

This homework has 3 problems. Problems 1 and 2 are about the stress-energy tensor of the electromagnetic fields, while problem 3 is about the dyons — particles with both magnetic and electric charges. Or rather, problem 3 is about QM of a charged spinless particle orbiting a dyon. Altogether, it's a pretty large homework set, so start working early.

1. According to the Noether theorem, a translationally invariant system of classical fields $\phi_a(x)$ has a conserved stress-energy tensor

$$T_{\text{Noether}}^{\mu\nu} = \sum_a \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_\mu \phi_a)} \partial^\nu \phi_a - g^{\mu\nu} \mathcal{L}. \quad (1)$$

For the scalar fields, real or complex, this Noether stress-energy tensor is properly symmetric, $T_{\text{Noether}}^{\mu\nu} = T_{\text{Noether}}^{\nu\mu}$. But for the vector, tensor, spinor, *etc.*, fields, the Noether stress-energy tensor (1) comes out asymmetric, so to make it properly symmetric one adds a total-divergence term of the form

$$T^{\mu\nu} = T_{\text{Noether}}^{\mu\nu} + \partial_\lambda \mathcal{K}^{\lambda\mu\nu}, \quad (2)$$

where $\mathcal{K}^{\lambda\mu\nu} \equiv -\mathcal{K}^{\mu\lambda\nu}$ is some 3-index Lorentz tensor antisymmetric in its first two indices.

To illustrate the problem, consider the free electromagnetic fields described by the Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}(A_\mu, \partial_\nu A_\mu) = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \quad (3)$$

where A_μ is a real vector field and $F_{\mu\nu} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu$.

- (a) Write down $T_{\text{Noether}}^{\mu\nu}$ for the free electromagnetic fields and show that it is neither symmetric nor gauge invariant.

- (b) The properly symmetric — and also gauge invariant — stress-energy tensor for the free electromagnetism is

$$T_{\text{EM}}^{\mu\nu} = -F^{\mu\lambda}F_{\lambda}^{\nu} + \frac{1}{4}g^{\mu\nu}F_{\kappa\lambda}F^{\kappa\lambda}. \quad (4)$$

Show that this expression indeed has form (2) for

$$\mathcal{K}^{\lambda\mu,\nu} = -F^{\lambda\mu}A^{\nu} = -\mathcal{K}^{\mu\lambda,\nu}. \quad (5)$$

- (c) Write down the components of the stress-energy tensor (4) in non-relativistic notations and make sure you have the familiar electromagnetic energy density, momentum density, and stress.

Next, consider the electromagnetic fields coupled to the electric current J^{μ} of some charged “matter” fields. Because of this coupling, only the *net* energy-momentum of the whole field system should be conserved, but not the separate P_{EM}^{μ} and P_{mat}^{μ} . Consequently, we should have

$$\partial_{\mu}T_{\text{net}}^{\mu\nu} = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad T_{\text{net}}^{\mu\nu} = T_{\text{EM}}^{\mu\nu} + T_{\text{mat}}^{\mu\nu} \quad (6)$$

but generally $\partial_{\mu}T_{\text{EM}}^{\mu\nu} \neq 0$ and $\partial_{\mu}T_{\text{mat}}^{\mu\nu} \neq 0$.

- (d) Use Maxwell’s equations to show that

$$\partial_{\mu}T_{\text{EM}}^{\mu\nu} = -F^{\nu\lambda}J_{\lambda} \quad (7)$$

(in $c = 1$ units), and therefore any system of charged matter fields should have its stress-energy tensor related to the electric current J_{λ} according to

$$\partial_{\mu}T_{\text{mat}}^{\mu\nu} = +F^{\nu\lambda}J_{\lambda}. \quad (8)$$

- (e) Rewrite eq. (7) in non-relativistic notations and explain its physical meaning in terms of the electromagnetic energy, momentum, work, and forces.

2. Continuing problem 1, consider the EM fields coupled to a specific model of charged matter, namely a complex scalar field $\Phi(x) \neq \Phi^*(x)$ of electric charge $q \neq 0$. Altogether, the net Lagrangian for the A^μ , Φ , and Φ^* fields is

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{net}} = D^\mu \Phi^* D_\mu \Phi - m^2 \Phi^* \Phi - \frac{1}{4} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} \quad (9)$$

where

$$D_\mu \Phi = (\partial_\mu + iqA_\mu)\Phi \quad \text{and} \quad D_\mu \Phi^* = (\partial_\mu - iqA_\mu)\Phi^* \quad (10)$$

are the *covariant* derivatives.

(a) Write down the equation of motion for all fields in a covariant form. Also, write down the electric current

$$J^\mu \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} -\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial A_\mu} \quad (11)$$

in a manifestly gauge-invariant form and verify its conservation, $\partial_\mu J^\mu = 0$ (as long as the scalar fields satisfy their equations of motion).

(b) Write down the Noether stress-energy tensor for the whole system and show that

$$T_{\text{net}}^{\mu\nu} \equiv T_{\text{EM}}^{\mu\nu} + T_{\text{mat}}^{\mu\nu} = T_{\text{Noether}}^{\mu\nu} + \partial_\lambda \mathcal{K}^{\lambda\mu\nu}, \quad (12)$$

where $T_{\text{EM}}^{\mu\nu}$ is exactly as in eq. (4) for the free EM fields, the improvement tensor $\mathcal{K}^{\lambda\mu\nu} = -\mathcal{K}^{\mu\lambda\nu}$ is also exactly as in eq. (5), and

$$T_{\text{mat}}^{\mu\nu} = D^\mu \Phi^* D^\nu \Phi + D^\nu \Phi^* D^\mu \Phi - g^{\mu\nu} (D_\lambda \Phi^* D^\lambda \Phi - m^2 \Phi^* \Phi). \quad (13)$$

Note: although the improvement tensor $\mathcal{K}^{\lambda\mu\nu}$ for the EM+matter system is the same as for the free EM fields, in presence of an electric current J^μ its derivative $\partial_\lambda \mathcal{K}^{\lambda\mu\nu}$ contains an extra $J^\mu A^\nu$ term. Pay attention to this term — it is important for obtaining the gauge-invariant stress-energy tensor (13) for the scalar field.

- (c) Use the scalar fields' equations of motion and the non-commutativity of covariant derivatives

$$[D_\mu, D_\nu]\Phi = iqF_{\mu\nu}\Phi, \quad [D_\mu, D_\nu]\Phi^* = -iqF_{\mu\nu}\Phi^* \quad (14)$$

to show that

$$\partial_\mu T_{\text{mat}}^{\mu\nu} = +F^{\nu\lambda}J_\lambda \quad (15)$$

exactly as in eq. (8), and therefore the *net* stress-energy tensor (12) is conserved, *cf.* problem 1(d).

3. Some unified theories of fundamental interactions predict the existence of *dyons* — magnetic monopoles that also have electric charges. Dyons are usually very heavy compared to ordinary particles, so when an ordinary charged particle orbits a dyon, the latter can be treated as a static source of the electric and the magnetic fields: In Gauss units,

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{Q}{r^2}\mathbf{n}, \quad \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{M}{r^2}\mathbf{n}. \quad (16)$$

In this problem, we consider the motion of a spinless non-relativistic particle of mass m and electric charge q in these static fields. Let's start with the classical motion of the particle in question. The net angular momentum of the dyon+particle system is

$$\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{L}_{\text{mech}} + \mathbf{J}_{\text{EM}} = \mathbf{x} \times \vec{\pi} - \frac{qM}{c}\mathbf{n} \quad (17)$$

where $\vec{\pi} = m\mathbf{v}$ is the kinematic momentum of the particle (rather than its canonical momentum \mathbf{p}), while \mathbf{J}_{EM} is the angular momentum of the EM fields in the dyon+particle system.

- (a) Verify that it is this net angular momentum (17) that is conserved by the classical motion of the particle, $d\mathbf{J}/dt = 0$.

In quantum mechanics, we have a similar formula for the net angular momentum,

$$\hat{\mathbf{J}} = \hat{\mathbf{x}} \times \vec{\hat{\pi}} - \frac{qM}{c} \frac{\hat{\mathbf{x}}}{\hat{r}} \quad (18)$$

where

$$\vec{\hat{\pi}} = \hat{\mathbf{p}} - \frac{q}{c} \mathbf{A}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}). \quad (19)$$

In light of eq. (19), the (equal time) commutation relations for the position and *kinematic* momentum operators are

$$[\hat{x}_i, \hat{x}_j] = 0, \quad [\hat{x}_i, \hat{\pi}_j] = i\hbar\delta_{ij}, \quad (20)$$

but

$$[\hat{\pi}_i, \hat{\pi}_j] = \frac{iq\hbar}{c} \epsilon_{ijk} B_k(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) \xrightarrow{\text{in the dyon field}} \frac{iqM\hbar}{c} \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\hat{x}_k}{\hat{r}^3}. \quad (21)$$

- (b) Use these commutation relation to show that the components of the angular momentum operator (18) indeed commute with each other — and with the other vectors — as legitimate angular momentum operators. Specifically,

$$[\hat{x}_i, \hat{J}_j] = i\hbar\epsilon_{ijk} \hat{x}_k, \quad (22)$$

$$[\hat{\pi}_i, \hat{J}_j] = i\hbar\epsilon_{ijk} \hat{\pi}_k, \quad (23)$$

$$[\hat{J}_i, \hat{J}_j] = i\hbar\epsilon_{ijk} \hat{J}_k. \quad (24)$$

- (c) Show that the operators \hat{J}_i are conserved, *i.e.*, that they commute with the particle's Hamiltonian

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\vec{\hat{\pi}}^2}{2m} + \frac{Qq}{\hat{r}}. \quad (25)$$

The vector potential due to the magnetic charge of the dyon can be written in spherical coordinates as

$$\mathbf{A}_{N,S}(r, \theta, \phi) = M \frac{\pm 1 - \cos \theta}{r \sin \theta} \cdot \mathbf{e}_\phi, \quad (26)$$

where \mathbf{e}_ϕ is the unit vector in the ϕ direction while the two signs correspond to the two different gauge choices for the Dirac monopole: '+' for the \mathbf{A}_N potential on the Northern

side of the dyon ($0 \leq \theta < \pi - \epsilon$), and ‘-’ for the \mathbf{A}_S potential on the Southern side ($\epsilon < \theta \leq \pi$).

(d) Show that for these gauge choices, the \hat{J}_z operator acts in the spherical coordinate basis as

$$\hat{J}_z = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \mp \frac{qM}{c} \psi. \quad (27)$$

Note that thanks to the Dirac’s charge quantization rule, the $\mp(qM/c)$ factor in the second term here is always an integer or half-integer multiple of \hbar .

(e) Likewise, show that the other two components of the angular momentum have form

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{J}_+ &= \hat{J}_x + i\hat{J}_y = \hbar e^{+i\phi} \left[+\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + i \cot \theta \times \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} - \frac{qM}{\hbar c} \frac{1 \mp \cos \theta}{\sin \theta} \right], \\ \hat{J}_- &= \hat{J}_x - i\hat{J}_y = \hbar e^{-i\phi} \left[-\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + i \cot \theta \times \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} - \frac{qM}{\hbar c} \frac{1 \mp \cos \theta}{\sin \theta} \right], \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

Now let’s look for the simultaneous eigenstates $|n, j, m\rangle$ of the $\hat{\mathbf{J}}^2$ and \hat{J}_z operators. By the usual rules of the angular momenta, for each given n and j , m runs from $-j$ to $+j$ by 1. However, in presence of the dyon, the spectrum of j is different from the spectrum of ℓ for the ordinary orbital angular momentum: Instead of $\ell = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$, we now have

$$j = j_{\min}, j_{\min} + 1, j_{\min} + 2, \dots \quad \text{where} \quad j_{\min} = \frac{|qM|}{\hbar c}. \quad (29)$$

In particular, for a half-integral $qM/\hbar c$, we have j running over half-integral rather than integral values.

(f) Use eqs. (27) and (28) to obtain this spectrum of allowed values of j .

Hint: use $\hat{J}_+ |j, m = j\rangle = 0$ to argue that the wavefunction of this state is non-singular at both poles $\theta = 0$ and $\theta = \pi$ if and only if $j - j_{\min}$ is a non-negative integer.

Finally, let’s diagonalize the Hamiltonian (25). As a first step, let’s separate the radial and the angular directions of the operator $\vec{\hat{\pi}}^2$.

(g) Use the commutation relations (20) through (24) to show that

$$\hat{\pi}^2 = \hat{\pi}_r^2 + \frac{1}{\hat{r}^2} \left(\hat{J}^2 - \left(\frac{qM}{c} \right)^2 \right) \quad (30)$$

where

$$\hat{\pi}_r = \frac{1}{2} \{ \hat{n}_i, \hat{\pi}_i \} \xrightarrow{\text{coordinate basis}} -i\hbar \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r} \right). \quad (31)$$

(h) Now write down the radial Schrödinger equation for a given j and show that for $qQ < 0$ the bound state energies are

$$E(n_r, j) = -\frac{m(qQ)^2}{2\hbar^2} \times \frac{1}{(n_r + \lambda)^2} \quad (32)$$

where n_r is a positive integer $1, 2, 3, \dots$, while λ is the positive root of

$$\lambda(\lambda + 1) = j(j + 1) - (qM/\hbar c)^2. \quad (33)$$

By comparison, in the absence of the magnetic charge j is $\ell = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$, hence $\lambda = \ell$, and $n_r + \lambda = n_r + \ell$ is the principle quantum number N .