

(51) Propagation of signal - Causality.

Consider states in position base

$$\phi(x)|0\rangle = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\omega_p}} e^{-i\vec{p}\cdot\vec{x}} |\vec{p}\rangle$$

$$\langle \vec{q} | \phi(x) | 0 \rangle \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\omega_q}} e^{-i\vec{q}\cdot\vec{x}} \quad \text{Recall } \langle p|x\rangle = e^{-i\vec{p}\cdot\vec{x}}$$

$\phi(x)$  acting on vacuum creates a particle at  $x$ .

Therefore consider the probability for a particle propagating from  $x = (\vec{x}, t)$  to  $y = (\vec{y}, t')$

$$\langle x|y\rangle = \langle 0|\phi(x)\phi(y)|0\rangle \equiv D_1(x,y)$$

However in QFT we define something more fundamental - correlation function

$$D(x,y) = -\langle 0|[\phi(x), \phi(y)]|0\rangle$$

$$= D_1(x,y) - D_1(y,x)$$

$$D_1(x,y) = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\omega_p}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\omega_q}} \langle 0|a_{\vec{p}} e^{-i\vec{p}\cdot\vec{x}} e^{i\vec{q}\cdot\vec{y}} a_{\vec{q}}^+ |0\rangle$$

$$= \int \frac{d^3p d^3q}{(2\pi)^6} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\omega_p \omega_q}} (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(\vec{p}-\vec{q}) e^{-i\vec{p}\cdot\vec{x} + i\vec{q}\cdot\vec{y}}$$

$$= \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{2\omega_p} e^{-i\vec{p}\cdot(\vec{x}-\vec{y})}$$

$$\equiv D_1(x-y)$$



In QFT we define a more fundamental quantity

~~Correlation function~~

$$\Delta(x-y) = \langle 0 | [\Phi(x), \Phi(y)] | 0 \rangle$$

$$= D_1(x-y) - D_1(y-x)$$

$$D_1(x-y) = \langle 0 | \Phi(x) \Phi(y) | 0 \rangle \rightarrow \text{Lorentz invariant}$$

Ground states are Lorentz invariant also  $\Phi(x), \Phi(y)$  are Lorentz invariant.

Since  $D_1(x-y)$  is amplitude for a particle to propagate from  $y$  to  $x$  and this amplitude should not depend on any ~~part~~ Lorentz frame.

Now let us define a quantity

$$\Delta_F(x-y) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int \frac{d^4 p}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{i}{p^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon} e^{-ip \cdot (x-y)}$$

$$\text{Now } p^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon = p_0^2 - (\vec{p}^2 + m^2) + i\epsilon$$

$$= p_0^2 - (\omega_p^2 - i\epsilon)$$

The integrand has a pole at  $p_0^2 = \omega_p^2 - i\epsilon = \omega_p^2 (1 - \frac{i\epsilon}{\omega_p^2})$

$$p_0 = \pm \omega_p \left( 1 - \frac{i\epsilon}{2\omega_p^2} \right)$$

$$= \pm (\omega_p - i\epsilon')$$

If  $\epsilon > 0$  the theorem also holds in that case we need to cross contour in LHP.

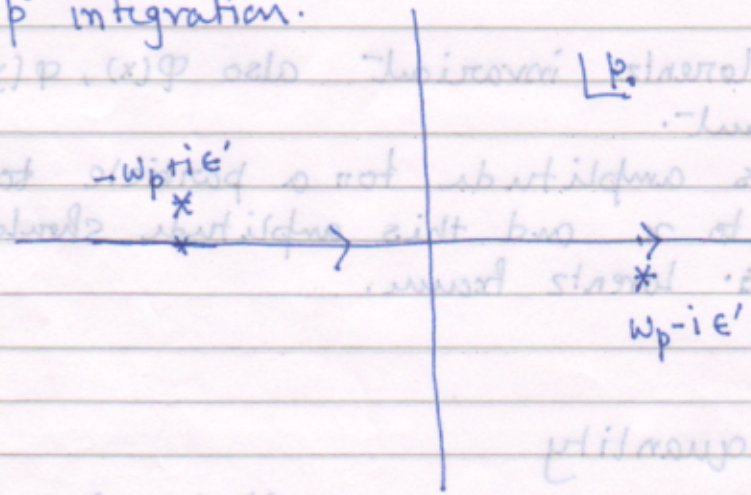


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$$\Delta_F(x-y) = \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} \int \frac{dp_0}{2\pi} \frac{i}{[p_0 - (\omega_p - i\epsilon')] [p_0 + (\omega_p - i\epsilon')]} e^{-ip \cdot (x-y)}$$

$$= \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} \left\{ \int \frac{dp_0}{2\pi} \frac{i e^{-ip_0(x^0 - y^0)}}{[p_0 - (\omega_p - i\epsilon')] [p_0 + (\omega_p - i\epsilon')]} \right\} e^{i\vec{p} \cdot (\vec{x} - \vec{y})}$$

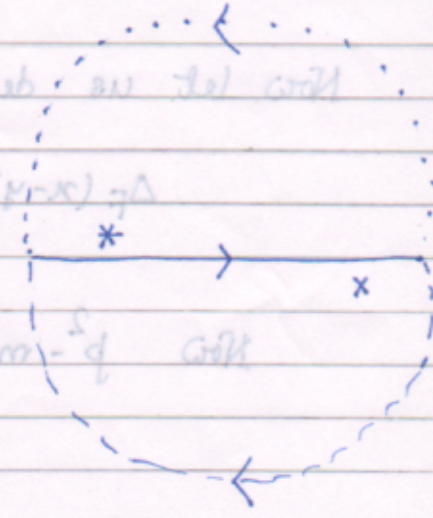
Lets do  $p^0$  integration.



How do we close the contour?

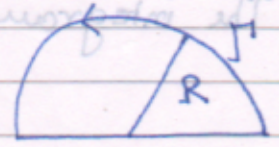
Two possibilities:
 

- Upper half plane
- Lower half plane



Jordan's lemma.

$$\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Gamma} e^{iaz} f(z) dz \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{if } a > 0$$



and if  $f(z)$  goes to zero faster than  $\frac{1}{|z|}$  for  $\arg(z) \in [0, \pi]$  as  $z \rightarrow \infty$ .

If  $a < 0$  the theorem also holds, in that case we need to consider  $\Gamma$  in LHP.



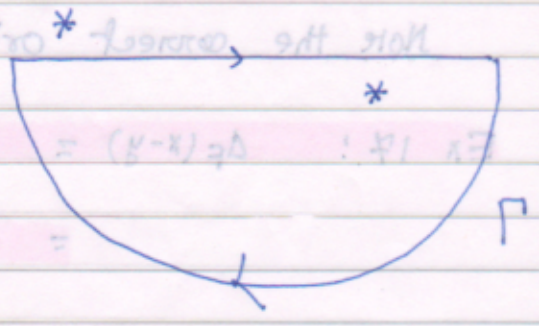
$$\int \frac{dp_0}{2\pi} \frac{i e^{-ip_0(x^0 - y^0)}}{[p_0 - (\omega_p - i\epsilon')] [p_0 + (\omega_p - i\epsilon')]}$$

Let  $x^0 > y^0$ .

Here  $a = -(x^0 - y^0) < 0$

Hence,  $p^0 = \omega_p - i\epsilon'$  will contribute.

Residue at  $p^0 = \omega_p - i\epsilon'$



$$\frac{-i(\omega_p - i\epsilon')(x^0 - y^0)}{2\omega_p - 2i\epsilon'} = \frac{i}{2\pi} \frac{e^{-i\omega_p(x^0 - y^0) - \epsilon'(x^0 - y^0)}}{2(\omega_p - i\epsilon')}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{\epsilon' \rightarrow 0} \int \frac{dp^0}{2\pi} \frac{i e^{-ip^0(x^0 - y^0)}}{[p^0 - (\omega_p - i\epsilon')] [p^0 + (\omega_p - i\epsilon')]} = (-) 2\pi i \frac{i}{2\pi} \frac{e^{-i\omega_p(x^0 - y^0)}}{2\omega_p}$$

Because here the contour is clockwise

$$\therefore \Delta_F(x-y) = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{2\omega_p} e^{-i\omega_p(x^0 - y^0) + i\vec{p} \cdot (\vec{x} - \vec{y})} \quad \text{for } x^0 > y^0$$

$$= \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{2\omega_p} e^{-ip \cdot (x-y)} \quad \text{for } x^0 > y^0$$

$$= D_+(x-y) \quad \text{for } x^0 > y^0 = \langle 0 | \phi(x) \phi(y) | 0 \rangle \quad \text{for } x^0 > y^0$$

$\Delta_F(x-y) \rightarrow$  Probability of a particle going from  $y$  to  $x$  when  $y^0 < x^0$ .



n-point correlation func<sup>n</sup>

$$G_n(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \langle 0 | T \{ \phi(x_1) \phi(x_2) \dots \phi(x_n) \} | 0 \rangle$$

$$G_2(x_1, x_2) = \Delta_F(x_1 - x_2) \rightarrow \text{Propagator}$$

Q. What is the importance of n-point correlators?

n-point correlation functions contain information about n-particle scattering process.

In practice we would like to apply QFT to calculate scattering cross section of different process. It is possible to show that scattering amplitudes are related (proportional) to n-point Green's func<sup>n</sup>.

Goal: Our goal is to calculate n-point func<sup>n</sup> in free field theory.

Let's write  $\phi(x) = \phi^+(x) + \phi^-(x)$

$$\begin{cases} \phi^+(x) = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} a_p e^{-ip \cdot x} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\omega_p}} \\ \phi^-(x) = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} a_p^\dagger e^{ip \cdot x} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\omega_p}} \end{cases}$$

$$\langle 0 | \phi^+(x) | 0 \rangle = 0 \quad \langle 0 | \phi^-(x) | 0 \rangle = 0$$

Now consider  $T \{ \phi(x) \phi(y) \}$  and consider a particular time ordering say  $x^0 > y^0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} T \{ \phi(x) \phi(y) \} &= \phi(x) \phi(y) = (\phi^+(x) + \phi^-(x)) (\phi^+(y) + \phi^-(y)) \\ &= \phi^+(x) \phi^+(y) + \phi^+(x) \phi^-(y) \\ &\quad + \phi^-(x) \phi^+(y) + \phi^-(x) \phi^-(y) \\ &= \phi^+(x) \phi^+(y) + \phi^-(y) \phi^+(x) \\ &\quad + \phi^-(x) \phi^+(y) + \phi^-(x) \phi^-(y) \\ &= \left\{ \phi^+(x) \phi^+(y) + \phi^-(y) \phi^+(x) + \phi^-(x) \phi^+(y) + \phi^-(x) \phi^-(y) \right\} \\ &\quad + [\phi^+(x), \phi^-(y)] \end{aligned}$$



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In all the terms in  $\{ \}$  bracket,  $\phi^+$  is sitting right to  $\phi^-$ .  
→ They are called normal ordered.

$$\{ \phi^+(x)\phi^+(y) + \phi^-(x)\phi^+(y) + \phi^-(y)\phi^+(x) + \phi^-(x)\phi^-(y) \} \\ = \mathcal{N}(\phi(x)\phi(y)) \equiv :(\phi(x)\phi(y)):$$

Why for  $x^0 > y^0$

$$\tau \{ \phi(x)\phi(y) \} = \phi(y)\phi(x) \\ = \phi^+(y)\phi^+(x) + \phi^+(y)\phi^-(x) + \phi^-(y)\phi^+(x) + \phi^-(y)\phi^-(x) \\ = \mathcal{N} \{ \phi(x)\phi(y) \} + [\phi^+(y), \phi^-(x)]$$

$$\tau \{ \phi(x)\phi(y) \} = \mathcal{N} \{ \phi(x)\phi(y) \} + \theta(x^0 - y^0) [\phi^+(x), \phi^-(y)]$$

$$+ \theta(y^0 - x^0) [\phi^+(y), \phi^-(x)]$$

$$= \mathcal{N} \{ \phi(x)\phi(y) \} + \overline{\phi(x)\phi(y)}$$

$$\text{Where } \overline{\phi(x)\phi(y)} = \theta(x^0 - y^0) [\phi^+(x), \phi^-(y)] + \theta(y^0 - x^0) [\phi^+(y), \phi^-(x)]$$

In general: Wick's theorem  $\{ \phi(x_1)\phi(x_2)\dots\}^T$

$$\tau \{ \phi(x_1)\phi(x_2)\dots\phi(x_n) \} = \mathcal{N} \{ \phi(x_1)\phi(x_2)\dots\phi(x_n) \} + \text{All possible connections}$$

For Proof - check of Peskin

$$\{ \phi(x_1)\phi(x_2)\dots\phi(x_n) \}^T = \mathcal{N} \{ \phi(x_1)\phi(x_2)\dots\phi(x_n) \} + [\phi(x_1), \phi(x_2)] + \dots$$



Example:  $T \{ \varphi(x_1) \varphi(x_2) \varphi(x_3) \varphi(x_4) \}$

$\langle 0 | \varphi(x) \varphi(x) \varphi(x) \varphi(x) | 0 \rangle = (\varphi) \varphi(x) \varphi$

$= N \left\{ \overbrace{\varphi(x_1) \varphi(x_2) \varphi(x_3) \varphi(x_4)} \langle 0 | (\varphi) \varphi(x) \varphi | 0 \rangle (\varphi^{-2} x) \varphi = \right.$

$+ \overbrace{\varphi(x_1) \varphi(x_2)} \varphi(x_3) \varphi(x_4) \langle 0 | (\varphi) \varphi(x) \varphi | 0 \rangle (\varphi^{-2} x) \varphi =$

$+ \overbrace{\varphi(x_1) \varphi(x_3)} \varphi(x_2) \varphi(x_4) \langle 0 | (\varphi) \varphi(x) \varphi | 0 \rangle (\varphi^{-2} x) \varphi =$

$+ \overbrace{\varphi(x_1) \varphi(x_4)} \varphi(x_2) \varphi(x_3) \langle 0 | (\varphi) \varphi(x) \varphi | 0 \rangle (\varphi^{-2} x) \varphi =$

+ ...

$+ \overbrace{\varphi(x_1) \varphi(x_2)} \overbrace{\varphi(x_3) \varphi(x_4)} \langle 0 | \{ (\varphi) \varphi(x) \varphi \} T | 0 \rangle \therefore$

$+ \overbrace{\varphi(x_1) \varphi(x_2) \varphi(x_3)} \varphi(x_4) \langle 0 | \{ (\varphi) \varphi(x) \varphi \} T | 0 \rangle =$

$+ \overbrace{\varphi(x_1) \varphi(x_2) \varphi(x_3) \varphi(x_4)} \left. \right\} (\varphi^{-2} x) \varphi =$

$= N \{ 1234 \} + \overbrace{12} N(34) + \overbrace{13} N(24) + \overbrace{14} N(23)$

$+ \overbrace{23} N(14) + \overbrace{24} N(13) + \overbrace{34} N(12) \langle 0 | \{ (\varphi) \varphi(x) \varphi \} T | 0 \rangle =$

$+ \overbrace{12} \overbrace{34} \langle 0 | \{ (\varphi) \varphi(x) \varphi \} T | 0 \rangle + \overbrace{13} \overbrace{24} \langle 0 | \{ (\varphi) \varphi(x) \varphi \} T | 0 \rangle + \overbrace{14} \overbrace{23} \langle 0 | \{ (\varphi) \varphi(x) \varphi \} T | 0 \rangle +$

$\dots + \langle 0 | (\varphi) \varphi(x) \varphi | 0 \rangle (\varphi^{-2} x) \varphi \langle 0 | (\varphi) \varphi(x) \varphi | 0 \rangle$

$(\varphi^{-2} x) \varphi (\varphi^{-2} x) \varphi + (\varphi^{-2} x) \varphi (\varphi^{-2} x) \varphi + (\varphi^{-2} x) \varphi (\varphi^{-2} x) \varphi +$

$(\varphi^{-2} x) \varphi (\varphi^{-2} x) \varphi +$



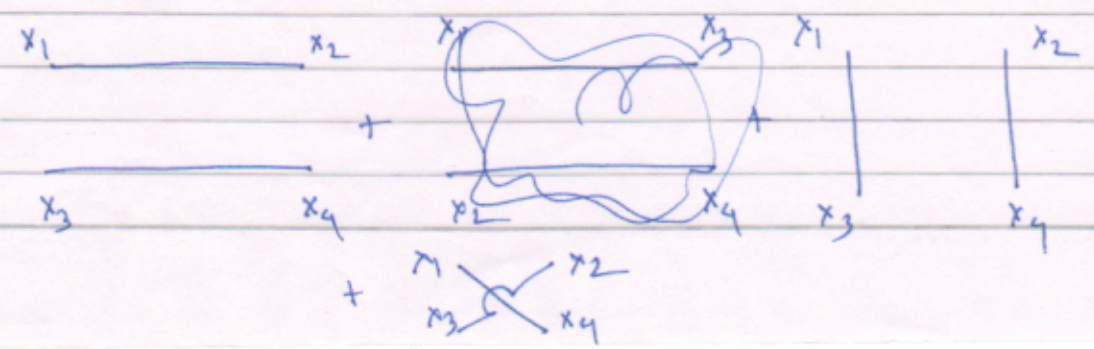


3) Let us consider

$$\begin{aligned} \overbrace{\Phi(x)\Phi(y)} &= \langle 0 | \overbrace{\Phi(x_0)\Phi(y_0)} | 0 \rangle \\ &= \theta(x^0 - y^0) \langle 0 | [\Phi^+(x), \Phi^-(y)] | 0 \rangle + \theta(y^0 - x^0) \langle 0 | [\Phi^+(y), \Phi^-(x)] | 0 \rangle \\ &= \theta(x^0 - y^0) \langle 0 | \Phi^+(x) \Phi^-(y) | 0 \rangle + \theta(y^0 - x^0) \langle 0 | \Phi^+(y) \Phi^-(x) | 0 \rangle \\ &= \theta(x^0 - y^0) \langle 0 | \Phi(x) \Phi(y) | 0 \rangle + \theta(y^0 - x^0) \langle 0 | \Phi(y) \Phi(x) | 0 \rangle \\ &= \Delta_F(x-y) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \langle 0 | T \{ \Phi(x) \Phi(y) \} | 0 \rangle &= \langle 0 | N \{ \Phi(x) \Phi(y) \} | 0 \rangle + \Delta_F(x-y) \\ &= \Delta_F(x-y) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\langle 0 | T \{ \Phi(x_1) \Phi(x_2) \Phi(x_3) \Phi(x_4) \} | 0 \rangle \\ &= \langle 0 | N \{ \Phi(x_1) \Phi(x_2) \Phi(x_3) \Phi(x_4) \} | 0 \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle 0 | \overbrace{\Phi(x_1) \Phi(x_2)} \overbrace{\Phi(x_3) \Phi(x_4)} | 0 \rangle + \dots \\ &\quad + \Delta_F(x_1 - x_2) \Delta_F(x_3 - x_4) + \Delta_F(x_1 - x_4) \Delta_F(x_2 - x_3) \\ &\quad + \Delta_F(x_1 - x_3) \Delta_F(x_2 - x_4) \end{aligned}$$





$$\langle 0 | T \{ \phi(x_1) \phi(x_2) \phi(x_3) \} | 0 \rangle$$

Ex 19:  $\langle 0 | T \{ \phi(x_1) \phi(x_2) : \phi^2(x_3) : \} | 0 \rangle$

Calculate  
(Applying Wick's theorem)

$$\langle 0 | T \{ \phi(x_1) \phi(x_2) \phi(x_3) \phi(x_4) \phi(x_5) \} | 0 \rangle$$

$$\langle 0 | T \{ \phi(x_1) \phi(x_2) \phi(x_3) \phi(x_4) : \phi^4(x_5) : \} | 0 \rangle$$

→ Draw the Feynman diagrams.

$$n = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \phi^2(x) \left[ \sum_{i,j} \frac{\delta^2 \mathcal{L}}{\delta \phi^i \delta \phi^j} \right] \phi^2(x)$$

$n$ 's are called coupling constants.

In general it is difficult to calculate different correlation functions in presence of interaction terms. However if we treat the interaction perturbatively (i.e.  $\mathcal{L}(\phi)$  in powers of  $\phi$ ) it is possible to write down  $G_n(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  in powers of  $\mathcal{L}(\phi)$ .

We shall derive this expression in the next integral approach.

$$\frac{\langle 0 | T \{ \phi(x_1) \phi(x_2) \dots \phi(x_n) \} | 0 \rangle}{\langle 0 | 0 \rangle} = G_n(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

$|0\rangle \rightarrow$  ground state of interacting theory.

$G_n(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is to calculate