

*Comments about Higher-Spin and Duality. Part II:
Mixed-Symmetry Fields and Unfolding*

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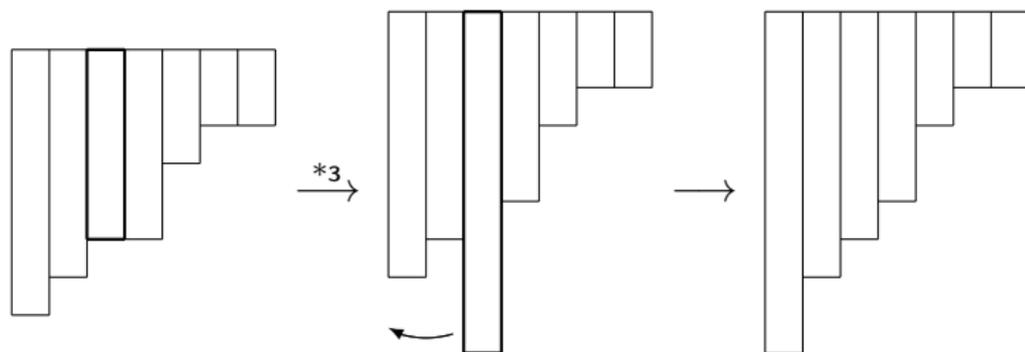
Moscow, May 29, Ginzburg Conference'2012

N. Boulanger, P. P. Cook, D. P. [arXiv:1205.2277[hep-th]],
N. Boulanger, D. P. [arXiv:1205.????[hep-th]].

Overview and Key Ingredients. Dualisation

- Duality:

On-shell representation is given by a tensor of the Wigner little group $SO(d-2)$. Hodge duality maps $h_i \rightarrow d-2-h_i$.



- Parent action approach:

Parent: $S(\text{initial fields, dual fields})$

Children: $S(\text{initial fields})$ $S(\text{dual fields})$

Motivation

- Bargmann-Wigner-Fierz-Pauli programm: fields are not traceless fields on-shell.
- Transformation, relating child theories through the parent action can be implemented in the path integral, thus establishing equivalence at the quantum level
[Fradkin, Tseytlin '85]
- Different fields dual to gravity appear in the context of Kac-Moody algebra E_{11}
[West '01], [Ricconi, West '06]
- The duality between an exotic $6d$ $(4,0)$ superconformal theory and the strong coupling limit of maximally supersymmetric $\mathcal{N} = 8$ supergravity in $5d$ was conjectured. The dual and the double dual gravitons appear via dimensional reduction of $6d$ theory.
[Hull '00, '01]

Plan

- Frame-like massless mixed symmetry fields in Minkowski space
- Dualisation generalities
- Frame-like parent action dualisation of
 - gravity \rightarrow dual gravity
 - dual gravity \rightarrow double-dual gravity
 - General Massless Mixed Symmetry field

Massless Mixed-Symmetry Fields in Minkowski space

Unitary irreducible representation of $ISO(d-1, 1)$ is induced from a tensorial irreducible representation of Wigner's little group $SO(d-2)$. Irreducibility under $SO(d-2)$ requires *symmetry* and *trace* constraints.

Symmetry constraints: Young diagrams

$$Y[h_1, h_2, h_3, h_4] = Y(s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4) =$$

h_1	h_2	h_3	h_4	
				s_1
				s_2
				s_3
				s_4

For example

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 and

 denote sym. and antisym. rank 2 tensors.

Trace constraints: Tracelessness. $h_1 + h_2 > d$ are **not allowed** for $SO(d)$.

Frame-Like Gravity

$$g_{\mu\nu} \longrightarrow (e, \omega),$$

e_1^a — frame field, provides tangent fiber space basis with flat metric η_{ab} ;
1-form valued in $\mathbf{Y}[1]$ -shaped fiber tensors.

ω_1^{ab} — spin-connection, defines parallel transport in fiber space;
1-form valued in $\mathbf{Y}[2]$ -shaped fiber tensors.

$$T_2^a = de_1^a + \omega_{1b}^a e_1^b, \quad R_2^{ab} = d\omega_1^{ab} + \omega_{1c}^a \omega_1^{cb}.$$

$$S = \int R_2^{a_1 a_2} e_1^{a_3} \dots e_1^{a_d} \epsilon_{a_1 \dots a_d}.$$

$$\frac{\delta S}{\delta \omega} \propto T = 0, \quad \frac{\delta S}{\delta e} \propto \text{Tr}[R] = 0.$$

Unfolded Linear Gravity

Linearization around the flat background: $e \rightarrow h + e$, $\omega \rightarrow \varpi + \omega$.

$$T_{2bg}^a = dh_1^a + \varpi_{1b}^a h_1^b = 0, \quad R_{2bg}^{ab} = d\varpi_1^{ab} + \varpi_{1c}^a \varpi_1^{cb} = 0.$$

Linearized action is

$$S = \int (de_1^{a_1} + \frac{1}{2}\omega_{1b}^{a_1} h_1^b) \omega_1^{a_2 a_3} h_1^{a_4} \dots h_1^{a_d} \varepsilon_{a_1 \dots a_d} \equiv \langle de + \frac{1}{2}\omega h | \omega \rangle.$$

Equations of motion are

$$T^a = de_1^a + \omega_{1b}^a h_1^b = 0, \quad Tr[d\omega_1^{ab}] = 0.$$

the 2-nd equation can be rewritten

$$0 = d\omega_1^{ab} + h_{1c} h_{1d} C_0^{abcd}, \quad \text{where } C_0^{abcd} \text{ is } \mathbf{Y}[2, 2] \text{ - shaped Weyl tensor.}$$

Unfolded Linear Gravity

One can continue by writing differential equations for Weyl tensor

$$0 = dC_0^{abcd} + \Pi(h_{1e} C_0^{abcde}), \quad \text{where } C_0^{abcde} \text{ is } \mathbf{Y}[2, 2, 1] \text{ - shaped tensor,}$$

$$0 = dC_0^{abcde} + \Pi(h_{1e} C_0^{abcdef}), \quad \text{where } C_0^{abcdef} \text{ is } \mathbf{Y}[2, 2, 1, 1] \text{ - shaped tensor.}$$

...

Summarizing the result, unfolded equations for linear gravity are

$$0 = dW_{\mathbf{p}^i}^{\mathbf{Y}^i} + \sigma_-(h_1) W_{\mathbf{p}^{i+1}}^{\mathbf{Y}^{i+1}} \equiv dW^i + \sigma_- W^{i+1},$$

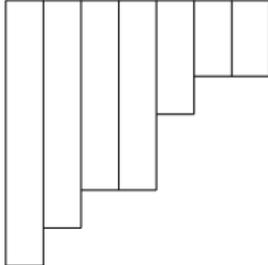
where i is the grade enumerating fields, $\sigma_-(h_1)$ is defined uniquely by p^{i+1} , \mathbf{Y}^{i+1} , p^i and \mathbf{Y}^i , $\sigma_-^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow$ integrability. Gauge symmetries

$$W_{\mathbf{p}^i}^{\mathbf{Y}^i} \rightarrow \varepsilon_{\mathbf{p}^{i-1}}^{\mathbf{Y}^i} \rightarrow \bar{\varepsilon}_{\mathbf{p}^{i-2}}^{\mathbf{Y}^i} \rightarrow \dots$$

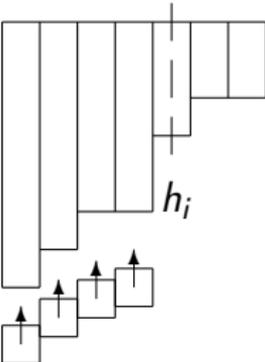
$$S = \langle dW^1 + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_- W^2 | W^2 \rangle.$$

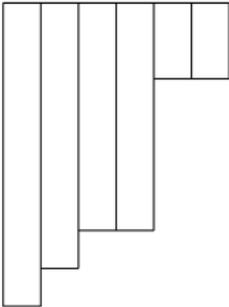
Unfolded Massless Mixed-Symmetry Fields

Massless spin- \mathbf{Y} field on-shell describes $SO(d - 2)$ traceless \mathbf{Y} -shaped tensor

$$\mathbf{Y}[h_1, h_2, \dots, 0, 0 \dots] =$$


Then

$$\mathbf{Y}^i =$$


$$=$$


$$, \quad p^i = h_i.$$

[Skvortsov '08]

Dualisation Generalities and "Pure Traces"

Given spin- $\mathbf{Y}[h_1, h_2, \dots]$ field on-shell we can perform:

- The first column dualisation: $\mathbf{Y}[h_1, h_2, \dots] \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}'[d - 2 - h_1, h_2, \dots]$,

$$h_1 \geq h_2 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad (d - 2 - h_1) + h_2 \leq d - 2$$

$$h_1 + h_2 \leq d - 2 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad d - 2 - h_1 \geq h_2.$$

The dual diagram **is allowed**.

- The i -th column dualisation ($i \neq 1$),
 $\mathbf{Y}[h_1, \dots, h_i, \dots] \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}''[d - 2 - h_i, h_1, \dots]$,

$$h_1 \geq h_i \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad h_1 + (d - 2 - h_i) \geq d - 2.$$

$$h_1 + h_i \leq d - 2, \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad h_1 \leq d - 2 - h_i,$$

The dual diagram **is not allowed**. This implies that traceless tensor maps to *pure trace* tensor of the form $\eta \dots \eta C$ with traceless C .

Dualisation Generalities and "Pure Traces"

Examples of on-shell dualisation.

- Gravity on-shell is given by the traceless symmetric rank 2 tensor h_{ij} . Dual graviton is defined on-shell

$$C^{m[d-3], p} = \varepsilon^{m[d-3]n} h_{np}.$$

C is traceless $\mathbf{Y}[d-3, 1]$ -shaped tensor.

- The second dualisation of gravity

$$Y^{m[d-3], n[d-3]} = \varepsilon^{m[d-3]p} C^{n[d-3], p} = \varepsilon^{m[d-3]p} \varepsilon^{n[d-3]r} h_{pr},$$

$$Y^{m[d-3], n[d-3]} = \sigma(d-2)! \delta_{n[d-3]p}^{m[d-3]r} h^p_r =$$

$$\sigma(d-2)! \left(\frac{1}{d-2} \delta_{n[d-3]}^{m[d-3]} \delta^r_p h^p_r - \frac{d-3}{d-2} \delta_{[n[d-4]}^{[m[d-4]} h^m]_n \right).$$

Y is $(d-4)$ -fold pure-trace.

Dualisation of Linear Gravity. Parent Action

The parent action for the first dualisation is

$$S = \int \left[(de_1^{a_1} + \frac{1}{2} h_1^b \omega_1^{a_1 b} + t_2^{a_1}) \omega_1^{a_2 a_3} h_1^{a_4} \dots h_1^{a_d} \varepsilon_{a_1 \dots a_d} + t_{2a} d\tilde{e}_{d-3}^a \right],$$

t_2^a is torsion-like field, \tilde{e}_{d-3}^a is frame-like dual field.

Gauge symmetries are

$$\delta e_1^a = d\xi_0^a + h_b \lambda_0^{ab} - \psi_1^a, \quad \delta \xi_0^a = \bar{\psi}_0^a,$$

$$\delta \omega_1^{a[2]} = d\lambda_0^{a[2]},$$

$$\delta t_2^a = d\psi_1^a, \quad \delta \psi_1^a = d\bar{\psi}_0^a,$$

$$\delta \tilde{e}_{d-3}^a = d\tilde{\xi}_{d-4}^a - h_{[d-3]} (*\lambda_0)^{a[d-3]}, \quad \delta \tilde{\xi}_{d-4}^a = d\tilde{\xi}_{d-5}^a, \quad \dots$$

Child Actions

$$S = \langle de + \frac{1}{2}\sigma_{-\omega} + t|\omega \rangle + t \cdot d\tilde{e}.$$

- Equivalence to gravity

$$\frac{\delta S}{\delta \tilde{e}} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad dt_2^a = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad t_2^a = d\beta_1^a.$$

t_2^a can be gauged away by ψ_1^a -symmetry giving the linearised gravity child action.

- Dual gravity child action. We gauge away e by ψ -symmetry, $e = 0$.

$$\frac{\delta S}{\delta \omega} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad de_1^a + h_b \omega_1^{ab} + t_2^a = 0, \quad \Rightarrow \quad t_2^a = -h_b \omega_1^{ab}.$$

$$S = \langle d\tilde{e} + \frac{1}{2}\sigma_{-\omega}|\omega \rangle \quad \text{which is Skvortsov's action for } \mathbf{Y}[d-3, 1].$$

Unfolded equations for the dual theory has **the same Weyl module**

Dual Gravity \longrightarrow Gravity

More explicitly, the dual gravity action is

$$S = \int (de_{\mathbf{d}-3}^a + \frac{1}{2} h_{b[\mathbf{d}-3]} \omega_1^{ab[\mathbf{d}-3]}) \omega_1^{c[\mathbf{d}-2]} h^l \varepsilon_{ac[\mathbf{d}-2]l}.$$

We can act in the similar way: we add an auxiliary field t such that associated gauge symmetry acts algebraically on e and allows to gauge it away; we introduce the dual field via the term $t \cdot \tilde{e}$.

$$S = \int \left[(de_{\mathbf{d}-3}^a + \frac{1}{2} h_{b[\mathbf{d}-3]} \omega_1^{ab[\mathbf{d}-3]}) + t_{\mathbf{d}-2}^a \omega_1^{c[\mathbf{d}-2]} h^l \varepsilon_{ac[\mathbf{d}-2]l} + t_{\mathbf{d}-2}^a d\tilde{e}_1^a \right].$$

It leads back to linearized gravity.

Dual Gravity \longrightarrow Double-Dual Gravity

$$S = \int \left[(de_{\mathbf{d}-3}^a + \frac{1}{2} h_{b[\mathbf{d}-3]} \omega_1^{ab[\mathbf{d}-3]} + h_{b[\mathbf{d}-4]} t_2^{ab[\mathbf{d}-4]}) \omega_1^{c[\mathbf{d}-2]} h^l \varepsilon_{ac[\mathbf{d}-2]l} + \right. \\ \left. (-1)^{d-1} t_{2a[\mathbf{d}-3]} d\tilde{e}_{\mathbf{d}-3}^{a[\mathbf{d}-3]} + (-1)^{d-1} \frac{\alpha}{2} t_{2a[\mathbf{d}-3]} h^{a[\mathbf{d}-5]} h_c (*t)_2^{a[2]c} \right],$$

α is arbitrary coefficient.

Equivalence to the dual gravity action:

$$\frac{\delta S}{\delta \tilde{e}} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad dt_2^{a[\mathbf{d}-3]} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad t_2^{a[\mathbf{d}-3]} = d\beta_1^{a[\mathbf{d}-3]}.$$

Then $t_2^{a[\mathbf{d}-3]}$ can be gauged away. We reproduce the dual gravity action.

Double-Dual Gravity

Unfolded equations:

$$T_{\mathbf{d}-2}^a := de_{\mathbf{d}-3}^a + h_{b[\mathbf{d}-3]} \omega_1^{ab[\mathbf{d}-3]} + h_{b[\mathbf{d}-4]} t_2^{ab[\mathbf{d}-4]} = 0,$$

$$\tilde{T}_{\mathbf{d}-2}^{a[\mathbf{d}-3]} := d\tilde{e}_{\mathbf{d}-3}^{a[\mathbf{d}-3]} + h^{[a[\mathbf{d}-4]} h_b(*\omega_1)^{a]b} + \alpha h^{[a[\mathbf{d}-5]} h_b(*t_2)^{a[2]b]} = 0,$$

$$R_2^{a[\mathbf{d}-2]} := d\omega_1^{a[\mathbf{d}-2]} + h_b h_b C_0^{a[\mathbf{d}-2], b[2]} = 0,$$

$$\tau_3^{a[\mathbf{d}-3]} := dt_2^{a[\mathbf{d}-3]} = 0 \quad + \quad \text{eqs. for the Weyl module}$$

Gauge symmetries

$$\delta e_{\mathbf{d}-3}^a = d\xi_{\mathbf{d}-4}^a + (-1)^{\mathbf{d}-2} h_{b[\mathbf{d}-3]} \lambda_0^{ab[\mathbf{d}-3]} + (-1)^{\mathbf{d}-3} h_{b[\mathbf{d}-4]} \psi_1^{ab[\mathbf{d}-4]},$$

$$\delta \omega_1^{a[\mathbf{d}-2]} = d\lambda_0^{a[\mathbf{d}-2]}, \quad \delta t_2^{a[\mathbf{d}-3]} = d\psi_1^{a[\mathbf{d}-3]},$$

$$\delta \tilde{e}_{\mathbf{d}-3}^{a[\mathbf{d}-3]} = d\tilde{\xi}_{\mathbf{d}-4}^{a[\mathbf{d}-3]} + (-1)^{\mathbf{d}-3} h^{[a[\mathbf{d}-4]} h_b(*\lambda_0)^{a]b} + (-1)^{\mathbf{d}-4} \alpha h^{[a[\mathbf{d}-5]} h_b(*\psi_1)^{a[2]b]}.$$

Double-Dual Gravity

As planned, $e_{\mathbf{d}-3}^a$ can be gauged away by the algebraic $\psi_1^{ab[d-4]}$ -symmetry.

- However, in contrast to the first dualisation, ξ -symmetry cannot be "gauged away" by the second order gauge symmetry $\bar{\psi}$

$$\delta \xi_{\mathbf{d}-4}^a = d \bar{\xi}_{\mathbf{d}-5}^a + h_{b[d-4]} \bar{\psi}_0^{ab[d-4]}.$$

It acts on the double-dual graviton, producing divergence-like gauge symmetry.

- The second important difference is that auxiliary field t cannot be expressed in terms of the connection-like field ω and thus it cannot be excluded from the action.
- Note arbitrary parameter α .

The parent action given is the most economical form of the frame-like action for the double-dual gravity. Nonetheless, it is possible to write metric-like action that contains smaller set of fields.

[Boulanger, Cook, D.P. '12]

Dualisation of Arbitrary Mixed symmetry field

The parent action for i -th column dualisation is

$$S = \langle de + \frac{1}{2}\sigma_- \omega + \Sigma_- t | \omega \rangle + t \cdot d\tilde{e} + \alpha t^2.$$

For spin- $\mathbf{Y}[h_1, h_2, \dots, h_i, \dots]$ field

- e is h_1 -form valued in $\mathbf{Y}[h_2, \dots, h_i, \dots]$,
- ω is h_2 -form valued in $\mathbf{Y}[h_1 + 1, \dots, h_i, \dots]$,
- t is $h_i + 1$ -form valued in $\mathbf{Y}[h_1, \dots, h_{i-1}, h_{i+1} \dots]$,
- \tilde{e} is $d - h_i - 2$ -form valued in $\mathbf{Y}[h_1, \dots, h_{i-1}, h_{i+1} \dots]$.

Σ_- is defined uniquely by its properties. αt^2 contains all possible contractions bilinear in t . For the dualisation on the first column the αt^2 terms are absent (cannot be constructed).

Conclusion

- Frame-like parent action principle for arbitrary massless mixed-symmetry fields has been built
- Dual theories describe proper degrees of freedom which is ensured by the unfolding machinery as well as by the parent action approach
- Some dualisations result in theories for fields not traceless on-shell. Actions for these theories has not been known before. We observed and studied peculiarities of these pure trace theories such as divergence-like gauge transformations and free coefficients.
- Simple frame-like form of the action is suggestive for applications and generalisations.

Thank you!

Unfolded equations

Generalized curvatures R^α for fields W^α

$$R^\alpha(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} dW^\alpha(x) + G^\alpha(W(x)),$$

$$G^\alpha(W^\beta) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_{\beta_1 \dots \beta_n}^\alpha W^{\beta_1} \dots W^{\beta_n}.$$

Compatibility condition

$$G^\beta(W) \frac{\delta^L G^\alpha(W)}{\delta W^\beta} \equiv 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad dR^\alpha \equiv R^\beta \frac{\delta G^\alpha}{\delta W^\beta}.$$

Does not depend on the base space

Equations:

$$R^\alpha(x) = 0.$$

Gauge invariance

$$\delta W^\alpha = d\varepsilon^\alpha - \varepsilon^\beta \frac{\delta^L G^\alpha(W)}{\delta W^\beta}.$$

Examples

Zero curvature equation in YM theory

Field: 1-form $\hat{\Omega}_0 = \Omega_0^a \hat{T}_a \in \mathfrak{g}$, \mathfrak{g} — Lie algebra, \hat{T}_a — generators.

$$\hat{R} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} d\hat{\Omega}_0 + \hat{\Omega}_0 \hat{\Omega}_0 = 0.$$

Let \mathfrak{g} be Poincare algebra $(\hat{P}_a, \hat{M}_{ab})$

$$\hat{\Omega}_0 = e_0^a \hat{P}_a + \omega_0^{ab} \hat{M}_{ab}, \quad \hat{R} = R_L^{ab} \hat{M}_{ab} + T^a \hat{P}_a,$$

$$R_L^{ab} = d\omega_0^{ab} + \omega_0^{ac} \omega_{0c}^b = 0,$$

$$T^a = de_0^a + \omega_0^{ab} e_{0b} = 0.$$

Describes background geometry of Minkowski space.

Examples

Covariant constancy equation

Fields: set of p -forms C^i , $W = \Omega_0 + C + \dots$

$$R^i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} dC^i + \Omega_0^a (T_a)^i_j C^j = 0.$$

Representation

$$\hat{A} = A^a \hat{T}_a \quad \rightarrow \quad A^i_j = A^a (T_a)^i_j.$$

$C \in$ representation space,

$$R^i = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad D_{\Omega_0} C^i = 0.$$

Examples

Massless scalar field

Cartesian coordinates

$$e_{0m}{}^a = \delta_m^a, \quad \omega_{0m}{}^{ab} = 0, \quad D^L = d.$$

Fields: 0-forms $C^{a(k)}, C_b{}^{ba(k-2)} = 0$.

Curvatures:

$$R^{a(k)} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} dC^{a(k)} + e_0{}^b C_b{}^{a(k)}.$$

The first and the second equations

$$\partial_a C(x) + C_a(x) = 0,$$

$$\partial_b C_a(x) + C_{ab}(x) = 0$$

entail

$$C_b{}^b(x) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \partial^a \partial_a C(x) = 0.$$

σ -cohomology technics

Unfolded equations for p -forms C

$$R \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (d + \sum \sigma)C = 0,$$

σ — algebraic operators.

$$\delta C = (d + \sum \sigma)\varepsilon,$$

$$I = (d + \sum \sigma)R \equiv 0$$

— gauge symmetries and Bianchi identities.

How to analyse them? How to identify **dynamical** fields and **dynamical** equations?

σ_- -cohomology technics

The choice of dynamical fields is **not unique!**

Example

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} B(x) + A(x) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial x} A(x) + B(x) = 0.$$

Introduce \mathbb{Z} -grade \mathcal{G} : diagonalizable on the space of fields, bounded below.

$$R \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (d + \sigma_-)C = 0,$$

$$\delta C = (d + \sigma_-)\varepsilon,$$

$$I = (d + \sigma_-)R \equiv 0,$$

σ_- — the only algebraic operator, lowers grade.

Compatibility conditions $\Rightarrow (\sigma_-)^2 = 0$.

σ_- -cohomology technics.

Dynamical fields

Expressing fields in terms of fields of lower grade by means of

$$(d + \sigma_-)C = 0, \quad \{dC^{k-1} + \sigma_-^1 C^k = 0\}$$

we get $C \notin \text{Ker}(\sigma_-) \Rightarrow C$ — auxiliary.

Gauge transformation

$$\delta C = (d + \sigma_-)\varepsilon$$

allows to fix $C = 0$ if $C \in \text{Im}(\sigma_-)$.

Result: dynamical fields C_d

$$C_d \in \frac{\text{Ker}(\sigma_-)}{\text{Im}(\sigma_-)} = H(\sigma_-).$$

σ_- -cohomology technics. The result

Dynamical fields C_d

$$C_d \in \frac{\text{Ker}_p(\sigma_-)}{\text{Im}_p(\sigma_-)} = H_p(\sigma_-),$$

Dynamical equations $R_d = 0$

$$R_d \in \frac{\text{Ker}_{p+1}(\sigma_-)}{\text{Im}_{p+1}(\sigma_-)} = H_{p+1}(\sigma_-),$$

Differential gauge symmetries ε_d (cannot be fixed by algebraic gauge)

$$\varepsilon_d \in \frac{\text{Ker}_{p-1}(\sigma_-)}{\text{Im}_{p-1}(\sigma_-)} = H_{p-1}(\sigma_-),$$

where p — rank of C as a differential form.

[O.V. Shaynkman and M.A. Vasiliev '00]

$H(\sigma_-)$ -analysis for massless scalar field

Curvatures:

$$R^{a(k)} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} dC^{a(k)} + e_0^b C_b^{a(k)}.$$

Grade \mathcal{G} counts number of tensor indices, σ_- — contraction with frame e_0^b ,
 $[\mathcal{G}, \sigma_-] = -\sigma_-$.

Dynamical field

only $C \in \text{Ker}_0(\sigma_-)$, $\text{Im}_0(\sigma_-) = 0 \Rightarrow C \in H_0(\sigma_-)$.

Dynamical equation

has the form $R_d \sim e_0^a t$, where t is 0-form.

Indeed, $e_0^b e_{0b} t = 0$, $e_0^a t \notin \text{Im}_1(\sigma_-) \Rightarrow e_0^a t \in H_1(\sigma_-)$. Then
 $t \sim R_m^m = \partial_m C^m = 0$ yields dynamical equation.

[O.V. Shaynkman and M.A. Vasiliev '00]