

Solutions 1

(1)

$$1. \{ \gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu \} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sigma^\mu \\ \bar{\sigma}^\mu & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sigma^\nu \\ \bar{\sigma}^\nu & 0 \end{pmatrix} + (\mu \leftrightarrow \nu) \\ = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu + \sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\mu & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{\sigma}^\mu \sigma^\nu + \bar{\sigma}^\nu \sigma^\mu \end{pmatrix} = 2\eta^{\mu\nu} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

2. Can be checked explicitly.

$$\bar{\sigma}^\mu = -\varepsilon \sigma^{\mu,T} \varepsilon$$

$$\bar{\sigma}^0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{?}{=} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \checkmark$$

$$\bar{\sigma}^1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{?}{=} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = - \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \checkmark$$

$$\bar{\sigma}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ -i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{?}{=} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = - \begin{pmatrix} -i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ -i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \checkmark$$

$$\bar{\sigma}^3 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{?}{=} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \checkmark$$

$$3. \text{tr}(\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu) = \text{tr}(\sigma^\mu (-\varepsilon \sigma^{\nu,T} \varepsilon)) = -\text{tr}((\varepsilon \sigma^\mu \varepsilon) \sigma^{\nu,T}) \\ = -\text{tr}(\sigma^\nu (\varepsilon \sigma^{\mu,T} \varepsilon)) = \text{tr}(\sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\mu)$$

Now, take the trace of the relations $\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu + \sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\mu = 2\eta^{\mu\nu} \mathbf{1}$

$$\Rightarrow \text{tr}(\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu) + \text{tr}(\sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\mu) = 2\eta^{\mu\nu} \text{tr}(\mathbf{1}) = 4\eta^{\mu\nu}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 \text{tr}(\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu) = 4\eta^{\mu\nu}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{tr}(\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu) = 2\eta^{\mu\nu} \quad \checkmark$$

$$4. \text{tr}(\sigma^{\mu\nu}) = \frac{1}{4} (\text{tr}(\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu) - \text{tr}(\sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\mu)) = 0,$$

using the equation above. Similarly for $\bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu}$

$$5. (\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu \varepsilon)^T = -\varepsilon \bar{\sigma}^{\nu,T} \sigma^{\mu,T} = -\varepsilon (-\varepsilon \sigma^{\nu,T} \varepsilon)^T \sigma^{\mu,T} \\ = \varepsilon^2 \sigma^\nu \varepsilon \sigma^{\mu,T} = -\sigma^\nu \varepsilon \sigma^{\mu,T} \\ = -\sigma^\nu (\bar{\sigma}^\mu \varepsilon) = -\sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\mu \varepsilon$$

$$(\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu \varepsilon - \sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\mu \varepsilon)^T = -\sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\mu \varepsilon + \sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow (\sigma^{\mu\nu} \varepsilon)^T = \sigma^{\mu\nu} \varepsilon \quad \checkmark$$

$$\text{similarly, } (\bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu} \varepsilon)^T = \bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu} \varepsilon$$

6.

(2)

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma^{12} &= \frac{1}{4} (\sigma^1 \bar{\sigma}^2 - \sigma^2 \bar{\sigma}^1) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} (-\sigma^1 \sigma^2 + \sigma^2 \sigma^1)\end{aligned}$$

Recall that $\sigma^1 \sigma^2 = i\sigma^3$, $\sigma^2 \sigma^1 = -i\sigma^3$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma^{12} = \frac{1}{4} (-i\sigma^3 - i\sigma^3) = -\frac{i}{2} \sigma^3$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma^{23} &= \frac{1}{4} (\sigma^2 \bar{\sigma}^3 - \sigma^3 \bar{\sigma}^2) = \frac{1}{4} (-\sigma^2 \sigma^3 + \sigma^3 \sigma^2) \\ &= -\frac{i}{2} \sigma^1\end{aligned}$$

$$\sigma^{31} = \frac{1}{4} (\sigma^3 \bar{\sigma}^1 - \sigma^1 \bar{\sigma}^3) = -\frac{i}{2} \sigma^2$$

$$\sigma^{0i} = \frac{1}{4} (\sigma^0 \bar{\sigma}^i - \sigma^i \bar{\sigma}^0) = -\frac{1}{2} \sigma^i$$

Therefore, $\sigma^{12} = -\frac{i}{2} \sigma^3 = i \sigma^{03}$

$\sigma^{23} = -\frac{i}{2} \sigma^1 = i \sigma^{01}$

$\sigma^{31} = -\frac{i}{2} \sigma^2 = i \sigma^{02}$

To write these constraints in a more covariant way introduce $\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}$ Levi-Civita totally antisymmetric tensor, $\epsilon^{0123} = 1$, $\epsilon_{0123} = -1$

$$\sigma^{\mu\nu} = -\frac{i}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \bar{\sigma}_{\rho\sigma}$$

For the other matrices we have

$$\bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \bar{\sigma}_{\rho\sigma}$$

7. To compute $\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu \sigma^\rho$ we decompose it over a basis of σ^τ

$$\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu \sigma^\rho = \sum_{\tau} c^{\mu\nu\rho\tau} \sigma^\tau$$

Contract with $\bar{\sigma}^\tau$

$$\Rightarrow \text{tr}(\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu \sigma^\rho \bar{\sigma}^\tau) = 2 c^{\mu\nu\rho\tau}$$

So we only need to compute this trace.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{tr}(\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu \sigma^\rho \bar{\sigma}^\tau) &= \text{tr}((2\gamma^{\mu\nu} - \sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\mu) \sigma^\rho \bar{\sigma}^\tau) \\ &= 4 \gamma^{\mu\nu} \gamma^{\rho\tau} - \text{tr}(\sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\mu \sigma^\rho \bar{\sigma}^\tau) \\ &= 4 \gamma^{\mu\nu} \gamma^{\rho\tau} - \text{tr}(\sigma^\nu (2\gamma^{\rho\tau} - \bar{\sigma}^\tau \sigma^\rho) \bar{\sigma}^\tau)\end{aligned}$$

(3)

$$= 4 \gamma^{\mu\nu} \gamma^{\rho\tau} - 4 \gamma^{\mu\rho} \gamma^{\nu\tau} + \text{tr}(\sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\rho \sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\tau)$$

$$= 4 \gamma^{\mu\nu} \gamma^{\rho\tau} - 4 \gamma^{\mu\rho} \gamma^{\nu\tau} + \text{tr}(\sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\rho (2 \gamma^{\mu\tau} - \sigma^\tau \bar{\sigma}^\mu))$$

$$= 4 \gamma^{\mu\nu} \gamma^{\rho\tau} - 4 \gamma^{\mu\rho} \gamma^{\nu\tau} + 4 \gamma^{\nu\rho} \gamma^{\mu\tau} - \text{tr}(\sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\rho \sigma^\tau \bar{\sigma}^\mu)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{tr}(\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu \sigma^\rho \bar{\sigma}^\tau) + \text{tr}(\bar{\sigma}^\mu \sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\rho \sigma^\tau) \\ = 4 \gamma^{\mu\nu} \gamma^{\rho\tau} - 4 \gamma^{\mu\rho} \gamma^{\nu\tau} + 4 \gamma^{\nu\rho} \gamma^{\mu\tau}$$

Now look at the difference

$$T^{\mu\nu\rho\tau} = \text{tr}(\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu \sigma^\rho \bar{\sigma}^\tau) - \text{tr}(\bar{\sigma}^\mu \sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\rho \sigma^\tau)$$

$$\text{Obviously, } T^{\mu\nu\rho\tau} = -T^{\nu\rho\tau\mu}$$

$$\text{Similarly, } T^{\mu\nu\rho\tau} = -T^{\nu\mu\tau\rho}$$

It follows that $T^{\mu\nu\rho\tau}$ is completely antisymmetric so $T^{\mu\nu\rho\tau} = c \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\tau}$

To compute c , consider $\mu=0, \nu=1, \rho=2, \tau=3$

$$\text{tr}(\sigma^0 \bar{\sigma}^1 \sigma^2 \bar{\sigma}^3) - \text{tr}(\bar{\sigma}^0 \sigma^1 \bar{\sigma}^2 \sigma^3) = c \\ = 2 \text{tr}(\sigma^1 \sigma^2 \sigma^3) = 2 \text{tr}(i \sigma^3 \sigma^3) = 4i$$

$$\Rightarrow c = 4i$$

$$\text{We conclude that } T^{\mu\nu\rho\tau} = 4i \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\tau}$$

Finally,

$$\boxed{\text{tr}(\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu \sigma^\rho \bar{\sigma}^\tau) = 2 \gamma^{\mu\nu} \gamma^{\rho\tau} - 2 \gamma^{\mu\rho} \gamma^{\nu\tau} + 2 \gamma^{\nu\rho} \gamma^{\mu\tau} + 2i \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\tau}}$$

$$\boxed{\text{tr}(\bar{\sigma}^\mu \sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\rho \sigma^\tau) = 2 \gamma^{\mu\nu} \gamma^{\rho\tau} - 2 \gamma^{\mu\rho} \gamma^{\nu\tau} + 2 \gamma^{\nu\rho} \gamma^{\mu\tau} - 2i \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\tau}}$$

Going back,

$$\boxed{\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu \sigma^\rho = \gamma^{\mu\nu} \sigma^\rho - \gamma^{\mu\rho} \sigma^\nu + \gamma^{\nu\rho} \sigma^\mu + i \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\tau} \sigma_\tau}$$

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8. We will decompose $\sigma_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}}^{\mu} \sigma_{\beta\dot{\beta}}^{\nu}$ over a basis

(4)

$$\underbrace{\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}}_{\text{anti-symmetric}}, \quad \underbrace{(\sigma^{12}\varepsilon)_{\alpha\beta}, (\sigma^{23}\varepsilon)_{\alpha\beta}, (\sigma^{31}\varepsilon)_{\alpha\beta}}_{\text{symmetric}}$$

$$\Rightarrow (*) \quad \sigma_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}}^{\mu} \sigma_{\beta\dot{\beta}}^{\nu} = \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}^{\mu\nu} + \sum_{(ij) \in \{(12), (23), (31)\}} (\sigma^{ij}\varepsilon)_{\alpha\beta} M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}^{ij}$$

This formula is not manifestly invariant since the range of the sums is not $0, \dots, 3$ as usual.

$$\sum_{(ij) \in \{(12), (23), (31)\}} (\sigma^{ij}\varepsilon)_{\alpha\beta} M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}^{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^3 (\sigma^{ij}\varepsilon)_{\alpha\beta} M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}^{ij}$$

$$\text{where } M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}^{ij} = -M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}^{ji}$$

Next, we can extend M^{ij} to have the same duality properties as $(\sigma^{\mu\nu}\varepsilon)_{\alpha\beta}$. Doing so, we can extend the sum if we introduce at the same time a compensating factor of $1/2$.

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{(ij) \in \{(12), (23), (31)\}} (\sigma^{ij}\varepsilon)_{\alpha\beta} M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}^{ij} = \frac{1}{4} (\sigma_{\mu\nu}\varepsilon)_{\alpha\beta} M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}^{\mu\nu}$$

Eq * therefore becomes

$$(**) \quad \sigma_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}}^{\mu} \sigma_{\beta\dot{\beta}}^{\nu} = \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{4} (\sigma_{\mu'\nu'}\varepsilon)_{\alpha\beta} M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}^{\mu'\nu'}$$

The task is now to compute $M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}^{\mu\nu}$ and $M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}^{\mu'\nu'}$.

Contract (**) with $\varepsilon^{\alpha\beta} \Rightarrow$

$$(\sigma^{\mu\tau}\varepsilon\sigma^{\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} = +2 M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}^{\mu\nu}$$

$$= (\varepsilon\bar{\sigma}^{\mu}\sigma^{\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} = [\varepsilon(\gamma^{\mu\nu} + 2\bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu})]_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}^{\mu\nu} = +\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \gamma^{\mu\nu} + (\varepsilon\bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}}$$

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Contract with $(\varepsilon \sigma^{\rho\tau})^{\alpha\beta}$

⑤

In the LHS of (**) we obtain after contraction

$$(\sigma^{\mu\nu} \varepsilon \sigma^{\rho\tau} \sigma^\nu)_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} = (\varepsilon \bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu} \sigma^{\rho\tau} \sigma^\nu)_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}$$

Recall that

$$\bar{\sigma}^\mu \sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\rho = \eta^{\mu\nu} \bar{\sigma}^\rho - \eta^{\mu\rho} \bar{\sigma}^\nu + \eta^{\nu\rho} \bar{\sigma}^\mu - i \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\tau} \bar{\sigma}_\tau$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{\sigma}^\mu \sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\rho = \frac{1}{4} (\eta^{\mu\nu} \bar{\sigma}^\rho - \eta^{\mu\rho} \bar{\sigma}^\nu + \eta^{\nu\rho} \bar{\sigma}^\mu - i \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\tau} \bar{\sigma}_\tau - \eta^{\mu\rho} \bar{\sigma}^\nu + \eta^{\mu\nu} \bar{\sigma}^\rho - \eta^{\nu\rho} \bar{\sigma}^\mu - i \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\tau} \bar{\sigma}_\tau)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (\eta^{\mu\nu} \bar{\sigma}^\rho - \eta^{\mu\rho} \bar{\sigma}^\nu - i \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\tau} \bar{\sigma}_\tau)$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{\sigma}^\mu \sigma^{\rho\tau} \bar{\sigma}^\nu = \frac{1}{2} (\eta^{\mu\rho} \bar{\sigma}^\tau - \eta^{\mu\tau} \bar{\sigma}^\rho - i \varepsilon^{\mu\rho\tau\varepsilon} \bar{\sigma}_\varepsilon) \sigma^\nu$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [\eta^{\mu\rho} (\eta^{\tau\nu} + 2 \bar{\sigma}^{\tau\nu}) - \eta^{\mu\tau} (\eta^{\rho\nu} + 2 \bar{\sigma}^{\rho\nu}) - i \varepsilon^{\mu\rho\tau\varepsilon} (\eta^{\varepsilon\nu} + 2 \bar{\sigma}^{\varepsilon\nu})]$$

$$\Rightarrow (\sigma^{\mu\nu} \varepsilon \sigma^{\rho\tau} \sigma^\nu)_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} = \frac{1}{2} (\eta^{\mu\rho} \eta^{\tau\nu} - \eta^{\mu\tau} \eta^{\rho\nu} - i \varepsilon^{\mu\rho\tau\varepsilon} \eta^{\varepsilon\nu}) \varepsilon_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}$$

$$+ \eta^{\mu\rho} (\varepsilon \bar{\sigma}^{\tau\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} - \eta^{\mu\tau} (\varepsilon \bar{\sigma}^{\rho\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} - i \varepsilon^{\mu\rho\tau\varepsilon} (\varepsilon \bar{\sigma}^{\varepsilon\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}$$

In the RHS of (**) we obtain

$$\frac{1}{4} \text{tr}(\sigma_{\mu'\nu'} \varepsilon \varepsilon \sigma^{\rho\tau}) M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}^{\mu'\nu'} = -\frac{1}{4} \text{tr}(\sigma_{\mu'\nu'} \sigma^{\rho\tau}) M_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}^{\mu'\nu'}$$

$$\text{Now, } \text{tr}(\sigma_{\mu'\nu'} \sigma^{\rho\tau}) = \frac{1}{16} \text{tr}(\sigma_{\mu'} \bar{\sigma}_{\nu'} \sigma^\rho \bar{\sigma}^\tau) - \left(\begin{matrix} \mu' \leftrightarrow \nu' \\ \rho \leftrightarrow \tau \end{matrix} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{16} (2 \cancel{\eta^{\mu'\nu'}} \eta^{\rho\tau} - 2 \delta_{\mu'}^\rho \delta_{\nu'}^\tau + 2 \delta_{\mu'}^\tau \delta_{\nu'}^\rho + 2 i \varepsilon_{\mu'\nu'} \delta^{\rho\tau})$$

$$- 2 \cancel{\eta^{\mu'\nu'}} \eta^{\rho\tau} + 2 \delta_{\nu'}^\rho \delta_{\mu'}^\tau - 2 \delta_{\nu'}^\tau \delta_{\mu'}^\rho + 2 i \varepsilon_{\mu'\nu'} \delta^{\rho\tau}) - (\rho \leftrightarrow \tau)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} (\delta_{\mu'}^\tau \delta_{\nu'}^\rho - \delta_{\nu'}^\tau \delta_{\mu'}^\rho + i \varepsilon_{\mu'\nu'} \delta^{\rho\tau}) - (\rho \leftrightarrow \tau)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (\delta_{\mu'}^\tau \delta_{\nu'}^\rho - \delta_{\nu'}^\tau \delta_{\mu'}^\rho + i \varepsilon_{\mu'\nu'} \delta^{\rho\tau})$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{1}{4} \text{tr} (\sigma_{\mu'\nu'} \sigma^{\rho\tau}) M^{\mu'\nu'}_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} = -\frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{2} (\delta^{\tau}_{\mu'} \delta^{\rho}_{\nu'} - \delta^{\tau}_{\nu'} \delta^{\rho}_{\mu'} + i \epsilon_{\mu'\nu'\rho\tau}) M^{\mu'\nu'}_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \quad (6)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left(M^{\rho\tau}_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} + \frac{i}{2} \epsilon^{\rho\tau}_{\mu'\nu'} M^{\mu'\nu'}_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} M^{\rho\tau}_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}, \text{ where we used the duality condition on } M^{\mu\nu}, \text{ i.e.}$$

$$M^{\rho\tau} = \frac{i}{2} \epsilon^{\rho\tau}_{\mu'\nu'} M^{\mu'\nu'}$$

So in the end,

$$M^{\rho\tau}_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} = \left(\eta^{\mu\rho} \eta^{\tau\nu} - \eta^{\mu\tau} \eta^{\rho\nu} - i \epsilon^{\mu\rho\tau\nu} \right) \epsilon_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \\ + 2 \eta^{\mu\rho} (\epsilon \bar{\sigma}^{\tau\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} - 2 \eta^{\mu\tau} (\epsilon \bar{\sigma}^{\rho\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \\ - 2 i \epsilon^{\mu\rho\tau\nu} (\epsilon \bar{\sigma}^{\epsilon\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}$$

The contraction in the RHS becomes

$$\frac{1}{4} (\sigma_{\mu'\nu'} \epsilon)_{\alpha\beta} \left[(\eta^{\mu\mu'} \eta^{\nu'\nu} + \eta^{\mu\nu'} \eta^{\mu'\nu} - i \epsilon^{\mu\mu'\nu'\nu}) \epsilon_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \right. \\ \left. + 2 \eta^{\mu\mu'} (\epsilon \bar{\sigma}^{\nu'\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} - 2 \eta^{\mu\nu'} (\epsilon \bar{\sigma}^{\mu'\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \right. \\ \left. - 2 i \epsilon^{\mu\mu'\nu'\nu} (\epsilon \bar{\sigma}^{\epsilon\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (\cancel{\sigma^{\mu\nu} \epsilon})_{\alpha\beta} \epsilon_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} + \frac{1}{2} (\cancel{\sigma^{\mu\nu} \epsilon})_{\alpha\beta} \epsilon_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} (\sigma^{\mu\nu'} \epsilon)_{\alpha\beta} (\epsilon \bar{\sigma}^{\nu'\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} - \frac{1}{2} (\sigma_{\mu'}{}^{\mu} \epsilon)_{\alpha\beta} (\epsilon \bar{\sigma}^{\mu'\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}$$

$$+ (\sigma^{\mu}{}_{\epsilon} \epsilon)_{\alpha\beta} (\epsilon \bar{\sigma}^{\epsilon\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}$$

$$= (\sigma^{\mu\nu} \epsilon)_{\alpha\beta} \epsilon_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} + 2 (\sigma^{\mu}{}_{\rho} \epsilon)_{\alpha\beta} (\epsilon \bar{\sigma}^{\rho\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}$$

Finally,

$$\sigma^{\mu}{}_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}} \sigma^{\nu}{}_{\beta\dot{\beta}} = + \frac{1}{2} \eta^{\mu\nu} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} \epsilon_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} + (\epsilon \bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$+ (\sigma^{\mu\nu} \epsilon)_{\alpha\beta} \epsilon_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} + 2 (\sigma^{\mu}{}_{\rho} \epsilon)_{\alpha\beta} (\epsilon \bar{\sigma}^{\rho\nu})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}$$

is actually symmetric in $(\mu \leftrightarrow \nu)$

