Quantization of bosonic linear field theory

Robert Oeckl robert@matmor.unam.mx

Office 4.08 Institut für Quantenoptik und Quanteninformation (IQOQI) Österreichische Akademie de Wissenschaften (ÖAW) Wien, Austria

Centro de Ciencias Matemáticas (CCM) Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) Morelia, Mexico

Lecture 20 – 26 May 2025

Canonical quantization in curved spacetime (review)

- *L* space of germs of solutions of the equations of motion (a real vector space). *L*^C complexification.
- $\omega: L \times L \to \mathbb{R}$ symplectic form a bilinear antisymmetric form
- Define sesquilinear form $(\phi, \phi') := 4i\omega(\overline{\phi}, \phi')$
- A quantization is determined by a complete set of "positive energy" modes {u_k}_{k∈I}:

$$(u_k, u_l) = \delta_{k,l}, \quad (\overline{u}_k, \overline{u}_l) = -\delta_{k,l}, \quad (u_k, \overline{u}_l) = 0, \quad \forall k, l \in I.$$

- $L^+ \subseteq L^{\mathbb{C}}, L^- \subseteq L^{\mathbb{C}}$ subspaces generated by the modes u_k, \overline{u}_k . Have $L^{\mathbb{C}} = L^+ \oplus L^-$ and $L^- = \overline{L^+}$.
- postulate corresponding creation and annihilation operators:

$$[a_k, a_l] = 0, \quad [a_k^{\dagger}, a_l^{\dagger}] = 0, \quad [a_k, a_l^{\dagger}] = \delta_{k,l}.$$

This determines the state space \mathcal{H} as a **Fock space**.

Positive-definite Lagrangian subspaces

Choice of vacuum corresponds to choice of **positive-definite Lagrangian subspace** *L*⁺:

L⁺ ⊆ L^C is Lagrangian subspace
L⁺ is positive-definite with respect to (·, ·) {u_k}_{k∈I} is just an ON-basis of L⁺.

Lagrangian means

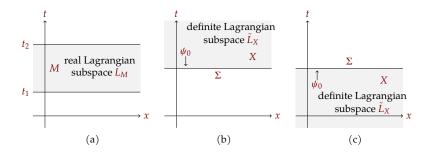
isotropic, i.e., $\omega(\phi, \eta) = 0$, $\forall \phi, \eta \in L^+$, and **coisotropic**, i.e., $\omega(\phi, \eta) = 0$, $\forall \phi \in L^+ \Longrightarrow \eta \in L^+$

 L^+ has a **complement** $L^- := \overline{L^+}$, a negative-definite Lagrangian subspace. Let *J* be the operator with eigenspaces L^+ and L^- and eigenvalues i and -i. Then, *J* defines a **complex structure** on *L* with respect to which

 $\{\phi,\eta\}:=(\phi^+,\eta^+)=g(\phi,\eta)+2\mathrm{i}\omega(\phi,\eta),\qquad g(\phi,\eta):=2\omega(\phi,J\eta)$

is a **positive-definite inner product** on (*L*, *J*).

Extended classical axioms



The classical axioms extend to general non-compact regions.

- For compact regions $L_M \subseteq L^{\mathbb{C}}_{\partial M}$ is the complexification of a real Lagrangian subspace.
- For non-compact regions $L_M \subseteq L^{\mathbb{C}}_{\partial M}$ is a general complex Lagrangian subspace.

[D. Colosi, RO 2019]

Holomorphic quantization: State spaces

In textbook QFT, the state space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ is usually taken as the **Fock space** over the Hilbert space $(L, \{\cdot, \cdot\})$. Another possibility we have seen is the **Schrödinger representation**.

Here, we construct $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ as the space of **square-integrable holomorphic** functions on *L* with respect to a **Gaussian measure** ν . This is the **holomorphic representation**.

$$\langle \psi',\psi\rangle := \int_{\hat{L}} \overline{\psi'(\phi)} \psi(\phi) \, \mathrm{d} \nu(\phi),$$

where ν is the **Gaussian measure**, with,

$$\mathrm{d}\nu(\phi) \approx \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\Re\{\phi,\phi\}\right)\mathrm{d}\mu(\phi).$$

Coherent States

The Hilbert space \mathcal{H} is a reproducing kernel Hilbert space and contains **coherent states** of the form

$$K_{\xi}(\phi) = \exp\left(\frac{1}{2}\{\xi,\phi\}\right)$$

associated to germs of solutions $\xi \in L$. They have the **reproducing property**,

$$\langle K_{\xi}, \psi \rangle = \psi(\xi),$$

and satisfy the completeness relation

$$\langle \psi',\psi\rangle = \int_{\hat{L}} \langle \psi',K_{\xi}\rangle \langle K_{\xi},\psi\rangle \,\mathrm{d}\nu(\xi).$$

They can be thought of as representing quantum states that approximate specific classical solutions.

Amplitudes

Consider a spacetime region *M*. Let L_M be the **space of solutions** in *M*. There is a map $L_M \rightarrow L_{\partial M}$. Denote the image by $L_{\tilde{M}}$.

Recall that $L_{\tilde{M}} \subseteq L_{\partial M}$ is a **Lagrangian subspace**. Then,

 $L_{\partial M} = L_{\tilde{M}} \oplus J_{\partial M} L_{\tilde{M}}$, orthogonal with respect to $g_{\partial M}$.

Amplitudes

Consider a spacetime region *M*. Let L_M be the **space of solutions** in *M*. There is a map $L_M \rightarrow L_{\partial M}$. Denote the image by $L_{\tilde{M}}$.

Recall that $L_{\tilde{M}} \subseteq L_{\partial M}$ is a **Lagrangian subspace**. Then,

 $L_{\partial M} = L_{\tilde{M}} \oplus J_{\partial M} L_{\tilde{M}}$, orthogonal with respect to $g_{\partial M}$.

Write $\xi = \xi^{R} + \xi^{I}$. Then, $(k_{\xi} \text{ normalized version of } K_{\xi})$ [RO 2010]

$$\rho_M(k_{\xi}) = \exp\left(-\mathrm{i}\omega_{\partial M}(\xi^\mathrm{R},\xi^\mathrm{I}) - \frac{1}{2}g_{\partial M}(\xi^\mathrm{I},\xi^\mathrm{I})\right)\,.$$