

$\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetric AdS_4 solutions of type IIB supergravity

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ABSTRACT: We analyze general $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetric AdS_4 solutions of type IIB supergravity. Utilizing a set of pure spinor equations directly adapted to $\mathcal{N} = 2$, the necessary and sufficient conditions for supersymmetry are reduced to a concise system of partial differential equations for two functions which determine the solutions. We show that using this system analytic solutions can be generated, thus potentially expanding the rather limited set of known AdS_4 solutions in type IIB supergravity.

KEYWORDS: AdS-CFT Correspondence, Flux compactifications

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1 Introduction

Compactifications of string theories with a negative cosmological constant, although not realistic cosmologically, are more abundant than those with a positive one, and in the framework of the AdS/CFT correspondence serve as a description of strongly coupled conformal field theories (CFTs); *vice versa*, CFT intuition can often suggest new classes of anti-deSitter (AdS) solutions.

In the context of AdS₄/CFT₃ correspondence, solutions with extended supersymmetry ($\mathcal{N} \geq 2$) are far easier to deal with than $\mathcal{N} = 1$ solutions. The latter are dual to CFT₃'s with only two Poincaré or Q supercharges, which usually do not provide much computational power.

A prominent class of AdS₄ solutions with $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetry is the one of compactifications of M-theory on Sasaki-Einstein seven-manifolds (Freund-Rubin class), arising as the near-horizon geometries of M2-branes probing Calabi-Yau four-fold singularities. They can be generalized by additional flux on the internal space (see [1] for a general analysis), or reduced to type IIA supergravity (see e.g. [2] for an explicit discussion) where can also be modified by adding fluxes [3–6]. In the first case, [1], $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetry was imposed from the outset, whereas some solutions in the latter case relied on $\mathcal{N} = 1$ classifications [7, 8], ensuring enhanced supersymmetry by imposing the presence of a U(1) symmetry corresponding to the U(1) R-symmetry¹ of the $\mathcal{N} = 2$ superalgebra. This in turn was achieved using an Ansatz inspired by the reduction of the Sasaki-Einstein solutions [4]. More recently, $\mathcal{N} = 2$ AdS₄ solutions were found in massive type IIA supergravity by uplifting solutions of a four-dimensional gauged supergravity [9].

In this paper, we impose $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetry in full generality, using an extension of the pure spinor approach [8, 10]. In the $\mathcal{N} = 1$ case, the internal part of the supercharges defines a pair of polyforms ϕ_{\pm} on the internal manifold M_6 , called pure spinors, which satisfy a system of differential equations [8]. In the $\mathcal{N} = 2$ case, one can define a 2×2 matrix ϕ_{\pm}^{IJ} of such pure spinors. As described above, one can impose the differential equations on one entry of this matrix, say ϕ_{\pm}^{11} , and rely on R-symmetry to generate the others. Here we choose instead to derive a system of “extended pure spinor equations” on ϕ_{\pm}^{IJ} which ensures directly $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetry. R-symmetry is then obtained as a by-product.

Deriving the extended pure spinor equations can be done relatively painlessly by using the ten-dimensional approach [11]. This consists of a system that can be applied to any supersymmetric solution (even with one supercharge), without an AdS₄ \times M_6 or any other factorization. It was checked in [11] that it reproduces quickly and correctly the pure spinor equations [10]; here we use it in a similar fashion to deal with extended supersymmetry. Some of the equations in the system we obtain are a natural extension to the whole matrix ϕ_{\pm}^{IJ} of the $\mathcal{N} = 1$ system that one would apply to one entry; others are new. Most notably, one of the equations gives an expression for the Ramond-Ramond (R-R) fluxes that does not involve the Hodge star. From this it follows that all the Bianchi identities for the

¹Namely an isometry which does not leave the supercharges invariant, and can thus be used to generate more of them.

R-R fluxes are automatically satisfied, which is typically not the case for systems with $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supersymmetry. Our set of equations, supplemented with the Bianchi identity for the NS-NS field, then imply that the equations of motion are solved.²

We decided to apply this new system to type IIB supergravity, where supersymmetric AdS₄ solutions appear to be scarcer than in type IIA: with minimal supersymmetry there are a few isolated examples [5, 13–15], while with extended supersymmetry there exists a notable class [16], based on work in [17], which has $\mathcal{N} = 4$ supersymmetry and is the dual of the Hanany-Witten theories [18]. Other solutions with extended supersymmetry have been obtained by applying non-abelian T-duality transformations on type IIA solutions [19–21], or uplifting lower-dimensional vacua [22].

After parameterizing the pure spinors in terms of an identity structure on the internal manifold M_6 ,³ and “running” the extended pure spinor equations, we obtain a set of differential equations for the identity structure. (This in turn gives rise to an SU(3) structure closely resembling the structure of the aforementioned Ansatz usually employed in type IIA [4–6].) As it often happens, many of the equations are redundant, and in the end only a small set of rather simple equations survives, which can be interpreted as defining local coordinates. One in particular defines a transversely-holomorphic foliation.⁴

Using these local coordinates, we can finally reduce the entire system to three partial differential equations (PDEs) for two functions. They are relatively simple in form, and evoke results obtained for other similar problems. One of the equations, for example, is a version with a source term of the Toda equation that appeared in [26].

Exploring the space of solutions to this system is an elaborate task which we will not undertake here. We do however describe a couple of elementary Ansätze that simplify the system, so that we recover the maximally supersymmetric AdS₅ × S⁵ solution (considered as a warped AdS₄ solution) and generate a few new formal solutions. While we are not certain that there is a compact and physical M_6 among these, further study of the PDEs is likely to be rewarding.

In section 2 we will describe how to obtain our extended pure spinor equations from the ten-dimensional system of [11]. After introducing a parameterization for the pure spinors ϕ_{\pm} in section 3, we will analyze the equations in section 4, obtaining a relatively simple set of conditions summarized in section 4.7. As is often the case, these conditions will suggest a choice of local coordinates, which we will use in section 5 to simplify the equations further, arriving at our final system in section 6. We will end in section 7 by discussing a few solutions.

2 Reduction of the 10d supersymmetry equations

In [11] a system of equations was obtained, which constitute necessary and sufficient conditions for any ten-dimensional solution of type II supergravity to preserve supersymmetry.

²For a review of how supersymmetry together with the Bianchi identities guarantee that the equations of motion for type II supergravity backgrounds are satisfied, see for example [12, section 2.2].

³It is a priori possible to have only an SU(2) structure, but we find that this is not allowed with $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetry. This is in analogy to what happens for $\mathcal{N} = 1$ solutions and SU(3) structures [23].

⁴A similar foliation also appeared for example in the study of supersymmetric theories on curved spaces [24, 25].

We will specialize this system to the case of an AdS₄ background of type IIB supergravity, preserving $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetry.

Let us review the system of equations of [11], which are summarized in section 3.1 of that paper. Let us focus on the following subset of equations:

$$d_H(e^{-\phi}\Phi) = -(\tilde{K} \wedge + \iota_K)F_{(10d)}, \tag{2.1a}$$

$$d\tilde{K} = \iota_K H. \tag{2.1b}$$

Here ϕ is the dilaton, H is the NS-NS three-form field strength, $d_H \equiv d - H \wedge$, and $F_{(10d)}$ is the sum of the R-R field strengths. The latter sum, following the “democratic formulation” of type II supergravities, includes all the p -form field strengths, with p odd for type IIB, subject to the self-duality constraint $F = *\lambda(F)$. λ is an operator acting on a p -form F_p as $\lambda(F_p) = (-1)^{\lfloor p/2 \rfloor} F_p$ where square brackets denote the integer part.

Φ is a bispinor constructed out of the supersymmetry parameters ϵ_1 and ϵ_2 :

$$\Phi \equiv \epsilon_1 \bar{\epsilon}_2. \tag{2.2}$$

The latter are Majorana-Weyl spinors of positive chirality. K and \tilde{K} are respectively a vector and a 1-form bilinear:

$$K \equiv \frac{1}{64}(\bar{\epsilon}_1 \Gamma^M \epsilon_1 + \bar{\epsilon}_2 \Gamma^M \epsilon_2) \partial_M, \quad \tilde{K} \equiv \frac{1}{64}(\bar{\epsilon}_1 \Gamma_M \epsilon_1 - \bar{\epsilon}_2 \Gamma_M \epsilon_2) dx^M, \tag{2.3}$$

with K being a Killing vector, and more general the generator of a symmetry of the full solution.

We now turn to applying these equations to the AdS₄ background of interest. To do so we will make a “4 + 6” split of the ten-dimensional fields and the supersymmetry parameters.

We want to allow for the most general geometry with an AdS₄ factor, leaving the symmetries of the latter intact. This amounts to taking the 10d spacetime to be a warped product of AdS₄ and a six-dimensional manifold M_6 , with the warp factor being a function only on M_6 . The corresponding line element is:

$$ds_{10}^2 = e^{2A} ds_{\text{AdS}_4}^2 + ds_{M_6}^2, \tag{2.4}$$

where A is the warp factor.

Accordingly, the H field is a form only on M_6 , while the R-R field strengths are decomposed as

$$F_{(10d)} = e^{4A} \text{vol}_4 \wedge *\lambda(F) + F, \quad F = F_1 + F_3 + F_5. \tag{2.5}$$

Turning to the supersymmetry parameters, we will take them to be a product of Spin(1, 3) and Spin(6) spinors. For an $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supersymmetric AdS₄ solution this decomposition is:

$$\epsilon_i = \chi_+ \otimes \eta_{i+} + \chi_- \otimes \eta_{i-}, \quad i = 1, 2, \tag{2.6}$$

where the χ 's are AdS₄ Killing spinors and the η 's spinors on M_6 . A plus or minus subscript denotes the chirality of the spinor. Since we are interested in $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetry we need to add a second pair of χ 's and η 's. The decomposition Ansatz thus becomes

$$\epsilon_i = \sum_{I=1}^2 \chi_+^I \otimes \eta_{i+}^I + \sum_{J=1}^2 \chi_-^J \otimes \eta_{i-}^J, \quad (2.7)$$

with I, J indices upon which an SO(2) R-symmetry acts.

As noted, the χ 's are AdS₄ Killing spinors, i.e. they satisfy⁵

$$\nabla_\mu \chi_\pm^I = \frac{1}{2} \gamma_\mu \chi_\mp^I, \quad \nabla_\mu \overline{\chi}_\pm^I = -\frac{1}{2} \overline{\chi}_\mp^I \gamma_\mu. \quad (2.9)$$

We will consider the case that χ_+^1 and χ_+^2 are linearly independent, since otherwise we would only have $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supersymmetry. To see this consider $\chi_+^2 = a\chi_+^1$; since both χ_+^1 and χ_+^2 satisfy the Killing spinor equation it is easy to see that in fact a is a constant. Then

$$\epsilon_i = \chi_+^1 \otimes (\eta_{i+}^1 + a\eta_{i+}^2) + \text{c.c.}, \quad (2.10)$$

where c.c. denotes the complex conjugates. Since a is constant we can define $\tilde{\eta}_i = \eta_{i+}^1 + a\eta_{i+}^2$ and we end up with an $\mathcal{N} = 1$ decomposition.

Finally, in reducing the 10d equations we will use the following decomposition of Cliff(1,9):

$$\Gamma_\mu = e^A \gamma_\mu^{(4)} \otimes \mathbb{I}, \quad \Gamma_{m+3} = \gamma_5^{(4)} \otimes \gamma_m^{(6)}, \quad \Gamma_{11} \equiv \Gamma^0 \dots \Gamma^9 = \gamma_5^{(4)} \otimes \gamma_7^{(6)}, \quad (2.11)$$

with $\mu = 0, 1, 2, 3$ and $m = 1, 2, \dots, 6$. $\gamma_5^{(4)}$ and $\gamma_7^{(6)}$ are the chirality operators in 1 + 3 and 6 dimensions respectively.

We can now proceed with the reduction.

We first look at (2.1b). \tilde{K}, K decompose as⁶

$$\tilde{K}_\mu = \frac{1}{32} \sum_{I,J=1}^2 \overline{\chi}_+^I \gamma_\mu \chi_+^J e^A \left(\overline{\eta}_{1+}^I \eta_{1+}^J - \overline{\eta}_{2+}^I \eta_{2+}^J \right), \quad (2.12a)$$

$$\tilde{K}_m = -\frac{1}{16} \text{Re} \left(\overline{\chi}_+^1 \chi_+^2 \tilde{\xi}_m \right), \quad (2.12b)$$

$$K^\mu = \frac{1}{32} \sum_{I,J=1}^2 \overline{\chi}_+^I \gamma^\mu \chi_+^J e^{-A} \left(\overline{\eta}_{1+}^I \eta_{1+}^J + \overline{\eta}_{2+}^I \eta_{2+}^J \right), \quad (2.12c)$$

$$K^m = -\frac{1}{16} \text{Re} \left(\overline{\chi}_+^1 \chi_+^2 \xi^m \right), \quad (2.12d)$$

where

$$\tilde{\xi}_m \equiv \overline{\eta}_{1+}^1 \gamma_m \eta_{1-}^2 - \overline{\eta}_{2+}^1 \gamma_m \eta_{2-}^2, \quad \xi^m \equiv \overline{\eta}_{1+}^1 \gamma^m \eta_{1-}^2 + \overline{\eta}_{2+}^1 \gamma^m \eta_{2-}^2. \quad (2.13)$$

⁵Using

$$\chi_-^I = B(\chi_+^I)^*, \quad \gamma_\mu B = B\gamma_\mu^*, \quad \gamma^0 \gamma_\mu = -\gamma_\mu^\dagger \gamma^0. \quad (2.8)$$

See appendix B.1 for more details on Cliff(1,3) conventions.

⁶Henceforth, we drop the (4) and (6) superscripts from the gamma matrices.

We thus find

$$\overline{\eta_{1+}^{(I)}\eta_{1+}^{(J)}} = \overline{\eta_{2+}^{(I)}\eta_{2+}^{(J)}}, \quad d(e^A f) = -\frac{1}{2}\text{Im}(\tilde{\xi}), \quad d\tilde{\xi} = i_\xi H, \quad (2.14)$$

where

$$2\epsilon^{IJ} f \equiv -i\overline{\eta_{1+}^{[I}\eta_{1+}^{J]}} + i\overline{\eta_{2+}^{[I}\eta_{2+}^{J]}}, \quad (2.15)$$

ϵ^{IJ} being the Levi-Civita symbol with $\epsilon^{12} = 1$.

Next, we impose the condition that K is a Killing vector i.e. $\nabla_{(M}K_{N)} = 0$. Doing so we get

$$\overline{\eta_{1+}^{(I)}\eta_{1+}^{(J)}} = \overline{\eta_{2+}^{(I)}\eta_{2+}^{(J)}} \equiv \frac{1}{2}c^{IJ}e^A, \quad -i\overline{\eta_{1+}^{[I}\eta_{1+}^{J]}} = i\overline{\eta_{2+}^{[I}\eta_{2+}^{J]}} \equiv \epsilon^{IJ}f, \quad (2.16)$$

where c^{IJ} are constants. In addition

$$\text{Im}(\xi) = 0, \quad \nabla_{(n}\xi_{m)} = 0; \quad (2.17)$$

thus ξ is a Killing vector.

Next comes equation (2.1a). In order to reduce (2.1a), we need to write Φ as a product of external and internal (poly)forms. To do so we decompose the Fierz expansion of Φ , utilizing (2.7) and (2.11). We find⁷

$$\Phi = \sum_{IJ} (\chi_+^I \overline{\chi_+^J} \wedge \eta_{1+}^I \overline{\eta_{2+}^J} + \chi_+^I \overline{\chi_-^J} \wedge \eta_{1+}^I \overline{\eta_{2-}^J} - \chi_-^I \overline{\chi_+^J} \wedge \eta_{1-}^I \overline{\eta_{2+}^J} + \chi_-^I \overline{\chi_-^J} \wedge \eta_{1-}^I \overline{\eta_{2-}^J}). \quad (2.18)$$

From (2.1a) we want to obtain differential conditions for the ‘‘internal’’ bispinors and in order to do so we need the derivatives of the ‘‘external’’ ones. The latter can be derived from (2.8):

$$d\left(\chi_\pm^I \overline{\chi_\pm^J}\right) = 2\left(1 - \frac{1}{4}(-1)^k(4-2k)\right)\text{Re}\left(\chi_\mp^I \overline{\chi_\pm^J}\right), \quad (2.19a)$$

$$d\left(\chi_\pm^I \overline{\chi_\mp^J}\right) = 2i\left(1 + \frac{1}{4}(-1)^k(4-2k)\right)\text{Im}\left(\chi_\mp^I \overline{\chi_\mp^J}\right), \quad (2.19b)$$

where k is the degree of the individual components of the bispinor, considered as a polyform.

Schematically, (2.1a) then becomes

$$\text{ext} \wedge [\text{int} + d_H(\text{int})] = F, \quad (2.20)$$

where ‘‘ext’’ represents collectively the external part of Φ , ‘‘int’’ the internal part, and F the term involving the R-R fluxes. Next, the external part is expanded in linearly independent p -form components. Each resulting term has to vanish separately, giving an equation for the internal part. More details can be found in appendix A of [27]. The calculation there is for $\text{AdS}_6 \times M_4$ backgrounds but the procedure is essentially the same.

In the end we obtain

$$d_H\left(e^{2A-\phi}\phi_-^{(IJ)}\right) + 2e^{A-\phi}\text{Re}\phi_+^{(IJ)} = 0, \quad (2.21a)$$

$$d_H\left(e^{3A-\phi}\text{Re}\phi_+^{[IJ]}\right) = 0, \quad (2.21b)$$

$$d_H\left(e^{A-\phi}\text{Im}\phi_+^{[IJ]}\right) + e^{-\phi}\text{Im}\phi_-^{[IJ]} = -\frac{1}{8}e^A f F \epsilon^{IJ}; \quad (2.21c)$$

⁷Powers of e^A coming from (2.11) have been suppressed.

and

$$d_H \left(e^{3A-\phi} \text{Im} \phi_+^{(IJ)} \right) + 3e^{2A-\phi} \text{Im} \phi_-^{(IJ)} = -\frac{1}{16} c^{IJ} e^{4A} * \lambda(F), \quad (2.21d)$$

$$d_H \left(e^{-\phi} \phi_-^{[IJ]} \right) = -\frac{1}{16} \left(\bar{\xi} \wedge + \iota_\xi \right) F \epsilon^{IJ}, \quad (2.21e)$$

$$d_H \left(e^{4A-\phi} \phi_-^{[IJ]} \right) + 4e^{3A-\phi} \text{Re} \phi_+^{[IJ]} = -\frac{i}{16} \left(\bar{\xi} \wedge + \iota_\xi \right) e^{4A} * \lambda(F) \epsilon^{IJ}, \quad (2.21f)$$

where

$$\phi_+^{IJ} \equiv \eta_{1+}^I \overline{\eta_{2+}^J}, \quad \phi_-^{IJ} \equiv \eta_{1+}^I \overline{\eta_{2-}^J}, \quad (2.22)$$

and $\bar{\xi}$ is the complex conjugate of ξ .

Although the system (2.21) appears large, in fact it has a high degree of redundancy: for instance (and as we will see in the sections that follow) c^{IJ} can be set proportional to the identity, and following that, except for (2.21c), the equations that involve the R-R fields are redundant. (This is why we have separated the equations in two blocks.)

The system (2.21) is also redundant in another, more trivial way. Consider its diagonal components, $I = J$. Then only the two equations (2.21a), (2.21d) survive: they are two copies of the pure spinor equations [8] for $\mathcal{N} = 1$ AdS₄ solutions. Solving them gives by definition two solutions of the supersymmetry equations, with the same fluxes and geometry; in other words, it gives an $\mathcal{N} = 2$ solution. Thus the $I \neq J$ equations are redundant.

Even though (2.21) is highly redundant, it will be more convenient for our analysis. For example, some of the information that would appear at high form order in the subsystem (2.21a), (2.21b), (2.21c) appears at lower form order in the full system (2.21), and is easier to handle.

We can now also comment about the remaining equations in [11], called (3.1c) and (3.1d). Those “pairing equations” are in general needed, but for AdS₄ vacua they are redundant. Indeed, as we have remarked, the $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supersymmetry system is already reproduced by (2.21a), (2.21d) above. (How exactly they become redundant was shown in [11, section 4] for Minkowski₄; that logic can be adapted to AdS₄ once again following [27, appendix A].) Thus, the pairing equations are not needed for our $\mathcal{N} = 2$ classification; they would make our system (2.21) even more redundant. We are free to ignore them, and in the following we have done so.

3 Parametrization of the pure spinors

The spinors η_{i+}^I define an identity structure in six dimensions; see appendix B.2. In this section we will introduce a set of 1-forms parametrizing the latter and express the pure spinors ϕ_{\pm}^{IJ} in terms of these. Before doing so we will manipulate the results of the previous section in two ways.

The first one is fixing the constants c^{IJ} of (2.16) as

$$c^{IJ} = 2\delta^{IJ}, \quad (3.1)$$

where δ^{IJ} is the Kronecker delta. We can do so because the decomposition Ansatz (2.7) doesn't fix the spinors η_{i+}^I uniquely. Specifically, one is free to make a $\text{GL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ transformation that leaves the fixed (by (2.16)) norms $\|\eta_{i+}^I\| = e^A$ invariant, leading to real linear combinations of the external spinors χ_{i+}^I . The details of this transformation can be found in appendix A. Note that since $c^{12} = \overline{\eta_{i+}^1 \eta_{i+}^2} = 0$, from $\overline{\eta_{i+}^1 \eta_{i+}^2} = \overline{\eta_{i+}^1} \eta_{i+}^2$ and $|\overline{\eta_{i+}^1} \eta_{i+}^2| \leq \sqrt{\|\eta_{i+}^1\| \|\eta_{i+}^2\|}$ it follows that

$$|f| \leq e^A. \quad (3.2)$$

The second one is that instead of η_{i+}^I we will work with

$$\eta_{i+}^{\pm} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\eta_{i+}^1 \pm i\eta_{i+}^2) \quad (3.3)$$

which have charge ± 1 under the $\text{U}(1) \simeq \text{SO}(2)$ R-symmetry. The conditions (2.16) (with $c^{IJ} = 2\delta^{IJ}$) become

$$\overline{\eta_{i+}^{\pm}} \eta_{i+}^{\mp} = 0, \quad \overline{\eta_{1+}^{\pm}} \eta_{1+}^{\pm} = f_{\mp}, \quad \overline{\eta_{2+}^{\pm}} \eta_{2+}^{\pm} = f_{\pm}, \quad (3.4)$$

where $f_{\pm} \equiv e^A \pm f$.

Given a chiral spinor η_+ of positive chirality (and its complex conjugate $\eta_- \equiv (\eta_+)^c$), we can express η_{i+}^{\pm} , taking into account (3.4), as follows:

$$\eta_{1+}^+ = \sqrt{f_-} \eta_+, \quad (3.5a)$$

$$\eta_{1+}^- = \sqrt{f_+} \frac{1}{2} w_1 \eta_-, \quad (3.5b)$$

$$\eta_{2+}^+ = \sqrt{f_+} \left(a \eta_+ + \frac{1}{2} b w_3 \eta_- \right), \quad (3.5c)$$

$$\eta_{2+}^- = \sqrt{f_-} \frac{1}{2} c w_2 \left(a^* \eta_- - \frac{1}{2} b \overline{w_3} \eta_+ \right). \quad (3.5d)$$

Here $a \in \mathbb{C}$ and $b, c \in \mathbb{R}$. They satisfy

$$|a|^2 + b^2 = 1, \quad c^{-1} = (|z_1|^2 b^2 + |a|^2)^{1/2}, \quad (3.6)$$

with z_1 defined below. The 1-forms $\{w_1, w_2, w_3\}$ parametrize the identity structure and are holomorphic with respect to the almost complex structure J defined by η_+ ; see appendix B.2.

We introduce

$$z_1 \equiv \frac{1}{2}(w_2, w_3), \quad z_2 \equiv \frac{1}{2}(w_3, w_1), \quad z_3 \equiv \frac{1}{2}(w_1, w_2), \quad (3.7)$$

where (\cdot, \cdot) denotes the inner product. We then have

$$(w_a, w_b) = 2Z_{ab}, \quad Z \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & z_3 & z_2^* \\ z_3^* & 1 & z_1 \\ z_2 & z_1^* & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (3.8)$$

The determinant of Z is

$$\det Z = 1 - |z_1|^2 - |z_2|^2 - |z_3|^2 + 2\text{Re}(z_1 z_2 z_3). \quad (3.9)$$

The pair (J, Ω) that characterize the $SU(3)$ structure defined by η_+ are expressed in terms of $\{w_1, w_2, w_3\}$ as

$$J = \frac{i}{2}(Z^{-1})^{ab} w_a \wedge \bar{w}_b, \quad \Omega = \frac{e^{i\vartheta}}{\sqrt{\det Z}} w_1 \wedge w_2 \wedge w_3 \quad (3.10)$$

where $\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}$.

We can now express the pure spinors

$$\phi_+^{\pm\pm} \equiv \eta_{1+}^\pm \bar{\eta}_{2+}^\pm, \quad \phi_-^{\pm\pm} \equiv \eta_{1+}^\pm \bar{\eta}_{2-}^\pm, \quad (3.11)$$

in terms of forms:

$$\phi_+^{++} = \frac{1}{8} \sqrt{f_+ f_-} \left[a^* e^{-iJ} + \frac{1}{2} b (\bar{w}_3 \wedge \Omega - \Omega_{\bar{w}_3}) \right], \quad (3.12a)$$

$$\phi_-^{++} = \frac{1}{8} \sqrt{f_+ f_-} \left[-a \Omega - b w_3 \wedge e^{-iJ} \right], \quad (3.12b)$$

$$\phi_+^{+-} = \frac{1}{8} f_- \left[\frac{1}{2} a c (\bar{w}_2 \wedge \Omega - \Omega_{\bar{w}_2}) - b c z_1 e^{-iJ} \right], \quad (3.12c)$$

$$\phi_-^{+-} = \frac{1}{8} f_- \left[-a^* c w_2 \wedge e^{-iJ} + b c z_1^* \Omega \right], \quad (3.12d)$$

$$\phi_+^{-+} = \frac{1}{8} f_+ \left[\frac{1}{2} a^* (w_1 \wedge \bar{\Omega} + \bar{\Omega}_{w_1}) + b z_2 e^{iJ} + b w_1 \wedge \bar{w}_3 \wedge e^{iJ} \right], \quad (3.12e)$$

$$\phi_-^{-+} = \frac{1}{8} f_+ \left[a w_1 \wedge e^{iJ} - \frac{1}{4} b (w_1, w_3, \bar{\Omega}) \right], \quad (3.12f)$$

$$\phi_+^{--} = \frac{1}{8} \sqrt{f_+ f_-} \left[a c z_3^* e^{iJ} + a c w_1 \wedge \bar{w}_2 \wedge e^{iJ} - \frac{1}{2} b c z_1 (w_1 \wedge \bar{\Omega} + \bar{\Omega}_{w_1}) \right], \quad (3.12g)$$

$$\phi_-^{--} = \frac{1}{8} \sqrt{f_+ f_-} \left[-\frac{1}{4} a^* c (w_1, w_2, \bar{\Omega}) - b c z_1^* w_1 \wedge e^{iJ} \right]. \quad (3.12h)$$

In the above

$$(u, w, \bar{\Omega}) \equiv \iota_u \iota_w \bar{\Omega} + u \wedge \iota_w \bar{\Omega} + w \wedge \iota_u \bar{\Omega} - u \wedge w \wedge \bar{\Omega}. \quad (3.13)$$

We also have

$$(\xi)^b = i \sqrt{f_+ f_-} \left[\bar{w}_1 + b^2 c z_1 \bar{w}_3 + |a|^2 c \bar{w}_2 - \frac{1}{4} a b c \iota_{\bar{w}_2} \iota_{\bar{w}_3} \Omega \right], \quad (3.14a)$$

$$\tilde{\xi} = i \sqrt{f_+ f_-} \left[\bar{w}_1 - b^2 c z_1 \bar{w}_3 - |a|^2 c \bar{w}_2 + \frac{1}{4} a b c \iota_{\bar{w}_2} \iota_{\bar{w}_3} \Omega \right], \quad (3.14b)$$

where $(\xi)^b$ is the 1-form dual to the ξ vector.

4 Analysis of the supersymmetry equations

In this section we initiate the analysis of the supersymmetry equations obtained in section 2. We will first analyze those which do not involve the R-R field strengths, leaving the analysis of the latter for the end. As we anticipated, not all the equations are independent, and we will be able to reduce them to a significantly smaller set.

4.1 System of equations

After switching from the ϕ_{\pm}^{IJ} to the $\phi_{\pm}^{\pm\pm}$ pure spinors introduced in the previous section, the system of supersymmetry equations is as follows:

$$d_H \left[e^{2A-\phi} \phi_{-}^{++} \right] + e^{A-\phi} \left(\phi_{+}^{+-} + \overline{\phi_{+}^{-+}} \right) = 0, \quad (4.1a)$$

$$d_H \left[e^{2A-\phi} \left(\phi_{-}^{+-} + \phi_{-}^{-+} \right) \right] + 2e^{A-\phi} \text{Re} \left(\phi_{+}^{++} + \phi_{+}^{--} \right) = 0, \quad (4.1b)$$

$$d_H \left[e^{2A-\phi} \phi_{-}^{--} \right] + e^{A-\phi} \left(\overline{\phi_{+}^{+-}} + \phi_{+}^{-+} \right) = 0, \quad (4.1c)$$

$$d_H \left[e^{3A-\phi} \text{Im} \left(\phi_{+}^{++} - \phi_{+}^{--} \right) \right] = 0, \quad (4.1d)$$

$$d_H \left[e^{3A-\phi} \left(\phi_{+}^{+-} - \overline{\phi_{+}^{-+}} \right) \right] + 3e^{2A-\phi} \left(\phi_{-}^{++} - \overline{\phi_{-}^{--}} \right) = 0, \quad (4.1e)$$

$$d_H \left[e^{A-\phi} \text{Re} \left(\phi_{+}^{++} - \phi_{+}^{--} \right) \right] + e^{-\phi} \text{Re} \left(\phi_{-}^{+-} - \phi_{-}^{-+} \right) = -\frac{1}{4} e^A f F, \quad (4.1f)$$

and

$$d_H \left[e^{3A-\phi} \text{Im} \left(\phi_{+}^{++} + \phi_{+}^{--} \right) \right] + 3e^{2A-\phi} \text{Im} \left(\phi_{-}^{+-} + \phi_{-}^{-+} \right) = -\frac{1}{4} e^{4A} * \lambda(F), \quad (4.2a)$$

$$d_H \left[e^{-\phi} \left(\phi_{-}^{+-} - \phi_{-}^{-+} \right) \right] = \frac{i}{8} \left(\tilde{\xi} \wedge + \iota_{\xi} \right) F, \quad (4.2b)$$

$$d_H \left[e^{4A-\phi} \left(\phi_{-}^{+-} - \phi_{-}^{-+} \right) \right] + 4ie^{3A-\phi} \text{Im} \left(\phi_{+}^{++} - \phi_{+}^{--} \right) = -\frac{1}{8} \left(\tilde{\xi} \wedge + \iota_{\xi} \right) e^{4A} * \lambda(F). \quad (4.2c)$$

The reason we have separated the last three equations is that they are in fact redundant given the ones above,⁸ as we will see in section 4.6. We also have

$$\text{Im}(\xi) = 0, \quad (4.3a)$$

$$d(e^A f) + \frac{1}{2} \text{Im}(\tilde{\xi}) = 0, \quad (4.3b)$$

$$d\tilde{\xi} - i_{\xi} H = 0, \quad (4.3c)$$

$$\nabla_{(n} \xi_{m)} = 0, \quad (4.3d)$$

which were obtained from (2.1b) and the condition that the ten-dimensional vector K is Killing.

4.2 Scalar and 1-form equations

The 0-form components of (4.1) and (4.2c) give:

$$acz_3^* = -a, \quad (4.4a)$$

$$(e^A + f)z_2^* = (e^A - f)cz_1, \quad (4.4b)$$

where in (4.2c) we have used (4.3a) to “decouple” F .

⁸With the exception of the 0-form component of (4.2c) which does not involve the R-R fields due to ξ being real.

Moving on to the 1-form equations, imposing (4.3a) yields

$$(1 - |z_1|^2)V + 1 = 0, \tag{4.5a}$$

$$|a|^2c - V(z_3^* - z_1z_2) = 0, \tag{4.5b}$$

$$(1 - |a|^2)cz_1^* - V(z_2 - z_1^*z_3^*) = 0, \tag{4.5c}$$

where

$$V \equiv \frac{abce^{i\theta}}{\sqrt{\det(Z)}}. \tag{4.6}$$

Combining the above with (4.4) we arrive at

$$z_1 = z_2 = 0, \quad z_3 = -\frac{1}{c} = -|a|, \quad V = -1. \tag{4.7}$$

The 1-form components of (4.1) are then satisfied trivially and we are left with (4.3b).

In obtaining (4.5) we have taken $\{w_1, w_2, w_3\}$ to be linearly independent. It is a priori possible that two or more of $\{w_1, w_2, w_3\}$ are linearly dependent, however, we find that the condition $\text{Im}(\xi) = 0$ cannot be satisfied this way, not unless ξ is set to zero, which eventually leads to only $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supersymmetry. For example, assuming that w_2 and w_3 are proportional, in which case $w_3 = z_1w_2$ and $|z_1| = 1$, it follows that $\xi = i\sqrt{f_+f_-}[\bar{w}_1 + c\bar{w}_2]$. In particular we conclude that $\mathcal{N} = 2$ solutions with only an $\text{SU}(2)$ structure (all w 's being proportional) are not realized. There is an analogous ‘‘phenomenon’’ for $\mathcal{N} = 1$ solutions: solutions with only an $\text{SU}(3)$ structure do not exist in type IIB supergravity [23] (in contrast to type IIA).

Henceforth, we will use the following parametrization for the scalars:

$$a = \cos \beta e^{i\alpha}, \quad f = e^A \cos(2\theta), \tag{4.8}$$

following the relations (3.6) and (3.2).

(4.3b) now reads

$$d(e^{2A} \cos(2\theta)) = -e^A \sin(2\theta) \text{Re}(w_1). \tag{4.9}$$

4.3 Orthonormal frame and 1-form basis

Before proceeding, we will introduce an orthonormal frame constructed out of $\{w_1, w_2, w_3\}$ and a new (non-orthogonal) 1-form basis that will prove useful in analysing the remaining supersymmetry equations. The orthonormal frame is:

$$\begin{aligned} e^1 &= \frac{1}{\sin \beta} (\text{Im}(w_1) + \cos \beta \text{Im}(w_2)), & e^2 &= \text{Re}(w_1), \\ e^3 &= \text{Im}(w_2), & e^4 &= \frac{1}{\sin \beta} (\text{Re}(w_2) + \cos \beta \text{Re}(w_1)), \\ e^5 &= \text{Re}(w_3), & e^6 &= \text{Im}(w_3). \end{aligned} \tag{4.10}$$

In terms of these, the $\text{SU}(3)$ structure in (3.10) reads

$$J = e^1 \wedge (-\sin \beta e^2 - \cos \beta e^4) + e^3 \wedge (\cos \beta e^2 - \sin \beta e^4) + e^5 \wedge e^6, \tag{4.11a}$$

$$\Omega = e^{-i\alpha} [e^1 + i(-\sin \beta e^2 - \cos \beta e^4)] \wedge [e^3 + i(\cos \beta e^2 - \sin \beta e^4)] \wedge (e^5 + ie^6). \tag{4.11b}$$

This structure is the same that appeared in several IIA solutions: see for example [4, eq. (3.6)]. There, it was identified from existing solutions (obtained by reduction from eleven dimensions) and later imposed as an Ansatz. In our approach, it is coming out naturally.

The new basis is:

$$v^1 = 2(e^A \sin \beta \sin(2\theta))^{-1} e^1, \quad (4.12a)$$

$$v^2 = -e^A \sin(2\theta) e^2, \quad (4.12b)$$

$$v^3 = e^{3A-\phi} (\sin \alpha \cos \beta \cos(2\theta) e^2 - \cos \alpha e^3 + \sin \alpha \sin \beta e^4), \quad (4.12c)$$

$$v^4 = (e^{A+\phi} \cos(2\theta))^{-1} (\cos \alpha \cos \beta (\cos(2\theta))^{-1} e^2 + \sin \alpha e^3 + \cos \alpha \sin \beta e^4), \quad (4.12d)$$

$$v^5 = -2e^{3A-\phi} \sin \beta \sin(2\theta) e^5, \quad (4.12e)$$

$$v^6 = -2e^{3A-\phi} \sin \beta \sin(2\theta) e^6. \quad (4.12f)$$

We will also use

$$v = (e^A \sin(2\theta))^{-1} (\cos(2\theta) e^2 - \cot \beta e^4), \quad (4.13)$$

or expressed in terms of the “ v basis” (4.12):

$$v = - \left(\frac{\cos(2\theta)}{e^{2A} \sin^2(2\theta)} + \frac{\cos^2 \beta \sin^2 \alpha \cos^2(2\theta) + \cos^2 \beta \cos^2 \alpha}{e^{2A} \sin^2 \beta \sin^2(2\theta) \cos(2\theta)} \right) v^2 - \frac{e^{-4A+\phi} \sin \alpha \cos \beta}{\sin^2 \beta \sin(2\theta)} v^3 - \frac{e^\phi \cos \beta \cos \alpha \cos(2\theta)}{\sin^2 \beta \sin(2\theta)} v^4. \quad (4.14)$$

4.4 2-form equations

From the 2-form components of (4.1) we get:

$$d(v^5 + iv^6) = (2v - iv^1) \wedge (v^5 + iv^6), \quad (4.15)$$

and

$$dv^3 = 0, \quad dv^4 = 0. \quad (4.16)$$

We are left with (4.3c) which we will rewrite as

$$H = -\frac{1}{4} d \left(v^1 \wedge \text{Re}(\tilde{\xi}) \right) + H_0, \quad (4.17)$$

using the fact that $\xi = 2e^A \sin \beta \sin(2\theta) (e^1)^\sharp$, where $(e^1)^\sharp$ denotes the vector dual to e^1 .

4.5 ($p > 2$)-form equations

The 3-form components of (4.1) are satisfied trivially given the results derived so far, whereas the 4-form components yield the conditions

$$(d\delta_1 + iH_0) \wedge (v^5 + iv^6) = 0, \quad (4.18)$$

and

$$(d\delta_2 + 4v \wedge \delta_2) \wedge v^{56} = 2e^{4A} \cos^2(2\theta) v^{24} \wedge dv^1 + 4H_0 \wedge v^3, \quad (4.19)$$

$$(d\delta_3 + 4v \wedge \delta_3) \wedge v^{56} = 2v^{23} \wedge dv^1 - 4e^{4A} \cos^2(2\theta) H_0 \wedge v^4 + \frac{2e^{-8A+2\phi}}{\sin^2 \beta \sin^2(2\theta)} v^{23} \wedge v^{56}. \quad (4.20)$$

In the above

$$\delta_1 \equiv \frac{1}{\sin \beta} e^3 \wedge e^4, \quad (4.21a)$$

$$\delta_2 \equiv \frac{e^{-3A+\phi}}{\sin^2 \beta \sin^2(2\theta)} \left(e^{A+\phi} \cos(2\theta) v^4 + e^{-A} \cos \alpha \cos \beta \tan(2\theta) v^2 \right), \quad (4.21b)$$

$$\delta_3 \equiv \frac{e^{-3A+\phi}}{\sin^2 \beta \sin^2(2\theta)} \left(e^{-3A+\phi} \cos(2\theta) v^3 - e^{-A} \sin \alpha \cos \beta \sin(2\theta) v^2 \right). \quad (4.21c)$$

Also $v^{56} \equiv v^5 \wedge v^6$ etc.

Finally, the 5-form and 6-form components of (4.1), given the conditions derived so far, are trivially satisfied.

4.6 Equations with R-R fields

Out of the equations which involve the R-R fields, only (4.1f) is independent, with (4.2a), (4.2b) and (4.2c) following from it given the rest of the supersymmetry equations.

Here is a sketch, for example, of how to show that (4.2b) is redundant. One can act with $\bar{\xi} \wedge +\iota_\xi$ on (4.1f). The right-hand side of (4.1f) now becomes proportional to the right-hand side of (4.2b). For the left-hand side we can use

$$\{\bar{\xi} \wedge +\iota_\xi, d_H\} = (d\bar{\xi} - \iota_\xi H) \wedge + L_\xi = L_\xi, \quad (4.22)$$

the Lie derivative under ξ , where the last equality follows from (4.3c). The action of L_ξ on the pure spinors is the one dictated by their total R-charge: $L_\xi \phi_+^{\pm\pm} = 0$, $L_\xi \phi_-^{\pm\mp} = 0$, and $\phi_+^{\pm\mp}$, $\phi_-^{\pm\pm}$ have charges ± 2 . Using several Fierz identities one can show

$$\begin{aligned} (\bar{\xi} \wedge +\iota_\xi)(\phi_+^{++} - \phi_+^{--}) &= (\bar{\xi} \wedge +\iota_\xi)(\overline{\phi_+^{++}} - \overline{\phi_+^{--}}) = -4i(e^A \phi^{(+ -)} + f \phi^{[+ -]}), \\ (\bar{\xi} \wedge +\iota_\xi)\phi_-^{[+ -]} &= 0, \\ (\bar{\xi} \wedge +\iota_\xi)\overline{\phi_-^{[+ -]}} &= -2ie^A \text{Re}(\phi_+^{++} + \phi_+^{--}) - 2f \text{Im}(\phi_+^{++} - \phi_+^{--}). \end{aligned} \quad (4.23)$$

Using also (4.3b), one can now massage the result to obtain (4.2b). A similar argument shows that (4.2c) follows from (4.2a).

In spite of being redundant, (4.2a) and (4.2b) are useful for showing in a straightforward way that the equations of motion and the Bianchi identities of the R-R fields are automatically satisfied.

Acting with d_H on (4.2a), and using the imaginary part of (4.1b) it follows that

$$d_H(e^{4A} * \lambda(F)) = 0, \quad (4.24)$$

which are the equations of motion.

Acting with d_H on (4.1f), using (4.3b), and subtracting the real part of (4.2b), it follows that

$$d_H F = 0, \quad (4.25)$$

which are the Bianchi identities of the R-R fields.

Finally, equation (4.1f) determines the R-R fields. We give their expressions in section 6.

4.7 Summary

We have formulated the supersymmetry equations as a set of differential constraints on an identity structure parametrized by the set of functions $\{A, \phi, \theta, \alpha, \beta\}$ and the 1-forms (4.12), which are subject to

$$v^2 = d(e^{2A} \cos(2\theta)), \quad dv^3 = 0, \quad dv^4 = 0, \quad (4.26)$$

$$d(v^5 + iv^6) = (2v - iv^1) \wedge (v^5 + iv^6), \quad (4.27)$$

(with v given by (4.14)), as well as (4.18), (4.19) and (4.20). Finally, $\xi = \frac{1}{4} \|\xi\|^2 (v^1)^\sharp$ (where \sharp denotes raising the index) is a Killing vector. In the next section we will refine the analysis of these constraints by introducing coordinates, thus reducing them to partial differential equations.

The NS-NS field strength is given by (4.17), with H_0 determined by (4.18)–(4.19); we will give its explicit expression in the next section. The R-R field strengths are given by (4.1f). Note that the Bianchi identities for the form fields need to be imposed on top of the supersymmetry equations. However, as we saw in section 4.6, the Bianchi identities for the R-R fields are already implied by the latter. The Bianchi identity for H still needs to be imposed and we will do so in the next section.

5 Local coordinates and partial differential equations

In this section we introduce local coordinates and a new set of functions that will allow us to solve some of the conditions derived in the previous section, and reduce the rest to a system of partial differential equations.

5.1 Local coordinates and a new set of functions

We start by introducing the coordinates $\{y \equiv e^{2A} \cos(2\theta), \lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$ so that (4.26) are solved as

$$v^2 = dy, \quad v^3 = d\lambda_1, \quad v^4 = d\lambda_2. \quad (5.1)$$

Next, we introduce the coordinate ψ adapted to the Killing vector ξ :

$$\xi = 4\partial_\psi. \quad (5.2)$$

It follows that

$$v^1 = d\psi + \rho, \quad (5.3)$$

for a 1-form ρ .

Finally, the differential equation (4.27) can be solved by

$$v^5 + iv^6 = e^{-i\psi} e^{2\Sigma} (dx_1 + idx_2), \quad (5.4)$$

for a function $\Sigma = \Sigma(y, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, x_1, x_2)$. We give a detailed explanation of this in appendix C, but a summary is that one needs the “complex Frobenius theorem” by Nirenberg [28], which is a mix between the real Frobenius theorem and the Newlander-Nirenberg theorem about

integrability of complex structures. In general it says the following: let M be a manifold of dimension n . Given a subbundle $\Omega \subset (T^*M)^{\mathbb{C}}$ of dimension k , and $\Lambda \equiv \Omega \cap \bar{\Omega}$ of dimension k' , then there exist locally adapted coordinates such that Ω is spanned by $dx_a + idx_{a+l}$, $a = 1, \dots, l \equiv k - k'$ and dx_σ , $\sigma = n - k' + 1, \dots, n$, if and only if $d\Omega \subset$ the ideal generated by Ω , and $d\Lambda \subset$ the ideal generated by Λ . It is used in the theory of transversely holomorphic foliations (THF); see for example [29, Thm. 1.8].⁹ In our case, we can take Ω to be the span of $v^5 + iv^6$; $\Lambda = \{0\}$. Then the condition $d\Omega \subset$ the ideal generated by Ω is simply (C.2). This implies that there are adapted coordinates such that Ω is the span of $dx_1 + idx_2$.

With (5.4), (4.27) now yields

$$v = \Sigma_{,y} dy + \Sigma_{,\lambda_1} d\lambda_1 + \Sigma_{,\lambda_2} d\lambda_2, \quad (5.5)$$

and

$$\rho = -2\Sigma_{,x_2} dx^1 + 2\Sigma_{,x_1} dx^2. \quad (5.6)$$

Here $\Sigma_{,y} \equiv \partial_y \Sigma$ etc.

Via the two expressions for v , (4.14) and (5.5), we can exchange some of the functions we have been using in the supersymmetry equations with derivatives of Σ . In particular

$$\Sigma_{,\lambda_1} = -\frac{e^{-4A+\phi} \sin \alpha \cos \beta}{\sin^2 \beta \sin(2\theta)}, \quad (5.7a)$$

$$\Sigma_{,\lambda_2} = -\frac{e^\phi \cos \beta \cos \alpha \cos(2\theta)}{\sin^2 \beta \sin(2\theta)}, \quad (5.7b)$$

$$\Sigma_{,y} = -\frac{\cos(2\theta)}{e^{2A} \sin^2(2\theta)} - \frac{\cos^2 \beta \sin^2 \alpha \cos^2(2\theta) + \cos^2 \beta \cos^2 \alpha}{e^{2A} \sin^2 \beta \sin^2(2\theta) \cos(2\theta)}. \quad (5.7c)$$

By also introducing

$$\Lambda = \frac{e^{-2A+2\phi} \cos(2\theta)}{\sin^2 \beta}, \quad (5.8)$$

we can express $\{A, \phi, \theta, \alpha, \beta\}$ in terms of $\{y, \Sigma_{,y}, \Sigma_{,\lambda_1}, \Sigma_{,\lambda_2}, \Lambda\}$, of which y is used as a coordinate, thus reducing the number of functions that characterize the solutions to two: Σ and Λ . Explicitly,

$$\begin{aligned} e^{4A} &= \frac{\Lambda}{U} + y^2, & e^{2\phi} &= -\frac{(\Lambda + y^2 U)^2}{(y^{-1} \Sigma_{,\lambda_2})^2 + \Sigma_{,y} (\Lambda + y^2 U)}, \\ \cos(2\theta) &= y \left(\frac{\Lambda}{U} + y^2 \right)^{-1/2}, & \tan \alpha &= \frac{y \Sigma_{,\lambda_1}}{\Sigma_{,\lambda_2}} \left(\frac{\Lambda}{U} + y^2 \right)^{1/2}, \\ \cot^2(\beta) &= \frac{(\Sigma_{,\lambda_2})^2}{y(\Lambda + y^2 U)} + \frac{y}{U} (\Sigma_{,\lambda_1})^2, \end{aligned} \quad (5.9)$$

where

$$U \equiv -y^{-1} (\Sigma_{,y} \Lambda + (y \Sigma_{,\lambda_1})^2 + (y^{-1} \Sigma_{,\lambda_2})^2) \quad (5.10)$$

is not an independent function, but will be convenient to use.

⁹In physics, a THF appears for example as a condition on which three-manifolds preserve at least one supercharge of a supersymmetric field theory [24, 25], with the only difference that the leaves there are one-dimensional. Another physics application is to A-branes [30]. Finally, the logic explained here was also used (implicitly) in [31].

In the following section we will reduce the rest of the supersymmetry conditions to a set of partial differential equations for Σ and Λ .

5.2 Partial differential equations

Before moving on with the analysis of the supersymmetry equations, we define the Hodge star operators $*_x$:

$$*_x dx_1 = dx_2, \quad *_x dx_2 = -dx_1, \quad (5.11)$$

and $*_\lambda$:

$$*_\lambda d\lambda_1 = y^2 d\lambda_2, \quad *_\lambda d\lambda_2 = -y^{-2} d\lambda_1, \quad (5.12)$$

and the corresponding Laplacians

$$\Delta_x = \partial_{x_1}^2 + \partial_{x_2}^2, \quad \Delta_\lambda = y^2 \partial_{\lambda_1}^2 + y^{-2} \partial_{\lambda_2}^2. \quad (5.13)$$

We will also use $d_\lambda \equiv d\lambda_1 \wedge \partial_{\lambda_1} + d\lambda_2 \wedge \partial_{\lambda_2}$ and $d_x \equiv dx_1 \wedge \partial_{x_1} + dx_2 \wedge \partial_{x_2}$.

The supersymmetry conditions to analyze are (4.18), (4.19) and (4.20); they will yield two partial differential equations for $\{\Sigma, \Lambda\}$ and an expression for H_0 . In terms of the coordinates and the new functions:

$$\delta_1 = dy \wedge *_\lambda d_\lambda \Sigma - \Lambda d\lambda_1 \wedge d\lambda_2, \quad (5.14a)$$

$$\delta_2 = (y^2 U + \Lambda) d\lambda_2 - y^{-2} \Sigma_{,\lambda_2} dy, \quad (5.14b)$$

$$\delta_3 = U d\lambda_1 + \Sigma_{,\lambda_1} dy. \quad (5.14c)$$

Let us start with the differential equations. (4.18) gives

$$\Delta_\lambda \Sigma = -\Lambda_{,y}, \quad (5.15)$$

which combined with (5.10) can be alternatively written as

$$\Delta_\lambda e^{4\Sigma} = -4(e^{4\Sigma} \Lambda)_{,y} - 16e^{4\Sigma} y U. \quad (5.16)$$

(4.19) and (4.20) give two expressions for the (x_1, x_2) components of dv^1

$$(dv^1)|_{x_1 x_2} = \frac{1}{2} (e^{4\Sigma} U)_{,y} + \frac{1}{y} e^{4\Sigma} U + \frac{1}{2y^2} \left[\frac{1}{4} y^{-2} (e^{4\Sigma})_{,\lambda_2 \lambda_2} + (e^{4\Sigma} \Lambda)_{,y} \right], \quad (5.17a)$$

$$(dv^1)|_{x_1 x_2} = \frac{1}{2} (e^{4\Sigma} U)_{,y} - \frac{1}{y} e^{4\Sigma} U - \frac{1}{8} (e^{4\Sigma})_{,\lambda_1 \lambda_1}, \quad (5.17b)$$

which given (5.16) can be shown to be equivalent. Combining these with (5.3) and (5.6) we obtain the equation

$$\Delta_x \Sigma + \frac{1}{16} (e^{4\Sigma})_{,\lambda_1 \lambda_1} = \frac{1}{4} y^2 (e^{4\Sigma} y^{-2} U)_{,y}. \quad (5.18)$$

Turning to H_0 , (4.18) determines its $\{(y, \lambda_{1,2}, x_{1,2}), (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, x_{1,2})\}$ components, while (4.19) and (4.20) its $\{(y, x_1, x_2), (\lambda_{1,2}, x_1, x_2)\}$ components. In total we get:

$$H_0 = \frac{1}{2} dy \wedge *_\lambda d_\lambda \rho - d\lambda_1 \wedge d\lambda_2 \wedge *_x d_x \Lambda \quad (5.19)$$

$$+ \left[\frac{1}{16} y^{-2} (e^{4\Sigma})_{,\lambda_2 \lambda_1} dy - \frac{1}{4} *_\lambda d_\lambda (e^{4\Sigma} U) - \frac{1}{4} (e^{4\Sigma} \Lambda)_{,\lambda_1} d\lambda_2 \right] \wedge dx_1 \wedge dx_2$$

Having fully specified H , via (4.17) and (5.19) we can impose its Bianchi identity, $dH = 0$. By doing so we get

$$\Delta_x \Lambda = -\frac{1}{4} \Delta_\lambda (e^{4\Sigma} U) - \frac{1}{4} (e^{4\Sigma} \Lambda)_{,\lambda_1 \lambda_1}. \quad (5.20)$$

6 Summary of final results

We have reduced the problem of finding $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetric AdS₄ solutions to solving three partial differential equations (PDEs) for two functions Σ and Λ of five variables $\{y, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, x_1, x_2\}$:¹⁰

$$\Delta_\lambda \Sigma = -\Lambda_{,y}, \quad (6.1a)$$

$$\Delta_x \Sigma + \frac{1}{16} (e^{4\Sigma})_{,\lambda_1 \lambda_1} = \frac{1}{4} y^2 (e^{4\Sigma} y^{-2} U)_{,y}, \quad (6.1b)$$

$$\Delta_x \Lambda = -\frac{1}{4} \Delta_\lambda (e^{4\Sigma} U) - \frac{1}{4} (e^{4\Sigma} \Lambda)_{,\lambda_1 \lambda_1}, \quad (6.1c)$$

$$U \equiv -y^{-1} (\Sigma_{,y} \Lambda + (y \Sigma_{,\lambda_1})^2 + (y^{-1} \Sigma_{,\lambda_2})^2), \quad (6.1d)$$

where

$$\Delta_x = \partial_{x_1}^2 + \partial_{x_2}^2, \quad \Delta_\lambda = y^2 \partial_{\lambda_1}^2 + y^{-2} \partial_{\lambda_2}^2. \quad (6.2)$$

The above system of equations is necessary and sufficient not only for supersymmetry, but also for the Bianchi identities and the equations of motion of the fields.

By inverting (4.12) so that the orthonormal frame is expressed in terms of the v 's, and eventually in terms of the coordinates introduced in the previous section, we can write down the metric for M_6 :

$$ds_6^2 = e^{-6A+2\phi} U^{-1} \left\{ y \left[\frac{1}{4} (d\psi + \rho)^2 + (v)^2 \right] + U d\lambda_1^2 + y^2 e^{4A} U d\lambda_2^2 - 2\Sigma_{,\lambda_2} dy d\lambda_2 - \Sigma_{,y} dy^2 \right\} + \frac{1}{4} y^{-1} U e^{4\Sigma+2A} (dx_1^2 + dx_2^2), \quad (6.3)$$

where the warp function A and the dilaton ϕ are given by

$$e^{4A} = \frac{\Lambda}{U} + y^2, \quad e^{2\phi} = -\frac{(\Lambda + y^2 U)^2}{(y^{-1} \Sigma_{,\lambda_2})^2 + \Sigma_{,y} (\Lambda + y^2 U)}, \quad (6.4)$$

while $v = \Sigma_{,y} dy + \Sigma_{,\lambda_1} d\lambda_1 + \Sigma_{,\lambda_2} d\lambda_2$ and $\rho = -2\Sigma_{,x_2} dx^1 + 2\Sigma_{,x_1} dx^2$. M_6 has a transversely holomorphic foliation of codimension 1, with the coordinates on the leaves being $\{\psi, y, \lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$. There is a U(1) isometry acting on ψ , which is a symmetry of the full solution, and corresponds to the R-symmetry of the dual superconformal field theory. Moreover, the ψ circle is fibered over the surface parameterized by $\{x_1, x_2\}$.

The NS-NS field reads

$$H = -\frac{1}{4} d \left((d\psi + \rho) \wedge \text{Re}(\tilde{\xi}) \right) + \frac{1}{2} dy \wedge *_\lambda d\lambda\rho - d\lambda_1 \wedge d\lambda_2 \wedge *_x dx \Lambda + \left[\frac{1}{16} y^{-2} (e^{4\Sigma})_{,\lambda_2 \lambda_1} dy - \frac{1}{4} *_\lambda d_\lambda (e^{4\Sigma} U) - \frac{1}{4} (e^{4\Sigma} \Lambda)_{,\lambda_1} d\lambda_2 \right] \wedge dx_1 \wedge dx_2, \quad (6.5)$$

¹⁰A comma denotes differentiation: $\Sigma_{,y} \equiv \partial_y \Sigma$ etc.

where

$$\text{Re}(\tilde{\xi}) = -2 \frac{e^{-8A+2\phi}}{U^2} (\Sigma_{,\lambda_1} \Sigma_{,\lambda_2} dy - y^2 e^{4A} U \Sigma_{,\lambda_1} d\lambda_2 + U \Sigma_{,\lambda_2} d\lambda_1) . \quad (6.6)$$

The R-R fields read:

$$F_1 = df_0 + d\lambda_2 , \quad (6.7a)$$

$$F_3 = d_+ f_2 - H_+ f_0 + f_3 , \quad (6.7b)$$

$$F_5 = d_+ f_4 - H_+ \wedge f_2 , \quad (6.7c)$$

where

$$d_+ \equiv d + \frac{e^{4A} U}{y \Lambda} dy \wedge , \quad H_+ \equiv H + \frac{1}{2} \frac{e^{-4A+2\phi} y}{\Lambda} (d\psi + \rho) \wedge \delta_1 , \quad (6.8)$$

with δ_1 given by (5.14a), and

$$f_0 \equiv \frac{\Sigma_{,\lambda_2}}{y e^{4A} U} , \quad (6.9a)$$

$$f_2 \equiv -\frac{1}{2} \frac{e^{-8A+2\phi}}{U^2} (d\psi + \rho) \wedge (U d\lambda_1 + y \Sigma_{,\lambda_1} v) - \frac{1}{4y} \Sigma_{,\lambda_1} \text{vol}_x , \quad (6.9b)$$

$$f_3 \equiv \frac{1}{4} U (\Lambda^{-1} \Sigma_{,\lambda_1} dy - y^{-2} d\lambda_1) \wedge \text{vol}_x , \quad (6.9c)$$

$$f_4 \equiv \frac{1}{8} \frac{e^{-4A}}{\Sigma_{,\lambda_2}} \left[e^{4A} U dy - e^{2\phi} \Sigma_{,\lambda_1} d\lambda_1 + e^{2\phi} \left(1 + \frac{(\Sigma_{,\lambda_2})^2}{y e^{4A} U} \right) v \right] \wedge d\psi \wedge \text{vol}_x , \quad (6.9d)$$

where $\text{vol}_x = e^{4\Sigma} dx_1 \wedge dx_2$.

7 Solutions

7.1 AdS₅ × S⁵

In this section we recover the AdS₅ × S⁵ solution from our system of equations, by imposing that the (ψ, x_1, x_2) subspace forms a round three-sphere, as well as constant axion ($F_1 = 0$) and dilaton. It will be convenient to work with the functions $\{\Sigma, A\}$. The first condition amounts to

$$\Sigma = \frac{1}{2} A_0(x_1, x_2) + s(y, \lambda_1, \lambda_2) , \quad \Delta_x A_0 = -e^{2A_0} \quad (7.1)$$

and

$$e^{4A} U = y g_s e^{-2s} , \quad g_s = e^\phi = \text{const.} . \quad (7.2)$$

Requiring that $F_1 = 0$ and constant dilaton gives respectively:

$$e^{4A} U = \frac{s_{,\lambda_2}}{y(C_0 - \lambda_2)} , \quad (7.3a)$$

$$g_s^2 = -\frac{e^{8A} U^2}{(y^{-1} s_{,\lambda_2})^2 + e^{4A} U s_{,y}} , \quad (7.3b)$$

where C_0 is constant. In what follows, by shifting λ_2 , we will set it to zero.

Combining (7.2), (7.3a), and (7.3b) together with $e^{4A}(U, \Lambda, y)$ from (5.9) and $U(\Sigma, \Lambda, y)$ from (5.10) we arrive at

$$e^{2s} = -y^2(g_s^{-1} + g_s\lambda_2^2) + h(\lambda_1), \quad (7.4)$$

with $h(\lambda_1)$ satisfying

$$\left(\frac{dh}{d\lambda_1}\right)^2 = 4(1 - g_s e^{-4A} h). \quad (7.5)$$

From the latter equation we conclude that $A = A(\lambda_1)$.

Finally we need to solve the PDEs that comprise our system of equations. Starting with (6.1c), we find that it gives

$$\frac{d^2 h}{d\lambda_1^2} = 2g_s e^{-4A}. \quad (7.6)$$

Combining the above with (7.5) we get

$$h = c_0 e^{2A}, \quad c_0 = \text{const.}, \quad (7.7)$$

$$d\lambda_1 = \pm \frac{c_0 e^{2A}}{\sqrt{1 - g_s c_0 e^{-2A}}} dA. \quad (7.8)$$

The rest of the PDEs, (6.1a) and (6.1b), are then automatically satisfied.

Turning to the internal metric we write it as

$$g_s^{-1} ds_6^2 = e^{2s-2A} (ds_{S^3}^2 + ds^2) + \frac{g_s c_0^2 e^{-2A}}{1 - g_s c_0 e^{-2A}} dA^2 + \frac{c_0 - e^{2s-2A}}{(g_s^{-1} + g_s \lambda_2^2)^2} d\lambda_2^2 + e^{-2A} (d\sqrt{c_0 e^{2A} - e^{2s}})^2, \quad (7.9)$$

effectively switching coordinates from $\{y, \lambda_1\}$ to $\{s, A\}$. Here

$$ds_{S^3}^2 = \frac{1}{4} [(d\psi + \rho)^2 + e^{2A_0} (dx_1^2 + dx_2^2)], \quad (7.10)$$

is the metric on the round three-sphere, of unit radius. Introducing new coordinates $\{\varrho, \phi_1, \phi_2\}$ via

$$A = \log(\sqrt{g_s c_0} \cosh \varrho), \quad e^{2s-2A} = c_0 \sin^2(\phi_1), \quad g_s \lambda_2 = \tan \phi_2, \quad (7.11)$$

the ten-dimensional metric becomes the $\text{AdS}_5 \times S^5$ metric

$$ds_{10}^2 = L^2 (d\varrho^2 + \cosh^2(\varrho) ds_{\text{AdS}_4}^2 + d\phi_1^2 + \sin^2(\phi_1) ds_{S^3}^2 + \cos^2(\phi_1) d\phi_2^2), \quad (7.12)$$

with $L^2 = g_s c_0$ and $ds_{\text{AdS}_5}^2 = d\varrho^2 + \cosh^2(\varrho) ds_{\text{AdS}_4}^2$.

Finally, looking at the form fields, as expected F_3 and H are zero, whereas

$$F_5 = 4g_s c_0^2 \text{vol}_{S^5}. \quad (7.13)$$

Flux quantization

$$N \equiv \frac{1}{16\pi^4 \alpha'^2} \int F_5 = \frac{g_s c_0^2}{4\pi \alpha'^2} \quad (7.14)$$

gives

$$c_0^2 = 4\pi \alpha'^2 N g_s^{-1}, \quad (7.15)$$

and hence,

$$L^2 = \alpha' \sqrt{4\pi g_s N}, \quad F_5 = 16\pi \alpha'^2 N \text{vol}_{S^5}. \quad (7.16)$$

7.2 Separation of variables Ansatz

We will now discuss an Ansatz that allows for several classes of new solutions. It involves the natural assumption that the two-dimensional surface parameterized by $\{x_1, x_2\}$ is a Riemann surface of constant curvature. As we warned in the introduction, we have not pursued a global analysis to the point of making sure there is a class for which the internal space is compact and physical. However, new solutions seem to be generated easily enough that this is likely to be achieved. We expect to report on this in the future.

The Ansatz consists of

$$\Sigma = \frac{1}{2}A_0(x_1, x_2) + s(y, \lambda_1, \lambda_2), \quad \Lambda = \Lambda(y, \lambda_1, \lambda_2), \quad (7.17)$$

where A_0 is a solution of Liouville's equation

$$\Delta_x A_0 = -\kappa e^{2A_0}, \quad \kappa \in \{-1, 0, 1\}, \quad (7.18)$$

and can be taken to be $A_0 = -\log((1 + \kappa(x_1^2 + x_2^2))/2)$.

It proves useful to define

$$E \equiv e^{4s}, \quad V \equiv Ue^{4s}, \quad L \equiv \Lambda e^{4s}. \quad (7.19)$$

With these definitions the system (6.1) becomes¹¹

$$\begin{aligned} (L+y^2V)_{,y} &= -\frac{1}{4}y^{-2}E_{,\lambda_2\lambda_2} - 2\kappa y^2, & -2\kappa &= y^2(y^{-2}V)_{,y} - \frac{1}{4}E_{,\lambda_1\lambda_1}, \\ (L+y^2V)_{,\lambda_1\lambda_1} &= -y^{-2}V_{,\lambda_2\lambda_2}, & -yVE &= \frac{1}{4}LE_{,y} + \frac{1}{16}(yE_{,\lambda_1})^2 + \frac{1}{16}(y^{-1}E_{,\lambda_2})^2. \end{aligned} \quad (7.20)$$

Notice that three of the above equations are linear in E , V and L , and only one is quadratic. This feature makes it easier to find solutions.

The dilaton and metric become

$$e^{-2\phi} = -\frac{1}{e^{8AV^2}} \left(\frac{1}{16}(y^{-1}E_{,\lambda_2})^2 + \frac{1}{4}e^{4A}VE_{,y} \right); \quad (7.21)$$

$$\begin{aligned} ds_6^2 &= \frac{e^{2A}V}{4y} ds_C^2 \\ &+ \frac{e^{-6A+2\phi}}{4V} \left[y \left(ED\psi^2 + (d\sqrt{E})^2 \right) + 4V \left(d\lambda_1^2 + y^2 e^{4A} d\lambda_2^2 \right) - 2E_{,\lambda_2} d\lambda_2 dy - E_{,y} dy^2 \right], \end{aligned} \quad (7.22)$$

where $e^{4A} = L/V + y^2$, $ds_C^2 = e^{2A_0}(dx_1^2 + dx_2^2)$ is the line element of a Riemann surface of scalar curvature 2κ , and $D\psi \equiv d\psi + \rho$. Here the coordinates are $\{x_i, y, \lambda_i\}$, $i = 1, 2$, with $dE = E_{,y}dy + E_{,\lambda_i}d\lambda_i$. As can be seen, at the locus where E goes to zero, the ψ circle shrinks regularly by fixing the period of ψ to be 2π .

¹¹The first equation is a modification of the corresponding one in (6.1) using the rest.

One can also eliminate y as a coordinate in favor of E . This leads to the alternative expression for the metric:

$$\begin{aligned}
 ds_6^2 &= e^{2A} \frac{V}{4y} ds_{\mathcal{C}}^2 + \frac{e^{-6A+2\phi}}{4V} ds_4^2, \\
 ds_4^2 &= yED\psi^2 + \left(\frac{y}{4E} - y_{,E}\right) dE^2 - 2y_{,\lambda_1} dE d\lambda_1 \\
 &\quad + \left(4V - \frac{(y_{,\lambda_1})^2}{y_{,E}}\right) d\lambda_1^2 + \left(4Vy^2 e^{4A} + \frac{(y_{,\lambda_2})^2}{y_{,E}}\right) d\lambda_2^2.
 \end{aligned} \tag{7.23}$$

Although this expression appears longer, it has the advantage of having fewer non-diagonal components.

We will now explore two classes of sub-Ansätze.

7.2.1 Compactification Ansatz

The first class comes about by demanding that the line element of the Riemann surface \mathcal{C} has the same prefactor as that of AdS_4 , so that the metric takes the form $ds_{10}^2 = e^{2A}(ds_{\text{AdS}_4}^2 + \frac{1}{4}ds_{\mathcal{C}}^2) + \dots$. The holographic interpretation of this class of solutions is that of the dual of a five-dimensional field theory compactified on \mathcal{C} . An analogous class was studied in [32], where the so-called ‘‘compactification Ansatz’’ was applied to AdS_5 solutions.

From (7.22) we see that this Ansatz amounts to imposing

$$V = ry \tag{7.24}$$

where r is a constant proportional to the curvature radius of \mathcal{C} .

With (7.24), two of the equations in (7.20) determine

$$E = 2(2\kappa - r)\lambda_1^2 + K_1\lambda_1 + K_2, \quad L = L_1\lambda_1 + L_2, \tag{7.25}$$

where K_i and L_i are functions of λ_2 and y . In the remaining two equations, λ_1 only appears linearly or quadratically; thus one can expand in it, and obtain several PDEs in λ_2 and y only. Some of them are quadratic, but further assumptions make them manageable. For example one may impose that K_i and L_i do not depend on λ_2 . The most ‘‘physically promising’’ solution one finds like this is

$$E = -8\lambda_1^2 + k_1\lambda_1 - \frac{1}{32}k_1^2, \quad L = \ell_1\lambda_1 + \ell_2 - \frac{4}{3}y^3, \quad r = -2\kappa = 2, \tag{7.26}$$

where k_i, ℓ_i are constant. More complicated solutions exist; for example:

$$\begin{aligned}
 E &= -8\lambda_1^2 - 4\ell_1 y \lambda_1 \lambda_2 - y^2 \left(\frac{1}{2}(\ell_2^2 + \ell_1^2) + 4\ell_2 y + 8y^2\right) \lambda_2^2, \\
 L &= \ell_1 \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_2} + \frac{1}{4}(\ell_2^2 + \ell_1^2)y + \ell_2 y^2, \quad r = -2\kappa = 2.
 \end{aligned} \tag{7.27}$$

Given the holographic interpretation of the present Ansatz, that we mentioned above, we expect that it contains solutions descending from the AdS_6 solutions of [33, 34].

7.2.2 Another sub-Ansatz

Another possibility we can explore is

$$L = L(y), \quad V = V(y). \tag{7.28}$$

The third equation in (7.20) is then automatically satisfied. The first two imply that E is a polynomial of total degree 2 in λ_i :

$$E = \sum_{0 \leq a+b \leq 2} L_{ab} \lambda_1^a \lambda_2^b. \tag{7.29}$$

Moreover, they determine L_{20} and L_{02} in terms of L and V . The fourth, quadratic equation in (7.20) then gives a system of six ODEs in the y coordinate, one for each monomial $\lambda_1^a \lambda_2^b$, $0 \leq a + b \leq 2$.

One observes that the system simplifies substantially by assuming $L_{11} = 0$. Moreover, the ODE corresponding to the monomials of total degree < 2 are linear in L_{ab} , $a + b = 0, 1$ once the ODEs corresponding to total degree 2 have been solved. The latter are now equations for L and V , and can be solved, for example, with a power-law assumption. This way we get

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa = 0, \quad V = ry^2, \quad L = \ell - ry^4, \quad L_{20} = L_{02} = 0, \\ L_{10} = \ell_1 L, \quad L_{01} = \ell_2 L, \quad L_{00} = L \left(\frac{\ell_2^2}{4y} + \ell_0 - \frac{\ell_1^2}{12} y^3 \right), \end{aligned} \tag{7.30}$$

where $r, \ell, \ell_a, a = 0, 1, 2$ are constants.

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A $GL(2, \mathbb{R})$ transformation

In this appendix we show how c^{IJ} can be set equal to $2\delta^{IJ}$, by a $GL(2, \mathbb{R})$ transformation of η_{i+}^I .

First, by rescaling the χ ’s in (2.7) we can set

$$c^{11} = c^{22} = 2. \tag{A.1}$$

Our analysis then splits into two cases: (a) $|c^{12}| \neq 2$ and (b) $|c^{12}| = 2$. For case (a) we define $x \equiv \frac{1}{2}c^{12}$, so that $x^2 \neq 1$. Then the $GL(2, \mathbb{R})$ map

$$\begin{pmatrix} \eta_{i+}^1 \\ \eta_{i+}^2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ -\frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \eta_{i+}^1 \\ \eta_{i+}^2 \end{pmatrix} \tag{A.2}$$

leaves the norms $\|\eta_{i+}^I\| = e^A$ invariant and in the new basis

$$\overline{\eta_{i+}^{(1)}\eta_{i+}^{(2)}} = \text{Re}(\overline{\eta_{i+}^1}\eta_{i+}^2) = \frac{1}{2}c^{12}e^A = 0. \tag{A.3}$$

In the second case $\overline{\eta_{i+}^{(1)}\eta_{i+}^{(2)}} = \text{Re}(\overline{\eta_{i+}^1}\eta_{i+}^2) = \frac{1}{2}c^{12}e^A = \pm e^A$, and from the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality

$$\sqrt{\text{Re}(\overline{\eta_{i+}^1}\eta_{i+}^2)^2 + \text{Im}(\overline{\eta_{i+}^1}\eta_{i+}^2)^2} = |\overline{\eta_{i+}^1}\eta_{i+}^2| \leq \sqrt{\|\eta_{i+}^1\|\|\eta_{i+}^2\|} = e^A \tag{A.4}$$

it follows that $\text{Im}(\overline{\eta_{i+}^1}\eta_{i+}^2) = 0$; in addition since the inequality is saturated η_{i+}^1 and η_{i+}^2 should be proportional. The factor of proportionality is fixed by their norms and inner product $|\overline{\eta_{i+}^1}\eta_{i+}^2| = e^A$ to be ± 1 . But in this case there is only $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supersymmetry, as can be readily inferred from the $10d$ spinor decomposition Ansatz.

B Spinors and \mathcal{G} -structures

We look at the \mathcal{G} -structures defined by spinors in $1 + 3$ and 6 dimensions. They are characterized by a set of tensors constructed as spinor bilinears which we will assemble into bispinors $\epsilon\bar{\epsilon}$, since the latter, via the Fierz expansion (schematically)¹²

$$\epsilon\bar{\epsilon} \propto \sum_p \frac{1}{p!} \gamma^{m_p \dots m_1} \bar{\epsilon} \gamma_{m_1 \dots m_p} \epsilon, \tag{B.1}$$

and the map

$$\gamma^{m_p \dots m_1} \rightarrow dx^{m_p} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{m_1} \tag{B.2}$$

can be treated as polyforms.

B.1 Dimension $d = 1 + 3$

In this appendix we examine the identity structure defined by two spinors, ζ_+^1 and ζ_+^2 , of positive chirality in $1 + 3$ dimensions.¹³

The generators of $\text{Cliff}(1, 3)$ satisfy $\{\gamma^\alpha, \gamma^\beta\} = 2\eta^{\alpha\beta}$, $\alpha, \beta = 0, 1, 2, 3$, where $\eta^{\alpha\beta}$ is the Minkowski metric of “mostly plus” signature; they are chosen so that $(\gamma^\alpha)^\dagger = \gamma^0 \gamma^\alpha \gamma^0$. The chirality operator is $\gamma_5 \equiv -i\gamma^0 \gamma^1 \gamma^2 \gamma^3$ and has the property $(\gamma^5)^2 = \mathbb{I}$. We introduce the intertwiner B that relates γ^α , $\alpha = 0, 1, 2, 3$ and its complex conjugate $(\gamma^\alpha)^*$ as $\gamma^\alpha B = B(\gamma^\alpha)^*$. It satisfies $B^* = B^{-1}$ and $B^\dagger = B^{-1}$. The complex conjugate of a spinor ζ is then $\zeta^c \equiv B\zeta^*$; note that $\zeta^{cc} = \zeta$. Complex conjugation changes chirality.

We look at the case of a “strict” identity structure where ζ_+^1 and ζ_+^2 are orthogonal i.e. $(\zeta_+^1)^\dagger \zeta_+^2 = 0$. Employing the Fierz identity and

$$\gamma_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_k} = (-1)^{\frac{k(k-1)}{2}} \frac{-i}{(4-k)!} \epsilon_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_4} \gamma^{\alpha_{k+1} \dots \alpha_4} \gamma_5, \tag{B.3}$$

¹² $\gamma_{m_1 \dots m_p}$ denotes the antisymmetric product of $\gamma_{m_1}, \dots, \gamma_{m_p}$.

¹³One chiral spinor, ζ_+ , defines an \mathbb{R}^2 structure; see for example [11, section 4.1.1].

the following expansions for the bispinors can be obtained:¹⁴

$$\begin{aligned}\zeta_+^1 \bar{\zeta}_+^1 &= \frac{1}{4}(e^+ + i * e^+), & \zeta_+^1 \bar{\zeta}_-^1 &= \frac{1}{4}e^{+1}, \\ \zeta_+^2 \bar{\zeta}_+^2 &= \frac{1}{4}(e^- + i * e^-), & \zeta_+^2 \bar{\zeta}_-^2 &= -\frac{1}{4}e^{-\bar{1}}.\end{aligned}\quad (\text{B.4})$$

Here $\bar{\zeta} \equiv \zeta^\dagger \gamma^0$ and $\zeta_- = (\zeta_+)^c$. The set of 1-forms $\{e^+, e^-, e^1, e^{\bar{1}}\}$ make up a complex frame defining the identity structure. A real frame can be constructed as

$$e^0 = \frac{1}{2}(e^+ + e^-), \quad e^3 = \frac{1}{2}(e^+ - e^-), \quad e^1 = \frac{1}{2}(e^1 + e^{\bar{1}}), \quad e^2 = -\frac{i}{2}(e^1 - e^{\bar{1}}). \quad (\text{B.5})$$

The volume element is $\text{vol}_4 = e^{0123}$ and the Hodge star is defined via $a \wedge *b = (a, b)\text{vol}_4$, where (\cdot, \cdot) is the inner product with respect to the Minkowski metric. Thus, for example,

$$*1 = e^{0123}, \quad *e^0 = -e^{123}, \quad *e^3 = -e^{012}. \quad (\text{B.6})$$

Furthermore,

$$\zeta_+^1 \bar{\zeta}_+^2 = \frac{1}{4}(e^1 + i * e^1), \quad \zeta_+^1 \bar{\zeta}_-^2 = -\frac{1}{4}\left(1 + \frac{1}{2}e^{-+} + \frac{1}{2}e^{1\bar{1}} - i * 1\right). \quad (\text{B.7})$$

We record the following identities

$$\zeta_-^I \bar{\zeta}_-^J = B(\zeta_+^I \bar{\zeta}_+^J) * B^{-1}, \quad \zeta_-^I \bar{\zeta}_+^J = B(\zeta_+^I \bar{\zeta}_-^J) * B^{-1}, \quad (\text{B.8})$$

for generic spinors ζ 's. Bearing in mind that $B^{-1}\gamma^\alpha B = (\gamma^\alpha)^*$, we conclude that, a plus to minus interchange is equivalent to complex conjugation. For example

$$\zeta_-^1 \bar{\zeta}_-^1 = \frac{1}{4}(e^+ - i * e^+). \quad (\text{B.9})$$

Finally,

$$\zeta_+^I \bar{\zeta}_+^J = -(-1)^{\frac{k(k+1)}{2}} \zeta_-^J \bar{\zeta}_-^I. \quad (\text{B.10})$$

B.2 Dimension $d = 6$

In this appendix we take a look at the \mathcal{G} -structures defined by chiral spinors in six dimensions. Given a representation $\{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_6\}$ of $\text{Cliff}(6)$ we introduce

$$\mathfrak{g}_1 \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\gamma_1 + i\gamma_2), \quad \mathfrak{g}_2 \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\gamma_3 + i\gamma_4), \quad \mathfrak{g}_3 \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\gamma_5 + i\gamma_6). \quad (\text{B.11})$$

The Clifford algebra then takes the form

$$\{\mathfrak{g}_a, \mathfrak{g}_b\} = \delta_{ab}, \quad \{\mathfrak{g}_a, \mathfrak{g}_b\} = \{\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{a}}, \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{b}}\} = 0, \quad a, b = 1, 2, 3, \quad (\text{B.12})$$

where $\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{1}} = \frac{1}{2}(\mathfrak{g}_1 - i\mathfrak{g}_2)$ etc.

We take $|\downarrow\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$ as the state which is annihilated by all \mathfrak{g}_a . Starting from $|\downarrow\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$ and acting with $\mathfrak{g}_{\bar{a}}$ we can construct the 2³-dimensional Dirac representation of $\text{Spin}(6)$. We

¹⁴ $e^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n}$ denotes the wedge product $e^{i_1} \wedge e^{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge e^{i_n}$.

denote $|\uparrow\downarrow\downarrow\rangle = \mathfrak{g}_1 |\downarrow\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$ etc. Expanding $\gamma_7 \equiv i\gamma_1 \dots \gamma_6$ in terms of $\mathfrak{g}_a, \mathfrak{g}_{\bar{a}}$, we conclude that spinors with an even number of \uparrow have positive chirality while spinors with an odd number of \uparrow have negative chirality. The intertwiner B , which relates $\gamma_a, a = 1, 2, \dots, 6$ and $(\gamma_a)^*$ as $\gamma_a B = -B(\gamma_a)^*$, interchanges \downarrow and \uparrow and hence chirality. For example $B |\downarrow\downarrow\downarrow\rangle = |\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$.

A chiral spinor $\eta_+ \equiv |\downarrow\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$ defines an $SU(3)$ structure, characterized by a real 2-form J and a decomposable complex 3-form Ω , as

$$\eta_+ \bar{\eta}_+ = \frac{1}{8} (1 - iJ - *J + i * 1), \quad \eta_+ \bar{\eta}_- = -\frac{1}{8} \Omega, \quad (\text{B.13})$$

where $\bar{\eta}_+ \equiv \eta_+^\dagger$,

$$-iJ = \frac{1}{2} (e^{1\bar{1}} + e^{2\bar{2}} + e^{3\bar{3}}), \quad \Omega = e^{123}, \quad (\text{B.14})$$

and $\{e^1, e^2, e^3\}$ are a complex frame. J obeys

$$J \wedge J \wedge J = 6 \text{vol}_6, \quad *J = \frac{1}{2} J \wedge J. \quad (\text{B.15})$$

Accordingly,

$$\eta_+ \bar{\eta}_+ = \frac{1}{8} e^{-iJ}. \quad (\text{B.16})$$

Two chiral spinors η_+^1 and η_+^2 define an $SU(2)$ structure as follows: we take $\eta_+^1 \equiv |\downarrow\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$ and η_+^2 to be orthogonal. The stabilizer group \mathcal{G} of η_+^1 in $\text{Spin}(6) \simeq SU(4)$ is $SU(3)$. We can thus perform an $SU(3)$ transformation that leaves η_+^1 invariant and sets $\eta_+^2 = |\uparrow\uparrow\downarrow\rangle = \mathfrak{g}_3 |\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$. Then

$$e^3, \quad \omega \equiv \iota_{e^3} \Omega, \quad -ij \equiv -iJ - \frac{1}{2} e^{3\bar{3}}, \quad (\text{B.17})$$

define an $SU(2)$ structure in six dimensions, where e^3 is the 1-form bilinear constructed out of η_+^1 and η_+^2 .

Along the same lines four chiral spinors $|\downarrow\downarrow\downarrow\rangle, \mathfrak{g}_1 |\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow\rangle, \mathfrak{g}_2 |\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$ and $\mathfrak{g}_3 |\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$ define a (strict) identity structure.

We record the following identities

$$\eta_-^I \bar{\eta}_-^J = B(\eta_+^I \bar{\eta}_+^J)^* B^{-1}, \quad \eta_-^I \bar{\eta}_+^J = B(\eta_+^I \bar{\eta}_-^J)^* B^{-1}. \quad (\text{B.18})$$

Bearing in mind that $B^{-1} \gamma_a B = -\gamma_a^*$, we conclude that, in the first case a plus to minus interchange is equivalent to complex conjugation but in the second case minus complex conjugation. Finally,

$$\eta_+^I \bar{\eta}_\mp^J = (-1)^{\frac{k(k+1)}{2}} \eta_\pm^J \bar{\eta}_+^I. \quad (\text{B.19})$$

C Coordinates on the $\{v^5, v^6\}$ -subspace

We want to show here that (4.15) implies (5.4). Let us call

$$\beta \equiv v^5 + iv^6, \quad \alpha \equiv 2v - iv^1, \quad (\text{C.1})$$

so that (4.15) reads

$$d\beta = \alpha \wedge \beta. \quad (\text{C.2})$$

Separating (4.15) in real and imaginary parts, we see that it reads

$$dv^a = a^{ab} \wedge v^b, \quad a^{56} + ia^{66} = i(a^{55} + ia^{65}) = i\alpha. \quad (\text{C.3})$$

By the dual version of the Frobenius theorem (see for example [35, Th. B.3.2]), it follows that the four-dimensional distribution $D_4 \subset T$ orthogonal to v^5 and v^6 , $D_4 = \{X \in T | \iota_X v^a = 0, a = 5, 6\}$, is integrable. This means that D_4 is a foliation: there exist (generically) four-dimensional leaves, such that the union of all of them is the whole manifold M_6 . In other words, at every point there is a leaf that goes through that point. These can be parameterized by $6 - 4 = 2$ real numbers, which we can call x_1, x_2 , so that the leaves can be labeled as L_{x_1, x_2} . We can also use x_1, x_2 as coordinates on M_6 . They are constant on each leaf, since they parameterize them. In other words $dx_i \perp D_4$, $i = 1, 2$. But by definition the v^a are also orthogonal to each leaf. So we conclude

$$v^a = m^{ai} dx_i. \quad (\text{C.4})$$

We can also define the differential d_L such that $d = d_L + dx_i \wedge \partial_{x_i}$.

Using the coordinates we have just introduced, we can write $\beta = \beta^i dx_i$; moreover, we can decompose $\alpha = \alpha_L + \alpha^i dx_i$. From (C.2) it now follows that

$$d_L \beta^i = \alpha_L \beta^i. \quad (\text{C.5})$$

From this we conclude that $d_L (\beta^2 / \beta^1) = 0$. So $w \equiv \beta^2 / \beta^1$ is a function of x_1 and x_2 only. Now $\beta = \beta^1(dx_1 + w dx_2)$; but $dx_1 + w dx_2$ defines an almost complex structure in two dimensions, which is always integrable. Thus there exists a complex coordinate z such that $(dx_1 + w dx_2)$ is proportional to dz . Hence

$$\beta = e^\varphi dz. \quad (\text{C.6})$$

Redefining x_1, x_2 so that $z = x_1 + ix_2$, we arrive at (5.4) with $\varphi = 2\Sigma - i\psi$.

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