

From M. Schwartz ,

(10.94), (10.95);

11.2, 11.2.1

12.5.2

10.4; Charge operator on Fock states

# Quantization of the Dirac Field

Take Dirac's equation:

$$(i\not{\partial} - m)\psi = 0$$

We want to quantize the theory as we did for the scalar field:

- 1 - Find plane-wave solutions
- 2 - Write the generic solution as superpositions of plane waves with arbitrary coefficients
- 3 - Make the coefficients into operators

## Plane-wave solution of Dirac's equation

• Dirac implies Klein-Gordon:

$$(i\not{\partial} + m)(i\not{\partial} - m)\psi = 0$$

$$0 = (i\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu + m)(i\gamma^\nu \partial_\nu - m)\psi =$$

$$[-\cancel{\gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu \partial_\mu \partial_\nu} - \cancel{im\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu} + \cancel{im\gamma^\nu \partial_\nu} - m^2]\psi =$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left[ \frac{1}{2} (\gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu + \gamma^\nu \gamma^\mu) \partial_\mu \partial_\nu - \frac{1}{2} (\gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu - \gamma^\nu \gamma^\mu) \partial_\mu \partial_\nu - m^2 \right] \psi \\
&= \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\{ \gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu \}}_{2 \eta^{\mu\nu} \mathbb{1}} \partial_\mu \partial_\nu - \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{[ \gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu ]}_{0} \partial_\mu \partial_\nu - m^2 \right] \psi \\
&= - \left( \underbrace{\eta^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \partial_\nu}_{\square} + m^2 \right) \mathbb{1} \psi = 0
\end{aligned}$$

$$\rightarrow \text{Dirac eq} = \mathcal{D} (\square + m^2) \psi_a = 0 \quad \forall a$$

Plane wave solutions with positive frequency:

$$\psi_\alpha^{(\vec{p})}(x) = u_\alpha(\vec{p}) \underbrace{e^{-i p_0 x^0 + i \vec{p} \cdot \vec{x}}}_{e^{-i p_\mu x^\mu}} \quad \text{with} \quad p_0 = \sqrt{|\vec{p}|^2 + m^2}$$

where  $u_\alpha(\vec{p})$  is a constant spinor.

the Dirac equation imposes a further constraint:

$$\begin{aligned}
(i \not{p} - m) \psi^{(\vec{p})}(x) &= (\not{p} - m) u(\vec{p}) e^{-i p x} = 0 \\
\Rightarrow (\not{p} - m)_{\alpha\beta} u_\beta(\vec{p}) &= 0
\end{aligned}$$

the general solution is:

$$\psi(x) = \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} \left( u(\vec{p}) e^{-ipx} + v(\vec{p}) e^{ipx} \right)$$

$\uparrow$  positive frequency       $\uparrow$  negative frequency  
 where  $p_0 = \sqrt{\vec{p}^2 + m^2}$  for both.

[ For  $p_0 < 0$  :  $\int_{p_0 < 0} \tilde{v}(\vec{p}) e^{-ip_0 x^0 + i\vec{p} \cdot \vec{x}} d^3 p = \int \tilde{v}(\vec{p}) e^{i|p_0| x^0 + i\vec{p} \cdot \vec{x}} d^3 p$

change  $\vec{p} \rightarrow -\vec{p}$   $\int d^3 p v(\vec{p}) e^{ip_0 x^0 - i\vec{p} \cdot \vec{x}} d^3 p$   
 where  $v(\vec{p}) = \tilde{v}(-\vec{p})$   $p_0 > 0$  now. ]

$$(\not{p} - m) u(\vec{p}) = 0 \quad (\not{p} + m) v(\vec{p}) = 0$$

(since  $\psi(x)$  is complex,  $v_{\alpha}(\vec{p}) \neq u_{\alpha}^*(\vec{p})$ )

So now we have to solve an equation in spinor space:

$$(\not{p} - m \mathbb{1})_{\alpha\beta} u_{\beta}(\vec{p}) = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -m & p_{\mu} \sigma^{\mu} \\ p_{\mu} \bar{\sigma}^{\mu} & -m \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi \\ \chi \end{pmatrix}$$

Recall :  $\sigma^{\mu} = (1, \sigma_i)$  ;  $\bar{\sigma}^{\mu} = (1, -\sigma_i)$

Consider first the rest frame :  $p = (m, \vec{0})$

$$\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -m\mathbb{1}_2 & m\mathbb{1}_2 \\ m\mathbb{1}_2 & -m\mathbb{1}_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi \\ \chi \end{pmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\psi = \chi}$$

$$\Rightarrow u_{(m, \vec{0})} = \sqrt{m} \begin{pmatrix} \xi_s \\ \xi_s \end{pmatrix}$$

↑  
Gursey normalization

a complete set of solutions is obtained with  $\xi_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$   $\xi_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$\Rightarrow$  there are 2 independent positive-frequency solutions labeled by  $s=1,2$

Now take  $p = (E, 0, 0, P_z)$   $E = (P_z^2 + m^2)^{1/2}$

$$(\not{p} - m) = \begin{pmatrix} -m\mathbb{1} & P_0\mathbb{1} - P_z\sigma_3 \\ P_0\mathbb{1} + P_z\sigma_3 & -m\mathbb{1} \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -m & 0 & P_0 - P_z & 0 \\ 0 & -m & 0 & P_0 + P_z \\ P_0 + P_z & 0 & -m & 0 \\ 0 & P_0 - P_z & 0 & -m \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi \\ \chi \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

Solution:

$$\Psi = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{P_0 - P_z} & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{P_0 + P_z} \end{pmatrix} \Sigma \quad \Sigma = \xi_1, \xi_2$$

$$\chi = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{P_0 + P_z} & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{P_0 - P_z} \end{pmatrix} \Sigma$$

Can we write this for a generic  $P_\mu$ ?

$$\sqrt{P_0 - P_z} = \sqrt{P_\mu \sigma^\mu} \quad \text{for } P_\mu = (P_0, 0, 0, P_z)$$
$$\sqrt{P_0 + P_z} = \sqrt{P_\mu \bar{\sigma}^\mu}$$

$$\Rightarrow u_s = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{P \cdot \sigma} \xi_s \\ \sqrt{P \cdot \bar{\sigma}} \xi_s \end{pmatrix} \quad \xi_s = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

We can make this look nicer  
(no  $\sqrt{\text{matrices}}$ ): notice that

$$(P \cdot \sigma)(P \cdot \bar{\sigma}) = m^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(p \cdot \sigma)(p \cdot \bar{\sigma}) &= (p_\mu \sigma^\mu)(p_\nu \sigma^\nu) = \\
&= (p_0 \mathbb{1} + p_i \sigma_i)(p_0 \mathbb{1} - p_j \sigma_j) = \\
&= p_0^2 + \cancel{p_i \sigma_i p_0} - \cancel{p_j \sigma_j p_0} - p_i p_j \sigma_i \sigma_j \\
&= p_0^2 - \frac{1}{2} p_i p_j \underbrace{\{\sigma_i, \sigma_j\}}_{2 \delta_{ij}} = p_0^2 - |\vec{p}|^2 = m^2
\end{aligned}$$

$$\sqrt{p \cdot \bar{\sigma}} \, u_s = \sqrt{p \cdot \bar{\sigma}} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{p \cdot \sigma} \xi_s \\ \sqrt{p \cdot \bar{\sigma}} \xi_s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} m \xi_s \\ (p \cdot \bar{\sigma}) \xi_s \end{pmatrix}$$

↑ Check Dirac:

$$\begin{pmatrix} -m & p \cdot \sigma \\ p \cdot \bar{\sigma} & -m \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} m \xi_s \\ (p \cdot \bar{\sigma}) \xi_s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -m^2 \xi_s + \overbrace{(p \cdot \sigma)(p \cdot \bar{\sigma})}^{m^2} \xi_s \\ m(p \cdot \bar{\sigma}) \xi_s - m(p \cdot \bar{\sigma}) \xi_s \end{pmatrix}$$

= 0 ]

Usually take the definition:

$$u_s(\vec{p}) = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{p \cdot \sigma} \xi_s \\ \sqrt{p \cdot \sigma} \xi_s \end{pmatrix} \quad s=1,2$$

$$v_s(\vec{p}) = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{p \cdot \sigma} \eta_s \\ -\sqrt{p \cdot \sigma} \eta_s \end{pmatrix} \quad s=1,2$$

$$\xi_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \xi_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \eta_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \eta_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

For example for  $\vec{p} = p_z$ :

$$u_1(p) = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{E-p_z} \\ 0 \\ \sqrt{E-p_z} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, u_2(p) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \sqrt{E+p_z} \\ 0 \\ \sqrt{E+p_z} \end{pmatrix}, v_1(p) = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{E-p_z} \\ 0 \\ -\sqrt{E-p_z} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \sqrt{E+p_z} \\ 0 \\ -\sqrt{E+p_z} \end{pmatrix}$$



# Spin

take  $P_z = 0$ ,  $E = m$ .

$$u_1 = \sqrt{m} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$v_1 = \sqrt{m} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$u_2 = \sqrt{m} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$v_2 = \sqrt{m} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Recall the spin-generators:

$$S^i = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \sigma^i & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma^i \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{In particular:}$$

$$S^3 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$S^3 u_1 = +\frac{1}{2} u_1, \quad S^3 v_1 = +\frac{1}{2} v_1$$

$$S^3 u_2 = -\frac{1}{2} u_2, \quad S^3 v_2 = -\frac{1}{2} v_2$$

$\Rightarrow u_1, v_1 \Rightarrow$  spin up states

$u_2, v_2 \Rightarrow$  spin down states

# Normalisation

Consider the inner product:

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{u}_s(p) u_{s'}(p) &= u_s^\dagger(p) \gamma^0 u_{s'}(p) = \\ &= \left( (\sqrt{p \cdot \sigma} \xi_s)^\dagger, (\sqrt{p \cdot \sigma} \xi_s)^\dagger \right) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbb{1} \\ \mathbb{1} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{p \cdot \sigma} \xi_{s'} \\ \sqrt{p \cdot \sigma} \xi_{s'} \end{pmatrix} = \\ &= \left( \xi_s^\dagger, \xi_s^\dagger \right) \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{p \cdot \sigma} & \sqrt{p \cdot \sigma} & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{p \cdot \sigma} & \sqrt{p \cdot \sigma} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \xi_{s'} \\ \xi_{s'} \end{pmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

$$(p \cdot \sigma)^\dagger = (p \cdot \sigma)$$

$$= \underbrace{\xi_s^\dagger \xi_{s'}}_{\delta_{ss'}} m + \underbrace{\xi_s^\dagger \xi_{s'}}_{\delta_{ss'}} m = 2m \delta_{ss'}$$

Because we choose an orthonormal basis for  $\xi_s$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \bar{u}_s(p) u_{s'}(p) = 2m \delta_{ss'} \\ \bar{v}_s(p) v_{s'}(p) = -2m \delta_{ss'} \\ \bar{u}_s(p) v_{s'}(p) = \bar{v}_s(p) u_{s'}(p) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Other useful relations: (exercise)

$$u_s^\dagger(\vec{p}) u_{s'}(\vec{p}) = 2E \delta_{ss'}$$

$$v_s^\dagger(\vec{p}) u_{s'}(-\vec{p}) = 0$$

$$v_s^\dagger(\vec{p}) v_{s'}(\vec{p}) = 2E \delta_{ss'}$$

$$u_s^\dagger(\vec{p}) v_{s'}(-\vec{p}) = 0$$

## Spin sums

take the expression  $u_s(p) \bar{u}_s(p)$   
this is a  $4 \times 4$  matrix (no contraction) :

$$(u_s(p))_\alpha (\bar{u}_s(p))_\beta \equiv M_{\alpha\beta}^{(s)} \quad \alpha, \beta = 1, 2, 3, 4$$

Now sum over  $s = 1, 2$

$$\sum_{s=1}^2 u_s(p)_\alpha \bar{u}_s(p)_\beta = p_\mu \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\mu + m \mathbb{1}_{\alpha\beta}$$

(exercise)

[ this comes from the completeness relation  
of the  $\xi_s$  :

$$\sum_{s=1}^2 \xi_s^i \xi_s^j = \delta_{ij} ]$$

So :

$$\sum_{s=1}^2 u_s(p) \bar{u}_s(p) = \not{p} + m$$

$$\sum_{s=1}^2 v_s(p) \bar{v}_s(p) = \not{p} - m$$

(  $4 \times 4$  matrix identities )

# Quantum Dirac Field

the general solution of Dirac's eq is:

$$\Psi(x) = \sum_{s=1}^2 \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\omega_p}} \left[ c_{s,\vec{p}} u_s(p) e^{-ipx} + d_{s,\vec{p}}^* v_s(p) e^{ipx} \right]$$

↙ convention

where now  $u_s(p)$  and  $v_s(p)$  have fixed normalizations and we have included arbitrary coefficients  $c, d^*$ .

(if the field were real,  $d_{\vec{p},s}^* = c_{\vec{p},s}$ )

(these coefficients are numbers as the spinorial index is carried by  $u$  and  $v$ )

Quantization :

$$c_{s,\vec{p}} \longrightarrow \hat{c}_{s,\vec{p}}$$
$$d_{s,\vec{p}}^* \longrightarrow \hat{d}_{s,\vec{p}}^\dagger$$

$\hat{c}_{s,\vec{p}}$  is a annihilation operator  
(it multiplies positive frequency modes)

$\hat{d}_{s,\vec{p}}^\dagger$  is a creation operator

(it multiplies negative frequency modes)  
(think  $a_p$  and  $\hat{a}_p^\dagger$  for the real scalar).

# Fock space

Vacuum state:  $|0\rangle$

$$\hat{c}_{s,\vec{p}} |0\rangle = 0$$

$$\hat{d}_{s,\vec{p}} |0\rangle = 0$$

1-particle states:

$$|\vec{p}, s\rangle = \begin{cases} \hat{c}_{s,\vec{p}}^+ |0\rangle \\ \hat{d}_{s,\vec{p}}^+ |0\rangle \end{cases}$$

$s=1$  : spin  $1/2$  ;  $s=2$  : spin  $-1/2$

- there are 2 kinds of particles for each spin, those created by the  $\hat{c}^+$ , and those created by the  $\hat{d}^+$ ;
- they have the same mass since for both  $p^2 = m^2$ .
- As we will see, they have opposite charge with respect to a global  $U(1)$  (which eventually can be coupled to E.M.)

- This is the same as for the complex scalar (there was also 2 kinds of oscillators, and a  $U(1)$  symmetry).

- Introduce a label  $q$  to tell  $c^\dagger$  from  $d^\dagger$ :  $q = +$  or  $-$

$$|\vec{p}, s, q\rangle: \quad |\vec{p}, s, +\rangle = c_{\vec{p}, s}^\dagger |0\rangle$$

$$\quad \quad \quad |\vec{p}, s, -\rangle = d_{\vec{p}, s}^\dagger |0\rangle$$

- Multi-particle states:

$$|\vec{p}_1, s_1, +; \dots; \vec{p}_n, s_n, +; \vec{k}_1, s_1, -; \dots; \vec{k}_m, s_m, -\rangle =$$

$$\mathcal{N} \underbrace{c_{\vec{p}_1, s_1}^\dagger \dots c_{\vec{p}_n, s_n}^\dagger}_{n \text{ particles with momenta } \vec{p}_1, s_1, \dots, \vec{p}_n, s_n} \underbrace{d_{\vec{k}_1, s_1}^\dagger \dots d_{\vec{k}_m, s_m}^\dagger}_{m \text{ anti-particles with momenta } \vec{k}_1, s_1, \dots, \vec{k}_m, s_m} |0\rangle$$

# Commutation (?) rules

Let us construct the Hamiltonian (the energy operator) on the Fock space.

$$L = \bar{\Psi} (i \not{\partial} - m) \Psi$$

Energy-momentum tensor:

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \partial^\mu \Psi} \partial_\nu \Psi - g_{\mu\nu} L$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \partial^\mu \Psi} \bar{\Psi} (i \gamma_\rho \partial^\rho \Psi) = i \bar{\Psi} \gamma_\rho \delta_\mu^\rho = i \bar{\Psi} \gamma_\mu$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{\mu\nu} = \bar{\Psi} i \gamma_\mu \partial_\nu \Psi - g_{\mu\nu} \bar{\Psi} (i \not{\partial} - m) \Psi$$

The energy density is:

$$T_{00} = i \bar{\Psi} \gamma_0 \partial_0 \Psi - \bar{\Psi} (i \not{\partial} - m) \Psi$$

$$= i \bar{\Psi} \gamma_0 \partial_0 \Psi - \bar{\Psi} (i \cancel{\gamma^0} \partial_0 - i \gamma^i \partial_i - m) \Psi$$

$$= \bar{\Psi} (i \gamma^i \partial_i + m) \Psi$$

Since we are going to expand this as solutions of the Dirac equation:

$$(i\gamma^i \partial_i + m)\psi = (i\gamma^i \partial_i - i\gamma^0 \partial_0 + i\gamma^0 \partial_0 + m)\psi$$

$$= [i\gamma^0 \partial_0 - (i\cancel{\partial} - m)]\psi$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{T_{00} = i\bar{\psi}\gamma^0\partial_0\psi}$$

Let us write the total energy operator:

$$\hat{E} = \int d^3x T_{00} = i \int d^3x \bar{\psi}(x)\gamma^0\partial_0\psi(x)$$

$$\psi(x) = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\omega_p}} \sum_s \left( e^{-ipx} u_s(\vec{p}) \hat{c}_{s,\vec{p}} + e^{+ipx} v_s(\vec{p}) \hat{d}_{s\vec{p}}^\dagger \right)$$

$$\bar{\psi}(x) = \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\omega_q}} \sum_{s'} \left( e^{iqx} \bar{u}_{s'}(\vec{q}) \hat{c}_{s',\vec{q}}^\dagger + e^{-iqx} \bar{v}_{s'}(\vec{q}) \hat{d}_{s',\vec{q}} \right)$$

Plug in:

$$E = i \int d^3x \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\omega_q}} \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\omega_p}} \sum_{s,s'} \left( e^{iqx} \bar{u}_{s'}(\vec{q}) \hat{c}_{s',\vec{q}}^\dagger + e^{-iqx} \bar{v}_{s'}(\vec{q}) \hat{d}_{s',\vec{q}} \right) \gamma^0 \partial_t \left( e^{-ipx} u_s(\vec{p}) \hat{c}_{s,\vec{p}} + e^{ipx} v_s(\vec{p}) \hat{d}_{s\vec{p}}^\dagger \right)$$

$$= i \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\omega_q}} \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\omega_p}} \sum_{s,s'} \int d^3x \left\{ e^{i(q-p)x} \bar{u}_{s'}(\vec{q}) \gamma_0 u_s(\vec{p}) \hat{c}_{s',\vec{q}}^\dagger \hat{c}_{s,\vec{p}} + e^{-i(q-p)x} \bar{v}_{s'}(\vec{q}) \gamma_0 v_s(\vec{p}) \hat{d}_{s',\vec{q}} \hat{d}_{s\vec{p}}^\dagger + e^{i(q+p)x} (\bar{v}_{s'}(\vec{q}) \gamma_0 v_s(\vec{p})) \hat{c}_{s',\vec{q}}^\dagger \hat{d}_{s\vec{p}}^\dagger + e^{-i(q+p)x} (\bar{u}_{s'}(\vec{q}) \gamma_0 u_s(\vec{p})) \hat{d}_{s',\vec{q}} \hat{c}_{s,\vec{p}} \right\}$$



$$\int d^3x e^{i(q-p)x} = (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(\vec{p}-\vec{q}) e^{i(p_0-q_0)t}$$

$$\int d^3x e^{i(p+q)x} = (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(\vec{p}+\vec{q}) e^{i(p_0+q_0)t}$$

• the  $\bar{u}v$  and  $\bar{v}u$  terms contain:

$$\bar{u}_{s'}(\vec{q}) \gamma_0 v_s(-\vec{q}) = u_{s'}^\dagger(\vec{q}) v_s(-\vec{q}) = 0$$

$$\bar{v}_{s'}(\vec{q}) \gamma_0 u_s(-\vec{q}) = v_{s'}^\dagger(\vec{q}) u_s(-\vec{q}) = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  they vanish

• the  $\bar{u}u$  and  $\bar{v}v$  terms are:

$$i \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{(2\pi)^3}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_{s,s'} \left[ (-ip_0) u_{s'}^\dagger(\vec{p}) u_s(\vec{p}) C_{s'p}^\dagger C_{sp} + \right. \\ \left. (+ip_0) v_{s'}^\dagger(\vec{p}) v_s(\vec{p}) C_{s'p}^\dagger C_{sp} \right]$$

$$= \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{2} 2\omega_{\vec{p}} \sum_s \left( C_{s\vec{p}}^\dagger C_{s\vec{p}} - d_{s\vec{p}}^\dagger d_{s\vec{p}} \right)$$

Now we want to write it in terms of

the number operators

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} N_{\vec{p},s+} &= C_{\vec{p},s}^\dagger C_{\vec{p},s} \\ N_{\vec{p},s-} &= d_{\vec{p},s}^\dagger d_{\vec{p},s} \end{aligned} \right.$$

$N_{\vec{p}, s+} = \#$  of particles (created by  $C^+$ )

$N_{\vec{p}, s-} = \#$  of "anti" particles (created by  $d^+$ )

$$E = \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_s \omega_{\vec{p}} \left( C_{\vec{p}s}^+ C_{\vec{p}s} - d_{\vec{p}s} d_{\vec{p}s}^+ \right)$$

Now suppose we apply commutation rules:

$$[d_{\vec{p},s} d_{\vec{q},s'}^+] = (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(\vec{p}-\vec{q}) \delta_{ss'}$$

$$\Rightarrow d_{\vec{p}s} d_{\vec{p}s}^+ = d_{\vec{p}s}^+ d_{\vec{p}s} - \underbrace{(2\pi)^3 \delta(\vec{0})}_{\text{Volume of space}}$$

$$\Rightarrow E = \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_s \omega_p \left( \hat{N}_{\vec{p},s}^{(+)} - \hat{N}_{\vec{p},s}^{(-)} \right) - \underbrace{E_0 V}_{\substack{\text{infinite zero-point} \\ \text{energy}}}$$

$\Rightarrow (-)$  particles contribute a negative sign to the energy

$\Rightarrow$  the Hamiltonian is unbounded below

$\Rightarrow$  the energy can be lowered  
arbitrarily by producing (-)-type  
particles

$\Rightarrow \therefore |0\rangle$  is not the ground state,

$\therefore$  there is no ground state  
(states with more and more antiparticles  
have lower and lower energy).

$\Rightarrow$  we cannot impose CCR.

Solution: we must impose

$$d_{s\vec{p}} d_{s'\vec{q}}^\dagger + d_{s'\vec{q}}^\dagger d_{s\vec{p}} = (2\pi)^3 \delta^{(3)}(\vec{p}-\vec{q}) \delta_{ss'}$$

$$\text{or } \left\{ d_{s\vec{p}}, d_{s'\vec{q}}^\dagger \right\} = (2\pi)^3 \delta^{(3)}(\vec{p}-\vec{q}) \delta_{ss'}$$

$$\left\{ c_{s\vec{p}}, c_{s'\vec{q}}^\dagger \right\} = (2\pi)^3 \delta^{(3)}(\vec{p}-\vec{q}) \delta_{ss'}$$

Anti-commutation relation.

# Fermi Statistics

the anti-commutator has deep consequences,  
take a one-particle state:

$$C_{p,s}^{\dagger} |0\rangle = |\vec{p},s\rangle = |1_{p,s}\rangle$$

Now try to add another particle with the  
same momentum and spin:

$$|2_{p,s}\rangle = C_{\vec{p},s}^{\dagger} |1_{\vec{p},s}\rangle = C_{\vec{p},s}^{\dagger} C_{\vec{p},s}^{\dagger} |0\rangle$$

But the  $C$ 's anti-commute

$$\Rightarrow = - C_{\vec{p},s}^{\dagger} C_{\vec{p},s}^{\dagger} |0\rangle$$

In other words the  $C^{\dagger}$  satisfy:

$$(C_{\vec{p},s}^{\dagger})^2 = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  this state is zero (not  $|0\rangle$ , 0!)

$\Rightarrow$  there can be no two particles with the  
same quantum numbers (Pauli EP)

# U(1) - Invariance

$L_{\text{Dirac}} = \bar{\Psi} (i\not{\partial} - m)\Psi$  is invariant under the internal U(1):

$$\Psi \rightarrow e^{-i\alpha} \Psi \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \text{ constant}$$

indeed  $\bar{\Psi} = \Psi^\dagger \gamma^0 \rightarrow (e^{-i\alpha} \Psi)^\dagger \gamma^0 = e^{i\alpha} \bar{\Psi}$

and  $\bar{\Psi} (i\not{\partial} - m)\Psi \rightarrow \cancel{e^{i\alpha}} \cancel{e^{-i\alpha}} \bar{\Psi} (i\not{\partial} - m)\Psi$

Noether current: take infinitesimal transformation:

$$\Psi \rightarrow e^{-i\delta\alpha} \Psi \simeq \Psi - i\delta\alpha \Psi = \Psi + \delta\Psi \Rightarrow \underline{\delta\Psi = -i\delta\alpha \Psi}$$

$$J_\mu = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \partial^\mu \Psi} \frac{\delta\Psi}{\delta\alpha} = i\bar{\Psi} \gamma_\mu (-i\delta\Psi) = \bar{\Psi} \gamma_\mu \Psi$$

the associated charge is:

$$Q = \int d^3x J_0 = \int d^3x \bar{\Psi} \gamma_0 \Psi$$

We can write this in terms of the creation/annihilation operators:

$\Rightarrow$  same calculation as before, except there is no  $\partial_t$

$$\Rightarrow Q = \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3 (2\pi)^3} \frac{(2\pi)^3}{\sqrt{2\omega_p 2\omega_p}} \sum_{s, s'} \left[ \begin{array}{l} \delta_{s's} 2\omega_p \\ (-iP_0) u_{s'}^\dagger(\vec{p}) u_s(\vec{p}) C_{s'p}^\dagger C_{sp} + \\ (+iP_0) v_s^\dagger(\vec{p}) v_{s'}(\vec{p}) d_{s\vec{p}} d_{s'\vec{p}}^\dagger \end{array} \right]$$

$$= \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_s \left( C_{s\vec{p}}^\dagger C_{s\vec{p}} + d_{s\vec{p}} d_{s\vec{p}}^\dagger \right)$$

↔ anticommute and discard  $\infty$  contribution

$$= \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_s \left( C_{s\vec{p}}^\dagger C_{s\vec{p}} - d_{s\vec{p}}^\dagger d_{s\vec{p}} \right)$$

$$\left( N_{s\vec{p}}^{(+)} - N_{s\vec{p}}^{(-)} \right)$$

$Q$  counts (# particles - # antiparticles)!

$\Rightarrow$  If particles have charge  $-e$  (electrons) antiparticles have charge  $+e$  (positrons)

$J_\mu = \bar{\Psi} \gamma_\mu \Psi \equiv$  electron number current

$J_\mu^{(e)} = e \bar{\Psi} \gamma_\mu \Psi \equiv$  electric current

e.g. take a state with  $n$  particles and  $m$  anti-particles:

$$|\psi\rangle = |\vec{p}_1, s_1, +; \dots; \vec{p}_n, s_n, +; \vec{q}_1, s_1, -; \dots; \vec{q}_m, s_m, -\rangle$$

$$= c_1^\dagger \dots c_n^\dagger d_1^\dagger \dots d_m^\dagger |0\rangle$$

$$Q|\psi\rangle = \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} (c_k^\dagger c_k - d_k^\dagger d_k) |\psi\rangle =$$

$$= \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} c_k^\dagger c_k c_1^\dagger \dots c_n^\dagger d_1^\dagger \dots d_m^\dagger |0\rangle$$

$$- \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} d_k^\dagger d_k c_1^\dagger \dots c_n^\dagger d_1^\dagger \dots d_m^\dagger |0\rangle =$$

$$= \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \left\{ \left[ c_k^\dagger c_k, c_1^\dagger \dots c_n^\dagger d_1^\dagger \dots d_m^\dagger \right] |0\rangle \right.$$

$$\left. + c_1^\dagger \dots c_n^\dagger d_1^\dagger \dots d_m^\dagger c_k^\dagger c_k |0\rangle \right\}$$

$$- \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \left\{ \left[ d_k^\dagger d_k, c_1^\dagger \dots c_n^\dagger d_1^\dagger \dots d_m^\dagger \right] |0\rangle \right.$$

$$\left. + c_1^\dagger \dots c_n^\dagger d_1^\dagger \dots d_m^\dagger d_k^\dagger d_k |0\rangle \right\}$$

So we need the commutator of  $N_k^{\dagger} = C_k^{\dagger} C_k$

with  $C_1^{\dagger} \dots C_n^{\dagger} d_1^{\dagger} \dots d_m^{\dagger}$

$$[C_k^{\dagger} C_k, C_p^{\dagger}] = C_k^{\dagger} C_k C_p^{\dagger} - C_p^{\dagger} C_k^{\dagger} C_k = C_k^{\dagger} C_k C_p^{\dagger} + C_k^{\dagger} C_p^{\dagger} C_k$$

$$= \cancel{C_k^{\dagger} C_k C_p^{\dagger}} - \cancel{C_k^{\dagger} C_k C_p^{\dagger}} + (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(p-k) C_p^{\dagger}$$

$$[C_k^{\dagger} C_k, d_p^{\dagger}] = C_k^{\dagger} C_k d_p^{\dagger} - d_p^{\dagger} C_k^{\dagger} C_k = C_k^{\dagger} C_k d_p^{\dagger} + C_k^{\dagger} d_p^{\dagger} C_k = \cancel{C_k^{\dagger} C_k d_p^{\dagger}} - \cancel{C_k^{\dagger} C_k d_p^{\dagger}} = 0$$

$$[N_{\vec{k}}^{(+)}, C_{\vec{p}}^{\dagger}] = (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(\vec{p}-\vec{k}) C_{\vec{p}}^{\dagger}$$

$$[N_{\vec{k}}^{(-)}, d_{\vec{q}}^{\dagger}] = (2\pi)^3 \delta^{(3)}(p-\vec{q}) d_{\vec{q}}^{\dagger}$$

$$[N_{\vec{k}}^{(+)}, d_{\vec{q}}^{\dagger}] = [N_{\vec{k}}^{(-)}, C_{\vec{p}}^{\dagger}] = 0$$

So if one has 2:

$$[N_{\vec{k}}^{(+)}, C_{\vec{p}_1}^{\dagger} C_{\vec{p}_2}^{\dagger}] = C_{\vec{p}_1}^{\dagger} [N_{\vec{k}}, C_{\vec{p}_2}^{\dagger}] + [N_{\vec{k}}, C_{\vec{p}_1}^{\dagger}] C_{\vec{p}_2}^{\dagger}$$

$$= C_{\vec{p}_1}^{\dagger} C_{\vec{p}_2}^{\dagger} (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(k-p_2) + (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(k-p_1) C_{\vec{p}_1}^{\dagger} C_{\vec{p}_2}^{\dagger}$$

$$= \left\{ (2\pi)^3 \delta^{(3)}(k-p_2) + (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(k-p_1) \right\} C_{\vec{p}_1}^{\dagger} C_{\vec{p}_2}^{\dagger}$$

$$|Q14\rangle = \int \frac{d^3 \vec{k}}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_{i=1}^n (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(\vec{k}-\vec{p}_i) C_1^{\dagger} \dots C_n^{\dagger} d_1^{\dagger} \dots d_n^{\dagger} |0\rangle$$

$$- \int \frac{d^3 \vec{k}}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_{i=1}^m (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(\vec{k}-\vec{q}_i) C_1^{\dagger} \dots C_n^{\dagger} d_1^{\dagger} \dots d_n^{\dagger} |0\rangle$$



each  $\delta$ -function gives one and kills the

$$\int d^3x / (2\pi)^3$$

$$= n c_1^+ \dots c_n^+ d_1^+ \dots d_n^+ |0\rangle - m c_1^+ \dots c_n^+ d_1^+ \dots d_n^+ |0\rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow Q|\psi\rangle = (n - m)|\psi\rangle$$

# particles

# antiparticles

the electric charge  $e$  is

$$Q_e = -eQ = -eN_d + eN_{\text{positrons}}$$