

# Derivation of Maxwell's equations from non-relativistic QED

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# Outline of the talk

- Motivation
- Pauli-Fierz Hamiltonian/Hartree-Maxwell system
- Main theorem
- Idea of the proof
- Remarks and Outline

# Motivation

Question: *Is it possible to derive Maxwell's equations from Quantum electrodynamics?*

Physicists look at Heisenberg equations of the field operators.  
More rigorous: find a physical situation which gives Maxwell's equations in some limit.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} |\alpha\rangle\langle\alpha| & \xleftarrow{N\rightarrow\infty} & \gamma_N^{(0,1)} & \longleftarrow & \Psi_N & \longrightarrow & \gamma_N^{(1,0)} & \xrightarrow{N\rightarrow\infty} & |\varphi\rangle\langle\varphi| \\ \text{eff.} \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{eff.} \\ |\alpha_t\rangle\langle\alpha_t| & \xleftarrow{N\rightarrow\infty} & \gamma_{N,t}^{(0,1)} & \longleftarrow & \Psi_{N,t} & \longrightarrow & \gamma_{N,t}^{(1,0)} & \xrightarrow{N\rightarrow\infty} & |\varphi_t\rangle\langle\varphi_t| \end{array}$$

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# spinless Pauli-Fierz Hamiltonian

$$H_N^{PF} := \sum_{j=1}^N \left( -i\nabla_j - \frac{\hat{\mathbf{A}}_\kappa(x_j)}{\sqrt{N}} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{1 \leq j < k \leq N} v(x_j - x_k) + H_f,$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{A}}_\kappa(x) = \sum_{\lambda=1,2} \int d^3k \frac{\tilde{\kappa}_\lambda(k)}{\sqrt{2|k|}} \epsilon_\lambda(k) \left( e^{ikx} a(k, \lambda) + e^{-ikx} a^*(k, \lambda) \right).$$

- two types of particles: (non-relativistic) charged bosons and photons,
- photons have two polarizations  $\epsilon_1(k), \epsilon_2(k)$  ( $\nabla \cdot \hat{\mathbf{A}}_\kappa = 0$ ),
- $\mathcal{H} = L^2(\mathbb{R}^{3N}) \otimes \mathcal{F}_p = L^2(\mathbb{R}^{3N}) \otimes [\oplus_{n=0}^{\infty} (L^2(\mathbb{R}^3) \otimes \mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes n}]$ ,
- scaling: kinetic and potential energy are of the same order.



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The scaling can be motivated by the Ehrenfest equations of the field operators:

$$d_t \langle\langle \Psi_N, \frac{\hat{\mathbf{A}}_\kappa(y)}{\sqrt{N}} \Psi_N \rangle\rangle = - \langle\langle \Psi_N, \frac{\hat{\mathbf{E}}_\kappa(y)}{\sqrt{N}} \Psi_N \rangle\rangle,$$

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Emergence of the effective description:

- $\Psi_N \approx \prod_{i=1}^N \varphi(x_i) \otimes |b\rangle_{\mathcal{F}}$ ,
- $\langle b, \frac{\hat{\mathbf{A}}_\kappa(x)}{\sqrt{N}} b \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}, \langle b, \frac{\hat{\mathbf{A}}_\kappa^2(x)}{N} b \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} \rightarrow \mathbf{A}_\kappa(x, t), \mathbf{A}_\kappa^2(x, t)$ .

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# Hartree-Maxwell system of equations

$$\begin{cases} i\partial_t\varphi(t) &= H^{HM}\varphi(t), \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}_\kappa(t) &= 0, \\ \partial_t\mathbf{A}_\kappa(t) &= -\mathbf{E}_\kappa(t), \\ \partial_t\mathbf{E}_\kappa(t) &= -(\Delta\mathbf{A}_\kappa)(t) - \mathbf{e}^i \left( \delta_{ij}^\Lambda \star \mathbf{j}^j \right) (t), \end{cases}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} H^{HM} &= (-i\nabla - \mathbf{A}_\kappa)^2 + (v \star |\varphi|^2), \\ \mathbf{j} &= 2 \left( \text{Im}(\varphi^* \nabla \varphi) - |\varphi|^2 \mathbf{A}_\kappa \right). \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{A}_\kappa(x, t) = \sum_{\lambda=1,2} \int d^3k \frac{\tilde{\kappa}(k)}{\sqrt{2|k|}} \epsilon_\lambda(k) \left( e^{ikx} \alpha(k, \lambda, t) + e^{-ikx} \bar{\alpha}(k, \lambda, t) \right).$$

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# Main theorem

Reduced one-particle density matrices:

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma_N^{(1,0)} &:= \text{Tr}_{2,\dots,N} \otimes \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{F}} |\Psi_N\rangle\langle\Psi_N|, \\ \gamma_N^{(0,1)}(k, \lambda; k', \lambda') &:= N^{-1} \langle\langle \Psi_N, a^*(k', \lambda') a(k, \lambda) \Psi_N \rangle\rangle.\end{aligned}$$

## Theorem

Let  $\varphi(x, 0) \in H^3(\mathbb{R}^3)$ ,  $\alpha(k, \lambda, 0) = 0$ ,  $\Psi_N(0) = \prod_{i=1}^N \varphi(x_i) \otimes |0\rangle_{\mathcal{F}}$ , and  $v(x) = \frac{1}{|x|}$ . Then, for any  $t > 0$  there exists a constant  $C(t, \Lambda)$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Tr}_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)} |\gamma_{N,t}^{(1,0)} - |\varphi_t\rangle\langle\varphi_t|| &\leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{N}}, \\ \text{Tr}_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^3) \otimes \mathbb{C}^2} |\gamma_{N,t}^{(0,1)} - |\alpha_t\rangle\langle\alpha_t|| &\leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{N}}.\end{aligned}$$

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Remark: In general, this holds for a larger class of potentials and initial states.

# Idea of the proof

Introduce the functional:  $\beta(t) = \beta^a(t) + \beta^b(t) + \beta^c(t) + \beta^d(t)$ .

- $\beta^a$  measures if the charged bosons are in a condensate,
- $\beta^b$  and  $\beta^c$  measure if the photons are close to a coherent state,
- $\beta^d$  restricts the class of Many-body initial states.

Initially:  $\beta(0) \approx 0$

Show:  $d_t \beta(t) \leq C(\beta(t) + \frac{1}{N})$

Grönwall:  $\beta(t) \leq e^{Ct} (\beta(0) + \frac{Ct}{N})$

Tasks of  $\beta(t)$ :

- $\beta(0) \approx 0$  defines conditions on the initial states:  $(\Psi_N(0), \varphi(0), \alpha(0))$ .
- $\beta(t)$  is a measure of condensation at later times.

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Initially:  $\beta(0) \approx 0$

Show:  $d_t \beta(t) \leq C(\beta(t) + \frac{1}{N})$

Grönwall:  $\beta(t) \leq e^{Ct} (\beta(0) + \frac{Ct}{N})$

Tasks of  $\beta(t)$ :

- $\beta(0) \approx 0$  defines conditions on the initial states:  $(\Psi_N(0), \varphi(0), \alpha(0))$ .
- $\beta(t)$  is a measure of condensation at later times.

# Idea of the proof

Introduce the functional:  $\beta(t) = \beta^a(t) + \beta^b(t) + \beta^c(t) + \beta^d(t)$ .

- $\beta^a$  measures if the charged bosons are in a condensate,
- $\beta^b$  and  $\beta^c$  measure if the photons are close to a coherent state,
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Let  $\varphi \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)$  and  $p_j : L^2(\mathbb{R}^{3N}) \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R}^{3N})$  be given by

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_N) \mapsto \varphi(x_j) \int d^3x_j \varphi^*(x_j) f(x_1, \dots, x_N).$$

Define  $q_j := 1 - p_j$  and the functional

$$\beta^a[\Psi_N, \varphi] := N^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^N \langle\langle \Psi_N, q_j \otimes \mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{F}} \Psi_N \rangle\rangle.$$

$\beta^a$  measures the relative number of particles which are not in the state  $\varphi$ :

- $\beta^a \leq \text{Tr}_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)} |\gamma_N^{(1,0)} - |\varphi\rangle\langle\varphi|| \leq C\sqrt{\beta^a}$ ,
- $\Psi_N = \prod_{j=1}^N \varphi(x_j, t) \otimes |0\rangle_{\mathcal{F}} \Rightarrow \beta^a[\Psi_N, \varphi] = 0$ .

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$$\beta^b[\Psi_N, \alpha] := \int d^3y \langle\langle \Psi_N, \left( \frac{\hat{\mathbf{A}}_\kappa^-(y)}{\sqrt{N}} - \mathbf{A}_\kappa^-(y, t) \right) \left( \frac{\hat{\mathbf{A}}_\kappa^+(y)}{\sqrt{N}} - \mathbf{A}_\kappa^+(y, t) \right) \Psi_N \rangle\rangle,$$
$$\beta^c[\Psi_N, \alpha] := \int d^3y \langle\langle \Psi_N, \left( \frac{\hat{\mathbf{E}}_\kappa^-(y)}{\sqrt{N}} - \mathbf{E}_\kappa^-(y, t) \right) \left( \frac{\hat{\mathbf{E}}_\kappa^+(y)}{\sqrt{N}} - \mathbf{E}_\kappa^+(y, t) \right) \Psi_N \rangle\rangle.$$

$\beta^b$  and  $\beta^c$  measure the fluctuations of  $\hat{\mathbf{A}}_\kappa$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{E}}_\kappa$  around  $\mathbf{A}_\kappa$  and  $\mathbf{E}_\kappa$ :

- $\text{Tr}_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^3) \otimes \mathbb{C}^2} |\gamma_N^{(0,1)} - |\alpha\rangle\langle\alpha|| \leq C \sqrt{\beta^b + \beta^c},$
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$$\beta^d[\Psi_N, \varphi, \alpha] := \langle\langle \Psi_N, \left( \frac{H_N^{PF}}{N} - \mathcal{E}^{HM}[\varphi, \alpha] \right)^2 \Psi_N \rangle\rangle,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}^{HM}[\varphi, \alpha] &:= \langle \varphi, (-i\nabla - \mathbf{A}_\kappa(t))^2 \varphi \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \langle \varphi, (v \star |\varphi|^2) \varphi \rangle \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \int d^3y \mathbf{E}_\kappa^2(y, t) + (\nabla \times \hat{\mathbf{A}}_\kappa)^2(y, t). \end{aligned}$$

$\beta^d$  restricts our consideration to Many-body states, whose energy per particle only fluctuates little around the energy of the effective system:

- $d_t \beta^d = 0$ ,
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# Conclusions and Outlook

## Remarks:

- unpublished but soon on the arXiv,
- method can be used to derive the Schrödinger-Klein-Gordon system from the Nelson model,
- UV-cutoff is essential, but can be chosen  $N$ -dependent.

## Outlook:

- Nelson model with electrons,
- Renormalized Nelson model,
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Thank you for listening!