

Exercise 1: Dirac and Klein-Gordon equation(4 points)

Let ψ be a Dirac spinor solving the Dirac equation

$$[i\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu - m] \psi(x) = 0. \quad (1)$$

Show that it is also a solution of the Klein-Gordon equation

$$[\partial_\mu \partial^\mu + m^2] \psi(x) = 0. \quad (2)$$

Exercise 2: Bilinear covariants I(3+3=6 points)

i) First show that

$$\{\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu\} = 2g^{\mu\nu} \quad (3)$$

and use your results to show that

$$\gamma^{\mu\dagger} = \gamma^0 \gamma^\mu \gamma^0. \quad (4)$$

ii) In the lecture you found the following Lorentz transformation of a Dirac spinor ψ

$$\psi(x) \rightarrow \psi'(x') = S(\Lambda)\psi(x), \quad S(\Lambda) = e^{-\frac{i}{4}\omega^{\mu\nu}\sigma_{\mu\nu}}, \quad (5)$$

with $\sigma_{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{2}[\gamma_\mu, \gamma_\nu]$.

Furthermore you have shown that $\bar{\psi}\psi$ is a Lorentz scalar, therefore the inverse transformation is given by

$$\bar{\psi}(x) \rightarrow \bar{\psi}'(x')S^{-1}(\Lambda), \quad S^{-1}(\Lambda) = e^{\frac{i}{4}\omega^{\mu\nu}\sigma_{\mu\nu}}. \quad (6)$$

Show that $S^{-1}(\Lambda)$ can also be written as

$$S^{-1}(\Lambda) = (\gamma^0 S(\Lambda) \gamma^0)^\dagger \quad (7)$$

(instead of $S^{-1}(\Lambda) = S^\dagger(\Lambda)$ as one would expect naively).

Hint: Use the result of i)

Exercise 3: Bilinear covariants II(3+3=6 points)

Recall the infinitesimal representation of the Lorentz transformation

$$\Lambda^\mu{}_\nu = \delta^\mu{}_\nu + \delta\omega^\mu{}_\nu \quad (8)$$

and the Lorentz transformation of a spinor

$$S(\Lambda) = 1 - \frac{i}{4}\sigma_{\mu\nu}\delta\omega^{\mu\nu} + o(\delta\omega^2), \quad \sigma_{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{2}[\gamma_\mu, \gamma_\nu]. \quad (9)$$

i) Using these transformations, show that the equation

$$S^{-1}(\Lambda)\gamma^\mu S(\Lambda) = \Lambda^\mu{}_\nu \gamma^\nu, \quad (10)$$

familiar from the lecture, is satisfied up to first order in $\delta\omega$.

- ii) In the lecture you showed that $\bar{\psi}\psi$ transforms as a Lorentz scalar and $\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\psi$ transforms as a Lorentz vector. Furthermore you introduced an additional gamma matrix $\gamma^5 = i\gamma^0\gamma^1\gamma^2\gamma^3$ with the transformation property

$$S^{-1}(\Lambda)\gamma^5 S(\Lambda) = \det(\Lambda)\gamma^5. \quad (11)$$

Prove the behaviour under Lorentz transformation of the following bilinear covariants

$$\bar{\psi}\gamma^5\psi \rightarrow \det(\Lambda)\bar{\psi}\gamma^5\psi \quad \text{pseudoscalar} \quad (12)$$

$$\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\gamma^5\psi \rightarrow \det(\Lambda)\Lambda^\mu_\nu\bar{\psi}\gamma^\nu\gamma^5\psi \quad \text{axial vector} \quad (13)$$

$$\bar{\psi}\sigma^{\mu\nu}\psi \rightarrow \Lambda^\mu_\alpha\Lambda^\nu_\beta\bar{\psi}\sigma^{\alpha\beta}\psi \quad \text{antisymmetric tensor} \quad (14)$$

Hint: Equation (10) will be very useful.

Exercise 4: Continuity equation in relativistic quantum mechanics II (4 points)

Let the Dirac spinor ψ be a solution of the Dirac equation

$$[i\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu - m]\psi(x) = 0. \quad (15)$$

Show that the current

$$j^\mu(x) = \bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\psi \quad (16)$$

satisfies a continuity equation

$$\partial_\mu j^\mu(x) = 0. \quad (17)$$

Discuss whether $j^0 = \rho$ is positive definite in the case of the Dirac equation.