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Physics 2306c
Elementary Particle Theory

Lecture
#1

Topic: nonperturbative methods
in quantum field theory

John
Preskill

- Topological defects: vortices, monopoles, instantons
- Quark confinement:
Wilson loops, 't Hooft loops, magnetic disorder
- Chiral symmetry and anomalies:
Triangle anomaly, U(1) problem, global anomalies, realizations of chiral symmetry.

If time allows:

- Strongly coupled supersymmetric gauge theories and duality.

Prerequisite: Quantum field theory, including
Feynman rules
Quantization of gauge theories
Path integrals

Requirements: Problem sets

Recommended Book: S. Weinberg

Quantum Theory of Fields, Vol II (~\$60)

Grader: Costin Popescu

Grading: Pass - Fail

Meetings: 469 Lauritzen

W 4:30 - 6:00
F 4:00 - 5:30

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Object of today's lecture: deepen our grasp of the concept of a local symmetry

the (nonabelian) prototype: QCD

QCD: gft's greatest triumph!

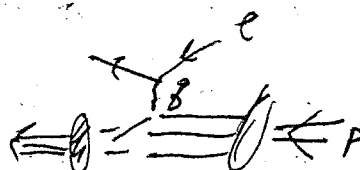
gft:	causality unitarity gauge invariance renormalizability	} qualitatively new consequences: asymptotic freedom quark confinement

Paving the way

Quark model: Hadron resonances
 $\rightarrow$ eightfold way
 $\rightarrow$ quarks
 $\left. \begin{array}{l} \bar{q}q \\ qqq \end{array} \right\}$ "no exotics"
 $\rightarrow$ are quarks fundamental?
 current algebra

Color: $SU(3)_c$ singlets are light
 $\bar{q}q \rightarrow 1$ $qqq \rightarrow 1$
 statistics $\Delta^+ = uuu$ Fermi stat

Nowadays $\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons}) \propto N_c$

Parton model  $d\sigma \sim \frac{1}{191^2} f(9/2p.q)$
 hadrons $\leftarrow$ $\rightarrow$ P
 No resonances $\rightarrow$ AF
 ($p^2 = m^2$ invariant)

In 4D NA gauge theories

Qualitative feature { A unique theory! Can it explain
- confinement (eg. Regge)
- SSB & XS (eg. pion)
- spectrum, structure functions, scaling violations

What is local symmetry?

Global symmetry: two different objects behave the same way

Local symmetry: a redundant description with unphysical degrees of freedom

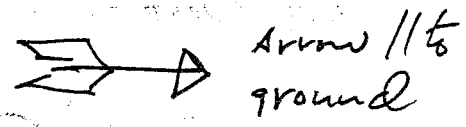
Better: a language for describing geometrical properties

Warm up: Riemannian geometry

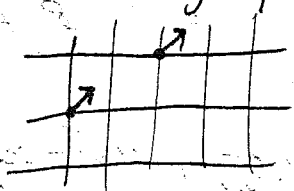
A race of people in two dimensions

they can parallel transport a tangent vector

e.g. a swinging pendulum



locally flat



Path dependent



e.g. 2 paths from equator to north pole

Don't need to visit cone to know there is curvature here

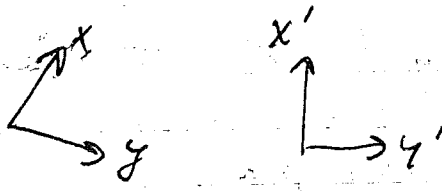
Example: cone is flat "almost everywhere" (except tip)
 $\text{Rot } L = \text{enclosed solid angle}$
 $\text{Rot } L = \text{"deficit } L \text{" of cone}$

$\Rightarrow$ "conical singularity"

the cone geometry is "orientational democracy"
= "local symmetry"

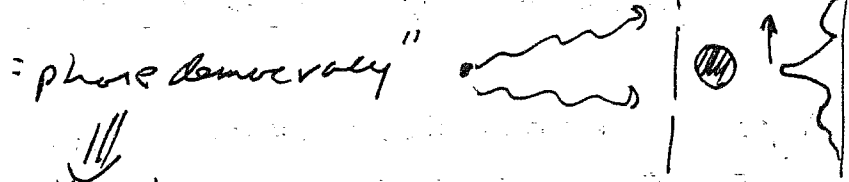
(e.g. on a nonrotating earth)

A convention



"local"
because residents
at different locations
can orient axes
differently

Another geometrical effect:
Aharonov-Bohm

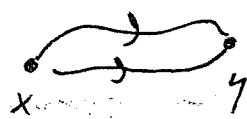


Fringe shift

$$e^{i\oint \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{x}} = \exp\left[i\oint_C \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{x}\right]$$

convention w/
no observable
consequences

$\vec{A}$ = connection:
// transport of phase

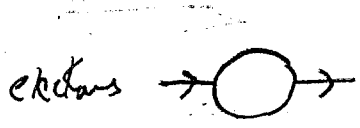


Magnetic field:
curvature

Aharonov-Bohm = const

E.g. Webb experiment ~ '85

Don't need to
visit the planet
to know there is
B field there



Gold ring in
strong field, w/
Two leads

Resistance oscillates

Note: scattering in wire is
elastic $\Rightarrow$ no loss of
coherence

Consider
world on
scales small
compared to
scale of confinement

the heart of QCD:
"color democracy"

$$q = \begin{pmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

3 colors e.g. RYB (arbitrary)

Now: an abstract 3-dim color
vector space

Real axes
in color space

Bring e.g. q & $\bar{q}$ together?
Can compare the color

$$q(x) \Rightarrow \Omega(x) \bar{q}(x)$$

Inner product

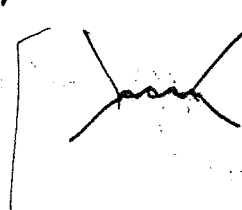
E.g. couple to gluon $\dots \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

$$|(q_{ref}(x), q_{unknown})|$$

Prob of annihilation: $K(Q^+Q^-)$

But: we can do nondestructive measurements,
and we don't need cm, since quarks
couple to gluons

More later on
evaluating
this diagram

 $\Rightarrow$ Coulomb interaction

[see later]

i.e. invariant
under simultaneous
rotations

$\Uparrow$ An invariant in 2
objects at the same place

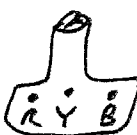
Go quark watch: "oh, what a beautiful quark"

Establish a quark bureau of standards

encounter
a "wild"
quark

carry carefully

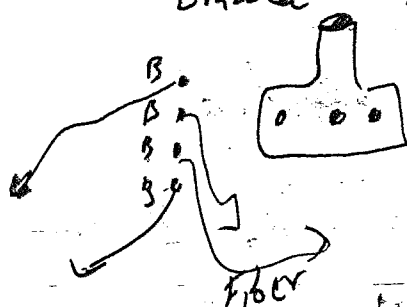
taken to QSS
for analysis



Except:
Drama

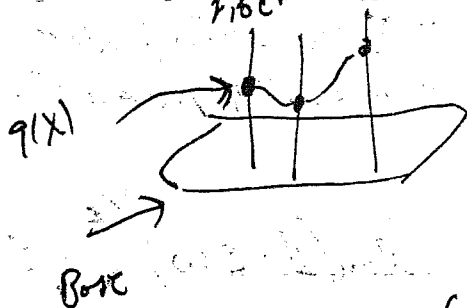
Report Murdoch

Having bought Dodger's,
as a promotional
campaign - All q's are
Dodger blue



carry quarks
being careful not
to rotate

works for a global symmetry,
but not for local



More on mathematics of color parallel
transport

Fiber bundle

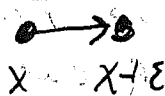
LG group acts on fibers

section specify $g(x)$
at each point

connection: A way to parallel transport the color

E.g. I am carrying R quark with me,
and be sure it stays red.

same for Y B



(6)

Transport basis $\begin{pmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} q_1' \\ q_2' \\ q_3' \end{pmatrix}$ new basis

$q(x)$ is a quark field,
in original basis $(\rightarrow \Omega(x) q(x)$ in new basis
locally)

Condition for parallel transport

$$q(x+\epsilon) = \Omega(\epsilon) q(x)$$

$\hookrightarrow$ element of $SU(3)$ due to identity

Expand to linear order

$$\Omega(\epsilon) = \mathbb{I} + i\epsilon^a A_a$$

$A_a \in \text{Lie algebra}$

8-dimensional vector space

Ω unitary $\Rightarrow A_a$ hermitian
 $\det \Omega = 1 \Rightarrow A_a$ traceless

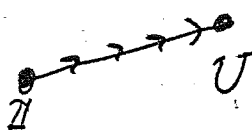
Aside: Lie algebra

Continuous (Lie) group $\rightarrow$ Lie algebra

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \begin{aligned} \Omega_1 &= \mathbb{I} + \omega_1 + \dots \\ \Omega_2 &= \mathbb{I} + \omega_2 + \dots \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \Omega_1 \Omega_2 = \mathbb{I} + \omega_1 + \omega_2 + \dots$$

Linear (vector) space, with
 $\dim = \#$ of parameters

Build up finite
transformation from many
infinitesimals



$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} (\mathbb{I} + \epsilon \omega)^{1/\epsilon} = e^{\omega}$$

Also in group
(converges for
finite dim matrix)

Consider

$$\begin{aligned} e^{\omega_1} e^{\omega_2} e^{-\omega_1} e^{-\omega_2} \\ = \mathbb{I} + [\omega_1, \omega_2] + \text{h.o.} \end{aligned}$$

so $[\omega_1, \omega_2]$ also in the
linear space

can recover group multiplication in vicinity of identity

$$e^{w_1} e^{w_2} = \exp \left[w_1 + w_2 + \frac{1}{2} [w_1, w_2] + \dots \right]$$

Baker-Campbell-Hausdorff

full power series from commutators] - finite dimensional global topology (discuss later)

Back to parallel transport

characterize in terms of structure constants

$$w_1 = i \epsilon_1 T^a$$

$$w_2 = i \epsilon_2 T^b$$

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

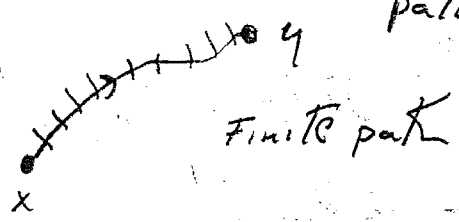
$$g(x+\epsilon) = (1 + i \epsilon^\mu A_\mu) g(x)$$

$$\epsilon^\mu \partial_\mu g = \epsilon^\mu i A_\mu g$$

$$\partial_\mu g = i A_\mu g$$

along path

Base for space



Finite path

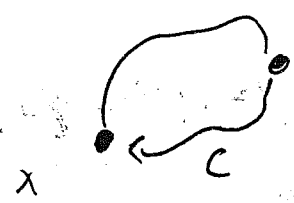
$$g(y) = \left[P \exp i \int_x^y dx^\mu A_\mu \right] g(x)$$

$$P e^{i \int_x^y A}$$

For finite SU(3) trans associated with parallel transport from x to y

But: this just relates arbitrary bases in color space at two different points

cf rotating an arrow
anomaly = path dependence



$$U = P e^{i \oint_C A}$$

still

$$U \rightarrow R(x) U R(x)^{-1}$$

of course -- depends on axes

But now: has some invariant content:

E.g. angle

$$W(C) = \text{Tr} \left(P e^{i \oint_C A} \right)$$

Don't have to specify start point

Wilson loop: An invariant action associated with path dependence of ^{parallel} transport (e.g. = 0 in color rotates to orthogonal color) [—roughly speaking]

Covariant derivative $g(x) \rightarrow g(x+\epsilon)$

How quark field varies relative to parallel transported basis

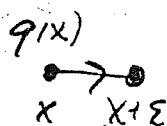
$$D_\mu g(x) = (\partial_\mu - i A_\mu(x)) g(x)$$

It rotates away the varying dependence of basis with position

$$\Rightarrow D_\mu \rightarrow \Omega(x) D_\mu \Omega(x)^{-1} \quad \text{— transforms covariantly —}$$

From this, we can infer how the connection itself transforms

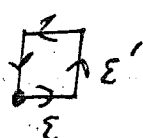
$$\begin{aligned} D_\mu &= \partial_\mu - i A_\mu \Rightarrow \partial_\mu - i A_\mu = \Omega (\partial_\mu - i A_\mu) \Omega^{-1} \\ i A_\mu \Omega &= \Omega (i A_\mu) \Omega^{-1} - \Omega \partial_\mu \Omega^{-1} \\ &= \Omega (i A_\mu) \Omega^{-1} + (\partial_\mu \Omega) \Omega^{-1} \end{aligned}$$



Find $g(x)$ — in the basis obtained by transporting from $g(x)$

$$[1 + \epsilon^\mu D_\mu] g$$

transport $\uparrow$
 $\downarrow$ μ



around small closed path $e^{\omega_2} e^{-\omega_1} e^{\omega_2} e^{-\omega_1} = 1 + [\omega_1, \omega_2] + \dots$
 $\omega_1 = i \epsilon^\mu D_\mu$
 $\omega_2 = i \epsilon^\nu D_\nu$

$$\Rightarrow 1 + \epsilon^\mu \epsilon'^\nu [D_\mu, D_\nu]$$

$$[D_\mu, D_\nu] = [\partial_\mu - iA_\mu, \partial_\nu - iA_\nu]$$

Comment:

Jacobi identity = Bianchi identity

$$[D_\mu, [D_\mu, D_\nu]] + \text{cyclic} = 0$$

$$[D_\mu, F_{\mu\nu}] + \text{cyclic} = 0$$

cf GR
and source
free Maxwell

How $g(x)$ changes around
infinitesimal path

$$= -i [\partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu - i [A_\mu, A_\nu]]$$

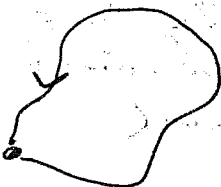
$$= -i F_{\mu\nu}$$

The YM field strength,
or curvature

$$F_{\mu\nu}(x) \rightarrow \Omega(x) F_{\mu\nu}(x) \Omega(x)^{-1}$$

again, a covariant property

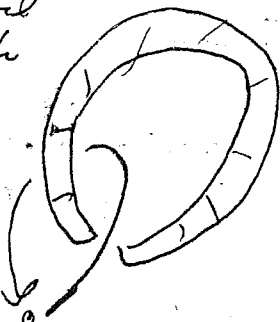
For a finite
path... not
obtained by
locally integrating
density (at least
not simply)



Best described as

$$U(x) = \text{Pexp}(i \int_x A)$$

How we feel
unravel



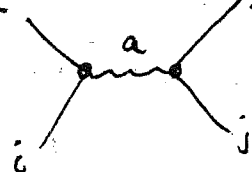
QBS

Can't, in general, impose a
global color convention,
because of color magnetic field

carry B quark around oleoid
— it is now red

This is a puzzle — what happens to the
color? (Thinking about it reinforces
our appreciation of the subtlety of the
global symmetry concept)

Like Coulomb, except
for color factor



Diagonal generators

$$T^3 = \text{diag}(\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}, 0)$$

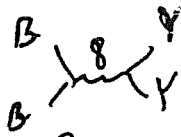
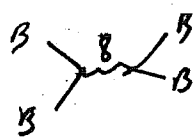
$$T^8 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & & \\ & \frac{1}{2} & \\ & & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$E(r) = \frac{g^2}{4\pi r} (T_1^a)_{ki} (T_2^a)_{kl}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} R \\ Y \\ B \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Tr } T^a T^b = \frac{1}{2} \delta^{ab}$$

only mesons contribute to
RR YY interaction
RY YR



$$\frac{1}{3}(-\frac{1}{2}) = -\frac{1}{6} \quad \frac{1}{2}(-\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3}) = -\frac{1}{6} \quad \text{sym + antisym} \quad (10)$$

$$\frac{1}{3}(1) = \frac{1}{3} \quad \text{symmetric}$$

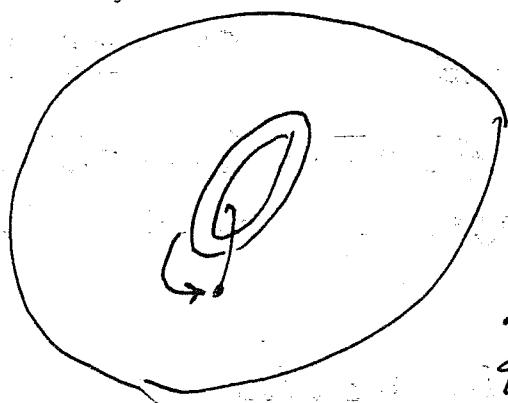
(We'll describe this in a more invariant way shortly)

$$RR: \frac{1}{4}(1 + \frac{1}{3}) = \frac{1}{3}$$

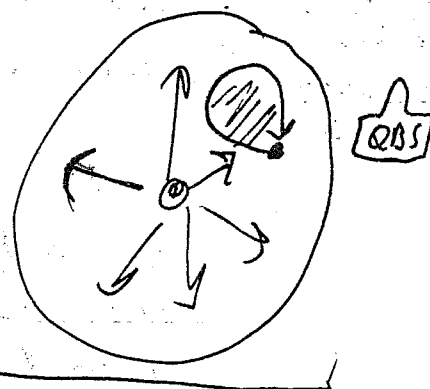
Repulsive

$$RY: \frac{1}{4}(-1 + \frac{1}{3}) = -\frac{1}{6}$$

Attractive



Draw
large
sphere around
whole system:
flux tube
and colored
quark



So -- we can establish a
global color standard
on surface of the sphere

← If there is no
magnetic charge, then
fields fall off with
distance

convention the color
established for

But magnetic monopoles
change the story

$H \subseteq SU(3)$, commuting with
the magnetic charge

More about
this
later

Inescapable conclusions

- The total "redness" of the system, detectable
far away can't be changed by the process
- Yet the red quark really has become a blue quark -
If isolated, it would have a long-range blue
field!

(11)

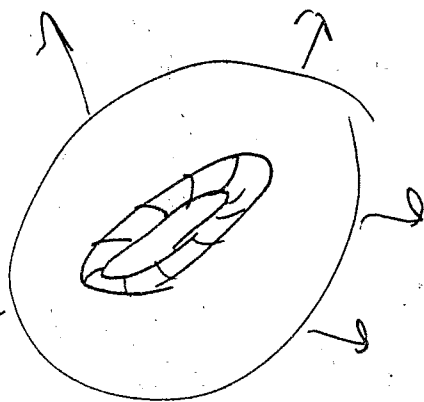
- So --

There has to be
some color

electric charge ∇

somewhere, and

were else but the solenoid



[Ignore subtlety
concerning emission
of NA radiation]

= "Cheshire
charge"

- There is no localized source

- There is a long color electric field!

More about theory of

within a few weeks!

Cheshire charge

We ought not to be shocked by color charge with
no localized source

cf: The gravitational pull of the sun is also more
than the sum of its parts — the gravitational self
energy contributes. Why? because gravitons themselves
carry mass-energy, and can be sources for other
gravitons

Similar: gluons themselves carry color, and can be
sources for other gluons

- Note: In GR there is a conserved energy — but not
an integral of a local density — a covariantly
conserved tensor

- Similar: In YM, there is a conserved color charge,
but not integral of a local density

Gauss Law $[D_i, F^{0i}] = +J^0$ (again, more later)

$$D_\mu F^{\mu\nu} = J^\nu \Rightarrow D_\nu D_\mu F^{\mu\nu} = 0 = D_\nu J^\nu$$

GR

$$T_{\text{eff}}^{\mu\nu} = T_{\text{matter}}^{\mu\nu} + t^{\mu\nu} \quad \leftarrow \text{not a tensor - No generalization} \quad (12)$$

$$J_{\text{eff}}^{\mu} = J_{\text{matter}}^{\mu} + J_{\text{EM}}^{\mu} \quad \leftarrow \text{meaning (ind of coords)}$$

Lecture #2 Some History: (Gauge principle and Aharonov-Bohm effect)

Weyl 1918 Geometric Theory of EM
(before QM!)

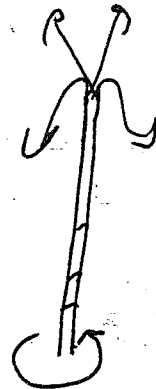
parallel transport of length } Einstein's comment

London/Fock 1927
parallel trans of phase

① metastable or clock
recalibration

Weyl 1929: Modern formulation

Dirac 1931



A monopole is a flux tube -- with one end in isolation

= One would be surprised if Nature modern use of it"

$$e^{ie\oint A} \Rightarrow \oint = \frac{2\pi\hbar c}{e} n$$

Ehrenberg-Siday 1949

Aharonov-Bohm 1959]

clearly that non-local gauge inv. quantities can have observable effects

Yang-Mills 1954

Did not know of Weyl's geom ideas, only Pauli's review

local sym constraints dynamics

Yang: late 60's : YM geometry

Wu-Yang: 1975 Fiber bundles

Geometric ideas have remained decisive for next 25 yrs

Hermann Weyl had a good idea in 1918!

Why did gauge invariance turn out to be so important

- Nature reads the book of geometry

- Covariant descriptions require redundancy - for spin $1, \frac{3}{2}, 2$ massless particles

Another
handful
answer...

Wouldn't
Weyl/Einstein
have loved PM
theory?
(they died in '55)

Mismatch between

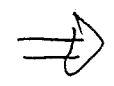
fields
Finite dim
unitary
ir reps of Lorentz

particles
 ∞ dim unitary
ir reps of Poincaré

e.g. A^μ for 2 helicity
states of
photon

Redundant
components
needed $\Rightarrow$
gauge symmetry
ideal form but
don't change the
physics)

Don't really need to
know geometrical
jazz to quantize a gauge
theory



In defining 3dim
ir rep

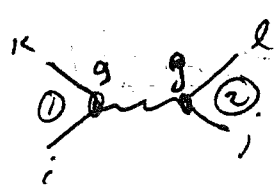
Back to: one-gluon-exchange
choose basis for Lie algebra with

$$[T^a, T^b] = +i f^{abc} T^c$$

$$\text{tr}(T^a T^b) = \frac{1}{2} \delta^{ab}$$

$$\Rightarrow f^{abc} = -2i \text{tr}[T^a, T^b] T^c$$

totally
antisymmetric



spacetime structure same
as Coulomb potential in QED

$$E(r) = \frac{g^2}{4\pi r} (T^a)_i (T^a)_j \quad (\text{a summed})$$

Invariant under simultaneous $SU(3)$ color rotations of the objects ① and ②

$\Rightarrow SU(3)$ color symmetry
Diagonal in basis of irrep of $SU(3)$

$$R_1 \oplus R_2 = \bigoplus_{\mu} R_{\mu}$$

cf $\vec{L}, \vec{S}$ coupling $\vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S}$

$$T_1^a T_2^a = \frac{1}{2} \left[(T_1^a + T_2^a)(T_1^a + T_2^a) - T_1^a T_1^a - T_2^a T_2^a \right]$$

irrep

$$T_R^a T_R^a = C(R) \mathbb{1}$$

why?

$$\begin{aligned} [T^a T^a, T^b] &= T^a [T^a, T^b] + [T^a, T^b] T^a \\ &= i f^{abc} (T^a T^c + T^c T^a) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

T^b preserves eigenvalues of $T^a T^a$

$$T_1^a T_2^a = \frac{1}{2} [C(R) - C(R_1) - C(R_2)]$$

How to evaluate?

$$T_R^a T_R^a = C(R) \mathbb{1}$$

$$(\# \text{ of generators}) T(R) = C(R) (\dim R)$$

$$\text{tr}(T^a T^b) = T(R) \delta^{ab} \text{ e.g. } T(R_{\text{fund}}) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$C(R) = \frac{\# \text{ of generators } T(R)}{\dim R}$$

$$K(T^3 T^3)_R = T(R)$$

$$T^3 = \text{diag} \left(\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}, 0 \right)$$

E.g. $R = 8$ of $SU(3)$

$$8 = 3 \otimes 3 - 1$$

$$(2+1) \otimes (2+1) - 1 = 3+2+2+1$$

$$(10-1) \quad T(R=8) = 2 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 3$$

$$C(R=8) = \frac{8}{8} 3 = 3$$

$$C(R=3) = \frac{8}{3} T(R=3) = \frac{4}{3}$$

$$6 = (3 \times 3)_{\text{sym}}$$

$$\rightarrow (2+1) \times (2+1) = 3+2+1 \text{ of } SU(2)$$

$$T(R=6) = 2 + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{5}{2}$$

$$C(R=6) = \frac{8}{6} \frac{5}{2} = \frac{10}{3}$$

quark-antiquark

$$\frac{g^2}{4\pi r} \frac{1}{r} \frac{1}{2} (C - C_1 - C_2) = \frac{g^2}{4\pi r} \left[-\frac{4}{3} \right] \text{ singlet} \quad \text{could also obtain from Kac-Moody}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left[3 - \frac{8}{3} \right] = \frac{1}{6} \text{ octet}$$

$$3 \times 3 = 6 + 3$$

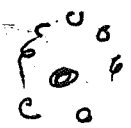
$$\frac{1}{3}, -\frac{2}{3}$$

A small step in the right direction
Gluon exchange is attractive in singlet channel

$$E(r) = \frac{g^2}{4\pi r} C \quad \text{conquered by dimensional analysis in pure QM theory}$$

g^2 is only (classical) parameter, $g^2 \sim \text{energy} \cdot \text{distance}$
and $\sim \rightarrow E \sim \frac{1}{r}$ because of classical scale invariance

Scale invariance: not a property of the quantum theory

Physically:  Virtual gluons $\Rightarrow$ polarizable medium

$$E(r) = \frac{C g^2(\mu r)}{4\pi r}$$

A scale μ appears

Mathematically:



Log UV divergences $\Rightarrow$ must subtract at (Euclidean)

$$p^2 = -\mu^2 \neq 0 \quad (\text{not at } \mu^2 = 0)$$

$\Rightarrow$ IR divergences, poles, cuts

In classically scale invariant, we must choose a scale μ to renormalize, but physics is independent of μ

An anomaly: a classical symm spoiled by a quantum effect

Does the spontaneously generated scale allow us to understand why quarks are permanently confined in hadrons

A very instructive analogy: superconductivity

- spectacular & bewildering properties
- eventually explained by a microscopic theory

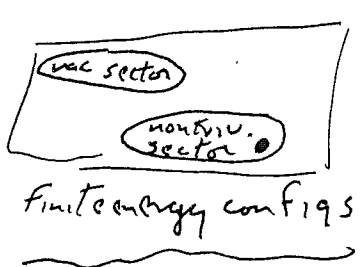
Topological ideas are very helpful --

We'll spend some time developing a theory of topological defects

The Abelian Higgs Model

In some models, the particle spectrum contains excitations that are not seen in any order of the Feynman diagram expansion. But these particles can be studied, as nondissipative classical solutions to the (nonlinear) field equation.

Here is a static solution - a lump of localized energy density - and a Lorentz boosted solution that describes a particle moving at constant velocity. Since the object is "soft and squishy" rather than pointlike, it is comprised of many quanta (and has a large size compared to its Compton wavelength).



A general strategy for finding these solutions: If the space of finite energy field configurations has disconnected components, find a nontrivial static solution by minimizing energy in a sector that does not contain the vacuum (zero-energy config).

Example: In two spatial dimensions

$$\mathcal{L} = |D_\mu \phi|^2 - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{\lambda}{2} (|\phi|^2 - v^2/2)^2 \quad \begin{cases} D_\mu = \partial_\mu - ie A_\mu \\ F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu \end{cases}$$

For $v^2 > 0$ and weak coupling,
Higgs phase

Perturbative spectrum: $\phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (v + \phi')$

$$|D_\mu \phi|^2 = \frac{1}{2} e^2 v^2 A_\mu A^\mu + \dots \Rightarrow \mu = ev \quad \text{Massive vector}$$

$$|\phi|^2 = \frac{1}{2} v^2 + v \phi' + \dots$$

$$-\frac{\lambda}{2} (|\phi|^2 - v^2/2)^2 = \frac{\lambda}{2} v^2 \phi'^2 + \dots \Rightarrow m_H = \sqrt{\lambda} v \quad \text{Massive (Higgs) scalar}$$

First - nature of semiclassical limit

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + |D_\mu \phi|^2 - \frac{1}{2} \lambda (|\phi|^2 - \frac{1}{2} v^2)^2$$

Rescale $A \rightarrow \frac{1}{e} \tilde{A}$
 $\phi \rightarrow \frac{1}{e} \tilde{\phi}$

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{e^2} \left[-\frac{1}{4} \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} + |D_\mu \tilde{\phi}|^2 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\lambda}{e^2} (|\tilde{\phi}|^2 - \frac{1}{2} v^2)^2 \right]$$

Mass scale $\mu = e v$
 Dimensionless coupling $\frac{\lambda}{e^2}$ $\left. \begin{array}{l} e^{iS/\hbar} \\ \text{semiclassical limit} \\ e^2 \rightarrow 0 \end{array} \right\}$

Length scale $e v$ fixed

$e v, \frac{\lambda}{e^2}$ fixed

Energy scale $\propto \frac{1}{e^2} \Rightarrow$ so - mass diverges as size stays fixed

Finite energy

$$\vec{V} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\phi(r, \theta) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} e^{i\sigma(\theta)}$$

$$\sigma(\theta) \quad \theta \in [0, 2\pi)$$

Mapping $S^1 \rightarrow S^1$

Has winding number

$$w = \frac{1}{2\pi} [\sigma(2\pi) - \sigma(0)]$$

Discrete
 $\Rightarrow$ cannot change continuously

So -- conf. g of finite energy
 $\rightarrow$ sectors labeled by w

"Topological conservation law"

minimize energy for $n=1$

what about $|D\mu\phi|^2 \int |(\frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} - ieA_\theta)\phi|^2 d^2r$

$A = \text{constant} \Rightarrow \text{logarithmic divergence}$

$\phi = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} e^{i\delta(\theta)}$

$A_\theta \rightarrow \frac{1}{er} \frac{d\delta}{d\theta} + \dots$ corrections fall off faster

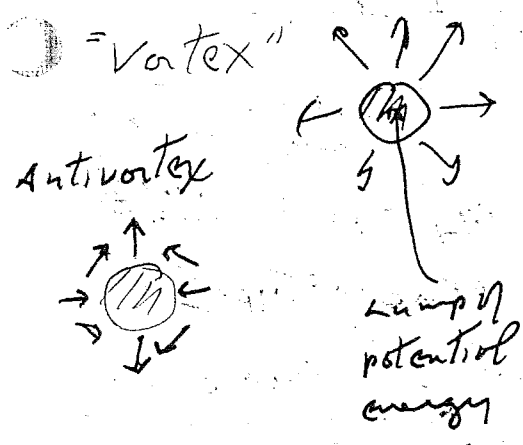
Parallel transport is trivial, but not topologically trivial

"a pure gauge" at $r=\infty$, but not everywhere $\oint = \int r d\theta A_\theta = \frac{1}{e} [\delta(2\pi) - \delta(0)] = \frac{2\pi}{e} n$

Minimum energy soln - has a core Lecture #3

ϕ must vanish somewhere otherwise $r=\infty \Rightarrow r=0$ defines δ to constant ($n=0$)

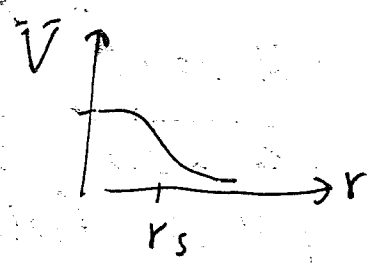
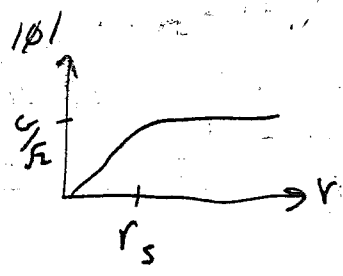
choose $\phi=0$ at origin (Maxwell's constant energy)



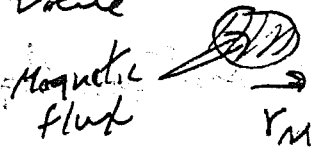
Two characteristic lengths

They can annihilate (Vacuum sector)

Produces Higgs and gauge fields



r_M : where gauge field reaches asymptotic value



Suppose $r_M > r_S$ Determine variationally

$\phi(r, \theta) = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} f(r) e^{i\theta}$; $f(0)=0$ $f(\infty)=1$
 $A_\theta(r, \theta) = \frac{1}{er} a(r)$; $a(0)=0$ $a(\infty)=1$

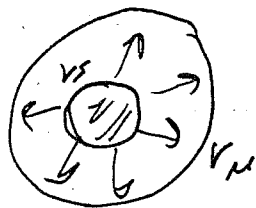
o Magnetic flux $\Phi = \frac{2\pi}{e}$ $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2\pi}{e r_M^2} \right)^2 \pi r^2 \sim \frac{\pi}{e^2 r_M^2}$

- Flux wants to spread out

o Core energy $\frac{1}{8} v^4 \pi r_s^2 \sim \pi v^2 r_s^2 m_H^2$

- Core wants to collapse

What ties the scales together? Gradient energy



$\sim \pi v^2 \ln(r_M/r_s)$

No pert because
"bound state"
of ϕ particles



Mass

$E \sim \pi v^2 \left[\frac{1}{\mu^2 r_M^2} + \ln r_M/r_s + m_H^2 r_s^2 \right]$

$\sim \pi v^2 \ln(1/e^2)$

$\Rightarrow r_M \approx \mu^{-1}$

$r_s \approx m_H^{-1}$

Radial gradient energy $= \pi v^2 \times 0(1)$
It is scale invariant
(if $m_H > \mu$)
(Known "Type II")

$\sim \frac{\mu^2}{e^2} \ln(1/e^2)$

The case $\mu = m_H$ is interesting! (exercise)

- What about $m_H \rightarrow 0$?
Type I or Type II

Comment here on
monopoles in a superconductor

String? $m_H \rightarrow$ energy / length
Meissner $\Rightarrow$ confinement

Comment:

Bogomol'nyi

bound

or $t = e^2$:

$\sim \pi v^2 \ln$

A Vortex in "QCD"

Consider E.g.

Higgs field

$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} v \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$G = SU(2)_C$ with triplet

$SU(2)_C \rightarrow U(1)$

Two triplet Higgs fields not misalign

Aside: Bogomolnyi BoundAn exercise to show (for $\lambda = e^2$):

$$E = \int d^2x \left[\frac{1}{2} B^2 + |D_1 \phi|^2 + |D_2 \phi|^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \left(|\phi|^2 - \frac{v^2}{2} \right)^2 \right]$$

(Note: $A_0 = 0$, $\vec{E} = 0$, $D_0 \phi = 0$)

$$= \int d^2x \left[|D_1 \phi \pm i D_2 \phi|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left[B \pm e \left(|\phi|^2 - \frac{v^2}{2} \right) \right]^2 \right. \\ \left. \pm \frac{1}{2} e v^2 B + \text{curl } \vec{J} \right]$$



A surface term that vanishes in finite-energy config.

$$\pm \frac{1}{2} e v^2 \int d^2x B = \pm \frac{1}{2} e v^2 \frac{2\pi}{e} n$$

$$= \pm \pi v^2 n$$

By choosing

+ or - sign as appropriate

$$E \geq \pi v^2 |n| \quad (\text{"Bogomolnyi bound"})$$

Condition for equality

$$0 = D_1 \phi \pm i D_2 \phi$$

$$0 = B \pm e \left(|\phi|^2 - \frac{v^2}{2} \right)$$

+ for $n > 0$
- for $n < 0$

Eqs become 1st order, and can be solved!

{Comment: in general ($\lambda \neq e^2$)

$$\text{Energy} = \text{same} + \frac{1}{2} (\lambda - e^2) \int d^2x \left(|\phi|^2 - \frac{v^2}{2} \right)^2$$

and hence $E \geq \pi v^2 |n|$ for $\lambda \geq e^2$

Solution has 2/4 real parameters



the positions of the 1/4
zeros of ϕ (vortex positions)
which are unconstrained.

Classically, the vortices

are noninteracting (the boundary between
"Type I" and "Type II").

If there is enough supersymmetry, they remain
noninteracting in the full quantum theory -
they are "BPS" (Bogomolnyi-Prasad-
Sommerfield) states. More on BPS later...

Comment: in the extreme type I case $1/e^2 \rightarrow 0$
there is just one core size r , chosen to
minimize

$$E \sim \pi v^2 \left[\frac{1}{\mu r^2} + m_H^2 r^2 \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow r^2 \sim \frac{1}{\mu m_H}$$

and $M_{\text{vortex}} \sim \pi v^2 \frac{m_H}{\mu} = \pi v^2 \sqrt{1/e^2}$

E.g. if $e^2 \rightarrow \text{large}$ with λ fixed -- magnetic flux becomes
uncostly -- and core can shrink to minimize potential energy
What about radial gradient??

$$\phi(r) = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\frac{\log(r/\epsilon)}{\log(R/\epsilon)} \right] \Rightarrow \frac{d\phi}{dr} = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{r \log R/\epsilon} \Rightarrow 2\pi \int_{\epsilon}^R r dr \left(\frac{d\phi}{dr} \right)^2 = \frac{\pi v^2}{\log(R/\epsilon)} \xrightarrow{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} 0.$$

$$\underline{\Phi}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \underline{\Phi}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \psi_2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

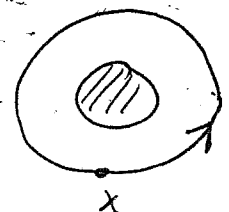
$$SU(2) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2$$

$$(\text{or } SO(3) \rightarrow I)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\Phi}(\theta) &= R(\theta) \underline{\Phi}_0 \\ D_\mu \underline{\Phi} &= (\partial_\mu R R^{-1} - ie A_\mu) R \underline{\Phi}_0 \\ &= 0 \Rightarrow \\ \partial_\mu R &= ie A_\mu R \Rightarrow \\ R(2\pi) &= P \exp(i \oint A_\mu dx^\mu) R(0) \end{aligned}$$

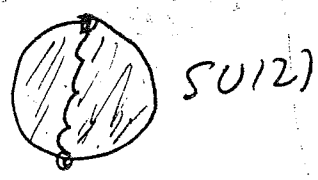
Again: parallel transport of condensate about vortex must be trivial

$$U(x, C) = P \exp(i \int_C A) = \pm I$$

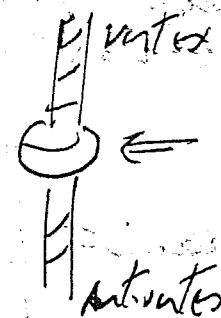
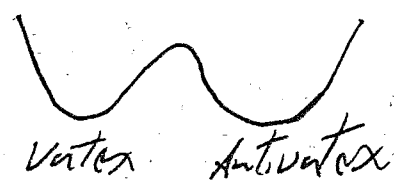


There are two topological sectors - comment: the "coffee-cup trick"

Now, conserved quantities take $\mathbb{Z}_2$ values



So - vortex and anti-vortex are topologically equivalent. This means that they are in same sector, but not that there is no barrier between them



There can be a bead on a string
In 2+1 dim, it is an instanton: coherent tunneling under barrier

More about beads later

In two spatial dimensions: quantum tunneling, and 2 distinct "low-lying" states..

nontrivial ad, nontrivial representation $\phi = \sum_a \alpha_a \sigma^a$ {Lecture #4}
 re to $SU(N)$: $\rightarrow U \phi U^\dagger = \sum_a \alpha_a U \sigma^a U^\dagger$ (24)
 $\rightarrow \sum_a U T^a U^\dagger = \sum_a R(U)^a_b T^b = \sum_a \alpha_a R(U)^a_b \sigma^b$
 Generalize $SU(N)/\mathbb{Z}_N \Rightarrow I$

E.g. adjoint rep.
 Higgs fields

$$SU(N) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_N$$

$$e^{2\pi i/3} I$$

E.g. In $SU(3)$

$$I, e^{\pm 2\pi i/3} I$$

$(1, 1, 1) \cdot \#$

$\mathbb{Z}_N$ vortices

$$\text{Exp}(i\oint A) = e^{(2\pi i/N) K} I$$

commute with the generators,
 but act nontrivially
 on triplet

$$\frac{1}{e^2} \rightarrow 0$$

Note: Just one Higgs field
 $SU(2) \rightarrow U(1)$

$$\begin{pmatrix} v \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Takes values
 on a 2-sphere

"You can't lasso
 a basketball"



Not topologically
 stable vortex

A general classification

breaking of
 symmetry

$$G \rightarrow H$$

Are there topologically
 stable vortices?

There may be global solns
 as well, but they are not relevant
 to finite-energy configs

Except - see
 theory of
 "Skyrmions"
 below

Φ : Takes values in G/H - [i.e. these are values
 that are related by
 gauge parallel transport

topologically
 viol
 s, outside
 a core?



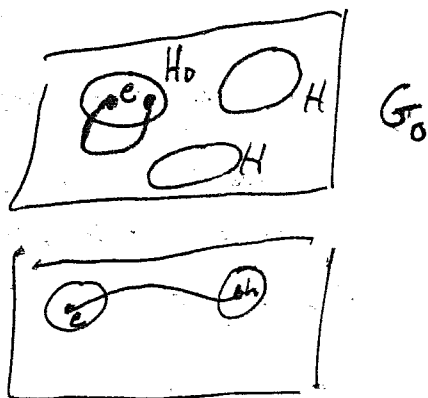


on circle at ∞

$$\Phi(\theta) = \Omega(\theta) \Phi_0$$

Φ single valued

[Comment:
If $\Phi(\theta)$ is
continuous,
we $\Omega(\theta)$ can
be chosen to
be continuous.]



$$\Omega(0) = e$$

$$\Omega(1) \in H$$

$$2\pi$$

Identity component of
 G - contains several
components of H

$$(h \notin H_0)$$

H_0 = identity
component

Question -- Can path be smoothly deformed
to one contained entirely in H ?

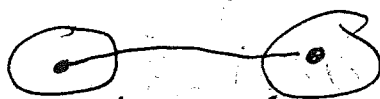
If G is simply connected:

$$- h \in H_0$$



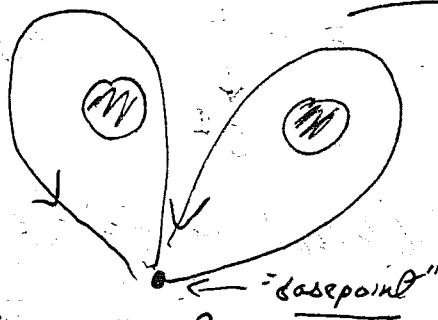
obviously yes

$$- h \notin H_0$$



obviously not

The paths have a group structure



$$\pi_1(G/H)$$

this tells us how to
"fuse" the sectors
together

If G is simply
connected --

$$\pi_1(G/H) = \pi_0(H) / \pi_0(G)$$

special case:

$$\pi_1(G) = \pi_0(G) = 0,$$

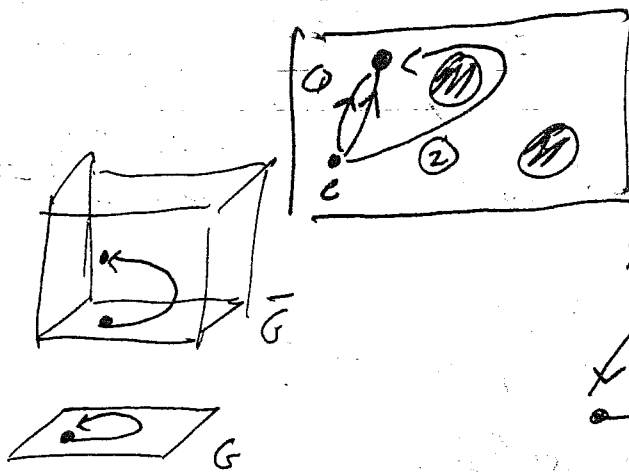
H discrete,

$$\Rightarrow \pi_1(G/H) = H$$

And ... we can always choose G to be simply connected (though that might not be convenient)
It has a universal covering group

How is covering (group) constructed?

Consider the space of homotopic equivalence classes of paths from e to $g \in G$



this is simply connected by construction



this is a closed path in the group, but not in the covering group

E.g.

$$\text{Homomorphism } \bar{G} \rightarrow G \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \pi_1(G) \rightarrow \bar{G} \\ \downarrow \\ G \end{array} \right.$$

Kernel is $\pi_1(G)$

Note: equivalent to say that

$\pi_0(H)$

classifies

Topology of Higgs field, or

flux carried by

gauge

field

E.g. $SU(N) \rightarrow SU(N)/\mathbb{Z}_N$ kernel $\mathbb{Z}_N$

$\mathbb{R} \rightarrow U(1)$

kernel $\mathbb{Z}$

$$\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \downarrow S^1$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_N \rightarrow SU(N) \downarrow SU(N)/\mathbb{Z}_N$$

Remark: $\pi_1(G/H)$ could be a noncommutative group



?

More on this later

There is more than one possible way to patch vertices together

"Local Discrete Symmetry"

Consider again the pattern of gauge symmetry breaking
 $SU(2) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2$ or $SU(N) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_N$

But now suppose that, in addition to the (adjoint) Higgs fields that drive the symmetry breakdown, the theory also contains a field ψ that transforms as the fundamental representation of $SU(N)$ - e.g. the doublet representation of $SU(2)$. Now we really have no choice but to say that the gauge group is $SU(2)$ (rather than $SO(3) = SU(2)/\mathbb{Z}_2$). Formally, a discrete subgroup $\mathbb{Z}_2 \subset SU(2)$ remains unbroken, although all gauge fields have become massive. Does this unbroken discrete subgroup of the local symmetry group have physical consequences?

Yes - consider the effect of covariantly transporting the fundamental doublet in the gauge potential for from the vortex. Since

$$P \exp(i e \oint A) = -I,$$

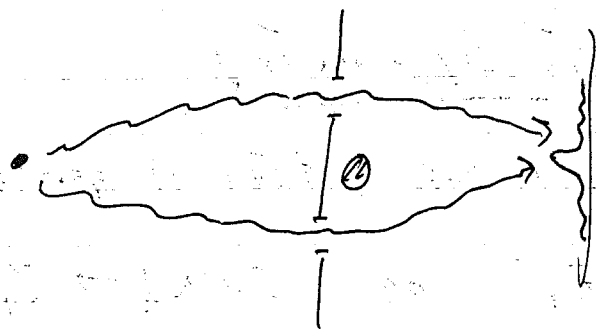
The wavefunction of the doublet particle (but not the triplet) changes sign. There is an Aharonov-Bohm interaction between vortex and charge - and remarkably, this interaction has ∞ range, even though the theory has a "mass gap" (its spectrum includes no zero mass particles).

[Comment: an abelian example -

$$U(1) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_N \Rightarrow \oint = \frac{2\pi}{Ne} \text{ if a charge } N \text{ Higgs field condenses}$$

cf. - Cooper pairs!]

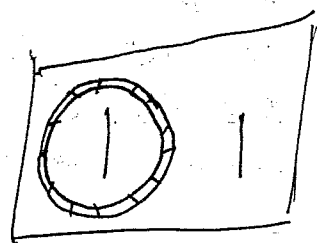
(28)



We can do a double-slit experiment with a "quark"

The two slits can be far apart, but the presence or absence of a Z_2 flux behind the screen

can be determined by the position of the central interference fringe. There is a similar phenomenon in 3 spatial dimensions — we can tell whether a loop of string winds around one of the slits



Another way to see that there



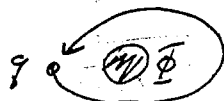
or



total cross section of loop in area of loop.

are ∞ -range interactions as to consider the scattering of the Z_2 charge by a Z_2 flux (in 2 or 3 dimensions) — the scattering cross section has an ∞ peak in the forward direction, reflecting that the charge and flux interact at long range

The calculation of the Aharonov-Bohm scattering cross section is somewhat delicate, but the main idea is easy to understand semiclassically...



The phase acquired by charge q transported about flux Φ is

$$e^{i\delta\Phi} \equiv e^{2\pi i\alpha}$$

$m < 0$



$m > 0$

We perform a partial wave decomposition of incoming wave packet — the $L = m > 0$ components receive a phase shift $e^{i\pi\alpha}$ and the $L = m < 0$ components receive a phase shift $e^{-i\pi\alpha}$.

Let ϕ denote the scattering angle. An unscattered wave has support at $\phi = 0$, i.e., its angular dependence is

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{im\phi} = \delta(\phi)$$

Nonnegative angular momentum:
$$\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} e^{im\phi} = \frac{1}{1 - e^{i\phi}}$$

Negative angular momentum:
$$\sum_{m=-\infty}^{-1} e^{im\phi} = e^{-i\phi} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} e^{-im\phi} = \frac{e^{-i\phi}}{1 - e^{-i\phi}} = \frac{-1}{1 - e^{i\phi}}$$

Applying phase shift $e^{i\pi\alpha}$ for $m > 0$
 $e^{-i\pi\alpha}$ for $m < 0$

We obtain the angular dependence of the scattered wave

$$\sim \frac{1}{1 - e^{i\phi}} (e^{i\pi\alpha} - e^{-i\pi\alpha}) = -e^{i\phi/2} \frac{\sin \pi\alpha}{\sin \phi/2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d\delta}{d\phi} \sim \frac{\sin^2 \pi\alpha}{\sin^2(\phi/2)}$$

On dimensional grounds

$$\frac{d\delta}{d\phi} \sim \frac{1}{k} \quad (\text{in 2 spatial dim.})$$

The answer is
$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\phi} = \frac{1}{2\pi K} \frac{\sin^2 \pi \alpha}{\sin^2(\phi/2)}$$

Naturally, it vanishes for $\alpha = \text{integer}$ (no A-B phase)

The singularity as $\phi \rightarrow 0$ arises because the interaction is long range — i.e. substantial phase shifts persist for arbitrarily large partial waves

Another way to describe the physical effects of the unbroken discrete gauge symmetry is in terms of superselection sectors

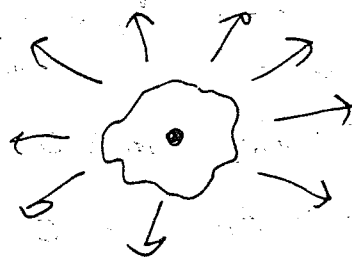
Decomposition of Hilbert space

$$\mathcal{H} = \bigoplus_n \mathcal{H}_n$$

where $\langle m | \mathcal{O} | n \rangle = 0$, $m \neq n$,

for any local operator $\mathcal{O}$

Example: charge superselection rule in QED



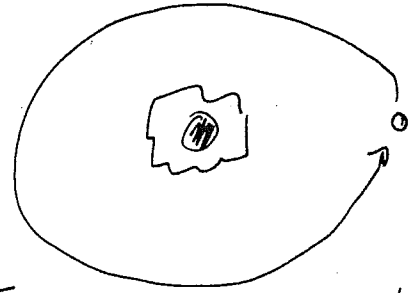
An operator acting in a compact region cannot create or destroy charge — a charge has an ∞ -range electric field

[More formally: the physical observables of QED are gauge-invariant and smeared in a compact region $\Rightarrow$ they have charge = 0]

More generally... superselection sectors classify the kinds of long range "hair" that a localized

object can carry.

Similarly, if there is an unbroken $\mathbb{Z}_N$ local symmetry, no local operators can create or destroy $\mathbb{Z}_N$ charge — it can have as many



interactions with other objects — there are N distinct sectors, labeled by their distinct $\mathbb{Z}_N$ charges. But in this case (in contrast to the charge sectors of electrodynamics) the long range hair is invisible classically — it is quantum hair.

- Intentionally Blank -

The theory of anyons

Consider: the angular momentum of a (two-dimensional) vortex, bound to a charge. We will argue that

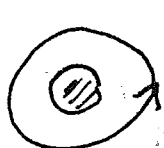
$$L = -\frac{q\Phi}{2\pi} + \text{integer}$$

(where $\hbar = c = 1$) — the angular momentum spectrum is displaced from integer values



Imagine a "flux tube" or solenoid, with enclosed flux Φ — the charged particle stays strictly outside the solenoid

- First: imagine "turning on" the flux — there is a torque on the charge



$$\oint \text{curl } E = -\frac{d\Phi}{dt} \quad \text{or} \quad 2\pi R E = -\frac{d\Phi}{dt}$$

$$\text{Torque} = R q E = -\frac{q}{2\pi} \frac{d\Phi}{dt}$$

$$\Delta L = \int dt (dL/dt) = -\frac{q}{2\pi} \Phi$$

This quantity is an "angular variable" describing displacement
 $\Theta = \frac{q}{2\pi} \Phi$ is periodic mod 2π

- Another viewpoint:



we obtain

suppose we rotate the composite object by 2π — in doing so, we are transporting the charge in the gauge potential of the flux.

$$U(2\pi) = e^{i q \Phi} = e^{i \Theta} \quad \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{what is going on with the } (-1)? \\ \text{should be } e^{-i 2\pi L} = e^{i \Theta} \end{array} \right]$$

[There is an issue here concerning whether L is "active" or "passive"]

We get the usual angular momentum algebra as $U(\alpha) = e^{-i \alpha L}$]

$$\Rightarrow L = -\frac{q\Phi}{2\pi} + \text{integer} (?)$$

$$\exp[-i\frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}] \psi(\tilde{\phi}) = \psi(\tilde{\phi} - \phi)$$

$$L = -i\frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}$$

$$U(\phi) | \tilde{\phi} \rangle = | \tilde{\phi} + \phi \rangle$$

$$U(\phi) \int d\tilde{\phi} \psi(\tilde{\phi}) | \tilde{\phi} \rangle$$

$$= \int d\tilde{\phi} \psi(\tilde{\phi}) | \tilde{\phi} + \phi \rangle$$

$$= \int d\tilde{\phi} \psi(\tilde{\phi} - \phi) | \tilde{\phi} \rangle$$
34

• Yet another viewpoint:

$$L = -i\frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \Rightarrow e^{i(m - \frac{\phi}{2\pi})\phi} \text{ has } L = m - \frac{\phi}{2\pi}$$

Consider the "singular gauge" where $A_\phi = 0$, and $\psi(\phi)$ becomes multi-valued.

E.g. $A_\phi = \frac{\Phi}{2\pi}$

$D_\mu \psi = (\partial_\mu - i g A_\mu) \psi$ invariant $\psi \rightarrow e^{i g \Lambda} \psi$
 $A \rightarrow A + \partial \Lambda$

So we gauge away A with

$$\partial_\theta \Lambda = -\frac{\Phi}{2\pi}$$

$$\text{or } \Lambda(2\pi) = \Lambda(0) - \Phi$$

$$\Rightarrow \psi \sim e^{-i g \Phi \phi / 2\pi} \quad \psi(2\pi) = e^{-i g \Phi} \psi(0) \quad \text{in the singular gauge}$$

$$\text{or } L = -\frac{g\Phi}{2\pi} + \text{integer} \quad \text{is the orbital angular momentum}$$

Superselection sectors

But shouldn't we have $e^{-i2\pi J} = 1$?

- a rotation by 2π should act trivially

We already know this is not so, from our experience with spinors, in 3 spatial dimensions

We can have $e^{-i2\pi J} = (-1)^F$

This is allowed because there is a $(-1)^F$ superselection rule --- no local operator can change value of observable q $(-1)^F$

$$e^{-2\pi i J} (a|+\rangle + b|-\rangle) = a|+\rangle - b|-\rangle$$

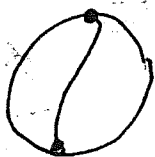
$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{It is okay,} \\ \text{because no local} \\ \text{operator detects} \\ \text{relative phase} \end{array} \right\}$

[The observables are bilinear in fermi fields.]

Here, too, in 2D, we must have $e^{-2\pi i J} = \text{phase}$ in each sector

$$e^{-2\pi i J} = e^{i\Theta} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{superselection} \\ \text{sectors labeled} \\ \text{by angle } \Theta \in [0, 2\pi) \end{array} \right\}$$

In 3D, only $\Theta = 0, \pi$ are allowed } Why?
 J is integer or half-integer



Because $\pi_1(SO(3)) = \mathbb{Z}_2$
 - the coffee cup trick

Since a path in $SO(3)$, beginning at I , ending at 4π rotation is contractible

Not so in 2D

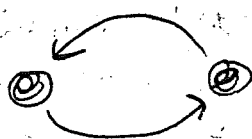
(Covering group of $SO(2)$ is $\mathbb{R}$)

- Necessary that $e^{-4\pi i J} = 1$

Statistics

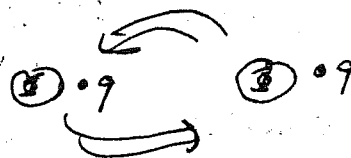
→ there is a spin-statistics connection?
 Then - fractional spin implies - what?

Fractional statistics!



consider the effect of a counterclockwise exchange of two particles - what happens to the many body wavefunction

In the case of the charge-flux composites - each charge is transported by π in the gauge potential of each flux



$$\Rightarrow \exp i \left(\frac{1}{2} q \oint + \frac{1}{2} q \oint \right) = e^{i q \oint} = e^{i\Theta}$$

The spin-statistics connection is respected,

in the form $e^{-2\pi i J} = e^{i\Theta} = \text{exchange phase}$

Spin and Statistics:

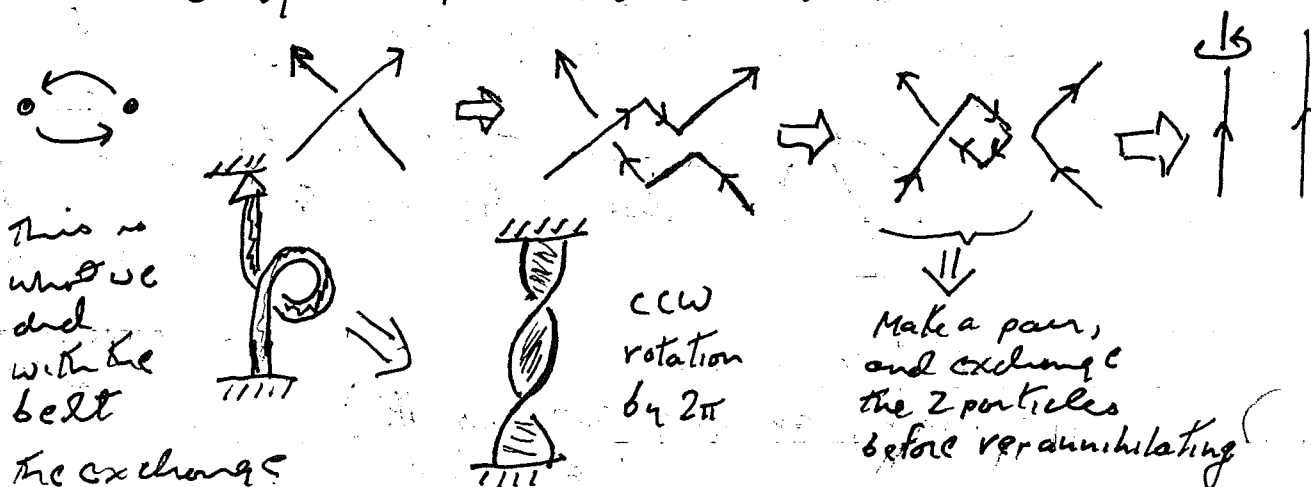
Why is the connection so robust --

the belt trick

What does the belt mean --

There is a sense in which exchanging two particles is equivalent to rotating one by 2π

This does not require relativity -- but rather the existence of antiparticles will suffice



Comment - the exchange phase violates $\mathbb{Z}$ and π , as does the fractional $\mathbb{Z}$

In 2D, a reflection is not equivalent to inversion and rotation.

Quantum Statistics in 2D

It is profoundly different from in 3D or 1D

- In 1D --



To exchange two particles, we move them past one another

So "fermi statistics" is equivalent to a phase shift of π due to their short-range interaction.

Consider n particles in 2D that are forbidden to occupy coincident positions -- And consider computing a quantum transition amplitude by the path integral method -- The histories for fixed initial and final configuration divide into distinct sectors

Violation due to B field

We have the freedom to weight the sectors contributing to the path integral in distinct ways — there are physically inequivalent ways to quantize the classical theory (this will be a recurring idea in our continuing discussion of topological methods)

How much freedom? we must insist that the amplitudes we obtain obey the principle of conservation of probability.

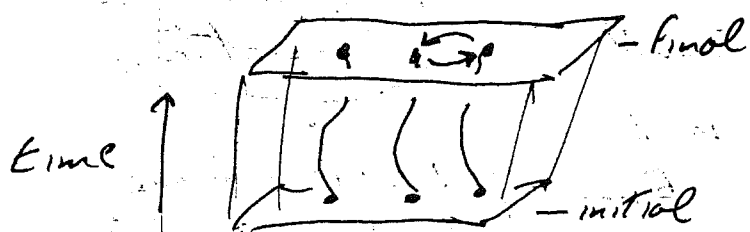
If C_n = conf space for n indistinguishable particles (in the plane), it is

$$C_n = [(R^2)^n - D^{(n)}] / S_n$$

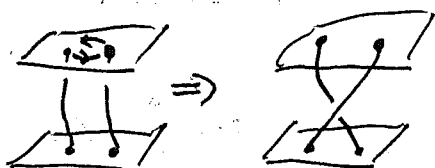
where $D^{(n)}$ is subset of R^{2n}

where 2 or more positions coincide, and S_n is the group of perms acting on the n positions;

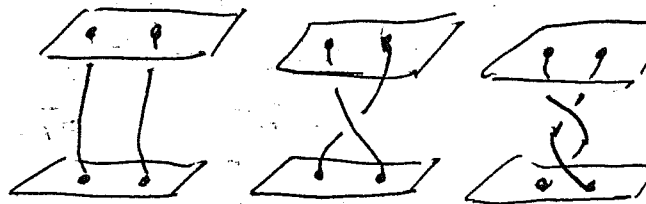
Consider closed loops in this space i.e. $\pi_1(C_n)$, acting on the final configuration ("exchange operators")



Exchanges mix the sectors =



Let's start with 2 particles.



Here are three distinct sectors.

Amplitude is a sum over sectors

$$A = \sum_i \alpha_i A_i$$

The amplitude itself need not be invariant under an exchange (a subtlety to which we will return) — but probabilities must be

And — π_1, π_2 are exchanges

$\Rightarrow \pi_2 \circ \pi_1$ is equivalent to π_1 first, then π_2

A unitary representation

$$\pi_1: A_i \rightarrow U(\pi_1)^{-1}_{ij} A_j$$

$$\pi_2: A_i \rightarrow U(\pi_2)^{-1}_{ij} A_j$$

Some subtleties

- antiunitary?
- rep up to a phase.

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \pi_2 \circ \pi_1: A_i &\rightarrow U(\pi_1)^{-1}_{ij} A_j \rightarrow U(\pi_1)^{-1}_{ij} U(\pi_2)^{-1}_{jk} A_k \\ &= [U(\pi_2) U(\pi_1)]^{-1}_{ik} A_k \end{aligned}$$

$$U(\pi_2 \circ \pi_1) = U(\pi_2) \cdot U(\pi_1)$$

a unitary representation of the group of exchange operations

What is this group?

$B_n \equiv$ Braid group on n strands:

An ∞ group with $n-1$ generators $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_{n-1}$



The elements are words, subject to defining relations, strings of the generators $\{\sigma_i\}$ in this presentation

these are complete defining relations for B_n ...

$$\sigma_j \sigma_k = \sigma_k \sigma_j \quad |j-k| \geq 2$$



$$\sigma_j \sigma_{j+1} \sigma_j = \sigma_{j+1} \sigma_j \sigma_{j+1} \quad j=1, \dots, n-2$$

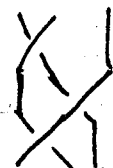
The "Yang-Baxter relation"

Yang-Baxter relation:

In both cases, the guy moving right passes in front of everything and the guy moving left passes behind everything



b_2, b_1, b_2



b_1, b_2, b_1

What are the 1D irreps?

$b_j = e^{i\theta_j}$ (unitary)

YB relation $\Rightarrow e^{i\theta_2} e^{i\theta_1} e^{i\theta_2}$

$= e^{i\theta_1} e^{i\theta_2} e^{i\theta_1}$

$\Rightarrow e^{i\theta_2} = e^{i\theta_1}$

$$b_j = e^{i\theta}$$

- a common phase for all exchanges

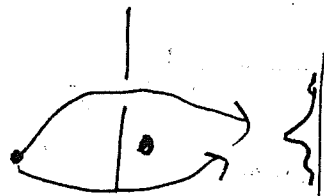
Anyon statistics, with statistical phase θ

The nonabelian irreps are very intricate - we'll learn more about them later

Anyons have a long range statistical interaction (not associated with light dynamical degrees of freedom)



winding once around another $\Rightarrow e^{2i\theta}$



$$\frac{d\theta}{d\phi} = \frac{\sin^2\theta}{2\pi K} \left[\frac{1}{\sin(\phi/2)} + \frac{1}{\cos(\phi/2)} \right]^2 = \frac{2\sin^2\theta}{\pi K \sin^2\phi}$$

Correspondingly, there is nontrivial AB scattering for $\theta \neq 0, \pi$

Composite of Anyons



If we exchange 2 bound states of 2 anyons - what is the statistical phase of the composite?

in one composite

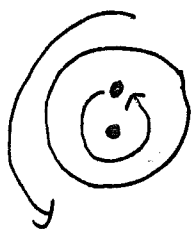
Each anyon has an exchange interaction with each anyon in the other

$$\Theta_{\text{comp}} = 2\Theta \cdot 2\Theta = 4\Theta$$

or for a composite of n anyons $\Theta_{\text{comp}} = n^2 \Theta$

But what about the spin statistics connection?
Don't the spins just add?

$$J = -\frac{\Theta}{2\pi} \Rightarrow J_{\text{comp}} = -\frac{2\Theta}{2\pi} ? \text{ NO!}$$



If we rotate the composite by 2π , not only do the constituents rotate, but one winds about the other:

$$\Theta_{\text{comp}} = \Theta + \Theta + 2\Theta$$

Another way to understand this: an anyon pair has fractional angular momentum

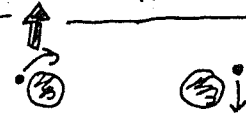
$$\psi(\varphi) = e^{i(m - \frac{2\Theta}{2\pi})\varphi} \Rightarrow L = m - \frac{2\Theta}{2\pi}$$

Antianyon has same Θ

Comment:
Anyon-antianyon pair has $J=0$

$$J_{\text{comp}} = S_1 + S_2 + L_{12}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2\pi} (\Theta + \Theta + 2\Theta) = -\frac{1}{2\pi} 4\Theta$$



Turn on both fluxes

Describe anyons in field theory

(Abelian) Chern-Simons Theory

A mass for a gauge field $-A_\mu A^\mu$ is forbidden by gauge invariance — in gauge theories, gauge boson masses are ordinarily introduced by the Higgs phenomenon

But — in 2 spatial dimensions, the situation is different — a gauge invariant + Lorentz invariant gauge boson mass is possible — as a "Chern Simms Term"

$$S_{CS} = \frac{-\mu}{2} \int d^2x \epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda} A^\mu \partial^\nu A^\lambda \quad \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{Comment:} \\ \text{odd under} \\ P, \uparrow \end{array} \right]$$

Under a gauge transformation $A_\mu \rightarrow A_\mu + \partial_\mu \Lambda$

$$F_{\nu\lambda} \rightarrow F_{\nu\lambda}$$

$$\Delta \epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda} A^\mu \partial^\nu A^\lambda =$$

$$= \epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda} \partial^\mu \Lambda \partial^\nu A^\lambda = \partial^\mu [\epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda} \Lambda \partial^\nu A^\lambda]$$

— The Lagrangian changes by a total derivative, the action by a surface term —

(Can the surface term really be neglected — surely yes for $\Lambda \rightarrow 0$ at ∞ — more later!)

Is this really a mass term? We should check that

— the pole in the photon propagator shifts from $K^2 = 0$

— EM fields decay exponentially (screening)

Consider

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{\mu}{4} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda} A^\mu F^{\nu\lambda} + \mathcal{L}_{g.f.}$$

A homework exercise: Pole is at $K^2 = \mu^2$.

In fact — there is also a pole at $K^2 = 0$, whose interpretation is subtle (see later: ∞ range Aharonov-Bohm scattering, despite mass gap).

Anyway, consider a current distribution coupled to gauge potential with a CS term that is only heavy (non-dynamical)

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}A_\mu J^\mu - \frac{\mu}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda} A^\mu \partial_\nu A_\lambda$$

What is the A_μ field equation

$$\frac{\delta S}{\delta A_\mu} = 0 = + e J^\mu - \mu \epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda} \partial_\nu A_\lambda$$

$$\Rightarrow e J^\mu = \frac{\mu}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda} F_{\nu\lambda}$$

And so, in particular

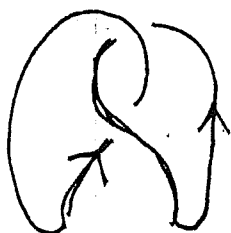
$$e J^0 = \mu B$$

$$\int d^2x \cdot e J^0 = \mu \int d^2x B$$

$$\text{or } \boxed{Q = \mu \Phi}$$

Relates the particle number (and charge density) to the magnetic field

This means that gauge field, which is completely constrained by the charge distribution (is not an independent dynamical field) associates flux with charge (and charge with flux).



This contributes as phase, if charges have linking world lines

$$e^{iS}$$

— and for a soln to the field eqn

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}A_\mu J^\mu + \frac{-\mu}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda} A^\mu \partial_\nu A_\lambda$$

$$= \int \mathcal{D}A_\mu J^\mu - A^\mu \left(\frac{e}{2} J_\mu \right) = \int \mathcal{D}A_\mu J^\mu$$

So the phase is $\exp\left(i \int d^3x \frac{1}{2} e A_\mu J^\mu\right)$

In the exchange of two particles, we accumulate the phase

$$\begin{aligned} \Theta &= \frac{1}{2} q \oint \\ &= \frac{\mu}{2} \oint^2 = -q^2 / 2\mu \end{aligned} \quad \begin{aligned} &\text{(where we had } \Theta = q \oint \text{ for} \\ &\text{our charge flux} \\ &\text{tube composites)} \end{aligned}$$

(where $q = \mu \oint$)

Why the factor of $\frac{1}{2}$ - it is because the charge and flux distributions actually coincide - eq.

 if we consider the accumulated torque when we turn on the flux in a solenoid

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Torque} &= -\frac{q}{2\pi} \frac{d\oint}{dt} \quad q = \mu \oint \\ &= -\frac{\mu}{2\pi} \oint \frac{d\oint}{dt} = -\frac{\mu}{4\pi} \frac{d}{dt} \oint^2 \Rightarrow \\ \Delta L &= -\frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\mu}{2} \oint^2 \end{aligned}$$

Lecture #6

Mathematically, the result can be obtained by doing a (carefully regulated) Gaussian integral - subtle because there is a "self-linking" contribution, too.

$$\begin{aligned} &\left\langle e^{i q_1 \oint_{c_1} A} e^{i q_2 \oint_{c_2} A} e^{-i \int d^3x \frac{\mu}{2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda} A^\mu \partial^\nu A^\lambda} \right\rangle \\ &= \exp \left[+\frac{i}{2} (q_1 \oint_2 + q_2 \oint_1) L(c_1, c_2) \right] \quad \leftarrow \text{Linking number} \\ &\quad \oint_{1,2} = q_{1,2} / \mu \\ &= \exp \left[i \left(\frac{q_1 q_2}{\mu} \right) L(c_1, c_2) \right] \quad \leftarrow \text{A homework exercise!} \end{aligned}$$

What is tricky about the evaluation of this Gaussian integral is that it is singular, and therefore ambiguous. Completing the square we have

$$\langle e^{i \int A_\mu J^\mu} \rangle = N \int (dA) \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \int A_\mu A^{-1 \mu \nu} A_\nu + i \int A_\mu J^\mu \right]$$

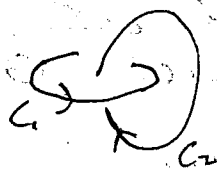
$$= \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \int J^\mu \Delta_{\mu\nu} J^\nu \right]$$

where $\Delta_{\mu\nu}$ is the gauge field propagator

Let $\int A_\mu J^\mu = \oint_C dx^\mu A_\mu$ (where C is a sum of closed loops)

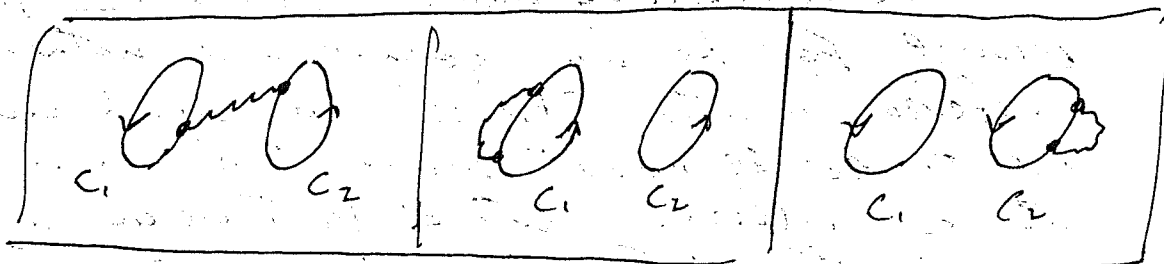
$$\Rightarrow \langle e^{i \oint_C A_\mu dx^\mu} \rangle = \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \oint_C dx^\mu \oint_C dy^\nu \Delta_{\mu\nu}(x,y) \right]$$

Suppose $C = C_1 + C_2$



where the loops C_1 and C_2 might link

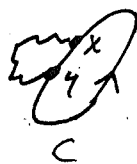
there are three contributions to the argument of the exponential -- in terms of Feynman diagrams:



You will find that the first diagram is proportional to the linking number $L(C_1, C_2)$



If one loop is the boundary of a non-self-intersecting surface -- this is the (signed) number of times that C_2 crosses the surface S_1 -- which inherits an orientation from C_1 , defined by the R.H. rule.



But this diagram becomes singular where $|x-y| \rightarrow 0$

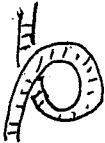
One way to define the integral is to replace C by a ribbon of finite thickness, and integrate x over one edge of the ribbon and y over the other.



Then this integral is the linking number of the edges, which counts how many times the ribbon twists by 2π as C is traversed. In this sense, the Gaussian integral knows that anyons obey $e^{-2\pi i J} = e^{i\theta}$ [Diagram (b) has a symmetry factor of $\frac{1}{2}$, which explains why the phase associated with winding one particle around another is twice θ .]



The self-linking number is still ambiguous, because there is no general and natural preferred way to "frame" a closed curve — i.e. to decide how it should twist when blown up into a ribbon. But at least we can make a definite statement about how the self-linking changes when we change the framing, or when the loop crosses itself.

E.g.  =  $\phi_{2\pi}$ means that $\langle \uparrow \downarrow \rangle = e^{i\theta} \langle \uparrow \uparrow \rangle$, $\theta = \pi/2$

If C is a single loop $\langle \uparrow \downarrow \rangle = e^{-i\theta} \langle \uparrow \uparrow \rangle$

$\langle W(C) \rangle = (e^{i\theta})^r$ where r is the "writhe" — it counts how many (signed) times the loop crosses itself, when flattened.

$L(C_1, C_2)$
 $= \# \text{ of signed crossings}$
 $C_1 \rightarrow C_2$

need to regulate
as $|x-y| \rightarrow 0$

How can we use the CS theory ---

For one thing, we can obtain a useful phenomenological description of fermions (or anyons) by representing them as bosons with $\Theta = \pi$ (or other value of Θ). For example, a 2D electron gas in a strong B field is known to exhibit phases with distinctive properties that we can understand in qualitative terms using a CS description

E.g. for fermions in an electromagnetic field:

$$\mathcal{L} = |D_\mu \phi|^2 - U(|\phi|) - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^2 - \frac{\mu}{2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda} A^\mu \partial^\lambda \phi^\dagger \phi$$

where $D_\mu = \partial_\mu - ie A_\mu - i a_\mu$

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

A_μ = (dynamical) em field (but we can regard it as fixed external field)

a_μ = (unstrained) statistical gauge field

To describe fermions

$$\Theta = \frac{1}{2} q \oint = \frac{q^2}{2\mu} = \pi(2m+1), \quad m = \text{integer}$$

Choose $q = 1$

$$\mu = \frac{1}{2\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{(2m+1)}$$

Vacuum solution:

Suppose an external em field is applied
 We can minimize the energy with

$$D_\mu \phi = 0$$

Need to discuss:
 A dependence of J in minimal coupling

or $eA_\mu + a_\mu = 0$, and $\phi = \text{constant}$.

What about the field equation for a_μ ?

Note that

$$J^\mu = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_{\text{mat}}}{\partial A_\mu} = e \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_{\text{mat}}}{\partial a_\mu} = e j^\mu$$

(because A_μ, a_μ enter $\mathcal{L}_{\text{mat}}$ only in combination $(eA_\mu + a_\mu)$).
 J^μ is the em current, and j^μ is the particle number current coupled to the statistical gauge field. Recall that

$$j^0 = \mu b \quad (b = \text{statistical gauge field})$$

and hence $eA_\mu + a_\mu = 0 \Rightarrow b = -eB$
 implies

$$j^0 = -\mu e B$$

The ratio of j^0 to B can be related to the "filling factor" of a Landau level, the number of electrons per quantum of magnetic flux

$$\Phi_0 = \frac{2\pi}{e}$$

The "filling factor" is

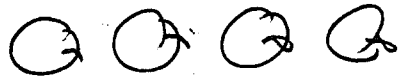
$$\nu = -j^0 \left(\frac{\Phi_0}{B} \right) = \mu e \Phi_0 = 2\pi\mu = \frac{1}{2m+1}$$

(The minus sign because electrons are negatively charged)

But only if filling is one over an odd integer!

The electrons can consistently "manufacture" a statistic field that cancels the applied field

For $\nu=1$ ($m=0$), this is just a way to say that electrons are happy if they can fill a Landau level.



(an incompressible state — here is a gap if we try to squeeze in just one more electron)

But for $\nu = \frac{1}{3}$, what has happened is remarkable — through a complicated collective phenomenon, the electrons have found a state in which they can be happy, a very different incompressible state (now incompressible because squeezing the electrons squeezes the applied B field, too)

At least if the potential $V(\phi)$ is such as to favor $|\phi| \neq 0$ in the vacuum, this collective state can be described as a type of Higgs condensate — if we think of the gauge field as having a conventional kinetic term

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu}^2 - \frac{1}{4} f_{\mu\nu}^2$$

then $D_\mu = \partial_\mu - ie A_\mu - i\tilde{e} a_\mu$

where $\tilde{e} \rightarrow \infty$. So the l.c. of A_μ and a_μ that gets an (∞) mass from the Higgs mechanism is a_μ , and the photon A_μ stays massless.

Physically — what does the condensing field ϕ represent?

Since $\Psi = -\frac{e}{2\pi} \Psi_{stat} = \mu e - \frac{e}{2\pi} (2m+1) = -\frac{e}{2\pi} (2m+1)$
 $2m+1$ flux quanta tied to each subparticle
 Condensate = electron + $(2m+1)$ flux quanta

(48)

The Hall conductivity:

What happens when we apply an electric potential across the 2DEG? Just consider again the eqns

$$J^\mu = e j^\mu = e \frac{\mu}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda} f_{\nu\lambda} = -\frac{e^2 \mu}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda} F_{\nu\lambda}$$

i.e. $J^1 = e^2 \mu E_2$

$J^2 = -e^2 \mu E_1$

No longitudinal conductivity
 Only a transverse, current flows with $J = \sigma_{xy} E$

$$\sigma_{xy} = e^2 \mu = \frac{e^2}{2\pi} \frac{1}{2m+1} = \frac{e^2}{2\pi} \nu$$

← filling factor

If we restore $\hbar$: $\frac{e^2}{2\pi} \rightarrow \frac{e^2}{2\pi\hbar} = \frac{e^2}{h}$

$$\boxed{\sigma_{xy} = \frac{e^2}{h} \nu}$$

Vortices:

What are the low-lying excitations?
 Apart from the em photon, which stays massless, we have the (as yet) massive massive statistical gauge field, and the massive Higgs field — none of these excitations carry em charge. What are the quasiparticles responsible for carrying the Hall current?

What else is in the spectrum of the Higgs model? The vortex. It has fractional charge and statistics

Recall $j^0 = \mu b \Rightarrow g = \mu \oint_{\text{stat}}, \oint_{\text{stat}} = 2\pi$
 $J^0 = e j^0$

and electric charge

$$Q = e g = e \mu \oint_{\text{stat}}$$

$$= e \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{1}{2m+1} 2\pi$$

$$= \frac{e}{2m+1} = e \nu$$

$$\Theta = \frac{1}{2} g \oint_{\text{stat}} = \frac{\mu}{2} \oint_{\text{stat}}^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{1}{2m+1} (2\pi)^2$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{2m+1} = \pi \nu$$

A "quasihole" with fractional spin and statistics

(But vortex does not carry any "real" magnetic flux - only the statistical flux.)

The Hierarchy of FQHE states

Values of Θ other than $\frac{\pi}{2m+1}$ are seen, as are FQH states for $\nu \neq \frac{1}{2m+1}$. These arise as collective states of Laughlin quasiparticles!

To describe the Laughlin quasiparticles, we choose

$$\Theta = \pi \nu + 2\pi n = \frac{1}{2\mu}, \text{ or}$$

$$2\pi \mu = (\nu + 2n)^{-1}$$

The new collective state has

$$\nu_{\text{new}} = 2\pi \mu, \quad \sigma_{xy} = \frac{e^2}{h} \nu, \quad \Theta_{\text{new}} = \pi \nu_{\text{new}}$$

We could also choose the other sign for $2n$, or for $\pi \nu$ (if condensate of holes rather than particles)

or we can say: $\frac{\Theta_{\text{new}}}{\pi} = \left(\pm \frac{\Theta_{\text{old}}}{\pi} \pm 2n \right)^{-1}$

E.g. $\nu_{\text{new}} = \left(\frac{1}{3} + 2 \right)^{-1} = \frac{3}{7}$

= Adiabatic Principle

This comes about because

$$\nu - 1 = \frac{\text{flux q.}}{\text{electrons}} = \frac{1}{8} + 2n$$

↑
states / 8.
filled Landau
levels

↑
2 in flux quanta
one each electron
spread to give
uniform field

$$- \left(\frac{1}{3} - 2 \right)^{-1} = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$\left(-\frac{1}{5} + 2 \right) = \frac{5}{9}$$

cfl

Get states with
odd denominators

Naive QHE

2D Electron
Gas

$$\vec{E} + \frac{\vec{v}}{c} \times \vec{B} = 0$$

$$\vec{J} = ne\vec{v}$$

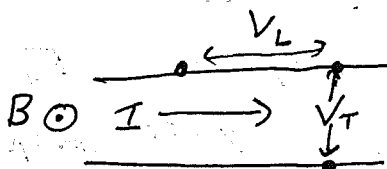
(n = # density)

$$\vec{E} = -\frac{1}{ne} \vec{J} \times \vec{B}$$

$$\text{or } \sigma_H = \frac{ne}{B}$$

$$\Phi_0 = \frac{2\pi\hbar c}{e}$$

$$\frac{n}{B} = \frac{e}{2\pi\hbar c} \nu$$



$$\rho_L = \sigma_L = 0$$

$$\vec{E} = \sigma \vec{J}$$

$$\sigma_H = \frac{I}{V_T}$$

$$V_L = 0$$

$$\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sigma_H \\ \sigma_H & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

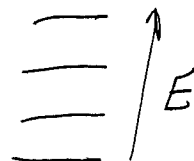
$$\nu = \frac{\text{no of electrons}}{\text{no of flux quanta}} = \frac{n \Phi_0}{B}$$

$$\boxed{\sigma_H = \frac{e^2}{2\pi\hbar} \nu}$$

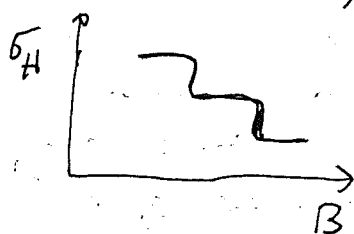
Free classical charges

Quantum Theory: Landau levels

Larmor frequency $\omega = \frac{eB}{mc}$, $E = \hbar\omega(n + \frac{1}{2})$



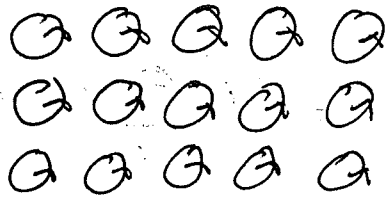
Degeneracy: $\frac{\text{Number}}{\text{Area}} = \frac{eB}{2\pi\hbar c} = \frac{B}{\Phi_0}$ Filled Landau level has $\nu = 1$



For free electrons, σ_H jumps by e^2/h when E_F crosses a Landau level

High B field
Low Temperature
Pure sample

(5)



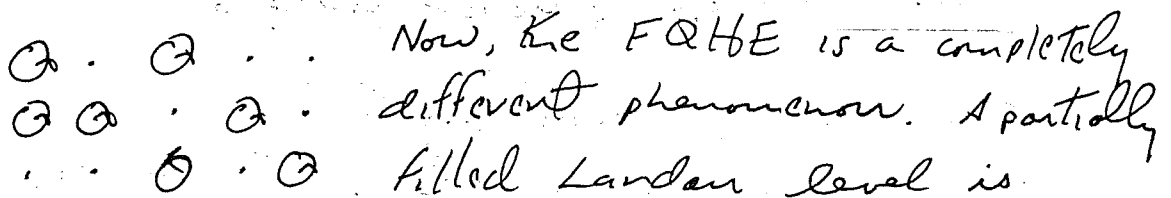
But... what happens when we introduce perturbations due to dirt, interactions among electrons, etc... Why is the IQHE robust?

The key point is:

- ① The filled Landau level is an incompressible state - there is an energy gap; it costs finite energy to excite it. Hence perturbations do not alter its qualitative properties if the perturbations are weak (large energy denominators)

- ② The property $\sigma_H = \frac{e^2}{h} \cdot \text{integer}$ has a topological origin. I'll postpone the explanation, since it involves the Berry phase and the Dirac quantization condition. But the key point is that a "topological invariant" of the system should not change as we vary the Hamiltonian, as long as the correlation length remains finite ("no gap collapse")

As we add electrons, they remain localized, and don't contribute to σ_H , until a phase transition occurs



Now, the FQHE is a completely different phenomenon. A partially filled Landau level is compressible; it is highly degenerate, and therefore very sensitive to weak perturbations. As we increase the number of charge carriers, σ_H should change smoothly... but it does not... there are still sharp jumps, with values $\sigma_H = \frac{e^2}{h} \nu$ preferred for special filling factors ν

Apparently (since the FQHE is seen only in very pure high mobility samples) electron interactions (Coulomb repulsion) drive the electrons to a new kind of collective state that is again incompressible (it has a gap). Thus, while the IQHE can be understood without reference to interactions among electrons (it is only important to understand how each electron is affected by the disorder in the sample), the interactions among electrons are critical for the formation of the FQHE phase.

We won't discuss the microscopic description of the FQHE phases (Laughlin states). But the point is that, being incompressible, these states are stable w.r.t. perturbations. Their ν_H has a topological origin (to be explained) and so is unmodified as the electron density increases. (Additional electrons remain localized and do not contribute to the Hall current) - until a phase transition occurs to a new FQHE state, with another preferred value of ν .

One way to describe what happens is that each electron "forms a composite" with $2m$ quanta of flux. These composite electrons form a $\nu = 1$ state that fills a Landau level, if $\nu = 1/(2m+1)$ to begin with.

Another way to say this - imagine a filled Landau level ($\nu = 1$) and put $2m$ flux quanta on top of each electron. Now let this flux "spread" to become a uniform B field. If there is no gap collapse - we obtain an

incompressible state with $\nu = \frac{1}{2m+1}$
 this is the state that our
 Chern-Simons theory describes.

The main task of (Laughlin's) microscopic theory is to explain how, for special values of the filling factor ν , the electrons manage to find an incompressible collective state with a gap. Then the low momentum behavior is well described by the Chern-Simons field theory. It is similar to the Ginzburg-Landau theory of superconductivity (abelian Higgs model) which describes a superconductor well, but can be justified only by a microscopic (Bardeen-Cooper-Schrieffer) theory that explains the origin of the gap.

Topological Degeneracy Lecture #7

As we will discuss in more detail later, the phases of a gauge theory cannot be distinguished by means of a local order parameter — a nonlocal criterion is needed. One such criterion is the degeneracy of the ground state on a space of nontrivial topology.

In fact, we can see that any system with anyonic excitations (whether a gauge theory or not) has such a topological degeneracy, if the anyons can be pair created.