

## On higher spin symmetries in $AdS_5$

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ABSTRACT: A special embedding of the  $SU(4)$  algebra in  $SU(10)$ , including both spin two and spin three symmetry generators, is constructed. A possible five dimensional action for massless spin two and three fields with cubic interaction is constructed. The connection with the previously investigated higher spin theories in  $AdS_5$  background is discussed. Generalization to the more general case of symmetries, including spins  $2, 3, \dots, s$ , is shown.

KEYWORDS: Gauge Symmetry, Field Theories in Higher Dimensions, Space-Time Symmetries

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**1 Introduction**

Higher Spin gauge theories have different structure in different space-time dimensions. The first example of a consistent fully nonlinear HS theory in four dimensions was given in [1]. Less is known for higher dimensions. In dimensions higher than four Higher Spin theories are getting more complicated in general, allowing fields of mixed symmetry type. At the same time, for the restricted spectra of only symmetric fields, Vasiliev equations are available for any space-time dimension [2]. They are defined unambiguously and describe totally symmetric bosonic fields of all spins.

Recent progress in three dimensional AdS higher spin gravity resulted in new relations between topological Chern-Simons theory, two-dimensional conformal field theories with higher spin symmetry, and new three-dimensional black hole solutions with higher spin charges ([3]–[8] and references therein). It also points out again the importance of an AdS background for the construction of consistent nonlinear higher spin interactions with a finite number of interacting higher spin gauge fields. These recent results are based on the embedding of the gravitational gauge group into a larger group, unifying higher spin gauge symmetry with the AdS group. In the three dimensional case it amounts to embedding  $SL(2)$  into  $SL(3)(SL(n))$  in the case of spin three (up to spin  $n$ ) gravity, and the corresponding field theory is described by a three-dimensional Chern-Simons action with  $SL(3) \times SL(3)$  ( $SL(n) \times SL(n)$ ) gauge group. The case of three dimensions is singled out by the existence of a one-parameter family of Higher Spin algebras that underlie the construction of Chern-Simons actions for the gauge fields [9–12] and Vasiliev equations, describing the interaction of Higher Spin gauge fields with scalar matter [13].

The main goal of this paper is to generalize this approach to five dimensions, and to construct possible interacting theories (actually with cubic interaction) with finite number

of higher spin fields in an  $AdS_5$  background. Moreover *we show the existence of a sequence of Lie algebras, the generators of which can be identified with the generators of Higher Spin gauge symmetries for a finite number of symmetric fields in  $(A)dS_5$ , in analogy to the three dimensional case.*<sup>1</sup>

As a realization of this idea we construct in the next section a special embedding of the spin two and spin three symmetry generators in frame formalism into a unifying  $SU(10)$  Lie algebra, where the spin two generators correspond to the  $SU(4)$  subalgebra and the spin three generators to the remaining part of  $SU(10)$ . In section 3 we construct gauge fields and curvatures. The latter include interactions and self-interactions of the spin-2 and spin-3 fields through the structure constant of  $SU(10)$  algebra. In the fourth section we construct an action with cubic interaction following the prescription of [16] and [17] and using our  $SU(10)$  gauge transformation and curvatures as a realization of the unified spin 2 and 3 gauge field theory. Generalization to any spin is discussed in section 5.

It would of course be interesting to construct a fully nonlinear interacting  $SU(10)$  invariant action. The first idea which comes to mind is a five-dimensional Chern-Simons action for the  $SU(10)$  gauge field. This idea is also based on the fact that unitary groups have an invariant third rank symmetric tensor which provides an invariant trace for the construction of the Chern-Simons action in five dimensions. But it is well known [18, 19] that this action, even in the pure gravity case ( $SO(6)$  gauge group) leads to Gauss-Bonnet (Love-lock) gravity with a special combination of terms quadratic and linear in curvatures and without a propagator for spin two fluctuations in an  $AdS_5$  background. Higher Spin Chern-Simons gravity in 5d was discussed in [20], where the authors considered also the dynamics of linearized spin 3 gauge fields. A different Lagrangian formulation for theories of spin 2 and higher in an AdS background in the frame formulation is the so-called MacDowell-Mansouri-Stelle-West formulation [21, 22] used by Vasiliev for a perturbative analysis of interactions [16, 17, 26]. In appendix B we discuss a generalization of the coset construction of [21, 22] and introduce a compensator field living on the coset  $SU(10)/SO(10)$ . Unfortunately our result is negative: this theory does not have a correct free field limit.

## 2 Unification of spin 2 and 3 symmetries on $AdS_5$

Gravitational theories in frame formalism can be formulated as gauge theories. Since our construction draws some of its motivation from the three dimensional case, we will briefly recall it. There pure gravity with a negative cosmological constant can be written as a  $SO(2, 2) \simeq SL(2, \mathbb{R}) \times SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  Chern-Simons theory. The generalization to higher spin is to replace  $SL(2)$  by a bigger group  $G$  with a special embedding  $SL(2, \mathbb{R}) \hookrightarrow G$ , the simplest case being  $G = SL(3, \mathbb{R})$  with the principal embedding, leading to a unified description of a spin-three field coupled to gravity.

Five dimensional gravity in  $AdS_5$  space is a gauge theory of  $SO(2, 4)$  (pure AdS) or  $SO(1, 5)$  (Euclidian AdS). The corresponding fünfbein and spin connection can be ex-

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<sup>1</sup>These algebras should correspond to the representations of  $su(2, 2)$  (the latter can serve as defining representations for these algebras) found in [14] and should be discrete cases of the one-parameter family of algebras of [15].

tracted from the gauge field, which is an algebra-valued one-form, by decomposition of the adjoint representation of  $SO(2, 4)$  or  $SO(1, 5)$  into the adjoint and vector representations of  $SO(1, 4)$ . For simplicity and without loss of generality we can replace these non-compact groups by their compact versions. Namely we consider instead of the  $AdS_5$  group the six dimensional rotation group  $SO(6)$  and expand the gauge field with respect to the “space-time rotation” group  $SO(5)$ , just separating the sixth component as the vector representation and obtaining correspondingly a fünfbein and a spin-connection:

$$A_{\mu}^{AB} dx^{\mu} = A^{AB} = -A^{BA}, \quad A, B, \dots = 1, \dots, 6, \\ A^{AB} = \{A^{a6}, A^{ab}\} = \{e^a, \omega^{ab}\}, \quad a, b = 1, \dots, 5. \quad (2.1)$$

We can then impose constraints of vanishing torsion and express the spin connection in terms of fünfbein and inverse fünfbein fields.

Then we propose the following extension to include spin 3 fields (and higher). The  $SO(6)$  representation of the gravitational fields (2.1) is via the antisymmetric two cell Young tableau

$$A^{AB} \Rightarrow Y_{A^{AB}}^{SO(6)} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}, \quad \dim(Y_{A^{AB}}^{SO(6)}) = 15. \quad (2.2)$$

In terms of Young tableaux, the expansion (2.1) is

$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}_{SO(6)} = \left( \square + \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \right)_{SO(5)}, \quad (2.3)$$

or in terms of dimensions:

$$\mathbf{15}_{SO(6)} = (\mathbf{5} + \mathbf{10})_{SO(5)}. \quad (2.4)$$

From this point of view the spin 3 field corresponds to the  $SO(6)$  window diagram [16]

$$A^{AB,CD} \Rightarrow Y_{A^{AB,CD}}^{SO(6)} = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}, \quad \dim(Y_{A^{AB,CD}}^{SO(6)}) = 84. \quad (2.5)$$

The conventions are such that  $A$  is symmetric in each pair of indices. The corresponding  $SO(5)$  expansion to a spin 3 tetrad and connections looks like

$$A^{AB,CD} \quad e^{ab} \quad \omega^{ab,c} \quad \omega^{ab,cd} \\ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}_{SO(6)} = \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} + \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} + \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \right)_{SO(5)}, \quad (2.6) \\ \mathbf{84}_{SO(6)} = (\mathbf{14} + \mathbf{35} + \mathbf{35})_{SO(5)}.$$

The  $\omega^{ab,cd}$  are so-called extra fields (which are absent in  $d = 3$ ).

For the unification of the spin 2 and spin 3 degrees of freedom into one field, we should first of all find a Lie group  $G$  with dimension

$$\mathbf{15}_{SO(6)} + \mathbf{84}_{SO(6)} = \mathbf{99}_G. \quad (2.7)$$

Taking into account that  $SO(6)$  is equivalent<sup>2</sup> to  $SU(4)$  we see that the natural choice for  $G$  is  $SU(10)$ .<sup>3</sup> The 15 generators of spin 2 gauge symmetry and 84 generators of spin 3 gauge symmetry can be combined into the 99 generators of  $SU(10)$ .

<sup>2</sup>See the appendix for details on the isomorphism  $so(6) \simeq su(4)$  and other relevant formulae.

<sup>3</sup>For other signatures of the initial space-time isometry algebra, we have, of course, different real forms of  $SL(10, \mathbb{C})$ .

To proceed, we have to find an embedding of  $SU(4)$  into  $SU(10)$  such that the adjoint of the latter decomposes w.r.t. the former as in (2.7). That amounts to finding a representation of  $SU(4)$  of dimension 10. Such representation of  $SU(4)$  exists in the space of symmetric second-rank tensors. We arrive at the following embedding procedure:<sup>4</sup>

- Denote the 99 generators of the  $SU(10)$  algebra by

$$U_J^I, \quad U_I^I = 0, \quad I, J, \dots \in \{1, 2, \dots, 10\}. \tag{2.8}$$

- We can present the  $SU(10)$  vector indices  $I, J, \dots$  as symmetric pairs of vector indices of  $SU(4)$

$$\begin{aligned} I, J, \dots &\rightarrow (\alpha\beta), (\gamma\delta), \dots, \quad \alpha, \beta, \dots \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}, \\ U_J^I &\rightarrow U_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} = U_{\gamma\delta}^{\beta\alpha} = U_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta}, \quad U_{\alpha\beta}^{\alpha\beta} = 0. \end{aligned} \tag{2.9}$$

- The  $SU(4) \hookrightarrow SU(10)$  embedding can then be realized as the decomposition into single and double traceless parts of  $U_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta}$

$$\begin{aligned} U_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} &= W_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{6} \delta_{(\gamma}^{\alpha} L_{\delta)}^{\beta)}, \\ L_{\delta}^{\beta} &= U_{\alpha\delta}^{\alpha\beta}, \\ W_{\alpha\delta}^{\alpha\beta} &= L_{\beta}^{\beta} = 0, \end{aligned} \tag{2.10}$$

where  $L_{\delta}^{\beta}$  are the 15 generators of  $SU(4)$ .

This shows that (2.10) is a realization of the embedding:

$$\mathbf{99}_{SU(10)} = (\mathbf{15} + \mathbf{84})_{SO(6)}. \tag{2.11}$$

Using the explicit form of the  $SU(10)$  generators, it is straightforward to work out the commutation relations of  $L$  and  $W$ . The result is given in the appendix.

To summarize, we constructed a Lie algebra of spin 3 and spin 2 transformations in  $AdS_5$  using a special embedding  $SO(6) \simeq SU(4) \hookrightarrow SU(10)$ . From (A.6) one sees that the difference between  $SU(10)$  and  $SU(4)$  is precisely the tensor representation of  $SU(4)$  corresponding to the window tableau of  $SO(6)$ .

In the subsequent sections we attempt to construct gauge field theory with cubic interaction corresponding to the above unified algebra starting from Vasiliev’s free higher spin action in AdS background [16].

### 3 Gauge fields and curvatures

In this section we apply the  $SU(4) \hookrightarrow SU(10)$  embedding to gauge fields and curvatures. First of all we can equip a general one-form gauge field and zero-form gauge parameter

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<sup>4</sup>We do not distinguish between the components of a tensor in the adjoint representation and the generators of  $SU(10)$ .

with SU(10) indices expressed as symmetric pairs of SU(4) indices

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A} &= A_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} U_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma\delta}, & \epsilon &= \epsilon_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} U_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma\delta}, \\ \delta\mathbf{A} &= D\epsilon \quad \Rightarrow \quad \delta A_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} = d\epsilon_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} + A_{\lambda\rho}^{\alpha\beta} \epsilon_{\gamma\delta}^{\lambda\rho} - A_{\gamma\delta}^{\lambda\rho} \epsilon_{\lambda\rho}^{\alpha\beta}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

From now on we use for algebra valued objects a component formalism, i.e. stripping off the generators. In this notation the SU(10) Yang-Mills field strength is

$$F_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} = dA_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} + A_{\lambda\rho}^{\alpha\beta} \wedge A_{\gamma\delta}^{\lambda\rho}, \quad F_{\alpha\beta}^{\alpha\beta} = 0. \tag{3.2}$$

Using the embedding (2.10) we can extract from the SU(10) gauge field and field strength the spin 2 and spin 3 gauge fields and curvatures:

$$\begin{aligned} A_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} &= W_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{6} \delta_{(\gamma}^{\alpha} \omega_{\delta)}^{\beta}, & W_{\alpha\delta}^{\alpha\beta} &= \omega_{\beta}^{\alpha} = 0, \\ F_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} &= R_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{6} \delta_{(\gamma}^{\alpha} r_{\delta)}^{\beta}, & R_{\alpha\delta}^{\alpha\beta} &= r_{\beta}^{\alpha} = 0. \end{aligned} \tag{3.3}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} &= D_{\omega} W_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} + W_{\lambda\rho}^{\alpha\beta} \wedge W_{\gamma\delta}^{\lambda\rho} - \frac{1}{6} \delta_{(\gamma}^{\alpha} W_{|\lambda\rho|}^{\beta)\sigma} \wedge W_{\delta)\sigma}^{\lambda\rho}, \\ D_{\omega} W_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} &= dW_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{3} \omega_{\lambda}^{(\alpha} \wedge W_{\gamma\delta}^{\beta)\lambda} - \frac{1}{3} \omega_{(\gamma}^{\lambda} \wedge W_{\delta)\lambda}^{\alpha\beta}, \\ r_{\beta}^{\alpha} &= d\omega_{\beta}^{\alpha} + \frac{1}{3} \omega_{\lambda}^{\alpha} \wedge \omega_{\beta}^{\lambda} + W_{\lambda\rho}^{\alpha\sigma} \wedge W_{\beta\sigma}^{\lambda\rho}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

Structure and couplings of fields in the curvatures reflect the structure of the commutators (A.6).<sup>5</sup> Defining the  $AdS_5$  background in standard SU(4) covariant way as

$$\omega_{\mu}^{\alpha} = \omega_{0\mu}^{\alpha}, \tag{3.5}$$

$$r_0 = D_{\omega_0} \omega_0 = 0, \tag{3.6}$$

where  $D_{\omega_0} = d + \omega_0$  is the  $AdS_5$  covariant exterior derivative,<sup>6</sup> we can expand the gauge field in this background and extract from the SU(10) field strength the spin 2 and spin 3 curvatures in both linear and quadratic order in field fluctuations:

$$\begin{aligned} A_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} &= W_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{6} \delta_{(\gamma}^{\alpha} (\omega_0 + \omega)_{\delta)}^{\beta}, \\ F_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} &= R_{1\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} + R_{2\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{6} \delta_{(\gamma}^{\alpha} (r_1 + r_2)_{\delta)}^{\beta}, \end{aligned} \tag{3.7}$$

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<sup>5</sup>After rescaling the spin two field  $\omega \rightarrow 3\omega$  the curvature takes the usual Riemann form.

<sup>6</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} D_{\omega_0} W_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} &= dW_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{3} \omega_{0\lambda}^{(\alpha} \wedge W_{\gamma\delta}^{\beta)\lambda} - \frac{1}{3} \omega_{0(\gamma}^{\lambda} \wedge W_{\delta)\lambda}^{\alpha\beta}, \\ D_{\omega_0} \omega_{\beta}^{\alpha} &= d\omega_{\beta}^{\alpha} + \frac{1}{3} \omega_{0\lambda}^{\alpha} \wedge \omega_{\beta}^{\lambda} - \frac{1}{3} \omega_{0\beta}^{\lambda} \wedge \omega_{\lambda}^{\alpha}. \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_{1\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} &= D_{\omega_0} W_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta}, \\
 R_{2\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} &= \frac{1}{3} \omega_\lambda^{(\alpha} \wedge W_{\gamma\delta}^{\beta)\lambda} - \frac{1}{3} \omega_{(\gamma}^\lambda \wedge W_{\delta)\lambda}^{\alpha\beta} + W_{\lambda\rho}^{\alpha\beta} \wedge W_{\gamma\delta}^{\lambda\rho} - \frac{1}{6} \delta_{(\gamma}^{(\alpha} W_{|\lambda\rho|}^{\beta)\sigma} \wedge W_{\delta)\sigma}^{\lambda\rho}, \\
 r_{1\beta}^\alpha &= D_{\omega_0} \omega_\beta^\alpha, \\
 r_{2\beta}^\alpha &= \frac{1}{3} \omega_\lambda^\alpha \wedge \omega_\beta^\lambda + W_{\lambda\rho}^{\alpha\sigma} \wedge W_{\beta\sigma}^{\lambda\rho}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.8}$$

In the next section we construct a cubic interaction using these expansions.

### 4 Spin 3 and 2 cubic interaction

To formulate correctly the free action, we begin with a brief review of the Macdowell-Mansouri-Stelle-West action principle for the case of ordinary spin two gravity in five dimensions. The task can be formulated in the following way: we have to write a topological action for a five dimensional gauge theory with SO(6) gauge group. This means that we should construct a five-form enabling us to integrate over a general five dimensional manifold  $M_5$  in a metric independent way. Introduce a field strength

$$F^{AB} = dA^{AB} + A^A{}_C \wedge A^{CB}, \quad A, B, \dots = 1, 2 \dots 6. \tag{4.1}$$

The natural choice for the action is

$$S_{\text{SO}(6)} \sim \int_{M_5} \epsilon_{ABCDEF} B^{AB} \wedge F^{CD} \wedge F^{EF}, \tag{4.2}$$

where  $B^{AB} = -B^{BA}$  is an SO(6) algebra valued gauge covariant one-form constructed from some compensator field. The compensator field should be introduced in a way that does not lead to equations of motion purely quadratic in the field strength

$$\epsilon_{ABCDEF} F^{CD} \wedge F^{EF} = 0, \tag{4.3}$$

as happens in the Chern-Simons case and which leads to a vanishing propagator in an AdS background  $F^{AB} = F_{\text{AdS}}^{AB} = 0$ . A possible solution is to take the compensator as an element of the coset  $G/H$  where  $G$  in this case is SO(6) and the stabilizer  $H$  should be taken in a way to keep ‘‘Lorentz’’ covariance as the remaining symmetry after gauge fixing. The natural choice in this case is  $H = \text{SO}(5)$ . This construction leads to a consistent gravity action, which is equivalent to the Einstein-Hilbert action in the linearized limit. In summary, we define the compensator field as an element of a five dimensional sphere

$$S^5 = \text{SO}(6)/\text{SO}(5). \tag{4.4}$$

The sphere can be realized, in a manifestly SO(6) invariant way, as a unit vector in  $\mathbb{R}^6$ :

$$V^A, \quad V^A V_A = 1. \tag{4.5}$$

The SO(6) covariant one-form and the corresponding action can then be constructed from (4.5) uniquely:

$$B^{AB} = V^{[A}DV^{B]}, \quad DV^B = dV^B + A^B{}_C V^C, \quad (4.6)$$

$$S_{\text{SO}(6)} \sim \int_{M_5} \epsilon_{ABCDMN} V^A DV^B \wedge F^{CD} \wedge F^{MN}. \quad (4.7)$$

A detailed analysis of the equations of motions and symmetries of this action can be found in [16]–[25]. Here we only note that using local SO(6) invariance of the theory, we can bring the vector field  $V^A(x)$  to the constant unit vector in the sixth direction, and the remaining SO(5) invariance will still be sufficient for covariance in the language of fünfbein and spin connection (2.1). Another important aspect of this construction is that the remaining SO(5) invariance, combined with diffeomorphism invariance will still be sufficient for full AdS invariance of the theory [16].

The most important point of this short review for us is that one can rewrite this action equivalently in SU(4) form. This can be done by direct transformation to chiral spinor indices  $\alpha, \beta, \dots \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  using standard identities for chiral Dirac matrices in six dimensions<sup>7</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} V^{\alpha\beta} = i(\Sigma^A)^{\alpha\beta} V_A &\iff V^A = \frac{i}{4} \Sigma_{\alpha\beta}^A V^{\alpha\beta}, & V^{\alpha\beta} = -V^{\beta\alpha}, \\ F_\alpha^\beta = (\Sigma_{AB})_\alpha^\beta F^{AB} &\iff F^{AB} = -\frac{1}{2} (\Sigma^{AB})_\beta^\alpha F_\alpha^\beta, & F_\alpha^\alpha = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (4.8)$$

The constraint on  $V^{\alpha\beta}$  which follows from (4.5) is

$$V^{\alpha\gamma} V_{\beta\gamma} = \delta_\beta^\alpha, \quad V_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} V^{\gamma\delta}. \quad (4.9)$$

With the help of the identity (A.11) one obtains from (4.7)

$$S_{\text{SU}(4)} \sim i \int_{M_5} V^{\alpha\lambda} DV_{\beta\lambda} \wedge F_\rho^\beta \wedge F_\alpha^\rho. \quad (4.10)$$

So we recognize the SU(4) covariant algebra-valued one-form<sup>8</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} B_\beta^\alpha &= iV^{\alpha\lambda} (DV)_{\beta\lambda}, & B_\alpha^\alpha &= 0, \\ (DV)_{\beta\lambda} &= dV_{\beta\lambda} + A_{[\beta}^\rho V_{\lambda]\rho}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.11)$$

Linearization of this construction around an  $AdS_5$  background gives the free spin 2 action<sup>9</sup>

$$S_{\text{SU}(4)}^{s=2} = i \int_{M_5} V^{\alpha\lambda} D_{\omega_0} V_{\beta\lambda} \wedge r_{1\rho}^\beta \wedge r_{1\alpha}^\rho, \quad (4.12)$$

<sup>7</sup>Further details are given in appendix A.

<sup>8</sup>Another way of transforming to the SU(4) invariant action leading to the same result is considered in appendix B.

<sup>9</sup>Here and below, the overall normalization is fixed for convenience.



which is the starting point for considering free actions for higher spin fields in  $AdS_5$  space [16]–[25]. We now present the correct free action for spin three, which consist of two parts [16]

$$S_{SO(6)}^{s=3} \sim \int_{M_5} \epsilon_{ABCDMN} V^A D_{\omega_0} V^B \wedge (R_1^{CC_1, DD_1} \wedge R_1^M{}_{C_1}{}^{,N}{}_{D_1} + 4 R_1^{CC_1, DD_1} \wedge R_1^M{}_{C_1}{}^{,ND_2} V_{D_1} V_{D_2}), \quad (4.13)$$

where the relative coefficient between the two terms is fixed such that the equation of motion for the unwanted “extra” fields corresponding to the  $SO(5)$  window like Young tableau in (2.6) trivializes. Using results from appendix A we can transform this action to  $SU(4)$  invariant form:

$$S_{SU(4)}^{s=3} = i \int_{M^5} V^{\alpha\lambda} D_{\omega_0} V_{\mu\lambda} \wedge (2 R_{1\delta_1\delta_2}^{\mu\sigma} \wedge R_{1\alpha\sigma}^{\delta_1\delta_2} + R_{1\sigma\delta_1}^{\mu\rho_1} \wedge R_{1\alpha\delta_2}^{\sigma\rho_2} V_{\rho_1\rho_2} V^{\delta_1\delta_2}). \quad (4.14)$$

For the construction of the cubic interaction lagrangian using our unifying spin 2 and 3 symmetry group  $SU(10)$  we start from the free spin 3 and spin 2 actions in  $AdS_5$  background written in the  $SU(4)$  form with an as yet undetermined relative coefficient  $a$ :

$$S^{\text{free}} = a S_{SU(4)}^{s=2} + S_{SU(4)}^{s=3}. \quad (4.15)$$

We then construct the cubic interaction following Noether’s procedure and using the  $SU(10)$  transformations for curvatures (3.8). If we split the gauge parameter  $\epsilon_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta}$  into its spin tree and two parts,

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} &= \eta_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{6} \delta_{(\mu}^{\alpha} \varepsilon_{\nu)}^{\beta),} \\ \eta_{\alpha\nu}^{\alpha\beta} &= \varepsilon_{\alpha}^{\nu} = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (4.16)$$

we derive the gauge transformation for the spin 3 and spin 2 curvatures:<sup>10</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} \delta R_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} &= [R, \eta]_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{6} \delta_{(\mu}^{\alpha} [R, \eta]_{\nu)}^{\beta)\sigma} + \frac{1}{3} [R, \varepsilon]_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{3} [r, \eta]_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta}, \\ \delta r_{\mu}^{\alpha} &= \frac{1}{3} [r, \varepsilon]_{\mu}^{\alpha} + [R, \eta]_{\mu\sigma}^{\alpha\sigma}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.19)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} [R, \eta]_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} &= R_{\lambda\rho}^{\alpha\beta} \eta_{\mu\nu}^{\lambda\rho} - \eta_{\lambda\rho}^{\alpha\beta} R_{\mu\nu}^{\lambda\rho}, \\ [R, \varepsilon]_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} &= R_{\rho(\mu}^{\alpha\beta} \varepsilon_{\nu)}^{\rho} - \varepsilon_{\rho}^{(\alpha} R_{\mu\nu)}^{\beta)\rho}, \\ [r, \eta]_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} &= r_{\rho}^{(\alpha} \eta_{\mu\nu)}^{\beta)\rho} - \eta_{\rho(\mu}^{\alpha\beta} r_{\nu)}^{\rho}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.20)$$

<sup>10</sup>The corresponding transformation for the gauge fields is:

$$\delta W_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} = D_{\omega_0} \eta_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} + [W, \eta]_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{6} \delta_{(\mu}^{\alpha} [W, \eta]_{\nu)}^{\beta)\sigma} + \frac{1}{3} [W, \varepsilon]_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{3} [\omega, \eta]_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta}, \quad (4.17)$$

$$\delta \omega_{\mu}^{\alpha} = D_{\omega_0} \varepsilon_{\mu}^{\alpha} + \frac{1}{3} [\omega, \varepsilon]_{\mu}^{\alpha} + [W, \eta]_{\mu\sigma}^{\alpha\sigma}. \quad (4.18)$$

with

$$[R, \varepsilon]_{\mu\beta}^{\alpha\beta} = [r, \eta]_{\mu\beta}^{\alpha\beta} = 0. \quad (4.21)$$

To perform Noether's procedure we split the gauge transformations into zeroth and first order in gauge fields and, as typical for Yang-Mills type of gauge fields, expand the transformations in first and second order in gauge fields

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_0 R_{1\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} &= \delta_0 r_{1\mu}^\alpha = 0, \\ \delta_1 R_{1\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} + \delta_0 R_{2\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} &= \Delta_{(R)}^{\alpha\beta}(R_1, r_1, \eta, \varepsilon), \\ \delta_1 r_{1\mu}^\alpha + \delta_0 r_{2\mu}^\alpha &= \Delta_{(r)}^\alpha(R_1, r_1, \eta, \varepsilon), \\ \Delta_{(R)}^{\alpha\beta} &= [R_1, \eta]_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{6} \delta_{(\mu}^{\alpha} [R_1, \eta]_{\nu)\sigma}^{\beta)\sigma} + \frac{1}{3} [R_1, \varepsilon]_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{3} [r_1, \eta]_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta}, \\ \Delta_{(r)}^\alpha &= \frac{1}{3} [r_1, \varepsilon]_\mu^\alpha + [R_1, \eta]_{\mu\sigma}^{\alpha\sigma}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.22)$$

We now use the prescription suggested in [16, 17] (see also [15] for further details and generalizations) and replace in the free action the linearized curvatures by the full curvatures and extract a candidate cubic action of the form:

$$\begin{aligned} S^{\text{cubic}} &= ai \int_{M^5} V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} \wedge [r_{2\delta}^\mu \wedge r_{1\alpha}^\delta + r_{1\delta}^\mu \wedge r_{2\alpha}^\delta] \\ &+ i \int_{M^5} 2V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} \wedge [R_{2\delta_1\delta_2}^{\mu\sigma} \wedge R_{1\alpha\sigma}^{\delta_1\delta_2} + R_{1\delta_1\delta_2}^{\mu\sigma} \wedge R_{2\alpha\sigma}^{\delta_1\delta_2}] \\ &+ i \int_{M^5} V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} \wedge [R_{2\sigma\delta_1}^{\mu\rho_1} \wedge R_{1\alpha\delta_2}^{\sigma\rho_2} + R_{1\sigma\delta_1}^{\mu\rho_1} \wedge R_{2\alpha\delta_2}^{\sigma\rho_2}] V_{\rho_1\rho_2} V^{\delta_1\delta_2}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.23)$$

where

$$h = D_{\omega_0} V, \quad D_{\omega_0} h = 0. \quad (4.24)$$

This gives Noether's equation with nonzero right hand side

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_1 S^{\text{free}} + \delta_0 S^{\text{cubic}} &= ai \int_{M^5} V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} \wedge [\Delta_{(r)}^{\mu\delta} \wedge r_{1\alpha}^\delta + r_{1\delta}^\mu \wedge \Delta_{(r)\alpha}^\delta] \\ &+ i \int_{M^5} 2V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} \wedge [\Delta_{(R)\delta_1\delta_2}^{\mu\sigma} \wedge R_{1\alpha\sigma}^{\delta_1\delta_2} + R_{1\delta_1\delta_2}^{\mu\sigma} \wedge \Delta_{(R)\alpha\sigma}^{\delta_1\delta_2}] \\ &+ i \int_{M^5} V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} \wedge [\Delta_{(R)\sigma\delta_1}^{\mu\rho_1} \wedge R_{1\alpha\delta_2}^{\sigma\rho_2} + R_{1\sigma\delta_1}^{\mu\rho_1} \wedge \Delta_{(R)\alpha\delta_2}^{\sigma\rho_2}] V_{\rho_1\rho_2} V^{\delta_1\delta_2}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.25)$$

It remains to prove that the right-hand side of Noether's equation is zero on the free mass shell. This means that the r.h.s. is zero on solutions of the free equation of motion of the theory. This requires a deformation of the initial Yang-Mills like gauge symmetry. To show that r.h.s. vanishes on the solutions of the free equations of motion we use the so-called First On-Shell Theorem [16] which in our case can be formulated in the following manner:

- All linearized 'torsions' are zero on the free mass shell

$$V^{\mu[\gamma} R_{1\mu\nu}^{\alpha]\beta} = V^{\mu[\gamma} r_{1\mu}^{\alpha]} = 0. \quad (4.26)$$

- The remaining curvatures can be expressed through the Weyl tensor zero forms in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_{1\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} &= H_{\lambda\rho}^{(2)} V^{\rho\gamma} C_{\gamma\mu\nu}^{\lambda\alpha\beta}, \\
 r_{1\mu}^\alpha &= H_{\lambda\rho}^{(2)} V^{\rho\gamma} c_{\gamma\mu}^{\lambda\alpha}, \\
 H_{\lambda\rho}^{(2)} &= h_{\lambda\sigma} \wedge V^{\sigma\delta} h_{\delta\rho}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{4.27}$$

where the Weyl zero forms are completely symmetric and traceless

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_{\gamma\mu\nu}^{\lambda\alpha\beta} &= C_{\gamma\mu\nu}^{(\lambda\alpha\beta)} = C_{(\gamma\mu\nu)}^{\lambda\alpha\beta}, \quad c_{\gamma\mu}^{\lambda\alpha} = c_{\gamma\mu}^{(\lambda\alpha)} = c_{(\gamma\mu)}^{\lambda\alpha}, \\
 C_{\gamma\mu\beta}^{\lambda\alpha\beta} &= c_{\gamma\alpha}^{\lambda\alpha} = 0.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{4.28}$$

- The Weyl tensors are  $V$  transversal:

$$V^{\rho[\delta} C_{\rho\mu\nu}^{\lambda]\alpha\beta} = V^{\rho[\delta} c_{\rho\mu}^{\lambda]\alpha} = 0.
 \tag{4.29}$$

The first simplification of the r.h.s. of (4.25) occurs by virtue of the identity (A.17) and condition (4.26). It allows us to remove the last line in (4.25) while changing the coefficient in the second line from 2 to 1.

A second simplification results from using the torsion free condition. It sets to zero all terms in (4.25) which originate from the second term in  $\Delta_{(R)}$  which effectively becomes

$$\Delta_{(R)\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} = [R_1, \epsilon]_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{3} [r_1, \eta]_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta}.
 \tag{4.30}$$

Note that here the full parameter  $\epsilon$  (cf. 4.16) appears. The remaining terms can be written in the form

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\delta_1 S^{\text{free}} + \delta_0 S^{\text{cubic}} \\
 &= a i \int_{M^5} V^{\alpha\nu} h_{\mu\nu} \wedge \left\{ \frac{1}{3} [(r_1 \wedge r_1), \epsilon]_{\alpha}^{\mu} + [R_1, \eta]_{\delta\sigma}^{\mu\sigma} \wedge r_{1\alpha}^{\delta} + r_{1\delta}^{\mu} \wedge [R_1, \eta]_{\alpha\sigma}^{\delta\sigma} \right\} \\
 &\quad + i \int_{M^5} V^{\alpha\nu} h_{\mu\nu} \wedge \left\{ [(R_1 \wedge R_1), \epsilon]_{\alpha\sigma}^{\mu\sigma} + \frac{1}{3} [r_1, \eta]_{\delta_1\delta_2}^{\mu\sigma} \wedge R_{1\alpha\sigma}^{\delta_1\delta_2} + R_{1\delta_1\delta_2}^{\mu\sigma} \wedge \frac{1}{3} [r_1, \eta]_{\alpha\sigma}^{\delta_1\delta_2} \right\},
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{4.31}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 (R_1 \wedge R_1)_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} &= R_{1\rho_1\rho_2}^{\alpha\beta} \wedge R_{1\mu\nu}^{\rho_1\rho_2}, \\
 (r_1 \wedge r_1)_{\mu}^{\alpha} &= r_{1\rho}^{\alpha} \wedge r_{1\mu}^{\rho}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{4.32}$$

Then inserting (4.27) in (4.31) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\delta_1 S^{\text{free}} + \delta_0 S^{\text{cubic}} \\
 &= i \int_{M^5} h_{\mu\nu} \wedge H_{\lambda\rho}^{(2)} \wedge H_{\phi\chi}^{(2)} V^{\alpha\nu} V^{\rho\gamma} V^{\chi\tau} \left\{ a \left( \frac{1}{3} [(c_{\gamma}^{\lambda} c_{\tau}^{\phi}), \epsilon]_{\alpha}^{\mu} + [C_{\gamma}^{\lambda}, \eta]_{\delta\sigma}^{\mu\sigma} c_{\tau\alpha}^{\phi\delta} + c_{\tau\delta}^{\phi\mu} [C_{\gamma}^{\lambda}, \eta]_{\alpha\sigma}^{\delta\sigma} \right) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + [(C_{\gamma}^{\lambda} C_{\tau}^{\phi}), \epsilon]_{\alpha\sigma}^{\mu\sigma} + \frac{1}{3} [c_{\gamma}^{\lambda}, \eta]_{\delta_1\delta_2}^{\mu\sigma} C_{\tau\alpha\sigma}^{\phi\delta_1\delta_2} + \frac{1}{3} C_{\tau\delta_1\delta_2}^{\phi\mu\sigma} [c_{\gamma}^{\lambda}, \eta]_{\alpha\sigma}^{\delta_1\delta_2} \right\}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{4.33}$$

We now note the crucial identity

$$h_{\mu\nu} \wedge H_{\lambda\rho}^{(2)} \wedge H_{\phi\chi}^{(2)} = \frac{1}{60} H^{(5)} \left[ V_{\lambda[\mu} V_{\nu](\phi} V_{\chi)\rho} + V_{\rho[\mu} V_{\nu](\phi} V_{\chi)\lambda} + V_{\mu\nu} V_{\lambda(\phi} V_{\chi)\rho} \right], \quad (4.34)$$

where

$$H^{(5)} = V^{\lambda\mu} h_{\mu\nu} \wedge V^{\nu\lambda} h_{\lambda\sigma} \wedge V^{\sigma\delta} h_{\delta\rho} \wedge V^{\rho\phi} h_{\phi\delta} \wedge V^{\delta\gamma} h_{\gamma\chi} \quad (4.35)$$

is a volume form. Using this identity and the properties of the Weyl tensors, eqs. (4.28) and (4.29), the variation of the action simplifies considerably:

$$\delta_1 S^{\text{free}} + \delta_0 S^{\text{cubic}} = -\frac{i}{30} \left( 2a - \frac{4}{3} \right) \int_{M^5} H^{(5)} \left( C_{\tau\theta_1\theta_2}^{\phi\mu\delta} \eta_{\delta\theta}^{\theta_1\theta_2} c_{\phi\mu}^{\tau\theta} - c_{\phi\mu}^{\tau\theta} \eta_{\theta_1\theta_2}^{\mu\delta} C_{\tau\theta\delta}^{\phi\theta_1\theta_2} \right). \quad (4.36)$$

So we see that full cancelation occurs if we fix the coefficient  $a = \frac{2}{3}$ . We have thus shown that the invariant action with cubic interaction is

$$\begin{aligned} S^{\text{free+cubic}} &= \frac{2}{3} i \int_{M^5} V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} \wedge \left[ r_{1\delta}^\mu \wedge r_{1\alpha}^\delta + r_{2\delta}^\mu \wedge r_{1\alpha}^\delta + r_{1\delta}^\mu \wedge r_{2\alpha}^\delta \right] \\ &+ i \int_{M^5} 2V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} \wedge \left[ R_{1\delta_1\delta_2}^{\mu\sigma} \wedge R_{1\alpha\sigma}^{\delta_1\delta_2} + R_{2\delta_1\delta_2}^{\mu\sigma} \wedge R_{1\alpha\sigma}^{\delta_1\delta_2} + R_{1\delta_1\delta_2}^{\mu\sigma} \wedge R_{2\alpha\sigma}^{\delta_1\delta_2} \right] \\ &+ i \int_{M^5} V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} \wedge \left[ R_{1\sigma\delta_1}^{\mu\rho_1} \wedge R_{1\alpha\delta_2}^{\sigma\rho_2} + R_{2\sigma\delta_1}^{\mu\rho_1} \wedge R_{1\alpha\delta_2}^{\sigma\rho_2} + R_{1\sigma\delta_1}^{\mu\rho_1} \wedge R_{2\alpha\delta_2}^{\sigma\rho_2} \right] V_{\rho_1\rho_2} V^{\delta_1\delta_2}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.37)$$

This action can be extracted as an expansion up to cubic order of the following expression written in the form which includes only the SU(10) field strength  $F_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} S^{\text{free+cubic}} &= i \int_{M^5} \left\{ \frac{1}{3} V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} \wedge F_{\rho\sigma}^{\mu\sigma} \wedge F_{\alpha\delta}^{\rho\delta} \right. \\ &+ 2V^{\alpha\beta} h_{\mu\beta} F_{\lambda\rho}^{\mu\sigma} \wedge F_{\alpha\sigma}^{\lambda\rho} + V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} \wedge F_{\beta\rho_1}^{\mu\delta_1} \wedge F_{\alpha\rho_2}^{\sigma\delta_2} V^{\rho_1\rho_2} V_{\delta_1\delta_2} \\ &\left. - \frac{4}{3} V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} F_{\alpha\rho}^{\mu\sigma} \wedge F_{\sigma\delta}^{\rho\delta} - \frac{2}{3} V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} F_{\alpha\rho_1}^{\mu\delta_1} \wedge F_{\rho_2\sigma}^{\delta_2\sigma} V^{\rho_1\rho_2} V_{\delta_1\delta_2} \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.38)$$

With the help of identity (A.16) we can rewrite (4.38) as

$$\begin{aligned} S^{\text{free+cubic}} &= \frac{1}{3} i \int_{M^5} [V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} \delta_\sigma^\beta - V^{\beta\alpha} h_{\mu\sigma} + h^{\beta\alpha} V_{\mu\sigma}] \\ &\times \left( 2\delta_{\delta_2}^{\rho_1} \delta_{\delta_1}^{\rho_2} + V^{\rho_1\rho_2} V_{\delta_1\delta_2} + \frac{1}{3} \delta_{\delta_1}^{\rho_1} \delta_{\delta_2}^{\rho_2} \right) \wedge F_{\beta\rho_1}^{\mu\delta_1} \wedge F_{\alpha\rho_2}^{\sigma\delta_2}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.39)$$

Analyzing this expression we find that the first bracket removes from the product of two SU(10) field strengths the quadratic term which mixes the spin two and spin three fields. In the free limit this leads to the correct diagonal action (4.15). On the other hand the operator

$$2\delta_{\delta_2}^{\rho_1} \delta_{\delta_1}^{\rho_2} + V^{\rho_1\rho_2} V_{\delta_1\delta_2}, \quad (4.40)$$

in the second bracket controls the trivialization of the ‘‘extra field’’ equation of motion for the spin 3 part and the coefficient  $\frac{1}{3}$  in front of last term is fixed by the condition that

a deformation of the  $SU(10)$  gauge invariance which leads to this cubic interaction exists. This nontrivial deformation makes the generalization of this procedure to quartic or the full nonlinear action illusive and as a result the compact expression (4.40) is correct only up to cubic order.

One might consider avoiding the deformation and to generalize the nonlinear spin 2 ( $SU(4)$ ) action (4.10) to the spin 3 ( $SU(10)$ ) case by introducing a  $SU(10)$  covariant compensator. But this does not provide the correct free limit without mixed terms and the triviality of “extra” field free equations at the same time. This is demonstrated in appendix B.

## 5 Outlook

One obvious generalization can be envisioned: including spins higher than three. This generalization is straightforward as far as the identification of  $G$  and the embedding  $SO(6) \hookrightarrow G$  are concerned. Consider e.g. spin 2, spin 3 and spin 4. The fields and their  $SO(5)$  representations are

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 e^a \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \underline{\mathbf{5}} & e^{ab} \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \underline{\mathbf{14}} & e^{abc} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \underline{\mathbf{30}} \\
 \omega^{ab} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \underline{\mathbf{10}} & \omega^{ab,c} \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \underline{\mathbf{35}} & \omega^{abc,d} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \underline{\mathbf{81}} \\
 & \omega^{ab,cd} \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \underline{\mathbf{35}} & \omega^{abc,de} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \underline{\mathbf{105}} \\
 & & \omega^{abc,def} \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \underline{\mathbf{84}}
 \end{array} \tag{5.1}$$

The fields in each column combine into representations of  $SO(6)$  whose Young tableau coincides with the last one in each column. The total of 399 fields nicely combine into the adjoint representation of  $SU(20)$ . The pattern repeats if we add higher spins such that for spin  $2, \dots, s$  we find  $SU\left(\binom{s+2}{3}\right)$ . All of the fields, that correspond to spins from 2 to  $s$  now combine into one  $SU\left(\binom{s+2}{3}\right)$ -valued one-form master field. We can introduce  $s - 1$  symmetrized  $su(4)$  indices for each of the  $SU\left(\binom{s+2}{3}\right)$  indices (the number of components matches exactly). The trace decomposition of the master one-form field gives all the fields, corresponding to different spins.

We expect that this result hints on the existence of one parameter family of algebras for symmetric Higher Spin fields in five dimensions, in full analogy with the three dimensional case. For the critical values of the parameter, this algebra should acquire infinite-dimensional ideals, with the remaining generators forming finite dimensional subalgebras  $SU\left(\binom{s+2}{3}\right)$ . This sequence of algebras should include the known infinite dimensional Higher Spin algebras, discussed in [2, 16, 20, 27, 28]. In order to check this idea, one has to implement the more general construction of Higher Spin algebra, along the lines of [29–32]. In fact, a one parameter family of Higher Spin algebras is known to exist in any dimension [15] (see also [33]). This family of algebras includes mixed symmetry fields in higher dimensions, while in five dimensions it does not. It is also known [14] that there is a family of unitary representations of the  $AdS_5$  algebra  $su(2, 2)$  that should serve as defining representations for these algebras.

While we have demonstrated the correct cubic action for spin two and spin three in an AdS background, we encounter standard problems when considering the fully interacting theory, even in the case of our higher spin algebra with only finite number of spins (see appendix B for an alternative attempt). Therefore, the question of existence of an action with nonlinear interactions of a finite number of dynamical Higher Spin fields remains open.

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## A Useful relations

In this appendix we give some of the details about the Lie-algebras which were used in the main body of the paper.

The generators of  $SU(n)$  in the fundamental representation can be chosen as a basis of real traceless matrices as follows:

$$(U_J^I)^i_j = \delta^{Ii} \delta_{Jj} - \frac{1}{n} \delta_J^I \delta_j^i, \quad (\text{A.1})$$

where the range of all indices is  $1, \dots, n$ . These generators satisfy

$$[U_J^I, U_L^K] = \delta_J^K U_L^I - \delta_L^I U_J^K. \quad (\text{A.2})$$

Using the explicit representation (A.1), one easily works out the rank three  $d$ -symbol of  $SU(n)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} d_{JLN}^{IKM} &= \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(U_J^I \{U_L^K, U_N^M\}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \delta_N^I \delta_L^M \delta_J^K + \delta_L^I \delta_J^M \delta_N^K - \frac{2}{n} \delta_N^I \delta_L^K \delta_J^M - \frac{2}{n} \delta_L^M \delta_N^K \delta_J^I - \frac{2}{n} \delta_L^I \delta_J^K \delta_N^M + \frac{4}{n^2} \delta_J^I \delta_L^K \delta_N^M \right). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.3})$$

Considering the special embedding  $SU(4) \hookrightarrow SU(10)$ , we represent the  $SU(10)$  indices  $I, J, \dots$  by a symmetrized pair of  $SU(4)$  indices, i.e.  $I = (\alpha\beta)$ , etc. with  $\alpha, \beta, \dots = 1, \dots, 4$  and rewrite (A.2) as

$$[U_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta}, U_{\rho\sigma}^{\mu\nu}] = \delta_{\gamma\delta}^{\mu\nu} U_{\rho\sigma}^{\alpha\beta} - \delta_{\rho\sigma}^{\alpha\beta} U_{\gamma\delta}^{\mu\nu}, \quad \delta_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} = \delta_\gamma^\alpha \delta_\delta^\beta + \delta_\delta^\alpha \delta_\gamma^\beta. \quad (\text{A.4})$$

Given the decomposition<sup>11</sup>

$$U_J^I = U_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} = W_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{6}\delta_{(\gamma}^{\alpha}L_{\delta)}^{\beta}, \quad W_{\alpha\gamma}^{\alpha\beta} = L_{\alpha}^{\alpha} = 0, \quad (\text{A.5})$$

and the algebra (A.4), it is straightforward to derive

$$\begin{aligned} [L_{\beta}^{\alpha}, L_{\delta}^{\gamma}] &= \delta_{\beta}^{\gamma}L_{\delta}^{\alpha} - \delta_{\delta}^{\alpha}L_{\beta}^{\gamma}, \\ [L_{\beta}^{\alpha}, W_{\rho\sigma}^{\mu\nu}] &= \delta_{(\rho}^{\alpha}W_{\sigma)\beta}^{\mu\nu} - \delta_{\beta}^{(\mu}W_{\rho\sigma)}^{\nu\alpha}, \\ [W_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta}, W_{\rho\sigma}^{\mu\nu}] &= \delta_{\gamma\delta}^{\mu\nu}W_{\rho\sigma}^{\alpha\beta} - \delta_{\rho\sigma}^{\alpha\beta}W_{\gamma\delta}^{\mu\nu} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{6}\left(\delta_{\langle\gamma(\rho}^{\alpha\beta}W_{\sigma)\delta}^{\mu\nu} - \delta_{\langle\gamma(\rho}^{\mu\nu}W_{\sigma)\delta}^{\alpha\beta} - \delta_{\gamma\delta}^{\langle\alpha(\mu}W_{\rho\sigma)}^{\nu)\beta} + \delta_{\rho\sigma}^{\langle\alpha(\mu}W_{\gamma\delta)}^{\nu)\beta}\right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{6}\left(\delta_{\gamma\delta}^{\mu\nu}\delta_{(\rho}^{\alpha}L_{\sigma)}^{\beta} - \delta_{\rho\sigma}^{\alpha\beta}\delta_{(\gamma}^{\mu}L_{\delta)}^{\nu}\right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{72}\left(\delta_{\langle\gamma(\rho}^{\alpha\beta}\delta_{\sigma)}^{\mu}L_{\delta)}^{\nu} - \delta_{\langle\rho(\gamma}^{\mu\nu}\delta_{\delta)}^{\alpha}L_{\sigma)}^{\beta} - \delta_{\gamma\delta}^{\langle\alpha(\mu}\delta_{(\rho}^{\nu)}L_{\sigma)}^{\beta} + \delta_{\rho\sigma}^{\langle\mu(\alpha}\delta_{(\gamma}^{\beta)}L_{\delta)}^{\nu}\right), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.6})$$

where  $\langle\alpha(\beta\gamma)\delta\rangle$  denotes symmetrization in  $(\alpha, \delta)$  and in  $(\beta, \gamma)$  and  $\delta_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} = \delta_{\gamma}^{\alpha}\delta_{\delta}^{\beta} + \delta_{\delta}^{\alpha}\delta_{\gamma}^{\beta}$ .

The isomorphism between the vector representation of  $\text{SO}(6)$  and the antisymmetric second rank tensor representation of  $\text{SU}(4)$  is made explicit with the help of the chiral Dirac matrices, some of whose properties are<sup>12</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_{\alpha\beta}^A &= -\Sigma_{\beta\alpha}^A, \\ (\Sigma^A)^{\alpha\beta} &= \frac{1}{2}\epsilon^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}\Sigma_{\gamma\delta}^A, \\ (\Sigma^A)^{\alpha\gamma}\Sigma_{\gamma\beta}^B + (\Sigma^B)^{\alpha\gamma}\Sigma_{\gamma\beta}^A &= 2\delta^{AB}\delta_{\beta}^{\alpha}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.7})$$

A convenient basis for the  $\Sigma_{\alpha\beta}^A$  is  $\Sigma^1 = i\sigma_3 \otimes \sigma_1$ ,  $\Sigma^2 = \mathbb{1} \otimes \sigma_2$ ,  $\Sigma^3 = i\sigma_2 \otimes \mathbb{1}$ ,  $\Sigma^4 = \sigma_2 \otimes \sigma_3$ ,  $\Sigma^5 = i\sigma_1 \otimes \sigma_2$ ,  $\Sigma^6 = \sigma_2 \otimes \sigma_1$  where  $\sigma_i$  are the three Pauli matrices. Then  $\text{SO}(6)$  algebra generators can be constructed as

$$(\Sigma^{AB})_{\alpha}^{\gamma} = -\frac{1}{4}(\Sigma_{\alpha\beta}^A\Sigma^{B\beta\gamma} - \Sigma_{\alpha\beta}^B\Sigma^{A\beta\gamma}), \quad (\text{A.8})$$

Defining

$$V_{\alpha\beta} = i\Sigma_{\alpha\beta}^A V_A, \quad V^{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2}\epsilon^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}V_{\gamma\delta}, \quad (\text{A.9})$$

one finds that (4.5) implies the constraint

$$V^{\alpha\gamma}V_{\beta\gamma} = \delta_{\beta}^{\alpha}. \quad (\text{A.10})$$

<sup>11</sup>Our conventions are  $\delta_{(\gamma}^{\alpha}L_{\delta)}^{\beta} = \delta_{\gamma}^{\alpha}L_{\delta}^{\beta} + \delta_{\gamma}^{\beta}L_{\delta}^{\alpha} + \delta_{\delta}^{\alpha}L_{\gamma}^{\beta} + \delta_{\delta}^{\beta}L_{\gamma}^{\alpha}$ .

<sup>12</sup>The indices  $\dot{\alpha}$  referring to the other chirality are not needed here. By raising and lowering them with the charge conjugation matrix we can always convert them to un-dotted indices.

Using the symmetries of the l.h.s. and the fact that  $\Sigma^{AB}$  is traceless, leads to the identity

$$\begin{aligned} & \epsilon_{ABCDMN} \Sigma_{\alpha\beta}^A \Sigma_{\gamma\delta}^B (\Sigma^{CD})_{\lambda}^{\rho} (\Sigma^{MN})_{\mu}^{\nu} \\ &= 4i \left[ \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\lambda\mu} \delta_{\gamma\delta}^{\rho\nu} - \epsilon_{\gamma\delta\lambda\mu} \delta_{\alpha\beta}^{\rho\nu} - \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma\lambda} \delta_{\delta}^{\nu} \delta_{\mu}^{\rho} + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\delta\lambda} \delta_{\gamma}^{\nu} \delta_{\mu}^{\rho} + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\gamma\delta\alpha\lambda} \delta_{\beta}^{\nu} \delta_{\mu}^{\rho} \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\gamma\delta\beta\lambda} \delta_{\alpha}^{\nu} \delta_{\mu}^{\rho} - \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma\mu} \delta_{\delta}^{\rho} \delta_{\lambda}^{\nu} + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\delta\mu} \delta_{\gamma}^{\rho} \delta_{\lambda}^{\nu} + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\gamma\delta\alpha\mu} \delta_{\beta}^{\rho} \delta_{\lambda}^{\nu} - \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\gamma\delta\beta\mu} \delta_{\alpha}^{\rho} \delta_{\lambda}^{\nu} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.11})$$

with

$$\delta_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} = \delta_{\gamma}^{\alpha} \delta_{\delta}^{\beta} - \delta_{\delta}^{\alpha} \delta_{\gamma}^{\beta}. \quad (\text{A.12})$$

Other useful identities are

$$\epsilon_{ABCDMN} (\Sigma^{AB})_{\beta}^{\alpha} (\Sigma^{CD})_{\delta}^{\gamma} (\Sigma^{MN})_{\nu}^{\mu} = 16 i d_{\beta\delta\nu}^{\alpha\gamma\mu}, \quad (\text{A.13})$$

$$(\Sigma^A)_{\alpha\beta} (\Sigma_A)_{\gamma\delta} = 2 \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}, \quad (\text{A.14})$$

and

$$h_{\alpha\beta} \wedge h_{\gamma\delta} = -\frac{1}{2} (V_{\alpha\gamma} H_{\beta\delta}^{(2)} - V_{\beta\gamma} H_{\alpha\delta}^{(2)} - V_{\alpha\delta} H_{\beta\gamma}^{(2)} + V_{\beta\delta} H_{\alpha\gamma}^{(2)}). \quad (\text{A.15})$$

For an antisymmetric one-form  $h_{\alpha\beta}$  with  $V^{\alpha\beta} h_{\alpha\beta} = 0$  (e.g. for  $h_{\alpha\beta} = DV_{\alpha\beta}$ ) and a two-form  $f_{\beta}^{\alpha}$  one finds the identity

$$\frac{1}{2} (V^{\beta\alpha} h_{\mu\sigma} - h^{\beta\alpha} V_{\mu\sigma}) f_{\beta}^{\mu} \wedge f_{\alpha}^{\sigma} + V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} f_{\sigma}^{\mu} \wedge f_{\alpha}^{\sigma} = V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} f_{\alpha}^{\mu} \wedge f_{\sigma}^{\sigma}. \quad (\text{A.16})$$

We will also use

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\alpha\beta} V_{\gamma\delta} + V_{\alpha\gamma} V_{\delta\beta} + V_{\alpha\delta} V_{\beta\gamma} &= \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} \\ V_{\rho_1\rho_2} V^{\delta_1\delta_2} &= \epsilon^{\delta_1\delta_2\tau_1\tau_2} V_{\tau_1\rho_1} V_{\tau_2\rho_2} + \delta_{\rho_1\rho_2}^{\delta_1\delta_2}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.17})$$

## B Topological actions and coset construction

In this appendix we describe an attempt to construct an action for the spin two and spin three fields with manifest  $SU(10)$  symmetry, generalizing the coset space construction described in section 4. While the symmetry is manifest we will find that this construction leads to unwanted mixed terms between the spin two and spin three fields at the quadratic level.

We begin with an alternative way to write the action (4.7) in  $SU(4)$  invariant form. Note that the integrand in (4.7) is just the  $SO(6)$  invariant trace of three elements of the  $SO(6)$  algebra or, equivalently, that  $\epsilon_{ABCDEF}$  is the  $d$ -symbol of  $SO(6) \simeq SU(4)$ . With this observation it is immediate how to generalize the topological action for any Lie group  $G$ :

$$S_G \sim \int_{M_5} d_{\Omega\Theta\Lambda} B^{\Omega} \wedge F^{\Theta} \wedge F^{\Lambda}, \quad (\text{B.1})$$

where capital Greek indices  $\Gamma, \Theta, \Lambda \dots \in \{1, \dots, \dim(G)\}$ . The crucial point of this construction is the choice of the coset  $G/H$  whose element will be used for the construction



of the  $G$  covariant one-form  $B^\Omega$ . In the case of  $G = \text{SO}(6)$  we have  $H = \text{SO}(5)$  and the compensator field is an element of the five-sphere. Equivalently for the same system, if  $G = \text{SU}(4)$  we identify the stabilizer group  $H = \text{Sp}(4) \simeq \text{SO}(5)$  and the compensator  $V^{\alpha\beta}$  is an element of the coset

$$\text{SU}(4)/\text{Sp}(4), \tag{B.2}$$

and is expressed as an antisymmetric  $\text{SU}(4)$  tensor constrained by (4.9). Then the  $\text{SU}(4)$  algebra valued one-form can be constructed as (4.11) and the general action (B.1) transforms into (4.10). Note also that in the same fashion as we fixed the gauge using local  $\text{SO}(6)$  rotations,

$$\begin{aligned} V^A &= (V^a, V^6), \quad (a = 1, \dots, 5), \\ V^{(0)A} &= (0, 1), \end{aligned} \tag{B.3}$$

in the  $\text{SU}(4)$  formulation, we can bring the compensator field  $V_{\alpha\beta}(x)$  to the constant symplectic form  $V_{\alpha\beta}^{(0)}$ , leaving an unbroken symmetry  $\text{Sp}(4)$ . The relation corresponding to (B.3) is

$$V_{\alpha\beta}(x) = V_{\alpha\beta}^{(0)} = i \Sigma_{\alpha\beta}^6. \tag{B.4}$$

We now extend the discussion to a possible compensator field for the unified discussion of spin 2 and spin 3 cases based on the  $\text{SU}(10)$  algebra. To this end we consider an action with gauge group  $\text{SU}(10)$  with the special embedding of  $\text{SU}(4)$  discussed in section 2. This means that we identify in (B.1) the field strength  $F^\Lambda$  with the  $\text{SU}(10)$  field strength (3.2). In other words we replace the indices  $\Gamma, \Theta, \Lambda, \dots$  by two symmetrised pairs of  $\text{SU}(4)$  indices  $\alpha\beta$  with the corresponding  $\text{SU}(10)$  rule for taking the trace, e.g. using the  $d$ -symbol (A.3)

$$S_{\text{SU}(10)} = \int_{M_5} B_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} \wedge F_{\lambda\rho}^{\mu\nu} \wedge F_{\alpha\beta}^{\lambda\rho}, \tag{B.5}$$

$F_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta}$  was defined in (3.2). It remains to define the possible coset space and compensator, and to construct an  $\text{SU}(10)$  covariant one-form

$$\begin{aligned} B_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta}, \quad B_{\alpha\beta}^{\gamma\delta} &= 0, \\ \delta B_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} &= B_{\lambda\rho}^{\alpha\beta} \epsilon_{\gamma\delta}^{\lambda\rho} - B_{\gamma\delta}^{\lambda\rho} \epsilon_{\lambda\rho}^{\alpha\beta}. \end{aligned} \tag{B.6}$$

Searching for a suitable stabilizer for the coset  $G/H$  constructed from  $G = \text{SU}(10)$ , we arrive at  $H = \text{SO}(10)$ . This choice of compensator allows the background value described by the  $\text{SU}(4)/\text{Sp}(4)$  coset construction. This property we use below in the analysis of the linearized limit. From

$$\begin{aligned} G/H &= \text{SU}(10)/\text{SO}(10), \\ \dim(G/H) &= \dim(\text{SU}(10)) - \dim(\text{SO}(10)) = 54. \end{aligned} \tag{B.7}$$

we conclude that the compensator should appear as a 54-dimensional representation of  $\text{SO}(10)$ . For  $\text{SU}(10)$  covariance of  $B$  or, equivalently, for  $\text{SU}(10)$  invariance of the action (B.5), this representation should be expressed as a constrained representation of

SU(10). From an SO(10) point of view it is a second rank *symmetric* traceless tensor with 54 independent real components, which we can express as an SU(10) object in the following way. Consider the space of complex tensors symmetric in a pair of lower indices and its complex conjugate tensor with upper indices

$$V_{IJ} = V_{JI}, \quad \bar{V}^{IJ} = \bar{V}^{JI} = (V_{IJ})^*, \quad I, J, \dots \in \{1, \dots, 10\}. \quad (\text{B.8})$$

It has 55 independent complex components. The natural SU(10) invariant (real) constraints

$$\bar{V}^{IK} V_{KJ} = \delta_J^I \quad \text{or} \quad V^* V = \mathbb{1}, \quad (\text{B.9})$$

$$\det(V_{IJ}) = 1 \quad (\text{B.10})$$

reduces the number of independent real components to 54 and we can identify this tensor with an element of the symmetric space (B.7). Then we can construct an SU(10) covariant traceless one-form in the usual way

$$B_J^I = i\bar{V}^{IK} DV_{KJ}, \quad (\text{B.11})$$

$$DV_{KJ} = dV_{KJ} - A_{(K}^L V_{J)L},$$

Moreover as opposed to the SU(4) case<sup>13</sup> for SU(10) we can construct one more invariant action. Such a term can be constructed with the rank four  $d$  symbol of SU(10), defined as the completely symmetrized trace of four SU(10) generators:

$$S_G \sim \int_{M_5} d\Omega_{\Xi\Theta\Lambda} B^{\Omega\Xi} \wedge F^\Theta \wedge F^\Lambda. \quad (\text{B.12})$$

As before, capital Greek indices refer to the adjoint representation of SU(10) and we can replace them by an upper and a lower index referring to the fundamental representation of SU(10) and its complex conjugate, respectively, e.g.  $F^\Lambda \rightarrow F_J^I$  with  $F_I^I = 0$  or by two pairs of symmetrised SU(4) indices, i.e.  $F_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta}$  with  $F_{\alpha\beta}^{\alpha\beta} = 0$ . The tensor  $B$  can be realized using the SU(10)/SO(10) compensator field (cf. (B.8)–(B.10)).<sup>14</sup>

$$B_{JL}^{IK} = \frac{i}{2}(\bar{V}^{IK} DV_{JL} - D\bar{V}^{IK} V_{JL}) - \text{traces}. \quad (\text{B.13})$$

Replacing capital Latin indices with symmetrized pairs of SU(4) indices as before, we arrive at the following expression for  $B_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta}$  in (B.5)

$$B_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} = i\bar{V}^{\alpha\beta,\lambda\rho} DV_{\gamma\delta,\lambda\rho}, \quad (\text{B.14})$$

$$B_{\alpha\beta}^{\alpha\beta} = 0,$$

where the SU(10)/SO(10) compensator field is defined as

$$V_{\alpha\beta,\lambda\rho} = V_{\lambda\rho,\alpha\beta},$$

$$\bar{V}^{\alpha\beta,\lambda\rho} = (V_{\alpha\beta,\lambda\rho})^*,$$

$$\bar{V}^{\alpha\beta,\lambda\rho} V_{\lambda\rho,\gamma\delta} = \delta_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta}, \quad (\text{B.15})$$

$$\det(V_{(\alpha\beta),(\gamma\delta)}) = 1.$$

<sup>13</sup>The identity (A.16) relates two possible expressions for the spin 2 action.

<sup>14</sup>The traces would give the same contribution as (B.5).

The second action (B.12) in the SU(4) covariant notation is

$$\tilde{S}_{\text{SU}(10)} = \int_{M^5} B_{\mu\nu,\lambda\rho}^{\alpha\beta,\sigma\delta} \wedge F_{\alpha\beta}^{\mu\nu} \wedge F_{\sigma\delta}^{\lambda\rho}, \quad (\text{B.16})$$

where

$$B_{\mu\nu,\lambda\rho}^{\alpha\beta,\sigma\delta} = \frac{i}{2} (\bar{V}^{\alpha\beta,\sigma\delta} DV_{\mu\nu,\lambda\rho} - DV^{\alpha\beta,\sigma\delta} V_{\mu\nu,\lambda\rho}). \quad (\text{B.17})$$

In this case we can also use local SU(10) transformations of the compensator field and set

$$V_{\alpha\beta,\lambda\rho}^{(0)} = \delta_{(\alpha\beta),(\lambda\rho)}. \quad (\text{B.18})$$

The unbroken symmetry is SO(10), because the r.h.s. of (B.18) remains invariant under SO(10) rotations.

We now address the embedding of the SU(4)/Sp(4) compensator  $V_{\alpha\beta}$  into the SU(10)/SO(10) element (B.15). It is easy to see that the restrictions imposed by the ansatz

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\alpha\beta,\sigma\delta} &= \frac{1}{2} (V_{\alpha\sigma} V_{\beta\delta} + V_{\beta\sigma} V_{\alpha\delta}), \\ \bar{V}^{\alpha\beta,\sigma\delta} &= \frac{1}{2} (V^{\alpha\sigma} V^{\beta\delta} + V^{\beta\sigma} V^{\alpha\delta}), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.19})$$

supplemented with

$$A_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} \sim \delta_{(\mu}^{\alpha} \omega_{\nu)}^{\beta}), \quad (\text{B.20})$$

lead to a reduction of the one-forms

$$\begin{aligned} B_{\gamma\delta}^{\alpha\beta} &= i \bar{V}^{\alpha\beta,\lambda\rho} DV_{\lambda\rho,\gamma\delta} = \frac{1}{2} \delta_{(\gamma}^{\alpha} B_{\delta)}^{\beta}), \\ B_{\delta}^{\beta} &= i V^{\alpha\beta} DV_{\alpha\delta}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.21})$$

This means that putting the spin three gauge field to zero and using the ansatz (B.19), we obtain the purely gravitational action (4.10) from the SU(10) invariant actions. This immediately shows that the equations of motion have  $AdS_5$  background solutions.

Expressions (B.14) and (B.17) form all possible SU(10) covariant one forms which we can construct using this compensator field. Therefore the most general action should be a linear combination

$$S_{\text{SU}(10)} + \kappa \tilde{S}_{\text{SU}(10)}, \quad (\text{B.22})$$

where the relative coefficient  $\kappa$  is fixed by comparison with the free spin three action of Vasiliev (4.14). Trying to fix it we replace in (B.19) and (B.5)  $F$  with linearized curvatures  $F_{1\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} = R_{1\mu\nu}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{6} \delta_{(\mu}^{\alpha} r_{\nu)}^{\beta)}$ , use the SU(4) restriction (B.19) for the SU(10) compensator field and replace the covariant derivative by  $D_{\omega_0}$ . Straightforward calculation gives

$$\begin{aligned} S_{\text{SU}(10)} + \kappa \tilde{S}_{\text{SU}(10)} &\rightarrow i \int_{M^5} \frac{8}{9} (1 - \kappa) V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} \wedge r_{1\delta}^{\mu} \wedge r_{1\alpha}^{\delta} + S_{\text{mixed}}(r_1; R_1) \\ &+ i \int_{M^5} \left[ 2V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} \wedge R_{1\delta_1\delta_2}^{\mu\sigma} \wedge R_{1\alpha\sigma}^{\delta_1\delta_2} - 2\kappa V^{\alpha\lambda} h_{\mu\lambda} \wedge R_{1\sigma\delta_1}^{\mu\rho_1} \wedge R_{1\alpha\delta_2}^{\sigma\rho_2} V_{\rho_1\rho_2} V^{\delta_1\delta_2} \right], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.23})$$

where

$$S_{\text{mixed}}(r_1; R_1) = i \int_{M^5} \left[ \frac{4}{3} V^{\alpha\sigma} h_{\mu\sigma} \wedge r_{1\nu}^{\beta} \wedge R_{1\alpha\beta}^{\mu\nu} + \frac{4\kappa}{3} V^{\alpha\sigma} h_{\mu\sigma} \wedge r_{1\beta}^{\nu} \wedge R_{1\alpha\delta}^{\mu\rho} V^{\beta\delta} V_{\nu\rho} \right]. \quad (\text{B.24})$$

We see that the two possible independent  $SU(10)$  invariant structures produce two independent contributions to the mixed term action (B.24). However there is no choice for the relative coefficient  $\kappa$  which trivializes the “extra” field equation of motion in the second line of (B.23) ( $\kappa = -\frac{1}{2}$ , cf. (4.14)) and in the mixed term action (B.24) ( $\kappa = -1$ ) simultaneously. This makes the correct free limit for the coset  $SU(10)$  action unreachable, at least with the ansatz (B.19). At the moment we do not know how to resolve this problem.

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