

6.1. (a)
$$\bar{\psi}(\vec{x}, t) = \int \frac{[f(\vec{x}', t')]_{\text{ret}}}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} d^3x' = \int \frac{\delta(x') \delta(y') \delta(t - |\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|/c)}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} dx' dy' dz'$$

$$= \int \frac{\delta(t - \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + (z - z')^2}/c)}{[x^2 + y^2 + (z - z')^2]^{1/2}} dz'$$

Let $f(z') = t - \sqrt{p^2 + (z - z')^2}/c$, with $p^2 = x^2 + y^2$, the roots of $f(z') = 0$ are $z_{\pm}' = z \pm \sqrt{c^2 t^2 - p^2}$, when $ct \geq p$

Also $f'(z') = \frac{z - z'}{c \sqrt{p^2 + (z - z')^2}}$, and

$$f'(z_{\pm}') = \frac{\mp \sqrt{c^2 t^2 - p^2}}{c^2 t}$$

Then, $F(f(z')) = \sum_{\pm} \delta(z' - z_{\pm}') / |f'(z_{\pm}')|$

$$= \frac{ct}{\sqrt{c^2 t^2 - p^2}} \sum_{\pm} \delta(z' - z_{\pm}')$$

Finally,
$$\bar{\psi}(\vec{x}, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{ct}{\sqrt{c^2 t^2 - p^2}} \sum_{\pm} \frac{\delta(z' - z_{\pm}')}{[p^2 + (z - z')^2]^{1/2}} dz'$$

$$= 2 \times \frac{ct}{\sqrt{c^2 t^2 - p^2}} \times \frac{1}{ct} = \frac{2c}{\sqrt{c^2 t^2 - p^2}}$$

Since the result is only non-zero when $ct > p$, we can express the final result as

$$\bar{\psi}(\vec{x}, t) = \frac{2c \Theta(ct - p)}{\sqrt{c^2 t^2 - p^2}}$$

(b)
$$\bar{\psi}(\vec{x}, t) = \int \frac{[f(\vec{x}', t')]_{\text{ret}}}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} d^3x' = \int \frac{\delta(x') \delta(t - |\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|/c)}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} dx' dy' dz'$$

For $\vec{x} = (x, 0, 0)$,

$$\bar{\psi}(x, t) = \int \frac{\delta(t - \sqrt{x^2 + y'^2 + z'^2}/c)}{\sqrt{x^2 + y'^2 + z'^2}} dy' dz' = 2\pi \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{\delta(t - \sqrt{x^2 + p'^2}/c)}{\sqrt{x^2 + p'^2}} p' dp'$$

Let $f(p') = t - \sqrt{x^2 + p'^2}/c$, then the root is given by

$$p'_0 = \sqrt{c^2 t^2 - x^2}, \text{ when } ct \geq |x|.$$

Also, $f'(p') = -\frac{p'}{c\sqrt{x^2 + p'^2}}$, $f'(p'_0) = -\frac{\sqrt{c^2 t^2 - x^2}}{c^2 t}$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\Psi}(x, t) &= 2\pi \int_0^{p_0} \frac{\delta(p' - p'_0)}{\sqrt{x^2 + p'^2}} \cdot \frac{1}{|f'(p'_0)|} \cdot p' dp' \\ &= 2\pi \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + p'^2}} \cdot \frac{c^2 t}{\sqrt{c^2 t^2 - x^2}} \cdot \sqrt{c^2 t^2 - x^2} \\ &= 2\pi c\end{aligned}$$

Again, this is only non-zero when $ct \geq |x|$. so the final result becomes.

$$\bar{\Psi}(x, t) = 2\pi c \Theta(ct - |x|).$$