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Gauge Invariance

given a set of scalar fields ϕ

Suppose observables are invariant under a rotation G of the fields $\dots \phi' \rightarrow G\phi$

note that the Lagrangian Density $\frac{1}{2} (\nabla\phi)^T (\nabla\phi) - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^T \phi$ is invariant, as long as G is constant in space.

But suppose we want a Lagrangian to be invariant under a local (spacially varying) rotation $G(x)$. (The orthogonal group $O(n)$)

Then define the covariant derivative $D \equiv (\nabla + gA)$ so that

$$(\nabla + gA') \phi' \rightarrow G (\nabla + gA) \phi$$

$$\text{with } \nabla' \rightarrow \nabla \text{ and } A' \rightarrow GA G^{-1} + \frac{1}{g} G (\nabla G^{-1})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{proof } (\nabla' + gA') \phi' &= (\nabla' \phi' + g G A G^{-1} \phi' + G (\nabla G^{-1}) \phi') = \\ &= \nabla(G\phi) + g G A G^{-1} G\phi + G (\nabla G^{-1}) G\phi = \\ &= G (\nabla + gA) \phi + (\nabla G) \phi - G G^{-1} \nabla G G^{-1} \phi = \\ &= G (\nabla + gA) \phi + (\nabla G) \phi - (\nabla G) \phi = \\ &= G (\nabla + gA) \phi \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{note } \nabla G^{-1} = -G^{-1} (\nabla G) G^{-1} \text{ from } \nabla (G G^{-1}) = 0$$

A is called the "gauge field" and g is called the coupling constant.

Then one postulates a new, locally invariant Lagrangian

$$\frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^T (\partial\phi) + \frac{m}{2} \phi^T \phi$$

The difference between this Lagrangian and the original one is

$$\Delta L = \frac{g}{2} \phi^T A^T \nabla\phi + \frac{g}{2} (\nabla\phi)^T A \phi + \frac{g^2}{2} (A\phi)^T (A\phi)$$

which can be interpreted as coupling between the fields, eg, terms like $A_{12} \phi_1 \phi_2$.

The gauge field A is not uniquely determined by the requirement of the transformation law, but is constrained by it in a way I don't completely understand.

Wikipedia says, "the gauge field is an element of the Lie algebra, and therefore can be expanded as $A(x) = \sum A^a(x) T^a$ "

where " T^a " matrices are generators of the group $SO(n)$. ($SO(n)$ is the subgroup of $O(n)$ with $\det=1$)

from some reading I've done, it looks like the generators of the representation of the rotation group $SO(3)$ are just the derivatives

$$T^a = -i \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} \quad w/ \quad \theta_i = \text{euler angle.}$$

and so are just very simple matrices like $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & i & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

(they are generators in the sense that a general rotation is $\exp(i T^a \theta_a)$)

The Lie algebra can be used to derive a Lagrangian for A : \mathcal{L}

$$F_{ij} = D_i D_j - D_j D_i \quad \text{Then } L = \frac{1}{2g^2} \text{Tr} (F_{ij} F^{ij}).$$

Note $F' = G F G^{-1}$, so Lagrangian is Gauge Invariant.

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3

Lie group G eg. Group of all possible rotations of a 3D object

elements R depending upon n independent parameters

$$R(\underline{\xi}) = R(\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n) \quad n = \text{dimension of Group}$$

$R = \mathbb{I}$ is identity element

$$R(\underline{\xi}) \approx \mathbb{I} + \sum \xi_i S_i \quad \text{with } S_i = \left. \frac{d}{d\xi_i} R(\underline{\xi}) \right|_{\underline{\xi}=0}$$

S_i "generators"

commutator $[S_i, S_j] = S_i S_j - S_j S_i$ measures non-commutativity of S_i 's

since $R_i R_j \stackrel{?}{=} R_j R_i$ same as $R_i^{-1} R_j^{-1} R_i R_j \stackrel{?}{=} \mathbb{I}$
and $R_i^{-1} R_j^{-1} R_i R_j = \mathbb{I} + \epsilon_i \epsilon_j [S_i, S_j]$

commutator can be expressed as linear comb of Generators

$$[S_i, S_j] = \sum_k c_{ij}^k S_k$$

structure constant of Lie Algebra, a defining relation

since $[,]$ antisymmetric

Then $c_{ij}^k = -c_{ji}^k$

Jacobi Identity $[[S_i, S_j], S_k] + [[S_j, S_k], S_i] + [[S_k, S_i], S_j] = 0$

Example $SO(3)$ group of rotations in $3D$

$O = \text{orthogonal (real, } A^T = A^{-1})$
 $S = \text{simple (det } A = 1)$

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \phi_1 & \sin \phi_1 \\ 0 & -\sin \phi_1 & \cos \phi_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \phi_2 & 0 & -\sin \phi_2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \sin \phi_2 & 0 & \cos \phi_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \phi_3 & \sin \phi_3 & 0 \\ -\sin \phi_3 & \cos \phi_3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$S_i = -i \left. \frac{dR}{d\phi_i} \right|_{\phi=0} \quad S_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad S_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -i & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad S_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Example $SU(2)$

$U = \text{unitary (} A^T = A^{-1})$ simple $\det A = 1$

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} \exp(i\xi) \cos \eta & \exp(i\xi) \sin \eta \\ -\exp(-i\xi) \sin \eta & \exp(-i\xi) \cos \eta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$S_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad S_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad S_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$SU(2)$ 4 elements $\times 2$ real/imag parts = 8

$A^T A = \mathbb{I}$: 9 real $\det(A) = 1$: 1 minus $18 - 9 - 1 = 8$ parameters.

④ getting back to gauge theory ...

The step of expanding $A(x)$ in the generators T of the Lie Algebra is really important: $A(x) = \sum_n A_n(x) T^n$ since it is the way that the group symmetry is explicitly introduced into the Lagrangian. That is, then the covariant derivative

$$D_\mu = \partial_\mu + g \sum_n A_n(x) T^n$$

note then that there are n gauge fields, A_α , $\alpha=1, \dots, n$ one for each generator, which is to say, as many as the order of the group.

QED local invariance under $U(1)$ (phase change)
 1 gauge field (electromagnetic field)
 1 generator: i \rightarrow photon

Electroweak $SU(2)$ and $U(1)$

\rightarrow 3 gauge fields W^+, W^-, Z bosons

Standard model $SU(3)$ and $SU(2)$ and $U(1)$

QCD $SU(3) \rightarrow$ 3 gauge fields \rightarrow gluons

note Yang-Mills Lagrangian \mathcal{L}_{YM}

Lie algebra: $[T^a, T^b] = i f^{abc} T^c$

then $D_\mu = \partial_\mu - ig A_\mu^a T^a$ $A_\mu = T^a A_\mu^a$

$$F_{\mu\nu}^a = \partial_\mu A_\nu^a - \partial_\nu A_\mu^a + g f^{abc} A_\mu^b A_\nu^c$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{YM} = -\frac{1}{4} \text{Tr} (F_a^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}^a)$$