

Questions 10th March 2017

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1) Using the properties of the γ matrices, and the definition of $\gamma^5 \equiv i\gamma^0\gamma^1\gamma^2\gamma^3$, show that:

$$(\gamma^5)^2 = 1 \quad (1)$$

$$\gamma^{5\dagger} = \gamma^5 \quad (2)$$

$$\gamma^5\gamma^\mu = -\gamma^\mu\gamma^5 \quad (3)$$

2) Show that the chiral projection operators, $P_R = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \gamma^5)$ and $P_L = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \gamma^5)$ satisfy:

$$P_R + P_L = 1 \quad (4)$$

$$P_R P_R = P_R \quad (5)$$

$$P_L P_L = P_L \quad (6)$$

$$P_L P_R = 0 \quad (7)$$

3) Write the lowest-order Feynman diagram for $e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^-\mu^+$. 3i) Write some high-order Feynman diagrams.

4) Discuss why high-energy electron-positron colliders must also have high instantaneous luminosity.

BONUS Q) For a spin-1 system, the eigenstate of the operator $\hat{S}_n = \mathbf{n} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{S}}$ with eigenvalue +1 corresponds to the spin being in the direction $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$. Writing this state in terms of the eigenstates of \hat{S}_z i.e.

$$|1, +1\rangle_\theta = \alpha|1, -1\rangle + \beta|1, 0\rangle + \gamma|1, +1\rangle \quad (8)$$

and taking $\mathbf{n} = (\sin\theta, \cos\theta)$ show that

$$|1, +1\rangle_\theta = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \cos\theta)|1, -1\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\sin\theta|1, 0\rangle + \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos\theta)|1, +1\rangle \quad (9)$$

Hint, write \hat{S}_x in terms of the spin ladder operators.