

0.2.5. Massive scalar field

Consider the Lagrangian density for a massive scalar field from the example in ch. 0 §2.5.

a) Generalize this Lagrangian density to a complex field $\phi(x) \in \mathbb{C}$:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi(x)) (\partial^\mu \phi^*(x)) - \frac{m^2}{2} |\phi(x)|^2$$

with ϕ^* the complex conjugate of ϕ . What are the Euler-Lagrange equations now?

b) Consider a local gauge transformation, $\phi(x) \rightarrow \phi(x) e^{i\Lambda(x)}$, with $\Lambda(x)$ a real field that characterizes the transformation. Is the Lagrangian from part b) invariant under such a transformation?

(2 points)

0.2.5.7 a) Treat $\phi(x)$ and $\phi^*(x)$ as independent fields

Minimizing with respect to ϕ^* yields

$$(\partial_\mu \partial^\mu + m^2) \phi(x) = 0$$

and minimizing with respect to ϕ just yields the c.c.

$$(\partial_\mu \partial^\mu + m^2) \phi^*(x) = 0$$

(1)

b) Under $\phi(x) \rightarrow \phi(x) e^{i\Delta(x)}$ we have

$$|\phi(x)|^2 \rightarrow |\phi(x)|^2$$

and

$$\partial_\mu \phi(x) \rightarrow (\partial_\mu \phi(x)) e^{i\Delta(x)} + i(\partial_\mu \Delta(x)) \phi(x) e^{i\Delta(x)}$$

$$\partial^\mu \phi^*(x) \rightarrow (\partial^\mu \phi^*(x)) e^{-i\Delta(x)} - i(\partial^\mu \Delta(x)) \phi^*(x) e^{-i\Delta(x)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow \partial_\mu \phi(x) \partial^\mu \phi^*(x) &\rightarrow \partial_\mu \phi(x) \partial^\mu \phi^*(x) - i(\partial^\mu \Delta(x)) (\partial_\mu \phi(x)) \phi^*(x) \\ &\quad + i(\partial_\mu \Delta(x)) (\partial^\mu \phi^*(x)) \phi(x) \\ &\quad + (\partial_\mu \Delta(x)) (\partial^\mu \Delta(x)) |\phi(x)|^2 \\ &\quad + \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi^* \end{aligned}$$

(1)

→ The Lagrangian is not invariant