Lorentz Group

Jaume Guasch

Departament de Física Quàntica i Astrofísica Universitat de Barcelona October 15, 2020

2020-2021

Lorentz Group

$$\mathbf{X}^{\mu} \to \mathbf{X}'^{\mu} = {\Lambda^{\mu}}_{\nu} \mathbf{X}^{\nu} \tag{1}$$

Leave invariant the 4-product: $x^{\mu}x_{\mu}=g_{\mu\nu}x^{\mu}x^{\nu}=t^2-x^2-y^2-z^2$

$$g_{\mu\nu} x'^{\mu} x'^{\nu} = g_{\mu\nu} \Lambda^{\mu}{}_{\rho} \Lambda^{\nu}{}_{\sigma} x^{\rho} x^{\sigma} = g_{\rho\sigma} x^{\rho} x^{\sigma} \quad \forall x$$

$$g_{\rho\sigma} = g_{\mu\nu} \Lambda^{\mu}{}_{\rho} \Lambda^{\nu}{}_{\sigma} \qquad (2)$$

$$q = \Lambda^{T} q \Lambda \qquad (3)$$

Determinant

$$(\det(\Lambda))^2 = 1 \Rightarrow \det(\Lambda) = \pm 1$$
 (4)

00 component

$$1 = (\Lambda^{0}_{0})^{2} - \sum_{i=1}^{3} (\Lambda^{i}_{0})^{2} \Rightarrow (\Lambda^{0}_{0})^{2} \ge 1 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \Lambda^{0}_{0} \ge 1 \\ \Lambda^{0}_{0} \le -1 \end{cases}$$
 (5)

		Orthochronus	non-Orthochronus
		$\Lambda^{0}_{0} \geq 1$	$\Lambda^{0}_{0} \leq -1$
Proper	$\det(\Lambda)=1$	$\mathcal{L}_{\uparrow}^{+}$	$\mathcal{L}_{\downarrow}^{+}$
Improper	$\det(\Lambda) = -1$	$\mathcal{L}_{\uparrow}^{-}$	$\mathcal{L}_{\downarrow}^{-}$

 L⁺_↑: Subgroup. Rotations & boosts. Lie group. The only one that forms a group.

$$\Lambda_P$$

This part is connected to the identity.

 • L⁺_↓: Change the sign of time, and an odd number of space coordinates. Includes total inversion:

$$\Lambda_{P} \times \{ \text{diag}(-, -, +, +); \text{diag}(-, +, -, +); \text{diag}(-, +, +, -); \text{diag}(-, -, -, -) \}$$

• \mathcal{L}_{\uparrow}^- : Change an odd number of space coordinates. Includes parity (all space inversions):

$$\Lambda_P \times \{ \text{diag}(+, -, +, +); \text{diag}(+, +, -, +); \text{diag}(+, +, +, -); \text{diag}(+, -, -, -) \}$$

• $\mathcal{L}_{\downarrow}^-$: Change the sign of time, and an even number of space coordinates. Includes time-inversion:

 $\Lambda_P \times \{ diag(-,+,+,+); diag(-,-,-,+); diag(-,-,+,-); diag(-,+,-,-) \}$

Proper orthochronus Lorentz Group: $\mathcal{L}_{\uparrow}^{+}$

Infinitesimal Lorentz transformation:

$$egin{align} {\Lambda^{\mu}}_{
u} &= \delta^{\mu}_{
u} + {\omega^{\mu}}_{
u} \ & \ g_{
ho\sigma} = g_{\mu
u} {\Lambda^{\mu}}_{
ho} {\Lambda^{
u}}_{\sigma} = g_{\mu
u} (\delta^{\mu}_{
ho} + {\omega^{\mu}}_{
ho}) (\delta^{
u}_{\sigma} + {\omega^{
u}}_{\sigma}) = g_{
ho\sigma} + \omega_{
ho\sigma} + \omega_{\sigma
ho} + \mathcal{O}(\omega)^2 \ & \ \ \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\omega_{\rho\sigma} = -\omega_{\sigma\rho}} \Rightarrow \text{6 parameters} \begin{cases} \text{3 rotations} & (R) \\ \text{3 boosts} & (L) \end{cases}$$

$$R_x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_{\theta} & -s_{\theta} \\ 0 & 0 & s_{\theta} & c_{\theta} \end{pmatrix} \; ; \; R_y = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{\theta} & 0 & s_{\theta} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -s_{\theta} & 0 & c_{\theta} \end{pmatrix} \; ; \; R_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{\theta} & -s_{\theta} & 0 \\ 0 & s_{\theta} & c_{\theta} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \; ;$$

$$L_x = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh \eta & \sinh \eta & 0 & 0 \\ \sinh \eta & \cosh \eta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \; ; \; L_y = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh \eta & 0 & \sinh \eta & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \sinh \eta & 0 & \cosh \eta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \; ; \; L_z = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh \eta & 0 & \sinh \eta & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \sinh \eta & 0 & \cosh \eta \end{pmatrix} \; ;$$

$$\eta = \text{rapidity:} \; \gamma = \cosh \eta, \; \gamma\beta = \sinh \eta, \; \beta = \tanh \eta, \; \eta = \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{1+\beta}{1-\beta}, \; \text{additive.}$$

Generators: $\delta\theta \ll 1$, $\delta\eta \ll 1$

Rotation generators

$$R_{y}(\delta\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \delta\theta \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -\delta\theta & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbb{1} - i\delta\theta J^{2} \; ; \; J^{2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -i & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$R_{z}(\delta\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -\delta\theta & 0 \\ 0 & \delta\theta & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbb{1} - i\delta\theta J^{3} \; ; \; J^{3} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -i & 0 \\ 0 & i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Boost generators

$$L_{y}(\delta\eta) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \delta\eta & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \delta\eta & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbb{1} - i\delta\eta K^{2} \; ; \; K^{2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & i & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$L_{z}(\delta\eta) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \delta\eta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ \delta\eta & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbb{1} - i\delta\eta K^{3} \; ; \; K^{3} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left(egin{array}{cccc} \delta \eta & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array}
ight)$$
 Not hermitian a :

$$^{\dagger}=-L$$

^abecause the the boosts are *non-compact*.

Lie algebra

$$[J^{k},J^{l}] = i\epsilon^{klm}J^{m} \; \; ; \; \; [K^{k},K^{l}] = -i\epsilon^{klm}J^{m} \; \; ; \; \; [J^{k},K^{l}] = i\epsilon^{klm}K^{m} \; \; ; \; \; (k,l,m\in\{1,2,3\})$$

- Rotations: closed algebra. Rotation group subgroup of L⁺
- Boosts do not close algebra. Not a subgroup.
- Define:

$$A^{m} = \frac{1}{2}(J^{m} + iK^{m}) \; ; \; B^{m} = \frac{1}{2}(J^{m} - iK^{m})$$
 (6)

 $[A^{k}, A^{l}] = i\epsilon^{klm}A^{m} : [B^{k}, B^{l}] = i\epsilon^{klm}B^{m} ; [A^{k}, B^{l}] = 0$

- A^m and B^m are hermitic
- verify the SU(2) Lie algebra:

⇒ Lorentz group is locally isomorph to $SU(2) \times SU(2)$:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\uparrow}^{+} \simeq SU(2) imes SU(2)$$
 locally

 $\bullet~SU(2)$ irreducible representations (irreps) are those of spin.

Irreducibe representations of $\mathcal{L}_{\uparrow_1}^+$

$$(j_1, j_2)$$
 of dimension $(2j_1 + 1)(2j_2 + 1)$.

• The representations are not unitary:

$$\Lambda = \exp \{-i(\theta^m J^m + \eta^m K^m)\} \equiv \exp \{-i(\theta \cdot J + \eta \cdot K)\}$$
$$\Lambda^{-1} = \exp \{i(\theta \cdot J + \eta \cdot K)\} \neq \exp \{i(\theta \cdot J - \eta \cdot K)\} = \Lambda^{\dagger}$$

• Under parity $(\in \mathcal{L}_{\uparrow}^{-})$

$$(t, \mathbf{x}) o (t, -\mathbf{x}) \Rightarrow eta o -eta \Rightarrow \mathbf{J} o \mathbf{J} \;\;,\;\; \mathbf{K} o -\mathbf{K} \Rightarrow \mathbf{A} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{B}$$

Representations:

$$(j_1,j_2) \leftrightarrow (j_2,j_1)$$

 \Rightarrow not invariant under parity ($\mathcal{L}_{\uparrow}^{-}$) unless $j_1 = j_2$ QED and QCD are theories with parity conservation.

Alternative representation

6 infinitesimal parameters $\omega_{\mu\nu}$:

$$\Lambda = \exp\left\{-rac{i}{2}\omega_{\mu
u}J^{\mu
u}
ight\}$$

$$J^{k} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{klm} J^{lm} ; \begin{cases} J^{1} = J^{23} = -J^{32} \\ J^{2} = J^{31} = -J^{13} \\ J^{3} = J^{12} = -J^{21} \end{cases}$$
$$K^{k} = J^{0k} = -J^{k0}$$

$$\begin{array}{lll} \theta^k & = & \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{klm} \omega^{lm} \ ; & \begin{cases} \theta^1 = \omega^{23} = -\omega^{32} = \omega_{23} = -\omega_{32} \\ \theta^2 = \omega^{31} = -\omega^{13} = \omega_{31} = -\omega_{13} \\ \theta^3 = \omega^{12} = -\omega^{21} = \omega_{12} = -\omega_{21} \end{cases} \\ \eta^k & = & \omega^{0k} = -\omega^{k0} = -\omega_{0k} = \omega_{k0} \end{array}$$

Generators:

$$(J^{\mu\nu})^{\rho}{}_{\sigma} = i(g^{\mu\rho}\delta^{\nu}_{\sigma} - g^{\nu\rho}\delta^{\mu}_{\sigma}) \tag{7}$$

Lie algebra:

$$[J^{\mu
u},J^{
ho\sigma}]=i(g^{
u
ho}J^{\mu\sigma}-g^{\mu
ho}J^{
u\sigma}-g^{
u\sigma}J^{\mu
ho}+g^{\mu\sigma}J^{
u
ho})$$

Vector & Tensor representations

Vector representation

Vector rep.: defining representation. Dim=4:

$$\mathbf{4}: \Lambda^{\mu}{}_{\nu} = \left[\exp\left\{-i(\boldsymbol{\theta}\cdot\boldsymbol{J} + \boldsymbol{\eta}\cdot\boldsymbol{K})\right\}\right]^{\mu}{}_{\nu} = \left[\exp\left\{-\frac{i}{2}\omega_{\rho\sigma}\boldsymbol{J}^{\rho\sigma}\right\}\right]^{\mu}{}_{\nu}$$

 $J^{\rho\sigma}$ defined in eq. (7).

Acts over a covariant vector V^{μ} .

$$V^{\mu}
ightarrow V^{\prime \mu} = \Lambda^{\mu}_{\
u} V^{
u}$$

A contra-variant vector V_{μ} equivalent rep.:

$$V_{\mu}
ightarrow V_{\mu}' = \Lambda_{\mu}{}^{
u} V_{
u} \; \; ; \; \; \Lambda_{\mu}{}^{
u} = g_{\mu
ho} \Lambda^{
ho}{}_{\sigma} g^{\sigma
u}$$

These representations are irreducible.

Tensor representations

We can build tensors:

$$\mathbf{4}\otimes\mathbf{4}:T^{\mu\nu}\to T^{\mu'\nu'}=\Lambda^{\mu'}{}_{\rho}\Lambda^{\nu'}{}_{\sigma}T^{\rho\sigma}$$

Dim=16. It is reducible.

Decompose each tensor as:

$$T^{\mu
u}=rac{1}{4}g^{\mu
u}T+A^{\mu
u}+S^{\mu
u}$$

- $T = T^{\mu\nu}g_{\mu\nu}$: Trace, it is invariant, Dim=1
- $A^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2}(T^{\mu\nu} T^{\nu\mu})$: Anti-symmetric, Dim=6
- $S^{\mu\nu}=\frac{1}{2}(T^{\mu\nu}+T^{\nu\mu})-\frac{1}{4}g^{\mu\nu}T$: Symmetric, Traceless, Dim=9

 $\mathbf{4}\otimes\mathbf{4}=\mathbf{1}\oplus\mathbf{6}\oplus\mathbf{9}$

Higher rank tensors will also be reducible representations.

Spinor representations

• Build the irreps of \mathcal{L}^+_{\uparrow} from the ones of SU(2).

Remember from QM rotation group

Start from spin 1/2:

$$J^k = rac{1}{2}\sigma^k$$
 ; $\sigma^1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$; $\sigma^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}$; $\sigma^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$;

A spinor field $\psi = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$ is transformed by: $\psi' = \exp\{-i\alpha \cdot \frac{\sigma}{2}\}\psi$ Higher dimension irreps:

spinor tensor product + Clebsch-Gordan reduction, e.g.:

$$\frac{1}{2}\otimes\frac{1}{2}=0\oplus 1$$

⇒ irreps of
$$\mathcal{L}_{\uparrow}^+$$
: (j_1, j_2) : Tensorial products of $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$ and $(0, \frac{1}{2})$, Dim= $(2j_1 + 1)(2j_2 + 1) = 2$ 2-component Weyl spinors

2-component Weyl spinors:
$$\begin{cases} \text{left-handed} & \psi_L \in (\frac{1}{2}, 0) \\ \text{right-handed} & \psi_B \in (0, \frac{1}{2}) \end{cases}$$

Transform under A and B as 2-component spinors, and singlets, and:

$$A = \frac{1}{2}(J + iK)$$
, $B = \frac{1}{2}(J - iK)$ $\Rightarrow J = A + B$, $K = -i(A - B)$

Transformations under rotations and boosts:

$$\psi_{L} : \mathbf{A} = \frac{\sigma}{2}, \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \mathbf{J} = \frac{\sigma}{2} ; \mathbf{K} = -i\frac{\sigma}{2}$$

$$\Lambda_{L} = \exp\left\{(-i\theta - \eta) \cdot \frac{\sigma}{2}\right\}$$

$$\psi_{R} : \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{B} = \frac{\sigma}{2} \Rightarrow \mathbf{J} = \frac{\sigma}{2} ; \mathbf{K} = i\frac{\sigma}{2}$$

$$\Lambda_{R} = \exp\left\{(-i\theta + \eta) \cdot \frac{\sigma}{2}\right\}$$

 $\sigma^2 \sigma^i \sigma^2 = -\sigma^{i*} \Rightarrow \sigma^2 \Lambda_I^* \sigma^2 = \Lambda_R, \Rightarrow$ define the conjugate spinors:

$$\psi_L^c \equiv i\sigma^2 \psi_L^* \in (0, \frac{1}{2}) \; ; \; \psi_R^c \equiv -i\sigma^2 \psi_R^* \in (\frac{1}{2}, 0)$$

Weyl spinors are complex: $\psi \in \mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{\text{boost}} \psi' \in \mathbb{C}$

Fields representation

The fields will be in irreducible representations of the Lorentz Group.

$$\phi'(x') = G(\phi(x)) \simeq \phi(x) + \frac{i}{2}\omega_{\mu\nu}S^{\mu\nu}\phi(x)$$

 $S^{\mu\nu}$: irrep of Lorentz group generators over ϕ .

Noether's theorem:

$$\delta\phi = \phi'(x) - \phi(x) = \frac{i}{2}\omega_{\mu\nu}\frac{S^{\mu\nu}}{\phi(x)} \phi(x) + \frac{i}{2}\omega_{\mu\nu}(J^{\mu\nu})^{\rho}{}_{\sigma}x^{\sigma}\partial_{\rho}\phi(x) \equiv -\frac{i}{2}\omega_{\mu\nu}\mathcal{J}^{\mu\nu}_{\phi}\phi(x)$$

 $(J^{\mu\nu})^{\rho}{}_{\sigma}$: coordinate transformations generators – eq. (7)

$$\delta \mathbf{x}^{\rho} = -\frac{i}{2}\omega_{\mu\nu}(\mathbf{J}^{\mu\nu})^{\rho}{}_{\sigma}\mathbf{x}^{\sigma}$$

Scalar fields

Seen before: $S^{\mu\nu}=0$.

$$\delta\phi(x) = \frac{i}{2}\omega_{\mu\nu}(J^{\mu\nu})^{\rho}{}_{\sigma}x^{\sigma}\partial_{\rho}\phi(x) \equiv -\frac{i}{2}\omega_{\mu\nu}L^{\mu\nu}\phi(x)$$

$$L^{\mu\nu} = -(J^{\mu\nu})^{\rho}{}_{\sigma}x^{\sigma}\partial_{\rho} = -i(x^{\nu}\partial^{\mu} - x^{\mu}\partial^{\nu}) = i(x^{\mu}\partial^{\nu} - x^{\nu}\partial^{\mu})$$
(8)

Orbital angular momentum

Spinors: Weyl, Dirac, Majorana

• Left handed fields: $\mathcal{J}_{L}^{\mu\nu} = S_{L}^{\mu\nu} + L^{\mu\nu}$ Orbital part defined in eq. (8), and:

$$-\frac{i}{2}\omega_{\mu\nu}S_L^{\mu\nu} = \Lambda_L - \mathbb{1} = -i(\boldsymbol{\theta}\cdot\boldsymbol{J} + \boldsymbol{\eta}\cdot\boldsymbol{K}) = \frac{-i}{2}(\boldsymbol{\theta} - i\boldsymbol{\eta})\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma}$$

Generators for ψ_L :

Rotations:
$$\mathcal{J}^i = L^i + S^i = L^i + \frac{\sigma^i}{2}$$
; boosts: $\mathcal{K}^k = K^k - \frac{i}{2}\sigma^k$

• Right-handed fields: $\mathcal{J}_{R}^{\mu\nu}=S_{R}^{\mu\nu}+L^{\mu\nu}$ Orbital part defined in eq. (8), and:

$$-\frac{i}{2}\omega_{\mu\nu}S_{R}^{\mu\nu}=\Lambda_{R}-\mathbb{1}=-i(\boldsymbol{\theta}\cdot\boldsymbol{J}+\boldsymbol{\eta}\cdot\boldsymbol{K})=\frac{-i}{2}(\boldsymbol{\theta}+i\boldsymbol{\eta})\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma}$$

Generators for ψ_R :

Rotations:
$$\mathcal{J}^i = L^i + S^i = L^i + \frac{\sigma^i}{2}$$
; boosts: $\mathcal{K}^k = K^k + \frac{i}{2}\sigma^k$

Under parity: $\psi_L \leftrightarrow \psi_R$ \Rightarrow Not convenient if the theory conserves parity (QED, QCD)

Definition: **Dirac** 4-component spinor

$$\psi_{D}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_{L}(\mathbf{x}) \\ \psi_{R}(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix}$$

 $\psi(\mathbf{x}) \to \psi'(\mathbf{x}') = \Lambda_D \psi(\mathbf{x}) \; \; ; \; \; \Lambda_D = \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_L & 0 \\ 0 & \Lambda_D \end{pmatrix}$

transforms as

under parity
$$\pmb{x}^{\mu}
ightarrow ilde{\pmb{x}}^{\mu} = (t, -\pmb{x})$$

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}) o \psi'(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_R(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) \\ \psi_L(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbb{1} \\ \mathbb{1} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \psi(\tilde{\mathbf{x}})$$

The charge conjugate:

$$\psi^c = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_R^c \\ \psi_I^c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -i\sigma^2\psi_R^* \\ i\sigma^2\psi_I^* \end{pmatrix} = -i\begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sigma^2 \\ -\sigma^2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\psi^*$$

Majorana spinor

self-conjugate 4-component spinor (up to a phase)

$$\psi_R = \xi i \sigma^2 \psi_L^* \Rightarrow \psi_M = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_L \\ \xi i \sigma^2 \psi_L^* \end{pmatrix} ; |\xi|^2 = 1$$

has two degrees of freedom and:

$$\psi_{M}^{c} = \begin{pmatrix} \xi^{*}\psi_{L} \\ i\sigma^{2}\psi_{I}^{*} \end{pmatrix} = \xi^{*}\psi_{M}$$

Vector Fields

Vectors transform as x^{μ} :

$$V^{\mu}
ightarrow V'^{\mu}(x') = \Lambda^{\mu}{}_{
u}V^{
u}(x)$$
 $\mathcal{J}^{\mu
u} = rac{S^{\mu
u}}{V} + L^{\mu
u}$

 $S_V^{\mu\nu}$: same form as the x^{μ} transformation $(J^{\mu\nu})^{\rho}{}_{\sigma}$ from eq. (7):

$$(S_V^{\mu\nu})^{
ho}_{\sigma} = (J^{\mu\nu})^{
ho}_{\sigma} = i(g^{\mu
ho}\delta^{
u}_{\sigma} - g^{
u
ho}\delta^{\mu}_{\sigma})$$

Poincaré Group

Lorentz + Translations:

$$\mathbf{X}^{\mu} \rightarrow \mathbf{X}^{\prime \mu} = \mathbf{X}^{\mu} + \mathbf{a}^{\mu}$$

Generators: components of 4-momenta, $a^{\mu} = \varepsilon^{\mu}$:

$$x'^{\mu} = (\mathbb{1} - i\varepsilon_{\rho}P^{\rho})x^{\mu} \Rightarrow \delta x^{\mu} = \varepsilon^{\mu} = -i\varepsilon_{\rho}P^{\rho}x^{\mu}$$

 $\Rightarrow P^{\rho} = i\partial^{\rho}$

Poincaré algebra:

$$\begin{array}{lcl} [P^{\mu},P^{\nu}] & = & 0 \\ [P^{\mu},J^{\rho\sigma}] & = & i(g^{\mu\rho}P^{\sigma}-g^{\mu\sigma}P^{\rho}) \\ [J^{\mu\nu},J^{\rho\sigma}] & = & i(g^{\nu\rho}J^{\mu\sigma}-g^{\mu\rho}J^{\nu\sigma}-g^{\nu\sigma}J^{\mu\rho}+g^{\mu\sigma}J^{\nu\rho}) \end{array}$$

Specifying for rotation/boosts:

$$[P^0, J^k] = 0$$
 ; $[P^0, K^k] = iP^k$
 $[P^k, J^l] = i\epsilon^{klm}P^m$; $[P^k, K^l] = iP^0\delta^{kl}$

Particle state representations

Casimir operators of the Poincaré group:

$$\emph{m}^2 = \emph{P}^{\mu}\emph{P}_{\mu}$$
 ; $\emph{W}_{\mu}\emph{W}^{\mu}$

Pauli-Lubanski operator: $W^{\mu}=-\frac{1}{2}\varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}J_{\nu\rho}P_{\sigma}$ Particle states: labeled by the irreps of these operators

$$\begin{split} [W^{\mu},P^{\alpha}] &= -\frac{1}{2}\varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}[J_{\nu\rho}P_{\sigma},P^{\alpha}] \\ &= -\frac{1}{2}\varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}(J_{\nu\rho}[P_{\sigma},P^{\alpha}] + [J_{\nu\rho},P^{\alpha}]P_{\sigma}) \\ &= \frac{i}{2}\varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}(g^{\alpha}_{\ \nu}P_{\rho} - g^{\alpha}_{\ \rho}P_{\nu})P_{\sigma} \\ &= \frac{i}{2}(\varepsilon^{\nu\alpha\rho\sigma}P_{\rho}P_{\sigma} + \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\sigma}P_{\nu}P_{\sigma}) = 0 \end{split}$$

• $m^2 > 0$: Go to the proper reference frame of the particle $p^{\mu} = (m, 0, 0, 0)$, then:

$$W^0 = 0$$

 $W^i = -\frac{m}{2} \varepsilon^{ijk0} J^{jk} = mJ^i$ $\} \Rightarrow W^\mu W_\mu = -m^2 j(j+1)$

- ⇒ Particle states are labeled by: mass, total spin.
- \Rightarrow Each particle has (2j + 1) states.
- $m^2 = 0$: $W^{\rho}W_{\rho} = 0$, and $P_{\rho}W^{\rho} = 0 \Rightarrow$

$$W^{\rho} = hP^{\rho}$$

h: helicity = $\pm s$ with $s = 0, \frac{1}{2}, 1, \frac{3}{2}, \dots$

- ⇒ Only two states for each particle
- Other representations: not realized in nature ($m^2 = 0$, continuous spin; ...)