

In \mathcal{L} there are 4 discrete symmetries/transformations:

- Trivial: $\mathbb{1}$
- Space inversion I_S such as: $I_S x^\mu = g_{\mu\nu} x^\mu = x_\mu = (x_0, -\vec{x})$
- Time inversion I_t : $I_t x^\mu = -g_{\mu\nu} x^\nu = (-x_0, \vec{x})$
- Space-time inversion I_{st} : $I_{st} = I_S I_t = I_t I_S$ $I_{st} x^\mu = -x^\mu$

We can define $\mathcal{J} = \{\mathbb{1}, I_S, I_t, I_{st}\}$, which is a non-invariant subgroup. It's abelian though, and not connected. So, the \mathcal{L} components can be summarized in a table such as:

\mathcal{L} components	$\det(\Lambda)$	Λ^0_0	Discrete transformation
\mathcal{L}^\uparrow_+	1	≥ 1	$\mathbb{1}$
\mathcal{L}^\uparrow_-	-1	≥ 1	$I_S = g$
\mathcal{L}^\downarrow_+	1	≤ -1	$I_t = -g$
\mathcal{L}^\downarrow_-	-1	≤ -1	$I_{st} = -\mathbb{1}$

Table 1: Components of \mathcal{L}

\mathcal{L}^\uparrow_+ group contains two types of continuous transformations:

- **Space rotations**, which depend on 3 d.o.f., so on the three angles of rotation:

$$R = \left(\begin{array}{c|ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & & & \\ 0 & & & \\ 0 & & & \end{array} \right) \quad R_{ij}$$

- **Pure Lorentz transformations (boosts)**. For example:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} t' = \gamma \left(t - \frac{v}{c^2} x \right) \\ x' = \gamma (x - vt) \\ y' = y \\ z' = z \end{array} \right\} \iff x'^\mu \equiv L_1^\mu{}_\nu x^\nu \quad L_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & -\beta\gamma & 0 & 0 \\ -\beta\gamma & \gamma & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

where $\beta = \frac{v}{c}$ and $\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}}$. We can also consider $\gamma = \cosh \psi$ in order to have a rotation of a complex angle $\theta = i\psi$.

- **Generic boost**:

$$L^\mu{}_\nu = \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \gamma & \beta_j \gamma \\ \hline -\beta_i \gamma & \delta^i_j - \frac{\beta^i \beta_j}{\beta^2} (\gamma - 1) \end{array} \right)$$

So \mathcal{L}^\uparrow_+ depends on 6 d.o.f.. Moreover, $\mathcal{L}^\uparrow_+ \ni \Lambda$, we have: $\Lambda = LR$.

We are going to enstablish a connection between $SO(1, 3)$ and $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$. So we want to find a homomorphism $SO(1, 3) \longrightarrow SL(2, \mathbb{C})$:

$$x^\mu = (x^0, x^1, x^2, x^3) \longrightarrow X = \sigma_\mu x^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} x^0 + x^3 & x^1 - ix^2 \\ x^1 + ix^2 & x^0 - x^3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \sigma_\mu \equiv (\mathbb{1}, \vec{\sigma}) \\ \sigma^\mu \equiv (\mathbb{1}, -\vec{\sigma}) \end{array}$$

We get the following results from trace computing:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr}(\sigma^\mu \sigma_\nu) &= 2g_{\mu\nu} \\ \text{tr}(\sigma_i \sigma_j) &= 2\delta_{ij} \end{aligned}$$

Take now $A \in SL(2, \mathbb{C})$:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \quad \alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \in \mathbb{C} \quad \det(A) = 1 \implies \alpha\delta - \beta\gamma = 1$$

If we transform the matrix X through the matrix A , we get:

$$X' = AXA^\dagger \implies \Lambda^\mu{}_\nu = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\sigma^\mu A \sigma_\nu A^\dagger) \quad (1)$$

What we have found is that through the homomorphism we have a 2-to-1 correspondence between $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ and \mathcal{L}_+^\uparrow , in fact A and $-A$ are associated to Λ .

Concerning the Lie algebra of the group, there are 6 generators:

- **Rotations:**

$$J_k \equiv i \left. \frac{\partial R_k}{\partial \varphi} \right|_{\varphi=0} \quad R = \overbrace{\mathbb{1} - i\delta\varphi \vec{\mathbf{J}} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{n}}}^{\text{Infinitesimal rotation}} = \overbrace{e^{-i\varphi \vec{\mathbf{J}} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{n}}}}^{\text{Finite rotation}} \quad (2)$$

- **Boosts:**

$$K_l \equiv i \left. \frac{\partial L_l}{\partial \psi} \right|_{\psi=0} \quad L = \overbrace{\mathbb{1} - i\delta\psi \vec{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{v}}}^{\text{Infinitesimal boost}} = \overbrace{e^{-i\varphi \vec{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{v}}}}^{\text{Finite boost}} \quad (3)$$

The commutators are:

$$[J_i, J_j] = i\varepsilon_{ijk} J_k \quad (4a)$$

$$[K_i, K_j] = (-1)\varepsilon_{ijk} J_k \quad (4b)$$

$$[J_i, K_j] = i\varepsilon_{ijk} K_k \quad (4c)$$

We can construct the antisymmetric tensor $M_{\mu\nu}$ with the previous generators:

$$M_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & K_1 & K_2 & K_3 \\ -K_1 & 0 & J_3 & -J_2 \\ -K_2 & -J_3 & 0 & J_1 \\ -K_3 & J_2 & -J_1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

where $J_i = \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_{ijk} M_{jk}$ and $K_i = M_{0i}$. Concerning the Lie algebra of the group:

$$[M_{\mu\nu}, M_{\lambda\rho}] = i(g_{\lambda\mu} M_{\rho\nu} + g_{\rho\nu} M_{\lambda\mu} - g_{\lambda\nu} M_{\rho\mu} - g_{\rho\mu} M_{\lambda\nu}) \quad (6)$$

We can write in general Λ through the antisymmetric tensor (whose elements are real) $\omega_{\mu\nu}$:

$$\Lambda = e^{-\frac{i}{2}\omega_{\mu\nu} M^{\mu\nu}}$$

An infinitesimal transformation can be written as:

$$\Lambda^\mu{}_\nu = \delta^\mu{}_\nu + \omega^\mu{}_\nu$$

$$\Lambda^T g \Lambda = g : \quad (\delta^\mu{}_\rho + \omega^\mu{}_\rho) g_{\mu\nu} (\delta^\nu{}_\sigma + \omega^\nu{}_\sigma) = g_{\rho\sigma} \implies g_{\mu\sigma} + \omega_{\rho\sigma} + \omega_{\sigma\rho} = g_{\rho\sigma}$$

Considering that the tensor $\omega_{\mu\nu}$ is antisymmetric, it holds:

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_{\mu\nu} &= \frac{1}{2}(\omega_{\mu\nu} - \omega_{\nu\mu}) = \frac{1}{2}\omega_{\alpha\beta}(g^\alpha{}_\mu g^\beta{}_\nu - g^\alpha{}_\nu g^\beta{}_\mu) \equiv -\frac{1}{2}i\omega_{\alpha\beta}(M^{\alpha\beta})_{\mu\nu} \\ (M^{\alpha\beta})_{\mu\nu} &= i(g^\alpha{}_\mu g^\beta{}_\nu - g^\alpha{}_\nu g^\beta{}_\mu) \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

So we can write again the tensor Λ :

$$\Lambda^\mu{}_\nu = \delta^\mu{}_\nu - \frac{i}{2} \omega_{\alpha\beta} (M^{\alpha\beta})_{\mu\nu} \implies \Lambda = \mathbb{1} - \frac{i}{2} \omega_{\alpha\beta} M^{\alpha\beta} \longrightarrow e^{-\frac{i}{2} \omega_{\alpha\beta} M^{\alpha\beta}}$$

Now we focus our attention on irreducible representations, in particular, we consider Casimir operators:

$$C_1 = \frac{1}{2} M^{\mu\nu} M_{\mu\nu} = \vec{\mathbf{J}}^2 - \vec{\mathbf{K}}^2 \quad (8a)$$

$$C_2 = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} M_{\mu\nu} M_{\rho\sigma} = -\vec{\mathbf{J}} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{K}} \quad (8b)$$

Alternatively:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} M_i &\equiv \frac{1}{2}(J_i + iK_i) \equiv J^+ \\ N_i &\equiv \frac{1}{2}(J_i - iK_i) \equiv J^- \end{aligned} \right\} \implies \begin{aligned} [M_i, N_j] &= 0 \\ [M_i, M_j] &= i\varepsilon_{ijk} M_k \\ [N_i, N_j] &= i\varepsilon_{ijk} N_k \\ [M^2, M_i] &= 0 \\ [N^2, N_i] &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Concerning the algebra:

$$\begin{aligned} so(1, 3) &\simeq su(2) \oplus su(2) \\ SO(1, 3) &\simeq SU(2) \otimes SU(2) \end{aligned}$$

In terms of representations and noticing that $SO(3) \sim SU(2) \longrightarrow D^{(j)}$:

$$D^{(M, N)} \equiv D^{(M, 0)} \oplus D^{(0, N)}$$

So, starting from $D^{(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})} \equiv D^{(\frac{1}{2}, 0)} \oplus D^{(0, \frac{1}{2})}$:

$$D^{(j_1, j_2)} \otimes D^{(j'_1, j'_2)} = D^{(j_1+j'_1, j_2+j'_2)} \oplus D^{(j_1+j'_1, j_2+j'_2-1)} \oplus \dots \oplus D^{(|j_1-j'_1|, |j_2-j'_2|)}$$

Let's consider $D^{(M, N)}$:

(M, N)	dim	Field (particle)
$(0, 0)$	1	Scalar
$(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$	2	Left handed spinor
$(0, \frac{1}{2})$	2	Right handed spinor
$(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$	4	Vector
$(1, 0)$	3	Self dual (2-form) field
$(0, 1)$	3	Anti-self dual (2-form) field
$(1, 1)$	9	Traceless symmetric tensor field

Table 2: Examples

0.1 Poincaré transformations $\mathcal{P} \ni (a, \Lambda)$

The inhomogeneous Lorentz transformations, or Poincaré transformations, connect the space-time coordinates of any two frames of reference whose relative velocity is constant. In general, a Poincaré transformation can be written as a generalization of a Lorentz transformation in the form:

$$x'^\mu = \Lambda^\mu{}_\nu x^\nu + a^\mu \quad (9)$$

where a^μ stand for the components of a vector in \mathbb{R}^4 . We will denote this kind of transformation by (a, Λ) . They form a group.

In general, an infinitesimal translation is given by:

$$(\delta a, \mathbb{1}) = \mathbb{1} - i\delta a_\mu P^\mu \quad (10)$$

with the four operators P^μ the infinitesimal generators of the translations. A finite translation instead is given by the exponentiation:

$$(a, \mathbb{1}) = e^{-ia_\mu P^\mu} \quad (11)$$

In order to get the commutation relations of the infinitesimal generators, it is convenient to use a 5×5 formalism. So we write (a, Λ) as a 5×5 matrix:

$$(a, \Lambda) = \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \Lambda & a \\ \hline 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) \quad y^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} x^\mu \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Therefore, we can rewrite the transformation:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda & a \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda x + a \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (12)$$

Expressing in a similar way the infinitesimal transformation in eq. 10, one can obtain explicitly the four generators:

$$\begin{aligned} P_0 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & P_1 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ P_2 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & P_3 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

In the same representation, the generators J_i and K_i are replaced by 5×5 matrices, that can be obtained by the combination of two block: the first one is $(J_i)_{4 \times 4}$ or $(K_i)_{4 \times 4}$, the second one is 1. Concerning the Lie algebra, the following commutation relations hold:

$$\begin{aligned} [P_\mu, P_\nu] &= 0 \\ [M_{\lambda\rho}, M_{\mu\nu}] &= -i(g_{\lambda\mu}M_{\rho\nu} + g_{\rho\nu}M_{\lambda\mu} - g_{\lambda\nu}M_{\rho\mu} - g_{\rho\mu}M_{\lambda\nu}) \\ [M_{\mu\nu}, P_\rho] &= -i(g_{\mu\nu}P_\rho - g_{\mu\rho}P_\nu) \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

The subgroup \mathcal{P}_+^\uparrow has $10 = 6 + 4$ generators.

Now, we introduce the Casimir operators C_1 and C_2 , and W_μ , namely **Pauli-Lubarsky tensor**:

$$C_1 = P^2 = P^\mu P_\mu \quad (15)$$

$$C_2 = W^2 = W_\mu W^\mu \quad (16)$$

$$W_\mu = \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\sigma\tau}M^{\nu\sigma}P^\tau \quad (17)$$

It follows immediately that:

- $W_\mu P^\mu = 0 = \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\tau}M^{\nu\sigma}P^\tau P^\mu$
- $[P_\mu, W_\mu] = 0$
 $[M_{\mu\nu}, W_\sigma] = -i(g_{\nu\sigma}W_\mu - g_{\mu\sigma}W_\nu)$
 $[W_\mu, W_\nu] = i\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\sigma\tau}W^\sigma P^\tau$