

classical fields

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Here is a collected notes on physics readings.

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§1 Basic Equations

§1.1 Scalar fields

Legendre transform from hamiltonian to lagrangian

$$ML[\phi, \dot{\phi}] = \pi[\phi, \dot{\phi}] \dot{\phi} - \mathcal{H}[\phi, \pi[\phi, \dot{\phi}]]$$

Euler Lagrange equation

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \int d^4x \mathcal{L} \\ \delta S &= \int d^4x \left[\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi} \delta \phi + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \phi)} \delta (\partial_\mu \phi) \right] \\ \int d^4x \left[\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi} - \partial_\mu \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \phi)} \right] \delta \phi(x) &+ \underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}_{\text{surface term}} \\ \rightarrow \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi} - \partial_\mu \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \phi)} &= 0 \quad \textbf{Euler Lagrange} \end{aligned}$$

Noether's theorem:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\phi} &\rightarrow U(\underbrace{\alpha}_{\text{continuous param}}) \vec{\phi} \\ J_\mu &= \underbrace{\sum_n}_{\text{field component sum}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \phi_n)} \frac{\delta \phi_n}{\delta \alpha} \end{aligned}$$

SHO/wave equation

$$\begin{aligned} E &= \dot{\phi}^2 + m^2 \phi^2 - \underbrace{(\nabla \phi)^2} \\ L &= -\phi \underbrace{(\partial_t^2 - \partial_x^2)}_{\partial_\mu \partial^\mu \equiv \partial^2} + m^2 \phi \end{aligned}$$

§1.2 Gauge Fields

Maxwell's equations, tensor notation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 F^{\mu\nu} &= \partial^\mu A^\nu - \partial^\nu A^\mu \\
 \partial^\mu &= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t}, -\nabla \right) \\
 F &= dA \\
 g_{\alpha\beta} &= \text{diag}(+1, -1, -1, -1) = g^{\alpha\beta} \\
 F^{\mu\nu} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -E_x & -E_y & -E_z \\ E_x & 0 & -B_z & B_y \\ E_y & B_z & 0 & -B_x \\ E_z & -B_y & B_x & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
 F_{\mu\nu} &= g_{\mu\alpha} F^{\alpha\beta} g_{\beta\nu} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & E_x & E_y & E_z \\ -E_x & 0 & -B_z & B_y \\ -E_y & B_z & 0 & -B_x \\ -E_z & -B_y & B_x & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
 \text{Faraday Tensor : } G^{\alpha\beta} &= \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} \\
 G^{\alpha\beta} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -B_x & -B_y & -B_z \\ B_x & 0 & E_z & -E_y \\ B_y & -E_z & 0 & E_x \\ B_z & E_y & -E_x & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &\text{EM duality: } (E, B) \rightarrow (B, -E) \\
 G &= *F
 \end{aligned}$$

$F_{\mu\nu}$ is a covariant 2-tensor. It transforms accordingly:

$$F_{\mu\nu} = \Lambda_\mu^\sigma \Lambda_\nu^\rho F_{\rho\sigma} \quad (1)$$

A natural lagrangian density is:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{L} &= -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \\
 &= - \underbrace{2}_{\text{symmetric sum}} \times \left(\frac{1}{4} \right) (E \times (-E) - B \times B) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} (E^2 - B^2)
 \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore one can compute the energy momentum tensor:

$$T_\nu^\mu = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial^\mu \phi)} \partial_\nu \phi - \mathcal{L} \delta_\nu^\mu \quad (2)$$

Note the energy-momentum tensor is not unique. One can always add a completely anti-symmetric divergence (see landau lifshitz vol. 2, 33):

$$\partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = 0 \rightarrow \partial_\mu \left(T^{\mu\nu} + \partial_\rho \underbrace{U^{\rho\mu\nu}}_{\text{anti-symmetric}} \right) = 0 \quad (3)$$

We can rewrite the equations compactly

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{E} \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = 0 \quad (4)$$

$$\partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} = J^\nu \quad d * F = *J \quad (5)$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{B} \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0 \quad (6)$$

$$\partial_{[\alpha} F_{\beta\rho]} = 0 \quad dF = 0 \quad (7)$$

Generalized charged conservation:

$$d(d * F) = 0 \rightarrow \int_{\partial\mathcal{R}} *J = 0 \quad (8)$$

Example 1.1

Duality symmetries.

$$\tilde{F} \equiv F + i * F \quad (9)$$

$$d\tilde{F} = 0. \quad (10)$$

Note 9 only make sense in 4 dimensions where the F is a (0,2) tensor and *F is a (2, 0) tensor. There's a continuous set of duality transformation, of which hodge is 1 special case for $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ (Zee, Penrose)

$$\tilde{F} \rightarrow e^{i\theta} \tilde{F} \quad (11)$$

E, B rotate into each other (literally) under this transformation.

§2 Solving the Equations

§2.1 Klein gordon

Solution:

$$e^{ikx} = e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x} - \omega t)}$$

In fourier space:

$$k_\mu k^\mu - m^2 = 0 \rightarrow -\omega^2 + |\mathbf{k}|^2 + m^2 = 0$$

Green function:

$$G(x) = \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{e^{-ikx}}{k^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} \int d^3 k d\omega \frac{e^{-i(\omega t - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x})}}{\omega^2 - |\mathbf{k}|^2 - m^2} \quad (12)$$

$$\text{poles at } \omega = \pm\omega_k \rightarrow = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^d} \int d^{d-1} k \frac{1}{2 \underbrace{\omega_k}_{\sqrt{|\mathbf{k}|^2 + m^2}}} (e^{-i\omega_k t} \theta(t) + e^{i\omega_k t} \theta(-t)) e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}} \quad (13)$$

$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^d} \int d^{d-1} k \frac{1}{2\omega_k} \exp(-i\omega_k |t| - i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}) \quad (14)$$

Volume element in spherical coordinate:

$$dV_d = r^{d-1} \underbrace{\sin(\theta_1) \dots \sin(\theta_{d-2})}_{d-2 \text{ terms}} \cos(\phi) dr d\phi d\theta_1 \dots d\theta_{d-2}$$

$$G(x) = \frac{S_d}{(2\pi)^d} \int_0^\infty dk k^{d-1} \int_{-\pi}^\pi d\theta \sin(\theta)^{d-2} \exp(i\omega_k |t| - ikr \cos(\theta)) \quad (15)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2(2\pi)^{\frac{d}{2}} r^{\frac{d}{2}-1}} \int_0^\infty dk k^{d-1} \underbrace{J_{\frac{d}{2}-1}^1}_{\text{bessel}} \exp(-i\omega_k |t| - ikr) \quad (16)$$

For the full general derivation, see <https://arxiv.org/pdf/0811.1261.pdf>

Point source. If the point source is $J(r, t) = \delta^{d-1}(r)$ and time independent, it reduces to the hemholtz equation.

$$(-\nabla^2 + m^2)\phi = \delta^{d-1}(r) \quad (17)$$

2 ways to solve:

- Direct fourier:

$$\phi(\mathbf{x}) = \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}}}{k^2 + m^2} \quad (18)$$

in $d = 3$, it's simple

$$\phi(x) = \frac{2\pi}{(2\pi)^3} \int k^2 dk \int_{-1}^1 d(\cos(\theta)) \frac{e^{-ikr \cos(\theta)}}{k^2 + m^2} \quad (19)$$

$$= \int_0^\infty \frac{k dk}{(2\pi^2)} \frac{\sin(kr)}{k^2 + m^2} \quad (20)$$

$$\text{residue at } \pm im = \frac{e^{-mr}}{4\pi r} \quad (21)$$

- The laplace operator in d dimension is in arbitrary curvilinear coordinate:

$$\text{laplace beltrami: } \Delta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|g|}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi^i} \left(\sqrt{|g|} g^{ij} \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi^j} \right) \quad (22)$$

For spherical symmetric:

$$\Delta = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^{d-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) + \text{angular part} \rightarrow \quad (23)$$