

# 1 Lorentz-invariant phase space

From Fermi's Golden Rule

$$\Gamma = 2\pi |\mathcal{M}|^2 R_n(E) \quad (1)$$

where  $R_n$  is the Lorentz-invariant phase space, similar to the density of states, or the number of possible states per energy interval per unit volume,  $dN/dE$ .

## 1.1 General case

The coordinate of a motion in phase space is given by a six-dimensional vector.

In a universe with periodic boundary conditions, the elementary volume is  $(2\pi)^3$ .

Hence, the number of states available to one particle, using a Lorentz-invariant measure, is

$$\begin{aligned} N_1 &= \frac{\text{Total volume}}{\text{Elementary volume}} \\ &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3\mathbf{x} \frac{d^3\mathbf{p}}{2E} \\ &= \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3} \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{p}}{2E} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

For  $n$  particles,

$$N_n = \frac{V^n}{(2\pi)^{3n}} \int \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{d^3\mathbf{p}_i}{2E_i} \quad (3)$$

where the  $n$ th momentum is not integrated over due to conservation.

This constraint also be imposed with a Dirac delta function. Use the fact that

$$\int d\mathbf{p}_n \delta^{(3)}\left(\sum_{j=1}^n \mathbf{p}_j - \mathbf{p}\right) = \int d\mathbf{p}_n \delta^{(3)}(0) = 1 \quad (4)$$

to write

$$N_n = \frac{V^n}{(2\pi)^{3n}} \int \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{d^3\mathbf{p}_i}{2E_i} \delta^{(3)}\left(\sum_{j=1}^n \mathbf{p}_j - \mathbf{p}\right) \quad (5)$$

Now the density of states is defined

$$R_n(E) = \left. \frac{dN_n}{dE} \right|_{V=1} \quad (6)$$

so we have

$$R_n(E) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{3n}} \frac{d}{dE} \int \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{d^3\mathbf{p}_i}{2E_i} \delta^{(3)}\left(\sum_{j=1}^n \mathbf{p}_j - \mathbf{p}\right) \quad (7)$$

Energy is conserved through the statement

$$\int dE \delta(\sum_{k=1}^n E_k - E) = 1 \quad (8)$$

inserting this into the density of states

$$R_n(E) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{3n}} \int \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}_i}{2E_i} \delta^{(3)}\left(\sum_{j=1}^n \mathbf{p}_j - \mathbf{p}\right) \delta(\sum_{k=1}^n E_k - E) \quad (9)$$

## 1.2 Two bodies

The expression  $R_n(E)$  simplifies for  $n = 2$ . For the centre-of-mass frame ( $\mathbf{p} = 0$ ), we have

$$\begin{aligned} R_2(E) &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^6} \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}_1}{2E_1} \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}_2}{2E_2} \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{p}_1 + \mathbf{p}_2) \delta(E_1 + E_2 - E) \\ &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^6} \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}_1}{4E_1 E_2} \delta(E_1 + E_2 - E) \\ &= \frac{4\pi}{(2\pi)^6} \int dp \frac{p^2}{4E_1 E_2} \delta(E_1 + E_2 - E) \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

where the last step assumes no angular dependance on the momentum.

Now use  $E_1 dE_1 = p dp$  so

$$R_2(E) = \frac{\pi}{(2\pi)^6} \int dE_1 \frac{p}{E_2} \delta(E_1 + E_2 - E) \quad (11)$$

We can write  $E_2$  in terms of  $E_1$ :

$$E_2 = \sqrt{E_1^2 - m_1^2 + m_2^2} \quad (12)$$

Therefore

$$R_2(E) = \frac{\pi}{(2\pi)^6} \int dE_1 \frac{p}{E_2} \delta[f(E_1)] \quad (13)$$

where  $f(E_1) = E_1 + \sqrt{E_1^2 - m_1^2 + m_2^2} - E$ .

Now use the fact that

$$\delta(f(x)) \left| \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{x=0} = \delta(x) \quad (14)$$

and  $f' = E/E_2$  to get the final result

$$R_2(E) = \frac{\pi}{(2\pi)^6} \int dE_1 \frac{p}{E} \delta(E_1) \quad (15)$$