

1. (a) Gauge transformations take $A_\mu \rightarrow A_\mu + \partial_\mu f$, where f is a scalar function of spacetime. This means

$$\begin{aligned} F_{\mu\nu} &\rightarrow \partial_\mu A_\nu + \partial_\mu \partial_\nu f - \partial_\nu A_\mu - \partial_\nu \partial_\mu f \\ &= F_{\mu\nu}. \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

Thus, the field strength is gauge invariant by itself, and we only need to worry about the Chern-Simons term. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} A_\mu \partial_\nu A_\rho &\rightarrow \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} (A_\mu + \partial_\mu f) \partial_\nu (A_\rho + \partial_\rho f) \\ &= \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} A_\mu \partial_\nu A_\rho + \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} A_\mu \partial_\nu \partial_\rho f + \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} \partial_\mu f \partial_\nu A_\rho + \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} \partial_\mu f \partial_\nu \partial_\rho f \\ &= \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} A_\mu \partial_\nu A_\rho + \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} \partial_\mu f \partial_\nu A_\rho. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Also,

$$\int d^3x \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} \partial_\mu f \partial_\nu A_\rho = - \int d^3x \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} \partial_\nu \partial_\mu f A_\rho = 0 \quad (3)$$

after integration by parts, so we have

$$\int d^3x \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} A_\mu \partial_\nu A_\rho \rightarrow \int d^3x \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} A_\mu \partial_\nu A_\rho, \quad (4)$$

and we see that the action is gauge invariant. Now let's find the EoM for A using the Euler-Lagrange equation. First, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial A_\mu} &= \frac{1}{2} k \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} \partial_\nu A_\rho \\ &= \frac{1}{4} k \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} (\partial_\nu A_\rho - \partial_\rho A_\nu) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} k \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} F_{\nu\rho}. \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Next, using

$$\frac{\partial F_{\rho\sigma}}{\partial (\partial_\nu A_\mu)} = \delta_\rho^\nu \delta_\sigma^\mu - \delta_\sigma^\nu \delta_\rho^\mu, \quad (6)$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\nu A_\mu)} &= -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial F_{\rho\sigma}}{\partial (\partial_\nu A_\mu)} F^{\rho\sigma} + \frac{1}{2} k \epsilon^{\rho\nu\mu} A_\rho \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} (F^{\nu\mu} - F^{\mu\nu}) + \frac{1}{2} k \epsilon^{\rho\nu\mu} A_\rho \\ &= F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} k \epsilon^{\rho\nu\mu} A_\rho, \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

which implies

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_\nu \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\nu A_\mu)} &= \partial_\nu F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} k \epsilon^{\rho\nu\mu} \partial_\nu A_\rho \\ &= \partial_\nu F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} k \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} \partial_\nu A_\rho \\ &= \partial_\nu F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4} k \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} F_{\nu\rho}. \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

Putting the pieces together, we have that the equations of motion for the gauge field are

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{4}k\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho}F_{\nu\rho} &= \partial_\nu F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4}k\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho}F_{\nu\rho} \\
\frac{1}{2}k\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho}F_{\nu\rho} &= \partial_\nu F^{\mu\nu} \\
\epsilon_\mu^{\alpha\beta}\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho}F_{\nu\rho} &= \frac{2}{k}\epsilon_\mu^{\alpha\beta}\partial_\nu F^{\mu\nu} \\
(\delta^{\alpha\nu}\delta^{\beta\rho} - \delta^{\alpha\rho}\delta^{\beta\nu})F_{\nu\rho} &= \frac{2}{k}\epsilon_\mu^{\alpha\beta}\partial_\nu F^{\mu\nu} \\
F^{\alpha\beta} &= \frac{1}{k}\epsilon_\mu^{\alpha\beta}\partial_\nu F^{\mu\nu}.
\end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

This implies

$$\begin{aligned}
F^{\alpha\beta} &= \frac{1}{k}\epsilon_\mu^{\alpha\beta}\partial_\nu \left(\frac{1}{k}\epsilon_\rho^{\mu\nu}\partial_\sigma F^{\rho\sigma} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{k^2}\partial_\nu\partial_\sigma(\delta^{\alpha\nu}\delta_\rho^\beta - \delta^{\beta\nu}\delta_\rho^\alpha)F^{\rho\sigma} \\
&= \frac{1}{k^2}(\partial^\alpha\partial_\sigma F^{\beta\sigma} - \partial^\beta\partial_\sigma F^{\alpha\sigma}) \\
&= \frac{1}{k^2}[\partial^\alpha\partial_\sigma(\partial^\beta A^\sigma - \partial^\sigma A^\beta) - \partial^\beta\partial_\sigma(\partial^\alpha A^\sigma - \partial^\sigma A^\alpha)] \\
&= \frac{1}{k^2}(-\partial^\alpha\partial_\sigma\partial^\sigma A^\beta + \partial^\beta\partial_\sigma\partial^\sigma A^\alpha)
\end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

The final line of (10) is equivalent to

$$\boxed{(k^2 + \partial^2)F_{\mu\nu} = 0}, \tag{11}$$

so we see that $F_{\mu\nu}$ satisfies the Klein-Gordon equation with mass $\boxed{m^2 = k^2}$. Since we are in 2 + 1 dimensions, these massive particles have $\boxed{1}$ polarization, which comes from the fact that A_0 is nondynamical and we can eliminate one more component through gauge transformations.

- (b) The Gauss law constraint comes from the Euler-Lagrange equation for A_0 . We have

$$\frac{\partial\mathcal{L}}{\partial A_0} = \frac{1}{2}k\epsilon^{0\nu\rho}\partial_\nu A_\rho = \frac{1}{2}kB. \tag{12}$$

Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned}
\partial_\nu \frac{\partial\mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_\nu A_0)} &= \partial_\nu F^{0\nu} - \frac{1}{4}k\epsilon^{0\nu\rho}F_{\nu\rho} \\
&= \partial_i F^{0i} - \frac{1}{2}kB \\
&= \nabla \cdot \vec{E} - \frac{1}{2}kB
\end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

Then the analog of the Gauss law constraint is

$$\boxed{\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = kB.} \quad (14)$$

Now let's find the momentum conjugate to A_i . We have from (7)

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_0 A_i)} = F^{i0} + \frac{1}{2}k\epsilon^{\rho 0i} A_\rho, \quad (15)$$

which implies

$$\boxed{p^i = -E^i + \frac{1}{2}k\epsilon^{ij} A_j.} \quad (16)$$

Before we find the Hamiltonian, let's rewrite the Lagrangian a bit. First, notice that

$$F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} = F_{0i}F^{0i} + F_{i0}F^{i0} + F_{ij}F^{ij}, \quad (17)$$

but

$$F_{i0}F^{i0} = F_{0i}F^{0i} = -(\partial_i A_0 - \partial_0 A_i)^2 = -E^2 \quad (18)$$

and

$$F_{ij}F^{ij} = F_{12}F^{12} + F_{21}F^{21} = 2(\partial_1 A_2 - \partial_2 A_1)^2 = 2B^2. \quad (19)$$

Then we have

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{2}(-E^2 + B^2) + \frac{1}{2}k(\epsilon^{0ij} A_0 \partial_i A_j + \epsilon^{j0i} A_j \partial_0 A_i + \epsilon^{ij0} A_i \partial_j A_0). \quad (20)$$

The equation for the Hamiltonian is

$$\mathcal{H} = p^i \partial_0 A_i - \mathcal{L}. \quad (21)$$

We have

$$p^i \partial_0 A_i = -E^i \partial_0 A_i + \frac{1}{2}k\epsilon^{ij} A_j \partial_0 A_i, \quad (22)$$

so (21) implies

$$\mathcal{H} = -E^i \partial_0 A_i + \frac{1}{2}(-E^2 + B^2) - \frac{1}{2}k(\epsilon^{0ij} A_0 \partial_i A_j + \epsilon^{ij0} A_i \partial_j A_0). \quad (23)$$

Integration by parts gives us

$$\epsilon^{ij0} A_i \partial_j A_0 \rightarrow -A_0 \epsilon^{ij} \partial_j A_i = A_0 B. \quad (24)$$

Thus, we have

$$\mathcal{H} = -E^i \partial_0 A_i + \frac{1}{2}(-E^2 + B^2) - A_0 kB. \quad (25)$$

We can then write

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{H} &= -E^i(\partial_i A_0 - E_i) + \frac{1}{2}(-E^2 + B^2) - A_0 k B \\
&= E^2 + \frac{1}{2}(-E^2 + B^2) - E^i \partial_i A_0 - A_0 k B \\
&\rightarrow \frac{1}{2}(E^2 + B^2) + A_0(\partial_i E^i - k B)
\end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

We integrated by parts in the last step. Thus, we see that A_0 acts as a Lagrange multiplier which enforces (14), and assuming the Gauss's law constraint (i.e. plugging back in the equation of motion for A_0) gives us

$$\boxed{\mathcal{H} = \frac{1}{2}(E^2 + B^2)}. \tag{27}$$

I think this is actually what the problem wanted. Now, we can use (16) to write

$$E^i = \frac{1}{2} k \epsilon^{ij} A_j - p^i, \tag{28}$$

which implies

$$\begin{aligned}
E^2 &= \frac{1}{4} k^2 \epsilon^{ij} \epsilon_{ik} A_j A^k - k \epsilon^{ij} p_i A_j + p^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{4} k^2 A^2 - k \epsilon^{ij} p_i A_j + p^2,
\end{aligned} \tag{29}$$

so the action can be written

$$\begin{aligned}
S &= \int d^3x \left[p^i \partial_0 A_i - \frac{1}{2} \left(p^2 - k \epsilon^{ij} p_i A_j + \frac{1}{4} k^2 A^2 + B^2 \right) - A_0 (\partial_i E^i - k B) \right] \\
&= \int d^3x \left[p^i \partial_0 A_i - \frac{1}{2} \left(p^2 - k \epsilon^{ij} p_i A_j + \frac{1}{4} k^2 A^2 + B^2 \right) - A_0 \left(\frac{1}{2} k B - \partial_i p^i - k B \right) \right] \\
&= \int d^3x \left[p^i \partial_0 A_i - \frac{1}{2} \left(p^2 - k \epsilon^{ij} p_i A_j + \frac{1}{4} k^2 A^2 + B^2 \right) + A_0 \left(\partial_i p^i + \frac{1}{2} k B \right) \right].
\end{aligned} \tag{30}$$

(d) The Poisson brackets are given by

$$\begin{aligned}
\{E_i(x), B(y)\} &= \{-p_i + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ij} A_j, \epsilon_{kl} \partial_k A_l\} \\
&= -\epsilon_{kl} \partial_k \{p_i, A_l\} + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ij} \epsilon_{kl} \partial_k \{A_j, A_l\} \\
&= -\epsilon_{kl} \partial_k \delta_{il} \delta^2(x-y) + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ij} \epsilon_{kl} \partial_k(0) \\
&= \boxed{\epsilon_{ik} \partial_k \delta^2(x-y)}.
\end{aligned} \tag{31}$$

- (e) We can compute the propagator for the photon by writing down the Lagrangian in momentum space and inverting the coefficient of A^2 . Because this theory is gauge invariant (see part (a)), we will need to gauge fix. We can do this by adding a gauge fixing term to the Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho}A_\mu\partial_\nu A_\rho - \frac{1}{2\xi}(\partial_\mu A^\mu)^2. \quad (32)$$

Then the Lagrangian in momentum space looks like

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{2}\left[A_\mu\left(p^2g^{\mu\nu} - p^\mu p^\nu - \frac{1}{\xi}p^\mu p^\nu + ik\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho}p_\rho\right)A_\nu\right]. \quad (33)$$

Defining

$$[\Delta^{-1}]^{\mu\nu}(p^2) = i\left[p^2g^{\mu\nu} - \left(1 + \frac{1}{\xi}\right)p^\mu p^\nu + ik\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho}p_\rho\right], \quad (34)$$

the most general form for $\Delta_{\mu\nu}(p^2)$ allowed by Lorentz invariance is

$$\Delta_{\mu\nu}(p^2) = -i(ag_{\mu\nu} + bp_\mu p_\nu + c\epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho}p^\rho), \quad (35)$$

Where a , b , and c are functions of p^2 and k . Note that this is possible because k has mass dimension one. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{\mu\nu}[\Delta^{-1}]^{\nu\lambda} &= (ag_{\mu\nu} + bp_\mu p_\nu + c\epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho}p^\rho) \\ &\quad \times \left[p^2g^{\nu\lambda} - \left(1 + \frac{1}{\xi}\right)p^\nu p^\lambda + ik\epsilon^{\nu\lambda\rho}p_\rho\right] \\ &= ap^2\delta_\mu^\lambda + \left[b - a - \frac{a}{\xi} - bp^2\left(1 + \frac{1}{\xi}\right)\right]p_\mu p^\lambda \\ &\quad + (cp^2 + iak)\epsilon_\mu^{\lambda\rho}p_\rho + ick\epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho}\epsilon^{\nu\lambda\tau}p^\rho p_\tau \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

But

$$\epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho}\epsilon^{\nu\lambda\tau}p^\rho p_\tau = p_\mu p^\lambda - p^2\delta_\mu^\lambda, \quad (37)$$

so we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{\mu\nu}[\Delta^{-1}]^{\nu\lambda} &= (a-ick)p^2\delta_\mu^\lambda + \left[b - a - \frac{a}{\xi} - bp^2\left(1 + \frac{1}{\xi}\right) + ick\right]p_\mu p^\lambda \\ &\quad + (cp^2 + iak)\epsilon_\mu^{\lambda\rho}p_\rho. \end{aligned} \quad (38)$$

To start, this implies

$$\begin{aligned} cp^2 + iak &= 0 \\ c &= -i\frac{ak}{p^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (39)$$

Furthermore, we must have

$$a - ick = \frac{1}{p^2}, \quad (40)$$

so we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 a - a \frac{k^2}{p^2} &= \frac{1}{p^2} \\
 a &= \frac{1}{p^2 - k^2}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{41}$$

This also implies from (39) that

$$c = \frac{ik}{p^2(k^2 - p^2)}.
 \tag{42}$$

In the Lorenz gauge, $\xi \rightarrow 0$, so we should only worry about the terms with $\frac{1}{\xi}$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{a}{\xi} + bp^2 \frac{1}{\xi} &= 0 \\
 b &= -\frac{a}{p^2} \\
 &= \frac{1}{p^2(k^2 - p^2)}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{43}$$

Altogether, the expression for the propagator is

$$\boxed{\Delta_{\mu\nu}(p^2) = \frac{-i}{p^2 + k^2} \left(g_{\mu\nu} - \frac{p_\mu p_\nu}{p^2} - \frac{ik\epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho} p^\rho}{p^2} \right)}.
 \tag{44}$$