

Particle Physics Phenomenology I

HS 10, Series 4

Due date: 22.10.2010, 1 pm

Exercise 1 Show that the Dirac spinors

$$u_{\pm}(p) = \sqrt{p^0 + m} \begin{pmatrix} \chi_{\pm} \\ \frac{\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{p}}{p^0 + m} \chi_{\pm} \end{pmatrix}, \quad v_{\pm}(p) = \sqrt{p^0 + m} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{p}}{p^0 + m} \chi_{\mp} \\ \chi_{\mp} \end{pmatrix}$$

where

$$\chi_+ = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \chi_- = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

satisfy the Dirac equation.

$$(\gamma^{\mu} p_{\mu} - m)u_{\pm} = 0$$

$$(\gamma^{\mu} p_{\mu} + m)v_{\pm} = 0$$

Hint: You may use (and proof) that $(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{p})^2 = |\vec{p}|^2 = (p^0 - m)(p^0 + m)$. Alternatively you can choose an appropriate coordinate system.

Exercise 2 Derive the spin sum formulae

$$\sum_{s=+,-} u^s(p) \bar{u}^s(p) = \not{p} + m \tag{1}$$

$$\sum_{r=+,-} v^r(p) \bar{v}^r(p) = \not{p} - m. \tag{2}$$