The supermultiplet of boundary conditions in supergravity

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Abstract: Boundary conditions in supergravity on a manifold with boundary relate the bulk gravitino to the boundary supercurrent, and the normal derivative of the bulk metric to the boundary energy-momentum tensor. In the 3D $N=1$ setting, we show that these boundary conditions can be stated in a manifestly supersymmetric form. We identify the Extrinsic Curvature Tensor Multiplet, and show that boundary conditions set it equal to (a conjugate of) the boundary supercurrent multiplet. Extension of our results to higher-dimensional models (including the Randall-Sundrum and Horava-Witten scenarios) is discussed.

Keywords: Boundary conditions, supergravity, supersymmetric models
1. Introduction

Supersymmetric (susy) theories for systems with boundaries have been of great interest for some time \[1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13\]. The most notable examples of this are the 11D Horava-Witten construction \[14\], also known as Heterotic M-Theory, and the 5D Randall-Sundrum scenario \[15, 16, 17, 18\]. In these theories one begins by considering a bulk supergravity action and then proceeds to couple boundary-localized matter to it. The construction of a supersymmetric action, in these theories, is complicated by the fact that the bulk Lagrangian, which we usually refer to as being invariant under supersymmetry, in fact varies into a total derivative. The bulk action then varies into a surface term.

To produce an invariant action, when the effects of boundaries are considered, one therefore typically resorts to using certain boundary conditions (b.c.). These relate the bulk fields, which are restricted to the boundary, to the boundary-localized matter fields. The boundary action is then constructed in such a way as to cancel the surface term, after the b.c. have been imposed. Clearly, a key feature of these ‘susy with b.c.’ constructions
is the b.c. themselves, as without them the bulk and boundary non-invariances are unable to be related and so will not cancel.

The choice of boundary conditions available is subject to two constraints. Firstly, the b.c. must vary into each other under supersymmetry, which we describe by saying that they ‘form an orbit’ \[19\]. In other words, the b.c. must be expressible as a susy multiplet. In rigidly supersymmetric models, the multiplets (superfields) of b.c. have been identified e.g. in \[20, 21\]. Secondly, the b.c. must also be consistent with the variational principle, which makes the construction of supersymmetric bulk + boundary actions quite non-trivial, especially in supergravity \[22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28\]. For this reason, in several studies on the subject, a semi-consistent approach has been adopted where the b.c. used for supersymmetry do not match those derived from the action \[29\].

The fully consistent and constructive approach was presented in \[30\]. There it was shown, in a 3D setting, that it is possible to identify ‘co-dimension one’ (boundary) supermultiplets of the bulk supergravity and matter multiplets without imposing any boundary conditions, and the procedure for constructing bulk + boundary actions that are ‘susy without b.c.’ was described. This formulation relies on the existence of auxiliary fields needed to form the multiplets. It was demonstrated, however, that in certain cases the elimination of auxiliary fields yields actions that remain ‘susy without b.c.’ \[1\] In general, however, the elimination of auxiliary fields mixes boundary conditions with supersymmetry \[20\], and one ends up with a ‘susy with b.c.’ formulation as described above, but which is guaranteed to be consistent.

In this paper, we will consider the 3D \(N = 1\) equivalent of the Horava-Witten setup, and will work with the ‘susy without b.c.’ formalism of \[30\]. The b.c. in this case are still present but are simply implied by the variational principle rather than being necessary for supersymmetry. As is well-known, the (‘natural’ \[32, 33\]) b.c. in supergravity relate the normal derivative of the bulk metric (i.e. the extrinsic curvature tensor) to the boundary energy-momentum tensor \[34\], and the bulk gravitino to the boundary supercurrent \[24, 29\]. We will cast these b.c. in a manifestly supersymmetric form, in which they relate the Extrinsic Curvature Tensor Multiplet (ECTM), which we explicitly construct in this paper for the first time, to the boundary Super Current Multiplet (SCM), first introduced in \[35\].

In section 2, we will set up our supersymmetric 3D bulk + 2D boundary system while reviewing the formalism of \[30\]. We will derive the field equations and boundary conditions as they follow from the variational principle, and pose the question of fitting them into multiplets. In section 3, we will construct a multiplet that contains the extrinsic curvature tensor \(K_{mn}\). The verification that this ECTM transforms as a standard 2D \(N = (1, 0)\) multiplet provides a spectacular display of the validity of the ‘susy without b.c.’ formalism. (General 2D \(N = (1, 0)\) multiplets with external Lorentz indices, which are required in our construction, are identified in the appendices A and B.) In section 4, we will demonstrate that the b.c. in our model relate the ECTM to the boundary SCM. We then summarize our results, and discuss their extension to higher-dimensional models.

\[1\] It is thus still an open question whether the 11D Horava-Witten model \[4, 23, 24\] allows a ‘susy without b.c.’ formulation. Some obstacles in achieving this in the similar 5D setup have been discussed in \[23, 11\].
2. Supersymmetric bulk + boundary system

2.1 3D supergravity on a manifold with a boundary

Our starting point is three-dimensional $N = 1$ supergravity in the presence of a boundary as has been considered in [30]. We will follow the same conventions \(^2\) and briefly review the results of [30] here. We consider a three-dimensional manifold with a single boundary normal to the $x^3$ direction, where the bulk runs over the range $0 < x^3$. The presence of the boundary breaks the symmetry under translations in the $x^3$ direction and, as the susy algebra closes on these translations, half the supersymmetry is broken as well. In the conventions used, the surviving supersymmetry is parametrized by $\epsilon_+$, which is related to the bulk supersymmetry parameter $\epsilon = \epsilon_+ + \epsilon_-$ by $\epsilon_+ = P_\epsilon$ the projection operators defined by $P_\pm = \frac{1}{2}(1 \pm \gamma^3)$. Much of the algebra, in this bulk + boundary set up, is simplified by the unusual Lorentz gauge choice,

$$\epsilon_a^3 = 0 \implies \epsilon_m^3 = 0$$  \hfill (2.1)

(though $e_3^a \neq 0$ and $e_3^m \neq 0$). This condition is not invariant under either the bulk susy ($\delta_Q$) or Lorentz ($\delta_L$) transformations. However, (2.1) is invariant under the modified supersymmetry transformation,

$$\delta_Q'(\epsilon_+) = \delta_Q(\epsilon_+) + \delta_L(\lambda_{a\hat{3}} = -\tau_+ \psi_{a-}).$$  \hfill (2.2)

This modified susy represents the supersymmetry transformations intrinsic to the boundary and involves a standard supersymmetry transformation, combined with a compensating Lorentz transformation, which restores the gauge choice for the boundary vielbein. In what follows, we will see that fields, which transform under $\delta_Q$ and $\delta_L$ in the bulk, can be formed into well-behaved multiplets transforming under $\delta_Q'$ on the boundary.

The bulk we consider is populated by a 3D supergravity multiplet $(e_M^A, \psi_M, S)$ which transforms under the $\delta_{e} = \delta_Q(\epsilon)$ susy as

$$\delta_{e} e_M^A = \overline{\tau}^A \psi_M, \quad \delta_{e} \psi_M = 2\tilde{D}_M e, \quad \delta_{e} S = \frac{1}{2} \overline{\gamma}^{MN} \tilde{\psi}_{MN},$$  \hfill (2.3)

where

$$\tilde{D}_M e = D_M(\overline{\omega}) e + \frac{1}{4} \gamma_M e S, \quad \tilde{\psi}_{MN} = \tilde{D}_M \psi_N - \tilde{D}_N \psi_M,$$

$$\tilde{D}_M \psi_N = D_M(\overline{\omega}) \psi_N - \frac{1}{4} \gamma_N \psi_M S, \quad D_M(\overline{\omega}) \psi_N = \partial_M \psi_N + \frac{1}{4} \omega_{MAB} \gamma^{AB} \psi_N.$$  \hfill (2.4)

Here $\tilde{D}_M$ is the 3D-supercovariant derivative. \(^3\) It is covariant under Lorentz transformations but is not covariant under diffeomorphisms. The supercovariant spin connection

\(^2\) $M, N$ are curved 3D indices, $A, B$ are flat 3D indices, with decomposition $M = (m, 3)$ and $A = (a, \hat{3})$. The 3D gamma matrices satisfy $\gamma^A \gamma^B = \gamma^{AB} + \eta^{AB}$ with $\eta^{AB} = (-++)$ and $\gamma^A \gamma^B \gamma^C = \gamma^{ABC} + \eta^{AB} \gamma_{AC} + \eta^{BC} \gamma^A \eta^{AC} \gamma^B$, with $\gamma^{ABC} = \varepsilon^{ABC}$. Our spinors are Majorana; $\overline{\psi} = \psi^T C$, $C^T = -C$, $C \gamma^A C^{-1} = -(\gamma^A)^T$.

\(^3\) A supercovariant quantity has supersymmetry variation which does not involve derivatives of the supersymmetry parameter $\epsilon$. Acting on a supercovariant quantity with the supercovariant derivative produces another supercovariant quantity.
which appears in this derivative is given by
\[ \tilde{\omega}_{MAB} = \omega(e)_{MAB} + \kappa_{MAB}, \quad \kappa_{MAB} = \frac{1}{4}(\bar{\psi}_M \gamma_A \psi_B - \bar{\psi}_M \gamma_B \psi_A + \bar{\psi}_A \gamma_M \psi_B), \] \[ \omega(e)_{MAB} = \frac{1}{2}(C_{MAB} - C_{MBA} - C_{ABM}), \quad C_{MN}^A = \partial_M e_N^A - \partial_N e_M^A, \quad (2.5) \]
and it transforms under supersymmetry as
\[ \delta_\lambda \tilde{\omega}_{MAB} = \frac{1}{2} \bar{\tau}(\gamma_B \tilde{\psi}_M - \gamma_A \tilde{\psi}_M - \gamma_M \tilde{\psi}_{AB}) - \frac{1}{2} (\tilde{\gamma} \tilde{\omega} \psi_M) S. \quad (2.6) \]
The supergravity multiplet also transforms under the bulk Lorentz transformations \( \delta_\lambda = \delta_L(\lambda_{AB}) \) as
\[ \delta_\lambda e_M^A = \lambda^A e_M^A, \quad \delta_\lambda \psi_M = \frac{1}{4} \lambda^A \gamma_{AB} \psi_M, \quad \delta_\lambda S = 0, \quad \delta_\lambda \tilde{\omega}_{MAB} = -D(\bar{\psi})_{M \lambda AB}. \quad (2.7) \]
We define the 3D Riemann tensor \( \tilde{R}_{MNAB} = \partial_M \tilde{\omega}_{NAB} + \tilde{\omega}_{MA} \tilde{\omega}_{NCB} + \frac{1}{8} (\bar{\psi}_M \gamma_{AB} \psi_N) S \]
\[ - \frac{1}{4} \psi_M (\gamma_B \tilde{\psi}_{NA} - \gamma_A \tilde{\psi}_{NB} - \gamma_N \tilde{\psi}_{AB}) - (M \leftrightarrow N). \quad (2.8) \]
Supersymmetry variation of the supercovariant gravitino field strength is then
\[ \delta_\lambda \tilde{\psi}_{AB} = \frac{1}{4} \gamma^{CD} \epsilon \tilde{R}_{ABCD} + \frac{1}{2} \gamma_B \epsilon \tilde{D}_{A} S + \frac{1}{8} \gamma_{AB} \epsilon S^2 - (A \leftrightarrow B), \quad (2.9) \]
where \( \tilde{D}_M S = \partial_M S - \frac{1}{4} \psi_M \gamma^{BC} \tilde{\psi}_{BC} \).

With the scalar curvature defined by \( R(\tilde{\psi}) = e_B^M e_A^N R(\tilde{\psi})_{MNAB}, \) the standard 3D \( N = 1 \) supergravity action is
\[ S_{SG} = \int_M d^3 x e_3 \left[ \frac{1}{2} R(\tilde{\psi}) + \frac{1}{2} \bar{\psi}_M \gamma^{MNK} D(\tilde{\psi}) N \psi_K + \frac{1}{4} S^2 \right]. \quad (2.10) \]
In usual discussions of supersymmetry, one considers a Lagrangian invariant if it varies into a total derivative. However, in the model considered here, the bulk Lagrangian lives on a manifold \( M \) that has a boundary \( \partial M \). This means that when the bulk action is varied, the total derivative produced is mapped into a surface term on the boundary. The presence of this surface term means that the action is no longer supersymmetric unless certain boundary conditions are imposed which force the surface term to vanish.

The work of [30] improves on this situation by adding a boundary-localized term to the action. The variation of this boundary term cancels the surface term produced by the variation of the bulk. This gives an action that is supersymmetric, under the modified transformations (2.2), \textit{without the need for any boundary conditions}. This improved supergravity action is given by
\[ S_{SG}^{\text{impr}} = \int_M d^3 x e_3 \left[ \frac{1}{2} R(\tilde{\psi}) + \frac{1}{2} \bar{\psi}_M \gamma^{MNK} D(\tilde{\psi}) N \psi_K + \frac{1}{4} S^2 \right] \]
\[ + \int_{\partial M} d^2 x e_2 \left[ \bar{K} + \frac{1}{2} \psi_{a+} \gamma^a \gamma^b \psi_{b-} \right], \quad (2.11) \]
where \( \hat{K} = e^a_{
abla} \hat{K}_a \) and \( \hat{K}_a = \hat{\omega}_{a3} - \frac{1}{2} \hat{\psi}_{a-} \psi_{a-} \), which is the (symmetric) supercovariant extrinsic curvature. 4

2.2 2D induced supergravity  

The transformations of the 3D supergravity multiplet imply that the induced 2D supergravity multiplet is \((e_m^a, \psi_{m+})\). This transforms under the modified supersymmetry \( \delta'_{\epsilon} = \delta'_Q(\epsilon_+) \) introduced in (2.2) as 3

\[
\delta'_e e_m^a = \bar{\epsilon}_+ \gamma^a \psi_{m+}, \quad \delta'_e \psi_{m+} = 2D'_m(\hat{\omega}^+) \epsilon_+, \tag{2.12}
\]

where \( D'_m \) is the induced boundary covariant derivative, 5

\[
D'_m(\hat{\omega}^+) \epsilon = \partial_m \epsilon + \frac{1}{4} \hat{\omega}^+_{mab} \gamma^{ab} \epsilon, \tag{2.13}
\]

and the 2D-supercovariant spin connection \( \hat{\omega}^+_{mab} \) is defined by

\[
\hat{\omega}^+_{mab} = \hat{\omega}^+_{mab} + \kappa^-_{mab}, \quad \hat{\omega}^+_{mab} = \omega(\epsilon)_{mab} + \kappa^+_{mab},
\]

\[
\omega(\epsilon)_{mab} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ (C_{mab} - C_{mab} - C_{amb}) \right] = -C_{amb}, \quad C_{mn}^a = \partial_m e_n^a - \partial_n e_m^a,
\]

\[
\kappa^-_{mab} = \frac{1}{4} \left( \bar{\psi}_{m-} \gamma_a \psi_{b-} + \bar{\psi}_{m-} \gamma_b \psi_{a-} - \bar{\psi}_{a-} \gamma_b \psi_{m-} - \bar{\psi}_{a-} \gamma_m \psi_{b-} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \psi_{a+} \gamma_m \psi_{b-},
\]

\[
\kappa^+_{mab} = \frac{1}{4} \left( \bar{\psi}_{m+} \gamma_a \psi_{b+} + \bar{\psi}_{m+} \gamma_b \psi_{a+} + \bar{\psi}_{a+} \gamma_m \psi_{b+} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \psi_{a+} \gamma_m \psi_{b+}. \tag{2.14}
\]

To simplify the expressions for \( \kappa_{mab} \) and \( \omega_{mab} \), we have used the 2D Schouten identity, which states that the antisymmetrization of any 3 indices vanishes. With these definitions, \( \hat{\omega}^+_{mab} \) is the standard supercovariant spin connection for the induced vielbein \( e_m^a \). The 2D-supercovariant gravitino field strength and Riemann tensor are defined by

\[
\hat{\psi}'_{mn+} = D'_m(\hat{\omega}^+) \psi_{n+} - (m \leftrightarrow n), \\
\hat{R}'(\hat{\omega}^+)_{mnab} = \partial_m \hat{\omega}^+_{ab} + \hat{\omega}^+_{mc} \hat{\omega}^+_{nc} + \frac{1}{2} \bar{\psi}_{m+} \gamma_n \psi_{n+} - (m \leftrightarrow n), \tag{2.15}
\]

and the analogs of (2.6) and (2.9) are quite simple,

\[
\delta'_{\epsilon} \hat{\omega}^+_{mab} = -\bar{\epsilon}_+ \gamma_m \psi_{ab+}, \quad \delta'_e \hat{\psi}'_{ab+} = \frac{1}{2} \gamma^{cd} \epsilon_+ \hat{R}'_{abcd}. \tag{2.16}
\]

These are all standard 2D \( N = (1,0) \) supersymmetry results which follow from the fact that the modified supersymmetry transformations (2.2) close into standard 2D \( N = (1,0) \) supersymmetry algebra (30). As a result, we can use the standard supergravity tensor calculus [30, 37, 38, 39, 40] to construct (separately) supersymmetric boundary actions depending on boundary-localized fields.

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4The extrinsic curvature is usually defined by \( K_{MN} = \pm P_M^K P_N^K \nabla_K n_L \) where \( n_M \) is the outward-pointing vector normal to the boundary, \( P_M^K = \delta_M^K - n_M n^K \) projects into the directions tangent to the boundary and \( \nabla_K n_L = \partial_K n_L - \nabla_K n^L n_S \). In our gauge and with our choice of coordinates, \( n_M = (0,0,-\epsilon_3^3) \) and \( k_M = \pm \gamma_M \epsilon_3^3 \). The vielbein postulate yields \( \Gamma_{mn}^a \epsilon_3^3 = -\omega_{mn} \epsilon_3^3 \epsilon_n^a \). Our sign choice is then \( K_{MN} = -P_M^K P_N^K \nabla_K n_L \).

5In our conventions, the prime is universally used to mean “appropriate for the boundary.” (We could also write \( \hat{\omega}^-_{mab} \) instead of \( \hat{\omega}^-_{mab} \).) The 2D supercovariance is with respect to (2.2).
2.3 Boundary-localized matter

Now we wish to consider coupling additional boundary-localized matter to the system. The virtue of the ‘susy without b.c.’ setup is that this is easily done, as the bulk and boundary are separately supersymmetric.

The basic 2D $N = (1, 0)$ multiplets are the scalar multiplet $\Phi_2(A) = (A, \chi_-)$ and the spinor multiplet $\Psi_2(\chi_+) = (\chi_+, F)$. The fields in these multiplets transform as

$$
\delta'_A\chi_- = \bar{\chi}_-, \\
\delta'_\chi_+ = F\epsilon_+,
$$

and

$$
\delta'_F = \bar{\chi}_+, \quad \delta'_\epsilon_+ = \gamma^a\epsilon_+ \tilde{D}^a\epsilon_+,
$$

where $\tilde{D}'_m$ is the 2D-supercovariant derivative. It is (minimally) supercovariant with respect to the 2D (induced) supersymmetry $\delta'_\epsilon$ and is given by

$$
\tilde{D}'_mA = \partial_mA - \frac{1}{2}\psi_{m+}\chi_-,
$$

$$
\tilde{D}'_m\chi_+ = D'_m(\tilde{\omega}^+)_\chi_+ - \frac{1}{2}F\psi_{m+}. \quad (2.18)
$$

According to the 2D $N = (1, 0)$ tensor calculus \cite{10}, the multiplets can be multiplied

$$
\Phi_2(A) \times \Phi_2(\tilde{A}) = (A\tilde{A}, \tilde{A}\chi_+ + A\chi_-) \equiv \Phi_2(A\tilde{A}),
$$

$$
\Psi_2(\chi_+) \times \Phi_2(A) = (\chi_+A, FA - \bar{\chi}_-\chi_+) \equiv \Psi_2(\chi_+A); \quad (2.19)
$$

their derivatives exist in the form of kinetic multiplets,

$$
T\Phi_2(A) = (\gamma^a\tilde{D}'_a\chi_-, \tilde{D}^a\tilde{D}'_aA) \equiv \Psi_2(\gamma^a\tilde{D}'_a\chi_-),
$$

$$
T\Psi_2(\chi_+) = (F, \tilde{D}^a\tilde{D}'_a\chi_+) \equiv \Phi_2(F); \quad (2.20)
$$

and functions of the scalar multiplet can be defined,

$$
\Phi_2(U(A)) = (U(A), U'(A)\chi_-), \quad (2.21)
$$

where $U'(A) \equiv \partial U(A)/\partial A$. Finally, locally supersymmetric actions are constructed from spinor multiplets as

$$
\int d^2x e_2 \left[ F + \frac{1}{2}\psi_{a+}\gamma^a\chi_+ \right]. \quad (2.22)
$$

The boundary action we will consider consists of three separately supersymmetric terms. Firstly, there are the kinetic terms for the scalar multiplet formed from the multiplet $\Phi_2(A) \times T\Phi_2(A)$; similarly, there are the kinetic terms for the spinor multiplet formed from the multiplet $\Psi_2(\chi_-) \times T\Psi_2(\chi_-)$; and finally, there are superpotential-type terms formed from the multiplet $\Psi_2(\chi_-) \times \Phi_2(U(A))$. This gives the boundary matter action

$$
S_m = a \int d^2x e_2 \left[ - \partial_aA\partial^aA - \bar{\chi}_-\gamma^a\partial_0\chi_- + \bar{\psi}_{a+}\gamma^a\chi_-\partial_0A \right]
$$

$$
+ b \int d^2x e_2 \left[ F^2 - \bar{\chi}_+\gamma^a\partial_0\chi_+ \right]
$$

$$
+ c \int d^2x e_2 \left[ U(A)F - \bar{\chi}_+\chi_-U'(A) + \frac{1}{2}\psi_{a+}\gamma^a\chi_+U(A) \right], \quad (2.23)
$$

- 6 -
where \( a \), \( b \) and \( c \) are constants put in to keep track of the contributions arising from these three separately supersymmetric terms. The complete action, \( S = S_{SG}^{\text{impr}} + S_m \), formed from \((2.11) + (2.23)\), is supersymmetric as each of its parts are separately supersymmetric. This shows how easy it is to create bulk + boundary actions similar to those in \([22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28]\) when the ‘supersymmetry without b.c.’ formalism is employed.  

2.4 Field equations and boundary conditions

When the variational principle is applied to the complete action, three classes of equation arise from the three quite different sectors of the variational principle. The variation of bulk fields in the bulk gives rise to field equations for these bulk fields in the standard way. These bulk field equations can be stated as the following supercovariant equations,

\[
\hat{R}_{AB} - \frac{1}{2}\eta_{AB}\hat{R} = 0, \quad \hat{\psi}_{AB} = 0, \quad S = 0, \quad (2.24)
\]

where the supercovariant Ricci tensor is defined by \( \hat{R}_{AB} = e^{NA} \hat{R}_{MNAB} \). These vary into one another under the bulk supersymmetry and under the bulk Lorentz transformations, and hence vary into each other under the induced supersymmetry as well. We describe this property by saying that this set of equations forms an orbit.

Similarly, the variation of boundary fields on the boundary gives rise to a second set of field equations for the boundary fields. These boundary field equations can also be stated in the supercovariant form,

\[
2a\hat{D}'_a\hat{D}'^a A + cFU'(A) - c\chi_+ - U''(A) = 0, \quad 2bF + cU(A) = 0, \quad (2.25)
\]

As with the bulk field equations, this set forms another orbit under the induced supersymmetry transformations.

Finally, there are the equations implied by the variation of bulk fields on the boundary. This includes terms which are present due to having used integration by parts when deriving the bulk field equations \((2.24)\) as well as terms which arise due to the variation of the boundary localized terms in \((2.11)\). This gives the boundary conditions, which once again can be stated in the supercovariant form, \(^7\)

\[
\hat{K}_{ab} - \eta_{ab}\hat{K} \bigg|_{\partial M} = a \left[ 2\hat{D}'_a A \hat{D}'_b A + \chi_+ \eta_{ab} \hat{D}'_c \chi_+ - \eta_{ab} \hat{D}'_c A \hat{D}'^c A - \eta_{ab} \chi_+ \gamma^c \hat{D}'_c \chi_+ \right] \\
+ b \left[ \chi_+ \eta_{ab} \hat{D}'_a \chi_+ + \eta_{ab} F^2 - \eta_{ab} \chi_+ \gamma^c \hat{D}'_c \chi_+ \right] \\
+ c \left[ \eta_{ab} U(A) F - \eta_{ab} \chi_+ - U''(A) \right], \\
\hat{\psi}_{a-} \bigg|_{\partial M} = a_{-}^{\gamma b} \gamma_a \chi_+ \hat{D}'_b A - \frac{c}{2}\gamma_a \chi_+ U(A), \quad (2.26)
\]

\(^6\)We note that the ‘susy without b.c.’ formalism has recently been used in \([11, 12]\).

\(^7\)We consider only Neumann (natural) boundary conditions which arise from unrestricted variations of \(\epsilon_m^a\) and \(\psi_{m+}\) on the boundary. The other possibility is to use Dirichlet boundary conditions which restrict the variations of these fields on the boundary.
These two equations do not form an orbit on their own. However, the fact that (2.24), (2.25) and (2.26) have all been derived from the supersymmetric action via the variational principle guarantees that together they are closed under supersymmetry variation. The question is how to extract a minimal orbit that contains (2.26) and some of the bulk and/or boundary field equations. Furthermore, this orbit should be expressible as a multiplet of the induced supersymmetry. In what follows, we will identify what this multiplet is and discuss its physical origin.

2.5 Supersymmetry with/without boundary conditions

In the ‘susy without b.c.’ formalism we have described, the three classes of field equation encountered in section 2.4 appear on similar footings. However, our motivation for considering this 3D system is to gain a fuller understanding of more general and physically important bulk + boundary systems where such a formalism is not always possible. This is because the ‘susy without b.c.’ formalism relies heavily on the existence of auxiliary fields. When these auxiliary fields are not available, the best one can do, in general, is to construct a bulk + boundary system where supersymmetry of the action relies on using the boundary conditions. In the resulting ‘susy with b.c.’ formalism, the boundary conditions are thus set apart from the other equations implied by the variational principle. As studies in 5D [16, 22, 25, 26, 27], 7D [28] and 11D [14, 23, 24] have demonstrated, it is quite non-trivial to achieve consistency within the ‘susy with b.c.’ formalism. It is for this reason that we wish to obtain a fuller understanding of the bulk + boundary systems in the simpler setups where both formulations can be used.

3. The Extrinsic Curvature Tensor Multiplet

The first step in enabling the boundary conditions we have identified to be phrased as a multiplet of the induced supersymmetry, is finding a multiplet which contains the extrinsic curvature tensor $\hat{K}_{ab}$. We begin this process by noting that the variation of the odd parity gravitino is given by

$$\delta' \psi_a = \gamma^b \epsilon_+ (\hat{K}_{ab} + \frac{1}{2} \eta_{ab} S). \tag{3.1}$$

Using that $\epsilon^{ab} \equiv \epsilon^{ab\hat{3}}$, $\gamma^{ab} = \epsilon^{ab\hat{3}} \gamma^\hat{3}$ and $\gamma^a = \gamma^{ab} \gamma^b = -\epsilon^{ab} \gamma^b \gamma^\hat{3}$ imply

$$\gamma^a \epsilon_+ = -\epsilon^{ab} \gamma_b \epsilon_+ \tag{3.2}$$

we rewrite (3.1) in the alternative form,

$$\delta' \psi_a = \gamma^b \epsilon_+ U_{ba}, \quad U_{ab} \equiv \hat{K}_{ab} + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ab} S. \tag{3.3}$$

8If one could formulate the bulk (3D) supergravity in terms of boundary (2D) superfields, then the field equations and boundary conditions would automatically arise in the superfield form. The way this argument lifts to the component (tensor calculus) analysis was discussed in the rigidly supersymmetric setting in [3], [2].
Given that $\mathcal{R}_{ab}$ is symmetric, whereas $\varepsilon_{ab}$ is antisymmetric, we see that in this second form $S$ enters independently, without mixing with $\mathcal{R}_{ab}$. The general 2D $N = (1, 0)$ multiplet that contains the transformation $[3.3]$ is identified in appendix $A$. It is a reducible multiplet $(\zeta_a, U_{ab}, \lambda_{a+})$ with the transformations given in $[A.3]$. In this section, we will establish that the complete extrinsic curvature tensor multiplet (ECTM) is given by

$$\text{ECTM} = \left( \psi_{a-}, \mathcal{K}_{ab} + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ab} S, -\psi_{a3+} \right).$$ (3.4)

### 3.1 The variation of the middle component

First, we will demonstrate that the middle component, $U_{ab} = \mathcal{K}_{ab} + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ab} S$ with $\mathcal{K}_{ma} = \tilde{\omega}_{ma3} - \frac{1}{2} \psi_{m+} \psi_{a-}$, transforms in the correct way. Using the unmodified supersymmetry (2.6) and Lorentz (2.7) transformations of $\tilde{\omega}_{MAB}$, we find that the modified (or induced) supersymmetry transformation $[2.2]$ of $\tilde{\omega}_{ma3}$ is

$$\delta_{\epsilon}' \tilde{\omega}_{ma3} = -\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_m (\tilde{\psi}_{ma-} + \gamma_a \tilde{\psi}_{m3+} + \gamma_m \tilde{\psi}_{a3+}) - \frac{1}{2} (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \gamma_a \psi_{m+}) S + D(\tilde{\omega})_{ma} (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \psi_{a-}).$$ (3.5)

Analyzing the covariant derivative which appears in this equation, we note that

$$D(\tilde{\omega})_{ma} (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \psi_{a-}) = \partial_m (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \psi_{a-}) + \tilde{\omega}_{ma} b (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \psi_{b-})$$

$$= D'_m (\tilde{\omega})^+ (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \psi_{a-}) + \frac{1}{2} (\tilde{\psi}_{a-} \gamma_m \psi_{b-}) (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \psi_{b-}).$$ (3.6)

and using the Fierz identity, $^9$ we find that the last term vanishes because

$$\psi^b_+ (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \psi_{b-}) = -\frac{1}{2} \gamma_a \chi^b_+ (\tilde{\psi}_{b-} \gamma^a \psi_{b-}) = 0.$$ (3.7)

The variation of the supercovariant extrinsic curvature is then given by

$$\delta_{\epsilon}' \mathcal{K}_{ma} = \delta_{\epsilon}' \tilde{\omega}_{ma3} - \frac{1}{2} \psi_{m+} \delta_{\epsilon}' \psi_{a-} - \frac{1}{2} \psi_{a-} \delta_{\epsilon}' \psi_{m+}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \tilde{\epsilon}_+ (\tilde{\psi}_{ma-} + \gamma_a \tilde{\psi}_{m3+} + \gamma_m \tilde{\psi}_{a3+}) - \frac{1}{2} (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \gamma_a \psi_{m+}) S + D'_m (\tilde{\omega})^+ + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\psi}_{a-} \gamma_m \psi_{b-} (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \psi_{b-})$$

$$- \tilde{\psi}_{a-} D'_m (\tilde{\omega})^+ \epsilon_+ - \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\psi}_{m+} \gamma^b \epsilon_+ (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \psi_{a-})$$

$$= \tilde{\epsilon}_+ D'_m (\tilde{\omega})^+ \psi_{b-} + \frac{1}{2} (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \gamma^b \psi_{m+}) (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \psi_{b-}) - \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\psi}_{a-} \gamma_m \psi_{b-}$$

$$- \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\epsilon}_+ (\tilde{\psi}_{ma-} + \gamma_a \tilde{\psi}_{m3+} + \gamma_m \tilde{\psi}_{a3+}).$$ (3.8)

Flattening the indices with the induced vielbein gives

$$\delta_{\epsilon}' \mathcal{K}_{ab} = e^m_+ e^n_+ \delta_{\epsilon}' \tilde{\omega}_{mn} - (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \gamma^c \psi_{a+}) (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \psi_{b+})$$

$$= \tilde{\epsilon}_+ D'_a (\tilde{\omega})^+ \psi_{b-} - \frac{1}{2} (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \gamma^c \psi_{a+}) (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \psi_{b-}) + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\epsilon}_+ \psi_{a+} + \gamma_a \tilde{\psi}_{a3+} + \gamma_m \tilde{\psi}_{a3+}.$$ (3.9)

$^9$The 2D Fierz identities read $(\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \psi_{b+}) \eta_+ = -\frac{1}{2} (\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \gamma^a \eta_+) \gamma_a \psi_{b-}$ and $(\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \psi_{b-}) \phi_+ = -\tilde{\epsilon}_+ \phi_{b-} \psi_{b-}$. 
Noting that the minimally supercovariant derivative of \( \psi_a \) is given by

\[
\hat{D}'_m \psi_a - \equiv D'_m (\hat{\omega}^+) \psi_a - \frac{1}{2} \gamma^b \psi_{m+b} U_{ba}, \tag{3.10}
\]

where \( D'_m (\hat{\omega}^+) \psi_a = \partial_m \psi_a - \frac{1}{4} \hat{\omega}_{mca}^+ \gamma^c \psi_a - \hat{\omega}_{ma}^+ \psi_{b+} \), we can rewrite (3.8) as

\[
\delta'_\epsilon K_{ab} = \epsilon + \hat{D}'_a \psi_{b-} - \frac{1}{2} \epsilon (\hat{\psi}_{ab-} + \gamma_b \hat{\psi}_{a3+} + \gamma_a \hat{\psi}_{b3+}). \tag{3.11}
\]

Let us now analyze \( \hat{\psi}_{ab-} \) which appears in this equation. Starting with

\[
\hat{\psi}_{MN} = \partial_M \psi_N + \frac{1}{4} \hat{\omega}_{MAB} \gamma^{AB} \psi_N - \frac{1}{4} \gamma_N \psi_M S - (M \leftrightarrow N), \tag{3.12}
\]

then restricting the indices to lie tangent to the boundary and projecting with the negative chirality projection matrix \( P_- = \frac{1}{2} (1 - \gamma^3) \), we find that

\[
\hat{\psi}_{mn-} = \partial_m \psi_n - \frac{1}{4} \hat{\omega}_{mab} \gamma^{ab} \psi_n + \frac{1}{2} \hat{\omega}_{ma3} \gamma^a \psi_n - \frac{1}{4} \gamma_n \psi_{m+S} - (m \leftrightarrow n). \tag{3.13}
\]

From the definition of the induced spin connection (2.14), we have

\[
\partial_m \psi_n - (m \leftrightarrow n) = e_n^a \partial_m \psi_{a-} + \omega(e)_{mn} \psi_{a-} - (m \leftrightarrow n). \tag{3.14}
\]

Substituting this into (3.12) gives

\[
\hat{\psi}_{mn-} = e_n^a D'_m (\hat{\omega}^+) \psi_{a-} + \frac{1}{2} (\hat{K}_{ma} + \frac{1}{4} e_{ma} S) \gamma^a \psi_{n+}
- \frac{1}{2} \psi_{b-} (\psi_{n+} \gamma_m \psi_{b+}) + \frac{1}{8} \gamma^{bc} \psi_{n-} (\psi_{b-} \gamma_m \psi_{c-}) + \frac{1}{4} \gamma^a \psi_{n+} (\psi_{m+} \psi_{a-}) - (m \leftrightarrow n). \tag{3.15}
\]

After some Fierzing, we find that the 3-Fermi terms in the second line vanish. Thus

\[
\hat{\psi}_{ab-} = D'_a (\hat{\omega}^+) \psi_{b-} + \frac{1}{2} (\hat{K}_{ac} + \frac{1}{4} \eta_{ac} S) \gamma^c \psi_{b+} - (a \leftrightarrow b), \tag{3.16}
\]

and therefore

\[
\hat{\psi}_{ab-} = \hat{D}'_a \psi_{b-} - (a \leftrightarrow b). \tag{3.17}
\]

Substituting this back into (3.11), we find that the variation of \( \hat{K}_{ab} \) becomes manifestly \( (a \leftrightarrow b) \) symmetric,

\[
\delta'_\epsilon K_{ab} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon (\hat{D}'_a \psi_{b-} - \gamma_a \hat{\psi}_{b3+} + (a \leftrightarrow b)). \tag{3.18}
\]

Next, we note that the variation of the auxiliary field \( S \) can be written as

\[
\delta'_\epsilon S = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_+ \gamma^{ab} \hat{\psi}_{ab-} + \epsilon_+ \gamma^a \hat{\psi}_{a3+}
= - \epsilon^{ab} \left( \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_+ \hat{\psi}_{ab-} + \epsilon_+ \gamma_b \hat{\psi}_{a3+} \right). \tag{3.19}
\]
Now using the identity \( \epsilon_{ab}e^{cd} = -(\delta^c_a \delta^d_b - \delta^d_a \delta^c_b) \) yields

\[
\epsilon_{ab}\delta^c_c S = \tau_+ \left\{ \hat{\psi}_{ab} - \left[ \gamma_a \hat{\psi}_{b3+} - (a \leftrightarrow b) \right] \right\} \\
= \tau_+ \left( \hat{D}'_a \psi_{b-} - \gamma_a \hat{\psi}_{b3+} - (a \leftrightarrow b) \right),
\]

and therefore

\[
\delta'_c U_{ab} = \tau_+ \left( \hat{D}'_a \psi_{b-} - \gamma_a \hat{\psi}_{b3+} \right).
\]

This shows that \( U_{ab} \) does indeed transform as the bosonic component of the multiplet \((A.9)\), and identifies \( \hat{\psi}_{a3+} \) as the top component of the ECTM.

### 3.2 The variation of the top component

The remainder of the proof is to show that \( -\hat{\psi}_{a3+} \) transforms as required. The modified supersymmetry transformation \((2.2)\) of \( \hat{\psi}_{AB} \) is

\[
\delta'_c \hat{\psi}_{AB} = \delta'_c \hat{\psi}_{AB} + \frac{1}{4} \lambda_{CD} \gamma^{CD} \hat{\psi}_{AB} + \lambda_A^C \hat{\psi}_{CB} + \lambda_B^C \hat{\psi}_{AC},
\]

where \( \delta'_c \hat{\psi}_{AB} \) is given in \((2.9)\), and \( \lambda_{ab} = 0, \lambda_{a3} = -\tau_+ \psi_{a-} \). Restricting one index to lie in the tangent to the boundary direction \( (A = a) \) and the other in the normal to the boundary direction \( (B = 3) \), and then projecting with the positive chirality projection matrix \( P_+ = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \gamma^3) \), we find

\[
\delta'_c \hat{\psi}_{a3+} = \frac{1}{2} \gamma^c \epsilon_+ \hat{R}_{bca3} + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_+ \hat{D}_a S = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_+ \left( \gamma^c \hat{R}_{bca3} + \hat{D}_a S \right).
\]

Let us now transform this expression further. The bulk-supercovariant derivative of \( S \) is related to the boundary-supercovariant derivative by

\[
\hat{D}_a S = \hat{D}'_a S - \frac{1}{4} \psi_{a-} (\gamma^c \hat{\psi}_{cd+} - 2 \gamma^c \hat{\psi}_{c3-} - 2 \gamma^c \hat{\psi}_{c3-}),
\]

where the boundary-supercovariant derivative in question is given by

\[
\hat{D}'_a S = \partial_a S - \frac{1}{4} \psi_{a+} (\gamma^c \hat{\psi}_{cd-} + 2 \gamma^c \hat{\psi}_{c3+}).
\]

The bulk-supercovariant gravitino field strength is related to the boundary-supercovariant gravitino field strength by

\[
\hat{\psi}_{ab+} = \hat{\psi}_{ab+} + \left( \frac{1}{2} \gamma^c \hat{K}_{bc} + \frac{1}{4} \gamma_a \psi_{b-} S - (a \leftrightarrow b) \right).
\]

Analyzing the bulk-supercovariant Riemann tensor defined in \((2.8)\), we find (after some algebra) the following supercovariant Gauss-Codazzi equation

\[
\hat{R}_{abc3} = \hat{D}'_a \hat{R}_{bc3} + \frac{3}{8} \psi_{c-} \hat{\psi}_{ab+} + \frac{1}{4} \psi_{a-} (\gamma^c \hat{\psi}_{bd+} + \gamma_b \hat{\psi}_{c-}) - \frac{3}{32} (\psi_{a-} \gamma^d \psi_{b-}) S + \frac{1}{2} (\psi_{a-} \gamma^d \psi_{b-}) \hat{R}_{cd} - (a \leftrightarrow b),
\]

\[\text{(3.27)}\]
where

\[
\tilde{D}_a' \tilde{K}_{bc} = D_a' (\tilde{\omega}^+) \tilde{K}_{bc} - \frac{1}{4} \psi_{a+} \left( \tilde{D}_b' \psi_{c-} - \gamma_b \tilde{\psi}_{c3+} + (b \leftrightarrow c) \right). \tag{3.28}
\]

Finally, substituting (3.24), (3.26) and (3.27) into (3.23), gives

\[
\delta' \tilde{\psi}_{a3+} = -\gamma^{cd} \epsilon_+ \tilde{D}_d' U_{ca} + \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_+ (\psi_{a-} \gamma^{cd} \tilde{\psi}_{d-} - \epsilon_+ (\psi_{a-} \tilde{\psi}_{ab+}), \tag{3.29}
\]

as required for consistency with (A.9). This completes the proof that (3.4) transforms as a (reducible) 2D \( N = (1, 0) \) multiplet under the modified supersymmetry transformations (2.2).

3.3 Irreducible submultiplets of the ECTM

Applying the splitting of the reducible multiplet described in (3.3), we find that

\[
\Psi_2(\gamma^a \psi_{a-}) = \left( \gamma^a \psi_{a-}, \quad K + S \right),
\]

\[
\Psi_2(\gamma_a \gamma^c \gamma_b \psi_{c-}) = \left( \gamma_a \gamma^c \gamma_b \psi_{c-}, \quad 4P_{+a}^c P_{+b}^d \tilde{K}_{cd} \right),
\]

\[
\Phi_2(\tilde{K} - S) = \left( \tilde{K} - S, \quad -2\gamma^a \tilde{\psi}_{a3+} + \gamma^a \gamma^b \tilde{D}_b' \psi_{a-} \right),
\]

\[
\Phi_2(4P_{-a}^c P_{-b}^d \tilde{K}_{cd}) = \left( 4P_{-a}^c P_{-b}^d \tilde{K}_{cd}, \quad -2\gamma_a \gamma^c \gamma_b \tilde{\psi}_{c3+} + \gamma_a \gamma^c \gamma_b \gamma^d \tilde{D}_d' \psi_{d-} \right) \tag{3.30}
\]

are the four irreducible submultiplets inside (3.4). The first submultiplet has been identified in [30], where it was called the ‘extrinsic curvature multiplet.’

Before closing this section, let us see what happens if one identifies \( \tilde{K}_{ab} + \frac{1}{2} \eta_{ab} S \), entering in (3.1), with the second component of the multiplet (A.9). This is, in fact, consistent and leads to the following ‘alternative ECTM’ multiplet

\[
alteqt = \left( \psi_{a-} , \quad \tilde{K}_{ab} + \frac{1}{2} \eta_{ab} S , \quad \frac{1}{4} \gamma_a \gamma^d \tilde{\psi}_{cd-} - \frac{1}{2} \gamma^b \gamma_a \tilde{\psi}_{b3+} \right). \tag{3.31}
\]

Subtracting (3.4) from (3.31) yields

\[
\left( 0, \quad P_{-ab} S, \quad \frac{1}{4} \gamma_a P_{-} \gamma^C D \tilde{\psi}_{CD} \right). \tag{3.32}
\]

This is also a multiplet of the (A.9) type, with only a single irreducible submultiplet being non-zero: the \( \Phi_2(2P_{+ab} U_{ab}) \) in (3.3). This multiplet is set to zero by the bulk field equations (2.24), so that the two off-shell multiplets, (3.4) and (3.31), match on-shell.

The above discussion clearly shows that the lowest component of a reducible multiplet does not uniquely determine the other components, whereas in an irreducible multiplet it does. It also makes it clear that the choice of the ECTM is not unique. We prefer the one in (3.4) simply because it is the minimal choice.
4. The supermultiplet of boundary conditions

Having identified the ECTM, we will now rewrite the boundary conditions we found in section 2.4 as a boundary condition on this multiplet. We begin by considering the irreducible submultiplets of the ECTM. These are easier to work with than the reducible multiplet, since for these irreducible multiplets the lowest component uniquely determines the whole multiplet. We construct the multiplets of boundary conditions by substituting (2.25) and (2.26) into (3.30), in such a way that the on-shell b.c. (2.26), obtained from the variational principle, are lifted to give the following off-shell b.c.

\[
\Psi_2(\gamma_a \psi_a) \big|_{\partial M} = -c \left( \chi^+ U(A), \quad FU(A) - \bar{\chi}_+ \chi^+ U'(A) \right),
\]

\[
\Psi_2(\gamma_a \gamma^b \gamma_c \psi_a) \big|_{\partial M} = 2a \left( \gamma_a \gamma^b \gamma_c \chi^+ A, \quad 4P_a P_b P_c P_d A - \bar{\chi}_+ \gamma_a \gamma^b \gamma_c \chi^+ \right),
\]

\[
\Phi_2(\bar{K} - S) \big|_{\partial M} = -c \left( FU(A) - \bar{\chi}_+ \chi^+ U'(A) , \quad \gamma^a \bar{D}'_a \left( \chi + U(A) \right) \right),
\]

\[
\Phi_2(4P_a P_b P_c P_d \bar{K}'_d) \big|_{\partial M} = 2a \left( 4P_a P_b P_c P_d A - 2\gamma_a \gamma^c \gamma^d \chi^+ A \right) + b \left( \chi^+ + \gamma^a \gamma^b \chi^+ F - \gamma^a \gamma^b \chi^+ + G_a \right), \tag{4.1}
\]

where \( A_a = \bar{D}'_a A, \quad \chi_a = \bar{D}'_a \chi, \) and \( G_a \) is defined in (A.2). These boundary conditions for the submultiplets of the ECTM recombine into the following boundary condition for the ECTM itself \(^{10}\)

\[
\left( \psi_{a-}, \quad K_{ab} + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{abc} S, \quad -\bar{\psi}_{ab+} \right) \big|_{\partial M} = a \left( \gamma^b \gamma_a \chi^+ \bar{D}'_a A, \quad 2\bar{D}'_a A \bar{D}'_b A - \eta_{ab} \bar{D}'_c A \bar{D}'^c A + \frac{1}{2} \bar{\chi}_+ \gamma^a \gamma^b \gamma^c \gamma_d \bar{D}'_d \chi^+ - \frac{1}{2} \gamma_a \gamma^b \gamma^c \gamma^d \bar{D}'_c \chi^+ A \right)
\]

\[
+ \frac{1}{2} b \left( 0, \quad \bar{\chi}_+ \gamma^a \gamma^b \gamma^c \gamma_d \bar{D}'_d \chi^+, \quad \gamma^b \gamma_a \bar{D}'_b \chi^+ F - \gamma^b \gamma_a \chi^+ G_b \right) - \frac{1}{2} c \left( \gamma_a \chi^+ U(A), \eta_{ab} U(A) F - \eta_{ab} \bar{\chi}_+ \chi^+ U'(A), \quad \gamma_{ab} \bar{D}'_b U(A) \chi^+ \right). \tag{4.2}
\]

In order to gain some physical insight into this equation, we consider the flat rigidly supersymmetric 2D version of the boundary action (2.23) given by

\[
S^\text{flat}_{m} = a \int d^2 x \left[ - \partial_a A \partial^a A - \bar{\chi}_+ \gamma^a \partial_a \chi^+ \right]
\]

\[
+ b \int d^2 x \left[ F^2 - \bar{\chi}_+ \gamma^a \partial_a \chi^+ \right]
\]

\[
+ c \int d^2 x \left[ U(A) F - \bar{\chi}_+ \chi^+ U'(A) \right]. \tag{4.3}
\]

The Noether current associated with the invariance of this action under supersymmetry is the supercurrent

\[
J^\text{flat}_a = 2a \gamma^b \gamma_a \chi^+ \partial_b A + c \gamma_a \chi^+ U(A), \tag{4.4}
\]

\(^{10}\)We emphasize that the multiplet on the R.H.S. of (4.2) is an off-shell multiplet. As a boundary condition, (4.2) reduces to (2.24) when the boundary field equations (2.23) are used.
whereas the Noether current associated with the invariance under translations is the energy-momentum tensor

\[
T^\text{flat}_{ab} = a \left[ 2 \partial_a A \partial_b A + \bar{\chi}_- \gamma_b \partial_a \chi_- - \eta_{ab} \partial_c A \partial^c A - \eta_{ab} \bar{\chi}_- \gamma^c \partial_c \chi_- \right] + b \left[ \bar{\chi}_+ \gamma_b \partial_a \chi_+ + \eta_{ab} F^2 - \eta_{ab} \bar{\chi}_+ \gamma^c \partial_c \chi_+ \right] + c \left[ \eta_{ab} U(A) F - \eta_{ab} \bar{\chi}_+ \chi_- U'(A) \right].
\]

(4.5)

With this in mind, let us return to the locally supersymmetric boundary setup and promote these currents to their (boundary-)supercovariant equivalents,

\[
\tilde{J}_{a-} = 2a \gamma^b \gamma_a \chi_- \tilde{D}_b A + c \gamma_a \chi_+ U(A)
\]

(4.6)

and

\[
\tilde{T}_{ab} = a \left[ 2 \tilde{D}^\prime_a \tilde{A} \tilde{D}^\prime_b A + \bar{\chi}_- \gamma_b \tilde{D}^\prime_a \chi_- - \eta_{ab} \tilde{D}^\prime_c \tilde{A} \tilde{D}^\prime_c A - \eta_{ab} \bar{\chi}_- \gamma^c \tilde{D}^\prime_c \chi_- \right] + b \left[ \bar{\chi}_+ \gamma_b \tilde{D}^\prime_a \chi_+ + \eta_{ab} F^2 - \eta_{ab} \bar{\chi}_+ \gamma^c \tilde{D}^\prime_c \chi_+ \right] + c \left[ \eta_{ab} U(A) F - \eta_{ab} \bar{\chi}_+ \chi_- U'(A) \right].
\]

(4.7)

Next, we fit the boundary field equations (2.25) into two multiplets, 11

\[
\begin{align*}
(E_{(\chi_-)}, E_{(A)}) & \equiv 2a \left( \gamma^a \tilde{D}^\prime_a \chi_-, \tilde{D}^\prime_a \tilde{A} \right) + c \left( \chi_+ U'(A), FU'(A) - \bar{\chi}_+ \chi_- U''(A) \right) \\
(E_{(F)}, E_{(\chi_+)}) & \equiv 2b \left( \tilde{F}, \gamma^a \tilde{D}^\prime_a \chi_+ \right) + c \left( U(A), U'(A) \chi_- \right),
\end{align*}
\]

(4.8)

so that (2.25) is equivalent to the vanishing of these multiplets. The Noether currents we have identified can now be combined into a supercurrent multiplet (SCM) \[35, 43\] of the \[A.3\] type given by

\[
\text{SCM} = \left( \frac{1}{2} \tilde{J}_{a-}, \tilde{T}_{ab} + \frac{1}{4} \bar{\chi}_+ \gamma_a \gamma_b \tilde{E}_{(\chi_+)} + \frac{1}{4} \bar{\chi}_- \gamma_a \gamma_b \tilde{E}_{(\chi_-)} - \eta_{ab} F \tilde{E}_{(F)}, \\
- \frac{1}{2} \chi^c \tilde{D}^\prime_c \tilde{J}_{a-} + \frac{1}{2} \gamma^b \gamma_a \tilde{E}_{(\chi_-)} A_b + \frac{1}{4} \gamma^c \gamma_a \tilde{E}_{(\chi_-)} A_b + \frac{1}{4} \gamma_a \chi_+ \tilde{D}^\prime_b \tilde{E}_{(F)} + \frac{1}{2} \chi_a E_{(F)} \right),
\]

(4.9)

Applying the ‘star transformation’ \[A.11\] to this multiplet gives

\[
\begin{align*}
& \left( \frac{1}{2} \gamma_{ab} \tilde{J}_b^\flat, \tilde{T}_{ab} - \eta_{ab} \tilde{D}^c \tilde{D}^c_{(d)} + \frac{1}{4} \bar{\chi}_+ \gamma_a \gamma_b \tilde{E}_{(\chi_+)} + \frac{1}{4} \bar{\chi}_- \gamma_a \gamma_b \tilde{E}_{(\chi_-)} + \eta_{ab} F \tilde{E}_{(F)}, \\
& - \frac{1}{2} \gamma^c \gamma_a \tilde{E}_{(\chi_-)} A_b - \frac{1}{4} \gamma_a \gamma^b \tilde{E}_{(\chi_-)} A_b - \frac{1}{2} \gamma_a \chi_+ \tilde{D}^\prime_b \tilde{E}_{(F)} - \frac{1}{2} \gamma_{ab} \chi_+ \tilde{E}_{(F)} \right).
\end{align*}
\]

(4.10)

\[11\] \[E_{(F)}\] denotes the equation of motion obtained through varying the field \(\mathcal{F}\).
With a little algebra, we find this to be equal to the R.H.S. of (4.2). Hence, we conclude that the boundary conditions following from the variational principle can be stated in the following manifestly supersymmetric form

\[ \text{ECTM}|_{\partial\mathcal{M}} = \ast\text{SCM}, \quad (4.11) \]

where ECTM and \( \ast\text{SCM} \) are off-shell multiplets given in (3.4) and (4.10), respectively. This can be interpreted as the supermultiplet equivalent of the Israel junction condition [34].

5. Conclusions

As we have seen, the boundary conditions in our ‘3D Heterotic M-Theory’ setup can be neatly expressed in the form \( \text{ECTM}|_{\partial\mathcal{M}} = \ast\text{SCM} \). Here both the Extrinsic Curvature Tensor Multiplet and the Super Current Multiplet are off-shell multiplets, thanks to their dependence on auxiliary fields \( S \) and \( F \). In order to see the implications of our results to higher-dimensional models, where auxiliary fields are not necessarily available, we should discuss what happens when one eliminates these auxiliary fields through their (algebraic) field equations.

As has been pointed out in [30], setting \( S = 0 \) in the improved supergravity action (2.11) preserves its ‘susy without b.c.’ property. This happens because the boundary term in (2.11) does not depend on \( S \). As our boundary-localized matter action (2.23) also does not depend on \( S \), the on-shell action in our case is also ‘susy without b.c.’ Curiously enough, the second submultiplet of the ECTM in (3.30) is independent of \( S \) and thus remains a multiplet in the on-shell case. But for other multiplets, the dependence on \( S \) cannot be removed, and so setting \( S = 0 \) necessarily mixes the b.c. multiplets with the bulk field equations. This, however, does not present a conceptual problem because consistency only requires that field equations and boundary conditions together form a supersymmetry orbit. And this is always guaranteed if the b.c. are derived from the supersymmetric action via the variational principle.

Higher-dimensional supergravity multiplets contain extra fields (scalars, spinors, vectors, antisymmetric tensors) besides the vielbein and the gravitino. The analogs of our ECTM would then include odd parity components of these fields, but the b.c. would still be \( \text{ECTM}|_{\partial\mathcal{M}} = \ast\text{SCM} \) with either off-shell (if auxiliary fields are available) or on-shell multiplets. For example, in the 5D \( N = 1 \) case, the ECTM would include the odd part of the graviphoton \( B_M \) [27], whereas in the 11D case, the ECTM would include the odd part of the bulk 3-form \( C_{M N K} \) [24]. The b.c. should set these fields equal to conserved currents that are part of the boundary SCM.

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12 In any number of dimensions, the bulk gravitino kinetic term is \( \sim \psi^\gamma M N K \partial_N \psi_K \), whereas the boundary coupling is \( \sim \psi_{m+} J^m \). The boundary condition on the odd parity gravitino is then \( \gamma^{m+n} \psi_{m-}|_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \sim J^m \) [24, 29]. With the ECTM and SCM containing \( \psi_{m-} \) and \( J_m \), respectively, the ‘star conjugation’ is needed to absorb the \( \gamma^{m+n} \) in the boundary condition.

13 In [29], it was demonstrated that when one considers boundary actions dependent on bulk auxiliary fields, the elimination of the latter reduces ‘susy without b.c.’ to ‘susy with b.c.’
We expect that our (off-shell) ‘susy without b.c.’ discussion can be repeated in similar 4D and 5D setups. The tensor calculus for 4D \(N = 1\) supergravity on a manifold with boundary has been constructed in [14], whereas the more interesting (because of its relation to Randall-Sundrum models) 5D analysis has not yet been performed. \(^{14}\) We intend to keep working in these directions with the goal of constructing supersymmetric bulk + boundary actions, with the boundary conditions fully compatible with the variational principle.

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A. Multiplets of 2D \(N = (1, 0)\) supergravity

The basic irreducible multiplets in the 2D \(N = (1, 0)\) tensor calculus are the scalar, \(\Phi_2(A) = (A, \chi_-)\), and the spinor, \(\Psi_2(\chi_+) = (\chi_+, F)\), multiplets whose supersymmetry transformations are given in (2.17). Besides these, there is a variety of irreducible (and reducible) multiplets with external Lorentz indices \(^{[46]}\), which can be found, for example, by applying supercovariant derivatives to the components of the basic multiplets. The variation of these supercovariant objects is given by \(^{15}\)

\[
\begin{align*}
\delta_t'(\hat{D}_a A) &= \tau_+ \hat{D}_a \chi_-, \quad &\delta_t'(\hat{D}_a \hat{D}_b \chi_-) &= \tau_+ \hat{D}_a \hat{D}_b \chi_- + \tau_+ \gamma_a \gamma_{b+}, \\
\delta_t'(\hat{D}_a \chi_-) &= \gamma^b \tau_+ \hat{D}_b \hat{D}_a A, \quad &\delta_t'(\hat{D}_a \hat{D}_b \chi_-) &= \gamma^c \tau_+ \hat{D}_c \hat{D}_b \chi_- - \gamma_a \epsilon_b + B_b, \\
\delta_t'(\hat{D}_a \chi_+) &= \epsilon_+ G_a, \quad &\delta_t'(\hat{D}_a \hat{D}_b \chi_+) &= \epsilon_+ H_{ab}.
\end{align*}
\]

\(^{14}\)We note that the existing 5D tensor calculus for supergravity on an orbifold [15] does not satisfy our consistency criteria as there odd parity fields are chosen to vanish at the brane/boundary [29].

\(^{15}\)In proving these statements, we have used the following useful lemmas describing the commutators of supercovariant derivatives,

\[
\begin{align*}
[D'_a, \hat{D}'_b] A &= -\frac{1}{2} \chi_- \hat{\psi}_{ab+}, \\
[D'_a, \hat{D}'_b] \hat{D}'_c A &= R'_{abcd} \hat{D}'_d A - \frac{1}{2} \hat{D}'_c \hat{\chi}_+ \hat{\psi}_{ab+}, \\
[D'_a, \hat{D}'_b] \hat{D}'_c \chi_- &= R'_{abcd} \hat{D}'_d \chi_- + \frac{1}{2} \hat{D}'_b \hat{\chi}_+ \hat{\psi}_{ab+} - \frac{1}{2} \chi_- \hat{\chi}_+ \hat{\psi}_{ab+}, \\
[D'_a, \hat{D}'_b] \hat{D}'_c \chi_+ &= \frac{1}{4} \tilde{R}'_{abcd} \hat{\psi}_{ab+} - \frac{1}{2} \hat{\psi}_{ab+}, \\
[D'_a, \hat{D}'_b] \hat{D}'_c \chi_+ &= \frac{1}{4} \tilde{R}'_{abcd} \hat{\psi}_{ab+} + \frac{1}{4} \tilde{R}'_{abcd} \hat{\psi}_{ab+} - \frac{1}{2} \hat{\psi}_{ab+} G_c.
\end{align*}
\]

Furthermore we note that \(\delta_t' \hat{\psi}_{ab+} = \frac{1}{2} \gamma^c \epsilon_+ R'_{abcd} \hat{\psi}_{cd+}\) and \(\delta_t' \tilde{R}'_{abcd} = \tau_+ \gamma_a \hat{D}'_b \hat{\psi}_{cd+} \), \((a \leftrightarrow b)\).
where we defined

\[ \lambda_{a+} \equiv -\bar{\psi}_{ab+}\tilde{D}^b_aA, \]
\[ G_a \equiv \tilde{D}^b_aF + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_+ \gamma^b \bar{\psi}_{ab+}, \]
\[ B_a \equiv \tilde{D}^b_a\bar{x}_- \bar{\psi}_{ab+} - \frac{1}{4} \tilde{D}^a_b\bar{x}_- \gamma^{cd} \bar{\psi}_{cd+}, \]
\[ H_{ab} \equiv \tilde{D}^b_aG_b + \tilde{D}^b_a\gamma_a \bar{\psi}_{bc+} + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{D}^a_b\bar{x}_+ \gamma^c \bar{\psi}_{ac+}. \] (A.2)

These new quantities transform as

\[ \delta'_c \lambda_{a+} = \gamma^{cd} \epsilon_+ \tilde{D}^d_c \tilde{D}^b_aA + \epsilon_+ B_a, \]
\[ \delta'_c G_a = \tau_+ \gamma^b \tilde{D}^b_c \tilde{D}^a_cA, \]
\[ \delta'_c B_a = \tau_+ \gamma^c \tilde{D}^d_c \tilde{D}^b_a \bar{x}_- - \tau_+ \gamma^c (\bar{\psi}_{ab+} \tilde{D}^d_c \tilde{D}^{b+} A + \bar{\psi}_{ab+} \tilde{D}^{b+} \tilde{D}^b_a A), \]
\[ \delta'_c H_{ab} = \tau_+ \gamma^c \tilde{D}^d_c \tilde{D}^b_a \tilde{D}^b_a \bar{x}_+. \] (A.3)

We use these transformations to identify several 2D multiplets. There is a scalar multiplet with a single external Lorentz index \((A_a, \chi_{a-}) = (\tilde{D}_a^A, \tilde{D}_a^\chi_{-})\) which transforms as

\[ \delta'_c A_a = \tau_+ \chi_{a-}, \quad \delta'_c \chi_{a-} = \gamma^b \epsilon_+ \tilde{D}^b_c A_a. \] (A.4)

Similarly, there is a scalar multiplet with two external Lorentz indices \((A_{ab}, \chi_{ab-}) = (\tilde{D}_a^A, \tilde{D}_a^\chi_{-} + \gamma_a \lambda_{b+})\) which transforms as

\[ \delta'_c A_{ab} = \tau_+ \chi_{ab-}, \quad \delta'_c \chi_{ab-} = \gamma^c \epsilon_+ \tilde{D}^c_{ab} A_{ab}. \] (A.5)

We also find spinor multiplets with external Lorentz indices. There is a spinor multiplet with one external Lorentz index \((\chi_{a+}, F_a) = (\tilde{D}_a^\chi_{+}, G_a)\) which transforms as

\[ \delta'_c \chi_{a+} = \epsilon_+ F_a, \quad \delta'_c F_a = \tau_+ \gamma^b \tilde{D}^b_c \chi_{a+}. \] (A.6)

Similarly, there is a spinor multiplet with two external Lorentz indices \((\chi_{ab+}, F_{ab}) = (\tilde{D}_a^\chi_{+}, H_{ab})\) which transforms as

\[ \delta'_c \chi_{ab+} = \epsilon_+ F_{ab}, \quad \delta'_c F_{ab} = \tau_+ \gamma^c \tilde{D}^c_{ab} \chi_{ab+}. \] (A.7)

Besides the above irreducible multiplets, we also identify certain reducible multiplets. One such multiplet is \((\zeta_{-}, U_a, \lambda_{+}) = (\gamma^a \tilde{D}_a^\chi_{+}, G_a, -\frac{1}{4} \chi_+ \tilde{R}' + \frac{1}{4} \gamma^{ab} \bar{\psi}_{ab+} F)\) which transforms as

\[ \delta'_c \zeta_{-} = \gamma^a \epsilon_+ U_a, \]
\[ \delta'_c U_a = \tau_+ \tilde{D}_a^\chi_{-} - \tau_+ \chi_{a+}, \]
\[ \delta'_c \lambda_{+} = \gamma^{ab} \epsilon_+ \tilde{D}_a^b U_a - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_+ (\zeta_{-} \gamma^{cd} \bar{\psi}_{cd+}). \] (A.8)
The corresponding multiplet with one external Lorentz index is 
\((\zeta_{a-}, U_{ab}, \lambda_{a+}) = (\hat{D}_{a}^{*} \zeta_{-}, \hat{D}_{a}^{f} \hat{D}_{b}^{f} A, \lambda_{a+})\) which transforms as

\[
\begin{align*}
\delta_{e}^{e} \zeta_{a-} &= \gamma^{b} \epsilon_{+} U_{ba}, \\
\delta_{e}^{e} U_{ab} &= \tau_{+} \hat{D}_{a}^{*} \zeta_{b-} + \tau_{+} \gamma_{a} \lambda_{b+}, \\
\delta_{e}^{e} \lambda_{a+} &= \gamma^{cd} \epsilon_{+} \hat{D}_{d}^{*} U_{ca} - \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_{+} (\zeta_{a-} - \gamma^{cd} \hat{\psi}_{cd+}) + \epsilon_{+} (\zeta_{-} \hat{\psi}_{ab+}).
\end{align*}
\]

(A.9)

This reducible multiplet is central for the discussion in the main text. The ECTM (3.4) and the SCM (4.9) are two examples of this multiplet. Another example is the 2D \(N = (1, 0)\) Ricci tensor multiplet,

\[
(\gamma^{b} \hat{\psi}_{ab+}, \hat{D}_{ab}^{*} \hat{\psi}_{ba+}),
\]

(A.10)

which would be essential for discussing field equations in 2D supergravity.

We note that although the multiplets (A.4) to (A.9) were obtained here by the action of supercovariant derivatives, the results obtained are independent of this fact. This can be checked by directly verifying that the supersymmetry algebra closes in the usual way, for the transformation rules given.

Finally, we note that given a multiplet (A.9), we can form another multiplet

\[
\star (\zeta_{a-}, U_{ab}, \lambda_{a+}) = (\epsilon_{ab} \zeta_{b-}, U_{ba} - \eta_{ab} U_{c}^{c}, -\gamma_{ab} \lambda_{b+} - \gamma_{ab} \gamma^{c} \hat{D}_{c}^{f} \zeta_{b-}).
\]

(A.11)

This ‘star transformation’ appears in the boundary condition (4.11). Note that it squares to unity: \(\star^{2} = 1\).

\section*{B. Irreducible submultiplets of reducible multiplets}

The reducible multiplet (A.9) can be split into irreducible submultiplets. To do this, we begin by defining the projection tensors,

\[
P_{\pm ab} \equiv \frac{1}{2} (\eta_{ab} \pm \epsilon_{ab}),
\]

(B.1)

which enjoy the following properties

\[
P_{+ ab} + P_{- ab} = \eta_{ab}, \quad P_{+ ab} = P_{- ba},
\]

\[
P_{\pm a} P_{\pm b} = P_{\pm a}, \quad P_{\pm a} P_{\pm b} = 0, \quad P_{\pm a} P_{\pm ab} = 0.
\]

(B.2)

Using these projection operators, we find that \((\zeta_{a-}, U_{ab}, \lambda_{a+})\) contains the following irreducible submultiplets

\[
\Psi_{2}(\gamma^{a} \zeta_{a-}) = (\gamma^{a} \zeta_{a-}, 2 P_{- a b} U_{ab}),
\]

\[
\Psi_{2}(\gamma^{a} \gamma^{c} \gamma_{b} \zeta_{c-}) = (\gamma^{a} \gamma^{c} \gamma_{b} \zeta_{c-}, 4 P_{+ a}^{c} P_{+ b}^{d} U_{cd}),
\]

\[
\Phi_{2}(2 P_{+ a b} U_{ab}) = (2 P_{+ a b} U_{ab}, 2 \gamma^{a} \lambda_{a+} + \gamma^{a} \gamma^{b} \hat{D}_{b} \zeta_{a-}),
\]

\[
\Phi_{2}(4 P_{- a}^{c} P_{- b}^{d} U_{cd}) = (4 P_{- a}^{c} P_{- b}^{d} U_{cd}, 2 \gamma^{a} \gamma^{c} \gamma_{b} \lambda_{c+} + \gamma^{a} \gamma^{c} \gamma^{d} \hat{D}_{d} \zeta_{c-}).
\]

(B.3)
transforming as \((\chi_+, F), (\chi_{ab+}, F_{ab}), (A, \chi_-)\) and \((A_{ab}, \chi_{ab-})\) multiplets, respectively.

These multiplets can alternatively be expressed in terms of light-cone coordinates, where we define \(\partial_{(\pm)} = \partial_0 \pm \partial_1\) and \(\zeta_{(\pm)} = \zeta_0 \pm \zeta_1\). We find, respectively,

\[
\begin{align*}
\left( \gamma_{(+)}, \zeta_{(+)}, 2U_{(+)(-)} \right), \\
\left( \gamma_{(+)}, \zeta_{(+)}, 2U_{(-)(+)} \right), \\
\left( U_{(-)(+), \gamma_{(-)} \lambda_{(+)} + \hat{D}'_{(-)} \zeta_{(-)} \right), \\
\left( U_{(-)(-), \gamma_{(-)} \lambda_{(-)} + \hat{D}'_{(-)} \zeta_{(-)} \right).
\end{align*}
\]

(B.4)

It is clear that each of these multiplets contains one component \(U_{ab}\). The first two transform as \((\chi_+, F)\), and the last two as \((A, \chi_-)\) multiplets.

A similar splitting exists also for the multiplet \((A, \chi_-)\).

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\[16\] The relationship between the projection tensor \(P_{a\pm 0}\) and the light-cone coordinates can be highlighted by noting that on a 2D vector \(v_m = (v_0, v_1)^T\), the projection tensor acts as

\[
2P_{a\pm 0} v_b = \begin{pmatrix} v_{(+)} \\ v_{(-)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad 2P_{a\pm 0} v_b = \begin{pmatrix} v_{(-)} \\ -v_{(+)} \end{pmatrix},
\]

where \(v_{(\pm)} = v_0 \pm v_1\). From this it is clear that the action of the projection tensor produces a vector parametrized by one light-cone coordinate element.
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