

### 2.9 Propagator at large $|\mathbf{x}|$ .

Show that the propagator  $K(\mathbf{x}, 0; 0, 0) = i\Delta_F(0, r)$  decays exponentially outside the light-cone.

We start from

$$i\Delta_F(0, r) = \int \frac{d^3k}{2\omega_k(2\pi)^3} e^{-i\mathbf{k}\mathbf{x}} = \frac{1}{2(2\pi)^2} \int_0^\infty \frac{dk k^2}{\sqrt{k^2 + m^2}} \int_{-1}^1 dz e^{-ikr z} \quad (35)$$

where  $z = \cos \vartheta$  is the angle between  $\mathbf{k}$  and  $\mathbf{x}$ . The integrand in

$$\Delta_F(0, r) = -\frac{1}{2(2\pi)^2 r} \int_0^\infty \frac{dk k}{\sqrt{k^2 + m^2}} (e^{ikr} - e^{-ikr}) \quad (36)$$

is  $\propto k \sin(kr)$ , i.e. even. Thus we can first extend it to  $-\infty$ , then add the odd function  $\propto k \cos(kr)$  and get

$$\Delta_F(0, r) = -\frac{1}{8\pi^2 r} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{dk k}{\sqrt{k^2 + m^2}} e^{ikr} = \frac{i}{8\pi^2 r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{dk}{\sqrt{k^2 + m^2}} e^{ikr}. \quad (37)$$

We work now on the last integral. It has a cut from  $ik = m$  to  $i\infty$ ; We change  $k = i(m + y)$  and integrate on both sides of the cut,

$$\int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{dk k}{\sqrt{k^2 + m^2}} e^{ikr} = 2 \int_0^\infty dy \frac{e^{-m(m+y)r}}{\sqrt{(m^2 + y^2) - y^2}} = 2 \int_0^\infty du \frac{e^{-mur}}{\sqrt{u^2 - 1}} = \quad (38)$$

$$= 2 \int_0^\infty dt e^{-mr \cosh t} = 2K_0(mr). \quad (39)$$

In the last step, we used e.g. 3.547(4) from Abramowitz & Stegun. Next we have to perform the derivative, using  $K_0'(mr) = -mK_1(mr)$ . Hence the final result is

$$i\Delta_F(0, r) = \frac{m}{4\pi^2 r} K_1(mr),$$

i.e. the propagator decays exponentially for space-like separations. The result for time-like separations follows by analytic continuation.