

# Gordon decomposition

Show that

$$\bar{u}(p_2, s_2) \gamma^\mu u(p_1, s_1) = \bar{u}(p_2, s_2) G^\mu u(p_1, s_1)$$

where

$$G^\mu = \frac{(p_2 + p_1)^\mu + i\sigma^{\mu\nu}(p_2 - p_1)_\nu}{m_1 + m_2}$$

Start by introducing the cast of characters. First, the momentum vectors.

$$p_1 = \begin{pmatrix} E_1 \\ p_{1x} \\ p_{1y} \\ p_{1z} \end{pmatrix}, \quad p_2 = \begin{pmatrix} E_2 \\ p_{2x} \\ p_{2y} \\ p_{2z} \end{pmatrix}$$

Spinors for particle one.

$$u(p_1, 1) = \begin{pmatrix} E_1 + m_1 \\ 0 \\ p_{1z} \\ p_{1x} + ip_{1y} \end{pmatrix}, \quad u(p_1, 2) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ E_1 + m_1 \\ p_{1x} - ip_{1y} \\ -p_{1z} \end{pmatrix}$$

spin up spin down

Spinors for particle two.

$$u(p_2, 1) = \begin{pmatrix} E_2 + m_2 \\ 0 \\ p_{2z} \\ p_{2x} + ip_{2y} \end{pmatrix}, \quad u(p_2, 2) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ E_2 + m_2 \\ p_{2x} - ip_{2y} \\ -p_{2z} \end{pmatrix}$$

spin up spin down

Relativistic energy.

$$E_1 = \sqrt{p_{1x}^2 + p_{1y}^2 + p_{1z}^2 + m_1^2}, \quad E_2 = \sqrt{p_{2x}^2 + p_{2y}^2 + p_{2z}^2 + m_2^2}$$

This is the definition for tensor  $\sigma^{\mu\nu}$ .

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

In component notation

$$\sigma^{\mu\alpha\nu}{}_\beta = \frac{i}{2} (\gamma^{\mu\alpha}{}_\rho \gamma^{\nu\rho}{}_\beta - \gamma^{\nu\alpha}{}_\rho \gamma^{\mu\rho}{}_\beta)$$

Let  $T^{\mu\nu} = \gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu$ . In component notation

$$T^{\mu\alpha\nu}{}_\beta = \gamma^{\mu\alpha}{}_\rho \gamma^{\rho\nu}{}_\beta$$

In Eigenmath code

$$T = \text{dot}(\text{gamma}, \text{transpose}(\text{gamma}))$$

Hence

$$\text{sigmamunu} = i/2 \text{ (T - transpose(T,1,3))}$$

Transpose  $\sigma^{\mu\alpha\nu}{}_{\beta}$  to  $\sigma^{\mu\alpha}{}_{\beta}{}^{\nu}$ .

$$\text{sigmamunu} = \text{transpose}(\text{sigmamunu},3,4)$$

In component notation

$$\sigma^{\mu\nu}(p_2 - p_1)_{\nu} = \sigma^{\mu\alpha}{}_{\beta}{}^{\nu} g_{\nu\rho} (p_2 - p_1)^{\rho}$$

In Eigenmath code

$$\text{dot}(\text{sigmamunu}, \text{gmunu}, \text{p2} - \text{p1})$$