

# Construction of a relativistic field theory

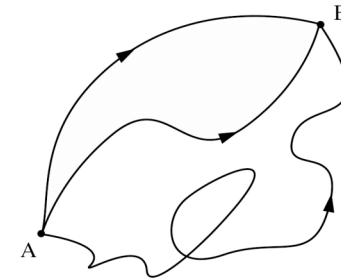
Lagrangian

$$L = T - V$$

(Nonrelativistic mechanics)

Action

$$S = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} L dt$$



- Classical path ... minimises action
- Quantum mechanics ... sum over all paths with amplitude  $\propto e^{iS/\hbar}$

Lagrangian invariant under all the symmetries of nature

-makes it easy to construct viable theories

# Lagrangian formulation of the Klein Gordon equation

$$L = \int \mathcal{L} d^3x, \quad \mathcal{L} \text{ lagrangian density}$$

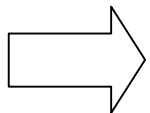
Klein Gordon field  $\phi(x)$

$$\mathcal{L} = \underbrace{(\partial_\mu \phi(x))^\dagger}_{\text{T}} \underbrace{\partial^\mu \phi(x) - m^2 \phi(x)}_{\text{V}}^\dagger \phi(x)$$

Manifestly Lorentz invariant

Classical path :

$$\delta S = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi} - \partial^\mu \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial^\mu \phi)} = 0 \quad \text{Euler Lagrange equation}$$



$$(\partial_\mu \partial^\mu + m^2)\phi = 0$$

Klein Gordon equation

## New symmetries

$$\mathcal{L} = (\partial_\mu \phi(x))^\dagger \partial^\mu \phi(x) - m^2 \phi(x)^\dagger \phi(x)$$

Is invariant under  $\phi(x) \rightarrow e^{i\alpha} \phi(x)$  ...an Abelian (U(1)) gauge symmetry

A symmetry implies a conserved current and charge.

e.g. Translation  $\Rightarrow$  Momentum conservation

Rotation  $\Rightarrow$  Angular momentum conservation

What conservation law does the U(1) invariance imply?

## Noether current

$$\mathcal{L} = (\partial_\mu \phi(x))^\dagger \partial^\mu \phi(x) - m^2 \phi(x)^\dagger \phi(x)$$

Is invariant under  $\phi(x) \rightarrow e^{i\alpha} \phi(x)$  ...an Abelian (U(1)) gauge symmetry

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 = \delta \mathcal{L} &= \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi} \delta \phi + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial^\mu \phi)} \delta (\partial^\mu \phi) + (\phi \leftrightarrow \phi^\dagger) \\
 &\quad \begin{array}{l} \text{green arrow} \nearrow i\alpha\phi \\ \text{green arrow} \nearrow i\alpha\partial_\mu \phi \end{array} \\
 &= i\alpha \left[ \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi} - \partial^\mu \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial^\mu \phi)} \right) \right] \phi + i\alpha \partial^\mu \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial^\mu \phi)} \phi \right) - (\phi \leftrightarrow \phi^\dagger) \\
 &\quad \text{red arrow} \nearrow 0 \text{ (Euler lagrange eqs.)}
 \end{aligned}$$



$$\partial^\mu j_\mu = 0, \quad j_\mu = \frac{ie}{2} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial^\mu \phi)} \phi - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial^\mu \phi^\dagger)} \phi^\dagger \right)$$

Noether current

## The Klein Gordon current

$$\mathcal{L} = (\partial_\mu \phi(x))^\dagger \partial^\mu \phi(x) - m^2 \phi(x)^\dagger \phi(x)$$

Is invariant under  $\psi(x) \rightarrow e^{i\alpha} \psi(x)$  ...an Abelian (U(1)) gauge symmetry

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$$j_\mu^{KG} = -ie (\phi^* \partial_\mu \phi - \phi \partial_\mu \phi^*)$$

This is of the form of the electromagnetic current we used for the KG field

## The Klein Gordon current

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This is of the form of the electromagnetic current we used for the KG field

$Q = \int d^3x j^0$  is the associated conserved charge

Suppose we have two fields with different U(1) charges :

$$\phi_{1,2}(x) \rightarrow e^{i\alpha Q_{1,2}} \phi_{1,2}(x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & \left( \partial_\mu \phi_1(x) \right)^\dagger \partial^\mu \phi_1(x) - m^2 \phi_1(x)^\dagger \phi_1(x) \\ & + \left( \partial_\mu \phi_2(x) \right)^\dagger \partial^\mu \phi_2(x) - m^2 \phi_2(x)^\dagger \phi_2(x) \end{aligned}$$

..no cross terms possible (corresponding to charge conservation)

Additional terms

Terms allowed by U(1) symmetry

$$\mathcal{L} = \underbrace{\left( \partial_\mu \phi(x) \right)^\dagger \partial^\mu \phi(x) - m^2 \phi(x)^\dagger \phi(x) + \lambda |\phi|^4}_{\text{Renormalisable } D \leq 4} + \frac{\lambda'}{M^2} |\phi|^6 + \dots$$

Renormalisable  $D \leq 4$

If  $M \gg 10^3 \text{ GeV}$ , "Effective" Field theory approximately renormalisable



## U(1) local gauge invariance and QED

$$\phi(x) \rightarrow e^{i\alpha(x)Q} \phi(x)$$

$$\mathcal{L} = (\partial_\mu \phi(x))^\dagger \partial^\mu \phi(x) - m^2 \phi(x)^\dagger \phi(x) \quad \text{not invariant due to derivatives}$$

$$\partial_\mu \phi \rightarrow \partial_\mu e^{i\alpha(x)Q} \phi = e^{i\alpha(x)Q} \partial_\mu \phi + iQ e^{i\alpha(x)Q} \phi \partial_\mu \alpha(x)$$

To obtain invariant Lagrangian look for a modified derivative transforming covariantly

$$D_\mu \phi \rightarrow e^{i\alpha(x)Q} D_\mu \phi$$

## U(1) local gauge invariance and QED

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$$\mathcal{L} = \left( \partial_\mu \phi(x) \right)^\dagger \partial^\mu \phi(x) - m^2 \phi(x)^\dagger \phi(x) \quad \text{not invariant due to derivatives}$$

$$\partial_\mu \phi - iQA_\mu \phi \rightarrow \partial_\mu e^{i\alpha(x)Q} \phi = e^{i\alpha(x)Q} (\partial_\mu \phi - iQA_\mu \phi) + iQe^{i\alpha(x)Q} \phi \partial_\mu \alpha(x) - iQe^{i\alpha(x)Q} \phi \partial_\mu \alpha(x)$$

To obtain invariant Lagrangian look for a modified derivative transforming covariantly

$$D_\mu \phi \rightarrow e^{i\alpha(x)} D_\mu \phi$$

Need to introduce a new vector field  $A_\mu \rightarrow A_\mu + \partial_\mu \alpha$

$$D_\mu = \partial_\mu - iQA_\mu$$

$$\phi(x) \rightarrow e^{iQ\alpha(x)} \phi(x)$$

$$D_\mu \phi \rightarrow e^{i\alpha(x)} D_\mu \phi$$

$$A_\mu \rightarrow A_\mu + \partial_\mu \alpha$$



Yang-Mills (+Shaw)

$$\mathcal{L} = \left( D_\mu \phi(x) \right)^\dagger D^\mu \phi(x) - m^2 \phi(x)^\dagger \phi(x) \quad \text{is invariant under local U(1)}$$

Note :  $\partial_\mu \rightarrow D_\mu = \partial_\mu - iQA_\mu$  is equivalent to  $p^\mu \rightarrow p^\mu + eA^\mu$

universal coupling of electromagnetism *follows* from local gauge invariance

The Euler lagrange equation give the KG equation:

$$(\partial_\mu \partial^\mu + m^2) \psi = -V \psi \quad \text{where} \quad V = -ie(\partial_\mu A^\mu + A^\mu \partial_\mu) - e^2 A^2$$

$$\phi(x) \rightarrow e^{iQ\alpha(x)} \phi(x)$$

$$D_\mu \phi \rightarrow e^{i\alpha(x)} D_\mu \phi$$

$$A_\mu \rightarrow A_\mu + \partial_\mu \alpha$$



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universal coupling of electromagnetism *follows* from local gauge invariance

$$\text{i.e. } \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}^{\text{KG}} = \left( \partial_\mu \phi(x) \right)^\dagger \partial^\mu \phi(x) - m^2 \phi(x)^\dagger \phi(x) - j_\mu^{\text{KG}} A^\mu + O(e^2)$$

## The electromagnetic Lagrangian

$$F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu$$

$$F_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow F_{\mu\nu}, \quad A_\mu \rightarrow A_\mu + \partial_\mu \alpha$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -E_1 & -E_2 & -E_3 \\ E_1 & 0 & -B_3 & B_2 \\ E_2 & B_3 & 0 & -B_1 \\ E_3 & -B_2 & B_1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{L}^{EM} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - j^\mu A_\mu$$

$$M^2 A^\mu A_\mu \quad \text{Forbidden by gauge invariance}$$

The Euler-Lagrange equations give Maxwell equations !

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial A^\nu} - \partial^\mu \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial^\mu A^\nu)} = 0$$

$$\partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} = j^\nu$$

$\equiv$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} &= \rho, & \nabla \times \mathbf{E} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} &= 0 \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} &= 0, & \nabla \times \mathbf{B} - \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} &= \mathbf{j} \end{aligned}$$

EM dynamics follows from a **local gauge symmetry!!**

## The photon propagator

- The propagators determined by terms quadratic in the fields, using the Euler Lagrange equations.

$$\partial_{\mu} F^{\mu\nu} = \partial_{\mu} \partial^{\mu} A^{\nu} - \partial^{\nu} (\partial^{\mu} A_{\mu}) = j^{\nu}$$

The Klein Gordon propagator (reminder)

$$(\partial_\mu \partial^\mu + m^2)\psi = -V\psi \quad \text{where} \quad V = -ie(\partial_\mu A^\mu + A^\mu \partial_\mu) - e^2 A^2$$

$$(\partial_\mu \partial^\mu + m^2)\Delta_F(x'-x) = \delta^4(x'-x)$$

In momentum space:

$$\tilde{\Delta}_F(p) = \frac{i}{-p^2 + m^2 \pm i\epsilon}$$

With normalisation convention used in Feynman rules = inverse of momentum space operator multiplied by -i

## The photon propagator

- The propagators determined by terms quadratic in the fields, using the Euler Lagrange equations.

$$\partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu \partial^\mu A^\nu - \partial^\nu (\partial^\mu A_\mu) = j^\nu$$

Gauge ambiguity

$$A_\mu \rightarrow A_\mu + \partial_\mu \alpha$$

$$\partial^\mu A_\mu \rightarrow \partial^\mu A_\mu + \partial^2 \alpha$$

Choose as

$$-\frac{1}{\xi} \partial^\mu A_\mu$$

(gauge fixing)

i.e. with suitable “gauge” choice of  $\alpha$  (“ $\xi$ ” gauge) want to solve

$$\partial_\mu \partial^\mu A^\nu - (1 - \frac{1}{\xi}) \partial^\nu (\partial_\mu A^\mu) \equiv (g^{\nu\mu} \partial^2 - (1 - \frac{1}{\xi}) \partial^\nu \partial_\mu) A^\mu = j^\nu$$

In momentum space the photon propagator is

$$-i \left( g^{\mu\nu} p^2 - (1 - \frac{1}{\xi}) p^\mu p^\nu \right)^{-1} = \frac{i}{p^2} \left( -g_{\mu\nu} + (1 - \xi) \frac{p_\mu p_\nu}{p^2} \right)$$

(‘t Hooft Feynman gauge  $\xi=1$ )





## Extension to non-Abelian symmetry

(The Standard Model  
 $SU(3) \otimes SU(2) \otimes U(1)$ )

$SU(2)$  local gauge invariance

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix}_L, u_R, d_R$$

$$Q \rightarrow e^{ig_2 \alpha(x) \cdot \frac{\sigma}{2}} Q$$

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

$$\mathcal{L} = i\bar{Q}D_\mu \gamma^\mu Q + i\bar{u}_R \partial_\mu \gamma^\mu u_R + i\bar{d}_R \partial_\mu \gamma^\mu d_R$$

$$D_\mu = \partial_\mu + ig_2 \frac{\sigma_i}{2} W_\mu^i \quad D_\mu Q \rightarrow e^{ig_2 \alpha(x) \cdot \frac{\sigma}{2}} D_\mu Q$$

where

$$W_{\mu,i} \rightarrow W_{\mu,i} - \partial_\mu \alpha_i - g_2 \epsilon_{ijk} \alpha_j W_{\mu,k}$$

$$\left( \left[ \frac{\sigma_i}{2}, \frac{\sigma_j}{2} \right] = i\epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\sigma_k}{2} \right)$$

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$$\mathcal{L} = i\bar{Q}D_\mu \gamma^\mu Q + i\bar{u}_R \partial_\mu \gamma^\mu u_R + i\bar{d}_R \partial_\mu \gamma^\mu d_R$$

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where

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Need 3 gauge bosons

$$W^+, W^-, W^3$$

$$\left( \left[ \frac{\sigma_i}{2}, \frac{\sigma_j}{2} \right] = i\epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\sigma_k}{2} \right)$$

## SU(3) local gauge invariance

$$\begin{pmatrix} q \\ q \\ q \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \lambda_8 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \lambda_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i & 0 \\ i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \dots$$

### Symmetry :

Local conservation of  
3 strong colour charges

$$\Psi_a \rightarrow \left( e^{ig_3 \alpha(x) \cdot \lambda} \right)_b^a \Psi_a$$

$$G_\mu^r \rightarrow G_\mu^r - \partial_\mu \alpha^r - g_3 f^{rst} \alpha^s G_\mu^t$$

$$\bar{\Psi} (\partial_\mu - ig_3 \lambda_r G_\mu^r) \gamma^\mu \Psi$$

QCD : a non-Abelian (SU(3))  
local gauge field theory

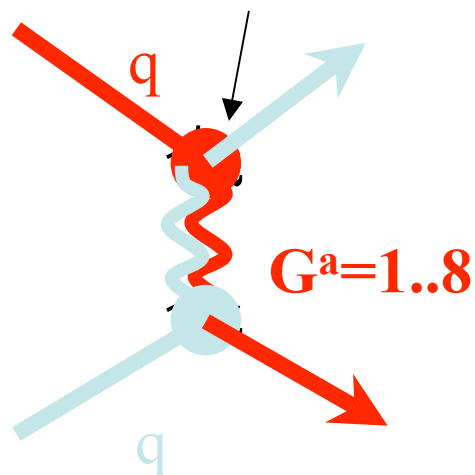
# The strong interactions

## QCD Quantum Chromodynamics

SU(3)

$$\begin{pmatrix} q \\ q \\ q \end{pmatrix}$$

Strong coupling,  $\alpha_3$



Gauge boson  
(J=1)  
“Gluons”

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# Partial Unification

$$SU(3) \otimes SU(2) \otimes U(1)$$

Matter Sector “chiral”

