



Yang-Mills action:

$$S[A] = \int -\frac{1}{4e^2} F^{\mu\nu} \cdot F_{\mu\nu} d^d x$$

Here " $\cdot$ " is a positive definite inner product on  $\mathfrak{g}$  which is invariant under the adjoint action of  $G$ ,  $X \mapsto gXg^{-1}$

(the infinitesimal version of conjugation  $g_t \mapsto g_t g_t^{-1}$ ):

$$gXg^{-1} \cdot gYg^{-1} = X \cdot Y.$$

E.g. for  $G = SU(N)$ , a standard choice is  $X \cdot Y = -2\text{Tr}XY$ .

$S[A]$  is invariant under a **huge** symmetry group:

$g(x)$ :  $G$ -valued function on spacetime

$$\sim A_\mu \mapsto A_\mu^g = g^{-1} A_\mu g + g^{-1} \partial_\mu g.$$

Under this, the field strength transforms covariantly,

$$F_{\mu\nu} \mapsto F_{\mu\nu}^g = \partial_\mu A_\nu^g - \partial_\nu A_\mu^g + [A_\mu^g, A_\nu^g] = g^{-1} F_{\mu\nu} g,$$

and thus indeed

$$\begin{aligned} S[A^g] &= \int -\frac{1}{4e^2} g^{-1} F^{\mu\nu} g \cdot g^{-1} F_{\mu\nu} g d^d x \\ &= \int -\frac{1}{4e^2} F^{\mu\nu} \cdot F_{\mu\nu} d^d x = S[A]. \end{aligned}$$

This is a generalization of invariance of Maxwell action under the gauge transformation  $A_\mu \mapsto A_\mu + \partial_\mu \lambda$ .

Indeed, for  $G=U(1)$ ,  $\mathfrak{g}=i\mathbb{R} \cong \mathbb{R}$  and for  $g(x)=e^{i\lambda(x)}$ ,  
 $iA_\mu^\lambda = \bar{e}^{-i\lambda} iA_\mu e^{i\lambda} + \bar{e}^{-i\lambda} \partial_\mu e^{i\lambda} \Rightarrow A_\mu^\lambda = A_\mu + \partial_\mu \lambda$ .

As in that case, we shall call

$$A_\mu \mapsto A_\mu^g = g^{-1} A_\mu g + g^{-1} \partial_\mu g$$

the gauge transformation of  $A_\mu(x)$  by  $g(x)$ , and

$$\mathcal{G} := \{ g(x) \mid G\text{-valued function} \}$$

the gauge transformation group. We'd like to regard  $A$  and  $A^g$  as physically equivalent for any  $g \in \mathcal{G}$ .

I.e. we would like to physically identify them. If we put

$$\mathcal{A} := \{ A_\mu(x) \mid \mathfrak{g}\text{-valued vector potential} \}$$

the space of physically inequivalent field configurations is the quotient space  $\mathcal{A}/\mathcal{G}$ .

A theory with such an identification of field variables is called a gauge theory. We would like to find a way to quantize gauge theories.

### Infinitesimal gauge transformations

A  $\mathfrak{g}$ -valued function  $E(x)$  generates a one parameter group of gauge transformations:  $g_t(x) = e^{tE(x)}$ :

$$A_\mu \mapsto A_\mu^{g_t} = g_t^{-1} A_\mu g_t + g_t^{-1} \partial_\mu g_t.$$

The infinitesimal transformation is

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_\epsilon A_\mu &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} A_\mu^{g_t} \right|_{t=0} = -\epsilon A_\mu + A_\mu \epsilon + \partial_\mu \epsilon \\ &= \partial_\mu \epsilon + [A_\mu, \epsilon] =: D_\mu \epsilon \quad \text{covariant derivative.} \end{aligned}$$

The space of such  $E(x)$  may be regarded as the Lie algebra of the gauge transformation group.

$$\{ E(x) \mid \mathfrak{g}\text{-valued function} \} = \text{Lie}(\mathcal{G}).$$

## Coupling to matter fields

$\phi(x)$ : a scalar field with values a representation  $R$  of  $G$ ,  
 i.e. a vector space on which  $G$  acts linearly.

e.g.  $R = \mathbb{C}^N$  for  $G = U(N)$  or  $SU(N)$  via matrix multiplication.

$R = \mathfrak{g}$  for a general  $G$  via adjoint action

$R =$  sum of copies of such,  $\mathbb{C}^N \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{C}^N \oplus \mathfrak{g} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathfrak{g}$ .

Gauge transformation by  $g \in G$ :

$$A_\mu \mapsto A_\mu^g, \quad \phi \mapsto \phi^g = g^{-1} \phi.$$

Infinitesimally,  $\delta A_\mu = D_\mu \epsilon$ ,  $\delta \phi = -\epsilon \phi$ .

Covariant derivative  $D_\mu \phi := \partial_\mu \phi + A_\mu \phi$

Its gauge transformation:

$$\begin{aligned} D_\mu \phi &\mapsto \partial_\mu \phi^g + A_\mu^g \phi^g = \underbrace{\partial_\mu (g^{-1} \phi)} + (\cancel{g^{-1} A_\mu g} + \cancel{g^{-1} \partial_\mu g}) g^{-1} \phi \\ &= g^{-1} \partial_\mu \phi + g^{-1} A_\mu \phi = g^{-1} D_\mu \phi \quad \text{homogeneous.} \end{aligned}$$

$(\phi_1, \phi_2) \mapsto \phi_1^\dagger \phi_2$   $G$ -invariant inner product on  $R$

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4e^2} F^{\mu\nu} \cdot F_{\mu\nu} + (D^\mu \phi)^\dagger D_\mu \phi - f(\phi^\dagger \phi)$$

is gauge invariant.

The system with variable  $(A_\mu, \phi)$  and this Lagrangian is the gauge theory of gauge group  $G$  with a scalar in a representation  $R$  of  $G$ .

We may also consider a theory with a fermion  $\Psi$  in a representation  $R$  of  $G$ .

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4e^2} F^{\mu\nu} \cdot F_{\mu\nu} + i\bar{\Psi} \not{D}_A \Psi - m\bar{\Psi} \Psi$$

where  $\not{D}_A \Psi = \gamma^\mu D_\mu \Psi = \gamma^\mu (\partial_\mu \Psi + A_\mu \Psi)$ .

e.g. QED with electrons of charge  $Q_1, \dots, Q_{N_f}$ :

$$G = U(1), \quad e^{i\lambda} : \psi_i \mapsto e^{iQ_i \lambda} \psi_i \quad (i=1, \dots, N_f)$$

e.g. QCD with color  $N_c$  and flavor  $N_f$ :

$$G = SU(N_c), \quad R = \mathbb{C}^{N_c} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{C}^{N_c} \quad (N_f \text{ copies})$$

## Quantization of gauge theory (path integral)

In a gauge theory, a field configuration  $(A, \phi, \psi, \dots)$  is identified with its gauge transform  $(A^g, \phi^g, \psi^g, \dots)$

$\mathcal{M}$  = the space of field configurations

$\mathcal{G}$  = the gauge transformation group.

The path-integral is over the quotient space  $\mathcal{M}/\mathcal{G}$

$$Z = \int_{\mathcal{M}/\mathcal{G}} \underline{\text{measure}} e^{-S_E[A, \phi, \psi, \dots]}$$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_1 \mathcal{O}_2 \mathcal{O}_3 \dots \rangle$$

$$= \frac{1}{Z} \int_{\mathcal{M}/\mathcal{G}} \underline{\text{measure}} e^{-S_E[A, \phi, \psi, \dots]} \mathcal{O}_1 \mathcal{O}_2 \mathcal{O}_3 \dots$$

How do we do this?

... Let us do it in a finite dimensional case.

$M$ : a manifold,  $\dim M = n$

$G$ : a Lie group acting on  $M$ ,  $\dim G = d_G$ .

$$g \in G : \phi \in M \mapsto \phi g \in M$$

$$(\text{right action} : \phi(gh) = (\phi g)h)$$

Assume: the action is free,  $\phi g = \phi$  for some  $\phi \Rightarrow g = 1$ .

Suppose a measure  $d\phi$  and a function  $S_E(\phi)$  on  $M$   
are  $G$ -invariant,  $d(\phi g) = d\phi$ ,  $S_E(\phi g) = S_E(\phi)$ .

Want to consider the gauge theory where

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \phi \sim \phi g \quad \text{identified} \\ f(\phi) \text{ physically meaningful when } G\text{-invariant} \end{array} \right.$$

Question How do we define measure on  $M/G$  for

$$Z = \int_{M/G} \underline{\text{measure}} e^{-S_E(\phi)}$$

$$\langle f \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int_{M/G} \underline{\text{measure}} e^{-S_E(\phi)} f(\phi)$$

?



A naive answer :

$$Z = \frac{1}{\text{Vol } G} \int_M d\phi e^{-S_E(\phi)}$$

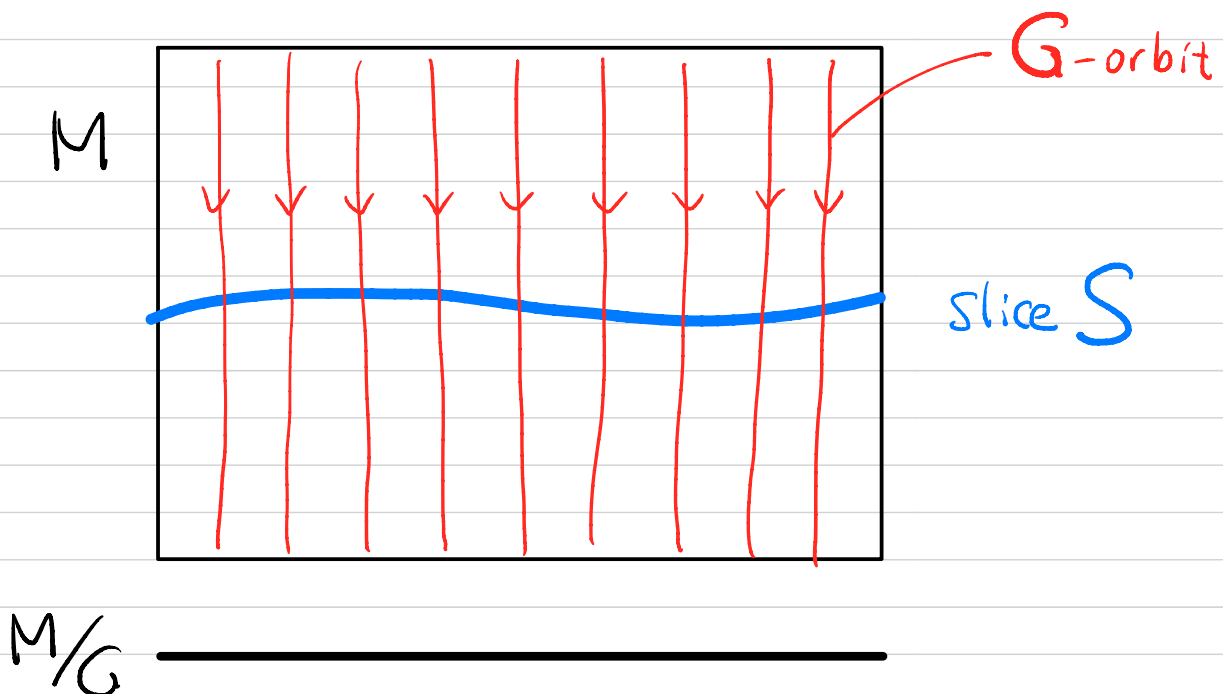
$$\langle f \rangle = \frac{1}{\text{Vol } G} \int_M d\phi e^{-S_E(\phi)} f(\phi) / Z$$

A possible problem :  $\text{Vol } G$  may be infinite

$$\int_M d\phi \dots \text{ may be infinite.}$$

Suppose we can find a slice  $S \subset M$ , i.e.

a submanifold s.t. any  $G$ -orbit has exactly one point in it.

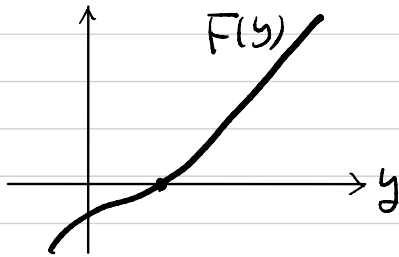


Suppose  $S$  is the zero locus of a set of functions

$$\text{of } M : \phi \in S \Leftrightarrow \chi_1(\phi) = \dots = \chi_{d_G}(\phi) = 0.$$

$\chi(\phi) = (\chi_a(\phi))_{a=1}^{d_G}$  can be regarded as a function on  $M$  with values in  $\mathfrak{g} = \text{Lie}(G)$ .

Note: For a monotonic function  $F(y)$  of a single  $y$ ,



$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(F(y)) \underbrace{dF(y)}_{F'(y) dy} = 1.$$

Multivariable case:  $y = (y^1, \dots, y^m)$

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^m} \prod_{a=1}^m \delta(F_a(y)) \cdot \det\left(\frac{\partial F_a(y)}{\partial y^b}\right) d^m y = 1$$

Apply this to the function  $F_a(g) = \chi_a(\phi g)$  of  $G$

for a fixed  $\phi \in M$ :

$$\int_G \underbrace{\prod_{a=1}^{d_G} \delta(\chi_a(\phi g))}_{\delta(\chi(\phi g))} \cdot \underbrace{\det\left(\frac{\partial \chi_a(\phi g)}{\partial g^b}\right)}_{\det(\delta^a \chi_a(\phi g))} \cdot dg = 1.$$

insert 1 = ...

$$\int_M d\phi e^{-S_E(\phi)} = \int_{M \times G} d\phi dg e^{-S_E(\phi)} \delta(\chi(\phi g)) \det(\delta\chi(\phi g))$$

Change the variable  $\phi g \rightarrow \phi$  and  
 use  $G$ -invariance of  $d\phi$  &  $S_E(\phi)$

$$= \int_{M \times G} d\phi dg e^{-S_E(\phi)} \delta(\chi(\phi)) \det(\delta\chi(\phi))$$

$$= \underbrace{\int_G dg}_{\text{Vol } G} \int_M d\phi e^{-S_E(\phi)} \delta(\chi(\phi)) \det(\delta\chi(\phi))$$

$$\therefore Z = \frac{1}{\text{Vol } G} \int_M d\phi e^{-S_E(\phi)}$$

$$= \int_M d\phi e^{-S_E(\phi)} \delta(\chi(\phi)) \det(\delta\chi(\phi)).$$

Similarly

$$\langle f \rangle = \frac{1}{\text{vol } G} \int_M d\phi e^{-S_E(\phi)} f(\phi) / Z$$

$$= \int_M d\phi e^{-S_E(\phi)} \delta(\chi(\phi)) \det(\delta\chi(\phi)) f(\phi) / Z.$$

$$\chi(\phi) = (\chi_a(\phi))_{a=1}^{d_G} \quad \dots \text{ gauge fixing function}$$

$$\chi_1(\phi) = \dots = \chi_{d_G}(\phi) = 0 \quad \dots \text{ gauge fixing condition}$$

$$\det(\delta\chi(\phi)) = \det\left(\frac{\partial\chi_a(\phi^g)}{\partial g_b} \Big|_{g=1}\right)$$

$$= \det\left(\frac{\partial\chi_a(\phi e^\epsilon)}{\partial \epsilon_b} \Big|_{\epsilon=0}\right) \quad \{e^a\}_{a=1}^{d_G} \subset \mathfrak{g} \text{ basis}$$

$$\epsilon = \sum_a \epsilon^a \epsilon_a$$

... Faddeev-Popov determinant

The results  $Z$ ,  $\langle f \rangle$  do not depend on the choice of gauge fixing condition  $\chi(\phi) = 0$ .

## Rewriting

① Use independence on the choice of  $\chi(\phi)$ .

② Use  $\det(A_{ij}) = \int \prod_i d\bar{\eta}_i d\eta_i e^{-\sum_{ij} \bar{\eta}_i A_{ij} \eta_j}$

① Replace  $\chi(\phi) \rightarrow \chi(\phi) - \omega$ ,  $\omega \in \mathcal{G}$ .

$$\text{Also, } \int_{\mathcal{G}} d\omega e^{-\frac{1}{2\xi} \omega^2} = (2\pi\xi)^{d_G/2}$$

$$Z = \int_M d\phi e^{-S_E(\phi)} \delta(\chi(\phi)) \det(\delta\chi(\phi))$$

$$I = \frac{1}{(2\pi\xi)^{d_G/2}} \int_{\mathcal{G}} d\omega e^{-\frac{1}{2\xi} \omega^2} \chi(\phi) - \omega \quad \delta\chi(\phi) \text{ intact}$$

$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi\xi)^{d_G/2}} \int_{M \times \mathcal{G}} d\phi d\omega e^{-S_E(\phi) - \frac{1}{2\xi} \omega^2} \delta(\chi(\phi) - \omega) \det(\delta\chi(\phi))$$

$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi\xi)^{d_G/2}} \int_M d\phi e^{-S_E(\phi) - \frac{1}{2\xi} (\chi(\phi))^2} \det(\delta\chi(\phi)) \quad (\#)$$

$$(2) \det(\delta^b \chi_a(\phi)) = \int \prod_{a=1}^{d_G} d\bar{c}^a d c_a e^{-\sum_{a,b} \bar{c}^a \delta^b \chi_a(\phi) c_b}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \sum_b \delta^b \chi_a(\phi) c_b = \delta_c \chi_a(\phi) \\ \text{infinitesimal transformation of } \chi_a(\phi) \\ \text{by } C = \sum_{a=1}^{d_G} e^a c_a \end{array} \right.$$

$$= \int \prod_{a=1}^{d_G} d\bar{c}^a d c_a e^{-\sum_a \bar{c}^a \delta_c \chi_a(\phi)}$$

$$\stackrel{\text{or}}{=} \int_{\mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G}} d\bar{c} d c e^{-\bar{c} \cdot \delta_c \chi(\phi)} \quad \text{in a simplified form.}$$

$c, \bar{c}$  : Faddeev-Popov ghost

Also

$$\delta(\chi(\phi) - \omega) = \int \prod_{a=1}^{d_G} \frac{d B_a}{2\pi} e^{i B^a (\chi_a(\phi) - \omega_a)}$$

$$\stackrel{\text{or}}{=} \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{d_G}} \int_{\mathcal{G}} d B e^{i B \cdot (\chi(\phi) - \omega)}$$

$$\therefore \delta(\chi(\phi) - \omega) \det(\delta \chi(\phi))$$

$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{d_G}} \int_{\mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G}} d B d\bar{c} d c e^{i B \cdot (\chi(\phi) - \omega) - \bar{c} \cdot \delta_c \chi(\phi)}$$

Insert this in (#):

$$Z = \frac{1}{(2\pi\zeta)^{d_0/2}} \int_{M \times \mathcal{G}} d\phi d\omega e^{-S_E(\phi) - \frac{1}{2\zeta} \omega^2}$$

$$\times \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{d_0}} \int_{\mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G}} dB d\bar{c} dc e^{iB \cdot (\chi(\phi) - \omega) - \bar{c} \cdot \delta_c \chi(\phi)}$$

Perform  $\omega$ -integral

$$\int d\omega e^{-\frac{1}{2\zeta} \omega^2 - iB \cdot \omega} = (2\pi\zeta)^{d_0/2} e^{-\frac{\zeta}{2} B^2}$$

We end up with

$$Z = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{d_0}} \int_{M \times \mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G}} d\phi dB d\bar{c} dc e^{-\tilde{S}_E(\phi, B, \bar{c}, c)}$$

$$\tilde{S}_E = S_E(\phi) + \frac{\zeta}{2} B^2 - iB \cdot \chi(\phi) + \bar{c} \cdot \delta_c \chi(\phi)$$

... gauge fixed action

Similarly for  $\langle f \rangle$ .

The gauge fixed system has a symmetry  $\delta_B$  called

### BRST symmetry

$$\delta_B \Phi = \delta_c \Phi$$

$$\delta_B B = 0$$

$$\delta_B \bar{c} = iB$$

$$\delta_B c = -\frac{1}{2}[c, c]$$

$$c = e^a c_a$$

$$[c, c] = [e^a c_a, e^b c_b]$$

$$= [e^a, e^b] c_a c_b$$

$$\text{If } [e^a, e^b] = e^d f_d^{ab},$$

$$\delta c_a = -\frac{1}{2} f_a^{bc} c_b c_c$$

It is a fermionic symmetry  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \delta_B \text{ bosonic is fermionic} \\ \delta_B \text{ fermionic is bosonic.} \end{array} \right.$

$$\delta_B (U_1 U_2) = \delta_B U_1 \cdot U_2 + (-1)^{|U_1|} U_1 \cdot \delta_B U_2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_B \tilde{S}_E &= \cancel{\delta_c \delta_E(\Phi)} - iB \cdot \cancel{\delta_c \chi(\Phi)} + iB \cdot \cancel{\delta_c \chi(\Phi)} \\ &\quad - \bar{c} \underbrace{\delta c_a}_{-\frac{1}{2} f_a^{bd} c_b c_d} \delta^a \chi(\Phi) + \bar{c} c_a \underbrace{\delta c}_{c_b \delta^b \delta^a \chi(\Phi)} \delta^a \chi(\Phi) \end{aligned}$$

$$\left[ f_a^{bd} \delta^a \chi = \delta^b \delta^d \chi - \delta^d \delta^b \chi \quad (\because \text{right action}) \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \bar{c} c_b c_a (\delta^b \delta^d - \delta^d \delta^b) \chi(\Phi) + \bar{c} c_a c_b \delta^b \delta^a \chi(\Phi) = 0.$$



Remarks

- $\delta_B \circ \delta_B = 0$  (exercise)

$\mathcal{O}$  is said to be BRST closed when  $\delta_B \mathcal{O} = 0$

BRST exact when  $\mathcal{O} = \delta_B(-)$ .

By  $\delta_B \circ \delta_B = 0$ , BRST exact  $\Rightarrow$  BRST closed.

- $\tilde{S}_E = S_E - \delta_B \left( \bar{c} \cdot \left( \chi(\phi) - \frac{i\hbar}{2} B \right) \right)$

... The gauge fixing term is BRST exact.

- $\langle \delta_B h \rangle = 0$  by ward identity.

If  $\delta_B f = 0$ , then

$$\langle f \cdot \delta_B h \rangle = (-1)^{|f|} \langle \delta_B (f \cdot h) \rangle = 0.$$

In particular, if  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  are BRST closed,

$\langle f_1 \cdots f_n \rangle$  does not change under change of  $f_i$ 's

by BRST exact ones,  $f_i \rightarrow f_i + \delta_B h_i$

These motivate us to consider BRST cohomology :

$$H_{\text{BRST}} = \{ \text{BRST closed} \} / \{ \text{BRST exact} \}$$

A proposal :

Physical observables are BRST cohomology classes.  
(states) (states)

There is another symmetry : ghost number  $N_{\text{gh}}$

	$\phi$	$B$	$\bar{c}$	$c$
$N_{\text{gh}}$	0	0	-1	1

$\delta_B$  increases  $N_{\text{gh}}$  by 1,  $[N_{\text{gh}}, \delta_B] = 1$

$\mathcal{F}^i = \{ \text{observable of } N_{\text{gh}} = i \}$

$\Rightarrow \delta_B : \mathcal{F}^i \rightarrow \mathcal{F}^{i+1}$

$$H_{\text{BRST}}^i(\mathcal{F}) = \text{Ker}(\delta_B : \mathcal{F}^i \rightarrow \mathcal{F}^{i+1}) / \text{Im}(\delta_B : \mathcal{F}^{i-1} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}^i).$$

We may also integrate-out  $B$  :

$$Z = \frac{1}{(2\pi\zeta)^{dG/2}} \int_{M \times \mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G}} d\phi d\bar{c} dc e^{-\tilde{S}_E(\phi, \bar{c}, c)}$$

$$\tilde{S}_E = S_E(\phi) + \frac{1}{2\zeta} \chi(\phi)^2 + \bar{c} \cdot \delta_c \chi(\phi)$$

This is also obtained directly from (1) & (2).

This system also has BRST symmetry

$$\delta_0 \phi = \delta_c \phi,$$

$$\delta_0 \bar{c} = -\frac{1}{\zeta} \chi(\phi) \quad \leftarrow \text{from EOM: } B = \frac{i}{\zeta} \chi(\phi)$$

$$\delta_0 c = -\frac{1}{2} [c, c].$$

But  $\delta_B \circ \delta_B = 0$  holds only on-shell

i.e. using EOM  $\delta_c \chi(\phi) = 0$ .

Back to the case of gauge theory :

$$M \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{M} = \{ (A_\mu(x), \varphi(x), \psi(x), \dots) \text{ field config.} \}$$

$$G \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{G} = \{ g(x) \mid G\text{-valued function} \}$$

$$\mathfrak{g} \rightsquigarrow \text{Lie}(\mathcal{G}) = \{ E(x) \mid \mathfrak{g}\text{-valued function} \}$$

As gauge fixing function, we can take

$$\chi[A](x) = \partial^\mu A_\mu(x) \quad \text{Lorentz gauge}$$

$$\delta_E \chi[A](x) = \partial^\mu D_\mu E(x)$$

gauge fixed Lagrangian

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_E = \mathcal{L}_E + \frac{\lambda}{2} B^2 - i B \cdot \partial^\mu A_\mu + \bar{c} \cdot \partial^\mu D_\mu c$$

Inverse Wick rotation to real time

(with  $B \rightarrow iB$ ,  $\bar{c} \rightarrow i\bar{c}$  &  $\lambda \rightarrow e^2$  for convenience)

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}} = \mathcal{L} + \frac{e^2}{2} B^2 - B \cdot \partial^\mu A_\mu - i \bar{c} \partial^\mu D_\mu c$$

BRST symmetry :

$$\delta_B A_\mu = D_\mu C, \quad \delta_B \phi = -c\phi, \quad \delta_B \psi = -c\psi$$

$$\delta_B B = 0$$

$$\delta_B \bar{C} = iB$$

$$\delta_B C = -\frac{1}{2}[C, C]$$

The version where  $B$  is integrated out :

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}} = \mathcal{L} - \frac{1}{2e^2\xi} (\partial^\mu A_\mu)^2 - i\bar{C} \cdot \partial^\mu D_\mu C$$

$$\delta_B \bar{C} = \frac{i}{e^2\xi} \partial^\mu A_\mu,$$

$$\delta_B(\text{others}) = \text{same as above.}$$