

Large gauge transformations, asymptotic charges and soft-photon theorems

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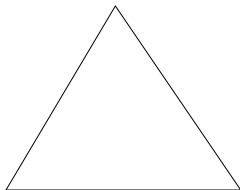
"Mathematics of interacting QFT models"

York, July 1, 2019

- 1 Large gauge transformations in external current QED.
- 2 Asymptotic charges and soft-photon theorems in classical Maxwell-Lorentz system.
- 3 Towards soft-photon theorems in non-relativistic QED

Strominger's infrared triangle

(a) Weinberg's soft-photon theorem



(b) Asymptotic symmetries

(c) Memory effects

Soft-photon theorem:

$$\langle \text{out} | a_+^{\text{out}}(q) S | \text{in} \rangle \simeq e \left[\sum_{k=1}^m \frac{Q_k^{\text{out}} p_k^{\text{out}} \cdot \varepsilon^+}{p_k^{\text{out}} \cdot q} - \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{Q_k^{\text{in}} p_k^{\text{in}} \cdot \varepsilon^+}{p_k^{\text{in}} \cdot q} \right] \langle \text{out} | S | \text{in} \rangle$$

as a Ward identity w.r.t. an asymptotic symmetry.

Large gauge transformations in external current QED

Asymptotic charges and LGT in this talk

- 1 By applying the Noether theorem to the **global** $U(1)$ symmetry, we obtain the electric charge.
- 2 By applying the Noether theorem to the **local** $U(1)$ symmetry, we obtain **asymptotic charges**, e.g.:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{n}) := \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} r^2 \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{E}(r\mathbf{n}), \quad \mathbf{n} \in S^2,$$

- 3 **Large gauge transformations (LGT)** change these asymptotic charges.

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Asymptotic charges and LGT

- 1 I will discuss LGT which map the theory from Coulomb to axial gauges and among different axial gauges.
- 2 As a by-product we will obtain unitary inequivalence of different gauges.
- 3 Indeed, the LGT should change the asymptotic charges

$$\Phi(\mathbf{n}) := \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} r^2 \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{E}(r\mathbf{n}), \quad \mathbf{n} \in S^2$$

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External current QED in Coulomb gauge

For $j = (j_0, 0)$ define:

$$A_{0,C}(t, \mathbf{x}) := -\frac{1}{\Delta} j_0(\mathbf{x}),$$

$$\mathbf{A}_C(t, \mathbf{x}) := \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} \sum_{\lambda=\pm} \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{2|\mathbf{k}|}} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_\lambda(\mathbf{k}) (e^{i|\mathbf{k}|t - i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}} a_\lambda^*(\mathbf{k}) + \text{h.c.}),$$

$$H_C := H_{\text{fr}} + \frac{1}{2} \int d^3\mathbf{x} A_{0,C}(\mathbf{x}) j_0(\mathbf{x}), \quad H_{\text{fr}} := \sum_{\lambda=\pm} \int d^3\mathbf{k} |\mathbf{k}| a_\lambda^*(\mathbf{k}) a_\lambda(\mathbf{k}).$$

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Electromagnetic fields:

$$E_C = E_{C,\perp} + E_{C,\parallel} = -\partial_t \mathbf{A}_C + \nabla \frac{1}{\Delta} j_0(\mathbf{x})$$

$$B_C = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}_C$$

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Remark: The minimal coupling $A_{\mu\nu} j^\mu$ is not manifest. But

$$\frac{\delta H_C}{\delta j_0(\mathbf{x})} = A_{0,C}(\mathbf{x}).$$

Changing gauge

- 1 $\mathbf{x} \mapsto \chi_\epsilon(\mathbf{x})$ operator valued distribution, $[\chi_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}), \chi_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}')] = 0$.
- 2 Def: $W_\epsilon := e^{-i\chi_\epsilon(j_0)}$, $\chi_\epsilon(t, \mathbf{x}) := e^{itH_C} \chi_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) e^{-itH_C}$.
- 3 Gauge transformation of the potential:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}_\epsilon(t, \mathbf{x}) &:= W_\epsilon(\mathbf{A}_C(t, \mathbf{x}) - \nabla \chi_\epsilon(t, \mathbf{x})) W_\epsilon^*, \\ A_{0,\epsilon}(t, \mathbf{x}) &:= W_\epsilon(A_{0,C}(t, \mathbf{x}) + \partial_t \chi_\epsilon(t, \mathbf{x})) W_\epsilon^*. \end{aligned}$$

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- 5 $H_\epsilon := W_\epsilon H_C W_\epsilon^*$ satisfies $\frac{\delta H_\epsilon}{\delta j_0(\mathbf{x})} = A_{0,\epsilon}(\mathbf{x})$.

Example: axial gauge

1 Recall $\mathbf{A}_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) := W_\epsilon(\mathbf{A}_C(\mathbf{x}) - \nabla\chi_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}))W_\epsilon^*$

2 Impose $\mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{A}_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \rightarrow 0$ for $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$

$$W_\epsilon(\mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{A}_C(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{e} \cdot \nabla\chi_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}))W_\epsilon^* \rightarrow 0.$$

3 Solve for χ_ϵ :

$$\chi_{\mathbf{e},\epsilon}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\mathbf{e} \cdot \nabla - \epsilon} \mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{A}_C(\mathbf{x}).$$

4 This gives $A_{\mathbf{e},\epsilon}^\mu = W_\epsilon A_{\text{MSY},\epsilon}^\mu W_\epsilon^* + O(\epsilon)$, where

$$A_{\text{MSY},\epsilon}^\mu(x) = \int_0^\infty ds e^{-\epsilon s} F_C^{\mu\nu}(x + \mathbf{e}s) \epsilon_\nu$$

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Example: axial gauge

- 1 The electromagnetic fields have the form

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{e},\epsilon}(\mathbf{x}) &:= \mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{C},\perp}(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{\mathbf{e}}{\mathbf{e} \cdot \nabla + \epsilon} j_0(\mathbf{x}), \\ \mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{e},\epsilon}(\mathbf{x}) &:= \mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{C}}(\mathbf{x}).\end{aligned}$$

- 2 $A_{0,\mathbf{e},\epsilon}(t, \mathbf{x})$ and $H_{\mathbf{e},\epsilon}$ diverge as $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$.
- 3 One can improve the situation by MSY-type angular smearing:

$$\chi_{g,\epsilon}(\mathbf{x}) := \int d\Omega(\mathbf{e}) g(\mathbf{e}) \frac{1}{\mathbf{e} \cdot \nabla - \epsilon} \mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{C}}(\mathbf{x})$$

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LGT from Coulomb to axial gauge

- 1 The LGT from Coulomb to axial is implemented by:

$$\begin{aligned}W_{\mathbf{e},\epsilon} &= e^{-i\chi_\epsilon(j_0)} = \exp\left(-i\frac{1}{\mathbf{e} \cdot \nabla - \epsilon} \mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{A}_C(j_0)\right) \\ &= \exp\left(i \int_0^\infty ds e^{-\epsilon s} (\mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{A}_C)(j_0)(s\mathbf{e})\right).\end{aligned}$$

- 2 We can change regularisation from $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ to $L \rightarrow \infty$:

$$W_{\mathbf{e},L} := \exp\left(i \int_0^L ds (\mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{A}_C)(j_0)(s\mathbf{e})\right).$$

- 3 This LGT is very non-local due to non-locality of \mathbf{A}_C .

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LGT between two different axial gauges

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$$\begin{aligned} W_{\mathbf{e}',\mathbf{e},L} &:= W_{\mathbf{e}',L} W_{\mathbf{e},L}^* \\ &= \exp\left(i \int_0^L ds' (\mathbf{e}' \cdot \mathbf{A}_C)(j_0)(s' \mathbf{e}') + i \int_{-L}^0 ds ((-\mathbf{e}) \cdot \mathbf{A}_C)(j_0)(s(-\mathbf{e}))\right). \end{aligned}$$

- 2 We can close the contour without effect on the limit $L \rightarrow \infty$

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{W}_{\mathbf{e}',\mathbf{e},L} &:= \exp\left(i \int_{\partial S_L} \mathbf{A}_C(j_0)(\mathbf{r}) \cdot d\mathbf{r}\right) \\ &= \exp\left(i \int_{S_L} \mathbf{B}(j_0)(\mathbf{r}) \cdot dS\right), \end{aligned}$$

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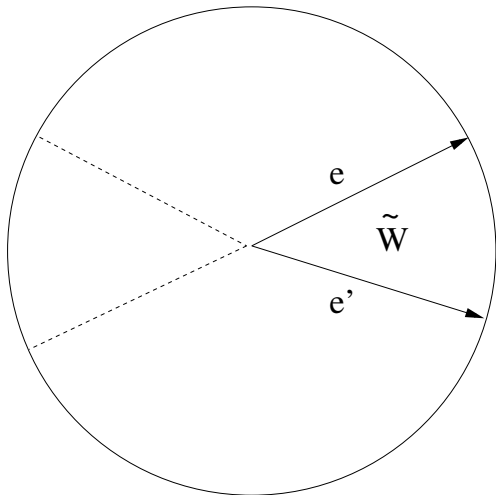
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Theorem (Wegener-WD)

For any fixed unit vectors $\mathbf{e} \neq \mathbf{e}'$ and all smearing functions $\mathbf{f}_{\text{el}}, \mathbf{f}_{\text{m}}$ we have

$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} W_{\mathbf{e},L} e^{i(\mathbf{E}_C(\mathbf{f}_{\text{el}}) + \mathbf{B}_C(\mathbf{f}_{\text{m}}))} W_{\mathbf{e},L}^* = e^{i(\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{e}}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{el}}) + \mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{e}}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{m}}))},$$
$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \widetilde{W}_{\mathbf{e}',\mathbf{e},L} e^{i(\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{e}}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{el}}) + \mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{e}}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{m}}))} \widetilde{W}_{\mathbf{e}',\mathbf{e},L}^* = e^{i(\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{e}'}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{el}}) + \mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{e}'}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{m}}))},$$

where

$$W_{\mathbf{e},L} := \exp\left(i \int_0^L ds (\mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{A}_C)(j_0)(s\mathbf{e})\right)$$
$$\widetilde{W}_{\mathbf{e}',\mathbf{e},L} := \exp\left(i \int_{\partial S_L} \mathbf{A}_C(j_0)(\mathbf{r}) \cdot d\mathbf{r}\right)$$

Theorem (Wegener-WD)

For any fixed unit vectors $\mathbf{e} \neq \mathbf{e}'$ and all smearing functions $\mathbf{f}_{\text{el}}, \mathbf{f}_{\text{m}}$ we have

$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} W_{\mathbf{e},L} e^{i(\mathbf{E}_{\text{C}}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{el}}) + \mathbf{B}_{\text{C}}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{m}}))} W_{\mathbf{e},L}^* = e^{i(\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{e}}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{el}}) + \mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{e}}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{m}}))},$$
$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \widetilde{W}_{\mathbf{e}',\mathbf{e},L} e^{i(\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{e}}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{el}}) + \mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{e}}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{m}}))} \widetilde{W}_{\mathbf{e}',\mathbf{e},L}^* = e^{i(\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{e}'}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{el}}) + \mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{e}'}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{m}}))}.$$

However, there are *no* unitaries U, \tilde{U} s.t.

$$U e^{i(\mathbf{E}_{\text{C}}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{el}}) + \mathbf{B}_{\text{C}}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{m}}))} U^* = e^{i(\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{e}}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{el}}) + \mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{e}}(\mathbf{f}_{\text{m}}))},$$
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That is different gauges are not unitarily equivalent.

Spacelike flux of the electric field

- 1 Def. $\Phi(\mathbf{n}) := \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} r^2 \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{E}(r\mathbf{n}), \quad \mathbf{n} \in S^2$
- 2 Def. $\Phi_f(\mathbf{n}) := \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \int d^3\mathbf{x} f(\mathbf{x}) r^2 \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{E}((\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n})r)$
- 3 Fact: In the Coulomb gauge

$$\Phi_f^{\text{C}}(\mathbf{n}) = \int d^3\mathbf{x} f(\mathbf{x}) \frac{q\mathbf{n} \cdot (\mathbf{n} + \mathbf{x})}{4\pi|\mathbf{n} + \mathbf{x}|^2} \simeq \frac{q}{4\pi},$$

where $q := \int d^3\mathbf{x} j_0(\mathbf{x})$.

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$$\Phi_f^{\text{e}}(\mathbf{n}) = \begin{cases} q \int ds f(s\mathbf{e}) & \text{for } \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{e}, \\ 0 & \text{for } \mathbf{n} \neq \mathbf{e}. \end{cases}$$

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Wrong. Exchanging $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty}$ with $\int d\Omega(\mathbf{e})$ was not legitimate.

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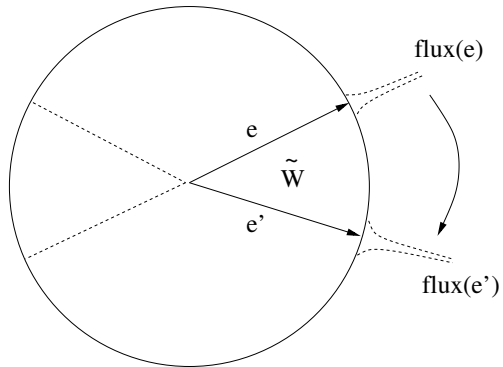
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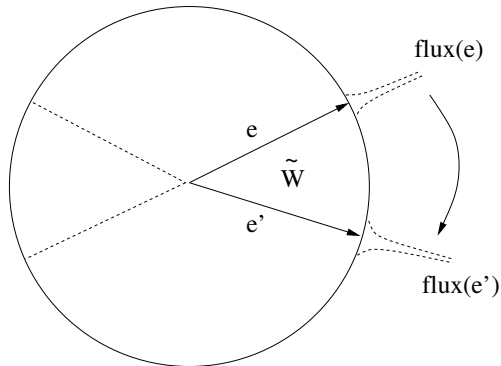
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In DHR terms $\widetilde{W} = \exp(i \int \mathbf{B}(j_0)(\mathbf{r}) \cdot dS)$ is a 'flux carrying field'.

Asymptotic charges in classical Maxwell-Lorentz system

Classical Maxwell-Lorentz system

The classical Maxwell-Lorentz system:

$$\partial_t \mathbf{B}(t, \mathbf{x}) = -\nabla \times \mathbf{E}(t, \mathbf{x}), \quad \partial_t \mathbf{E}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \nabla \times \mathbf{B}(t, \mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{j}(t, \mathbf{x}),$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \rho(t, \mathbf{x}), \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}(t, \mathbf{x}) = 0,$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(m\gamma \dot{\mathbf{q}}(t) \right) = e(\mathbf{E}_\varphi(t, \mathbf{q}(t)) + \dot{\mathbf{q}}(t) \times \mathbf{B}_\varphi(t, \mathbf{q}(t))),$$

① Here $\rho(t, \mathbf{x}) := e\varphi(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{q}(t))$, $\mathbf{j}(t, \mathbf{x}) := e\varphi(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{q}(t))\dot{\mathbf{q}}(t)$,

$$\mathbf{E}_\varphi(t, \mathbf{q}(t)) := \int d^3\mathbf{x} \varphi(\mathbf{q}(t) - \mathbf{x}) \mathbf{E}(t, \mathbf{x}),$$

② Initial conditions: smooth fields s.t. for large $|\mathbf{x}|$

$$|\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x})| + |\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{x})| + |\mathbf{x}|(|\nabla \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x})| + |\nabla \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{x})|) \leq C(|\mathbf{x}|)^{-2}.$$

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Soliton solutions

- 1 By minimizing the total energy of the system at fixed total momentum, $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{v})$ and for $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x}) = \rho(\mathbf{x})$, $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{x}) = 0$:

$$\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{x}) = -\nabla\phi_{\mathbf{v},\varphi}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla\phi_{\mathbf{v},\varphi}(\mathbf{x})),$$

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- 2 Given $t \mapsto \mathbf{q}(t)$ we define the **soliton fields**

$$\mathbf{E}_S(t, \mathbf{x}) := \mathbf{E}_{\dot{\mathbf{q}}(t)}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{q}(t)), \quad \mathbf{B}_S(t, \mathbf{x}) := \mathbf{E}_{\dot{\mathbf{q}}(t)}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{q}(t))$$

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Theorem (Imaikin, Komech, Kunze, Spohn 1997, 2002)

Let $t \mapsto (\mathbf{E}(t, \cdot), \mathbf{B}(t, \cdot), \mathbf{q}(t))$ be a solution of the Maxwell-Lorentz system. Then, for $|e|$ sufficiently small,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{E}(t, \mathbf{x}) &= \mathbf{E}_{\dot{\mathbf{q}}(t)}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{q}(t)) + \mathbf{E}_{\text{sc}}(t, \mathbf{x}) + R_1(t, \mathbf{x}), \\ \mathbf{B}(t, \mathbf{x}) &= \mathbf{B}_{\dot{\mathbf{q}}(t)}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{q}(t)) + \mathbf{B}_{\text{sc}}(t, \mathbf{x}) + R_2(t, \mathbf{x}),\end{aligned}$$

where

- 1 $(\mathbf{E}_{\text{sc}}, \mathbf{B}_{\text{sc}})$ solve the free Maxwell equations. (Emitted radiation).
- 2 The limit $\mathbf{v}_\infty := \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \dot{\mathbf{q}}(t)$ exists.
- 3 $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int d^3\mathbf{x} |R(t, \mathbf{x})|^2 = 0$.

Asymptotic constants of motion

Theorem (Duc Viet Hoang, WD)

For a solution of the Maxwell-Lorentz system, the limit

$$\mathcal{E}(t, \mathbf{x}) := \lim_{|\mathbf{x}| \rightarrow \infty} |\mathbf{x}|^2 \mathbf{E}(t, \mathbf{x})$$

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Remark 1: By scattering theory

$$\mathbf{E}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{E}_{\dot{\mathbf{q}}(t)}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{q}(t)) + \mathbf{E}_{\text{sc}}(t, \mathbf{x}) + R_1(t, \mathbf{x}),$$

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The last equality can be considered a [soft-photon theorem](#) for this system.

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$$\mathbf{E}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{E}_{\dot{\mathbf{q}}(t)}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{q}(t)) + \mathbf{E}_{\text{sc}}(t, \mathbf{x}) + R_1(t, \mathbf{x}),$$

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$$\mathcal{E}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) = \mathcal{E}_{\mathbf{v}_{\infty}}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) + \mathcal{E}_{\text{sc}}(+\infty, \hat{\mathbf{x}}) = \mathcal{E}_{\mathbf{v}_{-\infty}}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) + \mathcal{E}_{\text{sc}}(-\infty, \hat{\mathbf{x}})$$

The last equality can be considered a **soft-photon theorem** for this system.

Asymptotic constants of motion

Theorem (Duc Viet Hoang, WD)

For a solution of the Maxwell-Lorentz system, the limit

$$\hat{\mathcal{E}}(t, \mathbf{k}) := \lim_{|\mathbf{k}| \rightarrow 0} |\mathbf{k}| \tilde{\mathbf{E}}(t, \mathbf{k})$$

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$$\hat{\mathcal{E}}(0, \hat{\mathbf{k}}) = \hat{\mathcal{E}}_{v_\infty}(\hat{\mathbf{k}}) + \hat{\mathcal{E}}_{\text{sc}}(+\infty, \hat{\mathbf{k}}).$$

Choose purely longitudinal initial data, then

$$\lim_{|\mathbf{k}| \rightarrow 0} |\mathbf{k}| \tilde{\mathbf{E}}_{\text{sc}}(+\infty, \mathbf{k}) = \hat{\mathcal{E}}_{\text{sc}}(+\infty, \hat{\mathbf{k}}) = -P_{\text{tr}} \hat{\mathcal{E}}_{v_\infty}(\hat{\mathbf{k}}) = -ie \left(\frac{(P_{\text{tr}} \cdot v_\infty)(\hat{\mathbf{k}} \cdot v_\infty)}{1 - (\hat{\mathbf{k}} \cdot v_\infty)^2} \right)$$

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Classical origin of infrared problems

- 1 We found that $\tilde{\mathbf{E}}_{\text{sc}}(\mathbf{k}) \sim -\frac{ie}{|\mathbf{k}|} \left(\frac{(P_{tr} \cdot \mathbf{v}_\infty)(\hat{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \mathbf{v}_\infty)}{1 - (\hat{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \mathbf{v}_\infty)^2} \right)$ for small $|\mathbf{k}|$.
- 2 It is often stated, that 'such fields escape from Fock space'.
- 3 For $|g\rangle := e^{a^*(g) - a(g)}|0\rangle$ impose for small \mathbf{k}

$$\tilde{\mathbf{E}}_{\text{sc}}(\mathbf{k}) = \langle g | \tilde{\mathbf{E}}_{\perp}(\mathbf{k}) | g \rangle.$$

- 4 This is satisfied by

$$g(\mathbf{k}) = -\frac{e\tilde{\varphi}(\mathbf{k})}{\sqrt{2}|\mathbf{k}|^{3/2}} \frac{\mathbf{v}_\infty}{1 - \hat{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \mathbf{v}_\infty}.$$

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Towards soft-photon theorems in non-relativistic QED

Non-relativistic QED in Coulomb gauge

- 1 Hilbert space $\mathcal{H} := L^2(\mathbb{R}^3) \otimes \mathcal{F}$.
- 2 Hamiltonian

$$H = \frac{1}{2m}(\mathbf{p} \otimes 1 - eA_{\perp,\varphi}(\mathbf{q}))^2 + \frac{1}{2} \int d^3\mathbf{x} \{ : (1 \otimes E_{\perp}(\mathbf{x}))^2 : + : (1 \otimes \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \times A_{\perp}(\mathbf{x}))^2 : \}$$

Scattering theory

Rigorous scattering theory for the model was developed by Chen-Fröhlich-Pizzo [2010].

Can be related to Faddeev-Kulish approach [W.D. *Nucl. Phys. B*, 2017].

$$|\Psi_{\text{el}}^{\text{out}}\rangle = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{iHt} e^{-iH_0 t} \int d^3\mathbf{p} U_{\mathbf{p}}^{\text{D}}(t) \Psi_{\text{el}}(\mathbf{p})(|\mathbf{p}\rangle \otimes |0\rangle).$$

The Dollard modifier $U_{\mathbf{p}}^{\text{D}}(t)$ is constructed as follows:

- 1 $V = -e \frac{\mathbf{p}}{m} A_{\perp, \varphi}(\mathbf{q}) \rightarrow V^{\text{as}}(\tau) = -e \mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{p}} A_{\perp, \varphi}(v_{\mathbf{p}} \tau).$
- 2 $V_{\mathbf{p}}^{\text{as}, l}(\tau) := e^{i\tau H_0} V^{\text{as}}(\tau) e^{-i\tau H_0} = - \int d^3\mathbf{x} A_{\perp}(\tau, \mathbf{x}) j_{\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{p}}}(\tau, \mathbf{x}).$
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- 1 Scattering states including 'hard' photons:

$$|\Psi^{\text{out}}\rangle = a_{\text{out}}^*(h_1) \dots a_{\text{out}}^*(h_n) |\Psi_{\text{el}}^{\text{out}}\rangle,$$

where

$$a_{\text{out}}^*(h) := \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{itH} a^*(e^{-i|\mathbf{k}|t} h) e^{-itH}$$

- 2 S-matrix elements:

$$S_{i,j} = \langle \Psi_i^{\text{out}} | \Psi_j^{\text{in}} \rangle$$

- 3 The asymptotic velocity of the electron is defined via

$$\mathbf{v}_{\text{out}} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{itH} \left(\frac{\mathbf{q}}{t} \right) e^{-itH} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathbf{q}(t)}{t}.$$

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Towards soft-photon theorems

Conjecture

Let $\rho \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^3)$ and $\rho^s(\mathbf{k}) := |\mathbf{k}|^{3/2} s^3 \rho(s\mathbf{k})$. Then the following holds true

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \langle \Psi_i^{\text{out}} | a_{\text{out}}(\rho^s \varepsilon_\lambda) \Psi_j^{\text{in}} \rangle = -\frac{e}{\sqrt{2}} \int d^3 \mathbf{k} \rho(\mathbf{k}) \langle \Psi_i^{\text{out}} | \frac{\mathbf{v}^{\text{out}} \cdot \varepsilon_\lambda(\hat{\mathbf{k}})}{1 - \hat{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \mathbf{v}^{\text{out}}} \Psi_j^{\text{in}} \rangle$$

Since for coherent states $a_\lambda(\mathbf{k})|g\rangle = (g(\mathbf{k}) \cdot \varepsilon_\lambda(\hat{\mathbf{k}}))|g\rangle$, we expect

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \langle \Psi_i^{\text{out}} | a_{\text{in}}(\rho^s \varepsilon_\lambda) \Psi_j^{\text{in}} \rangle = -\frac{e}{\sqrt{2}} \int d^3 \mathbf{k} \rho(\mathbf{k}) \langle \Psi_i^{\text{out}} | \frac{\mathbf{v}^{\text{in}} \cdot \varepsilon_\lambda(\hat{\mathbf{k}})}{1 - \hat{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \mathbf{v}^{\text{in}}} \Psi_j^{\text{in}} \rangle$$

Now it suffices to show, that

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \langle \Psi_i^{\text{out}} | (a_{\text{out}}(\rho^s \varepsilon_\lambda) - a_{\text{in}}(\rho^s \varepsilon_\lambda)) \Psi_j^{\text{in}} \rangle \\ &= -\frac{e}{\sqrt{2}} \int d^3 \mathbf{k} \rho(\mathbf{k}) \langle \Psi_i^{\text{out}} | \frac{\mathbf{v}^{\text{out}} \cdot \varepsilon_\lambda(\hat{\mathbf{k}})}{1 - \hat{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \mathbf{v}^{\text{out}}} - \frac{\mathbf{v}^{\text{in}} \cdot \varepsilon_\lambda(\hat{\mathbf{k}})}{1 - \hat{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \mathbf{v}^{\text{in}}} \Psi_j^{\text{in}} \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

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$$\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \langle \Psi_i^{\text{out}} | a_{\text{out}}(\rho^s \epsilon_\lambda) \Psi_j^{\text{in}} \rangle = -\frac{e}{\sqrt{2}} \int d^3\mathbf{k} \rho(\mathbf{k}) \langle \Psi_i^{\text{out}} | \frac{\mathbf{v}^{\text{out}} \cdot \epsilon_\lambda(\hat{\mathbf{k}})}{1 - \hat{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \mathbf{v}^{\text{out}}} \Psi_j^{\text{in}} \rangle$$

Weinberg's soft-photon theorem:

$$\langle \text{out} | a_+^{\text{out}}(\mathbf{q}) S | \text{in} \rangle \simeq e \left[\sum_{k=1}^m \frac{Q_k^{\text{out}} p_k^{\text{out}} \cdot \epsilon^+}{p_k^{\text{out}} \cdot q} - \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{Q_k^{\text{in}} p_k^{\text{in}} \cdot \epsilon^+}{p_k^{\text{in}} \cdot q} \right] \langle \text{out} | S | \text{in} \rangle$$

Since for coherent states $a_\lambda(\mathbf{k})|g\rangle = (g(\mathbf{k}) \cdot \epsilon_\lambda(\hat{\mathbf{k}}))|g\rangle$, we expect

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \langle \Psi_i^{\text{out}} | a_{\text{in}}(\rho^s \epsilon_\lambda) \Psi_j^{\text{in}} \rangle = -\frac{e}{\sqrt{2}} \int d^3\mathbf{k} \rho(\mathbf{k}) \langle \Psi_i^{\text{out}} | \frac{\mathbf{v}^{\text{in}} \cdot \epsilon_\lambda(\hat{\mathbf{k}})}{1 - \hat{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \mathbf{v}^{\text{in}}} \Psi_j^{\text{in}} \rangle$$

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We compute:

$$\begin{aligned} & (a_{\text{out}}(\rho^s \epsilon_\lambda) - a_{\text{in}}(\rho^s \epsilon_\lambda)) \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau \partial_\tau \left(e^{iH\tau} a(e^{-i|\mathbf{k}|\tau} \rho^s \epsilon_\lambda) e^{-iH\tau} \right) \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau \left(e^{iH\tau} i[V, a(e^{-i|\mathbf{k}|\tau} \rho^s \epsilon_\lambda)] e^{-iH\tau} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Considering $-e \frac{\mathbf{p}}{m} \cdot A_{\perp, \varphi}(\mathbf{q}) \in V$, this gives

$$\frac{ie}{\sqrt{2}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau' \frac{\mathbf{p}(\tau' s)}{m} \cdot \int d^3\mathbf{k} \epsilon_\lambda(\hat{\mathbf{k}}) |\mathbf{k}| \tilde{\varphi}(\mathbf{k}/s) \rho(\mathbf{k}) e^{i|\mathbf{k}|\tau'(1 - \hat{\mathbf{k}} \cdot (\mathbf{q}(\tau' s)/(\tau' s)))}$$

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Open problems

- ① We have shown that different gauges are unitarily inequivalent. Can we show that this physically doesn't matter?
 - ① Are they equivalent in front of an infravacuum?
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