

Physics 8911 Problem Set 1

Due in class Monday, February 7, 2005

1. Show that in the Weyl basis

$$\gamma^5 = \gamma^0 \gamma^1 \gamma^2 \gamma^3 = \begin{pmatrix} -i & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix} .$$

2. Prove the following identities for two-component spinors:

$$\theta^\alpha \theta^\beta = -\frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\alpha\beta} \theta\theta ,$$

$$\theta \sigma^m \bar{\theta} \theta \sigma^n \bar{\theta} = -\frac{1}{2} \theta\theta \bar{\theta} \bar{\theta} \eta^{mn} ,$$

$$(\theta\phi)(\theta\psi) = -\frac{1}{2} (\phi\psi)(\theta\theta) .$$

3. Rewrite the N=1 supersymmetry algebra

$$\{Q_\alpha, \bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}\} = 2\sigma_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}}^m P_m ,$$

$$\{Q_\alpha, Q_\beta\} = 0 = \{\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}, \bar{Q}_{\dot{\beta}}\} ,$$

$$[Q_\alpha, P_m] = 0 = [\bar{Q}_{\dot{\alpha}}, P_m] ,$$

in terms of four-component Majorana spinors.