

Lecture 13 : Dirac Equation - 2

Maxwell equations :

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} &= 4\pi\rho & \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} &= 0 \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{E} + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} &= 0 & \nabla \times \mathbf{B} - \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} &= \frac{4\pi}{c} \mathbf{J}\end{aligned}$$

Electric and magnetic fields unify in the covariant formalism of special relativity

$$F^{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -E_x & -E_y & -E_z \\ E_x & 0 & -B_z & B_y \\ E_y & B_z & 0 & -B_x \\ E_z & -B_y & B_x & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Also the charge and current densities can be written in a covariant form :

$$J^\mu = (c\rho, \mathbf{J})$$

The inhomogeneous Maxwell equations take the following form in this notation :

$$\partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} = \frac{4\pi}{c} J^\nu$$

The homogeneous equations can be expressed with the use of the dual tensor $G^{\mu\nu}$

$$\partial_\nu G^{\mu\nu} = 0$$

Maxwell field tensor can be expressed in terms of the potentials in four vector formalism :

$$F^{\mu\nu} = \partial^\mu A^\nu - \partial^\nu A^\mu$$

In Lorentz gauge choice the four potential A^μ satisfies the following equation which is equivalent to the inhomogeneous Maxwell equations.

$$\partial_\mu \partial^\mu A^\nu - \partial^\nu (\partial_\mu A^\mu) = \frac{4\pi}{c} J^\nu$$

becomes \Rightarrow

$$\square A^\mu = \frac{4\pi}{c} J^\mu$$

for the Lorentz choice $\partial_\mu A^\mu = 0$.

Feynman rules :

Electrons are represented by :

$$\psi(x) = a e^{-(i/\hbar)p \cdot x} u^{(s)}(p)$$

Positrons are represented by :

$$\psi(x) = a e^{(i/\hbar)p \cdot x} v^{(s)}(p)$$

$u^{(s)}$ and $v^{(s)}$ spinors satisfy the Dirac equations :

$$(\gamma^\mu p_\mu - mc)u = 0 \qquad (\gamma^\mu p_\mu + mc)v = 0$$

Their adjoints satisfy :

$$\bar{u}(\gamma^\mu p_\mu - mc) = 0 \qquad \bar{v}(\gamma^\mu p_\mu + mc) = 0$$

Also they have the orthogonality relations and normalization conditions :

$$\bar{u}^{(1)} u^{(2)} = 0 \qquad \bar{v}^{(1)} v^{(2)} = 0$$

and

$$\bar{u}u = 2mc \qquad \bar{v}v = -2mc$$

Photons are represented by

$$A_\mu(x) = ae^{-(i/\hbar)p \cdot x} \epsilon_\mu^{(s)}$$

Polarization vector satisfies

$$p^\mu \epsilon_\mu = 0$$

- a) Identify the momenta of the incoming, outgoing and internal particles
- b) Specify the external lines and their contributions
- c) Specify the vertex factors
- d) Specify the propagators for the electrons and photons

$$\frac{i(\gamma^\mu q_\mu + mc)}{q^2 - m^2 c^2} \qquad \frac{-ig_{\mu\nu}}{q^2}$$

- e) Confirm the energy-momentum conservation at each vertex
- f) Integrate over the internal momenta
- g) Obtain the scattering amplitude M
- h) Antisymmetrization

For the details examine the textbook D.Griffiths “Int. to Elementary Particles”
J.Wiley

Homework :

Solve the following problems from the textbook D.Griffiths’ “Int. to Elementary Particles”

Solve Problem 7.7

Solve Problem 7.8

Solve Problem 7.9

Solve Problem 7.10

Solve Problem 7.11