

The uses of superprojectors

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Irreducible representations of Poincaré Group

Eversince the work of Wigner it is clear that unitary irreducible representations of Poincaré group are labeled by a continuous parameter m a semi-integer number s

Fields and Induced representations

Let R_A^B be an irreducible representation of the Lorentz group. Then we obtain (reducible) representations of Poincaré group:

$$R_A^B(\Lambda)F_B(\Lambda x + a) = F_A(x)$$

The set of fields that transform according to a representation of the Lorentz group are too big. We need to set some restrictions in order to obtain an irreducible representation. If we are lucky we can use Casimirs of the group to select irreducible representations.

Casimirs

In D dimensions there are several casimirs that can be constructed from the dual of the Pauli-Lubasky four vector.

$$W_{\mu\nu\rho} = J_{[\mu\nu}P_{\rho]} = \frac{1}{3}(J_{\mu\nu}P_{\rho} + J_{\nu\rho}P_{\mu} + J_{\rho\mu}P_{\nu})$$

$$W_{\mu\nu} = W_{\mu\nu\rho}P^{\rho}$$

This tensor commutes with P_{μ} so we can build Casimir invariants

$$W_2 = W_{\mu\nu}W^{\nu\mu} \quad W_4 = W_{\mu_1\mu_2}W^{\mu_2\mu_3}W_{\mu_3\mu_4}W^{\mu_4\mu_1}$$

$$W_6 = W_{\mu_1\mu_2} \dots W^{\mu_{12}\mu_1} \quad W_8 = W_{\mu_1\mu_2} \dots W^{\mu_{16}\mu_1}$$

Projectors

Suppose we have a Casimir operator K with a single different eigenvalue:

$$\mathbb{P} = \prod_{i \neq k} \frac{K - \lambda_i I}{\lambda_k - \lambda_i}$$

To be able to use this idea we need

- The representation we want is contained only one time
- The eigenvalue λ_k is different from the rest

Examples

If $D = 4$ inside a field B_μ dwell a $s = 0$ representation and a $s = 1$ representation. The Projectors are

$$\mathbb{P}_{s=0} = \frac{-\partial_\mu \partial^\nu}{P^2}, \quad \mathbb{P}_{s=1} = \frac{\partial_\mu \partial^\nu + P^2}{P^2}$$

We can use them to build covariant field equations with gauge invariance (yes, massive gauge invariance)

$$(P^2 + m^2)\mathbb{P}_{s=1}B_\mu = B_\mu$$

$$B_\mu \rightarrow B_\mu + \mathbb{P}_{s=0}\Lambda_\mu$$

Gauge invariance may be used to set $\partial^\mu B_\mu = 0$ and the remaining equation is, of course Proca equation.

The casimir in this case is Pauli-Lubansky four vector $W_2 = W^2$, whose eigenvalues are $m^2 j(j+1)$. Remember that

$$J_{\mu\nu} = L_{\mu\nu} + S_{\mu\nu}, \quad L_{\mu\nu} = X_\mu P_\nu - X_\nu P_\mu$$

$$(S^{\mu\nu})_{\alpha\beta} = i \left(\delta^\mu_\alpha \delta^\nu_\beta - \delta^\mu_\beta \delta^\nu_\alpha \right)$$

We may use these projectors to build non-local actions for every spin.

$$S = \int d^D x \Psi^A(x) (P^2 + m^2) \mathbb{P} \Psi$$

This is formal but we can make sense of some of this action introducing auxiliary fields.

I have not been able to make contact with Sinh-Hagen descriptions. Non-local action for higher spin particles have been used by Francia and Sagnotti

Clifford algebras, succinct introduction

Representations of Clifford algebras are Γ_μ , $\mu = 0, \dots, D - 1$

$$\{\Gamma_\mu, \Gamma_\nu\} = -2\eta_{\mu\nu}$$

For D even we can find unitary matrices anti-diagonal matrices

$$\Gamma^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \Sigma^\mu \\ \bar{\Sigma}^\mu & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where $\Sigma^0 = \bar{\Sigma}^0 = I$ and $\bar{\Sigma}^i = -\Sigma^i$. In odd dimensions we add

$$W = i^{d+1} \Gamma_0 \Gamma_1 \cdots \Gamma_{D-1} \quad \Gamma^D = \pm iW$$

Periodic properties

We construct these matrices by induction. Let $\tilde{\Gamma}^\mu$ the gamma matrices in dimension $D - 2$, then

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma^i &= \tilde{\Gamma}^i \tilde{W} & i = 1, 2, \dots, D - 3 \\ \Sigma^{D-2} &= i\tilde{W}\tilde{\Gamma}^0, & \Sigma^{D-1} = \tilde{W}\end{aligned}$$

matrices $B, C, \tilde{B}, \tilde{C}$ that make the transition:

$$\begin{aligned}B\Gamma^\mu B^{-1} &= -(\Gamma^\mu)^* & \tilde{B}\Gamma^\mu \tilde{B}^{-1} &= (\Gamma^\mu)^* \\ C\Gamma^\mu C^{-1} &= (\Gamma^\mu)^T & \tilde{C}\Gamma^\mu \tilde{C}^{-1} &= -(\Gamma^\mu)^T\end{aligned}$$

There is only one independent matrix

$$B = \tilde{B}W, C = \tilde{C}W, \tilde{C} = \tilde{B}\Gamma^0$$

D	BB^*	$\tilde{B}\tilde{B}^*$	M	PM	SimM	PSimM	Sim	AntiSim
2, 10	I	I	Yes	Yes	No	No	B, \tilde{B}, \tilde{C}	C
3, 11	I	–	Yes	–	No	–	B	C
4	I	$-I$	Yes	No	No	Yes	B	\tilde{B}, C, \tilde{C}
5	–	$-I$	–	No	–	Yes		\tilde{B}, \tilde{C}
6	$-I$	$-I$	No	No	Yes	Yes	C	\tilde{B}, B, \tilde{C}
7	$-I$	–	No	–	Yes	–		\tilde{B}, \tilde{C}
8	$-I$	I	No	Yes	Yes	No	\tilde{B}, C, \tilde{C}	B
9	–	I	–	Yes	–	No	\tilde{B}, \tilde{C}	

Supermultiplets

Irreducible representations of supersymmetry algebras are called supermultiplets. We want to know what particles there are inside a given supermultiplet

Susy/Spin	[0]	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]
$N = 1$	2	1	0	0	0
$N = 2$	4	5	1	0	0
$N = 3$	14	14	6	1	0
$N = 4$	42	48	27	8	1

Table: Massive supermultiplets in $D = 4$

Massive supermultiplets in $D = 10$

Irrep	Bosonic fields	Fermionic Fields
1	44+84	128
9	9+36+126+156+231+594	16+128+432+576
16	9 + 36 + 44 + 84 + 126 + 231 + 594 + 924	16 + 2 × 128 + 432 + 576 + 768
36	9 + 36 + 44 + 84 + 126 + 231 + 594 + 910 + 924 + 1650	16 + 2 × 128 + 432 + 576 + 768 + 2560
44	1 + 36 + 44 + 84 + 231 + 45 + 495 + 924 + 2457	16 + 128 + 432 + 576 + 1920 + 2560
84	1 + 36 + 44 + 2 × 84 + 126 + 231 + 495 + 594 + 2 × 924 + 1980 + 2457 + 2772	16 + 2 × 128 + 2 × 432 + 576 + 672 + 768 + 2560 + 5120
128	1 + 9 + 2 × 36 + 44 + 2 × 84 + 2 × 126 + 156 + 2 × 231 + 495 + 2 × 594 + 910 + 2 × 924 + 1650 + 2457 + 2772 + 3900	2 × 16 + 3 × 128 + 3 × 432 + 2 × 576 + 672 + 768 + 2 × 2560 + 5040

Superprojectors

General theorem

The super spin content inside a superfield is the same as the spin content inside a supermultiplet.

Superparticles

Here we use superprojectors to covariantly quantize superparticles (actually systems with second class constraints)

We start from an action for a massive superparticle in ten dimensions

$$S = \frac{1}{2} \int (e^{-1} \omega^\mu \omega^\nu \eta_{\mu\nu} - m^2 e) d\tau$$

with $\omega^\mu = \dot{x}^\mu + i\theta^a S^\mu_{ab} \dot{\theta}^b$. In this system we have a first class constraint and a family of second class constraints.

$$d_a = \pi_a + ip_\mu S^\mu_{ab} \theta^b$$

$$\{d_a, d_b\} = -2ip_\mu S^\mu_{ab}$$

Second-class constraints

Poisson brackets with Dirac brackets.

Non-commutative classical algebra

$$\begin{aligned}\{\theta^a, \theta^b\}_D &= \frac{i}{2p^2} p_\mu S^{\mu ab} \\ \{\theta^a, x^\mu\}_D &= \frac{1}{2p^2} \theta^b S^\mu_{bc} S^{\nu ca} p_\nu \\ \{x^\mu, x^\nu\}_D &= \frac{-\Sigma^{\mu\nu}}{p^2}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}J^{\mu\nu} &= L^{\mu\nu} + \Sigma^{\mu\nu} \\ L^{\mu\nu} &= x^\mu p^\nu - x^\nu p^\mu \quad \Sigma^{\mu\nu} = \frac{-1}{4} \theta S^{\mu\nu} \pi \\ \pi_a &= -i p_\mu S^\mu_{ab} \theta^b\end{aligned}$$

Quantization

Straightforward canonical quantization now demands to switch Dirac brackets by commutators. So that our problem is now to find a set of operators that fulfil the quantum algebra

Non-commutative quantum algebra

$$\begin{aligned}\{\hat{\Theta}^a, \hat{\Theta}^b\} &= \frac{-1}{2P^2} P_\mu S^{\mu ab} \\ [\hat{X}^\mu, \hat{\Theta}^a] &= \frac{i\hat{\Theta}^b}{2P^2} P_\nu S^{\mu}_{bc} S^{\nu ca} \\ [\hat{X}^\mu, \hat{X}^\nu] &= \frac{-i\Sigma^{\mu\nu}}{P^2}\end{aligned}$$

where $\Sigma^{\mu\nu}$ is the *internal* angular momentum given in this case by

$$\Sigma_{\mu\nu} = \frac{-1}{4} \hat{\Theta} S_{\mu\nu} \hat{\Pi}$$

Using a superprojector

Now superprojectors come handy

Theorem

This algebra can be implemented at the quantum level if we find a superprojection operator \mathbb{P} that meet the requirements

$$\begin{aligned} [\mathbb{P}, Q_a] &= [\mathbb{P}, P_\mu] = [\mathbb{P}, J_{\mu\nu}] = 0 \\ \mathbb{P}D_a\mathbb{P} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Then a set of operators $(\hat{X}^\mu, \hat{\Theta}^a)$ that satisfy the quantum algebra of superspace would be given by the rule

$$\hat{X}^\mu = \mathbb{P}X^\mu\mathbb{P} \quad \hat{\Theta}^a = \mathbb{P}\Theta^a\mathbb{P}$$

Choosing a superprojector

We now have three such projectors and hence we have three representations of the algebra. The problem is that for these representations the internal angular momentum has a complex expression

$$\Sigma_{\mu\nu} = \frac{-1}{4} \hat{\Theta} S_{\mu\nu} \hat{\Pi} + T_{\mu\nu}$$

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \frac{-1}{4} \mathbb{P} \Theta S_{\mu\nu} \Pi \mathbb{P} + \frac{1}{4} \hat{\Theta} S_{\mu\nu} \hat{\Pi} = \frac{P_\alpha}{32 P^2} \mathbb{P} D S^\alpha S^{\mu\nu} D \mathbb{P}$$

This extra term can also be written in terms of the operator defined earlier $C_{\mu\nu}$ as $T_{\mu\nu} = P^\alpha P_{[\alpha} C_{\mu\nu]}$. In four dimensions there are projectors (for a scalar superfield) such that $T_{\mu\nu} = 0$, but this is no longer true in $D = 10$. For the three projectors we have found the term $C_{\mu\nu}$ is strictly non-zero. If we want to realize the algebra we need to consider a *different* superfield. Now table comes handy. To get the correct algebra we need the smallest supermultiplet. The simplest superfield which contains such a representation is a symmetric, traceless and divergenceless tensor

Non-local Lagrangian formulation