

Theoretical particle physics

Chenhuan Wang

October 24, 2019

Contents

0	Organisational	3
1	Introduction	4
1.1	Standard Model	4
1.2	Energy scales	5
1.3	Natural units	6
2	Lorentz Transformation	7
2.1	Introduction	7
2.2	Lorentz Transformation	7
2.3	Mathematical Properties of Lorentz Transformation	8
2.3.1	Tensors	9
2.4	Matrix Representation of Lorentz Transformation	10
2.4.1	General Properties	10
2.4.2	Explicit Construction	11
2.4.3	Algebra of generators	12
3	Relativistic Quantum Field Theory	14
3.1	Relativistic wave equation	15
3.2	Feynman-Stückelberg Interpretation of negative energy states	15
3.3	Electrodynamics (spin 1)	16
3.4	Description of Fermions	17
3.4.1	Gamma Matrices	18
3.4.2	Free Particle Solution to Dirac Equation	19
3.5	Classical Field Theory	26

0 Organisational

Tutorials: Thursday: 8-10, 10-12 Friday: 10-12, 13-15

Exam consists of four problems

- first quickies
- 2nd-4th: similar in style to homework; two will be very close to homework

One needs 50% of points from homework. May hand in pairs.

Content of the lectures

- Standard Model of particle physics
- Electroweak sector
 - gauge principle
 - Higgs mechanism
 - Yukawa interactions
 - CP-violation

Exercises

- go through basics of computing Feynman diagrams
- not to derive the formalism
- Lagrange \rightarrow Feynman rules \rightarrow amplitudes \rightarrow cross section and decay rates (measured quantities)

Literature

- Halzen and Martin, Quarks and Leptons (a lot of basics of QCD)
- Cheng and Li (includes also quantum field theory topics CP-violation in Standard Model)
- Mark Thomson
- QFT basics
 - Peskin and Schroeder
 - M.Schwartz
 - Ryder
- Okun, Leptons and Quarks

1 Introduction

1.1 Standard Model

It is the fundamental theory of nature. There are three interactions included

- electromagnetic
- weak
- strong
- Higgs boson exchange

Electromagnetic and weak interactions can be unified into electroweak interactions.

In the Sun all these three interactions and gravity are present

- Photons reaching us clearly indicate QED's involvement.
- Neutrinos produced in weak interaction. Four protons to two protons and two neutrons (Helium). Only weak interaction can change the colour of quarks.
- Binding of Helium via strong interaction and binding energy released as kinetic energy.
- Gravity brings protons together and at high temperature to give helium.

Gauge theories (Lie groups algebras)

- EM: $U(1)_{EM}, U(1)_Y$
- weak: $SU(2)_L$
- strong: $SU(3)_c$

Forces in quantum theories involve exchange particles spin 1, vector bosons

- photon γ
- weak W^\pm, W^0 and Z^0 (mixture of W^0 and hyper charge) (discovered at CERN)
- strong $g^a, a = 1, \dots, 8$ gluons (discovered at DESY)

particles with spin $\frac{1}{2}$
Leptons

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ e^- \end{pmatrix}_L, e_R^-; \quad \begin{pmatrix} \nu_\mu \\ \mu^- \end{pmatrix}_L, \mu_R^-; \quad \begin{pmatrix} \nu_\tau \\ \tau^- \end{pmatrix}_L, \tau_R^-$$

Quarks

$$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix}_L, u_R, d_R; \quad \begin{pmatrix} c \\ s \end{pmatrix}_L, c_R, s_R; \quad \begin{pmatrix} t \\ b \end{pmatrix}_L, t_R, b_R$$

One complete generation

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ e^- \end{pmatrix}_L, e_R^-; \quad \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix}_L, u_R, d_R;$$

To remove any one part, then gauge theory is inconsistent. It is known as "anomaly". (AQFT)

Higgs boson h^0 , spin 0

In Standard Model Higgs bosons are described by complex scalar fields $\begin{pmatrix} H^+ \\ H^0 \end{pmatrix}$. h^0 is the only fundamental scalar in nature, as far as we know.

1.2 Energy scales

- binding energy of atoms 1 – 10eV
- binding energy of nucleons $\approx 1\text{MeV}$
- no known binding energy in particle physics
- protons and neutrons $\approx \Lambda_{QCD} \approx \mathcal{O}(100\text{MeV})$

Particles have masses

- electron $m_e = 511 \text{ keV}$
- muon $m_\mu = 105 \text{ MeV}$
- tau $m_\tau = 1.7 \text{ GeV}$
- neutrinos $m_\nu < 1 \text{ eV}$
- quarks*
 - $m_u \approx 3 \text{ MeV}$
 - $m_d \approx 5 \text{ MeV}$
 - ...
- photon $m_\gamma = 0$
- gluon $m_g = 0$
- Higgs $m_{Higgs} \approx 125 \text{ GeV}$

*mass of proton mainly comes from dynamical effect "gluon"

Colliders

- LEP 91 GeV – 200 GeV
- Tevatron($p\bar{p}$) 800 GeV – 2 TeV
- LHC 7 TeV – 13 TeV

1.3 Natural units

$$\hbar = c = 1 \quad (1.3.1)$$

$$k_B = 1 \quad (1.3.2)$$

Everything expressed in term of powers of energy.

$$1 \text{ fm} = 1 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m} = 5 \text{ GeV}^{-1}$$

2 Lorentz Transformation

2.1 Introduction

Metric (used for distance measuring)

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.1.1)$$

In string and general relativity people tend to use $\text{diag}(-, +, +, +)$.

$$p = (E, \mathbf{p}) \quad (2.1.2)$$

$$p^2 = E^2 - \mathbf{p}^2 = m^2 \quad (2.1.3)$$

Light is always light-like

$$t^2 - (x^2 + y^2 + z^2) = 0$$

Greek indices always go from 0 to 3

$$r^2 = g_{\mu\nu} r^\mu r^\nu = t^2 - \mathbf{r}^2 \quad (2.1.4)$$

Distance between two spacetime point is defined via

$$|r_A - r_B| = \sqrt{(r_A - r_B) \cdot (r_A - r_B)} = \sqrt{r_A^2 + r_B^2 - 2r_A \cdot r_B} \quad (2.1.5)$$

2.2 Lorentz Transformation

Lorentz Transformation is transformation between two inertial frames moving with constant velocity \mathbf{v} with respect to each other (boosts).

$$x = (x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3)$$

$$x' = (x'_0, x'_1, x'_2, x'_3)$$

$$x_0 = ct = t; \quad c = 1$$

We define

$$\beta = \frac{v}{c} \quad \text{or} \quad \boldsymbol{\beta} = \frac{\mathbf{v}}{c} \quad (2.2.1)$$

2 Lorentz Transformation

Coordinates in these two frames are related like

$$\begin{aligned}x'_0 &= \gamma(x_0 - \beta x_1) \\x'_1 &= \gamma(x_1 - \beta x_0) \\x'_2 &= x_2 \\x'_3 &= x_3\end{aligned}$$

Inverse transformation with $\beta \mapsto -\beta$
 γ -factor is defined via

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta^2}} \quad (2.2.2)$$

Since $|\beta| \leq 1 \Rightarrow \gamma \geq 1$

Alternative parametrization

$$\begin{aligned}\beta &= \tanh(\zeta), \quad \gamma = \cosh(\zeta) \\ \gamma\beta &= \sinh(\zeta)\end{aligned}$$

Insert this into equation (2.2.2)

$$\begin{aligned}x'_0 &= x_0 \cosh(\zeta) - x_1 \sinh(\zeta) \\ x'_1 &= x_0 \sinh(\zeta) - x_1 \cosh(\zeta)\end{aligned}$$

We can turn this into matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & \gamma\beta & 0 & 0 \\ \gamma\beta & \gamma & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x'_0 \\ x'_1 \\ x'_2 \\ x'_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x = \Lambda x' \quad (2.2.3)$$

2.3 Mathematical Properties of Lorentz Transformation

Distance is invariant under Lorentz transformation

$$s^2 = x_0^2 - x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 = x^2 \quad (2.3.1)$$

Lorentz transformation includes

- Rotation and boosts
- Parity $\mathbf{x} \mapsto -\mathbf{x}$
- Time reversal $t \mapsto -t$

We can also expand it with translation. It then turns to Poincare group.

2.3.1 Tensors

Define a function of original coordinates ($\alpha = 0, 1, 2, 3$)

$$x'^\alpha = x'^\alpha(x^0, x^1, x^2, x^3) \quad (2.3.2)$$

If x'^α transforms like

$$x'^\alpha = \frac{x'^\alpha}{x^\beta} x^\beta \quad (2.3.3)$$

it is called *contravariant*

Consider derivative $\frac{\partial}{\partial x'^\alpha}$

$$\frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x'^\alpha} = \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x^\beta} \frac{\partial x^\beta}{\partial x'^\alpha} \quad (2.3.4)$$

We can see the x' is now in the denominator. The objects transformed like this are called *covariant*.

Consider the following generic objects: A'^α contravariant vector

$$A'^\alpha = \frac{\partial x'^\alpha}{\partial x^\beta} A^\beta \quad (2.3.5)$$

B'_α is covariant

$$B'_\alpha = \frac{\partial x^\beta}{\partial x'^\alpha} B_\beta \quad (2.3.6)$$

Note (x^0, x^1, x^2, x^3) is contravariant.

The field strength tensor $F'^{\alpha\beta} = \frac{\partial x'^\alpha}{\partial x^\gamma} \frac{\partial x'^\beta}{\partial x^\delta} F^{\gamma\delta}$ is contravariant rank 2.

Mixed is also allowed $H'^\alpha_\beta = \frac{\partial x'^\alpha}{\partial x^\gamma} \frac{x^\delta}{\partial x'^\beta} H^\delta_\gamma$

Inner or scalar product

$$\begin{aligned} B' \cdot A' &= B'_\alpha A'^\alpha \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial x^\beta}{\partial x'^\alpha} B_\beta \right) \left(\frac{\partial x'^\alpha}{\partial x^\gamma} A^\gamma \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial x^\beta}{\partial x^\gamma} B_\beta A^\gamma \\ &= \delta^\beta_\gamma B_\beta A^\gamma = B \cdot A \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} ds^2 &= (dx^0)^2 - (d\mathbf{x})^2 \\ &= (g_{\alpha\beta} dx^\alpha) dx^\beta = dx_\beta dx^\beta \end{aligned} \quad (2.3.7)$$

Thus we can use metric tensor to lower index $dx_\beta = g_{\alpha\beta} dx^\alpha$

$$\begin{aligned} A^\alpha &= (A^0, \mathbf{A}) \\ A_\alpha &= (A^0, -\mathbf{A}) \end{aligned}$$

2.4 Matrix Representation of Lorentz Transformation

2.4.1 General Properties

We have

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} x^0 \\ x^1 \\ x^2 \\ x^3 \end{pmatrix} \quad gx = \begin{pmatrix} x^0 \\ -x^1 \\ -x^2 \\ -x^3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Then } a \cdot b = (a, gb) = g_{\mu\nu}a^\mu b^\nu = (ga, b) = a^T gb = (ga)^T b$$

$$x'^\mu = \Lambda^\mu_\nu x^\nu \mapsto x' = \Lambda x \quad (2.4.1)$$

$$x \cdot x = x' \cdot x' = (\Lambda x)(\Lambda x) \quad (2.4.2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} g_{\mu\nu}x^\mu x^\nu &= g_{\sigma\tau}x'^\sigma x'^\tau \\ &= g_{\sigma\tau}\Lambda^\sigma_\mu x^\mu \Lambda^\tau_\nu x^\nu \\ &= g_{\sigma\tau}\Lambda^\sigma_\mu \Lambda^\tau_\nu x^\mu x^\nu \end{aligned}$$

Then we have the *defining* rule of Lorentz group

$$g_{\mu\nu} = g_{\sigma\tau}\Lambda^\sigma_\mu \Lambda^\tau_\nu \quad (2.4.3)$$

$$g = \Lambda^T g \Lambda \quad (2.4.4)$$

Properties

- $|\det(\Lambda)| = 1$
- $|\Lambda^0_0| \geq 1$

The orthochronous Lorentz transformations Λ forms a group.

Parity does not form a group

$$\Lambda_P = \text{diag}(1, -1, -1, -1) \quad (2.4.5)$$

Time reversal

$$\Lambda_T = \text{diag}(-1, +1, +1, +1) \quad (2.4.6)$$

There are four classes of Lorentz transformations depending on $(\text{sgn}(\det(\Lambda)), \text{sgn}(\Lambda^0_0))$

- $(+, +) \Lambda$
- $(-, -) \Lambda_T \Lambda$
- $(-, +) \Lambda_P \Lambda$
- $(+, -) \Lambda_T \Lambda_P \Lambda$

Orthochronous Λ has 6 parameters, 3 for boosts and 3 for rotations. $\Lambda^T g \Lambda = g$ is actually 16 equations. All matrices here are symmetric. Thus 6 of 16 are redundant. There are 10 independent equations. Λ has 16 entries and it has $16 - 10 = 6$ free parameters.

2.4.2 Explicit Construction

We will restrict ourselves in orthochronous Lorentz transformations. The exponential function is defines via Taylor expansion. With $L \in \mathbb{R}^{4 \times 4}$

$$\Lambda = e^L = \exp(L)$$

From linear algebra we know

$$\det(\Lambda) = \det(e^L) = e^{\text{tr}(L)} \quad (2.4.7)$$

Since $\det(\Lambda) = 1$, $\text{tr}(L) = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda^T g \Lambda &= g \\ g \Lambda^T g \Lambda &= \mathbb{1}_4 \\ g \Lambda^T g &= \Lambda^{-1} \\ \exp(g L^T g) &= \Lambda^{-1} = \exp(-L) \\ \Leftrightarrow g L^T g &= -L \\ \Leftrightarrow (gL)^T &= -gL \end{aligned}$$

This means that gL is anti-symmetric

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & L_{01} & L_{02} & L_{03} \\ L_{01} & 0 & L_{12} & L_{13} \\ L_{02} & L_{12} & 0 & L_{23} \\ L_{03} & L_{13} & L_{23} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Define six basis matrices $S_{1,2,3}$ and $K_{1,2,3}$

$$\begin{aligned} S_1 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & S_2 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & S_3 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ K_1 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & K_2 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & K_3 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

S_i is the generator of 3-dimensional rotations and K_i is the generator of 3-dimensional boosts.

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{n} &\in \mathbb{R}^3, \quad |\hat{n}| = 1 \\ \hat{n} \cdot \mathbf{S} &= n_1 S_1 + n_2 S_2 + n_3 S_3 \\ (\hat{n} \cdot \mathbf{S})^3 &= -\hat{n} \cdot \mathbf{S} \\ (\hat{n} \cdot \mathbf{K})^3 &= +\hat{n} \cdot \mathbf{S} \end{aligned}$$

In the end

$$L = -\boldsymbol{\omega} \cdot \mathbf{S} - \boldsymbol{\zeta} \cdot \mathbf{K} \quad \text{with } \boldsymbol{\omega}, \boldsymbol{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \quad (2.4.8)$$

$$\Lambda = \exp(-\boldsymbol{\omega} \cdot \mathbf{S} - \boldsymbol{\zeta} \cdot \mathbf{K}) \quad (2.4.9)$$

2 Lorentz Transformation

ω is the axis of rotation, $|\omega|$ is then the angle of rotation.

$\tanh |\zeta| = \beta$ and $\frac{\zeta}{|\zeta|}$ is the direction of boost.

We now will look at concrete examples

- $\zeta = 0, \omega = \omega \hat{e}_z$

$$\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \omega & \sin \omega & 0 \\ 0 & -\sin \omega & \cos \omega & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Rotational angle is ω .

- $\omega = 0, \zeta = \zeta \hat{e}_x$

$$\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh \zeta & -\sinh \zeta & 0 & 0 \\ -\sinh \zeta & \cosh \zeta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Pure general boost ζ

$$\Lambda = \exp(-\zeta \cdot \mathbf{K})$$

$$\zeta = \frac{\beta}{|\beta|} \tanh^{-1} |\beta|, \quad \hat{\beta} = \frac{\beta}{|\beta|}$$

$$\Lambda = \exp(-\hat{\beta} \cdot \mathbf{K} \tanh^{-1}(\beta))$$

2.4.3 Algebra of generators

Consider the commutation algebra of $S_{i=1,2,3}$ and $K_{i=1,2,3}$

$$[S_i, S_j] = \epsilon_{ijk} S_k \quad (2.4.10)$$

$$[S_i, K_j] = \epsilon_{ijk} K_k \quad (2.4.11)$$

$$[K_i, K_j] = -\epsilon_{ijk} S_k \quad (2.4.12)$$

The last equation causes Thomas precession in atomic physics.

Choose a different basis

$$\mathbf{S}_+ = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{S} + i\mathbf{K}) \quad \mathbf{S}_- = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{S} - i\mathbf{K}) \quad (2.4.13)$$

Then we can calculate the algebra

$$[S_{+,i}, S_{+,j}] = i\epsilon_{ijk} S_{+,k} \quad (2.4.14)$$

$$[S_{-,i}, S_{-,j}] = i\epsilon_{ijk} S_{-,k} \quad (2.4.15)$$

$$[S_{+,i}, S_{-,j}] = 0 \quad (2.4.16)$$

In other word, the algebras are decoupled. This familiar algebra is angular momentum algebra $\mathbf{SU}(2)$.

2 Lorentz Transformation

Classification by two numbers (j_+, j_-)

$$j_+ = 0, \frac{1}{2}, 1, \dots$$

$$j_- = 0, \frac{1}{2}, 1, \dots$$

Dimension = $(2j_+ + 1)(2j_- + 1)$.

A field is scalar field if $j_+ = j_- = 0$. One fundamental example of scalar field is Higgs boson. Other scalar particles are just bound states.

There are two possible states with spin $\frac{1}{2}$: $(j_+, j_-) = (\frac{1}{2}, 0)$ and $(0, \frac{1}{2})$

$$\mathbf{S}_+ = \frac{1}{2}\boldsymbol{\sigma}$$

$$\mathbf{S}_- = 0$$

$$\mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{2}\boldsymbol{\sigma}$$

$$i\mathbf{K} = \frac{1}{2}\boldsymbol{\sigma}$$

for $(0, \frac{1}{2})$ there is "-"

So two types of spin $\frac{1}{2}$ fermions

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}, 0\right) \rightarrow e_L^-$$

$$\left(0, \frac{1}{2}\right) \rightarrow e_R^-$$

They have different transformation law. W boson only to e_L^- but photon couples to both.

Under parity transformation $e_L^- \leftrightarrow e_R^-$. Both particles are needed for theory to be invariant under parity transformation, like EM and strong interactions.

3 Relativistic Quantum Field Theory

In non-relativistic quantum mechanics

$$\begin{aligned} E &= \frac{\mathbf{p}^2}{2m} \\ E &\mapsto i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \\ \mathbf{p} &\rightarrow -i\hbar \nabla \end{aligned}$$

After promoting the momentum and energy into operators in dispersion relation we have the Schrödinger equation

$$i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi + \frac{1}{2m} \nabla^2 \psi = 0 \quad (3.0.1)$$

Density of probability is defined via

$$\rho = |\psi|^2 = \psi \psi^* \quad (3.0.2)$$

It obeys the continuity equation

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_V \rho \, dV &= \int \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS \\ &= \int_V \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j} \, dV \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j} &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (3.0.3)$$

Writing this explicitly

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\psi \psi^*) \\ &= \psi \frac{\partial \psi^*}{\partial t} + \psi^* \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} \\ &= \frac{i}{2m} (\psi^* \nabla^2 \psi - \psi \nabla^2 \psi^*) \\ \Rightarrow \mathbf{j} &= -\frac{i}{2m} (\psi^* \nabla \psi - \psi \nabla \psi^*) \end{aligned} \quad (3.0.4)$$

If we have a plane wave state, as an example

$$\begin{aligned} \psi &= N e^{i\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{x} - iEt} \\ \mathbf{j} &= \frac{\mathbf{p}}{m} |N|^2 \end{aligned}$$

3.1 Relativistic wave equation

Now we enter the relativistic regime

$$\begin{aligned} E^2 &= \mathbf{p}^2 + m^2 \\ p^\mu &= (E, \mathbf{p}) \quad p_\mu = (E, -\mathbf{p}) \\ p^2 &= m^2 \end{aligned}$$

Promoting energy and momentum into operators

$$\begin{aligned} p^\mu &\mapsto i\partial^\mu \\ \partial_\mu \partial^\mu &= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial^2 t} - \nabla^2 \end{aligned}$$

We have then Klein-Gordon equation

$$(\partial_\mu \partial^\mu + m^2)\phi(\mathbf{x}, t) = 0 \quad (3.1.1)$$

The current in KG-theory is conserved as well

$$j^\mu = (\rho, \mathbf{j}) = i(\phi^* \partial^\mu \phi - \phi \partial^\mu \phi^*) \quad (3.1.2)$$

$$\partial_\mu j^\mu = 0 \quad (3.1.3)$$

An example solution

$$\begin{aligned} \phi &= N e^{-ip \cdot x} \\ j^\mu &= 2p^\mu |N|^2 \end{aligned}$$

In terms of Lorentz transformation

$$\rho \sim E$$

Energies of particles

$$\begin{aligned} E^2 &= \mathbf{p}^2 + m^2 \\ E &= \pm \sqrt{\mathbf{p}^2 + m^2} \end{aligned}$$

It also implies negative probability

$$\begin{aligned} E > 0 &\mapsto \rho > 0 \\ E < 0 &\mapsto \rho < 0 \end{aligned}$$

3.2 Feynman-Stückelberg Interpretation of negative energy states

"Electron" with E, \mathbf{p} and charge $-e$

$$j_{e^-}^\mu = 2e|N|^2(E, \mathbf{p})$$

"Positron" with E, \mathbf{p} and charge $+e$

$$j_{e^+}^\mu = 2e|N|^2(E, \mathbf{p}) = -2e|N|^2(-E, -\mathbf{p})$$

We can think of $E < 0$ solution as particle flying backwards in time or $E > 0$ anti-particle forwards in time.

In a relativistic systems we need to remember following points

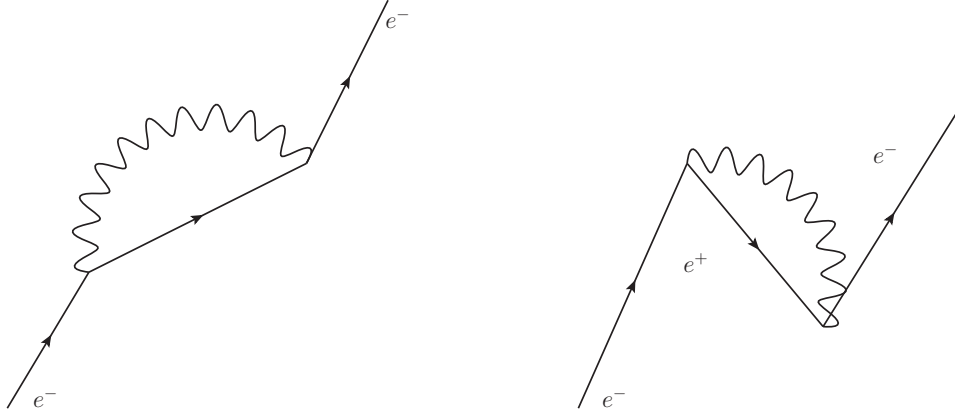


Figure 3.1: scattering process; horizontal time-axis; in the second diagram a electron positron pair is produced

- anti-particles
- particle numbers are not conserved

3.3 Electrodynamics (spin 1)

Maxwell equations are

$$\mathbf{E} = -\vec{\nabla}\phi - \frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{A} \quad (3.3.1)$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \vec{\nabla} \times \mathbf{A} \quad (3.3.2)$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{B} \quad (3.3.3)$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0 \quad (3.3.4)$$

Field strength tensor and four-potential

$$F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu \quad (3.3.5)$$

$$A^\mu(x) = (\phi, \mathbf{A}) \quad (3.3.6)$$

The fields can be calculated from it

$$E^i = F^{0i} = \partial^i A^0 - \partial^0 A^i \quad (3.3.7)$$

$$B_i = -\epsilon_{ijk} \partial^j A^k = -\epsilon_{0ijk} F^{jk} \quad (3.3.8)$$

Often it is useful to use the dual tensor

$$\tilde{F}_{\mu\nu} = \epsilon_{\mu\nu\sigma\tau} F^{\sigma\tau} \quad (3.3.9)$$

$$\partial^\mu \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu} = 0 \quad (3.3.10)$$

is the second set of maxwell equations.

The other set of two equations is

$$\partial_\nu F^{\mu\nu} = 4\pi j^\mu \quad (3.3.11)$$

\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{B} are observable, \mathbf{A} is not. A^μ is not uniquely fixed by \mathbf{E} and \mathbf{B} . It has the following gauge symmetry

$$\tilde{A}_\mu = A_\mu + \partial_\mu \Lambda(\mathbf{x}, t) \quad (3.3.12)$$

Use this transformation to get

$$\partial_\mu A^\mu = 0 \quad (3.3.13)$$

Plugging it back then we have the relativistic wave equation

$$\partial_\mu \partial^\mu A^\nu = 0 \quad (3.3.14)$$

it essentially is Klein-Gordon equation with mass $m = 0$

A^μ is a vector with spin 1

$$(j_+, j_-) = \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

It implied it has two transverse degrees of freedom. It has spin 1 properties: $+1, 0, -1$, in which 0 mode does not exist.

3.4 Description of Fermions

Original motivation for Dirac. He wants a linear equation in E or $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}$

$$p^\mu \mapsto i\partial^\mu$$

Take the ansatz

$$\begin{aligned} i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi &= H\psi \\ &= (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{p} + \beta m)\psi \end{aligned}$$

but α and β unknown. It still has to obey the relativistic energy relation

$$\begin{aligned} A &= (\alpha_i p_i + \beta m)(\alpha_i p_i + \beta m) \\ &\stackrel{!}{=} \mathbf{p}^2 + m^2 \\ &= \alpha_i \alpha_j p_i p_j + \beta^2 m^2 + \alpha_i \beta p_i m + \beta \alpha_j p_j m \end{aligned}$$

From this we demand

$$\beta^2 = 1 \quad (3.4.1)$$

$$\alpha_i^2 = 1 \quad (3.4.2)$$

$$\alpha_i \alpha_j + \alpha_j \alpha_i = 0 \quad (3.4.3)$$

$$\alpha_i \beta + \beta \alpha_i = 0 \quad (3.4.4)$$

So α and β are not just numbers, but (can be proven to be) hermitian traceless matrices with eigenvalue ± 1 . In addition, it only exists in even dimensions. Since α_i and β are 4×4 matrices. ψ has to be a 4-component spinor.

For parity conservation need $(\frac{1}{2}, 0) \oplus (0, \frac{1}{2})$ Thus

$$\left(\begin{pmatrix} & \\ & \end{pmatrix}_{2 \times 2} \quad \begin{pmatrix} & \\ & \end{pmatrix}_{2 \times 2} \right)$$

There are different sets of α_i, β which satisfy the conditions. They are called representations. Dirac-Pauli representation

$$\alpha_i = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sigma^i \\ \sigma^i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.4.5)$$

$$\beta = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1}_2 & 0 \\ 0 & -\mathbb{1}_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.4.6)$$

with σ^i the Pauli matrices.

Weyl (chiral) representation

$$\alpha^i = \begin{pmatrix} -\sigma^i & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma^i \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.4.7)$$

$$\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbb{1}_2 \\ \mathbb{1}_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.4.8)$$

they are mainly used in high energy physics ($E \gg m$).

3.4.1 Gamma Matrices

We now define 4 gamma matrices $\gamma^\mu, \mu = 0, 1, 2, 3$

$$\gamma^\mu = (\beta, \beta \alpha) \quad (3.4.9)$$

Note that having an index does not make it Lorentz vector.

The Clifford algebra is defined as following

$$\{\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu\} = \gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu + \gamma^\nu \gamma^\mu = 2g^{\mu\nu} \quad (3.4.10)$$

In Dirac-Pauli representation

$$\gamma^0 = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1} & 0 \\ 0 & -\mathbb{1} \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.4.11)$$

$$\gamma^i = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sigma^i \\ -\sigma^i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.4.12)$$

$$\gamma^5 = i\gamma^0\gamma^1\gamma^2\gamma^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbb{1} \\ \mathbb{1} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.4.13)$$

In Weyl representation

$$\gamma^0 \leftrightarrow \gamma^5$$

Rewriting the Dirac equation using γ s

$$\begin{aligned}
 i\partial_t\psi &= (\boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{p} + \beta m)\psi \\
 i\partial_t\psi &= -i\boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\nabla}\psi + m\beta\psi \\
 i\beta\partial_t\psi &= -i\beta\boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\nabla}\psi + m\psi \\
 (i\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu - m)\psi &= 0
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.4.14}$$

Conventionally we use ϕ for spin 0 particle and A_μ for spin 1.

It is convenient to also have an equation for ψ^\dagger . First one can show $\gamma^{\dagger\mu} = \gamma^0\gamma^\mu\gamma^0$.

- $\mu = 0$: $\gamma^0 = \beta$ and $\gamma^{\dagger 0} = \gamma^0\gamma^0\gamma^0 \Rightarrow \beta^2 = \mathbb{1}_4$
- $\gamma^{\dagger\mu} = (\beta\alpha^k)^\dagger = (\alpha^k)^\dagger\beta^\dagger = \alpha^k\beta = \beta^2\alpha^k\beta = \beta\gamma^k\beta = \gamma^0\gamma^k\gamma^0$

$$\begin{aligned}
 i\gamma^0\partial_0\psi + i\gamma^k\partial_k\psi - m\psi &= 0 \\
 -i\partial_0\psi^\dagger(\gamma^0)^\dagger - i(\partial_k\psi^\dagger)\gamma^{\dagger k} - m\psi^\dagger &= 0 \\
 -i\partial_0\psi^\dagger\gamma^0 - i(\partial_k\psi^\dagger)\gamma^0\gamma^k\gamma^0 - m\psi^\dagger &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

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

$$\begin{aligned}
 -i\partial_0\bar{\psi}\gamma^0 - i\partial_\mu\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu - m\bar{\psi} &= 0 \\
 i(\partial_\mu\bar{\psi})\gamma^\mu + m\bar{\psi} &= 0
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.4.15}$$

3.4.2 Free Particle Solution to Dirac Equation

$$(i\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu - m)\psi = 0$$

multiplying $\gamma^\nu\partial_\nu$ from left

$$\begin{aligned}
 i\gamma^\mu\gamma^\nu\partial_\mu\partial_\nu\psi - m\gamma^\nu\partial_\nu\psi &= 0 \\
 i\gamma^\mu\gamma^\nu\partial_\mu\partial_\nu\psi + im^2\psi &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \gamma^\mu\gamma^\nu &= \frac{1}{2}(\gamma^\mu\gamma^\nu + \gamma^\nu\gamma^\mu) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}(\gamma^\mu\gamma^\nu - \gamma^\nu\gamma^\mu + 2g^{\mu\nu}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}[\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu] + g^{\mu\nu}
 \end{aligned}$$

The commutator is anti-symmetric and multiplying to symmetric tensor (derivatives) the term must vanish.

Each component of spinor satisfies the Klein-Gordon equation.

$$(\partial_\mu\partial^\mu + m^2)\psi_i = 0 \tag{3.4.16}$$

Thus we can write the solution as plane-wave

$$\psi = u(\mathbf{p})e^{-ipx} \tag{3.4.17}$$

$u(\mathbf{p})$ is also a 4-component object but as function \mathbf{p} not \mathbf{x}

Insert back into Dirac equation, then we have Dirac equation in momentum space

$$(\gamma^\mu p_\mu - m)u(\mathbf{p}) = 0 \quad (3.4.18)$$

Solution by considering Dirac-Pauli representation

$$(\not{p} - m)u(\mathbf{p}) = \begin{pmatrix} (E - m)\mathbb{1} & -\mathbf{p} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \\ \mathbf{p} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} & -(E + m)\mathbb{1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u_A \\ u_B \end{pmatrix}$$

$\mathbf{p} = 0$ then $E = \pm m$

- $E = +m$ Two solutions

$$u_B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- $E = -m$

$$u_A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\mathbf{p} = 0$

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p} u_B = (E - m)u_A \quad (3.4.19)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p} u_A = (E + m)u_B \quad (3.4.20)$$

- $E > 0$

$$\chi^{(1)} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\chi^{(2)} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Ansatz $u_A^{(s)} = \chi^{(s)}$

$$u_B^{(s)} = \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p}}{E + m} u_A^{(s)} = \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p}}{E + m} \chi^{(s)}$$

$$u(\mathbf{p}) = N \begin{pmatrix} \chi^{(s)} \\ \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p}}{E + m} \chi^{(s)} \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.4.21)$$

$E < 0$ and $u_B^{(s)} = \chi^{(s)}$

$$u(\mathbf{p}) = N \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p}}{E + m} \chi^{(s)} \\ \chi^{(s)} \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.4.22)$$

One can show $u^{\dagger(r)} u^{(s)} = N^2 \delta^{rs}$

Two fold degeneracy in each case. $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ for $E > 0$ and $E < 0$. There must be another observable which commutes with H and \mathbf{p} .

$$H = \gamma^i p_i + \gamma^0 m$$

$$\mathbf{S} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{P}} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p} & 0 \\ 0 & \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}} \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.4.23)$$

Helicity

$$\frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{p}_z & \hat{p}_x + i\hat{p}_y \\ \hat{p}_x - i\hat{p}_y & -\hat{p}_z \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.4.24)$$

$$\det(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}}) = -\hat{p}^2 = -1 \quad (3.4.25)$$

Determinant is the product of two eigenvalues, then

$$\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 \cdot \lambda_2 = 1$$

$$\lambda_{1,2} = \pm 1$$

Antiparticle solution $u^{(3,4)}(-\mathbf{p})e^{-i(-p)x} = v^{(2,1)}$

$$(\not{p} + m)v(\mathbf{p}) = 0 \quad (3.4.26)$$

Normalization is

$$\int \rho dV = 2E \quad (3.4.27)$$

$$N = \sqrt{E + m} \quad (3.4.28)$$

Completeness relation (spin sums)

$$\sum u^{(s)}(p)\bar{u}^{(s)}(p) = (\not{p} + m) \quad (3.4.29)$$

$$\sum v^{(s)}(p)\bar{v}^{(s)}(p) = (\not{p} - m) \quad (3.4.30)$$

Define a projector projecting out positive and negative energy states

$$\Lambda_{\pm} = \frac{\pm \not{p} + m}{2m} \quad (3.4.31)$$

In Chiral (Weyl) representation

$$(\not{p} - m)u(\mathbf{p}) = \begin{pmatrix} m & p \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \\ \mathbf{k} \cdot \bar{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} & -m \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u_L \\ u_R \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.4.32)$$

$\bar{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} = (\sigma^0, -\boldsymbol{\sigma})$ and $\sigma^0 = \mathbb{1}_2$

Weyl equation

$$\begin{aligned} -mu_L + p \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} u_R &= 0 \\ p \cdot \bar{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} u_L - mu_R &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (3.4.33)$$

if $m = 0$, the equations decouple from each other.

We want to construct Lagrangians involving the fields ψ , A_μ and $\bar{\psi}$. The reason we choose Lagrangians as opposed to Hamiltonians, is that Hamiltonian H is associated with energy of system, which is not Lorentz (or relativistic) invariant. But Lagrangian density is $S = \int dt = \int d^4x \mathcal{L}$. In natural unit, the

action is dimensionless. One can in addition prove d^4x is Lorentz invariant. The fact that \mathcal{L} is Lorentz invariant, means that \mathcal{L} need to have at least 2 spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ fields ψ or $\bar{\psi}$, to make a spin-0.

We are interested in the objects like

$$\bar{\psi}(\gamma^\mu)\psi$$

Representation of the Lorentz group can be split into $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$ and $(0, \frac{1}{2})$. In Weyl or chiral representation, ψ_L has $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$ and ψ_R $(0, \frac{1}{2})$.

Here we are taking a different approach from the paper [1]. First define

$$\sigma^{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{2} [\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu] \quad (3.4.34)$$

We want to find out the transformation of $\psi = u(\mathbf{p})e^{-ip \cdot x}$. Note that the second factor is written in covariant form, i.e. Lorentz invariant. Consider the Dirac equation in two different frames $x' = \Lambda x$

$$i\gamma^\mu \frac{\partial \psi(x)}{\partial x^\mu} - m\psi(x) = 0 \quad (3.4.35)$$

$$i\gamma^\mu \frac{\partial \psi'(x')}{\partial x'^\mu} - m\psi'(x') = 0 \quad (3.4.36)$$

We make the ansatz that the spinor transforms with S

$$\psi'(x') = S\psi(x) \quad (3.4.37)$$

S must be independent of x . Plug 3.4.37 into 3.4.36

$$\begin{aligned} i\gamma^\mu \frac{\partial}{\partial x'^\mu} [S\psi(x)] - mS\psi(x) &= 0 \\ iS^{-1}\gamma^\mu S \frac{\partial \psi(x)}{\partial x^\nu} \underbrace{\frac{\partial x^\nu}{\partial x'^\mu}}_{=\Lambda^{-1}} - m\psi(x) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

This equation must be the same as 3.4.35, then we get

$$\begin{aligned} S^{-1}\gamma^\mu S [\Lambda^{-1}]_\mu^\nu &= \gamma^\nu \\ S^{-1}\gamma^\mu S &= \Lambda^\mu_\nu \gamma^\nu \end{aligned} \quad (3.4.38)$$

$S_{\mu\nu}$ is anti-symmetric in μ and ν

$$S_i = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} S^{jk} \quad (3.4.39)$$

$$K_i = S^{0i} \quad (3.4.40)$$

$$\psi'_\alpha(x') = \left[\exp\left(-\frac{i}{2} \Theta^{\mu\nu} S_{\mu\nu}\right) \right]_\alpha^\beta \psi_\beta \quad (3.4.41)$$

$$\omega_i = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} \theta_{ijk} \quad (3.4.42)$$

Lorentz transformation containing rotations and boosts, but infinitesimal version (infinitesimally different from $\mathbb{1}$)

$$\Lambda^\nu_\mu = \delta^\nu_\mu + \epsilon^\nu_\mu \quad (3.4.43)$$

We will show in the exercise the expression of transformation under boosts and rotations

$$S_L = \mathbb{1}_4 - \frac{i}{4} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \epsilon^{\mu\nu} \quad (3.4.44)$$

$$S_L^{-1} = \mathbb{1}_4 + \frac{i}{4} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \epsilon^{\mu\nu} \quad (3.4.45)$$

It satisfies $S^{-1} \gamma^\mu S = \Lambda^\mu_\nu \gamma^\nu = \gamma^\nu + \epsilon^\mu_\nu \gamma^\nu$

$$\left(\mathbb{1}_4 + \frac{i}{4} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \epsilon^{\mu\nu} \right) \gamma^\mu \left(\mathbb{1}_4 - \frac{i}{4} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \epsilon^{\mu\nu} \right) = \gamma^\mu + \frac{i}{4} \left[\sigma_{\alpha\beta} \gamma^\mu - \gamma^\mu \sigma_{\alpha\beta} \right] \epsilon^{\alpha\beta}$$

somehow

$$= \gamma^\mu + \epsilon^\mu_\nu \gamma^\nu$$

Parity transformation cannot be written in infinitesimal form. Thus it is often called (one of) discrete transformation.

$$\Lambda_P = \text{diag}(+1, -1, -1, -1) \quad (3.4.46)$$

Parity symmetry is naturally violated. Especially in weak interaction, since neutrinos are left-handed ν_L .

$$S_P^{-1} \gamma^\mu S_P = \Lambda^\mu_{\nu} \gamma^\nu \quad (3.4.47)$$

- For $\mu = 0$

$$S_P^{-1} \gamma^0 S_P = \gamma^0$$

- For $\mu = i$

$$S_P^{-1} \gamma^i S_P = -\gamma^i$$

It is easy to show $S_P = \gamma^0$ satisfies the equations. Then the spinor transform under parity like

$$\psi'(t, -\mathbf{x}) = \gamma^0 \psi(t, \mathbf{x}) \quad (3.4.48)$$

In Dirac-Pauli representation $\gamma^0 = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1}_2 & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbb{1}_2 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\psi = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \\ \psi_3 \\ \psi_4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \psi' = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \\ -\psi_3 \\ -\psi_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

In chiral representation $\gamma^0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbb{1}_2 \\ \mathbb{1}_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and

$$\psi = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_L \\ \psi_R \end{pmatrix} \quad \psi' = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_R \\ \psi_L \end{pmatrix}$$

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

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

it can easily be shown using the explicit expression of S_L and S_L . Parity transformation is γ^0 .

$$\begin{aligned} &= \psi^\dagger \gamma^0 S^{-1} \\ &= \bar{\psi} S^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

There are 16 different bilinear $\bar{\psi} A \psi$

- $A = \mathbb{1}_4$

$$\bar{\psi}'\psi' = (\bar{\psi}S^{-1})(S\psi) = \bar{\psi}\psi$$

- $A = \gamma^\mu$

$$\bar{\psi}'\gamma^\mu\psi' = \bar{\psi}S^{-1}\gamma^\mu S\psi = \Lambda^\mu_\nu(\bar{\psi}\gamma^\nu\psi)$$

It transforms exactly like a Lorentz vector. Especially under parity

$$\bar{\psi}'\gamma^\mu\psi' = \begin{cases} \bar{\psi}'\gamma^0\psi' & \mu = 0 \\ -\bar{\psi}'\gamma^i\psi' & \mu = 1, 2, 3 \end{cases}$$

- $A = \gamma^5$

$$\bar{\psi}'\gamma^5\psi' = \bar{\psi}S_L^{-1}\gamma^5 S_L\psi$$

$\{\gamma^\mu, \gamma^5\} = 0$ and $\sigma_{\mu\nu}$ contains two γ s

$$= \bar{\psi}\gamma^5\psi$$

It is a scalar under boosts and rotations. Under parity it is pseudoscalar, like pions.

$$\gamma^5 S_P = \gamma^5 \gamma^0 = -S_P \gamma^5$$

thus

$$\bar{\psi}'\gamma^5\psi' = -\bar{\psi}'\gamma^5\psi'$$

For experiments, look it up in Introduction to HEP, Perkins

Chiral spinors (in chiral representation)

$$P_R = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbb{1}_4 + \gamma^5) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbb{1}_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.4.49)$$

$$P_L = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbb{1}_4 - \gamma^5) = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1}_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.4.50)$$

If ψ written like $\psi = \begin{pmatrix} \chi_L \\ \chi_R \end{pmatrix}$, it is in chiral representation

$$P_L\psi = \begin{pmatrix} \chi_L \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \psi_L$$

$$P_R\psi = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \chi_R \end{pmatrix} = \psi_R$$

They are projectors

$$P_R^2 = \frac{1}{4}(\mathbb{1}_4 + \gamma^5)(\mathbb{1}_4 + \gamma^5) = \frac{1}{4}(\mathbb{1}_4 + 2\gamma^5 + (\gamma^5)^2) = P_R$$

$$P_L^2 = P_L$$

They also project onto complete space meaning $P_L + P_R = \mathbb{1}_4$.

Left-handed particles have spin and momentum in the opposite direction and right-handed in the same direction. In Dirac-Pauli representation in high energy limit

$$\gamma^5 u^{(s)} \approx \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}} & 0 \\ 0 & \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}} \end{pmatrix}$$

To show this take the free particle solution ($E > 0$)

$$u^{(s)} = N \begin{pmatrix} \chi^{(s)} \\ \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p}}{E+m} \chi^{(s)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\gamma^5 u^{(s)} = N \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p}}{E+m} \chi^{(s)} \\ \chi^{(s)} \end{pmatrix} \approx N \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}} \chi^{(s)} \\ \chi^{(s)} \end{pmatrix}$$

In general $(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{a})^2 = a^2 \mathbb{1}$

$$= N \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}} \begin{pmatrix} \chi^{(s)} \\ \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}} \chi^{(s)} \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}}}_{\text{helicity operator}} u^{(s)}$$

At high energy limit ($E \gg m$), γ^5 helicity operator, but not at low energy. Chirality $\psi_{L,R}$ is always a good quantum number.

Angular momentum Must be another observable which commutes with H and P ($u = u(\mathbf{p})$)

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}} & 0 \\ 0 & \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}} \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.4.51)$$

$$H = \boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{P} + \beta m \quad (3.4.52)$$

$$[H, \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}}] = 0 \quad (3.4.53)$$

Angular momentum operator is defined as

$$\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{P} \quad (3.4.54)$$

$$(3.4.55)$$

Use the relation $[\hat{x}_i, \hat{P}_j] = i\delta_{ij}$ and check the commutation

$$\begin{aligned} [H, L_1] &= [\boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{P}, x_2 P_3 - x_3 P_2] \\ &= [\alpha_1 P_1 + \alpha_2 P_2 + \alpha_3 P_3, x_2 P_3 - x_3 P_2] \\ &= \alpha_2 [P_2, x_2] P_3 - \alpha_3 [P_3, x_3] P_2 \\ &= -i(\alpha_2 P_3 - \alpha_3 P_2) \\ &= -i(\boldsymbol{\alpha} \times \mathbf{P})_1 \end{aligned}$$

Thus $[H, \mathbf{L}] = -i(\boldsymbol{\alpha} \times \mathbf{P}) \neq 0$. In other word, L not conserved.

But we observe

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\sigma} & 0 \\ 0 & \boldsymbol{\sigma} \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.4.56)$$

$$[H, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}] = 2i(\boldsymbol{\alpha} \times \mathbf{P}) \quad (3.4.57)$$

Thus define total angular momentum, second term describe the intrinsic angular momentum of particles

$$\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{L} + \frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \quad (3.4.58)$$

and J is conserved.

Charge conjugation Equation describing fermions couple to electromagnetic current

$$\left[\gamma^\mu (i\partial_\mu + eA_\mu) - m \right] \psi = 0 \quad (3.4.59)$$

with e the electric charge of electron and $A_\mu(x)$ vector potential in electromagnetism.

For positron the charge is the opposite

$$\left[\gamma^\mu (i\partial_\mu - eA_\mu) - m \right] \psi^C = 0 \quad (3.4.60)$$

ψ^C is the charge conjugate of ψ . We want to know the relation between $\psi \leftrightarrow \psi^C$. Take complex conjugate of equation 3.4.59

$$\left[-(\gamma^\mu)^* (i\partial_\mu - eA_\mu) - m \right] \psi^* = 0 \quad (3.4.61)$$

We postulate a matrix C so that $\psi^C = C\gamma^0\psi^*$ and multiply equation 3.4.61 by $C\gamma^0$ from left.

$$C\gamma^0 \left[-(\gamma^\mu)^* (i\partial_\mu - eA_\mu) - m \right] \psi^* = 0$$

It must be the same as equation 3.4.60. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} -(C\gamma^0)(\gamma^\mu)^* &= \gamma^\mu C\gamma^0 \\ -C(\gamma^\mu)^T &= \gamma^\mu C \\ C\gamma^{\mu T} C^{-1} &= -\gamma^\mu \\ C &= i\gamma^0\gamma^2 \end{aligned} \quad (3.4.62)$$

Then we find

$$\psi^C = C\gamma^0\psi^* = C\bar{\psi}^T \quad (3.4.63)$$

It would be interesting to compare $P_L(\psi^C)$ and $(P_L\psi)^C$

Continuity equation for ψ

$$\rho = \psi^\dagger \psi = \bar{\psi} \gamma^0 \psi \quad (3.4.64)$$

Multiply $\bar{\psi}$ from left to dirac equation and ψ from right to conjugated Dirac equation

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\psi} (i\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu - m) \psi &= 0, & i(\partial_\mu \bar{\psi}) \gamma^\mu \psi + m\bar{\psi} \psi &= 0 \\ \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu (\partial_\mu \psi) + (\partial_\mu \bar{\psi}) \gamma^\mu \psi &= 0 \\ \partial_\mu (\bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \psi) &= 0 \\ \partial_\mu j^\mu &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

3.5 Classical Field Theory

Reminder

Lagrangian and action

$$L = L(q_i, \dot{q}_i, t) \quad S = \int dt L$$

Variation principle

$$\delta S = 0$$

is equivalent to Euler-Lagrange equations

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_i}$$

Going to field theory, we transform $q(t) \rightarrow \phi(x)$ and $L \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} &= \mathcal{L}\left(\phi, \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x^\mu}, x_\mu\right) \\ S &= \int d^4x \mathcal{L}(\phi, \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x^\mu}, x_\mu)\end{aligned}$$

Using the variation principle

$$\begin{aligned}\delta S &= \sum_i \frac{dS}{d\alpha_i} \delta\alpha_i \\ &= \sum_i \int d^4x \left\{ \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \alpha_i} \delta\alpha_i + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \phi)} \frac{\partial (\partial_\mu \phi)}{\partial \alpha_i} \delta\alpha_i \right\} \\ &= \sum_i \int d^4x \left\{ \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \alpha_i} - \left(\partial_\mu \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \phi)} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \alpha_i} \right) \right\} \delta\alpha_i + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \phi)} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \alpha_i} \delta\alpha_i \Big|_{x_0}^{x_1}\end{aligned}$$

Then we have our new Euler-Lagrange equations for continuous fields

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi} - \partial_\mu \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \phi)} = 0 \quad (3.5.1)$$

Conservation Laws and Noether Theorem Reminder: Under transformation $t \mapsto t' = t + \delta b$, system stays invariant if $\delta_T L = \frac{d}{dt}(\delta\Omega)$.

$\delta\Omega = 0$ if L invariant

$$\delta_T L = L(q, \dot{q}, t + \delta b) - L(q, \dot{q}, t) = \frac{\partial L}{\partial t} \delta b$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dL}{dt} &= \frac{\partial L}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial L}{\partial q} \dot{q} + \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} \ddot{q} \\ &= \frac{\partial L}{\partial t} + \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} \right) \dot{q} + \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} \ddot{q} \\ &= \frac{\partial L}{\partial t} + \frac{d}{dt} \left[\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} \dot{q} \right]\end{aligned}$$

System invariant if

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial t} = \frac{d}{dt}(\delta\Omega) \quad (3.5.2)$$

if L not dependent explicitly on t , $dL / dt = 0$

If $\partial L/\partial t = 0$, the conserved quantity

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt} \left[L - \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} \dot{q} \right] &= 0 \\ L - \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} \dot{q} &= -H = L - \dot{q} p\end{aligned}$$

using legendre transformation and $\partial L/\partial \dot{q}$ the general momentum.

Analogously for fields

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial x^\mu} &= \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi} \right) \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x^\mu} + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\rho \phi)} \partial_\rho (\partial_\mu \phi) \\ &= \left(\partial_\rho \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\rho \phi)} \right) \partial_\mu \phi + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\rho \phi)} \partial_\rho \partial_\mu \phi \\ \partial_\mu \mathcal{L} &= \partial_\rho \left[\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\rho \phi)} \partial_\mu \phi \right] \\ \Rightarrow \partial_\rho \left[\mathcal{L} \delta_\mu^\rho - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\rho \phi)} \partial_\mu \phi \right] &= 0\end{aligned}$$

this is energy momentum tensor T_μ^ρ .

Examples Real scalar field, $\phi(x) \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi) (\partial^\mu \phi) - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 \quad (3.5.3)$$

Since $L = T - V$, we interpret first term as kinetic and second as potential, which has minimum at $\phi = 0$
Since action is dimensionless, $[\phi] = 1$. Take Euler-Lagrange

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi} &= -m^2 \phi \\ \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \phi)} &= \partial^\mu \phi\end{aligned}$$

put together

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

This is just Klein-Gordon equation. In Feynman rules we have the propagator and mass term as interaction

Example Fermionic field

$$\mathcal{L} = i \bar{\psi} \gamma_\mu \partial^\mu \psi - m \bar{\psi} \psi \quad (3.5.4)$$

$[\psi] = \frac{3}{2}$. $\bar{\psi}$ and ψ are independent fields. Solve Euler-Lagrange we get familiar Dirac equation.

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \bar{\psi}} i \gamma_\mu \partial^\mu \psi - m \psi = 0 \quad (3.5.5)$$

Example Spin 1 field $A_\mu(x)$

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} - j^\mu A_\mu \quad (3.5.6)$$

$$F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu \quad (3.5.7)$$

Equation of motion can be computed

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_\rho A_\sigma)} = \frac{1}{4}4\delta_{\rho\nu}\delta_{\mu\sigma}F^{\mu\nu} = -F^{\sigma\rho}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial A_\sigma} = -j^\sigma$$

then we have the maxwell equations

$$-\partial_\rho F^{\sigma\rho} + j^\sigma = 0$$

use Lorenz gauge we can get

$$\partial_\mu \partial^\mu A^\sigma = j^\sigma$$

Bibliography

- [1] Herbi K. Dreiner, Howard E. Haber, and Stephen P. Martin. “Two-component spinor techniques and Feynman rules for quantum field theory and supersymmetry”. In: *Physics Reports* 494.1-2 (Sept. 2010), pp. 1–196. ISSN: 0370-1573. DOI: [10.1016/j.physrep.2010.05.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.physrep.2010.05.002). URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.physrep.2010.05.002>.