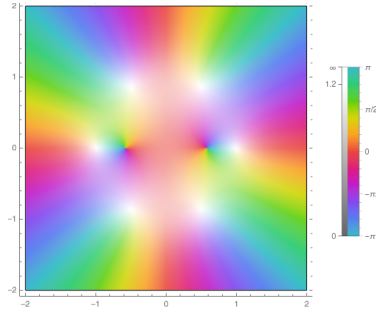


# SPECIAL RELATIVITY AND CLASSICAL FIELD THEORY

LECTURE AND TUTORIAL – PROF. DR. HAYE HINRICHSSEN – MAXIMILIAN ZEMSCH – SS 2021



Complex fields can be viewed with phases represented as colors (Mathematica: ComplexPlot[...])

## EXERCISE 6.1: COMPLEX SCALAR FIELD (4P)

Let us consider the following action for a pair of real-valued scalar fields  $\psi(\mathbf{x})$  and  $\chi(\mathbf{x})$ :

$$S[\psi, \chi] = -\frac{1}{2} \int \left( \eta^{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial\psi}{\partial x^\mu} \frac{\partial\psi}{\partial x^\nu} + \eta^{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial\chi}{\partial x^\mu} \frac{\partial\chi}{\partial x^\nu} \right) d^4x$$

- Determine the equations of motion. (1P)
- Rewrite the action as  $S[\phi, \phi^*]$  in terms of a complex-valued field  $\phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\chi + i\psi)$  and  $\phi^* = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\chi - i\psi)$ . (1P)
- Find the equations of motion for  $\phi(\mathbf{x})$  and  $\phi^*(\mathbf{x})$  (treating  $\phi$  and  $\phi^*$  as independent) and confirm that they are compatible with (a). (1P)
- Extend the action  $S[\phi, \phi^*]$  by a mass term and derive the equations of motion. (1P)

## EXERCISE 6.2: INVARIANTS OF THE ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD TENSOR (8P)

- A Lorentz transformation is an isometry in Minkowski space. Show that this implies that the determinant of a Lorentz transformation matrix  $\Lambda^\mu{}_\nu$  equals  $\pm 1$ . (2P)
- Demonstrate that the 4-dimensional fully antisymmetric Levi-Civita symbols  $\epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}$  with  $\epsilon^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} := -\epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}$  are invariant under special Lorentz transformations  $SO(1, 3)$  while they may change their sign under general Lorentz transformations  $O(1, 3)$ .  
Note: This is the reason why they are called *symbols* and not *tensors*. (3P)
- The dual field tensor of the electromagnetic field is defined as  $*F_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\tau}F^{\rho\tau}$ . Compute  $*F_{\mu\nu}$  as well as the three Lorentz-invariant quantities

$$\frac{1}{2}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}, \quad \frac{1}{4}*F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}, \quad \frac{1}{2}*F_{\mu\nu}*F^{\mu\nu}$$

in terms of the fields  $\vec{E}$  and  $\vec{B}$ . (2P)

- Is it possible to convert a pure electric field into a pure magnetic field by Lorentz transformation? (1P)

( $\Sigma = 12P$ )

Please submit your solution as a single pdf file via WueCampus. Deadline is Friday, May 28 at 12:00.