

Physics 523 Homework 8

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Problem 1

The action density is

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\alpha\beta}^a F_a^{\alpha\beta} + \bar{\psi}(i\not{D} - m)\psi$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} F_{\alpha\beta}^a &= \partial_\alpha A_\beta^a - \partial_\beta A_\alpha^a + gf_{abc}A_\alpha^b A_\beta^c \\ D_\mu &= \partial_\mu - igA_\mu^a t^a \end{aligned}$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_\nu A_\mu^a)} &= -\frac{1}{2}(\delta_\alpha^\nu \delta_\beta^\mu - \delta_\beta^\nu \delta_\alpha^\mu)(\partial^\alpha A_a^\beta - \partial^\beta A_a^\alpha + gf^{abc}A_b^\alpha A_c^\beta) \\ &= -\frac{1}{2}(\partial^\nu A_a^\mu - \partial^\mu A_a^\nu + gf^{abc}A_b^\nu A_c^\mu - \partial^\mu A_a^\nu + \partial^\nu A_a^\mu - gf^{abc}A_b^\mu A_c^\nu) \\ &= \partial^\mu A_a^\nu - \partial^\nu A_a^\mu + gf^{abc}A_b^\mu A_c^\nu \\ &= F_a^{\mu\nu} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial A_\mu^a} &= -\frac{1}{2}F_d^{\alpha\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial A_\mu^a} gf_{def}A_\alpha^e A_\beta^f + g\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu t^a \psi \\ &= -\frac{1}{2}gF_d^{\alpha\beta}(f_{dea}A_\alpha^e \delta_\beta^\mu + f_{daf}A_\beta^f \delta_a^\mu) + g\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu t^a \psi \\ &= -\frac{1}{2}g(f_{dea}F^{\alpha\mu}A_\alpha^e + f_{daf}F^{\mu\beta}) + g\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu t^a \psi \\ &= gF_c^{\nu\mu}f_{abc}A_\nu^b + g\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu t^a \psi \end{aligned}$$

so the Euler-Lagrange equations for the gauge fields are

$$0 = \partial_\mu \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_\mu A_\nu^a)} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial A_\nu^a} = -\partial_\mu F_a^{\mu\nu} - gf_{abc}A_\mu^b F_c^{\mu\nu} - g\bar{\psi}\gamma^\nu t_a \psi.$$

Rearranging:

$$\partial^\mu F_{\mu\nu}^a + gf_{abc}A^{b\mu}F_{\mu\nu}^c = -g\bar{\psi}\gamma_\nu t^a \psi = -gj_\nu^a.$$