## **EXAMINATION TENSOR CALCULUS AND DIFFERENTIAL GEOMETRY**

Course code: 2WAH0-2WAH1. Date: Tuesday June 23, 2015. Time: 18h00-21h00. Place: AUD 14.

#### Read this first!

- Write your name and student identification number on each paper.
- The exam consists of 2 problems. The maximum credit for each item is indicated in the margin.
- Motivate your answers in mathematically rigorous terms.
- Einstein summation convention applies throughout for all repeated pairs of upper and lower indices.
- You may consult an immaculate hardcopy of the online draft notes "Tensor Calculus and Differential Geometry (2WAH0)" by Luc Florack. No equipment may be used.



#### (50) 1. RIEMANNIAN METRIC

Recall the positivity and non-degeneracy conditions for a Riemannian metric  $\mathbf{G}: \mathrm{TM} \times \mathrm{TM} \to \mathbb{R}$ :  $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{v},\mathbf{v}) = (\mathbf{v}|\mathbf{v}) = g_{ij}v^iv^j \geq 0$  for any  $\mathbf{v} = v^i\partial_i$  (positivity), with equality if and only if  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$  (non-degeneracy). We denote by g the determinant of the matrix with entries  $g_{ij}$ .

(5) **a1.** Show that, in general, positivity implies  $g \ge 0$ .

A real symmetric matrix has real eigenvalues, the product of which equals its determinant. In particular, the semi-positive real symmetric matrix with entries  $g_{ij}$  has nonnegative eigenvalues.

(5) **a2.** Show that, in general, non-degeneracy is equivalent to  $g \neq 0$ .

Suppose g=0, then the matrix with entries  $g_{ij}$  has a zero eigenvalue, vice versa. An associated eigenvector  $\mathbf{v}=v^i\partial_i\neq\mathbf{0}$  satisfies  $g_{ij}v^j=0$ , whence  $(\mathbf{v}|\mathbf{v})=g_{ij}v^iv^j=0$ , contradicting the non-degeneracy requirement.

We now stipulate a particular 3-dimensional Riemannian metric of the form

$$\mathbf{G} = dx \otimes dx + dy \otimes dy + dz \otimes dz - (adx + bdy + cdz) \otimes (adx + bdy + cdz)$$
,

in which  $dx, dy, dz \in T^*M$  are coordinate one-forms and  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$  are constants.

(5) **b1.** Show that, in this case, non-degeneracy is equivalent to  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \neq 1$ .

We have

$$g = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 - a^2 & -ab & -ac \\ -ab & 1 - b^2 & -bc \\ -ac & -bc & 1 - c^2 \end{pmatrix} = 1 - a^2 - b^2 - c^2,$$

from which the result follows, recall a.

(5) **b2.** Likewise, show that positive-definiteness of the metric implies  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 < 1$ .

Positive-definiteness of the metric implies that all eigenvalues are positive, whence g > 0. According to b1 this means that  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 < 1$ .

Next we consider the tensor  $\mathbf{P}=p_{ij}dx^i\otimes dx^j$ , with  $p_{ij}=g_{ij}-\omega_i\omega_j$ , in which now  $g_{ij}$  are the components of a genuine (positive-definite, non-degenerate) Riemannian metric, and  $\omega_i=g_{ij}e^j$  are the covariant components of the dual  $\boldsymbol{\omega}\in T^*M$  of a given *unit vector*  $\mathbf{e}\in TM$ , i.e.  $(\mathbf{e}|\mathbf{e})=g_{ij}e^ie^j=1$  and  $\langle \boldsymbol{\omega},\mathbf{e}\rangle=\omega_je^j=1$ .

(5) **c.** Show that  $\langle \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{u}), \mathbf{e} \rangle = 0$  for any vector  $\mathbf{u} = u^i \partial_i$ .

For an arbitrary vector  $\mathbf{u} = u^i \partial_i$  we have  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{u}) = p_{ij}(dx^i \otimes dx^j)(u^k \partial_k) = p_{ij}u^k \delta_k^i dx^j = p_{ij}u^i dx^j$ , whence  $\langle \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{u}), \mathbf{e} \rangle = p_{ij}u^i e^k \langle dx^j, \partial_k \rangle = p_{ij}u^i e^k \delta_k^j = p_{ij}u^i e^j = (g_{ij} - \omega_i \omega_j)u^i e^j = u_j e^j - \omega_i u^i = g_{ij}(u^i e^j - e^j u^i) = 0$ . Note that the image  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{u}) \in \mathbf{T}^*\mathbf{M}$  of  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbf{T}^*\mathbf{M}$  is a covector. A vectorial image may be obtained straightforwardly, viz. by considering  $\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{u})) \in \mathbf{T}\mathbf{M}$ . In the latter sense  $\mathbf{P}$  can be interpreted as a projection onto the plane perpendicular to the vector  $\mathbf{e}$ .

A special *g-orthonormal basis*  $\{\mathbf{e}_{\alpha}=e_{\alpha}^{i}\partial_{i}\}_{\alpha=1,\dots,n}$  relative to the metric  $\mathbf{G}=g_{ij}dx^{i}\otimes dx^{j}$  is one for which  $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{e}_{\alpha},\mathbf{e}_{\beta})=(\mathbf{e}_{\alpha}|\mathbf{e}_{\beta})=g_{ij}e_{\alpha}^{i}e_{\beta}^{j}=\delta_{\alpha\beta}$ , in which  $\delta_{\alpha\beta}=1$  and  $\delta^{\alpha\beta}=1$  if  $\alpha=\beta$  and 0 otherwise. The corresponding dual basis is  $\{\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\alpha}=\omega_{i}^{\alpha}dx^{i}\}_{\alpha=1,\dots,n}$ .

(5) **d.** Show that *g*-orthonormality of a basis is preserved under orthogonal transformations.

(Hint: A matrix **A** corresponding to an orthogonal transformation satisfies  $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{I}$ .)

Suppose  $\{\mathbf{e}_{\alpha}\}$  is g-orthonormal. Consider a linear basis transformation, with  $\mathbf{f}_{\alpha}=A_{\alpha}^{\beta}\mathbf{e}_{\beta}$  say, then  $\{\mathbf{f}_{\alpha}\}$  is g-orthonormal iff  $(\mathbf{f}_{\alpha}|\mathbf{f}_{\beta})=\delta_{\alpha\beta}$ . Inserting  $\mathbf{f}_{\alpha}=A_{\alpha}^{\gamma}\mathbf{e}_{\gamma}$  and  $\mathbf{f}_{\beta}=A_{\beta}^{\delta}\mathbf{e}_{\delta}$  and using g-orthonormality of  $\{\mathbf{e}_{\alpha}\}$  yields  $A_{\alpha}^{\gamma}A_{\beta}^{\delta}\delta_{\gamma\delta}=\delta_{\alpha\beta}$ , or, in matrix form,  $\mathbf{A}^{T}\mathbf{A}=\mathbf{I}$ , which is the defining equation for orthogonal matrices.

(5) **e1.** Show that  $\delta^{\alpha}_{\beta} = \omega^{\alpha}_{i} e^{i}_{\beta}$ .

By duality of both  $\{\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\alpha}, \mathbf{e}_{\beta}\}$  and  $\{dx^{i}, \partial_{j}\}$ , using the decompositions  $\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\alpha} = \omega_{i}^{\alpha} dx^{i}$  and  $\mathbf{e}_{\beta} = e_{\beta}^{i} \partial_{i}$ , we have  $\delta_{\beta}^{\alpha} = \langle \boldsymbol{\omega}^{\alpha}, \mathbf{e}_{\beta} \rangle = \omega_{i}^{\alpha} e_{\beta}^{j} \langle dx^{i}, \partial_{j} \rangle = \omega_{i}^{\alpha} e_{\beta}^{j} \delta_{i}^{j} = \omega_{i}^{\alpha} e_{\beta}^{i}$ .

(5) **e2.** Show that  $\delta^i_j = e^i_\alpha \omega^\alpha_j$ .

(Hint: Contract  $\omega_i^{\beta}$  onto the result of e1.)

Contracting  $\omega_j^{\beta}$  onto the result of e1 yields  $\omega_j^{\alpha} = \delta_{\beta}^{\alpha} \omega_j^{\beta} \stackrel{\text{e1}}{=} \omega_i^{\alpha} e_{\beta}^i \omega_j^{\beta}$ , from which it follows that  $e_{\beta}^i \omega_j^{\beta} = \delta_j^i$ .

(5) **e3.** Show that  $g_{ij} = \omega_i^{\alpha} \delta_{\alpha\beta} \omega_i^{\beta} = \sum_{\alpha} \omega_i^{\alpha} \omega_i^{\alpha}$ .

(Hint: First show that e2 implies  $\partial_i = \omega_i^{\alpha} \mathbf{e}_{\alpha}$ .)

We have  $\partial_i = \delta_i^k \partial_k \stackrel{e2}{=} e_\alpha^k \omega_i^\alpha \partial_k = \omega_i^\alpha \mathbf{e}_\alpha$ , whence  $g_{ij} = (\partial_i | \partial_j) = \left(\omega_i^\alpha \mathbf{e}_\alpha | \omega_j^\beta \mathbf{e}_\beta\right) = \omega_i^\alpha \omega_j^\beta \left(\mathbf{e}_\alpha | \mathbf{e}_\beta\right) = \omega_i^\alpha \delta_{\alpha\beta} \omega_j^\beta = \sum_\alpha \omega_i^\alpha \omega_j^\alpha$ .

# (5) **e4.** Show that $g^{ij} = e^i_{\alpha} \delta^{\alpha\beta} e^j_{\beta} = \sum_{\alpha} e^i_{\alpha} e^j_{\alpha}$ .

By analogy to the proof of e3 we may proceed by first showing that  $dx^i=e^i_\alpha\omega^\alpha$ , viz.  $dx^i=\delta^i_kdx^k\stackrel{e2}{=}e^i_\alpha\omega^\alpha_kdx^k=e^i_\alpha\omega^\alpha$ . Then, using the inner product on the cotangentbundle we obtain  $g^{ij}=\left(dx^i|dx^j\right)_*=\left(e^i_\alpha\omega^\alpha|e^j_\alpha\omega^\beta\right)_*=e^i_\alpha e^j_\beta\left(\omega^\alpha|\omega^\beta\right)_*=e^i_\alpha\delta^{\alpha\beta}e^j_\beta=\sum_\alpha e^i_\alpha e^j_\alpha$ . Alternatively we may show that the stipulated r.h.s. is indeed the contravariant holor of the dual metric, viz.  $g_{ik}e^k_\alpha\delta^{\alpha\beta}e^j_\beta\stackrel{=}{=}\omega^j_ie^j_\alpha=\delta^j_i$ , so that indeed  $e^k_\alpha\delta^{\alpha\beta}e^j_\beta=g^{kj}$ . In  $\star$  we have used duality:  $g_{ik}e^k_\alpha\delta^{\alpha\beta}=\omega^\beta_i$ .

\*

### (50) 2. MASSIVE VECTOR BOSONS

We consider 4-dimensional spacetime, endowed with a non-positive "Minkowski metric"  $G = \eta_{\mu\nu} dx^{\mu} \otimes dx^{\nu}$ . The corresponding non-positive, symmetric, non-degenerate bilinear form, or "inner product", of two 4-vectors,  $\mathbf{v} = v^{\mu} \partial_{\mu}$  and  $\mathbf{w} = w^{\mu} \partial_{\mu}$  say, is denoted by  $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w} = v^{\mu} \eta_{\mu\nu} w^{\nu}$ .

We henceforth restrict ourselves to so-called "inertial systems", in which, by definition, the components of the covariant metric tensor are  $\eta_{00}=1$ ,  $\eta_{11}=\eta_{22}=\eta_{33}=-1$ , and  $\eta_{\mu\nu}=0$  otherwise  $(\mu,\nu=0,1,2,3)$ . The defining inertial coordinates are indicated by  $(x^0,x^1,x^2,x^3)=(ct,x,y,z)=(ct,\vec{x})\in\mathbb{R}^4$ , in which  $c\approx 3.00\times 10^8\,\mathrm{m/s}$  denotes the universally constant speed of light in vacuum.

A so-called "Lorentz transformation" relates two inertial systems, with coordinates  $x \in \mathbb{R}^4$  and  $\overline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^4$ , say, preserving the components of the Minkowski metric as stated above.

(5) **a1.** Show that if  $x^{\mu} = L^{\mu}_{\nu} \overline{x}^{\nu}$  is a Lorentz transformation, then the components  $L^{\mu}_{\nu}$  must satisfy the condition  $L^{\mu}_{\rho} \eta_{\mu\nu} L^{\nu}_{\sigma} = \eta_{\rho\sigma}$ .

(Hint: Set  $\overline{\eta}_{\mu\nu}d\overline{x}^{\mu}\otimes d\overline{x}^{\nu}=\eta_{\mu\nu}dx^{\mu}\otimes dx^{\nu}$  and impose the defining invariance property  $\overline{\eta}_{\mu\nu}=\eta_{\mu\nu}$ .)

On the one hand we have  $\eta_{\mu\nu}dx^{\mu}\otimes dx^{\nu}=\eta_{\mu\nu}\frac{\partial x^{\mu}}{\partial\overline{x}^{\rho}}\frac{\partial x^{\nu}}{\partial\overline{x}^{\sigma}}d\overline{x}^{\rho}\otimes d\overline{x}^{\sigma}\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}\overline{\eta}_{\rho\sigma}d\overline{x}^{\rho}\otimes d\overline{x}^{\sigma}$  ("covariance"). On the other hand we have  $\overline{\eta}_{\rho\sigma}=\eta_{\rho\sigma}$  ("invariance"). Noting that  $\frac{\partial x^{\mu}}{\partial\overline{x}^{\rho}}=L^{\mu}_{\rho}$  this yields  $L^{\mu}_{\rho}\eta_{\mu\nu}L^{\nu}_{\sigma}=\eta_{\rho\sigma}$ .

(5) **a2.** Show that Lorentz transformations are closed under composition. In other words, show that the effective transformation  $x \to \overline{\overline{x}}$  resulting from two consecutive Lorentz transformations,  $x \to \overline{x} \to \overline{\overline{x}}$  say, is itself a Lorentz transformation.

Performing two Lorentz transformations  $x \to \overline{x} \to \overline{\overline{x}}$  in a row yields  $x^{\mu} = L^{\mu}_{\nu} \overline{L}^{\nu} = L^{\mu}_{\nu} \overline{L}^{\rho}_{\rho} \overline{\overline{x}}^{\rho}$ . Considering the matrix  $\Lambda^{\mu}_{\rho} = L^{\mu}_{\nu} \overline{L}^{\rho}_{\rho}$  we have  $\Lambda^{\mu}_{\rho} \eta_{\mu\nu} \Lambda^{\nu}_{\sigma} = L^{\mu}_{\alpha} \overline{L}^{\alpha}_{\rho} \eta_{\mu\nu} L^{\nu}_{\beta} \overline{L}^{\beta}_{\rho} \stackrel{*}{=} \overline{L}^{\alpha}_{\rho} \eta_{\alpha\beta} \overline{L}^{\beta}_{\sigma} \stackrel{*}{=} \eta_{\rho\sigma}$ , from which it follows that  $\Lambda^{\mu}_{\nu}$  is indeed the matrix representation of a Lorentz transformation. In \* we have used the defining property of a Lorentz transformation.

An energy-momentum vector  $\mathbf{p}=p^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}$  has a corresponding representation in terms of a wave vector  $\mathbf{k}=k^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}$  given by  $\mathbf{p}=\hbar\mathbf{k}$ , in which  $\hbar\approx 1.05\times 10^{-34}\,\mathrm{J}\,\mathrm{s}$  denotes Planck's constant. The following notation is often used for the components:

$$\mathbf{k} = (k^0, k^1, k^2, k^3) = (k^0, \vec{k}) = (\omega/c, \vec{k}),$$

in which  $\omega \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\vec{k} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  denote temporal angular frequency and spatial frequency 3-vector, and

$$\mathbf{p} = (p^0, p^1, p^2, p^3) = (p^0, \vec{p}) = (E/c, \vec{p}),$$

in which  $E \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\vec{p} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  denote energy and momentum 3-vector, respectively. These are to be distinguised from their dual (covector) counterparts  $\hat{\mathbf{k}} = k_{\mu} dx^{\mu}$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{p}} = p_{\mu} dx^{\mu}$ .

(2\frac{1}{2}) **b.** Show that, in any inertial frame,  $\hat{\mathbf{k}} = (k^0, -k^1, -k^2, -k^3) = (k^0, -\vec{k}) = (\omega/c, -\vec{k})$ , respectively  $\hat{\mathbf{p}} = (p^0, -p^1, -p^2, -p^3) = (p^0, -\vec{p}) = (E/c, -\vec{p})$ .

From  $k_{\mu} = \eta_{\mu\nu}k^{\nu}$  it follows that  $k_0 = \eta_{0\nu}k^{\nu} \stackrel{*}{=} \eta_{00}k^0 = k^0$ , and  $k_i = \eta_{i\nu}k^{\nu} \stackrel{*}{=} \eta_{ii}k^i = -k^i$ . In \* we have used the explicit diagonal form of the Minkowski metric in an inertial frame; in particular, no summation is implied over the repeated index i in the latter expression.

We consider a force field  $F\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} dA$ , generated by a covector-valued potential field  $A=A_{\nu}dx^{\nu}$  through exterior derivation:  $dA=\partial_{\mu}A_{\nu}\,dx^{\mu}\wedge dx^{\nu}$ . The components of F relative to a standard tensor basis  $\{dx^{\mu}\otimes dx^{\nu}\}$  are given by  $F_{\mu\nu}$ , i.e.  $F=F_{\mu\nu}\,dx^{\mu}\otimes dx^{\nu}$ .

 $(2\frac{1}{2})$  **c1.** Show that  $F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_{\mu}A_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu}A_{\mu}$ .

We have  $F = dA = \partial_{\mu}A_{\nu} \ dx^{\mu} \wedge dx^{\nu} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_{\mu}A_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu}A_{\mu}) \ dx^{\mu} \wedge dx^{\nu} = (\partial_{\mu}A_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu}A_{\mu}) \ dx^{\mu} \otimes dx^{\nu} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} F_{\mu\nu} \ dx^{\mu} \otimes dx^{\nu}.$ 

 $(2\frac{1}{2})$  **c2.** Show that, alternatively,  $F = \frac{1}{2} F_{\mu\nu} dx^{\mu} \wedge dx^{\nu}$ .

According to c1 we have  $F=\frac{1}{2}(\partial_{\mu}A_{\nu}-\partial_{\nu}A_{\mu})\,dx^{\mu}\wedge dx^{\nu}\stackrel{\mathrm{c1}}{=}\frac{1}{2}\,F_{\mu\nu}\,dx^{\mu}\wedge dx^{\nu}.$ 

The (contravariant components of the) potential field,  $A^{\mu} = \eta^{\mu\nu} A_{\nu}$ , satisfy the *Proca equation*,

$$\partial_{\mu}F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{m^2c^2}{\hbar^2}A^{\nu} = 0 \,,$$

in which m > 0 is some mass parameter. This field equation describes so-called "massive vector bosons" (massive counterparts of the familiar massless photon in electromagnetism).

(2\frac{1}{2}) **d1.** Show that the components of the potential field are not independent, but satisfy  $\partial \cdot A = \partial_{\mu}A^{\mu} = 0$ .

Since  $F^{\mu\nu}$  is antisymmetric we have  $\partial_{\nu}\partial_{\mu}F^{\mu\nu}=0$ . Thus by applying  $\partial_{\nu}$  to the l.h.s. of the Proca equation we obtain  $\frac{m^2c^2}{\hbar^2}\partial_{\nu}A^{\nu}=0$ . For nonzero mass m this implies that A is divergence-free, thus its four components are not mutually independent.

(5) **d2.** Show that the Proca equation can be rewritten as  $(\partial^2 + \frac{m^2c^2}{\hbar^2})A^{\nu} = 0$ , in which  $\partial^2 = \eta^{\mu\nu}\partial_{\mu}\partial_{\nu}$  (i.e. the so-called d'Alembertian).

This follows from rewriting the first term on the l.h.s. of the Proca equation:  $\partial_{\mu}F^{\mu\nu} = \partial_{\mu}(\partial^{\mu}A^{\nu} - \partial^{\nu}A^{\mu}) = \partial^{2}A^{\nu} - \partial^{\nu}(\partial \cdot A)$ . The second term on the r.h.s. vanishes, recall d1 (note that in an inertial system  $\partial_{\mu}$  and  $\partial^{\nu}$  commute).

We use the following Fourier convention in Minkowski space (in an inertial system):

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} \int_{\mathbb{R}^4} e^{-ik \cdot x} \hat{f}(k) dk \,,$$

in which  $k \cdot x = \eta_{\mu\nu} k^{\mu} x^{\nu}$  and  $dk = dk^0 dk^1 dk^2 dk^3$ . (A ^ henceforth denotes Fourier transform.) We take for granted that f = 0 is equivalent to  $\hat{f} = 0$  ("completeness of the Fourier basis").

(5) **e1.** Show that the condition on the potential field (recall d1) is equivalent to  $k \cdot \hat{A}(k) = \eta_{\mu\nu} k^{\mu} \hat{A}^{\nu}(k) = 0$ .

Substituting  $A^{\mu}(x)=\frac{1}{(2\pi)^4}\int_{\mathbb{R}^4}e^{-ik\cdot x}\hat{A}^{\mu}(k)dk$  into  $\partial_{\mu}A^{\mu}(x)=0$  yields  $\frac{1}{(2\pi)^4}\int_{\mathbb{R}^4}e^{-ik\cdot x}(-ik_{\mu})\hat{A}^{\mu}(k)dk=0$ , which, by completeness of the Fourier basis, holds iff  $k_{\mu}\hat{A}^{\mu}(k)=0$ .

(5) **e2.** Show that the Proca equation in Fourier space is  $(-k^2 + \frac{m^2c^2}{\hbar^2})\hat{A}^{\nu}(k) = 0$ , with  $k^2 = k \cdot k = \eta^{\mu\nu}k_{\mu}k_{\nu}$ .

Substituting  $A^{\nu}(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} \int_{\mathbb{R}^4} e^{-ik\cdot x} \hat{A}^{\nu}(k) dk$  into the Proca equation yields  $\frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} \int_{\mathbb{R}^4} e^{-ik\cdot x} (-k^2 + \frac{m^2c^2}{\hbar^2}) \hat{A}^{\nu}(k) dk = 0$ , which, by completeness of the Fourier basis, holds iff  $(-k^2 + \frac{m^2c^2}{\hbar^2}) \hat{A}^{\nu}(k) = 0$ .

For nontrivial Fourier amplitudes  $\hat{A}^{\nu}(k)$  we apparently have the dispersion relation  $-k^2 + \frac{m^2c^2}{\hbar^2} = 0$ .

(2\frac{1}{2}) **f1.** Show that this is just the Einstein's mass-energy equivalence relation  $E^2 = m^2 c^4 + ||\vec{p}||^2 c^2$  for a moving particle with mass m and 3-momentum  $\vec{p}$ .

This follows by an elementary rewriting, using  $k=p/\hbar$  and  $p\cdot p=E^2/c^2-\|\vec{p}\|^2$ .

Given the dispersion relation, the Proca equation admits plane wave solutions in Minkowski spacetime of the form  $A^{\mu}(x;k) = \epsilon^{\mu}(k)e^{-ik\cdot x}$  parameterized by  $k \in \mathbb{R}^4$ . Note that  $k \cdot \epsilon(k) = \eta_{\mu\nu}k^{\mu}\epsilon^{\nu}(k) \stackrel{\text{el}}{=} 0$ .

(2\frac{1}{2}) **f2.** Show that there are precisely three independent "polarizations", i.e. independent components of the amplitude vector  $\epsilon(k) = \epsilon^{\mu}(k)\partial_{\mu}$  for each fixed  $k \in \mathbb{R}^4$ .

The divergence freeness condition for a plane wave is  $k \cdot \epsilon = \eta^{\mu\nu} k_{\mu} \epsilon_{\nu} = 0$ , stating that the vectorial amplitude is perpendicular to the direction of 4-momentum relative to the Minkowski metric. This provides exactly one linear equation in four unknowns, leaving three components of  $\epsilon(k) = \epsilon^{\mu}(k) \partial_{\mu}$  undetermined.

Thus admissible solutions are linear combinations of three "polarization states", which we shall denote by  $\epsilon_\ell(k) = \epsilon_\ell^\mu(k) \partial_\mu$ ,  $\ell = 1, 2, 3$ . Note that  $\ell$  is a polarization state label, not a tensor index.

 $(2\frac{1}{2})$  **g1.** Show that  $\epsilon_\ell^0(k)=0$  for all  $\ell=1,2,3$  if  $\vec k=\vec 0$ .

For  $\vec{k}=\vec{0}$  we have  $0=k\cdot \epsilon_\ell(k)=k^0\epsilon_\ell^0(k)$ , with (by virtue of the dispersion relation)  $k^0=\frac{mc}{\hbar}\neq 0$ , whence  $\epsilon_\ell^0(k)=0$ .

(2\frac{1}{2}) **g2.** Show that, together with  $\epsilon_{\ell}^0(k) = 0$ ,  $\epsilon_{\ell}^i(k) = \delta_{\ell}^i$  for all  $i, \ell = 1, 2, 3$  provides a desired set of three independent polarization states if  $\vec{k} = \vec{0}$ .

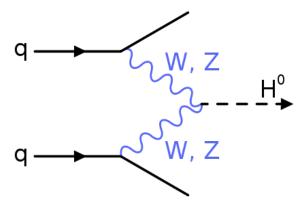
The dispersion relation is trivially satisfied by g1. The divergence-freeness constraint is likewise satisfied, since  $k \cdot \epsilon_{\ell}(k) = \eta_{\mu\nu}k^{\mu}\epsilon_{\ell}^{\nu}(k) \stackrel{*}{=} \eta_{00}k^{0}\epsilon_{\ell}^{0}(k) \stackrel{*}{=} 0$ , in which step \* uses  $\vec{k} = \vec{0}$ , and \* again exploits g1.

(5) **h.** Show that, for general wave vectors  $k \in \mathbb{R}^4$  (i.e. without the constraint  $\vec{k} = \vec{0}$ ),

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^{3} \epsilon_{\ell}^{\mu}(k) \epsilon_{\ell}^{\nu}(k) = \eta^{\mu\nu} - \frac{\hbar^{2}}{m^{2}c^{2}} k^{\mu} k^{\nu}.$$

(Hint: (i) The only contravariant 2-tensor holors that can be formed in this context are linear combinations of  $\eta^{\mu\nu}$  and  $k^{\mu}k^{\nu}$ . (ii) Recall g1 and g2.)

Stipulate an expression of the form  $\sum_{\ell=1}^3 \epsilon_\ell^\mu(k) \epsilon_\ell^\nu(k) = A k^\mu k^\nu + B \eta^{\mu\nu}$  for some constants A and B. Insertion of  $\vec k = \vec 0$  and considering  $\mu = \nu = 0$  yields  $0 \stackrel{g1}{=} \sum_{\ell=1}^3 \epsilon_\ell^0(k) \epsilon_\ell^0(k) = A(k^0)^2 + B \eta^{00} = A \frac{m^2 c^2}{\hbar^2} + B$ . For  $\mu = \nu = i = 1, 2, 3$  we find likewise (no summation over i)  $1 \stackrel{g2}{=} \sum_{\ell=1}^3 \epsilon_\ell^i(k) \epsilon_\ell^i(k) = B \eta^{ii} = B$ . As a consequence,  $A = -\frac{\hbar^2}{m^2 c^2}$ , from which the result follows.



Feynman diagram: Production of a Higgs boson  $(H^0)$  from massive vector bosons (W, Z) emitted by quarks (q).