

3-2 The Dirac spinor

a) Under a Lorentz transformation as

$$x \rightarrow x'^{\mu} = \Lambda^{\mu}_{\nu} x^{\nu}$$

a field $\psi(x)$ is transformed as

$$\psi(x) \rightarrow \psi'(x) = S(\Lambda) \psi(x) = S(\Lambda) \psi(\Lambda^{-1}x)$$

where

$$\begin{cases} S(\Lambda) = 1 & : \psi(x) \text{ is a scalar field.} \\ S(\Lambda) = \Lambda = \exp\left(-\frac{i}{4} \omega_{\mu\nu} \gamma^{\mu\nu}\right) & : \psi(x) \text{ is a vector field. (See Ex 1-1 c)} \\ S(\Lambda) = \exp\left(-\frac{i}{4} \omega_{\mu\nu} \sigma^{\mu\nu}\right) & : \psi(x) \text{ is a Dirac spinor field.} \end{cases}$$

Using the following relation: $[[A, B], C] = \{A, \{B, C\}\} - \{B, \{A, C\}\}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{i}{4} [\sigma^{\mu\nu}, \gamma^{\rho}] \omega_{\mu\nu} &= \frac{i}{4} \left[\frac{i}{2} [\gamma^{\mu}, \gamma^{\nu}], \gamma^{\rho} \right] \omega_{\mu\nu} \\ &= \frac{-1}{8} \left[\underbrace{\{\gamma^{\mu}, \{\gamma^{\nu}, \gamma^{\rho}\}\}}_{=2g^{\nu\rho}} - \underbrace{\{\gamma^{\nu}, \{\gamma^{\mu}, \gamma^{\rho}\}\}}_{=2g^{\mu\rho}} \right] \omega_{\mu\nu} \\ &= \frac{-1}{4} [2\gamma^{\mu} \omega_{\mu}^{\rho} - 2\gamma^{\nu} \omega_{\nu}^{\rho}] \\ &= \omega_{\nu}^{\rho} \gamma^{\nu} = -\frac{i}{4} \omega_{\mu\nu} (\gamma^{\mu\nu})^{\rho} \gamma^{\sigma} \quad (\text{See Ex. 1-1 c.}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(1 + \frac{i}{4} \omega_{\mu\nu} \sigma^{\mu\nu}\right) \gamma^{\rho} \left(1 - \frac{i}{4} \omega_{\mu\nu} \sigma^{\mu\nu}\right) = \left(1 - \frac{i}{4} \omega_{\mu\nu} (\gamma^{\mu\nu})^{\rho} \gamma^{\sigma}\right) \gamma^{\sigma}$$

This is the infinitesimal version of $S^{-1}(\Lambda) \gamma^{\rho} S(\Lambda) = \Lambda^{\rho}_{\sigma} \gamma^{\sigma}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b) } [i\gamma^{\mu} \partial_{\mu} - m] \psi(x) &\rightarrow [i\gamma^{\mu} (\Lambda^{-1})^{\nu}_{\mu} \partial_{\nu} - m] S(\Lambda) \psi(\Lambda^{-1}x) \\ &= S(\Lambda) S^{-1}(\Lambda) [i\gamma^{\mu} (\Lambda^{-1})^{\nu}_{\mu} \partial_{\nu} - m] S(\Lambda) \psi(\Lambda^{-1}x) \\ &= S(\Lambda) [i\Lambda^{\mu}_{\rho} \gamma^{\rho} (\Lambda^{-1})^{\nu}_{\mu} \partial_{\nu} - m] \psi(\Lambda^{-1}x) \\ &= S(\Lambda) [i\gamma^{\nu} \partial_{\nu} - m] \psi(\Lambda^{-1}x) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

c) Under an infinitesimal Lorentz transformation

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\psi}(x) = \psi^{\dagger}(x) \gamma^0 &\rightarrow \bar{\psi}(x) = \psi^{\dagger}(\Lambda^{-1}x) \left(1 + \frac{i}{4} \omega_{\mu\nu} (\sigma^{\mu\nu})^{\dagger}\right) \gamma^0 \\ &= \psi^{\dagger}(\Lambda^{-1}x) \gamma^0 \left(1 + \frac{i}{4} \omega_{\mu\nu} \sigma^{\mu\nu}\right) \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \because \gamma^{0\dagger} = \gamma^0 \\ \gamma^{i\dagger} = -\gamma^i \\ \{\gamma^{\mu}, \gamma^{\nu}\} = 2g^{\mu\nu} \end{array} \right) \\ \Rightarrow \bar{\psi}(x) &= \bar{\psi}(\Lambda^{-1}x) S^{-1}(\Lambda) \end{aligned}$$

- $S(x) \rightarrow S'(x) = \bar{\psi}(\Lambda^{-1}x) \underbrace{S^{-1}(\Lambda) S(\Lambda)}_{=1} \psi(\Lambda^{-1}x) = S(\Lambda^{-1}x) \quad : \text{scalar}$
- $J^{\mu}(x) \rightarrow J'^{\mu}(x) = \bar{\psi}(\Lambda^{-1}x) \underbrace{S^{-1}(\Lambda) \gamma^{\mu} S(\Lambda)}_{=\Lambda^{\mu}_{\nu} \gamma^{\nu}} \psi(\Lambda^{-1}x) = \Lambda^{\mu}_{\nu} J^{\nu}(\Lambda^{-1}x) \quad : \text{vector}$

d) Using the Dirac eq.

$$(i\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu - m)\psi(x) = 0 \rightarrow (i\gamma^0 \partial_0 - i\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\partial} - m)\psi(x) = 0,$$

$$\begin{cases} \gamma^0 (i\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\partial} + m) u(p) e^{-ipx} = \gamma^0 \cdot i\gamma^0 \partial_0 u(p) e^{-ipx} = p^0 u(p) e^{-ipx} \\ \gamma^0 (i\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\partial} + m) v(p) e^{ipx} = -p^0 v(p) e^{ipx} \end{cases}$$

e) The Hamiltonian associated with $\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi}(i\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu - m)\psi$:

$$\begin{aligned} H &= \int d^3x \left(\Pi(\vec{0}, \vec{x}) \dot{\psi}(\vec{0}, \vec{x}) - \mathcal{L}|_{x=(\vec{0}, \vec{x})} \right) \\ &= \int d^3x \left(i\psi^\dagger \partial_0 \psi - \bar{\psi} \gamma^0 (i\gamma^0 \partial_0 - i\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\partial} - m)\psi \right) \\ &= \int d^3x \bar{\psi} (i\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\partial} + m)\psi \\ &= \int d^3x \psi^\dagger \gamma^0 (i\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\partial} + m)\psi \end{aligned}$$

Inserting $\psi(x) = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3 2E_p} \sum_s \left(e^{-ipx} u^s(p) \alpha^s(p) + e^{ipx} u^s(p) \beta^{s*}(p) \right),$

$$\begin{aligned} H &= \int d^3x \left(\frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3 2E_p} \sum_s \left(e^{ipx} u^{s\dagger}(p) \alpha^{s*}(p) + e^{-ipx} u^{s\dagger}(p) \beta^s(p) \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times \gamma^0 (i\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\partial} + m) \int \frac{d^3p'}{(2\pi)^3 2E_{p'}} \sum_{s'} \left(e^{-ip'x} u^{s'}(p') \alpha^{s'}(p') + e^{ip'x} u^{s'}(p') \beta^{s'*}(p') \right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \int d^3x \left(\frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3 2E_p} \sum_s (\quad) \right)$$

$$\times \int \frac{d^3p'}{(2\pi)^3 2E_{p'}} E_{p'} \sum_{s'} \left(e^{-ip'x} u^{s'}(p') \alpha^{s'}(p') - e^{ip'x} u^{s'}(p') \beta^{s'*}(p') \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int \frac{d^3p d^3p'}{(2\pi)^3 2E_p} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{s, s'} \left[e^{i(E_p - E_{p'})t} u^{s\dagger}(p) u^{s'}(p') \alpha^{s*}(p) \alpha^{s'}(p') \delta(\vec{p} - \vec{p}') \right. \\ &\quad - e^{-i(E_p - E_{p'})t} u^{s\dagger}(p) u^{s'}(p') \beta^s(p) \beta^{s'*}(p') \delta(\vec{p} - \vec{p}') \\ &\quad - e^{i(E_p + E_{p'})t} u^{s\dagger}(p) u^{s'}(p') \alpha^{s*}(p) \beta^{s'*}(p') \delta(\vec{p} + \vec{p}') \\ &\quad \left. + e^{-i(E_p + E_{p'})t} u^{s\dagger}(p) u^{s'}(p') \beta^s(p) \alpha^{s'}(p') \delta(\vec{p} + \vec{p}') \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\left(\begin{aligned} u^{s'}(p') u^{s\dagger}(p) &= 2E_p \delta^{ss'} \\ u^s(p) u^{s'}(p) &= 2E_p \delta^{ss'} \\ u^{s\dagger}(\vec{p}) u^{s'}(-\vec{p}) &= u^{s\dagger}(\vec{p}) u^{s'}(-\vec{p}) = 0 \end{aligned} \right)$$

$$= \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{2} \sum_s \left(\alpha^{s*}(\vec{p}) \alpha^s(\vec{p}) - \beta^s(\vec{p}) \beta^{s*}(\vec{p}) \right)$$

negative energy ...

3-3 Spin and SU(2)

a) Under an infinitesimal rotation $\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{x}'$ by an angle $\delta\theta$ around an axis in normalized direction \vec{n}

$$\vec{x}' = \vec{x} + \vec{n} \times \vec{x} \delta\theta = \vec{x} + \vec{n} \times \vec{x} \delta\theta,$$

A wavefunction $\psi(\vec{x})$ transforms as

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(\vec{x}') &= \psi(\vec{x}) = \psi(\vec{x}' - \vec{n} \times \vec{x}' \delta\theta) \\ &\approx (1 - \delta\theta \vec{n} \times \vec{x}' \cdot \vec{\nabla}') \psi(\vec{x}') \\ &= (1 - \delta\theta \vec{n} \cdot \underbrace{(\vec{x}' \times \vec{\nabla}')}_{= i\vec{L}}) \psi(\vec{x}') \\ &= (1 - i\delta\theta \vec{n} \cdot \vec{L}) \psi(\vec{x}') \\ \Rightarrow \psi(\vec{x}') &= e^{-i\delta\theta \vec{n} \cdot \vec{L}} \psi(\vec{x}') \end{aligned}$$

b) Note that SU(2) and SO(3) are locally isomorphic, which have the same Lie algebra.

c) Under a spatial rotation, a wavefunction of a spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ particle transforms as

$$\begin{aligned} \chi'(\vec{x}', s) &= e^{-i\theta \vec{n} \cdot \vec{J}} \chi(\vec{x}', s) \quad (\vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S}) \\ &= e^{-i\theta \vec{n} \cdot \vec{L}} e^{-i\theta \vec{n} \cdot \vec{S}} \chi(\vec{x}', s) \\ &= e^{-\frac{i}{2}\theta \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma}} \chi(R(\theta)\vec{x}', s) \quad \text{since } \vec{S} = \frac{1}{2}\vec{\sigma} \text{ spin-}\frac{1}{2} \text{ operator} \end{aligned}$$

d) A Lorentz transformation of the rotation around an axis \vec{n} :

$$\Lambda = \exp(-\frac{i}{4} \omega_{ij} M^{ij}) \quad \text{with } \omega_{ij} = \theta n_k \epsilon_{ijk}$$

The spinor transforms by

$$S(\Lambda) = \exp(-\frac{i}{4} \omega_{ij} \sigma^{ij}) = \exp(-\frac{i}{4} \theta n_k \epsilon_{ijk} \sigma^{ij}) \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \sigma^{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sigma^i \\ -\sigma^i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \sigma^i \sigma^j = \delta^{ij} + i\epsilon^{ijk} \sigma^k \end{array} \right)$$

Using the spin operator Σ defined as

$$\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} \sigma^{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{i}{2} [\sigma^i, \sigma^j] = \frac{i}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} \sigma^i \sigma^j = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_k & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_k \end{pmatrix} \equiv \Sigma_k,$$

$$S(\Lambda) = \exp(-\frac{i}{2} \theta \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\Sigma}) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-\frac{i}{2}\theta \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma}} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-\frac{i}{2}\theta \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow S(\Lambda) \chi(p) = \sqrt{\frac{E+m}{E+m}} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-\frac{i}{2}\theta \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma}} \chi_s \\ e^{-\frac{i}{2}\theta \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma}} \frac{\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{p}}{E+m} e^{\frac{i}{2}\theta \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma}} e^{-\frac{i}{2}\theta \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma}} \chi_s \end{pmatrix}$$

$\Rightarrow \chi_{\frac{1}{2}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\chi_{-\frac{1}{2}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ transform as spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ objects.

3-4 Noether's theorem

$$a) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} Q(t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int d^3x J^0(t, \vec{x}) = \int d^3x \partial_0 J^0 = - \int d^3x \partial_i J^i = 0$$

$\partial_0 J^0 = 0$ surface integral

b) The Dirac Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} (i \gamma^\mu \partial_\mu - m) \psi$$

is invariant under $\psi(x) \rightarrow e^{i\alpha} \psi(x)$, $\bar{\psi}(x) \rightarrow \bar{\psi}(x) e^{-i\alpha}$.

By promoting $\alpha \rightarrow \alpha(x)$,

$$\delta_\alpha S = \int d^4x \bar{\psi} i \gamma^\mu \psi \cdot i \partial_\mu \alpha(x) \Rightarrow J^\mu = - \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \psi$$

The conserved charge is

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q &= \int d^3x J^0 = - \int d^3x \bar{\psi} \gamma^0 \psi = - \int d^3x \psi^\dagger \psi \\
 &= - \int d^3x \left(\frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3 2E_p} \sum_s (a_p^{s\dagger} u^s(p) e^{ipx} + b_p^s w^s(p) e^{-ipx}) \right. \\
 &\quad \times \left. \frac{d^3p'}{(2\pi)^3 2E_{p'}} \sum_{s'} (a_{p'}^{s'} u^{s'}(p') e^{-ip'x} + b_{p'}^{s'\dagger} w^{s'}(p') e^{ip'x}) \right) \\
 &= - \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3 2E_p} \frac{d^3p'}{2E_{p'}} \sum_{s,s'} \left[a_p^{s\dagger} a_{p'}^{s'} u^s(p) u^{s'}(p') e^{i(E_p - E_{p'})t} \delta(\vec{p} - \vec{p}') \right. \\
 &\quad + b_p^s b_{p'}^{s'\dagger} w^s(p) w^{s'}(p') e^{-i(E_p - E_{p'})t} \delta(\vec{p} - \vec{p}') \\
 &\quad + a_p^{s\dagger} b_{p'}^{s'\dagger} u^s(p) w^{s'}(p') e^{i(E_p + E_{p'})t} \delta(\vec{p} + \vec{p}') \\
 &\quad \left. + b_p^s a_{p'}^{s'} w^s(p) u^{s'}(p') e^{-i(E_p + E_{p'})t} \delta(\vec{p} + \vec{p}') \right] \\
 &= - \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3 2E_p} \sum_s (a_p^{s\dagger} a_p^s + b_p^s b_p^{s\dagger}) \\
 &= - \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3 2E_p} \sum_s (a_p^{s\dagger} a_p^s - b_p^{s\dagger} b_p^s)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\left(\begin{aligned}
 u^s(p) u^{s'}(p) &= 2E_p \delta^{ss'} \\
 w^s(p) w^{s'}(p) &= 2E_p \delta^{ss'} \\
 u^s(p) w^{s'}(-\vec{p}) &= w^{s'}(-\vec{p}) u^s(p) = 0
 \end{aligned} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} Q a_p^{s\dagger} |0\rangle = - a_p^{s\dagger} |0\rangle \\ Q b_p^{s\dagger} |0\rangle = + b_p^{s\dagger} |0\rangle \end{cases} \quad \text{a particle and its anti-particle have opposite charge.}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 c) \quad Q \psi(x) &= - \int d^3y \psi^\dagger(y) \psi(y) \psi(x) = \int d^3y \underbrace{\psi^\dagger(y) \psi(x) \psi(y)}_{\psi(x)} = \psi(x) (1 + Q) \\
 &= \delta(x - \vec{y}) - \psi(x) \psi^\dagger(y) \Rightarrow [Q, \psi] = \psi
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 e^{i\alpha Q} \psi e^{-i\alpha Q} &= (1 + i\alpha Q + \dots) \psi (1 - i\alpha Q + \dots) \\
 &= \psi + i\alpha \underbrace{[Q, \psi]}_{=\psi} + \dots \\
 &= e^{i\alpha} \psi
 \end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow The conserved charge is a generator of the original infinitesimal trans.