

QUANTUM FIELD THEORY I

written test

September 27, 2017

Two hours. No books or notes allowed.

Consider a theory with two Dirac fermions e and ν with fields ψ_e and ψ_ν respectively, coupled to an electromagnetic field A^μ , with Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi}_e (i\not{\partial} - m_e) \psi_e + \bar{\psi}_\nu i\not{\partial} \psi_\nu - \frac{1}{4} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} + g \bar{\psi}_e \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \psi_\nu A_\mu + g \bar{\psi}_\nu \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \psi_e A_\mu, \quad (1)$$

where

$$F^{\mu\nu} = \partial^\mu A^\nu - \partial^\nu A^\mu \quad (2)$$

and g is a real positive constant.

- (1) Write down the Feynman rules for this theory.
- (2) Draw the Feynman diagrams for the processes $e\bar{\nu} \rightarrow e\bar{\nu}$ and $e\nu \rightarrow e\nu$ at the lowest nontrivial order in perturbation theory and write down the corresponding amplitudes.
- (3) Determine the square modulus of the unpolarized amplitude for the two given processes in terms of Mandelstam invariants keeping the full mass dependence.

Hint: recall the identity $\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} = -2(g^\rho_\alpha g^\sigma_\beta - g^\rho_\beta g^\sigma_\alpha)$.

- (4) Determine the phase space and flux factor for the given processes in the lab frame.
Hint: Exploit energy conservation to eliminate the dependence of the phase space on $\cos\theta$ and write the result in terms of the energies E_ν and E_e of the incoming ν and outgoing e .
- (5) Define the variable $y = \frac{E_e}{E_\nu}$ and determine explicitly the differential cross-section $\frac{d\sigma}{dy}$ as a function of E_ν and y .
- (6) Prove that in the limit $m_e \rightarrow 0$ the Lagrangian Eq. (1) has an internal $U(1) \times U(1)$ symmetry.

Hint: Define the doublet $\psi = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_e \\ \psi_\nu \end{pmatrix}$ and rewrite the Lagrangian in terms of ψ using Pauli matrices.