

Problem 4.1

The solution of the Dirac equation can be given as

$$\psi^+ = u(p) e^{-ip \cdot x} \quad \text{where} \quad u(p) = \frac{1}{N} \begin{pmatrix} (p \cdot \sigma + m) \xi^s \\ (p \cdot \bar{\sigma} + m) \xi^s \end{pmatrix},$$

and

$$\psi^- = v(p) e^{ip \cdot x} \quad \text{where} \quad v(p) = \frac{1}{N} \begin{pmatrix} (p \cdot \sigma + m) \xi^s \\ -(p \cdot \bar{\sigma} + m) \xi^s \end{pmatrix},$$

with

$$p^0 = E_{\vec{p}}, \quad N = \sqrt{2(E_{\vec{p}} + m)}, \quad \xi^1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \xi^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

a) Check the following relations

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{u}_a^r(p) u_a^s(p) &= 2m \delta^{rs}, & \bar{v}_a^r(p) v_a^s(p) &= -2m \delta^{rs}, & \bar{u}_a^r(p) v_a^s(p) &= 0, \\ u_a^{r\dagger}(p) u_a^s(p) &= 2p^0 \delta^{rs}, & v_a^{r\dagger}(p) v_a^s(p) &= 2p^0 \delta^{rs}, \end{aligned}$$

b) Show

$$\sum_{s=1}^2 u_a^s(p) \bar{u}_b^s(p) = \gamma_{ab}^\mu p_\mu + m \delta_{ab}, \quad \sum_{s=1}^2 v_a^s(p) \bar{v}_b^s(p) = \gamma_{ab}^\mu p_\mu - m \delta_{ab}.$$

c) Show

$$\bar{u}(p') \gamma^\mu u(p) = \frac{1}{2m} \bar{u}(p') \left(p'^\mu + p^\mu + 2i S^{\mu\nu} (p' - p)_\nu \right) u(p),$$

where $S^{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{4} [\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu]$.

Hint: Use $(\gamma^\mu p_\mu - m)u(p) = 0 = \bar{u}(p')(\gamma^\mu p'_\mu - m)$.

Problem 4.2

a) Show that $S^{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{4} [\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu]$ satisfies

$$[S^{\mu\nu}, S^{\rho\sigma}] = i \left(\eta^{\nu\rho} S^{\mu\sigma} - \eta^{\nu\sigma} S^{\mu\rho} - \eta^{\mu\rho} S^{\nu\sigma} + \eta^{\mu\sigma} S^{\nu\rho} \right).$$

b) Determine the Lorentz transformation of

$$j^\mu := \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \psi, \quad \text{and} \quad A^{\mu\nu} := \frac{1}{2} \bar{\psi} [\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu] \psi.$$

Problem 4.3

A quantized Dirac field $\psi(x)$ is given in terms of raising and lowering operators by

$$\begin{aligned}\psi(x) &= \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2E_{\vec{p}}}} \sum_{s=1}^2 \left(a_{\vec{p}}^s u^s(p) e^{-ip \cdot x} + b_{\vec{p}}^{s\dagger} v^s(p) e^{ip \cdot x} \right)_{p^0=E_{\vec{p}}}, \\ \bar{\psi}(x) &= \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2E_{\vec{p}}}} \sum_{s=1}^2 \left(b_{\vec{p}}^s \bar{v}^s(p) e^{-ip \cdot x} + a_{\vec{p}}^{s\dagger} \bar{u}^s(p) e^{ip \cdot x} \right)_{p^0=E_{\vec{p}}},\end{aligned}$$

with

$$\{a_{\vec{p}}^s, a_{\vec{q}}^{r\dagger}\} = \{b_{\vec{p}}^s, b_{\vec{q}}^{r\dagger}\} = (2\pi)^3 \delta(\vec{p} - \vec{q}) \delta^{rs},$$

a) Show

$$\{\psi_a(\vec{x}, t), \psi^\dagger_b(\vec{y}, t)\} = \delta(\vec{x} - \vec{y}) \delta_{ab}.$$

Hint: Use the result from problem 4.2.b).

b) The Hamiltonian for a Dirac field is given by

$$H(\psi) = i \int d^3x \bar{\psi} \gamma^0 \partial_0 \psi.$$

Express H in terms of raising and lowering operators and show

$$H = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} E_{\vec{p}} \sum_s \left(a_{\vec{p}}^{s\dagger} a_{\vec{p}}^s + b_{\vec{p}}^{s\dagger} b_{\vec{p}}^s \right) + c(\psi),$$

Compute $c(\psi)$.

c) Repeat the computation for the Noether charge Q and show

$$Q = \int d^3x \psi^\dagger \psi = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_s \left(a_{\vec{p}}^{s\dagger} a_{\vec{p}}^s - b_{\vec{p}}^{s\dagger} b_{\vec{p}}^s \right) + c'.$$

d) Add to $H(\psi)$ an appropriate $H(\phi^i)$ (ϕ^i being a set of N scalar fields) such that

$$c(\psi) + c(\phi^i) = 0.$$

Why is this not a solution to the problem of the cosmological constant?