

# Derivation of the tachyonic Dirac-type wave equation

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We start from the energy-momentum vector expression  $\vec{P}$

$$\vec{P}c = E\vec{e} + \vec{p}c \quad (1)$$

We consider all vectors to be 4-dimensional, those in 3-dimensional space having the time component zero.

$$\vec{p} = 0\vec{e} + p_x\vec{i} + p_y\vec{j} + p_z\vec{k} \quad (2)$$

where

$$\begin{pmatrix} \vec{e} \\ \vec{i} \\ \vec{j} \\ \vec{k} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \vec{e} & \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \eta \quad (3)$$

$$\vec{p}^2 = \vec{p} \cdot \vec{p} = 0\vec{e}^2 + p_x^2\vec{i}^2 + p_y^2\vec{j}^2 + p_z^2\vec{k}^2 = -(p_x^2 + p_y^2 + p_z^2) = -p^2 \quad (4)$$

$$p = \sqrt{-\vec{p}^2} \quad (5)$$

$$\vec{P}^2 = P^T \cdot \eta \cdot P \Rightarrow P = \sqrt{-\vec{P}^2} \quad (6)$$

We further distinguish two cases:

1)

Dirac equation, valid for tardyonic waves (speed  $v$  less than the speed of light  $c$ ).

$$\frac{pc}{E} = \frac{v}{c} < 1 \quad (7)$$

$$\frac{E^2}{c^2} - p^2 = m_0^2 c^2 \Rightarrow (\pm E)^2 = (\pm pc)^2 + (\pm m_0 c^2)^2 \quad (8)$$

$m_0$  is the rest mass and  $P$  is the momentum at infinite speed.

Applying the quantization rule from elementary quantum mechanics:

$$E \rightarrow i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t}, \quad \vec{p} \rightarrow \frac{\hbar}{i} \vec{\nabla} \quad (9)$$

we obtain from equation (8)

$$\left(i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right)^2 \psi_\sigma = \left(\frac{\hbar c}{i} \vec{\nabla}\right)^2 \psi_\sigma + m_0^2 c^4 \psi_\sigma \quad (10)$$

This is the Klein-Gordon equation for each  $\sigma$  component of the  $\psi$  spinor wave function. We look for a linear equation for the wave function  $\psi$

$$\pm i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = \pm \frac{\hbar c}{i} \left( \alpha^j \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x^j} \right) \pm m_0 c^2 \beta \psi \quad (11)$$

This is a first form of the well-known Dirac equation.

2)

Dirac-type equation for tachyon waves (speed  $v$  greater than the speed of light  $c$ )

$$\frac{pc}{E} = \frac{v}{c} > 1 \quad (12)$$

$$\vec{p}^2 - \frac{E^2}{c^2} = P^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad E^2 = (pc)^2 - P^2 c^2 \quad (13)$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = \frac{\hbar c}{i} \left( \alpha^j \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x^j} \right) \pm i P c \beta \psi \quad (14)$$

This is the Dirac-type equation for tachyon waves.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \alpha^k \alpha^j + \alpha^j \alpha^k = 2\delta^{kj} \mathbb{1}_4 \end{array} \right. \quad (15)$$

$$\alpha^k \beta + \beta \alpha^k = 0 \quad (16)$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \beta^2 = \mathbb{1}_4 \end{array} \right. \quad (17)$$

$$\alpha^{k\dagger} = \alpha^k \quad (18)$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \beta^\dagger = \beta \end{array} \right. \quad (19)$$

$$\alpha^k = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sigma^k \\ \sigma^k & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (20)$$

$$\beta = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1}_2 & 0 \\ 0 & -\mathbb{1}_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (21)$$

$$\mathbb{1}_4 = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1}_2 & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbb{1}_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (22)$$

$$\sigma^1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbb{1}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (23)$$