

1. Non-relativistic free propagator.

(a) $i \frac{d}{dt} \phi(x) = [\phi(x), H] = -\frac{1}{2m} \nabla^2 \phi(x).$

(b) Let $\phi(t, x) = \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} e^{ik \cdot x} a(t, \underline{k})$. Then $i \frac{d}{dt} a(t, \underline{k}) = \epsilon(k) a(t, \underline{k})$ with $\epsilon(k) \equiv k^2/(2m)$. This integrates to $a(t, \underline{k}) = e^{-i\epsilon(k)t} a(\underline{k})$ with $a(\underline{k})$ the time-zero annihilation operator. So

$$\phi(t, x) = \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} e^{ik \cdot x - i\epsilon(k)t} a(\underline{k}).$$

(c) Inserting the spatial Fourier representations of $\phi(t, x)$ and $\phi(0, 0)^\dagger$ into the definition of the propagator gives

$$\begin{aligned} G(t, x) &= \Theta(t) \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{d^3 k'}{(2\pi)^3} e^{ik \cdot x - i\epsilon(k)t} \langle 0 | a(\underline{k})^\dagger a(\underline{k}') | 0 \rangle \\ &= \Theta(t) \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} e^{ik \cdot x - ik^2 t/(2m)} = \Theta(t) \left(\frac{m}{2\pi i t} \right)^{3/2} e^{imx^2/(2t)}. \end{aligned}$$

In the last step, the shifted Gaussian integral was evaluated, as usual, by completing the square in the exponent. One may regard the time t as having an infinitesimal negative imaginary part to ensure convergence of the integral. The spatial Fourier transform of the propagator can be read off from the penultimate form, $\tilde{G}(t, \underline{k}) = \Theta(t) e^{-i\epsilon(k)t}$.

(d) A temporal Fourier transform gives

$$\tilde{G}(\omega, \underline{k}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{i\omega t} \tilde{G}(t, \underline{k}) = \int_0^{\infty} dt e^{i\omega t - i\epsilon(k)t}.$$

To make sense of this integral, one must regard the frequency ω as having an infinitesimal positive imaginary part. Making this explicit, by writing $\omega + i\delta$ in place of ω , with δ a positive infinitesimal, we have

$$\tilde{G}(\omega, \underline{k}) = \frac{i}{\omega - \epsilon(k) + i\delta}.$$

(e) $\tilde{G}(\omega, \underline{k})$ is a meromorphic function, analytic in the upper half plane and having a simple pole in the lower half plane at $\omega = \epsilon(k) - i\delta$. Fourier transforming $\tilde{G}(\omega, \underline{k})$ gives

$$\int \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} e^{-i\omega t} \tilde{G}(\omega, \underline{k}) = i \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \frac{e^{-i\omega t}}{\omega - \epsilon(k) + i\delta} = \begin{cases} 0, & t < 0; \\ e^{-i\epsilon(k)t}, & t > 0, \end{cases}$$

where the contour integral is closed in the upper half plane when $t < 0$, giving zero, and closed in the lower half plane when $t > 0$, giving (minus) the residue of the pole at $\omega = \epsilon(k) - i\delta$. The result is precisely $\tilde{G}(t, \underline{k})$ as given above. The infinitesimal δ serves to displace the pole off the contour of integration on the real axis, and its inclusion is essential to make this contour integral well-defined.

(f) $\text{Re } \tilde{G}(\omega, \underline{k}) = \frac{1}{2} (\tilde{G}(\omega, \underline{k}) + \tilde{G}(\omega, \underline{k})^*) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{i}{\omega - \epsilon(k) + i\delta} - \frac{i}{\omega - \epsilon(k) - i\delta} \right) = \frac{\delta}{(\omega - \epsilon(k))^2 + \delta^2} = \pi \delta(\omega - \epsilon(k)),$ where the implicit limit $\delta \rightarrow 0$ is taken in the last equality. The penultimate form is a standard representation of a delta function. (One may also recall and use the result that (for real x) $1/(x - i\delta) = \text{PV}(\frac{1}{x}) + i\pi \delta(x)$, where PV stands for principal value.)

2. Second quantized operators.

- (a) i. $N = \int d^3x \phi(x)^\dagger \phi(x)$.
 ii. $P = \int d^3x \phi(x)^\dagger (-i\nabla) \phi(x)$.
 iii. $n(x) = \phi(x)^\dagger \phi(x)$
 iv. $\epsilon(x) = \frac{1}{2m} \nabla \phi(x)^\dagger \cdot \nabla \phi(x)$.
 v. $\pi(x) = -\frac{i}{2} \phi(x)^\dagger \nabla \phi(x) + \frac{i}{2} (\nabla \phi(x))^\dagger \phi(x) \equiv -\frac{i}{2} \phi(x)^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{\nabla} \phi(x)$.
- (b) One can work backwards and infer the form of the particle flux \underline{j} by writing out dn/dt , showing that the result can be written as a divergence, and reading off what \underline{j} must be:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{n}(x) &= \phi(x)^\dagger \dot{\phi}(x) + \dot{\phi}(x)^\dagger \phi(x) \\ &= \frac{i}{2m} [\phi(x)^\dagger \nabla^2 \phi(x) - (\nabla^2 \phi(x))^\dagger \phi(x)] \\ &= \frac{i}{2m} \nabla \cdot [\phi(x)^\dagger \nabla \phi(x) - (\nabla \phi(x))^\dagger \phi(x)] \equiv -\nabla \cdot \underline{j}(x). \end{aligned}$$

Hence the particle flux $\underline{j}(x) = -\frac{i}{m} \phi(x)^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{\nabla} \phi(x) = \pi(x)/m$. This makes sense: in non-relativistic dynamics the momentum of a particle is just m times its velocity, and hence momentum density is just m times flux density. It is also worthwhile to confirm that the expectation value of this operator produces the appropriate result in, say, a one particle state of definite momentum, $|p\rangle = a(p)^\dagger |0\rangle$:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle p | \underline{j}(x) | p \rangle &= -\frac{i}{2m} \int \frac{d^3k'}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} (e^{-ik' \cdot x} \overleftrightarrow{\nabla} e^{ik \cdot x}) \langle 0 | a(p) a(k')^\dagger a(k) a(p)^\dagger | 0 \rangle \\ &= -\frac{i}{2m} [e^{-ip \cdot x} (\nabla e^{ip \cdot x}) - (\nabla e^{-ip \cdot x}) e^{ip \cdot x}] = \frac{p}{m} = v, \end{aligned}$$

the particle velocity. This is correct: the number flux (number of particles passing a surface per unit area per unit time) in a plane wave state with a unit probability density is just the velocity of the particle dotted into the surface area element.

- (c) Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\epsilon}(x) &= \frac{1}{2m} [\nabla \phi(x)^\dagger \cdot \nabla \dot{\phi}(x)] + \nabla \dot{\phi}(x)^\dagger \cdot \nabla \phi(x) \\ &= \frac{i}{(2m)^2} [(\nabla \phi(x))^\dagger \cdot \nabla \nabla^2 \phi(x) - (\nabla \nabla^2 \phi(x))^\dagger \cdot \nabla \phi(x)] \\ &= \frac{i}{(2m)^2} \nabla \cdot [(\nabla \phi(x))^\dagger \nabla^2 \phi(x) - (\nabla^2 \phi(x))^\dagger \nabla \phi(x)] \equiv -\nabla \cdot \underline{q}(x). \end{aligned}$$

Hence the energy flux $\underline{q}(x) = -\frac{i}{(2m)^2} [(\nabla \phi(x))^\dagger \nabla^2 \phi(x) - (\nabla^2 \phi(x))^\dagger \nabla \phi(x)]$. This gives the correct result in a single particle state of momentum p ,

$$\langle p | \underline{q}(x) | p \rangle = -\frac{i}{(2m)^2} [(\nabla e^{-ip \cdot x}) (\nabla^2 e^{ip \cdot x}) - (\nabla^2 e^{-ip \cdot x}) (\nabla e^{ip \cdot x})] = (\frac{p^2}{2m}) v.$$

- (d) And likewise,

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\pi}_j(x) &= -\frac{i}{2} [\phi(x)^\dagger \nabla_j \dot{\phi}(x) - (\nabla_j \phi(x))^\dagger \dot{\phi}(x) + \dot{\phi}(x)^\dagger \nabla_j \phi(x) - (\nabla_j \dot{\phi}(x))^\dagger \phi(x)] \\ &= \frac{1}{4m} [\phi(x)^\dagger \nabla_j \nabla^2 \phi(x) - (\nabla_j \phi(x))^\dagger \nabla^2 \phi(x) - (\nabla^2 \phi(x))^\dagger \nabla_j \phi(x) + (\nabla_j \nabla^2 \phi(x))^\dagger \phi(x)] \\ &= \frac{1}{4m} \nabla_i [\phi(x)^\dagger \nabla_i \nabla_j \phi(x) - (\nabla_j \phi(x))^\dagger \nabla_i \phi(x) - (\nabla_i \phi(x))^\dagger \nabla_j \phi(x) + (\nabla_i \nabla_j \phi(x))^\dagger \phi(x)] \\ &\equiv -\nabla_i s_{ij}(x). \end{aligned}$$

So the stress tensor is given by

$$\begin{aligned} s_{ij}(x) &= -\frac{1}{4m} [\phi(x)^\dagger \nabla_i \nabla_j \phi(x) - (\nabla_j \phi(x))^\dagger \nabla_i \phi(x) - (\nabla_i \phi(x))^\dagger \nabla_j \phi(x) + (\nabla_i \nabla_j \phi(x))^\dagger \phi(x)] \\ &= -\frac{1}{m} \phi(x)^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{\nabla}_i \overleftrightarrow{\nabla}_j \phi(x). \end{aligned}$$

Its single particle plane wave expectation is

$$\langle \underline{p} | s_{ij}(x) | \underline{p} \rangle = -\frac{1}{m} (e^{-ip \cdot x} \overleftrightarrow{\nabla}_i \overleftrightarrow{\nabla}_j e^{ip \cdot x}) = \frac{p_i p_j}{m} = p_i v_j,$$

which is the correct result for $s_{ij} d\Sigma_j$ to give the amount of i 'th component of momentum passing through the surface $d\Sigma$ per unit area per unit time in a plane wave state with unit probability density.