

Exercise 1: The four momentum operator of electrodynamics

In the lecture you have discussed the quantized four potential of electrodynamics

$$\hat{A}^\mu(x) = \int \sum_{\lambda=1}^2 \epsilon_\lambda^\mu(\mathbf{p}) \left(\hat{a}_\lambda(\mathbf{p}) e^{-ipx} + \hat{a}_\lambda^\dagger(\mathbf{p}) e^{ipx} \right) \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3 2E(\mathbf{p})}. \quad (1)$$

With the polarization vectors $\epsilon_\lambda^\mu(\mathbf{p})$ and dispersion relation $\omega = E(\mathbf{p}) = |\mathbf{p}|$. Furthermore let us consider radiation gauge

$$\hat{A}^0 = 0, \quad \nabla \hat{\mathbf{A}} = 0, \quad (2)$$

making it possible to choose two real linear independent polarization vectors that are normalizable

$$\epsilon_\lambda^\mu \epsilon_{\mu, \lambda'} = \epsilon_\lambda^i \epsilon_{i, \lambda'} = -\delta_{\lambda\lambda'}. \quad (3)$$

- i) Calculate the normal ordered zero component of the four momentum operator

$$\hat{P}^0 = \int \hat{\mathcal{H}} d^3x = \frac{1}{2} \int (|\hat{\mathbf{E}}|^2 + |\hat{\mathbf{B}}|^2) d^3x \quad (4)$$

Hint: Use $|\hat{\mathbf{E}}|^2 = \hat{F}^{i0} \hat{F}_{0i}$ and $|\hat{\mathbf{B}}|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \hat{F}^{ij} \hat{F}_{ij}$.

- ii) An analogous calculation can be done for the spatial components of the four momentum operator, leading to

$$\hat{P}^i = \int \left(\hat{\mathbf{E}} \times \hat{\mathbf{B}} \right)^i d^3x = \frac{1}{2} \int p^i \sum_{\lambda=1}^2 \hat{a}_\lambda^\dagger(\mathbf{p}) \hat{a}_\lambda(\mathbf{p}) \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3 2E(\mathbf{p})}, \quad (5)$$

making it possible to give a normal ordered expression of the complete four momentum operator

$$\hat{P}^\mu = \int \frac{p^\mu}{E(\mathbf{p})} \sum_{\lambda=1}^2 \hat{a}_\lambda^\dagger(\mathbf{p}) \hat{a}_\lambda(\mathbf{p}) \frac{d^3p}{2(2\pi)^3}. \quad (6)$$

Prove that the first excited Fock state is an eigenstate of the four momentum operator

$$\hat{P}^\mu |a_\lambda(\mathbf{p})\rangle = \hat{P}^\mu \hat{a}_\lambda^\dagger(\mathbf{p}) |0\rangle = p^\mu |a_\lambda(\mathbf{p})\rangle. \quad (7)$$

Exercise 2: Differential cross section

In the lecture you derived the differential cross section of 2-n scattering. The two incoming particles with masses m_1 and m_2 carry the four momenta p_1 and p_2 and the differential cross section is given as

$$d\sigma = \frac{1}{2\omega(s, m_1^2, m_2^2)} (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(k_1 + \dots + k_n - p_1 - p_2) |M_{fi}|^2 \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{d^3k_i}{(2\pi)^3 2k_i^0}, \quad (8)$$

with $s = (p_1 + p_2)^2$ and $w(x, y, z) = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2xy - 2xz - 2yz}$.

i) Show that the differential cross section reduces to

$$d\sigma = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{(p_1 \cdot p_2)^2 - m_1^2 m_2^2}} (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(k_1 + k_2 - p_1 - p_2) |M_{fi}|^2 \frac{d^3k_1}{(2\pi)^3 2k_1^0} \frac{d^3k_2}{(2\pi)^3 2k_2^0}, \quad (9)$$

in the case of 2-2 scattering.

ii) Let us consider two incoming particles of the same mass $m_1 = m_2 = m$ and two outgoing ones of mass M . Show that the cross section of 2-2 scattering is given as

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\sqrt{1 - 4\frac{M^2}{s}}}{64\pi^2 s \sqrt{1 - 4\frac{m^2}{s}}} |M_{fi}|^2, \quad (10)$$

in the center-of-mass system.

Hint: We define the total energy of the collision in the center-of-mass system $E_{tot} = \sqrt{s}$.