

Last time: we showed that an element of the (restricted)

Lorentz group can be represented by:

$$U(\Lambda) = e^{\frac{i}{2} \omega^{\mu\nu} L_{\mu\nu}}$$

where  $L_{\mu\nu} = i [x_\mu \partial_\nu - x_\nu \partial_\mu]$  are the generators  
anti-symmetric  
of Lorentz group and  $\omega^{\mu\nu} = -\omega^{\nu\mu}$  is a tensor.

Generator algebra

$$[L_{\mu\nu}, L_{\rho\sigma}] = i\gamma_{\nu\rho} L_{\mu\sigma} - i\gamma_{\mu\rho} L_{\nu\sigma} - i\gamma_{\nu\sigma} L_{\mu\rho} + i\gamma_{\mu\sigma} L_{\nu\rho}$$

Defined

$$L_i = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} L_{jk} \quad \& \text{ showed that}$$

$\vec{L} = -i \vec{x} \times \vec{\nabla} = \vec{x} \times \vec{p}$  is the angular momentum  
operator in QM.

Showed that  $e^{\frac{i}{2} \omega^{ij} L_{ij}} = e^{i \vec{\theta} \cdot \vec{L}}$  generates  
rotations by angle  $|\vec{\theta}|$  around  $\vec{\theta}$  directions  
according to the right-hand rule.

Note on sign convention:  $A_i = -A^i$  for  $i=1,2,3$ .

$$A_{ij} = A^{ij} (-1)^2 = A^{ij}; \quad A_{ijk} = (-1)^3 A^{ijk} = -A^{ijk}$$

$$\epsilon_{ijk}: \quad \epsilon_{123} = 1. \quad \text{What is } \epsilon^{123}?$$

$\epsilon_{ijk}$  is not a Lorentz-tensor, hence it makes no sense to raise/lower its indices, can't put  $\epsilon^{123} = -1$ , would be a mess  $\Rightarrow$  agree that  $\epsilon_{ijk} = \epsilon^{ijk}$ .

(Def.)  $\theta_i = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} \omega_{jk}$

$$\Rightarrow e^{\frac{i}{2} \omega^{ij} L_{ij}} = e^{\frac{i}{2} \omega^{ij} \epsilon_{ijk} L_k} = e^{\frac{i}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} \omega_{ij} L_k}$$

$$L_{ij} = \epsilon_{ijk} L_k$$

$$= e^{i \theta_k L_k} = e^{i \vec{\theta} \cdot \vec{L}}$$

Take  $\vec{\theta} = (\theta, 0, 0) \Rightarrow e^{i \vec{\theta} \cdot \vec{L}} = e^{i \theta L_1}$

" " "

$\theta^1 \theta^2 \theta^3$

$$L_1 = L_{23} = i(x_2 \partial_3 - x_3 \partial_2) = -i(x^2 \partial_3 - x^3 \partial_2)$$

$$= -i(y \partial_z - z \partial_y)$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{i \vec{\theta} \cdot \vec{L}} = e^{\theta (y \partial_z - z \partial_y)} \Rightarrow \text{clockwise rotation.}$$

$$\begin{cases} y' = y - \theta z \\ z' = z + \theta y \end{cases} \text{ rotation by } \theta \text{ in the clockwise direction (following right-hand rule)}$$

$\Rightarrow L_{ij}$  and therefore  $\vec{L}$  generate rotations!

What about the remaining generators  $L_{0i}$ ?

**Def.**  $K_i = L_{0i}$  (transforms as 3-vector under spatial rotations; not so under boosts)

$$x'^M = e^{\frac{i}{2} \omega^{\mu\nu} L_{\mu\nu}} x^M = e^{\frac{i}{2} \cdot 2 \cdot \omega^{0i} L_{0i}} x^M = e^{i \omega^{0i} K_i} x^M$$

$\Rightarrow$  take  $\vec{\omega}^i = \omega^{0i} \Rightarrow x'^M = e^{-i \vec{\omega} \cdot \vec{K}} x^M$

Take  $\vec{\omega} = (\omega', 0, 0) \Rightarrow x'^M = e^{-i \omega' K^1} x^M =$

$$= e^{-i \omega' \cdot i \cdot [x^0 \partial^1 - x^1 \partial^0]} x^M = e^{-\omega' [x^0 \partial_1 + x^1 \partial_0]} x^M$$

$$= e^{-\omega' [t \partial_x + x \partial_t]} x^M \Rightarrow \text{assume that } \omega' \ll 1 \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow y' = y, \quad z' = z$

$$t' = t - \omega' x; \quad x' = x - \omega' t$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} t' \\ x' \\ y' \\ z' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\omega' & 0 & 0 \\ -\omega' & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

a boost along x-axis with  $\beta = \omega' \ll 1$ .

We have 2 types of generators:

$$\vec{L} = -i \vec{x} \times \vec{\nabla}$$

$$\vec{K} = -i [x^0 \vec{\nabla} + \vec{x} \partial_0]$$

3 rotations

3 boosts

$$e^{\frac{i}{2} \omega^{\mu\nu} L_{\mu\nu}} = e^{-i \vec{\xi} \cdot \vec{K} + i \vec{\theta} \cdot \vec{L}} = \Lambda$$

Consider a scalar field  $\phi(x)$ : under  $\mathcal{L}$  transform

we have  $\phi_{(x)} \rightarrow \phi'(x') = \phi(x)$  does not change

$$\Rightarrow \phi'(x) = \phi(\Lambda^{-1} x) \quad \text{as } x' = \Lambda \cdot x.$$

Define a representation of Lorentz transform  $\Lambda$

$U(\Lambda)$  on the space of fields  $\phi(x)$ :

$$\Lambda \rightarrow U(\Lambda)$$

$$\text{by } \phi'(x) \equiv U(\Lambda) \phi(x) = \phi(\Lambda^{-1} x)$$

To find  $U(\Lambda)$  consider infinitesimal transform.

$$x^\mu \rightarrow \Lambda x^\mu = x^\mu + \delta x^\mu \Rightarrow \Lambda^{-1} x^\mu = x^\mu - \delta x^\mu$$

$$\Rightarrow U(\Lambda) \phi(x) = \phi(\Lambda^{-1} x^\mu) = \phi(x^\mu - \delta x^\mu) =$$

$$= \phi(x) - \delta x^\mu \partial_\mu \phi(x)$$

$$\text{as } x'^\mu = e^{\frac{i}{2} \omega^{\alpha\beta} L_{\alpha\beta}} x^\mu \approx \left(1 + \frac{i}{2} \omega^{\alpha\beta} L_{\alpha\beta}\right) x^\mu$$

$$= \left( \delta_{\alpha}^{\mu} + \omega^{\mu}_{\alpha} \right) x^{\alpha} = x^{\mu} + \omega^{\mu}_{\alpha} x^{\alpha} \Rightarrow \delta x^{\mu} = \omega^{\mu}_{\alpha} x^{\alpha} \quad (33)$$

$$\Rightarrow U(\Lambda) \phi(x) = \phi(x) - \omega^{\mu}_{\alpha} x^{\alpha} \partial_{\mu} \phi(x) =$$

$$= \phi(x) - \omega^{\mu\alpha} \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} (x_{\alpha} \partial_{\mu} - x_{\mu} \partial_{\alpha})}_{-i L_{\alpha\mu}} \phi(x)$$

$$= \phi(x) - \frac{i}{2} \omega^{\mu\nu} L_{\mu\nu} \phi(x) = \left( 1 - \frac{i}{2} \omega^{\mu\nu} L_{\mu\nu} \right) \phi(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow U(\Lambda) = e^{-\frac{i}{2} \omega^{\mu\nu} L_{\mu\nu}} = e^{i \vec{\xi} \cdot \vec{K} - i \vec{\theta} \cdot \vec{L}}$$

One can show that

$$\begin{cases} [L_i, L_j] = i \epsilon_{ijk} L_k \\ [L_i, K_j] = i \epsilon_{ijk} K_k \\ [K_i, K_j] = -i \epsilon_{ijk} L_k \end{cases}$$

another way of writing Lorentz generator algebra.

For particles with  $\neq 0$  spin have the spin operator too, denoted  $\vec{S}$ . as you know from QM course  $[S_i, S_j] = i \epsilon_{ijk} S_k$ .

Defining angular momentum

$$\vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S}$$

we have

$$\begin{cases} [J_i, J_j] = i \epsilon_{ijk} J_k \\ [J_i, K_j] = i \epsilon_{ijk} K_k \\ [K_i, K_j] = -i \epsilon_{ijk} J_k \end{cases}$$

if we define  $J_{\mu\nu} = L_{\mu\nu} + S_{\mu\nu}$

with  $S_{\mu\nu}$  satisfying the same commutation relations as  $L_{\mu\nu}$  and  $[L_{\alpha\beta}, S_{\mu\nu}] = 0$ .

Then

$$\begin{aligned} J_i &= \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} J_{jk} \\ K_i &= J_{0i} = L_{0i} + S_{0i} \end{aligned}$$

and the above algebra is satisfied!

Note that  $\vec{J}, \vec{K}$  are hermitean!

Define  $\vec{N}_+ \equiv \frac{1}{2} (\vec{J} + i\vec{K})$        $\vec{N}_- \equiv \vec{N}_+^\dagger$

but  $[N_+^i, N_-^j] = 0$        $\vec{N}_- = \frac{1}{2} (\vec{J} - i\vec{K}^\dagger)$

check:  $\left[ \frac{1}{2} (J^i + iK^i), \frac{1}{2} (J^j - iK^j) \right] =$   
 $= \frac{1}{4} \left\{ \cancel{i \epsilon^{ijk} J^k} - \cancel{i \epsilon^{ijk} J^k} + \frac{i}{2} [K^i, J^j] + \frac{i}{2} [K^j, J^i] \right\} = 0$

Def.  $\vec{N}_+ \equiv \frac{1}{2} [\vec{J} + i(\vec{K} - i\vec{S})] = \frac{1}{2} [\vec{J} + i\vec{K}$  (34)

$$+ \vec{S}] = \frac{1}{2} [\vec{L} + i\vec{K}] + \vec{S}$$

$$\vec{N}_- \stackrel{\vec{N}_+^\dagger}{=} \frac{1}{2} [\vec{J} - i(\vec{K} + i\vec{S})] = \frac{1}{2} [\vec{L} + \vec{S} - i\vec{K} + \vec{S}]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [\vec{L} - i\vec{K}] + \vec{S}$$

in  $\vec{N}_+$ , the spin operator acts in left-handed

space, in  $\vec{N}_-$  it acts in right-handed space

$\Rightarrow$  the spins commute.  $\Rightarrow$  still have  $[N_+^i, N_-^j] = 0$ .

Under parity:  $\vec{L} \xrightarrow{P} \vec{L}, \quad \vec{K} \xrightarrow{P} -\vec{K}$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \vec{N}_+ \xrightarrow{P} \vec{N}_- \\ \vec{N}_- \xrightarrow{P} \vec{N}_+ \end{cases} \sim \text{just swap.}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \Lambda_L &= e^{i\vec{\zeta} \cdot (-i\frac{\vec{\sigma}}{2}) - i\theta \cdot \frac{\vec{\sigma}}{2}} = e^{-i\frac{\vec{\sigma}}{2} \cdot (\vec{\theta} + i\vec{\zeta})} \\ \Lambda_R &= e^{i\vec{\zeta} \cdot (i\frac{\vec{\sigma}}{2}) - i\theta \cdot \frac{\vec{\sigma}}{2}} = e^{-i\frac{\vec{\sigma}}{2} \cdot (\vec{\theta} - i\vec{\zeta})} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

One can also show that

$$[N_+^i, N_+^j] = i \epsilon^{ijk} N_+^k$$

$$[N_-^i, N_-^j] = i \epsilon^{ijk} N_-^k$$

$N_+^i$  forms Lie algebra of  $SU(2)$

$N_-^i$  — — — — —

$\Rightarrow$  we separated  $SO(3,1)$  into  $SU(2) \otimes SU(2)$ .

$\Rightarrow$  treat  $N_+^i$  as a separate "spin" operator

$\Rightarrow$  eigenvalues of  $\vec{N}_+^2$  are  $n_+(n_++1)$

with  $n_+ = 0, \frac{1}{2}, 1, \frac{3}{2}, 2, \dots$

$\Rightarrow$  eigenvalues of  $\vec{N}_-^2$  are  $n_-(n_-+1)$

with  $n_- = 0, \frac{1}{2}, \dots$

(don't need hermiticity for this)

$\Rightarrow$  can classify representations of Lorentz group by  $(n_+, n_-)$

$\Rightarrow \vec{J} = \vec{N}_+ + \vec{N}_- \Rightarrow$  the spin of the resulting field is given by  $n_+ + n_-$



Under parity (IP) :  $\vec{J} \rightarrow \vec{J}, \vec{K} \rightarrow -\vec{K} \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow \vec{N}_+ \rightarrow \vec{N}_- \quad \& \quad \vec{N}_- \rightarrow \vec{N}_+$

they are not independent.

### Classification of Fields.

$(0, 0)$  spin-0, scalar field  $\phi(x)$

$(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$  } spin-1/2 left-handed spinor  $\chi_L(x)$   
2 d.o.f.

$(0, \frac{1}{2})$  } right-handed spinor  $\chi_R(x)$   
2 d.o.f.

$(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$  spin-1, 4-vector field  $A_\mu(x)$   
 $= (\frac{1}{2}, 0) \oplus (0, \frac{1}{2}) \Rightarrow 2 \times 2 = 4$  d.o.f.

$(1, 0)$  spin-1, anti-symmetric self-dual tensor of rank-2,  $B_{\mu\nu}$   
 $B_{\mu\nu} = -B_{\nu\mu}, \quad B_{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} B_{\rho\sigma}$   
3 d.o.f.

$(0, 1)$  spin-1, -1 - anti-self-dual -1 -  
 $B_{\mu\nu} = -\frac{i}{2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} B_{\rho\sigma}$   
3 d.o.f.

$(\frac{1}{2}, 0) \oplus (0, \frac{1}{2})$  has given parity, Dirac spinor

$(1, 0) \oplus (0, 1)$  e.g. Maxwell field strength  $F_{\mu\nu}$   
(also Kalb-Ramond field intrinsic)

$(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}) \sim A_\mu$  e.g. Maxwell E & M,  $A^\mu = (\Phi, \vec{A})$ .

$(\frac{1}{2}, 0) \otimes (\frac{1}{2}, 0) = (0, 0) \oplus (1, 0) \Rightarrow (1, 0)$  has 3 d.o.f.

# Classification of fields

$(0, 0)$	spin-0	scalar field $\varphi(x)$	1 d.o.f.
$(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$	spin- $\frac{1}{2}$	left-handed spinor $\chi_L = \begin{pmatrix} \chi_1 \\ \chi_2 \end{pmatrix}$	2 d.o.f.
$(0, \frac{1}{2})$		right-handed spinor $\chi_R = \begin{pmatrix} \chi_3 \\ \chi_4 \end{pmatrix}$	2 d.o.f.
		Dirac spinor $\psi : (\frac{1}{2}, 0) \oplus (0, \frac{1}{2})$	
$(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$	spin-1	vector field $A_\mu(x)$ $(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}) = (\frac{1}{2}, 0) \otimes (0, \frac{1}{2})$	4 d.o.f.
$(1, 0)$	spin-1	$B_{\mu\nu} = -B_{\nu\mu}, B_{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} B^{\rho\sigma}$	3 d.o.f.
$(0, 1)$	spin-1	$B_{\mu\nu} = -B_{\nu\mu}, B_{\mu\nu} = -\frac{i}{2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} B^{\rho\sigma}$	3 d.o.f.
$(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}) \oplus (\frac{1}{2}, 1)$	spin- $\frac{3}{2}$	$\psi^\mu$ Rarita-Schwinger field $\gamma^\mu \psi_\mu = 0$ contr.	6+6 d.o.f. = 12 d.o.f. = 16-4
$(1, 1)$	spin-2	$g_{\mu\nu} \sim$ graviton field $\gamma^\mu = 4 \text{ dim}$	9 d.o.f. = 10-1

(BTW,  $A \oplus B = A \otimes \mathbb{1} + \mathbb{1} \otimes B$ )

d.o.f. = degrees of freedom = # of independent complex components!

$\varphi$  can be complex,  $\chi_{L,R}$  complex,  $A_\mu$  can be complex (eg. W-boson),  $B_{\mu\nu}$  is complex,  $\psi^\mu$  - ...

(1,1) spin-2, symmetric rank-2 tensor

e.g.  $g_{\mu\nu} \sim$  gravitons,  $T_{\mu\nu} \sim$  energy-momentum tensor  
 $3 \times 3 = 9$  d.o.f. ( $g_{\mu\nu}$  has 10 d.o.f, but as  $g^{\mu}_{\mu} = 4 \Rightarrow$  really 9).

Spinor Representations

$\chi_L = \begin{pmatrix} \chi_1 \\ \chi_2 \end{pmatrix}, \chi_R = \begin{pmatrix} \chi_3 \\ \chi_4 \end{pmatrix}$

Weyl spinors

$\chi_L(x) \rightarrow \chi'_L(x') \equiv \Lambda_L \chi_L(x)$  for  $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$

$\chi_R(x) \rightarrow \chi'_R(x') \equiv \Lambda_R \chi_R(x)$  for  $(0, \frac{1}{2})$

$\chi_{L,R}$  have 2 components each  $\Rightarrow \Lambda_{L,R}$  are  $2 \times 2$  matrices

Generalizing  $U = e^{i\vec{\xi} \cdot \vec{K} - i\vec{\theta} \cdot \vec{L}}$  from scalar

field we write  $\vec{L} \rightarrow \vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S} = \vec{L} + \frac{1}{2}\vec{\sigma}$  (su(2) property)

where  $\sigma^1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \sigma^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \sigma^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

are Pauli matrices; also  $\vec{K} = -i[x^0 \vec{\nabla} + \vec{x} \partial_0] - \frac{i}{2}\vec{\sigma}$ .

$\Rightarrow \chi'_L(x) = U_L(\Lambda) \chi_L(x) = e^{i\vec{\xi} \cdot \vec{K} - i\vec{\theta} \cdot \vec{J}} \chi_L(x)$

$= e^{i\vec{\xi} \cdot (-\frac{i}{2}\vec{\sigma}) - i\vec{\theta} \cdot \frac{\vec{\sigma}}{2}} \chi_L(\Lambda^{-1}x)$

$\Rightarrow \chi'_L(x') = e^{-\frac{i}{2}\vec{\sigma} \cdot (\vec{\theta} + i\vec{\xi})} \chi_L(x) = \Lambda_L \chi_L(x)$