

# On the algebraic approach to quantum Dirac fields

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# Motivations and goals of my talk

“ What is a **QFT**? ”  $\xrightarrow{\text{for a deeper understanding}}$  **mathematical axioms** for **QFT**

## ◇ Algebraic QFT :

$$\checkmark \mathcal{M} \supset \mathcal{O} \mapsto \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{O}) \subset \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{M}) := \bigcup_{\mathcal{O}} \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{O})$$

- **Isotony**: if  $\mathcal{O} \subseteq \mathcal{O}' \implies \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{O}) \subseteq \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{O}')$

- **Causality**: if  $\mathcal{O} \cap J(\mathcal{O}') = \emptyset \implies [\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{O}), \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{O}')] = 0$

- **Covariance**: isometry  $\iota$  of  $M$ ,  $\implies \alpha_\iota \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{A})$  s.t.  $\alpha_\iota \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{O}) = \mathcal{A}(\iota(\mathcal{O}))$

$$\checkmark \omega : \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \text{ s.t. normalised and positive} \implies \text{GNS-theorem } (\mathcal{H}, \pi, \Omega)$$

## ◇ Locally covariant QFT

$$\checkmark \mathfrak{A} : \text{Loc} \rightarrow \text{Alg}$$

- **Locality**:  $f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}' \implies f : \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{M}')$  injective

- **Causality**:  $\mathcal{M}_1 \xrightarrow{f_1} \mathcal{M} \xleftarrow{f_2} \mathcal{M}_2$  caus. disjoint  $\implies [f_1 \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{M}_1), f_2 \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{M}_2)] = 0$

- **Time-slice**:  $f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}'$  s.t.  $f(\mathcal{M}) \supset \Sigma' \implies f$  is isomorphism

$$\not\checkmark \text{ natural state } f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}' \implies f^*(\omega_{\mathcal{M}'}) = \omega_{\mathcal{M}}$$

GOAL: construct  $\omega$  non-locally determined by the geometry

# Outline of the Talk

- Algebraic approach to quantum Dirac fields
- Functional analytic constructions for quasifree states

Based on:

- ▶ my PhD Thesis (soon available on the arXiv)
- ▶ and on previous papers with
  - F. Finster, C. Röken ( arXiv:1501.05522 -JMP; arXiv:1606.03882)
  - N. Drago (arXiv:1607.02909)
  - C. Dappiaggi, H. Gimperlein, A. Schenkel, (arXiv:1512.07823)
  - M. Benini, C. Dappiaggi (arXiv:1404.4551 -JMP)

# PART I:

# Algebraic approach to quantum Dirac fields

## AQFT - I: Kinematics

- $\mathcal{M}$  is 4-dim **globally hyperbolic spacetime** :

$$ds^2 = \beta^2 dt^2 - h_t; \quad \beta \in C^\infty(M; \mathbb{R}^+) \text{ and } h_t \in \text{Riem}(\Sigma); \forall t \in \mathbb{R}$$

- Spinor bundle**  $S\mathcal{M}$  and **cospinor bundle**  $S^*\mathcal{M}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 S\mathcal{M} \simeq \mathcal{M} \times \mathbb{C}^4 & \xrightarrow{A} & S^*\mathcal{M} \simeq \mathcal{M} \times (\mathbb{C}^4)^* \\
 \swarrow \psi & & \nwarrow \varphi \\
 \mathcal{M} \simeq \mathbb{R} \times \Sigma & & 
 \end{array}$$

- Spin product**  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle_x : \Gamma(S\mathcal{M}) \times \Gamma(S\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

$$\langle \psi | \tilde{\psi} \rangle_x := ((A\psi)\tilde{\psi})(x).$$

## AQFT - II: Dynamics

- Dirac operator on  $SM$  and its dual on  $S^*M$ :

$$\mathcal{D}\psi \doteq (i\gamma^\mu \nabla_\mu + \mathcal{B} - m)\psi = 0, \quad \mathcal{D}^*\varphi = (-i\gamma^\mu \nabla_\mu + \mathcal{B} - m)\varphi = 0.$$

- Causal propagators:  $G^{(*)} : \Gamma_c(S\mathcal{M}^{(*)}) \rightarrow \Gamma_{sc}(S\mathcal{M}^{(*)})$

$$\mathcal{D}^{(*)} \circ G^{(*)} = 0 = G^{(*)} \circ \mathcal{D}^{(*)}|_{\Gamma_c(S\mathcal{M}^{(*)})}$$

$$\text{supp}(G^{(*)}(f)) \subseteq J(\text{supp}(f))$$

- Hilbert spaces:

$$\mathcal{H}^S := \overline{\left( \text{Sol}(\mathcal{D}) \simeq \frac{\Gamma_c(S\mathcal{M})}{\mathcal{D}\Gamma_c(S\mathcal{M})}, (\cdot | \cdot)^S \doteq \int_\Sigma \langle \cdot | \psi \cdot \rangle_x d\Sigma \right)}$$

$$\mathcal{H}^C := \overline{\left( \text{Sol}(\mathcal{D}^*) \simeq \frac{\Gamma_c(S\mathcal{M}^*)}{\mathcal{D}^*\Gamma_c(S\mathcal{M}^*)}, (\cdot | \cdot)^C \doteq \int_\Sigma \langle A^{-1} \cdot | \psi A^{-1} \cdot \rangle_x d\Sigma \right)}$$

## AQFT - III: CAR Algebra

- Set of generators:

$$1_{\mathcal{T}} = \{1, 0, \dots\}, \quad \Phi(\psi) = \left\{0, \begin{pmatrix} \psi \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, 0, \dots\right\}, \quad \Psi(\varphi) = \left\{0, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \varphi \end{pmatrix}, 0, \dots\right\}$$

- Universal tensor  $C^*$ -algebra:  $\mathcal{T} = \bigoplus_{k=0}^{\infty} \left( \mathcal{H}^s \oplus \mathcal{H}^c \right)^{\otimes k}$

$$\left\{0, 0, \begin{pmatrix} \psi_m \\ \varphi_m \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\psi}_m \\ \tilde{\varphi}_m \end{pmatrix}, \dots\right\}^* = \left\{0, 0, \begin{pmatrix} A^{-1}\tilde{\varphi}_m \\ A\tilde{\psi}_m \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} A^{-1}\varphi_m \\ A\psi_m \end{pmatrix}, \dots\right\}$$

- We encode the **Canonical Anticommutation Relations** in the ideal  $\mathcal{I} \subset \mathcal{T}$ :

- $\Phi(\psi) \otimes \Phi(\tilde{\psi}) + \Phi(\tilde{\psi}) \otimes \Phi(\psi)$
- $\Psi(\varphi) \otimes \Psi(\tilde{\varphi}) + \Psi(\tilde{\varphi}) \otimes \Psi(\varphi)$
- $\Psi(\varphi) \otimes \Phi(\psi) + \Phi(\psi) \otimes \Psi(\varphi) - (A^{-1}\varphi | \psi)^s 1_{\mathcal{T}}$

- Algebra of Dirac fields:  $\mathcal{F} \doteq \frac{\mathcal{T}}{\mathcal{I}}$

## AQFT - IV: States

- **Algebraic state**  $\omega : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$   $\omega(1_{\mathcal{F}}) = 1$ ,  $\omega(h^*h) \geq 0$ ,  $\forall h \in \mathcal{F}$ .

N.B.: Choosing a state  $\omega$  is equivalent to assigning  $\omega_n(h_1, \dots, h_n) \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\forall h_i \in \mathcal{F}$ .

- **Quasifree states:**  $\omega_{2n+1}(h_1, \dots, h_{2n+1}) = 0$

$$\omega_{2n}(h_1, \dots, h_{2n}) = \sum_{\sigma \in S'_{2n}} (-1)^{\text{sign}(\sigma)} \prod_{i=1}^n \omega_2(h_{\sigma(2i-1)}, h_{\sigma(2i)}).$$

Question: **Are all states physically acceptable?**

**Of course not!** Minimal requirements are:

- covariant construction of Wick polynomials to deal with interactions,
- same UV behaviour of the Minkowski vacuum,
- finite quantum fluctuations of all observables.

Answer: **Hadamard States**



# AQFT - V: Hadamard States

- A (quasifree) state  $\omega$  satisfies the **Hadamard condition** if and only if

$$WF(\omega_2) = \{(x, y, \xi_x, \xi_y) \in T^*M^{\otimes 2} \setminus 0 \mid (x, \xi_x) \sim (y, -\xi_y), \quad \xi_x \triangleright 0\}$$

where  $(x, \xi_x) \sim (y, -\xi_y)$  means that  $x$  and  $y$  are connected by a null geodesic and  $-\xi_y$  is the parallel transport of the co-parallel co-vector  $\xi_x$ ; whereas  $\xi_x \triangleright 0$  implies that  $\xi_x$  is future-pointing.

Question: **How many Hadamard states do we know?**

- deformation arguments (existence)
- static spacetime ( H. Sahlmann and R. Verch)
- highly symmetric spacetimes, e.g., de Sitter spacetime
- holographic techniques (C. Dappiaggi, V. Moretti and N. Pinamonti)
- pseudodifferential calculus (C. Gérard and M. Wrochna)

Question: **Does there exist an explicit method that does not use the symmetries?**

# PART II:

# Functional analytic constructions for quasifree states

# Characterisation of quasifree states

**Lemma 1 (H. Araki: On quasifree states of CAR and Bogoliubov automorphisms.)**

Let  $\Upsilon$  be an involution on  $\mathcal{H} := \mathcal{H}^s \oplus \mathcal{H}^c$  and  $Q := Q^s \oplus Q^c$  be a bounded, symmetric operator on  $\mathcal{H}$  with the following properties

- (a)  $Q + \Upsilon Q \Upsilon = Id$ ,
- (b)  $0 \leq Q = Q^* \leq 1$ .

Then there exists a unique quasifree state  $\omega$  on  $\mathcal{F}$  such that

$$\omega_2(\Psi(\varphi)\Phi(\psi)) = (A^{-1}\varphi \mid Q^s\psi)^s$$

**Lemma 2 (N. Drago and S. M.: arXiv:1607.02909)**

Let  $\Upsilon$  be an involution on  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\Pi$  be a orthonormal projector on  $\mathcal{H}^s$ . Then

$$P := \Pi \oplus (Id - A\Pi A^{-1})$$

satisfies (a) and (b).

# Quantum states in Rindler spacetime - I

[F. Finster, S. M. and C. Roken: *The fermionic signature operator and quantum states in Rindler space-time*, arXiv:1606.03882.]

$$\mathcal{R} = \{(t, x) \in \mathbb{R}^{1,1} \text{ with } |t| < x\} \text{ with element line } ds^2 = dt^2 - dx^2$$

- Rindler coordinates:

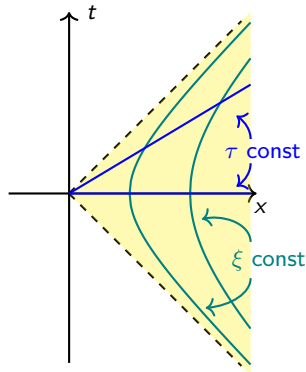
$$\begin{cases} t = \xi \sinh \tau \\ x = \xi \cosh \tau \end{cases} \Rightarrow ds^2 = \xi^2 d\tau^2 - d\xi^2$$

- $\gamma$ -matrices:  $\{\gamma^a, \gamma^b\} = 2g^{ab} \mathbf{1}_{\mathbb{C}^2}$

$$\gamma^0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \gamma^1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Dirac operator:

$$\mathcal{D} = i\gamma^0 \partial_t + i\gamma^1 \partial_x - \mathbf{1}_{\mathbb{C}^2} m$$



# Quantum states in Rindler spacetime - II

## Products and pairing

$$\psi \in \Gamma_{sc}(SR) \text{ and } SR = \mathcal{R} \times \mathbb{C}^2 \subset \mathcal{M} \times \mathbb{C}^2 = SM \text{ and } \Psi \in \Gamma_{sc}(SM)$$

- **spin product:**  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle_{\mathbb{C}^2} = \langle \cdot, \gamma^0 \cdot \rangle_{\mathbb{C}^2}$

- **scalar products:**

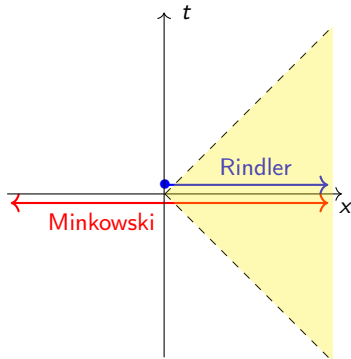
$$(\cdot | \cdot)_{\mathcal{R}} := 2\pi \int_0^{\infty} \langle \cdot | \gamma^0 \cdot \rangle_{(t=0,x)} dx$$

$$(\cdot | \cdot)_{\mathcal{M}} := 2\pi \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \langle \cdot | \gamma^0 \cdot \rangle_{(t=0,x)} dx$$

- **spacetime pairing:**

$$\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{R}} := 2\pi \int_{\mathcal{R}} \langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle dt dx$$

$$\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{M}} := 2\pi \int_{\mathcal{M}} \langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle dt dx$$



# Quantum states in Rindler spacetime - III

## Embedding in Minkowski

### Lemma 3

$$\mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{R}} := \overline{(\text{Sol}(\mathcal{R}), (\cdot | \cdot)_{\mathcal{R}})} \text{ and } \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{M}} = \overline{(\text{Sol}(\mathcal{M}), (\cdot | \cdot)_{\mathcal{M}} dx)}$$

- Then there exist

$$(i) \ \iota_{\mathcal{M}} : \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{R}} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{M}}$$

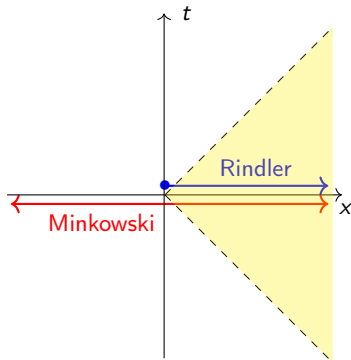
$$(ii) \ \pi_{\mathcal{R}} : \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{M}} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{R}}$$

$$\iota_{\mathcal{M}} \circ \pi_{\mathcal{R}} = \text{Id}_{\mathcal{H}}$$

- Moreover,  $\forall \Psi \in \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{M}}$  and  $\psi \in \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{R}}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & (\Psi | \iota_{\mathcal{M}} \psi)_{\mathcal{M}} = \\ &= 2\pi \int_0^{\infty} \langle \Psi | \gamma^0 \psi \rangle |_{(0,x)} dx = \\ &= (\pi_{\mathcal{R}} \Psi | \psi)_{\mathcal{R}}, \end{aligned}$$

which can be written as  $\iota_{\mathcal{M}}^* = \pi_{\mathcal{R}}$ .



# Quantum states in Rindler spacetime - IV

## Fermionic Signature Operators

$$\zeta \langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{M}} : \text{Sol}(\mathcal{M}) \times \text{Sol}(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \implies \langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle_{\text{Rel}} := \int_{\mathcal{M}} \chi_{\mathcal{R}} \langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle dt dx$$

### Lemma 4

- $\forall \tilde{\Psi} \in \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{M}}, \exists c = c(\tilde{\Psi})$  s.t.  $\left| \langle \Psi | \tilde{\Psi} \rangle_{\text{Rel}} \right| \leq c(\tilde{\Psi}) \|\Psi\|_{\mathcal{M}}$  for every  $\Psi \in \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{M}}$ .

### Definition 1

- **Relative fermionic signature operator**  $S_{\text{Rel}} : D(S_{\text{Rel}}) \subset \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{M}} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{M}}$

$$\langle \Psi | \tilde{\Psi} \rangle_{\text{Rel}} = \left( \Psi | S_{\text{Rel}} \tilde{\Psi} \right)_{\mathcal{M}} \quad \forall \Psi \in \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{M}}.$$

- **Fermionic signature operator**  $S : D(S) \subset \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{R}} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{R}}$

$$S = \pi_{\mathcal{R}} S_{\text{Rel}} \iota_{\mathcal{M}} \quad \text{with} \quad D(S) = \pi_{\mathcal{R}}(D(S_{\text{Rel}})).$$

N.B.:  $S_{\text{Rel}}$  and  $S$  are densely defined, symmetric and unbounded.

# Quantum states in Rindler spacetime - V

## Transformation to the Momentum Space

$$\psi(x, t) = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \int \widehat{\psi}(\omega, k) d\omega dk = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \int \widehat{\psi}(s, \alpha) d\alpha$$

- in the parametrization  $\begin{pmatrix} \omega \\ k \end{pmatrix} = ms \begin{pmatrix} \cosh \alpha \\ \sinh \alpha \end{pmatrix}$  with  $s \in \{\pm 1\}$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

- scalar product  $(\Psi | \tilde{\Psi})_{\mathcal{M}} = \frac{1}{4m} \sum_{s=\pm 1} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \overline{g(s, \alpha)} \tilde{g}(s, \alpha) d\alpha$

- spacetime pairing

$$\langle \Psi | \tilde{\Psi} \rangle_{\text{Rel}} = \frac{1}{4m} \sum_{s=\pm 1} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\alpha \overline{g(s, \alpha)} \overbrace{\sum_{\tilde{s}=\pm 1} \lim_{\varepsilon \searrow 0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} I_{\varepsilon}(s, \alpha; \tilde{s}, \tilde{\alpha}) \tilde{g}(\tilde{s}, \tilde{\alpha}) d\tilde{\alpha}}^{\widehat{S}_{\text{Rel}} \widehat{\Psi}(s, \alpha) \equiv}$$

where  $I_{\varepsilon}$  is the kernel

$$I_{\varepsilon}(s, \alpha; \tilde{s}, \tilde{\alpha}) = \frac{1}{4\pi^2 m} \times \begin{cases} \frac{s \cosh(\frac{\alpha - \tilde{\alpha}}{2})}{1 - \cosh(\alpha - \tilde{\alpha} + i\varepsilon s)} & \text{if } s = \tilde{s} \\ -\frac{s \sinh(\frac{\alpha - \tilde{\alpha}}{2})}{1 + \cosh(\alpha - \tilde{\alpha})} & \text{if } s \neq \tilde{s} \end{cases}$$



# Quantum states in Rindler spacetime - VI

## The Self-Adjoint Extension

- Unitary operator

$$U : \mathcal{H}_M \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}^2), \quad g(s, \alpha) \mapsto \hat{g}(s, \ell) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8\pi m}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(s, \alpha) e^{i\ell\alpha} d\alpha$$

- **Relative fermionic signature operator**  $(S_{\text{Rel}}\Psi)(s, \alpha) = (U^{-1} \hat{S}_{\text{Rel}} U\Psi)(s, \alpha)$

$$\hat{S}_{\text{Rel}}(\ell) = \frac{\ell}{\pi m} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{1 + e^{-2\pi\ell}} & -\frac{i}{2 \cosh(\pi\ell)} \\ \frac{i}{2 \cosh(\pi\ell)} & \frac{1}{1 + e^{2\pi\ell}} \end{pmatrix}$$

### Lemma 5

- $S_{\text{Rel}}$  has **unique self adjoint extension** with

$$D(S_{\text{Rel}}) = U^{-1} \left( \left\{ \hat{g} \in L^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}^2) \text{ with } \hat{S}_{\text{Rel}} \hat{g} \in L^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}^2) \right\} \right) \text{ where}$$

- **Spectrum:**  $\sigma_{\text{pp}}(S_{\text{Rel}}) = \{0\}$  and  $\sigma_{\text{ac}}(S_{\text{Rel}}) = \mathbb{R}$

- **Spectral measure**  $dE_\lambda$  is given by  $E_I = U^{-1} \left( \chi_I(0) \hat{K} + \chi_I \frac{\pi m}{\ell} \hat{S}_{\text{Rel}}(\ell) \right) U$

$$\hat{L}(\ell) = \frac{\pi m}{\ell} \hat{S}_{\text{Rel}}(\ell) \quad \hat{K}(\ell) = 1_{\mathbb{C}^2} - \hat{L}(\ell)$$

# Quantum states in Rindler spacetime - VII

## Connection with the Hamiltonian and Quasifree States

### Lemma 6

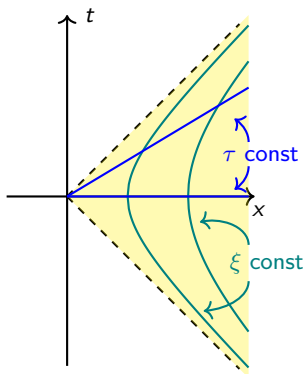
- $\mathcal{S}$  has unique **self-adjoint** extension in the domain  $D(\mathcal{S}) = \pi_{\mathcal{R}} D(\mathcal{S}_{\text{Rel}})$
- **Spectral measure** is given by  $E_I = \pi_{\mathcal{R}} U^{-1} \left( \chi_I \left( \frac{\pi m}{\ell} \hat{S}_{\text{Rel}} \right) \right) U \iota_{\mathcal{M}}$
- **Spectrum**:  $\sigma_{\text{ac}}(\mathcal{S}) = \mathbb{R}$

- Change of coordinates  $(t, x) \mapsto (\tau, \xi)$
- Dirac equation in the **HAMILTONIAN** form

$$i\partial_{\tau}\psi = \mathbf{H}\psi$$

### Lemma 7

- **Fermionic signature operator**  $\mathcal{S} = -\frac{\mathbf{H}}{\pi m}$
- **Ground state**:  $\chi(\mathcal{S}) = \chi(\mathbf{H})$



# Quantum states in Rindler spacetime - VIII

## Extension to the Four Dimensional Rindler Spacetime

$$\mathcal{R} = \{(t, x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^{1,3} \text{ with } |t| < x\} \text{ with } ds^2 = dt^2 - dx^2 - dy^2 - dz^2$$

- **Solutions:**  $\psi(t, x, y, z) = e^{ik_y y + ik_z z} \tilde{\psi}(t, x)$
- **Massive Dirac equation:**  $(i\gamma^0 \partial_t + i\gamma^1 \partial_x) \tilde{\psi}(t, x) = (m + \gamma^2 k_y + \gamma^3 k_z) \tilde{\psi}(t, x)$

### Lemma 8

- The fermionic signature operator  $\mathcal{S}$  and the Hamiltonian  $H$  satisfy

$$\mathcal{S} = -\frac{H}{\pi \tilde{m}} - \frac{1}{2\pi m \tilde{m}} \gamma^0 \gamma^1 (\gamma^2 \partial_y + \gamma^3 \partial_z)$$

being  $\tilde{m} := \sqrt{m^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2}$ .

- **Quasifree state:**  $\chi(\mathcal{S}) \neq \chi(H) \implies \text{?? physical interpretation ??}$

# Conclusions

What we know:

- Every orthonormal projector implicitly defines a quasifree state.
- The construction gives an Hadamard state in 1+1 Rindler spacetime.

Benefit:

- This technique works without symmetries.

Flaws:

- This technique works only for massive fields.

Future investigations:

- How can we extend this technique to more general spacetime?
- Does the state in 4-dim satisfy the Hadamard condition?