

## Spin-One Particle in an External Electromagnetic Field\*

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(Received 14 December 1967; revised manuscript received 22 October 1968)

Equations of motion for a spin-one particle and its antiparticle in an external electromagnetic field are developed using a  $(1,0) \oplus (0,1)$  six-component wave function. Anomalous magnetic dipole and electric quadrupole effects are included. The wave equation is manifestly covariant and has no auxiliary conditions. The invariant integral for the system is derived, and the nonrelativistic limit is discussed. The semiclassical approximation for a relativistic spin-one particle in an electrostatic field is set up; then the problem of calculating the change of polarization reduces to a set of three coupled total differential equations.

## I. INTRODUCTION

RECENTLY Joos,<sup>1</sup> Weinberg,<sup>2</sup> and Weaver, Hammer, and Good<sup>3</sup> have developed new descriptions of a free particle with spin  $s=0, \frac{1}{2}, 1, \dots$ . These descriptions are of interest because they are closely analogous to the Dirac theory for a spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  particle, and they permit many of the well-known discussions for the spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  theory to be extended to apply uniformly to particles of arbitrary spin. Joos<sup>1</sup> and Weinberg<sup>2</sup> gave their description in a manifestly covariant form. Covariantly defined matrices as developed by Barut, Muzinich, and Williams<sup>4</sup> appear as the generalization of the Dirac  $\gamma_\mu$  matrices. Weaver, Hammer, and Good<sup>3</sup> gave their description in Hamiltonian form and found an algorithm for generalizing the Dirac Hamiltonian  $\alpha \cdot \mathbf{p} + \beta m$  to any spin. The wave functions in these two approaches are identical for odd-half-integral spin and are equivalent in the sense of being related by an operator that has an inverse for integral spin. In any case, the wave function forms the basis for the  $(s,0) \oplus (0,s)$  representation of the Lorentz group. Also the wave function corresponds to the momentum-space wave function used by Pursey<sup>5</sup> in his treatment of free particles with spin.

In later works, most of the properties of the free-particle theory have been worked out. Sankaranarayanan and Good<sup>6</sup> studied the spin-one case in detail and Shay, Song, and Good,<sup>7</sup> the spin- $\frac{3}{2}$  case. Sankaranarayanan and Good gave general discussions of the polarization operators<sup>6</sup> and the position operators.<sup>8</sup> The density matrices for describing orientational properties were

set up by Sankaranarayanan<sup>9</sup> and by Shay, Song, and Good.<sup>7</sup> Mathews<sup>10</sup> and Williams, Draayer, and Weber<sup>11</sup> obtained definite formulas for the Hamiltonian for any spin.

The descriptions have been applied so far only to free particles, and a question is how to include effects of an external electromagnetic field. In view of the success in treating all these properties of the free particle uniformly for all spins, one might hope that electromagnetic interactions could also be introduced for any spin. The problem becomes more and more complicated as the spin increases, since a particle of spin  $s$  can have anomalous electric and magnetic multipole moments up to the  $2^s$  order.

The purpose of this paper is to give the theory of a spin-one particle, described by a  $(1,0) \oplus (0,1)$  wave function, interacting with an external electromagnetic field, and having arbitrary magnetic dipole and electric quadrupole moments. This new formulation turns out to be worthwhile because it permits a complete treatment of the system (some aspects involving the anomalous quadrupole moment were not covered before). The results apply exclusively to spin one and have not so far suggested a generalization to higher spins.

The spin-one particle in an external field was originally studied by Proca<sup>12</sup> and Kemmer<sup>13</sup> using a 10-component wave function. Corben and Schwinger<sup>14</sup> showed how to include an anomalous magnetic dipole term in Proca's theory, and Young and Bludman<sup>15</sup> took account of an anomalous electric quadrupole. Specializing to time-independent electric fields and space-time-independent magnetic fields in the anomalous quadrupole terms, they obtained a Hamiltonian of the Sakata-Taketani<sup>16</sup> type which included the effects of the anomalous moments. This Hamiltonian formulation involves a 6-component wave function which has complicated Lorentz transformation properties.

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<sup>1</sup> H. Joos, *Fortschr. Physik* **10**, 65 (1962).

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<sup>4</sup> A. O. Barut, I. Muzinich, and D. N. Williams, *Phys. Rev.* **130**, 442 (1963).

<sup>5</sup> D. L. Pursey, *Ann. Phys. (N. Y.)* **32**, 157 (1965).

<sup>6</sup> A. Sankaranarayanan and R. H. Good, Jr., *Nuovo Cimento* **36**, 1303 (1965).

<sup>7</sup> D. Shay, H. S. Song, and R. H. Good, Jr., *Nuovo Cimento Suppl.* **3**, 455 (1965).

<sup>8</sup> A. Sankaranarayanan and R. H. Good, Jr., *Phys. Rev.* **140**, B509 (1965).

<sup>9</sup> A. Sankaranarayanan, *Nuovo Cimento* **38**, 889 (1965).

<sup>10</sup> P. M. Mathews, *Phys. Rev.* **143**, 978 (1966).

<sup>11</sup> S. A. Williams, J. P. Draayer, and T. A. Weber, *Phys. Rev.* **152**, 1207 (1966).

<sup>12</sup> A. Proca, *Compt. Rend.* **202**, 1490 (1936).

<sup>13</sup> N. Kemmer, *Proc. Roy. Soc. (London)* **A173**, 91 (1939).

<sup>14</sup> H. C. Corben and J. Schwinger, *Phys. Rev.* **58**, 953 (1940).

<sup>15</sup> J. A. Young and S. A. Bludman, *Phys. Rev.* **131**, 2326 (1963).

<sup>16</sup> M. Taketani and S. Sakata, *Proc. Phys. Math. Soc. Japan* **22**, 757 (1939).

The wave equation given here is manifestly covariant and requires no auxiliary conditions on the wave function. The equation has the usual symmetries with respect to space reflection, time reflection, and charge conjugation. It leads to the definition of a Lorentz-invariant inner product that includes a contribution from the anomalous quadrupole term. It was found that there are two possible choices for the anomalous quadrupole term in this wave equation, each having the correct transformation properties and giving the same type of contribution in the nonrelativistic limit to order  $m^{-2}$ .

For any spin of particle, the values of the normal electric and magnetic moments depend on the wave equation used to describe the particle. Here, the normal magnetic moment  $g$  factor is  $\frac{1}{2}$  and the normal electric quadrupole moment is  $-\hbar^2/2m^2c^2$ . The values of the moments were found by making a Foldy-Wouthuysen<sup>17</sup> type of transformation, leading to a nonrelativistic Hamiltonian correct to order  $m^{-2}$ .

## II. WAVE EQUATION

The equation is

$$[\pi_\alpha \pi_\beta \gamma_{\alpha\beta} + \pi_\alpha \pi_\alpha + 2m^2 + (e\lambda/12)\gamma_{5,\alpha\beta} F_{\alpha\beta} + (eq/6m^2)\gamma_{6,\alpha\beta,\mu\nu}(\partial F_{\alpha\beta}/\partial x_\mu)\pi_\nu]\psi = 0, \quad (1)$$

where  $\pi_\alpha$  is  $-i(\partial/\partial x_\alpha) - eA_\alpha$  and  $F_{\alpha\beta}$  is the field tensor

$$F_{\alpha\beta} = (\partial A_\beta/\partial x_\alpha) - (\partial A_\alpha/\partial x_\beta), \\ F_{ij} = \epsilon_{ijk} B_k, \quad F_{i4} = -F_{4i} = -iE_i, \quad F_{44} = 0.$$

The Latin indices run from 1 to 3, Greek from 1 to 4 with  $x_4 = it$ . Factors of  $c$  and  $\hbar$  are omitted. The constants  $\lambda$  and  $q$  are real and adjust the sizes of the intrinsic moments, as discussed below. The  $\gamma_{\alpha\beta}$  are  $6 \times 6$  matrices defined in terms of  $3 \times 3$  Hermitian spin-one matrices  $s_i$  by

$$\gamma_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \delta_{ij} - s_i s_j - s_j s_i \\ \delta_{ij} - s_i s_j - s_j s_i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2) \\ \gamma_{i4} = \gamma_{4i} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i s_i \\ -i s_i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \gamma_{44} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The other matrices are defined in terms of the  $\gamma_{\alpha\beta}$  by

$$\gamma_{5,\alpha\beta} = i[\gamma_{\alpha\delta}, \gamma_{\beta\delta}]_-, \quad (3)$$

$$\gamma_{6,\alpha\beta,\mu\nu} = [\gamma_{\alpha\mu}, \gamma_{\beta\nu}]_+ + 2\delta_{\alpha\mu}\delta_{\beta\nu} - [\gamma_{\alpha\nu}, \gamma_{\beta\mu}]_+ - 2\delta_{\alpha\nu}\delta_{\beta\mu}. \quad (4)$$

The operators  $\pi_\alpha$  are understood to act on everything to their right, including the wave function. The gradient operators inside brackets, such as in the factor  $\partial F_{\alpha\beta}/\partial x_\mu$ , act on the fields  $F_{\alpha\beta}$  only and not on the wave function. The  $\gamma_{\alpha\beta}$  satisfy  $\gamma_{\alpha\beta} = \gamma_{\beta\alpha}$  and  $\gamma_{\alpha\alpha} = 0$  so 9 of them are independent; the  $\gamma_{5,\alpha\beta}$  satisfy  $\gamma_{5,\alpha\beta} = -\gamma_{5,\beta\alpha}$  and 6 of them are independent; the symmetry

<sup>17</sup> L. L. Foldy and S. A. Wouthuysen, Phys. Rev. **78**, 29 (1950).

properties of  $\gamma_{6,\alpha\beta,\mu\nu}$  are

$$\gamma_{6,\alpha\beta,\mu\nu} = -\gamma_{6,\beta\alpha,\mu\nu}, \quad (5a)$$

$$\gamma_{6,\alpha\beta,\mu\nu} = \gamma_{6,\mu\nu,\alpha\beta}, \quad (5b)$$

$$\gamma_{6,\alpha\beta,\mu\nu} + \gamma_{6,\alpha\mu,\nu\beta} + \gamma_{6,\alpha\nu,\beta\mu} = 0, \quad (5c)$$

and therefore 10 of them are independent. One defines  $\gamma_5$  by

$$\gamma_5 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

and then there are 36 independent Hermitian matrices 1,  $\gamma_5$ ,  $\gamma_{\alpha\beta}$ ,  $i\gamma_5\gamma_{\alpha\beta}$ ,  $\gamma_{5,\alpha\beta}$ ,  $\gamma_{6,\alpha\beta,\mu\nu}$  which form a complete set of  $6 \times 6$  matrices. Some other properties are given in Ref. 6.

## III. LORENTZ TRANSFORMATIONS AND CHARGE CONJUGATION

The Lorentz transformation properties of the wave function are assigned to be the same as that of the free-particle wave function. However, this assignment does not settle the question because, in the free-particle discussion, a different wave function is used in the Hamiltonian formulation from that in the manifestly covariant formulation. The relation between the two functions was given in Eq. (62) of Ref. 6. For the transformations continuous with the identity, the two functions behave the same and the notation of Refs. 3 and 6 is used. For the reflections and charge conjugation there is a difference. As shown later, for zero fields, Eq. (1) specializes to Weinberg's formulation and so his assignments for the discontinuous transformation properties are the appropriate ones to use.

For Lorentz transformations continuous with the identity

$$x'_\alpha = a_{\alpha\beta} x_\beta,$$

the wave-function transformation rule is

$$\psi'(x') = \Lambda \psi(x), \quad (6)$$

where  $x'$  denotes  $\mathbf{x}'$ ,  $t'$ , and the matrix  $\Lambda$  satisfies

$$\Lambda^{-1} \gamma_{\alpha\beta} \Lambda = a_{\alpha\mu} a_{\beta\nu} \gamma_{\mu\nu}, \quad (7a)$$

$$\Lambda^\dagger \gamma_{44} = \gamma_{44} \Lambda^{-1}, \quad (7b)$$

$$C \Lambda = \Lambda^* C, \quad (7c)$$

$$\Lambda^{-1} \gamma_5 \Lambda = \gamma_5. \quad (8)$$

Here  $C$  is the charge-conjugation matrix defined by

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & C_s \\ C_s & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (9)$$

where  $C_s$  is a unitary matrix such that<sup>18</sup>

$$C_s \mathbf{s} = -\mathbf{s}^* C_s. \quad (10)$$

<sup>18</sup> U. Fano and G. Racah, *Irreducible Tensorial Sets* (Academic Press Inc., New York, 1959), Appendix C.

The  $C$  matrix has the property

$$C\gamma_{ij}C^{-1}=\gamma_{ij}^*, \quad C\gamma_{4i}C^{-1}=-\gamma_{4i}^*, \quad C\gamma_{44}C^{-1}=\gamma_{44}^*. \quad (11)$$

In consequence of Eqs. (6) and (7a), every Greek subscript is a vector index in the same sense as in Dirac's theory and Eq. (1) is evidently covariant.

For the space reflection

$$x'_i = -x_i, \quad t' = t.$$

Equations (6) and (7) apply again with  $\Lambda$  chosen to be  $\gamma_{44}$ . Since  $\pi_\alpha$  and  $F_{\alpha\beta}$  are regular under space reflection the covariance is again evident. For this transformation, instead of Eq. (8), the equation

$$\Lambda^{-1}\gamma_5\Lambda = -\gamma_5 \quad (12)$$

applies. By including factors of  $\gamma_5$  the parity non-invariant interactions can be formed. For example,  $(e\lambda/12)\gamma_5\gamma_{5,\alpha\beta}F_{\alpha\beta}$  is an electric dipole interaction term.

For the time reflection

$$x'_i = x_i, \quad t' = -t,$$

the wave-function transformation rule is

$$\psi'(x') = \Lambda[C\psi(x)]^*, \quad (13)$$

where again  $\Lambda$  is  $\gamma_{44}$  and satisfies Eqs. (7). By explicit calculation, using  $A_\alpha$  and  $F_{\alpha\beta}$  to be pseudo, one verifies that Eq. (1) is covariant.

The charge-conjugate wave function is defined by

$$\psi^c = (C\psi)^*. \quad (14)$$

It satisfies an equation the same as Eq. (1) but with all terms proportional to  $e$  changed in sign. It follows from the fact that Eq. (7c) applies to all transformation matrices  $\Lambda$  that  $\psi^c$  has the same Lorentz transformation properties as  $\psi$ . The charge conjugation has period two

$$(\psi^c)^c = \psi$$

as follows from the fact that  $C_s^*C_s$  is unity.<sup>18</sup>

#### IV. INVARIANT INTEGRAL

Let the adjoint wave function be defined by

$$\bar{\psi} = \psi^\dagger \gamma_{44}. \quad (15)$$

It satisfies the equation

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\pi}_\alpha \bar{\pi}_\beta \bar{\psi} \gamma_{\alpha\beta} + \bar{\pi}_\alpha \bar{\pi}_\alpha \bar{\psi} + 2m^2 \bar{\psi} + (e\lambda/12) F_{\alpha\beta} \bar{\psi} \gamma_{5,\alpha\beta} \\ - (eq/6m^2) (\partial F_{\alpha\beta} / \partial x_\mu) \bar{\pi}_\nu \bar{\psi} \gamma_{6,\alpha\beta,\mu\nu} = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

where  $\bar{\pi}_\alpha$  is  $-i(\partial/\partial x_\alpha) + eA_\alpha$ . It follows from Eq. (7b) that the adjoint function transforms according to

$$\bar{\psi}'(x') = \bar{\psi}(x)\Lambda^{-1} \quad (17)$$

for isochronous Lorentz transformations and according to

$$\bar{\psi}'(x') = [\bar{\psi}(x)C^{-1}]^* \Lambda^{-1} \quad (18)$$

for time reflections.

If  $\bar{\psi}^{(l)}$  is a solution of Eq. (16) and  $\psi^{(n)}$  of Eq. (1), then the current

$$\begin{aligned} J_\alpha^{(l,n)} = (\bar{\pi}_\beta \bar{\psi}^{(l)}) \gamma_{\alpha\beta} \psi^{(n)} - \bar{\psi}^{(l)} \gamma_{\alpha\beta} \pi_\beta \psi^{(n)} + (\bar{\pi}_\alpha \bar{\psi}^{(l)}) \psi^{(n)} \\ - \bar{\psi}^{(l)} \pi_\alpha \psi^{(n)} - (eq/6m^2) \bar{\psi}^{(l)} (\partial F_{\mu\nu} / \partial x_\beta) \gamma_{6,\mu\nu,\beta} \psi^{(n)} \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

is conserved;

$$\partial J_\alpha^{(l,n)} / \partial x_\alpha = 0.$$

Here the parenthesis in a factor like  $(\bar{\pi}_\beta \bar{\psi}^{(l)})$  indicate that the  $\bar{\pi}_\beta$  acts only on the  $\bar{\psi}^{(l)}$ . Evidently  $J_\alpha^{(l,n)}$  is a Lorentz four-vector, so the integral of  $J_4^{(l,n)}$  over space is a time-independent Lorentz scalar. The invariant integral is therefore defined by

$$\begin{aligned} (\psi^{(l)}, \psi^{(n)}) = i(4m)^{-1} \int d^3x [(\bar{\pi}_\beta \bar{\psi}^{(l)}) \gamma_{4\beta} \psi^{(n)} \\ - \bar{\psi}^{(l)} \gamma_{4\beta} \pi_\beta \psi^{(n)} + (\bar{\pi}_4 \bar{\psi}^{(l)}) \psi^{(n)} - \bar{\psi}^{(l)} \pi_4 \psi^{(n)} \\ - (eq/6m^2) \bar{\psi}^{(l)} (\partial F_{\mu\nu} / \partial x_\beta) \gamma_{6,\mu\nu,\beta} \psi^{(n)}]. \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

An alternative form is

$$\begin{aligned} (\psi^{(l)}, \psi^{(n)}) = i(4m)^{-1} \int d^3x [-2\psi^{(l)\dagger} \gamma_{44} \gamma_{4i} \pi_i \psi^{(n)} \\ + (\pi_4 \psi^{(l)})^\dagger (1 + \gamma_{44}) \psi^{(n)} - \psi^{(l)\dagger} (1 + \psi_{44}) \pi_4 \psi^{(n)} \\ - (eq/6m^2) \bar{\psi}^{(l)} (\partial F_{\mu\nu} / \partial x_\beta) \gamma_{6,\mu\nu,\beta} \psi^{(n)}]. \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

The factor is chosen to give the right nonrelativistic limit as discussed below. As in the Dirac theory, the anomalous magnetic-moment term does not influence the invariant integral formula. The integral is not positive definite.

For the time-rate-of-change of matrix elements of any operator  $T$ , one finds that

$$d(\psi^{(l)}, T\psi^{(n)})/dt = i(4m)^{-1} \int d^3x \bar{\psi}^{(l)} [W, T] \psi^{(n)}, \quad (22)$$

where  $W$  is the operator inside the square brackets on the left in Eq. (1). This applies in general, even when the fields and  $T$  are time-dependent. Equation (22) can be easily derived by operating on the equation

$$W(T\psi^{(n)}) = [W, T] \psi^{(n)}$$

from the left with  $\bar{\psi}^{(l)}$ , and on Eq. (16) from the right with  $(-T\psi)$ , and adding; the terms on the left can be rearranged into  $i$  times the divergence of a current  $J_\alpha$  built from  $\bar{\psi}^{(l)}$  and  $T\psi^{(n)}$ . From Eq. (22) it is seen that matrix elements of a symmetry operation of the system are time-independent. The point is that if  $T$  is a symmetry operation and  $\psi^{(n)}$  satisfies the equations of motion then  $T\psi^{(n)}$  also is a solution. Then  $W\psi^{(n)}$  and  $WT\psi^{(n)}$  are both zero and the right-hand side of Eq. (22) is zero.

### V. NONRELATIVISTIC LIMIT

As was first emphasized by Foldy and Wouthuysen in the spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  case, the nonrelativistic approximation corresponds to an expansion on  $m^{-1}$ . For a Dirac particle, they developed the series by making unitary transformations of the Hamiltonian which removed odd parts of the Hamiltonian to higher and higher orders of  $m^{-1}$ . Their process cannot be applied directly here because there is no Hamiltonian to begin with. In the Dirac case, it is appropriate to consider unitary transformations because the invariant integral is  $\int d^3x \psi^{(1)\dagger} \psi^{(1)}$  and the unitary transformations preserve this form into the nonrelativistic limit. With the different invariant integral that applies here [Eq. (21)], it is not appropriate to keep wave-function transformations unitary. The basic idea used in finding the limit here is to take out the rest-energy part of the wave function, make a nonunitary transformation that removes odd parts of the wave equation in a certain order, and then expand in powers of  $m^{-1}$ .

The first step is to convert the wave equation [Eq. (1)] into a nonrelativistic type of notation. The appropriate matrices are

$$\beta = \gamma_{44} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\alpha_i = i\gamma_{4i}\gamma_{i4} = -\gamma_5 s_i = \begin{pmatrix} s_i & 0 \\ 0 & -s_i \end{pmatrix}.$$

In terms of them, the  $\gamma_{5,\alpha\beta}$  matrices are

$$\gamma_{5,ij} = -\delta_{jk} s_k \epsilon_{ij}, \quad \gamma_{5,i4} = -\delta_{\alpha i}.$$

The  $\gamma_{6,\alpha\beta,\mu\nu}$  type of matrix is easily converted into terms

$$\begin{aligned} & [(1-\beta) + 2i(\pi_4/m)(1+\beta) - 2i(\alpha \cdot \pi/m)(\pi_4/m) + 2i(\pi_4/m)(\alpha \cdot \pi/m)(1-\beta) + (\pi_4/m)^2(1+\beta) + (\pi^2/m^2)(1+\beta) \\ & - (e/m^2)(\beta+\lambda) \mathbf{s} \cdot (\mathbf{B} + i\gamma_5 \mathbf{E}) + i(\alpha \cdot \pi/m)^2(\pi_4/m)(1-\beta) - 2i(\alpha \cdot \pi/m)(\pi_4/m)(\alpha \cdot \pi/m) + i(\pi_4/m)(\alpha \cdot \pi/m)^2(1+\beta) \\ & - (\alpha \cdot \pi/m)(\pi_4/m)^2(1+\beta) + (\pi_4/m)^2(\alpha \cdot \pi/m)(1-\beta) + (\frac{4}{3})(\alpha \cdot \pi/m)^3\beta - (\alpha \cdot \pi/m)(\pi^2/m^2)(1+\beta) + (\pi^2/m^2)(\alpha \cdot \pi/m) \\ & \times (1-\beta) + (e/m^2)(\alpha \cdot \pi/m)(\beta+\lambda) \mathbf{s} \cdot (\mathbf{B} + i\gamma_5 \mathbf{E}) - (e/m^2)(\beta+\lambda) \mathbf{s} \cdot (\mathbf{B} + i\gamma_5 \mathbf{E})(\alpha \cdot \pi/m) \\ & + i(eq/m^3)(s_p s_k + s_k s_p - \frac{4}{3} \delta_{pk}) \gamma_5 \partial(B_p + i\gamma_5 E_p) / \partial x_k] \psi_1 = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

The odd terms only begin in the  $m^{-2}$  order.

As a third step, one makes a similarity transformation so that the same equation holds but with  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma_5$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $\psi_1$  replaced by  $\beta'$ ,  $\gamma_5'$ ,  $\alpha'$ ,  $\psi_1'$ , where

$$\psi_1' = 2^{-1/2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \psi_1,$$

$$\beta' = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\gamma_5' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\alpha' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\mathbf{s} \\ -\mathbf{s} & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The point of this is that, if  $\psi_1'$  is considered as two three-

of  $\alpha$  and  $\mathbf{s}$  by using the result

$$\gamma_{6,\alpha\beta,\mu\nu} = - (1/12) [\gamma_{5,\alpha\beta,\gamma_5,\mu\nu}]_+ + 4(\delta_{\alpha\mu} \delta_{\beta\nu} - \delta_{\alpha\nu} \delta_{\beta\mu}) - 4\epsilon_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} \gamma_5. \quad (23)$$

It is assumed that the external fields  $F_{\alpha\beta}$  satisfy the homogeneous Maxwell equations

$$\epsilon_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} \partial F_{\alpha\beta} / \partial x_\mu = 0$$

so the third term in Eq. (23) does not contribute in the wave equation. The second term in Eq. (23) leads to terms proportional to  $\partial F_{\alpha\nu} / \partial x_\nu$  in the wave equation; this type of term is retained so that all the results below apply even in the case when the wave function overlaps the sources of the external fields. With this notation change and after multiplication by  $m^{-2}$ , the wave equation reads

$$\begin{aligned} & ((\pi_\alpha/m)(\pi_\alpha/m)(1+\beta) - 2\beta(\mathbf{s} \cdot \pi/m)^2 - 2i\beta(\alpha \cdot \pi/m)(\pi_4/m) \\ & - (e/m^2)(\beta+\lambda) \mathbf{s} \cdot (\mathbf{B} + i\gamma_5 \mathbf{E}) + 2 + (eq/m^4) \\ & \times (s_p s_k + s_k s_p - \frac{4}{3} \delta_{pk}) \{ \epsilon_{ikl} [\partial(B_p + i\gamma_5 E_p) / \partial x_i] \pi_l \\ & + \gamma_5 [\partial(B_p + i\gamma_5 E_p) / \partial x_k] \pi_4 \\ & - \gamma_5 [\partial(B_p + i\gamma_5 E_p) / \partial x_k] \pi_k \}) \psi = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

The second step is to make the substitution

$$\psi = \exp[(\alpha \cdot \pi/m) - imt] \psi_1,$$

multiply through by

$$\exp[-(\alpha \cdot \pi/m) + imt],$$

and expand for small  $m^{-1}$ . The effect of the time factors is just that  $\pi_4$  becomes  $im + \pi_4$ . The expansion needs to be carried out to order  $m^{-3}$  to get the quadrupole contribution. The calculation leads to

component functions,

$$\psi_1' = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_S \\ \psi_L \end{pmatrix},$$

then the upper part of Eq. (25) is

$$2\psi_S + O(m^{-2})\psi_S + O(m^{-2})\psi_L = 0,$$

where  $O(m^{-2})$  denotes terms of order  $m^{-2}$ . The small components are thus of order  $m^{-2}$  compared to the large. There is considerable simplification in the lower half of Eq. (25) leading to the result

$$\begin{aligned} & [4i(\pi_4/m) + 2(\pi_4/m)^2 + 2(\pi^2/m^2) - (e/m^2)(1+\lambda) \mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{B} \\ & - 2i(\mathbf{s} \cdot \pi/m)(\pi_4/m)(\mathbf{s} \cdot \pi/m) + 2i(\pi_4/m)(\mathbf{s} \cdot \pi/m)^2 \\ & + i(e/m^2)(\mathbf{s} \cdot \pi/m)(1-\lambda) \mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{E} + i(e/m^2)(1+\lambda) \mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{E} \\ & \times (\mathbf{s} \cdot \pi/m) - (eq/m^3)(s_p s_k + s_k s_p - \frac{4}{3} \delta_{pk}) \\ & \times (\partial E_p / \partial x_k)] \psi_L = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

This can be rearranged into the form

$$[-i\pi_4 - (2m)^{-1}\pi_4^2]\psi_L = (H - e\varphi)\psi_L, \quad (27)$$

where  $H$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} H = & e\varphi + (\pi^2/2m) - (e/4m)(1+\lambda)\mathbf{s}\cdot\mathbf{B} \\ & + (e/8m^2)(1-\lambda-2q)(s_i s_j + s_j s_i - \frac{2}{3}\delta_{ij})(\partial E_j/\partial x_i) \\ & - (e/8m^2)(1-\lambda)\mathbf{s}\cdot(\boldsymbol{\pi}\times\mathbf{E} - \mathbf{E}\times\boldsymbol{\pi}) \\ & + (\frac{1}{6})(e/m^2)(1-\lambda)(\boldsymbol{\nabla}\cdot\mathbf{E}), \quad (28) \end{aligned}$$

and where  $\varphi$  is  $-iA_4$ .

As a fourth and final step in finding the nonrelativistic limit, the equation is reorganized into Hamiltonian form. If the function  $\Psi$  is defined by

$$\Psi = [1 + (2m)^{-1}(H - e\varphi)]\psi_L, \quad (29)$$

then, to order  $m^{-2}$ , the  $\pi_4^2$  term cancels out, and Eq. (27) becomes

$$i\partial\Psi/\partial t = H\Psi, \quad (30)$$

and  $\Psi$  is identified as the nonrelativistic wave function.

It is clear that, from what has been said so far, this identification is not unique. For example,  $\psi_L$  might be taken as the nonrelativistic wave function and the  $\pi_4^2$  term manipulated into a contribution to the Hamiltonian in the  $m^{-2}$  order. However, the identification above is supported by the limiting value of the invariant integral. Starting from Eq. (21) and disregarding terms of order  $m^{-3}$ , one finds

$$\begin{aligned} (\psi^{(l)}, \psi^{(n)}) &= i(4m)^{-1} \int d^3x [2i\psi^{(l)\dagger} \boldsymbol{\alpha}\cdot\boldsymbol{\pi}\psi^{(n)} \\ &+ (\pi_4\psi^{(l)})^\dagger(1+\beta)\psi^{(n)} - \psi^{(l)\dagger}(1+\beta)\pi_4\psi^{(n)}] \\ &= \int d^3x \psi_L^{(l)\dagger}\psi_L^{(n)} + i(2m)^{-1} \int d^3x \\ &\times (\pi_4\psi_L^{(l)})^\dagger\psi_L^{(n)} - i(2m)^{-1} \int d^3x \psi_L^{(l)\dagger}\pi_4\psi_L^{(n)} \\ &= \int d^3x \Psi^{(l)\dagger}\Psi^{(n)}. \quad (31) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, except perhaps for further unitary transformations,  $\Psi$  is the correct nonrelativistic wave function.

## VI. DISCUSSION

The magnetic dipole term in  $H$  can be written as  $-g(e/2m)\mathbf{s}\cdot\mathbf{B}$ , where the  $g$  factor is  $\frac{1}{2}(1+\lambda)$ . Thus, for a particle described by Eq. (1) the normal  $g$  factor is  $\frac{1}{2}$ . The conventional form for a spin- $s$  electric quadrupole interaction term is

$$H_{eq} = \frac{Qe}{4s(2s-1)} (s_i s_j + s_j s_i - \frac{2}{3}\delta_{ij}s^2) \frac{\partial E_i}{\partial x_j},$$

where  $Q$  is the quadrupole moment. By comparison with Eq. (28), one sees that the quadrupole moment of this particle is

$$Q = (-1 + \lambda + 2q)/2m^2,$$

the normal moment being  $-1/2m^2$ .

An alternative way to include the anomalous quadrupole contribution is to use the term  $(qe/m^2) \times (\partial F_{\alpha\beta}/\partial x_\nu) \pi_\beta \gamma_{\alpha\nu}$  in place of the  $\gamma_6$  term in Eq. (1). The invariant integral can still be defined all right and the same nonrelativistic limit applies except for a different factor in the  $\boldsymbol{\nabla}\cdot\mathbf{E}$  term. However, the type of quadrupole term used in Eq. (1) has a universal application because the  $\gamma_{\delta, \alpha\beta, \mu\nu}$  matrices, Lorentz type (2,0)  $\oplus (0,2)$ , exist for all spins greater than one-half, whereas matrices like  $\gamma_{\alpha\nu}$ , Lorentz type (1,1), exist only for spin one.

The connection between this formulation and other spin-one free-particle formulations is found by specializing Eq. (1) to the case  $e=0$  and rewriting it as

$$-p_\alpha p_\beta \gamma_{\alpha\beta} \psi = (p_\alpha p_\alpha + 2m^2) \psi, \quad (32)$$

where  $p_\alpha$  is  $-i\partial/\partial x_\alpha$ . This equation was first given by Tung<sup>19</sup> and by Shay.<sup>20</sup> Here one can operate with  $-p_\alpha p_\beta \gamma_{\alpha\beta}$  and use the matrix property

$$(p_\alpha p_\beta \gamma_{\alpha\beta})^2 = (p_\alpha p_\alpha)^2. \quad (33)$$

This leads to

$$(p_\alpha p_\alpha)^2 \psi = (p_\alpha p_\alpha + 2m^2)^2 \psi$$

and so gives the Klein-Gordon equation

$$p_\alpha p_\alpha \psi = -m^2 \psi. \quad (34)$$

Furthermore, this combines with Eq. (32) to yield Weinberg's equation<sup>2</sup>

$$p_\alpha p_\beta \gamma_{\alpha\beta} \psi = -m^2 \psi. \quad (35)$$

Thus, Eqs. (34) and (35) together are equivalent to Eq. (32). In Ref. 6, Sec. 6, the relations between Eqs. (34) and (35) and the other free-particle spin-one formulations were given.

Just as in the spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  case, the polarization of the spin-one particle can, in principle, be followed throughout the interaction. One defines the four-vector polarization operator by

$$\begin{aligned} T_\mu &= (i/12m) \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \gamma_5 \gamma_\nu \pi_\rho \pi_\sigma \\ &= (-i/6m) \gamma_5 \gamma_\mu \pi_\sigma \pi_\sigma. \quad (36) \end{aligned}$$

This is a gauge-independent notion and it fits in with the scheme of free-particle polarization operators.<sup>6</sup> The fourth component is

$$T_4 = (i/m)\mathbf{s}\cdot\boldsymbol{\pi};$$

<sup>19</sup> Wu-Ki Tung, Phys. Rev. **156**, 1385 (1967), Eq. (73).

<sup>20</sup> D. Shay, Ph.D. thesis, Iowa State University, 1966 (University Microfilms, Inc., Ann Arbor, Michigan, No. 67-2092) (unpublished).

for a particle in an electrostatic field, this is  $ip/m$  times the helicity operator  $\mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{p}/p$  which is central to the discussion in Sec. VII.

**VII. APPLICATION: SEMICLASSICAL SOLUTION OF THE GENERAL ELECTROSTATIC PROBLEM**

As an example of the usefulness of this theory the semiclassical approximation for the solutions of Eq. (1) will be set up in the case of a spin-one particle in an electrostatic field. This applies, for example, to a deuteron moving relativistically through laboratory fields. The approximation is the generalization of the WKB method to the relativistic spin-one case. Some of the ideas are the same as those developed by Pauli<sup>21</sup> in the relativistic spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  problem. The approximate solutions are expressed as linear combinations of functions that have, in first approximation, definite helicities and a set of differential equations is given for the expansion coefficients. The anomalous quadrupole-moment term does not contribute to the wave function in first approximation.

The equation to be solved is

$$\left[ -\hbar^2 \nabla^2 (1 + \beta) + 2\hbar^2 (\mathbf{s} \cdot \nabla)^2 \beta + 2\hbar \left( -\frac{\hbar}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \frac{ie}{c} \Phi \right) \boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \nabla \beta + \frac{ie\hbar}{c} \mathbf{E} \cdot \boldsymbol{\alpha} \beta + \left( -\frac{\hbar}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \frac{ie}{c} \Phi \right)^2 (\beta + 1) + 2m^2 c^2 + \frac{e\hbar}{c} \lambda i \boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{E} + \frac{e\hbar^3}{m^2 c^3} q \gamma_5 \epsilon_{ijkl} (s_i s_j + s_i s_k) \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} - i \frac{e\hbar^2}{m^2 c^3} \times q (s_i s_j + s_j s_i - \frac{4}{3} \delta_{ij}) \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \left( -\frac{\hbar}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \frac{ie}{c} \Phi \right) \right] \psi = 0. \quad (37)$$

This is just Eq. (1) specialized to the case  $\mathbf{A} = 0$ ,  $A_4 = i\phi$  time-dependent. The factors of  $\hbar$  and  $c$  have been reinserted and it has been written in terms of the  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$  and  $\beta$  rather than the  $\gamma$  matrices.

The results are conveniently expressed in terms of the solutions of the free-particle problem. In this case one considers solutions of the form

$$\psi = w \exp[i\hbar^{-1}(\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{x} - Et)]. \quad (38)$$

The equation determining  $w$  is then

$$[p^2(1 + \beta) - 2(\mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{p})^2 \beta - 2(E/c)\boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{p}\beta - (E/c)^2(1 + \beta) + 2m^2 c^2]w = 0. \quad (39)$$

By looking at the problem in the rest frame  $\mathbf{p} = 0$ , one sees clearly that there are six solutions for each fixed  $\mathbf{p}$ . It is easy to find them by supposing they are eigenstates of the  $6 \times 6$  helicity operator, say

$$(\mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{p}/p)w = \sigma w, \quad (40)$$

where  $\sigma = 0, \pm 1$ . Then Eq. (39) reduces to a  $2 \times 2$  problem. There are solutions only if

$$E = \epsilon W, \quad (41)$$

where  $\epsilon = \pm 1$  and  $W$  is an abbreviation for  $c(p^2 + m^2 c^2)^{1/2}$ , the positive root. The particle (antiparticle) solution is identified as  $\epsilon = +1$  ( $-1$ ). The final formulas for the solutions  $w_{\epsilon, \sigma}(\mathbf{p})$  of the free-particle problem are

$$w_{\epsilon, 0}(\mathbf{p}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} u_0 \\ u_0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad w_{\epsilon, \pm 1}(\mathbf{p}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} m c^2} \begin{pmatrix} (W \pm \epsilon c p) u_{\pm 1} \\ (W \mp \epsilon c p) u_{\pm 1} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (42)$$

where  $u_\sigma(\mathbf{p})$  are the solutions of the  $3 \times 3$  helicity eigenvalue problem

$$(\mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{p}/p)u = \sigma u,$$

normalized so that

$$u^\dagger u = 1.$$

In the representation  $(s_i)_{jk} = i\epsilon_{jik}$ , explicit formulas for these functions are

$$u_0(\mathbf{p}) = \frac{1}{p} \begin{pmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \\ p_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad u_{\pm 1}(\mathbf{p}) = \left( \frac{1}{2p^2(p^2 - p_3^2)} \right)^{1/2} \begin{pmatrix} \pm i p p_2 - p_1 p_3 \\ \mp i p p_1 - p_2 p_3 \\ p^2 - p_3^2 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (43)$$

The factors in Eqs. (42) are chosen so as to give a normalization appropriate to Eq. (21). In the electrostatic problem, if the  $q$  term can be disregarded and if  $\psi$  has time dependence  $\exp(-i\hbar^{-1}Et)$ , then

$$(\psi, \psi) = \int d^3x I,$$

where

$$I = (2mc^2)^{-1} [E\psi^\dagger(1 + \beta)\psi - c\psi^\dagger \boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{p}\psi], \quad (44)$$

and  $\mathbf{p}$  is  $-i\hbar \nabla$ . The normalization is such that  $I = E/mc^2$  for the free-particle solutions.

The semiclassical approximation is obtained by substituting

$$\psi = [a_0 + (\hbar/i)a_1 + \dots] e^{iS/\hbar}$$

into Eq. (37) and formally obtaining a solution to first order for small  $\hbar$ . Applicability of this approximation is discussed below. In terms of the abbreviations

$$\mathbf{p} = \nabla S, \quad E = -\partial S/\partial t,$$

(this is a different use of the symbol  $\mathbf{p}$  than before), the terms in  $\hbar$  give

$$[p^2(1 + \beta) - 2(\mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{p})^2 \beta - 2c^{-1}(E - e\phi)\boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{p}\beta - c^{-2}(E - e\phi)^2(1 + \beta) + 2m^2 c^2]a_0 = 0. \quad (45)$$

<sup>21</sup> W. Pauli, *Helv. Phys. Acta* **5**, 179 (1932).

Solutions of this equation are known by comparison with the free-particle problem, Eq. (39). According to Eq. (41) it is necessary that

$$E - e\phi = \epsilon c(p^2 + m^2 c^2)^{1/2}. \quad (46)$$

In the following, only the particle solutions  $\epsilon = +1$  are considered; then this is the equation for the classical Hamilton-Jacobi function  $S$ . Also only the solutions with definite energy  $E$  are found so that

$$S = \bar{S} - Et, \quad (47)$$

where  $\bar{S}$  is time-independent. This means that  $\mathbf{p}$  is  $\nabla \bar{S}$  and is also time-independent. Suppose the classical problem is solved so that  $\bar{S}$  as a function of  $\mathbf{x}$  and three constants, values of integrals of the motion, is known. The only problem then is to determine  $a_0$ . Equation (45) implies that

$$a_0 = \sum_{\sigma=0,\pm 1} A_\sigma w_{+1,\sigma}(\mathbf{p}), \quad (48)$$

where  $A_\sigma$  are three functions of position still to be determined. The limitation on  $A_\sigma$  is that the approximation should be solvable to next order to get  $a_1$ . Thus, Eq. (37) for the terms in  $\hbar^1$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} & [p^2(1+\beta) - 2(\mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{p})^2 \beta - 2c^{-1}(E - e\phi)\boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{p}\beta \\ & - c^{-2}(E - e\phi)^2(1+\beta) + 2m^2 c^2] a_1 \\ & = [(\mathbf{p} \cdot \nabla + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{p})(1+\beta) - 2\beta(\mathbf{s} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{p} \mathbf{s} \cdot \nabla) \\ & - 2c^{-1}(E - e\phi)\boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \nabla \beta - ec^{-1}\mathbf{E} \cdot \boldsymbol{\alpha}\beta - ec^{-1}\lambda \mathbf{E} \cdot \boldsymbol{\alpha}] a_0. \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

(Even in this order, the  $q$  term does not contribute.) The matrix of coefficients of  $a_1$  is the same as in Eq. (45) and has zero determinant. Equation (49) has a solution for  $a_1$  only if the vector on the right is orthogonal to the solutions of the homogeneous equations formed with the Hermitian conjugate of the matrix on the left. Taking that Hermitian conjugate is the same as replacing  $(E - e\phi)$  by  $-(E - e\phi)$ , so those solutions are just  $w_{-1,\tau}(\mathbf{p})$  and the condition for solvability is

$$\begin{aligned} & w_{-1,\tau}^\dagger [(\mathbf{p} \cdot \nabla + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{p})(1+\beta) - 2\beta(\mathbf{s} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{p} \mathbf{s} \cdot \nabla) \\ & - 2c^{-1}(E - e\phi)\boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \nabla \beta - ec^{-1}\mathbf{E} \cdot \boldsymbol{\alpha}\beta - ec^{-1}\lambda \mathbf{E} \cdot \boldsymbol{\alpha}] \\ & \quad \times \sum A_\sigma w_{+1,\sigma} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Here  $\nabla$  acts on everything to the right including the  $\mathbf{x}$  dependence in  $\mathbf{p}$ . Expressed as differential equations for  $A_\sigma$  this reads

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{\sigma} w_{-1,\tau}^\dagger [2\mathbf{p}(1+\beta) - 2\beta p(\tau + \sigma)\mathbf{s} + 2c^{-1}W\beta\boldsymbol{\alpha}] w_{+1,\sigma} \cdot \nabla A_\sigma \\ & = - \sum_{\sigma} A_\sigma w_{-1,\tau}^\dagger [(\mathbf{p} \cdot \nabla + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{p})(1+\beta) \\ & - 2\beta(\mathbf{s} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{p} \mathbf{s} \cdot \nabla) + 2c^{-1}W\beta\boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \nabla \\ & + ec^{-1}\beta \mathbf{E} \cdot \boldsymbol{\alpha} - ec^{-1}\lambda \mathbf{E} \cdot \boldsymbol{\alpha}] w_{+1,\sigma}. \end{aligned} \quad (50)$$

Here  $W$  still denotes  $c(p^2 + m^2 c^2)^{1/2}$ . By using the explicit formulas for  $w_{\epsilon,\sigma}$ , Eqs. (42), one can verify that the

left-hand side simplifies to  $4\mathbf{p} \cdot \nabla A_\tau$ . Let Eq. (50) be written as

$$\mathbf{p} \cdot \nabla A_\tau = \sum_{\sigma} C_{\tau\sigma}(\mathbf{x}) A_\sigma, \quad (51)$$

where the coefficients  $C_{\tau\sigma}$  can be found given the potential  $\phi(\mathbf{x})$  and choice of principal function  $S$ . Since at every point  $\mathbf{p}$  is normal to the surface  $\bar{S} = \text{const}$ , Eq. (51) determines  $A_\tau$  everywhere if the  $A_\tau$  are given on one particular surface. In this respect the semiclassical approximation is like the classical problem in which one can have various numbers of particles streaming on the various allowed trajectories. For any particular orbit  $\mathbf{x}(t)$ , since  $\mathbf{p}$  is  $c^{-2}(E - e\phi)d\mathbf{x}/dt$ , Eq. (51) is a set of total differential equations

$$(E - e\phi)dA_\tau/dt = c^2 \sum_{\sigma} C_{\tau\sigma} A_\sigma, \quad (52)$$

which determine the amplitudes  $A_\tau$  if they are known at the start.

In the one-dimensional problem, when  $\phi$  and  $\bar{S}$  depend on a single coordinate, say  $z$ , one can solve for the  $A_\tau$  explicitly. The principal function is

$$S = \int p dz - Et, \quad (53)$$

where

$$p = c^{-1}[(E - e\phi)^2 - m^2 c^4]^{1/2} \quad (54)$$

for particles moving in the positive  $z$  direction. Only the  $z$  components of the spin matrices occur in Eq. (50), so it is appropriate to use the representation in which  $s_z$  is diagonal. In place of Eq. (43), one has

$$u_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad u_{+1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad u_{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

and their derivatives are zero.

Equation (51) uncouples and simplifies to

$$p(dA_\tau/dz) = -\frac{1}{2}A_\tau(d\phi/dz),$$

the  $\lambda$  term dropping out. The amplitudes are then just  $p^{-1/2}$  and the semiclassical solutions are

$$\psi_0 = \left(\frac{mc}{2p}\right)^{1/2} \begin{pmatrix} u_0 \\ u_0 \end{pmatrix} \exp\left[i\hbar^{-1}\left(\int p dz - Et\right)\right], \quad (55a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{\pm 1} &= \frac{1}{(2\hbar mc^3)^{1/2}} \begin{pmatrix} (W \pm cp)u_{\pm 1} \\ (W \mp cp)u_{\pm 1} \end{pmatrix} \\ & \quad \times \exp\left[i\hbar^{-1}\left(\int p dz - Et\right)\right]. \end{aligned} \quad (55b)$$

These are eigenstates of the helicity  $s_z$ , as are the exact solutions of the electrostatic one-dimensional problem. Equation (44) is still appropriate for discussing the normalization, although there,  $\mathbf{p}$  denotes  $-i\hbar\nabla$  whereas

in Eq. (55)  $p$  is given by Eq. (54). To first order in  $\hbar$  they amount to the same thing and  $I$  is  $E/cp$ . This is a sensible result since it is inversely proportional to the classical velocity.

The semiclassical approximation is expected to apply when terms marked by higher powers of  $\hbar$  are smaller than those marked by lower powers. Typically, the  $\hbar\nabla\mathbf{p}$  terms are considered one higher order than  $p^2$  in deriving Eqs. (45) and (49). Using Eq. (46) and considering  $E - e\phi$  of order  $mc^2$ , one finds that the relative size  $\hbar\nabla\mathbf{p}/p^2$  is of order  $\hbar e E_f/m^2 c^3$ , where  $E_f$  is the size

of the electric field. This parameter also measures the size of the  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}\cdot\mathbf{E}$  terms relative to  $p^2$ , as long as  $\lambda$  is of order unity. Another parameter enters in when the  $q$  terms are considered. Their size relative to the  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}\cdot\mathbf{E}$  terms is about  $\hbar q\nabla E_f/mcE_f$ . The approximation is expected to apply, then, when the above two parameters are small. For example, a deuteron has  $\lambda = 0.7$ ,  $q = 25$  and, if it moves in laboratory fields  $E_f \cong 10^4$  esu,  $\nabla E_f/E_f \cong 1$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , the first parameter is about  $10^{-17}$  and the second about  $10^{-13}$ . The approximation would surely apply in that case.

## Leading Divergences in Nonleptonic Decays\*

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(Received 26 November 1968)

We show that the leading divergences in weak nonleptonic decays can be expressed in terms of time-ordered products of  $\sigma$  commutators (to all orders in the semiweak coupling constant). We formulate nontrivial criteria for the  $\sigma$  commutators from which the leading divergencies in strangeness-changing nonleptonic interactions can be shown to vanish in any order. The remaining divergences are then of the same type as those in the radiative corrections.

### I. INTRODUCTION

RECENTLY there has been much interest in the higher-order weak interactions. The purpose of these works has been to obtain either a finite theory<sup>1</sup> or to accept the divergences as they are and show that the higher-order corrections are negligible.<sup>2,3</sup> In the last category two different points of view have been proposed. Either one assumes that a finite cutoff can be rationalized in some future theory, and one then estimates<sup>2</sup> a small effective weak-interaction cutoff  $\Lambda \simeq 2-8$  BeV, or it is assumed that perturbation theory does not make sense and shown that in some special models one can deal with the exact theory.<sup>3</sup> The unsatisfactory status of the theory of weak interactions does hardly allow us the luxury of taking a single point of view to the exclusion of others. It is obvious, however, that the problems encountered in the theory of weak interactions requires an investigation of the structure of the theory to all orders in order to be sure that the higher-order corrections are small (this is true also in a finite theory). Such a program is in general very complicated. It is the purpose of this paper to point out that in strangeness-

changing nonleptonic decays it is possible to obtain a rather simple result valid to all orders in the weak and electromagnetic coupling constants.

We formulate algebraic criteria for  $\sigma$  commutators which are shown to lead to the following result: If these criteria are satisfied, the leading divergences in strangeness-changing nonleptonic decays are absent to all orders in the weak, electromagnetic, and strong interactions. This result has previously been obtained by Bouchiat, Iliopoulos, and Prentki<sup>4</sup> in the lowest-order weak interactions. Our criteria for the  $\sigma$  commutators are nontrivial. Recently Gell-Mann, Oakes, and Renner<sup>5</sup> have proposed a model of  $SU(3) \otimes SU(3)$  breaking, which satisfies our criteria.

The remaining, nonleading divergences of the weak interactions are of the same order of magnitude as the radiative corrections to the strangeness-changing nonleptonic decays. This result could have very great theoretical interest since it implies that the weak and the electromagnetic interactions have the same structure. It should be mentioned, however, that the radiative corrections to strangeness-changing nonleptonic decays are nonrenormalizable (in the conventional perturbation sense; see Ref. 3).

For the reader's convenience we have summarized our results in the form of two theorems in Sec. V.

\* Work supported in part by the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission.

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