PHY-MV-FN-T35 – Quantum field theory I

Lecture held winter term 2022/23 by Prof. Dr. Timo Weigand, Universität Hamburg

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1 Prerequisites – A short revision on special relativity

2 The free scalar field

Lecture 01 – 19.10.2022

2.1 Why Quantum Field Theory?

2.2 Classical scalar field: Lagrangian formalism

Formalize the transition from a classical system with a finite number of degrees of freedom $q_i(t)$ to a system with infinitely many degrees of freedom, i.e. a classical field $\varphi(t, \mathbf{x}) = \varphi(x^{\mu})$. We are starting from classical mechanics. The classical action is

$$S = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \mathrm{d}tL \tag{2.1}$$