

# OUTLINE OF PART I: HAMILTONIAN FORMULATION OF LATTICE GAUGE THEORIES

- i) Hamiltonian vs. Lagrangian formulation of LGTs
- ii) Kogut-Susskind formulation: Basis states, Hilbert space, and constraints
  - An Abelian case:  $U(1)$  LGT
  - A non-Abelian case:  $SU(2)$  LGT
- iii) Kogut-Susskind formulation: Hamiltonian
- iv) A variety of formulations: a brief overview
- v) Classical Hamiltonian-simulation methods: a brief discussion

# KOGUT-SUSSKIND HAMILTONIAN

$$H^{(\text{KS})} = H_I^{(\text{KS})} + H_E^{(\text{KS})} + H_M^{(\text{KS})}$$

$$H_I^{(\text{KS})} = \frac{1}{2a} \sum_x \left[ \psi^\dagger(x) \hat{U}(x) \psi(x+1) + \text{h.c.} \right]$$

Interaction term

[Hopping terms in the y and z directions with site-dependent coupling if you consider > 1+1 D.]

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$$H_E^{(\text{KS})} = \frac{g^2 a}{2} \sum_x \hat{E}(x)^2$$

Electric field term

# KOGUT-SUSSKIND HAMILTONIAN

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$$H_M^{(\text{KS})} = m \sum_x (-1)^x \psi^\dagger(x) \psi(x)$$

Mass term



# KOGUT-SUSSKIND HAMILTONIAN

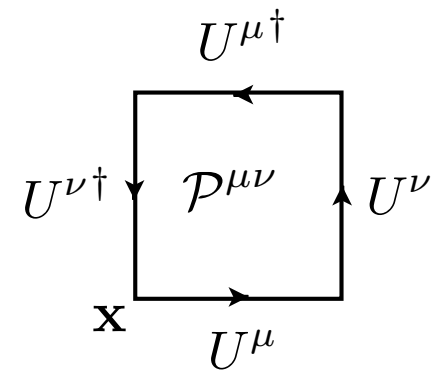
Only in  $d+1$  D with  $d>1$

$$H^{(\text{KS})} = H_I^{(\text{KS})} + H_E^{(\text{KS})} + H_M^{(\text{KS})} + H_B^{(\text{KS})}$$

$$H_B^{(\text{KS})} = \frac{a^d}{a^4 g^2} \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \text{Tr} [2 - \mathcal{P}_{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathcal{P}_{\mu\nu}^\dagger(\mathbf{x})]$$

Magnetic or plaquette term

[  $\propto B^2$  in the continuum limit ( $a \rightarrow 0$ ). ]



## EXAMPLE

What is the vacuum of the Kogut-Susskind Hamiltonian in the U(1) case in the strong-coupling limit ( $g \rightarrow \infty$ )? Consider both massless and massive fermions.

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What is the vacuum of the Kogut-Susskind Hamiltonian in the U(1) case in the strong-coupling limit ( $g \rightarrow \infty$ )? Consider both massless and massive fermions.

Since the electric-field term dominates in the strong-coupling limit, the vacuum corresponds to no electric field flux. In the **massless** limit, the vacuum is degenerate and consists of either

$$(|1\rangle_0 \otimes |0\rangle_0) \otimes (|0\rangle_1 \otimes |0\rangle_1) \otimes (|1\rangle_2 \otimes |0\rangle_2) \otimes (|0\rangle_2 \otimes |0\rangle_2) \dots$$

or

$$(|0\rangle_0 \otimes |0\rangle_0) \otimes (|1\rangle_1 \otimes |0\rangle_1) \otimes (|0\rangle_2 \otimes |0\rangle_2) \otimes (|1\rangle_2 \otimes |0\rangle_2) \dots$$

since only these two states are consistent with Gauss's law (with no mass, even and odd labeling of the sites is arbitrary).

In the **massive** limit, the degeneracy is lifted and the state with the least energy is that with the lowest mass term, which is the second option above with mass term equal to  $-\frac{N}{2}m$  where  $N$  is the number of staggered sites (even and odd labeling is no longer arbitrary).

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PURELY FERMIONIC FORMULATION (ONLY IN 1+1 D AND WITH OPEN BCs)

EXAMPLE

Show that the Schwinger model Hamiltonian becomes:

$$H = \frac{1}{2a} \sum_x [\psi^\dagger(x)\psi(x+1) + \text{h.c.}] + \frac{a}{2} \sum_x \left\{ \varepsilon_0 - \sum_{y=0}^x \left[ \psi^\dagger(y)\psi(y) - \frac{1 - (-1)^y}{2} \right] \right\}^2 + m \sum_x (-1)^x \psi^\dagger(x)\psi(x)$$

with open boundary conditions where  $\varepsilon_0$  denote a fixed incoming electric field. This means that local fermion-boson formulation is replaced by a non-local fermionic formulation.

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i) Let us first transform to a gauge where  $U = \mathbb{I}$ :

$$\psi(x) \rightarrow \psi'(x) = \left( \prod_{y < x} U(y) \right) \psi(x)$$

$$\psi^\dagger(x) \rightarrow \psi'^\dagger(x) = \psi^\dagger(x) \left( \prod_{y < x} U(y) \right)^\dagger$$

$$U(x) \rightarrow U'(x) = \left( \prod_{y < x} U(y) \right) U(x) \left( \prod_{y < x+1} U(y) \right)^\dagger = \mathbb{I}$$

ii) Now exploit the Gauss's law to rewrite  $E(x)$  in terms of the matter charge  $Q(x)$ :

$$E(0) = \varepsilon_0 + Q(0)$$

$$E(1) = E(0) + Q(1) = \varepsilon_0 + Q(0) + Q(1)$$

$$E(x) = E(x-1) + Q(x) = \varepsilon_0 + \sum_{y \leq x} Q(y)$$

i) and ii) give directly the fermionic Hamiltonian above given the definition of  $Q(x)$ .



Why can we not fully remove the gauge fields in a theory with periodic boundary conditions? What about higher dimensions?

PURELY FERMIONIC FORMULATION FOR THE SU(2) LGT IN 1+1 D

$$H^{(\text{KS})} = H_I^{(\text{KS})} + H_E^{(\text{KS})} + H_M^{(\text{KS})}$$

$$H_I^{(\text{KS})} = \frac{1}{2a} \sum_x \left[ \psi^\dagger(x) \hat{U}(x) \psi(x+1) + \text{h.c.} \right]$$

There is a gauge transformation  
to gauge  $U' = \mathbb{I}$ .

$$H_I^{(\text{F})} = \frac{1}{2a} \sum_x \left[ \psi^{\dagger'}(x) \psi'(x+1) + \text{h.c.} \right]$$

Interaction term



PURELY FERMIONIC FORMULATION FOR THE SU(2) LGT IN 1+1 D

$$H^{(\text{KS})} = H_I^{(\text{KS})} + H_E^{(\text{KS})} + H_M^{(\text{KS})}$$

$$H_E^{(\text{KS})} = \frac{g^2 a}{2} \sum_x \hat{E}(x)^2$$

Using Gauss's laws and transforming to gauge  $U' = \mathbb{I}$ :

$$H_E^{(\text{F})} = \frac{g^2 a}{2} \sum_x \sum_{a=1}^3 \left[ \epsilon_0^a + \sum_{y=0}^x \psi^{\dagger'}(y) T^a \psi'(y) \right]^2$$

Electric field term

PURELY FERMIONIC FORMULATION FOR THE SU(2) LGT IN 1+1 D

$$H^{(\text{KS})} = H_I^{(\text{KS})} + H_E^{(\text{KS})} + H_M^{(\text{KS})}$$

$$H_M^{(\text{KS})} = m \sum_x (-1)^x \psi^\dagger(x) \psi(x)$$

Transforming to gauge  $U' = \mathbb{I}$ :

$$H_M^{(\text{F})} = m \sum_x (-1)^x \psi'^\dagger(x) \psi'(x)$$

Mass term

...all this only works in 1+1 D and with open boundary conditions.



In the example of the two-site theory in the  $SU(2)$  model, we found out that there are 4 physical basis states in the  $\nu = 1$  sector with open boundary conditions with  $J_{in} = 0$  and with up to  $J = 1/2$  angular momentum. How many physical basis states are there in the fully fermionic formulation? Do you see a mismatch? How do you explain it? Convince yourself that the two theories have exactly the same spectrum.

IN GENERAL, MANY HAMILTONIAN FORMULATIONS OF GAUGE THEORIES EXIST...WHICH ONE TO PICK?

So far, we only considered the **electric or irreducible representation (irrep) basis** in which only  $H_E$  is diagonal!

$$H^{(\text{KS})} = \boxed{H_I^{(\text{KS})}} + \boxed{H_E^{(\text{KS})}} + H_M^{(\text{KS})} + \boxed{H_B^{(\text{KS})}}$$

In the **group-element basis**, only  $H_I$  and  $H_B$  are diagonal.

In the **magnetic or dual basis**  $H_B$  is diagonal.

$$H^{(\text{KS})} = \boxed{H_I^{(\text{KS})}} + \boxed{H_E^{(\text{KS})}} + H_M^{(\text{KS})} + \boxed{H_B^{(\text{KS})}}$$

The imposition of Gauss's law is simplest in the electric-field basis. On the other hand, toward the continuum limit ( $ag \rightarrow 0$ ), many electric field excitations need to be kept and a large Hilbert space may need to be considered.

Recall  $\boxed{H_E \propto g^2}$  while  $\boxed{H_B \propto 1/g^2}$ .

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## EXAMPLES OF CLASSICAL-COMPUTING METHODS

i) Analytical methods such as **strong-coupling expansion**

See e.g., [Bank et al, PRD 13, 1043 \(1976\)](#). It has limited scope but can give intuitive insight.

ii) Exact numerical methods, i.e., **exact diagonalization** (ED)

It is ideal but costly and often unpractical even for small LGT problems.

iii) Approximate numerical methods such as **tensor-networks** (TN)

Very efficient for certain quantities such as low-energy spectrum, but limited in scope when entanglement grows beyond area law, such as in real-time problems. Limited studies in higher dimensions. See e.g. this [Ph.D. thesis by S. Kuhn](#) for an overview of TN methods in high-energy physics.

STAY TUNED TO THE NEXT PART FOR  
**QUANTUM-COMPUTING METHODS!**



TO BE CONTINUED...  
QUESTIONS?