

What can abelian gauge theories teach us about kinematic algebras ?

Kymani Armstrong-Williams
with Silvia Nagy, Chris D. White, Sam Wikeley

Wednesday 25th September 2024

Based on work done in Arxiv: [2205.02136](#), [2401.10750](#)

Outline

- ▶ Introduction: Gravity and Gauge Theories
- ▶ The Classical Double Copy
- ▶ Kinematic Algebras
- ▶ Outlook

Introduction

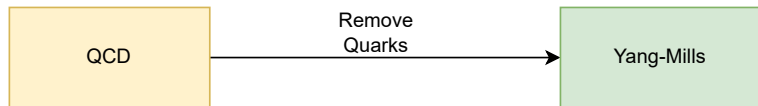
- ▶ An open problem in theoretical physics is the relationship between theories of *gravity* and theories of *particle physics*.
- ▶ The last 50 years have seen various attempts to resolve this problem: String Theory, Quantum Loop Gravity, etc ...
- ▶ Though none of these attempts have completely solidified the relationship between gravity and particle physics, we have learned a great deal from these investigations.

Particle Physics and Gauge Theories

The standard model of particle physics is described by *gauge theories*; quantum field theories which incorporate *local symmetries* defined at every point in spacetime.

The most relevant of these theories for us is the theory of quarks, gluons and the strong nuclear force: **Quantum Chromodynamics**.

We can also remove the quarks from QCD to receive a non-abelian gauge theory known as *Yang-Mills theory*.

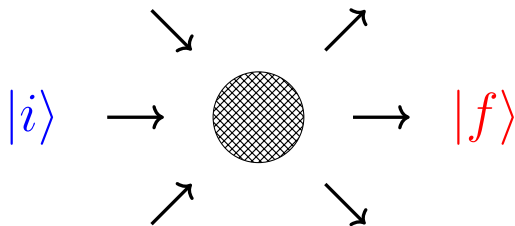


Gravity

- ▶ Currently, the best theory we have to describe gravity is *general relativity*.
- ▶ Recent experimental results on black holes and gravitational waves has increased interest in the subject.
- ▶ Gravity is the only fundamental force that we cannot comfortably combine with quantum mechanics.
- ▶ Gravity is an example of a **non-renormalisable** theory.

Quantum Field Theory and Interactions

Scattering amplitudes in quantum field theory are quantities related to the probability for an interaction (also known as a *scattering process*) between particles to happen.



- ▶ Number of (external legs) points \rightarrow Number of arrows going in **and** out.
- ▶ Number of Loops \rightarrow Number of “self interactions”.

Developing a Double Copy for Scattering amplitudes

We can write down (2203.13013) for a Yang-Mills like *non-abelian gauge theory*, a scattering amplitude with L loops and m points (in D dimensions).

$$\mathcal{A}_m^{(L)} = i^{L-1} \overbrace{g^{m-2+2L}}^{\text{Coupling Constant}} \sum_i \int \prod_{l=1}^L \frac{d^D \ell_l}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{1}{S_i} \frac{c_i n_i}{\prod_{ij} d_{ij}}, \quad (1)$$

Developing a Double Copy for Scattering amplitudes

We can write down ([2203.13013](#)) for a Yang-Mills like *non-abelian gauge theory*, a scattering amplitude with L loops and m points (in D dimensions).

$$\mathcal{A}_m^{(L)} = i^{L-1} g^{m-2+2L} \underbrace{\sum_i}_{\text{Sum over all distinct interactions (diagrams)}} \int \prod_{l=1}^L \frac{d^D \ell_l}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{1}{S_i} \frac{c_i n_i}{\prod_{ij} d_{ij}},$$

Developing a Double Copy for Scattering amplitudes

We can write down ([2203.13013](#)) for a Yang-Mills like *non-abelian gauge theory*, a scattering amplitude with L loops and m points (in D dimensions).

$$\mathcal{A}_m^{(L)} = i^{L-1} g^{m-2+2L} \sum_i \overbrace{\int \prod_{l=1}^L \frac{d^D \ell_l}{(2\pi)^D}}^{\text{Integral over loop momenta } l_l} \frac{1}{S_i} \frac{c_i n_i}{\prod_{j_j} d_{j_j}},$$

Developing a Double Copy for Scattering amplitudes

We can write down ([2203.13013](#)) for a Yang-Mills like *non-abelian gauge theory*, a scattering amplitude with L loops and m points (in D dimensions).

$$\mathcal{A}_m^{(L)} = i^{L-1} g^{m-2+2L} \sum_i \int \prod_{l=1}^L \frac{d^D \ell_l}{(2\pi)^D} \underbrace{\frac{1}{S_i}}_{\text{Symmetry Factor to prevent loop diagram overcounting}} \frac{c_i n_i}{\prod_{ij} d_{ij}},$$

Developing a Double Copy for Scattering amplitudes

We can write down ([2203.13013](#)) for a Yang-Mills like *non-abelian gauge theory*, a scattering amplitude with L loops and m points (in D dimensions).

$$\mathcal{A}_m^{(L)} = i^{L-1} g^{m-2+2L} \sum_i \int \prod_{l=1}^L \frac{d^D \ell_l}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{1}{S_i} \frac{\overbrace{c_i}^{\text{Colour Factors}} n_i}{\prod_{ij} d_{ij}},$$

Developing a Double Copy for Scattering amplitudes

We can write down ([2203.13013](#)) for a Yang-Mills like *non-abelian gauge theory*, a scattering amplitude with L loops and m points (in D dimensions).

$$\mathcal{A}_m^{(L)} = i^{L-1} g^{m-2+2L} \sum_i \int \prod_{l=1}^L \frac{d^D \ell_l}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{1}{S_i} \frac{c_i \overbrace{n_i}^{\text{kinematic numerators}}}{\prod_{ij} d_{ij}},$$

Developing a Double Copy for Scattering amplitudes

We can write down (2203.13013) for a Yang-Mills like *non-abelian gauge theory*, a scattering amplitude with L loops and m points (in D dimensions).

$$\mathcal{A}_m^{(L)} = i^{L-1} g^{m-2+2L} \sum_i \int \prod_{l=1}^L \frac{d^D \ell_l}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{1}{S_i} \frac{c_i n_i}{\underbrace{\prod_{j_i} d_{j_i}}_{\text{Internal Lines Propagator}}},$$

BCJ Duality

It turns out the kinematic numerators (n_i) can be made to obey (mirroring the colour factors c_i):

$$c_i + c_j + c_k = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$n_i + n_j + n_k = 0 \quad (3)$$

This has become known as BCJ Duality ([0805.3993](#), [1004.0476](#)). Importantly, equation (3) implies the existence of structures known as ***kinematic algebras***!

This allows us to write down relevant scattering amplitudes in quantum gravity.

Developing a Double Copy for Scattering amplitudes

We can promote gravity to a quantum field theory (ignoring issues with renormalizability), to write down a scattering amplitude with L loops and m points:

$$\mathcal{M}_m^{(L)} = i^{L-1} \left(\frac{\kappa}{2}\right)^{m-2+2L} \sum_i \int \prod_{l=1}^L \frac{d^D \ell_l}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{1}{S_i} \frac{n_i \tilde{n}_i}{\prod_{ij} d_{ij}}, \quad (4)$$

For:

$$\kappa = \sqrt{32\pi G_N}$$

Developing a Double Copy for Scattering amplitudes

We can promote gravity to a quantum field theory (ignoring issues with renormalizability), to write down a scattering amplitude with L loops and m points:

$$\mathcal{M}_m^{(L)} = i^{L-1} \left(\frac{\kappa}{2}\right)^{m-2+2L} \sum_i \int \prod_{l=1}^L \frac{d^D \ell_l}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{1}{S_i} \frac{n_i \overbrace{\tilde{n}_i}^{\text{second set of kinematic numerators}}}{\prod_{ij} d_{ij}},$$

Developing a Double Copy for Scattering amplitudes

Comparing both expressions:

$$\mathcal{A}_m^{(L)} = i^{L-1} g^{m-2+2L} \sum_i \int \prod_{l=1}^L \frac{d^D \ell_l}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{1}{S_i} \frac{c_i n_i}{\prod_{ij} d_{ij}},$$

$$\mathcal{M}_m^{(L)} = i^{L-1} \left(\frac{\kappa}{2}\right)^{m-2+2L} \sum_i \int \prod_{l=1}^L \frac{d^D \ell_l}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{1}{S_i} \frac{n_i \tilde{n}_i}{\prod_{ij} d_{ij}},$$

Developing a Double Copy for Scattering amplitudes

Comparing both expressions:

$$\mathcal{A}_m^{(L)} = i^{L-1} g^{m-2+2L} \sum_i \int \prod_{l=1}^L \frac{d^D \ell_l}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{1}{S_i} \frac{c_i n_i}{\prod_{ij} d_{ij}},$$

$$\mathcal{M}_m^{(L)} = i^{L-1} \left(\frac{\kappa}{2}\right)^{m-2+2L} \sum_i \int \prod_{l=1}^L \frac{d^D \ell_l}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{1}{S_i} \frac{n_i \tilde{n}_i}{\prod_{ij} d_{ij}},$$

Double Copy for scattering amplitudes

We can turn the gauge theory amplitude into the gravity amplitude via the following replacements:

$$\mathcal{M}_m^{(L)} = \mathcal{A}_m^{(L)} \Big|_{\substack{c_i \rightarrow \tilde{n}_i \\ g \rightarrow \kappa/2}} = i^{L-1} \left(\frac{\kappa}{2}\right)^{m-2+2L} \sum_i \int \prod_{l=1}^L \frac{d^D \ell_l}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{1}{S_i} \frac{n_i \tilde{n}_i}{\prod_j d_{ij}}, \quad (5)$$

We then make the choice $n_i \equiv \tilde{n}_i$.

This is known as the **Double Copy**.

The Classical Double Copy

- ▶ The double copy can be extended to produce dualities between exact classical solutions (*classical yang-mills and general relativity*).
- ▶ The first instance of the classical double copy is the so-called **Kerr-Schild Double Copy** ([1410.0239](#), [1606.04724](#)).
- ▶ This relates gauge fields in classical yang mills (A_μ^a) with *exact linearized vacuum solutions* to the Einstein equations ($h_{\mu\nu}$). Where:

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + \kappa h_{\mu\nu} \tag{6}$$

Kerr-Schild Double Copy

In this case, our gauge and graviton fields are constructed by combining some selected vector k_μ (*known as Kerr-Schild vector*) with some harmonic scalar $\phi \equiv \phi(x)$:

$$A^a{}_\mu = k_\mu \phi c^a \quad (7)$$

where c^a is some constant *color* vector that "dresses" ϕ .

$$h_{\mu\nu} = k_\mu k_\nu \phi \quad (8)$$

Where our Kerr-Schild vectors are constrained by the following:

$$k^\mu k_\mu = 0, \quad k_\nu \partial^\nu k_\mu = 0. \quad (9)$$

Kerr-Schild Operator Formalism

The Kerr-Schild Double Copy can be expressed in terms of **differential operators** \hat{k}_μ (known as *Kerr-Schild operators*) acting on some harmonic scalar $\phi \equiv \phi(x)$:

$$A_\mu = \hat{k}_\mu \phi, \quad (10)$$

$$h_{\mu\nu} = \hat{k}_\mu \hat{k}_\nu \phi \quad (11)$$

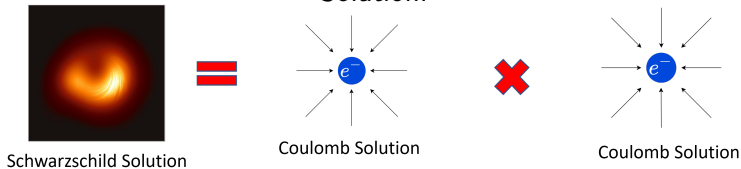
Where our operators are constrained by the following:

$$\hat{k}^2 = 0, \quad \partial \cdot \hat{k} = 0. \quad (12)$$

The Kerr-Schild Double Copy

A classic example of the Kerr-Schild double copy in action is the relationship between the Schwarzschild solution and the Coulomb

Solution:



What are Kinematic Algebras ?

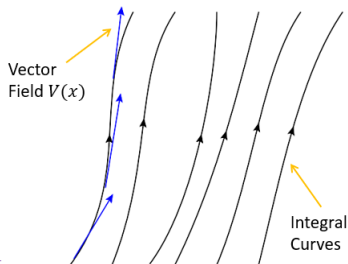
- ▶ Gauge theories are now known to possess mysterious structures known as **Kinematic Algebras**.
- ▶ One downside to BCJ duality currently is that is defined *order by order* in perturbation theory.
- ▶ We currently believe that kinematics algebras are in general *not* Lie algebras, but some **more general** mathematical structures such as *strong* homotopy or L^∞ algebras. (*Reiterer; then Borsten, Jurco, Kim, Macrelli, Saemann, Wolf; Bonezzi, Chiaffrino, Diaz-Jaramilo, Hohm, Plefka*).
- ▶ These are examples of so-called "higher" bracket theories, which require a higher-order generalisation of the Lie bracket to satisfy the Jacobi identity.

What are Kinematic Algebras ?

- ▶ The first examples of *Lie algebra based* kinematic algebras were found for the cases of (*Monteiro, O'Connell, Fu, Krasnov, Ben-Shahar, Johansson*) :
 1. Self-Dual Yang-Mills theory in *lightcone gauge* (in the form of *Area Preserving Diffeomorphisms*)
 2. Non-abelian Chern-Simons Theory in *Lorenz gauge* (*Volume Preserving Diffeomorphisms*)
- ▶ It was previously thought that only **non-abelian theories** could possess kinematic algebras, *however*, it has been recently discovered that kinematic algebras exist for **linear (abelian) theories** as well.

What are Diffeomorphisms ?

- ▶ Diffeomorphisms are simultaneous translations along all integral curves (field lines) of the vector field $v(x)$.
- ▶ It turns out we can understand the Kinematic Algebra of Electromagnetism in terms of diffeomorphisms.



Diffeomorphisms Algebras

A given vector field V^μ on a manifold generates infinitesimal diffeomorphisms:

$$V^\mu(x)\partial_\mu, \quad (13)$$

Then the set of possible all vector fields on a manifold forms a **closed diffeomorphism algebra** under the *Lie bracket*:

$$[V^{(1)\mu}\partial_\mu, V^{(2)\nu}\partial_\nu] = V^{(3)\mu}\partial_\mu. \quad (14)$$

→ i.e the bracket of two vector fields is itself a vector field.

Volume Preserving Diffeomorphism

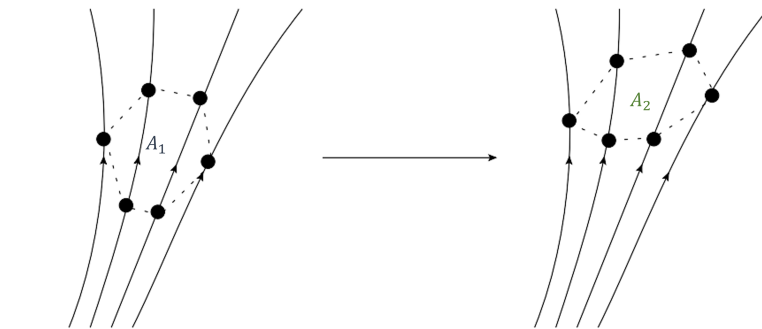
- ▶ A vector field $V(X)$ is said to be **Volume preserving** if:

$$\partial \cdot V = 0 \tag{15}$$

- ▶ For *Abelian* gauge fields, this corresponds to the **Lorenz** gauge fixing condition.
- ▶ The full set of volume-preserving diffeomorphism indeed corresponds to an algebra.
- ▶ We can take **lower dimensional** slices of the volume-preserving algebra to yield subalgebras (*transformations*) which act solely in this lower dimension.

Area Preserving Diffeomorphism

An example of such transformations are *Area Preserving Diffeomorphisms*.



$$A_1 = A_2$$

Gauge Fields at a Closer Look

Consider any gauge field \mathbf{A} can be expressed as being “valued” in terms of diffeomorphism and so-called gauge (local symmetries) symmetries:

$$\mathbf{A} = A_{\mu}^a \underbrace{\partial_{\mu}}_{\text{Infinitesimal Diffeomorphisms}} \underbrace{\mathbf{T}^a}_{\text{Infinitesimal gauge transformations}} \quad (16)$$

Where \mathbf{T}^a are the generators of the associated Lie algebra.

$$[\mathbf{T}^a, \mathbf{T}^b] = if^{abc} \mathbf{T}^c, \quad (17)$$

Abelian Kinematic Algebras from Non-Linear Theories

- ▶ By making **certain** restrictions to a non-linear interacting gauge theory, we can obtain its **self-dual (anti-self dual) *abelian*** counterpart in lightcone gauge.
- ▶ The kinematic algebra of this self-dual theory corresponds to an algebra of **area-preserving diffeomorphisms** (*2205.02136*).
- ▶ This suggests that the kinematic algebra of an interacting theory – is somehow related to the self-dual diffeomorphisms found in the abelian theory.
- ▶ We can extend this approach to derive the kinematic algebra for non-self dual abelian theories. e.g electromagnetism

Self-Dual Linearised Fields in Lightcone Gauge

We restrict the (in Euclidean signature) non-linear theory to linearised (abelian) self-dual solutions (in light-cone gauge) by choosing:

$$A_\mu = \hat{k}_\mu \phi, \quad (18)$$

Where:

$$\hat{k}_\mu = B_i \bar{\eta}_{\mu\nu}^i \partial_\nu, \quad (19)$$

For B_i being a constant 3-vector such that $\vec{B}^2 = 0$.

$\bar{\eta}_{\mu\nu}^i$ are the so-called 't Hooft symbols:

$$\bar{\eta}_{\mu\nu}^1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \bar{\eta}_{\mu\nu}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\bar{\eta}_{\mu\nu}^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (20)$$

Self-Dual Linearised Fields in Lightcone Gauge

The infinitesimal diffeomorphisms of the gauge field:

$$A_\mu \partial_\mu = (\hat{k}_\mu \phi) \partial_\mu = \left(b_{[\mu}^{(1)} b_{\nu]}^{(2)} \partial_\nu \phi \right) \partial_\mu, \quad (21)$$

with (making the choice $B_1 \neq 0$):

$$b_\mu^{(1)} = (B_1, B_2, B_3, 0), \quad b_\mu^{(2)} = \left(0, \frac{B_3}{B_1}, -\frac{B_2}{B_1}, -1 \right). \quad (22)$$

$b_\mu^{(1)}$ and $b_\mu^{(2)}$ are tangent bivectors, which define **null planes** where the diffeomorphisms act. *These are known as α - and β -planes.*

A Possible Objection

- ▶ Within the literature, kinematic algebras are usually associated with **interaction terms** in a *non-linear theory*.
- ▶ However, we can then use abelian gauge theories to **clarify** aspects of more general kinematic algebras.
- ▶ Given that any interacting theory (including a non-abelian gauge theory) must have a non-interacting linearisation, we can ask **which** of our “special” subgroups of diffeomorphisms can be *preserved* by the inclusion of interactions.

Lightcone Gauge Electromagnetism

To see the kinematic algebra for electromagnetism, we need to constrict our algebra of volume-preserving diffeomorphisms to a *closed* subgroup of transformations known as **Symplectomorphisms**.

Which for a given scalar field ϕ^i , we define A_μ to be a *Hamiltonian Vector Field*:

$$A_\mu^{(i)} = \Omega_{\mu\nu} \partial_\nu \phi^i. \quad (23)$$

where $\Omega_{\mu\nu}$ is the *symplectic form*.

In Euclidean signature, this takes a familiar form:

$$\Omega_{\mu\nu} = B_i \bar{\eta}_{\mu\nu}^i \quad (24)$$

Lightcone Gauge Electromagnetism

We then restrict to real solutions of A_μ in **Lorentzian signature**:

$$A_\mu = \hat{k}_\mu \phi + \hat{k}_\mu^\dagger \phi^\dagger. \quad (25)$$

We may choose a particular lightcone gauge defined through the **lightcone coordinates**:

$$u = \frac{t - z}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad v = \frac{t + z}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad X = \frac{x + iy}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad Y = \frac{x - iy}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad (26)$$

where (t, x, y, z) are Cartesian coordinates in Lorentzian signature.
With line element:

$$ds^2 = dt^2 - dx^2 - dy^2 - dz^2 = 2dudv - 2dXdY. \quad (27)$$

Lightcone Gauge Electromagnetism

- ▶ Our Kerr-Schild Operators then take the following form in the (u, v, X, Y) system:

$$\hat{k}_\mu = (0, \partial_Y, \partial_u, 0) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \hat{k}^\mu = (\partial_Y, 0, 0, -\partial_u), \quad (28)$$

$$\hat{k}_\mu^\dagger = (0, \partial_X, 0, \partial_u) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \hat{k}^{\dagger\mu} = (\partial_X, 0, -\partial_u, 0) \quad (29)$$

which corresponds to a choice: $(B_1, B_2, B_3) = (-i, 1, 0)$.

- ▶ The gauge field then generates a combination of two area-preserving diffeomorphisms, in (u, Y) and (u, X) planes respectively.

Lightcone Gauge Electromagnetism

The kinematic algebra must then subgroup of the product group

$$\text{Diff}_{(u,Y)} \times \text{Diff}_{(u,X)}, \quad (30)$$

As a Hamiltonian vector field, A_μ is given by:

$$(A^u, A^v, A^X, A^Y) = (\partial_Y \phi + \partial_X \phi^\dagger, 0, -\partial_u \phi^\dagger, -\partial_u \phi). \quad (31)$$

Restricting $\phi \in \mathbb{R}$, we find:

$$(A^u, A^v, A^X, A^Y) = ((\partial_X + \partial_Y)\phi, 0, -\partial_u \phi, -\partial_u \phi). \quad (32)$$

Or the case $\phi = i\xi$ i.e purely imaginary (for $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$):

$$(A^u, A^v, A^X, A^Y) = (i(\partial_Y - \partial_X), 0, i\partial_u \xi, -i\partial_u \xi) \quad (33)$$

Lightcone Gauge Electromagnetism

Transforming from (u, v, X, Y) to (u, v, x, y) , the non-zero components of the gauge field for each choice of ϕ are:

Real ϕ

$$A^u = \sqrt{2}\partial_x\phi, \quad A^x = -\sqrt{2}\partial_u\phi. \quad (34)$$

Imaginary ϕ :

$$A^u = -\sqrt{2}\partial_y\xi, \quad A^y = \sqrt{2}\partial_u\xi, \quad (35)$$

With **infinitesimal diffeomorphisms**:

Real ϕ

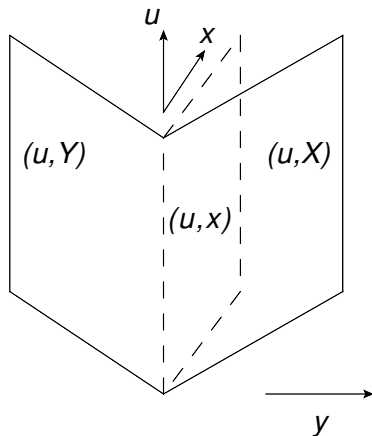
$$\partial_u A^u + \partial_x A^x = 0, \quad (36)$$

Imaginary ϕ :

$$\partial_u A^u + \partial_y A^y = 0. \quad (37)$$

Lightcone Gauge Electromagnetism

- ▶ For **REAL** ϕ , A^μ generates area-preserving diffeomorphisms in the (u, x) plane.
- ▶ For **IMAGINARY** ϕ , A_μ generates area-preserving diffeomorphisms in the (u, y) plane.



Gauge Dependence of the Diffeomorphism Algebra

If A_μ generates a symplectomorphism, then a *general gauge transformation*:

$$A_\mu = \hat{k}_\mu \phi + \partial_\mu \chi, \quad (38)$$

will produce a vector field that **does not** preserve the symplectic form.

It will **remain** in *Lorenz gauge*, provided χ is harmonic ($\partial^2 \chi = 0$)

Varying χ will gradually move out of the **special subgroups** of the diffeomorphism algebra.

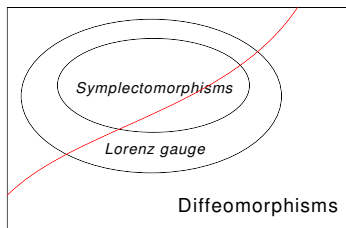


Figure: The set of all physically equivalent abelian gauge fields (related by a gauge transformation) shows up as a line – shown in red – in the space of all possible diffeomorphisms.

Scalar QED From First Principles

- ▶ As mentioned before, the kinematic algebra for (non-linear) interacting theories (such as self-dual Yang-Mills) is **inherited** at least in part from the kinematic algebra for a related linear theory.
- ▶ We can **exploit** this idea to construct non-linear gauge theories from their abelian counterparts.
- ▶ Start with an **abelian** gauge field A_μ that is restricted to the subset of Hamiltonian fields:

$$A_\mu = \Omega_{\mu\nu} \partial^\nu \phi, \quad (39)$$

Scalar QED From First Principles

- ▶ The general vacuum field equation for A_μ is

$$\partial^2 A_\mu - \partial_\mu(\partial \cdot A) = 0 \quad (40)$$

- ▶ For Hamiltonian vector fields we find:

$$\partial^2 \phi = 0. \quad (41)$$

Poisson Brackets and Hamiltonian Vector Fields

- ▶ Hamiltonian vector fields come equipped with some additional structure known as a **Poisson Bracket**.
- ▶ The *Poisson Bracket* which acts on our scalar fields ϕ_i :

$$\{\phi_1, \phi_2\} = \Omega_{\mu\nu}(\Omega_{\mu\alpha}\partial_\alpha\phi_1)(\Omega_{\nu\beta}\partial_\beta\phi_2) = \Omega_{\mu\nu}(\partial_\mu\phi_1)(\partial_\nu\phi_2), \quad (42)$$

- ▶ This implies that some scalar field ϕ_3 is related to ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 via:

$$\phi_3 = -\{\phi_1, \phi_2\}, \quad (43)$$

Scalar QED From First Principles

- ▶ Let us start with an abelian gauge field A_μ we will restrict to the subset of Hamiltonian fields:

$$A_\mu = \Omega_{\mu\nu} \partial^\nu \phi, \quad (44)$$

- ▶ Since we are dealing with Abelian gauge fields, the Poisson bracket ends up being trivial:

$$\{\phi, \phi\} = 0. \quad (45)$$

Scalar QED From First Principles

- ▶ Thus, in order to consider extensions to non-linear theories, we need to introduce an *additional* gauge field ψ , which at linear level satisfies the Klein-Gordon equation (*e.g Harmonic*)

$$\partial^2\psi = 0. \tag{46}$$

- ▶ We can then extended the E.O.M non-linearly by adding a Poisson bracket composed of ϕ and ψ :

$$\partial^2\psi + c_1\{\psi, \phi\} = 0, \tag{47}$$

Scalar QED From First Principles

- ▶ We now wish to see whether equation (47) is a physically consistent.
- ▶ If we want to consider ψ interacting with the gauge field, then equation (47) (or its *generalisation*) must be **gauge-covariant**.
- ▶ The Hamiltonian nature of A_μ is **preserved** by the gauge transformations:

$$A_\mu \rightarrow A'_\mu = A_\mu + \partial_\mu \chi, \quad (48)$$

- ▶ This implies the corresponding gauge transformation for ψ :

$$\psi \rightarrow \psi' = e^{-ie\chi}\psi, \quad (49)$$

Scalar QED From First Principles

- ▶ χ (for some α) is then restricted by:

$$\partial_\mu \chi = \Omega_{\mu\nu} \partial^\nu \alpha \quad (50)$$

Using the definition for Hamiltonian A_μ , one may rewrite the E.O.M for ψ as:

$$\partial^2 \psi + c_1 A_\mu \partial^\mu \psi = 0, \quad (51)$$

- ▶ Under a gauge transformation this satisfies:

$$\partial^2 \psi' + A'_\mu \partial^\mu \psi' = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \partial^2 \psi + A_\mu \partial^\mu \psi + \Delta = 0, \quad (52)$$

Scalar QED From First Principles

- ▶ Where

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta = & (c_1 - 2ie)(\partial_\mu \chi)(\partial^\mu \psi) \\ & - iec_1 A_\mu (\partial^\mu \chi) \psi - (iec_1 + e^2)(\partial_\mu \chi)(\partial^\mu \chi) \psi. \end{aligned} \quad (53)$$

- ▶ There is **no** solution for c_1 that yields $\Delta = 0$.
- ▶ This follows from that one must add a **seagull vertex** to scalar QED in order to make it gauge-invariant.

Scalar QED From First Principles

- ▶ We correct this by adding an additional term to equation (51):

$$\partial^2\psi + c_1 A_\mu \partial^\mu \psi + c_2 A^\mu A_\mu \psi = 0. \quad (54)$$

- ▶ Now when performing the gauge transformation, the "difference" Δ is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta = & (c_1 - 2ie)(\partial_\mu \chi)(\partial^\mu \psi) \\ & + (2c_2 - iec_1)A_\mu(\partial^\mu \chi)\psi + (c_2 - iec_1 - e^2)(\partial_\mu \chi)(\partial^\mu \chi)\psi. \end{aligned} \quad (55)$$

Scalar QED From First Principles

- ▶ The unique solution for $\Delta = 0$ (e.g gauge invariance) is $(c_1, c_2) = (2ie, -e^2)$, so that the gauge-invariant scalar field equation is

$$\partial^2\psi + 2ie\{\psi, \phi\} - e^2 A^\mu A_\mu\psi = 0. \quad (56)$$

- ▶ This has a **cubic** term, (coming from a quartic interaction in the Lagrangian).
- ▶ Therefore, it is **not** true in general that there is a straightforward kinematic Lie algebra, **i.e. such that there are up-to-quadratic terms in the field equation only.**

Scalar QED From First Principles

- ▶ However, it is possible to find a the subsector of solutions where the cubic term **vanishes**.
- ▶ The cubic in equation (56) will vanish provided

$$\Omega_{\mu\alpha}\Omega^{\mu}_{\beta} = 0. \quad (57)$$

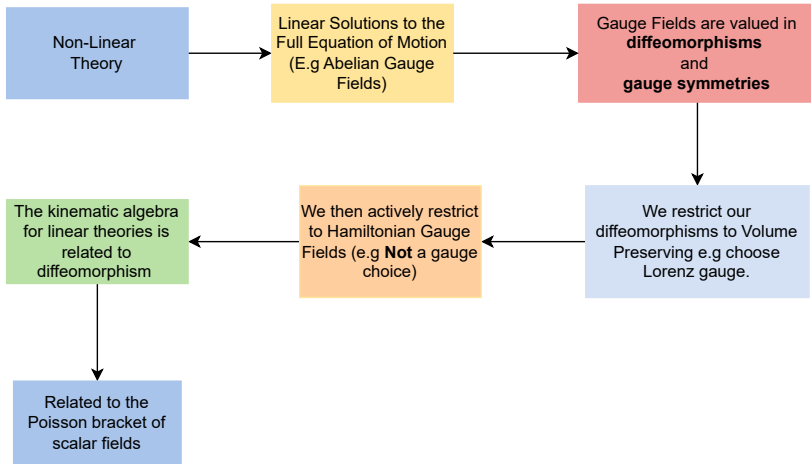
- ▶ This corresponds to self-dual field configurations in the light-cone gauge.
- ▶ Applying this to equation (56), we receive:

$$\partial^2\psi + 2ie\{\psi, \phi\} = 0. \quad (58)$$

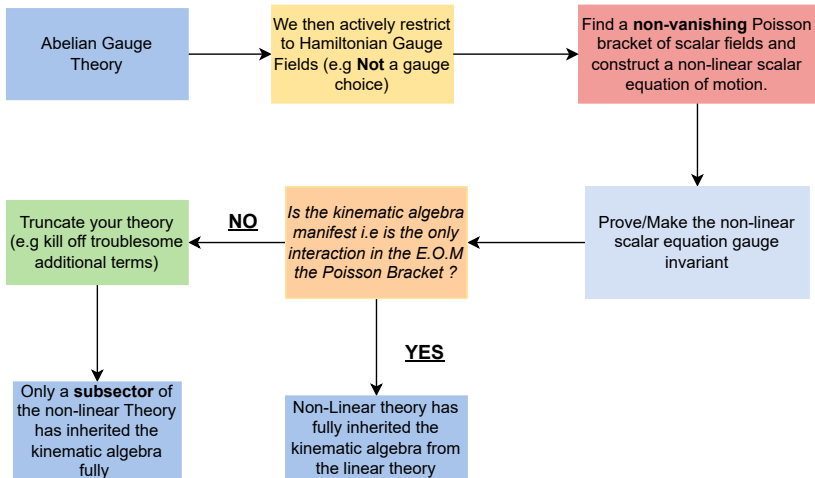
Scalar QED From First Principles

- ▶ We have shown that an interacting non-linear theory can be derived from considerations of the "kinematic algebra" associated with its abelian (linear) counterpart.
- ▶ In order to do this, we must restrict ourselves to the use of Hamiltonian gauge fields as well as Light Cone gauge.
- ▶ It is possible to go the **other way round**: start with the **full lagrangian of a non-linear theory**, and then make a series of **restrictions** (Lorenz gauge and Hamiltonian vector fields) to yield equation (58).

Overview: Kinematic Algebras for Linear Theories



Overview: Building Non-Linear Theories



Conclusion

- ▶ The Double Copy for scattering amplitudes and classical solutions has revealed to us the existence of mysterious structures known as ***kinematic algebras***, which are related to interactions in a gauge theory.
- ▶ Kinematic algebras are *not* thought to be Lie algebras in general, but more structured objects such as **homotopy algebras**.
- ▶ Kinematic algebras can be made manifest (in principle) for non-interacting classical theories if we **truncate** the non-linear theory to consist solely of **Hamiltonian vector fields**.
- ▶ If we have a kinematic algebra for an **Abelian gauge theory**, we can **construct** from first principles equations of motion for a non-linear theory.

Further Work

- ▶ How are these ideas related to the study of homotopy algebras?
- ▶ If a kinematic algebra is not Lie, is there some alternative description of gauge theories (not fibre-bundle based) that gives a **geometric meaning** to the kinematic algebra?
- ▶ Kinematic algebras have been found for theories of **fluid mechanics**; can we get useful physical insights about kinematic algebras by looking at fluid mechanics?
- ▶ Can we make interesting **new interacting theories** out of abelian building blocks, that have geometrically visualisable kinematic algebras?
- ▶ Might some of these theories be useful for (Non-abelian Chern Simons Theory) **condensed matter physics**?