

Homework Set #5.

Due Date - Oral Presentation: Tuesday November 2, 2010

Due Date - Written Solutions: Tuesday November 9, 2010

Bilinears Consider bilinear products of a Dirac field $\psi(x)$ and its “conjugate” $\bar{\psi}(x)$. All possible combinations are given by:

$$S = \bar{\psi}\psi, \quad V^\mu = \bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\psi, \quad T^{\mu\nu} = \bar{\psi}\gamma^{[\mu}\gamma^{\nu]}\psi, \quad A^\mu = \bar{\psi}\gamma^5\gamma^\mu\psi \quad \text{and} \quad P = \bar{\psi}i\gamma^5\psi.$$

In the expressions above, $\gamma^5 \equiv i\gamma^0\gamma^1\gamma^2\gamma^3$, and $\gamma^{[\mu}\gamma^{\nu]} \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\gamma^\mu\gamma^\nu - \gamma^\nu\gamma^\mu)$

1. Show that all bilinears are Hermitian (*Hint: first, show that $(\bar{\psi}\Gamma\psi)^\dagger = \bar{\psi}\bar{\Gamma}\psi$, where $\bar{\Gamma} = \gamma^0\Gamma^\dagger\gamma^0$ is the Dirac conjugate of Γ).*)
2. Show that under continuous Lorentz symmetries, the S and P transform as scalars, the V^μ and the A^μ as vectors, and the $T^{\mu\nu}$ as an antisymmetric tensor. (*Hint: remember what you showed in HW#3...*)
3. Find the transformation rules of the bilinears under parity and show that while S is a true scalar and V is a true (i.e. polar) vector, P is a pseudo-scalar and A is an axial vector.