A Lattice Formulation of Two Dimensional Topological Field Theory

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Abstract. We propose a non-perturbative criterion to investigate whether supersymmetric lattice gauge theories preserving partial SUSY can have the desired continuum limit or not. Since the target continuum theories of the lattice models are extended supersymmetric gauge theories including the topological field theory (TFT) as a special sector, the continuum limits of them should reproduce the properties of the TFT. Therefore, whether the property of the TFT can be recovered at the continuum limit becomes a non-perturbative criterion. Then we accept it as a criterion. In this paper, among the topological properties, we investigate the BRST cohomology on the two dimensional $\mathcal{N} = (4,4)$ CKKU lattice model without moduli fixing mass term. We show that the BRST cohomology in the target continuum theory cannot be realized from the BRST cohomology on the lattice. From this result, we obtain the possible implication that the $\mathcal{N} = (4,4)$ CKKU model cannot recover the target continuum theory if the non-perturbative effects are taken into account.

PACS. 11.15.Ha Lattice gauge theory – 12.60.Jv Supersymmetric models

1 Introduction

Supersymmetry is one of the main subjects in the particle physics. The supersymmetric gauge theories exhibits a variety of complex non-perturbative phenomena which have been vigorously investigated. For example, there are many analytic studies about the Seiberg-Witten theory \cite{1} and AdS/CFT duality \cite{2}. Such approaches to non-perturbative physics are based on the property of duality. We can learn much more from the numerical study using the lattice formulation, which is more universal method, since the method would enable us to calculate any observables.

In spite of the need for supersymmetric lattice model, the construction of the lattice formulation applicable to the numerical study is difficult. Since the supersymmetry including the infinitesimal translation in its algebra is broken on the lattice which breaks the translational invariance, the ordinary lattice formulations suffer from the fine-tuning problem. Fine-tuning problem is the difficulty to recover the target continuum theory when the quantum effects are taken into account, and it makes the computation time too huge to perform the practical numerical calculation.

To solve the fine-tuning problem, several lattice gauge theories which preserve partial supersymmetry on the lattice are proposed \cite{3,4,5,6} recently. They utilize the topological twisting which is picking up a set of supersymmetry generators which does not include the infinitesimal translation in its algebra. In this way, partial supersymmetry can be preserved on the lattice.

It is very important to investigate whether the models really solve the fine-tuning problem or not. To do it, we should investigate whether they recover the target continuum theories or not. In the perturbative level, such investigations have done well. (For example \cite{7}) But, on the other hand, there is not a sufficient study which takes the non-perturbative effects into consideration. Then we will non-perturbatively examine whether the models really solve the fine-tuning problem or not.

2 The proposed non-perturbative criterion

Note that the models can be regarded as the lattice regularization of the topological field theory (TFT). This is because preserved supercharges on the lattice are equivalent to the BRST charge in the TFT obtained by the topological twisting. The target continuum theories of these lattice models are extended supersymmetric gauge theories including the TFT as a special sector. Therefore the topological field theory in the continuum theory must be recovered in the continuum limits if the lattice models really recover the target continuum theories.

In this work, among the several properties of the TFT, we investigate the behavior of the BRST cohomology \cite{8}. The BRST cohomology is defined with the vacuum expectation value $\langle O \rangle$ of an operator $O$ vanishing under the operation of the BRST charge $Q$ (BRST closed) but not BRST exact. The BRST exact is a quantity written by the $Q$-operation of a gauge invariant quantity. We can obtain the $\langle O \rangle$ exactly by the semi-classical approximation since

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\end{itemize}
the quantity $\langle \theta \rangle$ is independent of the gauge coupling due to the property of the Hilbert space of the TFT. Namely, $\langle \theta \rangle$ can be regarded as one of the non-perturbative quantities. Therefore, by examining whether the BRST cohomology in the continuum theory can be recovered at the continuum limit or not, we can non-perturbatively investigate whether a lattice model can recover the continuum theory or not.

In this paper, we consider whether $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$ two-dimensional CKKU model [3] really have the desired continuum limit or not. To do it, we study the BRST cohomology on the lattice. Then we compare the BRST cohomology on the lattice with the BRST cohomology in the continuum theory, and we consider whether the BRST cohomology in the target theory really recovered in the continuum limit. From this study, we consider whether the target theory is recovered in the continuum limit or not.

3 The BRST cohomology in the target theory.

To make a comparison between the BRST cohomology in the target continuum theory and the ones on the lattice, we should explain the BRST cohomology in the target continuum theory. The action of the continuum theory is written by the BRST exact form as described at the eq. (5.1) in the paper [9]. The BRST transformation law of the continuum theory is given at the eq. (5.2) in the paper [9]. Among the transformation laws in the eq. (5.2), we describe the transformation laws

$$Q\phi = 0,$$

$$Q\psi_\mu = \psi_\mu,$$

$$Q\psi_\mu = iD_\mu \phi, \quad \text{(1)}$$

here, since we use these transformation laws to create the BRST cohomologies in the continuum theory. In eq. (1), $\psi_\mu$ denotes the gauge field and the $\psi_\mu$ denotes the BRST partner of the gauge field.

In the continuum theory, the BRST cohomologies are composed by $\phi$, $\nu_\mu$ and $\psi_\mu$ at least. To compose the BRST cohomologies by these fields, we can utilize the ‘decent relation’ proposed by Witten [10]. Let us prepare the differential 0-form, 1-form and 2-form operator set

$$\mathcal{W}_0 = Tr \phi^2,$$

$$\mathcal{W}_1 = Tr \phi \psi,$$

$$\mathcal{W}_2 = Tr \phi (d\nu + v \wedge \nu) + \psi \wedge \nu, \quad \text{(2)}$$

where $\psi$ and $v$ are differential 1-form denoted by $\psi = \psi_\mu dx^\mu$ and $v = v_\mu dx^\mu$. Here $d$ denotes the exterior derivative. The set satisfies the following the ‘decent relation’

$$Q\mathcal{W}_0 = 0,$$

$$Q\mathcal{W}_k = d\mathcal{W}_{k-1} \quad \text{(k = 1, 2)} \quad \text{(3)}$$

Utilizing this property, the BRST closed operators $\mathcal{O}_k$ can be constructed by the integral of $\mathcal{W}_k$ over the $k$ dimensional homology cycle $\gamma_k$.

$$\mathcal{O}_k \equiv \int_{\gamma_k} \mathcal{W}_k. \quad \text{(4)}$$

We can confirm that these operators are BRST closed by the explicit calculation,

$$Q\mathcal{O}_k = Q\int_{\gamma_k} \mathcal{W}_k = \int_{\partial \gamma_k} \mathcal{W}_{k-1} = 0, \quad \text{(5)}$$

since any homology cycle does not have boundaries. Also the $\mathcal{W}_0$ can be regarded as the BRST closed operators due to the transformation law $Q\phi = 0$.

These $\mathcal{O}_k$ are BRST cohomologies although they are formally written by the BRST exact form,

$$\mathcal{O}_1 = \int QTr \phi v, \quad \mathcal{O}_2 = \int QTr \psi \wedge v. \quad \text{(6)}$$

The operators $Tr \phi v$ and $Tr \psi \wedge v$ are not gauge invariant. The BRST exact quantities are defined by the $Q$-operation of gauge invariant quantities. Therefore these $\mathcal{O}_1$ and $\mathcal{O}_2$ are not BRST exact but BRST closed quantities, namely the BRST cohomologies. Here, please note that the $Q$-operation changes the gauge transformation laws as

$$\nu_\mu \rightarrow g^{-1} \nu_\mu g + g^{-1} \partial_\mu g, \quad \text{(7)}$$

$$Q\nu_\mu = \psi_\mu \rightarrow g^{-1} \psi_\mu g. \quad \text{(8)}$$

This property plays an important role to create the gauge invariant BRST cohomology from the $Q$-operation of the gauge variant quantity.

4 The BRST cohomology on the two dimensional $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$ CKKU lattice model.

Next, let us consider the BRST cohomology on the two dimensional $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$ CKKU lattice model without moduli fixing mass term. The action of the lattice model is written at eq. (3.14) in [3], and their preserved supercharges and their transformation laws are given by eqs. (3.2),(3.3),(3.5) and (3.6) in [3]. The action can be written by the equivalent BRST exact form described in eq. (2.14),(2.15) in [9], where the BRST charge is given by the linear combination of the original supercharges as eq. (2.11) in [9]. In fact, also the BRST exact action eq. (3.6) in [3] is completely equivalent to eq. (2.11) in [9]. One can check the equivalence by identifying the fields as follows

$$X_n \leftrightarrow \sqrt{2} \lambda_n, \quad \lambda_n \leftrightarrow \sqrt{2} \xi_n, \quad \psi_n \leftrightarrow \sqrt{2} \nu_n, \quad \nu_n \leftrightarrow \sqrt{2} \xi_n, \quad \phi_n \leftrightarrow \sqrt{2} \eta_n, \quad \eta_n \leftrightarrow \sqrt{2} (\xi_n - \lambda_n), \quad \text{(10)}$$

In this paper, we use the BRST exact form eq. (3.7) in [3] of the CKKU lattice action,

$$S = Q\mathcal{Z}$$
In the tree level, the continuum limit of the eq. (3.7) in \[8\] becomes the topological field theory action eq. (3.11) (or eq. (5.1) in \[9\]), which is equivalent to the two dimensional \(N = (4,4)\) super Yang-Mills theory. In the continuum limit, the lattice field variable \(\Phi\) becomes the field \(\phi\) in the continuum theory, and the gauge fields \(\psi_n\) come from the bosonic link fields \(X, X^\dagger, Y, Y^\dagger\). The BRST partner of the gauge fields \(\psi_n\) come from the fermionic link field, \(\lambda, \lambda^\dagger, \tilde{\lambda}, \tilde{\lambda}^\dagger\). For later use, we distinguish the degree of freedom as the two part \(\{\Phi_n\}\), which is the set composed only by the field \(\Phi\), and the set \(A_n\) which is composed by the other fields.

The BRST transformation laws are given in eq. (3.7) in \[8\].

\[
\begin{align*}
Q X_n & = \lambda_n, \\
Q Y_n & = \lambda_n, \\
Q Y_n^\dagger & = \Phi_n X_n - X_n \Phi_n - Y_n \Phi_n^\dagger + Y_n^\dagger \Phi_n^\dagger, \\
Q H_n^\dagger & = \Phi_n X_n - X_n^\dagger \Phi_n, \\
Q H_n & = \Phi_n X_n^\dagger - X_n \Phi_n^\dagger, \\
Q \eta_n & = \eta_n, \\
Q \phi_0 & = 0.
\end{align*}
\]

Note that this is a homogeneous transformation of \(A_n\). Therefore, the transformation can be written as the tangent vector

\[
Q = \sum_n \left[ \lambda_n \frac{\partial}{\partial X_n} + \lambda_n^\dagger \frac{\partial}{\partial X_n^\dagger} + \lambda_n \frac{\partial}{\partial Y_n} + \lambda_n^\dagger \frac{\partial}{\partial Y_n^\dagger} + [\Phi_n, X_n^\dagger - X_n^\dagger \Phi_n] \right] + \partial H_n + \eta_n \partial \phi_0
\]

From this property, if we introduce another fermionic operator written by the tangent vector

\[
\hat{Q} = \sum_n \left[ \lambda_n \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda_n} + \lambda_n^\dagger \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda_n^\dagger} + \lambda_n \frac{\partial}{\partial \chi_n} + \lambda_n^\dagger \frac{\partial}{\partial \chi_n^\dagger} \right]
\]

we can construct the number operator \(\hat{N}_{d\phi}\), which count the number of fields in the set \(A_n\), by the anti-commutation relation,

\[
\{Q, \hat{N}_{d\phi}\} = \sum_n \left[ X_n \frac{\partial}{\partial X_n} + X_n^\dagger \frac{\partial}{\partial X_n^\dagger} + Y_n \frac{\partial}{\partial Y_n} + Y_n^\dagger \frac{\partial}{\partial Y_n^\dagger} \right] + \partial H_n + \eta_n \partial \eta_n + \chi_n \partial \chi_n
\]

Please note that any function of the field variables can be written in terms of a sum of eigenfunction \(h\) of \(\hat{N}_{d\phi}\), namely

\[
h = \sum_{n_{d\phi} = 0} h_{n_{d\phi}}, \quad \hat{N}_{d\phi} h_{n_{d\phi}} = n_{d\phi} h_{n_{d\phi}}, \quad n_{d\phi} \in \{0\} \cup \mathbb{N},
\]

since any term in the function \(h\) has definite number of fields in the set \(A_n\). In addition to this homogeneous property of the BRST charge \(Q\), this \(Q\) does not change the gauge transformation law opposite to the continuum theory case. One can confirm it by checking that each field resides on the same link or site as its corresponding BRST partner described in the right hand sides of the BRST transformation laws eq. (3.7) in [8] respectively (see also Fig. 1 in [8]).

From these properties of BRST charges, we can see that BRST cohomology must be composed only by \(\Phi\) on the lattice. We will show it. First, let us consider the BRST closed function \(h_c\), satisfying \(Q h_c = 0\). From the property eq. (16), also \(h_c\) can be decomposed by the sum of eigenfunctions of the operator \(\hat{N}_{d\phi}\),

\[
h_c = \sum_{n_{d\phi} = 0} h_{c, n_{d\phi}}.
\]

Since the BRST operator is homogeneous transformation which does not change the number of fields in \(A_n\), the BRST operator \(Q\) commutes with the number operator \(\hat{N}_{d\phi}\), namely

\[
[Q, \hat{N}_{d\phi}] = 0.
\]

Then, if \(Q h_c = 0\), each eigenfunction \(h_{c, n_{d\phi}}\) composing the function \(h_c\) must be BRST closed,

\[
Q h_c = 0 \implies Q h_{c, n_{d\phi}} = 0, \quad (n_{d\phi} \in \{0\} \cup \mathbb{N}).
\]

The BRST closed eigenfunctions \(h_{c, n_{d\phi}}\) with non-zero eigenvalue \(n_{d\phi} \neq 0\) can be formally written as the BRST exact form since

\[
h_{c, n_{d\phi}} = n_{d\phi}^{-1} \hat{N}_{d\phi} h_{c, n_{d\phi}} = n_{d\phi}^{-1} \{Q, \hat{N}_{d\phi}\} h_{c, n_{d\phi}} = n_{d\phi}^{-1} Q \hat{N}_{d\phi} h_{c, n_{d\phi}}
\]

Here the \(Q\)-operation does not change the gauge transformation law. Then, in the eq. (20), \(Q h_{c, n_{d\phi}}\) must be gauge invariant if the function \(h_{c, n_{d\phi}}\) is a gauge invariant function. Therefore, in the BRST closed function \(h_c\), BRST closed
non-zero eigenfunction $h_{\nu_n}$ must be BRST exact. Finally, we can see that the only the zero eigenfunction $h_{0\nu}$, which is the polynomial composed only by $\Phi$, can be the BRST cohomology among the eigenfunctions. This is the end of proof.

The above situation stands for any lattice spacing. This tells that the BRST cohomology must be composed only by $\Phi$ no matter how the lattice spacing is small, namely even in the continuum limit. Therefore the BRST cohomology in the target continuum theory, which are composed not only by $\phi$ but also by gauge fields $\psi_{\mu}$ and their partners $\eta_{\mu}$, cannot be realized from the BRST cohomology on the lattice. Finally, we obtain the possible implication that the $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$ CKKU lattice model cannot realize the desired target continuum theory.

4.1 A reason why the BRST cohomology cannot be realized on the lattice

Among the BRST cohomologies in the target theory, the quantities composed by $\Phi$, can be the BRST cohomology among the eigenfunctions. This is the end of proof.

The above situation stands for any lattice spacing. This tells that the BRST cohomology must be composed only by $\Phi$ no matter how the lattice spacing is small, namely even in the continuum limit. Therefore the BRST cohomology in the target continuum theory, which are composed not only by $\phi$ but also by gauge fields $\psi_{\mu}$ and their partners $\eta_{\mu}$, cannot be realized from the BRST cohomology on the lattice. Finally, we obtain the possible implication that the $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$ CKKU lattice model cannot realize the desired target continuum theory.

Inhomogeneous term $g^{-1} \partial_{\mu} g$ in the eq. (8) are removed from the gauge transformation law of the corresponding link gauge fields due to the property of lattice gauge symmetry. By this property, $Q$ on the lattice does not change the gauge transformation law. Also it would be the reason why it is impossibility to create the BRST cohomology on the lattice.

5 Conclusion and discussion.

In this paper, we have investigated whether the supersymmetric lattice model, which is the two dimensional $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$ CKKU supersymmetric lattice model, really recovers the target theory or not through the examining whether the property of the TFT are really recovered in the continuum limit or not. As the first step, we estimate the situation by the comparison between the BRST cohomology on the two dimensional $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$ CKKU lattice and the BRST cohomology in its target continuum theory. By this study, we have understood that the BRST cohomology in the target continuum theory cannot be realized from the BRST cohomology on the lattice. This implies that there is a possibility that the CKKU lattice model cannot realize the desired target continuum theory in the continuum limit.

Moreover, we consider the reason of the impossibility. The reason of the impossibility would be that the BRST cohomology is a topological quantity defined by the inner product of the homology cycle and its dual cohomology. Such a topological quantity is generally difficult to be realized on the lattice since the gauge symmetry on the lattice admits the singular gauge transformation which prevents us from defining the topological quantity on the lattice. From this observation, we can guess that also other models like [5, 6] might be difficult to recover the desired target theories. But, from this, we could obtain the valuable strategy to develop the lattice formulation which can easily recover the desired target continuum theory, namely the formulation applicable to the numerical study. We propose that we should apply the Admissibility condition [11] etc, which enables to define the topological quantity like the chiral anomaly, to define the BRST cohomology on the lattice and to recover the desired target theory.

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