

7.10: (Griffiths)

Suppose we pick $i\hbar\gamma^0\psi - mc\psi$ as Dirac's Equation, then setting $\vec{p} = 0$, we find (in rest frame),

$$\psi = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_A \\ \psi_B \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{\frac{imc^2}{\hbar}t} \psi_A(0) \\ e^{-\frac{imc^2}{\hbar}t} \psi_B(0) \end{pmatrix}$$

This is equivalent to that found in section 7.2 with ψ_A, ψ_B swapped.

To verify this, apply basis and 1-form transformation T to the Dirac equation:

$$T^{-1}(i\hbar\gamma^0 - mc)T\psi = 0$$

with $T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ doing basis swapping, we find

$$T^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} T = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$T^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} -\vec{\sigma} & \vec{\sigma} \end{pmatrix} T = \begin{pmatrix} \vec{\sigma} & -\vec{\sigma} \end{pmatrix}$$

That is,

$$T^{-1}\gamma^0 T = -\gamma^0,$$

giving us

$$\begin{aligned} T^{-1}(i\hbar\gamma^0 - mc)T\psi &= (-i\hbar\gamma^0 - mc)\psi \end{aligned}$$

That is, the two forms of Dirac Equation are related by a basis swap.