

Homework Assignment #6

(Due Date: Monday, Nov. 26, 01:50 pm, in class)

6.1 *Electron Scattering and Parton Model* (2+1+2+2 pts.)

The elastic cross section for scattering an electron (with initial and final 4-momenta (E, \vec{k}) and (E', \vec{k}') , respectively) off a spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ point particle of mass M can be written as

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\alpha^2}{4E^2 \sin^4(\theta/2)} \frac{E'}{E} \left(\cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} - \frac{q^2}{2M^2} \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \right) \quad (1)$$

where $\theta = \angle(\vec{k}, \vec{k}')$ is the scattering angle (neglect the electron mass).

- (a) Show that, for fixed incident lab energy, the scattering angle is the only independent variable, by expressing E' and the 4-momentum transfer q^2 in terms of θ .
- (b) For inelastic scattering, the outgoing proton breaks up and another variable (usually taken as E' or $\nu = E - E'$) together with 2 structure functions, $W_{1,2}$, are needed. The differential cross section takes the form

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega dE'} = \frac{\alpha^2}{4E^2 \sin^4(\theta/2)} \left(W_2(\nu, q^2) \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} + 2W_1(\nu, q^2) \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \right). \quad (2)$$

Show that for $W_2(\nu, q^2) = \delta(\nu + q^2/2M)$ and $2W_1(\nu, q^2) = -q^2/(2M^2) \delta(\nu + q^2/2M)$, the elastic “point-like” cross section, Eq. (1), is recovered.

- (c) Introduce “new” point-like constituents with mass $m = x'M$ by setting $W_2(\nu, q^2) = \delta(\nu + q^2/2m)$ and $2W_1(\nu, q^2) = -q^2/(2m^2) \delta(\nu + q^2/2m)$ in Eq. (2). Show that the redefined structure functions $F_1 \equiv MW_1$ and $F_2 \equiv \nu W_2$ “scale”, i.e., only depend on the ratio $\omega = -2M\nu/q^2$ for given x' of a “parton”, not separately on ν and q^2 .
- (d) Integrate over x' with charge (e_i^2) and probability ($f_i(x')$) weights to show

$$2xF_1(x) = F_2(x) = \sum_i e_i^2 x f_i(x) \quad (3)$$

where $x \equiv 1/\omega$ and the sum is over parton species in the proton ($i=u, \bar{u}, d, \bar{d}, s, \bar{s}$).

6.2 *Local Gauge Invariance of QCD Lagrangian* (2+1 pts.)

The QCD Lagrangian is defined by

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = \bar{q}(i\gamma^\mu D_\mu - \hat{m}_q)q - \frac{1}{4}G_{\mu\nu}^a G_a^{\mu\nu} \quad (4)$$

with the covariant derivative $D_\mu \equiv \partial_\mu + ig_s T_a G_\mu^a$ where $T_a = \lambda_a/2$ are given by the Gellmann matrices $\lambda_{1\dots 8}$ and satisfy $[T_a, T_b] = if_{abc} T_c$ (double indices summed over).

- (a) Show that the quark part of \mathcal{L}_{QCD} is invariant under the following *local* infinitesimal phase rotation:
 $q(x) \rightarrow [1 + i\alpha_a(x) T_a]q(x)$, $G_\mu^a(x) \rightarrow G_\mu^a(x) - \frac{1}{g_s} \partial_\mu \alpha_a(x) - f_{abc} \alpha_b(x) G_\mu^c(x)$.
- (b) What are key differences between the coupling “constants” in QCD, $\alpha_s(Q^2)$, and QED, $\alpha_{\text{em}}(Q^2)$?