

Exercises on Theoretical Particle Physics II

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4.1 Super Yang-Mills theory and coupling to matter (19 credits)

The way matter couplings are realized in supersymmetric actions will guide us to the **non-Abelian** generalization of the gauge invariant action we already studied. Consider a chiral superfields Φ transforming under a global symmetry

$$\Phi \mapsto \Phi' = e^{-i\lambda^a \rho(T_a)} \Phi, \quad \lambda^a \in \mathbb{R}, \quad a = 1, \dots, \dim(\mathfrak{g}), \quad (1)$$

in a representation¹ ρ of a Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} with generators T_a . In order to gauge this symmetry consistently the transformed superfield Φ' has to remain chiral.

1. Check that (1) respects the chirality of Φ for $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ constant and for $\lambda \equiv \Lambda(x, \theta)$ a complete chiral superfield. Although $W(\Phi)$ can be arranged to be gauge invariant, $\Phi^\dagger \Phi$ cannot. Determine its transformation behaviour. (2 credits)
2. In order for this to be gauge invariant introduce a minimal coupling of the vectorsuperfield to the matter contained in the chiral superfield of the form

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{matter}} \supset \Phi^\dagger e^V \Phi \Big|_{\theta^2 \bar{\theta}^2}, \quad V = V^a T_a, \quad a = 1, \dots, \dim(\mathfrak{g}). \quad (2)$$

Determine the right transformation property of e^V for gauge invariance. What is the first order transformation of V ? Can you still perform the WZ-gauge? (3 credits)

3. Rewrite (2) in the left-chiral representation by shifting x^μ . This yields $e^{V - 2i\theta\sigma^\mu\bar{\theta}\partial_\mu}$. Why do you expect the covariant derivative to appear? Calculate the D-term ($\theta^2\bar{\theta}^2$ -term) of (2) in the WZ-gauge in the left-chiral representation using $(V_{\text{WZ}})^n = 0$ for $n \geq 3$. Identify the covariant derivatives. (3 credits)
4. Turning to the kinetic term of the non-Abelian gauge sector we have to generalize it further. The non-Abelian field strength is defined by

$$W_\alpha = -\frac{1}{4} \bar{D} \bar{D} (e^{-V} D_\alpha e^V), \quad \bar{W}_{\dot{\alpha}} = \frac{1}{4} D D (e^V \bar{D}_{\dot{\alpha}} e^{-V}). \quad (3)$$

How does W_α transform under a gauge transformation of e^V ? Insert $e^{V_{\text{WZ}}} = 1 + V_{\text{WZ}} + \frac{1}{2} V_{\text{WZ}}^2$ to deduce

$$W_\alpha = -\frac{1}{4} \bar{D} \bar{D} D_\alpha V + \frac{1}{8} \bar{D} \bar{D} [V, D_\alpha V].$$

Compare this to the Abelian case. Calculate W_α explicitly. You obtain the same result as on sheet 2, replacing ordinary derivatives by covariant ones. (3 credits)

¹In the following we will omit the letter ρ for convenience.

5. Scale the superfield by $V \mapsto 2gV$, where g denotes the **gauge coupling constant**. Next, introduce a complex coupling constant $\tau = \frac{\Theta}{2\pi} + \frac{4\pi i}{g^2}$ containing the **theta-angle** Θ and determine the action of the gauge sector given by

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge}} = \frac{1}{32\pi} \text{Im} \left(\tau \int d^2\theta \text{Tr} W^\alpha W_\alpha \right). \quad (4)$$

Hint: $\text{Tr} W^\alpha W_\alpha$ is identical to the expanded Lagrangian for a $U(1)$ gauge theory with covariant derivatives instead of ordinary ones. Then, multiply this by τ and determine the imaginary part. (4 credits)

6. Combine the matter and gauge sector of the action. Integrate out the auxiliary fields to determine the full scalar potential. (4 credits)

The result reads

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} &= \mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{matter}} \\ &= \frac{1}{32\pi} \text{Im} \left(\tau \int d^2\theta \text{Tr} W^\alpha W_\alpha \right) + \int d^2\theta d^2\bar{\theta}^2 \Phi^\dagger e^{2gV} \Phi + \left(\int d^2\theta W(\Phi) + \text{h.c.} \right) \\ &= \text{Tr} \left(-\frac{1}{4} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} - i\lambda\sigma^\mu D_\mu \bar{\lambda} \right) + \frac{\Theta}{32\pi^2} g^2 \text{Tr} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \\ &\quad + (D_\mu \varphi)^\dagger D^\mu \varphi - i\psi\sigma^\mu D_\mu \bar{\psi} + i\sqrt{2}g\varphi^\dagger \lambda\psi - i\sqrt{2}g\bar{\psi}\bar{\lambda}\varphi \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 W}{\partial \varphi^i \partial \varphi^j} \psi^i \psi^j - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{W}}{\partial \bar{\varphi}^i \partial \bar{\varphi}^j} \bar{\psi}^i \bar{\psi}^j - V(\varphi^\dagger, \varphi) + \text{total derivatives}, \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

with $\tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} F_{\rho\sigma}$, the scalar potential

$$V(\varphi^\dagger, \varphi) = F^\dagger F + \frac{1}{2} D^2 = \sum_i \left| \frac{\partial W}{\partial \varphi^i} \right|^2 + \frac{g^2}{2} \sum_a |\varphi^\dagger T_a \varphi|^2 \quad (6)$$

and covariant derivatives

$$\begin{aligned} D_\mu \lambda &= \partial_\mu \lambda - ig [V_\mu^b, \lambda], & D_\mu \varphi &= \partial_\mu \varphi - ig V_\mu^a T_a \varphi, \\ D_\mu \psi &= \partial_\mu \psi - ig V_\mu^a T_a \psi, & F_{\mu\nu} &= \partial_\mu V_\nu - \partial_\nu V_\mu - ig [V_\mu, V_\nu]. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$