

Title: Perturbative BV-BFV theories on manifolds with boundary Part 2

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Abstract:

The polarization

- Assume we have an involutive Lagrangian distribution \mathcal{P} on \mathcal{F}^∂ , called a **polarization**, such that the restriction of α^∂ to its leaves is zero. We may use gauge transformations to adapt α^∂ .
- For simplicity we assume $\mathcal{B} := \mathcal{F}^\partial / \mathcal{P}$ to be smooth.
- The **crucial assumption** now is that we have a splitting

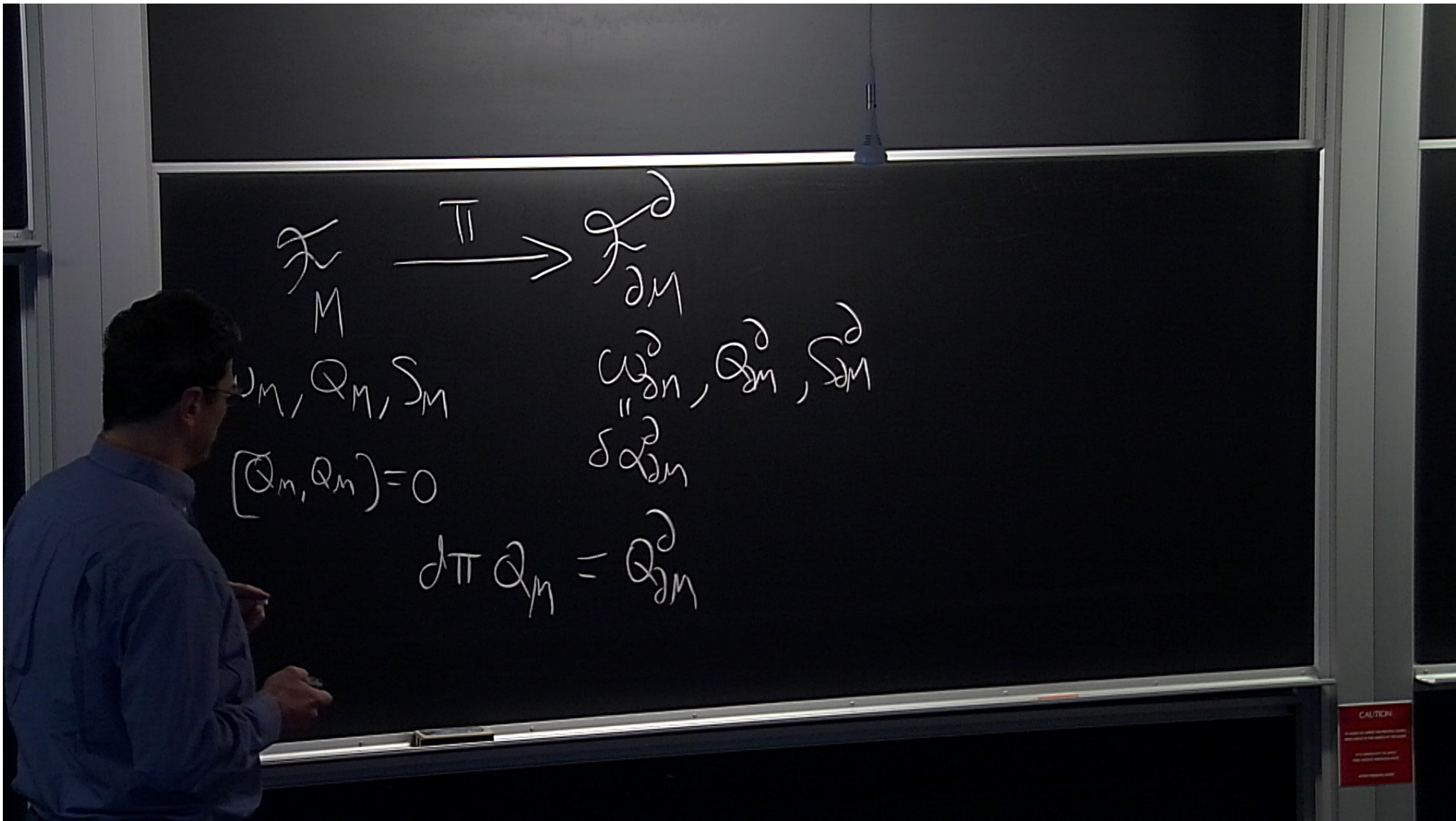
$$\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{Y} \times \mathcal{B}$$

such that the BV form ω only has components along \mathcal{Y} and is **constant on \mathcal{B}** . (A splitting is always possible locally; the crucial condition is on ω .)

Remark

In the infinite dimensional case (e.g., in field theory), it is possible to have a **nondegenerate ω** with this property. In the finite-dimensional case (e.g., in a discretized field theory), ω is then necessarily degenerate, but we still require it to be **nondegenerate on \mathcal{Y}** , which is enough to define BV integration.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{K}_M & \xrightarrow{\pi} & \mathcal{K}_{\partial M}^{\partial} \\
 \omega_M, Q_M, S_M & & \omega_{\partial M}^{\partial}, Q_M^{\partial}, S_M^{\partial} \\
 [Q_M, Q_M] = 0 & &
 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{K} &\xrightarrow{\pi} \mathcal{K}_{\partial M}^{\partial} \\
 \omega_M, S_M &\quad \omega_{\partial M}^{\partial}, Q_{\partial M}^{\partial}, S_{\partial M}^{\partial} \\
 &\quad \delta Q_{\partial M}^{\partial} \\
 &= 0 \\
 d\pi Q_M &= Q_{\partial M}^{\partial} \Rightarrow [Q_{\partial M}^{\partial}, Q_{\partial M}^{\partial}] = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

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 [Q_M, Q_M] = 0 & & \delta \alpha_{\partial M}^{\partial} \\
 \cdot d\pi Q_M = Q_{\partial M}^{\partial} \Rightarrow [Q_{\partial M}^{\partial}, Q_{\partial M}^{\partial}] = 0 \\
 \cdot \boxed{? Q_n \omega_M = \delta S_M + \pi^* \alpha_{\partial M}^{\partial}}
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 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{1}{2} \gamma_Q \gamma_Q \omega_M = \pi^* S_{\partial M}^{\partial}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & d\pi Q_M = Q_{\partial M}^{\partial} \Rightarrow [Q_{\partial M}^{\partial}, Q_M] = 0 \\
 & \boxed{\gamma_{Q_M} \omega_M = \delta S_M + \pi^* \alpha_{\partial M}^{\partial}} \quad \gamma_{Q_{\partial M}^{\partial}} \omega_{\partial M}^{\partial} = \delta S_{\partial M}^{\partial}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{F}_{\partial M}^{\partial} = T^* \mathcal{B}$$

\mathcal{L}^{∂} canonical

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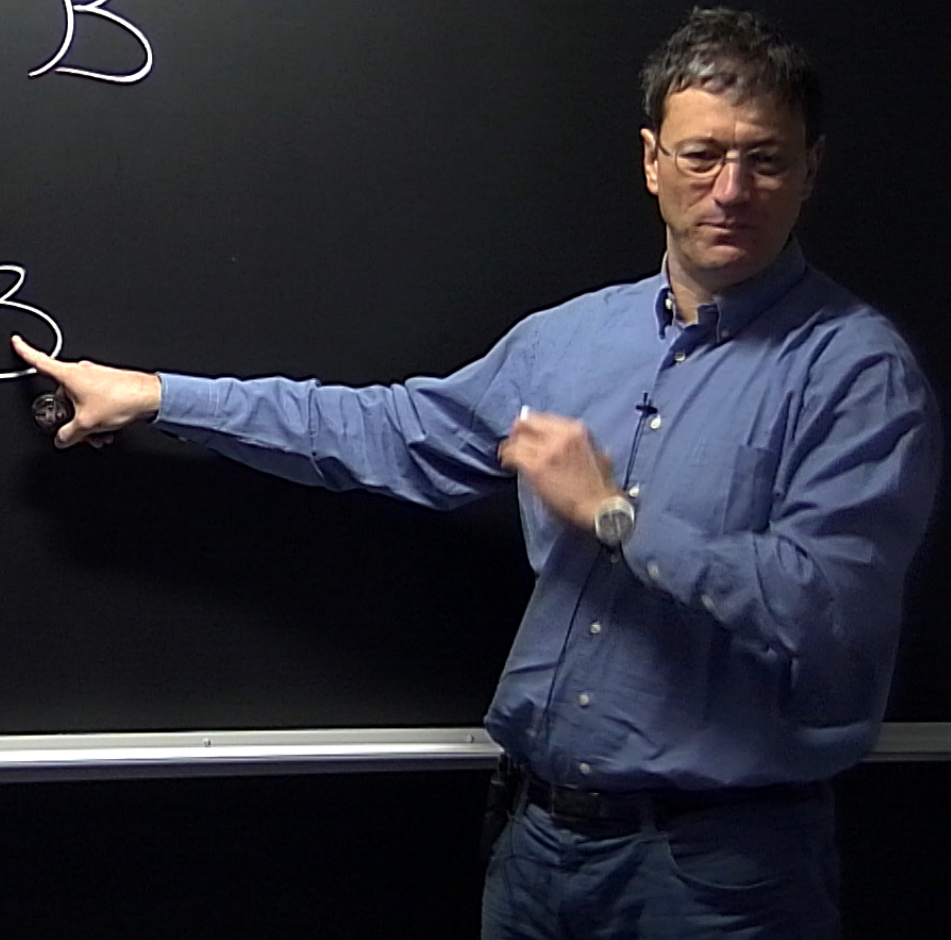
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$$\mathcal{F}_M^2 = T^* \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$$

2^{nd} canonical

$$\mathcal{F}_M \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$$



$$\mathcal{F}_M^{\omega} = T^* \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$$

ω canonical

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Assumption $\mathcal{F}_M = \mathcal{Y} \times \mathcal{B}$

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ω canonical

$$\mathcal{F}_M \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$$

Assumption $\mathcal{F}_M = \mathcal{Y} \times \mathcal{B}$

$$\mathcal{F}_M \xrightarrow{\pi_{\mathcal{Y}}} \mathcal{Y}$$

$\omega_{\mathcal{Y}}$ odd symplectic

$$\omega_M = \pi_{\mathcal{Y}}^* \omega_{\mathcal{Y}}$$

The modified quantum master equation I

Using the splitting, we **rewrite the mCME** as (we no longer write π^*)

$$\delta_{\mathcal{Y}} S = \iota_{Q_{\mathcal{Y}}} \omega$$

$$\delta_{\mathcal{B}} S = -\alpha^{\partial}$$

The two equations imply

$$\frac{1}{2}(S, S)_{\mathcal{Y}} = \frac{1}{2} \iota_{Q_{\mathcal{Y}}} \iota_{Q_{\mathcal{Y}}} \omega = S^{\partial} \quad (*)$$

Now assume we have **adapted Darboux coordinates** (b, p) on \mathcal{F}^{∂} with b on \mathcal{B} , p on the leaves and $\alpha^{\partial} = -\sum p \delta b$. Then the second equation implies

$$\frac{\delta S}{\delta b} = p \quad (**)$$

This means that, in this splitting, **S is linear in the b 's.**

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We now assume that S also solves the equation

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{Y}} S = 0$$

Remark

Without boundary this means that we assume that S solves both the classical and the quantum master equation. With boundary, Δ makes sense only on the \mathcal{Y} -factor. We will return on this.

We then have

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{Y}} e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S} = \left(\frac{i}{\hbar} \right)^2 \frac{1}{2} (S, S)_{\mathcal{Y}} e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S}$$

and equation (*) implies

$$-\hbar^2 \Delta_{\mathcal{Y}} e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S} = S^{\partial} e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S} \quad (\dagger)$$

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The modified quantum master equation III

We now move to the quantization. We take \mathcal{H} to be an appropriate space of functions on \mathcal{B} .

Equation (**) essentially says that

$$\hat{p}S = -i\hbar p \quad \text{with} \quad \hat{p} = -i\hbar \frac{\delta}{\delta b}$$

Remark

Here S is an element of \mathcal{H} parametrized by \mathcal{Y} . The p appearing in the equation is now an element of \mathcal{Y} .

If we quantize S^∂ by the Schrödinger prescription

$$\Omega := S^\partial \left(b, -i\hbar \frac{\delta}{\delta b} \right)$$

with all derivatives placed to the right, we get

$$\Omega e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S} = S^\partial e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S} \quad (\dagger)$$

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The modified quantum master equation IV

Putting (\dagger) and (\ddagger) together we finally get the **modified quantum master equation (mQME)**

$$(\hbar^2 \Delta_y + \Omega) e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S} = 0$$

Remark

The assumption $\Delta_y S = 0$ is not really necessary (and is often not justified). More generally, we have

$$\Delta_y e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S} = \left(\left(\frac{i}{\hbar} \right) \Delta_y S + \left(\frac{i}{\hbar} \right)^2 \frac{1}{2} (S, S)_y \right) e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S}$$

If we define

$$S_\hbar^\partial := \frac{1}{2} (S, S)_y - i\hbar \Delta_y S = S^\partial + O(\hbar)$$

and Ω as the Schrödinger quantization of S_\hbar^∂ , we recover the mQME.

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If we define

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and Ω as the Schrödinger quantization of S_h^∂ , we recover the mQME.

$$\frac{\delta S}{\delta b} = P$$

$$\left(\hbar^2 \Delta_y + \Omega \right) e^{i S} = 0$$

The modified quantum master equation V

By construction we have

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{Y}}^2 = 0 \quad [\Delta_{\mathcal{Y}}, \Omega] = 0$$

The operator

$$\Omega_{\mathcal{Y}} := \hbar^2 \Delta_{\mathcal{Y}} + \Omega$$

appearing in the mQME then squares to zero iff

$$\Omega^2 = 0$$

The existence of a splitting such that this holds is a fundamental condition (**absence of anomalies**) which allows passing to the $\Omega_{\mathcal{Y}}$ -cohomology. Cohomology in degree zero describes \mathcal{Y} -parametrized physical states.

$$\frac{\delta S}{\delta b} = P$$

$$\left(\hbar^2 \Delta_y + \Omega \right) e^{iS} = 0$$

$$\Omega_y$$

$$\Omega_y^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \boxed{\Omega^2 = 0}$$

Assumption

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Ω_y

The quantum state

- Assume the mQME

$$\Omega_Y e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S} = 0$$

- Suppose $Y = Y' \times Y''$ (possibly Y' a point).
- Pick a Lagrangian submanifold \mathcal{L} of Y'' .
- Define

$$\psi := \int_{\mathcal{L}} e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S} \in \mathcal{H} \otimes C^\infty(Y')$$

- Then

- We have the induced mQME

$$\Omega_{Y'} \psi = 0$$

- Changing the “gauge fixing” \mathcal{L} changes ψ by an $\Omega_{Y'}$ -exact term.
- Hence ψ defines a $\Omega_{Y'}$ -cohomology class (of degree 0).
- We might iterate this procedure (“Wilson renormalization with boundary”) and eventually arrive at Y' a point. In this case, ψ will be an Ω -cohomology class of degree zero on \mathcal{H} : a physical state.

$$\Omega_y^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \boxed{\Omega^2 = 0}$$

Assumption

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$$H = (\omega|B)$$

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\parallel
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Axiomatics

- To each $(d - 1)$ -manifold Σ we associate a **complex** $(\mathcal{H}_\Sigma, \Omega_\Sigma)$.
- To each d -manifold M we as associate a **state** ψ_M **satisfying the mQME**.
- Plus functorial properties.

In particular, gluing is given by pairing states and doing a **BV-pushforward**

$$\mathcal{Y}'_{M_1} \times \mathcal{Y}'_{M_2} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}'_{M_1 \cup_\Sigma M_2}$$

This could provide some new insight for physical theories.
In TFTs it yields a perturbative version of Atiyah's axioms.

The full power of this approach is as follows:

- Cut the original manifold M into topologically simple or metrically tiny pieces
- Do the perturbative quantization on the pieces
- Glue and reduce

$$\mathcal{L}_M \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{\partial M}^0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \gamma_Q \gamma_Q \omega_M = \pi^* S_{\partial M}^0$$

$$[\omega_M, Q_M, S_M]$$

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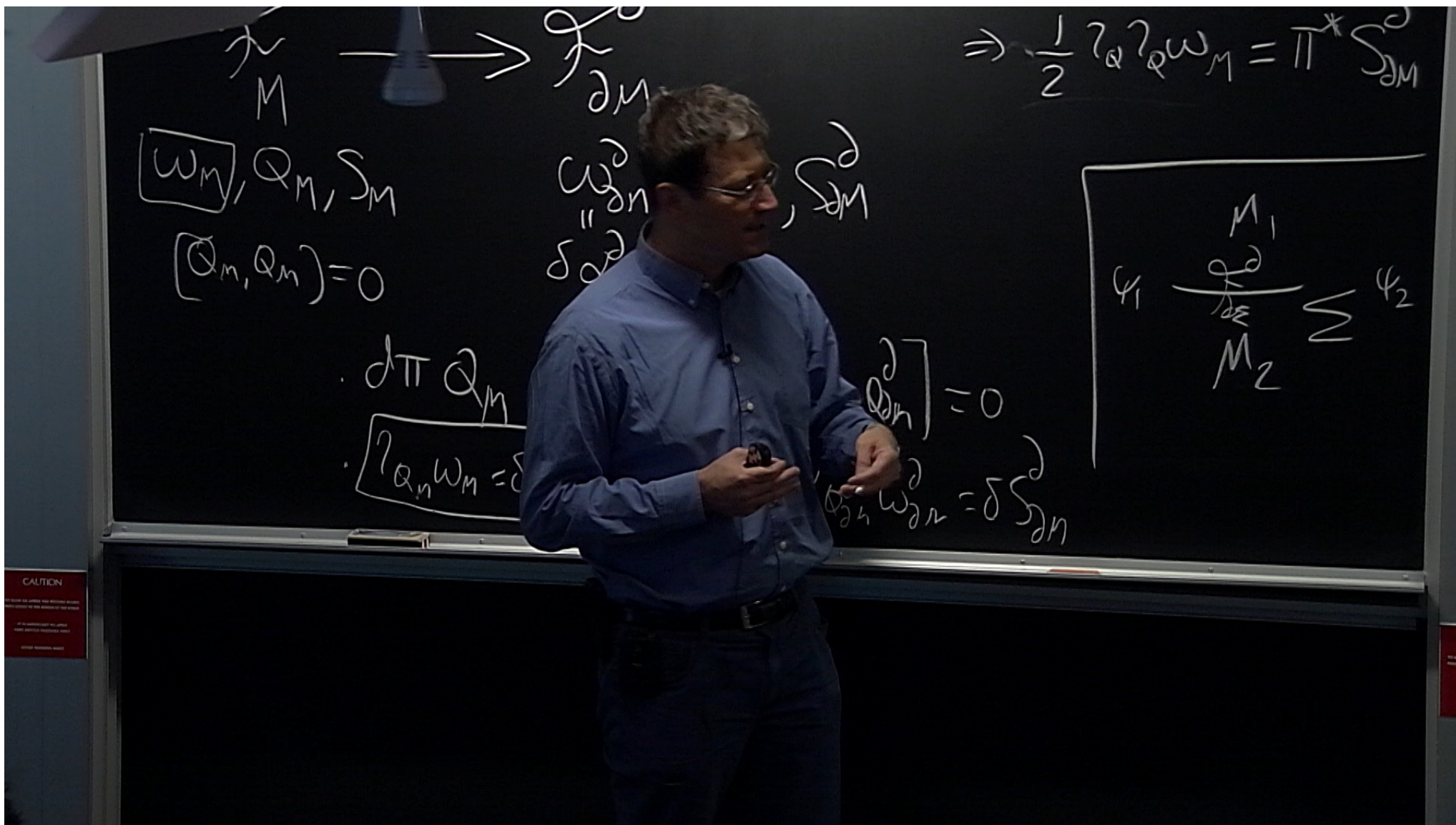
$$\delta \omega_{\partial M}^0$$

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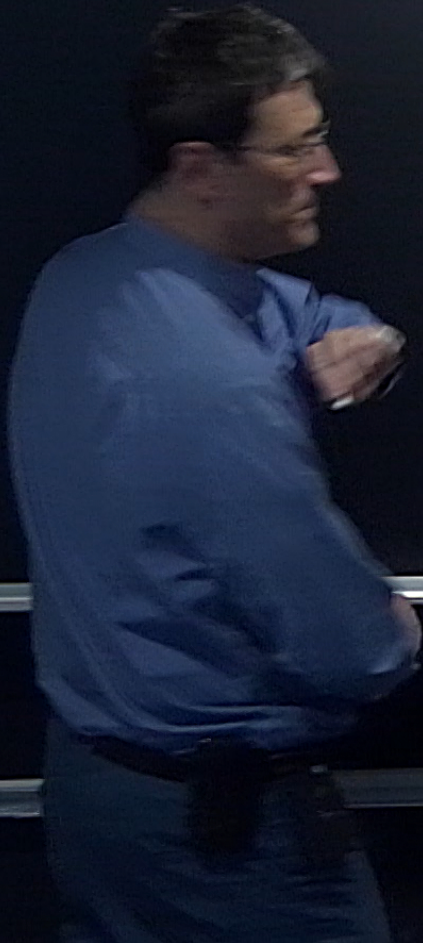
$$\gamma_{Q_M} \omega_M = \delta S_M + \pi^* \alpha_{\partial M}^0$$

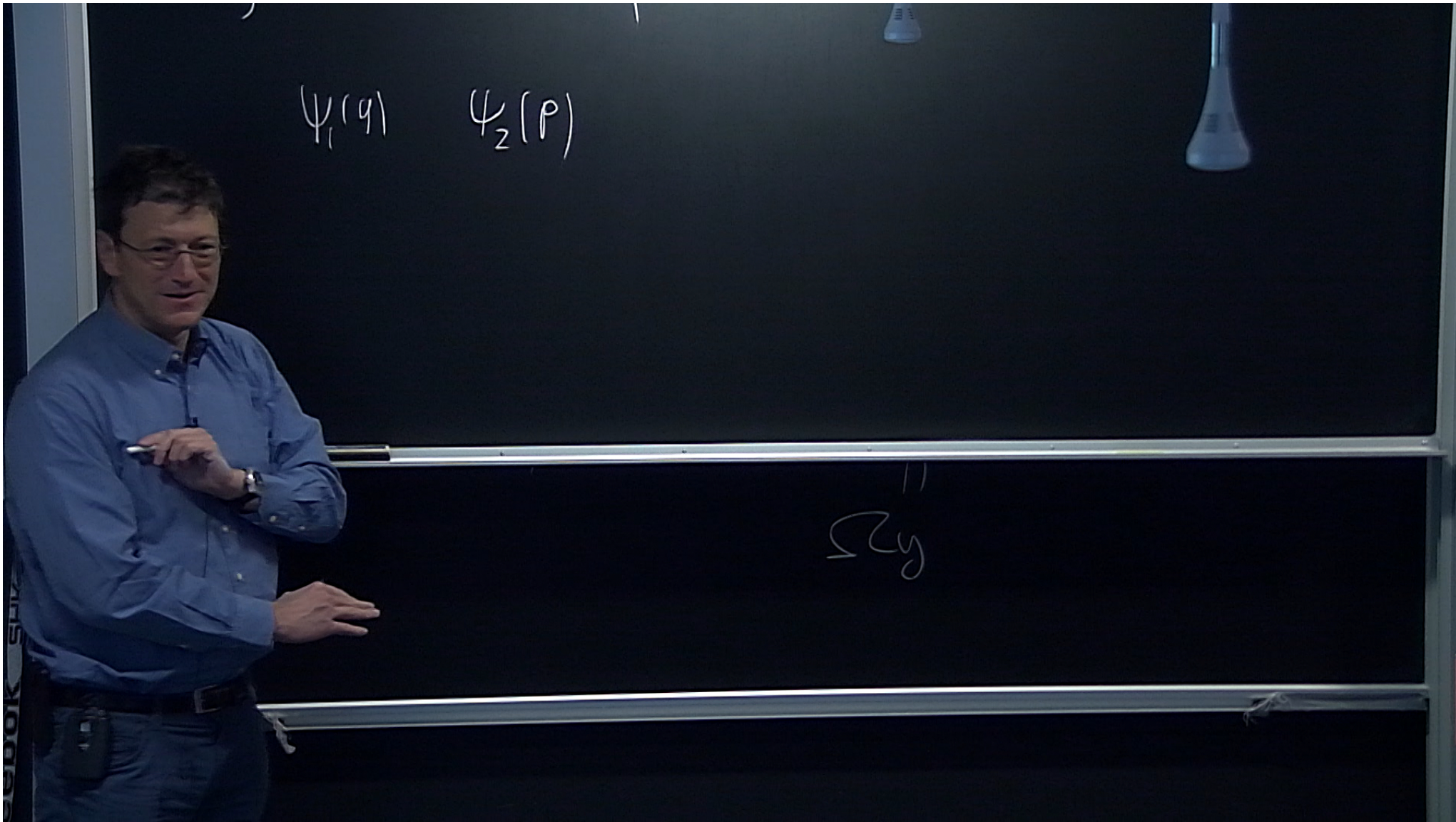
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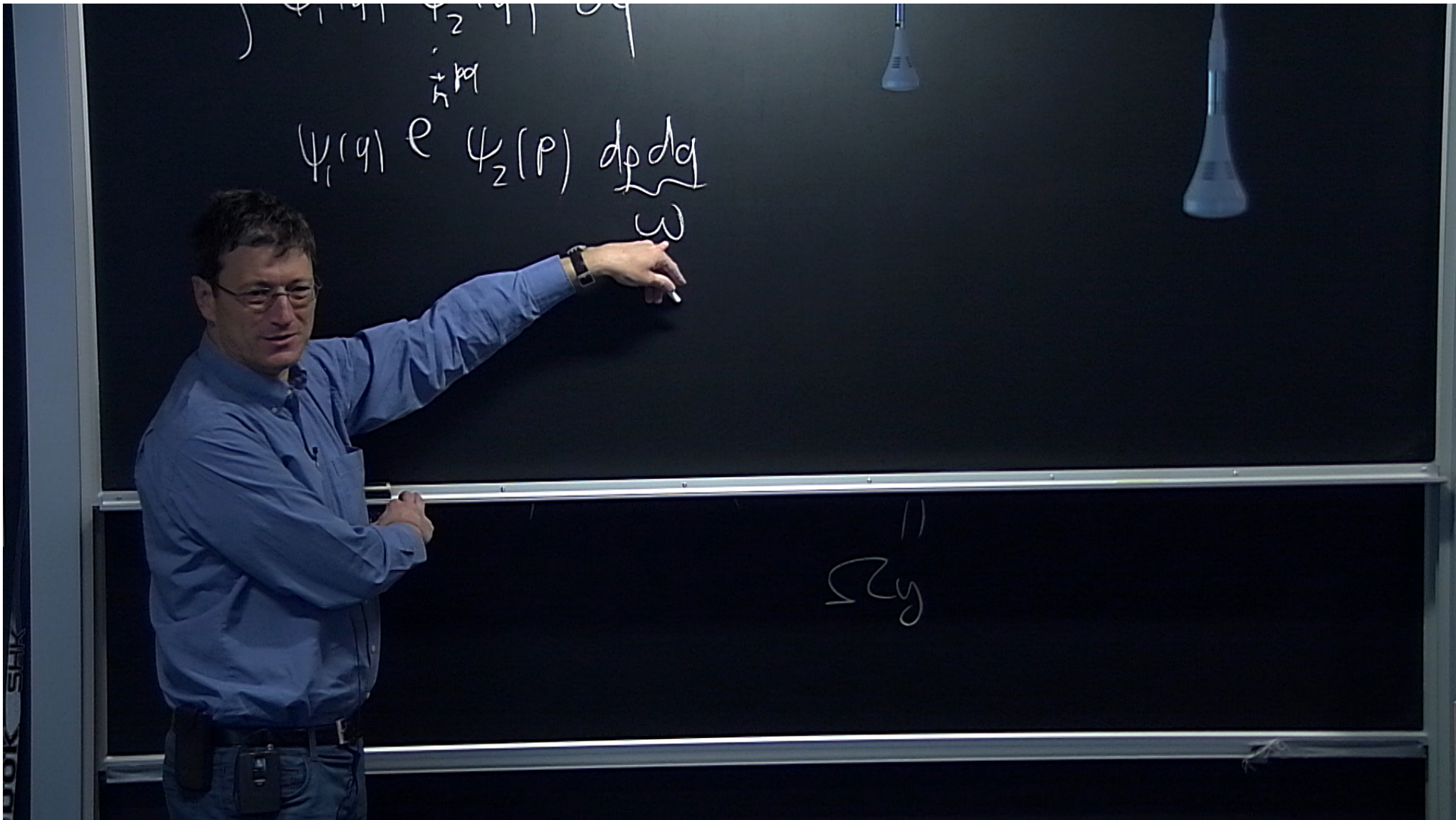
$$\begin{array}{c} M_1 \\ \psi_1 \text{ --- } \psi_2 \\ M_2 \end{array} \sum$$

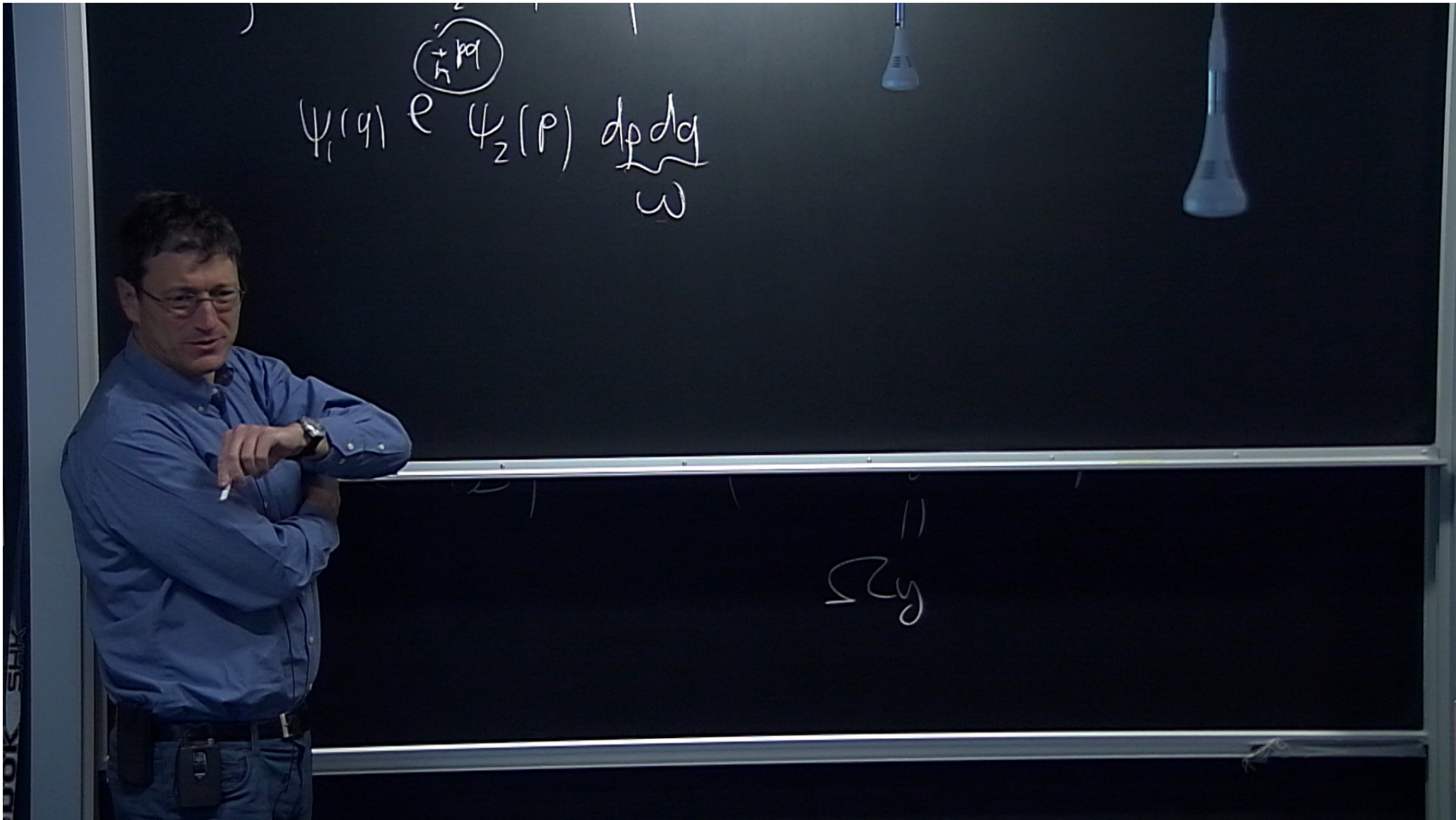


$$\int \psi_1(q) \psi_2(q) dq$$



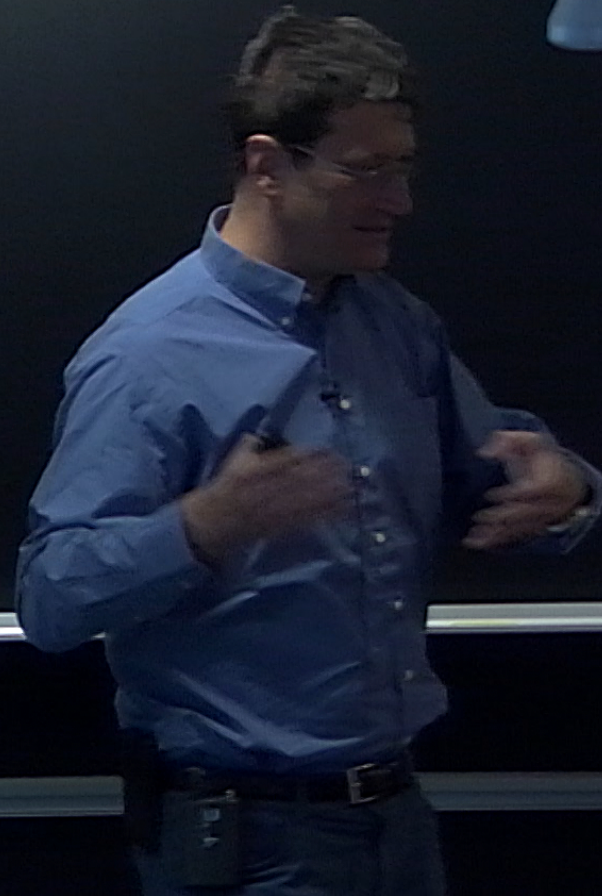






$$\int \psi_1(q) \psi_2(q) dq$$

$$\int \psi_1(q) e^{\frac{i p q}{\hbar}} \psi_2(p) \underbrace{dp dq}_{\omega}$$



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Pairing on \mathcal{H}

$$\psi \in \mathcal{H} \otimes C^0(Y)$$

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Abelian BF theories: The classical and the BV formalism

Fix a dimension d . Then, for a d -manifold M , one defines

$$F_M = \Omega^1(M) \oplus \Omega^{d-2}(M) \ni (A_1, B_{d-2})$$

and

$$S_M^0 = \int_M B_{d-2} dA_1$$

In the BV version

$$\mathcal{F}_M = \Omega^*(M)[1] \oplus \Omega^*(M)[d-2] \ni (A, B)$$

and

$$S_M = \int_M B dA$$

The convention means that

$$A = \sum_{i=0}^d A_i, \quad B = \sum_{i=0}^d B_i$$

with A_i an i -form of ghost number $1 - i$, and B_i an i -form of ghost number $d - 2 - i$. (This theory contains "ghosts for ghosts" if $d > 3$.)

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The BV-BFV structure

We have

$$Q_M = (-1)^d \int_M dB \frac{\delta}{\delta B} + dA \frac{\delta}{\delta A}$$

$$\mathcal{F}_{\partial M}^\partial = \Omega^\bullet(\partial M)[1] \oplus \Omega^\bullet(\partial M)[d-2] \ni (A, B)$$

$$\alpha_{\partial M}^\partial = (-1)^d \int_{\partial M} B \delta A$$

$$Q_{\partial M}^\partial = (-1)^d \int_{\partial M} dB \frac{\delta}{\delta B} + dA \frac{\delta}{\delta A}$$

$$S_{\partial M}^\partial = \int_{\partial M} B dA$$

The polarization

- Write ∂M as a **disjoint union** $\partial_1 M \cup \partial_2 M$ (possibly empty).
- Choose the polarization \mathcal{P} given by the $\frac{\delta}{\delta B}$ -distribution on $\partial_1 M$ and by the $\frac{\delta}{\delta A}$ -distribution on $\partial_2 M$.
- To make this compatible with the boundary 1-form we make the **gauge transformation** generated by $f = (-1)^{d-1} \int_{\partial_2 M} BA$

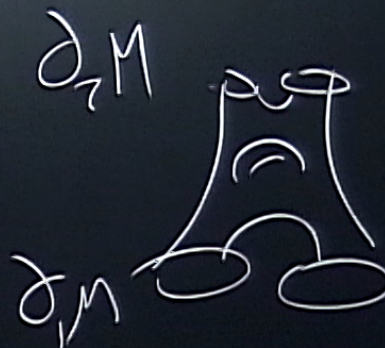
$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_{\partial M}^{\partial} &\mapsto (-1)^d \int_{\partial_1 M} B \delta A - \int_{\partial_2 M} \delta B A \\ S_M &\mapsto \int_M B dA + (-1)^{d-1} \int_{\partial_2 M} BA\end{aligned}$$

- We then have

$$\mathcal{B} = \Omega^{\bullet}(\partial_1 M)[1] \oplus \Omega^{\bullet}(\partial_2 M)[d-2] \ni (A, B)$$

$$\int \psi_1(q) e^{i \frac{p q}{\hbar}} \psi_2(p) \underbrace{dp dq}_{\omega}$$

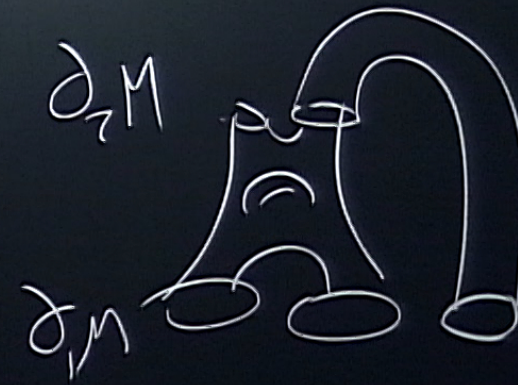
pairing



Σ_y

$$\int \frac{\psi_1(q) e^{\frac{i p q}{\hbar}} \psi_2(p) dp dq}{\omega}$$

Pairing on \mathcal{H}



\mathbb{C}^2

The splitting

- We write

$$A = \mathbb{A} + \hat{A},$$

$$B = \mathbb{B} + \hat{B},$$

where \mathbb{A} and \mathbb{B} now denote the extension by zero of A and B to the bulk, and \hat{A} and \hat{B} are the coordinates of \mathcal{Y} (“the fluctuations”).

- By construction, the restriction of \hat{A} to $\partial_1 M$ vanishes, and the restriction of \hat{B} to $\partial_2 M$ vanishes.
- After appropriately integrating by parts in order to avoid deriving the discontinuous fields \mathbb{A} and \mathbb{B} , we get

$$S_M = \int_M \hat{B} d\hat{A} + (-1)^{d-1} \left(\int_{\partial_2 M} \mathbb{B} \hat{A} - \int_{\partial_1 M} \hat{B} \mathbb{A} \right)$$

This is now a Gaussian theory in \hat{A} and \hat{B} and linear sources on the boundary coupled to \mathbb{A} and \mathbb{B} . To “invert” d we have to separate cohomology and to fix the gauge.

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- We write

$$A = \mathbb{A} + \hat{A},$$

$$B = \mathbb{B} + \hat{B},$$

where \mathbb{A} and \mathbb{B} now denote the extension by zero of A and B to the bulk, and \hat{A} and \hat{B} are the coordinates of \mathcal{Y} (“the fluctuations”).

- By construction, the restriction of \hat{A} to $\partial_1 M$ vanishes, and the restriction of \hat{B} to $\partial_2 M$ vanishes.
- After **appropriately integrating by parts** in order to avoid deriving the discontinuous fields \mathbb{A} and \mathbb{B} , we get

$$S_M = \int_M \hat{B} d\hat{A} + (-1)^{d-1} \left(\int_{\partial_2 M} \mathbb{B} \hat{A} - \int_{\partial_1 M} \hat{B} \mathbb{A} \right)$$

This is now a Gaussian theory in \hat{A} and \hat{B} and linear sources on the boundary coupled to \mathbb{A} and \mathbb{B} . To “invert” d we have to separate cohomology and to fix the gauge.

Residual fields and gauge fixing

For this final step we **choose a metric** on M and write

$$\hat{A} = a + \alpha$$

$$\hat{B} = b + \beta$$

with **a and b harmonic forms** (with the appropriate boundary conditions) and α, β in the orthogonal complement:

$$(a, b) \in \mathcal{Y}' \simeq H^\bullet(M, \partial_1 M)[1] \oplus H^\bullet(M, \partial_2 M)[d-2], \quad (\alpha, \beta) \in \mathcal{Y}'' = (\mathcal{Y}')^\perp$$

Notice that **\mathcal{Y}' is a finite dimensional odd symplectic space** (by pairing in cohomology).

As a **gauge fixing** we may choose $\mathcal{L} = \{\text{Im } d^* : \mathcal{Y}'' \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}''\}$.

Remark: For the above to work, one has to assume the metric to be of a product form near the boundary.

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With the above choices, the state of abelian BF theory reads

$$\psi_M = T_M e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S_M^{\text{eff}}}$$

where:

- ① $T_M = \xi \tau(M, \partial_1 M) = \xi \tau(M, \partial_2 M)$ with ξ a phase (which can be computed, e.g., by discretizing) and τ the **Reidemeister torsion**

- ② $S_M^{\text{eff}} = (-1)^{d-1} \left(\int_{\partial_2 M} \mathbb{B} \mathbf{a} - \int_{\partial_1 M} \mathbf{b} \mathbb{A} \right) - \int_{\partial_2 M \times \partial_1 M} \pi_1^* \mathbb{B} \eta \pi_2^* \mathbb{A}$
where η is the propagator.

- It is not difficult to check that ψ_M is Ω_Y -closed.
- Gluing along common boundaries works as a result of **gluing formulae for torsion and Mayer–Vietoris**.

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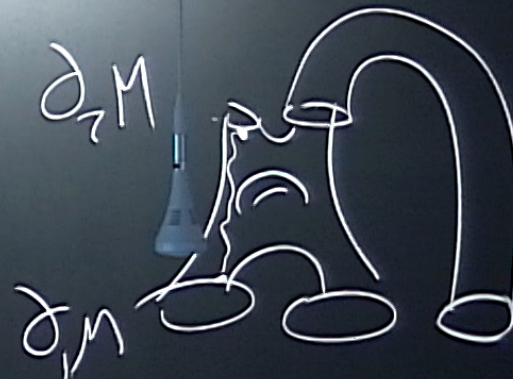
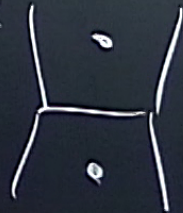
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$$\int \psi_1(q) \psi_2(q) \quad \in \mathcal{H} \otimes C^\infty(Y)$$

$$\int \psi_1(q) e^{\frac{i p q}{\hbar}} \psi_2(p) \underbrace{dp dq}_{\omega} \quad \partial_M$$

Pairing on \mathcal{H}



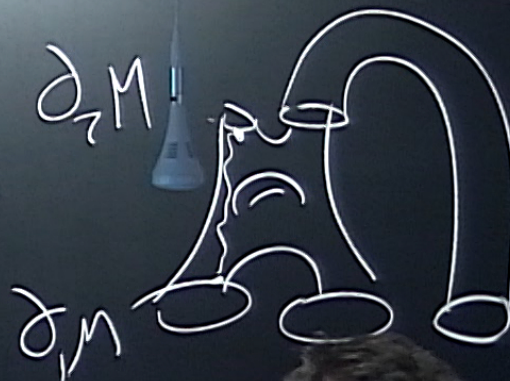
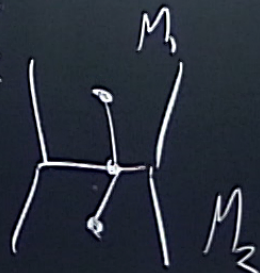
$$\mathcal{H} - \left(\hbar^2 \Delta_y + \Omega \right) e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} S} = 0$$

$$\int \psi_1(q) \psi_2(q) dq$$

$$\psi \in \mathcal{H} \otimes C^\infty(Y)$$

$$\int \psi_1(q) e^{\frac{i p q}{\hbar}} \psi_2(p) \underbrace{dp dq}_{\omega}$$

Pairing on \mathcal{H}



$$\mathcal{H} = (C^\infty(B))$$

$$\left(\hbar^2 \Delta \right) e^{\hbar} = 0$$

Gluing for propagators

The propagator for a glued manifold can be obtained from the propagators and the 1-point functions of the components.

$$\begin{array}{c} 2 \\ \nearrow \\ 1 \end{array} \Big| = \begin{array}{c} 2 \\ \nearrow \\ 1 \end{array} \Big| + \begin{array}{c} 2 \\ \nearrow \\ 1 \end{array} \bullet \Big|$$

$$\Big| \begin{array}{c} 2 \\ \nearrow \\ 1 \end{array} = \Big| \begin{array}{c} 2 \\ \nearrow \\ 1 \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} 2 \\ \nearrow \\ 1 \end{array} \bullet \begin{array}{c} 2 \\ \nearrow \\ 1 \end{array}$$

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More on BF

- One can extend the previous construction to non-abelian BF theory:

$$S_M^0 = \int_M \left\langle B, dA + \frac{1}{2}[A, A] \right\rangle, \quad A \in \Omega(M, \mathfrak{g}), \quad B \in \Omega(M, \mathfrak{g}^*)$$

In perturbation theory we get



Figure: $\frac{\delta}{\delta B}$ -polarization on the left and $\frac{\delta}{\delta A}$ -polarization on the right

- One can also define an exact, **discretized version** of (non-abelian) BF theory.

Perturbation of BF theory

- By perturbing BF theory, one can extend the above construction to other theories like
 - 1 Quantum mechanics
 - 2 Split Chern–Simons theory
 - 3 Poisson sigma model
 - 4 2D Yang–Mills theory
- Other theories like scalar field, spinor field, Yang–Mills can be treated alike (but one has to take renormalization into account).
- GR (in the Einstein–Hilbert formulation) has a nice classical BV-BFV description if we restrict to metrics that do not have light like directions on the boundary.

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Main references:

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- ② A. S. Cattaneo, P. Mnëv and N. Reshetikhin, “Classical BV theories on manifolds with boundaries,” Commun. Math. Phys. **332**, 535–603 (2014)
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$$\Omega_y^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \boxed{\Omega^2 = 0}$$

Assumption

$$\frac{\delta S}{\delta b} = P$$

$$H = (\omega | B)$$

$$\left(\hbar^2 \Delta_y + \Omega \right) e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} S} = 0$$

$$\Omega_y \quad \parallel \quad \frac{1}{A} \quad \frac{1}{A} \quad \frac{1}{A^2}$$

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$$\Omega_y$$

$$\ln \frac{1}{A} \frac{1}{A}$$

$$\frac{1}{A^2}$$

$$\frac{1}{A^2}$$