Finite BRST-antiBRST Transformations in Lagrangian Formalism

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Abstract

We continue the study of finite BRST-antiBRST transformations for general gauge theories in Lagrangian formalism initiated in [arXiv:1405.0790 [hep-th]], with a doublet $\lambda_a$, $a = 1, 2$, of anticommuting Grassmann parameters, and find an explicit Jacobian corresponding to this change of variables for constant $\lambda_a$. This makes it possible to derive the Ward identities and their consequences for the generating functional of Green’s functions. We announce the form of the Jacobian [proved to be correct in [arXiv:1406.5086 [hep-th]] for finite field-dependent BRST-antiBRST transformations with functionally-dependent parameters, $\lambda_a = s_a \Lambda$, induced by a finite even-valued functional $\Lambda(\phi, \pi, \lambda)$ and by the generators $s_a$ of BRST-antiBRST transformations acting in the space of fields $\phi$, antifields $\phi^\ast_a$, $\bar{\phi}$ and auxiliary variables $\pi^a, \lambda$. On the basis of this Jacobian, we solve a compensation equation for $\Lambda$, which is used to achieve a precise change of the gauge-fixing functional for an arbitrary gauge theory. We derive a new form of the Ward identities containing the parameters $\lambda_a$ and study the problem of gauge-dependence. The general approach is exemplified by the Freedman–Townsend model of a non-Abelian antisymmetric tensor field.

Keywords: general gauge theories, Freedman–Townsend model, BRST-antiBRST Lagrangian quantization, finite field-dependent BRST-antiBRST transformations

1 Introduction

In our recent work [1], we have proposed an extension of BRST-antiBRST transformations to the case of finite (global and field-dependent) parameters in Yang–Mills and general gauge theories within the Sp(2)-covariant Lagrangian quantization [2,3]; see also [4]. The idea of “finiteness” is based on transformation parameters $\lambda_a$ which are no longer regarded as infinitesimal and utilizes the inclusion into the BRST-antiBRST transformations [5,6,7] of a new term, being quadratic in $\lambda_a$. First of all, this makes it possible to realize the complete BRST-antiBRST invariance of the integrand in the vacuum functional. Second, the field-dependent parameters $\lambda_a = s_a \Lambda$, induced by a Grassmann-even functional $\Lambda(\phi, \pi, \lambda)$ and by the generators $s_a$ of BRST-antiBRST transformations acting in the space of fields $\phi$, antifields $\phi^\ast_a$, $\bar{\phi}$ and auxiliary variables $\pi^a, \lambda$. On the basis of this Jacobian, we solve a compensation equation for $\Lambda$, which is used to achieve a precise change of the gauge-fixing functional for an arbitrary gauge theory. We derive a new form of the Ward identities containing the parameters $\lambda_a$ and study the problem of gauge-dependence. The general approach is exemplified by the Freedman–Townsend model of a non-Abelian antisymmetric tensor field.

Keywords: general gauge theories, Freedman–Townsend model, BRST-antiBRST Lagrangian quantization, finite field-dependent BRST-antiBRST transformations

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The problems listed in Discussion of [1] as unsolved ones include:

1. study of finite field-dependent BRST-antiBRST transformations for a general gauge theory in the framework of the path integral (2.4);

2. development of finite field-dependent BRST transformations for a general gauge theory in the BV quantization scheme;

3. construction of finite field-dependent BRST-antiBRST transformations in the Sp(2)-covariant generalized Hamiltonian quantization [13, 14].

The second problem within the BV quantization scheme [15], based on the principle of BRST symmetry [16, 17], has been examined in [18], and earlier in [19]. The third problem has been recently solved [20] for arbitrary dynamical systems subject to first-class constraints, together with an explicit construction of the parameters \( \lambda_a \) generating a change of the gauge in the path integral for Yang–Mills theories within the class of \( R_\xi \)-like gauges in Hamiltonian formalism. For the sake of completeness, notice that, in the case of BRST–BFV symmetry [21], a study of finite field-dependent BRST–BFV transformations in the generalized Hamiltonian formalism [22, 23] has been presented in [24]. Therefore, it is only the first item in the list of the above-mentioned problems that remains unsolved. In this connection, the main purpose of the present work is to prove that the ansatz for finite BRST-antiBRST transformations within the path integral (2.4) proposed in [1], using formulae (6.1)–(6.5), holds true. We illustrate our general approach by a well-known gauge theory of non-Yang–Mills type proposed by Freedman and Townsend [25].

The work is organized as follows. In Section 2, we remind the definition of a finite Lagrangian BRST-antiBRST transformation for general gauge theories. In Section 3, we obtain an explicit Jacobian corresponding to this change of variables for global finite BRST-antiBRST transformations and prove the invariance of the integrand in the partition function. In Section 4, we obtain the Ward identities with the help of finite BRST-antiBRST transformations. In Section 5, we consider the reducible gauge theory of Freedman–Townsend (the model of antisymmetric non-Abelian tensor field). In Discussion, we announce the explicit Jacobian of finite field-dependent BRST-antiBRST transformations with functionally-dependent parameters, formulate the corresponding compensation equation, present its solution, which amounts to a precise change of the gauge-fixing functional, derive the Ward identities, depending on the parameters \( \lambda_a \), and study the problem of gauge dependence. We use the notation of our previous work [1]. In particular, derivatives with respect to the (anti)fields are taken from the (left)right; \( \delta_l/\delta \phi^A \) denotes the left-hand derivative with respect to \( \phi^A \). The raising and lowering of Sp(2) indices, \( s^a = \varepsilon^{ab} s_b, s_a = \varepsilon_{ab} s_b \), is carried out with the help of a constant antisymmetric tensor \( \varepsilon^{ab}, \varepsilon^{ac} \varepsilon_{cb} = \delta^a_b \), subject to the normalization condition \( \varepsilon^{12} = 1 \).

2 Finite BRST-antiBRST Transformations

Let \( \Gamma^p \) be the coordinates

\[
\Gamma^p = \left( \phi^A, \phi^A_{\lambda a}, \bar{\phi}_A, \pi^{Aa}, \lambda^A \right)
\]

in the extended space of fields \( \phi^A \), antifields \( \phi^A_{\lambda a}, \bar{\phi}_A \) and auxiliary fields \( \pi^{Aa}, \lambda^A \), with the following distribution of Grassmann parity and ghost number:

\[
\varepsilon \left( \phi^A, \phi^A_{\lambda a}, \bar{\phi}_A, \pi^{Aa}, \lambda^A \right) = (\varepsilon_A, \varepsilon_A + 1, \varepsilon_A, \varepsilon_A + 1, \varepsilon_A), \quad (2.2)
\]

\[
\text{gh} \left( \phi^A, \phi^A_{\lambda a}, \bar{\phi}_A, \pi^{Aa}, \lambda^A \right) = (\text{gh}(\phi^A), (-1)^a - \text{gh}(\phi^A), -\text{gh}(\phi^A), (-1)^{a+1} + \text{gh}(\phi^A), \text{gh}(\phi^A)) . \quad (2.3)
\]

The contents of the configuration space \( \phi^A \), containing the classical fields \( A^i \) and the Sp(2)-symmetric ghost-antighost and Nakanishi–Lautrup fields, depends on the irreducible [2] or reducible [3] nature of a given gauge theory.
The generating functional of Green’s functions $Z_F(J)$, depending on external sources $J_A$, with $\varepsilon(J_A) = \varepsilon_A$, $\mathrm{gh}(J_A) = -\mathrm{gh}(\phi^A)$,

$$Z_F(J) = \int d\Gamma \exp \{ (i/\hbar) [S_F(\Gamma) + J_A \phi^A] \} , \quad S_F = S + \phi^a_\pi^Aa + (\bar{\phi}_A - F_A) \lambda^A - (1/2) \varepsilon_{ab} \pi^Aa F_{AB} \pi^Bb \quad (2.4)$$

and the corresponding partition function $Z_F \equiv Z_F(0)$ are determined by a Bosonic functional $S = S(\phi, \phi^*, \bar{\phi})$ and by a gauge-fixing Bosonic functional $F = F(\phi)$ with vanishing ghost numbers, the functional $S$ being a solution of the generating equations

$$\frac{1}{2} (S, S)^a + V^a S = i\hbar \Delta^a S \iff \left( \Delta^a + \frac{i}{\hbar} V^a \right) \exp \left( \frac{i}{\hbar} S \right) = 0 , \quad (2.5)$$

where $\hbar$ is the Planck constant, and the boundary condition for $S$ in (2.5) for vanishing antifields $\phi^*_a$, $\bar{\phi}$ is given by the classical action $S_0(A)$. The extended antibracket $(F,G)^a$ for arbitrary functionals $F$, $G$ and the operators $\Delta^a$, $V^a$ are given by

$$(F,G)^a = \frac{\delta F}{\delta \phi^A} \frac{\delta G}{\delta \bar{\phi}_A} - \frac{\delta F}{\delta \phi^A} \frac{\delta G}{\delta \bar{\phi}_A} , \quad \Delta^a = (-1)^{c_A} \frac{\delta l}{\delta \phi^A} \frac{\delta}{\delta \phi^A} , \quad V^a = \varepsilon^{ab} \phi^*_b \frac{\delta}{\delta \phi_A} . \quad (2.6)$$

The integrand $\mathcal{I}^{(F)}_\Gamma = d\Gamma \exp [(i/\hbar) S_F(\Gamma)]$ for $J_A = 0$ is invariant, $\delta \mathcal{I}^{(F)}_\Gamma = 0$, under the global infinitesimal BRST-antiBRST transformations (2.7), $\delta \Gamma^p = (s^a \Gamma^p) \mu_a$, with the corresponding generators $s^a$,

$$\delta \Gamma^p = (s^a \Gamma^p) \mu_a = \Gamma^p s^a \mu_a = \delta (\phi^A, \phi^*_A, \bar{\phi}_A, \pi^{AB}, \lambda^A) = \left( \pi^Aa, \delta^a_2 S_A A(-1)^{c_A}, \varepsilon^{ab} \phi^*_b (-1)^{c_A+1}, \varepsilon^{ab} \lambda^A, 0 \right) \mu_a , \quad (2.7)$$

where the invariance at the first order in $\mu_a$ is established by using the generating equations (2.5).

The above infinitesimal invariance is sufficient to determine finite BRST-antiBRST transformations, $\Gamma^p \rightarrow \Gamma^p + \Delta \Gamma^p$ with anticommuting parameters $\lambda_a$, $a = 1, 2$, which were introduced in [1] as follows:

$$\mathcal{I}^{(F)}_{\Gamma + \Delta \Gamma} = \mathcal{I}^{(F)}_\Gamma , \quad \Delta \Gamma^p \frac{\delta}{\delta \lambda_a} \bigg|_{\lambda = 0} = \Gamma^p \frac{\delta}{\delta \lambda_a} \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta \Gamma^p \frac{\delta}{\delta \lambda_a} \frac{\delta}{\delta \lambda_a} = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon^{ab} \Gamma^p s^2 \quad \text{where} \quad \varepsilon^2 = s^a s^a , \quad \varepsilon^2 = s^a s^a . \quad (2.8)$$

Thus determined finite BRST-antiBRST symmetry transformations for the integrand $\mathcal{I}^{(F)}_\Gamma$ in a general gauge theory, with the help of the notation

$$X^{pa} \equiv \Gamma^p \frac{\delta}{\delta \lambda_a} \quad \text{and} \quad Y^p \equiv (1/2) X^p_a X^b \varepsilon_{ba} = -(1/2) \Gamma^p \varepsilon^2 \quad \text{with} \quad G_{(p)} \equiv \frac{\delta G}{\delta \Gamma^p} , \quad (2.9)$$

can be represented in the form

$$\Delta \Gamma^p = X^{pa} \lambda_a - \frac{1}{2} Y^p \lambda^2 = \Gamma^p \left( \varepsilon^a \lambda_a + \frac{1}{4} \varepsilon^2 \lambda^2 \right) \implies \mathcal{I}^{(F)}_{\Gamma + \Delta \Gamma} = \mathcal{I}^{(F)}_\Gamma . \quad (2.10)$$

Equivalently, in terms of the components, (2.10) is given by

$$\Delta \phi^A = \pi^A a \lambda_a + \frac{1}{2} \lambda^A \lambda^2 , \quad \Delta \bar{\phi}_A = \varepsilon^{ab} \lambda_a \phi^*_b + \frac{1}{2} S^a A \lambda^2 , \quad \Delta \pi^A a = -\varepsilon^{ab} \lambda^A \lambda_b , \quad \Delta \lambda^A = 0 \quad (2.11),$$

$$\Delta \phi^*_A = \lambda_a S^a A + \frac{1}{4} (-1)^{c_A} \varepsilon^{ab} \left( \varepsilon^{ab} \delta^2 S \frac{\delta^2 S}{\delta \phi^A \delta \phi^B} a^{Bb} + \varepsilon_{ab} \delta^2 S \frac{\delta^2 S}{\delta \phi^A \delta \phi^B} b (\phi^*_A + \frac{1}{2} S^a A \delta^2 S \frac{\delta^2 S}{\delta \phi^B \delta \phi^B}) (\phi^*_b + \frac{1}{2} S^a A \delta^2 S \frac{\delta^2 S}{\delta \phi^B \delta \phi^B}) (\phi^*_b + \frac{1}{2} S^a A \delta^2 S \frac{\delta^2 S}{\delta \phi^B \delta \phi^B}) \lambda^2 .$$

In order to make sure that $\mathcal{I}^{(F)}_\Gamma$ is invariant under the finite BRST-antiBRST transformations (2.10) with constant $\lambda_a$, one has to find the Jacobian corresponding to this change of variables.
3 Jacobian of Finite Global BRST-antiBRST Transformations

Let us examine the change of the integration measure $d\Gamma \to d\tilde{\Gamma}$ in (2.4) under the finite transformations $\Gamma^p \to \tilde{\Gamma}^p = \Gamma^p + \Delta \Gamma^p$ given by (2.10). To this end, taking account of (2.1), we present the invariance of the integrand $I^{(p)}$ under the infinitesimal transformations $\delta \Gamma^p = \Gamma^p \delta_{\epsilon_S} \omega^p_a \mu^a = X^p_{\omega^p_a} \mu^a$ given by (2.7) in the form

$$S_{F,p} X^p_{\omega^p_a} = i\hbar X^p_{\omega^p_a}, \text{ where } X^p_{\omega^p_a} = -\Delta^a S. \quad (3.1)$$

Considering (2.10) implies that we are interested in

$$\text{Str} \left( M - \frac{1}{2} M^2 \right), \text{ for } M^p_q = \delta (\Delta \Gamma^p) \text{ with } \delta \frac{\delta \Gamma^p}{\delta \Gamma^q} = \delta_{\epsilon_S}. \quad (3.2)$$

since, in view of the nilpotency $\lambda_a \lambda_b \lambda_c = 0$, we have

$$d\tilde{\Gamma} = d\Gamma \text{ Str} \left( \frac{d\tilde{\Gamma}}{d\Gamma} \right) = d\Gamma \exp [\text{Str} \ln (I+M)] \equiv d\Gamma \exp (\Xi),$$

$$\Xi = \text{Str} \ln (I+M) = -\text{Str} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n} M^n \right) = \text{Str} \left( M - \frac{1}{2} M^2 \right).$$

Explicitly,

$$M^p_q = \frac{\delta (\Delta \Gamma^p)}{\delta \Gamma^q} = \frac{\delta}{\delta \Gamma^q} \left( X^p_{\omega^p_a} \lambda_a - \frac{1}{2} Y^p \lambda^2 \right) = (-1)^{\epsilon_S} X^p_{\omega^p_a} \lambda_a - \frac{1}{2} Y^p \lambda^2,$$

with $\text{Str} (M) = X^p_{\omega^p_a} \lambda_a - \frac{1}{2} (-1)^{\epsilon_p} Y^p \lambda^2 \quad (3.3)$

and

$$M^p_i M^r_q = (-1)^{\epsilon_p} X^p_{\omega^p_a} (-1)^{\epsilon_S} X^r\lambda_b = X^p_{\omega^p_a} X^r \lambda_b = -\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ba} X^p_{\omega^p_a} X^r \lambda^2,$$

with $\text{Str} (M^2) = -\frac{1}{2} (-1)^{\epsilon_p} X^p_{\omega^p_a} X^q \varepsilon_{ba} \lambda^2. \quad (3.4)$

Therefore,

$$\text{Str} \left( M - \frac{1}{2} M^2 \right) = X^p_{\omega^p_a} \lambda_a - \frac{1}{2} (-1)^{\epsilon_p} Y^p \lambda^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left( -\frac{1}{2} (-1)^{\epsilon_p} X^p_{\omega^p_a} X^q \varepsilon_{ba} \lambda^2 \right)$$

$$= X^p_{\omega^p_a} \lambda_a - \frac{1}{2} (-1)^{\epsilon_p} Y^p \lambda^2 + \frac{1}{4} (-1)^{\epsilon_p} X^p_{\omega^p_a} X^q \varepsilon_{ba} \lambda^2$$

$$= X^p_{\omega^p_a} \lambda_a - \frac{1}{2} (-1)^{\epsilon_p} \left( Y^p - \frac{1}{4} X^p_{\omega^p_a} X^q \varepsilon_{ba} \right) \lambda^2. \quad (3.5)$$

Considering

$$Y^p - \frac{1}{2} X^p_{\omega^p_a} X^q \varepsilon_{ba} = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ba} \left( X^p_{\omega^p_a} X^q \left( -1 \right)^{\epsilon_p (\epsilon_S+1)} + X^p_{\omega^p_a} X^q \right) - \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ba} X^p_{\omega^p_a} X^q \quad (3.6)$$

we arrive at

$$\text{Str} \left( M - \frac{1}{2} M^2 \right) = X^p_{\omega^p_a} \lambda_a + \frac{1}{4} \varepsilon_{ab} X^p_{\omega^p_a} X^q \lambda^2, \quad (3.7)$$

where (3.1) implies

$$X^p_{\omega^p_a} = -\Delta^a S, \quad X^p_{\omega^p_a} X^q = - (\Delta^a S)_{,p} X^q = - s_b (\Delta^a S), \quad \text{with } G_{,p} X^p = G_{,p} (s^a \Gamma^p) = s^a G. \quad (3.8)$$

Hence, (3.7) takes the form

$$\text{Str} \left( M - \frac{1}{2} M^2 \right) = (\Delta^a S) \lambda_a - \frac{1}{4} \varepsilon_{ab} (\Delta^a S)_{,p} X^q \lambda^2 = - (\Delta^a S) \lambda_a - \frac{1}{4} (s_a \Delta^a S) \lambda^2. \quad (3.9)$$
Consider now the change of the integrand
\[ I_{\Gamma} \equiv I_{\Gamma}^{(F)} = d\Gamma \exp \left[ (i/\hbar) S_F (\Gamma) \right] \]  
(3.10)
under the transformations (2.10),
\[ I_{\Gamma+\Delta\Gamma} = d\Gamma \mathrm{Sdet} \left( \frac{\delta \Gamma}{\delta \Gamma} \right) \exp \left[ \frac{i}{\hbar} S_F (\Gamma + \Delta\Gamma) \right] , \]
\[ \mathrm{Sdet} \left( \frac{\delta \Gamma}{\delta \Gamma} \right) = \exp \left\{ \frac{i}{\hbar} \left[ -i\hbar \text{Str} \left( M - \frac{1}{2} M^2 \right) \right] \right\} , \]
\[ S_F (\Gamma + \Delta\Gamma) = S_F (\Gamma) + s^a S_F (\Gamma) \lambda_a + \frac{1}{4} s^2 S_F (\Gamma) \lambda^2 , \]
(3.11)
(3.12)
where any functional \( G(\Gamma) \) expandable as a power series in \( \Gamma^p \),
\[ G (\Gamma + \Delta\Gamma) = G (\Gamma) + G_{,\Gamma} (\Gamma) \Delta\Gamma^p + \frac{1}{2} G_{,\Gamma \Gamma} (\Gamma) \Delta\Gamma^p \Delta\Gamma^p \equiv G (\Gamma) + \Delta G (\Gamma) , \]
transforms under (2.10) as
\[ \Delta G = G_{,\Gamma X^{pa} \lambda_a} - \frac{1}{2} G_{,\Gamma Y^p} \lambda^2 + \frac{1}{2} G_{,\Gamma pq} X^{pa} \lambda_b X^{pa} \lambda_a \]
\[ = (G_{,\Gamma X^{pa}}) \lambda_a + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ab} G_{,\Gamma pq} X^{pa} X^{qb} (-1)^{q + r} - G_{,\Gamma Y^p} \right) \lambda^2 = (s^a G) \lambda_a + \frac{1}{4} (s^2 G) \lambda^2 . \]
(3.13)
From (3.11), (3.12), it follows that
\[ I_{\Gamma+\Delta\Gamma} = d\Gamma \exp \left\{ \frac{i}{\hbar} \left[ i\hbar (\Delta^a S) \lambda_a + \frac{i}{4} (s^a S_F \lambda_a + \frac{1}{4} (s^2 S_F) \lambda^2) \right] \right\} \exp \left\{ \frac{i}{\hbar} \left[ S_F + (s^a S_F) \lambda_a + \frac{1}{4} (s^2 S_F) \lambda^2 \right] \right\} \]
\[ = d\Gamma \exp \left( \frac{i}{\hbar} S_F \right) \exp \left( \frac{i}{\hbar} (s^a S_F + i\hbar \Delta^a S) \lambda_a + \frac{i}{4\hbar} s_a (s^a S_F + i\hbar \Delta^a S) \lambda^2 \right) \]
\[ = d\Gamma \exp \left( \frac{i}{\hbar} S_F \right) = I_{\Gamma} , \]
(3.14)
since \( s^a S_F + i\hbar \Delta^a S = 0 \), due to (3.1), which proves that the change of variables \( \Gamma^p \rightarrow \Gamma^p + \Delta\Gamma^p \) in (2.10) realizes finite BRST-antiBRST transformations. By virtue of (3.9), the Jacobian of finite BRST-antiBRST transformations (2.10) with constants parameters \( \lambda_a \) equals to
\[ \exp (3) = \exp \left[ - (\Delta^a S) \lambda_a - \frac{1}{4} (\Delta^a S) \lambda_a ^2 \right] . \]
(3.15)

4 Ward Identities

We can now apply the finite global BRST-antiBRST transformations to obtain the Ward (Slavnov–Taylor) identities for the generating functional of Green’s functions (2.4). Namely, using the Jacobian (3.10) of finite BRST-antiBRST transformations with constants parameters \( \lambda_a \), we make a change of variables (2.10) in the integrand (2.3) for \( Z_F (J) \) and arrive at
\[ \left\langle \left[ 1 + \frac{i}{\hbar} J_A \phi^A \left( \frac{\delta}{\delta \phi^A} \lambda_a + \frac{1}{4} \frac{\delta^2}{\delta \phi^A} \lambda^2 \right) - \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{i}{\hbar} \right)^2 J_A \phi^A \frac{\delta}{\delta \phi^A} J_B (\phi^B) \frac{\delta}{\delta \phi^A} \lambda^2 \right] \right\rangle_{F,J} = 1 . \]
(4.1)
Here, the symbol “\( \langle O \rangle_{F,J} \)” for a quantity \( O = O(\Gamma) \) stands for the source-dependent average expectation value corresponding to a gauge-fixing \( F(\phi) \), namely,
\[ \langle O \rangle_{F,J} = Z_F^{-1} (J) \int d\Gamma \ O (\Gamma) \exp \left\{ \frac{i}{\hbar} \left[ S_F (\Gamma) + J_A \phi^A \right] \right\} , \]  
with \( \langle 1 \rangle_{F,J} = 1 . \)  
(4.2)
The relation (4.1) is the Ward identity, depending on a doublet of arbitrary constants \( \lambda_a \) and on sources \( J_A \). Using an expansion in powers of \( \lambda_a \), we obtain, at the first order, the usual Ward identities

\[
J_A \langle \phi^A \bar{s}^a \rangle_{F,J} = 0
\]  

(4.3)

and a new Ward identity, at the second order:

\[
\langle J_A \phi^A \left[ \bar{s}^a - \bar{s}^a (i \hbar) J_B (\phi^B \bar{s}^a) \right] \rangle_{F,J} = 0 .
\]  

(4.4)

5 Freedman–Townsend Model

In this section, we illustrate the above construction of finite BRST-antiBRST transformations in general gauge theories by using the example of a well-known theory of non-Yang-Mills type, being the reducible gauge model \([25]\) suggested by Freedman and Townsend, whose Lagrangian quantization and investigation of the unitarity problem have been considered in the BRST \([26, 27]\) and BRST-antiBRST \([28, 29]\) symmetries. To this end, let us consider the theory of a non-Abelian antisymmetric tensor field \( \mathfrak{B}^m_{\mu\nu} \) given in Minkowski space \( \mathbb{R}^{1,3} \) by the action \([25]\)

\[
S_0(A, \mathfrak{B}) = \int d^4x \left( -\frac{1}{4} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} R_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}^m \mathfrak{B}^m_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} A^m_{\mu\nu} A^{\mu\nu} \right),
\]  

(5.1)

with the Lorentz indices \( \mu, \nu, \rho, \sigma = 0, 1, 2, 3 \), the metric tensor \( \eta_{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}(-, +, +, +) \), the completely antisymmetric structure constants \( f^{mn} \) of the Lie algebra \( su(N) \) for \( l, m, n = 1, \ldots, N^2 - 1 \); \( A^m_{\mu\nu} \) is a vector gauge field with the strength \( F^m_{\mu\nu} = \partial_{\mu} A^m_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu} A^m_{\mu} + f^{mnl} A^n_{\mu} A^l_{\nu} \) (the coupling constant is absorbed into the structure coefficients \( f^{mnl} \)), and \( \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \) is a constant completely antisymmetric four-rank tensor, \( \varepsilon^{0123} = 1 \). The action (5.1) is invariant under the gauge transformations

\[
\delta \mathfrak{B}^m_{\mu\nu} = D_{\mu}^{m\nu\rho} \varepsilon^\rho - D^{m\nu\rho} \varepsilon_{\rho}^\nu \equiv R^{m\nu\rho}\varepsilon^\rho \equiv D_{\mu}^{m\nu\rho} \varepsilon^\rho, \quad \delta A^m_{\mu\nu} = 0, \quad \text{for} \quad D_{\mu}^{m\nu\rho} = \delta_{\mu}^{m\nu\rho} \partial_{\rho} + f^{mnl} A^l_{\rho} ,
\]  

(5.2)

where \( \varepsilon^\rho \) are arbitrary Bosonic functions, and \( D^{m\nu\rho} \) is the covariant derivative with potential \( A^m_{\mu\nu} \). The algebra of the gauge transformations (5.2) is Abelian, and the generators \( R^{m\nu\rho}_{\mu\nu\rho} \) have at the extremals of the action (5.1) the Bosonic zero-eigenvectors \( Z^{m\nu\rho}_{\mu\nu\rho} = D^{m\nu\rho} \),

\[
R^{m\nu\rho}_{\mu\nu\rho} Z^{ln\rho}_{\nu\rho} = \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho} f^{mnl} \frac{\delta S_0}{\delta \mathfrak{B}^m_{\nu\rho}} ,
\]  

(5.3)

which are linearly independent. By the generally accepted terminology \([15]\), the model (5.1)–(5.3) is an Abelian gauge theory of first-stage reducibility. In accordance with the Lagrangian Sp(2)-symmetric quantization \([3]\) for reducible gauge theories, the fields \( \phi^A \) and the corresponding antifields \( \phi^*_{Aa} \), \( \tilde{\phi}_A \) for the model (5.1)–(5.3) are given by

\[
\phi^A = (A^{m\mu}, \mathfrak{B}^{m\mu\nu}, B^{m\mu}, B^{ma}, C^{m\mu a}, C^{mab}) , \quad \phi^*_{Aa} = (A^{m\mu}_{a}, \mathfrak{B}^{m\mu\nu}_{a}, B^{m\mu}_{a}, B^{ma}_{a}, C^{m\mu a}_{a}, C^{mab}_{a}) , \quad \tilde{\phi}_A = (\bar{A}^{\mu}_{a}, \mathfrak{B}^{m\mu}_{a}, \bar{B}^{m\mu}_{a}, \bar{B}^{ma}_{a}, \bar{C}^{m\mu a}_{a}, \bar{C}^{mab}_{a}) ,
\]  

(5.4)

where \( B^{ma} \) and \( C^{mab} \) are the respective Sp(2)-doublets of fields introducing the gauge and the ghost fields (symmetric second rank Sp(2)-tensors) of the first stage, in accordance with the number of gauge parameters \( \zeta^m \) for the generators \( R^{mn}_{\mu\nu} = R^{m\nu\rho}_{\mu\nu\rho} Z^{ln\rho}_{\nu\rho} \). Taking account of (4.2), (4.3), the Grassmann parity and ghost number of the variables \( (\phi^A, \phi^*_{Aa}, \tilde{\phi}_A) \) are given by

\[
\varepsilon (A^{m\mu}, \mathfrak{B}^{m\mu\nu}, B^{m\mu}, B^{ma}, C^{m\mu a}, C^{mab}) = (0; 0, 0, 1, 1, 0) , \quad \text{gh} (A^{m\mu}, \mathfrak{B}^{m\mu\nu}, B^{m\mu}, B^{ma}, C^{m\mu a}, C^{mab}) = (0; 0, 0, 3 - 2a, 3 - 2a, 6 - 2(a + b)) .
\]  

(5.5)
A solution $S = S(\phi, \phi^*, \bar{\phi})$ of the generating equations (2.14) with the boundary condition $S|_{\phi^* = \bar{\phi} = 0} = S_0$ for the model (5.1)–(5.3) can be represented in the form being quadratic in powers of the antifields,

$$S = S_0 + \int d^4x \left[ \mathfrak{B}^*_\mu\rho \left( D_\mu C^{\rho\sigma} - D^\nu C^{\mu\sigma} - \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \mathfrak{B}_\rho \wedge B^a \right) - \varepsilon^{ab} C_{\mu\rho a b} B^a + \mathfrak{B}_\mu (D_\mu B^a - D^\nu B^a) \right. $$

$$\left. + C_{\mu a b} D_\mu C^{ab} - 2 \varepsilon^{ab} C_{a b c} e^c B^a - B^*_\mu D^\mu B^a + 2 e^c D_\mu B^a + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} (\mathfrak{B}_\mu^* \mathfrak{B}_\rho) C^{ab} \right], \tag{5.7}$$

with the following notation for the fields $A^n \equiv A$, $B^n \equiv B$:

$$A^n B^m = AB \ , \ D_\mu B \equiv \partial_\mu B + A_\mu \wedge B \ , \ (A \wedge B)^m = f^{mn} A^n B^l. \tag{5.8}$$

Choosing the gauge Boson $F = F(\phi)$ in the form of a 3-parametric quadratic functional,

$$F(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = \int d^4x \left( - \frac{\alpha}{4} \mathfrak{B}_\mu \mathfrak{B}^{\mu\nu} - \frac{\beta}{2} \varepsilon^{ab} C_a C^{b} - \frac{\gamma}{12} \varepsilon^{ab} \varepsilon_{cd} C^{ac} C^{bd} \right), \tag{5.9}$$

and integrating in (2.14) over the variables $\lambda, \pi^a, \bar{\phi}, \phi^*_a$, we obtain the generating functional of Green’s functions

$$Z_F(J) = \int d\phi \Delta_\alpha (\phi) \exp \left\{ (i/h) \left[ S_0 (A) + S_{gf} (\phi) + S_{fp} (\phi) + J_A \phi^A \right] \right\}, \tag{5.10}$$

identical with that of (2.18) in the case $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = (\alpha_0, \beta_0, \gamma_0) = (1, 2, 1)$, corresponding to $F_0 \equiv F(1, 2, 1)$, where

$$S_{gf} = \int d^4x \left( \alpha B_\mu D_\nu \mathfrak{B}^{\mu\nu} + \beta \varepsilon_{ab} B^a D_\mu C^{b} - \beta B_\mu B^a - \frac{\gamma}{2} \varepsilon_{ab} B^a B^b \right), \tag{5.11}$$

$$S_{fp} = \int d^4x \left( \frac{\alpha}{4} G_a^{\mu\nu} M_{ab} K^{b[\mu||\nu]} c G_\rho^{c\sigma} - \beta \varepsilon_{ab} \varepsilon_{cd} D_\mu C^{ac} D_\nu C^{bd} \right), \tag{5.12}$$

$$\Delta_\alpha = \int d^4x \mathfrak{B}_\mu \exp \left( \frac{2i}{\alpha h} \int d^4x \mathfrak{B}_0 \mathfrak{B}_0 \mathfrak{B}_0 \mathfrak{B}_0 \right), \tag{5.13}$$

In (5.12), (5.13) we have used the notation

$$K_b^{\mu[\nu||\rho]} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ K_b^{\mu[\nu\rho\sigma]} - \kappa^{\mu\sigma} \kappa^{\nu\sigma} \right] + \alpha X_b^{\mu[\nu\sigma]} , \quad G_a^{\mu\nu} = D_\mu C_a^\nu - D_\nu C_a^\mu - \frac{\alpha}{4} \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} Y^a \mathfrak{B}_\rho \mathfrak{B}_\sigma , \tag{5.14}$$

and the matrix $M_{ab}$ is the inverse of $M^{ab}$,

$$M^{ab} = \varepsilon^{ab} - \alpha^2 X_a^b X_d \varepsilon \ , \quad M^{ac} M_{cb} = \delta_b^a \ , \tag{5.15}$$

while the action of the matrices $X^a$ and $Y^a$ on the objects $E \equiv E^m$ carrying the indices $m$ is given by the rule

$$X^a_b E \equiv \varepsilon_{bc} (C^{ac} \wedge E) \ , \quad Y^a E \equiv (B^a \wedge E) = -(1)^{c(E)} E Y^a . \tag{5.16}$$

For the vanishing sources, $J = 0$, the integrand in (5.10) is invariant under the BRST-antiBRST transformations (2.18) in the space of fields $\phi^A$ and $\bar{\phi}^A$.

$$\delta \mathfrak{B}^{\mu\nu} = - \varepsilon^{ab} M_{bc} K_d^{[\mu||\nu]} c G_\rho \mu a , \quad \delta A^\mu = 0 , \quad \delta C^{\mu a} = (D^a C^b - \varepsilon^{ab} B^a) \mu_b , \quad \delta B^a = D^b B^a \mu_b , \quad \phi^A \rightarrow \bar{\phi}^A = \phi^A + \delta \phi^A \tag{5.17}$$

Indeed, the quantum action and the integration measure under the change of variables $\phi^A \rightarrow \bar{\phi}^A = \phi^A + \delta \phi^A$ are transformed as

$$\delta (S_0 + S_{gf} + S_{fp}) = 0 \ , \ d\bar{\phi} \delta A (\bar{\phi}) = d\phi \Delta_\alpha (\bar{\phi}) \text{Sdet} (\delta \bar{\phi}/\delta \phi) = d\phi \Delta_\alpha + \delta (d\phi) \Delta_\alpha + d\phi (\Delta_\alpha) = d\phi \Delta_\alpha (\phi) , \tag{5.18}$$

where $\delta (d\phi) = \delta^A (0) \int d^4x \text{Tr} W$ and $\Delta_\alpha = - \Delta_\alpha \delta^A (0) \int d^4x \text{Tr} W$. \[7\]
where $\delta^4(0) \equiv \delta(x - y)|_{x=y}$ and we use the notation

$$W \equiv W^{mn} = -3\alpha^2 \varepsilon^{ab} M_{bc} X^d_{\mu} Y^d \mu_a , \quad \text{for} \quad \text{Tr} \ W \equiv \sum_{m=1}^{N^2-1} W^{mn} .$$

(5.19)

The functional $\Delta_\alpha$ in (5.13) is a contribution to the integration measure $d\phi \Delta_\alpha$, being invariant, $\delta(d\phi \Delta_\alpha) = 0$, under the BRST-antiBRST transformations (5.17). At the same time, we notice that these transformations depend explicitly on the parameter $\alpha$ of the gauge Boson $F$ in (5.9). Due to a non-trivial integration measure and BRST-antiBRST transformations depending on a choice of the gauge Boson, the task of connecting (by finite BRST-antiBRST transformations) the generating functionals $Z_F(J)$ and $Z_{F+\Delta F}(J)$ given by different gauges $F$ and $F + \Delta F$ in the representation (5.10) cannot be solved literally on the basis of our approach [1], developed on the basis of a compensation equation for Yang–Mills type theories, and deserves a special analysis [30]. In this connection, we restrict the consideration to the quantum theory (5.7), (5.9), with the generating functional (5.13) being invariant, and deserves a special analysis [30]. In this connection, we restrict the consideration to the quantum theory (5.7), (5.9), with the generating functional (5.13) being invariant,\n
$$\pi^{Aa} = (\pi^{\mu a}_A; \pi^{\rho a}_B; \pi^{\alpha b}_C; \pi^{ab}_C), \quad \lambda^A = (\lambda^\mu_a; \lambda^\rho_B; \lambda^a_C; \lambda^{ab}_C) .$$

(5.20)

Using cumbersome but simple calculations, one can present the finite transformations (2.11) for the generating functional $Z_F(J)$ in (2.4) for the model under consideration with the quantum action $S$ given by (5.7). At the same time, we have proved that the finite BRST-antiBRST transformations for a general gauge theory in the Lagrangian formalism announced in [1] are actually invariance transformations for the integrand in the path integral (6.1), to find the explicit form of $\lambda_a (\phi, \pi, \lambda | \Delta F)$ in (6.7). To this end, let us consider a finite change of the gauge condition:

$$\Delta F = F(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) - F_0 = \int d^4x \left( \frac{\alpha - \alpha_0}{4} \mathcal{B}_{\mu \nu} \mathcal{B}^{\mu \nu} - \frac{\beta - \beta_0}{2} \varepsilon_{ab} C^a_{\mu} C^{\mu b} - \frac{\gamma - \gamma_0}{12} \varepsilon_{abcd} C^{ac} C^{bd} \right).$$

(5.21)

The corresponding field-dependent BRST-antiBRST transformation (2.11) which provide the coincidence of the vacuum functionals, $Z_{F_0 + \Delta F} = Z_{F_0}$, are determined by the functionally-dependent odd-valued parameters:

$$\lambda_a (\phi, \pi, \lambda | \Delta F) = -\frac{1}{2i\hbar} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \left[ \frac{1}{4i\hbar} \Delta F^{s-2} \right]^n (\Delta F^{s-2}) .$$

(5.22)

6 Discussion

In the present work, we have proved that the finite BRST-antiBRST transformations for a general gauge theory in Lagrangian formalism announced in [1] are actually invariance transformations for the integrand in the path integral $Z_F(0)$, given by (2.4). To this end, we have explicitly calculated the Jacobian (3.15) corresponding to the given change of variables with constant parameters $\lambda_a$. Using the finite BRST-antiBRST transformations, we have obtained the Ward identity (4.11) depending on constant parameters $\lambda_a$. The identity contains the usual $\text{Sp}(2)$-doublet of Ward identities, as well as a new Ward identity at the second order in powers of $\lambda_a$. We have illustrated the construction of finite BRST-antiBRST transformations in general gauge theories by the example of a reducible gauge model of a non-Abelian antisymmetric tensor field [25].

In conclusion, note that the structure of finite BRST-antiBRST transformations with field-dependent parameters,

$$\Delta \Gamma^\rho = \Gamma^\rho \left( \frac{s^a}{4} \lambda_a + \frac{1}{4} s^2 \lambda^2 \right), \quad \lambda_a = s_a \Lambda , \quad \Lambda = \Lambda (\phi, \pi, \lambda) ,$$

(6.1)

is the same as in the case of finite field-dependent BRST-antiBRST transformations in the Lagrangian formalism for Yang–Mills theories [1], as well as in the case of the generalized Hamiltonian formalism [20]. Consequently, it is natural to expect that the Jacobian corresponding to this change of variables with functionally-dependent (due to
finite change of the gauge
Finally, (6.9), with account taken of (6.8), implies the following equation, which describes the gauge dependence for a

d\Gamma = d\Gamma \exp \left[ \frac{i}{\hbar} \left( \Delta^a \lambda \right) \right] = d\Gamma \exp \left[ \frac{i}{\hbar} \left( \Delta^a \lambda \right) \right].

Here, \Lambda(\phi, \pi, \lambda) is a certain even-valued potential with a vanishing ghost number, and the integration measure \( \tilde{d} \Gamma \) transforms with respect to the change of variables \( \Gamma \rightarrow \tilde{\Gamma} = \Gamma + \Delta \Gamma \) given by (6.1). Hence, a compensation equation required to satisfy the relation

\[ Z_{F+}\Delta F = Z_F, \]

as one subjects \( Z_{F+}\Delta F \) to a change of variables \( \Gamma^p \rightarrow \tilde{\Gamma}^p \), according to (6.1), has the form

\[ \Delta F \left[ \Lambda(\phi, \pi, \lambda) \right] = \frac{1}{2i\hbar} g(y) \Delta F, \quad \text{for} \quad g(y) = \left[ 1 - \exp(y) \right] / y \quad \text{and} \quad y = \frac{1}{4i\hbar} \Delta F \left( \Lambda \right), \]

whence the corresponding field-dependent parameters have the form

\[ \lambda_a(\Gamma|\Delta F) = \frac{1}{2i\hbar} g(y) \left( \Delta F \right). \]

Making in (2.3) a field-dependent BRST-antiBRST transformation (6.1) and using the relations (4.2) and (6.3), one can obtain a modified Ward (Slavnov–Taylor) identity:

\[ \left\{ \frac{1 + i}{\hbar} J_A \phi^A \left[ \frac{2}{S_a} \Delta \right] \right\} = 1. \]

Due to the presence of \( \Lambda(\Gamma) \), which implies \( \lambda_a(\Lambda) \), the modified Ward identity depends on a choice of the gauge Boson \( F(\phi) \) for non-vanishing \( J_A \), according to (6.7), (6.8). Notice that the corresponding Ward identities for Green’s functions, obtained by differentiating (6.9) with respect to the sources, contain the functionals \( \lambda_a(\Lambda) \) and their derivatives as weight functionals. The Ward identities are readily established due to (6.3) for constant \( \lambda_a(\Lambda) \) in the form (1.3), (1.4).

Finally, (6.9), with account taken of (6.8), implies the following equation, which describes the gauge dependence for a finite change of the gauge \( F \rightarrow F + \Delta F \):

\[ Z_{F+}\Delta F(J) = Z_F(J) \left\{ 1 + \left( \frac{i}{\hbar} J_A \phi^A \left[ \frac{2}{S_a} \Delta \right] \right) + \left( \frac{1}{4i\hbar} \right) \left( \frac{i}{\hbar} \right)^2 J_B J_A \phi^A \phi^B \left[ \frac{2}{S_a} \Delta \right] \right\}. \]

thereby extending (6.3) to the case of non-vanishing \( J_A \). Note, that we have proved our conjecture as to the representation (6.2), (6.3) of the Jacobian for field-dependent BRST-antiBRST transformations with functionally-dependent parameters in [31].

\[ ^1\text{The representation for the Jacobian (6.2), (6.3) has been recently proved in [31].} \]
We have shown, on the basis of field-dependent BRST-antiBRST transformations, the way to reach an arbitrary gauge, determined by a quadratic (in fields) gauge Boson $F_0$ for the Freedman–Townsend model in the path integral representation, starting from the reference frame with a gauge Boson $F_0$ and using finite field-dependent BRST-antiBRST transformations with the parameters $\lambda_a(\phi, \pi, \lambda|\Delta F)$ given by (5.22).

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