

## SUBMITTED VERSION

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### **Exotic twisted equivariant K-theory**

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# EXOTIC TWISTED EQUIVARIANT K-THEORY

FEI HAN AND VARGHESE MATHAI

ABSTRACT. In this paper we introduce *exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant  $K$ -theory* of loop space  $LZ$  depending on the (typically non-flat) holonomy line bundle  $\mathcal{L}^B$  on  $LZ$  induced from a gerbe on  $Z$ . We also define *exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant Chern character* that maps the exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant  $K$ -theory of  $LZ$  into the exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant cohomology as defined earlier in [9], and which localises to twisted cohomology of  $Z$ .

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## INTRODUCTION

In [9], we introduced the *exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant cohomology* for the loop space  $LZ$  of a smooth manifold  $Z$  via the invariant differential forms on  $LZ$  with coefficients in the (typically non-flat) holonomy line bundle  $\mathcal{L}^B$  of a gerbe, with differential an equivariantly flat superconnection  $\nabla^{\mathcal{L}^B} - \iota_K + \bar{H}$  in the sense of [13], where  $K$  is the rotation vector field and  $\bar{H}$  is a degree 3 circle-invariant form on  $LZ$  that is completely determined by  $H$ , the curvature of the gerbe.

This exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant cohomology theory has two applications.

First we introduced in [9] the twisted Bismut-Chern character form, generalising [2], which is a loop space refinement of the twisted Chern character form in [4] and represents classes in the completed periodic exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant cohomology  $h_{\mathbb{T}}^{\bullet}(LZ, \nabla^{\mathcal{L}^B} : \bar{H})$  of  $LZ$ .

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More precisely, we define these in such a way that the following diagram commutes,

$$(0.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} K^\bullet(Z, H) & \xrightarrow{BCh_H} & h_{\mathbb{T}}^\bullet(LZ, \nabla^{\mathcal{L}^B} : \bar{H}) \\ & \searrow^{Ch_H} & \swarrow_{res} \\ & H^\bullet(\Omega(Z)[[u, u^{-1}]], d + u^{-1}H) & \end{array}$$

where  $res$  is the localisation map,  $\text{degree}(u) = 2$ .

Secondly, in [9] we establish a localisation theorem (about the map  $res$ ) for the completed periodic exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant cohomology for loop spaces and apply it to establish T-duality in a background flux in type II String Theory from a loop space perspective. Continuing along this clue, we recently used in [10] the exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant cohomology to enhance T-duality on twisted differential forms on circle bundles, where we also showed the exchange of winding and momentum for the first time in the model of [5, 6]. For an alternate approach to T-duality on loop space using twisted chiral de Rham cohomology instead, see [12].

In this paper, we introduce *exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant K-theory*,  $K_{\mathbb{T}}^0(LZ, \nabla^{\mathcal{L}^B} : \mathcal{G})$ , for the loop space  $LZ$ , where  $\mathcal{G}$  is the weak  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant gerbe on  $LZ$  whose Dixmier-Douady class is  $\bar{H}$ . We also define an *exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant Chern character*,

$$Ch_{\nabla^{\mathcal{L}^B} : \mathcal{G}} : K_{\mathbb{T}}^0(LZ, \nabla^{\mathcal{L}^B} : \mathcal{G}) \longrightarrow h_{\mathbb{T}}^{even}(LZ, \nabla^{\mathcal{L}^B} : \bar{H})$$

that make the below diagram commutative :

$$(0.2) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & K_{\mathbb{T}}^0(LZ, \nabla^{\mathcal{L}^B} : \mathcal{G}) & \\ \swarrow_{res} & & \searrow^{Ch_{\nabla^{\mathcal{L}^B} : \mathcal{G}}} \\ K^\bullet(Z, H) & & h_{\mathbb{T}}^\bullet(LZ, \nabla^{\mathcal{L}^B} : \bar{H}) \\ \searrow^{Ch_H} & & \swarrow_{res} \\ & H^\bullet(\Omega(Z)[[u, u^{-1}]], d + u^{-1}H) & \end{array}$$

It follows that the exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant K-theory is the correct version of K-theory that corresponds via a Chern character map to the exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant cohomology as defined in [9]. However we would like to point out that the map  $BCh_H$  in figure (0.1) does not make the upper triangle of figure (0.2) commutative.

Our construction of the exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant K-theory can be done on more general spaces rather than loop spaces, namely on the good  $\mathbb{T}$ -manifolds, which apply to the circle bundles in the T-duality setting. Actually this paper lays the foundation for work in progress, [11], where we will use the exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant K-theory on  $LZ$  to enhance T-duality on objects in (twisted) K-theory on circle bundles, similarly in spirit to what we did in [10].

The plan of this paper is as follows.

In Section 1, we introduce the concept of *weak  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant gerbes* and study the coupling of them to  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant line bundles on possibly infinite dimensional good  $\mathbb{T}$ -manifolds. A

pair of coupled weak  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant gerbe and  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant line bundles will be the initially input data for an exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant K-theory (see Section 3).

In Section 2, we establish the correspondence of the exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant cohomology about differential forms on  $M$  with coefficients in a line bundle  $\xi$  to certain cohomology theory about differential forms on  $S\xi$ , the circle bundle of  $\xi$  (see Theorem 2.3). Such a passage from  $M$  to  $S\xi$  is needed to be established because when we attempt to develop the exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant K-theory, we realize that it is difficult to be done on  $M$  itself, instead one needs to pass to the circle bundle of  $\xi$ . This space has more room to develop the correct K-theory, who possesses a Chern character landing into the exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant cohomology.

In Section 3, we introduce exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant K-theory for possibly infinite dimensional  $\mathbb{T}$ -manifolds, and the exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant Chern character that lands into exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant cohomology. We also establish the transgression formulae in this context, using a new version of Chern-Simons forms.

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## 1. COUPLING OF $\mathbb{T}$ -EQUIVARIANT LINE BUNDLES AND WEAK $\mathbb{T}$ -INVARIANT GERBES

Let  $M$  be a (possibly infinite dimensional)  $\mathbb{T}$ -manifold. We call  $M$  a **good  $\mathbb{T}$ -manifold** if  $M$  has an open cover  $\{U_\alpha\}$  such that all finite intersections  $U_{\alpha_0\alpha_1\cdots\alpha_p} = U_{\alpha_0} \cap U_{\alpha_1} \cdots U_{\alpha_p}$  are  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant. Let  $K$  be the Killing vector field of the  $\mathbb{T}$ -action.

**Definition 1.1.** *The system  $(\{U_\alpha\}, H, B_\alpha, A_{\alpha\beta})$  is called a gerbe on  $M$ , if*

$$H \in \Omega^3(M), \quad B_\alpha \in \Omega^2(U_\alpha), \quad A_{\alpha\beta} \in \Omega^1(U_{\alpha\beta}),$$

such that  $\frac{1}{2\pi i}H$  has integral period,

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{aligned} H &= dB_\alpha \quad \text{on } U_\alpha, \\ B_\alpha - B_\beta &= dA_{\alpha\beta} \quad \text{on } U_{\alpha\beta}, \end{aligned}$$

and there exist  $C_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \in C^\infty(U_{\alpha\beta\gamma}, U(1))$  such that

$$A_{\alpha\beta} + A_{\beta\gamma} - A_{\alpha\gamma} = d \ln C_{\alpha\beta\gamma}.$$

It is easy to see that different choices of  $C_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$  differ by a  $U(1)$ -valued constant scalar on each connected component of  $U_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ .

**Remark 1.2.** *Our definition of a gerbe here is slightly more general than the gerbe in the usual sense. We don't require  $C_{\beta\gamma\delta}C_{\alpha\gamma\delta}^{-1}C_{\alpha\beta\delta}C_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^{-1} = 1$  on each nonempty intersection  $U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \cap U_\gamma \cap U_\delta$ .*

**Definition 1.3.** A gerbe  $(\{U_\alpha\}, H, B_\alpha, A_{\alpha\beta})$  is called a **weak  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant gerbe** on  $M$  if

(i)  $H, B_\alpha, A_{\alpha\beta}$  are all  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant;

(ii)  $\iota_K A_{\alpha\beta} + \iota_K A_{\alpha\beta} - \iota_K A_{\alpha\gamma}$  takes values in  $2\pi i \cdot \mathbb{Z}$  on each connected component of  $U_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ .

**Remark 1.4.** The second condition is equivalent to

$$L_K C_{\alpha\beta\gamma} = 2\pi i n C_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$$

for some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  on each connected component of  $U_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ . Actually we have

$$\iota_K A_{\alpha\beta} + \iota_K A_{\alpha\beta} - \iota_K A_{\alpha\gamma} = \iota_K (C_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^{-1} dC_{\alpha\beta\gamma}) = C_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^{-1} \iota_K dC_{\alpha\beta\gamma} = C_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^{-1} L_K C_{\alpha\beta\gamma}.$$

If all the  $n$  is equal to 0, i.e.  $C_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ 's are  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant, we call it a  **$\mathbb{T}$ -invariant gerbe**.

Let  $\xi$  be a  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant complex line bundle over  $M$  equipped with a  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant connection  $\nabla^\xi$ .

**Definition 1.5.** The  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant line bundle  $(\xi, \nabla^\xi)$  and the weak  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant gerbe  $(\{U_\alpha\}, H, B_\alpha, A_{\alpha\beta})$  are called **coupled on  $M$**  if under some  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant local basis  $\{s_\alpha\}$ ,

(i)  $-\iota_K B_\alpha$  is the connection 1-form of  $\nabla^\xi$  on  $U_\alpha$  for each  $\alpha$ ;

(ii)  $e^{-\iota_K A_{\alpha\beta}}$  is the transition function of  $\xi$  on  $U_{\alpha\beta}$  for each  $\alpha, \beta$ .

**Lemma 1.6.** If the  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant line bundle  $(\xi, \nabla^\xi)$  and the weak  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant gerbe  $(\{U_\alpha\}, H, B_\alpha, A_{\alpha\beta})$  are coupled on  $M$ , then the equivariant super connection  $\nabla^\xi - u\iota_K + u^{-1}H$  on  $\xi$  is equivariantly flat, i.e.

$$(1.2) \quad (\nabla^\xi - u\iota_K + u^{-1}H)^2 + uL_K^\xi = 0.$$

*Proof.* The proof is similar to the proof of Lemma 1 in [9]. □

We provide some examples of coupled  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant line bundles and weak  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant gerbes.

**Example 1.** Let  $M$  be a smooth manifold. Let  $\{U_\alpha\}$  be a *Brylinski open cover* of  $M$ , i.e.  $\{U_\alpha\}$  is a maximal open cover of  $M$  with the property that  $H^i(U_{\alpha_I}) = 0$  for  $i = 2, 3$  where  $U_{\alpha_I} = \bigcap_{i \in I} U_{\alpha_i}$ ,  $|I| < \infty$ . Then the free loop space  $LM$  is good  $\mathbb{T}$ -manifold with the open cover  $\{LU_\alpha\}$ , where the  $\mathbb{T}$ -action is the loop rotating action.

Let  $\tau$  be the transgression

$$(1.3) \quad \tau : \Omega^\bullet(U_{\alpha_I}) \longrightarrow \Omega^{\bullet-1}(LU_{\alpha_I})$$

is the transgression map defined as

$$(1.4) \quad \tau(\xi_I) = \int_{\mathbb{T}} ev^*(\xi_I), \quad \xi_I \in \Omega^\bullet(U_{\alpha_I}).$$

Here  $ev$  is the evaluation map

$$(1.5) \quad ev : \mathbb{T} \times LM \rightarrow M : (t, \gamma) \rightarrow \gamma(t).$$

Let  $\omega \in \Omega^i(M)$ . Define  $\hat{\omega}_s \in \Omega^i(LM)$  for  $s \in [0, 1]$  by

$$(1.6) \quad \hat{\omega}_s(X_1, \dots, X_i)(\gamma) = \omega(X_1|_{\gamma(s)}, \dots, X_i|_{\gamma(s)})$$

for  $\gamma \in LM$  and  $X_1, \dots, X_i$  are vector fields on  $LM$  defined near  $\gamma$ . Then one checks that  $d\hat{\omega}_s = \widehat{d\omega}_s$ . The  $i$ -form

$$(1.7) \quad \bar{\omega} = \int_0^1 \hat{\omega}_s ds \in \Omega^i(LM)$$

is  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant, that is,  $L_K(\bar{\omega}) = 0$ . Moreover  $\tau(\omega) = \iota_K \bar{\omega}$ . Here  $K$  is the vector field on  $LM$  generating rotation of loops.

Let  $(\{U_\alpha\}, H, B_\alpha, A_{\alpha\beta})$  be a gerbe on  $M$ . Associated to this gerbe, there exists a pair of coupled  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant line bundle and weak  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant gerbe on  $LM$ .

The holonomy of this gerbe is a  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant line bundle  $\mathcal{L}^B \rightarrow LM$  over the loop space  $LM$ .  $\mathcal{L}^B$  has Brylinski local sections  $\{\sigma_\alpha\}$  with respect to  $\{LU_\alpha\}$  such that the transition functions are  $\{e^{-\int_0^1 \iota_K A_{\alpha\beta}} = e^{-\tau(A_{\alpha\beta})}\}$ , i.e.  $\sigma_\alpha = e^{-\int_0^1 \iota_K A_{\alpha\beta}} \sigma_\beta$ . The Brylinski sections are  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant.  $\mathcal{L}^B$  comes with a natural connection, whose definition with respect to the basis  $\{\sigma_\alpha\}$  is

$$(1.8) \quad \nabla^{\mathcal{L}^B} = d - \iota_K \bar{B}_\alpha = d - \tau(B_\alpha).$$

For more details, cf. [8].

On the other hand, averaging the gerbe  $(\{U_\alpha\}, H, B_\alpha, A_{\alpha\beta})$  gives rise to a gerbe

$$(\{LU_\alpha\}, \bar{H}, \bar{B}_\alpha, \bar{A}_{\alpha\beta})$$

on  $LM$ . First it is not hard to see that  $\frac{1}{2\pi i} \bar{H}$  still has integral period. It is evident that

$$(1.9) \quad \begin{aligned} \bar{H} &= d\bar{B}_\alpha \quad \text{on } LU_\alpha, \\ \bar{B}_\alpha - \bar{B}_\beta &= d\bar{A}_{\alpha\beta} \quad \text{on } LU_{\alpha\beta}. \end{aligned}$$

If on  $U_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ ,

$$(1.10) \quad A_{\alpha\beta} + A_{\beta\gamma} - A_{\alpha\gamma} = d \ln C_{\alpha\beta\gamma},$$

then

$$(1.11) \quad \iota_K \bar{A}_{\alpha\beta} + \iota_K \bar{A}_{\beta\gamma} - \iota_K \bar{A}_{\alpha\gamma} = \tau(d \ln C_{\alpha\beta\gamma}) \in 2\pi i \mathbb{Z}$$

on each connected component of  $LU_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ . By (1.11), if  $x_0$  is a fixed loop in  $U_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$  and  $x$  is any loop in  $U_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ , then

$$(1.12) \quad e^{\int_{x_0}^x (\bar{A}_{\alpha\beta} + \bar{A}_{\beta\gamma} - \bar{A}_{\alpha\gamma})}$$

does not depend on the choice of paths from  $x_0$  to  $x$  in  $LU_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ . By (1.10), it is not hard to see that  $\int_{x_0}^x (\bar{A}_{\alpha\beta} + \bar{A}_{\beta\gamma} - \bar{A}_{\alpha\gamma})$  is pure imaginary. Then we further have

$$(1.13) \quad \bar{A}_{\alpha\beta} + \bar{A}_{\beta\gamma} - \bar{A}_{\alpha\gamma} = d \ln e^{\int_{x_0}^x (\bar{A}_{\alpha\beta} + \bar{A}_{\beta\gamma} - \bar{A}_{\alpha\gamma})},$$

where  $e^{\int_{x_0}^x (\bar{A}_{\alpha\beta} + \bar{A}_{\beta\gamma} - \bar{A}_{\alpha\gamma})}$  is an  $U(1)$ -valued function on  $LU_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ . Therefore  $(\{LU_\alpha\}, \bar{H}, \bar{B}_\alpha, \bar{A}_{\alpha\beta})$  is a gerbe on  $LM$ .

It is obvious that  $\bar{H}, \bar{B}_\alpha, \bar{A}_{\alpha\beta}$  are all  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant. Combining (1.11), we see that the gerbe  $(\{LU_\alpha\}, \bar{H}, \bar{B}_\alpha, \bar{A}_{\alpha\beta})$  is a weak  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant gerbe on  $LM$ .

As under the Brylinski sections, the local connection 1-form of  $(\mathcal{L}^B, \nabla^{\mathcal{L}^B})$  is

$$-\tau(B_\alpha) = -\iota_K \bar{B}_\alpha,$$

and the transition function of  $\mathcal{L}^B$  is

$$e^{-\int_0^1 \iota_K A_{\alpha\beta}} = e^{-\iota_K \bar{A}_{\alpha\beta}},$$

we see that  $(\mathcal{L}^B, \nabla^{\mathcal{L}^B})$  and  $(\{LU_\alpha\}, \bar{H}, \bar{B}_\alpha, \bar{A}_{\alpha\beta})$  are coupled on  $LM$ .

**Example 2.** In [5, 6], T-duality in a background flux has the following settings. There is a principal circle bundle  $\mathbb{T} \rightarrow Z \xrightarrow{\pi} X$  with a  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant connection  $\Theta$  and a background  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant flux  $H$ , which is a  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant closed 3-form on  $Z$ . Let  $\{U_\alpha\}$  be a good cover of  $X$ . The cover  $\{\pi^{-1}(U_\alpha)\}$  makes  $Z$  a good  $\mathbb{T}$ -manifold.

The T-dual circle bundle  $\hat{\mathbb{T}} \rightarrow \hat{Z} \xrightarrow{\hat{\pi}} X$  with a  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant connection  $\hat{\Theta}$  and a background  $\hat{\mathbb{T}}$ -invariant flux  $\hat{H}$ . The cover  $\{\hat{\pi}^{-1}(U_\alpha)\}$  makes  $\hat{Z}$  a good  $\mathbb{T}$ -manifold.

Denote  $v, \hat{v}$  the Killing vector field on  $Z, \hat{Z}$  respectively. The gerbe  $(\{\pi^{-1}(U_\alpha)\}, H, B_\alpha, A_{\alpha\beta})$  on  $Z$  and the gerbe  $(\{\hat{\pi}^{-1}(U_\alpha)\}, \hat{H}, \hat{B}_\alpha, \hat{A}_{\alpha\beta})$  be the gerbe on  $\hat{Z}$  satisfy the following relations

$$(1.14) \quad e^{-\iota_v A_{\alpha\beta}} = \hat{g}_{\alpha\beta}, \quad -\iota_v B_\alpha = \hat{\eta}_\alpha, \quad \iota_v H = F^{\hat{\Theta}}$$

and

$$(1.15) \quad e^{-\iota_{\hat{v}} \hat{A}_{\alpha\beta}} = g_{\alpha\beta}, \quad -\iota_{\hat{v}} \hat{B}_\alpha = \eta_\alpha, \quad \iota_{\hat{v}} \hat{H} = F^\Theta,$$

where  $\hat{g}_{\alpha\beta}$  is the transition functions of the bundle  $\hat{Z}$ ,  $\hat{\eta}_\alpha$  is the local connection 1-form of  $\hat{\Theta}$  on  $U_\alpha$ ,  $F^{\hat{\Theta}}$  is the curvature 2-form of  $\hat{\Theta}$  on  $X$  and the similar meaning for the notations without hats on the dual side.

In the setting,  $B_\alpha, A_{\alpha\beta}$  are all chosen to be  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant. Moreover as  $e^{-\iota_v A_{\alpha\beta}} = \hat{g}_{\alpha\beta}$ , we conclude that  $\iota_v A_{\alpha\beta} + \iota_v A_{\alpha\gamma} - \iota_v A_{\beta\gamma}$  takes values in  $2\pi i \cdot \mathbb{Z}$  on each  $U_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ . Therefore  $(\{\pi^{-1}(U_\alpha)\}, H, B_\alpha, A_{\alpha\beta})$  is a weak  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant gerbe on  $Z$ . Similarly  $(\{\hat{\pi}^{-1}(U_\alpha)\}, \hat{H}, \hat{B}_\alpha, \hat{A}_{\alpha\beta})$  is a weak  $\hat{\mathbb{T}}$ -invariant gerbe on  $\hat{Z}$ .

$(\hat{Z}, \hat{\Theta})$  and the standard representation of circle on complex plane give rise to a complex line bundle with connection  $(\hat{\xi}, \nabla^{\hat{\xi}})$  on  $X$ . Dually, there is a similar  $(\xi, \nabla^\xi)$  on  $X$  coming from  $(Z, \Theta)$ . As

$$e^{-\iota_v A_{\alpha\beta}} = \hat{g}_{\alpha\beta}, \quad -\iota_v B_\alpha = \hat{\eta}_\alpha,$$

the  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant line bundle  $(\pi^* \hat{\xi}, \pi^* \nabla^{\hat{\xi}})$  and the weak  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant gerbe  $(\{\pi^{-1}(U_\alpha)\}, H, B_\alpha, A_{\alpha\beta})$  are coupled on  $Z$ . Dually, the  $\hat{\mathbb{T}}$ -equivariant line bundle  $(\hat{\pi}^* \xi, \hat{\pi}^* \nabla^\xi)$  and the  $\hat{\mathbb{T}}$ -invariant gerbe  $(\{\hat{\pi}^{-1}(U_\alpha)\}, \hat{H}, \hat{B}_\alpha, \hat{A}_{\alpha\beta})$  are coupled on  $\hat{Z}$ .

## 2. EXOTIC TWISTED EQUIVARIANT COHOMOLOGY AND $U(1)$ -BUNDLES

Let  $M$  be a good  $\mathbb{T}$ -manifold, i.e.  $M$  has an open cover  $\{U_\alpha\}$  such that all finite intersections  $U_{\alpha_0\alpha_1\cdots\alpha_p} = U_{\alpha_0} \cap U_{\alpha_1} \cdots U_{\alpha_p}$  are  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant.

Let  $K$  be the Killing vector field of the  $\mathbb{T}$ -action. Denote by  $L_K^\xi, \iota_K$  the Lie derivative and contraction along the direction  $K$  respectively.

Let  $\xi \rightarrow M$  be a  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant Hermitian line bundle over  $M$  equipped with a  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant Hermitian connection  $\nabla^\xi$ . Let  $H \in \Omega_{cl}^3(M)$  be a  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant closed 3-form (see [3] as a general reference for differential forms) such that the equivariant super connection  $\nabla^\xi - u\iota_K + u^{-1}H$  is equivariantly flat, i.e.

$$(2.1) \quad (\nabla^\xi - u\iota_K + u^{-1}H)^2 + uL_K^\xi = 0,$$

where  $u$  is a degree 2 indeterminate. For relevant references to equivariant differential forms, see [13, 1].

In the previous section, we have seen examples that satisfy these settings.

Let  $\pi : S\xi \rightarrow M$  be the principal  $U(1)$ -bundle of  $\xi$ . Let  $v$  be the vertical tangent vector field on  $S\xi$ , i.e. the Killing vector field of the  $U(1)$ -action.

It is clear that  $S\xi$  also admits the induced  $\mathbb{T}$ -action. As the action of  $\mathbb{T}$  on the fibers of  $\xi$  is linear, i.e.  $g(\lambda \cdot v) = \lambda \cdot g(v), \forall g \in \mathbb{T}, \lambda \in U(1)$ , one deduces that the  $\mathbb{T}$ -action and the  $U(1)$ -action commute. Therefore we have

$$(2.2) \quad [K, v] = 0.$$

The condition  $(\nabla^\xi - u\iota_K + u^{-1}H)^2 + uL_K^\xi = 0$  is equivalent to the following three equalities,

$$(2.3) \quad \begin{cases} \mu_K^\xi = L_K^\xi - [\nabla^\xi, \iota_K] = L_K^\xi - \nabla_K^\xi = 0 \\ (\nabla^\xi)^2 - \iota_K H = 0 \\ dH = 0 \end{cases}$$

Let  $\Theta$  be the connection 1-form on  $S\xi$  for  $(\xi, \nabla^\xi)$ .

**Lemma 2.1.**

$$(2.4) \quad \iota_K \Theta = 0, \quad L_K \Theta = 0$$

and

$$(2.5) \quad d\Theta = \iota_K \pi^* H.$$

*Proof.* Let  $\{U_\alpha\}$  be a  $\mathbb{T}$ -cover of  $M$ . Choose a  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant local basis  $s_\alpha$  of  $\xi$  on  $U_\alpha$ . Let  $\eta_\alpha$  be the connection 1-form corresponding to  $s_\alpha$ . By the first relation in (2.3), we have

$$0 = \mu_K^\xi(s_\alpha) = (L_K^\xi - [\nabla^\xi, \iota_K])(s_\alpha) = (\iota_K \eta_\alpha) \otimes s_\alpha,$$

and therefore we have

$$(2.6) \quad \iota_K \eta_\alpha = 0.$$



As  $s_\alpha$  is  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant, we get a local  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant diffeomorphism  $\phi_\alpha : U_\alpha \times S^1 \rightarrow \pi^{-1}(U_\alpha)$  such that on the left hand side,  $\mathbb{T}$  only acts on  $U_\alpha$ . Then as  $\phi_\alpha^*(\Theta)|_{U_\alpha \times S^1} = \eta_\alpha + d\theta$ , we deduce that

$$\iota_K \Theta = 0, \quad L_K \Theta = 0.$$

By the second relation in (2.3), we get

$$d\Theta + \frac{1}{2}\Theta^2 - \iota_K \pi^* H = 0$$

or

$$d\Theta = \iota_K \pi^* H.$$

□

Consider the  $C^\infty(M)$ -module

$$(2.7) \quad \tilde{\Omega}^*(S\xi) := \{\omega \in \Omega^*(S\xi) \mid \iota_v \omega = 0, L_v \omega = -\omega\}.$$

**Theorem 2.2.**

$$\left( \tilde{\Omega}^*(S\xi)^{\mathbb{T}}[[u, u^{-1}]], d - \iota_v - u\iota_K + \Theta + u^{-1}\pi^* H \right)$$

is a chain complex.

*Proof.* We need to show that:

(i) if  $\omega \in \tilde{\Omega}^*(S\xi)^{\mathbb{T}}$ , then

$$(d - \iota_v - u\iota_K + \Theta + u^{-1}\pi^* H)\omega \in \tilde{\Omega}^*(S\xi)^{\mathbb{T}};$$

(ii)

$$(d - \iota_v - u\iota_K + \Theta + u^{-1}\pi^* H)^2 + uL_K = 0.$$

(i) holds as we have following three equalities,

$$(2.8) \quad \begin{aligned} & [d - \iota_v - u\iota_K + \Theta + u^{-1}\pi^* H, \iota_v] \\ &= L_v - [\iota_v, \iota_v] - u\iota_{[K, v]} + \iota_v \Theta + u^{-1}\iota_v(\pi^* H) \\ &= L_v + \iota_v \Theta \\ &= 0 \text{ on } \tilde{\Omega}^*(S\xi); \end{aligned}$$

$$(2.9) \quad \begin{aligned} & [d - \iota_v - u\iota_K + \Theta + u^{-1}\pi^* H, L_v] \\ &= [d, L_v] - \iota_{[v, v]} - u\iota_{[K, v]} + L_v \Theta + u^{-1}L_v(\pi^* H) \\ &= 0; \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(2.10) \quad \begin{aligned} & [d - \iota_v - u\iota_K + \Theta + u^{-1}\pi^* H, L_K] \\ &= [d, L_K] - \iota_{[v, K]} - u\iota_{[K, K]} + L_K \Theta + u^{-1}L_K(\pi^* H) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

To show (ii), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& (d - \iota_v - u\iota_K + \Theta + u^{-1}\pi^*H)^2 \\
&= (d - \iota_v - u\iota_K)^2 + (d - \iota_v - u\iota_K)(\Theta + u^{-1}\pi^*H) + (\Theta + u^{-1}\pi^*H)^2 \\
(2.11) \quad &= -L_v - uL_K + d\Theta - \iota_v\Theta - \pi^*\iota_K H \\
&= (-L_v - \iota_v\Theta) + (d\Theta - \iota_K\pi^*H) - uL_K \\
&= -uL_K \text{ on } \tilde{\Omega}^*(S\xi).
\end{aligned}$$

□

Let  $\pi^*\xi$  be the pull back bundle of  $\xi$  on  $S\xi$ . Clearly this is a trivial bundle which has a canonical global nowhere vanishing section

$$\gamma : (x, y) \rightarrow y, \quad x \in M, y \in \pi^{-1}(x).$$

Consider the map

$$(2.12) \quad f : \Omega^*(M, \xi) \rightarrow \Omega^*(S\xi), \quad \omega \mapsto \gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^*\omega.$$

It is not hard to see that

$$\text{Im}(f) = \tilde{\Omega}^*(S\xi), \text{ker}(f) = \{0\}.$$

We therefore get an isomorphism of  $C^\infty(M)$ -modules:

$$(2.13) \quad f : \Omega^*(M, \xi) \rightarrow \tilde{\Omega}^*(S\xi).$$

Since  $\gamma$  is a  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant global section of  $\pi^*\xi$ , we see that  $f$  sends  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant invariant parts to  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant invariant parts. Hence we get an isomorphism of  $C^\infty(M)$ -modules, which we still denote by  $f$ :

$$(2.14) \quad f : \Omega^*(M, \xi)^\mathbb{T} \rightarrow \tilde{\Omega}^*(S\xi)^\mathbb{T}.$$

**Theorem 2.3.**

(2.15)

$$f : (\Omega^*(M, \xi)^\mathbb{T}[[u, u^{-1}]], \nabla^\xi - u\iota_K + u^{-1}H) \rightarrow \left( \tilde{\Omega}^*(S\xi)^\mathbb{T}[[u, u^{-1}]], d - \iota_v - u\iota_K + \Theta + u^{-1}\pi^*H \right)$$

is a chain map and therefore induces an isomorphism on cohomology

$$(2.16) \quad f_* : h_{\mathbb{T}}^*(M, \nabla^\xi : H) \rightarrow H^* \left( \tilde{\Omega}^*(S\xi)^\mathbb{T}[[u, u^{-1}]], d - \iota_v - u\iota_K + \Theta + u^{-1}\pi^*H \right),$$

where  $h_{\mathbb{T}}^*(M, \nabla^\xi : H)$  is the **completed periodic exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant cohomology** [9].

*Proof.* Let  $\omega \in \Omega^*(M, \xi)^\mathbb{T}[[u, u^{-1}]]$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
& (d - \iota_v - u\iota_K + \Theta + u^{-1}\pi^*H)(f(\omega)) \\
(2.17) \quad &= (d - \iota_v - u\iota_K + \Theta + u^{-1}\pi^*H)(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^*\omega) \\
&= (d - u\iota_K + \Theta)(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^*\omega) + u^{-1}\pi^*H(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^*\omega).
\end{aligned}$$

Let  $\{U_\alpha\}$  be an  $\mathbb{T}$ -cover of  $M$ . Let  $s_\alpha$  be  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant local basis of the  $\xi$  on  $U_\alpha$ . Suppose  $\omega|_{U_\alpha} = \omega_\alpha \otimes s_\alpha$ .

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.18) \quad & d(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* \omega) \\
& = d(\pi^* \omega_\alpha \cdot (\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* s_\alpha)) \\
& = \pi^*(d\omega_\alpha)(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* s_\alpha) - \pi^*(\omega_\alpha)d(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* s_\alpha).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore locally, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.19) \quad & d(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* \omega) + \Theta(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* \omega) \\
& = \pi^*(d\omega_\alpha)(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* s_\alpha) - \pi^*(\omega_\alpha)d(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* s_\alpha) + \Theta(\pi^* \omega_\alpha)(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* s_\alpha) \\
& = \pi^*(d\omega_\alpha)(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* s_\alpha) - \pi^*(\omega_\alpha)(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* \omega)[\Theta - (\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* \omega)^{-1}d(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* s_\alpha)] \\
& = [\pi^*(d\omega_\alpha) - \pi^*(\omega_\alpha)\eta_\alpha](\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* s_\alpha),
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\eta_\alpha = \Theta - (\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* \omega)^{-1}d(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* s_\alpha)$  is connection one form for the basis  $s_\alpha$  of the connection  $\nabla^\xi$  on  $U_\alpha$ .

Moreover, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.20) \quad & \iota_K(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* \omega) \\
& = \iota_K(\pi^*(\omega_\alpha)(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* s_\alpha)) \\
& = \iota_K(\pi^*(\omega_\alpha))(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* s_\alpha).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.21) \quad & [d(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* \omega) + \Theta(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* \omega) + \iota_K(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* \omega)]|_{U_\alpha} \\
& = \pi^*(d\omega_\alpha + \omega_\alpha \eta_\alpha - \iota_K \omega_\alpha)(\gamma^{-1} \cdot \pi^* s_\alpha) \\
& = \gamma^{-1} \pi^* [(d\omega_\alpha + \omega_\alpha \eta_\alpha - \iota_K \omega_\alpha) \otimes s_\alpha] \\
& = \gamma^{-1} \pi^* [(\nabla^\xi - \iota_K) \omega]|_{U_\alpha} \\
& = f((\nabla^\xi - \iota_K) \omega)|_{U_\alpha}.
\end{aligned}$$

And so we have

$$(2.22) \quad (d - \iota_v - \iota_K + \Theta + u^{-1} \pi^* H)(f(\omega)) = f((\nabla^\xi - \iota_K + u^{-1} H)\omega).$$

□

### 3. EXOTIC TWISTED EQUIVARIANT $K$ -THEORY AND THE CHERN CHARACTER

**3.1. Gerbe modules and twisted  $K$ -theories.** A geometric realization of the gerbe  $\mathcal{G} = (\{U_\alpha\}, H, B_\alpha, A_{\alpha\beta})$  is  $\{(L_{\alpha\beta}, \nabla_{\alpha\beta}^L)\}$ , a collection of trivial line bundles  $L_{\alpha\beta} \rightarrow U_{\alpha\beta}$  such that there are isomorphisms  $L_{\alpha\beta} \otimes L_{\beta\gamma} \cong L_{\alpha\gamma}$  on  $U_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$  and collection of connections  $\{\nabla_{\alpha\beta}^L\}$  such that  $\nabla_{\alpha\beta}^L = d + A_{\alpha\beta}$ . Note that as here we are using slightly more general version of gerbe (see Definition 1.1 and Remark 1.2), isomorphisms  $L_{\alpha\beta} \otimes L_{\beta\gamma} \cong L_{\alpha\gamma}$  are not uniquely fixed, but may differ by a multiplication by a constant  $U(1)$ -valued scalar. Then we have

$$(3.1) \quad (\nabla_{\alpha\beta}^L)^2 = F_{\alpha\beta}^L = B_\beta - B_\alpha.$$

Let  $E = \{E_\alpha\}$  be a collection of (infinite dimensional) Hilbert bundles  $E_\alpha \rightarrow U_\alpha$  whose structure group is reduced to  $U_{\mathfrak{J}}$ , which are unitary operators on the model Hilbert space  $\mathfrak{H}$  of the form identity + trace class operator. Here  $\mathfrak{J}$  denotes the Lie algebra of trace class operators on  $\mathfrak{H}$ . In addition, assume that on the overlaps  $U_{\alpha\beta}$  that there are isomorphisms

$$(3.2) \quad \phi_{\alpha\beta} : L_{\alpha\beta} \otimes E_\beta \cong E_\alpha,$$

which are consistently defined on triple overlaps because of the gerbe property. Then  $\{E_\alpha\}$  is said to be a *gerbe module* for the gerbe  $\{L_{\alpha\beta}\}$ . A *gerbe module connection*  $\nabla^E$  is a collection of connections  $\{\nabla_\alpha^E\}$  is of the form  $\nabla_\alpha^E = d + A_\alpha^E$  where  $A_\alpha^E \in \Omega^1(U_\alpha) \otimes \mathfrak{J}$  whose curvature  $F_\alpha^E$  on the overlaps  $U_{\alpha\beta}$  satisfies

$$(3.3) \quad \phi_{\alpha\beta}^{-1}(F^{E_\alpha})\phi_{\alpha\beta} = F^{L_{\alpha\beta}}I + F^{E_\beta}$$

Using equation (3.1), this becomes

$$(3.4) \quad \phi_{\alpha\beta}^{-1}(B_\alpha I + F_\alpha^E)\phi_{\alpha\beta} = B_\beta I + F_\beta^E.$$

It follows that  $\exp(B) \text{Tr}(\exp(F^E) - I)$  is a globally well defined differential form on  $Z$  of even degree. Notice that  $\text{Tr}(I) = \infty$  which is why we need to consider the subtraction.

Let  $E = \{E_\alpha\}$  and  $E' = \{E'_\alpha\}$  be a gerbe modules for the gerbe  $\{L_{\alpha\beta}\}$ . Then an element of twisted K-theory  $K^0(Z, \mathcal{G})$  is represented by the pair  $(E, E')$ , see [4]. Two such pairs  $(E, E')$  and  $(G, G')$  are equivalent if  $E \oplus G' \oplus K \cong E' \oplus G \oplus K$  as gerbe modules for some gerbe module  $K$  for the gerbe  $\{L_{\alpha\beta}\}$ . We can assume without loss of generality that these gerbe modules  $E, E'$  are modeled on the same Hilbert space  $\mathfrak{H}$ , after a choice of isomorphism if necessary.

Suppose that  $\nabla^E, \nabla^{E'}$  are gerbe module connections on the gerbe modules  $E, E'$  respectively. Then we can define the *twisted Chern character* as

$$\begin{aligned} Ch_H : K^0(Z, \mathcal{G}) &\rightarrow H^{even}(Z, H) \\ Ch_H(E, E') &= \exp(-B) \text{Tr} \left( \exp(-F^E) - \exp(-F^{E'}) \right) \end{aligned}$$

That this is a well defined homomorphism is explained in [4, 14]. To define the twisted Chern character landing in  $(\Omega^\bullet(Z)[[u, u^{-1}]])_{(d+u^{-1}H)-cl}$ , simply replace the above formula by

$$Ch_H(E, E') = \exp(-u^{-1}B) \text{Tr} \left( \exp(-u^{-1}F^E) - \exp(-u^{-1}F^{E'}) \right).$$

The above theory can be extended to equivariant setting with a compact group action on all the data [14].

**3.2. Exotic twisted equivariant K-theory.** Let  $M$  be a good  $\mathbb{T}$ -manifold with an  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant cover  $\{U_\alpha\}$ .

Let  $\xi \rightarrow M$  be a  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant Hermitian line bundle over  $M$  equipped with a  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant Hermitian connection  $\nabla^\xi$ . Let  $\pi : S\xi \rightarrow M$  be the principal  $U(1)$ -bundle of  $\xi$ .

Let  $\mathcal{G} = (\{U_\alpha\}, H, B_\alpha, A_{\alpha\beta})$  be a weak  $\mathbb{T}$ -invariant gerbe on  $M$ .

Assume that  $(\xi, \nabla^\xi)$  and  $(\{U_\alpha\}, H, B_\alpha, A_{\alpha\beta})$  are coupled on  $M$ .

Associated to these data  $((\xi, \nabla^\xi); \mathcal{G})$ , we will introduce a version of twisted  $K$ -theory and twisted Chern character in this section.

It is clear that the open cover  $\{\pi^{-1}(U_\alpha)\}$  makes  $S\xi$  a good  $(\mathbb{T} \times U(1))$ -manifold. Here to distinguish the two circle actions, we denote by  $\mathbb{T}$  the circle acting on the base  $M$  and by  $U(1)$  the circle acting on the fibers.

Denote  $\mathcal{G}^\xi := (\{\pi^{-1}(U_\alpha)\}, \pi^*H, \pi^*B_\alpha, \pi^*A_{\alpha\beta})$ , which is a  $(\mathbb{T} \times U(1))$ -invariant gerbe on  $S\xi$ . Let  $\{(\hat{L}_{\alpha\beta}, \nabla^{\hat{L}_{\alpha\beta}} = d + \pi^*A_{\alpha\beta})\}$  be the system of  $(\mathbb{T} \times U(1))$ -line bundles with  $(\mathbb{T} \times U(1))$ -invariant connections on  $U_{\alpha\beta} \times U(1)$  be the geometrization of the gerbe  $\mathcal{G}^\xi$ .

Let  $v$  be the vertical tangent vector field on  $S\xi$ , i.e. the Killing vector field of the  $U(1)$ -action. Let  $K$  be the Killing vector field of the  $\mathbb{T}$ -action. Let  $u$  be a degree 2 indeterminate.

**Definition 3.1.**  $E = \{E_\alpha, \nabla^{E_\alpha}\}$  is called a  $(\mathbb{T} \times U(1))$ -equivariant gerbe module with horizontal connection for the gerbe  $\{\hat{L}_{\alpha\beta}\}$  if

- (a) the  $(\mathbb{T} \times U(1))$ -invariant connections  $\nabla^{E_\alpha}$ 's vanish on the vertical direction, i.e.  $\nabla_v^{E_\alpha} \equiv 0$ ;
- (b) there are  $(\mathbb{T} \times U(1))$ -equivariant isomorphisms

$$\phi_{\alpha\beta} : \hat{L}_{\alpha\beta} \otimes E_\beta \cong E_\alpha,$$

which respect the connections and are consistently defined on triple overlaps because of the gerbe property.

Let  $(E, E')$  and  $(G, G')$  be two pairs of  $(\mathbb{T} \times U(1))$ -equivariant gerbe modules with horizontal connections for the gerbe  $\{\hat{L}_{\alpha\beta}\}$ . We say they are equivalent, denoted by

$$(E, E') \sim (G, G')$$

if there exists some  $K$ , a  $(\mathbb{T} \times U(1))$ -equivariant gerbe modules with horizontal connection, such that

$$E \oplus G' \oplus K \cong E' \oplus G \oplus K$$

as  $(\mathbb{T} \times U(1))$ -equivariant gerbe modules with horizontal connections. Clearly this is an equivalence relation. As usual, we define

$$(3.5) \quad \hat{K}_{\mathbb{T}}^0(M, \nabla^\xi : \mathcal{G}) := \{(E, \nabla^E, E', \nabla^{E'})\}/\{\sim\}.$$

If the horizontal gerbe module connections are forgotten, one defines the **exotic twisted  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant  $K$ -theory** of the coupled pair  $((\xi, \nabla^\xi), \mathcal{G})$ , denoted as  $K_{\mathbb{T}}^0(M, \nabla^\xi : \mathcal{G})$ , by

$$(3.6) \quad K_{\mathbb{T}}^0(M, \nabla^\xi : \mathcal{G}) := \{(E, E')\}/\{\sim\}.$$

**3.3. Exotic twisted equivariant Chern Character.** Let  $E = \{E_\alpha, \nabla^{E_\alpha}\}$  be a  $(\mathbb{T} \times U(1))$ -equivariant gerbe module with horizontal connection for the gerbe  $\{\hat{L}_{\alpha\beta}\}$ . For the equivariant curvatures along the direction  $v + uK$ , we have

$$(3.7) \quad \phi_{\alpha\beta}^{-1}(F^{E_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK}^{E_\alpha})\phi_{\alpha\beta} = (F^{\hat{L}_{\alpha\beta}} + \mu_{v+uK}^{\hat{L}_{\alpha\beta}})I + (F^{E_\beta} + \mu_{v+uK}^{E_\beta}),$$

where  $\mu$  stands for the moment. However

$$(3.8) \quad F^{\hat{L}_{\alpha\beta}} = \pi^*B_\beta - \pi^*B_\alpha,$$

$$(3.9) \quad \hat{L}_{v+uK}^{\alpha\beta} = (\iota_v + u\iota_K)\pi^* A_{\alpha\beta} = u\iota_K\pi^* A_{\alpha\beta} = 2\pi i u \theta_\beta - 2\pi i u \theta_\alpha,$$

where  $\theta_\alpha$  (resp.  $\theta_\beta$ ) is the vertical coordinates of  $\pi^{-1}(U_\alpha)$  (resp.  $\pi^{-1}(U_\beta)$ ). So we have

$$(3.10) \quad \phi_{\alpha\beta}^{-1}(F^{E_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK}^{E_\alpha} + \pi^* B_\alpha + 2\pi i u \theta_\alpha) \phi_{\alpha\beta} = F^{E_\beta} + \mu_{v+uK}^{E_\beta} + \pi^* B_\beta + 2\pi i u \theta_\beta.$$

Let  $E' = \{E'_\alpha\}$  be another  $(\mathbb{T} \times U(1))$ -equivariant gerbe module for the gerbe  $\{\hat{L}_{\alpha\beta}\}$ . Then  $\exp(-u^{-1}\pi^* B_\alpha - 2\pi i \theta_\alpha) \text{Tr} \left( \exp(-u^{-1}(F^{E_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK}^{E_\alpha})) - \exp(-u^{-1}(F^{E'_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK}^{E'_\alpha})) \right)$  can be glued together as a global differential form in  $\Omega^*(S\xi)[[u, u^{-1}]]$ . Simply denote this form by

$$(3.11) \quad ch_{\nabla^\varepsilon; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla^E, \nabla^{E'}) = \exp(-u^{-1}\pi^* B - 2\pi i \theta) \text{Tr} \left( -\exp(u^{-1}(F^E + \mu_{v+uK}^E)) - \exp(-u^{-1}(F^{E'} + \mu_{v+uK}^{E'})) \right).$$

**Theorem 3.2.** (i) *The following equalities hold,*

$$(3.12) \quad \iota_v ch_{\nabla^\varepsilon; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla^E, \nabla^{E'}) = 0, \quad L_v ch_{\nabla^\varepsilon; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla^E, \nabla^{E'}) = -ch_{\nabla^\varepsilon; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla^E, \nabla^{E'}),$$

$$(3.13) \quad (d - \iota_v - u\iota_K + \Theta + u^{-1}\pi^* H) ch_{\nabla^\varepsilon; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla^E, \nabla^{E'}) = 0.$$

(ii) *If  $(\nabla_0^E, \nabla_0^{E'}), (\nabla_1^E, \nabla_1^{E'})$  are two horizontal gerbe module connections, then there exists  $cs(\nabla_0^E, \nabla_0^{E'}; \nabla_1^E, \nabla_1^{E'}) \in \tilde{\Omega}^*(S\xi)[[u, u^{-1}]]$  such that*

$$(3.14) \quad ch_{\nabla^\varepsilon; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla_1^E, \nabla_1^{E'}) - ch_{\nabla^\varepsilon; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla_0^E, \nabla_0^{E'}) = (d - \iota_v - u\iota_K + \Theta + u^{-1}\pi^* H) cs(\nabla_0^E, \nabla_0^{E'}; \nabla_1^E, \nabla_1^{E'}).$$

*Proof.* (i) Consider the local expression

$$\begin{aligned} & ch_{\nabla^\varepsilon; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla^E, \nabla^{E'})|_{\pi^{-1}(U_\alpha)} \\ &= \exp(-u^{-1}\pi^* B_\alpha - 2\pi i \theta_\alpha) \text{Tr} \left( \exp(-u^{-1}(F^{E_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK}^{E_\alpha})) - \exp(-u^{-1}(F^{E'_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK}^{E'_\alpha})) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Obviously,  $\iota_v \pi^* B_\alpha = 0$ . On the other hand, as  $\nabla^{E_\alpha}$  is horizontal connection, we have  $\nabla_v^{E_\alpha} = 0$ , but this equivalent to

$$[\nabla^{E_\alpha}, \iota_v] = L_v.$$

Therefore

$$\iota_v(F^{E_\alpha}) = [\iota_v, (\nabla^{E_\alpha})^2] = (L_v - \nabla^{E_\alpha} \iota_v) \nabla^{E_\alpha} - \nabla^{E_\alpha} (L_v - \iota_v \nabla^{E_\alpha}) = [\nabla^{E_\alpha}, L_v] = 0,$$

as  $\nabla^{E_\alpha}$  is  $\mathbb{T} \times U(1)$ -invariant. Similarly,  $\iota_v(F^{E'_\alpha}) = 0$ . We therefore have

$$\iota_v ch_{\nabla^\varepsilon; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla^E, \nabla^{E'})|_{\pi^{-1}(U_\alpha)} = 0.$$

As  $\nabla^{E_\alpha}$  is  $\mathbb{T} \times U(1)$ -invariant, clearly  $L_v(F^{E_\alpha}) = 0$ . The moment

$$\mu_{v+uK}^{E_\alpha} = L_{v+uK} - [\iota_{v+uK}, \nabla^{E_\alpha}].$$

Since  $[v, K] = 0$ , it is easy to see that

$$L_v \mu_{v+uK}^{E_\alpha} = 0.$$

Now  $L_v \pi^* B_\alpha = 0$  and  $L_v e^{-2\pi i \theta_\alpha} = -e^{2\pi i \theta_\alpha}$ , we have

$$L_v ch_{\nabla^\varepsilon; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla^E, \nabla^{E'})|_{\pi^{-1}(U_\alpha)} = -ch_{\nabla^\varepsilon; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla^E, \nabla^{E'})|_{\pi^{-1}(U_\alpha)}.$$

At last, as  $(\xi, \nabla^\xi)$  and  $(\{U_\alpha\}, H, B_\alpha, A_{\alpha\beta})$  are coupled on  $M$ , one has

$$2\pi i\theta_\alpha - \pi^* \iota_K B_\alpha = \Theta|_{\pi^{-1}(U_\alpha)},$$

where  $\Theta$  is the connection 1-form on  $S\xi$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.15) \quad & (d - \iota_v - u\iota_K)ch_{\nabla^\xi: \mathcal{G}}(\nabla^E, \nabla^{E'})|_{\pi^{-1}(U_\alpha)} = \\
& = (d - \iota_v - u\iota_K) \left[ \exp(-u^{-1}\pi^* B_\alpha - 2\pi i\theta_\alpha) \operatorname{Tr} \left( \exp(-u^{-1}(F^{E_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK}^{E_\alpha})) - \exp(-u^{-1}(F^{E'_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK}^{E'_\alpha})) \right) \right] \\
& = \left[ (d - \iota_v - u\iota_K) \exp(-u^{-1}\pi^* B_\alpha - 2\pi i\theta_\alpha) \right] \operatorname{Tr} \left( -\exp(u^{-1}(F^{E_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK}^{E_\alpha})) - \exp(-u^{-1}(F^{E'_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK}^{E'_\alpha})) \right) \\
& = \left[ \exp(-u^{-1}\pi^* B_\alpha - 2\pi i\theta_\alpha) (-u^{-1}\pi^* dB_\alpha - 2\pi id\theta_\alpha + \iota_K \pi^* B_\alpha) \right] \\
& \quad \cdot \operatorname{Tr} \left( -\exp(u^{-1}(F^{E_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK}^{E_\alpha})) - \exp(-u^{-1}(F^{E'_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK}^{E'_\alpha})) \right) \\
& = \left[ -u^{-1}\pi^* H - (2\pi i\theta_\alpha - \pi^* \iota_K B_\alpha) \right] \\
& \quad \cdot \left[ \exp(-u^{-1}\pi^* B_\alpha - 2\pi id\theta_\alpha) \operatorname{Tr} \left( -\exp(u^{-1}(F^{E_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK}^{E_\alpha})) - \exp(-u^{-1}(F^{E'_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK}^{E'_\alpha})) \right) \right] \\
& = (-u^{-1}\pi^* H - \Theta) ch_{\nabla^\xi: \mathcal{G}}(\nabla^E, \nabla^{E'})|_{\pi^{-1}(U_\alpha)},
\end{aligned}$$

and therefore

$$(d - \iota_v - u\iota_K + \Theta + u^{-1}\pi^* H)ch_{\nabla^\xi: \mathcal{G}}(\nabla^E, \nabla^{E'})|_{\pi^{-1}(U_\alpha)} = 0.$$

(ii) Let

$$\nabla_t^E = (1-t)\nabla_0^E + t\nabla_1^E, \quad \nabla_t^{E'} = (1-t)\nabla_0^{E'} + t\nabla_1^{E'}$$

and  $F_t^E, F_t^{E'}, \mu_t^E, \mu_t^{E'}$  be the corresponding curvatures and momentums.

Let

$$A^{E_\alpha} = \nabla_1^{E_\alpha} - \nabla_0^{E_\alpha}, \quad A^{E'_\alpha} = \nabla_1^{E'_\alpha} - \nabla_0^{E'_\alpha}.$$

We have

$$\phi_{\alpha\beta}^{-1}(-u^{-1}(F_t^{E_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK,t}^{E_\alpha}) - u^{-1}\pi^* B_\alpha - 2\pi i\theta_\alpha)\phi_{\alpha\beta} = -u^{-1}(F_t^{E_\beta} + \mu_{v+uK,t}^{E_\beta}) - u^{-1}\pi^* B_\beta - 2\pi i\theta_\beta$$

and

$$\phi_{\alpha\beta}^{-1}(-u^{-1}A^{E_\alpha})\phi_{\alpha\beta} = -u^{-1}A^{E_\beta}.$$

Similarly equalities hold for  $E'$ .

Therefore we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.16) \quad & \exp(-u^{-1}\pi^* B_\alpha - 2\pi i\theta_\alpha) \\
& \cdot \int_0^1 \operatorname{Tr} \left( -u^{-1}A^{E_\alpha} \exp(-u^{-1}(F_t^{E_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK,t}^{E_\alpha})) + u^{-1}A^{E'_\alpha} \exp(-u^{-1}(F_t^{E'_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK,t}^{E'_\alpha})) \right) dt
\end{aligned}$$

can be glued together as a global differential form in  $\Omega^*(S\xi)[[u, u^{-1}]]$ . Denote this form by  $cs(\nabla_0^E, \nabla_0^{E'}; \nabla_1^E, \nabla_1^{E'})$ . Since  $\iota_v A^{E_\alpha} = 0, L_v A^{E_\alpha} = 0$ , similar to proof of (i), we have

$$\iota_v cs(\nabla_0^E, \nabla_0^{E'}; \nabla_1^E, \nabla_1^{E'}) = 0, \quad L_v cs(\nabla_0^E, \nabla_0^{E'}; \nabla_1^E, \nabla_1^{E'}) = -cs(\nabla_0^E, \nabla_0^{E'}; \nabla_1^E, \nabla_1^{E'})$$

and therefore

$$cs(\nabla_0^E, \nabla_0^{E'}; \nabla_1^E, \nabla_1^{E'}) \in \tilde{\Omega}^*(S\xi)[[u, u^{-1}]].$$

Moreover, by the standard Chern-Simons transgression, we have

$$(3.17) \quad \begin{aligned} & (d - \iota_v - u\iota_K) \int_0^1 \text{Tr} \left( -u^{-1} A^{E_\alpha} \exp(-u^{-1}(F_t^{E_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK,t}^{E_\alpha})) + u^{-1} A^{E'_\alpha} \exp(-u^{-1}(F_t^{E'_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK,t}^{E'_\alpha})) \right) dt \\ &= \text{Tr} \left( \exp(-u^{-1}(F_1^{E_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK,1}^{E_\alpha})) - \exp(-u^{-1}(F_1^{E'_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK,1}^{E'_\alpha})) \right) \\ & \quad - \text{Tr} \left( \exp(-u^{-1}(F_0^{E_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK,0}^{E_\alpha})) - \exp(-u^{-1}(F_0^{E'_\alpha} + \mu_{v+uK,0}^{E'_\alpha})) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Then similar to (3.15), we see that

$$(d - \iota_v - u\iota_K + \Theta + u^{-1}\pi^*H)cs(\nabla_0^E, \nabla_0^{E'}; \nabla_1^E, \nabla_1^{E'}) = ch_{\nabla^\xi; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla_1^E, \nabla_1^{E'}) - ch_{\nabla^\xi; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla_0^E, \nabla_0^{E'}). \quad \square$$

This theorem shows that  $ch_{\nabla^\xi; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla^E, \nabla^{E'})$  is  $(d - \iota_v - u\iota_K + \Theta + u^{-1}\pi^*H)$ -closed in  $\tilde{\Omega}^*(S\xi)^\mathbb{T}[[u, u^{-1}]]$ . Theorem 2.3 then tells us that  $f^{-1}(ch_{\nabla^\xi; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla^E, \nabla^{E'}))$  is  $(\nabla^\xi - u\iota_K + u^{-1}H)$ -closed in  $\Omega^*(M, \xi)^\mathbb{T}[[u, u^{-1}]]$ .

We call

$$CS(\nabla_0^E, \nabla_0^{E'}; \nabla_1^E, \nabla_1^{E'}) := f^{-1} \left( cs(\nabla_0^E, \nabla_0^{E'}; \nabla_1^E, \nabla_1^{E'}) \right) \in \Omega^*(M, \xi)[[u, u^{-1}]]$$

the **exotic twisted equivariant Chern-Simons transgression term**. By (3.14) and Theorem 2.3 (formula (2.22)), one has

$$(3.18) \quad Ch_{\nabla^\xi; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla_1^E, \nabla_1^{E'}) - Ch_{\nabla^\xi; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla_0^E, \nabla_0^{E'}) = (\nabla^\xi - u\iota_K + u^{-1}H)CS(\nabla_0^E, \nabla_0^{E'}; \nabla_1^E, \nabla_1^{E'}).$$

We therefore can define the **exotic twisted equivariant Chern character**:

$$\begin{aligned} Ch_{\nabla^\xi; \mathcal{G}} &: K_{\mathbb{T}}^0(M, \nabla^\xi : \mathcal{G}) \rightarrow h_{\mathbb{T}}^*(M, \nabla^\xi : H), \\ Ch_{\nabla^\xi; \mathcal{G}}(E, E') &:= \left[ f^{-1} \left( ch_{\nabla^\xi; \mathcal{G}}(\nabla^E, \nabla^{E'}) \right) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

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