

TPV

SoSe 2018

Blatt 11

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Exercise 20 *Energy-momentum tensor for the scalar field*

It is given the complex scalar field

$$\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{V}} \sum_{\mathbf{p}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2E_{\mathbf{p}}}} \left[\hat{a}_{\mathbf{p}} e^{i(\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x} - E_{\mathbf{p}}t)/\hbar} + \hat{b}_{\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger} e^{-i(\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x} - E_{\mathbf{p}}t)/\hbar} \right], \quad (1)$$

where $E_{\mathbf{p}} = +\sqrt{\mathbf{p}^2 c^2 + m^2 c^4}$ is the energy related to momentum \mathbf{p} , m the mass, V the volume and the Hamiltonian in second quantization reads

$$\hat{H} = \sum_{\mathbf{p}} E_{\mathbf{p}} \left(\hat{a}_{\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger} \hat{a}_{\mathbf{p}} + \hat{b}_{\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger} \hat{b}_{\mathbf{p}} \right), \quad (2)$$

with $\hat{a}_{\mathbf{p}}$, $\hat{b}_{\mathbf{p}}$ and $\hat{a}_{\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger}$, $\hat{b}_{\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger}$ creation and annihilation operators satisfying the following commutation relations:

$$\left[\hat{a}_{\mathbf{p}}, \hat{a}_{\mathbf{p}'}^{\dagger} \right] = \delta_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}'} = \left[\hat{b}_{\mathbf{p}}, \hat{b}_{\mathbf{p}'}^{\dagger} \right], \quad (3)$$

$$\left[\hat{a}_{\mathbf{p}}, \hat{a}_{\mathbf{p}'} \right] = 0 = \left[\hat{b}_{\mathbf{p}}, \hat{b}_{\mathbf{p}'} \right]. \quad (4)$$

a) Show that $cP_j = -i \int_V d\mathbf{x} \mathcal{T}_{4j}$ can be written in second quantization as

$$P_j = \sum_{\mathbf{p}} p_j \left(\hat{a}_{\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger} \hat{a}_{\mathbf{p}} + \hat{b}_{\mathbf{p}}^{\dagger} \hat{b}_{\mathbf{p}} \right), \quad (5)$$

where

$$\mathcal{T}_{\mu\nu} = -\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial x_{\nu}} \frac{\partial\mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial\psi/\partial x_{\mu})} - \frac{\partial\psi^*}{\partial x_{\nu}} \frac{\partial\mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial\psi^*/\partial x_{\mu})} + \mathcal{L}\delta_{\mu\nu} \quad (6)$$

is the energy-momentum tensor and

$$\mathcal{L} = -\hbar^2 c^2 \left[\partial_{\mu}\psi^* \partial_{\mu}\psi + \left(\frac{mc}{\hbar} \right)^2 |\psi|^2 \right] \quad (7)$$

is the Lagrangian density.

(1 Point)

b) Show that $\left[\hat{P}_{\mu}, \hat{a}_{\mathbf{p}} \right] = -p_{\mu} \hat{a}_{\mathbf{p}}$.

(1 Point)

c) Using the previous point establish that \hat{P}_{μ} is the generator of space-time translations by showing that $\left[\hat{P}_{\mu}, \hat{\psi}(\mathbf{x}, t) \right] = i\hbar \partial_{\mu} \hat{\psi}(\mathbf{x}, t)$.

(1 Point)

- d) Let $|K\rangle$ be an eigenstate of \hat{P}_μ such that $\hat{P}_\mu|K\rangle = K_\mu|K\rangle$, show then that the quantity $\langle K|\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{x}, t)\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{x}', t')|K\rangle$ is translationally invariant

$$\langle K|\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{x}, t)\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{x}', t')|K\rangle = \langle K|\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}', t - t')\hat{\psi}(0, 0)|K\rangle \quad (8)$$

(2 Points)

Hint: Use the fact that

$$\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{x}, t) = e^{-i\hat{P}\cdot\mathbf{x}/\hbar}\hat{\psi}(0, 0)e^{i\hat{P}\cdot\mathbf{x}/\hbar} \quad (9)$$

where we have used the notation

$$a \cdot b = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} - a_0 b_0, \quad \text{with } a = (\mathbf{a}, ia_0), \quad b = (\mathbf{b}, ib_0), \quad (10)$$

already introduced in the lectures.

- e) The designation of particle and antiparticle is a matter of convention and we can freely reverse the labels. In order to see this, given the scalar field in Eq. (1), construct an operator that takes $\hat{a}_\mathbf{p}$ and $\hat{a}_\mathbf{p}^\dagger$ to $\hat{b}_\mathbf{p}$ and $\hat{b}_\mathbf{p}^\dagger$ and vice versa and commutes with the Hamiltonian of Eq. (2)

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{C}\hat{\psi}(\mathbf{x}, t)\hat{C}^{-1} &= e^{i\gamma}\hat{\psi}^\dagger(\mathbf{x}, t), \\ [\hat{C}, \hat{H}] &= 0, \\ \hat{C}^\dagger\hat{C} &= 1, \\ \hat{C}^2 &= 1, \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where γ is an arbitrary phase.

(2 Points)