

FI 002 – Mecânica Quântica II – Lista 6

P.01. P.3.1, Mandl and Shaw:

From the expansion (3.7) for the real Klein-Gordon field $\phi(x)$, derive the following expression for the absorption operator $a(\mathbf{k})$:

$$a(\mathbf{k}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\hbar c^2 V \omega_{\mathbf{k}}}} \int d^3r e^{i\mathbf{k}x} \left(i\dot{\phi}(x) + \omega_{\mathbf{k}}\phi(x) \right).$$

Hence derive the commutation relations (3.9) for the creation and annihilation operators from the commutation relations (3.6) for the fields.

P.02. P.13.2 and 13.7, Schwabl**:

For the real Klein-Gordon field $\varphi(x)$, show that the momentum operator

$$\mathbf{P} = - \int d^3r : \pi(x) \nabla \varphi(x) :$$

assumes the form

$$\mathbf{P} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \hbar \mathbf{k} a^\dagger(\mathbf{k}) a(\mathbf{k}).$$

Moreover, show that the components of P^μ satisfies the commutator

$$[P^\mu, \varphi(x)] = -i\hbar \partial^\mu \varphi(x).$$

P.03. P.13.12 and 13.19, Schwabl:

For the Dirac field $\psi(x)$, show that the momentum operator

$$\mathbf{P} = - \int d^3r : \pi_\alpha(x) \nabla \psi_\alpha(x) : = -i\hbar \int d^3r : \psi^\dagger(x) \nabla \psi(x) :$$

assumes the form

$$\mathbf{P} = \sum_{r=1,2} \sum_{\mathbf{p}} \mathbf{p} \left(c_r^\dagger(\mathbf{p}) c_r(\mathbf{p}) + d_r^\dagger(\mathbf{p}) d_r(\mathbf{p}) \right).$$

Moreover, show that the components of P^μ satisfies the commutator

$$[P^\mu, \psi(x)] = -i\partial^\mu \psi(x).$$

P.04. P.14.2, Schwabl:

For the electromagnetic field $A^\mu(x)$, show that the momentum operator in the Coulomb gauge

$$\mathbf{P} = \frac{1}{c} \int d^3r : \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B} := -\frac{1}{c^2} \int d^3r : \dot{A}^i(x) \nabla A^i(x) :$$

assumes the form

$$\mathbf{P} = \sum_{r=1,2} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \hbar \mathbf{k} a_r^\dagger(\mathbf{k}) a_r(\mathbf{k}).$$

P.05. P.13.15, Schwabl:

For the Dirac field $\psi(x)$, show that the charge operator

$$Q = q \int d^3r : \psi^\dagger(x) \psi(x) :$$

assumes the form

$$Q = -e \sum_{r=1,2} \sum_{\mathbf{p}} (c_r^\dagger(\mathbf{p}) c_r(\mathbf{p}) - d_r^\dagger(\mathbf{p}) d_r(\mathbf{p})),$$

where $q = -e < 0$. Moreover, show that Q satisfies

$$[Q, c_r^\dagger(\mathbf{p})] = -e c_r^\dagger(\mathbf{p}) \quad \text{and} \quad [Q, d_r^\dagger(\mathbf{p})] = +e d_r^\dagger(\mathbf{p}).$$

06. P.2.3, Mandl and Shaw:

Show that the Lagrangian density

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{2} \partial_\alpha \phi_\beta(x) \partial^\alpha \phi^\beta(x) + \frac{1}{2} \partial_\alpha \phi^\alpha(x) \partial_\beta \phi^\beta(x) + \frac{1}{2} \mu^2 \phi_\alpha(x) \phi^\alpha(x)$$

for the real vector field $\phi^\alpha(x)$ leads to the field equations

$$[g_{\alpha\beta}(\square + \mu^2) - \partial_\alpha \partial_\beta] \phi^\beta(x) = 0,$$

and that the field $\phi^\alpha(x)$ satisfies the Lorentz condition $\partial_\alpha \phi^\alpha(x) = 0$.

07. P.2.4, Mandl and Shaw:

Use the commutation relations (2.31)

$$[\phi_r(\mathbf{r}, t), \pi_s(\mathbf{r}', t)] = i\hbar \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'), \quad [\phi_r(\mathbf{r}, t), \phi_s(\mathbf{r}', t)] = [\pi_r(\mathbf{r}, t), \pi_s(\mathbf{r}', t)] = 0,$$

to show that the momentum operator of the fields

$$P^j = \int d^3r \pi_r(x) \frac{\partial \phi_r(x)}{\partial x_j}$$

satisfies the equations

$$[P^j, \phi_r(x)] = -i\hbar \frac{\partial \phi_r(x)}{\partial x_j}, \quad [P^j, \pi_r(x)] = -i\hbar \frac{\partial \pi_r(x)}{\partial x_j}.$$

08. P.3.6, Mandl and Shaw:

The parity transformation (i.e. space inversion) of the Hermitian Klein-Gordon field $\phi(x)$ is defined by

$$\phi(\mathbf{r}, t) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}\phi(\mathbf{r}, t)\mathcal{P}^{-1} = \eta_p\phi(-\mathbf{r}, t) \quad (1)$$

where the parity operator \mathcal{P} is a unitary operator which leaves the vacuum invariant, $\mathcal{P}|0\rangle = |0\rangle$ and $\eta_p = \pm 1$ is called the intrinsic parity of the field. Show that the parity transformation leaves the Lagrangian density (3.4),

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\alpha\phi(x)\partial^\alpha\phi(x) - \mu^2\phi(x)\phi(x)),$$

invariant. Show that $\mathcal{P}_1 a(\mathbf{k})\mathcal{P}_1^{-1} = ia(\mathbf{k})$ and $\mathcal{P}_2 a(\mathbf{k})\mathcal{P}_2^{-1} = -i\eta_p a(-\mathbf{k})$, where the $a(\mathbf{k})$ are the annihilation operators of the field, and \mathcal{P}_1 and \mathcal{P}_2 are given by

$$\mathcal{P}_1 = \exp\left[-i\frac{\pi}{2}\sum_{\mathbf{k}} a^\dagger(\mathbf{k})a(\mathbf{k})\right], \quad \mathcal{P}_2 = \exp\left[+i\frac{\pi}{2}\eta_p\sum_{\mathbf{k}} a^\dagger(\mathbf{k})a(\mathbf{k})\right],$$

Hence, show that the operator $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}_1\mathcal{P}_2$ is unitary and satisfies Eq. (1), i.e. it gives an explicit expression for the parity operator \mathcal{P} .

09. P.4.5, Mandl and Shaw:

For a Dirac field, the transformations

$$\psi(x) \rightarrow \psi'(x) = \exp(i\alpha\gamma_5)\psi(x), \quad \psi^\dagger(x) \rightarrow \psi'^\dagger(x) = \psi^\dagger(x)\exp(-i\alpha\gamma_5),$$

where α is an arbitrary real parameter, are called chiral phase transformations. Show that the Lagrangian density (4.20),

$$\mathcal{L} = c\bar{\psi}(x)(i\hbar\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu - mc)\psi(x),$$

is invariant under chiral phase transformations in the zero-mass limit $m = 0$ only, and that the corresponding conserved current in this limit is the axial vector current $J_A^\mu(x) = \bar{\psi}(x)\gamma^\mu\gamma_5\psi(x)$.

Deduce the equations of motion for the fields

$$\psi_L(x) = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \gamma_5)\psi(x), \quad \psi_R(x) = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \gamma_5)\psi(x),$$

for non-vanishing mass, and show that they decouple in the limit $m = 0$. Hence show that the Lagrangian density

$$\mathcal{L} = i\hbar c\bar{\psi}_L\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu\psi_L(x)$$

describes zero-mass fermions with negative helicity only, and zero-mass antifermions with positive helicity only. (This field is called the Weyl field and can be used to describe the neutrinos in weak interactions in the approximation of zero mass.)