

# FQM problem Sheet 3 in WS 2022/2023

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## 1. Dirac Algebra (10)

Consider the Dirac matrices  $\gamma^\mu, \mu = 0, 1, 2, 3$ , whose anti-commutators are given by  $\{\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu\} = 2g^{\mu\nu}$ . The Dirac matrices are thus the generators of a representation of the Clifford algebra  $Cl(3, 1)$ .

Show the following identities, using Feynman's slash notation  $\not{a} = \gamma^\mu a_\mu$ .

- (a)  $\{\not{a}, \not{b}\} = 2a \cdot b, \quad \text{tr}(\not{a}\not{b}) = 4a \cdot b$   
(b)  $\gamma_\mu \gamma^\mu = 4, \quad \gamma_\mu \not{a} \gamma^\mu = -2\not{a}, \quad \gamma_\mu \not{a} \not{b} \gamma^\mu = 4a \cdot b, \quad \gamma_\mu \not{a} \not{b} \not{c} \gamma^\mu = -2\not{c} \not{b} \not{a}$

## 2. Lorentz Algebra (12)

The defining representation of the Lorentz algebra  $\mathfrak{o}(3, 1)$  is given by the generators

$$(\mathbf{J}^{\mu\nu})^\alpha{}_\beta := g^{\mu\alpha} g^\nu{}_\beta - g^{\nu\alpha} g^\mu{}_\beta \quad (1)$$

where strictly speaking, only the 6 linearly independent elements with  $\mu < \nu$  are meant.

- (a) The connection with the lecture is given through  $\mathbf{J}^{0k} = b_k$  ( $k = 1, 2, 3$ ) and  $\mathbf{J}^{12} = d_3$  plus cyclic permutation. Check this.  
(b) Check the commutator relation

$$[\mathbf{J}^{\mu\nu}, \mathbf{J}^{\rho\sigma}] = g^{\nu\rho} \mathbf{J}^{\mu\sigma} - g^{\mu\rho} \mathbf{J}^{\nu\sigma} - g^{\nu\sigma} \mathbf{J}^{\mu\rho} + g^{\mu\sigma} \mathbf{J}^{\nu\rho} \quad (2)$$

by use of (1).

- (c) Show that  $\mathfrak{J}^{\mu\nu} := i(\mathbf{x}^\nu \mathbf{p}^\mu - \mathbf{x}^\mu \mathbf{p}^\nu)$  also satisfy relation (2) upon substituting  $\mathbf{J} \rightarrow \mathfrak{J}$ . (This is a representation in the space of functions on  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .)