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**Symmetries in Physics (WS 2018/2019)**  
**Exercise 2**

1. Consider a Lorentz transformation  $\Lambda \in L_+^\uparrow$  satisfying  $\Lambda t = t$ , where

$$t = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (a) [2] Verify that the set  $\{\Lambda \in L_+^\uparrow | \Lambda t = t\}$  is a subgroup of  $L_+^\uparrow$ .

Remark: The group is referred to as the little group of  $t$ .

- (b) [5] Show that  $\Lambda$  is isomorphic to a proper rotation.

Hint: Express  $\Lambda$  as

$$\Lambda = \left( \begin{array}{c|ccc} \Lambda_{00} & \Lambda_{01} & \Lambda_{02} & \Lambda_{03} \\ \Lambda_{10} & & & \\ \Lambda_{20} & & D_{3 \times 3} & \\ \Lambda_{30} & & & \end{array} \right)$$

and make use of  $\Lambda t = t$ . From this you will obtain conditions for  $\Lambda_{00}$  and  $\Lambda_{i0}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ . Then insert the new form of  $\Lambda$  into  $G = \Lambda^T G \Lambda$ . From this you will obtain conditions for  $\Lambda_{0j}$ ,  $j = 1, 2, 3$  and  $D_{3 \times 3}$ . Finally, make use of  $\det(\Lambda) = 1$ .

2. Let  $\Lambda_1$  and  $\Lambda_2$  be proper, orthochronous Lorentz transformations, i.e.,  $\Lambda_i \in L_+^\uparrow$ . Verify for  $\Lambda_3 = \Lambda_2 \Lambda_1$

(a) [1]  $\Lambda_3^T G \Lambda_3 = G$ ,

(b) [1]  $\det(\Lambda_3) = +1$ .

3. We consider the group  $G = \text{SU}(2)$ . Which of the following maps  $A$  defines an action of  $G$  on  $M$ ?

- (a) [1]

$$M := \left\{ m = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} \mid z_i \in \mathbb{C} \right\}, \quad A_i(g, m) = g_{ij} z_j \quad \text{or} \quad A(g, m) = gm.$$

- (b) [1]

$$M := \left\{ m = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \mid x_i \in \mathbb{R} \right\}, \quad A_i(g, m) = g_{ij} x_j \quad \text{or} \quad A(g, m) = gm.$$

(c) [1]

$$M := \{m \in \text{SU}(2)\}, A_{ij}(g, m) = g_{ik}m_{kj} \text{ or } A(g, m) = gm.$$

(d) [1]

$$M := \{m \in \text{SU}(2)\}, A_{ij}(g, m) = g_{ik}m_{kl}g_{jl}^* \text{ or } A(g, m) = gmg^\dagger.$$

(e) [1]

$$M := \{m \in \text{SU}(2)\}, A_{ij}(g, m) = g_{ik}m_{kl}g_{lj} \text{ or } A(g, m) = gmg.$$

(f) [1]

$$M := \{m \mid m \text{ Hermitian } 2 \times 2 \text{ matrix}\}, \\ A_{ij}(g, m) = g_{ik}m_{kl}g_{jl}^* \text{ or } A(g, m) = gmg^\dagger.$$

4. The centre  $Z$  of a group  $G$  consists of all elements  $z \in G$  which commute with all elements of the group:

$$Z := \{z \in G \mid zg = gz \forall g \in G\}.$$

(a) [1] Verify that  $Z$  is an Abelian subgroup of  $G$ .

(b) [1] Verify that  $Z$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .

5. [3] Verify the group axioms (G1) – (G3) for the factor group  $G/H$ .
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6. Let  $G = \{C = (A, B) \mid A \in \text{SU}(n), B \in \text{SU}(n)\}$  with  $C_1C_2 = (A_1A_2, B_1B_2)$ . Which of the following sets is a subgroup of  $G$ ? Is any of the subgroups a normal subgroup?

(a) [1]  $\{X = (A, A) \mid A \in \text{SU}(n)\}$ ,

(b) [1]  $\{X = (A, \mathbb{1}_{n \times n}) \mid A \in \text{SU}(n)\}$ ,

(c) [1]  $\{X = (A, A^\dagger) \mid A \in \text{SU}(n)\}$ .

7. [3] Consider the group  $D_3 = \langle c, b \rangle$  with the defining relations  $c^3 = b^2 = (bc)^2 = e$  and its normal subgroup  $C_3 = \langle c \rangle$  with  $c^3 = e$ . Identify the elements of the factor group  $D_3/C_3$ . Explicitly calculate the products of the elements of the factor group.
8. [2] Consider the subgroup  $C_2 = \langle b \rangle$  with  $b^2 = e$ . Note that  $C_2$  is not a normal subgroup. Determine the set of all left cosets  $gC_2$  and the set of all right cosets  $C_2g$ . What is the difference in comparison with the set of left and right cosets of a normal subgroup?
9. [2] Verify that the group  $O(3)$  is the internal direct product of  $SO(3)$  and  $\{e, p\} = \{\mathbb{1}_{3 \times 3}, -\mathbb{1}_{3 \times 3}\}$ .