

Week 3 (due Oct. 18)

1. Consider free complex scalar field ϕ with mass m . The expansion of the field in terms of creation and annihilation operators is given in eq. (3.38) in Srednicky (Problem 3.5). Invert this formula and express a_k, b_k, a_k^\dagger and b_k^\dagger in terms of ϕ and ϕ^\dagger .

2. Consider the 2-point time-ordered Green's function

$$G_2(x, y) = \langle 0|T(\phi(x)\phi(y))|0\rangle$$

for the free real scalar field ϕ . Show that G_2 satisfies

$$(-\partial_\mu\partial^\mu + m^2)G_2(x, y) = -i\delta^4(x - y)$$

without using the explicit expression for $G_2(x, y)$ as a Fourier-integral. Rather, use the fact that $\phi(x)$ satisfies the Klein-Gordon equation, plus the equal-time canonical commutation relations

$$[\phi(t, \vec{x}), \phi(t, \vec{y})] = 0, \quad [\partial_0\phi(t, \vec{x}), \partial_0\phi(t, \vec{y})] = 0, \quad [\phi(t, \vec{x}), \partial_0\phi(t, \vec{y})] = i\delta^3(\vec{x} - \vec{y}).$$