

JACOBI COHOMOLOGY, LOCAL GEOMETRY OF MODULI SPACES, AND HITCHIN'S CONNECTION

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[math.AG/0108101]

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¹ Partially supported by NSA Grant MDA904-02-1-0094; reproduction by US Government permitted.

INTRODUCTION

The main purpose of this paper is to develop some cohomological tools for the study of the local geometry of moduli and parameter spaces in complex Algebraic Geometry. The main ingredient will be the language of Lie algebras, in particular differential graded Lie algebras, their representations, and certain complexes associated to these that we generally call *Jacobi* complexes. The theory we develop will allow us, notably to

1. Write down canonically the spaces of (scalar) differential operators of arbitrary degree at a point of a moduli space, together with their natural action on functions and their composition operations; similarly for operators on suitable 'canonical' or 'modular' vector bundles over moduli. Apparently, this result is new even for the case of vector fields and their Lie bracket.

2. Introduce and study a number of other constructs and results such as atomic and relative deformation theory, connection algebras over moduli, and Atiyah classes for deformations.

3. Give an algebraic construction of the Hitchin connection (reviewed below) and a new proof for its flatness.

To put matters in perspective, our main focus here is really the general developments as in (1-2), with the Hitchin connection serving mainly as guide and benchmark.

Why the presence of Lie algebras ? We understand since Felix Klein that geometry, in one way or another, is conveniently expressed in terms of symmetry groups, so it is reasonable to expect a similar thing to be true of deformations or variations of a geometric object. Now a geometric structure on a topological space X may be described by gluing data on a collection of 'standard' or 'trivial' pieces (e.g. polydiscs in the case of a manifold, or or free modules in the case of a vector bundle), and a deformation of this structure may be obtained by varying the gluing data. Now, infinitesimal variations of gluing data can be described in terms of Lie algebras (e.g. of vector fields or linear endomorphisms). Consequently, infinitesimal deformations of geometric structures can be systematically expressed in terms of a sheaf of Lie algebras on X . Thus, such sheaves will play a fundamental role in our work.

Actually, it often turns out to be convenient, even necessary, to work with a somewhat more general algebraic object than Lie algebra, namely what we call a *Lie atom*. Algebraically, a Lie atom is something like a quotient of a Lie algebra by a subalgebra; to be precise, it consists of a Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} , a \mathfrak{g} -module \mathfrak{h} , together with a module homomorphism $\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}$. Geometrically, a Lie atom can be used to control situations where a geometric object is deformed while some aspect of the geometry 'stays the same' (i.e. is deformed in a trivialized manner); more particularly the algebra \mathfrak{g} controls the deformation while the module \mathfrak{h} controls the trivialization. Here

we will present a systematic development of some of the rudiments of the deformation theory of Lie atoms, which are closely analogous to those of (differential graded) Lie algebras.

One of the main tools we develop here is a direct cohomological construction, in terms of the moduli problem, of vector fields and differential operators on moduli spaces, together with their action on functions, as well as on 'modular' modules, i.e. those associated to the moduli problem, including formulae for composition and Lie bracket (commutator); in particular, we obtain a canonical formula for the Lie algebra of vector fields on a moduli space together with its natural representation on (formal) functions, as well as extensions to the case of differential operators acting on modular vector bundles .

As an application of these methods we will study the relation between the geometry and deformations of a given complex manifold X and that of a moduli space \mathcal{M}_X of vector bundles on X . Since \mathcal{M}_X is a functor of X , it seems intuitively plausible that an automorphism of X should act on \mathcal{M}_X , and likewise for infinitesimal automorphisms. This intuitive idea obviously needs some precising, because on the one hand the Lie algebra T_X of holomorphic vector fields on X will typically admit no global sections, and on the other hand as sheaves, T_X and $T_{\mathcal{M}_X}$ live on different spaces. In fact, we will show that there is a Lie homomorphism Σ_X from the differential graded Lie algebra associated to T_X to that of $T_{\mathcal{M}_X}$. This is useful because a Lie homomorphism induces a map on the associated deformation spaces, so Σ_X can be used to relate deformations of X to those of \mathcal{M}_X .

The latter result will be further refined in case X has dimension 1, i.e. is a compact Riemann surface, by showing that the map Σ_X factors through a Lie homomorphism to a certain Lie atom associated to \mathcal{M}_X . As an essentially immediate consequence of this we will deduce the so-called Hitchin or Knizhnik- Zamolodchikov flat connection over the moduli of curves. This is a holomorphic connection on the projective bundle associated to the vector bundle \mathfrak{V} with fibre $H^0(SU_X(r, L), G)$, where $SU_X(r, L)$ is the moduli space of (S-equivalence classes of) semistable bundles of rank r and determinant L on X , and G is a line-bundle on $SU_X(r, L)$ (which is necessarily, by results of Drezet-Narasimhan [DrNa], a power of the modular theta bundle, and a fractional power of the canonical bundle). That the projectivization of \mathfrak{V} should admit a flat connection was conjectured by physicists based on ideas from Conformal Field Theory, and subsequently treated by a number of mathematicians including Beilinson-Kazhdan, Hitchin, Faltings, Ueno and Witten (cf. [BeK] [BryM] [Hit] [Fa][Ram] [TsUY] [vGdJ] [WADP] and references therein). Our approach is quite close to

Hitchin's as regards the construction of the connection; the ideas here go back to some degree to Welters [Wel]. However we are able to extend the Welters-Hitchin construction, which is essentially first-order deformation theory, to the Lie theoretic context via what we call a *connection algebra*,

which shows that the connection thus obtained is automatically flat— modulo showing that the relevant maps are Lie homomorphisms. We thus obtain a new and essentially 'algebraic' proof of the flatness of the connection, replacing some arguments by Hitchin [Hit] which appeal to infinite-dimensional symplectic geometry.

The paper is organized as follows. §1, 2 discuss basic definitions and examples relating to Lie atoms and their associated deformation theory. In §3 we give a construction, under suitable hypotheses, of the universal deformation associated to a Lie atom, following closely the case of a Lie algebra. In §4 we give a construction of the *Hitchin symbol* attached to a family of curves, which is a crucial ingredient in the construction of the 'refined action' by base vector fields on moduli spaces of vector bundles. Whereas the usual construction of Hitchin symbols in [Hit, vGdJ] is based on Serre duality, hence is strictly global on the curve, we realize the symbol as the coboundary associated to a certain natural short exact sequence, which later facilitates the proof of some compatibilities with Lie brackets.

Next we revisit in §5 the construction of modular modules, first given in [Ruvhs], and present it in a new and more workable algebraic setting, based on certain 'L complexes', which are 'adjoints' of the more familiar modular Jacobi complexes. Based on this we give in §6 the 'synthetic' construction of vector fields and Lie brackets on moduli spaces, and in §7 the natural extension of these results to the case of differential operators on modular modules.

Next we present in §8 the notion of 'connection algebra'. Given a Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} and a \mathfrak{g} -module E , the connection algebra $\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E)$ is a larger differential graded Lie algebra having \mathfrak{g} as a quotient E as a module. It has the property that the cohomology of E deforms in a trivialized way (i.e. carries a natural flat connection) over the deformation space of $\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E)$. This is a useful tool in the construction of Hitchin connections.

In §9 we discuss the extension of the foregoing results to the case of *relative* deformations. Whereas an ordinary deformation is considered parametrized by a thickened *point* (i.e. an artin local algebra), a relative deformation is likewise parametrized by a thickened *space* (i.e. a coherent algebra over a ringed space). In §10 we discuss an analogue, in the setting of deformation theory, of the notion of *Atiyah class* or *Atiyah extension*. We show that the Atiyah extension is an extension of Lie algebras admitting a natural representation.

The final two sections focus on applications of the foregoing techniques to moduli spaces of vector bundles on a manifold and their deformation spaces. In §11 we construct the map Σ_X mentioned above as a homomorphism of differential graded Lie algebras, which gives us a precise handle on the relation between deformations of X and those of \mathcal{M}_X . Then in §12 we

construct, based in the Hitchin symbol as presented in §4, a lifting of Σ_X (as Lie homomorphism) to a certain Lie atom associated to \mathcal{M}_X , which is related to a suitable connection algebra. This yields the Hitchin connection and its flatness essentially for free.

Some of the constructions and techniques in this paper are presented in greater generality than is required just for the Hitchin connection. Hopefully they may find other applications to the geometry of moduli spaces.

Acknowledgment. Some of the work on this paper was done while the author was visiting the Mathematics Department at Roma Tre University. He is grateful to the department, and especially to Angelo Lopez, Edoardo Sernesi and Sandro Verra, for their hospitality and for providing a congenial and stimulating working environment.

Remark. After this was written the author was made aware of two other papers on the construction of Hitchin connections, by V. Ginzburg (Resolution of diagonals and moduli spaces, in The moduli space of curves (Texel Island, 1994), 231–266, Progr. Math., 129, Birkhuser Boston, Boston, MA, 1995.) and S. Barannikov (Quantum periods-I (alg-geom/0006193)).

1. LIE ATOMS

Our purpose here is to define and begin to study a notion which we call *Lie atom* and which generalizes that of the quotient of a Lie algebra by a subalgebra (more precisely, a pair of Lie algebras viewed in the derived category). Our point of view is that a Lie atom, though not actually a Lie algebra, possesses some of the formal properties of Lie algebras. In particular, we shall see later that there is a deformation theory for Lie atoms, which generalizes the case of Lie algebras and which in addition allows us to treat some classical, and disparate, deformation problems such as, on the one hand, the Hilbert scheme, and on the other hand heat-equation deformations, introduced in the first-order case by Welters [We].

1.1 Basic notions.

Definition 1.1.1. *By a Lie atom (for 'algebra to module') we shall mean the data \mathfrak{g}^\sharp consisting of*

- (i) *a Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} ;*
- (ii) *a \mathfrak{g} -module \mathfrak{h} ;*
- (iii) *an injective \mathfrak{g} -module homomorphism*

$$i : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h},$$

where \mathfrak{g} is viewed as a \mathfrak{g} -module via the adjoint action.

The assumption of injectivity is not really essential but is convenient and is satisfied in applications. Hypothesis (iii) means explicitly that, writing \langle , \rangle for the \mathfrak{g} -action on \mathfrak{h} , we have

$$(1.1) \quad i([a, b]) = \langle a, i(b) \rangle = - \langle b, i(a) \rangle .$$

Note that any Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} determines a 'Lie atom', minus the injectivity hypothesis, by taking $\mathfrak{h} = 0$, and the concept of Lie atom is essentially a generalization of that of Lie algebra. Note also that there is an obvious notion of morphism of Lie atoms, hence also of isomorphism and quasi-isomorphism (composition of morphisms inducing isomorphism on cohomology and inverses of such). Of course one can also talk about sheaves of Lie atoms, differential graded Lie atoms, etc. We shall generally consider two atoms to be equivalent if they are quasi-isomorphic.

Examples 1.1.2.

A. If $j : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$ is any linear map of vector spaces, let $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}(j)$ be the *interwining algebra* of j , i.e. the Lie subalgebra

$$\mathfrak{g} \subseteq \mathfrak{gl}(E_1) \oplus \mathfrak{gl}(E_2)$$

given by

$$\mathfrak{g} = \{(a_1, a_2) | j \circ a_1 = a_2 \circ j\}.$$

Thus \mathfrak{g} is the 'largest' algebra acting on E_1 and E_2 so that j is a \mathfrak{g} -homomorphism. When j is injective, define

$$\mathfrak{gl}(E_1 < E_2) := (\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{gl}(E_2), i),$$

with $i(a_1, a_2) = a_2$. When j is surjective, define

$$\mathfrak{gl}(E_1 > E_2) := (\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{gl}(E_1), i),$$

with $i(a_1, a_2) = a_1$. These are Lie atoms. Again, the definitions could be made without assuming j injective or surjective, but we have no interesting examples. The two notions are obviously dual to each other, but since we do not assume E_1, E_2 are finite-dimensional, dualising is not necessarily convenient.

B. If $i : \mathfrak{g}_1 \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}_2$ is an injective homomorphism of Lie algebras then

$$\mathfrak{g}^\sharp := (\mathfrak{g}_1, \mathfrak{g}_2, i)$$

is a Lie atom. More generally, if \mathfrak{h} is any \mathfrak{g}_1 submodule of \mathfrak{g}_2 containing $i(\mathfrak{g}_1)$, then

$$\mathfrak{g}^\sharp := (\mathfrak{g}_1, \mathfrak{h}, i)$$

is a Lie atom.

C. Let E be an invertible sheaf on a ringed space X (such as a real or complex manifold), and let $\mathfrak{D}^i(E)$ be the sheaf of i -th order differential endomorphisms of E and set

$$\mathfrak{D}^\infty(E) = \bigcup_{i=0}^{\infty} \mathfrak{D}^i(E).$$

Then $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{D}^1(E)$ is a Lie algebra sheaf and $\mathfrak{h} = \mathfrak{D}^2(E)$ is a \mathfrak{g} -module, giving rise to a Lie atom \mathfrak{g}^\sharp which will be called the *Heat atom* of E and denote by $\mathfrak{D}^{1/2}(E)$. Note that if X is a manifold then \mathfrak{g}^\sharp is quasi-isomorphic as a complex to $\text{Sym}^2(T_X)$.

D. Let

$$Y \subset X$$

be an embedding of manifolds (real or complex). Let $T_{X/Y}$ be the sheaf of vector fields on X tangent to Y along Y . Then $T_{X/Y}$ is a sheaf of Lie algebras contained in its module T_X , giving rise to a Lie atom

$$N_{Y/X} = (T_{X/Y} \subset T_X),$$

which we call the *normal atom* to Y in X . Notice that $T_{X/Y} \rightarrow T_X$ is locally an isomorphism off Y , so replacing $T_{X/Y}$ and T_X by their sheaf-theoretic restrictions on Y yields a Lie atom that is quasi-isomorphic to, and identifiable with $N_{Y/X}$.

E In the situation of the previous example, let \mathcal{I}_Y denote the ideal sheaf of Y . Then $\mathcal{I}_Y.T_X$ is also a Lie subalgebra of T_X giving rise to a Lie atom

$$T_X \otimes \mathcal{O}_Y := (\mathcal{I}_Y.T_X \subset T_X).$$

Note that via the embedding of Y in $Y \times X$ as the graph of the inclusion $Y \subset X$, $T_X \otimes \mathcal{O}_Y$ is quasi isomorphic as Lie atom to $N_{Y/Y \times X}$, so this example is essentially a special case of Example D.

1.2 Representations. Now given a Lie atom $\mathfrak{g}^\sharp = (\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h}, i)$, by a *left \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -module* or *left \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -representation* we shall mean the data of a pair (E_1, E_2) of \mathfrak{g} -modules with an injective \mathfrak{g} -homomorphism $j : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$, together with an 'action rule'

$$\langle \rangle : \mathfrak{h} \times E_2 \rightarrow E_2,$$

satisfying the compatibility condition (in which we have written $\langle \rangle$ for all the various action rules):

$$(1.2) \quad \langle \langle a, v \rangle, x \rangle = \langle a, \langle v, x \rangle \rangle - \langle v, \langle a, x \rangle \rangle, \\ \forall a \in \mathfrak{g}, v \in \mathfrak{h}, x \in E_1.$$

In other words, a left \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -module is just a homomorphism of Lie atoms

$$\mathfrak{g}^\sharp \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(E_1 \langle E_2).$$

The notion of right \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -module is defined similarly.

Examples, bis. Refer to the previous examples.

- A.** These are the tautological examples: $\mathfrak{gl}(E_1 \langle E_2)$ and $\mathfrak{gl}(E_1 \rangle E_2)$ with (E_1, E_2) as left (resp. right) module in the two cases j injective (resp. surjective).
- B.** For a Lie atom $\mathfrak{g}^\sharp = (\mathfrak{g}_1, \mathfrak{g}_2, i)$, \mathfrak{g}^\sharp itself is a left \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -module, called the *adjoint representation* while $(\mathfrak{g}^\sharp)^* = (\mathfrak{g}_2^*, \mathfrak{g}_1^*, i^*)$, $*$ = dual vector space, is a right \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -module called the *coadjoint representation*.
- C.** In this case (E, E) is a left and right \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -module, called a *Heat module*.
- D.** Here the basic left module is $(\mathcal{I}_Y, \mathcal{O}_X) \stackrel{qis}{\sim} \mathcal{O}_Y$. Of course we may replace \mathcal{I}_Y and \mathcal{O}_X by their topological restrictions of Y . The basic right module of interest is $(\mathcal{O}_X, \mathcal{O}_Y)$.
- E.** In this case the modules we are interested in are

$$(\mathcal{I}_{Y, Y \times X}, \mathcal{O}_{Y \times X}), \quad (\mathcal{O}_{Y \times X} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_Y).$$

Remark. 'Theoretically', only the action of \mathfrak{h} going from E_1 to E_2 'should' be necessary for a module. However the action on all of E_2 is needed in proofs and satisfied in the examples we have in mind, so we included it. The fact that we require an extension to E_2 rather than the dual notion of a 'lifting' to E_1 has to do with the fact that in our examples of interest the maps i and j are injective.

1.3 Universal enveloping atom. Observe that for any Lie atom $(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h}, i)$ there is a smallest Lie algebra \mathfrak{h}^+ with a \mathfrak{g} - map $\mathfrak{h} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}^+$ such that the given action of \mathfrak{g} on \mathfrak{h} extends via i to a 'subalgebra' action of \mathfrak{g} on \mathfrak{h}^+ , i.e. so that

$$(1.3) \quad \langle a, v \rangle = [i(a), v], \quad \forall a \in \mathfrak{g}, v \in \mathfrak{h}^+,$$

namely \mathfrak{h}^+ is simply the quotient of the free Lie algebra on \mathfrak{h} by the ideal generated by elements of the form

$$[i(a), v] - \langle a, v \rangle, \quad a \in \mathfrak{g}, v \in \mathfrak{h}$$

(note that the action of \mathfrak{g} on \mathfrak{h} extends to an action on \mathfrak{h}^+ by the 'derivation rule'). In view of the basic identity (1.1) it follows that the map $\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}^+$ induced by i is a Lie homomorphism. This shows in particular that, modulo replacing \mathfrak{g} and \mathfrak{h} by their images in \mathfrak{h}^+ , any Lie atom \mathfrak{g}^\sharp is essentially of the type of Example B above (though the map $\mathfrak{h} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}^+$ is not necessarily injective).

We observe next that there is an natural notion of 'universal enveloping atom' associated to a Lie atom $\mathfrak{g}^\sharp = (\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h}, i)$. Indeed let $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h})$ be the quotient of the $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g})$ -bimodule $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes \mathfrak{h} \otimes \mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g})$ by the sub-bimodule generated by elements of the form

$$a \otimes v - v \otimes a - \langle a, v \rangle, i(a) \otimes b - a \otimes i(b),$$

$$\forall a, b \in \mathfrak{g}, v \in \mathfrak{h}.$$

Sorites

1. $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h})$ is a $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g})$ -bimodule .
2. The map i extends to a bimodule homomorphism

$$i : \mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h}).$$

3. $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h})$ is universal with respect to these properties.
4. $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h})$ is generated by \mathfrak{h} as either right or left $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g})$ -module. Moreover the image of $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h})$ in $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{h}^+)$ is precisely the (left, right or bi-) $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g})$ -submodule of $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{h}^+)$ generated by \mathfrak{h} .

Thus

$$\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}^\sharp) := (\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}), \mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h}), i)$$

forms an 'associative atom' which we call the *universal enveloping atom* associated to \mathfrak{g}^\sharp .

Examples, ter.

- A.** It is elementary that the universal enveloping algebra of the intertwining Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} is simply the intertwining associative algebra

$$\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}) = \{(a_1, a_2) | j \circ a_1 = a_2 \circ j\},$$

and so the universal enveloping atom of $\mathfrak{gl}(E_1 < E_2)$ (resp. $\mathfrak{gl}(E_1 > E_2)$) is just

$$(\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}), \mathfrak{end}(E_2), i) \text{ resp. } (\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}), \mathfrak{end}(E_1), i).$$

- B.** In this case it is clear that $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}_1, \mathfrak{h})$ is just the sub $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}_1)$ -bimodule generated by \mathfrak{h} .

2. ATOMIC DEFORMATION THEORY

Our purpose here is to define and study deformations with respect to a Lie atom $\mathfrak{g}^\sharp = (\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h}, i)$. Roughly speaking a \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -deformation consists of a \mathfrak{g} -deformation ϕ , plus a 'trivialization of ϕ when viewed as \mathfrak{h} -deformation;' as we shall see in the course of making the latter precise, it only involves the structure of \mathfrak{h} as \mathfrak{g} -module, not as Lie algebra, and this is our main motivation for introducing the notion of Lie atom.

We recall first the notion of \mathfrak{g} -deformation. Let \mathfrak{g} be a sheaf of Lie algebras over a Hausdorff topological space X , let E be a \mathfrak{g} -module and S a finite-dimensional \mathbb{C} -algebra with maximal ideal \mathfrak{m} . Note that there is a sheaf of groups G_S given by

$$G_S = \exp(\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{m})$$

with multiplication given by the Campbell-Hausdorff formula, where \exp , as a map to $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{m})$, is injective because the formal log series gives an inverse. Though not essential for our purposes, it may be noted that G_S coincides with the (multiplicative) subgroup sheaf of sections congruent to 1 modulo the ideal $\mathfrak{U}^+(\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{m})$ generated by $\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{m}$ in the universal enveloping algebra

$$\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{m}) := \mathfrak{U}_S(\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{m}).$$

This is easy to prove by induction on the exponent of S : note that if $I < S$ is an ideal with $\mathfrak{m}.I = 0$ then $\mathfrak{g} \otimes I \subseteq \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{m}$ is a central ideal yielding a central subgroup $G_I = 1 + \mathfrak{g} \otimes I \subseteq G_S$ and a central ideal $\mathfrak{g} \otimes I \subseteq \mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{m})$, hence a central subgroup $1 + \mathfrak{g} \otimes I$ in the multiplicative group of $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{m})$.

A \mathfrak{g} -deformation of E over S is a sheaf E^ϕ of S -modules, together with a maximal atlas of trivialisations

$$\Phi_\alpha : E^\phi|_{U_\alpha} \xrightarrow{\sim} E|_{U_\alpha} \otimes S,$$

such that the transition maps

$$\Psi_{\alpha\beta} := \Phi_\beta \circ \Phi_\alpha^{-1} \in G_S(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta).$$

We view a \mathfrak{g} -deformation (not specifying any E) as being given essentially by the class of $(\Psi_{\alpha\beta})$ in the nonabelian Čech cohomology set $\check{H}^1(X, G_S)$ and in particular a \mathfrak{g} -deformation determines simultaneously \mathfrak{g} -deformations of all \mathfrak{g} -modules E , and is in turn determined by the corresponding \mathfrak{g} -deformation of any *faithful* \mathfrak{g} -module E . We may call E^ϕ a model of ϕ or $(\Psi_{\alpha\beta})$.

Now let $\mathfrak{g}^\sharp = (\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h}, i)$ be a sheaf of Lie atoms on X , and let $E^\sharp = (E_1, E_2, j)$ be a sheaf of left \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -modules. Note that an element $v \in \mathfrak{h} \otimes \mathfrak{m}$ determines a map

$$A_v : E_1 \rightarrow E_2,$$

$$(2.1) \quad A_v(x) = j(x) + \langle v, x \rangle .$$

Locally, an S -linear map

$$A : E_1 \otimes S \rightarrow E_2 \otimes S$$

is said to be a *left \mathfrak{h} -map* if it is of the form

$$A = \exp(u) \circ A_v, u \in \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{m}, v \in \mathfrak{h} \otimes \mathfrak{m},$$

and similarly for right modules and right \mathfrak{h} -maps. We note that the set of left (resp. right) \mathfrak{h} -maps is invariant under the left (resp. right) action of G_S on $\mathfrak{hom}(E_1 \otimes S, E_2 \otimes S)$. We consider the data of an \mathfrak{h} -map (left or right) to include the element $v \in \mathfrak{h} \otimes \mathfrak{m}$, and two such maps are considered equivalent if they belong to the same G_S -orbit. Thus a left \mathfrak{h} -map is really a G_S -orbit in $G_S \cdot (\mathfrak{h} \otimes \mathfrak{m})$.

The notion of \mathfrak{h} -map globalizes as follows. Given a \mathfrak{g} -deformation $\phi = (\Psi_{\alpha\beta})$, a (global) *left \mathfrak{h} -map* (with respect to ϕ) is a map

$$A : E_1 \otimes S \rightarrow E_2^\phi$$

such that for any atlas Φ_α for E_2^ϕ over an open covering U_α , $\Phi_\alpha \circ A$ is given over U_α by a left \mathfrak{h} -map. Note that this condition is independent of the choice of atlas, and is moreover equivalent to the *existence* of some atlas for which the $\Phi_\alpha \circ A$ are given by

$$(2.2) \quad x \mapsto j(x) + \langle v_\alpha, x \rangle, \quad v_\alpha \in \mathfrak{h}(U_\alpha) \otimes \mathfrak{m}.$$

We call such an atlas a *good atlas* for A . The notion of global right \mathfrak{h} -map

$$B : F_1^\phi \rightarrow F_2 \otimes S$$

for a right \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -module (F_1, F_2, k) is defined similarly, as are those of global left and right \mathfrak{h} -maps without specifying a module. A pair (A, B) consisting of a left and right \mathfrak{h} -map is said to be a *dual pair* if there exists a common good atlas with respect to which A has the form (2.2) while B has the form

$$x \mapsto j(x) - \langle v_\alpha, x \rangle$$

with the *same* v_α .

Definition. *In the above situation, a left \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -deformation of E^\sharp over S consists of a \mathfrak{g} -deformation ϕ together with an \mathfrak{h} -map from the trivial deformation to ϕ :*

$$A : E_1 \otimes S \rightarrow E_2^\phi.$$

Similarly for right \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -deformation. A \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -deformation consists of a \mathfrak{g} -deformation ϕ together with a dual pair (A, B) of \mathfrak{h} -maps with respect to ϕ .

In terms of Čech data $(\Psi_{\alpha\beta} = \exp(u_{\alpha\beta}), v_\alpha)$ for a good atlas as above, the condition that the $j + v_\alpha$ should glue together to a globally defined map left \mathfrak{h} -map A is

$$(2.3) \quad \Psi_{\alpha\beta} \circ (i + v_\alpha) = i + v_\beta,$$

which is equivalent to the following equation in $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{m}, \mathfrak{h} \otimes \mathfrak{m})$, in which we set

$$(2.4) \quad D(x) = \frac{\exp(x) - 1}{x} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{(k+1)!} \quad ;$$

$$(2.5) \quad D(u_{\alpha\beta})i(u_{\alpha\beta}) + \exp(u_{\alpha\beta}).v_\alpha = v_\beta.$$

The condition for a right \mathfrak{h} -map B is

$$(2.6) \quad i(u_{\alpha\beta})D(u_{\alpha\beta}) + v_\alpha \exp(u_{\alpha\beta}) = v_\beta.$$

Examples. We continue with the examples of §1.

C When $\mathfrak{g}^\sharp = (\mathfrak{D}^1(E), \mathfrak{D}^2(E))$ is the heat algebra of the locally free sheaf E , \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -deformations of $E^\sharp = (E, E)$ are called *heat deformations*. Recall that a $\mathfrak{D}^1(E)$ -deformation consists of a deformation \mathcal{O}^ϕ of the structure sheaf of X , together with an invertible \mathcal{O}^ϕ -module E^ϕ that is a deformation of E . Lifting this to a \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -deformation amounts to constructing S -linear, globally defined maps (*heat operators*)

$$A : E \otimes S \rightarrow E^\phi,$$

$$B : E^\phi \rightarrow E \otimes S$$

that are locally (with respect to an atlas and a trivialisation of E) of the form

$$(2.7) \quad (f_i) \mapsto (f_i \pm \sum a_{j,k} \partial f_j / \partial x_k \pm \sum a_{j,k,m} \partial^2 f_j / \partial x_k \partial x_m),$$

$$a_{j,k}, a_{j,k,m} \in \mathfrak{m} \otimes \mathcal{O}_X.$$

Notice that the heat operator A yields a well-defined lifting of sections (as well as cohomology classes, etc.) of E defined in any open set U of X to sections of E^ϕ in U . In particular, suppose that X is a compact complex manifold and that

$$H^i(X, E) = 0, \quad i > 0.$$

It follows, as is well known, that $H^0(E^\phi)$ is a free S -module, hence

$$H^0(A) : H^0(X, E) \otimes S \rightarrow H^0(X, E^\phi)$$

is an isomorphism. Thus for any heat deformation the module of sections $H^0(E^\phi)$ is *canonically trivialised*. Put another way, $H^0(E^\phi)$ is endowed with a *canonical flat connection*

$$(2.8) \quad \nabla^\phi : H^0(E^\phi) \rightarrow H^0(E^\phi) \otimes \Omega_S$$

determined by the requirement that

$$(2.9) \quad \nabla^\phi \circ H^0(A) = 0,$$

i.e. that the image of heat operator consist of flat sections.

- D.** When $\mathfrak{g}^\# = N_{Y/X}$, a left $\mathfrak{g}^\#$ -deformation of $(\mathcal{I}_Y, \mathcal{O}_X)$ consists of a $T_{X/Y}$ -deformation, i.e. a deformation (X^ϕ, Y^ϕ) of (X, Y) in the usual sense, together with T_X -maps

$$A : \mathcal{I}_Y^\phi \mathcal{O}_X^\phi \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X \otimes S,$$

$$B : \mathcal{O}_X \otimes S \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X^\phi \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_Y^\phi.$$

which yield trivialisations of the deformation X^ϕ . Thus left $\mathfrak{g}^\#$ -deformations yield deformations of Y in a fixed X , and similarly for right deformations. Conversely, given a deformation of Y in a fixed X , let (x_α^k) be local equations for Y in X , part of a local coordinate system. Then it is easy to see that we can write equations for the deformation of Y in the form

$$x_\alpha^k + v_\alpha(x_\alpha^k), \quad v_\alpha \in T_X \otimes \mathfrak{m}$$

(v_α independent of k), so this comes from a left and a right $\mathfrak{g}^\#$ -deformation of the form $((\Psi_{\alpha\beta}), (v_\alpha))$ where

$$\Psi_{\alpha\beta} = (1 + v_\alpha)(1 + v_\beta)^{-1} \in \mathfrak{U}_S(T_{X/Y} \otimes \mathfrak{m})(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta).$$

Thus the three notions of left and right $N_{Y/X}$ -deformations and deformations of Y in a fixed X all coincide.

- E.** In this case we see similarly that $T_X \otimes \mathcal{O}_Y$ -deformations of $(\mathcal{I}_Y \oplus \mathcal{O}_Y, \mathcal{O}_X)$ consist of a deformation of the pair (X, Y) , together with trivialisations of the corresponding deformations of X and Y separately, i.e. these are just deformations of the embedding $Y \hookrightarrow X$, fixing both X and Y .

3. UNIVERSAL DEFORMATIONS

Our purpose here is to construct the universal deformation associated to a sheaf \mathfrak{g}^\sharp of Lie atoms which is simultaneously the universal \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -deformation of any \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -module E^\sharp . We thus extend the main result of [Rcid] to the cases of atoms. We refer to [Rcid] and [Ruvhs] for details on any items not explained here.

We shall assume throughout, without explicit mention, that all sheaves of Lie algebras and modules considered are *admissible* in the sense of [Rcid]. In addition, unless otherwise stated we shall assume their cohomology is finite-dimensional. We begin by reviewing the main construction of [Rcid] and restating its main theorem in a slightly stronger form. The *Jacobi complex* $J_m(\mathfrak{g})$ is a complex in degrees $[-m, -1]$ defined on $X < m >$, the space parametrizing nonempty subsets of X of cardinality at most m . This complex has the form

$$\lambda^m(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \lambda^2(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$$

where $\lambda^k(\mathfrak{g})$ is the exterior alternating tensor power and the coboundary maps

$$d_k : \lambda^k(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \lambda^{k-1}(\mathfrak{g})$$

are given by

$$(3.1) \quad d_k(a_1 \times \dots \times a_k) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{k!} \sum_{\pi \in S_k} [\text{sgn}(\pi)[a_{\pi(1)}, a_{\pi(2)}] \times a_{\pi(3)} \dots \times a_{\pi(k)}.$$

(This differs from the formula in [Rcid] by a factor of 1/2, which obviously makes no essential difference but is convenient.) We showed in [Rcid] that

$$R_m(\mathfrak{g}) = \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{H}^0(J_m(\mathfrak{g}))^*$$

is a \mathbb{C} -algebra (finite-dimensional by the admissibility hypothesis) and we constructed a certain 'tautological' \mathfrak{g} -deformation u_m over it. To any \mathfrak{g} -deformation ϕ over an algebra (S, \mathfrak{m}) of exponent m we associated a canonical Kodaira-Spencer homomorphism

$$\alpha = \alpha(\phi) : R_m(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow S .$$

Although in [Rcid] we made the hypothesis that $H^0(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$, this is in fact not needed for the foregoing statements, and is only used in the proof that u_m is an m -universal deformation.

Now the hypothesis $H^0(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$ can be relaxed somewhat. Let us say that \mathfrak{g} has *central sections* if for each open set $U \subset X$, the image of the restriction map

$$H^0(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}(U)$$

is contained in the center of $\mathfrak{g}(U)$. Equivalently, in terms of a soft dgla resolution

$$\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}^i,$$

the condition is that $H^0(\mathfrak{g})$ be contained in the center of $\Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^i)$, i.e. the bracket

$$H^0(\mathfrak{g}) \times \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^i) \rightarrow \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^i)$$

should vanish.

Theorem 3.1. *Let \mathfrak{g} be an admissible dgla and suppose that \mathfrak{g} has central sections. Then for any \mathfrak{g} -deformation ϕ there exist isomorphisms*

$$(3.2) \quad \phi \xrightarrow{\sim} \alpha(\phi)^*(u_m) = u_m \otimes_{R_m(\mathfrak{g})} \mathcal{S},$$

any two of which differ by an element of

$$\text{Aut}(\phi) = H^0(\exp(g^\phi \otimes \mathfrak{m})).$$

In particular, if $H^0(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$ then the isomorphism is unique. Consequently, for any admissible pair (\mathfrak{g}, E) there are isomorphisms

$$E^\phi \xrightarrow{\sim} \alpha(\phi)^*(E^{u_m})$$

any two of which differ by an element of $\text{Aut}(\phi)$.

proof. This is a matter of adapting the argument in the proof of Theorem 0.1, Step 4, pp.63-64 in [Rcid], and we will just indicate the changes. We work in $\mathbb{H}^0(J_m(\mathfrak{g})) \otimes \mathfrak{m}$ rather than $\mathbb{H}^0(J_m(\mathfrak{g}), \mathfrak{m}^i)$, which may not inject to it. Then, with the notation of *loc. cit.* we may write

$$u_1 = \sum v_i \otimes \phi_i \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^0) \otimes \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^1) \otimes \mathfrak{m}.$$

The argument there given shows that

$$u_1 = u_0 \times \phi + w \times \phi$$

where $w \times \phi \in H^0(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^1) \otimes \mathfrak{m}$. Now- and this is the point- since

$$[w, \phi] = 0$$

thanks to our assumption of central sections, this is sufficient to show that $\tilde{\phi} - \phi$ is the total coboundary of $u_0 \times \phi$, as required.

This shows the existence of the isomorphism as in (3.2). Given this, the fact that two such isomorphisms differ by an element of $\text{Aut}(\phi)$ is obvious.

To identify the latter group it suffices to identify its Lie algebra, which is given by the set of \mathfrak{g} -endomorphisms

$$\mathrm{ad}(v) \in \mathfrak{g}^0 \otimes \mathfrak{m}$$

of the resolution

$$(\mathfrak{g} \otimes S, \bar{\partial} + \mathrm{ad}(\phi)).$$

It is elementary to check that the condition on v is precisely

$$\bar{\partial}(v) + \mathrm{ad}(\phi)(v) = 0,$$

i.e. $v \in \mathfrak{g}^\phi \otimes \mathfrak{m}$. Finally since \mathfrak{g}^ϕ is isomorphic as a sheaf (not \mathfrak{g} -isomorphic) to the trivial deformation $\mathfrak{g} \otimes S$, we have

$$H^0(\mathfrak{g}^\phi) = H^0(\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{m}) = H^0(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes \mathfrak{m},$$

hence $\mathrm{Aut}(\phi) = (1)$ if $H^0(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$. \square

Remark. Without the hypothesis of central sections it is still possible to 'classify' \mathfrak{g} -deformations over (S, \mathfrak{m}) in terms of $\mathbb{H}^0(J_m(\mathfrak{g}), \mathfrak{m})$ but it is not immediately clear how this is related to semiuniversal deformations. We hope to return to this elsewhere.

We now extend these results from Lie algebras to Lie atoms. First recall the modular Jacobi complex $J_m(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h})$ associated to a \mathfrak{g} -module \mathfrak{h} . This is a complex in degrees $[-m, 0]$ defined on a space $X \langle m, 1 \rangle$ parametrizing pointed subsets of X of cardinality at most $m + 1$. It has the form

$$\lambda^m(\mathfrak{g}) \boxtimes \mathfrak{h} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \mathfrak{g} \boxtimes \mathfrak{h} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}$$

with differentials

$$\partial_k(a_1 \times \dots \times a_k \times v) = d_k(a_1 \times \dots \times a_k) \times v + \frac{1}{2k} \sum_{j=i}^k (-1)^j a_1 \times \dots \times \hat{a}_j \times \dots \times a_k \times (a_j(v)),$$

where d_k is the differential in $J_m(\mathfrak{g})$ (see [Ruvhs]).

Now let $\mathfrak{g}^\sharp = (\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h}, i)$ be a Lie atom. Then the \mathfrak{g} -homomorphism i gives rise to a map of complexes

$$i_m : J_m(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \pi_{m-1,1} * J_{m-1}(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h}),$$

where $\pi_{m-1,1} : X \langle m-1, 1 \rangle \rightarrow X \langle m \rangle$ is the natural map. We denote by $J_m(\mathfrak{g}^\sharp)$ the mapping cone of i_m and call it the Jacobi complex of the atom \mathfrak{g}^\sharp . We note the natural map

$$\sigma_m : J_m(\mathfrak{g}^\sharp) \rightarrow (J_m/J_1)(\mathfrak{g}^\sharp) \rightarrow \mathrm{Sym}^2(J_{m-1}(\mathfrak{g}^\sharp))$$

obtained by assembling together various 'exterior comultiplication' maps

$$\lambda^j(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \lambda^r(\mathfrak{g}) \boxtimes \lambda^{j-r}(\mathfrak{g}),$$

$$\lambda^j(\mathfrak{g}) \boxtimes \mathfrak{h} \rightarrow \lambda^r(\mathfrak{g}) \boxtimes (\lambda^{j-r}(\mathfrak{g}) \boxtimes \mathfrak{h}).$$

This gives rise a (commutative, associative) OS (i.e. comultiplicative) structure on $J_m(\mathfrak{g}^\sharp)$, which induces one on $H^0(J_m(\mathfrak{g}^\sharp))$, whence a local finite-dimensional \mathbb{C} -algebra structure on

$$R_m(\mathfrak{g}^\sharp) := \mathbb{C} \oplus H^0(J_m(\mathfrak{g}^\sharp))^*$$

as well as a local homomorphism

$$R_m(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow R_m(\mathfrak{g}^\sharp),$$

dual to the 'edge homomorphism' $J_m(\mathfrak{g}^\sharp) \rightarrow J_m(\mathfrak{g})$.

Remark. If \mathfrak{h} happens to be a Lie algebra and i a Lie homomorphism we may think of $R_m(\mathfrak{g}/\mathfrak{h})$ as a formal functorial substitute for the fibre of the induced homomorphism $R_m(\mathfrak{h}) \rightarrow R_m(\mathfrak{g})$, i.e. $R_m(\mathfrak{g})/\mathfrak{m}_{R_m(\mathfrak{h})}.R_m(\mathfrak{g})$. It is important to note that this fibre involves only the \mathfrak{g} -module structure on \mathfrak{h} and not the full algebra structure.

Now we may associate to a \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -deformation a $J_m(\mathfrak{g}^\sharp)$ -cocycle as follows. By definition, we have a pair of pairs of \mathfrak{g} -deformations with a dual pair of \mathfrak{h} - maps

$$A : E_1 \otimes S \rightarrow E_2^\phi,$$

$$B : E_3^\phi \rightarrow E_4 \otimes S.$$

As usual we represent E_i^ϕ by a resolution of the form $(E_i \otimes S, \bar{\partial} + \phi)$, $i = 2, 3$ and $E_i \otimes S$ by $(E_i \otimes S, \bar{\partial})$. Then the maps A, B can be represented simultaneously in the form $j \pm v, v \in \mathfrak{h}^1 \otimes \mathfrak{m}_S$, and we get a pair of commutative diagrams

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} E_1^i \otimes S & \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} & E_1^{i+1} \otimes S \\ j + v \downarrow & & \downarrow j + v \\ E_2 \otimes S & \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial} + \phi} & E_2^{i+1} \otimes S \end{array}$$

$$(3.4) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} E_3^i \otimes S & \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial} + \phi} & E_2^{i+1} \otimes S \\ j - v \downarrow & & \downarrow j - v \\ E_4 \otimes S & \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} & E_4^{i+1} \otimes S \end{array}$$

whose commutativity amounts to a pair of identities in $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{h})$:

$$(3.5) \quad \phi.v = -\bar{\partial}(v) - i(\phi), \quad v.\phi = \bar{\partial}(v) + i(\phi)$$

which imply

$$(3.6) \quad \bar{\partial}(v) + i(\phi) = -\frac{1}{2} \langle \phi, v \rangle .$$

Now the identity (3.6) together with the usual integrability condition

$$(3.7) \quad \bar{\partial}(\phi) = -\frac{1}{2}[\phi, \phi]$$

imply that, setting

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon(\phi) &= (\phi, \phi \times \phi, \dots), \\ \epsilon(\phi, v) &= (v, \phi \times v, \phi \times \phi \times v, \dots), \end{aligned}$$

the pair

$$\eta(\phi, v) := (\epsilon(\phi), \epsilon(\phi, v))$$

constitute a cocycle for the complex $J_m(\mathfrak{g}^\sharp) \otimes \mathfrak{m}_S$. This cocycle is obviously 'morphic' or comultiplicative, hence gives rise to a ring homomorphism

$$(3.8) \quad \alpha^\sharp = \alpha^\sharp(\phi, v) : R_m(\mathfrak{g}^\sharp) \rightarrow S$$

lifting the usual Kodaira-Spencer homomorphism $\alpha(\phi) : R_m(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow S$.

Conversely, given a homomorphism α^\sharp as above, with S an arbitrary artin local algebra, clearly we may represent α^\sharp in the form $\eta(\phi, v)$ as above where ϕ and v satisfy the conditions (3.6) and (3.7). Then in the enveloping algebra $\mathfrak{U}(\mathfrak{h}^+)$ we get the identity

$$(3.9) \quad i(\phi) = -\bar{\partial}(v) - \frac{1}{2}[i(\phi), v].$$

Plugging the identity (3.9) back into itself we get, recursively,

$$(3.10) \quad i(\phi) = -\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{2^k} \text{ad}(v)^k(\bar{\partial}(v))$$

(the sum is finite because \mathfrak{m}_S is nilpotent), from which the identities 3.5 follow formally. Hence the diagrams 3.3 and 3.4 commute, so we get a \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -deformation lifting ϕ .

In particular, applying this construction to the identity element of $S = R_m(\mathfrak{g}^\sharp)$, thought of as an element of $\mathbb{H}^0(J_m(\mathfrak{g}^\sharp)) \otimes \mathfrak{m}_S$, we obtain a 'tautological' \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -deformation which we denote by

$$u_m^\sharp = (\phi_m, v_m)$$

and we get the following analogue (and extension) of Theorem 3.1:

Theorem 3.2. *Let \mathfrak{g}^\sharp be an admissible differential graded Lie atom such that \mathfrak{g} has central sections. Then for any \mathfrak{g}^\sharp -deformation (ϕ, v) over an artin local algebra S of exponent m there exist isomorphisms*

$$(\phi, v) \simeq \alpha^\sharp(\phi, v)^*(u_m^\sharp)$$

any two of which differ by an element of $\text{Aut}(\phi, v)$.

4. THE HITCHIN SYMBOL

Given a nonsingular curve C and a stable vector bundle E on C , Hitchin [Hit] constructed a fundamental map or 'symbol'

$$\text{Hi}_E : H^1(T_C) \rightarrow \text{sym}^2(H^1(\mathfrak{sl}(E))) \subset \mathfrak{hom}(H^0(\mathfrak{sl}(E) \otimes K_C), H^1(\mathfrak{sl}(E))).$$

Via the natural identification of $H^1(\mathfrak{sl}(E))$ with the tangent space at $[E]$ to the moduli space \mathcal{M} of bundles with fixed determinant on C , this gives a lifting of the canonical variation map

$$H^1(T_X) \rightarrow H^1(\mathfrak{D}_{\mathcal{M}}^1(\theta^k)),$$

where θ is the theta line bundle on \mathcal{M} and k is arbitrary, which is the crucial ingredient in the construction of the flat connection on the space of sections of θ^k over \mathcal{M} .

Our purpose here is to give a definition of the Hitchin symbol which is of a 'local' character and which, in particular, avoids the use of Serre duality, on which Hitchin's original definition was based.

4.1 The definition. Let

$$\pi : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow S$$

be a family of smooth curves of genus at least 2, and let A, B be locally free sheaves on \mathcal{C} . Consider the short exact sequence on $\mathcal{C} \times_S \mathcal{C}$:

$$(4.1) \quad 0 \rightarrow A \boxtimes B \rightarrow (A \boxtimes B)(\Delta) \rightarrow A \otimes B \otimes T_{\mathcal{C}/S} \rightarrow 0$$

where Δ is the diagonal and we have identified $\mathcal{O}_{\Delta}(\Delta)$ with $T_{\mathcal{C}/S}$. This yields a map of complexes

$$\partial_{A,B} : A \otimes B \otimes T_{\mathcal{C}/S} \rightarrow A \boxtimes B[1]$$

where A and B are identified respectively with suitable complexes resolving them. Let

$$\partial_{A,B}^1 : R^1 \pi_*(A \otimes B \otimes T_{\mathcal{C}/S}) \rightarrow R^2 \pi_*(A \boxtimes B)$$

be the induced map. Now suppose given an $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{C}}$ -linear 'trace' pairing

$$(4.2) \quad t : \check{A} \otimes \check{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{C}}$$

where \check{A}, \check{B} denote the dual locally free sheaves. This induces

$$\check{t} \otimes \text{id} : T_{\mathcal{C}/S} \rightarrow A \otimes B \otimes T_{\mathcal{C}/S}.$$

We define the *Hitchin symbol* associated to this data to be the composite

$$\text{hi}'_{A,B} = \partial_{A,B} \circ \check{t} \otimes \text{id} : T_{\mathcal{C}/S} \rightarrow A \boxtimes B[1]$$

or either of the induced maps

$$\mathrm{Hi}'_{A,B/S} = \partial_{A,B}^1 \circ R^1\pi_*(\check{t} \otimes \mathrm{id}) : R^1\pi_*(T_{\mathcal{C}/S}) \rightarrow R^2\pi_*(A \boxtimes B),$$

$$\mathrm{Hi}'_{A,B} = H^0(\partial_{A,B}) \circ H^1(\check{t} \otimes \mathrm{id}) : H^1(T_{\mathcal{C}/S}) \rightarrow H^2(A \boxtimes B).$$

Assuming moreover that $A = B$ and that t is symmetric, we get a map

$$\mathrm{hi}_A : T_{\mathcal{C}/S} \rightarrow \lambda^2(A)[1]$$

(note that the shift of 1 exchanges symmetric and alternating products).

Assuming $\pi_*(A) = 0$ we may identify

$$R^2\pi_*(A \boxtimes A) = R^1\pi_*(A)^{\otimes 2},$$

and note that $\pi_*(T_{\mathcal{C}/S}) = 0$ so we get induced maps

$$\mathrm{Hi}_{A/S} : R^1\pi_*(T_{\mathcal{C}/S}) \rightarrow \mathrm{sym}^2(R^1\pi_*(A))$$

i.e. the symmetric component of $\mathrm{Hi}'_{A,A/S}$ and likewise for

$$\mathrm{Hi}_A : H^1(T_{\mathcal{C}/S}) \rightarrow H^0(\mathrm{sym}^2(R^1\pi_*(A))).$$

Example 4.1. Let \mathfrak{g} be a sheaf of semisimple, $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{C}}$ -locally free Lie algebras with $\pi_*(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$. Then \mathfrak{g} is endowed with a nondegenerate trace pairing

$$t : \mathrm{sym}^2(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{C}}$$

which may be used to identify \mathfrak{g} and \mathfrak{g}^* , whence Hitchin symbols

$$\mathrm{hi}_{\mathfrak{g}/S} : T_{\mathcal{C}/S} \rightarrow \lambda^2(\mathfrak{g})[1].$$

$$\mathrm{Hi}_{\mathfrak{g}/S} : R^1\pi_*(T_{\mathcal{C}/S}) \rightarrow H^0(\mathrm{sym}^2(R^1\pi_*(\mathfrak{g}))).$$

In particular, if E is a locally free $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{C}}$ -module we will abuse notation and denote by $\mathrm{Hi}_{E/S}$ the Hitchin symbol associated to $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}(E)$.

Specializing further, suppose $\pi : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow S$ is a given family of smooth curves of genus $g \geq 3$ endowed with a polarization of degree d , and let $\mathcal{M} \xrightarrow{\pi'} S$ be a locally fine moduli space (cf. §6) of stable rank- r bundles of degree d and fixed determinant (= the polarization) over \mathcal{C}/S ; if $(r, d) = 1$ we may just take

$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{S}U^r(\mathcal{C}/S) \xrightarrow{\pi'} S,$$

the global (fine) moduli space. Let E be the universal bundle over $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{M}} := \mathcal{C} \times_S \mathcal{M}$. Then we get a Hitchin symbol (as a bundle map over \mathcal{M}):

$$\mathrm{Hi}_{\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{M}}/\mathcal{M}} : \pi'^* R^1\pi_*(T_{\mathcal{C}/S}) \rightarrow \mathrm{sym}^2(R^1(\pi \times \pi')_*(\mathfrak{g})) = \mathrm{sym}^2(T_{\mathcal{M}/S})$$

hence, pushing down to S we get a map

$$R^1\pi_*(T_{\mathcal{C}/S}) \rightarrow \pi'_*(\mathrm{sym}^2(T_{\mathcal{M}/S})) = \pi'_*(\mathrm{sym}^2(T_{\mathcal{M}/S})).$$

This is the map originally defined by Hitchin using Serre duality.

The fact that our map and Hitchin's coincide is a consequence of the following

Proposition 4.2. *In the situation above, the map $\partial_{A,B}^1$ is dual to the restriction map*

$$(\pi \times \pi)_*((\check{A} \otimes \Omega_{\mathcal{C}/S}) \boxtimes (\check{B} \otimes \Omega_{\mathcal{C}/S}) \rightarrow \pi_{\Delta*}(\check{A} \otimes \check{B} \otimes \Omega_{\mathcal{C}/S}^{\otimes 2}).$$

Indeed the Proposition and the Künneth formula imply that $\text{Hi}_{A,B}$ is dual to the map

$$\pi_*(\check{A} \otimes \Omega_{\mathcal{C}/S}) \otimes \pi_*(\check{B} \otimes \Omega_{\mathcal{C}/S}) \rightarrow \pi_*(\Omega_{\mathcal{C}/S}^{\otimes 2})$$

induced by multiplication and t , which is Hitchin's definition.

As for the Proposition, it follows easily from relative Serre duality on the (relative) surface $\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C}/S$, together with the following remark

Lemma 4.3. *Let $D/S \subset X/S$ be an embedding of a relative divisor, with X, D both smooth projective over S affine, and let F be a locally free sheaf on X . Then the map*

$$H^i(F \otimes \mathcal{O}_D(D)) \rightarrow H^{i+1}(F)$$

induced by the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow F \rightarrow F \otimes \mathcal{O}(D) \rightarrow F \otimes \mathcal{O}_D(D) \rightarrow 0$$

is dual to the restriction map

$$H^{n-i-1}(F^* \otimes K_X) \rightarrow H^{n-i-1}(F^* \otimes K_X \otimes \mathcal{O}_D).$$

The Lemma follows easily from any standard treatment of Serre duality (e.g. in [Ha]), noting the compatibility of the 'fundamental local isomorphisms' for D and X . \square

4.2 Cohomological formulae. Our purpose here is to derive algebraically some cohomological formulae for Hitchin symbols which extend and substitute for Hitchin's differential-geometric calculations in [Hi]. We return to the general situation of (4.1) above, so A, B are locally free sheaves on \mathcal{C}/S . Let \mathfrak{g} be a locally free Lie subalgebra of $\mathfrak{gl}(A)$. We will say that A is a \mathfrak{g} -structure if we are given a Lie subalgebra $\hat{\mathfrak{g}} \subset \mathfrak{D}(A)$ which extends $\mathfrak{g} \subset \mathfrak{gl}(A)$ (cf. Example 9.1).

Equivalently, as is well known and due to Atiyah, the Principal Part (or jet) sheaf $P^1(A)$ can be given as an extension

$$0 \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathcal{C}/S} \otimes A \rightarrow P^1(A) \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0$$

with transition cocycle in $C^1(\mathfrak{g} \otimes \Omega_{\mathcal{C}/S}) \subset C^1(\mathfrak{gl}(A) \otimes \Omega_{\mathcal{C}/S})$. This cocycle then determines the *Atiyah Chern class*

$$AC(A) \in H^1(\mathfrak{g} \otimes \Omega_{\mathcal{C}/S})$$

(from which the usual Chern classes can be computed); see also §9. Note that if $\det(A)$ is trivial then A admits a $\mathfrak{sl}(A)$ -structure, where $\mathfrak{sl}(A) = \{ \text{endomorphisms of } A \text{ acting trivially on } \det(A) \}$; also, for any $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{C}}$ -Lie algebra bundle \mathfrak{g} , \mathfrak{g} itself admits a \mathfrak{g} -structure, via the adjoint representation.

Lemma 4.4. *For arbitrary locally free sheaves A, B on \mathcal{C} , there is a natural $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{C}}$ -isomorphism*

$$p_{1*}(A \boxtimes B \otimes \mathcal{O}_{2\Delta}(\Delta)) \simeq A \otimes P^1(B \otimes T_{\mathcal{C}/S})$$

where p_i denote the coordinate projections.

proof. To begin with, we have

$$\begin{aligned} p_{1*}(A \boxtimes B \otimes \mathcal{O}_{2\Delta}(\Delta)) &= p_{1*}(p_1^*A \otimes (p_2^*B \otimes \mathcal{O}_{2\Delta}(\Delta))) \\ &\simeq A \otimes p_{1*}(p_2^*B \otimes \mathcal{O}_{2\Delta}(\Delta)). \end{aligned}$$

Hence we may assume $A = \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{C}}$. Next, note the natural map

$$p_{2*}(p_2^*B \otimes \mathcal{O}(\Delta)|_{\Delta}) \rightarrow p_{2*}(p_2^*B \otimes \mathcal{O}(\Delta) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{\Delta}) = B \otimes T_{\mathcal{C}/S}$$

where $|_{\Delta}$ denotes topological restriction. This gives rise to a map

$$p_2^*p_{2*}(p_2^*B \otimes \mathcal{O}(\Delta)|_{\Delta}) \rightarrow p_2^*(B \otimes T_{\mathcal{C}/S})$$

But since $p_2 : \Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ is a homeomorphism we may identify

$$p_2^*p_{2*}(p_2^*B \otimes \mathcal{O}(\Delta)|_{\Delta}) = p_2^*B \otimes \mathcal{O}(\Delta)|_{\Delta}$$

so we get a map

$$p_2^*B \otimes \mathcal{O}(\Delta)|_{\Delta} \rightarrow p_2^*(B \otimes T_{\mathcal{C}/S})$$

which induces a map

$$\rho : p_2^*B \otimes \mathcal{O}(\Delta) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{2\Delta} \rightarrow p_2^*(B \otimes T_{\mathcal{C}/S}) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{2\Delta} = P^1(B \otimes T_{\mathcal{C}/S}).$$

Now both sides admit (2-step) filtrations with the same graded pieces, and it is easy to see locally that ρ is compatible with these filtrations and induces the identity on the gradeds, hence is an isomorphism. \square

Now it is well known and easy to prove that, via the natural inclusions

$$\mathbf{end}(F), \mathbf{end}(B) \subseteq \mathbf{end}(F \otimes B),$$

$$a \mapsto a \otimes \text{id}, b \mapsto \text{id} \otimes b,$$

the holonomy algebra of $F \otimes B$ is generated by those of F and B and we have

$$AC(F \otimes B) = \text{rk}(F)AC(B) + \text{rk}(B)AC(F).$$

Consequently, we have

Corollary 4.5. *The map*

$$A \otimes B \otimes T_{C/S} \rightarrow A \otimes B[1]$$

induced by $\partial_{A,B}$ and multiplication is given by cup product with

$$-rk(B)c_1(K_{C/S}) + AC(B)$$

where $c_1(K_{C/S}) \in H^1\pi_(\Omega_{C/S})$ is the relative canonical class.*

Corollary 4.6. *In the presence of s symmetric trace map as in display (4.2), the map*

$$T_{C/S} \rightarrow A \otimes B[1]$$

induced by $Hi'_{A,B}$ and multiplication is given by

$$-rk(B)\check{t} \circ c_1(K_{C/S}) + AC(B) \circ (\check{t} \otimes id_{T_{C/S}}).$$

Corollary 4.7. *If $\beta : A \otimes A \rightarrow C$ is any skew-symmetric pairing, then the map*

$$T_{C/S} \rightarrow C[1]$$

induced by Hi_A and β is given by

$$\beta \circ AC(B) \circ (\check{t} \otimes id_{T_{C/S}}).$$

proof. It suffices to note that \check{t} lands in the symmetric part of $A \otimes A$, hence $\check{t} \circ c_1(K_{C/S})$ is mapped to zero by β , so the previous corollary yields the result. \square

Proposition 4.8. *Let E be a locally free sheaf on C/S and let*

$$\ell \in \mathfrak{g}^1 \otimes \Omega_{C/S}, \quad \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}(E).$$

be a representative of the traceless part of the Atiyah-Chern class $AC(E)$. Then the map

$$T_{C/S} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}[1]$$

induced by Hi_E and the bracket on \mathfrak{g} is given by $2rk(E)\ell$.

proof. Let (e_i) be a local frame for E and (e_j^*) the dual frame. Then modulo scalars ℓ can be written in the form

$$\ell_{\alpha\beta} = \sum_{i,j} \phi_{\alpha\beta ij} e_i^* \otimes e_j$$

for certain local sections $\phi_{\alpha\beta ij}$ of $\Omega_{C/S}$ and $AC(E \otimes E^*)$ can be written as

$$\widetilde{\ell}_{\alpha\beta} = - \sum_{j,k,l} \phi_{\alpha\beta kj} e_j \otimes e_l^* \otimes e_k^* \otimes e_l + \sum_{i,k,l} \phi_{\alpha\beta il} e_k \otimes e_i^* \otimes e_k^* \otimes e_l.$$

Now the dual tr^* of the trace pairing can be expressed as

$$tr^* = \text{id} \otimes \sum_{l,k} e_l \otimes e_k^* \otimes e_k \otimes e_l^*.$$

Therefore by Corollary 4.2.3 the Hitchin symbol $Hi'_{E \otimes E^*, E \otimes E^*}$, except for a symmetric part which is killed by the bracket, is given by

$$\sum_{klj} \phi_{\alpha\beta kj} e_l \otimes e_k^* \otimes e_j \otimes e_l^* - \sum_{kli} \phi_{\alpha\beta il} e_l \otimes e_k^* \otimes e_k \otimes e_i^*.$$

Now the result of applying bracket to this is that of contracting the middle two factors minus that of contracting the outer two. Now contracting the inner (resp. outer) factors on the first (resp. second) sum yields a multiple of the identity which may be ignored. The rest yields

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{rk}(E) \sum_{kj} \phi_{\alpha\beta kj} e_k^* \otimes e_j + \text{rk}(E) \sum_{li} \phi_{\alpha\beta il} e_l \otimes e_i^* \\ & = 2\text{rk}(E) \ell_{\alpha\beta}. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

5. MODULI MODULES REVISITED

Let (\mathfrak{g}, E) be an admissible pair with $H^0(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$ on a Hausdorff space X . In [Rcid] we constructed the universal deformation ring

$$\hat{R}(\mathfrak{g}) = \lim_{\leftarrow} R_m(\mathfrak{g}),$$

$$R_m(\mathfrak{g}) = \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{H}^0(J_m(\mathfrak{g}))^*$$

where $J_m(\mathfrak{g})$ is the Jacobi complex of \mathfrak{g} , as well as the flat $R_m(\mathfrak{g})$ -module $E_m = M_m(\mathfrak{g}, E)$ that is the universal \mathfrak{g} -deformation of E , and whose cohomology groups may be called the 'moduli modules' associated to E . Our purpose here is to revisit that construction from a slightly different viewpoint that seems more convenient for applications, such as the construction of Lie brackets on moduli.

As in [Rcid] we let $(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot, \delta)$ be a soft dgla resolution of \mathfrak{g} and (E^\cdot, ∂) be a soft resolution of E that is a graded \mathfrak{g}^\cdot -module. Then the standard (Jacobi) complex $J_m(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot) =: \mathfrak{J}_m$ has terms which may be decomposed as

$$\lambda^i(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot) = \bigoplus_j \mathfrak{g}_j^{-i}$$

where each \mathfrak{g}_j^{-i} has total degree $j - i$ and is a sum of terms of the form

$$(\lambda^{a_1} \mathfrak{g}^{b_1} \boxtimes \dots) \boxtimes (\sigma^{c_1} \mathfrak{g}^{d_1} \boxtimes \dots)$$

with b_k even, d_k odd and

$$\sum a_k + \sum c_k = i, \quad \sum a_k b_k + \sum c_k d_k = j.$$

Thus $\mathbb{H}^\cdot(J_m(\mathfrak{g}))$ is H^\cdot of a complex ΓJ_m with

$$\Gamma J_m^r = \bigoplus_{i=1}^m \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}_{r+i}^{-i}).$$

It is convenient to augment ΓJ_m^r by adding the term $\mathfrak{g}_0^0 = \mathbb{C}$ in degree 0.

Note that ΓJ_m^r depends only on the differential graded Lie algebra $\mathfrak{g}^\cdot = \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot)$; moreover the quasi-isomorphism class of ΓJ_m^r depends only on the dgla quasi-isomorphism class of \mathfrak{g}^\cdot . Also, it is worth noting at this point that the differential δ on \mathfrak{J}_m and ΓJ_m is a 'graded coderivation', in the sense of commutativity of the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathfrak{J}_m & \xrightarrow{\delta} & \mathfrak{J}_m \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \sigma^2 \mathfrak{J}_{m-1} & \xrightarrow{\sigma^2(\delta)} & \sigma^2 \mathfrak{J}_{m-1} \end{array}$$

where the vertical arrows are the comultiplication maps and $\sigma^2(\delta)$ is induced by δ by functoriality, i.e. is the map given by extending δ 'as a derivation', given by the rule

$$ab \mapsto \delta(a)b \pm a\delta(b).$$

Thus \mathfrak{J}_m and ΓJ_m possess 'differential graded OS structures'. It follows that the same is true not only of their H^0 but of the entire cohomology

$$H^\cdot(\Gamma J_m) = \bigoplus H^i(\Gamma J_m) = \bigoplus \mathbb{H}^i(J_m(\mathfrak{g})).$$

Now to get an algebra out of this one may either dualize the cohomology, as was done in [Rcid] or, what essentially amounts to the same thing but seems more convenient, one may dualize the complex and then take cohomology. Thus let $\Gamma^* J_m$ be the complex dual to ΓJ_m , with

$$\Gamma^* J_m^r = (\Gamma J_m^{-r})^*$$

(vector space dual) and dual differentials. Thus

$$\Gamma^* J_m^r = \bigoplus_{i=1}^m \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}_{-r+i}^{-i})^*,$$

$$\Gamma(\mathfrak{g}_j^{-i})^* = \bigoplus_{a_1} [\bigwedge \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^{b_1}) \otimes \dots] \otimes [\text{sym}^{c_1} \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^{d_1}) \otimes \dots],$$

with sum over all nonnegative with b_k even, d_k odd and

$$\sum a_k + \sum c_k = i, \quad \sum a_k b_k + \sum c_k d_k = j.$$

Clearly

$$H^i(\Gamma^* J_m) = H^{-i}(\Gamma J_m)^*.$$

Then $\mathbb{C} \oplus \Gamma^* J_m$ is in fact a differential graded- commutative associative algebra (graded commutative means two homogeneous elements commute unless they are both odd, in which case they anticommute). Indeed, since the OS or comultiplicative structure on J was derived from exterior comultiplication on $\lambda(\mathfrak{g})$, clearly the multiplication on $\mathbb{C} \oplus \Gamma^* J_m$ is induced by graded exterior multiplication, hence is obtained by tensoring together the various exterior products on the $\bigwedge^{a_k} \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^{b_k})$, b_k even and symmetric products on the $\text{sym}^{c_k} \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^{d_k})$, d_k odd. Thus the total cohomology

$$\tilde{R}_m(\mathfrak{g}) := H^\cdot(\Gamma^* J_m) = (H^\cdot(\Gamma J_m))^*$$

is a local graded artin algebra, and in particular the degree-0 piece

$$R_m(\mathfrak{g}) = H^0(\Gamma^* J_m) = (H^0(\Gamma J_m))^*$$

is the m th universal deformation ring mentioned above.

Next, we revisit the construction of the m -universal deformation $M_m(\mathfrak{g}, E)$ of a given \mathfrak{g} -module E . The proof of ([Ruvhs], Thm 3.1) shows that the MOS structure $V^m(E)$ - which in turn determines $M_m(\mathfrak{g}, E)$ purely formally- is a cohomology sheaf \mathcal{H}^0 of a (multiple) complex $(K_m, d) = (K_m(\mathfrak{g}, E), d)$ whose part in total degree r is

$$K_m^r = \bigoplus_{i,j,j \geq -m} \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}_{r-j-i}^j) \otimes E^i = \bigoplus_i \Gamma J_m^{r-i} \otimes E^i$$

(note there is a misprint in the corresponding formula in ([Ruvhs], p.430, l.-5). 'Transposing' this, we define a complex

$$L \cdot = {}^t K_m(\mathfrak{g}, E)$$

of sheaves with

$$L^r = \bigoplus_{i,j} \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}_{i+j-r}^{-j})^* \otimes E^i = \bigoplus_i \Gamma^* J_m^{r-i} \otimes E^i$$

with differentials the 'transpose' of those of $K \cdot$, where the transpose of a map

$$d : A \otimes E \rightarrow B \otimes E'$$

with A, B finite-dimensional vector spaces, is the map

$${}^t d : B^* \otimes E \rightarrow A^* \otimes E'$$

defined by the rule

$$\langle {}^t d(b^* \otimes e), a \rangle = \langle b^*, d(a \otimes e) \rangle$$

in which \langle, \rangle refers to the natural pairings

$$A^* \otimes E' \times A \rightarrow E', B^* \times B \otimes E' \rightarrow E'.$$

Since ΓJ_m has finite-dimensional cohomology we may 'approximate' it by a finite-dimensional subcomplex quasi- isomorphic to it (this remark will be used frequently in the sequel). Since the comultiplicative structure on $K \cdot$ as defined in [Ruvhs] coincides with the evident structure induced by comultiplication on the \mathfrak{g} factor, clearly $L \cdot$ has a natural structure of a sheaf of differential graded $\mathbb{C} \oplus \Gamma^* J_m$ -modules, and consequently the total cohomology $\mathcal{H}(L \cdot)$ is a sheaf of graded $\tilde{R}_m(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules and in particular $\mathcal{H}^0(L \cdot)$ is a sheaf of $R_m(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules. Note also that for any \mathfrak{g} -modules E_1, E_2 , the multiplicative structure on $\Gamma^* J_m$ gives rise to a natural pairing

$$(5.1) \quad {}^t K_m(\mathfrak{g}, E_1) \times {}^t K_m(\mathfrak{g}, E_2) \rightarrow {}^t K_m(\mathfrak{g}, E_1 \otimes E_2).$$

Note also that $\Gamma L \cdot$ depends only on $\Gamma E \cdot$ (as differential graded g -module), and we may similarly associate a complex, still denoted ${}^t K_m(g \cdot, F \cdot)$, to any differential graded g -module $F \cdot$.

Theorem 5.1. *We have natural isomorphisms*

$$E_m \simeq M_m(\mathfrak{g}, E) \simeq \mathcal{H}^0({}^t K_m(\mathfrak{g}, E)).$$

proof. The first isomorphism is just [Ruvhs], Thm 3.1, but it is worth observing that the proof given there involves an implicit spectral sequence argument, and may be shortened by making this argument explicit. Thus, write K^\cdot as a double complex

$$K^{i,j} = \bigoplus_k \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}_{j-k}^k) \otimes E^i = \Gamma J_m^j \otimes E^i.$$

Now because $H^0(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$, the map

$$\delta : \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^0) \rightarrow \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^1)$$

is injective, so choosing a complement to its image we obtain a quasi-isomorphic complex in strictly positive degrees, and it will be convenient to replace all resulting complexes by ones formed with this modified complex. This in particular ensures that $K^{i,j} = 0$ for $j < 0$. Note that the vertical differentials

$$K^{i,j} \rightarrow K^{i,j+1}$$

are of the form $\delta \otimes id$ where δ is a differential of ΓJ_m^\cdot . Consequently, the first spectral sequence of the double complex has an E_1 term

$$\begin{aligned} E_1^{p,q} &= (\mathbb{C} \oplus H^0(\Gamma J_m^\cdot)) \otimes E^p, q = 0 \\ &= H^q(\Gamma J_m^\cdot) \otimes E^p, q > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Our assumption that $H^0(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$ easily implies that $H^q(\Gamma J_m^\cdot) = 0$ for $q < 0$, so this is a first-quadrant spectral sequence and consequently

$$H^0(K^\cdot) = \ker(E_1^{0,0} \rightarrow E_1^{0,1}) = \ker(V_0^m \otimes E^0 \rightarrow V_0^m \otimes E^1),$$

and identifying the map and applying a suitable functor gives the result.

For the second isomorphism we argue analogously, considering the double complex

$$L^{i,j} = \bigoplus_k \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}_{-j-k}^k)^* \otimes E^i = \Gamma^* J_m^j \otimes E^i.$$

As above, this vanishes for $j > 0$. We get a spectral sequence whose E_1 term may be identified as

$$E_1^{p,q} = \tilde{R}_m(\mathfrak{g})^q \otimes E^p$$

where $\tilde{R}_m(\mathfrak{g})^q$ denotes the part in degree q i.e. $H^q(\Gamma^* J_m^\cdot)$ for $q > 0$ and $\mathbb{C} \oplus H^0(\Gamma^* J_m^\cdot)$ for $q = 0$. Thanks again to our hypothesis that $H^0(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$, this vanishes for all $q > 0$, so in this case we have a fourth-quadrant spectral sequence. Now note that if we view $(\bigoplus_q E_1^{p,q})$ as a complex indexed by p

only, the differentials are $\tilde{R}_m(\mathfrak{g})$ -linear, so as such this is a finite complex of free $\tilde{R}_m(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules. Now we use the following fairly standard fact.

Lemma 5.2. *Let A^\cdot be a complex of flat modules (not necessarily of finite type) over a local artin algebra S with residue field k . Suppose $A^\cdot \otimes_S k$ is exact in positive degrees. Then so is A^\cdot .*

proof. Use induction on the length of S . Let $I < S$ be a nonzero 'socle' ideal, with $I \cdot \mathfrak{m}_S = 0$. By flatness we have a short exact sequence of complexes

$$0 \rightarrow IA^\cdot \rightarrow A^\cdot \rightarrow A^\cdot \otimes (S/I) \rightarrow 0.$$

As IA^\cdot is isomorphic to a direct sum of copies of $A^\cdot \otimes_S k$, it is exact in positive degrees; by induction, the same is true of $A^\cdot \otimes (S/I) \rightarrow 0$. By the long cohomology sequence, it follows that the middle is also exact in positive degrees, proving the Lemma. \square (The Lemma is perhaps more familiar in the case where the A^\cdot are of finite type (hence free) and zero for $\cdot \gg 0$, and S is not necessarily artinian.)

For our complex above tensoring with the residue field just yields the original complex E^\cdot which is of course exact in positive degrees, so Lemma 5.2 applies. We conclude that $E_1^{p,q}$ is exact at all terms with $p > 0$ and in particular we have

$$H^0(L^\cdot) = \ker(E_1^{0,0} \rightarrow E_1^{0,1}) = \ker(R_m(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes E^0 \rightarrow R_m(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes E^1),$$

and again the map may be easily identified as the one yielding E_m . \square

We will now formalize some constructions which occurred in the foregoing proof. For a double complex K^\cdot we will denote by $K_{\lfloor j}^\cdot$ its j th lower truncation, which is the double complex defined by

$$K_{\lfloor j}^{h,i} = \begin{cases} 0, & i > j, \\ \ker(K^{h,j} \rightarrow K^{h,j+1}), & i = j \\ K^{h,i}, & i < j. \end{cases}$$

Similarly, we will denote by $K_{\lceil j}^\cdot$ the j th upper truncation, which is the double complex defined by

$$K_{\lceil j}^{h,i} = \begin{cases} 0, & i < j, \\ K^{h,j}/K^{h,j-1}, & i = j \\ K^{h,i}, & i > j. \end{cases}$$

Motivated by the foregoing proof, we set

$$(5.2) \quad \tilde{L}_m(\mathfrak{g}, E) = {}^t(K_m^\cdot(\mathfrak{g}, E))_{\lceil 0}$$

which, as we have seen, is a double complex in nonpositive vertical degrees (indeed in the fourth quadrant) quasi-isomorphic to ${}^t(K_m^\cdot(\mathfrak{g}, E))$ itself. Also set

$$(5.3) \quad L_m(\mathfrak{g}, E) = \tilde{L}_m(\mathfrak{g}, E)_{\lfloor 0}$$

which is thus to be considered as a simple (horizontal) complex.

Corollary 5.3. *Assumptions as in 5.1, we have*

(i)

$$\mathcal{H}^i(L_m(\mathfrak{g}, E)) = \begin{cases} 0 & i \neq 0 \\ M_m(\mathfrak{g}, E) & i = 0 \end{cases}$$

(ii)

$$H^i(X, M_m(\mathfrak{g}, E)) = H^i(\Gamma(L_m(\mathfrak{g}, E)))$$

□

Note that the above constructions make sense for any differential graded Lie algebra g^\cdot and differential graded g^\cdot -module G^\cdot and yield (double) complexes

$$\begin{aligned} K_m(g^\cdot, G^\cdot) : \quad K^{i,j} &= J_m^j(g^\cdot) \otimes G^i \\ {}^t K_m(g^\cdot, G^\cdot) : \quad {}^t K^{i,j} &= {}^* J_m^j(g^\cdot) \otimes G^i. \end{aligned}$$

Likewise for \tilde{L}_m, L_m . Moreover, clearly the quasi-isomorphism classes of these complexes depends only on that of G^\cdot as g^\cdot -module. We collect some of the simple properties of these constructions in the following

Lemma 5.4. *In the above situation, assume $H^{\leq 0}(g^\cdot) = 0$. Then*

- (i) *If G^\cdot is acyclic in negative degrees, then so is $K_m(g^\cdot, G^\cdot)$ (i.e. it is acyclic in negative total degrees).*
- (ii) *If G^\cdot is acyclic in positive degrees, then so is ${}^t K_m(g^\cdot, G^\cdot)$.*
- (iii) *If G^\cdot is acyclic in negative degrees, then $\tilde{L}_m(g^\cdot, G^\cdot)$ is a 4th- quadrant bicomplex and $L_m(g^\cdot, G^\cdot)$ is acyclic in negative degrees.*
- (iv) *The complex ${}^* G^\cdot$ dual to G^\cdot is also a g^\cdot -module, and we have*

$${}^*(K_m(g^\cdot, G^\cdot)) = {}^t K_m(g^\cdot, {}^* G^\cdot).$$

□

Corollary 5.5. *In the situation of Corollary 5.3, assume moreover that for some i ,*

$$H^j(E) = 0, \forall j \neq i.$$

*Then we have (where * denotes vector space dual)*

$$(i) \quad H^i(K_m(\mathfrak{g}, E))^* = H^{-i}({}^t K_m(\Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot), \Gamma(E^\cdot)^*)) = H^{-i}(L_m(\Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot), \Gamma(E^\cdot)^*)),$$

$$(ii) \quad H^i(M_m(\mathfrak{g}, E))^* = H^{-i}(K_m(\Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot), \Gamma(E^\cdot)^*)).$$

proof. (i) The first equality is just the fact that cohomology commutes with dualizing. The second follows by applying Lemma 5.4 to $\Gamma(E^\cdot)[-i]$ which is acyclic except in degree 0 and consequently $H^{-i}({}^t K_m(\Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot), \Gamma(E^\cdot)^*))$ only involves $H^0(\Gamma J_m)$. (ii) follows from Corollary 5.3. □

A sheaf (or complex) satisfying the condition of Corollary 5.5 will be said to be *equicyclic of degree i* or *i -equicyclic*. Next, note that a g -bilinear pairing of differential graded g -modules

$$G_1 \times G_2 \rightarrow G_3$$

gives rise to a pairing of double complexes

$$(5.4) \quad \tilde{L}_m(G_1) \times \tilde{L}_m(G_2) \rightarrow \tilde{L}_m(G_3)$$

hence also

$$(5.5) \quad L_m(G_1) \times L_m(G_2) \rightarrow L_m(G_3)$$

Clearly these pairings are compatible with the ${}^*J_m(g)$ -module structure on these complexes, so we get an $R_m(g)$ -linear pairing

$$H^i(L_m(G_1)) \times H^j(L_m(G_2)) \rightarrow H^{i+j}(L_m(G_3)).$$

In particular, for any differential graded g -module G^\cdot , using the natural g -linear pairing

$$G^\cdot \times {}^*G^\cdot \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

(where \mathbb{C} is endowed with the trivial g -action), we obtain an $R_m(g)$ -linear pairing

$$(5.5) \quad H^i(L_m(G^\cdot)) \times H^{-i}(L_m({}^*G^\cdot)) \rightarrow H^0(L_m(\mathbb{C})) = R_m(g).$$

Now suppose moreover that we have G^\cdot is i -equicyclic. Then clearly $H^i(L_m(G^\cdot))$ is a free $R_m(g)$ -module (as obstructions lie in $H^{i+1}(G^\cdot) = 0$) and similarly for $H^{-i}(L_m({}^*G^\cdot))$. Since the pairing (5.5) yields the natural perfect pairing of $H^i(G^\cdot)$ and $H^{-i}({}^*G^\cdot)$ modulo the maximal ideal of $R_m(g)$, it is likewise perfect. Thus

Corollary 5.6. *In the above situation, if G^\cdot is i -equicyclic, then*

$$H^i(L_m(G^\cdot)) \quad \text{and} \quad H^{-i}(L_m({}^*G^\cdot))$$

are free $R_m(g)$ -modules naturally dual to each other.

Corollary 5.7. *In the situation of Corollary 5.5,*

$$H^i(K_m(\mathfrak{g}, E))$$

is the $R_m(\mathfrak{g})$ -module dual to the free module

$$H^{-i}(K_m(\Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot), \Gamma^*(E^\cdot))).$$

proof. This follows from Corollary 5.6 and the fact that $H^i(K_m(\mathfrak{g}, E))$ and $\text{Hom}(H^{-i}(L_m(\Gamma^*(E))), \mathbb{C})$ coincide as R_m -modules. \square

Lemma 5.8. *For any g -module G ,*

- (i) $K_m(G)$ and $L_m(G)$ are g -modules;
 (ii) there is a natural inclusion $L_{m+k}(G) \rightarrow L_k(L_m(G))$.

proof. (i) The point is that the natural g -action on the components of $K(G)$ and $L(G)$ (suppressing m for convenience) commutes with the differentials. Firstly for K and for its first differential

$$K^{-1}(G) = g \otimes G \rightarrow K^0(G) = G,$$

this commutativity is verified by the fact that

$$\langle v, \langle w, a \rangle \rangle = \langle [v, w], a \rangle + \langle w, \langle v, a \rangle \rangle, \forall v, w \in g, a \in G,$$

which means that the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} g \times g \otimes G & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times \delta} & g \times G \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ g \otimes G & \xrightarrow{\delta} & g \end{array}$$

(vertical arrows given by the action; NB g acts both on g (adjoint action) and G).

Next, the case of an arbitrary differential of K follows by noting the inclusion $K^{-i}(G) \subset K^{-1}(\bigwedge^{i-1} g \otimes G), \forall i$, which makes the following diagram commute

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K^{-i}(G) & \xrightarrow{\delta} & K^{-i+1}(G) \\ \downarrow & & \parallel \\ K^{-1}(\bigwedge^{i-1} g \otimes G) & \xrightarrow{\delta} & K^0(\bigwedge^{i-1} g \otimes G). \end{array}$$

For the case of the L complex, again it suffices to prove commutativity of the action with the first differential, i.e. commutativity of the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} g \times G & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times {}^t\text{br}} & g \times {}^*g \otimes G \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ G & \xrightarrow{{}^t\text{br}} & {}^*g \otimes G, \end{array}$$

which amounts to

$$(5.6) \quad {}^t\text{br}(\langle v, a \rangle) = \langle v, {}^t\text{br}(a) \rangle, \forall a \in G, v \in g.$$

This is verified by the following computation. Pick $y \in g$ and write

$${}^t\text{br}(\langle v, a \rangle) = \sum w_i^* \otimes b_i.$$

Then (assuming a, v, y are all even)

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle y \cdot {}^t\text{br}(\langle v, a \rangle) \rangle &= \langle y, \langle v, a \rangle \rangle = \langle [y, v], a \rangle + \langle v, \langle y, a \rangle \rangle \\
&= \langle [y, v], a \rangle + \langle v, \langle y \cdot {}^t\text{br}(a) \rangle \rangle \\
&= \langle [y, v], a \rangle + \langle [v, y] \cdot {}^t\text{br}(a) \rangle + \langle y \cdot \langle v, {}^t\text{br}(a) \rangle \rangle \\
&= \langle [y, v], a \rangle + \langle [v, y], a \rangle + \langle y \cdot \langle v, {}^t\text{br}(a) \rangle \rangle = \langle y \cdot \langle v, {}^t\text{br}(a) \rangle \rangle .
\end{aligned}$$

Similar computations can be done for other parities. Thus (5.6) holds, as claimed.

(ii) Note that $L_k(L_m(G))$ is naturally a double complex with vertical differentials those coming from $L_m(G)$. Then each term of the associated total complex is a sum of copies of $\bigwedge^i(*g) \otimes G$ and naturally contains $\bigwedge^i(*g) \otimes G$ itself, embedded diagonally. It is easy to check that this yields a map of complexes $L_{m+k}(G) \rightarrow L_k(L_m(G))$. \square

Remark. The latter inclusion is analogous, and closely related to, the natural map on jet or principal parts modules

$$P^{m+k}(M) \rightarrow P^k(P^m(M))$$

for any module M (over a commutative ring).

6. TANGENT ALGEBRA

The purpose of this section is to construct the tangent (or derivation) *Lie algebra* of vector fields on a moduli space \mathcal{M} , together with its natural representation on the (formal) functions on \mathcal{M} . More specifically, we will say that a locally \mathbb{C} -ringed topological space \mathcal{M} is a *locally fine moduli space* if there exists an \mathcal{O}_X - Lie algebra $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ and a sheaf \mathcal{E} of \mathcal{O}_X and $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ -modules on $\mathcal{M} \times X$, with $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ acting \mathcal{O}_X -linearly, such that for each point $[E] \in \mathcal{M}$, we may identify

$$E = \mathcal{E}|_{[E] \times X} := \mathcal{E} \otimes \mathbb{C}(E)$$

($\mathbb{C}(E)$ = residue field of \mathcal{M} at $[E]$), and the formal completion $\hat{\mathcal{E}}$ of \mathcal{E} along $[E] \times X$ is isomorphic to the universal formal \mathfrak{g}_E -deformation of E , where $\mathfrak{g}_E = \tilde{\mathfrak{g}} \otimes \mathbb{C}(E)$, as constructed in [Rcid] and above, so that for each m , or at least a cofinal set of m 's, we have (compatible) isomorphisms

$$(6.1) \quad \mathcal{E} \otimes (\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{M}}/\mathfrak{m}_{[E]}^{m+1}) \simeq M_m(\mathfrak{g}_E, E),$$

$$(6.2) \quad \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{M}}/\mathfrak{m}_{[E]}^{m+1} \simeq R_m(\mathfrak{g}_E).$$

We do *not* assume points of \mathcal{M} correspond bijectively with 'equivalence' classes of objects $[E]$ (which we don't even define)– when a fine moduli space \mathfrak{M} does exist, our assumptions imply that the natural classifying map $\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}$ is étale. Of course by definition the above properties essentially depend on $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ only and not on the particular $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ -module \mathcal{E} . Then the tangent sheaf

$$(6.3) \quad T_{\mathcal{M}} \simeq R^1 p_{1*}(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}})$$

(isomorphism as $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{M}}$ -modules). Now fix a point $[E] \in \mathcal{M}$ and set $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_E$. Viewing $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ as a module over itself via the adjoint representation, we get an isomorphism of the jet or principal part space

$$(6.4) \quad P^m(T_{\mathcal{M}}) \otimes \mathbb{C}(E) \simeq M_m(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}).$$

Now the Lie bracket on $T_{\mathcal{M}}$ is a first-order differential operator in each argument, hence yields an $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{M}}$ -linear 'bracket' pairing

$$(6.5) \quad B_m : P^m(T_{\mathcal{M}}) \times P^m(T_{\mathcal{M}}) \rightarrow P^{m-1}(T_{\mathcal{M}}).$$

Likewise, the action of $T_{\mathcal{M}}$ on $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{M}}$ yields an 'action' pairing

$$(6.6.) \quad A_m : P^m(T_{\mathcal{M}}) \times \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{M}}/\mathfrak{m}_{[E]}^{m+1} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{M}}/\mathfrak{m}_{[E]}^m$$

The problem is to identify the pairings (6.5), (6.6) in terms of the identifications (6.2) and (6.4). We shall proceed to define some pairings on complexes that will yield this.

First, it was already observed above that the dgla $\Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot)$ is quasi-isomorphic to a sub-dgla of itself in strictly positive degrees. More canonically, we may set

$$\Gamma^i = \begin{cases} 0, & i \leq 0 \\ \mathfrak{g}^1/\delta(\mathfrak{g}^0), & i = 1 \\ \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^i)/[\delta\Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^0), \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^{i-1})], & i > 1. \end{cases}$$

Then Γ^\cdot is a canonical quasi-isomorphic quotient dgla of $\Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot)$ in positive degrees. Although a given \mathfrak{g} -module E may not give rise to a Γ^\cdot -module, still for the purposes of this section we may as well replace $\Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot)$ by Γ^\cdot and assume it exists only in positive degrees. Let us also set, for convenience

$$g^\cdot = \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot).$$

We now begin constructing the action pairing. Note that the complex ${}^*g^\cdot = \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot)^*$ is naturally a graded module over the dgla g^\cdot known as the *coadjoint representation*, via the rule

$$\langle\langle a, b^* \rangle, b \rangle = \langle b^*, [a, b] \rangle, a, b, \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}), b^* \in \Gamma^*(\mathfrak{g}).$$

Hence we get a complex which we will write as ${}^tK_m(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}^*)$ or ${}^tK_m(g^\cdot, {}^*g^\cdot)$. To abbreviate, we will also write $\Gamma({}^tK_m(\mathfrak{g}, E))_+$ as $\tilde{L}_m(E)$ and ${}^tK_m(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}^*)_+$ as $\tilde{L}_m(\mathfrak{g}^*)$, and we will view them as double complexes in nonpositive vertical degrees (in the latter case, nonpositive horizontal degrees as well). One can check easily that the duality pairing

$$g^\cdot \otimes^* g^\cdot \rightarrow \mathbb{C},$$

viewed as a map between \mathfrak{g}^\cdot -modules (where \mathbb{C} has the trivial action), is g^\cdot -linear, hence gives rise to a pairing of double complexes (preserving total bidegree)

$$(6.7) \quad \tilde{L}_m(\mathfrak{g}) \times \tilde{L}_m(\mathfrak{g}^*) \rightarrow \tilde{L}_m(\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{g}^*) \rightarrow \tilde{L}_m(\mathbb{C}) = \Gamma^* J_m$$

(where the RHS is viewed as a double complex in bidegrees $(0, \cdot \leq 0)$). Next, note the natural map

$$\Gamma^* J_{m+1} \rightarrow \tilde{L}_m(\mathfrak{g}^*)[-1],$$

where the shift is taken vertically. This map comes about by writing symbolically

$$\Gamma^* J_{m+1} : \mathbb{C} \xrightarrow{0} {}^*g \rightarrow \bigwedge^2 {}^*g \rightarrow \dots$$

$$\tilde{L}_m(\mathfrak{g}^*)[-1] : {}^*g \rightarrow {}^*g \otimes {}^*g \rightarrow \dots,$$

and mapping \mathbb{C} to 0 and $\bigwedge^i {}^*g \rightarrow \bigwedge^{i-1} {}^*g \otimes {}^*g$ in the standard way. According to our conventions, this map only preserves total degree; it induces

$$\tilde{L}_{m+1}(\mathbb{C}) = \Gamma^* J_{m+1} \rightarrow \tilde{L}_m(\mathfrak{g}^*)[-1].$$

Combining the latter with the pairing (6.7), we get a pairing

$$\langle . \rangle : \tilde{L}_m(\mathfrak{g}) \times \tilde{L}_{m+1}(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \tilde{L}_m(\mathbb{C})[-1].$$

Now this map takes an element of bi-bidegree $((a_1, a_2), (0, b))$ to a sum of elements of bidegrees $(a_1 + b_1 = 0, a_2 + b_2 + 1)$, where $b_1 + b_2 = b$ and (b_1, b_2) is the bidegree of an element in $L_m(\mathfrak{g}^*)$. Since $a_2, b_2 \leq 0$, it follows that $a_2 + b_2 + 1 < 1$ if either $a_2 < 0$ or $b < 0$. Therefore there is an induced map

$$(6.8) \quad \langle . \rangle : L_m(\mathfrak{g}) \times L_{m+1}(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow L_m(\mathbb{C})[-1],$$

whence a pairing on cohomology

$$H^1(L_m(\mathfrak{g})) \times H^0(L_{m+1}(\mathbb{C})) \rightarrow H^0(L_m(\mathbb{C})).$$

Note that $H^0(L_m(\mathbb{C})) = R_m(\mathfrak{g})$. We set

$$\Theta_m(\mathfrak{g}) = H^1(L_m(\mathfrak{g})).$$

By Corollary 5.3, this group coincides with $H^1(M_m(\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}))$, i.e. the m -th principal part of the tangent sheaf to moduli. Thus we have defined a pairing (action pairing)

$$(6.9) \quad \langle . \rangle : \Theta_m(\mathfrak{g}) \times R_{m+1}(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow R_m(\mathfrak{g}).$$

Now it is easy to see that the pairing

$$L_m(\mathbb{C}) \times L_m(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow L_m(\mathfrak{g})$$

(which comes from the 'product of L's maps to L of product' rule (5.4)) induces

$$R_m(\mathfrak{g}) \times \Theta_m(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \Theta_m(\mathfrak{g})$$

which endows $\Theta_m(\mathfrak{g})$ with an $R_m(\mathfrak{g})$ -module structure.

Next, we undertake to define a pairing on $\Theta_m(\mathfrak{g})$ that will yield the Lie bracket. For this consider the complex $\tilde{L}_m(\text{sym}^2 \mathfrak{g}^*)$ which may be written in the form

$$\text{sym}^2 \mathfrak{g}^* \rightarrow (\Gamma^* J_m^{(1)})_{[-1]} \otimes \text{sym}^2 \mathfrak{g}^* \rightarrow (\Gamma^* J_m^{(2)})_{[-2]} \otimes \text{sym}^2 \mathfrak{g}^* \rightarrow \dots$$

where $*J_m^{(i)}$ denotes the sum of the terms in $*J_m$ of *tensor* degree i (i.e. products of i factors) and $(*J_m^{(i)})_{[-i]}$ is its truncation in (total) degrees $\geq -i$. Now the duality pairing

$$g \cdot \times^* g \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

extends to 'contraction' maps (analogous to interior multiplication)

$$(\Gamma^* J_m^{(r)})_{[-r]} \otimes \text{sym}^2 \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow (\Gamma^* J_{m-1}^{(r-1)})_{[-r+1]} \otimes g \cdot.$$

Thanks to the alternating nature of the bracket on $g \cdot$, it is easy to check that these maps together yield a map of double complexes

$$\tilde{L}_m(\text{sym}^2 g \cdot) \rightarrow \tilde{L}_{m-1}(g \cdot)[-1].$$

Now recall the map

$$\text{sym}^2 \tilde{L}_m(g \cdot) \rightarrow \tilde{L}_m(\text{sym}^2 g \cdot)$$

as in (5.4). Composing, we get a map of double complexes

$$b_m : \text{sym}^2 \tilde{L}_m(g \cdot) \rightarrow \tilde{L}_{m-1}(g \cdot)[-1],$$

which induces a map on the respective truncations, whence a map on cohomology

$$H^2((\text{sym}^2 \tilde{L}_m(\mathfrak{g}))_+) \rightarrow H^1(\tilde{L}_{m-1}(\mathfrak{g})_+) = H^1(L_{m-1}(\mathfrak{g})).$$

Note that $(\text{sym}^2 \tilde{L}_m(\mathfrak{g}))_+ = \text{sym}^2(\tilde{L}_m(\mathfrak{g})_+) = \text{sym}^2 L_m(\mathfrak{g})$ because these are complexes in nonpositive vertical degrees. Then define the bracket pairing

$$B_m : \bigwedge^2 \Theta_m(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \Theta_{m-1}(\mathfrak{g})$$

as the induced map

$$\bigwedge^2 H^1(L_m(\mathfrak{g})) \rightarrow H^2(\text{sym}^2(L_m(\mathfrak{g}))) \rightarrow H^1(L_{m-1}(\mathfrak{g})).$$

Theorem 6.1.

(i) *The above pairings (6.9) yield a compatible sequence of natural homomorphisms*

$$A_m : \Theta_m(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \text{Der}(R_{m+1}(\mathfrak{g}), R_m(\mathfrak{g})).$$

A_1 is always an isomorphism.

(ii) Via A_m , the commutator of derivations is given by

$$[A_{m+1}(u), A_{m+1}(v)] = A_m(B_m(u \wedge v)), \forall u, v \in \Theta_{m+1}(\mathfrak{g}).$$

(iii) The induced pairing $\hat{B} = \varprojlim B_m$ on $\hat{\Theta}(\mathfrak{g}) = \varprojlim \Theta_m(\mathfrak{g})$ turns it into a Lie algebra. If \mathfrak{g} has unobstructed deformations, then the induced map

$$\hat{A} = \varprojlim A_m : \hat{\Theta}(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \text{Der}(\hat{R}(\mathfrak{g}))$$

is a Lie isomorphism.

proof. (i) We first show Θ_m acts on R_{m+1} (we drop the \mathfrak{g} for convenience) as derivations, i.e. that

$$\langle A_m(u), fg \rangle = g \langle A_m(u), f \rangle + f \langle A_m(u), g \rangle, \quad \forall f, g \in R_{m+1}, u \in \Theta_m.$$

This results from the commutative diagram

$$(6.10) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} L_m(\mathfrak{g}) \times L_{m+1}(\mathbb{C}) \times L_{m+1}(\mathbb{C}) & \longrightarrow & L_m(\mathbb{C}) \times L_m(\mathbb{C})[-1] \\ \text{id} \times \mu_{m+1} \downarrow & & \mu_m \downarrow \\ L_m(\mathfrak{g}) \times L_{m+1}(\mathbb{C}) & \xrightarrow{\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle} & L_m(\mathbb{C})[-1] \end{array}$$

where $\mu_m : L_m(\mathbb{C}) \times L_m(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow L_m(\mathbb{C})$ is the multiplication mapping as in (5.4), which yields the multiplication in R_m , and which is simply induced by (graded) exterior multiplication in $\dot{\wedge}(*g)$, $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ is the pairing (6.9), and the top horizontal arrow is induced by $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ via the derivation rule, i.e. $u \times f \times g \mapsto \langle u, f \rangle \times g + \langle u, g \rangle \times f$. Commutativity of this diagram is immediate from the definitions.

Next we show A_m is R_m -linear. This again follows from the (easily checked) commutativity of a suitable diagram, namely

$$(6.11) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} L_m(\mathbb{C}) \times L_m(\mathfrak{g}) \times L_{m+1}(\mathbb{C}) & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle} & L_m(\mathbb{C}) \times L_m(\mathbb{C})[-1] \\ \mu' \times \text{id} \downarrow & & \downarrow \mu_m \\ L_m(\mathfrak{g}) \times L_{m+1}(\mathbb{C}) & \xrightarrow{\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle} & L_m(\mathbb{C})[-1] \end{array}$$

where μ' is the multiplication mapping $L_m(\mathbb{C}) \times L_m(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow L_m(\mathfrak{g})$ which induces the R_m -module structure on Θ_m .

Note that A_1 is just a map

$$H^1(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \mathfrak{m}_{R_1(\mathfrak{g})}^* = H^1(\mathfrak{g}),$$

and it is immediate from the definitions that this is just the identity.

(ii) To be precise, what is being asserted here is that for all $u, v \in \Theta_{m+1}$, if u', v' are the induced elements in Θ_m , then

$$A_m(u') \circ A_{m+1}(v) - A_m(v') \circ A_{m+1}(u) = A_m(B_m(u \wedge v)).$$

This, in turn, results from the commutativity of the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathrm{sym}^2 L_m(\mathfrak{g}) \times L_{m+1}(\mathbb{C}) & \xrightarrow{b_m \times \bar{\mathrm{id}}} & L_{m-1}(\mathfrak{g}) \times L_m(\mathbb{C})[-1] \\ \mathrm{id} \times \langle . \rangle \downarrow & & \downarrow \langle . \rangle \\ L_{m-1}(\mathfrak{g}) \times L_m(\mathbb{C})[-1] & \xrightarrow{\langle . \rangle} & L_{m-1}(\mathbb{C})[-2] \end{array}$$

where the left vertical arrow is induced by $\langle . \rangle$ again via the derivation rule, i.e. $uv \times w \mapsto u \times \langle v.w \rangle + v \times \langle u.w \rangle$.

(iii) The fact that $\hat{\Theta}(\mathfrak{g})$ is a Lie algebra amounts to the Jacobi identity. To verify this, note that b_m induces via the derivation rule a map

$$\mathrm{sym}^3 L_m(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow L_m(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes L_{m-1}(\mathfrak{g})[-1] \rightarrow \mathrm{sym}^2 L_{m-1}(\mathfrak{g})[-1].$$

Then the Jacobi identity amounts to the vanishing of the composite of this map and

$$b_{m-1} : \mathrm{sym}^2 L_{m-1}(\mathfrak{g})[-1] \rightarrow L_{m-2}(\mathfrak{g})[-2].$$

This may be verified easily.

Finally in the unobstructed case, clearly both $\hat{\Theta}(\mathfrak{g})$ and $\mathrm{Der}(\hat{R}(\mathfrak{g}))$ are free $\hat{R}(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules, and since A_1 is an isomorphism it follows that so is \hat{A} . \square

Elaboration 6.2. In term of cocycles, we may describe $\Theta_1(\mathfrak{g})$ as follows. Set $V = H^1(\mathfrak{g})$ which we view as a subspace of $\Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^1)$. Then

$$\Theta_1(\mathfrak{g}) = \left\{ (a, \sum b_i \otimes c_i^*) \in V \oplus \mathfrak{g}^1 \otimes V^* \mid {}^t br(a) = \sum \delta(b_i) \otimes c_i^* \right\}$$

where ${}^t br$ is the adjoint of the bracket, defined by

$$\begin{aligned} {}^t br(a) &= \sum b_i \otimes c_i^* \\ [a, x] &= \sum \langle c_i^*.x \rangle b_i \quad \forall x \in V. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the condition defining $\Theta_1(\mathfrak{g})$ is

$$[a, x] = \sum \langle c_i^*.x \rangle \delta(b_i) \quad \forall x \in V.$$

Now the bracket

$$[\cdot, \cdot] : \bigwedge^2 \Theta_1(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \Theta_0(\mathfrak{g}) = V$$

is given by

$$\left[(a, \sum b_i \otimes c_i), (a', \sum b'_i \otimes c'_i) \right] = \sum \langle c'_i.a \rangle b'_i - \sum \langle c_i.a' \rangle b_i.$$

Note that neither sum is δ -closed, but the difference is because

$$\sum \langle c'_i.a \rangle \delta(b'_i) - \sum \langle c_i.a' \rangle \delta(b_i) = [a', a] - [a, a'] = 0$$

(recall that the bracket is symmetric on \mathfrak{g}^1).

7. DIFFERENTIAL OPERATORS

We shall require an extension of the results the the last section from the case of derivations on $R_m(\mathfrak{g})$ itself to that of differential operators on 'modular' $R_m(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules (those that come from \mathfrak{g} -modules). To this end we will construct, given a dgla g^\cdot and g^\cdot -modules G_1, G_2 , complexes $LD_k^m(G_1, G_2)$ whose cohomology will act as m th order differential operators from $H^\cdot(M_{m+k}(G_2))$ to $H^\cdot(M_k(G_1))$ and will coincide with the module of all such operators, i.e. $D^m(H^\cdot(M_{m+k}(G_2)), H^\cdot(M_k(G_1)))$, under favorable circumstances ('no obstructions'). This will apply in particular to an admissible Lie pair (\mathfrak{g}, E) on X with suitable (dgla, dg-module) resolution $(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot, E^\cdot)$, by taking as usual

$$g^\cdot = \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot),$$

$$G^\cdot = \Gamma(E^\cdot).$$

To begin with, set, for any g^\cdot -modules G_1, G_2 ,

$$K_m(G_1, G_2) = K_m(g^\cdot, G_{1triv} \otimes^* G_2),$$

where $G_{1triv} \otimes^* G_2$ is $G_1 \otimes^* G_2$ as a complex but with g^\cdot acting through the *G_2 factor only. Note that as a complex, we may identify $K_m(G_1, G_2) = G_1 \otimes K(g^\cdot, ^*G_2)$. A fundamental observation is the following

Lemma 7.1. *Let G_1, G_2 be g^\cdot -modules. Then the duality pairings between g^\cdot and $^*g^\cdot$ and G_2 and *G_2 extends to a pairing*

$$K_m(G_1, G_2) \times L_m(G_2) \rightarrow G_1.$$

proof. There is clearly no loss of generality in assuming $G_1 = \mathbb{C}$ with trivial g^\cdot -action. Write these complexes schematically as

$$K := K_m(g^\cdot, ^*G_2) \cdots \bigwedge^2 g \otimes^* G_2 \rightarrow g \otimes^* G_2 \rightarrow ^*G_2,$$

$$L := L_m(g^\cdot, G_2) \quad G_2 \rightarrow^* g \otimes G_2 \rightarrow \bigwedge^2 (^*g) \otimes G_2 \cdots .$$

Then we have

$$(K \otimes L)_0 = \bigoplus_{i=0}^m \bigwedge^i g \otimes \bigwedge^i (^*g) \otimes^* G_2 \otimes G_2.$$

We map this to \mathbb{C} in the obvious way by contracting together all the g and *g factors and likewise for *G_2 and G_2 . What has to be proved is that this yields a map of complexes $K \otimes L \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, i.e. that the composite

$$(K \otimes L)_{-1} \xrightarrow{\delta_{K \otimes L}} (K \otimes L)_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

vanishes, in other words that for each $i = 1, \dots, m$ the composite

$$\begin{aligned} \bigwedge^i g \otimes \bigwedge^{i-1} (*g) \otimes^* G_2 \otimes G_2 &\xrightarrow{\delta_K \otimes \text{id} \oplus \text{id} \otimes \delta_L} \bigwedge^{i-1} g \otimes \bigwedge^{i-1} (*g) \otimes^* G_2 \otimes G_2 \oplus \bigwedge^i g \otimes \bigwedge^i (*g) \otimes^* G_2 \otimes G_2 \\ &\rightarrow^* G_2 \otimes G_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \end{aligned}$$

is zero. Now it is easy to see from the definitions (compare the proof of Lemma 5.8) that it suffices to check this for $i = 1$. So pick an element

$$v \times a^* \times a \in g \times^* G_2 \times G_2.$$

Its image under the first map has two components, the first of which is $\langle v, a^* \rangle \times a$ where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ denotes the action, while the second component has the form

$$v \times a^* \times \sum w_j^* \otimes b_j$$

where the sum denotes the cobracket of a , defined by

$$\sum \langle w_j^* \cdot y \rangle b_j = \langle y, a \rangle, \forall y \in g,$$

where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ denotes the duality pairing. Clearly the image of this second component in \mathbb{C} (i.e. its trace) is just $\langle a^* \cdot \langle v, a \rangle \rangle$. However by definition of the dual action we have

$$\langle a^* \cdot \langle v, a \rangle \rangle = - \langle \langle v, a^* \rangle \cdot a \rangle.$$

Thus the image of $v \times a^* \times a$ in \mathbb{C} is zero, as claimed. \square

Next, recall by Lemma 5.8 that $K_m(*G_2)$ is a g -module, hence so is $K_m(G_1, G_2) = G_1 \otimes K_m(*G_2)$. This gives rise to a complex

$$L_k(g, K_m(G_1, G_2)) =: LD_k^m(g, G_1, G_2).$$

When g is understood, we may denote the latter by $LD_k^m(G_1, G_2)$, and when $G_1 = G_2 = G$ the same may also be denoted by $LD_k^m(G)$. From (5.4) and Lemma 7.1 we deduce a pairing

$$LD_k^m(g, G_1, G_2) \times L_m(g, L_k(g, G_2)) \rightarrow L_k(G_1),$$

hence by Lemma 5.8(ii) we get a pairing

$$(7.1) \quad LD_k^m(g, G_1, G_2) \times L_{m+k}(g, G_2) \rightarrow L_k(G_1)$$

Our next goal is to show that, via this pairing, we may, at least under favorable circumstances, identify $H^{j-i}(LD_k^m(g, G_1, G_2))$ with the k -jet of the m -th order differential operators on the $R_{m+k}(g)$ -module corresponding

to $H^i(G_2)$ with values in $H^j(G_1)$, provided these are the unique nonvanishing respective cohomology groups. In fact, it will be convenient to prove the stronger result saying that this assertion essentially holds already 'on the level of complexes'. To explain what that means, note that via the pairing (5.4), $L_m(\mathbb{C})$ - and likewise $L_m(A)$ for any \mathbb{C} -algebra A - forms a 'ring complex', i.e. a ring object in the category of complexes; this ring structure is the one that induces the ring structure on $R_m(g) = \mathbb{H}^0(L_m(\mathbb{C}))$. Moreover, for any g -module G , $L_m(G)$ is an $L_m(\mathbb{C})$ -module. There is an evident notion of $L_m(\mathbb{C})$ -linear map of $L_m(\mathbb{C})$ -modules, and any g -linear map $G_1 \rightarrow G_2$ induces such a map $L_m(G_1) \rightarrow L_m(G_2)$. Likewise, the natural pairing

$$L_m(G) \times L_m(*G) \rightarrow L_m(\mathbb{C})$$

is $L_m(\mathbb{C})$ -linear.

Given this, the notion of differential operators of any order (over $L_m(\mathbb{C})$) can be defined inductively: given complexes D, M, N of $L_m(\mathbb{C})$ -modules and a pairing

$$a : D \times M \rightarrow N,$$

a is said to be of differential order $\leq m$ in the M factor if the composite map

$$\begin{aligned} L_m(\mathbb{C}) \times D \times M &\rightarrow N, \\ (v, d, m) &\mapsto a((vd), m) - a(d, (vm)) \end{aligned}$$

is of differential order $\leq m - 1$ in the M factor.

Lemma 7.2. *The pairing (7.1) is of differential order $\leq m$ in $L_{m+k}(G_2)$.*

proof. By induction on m , of course. For $m = 0$ the result is clear (and was already noted above). For the induction step, it suffices to show that the map

$$LD_k^m(G_1, G_2) \times L_{m+k}(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow LD_k^m(G_1, G_2)$$

given by (premultiplication)-(postmultiplication) factors through $LD_k^{m-1}(G_1, G_2)$. As for the premultiplication map, it is induced by the $L_m(\mathbb{C})$ -module structure on $K_m(*G_2)$, i.e. the natural map (cf. Lemma 5.8(i))

$$L_m(\mathbb{C}) \times K_m(*G_2) \rightarrow K_m(*G_2).$$

Tensoring by G_1 , applying L_k and using Lemma 5.8(ii) we get a map

$$L_{m+k}(\mathbb{C}) \times LD_k^m(G_1, G_2) \rightarrow LD_k^m(G_1, G_2)$$

that is the premultiplication map. This map clearly factors through $L_m(\mathbb{C}) \times LD_k^m(G_1, G_2)$. It is essentially obtained by contracting together some g and $*g$ factors and exterior-multiplying others; in particular the induced map on

any term involving $\bigwedge^m(g)$ going to a similar term cannot involve any contraction, hence is simply given by exterior- multiplying the factor from $L_m(\mathbb{C})$ by the one from $LD_k^m(G_1, G_2)$. It is easy to see that similar comments apply to the postmultiplication map. Thus the two induced map (from pre and post) between terms involving $\bigwedge^m(g)$ agree, and consequently the difference (pre)-(post) goes into $LD_k^{m-1}(G_1, G_2)$, which proves the Lemma. \square

Remark 7.2.1. As was observed in the course of the proof, $LD_k^m(G_1, G_2)$ has the structure of $L_{m+k}(\mathbb{C})$ -bimodule, corresponding to the pre-post-multiplications. This is analogous, and closely related to the bimodule structure on the space of differential operators $D^m(M_1, M_2)$ between a pair of modules.

Next we will construct a pairing that will yield the *composition* of differential operators.

Lemma 7.3. *For any g -modules G_1, G_2, G_3 and natural numbers m, k, j, n with $k \geq j - m \geq 0$, there is a natural pairing of g -modules*

$$(7.2) \quad LD_k^m(G_1, G_2) \times LD_j^n(G_2, G_3) \rightarrow LD_{j-m}^{m+n}(G_1, G_3).$$

proof. There is clearly no loss of generality in assuming $k = j - m$. Then using Lemma 5.8 we are easily reduced to the case $j = m$ where the point is to construct a g -linear pairing

$$(7.3) \quad G_1 \otimes K_m(*G_2) \times L_m(G_2 \otimes K_n(*G_3)) \rightarrow G_1 \otimes K_{m+n}(*G_3).$$

There is obviously no loss of generality in assuming $G_1 = \mathbb{C}$. Then the LHS is a direct sum of terms of the form

$$\bigwedge^i g \otimes^* G_2 \times \bigwedge^j (*g) \otimes \bigwedge^k g \otimes G_2 \otimes G_3$$

which has degree $i + k - j$. We map this term to zero if $i + j - k < 0$, and otherwise to

$$\bigwedge^{i-j+k} g \otimes^* G_3 = K_{m+n}^{i-j+k}(*G_3)$$

in the standard way, by contracting away all the $*g$ factors against the g 's, as well as $*G_2$ against G_2 . If we can prove this is a map of complexes then g -linearity comes for free, due to the g -linearity of contraction.

Now to prove we have a map of complexes one may reduce as in the proof of Lemma 5.8 to the case $i = k = 1, j = 0$ and commutativity of the following diagram

$$(7.4) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} g \otimes^* G_2 \otimes g \otimes G_2 \otimes^* G_3 & \rightarrow & [g \otimes^* G_2 \times G_2 \otimes^* G_3]^{\oplus 2} \oplus g \otimes^* G_2 \otimes^* g \otimes g \otimes G_2 \otimes^* G_3 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \bigwedge^2 g \otimes^* G_3 & \rightarrow & g \otimes^* G_3 \end{array}$$

where the top map is of the form

(g -action on *G_2 , g -action on *G_3 , g -coaction on $g \otimes G_2 \otimes {}^*G_3$).

Given an element

$$v_1 \times a^* \times v_2 \times a \times b^* \in g \otimes {}^*G_2 \otimes g \otimes G_2 \otimes {}^*G_3,$$

its image going counterclockwise is clearly

$$\langle (v_1 \wedge v_2), \langle a.a^* \rangle b^* \rangle =$$

$$(7.5) \quad \langle a.a^* \rangle (v_1 \times \langle v_2, b^* \rangle - v_2 \times \langle v_1, b^* \rangle - [v_1, v_2] \times b^*).$$

On the other hand, the image of this element under the top map is

$$(\langle v_1, a^* \rangle \times v_2 \times a \times b^*, v_1 \times a^* \times \langle v_2, b^* \rangle \times a, v_1 \times a^* \times {}^t\text{br}(v_2 \times a \times b^*)).$$

Now from the definition of ${}^t\text{br}$, the fact that it acts as a derivation, plus the definition of the dual action, it is elementary to verify that the image of the latter element under the right vertical map coincides with (7.5), so the diagram commutes. \square

Lemma 7.4. *Via the action pairing (7.1), the 'composition' pairing (7.2) corresponds to composition of operators.*

proof. Our assertion means that

$$\langle \langle d_1, d_2 \rangle, a \rangle = \langle d_1, \langle d_2, a \rangle \rangle,$$

$$\forall d_1 \in LD_k^m(G_1, G_2), d_2 \in LD_j^n(G_2, G_3), a \in L_r(G_3),$$

assuming $r \geq j - m \geq 0$ (and abusing $\langle \rangle$ to denote the various pairings involved), which amounts to commutativity of the obvious diagram

$$(7.6) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} LD_k^m(G_1, G_2) \times LD_j^n(G_2, G_3) \times L_r(G_3) & \rightarrow & LD_{j-m}^{m+n}(G_1, G_3) \times L_r(G_3) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ LD_k^m(G_1, G_2) \times L_j(G_2) & \rightarrow & L_{j-m}(G_1). \end{array}$$

Now all the maps involved are essentially given by exterior multiplication and contraction, so commutativity of (7.6) follows from the associativity of exterior multiplication. \square

In particular, taking $G_1 = G_2 = G_3 = G$ we get a (composition) pairing, whenever $k \geq m$,

$$LD_k^m(G) \times LD_k^n(G) \rightarrow LD_{k-m}^{m+n}(G).$$

It is easy to see by sign considerations as in the proof of Lemma 7.2 that the 'commutator' associated to this pairing takes values in $LD_{k-\max(m,n)}^{m+n-1}(G)$.

In particular, we get a skew-symmetric pairing

$$B_k : \bigwedge^2 LD_k^1(G) \rightarrow LD_{k-1}^1(G).$$

Lemma 7.5. *Under $B_\infty = \varprojlim B_k$, $LD_\infty^1(G) = \varprojlim LD_k^1(G)$ is a Lie algebra object in the category of complexes, and admits a natural representation on $L_\infty(G) = \varprojlim L_k(G)$.*

proof. Most of this has been proved above. The only remaining point is the Jacobi identity for B_∞ , which can be proved as in the case of the trivial module $G = \mathbb{C}$ (cf. Theorem 6.1). \square

The pairings discussed above naturally induce analogous pairings on cohomology groups. This leads to the following Theorem 7.6. First some notation and terminology. For any g -module $G, k \leq \infty$, set

$$H^i(G, k) = H^i(L_k(G))$$

As we have seen if (g, G) comes from sheaves (\mathfrak{g}, E) on X then this coincides with the sheaf cohomology $H^i(X, M_k(\mathfrak{g}, E))$, i.e. the k -universal g -deformation of $H^i(X, E)$. We will say that G is *strongly i -unobstructed* if for all $v \in g^1$ that is δ -closed (i.e. $\delta(v) = 0$) and all $a \in G^i$ (closed or not), we have that $\langle v, a \rangle$ is exact; we will say that g itself is *strongly unobstructed* if it is strongly 1-unobstructed in the adjoint representation. It is easy to see that if g is strongly unobstructed then $R_\infty(g)$ is regular (i.e. smooth) and that if G is strongly i -unobstructed then $H^i(G, \infty)$ is $R_\infty(g)$ -free. Also, it is obvious that if G is i -equicyclic then it is strongly i -unobstructed.

Theorem 7.6. *Let G_1, G_2, G_3 be modules over the dgla g with $H^{\leq 0}(g) = 0$. Then*

(i) *there is a natural pairing, for any $0 \leq k \leq n - m$*

$$H^{j-i}(LD_k^m(G_1, G_2)) \times H^i(G_2, n) \rightarrow H^j(G_1, k)$$

which induces a map

$$A : H^{j-i}(LD_k^m(G_1, G_2)) \rightarrow D_{R_n(g)}^m(H^i(G_2, n), H^j(G_1, k));$$

(ii) *there is a natural pairing, for any $0 \leq j - m \leq k$,*

$$C : H^i(LD_k^m(G_1, G_2)) \times H^j(LD_j^n(G_2, G_3)) \rightarrow H^{i+j}(LD_{j-m}^{m+n}(G_1, G_3),$$

via which A corresponds to composition of operators; in particular there are natural Lie algebra structures on $H^0(LD_\infty^1(G))$ and $H^0(LD_\infty(G))$ with representations on $H^i(G, \infty)$ for all i ;

(iii) *if g is strongly unobstructed and G_1 and G_2 are equicyclic of degrees i, j respectively, then the map*

$$(7.7) \quad A_\infty : H^{i-j}(LD_\infty^m(G_1, G_2)) \rightarrow D_{R_\infty(g)}^m(H^j(G_2, \infty), H^i(G_1, \infty))$$

is an isomorphism for all m .

proof. Items (i) and (ii) follow directly from the results above. We prove (iii). Clearly the target of A_∞ , with respect to its left (postmultiplication) structure, is a free module with fibre

$$H^i(G_1) \otimes D_0^m(H^j(G_2), \mathbb{C}) = H^i(G_1) \otimes H^j(G_2, m)^*.$$

As for the source, note that $K_m(*G_2)$ is strongly $(-j)$ -unobstructed and has no cohomology in degree $< -j$. Consequently, $G_1 \otimes K_m(*G_2)$ is strongly $(i-j)$ -unobstructed and

$$H^{i-j}(G_1 \otimes K_m(*G_2)) = H^i(G_1) \otimes H^{-j}(K_m(*G_2)) = H^i(G_1) \otimes H^j(G_2, m)^*.$$

By definition, the latter is precisely the fibre of $H^{i-j}(LD_\infty^m(G_1, G_2))$ with respect to its postmultiplication module structure (which structure we now know is free, thanks to unobstructedness). Thus the source and target of A_∞ have isomorphic fibres; moreover it is easy to see, for instance by considering the other (right or premultiplication) structure that A_∞ induces an isomorphism. But clearly a linear map of free modules over a local ring inducing an isomorphism on fibres is itself an isomorphism, proving our assertion. \square

Corollary 7.7. *If G is an i -equicyclic module and g is strongly unobstructed then the Lie algebra $H^0(LD_\infty^1(G))$ is canonically isomorphic to $D_{R_\infty(G)}^1(H^i(G, \infty))$ \square*

In particular, in the geometric situation with (\mathfrak{g}, E) an admissible pair, \mathfrak{g} unobstructed and E i -equicyclic, we get a canonical recipe for the Lie algebra which is the formal completion of $D_{\mathcal{M}}^1(\mathcal{H})$ where \mathcal{H} is the sheaf on the moduli space \mathcal{M} associated to the unique nonvanishing cohomology group $H^i(E)$.

Elaboration 7.8. Let us write down the bracket pairing B_1 in terms of cocycles. This comes about by considering the diagram

$$(7.8) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} g \otimes G \otimes^* G & \xrightarrow{b} & G \otimes^* G \\ {}^{tb} \downarrow & & {}^{tb} \downarrow \\ {}^*g \otimes g \otimes G \otimes^* G & \xrightarrow{b} & {}^*g \otimes G \otimes^* G \end{array}$$

where the maps b are induced by the action of g on *G , while the maps tb are induced by the transpose of the g action on G . A cocycle for $LD_1^1(G)$ is a 4-tuple $(\phi, \psi, \phi', \psi')$ of cochains of the four complexes in (7.8) such that

$$\partial(\phi) = 0$$

$$b(\phi) = \partial(\psi)$$

$$\begin{aligned} {}^t b(\phi) &= \partial(\phi') \\ b(\phi') + {}^t b(\psi) &= \partial(\psi'). \end{aligned}$$

The pairing

$$B_1 : \bigwedge^2 (H^0(LD_1^1(G))) \rightarrow H^0(LD_0^1(G))$$

is given by

$$B_1((\phi_0, \psi_0, \phi'_0, \psi'_0) \wedge (\phi_1, \psi_1, \phi'_1, \psi'_1)) = (\phi_2, \psi_2)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_2 &= [\psi_0, \psi_1] + \langle \phi_0, \psi'_1 \rangle - \langle \phi_1, \psi'_0 \rangle \\ \phi_2 &= \langle \phi_0, \phi'_1 \rangle - \langle \phi_1, \phi'_0 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

(compare Elaboration 6.2). Here $[\]$ is the usual commutator on $G \otimes^* G$ while $\langle \rangle$ is the pairing induced by $[\]$ and the duality between g and *g . To check that this is indeed a cocycle, we compute:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial(\psi_2) &= [\partial(\psi_0), \psi_1] - [\psi_0, \partial(\psi_1)] - \langle \phi_0, \partial(\psi'_1) \rangle + \langle \phi_1, \partial(\psi'_0) \rangle \\ &= [b(\phi_0), \psi_1] - [\psi_0, b(\phi_1)] - \langle \phi_0, b(\phi'_1) + {}^t b(\psi_1) \rangle + \langle \phi_1, b(\phi'_0) + {}^t b(\psi_0) \rangle \\ &= [b(\phi_0), \psi_1] - [\psi_0, b(\phi_1)] - \langle \phi_0, b(\phi'_1) \rangle + \langle \phi_1, b(\phi'_0) \rangle - [b(\phi_0), \psi_1] + [\psi_0, b(\phi_1)] \\ &= - \langle \phi_0, b(\phi'_1) \rangle + \langle \phi_1, b(\phi'_0) \rangle \\ &= b(\langle \phi_0, \phi'_1 \rangle - \langle \phi_1, \phi'_0 \rangle) = b(\phi_2). \end{aligned}$$

Analogous formulae may be given for the bracket 'action' of $LD_k^1(G)$ on $LD_k^m(G)$. These actions being compatible for different m , there is an induced action on $LD_k^m(G)/L_k^{m-1}(G) = L_k(\bigwedge^m g \otimes G \otimes^* G)[m]$. In particular, we get a pairing

$$LD_1^1(G) \times L_1(\bigwedge^2 g \otimes G \otimes^* G)[2] \rightarrow (\bigwedge^2 g \otimes G \otimes^* G)[2]$$

Now note the natural map

$$L_1(\bigwedge^2 g \otimes G \otimes^* G)[1] \rightarrow LD_1^1(G)$$

which is induced by the map $\bigwedge^2 g \otimes G \otimes^* G[1] \rightarrow K_1(g, G \otimes^* G)$ that is part of the complex $K_2(g, G \otimes^* G)$. Hence we get a pairing

$$L_1(\bigwedge^2 g \otimes G \otimes^* G)[1] \times L_1(\bigwedge^2 g \otimes G \otimes^* G)[2] \rightarrow (\bigwedge^2 g \otimes G \otimes^* G)[2]$$

i.e. a (symmetric) bracket pairing

$$\mathrm{Sym}^2(L_1(\bigwedge^2 g \otimes G \otimes^* G)[1]) \rightarrow \bigwedge^2 g \otimes G \otimes^* G[1].$$

This pairing has the following interpretation. Suppose \mathcal{M} is a locally fine moduli space with Lie algebra $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ on $X \times \mathcal{M}$ as above and \mathcal{H} is the locally free $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{M}}$ -sheaf $R^i p_{\mathcal{M}*}(\mathcal{H})$ for a suitable \mathfrak{g} -module E on $X \times \mathcal{M}$ (assuming this is the only nonvanishing derived image). Then as in Example 1.1.2 C we get a heat atom

$$(\mathfrak{D}_{\mathcal{M}}^1(\mathcal{H}), \mathfrak{D}_{\mathcal{M}}^2(\mathcal{H}))$$

on \mathcal{M} , hence a Lie bracket on the (shifted) quotient $\mathrm{sym}^2(T_{\mathcal{M}}) \otimes \mathcal{H}^* \otimes \mathcal{H}[-1]$. This bracket can be identified 'fibrewise' with the map induced by the pairing (7.1).

8. CONNECTION ALGEBRA

Our purpose in this section is to construct, for a given representation (\mathfrak{g}, E) , a canonical 'thickening' $\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E)$ of \mathfrak{g} which is another Lie algebra which acts on E , such that the sections of E extend canonically over the universal deformation associated to $\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E)$.

Our construction refines and generalizes one in first-order deformation theory due to Welters [W] and Hitchin [Hit, Thm 1.20]. They noted that given a line bundle L on a compact complex manifold X , together with a holomorphic section $s \in H^0(L)$, 1-parameter deformations of the triple (X, L, s) are parametrized by \mathbb{H}^1 of the complex

$$\mathfrak{D}^1(L) \xrightarrow{\cdot s} L.$$

Consequently, a family, in a suitable sense, of such \mathbb{H}^1 cohomology classes yields a *connection* ∇ on the 'bundle of $H^0(L)$'s (more precisely, it yields the covariant derivative $\nabla \cdot s$).

Our construction, amongst other things, extends that of Welters-Hitchin from first-order to arbitrary m -th order deformations. Applied in their original context with m at least 2, it shows that the connection ∇ is automatically *flat*, a fact which could not be seen by first-order considerations alone.

Now let (\mathfrak{g}, E) be an admissible pair, with soft resolution $(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot, E^\cdot, \partial)$. Then $\Gamma^*(E^\cdot) \otimes E^\cdot$ is a complex (via tensor product of complexes) and a \mathfrak{g}^\cdot -module (acting on the E^\cdot factor only), which makes it a differential graded \mathfrak{g}^\cdot -module. There is a tautological map

$$(8.1) \quad \mathfrak{g}^\cdot \xrightarrow{\delta} \Gamma^*(E^\cdot) \otimes E^\cdot$$

which is easily seen to be a derivation. Thus, (the mapping cone of) (8.1) yields a differential graded Lie algebra, which we denote $\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E)$. Note that $\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E)$ is itself a differential graded \mathfrak{g}^\cdot -module, and that we have a natural dgla homomorphism

$$\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E) \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}^\cdot$$

Note also that if $H^{\leq 0}(\mathfrak{g}) = 0$, then we have

$$H^{\leq 0}(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E)) = 0$$

if and only if E , that is, ΓE^\cdot , is i -equicyclic for some i , in which case we have an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^i(E) \otimes H^i(E)^* \rightarrow H^1(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E)) \rightarrow H^1(\mathfrak{g}).$$

Similar constructions can be made purely algebraically. Thus let (g^\cdot, G^\cdot) be a dg Lie representation. We consider $*G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot$ as another dg representation of g^\cdot (with differential as tensor product of complexes and g^\cdot -action on the G^\cdot factor only), and note the graded derivation

$$(8.2) \quad g^\cdot \xrightarrow{\delta} *G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot.$$

Then (8.2) forms a dgla which we denote by $k(g^\cdot, G^\cdot)$, and in which g^i has degree i and $*G^i \otimes G^j$ has degree $i + j + 1$. Thus

$$\Gamma\mathfrak{k}(g^\cdot, E) = k(\Gamma g^\cdot, \Gamma E^\cdot).$$

Obviously, $k(g^\cdot, G^\cdot)$ is a g^\cdot -module; indeed the canonical 'identity' element

$$I \in *G \otimes G$$

yields an inclusion of g^\cdot -modules

$$k(g^\cdot, G^\cdot) \subset LD_0^1(G)$$

(cf. §6). Note that the g^\cdot -action on $*G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot$ evidently extends to an action of $k^\cdot = k(g^\cdot, G^\cdot)$, by letting $*G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot$ act trivially on itself. Consequently we get for each $m \geq 1$ a complex $L_m(k(g^\cdot, G^\cdot), *G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot)$ which we write schematically as a double complex (with components which are themselves multiple complexes) in the form

$$(8.3) \quad \begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & \text{sym}^2(*G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot) \otimes *G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot & \rightarrow & \dots & \\ & & & \downarrow & & & \\ *G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot \otimes *G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot & \rightarrow & *g^\cdot \otimes *G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot \otimes *G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot & \rightarrow & \dots & & \\ & & * \delta \otimes \text{id} \downarrow & & & & \\ *G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot & \rightarrow & *g^\cdot \otimes *G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot & \rightarrow & \bigwedge^2(*g^\cdot) \otimes *G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot & \rightarrow & \dots \end{array}$$

Thus the i -th column in (8.3) is the complex $\bigwedge^i(*k(g^\cdot, G^\cdot)) \otimes *G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot$.

Lemma 8.1. *The identity element $I \in *G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot$ lifts canonically to a compatible sequence of elements*

$$I_m \in H^0(L_m(k(g^\cdot, G^\cdot), *G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot)), m \geq 1.$$

proof. Let I_m be the cochain consisting of the elements $\text{sym}^i I \otimes I$ in position (i, i) in the above complex, for all $0 \leq i \leq m$. It is trivial to check that this is a cocycle. \square

Theorem 8.2. *In the situation of Theorem 5.1, assume moreover that E is equicyclic of degree i . Then we have a canonical isomorphism (or 'trivialization')*

$$(8.4) \quad H^i(M_m(\mathfrak{g}, E)) \otimes_{R_m(\mathfrak{g})} R_m(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E)) \simeq H^i(E) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} R_m(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E))$$

Moreover, $R_m(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E))$ is universal with respect to this property, i.e. given a deformation E^τ parametrized by S and an S -isomorphism

$$H^i(E^\tau) \simeq H^i(E) \otimes S$$

lifting the identity on $H^i(E)$, there is a canonical lifting of the Kodaira-Spencer homomorphism of τ to a homomorphism $R_m(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E)) \rightarrow S$.

proof. Apply Lemma 8.1 to $g^\cdot = \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot)$, $G^\cdot = \Gamma(E^\cdot)$. Because g^\cdot acts trivially on ${}^*G^\cdot$, we have

$$L_m(k(g^\cdot, G^\cdot), {}^*G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot) = \Gamma^*(E^\cdot) \otimes L_m(\Gamma(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E)), \Gamma(E^\cdot)).$$

As $H^j(\Gamma^*(E^\cdot)) = 0$ for $j \neq -i$, we have

$$H^i(L_m(k(g^\cdot, G^\cdot), {}^*G^\cdot \otimes G^\cdot)) = \mathfrak{h}om(H^i(E), H^i(L_m(\Gamma(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E)), \Gamma(E^\cdot)))).$$

Clearly

$$H^i(L_m(\Gamma(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E)), \Gamma(E^\cdot))) \simeq H^i(L_m(\mathfrak{g}, E)) \otimes_{R_m(\mathfrak{g})} R_m(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E)),$$

and by Theorem 5.1 this is just $H^i(M_m(\mathfrak{g}, E)) \otimes_{R_m(\mathfrak{g})} R_m(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E))$, so the element I_m above yields the required trivialization (8.4).

In terms of cocycles, this trivialization may be seen as follows. Consider the universal $\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E)$ -deformation over $R = R_m(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E))$. This may be represented by

$$\psi = (\phi, \sum t_j \otimes t_j^*) \in (\Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^1) \oplus \Gamma(E^i) \otimes \Gamma(E^i)^*) \otimes \mathfrak{m}, \quad \mathfrak{m} = m_R.$$

Letting $(s_k \in \Gamma(E^i))$ be a lift of some basis of H^i and s_k^* be a lift of the dual basis, we may write the integrability condition $\partial\psi = -\frac{1}{2}[\psi, \psi]$ as

$$\partial\phi = -\frac{1}{2}[\phi, \phi],$$

$$(8.5) \quad \sum (\partial t_j) \otimes t_j^* = -\sum [\phi, t_j] \otimes t_j^* - \sum [\phi, s_k] \otimes s_k^*,$$

$$\sum t_j \otimes (\partial t_j^*) = 0.$$

Thus, we may assume that $\partial t_j^* = 0$ hence we may adjust notation so that $t_j^* = s_j^*$. Then we may write 8.5 in the form

$$(8.6) \quad \sum \partial(s_j + t_j) \otimes s_j^* + \sum [\phi, s_j + t_j] \otimes s_j^* = 0$$

Recalling that the deformation E^ϕ of E induced by ϕ is just $(E^\cdot, \partial + \text{ad}\phi)$, 8.6 shows precisely that $\sum (s_j + t_j) \otimes s_j^*$ is a lift of $I = \sum s_j \otimes s_j^*$ to $E^\phi \otimes R$, yielding a canonical R -valued lift of each s_j .

The latter description makes it easy to establish the universality of $R(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E))$, thus completing the proof. Given E^τ/S , a lifting of the identity on $H^i(E)$ to an S -isomorphism $H^i(E) \otimes S \simeq H^i(E^\tau)$ is given by an element

$$\sum t_j \otimes s_j^* \in \Gamma(E^i) \otimes \Gamma(E^i)^* \otimes \mathfrak{m}_S$$

(i.e $s_j + t_j$ is a lifting of s_j), and writing down the condition that $s_j + t_j$ is a cocycle for $\partial + \text{ad}\tau$ and computing as above shows precisely that

$$\rho = (\tau, \sum t_j \otimes s_j^*)$$

is an S -valued cocycle for $\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E)$, yielding the desired homomorphism $R(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}, E)) \rightarrow S$. \square

For $m = 1$ this result (or rather, its 'relative version') generalizes the Welters-Hitchin construction of connections (see [Hi], Thm 1.20). For $m \geq 2$ the trivialization we construct amounts to showing that this connection is flat.

9. RELATIVE DEFORMATIONS OVER A GLOBAL BASE

Our purpose in this section is to discuss a more global and relative generalization of the notion of deformation, which occurs not just over a (thickened) point (represented by an artin local algebra), but over a global base, suitably thickened. This is closely related -but not identical- to the notion of *family* or *variation* of deformations; the slightly subtle difference is illustrated by the fact that a 'family of trivial deformations' may well be nontrivial as a relative deformation (such subtleties however occur only in the presence of symmetries locally over the base and globally along fibres).

To proceed with the basic definitions, let

$$f : X_B \rightarrow B$$

be a continuous mapping of Hausdorff spaces with fibres $X_b = f^{-1}(b)$ and base B which we assume endowed with a sheaf of local \mathbb{C} -algebras \mathcal{O}_B . A *Lie pair* (\mathfrak{g}_B, E_B) on X_B/S consists of a sheaf \mathfrak{g}_B of $f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_B$ -Lie algebras (i.e. with $f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_B$ -linear bracket), a sheaf E_B of $f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_B$ -modules with $f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_B$ -linear \mathfrak{g}_B -action. This pair is said to be *admissible* if it admits compatible soft resolutions (\mathfrak{g}_B, E_B) such that \mathfrak{g}_B is a dgla and E_B is a dg representation of \mathfrak{g}_B , and moreover, $\Gamma(\mathfrak{g}_B), \Gamma(E_B)$ may be linearly topologized so that coboundaries (and cocycles) are closed, and the cohomology is of finite type as \mathcal{O}_B -module (and in particular vanishes in almost all degrees). Let's call such resolutions *good*. Note that if (\mathfrak{g}_B, E_B) is an admissible pair then for any $b \in B$ the 'fibre'

$$(\mathfrak{g}_b, E_b) := (\mathfrak{g}_B, E_B) \otimes (\mathcal{O}_{B,b}/\mathfrak{m}_{B,b})$$

is an admissible pair on X_b .

Now let \mathcal{S} be an augmented \mathcal{O}_B -algebra of finite type as \mathcal{O}_B -module, with maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{S}}$ (below we shall also consider the case where \mathcal{S} is an inverse limit of such algebras, hence is complete noetherian rather than finite type). By a *relative \mathfrak{g}_B -deformation of E_B , parametrized by \mathcal{S}* we mean a sheaf E_B^ϕ of \mathcal{S} -modules on X_B , together with a maximal atlas of the following data

- An open covering (U_α) of X_B .
- \mathcal{S} -isomorphisms

$$\Phi_\alpha : E^\phi|_{U_\alpha} \xrightarrow{\sim} E|_{U_\alpha} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_B} \mathcal{S}.$$

- For each α, β , a lifting of

$$\Phi_\beta \circ \Phi_\alpha^{-1} \in \text{Aut}(E|_{U_\alpha \cap U_\beta} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_B} \mathcal{S})$$

to an element

$$\Psi_{\alpha, \beta} \in \exp(\mathfrak{g}_B \otimes \mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{S}}(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta)).$$

If \mathfrak{g}_B acts faithfully on E_B then the $\Psi_{\alpha,\beta}$ are uniquely determined by the Φ_α and form a cocycle; in general we require additionally that the $\Psi_{\alpha,\beta}$ form a cocycle.

Note that if (\mathfrak{g}_B, E_B) is admissible then, as in the absolute case, for any relative deformation ϕ there is a good resolution (E^\cdot, ∂) of E and a resolution of E^ϕ of the form

$$(9.1) \quad E^0 \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_B} \mathcal{S} \xrightarrow{\partial + \phi} E^1 \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_B} \mathcal{S} \cdots$$

with $\phi \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}_B^1) \otimes \mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{S}}$. We call such a resolution a *good resolution* of E^ϕ .

Example 9.1. (i) Let E be a vector bundle on the complex manifold $X = X_B = B$ and let $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{gl}(E)$. Let

$$P^m = P_X^m \mathcal{O}_{X \times X} / I_\Delta^{m+1},$$

which is naturally an \mathcal{O}_X -algebra via the first coordinate projection p_1 . Likewise the m -th jet bundle

$$P^m(E) = p_{1*}(p_2^*(E) \otimes P^m)$$

is a P^m -module and hence a \mathfrak{g} -deformation of E parametrized by P^m over X . Locally over the base $B = X$, this deformation is obviously trivial, but it is in general nontrivial as relative deformation. To obtain a good resolution of $P^m(E)$, note that E admits a $\bar{\partial}$ -connection (e.g. a Hermitian connection), whose curvature is of type (1,1), i.e. trivial on the (1,0) tangent directions, hence yields a C^∞ isomorphism

$$P^m(E) \sim P^m \otimes E,$$

hence the Dolbeault resolution of $P^m(E)$ is a good resolution as in (9.1).

More generally, $P^m(E)$ has a structure of \mathfrak{g} -deformation for any \mathcal{O}_X -locally free Lie subalgebra

$$\mathfrak{g} \subseteq \mathfrak{gl}(E)$$

such that E admits a \mathfrak{g} -structure (or 'reduction of the structure algebra to \mathfrak{g} '). To recall what that means, let

$$G(E) = ISO(\mathbb{C}^r, E), r = \text{rk}(E)$$

be the associated principal bundle, i.e. the open subset of the geometric vector bundle $\mathfrak{hom}(\mathbb{C}^r, E)$ consisting of fibrewise isomorphisms, with the obvious action of GL_r . Let $\mathfrak{D}(E)$ be the sheaf of GL_r -invariant vector fields on $G(E)$, which may also be identified as the sheaf of 'relative derivations' of (E, \mathcal{O}_X) , consisting of pairs $(v, a), v \in T_X, a \in Hom_{\mathbb{C}}(E, E)$ such that

$$a(fe) = fa(e) + v(f)e, \forall f \in \mathcal{O}_X, e \in E.$$

Note that $\mathfrak{D}(E)$ is an extension of Lie algebras

$$(9.2) \quad 0 \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(E) \rightarrow \mathfrak{D}(E) \rightarrow T_X \rightarrow 0$$

Then a \mathfrak{g} -structure on E is a Lie subalgebra $\hat{\mathfrak{g}} \subseteq \mathfrak{D}(E)$ which fits in an exact sequence

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & \mathfrak{g} & \rightarrow & \hat{\mathfrak{g}} & \rightarrow & T_X \rightarrow 0 \\ & & \cap & & \cap & & \parallel \\ 0 & \rightarrow & \mathfrak{gl}(E) & \rightarrow & \mathfrak{D}(E) & \rightarrow & T_X \rightarrow 0. \end{array}$$

Note that in this case a maximal integral submanifold \hat{G} of $\hat{\mathfrak{g}}$ yields a principal subbundle of $G(E)$ with structure group $G = \exp(\mathfrak{g})$ and conversely such a principal subbundle with Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} yields a \mathfrak{g} -structure. Clearly a \mathfrak{g} -structure on E yields a structure of \mathfrak{g} -deformation on $P^m(E)$ parametrized by P^m , for any m , and as above this admits a good (Dolbeault) resolution. We denote this deformation by $P^m(E, \mathfrak{g})$.

Similarly, if $f : X_B \rightarrow B$ is any smooth morphism of complex manifolds, and E_B is a vector bundle on X_B with a relative \mathfrak{g}_B -structure, then there is a relative \mathfrak{g}_B -deformation parametrized by P_B^m . We denote this deformation by $P^m(E_B, \mathfrak{g}_B)/B$ or by $P^m(E_B)/B$ if \mathfrak{g}_B is understood. Intuitively, it represents the family of m -th order deformations

$$E_B|_{f^{-1}(N_m(b))} = E_B \otimes (\mathcal{O}_B/\mathfrak{m}_{b,B}^{m+1}), \quad b \in B,$$

where $N_m(b) = \text{Spec}(\mathcal{O}_B/\mathfrak{m}_{B,b}^{m+1})$ is the m -th order neighborhood of b in B .

(ii) Similarly, given a smooth morphism of complex manifolds $f : X_B \rightarrow B$, there is a natural relative $T_{X_B/B}$ -deformation parametrized by P_B^m , namely $\mathcal{O}_X \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_B} P_B^m$ (here $T_{X_B/B}$ denotes the Lie algebra of 'vertical' vector fields, tangent to the fibres of f). We denote this deformation by $P^m(X_B/B)$. Intuitively it represents the family of m -th order deformations $f^{-1}(N_m(b)), b \in B$. Since $T_{X_B/B}$ acts on \mathcal{O}_X by \mathcal{O}_B -linear derivations, it follows that $P^m(X_B/B)$ is a relative deformation in the category of \mathcal{O}_B -algebras.

Now the construction of universal deformations and related objects extends in a straightforward manner to the case of admissible \mathfrak{g}_B -deformations. Thus, there is a relative very symmetric product $X \langle n \rangle / B \xrightarrow{f_n} B$ which is just the fibre product

$$X \langle n \rangle \times_{B \langle n \rangle} B \langle 1 \rangle \rightarrow B \langle 1 \rangle = B,$$

and on this we have a relative Jacobi complex $J_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B)$ which has a natural relative OS or comultiplicative structure, so that

$$\mathcal{R}_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B) := \mathcal{O}_B \oplus \text{Hom}(\mathbb{R}^0 f_{m*}(J_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B)), \mathcal{O}_B) =: \mathcal{O}_B \oplus \mathfrak{m}_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B)$$

is a sheaf of \mathcal{O}_B -algebras of finite type as \mathcal{O}_B -module. Moreover there is a tautological morphic (comultiplicative) element

$$v_m \in \mathbb{H}^0(X < m > /B, J_m(\mathfrak{g}_B) \otimes \mathfrak{m}_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B))$$

and there is correspondingly a tautological relative \mathfrak{g}_B - deformation parametrized by $\mathcal{R}_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B)$, which we denote by u_m/B . Under suitable hypotheses, which we proceed to state, u_m/B and v_m will be universal.

Now the following result generalizes Theorem 3.1 above and Theorem 0.1 of [Rcid], and can be proved similarly.

Theorem 9.2. *Let \mathfrak{g}_B be an admissible differential graded Lie algebra over X/B . Then*

- (i) *to any isomorphism class of relative \mathfrak{g}_B -deformation parametrized by an algebra \mathcal{S} of exponent m there are canonically associated a morphic Kodaira-Spencer element*

$$\beta_m(\phi) \in \mathbb{H}^0(J_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B) \otimes \mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{S}})$$

and a compatible homomorphism of \mathcal{O}_B -algebras

$$\alpha_m(\phi) : \mathcal{R}_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B) \rightarrow \mathcal{S};$$

conversely, any morphic element

$$\beta \in \mathbb{H}^0(J_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B) \otimes \mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{S}})$$

induces a relative \mathfrak{g}_B -deformation $\phi_m(\beta)$ parametrized by \mathcal{S} ;

- (ii) *if \mathfrak{g}_B has central sections then there is an isomorphism of relative deformations*

$$\phi \simeq \phi_m(\beta_m(\phi));$$

any two such isomorphisms differ by an element of

$$Aut(\phi) = H^0(\exp(\mathfrak{g}_B^\phi \otimes \mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{S}})).$$

Remarks 9.3. (i) As we have seen, there are nontrivial relative deformations even if the fibres of $X_B \rightarrow B$ are points, in which case $\mathcal{R}_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B) = \mathcal{O}_B$ so $\alpha_m(\phi)$ certainly does not determine ϕ .

(ii) Note that in the above situation $\mathcal{R}(\mathfrak{g}_B/B)$ and \mathcal{S} are not necessarily \mathcal{O}_B -flat.

Example 9.4. If \mathcal{S} is of exponent 1, i.e. $\mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{S}}^2 = 0$, then it is easy to see directly that relative \mathfrak{g}_B -deformations parametrized by \mathcal{S} are in 1-1 correspondence

with $H^1(X, \mathfrak{g}_B \otimes \mathfrak{m}_S)$. The Kodaira-Spencer homomorphism corresponding to $\phi \in H^1(X, \mathfrak{g}_B \otimes \mathfrak{m}_S)$ is just the corresponding map

$$(\mathbb{R}^1 f_*(\mathfrak{g}_B))^v \rightarrow \mathfrak{m}_S.$$

We might define a 'family of deformations parametrized by \mathcal{S} ' to be a collection of isomorphism classes of deformations over members of some open cover of B , together with suitable gluing data over the overlaps; this type of object is naturally classified by

$$H^0(\mathbb{R}^0 f_{m*}(J_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B)^{vv} \otimes \mathfrak{m}_S)).$$

There is a natural map to this group from $H^0(J_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B) \otimes \mathfrak{m}_S)$, and assuming $\mathbb{R}^0 f_{m*}(J_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B))$ is locally free, this map may be analyzed with the usual Leray spectral sequence, which leads to the following result. First a definition. We will say that a Lie algebra sheaf \mathfrak{g}_B as above has *relatively central sections* if the image of the natural map

$$f^{-1} f_*(\mathfrak{g}_B) \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}_B$$

is contained in the center of \mathfrak{g}_B . Note that this condition is stronger than saying that \mathfrak{g}_B has central sections, which concerns the image of $H^0(X_B, \mathfrak{g}_B) \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}_B$.

Corollary 9.5. *In the situation of Theorem 9.2, assume additionally that \mathfrak{g}_B has relatively central sections, that $\mathbb{R}^0 f_{m*}(J_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B))$ is \mathcal{O}_B -locally free, and that*

$$H^i(f_*(\mathfrak{g}_B) \otimes F) = 0, \forall i > 0,$$

for all coherent \mathcal{O}_B -modules F . Then for any relative \mathfrak{g}_B -deformation ϕ/\mathcal{S} ,

$$\phi \simeq \alpha_m(\phi)^*(u_m) = u_m/B \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_m(\mathfrak{g})} \mathcal{S}.$$

In particular, relative \mathfrak{g}_B -deformations are determined by their associated Kodaira-Spencer homomorphisms.

proof. Our hypotheses imply that

$$H^i(\mathbb{R}^j f_{m*} J_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B)) \otimes \mathfrak{m}_S = 0, \forall j < 0,$$

so it suffices to apply the usual Leray spectral sequence to compute

$$H^0(J_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B) \otimes \mathfrak{m}_S) = H^0(B, \mathbb{R}^0 f_{m*}(J_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B)) \otimes \mathcal{S}). \quad \square$$

Note that the hypotheses of the Corollary are satisfied provided first that $\mathbb{R}^0 f_{m*}(J_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B))$ is locally free (i.e \mathfrak{g}_B/B is 'relatively unobstructed'), and

second, either $f_*(\mathfrak{g}_B) = 0$ or B is an affine scheme (provided all sheaves in question are coherent). In general however, a relative deformation cannot adequately be thought of as a family of isomorphism classes of deformations, because gluing together isomorphism classes of deformation is weaker than gluing together actual deformations.

Finally we will show that the constructions and results of §8 on connection algebras carry over *mutatis mutandis* to the relative case. Thus, suppose given an relative admissible pair (\mathfrak{g}_B, E_B) on $X_B \xrightarrow{f} B$, with soft \mathcal{O}_B -linear resolution (\mathfrak{g}_B, E_B) , and assume given a finite complex F^\cdot of free \mathcal{O}_B -modules of finite type such that

$$H^j(F^\cdot \otimes \mathbb{C}(b)) \simeq H^j(X_b, E_b), \quad \forall j, \forall b \in B.$$

As is well known, such complexes F^\cdot always exist locally if f is a proper morphism of algebraic schemes and, as we shall see, the final statement will be essentially independent of the particular complex F^\cdot . Moreover, if E_B is relatively i -equicyclic (i.e. $H^j(E_b) = 0 \forall j \neq i$) we may assume $F^j = 0 \forall j \neq i, i-1$. Then there is a relative connection algebra

$$\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}_B, E_B) : \mathfrak{g}_B \rightarrow f^{-1}(*F^\cdot) \otimes E_B$$

where $*F^\cdot = \text{Hom}(F^\cdot, \mathcal{O}_B)$, which is still admissible and acts on E_B , and the following relative analogue of Theorem 8.2 holds.

Theorem 9.6. *In the above situation, assume additionally that \mathfrak{g}_B has relatively central sections and that E_B is relatively i -equicyclic. Then we have a class of isomorphisms*

$$(9.3) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathbb{R}^i f_*(M_m(\mathfrak{g}_B, E_B)) \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B)} \mathcal{R}_m(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}_B, E_B)) \\ \simeq \mathbb{R}^i f_*(E_B) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_B} \mathcal{R}_m(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}_B, E_B)) \end{aligned}$$

any two of which differ by a map induced by an element of $\text{Aut}(u_m/B)$ where u_m/B is the universal relative deformation. \square

Corollary 9.7. *In the situation of Theorem 9.6, assume moreover that f is a smooth proper morphism of complex manifolds and that for some $m \geq 2$ we have that*

- (i) if ϕ_m is the relative deformation $P^m(E_B, \mathfrak{g}_B)/B$ parametrized by P_B^m (cf. Example 9.1(i)), then the associated Kodaira-Spencer homomorphism

$$\alpha_m(\phi_m) : \mathcal{R}_m(\mathfrak{g}_B/B) \rightarrow P_B^m$$

factors through $\mathcal{R}_m(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{g}_B, E_B))$;

- (ii) $f^{-1}f_*(\mathfrak{g}_B)$ acts on E_B as scalars.

Then the vector bundle $\mathbb{R}^i f_*(E_B)$ admits a natural projective connection.

proof. Set $G = \mathbb{R}^i f_*(E_B)$. Then our assumptions give an isomorphism of $P^m(G)$ and $G \otimes P_B^m$ globally defined up to scalars. For any $m \geq 2$, this is equivalent to a projective connection. \square

10. THE ATIYAH CLASS OF A DEFORMATION

Let (\mathfrak{g}_B, E_B) be an admissible pair on X_B/B , \mathcal{S} a finite-length \mathcal{O}_B -algebra, and E^ϕ an admissible \mathfrak{g}_B -deformation parametrized by \mathcal{S} . There is a corresponding deformation \mathfrak{g}^ϕ , and clearly \mathfrak{g}^ϕ is a Lie algebra acting on E^ϕ . We ignore momentarily the status of \mathcal{E}^ϕ as a deformation and just view it as a \mathfrak{g}^ϕ -module over $X_{\mathcal{S}} = X_B \times_B \text{Spec}(\mathcal{S})$. Let $\text{Spec}(\mathcal{S}_1)$ be the first infinitesimal neighborhood of the diagonal in $\text{Spec}(\mathcal{S}) \times \text{Spec}(\mathcal{S})$ with projections

$$p, q : \text{Spec}(\mathcal{S}_1) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(\mathcal{S}).$$

Then $p_*q^*E^\phi$ may be viewed as a first-order \mathfrak{g}^ϕ deformation of E^ϕ and we let

$$(10.1) \quad AC(\phi) \in H^1(\mathfrak{g}^\phi \otimes \mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{S}_1}) = H^1(\mathfrak{g}^\phi \otimes_{\mathcal{S}} \Omega_{\mathcal{S}/B})$$

be the associated (first-order) Kodaira-Spencer class.

A cochain representative for $AC(\phi)$ may be constructed as follows. Let

$$\phi \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^1) \otimes \mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{S}}$$

be a Kodaira-Spencer cochain corresponding to E^ϕ , satisfying the integrability condition

$$\partial\phi = -\frac{1}{2}[\phi, \phi].$$

Let

$$d_{\mathcal{S}} : \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^1) \otimes \mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{S}} \rightarrow \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^1) \otimes \Omega_{\mathcal{S}/B}$$

be the map induced by exterior derivative on $\mathfrak{m}_{\mathcal{S}}$. Set

$$(10.2) \quad \psi = d_{\mathcal{S}}(\phi).$$

Then

$$AC(\phi) = [\psi].$$

Note that differentiating the integrability condition for ϕ yields

$$\partial\psi = -[\phi, \psi].$$

Since $(\mathfrak{g}, \partial + \text{ad}(\phi))$ is a resolution of \mathfrak{g}^ϕ , this means that ψ is a cocycle for \mathfrak{g}^ϕ .

Example 10.1. Let E be a vector bundle on X_B with a \mathfrak{g} -structure as in Example 9.1. Taking $\mathcal{S} = P^1 = \mathcal{O}_X \oplus \Omega_X$ as there, we get a first-order relative \mathfrak{g} -deformation $P^1(E, \mathfrak{g})$. Note that in this case $\Omega_{\mathcal{S}/B} = \Omega_X$ and its \mathcal{S} -module structure factors through \mathcal{O}_X . Thus the Atiyah-Chern class

$$AC(P^1(E, \mathfrak{g})) \in H^1(\mathfrak{g} \otimes \Omega_X)$$

and it is easy to see that it coincides with the usual Atiyah-Chern class of the \mathfrak{g} -structure E which may be defined, e.g. differential-geometrically in terms of a \mathfrak{g} -connection (and which reduces to the usual Atiyah-Chern class if $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{gl}(E)$, cf. [At]). Indeed our good resolution in this case takes the form

$$E^0 \otimes (\mathcal{O}_X \oplus \Omega_X) \rightarrow E^1 \otimes (\mathcal{O}_X \otimes \Omega_X) \dots$$

with differential

$$\begin{pmatrix} \bar{\partial} & \phi \\ 0 & \bar{\partial} \end{pmatrix}$$

and note that in this case $\phi = \psi$ since $\mathfrak{m}_S = \Omega_S$. Assuming E is endowed with a $\bar{\partial}$ -connection, the parallel lift of a section e of E to $E^0 \otimes (\mathcal{O}_X \oplus \Omega_X)$ is given by $(e, \nabla e)$ and consequently we have

$$\phi(e) = [\bar{\partial}, \nabla](e).$$

Thus

$$(10.1.1) \quad \psi = [\bar{\partial}, \nabla]$$

In other words, for any section v of T_X , holomorphic or not, we have

$$\psi \lrcorner v = [\bar{\partial}, \nabla_v]. \quad \square$$

Example 10.2. Consider an ordinary first-order deformation ϕ of a complex manifold X , corresponding to an algebra S of exponent 1. Suppose this deformation comes from a geometric family

$$\pi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow Y$$

with \mathcal{X}, Y smooth, $S = \mathcal{O}_{Y,0}/\mathfrak{m}_{Y,0}^2$. Then it is easy to see that $AC(\phi)$ corresponds to the extension

$$0 \rightarrow T_X \rightarrow \mathfrak{D}_\pi \rightarrow T_0 Y \otimes \mathbb{C}_X \rightarrow 0$$

where \mathfrak{D}_π is the subsheaf of $T_{\mathcal{X}} \otimes \mathcal{O}_X$ consisting of 'vector fields locally constant in the normal direction', i.e. those derivations $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$ that preserve the subsheaf $\pi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y \subset \mathcal{O}_X$. \square

The last example suggests an interpretation of the Atiyah class as an extension also in the general case. To state this, let ϕ be a relative deformation parametrized by \mathcal{S} as above, and set

$$I = \text{Ann}(\Omega_{\mathcal{S}/B}) \subset \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{S}' = \mathcal{S}/I, \phi' = \phi \otimes_{\mathcal{S}} \mathcal{S}'$$

and let $\Omega_{\mathcal{S}'/B}^{vv}$ denote the double dual as \mathcal{S}' -module. Note that

$$\Omega_{\mathcal{S}'/B}^{vv} = \text{Der}_{\mathcal{O}_B}(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{S}')^v$$

(dual as left \mathcal{S}' -module).

We will also consider the analogous situation over a formally smooth, complete noetherian augmented local \mathcal{O}_B -algebra \mathcal{S}^\wedge (which is thus locally a power series algebra over \mathcal{O}_B), where of course dual means as (left) \mathcal{S}^\wedge -module.

Theorem 10.3. *The image of $AC(\phi)$ in $H^1(\mathfrak{g}^{\phi'} \otimes \Omega_{S/B}^{vv})$ corresponds to an extension of \mathcal{S}' modules*

$$(10.3) \quad 0 \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}^{\phi'} \rightarrow \mathfrak{D}(\phi) \rightarrow f^{-1}\mathrm{Der}_{\mathcal{O}_B}(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{S}') \rightarrow 0$$

and there is a natural action pairing

$$\mathfrak{D}(\phi) \times E^\phi \rightarrow E^{\phi'}.$$

Moreover, if ϕ^\wedge is a formal deformation parametrized by a formally smooth \mathcal{O}_B -algebra \mathcal{S}^\wedge , then the image of $AC(\phi^\wedge)$ in $H^1(\mathfrak{g}^{\phi^\wedge} \otimes \Omega_{\mathcal{S}^\wedge/B}^{vv})$ corresponds to an extension of \mathcal{S}^\wedge -Lie algebras

$$(10.4) \quad 0 \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}^{\phi^\wedge} \rightarrow \mathfrak{D}(\phi^\wedge) \xrightarrow{\nu} f^{-1}T_{\mathcal{S}^\wedge} \rightarrow 0$$

where $T_{\mathcal{S}^\wedge} = \mathrm{Der}_{\mathcal{O}_B}(\mathcal{S}^\wedge, \mathcal{S}^\wedge)$ and $\mathfrak{D}(\phi^\wedge)$ acts on E^{ϕ^\wedge} satisfying the rule

$$(10.5) \quad d(f.v) = f.d(v) + \nu(d)(f).v, \forall d \in \mathfrak{D}(\phi^\wedge), f \in \mathcal{S}^\wedge, v \in E^{\phi^\wedge}$$

proof. For brevity we shall work out the formal case, the artinian case being similar. As usual we let $(\mathfrak{g}^\cdot, E^\cdot)$ be a soft (dgla, dg module) resolution of (\mathfrak{g}, E) ; also let (C^\cdot, ∂) be a soft resolution of $f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_B$, and note that \mathfrak{g}^\cdot is a C^\cdot -module. Then clearly $\mathfrak{D}(\phi^\wedge)$, i.e. the extension corresponding to $AC(\phi^\wedge)$ is resolved by the complex

$$\mathfrak{D}^\cdot(\phi^\wedge) = \mathfrak{g}^\cdot \otimes \mathcal{S}^\wedge \oplus C^\cdot \otimes T_{\mathcal{S}^\wedge}$$

with differential given by the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} \partial + \phi^\wedge & \psi^\wedge \\ 0 & \partial \end{pmatrix}$$

where $\psi^\wedge = d_{\mathcal{S}^\wedge}(\phi^\wedge)$ as in (10.2), which defines in an obvious way a map $C^i \otimes T_{\mathcal{S}^\wedge} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}^{i+1} \otimes \mathcal{S}^\wedge$.

Now we claim that $\mathfrak{D}^\cdot(\phi^\wedge)$ is a dgla: indeed since $\mathfrak{g}^\cdot \otimes \mathcal{S}^\wedge$ and $T_{\mathcal{S}^\wedge} \otimes C^\cdot$ with the induced differentials are clearly dgla's (in the latter case, the bracket is induced by that of $T_{\mathcal{S}^\wedge}$), and $T_{\mathcal{S}^\wedge} \otimes C^\cdot$ acts on $\mathfrak{g}^\cdot \otimes \mathcal{S}^\wedge$ via the action of $T_{\mathcal{S}^\wedge}$ on \mathcal{S}^\wedge and the C^\cdot -module structure of \mathfrak{g}^\cdot , it suffices to show that ψ^\wedge is a derivation, which is essentially obvious:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi^\wedge([v_1, v_2]) &= [v_1, v_2](\phi^\wedge) = v_1(v_2(\phi^\wedge)) - v_2(v_1(\phi^\wedge)) \\ &= v_1(\psi^\wedge(v_2)) - v_2(\psi^\wedge(v_1)). \end{aligned}$$

Now since $\mathfrak{D}(\phi^\wedge)$ is a dgla, the fact that it acts on E^{ϕ^\wedge} essentially follows from the fact that the differential of $\mathfrak{D}(\phi^\wedge)$ is just commutator with the differential on the resolution of E^{ϕ^\wedge} , i.e. $\partial + \phi^\wedge$. To check the latter, it is firstly clear on the $\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathcal{S}^\wedge$ summand; for the other summand, take $v \in T_{\mathcal{S}^\wedge} \otimes C^\cdot$. Then

$$[v, \partial + \phi^\wedge] = [v, \partial] + [v, \phi^\wedge] = \partial(v) + \psi^\wedge(v).$$

This shows that the obvious term-by-term pairing induces a pairing of complexes

$$\mathfrak{D}(\phi^\wedge) \times (E^\cdot, \partial + \phi^\wedge) \rightarrow (E^\cdot, \partial + \phi^\wedge),$$

whence a pairing $\mathfrak{D}(\phi^\wedge) \times E^{\phi^\wedge} \rightarrow E^{\phi^\wedge}$; that this is in fact a Lie action is clear from the fact that the corresponding assertion holds term-by-term. This completes the proof. \square

11. VECTOR BUNDLES ON MANIFOLDS: THE ACTION OF BASE MOTIONS

In this section we go back to the situation considered in §6, with a locally fine moduli space \mathcal{M} with associated Lie algebra $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ on $X \times \mathcal{M}$. We assume additionally that X is a compact complex manifold and $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ is an \mathcal{O}_X -Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} acting \mathcal{O}_X -linearly. We assume that

$$(11.1) \quad R^0 p_{\mathcal{M}*}(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}) = 0.$$

For convenience, we shall also assume that

$$(11.2) \quad R^2 p_{\mathcal{M}*}(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}) = 0,$$

which in particular implies that $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ is (relatively) unobstructed, so that \mathcal{M} is smooth (it seems reasonable that similar results can be obtained assuming only the unobstructedness). Of course, condition (11.2) holds automatically when X is a Riemann surface.

Since \mathcal{M} is in a sense a functor of X , it seems intuitively plausible that a motion- say an infinitesimal motion, i.e. global holomorphic vector field on X - should induce a similar motion of \mathcal{M} . In this naive form this intuition seems of little use per se, since in cases of interest X will not admit any *global* holomorphic vector fields while *local* vector fields have no obvious relation to \mathcal{M} . But there is another, more 'global' way to represent the Lie algebra T_X of holomorphic vector fields on X , namely via the Dolbeault algebra $A^\cdot(T_X)$. Then the 'induced motion' idea suggests that there should be (something like) a map

$$(11.3) \quad \Sigma : A^\cdot(T_X) \rightarrow A^\cdot(T_{\mathcal{M}}).$$

Since Σ , at least in some sense, sends a motion of X to the induced motion of \mathcal{M} , it should be a dgla homomorphism. Now, at least on cohomology, a map as in (11.3) exists: it is none other than 'cap product with the Atiyah class of the universal bundle' which indeed is given essentially just by differentiating a cocycle defining this universal bundle with respect to the given vector field, then pushing down to \mathcal{M} . The upshot, then, is that a suitable version of the map Σ ought to be a Lie homomorphism, i.e. compatible with brackets (as well as, of course, the differential). This is what we aim to show in this section. As one might expect, this fact is important in relating deformations of X and \mathcal{M} .

The map Σ is defined as follows. Let

$$\psi \in \Gamma(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}^1) \otimes \Omega_{X \times \mathcal{M}}$$

be a representative of the Atiyah class

$$[\psi] = AC(P^1(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}, \tilde{\mathfrak{g}})) \in H^1(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}} \otimes \Omega_{X \times \mathcal{M}})$$

of the 1st jet of $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ over $X \times \mathcal{M}$ (cf. Example 10.1). We replace T_X by its Dolbeault resolution $A^\cdot(T_X)$ (where $\cdot = (0, \cdot)$), truncated beyond degree 2 (which doesn't affect the deformation theory), and define a map

$$\Sigma_0 : A^\cdot(T_X) \rightarrow A_{X \times \mathcal{M}}^{\cdot+1}(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}),$$

$$(11.4) \quad \Sigma_0(v) = \psi \lrcorner v, \quad v \in A^\cdot(T_X)$$

where \lrcorner denotes interior multiplication or contraction. Since ψ is $\bar{\partial}$ -closed, clearly Σ_0 commutes with $\bar{\partial}$. On the other hand our assumptions (11.1), (11.2) plus the fact that \mathcal{M} is locally a fine moduli imply that the analogous map

$$\Sigma_1 : A^\cdot(T_{\mathcal{M}}) \rightarrow A_{X \times \mathcal{M}}^{\cdot+1}(\mathfrak{g}),$$

$$(11.5) \quad \Sigma_1(v) = \psi \lrcorner v, \quad v \in A^\cdot(T_{\mathcal{M}})$$

is a quasi-isomorphism, so we get a map in the derived category

$$(11.6) \quad \Sigma = \Sigma_1^{-1} \circ \Sigma_0$$

Our main result concerning Σ is the following

Theorem 11.1. *Σ is a dgla homomorphism, i.e. is compatible with brackets.*

proof. It clearly suffices to prove that if $v_1, v_2 \in A^0(T_X)$,

$$v_i = \sum a_{i,j} \partial / \partial z_j$$

are two type-(1,0) vector fields (not necessarily holomorphic), then

$$(11.7) \quad [\Sigma(v_1), \Sigma(v_2)] = \Sigma([v_1, v_2])$$

To show that the two sides of (11.7) agree it suffices to check they agree pointwise at each point of \mathcal{M} . To this end we will use the recipe of §6 to compute the LHS.

So let us fix a point z of \mathcal{M} , corresponding to a particular pair (\mathfrak{g}, E) , and fix a g -connection of type $\bar{\partial}$ on E and \mathfrak{g} . Then first of all, it is clear by Example 10.1 that the 'value' of $\Sigma(v)$ at any point $w \in \mathcal{M}$ is given by

$$(11.8) \quad \Sigma(v)|_w = [\nabla_v, \bar{\partial}_w]$$

where $\bar{\partial}_w$ is the $\bar{\partial}$ operator corresponding to w . Next, consider the restriction of $\Sigma(v)$ on the first infinitesimal neighborhood $N_1(z)$ of z in \mathcal{M} .

By universality, we may identify the restriction of \mathfrak{g} on $X \times N_1(z)$ with \mathfrak{g}^ϕ , the first-order infinitesimal \mathfrak{g} -deformation of \mathfrak{g} , and likewise for E . Let $(\phi_i \in \Gamma(\mathfrak{g}^1))$ be a lift of a basis of $H^1(\mathfrak{g})$, and (ϕ_i^*) a lift of a dual basis. Now the prolongation of $\bar{\partial}_z$ in the direction corresponding to ϕ_i is obviously given by $\bar{\partial}_z + \phi_i$, hence may write

$$\bar{\partial}|_{N_1(z)} = \bar{\partial}_z + \sum \phi_i^* \otimes \phi_i.$$

Therefore by (11.8) we have

$$\Sigma(v)|_{N_1(z)} = [\bar{\partial}_z, \nabla_v] + \sum \phi_i^* [\phi_i, \nabla_v]$$

Note that $\sum \phi_i^* [\phi_i, \nabla_v]$ is just the cobracket ${}^t\text{br}(\nabla_v)$. Now by elaboration 6.2 we compute:

$$\begin{aligned} [\Sigma(v_1), \Sigma(v_2)]|_z &= \langle {}^t\text{br}(\nabla_{v_1}), [\bar{\partial}_z, \nabla_{v_2}] \rangle - \langle {}^t\text{br}(\nabla_{v_2}), [\bar{\partial}_z, \nabla_{v_1}] \rangle \\ &= [[\bar{\partial}_z, \nabla_{v_2}], \nabla_{v_1}] - [[\bar{\partial}_z, \nabla_{v_1}], \nabla_{v_2}]. \end{aligned}$$

Applying the Jacobi identity to the first term yields

$$[\Sigma(v_1), \Sigma(v_2)]|_z = -[[\nabla_{v_2}, \bar{\partial}_z], \nabla_{v_1}] - [[\nabla_{v_1}, \nabla_{v_2}], \bar{\partial}] - [[\bar{\partial}_z, \nabla_{v_1}], \nabla_{v_2}] = [\bar{\partial}_z, [\nabla_{v_1}, \nabla_{v_2}]].$$

But as our connection of $\bar{\partial}$ type, its curvature is of type $(1, 1)$, while v_1, v_2 are of type $(1, 0)$, hence

$$[\nabla_{v_1}, \nabla_{v_2}] = \nabla_{[v_1, v_2]}.$$

Consequently we have

$$[\Sigma(v_1), \Sigma(v_2)]|_z = [\bar{\partial}_z, \nabla_{[v_1, v_2]}] = \Sigma([v_1, v_2])|_z.$$

Therefore (11.7) holds and the proof is complete. \square

12. VECTOR BUNDLES ON RIEMANN SURFACES: REFINED ACTION BY BASE MOTIONS AND HITCHIN'S CONNECTION

Our purpose here is to refine the results of the previous section, in the case where X is 1-dimensional, by constructing a lift of Σ to another dgla associated to \mathcal{M} . We continue with the notations of that section; in particular, \mathcal{M} is a locally fine moduli space associated to a dgla sheaf $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ on $X \times \mathcal{M}$, and we also fix a $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ -deformation \tilde{E} on $X \times \mathcal{M}$, such that

$$R^i p_{\mathcal{M}*}(\tilde{E}) = 0, \quad i \neq 1,$$

and consequently

$$G := \bigwedge^{top} R^1 p_{\mathcal{M}*}(\tilde{E})$$

is an invertible sheaf on \mathcal{M} .

We note that G itself may be realized as the (sole nonvanishing) direct image of a suitable $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ -deformation, as follows. Note that

$$\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_r := \pi_{r*} p_1^*(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}),$$

where $\pi_r : X^r \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow X \times \mathcal{M}$, $X^r \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow X \times \mathcal{M}$ are natural projections, naturally has the structure of dgla sheaf acting on $\lambda^r E$, and clearly

$$G = R^r p_{\mathcal{M}*}(\lambda^r E)$$

with all other derived images being zero. There is a pullback map

$$R p_{\mathcal{M}*}(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}) \rightarrow R p_{\mathcal{M}*}(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_r)$$

which is compatible with brackets and induces isomorphisms on R^0 and R^1 . Choosing a fixed base-set $\{x_1, \dots, x_{r-1}\} \in X \times \mathcal{M}$ yields an embedding $X \rightarrow X \times \mathcal{M}$ which induces a splitting of the pullback map, showing that this map is injective on R^2 . It follows that we have a natural isomorphism

$$R^0 p_{\mathcal{M}*}(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}) \rightarrow R^0 p_{\mathcal{M}*}(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_r).$$

Hence we may view G as the direct image of a $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ -deformation.

As in Example 1.1.2 C, §1, we may consider the heat atom $\mathfrak{D}^{2/1}(G)$ associated to the $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{M}}$ -module G , which is the pair

$$\mathfrak{D}^1(G) \rightarrow \mathfrak{D}^2(G).$$

Note that since G has rank 1, $\mathfrak{D}^{2/1}(G)$ is equivalent as complex on \mathcal{M} to $\text{Sym}^2 T_{\mathcal{M}}[-1]$, which is thus endowed with a Lie bracket. Also, $\mathfrak{D}^{2/1}(G)$ is obviously equivalent to the pair (Lie atom) $\mathfrak{D}^1(G)/\mathcal{O} \rightarrow \mathfrak{D}^2(G)/\mathcal{O}$. As

we have seen, $\mathfrak{D}^i(G)$ may be naturally identified with the direct image of $J_i(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}, F^*) \otimes F$ where $F = \lambda^r(E)$ hence $\mathfrak{D}^{2/1}(G)$, i.e. $\text{Sym}^2 T_{\mathcal{M}}[-1]$ is the direct image of $\lambda^2(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}})[1]$.

We now assume X is of dimension 1 and that \mathcal{M} is the global fine moduli space $SU_X^r(d)$ or $SU_X^r(L)$ of vector bundles of rank r and fixed determinant L on X , where L is a line bundle of degree d . We assume temporarily that $(d, r) = 1$ (the modifications needed to handle the general case will be indicated later. As is well known [NaRam], the assumption $(d, r) = 1$ implies that \mathcal{M} is a fine moduli, in particular a locally fine moduli space associated to the Lie algebra $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}} = \mathfrak{sl}(E)$, in the sense of §6. By Proposition 4.8, the map Σ in this case factors through $\lambda^2(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}})[1]$, it follows that Σ factors through a map

$$\Omega : T_X \rightarrow \mathfrak{D}^{2/1}(G).$$

Theorem 12.1. *Ω is a Lie homomorphism.*

proof. Recall that we are identifying T_X with the dgla $A^\cdot(T_X)$, which exists in degrees 0,1. In degree 0, $\mathfrak{D}^{2/1}(G)$ can be identified with $\mathfrak{D}^1(G)/\mathcal{O} \simeq T_{\mathcal{M}}$, so the homomorphism property is just Theorem 10.1. Therefore it just remains to prove the homomorphism property in degree 1. For any $v \in T_X$, write

$$\Omega(v) = (A(v), B(v)),$$

with $A(v) \in \mathfrak{D}^1(G)/\mathcal{O}, B(v) \in \mathfrak{D}^2(G)/\mathcal{O}$. Then what has to be shown is that for any $v_0 \in A^0(T_X), v_1 \in A^1(T_X)$, we have

$$(12.1) \quad B([v_0, v_1]) = \langle A(v_0), B(v_1) \rangle - \langle A(v_1), B(v_0) \rangle.$$

Now firstly, $B(v_0) = 0$ since B lowers degree by 1. Next, since $[v_0, v_1]$ is automatically $\bar{\partial}$ -closed, we have

$$\bar{\partial}B([v_0, v_1]) = A([v_0, v_1]) = [A(v_0), A(v_1)]$$

the last equality by Theorem 11.1. Again because v_1 is $\bar{\partial}$ -closed, we have

$$A(v_1) = \bar{\partial}B(v_1).$$

The upshot is that both sides of (12.1) have the same $\bar{\partial}$, hence their difference yields a global holomorphic section of $\mathfrak{D}^2(G)/\mathcal{O}$ over \mathcal{M} . However, it is well known that $\mathfrak{D}^2(G)/\mathcal{O}$ has no nonzero sections: indeed this follows from Hitchin's result that the coboundary map

$$H^0(\text{Sym}^2 T_{\mathcal{M}}) \rightarrow H^1(T_{\mathcal{M}})$$

is injective, plus the fact that $H^0(T_{\mathcal{M}}) = 0$ (cf. [NaRam]). This completes the proof. \square

Now consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathfrak{D}^1(G)/\mathcal{O} & \rightarrow & \mathfrak{D}^2(G)/\mathcal{O} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ G \otimes^* G/\mathcal{O}I & = & G \otimes^* G/\mathcal{O}I \end{array}$$

where the vertical arrows are induced by the action of $\mathfrak{D}^1(G)$ and $\mathfrak{D}^2(G)$ on *G and I is the identity in $G \otimes^* G$. This diagram itself may be considered a dgla quasi-isomorphic to $\mathfrak{D}^{2/1}(G)$. And of course the left column is quasi-isomorphic to $\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{D}^1(G), G)$ (cf. §8). Consequently, we have a Lie homomorphism

$$\mathfrak{D}^{2/1}(G) \rightarrow \mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{D}^1(G), G).$$

Composing this with Ω above, we get a Lie homomorphism

$$\omega : T_X \rightarrow \mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{D}^1(G), G).$$

It follows easily from this that over the deformation space of pairs (X, L) there is a canonical local trivialization or connection on the projective bundle associated to $H^0(G)$, which is the main result of Hitchin [Hit] (see also [BryM], [F], [Ram], [Sun], [TsUY], [vGdJ], [WADP] and references therein; the connection is sometimes called the Hitchin or Knizhnik-Zamolodchikov connection):

Corollary 12.2. *Let Y be any manifold parametrizing pairs (X, L) where X is a compact Riemann surface of genus $g \geq 3$ and L is a line bundle of degree d on X , and let \mathcal{H} be the vector bundle on Y with fibre $H^0(SU^r(X, L), G)$. Assume d, r are relatively prime. Then there is a canonical projective connection on \mathcal{H} .*

proof. We have a family of smooth curves X_Y/Y and a family of associated moduli spaces which we denote by \mathcal{M}_Y/Y , and there is a commutative diagram of \mathcal{O}_Y -algebras and homomorphisms:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R_m(T_{X/Y}/Y) & \rightarrow & P_Y^m \\ \uparrow & \nearrow & \\ R_m(T_{\mathcal{M}_Y}/Y) & & \end{array}$$

where the vertical homomorphism is induced by Σ . This diagram represents the intuitive fact that we have a family of m -th order deformations of fibres X_y and \mathcal{M}_y for $y \in Y$ (cf. Example 9.1(ii)). As we have seen in Theorem 12.1, the map induced by Σ factors through

$$\tilde{R} = R_m(\mathfrak{k}(\mathfrak{D}^1(G), G)).$$

The module $P^m(\mathcal{H})$ comes by extension of scalars from an analogous module over \tilde{R} which by Corollary 7.2 is isomorphic (up to scalars) to $\mathcal{H} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_B} \tilde{R}$.

Hence as \mathcal{O}_Y -modules, $P^m(\mathcal{H})$ and $P_Y^m \otimes \mathcal{H}$ are isomorphic up to scalars, so there is a projective connection (cf. Corollary 9.7). \square

Now we will indicate the extension of this result to the case where d and r have a common factor, so that we have only a coarse moduli space without a universal family. Fixing r, d , let $U^s \subset SU^r(X, d)$ be the subset corresponding to stable bundles. As is well known, under our assumptions $SU^r(X, d)$ is normal and projective and the complement of U^s has codimension > 1 , hence for any line bundle F on $SU^r(X, d)$ the restriction map

$$H^0(F, SU^r(X, d)) \rightarrow H^0(F, U^s)$$

is an isomorphism. Now by construction (see [NaRam], [Sesh], [VLP]), there is a finite collection \mathcal{U} of locally fine moduli spaces U_α , with corresponding rank- r universal bundles \tilde{E}_α on $X \times U_\alpha$, such that the images of the natural maps.

$$f_\alpha : U_\alpha \rightarrow U^s$$

form a covering. We may further assume that each U_α is affine and Galois over its image in U^s , and that the collection (U_α, f_α) is 'Galois-stable' in the sense that for each deck transformation ρ , $(U_\alpha, f_\alpha \circ \rho)$ is also in the collection. Now set

$$U_{\alpha\beta} := U_\alpha \times_{U^s} U_\beta$$

and likewise for triple products etc. Let

$$p_\alpha := 1_X \times f_\alpha : X \times U_\alpha \rightarrow X \times U^s,$$

Also let

$$p_{\alpha\beta, \alpha} : X \times U_{\alpha\beta} \rightarrow X \times U_\alpha$$

be the obvious projection, and let

$$p_{\alpha\beta} : X \times U_{\alpha\beta} \xrightarrow{p_{\alpha\beta, \alpha}} X \times U_\alpha \xrightarrow{p_\alpha} X \times U^s$$

be the composite, and again likewise for higher products. Note that for any coherent sheaf F on $X \times U^s$, we may form a Čech-type complex (of sheaves)

$$\check{C}(\mathcal{U}, F) : \bigoplus_{\alpha} p_\alpha^* F \rightarrow \bigoplus_{\alpha, \beta} p_{\alpha\beta}^* F \rightarrow \cdots$$

and our saturation condition ensures that the cohomology of F - H^0 included-may be computed from the hypercohomology of this complex, in other words $\check{C}(\mathcal{U}, F)$ is quasi-isomorphic to F , i.e. to its Čech complex with respect to an ordinary cover of $X \times U^s$ (thus 'étale cohomology coincides with ordinary cohomology for coherent sheaves'). Of course in our case the problem is

that we don't have an actual universal bundle E , defined as a sheaf over all of $X \times U^s$ (this is a result of Nori, cf. [Sesh]). However, we shall see that we can still define a complex to play the role of $\check{C}(\mathcal{U}, E)$ for a universal bundle E , and the foregoing discussion shows that this is 'good enough' at least for cohomology.

Note next that up to shrinking our cover, we may assume we have isomorphisms

$$\sigma_{\beta\alpha} : p_{\alpha\beta,\alpha}^* \tilde{E}_\alpha \rightarrow p_{\alpha\beta,\beta}^* \tilde{E}_\beta.$$

Indeed the sheaf

$$p_{U_{\alpha\beta}}^*(\mathcal{H}om(p_{\alpha\beta,\alpha}^* \tilde{E}_\alpha, p_{\alpha\beta,\beta}^* \tilde{E}_\beta))$$

is invertible by stability, hence after shrinking may be assumed trivial, and a nonvanishing section of it yields the required isomorphism. There is obviously no loss of generality in assuming that

$$\sigma_{\beta\alpha} = \sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{-1}.$$

Now note that over a triple product $U_{\alpha\beta\gamma} := U_\alpha \times U_\beta \times U_\gamma$, the map

$$\sigma_{\gamma\alpha}^{-1} \circ \sigma_{\gamma\beta} \circ \sigma_{\beta\alpha} \in \text{Aut}(\tilde{E}_\alpha|_{U_{\alpha\beta\gamma}})$$

must, for the same reason, be a scalar. Consequently, $\sigma_{\gamma\alpha}^{-1} \circ \sigma_{\gamma\beta} \circ \sigma_{\beta\alpha}$ induces the *identity* on

$$\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_\alpha|_{U_{\alpha\beta\gamma}} = \mathfrak{sl}(\tilde{E}_\alpha)|_{U_{\alpha\beta\gamma}} \subset \tilde{E}_\alpha \otimes \tilde{E}_\alpha^*|_{U_{\alpha\beta\gamma}}.$$

Consequently, we may form a complex which may be considered the 'Čech complex' for $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ with respect to the étale covering $\mathcal{U} := (U_\alpha)$: namely the complex with sheaves

$$\bigoplus \check{C}(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}, \mathcal{U})_{\alpha\beta\gamma\dots} = \bigoplus \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_\alpha|_{U_{\alpha\beta\gamma\dots}} := \bigoplus p_{\alpha\beta\gamma\dots,\alpha}^* \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_\alpha,$$

each of which we identify with its own Dolbeault or Čech complex (using some affine covering of X), and whose differentials are constructed as usual from the pullback maps

$$r_{\alpha\beta\gamma\dots,\alpha\beta\gamma\dots\epsilon\dots} : \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_\alpha|_{U_{\alpha\beta\gamma\dots}} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_\alpha|_{U_{\alpha\beta\gamma\dots\epsilon\dots}}$$

and from maps

$$r_{\alpha\beta\gamma\dots,\epsilon\alpha\beta\gamma\dots} : \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_\alpha|_{U_{\alpha\beta\gamma\dots}} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_\epsilon|_{U_{\epsilon\alpha\beta\gamma\dots}}$$

given by restriction to $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_\alpha|_{U_{\alpha\beta\gamma\dots\epsilon\dots}}$ followed by the isomorphism

$$\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_\alpha|_{U_{\alpha\beta\gamma\dots\epsilon\dots}} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathfrak{g}}_\epsilon|_{U_{\epsilon\alpha\beta\gamma\dots}}$$

induced by $\sigma_{\epsilon\alpha}$. By the above, these indeed form a complex, and this complex automatically inherits the structure of a dgla from $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$. For the purposes of our constructions, this complex may be taken as a substitute for $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ itself. Moreover, since the adjoint action of $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ on itself is faithful, we may take $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ as a substitute for the universal $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ deformation \tilde{E} .

Now of course the theta-bundle θ itself and its powers such as $F = \det H^1(\tilde{\mathfrak{g}})$ of course exist as actual line bundles on U^s , and all the auxiliary complexes we need are derived from $\tilde{\mathfrak{g}}$ and F . Note that for any line bundle L we have a natural isomorphism of Lie algebras

$$\mathfrak{D}^1(L) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathfrak{D}^1(L^k),$$

given by the formula

$$D(s_1 \cdots s_k) = \sum s_1 \cdots D(s_i) \cdots s_k,$$

where D and s_1, \dots, s_k are local sections of $D^1(L)$ L respectively. Consequently, we may identify $\mathfrak{D}^1(\theta^k)$ and $D^1(F)$ as Lie algebras. Hence all of our constructions go through in this context and establish the flatness of the connection.

Corollary 12.2 bis. *The conclusion of Corollary 12.2 holds for all d, r . \square*

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