall the definitions of the relevant supersymmetry algebras; afterwards, we will construct the multiplets as free perturbative presymplectic BV theories, and go on to give the L_∞ module structure on the $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ tensor multiplet. Of course the $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ transformations follow trivially from this by restriction.

3.1. Supersymmetry algebras in six dimensions. Let $S_\pm \cong \mathbb{C}^4$ denote the complex four-dimensional spin representations of $\text{Spin}(6)$ and let $V \cong \mathbb{C}^6$ be the vector representation. There

exist natural $\text{Spin}(6)$ -invariant isomorphisms

$$\wedge^2(S_{\pm}) \xrightarrow{\cong} V$$

and a non-degenerate $\text{Spin}(6)$ -invariant pairing

$$(-, -) : S_+ \otimes S_- \rightarrow \mathbb{C}.$$

The latter identifies $S_+ \cong (S_-)^*$ as $\text{Spin}(6)$ -representations. Under the exceptional isomorphism $\text{Spin}(6) \cong \text{SU}(4)$, S_{\pm} are identified with the fundamental and antifundamental representation respectively.

The odd part of the complexified six-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = (n, 0)$ supersymmetry algebra is of the form

$$\Sigma_n = S_+ \otimes R_n,$$

where R_n is a $(2n)$ -dimensional complex symplectic vector space whose symplectic form we denote by ω_R . There is thus a natural action of $\text{Sp}(n)$ on R_n by the defining representation. Note that we can identify the dual $\Sigma_n^* = S_- \otimes R_n$ as representations of $\text{Spin}(6) \times \text{Sp}(n)$.

The full $\mathcal{N} = (n, 0)$ supertranslation algebra in six dimensions is the super Lie algebra

$$\mathfrak{t}_{(n,0)} = V \oplus \Pi \Sigma_n$$

with bracket

$$(20) \quad [-, -] = \wedge \otimes \omega_R : \wedge^2(\Pi \Sigma_n) \rightarrow V.$$

This algebra admits an action of $\text{Spin}(6) \times \text{Sp}(n)$, where the first factor is the group of (Euclidean) Lorentz symmetries and the second is called the R -symmetry group $G_R = \text{Sp}(n)$. Extending the Lie algebra of $\text{Spin}(6) \times \text{Sp}(n)$ by this module produces the full $\mathcal{N} = (n, 0)$ super-Poincaré algebra, denoted $\mathfrak{p}_{(n,0)}$.

Remark 3.1. We can view $\mathfrak{p}_{(n,0)}$ as a graded Lie algebra by assigning degree zero to the summand $\mathfrak{so}(6) \oplus \mathfrak{sp}(n)$, degree one to Σ_n , and degree two to V . In physics, this consistent \mathbb{Z} -grading plays the role of the conformal weight. Both this grading and the R -symmetry action become inner in the *superconformal algebra*, which is the simple super Lie algebra

$$(21) \quad \mathfrak{c}_{(n,0)} = \mathfrak{osp}(8|n).$$

The abelian $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ multiplet in fact carries a module structure for $\mathfrak{osp}(8|2)$; computing the holomorphic twist of this action should lead to an appropriate algebra acting by supervector fields on the holomorphic theory we compute below, which should then extend to an action of all holomorphic vector fields on an appropriate superspace, following the pattern of [SW19]. However, we leave this computation to future work.

For theories of physical interest, one considers $n = 1$ or 2 . In the latter case, an accidental isomorphism identifies $\text{Sp}(2)$ with $\text{Spin}(5)$, which further identifies R_2 with the unique complex spin representation of $\text{Spin}(5)$.

3.1.1. *Elements of square zero.* With an eye towards twisting, we recall the classification of square-zero elements in $\mathfrak{p}_{(n,0)}$ for $n = 1$ and 2 , following [ES18; ESW18]. As above, we are interested in odd supercharges

$$(22) \quad Q \in \Pi\Sigma_n = \Pi S_+ \otimes R_n,$$

which satisfy the condition $[Q, Q] = 0$. Such supercharges define twists of a supersymmetric theory.

We will find it useful to refer to supercharges by their *rank* with respect to the tensor product decomposition (22) (meaning the rank of the corresponding linear map $R_n \rightarrow (S_+)^*$). It is immediate from the form of the supertranslation algebra that elements of rank one square to zero for any n .

When $n = 1$, it is also easy to see that any square-zero element must be of rank one, so that the space of such elements is isomorphic to the determinantal variety of rank-one matrices in $M^{4 \times 2}(\mathbb{C})$. This can in turn be thought of as the image of the Segre embedding

$$(23) \quad \mathbb{P}^3 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}^7.$$

For $n = 2$, there are two distinct classes of such supercharges: those of rank one, which we will also refer to as minimal or holomorphic, and a certain class of rank-two elements, also called non-minimal or partially topological. A closer characterization of the two types of square-zero supercharges is the following:

Minimal (or holomorphic): A supercharge of this type is automatically square-zero. Moreover, such a supercharge has three invariant directions, and so the resulting twist is a holomorphic theory defined on complex three-folds. Similarly to the $n = 1$ case, the space of such elements is isomorphic to the determinantal variety of rank-one matrices in $M^{4 \times 4}(\mathbb{C})$, which is the image of the Segre embedding

$$(24) \quad \mathbb{P}^3 \times \mathbb{P}^3 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}^{15}.$$

We remark that in the case $n = 2$, the supercharge Q of rank one defines a $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ subalgebra $\mathfrak{p}_{(1,0)} \subset \mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$, and therefore a decomposition $R_2 = R_1 \oplus R'_1$, where R'_1 can be identified with the symplectic reduction of R_2 along the line defined by Q .

Non-minimal (or partially topological): Suppose $Q \in \Pi\Sigma_2$ is a rank-two supercharge (there is no such supercharge when $n = 1$). It can be written in the form

$$(25) \quad Q = \xi_1 \otimes r_1 + \xi_2 \otimes r_2.$$

Since $\wedge^2 S_+ \cong V$, such an element must satisfy a single quadratic condition

$$(26) \quad w(r_1, r_2) = 0$$

in order to be of square zero. Such a supercharge has five invariant directions, and the resulting twist can be defined on the product of a smooth four-manifold with a Riemann surface. The space of all such supercharges is a subvariety of the determinantal variety of rank-two matrices in $M^{4 \times 4}(\mathbb{C})$, cut out by this single additional quadratic equation. Just as for the determinantal variety itself, its singular locus is precisely the space of rank-one (holomorphic) supercharges.

We will compute the holomorphic twist below in §4 and the rank-two twist in §5. There, we will also recall some further details about nilpotent elements in $\mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)}$, showing how the non-minimal twist can be obtained as a deformation of a fixed minimal twist.

Remark 3.2. In fact, a study of the space of Maurer–Cartan elements in $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$ was also a major motivation for the formulation of the supersymmetry multiplets that we use throughout this paper. In physics, the pure spinor superfield formalism [Ced14] has been used as a tool to construct multiplets for some time. The relevant cohomology, corresponding to the field content of $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}$, was first computed in [CNT02].

In [ESW18], the pure spinor superfield formalism was reinterpreted as a construction that produces a supermultiplet (in the form of a cochain complex of vector bundles) from the data of an equivariant sheaf over the nilpotence variety. It was further observed that, when the nilpotence variety is Calabi–Yau, Serre duality gives rise to the structure of a shifted symplectic pairing on the resulting multiplet, so that the full data of a BV theory is produced. More generally, when the canonical bundle is not trivial, the multiplet resulting from the canonical bundle admits a pairing with the multiplet associated to the structure sheaf.

As mentioned before, applying this formalism to the structure sheaf of the nilpotence variety for $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$ —the geometry of which was reviewed above—produces a cochain complex with a homotopy action of $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$ that corresponds precisely to the formulation we use in this paper and explore in detail in the following section. For this space, however, the canonical bundle is *not* trivial; the multiplet associated to the canonical bundle is, roughly speaking, $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}^1$, which can be identified with the space of linear Hamiltonian observables of $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}$. It would be extremely interesting to give a geometric description of the origin of the presymplectic pairing on $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}$, but we do not pursue this here; our use of this pairing, as described above, is motivated by interpreting self-duality as a constraint and pulling back the pairing from the standard structure on the nondegenerate two-form.

3.2. Supersymmetry multiplets. The two theories we are most interested in are the abelian $(1,0)$ and $(2,0)$ tensor multiplets. We define these here at the level of (perturbative, free) presymplectic BV theories, and then go on to discuss the $\mathcal{N} = (1,0)$ hypermultiplet, which will also play a role in what follows.

First, we define the $(1,0)$ theory. Recall that R_1 denotes the defining representation of $\mathrm{Sp}(1)$.

Definition 3.3. The six-dimensional *abelian* $\mathcal{N} = (1,0)$ *tensor multiplet* is the presymplectic BV theory $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}$ defined by the direct sum of presymplectic BV theories:

$$(27) \quad \mathcal{T}_{(1,0)} = \chi_+(2) \oplus \Psi_-(R_1) \oplus \Sigma(0, \mathbb{C}),$$

defined on a Riemannian spin manifold M . This theory has a symmetry by the group $G_R = \mathrm{Sp}(1)$ which acts on R_1 by the defining representation and trivially on the summands $\chi_+(2)$, $\Sigma(0, \mathbb{C})$.

This theory admits an action by the supertranslation algebra $\mathfrak{t}_{(1,0)}$, which will be constructed explicitly below in §3.3.

Note that the fields of cohomological degree zero together with their linear equations of motion are:

- a two-form $b \in \Omega^2(M)$, satisfying the linear constraint $d_+(b) = 0 \in \Omega_+^3(M)$;

- a spinor $\psi \in \Omega^0(M, S_- \otimes R_1)$, satisfying the linear equation of motion $(\not{\partial} \otimes \mathbb{1}_{R_1})\psi = 0 \in \Omega^0(M, S_+ \otimes R_1)$;
- a scalar $\varphi \in \Omega^0(M)$, satisfying the linear equation of motion $d \star d\varphi = 0 \in \Omega^6(M)$.

Next, we define the $(2, 0)$ theory. Recall, R_2 denotes the defining representation of $\mathrm{Sp}(2)$. Let W be the vector representation of $\mathrm{Spin}(5) \cong \mathrm{Sp}(2)$.

Definition 3.4. The six-dimensional *abelian* $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ *multiplet* is the presymplectic BV theory $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}$ defined by the direct sum of presymplectic BV theories:

$$(28) \quad \mathcal{T}_{(2,0)} = \chi_+(2) \oplus \Psi_-(R_2) \oplus \Sigma(0, W).$$

defined on a Riemannian spin manifold. This theory has a symmetry by the group $G_R = \mathrm{Sp}(2)$ which acts on R_2 by the defining representation and W by the vector representation upon the identification $\mathrm{Sp}(2) \cong \mathrm{Spin}(5)$. Note, $G_R = \mathrm{Sp}(2)$ acts trivially on the summand $\chi_+(2)$.

This theory admits an action by the supertranslation algebra $\mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)}$, which will be constructed explicitly below in §3.3.

Note that the fields of cohomological degree zero consist of

- a two-form $b \in \Omega^2(M)$, satisfying the linear constraint $d_+(b) = 0 \in \Omega_+^3(M)$;
- a spinor $\psi \in \Omega^0(M, S_- \otimes R_2)$, satisfying the linear equation of motion $(\not{\partial} \otimes \mathbb{1}_{R_2})\psi = 0 \in \Omega^0(M, S_+ \otimes R_2)$;
- a scalar $\varphi \in \Omega^0(M, W)$, satisfying the linear equation of motion $(d \star d \otimes \mathbb{1}_W)\varphi = 0 \in \Omega^6(M, W)$.

Lastly, we discuss the six-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ hypermultiplet.

Definition 3.5. Let R be a finite-dimensional symplectic vector space over \mathbb{C} , as above. The $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ *hypermultiplet valued in* R is the following free (nondegenerate) BV theory in six dimensions:

$$(29) \quad \mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^{\mathrm{hyp}}(R) = \Sigma(0, R_1 \otimes R) \oplus \Psi_-(R)$$

The theory admits an action of the flavor symmetry group $\mathrm{Sp}(R)$. (Note that $R_1 \otimes R$ obtains a symmetric pairing from the tensor product of the symplectic pairings on R and R_1 .)

Exhibiting each of these theories as an L_∞ -module for the relevant supersymmetry algebra is the subject of the next subsection.

3.3. The module structure. The main goal of this section is to define an action of the $(2, 0)$ supersymmetry algebra $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$ on the tensor multiplet $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}$. The action of the $(1, 0)$ supersymmetry algebra on the constituent multiplets $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}$ and $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^{\mathrm{hyp}}(R_1)$ will then be obtained trivially by restriction, which we will spell out at the end of this section.

This action is only defined up to homotopy, which means we will give a description of $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}$ as an L_∞ -module over $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$. This amounts to giving a Lorentz- and R -symmetry invariant L_∞ action of the supertranslation algebra $\mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)}$.

Associated to the cochain complex $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}$ is the dg Lie algebra of endomorphisms $\mathrm{End}(\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)})$. Sitting inside of this dg Lie algebra is a sub dg Lie algebra consisting of linear differential

operators $\text{Diff}(\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}, \mathcal{T}_{(2,0)})$. The differential is given by the commutator with the classical BV differential Q_{BV} . For us, an L_∞ -action will mean a homotopy coherent map, or L_∞ map, of dg Lie algebras $\rho : \mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)} \rightsquigarrow \text{Diff}(\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}, \mathcal{T}_{(2,0)})$.

Such an L_∞ map is encoded by the data of a sequence of polydifferential operators $\{\rho^{(j)}\}_{j \geq 1}$ of the form

$$(30) \quad \sum_{j \geq 1} \rho^{(j)} : \bigoplus_j \text{Sym}^j(\mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)}[1]) \otimes \mathcal{T}_{(2,0)} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}[1],$$

satisfying a list of compatibilities. For instance, the failure for $\rho^{(1)} : \mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)} \otimes \mathcal{T}_{(2,0)} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}$ to define a Lie algebra action is by the homotopy $\rho^{(2)}$:

$$(31) \quad \rho^{(1)}(x)\rho^{(1)}(y) - \rho^{(1)}(y)\rho^{(1)}(x) - \rho^{(1)}([x, y]) = [Q_{\text{BV}}, \rho^{(2)}(x, y)].$$

In the case at hand, $\rho^{(1)}$ will be given by the known supersymmetry transformations from the physics literature, extended to the remaining complex by the requirement that it preserve the shifted presymplectic structure. While $\rho^{(1)}$ does not define a representation of $\mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)}$, we can find $\rho^{(j)}$, $j \geq 2$ so as to define an L_∞ module structure. In fact, we will see that $\rho^{(j)} = 0$ for $j \geq 3$, so we will only need to work out the quadratic term $\rho^{(2)}$.

Theorem 3.6. *There are linear maps $\{\rho^{(1)}, \rho^{(2)}\}$ that define an L_∞ -action of $\mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)}$ on $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}$. Furthermore, both $\rho^{(1)}$ and $\rho^{(2)}$ strictly preserve the (-1) -shifted presymplectic structure.*

We split the proof of this result into two steps. First, we will construct the linear component $\rho^{(1)}$ and verify that it preserves the BV differential and shifted presymplectic form. Then we will define the quadratic homotopy $\rho^{(2)}$ and show that together with the linear term defines an L_∞ -module structure on $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}$.

3.3.1. The physical transformations. We define the linear component $\rho^{(1)}$ of the action of supersymmetry on $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}$. The map $\rho^{(1)}$ consists standard supersymmetry transformations on the physical fields (in cohomological degree zero), together with certain transformations on the antifields which guarantee that $\rho^{(1)}$ preserve the shifted presymplectic structure on $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}$.

The linear term $\rho^{(1)}$ is a sum of four components:

$$(32) \quad \begin{aligned} \rho_V &: V \otimes \mathcal{T}_{(2,0)} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_{(2,0)} \\ \rho_\Psi &: \Sigma_2 \otimes \Psi_-(R_2) \rightarrow \chi_+(2) \oplus \Sigma(0, W) \\ \rho_\Sigma &: \Sigma_2 \otimes \Sigma(0, W) \rightarrow \Psi_-(R_2) \\ \rho_\chi &: \Sigma_2 \otimes \chi_+(2) \rightarrow \Psi_-(R_2) \end{aligned}$$

We will define each of these component maps in turn.

The first transformation is simply the action by (complexified) translations on the fields. A translation invariant vector field $X \in V \subset \text{Vect}(\mathbb{R}^6)$ acts via the Lie derivative $L_X \alpha$, where α is any BV field. That is, $\rho_V(X \otimes \alpha) = L_X \alpha$.

We now turn to describe the supersymmetry transformations. We will first describe the action on the physical fields, that is, the fields in cohomological degree zero. We will deduce the action on the antifields in the next subsection.

The transformation of the physical fermion field (the component $(\Pi S_- \otimes R_2)$ of the BV complex $\Psi_-(R_2)$ in degree zero) is given by ρ_Ψ , which is defined as follows. Consider the isomorphism

$$(33) \quad (\Pi S_+ \otimes R_2) \otimes (\Pi S_- \otimes R_2) \cong (\mathbb{C} \oplus \wedge^2 V) \otimes (\mathbb{C} \oplus W \oplus \text{Sym}^2(R_2))$$

of $\text{Spin}(6) \times \text{Sp}(2)$ representations. It is clear by inspection that there are equivariant projection maps onto the irreducible representations $\wedge^2 V \otimes \mathbb{C}$ and $\mathbb{C} \otimes W$. These projections allow us to define ρ_Ψ as the composition of the following sequence of maps:

$$(34) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \Pi\Sigma_2 \otimes \Gamma(\Pi S_- \otimes R_2) & \xrightarrow{=} & (S_+ \otimes R_2) \otimes (S_- \otimes R_2) & \dashrightarrow & \chi_+(2) \oplus \Sigma(0, W). \\ & \nearrow^{\rho_{\Psi,0}} & & & \downarrow \subset \\ & & & & \Omega^0 \otimes W \\ & \searrow_{\rho_{\Psi,2}} & & & \uparrow \subset \\ & & & & \Omega^2 \end{array}$$

Of course, this map is canonically decomposed as the sum of two maps (along the direct sum in the target), which we will later refer to as $\rho_{\Psi,0}$ and $\rho_{\Psi,2}$ respectively.

The transformation of the physical scalar field (the component $C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^6; W)$ of the BV complex $\Sigma(0, W)$ in degree zero) is defined as follows. We observe that there is a map of $\text{Spin}(6) \times \text{Sp}(2)$ representations of the form

$$(35) \quad (\Pi S_+ \otimes R_2) \otimes (V \otimes W) \rightarrow S_- \otimes R_2,$$

which can be thought of (using the accidental isomorphism $B_2 \cong C_2$) as the tensor product of the six- and five-dimensional Clifford multiplication maps. $\rho_\Sigma^{(1)}$ can then be defined as the composition of the maps in the diagram

$$(36) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \Pi\Sigma_2 \otimes (\Omega^0 \otimes W) & \xrightarrow{d} & (\Pi S_+ \otimes R_2) \otimes (\Omega^1 \otimes W) \\ & & \downarrow \\ & & \Gamma(\Pi S_- \otimes R_2) & \xrightarrow{\subset} & \Psi_-(R_2). \end{array}$$

The vertical map is induced by (35).

On the degree zero component $\Omega^2(\mathbb{R}^4)$ of the presymplectic BV complex $\chi_+(2)$, the map ρ_χ is defined as follows. Recall that there is a projection map of $\text{Spin}(6)$ representations

$$\pi : S_+ \otimes \wedge_-^3(V) \rightarrow S_-$$

obtained via the isomorphism $\wedge_-^3(V) \otimes S_+ \cong S_- \oplus [012]$.⁴ This isomorphism is most easily seen using the accidental isomorphism with $\text{SU}(4)$, where it can be derived using the standard rules for Young tableaux and takes the form

$$(37) \quad \square \otimes \square \cong \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \oplus \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}.$$

⁴The notation refers to the Dynkin labels of type D_3 .

The map ρ_χ is then defined on physical fields by the following sequence of maps:

$$(38) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \Pi\Sigma_2 \otimes \Omega^2 & \xrightarrow{d_-} & (\Pi S_+ \otimes R_2) \otimes \Omega^3 \\ & & \downarrow \\ & & \Gamma(\Pi S_- \otimes R_2) \xrightarrow{\subset} \Psi_-(R_2). \end{array}$$

3.3.2. *Supersymmetry transformations on the antifields.* In the standard BV approach, there is a prescribed way to extend the linear action of any Lie algebra on the physical fields to an action on the BV complex in a way that preserves the shifted symplectic structure. The idea is that the action of a physical symmetry algebra \mathfrak{g} is usually defined by a map

$$(39) \quad \rho : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \text{Vect}(F)$$

that implements the physical symmetry transformations on the physical (BRST) fields, just as in the previous section. Of course there are strong conditions on ρ coming from, for example, the requirement of locality. In the BV formalism, there is additionally the requirement that the action of \mathfrak{g} on the BV fields must preserve the shifted symplectic structure. There is an immediate way to extend the vector fields (39) to *symplectic* vector fields on the space $E = T^*[-1]F$ of BV fields: one can take the transformation laws of the antifields to be determined by the condition of preserving the shifted symplectic form. (In fact, such vector fields are always Hamiltonian in the standard case.)

For the anti-map component of ρ_Σ , no complexity appears: we can simply define it as the composition

$$(40) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & & \Omega^6 \otimes W[-1] \xrightarrow{\subset} \Sigma(0, W). \\ & & \uparrow \\ \Pi\Sigma_2 \otimes \Gamma(\Pi S_+[-1] \otimes R_2) & \xrightarrow{\oint} & (S_+ \otimes R_2) \otimes \Gamma(S_-[-1] \otimes R_2) \end{array}$$

The anti-map component of $\rho_{\Psi,0}$ is similarly straightforward, and can be expressed with the diagram

$$(41) \quad \Pi\Sigma_2 \otimes \Sigma(0, W) \longrightarrow (\Pi S_+ \otimes R_2) \otimes (\Omega^6 \otimes W)[-1] \longrightarrow \Gamma(\Pi S_+[-1] \otimes R_2) \xrightarrow{\subset} \Psi_-(R_2)$$

where the middle arrow is simply Clifford multiplication.

The anti-map to $\rho_{\Psi,2}$ is determined by the nature of the shifted presymplectic pairing ω_{χ_+} on $\chi_+(2)$. As such, the number of derivatives appearing is, at first glance, somewhat surprising. It is given by

$$(42) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & & \Gamma(\Pi S_+[-1] \otimes R_2) \xrightarrow{\subset} \Psi_-(R_2). \\ & & \uparrow \\ \Pi\Sigma_2 \otimes \Omega_+^3[-1] & \xrightarrow{d} & (\Pi S_+ \otimes R_2) \otimes \Omega^4[-1] \end{array}$$

Finally, the anti-map component of ρ_χ takes the form

$$(43) \quad \Pi\Sigma_2 \otimes \Gamma(S_+[-1] \otimes R_2) \xrightarrow{=} (\Pi S_+ \otimes R_2) \otimes \Gamma(\Pi S_+[-1] \otimes R_2) \longrightarrow \Omega_+^3[-1] \xrightarrow{\subset} \chi_+(2).$$

We have thus constructed the linear component of supersymmetry. It is straightforward to check that $\rho^{(1)}$ commutes with the classical BV differential and preserves the (-1) -shifted presymplectic structure.

3.3.3. The L_∞ terms. We turn to the proof of the remaining part of Theorem 3.6. We will show that $\rho^{(1)}$ sits as the linear component of an L_∞ -action of $\mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)}$ on the $(2,0)$ theory. In fact, we will only need to introduce a quadratic action term

$$\rho^{(2)} : \mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)} \otimes \mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)} \otimes \mathcal{T}_{(2,0)} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}[-1]$$

and will show the following. This quadratic term splits up into the following three components:

$$(44) \quad \begin{aligned} \rho_\chi^{(2)} &: \mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)} \otimes \mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)} \otimes \chi_+(2) \rightarrow \chi_+(2)[-1] \\ \rho_\Psi^{(2)} &: \mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)} \otimes \mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)} \otimes \Psi_-(R_2) \rightarrow \Psi_-(R_2)[-1] \\ \rho_\Sigma^{(2)} &: \mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)} \otimes \mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)} \otimes \Sigma(0, W) \rightarrow \chi_+(2)[-1]. \end{aligned}$$

First, $\rho_\chi^{(2)} = \sum \rho_{\chi,j}^{(2)}$ is defined by the sum over form type of the linear maps

$$\rho_{\chi,j}^{(2)} : (\Sigma_2 \otimes \Sigma_2) \otimes \Omega^j \xrightarrow{[\cdot, \cdot] \otimes 1} V \otimes \Omega^j \xrightarrow{i_X} \Omega^{j-1}$$

where $[\cdot, \cdot]$ is the Lie bracket defining the $\mathcal{N} = (2,0)$ algebra and i_X denotes contraction with the vector field X .

The next map, $\rho_\Psi^{(2)}$, acts on a fermion antifield and produces a fermion field. To define it, we introduce the following notation. Recall that $\wedge^2(S_+) \cong V$ as $\text{Spin}(6)$ -representations and $\wedge^2 R_2 \cong \mathbb{C} \oplus W$ as $\text{Sp}(2)$ -representations. Thus, there is the following composition of $\text{Spin}(6) \times \text{Sp}(2)$ -representations

$$\star : \Sigma_2 \otimes \Sigma_2 \rightarrow (\wedge^2 S_+) \otimes (\wedge^2 R_2) \rightarrow V \otimes W.$$

So, given $Q_1, Q_2 \in \Sigma_2$ the image of $Q_1 \otimes Q_2$ along this map is an element in $V \otimes W$ that we will denote by $Q_1 \star Q_2$. Now, we define $\rho_\Psi^{(2)}$ as the sum $\rho_{\Psi,0}^{(2)} + \rho_{\Psi,2}^{(2)}$ where $\rho_{\Psi,0}^{(2)}$ is the composition

$$\rho_{\Psi,0}^{(2)} : (\Sigma_2 \otimes \Sigma_2) \otimes \Gamma(S_+ \otimes R_2) \xrightarrow{\star \otimes 1} (V \otimes W) \otimes \Gamma(S_+ \otimes R_2) \rightarrow \Gamma(S_- \otimes R_2)$$

where the second arrow is the map of $\text{Spin}(6) \times \text{Sp}(2)$ -representations in (35). Next, $\rho_{\Psi,2}^{(2)}$ is defined by the composition

$$\rho_{\Psi,2}^{(2)} : (\Sigma_2 \otimes \Sigma_2) \otimes \Gamma(S_+ \otimes R_2) \xrightarrow{[\cdot, \cdot] \otimes 1} V \otimes \Gamma(S_+ \otimes R_2) \rightarrow \Gamma(S_- \otimes R_2)$$

where the last map is Clifford multiplication.

Finally, the map $\rho_\Sigma^{(2)}$ acts on a scalar field and produces a ghost one-form in $\chi_+(2)$. Using the map \star above, $\rho_\Sigma^{(2)}$ is described by the composition

$$(\Sigma_2 \otimes \Sigma_2) \otimes (\Omega^0 \otimes W) \xrightarrow{\star} \Omega^1 \otimes (W \otimes W) \rightarrow \Omega^1$$

where the last map utilizes the symmetric form on W .

To finish the proof of Theorem 3.6 we must show that $\rho^{(1)}$ and $\rho^{(2)}$ satisfy (31) for all $x, y \in \mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)}$.

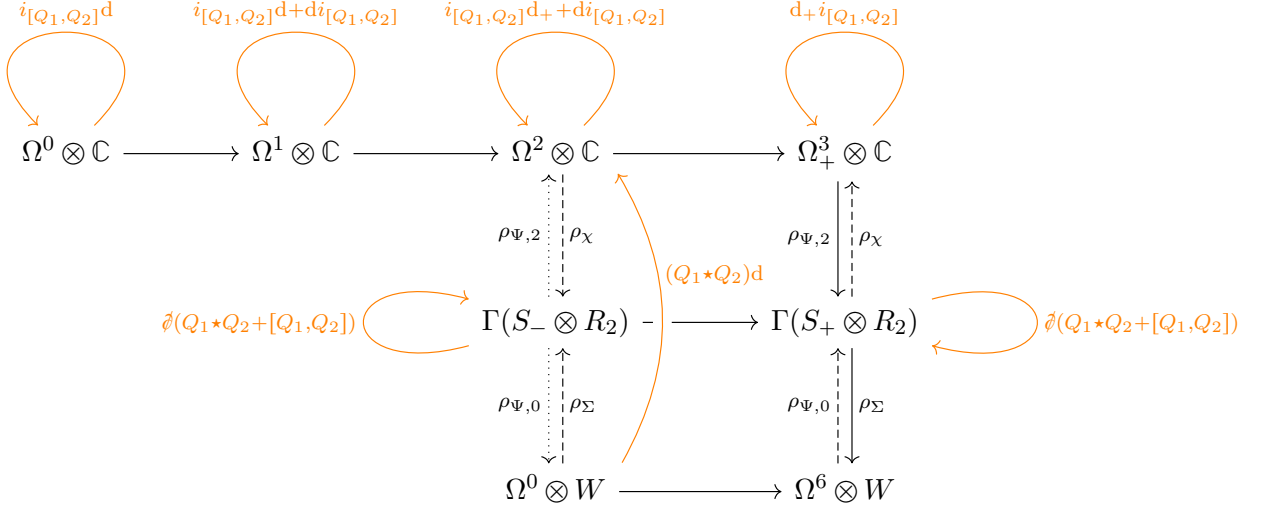


FIGURE 1. The failure of $\rho^{(1)}$ to be a Lie map.

It will be convenient to define the following linear map.

$$(45) \quad \begin{aligned} \mu : \mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)} \otimes \mathfrak{t}_{(2,0)} \otimes \mathcal{J}_{(2,0)} &\rightarrow \mathcal{J}_{(2,0)}, \\ x \otimes y \otimes f &\mapsto \rho^{(1)}([x, y], f) - \rho^{(1)}(x, \rho^{(1)}(y, f)) + (-1)^{|x||y|} \rho^{(1)}(y, \rho^{(1)}(x, f)) \end{aligned}$$

This map μ represents the failure of $\rho^{(1)}$ to define a strict Lie algebra action. In terms of μ , (31) simply reads

$$(46) \quad [Q_{\text{BV}}, \rho^{(2)}(x, y)] = \mu(x, y).$$

We have represented μ via the orange arrows in Figure 1. In this figure, the dashed and dotted arrows denote the action of Q_1 and Q_2 through the linear term $\rho^{(1)}$.

It is sufficient to consider the case when $x = Q_1, y = Q_2 \in \Sigma_2$. We observe that the first term in μ simply produces the Lie derivative of any field in the direction $[Q_1, Q_2]$. Since μ is an even degree-zero map, we can consider each degree and parity separately, beginning with the ghosts: here, it is easy to see that

$$(47) \quad \begin{aligned} \mu(Q_1, Q_2)|_{\Omega^0} &= \mathcal{L}_{[Q_1, Q_2]} : \Omega^0[2] \rightarrow \Omega^0[2], \\ \mu(Q_1, Q_2)|_{\Omega^1} &= \mathcal{L}_{[Q_1, Q_2]} : \Omega^1[1] \rightarrow \Omega^1[1], \end{aligned}$$

since the supersymmetry variations make no contribution. We next work out the action of μ on the two-form field, which is given by

$$(48) \quad \mu(Q_1, Q_2)|_{\Omega^2} = \mathcal{L}_{[Q_1, Q_2]} - \rho_{\Psi}(Q_1) \circ \rho_{\chi}(Q_2) - \rho_{\Psi}(Q_2) \circ \rho_{\chi}(Q_1)$$

which is a map of the form $\Omega^2 \rightarrow \Omega^2 \oplus (\Omega^0 \otimes W) \subset \chi_+(2) \oplus \Sigma(0, W)$. The map must be symmetric in the two factors of Σ_2 ; since Ω^2 is neutral under $\text{Sp}(2)$ R -symmetry, the only possible contractions of $(R_2)^{\otimes 2}$ land in the trivial representation or in W , and both are antisymmetric. So the pairing on S_+ must also be antisymmetric, showing that

$$(49) \quad \mu(Q_1, Q_2)|_{\Omega^2} = \mathcal{L}_{[Q_1, Q_2]} - i_{[Q_1, Q_2]}d_- = di_{[Q_1, Q_2]} + i_{[Q_1, Q_2]}d_+.$$

In degree one, there is also a unique equivariant map that can contribute: it is not difficult to show that

$$(50) \quad \mu(Q_1, Q_2)|_{\Omega_+^3} = \mathcal{L}_{[Q_1, Q_2]} - \pi_+ i_{[Q_1, Q_2]} d.$$

Since $[Q_1, Q_2]$ is a constant vector field, the Lie derivative preserves the self-duality condition; from this, it follows via Cartan's formula that the anti-self-dual part of $i_{[Q_1, Q_2]} d$ is equal to $-d_- i_{[Q_1, Q_2]}$, so that

$$(51) \quad \mu(Q_1, Q_2)|_{\Omega_+^3} = d_+ i_{[Q_1, Q_2]}.$$

Similar arguments apply for the component of μ acting on the scalar field. The symmetric square of Σ_2 decomposes as

$$(52) \quad \text{Sym}^2(\Sigma_2) = (V \otimes \mathbb{C}) \oplus (V \otimes W) \oplus (\Omega_+^3 \otimes \mathfrak{sp}(2)).$$

The component of μ that maps the scalar field to itself contains one derivative. In order to contain a Lorentz-covariant map, only the first two irreducibles in (52) can appear. R -symmetry then rules out the second contraction $(Q_1 \star Q_2)$, since W does not appear in the decomposition of $W \otimes W$ into irreducibles. There is a unique equivariant map that can appear, which, upon applying Cartan's magic formula, is identical to the Lie derivative along $[Q_1, Q_2]$. An identical argument applies for the component of μ carrying the scalar antifield to itself. The restriction of μ to the scalar field valued in W is thus of the form

$$(53) \quad \mu(Q_1, Q_2)|_{\Omega^0 \otimes W} : \Omega^0 \otimes W \rightarrow \Omega^2 \subset \chi_+(2).$$

The map (53) can only arise from the second contraction of the supersymmetry generators in (52), together with the de Rham differential acting on the scalar. There is precisely one such map, which takes the form

$$(54) \quad \mu(Q_1, Q_2)|_{\Omega^0 \otimes W} = d \circ (Q_1 \star Q_2, \cdot)_W$$

where $(\cdot, \cdot)_W$ is the symmetric form on W .

It remains to consider the component of μ that maps the scalar antifield to $\Omega_+^3 \otimes \mathbb{C}$. From the form of the supersymmetry transformations, such a map must be order zero in derivatives, and therefore must arise from the third contraction in (52). But there is no copy of the trivial representation inside $\mathfrak{sp}(2) \otimes W$, and therefore no R -symmetry-equivariant map that can appear.

Finally, the component of μ acting on $\Psi_-(R_2)$ maps a fermion to itself and a fermion antifield to itself. For the fermion field, the restriction of μ is given as a sum of two terms

$$\mu(Q_1, Q_2)|_{\Gamma(S_- \otimes R_2)} = \mu_{\Psi,0}(Q_1, Q_2) + \mu_{\Psi,2}(Q_1, Q_2)$$

where $\mu_{\Psi,0}$ is given by the composition

$$(55) \quad \mu_{\Psi,0} : \Gamma(S_- \otimes R_2) \xrightarrow{Q_1 \star Q_2} \Gamma(S_+ \otimes R_2) \xrightarrow{\not{d}} \Gamma(S_- \otimes R_2)$$

and $\mu_{\Psi,2}$ is given by the composition

$$(56) \quad \mu_{\Psi,2} : \Gamma(S_- \otimes R_2) \xrightarrow{[Q_1, Q_2]} \Gamma(S_+ \otimes R_2) \xrightarrow{\not{d}} \Gamma(S_- \otimes R_2).$$

The action of $\mu(Q_1, Q_2)$ on the anti-fermion fields is completely analogous.

We proceed to verify (46). For the restriction of $\mu(Q_1, Q_2)$ to $\chi_+(2)$ the equation follows from repeated use of Cartan's formula.

Next, the restriction of $\mu(Q_1, Q_2)$ to the scalar is given by (53). The restriction of the left-hand side of (46) to the scalar is

$$Q_{\text{BV}} \circ \rho_{\Sigma}^{(2)}(Q_1, Q_2) = d_{\Omega^1 \rightarrow \Omega^2} \circ (Q_1 \star Q_2, \cdot)_W$$

as desired.

Finally, the restriction of $\mu(Q_1, Q_2)$ to the fermion is given by the sum of (55) and (56). The left-hand side of (46) also splits into two pieces. For the first (involving scalars), we note that

$$[Q_{\text{BV}}, \rho_{\Psi,0}^{(2)}(Q_1, Q_2)] = \not{\partial} \circ (Q_1 \star Q_2 \cdot (\cdot))$$

which is precisely $\mu_{\Psi,0}(Q_1, Q_2)$ acting on $\Psi_-(R_2)$. The other term is

$$[Q_{\text{BV}}, \rho_{\Psi,2}^{(2)}(Q_1, Q_2)] = \not{\partial} \circ ([Q_1, Q_2] \cdot (\cdot))$$

which agrees with $\mu_{\Psi,2}(Q_1, Q_2)$ acting on $\Psi_-(R_2)$.

We conclude by noting the following result:

Proposition 3.7. *With respect to a fixed $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ subalgebra of $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$, the abelian tensor multiplet decomposes as*

$$(57) \quad \mathcal{T}_{(2,0)} \cong \mathcal{T}_{(1,0)} \oplus \mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^{\text{hyp}}(R'_1).$$

Proof. At the level of field content, the statements reduce to simple representation-theoretic facts: under the subgroup $\text{Sp}(1) \times \text{Sp}(1)' \subseteq \text{Sp}(2)$, the vector and spinor representations decompose as

$$(58) \quad W \cong (R_1 \otimes R'_1) \oplus \mathbb{C}, \quad R_2 \cong R_1 \oplus R'_1$$

respectively. (Here $\text{Sp}(1)$ denotes the R -symmetry of $\mathfrak{p}_{(1,0)}$, and $\text{Sp}(1)'$ its commutant inside of the $(2, 0)$ R -symmetry.)

The L_{∞} module structure for $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$ obviously restricts to an L_{∞} module structure for $\mathfrak{p}_{(1,0)}$, and it is trivial to see that the resulting module structure extends the physical $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ transformations. (At the level of physical transformations, the proposition is standard.) \square

4. THE MINIMAL TWISTS

In this section we will compute the holomorphic twist of the abelian $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ and $(2, 0)$ tensor multiplets, using the formulation and supersymmetry action developed in the preceding sections. We will begin by placing the theory on a Kähler manifold and decomposing the fields with respect to the Kähler structure; at the level of representation theory, this corresponds to recalling the branching rules from $\text{SO}(6)$ to $\text{U}(3)$ (more precisely, at the level of the double covers $\text{MU}(3) \leftrightarrow \text{Spin}(6)$), followed by a regrading.

We will then deform the differential by a compatible holomorphic supercharge. (As is usual in twist calculations, choices of holomorphic supercharge are in one-to-one correspondence with choices of complex structure on \mathbb{R}^6 .) Since the L_{∞} module structure worked out in the previous section preserves the presymplectic structure, we are guaranteed that the twisted theory $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$ is a well-defined presymplectic BV theory after deforming the differential.

One subtlety appears when we attempt to simplify the resulting theory by discarding acyclic portions of the BV complex. There is a natural quasi-isomorphism of chain complexes of the form

$$(59) \quad \Phi : \mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q \rightarrow \chi(2),$$

whose kernel consists of an acyclic subcomplex of $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$. However, Φ does *not* respect the presymplectic structure on $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$ in a naive fashion!

Generally, given a morphism

$$(60) \quad f : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}'$$

of cochain complexes underlying some presymplectic BV theories, one obtains another presymplectic form $f^*\omega'$ on \mathcal{T} by pullback. The appropriate notion of compatibility is to ask that this shifted presymplectic form is *equivalent* to ω on \mathcal{T} ; in other words, that

$$(61) \quad f^*\omega' - \omega = [Q_{\text{BV}}, h].$$

Here h is a degree- (-2) element in the space of presymplectic structures, witnessing a homotopy between the two (-1) -shifted structures. In other words, we should not require that the difference of the presymplectic structures vanish strictly, but only that it be Q_{BV} -exact.

Remark 4.1. Indeed, suppose $\ker(f)$ is a nondegenerate BV theory whose differential is acyclic. For instance, suppose the complex of fields is of the form

$$(62) \quad T^*[-1](V \oplus V[-1]) \cong (V \oplus V[-1]) \oplus (V^\vee[-1] \oplus V^\vee),$$

where V is some chain complex of vector bundles, and the acyclic differential is the shift morphism between the two copies of V and its anti-map between the two copies of V^\vee . Now, the symplectic form pairs V with $V^\vee[-1]$ and $V[-1]$ with V^\vee ; there is an obvious nullhomotopy given by the degree- (-2) pairing that pairs $V[-1]$ with $V^\vee[-1]$, which witnesses the equivalence of this pairing with the zero pairing.

In our case, the kernel of Φ pairs nontrivially with the rest of $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$, so that the homotopy equivalence plays an essential role in determining the appropriate presymplectic BV structure on the holomorphic theory. With this in mind, we demonstrate an equivalence between $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$ and $\chi(2)$, not just as chain complexes, but as presymplectic BV theories. Of course, an identical phenomenon occurs in the holomorphic twist of the $(2,0)$ multiplet, which can be thought of as one $(1,0)$ tensor multiplet and one $(1,0)$ hypermultiplet. Together, these rigorous twist computations are our main result in this section, which we state precisely as follows:

Theorem 4.2. *Let Q be a rank one supercharge in either of the supersymmetry algebras $\mathfrak{p}_{(1,0)}$ or $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$. The respective twists of the abelian $(1,0)$ and $(2,0)$ tensor multiplets on \mathbb{C}^3 are as follows.*

- **(1,0)** *The holomorphic twist $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$ is equivalent to the \mathbb{Z} -graded presymplectic BV theory of the chiral 2-form:*

$$\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q \simeq \chi(2).$$

- **(2,0)** The holomorphic twist $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}^Q$ is equivalent to the $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded presymplectic BV theory defined by the chiral 2-form plus symplectic bosons with values in the symplectic vector space R'_1 :

$$(63) \quad \mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}^Q \simeq \chi(2) \oplus \Phi(R'_1).$$

Moreover, this equivalence is $\mathrm{Sp}(1)'$ -equivariant.

The remainder of the section is devoted to a detailed proof. We start off with some reminders about the general yoga of twisting.

4.1. Supersymmetric twisting. In this section we briefly recall the procedure of twisting a supersymmetric field theory. For a more complete formulation see [Cos13; ESW], though we modify the construction very slightly (see [ESW, Remark 2.19]). As we've already mentioned, the key piece of data is that of a square-zero supercharge Q . Roughly, the twisted theory is given by deforming the classical BV operator Q_{BV} by Q .

In the cited references, the twisting procedure is performed starting with the data of a supersymmetric theory in the BV formalism. This means that one starts with the data of a classical theory in the BV formalism together with an (L_∞) action by the super Lie algebra of supertranslations. In our context, we have exhibited an L_∞ action of the supersymmetry algebra on a presymplectic BV theory, which acts compatibly with the (-1) -shifted presymplectic structure. The twisted theory will therefore also have the structure of a presymplectic BV theory, which descends to smaller quasi-isomorphic descriptions after attending to the subtlety alluded to in the introduction.

Classical supersymmetric theories are (at least) $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded, where the first grading is the cohomological degree and the second grading is the parity. By definition, a square-zero supercharge Q is of bidegree $(0, 1)$, whereas the classical BV differential is of bidegree $(1, 0)$. After making the deformation $Q_{\mathrm{BV}} \rightsquigarrow Q_{\mathrm{BV}} + Q$, one could choose to remember just the totalized $\mathbb{Z}/2$ grading, with respect to which both operators are odd.

Instead, one typically uses additional data to *regrade* the theory so that Q, Q_{BV} have the same homogenous degree. In addition to the action by supertranslations, a classical supersymmetric theory on \mathbb{R}^d carries an action by the Lorentz group $\mathrm{Spin}(d)$. It also often carries an action by the R -symmetry group G_R , which is the set of automorphisms of $\Pi\Sigma_n$ preserving the pairing. For us, $d = 6$ and $G_R = \mathrm{Sp}(n)$ for $\mathcal{N} = (n, 0)$ supersymmetry.

In order to perform the twist, we use the R -symmetry to define a consistent graded structure, as well as to ensure that the twisted theory is well-defined not just on affine space, but on all manifolds with appropriate holonomy group. To do this, we use two additional pieces of data, which we now describe in turn.

Definition 4.3. Given a square-zero supercharge Q , a *regrading homomorphism* is a homomorphism $\alpha : \mathrm{U}(1) \rightarrow G_R$ such that the weight of Q under α is $+1$.

Suppose $\mathcal{E} = (\mathcal{E}, Q_{\mathrm{BV}})$ is the cochain complex of fields of the classical theory, and for $\varphi \in \mathcal{E}$, denote by $|\varphi| = (p, q \bmod 2) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2$ the bigrading. Given a regrading homomorphism α , we define a new $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded cochain complex of fields $\mathcal{E}^\alpha = (\mathcal{E}^\alpha, Q_{\mathrm{BV}})$ which agrees with

$(\mathcal{E}, Q_{\text{BV}})$ as a totalized $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded cochain complex with new bigrading

$$|\varphi|_\alpha = |\varphi| + (\alpha(\varphi), \alpha(\varphi) \bmod 2) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2$$

where $\alpha(\varphi)$ denotes the weight of the field $\varphi \in \mathcal{E}$ under α . Note that Q_{BV} and Q are both of bidegree $(1, 0)$ as operators acting on the regraded fields \mathcal{E}^α . Our convention is that \mathcal{E}^α denotes the cochain complex of fields that are regraded, but equipped with the original BV differential Q_{BV} . The shifted (pre) symplectic structure remains unchanged.

There is one last step before performing the deformation of the classical differential by the supercharge Q in the regraded theory. In general, the symmetry group $\text{Spin}(n) \times G_R$ will no longer act on the deformed theory since Q is generally not invariant under this group action.

Definition 4.4. Let Q be a square-zero supercharge, and suppose $\iota : G \rightarrow \text{Spin}(n)$ is a group homomorphism. A *twisting homomorphism* (relative to ι) is a homomorphism $\phi : G \rightarrow G_R$ such that Q is preserved under the product $\iota \times \sigma : G \rightarrow \text{Spin}(n) \times G_R$.

Given such a σ , we can restrict the regraded theory to a representation for the group G , which we will denote by $\sigma^* \tilde{\mathcal{E}}^\alpha$. We will refer to as the G -regraded theory.

Given a square-zero supercharge Q , a regrading homomorphism α , and twisting homomorphism σ we can finally define a twist of a supersymmetric theory \mathcal{E} . It is the $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded theory whose underlying cochain complex of fields is

$$\mathcal{E}^Q = (\sigma^* \mathcal{E}^\alpha, Q_{\text{BV}} + Q).$$

4.2. Holomorphic decomposition. Throughout the rest of this section we fix the data of a rank-one supercharge $Q \in \Sigma_1$ (which is automatically square-zero in $\mathfrak{p}_{(1,0)}$), and characterize the resulting twist of the $(1, 0)$ tensor multiplet $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}$. As discussed in §3.1.1, such a Q defines a theory with three invariant directions, so we will refer to the twist as holomorphic. In addition to Q , to perform the twist we must prescribe a compatible pair of a twisting homomorphism σ and regrading homomorphism α .

Geometrically, the holomorphic supercharge Q defines a complex structure via $L = \text{Im}(Q) \subset V = \mathbb{C}^6$ equipped with the choice of a holomorphic half-density on L .

Under the subgroup $\text{MU}(3) \subset \text{Spin}(6)$, the spin representations decompose as

$$(64) \quad S_+ = \det(L)^{\frac{1}{2}} \oplus L \otimes \det(L)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \quad , \quad S_- = \det(L)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \oplus L^* \otimes \det(L)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

In particular, the odd part $\Sigma_1 = S_+ \otimes R_1$ of the super Lie algebra $\mathfrak{p}_{(1,0)}$ decomposes under $\text{MU}(3)$ as

$$\det(L)^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R_1 \oplus L \otimes \det(L)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R_1.$$

The holomorphic supercharge Q lies in the first factor.

There exists a unique embedding $U(1) \subset G_R = \text{Sp}(1)$ under which Q has weight $+1$. The twisting homomorphism is defined by the composition

$$\sigma : \text{MU}(3) \xrightarrow{\det^{\frac{1}{2}}} U(1) \hookrightarrow \text{Sp}(1).$$

Under this twisting homomorphism, the defining representation R_1 of $\text{Sp}(1)$ splits as

$$(65) \quad R_1 = \det(L)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \oplus \det(L)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Additionally, we fix the regrading homomorphism to agree with the natural inclusion above:

$$\alpha : \mathrm{U}(1) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Sp}(1).$$

As outlined in §4.1, the data of ϕ and α allow us to consider the $G = \mathrm{MU}(3)$ -regraded theory.

We observe that the odd part Σ_1 of $\mathfrak{p}_{(1,0)}$ decomposes under these twisting data as

$$(66) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline -2 & & & L \otimes \det(L)^{-1} \\ 0 & & & \mathbb{C} \cdot Q \\ 1 & & L & \\ 3 & \det(L) & & \end{array}$$

Here, the horizontal grading is by the ghost \mathbb{Z} -degree determined by α and the vertical grading is by spin $\mathrm{U}(1) \subset \mathrm{MU}(3)$. Note that Q lives in a scalar summand of ghost degree $+1$.

The decomposition of the $(1, 0)$ tensor multiplet with respect to the twisting data is described in the following proposition.

Proposition 4.5. *The $\mathrm{MU}(3)$ -regraded $(1, 0)$ tensor multiplet $\sigma^* \mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^\alpha$ decomposes as*

$$\sigma^* \mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^\alpha = \chi_+(2) \oplus \Psi_-(R_1) \oplus \Sigma(0, \mathbb{C}).$$

The result is depicted in Figure 2.

Notice that the $\mathrm{MU}(3)$ -action descends to a $\mathrm{U}(3)$ -action, so without confusion we will refer $\sigma^* \mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^\alpha$ as the $\mathrm{U}(3)$ -regraded theory.

Proof of Proposition 4.5. The components $\chi_+(2)$ and $\Sigma(0, \mathbb{C})$ of $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}$ are acted on trivially by the R -symmetry group $G_R = \mathrm{Sp}(1)$, so we only need to focus on how $\Psi_-(R_1)$ is regraded. According to Equations (64) and (65), the physical fields decompose under the twisting homomorphism σ by:

$$(67) \quad \Pi(\Omega^0 \otimes S_- \otimes R_1) = \Pi(\Omega^{0,0} \oplus \Omega^{2,0}) \oplus \Pi(\Omega^{0,3} \oplus \Omega^{2,3}).$$

Similarly, the antifields decompose as

$$(68) \quad \Pi(\Omega^0 \otimes S_+ \otimes R_1)[-1] = \Pi(\Omega^{3,3} \oplus \Omega^{1,3})[-1] \oplus \Pi(\Omega^{3,0} \oplus \Omega^{1,0})[-1]$$

The next step is to regrade the fields according to the homomorphism $\alpha : \mathrm{U}(1) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Sp}(1) = G_R$. At the level of the decomposed fields in Equation (67), this $\mathrm{U}(1)$ acts by weight -1 on the first summand $\Omega^{0,0} \oplus \Omega^{2,0}$, and by weight $+1$ on the second summand $\Omega^{0,3} \oplus \Omega^{2,3}$. Thus, we see that the regraded fields of Equation (67) become

$$(\Omega^{0,0} \oplus \Omega^{2,0})[1] \oplus (\Omega^{0,3} \oplus \Omega^{2,3})[-1].$$

Similarly, the regraded antifields of (68) become

$$(\Omega^{3,3} \oplus \Omega^{1,3})[-2] \oplus (\Omega^{3,0} \oplus \Omega^{1,0}).$$

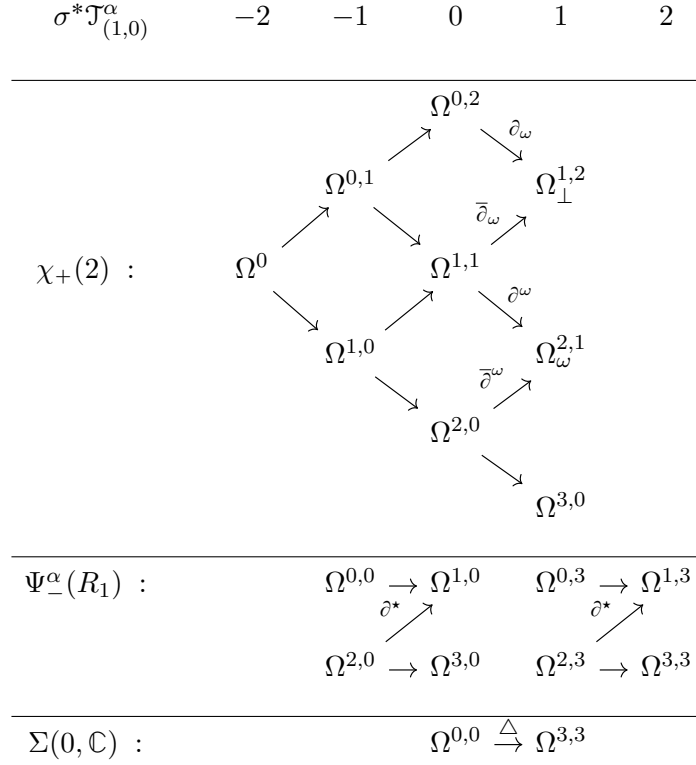


FIGURE 2. The regraded $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ tensor multiplet. The unlabeled arrows denote the obvious ∂ or $\bar{\partial}$ operators.

It remains to identify the linear BV operator Q_{BV} in the regraded theory. This follows from the well-known decomposition of the Dirac operator, on a Kähler manifold:

$$(69) \quad \left(S_- \otimes R_1 \xrightarrow{\not{\partial}} S_+ \otimes R_1 \right) \cong \left(\begin{array}{ccc} \Omega^{0,0} \otimes K^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R_1 & \xrightarrow{\partial} & \Omega^{1,0} \otimes K^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R_1 \\ & \nearrow \partial^* & \\ \Omega^{2,0} \otimes K^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R_1 & \xrightarrow{\partial} & \Omega^{3,0} \otimes K^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R_1 \end{array} \right)$$

□

The components $\chi_+(2)$ and $\Sigma(0, \mathbb{C})$ remain unaffected by both the twisting homomorphism σ and regrading homomorphism α . However, it is necessary in what follows to decompose these cochain complexes as $U(3)$ -representations, using information about the decomposition of the de Rham forms on a Kähler manifold. We recall that multiplication by the Kähler form determines a cochain map of degree $(1, 1)$, defining a space of “non-primitive” forms. In what follows, we will fix a splitting into primitive and non-primitive forms in each degree, so that (for example)

$$(70) \quad \Omega^{2,1} = \Omega_{\perp}^{2,1} \oplus \Omega_{\omega}^{2,1},$$

with the latter summand being the image of $\Omega^{1,0}$ under the Kähler form. (Such a splitting is of course determined on compactly supported forms by the choice of Kähler metric.) We correspondingly decompose the ∂ and $\bar{\partial}$ operators with respect to this splitting; we will sometimes

	$\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}$	$\sigma^*\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^\alpha$
$\chi_+(2)$	$b \in \Omega^2$	$b \in \Omega^2 = \Omega^{2,0} \oplus \Omega^{1,1} \oplus \Omega^{0,2}$
$\Psi_-(R_1)$	$\psi_- \in \Pi(S_- \otimes R_1)$	$\psi_- \in (\Omega^{0,0} \oplus \Omega^{2,0})[1] \oplus (\Omega^{0,3} \oplus \Omega^{2,3})[-1]$
$\Sigma(0, \mathbb{C})$	$\phi \in \Omega^{0,0} \otimes \mathbb{C}$	$\phi \in \Omega^{0,0} \otimes \mathbb{C}$

TABLE 1. The physical fields in the regraded (1, 0) theory.

use the subscript ∂_ω to indicate a projection onto nonprimitive forms, and the superscript ∂^ω for projection onto primitive forms. Verifying the isomorphism

$$(71) \quad \Omega_+^3 \cong \Omega^{3,0} \oplus \Omega_\omega^{2,1} \oplus \Omega_\perp^{1,2}$$

is then a straightforward representation-theoretic exercise. Explicitly, the operators $\partial^\omega, \partial_\omega$ can be written in terms of the Lefschetz operator L and the dual Lefschetz operator Λ as

$$\partial^\omega = (1 - L\Lambda)\partial, \quad \partial_\omega = L\Lambda\partial.$$

Similar formulas hold for $\bar{\partial}^\omega, \bar{\partial}_\omega$.

In Table 1 we have summarized what happens to the physical fields (cohomological degree zero in the original theory) of the (1, 0) tensor multiplet in the regraded theory.

4.3. Proof of (1,0) part of Theorem 4.2. The proof proceeds in two steps. In the first, we use the holomorphic decomposition discussed above, and deform the theory by the holomorphic supercharge to obtain a description of the twist $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$. In the second, we give an explicit projection map which defines a quasi-isomorphism onto $\chi(2)$, and check that it defines an equivalence of presymplectic BV theories.

4.3.1. *Calculation of $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$.* Throughout this section, we refer to Figure 3, which uses the decomposition of the fields we found in the previous section and shows the additional differentials generated by the holomorphic supercharge. The black text denotes the fields in the component $\chi_+(2)$ of the tensor multiplet. The red text denotes the fields in the $\Psi_-(R_1)$ component, as in Proposition 4.5. Finally, the green text denotes the fields in the $\Sigma(0, \mathbb{C})$ component. Each of the solid lines denotes the linear BV differential in the original, untwisted theory, see Figure 2. We will use superscripts to label the components of each field by their form degree.

We have labeled the differential generated by the supercharge Q by the dotted and dashed arrows, which we now proceed to justify. The dotted arrows $\cdots\cdots\rightarrow$ denote order zero differential operators, and the dashed arrows $-----\rightarrow$ are given by the labeled differential operator. Throughout, we extensively refer to the notation in §3.3 where we constructed the action of supersymmetry on the tensor multiplet.

We begin with the component of the supersymmetry action which transforms a fermion into $\chi_+(2)$. In the notation of §3.3.1 this is the linear map $\rho_{\Psi,2}$. In the holomorphic decomposition

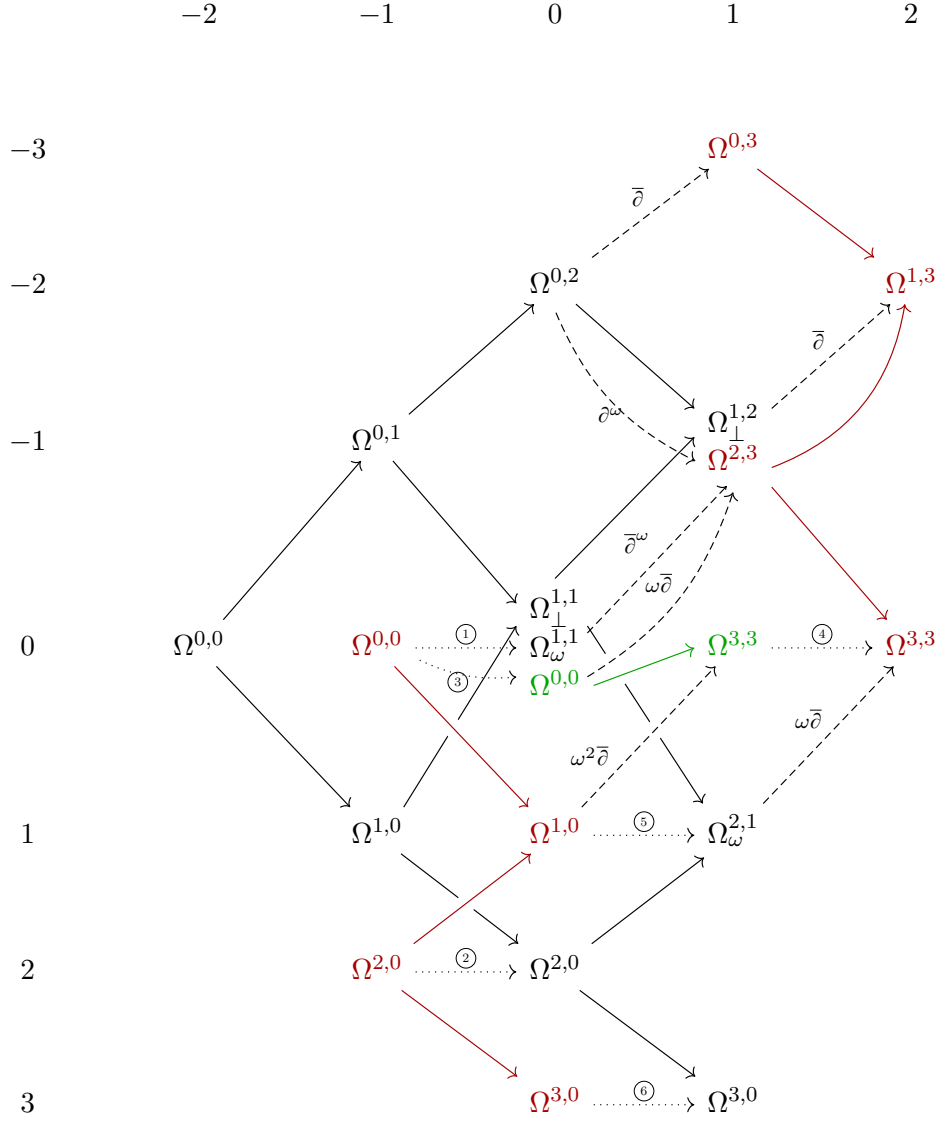


FIGURE 3. The holomorphic twist of the $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ tensor multiplet. The horizontal grading is the cohomological grading. The vertical grading is the weight with respect to $U(1) \subset U(3)$.

of the fields this map is the following projection

$$\rho_{\Psi,2}(Q \otimes -) : \Omega^0 \oplus \Omega^{2,0} \oplus \Omega^{0,3} \oplus \Omega^{2,3} \rightarrow \omega\Omega^0 \oplus \Omega^{2,0} \subset \Omega^{1,1} \oplus \Omega^{2,0} \subset \chi_+(2)$$

which reads $\rho_{\Psi,2}(Q \otimes \psi_-) = \omega\psi_-^{0,0} + \psi_-^{2,0}$. This term accounts for the dotted arrows in Figure 3 labeled ① and ②. On the antifields, the map $\rho_{\Psi,2}(Q \otimes -)$ is given by the composition $\pi^+ \circ d$ where π^+ is the projection

$$\pi^+ : (S_+ \otimes R_1) \otimes \Omega^4 \rightarrow S_+ \otimes R_1.$$

When restricted to the holomorphic supercharge $Q \in S_+ \otimes R_1$ this projection defines a linear map $\pi'(Q \otimes -)$ which reads, in holomorphic coordinates:

$$\pi'(Q \otimes -): \Omega^{1,3} \oplus \Omega^{2,2} \oplus \Omega^{3,1} \rightarrow \Omega^{1,3} \oplus \Omega^{2,2} \rightarrow \Omega^{1,3} \oplus \Omega^{3,3}$$

where the last map uses the Lefschetz operator $L: \Omega^{2,2} \rightarrow \Omega^{3,3}$. Thus, acting on the antifields, $\rho_{\Psi,2}(Q \otimes -)$ reads

$$\rho_{\Psi,2}(Q \otimes -): \begin{array}{ccccc} \Omega^{1,2}/\omega\Omega^{0,1} & \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} & \Omega^{1,3} & \xrightarrow{=} & \Omega^{1,3} \\ & \searrow \partial & & & \\ \omega\Omega^{1,0} & \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} & \omega\Omega^{1,1} & \xrightarrow{\omega} & \Omega^{3,3} \\ & \searrow \partial & & & \\ \Omega^{3,0} & \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} & \Omega^{3,1} & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array} \quad \subset \Psi_-^\alpha(R_1)[2].$$

This accounts for the dashed arrows $\bar{\partial}: \Omega^{1,2}/\omega\Omega^{0,1} \dashrightarrow \Omega^{1,3}$, $\omega\bar{\partial}: \omega\Omega^{1,0} \dashrightarrow \Omega^{3,3}$, and $\omega\partial: \Omega^{1,2}/\omega\Omega^{1,3} \dashrightarrow \Omega^{3,3}$.

We turn to the part of the supersymmetry which transforms fermions into the scalar $\Sigma(0, \mathbb{C})$. In the notation of §3.3.1 this is the linear map $\rho_{\Psi,0}$ which is defined using the projection of a tensor product of spin representations onto a trivial summand. When applied to the holomorphic supercharge $Q \in S_+ \otimes R_1$, the resulting linear map is given by the projection

$$\rho_{\Psi,0}(Q \otimes -): \Omega^{0,0} \oplus \Omega^{2,0} \oplus \Omega^{0,3} \oplus \Omega^{2,3} \rightarrow \Omega^{0,0}.$$

In the decomposition of the fields above, this reads $\rho_{\Psi,0}(Q \otimes \psi_-) = \psi_-^{0,0} \in \Omega^{0,0} \subset \Sigma(0, \mathbb{C})$.⁵ This term accounts for the dotted arrow \dashrightarrow in Figure 3 labeled (3). Similarly, on the antifields we have $\rho_{\Psi,0}(Q \otimes \phi^+) = \phi^+ \in \Omega^{3,3} \subset \Psi_-^\alpha(R_1)[2]$, which one could write in a more standard physics notation as $\delta_Q \psi_-^+ = \phi^+$ —this is read as “the variation of ψ_-^+ with respect to Q is ϕ^+ ”. This term accounts for the dotted arrow labeled (4).

Next, consider the supersymmetry which transforms $\Sigma(0, \mathbb{C})$ into the fermion. In the notation of §3.3.1 this is the linear map ρ_Σ . Applied to the supercharge Q , this is the composition

$$\rho_\Sigma(Q \otimes -): \Omega^{0,0} \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^{1,0} \oplus \Omega^{0,1} \xrightarrow{Q} \omega\Omega^{0,1} \subset \Psi_-^\alpha(R_1)[1]$$

which reads $\rho_\Sigma(Q \otimes \phi) = \omega\bar{\partial}\phi$ and accounts for the dashed arrow $\Omega^{0,0} \dashrightarrow \omega\Omega^{0,1}$. On antifields this is the dashed arrow $\Omega^{1,0} \dashrightarrow \Omega^{3,3}$.

Next, consider the supersymmetry which transforms $\chi_+(2)$ into $\Psi_-^\alpha(R_1)$. In the notation of §3.3.1 this is the linear map ρ_χ , which when acting on the physical fields is the composition $\pi \circ d_-$ where π is the projection

$$\pi: (S_+ \otimes R_1) \otimes \Omega_-^3 \rightarrow S_- \otimes R_1.$$

When restricted to the holomorphic supercharge $Q \in S_+ \otimes R_1$ this projection defines a linear map $\pi(Q \otimes -): \Omega_-^3 \rightarrow S_- \otimes R_1$ which reads, in holomorphic coordinates:

$$\pi(Q \otimes -): \Omega^{0,3} \oplus \omega\Omega^{0,1} \oplus \Omega^{2,1}/\omega\Omega^{0,1} \rightarrow \Omega^{0,3} \oplus \omega\Omega^{0,1}$$

⁵In standard physics notation, one would write this as $\delta_Q \phi = \psi_-^{0,0}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
\Phi(b^{0,j}) &= b^{0,j} && \in \Omega^{0,j}, && j = 0, 1, 2; \\
\Phi(\psi_-^{0,3}) &= \psi_-^{0,3} && \in \Omega^{0,3}; \\
\Phi(b^{1,0}) &= b^{1,0} && \in \Omega^{1,0}; \\
\Phi(b^{1,1} + \phi^0) &= b_{\perp}^{1,1} + (b_{\omega}^{1,1} - \omega\phi^0) && \in \Omega^{1,1}; \\
\Phi([b^{1,2}]_{\perp} + \omega\psi_-^{0,1}) &= b^{1,2} + \omega\psi_-^{0,1} && \in \Omega^{1,2}; \\
\Phi(\psi_-^{+1,3}) &= \psi_-^{+1,3} && \in \Omega^{1,3}.
\end{aligned}$$

TABLE 2. A component description of the projection map Φ

and is given by the obvious projection. Thus, acting on the physical fields, the map $\rho_{\chi}(Q \otimes -)$ is the composition

$$\begin{array}{c}
\Omega^{0,2} \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} \Omega^{0,3} \xrightarrow{=} \Omega^{0,3} \\
\searrow \partial_{\omega} \\
\rho_{\chi}(Q \otimes -): \quad \Omega^2 = \quad \Omega^{1,1} \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}_{\omega}} \omega\Omega^{0,1} \xrightarrow{=} \Omega^{0,1} \quad \subset \Psi_{-}^{\alpha}(R_1)[1]. \\
\searrow \partial^{\omega} \\
\Omega^{2,0} \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}^{\omega}} \Omega^{2,1}/\omega\Omega^{1,0} \longrightarrow 0
\end{array}$$

This accounts for the dashed arrows $\bar{\partial}: \Omega^{0,2} \dashrightarrow \Omega^{0,3}$, $\partial_{\omega}: \Omega^{0,2} \dashrightarrow \omega\Omega^{0,1}$, and $\bar{\partial}_{\omega}: \Omega^{1,1} \dashrightarrow \omega\Omega^{0,1}$. The anti map for this component of supersymmetry acts on $\Omega^{1,0} \oplus \Omega^{3,0} \subset \Psi_{-}^{\alpha}(R_1)$ and is defined by the projection:

$$\rho_{\chi}(Q \otimes -) : \Omega^{1,0} \oplus \Omega^{3,0} \oplus \Omega^{1,3} \oplus \Omega^{3,3} \twoheadrightarrow \omega\Omega^{1,0} \oplus \Omega^{3,0} \subset \chi_{+}(2)[1].$$

This accounts for the dotted arrows labeled $\textcircled{5}$ and $\textcircled{6}$. All arrows have been accounted for, and we have thus verified that the twisted theory $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$ is described by Figure 3.

4.3.2. *Verification of the equivalence between $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$ and $\chi(2)$.* We now move to the second step of the proof. To begin, we note that there is a projection Φ from the total complex $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$ in Figure 3 to the cochain complex $\chi(2) = \Omega^{\leq 1, \bullet}[2]$:

$$(72) \quad \Phi: \mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q \rightarrow \chi(2).$$

On components, Φ is defined by the formulas in Table 2; it sends all other fields to zero. Here, $b_{\perp}^{1,1}$ and $b_{\omega}^{1,1}$ denote the components of the $(1,1)$ -form under the decomposition $\Omega^{1,1} = \Omega_{\perp}^{1,1} \oplus \omega\Omega^{0,0}$. Notice that

$$\Phi(\tilde{Q}_{\text{BV}}\psi_-^0) = \Phi(\partial\psi_-^0 + \omega\psi_-^0 + \psi_-^0) = 0 + (\omega\psi_-^0 - \omega\psi_-^0) = 0$$

which is the only nontrivial check that Φ is a cochain map. Notice that Φ is a map of underlying graded vector bundles, so its kernel is well-defined. Since all the dotted arrows are isomorphisms, the kernel of this map is acyclic, and so Φ defines a quasi-isomorphism of sheaves of cochain complexes.

Since the supercharge Q preserves the presymplectic structure $\omega_{\mathcal{T}}$ on $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}$, we know that $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$ has the induced structure of a presymplectic BV theory. As discussed above, there is also a natural shifted presymplectic structure on $\chi(2)$, defined by the formula $\omega_{\chi} = \int_{\mathbb{C}^3} \alpha \partial \alpha'$.

To check that Φ defines an equivalence of presymplectic BV theories, we will need to check its compatibility with these pairings.

We note that the quasi-isomorphism Φ does *not* preserve the shifted presymplectic structures in any strict sense. However, there does exist a two-form on the space of fields $h : \mathcal{T}_{(1,0),c}^Q \times \mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ of degree -2 such that

$$(73) \quad \omega_{\mathcal{T}} - \Phi^* \omega_{\chi} = (Q_{\text{BV}} + Q)h,$$

where $Q_{\text{BV}} + Q$ denotes the internal differential on the cochain complex of two-forms in field space, with respect to the *total* differential on $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$. In writing elements of the space of two-forms, we will always suppress the integration symbol over \mathbb{C}^3 , which should be understood implicitly. We also suppress the subscripts indicating the chirality of the (untwisted) fermions.

Proposition 4.6. *Consider the two-form on the space of fields*

$$(74) \quad h = b^{3,0} \psi^{0,3} - b^{2,0} (\psi^+)^{1,3} + b_{\omega}^{2,1} \cdot \omega^{-1} \psi^{2,3} + \phi^{0,0} (\psi^+)^{3,3}.$$

Then h defines a homotopy between $\omega_{\mathcal{T}}$ and the pullback $\Phi^ \omega_{\chi}$. That is, (73) is satisfied.*

Proof. The proof is a straightforward computation. The pairing on $\chi(2)$ is given by

$$(75) \quad \omega_{\chi} = \chi \partial \chi = \chi^{1,3} \partial \chi^{1,0} + (\chi_{\perp}^{1,2} + \chi_{\omega}^{1,2}) \partial (\chi_{\perp}^{1,1} + \chi_{\omega}^{1,1}),$$

containing a total of five terms. Applying the pullback, we obtain

$$(76) \quad \Phi^* \omega_{\chi} = (\psi^+)^{1,3} \partial b^{1,0} + \left(b_{\perp}^{1,2} + \omega^{-1} \psi^{2,3} \right) \partial \left(b_{\perp}^{1,1} + b_{\omega}^{1,1} + \omega \phi^{0,0} \right).$$

The pairing on $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$ is given by

$$(77) \quad \omega_{\mathcal{T}} = \phi^{0,0} \phi^{3,3} + \psi^{i,0} \psi^{3-i,3} + b^{3,0} \bar{\partial} b^{0,2} + b_{\omega}^{2,1} \left(\partial b^{0,2} + \bar{\partial} b_{\perp}^{1,1} + \bar{\partial} b_{\omega}^{1,1} \right) + b_{\perp}^{1,2} \left(\partial b_{\perp}^{1,1} + \partial b_{\omega}^{1,1} + \bar{\partial} b^{2,0} \right).$$

In writing the term $\psi^{i,0} \psi^{3-i,3}$, we have suppressed the antifield symbols; of course, this means the nondegenerate pairing on the fermi fields, and would more properly be written $\psi^{\text{ev},0} (\psi^+)^{\text{odd},3} + (\psi^+)^{\text{odd},0} \psi^{\text{ev},3}$. Note also that we make no claim that all of the terms we write are nonvanishing (for example, many will identically vanish on a compact Kähler manifold); the point is that our claim holds formally even without using these facts.

When taking the difference of the pairings, the sixth and seventh terms of $\omega_{\mathcal{T}}$ cancel with corresponding terms, and the result is

$$(78) \quad \omega_{\mathcal{T}} - \pi^* \omega_{\chi} = \phi^{0,0} \phi^{3,3} + \psi^{i,0} \psi^{3-i,3} + b^{3,0} \bar{\partial} b^{0,2} + b_{\omega}^{2,1} \left(\partial b^{0,2} + \bar{\partial} b_{\perp}^{1,1} + \bar{\partial} b_{\omega}^{1,1} \right) + b_{\perp}^{1,2} \bar{\partial} b^{2,0} \\ - (\psi^+)^{1,3} \partial b^{1,0} - b_{\perp}^{1,2} \omega \partial \phi^{0,0} - \omega^{-1} \psi^{2,3} \partial \left(b_{\perp}^{1,1} + b_{\omega}^{1,1} + \omega \phi^{0,0} \right).$$

This is obviously nonzero as a two-form on $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$, but we will show that it is the BV variation of the homotopy (74). Note that the last term of the homotopy crucially contains only the scalar field, and *not* $b_{\omega}^{1,1}$.

To compute the BV variation $Q_{\text{BV}} h$, we will need to consider all differentials in $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$ entering terms that appear in the homotopy. As usual, it is helpful to refer to Figure 3.

As a first step, note that the homotopy h pairs the fermions at the upper right of Figure 3 with an isomorphic subcomplex of $\mathcal{J}_{(1,0)}^Q$. All of the “internal” arrows in each of these Z-shaped subdiagrams can thus be ignored; the terms they generate in the variation will occur twice, once from each side of the pairing, and will cancel after an integration by parts.

It is also clear that the arrows that do *not* contain differential operators—the dotted arrows 2 through 6 in the figure—generate precisely the terms of the pairing which do not contain differential operators, on the scalar and between ψ_- and ψ_+ . This accounts for the first two terms in (78).

It thus remains to consider only terms involving differential operators in both $\omega_{\mathcal{J}} - \pi^* \omega_{\chi}$ and Qh , where we may ignore the “internal” differentials in computing the latter. We proceed term by term in the homotopy. The first term is

$$(79) \quad Q(b^{3,0}\psi^{0,3}) = b^{3,0}\bar{\partial}b^{0,2},$$

which cancels with the third term of (78). The second term is

$$(80) \quad -Q(b^{2,0}(\psi^+)^{1,3}) = \partial b^{1,0}(\psi^+)^{1,3} + b^{2,0}\bar{\partial}b_{\perp}^{1,2}.$$

These two terms cancel with the seventh and eighth terms of (78) after an integration by parts.

The third term in the homotopy generates the largest number of terms: we have

$$(81) \quad Q(b_{\omega}^{2,1} \cdot \omega^{-1}\psi^{2,3}) = b_{\omega}^{2,1} \left(\partial b^{0,2} + \bar{\partial}b_{\perp}^{1,1} + \bar{\partial}b_{\omega}^{1,1} + \omega\bar{\partial}\phi^{0,0} \right) + \left(\partial b_{\perp}^{1,1} + \partial b_{\omega}^{1,1} + \omega\partial\phi^{0,0} \right) \omega^{-1}\psi^{2,3}.$$

The last three terms in this variation cancel with the last three terms in (78), and the first three terms cancel with the fourth, fifth, and sixth terms of (78). The fourth term in the variation is left over.

It remains to calculate the variation of the fourth and last term of the homotopy, which is

$$(82) \quad Q(\phi^{0,0}(\psi^+)^{3,3}) = \omega\phi^{0,0} \left(\partial b_{\perp}^{1,2} + \bar{\partial}b_{\omega}^{2,1} \right).$$

The first of these terms cancels the ninth and final term of (78), and the last term cancels the leftover piece from the variation of the third term of the homotopy (after another integration by parts). The proposition, and thus this portion of the main theorem, is proved. \square

4.4. Holomorphic decomposition for the (2,0) theory. In this section we finish the second part of Theorem 4.2 concerning the holomorphic twist of the (2,0) tensor multiplet. Again, we fix the data of a rank one supercharge Q , this time viewed as an odd element of the super Lie algebra $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$.

Recall that the R -symmetry group of (2,0) supersymmetry is $G_R = \mathrm{Sp}(2)$. As in the (1,0) case, the supercharge Q defines a complex structure $L = \mathbb{C}^3 \subset V = \mathbb{C}^6$ equipped with the choice of a holomorphic half-density on L . The twist carries a symmetry by the subgroup $\mathrm{MU}(3) \subset \mathrm{Spin}(6)$ whose action is defined by the twisting homomorphism

$$\sigma : \mathrm{MU}(3) \xrightarrow{\det^{\frac{1}{2}}} \mathrm{U}(1) \xrightarrow{i \times 1} \mathrm{Sp}(1) \times \mathrm{Sp}(1)' \subset \mathrm{Sp}(2) = G_R.$$

Here, $i : \mathrm{U}(1) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Sp}(1)$ denotes the embedding for which Q has weight +1. Also we use primes as in $\mathrm{Sp}(1) \times \mathrm{Sp}(1)' \subset \mathrm{Sp}(2)$ to differentiate between the two abstractly isomorphic groups.

Under the twisting homomorphism σ the defining representation R_2 of $\mathrm{Sp}(2)$ decomposes as

$$(83) \quad R_2 = \det(L)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \oplus \det(L)^{\frac{1}{2}} \oplus R'_1$$

where $\mathrm{MU}(3)$ acts trivially on R'_1 . The vector representation W of $\mathrm{Sp}(2) = \mathrm{Spin}(5)$ decomposes under σ as $W = \mathbb{C} \oplus \left(\det(L)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \oplus \det(L)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \otimes R'_1$.

The regrading datum is specified by the homomorphism

$$\alpha : \mathrm{U}(1) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Sp}(1) \xrightarrow{i \times 1} \mathrm{Sp}(1) \times \mathrm{Sp}(1)' \subset \mathrm{Sp}(2) = G_R.$$

Note that this factors through the regrading homomorphism we used in the $(1, 0)$ case along the embedding $\mathrm{Sp}(1) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Sp}(2)$.

In addition to $\mathrm{MU}(3)$, the twist enjoys a global symmetry by the group $\mathrm{Sp}(1)'$. Moreover, these actions commute for the trivial reason that $\mathrm{MU}(3)$ acts trivially on $\mathrm{Sp}(1)'$. Using Equation (64), we observe that, after applying the twisting homomorphism σ , the odd part Σ_2 of the super Lie algebra $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$ transforms under $\mathrm{MU}(3) \times \mathrm{Sp}(1)' \subset \mathrm{Spin}(6) \times \mathrm{Sp}(2)$ as:

$$(84) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline 3 & \det(L) & & \\ 5/2 & & & \\ 2 & & & \\ 3/2 & & \det(L)^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \Pi R'_1 & \\ 1 & L & & \\ 1/2 & & & \\ 0 & & & \mathbb{C} \cdot Q \\ -1/2 & & L \otimes \det(L)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \Pi R'_1 & \\ -1 & & & \\ -3/2 & & & \\ -2 & & & L \otimes \det(L)^{-1} \end{array}$$

In this table, the vertical grading organizes spin number, and the horizontal grading is by ghost \mathbb{Z} -degree. The terms involving R'_1 are all odd with respect to the new $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -grading.

The holomorphic supercharge Q lies in the red summand. Its only nonzero bracket occurs with the supercharges in L represented in green above, using the degree-zero pairing on the R -symmetry space. The bracket witnesses the nullhomotopy of the translations in L with respect to the holomorphic supercharge.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
\sigma^*(\mathcal{J}^{\text{hyp}})^\alpha(R'_1) & & -1 & & 0 & & 1 & & 2 \\
\hline
& & & & \Omega^{0,3}(K^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R'_1) & \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}^*} & \Omega^{0,2}(K^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R'_1) & & \\
& & & & & \searrow \bar{\partial} & & & \\
& & & & \Omega^{0,1}(K^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R'_1) & \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}^*} & \Omega^0(K^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R'_1) & & \\
\hline
& & & & \Omega^0(K^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R'_1) & \xrightarrow{\Delta} & \Omega^0(K^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R'_1) & & \\
& & & & & & & & \Omega^{0,3}(K^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R'_1) \xrightarrow{\Delta} \Omega^{0,3}(K^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R'_1)
\end{array}$$

FIGURE 4. The subcomplex $\sigma^*(\mathcal{J}^{\text{hyp}})^\alpha(R'_1)$ of the $\text{MU}(3)$ -regraded $(2, 0)$ tensor multiplet, see Proposition 4.7. The top complex is the result of regrading the fermions in the $(1, 0)$ hypermultiplet, and the bottom complex is the result of regrading the bosons in the $(1, 0)$ hypermultiplet.

In Proposition 3.7, we described the $\text{Sp}(1) \times \text{Sp}(1)'$ decomposition of the $(2, 0)$ tensor multiplet as a sum of the $(1, 0)$ tensor multiplet plus the $(1, 0)$ hypermultiplet valued in the symplectic representation R'_1 : $\mathcal{J}_{(2,0)} = \mathcal{J}_{(1,0)} \oplus \mathcal{J}_{(1,0)}^{\text{hyp}}(R'_1)$. Analogously, accounting for the twisting data ϕ, α just introduced we have the following description of the regraded $(2, 0)$ tensor multiplet.

Proposition 4.7. *The $\text{MU}(3)$ -regraded $(2, 0)$ tensor multiplet $\sigma^*\mathcal{J}_{(2,0)}^\alpha$ decomposes as*

$$\sigma^*\mathcal{J}_{(2,0)}^\alpha = \sigma^*\mathcal{J}_{(1,0)}^\alpha \oplus \Pi\sigma^*(\mathcal{J}^{\text{hyp}})^\alpha(R'_1)$$

where $\sigma^*\mathcal{J}_{(1,0)}^\alpha$ is the regraded $(1, 0)$ tensor multiplet as in Proposition 4.5 and $\sigma^*(\mathcal{J}^{\text{hyp}})^\alpha(R'_1)$ is the free BV theory of the regraded hypermultiplet whose complex of fields is displayed in Figure 4.

In Figure 4, the operator $\bar{\partial}^*$ denotes the adjoint of $\bar{\partial}$ corresponding to the standard Kähler form on \mathbb{C}^3 . Under the regrading $\mathcal{J}^{\text{hyp}}(R'_1) = \Sigma(0, R'_1) \oplus \Psi_-(R'_1) \rightsquigarrow \Pi\sigma^*(\mathcal{J}^{\text{hyp}})^\alpha(R'_1)$, we will denote the decomposition of the fields as:

$$(85) \quad \Sigma(0, R'_1) \ni \nu = \nu^{\frac{3}{2},0} + \nu^{\frac{3}{2},3} \in \Omega^0(K^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R'_1)[1] \oplus \Omega^{0,3}(K^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R'_1)[-1]$$

for the scalars and

$$(86) \quad \Psi_-(R'_1) \ni \lambda = \lambda^{\frac{3}{2},3} + \lambda^{\frac{3}{2},1} \in \Omega^{0,3}(K^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R'_1) \oplus \Omega^{0,1}(K^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R'_1)$$

for the fermions. A similar decomposition holds for the antifields which will be denoted $\nu^{+\frac{3}{2},0}$, etc..

Proof. The $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ multiplet splits as a sum of three complexes

$$\mathcal{J}_{(2,0)} = \chi_+(2) \oplus \Psi_-(R_2) \oplus \Sigma(0, W).$$

As in the case of the $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ multiplet, the component $\chi_+(2)$ is not charged under the R -symmetry group $G_R = \text{Sp}(2)$.

The physical fields of $\Psi_-(R_2)$ decompose under the twisting homomorphism σ as:

$$(87) \quad \Pi(\Omega^0 \otimes S_- \otimes R_2) = \left(\Pi(\Omega^{0,0} \oplus \Omega^{2,0}) \oplus \Pi(\Omega^{0,3} \oplus \Omega^{2,3}) \right) \oplus \Pi(\Omega^0 \otimes S_- \otimes R'_1).$$

The first component in parentheses contributes to the regraded $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ tensor as in Proposition 4.5. The second component

$$\Omega^0 \otimes S_- \otimes R'_1 = \Omega^0(K^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R'_1) \oplus \Omega^{0,1}(K^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R'_1)$$

contributes to the regraded hypermultiplet $\Pi\tilde{\mathcal{J}}^{\text{hyp}}(R'_1)$. There is a similar decomposition for the antifields in $\Psi_-(R_2)$.

Next, the physical fields of the scalar theory $\Sigma(0, W)$ decompose as

$$(88) \quad \Omega^0 \otimes W = \Omega^0 \oplus \Omega^0 \otimes \left(K^{-\frac{1}{2}} \oplus K^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \otimes R'_1$$

The first summand, the single copy of smooth functions Ω^0 , contributes to the regraded $(1, 0)$ tensor multiplet. The second summand contributes to $\Pi\tilde{\mathcal{J}}^{\text{hyp}}(R'_1)$. There is a similar decomposition for the antifields in $\Sigma(0, W)$.

By Proposition 4.5, upon regrading, we see that the components $\chi_+(2)$, the first summand of (87), and the first summand of (88), combine to give the regraded $(1, 0)$ tensor multiplet.

Of the remaining terms, the only component which is acted upon nontrivially by $\text{Sp}(2)$ is the second summand in (88) (and the corresponding antifields). Under α , we see that the factor proportional to $K^{\frac{1}{2}}$ has weight -1 and the factor $K^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ has weight $+1$. It remains to check that the BV differential decomposes as stated, but this is nearly identical to the proof of Proposition 4.5. \square

4.5. Proof of (2,0) part of Theorem 4.2. We now complete the proof of Theorem 4.2, which involves deforming the regraded theory described in Proposition 4.7 by the holomorphic supercharge Q . Throughout this section we refer to the description of the twisted theory in Figure 5.

According to Proposition 4.7, the Q -twisted theory splits as a sum of two complexes

$$(89) \quad \mathcal{J}_{(1,0)}^Q \oplus \mathcal{J}^{\text{hyp}}(R'_1)^Q$$

where $\mathcal{J}_{(1,0)}^Q$ is the Q -twist of the $(1, 0)$ tensor multiplet and $\mathcal{J}^{\text{hyp}}(R'_1)^Q$ is the theory obtained by deforming the $\text{MU}(3)$ -regraded hypermultiplet $\Pi\sigma^*(\mathcal{J}^{\text{hyp}})^\alpha(R'_1)$ by Q .

In Figure 5, the black solid arrows represent the twist of the $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ tensor multiplet, as we computed in §4.3 which corresponds to the first summand $\mathcal{J}_{(1,0)}^Q$ in (89). The red text refers to the $\text{MU}(3)$ -regraded hypermultiplet $\Pi\sigma^*(\mathcal{J}^{\text{hyp}})^\alpha(R'_1)$. The red solid arrows represent the underlying classical BV differential of the regraded hypermultiplet. Note that we use the shorthand notation $\Omega^{\pm\frac{3}{2}, \ell}(R'_1)$ to mean the Dolbeault forms of type $(0, \ell)$ valued in the holomorphic vector bundle $K^{\pm\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R'_1$. We have labeled the differentials generated by the holomorphic supercharge Q acting on the hypermultiplet by the dotted and dashed arrows. As in the $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ case, the dotted arrows $\cdots \rightarrow$ denote isomorphisms, and the dashed arrows $-----\rightarrow$ are given by the labeled differential operator, which we now proceed to characterize. Again, we refer to the notation in §3.3 where we constructed the action of supersymmetry on the tensor multiplet.

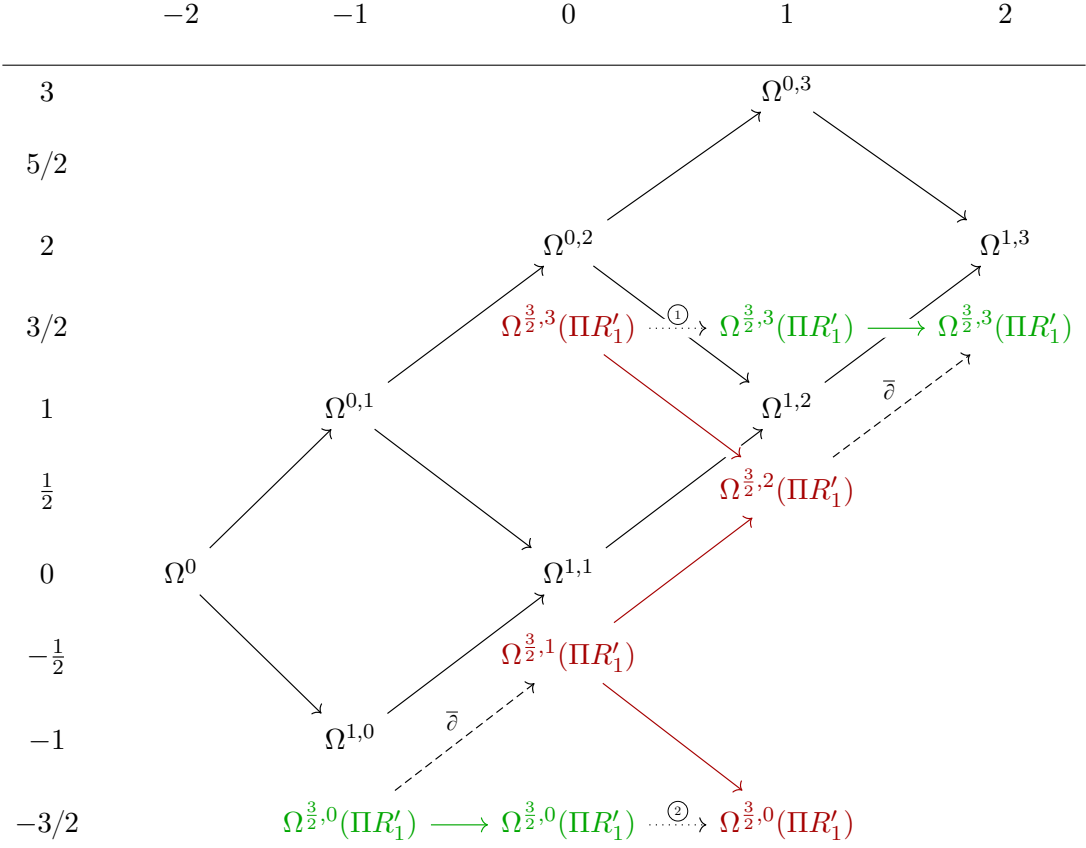


FIGURE 5. The holomorphically twisted $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ theory $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}^Q$. The horizontal grading is the cohomological \mathbb{Z} -grading. Note that the green and red text sits in *odd* $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -degree. The vertical grading is the weight with respect to $U(1) \subset MU(3)$.

We begin with the component of the supersymmetry action which transforms a fermion into a scalar. In the notation of §3.3.1 this is the linear map $\rho_{\Psi,0}$. In the holomorphic decomposition, see Equation (86), of the fields we read off

$$\rho_{\Psi,0}(Q \otimes \lambda) = \lambda^{\frac{3}{2},3} \in \Omega^{\frac{3}{2},3} \subset \Sigma(0, R'_1)[1],$$

This term accounts for the dotted arrow $\cdots \rightarrow$ in Figure 5 labeled ①. Similarly, on the antifields, we have

$$\rho_{\Psi,0}(Q \otimes \nu^+) = \nu^{\frac{3}{2},0} \in \Omega^{\frac{3}{2},0} \subset \Psi_-(R'_1),$$

see the notation of Equation (85). This term accounts for the dotted arrow labeled ②.

Next, we look at the component of supersymmetry which transforms a scalar into a fermion. In the notation of §3.3.1 this is the linear map ρ_{Σ} . In the holomorphic decomposition of fields we have

$$\rho_{\Sigma}(Q \otimes \nu) = \bar{d}\nu^{\frac{3}{2},0} \in \Omega^{\frac{3}{2},1} \subset \Psi_-(R'_1).$$

Similarly, on the antifields, we have

$$\rho_{\Sigma}(Q \otimes \lambda^+) = \bar{\partial} \lambda^{\frac{3}{2},2} \in \Omega^{\frac{3}{2},3} \subset \Sigma(0, R'_1).$$

These maps account for each of the dashed arrows in Figure 5.

Next, we will describe an equivalence of presymplectic BV theories

$$\Phi : \mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}^Q \rightarrow \chi(2) \oplus \Phi(R'_1)$$

On the $(1, 0)$ tensor multiplet summand of the $(2, 0)$ theory, the map Φ is defined to be the map (72) that we used in the twist of the $(1, 0)$ multiplet.

On the $(1, 0)$ hypermultiplet summand, the map is defined as follows.

$$(90) \quad \begin{aligned} \Phi(\nu^{\frac{3}{2},0}) &= \nu^{\frac{3}{2},0} && \in \Omega^{\frac{3}{2},0} \\ \Phi(\lambda^{\frac{3}{2},1}) &= \lambda^{\frac{3}{2},1} && \in \Omega^{\frac{3}{2},1} \\ \Phi(\lambda^{\frac{3}{2},2} + \nu^{\frac{3}{2},3}) &= \lambda^{\frac{3}{2},2} - \bar{\partial}^* \nu^{\frac{3}{2},3} && \in \Omega^{\frac{3}{2},2} \\ \Phi(\nu^{\frac{3}{2},3}) &= \nu^{\frac{3}{2},3} && \in \Omega^{\frac{3}{2},3}. \end{aligned}$$

The map Φ annihilates the remaining fields of the $(1, 0)$ hypermultiplet.

On the hypermultiplet, we note that this map is *not* the obvious projection map of graded vector spaces, but is “corrected” to account for the differentials mapping out of the acyclic subcomplex at the upper left of the hypermultiplet in Figure 5. The correction in this case is analogous to standard twist calculations, and follows the general rubric presented in Proposition 1.23 of [ESW]. By this result, and the theorem for the $(1, 0)$ tensor multiplet, it follows that Φ is a quasi-isomorphism.

We have already shown how the map on the $(1, 0)$ tensor multiplet is compatible with the degree (-1) presymplectic structures. It is immediate to check that the map Φ restricted to the hypermultiplet strictly preserves the degree (-1) presymplectic structures.

4.5.1. *An alternative description.* There is an alternative to the twisting data (ϕ, α) in the case of the $(2, 0)$ tensor multiplet. The key difference is that this variation admits a smaller global symmetry group. Note that the theory described in the previous section carries a global symmetry by the group $\text{MU}(3) \times \text{Sp}(1)'$, even *after* twisting. This alternative twist breaks this global $\text{Sp}(1)'$ symmetry completely, but further descends the $\text{MU}(3)$ -action to an action by $\text{U}(3)$.

The reason this twist enjoys a smaller symmetry group is because it depends on the choice of a polarization of the 2-dimensional symplectic vector space R'_1 . Such a polarization determines an embedding $i' : \text{U}(1) \hookrightarrow \text{Sp}(1)'$ which we now fix.

Define the new twisting homomorphism by the composition

$$\tilde{\sigma} : \text{MU}(3) \xrightarrow{\det^{\frac{1}{2}}} \text{U}(1) \xrightarrow{\text{diag}} \text{U}(1) \times \text{U}(1) \xrightarrow{i \times i'} \text{Sp}(1) \times \text{Sp}(1)' \subset \text{Sp}(2).$$

As in the previous section, $i : \text{U}(1) \rightarrow \text{Sp}(1)$ denotes the homomorphism for which Q has weight $+1$.

Additionally, we have the regrading homomorphism

$$\tilde{\alpha} : \text{U}(1) \xrightarrow{\text{diag}} \text{U}(1) \times \text{U}(1) \xrightarrow{i \times i'} \text{Sp}(1) \times \text{Sp}(1)' \subset \text{Sp}(2).$$

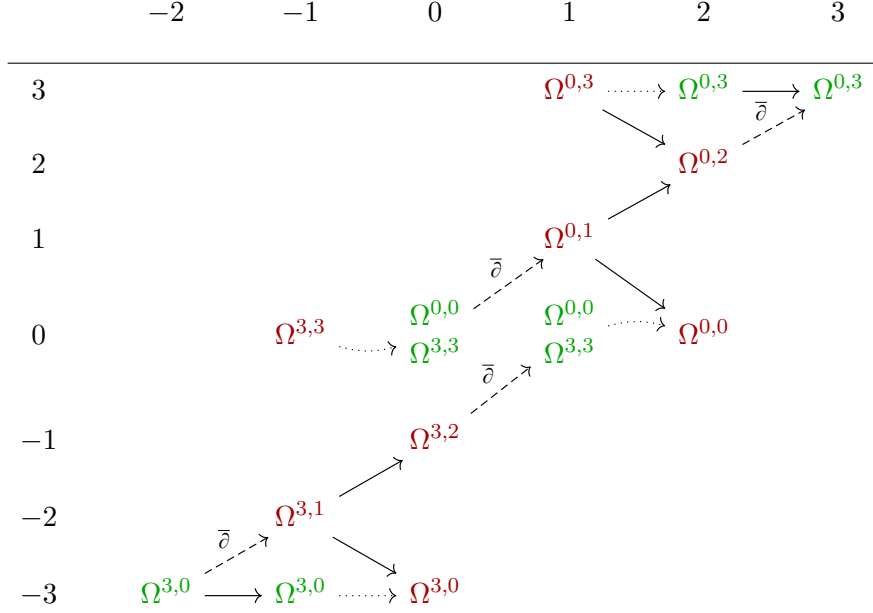


FIGURE 6. The description of the subcomplex $\mathcal{A} \subset \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{(2,0)}^Q$ using the alternative twisting data.

To simplify the notation in the next section, we will denote by $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{(2,0)}$ the $\text{MU}(3)$ -regraded $(2,0)$ theory using this twisting data. The Q -twisted theory will be denoted by $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{(2,0)}^Q$.

With this choice of a regrading homomorphism, the twisted theory $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{(2,0)}^Q$ descends to a $U(3)$ -equivariant theory and is concentrated in even $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -degree and hence defines a \mathbb{Z} -graded theory. Aside from this, the only part of the calculation that changes is the subcomplex defined by the green and red text of Figure 5, which we will henceforth denote by $\mathcal{A} \subset \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{(2,0)}^Q$.

For example, in the original description of the twist the scalar field lives in $\Pi\Omega^{\frac{3}{2},0}(R'_1)[1]$. According to this new twisting data this becomes

$$\Pi\Omega^{\frac{3}{2},0}(R'_1)[1] \oplus \Pi\Omega^{\frac{3}{2},3}(R'_1)[-1] \rightsquigarrow (\Omega^{0,0} \oplus \Omega^{3,0}[2]) \oplus (\Omega^{0,3}[-2] \oplus \Omega^{3,3}).$$

Similarly, using the original twisting data, the fermion field lives in $\Pi\Omega^{\frac{3}{2},1} \oplus \Pi\Omega^{\frac{3}{2},3}$. According to this new twisting data this becomes

$$\Pi\Omega^{\frac{3}{2},1} \oplus \Pi\Omega^{\frac{3}{2},3} \rightsquigarrow (\Omega^{0,1}[-1] \oplus \Omega^{3,1}[1]) \oplus (\Omega^{0,3}[-1] \oplus \Omega^{3,3}[1]).$$

In total, using this alternative twisting data, the green and red subcomplex of the diagram in Figure 5, which we denote \mathcal{A} , is displayed in Figure 4.5.1. As before the solid arrows denote the differentials in the original untwisted theory. The dotted arrows $\cdots\cdots\cdots\rightarrow$ denote isomorphisms and the dashed arrows $-----\rightarrow$ arrows are given by the labeled differential operators induced by the action by Q . The green text labels the components arising from the scalar part of the untwisted theory, the red text labels the components arising from the fermion.

We recognize that the complex of Figure 4.5.1 admits a cochain map to the $\beta\gamma$ system on \mathbb{C}^3 . Since the dotted arrows are isomorphisms, this cochain map is a quasi-isomorphism. The following proposition follows from tracing through the presymplectic BV structures, which is completely similar to the previous calculations.

Proposition 4.8. *There is an equivalence of presymplectic BV theories*

$$\Phi : \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{(2,0)}^Q \xrightarrow{\cong} \chi(2) \oplus \beta\gamma(\mathbb{C}).$$

Moreover, this equivalence is $U(3)$ -equivariant.

The map Φ is defined nearly identically to the quasi-isomorphism defined in the previous section for the twisting data (ϕ, α) . The only difference is that one must decompose (and twist) the formula for Φ acting on the hypermultiplet as in Equation (90).

4.6. The twisted factorization algebras. In §2.4.1 we have defined a notion of Hamiltonian observables for certain classes of presymplectic BV theories. For a holomorphic supercharge Q , each of the twisted presymplectic BV theories $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$, $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}^Q$ and $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{(2,0)}^Q$ satisfy Condition (2) in §2.4.1. So, in each of these cases we obtain a \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebra of Hamiltonian observables.

The twist of the $(1,0)$ theory $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$ is defined on any complex three-fold X . We denote the corresponding factorization algebra of observables on X by $\text{Obs}_{(1,0)}$, with the supercharge Q understood. We can describe this \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebra explicitly as follows. Recall $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q \simeq \chi(2)$ which, as a cochain complex, is $\Omega^{\leq 1, \bullet}[2]$ equipped with the differential $\bar{\partial} + \partial$. Keeping track of shifts, one has $\chi(2)^1 = \Omega^{\geq 2, \bullet}[2]$, again equipped with the differential $\bar{\partial} + \partial$. Thus, the factorization algebra is described by

$$\text{Obs}_{(1,0)} = (\mathcal{O}^{sm}(\Omega^{\geq 2, \bullet}[1]), \bar{\partial} + \partial)$$

where \mathcal{O}^{sm} denotes the “smooth” functionals as defined in §2.4.1. Explicitly, to an open set $U \subset X$, the factorization algebra assigns the cochain complex

$$\text{Obs}_{(1,0)}(U) = \left(\text{Sym}(\Omega_c^{\leq 1, \bullet}(U)[3]), \bar{\partial} + \partial \right).$$

With this description in hand, the \mathbb{P}_0 -structure is also easy to interpret. Given two linear observables $\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O}' \in \Omega_c^{\leq 1, \bullet}(U)[3]$, the \mathbb{P}_0 -bracket is

$$(91) \quad \{\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O}'\} = \int_U \mathcal{O} \partial \mathcal{O}'.$$

The bracket extends to non-linear observables by the graded Leibniz rule. In [GRW20] this \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebra has appeared as the factorization algebra of boundary observables of abelian 7-dimensional Chern–Simons theory. For more discussion on the relationship to 7-dimensional Chern–Simons theory and topological M-theory we refer to §6.

We will not explicitly need to mention the factorization algebra associated to the twist of the $(2,0)$ theory $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}^Q$. However, we will study the factorization algebra associated to its alternative twist $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{(2,0)}^Q$, which we will denote by $\text{Obs}_{(2,0)}$. Again, this theory exists on any complex three-fold

X . Similarly to the $(1, 0)$ case, we obtain the following explicit description of this factorization algebra. To an open set $U \subset X$, it assigns the cochain complex

$$\text{Obs}_{(2,0)}(U) = \left(\text{Sym} \left(\Omega_c^{\leq 1, \bullet}(U)[3] \oplus \Omega_c^{3, \bullet}(U)[3] \oplus \Omega_c^{0, \bullet}(U)[1] \right), \bar{\partial} + \partial \right).$$

The \mathbb{P}_0 -bracket on linear observables is again straightforward. The first linear factor is the same as in the $(1, 0)$ case. The second two linear factors are the linear observables of the $\beta\gamma$ system on \mathbb{C}^3 . For linear observables in $\Omega_c^{\leq 1, \bullet}(U)[3]$ it is given by the same formula as in (91). The only other nonzero bracket between linear observables occurs between elements $\mathcal{O} \in \Omega_c^{3, \bullet}(U)[3]$ and $\mathcal{O}' \in \Omega_c^{0, \bullet}(U)[1]$ where it is given by

$$\{\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O}'\} = \int_U \mathcal{O}\mathcal{O}'.$$

5. THE NON-MINIMAL TWIST

We have classified the possible twisting supercharges of the $(2, 0)$ supersymmetry algebra in §3.1. We found that they were characterized by the rank of the supercharge, which for a non-trivial square-zero element could be either one or two. The minimal (rank-one) case was studied in the last section. We now turn to the further, non-minimal, twist of the $(2, 0)$ theory.

Upon applying a twisting homomorphism more natural to the non-minimal twisting supercharge, the non-minimal twist exists on manifolds of the form $M^4 \times C$ where M^4 is a smooth four-manifold and C is a Riemann surface. Since the non-minimal supercharge leaves five directions invariant, this theory depends topologically on M^4 and holomorphically on C .

Our main result is the following; see Theorem 5.9 for a more careful statement.

Theorem 5.1. *The non-minimal twist of the abelian $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ tensor multiplet on $\mathbb{R}^4 \times \mathbb{C}$ is equivalent, as a presymplectic BV theory, to the theory whose complex of fields is*

$$\Omega^\bullet(\mathbb{R}^4) \hat{\otimes} \Omega^{0, \bullet}(\mathbb{C})[2].$$

The (-1) -shifted presymplectic structure is

$$(92) \quad (\alpha, \alpha') \mapsto \int \alpha \partial \alpha'.$$

Here, ∂ is the holomorphic de Rham operator on \mathbb{C} .

Notice that this description of the nonminimal twist makes sense on a manifold of the form $M \times C$ where M is a smooth four-manifold and C is a Riemann surface.

The non-minimal twisting supercharge is a deformation of the holomorphic twist $\mathbf{Q} = Q + Q'$ where Q is the holomorphic supercharge which we describe in §5.1. In §5.3 we analyze the resulting deformation of the abelian theory from the point of view of the holomorphic twist. In §5.4 we finish the proof of this result by describing the twisting data that is natural from the point of view of the non-minimal twist.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathfrak{so}(6) \oplus \mathfrak{sp}(R_2) & \Pi S_+ \otimes R_2 & V \\
\hline
\wedge^2 L & L \otimes \det(L)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \rho^\vee & \longrightarrow L \\
\mathfrak{sl}(L) & L \otimes \det(L)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R'_1 & L^\vee \\
\wedge^2 L^\vee & \longrightarrow L \otimes \det(L)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \rho & \\
Z(\mathfrak{gl}(L)) & \longrightarrow \det(L)^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \rho & \\
\mathfrak{gl}(\rho) & \longrightarrow \det(L)^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \rho^\vee & \\
(\rho^\vee)^2 & \longrightarrow \det(L)^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes R'_1 & \\
\rho^\vee \otimes R'_1 & \longrightarrow & \\
\mathfrak{sp}(R'_1) & & \\
\rho \otimes R'_1 & & \\
\rho^2 & &
\end{array}
\tag{94}$$

FIGURE 7. The action of $[Q, -]$ on $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$

5.1. The non-minimal supercharge. Before computing the twist, it is instructive to get a handle on the explicit data involved in choosing a non-minimal twisting supercharge. We will begin by considering the non-minimal theory as a deformation of the holomorphic twist, and computing the space of possible deformations of the holomorphic theory that arise from supersymmetries. On general grounds, we can do this by studying the square-zero elements in

As a $\text{Spin}(6) \times \text{Sp}(2)$ -module, the odd part of the supertranslation algebra $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$ is $\Sigma_2 \cong \Pi S_+ \otimes R_2$. It is thus easy to compute the stabilizer of a chosen rank-one supercharge, which is the product of the respective stabilizers of fixed vectors in S_+ and R_2 separately. This is the subgroup $\text{MU}(3) \times \text{Sp}(1)' \times \text{U}(1) \subset \text{Spin}(6) \times \text{Sp}(2)$. As representations of the stabilizer, S_+ and R_2 decompose as

$$(93) \quad S_+ = \det(L)^{\frac{1}{2}} \oplus L \otimes \det(L)^{-\frac{1}{2}}, \quad R_2 = \mathbb{C}^{-1} \oplus (R'_1)^0 \oplus \mathbb{C}^{+1}.$$

Here, the superscripts $\mathbb{C}^{\pm 1}$ denote the charges under $\text{U}(1)$. In the complexified algebra, we can consider the isotropic line $\rho \subset R_2$ that defines the holomorphic supercharge, and observe that $R_2 = \rho \oplus \rho^\vee \oplus R'_1$, where $R'_1 \cong R_2 // \rho$. We will use the slightly unfortunate convention that $\rho = \mathbb{C}^{-1}$.

We will use this decomposition to compute the cohomology of $[Q, -]$, working first in the complexified Lie algebra $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$. We consider the diagram in Figure 7, depicting the decomposition of $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$ and the action of the differential $[Q, -]$. The holomorphic supercharge is indicated in red (note that we have not yet applied any twisting homomorphism), and the arrows represent the action of $[Q, -]$. The only odd elements with which the holomorphic supercharge brackets nontrivially are indicated in green. As remarked above, this bracket witnesses a nullhomotopy

of the translations in L with respect to the holomorphic supercharge. The other bracket map of interest to us pairs the supercharges represented in blue with themselves, via the map

$$(95) \quad (L \otimes \det(L)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes (R'_1)^0)^{\otimes 2} \rightarrow \wedge^2 L \otimes \det(L)^{-1} \otimes \wedge^2 R'_1 \cong L^\vee.$$

This is the only nontrivial bracket between the odd elements of $H^\bullet(\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}, [Q, -])$.

Remark 5.2. The structure of the Lie algebra $H^\bullet(\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}, [Q, -])$ encodes the structure of the tangent space to the nilpotence variety at the holomorphic supercharge Q ; since the decomposition discussed above depends naturally on the choice of Q , it fits together into a family over the space of holomorphic supercharges, which can be identified with the space of complex structures on \mathbb{R}^6 . The supercharges that bracket nontrivially with Q span the fiber of the normal bundle to the nilpotence variety at Q ; the dimension of this fiber is 3, represented by the component colored green in Figure 7 above. All other supercharges anticommute with Q , and therefore define algebraic tangent vectors to the nilpotence variety. These decompose into tangent vectors to the space of holomorphic supercharges—which are Q -exact in $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$ —and to nontrivial deformations, which lie in the summand colored blue in Figure 7. The space of holomorphic supercharges is a copy of $\mathbb{P}^3 \times \mathbb{P}^3$, consisting of four-by-four matrices of rank one in $S_+ \otimes R_2$.

The deformations represented by the blue elements are of interest here; they generate the non-minimal twist (and therefore represent deforming away from the holomorphic locus of the nilpotence variety, into the locus of nonminimal supercharges). However, not all such infinitesimal deformations give rise to finite deformations of Q ; geometrically, this corresponds to the fact that the nilpotence variety is singular along the locus of holomorphic supercharges, so that not all vectors in the algebraic tangent space are tangent vectors to paths in the variety. Since the defining equations are quadratic, though, this can be checked at order two: a deforming supercharge $Q' \in L \otimes \det(L)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes (R'_1)^0$ defines a square-zero element $Q + Q'$ precisely when

$$[Q', Q'] = 0$$

inside $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$. Examining the bracket map discussed above shows immediately that the deforming supercharges with zero self-bracket are precisely the rank-one elements:

$$(96) \quad Q' = \alpha \otimes w : \quad \alpha \in L \otimes \det(L)^{-\frac{1}{2}}, \quad w \in (R'_1)^0.$$

The data of Q' has an especially nice interpretation through the lens of the holomorphic twist. We recall the alternative twisting homomorphism $\tilde{\sigma}$ of the $(2, 0)$ theory from §4.5.1. Notice that this twisting homomorphism breaks the $\mathrm{Sp}(1)'$ symmetry by fixing a polarization of R'_1 . Further, upon twisting by $\tilde{\phi}$ the relevant component of the spinor representation decomposes under $\mathrm{MU}(3)$ as

$$(97) \quad L \otimes \det(L)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes (R'_1)^0 \rightsquigarrow L \otimes \det(L)^{-1} \oplus L.$$

We are assuming that Q' lies in the first factor. Thus, from the perspective of the holomorphic twist, the datum of a further nonminimal twist therefore consists precisely of a polarization of the symplectic vector space R'_1 , together with a nonzero translation invariant section of $\wedge^2 T_{\mathbb{C}^3}$, where $T_{\mathbb{C}^3}$ is the holomorphic tangent bundle. We choose holomorphic coordinates (w_1, w_2, z) on \mathbb{C}^3 and identify, without loss of generality, the supercharge Q' with the translation invariant bivector

$$Q' = \partial_{w_1} \wedge \partial_{w_2}.$$

The non-minimal twisting supercharge is

$$\mathbf{Q} = Q + Q'$$

where Q is the minimal supercharge lying in the red component of (94) and Q' is a rank one supercharge lying in the blue component of (94).

5.2. The non-minimal deformation of the holomorphic twist. Most of the remainder of this section is devoted to the proof of the description of the non-minimal deformation of the abelian theory given in Proposition 5.4. This description uses twisting data that are natural from the perspective of the holomorphic twist, and deforms the holomorphic twist as described above by the further square-zero supercharge Q' . In §5.4 we will introduce non-minimal twisting data and deduce from this result the description of the non-minimal twist on general geometries that are products of smooth four-manifolds with complex curves.

Remark 5.3. In principle, the Q' -deformation of the Q -twisted theory sits on the E_2 page of a spectral sequence that abuts to the \mathbf{Q} -twisted theory. Our computations in the proof of Proposition 5.4 directly verify only a description of the E_2 page, and it is natural to ask whether or not the spectral sequence collapses here. It is, however, not hard to argue that no further differentials can occur: Generally, the fields of a perturbative BV theory are freely generated as a dg module over an appropriate cdga on spacetime. This cdga is just smooth functions in the case of an untwisted theory; in a holomorphic theory, the appropriate cdga is the Dolbeault complex, which freely resolves the sheaf of holomorphic functions over smooth functions. In a fully topological theory, de Rham forms appear.

For the non-minimal twist, the relevant sheaf of functions on the flat spacetime $\mathbb{R}^4 \times \mathbb{C}$ is locally constant on \mathbb{R}^4 and holomorphic on \mathbb{C} . This is freely resolved in smooth functions via the cdga $\Omega^{0,\bullet}(\mathbb{C}) \otimes \Omega^\bullet(\mathbb{R}^4)$. Since the E_2 page of the spectral sequence is already a free module of rank one over this algebra, further differentials cannot appear.

As an aside, we note that another proof of this fact can be produced by applying the general techniques of [SW21]. There, it is shown that the twist with respect to some supercharge Q of a multiplet described via the pure spinor formalism by a sheaf on the nilpotence variety of the supertranslation algebra can be computed by applying the pure spinor formalism to the localization of that sheaf to a formal neighborhood of Q , which is identified with the nilpotence variety of the Q -twisted supertranslation algebra. It follows immediately from this that the twist of the multiplet associated to the structure sheaf of the nilpotence variety, with respect to a supercharge that defines a smooth point of that variety, is of rank one over the cdga identified above. The conditions apply to the $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ tensor multiplet and the supercharge \mathbf{Q} , so that Theorem 5.9 is a formal consequence of the results of [SW21]. We choose to give an alternative, more explicit proof here.

Proposition 5.4. *Using the twisting data $(\tilde{\sigma}, \tilde{\alpha})$, the Q' -deformation of the $(2, 0)$ tensor multiplet $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}^{\mathbf{Q}}$ is equivalent to the free presymplectic BV theory whose complex of fields is*

$$(98) \quad \Omega^{\leq 1, \bullet}(\mathbb{C}^3)/(dz)[2] \xrightarrow{\pi \circ \partial} \Omega^{0, \bullet}(\mathbb{C}^3).$$

where π is the translation invariant bivector $\partial_{w_1} \wedge \partial_{w_2}$ determined by Q' . The (-1) -shifted presymplectic structure is $\int \alpha \partial \alpha'$.

-2 -1 0 1 2 3

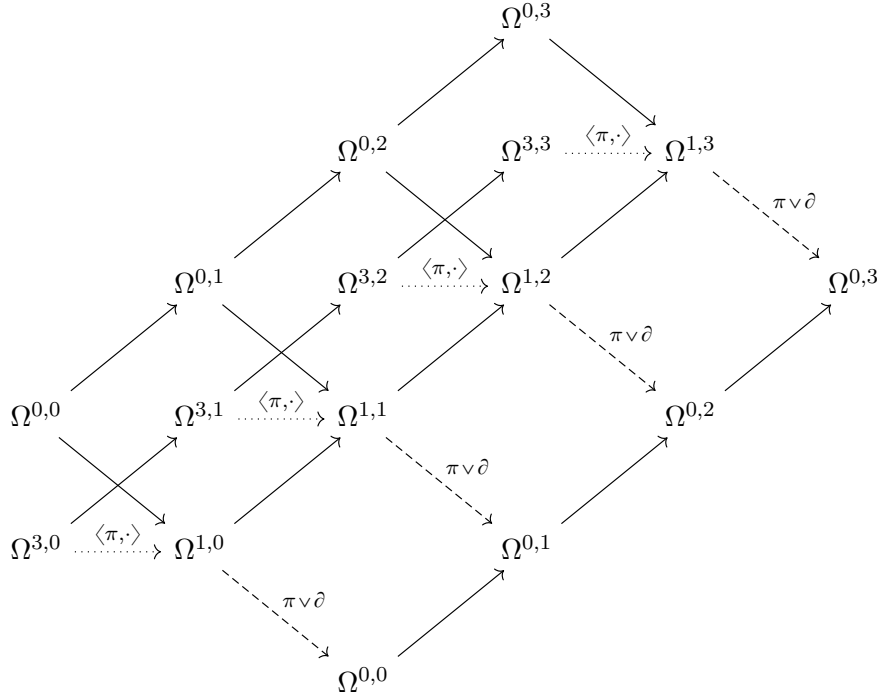


FIGURE 8. The solid arrows represent the holomorphic twist of the $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ theory. The dashed and dotted arrows represent the action by the supercharge Q' which determines a translation invariant bivector $\pi \in \wedge^2 L^*$.

Remark 5.5. In the description of the non-minimal twist in (98), we have used the Calabi–Yau form $dw_1 dw_2 dz$ on \mathbb{C}^3 and the fact that $\langle \pi, dw_1 dw_2 dz \rangle = dz$. On a general, not necessarily Calabi–Yau, three-fold X equipped with a bivector $\pi \in \text{PV}^{2, \text{hol}}, g(X)$ we can write this description more invariantly as

$$\Omega^{\leq 1, \bullet}(X)/(\text{Im}(\pi)) [2] \xrightarrow{\pi \circ \partial} \Omega^{0, \bullet}(X)$$

Here, $\text{Im}(\Pi) \subset T_X^*$ is the image of the bundle map $\pi : \wedge^3 T_X^* \rightarrow T_X^*$.

In (97), we could have alternatively chosen the deformation to a non-minimal supercharge Q' to be the data of a holomorphic one-form. On \mathbb{C}^3 , these lead to equivalent non-minimal twists. Globally, however, the data of a non-vanishing holomorphic one-form $\eta \in \Omega^{1, \text{hol}}, g(X)$ leads to the following description of the twist:

$$\Omega^{\leq 1, \bullet}(X)/(\eta) [2] \xrightarrow{\eta \wedge \partial} \Omega^{3, \bullet}(X).$$

Here, $\Omega^{\leq 1, \bullet}(X)/(\eta)$ denotes the quotient of the algebra $\Omega^{\leq 1, \bullet}(X)$ by the ideal $\eta \Omega^{0, \bullet}(X)$.

5.3. Symmetries of the holomorphic twist. The first step in the proof of Proposition 5.4 is to exhibit the action of the non-minimal deformation Q' on the description of the minimal, holomorphic, twist of the $(2, 0)$ theory given in the previous section. We will use the description of Proposition 4.8 of the minimal twist in terms of the theory of the chiral two-form and the $\beta\gamma$ system.

At the level of the twisted theory we break the symmetry by the $(2, 0)$ super Poincaré algebra $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$ to its Q -cohomology. Upon regrading and applying the twisting data of §4.5.1 to the Q -cohomology of $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$, this gives us an action of a \mathbb{Z} -graded Lie algebra $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}^Q$ on the holomorphic twist of the $(2, 0)$ theory.

Let $\mathfrak{g} \subset \mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$ be the $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded sub Lie algebra of super translations. Upon regrading and taking Q -cohomology, we obtain a subalgebra $\mathfrak{g}^Q \subset \mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}^Q$.

Recall that $L \cong \mathbb{C}^3 \subset \mathbb{C}^6$ is defined to be the image of the holomorphic supercharge Q . We take a basis for L^* to be $\{\partial_z, \partial_{w_1}, \partial_{w_2}\}$. As a \mathbb{Z} -graded vector space the Q -cohomology of \mathfrak{g} , after twisting, is

$$\mathfrak{g}^Q = L[1] \oplus L^* \oplus \wedge^2 L^*[-1].$$

We denote the elements of this cohomology by (η, v, π) . This space has a \mathbb{Z} -graded Lie algebra structure whose bracket is defined by the $U(L)$ -invariant pairing of L with $\wedge^2 L^*$ as in $[\eta, \pi] = \langle \eta, \pi \rangle \in L$.

In the notation of §4, the minimal twist of the $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ theory, using the twisting data $(\tilde{\phi}, \tilde{\alpha})$, was denoted $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{(2,0)}^Q$. In Proposition 4.8 we have shown that $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{(2,0)}^Q$ is equivalent to the presymplectic BV theory $\chi(2) \oplus \beta\gamma(\mathbb{C})$ through an explicit quasi-isomorphism

$$\Phi : \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{(2,0)}^Q \rightarrow \chi(2) \oplus \beta\gamma(\mathbb{C}).$$

As an element of $\mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$ that commutes with Q , the deformation Q' determines a degree one element in \mathfrak{g}^Q and in particular determines a degree one operator acting on $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{(2,0)}^Q$. If we think about Q' as a vector field we can naively push it forward along Φ to obtain a vector field on $\chi(2) \oplus \beta\gamma(\mathbb{C})$. However, since Φ does not *strictly* preserve the presymplectic form, what results is an action of Q' on $\chi(2) \oplus \beta\gamma(\mathbb{C})$ that *does not* preserve the shifted presymplectic pairing. We will show that there is a way to modify this vector field to one that does preserve the presymplectic structure.

By pulling back along Φ , the (-1) -shifted presymplectic form $\omega_\chi + \omega_{\beta\gamma}$ on $\chi(2) \oplus \beta\gamma(\mathbb{C})$ defines a new (-1) -shifted presymplectic form on $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{(2,0)}^Q$. Since we know the two shifted presymplectic structures are equivalent, we know abstractly that given any symmetry of the $(2, 0)$ theory that is compatible with the holomorphic supercharge and the original presymplectic structure $\omega_\mathcal{T}$, that we can find a homotopy equivalent symmetry that preserves $\Phi^*(\omega_\chi + \omega_{\beta\gamma})$.

For symmetries arising from the sub Lie algebra of super translations $\mathfrak{g} \subset \mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$, we have the following explicit result.

Lemma 5.6. *Let $X \in \mathfrak{g} \subset \mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$ be an element which commutes with the holomorphic supercharge Q and denote by $\rho_Q(X)$ the associated operator acting on $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{(2,0)}^Q$. We assume that after twisting the operator $\rho_Q(X)$ is of \mathbb{Z} -degree $|X|$. There exists a degree- $(|X| - 1)$ endomorphism H_X of*

$\tilde{\mathfrak{J}}_{(2,0)}^Q$ such that

$$(99) \quad \Phi(\rho_Q(X) + [Q_{\text{BV}} + Q, H_X])$$

strictly preserves the (-1) -presymplectic form $\omega_\chi + \omega_{\beta\gamma}$.

We denote by $\tilde{\rho}_Q(X)$ the endomorphism $\Phi(\rho_Q(X) + [Q_{\text{BV}} + Q, H_X])$ of $\chi(2) \oplus \beta\gamma(\mathbb{C})$.

Proof. If X is a holomorphic translation we can simply take $\tilde{\rho}_Q(X) = \rho_Q(X)$ and $H_X = 0$.

Suppose that $X \in \mathfrak{p}_{(2,0)}$ becomes an element $\pi \in \wedge^2 L^* \subset \mathfrak{g}^Q$ under the twisting homomorphism $\tilde{\sigma}$. Let us denote the holomorphic decomposition of the bosons and fermions in the $(1, 0)$ hypermultiplet by $\sigma'^{\bullet,\bullet}$ and $\psi'^{\bullet,\bullet}$ respectively. We denote by $b^{\bullet,\bullet}, \sigma^{\bullet,\bullet}, \psi^{\bullet,\bullet}$ elements of the holomorphically decomposed $(1, 0)$ tensor multiplet. The homotopy is defined by

$$H_\pi(b^{2,0}) = \langle \pi, b^{2,0} \rangle \in \Omega_{\sigma'^{0,0}}^{0,0}.$$

The linear component of the resulting vector field $\tilde{\rho}_Q(\pi)$ is given by the dotted and dashed arrows of Figure 8. This is readily seen to preserve the shifted presymplectic structure.

The final case is when an element $X \in \mathfrak{g}$ which commutes with Q becomes an element $\eta \in L \subset \mathfrak{g}^Q$ under the twisting homomorphism $\tilde{\sigma}$. The definition of the homotopy H_η is completely similar as in the case above. \square

To comment briefly on this calculation, we refer again to the dotted and dashed arrows in Figure 8. While most of these originate in standard supersymmetry transformations of the untwisted theory, three are subtle: the leftmost dotted arrow, which carries a physical scalar field to a one-form ghost of the two-form field; the leftmost dashed arrow, which carries a one-form ghost to a physical scalar field via a differential operator; and the dashed arrow third from left, a component of which carries a physical fermi field to a fermi antifield, but is not part of the original BV differential.

These three mysterious arrows have three different origins. The first is generated by the L_∞ closure term $\rho_\Sigma^{(2)}$. The others, though, are of (untwisted) BV degree $+1$, and so cannot originate from any subtleties of the module structure. The third term is, in fact, generated by the projection map Φ in (90), used in computing the twist of the $(1, 0)$ hypermultiplet; the second term is generated by the homotopy H_π discussed above, which replaces the fermi field $\psi^{1,0}$ —whose antifield is *not* eliminated after the holomorphic twist—by its “new” antifield $\partial\beta^{1,0}$.

The endomorphisms $\rho_Q(X)$ and $\rho_Q(X) + [Q_{\text{BV}} + Q, H_X]$ are homotopy equivalent. Thus, as a consequence of this proposition, we obtain an equivalent action of \mathfrak{g}^Q on $\tilde{\mathfrak{J}}_{(2,0)}^Q$ which is presymplectic upon applying the quasi-isomorphism Φ . This action is described explicitly in Proposition 5.7 below, which we take a brief moment to foreground.

As a graded vector space, $\chi(2) \oplus \beta\gamma(\mathbb{C})$ decomposes as

$$(\chi^0, \chi^1, \beta, \gamma) \in \Omega^{0,\bullet}[2] \oplus \Omega^{1,\bullet}[1] \oplus \Omega^{3,\bullet}[2] \oplus \Omega^{0,\bullet}.$$

The first two components comprise the theory $\chi(2)$ and the second two comprise the $\beta\gamma$ system.

Recall, there is the internal $\bar{\partial}$ differential and also the differential $\chi^0 \mapsto \partial\chi^0 = \chi^1$, where ∂ is the holomorphic de Rham operator on \mathbb{C}^3 . As in the case of the full supersymmetry algebra, the

action of \mathfrak{g}^Q on $\tilde{\mathcal{J}}_{(2,0)}^Q$ through $\tilde{\rho}_Q$ is an action only up to homotopy. We decompose $\tilde{\rho}_Q = \tilde{\rho}_Q^{(1)} + \tilde{\rho}_Q^{(2)}$ where $\tilde{\rho}_Q^{(1)}$ is linear and $\tilde{\rho}_Q^{(2)}$ is quadratic in \mathfrak{g}^Q . Unpacking the action of supersymmetry given in §3 we obtain the following description of the action of \mathfrak{g}^Q at the level of the holomorphic twist.

Proposition 5.7. *The action $\tilde{\rho}_Q = \tilde{\rho}_Q^{(1)} + \tilde{\rho}_Q^{(2)}$ of \mathfrak{g}^Q on $\chi(2) \oplus \beta\gamma(\mathbb{C})$ is given by:*

- (1) *the linear term $\tilde{\rho}_Q^{(1)}$ is defined on holomorphic translations $v \in L$ by $\tilde{\rho}_Q^{(1)}(v)\alpha = L_v\alpha$, where α is any field. On the remaining part of the algebra, $\tilde{\rho}_Q^{(1)}$ is*

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\rho}_Q^{(1)}(\eta)\chi^1 &= \eta \wedge \partial\chi^1 \in \Omega_\beta^{3,\bullet} \quad , \quad \tilde{\rho}_Q^{(1)}(\pi)\chi^1 = \langle \pi, \partial\chi^1 \rangle \in \Omega_\gamma^{0,\bullet} \\ \tilde{\rho}_Q^{(1)}(\eta)\gamma &= \eta \wedge \gamma \in \Omega_{\chi^1}^{1,\bullet} \quad , \quad \tilde{\rho}_Q^{(1)}(\pi)\beta = \langle \pi, \beta \rangle \in \Omega_{\chi^1}^{1,\bullet}. \end{aligned}$$

Whenever it appears, the symbol $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ refers to the obvious $U(L)$ -invariant pairing.

- (2) *The quadratic term $\tilde{\rho}_Q^{(2)}$ is given by*

$$\tilde{\rho}_Q^{(2)}(\eta \otimes \pi)\chi^1 = \iota_{\langle \eta, \pi \rangle} \chi^1 \in \Omega_{\chi^0}^{0,\bullet}.$$

Conceptually, as remarked above, the key step in proving this proposition is to observe that the homotopy H_π described in Lemma 5.6 generates the transformation $\tilde{\rho}^{(1)}(\pi)\chi^1 = \langle \pi, \partial\chi^1 \rangle$ via (99).

Remark 5.8. It is instructive to verify directly that the action described in the above proposition is an L_∞ -action. To see this, the key relation to observe is

$$\eta \cdot (\pi \cdot \chi^1) - \pi \cdot (\eta \cdot \chi^1) = \iota_{\langle \eta, \pi \rangle} \partial\chi^1.$$

for any η, π, χ^1 , where the \cdot denotes the linear action $\tilde{\rho}_Q^{(1)}$.

We can now give a proof of the main result of this section.

Proof of Proposition 5.4. The shifted presymplectic action of $X \in \mathfrak{g}^Q$ at the level of the holomorphic twist $\chi(2) \oplus \beta\gamma(\mathbb{C})$ is given by $\tilde{\rho}_Q(X)$.

The non-minimal deformation Q' determines a nontrivial element in ${}^{\wedge}L^*[-1] \subset \mathfrak{g}^Q$ that we identify with $\partial_{w_1} \wedge \partial_{w_2}$. Schematically, the action $\tilde{\rho}_Q(Q')$ is given by the dotted and dashed arrows in Figure 8. Let \tilde{Q}_{BV} denote the solid arrows in this figure, which describes the linear BV differential of the holomorphic twist.

We observe that each of the dotted arrows is of the form

$$\langle \pi, - \rangle : \Omega^{3,\bullet}(\mathbb{C}^3) \rightarrow \Omega^{1,\bullet}(\mathbb{C}^3).$$

If we decompose $\Omega^{1,\bullet}(\mathbb{C}^3)$ as $\Omega^{1,\bullet}(\mathbb{C}_w^2) \hat{\otimes} \Omega^{0,\bullet}(\mathbb{C}_z) \oplus \Omega^{0,\bullet}(\mathbb{C}_w^2) \hat{\otimes} \Omega^{1,\bullet}(\mathbb{C}_z)$ we see that this map is an isomorphism onto the second component.

So, we see that there is a projection from the total complex $(\tilde{\mathcal{J}}_{(2,0)}^Q, \tilde{Q}_{\text{BV}} + Q')$ to \mathbf{T} whose kernel is acyclic. \square

5.4. Non-minimal twisting homomorphisms. In this section we complete the computation of the non-minimal twist by describing the twisting data for the non-minimal twisting supercharge.

Consider the twisting homomorphism defined by the composition

$$\sigma_{top} : \text{MU}(2) \times \text{U}(1) \rightarrow \text{MU}(3) \times \text{MU}(3) \xrightarrow{\det^{\frac{1}{2}} \times \det^{\frac{1}{2}}} \text{U}(1) \times \text{U}(1) \xrightarrow{(i, (i')^{-1})} \text{Sp}(1) \times \text{Sp}(1)' \hookrightarrow \text{Sp}(2).$$

The first map is the block diagonal embedding of $(A, x) \in \text{U}(2) \times \text{U}(1)$ into $\text{U}(3)$ via $\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & x \end{pmatrix}$ in the first factor and via $\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & x^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$ into the second factor. Also, $i : \text{U}(1) \rightarrow \text{Sp}(1)$ is the unique homomorphism for which Q has weight $+1$ and $i' : \text{U}(1) \rightarrow \text{Sp}(1)$ is defined by the polarization determined by Q' . Additionally, we have the regrading homomorphism

$$\alpha_{top} : \text{U}(1) \xrightarrow{\text{diag}} \text{U}(1) \times \text{U}(1) \xrightarrow{i \times i'} \text{Sp}(1) \times \text{Sp}(1)' \subset \text{Sp}(2).$$

Note that this is identical to the regrading homomorphism $\tilde{\alpha}$ of §4.5.1).

The pair $\sigma_{top}, \alpha_{top}$ constitute twisting data for the the nonminimal twisting supercharge $\mathbf{Q} = Q + Q'$. Applying this twisting data the analog of Figure 8, which was expressed in terms of the holomorphic twisting homomorphism $\tilde{\sigma}$, is displayed in Figure 9.

The steps in the proof of Proposition 5.4 carry over verbatim after replacing the twisting homomorphism $\tilde{\sigma}$ with σ_{top} . The effect is to twist the cochain complex of fields in Proposition 5.4 so that it becomes

$$\Omega^{\leq 1, \bullet}(\mathbb{C}^3)/(dz)[2] \xrightarrow{\partial_{\mathbb{C}^2}} \Omega^{2, \bullet}(\mathbb{C}^2) \otimes \Omega^{0, \bullet}(\mathbb{C}_z).$$

which we can further identify with

$$(100) \quad \left(\Omega^{0, \bullet}(\mathbb{C}^2)[2] \xrightarrow{\partial_{\mathbb{C}^2}} \Omega^{1, \bullet}(\mathbb{C}^2)[1] \xrightarrow{\partial_{\mathbb{C}^2}} \Omega^{2, \bullet}(\mathbb{C}^2) \right) \otimes \Omega^{0, \bullet}(\mathbb{C}_z).$$

The differential is $\bar{\partial}_{\mathbb{C}^2} + \partial_{\mathbb{C}^2} + \bar{\partial}_{\mathbb{C}_z}$ (where we recall that we always leave the $\bar{\partial}$ operators implicit). This is just the shift of the (complexified) full de Rham complex of \mathbb{C}^2 with the $(0, \bullet)$ Dolbeault complex of \mathbb{C}_z . In conclusion, via the twisting homomorphism σ_{top} the complex of fields of the non-minimal twist is equivalent to the complex above as a $\text{U}(2) \times \text{U}(1)$ equivariant theory.

We can introduce slightly different twisting data to further lift this symmetry. Notice that σ_{top} satisfies the following property: it can be factored as

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{MU}(2) \times \text{U}(1) & \xrightarrow{\sigma_{top}} & \text{Sp}(2) \\ & \searrow^{j \times 1} & \nearrow^{\sigma_{spin}} \\ & \text{Spin}(4) \times \text{U}(1) & \end{array}$$

where σ_{spin} is the following composition of maps:

$$\text{Spin}(4) \times \text{U}(1) \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{SU}(2) \times \text{SU}(2) \times \text{U}(1) \xrightarrow{\text{Pr}_{1,3}} \text{Spin}(3) \times \text{Spin}(2) \rightarrow \text{Spin}(5) \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Sp}(2)$$

and where $j : \text{MU}(2) \hookrightarrow \text{Spin}(4)$ is the standard embedding lifting the embedding $\text{U}(2) \hookrightarrow \text{SO}(4)$.

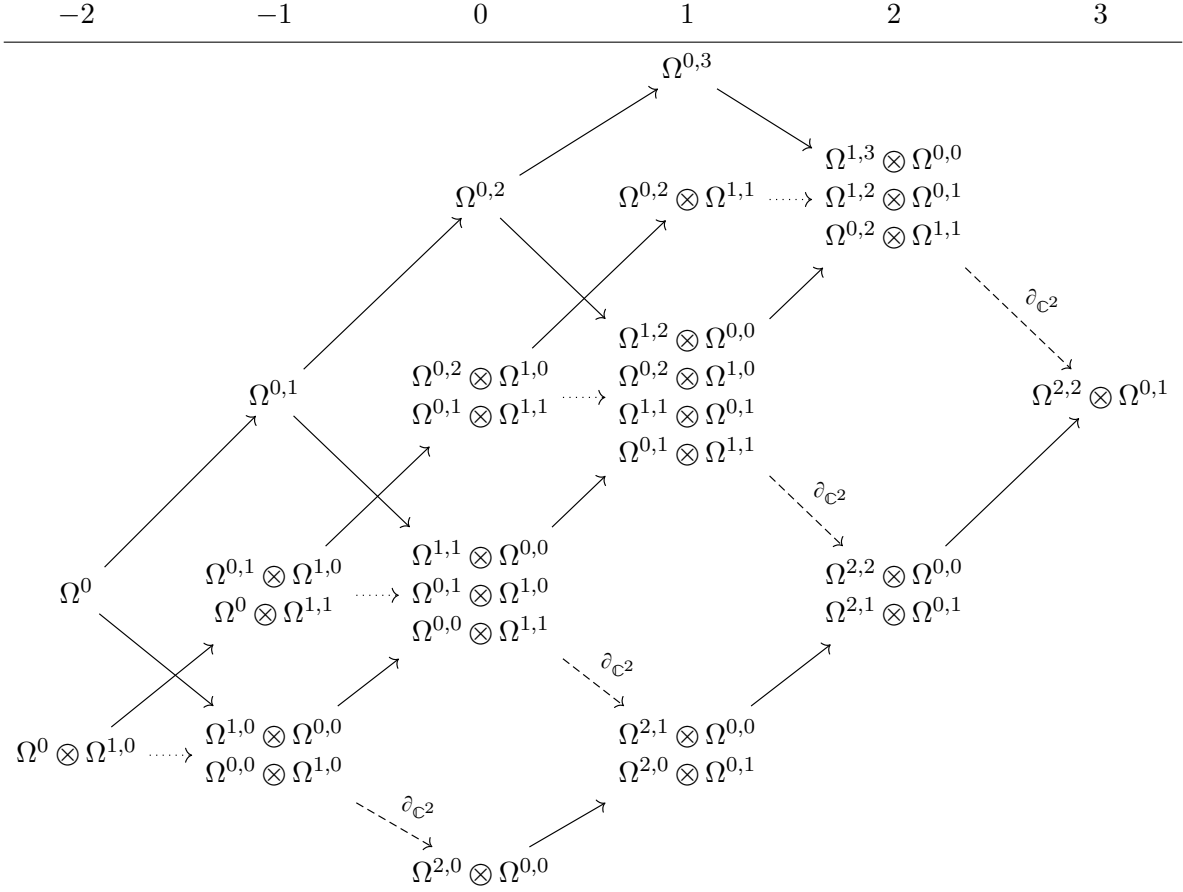


FIGURE 9. The solid arrows represent the holomorphic twist of the $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ theory using the twisting data σ_{top} . The dashed and dotted arrows represent the action by the supercharge Q' . The dotted arrows are all the natural $U(2) \times U(1)$ equivariant inclusions.

The pair $(\sigma_{spin}, \alpha_{top})$ constitutes yet another set of twisting data for the non-minimal supercharge $\mathbf{Q} = Q + Q'$. The twisting homomorphism σ_{spin} allows one to identify (100) with $\Omega^\bullet(\mathbb{R}^4) \otimes \Omega^{0,\bullet}(\mathbb{C}_z)[2]$. As a consequence, we arrive at the main result of this section.

Theorem 5.9. *Using the twisting data $(\sigma_{spin}, \alpha_{top})$, the \mathbf{Q} -twist of the $(2, 0)$ tensor multiplet $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}^{\mathbf{Q}}$ is equivalent to the free presymplectic BV theory whose BV complex of fields is*

$$\Omega^\bullet(\mathbb{R}^4) \hat{\otimes} \Omega^{0,\bullet}(\mathbb{C})[2]$$

and whose (-1) -shifted presymplectic structure is given in (92). The equivalence is $\text{Spin}(4) \times U(1)$ -equivariant.

6. COMPARISON TO KODAIRA–SPENCER GRAVITY

In this section we document a relationship between the twist of the tensor multiplet and a holomorphic theory defined on Calabi–Yau manifolds that has roots in string theory and theories of supergravity. This theory, which we will refer to as Kodaira–Spencer theory, is gravitational in the sense that it describes variations of the Calabi–Yau structure; it was first introduced in [Ber+94] as the closed string field theory describing the B -twisted topological string on three-folds. Work of Costello–Li [CL15; CL16b; CL19] has begun to systematically exhibit the relationship of Kodaira–Spencer theory on more general manifolds to twists of other classes of string theories and theories of supergravity.

The main result of this section (Proposition 6.1) can be stated heuristically as follows: up to topological degrees of freedom, *the theory of the field strengths of the holomorphic twist of the abelian $(2,0)$ tensor multiplet on a Calabi–Yau three-fold is equivalent to the free limit of (minimal) Kodaira–Spencer theory.* There is a similar statement for the $(1,0)$ tensor multiplet and a Type I Kodaira–Spencer theory. This resolves a simple form of a conjecture in Costello–Li in [CL15]. This can also be seen as an enhancement of a result of Mariño, Minasian, Moore, and Strominger [Mn+00], where it is shown that the equations of motion of the M5 brane theory on a Calabi–Yau three-fold include the Kodaira–Spencer equations of motion.

We consider Kodaira–Spencer theory on a Calabi–Yau three-fold X , and we denote by Ω the nowhere vanishing holomorphic volume form. Denote by $\text{PV}^{i,j}(X) = \Gamma(X, \wedge^i T_X \otimes \wedge^j \bar{T}_X^*)$ the j th term in the Dolbeault resolution of polyvector fields of type i . Here T_X is the holomorphic tangent bundle and \bar{T}^* is the anti-holomorphic cotangent bundle. The fields of Kodaira–Spencer theory are

$$\mathcal{T}_{\text{KS}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{PV}^{\bullet,\bullet}(X)[[t]][2].$$

Here t denotes a formal parameter of degree $+2$. The gradings are such that the degree of the component $t^k \text{PV}^{i,j}$ is $i + j + 2k - 2$. The complex of fields carries the differential

$$Q_{\text{KS}} = \bar{\partial} + t\partial_{\Omega}$$

where ∂_{Ω} fits into the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{PV}^{i,j}(X) & \xrightarrow{\partial_{\Omega}} & \text{PV}^{i-1,j}(X) \\ \Omega \downarrow \cong & & \cong \downarrow \Omega \\ \Omega^{3-i,j}(X) & \xrightarrow{\partial} & \Omega^{4-i,\bullet}(X). \end{array}$$

for $i \geq 1$. Note that ∂_{Ω} is an operator of degree -1 on \mathcal{T}_{KS} , so that $\bar{\partial} + t\partial_{\Omega}$ is an operator of homogenous degree $+1$. The fields of Kodaira–Spencer theory are not the sections of a finite rank vector bundle, but we will pick out certain subspaces of fields which are the sections of a finite rank bundle.

Kodaira–Spencer theory fits into the BV formalism as a (degenerate) Poisson BV theory [CL15]. For a precise definition of a Poisson BV theory see [BY16]. The degree $+1$ Poisson bivector Π_{KS} on \mathcal{T}_{KS} which endows \mathcal{T}_{KS} with a Poisson BV structure is defined by

$$\Pi_{\text{KS}} = (\partial \otimes 1)\delta_{\Delta} \in \bar{\mathcal{T}}_{\text{KS}}(X) \hat{\otimes} \bar{\mathcal{T}}_{\text{KS}}(X).$$

Here, δ_{Δ} is the Dirac delta-function on the diagonal in $X \times X$.

Any Poisson BV theory defines a \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebra of observables [BY16]. For the free limit of Kodaira–Spencer theory this \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebra is completely explicit. To an open set $U \subset X$ one assigns the cochain complex:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Obs}_{\text{KS}}(U) &= \left(\mathcal{O}^{sm}(\mathcal{T}_{\text{KS}}(U)), Q_{\text{KS}} \right) \\ &= \left(\text{Sym} \left(\mathcal{T}'_{\text{KS},c}(U) \right), Q_{\text{KS}} \right). \end{aligned}$$

The BV bracket is defined via contraction with Π_{KS} . We denote the resulting \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebra for Kodaira–Spencer theory by Obs_{KS} .

There are variations of the theory obtained by looking at certain subcomplexes of \mathcal{T}_{KS} and by restricting the \mathbb{P}_0 -bivector. They are called: *minimal* Kodaira–Spencer theory, denoted by $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\text{KS}}$; *Type I* Kodaira–Spencer theory, denoted $\mathcal{T}_{\text{Type I}}$; and *minimal Type I* Kodaira–Spencer theory, denoted $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\text{Type I}}$. They fit into the following diagram of embeddings of complexes of fields:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\text{KS}} & \\ \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\text{Type I}} & \nearrow & \searrow \mathcal{T}_{\text{KS}} \\ & \mathcal{T}_{\text{Type I}} & \end{array}$$

The corresponding \mathbb{P}_0 factorization algebras of classical observables will be denoted $\widetilde{\text{Obs}}_{\text{KS}}$, $\text{Obs}_{\text{Type I}}$, and $\widetilde{\text{Obs}}_{\text{Type I}}$ (whose definitions we recall below).

The goal of this section is relate Kodaira–Spencer theory to the twists of the $(1,0)$ and $(2,0)$ superconformal theories using factorization algebras. Recall that in §2.4 we showed that *presymplectic BV* theories, such as the chiral $2k$ -form $\chi(2k)$, admit a \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebra consisting of the “Hamiltonian” observables. We have provided a detailed description of the factorization algebras associated to the holomorphic twists of the $(1,0)$ and $(2,0)$ theories in §4.6. The main result is the following.

Proposition 6.1. *Let X be a Calabi–Yau three-fold and Q be a holomorphic supercharge. The following statements are true regarding the holomorphic twists $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}^Q$ and $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$ of the $\mathcal{N} = (2,0)$ and $\mathcal{N} = (1,0)$ tensor multiplets, respectively:*

- (1) *There is a sequence of morphisms of complexes of fields:*

$$(101) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & \beta\gamma(\mathbb{C}) \oplus \Omega^{\geq 2, \bullet}[1] & \\ \mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}^Q & \xrightarrow{F} & \searrow f \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\text{KS}}. \end{array}$$

which induces a morphism of \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebras on X :

$$\widetilde{\text{Obs}}_{\text{KS}} \rightarrow \text{Obs}_{(2,0)}$$

whose fiber is a locally constant factorization algebra.

(2) *There is a sequence of morphisms of complexes of fields:*

$$(102) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & \Omega^{\geq 2, \bullet}[1] & \\ & \nearrow F & \searrow f \\ \mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q & & \widetilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\text{Type I}} \end{array} \quad \cong$$

which induces a quasi-isomorphism of \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebras on X :

$$\widetilde{\text{Obs}}_{\text{Type I}} \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Obs}_{(1,0)}$$

These result may be summarized as follows. For the $(1, 0)$ theory, one finds that the factorization algebra of Hamiltonian observables of the presymplectic BV theory $\mathcal{T}_{(1,0)}^Q$ is equivalent to the free limit of the observables of Type I Kodaira–Spencer theory. For the $(2, 0)$ theory, the observables of the presymplectic BV theory $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}^Q$ differ from the free limit of the observables of minimal Kodaira–Spencer theory by a locally constant factorization algebra. This locally constant part has been appeared in [RY19] in what they refer to as Kodaira–Spencer theory *with potentials*.

The connection between Kodaira–Spencer theory and the tensor multiplet is through the field strength. Indeed, the map labeled F in the above statement is a holomorphic version of the field strength of the chiral two-form. In the sections below, it is defined as the obvious extension of the following map of Dolbeault complexes

$$\partial : \Omega^{\leq 1, \bullet}[2] \rightarrow \Omega^{\geq 2, \bullet}[1]$$

given by the holomorphic de Rham operator. By our results in the previous sections, given a two-form element $\chi \in \Omega^{\leq 1, \bullet}(X)$, the component of the three-form field strength $\partial\chi \in \Omega^{\geq 2, \bullet}$ is the only piece that survives the holomorphic twist.

Finally, we remark that the \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebra $\widetilde{\text{Obs}}_{\text{Type I}} \simeq \text{Obs}_{(1,0)}$ has appeared as the factorization algebra of boundary observables of 7-dimensional abelian Chern–Simons theory. Likewise, minimal Kodaira–Spencer theory $\widetilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\text{KS}}$ also appears as a boundary condition of 7-dimensional abelian Chern–Simons theory.

6.1. Minimal theory. Many of the fields in the complex \mathcal{T}_{KS} are invisible to the shifted Poisson structure we have just introduced. There is a piece of \mathcal{T}_{KS} that “sees” the Poisson bracket, called the minimal theory. The fields of the minimal theory form the subcomplex of fields of full Kodaira–Spencer theory $\widetilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\text{BCOV}} \subset \text{PV}^{\bullet, \bullet}(X)[[t]][2]$ defined by

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\text{KS}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigoplus_{i+k \leq 2} t^k \text{PV}^{i, \bullet}[-i - 2k + 2].$$

The shifted Poisson tensor Π_{KS} restricts to one on this subcomplex, thus defining another Poisson BV theory whose fields are $\widetilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\text{KS}}$.

6.1.1. Proof of part (1) of Proposition 6.1. This is a direct calculation. Observe that the minimal fields decompose into six graded summands:

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\text{KS}} = \text{PV}^{0, \bullet}[2] \oplus \text{PV}^{1, \bullet}[1] \oplus t\text{PV}^{0, \bullet} \oplus \text{PV}^{2, \bullet} \oplus t\text{PV}^{1, \bullet}[-1] \oplus t^2\text{PV}^{0, \bullet}[-2].$$

6.2. Type I theory. Type I Kodaira–Spencer theory has underlying complex of fields

$$\mathcal{J}_{\text{Type I}} = \bigoplus_{i+k=\text{odd}} t^k \text{PV}^{i,\bullet}[-i-2k-2].$$

This describes the conjectural spacetime string field theory of the Type I topological string, see [CL19].

The complex of fields of minimal Type I Kodaira–Spencer theory $\tilde{\mathcal{J}}_{\text{Type I}}$ is the intersection of the fields of the minimal theory with the Type I theory. The only polyvector fields that appear are of arity zero and one, so that:

$$\tilde{\mathcal{J}}_{\text{Type I}} = \text{PV}^{1,\bullet}[1] \oplus t\text{PV}^{0,\bullet}$$

As before, the differential is the internal $\bar{\partial}$ operator plus the operator $t\bar{\partial}_\Omega$ which maps the first component to the second. Notice that $\tilde{\mathcal{J}}_{\text{Type I}} \subset \tilde{\mathcal{J}}_{\text{KS}}$ as the middle line in diagram (103).

The proof of part (2) of Proposition 6.1 is more direct than the last section. We have already explained how to identify $\tilde{\mathcal{J}}_{\text{Type I}}$ with the resolution of closed two-forms $\Omega^{\geq 2,\bullet}[1]$. This is the isomorphism f in diagram (102).

The morphism F in diagram (102) is the holomorphic de Rham operator $\bar{\partial}$. The same argument as in the last section shows that $f \circ F$ defines the desired quasi-isomorphism

$$(f \circ F)^*: \widetilde{\text{Obs}}_{\text{Type I}} \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Obs}_{(1,0)}.$$

7. DIMENSIONAL REDUCTION

In this final section, we place the $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ theory on various geometries, including both naive dimensional reduction and compactification on product manifolds. We begin with the twisted theories, showing that the holomorphic twist reduces to the twist of five-dimensional supersymmetric Yang–Mills theory up to a copy of the constant sheaf. We then go on to give a description of the holomorphic twist after compactification along a complex surface, as well as the two-dimensional theory obtained by placing the nonminimal twist on a smooth four-manifold. Finally, we consider dimensional reduction to five dimensions at the level of the untwisted theory, and show that this produces untwisted five-dimensional Yang–Mills as expected, up to the same copy of the constant sheaf. The calculation leads us into some considerations related to electric–magnetic duality, through which we argue that the presence of the constant sheaf is reasonable and in fact expected from a physics perspective. In the final portion, we offer some more speculative thoughts on how the zero modes can be correctly handled by passing to a nonperturbative description of the theory.

7.1. Compactifications of the twisted theories.

7.1.1. Reduction to twisted four-dimensional Yang–Mills. In this section, let E be an elliptic curve and Y a complex surface. We consider the holomorphic twists of the $(1, 0)$ and $(2, 0)$ theories on the complex three-fold $Y \times E$. Recall, in §4.6 we have defined the factorization algebra of classical observables of the holomorphic $(1, 0)$ theory $\text{Obs}_{(1,0)}$ and of the holomorphic twist (using the alternative twisting homomorphism of §4.5.1) of the $(2, 0)$ theory $\text{Obs}_{(2,0)}$. We look at the dimensional reduction of these factorization algebras along the elliptic curve E , meaning we consider the pushforward along the projection map $Y \times E \rightarrow Y$.

Upon reduction along E , we find a relationship of the factorization algebras $\text{Obs}_{(1,0)}$ and $\text{Obs}_{(2,0)}$ to the factorization algebras associated to the holomorphic twists of pure 4d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ and $\mathcal{N} = 4$ Yang–Mills theory for the abelian one-dimensional Lie algebra.

Following [Cos13; ESW], we recall the description of the holomorphic twist of supersymmetric Yang–Mills in four-dimensions. Each of these holomorphic twists exists on any complex surface Y .

For the case of 4d $\mathcal{N} = 2$, the holomorphic twist is described by the underlying complex of fields

$$(104) \quad \Omega^{0,\bullet}(Y)[\varepsilon][1] \oplus \Omega^{2,\bullet}(Y)[\varepsilon][1]$$

where ε is a formal parameter of degree $+1$. This theory is free and is equipped with the linear BRST operator given by the $\bar{\partial}$ -operator. The degree (-1) pairing on the space of fields is given by the integration pairing along Y together with the Berezin integral in the odd ε direction. That is, given fields $A + \varepsilon A'$ and $B + \varepsilon B'$ where $A, A' \in \Omega^{0,\bullet}(Y)$, $B, B' \in \Omega^{2,\bullet}(Y)$, the pairing is

$$(A + \varepsilon A', B + \varepsilon B') \mapsto \int_Y (AB' + A'B).$$

Since the pure supersymmetric Yang–Mills theory for an abelian Lie algebra is a free theory, we consider the “smooth” version \mathcal{O}^{sm} of the classical observables, just as in §2.4. We denote the associated factorization algebra of classical observables by $\text{Obs}_{4d \mathcal{N}=2}$. Via the degree (-1) pairing this factorization algebra is equipped with a \mathbb{P}_0 -structure.

The description of the holomorphic twist of 4d $\mathcal{N} = 4$ supersymmetric Yang–Mills theory for abelian Lie algebra is similar. The underlying complex of fields is

$$(105) \quad \Omega^{0,\bullet}(Y)[\varepsilon, \delta][1] \oplus \Omega^{2,\bullet}(Y)[\varepsilon, \delta][2]$$

where the degree of δ is declared to be $+1$. The degree (-1) pairing on fields is given by integration along Y together with the Berezin integral in the odd ε, δ directions.

Proposition 7.1. *Let $\pi : Y \times E \rightarrow Y$ be the projection.*

- *There is a morphism of \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebras on Y*

$$\pi_* \text{Obs}_{(1,0)} \rightarrow \text{Obs}_{4d \mathcal{N}=2}$$

whose cofiber is a locally constant factorization algebra with trivial \mathbb{P}_0 -structure.

- *There is a morphism of \mathbb{P}_0 -factorization algebras on Y*

$$\pi_* \text{Obs}_{(2,0)} \rightarrow \text{Obs}_{4d \mathcal{N}=4}$$

whose cofiber is a locally constant factorization algebra with trivial \mathbb{P}_0 -structure.

Proof. We consider the $(1,0)$ case first. Following the description in §4.6, the factorization algebra $\text{Obs}_{(1,0)}$ is given by the “smooth” functionals on the sheaf of cochain complexes $\Omega^{\geq 2,\bullet}[1]$ on $Y \times E$. Since E is formal, there is a quasi-isomorphism $\mathbb{C}[\varepsilon] \xrightarrow{\cong} \Omega^{0,\bullet}(E)$. Here, ε is a chosen generator for the sheaf of sections of the anti-holomorphic canonical bundle on E . Thus, there is a quasi-isomorphism of sheaves on Y :

$$\Omega^{2,\bullet}(Y)[\varepsilon] \oplus dz \Omega^{\geq 1,\bullet}(Y)[\varepsilon] \xrightarrow{\cong} \pi_* \Omega^{\geq 2,\bullet}.$$

Here, dz denotes the holomorphic volume form on the elliptic curve.

The sheaf of cochain complexes $\Omega^{\geq 1, \bullet}(Y)$ is a resolution for the sheaf of closed one-forms on the complex surface Y . The ∂ -operator determines a map of cochain complexes $\partial : \Omega^{0, \bullet}(Y) \rightarrow \Omega^{\geq 1, \bullet}(Y)$ whose kernel is the sheaf of constant functions.

Putting this together, we find that there is a map of sheaves of cochain complexes on Y :

$$\Omega^{0, \bullet}(Y)[\varepsilon][1] \oplus \Omega^{2, \bullet}(Y)[\varepsilon][1] \xrightarrow{\partial} \pi_* \Omega^{\geq 2, \bullet}[1].$$

We recognize the left-hand side as the complex of fields underlying the holomorphic twist of $4d \mathcal{N} = 2$. Applying the functor of taking the “smooth” functionals $\mathcal{O}^{sm}(-)$ we obtain the first statement of the proposition. It is immediate to verify that this map intertwines the \mathbb{P}_0 -structures.

The second statement is not much more difficult. Recall, the complex of fields of the holomorphic twist of the $(2, 0)$ theory is obtained by adjoining the $\beta\gamma$ system on the three-fold $Y \times E$ to the holomorphic twist of the $(1, 0)$ theory. As a sheaf on $Y \times E$, the complex of fields of the $\beta\gamma$ system is

$$\Omega^{0, \bullet}(Y \times E) \oplus \Omega^{3, \bullet}(Y \times E)[2].$$

Pushing forward along π the complex becomes

$$\Omega^{0, \bullet}(Y)[\varepsilon] \oplus dz \Omega^{2, \bullet}(Y)[\varepsilon][2].$$

Notice that this is a symplectic BV theory with the wedge and integrate pairing. The statement then follows from the observation that there is an isomorphism of symplectic BV theories

$$\left(\Omega^{0, \bullet}(Y)[\varepsilon][1] \oplus \Omega^{2, \bullet}(Y)[\varepsilon][1] \right) \oplus \left(\Omega^{0, \bullet}(Y)[\varepsilon] \oplus dz \Omega^{2, \bullet}(Y)[\varepsilon][2] \right)$$

with the holomorphic twist of $4d \mathcal{N} = 4$ as in (105). \square

7.1.2. Reduction to 2d CFT. Consider the higher dimensional $\beta\gamma$ system $\beta\gamma(X, \mathbb{C})$ on a three-fold X with values in the trivial bundle. The space of fields is $\Omega^{0, \bullet}(X) \oplus \Omega^{3, \bullet}(X)[2]$. If Y is a compact Kähler surface, C a Riemann surface, and $\pi : Y \times C \rightarrow C$ the projection, then there is an equivalence of free BV theories on C :

$$(106) \quad \pi_* \beta\gamma(X; \mathbb{C}) = \beta\gamma(C; H^\bullet(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)).$$

This is the $\beta\gamma$ system on C with values in the (graded) vector space $H^\bullet(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$.

Let $\chi(2)$ be the theory of the chiral two-form on $Y \times C$ with values in \mathbb{C} . The following result follows from a direct calculation of the sheaf-theoretic pushforward of the complex $\chi(2)$ along the map $\pi : Y \times C \rightarrow C$. In the result, we use the fact that on a compact surface Y there is a symmetric bilinear form on the graded vector space $H^\bullet(Y, \Omega_Y^1)[1]$ provided by Serre duality.

Lemma 7.2. *Let Y be a compact Kähler surface and C a Riemann surface. There is an equivalence of presymplectic BV theories on C*

$$(107) \quad \pi_* \chi(2)(Y \times C) \simeq (\Omega^\bullet(C) \otimes H^\bullet(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)) [2] \oplus \chi(0, H^\bullet(Y, \Omega_Y^1)[1])(C).$$

On the right-hand side, the (-1) -shifted presymplectic form is trivial on the first summand and the second summand is the chiral boson on C with values in the graded vector space $H^\bullet(Y, \Omega_Y^1)[1]$.

Combining this lemma with (106) we obtain the following description of the reduction of the holomorphic twist of the $(2, 0)$ theory along $\pi : Y \times C \rightarrow C$.

Proposition 7.3. *Suppose Y is a compact Kähler surface. The compactification of the holomorphic twist of the abelian $(2, 0)$ theory along Y is equivalent to the direct sum of the following three presymplectic BV theories on C :*

$$(108) \quad \beta\gamma(H^\bullet(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)) \oplus \chi(0, H^\bullet(Y, \Omega_Y^1)[1]) \oplus (\Omega^\bullet(C) \otimes H^\bullet(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y))[2].$$

The first summand in (108) is the $\beta\gamma$ chiral CFT with values in $H^\bullet(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$ and the second summand is the chiral boson with values in $H^\bullet(Y, \Omega_Y^1)$. The last summand is quasi-isomorphic to the constant sheaf in degree -2 , and so has only topological degrees of freedom. Moreover, the last summand is equipped with the trivial shifted presymplectic structure.

Next, consider the non-minimal twist of the $(2, 0)$ theory which we will place on $M \times C$, where M is a closed four-manifold. The presymplectic BV complex is of the form $\Omega^\bullet(M) \otimes \Omega^{0, \bullet}(C)[2]$. Similarly as in the holomorphic twist, the compactification along M produces the theory of the chiral boson. This time, however, it is valued in the graded vector space $H^\bullet(M, \mathbb{C})[2]$, the de Rham cohomology of M shifted by two. Note that the integration pairing endows this graded space with a graded symmetric bilinear form.

Proposition 7.4. *Let M be a closed four-manifold. The compactification of the non-minimal twist of the abelian $(2, 0)$ theory along M is equivalent, as a presymplectic BV theory, to the chiral boson $\chi(0, H^\bullet(M, \mathbb{C})[2])$ on C .*

7.2. Untwisted dimensional reduction. We close this paper by giving some results on dimensional reduction at the level of the untwisted theory. It is expected that dimensional reduction along a circle should produce five-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = 2$ super Yang–Mills theory, but with an inverse dependence of the 5d coupling constant on the compactification radius, compared to the dependence expected from a typical Kaluza–Klein reduction. As in the results for the twisted theory above, we will be able to show that our formulation reduces correctly, up to a copy of the constant sheaf. We check that the presymplectic structure agrees with the standard BV pairing after dimensional reduction. Accounting correctly for this copy of the constant sheaf should require passing to a nonperturbative description of the theory; we offer some speculative comments on this, and plan to return to a more rigorous analysis in future work.

In five-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetry, the R -symmetry group is $Sp(2) \cong Spin(5)$, just as in six dimensions. The chiral spinor reduces to the (unique) five-dimensional spinor representation; dimensional reduction of the fermions and the scalars in $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}$ is thus trivial. The only difficulty is thus to check that our description of $\chi_+(2)$ reduces to the (nondegenerate) BV theory of a one-form gauge field in five dimensions. We check this in the theorem below; the full statement for supersymmetric theories follows immediately (Corollary 7.6).

Proposition 7.5. *Let $\chi_+(2)^{red}$ denote the dimensional reduction of $\chi_+(2)$ to five dimensions along S^1 . There is a map of presymplectic BV theories*

$$(109) \quad \Xi : \chi_+(2)^{red} \rightarrow \Sigma(1),$$

where $\Sigma(1)$ is the standard nondegenerate theory of perturbative abelian one-form fields on \mathbb{R}^5 . The kernel of this map is a copy of the constant sheaf in cohomological degree -2 .

Proof. We begin by placing the theory on $\mathbb{R}^5 \times S^1$. For all of the fields other than the self-dual antifield, the decomposition is straightforward, using the fact that

$$(110) \quad \Omega^i(\mathbb{R}^5 \times S^1) \cong (\Omega^i(\mathbb{R}^5) \otimes \Omega^0(S^1)) \oplus (\Omega^{i-1}(\mathbb{R}^5) \otimes \Omega^1(S^1)).$$

The self-dual forms $\Omega_+^3(\mathbb{R}^5 \times S^1)$ sit diagonally with respect to this decomposition. Let

$$q: \Omega^3(\mathbb{R}^5 \times S^1) \rightarrow \Omega^3(\mathbb{R}^5) \otimes \Omega^0(S^1)$$

be the projection. We will fix the isomorphism

$$(111) \quad q|_{\Omega_+^3}: \Omega_+^3(\mathbb{R}^5 \times S^1) \xrightarrow{\cong} \Omega^3(\mathbb{R}^5) \otimes \Omega^0(S^1).$$

In light of this decomposition, we can rewrite $\chi_+(2)$ on $\mathbb{R}^5 \times S^1$ in the following fashion:

$$(112) \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} \Omega^0(\mathbb{R}^5) \otimes \Omega^0(S^1)[2] & \xrightarrow{d_{\mathbb{R}^5}} & \Omega^1(\mathbb{R}^5) \otimes \Omega^0(S^1)[1] & \xrightarrow{d_{\mathbb{R}^5}} & \Omega^2(\mathbb{R}^5) \otimes \Omega^0(S^1) \xrightarrow{d_{\mathbb{R}^5} + \star_6 d_{S^1}} \Omega^3(\mathbb{R}^5) \otimes \Omega^0(S^1)[-1] \\ & \searrow d_{S^1} & & \searrow d_{S^1} & \nearrow \star_6 d_{\mathbb{R}^5} \\ & & \Omega^0(\mathbb{R}^5) \otimes \Omega^1(S^1)[1] & \xrightarrow{d_{\mathbb{R}^5}} & \Omega^1(\mathbb{R}^5) \otimes \Omega^1(S^1). \end{array}$$

Here, \star_6 denotes the six-dimensional Hodge star operator.

To dimensionally reduce along the circle, we pass to the cohomology of d_{S^1} . This results in the following cochain complex $\chi_+(2)^{red}$ of vector bundles on \mathbb{R}^5 :

$$(113) \quad \begin{array}{ccccccc} \Omega^0(\mathbb{R}^5)[2] & \xrightarrow{d} & \Omega^1(\mathbb{R}^5)[1] & \xrightarrow{d} & \Omega^2(\mathbb{R}^5) & \xrightarrow{d} & \Omega^3(\mathbb{R}^5)[-1] \\ & & & & & \nearrow \star d & \\ \Omega^0(\mathbb{R}^5)[1] & \xrightarrow{d} & \Omega^1(\mathbb{R}^5). & & & & \end{array}$$

For now let us denote elements in the top line of this complex by A_{red} and in the bottom line by B_{red} . The shifted presymplectic structure on $\chi_+(2)^{red}$ is inherited from the structure on $\chi_+(2)$ which is read off to be $\int_{\mathbb{R}^5} A_{red} \wedge dB_{red}$.

It remains to define the map of theories from the theorem statement. Recall that five-dimensional abelian (perturbative) Yang–Mills theory is described by the complex $\Sigma(1) = \Sigma(1, \mathbb{C})$ from §2, which takes the form

$$(114) \quad \Sigma(1) = \Omega^{\leq 1}(\mathbb{R}^5)[1] \xrightarrow{d \star d} \Omega^{\geq 4}(\mathbb{R}^5)[-1].$$

We denote by A elements in the first summand and by B elements in the second summand.

There is then a map of cochain complexes defined by the vertical arrows in the following diagram:

$$(115) \quad \Xi: \chi_+(2)^{red} \rightarrow \Sigma(1), \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \Omega^{\leq 1}(\mathbb{R}^5)[1] & \xrightarrow{\star d} & \Omega^{\leq 3}(\mathbb{R}^5)[2] \\ \downarrow \mathbf{1} & & \downarrow d \\ \Omega^{\leq 1}(\mathbb{R}^5)[1] & \xrightarrow{d \star d} & \Omega^{\geq 4}(\mathbb{R}^5)[-1]. \end{array}$$

Explicitly this map is $A_{red} \mapsto A_{red} = A$ and $B_{red} \mapsto dB_{red} = B$. It is entirely straightforward to check that Ξ intertwines the shifted presymplectic structures.

Finally, we consider the cone on this map. Using [ESW, Proposition 1.23], we can eliminate the acyclic piece, obtaining the description

$$(116) \quad \text{Cone}(\Xi) \cong \left(\Omega^{\leq 3}(\mathbb{R}^5)[3] \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^{\geq 4}(\mathbb{R}^5)[-1] \right).$$

This complex has cohomology only in the left-hand term; after totalizing, we obtain $\Omega^\bullet(\mathbb{R}^5)[3]$, thus finding that the kernel is a copy of the constant sheaf in degree -2 . \square

As remarked above, the full statement, pertaining to dimensional reduction of the full $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ abelian tensor multiplet, follows immediately from Proposition 7.5:

Corollary 7.6. *Let $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}^{\text{red}}$ denote the dimensional reduction of $\mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}$ to five dimensions along S^1 , and let $YM_{\mathcal{N}=2}$ denote the $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetric (perturbative) abelian Yang–Mills multiplet on \mathbb{R}^5 . There is a map of presymplectic theories*

$$(117) \quad \hat{\Xi} : \mathcal{T}_{(2,0)}^{\text{red}} \rightarrow YM_{\mathcal{N}=2},$$

defined by extending Ξ by identity morphisms. The kernel of this map is a copy of the constant sheaf in cohomological degree -2 .

7.2.1. Electric–magnetic duality and the physical interpretation of the proof of Proposition 7.5.

For the physicist reader, the language of the proof of Proposition 7.5 may be unfamiliar, but the manipulations should at least have a familiar flavor. We briefly recall the typical description of electric–magnetic duality that is folk wisdom among physicists: A theory of p -form gauge fields in dimension d has a gauge potential $A \in \Omega^p(\mathbb{R}^d)$, whose field strength is a gauge-invariant $(p + 1)$ -form given (in the abelian case) just by $F = dA$. F satisfies an equation of motion $d\star F = 0$, but also a “Bianchi identity” $dF = 0$, which is (at least in contractible open sets) equivalent to the existence of the potential A . These equations could be just as well phrased in terms of the “dual” field strength, the $(d - p - 1)$ -form $G = \star F$, with the roles of the equations of motion and the Bianchi identity reversed. In light of the Bianchi identity, G can be written as the field strength of a potential $B \in \Omega^{d-p-2}(\mathbb{R}^d)$. One can sum this up by saying that an equivalence is expected between the theories of p -forms and $(d - p - 2)$ -forms; the two different descriptions are sometimes referred to as the “electric” and “magnetic” sides of the duality, since the Hodge star operation in standard Maxwell theory reverses the components of F that are the physical electric and magnetic fields. (In Maxwell theory in four dimensions, both the electric and magnetic gauge fields are one-forms.)

One might therefore expect an equivalence between the theories we have called $\Sigma(p)$ and $\Sigma(d - p - 2)$. However, it is not possible to write down a quasi-isomorphism relating the two; an attempt to follow the logic of the above argument always produces results which disagree by certain shifted copies of the constant sheaf. Moreover, this is not surprising from the physical perspective: From the point of view of the electric theory, the magnetic degrees of freedom—which are the ’t Hooft operators—are nonperturbative, and are most naturally thought of as disorder operators. In the absence of any consideration of the global structure of the gauge group, or the related issue of Dirac quantization, one cannot expect to capture these degrees of freedom correctly.

One formulation of the physics argument above, in the BV formalism and at a perturbative level, goes as follows; see [Eli19] for a rigorous treatment of nonperturbative issues in electric–magnetic duality from a BV perspective. We begin with the BV theory

$$(118) \quad \Sigma(p) = \Omega^{\leq p}(\mathbb{R}^d)[p] \xrightarrow{d^\star} \Omega^{\geq (d-p)}(\mathbb{R}^d)[-1],$$

thinking of it as the electric description. There is another cochain complex $\mathcal{F}(p)$ of vector bundles on \mathbb{R}^d , defined by

$$(119) \quad \mathcal{F}(p) = \Omega^{\geq (p+1)}(\mathbb{R}^d) \xrightarrow{d^\star} \Omega^{\geq (d-p)}(\mathbb{R}^d)[-1],$$

which can be thought of as a BV or on-shell version of the field strength, subjected to its equation of motion. ($\mathcal{F}(p)$ freely resolves the sheaf of solutions to the equations $dF = d^\star F = 0$.) There is a curvature map $\text{curv} : \Sigma(p) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(p)$, defined by the vertical arrows in the diagram

$$(120) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \Omega^{\leq p}(\mathbb{R}^d)[p] & \xrightarrow{d^\star} & \Omega^{\geq (d-p)}(\mathbb{R}^d)[-1] \\ \downarrow d & & \downarrow \mathbb{1} \\ \Omega^{\geq (p+1)}(\mathbb{R}^d) & \xrightarrow{d^\star} & \Omega^{\geq (d-p)}(\mathbb{R}^d)[-1]. \end{array}$$

It extends the usual curvature map on fields by the identity on antifields. The cone of curv is a shift of the de Rham complex, as in the proof above, and so there is a kernel, consisting of the constant sheaf representing zero modes of the zero-form ghost in BV degree $-p$.

Now, applying the Hodge star in degree zero defines an isomorphism of $\mathcal{F}(p)$ with $\mathcal{F}(d-p-2)$. There is thus a sequence of maps of the form

$$(121) \quad \Sigma(p) \xrightarrow{\text{curv}} \mathcal{F}(p) \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{F}(d-p-2) \xleftarrow{\text{curv}} \Sigma(d-p-2),$$

encapsulating a BV description of the argument above. If electric–magnetic duality were to hold at a perturbative level, all of these maps would be quasi–isomorphisms; the curvature map, however, is not, and the duality fails at the level of the constant sheaves described above. It is interesting to note that, in the description we are giving, the antifields to the electric degrees of freedom in some sense play the role of the magnetic degrees of freedom. Furthermore, we remark that $\mathcal{F}(p)$ does *not* admit a natural shifted presymplectic structure; it does, however, admit a shifted Poisson tensor.

In the proof of Proposition 7.5, a very analogous set of arguments play a role. However, the object \mathcal{U} that appears there is *not* the curvature; in fact, it maps *into* both $\Sigma(1)$ and $\Sigma(2)$ on \mathbb{R}^5 in symmetric fashion, defining a roof of maps between them, rather than receiving maps from each. To phrase the situation in general language, we would define

$$(122) \quad \mathcal{U}(p) = \Omega^{\leq p}(\mathbb{R}^d)[p] \xrightarrow{\star d} \Omega^{\leq (d-p-1)}(\mathbb{R}^d)[d-p-2].$$

It is immediate to see that $\mathcal{U}(p)$ and $\mathcal{U}(d-p-2)$ are isomorphic via the Hodge star in BV degree $+1$, and that the map Ξ can be generalized to a map $\Xi(p) : \mathcal{U}(p) \rightarrow \Sigma(p)$. $\mathcal{U}(p)$, moreover, *does* admit a natural shifted presymplectic structure: if A, B denote sections in the two summands of $\mathcal{U}(p)$, then the formula is $\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} A \wedge dB$.

The proof of Proposition 7.5 relies on electric–magnetic duality, in the sense that $\chi_+(2)^{\text{red}} = \mathcal{U}(2)(\mathbb{R}^5)$ is, at first glance, most naturally interpreted as a theory of a two-form. The additional copy of a constant sheaf in the theorem is also, in some sense, dual to the issue that appeared

in our attempt to perturbatively formalize the standard argument. We can sum up all of these considerations, in somewhat greater generality, with the following diagram:

$$(123) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{U}(p) & \xleftarrow{\cong} & \mathcal{U}(d-p-2) \\ \downarrow \Xi & & \downarrow \Xi \\ \Sigma(p) & \overset{\text{EM dual}}{\dashrightarrow} & \Sigma(d-p-2) \\ \downarrow \text{curv} & & \downarrow \text{curv} \\ \mathcal{F}(p) & \xleftarrow{\cong} & \mathcal{F}(d-p-2). \end{array}$$

The kernel of each vertical map in (123) is an appropriately shifted copy of the constant sheaf. The failure of these vertical maps to define quasi-isomorphisms reflects the nonperturbative nature of the duality; we offer some speculation on the correct fix for this in the next section.

7.2.2. Speculative remarks on global structure. There is no doubt that the reader will have been disappointed by all of the “errors” in the above results, having to do with zero modes (or, for mathematicians, undesirable copies of constant sheaves). Part of the reason for the discursiveness of the above remarks on electric–magnetic duality is to emphasize that we see these as representing familiar phenomena from the physics perspective: Any on-the-nose equivalence of perturbative theories cannot possibly be a correct representation of electric–magnetic duality. The fact that electric–magnetic duality plays a role in passing from the $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$ multiplet to supersymmetric Yang–Mills theory in five dimensions is also not unreasonable; in fact, this is the key reason that the dependence on the coupling constant is inverted from the standard Kaluza–Klein expectation, as remarked above. For interacting theories, electric–magnetic duality requires an inversion of the coupling constant. (The coupling constant that scales “correctly” with the compactification radius is not the Yang–Mills coupling constant, but the coupling constant of its magnetically dual theory of two-forms.)

In fact, it is tempting to speculate that insisting on the correct dimensional reduction at the nonperturbative level will shine a light on the nonperturbative BV formulation of electric–magnetic duality. Recall that the correct nonperturbative generalization of the BRST complex of an abelian gauge field—which is perturbatively just $\Omega^{\leq p}(\mathbb{R}^d)[p]$ —is the smooth Deligne cohomology group

$$(124) \quad \mathbb{Z}_\alpha(p)_D^\infty = \mathbb{Z}[p+1] \xrightarrow{(2\pi i)^{p\alpha}} \Omega^{\leq p}[p].$$

(Here α denotes a choice of real number, which plays the role of the coupling constant or radius of the gauge group; our notation here differs from the standard notation for Deligne cohomology by indicating α explicitly.) We should thus expect that it is possible to formulate a BV, or possibly presymplectic BV, description of abelian Yang–Mills theory, using Deligne cohomology groups to represent both the electric and magnetic gauge fields. In light of the considerations above, and by directly generalizing (122), one would attempt to write down a complex of the form

$$(125) \quad \mathbb{Z}_\alpha \mathcal{U}(p) = \mathbb{Z}_\alpha(p)_D^\infty \xrightarrow{\star d} \mathbb{Z}_{1/\alpha}(d-p-1)_D^\infty[-1].$$

The inverse choices of coupling constants are necessitated by the requirement that the complex have nontrivial cohomology in degree zero. In particular, Deligne cohomology represents the

curvature of a connection in a $U(1)$ (or $GL(1)$) bundle, and so admits a curvature map whose image is an *integral* class (for $\alpha = 1$). We can rewrite the complex above in the form

$$(126) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Z}_\alpha(p)_D^\infty & \xrightarrow{\star d} & \Omega^{d-p-1}[-1]. \\ & & \uparrow d \\ \mathbb{Z}_{1/\alpha}(p)_D^\infty & \xrightarrow{d} & \end{array}$$

By passing to the cohomology of the internal differentials of the Deligne complexes, we see that the curvatures of the electric and magnetic degrees of freedom must be related by the Hodge star. Choosing a volume form so that the Hodge star preserves integral classes makes the requirement on the coupling constants immediate, at least up to discrete choices corresponding to finite coverings of $U(1)$ by $U(1)$.

Describing things in this way makes our considerations seem almost trivial; of course abelian Yang–Mills theory consists of an electric gauge field A with curvature F , and a magnetic gauge field B with curvature G , subject to the constraint that $F = \star G$. We emphasize that the novelty in this way of thinking consists of the fact that this pair is interpreted *as a complete (presymplectic) BV theory*, where the pairing is defined by differential operators as done for $\omega_{\mathcal{U}}$ above. In this formulation, the equations of motion (and therefore the antifields) for F have been replaced by the Bianchi identities (and therefore the gauge invariances) for G . This is the sense in which the magnetic gauge fields and the electric antifields are one and the same. Electric–magnetic duality then just amounts to the trivial or manifest statement that

$$(127) \quad \mathbb{Z}_\alpha \mathcal{U}(p) \cong \mathbb{Z}_{1/\alpha} \mathcal{U}(d - p - 2).$$

It would be interesting to make contact with other BV approaches to electric–magnetic duality, such as [EII19].

Identical considerations suggest a nonperturbative definition of the theory of self-dual $(2k)$ -forms;⁶ the reader will probably have guessed that the complex we have in mind is

$$(128) \quad \mathbb{Z}_\alpha \chi_+(2k) = \mathbb{Z}_\alpha(2k)_D^\infty \xrightarrow{d_+} \Omega_+^{2k+1}[-1] = \underline{\mathbb{Z}}[2k+1] \xrightarrow{(2\pi i)^{2k} \alpha} \chi_+(2k).$$

We note that, for $k = 0$, this theory describes periodic (circle-valued) chiral bosons; in general, it describes a connection on an abelian gerbe, subject to the constraint that the curvature (which now defines an integral class) must be self-dual.

Now, placing $\mathbb{Z}_\alpha \chi_+(2)$ on $\mathbb{R}^5 \times S^1$ and pushing forward along the projection map produces *precisely* the complex $\mathbb{Z}_\alpha \mathcal{U}(2)$, under the assumption that the radius of the compactification circle is one. To see this, note that we must use the derived pushforward, so that $\pi_* \underline{\mathbb{Z}} = \underline{H^*(S^1, \mathbb{Z})}$. Making sense of the maps reduces to understanding the map induced on the sheaf cohomology of the circle from the map of sheaves

$$(129) \quad \underline{\mathbb{Z}} \xrightarrow{(2\pi i)^p \alpha} \underline{\mathbb{C}}.$$

⁶We thank K. Costello for suggesting this definition to us, independently of dimensional reduction.

Using Poincaré duality for S^1 , one can argue that the induced map on H^0 is given by multiplication by $(2\pi i)^p \alpha$, while the induced map on H^1 is given by multiplication by $(2\pi i)^p \frac{\text{vol}(S^1)}{\alpha}$.

We expect the considerations of [Wit97; HS05] to play a role in our analysis at this stage; a careful formulation of the arguments we have sketched here should make clear how the data of a quadratic refinement of the intersection form plays a role in our analysis. Such a datum is required to make sense of the partition function of the chiral field; describing the classical theory, however, does not seem to explicitly require such a choice, at least a perturbative level. We feel that it would be interesting to further develop the formalism presented here, to make a more rigorous analysis of nonperturbative issues, and to address issues related to quantization. It will be exciting to move farther down this path in future work.

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