

Contents

1	General Rules	3
1.1	Feynman Rule Procedure	3
1.2	Unorganized Identities	3
1.2.1	Delta Functions	3
1.2.2	Lorentz Invariant Measure	3
1.3	Characterization Techniques	4
1.4	Second Quantization	4
1.5	Crossing Symmetry	4
1.6	Classical Lagrangian and Hamiltonian Field Theory	5
2	Fermions	5
2.1	Gamma Matrices	5
2.2	Spinors	7
2.3	Helicity	8
2.4	Chirality	8
3	Scalar Field Theory	8
3.1	Real Fields	8
4	Quantum Electrodynamics (QED)	9
5	Kinematics	10
5.1	Maximum Product Energy	10
5.2	2-Scattering in Center of Mass Frame	11
5.2.1	s-channel	11
5.2.2	t-channel	12
5.2.3	u-channel	12
6	Cross Sections and Decay Rates	12

6.1	Fermi's Golden Rule	12
6.2	Cross Section Formulae	12
6.3	Decay Rate Formulae	13
6.4	Interpretations of Cross Sections	13
7	Perturbation Theory	13
7.1	Interaction / Dirac Picture	13
7.2	Wick's Theorem	14
7.3	S-Matrix	15
7.4	External Legs	15
8	Non-Relativistic Scalar Field	16
9	Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD)	16
9.1	Form Factors	16
9.2	Deep Inelastic Scattering	17
10	Weak Interactions	17
10.1	4-pt Approximation	17
10.2	W Bosons	17

1 General Rules

1.1 Feynman Rule Procedure

Used to calculate the matrix scattering element from a diagram:

$$-i\mathcal{M}$$

1. **Momentum Conservation** At each vertex, there's a momentum conserving delta function

$$(2\pi)^4 \delta^{(4)}\left(\sum_i p_i\right)$$

where the sign of p_i is determined by momentum arrows on the diagram.

2. **Internal Momenta** For each internal momenta q , integrate over it

$$\int \frac{d^4 q}{(2\pi)^4}$$

3. **Drop overall delta-function** There will be an overall momentum conserving delta function of incoming and outgoing momenta:

$$(2\pi)^4 \delta^{(4)}(p_{in} - p_{out})$$

just drop it.

4. **Divide by symmetry factor** Divide by the symmetry factor of the diagram.

1.2 Unorganized Identities

1.2.1 Delta Functions

Delta-Function of Zero: Let V be the finite volume of space and T be the finite duration of time. Then

$$\begin{aligned} 2\pi\delta(0) &= \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} e^{-i(0)t} dt = \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} dt = T \\ (2\pi)^3\delta^3(0) &= V \end{aligned}$$

1.2.2 Lorentz Invariant Measure

$$\int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3 2\omega_p} = \int \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} \theta(p^0) \delta(k^2 - m^2)$$

1.3 Characterization Techniques

Physical quantities of a field solution may be calculated from the stress-energy tensor derived from the field's Lagrangian via Noether's theorem. For example, in scalar field theory, the tensor, energy, and momenta are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} T^{\mu\nu} &= \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_\mu \phi)} \partial^\nu \phi - \mathcal{L} g^{\mu\nu} \\ H &= \int T^{00} d^3x = \int (\pi \dot{\phi} - \mathcal{L}) d^3x \\ P^i &= \int T^{0i} d^3x = - \int \pi \partial_i \phi d^3x \end{aligned}$$

If we're unsure the physical properties of a given solution, we may run it through the above machinery to explicitly determine its behavior. Generally we'll have some solution as the eigenvalue of the corresponding differential operator (e.g. ω_p for the Hamiltonian $i\partial_t$ or \mathbf{k} for the momentum $i\nabla$) times the number operator in that Fourier mode (e.g. $a_k^\dagger a_k$).

Charge: For $U(1)$ gauge symmetries

1.4 Second Quantization

1. Classical Lagrangian density: all fields are classical functions

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 - \frac{\lambda}{4!} \phi^4$$

2. Classical Hamiltonian

$$\pi = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\phi}} \quad H = \int (\pi \dot{\phi} - \mathcal{L}) d^3x$$

3. Quantization: promote ϕ and π to operators. Impose canonical commutation relations

$$[\phi(\mathbf{x}), \pi(\mathbf{y})] = \delta^3(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$$

Now the Hamiltonian H , when written in these operators, is the familiar quantum mechanical Hamiltonian.

1.5 Crossing Symmetry

Consider the process $AB \rightarrow CD$ with momenta p_A, p_B, p_C , and p_D . The matrix element is

$$\mathcal{M}_{AB \rightarrow CD}(p_A, p_B, p_C, p_D)$$

We may use charge conjugation to swap initial and final state particles. Using the Feynman-Stueckelberg interpretation of antiparticles, this will produce the same matrix element but with opposite momentum.

Example: $A\bar{C} \rightarrow \bar{B}D$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{M}_{AB \rightarrow CD}(p_A, p_B, p_C, p_D) &= \mathcal{M}_{A\bar{C} \rightarrow \bar{B}D}(p_A, -p_C, -p_B, p_D) \\ p_B &\leftrightarrow -p_C \\ s &= (p_A + p_B)^2 \rightarrow (p_A - p_C)^2 = t \\ t &= (p_A - p_C)^2 \rightarrow (p_A + p_B)^2 = s \\ u &= (p_A - p_D)^2 \rightarrow (p_A - p_D)^2 = u\end{aligned}$$

Crossing symmetry lets us reuse matrix element calculations by just swapping Mandelstam variables.

1.6 Classical Lagrangian and Hamiltonian Field Theory

2 Fermions

2.1 Gamma Matrices

Transformation Laws: This is just a dump of identities, sorry!

Lorentz algebra:

$$\begin{aligned}J^{\mu\nu} &= i(x^\mu \partial^\nu - x^\nu \partial^\mu) \\ [J^{\mu\nu}, J^{\rho\sigma}] &= i(\eta^{\nu\rho} J^{\mu\sigma} + \eta^{\mu\sigma} J^{\nu\rho} - \eta^{\mu\rho} J^{\nu\sigma} - \eta^{\nu\sigma} J^{\mu\rho}) \\ \Phi &\rightarrow \Lambda \Phi \approx (1 - \frac{i}{2} \omega_{\mu\nu} A^{\mu\nu}) \Phi \\ \Lambda(\omega) &= \exp\left(-\frac{i}{2} \omega_{\mu\nu} A^{\mu\nu}\right)\end{aligned}$$

where Φ is some (possibly indexed) field, and $A^{\mu\nu}$ are the set of generators acting on that field. Note that $\omega_{\mu\nu}$ is antisymmetric.

Scalar Fields: $A^{\mu\nu} = 0$, i.e. the fields don't transform under Lorentz transformations.

Vector Fields:

$$\begin{aligned}V^\alpha &\rightarrow (\delta^\alpha_\beta - \frac{i}{2} \omega_{\mu\nu} (\mathcal{J}^{\mu\nu})^\alpha_\beta) V^\beta \\ (\mathcal{J}^{\mu\nu})_{\alpha\beta} &= i(\delta^\mu_\alpha \delta^\nu_\beta - \delta^\mu_\beta \delta^\nu_\alpha)\end{aligned}$$

Spinor Fields:

$$\begin{aligned}\psi &\rightarrow (1 - \frac{i}{2} \omega_{\mu\nu} S^{\mu\nu}) \psi \\ S^{\mu\nu} &= \frac{i}{4} [\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu] \\ \Lambda_{1/2} &= \exp\left(-\frac{i}{2} \omega_{\mu\nu} S^{\mu\nu}\right)\end{aligned}$$

Gamma matrix vector transforms like a 4-vector under Lorentz transformations:

$$\begin{aligned} [\gamma^\mu, S^{\rho\sigma}] &= (\mathcal{J}^{\rho\sigma})^\mu_\nu \gamma^\nu \\ (1 + \frac{i}{2} \omega_{\rho\sigma} S^{\rho\sigma}) \gamma^\mu (1 - \frac{i}{2} \omega_{\rho\sigma} S^{\rho\sigma}) &= (1 - \frac{i}{2} \omega_{\rho\sigma} \mathcal{J}^{\rho\sigma})^\mu_\nu \gamma^\nu \\ \Lambda_{1/2}^{-1} \gamma^\mu \Lambda_{1/2} &= \Lambda^\mu_\nu \gamma^\nu \end{aligned}$$

Gamma-5 Matrix:

$$\gamma^5 = i\gamma^0\gamma^1\gamma^2\gamma^3 = -\frac{i}{4!} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \gamma_\mu \gamma_\nu \gamma_\rho \gamma_\sigma$$

Properties

$$\begin{aligned} (\gamma^5)^\dagger &= \gamma^5 \\ (\gamma^5)^2 &= 1 \\ \{\gamma^\mu, \gamma^5\} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Dirac Representation:

Chiral Representation:

Conjugation Identities:

$$\gamma^0(\gamma^\mu)^\dagger \gamma^0 = \gamma^\mu$$

Dirac Bilinears: A Dirac bilinear is the combination $\bar{\psi}\Gamma\psi$ where Γ is an 4x4 matrix. We may define a basis for these matrices using the γ^μ matrices:

Name	Expression	Asym. Expression	Count
Scalar	1	1	1
Vector	γ^μ	γ^μ	4
Tensor	$\sigma^{\mu\nu}$	$\gamma^{[\mu}\gamma^{\nu]}$	6
Pseudo-Vector	$\gamma^\mu\gamma^5$	$\gamma^{[\mu}\gamma^\nu\gamma^{\rho]}$	4
Pseudo-Scalar	γ^5	$\gamma^{[\mu}\gamma^\nu\gamma^\rho\gamma^{\sigma]}$	1

where

$$\sigma^{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{2} [\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu]$$

Dirac bilinears behave nicely under conjugation:

$$\begin{aligned} (\bar{\psi}'\psi)^\dagger &= \psi^\dagger \gamma^0 \psi' = \bar{\psi}\psi' \\ (\bar{\psi}'\gamma^\mu\psi)^\dagger &= \psi^\dagger \gamma^{\mu\dagger} \gamma^0 \psi' = \psi^\dagger \gamma^0 \gamma^0 \gamma^{\mu\dagger} \gamma^0 \psi' = \bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\psi' \\ (\bar{\psi}'\sigma^{\mu\nu}\psi)^\dagger &= \bar{\psi}\gamma^0 \frac{-i}{2} (\gamma^{\nu\dagger} \gamma^{\mu\dagger} - \gamma^{\mu\dagger} \gamma^{\nu\dagger}) \gamma^0 \psi' = -\bar{\psi}\sigma^{\nu\mu}\psi' = \bar{\psi}\sigma^{\mu\nu}\psi' \\ (\bar{\psi}'\gamma^\mu\gamma^5\psi)^\dagger &= \bar{\psi}\gamma^0 \gamma^5 \gamma^{\mu\dagger} \gamma^0 \psi' = \bar{\psi}\gamma^0 \gamma^{\mu\dagger} \gamma^0 \gamma^5 \psi' = \bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\gamma^5\psi' \\ (\bar{\psi}'\gamma^5\psi)^\dagger &= \bar{\psi}\gamma^0 \gamma^5 \gamma^0 \psi' = -\bar{\psi}\gamma^5\psi' \end{aligned}$$

Vector and Axial Currents:

$$j_V^\mu = \bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\psi \qquad j_A^\mu = \bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\gamma^5\psi$$

They are conserved if the Lagrangian respects the unitary or chiral transformations respectively:

$$\psi \rightarrow e^{i\alpha}\psi \quad \psi \rightarrow e^{i\alpha\gamma^5}\psi$$

$V - A$ as per the weak interaction couples only left-handed fermions to right-handed antifermions:

$$j_V^\mu - j_A^\mu = \bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu(1 - \gamma^5)\psi = 2\bar{\psi}_R\gamma^\mu\psi_L$$

Fierz Identities

2.2 Spinors

Notation:

- General Dirac 4-spinors are ψ
- Positive solutions to the Dirac equation are labelled $u^{(s)}, v^{(s)}$ for $s = 1, 2$. The solutions u are particles and v are antiparticles.
- Positive and negative solutions to the Dirac equation are labelled $u^{(i)}$ for $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$.

Dirac 4-spinor positive energy solutions:

$$u = N \begin{pmatrix} \phi \\ \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p}}{E+m} \phi \end{pmatrix} \quad v = N \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p}}{E+m} \chi \\ \chi \end{pmatrix}$$

where ϕ, χ are two spinors and $N = \sqrt{E+m}$ is a normalization. The negative energy solutions are related to v by

$$u^{(3)}(p) = -v^{(2)}(-p) \quad u^{(4)}(p) = v^{(1)}(-p)$$

Dirac conjugate:

$$\bar{\psi} = \psi^\dagger \gamma^0$$

Orthonormality:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{u}^{(r)} u^{(s)} &= 2m \delta^{rs} & \bar{u}^{(r)} v^{(s)} &= 0 \\ \bar{v}^{(r)} v^{(s)} &= -2m \delta^{rs} & \bar{v}^{(r)} u^{(s)} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

This determines the normalization $N = \sqrt{E+m}$.

Completeness:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_s u^{(s)} \bar{u}^{(s)} &= \not{p} + m \\ \sum_s v^{(s)} \bar{v}^{(s)} &= \not{p} - m \end{aligned}$$

Conjugation of Scalar Product

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\bar{\psi}^{(r)} \gamma^\mu \psi^{(s)} \right)^\dagger &= \left(\psi^{(r)\dagger} \gamma^0 \gamma^\mu \psi^{(s)} \right)^\dagger \\ &= \psi^{(s)\dagger} \gamma^{\mu\dagger} \gamma^0 \psi^{(r)} \\ &= \bar{\psi}^{(s)} \gamma^0 \gamma^{\mu\dagger} \gamma^0 \psi^{(r)} \\ &= \bar{\psi}^{(s)} \gamma^\mu \psi^{(r)} \end{aligned}$$

2.3 Helicity

Helicity: The helicity operator is defined as

$$h = \frac{\hat{\mathbf{S}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}}}{|\mathbf{p}|}$$

for spin-1/2 fermions, they have helicity $\pm\frac{1}{2}$, where right-handed is positive.

Massless fermions have definite helicity since their momentum points in the same direction in all frames, whereas there's always a frame for massive fermions where the momentum reverses and thus have opposite helicity. Massless fermions therefore may be decomposed into left and right handed Weyl spinors.

2.4 Chirality

Handedness Projection Operators:

$$P_L = \frac{1 - \gamma^5}{2} \quad P_R = \frac{1 + \gamma^5}{2}$$

Identities (where $h = L, R$ and \bar{h} is the opposite handedness of h):

$$\begin{aligned} P_L + P_R &= 1 \\ P_h^2 &= P_h \\ \gamma^\mu P_h &= P_{\bar{h}} \gamma^\mu \\ P_h^\dagger &= P_h \end{aligned}$$

Chirality Eigenstates:

$$u_h = P_h u \quad \bar{u}_h = \bar{u} P_h$$

Identities

$$\bar{u}_h = (P_h u)^\dagger \gamma^0 = u^\dagger \gamma^0 P_{\bar{h}} = \bar{u}_{\bar{h}}$$

3 Scalar Field Theory

3.1 Real Fields

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \phi)(\partial^\mu \phi) - \frac{1}{2}m^2 \phi^2 - \frac{\mu}{3!} \phi^3 - \frac{\lambda}{4!} \phi^4$$

Field Solution:

$$\phi(\mathbf{x}) = \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\omega_p}} (a_p e^{-i\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{x}} + a_p^\dagger e^{i\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{x}})$$

1. External Lines For amputated diagrams, they're just a factor of 1. Otherwise external lines are propagators.

2. Vertex Factors:

$$\frac{\text{3-point}}{-i\mu} \quad \frac{\text{4-point}}{-i\lambda}$$

3. Propagators:

$$\tilde{D}(p) = \frac{i}{p^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon}$$

Normalization:

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbf{p}\rangle &= \sqrt{2\omega_p} a_p^\dagger |0\rangle \\ \langle \mathbf{p} | \mathbf{p}' \rangle &= 2\omega_p (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}') \\ \langle \mathbf{p} | \mathbf{p}' \rangle &= 2\omega_p (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(0) = 2\omega_p V \end{aligned}$$

Creation Operators: Creation a particle with momentum \mathbf{p} at position x :

$$\phi(x) |0\rangle = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3 2\omega_p} e^{ip \cdot x} |\mathbf{p}\rangle$$

4 Quantum Electrodynamics (QED)

1. External Lines Following the arrows on a fermion line, start with the end of a fermion line and work backwards to get the right ordering. You should always start with a conjugate spinor and end with a spinor, thus making a scalar.

	Real Fermions	Antifermions	Photons
Incoming	u	\bar{v}	ϵ_μ
Outgoing	\bar{u}	v	ϵ_μ^*

2. Vertex factors:

- Each factor has $ig_e \gamma^\mu$
- $g_e = -q' \sqrt{4\pi\alpha}$ where q' is the fractional electric charge of the fermion in units of e .
 - $g_e = \sqrt{4\pi\alpha}$ for electrons
 - $g_e = -(2/3)\sqrt{4\pi\alpha}$ for up quarks

3. Propagators with 4-momentum q and mass m (note q is in general off-shell)

Fermion propagators

$$\frac{i(\not{q} + m)}{q^2 - m^2}$$

Photon propagators

$$\frac{-ig_{\mu\nu}}{q^2}$$

5 Kinematics

5.1 Maximum Product Energy

Consider a process in the CoM frame where we wish to determine the maximum energy a product could have.

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} E \\ \mathbf{p} \end{pmatrix} + \sum_i \begin{pmatrix} E_i \\ \mathbf{p}_i \end{pmatrix}$$

where i indexes the other products. By momentum conservation $\mathbf{p} = -\sum \mathbf{p}_i$. Boost to the CoM frame of the products:

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} E_{0,new} \\ \mathbf{p}_{0,new} \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} E_{new} \\ \mathbf{p}_{new} \end{pmatrix} + \sum_i \begin{pmatrix} E_{i,new} \\ \mathbf{p}_{i,new} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} E_{new} \\ \mathbf{p}_{new} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \sum_i E_{i,new} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Then $E_{new} = E_{0,new} - \sum E_{i,new}$ is maximized when there's no relative kinetic energy between the other products and $E_{i,new} = m_i$. The invariant mass gives

$$\begin{aligned} p' &= \sum_i \begin{pmatrix} E_i \\ \mathbf{p}_i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sum_i E_i \\ \sum_i \mathbf{p}_i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sum_i E_i \\ -\mathbf{p} \end{pmatrix} \\ (p')^2 &= \left(\sum_i E_i \right)^2 - \mathbf{p}^2 \\ p'_{new} &= \begin{pmatrix} \sum_i E_{i,new} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \sum_i m_i \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ (p'_{new})^2 &= \left(\sum_i m_i \right)^2 \\ \left(\sum_i m_i \right)^2 &= (p')^2 = (p'_{new})^2 = \left(\sum_i E_i \right)^2 - \mathbf{p}^2 \end{aligned}$$

So the original CoM energy conservation gives

$$\begin{aligned} (E_0 - E)^2 &= \left(\sum_i E_i \right)^2 = \left(\sum_i m_i \right)^2 + \mathbf{p}^2 \\ E_0^2 - 2E_0E + m^2 + \mathbf{p}^2 &= \\ E &= \frac{E_0^2 + m^2 - (\sum_i m_i)^2}{2E_0} \end{aligned}$$

5.2 2-Scattering in Center of Mass Frame

Incoming particles 1 and 2; outgoing particles 3 and 4.

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_i &= \sqrt{\mathbf{p}_i^2 + m_i^2} \\
 \mathbf{p} &= \mathbf{p}_1 = -\mathbf{p}_2 \\
 \mathbf{p}' &= \mathbf{p}_3 = -\mathbf{p}_4 \\
 \mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{p}' &= |\mathbf{p}| |\mathbf{p}'| \cos \theta
 \end{aligned}$$

Energy conservation:

$$E_1 + E_2 = E_3 + E_4$$

Mandelstam variables:

$$\begin{aligned}
 s &= (p_1 + p_2)^2 = m_1^2 + m_2^2 + 2p_1 \cdot p_2 \\
 &= (p_3 + p_4)^2 = m_3^2 + m_4^2 + 2p_3 \cdot p_4 \\
 t &= (p_1 - p_3)^2 = m_1^2 + m_3^2 - 2p_1 \cdot p_3 \\
 &= (p_2 - p_4)^2 = m_2^2 + m_4^2 - 2p_2 \cdot p_4 \\
 u &= (p_1 - p_4)^2 = m_1^2 + m_4^2 - 2p_1 \cdot p_4 \\
 &= (p_2 - p_3)^2 = m_2^2 + m_3^2 - 2p_2 \cdot p_3
 \end{aligned}$$

5.2.1 s-channel

Assume $m = m_1 = m_2$ and $M = m_3 = m_4$

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_1 &= E_2 \\
 E_3 &= E_4 \\
 |\mathbf{p}'| &= |\mathbf{p}| \cos \theta
 \end{aligned}$$

Dot products

$$\begin{aligned}
 p_1 \cdot p_3 &= p_2 \cdot p_4 = \frac{m^2 + M^2 - t}{2} \\
 &= EE' - \mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{p}' = E^2 - \sqrt{(E^2 - m^2)(E^2 - M^2)} \cos \theta \\
 p_1 \cdot p_4 &= p_2 \cdot p_3 = \frac{m^2 + M^2 - u}{2} \\
 &= EE' + \mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{p}' = E^2 + \sqrt{(E^2 - m^2)(E^2 - M^2)} \cos \theta \\
 p_1 \cdot p_2 &= \frac{s - 2m^2}{2} \\
 p_3 \cdot p_4 &= \frac{s - 2M^2}{2} \\
 s &= 4E^2
 \end{aligned}$$

5.2.2 t-channel

5.2.3 u-channel

6 Cross Sections and Decay Rates

6.1 Fermi's Golden Rule

Non-Relativistic Case: Consider the transition matrix element from $|n\rangle$ to $|m\rangle$ at first order in the Dyson series expansion:

$$T_{n \rightarrow m} = -i \langle m | \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} H_I(t) dt | n \rangle = -i \langle m | H_{int} | n \rangle 2\pi\delta(\omega)$$

The probability is

$$P_{n \rightarrow m} = |T_{n \rightarrow m}|^2 = |\langle m | H_{int} | n \rangle|^2 (2\pi)^2 \delta(\omega)^2 = |\langle m | H_{int} | n \rangle|^2 2\pi\delta(\omega) T$$

Fermi's Golden Rule:

$$W_{n \rightarrow m} = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P_{n \rightarrow m}}{T} = |\langle m | H_{int} | n \rangle|^2 2\pi\delta(\omega)$$

Relativistic Case: We may express the transition matrix through the matrix element \mathcal{M} :

$$\begin{aligned} T_{i \rightarrow f} &= -i \langle f | \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} H_I(t) dt | i \rangle = -i \langle f | \int V_I(x) d^4x | i \rangle = -i \mathcal{M} (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_i - p_f) \\ P_{i \rightarrow f} &= \frac{|\mathcal{M}|^2 (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_i - p_f) VT}{\langle i | i \rangle \langle f | f \rangle} = |\mathcal{M}|^2 (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_i - p_f) VT \prod_i \frac{1}{2E_i V} \prod_f \frac{1}{2E_f V} \end{aligned}$$

We introduce the measure for the density of the final states:

$$\begin{aligned} dW_{i \rightarrow f} &= |\mathcal{M}|^2 (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_i - p_f) V \prod_i \frac{1}{2E_i V} \prod_f \frac{1}{2E_f V} \frac{V d^3p_f}{(2\pi)^3} \\ &= |\mathcal{M}|^2 (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_i - p_f) V \prod_i \frac{1}{2E_i V} \prod_f \frac{d^3p_f}{(2\pi)^3 2E_f} \end{aligned}$$

6.2 Cross Section Formulae

Definition: Let F be the incident flux and W be the transition rate. The cross-section is defined as:

$$F d\sigma = dW$$

The flux is given by

$$F = \frac{N_1 N_2 |\mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_2|}{V} = \frac{N_1 N_2}{V} \left| \frac{\mathbf{p}_1}{E_1} - \frac{\mathbf{p}_2}{E_2} \right|$$

2 → 2 Differential Cross Section in CoM Frame:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left(\frac{\hbar c}{8\pi}\right)^2 \frac{\mathcal{S}|\overline{\mathcal{M}}|^2}{(E_1 + E_2)^2} \frac{|\mathbf{p}_f|}{|\mathbf{p}_i|}$$

2 → N Differential Cross Section in CoM Frame:

$$d\sigma = \frac{\hbar^2 \mathcal{S}}{4\sqrt{(p_1 \cdot p_2)^2 - (m_1 m_2)^2}} |\overline{\mathcal{M}}|^2 \left[\frac{c d^3 p_3}{(2\pi)^3 2E_3} \cdots \frac{c d^3 p_N}{(2\pi)^3 2E_N} \right] (2\pi)^4 \delta(p_1 + p_2 - p_3 - \dots - p_N)$$

6.3 Decay Rate Formulae

Definition: The decay rate is just the transition rate from a single-particle initial state at rest:

$$d\Gamma = dW_{1 \rightarrow f} = \frac{1}{2m} |\mathcal{M}|^2 (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_i - p_f) \prod_f \frac{d^3 p_f}{(2\pi)^3 2E_f}$$

6.4 Interpretations of Cross Sections

Consider a differential cross section $d\sigma/da$ where a is some parameter. Then the probability the scattering occurs in a range $[a, a + da]$ is

$$p(a) da = \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{da} da$$

Let N_i be the number of events measured by a detector in the i th bin $[a_i, a_i + \delta a]$ for some detector resolution δa . The total number of events collected is:

$$N_{tot} = \sum_i N_i$$

Then the scattering probability is measured by

$$\frac{N_i}{N_{tot}} = \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma(a_i)}{da}$$

7 Perturbation Theory

7.1 Interaction / Dirac Picture

We'll be doing this with real scalar fields ϕ . We'll omit the subscript for full theory, use F for free theory, and I for interaction picture. Furthermore, the interaction does NOT involve any derivatives of the field.

Interaction Lagrangian and Hamiltonian

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} &= \mathcal{L}_0 + \mathcal{L}_{int} \\ H &= H_0 + H_{int} = H_0 + \int d^3x \mathcal{L}_{int} \end{aligned}$$

we wish to rewrite ϕ and the vacuum $|\Omega\rangle$ in the interacting theory in terms of ϕ_F and $|0\rangle$ in the free theory.

Interacting Field: For \mathcal{L}_{int} small perturbations, the time evolution of ϕ by H_0 is the dominant term:

$$\phi_I(t, \mathbf{x}) = e^{iH_0(t-t_0)} \phi_F(t_0, \mathbf{x}) e^{-iH_0(t-t_0)} = \phi_F(t, \mathbf{x})$$

The Heisenberg picture of the full theory is related by:

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(t, \mathbf{x}) &= U_I^\dagger(t, t_0) \phi_I(t, \mathbf{x}) U_I(t, t_0) \\ U_I(t, t_0) &= e^{iH_0(t-t_0)} e^{-iH(t-t_0)}\end{aligned}$$

Interaction Picture Time Evolution: The operator $U_I(t, t_0)$ is the time evolution operator in the interaction picture. It solves the Schrodinger equation with initial condition $U_I(t_0, t_0) = 1$:

$$\begin{aligned}i \frac{d}{dt} U(t, t_0) &= H_I(t) U(t, t_0) \\ H_I(t) &= e^{iH_0(t-t_0)} H_{int} e^{-iH_0(t-t_0)}\end{aligned}$$

Since the interaction doesn't involve derivatives of the field, H_I is the same as H_{int} but with $\phi \rightarrow \phi_I$. Expanding U_I in a power series of H_I and using the time ordering operator \mathcal{T} to convert the time integrals to be over $[t_0, t]$ gives the **Dyson's Series**:

$$U(t, t_0) = \mathcal{T} \left\{ \exp \left[-i \int_{t_0}^t dt' H_I \right] \right\}$$

Interacting Picture Vacuum: Let $|n\rangle$ be energy eigenstates of H with $|n=0\rangle = |\Omega\rangle$. Evolution of the free vacuum in the full theory:

$$\begin{aligned}e^{-iHT} |0\rangle &= e^{-iE_0 T} |\Omega\rangle \langle \Omega|0\rangle + \sum_{n \neq 0} e^{-iE_n T} |n\rangle \langle n|0\rangle \\ |\Omega\rangle &= \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty(1-i\epsilon)} \frac{e^{iE_0(t_0 - (-T))}}{\langle \Omega|0\rangle} U(t_0, -T) |0\rangle\end{aligned}$$

2-pt Correlator: For $x^0 > y^0 > t^0$ reference time, the 2-point correlator becomes

$$\frac{\langle \Omega | \phi(x) \phi(y) | \Omega \rangle}{\langle \Omega | \Omega \rangle} = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty(1-i\epsilon)} \frac{\langle 0 | U(T, x^0) \phi_I(x) U(x^0, y^0) \phi_I(y) U(y^0, -T) | 0 \rangle}{\langle 0 | U(T, -T) | 0 \rangle}$$

With the normalization $\langle \Omega | \Omega \rangle = 1$ and for arbitrary times x^0 and y^0 :

$$\langle \Omega | \mathcal{T} \phi(x) \phi(y) | \Omega \rangle = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty(1-i\epsilon)} \frac{\langle 0 | \mathcal{T} \left\{ \phi_I(x) \phi_I(y) \exp \left[-i \int_{-T}^T H_I(t) dt \right] \right\} | 0 \rangle}{\langle 0 | \mathcal{T} \left\{ \exp \left[-i \int_{-T}^T H_I(t) dt \right] \right\} | 0 \rangle}$$

7.2 Wick's Theorem

Creation / Annihilation Decomposition:

$$\begin{aligned}\phi &= \phi^+ + \phi^- \\ \phi^+ |0\rangle &= 0 & \langle 0 | \phi^- &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Normal Ordering: All ϕ^+ operators are to the right of all of the ϕ^- operators:

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(x)\phi(y) &= \phi^+(x)\phi^+(y) + \phi^-(x)\phi^+(y) + \phi^+(x)\phi^-(y) + \phi^-(x)\phi^-(y) \\ &= \phi^+(x)\phi^+(y) + \phi^-(x)\phi^+(y) + \phi^-(y)\phi^+(x) + \phi^-(x)\phi^-(y) + [\phi(x), \phi(y)] \\ &= :\phi(x)\phi(y): + [\phi(x), \phi(y)] \\ \mathcal{T}\{\phi(x)\phi(y)\} &= :\phi(x)\phi(y): + D_F(x-y)\end{aligned}$$

where $D_F(x-y)$ is the Feynman propagator from x to y . The propagator is also known as a contraction between $\phi(x)$ and $\phi(y)$.

Wick's Theorem:

$$\mathcal{T}\{\phi(x_1)\dots\phi(x_N)\} = :\phi(x_1)\dots\phi(x_N): + \text{all contractions} :$$

Only fully contracted terms appear in correlation functions

$$\langle 0 | \mathcal{T}\{\phi(x_1)\dots\phi(x_N)\} | 0 \rangle = \langle 0 | \text{fully contracted terms} | 0 \rangle$$

7.3 S-Matrix

Defn 7.1 (S-Matrix). Let $|i\rangle$ and $|f\rangle$ be initial and final states respectively. The **S-matrix** is the unitary time-evolution operator between the initial and final states:

$$\langle f | S | i \rangle = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \langle f | U(t, -t) | i \rangle$$

The initial state may be written as some creation operators at $t = -\infty$ and similarly for the final state at $t = \infty$. We may calculate S-matrix terms by perturbative expansions of the Dysons series:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle f | S | i \rangle &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \langle f | \mathcal{T} \left[\int H_I d^4x \right]^n | i \rangle \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \langle 0 | \phi_f^\dagger \mathcal{T} \left[\int H_I d^4x \right]^n \phi_i | 0 \rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \langle 0 | \mathcal{T} \phi_f^\dagger \phi_i \left[\int H_I d^4x \right]^n | 0 \rangle\end{aligned}$$

Since H_I is an operator made up from many field operators ϕ , the final term may be computed via Wick's theorem.

7.4 External Legs

Wick Contractions With External Fields: Consider the matrix element

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2 | \mathcal{T}\{\phi(x_1)\dots\phi(x_n)\} | \mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2 \rangle &= \langle \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2 | : \phi(x_1)\dots\phi(x_n) + \text{all contractions} : | \mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2 \rangle \\ &= \langle 0 | \phi^+(p_1)\phi^+(p_2) : \phi(x_1)\dots\phi(x_n) + \text{all contractions} : \phi^-(k_1)\phi^-(k_2) | 0 \rangle\end{aligned}$$

Note how the fields corresponding to the initial and final particles are not normal ordered, and are also not inside the normal ordering operator. We can define contractions of fields into the states which define the external leg Feynman rules.

8 Non-Relativistic Scalar Field

Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L} = \psi^* i \partial_t \psi - \frac{1}{2M} (\nabla \psi)^* \cdot (\nabla \psi)$$

Field Solution:

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}) = \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} a_k e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}} \quad \psi^\dagger(\mathbf{x}) = \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} a_k^\dagger e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}}$$

9 Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD)

9.1 Form Factors

Static Form Factor: For a static charge distribution $\rho(\mathbf{x})$, the form factor $F(\mathbf{q})$ is its Fourier transform:

$$F(\mathbf{q}) = \int \rho(\mathbf{x}) e^{i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{x}} d^3x$$

The cross section for scattering off of the distribution is related to scattering off a point charge inside the distribution

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right)_{\text{point}} |F(\mathbf{q})|^2$$

Proton Form Factors: For a charge distribution in motion, we may instead rewrite their interaction vertex as a sum of QED vertices at all orders $i\gamma^\mu \rightarrow i\Gamma^\mu(q)$, where

$$i\Gamma^\mu(q) = F_1(q^2) + \frac{\kappa}{2M} F_2(q^2) i\sigma^{\mu\nu} q_\nu$$

and κ is the anomalous magnetic moment

$$\kappa = \frac{g-2}{2}$$

Electric and Magnetic Form Factors: Lab frame elastic electron-proton scattering (Rosenbluth Formula):

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right|_{lab} &= \frac{\alpha^2}{4E^2 \sin^4(\theta/2)} \frac{E'}{E} \left[\left(F_1^2 - \frac{\kappa^2 q^2}{4M^2} F_2^2 \right) \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} - \frac{q^2}{2M^2} (F_1 + \kappa F_2)^2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \right] \\ &= \frac{\alpha^2}{4E^2 \sin^4(\theta/2)} \frac{E'}{E} \left[\frac{G_E^2 + \tau G_M^2}{1 + \tau} \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} + 2\tau G_M^2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \right] \\ \tau &= -\frac{q^2}{4M^2} \end{aligned}$$

where G_E and G_M are linear combinations of F_1 and F_2 that make the interference terms vanish:

$$G_E = F_1 + \frac{\kappa q^2}{4M^2} F_2 \quad G_M = F_1 + \kappa F_2$$

9.2 Deep Inelastic Scattering

Hadronic Tensor:

$$W^{\mu\nu} = -W_1 g^{\mu\nu} + \frac{W_2}{M^2} p^\mu p^\nu + \frac{W_4}{M^2} q^\mu q^\nu + \frac{W_5}{M^2} (p^\mu q^\nu + q^\mu p^\nu)$$

Note that W is symmetric. Current conservation implies $q_\mu W^{\mu\nu} = 0$, and

$$W_5 = -\frac{p \cdot q}{q^2} W_2 \quad W_4 = \left(\frac{p \cdot q}{q^2} \right)^2 W_2 + \frac{M^2}{q^2} W_1$$

and thus in terms of W_1 and W_2 :

$$W^{\mu\nu} = W_1 \left(-g^{\mu\nu} + \frac{q^\mu q^\nu}{q^2} \right) + W_2 \frac{1}{M^2} \left(p^\mu - \frac{p \cdot q}{q^2} q^\mu \right) \left(p^\nu - \frac{p \cdot q}{q^2} q^\nu \right)$$

10 Weak Interactions

10.1 4-pt Approximation

Fermi's original guess for weak interactions was a 4-point interaction involving generalized currents. Compare $pe \rightarrow pe$ via EM interactions versus $pe \rightarrow n\nu_e$ via weak interaction:

$$\mathcal{M}_{em} = \frac{-e^2}{q^2} (\bar{u}_e \gamma^\mu u_e) (\bar{u}_p \gamma_\mu u_p)_\mu$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{weak} = G (\bar{u}_\nu \gamma^\mu u_e) (\bar{u}_n \gamma_\mu u_p)$$

where G is Fermi's constant. Since weak interactions are maximally parity violating, the EM currents need to be upgraded to $V - A$ currents:

$$\bar{u}_\nu \gamma^\mu u_e \rightarrow \bar{u}_\nu \gamma^\mu \frac{1}{2} (1 - \gamma^5) u_e$$

with $G \rightarrow 4G/\sqrt{2}$.

10.2 W Bosons

Propagator: in some gauge?

$$\frac{i\eta^{\mu\nu} - \frac{k^\mu k^\nu}{M_W^2}}{k^2 - M_W^2 + i\epsilon}$$

Vertex:

$$\frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} \quad \text{where} \quad \frac{G}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{g^2}{8M_W^2}$$