

1. Consider the following hamiltonian describing the decay process  $B \rightarrow A + A$  where  $A$  and  $B$  are two particle types:  $H = H_{\text{free}} + H_{\text{int}}$  where

$$H_{\text{free}} = E_0 + \int d^3p \left[ \varepsilon_B(p) b_p^\dagger b_p + \varepsilon_A(p) a_p^\dagger a_p \right],$$

and

$$H_{\text{int}} = g \int \frac{d^3p d^3q d^3k}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_B(p) \varepsilon_A(q) \varepsilon_A(k)}} \left[ b_p a_q^\dagger a_k^\dagger + a_k a_q b_p^\dagger \right] \delta^3(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q} - \mathbf{k}),$$

for real constants  $E_0$  and  $g$  and dispersion relations

$$\varepsilon_B(p) = \sqrt{\mathbf{p}^2 + m^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \varepsilon_A(p) = |\mathbf{p}|.$$

Treat both types of particle as bosons.

- For a decay with momentum assignments  $B(\mathbf{p} = 0) \rightarrow A(\mathbf{q}) + A(\mathbf{k})$  use Fermi's Golden Rule to compute the differential decay  $d\Gamma/d^3k$  as a function of one of the final-particle momenta.
  - Perform the integration over final-state momenta to compute the total rate,  $\Gamma$ , for the decay. (For indistinguishable final-state particles is it correct to integrate the final momentum over the usual  $4\pi$  solid angle?)
  - If  $m = 150$  MeV and  $g = 0.1$  what is the expected mean lifetime,  $\tau = 1/\Gamma$ , for this decay in seconds?
2. Suppose particles interact with a time-dependent oscillating potential,  $V(t) = V_0 \cos(\Omega t)$ , where  $V_0$  and  $\Omega$  are positive real numbers, is described by the Schrödinger-picture hamiltonian

$$H = E_0 + \int d^3p \left[ \varepsilon(p) a_p^\dagger a_p + V(t)(a_p a_{-p} + a_p^\dagger a_{-p}^\dagger) \right].$$

Assume the relativistic dispersion relation

$$\varepsilon(p) = \sqrt{\mathbf{p}^2 + m^2},$$

and treat the particles as fermions. Compute the rate for the pair-production process in which the no-particle state  $|0\rangle$  evolves into a state  $|k, -k\rangle = a_k^\dagger a_{-k}^\dagger |0\rangle$ , treating  $V(t)$  in time-dependent perturbation theory. What is the minimum value of  $\Omega$  for which pair production occurs? Notice that because  $H$  is already time-dependent in Schrödinger picture you cannot directly use Fermi's Golden rule (since the time-dependence of  $H$  implies particle energy is not conserved in this process). So be sure to start your derivation from first principles.