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## Selected topics of lattice gauge theory

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### 1. The Field strength tensor and the topological charge

a) Verify, for small lattice spacing  $a$ , that

$$Q = \frac{1}{2\pi} \text{Im} \left[ \sum_{\vec{n} \in \Lambda} \log P_{st}(\vec{n}) \right] \quad (1)$$

is, up to constant prefactor, the sum over the Field strength tensor  $F_{st}(\vec{n} + \frac{1}{2}(\hat{\mu} + \hat{\nu}))$  over all lattice sites.

- b) Simulate the  $U(1)$  gauge theory on a  $12 \times 12$  lattice with  $\beta = 1.8$ . Estimate the distributions of  $Q$  and  $S_E^{\text{gauge}}$  by creating two histograms. Do you notice a qualitative difference between the two histograms? Also, plot  $Q$  and  $S_E^{\text{gauge}}$  as a function of the Monte-Carlo update.
- c) Repeat b) on a finer  $32 \times 32$  lattice with  $\beta = 12.8$ . What is similar? What is different?
- d) Imagine you would reduce the lattice spacing even further. What would be the problem in determining the distribution of  $Q$ ? Does this difficulty also affect the histogram of  $S_E^{\text{gauge}}$ ?
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