

# Lecture # 16: Phonons and photons

review

Review:

$$H = \sum_n \left[ \frac{p_n^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} k (x_n - x_{n-1})^2 \right]$$

Found normal modes (in this case, simple Fourier transform)

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_k = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_n x_n e^{-ikam} & (x_k^\dagger = x_{-k}) \\ p_k = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_n p_n e^{-ikam} & (p_k^\dagger = p_{-k}) \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow H = \sum_k \left( \frac{|p_k|^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega_k^2 |x_k|^2 \right)$$

Define  $\hat{a}_k = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ \underbrace{\left( \frac{1}{l} \right) x_k}_{\hat{x}_k} + i \underbrace{\left( \frac{l}{\hbar} \right) p_k}_{\hat{p}_k} \right]$   $\left( l = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{m \omega_k}} \right)$

$$\Rightarrow [\hat{a}_k, \hat{a}_k^\dagger] = \delta_{k,k'} \quad \text{and}$$

$$H = \sum_k \hbar \omega_k \left( \hat{a}_k^\dagger \hat{a}_k + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$H | \dots, n_k, \dots \rangle = \sum_k \hbar \omega_k \left( n_k + \frac{1}{2} \right) | \dots, n_k, \dots \rangle$$

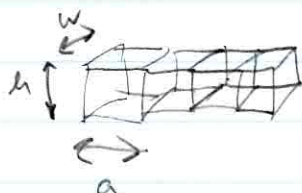
Fock states,

or "number states".

Eigenstates of  $a$  and  $a^\dagger$

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Continuum limit:



$$m = \rho V_{\text{cell}} = \rho \frac{a h w}{A}$$

$$F = \frac{f}{A} = C \epsilon = -C \frac{x}{a} \leftrightarrow F = -Kx \Rightarrow K = \frac{C A}{a} = \frac{C h w}{a}$$

$$\omega_k = 2 \sqrt{\frac{K}{m}} \left| \sin\left(\frac{ka}{2}\right) \right| = 2 \sqrt{\frac{C h w}{a} \frac{1}{\rho a h w}} \left| \sin\left(\frac{ka}{2}\right) \right| = 2 \sqrt{\frac{C}{\rho}} \frac{\sin\left(\frac{ka}{2}\right)}{a}$$

Take  $a \rightarrow 0$ :  $\omega_k \rightarrow 2 \sqrt{\frac{C}{\rho}} \frac{ka}{2} \frac{1}{a} = \underbrace{\sqrt{\frac{C}{\rho}}}_v k$

From  $x_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_k x_k e^{i k a n}$  and  $\begin{cases} \hat{a}_k = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \frac{1}{l} x_k + i \frac{1}{\hbar} p_k \right) \\ \hat{a}_{-k}^\dagger = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \frac{1}{l} x_k^\dagger - i \frac{1}{\hbar} p_k^\dagger \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \frac{x_k}{l} - i \frac{1}{\hbar} p_k \right) \end{cases}$

$$\Rightarrow x_k = \frac{l}{\sqrt{2}} (\hat{a}_k^\dagger + \hat{a}_{-k}^\dagger)$$

$$\Rightarrow x_n = \frac{l}{\sqrt{2N}} \sum_k (\hat{a}_k^\dagger + \hat{a}_{-k}^\dagger) e^{i k a n} = \frac{l}{\sqrt{2N}} \sum_k (\hat{a}_k^\dagger e^{i k a n} + \hat{a}_k^\dagger e^{-i k a n})$$

Take  $a \rightarrow 0$  (continuum):  $na \rightarrow R$

$$x(R) = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2N m \omega_k}} \sum_k (\hat{a}_k^\dagger e^{i k R} + \hat{a}_k^\dagger e^{-i k R})$$

$$2N m \omega_k = 2N (\rho V_{\text{cell}}) \omega_k = 2V \rho \omega_k$$

$$x(R) = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2V \rho \omega_k}} \sum_k (\hat{a}_k^\dagger e^{i k R} + \hat{a}_k^\dagger e^{-i k R})$$

"Quantum string"



Also, we can do the same for momentum:

$$\frac{p(\vec{n})}{m} = \frac{1}{m} \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{\vec{k}} \left( \frac{-i \hbar}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\vec{k}}{l} \right) (a_{\vec{k}} - a_{-\vec{k}}^{\dagger}) e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{n}}$$

$$\frac{p(\vec{n})}{m} = \frac{1}{m} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2N}} \sqrt{\hbar m \omega_{\vec{k}}} (-i) \sum_{\vec{k}} (\hat{a}_{\vec{k}} e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{n}} - \hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^{\dagger} e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{n}})$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{\hbar \omega_{\vec{k}}}{2Nm}} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar \omega_{\vec{k}}}{2\rho V}}$$

$$\vec{x}(\vec{n}) = \frac{p(\vec{n})}{m} = -i \sum_{\vec{k}} \sqrt{\frac{\hbar \omega_{\vec{k}}}{2\rho V}} (\hat{a}_{\vec{k}} e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{n}} - \hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^{\dagger} e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{n}})$$

3 dimensions:

$$\vec{x}(\vec{n}) = \sum_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \hat{n}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2V\rho \omega_{\vec{k}, \lambda}}} (\hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{n}} + \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^{\dagger} e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{n}})$$

$$\dot{\vec{x}}(\vec{n}) = -i \sum_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \hat{n}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \sqrt{\frac{\hbar \omega_{\vec{k}, \lambda}}{2\rho V}} (\hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{n}} - \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^{\dagger} e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{n}})$$

$\lambda = L, T_1, T_2$ .

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Nov. 1st

# Photons

Maxwell's eqns in S.I.:

$$\begin{cases} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \\ \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{J} + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \\ \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0 \\ \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \end{cases}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{B} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} \quad (\text{because } \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}) = 0 \text{ for all } \vec{A})$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}}{\partial t} \Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \times \left( \vec{E} + \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} \right) = \vec{0} \Rightarrow \left( \vec{E} + \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} \right) \text{ is "conservative"}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{E} + \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} = -\vec{\nabla} \phi$$

Choose Coulomb Gauge:  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = -\nabla^2 \phi = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \Rightarrow \phi(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{\rho(\vec{r}') d^3r'}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}$

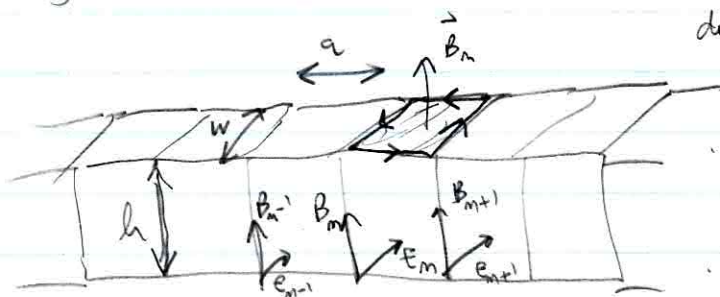
In vacuum,  $\rho = 0$  and  $\vec{J} = 0$ :

$$\phi = 0, \quad \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t}, \quad \text{and } \vec{B} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}$$

Energy density of EM field:

$$H = \int d^3r \left[ \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 |\vec{E}|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\mu_0} |\vec{B}|^2 \right] = V_{\text{cell}} \sum_n \left[ \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 E_n^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\mu_0} B_n^2 \right]$$

↑ discretization of vacuum





From  $\vec{B} = \nabla \times \vec{A} \Rightarrow \int \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{\sigma} = \oint d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{A}$

Apply this to cell indicated in Figure:

$$B_m w a = (A_{m+1} - A_m) w \Rightarrow B_m = \left( \frac{A_{m+1} - A_m}{a} \right)$$

Also,  $\vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} \Rightarrow E_m = -\dot{A}_m$

$$\Rightarrow H = V_{cell} \sum_n \left[ \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 (\dot{A}_m)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\mu_0 a^2} (A_{m+1} - A_m)^2 \right]$$

Just like sound wave!

Compare:  $H = \sum_n \left[ \frac{1}{2} m (\dot{x}_n)^2 + \frac{1}{2} k (x_{n+1} - x_n)^2 \right]$

Substitute  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_n \leftrightarrow A_m, \dot{x}_n \leftrightarrow \dot{A}_m \\ m \leftrightarrow V_{cell} \epsilon_0 \\ k \leftrightarrow \frac{V_{cell}}{\mu_0 a^2} \end{array} \right.$

And get

$$\Rightarrow H = \sum_k \left( a_k^\dagger a_k + \frac{1}{2} \right) \hbar \omega$$

with  $\omega = 2 \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} \left| \sin\left(\frac{ka}{2}\right) \right| = 2 \sqrt{\frac{V_{cell}}{\mu_0 a^2} V_{cell} \epsilon_0} \left| \sin\left(\frac{ka}{2}\right) \right| \xrightarrow{a \rightarrow 0} = \frac{2c}{a} \frac{ka}{2} = c k$   
 $c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu_0 \epsilon_0}}$

$$a_k = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_0 V_{cell} \omega}{\hbar}} A_k + i \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_0 V_{cell}}{\hbar \omega}} E_k \right)$$

The point is that  $H$ , the energy density of EM field actually does look like a set of harmonic oscillators when we write it in terms of  $\vec{A}$  only!

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$$\vec{A}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \hat{n}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2\epsilon_0 V \omega_k}} \left( \hat{a}_{\vec{k}} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} + \hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger e^{-i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} \right)$$

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = -i \sum_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \hat{n}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \sqrt{\frac{\hbar \omega}{2\epsilon_0 V}} \left( \hat{a}_{\vec{k}} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} - \hat{a}_{\vec{k}}^\dagger e^{-i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} \right)$$

$\lambda = 1, 2$  only transverse modes.