

Localization and real Jacobi forms

Sujay K. Ashok,^a Nima Doroud^{b,c} and Jan Troost^d

^a*Institute of Mathematical Sciences, C.I.T Campus,
Taramani, Chennai 600113, India*

^b*Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics,
Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 2Y5, Canada*

^c*Department of Physics, University of Waterloo,
Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3G1, Canada*

^d*Laboratoire de Physique Théorique,¹ Ecole Normale Supérieure,
24 rue Lhomond, F-75231 Paris Cedex 05, France*

E-mail: sashok@imsc.res.in, ndoroud@perimeterinstitute.ca,
troost@lpt.ens.fr

ABSTRACT: We calculate the elliptic genus of two dimensional abelian gauged linear sigma models with $(2, 2)$ supersymmetry using supersymmetric localization. The matter sector contains charged chiral multiplets as well as Stückelberg fields coupled to the vector multiplets. These models include theories that flow in the infrared to non-linear sigma models with target spaces that are non-compact Kähler manifolds with $U(N)$ isometry and with an asymptotically linear dilaton direction. The elliptic genera are the modular completions of mock Jacobi forms that have been proposed recently using complementary arguments. We also compute the elliptic genera of models that contain multiple Stückelberg fields from first principles.

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¹Unité Mixte du CNRS et de l'Ecole Normale Supérieure associée à l'université Pierre et Marie Curie 6, UMR 8549.

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1 Introduction

There is a large class of two-dimensional conformal field theories with $\mathcal{N} = (2, 2)$ supersymmetry that can be described as infrared fixed points of abelian gauge theories [1]. An interesting observable invariant under the renormalization group flow is the elliptic genus of the theory [2–6]. Recently, the calculation of elliptic genera of these theories has been developed further, in particular through the technique of localization [7–9]. The results obtained so far have lead to elliptic genera that are holomorphic Jacobi forms with weight zero and index determined by the central charge.

In supersymmetric quantum mechanics, when there is a continuous spectrum, the Witten index can become temperature dependent due to a difference in spectral densities for bosons and fermions. (See e.g. [10] for a review.) The same temperature dependence due to the continuum was observed in a two-dimensional index in [11]. Similarly when the infrared fixed point exhibits a continuous spectrum, the elliptic genus can contain a non-holomorphic contribution [12] due to a difference in spectral density between bosonic and fermionic right-moving primaries [10, 13]. This difference is determined in terms of the asymptotic supercharge [10, 14] and the continuum contribution is dictated by the asymptotic geometry. One obtains as a result real Jacobi forms [15, 16] in physics [12, 13, 17]. A known example of this phenomenon is the cigar coset conformal field theory, which permits a gauged linear sigma model description [18, 19]. The latter includes a Stückelberg field linearly transforming under gauge transformations, and rendering the two-dimensional gauge field massive.

Thus, applying localization techniques [20–22] to abelian two-dimensional gauge theories including Stückelberg fields should lead to new features that allow for elliptic genera that are real Jacobi forms. We will lay bare these new features, and thereby prove a conjectured formula [23] for elliptic genera of gauged linear sigma models containing a single Stückelberg field. Various consistency checks on the conjecture were performed in [23], such as reproducing the correct elliptic and modular properties, as well as recuperating bound states of strings winding an isometric direction in the target space [14]. In this paper we prove and extend these results by deriving formulas for the elliptic genera of two-dimensional gauged linear sigma-models with multiple Stückelberg fields.

This paper is organized as follows. In section 2, we discuss the gauged linear sigma models (GLSMs) that interest us. We review the infrared geometry associated to models with a single Stückelberg field. We compare and contrast with the gauged linear sigma models whose elliptic genera have already been calculated in the literature. In section 3 we show how one can evaluate the path integral of the gauged linear sigma model by using localization in the chiral and vector multiplet sector, and Gaussian integration in the Stückelberg sector. We perform the calculation first in a model with one Stückelberg field, and then generalize to models with multiple Stückelberg fields. We compare with known results. In section 4 we conclude and point out possible applications and generalizations.

2 Gauged linear sigma models with Stückelberg fields

In this section we review a class of gauged linear sigma models with one Stückelberg field [18, 19], and its relation to non-linear sigma models [24]. Next, we recall gauged linear sigma models with multiple Stückelberg fields.

2.1 One Stückelberg field

2.1.1 The gauged linear sigma model

The superspace action for the gauged linear sigma model of interest is given by [18]

$$S = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int d^2x d^4\theta \left[\sum_{i=1}^N \bar{\Phi}_i e^V \Phi_i + \frac{k}{4} (P + \bar{P} + V)^2 - \frac{1}{2e^2} \bar{\Sigma} \Sigma \right]. \quad (2.1)$$

The chiral multiplets Φ_i have unit charge under the $U(1)$ gauge group, and the superfield Σ is a twisted chiral superfield derived from the vector superfield V [1]. The superfield P is also a chiral multiplet with the complex scalar $p = p_1 + ip_2$ as its lowest component. While the field p_1 is a real uncharged non-compact bosonic field, the field p_2 is compact with period $2\pi\sqrt{\alpha'}$ and we set $\alpha' = 1$ as in [18]. The field P is charged under the gauge group additively. It is a Stückelberg field.

2.1.2 The infrared non-linear sigma model

With suitable linear dilaton boundary conditions [18], the theory flows in the infrared to a conformal field theory which has $\mathcal{N} = (2, 2)$ supersymmetry and central charge

$$c = 3N \left(1 + \frac{2N}{k} \right). \tag{2.2}$$

To lowest order in α' these conformal field theories are described by a non-linear sigma model on a $2N$ -dimensional Kähler manifold which has $U(N)$ isometry and a linear dilaton along a non-compact direction:

$$ds^2 = \frac{g_N(Y)}{2} dY^2 + \frac{2}{N^2 g_N(Y)} (d\psi + N A_{FS})^2 + 2Y ds_{FS}^2, \tag{2.3}$$

$$\Phi = -\frac{NY}{k}.$$

The explicit form of $g_N(Y)$ was found in [24].

2.2 Multiple Stückelberg fields

More general gauged linear sigma models exist [18] in which one considers a $(U(1))^M$ gauge theory with N chiral fields Φ_i with charge R_{ia} under the a th gauge group, and M Stückelberg fields P_a . The superspace action is a simple generalization of the action in (2.1):

$$S = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int d^2x d^4\theta \left[\sum_{i=1}^N \bar{\Phi}_i e^{\sum_a R_{ia} V_a} \Phi_i + \sum_{a=1}^M \frac{k_a}{4} (P_a + \bar{P}_a + V_a)^2 - \sum_{a=1}^M \frac{1}{2e_a^2} |\Sigma_a|^2 \right]. \tag{2.4}$$

The gauge transformations under the $U(1)^M$ are given by

$$\Phi_i \rightarrow e^{i \sum_{a=1}^M R_{ia} \Lambda_a} \Phi_i \quad \text{and} \quad P_a \rightarrow P_a + i\Lambda_a. \tag{2.5}$$

The central charge of the conformal field theory to which this theory flows is given by

$$c = 3 \left(N + \sum_{a=1}^M \frac{2b_a^2}{k_a} \right). \tag{2.6}$$

Here, b_a is given by the sum over the charges of the chiral multiplets:

$$b_a = \sum_{i=1}^N R_{ia}. \tag{2.7}$$

3 Elliptic genus through localization

In this section, we compute the elliptic genera of the class of models reviewed in section 2. In the Hamiltonian formalism the elliptic genus is given by

$$\chi = \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_R} (-1)^F q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - \frac{c}{24}} z^{J_0}, \tag{3.1}$$

where L_0 and \bar{L}_0 are the right-moving and left-moving conformal dimensions in the CFT respectively and J_0 is the zero mode of the right-moving R-charge.

We will evaluate the trace (3.1) in the path integral formalism where the insertion of $(-1)^F$ amounts to imposing periodic boundary conditions for bosonic as well as fermionic fields. Furthermore, the insertion of z^{J_0} twists the periodic boundary conditions in a manner that depends explicitly on the R-charge of the fields.

Exploiting the invariance of the elliptic genus under the renormalization group flow, the computation can be carried out in the ultraviolet using the super-renormalizable gauged linear sigma model description [1, 8]. The R-charges of the fields in the GLSM can be read off from the explicit expression for the right-moving R-current in the GLSM realization of the $\mathcal{N} = (2, 2)$ superconformal algebra constructed in [18]. Consequently, we can compute the elliptic genus by evaluating the partition function of the ultraviolet gauged linear sigma model with twisted boundary conditions using supersymmetric localization, as has been done for various compact models in [7–9].

3.1 Preliminaries

In what follows we carry out the path integration of the GLSM described by the action (2.1) with twisted boundary conditions using supersymmetric localization. To avoid clutter, we present the computation for a single chiral multiplet Φ minimally coupled, with gauge charge $q_\Phi = 1$, to a U(1) vector multiplet V which is rendered massive by a single Stückelberg superfield P . The generalization to multiple chiral multiplets and multiple massive vector multiplets is straightforward.

After integrating over the Grassmann odd superspace coordinates, the action (2.1) takes the form¹

$$S = \frac{i}{4\pi} \int d^2w \left(\mathcal{L}_{\text{c.m.}} + \frac{1}{2e^2} \mathcal{L}_{\text{v.m.}} + \frac{k}{2} \mathcal{L}_{\text{St.}} \right), \tag{3.2}$$

where the chiral multiplet, vector multiplet and Stückelberg multiplet Lagrangians are given by

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{c.m.}} = \bar{\phi} (-D_\mu^2 + \sigma \bar{\sigma} + iD) \phi + \bar{F}F - i\bar{\psi} (\not{D} - \sigma \gamma_- - \bar{\sigma} \gamma_+) \psi + i\bar{\psi} \lambda \phi - i\bar{\phi} \bar{\lambda} \psi, \tag{3.3}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{v.m.}} = \mathcal{F}^2 + \partial_\mu \sigma \partial^\mu \bar{\sigma} + D^2 + i\bar{\lambda} \not{D} \lambda, \tag{3.4}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{St.}} = \bar{G}G + \bar{\sigma} \sigma + D_\mu \bar{p} D^\mu p + iD(p + \bar{p}) - i\bar{\chi} \not{D} \chi - i\bar{\lambda} \chi + i\bar{\chi} \lambda. \tag{3.5}$$

By D_μ we denote the gauge covariant derivative which acts canonically on the chiral multiplet fields while its action on the on the Stückelberg scalar is given by

$$D_\mu p = \partial_\mu p - iA_\mu. \tag{3.6}$$

¹Note that the volume form in the complex coordinates $\{w, \bar{w}\}$ takes the form $d^2x = \frac{i}{2} d^2w$.

The action (3.2) is invariant under $\mathcal{N} = (2, 2)$ super-Poincaré transformations generated by the Dirac spinor supercharges Q and \bar{Q} . The explicit realization of the supersymmetry algebra on the fields can be found in appendix A.

3.1.1 Localization supercharge

To compute the elliptic genus via supersymmetric localization we choose the supercharge

$$\mathcal{Q} = -Q_1 - \bar{Q}_1, \tag{3.7}$$

whose action on the fields is parametrized by the Grassmann even spinors

$$\epsilon = \bar{\epsilon} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{3.8}$$

This supercharge satisfies the algebra

$$\mathcal{Q}^2 = -2i\partial_{\bar{w}} + 2i\delta_G(A_{\bar{w}}) \tag{3.9}$$

where δ_G denotes a gauge transformation. One can easily show that the vector multiplet and chiral multiplet Lagrangians are, up to total derivatives, \mathcal{Q} -exact, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{v.m.}} &= \mathcal{Q}\mathcal{V}_{\text{v.m.}} + \partial_\mu J_{\text{v.m.}}^\mu, \\ \mathcal{L}_{\text{c.m.}} &= \mathcal{Q}\mathcal{V}_{\text{c.m.}} + \partial_\mu J_{\text{c.m.}}^\mu. \end{aligned} \tag{3.10}$$

The explicit form of $\mathcal{V}_{\text{v.m.}}$ and $\mathcal{V}_{\text{c.m.}}$ can be found in appendix B.

In contrast to the vector and chiral multiplets, the action governing the dynamics of the Stückelberg field P is not globally \mathcal{Q} -exact² [18]. This must be the case since the coefficient of the P -field action, k , appears explicitly in the expression for the central charge (2.2). Therefore to obtain the contribution from the Stückelberg multiplet to the path integral via supersymmetric localization, a non-degenerate and globally \mathcal{Q} -exact deformation term would need to be constructed. This, however, is not necessary since the Stückelberg Lagrangian (3.5) is quadratic, leading to a Gaussian path integral which can be explicitly carried out.

Consequently, exploiting the \mathcal{Q} -exactness of the vector multiplet and chiral multiplet Lagrangians, we may rescale them independently by positive real numbers leaving the path integral invariant. While rescaling the chiral multiplet amounts to the replacement $\mathcal{L}_{\text{c.m.}} \rightarrow t\mathcal{L}_{\text{c.m.}}$, rescaling the vector multiplet Lagrangian is equivalent to rescaling of the Yang-Mills coupling e . In particular, we may compute the path integral in the large t and $1/e^2$ limit, keeping the product te^2 finite. The saddle-point approximation is one-loop exact.

²Locally, one can write the Stückelberg action as $\mathcal{Q}\Lambda$, however, one can check that Λ does not fall off fast enough near infinity to be in the Hilbert space of the theory.

3.1.2 R-charges and twisted boundary conditions

In order to compute the path integral corresponding to the elliptic genus (3.1), we need to identify the charge assignments of the GLSM fields under the right moving R-symmetry. Using the explicit expression [18] for the corresponding current

$$\begin{aligned} j_w^R &= -i \left[\bar{\psi}_1 \psi_1 + \frac{k}{2} \bar{\chi}_1 \chi_1 + \frac{i}{e^2} \bar{\sigma} \partial \sigma - i D_w (p - \bar{p}) \right], \\ j_{\bar{w}}^R &= -i \left[\frac{1}{2e^2} \bar{\lambda}_2 \lambda_2 + \frac{i}{e^2} \bar{\sigma} \partial \sigma - i D_{\bar{w}} (p - \bar{p}) \right], \end{aligned} \tag{3.11}$$

yields the charge assignments

$$q_\sigma^R = q_{\lambda_2}^R = q_{\psi_1}^R = q_{\chi_1}^R = 1, \tag{3.12}$$

and the opposite charge for the barred fields. The zero mode of p_2 also carries R-charge, equal to $-\frac{1}{k}$. In addition to the dynamical fields, supersymmetry also fixes the R-charges of the auxiliary fields to be $q_F = q_G = 1$.

The R-charges above determine the boundary conditions that need to be imposed on the GLSM path integral.³ Equivalently, the boundary conditions can be implemented via weakly gauging the right moving R-symmetry. This amounts to turning on a background gauge-field

$$a^R = \frac{\bar{v}}{2i\tau_2} dw - \frac{v}{2i\tau_2} d\bar{w} \tag{3.13}$$

for the R-symmetry with the constant parameter v satisfying $z = e^{2\pi i v}$. The background gauge field is incorporated into the theory via gauge covariantization

$$\partial_\mu \rightarrow \partial_\mu - \delta_R(a^R). \tag{3.14}$$

3.1.3 Gauge fixing and supersymmetric Faddeev-Popov ghosts

To impose the Lorentz gauge $\partial_\mu A^\mu = 0$ in the path integral in a supersymmetric way, we introduce the Grassmann odd BRST operator $\mathcal{Q}_{\text{BRST}}$, the gauge fixed localization supercharge $\hat{\mathcal{Q}} = \mathcal{Q} + \mathcal{Q}_{\text{BRST}}$ and the ghost and anti-ghost doublets $\{c, a_o\}$ and $\{\bar{c}, b\}$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Q}_{\text{BRST}} &= \delta_G(c), \\ \mathcal{Q}_{\text{BRST}}^2 &= \delta_G(a_o), \\ \hat{\mathcal{Q}}^2 &= -2i\bar{\partial} + 2i\delta_R(a^R) + 2i\delta_G(a_o). \end{aligned} \tag{3.15}$$

This fixes the supersymmetry transformations of the ghost and anti-ghost fields up to field redefinitions.⁴ Note that the vector and chiral multiplet Lagrangians are also $\hat{\mathcal{Q}}$ exact by virtue of the gauge invariance of $\mathcal{V}_{\text{v.m.}}$ and $\mathcal{V}_{\text{c.m.}}$. We further add to the action the $\hat{\mathcal{Q}}$ -exact gauge fixing term

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2e^2} \hat{\mathcal{Q}} \mathcal{V}_{\text{G.F.}} &= \frac{1}{2e^2} \left[(\partial_\mu A^\mu)^2 + (i\partial_\mu A^\mu + b/2)^2 - \bar{c} \partial_\mu^2 c - i\bar{c} \bar{\partial} (\bar{c} + 2\lambda_1 + 2\bar{\lambda}_1) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - i b_o b - i \bar{c}_o c + i \bar{c} c_o - \bar{b}_o (a_o - 2iA_{\bar{w}}) \right], \end{aligned} \tag{3.16}$$

³This is the method followed in [13] for the gauged Wess-Zumino-Witten model that describes the cigar conformal field theory.

⁴See appendix B for details.

where we have introduced the constant ghost doublets $\{b_o, c_o\}$ and $\{\bar{b}_o, \bar{c}_o\}$ in order to remove the ghost zero-mode.⁴

3.2 Evaluation of the path integral

The path integral that we are interested in takes the form

$$\chi = \int \mathcal{D}[\Phi, V, C, P] e^{-S_{\text{St.}} - \frac{i}{4\pi} \int d^2w \hat{\mathcal{Q}}\mathcal{V}} \quad (3.17)$$

where

$$\mathcal{V} = t\mathcal{V}_{\text{c.m.}} + \frac{1}{2e^2}(\mathcal{V}_{\text{v.m.}} + \mathcal{V}_{\text{G.F.}}) \equiv t\mathcal{V}_{\text{c.m.}} + \frac{1}{2e^2}\mathcal{V}_{\text{v.m.}}^{\text{G.F.}}. \quad (3.18)$$

As explained in section 3.1, the $\hat{\mathcal{Q}}$ -exactness of $\hat{\mathcal{Q}}\mathcal{V}$ ensures that the path integral is independent of the couplings t and e . We may therefore carry out the path integration in large t and $1/e^2$ limit, while keeping te^2 finite, where the saddle-point approximation is valid.

Consequently, we first have to extract the space of saddle points of $\hat{\mathcal{Q}}\mathcal{V}$ which we denote by \mathcal{M} . Explicitly, the chiral multiplet and the gauge fixed vector multiplet terms in $\hat{\mathcal{Q}}\mathcal{V}$ are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathcal{Q}}\mathcal{V}_{\text{c.m.}} &= \bar{F}F + D^\mu \bar{\phi} D_\mu \phi + \bar{\phi}(\bar{\sigma}\sigma + iD)\phi - 2i\bar{\psi}_2 D_w \psi_2 + 2i\bar{\psi}_1(D_{\bar{w}} - ia_w^R)\psi_1 \\ &\quad + i\bar{\psi}_2 \bar{\sigma}\psi_1 - i\bar{\psi}_1 \sigma\psi_2 + i\bar{\phi}(\bar{\lambda}_1\psi_2 - \bar{\lambda}_2\psi_1) - i(\bar{\psi}_1\lambda_2 - \bar{\psi}_2\lambda_1)\phi, \\ \hat{\mathcal{Q}}\mathcal{V}_{\text{v.m.}}^{\text{G.F.}} &= \partial^\mu A^\nu \partial_\mu A_\nu + D^2 + \tilde{b}^2 + (\partial^\mu + ia_\mu^R)\bar{\sigma}(\partial_\mu - ia_\mu^R)\sigma - ib_o b - \bar{b}_o(a_o - 2iA_{\bar{w}}) \\ &\quad - 2i\bar{\lambda}_1 \bar{\partial}\lambda_1 + 2i\bar{\lambda}_2(\partial - ia_w^R)\lambda_2 + \partial^\mu \bar{c}\partial_\mu c - i\bar{c}\bar{\partial}(\bar{c} + 2\lambda_1 + 2\bar{\lambda}_1) - i\bar{c}_o c + i\bar{c}_o c_o, \end{aligned} \quad (3.19)$$

where $\tilde{b} = b/2 + i\partial_\mu A^\mu$. Before we look for the space of saddle points \mathcal{M} , note that the constant ghost multiplet fields $\{c_o, \bar{c}_o, b_o, \bar{b}_o\}$ appear as Lagrange multipliers and can be integrated out. This yields a delta function for the ghost zero-modes effectively removing them from the spectrum. The only remaining fermionic zero-mode is $\lambda_1 = \lambda_0$, whereas the space of bosonic zero modes can be identified with the first De Rham cohomology of the torus and can be parametrized by a constant parameter u as

$$A = \frac{\bar{u}}{2i\tau_2} dw - \frac{u}{2i\tau_2} d\bar{w}. \quad (3.20)$$

We remark that the bosonic superpartner of the fermionic zero-mode λ_0 is the constant mode of the vector multiplet auxiliary field, D_0 , and has to be treated separately. The space of saddle-points is therefore parametrized by $\{D_0, u, \bar{u}, \lambda_0, \bar{\lambda}_0\}$. We normalize all bosonic and fermionic zero modes to have unit norm when Gaussian wavefunctions are integrated over the torus worldsheet. With this in mind, the partition function (3.17) reduces to the Gaussian path integral

$$\chi = \int \frac{d^2u}{2i\tau_2} \int dD_0 \int d^2\lambda_0 \int \mathcal{D}[P] \int \hat{\mathcal{D}}[eV, eC, t^{-1/2}\Phi] e^{-S_{\text{St.}}|_{\mathcal{M}} - \frac{i}{4\pi} \int d^2w \hat{\mathcal{Q}}\mathcal{V}|_{\text{quad } \mathcal{M}}} \quad (3.21)$$

where $\hat{\mathcal{D}}[eV, eC, t^{-1/2}\Phi]$ denotes the path integral measure with the zero-modes removed. Here $\hat{\mathcal{Q}}\mathcal{V}|_{\text{quad } \mathcal{M}}$ is the quadratic action for the fluctuations of order e and order $t^{-1/2}$ for the

vector multiplet and chiral multiplet fields respectively. The integral over u is performed over the whole of the complex plane. The origin of this plane is on the one hand the torus of holonomies of the gauge field, and on the other hand the winding modes of the compact boson p_2 (the imaginary part of the Stückelberg field) on the toroidal worldsheet. The latter can be soaked up into the holonomy variable u such that the integral indeed covers the complex plane once.

The Stückelberg Lagrangian evaluated on the saddle points \mathcal{M} is given by

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{St.}}|_{\mathcal{M}} = |G|^2 + 4|\partial p_1|^2 + 4\left|\partial p_2 - \frac{\bar{u} - \bar{v}/k}{2i\tau_2}\right|^2 + 2i\bar{\chi}_1\left(\bar{\partial} + \frac{v}{2\tau_2}\right)\chi_1 - 2i\bar{\chi}_2\partial\chi_2 + 2iDp_1 + i\bar{\chi}_2\lambda_0 + i\bar{\lambda}_0\chi_2. \quad (3.22)$$

Note that the kinetic term for the Stückelberg multiplet is not canonically normalized due to the factor of k out front in equation (3.2). To this end we rescale each field in the Stückelberg multiplet by \sqrt{k} . This allows us to define a canonical measure in the path integral. With this rescaling, a few things have to be kept in mind: firstly, the periodicity of the imaginary part of the Stückelberg field, p_2 , becomes $2\pi\sqrt{k}$. Secondly, the quadratic terms involving the zero-modes of the vector multiplet fields acquire an overall factor \sqrt{k} .

The first integral to carry out is over the fermionic zero modes. To perform this integral, we isolate all the terms that depend on λ_0 :

$$\int d^2\lambda_0 e^{\frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^2w (\bar{\phi}\bar{\lambda}_0\psi_2 + \bar{\psi}_2\lambda_0\phi + \sqrt{k}\bar{\chi}_2\lambda_0 + \sqrt{k}\bar{\lambda}_0\chi_2)}. \quad (3.23)$$

We pause here to point out an important difference with earlier calculations of the elliptic genera of gauged linear sigma models [7–9]. This involves the coupling of the gaugino zero modes with the fermionic partners χ_2 of the Stückelberg field p . In the path integral over the P multiplet, we also have to soak up the fermionic zero modes of χ_2 , as can be seen from the Lagrangian in (3.22). Therefore, on expanding the zero mode part of the Lagrangian, the only term that contributes is the quartic term in the fermions and that leads to a factor of k .

In the models with only chiral and vector multiplets [9], one obtains rather a four-point correlator involving the chiral multiplet fields. The further coupling to the P -multiplet determines the fact that another correlator is to be evaluated in the chiral multiplet sector, which turns out to be just $\langle 1 \rangle$. The only coupling between the Stückelberg multiplet and the vector multiplet that remains is the coupling to the zero mode of the auxiliary field D . Separating out this integral, the result of doing the λ_0 and χ_0 zero mode integrals we obtain

$$\chi = k \int \frac{d^2u}{2i\tau_2} \int dD_0 \int \hat{\mathcal{D}}[P] e^{-\int d^2w \mathcal{L}_{\text{St.}}|_{\lambda_0=\bar{\lambda}_0=0}} \langle 1 \rangle_{\text{free}}, \quad (3.24)$$

where the expectation value is in the chiral and vector multiplet sector and the hat indicates that the fermionic zero mode of the P -multiplet is excluded in the path integral. The free partition function is well known and is given by [8]

$$\langle 1 \rangle_{\text{free}} = \chi_{\text{v.m.}} \chi_{\text{c.m.}}, \quad (3.25)$$

where these are given by⁵

$$\chi_{\text{v.m.}} = \frac{\hat{\det}(\bar{\partial})}{\det\left(\bar{\partial} + \frac{v}{2\tau_2}\right)} \quad \text{and} \quad \chi_{\text{c.m.}} = \frac{\det\left(\bar{\partial} + \frac{u+v}{2\tau_2}\right)}{\det\left(\bar{\partial} + \frac{v}{2\tau_2}\right)}. \quad (3.26)$$

See appendix C for the explicit evaluation of the chiral multiplet contribution. The vector multiplet contribution will naturally combine with the Stückelberg fields. Turning to the latter, we have a product of functional determinants Δ_i for each of the component fields. For the field χ_2 , it is given by

$$\hat{\Delta}_{\chi_2} = \hat{\det}(\partial). \quad (3.27)$$

The hat over the χ_2 determinant denotes that the zero mode has been removed. The χ_1 fermion is charged under the R-current and leads to

$$\Delta_{\chi_1} = \det\left(\bar{\partial} + \frac{v}{2\tau_2}\right). \quad (3.28)$$

Let us consider the field p_1 , the real part of p . It has a bosonic zero mode and has to be treated carefully. Taking care of the coupling of p_1 to the auxiliary field D_0 , we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \int dD_0 \Delta_{p_1} &= \int dD_0 \int \mathcal{D}[p_1] e^{\int d^2w [-D_0^2 + 4p_1(\partial\bar{\partial})p_1 - 2i\sqrt{k}D_0p_1]} \\ &= \frac{1}{(\hat{\det}(\partial\bar{\partial}))^{\frac{1}{2}}} \int dD_0 \int dp_{1,0} e^{-\int d^2w (D_0^2 + 2i\sqrt{k}D_0p_{1,0})} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \frac{1}{(\hat{\det}(\partial\bar{\partial}))^{\frac{1}{2}}} \end{aligned} \quad (3.29)$$

Therefore, up to constant factors up front we obtain just the square root of the inverse determinant. The last component field left is the imaginary part p_2 of the Stückelberg field. This is a periodic variable with period $2\pi\sqrt{k}$, on account of the earlier rescaling. It is only the zero mode of this field that is charged under the gauge field and the R-current while the non-zero modes are uncharged. The partition function for such a field has been reviewed in [13] and is given by

$$\Delta_{p_2} = \frac{\sqrt{k}}{(\hat{\det}(\partial\bar{\partial}))^{\frac{1}{2}}} \times e^{-\frac{\pi k}{\tau_2} \left|u - \frac{v}{k}\right|^2}. \quad (3.30)$$

The factor of \sqrt{k} arises from the radius of the compact direction [25]. Note that this contribution is not holomorphic. The non-holomorphicity arises from the momentum and winding modes along the compact direction. The Stückelberg field therefore contributes a factor

$$\chi_{\text{St.}} = \frac{\det\left(\bar{\partial} + \frac{v}{2\tau_2}\right)}{\hat{\det}(\bar{\partial})} e^{-\frac{\pi k}{\tau_2} \left|u - \frac{v}{k}\right|^2}. \quad (3.31)$$

⁵Strictly speaking we should write Pfaffians for the fermionic path integrals.

A crucial point to note is that non-zero modes of the P multiplet have combined to produce exactly the inverse of the contribution from the vector multiplet. This is as expected from the supersymmetric Higgs mechanism. Combining all of the above factors, we find that the path integral takes the form

$$\chi(\tau, v) = k \int \frac{d^2u}{2i\tau_2} \chi_{\text{c.m.}}(\tau, u, v) e^{-\frac{k\pi}{\tau_2} |u - \frac{v}{k}|^2}. \quad (3.32)$$

Using the results in appendix C, one can write this as

$$\chi(\tau, v) = k \int \frac{d^2u}{2i\tau_2} \frac{\theta_{11}(\tau, u + v)}{\theta_{11}(\tau, u)} e^{-\frac{k\pi}{\tau_2} |u - \frac{v}{k}|^2}. \quad (3.33)$$

Shifting the holonomy variable u by $\frac{v}{k}$ and using the rewriting the u -integral in terms of the variables (s_1, s_2) and momentum and winding numbers⁶ (m, w) , we obtain

$$\chi(\tau, v) = k \int_0^1 ds_1 \int_0^1 ds_2 \frac{\theta_{11}(\tau, s_1\tau + s_2 + v + \frac{v}{k})}{\theta_{11}(\tau, s_1\tau + s_2 + \frac{v}{k})} \sum_{m,w} e^{-2\pi i v w} e^{-\frac{k\pi}{\tau_2} |s_1\tau + s_2 + m + w\tau|^2}. \quad (3.34)$$

This is exactly the elliptic genus of the cigar conformal field theory obtained in [13] by doing the path integral of the gauged WZW model $SL(2, \mathbb{R})/U(1)$.

3.3 Elliptic genera for models with multiple chiral fields

From the discussion in the preceding section, and especially equation (3.32), it is clear how to obtain the elliptic genera of the models with more chiral multiplets. The interaction Lagrangian that couples the Stückelberg field to the vector multiplet remains the same; therefore the discussion regarding the fermionic zero modes also remains the same. Consequently the correlator to be calculated in the chiral multiplet path integral continues to be the identity. Therefore, we include the free partition function of a chiral multiplet in equation (C.5) for each of the N chiral multiplets. The only difference is in the R-charge of the Stückelberg field; from the discussion in [18], it is clear that the R-charge is given by $-\frac{N}{k}$.

Putting all this together the path integral therefore is given by

$$\chi(\tau, v) = k \int \frac{d^2u}{2i\tau_2} \left[\frac{\theta_{11}(\tau, u + v)}{\theta_{11}(\tau, u)} \right]^N e^{-\frac{k\pi}{\tau_2} |u - \frac{Nv}{k}|^2}. \quad (3.35)$$

This is precisely the elliptic genus that was proposed in [23], on the basis of its modular and elliptic properties as well as its coding of wound bound states [14] in the background spacetime in (2.3). All properties are consistent with it being the elliptic genus of a conformal field theory with central charge $c = 3N(1 + 2N/k)$. Indeed, we have now derived this fact from first principles, through localization. As shown in [13, 23], it is also possible to define a twisted elliptic genus by including chemical potentials for global symmetries; in

⁶A note about ranges: in [13], the conventions are such that the gauge holonomy variables (s_1, s_2) take values between 0 and 1. It is possible to combine them along with the winding and momentum quantum numbers (w, m) to obtain a complex holonomy variable u which takes values on the complex plane.

this case these are the $U(1)^N$ phase rotations of each of the chiral multiplet fields Φ_i . The resulting twisted genera take the form

$$\chi(\tau, v, \beta_i) = k \int \frac{d^2u}{2i\tau_2} \prod_{i=1}^N \left[\frac{\theta_{11}(\tau, u + v + \beta_i)}{\theta_{11}(\tau, u + \beta_i)} \right] e^{-\frac{k\pi}{\tau_2} \left| u - \frac{Nv}{k} \right|^2}. \quad (3.36)$$

These twisted genera were decomposed in holomorphic and remainder contributions in [23]. We refer to [23] for the calculation of the shadow and an interpretation of the remainder term in terms of the asymptotic geometry.

3.4 Elliptic genera for models with multiple Stückelberg fields

In subsection 2.2 we discussed gauged linear sigma models with gauge groups $U(1)^M$ and M Stückelberg fields. We specified the gauge charges R_{ia} of all the chiral fields. In order to write the formula for the elliptic genus, we need the R-charges of the component fields as well. These can be read off from the R-current recorded in [18]. The fermions have unit R-charge while the zero mode of the P_a field has charge $-\frac{b_a}{k_a}$, where b_a is given in equation (2.7). Using the same logic as before, one can write down the elliptic genus of such a theory as an integral over the M holonomies of the $U(1)^M$ gauge theory:

$$\chi(\tau, v) = \int \prod_{a=1}^M k_a \frac{d^2u_a}{2i\tau_2} \prod_{i=1}^N \left[\frac{\theta_{11}(\tau, \sum_{a=1}^M R_{ia}u_a + v)}{\theta_{11}(\tau, \sum_{a=1}^M R_{ia}u_a)} \right] e^{-\sum_{a=1}^M \frac{k_a\pi}{\tau_2} \left| u_a - \frac{b_a v}{k_a} \right|^2}. \quad (3.37)$$

One can further generalize this result by including chemical potentials for global symmetries of the model. It would also be interesting to analyze the decomposition of this formula in terms of holomorphic contributions and non-holomorphic terms that modularly covariantize the contributions of right-moving ground states, following [12, 13, 17, 23]

4 Conclusions

We have shown that in the presence of Stückelberg superfields, we can still fruitfully apply the technique of localization. The dynamics determines the observable to be calculated by localization in the chiral and vector multiplet sectors. We have demonstrated that the appearance of extra fermionic zero modes simplifies the observable to be calculated. After applying localization to the chiral and vector multiplet sectors, we are left with a Gaussian integration in the Stückelberg sector. Performing this path integral, one finds that the non-zero modes of the Stückelberg multiplet cancel the contribution from the vector multiplet, as one would expect from the supersymmetric Higgs mechanism. We thereby have a derivation of the elliptic genera of gauged linear sigma models from first principles. The associated models are non-compact and the elliptic genera are real Jacobi forms.

We were thus able to prove, from first principles, a formula for elliptic genera of asymptotic linear dilaton spaces conjectured in [23]. Moreover, we have generalized this formula to abelian gauge theories in two dimensions with multiple Stückelberg fields.

These models appear in the context of mirror symmetry in two dimensions [21, 26] and in the worldsheet description of wrapped NS5 branes [19]. It will be interesting to verify mirror symmetry at the level of the elliptic genera. Verifications of mirror symmetry in tensor products and orbifolds of the cigar conformal field theory and minimal models were performed in [27]. In order to check the mirror duality for the genera computed in this paper, one has to calculate elliptic genera of non-compact Landau-Ginzburg models and their orbifolds more generally than has been done hitherto.

Applying the calculation of these worldsheet indices to space-time string theory BPS state counting, along the lines of [28–31], would be a further worthwhile endeavour. It would also be interesting to find examples of non-holomorphic elliptic genera in higher dimensions, perhaps by the addition of Stückelberg fields. Since the phenomenon of non-holomorphic contributions to indices is generic for theories with continuous spectra, higher dimensional manifestations are likely to be found.

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A Supersymmetry variations and Lagrangians

In this appendix we record Lagrangians and supersymmetry variations of the fields. We follow the notations and conventions of [32] regarding spinors and gamma matrices. We choose a basis such that the two-dimensional γ_μ matrices coincide with the Pauli matrices $\sigma^{1,2}$. The chirality matrix is given by

$$\gamma_3 = -i\gamma^1\gamma^2 = \sigma^3. \tag{A.1}$$

This allows to define projection operators

$$\gamma_\pm = \frac{1}{2}(1 \pm \gamma_3), \tag{A.2}$$

which we will use in the supersymmetry variations below. With this choice, if we consider a two component Dirac spinor λ , with

$$\lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix}, \tag{A.3}$$

then the components λ_1 and λ_2 have definite chirality ± 1 respectively.

A.1 Vector multiplet

The vector multiplet supersymmetry transformations are given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 \delta\sigma &= \bar{\epsilon}\gamma_-\lambda - \epsilon\gamma_+\bar{\lambda} \\
 \delta\bar{\sigma} &= \bar{\epsilon}\gamma_+\lambda - \epsilon\gamma_-\bar{\lambda} \\
 \delta\lambda &= i(\not{\partial}\sigma\gamma_+ + \not{\partial}\bar{\sigma}\gamma_- + \gamma^3\mathcal{F} + iD)\epsilon \\
 \delta\bar{\lambda} &= -i(\not{\partial}\sigma\gamma_- + \not{\partial}\bar{\sigma}\gamma_+ - \gamma^3\mathcal{F} + iD)\bar{\epsilon} \\
 \delta A_\mu &= -\frac{i}{2}(\bar{\epsilon}\gamma_\mu\lambda + \epsilon\gamma_\mu\bar{\lambda}) \\
 \delta D &= -\frac{i}{2}(\bar{\epsilon}\not{\partial}\lambda - \epsilon\not{\partial}\bar{\lambda}) .
 \end{aligned} \tag{A.4}$$

The Lagrangian governing the dynamics of the vector multiplet fields may be written as

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{v.m.}} = \frac{1}{2e^2}(\mathcal{F}^2 + \partial_\mu\sigma\partial^\mu\bar{\sigma} + D^2 + i\lambda\not{\partial}\bar{\lambda}) \tag{A.5}$$

A.2 Chiral multiplet with minimal coupling

The supersymmetry transformations for a chiral multiplet with minimal coupling to the vector multiplet are

$$\begin{aligned}
 \delta\phi &= \bar{\epsilon}\psi \\
 \delta\bar{\phi} &= \epsilon\bar{\psi} \\
 \delta\psi &= i(\not{D}\phi + \sigma\phi\gamma_+ + \bar{\sigma}\phi\gamma_-)\epsilon + \bar{\epsilon}F \\
 \delta\bar{\psi} &= i(\not{D}\bar{\phi} + \bar{\phi}\sigma\gamma_- + \phi\bar{\sigma}\gamma_+)\bar{\epsilon} + \epsilon\bar{F} \\
 \delta F &= i(D_\mu\psi\gamma^\mu + \sigma\psi\gamma_+ + \bar{\sigma}\psi\gamma_- + \lambda\phi)\epsilon \\
 \delta\bar{F} &= i(D_\mu\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu + \bar{\psi}\sigma\gamma_- + \psi\bar{\sigma}\gamma_+ - \bar{\phi}\bar{\lambda})\bar{\epsilon},
 \end{aligned} \tag{A.6}$$

and the corresponding Lagrangian is given by

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{c.m.}} = \bar{\phi}(-D_\mu^2 + \sigma\bar{\sigma} + iD)\phi + \bar{F}F - i\bar{\psi}(\not{D} - \sigma\gamma_- - \bar{\sigma}\gamma_+)\psi + i\bar{\psi}\lambda\phi - i\bar{\phi}\bar{\lambda}\psi. \tag{A.7}$$

A.3 Chiral multiplet with Stückelberg coupling

The Stückelberg field is coupled to the gauge field via the covariant differentiation

$$D_\mu p = \partial_\mu p - iA_\mu. \tag{A.8}$$

The supersymmetry transformations then take the form

$$\begin{aligned}
 \delta p &= \bar{\epsilon}\chi \\
 \delta\bar{p} &= \epsilon\bar{\chi} \\
 \delta\chi &= i(\not{D}p + \sigma\gamma_+ + \bar{\sigma}\gamma_-)\epsilon + \bar{\epsilon}G \\
 \delta\bar{\chi} &= i(\not{D}\bar{p} + \sigma\gamma_- + \bar{\sigma}\gamma_+)\bar{\epsilon} + \epsilon\bar{G} \\
 \delta G &= -i(\partial_\mu\psi\gamma^\mu + \lambda)\epsilon \\
 \delta\bar{G} &= -i(\partial_\mu\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu - \bar{\lambda})\bar{\epsilon},
 \end{aligned} \tag{A.9}$$

and the Lagrangian is given by

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{St.}} = k(\bar{G}G + \bar{\sigma}\sigma + D_\mu\bar{p}D^\mu p - i\bar{\chi}\not{\partial}\chi - i\bar{\lambda}\chi + i\bar{\chi}\lambda + iD(p + \bar{p})). \tag{A.10}$$

B Deformation Lagrangian

In this appendix, we discuss the supersymmetry variations of the fields under the localization supercharge, the exactness of various Lagrangians, as well as the technical subtleties in the localization scheme due to the gauge invariance of the model.

B.1 Vector multiplets and chiral multiplets

The supersymmetry transformation of the vector and chiral multiplet fields, including the background R -current, take the form

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q\sigma &= -\lambda_2 & Q\lambda_2 &= 2i(\bar{\partial} - ia_w^R)\sigma \\
 Q\bar{\sigma} &= \bar{\lambda}_2 & Q\bar{\lambda}_2 &= -2i(\bar{\partial} + ia_w^R)\bar{\sigma} \\
 QA_w &= i(\lambda_1 + \bar{\lambda}_1)/2 & Q\lambda_1 &= i\mathcal{F} - D \\
 QA_{\bar{w}} &= 0 & Q\bar{\lambda}_1 &= i\mathcal{F} + D \\
 QD &= i\bar{\partial}(\lambda_1 - \bar{\lambda}_1) & Q\mathcal{F} &= -\bar{\partial}(\lambda_1 + \bar{\lambda}_1)
 \end{aligned} \tag{B.1}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q\phi &= -\psi_2 & Q\psi_2 &= 2iD_{\bar{w}}\phi \\
 Q\bar{\phi} &= -\bar{\psi}_2 & Q\bar{\psi}_2 &= 2iD_{\bar{w}}\bar{\phi} \\
 Q\psi_1 &= F + i\sigma\phi & QF &= -2i(D_{\bar{w}} - ia_w^R)\psi_1 + i\sigma\psi_2 + i\lambda_2\phi \\
 Q\bar{\psi}_1 &= \bar{F} + i\bar{\phi}\bar{\sigma} & Q\bar{F} &= -2i(D_{\bar{w}} + ia_w^R)\bar{\psi}_1 + i\bar{\psi}_2\bar{\sigma} - i\bar{\phi}\bar{\lambda}_2.
 \end{aligned} \tag{B.2}$$

It is straightforward to check that the Lagrangian of the vector and chiral multiplets, including the background R -current couplings, is Q -exact: if $\tilde{\mathcal{L}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{v.m.}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{c.m.}}$, then $\tilde{\mathcal{L}} = Q\mathcal{V}$ where

$$\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{V}_{\text{v.m.}} + \mathcal{V}_{\text{c.m.}}, \tag{B.3}$$

and

$$\mathcal{V}_{\text{v.m.}} = \frac{1}{4g^2} [\bar{\lambda}_1(D - i\mathcal{F}) - \lambda_1(D + i\mathcal{F}) + 2i\bar{\lambda}_2(\partial - ia_w^R)\sigma - 2i\lambda_2(\partial + ia_w^R)\bar{\sigma}] \tag{B.4}$$

$$\mathcal{V}_{\text{c.m.}} = \frac{1}{2} [\bar{\psi}_1(F - i\sigma\phi) + (\bar{F} - i\bar{\phi}\bar{\sigma})\psi_1 - 2i\bar{\psi}_2 D_w\phi - 2iD_w\bar{\phi}\psi_2 - i\bar{\phi}(\lambda_1 - \bar{\lambda}_1)\phi] \tag{B.5}$$

B.2 Gauge fixing and ghosts

To implement the gauge fixing condition we define the (Grassmann odd) BRST operator Q_{BRST} and the ghost multiplet $\{c, a\}$ such that

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q_{\text{BRST}} &= iq_G c \\
 Q_{\text{BRST}}^2 &= iq_G a.
 \end{aligned} \tag{B.6}$$

To fix the supersymmetry transformation rules for the ghost multiplet, we require that the supercharge $\hat{Q} = Q + Q_{\text{BRST}}$ satisfy the algebra

$$\hat{Q}^2 = -2i\bar{\partial} - 2q_R a_w^R - 2q_G a. \tag{B.7}$$

This requires the ghost field c to transform as

$$\hat{Q}c = a - 2iA_{\bar{w}}, \tag{B.8}$$

while the bosonic superpartner of the ghost field, a , must be supersymmetric, i.e. $\hat{Q}a = 0$. We next define the anti-ghost multiplet $\{\bar{c}, b\}$ and the constant (zero-mode) multiplets $\{a_o, c_o\}$ and $\{\bar{c}_o, b_o\}$ and add to our deformation term the gauge fixing terms

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{Q}\mathcal{V}_{\text{G.F.}} &= \frac{1}{2}\hat{Q}\left(\bar{c}\mathcal{G} - \frac{i}{4}\bar{c}b - \bar{c}a_o + b_o c\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\left(\mathcal{G}^2 + (i\mathcal{G} + b/2)^2 - \bar{c}\hat{Q}\mathcal{G} - \frac{i}{2}\bar{c}\bar{\partial}\bar{c} + iba_o - i\bar{c}c_o + i\bar{c}_o c + b_o(a - 2iA_{\bar{w}})\right), \end{aligned} \tag{B.9}$$

where we have used the supersymmetry transformations

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{Q}\bar{c} &= ib & \hat{Q}c_o &= 0 & \hat{Q}\bar{c}_o &= 0 \\ \hat{Q}b &= -2\bar{\partial}\bar{c} & \hat{Q}a_o &= ic_o & \hat{Q}b_o &= i\bar{c}_o. \end{aligned} \tag{B.10}$$

In Lorentz gauge, the ghost deformation term therefore has the form

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{Q}\mathcal{V}_{\text{G.F.}} &= \frac{1}{2}\left((\partial_\mu A^\mu)^2 + (b/2 + i\partial_\mu A^\mu)^2 - 4\bar{c}\bar{\partial}\bar{c} - i\bar{c}\bar{\partial}(\bar{c} + 2\lambda_1 + 2\bar{\lambda}_1) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + iba_o - i\bar{c}c_o + i\bar{c}_o c + b_o(a - 2iA_{\bar{w}})\right). \end{aligned} \tag{B.11}$$

C Product representation of theta functions

In this appendix, we record some formulas for calculating functional determinants of free fields with twisted boundary conditions on the torus, and their representation in terms of θ functions. The free (twisted) path integral of the chiral multiplets which we encountered in the main text can be put in the form

$$\chi_{\text{c.m.}} = \frac{\det\left(\bar{\partial} + \frac{u+v}{2\tau_2}\right)}{\det\left(\bar{\partial} + \frac{v}{2\tau_2}\right)} \tag{C.1}$$

We will diagonalize these differential operators on the torus by using the following infinite set of functions:

$$f_{r,s}(w, \bar{w}) = \frac{1}{2i\tau_2}((r + s\tau)\bar{w} - (r + s\bar{\tau})w), \tag{C.2}$$

where $r, s \in \mathbb{Z}$. One can check that $\Psi_{r,s} = e^{if_{r,s}}$ is single valued under the transformations

$$w \rightarrow w + 2\pi \quad \bar{w} \rightarrow \bar{w} + 2\pi\tau. \tag{C.3}$$

Using this basis, it is clear that the ratio of determinants takes form of an infinite product

$$\chi_{\text{c.m.}} = \frac{u+v}{v} \prod_{\{r,s\} \neq \{0,0\}} \frac{((r + s\tau) + u + v)}{((r + s\tau) + v)}. \tag{C.4}$$

The factor out front can be absorbed by including the $(r, s) = (0, 0)$ in the infinite product. One can check explicitly that this is a Jacobi form with a given weight and index. Using this knowledge, one can rewrite the expression as

$$\chi_{\text{c.m.}} = \prod_{\{r,s\}} \frac{((r + s\tau) + u + v)}{((r + s\tau) + v)} = \frac{\theta_{11}(\tau, u + v)}{\theta_{11}(\tau, v)}. \quad (\text{C.5})$$

Similar formulae are also used in [8].

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