Unconstrained massless higher spin supermultiplet in AdS₄ spacetime

Mojtaba Najafizadeh®

School of Physics, Institute for Research in Fundamental Sciences (IPM), P.O. Box 19395-5531 Tehran, Iran

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We consider unconstrained formulation of the higher spin gauge theory in anti-de Sitter (AdS) spacetime, given by actions [A. Y. Segal, arXiv:0103028; M. Najafizadeh, Phys. Rev. D 98, 125012 (2018)], and provide on-shell supersymmetry transformations for the $\mathcal{N} = 1$ unconstrained massless higher spin supermultiplet in four-dimensional AdS₄. Such an irreducible supermultiplet ($\Phi_1, \Phi_2; \Psi_1, \Psi_2$) contains a pair of bosonic fields, with opposite parity, which are generating functions (infinite collection of totally symmetric real tensor fields of all integer rank $s = 0, 1, ..., \infty$), as well as two fermionic fields, which have opposite signs of the AdS radius, that are spinorial generating functions (infinite tower of totally symmetric Majorana spinor-tensor fields of all half-integer spin $s = \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, ..., \infty$).

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I. INTRODUCTION

Among all unconstrained Lagrangian formulations for the higher spin gauge field theory, there exists a simple model describing massless free bosonic higher spin fields in d-dimensional $(A)dS_d$ spacetime, proposed by Segal in 2001 [1]. Later on, in 2018, this formulation was extended to massless free fermionic higher spin fields in d-dimensional $(A)dS_d$ spacetime [2], which we refer to both as "Segal formulations".¹ These formulations are given (in the metriclike approach) by the local and covariant action principles in which there are no constraints on the gauge fields and the gauge parameters, unlike Fronsdal [5,6] and Fang-Fronsdal [7.8] formulations involving some constraints on the gauge fields and parameters, in both Minkowski and AdS spacetimes. Reformulating the higher spin theory using the Segal formulation may have some advantages and simplifies some (un)solved problems, something that made us interested in extending and developing this formulation. To make clear simplicity of this formalism, let us focus on the Segal action [1] and present some features to compare them with the Fronsdal action [5]:

(i) The Fronsdal action describes an arbitrary totally symmetric tensor field $\Phi_{\mu_1...\mu_s}(x)$ of integer

rank *s*, while the Segal action describes a tower of totally symmetric tensor fields $\Phi_{\mu_1...\mu_s}(x)$ of all integer rank *s*, packed using an auxiliary vector η^{μ} into a single generating function $\Phi(x, \eta) = \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s!} \Phi_{\mu_1...\mu_s}(x) \eta^{\mu_1} \dots \eta^{\mu_s}$.

- (ii) At the level of equations of motion, the Fronsdal and Segal equations are equivalent and can be conveniently converted to each other [2,9,10], while at the level of the action this equality has been shown in the Euclidean signature [3] (the problem is still open for Lorentzian signature [11]).
- (iii) In the Segal action, there is a derivative of the Dirac delta function which at first glance it may seem complicated. However, it makes simple calculations due to the property $x\delta(x) = 0$, and its existence can be naively thought of as a constraint, since it means that dynamical fields live on a hypersurface in auxiliary space.
- (iv) The Fronsdal action leads to the Euler-Lagrange equation which, in comparison to the spin-two case, is an Einstein-like equation which in turn reduces to a Ricci-like equation. However, the Euler-Lagrange equation of the Segal action directly leads to a Riccilike equation, that is why the form of its action seems to be simpler than the Fronsdal one and consequently fewer calculations are needed.

As one of applications of this formalism simplifying calculations, we could find, in component formalism, supersymmetry (SUSY) transformations for the $\mathcal{N} = 1$ unconstrained higher spin supermultiplet in four-dimensional Minkowski spacetime [12] so that the form of transformations were simple and compact. Nevertheless, the result was included the supersymmetry transformations of the Wess-Zumino supermultiplet (0, 1/2) as well as

mnajafizadeh@ipm.ir

¹In the context of the continuous spin gauge field theory, there exist "Segal-like formulations" describing bosonic [3] and fermionic [4] continuous spin particles (CSPs) which respectively reduce to [1,2] in the helicity limit.

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half-integer (s, s+1/2) and integer (s + 1/2, s + 1) spin supermultiplets [13]. We note that in the framework of superspace formalism the off-shell $\mathcal{N} = 1$, d = 4 higher superspin massless multiplets were studied first in [14,15], while its generalization to AdS space was given in [16] (see also [17,18] for component decomposition).

As another application, the present work is devoted to study supersymmetrization of Segal formulation in fourdimensional AdS₄. In the unconstrained supermultiplet which we will refer to it as the so-called "Segal supermultiplet," we observe that the bosonic part contains two fields that have opposite parity and each one are a generating function which is an infinite tower of totally symmetric real tensor fields of all integer rank $s = 0, 1, ..., \infty$, while the fermionic part includes two spinorial generating function, which have opposite signs of the AdS radius, and are an infinite tower of totally symmetric Majorana spinor-tensor fields of all half-integer spin $s = \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, ..., \infty$:

$$\mathcal{N} = 1 \text{ AdS}_4 \text{ Segal supermultiplet}$$

$$\Rightarrow (\Phi_1(x,\eta), \Phi_2(x,\eta); \Psi_1(x,\eta), \Psi_2(x,\eta)). \quad (1)$$

In flat spacetime limit, which AdS radius goes to infinity, two Majorana fields can construct a Dirac field and therefore the supermultiplet (1) reduces to the one we obtained in [12], i.e., the bosonic part becomes a complex field while the fermionic one comes to be a Dirac field.

We note that, in supersymmetrization of massive higher spins in flat spacetime [19] (see also its generalization to AdS [20] and references therein), the author considered two massive fermions with opposite signs of mass terms. Motivated by this consideration, for massless higher spins in AdS space, we take into account two massless fermions with opposite signs of AdS radius.

The layout of this paper is as follows. In Sec. II, we will independently review the unconstrained supersymmetric higher spins in flat spacetime, which was obtained from the helicity limit ($\mu = 0$) of the supersymmetric continuous spin gauge theory [12]. Supersymmetry transformations will obtain in a rotated basis as well. In Sec. III, which includes our main results, we present supersymmetry transformations which leave invariant the supersymmetric unconstrained higher spin action in AdS₄. The conclusions are displayed in Sec. IV. In the appendixes, we present our conventions in the appendix A; in appendix B, we review the Wess-Zumino multiplet in AdS_4 which includes a manner that we followed to find unconstrained supersymmetry transformations in this work; in appendix C, we illustrate how the SUSY algebra closes on-shell in flat spacetime. Useful relations concerning supersymmetry in AdS and so on will be presented in the appendix D.

II. UNCONSTRAINED HIGHER SPINS IN FLAT SPACE

In this section, we review the supersymmetrization of unconstrained higher spins in flat spacetime using Segal formulation which was obtained from the helicity limit of the continuous spin gauge theory in [12]. However, here, we include more details such as expressing the supersymmetry action and SUSY transformations in terms of real fields. Results in a rotated fermionic system are presented as well.

A. Bosonic and fermionic actions

In flat spacetime, Segal formalism can be given by the bosonic [1] and fermionic [2] unconstrained higher spin actions (in the mostly plus signature for the metric) respectively

$$S_{\text{Flat}}^{b} = \int d^{4}x \, d^{4}\eta \, \delta'(\eta^{2} - 1) \phi^{\dagger}(x, \eta) \mathbf{B} \phi(x, \eta),$$
$$\mathbf{B} \coloneqq \Box - (\eta \cdot \partial)(\bar{\eta} \cdot \partial) + \frac{1}{2} (\eta^{2} - 1)(\bar{\eta} \cdot \partial)^{2} \tag{2}$$

$$S_{\text{Flat}}^{f} = \int d^{4}x \, d^{4}\eta \, \delta'(\eta^{2} - 1) \bar{\psi}(x, \eta) (\eta - 1) F \psi(x, \eta),$$

$$F \coloneqq \partial - (\eta + 1) (\bar{\eta} \cdot \partial), \qquad (3)$$

where η^{μ} is a 4-dimensional auxiliary Lorentz vector localized to the unit hyperboloid of one sheet $\eta^2 = 1$, γ^{μ} are the 4-dimensional Dirac gamma matrices, δ' is the derivative of the Dirac delta function with respect to its argument, i.e., $\delta'(a) = \frac{d}{da}\delta(a)$, and

$$\bar{\eta}_{\mu} \coloneqq \partial/\partial \eta^{\mu}, \qquad \partial_{\mu} \coloneqq \partial/\partial x^{\mu}, \qquad \Box \coloneqq \partial^{2}, \quad (4)$$

$$\psi := \gamma^{\mu} \eta_{\mu}, \qquad \mathcal{O} := \gamma^{\mu} \partial_{\mu}, \qquad \bar{\psi} := \psi^{\dagger} i \gamma^{0}. \tag{5}$$

The bosonic complex field ϕ is unconstrained and introduces by a collection of totally symmetric complex tensor fields $\phi_{\mu_1...\mu_s}(x)$ of all integer rank *s*, packed into a single generating function

$$\phi(x,\eta) = \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s!} \eta^{\mu_1} \dots \eta^{\mu_s} \phi_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s}(x).$$
(6)

The fermionic Dirac field ψ is unconstrained and introduces by a tower of totally symmetric Dirac spinor-tensor fields $\psi_{\mu_1...\mu_s}(x)$ of all half-integer spin $s + \frac{1}{2}$, given by the generating function

$$\psi(x,\eta) = \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s!} \eta^{\mu_1} \dots \eta^{\mu_s} \psi_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_s}(x),$$
(7)

where the spinor index is left implicit. The bosonic action (2) is invariant under gauge transformations

$$\delta_{\xi_1}\phi(x,\eta) = \left[\eta \cdot \partial -\frac{1}{2}(\eta^2 - 1)(\bar{\eta} \cdot \partial)\right]\xi_1(x,\eta), \quad (8)$$

$$\delta_{\xi_2}\phi(x,\eta) = (\eta^2 - 1)^2 \xi_2(x,\eta), \tag{9}$$

where ξ_1, ξ_2 are two arbitrary unconstrained complex gauge transformation parameters. The fermionic action (3) is invariant under spinor gauge transformations

$$\delta_{\zeta_1} \psi(x,\eta) = [\partial(\eta + 1) - (\eta^2 - 1)(\bar{\eta} \cdot \partial)]\zeta_1(x,\eta), \quad (10)$$

$$\delta_{\zeta_2}\psi(x,\eta) = (\eta^2 - 1)(\eta - 1)\zeta_2(x,\eta),$$
(11)

where ζ_1 , ζ_2 are two arbitrary unconstrained spinor gauge transformation parameters.

B. Supersymmetry transformations

As one can see, the bosonic (6) and fermionic (7) unconstrained fields in Segal formulation include a tower of all spins, therefore equalizing bosonic and fermionic degrees of freedom in the supermultiplet does not make sense. However, for such supermultiplet we found that the number of real bosonic and fermionic fields should be equal. Indeed, the $\mathcal{N} = 1$ Segal supermultiplet in 4-dimensional flat spacetime can be denoted by

$$(\phi(x,\eta),\psi(x,\eta)) \tag{12}$$

where the complex bosonic field ϕ and the Dirac fermionic field ψ have equal real fields. It is then convenient and straightforward to demonstrate that the unconstrained SUSY higher spin action

$$S_{\text{Flat}}^{\text{SUSY}} = S_{\text{Flat}}^{b}[\phi] + S_{\text{Flat}}^{f}[\psi]$$
(13)

which is a sum of the bosonic (2) and fermionic (3) unconstrained actions is invariant under the following supersymmetry transformations

$$\delta\phi(x,\eta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\bar{\epsilon}(1+\gamma^5)(\eta+1)\psi(x,\eta),$$

$$\delta\psi(x,\eta) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}X(1-\gamma^5)\epsilon\phi(x,\eta),$$
 (14)

where ϵ is global supersymmetry parameter, which is a Dirac spinor, and the operator X defines as

$$\mathbf{X} \coloneqq -\partial \!\!\!/ + \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{y} - 1)(\bar{\boldsymbol{\eta}} \cdot \partial). \tag{15}$$

We then can simply find that the commutator of supersymmetry transformations (14) on the bosonic and fermionic fields become respectively

$$[\delta_1, \delta_2]\phi(x, \eta) = 2(\bar{\epsilon}_2 \mathscr{\partial} \epsilon_1)\phi(x, \eta), \qquad (16)$$

$$[\delta_1, \delta_2]\psi(x, \eta) \approx 2(\bar{\epsilon}_2 \mathscr{D} \epsilon_1)\psi(x, \eta) + \text{G.T.}, \qquad (17)$$

where " \approx " means that we have used the Euler-Lagrange equation of the fermionic action (3), i.e.,

$$\delta'(\eta^2 - 1)(\eta - 1)F\psi = 0, \tag{18}$$

and "G.T." denotes a term proportional to the fermionic gauge transformation (10) (see appendix C for more detail). Theses together indicate that the SUSY algebra is closed on-shell up to a fermionic gauge transformation.

SUSY transformations in terms of real fields:

For later purposes, let us take into account the complex bosonic field ϕ in terms of two real bosonic fields ϕ_1, ϕ_2 which would have opposite parity, and consider the Dirac spinor field ψ in terms of two Majorana spinor fields ψ_1, ψ_2 , i.e.,

$$\phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\phi_1 - i\phi_2), \qquad \psi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\psi_1 - i\psi_2).$$
(19)

By this consideration, one can plug (19) into (13), so as the SUSY higher spin action (13) converts to²

$$S_{\text{Flat}}^{\text{SUSY}} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4 x \, d^4 \eta \, \delta'(\eta^2 - 1) [\phi_1 \mathbf{B} \phi_1 + \phi_2 \mathbf{B} \phi_2 + \bar{\psi}_1 (\eta - 1) \mathbf{F} \psi_1 + \bar{\psi}_2 (\eta - 1) \mathbf{F} \psi_2], \qquad (20)$$

where the bosonic B and fermionic F operators were introduced in (2), (3), and the gauge fields ϕ_i, ψ_i (i = 1, 2) are generating functions with a similar form as (6), (7), except that they are now real fields. It is then convenient to find that the rewritten SUSY action (20) is invariant under the following supersymmetry transformations

$$\delta\phi_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\bar{\epsilon}[(\not_1 + 1)\psi_1 - i\gamma^5(\not_1 + 1)\psi_2],$$

$$\delta\psi_1 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}X(\phi_1 + i\gamma^5\phi_1)\epsilon,$$
 (21)

$$\delta\phi_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\bar{\epsilon}[(\not\!\!\!/ + 1)\psi_2 + i\gamma^5(\not\!\!\!/ + 1)\psi_1],$$

$$\delta\psi_2 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}X(\phi_1 - i\gamma^5\phi_1)\epsilon,$$
 (22)

where the operator X was given by (15). We note that since we are dealing here with real fields, the supersymmetry

²By inserting (19) into (13), a factor of 1/2 was appeared in (20), stating that in comparison with (2), (3) we are now dealing with real fields.

parameter ϵ is a Majorana spinor, unlike the previous case in which the supersymmetry parameter ϵ was a Dirac spinor.

It is again useful to check the closure of the SUSY algebra using superaymmetry transformations in (21), (22). We will then find that the commutator of supersymmetry transformations (21), (22) on the bosonic ϕ_i and fermionic ψ_i fields become

$$[\delta_1, \delta_2]\phi_i = 2(\bar{\varepsilon}_2 \mathscr{\partial} \varepsilon_1)\phi_i, \qquad i = 1, 2$$
(23)

$$[\delta_1, \delta_2] \psi_i = 2(\bar{\varepsilon}_2 \mathscr{D} \varepsilon_1) \psi_i + \sum_{j=1}^2 (\text{G.T.}(\psi_j) + \text{E.O.M.}(\psi_j)),$$

$$i = 1, 2$$
(24)

where G.T.(ψ_j) denotes a term proportional to gauge transformation of ψ_j

$$\delta \psi_j(x,\eta) = [\partial(\eta + 1) - (\eta^2 - 1)(\bar{\eta} \cdot \partial)]\zeta(x,\eta), \quad (25)$$

and E.O.M.(ψ_j) stands for a term proportional to the equation of motion of ψ_j

$$\delta'(\eta^2 - 1)(\eta - 1)F\psi_j = 0.$$
(26)

As one can see, by applying the equation of motion for both fermionic fields ψ_1, ψ_2 , the algebra closes up to two spinor gauge transformations. We note that the difference beetwin two fermionic equations of motion in (18) and (26) is related to the fermionic fields. The former (18) includes a Dirac spinor ψ , while the latter (26) contains a Majorana spinor ψ_j .

Matrix notation:

Let us employ a matrix notation which not only makes notation pretty, but also enable us to present supersymmetry transformations in a new basis conveniently. In a matrix notation, bosonic and fermionic parts of the SUSY higher spin action (20) can be written in terms of column and row vectors

$$S_{\text{Flat}}^{\text{SUSY}} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \, d^4\eta \, \delta'(\eta^2 - 1) \left[(\phi_1 \quad \phi_1) \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{B} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{B} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 \\ \phi_1 \end{pmatrix} \\ + \left(\bar{\psi}_1 \quad \bar{\psi}_2 \right) (\eta - 1) \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{F} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{F} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \end{pmatrix} \right], \quad (27)$$

thus, supersymmetry transformations (21), (22) in terms of column vectors³ will take a compact form as the following

$$\delta(\phi_1 \quad \phi_2) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\bar{\psi}_1 \quad \bar{\psi}_2) (y - 1) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & i\gamma^5 \\ -i\gamma^5 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \varepsilon. \quad (28)$$

$$\delta\begin{pmatrix}\phi_1\\\phi_2\end{pmatrix} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\bar{\varepsilon}\begin{pmatrix}1&-i\gamma^5\\i\gamma^5&1\end{pmatrix}(\not\!\!/+1)\begin{pmatrix}\psi_1\\\psi_2\end{pmatrix},$$

$$\delta\begin{pmatrix}\psi_1\\\psi_2\end{pmatrix} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}X\begin{pmatrix}1&i\gamma^5\\-i\gamma^5&1\end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix}\phi_1\\\phi_2\end{pmatrix}\varepsilon.$$
 (29)

where the operators B, F, X were introduced in (2), (3), (15) respectively. Moreover, the algebra of supersymmetry transformations (23), (24) in matrix notation can be written as

$$\begin{split} \left[\delta_1, \delta_2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 \\ \phi_1 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} \Delta_0 & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta_0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 \\ \phi_1 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \left[\delta_1, \delta_2 \right] \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \end{pmatrix} &\approx \begin{pmatrix} \Delta_0 & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta_0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \end{pmatrix} + \text{G.T.}, \quad \text{with} \\ \Delta_0 &\coloneqq 2(\bar{\epsilon}_2 \partial \epsilon_1) \end{split}$$
(30)

which is closed on-shell (\approx) up to gauge transformations (G.T.).

SUSY transformations in a new basis:

To close this section, and for later purposes, let us present above results in a new basis. To this end, if one rotates bosonic or fermionic column vectors, one then gets them in a new basis. For example, let us rotate fermionic column vector by an angle of θ

$$\begin{pmatrix} \Psi_1 \\ \Psi_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (31)$$

where Ψ_1, Ψ_2 are fermionic higher spin fields in rotated basis. In this new basis, it is easy to see that the form of the supersymmetric action (27), for any θ , will not change, except that we will have to substitute ψ_i by Ψ_i (i = 1, 2). However, supersymmetry transformations (29) in the new basis (31) become

$$\delta\begin{pmatrix}\phi_1\\\phi_1\end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\bar{\varepsilon}\begin{pmatrix}\cos\theta + i\gamma^5\sin\theta & \sin\theta - i\gamma^5\cos\theta\\-\sin\theta + i\gamma^5\cos\theta & \cos\theta + i\gamma^5\sin\theta\end{pmatrix}$$
$$\times (\eta + 1)\begin{pmatrix}\Psi_1\\\Psi_2\end{pmatrix}, \qquad (32a)$$

$$\delta \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_1 \\ \Psi_2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} X \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta + i\gamma^5 \sin \theta & -\sin \theta + i\gamma^5 \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta - i\gamma^5 \cos \theta & \cos \theta + i\gamma^5 \sin \theta \end{pmatrix} \\ \times \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 \\ \phi_1 \end{pmatrix} \varepsilon,$$
(32b)

Nevertheless, one may check that the algebra of rotated supersymmetry transformations (32), for any θ , will close and would be as before (30), upon substituting ψ_i by Ψ_i (i = 1, 2). Therefore, we conclude that in flat spacetime two set of non-rotated (29) and rotated (32) supersymmetry transformations satisfy the SUSY algebra. The reason we

³Note that, for example, a row vector for bosonic transformations becomes

here discussed rotated supersymmetry transformations is related to the next section. In fact, when we present supersymmetry transformations in anti-de Sitter space, we will see that its flat spacetime limit would coincide with rotated transformations (32) with $\theta = \pi/4$.

C. Relation to the Fronsdal formalism

As we discussed in the Introduction, Segal formulation seems to be so simple and its results can be translated into constrained formalism, i.e., Fronsdal formalism. Indeed, one can show that the Segal multiplet (12) which is an irreducible multiplet can be written in terms of constrained fields, and then such an obtained multiplet would be reducible and can be decomposed into a direct sum of the Wess-Zumino multiplet $(0, \frac{1}{2})$; all half-integer spin supermultiplets $(s, s + \frac{1}{2}), s \ge 1$; and all integer spin supermultiplets $(s + \frac{1}{2}, s + 1), s \ge 0$, i.e.,

$$\begin{split} (\phi(x,\eta),\psi(x,\eta)) &\Rightarrow (\phi(x,\omega),\psi(x,\omega)) \\ &\equiv \left(0,\frac{1}{2}\right) \oplus \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \left(s,s+\frac{1}{2}\right) \oplus \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \left(s+\frac{1}{2},s+1\right). \end{split}$$

By making a relationship between the Segal multiplet and the Fronsdal one, we indeed demonstrated [12] that unconstrained supersymmetry transformations (14), which have a very simple compact form will include the wellknown supersymmetry transformations of chiral multiplet. Moreover, they will contain supersymmetry transformations of the half-integer spin supermultiplet (s, s+1/2) [13]

$$\delta\phi_s(x,\omega) = \sqrt{2}\bar{\varepsilon}\psi_s(x,\omega),\tag{33}$$

$$\delta \psi_s(x,\omega) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[2\partial - \phi \frac{1}{(N+1)} (\bar{\omega} \cdot \partial) + \phi \partial \frac{1}{(N+1)} \bar{\phi} - \phi (\omega \cdot \partial) \frac{1}{2(N+2)} \bar{\omega}^2 \right] \epsilon \phi_s(x,\omega), \quad (34)$$

as well as the supersymmetry transformations of the integer spin supermultiplet (s+1/2, s+1) [13]

$$\delta\phi_{s+1}(x,\omega) = \bar{\epsilon}\phi \frac{1}{\sqrt{(N+1)}} \psi_s(x,\omega), \qquad (35)$$

$$\delta \psi_s(x,\omega) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(N+1)}} \left[\partial \phi - (\bar{\omega} \cdot \partial) - \frac{1}{2} (\omega \cdot \partial) \bar{\omega}^2 \right] \\ \times \epsilon \phi_{s+1}(x,\omega). \tag{36}$$

Here, we reviewed and brought our attention to the fact that in flat spacetime there exists a relationship between supersymmetry transformations of the Segal formulation and the Fronsdal one. This equality can be generally made in anti-de Sitter space where we present supersymmetry transformations in the next section, however, we will leave making this connection in current work.

III. UNCONSTRAINED HIGHER SPINS IN AdS₄ SPACE

In this section, which is the main part of the current work, we first present the bosonic and fermionic unconstrained higher spin actions in anti-de Sitter space, and then provide supersymmetry transformations.

A. Bosonic action

In four-dimensional AdS_4 spacetime, the unconstrained massless bosonic higher spin action can be given by $[1]^4$

$$S_{\text{AdS}}^{b} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^{4}x \, d^{4}\eta \, e \Phi(x,\eta) \delta'(\eta^{2} - 1) (\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{B}_{\ell}) \Phi(x,\eta),$$
(37)

with

$$\mathbf{B} := \Box_{\text{AdS}} - (\eta \cdot \nabla)(\bar{\eta} \cdot \nabla) + \frac{1}{2}(\eta^2 - 1)(\bar{\eta} \cdot \nabla)^2,$$
$$\mathbf{B}_{\ell} := -\ell^2 (N^2 - 2N - 2 + \eta^2 \bar{\eta}^2 - 2\bar{\eta}^2),$$
(38)

where η^a is a 4-dimensional auxiliary Lorentz vector localized to the unit hyperboloid of one sheet $\eta^2 = 1$, δ' is the derivative of the Dirac delta function with respect to its argument, i.e., $\delta'(a) = \frac{d}{da}\delta(a)$, and $e := \det e^a_\mu$ where e^a_μ stands for vielbein of AdS₄ space. The $\ell := 1/R$ where *R* is the AdS radius, ∇_a is the Lorentz covariant derivative, \Box_{AdS} is the d'Alembert operator of AdS, and $N := \eta \cdot \bar{\eta}$ (see appendix A for conventions). The gauge field Φ is real and unconstrained given by the generating function

$$\Phi(x,\eta) = \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s!} \eta^{a_1} \dots \eta^{a_s} \Phi_{a_1 \dots a_s}(x),$$
(39)

where $\Phi_{a_1...a_s}$ are covariant totally symmetric real tensor fields of anti-de Sitter spacetime with all integer rank $s = 0, 1, ..., \infty$, such that flat and curved indices are related to each other as: $\Phi_{a_1...a_s}(x) = e_{a_1}^{\mu_1}...e_{a_s}^{\mu_s}\Phi_{\mu_1...\mu_s}(x)$. The action (37) is invariant under the following two gauge transformations

$$\delta_{\xi_1} \Phi(x,\eta) = \left[\eta \cdot \nabla - \frac{1}{2} (\eta^2 - 1)(\bar{\eta} \cdot \nabla) \right] \xi_1(x,\eta), \quad (40)$$

$$\delta_{\xi_2} \Phi(x,\eta) = (\eta^2 - 1)^2 \xi_2(x,\eta), \tag{41}$$

⁴In AdS space, there was a typo in the operator V_{11} of the action presented in [1] which is corrected in this paper and [2].

where there are no constraints on two gauge transformation parameters ξ_1 and ξ_2 . Varying the action (37) with respect to the gauge field yields the Euler-Lagrange equation

$$\delta'(\eta^2 - 1)(\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{B}_{\ell})\Phi(x, \eta) = 0.$$
(42)

B. Fermionic action

In four-dimensional AdS_4 spacetime, the unconstrained massless fermionic higher spin action can be given by [2]

$$S_{\text{AdS}}^{f} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^{4}x d^{4}\eta e \bar{\Psi}(x,\eta) \delta'(\eta^{2}-1)(\eta-1)(\mathbf{F}+\mathbf{F}_{\ell})\Psi(x,\eta),$$
(43)

with

$$\mathbf{F} \coloneqq \mathcal{D} - (\mathbf{y} + 1)(\bar{\eta} \cdot D),$$
$$\mathbf{F}_{\ell} \coloneqq \frac{\ell}{2} (2N + \mathbf{y} \mathbf{y} + 3 \mathbf{y}), \tag{44}$$

where, in addition to the common relations in the bosonic case, here, γ^a are the 4-dimensional Dirac gamma matrices, D_a is spinorial covariant derivative (appendix A) and

$$\mathcal{D} := \gamma^a D_a, \quad \eta := \gamma^a \eta_a, \quad \bar{\eta} := \gamma^a \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta^a}, \quad \bar{\Psi} := \Psi^{\dagger} i \gamma^0.$$
 (45)

The fermionic field Ψ is real and unconstrained defined by the generating function

$$\Psi(x,\eta) = \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s!} \eta^{a_1} \dots \eta^{a_s} \Psi_{a_1 \dots a_s}(x),$$
(46)

where $\Psi_{a_1...a_s}$ are totally symmetric Majorana spinor-tensor fields of anti-de Sitter spacetime with all half-integer rank s+1/2, so as flat and curved indices are related to each other via $\Psi_{a_1...a_s}(x) = e_{a_1}^{\mu_1}...e_{a_s}^{\mu_s}\Psi_{\mu_1...\mu_s}(x)$, and the spinor index is left implicit. The action (43) is invariant under the following two spinor gauge transformations

$$\delta_{\zeta_1} \Psi(x,\eta) = \left[\mathcal{D}(\eta + 1) - (\eta^2 - 1)(\bar{\eta} \cdot D) + \frac{\ell}{2} [2\eta + (\eta - 1)^2 \bar{\eta} - (\eta - 1)(2N + 4)] \right] \zeta_1(x,\eta),$$
(47)

$$\delta_{\zeta_2} \Psi(x,\eta) = (\eta^2 - 1)(\eta - 1)\zeta_2(x,\eta), \tag{48}$$

where two spinor gauge transformation parameters ζ_1 , ζ_2 are unconstrained. If one varies the action (43) with respect to the gauge field $\overline{\Psi}$, we will arrive at the equation of motion

$$\delta'(\eta^2 - 1)(\eta - 1)(\mathbf{F} + \mathbf{F}_{\ell})\Psi(x, \eta) = 0.$$
(49)

As we discussed in the introduction, we note that the form of the bosonic and fermionic actions in Segal formulation seem simpler than Fronsdal formalism. However, by taking a look at gauge transformations (40), (41), (47), (48), one can see that, unlike the actions, gauge transformations in Segal formalism look like more complicated than Fronsdal one.

C. Killing spinors

In flat spacetime, global supersymmetry transformation parameter ϵ is a constant, satisfying $\partial_{\mu}\epsilon = 0$. In anti–de Sitter space,⁵ the supersymmetry transformations of the fields are proportional to a spinor parameter $\epsilon(x)$, which is a Killing spinor in the anti–de Sitter space, i.e., $\epsilon(x)$ must satisfy the Killing spinor equation [22] (see [23] for a review of supersymmetry in AdS). Therefore, in the mostly plus signature for the metric, the Majorana Killing spinor equation in four dimensions can be defined in a straightforward manner

$$\left(D_a + \frac{\ell}{2}\gamma_a\right)\varepsilon(x) = 0, \tag{50}$$

where D_a is spinorial covariant derivative, ℓ is the inverse of AdS radius, and ϵ is a Majorana Killing spinor. By defining a modified covariant derivative as $\hat{D}_a \epsilon \equiv$ $(D_a + \frac{\ell}{2}\gamma_a)\epsilon = 0$, one can check the integrability condition $[\hat{D}_a, \hat{D}_b]\epsilon = 0$, provided choosing the curvature in anti-de Sitter space as $R_{abcd} = -\ell^2(\eta_{ac}\eta_{bd} - \eta_{ad}\eta_{bc})$.

Now let us discuss the case we are dealing with in this paper. As we mentioned, to formulate supersymmetric unconstrained massless higher spins in AdS, we will have to choose two Majorana fermions with opposite signs of AdS radius. For this purpose, let us consider a form of the action (43) for each Majorana fermion which are distinguished through their AdS radius. Therefore, for two fermions Ψ_1 , Ψ_2 there would be respectively two Majorana Killing spinors ε , χ satisfying the following Killing spinor equations

$$\left(D_a + \frac{\ell_1}{2}\gamma_a\right)\varepsilon(x) = 0, \tag{51}$$

$$\left(D_a + \frac{\ell_2}{2}\gamma_a\right)\chi(x) = 0, \tag{52}$$

where ℓ_1 , ℓ_2 are inversed AdS radius of fermions Ψ_1 , Ψ_2 respectively. If one multiplies the equation (51) by γ^5 to the left

⁵For a discussion about de Sitter supersymmetry refer to this paper [21].

$$\left(D_a - \frac{\ell_1}{2}\gamma_a\right)(\gamma^5)\varepsilon(x) = 0, \tag{53}$$

and compare it with (52), it gives us a relationship between two Killing spinors

$$\chi = \gamma^5 \varepsilon, \tag{54}$$

provided we choose $\ell_1 = -\ell_2 = \ell$. Making use of this relationship which illustrates that two Killing spinors are not independent is the fact we will apply in the next subsection. We note that, in flat spacetime, where $\ell_1, \ell_2 \rightarrow 0$, both Killing spinors become identical to each other $\varepsilon = \chi$.

D. Supersymmetry transformations

Now we are in a position to find supersymmetry transformations. As we already discussed, to supersymmetrize unconstrained formulation of the higher spin gauge theory in 4-dimensional AdS₄ spacetime for the $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supermultiplet, we will consider a supermultiplet $(\Phi_1, \Phi_2; \Psi_1, \Psi_2)$ containing two bosonic higher spin fields Φ_1, Φ_2 which have opposite parity to each other, as well as two Majorana higher spin fields Ψ_1, Ψ_2 with opposite signs of AdS radius.⁶ Thus, let us take into account the supersymmetric unconstrained higher spin action for such a supermultiplet in AdS₄ as the following

$$S_{AdS}^{SUSY} = S_{AdS}^{b}[\Phi_{1}] + S_{AdS}^{b}[\Phi_{2}] + S_{AdS}^{f}[\Psi_{1}] + S_{AdS}^{f}[\Psi_{2}], \quad (55)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \, d^4\eta \, e \delta'(\eta^2 - 1) [\Phi_1(\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{B}_{\ell}) \Phi_1 \\ + \Phi_2(\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{B}_{\ell}) \Phi_2 + \bar{\Psi}_1(\eta - 1)(\mathbf{F} + \mathbf{F}_{\ell}) \Psi_1 \\ + \bar{\Psi}_2(\eta - 1)(\mathbf{F} - \mathbf{F}_{\ell}) \Psi_2],$$
(56)

where the bosonic and fermionic fields Φ_i , Ψ_i (i = 1, 2) were defined as generating functions in (39), (46), while operators **B**, \mathbf{B}_{ℓ} , **F**, \mathbf{F}_{ℓ} were introduced in (38), (44) respectively, and the condition $\ell_1 = -\ell_2 = \ell$ for two fermions has been applied by flipping the sign of \mathbf{F}_{ℓ} in the last term of (56).

We find that the above action (56) is invariant under the following SUSY-like transformations

$$\delta \Phi_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{\varepsilon}[(\not\!\!\!/ + 1)\Psi_1 - i\gamma^5(\not\!\!\!/ + 1)\Psi_2],$$

$$\delta \Psi_1 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}_\ell) (\varepsilon \Phi_1 + i\gamma^5 \chi \Phi_2), \qquad (57a)$$

$$\delta \Phi_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{\chi} [(\not \eta + 1) \Psi_2 + i \gamma^5 (\not \eta + 1) \Psi_1],$$

$$\delta \Psi_2 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_\ell) (\chi \Phi_2 - i \gamma^5 \varepsilon \Phi_1), \qquad (57b)$$

where

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{X} &\coloneqq -\mathcal{D} + \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{y} - 1)(\bar{\eta} \cdot D), \\ \mathbf{X}_{\ell} &\coloneqq \ell \left(N - 1 + \frac{1}{4}\mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}\mathbf{y} - \frac{5}{4}\mathbf{y}\mathbf{y} \right), \end{split} \tag{57c}$$

and ε , χ , which can be related to each other through (54), are local supersymmetry transformation parameters satisfying the Killing spinor equations (51), (52) with $\ell_1 = -\ell_2 = \ell$. In a matrix notation, the SUSY-like transformations (57) will take the following form

$$\delta \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_1 \\ \Phi_2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\varepsilon} & -i\bar{\varepsilon}\gamma^5 \\ i\bar{\chi}\gamma^5 & \bar{\chi} \end{pmatrix} (\not\!\!\!/ - 1) \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_1 \\ \Psi_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\delta \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_1 \\ \Psi_2 \end{pmatrix} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} (\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}_{\ell})\varepsilon & i(\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}_{\ell})\gamma^5\chi \\ -i(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_{\ell})\gamma^5\varepsilon & (\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}_{\ell})\chi \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_1 \\ \Phi_2 \end{pmatrix}$$
(58)

One can then find that the commutator of SUSY-like transformations (58) [or (57)] on the bosonic fields would be closed. However, the commutator on the fermionic fields cannot be closed, which is why we called them SUSY-like transformations. Nevertheless, if one rotates the fermionic column vector, the commutator will close on fermionic fields as well.

Therefore, to obtain supersymmetry transformations, let us go to a rotated basis in which fermionic column vector (31) has rotated by an angle of $\pi/4$. In this basis, supersymmetric unconstrained higher spin action is

$$S_{\text{AdS}}^{\text{SUSY}} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \, d^4\eta \delta'(\eta^2 - 1) \\ \times \left[(\Phi_1 \quad \Phi_2) \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{B}_{\ell} & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{B}_{\ell} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_1 \\ \Phi_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ + (\bar{\mathbf{\Psi}}_1 \quad \bar{\mathbf{\Psi}}_2)(\not{\!\!/} - 1) \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{F} \quad \mathbf{F}_{\ell} \\ \mathbf{F}_{\ell} \quad \mathbf{F} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{\Psi}_1 \\ \mathbf{\Psi}_2 \end{pmatrix} \right], \quad (59)$$

where the bold symbols Ψ_i denote rotated fermionic fields, and operators **B**, **B**_{ℓ}, **F**, **F**_{ℓ} were introduced in (38), (44) respectively. We then find that the supersymmetric action (59) would be invariant under the following supersymmetry transformations

⁶Note that having opposite signs of AdS radius may not be interpreted as the result of a parity transformation. In fact, if one considers such an interpretation, then it breaks in the flat spacetime limit, in which the AdS radius vanishes. Instead, it can be interpreted as two fermionic fields having opposite masslike terms vanishing in flat spacetime. We note that, in the bosonic case, two fields have opposite parity and it holds in both flat and AdS spaces.

$$\delta\begin{pmatrix} \Phi_1\\ \Phi_2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\varepsilon}(1+i\gamma^5) & \bar{\varepsilon}(1-i\gamma^5)\\ \bar{\chi}(-1+i\gamma^5) & \bar{\chi}(1+i\gamma^5) \end{pmatrix} (\not\!\!\!/ + 1) \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_1\\ \Psi_2 \end{pmatrix}, \tag{60a}$$

$$\delta\begin{pmatrix} \Psi_1\\ \Psi_2 \end{pmatrix} = -\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} (\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}_{\ell})\varepsilon + i(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_{\ell})\gamma^5\varepsilon & -(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_{\ell})\chi + i(\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}_{\ell})\gamma^5\chi \\ (\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}_{\ell})\varepsilon - i(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_{\ell})\gamma^5\varepsilon & (\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_{\ell})\chi + i(\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}_{\ell})\gamma^5\chi \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_1\\ \Phi_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (60b)$$

where operators $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}_{\ell}$ were introduced in (57c). As one can see in flat spacetime ($\ell \to 0$) two local supersymmetry parameters ε, χ become global and identical to each other $\varepsilon = \chi$, in such a way that local supersymmetry transformations (60) turn into global rotated transformations (32) with $\theta = \pi/4$.

To demonstrate invariance of the supersymmetric action (59) under supersymmetry transformations (60), one can conveniently apply the following obtained identities

$$(\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{B}_{\ell})\varepsilon \Phi_{i} = -(\mathbf{F} + \mathbf{F}_{\ell})(\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}_{\ell})\varepsilon \Phi_{i},$$

$$(\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{B}_{\ell})\gamma^{5}\varepsilon \Phi_{i} = -(\mathbf{F} - \mathbf{F}_{\ell})(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_{\ell})\gamma^{5}\varepsilon \Phi_{i},$$
(61)

$$(\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{B}_{\ell})\chi \Phi_{i} = -(\mathbf{F} - \mathbf{F}_{\ell})(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_{\ell})\chi \Phi_{i},$$

$$(\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{B}_{\ell})\gamma^{5}\chi \Phi_{i} = -(\mathbf{F} + \mathbf{F}_{\ell})(\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}_{\ell})\gamma^{5}\chi \Phi_{i},$$
 (62)

where the Killing spinor equations (51), (52) with $\ell_1 = -\ell_2 = \ell$ have been applied on the right-hand sides. For the reader's convenience, we have presented useful relations in (D5)–(D12), which using them one can straightforwardly demonstrate the above identities (61), (62).

Finally, to show the closure of the supersymmetry algebra in AdS_4 , let us first focus on the bosonic fields. By applying some Majorana flip relations (see, e.g., [24]), we find that the commutator of supersymmetry transformations (60) on the bosonic fields Φ_i becomes

$$[\delta_1, \delta_2] \Phi_i = 2[\bar{\varepsilon}_2 \gamma^a \varepsilon_1 \nabla_a + \frac{\ell}{2} \bar{\varepsilon}_2 \gamma^{ab} \varepsilon_1 M_{ab}] \Phi_i, \quad i = 1, 2$$
(63)

which is indeed the supersymmetry algebra in anti-de Sitter spacetime. The covariant derivative ∇_a , the operator M_{ab} and γ^{ab} are given in (A3), (A5). We note that the commutator (63) was written in terms of ε . If one uses the relation between two Killing spinors (54) and calculate the commutator in terms of χ , one finds again a relation like (63) in which $\varepsilon, \overline{\varepsilon}, \ell$ have substituted by $\chi, \overline{\chi}, -\ell$ respectively. This illustrates that, in terms of χ , the sign of ℓ would be flipped, as one expects. The commutator of supersymmetry transformations (60) on the fermionic fields would be closed upon using two fermionic equations of motion (49) (for Ψ_1 and Ψ_2), up to two spinor gauge transformations (related to Ψ_1 and Ψ_2) which are proportional to (47) (see the form of the closure for fermions (24) in flat space case). In matrix notation, the commutator of supersymmetry transformations (60) on the fermionic fields reads

$$[\delta_1, \delta_2] \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_1 \\ \Psi_2 \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} \Delta_{+\ell} & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta_{-\ell} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_1 \\ \Psi_2 \end{pmatrix} + \text{G.T.}, \quad (64)$$

where

$$\Delta_{+\ell} = 2 \left[\bar{\varepsilon}_2 \gamma^a \varepsilon_1 \nabla_a + \frac{\ell}{2} \bar{\varepsilon}_2 \gamma^{ab} \varepsilon_1 M_{ab} \right],$$

$$\Delta_{-\ell} = 2 \left[\bar{\chi}_2 \gamma^a \chi_1 \nabla_a - \frac{\ell}{2} \bar{\chi}_2 \gamma^{ab} \chi_1 M_{ab} \right].$$
(65)

This illustrates, unlike the flat space case (30), if one rotates the fermionic column vector, then the SUSY algebra does not hold (recall the SUSY-like transformations). This in turn comes from the fact that here two fermionic fields Ψ_1, Ψ_2 are respectively related to two Killing spinors ε, χ , having opposite sign of the AdS radius. However, by taking the flat spacetime limit ($\ell \to 0$) two Killing spinors become identical to each other $\varepsilon = \chi$, such that $(\lim_{\ell \to 0} \Delta_{\pm \ell}) = \Delta_0$, and thus (64) results in (30). To be more precise, by taking the limit $\ell \to 0$, the SUSY-like transformations (57) will then satisfy the SUSY algebra and reduc to (32) with $\theta = 0$, while the supersymmetry transformations (60) lead to (32) with $\theta = \pi/4$.

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND OUTLOOK

In this work, we took into account the unconstrained formalism of the higher spin gauge field theory given by the bosonic [1] and fermionic [2] actions in 4-dimensional flat Minkowski and anti-de Sitter spacetimes. For the reader's convenience, we first reviewed flat spacetime case independently, which was already discussed by taking a limit from the continuous spin gauge theory in [12]. The Segal supermultiplet was included a complex bosonic field and a Dirac spinor field given by the generating functions. Supersymmetry transformations (14) were found so as the supersymmetry action (13) (a sum of the complex bosonic higher spin action and the Dirac higher spin action) left invariant and the supersymmetry algebra was closed on-shell. In order to compare our results with the AdS space case, we decomposed the complex and Dirac fields and presented supersymmetry transformations (21), (22) in terms of two Majorana fields, and two real bosonic fields which have opposite parity. Employing a matrix notation, supersymmetry transformations were given in a rotated basis as well (32a).

Afterwards, we considered a generalization of the supersymmetric unconstrained higher spin formalism to the antide Sitter space case. In this case, we took into account the bosonic [1] and fermionic [2] higher spin actions in 4dimensional AdS₄ space and realized that the supermultiplet should comprise of two bosonic real higher spin fields (with opposite parity) as well as a pair of Majorana-spinor higher spin fields which have opposite sign of the AdS radius. Having opposite radii as well as Majorana Killing spinor equations (51), (52) with $\ell_1 = -\ell_2 = \ell$ were necessary to find supersymmetry transformations. We illustrated that the supersymmetry action (56) (containing four actions) is invariant under SUSY-like transformations (58), but the SUSY algebra cannot be closed. To close the algebra, we rotated SUSY-like transformations and obtained supersymmetry transformations (60) leaving invariant the supersymmetry action (59). The algebra closes on-shell up to spinor gauge transformations. We demonstrated that in flat spacetime ($\ell \to 0$), two Killing spinors became identical and thus supersymmetry transformations (60) will reproduce supersymmetry transformations in a rotated basis (32a).

Let us briefly discuss the possible further works related to obtained results. As we mentioned, Segal formulation is one of unconstrained higher spin formalism which is local and covariant, and gave us so simple results in context of supersymmetry. There are other unconstrained higher spin formulations in the literature (see, e.g., [25-30] and references therein) that examining of their supersymmetry may be interesting. There is also a different formulation in which similar infinite sets of higher spin fields appear [31]. Supersymmetric higher spin models constructed in hyperspace [32-35] describe infinite-dimensional higher spin supermultiplets and thus differ from the conventional higher spin supermultiplets in this work and [12]. Cubic interaction vertices for the $\mathcal{N} = 1$ arbitrary spin massless supermultiplets were discussed in [36,37] and it is interesting to study such interactions using Segal formulation (see [38,39] for interacting massive and massless arbitrary spin fields and $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supermultiplets in 3d flat space). One may generalize Segal formulation to massive higher spins in which on-shell/ off-shell supersymmetry transformations will probably take a simple form as the massless ones, discussed in this work. In this regards, we note that recently an off-shell description of massive supermultiplets was found for the first time for halfinteger supermultiplets [40].

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APPENDIX A: CONVENTIONS

We work in 4-dimensional AdS₄ spacetime and use the mostly plus signature for the flat metric tensor η_{ab} . We denote coordinates with x^a and momenta with $p^a := -i\partial/\partial x_a$, while we define "auxiliary coordinates" with η^a and "auxiliary momenta" with $\omega^a := i\partial/\partial \eta_a$. The Latin (flat) indices take values: a = 0, 1, 2, 3. Derivatives with respect to η^a are defined as:

$$\bar{\eta}_{\mu} := \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta^{\mu}} \qquad \bar{\eta}_{a} := \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta^{a}} := e_{a}^{\mu} \bar{\eta}_{\mu} \qquad N := \eta \cdot \bar{\eta} \quad (A1)$$

where

$$[\bar{\eta}^a, \eta^b] = \eta^{ab}, \qquad [\eta^a, \eta^b] = 0, \qquad [\bar{\eta}^a, \bar{\eta}^b] = 0.$$
 (A2)

The bosonic covariant derivative ∇_a is given by

$$\nabla_a \coloneqq e_a^{\mu} \nabla_{\mu}, \qquad \nabla_{\mu} \coloneqq \partial/\partial x^{\mu} + \frac{1}{2} \omega_{\mu}^{ab} \mathbf{M}_{ab},$$
$$\mathbf{M}^{ab} \coloneqq \eta^a \bar{\eta}^b - \eta^b \bar{\eta}^a, \qquad (A3)$$

where e_a^{μ} is inverse vielbein of AdS₄ space, ∇_{μ} stands for the Lorentz covariant derivative, ω_{μ}^{ab} is the Lorentz connection of AdS₄ space, and M^{ab} denotes the spin operator of the Lorentz algebra, while the Greek (curved) indices take values: $\mu = 0, 1, 2, 3$. The D'Alembert operator of AdS₄ space \Box_{AdS} is defined by

$$\Box_{\mathrm{AdS}} \coloneqq \nabla^a \nabla_a + e^{\mu}_a \omega^{ab}_{\mu} \nabla_b. \tag{A4}$$

Flat and curved indices of the covariant totally symmetric tensor fields of AdS₄ spacetime are related to each other as: $\Phi_{a_1...a_s}(x) = e_{a_1}^{\mu_1}...e_{a_s}^{\mu_s}\Phi_{\mu_1...\mu_s}(x)$.

The fermionic (spinorial) covariant derivative D_a is given by

$$D_{a} \coloneqq e_{a}^{\mu} D_{\mu}, \qquad D_{\mu} \coloneqq \partial/\partial x^{\mu} + \frac{1}{2} \omega_{\mu}^{ab} \mathbb{M}_{bc},$$
$$\mathbb{M}^{ab} \coloneqq M^{ab} + \frac{1}{2} \gamma^{ab}, \qquad \gamma^{ab} \coloneqq \frac{1}{2} (\gamma^{a} \gamma^{b} - \gamma^{b} \gamma^{a}), \qquad (A5)$$

where γ^a are the 4-dimensional Dirac gamma matrices satisfying the Clifford algebra $\{\gamma^a, \gamma^b\} = 2\eta^{ab}$, and

$$\begin{aligned} (\gamma^a)^{\dagger} &= \gamma^0 \gamma^a \gamma^0, \qquad \gamma^5 = i \gamma^0 \gamma^1 \gamma^2 \gamma^3 \\ (\gamma^0)^{\dagger} &= -\gamma^0, \qquad (\gamma^i)^{\dagger} = +\gamma^i, \qquad (i = 1, 2, 3). \end{aligned} \tag{A6}$$

APPENDIX B: WESS-ZUMINO MULTIPLET IN AdS₄

In this appendix, we briefly review the Wess-Zumino model in AdS_4 in a way that is base of what we followed to find SUSY transformations in this work, and thus may be helpful for reader. The Wess-Zumino model in anti–de Sitter space was first formulated using superspace techniques in [41], and then studied in the framework of off-shell component formalism in [22].

Let us consider a free massless real scalar field A(x), and a free massless Majorana field $\psi(x)$ in a general curved background given by actions⁷

$$S_A = -\frac{1}{2} \int d^4 x \sqrt{-g} \left(\nabla^{\mu} A \nabla_{\mu} A + \frac{R}{6} A^2 \right),$$

$$S_{\psi} = -\frac{1}{2} \int d^4 x \sqrt{-g} (\bar{\psi} \gamma^{\mu} D_{\mu} \psi),$$
(B1)

where *R* is the scalar curvature, $\nabla_{\mu} := \partial_{\mu}$ is the "covariant derivative", $D_{\mu} := \partial_{\mu} + \frac{1}{4} w_{\mu}^{ab} \gamma_{ab}$ is the "spinorial covariant derivative", and $\bar{\psi} = \psi^{\dagger} i \gamma^0$. Now let us consider the Wess-Zumino multiplet in AdS₄, which is the maximally symmetric solution of Einstein's equations, in which the scalar curvature is $R = -12\ell^2$. Due to the equality of degrees of freedom in a multiplet, one should add a free massless pseudo-scalar field B(x), and thus the free action of the onshell massless Wess-Zumino multiplet in anti-de Sitter space should have form [42]

$$S = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} (-\nabla^{\mu}A\nabla_{\mu}A + 2\ell^2 A^2 - \nabla^{\mu}B\nabla_{\mu}B + 2\ell^2 B^2 - \bar{\psi}\gamma^{\mu}D_{\mu}\psi).$$
(B2)

To begin our method, let us rewrite the latter action, by using integration by parts and using flat indices, in the following form

$$S = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \, e[A(\Box_{AdS} + 2\ell^2)A + B(\Box_{AdS} + 2\ell^2)B - \bar{\psi}\gamma^a D_a\psi], \qquad (B3)$$

where $e := \det e^a_\mu$ such that e^a_μ stands for vielbein of AdS₄ space, $\Box_{AdS} := \nabla^\mu \nabla_\mu = \nabla^a \nabla_a + w^{ab}_a \nabla_b$ while $\nabla_a := \partial_a$, and $D_a := \partial_a + \frac{1}{4} w_a^{bc} \gamma_{bc}$. We then vary the action (B3) with respect to fields A, B, ψ , which is proportional to

$$\delta S \propto [\delta A(\Box_{\text{AdS}} + 2\ell^2)A + \delta B(\Box_{\text{AdS}} + 2\ell^2)B - \bar{\psi}\gamma^a D_a \delta\psi + \cdots],$$
(B4)

in which we have kept variation of bosonic fields which are on the left-hand-side, as well as variation of fermionic field which is in the right-hand-side, while other variations will appear in dotted terms. By this approach, we will see later that the remnant variations (denoted by the dotted terms in the latter) would be Hermitian conjugation of previous terms, which will appear in the final step. In this sense, it is enough to demonstrate that existing terms in (B4) cancel each other by choosing suitable supersymmetry transformations. For this purpose, we consider variation of bosonic fields as ones in the flat space case

$$\delta A = \bar{\psi}\epsilon, \qquad \delta B = i\bar{\psi}\gamma^5\epsilon, \tag{B5}$$

with the difference that supersymmetry parameter $\epsilon = \epsilon(x)$ is local here, and take into account variation of fermionic field as the following ansatz

$$\delta \psi = X(A\epsilon) + i\gamma^5 Y(B\epsilon), \tag{B6}$$

where *X* and *Y* are unknown spinorial operators which we would like to find. In (B4), if one wants the dotted terms appear at the end as Hermitian conjugation of their previous terms, one needs to choose a property for *X*, *Y* as $X^{\dagger} = -\gamma^0 X \gamma^0$ and $Y^{\dagger} = -\gamma^0 Y \gamma^0$, and define the Hermitian conjugation rule as $(\partial_a)^{\dagger} := -\partial_a$. This guides us to consider the most general forms for *X*, *Y* as

$$X = a\vec{D} + b\ell, \qquad Y = c\vec{D} + d\ell, \qquad (B7)$$

where a, b, c, d are real parameters that should be determined so that the variation of the action vanishes. Plugging (B5) and the ansatz (B6) [with considering X, Y as (B7)] into (B4), one arrives at

$$\delta S \propto [\bar{\psi}\epsilon(\Box_{AdS} + 2\ell^2)A + i\bar{\psi}\gamma^5\epsilon(\Box_{AdS} + 2\ell^2)B - \bar{\psi}(aD^2 + b\ellD)A\epsilon + i\bar{\psi}\gamma^5(cD^2 + d\ellD)B\epsilon + \cdots].$$
(B8)

In this stage, one should act the spinorial covariant derivative D_a on $A\epsilon$ (and $B\epsilon$) yielding

$$D_a(A\epsilon) = (\nabla_a A)\epsilon + A\left(-\frac{\ell}{2}\gamma_a\epsilon\right), \tag{B9}$$

such that we have used the Killing spinor equation

⁷Majorana spinor is real and has half as many degrees of freedom in comparison to the Dirac spinor, thus the overall factor of 1/2 compared to the Dirac action appears.

$$D_a \epsilon = -\frac{\ell}{2} \gamma_a \epsilon. \tag{B10}$$

This makes us able to compute the action of operator \vec{D} (and \vec{D}^2) on $A\epsilon$ (and $B\epsilon$) which yields following identities

$$\mathcal{D}(A\epsilon) = (\nabla A)\epsilon - 2\ell A\epsilon, \tag{B11}$$

$$\mathcal{D}^{2}(A\epsilon) = (D^{a}D_{a} + w_{a}{}^{ab}D_{b} + 3\ell^{2})(A\epsilon)$$

= $(\Box_{\mathrm{AdS}}A)\epsilon + 4\ell^{2}A\epsilon - \ell(\nabla\!\!\!/ A)\epsilon.$ (B12)

Therefore, given these identities, the relation (B8) with considering of the dotted terms results in

$$\delta S \propto \{ \bar{\psi}[(1-a)(\Box_{AdS}A) + (2-4a+2b)A\ell^2 + \ell(a-b)(\nabla A)]\epsilon + i\bar{\psi}\gamma^5[(1+c)(\Box_{AdS}B) + (2+4c-2d)B\ell^2 + \ell(d-c)(\nabla B)]\epsilon + \text{H.c.} \}.$$
(B13)

As we already mentioned, the dotted terms in (B4), (B8) were appeared here as Hermitian conjugation (H.c.) of their previous terms. Finally, at a glance, one finds that the action's variation (B13) vanishes by setting real parameters as

$$a = b = 1,$$
 $c = d = -1.$ (B14)

Substituting these parameters in (B7), we find operators X, Y, and consequently the ansatz (B6), which together with bosonic variations (B5)

$$\delta A = \bar{\psi}\epsilon = \bar{\epsilon}\psi, \tag{B15}$$

$$\delta B = i\bar{\psi}\gamma^5 \epsilon = i\bar{\epsilon}\gamma^5\psi, \qquad (B16)$$

$$\begin{split} \delta \psi &= \mathcal{D}[(A + i\gamma^5 B)\epsilon] + \ell(A - i\gamma^5 B)\epsilon \\ &= [\partial(A + i\gamma^5 B)]\epsilon - \ell(A - i\gamma^5 B)\epsilon, \end{split} \tag{B17}$$

are supersymmetry transformations of the Wess-Zumino action (B3) in AdS_4 . This strategy (i.e., keeping variation of the left-hand-side-bosons, and considering variation of the right-hand side fermions) is the base of what we followed in this work to find unconstrained SUSY transformations.

APPENDIX C: COMMUTATOR OF SUSY TRANSFORMATIONS

The commutator of supersymmetry transformations (14) on the bosonic field is simple and obvious (16), while the one on the fermionic field becomes

$$\begin{split} [\delta_1, \delta_2] \psi(x, \eta) &= 2(\bar{\epsilon}_2 \mathscr{D} \epsilon_1) \psi(x, \eta) + [\mathscr{D}(\mathscr{Y} + 1) - (\eta^2 - 1)(\bar{\eta} \cdot \partial)] \left[\frac{1}{2} \bar{\epsilon}_1 \gamma_\mu \epsilon_2 \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma^5) \psi(x, \eta) \right] \\ &+ \frac{1}{4} (\bar{\epsilon}_2 \gamma_\mu \epsilon_1) [\gamma^\mu \mathscr{Y} - 3\gamma^\mu + 2\eta^\mu + \gamma^\mu \mathscr{Y} \gamma^5 + 2\eta^\mu \gamma^5 + \gamma^\mu \gamma^5] [\mathscr{D} - (\mathscr{Y} + 1)\bar{\eta} \cdot \partial] \psi(x, \eta). \end{split}$$
(C1)

In the first line of the latter, if one chooses a field dependent fermionic gauge transformation parameter as

$$\zeta(\psi) = \frac{1}{2}\bar{\epsilon}_1\gamma_\mu\epsilon_2\gamma^\mu(1-\gamma^5)\psi$$

then the fermionic gauge transformation (10) will appear. In the second line of (C1), the Euler-Lagrange equation of the fermionic action (3), i.e.,

$$\delta'(\eta^2 - 1)(\eta - 1)[\partial - (\eta + 1)(\bar{\eta} \cdot \partial)]\psi(x, \eta) = 0, \qquad (C2)$$

can be easily emerged, if one multiplies the commutator (C1) by $\delta(\eta^2 - 1)$ to the left and uses the following property of the Dirac delta function

$$\delta(\eta^2 - 1) = -(\eta + 1)\delta'(\eta^2 - 1)(\eta - 1).$$

We note that after applying the fermionic equation of motion (C2) the second line in (C1) vanishes, and the Dirac

delta function $\delta(\eta^2 - 1)$ can be dropped from both sides of (C1), thus the commutator will look like as the one in (17).

APPENDIX D: USEFUL RELATIONS

Since the Killing spinor equation is given by

$$D_a \varepsilon = -\frac{\ell}{2} \gamma_a \varepsilon, \qquad (D1)$$

one can write the following relations

$$\mathcal{D}\varepsilon(x) = -2\mathscr{E}\varepsilon(x),$$
(D2)

$$D_a D^a \varepsilon(x) = \ell^2 \varepsilon(x) + \frac{\ell}{2} w_a{}^{ac} \gamma_c \varepsilon(x), \qquad (D3)$$

$$\begin{split} D_a D^a (AB) &= (D_a D^a A) B + 2 (D_a A) (D^a B) \\ &+ A (D_a D^a B). \end{split} \tag{D4}$$

In 4-dimensional AdS₄, one can act the following operators (including the spinorial covariant derivative D_a) on $\Phi \varepsilon$ which gives us the following useful relations:

$$\mathcal{D}(\Phi\varepsilon) = [\nabla - 2\ell] \Phi\varepsilon \tag{D5}$$

$$(\bar{\eta} \cdot D)(\Phi \varepsilon) = \left[\bar{\eta} \cdot \nabla - \frac{\ell}{2} \tilde{\eta}\right] \Phi \varepsilon \tag{D6}$$

$$\mathbf{I}_{AdS}(\Phi\varepsilon) = [\Box_{AdS} + \ell^2 - \ell \nabla] \Phi\varepsilon \tag{D7}$$

$$(\bar{\eta} \cdot D)^2 (\Phi \varepsilon) = \left[(\bar{\eta} \cdot \nabla)^2 - \ell \bar{\eta} (\bar{\eta} \cdot \nabla) + \frac{\ell^2}{4} \bar{\eta}^2 \right] \Phi \varepsilon \qquad (D9)$$

$$(\eta \cdot D)\vec{\eta}(\Phi\varepsilon) = \left[(\eta \cdot \nabla)\vec{\eta} + \frac{\ell}{2}\eta\vec{\eta} - \ell N - w^{abc}\gamma_a\eta_b\bar{\eta}_c \right] \Phi\varepsilon$$
(D10)

$$\mathcal{D}(\bar{\eta} \cdot D)(\Phi \varepsilon) = \left[\nabla (\bar{\eta} \cdot \nabla) - \frac{\ell}{2} \nabla \bar{\eta} - 2\ell \bar{\eta} \cdot \nabla - \frac{\ell^2}{2} \bar{\eta} - \frac{\ell^2}{2} \bar{\eta} - \frac{\ell}{2} w^{abc} \gamma_a \gamma_b \bar{\eta}_c \right] \Phi \varepsilon$$
(D11)

$$\begin{aligned} (\eta \cdot D)(\bar{\eta} \cdot D)(\Phi \varepsilon) &= \left[(\eta \cdot \nabla)(\bar{\eta} \cdot \nabla) - \frac{\ell}{2} \eta (\bar{\eta} \cdot \nabla) \right. \\ &\left. - \frac{\ell}{2} (\eta \cdot \nabla) \bar{\eta} - \frac{\ell^2}{4} \eta \bar{\eta} + \frac{\ell^2}{2} N \right. \\ &\left. + \frac{\ell}{2} w^{abc} \gamma_a \eta_b \bar{\eta}_c \right] \Phi \varepsilon \end{aligned} \tag{D12}$$

We note that in the right-hand side of above relations, the appeared covariant derivative ∇_a just acts on the bosonic field Φ , not the Killing spinor ϵ .

One can also show

$$\nabla^2 = \nabla_a \nabla^a + \frac{1}{4} \gamma^{ab} R_{abcd} M^{cd}$$
(D13)

$$= \nabla_a \nabla^a - \frac{1}{2} \ell^2 \gamma^{ab} M_{ab} \tag{D14}$$

$$= \nabla_a \nabla^a - \ell^2 (\eta \eta - N) \tag{D15}$$

$$\mathcal{D}^2 = \mathcal{D}\mathcal{D} = D_a D^a + w_a{}^{ab} D_b + \frac{1}{4} \gamma^{ab} R_{abcd} \mathbb{M}^{cd} \qquad (D16)$$

$$= \bullet_{\mathrm{AdS}} - \frac{1}{2} \ell^2 \gamma^{ab} \mathbb{M}_{ab} \tag{D17}$$

$$= \bullet_{\mathrm{AdS}} - \ell^2 [\eta \eta - N - 3] \tag{D18}$$

where

$$\bullet_{\text{AdS}} \coloneqq D_a D^a + w_a{}^{ab} D_b. \tag{D19}$$

In addition, we have the following useful commutation relations

$$[\partial_a, \partial_b] = \Omega_{ab}{}^c \partial_c \tag{D20}$$

$$[\nabla_a, \nabla_b] = \Omega_{ab}{}^c \nabla_c + \frac{1}{2} R_{abcd} M^{cd}$$
(D21)

$$=\Omega_{ab}{}^c\nabla_c - \ell^2 M_{ab} \tag{D22}$$

$$[\bar{\eta} \cdot \nabla, \eta \cdot \nabla] = \nabla_a \nabla^a + w_a{}^{ab} \nabla_b - \frac{1}{4} M^{ab} R_{abcd} M^{cd} \quad (D23)$$

$$= \Box_{\text{AdS}} - \ell^2 [N^2 + 2N - \eta^2 \bar{\eta}^2]$$
 (D24)

$$[\nabla_a, \eta^b] = -w_a{}^{bc}\eta_c, \quad [\eta^2, \nabla_b] = 0, \quad [\bar{\eta}^2, \eta \cdot \nabla] = 2\bar{\eta} \cdot \nabla,$$
(D25)

$$[\nabla_a, \bar{\eta}^b] = -w_a{}^{bc}\bar{\eta}_c, \quad [\bar{\eta}^2, \nabla_b] = 0, \quad [\bar{\eta} \cdot \nabla, \eta^2] = 2\eta \cdot \nabla.$$
(D26)

$$\begin{aligned} [D^a, \eta^b] &= -w^{abc} \eta_c, \qquad [D^a, \bar{\eta}^b] = -w^{abc} \bar{\eta}_c, \\ [D^a, \gamma^b] &= -w^{abc} \gamma_c. \end{aligned}$$
(D27)

$$\begin{split} & [\bar{\eta}^2, \eta \cdot D] = 2\bar{\eta} \cdot D, \qquad [\bar{\eta} \cdot D, \eta^2] = 2\eta \cdot D, \\ & [\bar{\eta}, \eta \cdot D] = \mathcal{D}, \qquad [\bar{\eta} \cdot D, \eta] = \mathcal{D}. \end{split} \tag{D28}$$

$$\{\mathcal{D}, \eta\} = 2\eta \cdot D, \qquad \{\mathcal{D}, \overline{\eta}\} = 2\overline{\eta} \cdot D. \quad (D29)$$

$$[D_a, D_b] = \Omega_{ab}{}^c D_c + \frac{1}{2} R_{abcd} \mathbb{M}^{cd}$$
(D30)

$$= \Omega_{ab}{}^c D_c - \ell^2 \mathbb{M}_{ab} \tag{D31}$$

$$=\Omega_{ab}{}^{c}D_{c}-\ell^{2}M_{ab}-\frac{1}{2}\ell^{2}\gamma_{ab}$$
(D32)

$$[\bar{\eta} \cdot D, \eta \cdot D] = D_a D^a + w_a{}^{ab} D_b - \frac{1}{4} M^{ab} R_{abcd} \mathbb{M}^{cd} \quad (D33)$$

$$= \bullet_{\mathrm{AdS}} + \frac{1}{2} \ell^2 M^{ab} \mathbb{M}_{ab}$$
(D34)

$$= \mathbf{I}_{AdS} + \ell^2 \left[\eta^2 \bar{\eta}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \eta \bar{\eta} - N^2 - \frac{5}{2} N \right]$$
 (D35)

$$[\mathcal{D}, \eta \cdot D] = \frac{1}{2} \gamma^a \eta^b R_{abcd} \mathbb{M}^{cd} = -\ell^2 \left[\mathscr{H}\left(N + \frac{3}{2}\right) - \eta^2 \mathscr{H}\right],$$
(D36)

$$[\bar{\eta} \cdot D, \vec{D}] = -\frac{1}{2} \gamma^a \bar{\eta}^b R_{abcd} \mathbb{M}^{cd} = -\ell^2 \left[\left(N + \frac{3}{2} \right) \vec{\eta} - \eta \bar{\eta}^2 \right].$$
(D37)

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