

PART I: Supersymmetry

Formulae:

Space-time metric:

- $\eta^{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}[1, -1, -1, -1]$

In the Weyl representation:

$$\gamma^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & (\sigma^\mu)_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}} \\ (\bar{\sigma}^\mu)^{\dot{\alpha}\alpha} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \gamma^5 = \begin{pmatrix} \delta_{\beta}^{\alpha} & 0 \\ 0 & \delta_{\beta}^{\dot{\alpha}} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \frac{1}{2}\Sigma^{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} i(\sigma^{\mu\nu})_{\alpha}^{\beta} & 0 \\ 0 & i(\bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu})^{\dot{\alpha}}_{\dot{\beta}} \end{pmatrix}$$

with

$$(\sigma^\mu)_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}} = (I_2, \vec{\sigma}), \quad (\bar{\sigma}^\mu)^{\dot{\alpha}\alpha} = (I_2, -\vec{\sigma})$$

where $\vec{\sigma} = (\sigma^1, \sigma^2, \sigma^3)$ are the Pauli matrices. Furthermore,

$$(\sigma^{\mu\nu})_{\alpha}^{\beta} = \frac{1}{4}(\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu - \sigma^\nu \bar{\sigma}^\mu), \quad (\bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu})^{\dot{\alpha}}_{\dot{\beta}} = \frac{1}{4}(\bar{\sigma}^\mu \sigma^\nu - \bar{\sigma}^\nu \sigma^\mu).$$

Some spinor relations:

- $\chi\psi := \chi^\alpha\psi_\alpha = \psi\chi, \quad \bar{\chi}\bar{\psi} := \bar{\chi}_{\dot{\alpha}}\bar{\psi}^{\dot{\alpha}} = \bar{\psi}\bar{\chi}, \quad (\chi\psi)^\dagger = \psi^\dagger\chi^\dagger = \bar{\psi}\bar{\chi}$
- $\chi\sigma^\mu\bar{\psi} := \chi^\alpha\sigma^\mu_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}}\bar{\psi}^{\dot{\alpha}}, \quad \bar{\chi}\bar{\sigma}^\mu\psi := \bar{\chi}_{\dot{\alpha}}\bar{\sigma}^{\mu\dot{\alpha}\alpha}\psi_\alpha$
- $(\chi\sigma^\mu\bar{\psi})^\dagger = \psi\sigma^\mu\bar{\chi}$
- $\chi\sigma^\mu\bar{\psi} = -\bar{\psi}\bar{\sigma}^\mu\chi$
- $\chi\sigma^{\mu\nu}\psi = -\psi\sigma^{\mu\nu}\chi, \quad \bar{\chi}\bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu}\bar{\psi} = -\bar{\psi}\bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu}\bar{\chi}$
- $(\chi\sigma^{\mu\nu}\psi)^\dagger = \bar{\chi}\bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu}\bar{\psi}$

Problem 1: Variations on the SUSY algebra

- a) Write down the ($N = 1$) SUSY algebra in terms of the 10 bosonic generators of the Poincaré group (P^μ , $J^{\mu\nu}$) and the 4 fermionic generators (Q_α , and $\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}$). Here Q_α ($\alpha = 1, 2$), and $\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}$ ($\dot{\alpha} = \dot{1}, \dot{2}$) are 2-component Weyl spinors transforming according to the $(1/2, 0)$ and $(0, 1/2)$ -representations of the Lorentz group, respectively.
- b) In 4-component notation we define the Majorana spinor $Q_{M,a}$ ($a = 1, 2, \dot{1}, \dot{2}$):

$$Q_M = \begin{pmatrix} Q_\alpha \\ \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}} \end{pmatrix} .$$

Show that the Dirac-adjoint spinor is given by $\bar{Q}_M = (Q^\beta, \bar{Q}_{\dot{\beta}})$.

- c) Show that

$$\begin{aligned} [P^\mu, Q_M] &= 0, \\ [J^{\mu\nu}, Q_M] &= -\frac{1}{2} \Sigma^{\mu\nu} Q_M, \\ \{Q_M, \bar{Q}_M\} &= 2\gamma^\mu P_\mu \end{aligned}$$

with γ^μ and $\Sigma^{\mu\nu} := \frac{i}{4}[\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu]$ in the Weyl representation.

Hint: Consider $\{Q_{M,a}, \bar{Q}_{M,b}\}$ for fixed $a, b = 1, 2, \dot{1}, \dot{2}$.

- d) The SUSY algebra can be expressed entirely in terms of commutators with the help of anti-commuting parameters ξ^α , $\bar{\xi}_{\dot{\alpha}}$ and η^α , $\bar{\eta}_{\dot{\alpha}}$:

$$\{\xi^\alpha, \xi^\beta\} = \{\xi^\alpha, Q_\beta\} = \dots = [P_\mu, \xi^\alpha] = 0.$$

Evaluate the following commutators using the algebra in a):

- (i) $[P_\mu, \xi Q] = [P_\mu, \bar{\xi} \bar{Q}]$
- (ii) $[J^{\mu\nu}, \xi Q], [J^{\mu\nu}, \bar{\xi} \bar{Q}]$
- (iii) $[\xi Q, \eta Q] = [\bar{\xi} \bar{Q}, \bar{\eta} \bar{Q}]$
- (iv) $[\xi Q, \bar{\eta} \bar{Q}]$

where we use the summation convention $\xi Q := \xi^\alpha Q_\alpha$, $\bar{\xi} \bar{Q} := \bar{\xi}_{\dot{\alpha}} \bar{Q}^{\dot{\alpha}}$.

Problem 2: A supersymmetric Lagrangian

- a) Write down the Wess-Zumino Lagrangian for massless ($m = 0$) and non-interacting ($g = 0$) fields A and ψ
- b) In this case ($m = 0, g = 0$) the SUSY transformations are given by

$$\begin{aligned}\delta_\xi A &= \sqrt{2} \xi \psi, \\ \delta_\xi \psi &= -i\sqrt{2} \sigma^\mu \bar{\xi} \partial_\mu A\end{aligned}$$

Here, we use again the summation convention and free indices α have been suppressed. Write down the transformation rules for the conjugate fields which can be obtained by hermitian conjugation:

- (i) $\delta_\xi A^* = (\delta_\xi A)^\dagger = \dots$
(ii) $\delta_\xi \bar{\psi} = (\delta_\xi \psi)^\dagger = \dots$

- c) Show that

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \delta_\xi [(\partial_\mu A^*)(\partial^\mu A)] = -\bar{\xi} \bar{\psi} \square A - \xi \psi \square A^* + \partial_\mu K_1^\mu$$

with $\square := \partial_\mu \partial^\mu$. Specify K_1^μ .

- d) Show that

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \delta_\xi [i\bar{\psi} \bar{\sigma}^\mu \partial_\mu \psi] = \bar{\xi} \bar{\psi} \square A + \xi \psi \square A^* + \partial_\mu K_2^\mu$$

Specify K_2^μ .

Hint: $\sigma^\mu \bar{\sigma}^\nu = \eta^{\mu\nu} + 2\sigma^{\mu\nu}$, $\bar{\sigma}^\mu \sigma^\nu = \eta^{\mu\nu} + 2\bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu}$ and $\sigma^{\mu\nu} = -\sigma^{\nu\mu}$, $\bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu} = -\bar{\sigma}^{\nu\mu}$.

- e) Conclude that the action is invariant under this symmetry: $\delta_\xi S = 0$.