

TDs - QFT

Marco Biroli

September 23, 2020

Chapter 1

TD1

1.1 Matrix Groups

1.2 The relationship between $SO(3)$ and $SU(2)$.

1.3 Representations of $SU(2)$.

1. An immediate computation yields the desired result
2. Let $|a\rangle$ an eigenvector of $\hat{\mathbf{J}}^2$ then:

$$\hat{\mathbf{J}}^2 |a\rangle = a |a\rangle \Rightarrow \langle a | \hat{\mathbf{J}}^2 |a\rangle = a \langle a | a \rangle \Rightarrow ||\hat{\mathbf{J}} |a\rangle||^2 = a || |a\rangle || \Rightarrow a > 0$$

We propose as a writing for them $j(j+1)$ notice that:

$$j(j+1) = x \Leftrightarrow j^2 + j - x = 0 \Rightarrow j = \frac{-j + \sqrt{j^2 + 4x}}{2}$$

Hence the writing as $j(j+1)$ is not restrictive and covers all of \mathbb{R}^+ .

3. Let $|v\rangle$ an eigenvector of $\hat{\mathbf{J}}^2$ and $\hat{\mathbf{J}}_3$ with eigenvalues $j(j+1)$ and m . Then:

$$\hat{\mathbf{J}}^2 \hat{\mathbf{J}}_+ |v\rangle = \hat{\mathbf{J}}_+ \hat{\mathbf{J}}^2 |v\rangle = j(j+1) \hat{\mathbf{J}}_+ |v\rangle$$

Since the operator $\hat{\mathbf{J}}^2$ commutes with the $\hat{\mathbf{J}}_i$. Then:

$$\hat{\mathbf{J}}_3 \hat{\mathbf{J}}_+ |v\rangle = (\hat{\mathbf{J}}_+ \hat{\mathbf{J}}_3 + [\hat{\mathbf{J}}_3, \hat{\mathbf{J}}_+]) |v\rangle = (m \hat{\mathbf{J}}_+ + i \hat{\mathbf{J}}_2 + 1 \hat{\mathbf{J}}_1) |v\rangle = (m+1) \hat{\mathbf{J}}_+ |v\rangle$$

Identically for $\hat{\mathbf{J}}_-$ we obtain the same thing but with $m-1$ as the eigenvalue for $\hat{\mathbf{J}}_3$.

4. Assume that there is no such vector than the ladder operator would span an infinite family of eigenvectors of $\hat{\mathbf{J}}_3$ and $\hat{\mathbf{J}}_+$ and hence V would be infinite dimensional.
5. We have that:

$$\hat{\mathbf{J}}_- \hat{\mathbf{J}}_+ = \hat{\mathbf{J}}_1^2 - i[\hat{\mathbf{J}}_1, \hat{\mathbf{J}}_2] + \hat{\mathbf{J}}_2^2 = \hat{\mathbf{J}}^2 - \hat{\mathbf{J}}_3^2 + \hat{\mathbf{J}}_3$$

Then applying this for $|v_0\rangle$ we get:

$$\hat{\mathbf{J}}_- \hat{\mathbf{J}}_+ |v_0\rangle = 0 = (j(j+1) - m_0^2 + m_0) |v_0\rangle \Rightarrow j(j+1) = m_0(m_0+1)$$

6. An identical argument tells us that successive application of the lowering ladder operator must lead to a vanishing state. Then from definition we have that:

$$|w_0\rangle = (\hat{\mathbf{J}}_-)^k |v_0\rangle \Rightarrow m'_0 = m_0 - k$$

7. Similarly as before we get the exact same result but with a minus sign.
8. We then have the system:

$$\begin{cases} j(j+1) = m_0(m_0+1) \\ j(j+1) = (m_0-k)(m_0-k-1) \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} j(j+1) = m_0(m_0+1) \\ k^2 + k = 2m_0(1+k) \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} j = \frac{k}{2} \\ \frac{k}{2} = m_0 \end{cases}$$

9. We have that $\hat{\mathbf{J}}_+$ sends $|j, m\rangle$ to $|j, m+1\rangle$ and similarly $\hat{\mathbf{J}}_-$ sends $|j, m\rangle$ to $|j, m-1\rangle$. Then we get that:

$$\hat{\mathbf{J}}_+ |j, m\rangle = x |j, m+1\rangle \Rightarrow \langle j, m | \hat{\mathbf{J}}_- \hat{\mathbf{J}}_+ |j, m\rangle = |x|^2 = j(j+1) - m(m+1)$$

Hence we obtain:

$$x = \sqrt{j(j+1) - m(m+1)}$$

Then we have that:

$$\hat{\mathbf{J}}_1 |j, m\rangle = \frac{\hat{\mathbf{J}}_+ + \hat{\mathbf{J}}_-}{2} |j, m\rangle = \frac{x}{2} (|j, m+1\rangle + |j, m-1\rangle)$$

Similarly:

$$\hat{\mathbf{J}}_2 |j, m\rangle = \frac{\hat{\mathbf{J}}_+ - \hat{\mathbf{J}}_-}{2i} |j, m\rangle = \frac{x}{2i} (|j, m+1\rangle - |j, m-1\rangle)$$

10. Since $\hat{\mathbf{J}}^2$ commutes with the $\hat{\mathbf{J}}_i$ we know that the eigenspaces of $\hat{\mathbf{J}}^2$ are sub-representations of $SU(2)$. We now restrict ourselves to one eigenspace, call it \tilde{V}_j corresponding to the eigenvalue $j(j+1)$. As said previously there must be at least one eigenvector of $\hat{\mathbf{J}}^2$ and $\hat{\mathbf{J}}_3$ which is killed by $\hat{\mathbf{J}}_+$ call it $|j, j, 1\rangle$. Then from this eigenvector we can build $|j, m, 1\rangle = \hat{\mathbf{J}}_-^{j-m} |j, j, 1\rangle$. Which is an irreducible subspace of \tilde{V}_j . Then we can write $\tilde{V}_j = V_j^1 \oplus \tilde{V}_j'$. We can then repeat the process on \tilde{V}_j' until we spanned the whole space. Then we have:

$$V = V_0^1 \oplus \cdots \oplus V_0^{n_0} \oplus V_{1/2}^1 \oplus \cdots \oplus V_{1/2}^{n_{1/2}} \oplus \cdots$$

11. We have that $\vec{L} = \vec{R} \wedge \vec{P}$ where \vec{R} and \vec{P} are operators on $L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)$ where $[R_j, P_k] = i\delta_{jk}$. Then we have that $[L_a, L_b] = i\varepsilon_{abc}L_c$. Then the space we describe is $V : \{\psi : S^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}\}$ and the spherical harmonic decomposition tells us that:

$$\psi(\theta, \varphi) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{+\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} a_{\ell, m} Y_{\ell}^m(\theta, \varphi)$$

Furthermore we have that:

$$\vec{L}^2 = Y_{\ell}^m = \ell(\ell+1)Y_{\ell}^m \quad \text{and} \quad L_3 Y_{\ell}^m = m Y_{\ell}^m$$

Hence the subspace $V_{\ell} = \text{Span}(Y_{\ell}^{-\ell}, \dots, Y_{\ell}^{\ell})$ is stable under rotation and $V = V_0 \oplus V_1 \oplus V_2 \oplus \cdots$

12. We have:

$$e^{2i\pi\hat{\mathbf{J}}_3} |j, m\rangle = e^{2i\pi m} |j, m\rangle$$

Now if j is an integer we have that $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ and hence $e^{2i\pi\hat{\mathbf{J}}_3} = \text{Id}$. However if j is a half integer then m is also a half integer and hence $e^{2i\pi\hat{\mathbf{J}}_3} = -\text{Id}$.

13. In QM for example we usually consider the wavefunctions of one particle with no spin we will use the space $L^2(\mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{C})$ however now if we introduce spin we will consider $L^2(\mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{C}) \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$ or similarly if we consider two particles we need to consider $L^2(\mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{C}) \otimes L^2(\mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{C})$. Then we know also that:

$$V_{j_1} \otimes V_{j_2} = V_{|j_1-j_2|} \oplus V_{|j_1-j_2|+1} \oplus \cdots \oplus V_{j_1+j_2}$$

Chapter 2

TD2

2.1 Properties of time-like vectors.

1. Let \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} in \mathcal{C}_+ . Then $a^0 > \|\vec{a}\|$ and similarly for \mathbf{B} . Hence $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \leq \|\vec{a}\| \cdot \|\vec{b}\| \leq a^0 b^0$. Then $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} < 0$.
2. Let $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{C}_+$ and $\mu, \nu \in \mathbb{R}^+$ then $(\mu\mathbf{A} + \nu\mathbf{B})^2 = \mu^2\mathbf{A}^2 + 2\mu\nu\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} + \nu^2\mathbf{B}^2 < 0$. Hence $(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}) \in \mathcal{C}_+$.
3. A special Lorentz transformation is an isometry of the Minkowski space hence \mathcal{C}_+ is stable under it.
4. We have that:

$$a^i - \beta^i a^0 = 0 \Rightarrow \beta^i = \frac{a^i}{a^0}$$

5. Suppose by induction that this is true for n the base cases being trivial. Then for $n + 1$ note that \mathcal{C}_+ is stable under addition so any case can be reduced to the base case $n = 2$. We prove this case here:

$$\sqrt{-(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B})^2} = \sqrt{-(\mathbf{A}' + \mathbf{B}')^2} = \sqrt{d'^2} = d^0$$

Then $\mathbf{A}_i^2 = \vec{a}_i^2 - (a_i^0)^2$ and hence $a_i^0 = \sqrt{-\mathbf{A}_i^2 + \vec{a}_i^2} \geq \sqrt{-\mathbf{A}_i^2}$ hence:

$$\sqrt{-(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B})^2} \geq \sqrt{-\mathbf{A}^2} + \sqrt{-\mathbf{B}^2}$$

2.2 Applications to 4-momenta

1. $\mathbf{P} = m \frac{d\mathbf{X}}{d\tau} = (E, m\vec{U})$ and:

$$\mathbf{P}^2 = -E^2 + m^2\vec{U}^2 = -m^2$$
2. We directly have that $P^0 = E > 0$ and $\mathbf{P}^2 = -m^2 < 0$. Hence $\mathbf{P} \in \mathcal{C}_+$.
3. From question 2 of Exercise 1 we know that since \mathbf{P}_i are in \mathcal{C}_+ then so is \mathbf{P} . Then from question 4 of Exercise 1 we know that there exists a boost transformation such that $\mathbf{P} = (E^*, \vec{0})$. Then using question 5 of Exercise 1 we also know that:

$$E^* \geq \sum_{i=1}^n m_i$$

2.3 Decays of particles

1. We must have that $M \geq \sum_{i=1}^n m_i$.
2. (a) The number of unknowns are 8 since they are all the components of the two momenta \mathbf{P}_1 and \mathbf{P}_2 . We also have the four equations given by: $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{P}_1 + \mathbf{P}_2$. Finally we have two more equations $\mathbf{P}_1^2 = -m_1^2$ and $\mathbf{P}_2^2 = -m_2^2$.
 (b) We have that:

$$\mathbf{P}_1^2 = \mathbf{P}^2 + \mathbf{P}_2^2 - 2\mathbf{P} \cdot \mathbf{P}_2 \Leftrightarrow -m_1^2 = -M^2 - m_2^2 - 2(-ME_2) \Leftrightarrow 2ME_2 = M^2 + m_2^2 - m_1^2$$

Then symmetry gives the desired opposite result.

(c) We have:

$$E_{kin,1} = E_1 - m_1$$

Which immediately gives the desired result after factorization and identically for $E_{kin,2}$. Then:

$$E_{kin,1} + E_{kin,2} = \Delta M$$

In other words all excess mass is converted to kinetic energy.

3. For each new particle we get 4 more unknowns and one more equation so 3 more indeterminates. Now following the hint we write:

$$\mathbf{P} = \sum_j \mathbf{P}_j = \mathbf{P}_i + \mathbf{Q}$$

Then:

$$\mathbf{P}_i^2 = \mathbf{P}^2 + \mathbf{Q}^2 - 2\mathbf{P} \cdot \mathbf{Q} \Leftrightarrow -m_i^2 = -M^2 - 2ME' + \mathbf{Q}^2$$

Then we have:

$$E_i = \frac{M^2 + m_i^2 + \mathbf{Q}^2}{2m} \quad \text{and} \quad E_{kin,i} = \frac{M^2 + m_i^2 - 2Mm_i + \mathbf{Q}^2}{2m}$$

Now using question 5 of Exercise 1 we can bound \mathbf{Q}^2 as follows:

$$\sqrt{-\mathbf{Q}^2} \geq \sum_{j \neq i} m_j \Rightarrow \mathbf{Q}^2 \leq -(M - \Delta M - m_i)^2$$

Then re-injecting this above we get the desired inequalities.

2.4 Creations of particles

- 1.

Chapter 3

TD3

3.1 The Laplace Equation

1. The solution is given by $\frac{q\mathbf{r}}{4\pi}$.
2. Rotationally invariant harmonic functions are given by:

$$\nabla^2 u = 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{d}{dr} (r^{n-1} u'(r)) = 0 \Leftrightarrow r^{n-1} u'(r) = c \Leftrightarrow u'(r) = c r^{1-n} \Leftrightarrow u(r) = \frac{c}{r^{n-2}(n-2)} + c'$$

When $n \neq 2$ in the case where $n = 2$ then we get:

$$u(r) = c \ln r + c'$$

3. We have that:

$$\int_{\Omega} d\mathbf{x} [u \nabla^2 v - v \nabla^2 u] = \int_{\Omega} d\mathbf{x} \nabla \cdot [u \nabla v - v \nabla u] = \int_{\partial\Omega} d\mathbf{x} \mathbf{n} \cdot [u \nabla v - v \nabla u] = \int_{\partial\Omega} d\mathbf{x} \left[u \frac{\partial v}{\partial n} - v \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} \right]$$

4. We have that:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\overline{B_\varepsilon}} d\mathbf{x} G(\mathbf{x}) \nabla^2 \varphi(\mathbf{x}) &= \int_{\overline{B_\varepsilon}} d\mathbf{x} [G(\mathbf{x}) \nabla^2 \varphi(\mathbf{x}) - \varphi(\mathbf{x}) \nabla^2 G(\mathbf{x})] \\ &= \int_{\mathcal{C}_\varepsilon} d\mathbf{x} (G(\mathbf{x})(-\mathbf{r}) \cdot \nabla \varphi(\mathbf{x}) - \varphi(\mathbf{x})(-\mathbf{r}) \nabla G(\mathbf{x})) \\ &= \int_{\partial\Omega} d\mathbf{x} - \varphi(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial G}{\partial r} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varphi(\mathbf{0}) \omega_n \varepsilon^{n-1} \frac{\partial G}{\partial r} \Big|_{r=\varepsilon} = \varphi(\mathbf{0}) \end{aligned}$$

5. We have:

$$\langle G | \nabla^2 \varphi \rangle = \langle \delta | \varphi \rangle = (-1)^2 \langle \nabla^2 G | \varphi \rangle = \langle \delta | \varphi \rangle$$