

## Loop Quantum Gravity Summer School

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## INTRODUCTION TO QFT IN CST

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Goal: Fock quantization of fields propagating in globally hyperbolic spacetimes.

Only 4 x 50 min lectures, so this is just an "advertisement".

Program:

1. Fock quantization of linear quantum mechanical systems
2. Fock quantization of linear fields
3. Application: the Hawking effect

References:

- Qft and BH thermodynamics, R. Wald
- Qft in curved spacetimes, Birrell and Davies
- Modeling BH evaporation, Fabbri and Navarro Salas

## Lectures 1 and 2 :

### 1. Fock quantization of linear quantum mechanical systems

#### Motivation:

Many aspects of the theory of linear fields can be reduced to the properties of infinitely many oscillators, possibly coupled with each other via springs. This section provides a reformulation of the theory of one (and multiple) oscillators using a language that will allow generalization to field theory.

Many of the new conceptual and mathematical techniques that appear in quantum field theory in curved spacetimes have a simpler analog in the realm of oscillators.

This chapter introduces these tools in a gentler setting whose physics is surely well understood by all students.

# 1. Fock quantization of bosonic linear systems

## 1.1. Non-technical motivation

Simple harmonic oscillator:

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \omega (p^2 + q^2), \quad q, p \equiv \text{dimensionless position and momentum}$$

Gen. sol. e.o.m.:

$$q(t) = a \frac{e^{-i\omega t}}{\sqrt{2}} + a^\dagger \frac{e^{i\omega t}}{\sqrt{2}} \quad (1)$$

Quantum theory: Heisenberg evol.

$$\hat{q}(t) = \hat{a} \frac{e^{-i\omega t}}{\sqrt{2}} + \hat{a}^\dagger \frac{e^{i\omega t}}{\sqrt{2}} \quad (2), \quad \hat{p}(t) = \frac{1}{\omega} \dot{\hat{q}}(t)$$

$$\text{Inverting} \Rightarrow \hat{a} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\hat{q}(t_0) + i \hat{p}(t_0)) \quad (3) \Rightarrow [\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger] = 1$$

$\uparrow$   
 $[\hat{q}(t_0), \hat{p}(t_0)] = i$

Hilbert (Fock) space: spanned by the number states basis:

$$\mathcal{F} \approx \overline{\text{span} \{ |n\rangle \}_{n=0}^{\infty}}, \quad \text{with } \underbrace{\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}}_{\equiv \hat{N}} |n\rangle = n |n\rangle, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Interpretation:  $|n\rangle$  is a state with  $n$  quanta

Eqn. (2)

provides



$\hat{q}(t)$

## Questions:

The construction of this quantum representation rests on the (non-Hermit.) operator  $\hat{a}$  (Dirac). Its key mathematical property is:  $[\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger] = 1$ . creation and annihilation ops.

Q: Is  $\hat{a}$  unique in any sense?

A: No.  $\hat{b} \equiv \cosh \theta \hat{a} + \sinh \theta \hat{a}^\dagger$ ,  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$   
is such that  $[\hat{b}, \hat{b}^\dagger] = \cosh^2 \theta - \sinh^2 \theta = 1$ .

$\Rightarrow$  there are infinitely many possible choices of non-Herm. opt.  $\hat{b}$  with the same math. properties of  $\hat{a}$ .

Q: Then, why do we use  $\hat{a}$  (as defined in (3))

A: Because  $\hat{a}$  is "adapted to the Hamiltonian" of the harmonic oscillator, in the following sense:

- Mathematical reason:  $[\hat{H}, \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}] = 0$

- Physics: the states  $|n\rangle$  are eigenstates of  $\hat{H}$  (stationary states)  $\Rightarrow \hat{a}^\dagger$  creates a quantum of energy.

$|0\rangle$  is the ground state.

Q: What if  $\hat{H}$  is different?

A: If  $\hat{H}$  is time-independent and bounded from below one can follow the same approach using the

normal modes of the Hamiltonian (see section ...)

$\Rightarrow$  preferred choice of  $\hat{a}$ .

Otherwise, there is no preferred choice. One can make any choice of  $\hat{b}$  /  $[\hat{b}, \hat{b}^\dagger] = 1$  and define a basis of number states  $|n\rangle$ . But  $|n\rangle$  will not be eigenstates of  $\hat{H}$  (e.g. if  $\hat{H}$  is time dependent,  $\hat{H}(t)$  does not have eigenstates, since energy is not conserved).

$\Rightarrow \hat{b}^\dagger$  creates quanta, but these "quanta" have only mathematical meaning (no quanta of energy)

$\Rightarrow |0\rangle$  (the state with no quanta) will not be the ground state (so "Fock vacuum"  $\neq$  ground state, in general).

Next: How to construct a Fock representation without assuming any property of the Hamiltonian.

## 1.2. Some aspects of classical linear systems

Def: Linear system defined by Two conditions:

- (i) Classical phase space is a vector space
  - (ii) Hamiltonian is a quadratic polynomial of canonical variables.
- Example:  $N$  oscillators (possibly time-dep) coupled via springs define linear systems.
  - No example: planar pendulum ; phase space is a cylinder (not a vector space) ; non-polynomial Hamiltonian.

Math. structure of classical theory of linear systs.:

(1) Space of physical states (classical version of Hilbert space)

Phase space:  $\Gamma \equiv 2N$ -dimensional real vect. space ( $N$  degrees of freedom)

(2) Observables: real functions on  $\Gamma$

Example: Canonical coordinates  $q_1, \dots, q_N, p_1, \dots, p_N$

Notation:  $\Gamma \equiv (q_1, \dots, q_N, p_1, \dots, p_N)$  : vector of canonical observables  
components  $r^i, i = 1, \dots, 2N$

Other examples: Kinetic energy, potential energy, total energy, angular momentum, etc.

(3) Key mathematical structure in  $\Gamma$ : symplectic structure  $\omega_{ab}$

•  $\omega_{ab}$  is a rank 2 covariant tensor

- anti-symmetric

- non-degenerate (if  $\omega_{ab} \gamma^b = 0 \iff \gamma^b = \text{zero vector}$ )

$\implies \omega_{ab}$  is invertible:  $\Omega^{ab}$

$$\left( \Omega^{ab} \omega_{bc} = \delta^a_c, \quad \Omega^{ba} \omega_{bc} = -\delta^a_c \right)$$

Components of  $\omega$  in a canonical (or Darboux) coords.  $r^i$ :

$$\omega \doteq \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & & & \\ 1 & 0 & & & \\ & & 0 & -1 & \\ & & 1 & 0 & \\ & & & & \dots \end{pmatrix} = \bigoplus_N \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Omega \doteq \bigoplus_N \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The symplectic structure plays two roles:

(a)  $\omega_{ab}$  and  $\Omega^{ab}$  can be used to raise and lower indices of tensors in  $\Gamma$ , similarly to what we do in relativity with the metric. (But be careful,  $\omega$  and  $\Omega$  are anti-symmetric, so watch out for signs).

(b)  $\Omega$  defines Poisson brackets ( $\equiv$  algebraic structure (i.e. a sort of "product") among observables:

$$f, g \text{ functions in } \Gamma: \quad \{f, g\} \equiv \Omega^{ij} \frac{\partial f}{\partial r^i} \frac{\partial g}{\partial r^j}$$

an operation which assigns a function to any pair of functs

Example: Poisson brackets of canonical observables

$$\{r^i, r^j\} = \Omega^{ij}$$

because  $\{r^i, r^j\} = \Omega^{kl} \frac{\partial r^i}{\partial r^k} \frac{\partial r^j}{\partial r^l} = \Omega^{kl} \delta^i_k \delta^j_l = \Omega^{ij}$ .

### Time evolution

General quadratic Hamiltonian:  $H = \frac{1}{2} h_{ij} r^i r^j + \underbrace{v_i r^i + c}_{\substack{\text{does not affect dynamics} \\ \text{can be eliminated by a linear re-definit} \\ \text{of } r^i}}$

$\Rightarrow$  without loss of generality, restrict to  $H = \frac{1}{2} h_{ij} r^i r^j$ , with

$h_{ij} =$  symmetric real matrix (possibly time-dep.)

If  $H$  quadratic  $\Rightarrow$  e.o.m. are linear  $\Rightarrow r^i(t)$  and  $r^j(0)$

must be linearly related:  $r^i(t) = E^i_j(t) r^j(0)$

with  $E^i_j(t)$  a real matrix ( $\equiv$  Hamiltonian flow in phase space)

Example: If  $h_{ij}$  is time-independent,

$$E(t) = \exp(-i J_H t), \quad \text{with } J_H = i \Omega \cdot h$$

In components:  $(J_H)^j_k = i \Omega^{jl} h_{lk}$

Proof:

Hamilton's equations:  $\dot{r}^i = \{r^i, H\} = \{r^i, \frac{1}{2} h_{kl} r^k r^l\}$   
 $= \{r^i, r^k\} h_{kl} r^l = \Omega^{ik} h_{kl} r^l = -i (J_H)^i_l r^l$

If  $J_H$  is time-independent this diff eqn. has the simple solution

$$\dot{r}^i = -i (J_H)^i_l r^l \quad \text{is} \quad \vec{r}(t) = e^{-i J_H t} \cdot \vec{r}(0) \quad \square$$

For a simple harm. oscill.,  $h = \omega \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\rightarrow J_H = i \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \omega \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = i \omega \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow E = \exp \left[ i \omega \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right] = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \omega t & \sin \omega t \\ -\sin \omega t & \cos \omega t \end{pmatrix}$$

## Theorem

If  $r^i(t) = E_j^i(t) r^j(0)$  is the solution to Hamilton's eqns. of a classical linear system, then the solution to Heisenberg's eqns. of the corresponding quantum system is

$$\hat{r}^i(t) = E_j^i(t) \hat{r}^j(0)$$

i.e., the classical solution with hats on  $r^i$ .

This implies that dynamics of the classical theory completely determines the quantum dynamics.

Also true in linear field theory.

No generically true for non-linear systems.

Proof:

Hamilton's eqns.:

$$\frac{d}{dt} r^i(t) = \{ r^i, H \} \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} (E_j^i(t) r^j) = \Omega^{ik} h_{kl} r^l$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} E_j^i(t) = \Omega^{ik} h_{kl} \quad (4)$$

Heisenberg's eqns.:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{r}^i = -i [\hat{r}^i, H] \quad (5)$$

Let's check  $\hat{r}^i(t) = E_j^i(t) \hat{r}^j(0)$  is a solution:

l.h.s. of (5):

$$\frac{d}{dt} (E_j^i(t) \hat{r}^j(0)) \stackrel{(4)}{=} \Omega^{ik} h_{kj} \hat{r}^j(0)$$

r.h.s. of (5):

$$-i [\hat{r}^i, H] = -i [\hat{r}^i, \frac{1}{2} h_{kl} \hat{r}^k \hat{r}^l] = \Omega^{ik} h_{kl} \hat{r}^l \quad \square$$

Before describing the quantum theory:

Brief introduction to Gaussian states, since they are closely related to the quantization procedure.

## 1.4. Fock quantization of linear mechanical systems

Goal: Construct a Fock space and represent the algebra of observables

[Algebra of observables: algebra generated by canonical observables by taking linear combinations as products. See Madhavan's lectures for further details (e.g. Weyl algebra of bounded operators)]

We'll do it without assuming any form of the Hamiltonian. The goal is to understand what freedom there exist.

The construction of a Fock representation requires three ingredients, two of which are already present in the classical theory.

Ingredient 1: The classical phase space  $\Gamma$ .

Actually, we'll use the complexification of  $\Gamma$ :

$\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}$  ( $\equiv$  made of all linear combinations of vectors  $\gamma$  in  $\Gamma$  with complex coefficients.

If  $\Gamma = \mathbb{R}^{2N}$ , then  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}} = \mathbb{C}^{2N}$ )

[Equivalently, we could use the space of complex solutions to the

e.o.m,  $\mathcal{S}_c$ .  $\mathcal{S}_c$  and  $\Gamma_c$  are isomorphic, by identifying solutions and initial data at some time  $t_0$ .]

Ingredient 2: Symplectic product in  $\Gamma_c$

$$\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle \text{ defined as } \langle \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \rangle = -i \omega(\gamma_1^*, \gamma_2), \quad \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in \Gamma_c$$

The "i" and the conjugate makes  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  Hermitian:

$$(a) \quad \langle \gamma_2, \gamma_1 \rangle = \langle \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \rangle^* \quad \forall \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in \Gamma_c$$

Other properties:

(b)  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is linear in the second entry (and anti-linear in the first entry, bcs of (a))

(c)  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is not positive definite

Example: For complex  $\gamma$ ,  $\langle \gamma, \gamma \rangle = -\langle \gamma^*, \gamma^* \rangle$ , so many  $\gamma$ 's in  $\Gamma$  have negative symplectic norm

In particular,  $\langle \gamma, \gamma \rangle = 0$  for all real  $\gamma$ .

$\Rightarrow \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  does not define an inner product in  $\Gamma_c$  (still, will be very useful) ( $\Rightarrow \Gamma_c, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  do not define a Hilbert space.)

(d)  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is invariant under time evolution:

$$\langle \gamma(t), \gamma(t) \rangle \text{ is time-independent}$$

This is a consequence of the fact that time evolution

leaves invariant  $\omega$  (canonical transformation)

So far, ingredients 1 and 2 are small extensions of structures borrowed from the classical theory. Now the genuinely new ingredient.

### Ingredient 3:

Geometric version: Introduce in the classical phase space  $\Gamma$  a Kähler structure:

$$J^a_b = -\Omega^{ac} \nabla_{cb}$$

$$\text{i.e., } J^2 = -\mathbb{I}$$

metric  $\nabla_{ab}$  satisfying  $J = -\Omega \sigma$  is a complex structure

(equivalently, introduce complex structure such that  $\nabla_{ab} = \omega_{ac} J^c_d$  defines a metric.)

Example:  $N=1$  (one degree of freedom)  $\rightarrow \Gamma = \mathbb{R}^2$

One possible Kähler structure is defined by  $\nabla \doteq \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

because  $J = -\Omega \cdot \nabla = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $J^2 = -\mathbb{I} \checkmark$

Another (different) possibility:  $\nabla \doteq \begin{pmatrix} e^{2r} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-2r} \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\Rightarrow J = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -e^{-2r} \\ e^{2r} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow J^2 = -\mathbb{I} \checkmark$$

Given a Kähler structure, one proceeds as follows:

- Extend the action of  $\sigma$  and  $J$  from  $\Gamma$  to  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}$  (using linearity).
- $J$  is diagonalizable in  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}$  with eigenvalues  $\pm i$  ( $N$ -degenerate)

Proof:

$\sigma(\cdot, \cdot)$  defines an Hermitian inner product in  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}$ .

Furthermore  $\sigma(\overline{Jx_1}, x_2) = \sigma(J\overline{x_1}, x_2) = -\omega(J\overline{x_1}, Jx_2) = -\omega(\overline{x_1}, x_2) = -\sigma(\overline{x_1}, x_2) \Rightarrow J$  is anti-Hermitian

$\sigma(\cdot, \cdot) = \omega(J\cdot, \cdot) \Rightarrow J$  is diagonalizable

$$\Rightarrow \Gamma_{\mathbb{C}} = \Gamma_+ \oplus \Gamma_-$$

where  $\Gamma_+$  eigenspace of  $J$  with eigenvalue  $i$

$\Gamma_-$  " " " " "  $-i$

$\Gamma_-$  is merely the complex conjugate of  $\Gamma_+$

- The complexified symplectic product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  becomes positive definite when restricted to  $\Gamma_+$  (and negative def. in  $\Gamma_-$ ). (And  $\Gamma_+ \perp \Gamma_- : \langle x_+, x_- \rangle = 0 \forall x_+ \in \Gamma_+, x_- \in \Gamma_-$ )

Proof

$\sigma$  is posit. def

$$0 < \overbrace{\sigma(\overline{x}, x)}^{\sigma(\cdot, \cdot) = \omega(J\cdot, \cdot)} = \omega(J\overline{x}, x)$$

If  $x \in \Gamma_+$ ,  $J\overline{x} = -i\overline{x}$ , so

$$0 < \omega(-i\overline{x}, x) = -i \omega(\overline{x}, x) = \langle x, x \rangle \quad \square$$

$\Rightarrow h_J \equiv (\Gamma_+, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  defines a Hilbert space ( $N$ -dimen.)  
 $\equiv$  one-quanta Hilbert space (not yet the Fock space)

The Fock space is the symmetric Fock space constructed from  $h_J$  (see e.g. appendix of Wald's qft book for the definition of symmetric Fock space)

$$\mathcal{F}_S(h_J) \equiv \underbrace{h_J}_{\substack{\text{vacuum sector} \\ 1 \text{ dim.}}} \oplus \underbrace{h_J}_{\substack{1 \text{ quanta sector} \\ N\text{-dim}}} \oplus \underbrace{(h_J \otimes_S h_J)}_{\substack{\text{two quanta sector (symmetric)} \\ \text{dim} \binom{N+1}{2}}} \oplus \dots \quad (7)$$

$n$ -quanta sect.  
 $\text{dim} \binom{N+n-1}{n}$

Annihilation operators: Consider a basis in  $\Gamma_+$ :  $\{e_I\}_{I=1}^N$ , and choose it orthonormal w.r.t. to the complexified symp. prod.  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ .

(All basis vectors are eigenstates of  $J$  with eigenvalue  $i$ .)

Each  $e_I$  defines an annihilation operator (via the association phase space elements  $\rightarrow$  operators)

$$e_I \rightarrow \hat{a}_I = -i \langle e_I, \hat{\Gamma} \rangle, \quad I=1, \dots, N \quad \text{Annihilation ops.}$$

It automatically follows that:  $\nearrow$  basis  $\{e_I\}_{I=1}^N$  was chosen orthonorm.

$$[a_I, a_J] = \langle e_I, \bar{e}_J \rangle = 0$$

$$[a_I, a_J^\dagger] = \langle e_I, e_J \rangle = 0 \quad (\text{follows from orthog. btw } \Gamma_+ \text{ and } \Gamma_-)$$

[There is ambiguity in the choice of basis within  $\Gamma_+$ , but this ambiguity does not change the Fock representation]

With this, the different sectors in (7) are:

- $h_J^0 \cong \mathbb{C}$  is one-dim and spanned by a state we denote as  $|0\rangle$ :  $h_J^0 = \text{span}(|0\rangle)$

Furthermore:  $\hat{a}_I |0\rangle = 0 \quad \forall I$ .

$|0\rangle$  is called the Fock vacuum

- $h_J^1 = \text{span} \{ |1_I\rangle \}_{I=1}^N$ , where  $|1_I\rangle \equiv \hat{a}_I^+ |0\rangle$   
One quanta sector

- $h_J^2 \otimes h_J^2 = \text{span} \{ |1_I 1_J\rangle \}_{I,J=1}^N$ , where  $|1_I 1_J\rangle \equiv \hat{a}_I^+ \hat{a}_J^+ |0\rangle$

Two quanta sector. Note that, because  $[\hat{a}_I^+, \hat{a}_J^+] = 0$ ,

$|1_I 1_J\rangle$  is equal to  $|1_J 1_I\rangle \Rightarrow$  two quanta states are symmetric under the interchange

of quanta ( $\Rightarrow$  quanta have bosonic character)

$$\Rightarrow \dim h_J^2 \otimes h_J^2 = \binom{N+2-1}{2}$$

⋮

- $h_J^2 \otimes \dots \otimes h_J^2 = \text{span} \{ |1_{I_1} \dots 1_{I_n}\rangle \}$  : n quanta sector

All states are sym. under quanta interchange.

$$\text{Dimension} \quad \binom{N+n-1}{n}$$

The Fock space is infinite dimensional, and a generic

state is of the form:

$$c|0\rangle + \sum_{I=1}^{\infty} c_I |1_I\rangle + \sum_{I,J=1}^{\infty} c_{IJ} |1_I 1_J\rangle + \sum_{I,J,K=1}^{\infty} c_{IJK} |1_I 1_J 1_K\rangle + \dots$$

with  $c_{IJ}, c_{IJK}, \dots$  totally symmetric complex coefficients  
and  $|c|^2 + \sum_I |c_I|^2 + \sum_{I,J} |c_{IJ}|^2 + \dots < \infty$  (so norm is finite)

We have not used the Hamiltonian in this construction  $\Rightarrow$   
the Fock basis  $\{|0\rangle, |1_I\rangle, |1_{I,J}\rangle, \dots\}$  are not, in general,  
eigenstates of the Hamiltonian neither the Fock vacuum  $|0\rangle$   
is the ground state.

### Representation of operators:

In the Fock space the canonical operators  $\hat{r} = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{a}_1 \\ \hat{a}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{a}_N \end{pmatrix}$   
are represented by:  $\langle e_I, \hat{r} \rangle = i a_I$

$$\hat{r} = -i \sum_{I=1}^N \left( e_I \hat{a}_I - i \bar{e}_I \hat{a}_I^\dagger \right) \quad (8)$$

Example: Simple harmonic oscillator.

$\Gamma = \mathbb{R}^2$ . Canonical coords.  $q$  and  $p$

Introduce Kähler structure defined by  $\mathcal{V} \doteq \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \mathcal{J} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

Eigenvectors of  $\mathcal{J}$ :  $e = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  eigenv.  $i$

$\bar{e} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  eigenv.  $-i$

$\Rightarrow$  the Kähler splitting of  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}} = \mathbb{C}^2$  is

$\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}} = \Gamma_+ \oplus \Gamma_-$  with  $\Gamma_+ = \text{span}(e)$

$\Gamma_- = \overline{\Gamma_+}$

$\hat{a} = i \langle e, \hat{r} \rangle = i (-i) \omega(e, \hat{r}) =$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} -i & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{(1 \ i)} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{q} \\ \hat{p} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\hat{q} + i \hat{p})$$

$$\rightarrow \hat{a} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\hat{q} + i \hat{p}) \quad \checkmark$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{r} = -i (e \hat{a} - \bar{e} \hat{a}^\dagger) = -i \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \hat{a} + i \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \hat{a}^\dagger =$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{a} + \hat{a}^\dagger \\ -i(\hat{a} - \hat{a}^\dagger) \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \hat{q} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\hat{a} + \hat{a}^\dagger) \quad \checkmark$$

Time evolution:

The evolution of the canonical operators is obtained from (8) merely by replacing  $e_I \rightarrow e_I(t)$

$$\hat{r}(t) = (-i) \sum_I e_I(t) \hat{a}_I - \bar{e}_I(t) \hat{a}_I^\dagger \quad (9)$$

Example: simple h.o. (cont.)

The solution to the e.o.m. with initial data  $e = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  at time  $t_0$  is

$$e(t) = \begin{pmatrix} q_e(t) \\ p_e(t) \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-i\omega(t-t_0)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\hat{q}(t) = -i (q_e(t) \hat{a} - \bar{q}_e(t) \hat{a}^\dagger)}$$
$$= \frac{e^{-i\omega(t-t_0)}}{\sqrt{2}} \hat{a} + \frac{e^{+i\omega(t-t_0)}}{\sqrt{2}} \hat{a}^\dagger$$

**Take home point:** The construction of a Fock representation requires an additional input not present in the classical theory: a Kähler structure (consisting in introducing a metric  $\nabla$  in  $\Gamma / \mathcal{J} = -\Omega \nabla$  is a complex structure or, equivalently, introducing a complex structure such that  $\nabla = \omega \mathcal{J}$  is a metric).

This sounds a bit mathy. The connexion to physics

is made transparent by this result :

The Fock vacuum is a Gaussian state whose matrix of covariances is precisely the Kähler metric  $\nabla$  :

$$\Delta^2 \hat{r}^i = 2 \nabla_{ii}$$

In more detail:  $\langle 0 | \hat{r}^i \hat{r}^j | 0 \rangle = \nabla^{ij} + i \Omega^{ij}$ . (\*)

Since a Gaussian state is completely determined by the its second moments (\*) [and the first moments, but for vacuum they are all zero:  $\langle 0 | \hat{r}^i | 0 \rangle = 0 \forall i$ ],  $\nabla$  completely characterizes the physical properties of the Fock vacuum.

# 1.v. Bogolubov transformations

They provide the relation between different Fock representations.

|                     | <u>Representation A</u>            |                       | <u>Represent. B</u>                |                 |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Kähler struct.      | $\sigma_A \xleftrightarrow{w} J_A$ |                       | $\sigma_B \xleftrightarrow{w} J_B$ |                 |
| Eigenvectors of J   | $e_I, \bar{e}_I$                   | Bog. transf.          | $v_I, \bar{v}_I$                   | $I=1, \dots, N$ |
| Annih. + creat opts | $\hat{a}_I, \hat{a}_I^\dagger$     | $\longleftrightarrow$ | $\hat{b}_I, \hat{b}_I^\dagger$     |                 |
| Fock vacuum         | $ 0\rangle_A$                      |                       | $ 0\rangle_B$                      |                 |
| Fock space          | $\mathcal{F}_A$                    |                       | $\mathcal{F}_B$                    |                 |

A Bogolubov transf. is a unitary map between  $\mathcal{F}_B$  and  $\mathcal{F}_A$ :

$$\mathcal{F}_B \xleftrightarrow{\hat{U}_{BA}} \mathcal{F}_A$$

$\hat{U}_{BA}$  permits to translate calculations of physical quantities from one representation to the other.

Interestingly:  $\hat{U}_{BA}$  can be obtained from the relation between Kähler structures. Specifically, from the relation between the eigenvectors of  $J_A$  and  $J_B$ .

## Relation between eigenbasis:

Since both sets of eigenvectors form basis, we can write one set in terms of the other:

$$v_I = \sum_{J=1}^N \alpha_{IJ} e_J + \beta_{IJ} \bar{e}_J \quad (10)$$

(this automatically implies  $\bar{v}_I = \sum_{J=1}^N \bar{\alpha}_{IJ} \bar{e}_J + \bar{\beta}_{IJ} e_J$ )

Using that basis  $A$  is symplectic - orthonormal:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \alpha_{IJ} &= \langle e_J, v_I \rangle \\ \beta_{IJ} &= - \langle \bar{e}_J, v_I \rangle \end{aligned} \right\} \equiv \text{Bogolubov coeffs.}$$

In "matrix" form:

$$\begin{matrix} N \text{ components} \rightarrow \\ N \text{ components} \rightarrow \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} v \\ \bar{v} \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \bar{\beta} & \bar{\alpha} \end{pmatrix}}_{\equiv B \text{ } 2N \times 2N \text{ matrix}} \begin{pmatrix} e \\ \bar{e} \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} N \text{ comp. vector} \\ \begin{pmatrix} e_1 \\ \vdots \\ e_N \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} \bar{e}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \bar{e}_N \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

Since both basis are orthonormal  $\Rightarrow B$  must preserve the symplectic product  $\Rightarrow$  must be a symplectic transf.

$$B^a{}_c W_{ab} B^b{}_c = W_{cb} \quad (11) \quad (\Leftrightarrow B \in \underbrace{Sp(\mathbb{R}, 2N)}_{\substack{\text{symplectic group} \\ \text{in } \mathbb{R}^{2N}}})$$

In matrix form:  $B^{-1} \cdot W \cdot B = W$

(11) implies the following relations:

In matrix form:  $\alpha \cdot \alpha^T - \beta \cdot \beta^T = \mathbb{I}_{N \times N}$   
 $\alpha \cdot \beta^T - \beta \cdot \alpha^T = 0$

Using indices:

$$\sum_k \alpha_{Ik} \bar{\alpha}_{Jk} - \beta_{Ik} \bar{\beta}_{Jk} = \delta_{IJ}$$

$$\sum_k \alpha_{Ik} \beta_{Jk} - \beta_{Ik} \alpha_{Jk} = 0$$

(This is the symplectic analog of an orthogonal transf. in Euclidean space.)

## Relation between creation and annihilation ops.

$$\hat{b}_I = \sum_J \bar{\alpha}_{IJ} \hat{a}_J - \bar{\beta}_{IJ} \hat{a}_J^+ \quad (12)$$

In matrix form: 
$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{b} \\ \hat{b}^+ \end{pmatrix} = (B^{-1})^T \begin{pmatrix} \hat{a} \\ \hat{a}^+ \end{pmatrix}$$

Proof

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{b}_I &= i \langle V_I, \hat{r} \rangle = i \langle \sum_J \alpha_{IJ} e_I + \beta_{IJ} \bar{e}_I, \hat{r} \rangle = \\ &= i \sum_J \bar{\alpha}_{IJ} \langle e_J, \hat{r} \rangle + \bar{\beta}_{IJ} \langle \bar{e}_J, \hat{r} \rangle = \\ &= \sum_J (\bar{\alpha}_{IJ} \hat{a}_J + \bar{\beta}_{IJ} \hat{a}_J^+) \end{aligned}$$

Relation between representations of  $\hat{r}$  (consistency check):

$$\hat{r} = -i \sum_I (V_I \hat{b}_I - \bar{V}_I \hat{b}_I^+) = \dots = -i \sum_I (e_I \hat{a}_I - \bar{e}_I \hat{a}_I^+) \quad \checkmark$$

$\uparrow$   
(10) + (11)

The form of  $\hat{U}_B$  is:

$$\hat{U}_B = \underset{\text{normalization}}{N} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (\Lambda_{IJ} \hat{b}_I^+ \hat{b}_J^+ + \bar{\Lambda}_{IJ} \hat{b}_I \hat{b}_J) \right]$$

where  $\Lambda = \bar{\beta} \cdot (\alpha^{-1})^T$

$\hat{U}_B$  is a squeezing operator.

In particular

$$|0\rangle_A = N \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \Lambda_{IJ} \hat{b}_I^+ \hat{b}_J^+ \right] |0\rangle_B$$

$$\text{If } \beta_I = 0 \quad \forall I \Rightarrow \hat{U}_B \propto \hat{I}$$

But if any  $\beta_I$  is  $\neq 0$

$\rightarrow |0\rangle_B$  is a squeezed state when written in  $\mathcal{F}_A$ .

It is straightforward to check that

$$\langle 0|_B \hat{A}_I^\dagger \hat{A}_I |0\rangle_B = \sum_J |\beta_{IJ}|^2 \rightarrow |0\rangle_B \neq |0\rangle_A \text{ if } \beta_{IJ} \neq 0 \text{ for some } I, J.$$

## 1.6. Time independent stable systems

$$\text{Hamiltonian } \hat{H} = \frac{1}{2} \hat{r}^a \text{ hab } \hat{r}^b$$

If hab is time independent and positive definite, there exist a preferred Fock representation, in which the number basis are eigenstates of  $\hat{H}$  and the Fock vacuum is the ground state of the Hamiltonian.

The preferred Kähler structure is obtained by "purifying" hab:

hab defines a metric in  $\Gamma$ , but it does not define a Kähler structure because  $J_h \equiv -\Omega \cdot h$  is such that  $J_h^2 \neq -\mathbb{I}$ . The eigenvalues of  $iJ_h$  are  $\pm \omega_I$ , with  $\omega_I$  the normal frequencies of the Hamiltonian.

In the basis of normal modes:

$$h = \bigoplus_{I=1}^N \omega_I \mathbb{I}_2$$

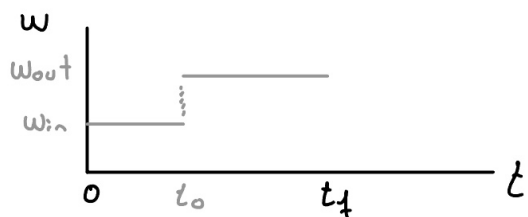
By replacing  $\omega_I$  by 1 in this equation, we get  $\mathcal{V} \equiv \bigoplus_{I=1}^N \mathbb{I}_2$ , which defines a Kähler structure.

The vacuum state defined from  $\mathcal{V}$  is an eigenstate of  $\hat{H}$  with the smallest possible eigenvalue,  $\equiv$  ground state.

# Example: time dependent harmonic oscillator

freeo  $H = \frac{1}{2} \omega(t) (p^2 + q^2)$ , with

$$\omega(t) = \omega_{in} \Theta(t_0 - t) + \omega_{out} \Theta(t - t_0); \quad \omega_{out} \neq \omega_{in}$$



Two natural Fock representations in this problem:

- In-rep.: based on the time independence of the Hamiltonian at early times  $t < t_0$

$$q(t) = (-i) \left( q_e^{in}(t) \hat{a}_{in} - \bar{q}_e^{in}(t) \hat{a}_{in}^\dagger \right)$$

with  $q_e^{in}(t)$  solution to e.o.m with initial data  $e_{in}(0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \dot{q} \\ q \end{pmatrix}$  at  $t=0$

The number basis  $\{|n\rangle_{in}\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  has a natural physical interpretation at early times  $t < t_0$ :  $|0\rangle_{in}$  is the ground state and  $|n\rangle_{in}$  are eigenstates of the Hamilt. containing  $n$  quanta of energy.

- out-rep.: based on the time independence of the Hamiltonian at late times  $t > t_0$

$$q(t) = (-i) \left( q_e^{out}(t) \hat{a}_{out} - \bar{q}_e^{out}(t) \hat{a}_{out}^\dagger \right)$$

With  $\varphi_e^{\text{out}}(t)$  solution to e.o.m with initial data  $e_{\text{out}}(t_f) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  at  $t = t_f$

The number basis  $\{|n\rangle_{\text{out}}\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  has a natural physical interpretation at times  $t > t_0$ .

Bogolubov coefficients:

$$\alpha = \langle e_{\text{out}}(t), e_{\text{in}}(t) \rangle, \quad \beta = -\langle \bar{e}_{\text{out}}(t), e_{\text{in}}(t) \rangle$$

$\alpha$  and  $\beta$  do not depend on which time we choose to compute them (bc symplectic products are invariant under time evol.).

Let's choose  $t_0$ . We need  $e_{\text{out}}$  and  $e_{\text{in}}$  at  $t_0$ . This is simple to obtain because:

$$e_{\text{in}}(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-i\omega_{\text{in}} t} \quad \text{for } 0 \leq t \leq t_0$$

and

$$e_{\text{out}}(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-i\omega_{\text{out}}(t-t_f)} \quad \text{for } t_0 \leq t \leq t_f$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\omega_{\text{out}} + \omega_{\text{in}}}{\omega_{\text{out}}} \right), \quad \beta = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\omega_{\text{out}} - \omega_{\text{in}}}{\omega_{\text{out}}}$$

$$\Rightarrow |0\rangle_{\text{in}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \beta^* / \alpha a_{\text{out}}^\dagger a_{\text{out}}^\dagger} |0\rangle_{\text{out}}.$$

This is a squeezed state with squeezing intensity  $\text{arctanh} |\beta|/|\alpha|$  and sqz. angle  $\arg \frac{\beta}{\alpha}$