

H.7

a) Lemma: $\text{tr}(\gamma^\mu) = 0$

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} \text{since } \{\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\mu\} = 2g^{\mu\mu} \mathbb{1} \Rightarrow \gamma^\mu \gamma^\mu = g^{\mu\mu} \mathbb{1} \\ \Rightarrow \text{tr}(\gamma^\mu) = \text{tr}(\mathbb{1} \cdot \gamma^\mu) = \frac{1}{g^{\nu\nu}} \text{tr}(\gamma^\nu \gamma^\nu \gamma^\mu) \\ \quad = -\frac{1}{g^{\nu\nu}} \text{tr}(\gamma^\nu \gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu) \quad \text{anticomm. factor} \quad = -\frac{1}{g^{\nu\nu}} \text{tr}(\gamma^\nu \gamma^\nu \gamma^\mu) \quad \text{permutation} \\ \Rightarrow \text{tr}(\gamma^\mu) = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$\text{tr}(\gamma^{\mu_1} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n+1}})$, $\mu_k, k = \{0, \dots, 2n+1\}$ don't have to be distinctive

Method 1:

Using anticommutations we can rewrite the whole product into these two expressions

$$\gamma^{\mu_1} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n+1}} = \begin{cases} (-1)^{\xi} \gamma^\nu \\ (-1)^{\xi} \gamma^\alpha \gamma^\beta \gamma^\nu, \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} \xi \text{ is an integer number,} \\ \text{come from anticommutations} \\ \text{and } (\gamma^k)^2 = -\mathbb{1} \end{array}$$

$\alpha \neq \beta \neq \nu,$
 $\alpha, \beta, \nu \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$

(no summation is used)

$$\text{Tr}((-1)^{\xi} \gamma^\nu) = (-1)^{\xi} \text{Tr}(\gamma^\nu) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}((-1)^{\xi} \gamma^\alpha \gamma^\beta \gamma^\nu) &= (-1)^{\xi} \text{Tr}(\gamma^\alpha \gamma^\beta \gamma^\nu) = (-1)^{\xi} \text{Tr}(\gamma^\nu \gamma^\alpha \gamma^\beta \gamma^\nu) \\ &= (-1)^{\xi} \text{Tr}(\gamma^\nu \gamma^\alpha \gamma^\beta \gamma^\nu \gamma^\nu) \\ &= -(-1)^{\xi} \text{Tr}(\gamma^\nu \gamma^\nu \gamma^\alpha \gamma^\beta \gamma^\nu) \\ &\quad \text{anticommutation} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Tr}(\gamma^{\mu_1} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n+1}}) = 0$$

Method 2: (better I suppose)

$$\text{tr}(\gamma^{\mu_1} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n+1}}) = \text{tr}(\gamma^5 \gamma^5 \gamma^{\mu_1} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n}} \gamma^{\mu_{2n+1}})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \text{tr}(\gamma^5 \gamma^{\mu_1} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n+1}} \gamma^5) \\
&= (-1)^{2n+1} \text{tr}(\gamma^5 \gamma^5 \gamma^{\mu_1} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n+1}}) \\
&\quad [\gamma^5, \gamma^\mu] = 0
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= - \text{tr}(\gamma^{\mu_1} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n+1}}) = 0 \\
&\text{tr}(\gamma^{\mu_1} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n+1}} \gamma^5) \\
&= \text{tr}(\gamma^5 \gamma^{\mu_1} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n+1}}) \\
&= (-1)^{2n+1} \text{tr}(\gamma^{\mu_1} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n+1}} \gamma^5) \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
b) \quad \text{tr}(\gamma^5) &= \text{tr}(\gamma^5 \gamma^0 \gamma^0) \\
&= -\text{tr}(\gamma^0 \gamma^5 \gamma^0) \\
&= -\text{tr}(\gamma^5 \gamma^0 \gamma^0) \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{tr}(\gamma^5 \gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu) = (-1)^3 \text{tr}(\gamma^5 \gamma^\alpha \gamma^\alpha \gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu),$$

$$\begin{cases} \alpha \neq \mu, \alpha = \nu \\ \xi = 0 \text{ if } \alpha = 0 \\ \xi = 1 \text{ if } \alpha = 1, 2, 3 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= (-1)^{\xi+1} \text{tr}(\gamma^\alpha \gamma^5 \gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu \gamma^\alpha) \\
&= (-1)^{\xi+1} \text{tr}(\gamma^5 \gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu \gamma^\alpha \gamma^\alpha) \\
&= -\text{tr}(\gamma^5 \gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu) \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
c) \quad &\text{tr}(\gamma^{\mu_1} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n}}) \\
&= \text{tr}(\gamma^{\mu_1} \gamma^{\mu_2} \dots \gamma^{\mu_k} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n}}) \\
&= \text{tr}[(\gamma^{\mu_2} \gamma^{\mu_1} + 2g^{\mu_1 \mu_2} \mathbb{1}) \gamma^{\mu_3} \dots \gamma^{\mu_k} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n}}]
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= -\text{tr}[\gamma^{\mu_2} \gamma^{\mu_1} \gamma^{\mu_3} \dots \gamma^{\mu_k} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n}}] + 2g^{\mu_1 \mu_2} \text{tr}[\gamma^{\mu_3} \dots \gamma^{\mu_k} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n}}] \\
 &\vdots \\
 &= (-1)^{2n-1} \text{tr}[\gamma^{\mu_2} \dots \gamma^{\mu_k} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n}} \gamma^{\mu_1}]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$+ 2 \sum_{k=2}^{2n} (-1)^k g^{\mu_1 \mu_k} \text{tr}[\gamma^{\mu_2} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{k-1}} \gamma^{\mu_{k+1}} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n}}]$$

1st term is $\text{tr}[\gamma^{\mu_1} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n}}]$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Rightarrow \text{tr}[\gamma^{\mu_1} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n}}] \\
 &= \sum_{k=2}^{2n} (-1)^k g^{\mu_1 \mu_k} \text{tr}[\gamma^{\mu_2} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{k-1}} \gamma^{\mu_{k+1}} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n}}]
 \end{aligned}$$

d) $\text{tr}[\gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu] = g^{\mu\nu} \text{tr}[1] \quad , \quad n=1$
 $= 4g^{\mu\nu}$

e) $\text{tr}[\gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu \gamma^\rho \gamma^\sigma] = \sum_{k=2}^4 (-1)^k g^{\mu\mu_k} \text{tr}[\dots] \quad , \quad n=4$
 $= g^{\mu\nu} \text{tr}[\gamma^\rho \gamma^\sigma] - g^{\mu\rho} \text{tr}[\gamma^\nu \gamma^\sigma] + g^{\mu\sigma} \text{tr}[\gamma^\nu \gamma^\rho]$
 $= 4(g^{\mu\nu} g^{\rho\sigma} - g^{\mu\rho} g^{\nu\sigma} + g^{\mu\sigma} g^{\nu\rho})$

f) $n=1 \quad , \quad \text{tr}[\gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu] = 4g^{\mu\nu}$
 $n=2 \quad , \quad \text{tr}[\gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu \gamma^\rho \gamma^\sigma] = 4(g^{\mu\nu} g^{\rho\sigma} - g^{\mu\rho} g^{\nu\sigma} + g^{\mu\sigma} g^{\nu\rho})$

Assume (9) is true $\forall n$

$$\text{tr}[\gamma^{\mu_1} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n}}] = 4 \sum_{p \in P} \text{sgn}(p) \prod_{i=1}^n g^{\mu_{a_i}} g^{\mu_{b_i}}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\text{tr}[\gamma^{\mu_1} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n}} \gamma^{\mu_{2n+1}} \gamma^{\mu_{2n+2}}] \\
 &\stackrel{(8)}{=} \sum_{k=2}^{2n} g^{\mu_1 \mu_k} (-1)^k \text{tr}[\gamma^{\mu_2} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{k-1}} \gamma^{\mu_{k+1}} \dots \gamma^{\mu_{2n}}] \\
 &= \sum_{k=2}^{2n} g^{\mu_1 \mu_k} (-1)^k \cdot 4 \sum_{p \in P} \text{sgn}(p) \prod_{i=1}^n g^{\mu_{a_i}} g^{\mu_{b_i}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= 4 \sum_{p \in P} \text{sgn}(p) \prod_{i=1}^{n+1} g^{\mu_{\alpha i}} g^{\mu_{\beta i}}$$

\Rightarrow proven

(g) if μ, ν, β, σ not permutation

$$\Rightarrow \text{tr}[\gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu \gamma^\beta \gamma^\sigma \gamma^5] \propto \text{tr}[\gamma^\alpha \gamma^\beta \gamma^5] = 0$$

$$\text{tr}[\gamma^0 \gamma^1 \gamma^2 \gamma^3 \gamma^5] = -i \text{tr}[(\gamma^5)^2] = -i 4 = -4i$$

$$\text{if } \text{tr}[\gamma^0 \gamma^2 \gamma^1 \gamma^3 \gamma^5] = (-1) \cdot (-4i)$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}$
 anticommute

$$\Rightarrow \text{tr}[\gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu \gamma^\beta \gamma^\sigma \gamma^5] = -4i \epsilon^{\mu\nu\beta\sigma}$$