## Graded Geometry, Tensor Galileons \& Duality

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## Motivation from higher derivative interactions

Interacting theories with 2nd order field equations (Galileons, Lovelock, Horndeski \&c.)
Simplify, highlight shared features and generalize using a unifying geometric formalism.

At simpler level, kinetic terms for mixed symmetry tensor fields in coordinate free form.
For differential form, use Hodge star. For e.g. (linearized) Einstein-Hilbert or Curtright?

## Motivation from electric/magnetic duality

Duals are not unique. Apart from the standard Hodge duality of $p-\&(D-p-2)$-forms
Hull '00-'01, West '01, de Medeiros, Hull '02, Boulanger, Cook, Ponomarev '12, \&c.

* Exotic duality of a $p$-form and a ( $D-2, p$ ) bipartite tensor.
* Standard duality of the graviton to a $(D-3,1)$ dual graviton.
* Double duality of the graviton to a $(D-3, D-3)$ field.
* ...
\% Infinite chains of dualities. Boulanger, Sundell, West' 15

Dual theories typically related by some first order parent action.
Find a parent action providing a common starting point for all types of dualizations.

## Use Graded Geometry

(also more generally motivated by BV/BRST quantization of gauge theories, QP-manifolds and AKSZ $\sigma$-models,...)

## Motivation from branes in string and M theories

String and $M$ theories contain a host of non-standard, low codimension branes.
West '04; Bergshoeff, Riccioni '10; de Boer, Shigemori '12
Exotic branes source non-geometric fluxes and couple to mixed symmetry tensors. de Boer, Shigemori '10, Bergshoeff Riccioni '10, A.Ch. Gautason, Moutsopoulos, Zagermann '13; A.Ch., Gautason '14, \&c.

Fields in Wess-Zumino terms are typically exotic duals of the graviton or B/C-fields.
A unified and geometric way to think about these branes and couplings? (not in this tak)

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## Differential forms as functions

## Idea: Tensor fields as functions on a graded supermanifold

A (smooth) supermanifold $\mathcal{M}$ is locally isomorphic to $C^{\infty}(U) \otimes \Lambda^{\bullet}\left(\mathbb{R}^{d}\right)^{*}, U \subset \mathbb{R}^{D}$.
$\mathbb{Z}_{2}$-graded geometry, even coordinates $x^{i}$ and odd coordinates $\theta^{i}$, (N.B.: Focus on $\left.D=d\right)$

$$
\theta^{i} \theta^{i}=-\theta^{i} \theta^{i} .
$$

Identification of functions on graded vector bundles with $p$-forms or $p$-vector fields,

$$
C^{\infty}(T[1] M) \simeq \Omega^{\bullet}(M) \quad \text { and } \quad C^{\infty}\left(T^{*}[1] M\right) \simeq \Gamma\left(\wedge^{\bullet} T M\right)
$$

A function on $T[1] M$ may be expanded (and be related to differential forms) as

$$
\omega(x, \theta)=\sum_{k=0}^{D} \frac{1}{k!} \omega_{i_{1} \ldots i_{k}}(x) \theta^{i_{1}} \ldots \theta^{i_{k}} .
$$

Integration is defined as usual for Grassmann variables, $\int \mathrm{d}^{D} \theta \theta^{1} \theta^{2} \ldots \theta^{D}=1$.

## Mixed symmetry tensor fields as functions

For bipartite tensors of degree $(p, q)$, consider functions on $\mathcal{M}=T[1] M \oplus T[1] M$,

$$
\omega_{p, q}=\frac{1}{p!q!} \omega_{i_{1} \ldots i_{p j} \ldots j_{q}}(x) \theta^{i_{1}} \ldots \theta^{i_{p}} \chi^{j_{1}} \ldots \chi^{j_{q}} .
$$

Two separate sets of odd coordinates $\theta^{i}$ and $\chi^{i}$ which mutually commute by convention,

$$
\theta^{i} \theta^{j}=-\theta^{j} \theta^{i}, \quad \chi^{i} \chi^{j}=-\chi^{j} \chi^{i}, \quad \theta^{i} \chi^{j}=\chi^{j} \theta^{i} .
$$

The components of the tensor field have manifest mixed index symmetry

$$
\omega_{i_{1} \ldots i_{p} j_{1} \ldots j_{q}}=\omega_{\left[i_{1} \ldots i_{p}\right]\left[j_{1} \ldots j_{q}\right]} .
$$

Direct generalization to $N$-partite mixed symmetry tensors for $\mathcal{M}=\bigoplus^{N} T[1] M$.

## Generalized Hodge duality

* Exterior derivatives $\mathrm{d}: \Omega^{p, q} \rightarrow \Omega^{p+1, q}$ and $\widetilde{\mathrm{d}}: \Omega^{p, q} \rightarrow \Omega^{p, q+1}$

$$
\mathrm{d}=\theta^{i} \partial_{i} \quad \text { and } \tilde{\mathrm{d}}=\chi^{i} \partial_{i} \text { with } \mathrm{d}^{2}=\widetilde{\mathrm{d}}^{2}=0 \text { and } \mathrm{d} \tilde{\mathrm{~d}}=\widetilde{\mathrm{d}} \mathrm{~d}
$$

* Transposition (or exchange of $\theta$ and $\chi$, or ~ operation)

$$
\omega_{p, q} \mapsto \omega^{\top} \theta^{\top} \equiv \widetilde{\omega}_{q, p}=\frac{1}{p!q!} \omega_{i_{1} \ldots i_{p} j_{1} \ldots j_{q}} \theta^{i_{1}} \ldots \theta^{j_{q}} \chi^{i_{1}} \ldots \chi^{i_{p}} .
$$

* Hodge star operator for bipartite tensor fields, $\star: \Omega^{p, q} \rightarrow \Omega^{D-p, D-q}$ for $p+q \leq D$, A.Ch., Khoo, Roest, Schupp '17

$$
(\star \omega)_{D-p, D-q}=\frac{1}{(D-p-q)!} \eta^{D-p-q} \widetilde{\omega}_{q, p} \quad\left(\eta=\eta_{i j} \theta^{i} \chi^{j}\right)
$$

## Full vs. partial Hodge duality

Define partial Hodge star operations $*: \Omega^{p, q} \rightarrow \Omega^{D-p, q}$ and $\tilde{*}: \Omega^{p, q} \rightarrow \Omega^{p, D-q}$ as cf. de Medeiros, Hull '02

$$
\begin{aligned}
& * \omega=\frac{1}{(D-p)!} \int_{\psi} \omega^{\top} \theta \psi\left(\eta^{\top} \chi \psi\right)^{D-p} \propto \epsilon^{i_{1} \ldots i_{p}}{ }_{i_{p+1} \ldots i_{D}} \omega_{i_{1} \ldots i_{p j_{1} \ldots j_{q}}} \theta^{i_{p+1}} \ldots \theta^{i_{D}} \chi^{j_{1}} \ldots \chi^{j_{q}}, \\
& \widetilde{*} \omega=\frac{1}{(D-q)!} \int_{\psi} \omega^{\top} \chi \psi\left(\eta^{\top} \theta \psi\right)^{D-q} \propto \epsilon^{j_{1} \ldots j_{q}}{ }_{j_{q+1} \ldots j_{D}} \omega_{i_{1} \ldots i_{p} \ldots j_{q}} \theta^{i_{1}} \ldots \theta^{i_{p}} \chi^{j_{q+1}} \ldots \chi^{j_{D}},
\end{aligned}
$$

$\psi^{i}$ being an auxiliary set of odd coordinates. The combination $* \widetilde{*}$ is different than $\star$ :

$$
\begin{gathered}
\star \omega=* \widetilde{*} \bar{\omega} \\
\bar{\omega}:=(-1)^{\epsilon} \sum_{n=0}^{\min (p, q)} \frac{(-1)^{n}}{(n!)^{2}} \eta^{n} \operatorname{tr}^{n} \omega, \quad \epsilon=(D-1)(p+q)+p q+1
\end{gathered}
$$

Very welcome that $\star$ also encodes all traces of the mixed symmetry tensor.

## Dual operations and GL(D) irreducibility

The partial Hodge stars define dual operations to the exterior derivatives and trace, cf. de Medeiros, Hull '02

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{d}^{\dagger}:=(-1)^{1+D(p+1)} * \mathrm{~d} *: \Omega^{p, q} \rightarrow \Omega^{p-1, q}, \quad\left(\text { and } \widetilde{\mathrm{d}}^{\dagger}\right), \\
& \sigma:=(-1)^{1+D(p+1)} * \operatorname{tr} *: \Omega^{p, q} \rightarrow \Omega^{p+1, q-1}, \quad(\text { and } \tilde{\sigma})
\end{aligned}
$$

A bipartite tensor is $G L(D)$-irreducible (denote $\omega_{[p, q]}$ ) if and only if for $p \geq q$ it satisfies

$$
\sigma \omega=0 \quad \text { and } \quad \widetilde{\omega}=\omega \text { for } p=q
$$

Irreducible bipartite tensors are obtained via the action of a Young projector $\mathcal{P}_{[p, q]}$, s.t.

$$
\omega_{[p, q]}=\mathcal{P}_{[p, q]} \omega_{p, q} .
$$

The explicit form of this projector is de Medeiros ' 03

$$
\mathcal{P}_{[p, q]}=\left\{\begin{array}{ll}
\mathbb{I}+\sum_{n=1}^{q} c_{n}(p, q) \widetilde{\sigma}^{n} \sigma^{n}, & p \geq q \\
\mathbb{I}+\sum_{n=1}^{p} c_{n}(q, p) \sigma^{n} \widetilde{\sigma}^{n}, & p \leq q
\end{array} \quad, \quad c_{n}(p, q)=\frac{(-1)^{n}}{\prod_{r=1}^{n} r(p-q+r+1)} .\right.
$$

## Kinetic terms

Kinetic terms in Minkowski spacetime $\mathbb{R}^{1, D-1}$ may be written in a unified form,

$$
\mathcal{L}_{\text {kin }}\left(\omega_{p, q}\right)=\int_{\theta, \chi} \mathrm{d} \omega \star \mathrm{~d} \omega
$$

The component form is obtained directly performing the Berezin integration:
*For $p=q=0$, scalar $\frac{1}{2} \phi \square \phi$.

* For $p=1, q=0$, Maxwell $-\frac{1}{4} F_{i j} F^{i j}$.
* For $p=q=1$, linearized Einstein-Hilbert

$$
\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{LEH}}\left(h_{[1,1]}\right)=-\frac{1}{4} h^{i}{ }_{i} \square h_{j}^{j}+\frac{1}{2} h_{k}^{k} \partial_{i} \partial_{j} h^{i j}-\frac{1}{2} h_{i j} \partial^{j} \partial_{k} h^{i k}+\frac{1}{4} h_{i j} \square h^{i j} .
$$

* For $p=2, q=1$, Curtright

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{kin}}\left(\omega_{[2,1]}\right)= & \frac{1}{2}\left(\partial_{i} \omega_{j k \mid I} \partial^{i} \omega^{j k \mid I}-2 \partial_{i} \omega^{i j \mid k} \partial^{\prime} \omega_{l \mid k}-\partial_{i} \omega^{j k \mid i} \partial^{\prime} \omega_{j k \mid I}-\right. \\
& \left.-4 \omega_{i}^{j \mid i} \partial^{k} \partial^{\prime} \omega_{k j \mid I}-2 \partial_{i} \omega_{j}^{k \mid j} \partial^{i} \omega^{\prime}{ }_{k \mid I}+2 \partial_{i} \omega_{j}^{i \mid j} \partial^{k} \omega^{\prime}{ }_{k \mid I}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

## "Galileon" type, higher derivative interaction terms

Galileons were introduced for scalar fields in flat space s.t. they have 2nd order EOMs.
Nicolis, Rattazzi, Trincherini ' 08
They are invariant under the characteristic symmetry $\partial_{i} \phi \rightarrow \partial_{i} \phi+c_{i}$ and $\phi \rightarrow \phi+c$.
More generally, bipartite tensor Galileons may be written in a graded-geometric way:

$$
\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{Gal}}\left(\omega_{p, q}\right)=\sum_{n=1}^{n_{\max }} \frac{1}{\left(D-k_{n}\right)!} \int_{\theta, \chi} \eta^{D-k_{n}} \omega(\mathrm{~d} \widetilde{\mathrm{~d}} \omega)^{n-1}(\mathrm{~d} \tilde{\mathrm{~d}} \widetilde{\omega})^{n}, \quad k_{n}=(p+q+2) n-1 .
$$

The symmetries are found using a higher version of the Poincaré lemma, s.t. d $\widetilde{\mathrm{d}} \delta \omega=0$ :

$$
\delta \omega_{p, q}=\mathrm{d} \kappa_{p-1, q}+\widetilde{\mathrm{d}} \kappa_{p, q-1}+c_{i_{1} \ldots i_{p} k_{0} k_{1} \ldots k_{q}} \theta^{i_{1}} \ldots \theta^{i_{0}} \chi^{k_{0}} \chi^{k_{1}} \ldots \chi^{k_{q}},
$$

$c$ being a constant, totally antisymmetric tensor. For $p=q$ there is an enhancement:

$$
\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{Gal}}\left(\omega_{[p, p]}\right)=\sum_{n=1}^{n_{\max }} \frac{1}{\left(D-k_{n}\right)!} \int_{\theta, \chi} \eta^{D-k_{n}} \omega(\mathrm{~d} \tilde{\mathrm{~d}} \omega)^{n}, \quad k_{n}=(p+1) n+p .
$$

A controlled way to find and write terms like...
...for scalars in 4D Nicolis, Rattazzi, Trincherini '08

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
n=2: & \partial^{i} \phi \partial^{j} \phi \partial_{i} \partial_{j} \phi-\partial^{i} \phi \partial_{i} \phi \square \phi \\
n=3: & -(\square \phi)^{2} \partial_{i} \phi \partial^{i} \phi+2 \square \phi \partial_{i} \phi \partial_{j} \phi \partial^{i} \partial^{j} \phi+ \\
& +\partial_{i} \partial_{j} \phi \partial^{i} \partial^{j} \phi \partial_{k} \phi \partial^{k} \phi-2 \partial_{i} \phi \partial^{i} \partial^{j} \phi \partial_{j} \partial_{k} \phi \partial^{k} \phi \\
n=4: & -(\square \phi)^{3} \partial_{i} \phi \partial^{i} \phi+3(\square \phi)^{2} \partial_{i} \phi \partial_{j} \phi \partial^{i} \partial^{j} \phi+ \\
& +3 \square \phi \partial_{i} \partial_{j} \phi \partial^{i} \partial^{j} \phi \partial_{k} \phi \partial^{k} \phi-6 \square \phi \partial_{i} \phi \partial^{i} \partial^{j} \phi \partial_{j} \partial_{k} \phi \partial^{k} \phi+ \\
& -2 \partial_{i} \partial^{j} \phi \partial_{j} \partial^{k} \phi \partial_{k} \partial^{i} \phi \partial_{l} \phi \partial^{l} \phi-3 \partial_{i} \partial_{j} \phi \partial^{i} \partial^{j} \phi \partial_{k} \phi \partial_{l} \phi \partial^{k} \partial^{l} \phi+ \\
& +6 \partial_{i} \phi \partial^{i} \partial^{j} \phi \partial_{j} \partial_{k} \phi \partial^{k} \partial^{\prime} \phi \partial_{l} \phi
\end{array}
$$

## Non-triviality and generalizations

* Whether or not these terms have a dynamical footprint is easy to check:
* Bound on field appearances: $k_{n} \leq D$; or, $n_{\max }^{(p, q)}=\left\lfloor\frac{D+1}{p+q+2}\right\rfloor$ and $n_{\max }^{[p, p]}=\left\lfloor\frac{D-p}{p+1}\right\rfloor$.
* Evenophilia of total degree $p+q:\left.\left(\mathrm{d} \widetilde{\mathrm{d}} \omega_{p, q}\right)^{2}\right|_{p+q=\mathrm{odd}}=0=\left.\left(\mathrm{d} \widetilde{\mathrm{d}} \widetilde{\omega}_{q, p}\right)^{2}\right|_{p+q=o d d}$.
* A number of generalizations exist, elegantly captured in the graded formalism: cf. Deffayet, Deser, Esposito-Farese '09, Deffayet, Esposito-Farese, Vikman '09
* Multiple species; allows Galileons with odd total degree too.
* Field equations up to second order.
* Curved space; e.g. Horndeski for scalar (more tricky for bipartite tensors).


## Standard duality and parent actions

* A first order Lagrangian for the dualization of a $(p-1)$-form to a $(D-p-1)$-form is

$$
\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{P}}\left(F_{p}, \lambda_{p+1}\right)=-\frac{1}{2(p+1)!} F_{i_{1} \ldots i_{p}} F^{i_{1} \ldots i_{p}}-\frac{1}{(p+1)!} \lambda^{i_{1} \ldots i_{p+1}} \partial_{i_{1}} F_{i_{2} \ldots i_{p+1}} .
$$

$\lambda$-EOM $\rightsquigarrow$ Bianchi identity for $F_{p} \rightsquigarrow 2$ nd order $\mathcal{L}$ for a $(p-1)$-form potential $\omega_{p-1}$. $F$-EOM $\rightsquigarrow$ Duality relation $\rightsquigarrow 2$ nd order $\mathcal{L}$ for a dual potential $\widehat{\omega}_{D-p-1}=* \lambda_{p+1}$.
*For the standard dualization of the graviton $h_{[1,1]}$, a 1st order Lagrangian looks like West '01

$$
\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{P}}\left(f_{2,1}, \lambda_{3,1}\right)=f_{i j}^{j} f^{i k}{ }_{k}-\frac{1}{2} f_{i j k} f^{i k j}-\frac{1}{4} f_{i j k} f^{i j k}+\frac{1}{2} \lambda_{i j k l} \partial^{i} f^{j k l}
$$

$\lambda$-EOM $\rightsquigarrow$ Bianchi identity for $f_{2,1} \rightsquigarrow$ LEH (the antisymmetric part cancels out) $f$-EOM $\rightsquigarrow$ Duality relation $\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{L}$ for the dual graviton $\hat{\omega}_{[D-3,1]}=* \widehat{\lambda}_{3,1}$ s.t. $\operatorname{tr} \widehat{\lambda}=0$.

## Exotic duality and parent actions

* For the exotic dualization of e.g. a 2-form, the starting point is

Boulanger, Cook, Ponomarev '12, Bergshoeff, Hohm, Penas, Riccioni '16

$$
\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{P}}\left(Q_{1,2}, \lambda_{2,2}\right)=-\frac{1}{6} Q_{i \mid j k} Q^{i \mid j k}+\frac{1}{3} Q_{i \mid}^{i j} Q^{k \mid}{ }_{k j}+\frac{1}{2} \lambda_{i j \mid k l} \partial^{i} Q^{j|k|} .
$$

$\lambda$-EOM $\rightsquigarrow$ the same 2 nd order action as in the standard case, for the 2 -form.
$Q$-EOM $\rightsquigarrow$ a dual theory for a $(D-2,2)$ potential $\widehat{\omega}_{[D-2,2]}=* \widehat{\lambda}_{2,2}$ s.t. $\operatorname{tr} \widehat{\lambda}=0$.

* Also double dual graviton, duals for Curtright and higher $(p, 1)$ tensors \&c.

A unified treatment of all these dualizations?

## A universal first order action

A single two-parameter parent Lagrangian simultaneously accounting for

* the standard and exotic duals for any differential $p$-form, and
* the standard and double standard duals for any bipartite tensor of type $(p, 1)$.

$$
\mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{P}}^{(p, q)}(F, \lambda)=\int_{\theta, \chi} F_{p, q} \star \mathcal{O} F_{p, q}+\int_{\theta, \chi} \mathrm{d} F_{p, q} * \widetilde{*} \lambda_{p+1, q} \quad \text { for } \quad D \geq p+q+1 .
$$

* $F$ and $\lambda$ are independent $G L(D)$-reducible bipartite tensors.
$* \mathcal{O}=\mathcal{O}^{(p, q)}$ is a (known in closed form) operator acting on $(p, q)$ tensors s.t.

$$
\mathcal{O} \mathrm{d} \omega_{p-1, q}=\mathrm{d} \omega_{[p-1, q]}+\tilde{\mathrm{d}}(\ldots) .
$$

Role: Yield the kinetic term for irreducible potential $\omega_{[p-1, q]}$ upon taking $\lambda$-EOM.
*E.g. $\mathcal{O}^{(2,1)}=\mathbb{I}-\frac{1}{2} \widetilde{\sigma} \sigma$ (graviton), $\mathcal{O}^{(3,1)}=\mathbb{I}-\frac{1}{3} \widetilde{\sigma} \sigma, \mathcal{O}^{(2,2)}=\frac{4}{3} \mathbb{I}-\frac{1}{3} \sigma \widetilde{\sigma}$ (Curtright)

## Domains of applicability

For four domains of values, this Lagrangian yields all dual theories, in particular see also poster by Georgios Karagiannis

| $p$ | q | Original field | Dual field | Duality type |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\in[1, D-1]$ | 0 | $[p-1,0]$ | $[D-p-1,0]$ | Standard |
| $\in[2, D-2]$ | 1 | $[p-1,1]$ | $[D-p-1,1]$ | Standard |
| 1 | $\in[1, D-2]$ | $[0, q]$ | $[D-2, q]$ | Exotic |
| 2 | $\in[2, D-3]$ | $[1, q]$ | $[D-3, q]$ | Standard |

* All component forms stem from this single starting point.
* All necessary cancellations follow from general identities.
* Extremal case $p=0$ also relevant for deformations related to domain walls.


## Epilogue \& Outlook

* Graded geometry, even at its simplest, offers an elegant way to unify different $\mathcal{L}$ 's
* Geometric expressions highlighting shared features. Generalized Hodge star 夫
* General treatment of (many, all in certain domain) standard and exotic dualizations
* Extend to the infinite chain of dualities of Boulanger, Sundell, West' 15
* Sources, exotic branes; unified approach to their effective actions
cf. Bergshoeff, Kleinschmidt, Musaev, Riccioni '19
* Higher gauge theory approach to mixed symmetry tensors á la Grützmann, Strobl '14


## Thanks

$$
\text { 《ロ〉4吕 } \downarrow 4 \equiv>4 \equiv \Rightarrow \text { 三 }
$$

Back-up slides

In the irreducible case, define a graded geometric analog of a gen'd Einstein tensor, cf. Hull '01

$$
E_{[p, q]}:=(-1)^{(D-1)(p+q)} * \widetilde{*} \mathrm{~d} \star \mathrm{~d} \omega_{[p, q]}
$$

Then an alternative form of the kinetic term is

$$
\mathcal{L}_{\text {kin }}\left(\omega_{[p, q]}\right)=\int_{\theta, \chi} \omega_{[p, q]} * \widetilde{*} E_{[p, q]} .
$$

Mass terms take also a unified form,

$$
\mathcal{L}_{\text {mass }}\left(\omega_{p, q}\right)=m^{2} \int_{\theta, \chi} \omega \star \omega .
$$

E.g., for $p=q=1$ this is the familiar Fierz-Pauli term, $m^{2}\left(h^{i j} h_{i j}-\left(h_{i}^{i}\right)^{2}\right)$.

## Generalizations of Galileons

* Multiple species

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}\left(\omega_{0}, \ldots, \omega_{n}\right)= & \frac{1}{(D-k)!} \int_{\theta, \chi} \eta^{D-k} \omega_{0}^{\left(p_{0}, q_{0}\right)} \prod_{j=1}^{n} \mathrm{~d} \tilde{\mathrm{~d}} \omega_{j}^{\left(p_{j}, q_{j}\right)} . \\
& \sum_{k=0}^{n} p_{k}=\sum_{k=0}^{n} q_{k}=k-n .
\end{aligned}
$$

* Generalized Galileons (up to second order, polynomial)

$$
\mathcal{L}\left(\omega_{0}, \ldots, \omega_{n}\right)=\frac{1}{(D-k)!} \int_{\theta, \chi} \eta^{D-k} \prod_{i} \omega_{i}^{\left(p_{i}, q_{j}\right)} \prod_{j} \mathrm{~d} \omega_{j}^{\left(\rho_{j}, q_{j}\right)} \prod_{k} \tilde{d} \omega_{k}^{\left(\rho_{k}, q_{k}\right)} \prod_{l} \mathrm{~d} \tilde{\mathrm{~d}} \omega_{l}^{\left(\rho_{p}, q_{j}\right)} .
$$

## Finding $\mathcal{O}$

The operator $\mathcal{O}$ has the role of selecting the irreducible field. The requirement is

$$
\mathcal{O} \mathrm{d} \omega_{p-1, q} \stackrel{!}{=} \mathrm{d} \omega_{[p-1, q]}+\widetilde{\mathrm{d}}(\ldots)
$$

We find (recall that $\left.c_{n}(p, q)=\frac{(-1)^{n}}{\prod_{r=1}^{n}(p-q+r+1)}\right)$
$\mathcal{O}= \begin{cases}\mathbb{I}+\sum_{n=1}^{q} c_{n}(p-1, q) \widetilde{\sigma}^{n} \sigma^{n}, & p \geq q+1 \\ \mathbb{I}+\sum_{n=1}^{p-1} c_{n}(q, p-1)\left(\sigma^{n} \widetilde{\sigma}^{n}+\sum_{k=1}^{n}(-1)^{k} \prod_{m=0}^{k-1}(n-m)^{2} \sigma^{n-k} \widetilde{\sigma}^{n-k}\right), & p<q+1\end{cases}$
N.B.: For the domains of interest, only one term in the sum is relevant.

In fact, the domains are such that solving for $\lambda$ with this $\mathcal{O}$ leads to the 2 nd order theory

$$
\mathcal{L}_{\lambda-\text {-on-shell }}^{(p, q)}=\int_{\theta, \chi} \mathrm{d} \omega_{[p-1, q]} \star \mathrm{d} \omega_{[p-1, q]}
$$

This guarantees that the first side of the duality is correctly obtained.

## Comments on the dualization

Establishing the duality requires varying with respect to $F_{p, q}$. We first show that

$$
\int_{\theta, \chi} \delta(F \star \mathcal{O} F)=2 \int_{\theta, \chi} \delta F \star \mathcal{O} F .
$$

The $F$-variation then yields a duality relation, and $\mathcal{O}^{-1}$ is needed to solve it. We find

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left(\mathcal{O}^{(p, 1)}\right)^{-1}=\mathbb{I}-\widetilde{\sigma} \sigma, \\
& \left(\mathcal{O}^{(2, q)}\right)^{-1}=b_{1} \mathbb{I}+b_{2} \sigma \widetilde{\sigma}+b_{3} \sigma^{2} \widetilde{\sigma}^{2},
\end{aligned}
$$

or trivial for the rest of the cases; $b$ coefficients are given by

$$
b_{1}=\frac{q+1}{q+2}, \quad b_{2}=\frac{q+1}{2(q+2)}, \quad b_{3}=-\frac{q+1}{2 q(q+2)} .
$$

## Further comments on the dualization

* Domain I: straightforward (dual field is a differential form).
* Domain II: decompose the Lagrange multiplier

$$
\lambda_{p+1,1}=\widehat{\lambda}_{p+1,1}+\eta \grave{\lambda}_{p, 0}, \quad \operatorname{tr} \widehat{\lambda}=0 .
$$

Define $\widehat{\omega}=* \widehat{\lambda}$ (irreducible dual field). The dual $\mathcal{L}$ depends only on $\widehat{\omega}$.

* Domain III: decompose the Lagrange multiplier

$$
\lambda_{2, q}=\widehat{\lambda}_{2, q}+\eta \grave{\lambda}_{1, q-1}, \quad \operatorname{tr} \widehat{\lambda}=0
$$

Define $\widehat{\omega}=* \widehat{\lambda}$. The dual $\mathcal{L}$ depends not only on $\widehat{\omega}$, but also on $\lambda$.
The correct dual EOM is obtained by taking a suitable trace:

$$
\operatorname{tr}^{q+1} \mathrm{~d} \tilde{\mathrm{~d}} \widehat{\omega}_{[D-2, q]}=0 .
$$

* Domain IV: decompose the Lagrange multiplier

$$
\lambda_{3, q}=\widehat{\lambda}_{3, q}+\eta \grave{\lambda}_{2, q-1}, \quad \operatorname{tr} \widehat{\lambda}=0 .
$$

Define $\widehat{\omega}=* \widehat{\lambda}$. The dual $\mathcal{L}$ depends not only on $\widehat{\omega}$, but also on $\lambda$.
The correct dual EOM is obtained by taking a suitable trace:

$$
\operatorname{tr}^{q} \mathrm{~d} \tilde{\mathrm{~d}} \widehat{\omega}_{[D-3, q]}=0 .
$$

