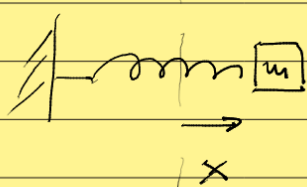


Flash course on QFT } canonical quantization
 path integral

Canonical quantization:

Harmonic oscillator

Newton's law



$$m \ddot{x} = -kx \therefore \ddot{x} + \frac{k}{m} x = 0$$

$$\dot{x} = \frac{dx}{dt}, \quad \ddot{x} = \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}$$

$$\boxed{\ddot{x} + \omega^2 x = 0}$$

$$x(t) = \cos \omega t, \quad \sin \omega t, \quad e^{ikx}, \quad e^{-ikx} \quad \text{--- (17)}$$

Or, equivalently:

Hamiltonian

Lagrangian

$$H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} kx^2$$

$$L = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}^2 - \frac{1}{2} kx^2 \quad \text{--- (18)}$$

$$\dot{x} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p}, \quad \dot{p} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}} = 0$$

$$\ddot{x} = \frac{\dot{p}}{m} = -\frac{k}{m} x$$

$\underbrace{\quad}_{\omega^2}$

$$-kx - \frac{d}{dt} (m \dot{x}) = 0$$

$$\ddot{x} + \omega^2 x = 0 \quad \text{--- (19)}$$

Quantization (Heisenberg representation)

$$x, p, H \rightarrow \hat{x}, \hat{p}, \hat{H} = \frac{1}{2m} \dot{\hat{x}}^2 + \frac{1}{2} k \hat{x}^2$$

$$[\hat{x}, \hat{p}] = i\hbar \quad \text{--- (20)}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} i\hbar \frac{d\hat{x}(t)}{dt} &= [\hat{x}(t), \hat{H}] \\ i\hbar \frac{d\hat{p}(t)}{dt} &= [\hat{p}(t), \hat{H}] \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned} \hat{O} &= \hat{O}(\hat{x}, \hat{p}) \\ i\hbar \frac{d\hat{O}(t)}{dt} &= [\hat{O}(t), \hat{H}] \end{aligned} \quad \text{--- (21)}$$

Heisenberg equation

Future convenience: get rid of the mass m

1) Get rid of mass m

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \hat{x} &\equiv \hat{q} / \sqrt{m} \\ \hat{p} = m \dot{\hat{x}} &= \sqrt{m} \dot{\hat{q}} \end{aligned} \right\} \hat{H} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\hat{q}}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 \hat{q}^2 \quad \text{--- (22)}$$

2) Introduce ladder ops \hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger sol. Heisenberg eqs.

$$\hat{q}(t) = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2\omega}} \left(\hat{a} e^{-i\omega t} + \hat{a}^\dagger e^{i\omega t} \right) \quad \text{--- (23)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{p}(t) &= \dot{\hat{q}}(t) \\ &= -i \sqrt{\frac{\hbar\omega}{2}} \left(\hat{a} e^{-i\omega t} - \hat{a}^\dagger e^{i\omega t} \right) \quad \text{--- (24)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{H} = \hbar\omega (\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + 1/2)$$

$$[\hat{q}, \hat{p}] = i\hbar$$

$$[\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger] = 1$$

3) \hat{H} eigenstates:

Ground state: $\psi_0(q) = \langle q | \psi_0 \rangle \sim e^{-\omega^2 q^2 / 2\hbar}$

$$\langle q | 0 \rangle$$

$$\hat{a} | 0 \rangle = 0 \quad \text{--- (26)}$$

$$\hat{H} | 0 \rangle = \hbar\omega (\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + 1/2) | 0 \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \hbar\omega | 0 \rangle$$

1st excited state: $\psi_1(q) = \langle q | \psi_1 \rangle \sim x e^{-\omega^2 q^2 / 2\hbar}$

$$\langle q | 1 \rangle$$

$$| 1 \rangle = \hat{a}^\dagger | 0 \rangle \quad \text{--- (27)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{H} | 1 \rangle &= \hbar\omega (\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + 1/2) \hat{a}^\dagger | 0 \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \hbar\omega | 1 \rangle + \hbar\omega \hat{a}^\dagger ([\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger] + \hat{a} \hat{a}) | 0 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} \hbar\omega | 1 \rangle \quad \text{--- (28)}$$

$$| n \rangle \sim \hat{a}^\dagger | n-1 \rangle \sim (\hat{a}^\dagger)^n | 0 \rangle \sim \hat{a} | n+1 \rangle$$

$$\hat{H} | n \rangle = (n + 1/2) \hbar\omega | n \rangle$$

$$\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} | n \rangle = n | n \rangle, \quad n \text{ integer} \quad \text{--- (29)}$$

Next: apply this to quantize the electromagnetic field in free space \downarrow e.u.

Maxwell equations:

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 4\pi \rho \quad \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \quad \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} = \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} + \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{J}$$

ρ : charge density, \vec{J} : current

$$\rho = 0 = \vec{J} : \underbrace{\nabla^2 \vec{E} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} = 0, \quad \nabla^2 \vec{B} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{B}}{\partial t^2} = 0}_{\text{wave equation}}$$

For proper quantization

- introduce auxiliary fields $\vec{A}(\vec{r}, t)$ and $\phi(\vec{r}, t)$

$$\vec{E} = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} - \vec{\nabla} \phi, \quad \vec{B} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}$$

\vec{A} is not unique: $\vec{A} \rightarrow \vec{A}'$ -

----- (31)

$$\vec{A} \rightarrow \vec{A}' = \vec{A} + \vec{\nabla} \alpha, \quad \alpha = \alpha(\vec{r}, t)$$

$$\phi \rightarrow \phi' = \phi - \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial t} \quad \uparrow \text{arbitrary function}$$



$$\vec{E}' = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{A}'}{\partial t} - \nabla \phi' = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\vec{A} + \nabla \alpha)$$

$$= -\nabla \left(\phi - \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial t} \right) = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} - \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \nabla \alpha$$

$$= -\nabla \phi + \frac{1}{c} \nabla \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial t} = \vec{E}$$

Also, $\vec{B}' = \vec{B} \rightarrow \nabla \times (\nabla \alpha) = 0$

Have to restrict \vec{A} and ϕ , ^{impose a} "gauge" condition, e.g.

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{A} = 0 \quad \text{Coulomb gauge} \quad \dots (32)$$

In this gauge, ϕ can be eliminated

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \nabla \cdot \left(-\frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} - \nabla \phi \right) = -\nabla^2 \phi = 4\pi \rho$$

↳ Poisson equation

$$\phi = \int_V d^3r' \frac{\rho(\vec{r}')}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}$$

Also, in this gauge, for $\rho = 0 = \vec{j}$:

$$\nabla^2 A(\vec{r}, t) - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial t^2} = 0$$

Put the system in a box:

$$\vec{A}(\vec{r}, t) = \sum_{\vec{k}} \frac{1}{L^{3/2}} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} \vec{a}_{\vec{k}}(t) \quad \dots (33)$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{k} \cdot \vec{a}_k(t) = 0, \text{ independent of time}$$

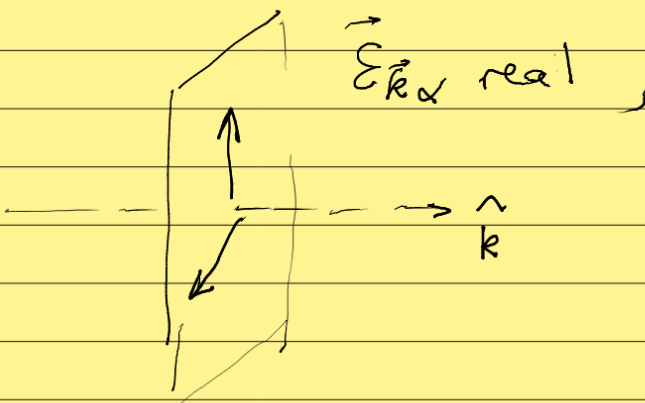


$$\vec{a}_k(t) \sim \vec{\epsilon}_k q_k(t), \therefore \vec{k} \cdot \vec{\epsilon}_k = 0 \quad \dots (34)$$

↳ 2 components

$$\vec{\epsilon}_{k\alpha}, \alpha = 1, 2$$

One possible choice:



$$\vec{\epsilon}_{k1} \times \vec{\epsilon}_{k2} = \hat{k} = \frac{\vec{k}}{|\vec{k}|}$$

$$\vec{\epsilon}_{k\alpha} \cdot \vec{\epsilon}_{k\beta} = \delta_{\alpha\beta} \quad \dots (35)$$

$$\vec{\epsilon}_{k\alpha} = \sum_{\alpha'} \hat{\epsilon}_{k\alpha'} \quad \dots (36)$$

$$\vec{A}(\vec{r}, t) = \sum_{\vec{k}, \alpha} \frac{1}{L^{3/2}} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} \vec{\epsilon}_{k\alpha} q_{k\alpha}(t)$$

Replace this in wave equation Eq. (31):

$$\sum_{\vec{k}, \alpha} \left[\overbrace{|\vec{k}|^2 c^2}^{\omega_k^2} q_{k\alpha}(t) + \ddot{q}_{k\alpha}(t) \right] e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} = 0$$

$$\ddot{q}_{k\alpha}(t) + \omega_k^2 q_{k\alpha}(t) = 0 \quad \dots (37)$$

↑ harmonic oscillators

Quantization?

$$\lambda \equiv (\hbar, \alpha)$$

$$q_\lambda(t) \rightarrow \hat{q}_\lambda(t), \quad \dot{p}_\lambda(t) = \dot{\hat{q}}_\lambda(t)$$

Since \vec{A} is real $\rightarrow \hat{q}_\lambda(t) = \hat{q}_{-\lambda}(t)$, $-\lambda \equiv (-\hbar, \alpha)$

$$\hat{q}_\lambda(t) = \hat{q}_{-\lambda}(t) \quad \text{--- (38)}$$

Expand in creation and annihilation operators

$$\hat{q}_\lambda(t) = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2\omega_\lambda}} \left(\hat{a}_\lambda e^{-i\omega_\lambda t} + \hat{a}_\lambda^\dagger e^{i\omega_\lambda t} \right) \quad \text{--- (39)}$$

$$\hat{p}_\lambda(t) = -i\sqrt{\frac{\hbar\omega_\lambda}{2}} \left(\hat{a}_\lambda e^{-i\omega_\lambda t} - \hat{a}_\lambda^\dagger e^{i\omega_\lambda t} \right)$$

$$[\hat{a}_\lambda, \hat{a}_{\lambda'}^\dagger] = \delta_{\lambda\lambda'} \quad \text{--- (40)}$$

Energy? Sum over energies of each oscillator

$$E = \sum_\lambda \hbar\omega_\lambda \left(\hat{a}_\lambda^\dagger \hat{a}_\lambda + \frac{1}{2} \right) \quad \text{--- (41)}$$

$$\hat{a}_\lambda^\dagger \hat{a}_\lambda |n\rangle = n |n\rangle \quad \text{integer} \rightarrow \text{quanta}$$

Energy sum over discrete "packages" of energy
(also momentum, ...)

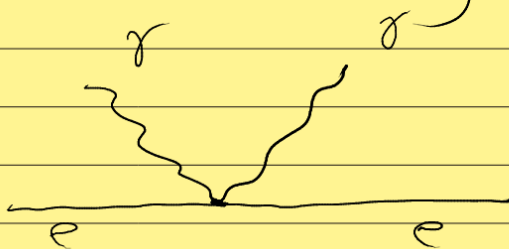
photons (γ)

Interaction of photons with nonrelativistic particles: minimal coupling

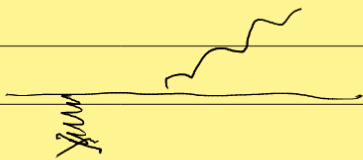
$$H = \sum_i \frac{\vec{p}_i^2}{2m} \rightarrow \sum_i \frac{1}{2m} \left(\vec{p}_i - \frac{q_i}{c} \vec{A}(\vec{r}_i) \right)^2$$

Typical processes:

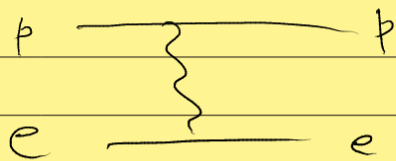
1) Thomson scattering: $e + \gamma \rightarrow e + \gamma$



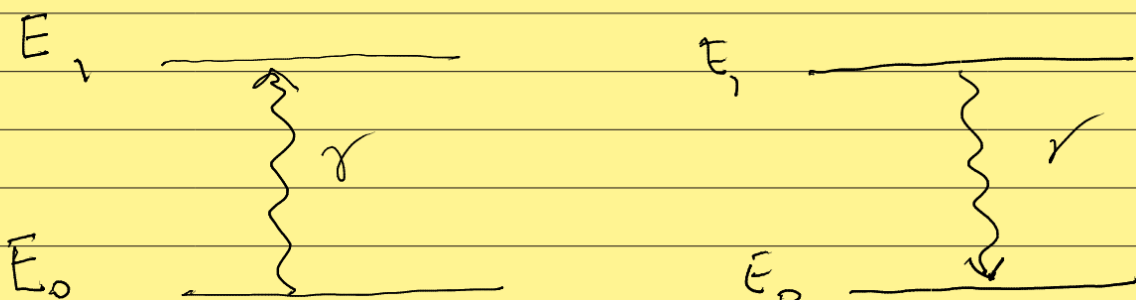
2) Bremsstrahlung: $e \rightarrow e + \gamma$



3) Electron-proton interaction: $e + p \rightarrow e + p$

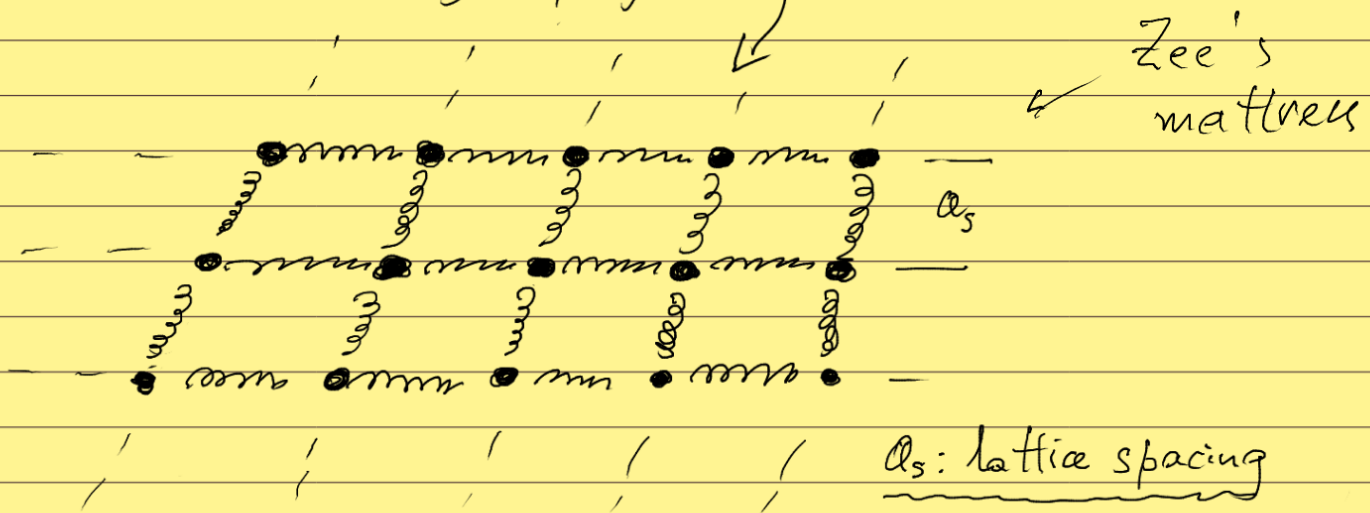


4) Radiative transitions in atoms:



Scalar field: long wavelength limit system
of particles connected by springs [A. Zee]

2-dimensional lattice of point masses connected
to each other by springs



Consider the vertical (neglect the horizontal) displacement
of the masses $\leftarrow q_\alpha(t)$. The Lagrangian is

$$L = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha=1}^N M \dot{q}_\alpha^2(t) - V(q_1, \dots, q_N)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha=1}^N M \dot{q}_\alpha^2(t) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha\beta} k_{\alpha\beta} q_\alpha q_\beta - \sum q_{\alpha\beta\gamma} q_\alpha q_\beta q_\gamma + \dots \quad (4.2)$$

only relative
displacements \leftarrow
give force

the q_α 's are coupled to each other;
as one mass moves, the neighboring
ones move as well

If one puts $q_{\text{ext}} = 0$ (the harmonic approximation), the equation of motion is

$$M \ddot{q}_\alpha = - \sum_{\alpha\beta} k_{\alpha\beta} q_\beta \quad \text{--- (43)}$$

Taking q_α as oscillating with frequency ω

$$q_\alpha(t) = e^{i\omega t} q_\alpha \quad \text{--- (44)}$$

one obtains

$$M \omega^2 q_\alpha = \sum_{\alpha\beta} k_{\alpha\beta} q_\beta \rightarrow \sum_{\beta} (M \omega^2 \delta_{\alpha\beta} - k_{\alpha\beta}) q_\beta = 0 \quad \text{--- (45)}$$

Possible values of ω , the eigenfrequencies ω_i , are determined by the determinant $\| M \omega^2 - k \| = 0$.

The corresponding q_i ($\omega_i \rightarrow q_i$) are the eigenmodes:

superposing eigenmodes \rightarrow wave packets

Upon quantization, they behave like particles - the phonons

This is similar to the quantization of electromagnetic wave packets: the photons

Suppose we are interested in phenomena on length scales much greater than a_s (the lattice spacing) \rightarrow take the continuum limit, i.e. $a_s \rightarrow 0$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 q_\alpha(t) & \longrightarrow & \varphi(\vec{x}, t) \implies \varphi(x), \quad x = (\vec{x}, t) \\
 \uparrow & & \uparrow \\
 \text{discrete} & & \text{continuous}
 \end{array} \quad \text{--- (46)}$$

Note that: like " α " in q_α , " \vec{x} " in φ is a label, not a dynamical variable

Now, let $a_s \rightarrow 0$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 1) \quad \frac{1}{2} M \sum_{\alpha} \dot{q}_{\alpha}^2 &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{M}{a_s^2} \right) a_s^2 \sum_{\alpha} \frac{dq_{\alpha}}{dt}^2 \\
 &\rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \sigma \int d^2x \frac{\partial \varphi(\vec{x}, t)}{\partial t^2} \quad \text{--- (47)}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$2) \quad V(q_1, \dots, q_N) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha\beta} k_{\alpha\beta} q_{\alpha} q_{\beta} + \dots$$

$$k_{\alpha\beta} q_{\alpha} q_{\beta} = k_{\alpha\beta} \left[\frac{1}{2} (q_{\alpha} - q_{\beta})^2 - \frac{1}{2} q_{\alpha}^2 - \frac{1}{2} q_{\beta}^2 \right] \quad \text{--- (48)}$$

Now, for nearest-neighbor pairs: $\beta = \pm 1$ in $k_{\alpha\beta}$

$$(\dot{q}_\alpha - \dot{q}_\beta)^2 = a_s^2 \left(\frac{\dot{q}_\alpha - \dot{q}_\beta}{a_s} \right)^2$$

$$\rightarrow a_s^2 \left(\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right)^2 \text{ or } a_s^2 \left(\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial y} \right)^2 \quad \dots (49)$$

depending on the direction
joining the α and β sites



Putting things together:

$$L(\dot{q}_\alpha(t), \dot{q}_\alpha(t)) \rightarrow L[\varphi(x), \partial\varphi(x)]$$

$$\alpha, t \rightarrow x, t \equiv x \quad \dots (50)$$

Action then becomes:

$$S[q] = \int dt L(q) \rightarrow S[\varphi] = \int dt \int d^2x L[\varphi] \quad \dots (51)$$

e.g. φ^4

$$L[\varphi] = \frac{1}{2} \sigma \left(\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \rho \left[\left(\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial y} \right)^2 \right] - \tau \varphi^2 + \dots \quad \dots (52)$$

where

$$\sigma \sim \frac{M}{a_s^2} \quad \rho \sim k_{\alpha\beta} a_s^2, \quad \tau \sim k_{\alpha\beta} \quad \dots (53)$$

Canonical Quantization (for now, $\tilde{c} = 0$)

$$L = \frac{1}{2} \sigma \left(\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \rho (\nabla \varphi)^2 \quad \dots \dots \dots (54)$$

Eg. of motion: $q = q(t) \rightarrow \frac{\partial L}{\partial q} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}} = 0$

$\varphi = \varphi(\vec{r}, t) \rightarrow \vec{r} = (x, y, z) \rightarrow x^i, i = 1, 2, 3$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \varphi} - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\varphi}} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \left(\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} \right)} = 0$$

$$\sigma \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial t^2} - \rho \nabla^2 \varphi = 0 \quad \dots \dots \dots (55)$$

} wave equation
 $\sigma/\rho = v_s$ speed of sound

Quantization: expansion in Fourier series

$$\varphi(\vec{r}, t) = \sum_{\vec{k}} \varphi_{\vec{k}}(\vec{r}, t) = \sum_{\vec{k}} q_{\vec{k}}(t) e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} \quad \dots \dots \dots (56)$$

replace this in (55):

$$\frac{d^2 q_{\vec{k}}(t)}{dt^2} + \omega_{\vec{k}}^2 q_{\vec{k}}(t) = 0, \quad \omega_{\vec{k}}^2 = \rho/\sigma \cdot k^2$$

↓ harmonic oscillator

Situation similar to the e.u. case:

$$\psi(\vec{r}, t) = \sum_{\vec{k}} f_{\vec{k}} \left[\hat{a}_{\vec{k}} e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega_{\vec{k}} t)} + \hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger e^{-i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega_{\vec{k}} t)} \right] \quad (57)$$

Can obtain energy, momentum, ... of the elastic field: quanta are the phonons

Mottess → model for crystal lattice of

} ions of a material

+ electrons ⇒ electron-phonon interaction

in some situations, it is attractive, and larger than the repulsive electron-electron Coulomb interaction: net interaction is attractive

Formation of Cooper pairs

⇒ Superconductivity

Coulomb + phonon

e.m. field: relativistic, photons propagate with speed of light c :

$$\text{Energy: } E_k = \hbar \omega_k = \hbar k c = \hbar c$$

Massive particles:
$$E_p^2 = p^2 c^2 + m^2 c^4 \quad \text{--- (58)}$$

m : rest mass



or quanta of a field

Example: scalar

Lagrangian density:

Natural units: $\hbar = 1, c = 1$

$$\hbar c \approx 200 \text{ MeV fm}$$

$$E_p^2 = p^2 + m^2 = k^2 + m^2$$

$$[E_p] = \text{MeV or fm}^{-1}$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} (\vec{\nabla} \varphi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \varphi^2 \quad \text{--- (59)}$$

Eq. of motion (Euler-Lagrange):

$$\frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial t^2} - \vec{\nabla}^2 \varphi + m^2 \varphi = 0 \quad \text{--- (60)}$$

↗ Fourier decomposition:

$$\varphi \sim e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega_k t)} \quad \leftarrow \text{replace this in Eq. (60)}$$

$$- \omega_k^2 + \vec{k}^2 + m_0^2 = 0$$

$$\boxed{\omega_k^2 = \vec{k}^2 + m_0^2}$$

← confirms

Eq. (58)

↑ Things are similar to the e.m. case

Covariant notation :

Space-time coordinates: $t, \vec{x} = (x, y, z)$
 \uparrow
 x^i

$$t \equiv x^0 \Rightarrow x^\mu = (x^0, x^i), \quad \mu = 0, 1, 2, 3$$

Space-time distance: $ds^2 = dt^2 - d\vec{x} \cdot d\vec{x}$ sum over
 $= dt^2 - dx^i dx^i$ ↑ repeated indices

metric-tensor:

$$g^{\mu\nu} : g^{00} = g^{00} = 1, \quad g^{ij} = -\delta^{ij} = g_{ij}$$

$$g^{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & & \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} : x^\mu = g^{\mu\nu} x_\nu \quad \dots (61)$$

$$ds^2 = g^{\mu\nu} dx_\mu dx_\nu = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu \quad \dots (62)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^0} = \partial_0 = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} = \partial^0 \quad \dots (63)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} = \partial_i = \nabla^i = - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} = -\partial^i \quad \dots (64)$$

↑
gradient

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} = \nabla^2 = g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \partial_\nu = \partial_\mu \partial^\mu = \partial^2 \quad \dots (65)$$

Wave equation: $\frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial t^2} - \nabla^2 \varphi = 0 \therefore \boxed{\partial^2 \varphi = 0}$

----- (66)

Lagrangian density:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} (\vec{\nabla} \varphi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \varphi^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \varphi \partial^\mu \varphi - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \varphi^2 = \frac{1}{2} (\partial \varphi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \varphi^2 \end{aligned}$$

----- (67)

Lagrangian:

$$L = \int d^3x \mathcal{L}$$

Action:

$$S = \int dt L = \int d^4x \mathcal{L} \quad \dots (68)$$