

Light-front formulation of the standard model

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Light-front (LF) quantization in the light-cone (LC) gauge is used to construct a renormalizable theory of the standard model. The framework derived earlier for QCD is extended to the Glashow-Weinberg-Salam (GWS) model of electroweak interaction theory. The Lorentz condition is automatically satisfied in LF-quantized QCD in the LC gauge for the free massless gauge field. In the GWS model, with the spontaneous symmetry breaking present, we find that the 't Hooft condition accompanies the LC gauge condition corresponding to the massive vector boson. The two transverse polarization vectors for the massive vector boson may be chosen to be the same as found in QCD. The nontransverse and linearly independent third polarization vector is found to be parallel to the gauge direction. The corresponding sum over polarizations in the standard model, indicated by $K_{\mu\nu}(k)$, has several simplifying properties similar to the polarization sum $D_{\mu\nu}(k)$ in QCD. The framework is unitary and ghost free (except for the ghosts at $k^+ = 0$ associated with the light-cone gauge prescription). The massive gauge field propagator has well-behaved asymptotic behavior. The interaction Hamiltonian of electroweak theory can be expressed in a form resembling that of covariant theory, plus additional instantaneous interactions which can be treated systematically. The LF formulation also provides a transparent discussion of the Goldstone boson (or electroweak) equivalence theorem, as the illustrations show.