

**Exercise 1. Instantons**

In four-dimensional Euclidean space ( $\mu, \nu = 1, 2, 3, 4$ ), consider the instanton configuration of a  $SU(2)$  gauge field

$$\underline{A}_\mu^a = \frac{2}{g} \frac{\eta_{\mu\nu}^a x_\nu}{|x|^2 + \lambda^2}, \quad (1)$$

where  $\lambda$  is an arbitrary distance and  $\eta$  is 't Hooft's mixed colour and space-time tensor defined as

$$\eta_{\mu\nu}^a = \epsilon_{a\mu\nu 4} - \delta_{\mu 4} \delta_{a\nu} + \delta_{\nu 4} \delta_{a\mu} \quad (2)$$

or, equivalently,

$$\eta_{\mu\nu}^a = \begin{cases} \epsilon_{a\mu\nu} & \text{if } \mu \neq 4, \nu \neq 4 \\ \delta_{a\mu} & \text{if } \mu \neq 4, \nu = 4 \\ -\delta_{a\nu} & \text{if } \mu = 4, \nu \neq 4 \\ 0 & \text{if } \mu = \nu = 4. \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

The tensor  $\eta$  satisfies the contraction identities:

$$\begin{aligned} \eta_{\mu\nu}^a &= -\eta_{\nu\mu}^a \\ \epsilon_{abc} \eta_{\mu\nu}^b \eta_{\rho\sigma}^c &= \delta_{\mu\rho} \eta_{\nu\sigma}^a - \delta_{\mu\sigma} \eta_{\nu\rho}^a - \delta_{\nu\rho} \eta_{\mu\sigma}^a + \delta_{\nu\sigma} \eta_{\mu\rho}^a \\ \eta_{\mu\nu}^a \eta_{\mu\nu}^a &= 12. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

1. Show that the field strength tensor  $\underline{F}_{\mu\nu}^a = \partial_\mu \underline{A}_\nu^a - \partial_\nu \underline{A}_\mu^a + g \epsilon_{abc} \underline{A}_\mu^b \underline{A}_\nu^c$  is given by

$$\underline{F}_{\mu\nu}^a = \frac{4}{g} \frac{-\lambda^2 \eta_{\mu\nu}^a}{(|x|^2 + \lambda^2)^2}. \quad (5)$$

2. Compute the action corresponding to this field configuration,

$$\underline{S} = \frac{1}{4} \int d^4x \underline{F}_{\mu\nu}^a \underline{F}_{\mu\nu}^a. \quad (6)$$