

Some math exercises

(Field strength, Bianchi identity, Yang-Mills equation, etc.)

A $\mathfrak{g} = \text{Lie}(G)$ -valued function E is called covariant when it transforms as

$$E \mapsto g^{-1} E g$$

under gauge transformation by $g \in G$

① Show that, if E is covariant, its covariant derivative

$$D_\mu E := \partial_\mu E + [A_\mu, E] \text{ is also covariant.}$$

(* This was shown in the class for a general representation R .
The exercise is to do it (again) for $R = \mathfrak{g}$.)

② Show that the field strength $F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu + [A_\mu, A_\nu]$ is covariant.

In particular, $D_\mu F_{\nu\lambda}$ is also covariant.

③ Show that $D_\mu F_{\nu\lambda} + D_\nu F_{\lambda\mu} + D_\lambda F_{\mu\nu} = 0$ holds.

This is called Bianchi identity.

④ Show that an arbitrary variation δA_μ of A_μ is covariant,

In particular $D_\mu \delta A_\nu$ is also covariant.

⑤ Show that under an arbitrary variation of A_μ , the field strength varies as $\delta F_{\mu\nu} = D_\mu \delta A_\nu - D_\nu \delta A_\mu$.

⑥ For two covariant \mathfrak{g} -valued functions E_1 and E_2 , $E_1 \cdot E_2$ is gauge invariant (by the property of the scalar product " \cdot "). Show that

$$D_\mu (E_1 \cdot E_2) = D_\mu E_1 \cdot E_2 + E_1 \cdot D_\mu E_2.$$

⑦ Show that Euler-Lagrange equation of the Yang-Mills action is

$$D^\mu F_{\mu\nu} = 0.$$

This is called Yang-Mills equation.

(Hint: use ⑤ & ⑥)