

Yes: in defining $\boxed{\bar{X}_a = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{abc} L_{bc}} \Leftrightarrow \underline{\epsilon_{def} \bar{X}_a} = \frac{1}{2} (\delta_{bd} \delta_{cf} - \delta_{bf} \delta_{cd}) L_{bc} = L_{df}$

we have $\underline{[\bar{X}_a, \bar{X}_d]} = \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_{abc} \epsilon_{def} [L_{bc}, L_{ef}]$, with $\eta_{bc} = -\delta_{bc}$

$$= \frac{i}{4} \epsilon_{abc} \epsilon_{def} (\delta_{bc} L_{ef} - \delta_{bf} L_{ce} + \delta_{cf} L_{be} - \delta_{cf} L_{ef})$$

$$= i \epsilon_{ace} \epsilon_{dfe} L_{cf} = i (\delta_{ad} \delta_{cf} - \delta_{af} \delta_{cd}) L_{cf} = i L_{ad} = \underline{i \epsilon_{adc} \bar{X}_e}$$

and $\underline{Y_a = L_{0a}}$ yields the commutation relations on p. 122

(check, e.g. $[\bar{X}_a, Y_b] = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{abc} [L_{bc}, L_{0d}]$)

$$= \frac{i}{2} \epsilon_{abc} (\eta_{bd} L_{cd} - \eta_{bd} L_{co} + \eta_{cd} L_{bo} - \eta_{co} L_{bd})$$

$$= \frac{i}{2} \epsilon_{adc} L_{co} + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{abd} L_{bo} = i \epsilon_{adb} L_{ob} = i \epsilon_{adb} Y_b$$

etc.

\Rightarrow we get the following Poincaré algebra on $\{P_\mu, \bar{X}_a, Y_b\}$

$$\underline{[P_\mu, P_\nu] = 0}$$

P_0 is a scalar under rotations $\underline{[P_0, \bar{X}_a] = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{abc} [P_0, L_{bc}] = \frac{i}{2} \epsilon_{abc} (\eta_{ob} P_c - \eta_{oc} P_b) = 0}$

P_d is a vector under rotations $\underline{[P_d, \bar{X}_a] = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{abc} [P_d, L_{bc}] = \frac{i}{2} \epsilon_{abc} (\eta_{db} P_c - \eta_{dc} P_b) = i \epsilon_{dac} P_c}$

only P_0 and P_a are affected under boost Y_a $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \underline{[P_0, Y_a] = [P_0, L_{0a}] = i (\eta_{00} P_a - \eta_{0a} P_0) = i P_a} \\ \underline{[P_d, Y_a] = [P_d, L_{0a}] = i (\eta_{da} P_0 - \eta_{da} P_0) = i \delta_{da} P_0} \end{array} \right.$

$\Rightarrow [P_0, X_a^{(\pm)}] = \mp P_a, [P_d, X_a^{(\pm)}] = i \epsilon_{dac} P_c \mp \delta_{da} P_0$
 $\bar{X}_a \neq Y_a$

cannot use (\pm) to label reps both $\neq 0$

Representations of the Poincaré group

How can we label such reps? For $su(2)$ (sp) we used the eigenvalues of the operator $\vec{J}_i \vec{J}_i = \vec{J}^2$ ($\hbar^2 j(j+1)$) which commutes with all elements of the algebra $[\vec{J}^2, J_i] = 0$ (for Lorentz $\& \text{su}(2)$'s J_a, Y_a)

Such an operator is called quadratic Casimir operator (see also p. 82)

* for Poincaré there are 2 such operators:

• $P^2 = P^\mu P_\mu$ with eigenvalue $P^\mu P_\mu = c^2 m^2$ (set $c=1$ used)

\Rightarrow $[P^2, P_\mu] = 0 = [P^2, L_{\mathcal{G}^\sigma}]$ ($\times 12$)

\Rightarrow we will distinguish reps with $m \neq 0$ and $m = 0$ below

• $W_\mu \equiv -\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\sigma\alpha} L^{\nu\sigma} P^\alpha$ Pauli-Lubanski vector

where $\epsilon_{0123} = +1$ is the totally antisym. ϵ -tensor in 4 dimensions

and $W^2 = W^\mu W_\mu$ is another such operator

$[W^\mu, P_\mu] = 0 = [W^2, L_{\mathcal{G}^\sigma}]$

• W_μ transforms as a 4-vector and it is orthogonal to P_μ with

$W_\mu P^\mu = -\frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\epsilon_{\mu\nu\sigma\alpha}}_{\text{antisym}} \underbrace{L^{\nu\sigma} P^\alpha}_{\text{sym}} = 0$

Massive representations: $m \neq 0$

• for $m \neq 0$ we can go to the local rest frame with $\vec{p}_\mu = (m, \vec{0})$

$$\Rightarrow W_0 = -\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{0\nu\gamma\delta} \langle^{vs} \underline{P}^\nu \rangle \quad \text{gives } 0$$

\uparrow
 $\neq 0 \text{ for } G=0$

$$W_i = -\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{i\nu\gamma\delta} \langle^{vs} \underline{P}^\nu \rangle = +\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{0ijk} \langle^{jk} \underline{P}^\nu \rangle$$

\Rightarrow acts like $\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} \langle^{jk} \rangle m = m \underline{X}_i =$ angular momentum on states in rest frame and

$$W^2 \rightarrow -W_i^2 = -m^2 \underline{X}_i \underline{X}_i \quad \text{acts as ang. mom. squared (Casimir)}$$

\Rightarrow we can use m and s as labels:

$$\underline{P}^2 |m, s, \dots\rangle = m^2 |m, s, \dots\rangle$$

$$W^2 |m, s, \dots\rangle = -m^2 s(s+1) |m, s, \dots\rangle$$

* because P_μ commutes with \underline{P}^2 and W^2 we can consider an arbitrary frame, with the same quantum numbers.

* What else is there?

due to $m^2 = \epsilon^{\mu\nu} \vec{p}^2$ we may specify \vec{p} of a state

can we also use \underline{X}_a (like J_z -comp)? NO, $[\underline{X}_a, P_\mu] \neq 0$

\rightarrow use helicity $\underline{X}_a P_a$ with eigenvalue $\lambda |\vec{p}|$ (well def. for $\vec{p} \neq 0$)

$$\text{as } [\underline{X}_a P_a, \underline{P}_\mu] = 0$$

\Rightarrow the infinite-dim vector space rep. of Poincaré for $m \neq 0$ has the following states $|m, s; \vec{p}, \lambda\rangle$ with

$$\left. \begin{aligned} P_a |m, s; \vec{p}, \lambda\rangle &= P_a |m, s; \vec{p}, \lambda\rangle \\ \underline{X}_a P_a |m, s; \vec{p}, \lambda\rangle &= \lambda |\vec{p}| |m, s; \vec{p}, \lambda\rangle \end{aligned} \right\}$$

action of the Poincaré group on first vector space:

Translations: $x_\mu \rightarrow x_\mu + a_\mu$

$$|m, s; \vec{p}, \lambda\rangle \rightarrow e^{-i p^\mu a_\mu} |m, s; \vec{p}, \lambda\rangle$$

Lorentz transformations:

* first rep $|m, s; \vec{p}, \lambda\rangle$: by basis acting on rest frame \vec{p}
let us choose $\lambda = s_3$ w of S_3 in the rest frame

$$\Rightarrow |m, s; \vec{p}, \lambda\rangle = \Lambda_p |m, s; \vec{0}, s_3\rangle \equiv B_p R(\vec{p}) |m, s; \vec{0}, \lambda\rangle$$

with Λ_p = rotation of z-axis into \vec{p} $R(\vec{p})$ and then boost

$$B_p = \exp(-i \frac{\vec{p} \cdot \vec{S}}{|\vec{p}|} \gamma) \text{ in } \vec{p} \text{-direction}$$

* how boost $p \rightarrow p'$ described by $\Lambda_{p' \leftarrow p}$ on $|m, s; \vec{p}, \lambda\rangle$

$$\Lambda_{p' \leftarrow p} |m, s; \vec{p}, \lambda\rangle = \Lambda_{p' \leftarrow p} \Lambda_p |m, s; \vec{0}, s_3 = \lambda\rangle$$

$$= \Lambda_{p'} (\Lambda_{p'}^{-1} \Lambda_{p' \leftarrow p} \Lambda_p) |m, s; \vec{0}, s_3 = \lambda\rangle$$

$\vec{p} \rightarrow p \rightarrow p' \rightarrow \vec{p}$ Wigner rotation R_W
that leaves rest frame invariant: $SO(3)$
(stability or little group) ($\cong SU(2)$)

rotations on rest frame = $D^{(s)}$ irreps

$$= \Lambda_{p'} \sum_{\lambda'} D_{\lambda' \lambda}^{(s)}(R_W) |m, s; \vec{0}, s_3 = \lambda'\rangle$$

$$= \sum_{\lambda'} D_{\lambda' \lambda}^{(s)}(R_W) |m, s; \vec{p}', s_3 = \lambda'\rangle$$

"induced representation": Lorentz basis $\Lambda_{p'}$ obtained from little group (= subgroup)

Massless representations $m = 0$

- $P^2 = P^\mu P_\mu = 0 \Rightarrow$ rest frame \Rightarrow quantum numbers and invariance group different!

choose standard frame

$$\omega_\mu = k\omega (1, 0, 0, 1)$$

invariance = stability group = {rotations & translations in 2 dim}

$\cong E_2$ Euclidean group in 2 dim

generators \underline{X}_3 (idea: rot. around $z = z$ -axis)

and $L_1 = X_1 + Y_2, L_2 = X_2 - Y_1$ (combs of boost & rotations !!)

with algebra

$$\begin{aligned} [X_3, L_1] &= iX_2 - iY_1 = iL_2 \\ [X_3, L_2] &= -iX_1 - iY_2 = -iL_1 \\ [L_1, L_2] &= iX_3 - iX_3 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

- one can show that $[X_3, P_\mu], [L_{1,2}, P_\mu]$ acting on ω_μ give 0 (due to $P_{1,2}$ giving 0 and $P_3 - P_0$ giving 0, see below) and thus commute

\Rightarrow states are still characterized by ω_μ ,

and helicity remains a good quantum number:

\Rightarrow states are $|\omega_\mu, \lambda\rangle$

(=Lorentz invariant)

Note that λ cannot be changed here as in contrast to $m \neq 0$

we can no longer overtake a particle $\Rightarrow \lambda = \pm 1$ also called polarization.

- because of $\vec{x} \rightarrow -\vec{x}, \vec{p} \rightarrow -\vec{p}, \vec{J} \times \vec{x} \times \vec{p} \rightarrow +\vec{J}$ under parity

$\vec{J} \cdot \vec{P} \rightarrow -\vec{J} \cdot \vec{P}$ under parity, so antiparticles have opposite λ

example: ν $\lambda = -\frac{1}{2}$ massless neutrino

$\bar{\nu}$ $+\frac{1}{2}$ " anti ν

check using p. 127:

$$[L_1, P_0] = [(\bar{X}_1 + Y_2), P_0] = iP_2 \quad \rightarrow 0 \text{ on } \omega_\mu$$

$$[L_n, P_j] = [X_{n1}, P_j] + [Y_2, P_j] = -iC_{j1k} P_k - iP_0 \delta_{j2}$$

so $[L_1, P_\mu] = 0$ on $(\omega_\mu, 1)$

$$= \begin{cases} j=1 & 0 \\ j=2 & i(P_3 - P_0) \\ j=3 & -iP_2 \end{cases}$$

ditto for $[L_2, P_\mu] = 0$ —

Casimir operator for E_2 : $L_1^2 + L_2^2$ as $[\bar{X}_3, L_1^2 + L_2^2] = \dots = 0$

• for the algebra of E_2 we can define step operators $L_\pm = L_1 \pm iL_2$

$$\Rightarrow [\bar{X}_3, L_\pm] = \pm L_\pm$$

* However, unlike for $Su(2)$ where $\langle J_3^2 \rangle \leq \langle \vec{J}^2 \rangle$ we have no relation between \bar{X}_3 and $L_1^2 + L_2^2$ \Rightarrow we could generate an ∞ tower of states with L_\pm , so the only physical realisation is

$$L_1 |\omega_\mu, 1\rangle = 0 = L_2 |\omega_\mu, 1\rangle$$

\Rightarrow Pauli-Lubanskiy:

$$W_\mu = -\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\sigma} L^{\nu\sigma} W^\sigma = W(\bar{X}_3, L_1, L_2, \bar{X}_3)$$

and thus $W^2 = W^\mu W_\mu = -W^2(L_1^2 + L_2^2)$

we have $W_\mu |\omega_\mu, 1\rangle = \lambda W(1, 0, 0, 1) |\omega_\mu, 1\rangle = \lambda P_\mu |\omega_\mu, 1\rangle$

and $W^2 |\omega_\mu, 1\rangle = 0$

here the induced rep is $Z_{p \neq 0} |P_\mu, 1\rangle = e^{-i\phi W} |P_\mu, 1\rangle$
↙
 angle mult. J_3 in stability group.

* for $m=0$ states spin \rightarrow helicity as we don't have an $Su(2)$ rep!