08.128.165 Theorie 6a, Relativistische Quantenfeldtheorie Quantum Field Theory I

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Formula sheet for the final exam.

Noether current

Given a Lagrangian invariant under a continuous transformation law of the dynamical fields,

$$\phi(x) \to \phi'(x) = \phi(x) + \alpha \Delta \phi(x) ,$$
 (1)

the Noether current $j^{\mu}(x)$ is a conserved quantity,

$$\partial_{\mu}j^{\mu}(x) = 0 , \qquad (2)$$

with

$$j^{\mu}(x) = \sum_{i} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_{\mu}\phi_{i})} \Delta \phi_{i} .$$
(3)

Here, we have assumed the Lagrangian itself is invariant under the transformation parametrized by α .

Gauge condition

In this course, we generally use the Lorenz gauge condition for quantum electrodynamics. That is, we require photon fields obey the gauge condition

$$\partial_{\mu}A^{\mu}(x) = 0 . (4)$$

For on-shell photons, where the photon is an external particle in a cross section or decay width calculation, the gauge condition requires that

$$k_{\mu}\epsilon^{\mu}(k) = 0 , \qquad (5)$$

where k is the 4-momentum of the photon with polarization vector $\epsilon^{\mu}(k)$.

Cross sections

The differential cross section for two particles scattering into $\{f\}$ final state particles is

$$d\sigma = \frac{1}{2E_A 2E_B |v_A - v_B|} \left(\Pi \frac{d^3 p_f}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{2E_f} \right)$$
(6)

$$\times |\mathcal{M}|^2 (2\pi)^4 \,\delta^{(4)} \left(p_A + p_B - \sum p_f \right) \,. \tag{7}$$

For the special case of two particles in the final state, we can write the two-body Lorentzinvariant phase space in the center-of-mass frame as

$$\int d\Pi_2 = \int d\Omega \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \frac{|\vec{p}_1|}{E_{\rm cm}} , \qquad (8)$$

where $E_{\rm cm}$ is the total energy in the center of mass frame and $|\vec{p}_1| = |\vec{p}_2|$ is the magnitude of the three-momentum of one of the outgoing particles.

In the special case where all four particles in two-to-two scattering have identical masses, the differential cross section can be written in the CM frame as

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{\rm cm} = \frac{|\mathcal{M}|^2}{64\pi^2 E_{\rm cm}^2} \ . \tag{9}$$

Interaction Feynman rules

