

New Issues in Lorentz Gauge Theories

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Abstract: This talk is devoted to introduce a gauge theory of the Lorentz Group based on the ambiguity emerging in dealing with isometric diffeomorphism-induced Lorentz transformations. The behaviors under local transformations of fermion fields and spin connections (assumed to be coordinate vectors) are analyzed in flat space-time and the role of the torsion field within the generalization to curved space-time is briefly discussed. The fermion dynamics including the new gauge field is then analyzed assuming time-gauge and stationary solutions in the non-relativistic limit are founded.

Outline:

1. Internal space-time symmetries: the standard approach to a Lorentz Gauge Theory
2. Diffeomorphism induced Lorentz transformations and new connections
3. Formulation of the theory on flat space-time
4. Fermion dynamics in the non-relativistic limit: a generalized Pauli Equation
5. Generalization to curved space-time and the role of the torsion field

Internal space-time symmetries: the standard approach to a Lorentz Gauge Theory

Internal symmetries of the space-time: we focus on the description of GR as a gauge model (underling the ambiguity that arises from this approach).

Tetrad formalism (e_μ^a) for the local Minkowskian tangent space-time can recover the Lorentz symmetry

→ tetrad changes are defined as local Lorentz *trs* between inertial references

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{ab} e_\mu^a e_\nu^b \quad e_\mu^a e^\mu_b = \delta_b^a \quad e_\mu^a e^\nu_a = \delta_\mu^\nu$$

$\mu = 0, 1, 2, 3$ coordinate indices $a = 0, 1, 2, 3$ Lorentz indices

$$e_\mu^a \rightarrow \Lambda_b^a e_\mu^b$$

Local Lorentz invariance of the scheme \rightarrow Covariant derivative

$$\partial_a \psi = e_a^\mu \partial_\mu \psi \quad (\text{coordinate scalar}) \quad \rightarrow \quad \mathcal{D}_a \psi = (\partial_a + \Gamma_a^{(L)})\psi \quad (\text{Lorentz vector})$$

Lorentz connections ω_μ^{ab} :

$$\Gamma_a^{(L)} = e_a^\mu \Gamma_\mu^{(L)} \quad \Gamma_\mu^{(L)} = \frac{1}{2} \omega_\mu^{cd} \Sigma_{cd}$$

$$\omega_\mu^{cd} = e^{c\nu} \nabla_\mu e_\nu^d = e_\mu^a \gamma_a^{cd}$$

Σ_{cd} : generators of the Lorentz Group (LG) ∇_μ : coordinate covariant derivative

- Connections are called *spin connections*:
 - \rightarrow they restore the correct Dirac algebra in curved space-time.
 - \rightarrow the correct treatment of spinors leads to the introduction of that connections which guarantee a suitable gauge model for the Lorentz group even on flat space-time.
 - \rightarrow spinors are a particular representation of the LG.

This picture suggests (in appearance) the description of GR as a **gauge model**

Lorentz connections are the projected *Ricci rotation coefficients* $\omega_\mu^{ab} = e_\mu^c \gamma^{ab}_c$:

$$R_{\mu\nu}{}^{ab} = \partial_\nu \omega_\mu^{ab} - \partial_\mu \omega_\nu^{ab} + \mathcal{F}_{cd}{}^{ab}{}_{ef} \omega_\mu^{cd} \omega_\nu^{ef}$$

$\mathcal{F}_{cd}{}^{ab}{}_{ef}$: LG structure constants

The Hilbert-Einstein action for GR can be written in the form

$$S(e, \omega) = -\frac{1}{4} \int e d^4x e_a^\mu e_b^\nu R_{\mu\nu}{}^{ab}$$

→ Variation wrt connections leads to the *Cartan structure equation*

$$\partial_\mu e_\nu^a - \partial_\nu e_\mu^a - \omega_\mu^{ab} e_{\nu b} + \omega_\nu^{ab} e_{\mu b} = 0$$

→ Variation wrt tetrads gives the Einstein equations

In the usual approach, ω_μ^{ab} transform like **Lorentz gauge vectors** under infinitesimal local Lorentz *trs* - ϵ^{ab} : infinitesimal parameter $\rightarrow \Lambda_a^b = \delta_a^b + \epsilon_a^b$

$$\omega_\mu^{ab} \rightarrow \omega_\mu^{ab} - \partial_\mu \epsilon^{ab} + \frac{1}{4} \mathcal{F}_{cd}^{ab} \epsilon^{cd} \omega_\nu^{ef}$$

Riemann tensor is preserved by such a change

(in flat space-time, we deal with non-zero gauge connections, but a vanishing curvature)

- **Ambiguity**: ω_μ^{ab} exhibit the right behavior to play the role of Lorentz gauge fields, and GR assume the features of a gauge theory.

But:

- spin connections can be uniquely determined as functions of tetrad fields in terms of the Ricci rotation coefficients: non fundamental gauge fields
- Tetrad fields (Principle of General Covariance): two dependent dof

Diffeomorphism induced Lorentz transformations and new connections

The introduction of fermions into the dynamics requires to treat local Lorentz *trs* as the real independent gauge of GR. Because of the spinor behavior, it is crucial to investigate if diffeomorphisms can be reinterpreted as local Lorentz transformations.

Transformation laws:

- ω_μ^{ab}
- Gauge potential under Lorentz *trs* - (Lorentz indices)
 - Coordinate vector under diffeomorphism - (Coordinate indices)
-
- ψ
- Representation of the LG - $\psi(x) \rightarrow \psi'(x') = S \psi(x)$ (tangent bundle)
 - Coordinate scalar - (no world indices)

If the two *trs* overlap: **inconsistence** - what is the nature of ω_μ^{ab} and ψ ?

An isometric diffeomorphism induces orthonormal transformed basis e_μ^a :
in this sense an isometry generates a local Lorentz transformation of the basis.

- Infinitesimal isometric diffeomorphism:

$$x^\mu \rightarrow x'^\mu = x^\mu + \xi^\mu(x) \qquad \nabla_\mu \xi_\nu + \nabla_\nu \xi_\mu = 0 \qquad (\text{isometry condition})$$

$$e_\mu^a(x) \xrightarrow{D} e_\mu^a(x) + e_\rho^a(x) \partial \xi^\rho / \partial x'^\mu$$

- Infinitesimal Lorentz transformation:

$$\Lambda_a^b(x) = \delta_a^b + \epsilon_a^b \qquad e_\mu^a(x) \xrightarrow{L} e_\mu^a(x) + e_\mu^b(x) \epsilon_b^a$$

The two *trs* overlap if: $\epsilon_{ab} = D_{[a} \xi_{b]} - R_{abc} \xi^c$

Isometry condition $\nabla_{(\mu} \xi_{\nu)} = 0$ must hold in order to have $\epsilon_{ab} = -\epsilon_{ba}$.

If isometric diffeomorphism are allowed:

Diffeomorphism induced Lorentz transformation: a new gauge field $A_\mu^{ab} \neq \omega_\mu^{ab}$ must be introduced to restore the Lorentz invariance

→ *Flat space-time*: in the case $e_\mu^a = \delta_\mu^a$ spin connections vanish and they remain identically zero under diffeomorphisms.

Coordinate transformations = Lorentz rotations (gauge transformations):

ω_μ^{ab} are inappropriate to restore local Lorentz invariance.

→ *Curved space-time*: ω_μ^{ab} are assumed to behave like tensors under diffeomorphism induced rotations.

obs. If ω_μ^{ab} behave like gauge vectors, the standard approach can be recovered (ambiguity of tetrads dependence)

→ Arbitrary choice

obs. Spinor ψ can noway be a Lorentz scalar

Formulation of the theory on flat space-time

Construction of a diffeo-induced Lorentz gauge model on a Minkowski space.

Riemann curvature tensor vanishes: spin connections ω_μ^{ab} can be set to zero
 (in general, they are allowed to be non-vanishing quantity in view of local Lorentz invariance)

→ The introduction of **Lorentz connections** A_μ^{ab} as the gauge field of local LG on flat space-time (as far as the correspondence between an infinitesimal diffeomorphism and a local Local rotation is recovered)

The *metric tensor* can be expressed as: $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{ab} e_\mu^a e_\nu^b$

Infinitesimal diffeomorphism

$$x^a \xrightarrow{D} x'^a = x^a + \xi^a(x^c)$$

Infinitesimal local Lorentz tr

$$x^a \xrightarrow{L} x'^a = x^a + \epsilon_b^a(x^c) x^b$$

obs. If *vector fields* are treated no inconsistency arises if the two *trs* overlap.

If $\epsilon_a^b \equiv \partial^b \xi_a(x^c)$ the two transformation laws are the same

$${}^D V'_a(x'^c) = V_a(x^c) + \partial_a \xi^b(x^c) V_b(x^c) \qquad {}^L V'_a(x'^c) = V_a(x^c) + \epsilon_a^b V_b(x^c)$$

and the LG loses its status of independent gauge group. To restore the proper number of degrees of freedom of a Lorentz *tr*, 10, out of that of generic diffeo., the **isometry condition** $\partial_b \xi_a + \partial_a \xi_b = 0$ has to be imposed.

Spin-1/2 fields are is described by the Lagrangian density on a 4D flat manifold

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{i}{2} \bar{\psi} \gamma^a e^\mu_a \partial_\mu \psi - \frac{i}{2} e^\mu_a \partial_\mu \bar{\psi} \gamma^a \psi - m \bar{\psi} \psi$$

which is invariant under global Lorentz *trs*

Let us introduce a local Lorentz *tr*: $S = S(\Lambda(x))$

$$\psi(x) \rightarrow S \psi(x) \quad \bar{\psi}(x) \rightarrow \bar{\psi}(x) S^{-1}$$

where S is in every point a *non-singular matrix*.

Infinitesimal transformations

$$\epsilon_b^a(x) \ll 1 \quad (\epsilon^{ab} = -\epsilon^{ba}) \quad \rightarrow \quad \Lambda_b^a = \delta_b^a + \epsilon_b^a$$

$$S = I - \frac{i}{4} \epsilon^{ab} \Sigma_{ab} \quad \Sigma_{ab} = -\frac{1}{2} [\gamma_a, \gamma_b] \quad [\Sigma_{cd}, \Sigma_{ef}] = i \mathcal{F}_{cdef}{}^{ab} \Sigma_{ab}$$

- A spinor can not be a Lorentz scalar \rightarrow for assumption the connections $\omega_\mu{}^{ab}$ do not follows Lorentz gauge transformations.

New connections have to be introduced to restore Lorentz invariance

(Differently from *vector fields*, spinors have to recognize the isometric components of the diffeomorphism as a local Lorentz *tr*, if accelerated coordinates are taken into account)

Let us assume that γ matrices transform like Lorentz vectors $S \gamma^a S^{-1} = (\Lambda^{-1})^a_b \gamma^b$

- In particular, if $\omega_\mu^{ab} = 0$ they still vanish under a Lorentz gauge tr which now can be seen as a diffeomorphism.

This way \mathcal{L} invariance is restored by the new covariant derivative

$$D_\mu \psi = (\partial_\mu - ig A_\mu) \psi = (\partial_\mu - ig A_\mu^{ab} \Sigma_{ab}) \psi$$

The gauge invariance $\gamma^a e^\mu_a D_\mu \psi \rightarrow S \gamma^a e^\mu_a D_\mu \psi$ is provided by the *gauge field*

$A_\mu = A_\mu^{ab} \Sigma_{ab}$ ($\neq \omega_\mu^{ab}$) which transforms like $A_\mu \rightarrow S A_\mu S^{-1} - 4i S \partial_\mu S^{-1}$

$$A_\mu^{ab} \rightarrow A_\mu^{ab} - \partial_\mu \epsilon^{ab} + 4\mathcal{F}^{ab}_{cdef} \epsilon^{ef} A_\mu^{cd} \quad (\epsilon^{ef}(x) \ll 1)$$

i.e. as a **natural Yang-Mill field** associated to the **Lorentz gauge Group**, living in the tangent bundle.

Fermion dynamics in the non-relativistic limit: a generalized Pauli Equation

For the 4-spinor ψ , the implementation of the *local Lorentz symmetry* ($\partial_\mu \rightarrow D_\mu$), in a flat space, leads to the Lagrangian density:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_0 + \mathcal{L}_{int} \quad \mathcal{L}_0 = \frac{i}{2} \bar{\psi} \gamma^a e^\mu_a \partial_\mu \psi - \frac{i}{2} e^\mu_a \partial_\mu \bar{\psi} \gamma^a \psi - m \bar{\psi} \psi$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{int} = \frac{1}{8} e^\mu_c \bar{\psi} \{ \gamma^c, \Sigma_{ab} \} A_\mu^{ab} \psi = -S^\mu_{ab} A_\mu^{ab}$$

where the curl brackets indicate the *anti-commutator*

$$\{ \gamma^c, \Sigma_{ab} \} = 2 \epsilon^c_{abd} \gamma_5 \gamma^d \quad S_\mu^{ab} = -\frac{1}{4} \epsilon^{ab}_{cd} e_\mu^c j_A^d$$

- $j_{(A)}^d = \bar{\psi} \gamma_5 \gamma^d \psi$: spinor axial current interacting with the gauge field A_μ

Explicit form of the interaction Lagrangian density:

$$\mathcal{L}_{int} = \frac{1}{4} \bar{\psi} \epsilon_{abd}^c \gamma_5 \gamma^d A_c^{ab} \psi$$

$a = \{0, \alpha\}$: split of the gauge field $\rightarrow A_0^{0\alpha}, A_0^{\alpha\beta}, A_\gamma^{0\alpha}, A_\gamma^{\alpha\beta}$

- We impose the time-gauge associated to this picture: $A_0^{\alpha\beta} = 0$
- $A_0^{0\alpha}$ is saturated on the completely anti-symmetric symbol $\epsilon_{0\alpha d}^0 \equiv 0$

Now we get

$$\mathcal{L}_{int} = \frac{1}{4} \bar{\psi} (\epsilon_{0\alpha\delta}^\gamma \gamma_5 \gamma^\delta A_\gamma^{0\alpha} + \epsilon_{\alpha\beta 0}^\gamma \gamma_5 \gamma^0 A_\gamma^{\alpha\beta}) \psi$$

The total Lagrangian density rewrites as

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{i}{2}(\psi^\dagger \gamma^0 \gamma^a \partial_a \psi - \partial_a \psi^\dagger \gamma^0 \gamma^a \psi) - m \gamma^0 \psi^\dagger \psi + \\ + \psi^\dagger C_0 \gamma^0 \gamma_5 \gamma^0 \psi + \psi^\dagger C_\alpha \gamma^0 \gamma_5 \gamma^\alpha \psi$$

with the identifications: $C_0 = \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta 0}^\gamma A_\gamma^{\alpha\beta}$ $C_\alpha = \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_{0\beta\alpha}^\gamma A_\gamma^{0\beta}$

Finally, from $\delta S = 0$ variation wrt ψ^\dagger leads to the modified Dirac eq

$$(i \gamma^0 \gamma^0 \partial_0 + C_\alpha \gamma^0 \gamma_5 \gamma^\alpha + i \gamma^0 \gamma^\alpha \partial_\alpha + C_0 \gamma^0 \gamma_5 \gamma^0) \psi = m \gamma^0 \psi$$

We look now for **stationary solution** of the Dirac equation: $\psi(\mathbf{x}, t) \rightarrow \psi(\mathbf{x}) e^{-i\mathcal{E}t}$

Using the Standard Representation of Dirac matrices:

$$\psi = \begin{pmatrix} \chi \\ \phi \end{pmatrix} \quad \psi^\dagger = (\chi^\dagger, \phi^\dagger)$$

$$\gamma^\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sigma_\alpha \\ -\sigma_\alpha & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \gamma^0 = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{1} & 0 \\ 0 & -\mathbf{1} \end{pmatrix} \quad \gamma^5 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbf{1} \\ \mathbf{1} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

the **2-component spinors** χ and ϕ are found to satisfy the two coupled eqs

$$(\mathcal{E} - \sigma_\alpha C^\alpha) \chi - (\sigma^\alpha p_\alpha + C_0) \phi = m \chi$$

$$(\mathcal{E} - \sigma_\alpha C^\alpha) \phi - (\sigma^\alpha p_\alpha + C_0) \chi = -m \phi$$

In order to investigate the **non-relativistic limit** $\rightarrow \mathcal{E} = E + m$

The coupled equations rewrite now

$$(E - \sigma_\alpha C^\alpha) \chi = (\sigma^\alpha p_\alpha + C_0) \phi$$

$$(E - \sigma_\alpha C^\alpha + m) \phi = (\sigma^\alpha p_\alpha + C_0) \chi - m \phi$$

- In the non-relativistic limit both $|E|$ and $|\sigma_\alpha C^\alpha|$ terms are small in comparison wrt the mass term m :

$$\phi = \frac{1}{2m} (\sigma^\alpha p_\alpha + C_0) \chi$$

ϕ is smaller than χ by a factor of order p/m (i.e. v/c): **small components**

Using the Pauli matrix relation $(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{A})(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} + i\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B})$ we can combine the two eqs in the following expression

$$E \chi(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2m} \left[p^2 + C_0^2 + 2C_0 (\boldsymbol{\sigma}^\alpha p_\alpha) + \sigma_\alpha C^\alpha \right] \chi(\mathbf{x})$$

Strong analogies with the electro-magnetic case: **Pauli Equation**

$$E \chi(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2m} \left[(\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{A})^2 + \mu_B \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B} + \Phi \right] \chi(\mathbf{x})$$

where $\mu_B = e/2m$ is the Bohr magneton and \mathbf{A} is the vector potential.

- It is worth noting the presence of a term related to the helicity of the 2-spinor: this coupling is controlled by the rotation-like component associated to C_0 .
- A Zeeman-like coupling associated to the boost-like component C_α is also present.

Let us now neglect the term C_0^2 and implement the symmetry

$$\partial_\mu \rightarrow \partial_\mu + A_\mu^{U(1)} + A_\mu^{ab} \Sigma_{ab} \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{A} = 0$$

→ we introduce a Coulomb central potential $V(r)$: $E \rightarrow E - V(r)$

$$H_0 = \frac{p^2}{2m} - \frac{Ze^2}{(4\pi\epsilon_0)r}$$

$$H' = \frac{1}{m} [2C_0 (S_\alpha p^\alpha) + S_\alpha C^\alpha]$$

where \mathbf{S} is the spin operator: $\sigma_\alpha = 2S_\alpha$.

These Hamiltonian characterize the electron dynamics in a hydrogen-like atom in presence of a gauge field of the Lorentz Group.

Generalization to curved space-time and the role of the torsion field

First Order Approach: in presence of **torsion** $\mathcal{T}_{\mu\nu}^\rho$ (Riemann-Cartan space U^4), the II Cartan Structure eq writes

$$\partial_\mu e_\nu^a - \partial_\nu e_\mu^a - \tilde{\omega}_\mu^{ab} e_{\nu b} + \tilde{\omega}_\nu^{ab} e_{\mu b} = e_\rho^a \mathcal{T}_{\mu\nu}^\rho = \mathcal{T}_{\mu\nu}^a$$

- The connections, solutions of the Cartan eq, are

$$\tilde{\omega}_\mu^{ab} = \omega_\mu^{ab} + \mathcal{K}_\mu^{ab}$$

here \mathcal{K}_μ^{ab} is the contortion field $\mathcal{K}_{\nu\rho}^\mu = -\frac{1}{2}(\mathcal{T}_{\nu\rho}^\mu - \mathcal{T}_{\rho\nu}^\mu + \mathcal{T}_{\nu\mu}^\rho)$
and ω_μ^{ab} are the usual Riemannian spin connections.

→ These connections do not describe any physical field:

\mathcal{K}_μ^{ab} appear only in a non-dynamical term: in presence of fermionic matter, substituting $\tilde{\omega}_\mu^{ab}$ in the HE action, \mathcal{K}_μ^{ab} become proportional to the spin density (Einstein-Cartan model).

Total connections can be rewritten as: $C_\mu^{ab} = \tilde{\omega}_\mu^{ab} + A_\mu^{ab}$

- A_μ^{ab} : Lorentz gauge connections connected with the appearance of torsion

Interaction term between the spin connections ω and the fields A :
(writes in a more compact formalism)

$$S_{int} = 2 \int \epsilon_{abcd} e^a \wedge e^b \wedge \omega_g^{[c} \wedge A^{gd]}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S(e, \omega, A, \psi, \bar{\psi}) = & \frac{1}{4} \int \epsilon_{abcd} e^a \wedge e^b \wedge R^{cd} + \\ & - \frac{1}{32} \int tr \star F \wedge F - \frac{1}{4} \int \epsilon_{abcd} e^a \wedge e^b \wedge \omega_f^{[c} \wedge A^{fd]} + \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \int \epsilon_{abcd} e^a \wedge e^b \wedge e^c \wedge \left[i \bar{\psi} \gamma^d \left(d - \frac{i}{4} (\omega + A) \right) \psi - i \left(d + \frac{i}{4} (\omega + A) \right) \bar{\psi} \gamma^d \psi \right] \end{aligned}$$

Variations:

- No fermion matter:

$$d^{(\tilde{\omega})} e^a = A^a_b \wedge e^b \qquad \tilde{\omega}_\mu^{ab} = \omega_\mu^{ab} + A_\mu^{ab}$$

→ A_μ^{ab} can be identified with the contortion field \mathcal{K}_μ^{ab} (II Cartan eq)

- With fermion matter: $\tilde{\omega}_\mu^{ab} = \omega_\mu^{ab} + A_\mu^{ab} + \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_{bcd} e_\mu^c j_{(A)}^d$

→ spin density results to be the source term of the Yang-Mills eq for the new Lorentz connections.

Conclusions

- A gauge theory of the Lorentz group is developed starting from the ambiguity in dealing with isometric diffeomorphism-induced Lorentz transformations. The not clear behaviors under local transformations of fermion field and spin connections allows to introduce new connections for the model.
- In order to restore the invariance under diffeo-induced local Lorentz *trs* of a spinor lagrangian in a flat scape-time, we need to introduce a new gauge field behaving like a Yang-Mill field. *Spin connections are assumed to behave like coordinate vectors and are not gauge fields.*
- The analysis of the spinor interaction lagrangian in presence of the new gauge field, in the non-relativistic limit, leads to a Pauli-like equation describing the behavior of the large components of a 4-spinor.
- The generalization in curved space-time allows to identify the Lorentz gauge field with the tetradic projection of the contortion field arising from the Second Cartan Structure equation.