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Dannie Heineman Prize Talk: The BRST Symmetry at the Simplest Quantum Mechanical Level

C.M. BECCHI, Università di Genova, Dipartimento di Fisica and I.N.F.N. Sezione di Genova.

We analyze, at the simplest quantum mechanical level, the compensation mechanism of degrees of freedom ensured by the BRST symmetry. This analysis puts into evidence the role of a quartet of Bose-Fermi oscillators.