

Last time: ~ defined color of quarks

Wrote out the QCD (Quantum Chromodynamics) Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = \bar{q}^{af} (i \gamma \cdot \partial - m_f) q^{af} - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^i F^{i\mu\nu} + g \bar{q}^{bf} \gamma^\mu A_\mu^i (T^i)_{ba} q^{af}$$

with  $T^i$  the generators of  $SU(3)$ ,  $A_\mu^i$  ~ gluon fields  
 $i=1, \dots, 8$

### Elements of Group Theory (cont'd)

~ We defined a group  $G$ : (i)  $f \cdot g = h \in G$ , (ii)  $f(g \cdot h) = (fg) \cdot h$   
(iii)  $\exists e: f \cdot e = e \cdot f = f$  (i)  $f^{-1}$ .

~ Abelian:  $f \cdot g = g \cdot f$ , non-Abelian  $[f, g] \neq 0$ .

$U(N)$ :  $N \times N$  unitary matrices  $\Rightarrow$  unitary group

$SU(N)$ :  $-1 - \oplus \det U = +1. \Rightarrow$  special  $-1 -$

~ Representation:  $f \rightarrow D(f)$  : (i)  $D(e) = \mathbb{1}$

(ii)  $D(g_1 g_2) = D(g_1) D(g_2)$

$D$  ~ matrices  $\Rightarrow$  dim. of representation is their size.

Take a group  $\mathbb{Z}_4$ : it has  $\{e, g_1, g_2, g_3\}$  (42)

Our example  $\{1, e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}}, e^{i\pi}, e^{i\frac{3\pi}{2}}\} = \{D(e), D(g_1), D(g_2), D(g_3)\}$

is one of the many possible representations of  $\mathbb{Z}_4$ .

(Def.) Dimension of representation is the dimension of the space of  $D$ -matrices.

(Def.) Representation is called reducible if

$\exists M$  (matrix) such that

$$M D(g) M^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} D_1(g) & 0 \\ 0 & D_2(g) \\ & & \ddots \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{for } \forall g \in G.$$

$\Rightarrow D = D_1 \oplus D_2 \oplus \dots$

a representation is called irreducible if

no such matrix  $M$  exists.

(Def.) For two groups  $G = \{g_1, g_2, \dots\}$ ,  $H = \{h_1, h_2, \dots\}$

define direct-product group  $G \times H = \{g_i h_j\}$

such that  $g_k h_i \cdot g_m h_n = g_k g_m \cdot h_i h_n$ .

### Lie Groups

Imagine a group  $G$  with elements smoothly dependent on a continuous set of parameters  $d_i$ ,  $i=1, \dots, N$ :  $g(d_i) \in G$ .

⇒ assume that  $g(d_i=0) = e$  (the identity element) (43)

⇒ for a representation of the group:

$$D(d_i=0) = \mathbb{1}.$$

Taylor expand  $D(d_i)$  near 0:

$$D(Sd_i) = \mathbb{1} + i S d_i \bar{X}_i + \dots = \mathbb{1} + i S \vec{d} \cdot \vec{X}$$

(summation over repeating indices assumed)

Def.  $X_i$  are called generators of the group.

$\swarrow$   $S \vec{d} = \frac{\vec{d}}{k}, k = \text{integer}$

$$D(d_i) = D(Sd_i) D(Sd_i) \dots D(Sd_i) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left( \mathbb{1} + i S \vec{d} \cdot \vec{X} \right)^k$$

$$= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left( \mathbb{1} + i \frac{\vec{d}}{k} \cdot \vec{X} \right)^k = e^{i \vec{d} \cdot \vec{X}}$$

Def. A group with elements depending smoothly on continuous set of parameters  $d_i, i=1, \dots, N$ , with generators  $X_i$  is called a Lie group.

$$D(\vec{d}) = e^{i \vec{d} \cdot \vec{X}} \Rightarrow \text{as } D \text{ can be a matrix}$$

⇒  $\vec{X}$  can be a matrix; therefore in

general  $[X_i, X_j]$  does not have to be 0.

=> however  $D(\vec{\alpha}) D(\vec{\beta}) = e^{i\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{X}} e^{i\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{X}}$  is

also a group element =>  $e^{i\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{X}} e^{i\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{X}} = e^{i\vec{\delta} \cdot \vec{X}}$

=> can show that for this to work we need

$[X_a, X_b] = i f_{abc} X_c$  Lie algebra

$f_{abc} \sim$  structure constants of the group

$f_{abc} = -f_{bac}$ .

$f_{abc}$  are real for unitary representations (for hermitean  $X_a$ ).

Example take the group  $SU(2)$ : unitary  $2 \times 2$  matrices with  $\det = +1$  ( $U U^\dagger = U^\dagger U = 1, \det U = 1$ ). (defining representation)

Using Pauli matrices we can define a representation of  $SU(2)$ :

$\sigma_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$      $\sigma_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}$      $\sigma_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

=>  $D(\vec{\alpha}) = e^{i\frac{\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\sigma}}{2}}$ ,  $\vec{\alpha} = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3)$  a 3-vector.

rotations around  $\frac{\vec{\alpha}}{|\vec{\alpha}|}$  axis by angle  $|\vec{\alpha}|$ .

as  $\sigma_i^\dagger = \sigma_i$  (hermitean)  $\Rightarrow$  any  $2 \times 2$  unitary matrix with  $\det = +1$  can be represented

as  $e^{i \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{\sigma}}{2}} = U$

Check:  $U U^\dagger = e^{i \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{\sigma}}{2}} e^{-i \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{\sigma}}{2}} = 1$

$\det U = \det e^{i \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{\sigma}}{2}} = \left[ \text{as } \det e^A = e^{\text{tr} A} = 1 \right]$

as  $\text{tr} \sigma_i = 0$ . (linearly independent)

$\Rightarrow$  there are  $2^2 - 1 = 3$  different  $n \times n$  traceless hermitean matrices  $\Rightarrow \{\sigma_i\}$  use up all possibilities.

Generators:  $J_i = \frac{\sigma_i}{2} \Rightarrow D(\vec{a}) = e^{i \vec{a} \cdot \vec{J}}$

$\Rightarrow SU(2)$  is a Lie group

We know that  $[\sigma_i, \sigma_j] = 2i \epsilon_{ijk} \sigma_k \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow [\mathbb{J}_i, \mathbb{J}_j] = i \epsilon_{ijk} \mathbb{J}_k$

$\Rightarrow$  generators of  $SU(2)$  form a Lie algebra with structure constants  $\epsilon_{ijk}$

$\epsilon_{ijk}$ : totally anti-symmetric Levi-Civita symbol,  $\epsilon_{123} = 1$ ,  $\epsilon_{ijk} = -\epsilon_{jik} = \epsilon_{jki} \dots$   
 $\epsilon_{112} = 0 \dots$

Another example:  $SU(3)$ :  $3 \times 3$  unitary matrices

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with  $\det = +1$

Define Gell-Mann matrices:

$$\lambda_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{cf. Pauli matrices})$$

$$\lambda_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\lambda_7 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda_8 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Normalization convention  $\text{tr}[\lambda_i \lambda_j] = 2 \delta_{ij}$ .

There are  $3^2 - 1 = 8$  traceless hermitean  <sup>$3 \times 3$</sup>  matrices

$\Rightarrow$  these should work.

Generators of  $SU(3)$ :  $T^a = \frac{\lambda^a}{2} \Rightarrow$

$$\Rightarrow [T^a, T^b] = i f^{abc} T^c, \quad \text{with structure}$$

constants  $f^{abc}$ , which are anti-symmetric under the interchange of any two indices.

$\Rightarrow SU(3)$  is a Lie group with the generator algebra given above.

a	b	c	$f^{abc}$
1	2	3	1
1	4	7	$1/2$
1	5	6	$-1/2$
2	4	6	$1/2$
2	5	7	$1/2$
3	4	5	$1/2$
3	6	7	$-1/2$
4	5	8	$\sqrt{3}/2$
6	7	8	$\sqrt{3}/2$

$f_{112} = 0 \dots$   
 all other  $f^{abc}$ 's  
 can be obtained from  
 this table.

Casimir operator commutes  
 with all generators:  
 $\vec{T}^2 = T_1^2 + T_2^2 + \dots + T_n^2 = \frac{N^2 - 1}{2N}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  for  $su(2)$  it is  $3/4$   
 for  $su(3)$  it is  $4/3$ .

$D(\vec{A}) = e^{i \vec{A} \cdot \vec{T}}$ , with  $\vec{A} = (A_1, A_2, \dots, A_8)$

$\sim$  an 8-component vector.

Jacobi Identity and the Adjoint Representation

$\sim$  go back to some general Lie group with  
 the generators  $X_a$  obeying some Lie  
 algebra  $[X_a, X_b] = i f_{abc} X_c$ .

One can then easily prove Jacobi identity:

$$[X_a, [X_b, X_c]] + [X_b, [X_c, X_a]] + [X_c, [X_a, X_b]] = 0.$$

(prove this by using definitions of commutators)

$\Rightarrow$  plug in the commutator of Lie algebra to write

$$f_{bdc} f_{ade} + f_{abd} f_{cde} + f_{cad} f_{bde} = 0$$

this relations are obeyed by structure constants of any <sup>Lie</sup> group, e.g.  $SU(n)$ .

Define The generators in the adjoint representation,

$$\text{by } (t^a)_{bc} = -i f_{abc} \Rightarrow \text{the above relation}$$

$$\text{gives } [t^a, t^b] = i f_{abc} t^c$$

$\Rightarrow$  they obey the Lie algebra too!

Def.  $D(\vec{A}) = e^{i A^a t^a}$  gives the adjoint representation of Lie group.



# Tensor Method for $SU(n)$

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Consider representation of  $SU(n)$  in terms of  $n \times n$  unitary matrices  $U$  ( $UU^\dagger = 1$ ) with  $\det U = +1$ .

Matrices  $U$  can be thought of as linear operators acting on the  $n$ -dim vectors  $a_i = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{pmatrix} \in C_n$ :

$$a_i \rightarrow a'_i = U_{ij} a_j.$$

(Def.)

A scalar product  $a_i^* b_i = a \cdot b$  is invariant under  $SU(n)$  transformations:

$$\begin{aligned} a_i^* b_i &\rightarrow a_i'^* b_i' = U_{ij}^* a_j^* U_{ik} b_k = a_j^* \underbrace{U_{ji}^\dagger U_{ik}}_{\delta_{jk}} b_k \\ &= a_j^* b_j \end{aligned}$$

(Def.)

Introduce upper indices:

$$a^i = a_i^*, \quad U_i^j = U_{ij}$$

$$U^i_j = U_{ij}^*$$

$$\Rightarrow a_i \rightarrow a'_i = U_i^j a_j$$

$$a^i \rightarrow a'^i = U^i_j a^j$$

$\Rightarrow$  scalar product is  $a^i b_i = a \cdot b$

unitarity  $U_k^i U_j^k = U_{ki} U_{kj}^* = U_{ki} U_{jk}^\dagger = \delta_{ij} \equiv \delta^i_j$

(Def.)  $a^i$ 's form a basis for fundamental

(defining) representation of  $SU(n)$ , denoted  $\mathfrak{n}$

$a_i$ 's form a basis for conjugate representation  $\bar{\mathfrak{n}}$

$\Rightarrow$  can construct any tensor  $a^{i_1 \dots i_p}_{j_1 \dots j_q}$

$$a^{i_1 \dots i_p}_{j_1 \dots j_q} = U^{i_1}_{k_1} \dots U^{i_p}_{k_p} U_{j_1}^{l_1} \dots U_{j_q}^{l_q} a^{k_1 \dots k_p}_{l_1 \dots l_q}$$

e.g.  $\delta_i^j$  is invariant, so is Levi-Civita symbol

$$\epsilon_{i_1 \dots i_n}$$

$\Rightarrow$  in general tensors form reducible representations of  $SU(n)$ .

$\Rightarrow$  to reduce them to irreducible representations note that permutation operator commutes with

all  $U$ 's:  $P_{12} a^{ij} = a^{ji}$   $\Rightarrow$

$$\Rightarrow P_{12} a^{ij} = P_{12} U^i_k U^j_l a^{kl} = U^j_k U^i_l a^{kl} =$$

$$= (k \leftrightarrow l) = U^j_l U^i_k a^{lk} = U^i_k U^j_l P_{12} a^{kl}$$

$\Rightarrow$  organize all tensors by eigenstates of  $P_{12}$ :

they could be symmetric & anti-symmetric.

$$a^{ij} : S^{ij} = \frac{1}{2}(a^{ij} + a^{ji}), \quad A^{ij} = \frac{1}{2}(a^{ij} - a^{ji}) \quad (51)$$

$$\Rightarrow P_{12} S^{ij} = S^{ij} \quad ; \quad P_{12} A^{ij} = -A^{ij}$$

What is this good for?

Take a product of two representations:

$$a^i b^j = \frac{1}{2}(a^i b^j + a^j b^i) + \frac{1}{2}(a^i b^j - a^j b^i)$$

take  $SU(3)$  for example:  $a^i$  is  $\mathbf{3}$ ,  $a^i b^j$  is  $\mathbf{3} \otimes \mathbf{3}$ .

$\frac{1}{2}(a^i b^j + a^j b^i)$  has 6 indep. components  $\Rightarrow$  ~~tensor~~

makes a basis for representation  $\mathbf{6}$ .

$\frac{1}{2}(a^i b^j - a^j b^i)$  has 3 indep. components

$$\frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{ijk} \epsilon_{klm} a^l b^m$$

$C_k \Rightarrow$  it is  $\bar{\mathbf{3}}$

$\Rightarrow$  we showed that  $\mathbf{3} \otimes \mathbf{3} = \mathbf{6} \oplus \bar{\mathbf{3}}$

$$a^i b_j = \underbrace{\left( a^i b_j - \frac{1}{3} \delta^i_j a^k b_k \right)}_{\text{traceless } 3 \times 3 \text{ matrix}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{3} \delta^i_j a^k b_k}_1 \text{ (a singlet)}$$

$\Rightarrow$  8 d. of freedom  $\Rightarrow$  an 8 (adjoint representation)

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{3} \otimes \bar{\mathbf{3}} = \mathbf{8} \oplus \mathbf{1}$$