

Problem 1)

Consider the classical Lagrangian densities for the following relativistic quantum field theories,

$$\mathcal{L}_Y = \frac{i}{2} \bar{\psi} \overleftrightarrow{\partial} \psi - M \bar{\psi} \psi + \frac{1}{2} (\partial \phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m_s^2 \phi^2 - g \bar{\psi} \psi \phi - \frac{\lambda_1}{3!} \phi^3 - \frac{\lambda_2}{4!} \phi^4 \quad (1)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_V = \frac{i}{2} \bar{\psi} \overleftrightarrow{\partial} \psi - M \bar{\psi} \psi - \frac{1}{4} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} + \frac{m_V^2}{2} A^\mu A_\mu - g \bar{\psi} \not{A} \psi. \quad (2)$$

We could envision each of these being proposed as models of the interactions between spinor “nucleons” of mass M represented by the Fermi field ψ . In the first case, the interaction is then mediated by a scalar “pion” field ϕ with mass m_s , and in the second it is mediated by a vector field A^μ with mass m_V . As usual, the field strength tensor $F^{\mu\nu} = \partial^\mu A^\nu - \partial^\nu A^\mu$. (Note that to be realistic we should really have pseudoscalar and vector interactions.) In the second theory, we would get the Maxwell field if we set $m_V = 0$.

- (a) Use the fast mnemonic that we developed in class for translating a classical Lagrangian density into QFT Feynman rules to write down all the Feynman rules for the two theories above. Make a comment about where each factor of “ i ” comes from. Use straight lines for ψ , dashed lines for ϕ , and wavy lines for A^μ .
- (b) Draw a two-loop diagram for the vector field case. Draw an example of a diagram that would give problems if you have not worried about the “reduction” of external leg states.
- (c) What happens if we then place $m_V = 0$ in the vector field? A standard way to deal with the problem is to replace $\frac{m_V^2}{2} A_\mu A^\mu \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2\xi} (\partial_\mu A^\mu)^2$. This effectively uses the Lagrange multiplier technique to fix the Lorenz gauge condition $\partial_\mu A^\mu = 0$. What are the Feynman rules if I make this replacement? What if I further specify the gauge by fixing $\xi = 1$, where ξ is a real constant that will be chosen later?
- (d) Using Eq. (1), draw all the Feynman diagrams that would contribute to the $2 \rightarrow 2$ cross section, $\psi\bar{\psi} \rightarrow \psi\bar{\psi}$ through order g^2 and $g^2 \lambda_1^2$.
- (e) Still using Eq. (1), consider the cross section for the $2 \rightarrow 2$ scattering process $\psi\psi \rightarrow \psi\psi$. Start with the general cross section expression derived in class,

$$d\sigma = \frac{|M|^2}{2\sqrt{\lambda(s, m_A^2, m_B^2)}} \frac{d^3\mathbf{p}_1}{(2\pi)^3 2E_1} \cdots \frac{d^3\mathbf{p}_N}{(2\pi)^3 2E_N} (2\pi)^4 \delta\left(k_A + k_B - \sum_{i=1}^N p_i\right), \quad (3)$$

with

$$\lambda(s, m_A^2, m_B^2) = s^2 + m_A^4 + m_B^4 - 2sm_A^2 - 2sm_B^2 - 2m_A^2 m_B^2, \quad (4)$$

and derive the order g^2 expression for the unpolarized differential cross section $d\sigma/d\Omega|_{\text{CM}}$ in the center-of-mass system. Since it is an unpolarized cross section,

you should sum over the final and average over initial nucleon spins. Let p_A and p_B label the initial four-momenta and p_C and p_D label the final four-momenta and express your result in terms of Mandelstam variables.