

Dirac on Gauges and Constraints

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Abstract

This paper is devoted to examining the relevance of Dirac's view on the use of transformation theory and invariants in modern physics --- as it emerges from his 1930 book on quantum mechanics as well as from his later work on singular theories and constraints --- to current reflections on the meaning of physical symmetries, especially gauge symmetries.

Keywords: symmetry, gauges, constraints, equivalence, arbitrariness

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