Non-Abelian basis tensor gauge theory

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Basis tensor gauge theory is a vierbein analog reformulation of ordinary gauge theories in which the difference of local field degrees of freedom has the interpretation of an object similar to a Wilson line. Here we present a non-Abelian basis tensor gauge theory formalism. Unlike in the Abelian case, the map between the ordinary gauge field and the basis tensor gauge field is nonlinear. To test the formalism, we compute the beta function and the two-point function at the one-loop level in non-Abelian basis tensor gauge theory and show that it reproduces the well-known results from the usual formulation of non-Abelian gauge theory.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Standard Model (SM) of particle physics [1-10] is usually formulated with gauge fields that transform inhomogeneously under the gauge group; i.e., they are connections on principal bundles (see e.g., [11,12]). This mechanism is used to construct covariant derivatives acting on matter fields, which allows a simple recipe for constructing kinetic terms for local field theories living on principal bundles. Gauge theories of this sort have a long history (see e.g., [6,13-20]) and are very economical in describing the physics locally at the cost of introducing redundancies into the system. Despite this long history, rewriting gauge theories in novel formalisms continue to offer insights into both computational techniques and ideas for physics beyond the SM (see e.g., [21-28]).

The work of [29] gives a reformulation of U(1) gauge theories in analogy with the vierbein formalism of general relativity. In that paper, it was shown that the vierbein analog field $G^{\alpha}{}_{\beta}$ transforms homogeneously under the U(1) gauge group and satisfies certain constraints, in contrast with the ordinary formulation in which the gauge field transforms inhomogeneously. The nonlinear map between the ordinary A_{μ} field and $G^{\alpha}{}_{\beta}$ can be changed to a linear relationship using a set of N unconstrained scalar fields $\theta_a(x)$ in N dimensions.¹ The field theory of $\theta_a(x)$ is called *basis tensor gauge theory* (BTGT), which can be viewed as a theory of Wilson lines (e.g., [30–37] and references therein) modeled by a particular symmetry that is required to allow only couplings equivalent to ordinary gauge theories. In [38], the Ward identities of the theory were constructed and the theory was explicitly shown to be one-loop stable.

In this work, we present a non-Abelian version of basis tensor gauge theory. Just as in the Abelian case, the interpretation of the basis tensor gauge field is similar to a Wilson line. This means that the basis tensor field $\theta_a^A(x)$ is more nonlocal when expressed in terms of the ordinary gauge potential A_{μ}^B . Unlike in the Abelian case, the map between $\theta_a^A(x)$ and A_{μ}^B is nonlinear. A perturbation theory can be defined in powers of θ_a^A that allows us to have a finite power expansion map between θ_a^A and A_{μ}^B . Just as in the Abelian case, we can impose a symmetry (BTGT symmetry) to eliminate charge violating couplings and enforce positivity of the Hamiltonian.

As the map between θ_a^A and A_μ^B is nonlinear, unlike in the Abelian case, the choice of θ_a^A variables to parametrize the gauge manifold target space is not motivated by simplicity. On the other hand, this motivation still exists since the number of functional degrees of freedom (d.o.f.) between A_μ^B theories and θ_m^B theories naturally match without imposing additional constraints on the vierbeinlike field that would make it difficult to quantize. The basis choice is also a natural generalization of the Abelian construction (i.e., both are gauge group manifold target space fields), and it has the same relationship with the Wilson line as in the Abelian case. Furthermore, the BTGT symmetry representation that stabilizes the theory (e.g., enforces charge conservation and bounds the Hamiltonian from below) naturally generalizes the Abelian theory's representation.

To test the formalism we perturbatively compute the β -function and find that it matches the usual result non-Abelian gauge theory at one loop. We also compute the

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¹In [29], we used upper indices to denote the components of $\theta^a(x)$ field. In this work, the analogous index will appear as a lower index.

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one-loop divergent contribution to the $\langle A^{\mu}(x)A^{\nu}(y)\rangle$ correlator, where $A_{\mu}[\theta]$ is now treated as a local composite operator. We find that before introducing the counterterms, the divergence that is obtained using the θ_a^A formalism is the same as in the usual $A_{\mu}^A(x)$ formalism. This is an indication that the UV structure of ordinary gauge theories are faithfully reproduced by the non-Abelian BTGT theory.

The order of presentation is as follows. In Sec. II, we present the definition of non-Abelian basis tensor gauge theory. In Sec. III, we present the path integral formulation of the BTGT theory. This includes the perturbative expansion terms similar to what is done in nonlinear sigma models. To check that the quantum formulation of BTGT is stable and computable, in Sec. IV, we compute the β -function explicitly by renormalizing the two-point functions of the BTGT field θ_a^A , the ghost fields $c\bar{c}$, and the $\theta c\bar{c}$ vertex functions. In Sec. V, we compute the two-point function $\langle A_{\mu}^{A}(x)A_{\nu}^{B}(y)\rangle$ at one loop using the BTGT formalism. We check the transversality of the divergent contribution consistent with gauge invariance and check that introducing the appropriate composite operator counterterms allow both $\langle \theta_a^A(x) \theta_b^B(y) \rangle$ and $\langle A^A_{\mu}(x)A^B_{\nu}(y)\rangle$ to be finite. In Sec. VI, we make a conjecture regarding what the relationship will be for the infinite number of renormalization constants based on the computations done in this paper. In Sec. VII, we present our conclusions. In the Appendix A, we collect some of the lessstandard notations and conventions used in this paper. In Appendix B, we derive the relationship between the non-Abelian basis tensor field and the ordinary gauge field. In Appendix C, we discuss the representations of gauge and BTGT symmetry transformations. In Appendix D, we list the Feynman rules for the theory.

II. NON-ABELIAN BTGT BASIS DEFINITION

In this section, we construct an explicit relationship between the vierbein analog field G and ordinary non-Abelian gauge field A. We will work with 4 spacetime dimensions throughout this paper to maintain simplicity and obvious physical relevance even though generalizations to different spacetime dimensions are straightforward. All repeated indices will be summed unless specified otherwise. For example, whenever one side of an equation has indices specified, the other side of the equation may have repeated indices that are not summed.

Given a field ϕ that is a complex scalar transforming under gauge transformations as

$$\phi^k(x) \to [g(x)]^{ks} \phi^s(x), \tag{1}$$

$$[g(x)]^{ks} \equiv (e^{i\Gamma^C(x)T^C})^{ks},\tag{2}$$

where $(T^C)^{ab}$ are Hermitian generators of the gauge group in representation *R*, we define a Lorentz tensor $G^{\alpha}_{(f)\beta}$ that exhibits the gauge group transformation property

$$[G^{\alpha}_{(f)\beta}(x)]^{i} \to [G^{\alpha}_{(f)\beta}(x)]^{j}[g^{-1}(x)]^{ji},$$
(3)

such that $G^{\alpha}_{(f)\beta}\phi$ is gauge invariant, where f is a basis index that specifies a fixed direction in the gauge group representation space. The requirement of rank 2 comes from having enough functional d.o.f. to match the gauge field functional d.o.f. as explained in [29]. More formally, $G^{\alpha}_{(f)\beta}(x)$ is a field that transforms as an \overline{R} from the right under the non-Abelian gauge group representation and as a rank 2 Lorentz projection tensor. The index (f) in $G^{\alpha}_{(f)\beta}$ spans the dimension of the representation. Hence, $G^{\alpha}_{(f)\beta}$ contains $2 \times 16D(R)$ real functional d.o.f. (in 4-spacetime dimensions), where D(R) is the dimension of the representation. The analogy with gravitational vierbeins $(e_a)_{\mu}$ can be identified as follows (similar to the Abelian case of [29]): the indices $\{f, \alpha, \beta\}$ are the analogs of the fictitious Minkowski space index a of $(e_a)_{\mu}$, and the representation of Eq. (3) is the analog of the diffeomorphism acting on the μ index of $(e_a)_{\mu}$.

To reproduce ordinary gauge theory with $G^{\alpha}_{(f)\beta}$, we must be able to path integrate over unconstrained functions that match the number of d.o.f. in A_{μ} . This means that we must eliminate the number of field d.o.f. either by imposing a constraint through an introduction of an auxiliary field or explicitly solving such a matching constraint. Since the gauge field real functional d.o.f. necessary for constructing covariant derivatives on fundamental representation fields is 4D(A) [where D(A) is the dimension of the adjoint representation], we need to eliminate 32D(R) - 4D(A)d.o.f. We can accomplish this by choosing the field d.o.f. that represent $G^{\alpha}_{(f)\beta}$ to live on the target space of the gauge manifold, which will cause the D(A) dimension matching condition to be satisfied. We can then construct 4 such sets with the help of a projection tensor (just as in the Abelian BTGT) to match 4D(A) d.o.f. in A_{μ} : the gauge manifold target space fields are θ_a^C where $a \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ and $C \in \{1, 2, ..., D(A)\}.$

To find a map between $G^{\alpha}_{(f)\beta}$ and θ^{C}_{a} , define an orthonormal set of spacetime-independent vectors $\xi^{l}_{(f)}$ for $f \in \{1, ..., \dim R\}$ that span the group representation vector space such that the following completeness relationship is satisfied:

$$\delta^{kl} = \sum_{f} \xi^{k}_{(f)} \xi^{*l}_{(f)}.$$
 (4)

The $\xi_{(f)}$ are defined to be invariant under gauge transformations.

In the spirit of the Abelian case of [29], the vierbein analog in the non-Abelian gauge theory can be defined as

$$([G_{(f)}(x)]^{\gamma}{}_{\delta})^{j} = \xi^{*l}_{(f)} [(\exp[-i\theta^{M}_{a}(x)H^{a}T^{M}])^{\gamma}{}_{\delta}]^{lj}.$$
 (5)

Here the objects H^a with $a \in \{0, ..., 3\}$ are 4×4 real matrices that transform under Lorentz transformations as a (1,1) tensor satisfying $[H^a, H^b] = 0$, which satisfies the completeness relationship

$$\sum_{a=0}^{3} (H^a)^{\mu}{}_{\nu} = \delta^{\mu}{}_{\nu} \tag{6}$$

and the orthonormality condition

$$\operatorname{Tr}(H^a H^b) = \delta^{ab} \tag{7}$$

(just as in the Abelian case of [29]). These matrices can be chosen to have the following orthonormal projection property:

$$(H^{a})^{\mu}{}_{\nu}(H^{b})^{\nu}{}_{\beta} = \delta^{ab}(H^{a})^{\mu}{}_{\beta}$$
 no sum on a (8)

and symmetry property

$$(H^a)^{\mu\nu} = (H^a)^{\nu\mu}.$$
 (9)

The fields $\theta_a^M(x)$ are real scalar fields which transform under gauge transformations as

$$U_a \to e^{i\Gamma} U_a \tag{10}$$

where

$$U_a \equiv \exp\left[i\theta_a^A T^A\right] \tag{11}$$

$$\Gamma \equiv \Gamma^B T^B. \tag{12}$$

The reason why θ_a^A is easier to work with than $G_{(f)}(x)$ is that it is unconstrained, similar to the π variable being easier to work with compared to $U(\pi)$ in sigma models [6].

There are several salient features to note regarding Eq. (5). Given the representation identity

$$\psi^C \to (g_{\rm adj})^{CS} \psi^S,$$
(13)

if

$$\psi^C T^C \to g[\psi^C T^C]g^{-1},\tag{14}$$

where g_{adj} is the adjoint representation group element (independent of the representation of g), we might naively expect that θ_a^M has its M index transforming as an adjoint. However, this is not true because the transformation property of θ^M is

$$\begin{aligned} \xi^*_{(f)}(\exp[-i\theta^M_a(x)H^aT^M])^{\gamma}{}_{\delta} \\ \to \xi^*_{(f)}(\exp[-i\theta^M_a(x)H^aT^M])^{\gamma}{}_{\delta}g^{-1}(x), \end{aligned} (15)$$

and not

$$\begin{aligned} \xi^*_{(f)}(\exp\left[-i\theta^M_a(x)H^aT^M\right])^{\gamma}{}_{\delta} \\ \to \xi^*_{(f)}g(x)(\exp\left[-i\theta^M_a(x)H^aT^M\right])^{\gamma}{}_{\delta}g^{-1}(x) \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

in Eq. (5). Another aspect is that the index f in Eq. (5) runs from 1 to dim(R) components in $G_{(f)}(x)$, but the number of independent scalar field d.o.f. of $G_{(f)}(x)$ in terms of θ_m^A is the rank of the group times the spacetime dimension 4 (spanned by $m \in \{0, ..., 3\}$). This is similar to the ordinary gauge field having dim(R) components of the f index in $A_{\mu}^M(T^M)^{fk}$ but counting in terms of A_{μ}^M , the index M runs through the rank of the group.

Another interesting relationship is the map between the ordinary non-Abelian gauge field and $[G_{(f)}(x)]^{\gamma}_{\delta}$. As shown in Appendix B, the relationship is

$$A_{\mu} = i[G^{-1\alpha\beta}][\partial_{\alpha}G_{\beta\mu}] \tag{17}$$

where $G_{\beta\mu}$ are related to the basis tensor as

$$[G_{\beta\mu}]^{qm} = \sum_{f}^{\dim R} \xi^{q}_{(f)} [G_{(f)\beta\mu}]^{m}.$$
 (18)

We note that the relationship of U_a and $G^{\alpha}{}_{\beta}$ is

$$G^{\mu}{}_{\lambda} = [H^b]^{\mu}{}_{\lambda}U^{\dagger}_b \tag{19}$$

according to Eq. (8). Owing to the projection property of Eq. (8) in a conveniently normalized basis, the ordinary non-Abelian gauge field can also be rewritten as

$$A_{\mu} = i U_a \tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu} U^{\dagger}_a, \qquad (20)$$

where

$$\tilde{\partial}^a_{\nu} \equiv (H^a)^{\mu}{}_{\nu}\partial_{\mu}.$$
 (21)

This can be seen simply by using Eqs. (8) and (19);

$$A_{\mu} = i \sum_{a} U_{a} (H^{a})^{\alpha \beta} \sum_{b} \partial_{\alpha} (H^{b})_{\beta \mu} U_{b}^{\dagger}$$
(22)

$$=i\sum_{a}\sum_{b}\delta_{ab}(H^{a})^{a}{}_{\mu}U_{a}\partial_{\alpha}U^{\dagger}_{b}$$
(23)

$$=i\sum_{a}U_{a}\tilde{\partial}_{\mu}^{a}U_{a}^{\dagger}.$$
(24)

As discussed in Appendix B, the relationship between the θ_a^A field and the ordinary non-Abelian gauge fields can be written explicitly as

$$A^{Q}_{\mu} = \sum_{c} (([\theta^{J}_{c}f^{J}]^{-1})^{QR} (e^{\theta^{K}_{c}f^{K}} - 1)^{RB} \tilde{\partial}^{c}_{\mu} \theta^{B}_{c}), \quad (25)$$

where f^J is a structure constant matrix having the components $(f^J)^{AB} = f^{JAB}$. The non-Abelian Eq. (25) reduces to the Abelian case of [29] in the limit that the structure constant matrix $f \rightarrow 0$. Note that the map between θ_c^B and Adiffer by a minus sign compared to the original Abelian BTGT paper [29] because the sign convention for θ has been flipped [see Eq. (23) of that paper and Eq. (5) above].² As we see in this expression, one key difference between the Abelian BTGT and the non-Abelian BTGT is that the map between the ordinary gauge field A and the θ field is linear in the Abelian case and nonlinear in the non-Abelian case. On the other hand, since θ_c^B represents a solution to a first order differential equation, it still does have the interpretation of a type of object similar to a Wilson line.

As noted in [29], because gauge invariance is insufficient to impose global charge conservation (unlike in the usual gauge theory formulation), we must impose a new symmetry introduced in [29] called a BTGT symmetry. The BTGT transformation in the non-Abelian case is

$$U_a \to U_a e^{iZ_a},$$
 (26)

$$Z_a \equiv Z_a^B T^B, \tag{27}$$

where Z_a^B satisfies

$$(H^a)^{\lambda}_{\ \mu}\partial_{\lambda}Z^B_a = 0. \tag{28}$$

Because this transformation will not transform the gauge field variable when written in terms of the ordinary A^M_μ basis, this transformation is independent of the usual gauge transformations. Infinitesimally, Eqs. (3) and (26) can be rewritten as

$$\delta\theta_a^A = \left(\frac{f \cdot \theta_a}{\exp\left[f \cdot \theta_a\right] - 1}\right)^{AB} \Gamma^B + \left(\frac{f \cdot \theta_a}{1 - \exp\left[-f \cdot \theta_a\right]}\right)^{AB} Z_a^B$$
(29)

to linear order in Γ^B and Z_a^B , where $(f \cdot \theta_a)^{MN} \equiv f^{CMN} \theta_a^C$. The derivation of this linearized transformation is presented in Appendix C. Finally, note that we can also write the combined gauge and BTGT transformations acting on $G^{\alpha}{}_{\beta}(x)$ as

$$[H^f]^{\psi}_{\ \mu}G^{\mu}_{\ \lambda} \to e^{-iZ^B_f(x)T^B}[H^f]^{\psi}_{\ \mu}G^{\mu}_{\ \lambda}e^{-i\Gamma^C(x)T^C}$$
(30)

and

$$G^{\mu}{}_{\lambda}[H^{f}]^{\lambda}{}_{\nu} \to e^{-iZ^{B}_{f}(x)T^{B}}G^{\mu}{}_{\lambda}[H^{f}]^{\lambda}{}_{\nu}e^{-i\Gamma^{C}(x)T^{C}}.$$
 (31)

This means that it is convenient to write gauge invariant and BTGT invariant fields in terms of $(H^a)^{\beta}{}_{\alpha}G^{\alpha}{}_{\beta}(x)$ because of these simple transformation properties.

III. PATH INTEGRAL FORMULATION

We define the quantized theory of G in this section using a path integral over the θ_a^A variable in this section. To this end, we begin by writing down the BTGT and gauge invariant action in terms of U_a variable [defined in Eq. (11)]. Next, we define a coupling constant expansion that allows us to match perturbative gauge theory computations. Afterwards, we construct the path integral over θ_a^A .

A. Nonperturbative action

In this section, we construct the action for the basis tensor field θ_a^A . Because of Eq. (25), any non-Abelian gauge theory with finite powers of A_μ will map to a field theory with an infinite power series in θ_c^K . In this section, we construct the action of the usual Yang-Mills theory in terms of θ_a^A .

Recall that A_{μ} is a BTGT transformation invariant (which we will refer to as a BTGT invariant for short). Hence, we can construct BTGT invariant objects involving just θ_a^A fields if we work with our knowledge of the usual gauge kinetic terms. Using Eq. (20), we can write the action in the usual way as

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{-1}{4g^2 T(R)} \operatorname{Tr}(F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}), \qquad (32)$$

where the field strength is

$$F_{\mu\nu} = i[D_{\mu}, D_{\nu}] \tag{33}$$

and the covariant derivative in terms of U_a is

$$D_{\mu} = \partial_{\mu} + \sum_{a=0}^{3} U_a \tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu} U_a^{\dagger}.$$
 (34)

More explicitly, we can expand the field strength tensor as

$$F_{\mu\nu} = i \left(\partial_{\mu} \sum_{a=0}^{3} U_a \tilde{\partial}^a_{\nu} U^{\dagger}_a - \partial_{\nu} \sum_{a=0}^{3} U_a \tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu} U^{\dagger}_a \right) + i \sum_{a,b=0}^{3} [U_a \tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu} U^{\dagger}_a, U_b \tilde{\partial}^b_{\nu} U^{\dagger}_b].$$
(35)

When written in terms of components, we can identify

²Note that Ref. [29] uses the notation of having the basis tensor index c of θ^c instead of θ^B_c as in Eq. (5).

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{-1}{2g^2} (\partial_{\mu} A^{A}_{\nu} \partial^{\mu} A^{A\nu} - \partial_{\mu} A^{A}_{\nu} \partial^{\nu} A^{A\mu}) - \frac{1}{g^2} f^{ABC} \partial_{\mu} A^{A}_{\nu} A^{B\mu} A^{C\nu} - \frac{1}{4g^2} f^{ABC} f^{AB_2 C_2} A^{B}_{\mu} A^{C}_{\nu} A^{B_2}_{\mu} A^{C_2}_{\nu}$$
(36)

with

$$A^A_{\mu} = \frac{i}{T(R)} \sum_{a=0}^3 \operatorname{Tr}(T^A U_a \tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu} U^{\dagger}_a).$$
(37)

Just as in the Abelian BTGT theory, we see that the theory has a 4-derivative kinetic term structure, which begs the question of whether the Hamiltonian is bounded from below [39–43]. Just as in the Abelian case [29], the Hamiltonian is indeed bounded from below because the BTGT symmetry gives rise to only field dependence on $A_{\mu}^{A}[U_{a}]$.

The matter coupling can be written down by noting that under BTGT transformations, we have

$$\partial_{\psi}[(H^{f})^{\psi}{}_{\alpha}G^{\alpha}{}_{\beta}\phi] \to e^{-iZ^{B}_{f}(x)T^{B}}\partial_{\psi}[(H^{f})^{\psi}{}_{\alpha}G^{\alpha}{}_{\beta}\phi].$$
(38)

This means we can construct a gauge, Lorentz, and BTGT invariant combination

$$\sum_{f} (\partial_{\psi_2} [(H^f)^{\psi_2}{}_{\alpha_2} G^{\alpha_2}{}_{\beta_2} \phi])^{\dagger} g^{\beta_2 \beta} \partial_{\psi} [(H^f)^{\psi}{}_{\alpha} G^{\alpha}{}_{\beta} \phi].$$
(39)

It is easy to check using Eqs. (19), (8), and (9) that this is equivalent to the usual gauge coupling to matter $D^{\mu}\phi^{\dagger}D_{\mu}\phi$:

$$D^{\mu}\phi^{\dagger}D_{\mu}\phi = \left[\partial^{\mu}\phi + \sum_{a=0}^{3} (H^{a})^{\lambda_{2}\mu}U_{a}\partial_{\lambda_{2}}U_{a}^{\dagger}\phi\right]^{\dagger} \times \left[\partial_{\mu}\phi + \sum_{b=0}^{3} (H^{b})^{\lambda}{}_{\mu}U_{b}\partial_{\lambda}U_{b}^{\dagger}\phi\right].$$
(40)

We can of course write down a similar coupling for the fermions charged under the non-Abelian gauge group:

$$\mathcal{L}_{fK} = \overline{\Psi} \bigg[i \partial \!\!\!/ + i \gamma^{\mu} \sum_{b=0}^{3} (H^{b})^{\lambda}_{\ \mu} U_{b} \partial_{\lambda} U_{b}^{\dagger} \bigg] \Psi.$$
(41)

We note that because of BTGT invariance, couplings of the form

$$\sum_{f} [G^{\alpha}_{(f)\beta}\phi] [G^{\beta}_{(f)\alpha}\phi]$$
(42)

cannot be written down because they violate BTGT symmetry. There exists gauge and BTGT invariant terms of the form

$$\sum_{a} \operatorname{Tr}(U_a U_a^{\dagger}) \tag{43}$$

that we might worry about. However, owing to their group representation structure, these are constants and will not contribute nontrivially in flat spacetime.

B. Perturbative expansion

Written in terms of the θ_a^A fields of Eq. (5), the Lagrangian is a power series in θ_a^A . For perturbative computations, we only require a consistent truncation in the coupling constant. The usual perturbation theory proceeds through the identification

$$A^A_\mu \to g A^A_\mu.$$
 (44)

Motivated by this and a need to truncate the power series of Eq. (5), we make the change of variables

$$\theta_a^A \to g \theta_a^A$$
(45)

and expand perturbatively about $g \to 0$. However, given that Eqs. (44) and (45) match only to linear order in g, the perturbative expansion of the A_{μ} theory with $g \to 0$ will match the perturbative expansion of θ_a^A theory with $g \to 0$ only if we deal with composite operators.

For example, if we want to match the $A^A_{\mu} \rightarrow g A^A_{\mu}$ perturbation theory to $\theta^A_a \rightarrow g \theta^A_a$ perturbation theory to quadratic order in g, we must make the identification

$$gA^{A}_{\mu} = g \sum_{a} \left[\frac{e^{gf \cdot \theta_{a}} - 1}{gf \cdot \theta_{a}} \right]^{AB} \tilde{\partial}^{a}_{\mu} \theta^{B}_{a}$$
(46)

$$\approx g \tilde{\partial}^a_\mu \theta^A_a + \frac{g^2}{2} f^{ABC} (\tilde{\partial}^a_\mu \theta^B_a) \theta^C_a + O(g^3)$$
 (47)

at least to quadratic order in g. We explicitly then see a quadratic field identification with A_{μ} . In this case, a two-point function in A_{μ} becomes

$$\begin{split} \langle A^A_{\mu}(x) A^B_{\nu}(y) \rangle \\ &= \sum_{a,b} \left\langle \left(\tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu} \theta^A_a(x) + \frac{g}{2} f^{AC_1 D_1} \theta^{D_1}_a(x) \tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu} \theta^{C_1}_a(x) + \dots \right) \right. \\ &\times \left(\tilde{\partial}^b_{\nu} \theta^B_b(y) + \frac{g}{2} f^{BC_2 D_2} \theta^{D_2}_b(y) \tilde{\partial}^b_{\nu} \theta^{C_2}_b(y) + \dots \right) \right\rangle. \end{split}$$
(48)

Although this nonlinearity seems undesirable from the perspective of matching to ordinary non-Abelian field theory perturbative expansion in terms of A^A_{μ} , there may be an advantage since it allows us to map nontrivial composite non-local operator correlators in the language of A^A_{μ} field in terms of correlators of the elementary θ^A_a

(52)

(53)

(54)

 $\mathcal{L}_{ ext{gauge}} = \mathcal{L}_{ heta^2} + \mathcal{L}_{ heta^3} + \mathcal{L}_{ heta^4} + \dots = \sum_{n=2}^\infty \mathcal{L}_{ heta^n}$

 $\mathcal{L}_{\theta^2} = -\frac{1}{2} (\partial^{\mu} \tilde{\partial}^{\nu}_{a} \theta^{A}_{a}) \delta^{AB} \left(\partial_{\mu} \tilde{\partial}^{b}_{\nu} \theta^{B}_{b} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{\xi} \right) \partial_{\nu} \tilde{\partial}^{b}_{\mu} \theta^{B}_{b} \right),$

 $-\frac{g}{2}f^{ABC}\left(\partial^{\mu}\tilde{\partial}^{\nu}_{a}\theta^{A}_{a}-\left(1-\frac{1}{\xi}\right)\partial^{\nu}\tilde{\partial}^{\mu}_{a}\theta^{A}_{a}\right)$

 $\mathcal{L}_{\theta^3} = -gf^{ABC}(\partial^{\mu}\tilde{\partial}^{\nu}_{a}\theta^{A}_{a})(\tilde{\partial}^{b}_{\mu}\theta^{B}_{b})(\tilde{\partial}^{c}_{\nu}\theta^{C}_{c})$

 $\times (\partial_{\mu}((\tilde{\partial}^{b}_{\nu}\theta^{B}_{h})\theta^{C}_{h}))$

correlator. We will defer the exploration of this feature to a future work.

The power series can be explicitly written as

$$A^{A}_{\mu} = \sum_{a} \left[\frac{e^{gf \cdot \theta_{a}} - 1}{gf \cdot \theta_{a}} \right]^{AB} \tilde{\partial}^{a}_{\mu} \theta^{B}_{a} \tag{49}$$

$$= \tilde{\partial}^a_\mu \theta^A_a + \frac{g}{2} f^{ABC} (\tilde{\partial}^a_\mu \theta^B_a) \theta^C_a + \frac{g^2}{6} f^{ABE} f^{CDE} \theta^B_a \theta^C_a (\tilde{\partial}^a_\mu \theta^D_a) + O(g^3).$$
(50)

With the proper addition of the gauge fixing term, Eq. (32) takes the form

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge}} = -\frac{1}{4} F^{A,\mu\nu} F^A_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2\xi} \partial^\mu A^A_\mu \partial^\nu A^A_\nu.$$
(51)

With Eq. (46) the gauge boson sector becomes

and

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\theta^{4}} &= -\frac{g^{2}}{4} f^{EAB} f^{ECD} (\tilde{\partial}_{\mu}^{a} \theta_{a}^{A}) (\tilde{\partial}_{\nu}^{b} \theta_{b}^{B}) (\tilde{\partial}_{c}^{\mu} \theta_{c}^{C}) (\tilde{\partial}_{d}^{\nu} \theta_{d}^{D}) \\ &- \frac{g^{2}}{2} f^{EAB} f^{ECD} (\tilde{\partial}_{\mu}^{a} \theta_{a}^{A}) (\tilde{\partial}_{\nu}^{b} \theta_{b}^{B}) \partial^{\mu} ((\tilde{\partial}_{c}^{\nu} \theta_{c}^{C}) \theta_{c}^{D}) \\ &- \frac{g^{2}}{2} f^{EAB} f^{ECD} (\partial^{\mu} \tilde{\partial}_{a}^{\nu} \theta_{a}^{A} - \partial^{\nu} \tilde{\partial}_{a}^{\mu} \theta_{a}^{A}) (\tilde{\partial}_{\mu}^{b} \theta_{b}^{B}) (\tilde{\partial}_{\nu}^{c} \theta_{c}^{C}) \theta_{c}^{D} \\ &- \frac{g^{2}}{2} f^{EAB} f^{ECD} (\partial_{\mu} ((\tilde{\partial}_{\nu}^{a} \theta_{a}^{A}) \theta_{a}^{B}) - \left(1 - \frac{1}{\xi}\right) \partial_{\nu} ((\tilde{\partial}_{\mu}^{a} \theta_{a}^{A}) \theta_{a}^{B}) \right) \partial^{\mu} ((\tilde{\partial}_{c}^{\nu} \theta_{c}^{C}) \theta_{c}^{D}) \\ &- \frac{g^{2}}{8} f^{EAB} f^{ECD} \left(\partial^{\mu} \tilde{\partial}_{\nu}^{\nu} \theta_{a}^{A} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{\xi}\right) \partial^{\nu} \tilde{\partial}_{a}^{\mu} \theta_{a}^{A} \right) \partial_{\mu} (\theta_{b}^{B} \theta_{b}^{C} (\tilde{\partial}_{\nu}^{b} \theta_{b}^{D})). \end{aligned}$$
(55)

If gauge fixing is accomplished using the Faddeev-Popov procedure, we can write down the ghost Lagrangian coming from the delta-function involving the A_{μ}^{A} in the usual way:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rm gh1} = -\partial^{\mu} \bar{c}^A D^{AB}_{\mu} c^B \tag{56}$$

$$= -\partial^{\mu}\bar{c}^{A}\delta^{AB}\partial_{\mu}c^{B} + gf^{ABC}\partial^{\mu}\bar{c}^{A}c^{B}A^{C}_{\mu}$$
(57)

where A_{μ}^{C} is given in terms of θ_{a}^{A} explicitly in Eq. (46). To second order in *g*, the explicit expansion is

$$\mathcal{L}_{gh1} = -\partial^{\mu} \bar{c}^{A} \partial_{\mu} c^{A} + g f^{ABC} \tilde{\partial}^{a}_{\mu} \theta^{A}_{a} \partial^{\mu} \bar{c}^{B} c^{C} + \frac{g^{2}}{2} f^{ABE} f^{CDE} (\tilde{\partial}^{a}_{\mu} \theta^{A}_{a}) \theta^{B}_{a} \partial^{\mu} \bar{c}^{C} c^{D} + O(g^{3}).$$
(58)

The ghost field couples to the gauge sector with quartic and higher power couplings unlike in the usual vector potential formalism. If we formulate the path integral measure in terms of A_{μ} and view the path integral in terms of θ_a^A as a change of variables, then there will be additional ghost contributions from

$$\mathcal{D}A = \mathcal{D}\theta_{\mathrm{nz}} \det\left[\frac{\delta A^A_\mu(x)}{\delta \theta^B_{\mathrm{nz},b}(y)}\right],\tag{59}$$

where $\theta^{B}_{nz,b}$ stands for functions that are not annihilated by

$$(H^b)^{\alpha}{}_{\beta}\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{\alpha}}.$$
 (60)

The functional determinant can be written as usual as a Grassmannian integral yielding an additional ghost Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_{gh2} = \bar{d}^A_a \mathcal{O}^{AB}_{ab} d^B_b = \bar{d}^A_a \tilde{\partial}^\mu_a \mathcal{O}^{AB}_{\mu b} d^B_b = -(\tilde{\partial}^\mu_a \bar{d}^A_a) \mathcal{O}^{AB}_{\mu b} d^B_b \quad (61)$$

where we define the operator

$$\mathcal{O}_{\mu b}^{AB} = \left[\int_{0}^{1} dt e^{tg\theta_{b} \cdot f} \right]^{AB} (H^{b})^{\lambda}{}_{\mu} \vec{\partial}_{\lambda} + \left[\int_{0}^{1} dt \int_{0}^{1} ds e^{(1-s)tg\theta_{b} \cdot f} tgf^{B} e^{stg\theta_{b} \cdot f} \right]^{AD} (H^{b})^{\lambda}{}_{\mu} (\partial_{\lambda} \theta_{b}^{D})$$
(62)

$$= \left[\delta^{AB} + \frac{g}{2}f^{ABC}\theta_{b}^{C} + \frac{g^{2}}{6}f^{AEC}\theta_{b}^{C}f^{EBD}\theta_{b}^{D}\right]\tilde{\partial}_{\mu}^{b} + \left[\int_{0}^{1}dt\int_{0}^{1}ds e^{(1-s)tg\theta_{b}\cdot f}tgf^{B}e^{stg\theta_{b}\cdot f}\right]^{AD}(\tilde{\partial}_{\mu}\theta_{b}^{D}) + O(g^{3}).$$
(63)

We next work out the explicit Feynman rule factors.

1. Gauge propagator

The inverse of the propagator in momentum space can be written as

$$-iV_{ab}^{AB}(k) = \frac{\partial^2(i\mathcal{L}_{\theta^2})}{\partial\theta_a^A(k)\partial\theta_b^B(-k)}$$
(64)

$$= -i(k^{\mu}\tilde{k}_{a}^{\nu})\delta^{AB}\left(k_{\mu}\tilde{k}_{\nu}^{b} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{\xi}\right) - k_{\nu}\tilde{k}_{\mu}^{b}\right) \quad (65)$$

$$=-i\delta^{AB}\bigg(\delta_{ab}k^{2}k\star_{a}k-\bigg(1-\frac{1}{\xi}\bigg)(k\star_{a}k)(k\star_{b}k)\bigg),$$
(66)

where we define the star product as

$$k_1 \star_a k_2 = (H^a)_{\mu\nu} k_1^{\mu} k_2^{\nu}. \tag{67}$$

The gauge propagator $\Delta^{AB}_{ab}(k)$ is given implicitly by

$$\sum_{c} V_{ac}^{AC}(k) \Delta_{cb}^{CB}(k) = \delta^{AB} \delta_{ab},$$
(68)

the solution to which is

$$-i\Delta_{ab}^{AB}(k) = \frac{-i\delta^{AB}}{k^2 k \star_a k - i\varepsilon} \left(\delta_{ab} - (1-\xi)\frac{k \star_a k}{k^2}\right), \quad (69)$$

where the $i\varepsilon$ is the solution Feynman propagator pole prescription. If we assume a diagonal basis for H^a and a Wick rotation to Euclidean space, then this can be written as

$$-i\Delta_{ab}^{AB}(k) = \frac{-i\delta^{AB}}{k^2 k_a k_b} \left(\delta_{ab} - (1-\xi)\frac{k_a k_b}{k^2}\right).$$
 (70)

In position space the propagator can be written as

$$\Delta_{ab}^{AB}(x-y) = \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4} e^{ik \cdot (x-y)} \Delta_{ab}^{AB}(k).$$
(71)

2. Cubic gauge self-coupling

For Feynman rules with momenta satisfying $k_1+k_2+k_3=0$, the vertex function $iV_{abc}^{ABC}(k_1, k_2, k_3)$ can be written as

$$iV_{abc}^{ABC}(k_{1},k_{2},k_{3}) = \frac{\partial^{3}(i\mathcal{L}_{\theta^{3}})}{\partial\theta_{a}^{A}(k_{1})\partial\theta_{b}^{B}(k_{2})\partial\theta_{c}^{C}(k_{3})}$$

$$= igf^{ABC} \left\{ \delta_{bc}(k_{2}\star_{b}k_{3})k_{1}\star_{a}(k_{2}-k_{3}) + \delta_{ac}(k_{1}\star_{c}k_{3})k_{2}\star_{b}(k_{3}-k_{1}) + \delta_{ab}(k_{1}\star_{b}k_{2})k_{3}\star_{c}(k_{1}-k_{2}) + \frac{1}{2}\delta_{abc}[k_{1}^{2}k_{1}\star_{a}(k_{2}-k_{3}) + k_{2}^{2}k_{2}\star_{a}(k_{3}-k_{1}) + k_{3}^{2}k_{3}\star_{a}(k_{1}-k_{2})] - \frac{1}{2}\left(1-\frac{1}{\xi}\right)[\delta_{bc}(k_{1}\star_{a}k_{1})k_{1}\star_{b}(k_{2}-k_{3}) + \delta_{ac}(k_{2}\star_{b}k_{2})k_{2}\star_{c}(k_{3}-k_{1}) + \delta_{ab}(k_{3}\star_{c}k_{3})k_{3}\star_{a}(k_{1}-k_{2})] \right\}.$$

$$(72)$$

If we assume a diagonal basis for H^a , then we get

$$iV_{abc}^{ABC}(k_1, k_2, k_3) = igf^{ABC}\left(\sum_{i=1}^2 V_{abc}^{(i)}(k_1, k_2, k_3) + \left(1 - \frac{1}{\xi}\right)V_{abc}^{(3)}(k_1, k_2, k_3)\right)$$
(74)

with

$$V_{abc}^{(1)}(k_1, k_2, k_3) = +k_{1a}k_{2b}k_{3c}(\delta_{bc}(k_{2a} - k_{3a}) + \delta_{ac}(k_{3b} - k_{1b}) + \delta_{ab}(k_{1c} - k_{2c}))$$
(75)

$$V_{abc}^{(2)}(k_1, k_2, k_3) = +\frac{1}{2}\delta_{abc}(k_1^2k_{1a}(k_{2a} - k_{3a}) + k_2^2k_{2a}(k_{3a} - k_{1a}) + k_3^2k_{3a}(k_{1a} - k_{2a}))$$
(76)

$$V_{abc}^{(3)}(k_1, k_2, k_3) = -\frac{1}{2} (\delta_{bc} k_{1a}^2 k_{1b} (k_{2b} - k_{3b}) + \delta_{ac} k_{2b}^2 k_{2a} (k_{3a} - k_{1a}) + \delta_{ab} k_{3c}^2 k_{3a} (k_{1a} - k_{2a})).$$
(77)

Setting $\xi = 1$ with the Feynman gauge simplifies calculations because $V_{abc}^{(3)}$ can be ignored. Tree level ξ -dependent vertex terms are an interesting distinction from the usual vector potential gauge theory. The numbering here is organized according to powers of A_{μ} that contribute to these θ_a vertices in the following way:

$$f^{ABC}\partial^{\mu}A^{A\nu}A^{B}_{\mu}A^{C}_{\nu} \to V^{(1)}$$
(78)

$$\partial_{\mu}A^{A}_{\nu}\partial^{\mu}A^{A\nu} \to V^{(2)} \tag{79}$$

$$\left(1 - \frac{1}{\xi}\right)\partial^{\mu}A^{A}_{\mu}\partial^{\nu}A^{A}_{\nu} \to \left(1 - \frac{1}{\xi}\right)V^{(3)}.$$
 (80)

3. Quartic gauge self-coupling

The quartic vertex (or four θ vertex) can be written as

$$iV_{abcd}^{ABCD}(k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4) = \frac{\partial^4(i\mathcal{L}_{\theta^4})}{\partial\theta_a^A(k_1)\partial\theta_b^B(k_2)\partial\theta_c^C(k_3)\partial\theta_d^D(k_3)}$$
(81)

$$= ig^{2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{6} V^{ABCD}_{(i)abcd} + \left(1 - \frac{1}{\xi} \right) \sum_{i=7}^{8} V^{ABCD}_{(i)abcd} \right) \quad (82)$$

where we define 8 terms as

$$V_{(1)abcd}^{ABCD} = -\frac{1}{4} f_E^{AB} f_E^{CD} \delta_{ac} \delta_{bd} (k_1 \star_a k_3) (k_2 \star_b k_4) + \text{perms.}$$
(83)

$$V^{ABCD}_{(2)abcd} = -\frac{1}{2} f^{AB}_E f^{CD}_E \delta_{bcd} (k_1 \star_a (k_3 + k_4)) (k_2 \star_b k_3) + \text{perms.}$$
(84)

$$V_{(3)abcd}^{ABCD} = -\frac{1}{2} f_E^{AB} f_E^{CD} \delta_{acd}(k_1 \star_b k_2)(k_1 \star_c k_3) + \text{perms.}$$
(85)

$$V^{ABCD}_{(4)abcd} = +\frac{1}{2} f^{AB}_{E} f^{CD}_{E} \delta_{ab} \delta_{cd} (k_1 \star_b k_2) (k_1 \star_c k_3) + \text{perms.}$$
(86)

$$V^{ABCD}_{(5)abcd} = +\frac{1}{8} f^{AB}_E f^{CD}_E \delta_{abcd} (k_1 + k_2)^2 (k_1 \star_a k_3) + \text{perms.}$$
(87)

$$V_{(6)abcd}^{ABCD} = +\frac{1}{6} f_E^{AB} f_E^{CD} \delta_{abcd} k_1^2(k_1 \star_a k_4) + \text{perms.}$$
(88)

$$V^{ABCD}_{(7)abcd} = -\frac{1}{8} f^{AB}_{E} f^{CD}_{E} \delta_{ab} \delta_{cd} (k_1 \star_a (k_1 + k_2)) (k_3 \star_c (k_1 + k_2)) + \text{perms.}$$
(89)

$$V_{(8)abcd}^{ABCD} = -\frac{1}{6} f_E^{AB} f_E^{CD} \delta_{bcd}(k_1 \star_a k_1)(k_1 \star_b k_4) + \text{perms.}$$
(90)

Here we are using the notation $f_C^{AB} = f^{CAB} = f^{ABC}$ for convenience. The numbering here is organized according to powers of A_{μ} that contribute to these θ_a vertices in the following way:

$$f_{E}^{AB} f_{E}^{CD} A^{\mu A} \lambda_{\nu}^{\nu B} A_{\mu}^{C} A_{\nu}^{D} \to V_{(1)}$$
(91)

$$f^{ABC}\partial^{\mu}A^{A\nu}A^{B}_{\mu}A^{C}_{\nu} \to V_{(2)} + V_{(3)} + V_{(4)}$$
(92)

$$\partial_{\mu}A^{A}_{\nu}\partial^{\mu}A^{A\nu} \to V_{(5)} + V_{(6)}$$
(93)

$$\left(1-\frac{1}{\xi}\right)\partial^{\mu}A^{A}_{\mu}\partial^{\nu}A^{A}_{\nu} \to \left(1-\frac{1}{\xi}\right)(V_{(7)}+V_{(8)}).$$
(94)

Let us consider the evaluation of the permutations in each of these terms.

Consider first $V_{(1)}$. Note that since ABCD = BADC = CDAB = DCBA, we get a symmetry factor of 4. This means we can write

$$V_{(1)abcd}^{ABCD} = -f_E^{AB} f_E^{CD} (\delta_{ac} \delta_{bd} (k_1 \star_a k_3) (k_2 \star_b k_4) - \delta_{ad} \delta_{bc} (k_1 \star_a k_4) (k_2 \star_b k_3)) - f_E^{AC} f_E^{BD} (\delta_{ab} \delta_{cd} (k_1 \star_a k_2) (k_3 \star_c k_4) - \delta_{ad} \delta_{bc} (k_1 \star_a k_4) (k_2 \star_b k_3)) - f_E^{AD} f_E^{BC} (\delta_{ab} \delta_{cd} (k_1 \star_a k_2) (k_3 \star_c k_4) - \delta_{ac} \delta_{bd} (k_1 \star_a k_3) (k_2 \star_b k_4)).$$
(95)

If we assume a diagonal basis for H^a , this simplifies further to

$$V_{(1)abcd}^{ABCD} = -k_{1a}k_{2b}k_{3c}k_{4d}(f_E^{AB}f_E^{CD}(\delta_{ac}\delta_{bd} - \delta_{ad}\delta_{bc}) + f_E^{AC}f_E^{BD}(\delta_{ab}\delta_{cd} - \delta_{ad}\delta_{bc}) + f_E^{AD}f_E^{BC}(\delta_{ab}\delta_{cd} - \delta_{ac}\delta_{bd})),$$

$$(96)$$

which takes on a form proportional to the quartic A_{μ} vertex in the usual formalism. Similarly, we obtain other seven terms of the quartic BTGT vertex by writing the rest of the permutations. The full results can be found in Appendix D.

C. Generating function for BTGT

The generating function for A_{μ} correlators in the usual formalism is given by the path integral

$$Z[J] = \int \mathcal{D}A\mathcal{D}\bar{c}\mathcal{D}c \exp\left(iS[A,\bar{c},c] + i\int d^4x J \cdot A\right),$$
(97)

where

$$S[A, \bar{c}, c] = \int d^4x \left(-\frac{1}{4} F^A_{\mu\nu} F^{A\mu\nu} -\frac{1}{2\xi} (\partial \cdot A)^2 - \partial^\mu \bar{c}^A D^{AB}_\mu c^B \right)$$
(98)

is the Yang-Mills action with gauge fixing and ghosts.

Now make $A^A_{\mu}(x) = A^A_{\mu}[\theta(x)]$ a composite operator as specified by Eq. (25). This change affects both the action and the path measure. The generating function is now

$$Z[J] = \int \mathcal{D}\theta \mathcal{D}\bar{c}\mathcal{D}c\mathcal{D}\bar{d}\mathcal{D}de^{iS[A[\theta],\bar{c},c]+iS_{gh2}[\theta,\bar{d},d]+i\int d^4x J \cdot A[\theta]},$$
(99)

where \bar{d} , d are the additional ghosts defined in Eq. (61) and the additional ghost action is $S_{gh2} = \int d^4x \mathcal{L}_{gh2}$. We will now construct a generating function for correlators of A_{μ} and θ_a . We define K_a^A as a source for θ_a^A and define the new generating function as

$$\begin{split} \bar{Z}[J,K] \\ = \int \mathcal{D}\theta \mathcal{D}\bar{c}\mathcal{D}c\mathcal{D}\bar{d}\mathcal{D}de^{iS[A[\theta],\bar{c},c] + iS_{\text{gh2}}[\theta,\bar{d},d] + i\int d^4x (J\cdot A[\theta] + K^A_a \theta^A_a)}. \end{split}$$
(100)

In this paper, Eq. (100) will be our definition of the quantized theory and this will be used to calculate both the θ_a and A_{μ} correlators. The difference from the generating function of the A_{μ} formalism shown in Eq. (99) is that A_{μ} is now a composite operator in terms of θ_a fields and the path integral is now over θ_a instead of A_{μ} . We will find through explicit computations below that $S_{gh2}[\theta, \bar{d}, d]$ (the action describing the ghosts coming from the transformation from A_{μ}^{B} to θ_{a}^{A}) does not contribute to the divergent structure (in dimensional regularization) in the processes that we compute in this paper. It would be interesting to elucidate this decoupling in a future work.

For perturbative computations, we split apart the Yang-Mills action Eq. (98) in the following way:

$$S[A[\theta], \bar{c}, c] = S_{\text{int}}[A[\theta], \bar{c}, c] + \int d^4 x \mathcal{L}_{\theta^2}, \qquad (101)$$

where \mathcal{L}_{θ^2} is defined in Eq. (53). Then we can rewrite all powers of θ_a higher than quadratic as functional derivatives with respect to iK_a . The generating function Eq. (100) can then be written as

$$\bar{Z}[J,K] = \int \mathcal{D}\theta \mathcal{D}\bar{c}\mathcal{D}c\mathcal{D}\bar{d}\mathcal{D}de^{iS_{\rm int}[A[\theta],\bar{c},c]+iS_{\rm gh2}[\theta,\bar{d},d]+i\int d^4x J \cdot A[\theta]} e^{i\int d^4x (\mathcal{L}_{\theta^2} + K_a^A \theta_a^A)}$$
(102)

$$= \int \mathcal{D}\bar{c}\mathcal{D}c\mathcal{D}\bar{d}\mathcal{D}de^{iS_{\rm int}[A[\frac{\delta}{i\delta K}],\bar{c},c]+iS_{\rm gh2}[\frac{\delta}{i\delta K},\bar{d},d]+i\int d^4xJ\cdot A[\frac{\delta}{i\delta K}]} \int \mathcal{D}\theta e^{i\int d^4x(\mathcal{L}_{\theta^2}+K^A_a\theta^A_a)}$$
(103)

$$= \mathcal{N}e^{i\int d^{4}xJ\cdot A[\frac{\delta}{i\delta K}]} \int \mathcal{D}\bar{c}\mathcal{D}c\mathcal{D}\bar{d}\mathcal{D}de^{iS_{\rm int}[A[\frac{\delta}{i\delta K}],\bar{c},c]+iS_{\rm gh2}[\frac{\delta}{i\delta K},\bar{d},d]}e^{i\int d^{4}xd^{4}yK_{a}^{A}(x)\Delta_{ab}^{AB}(x-y)K_{b}^{B}(y)}$$
(104)

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where \mathcal{N} is a normalization constant. Equation (104) is what was used to derive the Feynman rules of non-Abelian BTGT, which are presented in Appendix D.

IV. BETA FUNCTION COMPUTATION

In this section, we show that the beta function at one loop for non-Abelian BTGT is

$$\beta(g) = -\frac{11}{6}C(A)\frac{g^3}{8\pi^2}$$
(105)

which is the same result as the usual A_{μ} formalism of Yang Mills theory. This lends support to the quantum consistency of the formalism and its faithful representation of the usual non-Abelian gauge theory perturbative content. This result is achieved by computing the renormalization constants of the counterterms of the θ_a and ghost quadratic terms and the $\theta_a \bar{c}c$ ghost-gauge vertex. The relevant terms in the Lagrangian are

$$\mathcal{L} \ni -\frac{1}{2} Z_{\theta^2} (\partial_\mu \tilde{\partial}^a_\nu \theta^A_a - \partial_\nu \tilde{\partial}^a_\mu \theta^A_a) \partial^\mu \tilde{\partial}^\nu_b \theta^A_b -\frac{1}{2\xi} Z_{\frac{1}{\xi}\theta^2} \partial_\nu \tilde{\partial}^a_\mu \theta^A_a \partial^\mu \tilde{\partial}^\nu_b \theta^A_b - Z_{\bar{c}c} \partial_\mu \bar{c} \partial^\mu c + Z_{g\bar{c}c\theta} g f^{ABC} \partial_\mu \bar{c}^A c^B \tilde{\partial}^\mu_a \theta^C_a.$$
(106)

These renormalization constants are computed in \overline{MS} with $d = 4 - \varepsilon$ dimensional regularization to be

$$Z_{\theta^2} = 1 + 4C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon} + O(g^4), \qquad (107)$$

$$Z_{\bar{c}c} = 1 + \frac{1}{2}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon} + O(g^4), \qquad (108)$$

$$Z_{g\theta\bar{c}c} = 1 + \frac{2}{3}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon} + O(g^4),$$
(109)

which implies Eq. (105) since

$$Z_g = \frac{Z_{g\theta\bar{c}c}}{Z_{\theta^2}^{1/2} Z_{\bar{c}c}} = 1 - \frac{11}{6} C(A) \frac{g^2}{8\pi^2 \varepsilon} + O(g^4).$$
(110)

In the following subsections, we compute Eqs. (107)–(109). We display a large amount of details since this BTGT formalism is new and how the formalism works is one of the main results of this paper. For convenience we choose the Feynman gauge $\xi = 1$ and we assume a diagonal basis for $(H^a)_{\mu\nu}$: $(H^a)_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu a}g_{\nu a}g^{aa}$ (no sum over *a*). We will be using the minimal subtraction scheme and dimensional regularization with $d = 4 - \epsilon$ to determine the renormalization constants. We will also be using the shorthand

$$\int_{\ell} \equiv \int \frac{d^d \ell}{(2\pi)^d}.$$
 (111)

In the computation below, many zeros appear for the following reasons. In dimensional regularization, we utilize the identity

$$\int \frac{d^n \ell}{(2\pi)^n} \frac{1}{\ell^{n+k}} \propto \delta_{k0}, \qquad (112)$$

where n > 1, k are integers and where as is customary, we do not distinguish raised or lowered indices on Kronecker delta functions whenever contextually the Lorentzian metric information is irrelevant. Other diagrams are zero due to the antisymmetric nature of f^{ABC} . Yet other diagrams are zero due to the identity

$$\delta_{ab}(1-\delta_{ab}) = \delta_{ab} - \delta_{ab} = 0. \tag{113}$$

A. Computation of Z_{θ^2} and $Z_{\frac{1}{2}\theta^2}$

The relevant diagrams are defined in Fig. 1. It is understood that when we write symbols such as D_1 without indices, the implicit indices are understood be of the form $(D_1)_{ab}^{AB}(k)$. The θ_a self-energy can be written as

$$i\Pi_{ab}^{AB}(k) = \sum_{i=1}^{4} (\mathbf{D}_{i})_{ab}^{AB}(k) + (\mathbf{D}_{c.t.})_{ab}^{AB}(k).$$
(114)

$$(\mathbf{D}_{1})_{ab}^{AB} = \theta_{a}^{A} \wedge \mathbf{k} \wedge \mathbf{h}_{b}^{B} \quad (\mathbf{D}_{2})_{ab}^{AB} = \mathbf{h}_{a}^{A} \wedge \mathbf{k} \wedge \mathbf{h}_{b}^{B}$$
$$(\mathbf{D}_{3})_{ab}^{AB} = \theta_{a}^{A} \wedge \mathbf{k} \wedge \mathbf{h}_{b}^{B} \quad (\mathbf{D}_{4})_{ab}^{AB} = \mathbf{h}_{a}^{A} \wedge \mathbf{k} \wedge \mathbf{h}_{b}^{B}$$
$$(\mathbf{D}_{c.t.})_{ab}^{AB} = \theta_{a}^{A} \wedge \mathbf{k} \wedge \mathbf{h}_{b}^{B}$$

FIG. 1. Self-energy diagrams for θ_a .

1. θ self-energy diagram 1

Diagram 1 in Fig. 1 is given by

$$(D_{1})_{ab}^{AB} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\ell} \sum_{cdef} \frac{(igV_{acd}^{ACD}(k,\ell))(-i\delta^{CE}\delta_{ce})(-i\delta^{DF}\delta_{ce})(igV_{bef}^{BEF}(-k,-\ell))}{\ell^{2}\ell_{c}^{2}(\ell+k)^{2}(\ell_{d}+k_{d})^{2}}$$
(115)

$$= \frac{g^2}{2} f^{ACD} f^{BCD} \sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^2 \int \frac{d^4 \ell}{(2\pi)^4} \sum_{cd} \frac{V^{(i)}_{acd}(k,\ell) V^{(j)}_{bcd}(-k,-\ell)}{\ell^2 (\ell+k)^2 \ell_c^2 (\ell_d+k_d)^2}$$
(116)

$$=g^{2}C(A)\delta^{AB}\sum_{i=1}^{2}\sum_{j=1}^{2}\left(\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(i,j)}\right)_{ab}$$
(117)

where in the last line we define the subdiagrams

$$(\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(i,j)})_{ab} = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^{4}\ell}{(2\pi)^{4}} \sum_{cd} \frac{V_{acd}^{(i)}(k,\ell) V_{bcd}^{(j)}(-k,-\ell)}{\ell^{2} (\ell+k)^{2} \ell_{c}^{2} (\ell_{d}+k_{d})^{2}}.$$
(118)

The sums over *i* and *j* in Eq. (117) only go from 1 to 2 because $(1 - \frac{1}{\xi})V_{abc}^{(3)} = 0$ in the Feynman gauge. In the general R_{ξ} gauge, the sums in Eq. (117) would go from 1 to 3. Due to the symmetry of the diagram, we also know that

$$(\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(j,i)})_{ab}^{AB}(k) = (\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(i,j)})_{ba}^{BA}(-k)$$
(119)

which means there are only three independent terms to compute in Eq. (117).

We start with

$$(\mathsf{D}_{1}^{(1,1)})_{ab} = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^{4}\ell}{(2\pi)^{4}} \sum_{cd} \frac{V_{acd}^{(1)}(k,\ell) V_{bcd}^{(1)}(-k,-\ell)}{\ell^{2} (\ell+k)^{2} \ell_{c}^{2} (\ell-k_{d})^{2}}$$
(120)

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^4 \ell}{(2\pi)^4} \sum_{cd} \frac{k_a k_b \ell_c^2 (\ell_d + k_d)^2 N_{abcd}}{\ell^2 (\ell + k)^2 \ell_c^2 (\ell_d + k_d)^2}$$
(121)

$$=\frac{1}{2}k_ak_b\int \frac{d^4\ell}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{\sum_{cd}N_{abcd}}{\ell^2(\ell+k)^2}$$
(122)

where the numerator is

$$N_{abcd} = (-\delta_{cd}(2\ell_a + k_a) + \delta_{ad}(\ell_c + 2k_c) + \delta_{ac}(\ell_d - k_d))(-\delta_{cd}(2\ell_b + k_b) + \delta_{bd}(\ell_c + 2k_c) + \delta_{bc}(\ell_d - k_d)).$$
(123)

Summing over c and d yields

$$\sum_{cd} N_{abcd} = 10\ell_a\ell_b + 5\ell_ak_b + 5k_a\ell_b - 2k_ak_b + ((\ell + 2k)^2 + (\ell - k)^2)\delta_{ab}$$
(124)

and applying this to Eq. (122) gives

$$(\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(1,1)})_{ab} = \frac{1}{2}k_{a}k_{b}\int_{\ell}\frac{10\ell_{a}\ell_{b} + 5\ell_{a}k_{b} + 5k_{a}\ell_{b} - 2k_{a}k_{b} + ((\ell+2k)^{2} + (\ell-k)^{2})\delta_{ab}}{\ell^{2}(\ell+k)^{2}}$$
(125)

$$= \frac{1}{2} \tilde{k}_{a}^{\mu} \tilde{k}_{b}^{\nu} \int_{\ell} \frac{10\ell_{\mu}\ell_{\nu} + 5\ell_{\mu}k_{\nu} + 5k_{\mu}\ell_{\nu} - 2k_{\mu}k_{\nu} + ((\ell+2k)^{2} + (\ell-k)^{2})g_{\mu\nu}}{\ell^{2}(\ell+k)^{2}}.$$
(126)

The momentum integral of Eq. (126) is identical to the one that appears the usual non-Abelian A_{μ} formalism. We can evaluate it using the usual Feynman parametrization technique to obtain

$$(\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(1,1)})_{ab} = \frac{1}{2} \tilde{k}_{a}^{\mu} \tilde{k}_{b}^{\nu} \int_{0}^{1} dx \int \frac{d^{d}q}{(2\pi)^{d}} \frac{(\frac{9}{2}q^{2} + (5 - 2x + 2x^{2})k^{2})g_{\mu\nu} - (2 + 10x - 10x^{2})k_{\mu}k_{\nu}}{[q^{2} + x(1 - x)k^{2}]^{2}}.$$
(127)

We are only interested in the divergent part, which in dimensional regularization with $d = 4 - \varepsilon$ is

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(1,1)})_{ab}) = \left(\frac{19}{12}k^{2}k_{a}^{2}\delta_{ab} - \frac{11}{6}k_{a}^{2}k_{b}^{2}\right)\frac{i}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}$$
(128)

which has the same form numerically as the usual non-Abelian A_{μ} formalism.

We now compute

$$(\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(2,1)})_{ab} = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^{d}\ell}{(2\pi)^{d}} \sum_{cd} \frac{V_{acd}^{(2)}(k,\ell) V_{bcd}^{(1)}(-k,-\ell)}{\ell^{2} (\ell+k)^{2} \ell_{c}^{2} (\ell_{d}+k_{d})^{2}}$$
(129)

$$=\frac{1}{4}\int \frac{d^{d}\ell}{(2\pi)^{d}} \frac{N_{ab}}{\ell^{2}(\ell+k)^{2}\ell_{a}^{2}(\ell_{a}+k_{a})^{2}}$$
(130)

where the numerator is

$$N_{ab} = (\delta_{ab} - 1)k_b \ell_a (\ell_a + k_a)(2\ell_b + k_b) \times (k^2 k_a (2\ell_a + k_a) - \ell^2 \ell_a (\ell_a + 2k_a) + (\ell + k)^2 (\ell_a^2 - k_a^2)).$$
(131)

The divergent part of Eq. (130) is

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(2,1)})_{ab}) = \frac{1}{4}(\delta_{ab} - 1)k_{b}\left(4k^{2}k_{a}^{2}\delta_{ab}\frac{i}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}\right) = 0.$$
(132)

This is identically zero because of Eq. (113). Due to the symmetry of the diagram we also know that

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(1,2)})_{ab}) = 0.$$
(133)

Finally, we compute

$$(\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(2,2)})_{ab} = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^{d}\ell}{(2\pi)^{d}} \sum_{cd} \frac{V_{acd}^{(2)}(k,\ell) V_{bcd}^{(2)}(k,\ell)}{\ell^{2} (\ell+k)^{2} \ell_{c}^{2} (\ell_{d}+k_{d})^{2}}$$
(134)

$$=\frac{1}{8}\sum_{cd}\delta_{acd}\delta_{bcd}\int\frac{d^d\ell}{(2\pi)^d}\frac{n_a(k,\ell)n_b(k,\ell)}{\ell^2(\ell+k)^2\ell_c^2(\ell_d+k_d)^2}$$
(135)

$$= \frac{1}{8} \delta_{ab} \int \frac{d^d \ell}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{n_a(k,\ell)^2}{\ell^2 (\ell+k)^2 \ell_a^2 (\ell_a+k_a)^2}$$
(136)

where

$$n_{a}(k,\ell) = k^{2}k_{a}(2\ell_{a} + k_{a}) - \ell^{2}\ell_{a}(\ell_{a} + 2k_{a}) + (\ell + k)^{2}(\ell_{a}^{2} - k_{a}^{2}).$$
(137)

The divergent part of Eq. (136) is

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathsf{D}_{1}^{(2,2)})_{ab}) = \frac{i}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon} \left(\frac{5}{2}k^{2}k_{a}^{2}\delta_{ab}\right).$$
(138)

After summing the contributions from the subdiagrams given by Eqs. (128), (132), (133), and (138), we find that the divergent part of the first diagram is

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{1})_{ab}^{AB}) = C(A) \frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon} \left(\frac{49}{12} i\delta^{AB}k^{2}k_{a}^{2}\delta_{ab} - \frac{11}{6} i\delta^{AB}k_{a}^{2}k_{b}^{2}\right).$$
(139)

2. θ self-energy diagram 2

The second diagram is given by

$$(\mathbf{D}_2)^{AB}_{ab} = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^4\ell}{(2\pi)^4} \sum_{cd} \left(\frac{-i\delta_{cd}\delta^{CD}}{\ell^2\ell_c^2} \right) iV^{ABCD}_{abcd}(k, -k, \ell, -\ell)$$
(140)

$$=\frac{g^2}{2} \int \frac{d^4 \ell}{(2\pi)^4} \sum_c \sum_{i=1}^6 \frac{V^{ABCC}_{(i)abcc}(k,-k,\ell,-\ell)}{\ell^2 \ell_c^2}; \quad (141)$$

the seventh and eighth terms of Eq. (141) do not contribute because $\xi = 1$. The following identity is useful in evaluating the divergent part of Eq. (141):

$$\operatorname{div}\left(\int \frac{d^{4}\ell}{(2\pi)^{4}} \frac{\ell_{a}^{N_{a}} \ell_{b}^{N_{b}}}{\ell^{2} \ell_{a}^{2}}\right) = \delta_{N_{a}0} \delta_{N_{b}0} \operatorname{div}\left(\int \frac{d^{4}\ell}{(2\pi)^{4}} \frac{1}{\ell^{2} \ell_{a}^{2}}\right)$$
(142)

$$=\delta_{N_a0}\delta_{N_b0}\frac{i\Gamma(\frac{\varepsilon}{2})\Gamma(-\frac{1}{2})}{(4\pi)^2\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})}$$
(143)

$$=\delta_{N_a0}\delta_{N_b0}\left(-\frac{i}{4\pi^2\varepsilon}\right).$$
 (144)

Since Eq. (144) is zero in dimensional regularization unless $N_a = N_b = 0$, we ignore any term in the numerator of Eq. (141) that has any positive power of ℓ to find the divergence. We need to ignore any term that has $k_3 = +\ell$ or $k_4 = -\ell$ since they are proportional to ℓ .

The divergent part of the first four terms of Eq. (141) vanishes due to either Lorentz invariance or Eq. (144). The only nonzero divergent contributions come from the fifth term, which is given by

$$V^{ABCC}_{(5)abcc} = 0 + \frac{1}{4} f^{AC}_{E} f^{BC}_{E} \delta_{abc} [(k_1 + k_3)^2 (k_1 - k_3)_{\star a} (k_2 - k_4) + (k_1 + k_4)^2 (k_1 - k_4)_{\star a} (k_2 - k_3)]$$
(145)

$$\rightarrow \frac{1}{4} f_E^{AC} f_E^{BC} \delta_{abc}((k_1)^2 k_{1\star a} k_2 + (k_1)^2 (k_1)_{\star a} (k_2))$$
(146)

$$\rightarrow -\frac{1}{2} f_E^{AC} f_E^{BC} \delta_{ab} k^2 k_a^2, \qquad (147)$$



FIG. 2. Ghost self-energy diagrams.

and the sixth term, given by

$$V_{(6)abcc}^{ABCC} = \frac{1}{6} f_E^{AC} f_E^{BC} \delta_{abc} [k_1^2 k_{1\star a} (k_4 - k_2) + k_3^2 k_{3\star a} (k_2 - k_4) + k_2^2 k_{2\star a} (k_3 - k_1) + k_4^2 k_{4\star a} (k_1 - k_3) + k_1^2 k_{1\star a} (k_3 - k_2) + k_4^2 k_{4\star a} (k_2 - k_3) + k_2^2 k_{2\star a} (k_4 - k_1) + k_3^2 k_{3\star a} (k_1 - k_4)] \rightarrow \frac{1}{6} f_E^{AC} f_E^{BC} \delta_{ab} (k_1^2 k_{1\star a} (-k_2) + k_2^2 k_{2\star a} (-k_1) + k_1^2 k_{1\star a} (-k_2) + k_2^2 k_{2\star a} (-k_1))$$
(148)

$$= +\frac{2}{3} f_E^{AC} f_E^{BC} \delta_{ab} k^2 k_a^2.$$
(149)

Applying the results from Eqs. (147) and (149) to Eq. (141) yields the following divergent contribution:

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{2})_{ab}^{AB}) = -\frac{1}{6}C(A)\frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}(i\delta^{AB}k^{2}k_{a}^{2}\delta_{ab}).$$
(150)

3. θ self-energy diagram 3

The ghost-loop diagram 3 of Fig. 1 receives contributions from the ghosts of Eq. (57), which we label as $D_3^{(gh1)}$ and the ghosts of Eq. (61), which we label as $D_3^{(gh2)}$:

$$(D_3)^{AB}_{ab} = (D_3^{(gh1)})^{AB}_{ab} + (D_3^{(gh2)})^{AB}_{ab}$$
 (151) at

where

$$(\mathbf{D}_{3}^{(\text{gh1})})_{ab}^{AB} = (-1) \int_{p} ig V_{a}^{A,CD}(k,p+k,p) \frac{1}{i} \Delta^{CF}(p+k) \\ \times \frac{1}{i} \Delta^{\text{DE}}(p) ig V_{b}^{B,EF}(-k,p,p+k)$$
(152)

$$= (-1)g^{2} \int \frac{d^{4}p}{(2\pi)^{4}} \frac{(f^{ACD}k_{\star a}(p+k))(f^{BDC}(-k)_{\star b}p)}{p^{2}(p+k)^{2}}$$
(153)

$$=g^{2}f^{ACD}f^{BCD}(-\tilde{k}_{a}^{\mu}\tilde{k}_{b}^{\nu})\int\frac{d^{4}p}{(2\pi)^{4}}\frac{(p+k)_{\mu}p_{\nu}}{p^{2}(p+k)^{2}}$$
(154)

and

$$(\mathbf{D}_{3}^{(\text{gh2})})_{ab}^{AB} = (-1)g^{2} \sum_{c,d} \int_{p} \frac{f^{ACD} \delta_{acd}(k-p) \star_{a}(p+k) f^{BDC} \delta_{bdc}(-k-p-k) \star_{a} p}{(p_{c}+k_{c})^{2} p_{d}^{2}}$$
(155)

$$= -\frac{g^2}{4}C(A)\delta^{AB}\delta_{ab}\int_p \frac{(p_a - k_a)(p_a + k_a)(p_a + 2k_a)p_a}{(p_a + k_a)^2 p_a^2}.$$
(156)

Using the usual Feynman parametrization, the integral of Eq. (154) becomes

$$\int \frac{d^d p}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{(p+k)_{\mu} p_{\nu}}{p^2 (p+k)^2} = \frac{i}{(4\pi)^2} \frac{2}{\varepsilon} \int_0^1 dx \left(-\frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} x (1-x) k^2 - x(1-x) k_{\mu} k_{\nu} \right) + \text{finite}$$
(157)

$$=\frac{i}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}\left(-\frac{1}{12}k^{2}g_{\mu\nu}-\frac{1}{6}k_{\mu}k_{\nu}\right)+\text{finite}$$
(158)

and therefore

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{3}^{(\text{gh1})})_{ab}^{AB}) = i\delta^{AB}C(A)\frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}\left(\frac{1}{12}k^{2}k_{a}^{2}\delta_{ab} + \frac{1}{6}k_{a}^{2}k_{b}^{2}\right).$$
(159)

The divergent part of $D_3^{(gh2)}$ in dimensional regularization is zero because of Eq. (112) for n = 3:

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{3}^{(\text{gh2})})_{ab}^{AB}) = 0.$$
(160)

As noted before, it is interesting that the ghosts arising from transforming A^B_{μ} to θ^A_c do not contribute to the divergent structure here. Combining these results, we conclude that

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{3})_{ab}^{AB}) = i\delta^{AB}C(A)\frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}\left(\frac{1}{12}k^{2}k_{a}^{2}\delta_{ab} + \frac{1}{6}k_{a}^{2}k_{b}^{2}\right).$$
(161)

This ghost contribution will be important for restoring the transverse structure of the gauge boson propagator.

4. θ self-energy diagram 4

Similar to diagram 3, diagram 4 of Fig. 1 describes ghost contributions to the propagator. These however do not have any external momenta flowing through the ghost lines. Just as in diagram 3, this has a contribution coming from the usual gauge-fixing ghost and the ghost associated with transforming the field coordinates from A^B_{μ} to θ^A_c :

$$(\mathbf{D}_4)^{AB}_{ab} = (\mathbf{D}_4^{(\text{gh1})})^{AB}_{ab} + (\mathbf{D}_4^{(\text{gh2})})^{AB}_{ab}.$$
 (162)

We find the first ghost contribution to be

$$(\mathbf{D}_{4}^{(\text{gh1})})_{ab}^{AB} = (-1) \int \frac{d^{4}p}{(2\pi)^{4}} ig^{2} V_{ab}^{AB,CD}(k,-k,p,p) \frac{1}{i} \Delta^{CD}(p)$$
(163)

$$= (-1)\frac{g^2}{2} \int \frac{d^4p}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{f^{ABE} f^{CCE} \delta_{ab} 2k_a p_a}{p^2} \quad (164)$$

$$=0$$
 (165)

and the second ghost contribution to be

$$(D_{4}^{(\text{gh2})})_{ab}^{AB} = (-1)\sum_{c} \int \frac{d^{4}p}{(2\pi)^{4}} ig^{2} V_{ab,cd}^{AB,CD}(k,-k,p,p) \\ \times \frac{1}{i} \Delta_{cd}^{CD}(p)$$
(166)
$$= \frac{-ig^{2}}{6} \delta_{ab} \sum_{c} \int \frac{d^{4}p}{(2\pi)^{4}} \\ \times \frac{f^{ACE} f^{BCE} \delta_{abc}((p+k) \star_{a} p + (p-k) \star_{a} p)}{p_{a}^{2}}$$

$$=\frac{-ig^2}{6}f^{ACE}f^{BCE}\delta_{ab}\int\frac{d^4p}{(2\pi)^4}\frac{2p_a^2}{p_a^2}.$$
 (168)

Using the identity Eq. (112), this also vanishes:

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{4}^{(\text{gh2})})_{ab}^{AB}) = 0.$$
(169)

Therefore, we conclude

$$div((D_4)^{AB}_{ab}) = 0 (170)$$

and thus there are no external momentum independent ghost contribution to the divergent structure of the θ propagator in dimensional regularization.

5. θ self-energy counterterm

The counterterm diagram yields

$$(\mathbf{D}_{c.t.})_{ab}^{AB} = -i\delta^{AB} \left((Z_{\theta^2} - 1)\delta^{AB} (k^2 k_a^2 \delta_{ab} - k_a^2 k_b^2) + \frac{1}{\xi} \left(Z_{\frac{1}{\xi}\theta^2} - 1 \right) k_a^2 k_b^2 \right)$$
(171)
$$= -i\delta^{AB} \left((Z_{\theta^2} - 1)k^2 k_a^2 \delta_{ab} + \left(Z_{\frac{1}{\xi}\theta^2} - Z_{\theta^2} \right) k_a^2 k_b^2 \right).$$
(172)

To have a finite self-energy, we require the divergent parts of these diagrams to cancel out. The sum of Eqs. (139), (150), (161), and (170) is

$$\operatorname{div}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{4} \left(\mathbf{D}_{i}\right)_{ab}^{AB}\right) = i\delta^{AB}C(A)\frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}\left(4k^{2}k_{a}^{2}\delta_{ab} - \frac{5}{3}k_{a}^{2}k_{b}^{2}\right)$$
(173)

and therefore the renormalization constants are

$$Z_{\theta^2} = 1 + 4C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon}$$
(174)

and

$$Z_{\frac{1}{\xi}\theta^{2}} = 1 + \frac{7}{3}C(A)\frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}.$$
 (175)

It is interesting that despite the nontransversality of the divergent part of the θ propagator seen here, the divergent part of the usual gauge field propagator when computed in the BTGT formalism will maintain transversality, as we will demonstrate below.

6. Comment on $Z_{\frac{1}{p}\theta^2}$

Note that

$$Z_{\xi} = \frac{Z_{\theta^2}}{Z_{\frac{1}{\xi}\theta^2}} = 1 + \frac{5}{3}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon} = Z_{A^2} = \frac{Z_{A^2}}{Z_{\frac{1}{\xi}A^2}}$$
(176)

where Z_{A^2} is gauge kinetic renormalization constant in the usual gauge theory formalism. This is a nontrivial check of the theory. It shows that $\xi_B = Z_{\xi}\xi_R$ has the same scaling behavior in BTGT as in the usual formalism. It is interesting that while $Z_{\frac{1}{\xi}A^2} = 1$ to all orders in g, $Z_{\frac{1}{\xi}\theta^2} - 1 \neq 0$. This does not indicate a violation of gauge invariance because the gauge fixing parameter ξ (parametrizing the coefficient of the gauge fixing chosen to be of the same form as in ordinary gauge theories with $A^a_\mu \to A^a_\mu[\theta]$) is still renormalized by the same renormalization constant of Z_{ξ} as in the ordinary gauge theory formalism and $Z_{\theta^2} \neq Z_{A^2}$.

Another nontrivial check of the formalism would be to calculate $Z_{g\theta^3}$ and $Z_{\frac{1}{2}g\theta^3}$ and check that they satisfy

$$\frac{Z_{g\theta^3}}{Z_{\frac{1}{\xi}g\theta^3}} = 1 + \frac{5}{3}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon} + O(g^4) = Z_{\xi}, \quad (177)$$

but we defer this to a future work.

B. Computation of $Z_{\bar{c}c}$

The renormalization constant $Z_{\bar{c}c}$ is determined by the ghost self-energy. The one loop diagrams that contribute to the ghost self-energy are given in Fig. 2.

The first diagram in Fig. 2 is

$$(\mathbf{D}_{1})^{AB} = g^{2} f^{CAD} f^{CDB} \sum_{c} \int_{\ell} \frac{(-\ell_{c} p_{c}) \ell_{c} (\ell_{c} + p_{c})}{\ell_{c}^{2} \ell^{2} (\ell + p)^{2}}$$
(178)

$$=g^{2}C(A)\delta^{AB}\int_{\ell}\frac{p^{2}+p\cdot\ell}{\ell^{2}(\ell+p)^{2}}$$
(179)

$$=g^{2}C(A)\delta^{AB}p^{2}\int_{0}^{1}dx(1-x)\int_{q}\frac{1}{[q^{2}+x(1-x)p^{2}]^{2}}.$$
(180)

The divergent part of this is

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{1})^{AB}) = -\frac{1}{2}C(A)\frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}(-i\delta^{AB}p^{2}). \quad (181)$$

The second diagram in Fig. 2 vanishes identically because of the antisymmetric property of f^{CDE} :

$$(\mathbf{D}_2)^{AB} = g^2 \sum_{c,d} \int_{\ell} V_{cd}^{CD,AB}(\ell, -\ell, p) \Delta_{cd}^{CD}(\ell)$$
(182)

$$=g^{2}\sum_{c,d}\delta_{cd}\left(\frac{1}{2}f_{E}^{CD}f_{E}^{AB}(\ell_{c}+\ell_{c})p_{c}\right)\frac{\delta_{cd}\delta^{CD}}{\ell^{2}\ell_{c}^{2}}$$
(183)

$$= 0.$$
 (184)

The counterterm diagram is given by

$$(\mathbf{D}_{c.t.})^{AB} = -i(Z_{\bar{c}c} - 1)\delta^{AB}p^2.$$
 (185)

In order to make the ghost self-energy finite, we find that

$$Z_{\bar{c}c} = 1 + \frac{1}{2}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon} + O(g^4).$$
 (186)

Note that Eq. (186) is the same result that is obtained in the usual computation with A^a_{μ} fields. This is most likely part of a general result discussed in more detail in Sec. IV D.

C. Computation of $Z_{g\theta\bar{c}c}$

Let us now compute the θ_a -ghost interaction in our continuing efforts to derive Eq. (105). The relevant diagrams are defined in Fig. 3.

One of the surprises in the computation below will be that the first diagram D_1 of Fig. 3 vanishes. This is in contrast with the case in which θ_a^A is replaced by A_{μ}^A . Another interesting aspect of the computation will be that diagrams D_3 and D_4 each violate the BTGT symmetry in the divergence, but their sum has a cancellation that thereby preserves the BTGT symmetry.

1. Ghost- θ vertex diagrams 1 and 2

Diagram 1 in Fig. 3 is given by

$$(\mathbf{D}_{1})_{a}^{ABC} = g^{3} f^{EBD} f^{FDC} f^{AEF} \sum_{e,f} \int_{\ell} \frac{(-\ell_{e} q_{e})(\ell_{f} + k_{f})(\ell_{f} + q_{f})(V_{aef}^{(1)}(k,\ell) + V_{aef}^{(2)}(k,\ell))}{\ell^{2}(\ell + k)^{2}(\ell + q)^{2}\ell_{e}^{2}(\ell_{f} + k_{f})^{2}}$$
(187)
$$= (\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(1)})_{a}^{ABC} + (\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(2)})_{a}^{ABC}$$
(188)

where we have denoted the $V_{aef}^{(n)}$ contributions as $D_1^{(n)}$ which we will evaluate separately. Through the identity

$$f^{AEF} f^{EBD} f^{FDC} = -f_A^{FE} f_B^{ED} f_C^{DF} = -\frac{1}{2} f^{ABC} C(A),$$
(189)

the first contribution can be written as



FIG. 3. Ghost- θ vertex one loop diagrams.

$$(\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(1)})_{a}^{ABC} = -\frac{g^{3}}{2} f^{ABC} C(A) \sum_{e,f} \int_{\ell} \frac{(-\ell_{e}q_{e})(\ell_{f} + k_{f})(\ell_{f} + q_{f}) V_{aef}^{(1)}(k,\ell)}{\ell^{2}(\ell + k)^{2}(\ell + q)^{2}\ell_{e}^{2}(\ell_{f} + k_{f})^{2}}$$
(190)

$$= -\frac{g^3}{2} f^{ABC} C(A) k_a \int_{\ell} \frac{q_a(\ell+q) \cdot (k-\ell) - (\ell_a + q_a)q \cdot (\ell+2k) + (2\ell_a + k_a)q \cdot (\ell+q)}{\ell^2 (\ell+k)^2 (\ell+q)^2}.$$
 (191)

A divergence only occurs when the numerator is at ℓ^2 or higher powers in ℓ . There are no terms higher than ℓ^2 and therefore the maximum degree of divergence is zero. This means that we can ignore the dependence on the external momenta in the denominator:

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(1)})_{a}^{ABC}) = -\frac{g^{3}}{2} f^{ABC} C(A) k_{a} \operatorname{div}\left(\int_{\ell} \frac{(\ell \cdot q)\ell_{a} - \ell^{2}q_{a}}{\ell^{2}(\ell + k)^{2}(\ell + q)^{2}}\right)$$
(192)

$$= -\frac{g^3}{2} f^{ABC} C(A) k_a \left(-\frac{3}{4} q_a \frac{i}{8\pi^2 \varepsilon} \right)$$
(193)

$$= +\frac{3}{8}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon}(igf^{ABC}k_aq_a).$$
 (194)

The second contribution to this diagram is

$$(\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(2)})_{a}^{ABC} = -\frac{g^{3}}{2} f^{ABC} C(A) \sum_{e,f} \int_{\ell} \frac{(-\ell_{e}q_{e})(\ell_{f} + k_{f})(\ell_{f} + q_{f}) V_{aef}^{(2)}(k,\ell)}{\ell^{2}(\ell + k)^{2}(\ell + q)^{2} \ell_{e}^{2}(\ell_{f} + k_{f})^{2}}$$
(195)

$$=\frac{1}{4}g^{3}f^{ABC}C(A)q_{a}\int_{\ell}\ell_{a}(\ell_{a}+k_{a})(\ell_{a}+q_{a})\frac{(k^{2}k_{a}(2\ell_{a}+k_{a})-\ell^{2}\ell_{a}(\ell_{a}+2k_{a})+(\ell+k)^{2}(\ell_{a}^{2}-k_{a}^{2}))}{\ell^{2}(\ell+k)^{2}(\ell+q)^{2}\ell_{a}^{2}(\ell_{a}+k_{a})^{2}}.$$
 (196)

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The divergent part evaluates to

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(2)})_{a}^{ABC}) = -\frac{3}{8}C(A)\frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}(igf^{ABC}k_{a}q_{a}).$$
(197)

Summing these contributions together gives

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{1})_{a}^{ABC}) = \left(+\frac{3}{8} - \frac{3}{8}\right) C(A) \frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon} (igf^{ABC}k_{a}q_{a}) = 0.$$
(198)

The result of the diagram D_1 calculation with θ_a^A replaced with A_μ^A is equivalent to Eq. (194) (see e.g., [44]). The difference between this result and Eq. (198) is a manifestation of how θ_a^A is different from A_μ^A .

Diagram 2 is given by

$$(D_2)_a^{ABC} = g^3 \sum_f \int_{\ell} \frac{V_f^{F,BD}(-\ell+p,q) V_a^{A,DE}(k,\ell+k) V_f^{F,EC}(\ell-p,\ell)}{(\ell+k)^2 \ell^2 (\ell-p)^2 (\ell_f-p_f)^2}$$
(199)

$$= g^{3} f^{FBD} f^{ADE} f^{FEC} \sum_{f} \int_{\ell} \frac{(-\ell_{f} + p_{f}) q_{f} k_{a} (\ell_{a} + k_{a}) (\ell_{f} - p_{f}) \ell_{f}}{(\ell + k)^{2} \ell^{2} (\ell - p)^{2} (\ell_{f} - p_{f})^{2}}$$
(200)

$$= \frac{g^3}{2} C(A) f^{ABC} k_a \int_{\ell} \frac{(\ell_a + k_a) \sum_f q_f \ell_f}{(\ell + k)^2 \ell^2 (\ell - p)^2},$$
(201)

and the divergent part of this diagram is therefore

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{2})_{a}^{ABC}) = +\frac{1}{8}C(A)\frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}(if^{ABC}k_{a}q_{a}). \quad (202)$$

The 1/8 coefficient here is obtained when we replace the θ_a^A with A_{μ}^A in the usual gauge theory.

2. Ghost- θ vertex diagram 3 and 4

Diagram 3 evaluates to

$$(D_{3})_{a}^{ABC} = g^{3} \int_{\ell} \sum_{d} \frac{V_{ad}^{AD,BE}(k,-\ell;q,\ell+p)V_{d}^{D,EC}(\ell;\ell+p,p)}{\ell^{2}\ell_{d}^{2}(\ell+p)^{2}}$$
(203)

$$= \frac{1}{2}g^{3}f_{F}^{AD}f_{F}^{BE}f^{DEC}\sum_{d}\int_{\ell}\frac{\delta_{ad}(k_{d}+\ell_{d})q_{d}\ell_{d}(\ell_{d}+p_{d})}{\ell^{2}\ell_{d}^{2}(\ell+p)^{2}}$$
(204)

$$=\frac{1}{4}g^{3}C(A)f^{ABC}q_{a}\int_{\ell}\frac{(\ell_{a}+k_{a})\ell_{a}(\ell_{a}+p_{a})}{\ell^{2}(\ell+p)^{2}\ell_{a}^{2}}$$
(205)

and after integrating, we find the divergent part is

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{3})_{a}^{ABC}) = \frac{1}{4}C(A)\frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}(igf^{ABC})\left(\frac{1}{2}q_{a}k_{a} + \frac{1}{2}q_{a}^{2}\right).$$
(206)

Diagram 4 evaluates to

$$(D_{4})_{a}^{ABC} = g^{3} \int_{\ell} \sum_{d} \frac{V_{d}^{D,BE}(-\ell;q,\ell+p)V_{ad}^{AD,EC}(k,\ell;\ell+q,p)}{\ell^{2}\ell_{d}(\ell+q)^{2}}$$
(207)

$$= \frac{1}{2}g^{3}f^{DBE}f_{F}^{AD}f_{F}^{EC}\int_{\ell}\sum_{d}\frac{(-\ell_{d}q_{d})\delta_{ad}(k_{a}-\ell_{a})(\ell_{a}+q_{a})}{\ell^{2}(\ell+q)^{2}\ell_{d}^{2}}$$
(208)

$$= -\frac{1}{4}g^{3}C(A)f^{ABC}q_{a}\int_{\ell}\frac{\ell_{a}(\ell_{a}-k_{a})(\ell_{a}+q_{a})}{\ell^{2}(\ell+q)^{2}\ell_{a}^{2}},$$
 (209)

and the divergent part is

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{4})_{a}^{ABC}) = \frac{1}{4}C(A)\frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}(igf^{ABC})\left(q_{a}k_{a} - \frac{1}{2}q_{a}^{2}\right).$$
(210)

Even though the divergent parts of D_3 and D_4 separately lead to new counterterms that would violate BTGT and gauge invariance, their sum does not. The BTGT violating term proportional to q_a^2 cancels and we are left with

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{3})_{a}^{ABC} + (\mathbf{D}_{4})_{a}^{ABC}) = \frac{3}{8}C(A)\frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}(igf^{ABC}q_{a}k_{a}).$$
(211)

This contribution does not have an analog in the ordinary gauge theory formalism in which there is no quartic coupling of the gauge sector to the ghosts.

3. Ghost-θ vertex diagram 5

Diagram 5 in Fig. 3 is given by

$$(D_{5})_{a}^{ABC} = \frac{g^{3}}{2} \sum_{d,e} \int_{\ell} \frac{V_{ade}^{ADE}(k,\ell) V_{de}^{DE,BC}(-\ell,\ell+k;q,p)}{\ell^{2} (\ell+k)^{2} \ell_{d}^{2} (\ell_{e}+\ell_{e})^{2}}$$
(212)

$$= \frac{g^{3}}{2} \sum_{d,e} \int_{\ell} \frac{f^{ADE} V_{ade}(k,\ell) \frac{1}{2} \delta_{de} f_{F}^{DE} f_{F}^{BC} q_{d}(-2\ell_{d}-k_{d})}{\ell^{2} (\ell+k)^{2} \ell_{d}^{2} (\ell_{e}+\ell_{e})^{2}}$$
(213)

$$= -\frac{g^{3}}{4}C(A)f^{ABC}\sum_{d} \int_{\ell} \frac{V_{add}(k,\ell)q_{d}(2\ell_{d}+k_{d})}{\ell^{2}(\ell+k)^{2}\ell_{d}^{2}(\ell_{d}+k_{d})^{2}}$$
(214)

$$= (\mathbf{D}_5^{(1)})_a^{ABC} + (\mathbf{D}_5^{(2)})_a^{ABC}.$$
 (215)

We find that

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{5}^{(1)})_{a}^{ABC}) = 0, \qquad (216)$$

$$\operatorname{div}(\mathsf{D}_{5}^{(2)}) = -\frac{3}{2}C(A)\frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}(igf^{ABC}q_{a}k_{a}), \quad (217)$$

and $D_5^{(3)} = 0$ in the Feynman gauge. The total divergent component of this diagram is thus

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_5)_a^{ABC}) = -\frac{3}{2}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon}(igf^{ABC}q_ak_a). \quad (218)$$

Diagram 6 in Fig. 3 is

$$(D_6)_a^{ABC} = \frac{1}{2}g^3 \sum_d \int_{\ell} \frac{V_{add}^{ADD,BC}(k,\ell,-\ell;p,q)}{\ell^2 \ell_d^2}$$
(219)

$$=\frac{1}{12}g^{3}\sum_{d}\int_{\ell}\frac{\delta_{add}q_{a}f_{F}^{BC}(0+f_{G}^{FD}f_{G}^{DA}(k_{a}+\ell_{a})+f_{G}^{FD}f_{G}^{AD}(\ell_{a}-k_{a}))}{\ell^{2}\ell_{d}^{2}}$$
(220)

$$= \frac{1}{12} g^3 f_F^{BC}(-C(A)\delta^{AF}) q_a \int_{\ell} \frac{2k_a}{\ell^2 \ell_a^2}.$$
(221)

The divergent part turns out to be

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{6})_{a}^{ABC}) = +\frac{1}{3}C(A)\frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}(igf^{ABC}q_{a}k_{a}). \quad (222)$$

4. Counterterm and the conclusion of the explicit computation of the beta function

The counterterm is

$$(\mathbf{D}_{c.t.})_a^{ABC} = (Z_{g\theta\bar{c}c} - 1)(igf^{ABC}q_ak_a).$$
(223)

After summing the contributions from Eqs. (198), (202), (211), (218), and (222), we immediately find the renormalization constant

$$Z_{g\theta\bar{c}c} = 1 + \frac{2}{3}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon} + O(g^4).$$
 (224)

Hence, we have finally accomplished our computation of the Z_g given by Eq. (110) using the non-Abelian BTGT formalism. Thus, as mentioned at the beginning of this section where we embarked on an explicit computation of the beta function, it is gratifying to see that the θ_a^A formalism can be used to reproduce the perturbative results of the A_{μ}^A formalism. The true physics advantage of using the non-Abelian BTGT formalism has yet to be discovered, but its existence is expected since simple correlators in θ_a^A will map to nonlinear and nonlocal A_{μ}^B correlators.

D. Callan-Symanzik equation and the beta function

Here we give another perspective on the beta function computation which we have explicitly carried out in the previous subsections. We expect the correlator $\langle \Psi \overline{\Psi} \rangle$ to be independent of the gauge formalism chosen for any matter or ghost field Ψ because the change from the A_{μ} formalism to θ_a formalism does not depend on Ψ . In other words, assuming

$$\langle \Psi \overline{\Psi} \rangle^{(A)} = \langle \Psi \overline{\Psi} \rangle^{(\theta)},$$
 (225)

$$\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial\ln\mu} + \beta(g)\frac{\partial}{\partial g} - \xi\frac{\partial\ln Z_{\xi}}{\partial\ln\mu}\frac{\partial}{\partial\xi} + \frac{\partial\ln Z_{\Psi\Psi}}{\partial\ln\mu}\right]\langle\Psi\overline{\Psi}\rangle = 0,$$
(226)

we infer that

$$\beta^{(A)}(g) = \beta^{(\theta)}(g), \qquad (227)$$

$$Z_{\xi}^{(A)} = Z_{\xi}^{(\theta)},$$
 (228)

and

$$Z_{\Psi\Psi}^{(A)} = Z_{\Psi\Psi}^{(\theta)}.$$
 (229)

Even more generally, the anomalous dimension of any matter or ghost field should be independent of the gauge formalism.

V. COMPOSITE OPERATOR CORRELATOR

One of the key differences of non-Abelian BTGT from Abelian BTGT is the appearance of the nonlinearity in the map between the θ_a^A variable and the ordinary gauge field A_{μ}^{A} variable. Hence, any $A_{\mu}^{A}[\theta]$ correlator computation in ordinary field theory turns into a composite operator correlation computation beyond the leading order in the coupling constant expansion. To demonstrate explicitly that we can recover the gauge dynamics of A_{μ}^{A} at the quantum level using the non-Abelian BTGT formalism, we give in this section an example of the requisite composite operator renormalization. We will find that the transverse divergent structure of the two-point function is recovered only after including the composite operator renormalization, indicating the self-consistency of the formalism and that ordinary gauge invariance is not spoiled by the nonlinear field redefinition and the BTGT symmetry. We will also show in this section that there is a sufficient number of counterterm coefficients to preserve finiteness of both θ_a^A and A_u^B correlators without spoiling the gauge and BTGT symmetries, lending further evidence that the θ_a^A theory is a consistent rewriting of the A^A_{μ} theory.

More explicitly, define the two-point momentum space Green's function by

$$G^{AB}_{\mu\nu}(k) = \int d^4x e^{-ik\cdot x} \langle A^A_\mu(x) A^B_\nu(0) \rangle$$

$$= \int d^4x e^{-ik\cdot x} \frac{\delta}{i\delta J^{\mu A}(x)} \frac{\delta}{i\delta J^{\nu B}(0)} \bar{Z}[J,K] \Big|_{J=0,K=0}$$
(231)

where $\overline{Z}[J, K]$ is the generating function defined in Eq. (100). The difference from the usual generating function Eq. (99) is that A_{μ} is now a composite operator

in terms of θ_a fields and the path integral is now over θ_a instead of A_{μ} . Using dimensional regularization with $d = 4 - \varepsilon$, we will demonstrate below that the divergent part of the momentum space Green's function for A_{μ} is transverse and exactly the same as the typical formulation before introducing counterterms,

$$div(G_{\mu\nu}^{AB}(k)) = \frac{5}{3}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon}\frac{1}{i}\delta^{AB}\left(\frac{g_{\mu\nu}}{k^2} - \frac{k_{\mu}k_{\nu}}{k^4}\right) + div((D_{c.t.1})^{AB}_{\mu\nu} + (D_{c.t.2})^{AB}_{\mu\nu} + (D_{c.t.3})^{AB}_{\mu\nu}).$$
(232)

Furthermore, after introducing counterterms, we will find that both $\langle \theta_a^A \theta_b^B \rangle$ and $\langle A_\mu^A A_\nu^B \rangle$ can be made finite without changing the symmetries of the theory. The details of the $\langle A_\mu^A A_\nu^B \rangle$ computation are presented below.

This calculation simplifies significantly when using the Feynman gauge. This is due to the gauge propagator becoming diagonal in the BTGT indices, which greatly simplifies the sums.

A. Tree level

The tree-level diagram for the two-point A_{μ} correlator in the Feynman gauge is

$$J^{A}_{\mu} \otimes \cdots \otimes J^{B}_{\nu} = \sum_{a,b} \left(-i\tilde{k}^{a}_{\mu} \right) \frac{1}{i} \Delta^{AB}_{ab}(k) \left(i\tilde{k}^{b}_{\nu} \right)$$
(233)

$$= -i\frac{\delta^{AB}}{k^2}\sum_{a}\frac{\tilde{k}^a_{\mu}\tilde{k}^a_{\nu}}{k^2_a}$$
(234)

$$= -i\frac{\delta^{AB}}{k^2}\sum_{a}(H^a)_{\mu\nu} \qquad (235)$$

$$=-i\frac{\delta^{AB}}{k^2}g_{\mu\nu} \tag{236}$$

as expected. The structure is essentially identical to Abelian BTGT at this level of approximation.

B. Source operator terms

Next we consider the one-loop diagrams determining the composite operator counterterms. The diagrams involved in evaluating $\langle A^A_{\mu} A^B_{\nu} \rangle$ at one loop are shown in Fig. 4.

The first diagram in Fig. 4 is given by

$$(\mathbf{D}_{1})_{\mu\nu}^{AB} = \sum_{i=1}^{2} (\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(i)})_{\mu\nu}^{AB}$$
(237)

where *i* runs through the two possible terms of the θ^3 vertex and



FIG. 4. Diagram to compute the $A_{\mu}[\theta]$ two-point correlator. The blob in D₆ refers to all 1PI subdiagrams and is proportional to the θ_a self-energy. A further breakdown is shown in Fig. 5.

$$(\mathbf{D}_{1}^{(i)})_{\mu\nu}^{AB} = \frac{g^{2}}{4} C(A) \delta^{AB} \sum_{a,b} \int \frac{d^{d}\ell}{(2\pi)^{d}} \\ \times \frac{(2\tilde{\ell}_{\mu}^{a} + \tilde{k}_{\mu}^{a}) V_{baa}^{(i)}(k,\ell)}{\ell_{a}^{2}\ell^{2}(\ell_{a} + k_{a})^{2}(\ell + k)^{2}} \frac{\tilde{k}_{\nu}^{b}}{k_{b}^{2}k^{2}}.$$
 (238)

The θ^3 vertex in Eq. (238) can be written as

$$V_{baa}^{(1)}(k,\ell) = k_b \ell_a (\ell_a + k_a) (\delta_{ab} - 1) (2\ell_b + k_b), \quad (239)$$

$$V_{baa}^{(2)}(k,\ell) = \frac{1}{2} \delta_{ab} (k^2 k_a (2\ell_a + k_a) - \ell^2 \ell_a (\ell_a + 2k_a) + (\ell + k)^2 (\ell_a^2 - k_a^2))$$
(240)

where there is no sum over a or b. Using Eq. (239), we find

$$(D_{1}^{(1)})_{\mu\nu}^{AB} = \frac{g^{2}}{4} C(A) \delta^{AB} \sum_{a,b} \frac{k_{b} \tilde{k}_{\nu}^{b}}{k_{b}^{2} k^{2}} (\delta_{ab} - 1) \\ \times \int \frac{d^{d} \ell}{(2\pi)^{d}} \frac{(2\tilde{\ell}_{\mu}^{a} + \tilde{k}_{\mu}^{a}) \ell_{a} (\ell_{b} + k_{b}) (\ell_{a} - k_{a})}{\ell_{a}^{2} \ell^{2} (\ell_{a} + k_{a})^{2} (\ell + k)^{2}}$$
(241)

$$= \frac{g^2}{4} C(A) \delta^{AB} \sum_{a,b} \frac{k_b \tilde{k}_b^{\nu}}{k_b^2 k^2} (\delta_{ab} - 1) \left(2\delta^a_\mu \delta_{ab} \frac{i}{8\pi^2 \varepsilon} + \text{finite} \right)$$
(242)

= 0 + finite.(243)

From Eq. (240), we find

$$(D_1^{(2)})^{AB}_{\mu\nu} = \frac{g^2}{8} C(A) \delta^{AB} \sum_a \frac{\tilde{k}^{\nu}_a}{k^2_a k^2} \left((12\tilde{k}^{\mu}_a) \frac{i}{8\pi^2 \varepsilon} + \text{finite} \right)$$
(244)

$$= -\frac{3}{2}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon}\left(\frac{1}{i}\delta^{AB}\frac{g^{\mu\nu}}{k^2}\right) + \text{finite.}$$
(245)

Adding up the contributions gives

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{1})_{\mu\nu}^{AB}) = -\frac{3}{2}C(A)\frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}\left(\frac{1}{i}\delta^{AB}\frac{g^{\mu\nu}}{k^{2}}\right).$$
 (246)

The symmetry between diagrams 1 and 2 of Fig. 4 is given $\{A, k\} \leftrightarrow \{B, -k\}$, and we can therefore conclude without computation

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{2})_{\mu\nu}^{AB}) = -\frac{3}{2}C(A)\frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}\left(\frac{1}{i}\delta^{AB}\frac{g^{\mu\nu}}{k^{2}}\right).$$
 (247)

The third diagram in Fig. 4 is given by

$$(D_{3})_{\mu\nu}^{AB} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{b,b',c,d} \int_{\ell'} ig^{2} V_{\mu,b'cd}^{A,B'CD}(k;-k,\ell',-\ell') \frac{1}{i} \Delta_{b'b}^{B'B}(k) \\ \times \frac{1}{i} \Delta_{cd}^{CD}(\ell') i\tilde{k}_{\nu}^{b}$$
(248)

$$= \frac{g^{2}}{12} \sum_{b,c} \frac{\tilde{k}_{\nu}^{b}}{k^{2} k_{b}^{2}} \int_{\ell} \delta_{bcc} \\ \times \frac{0 + f_{E}^{AC} f_{E}^{BC} (-\tilde{\ell}_{\mu}^{b} + \tilde{k}_{\mu}^{b}) + f_{E}^{AC} f_{E}^{BC} (\tilde{\ell}_{\mu}^{b} + \tilde{k}_{\mu}^{b})}{\ell^{2} \ell_{c}^{2}}$$
(249)

$$= +\frac{1}{3}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon}\left(\frac{1}{i}\delta^{AB}\frac{g_{\mu\nu}}{k^2}\right) + \text{finite.}$$
(250)

Since the fourth diagram in Fig. 4 must be the same as D₃ up to $\{A, k\} \leftrightarrow \{B, -k\}$, we can immediately write

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{4})_{\mu\nu}^{AB}) = +\frac{1}{3}C(A)\frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon}\left(\frac{1}{i}\delta^{AB}\frac{g_{\mu\nu}}{k^{2}}\right).$$
 (251)

Diagram 5 in Fig. 4 is

$$(\mathbf{D}_{5})^{AB}_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a,b} \left(\frac{g}{2}\right)^{2} \int \frac{d^{d}\ell}{(2\pi)^{d}} \times \frac{f^{ACD}(-2\tilde{\ell}^{a}_{\mu} - \tilde{k}^{a}_{\mu})f^{BCD}(2\tilde{\ell}^{b}_{\nu} + \tilde{k}^{b}_{\nu})}{\ell^{2}\ell^{2}_{a}(\ell + k)^{2}(\ell_{b} + k_{b})^{2}}.$$
 (252)

This momentum integral does not UV diverge for d = 4: i. e.

$$\operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_5)^{AB}_{\mu\nu}) = 0.$$
 (253)

C. θ self-energy diagrams

Diagram 6 in Fig. 4 is the sum of all 1PI sub-diagrams as shown in Fig. 5. Using the results of Sec. IVA, we have

$$\operatorname{div}(\Pi_{ab}^{AB}(k)) = C(A) \frac{g^2}{8\pi^2 \varepsilon} \delta^{AB} \left(4k^2 k_a^2 \delta_{ab} - \frac{5}{3} k_a^2 k_b^2 \right) \quad (254)$$

where $\Pi_{ab}^{AB}(k)$ is the θ_a self-energy. The divergent part of diagram 6 is given by

$$div((D_{6})_{\mu\nu}^{AB}) = \sum_{a,b,a',b'} (-i\tilde{k}_{\mu}^{a}) \frac{1}{i} \Delta_{aa'}^{AA'}(k) div(i\Pi_{a'b'}^{A'B'}(k)) \times \frac{1}{i} \Delta_{b'b}^{B'B}(k)(i\tilde{k}_{\nu}^{b})$$
(255)

$$= -\sum_{a,b} \frac{\tilde{k}_{\mu}^{a} \tilde{k}_{\nu}^{b}}{k^{4} k_{a}^{2} k_{b}^{2}} i \operatorname{div}(\Pi_{ab}^{AB}(k))$$
(256)

$$= C(A) \frac{g^2}{8\pi^2 \varepsilon} \frac{1}{i} \delta^{AB} \left(4 \frac{g_{\mu\nu}}{k^2} - \frac{5}{3} \frac{k_{\mu}k_{\nu}}{k^4} \right).$$
(257)

As expected, the divergences of Fig. 5 are completely canceled out by the renormalization constants Z_{θ^2} and $Z_{\frac{1}{\xi}\theta^2}$ that arise from $D_{c.t.3}$ in Fig. 4.

D. Renormalization

Adding up the contributions from the six diagrams of Fig. 4, given by Eqs. (246), (247), (250), (251), (253), and (257) gives the divergent part of the two-point *A* correlator before renormalization:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{6} \operatorname{div}((\mathbf{D}_{i})_{\mu\nu}^{AB}) = C(A) \frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon} \frac{1}{i} \times \delta^{AB} \left(\left(-3 + \frac{2}{3} + 4 \right) \frac{g_{\mu\nu}}{k^{2}} - \frac{5}{3} \frac{k_{\mu}k_{\nu}}{k^{4}} \right)$$
(258)

$$=\frac{5}{3}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon}\frac{1}{i}\delta^{AB}\left(\frac{g_{\mu\nu}}{k^2}-\frac{k_{\mu}k_{\nu}}{k^4}\right).$$
(259)

It has the expected transverse property and the same numerical value as in the usual A_{μ} formulation. While the $k_{\mu}k_{\nu}$ term receives a contribution from only diagram D₆, the $g_{\mu\nu}$ term receives contributions from six diagrams D₁ through D₆.

Now we need to renormalize both θ_a and the composite operator $A_{\mu}[\theta]$ and show that both correlators are finite without introducing any counterterms that spoil gauge invariance, BTGT invariance, or Lorentz invariance. The composite operator counterterms in the Lagrangian are of the form

$$\mathcal{L}_{c.t.} \ni (Z_{J\theta} - 1) J^{A\mu} \tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu} \theta^A_a + (Z_{gJ\theta^2} - 1) \frac{g}{2} f^{ABC} J^{A\mu} \tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu} \theta^B_a \theta^C + \cdots$$
(260)

and to preserve BTGT invariance the counterterms have to obey certain relations given by

$$Z_J = \frac{Z_{J\theta}}{Z_{\theta^2}^{1/2}} = \frac{Z_{Jg\theta^2}}{Z_g Z_{\theta^2}} = \frac{Z_{Jg^2\theta^3}}{Z_g^2 Z_{\theta^2}^{3/2}} = \cdots$$
(261)

where we have defined Z_J to be the ratio of the bare source J_0 to the renormalized source $J: J_0 \equiv Z_J J$.

 \sim

$$(\mathbf{D}_6)^{AB}_{\mu\nu} = J^A_{\mu} \otimes \cdots \otimes J^B_{\nu} = J^A_{\mu} \otimes \cdots \otimes J^B_{\nu} + J^A_{\mu} \otimes \cdots \otimes J^B_{\nu}$$



FIG. 5. Breakdown of $(D_6)^{AB}_{\mu\nu}$ from Fig. 4; they are equivalent to the θ_a self-energy diagrams of Fig. 1.

The $Z_{J\theta}$ counterterm occurs in diagrams $D_{c.t.1}$ and $D_{c.t.2}$ of Fig. 4, which evaluate to

$$(\mathbf{D}_{c.t.1})^{AB}_{\mu\nu} = \sum_{a,b} (-i(Z_{J\theta} - 1)\tilde{k}^a_{\mu}) \frac{1}{i} \Delta^{AB}_{ab}(k)(i\tilde{k}^b_{\nu}) \quad (262)$$

$$= (Z_{J\theta} - 1) \frac{1}{i} \frac{\delta^{AB}}{k^2} \sum_{a} \frac{\tilde{k}^a_{\mu} \tilde{k}^a_{\nu}}{k^2_a}$$
(263)

$$= (Z_{J\theta} - 1) \left(-i \frac{\delta^{AB}}{k^2} g_{\mu\nu} \right), \qquad (264)$$

and

$$(\mathbf{D}_{c.t.2})^{AB}_{\mu\nu} = \sum_{a,b} (-i\tilde{k}^{a}_{\mu}) \frac{1}{i} \Delta^{AB}_{ab}(k) (i(Z_{J\theta} - 1)\tilde{k}^{b}_{\nu}) \quad (265)$$

$$= (Z_{J\theta} - 1) \left(-i \frac{\delta^{AB}}{k^2} g_{\mu\nu} \right).$$
(266)

Using the results of Sec. IVA, we find

$$(\mathbf{D}_{c.t.3})^{AB}_{\mu\nu} = \sum_{a,b,a',b'} -i\tilde{k}^{a}_{\mu}\frac{1}{i}\Delta^{AA'}_{aa'}(k)\frac{1}{i}\delta^{AB}\left((Z_{\theta^{2}}-1)k^{2}k^{2}_{a}\delta_{ab} + \left(Z_{\frac{1}{\xi}\theta^{2}}-Z_{\theta^{2}}\right)k^{2}_{a}k^{2}_{b}\right)$$
(267)

$$\times \frac{1}{i} \Delta_{b'b}^{B'B}(k) i \tilde{k}_{\nu}^{b}$$

$$= \sum_{a,b} \frac{\tilde{k}_{\mu}^{a} \tilde{k}_{\nu}^{b}}{k^{4} k_{a}^{2} k_{b}^{2}} i \delta^{AB} \left(4C(A) \frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2} \varepsilon} k^{2} k_{a}^{2} \delta_{ab} - \frac{5}{3} C(A) \frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2} \varepsilon} k_{a}^{2} k_{b}^{2} \right) + O(g^{4})$$

$$(268)$$

$$= C(A) \frac{g^2}{8\pi^2 \varepsilon} \frac{\delta^{AB}}{i} \left(-4 \frac{g_{\mu\nu}}{k^2} + \frac{5}{3} \frac{k_{\mu} k_{\nu}}{k^4} \right) + O(g^4).$$
(269)

The divergence of all these diagrams cancel to make the two-point A_{μ} correlator finite:

$$\operatorname{div}(G_{\mu\nu}^{AB}(k)) = \operatorname{div}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{6} (\mathbf{D}_{i})_{\mu\nu}^{AB} + (\mathbf{D}_{c.t.1})_{\mu\nu}^{AB} + (\mathbf{D}_{c.t.2})_{\mu\nu}^{AB} + (\mathbf{D}_{c.t.3})_{\mu\nu}^{AB}\right)$$
(270)

$$= \left(\frac{7}{3}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon} + 2\operatorname{div}(Z_{J\theta})\right) \left(-i\frac{\delta^{AB}}{k^2}g_{\mu\nu}\right)$$
(271)

$$=0.$$
 (272)

The renormalization constant $Z_{J\theta}$ is therefore

$$Z_{J\theta} = 1 + \frac{7}{6}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon} + O(g^4).$$
 (273)

Using this, Eq. (107), and Eq. (261), we see that

$$Z_J^{-1} = \frac{Z_{\theta^2}^{1/2}}{Z_{J\theta}} = 1 + \frac{5}{6}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon} + O(g^4) = Z_{A^2}^{1/2}.$$
 (274)

The self-consistency of the renormalization, $Z_{\theta^2}^{1/2}/Z_{J\theta}$ equals $Z_{A^2}^{1/2}$, is as expected from the external source coupling in the usual A_{μ}^A theory being of the form

$$\mathcal{L}_J \ni J^{\mu A} A^A_\mu \tag{275}$$

where A^A_{μ} are renormalized fields, while in the BTGT formulation the source coupling is defined with a composite operator renormalization constant $Z_{J\theta}$ as seen in Eq. (260).

VI. COUNTERTERM PREDICTIONS AND SLAVNOV-TAYLOR IDENTITIES

The Slavnov-Taylor identities have yet to be formally derived or shown to exist for the BTGT formalism. This is an interesting area for future study. The one-loop calculations done thus far show that g and ξ scale as expected, and A scales as expected when written as a composite operator of θ . Assuming that the symmetries in BTGT are preserved in a way similar to the explicitly computed processes in this paper, we state in this section a set of concrete generalizations for the one loop counterterm factors for the θ^n vertex. We expect the BTGT formulation of the Slavnov-Taylor identities to show that the following holds:

$$Z_{g^{n-2}\theta^n} = Z_g^{n-2} Z_{\theta^2}^{n/2} \qquad (n \ge 2),$$
(276)

$$Z_{\xi^{-1}g^{n-2}\theta^n} = Z_{\xi}^{-1} Z_g^{n-2} Z_{\theta^2}^{n/2} \qquad (n \ge 2), \qquad (277)$$

$$Z_{g^{n}\theta^{n}\bar{c}c} = Z_{\bar{c}c} Z_{g}^{n} Z_{\theta^{2}}^{n/2} \qquad (n \ge 0).$$
(278)

Based on calculated value in Eq. (174), the predictions are

$$Z_{g^{n-2}\theta^n} = 1 + \frac{22+n}{6}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon} + O(g^4) \qquad (n \ge 2),$$
(279)

$$Z_{\xi^{-1}g^{n-2}\theta^n} = 1 + \frac{12+n}{6}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon} + O(g^4) \qquad (n \ge 2),$$
(280)

$$Z_{g^{n}\theta^{n}\bar{c}c} = 1 + \frac{3+n}{6}C(A)\frac{g^{2}}{8\pi^{2}\varepsilon} + O(g^{4}) \qquad (n \ge 0).$$
(281)

We have explicitly computed the n = 2 case of Eqs. (279) and (280) and also the n = 0 and n = 1 cases of Eq. (281). An interesting and nontrivial check of BTGT in the future is the n = 3 case of Eqs. (279) and (280), which is given by the triple gauge θ^3 vertex diagrams. Also of interest is the n = 2 case of Eq. (281), which corresponds to the $\theta^2 \bar{c} c$ vertex.

The factors Z_g , Z_{ξ} and $Z_{\bar{c}c}$ are unchanged by the choice of using either the BTGT field θ_a or the vector potential A_{μ} to describe the gauge boson sector. We could have started by assuming that the following relations would hold:

$$Z_g^{(\theta)} = Z_g^{(A)} = 1 - \frac{11}{6}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon} + O(g^4), \qquad (282)$$

$$Z_{\xi}^{(\theta)} = Z_{\xi}^{(A)} = 1 + \frac{5}{3}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon} + O(g^4), \qquad (283)$$

$$Z_{\bar{c}c}^{(\theta)} = Z_{\bar{c}c}^{(A)} = 1 + \frac{1}{2}C(A)\frac{g^2}{8\pi^2\varepsilon} + O(g^4), \qquad (284)$$

where $Z^{(\theta)}$ is calculated in θ_a formalism and $Z^{(A)}$ in the A_{μ} formalism. Therefore, Z_{θ^2} is the only *a priori* undetermined parameter in Eqs. (276), (277), and (281). Since we have done four computations and there was only one *a priori* undetermined parameter, we have done three independent nontrivial checks of the gauge invariance of this theory at one-loop level. This result gives us confidence that gauge invariance in the BTGT formalism is preserved in perturbation theory.

VII. CONCLUSIONS

We have constructed a non-Abelian basis tensor gauge theory (BTGT) which gives an alternate formulation of usual non-Abelian gauge theory in terms of the vierbein analog for ordinary gauge bundles. For example, the basis tensor that couples to matter transforming as N of SU(N)has the representation \bar{N} and has the Lorentz transformation properties of a rank 2 projection tensor. To match the usual gauge theory formalism, the basis tensor must satisfy Eq. (17) and the couplings must be symmetric under a nongauge symmetry called BTGT symmetry that is identical to the BTGT transformation of the Abelian case. To have a simple match in the number of d.o.f. between the ordinary gauge theory formalism and the BTGT formalism, we have decided to choose the scalar fields θ_a^A that parametrize the basis tensor to be in the target space of the gauge manifold just as in Abelian BTGT. As in the Abelian BTGT case, the map between θ_c^F is a nonlocal functional of A^B_{μ} . More explicitly, θ_c is a type of pathordered line integral of A_{μ} , and hence is related to Wilson lines. However, unlike in the Abelian case, the map between A^B_{μ} and θ^F_c is nonlinear, where the nonlinearities form a power series of the structure constants. This means that any A_{μ}^{B} correlator computation is a composite operator correlator with respect to the θ_c^F elementary field theory requiring composite operator counterterms.

The Feynman rules for the one-loop order and $O(g^2)$ computations were explicitly presented. We have tested non-Abelian BTGT to one-loop and $O(g^2)$ (where g is the usual gauge coupling), using θ_c^F are the elementary field d.o.f., by computing the beta function of the gauge coupling and finding it to be identical to the usual formulation. We have also computed the gauge field 2-point function to the same one-loop accuracy and found identical results as in the usual gauge theory formulation. In particular, we found that the UV divergent part of the correlator is transverse just as in the usual gauge theory formulation. Furthermore, the composite operator counterterms are sufficient to make both the A_{μ}^{B} correlator and θ_c^{F} correlators finite.

Through these explicit computations, we have also given several nontrivial checks that the renormalization constants in the minimal subtraction scheme are identical to those of the usual gauge theory formalism. Although we defer a formal BRST construction for this theory to a future work, the nontrivial checks indicate that there will be no insurmountable obstacles to its formulation.

Although the nonlinearities in the map between A^B_{μ} and θ^C_a might make this choice of formalism seem unnecessarily complicated, it is a natural choice from several considerations. First, it leads to a natural match in the number of functional d.o.f. of a gauge theory. Second, it is a continuous deformation (as a function of group structure constants) of a simple linear map in the case of Abelian theories. Third, its semblance with nonlinear sigma-model

parametrizations may allow several extensions of this work using the techniques that have been developed for sigma models. Fourth, the BTGT symmetry which stabilizes the Hamiltonian and the gauge symmetry have elegant representations given by Eqs. (10) and (26). Note also that from the perspective of having a nontrivial transformation that may lead to new insights into the usual gauge theory formulations, such nonlinear maps are more promising. On the other hand, it is important to keep in mind, just as in the usual sigma model parametrizations, this choice of using θ_a^C is far from unique even though there is uniqueness of the map between the vierbein-like field $[G_{(f)}(x)]^{\gamma}_{\delta}$ (which θ_a^C parametrizes) and the gauge field A_{μ} if we stipulate that the gauged matter kinetic term be locally gauge equivalent to that without a gauge field.

Many extensions of this work on BTGT theory beyond explicit constructions of BRST formalism are self-evident. To complete the tests of this formalism's equivalence with the usual Standard Model formulation, BTGT should also be tested in the contexts of spontaneous symmetry breaking and curved spacetime. Since this is a formalism most naturally suited for exploring Wilson lines, it would be interesting to reformulate the Eikonal phase re-summing soft gluonic effects [45–49] in this formalism and investigate whether any new insights or simplifications can arise. The enhanced local nature of BTGT for dealing with nonlocal quantities such as Wilson lines also suggests exploring its applications in lattice gauge theory [50,51]. The gauge field representation $iU_a \partial^a_\mu U^{\dagger}_a$ also is reminiscent of the sigma model representation used in [52] to explore topological aspects of the theories with spontaneously broken global symmetries. This suggests there may be a way to more conveniently explore the topological aspects of gauge theories using the BTGT formalism. The precise connection between the generalized global symmetries of [53] and the symmetries of BTGT remains to be clarified. For physics beyond the standard model, it would be interesting to see if the gauge fields can be interpreted as Nambu-Goldstone bosons of a spontaneously broken theory since $A_{\mu} =$ $iU_a \tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu} U^{\dagger}_a$ are suggestive of a sigma model.

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APPENDIX A: RELEVANT NOTATION

This section lists the various notations and conventions used throughout this paper. The metric signature chosen was

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}(-, +, +, +).$$
 (A1)

If $\psi_{(a)}^{\mu}$ for $a \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ are 4 orthonormal Lorentz 4-vectors, we can write an explicit representation of the projection tensors $(H^a)^{\mu}{}_{\nu}$ as

$$(H^a)^{\mu}{}_{\nu} = \psi^{\mu}_{(a)}\psi_{(a)\nu}g^{aa}.$$
 (A2)

The H^a matrices are commutative.

Using these projection tensors $(H^a)^{\mu}{}_{\nu}$, we define the following notation related to them. We define the tilde notation as

$$\tilde{A}^{\mu}_{a} \equiv (H^{a})^{\mu}{}_{\nu}A^{\nu} \tag{A3}$$

to denote the contraction between H^a and any 4-vector A^{μ} . Note that $\tilde{A}^{a\mu} = \tilde{A}^{\mu}_a$ because there is no covariant/contravariant distinction for the BTGT index unlike a Lorentz index μ . Also, we define the star product as

$$A \star_a B \equiv (H^a)_{\mu\nu} A^{\mu} B^{\nu} \tag{A4}$$

for any two 4-vectors A^{μ} and B^{μ} . Using the tilde notation defined above, we have the following identities:

$$A \star_a B = \tilde{A}^{\mu}_a B_{\mu} = A_{\mu} \tilde{B}^{\mu}_a = g_{\mu\nu} \tilde{A}^{\mu}_a \tilde{B}^{\nu}_a. \tag{A5}$$

We define the product of two Kronecker deltas as

$$\delta_{abc} \equiv \delta_{ab} \delta_{bc} = \delta_{ac} \delta_{bc} = \delta_{ab} \delta_{ac} \quad \text{no sum over } a, b, c.$$
(A6)

moving to Euclideanized space via Wick rotation, we can unambiguously define for any 4-vector p^{μ}

$$p_a \equiv \psi^{\mu}_{(a)} p_{\mu} \tag{A7}$$

that satisfies

$$p \star_a p = p_a^2$$
 and $\sum_{a=0}^3 p_a^2 = p^2$. (A8)

The group structure constant f^{ABC} is defined by the Lie bracket

$$[T^A, T^B] = i f^{ABC} T^C \tag{A9}$$

where T^A are basis elements of the Lie algebra such that $e^{iT^A\Gamma^A}$ are group elements for some function $\Gamma^A(x)$. We take the basis of generators such that f^{ABC} is completely antisymmetric. Given this antisymmetry, we can define without ambiguity the following:

$$f_C^{AB} = f_{AB}^C = f^{ABC}.$$
 (A10)

Note that $f_C^{AB} = f_B^{CA} = f_A^{BC}$.

Note that Ref. [29] uses the notation of having the basis tensor index c of θ^c (with $c \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$) instead of θ^B_c (with $c \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$) as in Eq. (5). Also, the sign convention for θ has been flipped between Eq. (23) of Ref. [29] and Eq. (5).

In the Feynman diagrams, all momenta that flow into a vertex are assigned a positive value.

APPENDIX B: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NON-ABELIAN BASIS TENSOR AND ORDINARY GAUGE FIELDS A_{μ}

Here we follow the equivalence-principlelike procedure of [29] to construct the relationship of non-Abelian basis tensor and the ordinary non-Abelian gauge field $A_u(x)$.

Start with a gauge frame such that the Lagrangian at spacetime point x_1 looks like there is no gauge field (i.e., trivial Chern-Simons number vacuum):

$$\mathcal{L}_{\phi}(x_1) = \partial_{\mu} \tilde{\phi}^a \partial^{\mu} \tilde{\phi}^{*a}(x_1). \tag{B1}$$

We demand in this special gauge frame that the vierbeinlike tensor field has the following value at point x_1 :

$$\tilde{G}_{\alpha\beta}(x_1) = S_{\alpha\beta}(x_1). \tag{B2}$$

Upon making a gauge transformation to move to the general frame, we have

$$\phi(x) = e^{i\theta^{C}(x)T^{C}}\tilde{\phi}(x).$$
(B3)

The gauge field in the new frame is

$$\tilde{D}_{\mu}\tilde{\phi} = \tilde{g}^{-1}D_{\mu}\tilde{g}\tilde{g}^{-1}\phi \tag{B4}$$

where

$$\tilde{g} = e^{i\theta^C(x)T^C}.$$
 (B5)

Hence, we find

$$\partial_{\mu}\tilde{\phi} = \tilde{g}^{-1}(\partial_{\mu} - iA_{\mu})\phi \tag{B6}$$

where the right-hand side can be also be written in terms of $\tilde{\phi}$ as

$$\partial_{\mu}\tilde{\phi} = [\partial_{\mu} + \tilde{g}^{-1}\partial_{\mu}\tilde{g} - i\tilde{g}^{-1}A_{\mu}\tilde{g}]\tilde{\phi}.$$
 (B7)

This implies

$$0 = [\tilde{g}^{-1}\partial_{\mu}\tilde{g} - i\tilde{g}^{-1}A_{\mu}\tilde{g}]\tilde{\phi}$$
 (B8)

or equivalently

$$A_{\mu}(x_1) = -i[\partial_{\mu}\tilde{g}(x_1)]\tilde{g}^{-1}(x_1)$$
 (B9)

which is pure gauge only at a single point x_1 and not for all spacetime (just as in the Abelian construction).

We can use Eq. (B9) to find the map between $G_{\alpha\beta}$ and A_{μ} . Since $G_{\alpha\beta}$ is *defined* to obey the transformation rule of Eq. (3):

$$G^{\alpha}_{(f)\beta}(x_1)\phi(x_1) = \tilde{G}^{\alpha}_{(f)\beta}(x_1)\tilde{\phi}(x_1)$$
(B10)

where

$$\phi(x_1) = \tilde{g}(x_1)\tilde{\phi}(x_1). \tag{B11}$$

This means

$$G^{\alpha}_{(f)\beta}(x_1) = \tilde{G}^{\alpha}_{(f)\beta}(x_1)\tilde{g}^{-1}(x_1).$$
(B12)

Similarly as in [29], choose $\partial_{\alpha} \tilde{G}^{\alpha}_{(f)\beta}(x_1) = 0$. To solve for the right-hand side of Eq. (B9), we take the derivative

 $[G_{(f)\beta\mu}]^m [\partial_\alpha \tilde{g}]^{ml} + [\partial_\alpha G_{(f)\beta\mu}]^m [\tilde{g}]^{ml} = 0.$ (B13)

Let

$$S^{ks} = \sum_{f}^{\dim R} \xi^{k}_{(f)} \xi^{*s}_{(f)}$$
 (B14)

where the $\xi_{(f)}$ are constant vectors in the group representation space. This allows us to rewrite Eq. (B13) as

 $\xi^{*s}_{(f)}[G_{\beta\mu}]^{sm}[\partial_{\alpha}\tilde{g}]^{ml} + \xi^{*s}_{(f)}[\partial_{\alpha}G_{\beta\mu}]^{sm}[\tilde{g}]^{ml} = 0 \qquad (B15)$

where

$$\xi_{(f)}^{*s} [G_{\beta\mu}]^{sm} \equiv [G_{(f)\beta\mu}]^m.$$
 (B16)

Multiplying both sides by $\xi_{(f)}^q$ and summing, we find

$$\sum_{f} \xi_{(f)}^{q} \xi_{(f)}^{*s} [G_{\beta\mu}]^{sm} [\partial_{\alpha} \tilde{g}]^{ml} = -\sum_{f} \xi_{(f)}^{q} \xi_{(f)}^{*s} [\partial_{\alpha} G_{\beta\mu}]^{sm} [\tilde{g}]^{ml}$$
(B17)

to arrive at

$$[G_{\beta\mu}]^{qm} [\partial_{\alpha} \tilde{g}]^{ml} = -[\partial_{\alpha} G_{\beta\mu}]^{qm} [\tilde{g}]^{ml}.$$
(B18)

Require that the inverse of $[G_{\beta\mu}]^{qm}$ exists such that

$$[G^{-1\lambda\beta}]^{bq}[G_{\beta\mu}]^{qm} = \delta^{\lambda}_{\ \mu}\delta^{bm}.$$
 (B19)

Equation (B18) then becomes

$$\delta^{\lambda}{}_{\mu}[\partial_{\alpha}\tilde{g}]^{bl}[\tilde{g}^{-1}]^{ls} = -[G^{-1\lambda\beta}]^{bq}[\partial_{\alpha}G_{\beta\mu}]^{qs}.$$
 (B20)

After setting $\lambda = \alpha$, we sum over α to obtain

$$A_{\mu} = i[G^{-1\alpha\beta}][\partial_{\alpha}G_{\beta\mu}] \tag{B21}$$

where Eq. (B16) gives the explicit relationship to the basis tensor as

$$[G_{\beta\mu}]^{qm} = \sum_{f}^{\dim R} \xi^{q}_{(f)} [G_{(f)\beta\mu}]^{m}.$$
 (B22)

Equation (B21) can also be expressed in terms of derivative of the basis tensor $G_{(f)\beta\mu}$ as

$$A_{\mu} = i \sum_{f}^{\dim R} [G^{-1\alpha\beta}]^{bq} \xi^{q}_{(f)} [\partial_{\alpha} G_{(f)\beta\mu}]^{s}$$
(B23)

where one notes $[G^{-1\alpha\beta}]^{bq}\xi^{q}_{(f)}$ is an object that satisfies the identity

$$\sum_{f}^{\dim R} [G^{-1\alpha\beta}]^{bq} \xi^{q}_{(f)} [G_{(f)\beta\mu}]^{s} = \delta^{bs} \delta^{\alpha}{}_{\mu}.$$
(B24)

One can check that the non-Abelian basis tensor of Eq. (5) satisfies Eq. (B19). Using the identity

$$\frac{d}{dx}\exp\left[O(x)\right] = \int_0^1 dy \exp\left[(1-y)O(x)\right] \\ \times \frac{dO(x)}{dx}\exp\left[yO(x)\right]$$
(B25)

for a matrix O, we can evaluate Eq. (B21) as

$$A^{\mathcal{Q}}_{\mu}(x) = \sum_{c} (([\theta^{J}_{c}f^{J}]^{-1})^{\mathcal{Q}R}(e^{\theta^{K}_{c}f^{K}}-1)^{RB}\tilde{\partial}^{c}_{\mu}\theta^{B}_{c}) \quad (B26)$$

where f^{J} is a structure constant matrix having the components $(f^{J})^{AB} = f^{JAB}$.

APPENDIX C: GAUGE AND BTGT TRANSFORMS

In this Appendix, we derive an explicit expression for the finite and linearized gauge and BTGT transforms of the θ_a^A field. The key simplification occurs from the fact the θ_a^A parametrizes the group manifold. As a result $U_a \equiv e^{i\theta_a}$ has a relatively simple transformation law governed by a first order differential equation. The result is

$$U_a \to e^{i\Gamma} U_a e^{iZ_a}.$$
 (C1)

The BTGT symmetry can then be seen as a result of the constant of integration. The BTGT symmetry in Eq. (C1) can also be viewed as the symmetry inherent in the covariant derivative as defined by

$$D_{\mu}(\cdot) = \sum_{a} U_{a} \tilde{\partial}^{a}_{\mu} (U^{\dagger}_{a} \cdot).$$
 (C2)

Let us start with the vector potential given by

$$(A_{\mu})_{ij} = i \sum_{a} (e^{i\theta_a} \tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu} e^{-i\theta_a})_{ij} = i \sum_{a} (U_a \tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu} U^{\dagger}_a)_{ij} \quad (C3)$$

where $\theta_a \equiv \theta_a^A T^A$ and $U_a \equiv e^{i\theta_a}$. From now on the group indexes *i*, *j* will be dropped and implied by matrix multiplication. In this Appendix, repeated lower-case Latin indices will not be implicitly summed. Under an infinitesimal gauge transformation parametrized by Γ^A , we have

$$\delta \tilde{A}^a_{\mu} = (H^a)^{\nu}{}_{\mu} \delta A_{\nu} = [\tilde{D}^a_{\mu}, \Gamma] = \tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu} \Gamma - i[\tilde{A}^a_{\mu}, \Gamma] \qquad (C4)$$

where $\Gamma \equiv T^A \Gamma^A$ and $D_\mu = \partial_\mu - iA_\mu$. In terms of U_a this is

$$\delta(iU_a\tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu}U^{\dagger}_a) = \tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu}\Gamma + [U_a\tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu}U^{\dagger}_a,\Gamma]$$
 (C5)

$$= U_a \tilde{\partial}^a_\mu (U_a^{\dagger} \Gamma U_a) U_a^{\dagger}. \tag{C6}$$

To first order in variations, unitarity implies $\delta U_a^{\dagger} = -U_a^{\dagger} \delta U_a U_a^{\dagger}$ (which is equivalent to keeping all θ_a^A real). This can be used to reexpress the left-hand side of Eq. (C6) as

$$\delta(U_a \tilde{\partial}^a_\mu U^{\dagger}_a) = \delta U_a \tilde{\partial}^a_\mu U^{\dagger}_a + U_a \tilde{\partial}^a_\mu (\delta U^{\dagger}_a) \qquad (C7)$$

$$= -U_a \tilde{\partial}^a_\mu (U_a^{\dagger} \delta U_a) U_a^{\dagger}. \tag{C8}$$

Combining Eqs. (C6) and (C8), we arrive at the following first order differential equation:

$$\tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu}(-iU^{\dagger}_a\delta U_a) = \tilde{\partial}^a_{\mu}(U^{\dagger}_a\Gamma U_a). \tag{C9}$$

The general solution to Eq. (C9) is

$$-iU_a^{\dagger}\delta U_a = U_a^{\dagger}\Gamma U_a + Z_a$$
 (no sum over a), (C10)

where Z_a is an infinitesimal zero mode that satisfies

$$\tilde{\partial}^a_\mu Z_a = 0.$$
 (no sum over a). (C11)

Inhomogeneously transforming θ_a by this zero mode is the BTGT symmetry of Eq. (26).

Since $-iU_a^{\dagger}\delta U_a$ is an element of the Lie algebra spanned by T^A and U_a is unitary, we choose the boundary conditions of Eq. (C9) such that $Z_a \equiv Z_a^A T^A$ for some real components Z_a^A that each satisfy the zero mode equation. Thus we have the result

$$-i\delta U_a U_a^{\dagger} = \Gamma + U_a Z_a U_a^{\dagger}. \tag{C12}$$

To solve for the components $\delta \theta_a^A$

$$-i\delta U_a U_a^{\dagger} = -i\delta(e^{i\theta_a})e^{-i\theta_a} \tag{C13}$$

$$= \int_0^1 dt e^{it\theta_a} \delta\theta_a e^{i(1-t)\theta_a} e^{-i\theta_a}$$
(C14)

$$= \int_0^1 dt e^{it\theta_a} \delta\theta_a e^{-it\theta_a} \tag{C15}$$

$$= \int_0^1 dt \sum_{n=0}^\infty \frac{(-it)^n}{n!} [[\dots [[\delta\theta_a, \theta_a], \theta_a] \dots], \theta_a] \qquad (C16)$$

$$= \int_{0}^{1} dt \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-it)^{n}}{n!} [[...[[T^{B}, T^{C_{1}}], T^{C_{2}}]...], T^{C_{n}}]\theta_{a}^{C_{1}}$$
$$\cdots \theta_{a}^{C_{n}} \delta \theta_{a}^{B}$$
(C17)

where we made use of

$$e^{-C}Be^{C} = 1 + [B, C] + \frac{1}{2}[[B, C], C]$$

 $+ \frac{1}{6}[[[B, C], C], C] + \cdots$ (C18)

Note that

$$[T^B, T^{C_1}] = iT^D f^{DB}_{C_1} = iT^A (f^{C_1})^{AB}$$
(C19)

$$[[T^B, T^{C_1}], T^{C_2}] = i[T^D, T^{C_2}]f^{DBC_1} = i^2 T^A f^{ADC_2} f^{DBC_1}$$

= $i^2 T^A (f^{C_2} f^{C_1})^{AB}$. (C20)

Using iteration it is straightforward to show that

$$[[...[T^B, T^{C_1}]...], T^{C_n}] = i^n T^A (f^{C_n} \cdots f^{C_1})^{AB}$$
(C21)

such that Eq. (C17) becomes

$$-i\delta U_a U_a^{\dagger} = T^A \int_0^1 dt \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^n}{n!} (f^{C_n} \cdots f^{C_1})^{AB} \theta_a^{C_1} \cdots \theta_a^{C_n} \delta \theta_a^B$$

$$=T^{A}\left(\frac{e^{f\cdot v_{a}}-1}{f\cdot \theta_{a}}\right)^{AB}\delta\theta_{a}^{B}.$$
(C22)

Another useful identity in solving for $\delta \theta_a^A$ is

$$U_a Z_a U_a^{\dagger} = e^{i\theta_a} Z_a e^{-i\theta_a} \tag{C23}$$

$$=\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} [[\dots [[Z_a, \theta_a], \theta_a] \dots], \theta_a]$$
(C24)

$$=T^{A}\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\frac{1}{n!}(f^{C_{n}}\cdots f^{C_{1}})^{AB}\theta_{a}^{C_{1}}\cdots \theta_{a}^{C_{n}}Z_{a}^{B} \qquad (C25)$$

$$=T^A(e^{f\cdot\theta_a})^{AB}Z^B_a.$$
 (C26)

We can eliminate T^A from both Eqs. (C22) and (C26) to obtain

$$\left(\frac{e^{f\cdot\theta_a}-1}{f\cdot\theta_a}\right)^{AB}\delta\theta^B_a = \Gamma^A + (e^{f\cdot\theta_a})^{AB}Z^B_a.$$
 (C27)

From here, we can immediately solve for $\delta \theta_a^A$ as

$$\delta\theta_a^A = \left(\frac{f \cdot \theta_a}{e^{f \cdot \theta_a} - 1}\right)^{AB} \Gamma^B + \left(\frac{f \cdot \theta_a}{1 - e^{-f \cdot \theta_a}}\right)^{AB} Z_a^B. \quad (C28)$$

Again, both Γ^A and Z_a^A are infinitesimal parameters in Eq. (C28).

Next, we will express the finite gauge and BTGT transformations as a left and right multiplication of a group element representation. Start by writing the condition for δU_a as

$$\delta U_a = i(\varepsilon \Gamma U_a + U_a \varepsilon Z_a) = \varepsilon (i \Gamma U_a + i U_a Z_a) \quad (C29)$$

where we added ε to Γ and Z to emphasize that the transformation is infinitesimal. We can then rewrite the infinitesimal transformation using the exponential map as

$$U_a \to U'_a = U_a + i\varepsilon \Gamma U_a + i U_a \varepsilon Z_a \tag{C30}$$

$$= (1 + i\varepsilon\Gamma)U_a(1 + i\varepsilon Z_a) + O(\varepsilon^2)$$
(C31)

$$= e^{i\varepsilon\Gamma} U_a e^{i\varepsilon Z_a} + O(\varepsilon^2). \tag{C32}$$

Next, if we apply the infinitesimal transformation twice, we see

$$U_a'' = e^{ie\Gamma}U_a'e^{ieZ_a} = e^{ie\Gamma}e^{ie\Gamma}U_a e^{ieZ_a}e^{ieZ_a} = e^{2ie\Gamma}U_a e^{2ieZ_a}.$$
(C33)

Thus, we can then iterate this for $N = \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$ times to obtain the finite gauge transformation

$$U_a \to e^{i\Gamma} U_a e^{iZ_a}$$
 (C34)

which gives an elegant finite gauge and BTGT transformation expression. This can also be expressed as

$$e^{i\theta_a} \to e^{i\Gamma} e^{iU_a Z_a U_a^{\dagger}} e^{i\theta_a}.$$
 (C35)

APPENDIX D: FEYNMAN RULES

The Feynman rules for non-Abelian BTGT are given in the following figures. Figure 6 shows the propagators for the gauge field θ_a^A and ghost fields c^A and d_a^A . Figure 7 shows the first three θ^n vertices that exist for all integer $n \ge 3$. There are an infinite number of such vertices, but they are suppressed by higher powers of the gauge coupling g. The explicit form of the θ^5 vertex is not given in this paper because it was lengthy to show and was not necessary for the computations shown in this paper. It can be derived by expanding the Yang-Mills actions written in terms of $A[\theta]$ and keeping the θ^5 terms.

$$\theta_a^A \leftrightarrow \phi_b^A = \frac{1}{i} \Delta_{ab}^{AB}(k) = \frac{-i\delta^{AB}}{k^2 k_a k_b} \left(\delta_{ab} - (1-\xi) \frac{k_a k_b}{k^2} \right)$$

$$\bar{c}^A = \frac{p}{\bar{c}^A} c^B = \frac{1}{i} \Delta^{AB}(p) = -i\delta^{AB} \frac{1}{p^2}$$

$$\bar{d}_a^A = \frac{p}{\bar{d}_a^A} d_b^B = \frac{1}{i} \tilde{\Delta}_{ab}^{AB}(p) = -i\delta^{AB} \frac{1}{p_a^2} \delta_{ab}$$

FIG. 6. Propagators.

$$\theta_{a}^{A} \overset{k_{1}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{2}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{2}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{2}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{2}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{2}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{2}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{2}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{2}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{2}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{4}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{4}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{4}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{4}}{\underset{k_{4}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\atopk_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\atopk_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{k_{3}}{\atop{k_{3}}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\atopk_{3}}{\atop{k_{3}}}{\underset{$$

FIG. 7. Gauge interaction vertices up to quartic order in θ .







FIG. 8. Ghost gauge vertices up to third order in θ .



FIG. 9. Additional ghost gauge vertices up to second order in θ .

Figure 8 shows the first three ghost gauge interaction terms. Qualitatively, they are of the form $V_{\theta^n \bar{c}c} \sim g^n \theta^n \bar{c}c$ for all $n \ge 1$. Like in the case of V_{θ^n} , there are an infinite number of such vertices but are suppressed by higher power of g.

The composite operator $A^A_{\mu}[\theta]$ defined in Eq. (49) can be computed using the vertices of Fig. 10. Renormalization leads to the usual counter-term diagrams, given by Figs. 11 and 12.

1. Explicit vertex expressions

This section contains vertex expressions that were defined in the Feynman rules figures. The $\theta^3 \bar{c}c$ vertex $V_{abc}^{ABC,DE}(k_1, k_2, k_3; q)$ defined in Fig. 8 is

$$iV_{abc}^{ABC,DE} = \frac{i}{6} \delta_{abc} \tilde{q}_{\mu}^{a} f_{F}^{\text{DE}} (f_{G}^{FA} f_{G}^{BC} (k_{3}^{\mu} - k_{2}^{\mu}) + f_{G}^{FB} f_{G}^{CA} (k_{1}^{\mu} - k_{3}^{\mu}) + f_{G}^{FC} f_{G}^{AB} (k_{1}^{\mu} - k_{2}^{\mu})),$$
(D1)

$$J^A_\mu(k) \otimes \cdots \overset{k}{\checkmark} \theta^B_b = i \delta^{AB} \tilde{k}^b_\mu$$





FIG. 10. Composite operator vertices up to third order in θ .

$$\theta_a^A \sim \bigwedge^k \phi_b^B = -i\delta^{AB} \left((Z_{\theta^2} - 1) \left(k^2 k_a^2 \delta_{ab} - k_a^2 k_b^2 \right) + \frac{1}{\xi} \left(Z_{\frac{1}{\xi}\theta^2} - 1 \right) k_a^2 k_b^2 \right)$$

$$\bar{c}^A \sim \stackrel{p}{\longrightarrow} c^B = -i(Z_{\bar{c}c} - 1)\delta^{AB} p^2$$

$$\bar{d}_a^A \sim \stackrel{p}{\longrightarrow} d_b^B = -i(Z_{\bar{d}d} - 1)\delta^{AB} \delta_{ab} p_a^2$$

FIG. 11. Quadratic counterterms.

$$\begin{array}{c} \theta_{a}^{A} & \overset{k_{1}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{1}}{\overset{k_{2}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{2}}{\overset{k_{2}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{2}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{2}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{2}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{2}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\overset{k_{3}}{\underset{k_{3}}{\atop{1}}{\underset{k_{3}}{k_{1}}{\atopk_{1}{k_{1}}{k_{1}}{k_{1}}{k_{1}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \theta_{b}^{*} \\ \theta_{a}^{A} \sim & k_{1} \\ k_{4} \\ k_{4} \\ k_{3} \\ \theta_{d}^{D} \end{array} \\ \theta_{d}^{D} \end{array} = ig^{2} \left((Z_{g^{2}\theta^{4}} - 1) \sum_{i=1}^{8} V_{(i)abcd}^{ABCD} - \frac{1}{\xi} (Z_{\frac{1}{\xi}g^{2}\theta^{4}} - 1) \sum_{i=7}^{8} V_{(i)abcd}^{ABCD} \right)$$

$$e^{a}_{a}$$
 k
 e^{B}
 e^{B}
 e^{C}
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 e^{C}
 e^{C}

$$J^A_{\mu}(k) \bigotimes^k \theta^B_b = i(Z_{J\theta} - 1)\delta^{AB}\tilde{k}^b_{\mu}$$

FIG. 12. Interaction vertex counterterms.

where the momenta are constrained to satisfy $q = k_1 + k_2 + k_3 + p$. The $\theta^2 \bar{d}d$ vertex $V^{AB,CD}_{ab,cd}(k_1, k_2; q, p)$ defined in Fig. 9 with $q = k_1 + k_2 + p$ is

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$$iV_{ab,cd}^{AB,CD} = \frac{i}{6} \delta_{abcd} \tilde{q}_{\mu}^{a} (f_{E}^{AB} f_{E}^{CD} (k_{1}^{\mu} - k_{2}^{\mu}) + f_{E}^{AC} f_{E}^{BD} (p^{\mu} - k_{2}^{\mu}) + f_{E}^{AD} f_{E}^{BC} (p^{\mu} - k_{1}^{\mu})).$$
(D2)

The $J\theta^3$ vertex $V^{A,BCD}_{\mu,bcd}(k_2,k_3,k_4)$ defined in Fig. 10 is

$$iV_{\mu,bcd}^{A,BCD} = \frac{i}{6} \delta_{bcd} (f_E^{AB} f_E^{CD} (\tilde{k}_{4\mu}^b - \tilde{k}_{3\mu}^b) + f_E^{AC} f_E^{BD} (\tilde{k}_{4\mu}^b - \tilde{k}_{2\mu}^b) + f_E^{AD} f_E^{BC} (\tilde{k}_{3\mu}^b - \tilde{k}_{2\mu}^b)),$$
(D3)

where the composite operator momentum is $k = -k_2 - k_3 - k_4$.

2. Quartic vertex terms

Here, we are using the notation $\delta_{bcd} = \delta_{bc} \delta_{cd}$ such as to avoid confusion regarding summation. The quartic BTGT gauge vertex in Fig. 7 is given by

$$iV_{abcd}^{ABCD} = ig^2 \left(\sum_{i=1}^{6} V_{(i)abcd}^{ABCD}(k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4) + \left(1 - \frac{1}{\xi} \right) \sum_{i=7}^{8} V_{(i)abcd}^{ABCD}(k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4) \right)$$
(D4)

where the momenta k_i must sum to zero. In a diagonal basis for H^a , the eight terms are given by

$$V^{ABCD}_{(1)abcd} = -k_{1a}k_{2b}k_{3c}k_{4d}(f^{AB}_{E}f^{CD}_{E}(\delta_{ac}\delta_{bd} - \delta_{ad}\delta_{bc}) + f^{AC}_{E}f^{BD}_{E}(\delta_{ab}\delta_{cd} - \delta_{ad}\delta_{bc}) + f^{AD}_{E}f^{BC}_{E}(\delta_{ab}\delta_{cd} - \delta_{ac}\delta_{bd}))$$
(D5)

$$\begin{aligned} V^{ABCD}_{(2)abcd} &= -\frac{1}{2} \left\{ f^{AB}_{E} f^{CD}_{E} [\delta_{bcd} k_{1a} (k_{3a} + k_{4a}) k_{2b} (k_{3b} - k_{4b}) + \delta_{acd} k_{2b} (k_{3b} + k_{4b}) k_{1a} (k_{4a} - k_{3a}) \right. \\ &+ \delta_{abd} k_{3c} (k_{1c} + k_{2c}) k_{4a} (k_{1a} - k_{2a}) + \delta_{abc} k_{4d} (k_{1d} + k_{2d}) k_{3a} (k_{2a} - k_{1a})] \\ &+ f^{AC}_{E} f^{BD}_{E} [\delta_{bcd} k_{1a} (k_{2a} + k_{4a}) k_{3b} (k_{2b} - k_{4b}) + \delta_{abd} k_{3c} (k_{2c} + k_{4c}) k_{1a} (k_{4a} - k_{2a}) \\ &+ \delta_{acd} k_{2b} (k_{1b} + k_{3b}) k_{4d} (k_{1d} - k_{3d}) + \delta_{abc} k_{4\star d} (k_{1d} + k_{3d}) k_{2b} (k_{3b} - k_{1b})] \\ &+ f^{AD}_{E} f^{BC}_{E} [\delta_{bcd} k_{1a} (k_{2a} + k_{3a}) k_{4d} (k_{2d} - k_{3d}) + \delta_{abc} k_{4c} (k_{2c} + k_{3c}) k_{1a} (k_{3a} - k_{2a}) \\ &+ \delta_{acd} k_{2b} (k_{1b} + k_{4b}) k_{3c} (k_{1c} - k_{4c}) + \delta_{abd} k_{3c} (k_{1c} + k_{4c}) k_{2b} (k_{4b} - k_{1b})] \right\} \tag{D6}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V^{ABCD}_{(3)abcd} &= -\frac{1}{2} \{ f^{AB}_{E} f^{CD}_{E} [\delta_{acd} k_{1b} k_{2b} k_{1a} (k_{3a} - k_{4a}) + \delta_{bcd} k_{1a} k_{2a} k_{2b} (k_{4b} - k_{3b}) \\ &+ \delta_{abc} k_{3d} k_{4d} k_{3a} (k_{1a} - k_{2a}) + \delta_{abd} k_{3c} k_{4c} k_{4a} (k_{2a} - k_{1a})] \\ &+ f^{AC}_{E} f^{BD}_{E} [\delta_{abd} k_{1c} k_{3c} k_{1a} (k_{2a} - k_{4a}) + \delta_{bcd} k_{1a} k_{3a} k_{3b} (k_{4b} - k_{2b}) \\ &+ \delta_{abc} k_{2d} k_{4d} k_{2a} (k_{1a} - k_{3a}) + \delta_{acd} k_{2b} k_{4b} k_{4a} (k_{3a} - k_{1a})] \\ &+ f^{AD}_{E} f^{BC}_{E} [\delta_{abc} k_{1d} k_{4d} k_{1a} (k_{2a} - k_{3a}) + \delta_{bcd} k_{1a} k_{4a} k_{4b} (k_{3b} - k_{2b}) \\ &+ \delta_{abd} k_{2c} k_{3c} k_{2a} (k_{1a} - k_{4a}) + \delta_{acd} k_{2b} k_{3b} k_{3a} (k_{3a} - k_{1a})] \} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V^{ABCD}_{(4)abcd} &= \frac{1}{2} \{ f^{AB}_{E} f^{CD}_{E} \delta_{ab} \delta_{cd} [k_{1a} k_{2a} (k_{1c} - k_{2c}) (k_{3c} - k_{4c}) \\ &+ k_{3c} k_{4c} (k_{1a} - k_{2a}) (k_{3a} - k_{4a})] \\ &+ f^{AC}_{E} f^{BD}_{E} \delta_{ac} \delta_{bd} [k_{1a} k_{3a} (k_{1b} - k_{3b}) (k_{2b} - k_{4b}) \\ &+ k_{2b} k_{4b} (k_{1a} - k_{3a}) (k_{2a} - k_{4a})] \\ &+ f^{AD}_{E} f^{CD}_{E} \delta_{ad} \delta_{bc} [k_{1a} k_{4a} (k_{1b} - k_{4b}) (k_{2b} - k_{3b}) \\ &+ k_{2b} k_{3b} (k_{1a} - k_{4a}) (k_{2a} - k_{3a})] \} \end{aligned}$$
(D8)

$$V_{(5)abcd}^{ABCD} = \frac{1}{4} \delta_{abcd} \{ f_E^{AB} f_E^{CD} (k_1 + k_2)^2 (k_{1a} - k_{2a}) (k_{3a} - k_{4a}) + f_E^{AC} f_E^{BD} (k_1 + k_3)^2 (k_{1a} - k_{3a}) (k_{2a} - k_{4a}) + f_E^{AD} f_E^{BC} (k_1 + k_4)^2 (k_{1a} - k_{4a}) (k_{2a} - k_{3a}) \}$$
(D9)

$$V_{(6)abcd}^{ABCD} = \frac{1}{6} \delta_{abcd} \{ f_E^{AB} f_E^{CD} [(k_1^2 k_{1a} - k_2^2 k_{2a})(k_{4a} - k_{3a}) + (k_3^2 k_{3a} - k_4^2 k_{4a})(k_{2a} - k_{1a})] \\ + f_E^{AC} f_E^{BD} [(k_1^2 k_{1a} - k_3^2 k_{3a})(k_{4a} - k_{2a}) + (k_2^2 k_{2a} - k_4^2 k_{4a})(k_{3a} - k_{1a})] \\ + f_E^{AD} f_E^{BC} [(k_1^2 k_{1a} - k_4^2 k_{4a})(k_{3a} - k_{2a}) + (k_2^2 k_{2a} - k_3^2 k_{3a})(k_{4a} - k_{1a})] \}$$
(D10)

$$V_{(7)abcd}^{ABCD} = -\frac{1}{4} \{ f_E^{AB} f_E^{CD} \delta_{ab} \delta_{cd} (k_{1a} - k_{2a}) (k_{1a} + k_{2a}) (k_{3c} - k_{4c}) (k_{1c} + k_{2c}) + f_E^{AC} f_E^{BD} \delta_{ac} \delta_{bd} (k_{1a} - k_{3a}) (k_{1a} + k_{3a}) (k_{2b} - k_{4b}) (k_{1b} + k_{3b}) + f_E^{AD} f_E^{BC} \delta_{ad} \delta_{bc} (k_{1a} - k_{4a}) (k_{1a} + k_{4a}) (k_{2b} - k_{3b}) (k_{1b} + k_{4b}) \}$$
(D11)

$$\begin{aligned} V^{ABCD}_{(8)abcd} &= -\frac{1}{6} \{ f^{AB}_{E} f^{CD}_{E} [\delta_{bcd} k^{2}_{1a} k_{1b} (k_{4b} - k_{3b}) + \delta_{acd} k^{2}_{2b} k_{2a} (k_{3a} - k_{4a}) \\ &+ \delta_{abd} k^{2}_{3c} k_{3a} (k_{2a} - k_{1a}) + \delta_{abc} k^{2}_{4d} k_{4a} (k_{1a} - k_{2a})] \\ &+ f^{AC}_{E} f^{BD}_{E} [\delta_{bcd} k^{2}_{1a} k_{1b} (k_{4b} - k_{2b}) + \delta_{abd} k^{2}_{3c} k_{3a} (k_{2a} - k_{4a}) \\ &+ \delta_{acd} k^{2}_{2b} k_{2a} (k_{3a} - k_{1a}) + \delta_{abc} k^{2}_{4d} k_{4a} (k_{1a} - k_{3a})] \\ &+ f^{AD}_{E} f^{BC}_{E} [\delta_{bcd} k^{2}_{1a} k_{1b} (k_{3b} - k_{2b}) + \delta_{abc} k^{2}_{4d} k_{4a} (k_{2a} - k_{3a}) \\ &+ \delta_{acd} k^{2}_{2b} k_{2a} (k_{4a} - k_{1a}) + \delta_{abd} k^{2}_{3c} k_{3a} (k_{1a} - k_{4a})] \}. \end{aligned}$$

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