

Exercise 6.1 *Normalization of multi-particle states* (0.5 points)

Show that the n -particle states in (bosonic) Fock space,

$$|\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_n\rangle = a^\dagger(\mathbf{p}_1)a^\dagger(\mathbf{p}_2) \dots a^\dagger(\mathbf{p}_n)|0\rangle,$$

are normalized according to

$$\langle \mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_n | \mathbf{k}_1, \dots, \mathbf{k}_m \rangle = \delta_{mn} (2\pi)^{3n} \sum_P \prod_i (2p_i^0) \delta^3(\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{k}_{P(i)}),$$

where the sum is over all permutations P of the indices $(1 \dots n)$.

Exercise 6.2 *Wick-Theorem for bosonic fields* (2 points)

The purpose of this exercise is to prove Wick's theorem for bosonic, real, free field operators $\phi_i \equiv \phi_i(x_i)$, which states

$$\begin{aligned} T[\phi_1 \cdots \phi_n] &= : \phi_1 \cdots \phi_n : + \sum_{\text{pairs } ij} : \phi_1 \cdots \overbrace{\phi_i \cdots \phi_j} \cdots \phi_n : \\ &+ \sum_{\text{double pairs } ij,kl} : \phi_1 \cdots \overbrace{\phi_i \cdots \phi_k \cdots \phi_j \cdots \phi_l} \cdots \phi_n : + \dots \end{aligned}$$

with the contractions representing propagators, $\overbrace{\phi_i \phi_j} = \langle 0 | T[\phi_i \phi_j] | 0 \rangle$. For $n = 2$ the theorem has already been proven in Exercise 5.2. We organize the general proof in terms of two steps. Without losing generality we can assume in the proof that $t_n = x_n^0$ is the smallest time variable, i.e. $T[\phi_1 \cdots \phi_n] = T[\phi_1 \cdots \phi_{n-1}] \phi_n$.

a) First prove the lemma

$$: \phi_1 \cdots \phi_{n-1} : \phi_n = : \phi_1 \cdots \phi_n : + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} : \phi_1 \cdots \overbrace{\phi_k \cdots \phi_n} \cdots :$$

To this end, split ϕ_n according to $\phi_n = \phi_n^{(+)} + \phi_n^{(-)}$ into their positive and negative frequency parts $\phi_n^{(\pm)}$, i.e. $\phi_n^{(+)}$ involves only annihilation operators and $\phi_n^{(-)}$ only creation operators. For $\phi_n^{(+)}$ the lemma is trivially verified, for $\phi_n^{(-)}$ you can proceed via induction in n .

b) Argue that the lemma of a) trivially generalizes to cases where contractions already appear inside the normal orderings, for example:

$$\begin{aligned} : \phi_1 \cdots \overbrace{\phi_i \cdots \phi_j} \cdots \phi_{n-1} : \phi_n &= : \phi_1 \cdots \overbrace{\phi_i \cdots \phi_j \cdots \phi_n} \cdots : \\ &+ \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} : \phi_1 \cdots \phi_i \cdots \overbrace{\phi_k \cdots \phi_j \cdots \phi_n} \cdots : \end{aligned}$$

c) Prove Wick's theorem via induction in n using the result of b).