

5. Problemset “Theoretical Particle Physics”

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Noether’s Theorem in Field Theory

5.1 Lorentz Transformations

Consider infinitesimal Lorentz transformations

$$\delta_\omega x^\mu = \omega^\mu{}_\nu x^\nu. \quad (1)$$

1. Derive the conditions on the matrix $\omega^\mu{}_\nu$.
2. Derive the transformations of a *scalar* field $\delta_\omega \phi$.
3. Derive the term σ_ω^μ in the derivation of Noether’s theorem.
4. Derive the conserved currents following from invariance under Lorentz transformations.

5.2 Energy Momentum Tensor

Compute energy momentum tensors for degenerate multiplets of

1. real scalar fields

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \partial_\mu \phi_i \partial^\mu \phi_i - \frac{m^2}{2} \sum_i \phi_i \phi_i \quad (2)$$

2. spin-1/2 fermions

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_i \bar{\psi}_i (i\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu - m) \psi_i \quad (3)$$

and for gauge fields (with $F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu$)

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{2} \text{tr} (F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}). \quad (4)$$

Are they automatically symmetric or can you make them symmetric?

5.3 Equations of Motion

Derive equations of motion for free scalars, spin-1/2 fermions and gauge fields. Use them to verify the conservation of the energy momentum tensor by explicit calculation.