

3) Verify that

$$\begin{aligned}
 l^{01} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & l^{02} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & l^{03} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
 l^{12} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & l^{13} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & l^{23} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}
 \end{aligned} \tag{0.1}$$

are in the Lie algebra of  $L$ .

4) The Dirac matrices are

$$\gamma^0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbb{1}_{2 \times 2} \\ -\mathbb{1}_{2 \times 2} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \gamma^i = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sigma_i \\ \sigma_i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad i = 1, 2, 3 \tag{0.2}$$

where  $\mathbb{1}_{2 \times 2}$  is the  $2 \times 2$  identity matrix and  $\sigma_i$  are the Pauli matrices

$$\sigma_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{0.3}$$

a) Show that the Dirac matrices obey  $\{\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu\} = 2\eta^{\mu\nu}\mathbb{1}_{4 \times 4}$ .

b) Show the ‘freshers dream’:

$$(a_\mu \gamma^\mu)^2 = a_\mu a^\mu \mathbb{1}_{4 \times 4} \tag{0.4}$$

5) Using the Dirac matrices, show that  $S^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{4}[\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu]$  are equal to

$$S^{0i} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_i & 0 \\ 0 & -\sigma_i \end{pmatrix}, \quad S^{jk} = \frac{i}{2} \epsilon_{jkl} \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_l & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_l \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.5}$$

where  $i, j, k$  only take values 1, 2, 3. What does this imply about the reducibility of the representation of  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  defined by exponentiating the  $S^{\mu\nu}$ ?

Here are some things to ponder:

1. What is the global structure of the Lorentz group?
2. How can we construct a representation of the Lie algebra of  $L$  using the Dirac matrices?