

Title: Quantum Field Theory for Cosmology - Lecture 20240215

Speakers: Achim Kempf

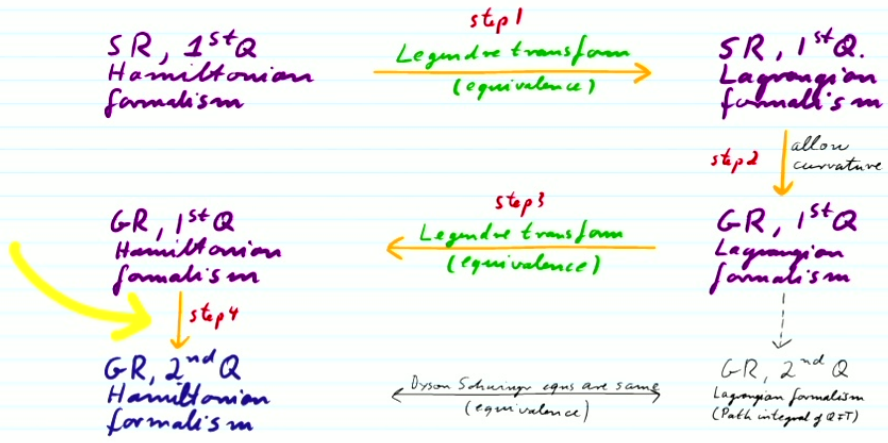
Collection: Quantum Field Theory for Cosmology (PHYS785/AMATH872)

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QFT for Cosmology, Achim Kempf, Lecture 12

We are now ready to 2nd quantize:



Solving the quantized theory is to solve:

1.) Commutation relations:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} [\hat{\phi}(x,t), \hat{\pi}(x,t)] &= i \delta^3(x-x') \\ [\hat{\phi}(x,t), \hat{\phi}(x',t)] &= 0 \\ [\hat{\pi}(x,t), \hat{\pi}(x',t)] &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{(CCRs)}$$

2.) Hermiticity:

$$\hat{\phi}^\dagger(x,t) = \hat{\phi}(x,t), \quad \hat{\pi}^\dagger(x,t) = \hat{\pi}(x,t) \quad \text{(HC)}$$

which is needed so that the expectation values are real.

3.) Equations of motion:

In the Heisenberg picture, they are formally unchanged:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{f}(t) = \frac{i}{\hbar} [\hat{f}, \hat{H}] \quad \text{for } \hat{f} = \hat{\phi}, \hat{f} = \hat{\pi}, \text{ etc}$$

Namely:

How to solve the CCR, HC and EoM equations?

Recall: the solution we obtained on Minkowski space:

$$\hat{\phi}(x,t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\omega_k}} \left(e^{-i\omega_k t + ikx} a_k + e^{i\omega_k t - ikx} a_k^\dagger \right) d^3k$$

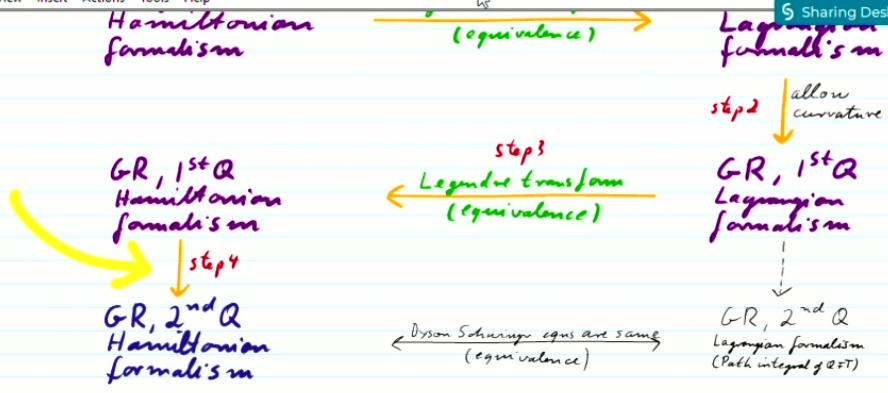
Number-valued solutions to the K.G. equation

The a_k, a_k^\dagger take care of the CCRs

$$\text{and } \hat{\pi}(x,t) = \dot{\hat{\phi}}(x,t)$$

Strategy:

- * ensure hermiticity, HC, by construction
- * separate the CCR and EoM problems.



$$[\hat{\phi}(x,t), \hat{\pi}(x,t)] = 0$$

$$[\hat{\pi}(x,t), \hat{\pi}(x,t)] = 0$$

} (CCRs)

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Namely:

$$\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{|g|}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} g^{\mu\nu} \sqrt{|g|} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} + m^2 \right) \hat{\phi}(x,t) = 0 \quad (EOM1)$$

and:

$$\hat{\pi}(x,t) = \sqrt{|g|} g^{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} \hat{\phi}(x,t) \quad (EOM2)$$

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Number-valued solutions to the K.G. equation

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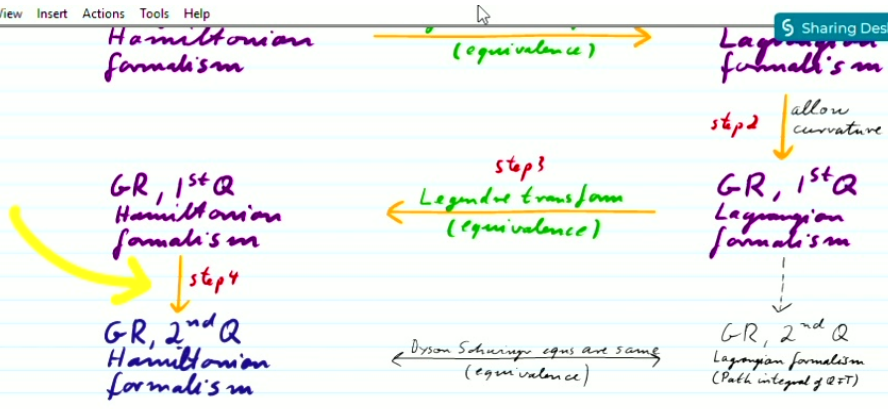
- * ensure hermiticity, HC, by construction
- * separate the CCR and EOM problems:

Ansatz:

$$\hat{\phi}(x,t) := \sum_{\mathbf{k}} u_{\mathbf{k}}(x,t) a_{\mathbf{k}} + u_{\mathbf{k}}^*(x,t) a_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger$$

$$\hat{\pi}(x,t) := \sqrt{|g|} g^{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} \hat{\phi}(x,t)$$

(k need not be a "momentum"!) \llcorner



$$[\hat{\phi}(x,t), \hat{\phi}(x,t)] = 0$$

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Number-valued solutions to the K.G. equation

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Strategy:

- * ensure hermiticity, HC, by construction
- * separate the CCR and EOM problems:

Ansatz:

$$\hat{\phi}(x,t) := \sum u_{\mathbf{k}}(x,t) a_{\mathbf{k}} + u_{\mathbf{k}}^*(x,t) a_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger$$

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(k need not be a "momentum"!) \llcorner

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{f}(\phi, \pi) = \frac{1}{i\hbar} [\hat{f}, \hat{H}] \quad \text{for } \hat{f} = \hat{\phi}, \hat{f} = \hat{\pi}, \text{ etc}$$

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$$\hat{\phi}(x, t) := \sum_k u_k(x, t) a_k + u_k^*(x, t) a_k^\dagger \quad \left(k \text{ need not be a "momentum"!!} \right)$$

$$\hat{\pi}(x, t) := \sqrt{|g|} g^{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} \hat{\phi}(x, t)$$

□ Here, we use the easy-to-construct operators that obey

$$[a_k, a_{k'}^\dagger] = \delta_{k, k'}$$

□ And, we use some number-valued functions $u_k(x, t)$

which are some yet-to-be-determined solutions to

the first eqn. of motion, **EoM1**, i.e. to the Klein

Gordon equation, called the Mode Functions.

□ Try out the ansatz:

* Hermiticity: ✓

(HC) holds by construction.

* The 1st equation of motion: ✓

$$\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{|g|}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} g^{\mu\nu} \sqrt{|g|} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} + m^2 \right) \hat{\phi}(x, t) = 0 \quad (\text{EoM1})$$

This eqn holds because in our ansatz,

$$\hat{\phi}(x, t) := \sum_k u_k(x, t) a_k + u_k^*(x, t) a_k^\dagger$$

the a_k are constant operators while the

functions $u_k(x, t)$ are assumed to solve (EoM1).

* The 2nd equation of motion: ✓

This equation holds by the way we define $\hat{\pi}(x, t)$. 3/21

Namely:

$$\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{|g|}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} g^{\mu\nu} \sqrt{|g|} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} + m^2 \right) \hat{\phi}(x,t) = 0 \quad (\text{EoM1})$$

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This equation holds by the way we define $\hat{\pi}(x,t)$.

Namely:

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* Hermiticity: ✓

(HC) holds by construction.

□ Checking the CCRs:

$$[\hat{\phi}(x,t), \hat{\pi}(x',t)] \stackrel{!}{=} i \delta^3(x-x')$$

□ Express $\hat{\phi}$ in terms of the ansatz:

$$\hat{\phi}(x,t) := \sum_k u_k(x,t) a_k + u_k^*(x,t) a_k^\dagger$$

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This equation holds by the way we define $\hat{\pi}(x,t)$.

Now check CCR:

$$[\hat{\phi}(x,t), \hat{\pi}(x',t)]$$

$$= \left[\sum_k u_k(x,t) a_k + u_k^*(x,t) a_k^\dagger, \sqrt{|g|} g^{0\nu} \sum_{k'} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} u_{k'}(x',t) \right) a_{k'} + \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} u_{k'}^*(x',t) \right) a_{k'}^\dagger \right]$$

$$= \sqrt{|g|} g^{0\nu}(x,t) \sum_{k,k'} \left(u_k(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} u_{k'}^*(x',t) - u_k^*(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} u_{k'}(x',t) \right) \delta_{k,k'}$$

$$= \sqrt{|g|} g^{0\nu} \sum_k \left(u_k(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} u_k^*(x',t) - u_k^*(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} u_k(x',t) \right) \stackrel{!}{=} i \delta^3(\vec{x}-\vec{x}') \quad 5/21$$

$$\hat{\pi}(x,t) = \sqrt{|g|} g^{0\nu} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} \hat{\phi}(x,t) \quad (E.M.2)$$

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This equation holds by the way we define $\hat{\pi}(x,t)$.

□ Checking the CCRs:

$$[\hat{\phi}(x,t), \hat{\pi}(x,t)] = i \hbar \delta^3(x-x')$$

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$$= \sqrt{|g|} g^{0\nu} \sum_k \left(u_k(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} u_k^*(x',t) - u_k^*(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} u_k(x',t) \right) \stackrel{!}{=} i \delta^3(\vec{x} - \vec{x}')$$

$$\hat{\phi}(x,t) := \sum_k u_k(x,t) a_k + u_k^*(x,t) a_k^*$$

Express $\hat{\pi}$ in terms of the ansatz:

$$\hat{\pi}(x,t) := \sqrt{|g|} g^{0\nu} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} \hat{\phi}(x,t)$$

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Conclusion so far:

Our ansatz

$$\hat{\phi}(x,t) := \sum_m u_m(x,t) a_m + u_m^*(x,t) a_m^*$$

solves the QFT, i.e., HC, EoM and CCR

if we can find a set of number-valued solutions

$$\{u_m(x,t)\}$$

of the Klein Gordon equations that obeys:

$$(w) \quad \sqrt{|g|} g^{0\nu} \sum_k \left(u_k(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} u_k^*(x,t) - u_k^*(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} u_k(x,t) \right) = i \delta^3(x-x')$$

When do such $\{u_m(x,t)\}$ exist? I.e., when does the ansatz succeed?

Proposition: Assume spacetime is "globally hyperbolic", i.e., that it possesses a foliation by Cauchy surfaces, i.e., that it is topologically of the form:

$$\mathbb{R} \times \mathcal{M}$$

↳ any 3-dim differentiable manifold

In this case, spacetime possesses no closed timelike curves (no travel into the past), i.e., initial conditions set on the Cauchy surfaces determine the solution everywhere.

Then, such a set of functions $\{u_m\}$ can be shown to exist.

In fact there are many such sets $\{\tilde{u}_m\}$ obeying (w). (And we will have to address which set to choose to solve the theory.)

Conclusion so far:

Our ansatz

$$\hat{\phi}(x,t) := \sum u_n(x,t) a_n + u_n^*(x,t) a_n^\dagger$$

solves the QFT, i.e., HC, EoM and CCR

if we can find a set of number-valued solutions $\{u_n(x,t)\}$

of the Klein Gordon equations that obey:

(W)

$$i \int d^3x \sqrt{|g|} g^{\mu\nu} \sum_k \left(u_k(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} u_k^*(x,t) - u_k^*(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} u_k(x,t) \right) = i \delta^3(x-x')$$

Proof:

1 Consider the vector space, V , of all real-valued solutions of the Klein Gordon equations.

2 We define a bi-linear form $(,)$ on V . For all $f, h \in V$:

$$(f,h) := \int d^3x \sqrt{|g|} g^{\mu\nu} (f \partial_\mu h - h \partial_\mu f)$$

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4 In fact there are many such sets $\{\tilde{u}_n\}$ obeying (W)! (And we will have to address which set to choose to solve the theory.)

5 What can we do with $(,)$? No diagonalization?

Theorem (Darboux):

For any nondegenerate symplectic form $(,)$, there exists a basis $\{v_n\}$ such that, in this basis, $(,)$ takes the matrix form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \oplus 0$$

solves the QFT, i.e., HC, EoM and CCR
 if we can find a set of number-valued solutions
 $\{u_m(x,t)\}$
 of the Klein Gordon equation that obeys:

(W)

$$\sqrt{|g|} g^{\mu\nu} \sum_x \left(u_m(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} u_n^*(x',t) - u_n^*(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} u_m(x',t) \right) = i \delta^3(x-x')$$

Proof:

Consider the vector space, V , of all real-valued solutions of the Klein Gordon equations.

We define a bi-linear form $(,)$ on V . For all $f, h \in V$:

$$(f, h) := \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_\mu \sqrt{|g|} g^{\mu\nu} (f \partial_\nu h - h \partial_\nu f)$$

\leftarrow any spacelike hypersurface
 i.e. set of points of equal time.

Proposition: (f, h) is independent of choice of Σ .

Proof: Later (uses Stokes' theorem and K.G. equation)

(f, h) is a symplectic form, i.e.: $(f, h) = -(h, f)$.
↑
easy to see

$\mathbb{R} \times \mathcal{M}$

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$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & & 0 \\ & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

i.e., such that $(v_{2n}, v_{2n+1}) = 1$, $(v_{2n+1}, v_{2n}) = -1$ and all other pairings vanish.

Thus, if we expand $a, b \in V$ as: $a = a_n v_n$, $b = b_n v_n$

Then: $(a, b) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{2n} b_{2n+1} - a_{2n+1} b_{2n}$

solves the QFT, i.e., HC, EoM and CCR
 if we can find a set of number-valued solutions
 $\{u_m(x,t)\}$
 of the Klein Gordon equation that obeys:

(w)

$$\sqrt{|g|} g^{\mu\nu} \sum_k \left(u_k(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} u_k^*(x',t) - u_k^*(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} u_k(x',t) \right) = i \delta^3(x-x')$$

Proof:

Consider the vector space, V , of all real-valued solutions of the Klein Gordon equations.

We define a bi-linear form $(,)$ on V . For all $f, h \in V$:

$$(f, h) := \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_\mu \sqrt{|g|} g^{\mu\nu} (f \partial_\nu h - h \partial_\nu f)$$

\leftarrow any spacelike hypersurface
 i.e. set of points of equal time.

Proposition: (f, h) is independent of choice of Σ .

Proof: Later (uses Stokes' theorem and K.G. equation)

(f, h) is a symplectic form, i.e.: $(f, h) = -(h, f)$.
↑
easy to see

$\mathbb{R} \times \mathcal{M}$

\leftarrow any 3-dim differentiable manifold

In this case, spacetime possesses no closed timelike curves (no travel into the past), i.e., initial conditions set on the Cauchy surfaces determine the solutions everywhere.

Then, such a set of functions $\{u_k\}$ can be shown to exist.

In fact there are many such sets $\{\tilde{u}_k\}$ obeying (w).
 (And we will have to address which set to choose to solve the theory.)

What can we do with $(,)$? No diagonalization?

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Our ansatz

$$\hat{\phi}(x,t) := \sum u_n(x,t) a_n + u_n^*(x,t) a_n^\dagger$$

solves the QFT, i.e., HC, EoM and CCR

if we can find a set of number-valued solutions

$$\{u_n(x,t)\}$$

of the Klein Gordon equation that obeys:

(w)

$$\nabla_\mu g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\nu (u_n(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} u_n^*(x,t) - u_n^*(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu} u_n(x,t)) = i \delta^3(x-x')$$

Proof:

Consider the vector space, V , of all real-valued solutions of the Klein Gordon equations.

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$$(f,h) := \int_\Sigma d\Sigma_\mu \nabla_\nu g^{\mu\nu} (f \partial_\mu h - h \partial_\mu f)$$

↪ any spacelike hypersurface
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Proposition: (f,h) is independent of choice of Σ .

Proposition: Assume spacetime is "globally hyperbolic", i.e., that it possesses a foliation by Cauchy surfaces, i.e., that it is topologically of the form:

$$\mathbb{R} \times \mathcal{M}$$

↪ any 3-dim differentiable manifold

In this case, spacetime possesses no closed timelike curves (no travel into the past), i.e., initial conditions set on the Cauchy surfaces determine the solution everywhere.

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$$\begin{matrix} V & & V \\ \cup & \mathbb{R} & \cup \\ \cup & \cup & \cup \end{matrix} \quad \mathbb{R}^{9/21}$$

□ We define a bi-linear form $(,)$ on V . For all $f, h \in V$:

$$(f, h) := \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_{\mu} \gamma_{\nu}^{\mu} g^{\nu\rho} (f_{\rho} h_{\mu} - h_{\rho} f_{\mu})$$

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 Proof: Later (uses Stokes' theorem and K.G. equation)
- (f, h) is a symplectic form, i.e.: $(f, h) = -(h, f)$.
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easy to see

- Now assume we picked such a basis $\{v_n\}$ in V .
- Recall: $V =$ space of real-valued solutions of K.G. eqn.
- Definition:
 $\bar{V} :=$ space of complex-valued solutions of K.G. eqn.

□ We easily find a basis of \bar{V} , namely $\{u_n\} \cup \{u_n^*\}$ where:

$$u_n := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (v_{2n} + i v_{2n+1}), \quad u_n^* = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (v_{2n} - i v_{2n+1})$$

□ What is a natural product \langle, \rangle on \bar{V} ?

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□ Thus, if we expand $a, b \in V$ as: $a = \sum v_n, b = \sum v_n$

Then: $(a, b) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{2n} b_{2n+1} - a_{2n+1} b_{2n}$

□ On \bar{V} we define:

$$\langle f, h \rangle = i \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_{\mu} \gamma_{\nu}^{\mu} g^{\nu\rho} (f^{\dagger} \partial_{\nu} h - (\partial_{\nu} f^{\dagger}) h)$$

□ Then, $(,)$ yields:

$$\langle u_n, u_m \rangle = -\delta_{n,m}, \quad \langle u_n^*, u_m^* \rangle = +\delta_{n,m}, \quad \langle u_n, u_m^* \rangle = 0 \quad (I)$$

Exercise: verify this.

Thus, \langle, \rangle is an indefinite inner product on \bar{V} : $\langle, \rangle = \begin{pmatrix} \nearrow \\ \searrow \end{pmatrix}$

Proposition: A resolution of the identity on \bar{V} is given by:

$$\mathbb{1} = \sum -|u_n\rangle\langle u_n| + |u_n^*\rangle\langle u_n^*|$$

of the Klein Gordon equation that obeys:

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$$\eta_{\mu\nu} g^{\mu\nu} \sum_k \left(u_k(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} u_k^*(x,t) - u_k^*(x,t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} u_k(x,t) \right) = i \delta^3(x-x')$$

Proof:

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$$(f, h) := \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_r \eta_{\mu\nu} g^{\mu\nu} (f \partial_0 h - h \partial_0 f)$$

\leftarrow any spacelike hypersurface
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Then: $(a, b) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{2n} b_{2n+1} - a_{2n+1} b_{2n}$

On \bar{V} we define:

$$\langle f, h \rangle = i \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_r \eta_{\mu\nu} g^{\mu\nu} (J^+ \partial_0 h - (\partial_0 J^+) h)$$

$$(f, h) := \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_{\mu} \nabla_{\nu}^2 g^{\mu\nu} (f \partial_{\nu} h - h \partial_{\nu} f)$$

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- What is a natural product \langle, \rangle on \bar{V} ?

Remark: One can also turn \bar{V} into a Hilbert space, namely the Krein space: Let P^+ and P^- be the projectors on the space

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & & 0 \\ & & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & & & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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- On \bar{V} we define:

$$\langle f, h \rangle = i \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_{\mu} \nabla_{\nu}^2 g^{\mu\nu} (f^* \partial_{\nu} h - (\partial_{\nu} f^*) h)$$

- Then, \langle, \rangle yields:

$$\langle u_n, u_m \rangle = -\delta_{n,m}, \quad \langle u_n^*, u_m^* \rangle = +\delta_{n,m}, \quad \langle u_n, u_m^* \rangle = 0 \quad (I)$$

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