

# $\mathcal{N} = 6$ CHERN-SIMONS THEORIES IN HARMONIC SUPERSPACE

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## D=3 Chern-Simons theory

$$S_{CS} = \frac{k}{4\pi} \int d^3x \varepsilon^{mnr} \text{Tr} \{ A_m (\partial_n A_r + \frac{i}{3} [A_n, A_r]) \}$$

where  $A_m$  is the three-dimensional gauge field. The classical CS solutions are pure gauge fields  $F_{nr}(A) = 0$ .

## D=3 BF-theory

$$S_{BF} = \int d^3x \varepsilon^{mnr} \text{Tr} \{ B_m F_{nr}(A) \}$$

This model has the additional noncompact Abelian  $b$ -transformations

$$\delta B_m = \partial_m b + i[A_m, b] + i[B_m, a], \quad \delta A_m = \partial_m a + i[A_m, a]$$

$D = 3, \mathcal{N} = 1$  supersymmetric CS theory in the superspace  $z = (x^m, \theta^\alpha)$  is described by the spinor gauge superfield  $A_\alpha(z)$  and the superfield strength  $W_\alpha$  [W. Siegel (1979), J. Schonfeld (1981)].

$D = 3, \mathcal{N} = 2$  supersymmetric CS theory in the superspace  $z = (x^m, \theta^\alpha, \bar{\theta}^\alpha)$  is described by the prepotential  $V$  and the pseudoscalar superfield strength  $W$  [B. Zupnik, D. Pak (1988)].

$$S_{CS} = \int d^3x d^4\theta V W = \int d^3x d^4\theta V D^\alpha \bar{D}_\alpha V$$

$D = 3, \mathcal{N} = 3$  general superspace:  $x^m, \theta_{(ik)}^\alpha$ ,  $i, k = 1, 2$   
 $D = 3, \mathcal{N} = 3$  harmonic superspace uses the  $SU(2)/U(1)$   
 harmonics  $u_i^\pm$

$$\theta_\alpha^{++} = \theta_\alpha^{ik} u_i^+ u_k^+, \quad \theta_\alpha^0 = \theta_\alpha^{ik} u_i^+ u_k^-$$

$\mathcal{N} = 3$  gauge prepotential  $V^{++}$  and superfield strength  $W^{++}$  live in the same analytic superspace [D. Khetselius, B. Zupnik (1988)]

$$S_{CS} = \int d^3 x_A d\theta^{-4} du V^{++} W^{++} = \int d^3 x d^6 \theta du V^{++} V^{--}$$

$$D^{++} V^{--} = D^{--} V^{++}, \quad W^{++} = -\frac{1}{4} D^{++\alpha} D_\alpha^{++} V^{--}$$

The  $\mathcal{N} = 6$  ABJM model was reformulated in this  $\mathcal{N} = 3$  superfield formalism [J. Buchbinder, E. Ivanov, O. Lechtenfeld, N. Pletnev, I. Samsonov, B. Zupnik (2008)]. This formalism was presented in the talk of I. Samsonov on this conference.

The action of the  $\mathcal{N} = 3$  abelian BF theory can be constructed as the difference of two Chern-Simons actions

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{4} \int d\zeta^{-4} du [(V^{++} + A^{++})(W_V^{++} + W_A^{++}) - (V^{++} - A^{++})(W_V^{++} - W_A^{++})] \\ = \frac{1}{2} \int d\zeta^{-4} [V^{++} W_A^{++} + A^{++} W_V^{++}] \end{aligned}$$

where the prepotentials  $V^{++}$  and  $A^{++}$  have opposite parities. The fourth supersymmetry transformations of these prepotentials are

$$\delta_4 V^{++} = \epsilon^\alpha D_\alpha^0 V^{++}, \quad \delta_4 A^{++} = -\epsilon^\alpha D_\alpha^0 A^{++}$$

This model can be also constructed in the  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  superspace.

$D = 3, \mathcal{N} = 4$  general superspace  $x^m, \theta_{ia}^\alpha$ ,  $i, k = 1, 2$ ,  $a = 1, 2$  is covariant with respect to the group  $SU_L(2) \times SU_R(2)$ . We introduce left harmonics  $u_k^\pm$  and right harmonics  $v_a^{(\pm)}$ . The mirror map interchanges indices of two groups

$$\mathcal{M}: \quad SU_L(2) \leftrightarrow SU_R(2), \quad u_k^\pm \leftrightarrow v_a^{(\pm)}, \quad \theta_{12}^\alpha \leftrightarrow \theta_{21}^\alpha$$

The  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  left harmonic superspace uses the harmonics  $u_k^\pm$  and the analytic projection of the Grassmann coordinates  $\theta_a^{+\alpha} = -u^{+k}\theta_{ka}^\alpha$ . It is analogous to the  $D = 4, \mathcal{N} = 2$  harmonic superspace [A. Galperin, E. Ivanov, S. Kalitzin, V. Ogievetsky, E. Sokatchev (1984)]. The left gauge prepotential  $V^{++}$  and its superfield strength

$$W^{ab} = -\frac{1}{4}D^{+a\alpha}D_\alpha^{+b}V^{--}$$

are defined in different superspaces. The superfield  $W = \sqrt{W^{ab}W_{ab}}$  plays the role of the superconformal dilaton. The constants  $\varphi$  and  $C^{ab}$  break down spontaneously the superconformal symmetry in the representation  $W^{ab} = \varphi(C^{ab} + w^{ab})$ . We can construct the superconformal generalization of the  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  superfield abelian gauge action [B. Zupnik (1999)]

$$S_W^0 = \int d^3x d^8\theta du W^{-1} V^{++} V^{--}$$

The mirror  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  right harmonic superspace uses the harmonics  $v_a^{(\pm)}$  and the corresponding projection of the Grassmann coordinates  $\theta_k^{(+)\alpha} = -v^{(+a)}\theta_{ka}^\alpha$ . The mirror abelian prepotential  $A^{(++)}$  has the left analytic superfield strength

$$L^{++}(A) = -\frac{1}{4}u_k^+ u_l^+ D^{(+k)\alpha} D_\alpha^{(+l)} A^{(--)}, \quad D^{++}L^{++} = 0,$$

$$D^{(++)}A^{(--)} = D^{(--)}A^{(++)}, \quad D_{\alpha}^{(+l)}A^{(++)} = 0$$

The action of the  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  superfield abelian BF theory

$$S_{BF} = \beta \int d\zeta_L^{-4} du V^{++} L^{++}(A)$$

In components, it connects fields of the mirror gauge multiplets [R. Brooks, S.J. Gates (1994)]

$$S_{BF} = \beta \int d^3x (2\varepsilon^{mnp} A_m \partial_n B_p - \frac{1}{2} \phi^{ab} Y_{ab} - \frac{1}{2} \Lambda^{ik} X_{ik} + 2\rho_{\alpha}^{ka} \lambda_{ka}^{\alpha})$$

This term yields the non-trivial interaction of the left and right abelian gauge multiplets in the  $\mathcal{M}$ -invariant action

$$S_W^0 + \mathcal{M}S_W^0 + S_{BF}$$

which describes the interactions of the topologically massive gauge fields with the scalar and fermion fields. The mixed scalar potential term is

$$P = -\frac{\sqrt{2}\beta^2}{4} \int d^3x [\phi^{ab} \phi_{ab} \sqrt{\Lambda^{kl} \Lambda_{kl}} + \Lambda^{kl} \Lambda_{kl} \sqrt{\phi^{ab} \phi_{ab}}]$$

We can add interactions of the left hypermultiplet  $q_a^+$  and right hypermultiplet  $Q_k^{(+)} = \mathcal{M}q_a^+$  with the corresponding gauge multiplets

$$S(q, V) = \int d\zeta_L^{-4} du q_a^+ [D^{++} \delta_b^a + (\tau_3)_b^a V^{++}] q^{+b},$$

$$S(Q, A) = \mathcal{M}S(q, V) = \int d\zeta_R^{(-4)} dv Q_k^{(+)} [D^{(++)} \delta_l^k + (\tau_3)_l^k A^{(++)}] Q^{(+l)}$$

$\mathcal{N} = 6$  general superspace  $z = (x^m, \theta_a^\alpha)$  where  $a = 1, \dots, 6$  is the 6-vector index of the group  $SO(6)$ . We analyze the  $CS_3^6$  theory using the  $SO(6)/U(3)$  harmonics [P.S. Howe, M.I. Leeming (1994)]

$$U = (U_a^{+k}, U_{ka}^-)$$

where  $a$  is the  $SO(6)$  vector index,  $+, -$  are the  $U(1)$  charges, and  $k = 1, 2, 3$  are indices of the spinor representations of  $SU(3)$ . The basic relations for these harmonics are

$$\begin{aligned} U_a^{+k} U_a^{+l} &= 0, & U_a^{+k} U_{la}^- &= \delta_l^k, & U_{ka}^- U_{la}^- &= 0, \\ U_a^{+k} U_{kb}^- + U_{ka}^- U_b^{+k} &= \delta_{ab}. \end{aligned}$$

We treat the  $SO(6)/U(3)$  harmonics as real with respect to the special  $\sim$  conjugation.

The  $SO(6)$  invariant harmonic derivatives are

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_k^{++} &= \varepsilon_{kjl} U_a^{+j} \frac{\partial}{\partial U_{la}^-}, & \partial^{--k} &= \varepsilon^{kjl} U_{ja}^- \frac{\partial}{\partial U_a^{+l}}, \\ \partial_l^k &= U_a^{+k} \frac{\partial}{\partial U_a^{+l}} - U_{la}^- \frac{\partial}{\partial U_{ka}^-} - \frac{1}{3} \delta_l^k \left( U_a^{+j} \frac{\partial}{\partial U_a^{+j}} - U_{ja}^- \frac{\partial}{\partial U_{ja}^-} \right), \\ \partial^0 &= U_a^{+j} \frac{\partial}{\partial U_a^{+j}} - U_{ja}^- \frac{\partial}{\partial U_{ja}^-}. \end{aligned}$$

In the analytic basis  $(AB)$  of the  $SO(6)/U(3)$  harmonic superspace, we introduce harmonic projections of the  $N=6$  spinor coordinates

$$\theta^{+k\alpha} = \theta_a^\alpha U_a^{+k}, \quad \theta_k^{-\alpha} = \theta_a^\alpha U_{ka}^-$$

and the corresponding analytic vector coordinates

$$y^m = x^m + i(\theta_a \gamma^m \theta_b) U_a^{+k} U_{kb}^-$$

where  $\gamma_m$  are the 3D gamma-matrices. The analytic integral measure is pure imaginary and dimensionless

$$d\mu^{(-6)} = dU d^3 y d\theta^{(-6)}, \quad \int d\theta^{(-6)} (\theta^{+1})^2 (\theta^{+2})^2 (\theta^{+3})^2 = 1.$$

This integral measure is odd with respect to the P parity transformation

$$(y^0, y^1, y^2) \rightarrow (y^0, -y^1, y^2), \quad \theta^{+k\alpha} \rightarrow (\gamma_1)_{\beta}^{\alpha} \theta^{+k\beta}$$

The analytic-superspace representation of the harmonic derivatives have the following form:

$$\mathcal{D}_k^{++} = \partial_k^{++} - i\varepsilon_{kjl} (\theta^{+j} \gamma^m \theta^{+l}) \partial_m - \varepsilon_{kjl} \theta^{+j\alpha} \partial_{\alpha}^{+l}.$$

where

$$\partial_{k\alpha}^{-} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^{+k\alpha}}, \quad \partial_{\alpha}^{+k} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_k^{-\alpha}}.$$

The AB-representation of the spinor derivatives is

$$D_{k\alpha}^{-} = \partial_{k\alpha}^{-} - 2i\theta_k^{-\beta} (\gamma^m)_{\alpha\beta} \partial_m, \quad D_{\alpha}^{+k} = \partial_{\alpha}^{+k}.$$

The analytic superfield gauge parameters satisfy the conditions

$$D_{\alpha}^{+k} \Lambda(\zeta) = 0, \quad \mathcal{D}_l^k \Lambda = \mathcal{D}^0 \Lambda = 0$$

In the gauge group  $SU(n)$ , we use the following covariant derivatives and the analytic prepotentials:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_k^{++} &= \mathcal{D}_k^{++} + V_k^{++}(\zeta), & (V_k^{++})^{\dagger} &= -V_k^{++}, \\ \mathcal{D}_l^k V_j^{++} &= \frac{1}{3} \delta_l^k V_j^{++} - \delta_j^k V_l^{++}, & \mathcal{D}^0 V_k^{++} &= 2V_k^{++} \end{aligned}$$

The superfield action of the  $N=6$  CS theory has the following form in our notation:

$$S_{CS} = \frac{i}{12} \int d\mu^{(-6)} \varepsilon^{klj} \mathbf{Tr} \{ V_k^{++} \mathcal{D}_l^{++} V_j^{++} + \frac{1}{3} V_k^{++} [V_l^{++}, V_j^{++}] \}$$

The corresponding classical equations of motion  $F_{kl}^{(+4)} = 0$  have the pure gauge solutions only.

The  $N = 6$   $BF$  theory contains interactions of  $V_k^{++}$  with the second analytic gauge superfield  $B_k^{++}$

$$\delta_\Lambda B_k^{++} = [B_k^{++}, \Lambda], \quad \delta_\Sigma B_k^{++} = \mathcal{D}_k^{++} \Sigma + [V_k^{++}, \Sigma]$$

where  $\Sigma$  is the independent superfield matrix parameter describing Abelian translations in the group space.

The corresponding superfield action has the following form:

$$S_{BF} = i \int d\mu^{(-6)} \varepsilon^{klj} \mathbf{Tr} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} B_k^{++} F_{lj}^{(+4)}(V) \right\}. \quad (0.1)$$

The BF-action preserves the **P** parity if  $B_k^{++}$  is the **P**-odd superfield.

The classical equations of the  $BF$  theory are

$$F_{lj}^{(+4)}(V) = 0, \quad \varepsilon^{klj} \nabla_l^{++} B_j^{++} = 0$$

They have the pure gauge solutions for both superfields.

The superconformal transformations  $\mathbf{SC}_3^6$  of the  $N=6$  analytic coordinates

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{sc} y^m &= c^m + 2l y^m + \varepsilon^{mnr} L_n y_r + (y^n k_n) y^m - \frac{1}{2} y^2 k^m - 2i(\epsilon_k^- \gamma^m \theta^{+k}) \\ &\quad - i\omega_{ab} U_{ka}^- U_{lb}^- (\theta^{+k} \gamma^m \theta^{+l}) + iy^m \theta^{+k\alpha} \eta_{k\alpha}^- + i\varepsilon^{mnr} y_n (\theta^{+k} \gamma_r \eta_k^-), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{cs} \theta^{+k\alpha} &= \epsilon^{+k\alpha} + L_\beta^\alpha \theta^{+k\beta} + l \theta^{+k\alpha} - \omega_{bc} U_b^{+k} U_{lc}^- \theta^{+l\alpha} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} y^{\alpha\beta} \theta^{+k\gamma} k_{\beta\gamma} + \frac{1}{2} y^{\alpha\beta} \eta_\beta^{+k} - i\theta^{+l\alpha} \theta^{+k\beta} \eta_{l\beta}^-, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{sc} U_a^{+k} &= \varepsilon^{klj} \lambda_l^{++} U_{ja}^-, \quad \delta_{sc} U_{ka}^- = 0, \\ \lambda_l^{++} &= \varepsilon_{ljn} \left[ \frac{i}{2} k_{\alpha\beta} \theta^{+j\alpha} \theta^{+n\beta} + i\theta^{+j\alpha} \eta_\alpha^{+n} + \frac{1}{2} \omega_{cb} U_c^{+j} U_b^{+n} \right], \end{aligned}$$

where  $c^m, L^m, l$  and  $k^m$  are parameters of the 3D conformal group,  $\omega_{ab}$  are the  $\text{SO}(6)$  parameters, and the harmonic projections of the odd parameters  $\epsilon_a^\alpha$  and  $\eta_a^\alpha$  are used

$$\epsilon^{+k\alpha} = \epsilon_a^\alpha U_a^{+k}, \quad \epsilon_k^{-\alpha} = \epsilon_a^\alpha U_{ka}^-, \quad \eta^{+k\alpha} = \eta_a^\alpha U_a^{+k}, \quad \eta_k^{-\alpha} = \eta_a^\alpha U_{ka}^-.$$

The analytic integral measure is invariant with respect to these transformations.

The  $\text{SC}_3^6$  transformations of the harmonic derivatives are

$$\delta_{sc} \mathcal{D}_k^{++} = \lambda_l^{++} \mathcal{D}_k^l - \frac{2}{3} \lambda_k^{++} \mathcal{D}^0, \quad \delta_{sc} \mathcal{D}_l^k = \delta_{sc} \mathcal{D}^0 = 0$$

The superfield CS and BF actions are invariant with respect to the superconformal transformations

$$\delta_{sc} V_k^{++} = 0, \quad \delta_{sc} F_{kl}^{(+4)} = 0, \quad \delta_{sc} B_k^{++} = 0.$$

The Grassmann decompositions of the gauge BF-superfield  $V_k^{++}$  contain the vector gauge field plus an infinite number of auxiliary fields

$$V_k^{++} = \varepsilon_{kjl} (\theta^{+j} \gamma^m \theta^{+l}) A_m + i \Theta^{(+3)\alpha\beta\gamma} U_{ka}^- \Psi_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^a + i \Theta_k^{(+3)l\alpha} U_{la}^- \Psi_\alpha^a + \dots$$

where  $\Psi_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^a(x)$  is the unusual auxiliary field.

We do not know how to describe interaction of this CS prepotential with the  $\mathcal{N} = 6$  matter superfields.



The equivalent formalism of the  $\mathcal{N} = 6$  CS theory can be formulated in the  $\mathcal{N} = 5$  harmonic superspace [Zupnik (2007)]. We used the  $SO(5)/U(2)$  harmonics

$$U_a^K = (U_a^{+i}, U_a^0, U_{ia}^-) = (U_a^{+1}, U_a^{+2}, U_a^0, U_{1a}^-, U_{2a}^-)$$

where  $a = 1, \dots, 5$  is the vector index of the group  $SO(5)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$  is the spinor index of the group  $SU(2)$ , and  $U(1)$ -charges are denoted by symbols  $+, -, 0$ . The basic relations for these harmonics are

$$\begin{aligned} U_a^{+i} U_a^{+k} &= U_a^{+i} U_a^0 = 0, & U_{ia}^- U_{ka}^- &= U_{ia}^- U_a^0 = 0, \\ U_a^{+i} U_{ka}^- &= \delta_k^i, & U_a^0 U_a^0 &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

We consider the  $SO(5)$  invariant harmonic derivatives with nonzero  $U(1)$  charges

$$\begin{aligned} \partial^{+i} &= U_a^{+i} \frac{\partial}{\partial U_a^0} - U_a^0 \frac{\partial}{\partial U_{ia}^-}, & \partial^{+i} U_a^0 &= U_a^{+i}, & \partial^{+i} U_{ka}^- &= -\delta_k^i U_a^0, \\ \partial^{++} &= U_{ia}^+ \frac{\partial}{\partial U_{ia}^-}, & [\partial^{+i}, \partial^{+k}] &= \varepsilon^{ki} \partial^{++}, & \partial^{+i} \partial_i^+ &= \partial^{++} \end{aligned}$$

The  $SO(5)/U(2)$  harmonics allow constructing projections of the spinor coordinates and the partial spinor derivatives

$$\theta^{+i\alpha} = U_a^{+i} \theta_a^\alpha, \quad \theta^{0\alpha} = U_a^0 \theta_a^\alpha, \quad \theta_i^{-\alpha} = U_{ia}^- \theta_a^\alpha$$

We use the following representation of the vector coordinate:

$$x_A^m = x^m + i(\theta^{+k} \gamma^m \theta_k^-)$$

and the harmonic derivatives in the  $AB$  representation:

$$\mathcal{D}^{+k} = \partial^{+k} - i(\theta^{+k} \gamma^m \theta^0) \partial_m + \theta^{+k\alpha} \partial_\alpha^0 - \theta^{0\alpha} \partial_\alpha^{+k},$$

$$\mathcal{D}^{++} = \partial^{++} + i(\theta^{+k}\gamma^m\theta_k^+)\partial_m + \theta_k^{+\alpha}\partial_\alpha^{+k}$$

The integration measure in the analytic superspace  $d\mu^{(-4)}$  has the dimension zero

$$d\mu^{(-4)} = dU d^3x_A (\partial_\alpha^0)^2 (\partial_{i\alpha}^-)^4 = dU d^3x_A d\theta^{(-4)}$$

The gauge superfields (prepotentials)  $V^{+k}(\zeta)$  and  $V^{++}(\zeta)$  in the harmonic  $SO(5)/U(2)$  superspace satisfy the Grassmann analyticity and  $U(2)$ -covariance conditions

$$D_\alpha^{+k}V^{+k} = D_\alpha^{+k}V^{++} = 0, \quad \mathcal{D}_j^i V^{+k} = \delta_j^k V^{+i}, \quad \mathcal{D}_j^i V^{++} = \delta_j^i V^{++}$$

We treat these prepotentials as connections in the covariant gauge derivatives

$$\nabla^{+i} = \mathcal{D}^{+i} + V^{+i}, \quad \nabla^{++} = \mathcal{D}^{++} + V^{++}$$

The superfield action in the analytic  $SO(5)/U(2)$  superspace is defined on three prepotentials  $V^{+k}$  and  $V^{++}$

$$S_{CS} = \frac{ik}{12\pi} \int d\mu^{(-4)} \mathbf{Tr} \{ V^{+j} \mathcal{D}^{++} V_j^+ + 2V^{++} \mathcal{D}_j^+ V^{+j} \\ + (V^{++})^2 + V^{++} [V_j^+, V^{+j}] \}$$

The transformation of the sixth supersymmetry can be defined on the analytic  $\mathcal{N}=5$  superfields

$$\delta_6 V^{++} = \epsilon_6^\alpha D_\alpha^0 V^{++}, \quad \delta_6 V^{+k} = \epsilon_6^\alpha D_\alpha^0 V^{+k}$$