Ph 205a

1.

We start by writing $\Delta(\mathbf{x})$ in terms of the Fourier transforms of the field:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\mathbf{x}) &= \int \frac{\mathrm{d}^{3}k \,\mathrm{d}^{3}q}{(2\pi)^{6}(2\omega_{\vec{k}})(2\omega_{\vec{q}})} [a_{\vec{k}}e^{ikx} + a_{\vec{k}}^{\dagger}e^{-ikx}, a_{\vec{q}} + a_{\vec{q}}^{\dagger}] \\ &= \int \frac{\mathrm{d}^{3}k \,\mathrm{d}^{3}q}{(2\pi)^{6}(2\omega_{\vec{k}})(2\omega_{\vec{q}})} (2\pi)^{3}(2\omega_{\vec{q}})\delta^{3}(\vec{k} - \vec{q})(e^{ikx} - e^{-ikx}) \\ &= \int \frac{\mathrm{d}^{3}k}{(2\pi)^{3}(2\omega_{\vec{k}})} (e^{ikx} - e^{-ikx}). \end{aligned}$$
(1)

I'll proceed by using polar coordinates. Note that $\omega_{\vec{k}} = |\vec{k}|$. The integral then becomes

$$\Delta(\mathbf{x}) = \int \frac{r^2 \, \mathrm{d}r \, \mathrm{d}\phi \, \mathrm{d}\cos\theta}{(2\pi)^3 2r} \left[e^{-irt} e^{irx\cos\theta} - c.c. \right]$$

= $\frac{1}{2(2\pi)^2} \int r \, \mathrm{d}r \left[e^{-irt} \int_{-1}^1 d\cos\theta e^{irx\cos\theta} - c.c. \right]$
= $\frac{1}{2(2\pi)^2} \int r \, \mathrm{d}r \left[\frac{e^{-irt}}{irx} (e^{irx} - e^{-irx}) - c.c. \right]$
= $\frac{1}{2ix(2\pi)^2} \int_0^\infty \mathrm{d}r \left[e^{ir(x-t)} - e^{-ir(x+t)} + e^{-ir(x-t)} - e^{ir(x+t)} \right].$ (2)

Rearranging the limits of integration gives us

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} dr \left[e^{ir(x-t)} + e^{-ir(x-t)} - e^{-ir(x+t)} - e^{ir(x+t)} \right]$$

$$= \int_{0}^{\infty} dr e^{ir(x-t)} - \int_{\infty}^{0} dr e^{-ir(x-t)} - \int_{0}^{\infty} dr e^{-ir(x+t)} + \int_{\infty}^{0} dr e^{ir(x+t)}$$

$$= \int_{0}^{\infty} dr e^{ir(x-t)} + \int_{-\infty}^{0} dr e^{ir(x-t)} - \int_{0}^{\infty} dr e^{-ir(x+t)} - \int_{-\infty}^{0} dr e^{-ir(x+t)}$$

$$= 2\pi [\delta(x-t) - \delta(x+t)]$$
(3)

This implies

$$\Delta(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\delta(x-t) - \delta(x+t)}{4\pi i x}.$$
(4)

As it stands, this formula doesn't look very Lorentz invariant. We can put it in a nicer form by noticing that

$$\delta(x^{2} - t^{2}) = \frac{1}{2|x|} [\delta(x - t) + \delta(x + t)]$$

= sgn(t) $\left[\frac{\delta(x - t)}{2x} - \frac{\delta(x + t)}{2x} \right].$ (5)

if we imagining that we are integrating over t. The second line is true because the delta function constrains the x in the second term to be negative whenever it is nonzero (since t is positive). With this in mind, we can see that

$$\Delta(\mathbf{x}) = \operatorname{sgn}(t) \frac{\delta(\mathbf{x}^2)}{2\pi i}.$$
(6)

2.

The lowering operators will annihilate the vacuum on the right and lowering operators will do so on the left. This means we have

$$\langle 0 | \phi(\mathbf{x})\phi(0) | 0 \rangle = \int \frac{\mathrm{d}^{3}k \,\mathrm{d}^{3}q}{(2\pi)^{6}(2\omega_{\vec{k}})(2\omega_{\vec{q}})} \, \langle 0 | \, a_{\vec{k}}e^{ikx}a_{\vec{q}}^{\dagger} | 0 \rangle$$

$$= \int \frac{\mathrm{d}^{3}k \,\mathrm{d}^{3}q}{(2\pi)^{6}(2\omega_{\vec{k}})(2\omega_{\vec{q}})} e^{ikx} \, \langle 0 | \, [a_{\vec{k}},a_{\vec{q}}^{\dagger}] \, | 0 \rangle$$

$$= \int \frac{\mathrm{d}^{3}k}{(2\pi)^{3}(2\omega_{\vec{k}})} e^{ikx}.$$

$$(7)$$

Let's try to use the hint from the problem to evaluate this (we could also have used the hint in the last problem, if we were careful).

$$\langle 0 | \phi(\mathbf{x})\phi(0) | 0 \rangle = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^4k \theta(k^0) \delta(-\mathbf{k}^2) e^{ikx}$$

$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int dk^0 dk^1 \theta(k^0) e^{ikx} \int dk^2 dk^3 \delta(-\mathbf{k}^2)$$

$$(8)$$

Now we go to polar coordinates to find the integral over the delta function:

$$\int dk^2 dk^3 \delta(-\mathbf{k}^2) = 2\pi \int r \, dr \delta(k_0^2 - k_1^2 - r^2)$$

= $2\pi \int r \, dr \frac{\delta(r - \sqrt{k_0^2 - k_1^2})}{2\sqrt{k_0^2 - k_1^2}} \theta(k_0^2 - k_1^2)$ (9)
= $\pi \theta(k_0^2 - k_1^2).$

Then our equation becomes

$$\langle 0 | \phi(\mathbf{x})\phi(0) | 0 \rangle = \frac{\pi}{(2\pi)^3} \int \mathrm{d}k^0 \, \mathrm{d}k^1 \theta(k^0) \theta(k_0^2 - k_1^2) e^{ikx}$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{k^0 \ge |k^1|} \mathrm{d}k^0 \, \mathrm{d}k^1 e^{ikx}.$$
(10)

If we define coordinates $k_{\pm} = k^0 \pm k^1$, we see $k^0 = (k_+ + k_-)/2$ and $k^1 = (k_+ - k_-)/2$, which implies the Jacobian of the transformation is 1/4. Furthermore, the region we integrate over is just the whole quadrant with $k_{\pm} \ge 0$. Finally, we see $k \cdot x = -k_+x_- - k_-x_+$, where $x_{\pm} = (x^0 \pm x^1)/2$. Then we have

$$\langle 0 | \phi(\mathbf{x})\phi(0) | 0 \rangle = \frac{\pi}{4(2\pi)^3} \int dk_+ e^{-ik_+x_-} \theta(k_+) \int dk_- e^{-ik_-x_+} \theta(k_-).$$
(11)

This looks likes a product of Fourier transforms of the step function. Looking this up gives us

$$\int \frac{\mathrm{d}k}{2\pi} e^{-ikx} \theta(k) = \frac{1}{2} \delta(x) - \frac{1}{2\pi i x}.$$
(12)

Thus, we have

$$\langle 0 | \phi(\mathbf{x})\phi(0) | 0 \rangle = \frac{1}{16} \left[\delta(x_{-}) - \frac{1}{i\pi x_{-}} \right] \left[\delta(x_{+}) - \frac{1}{i\pi x_{+}} \right]$$

$$= \frac{-1}{16} \left[\frac{1}{\pi^{2} x_{+} x_{-}} + \frac{\delta(x_{-})}{i\pi x_{+}} + \frac{\delta(x_{+})}{i\pi x_{-}} - \delta(x_{-})\delta(x_{+}) \right]$$

$$(13)$$

The middle two terms match the result from the last problem. The last term should be interpreted in the following manner: if we integrate over x_+ and x_- , there is only a contribution if $x_+ = x_- = 0$ is included in the integration range. We can therefore write it as

$$\delta(x_{-})\delta(x_{+}) = \delta(x_{0})\delta(x_{1}), \qquad (14)$$

since $x_+ = x_- = 0$ implies $x_0 = x_1 = 0$ and (by construction) the Jacobian from changing variables in the measure is exactly compensated by factors from the delta functions. Finally, x_1 is actually equivalent to $|\vec{x}|$ here (we rotated to place \vec{x} along the x_1 axis), so we should write

$$\delta(x_{-})\delta(x_{+}) = \delta(x_{0})\delta(|\vec{x}|).$$
(15)

While this doesn't look particularly Lorentz invariant, it actually is — it simply says that there is a contribution to an integral only if the point $x_0 = \vec{x} = 0$ is included in the integration region, and this statement does not depend on our frame. Putting this all together, and remembering that as we've defined things $x_+x_- = -\mathbf{x}^2/4$, we find

$$\langle 0 | \phi(\mathbf{x})\phi(0) | 0 \rangle = \frac{1}{4\pi^2 \mathbf{x}^2} + \operatorname{sgn}(t)\frac{\delta(\mathbf{x}^2)}{4\pi i} + \frac{\delta(t)\delta(|\vec{x}|)}{16}.$$
 (16)

3.

$$i\partial_{0}\phi = [H, \phi]$$

$$= \left[\int d^{3}x(pp^{\dagger} + \partial_{i}\phi^{\dagger}\partial_{i}\phi + m^{2}\phi^{d}\phi), \phi(y) \right]$$

$$= \int d^{3}x[p, \phi(y)]p^{\dagger}$$

$$= -ip^{\dagger}.$$
(17)

This implies

$$i\partial_0^2 \phi = -i\partial_0 p^{\dagger}$$

= $[p^{\dagger}, H]$
= $\int d^3 x [p^{\dagger}(y), \partial_i \phi^{\dagger}] \partial_i \phi + m^2 [p^{\dagger}(y), \phi^{\dagger}] \phi$
= $(-i)(-\nabla^2)\phi + (-i)m^2\phi,$ (18)

so we have

$$(\partial_0^2 - \nabla^2 + m^2)\phi = 0.$$
 (19)

4. (a)

Let's consider the properties of a near-identity infinitesimal rotation by writing $R = 1 + i\delta R$. Then we have

$$R^{T}R = 1$$

$$(1 + i\delta R^{T})(1 + i\delta R) = 1$$

$$\delta R^{T} + \delta R = 0.$$
(20)

Then the generators of rotations (the matrices δR) must be antisymmetric. This implies that they can be parameterized as

$$\delta R^{ab} = \epsilon^{abc} \beta^c, \tag{21}$$

which means we can write out the infinitesimal transformation of the fields as

$$\delta\phi^a = \epsilon^{abc} \phi^b \beta^c.$$
(22)

To deduce the conserved currents, we see how the action changes under the above transformation if we treat the parameters β as functions of spacetime:

$$\delta S = -\int d^4 x \partial_\mu \delta \phi^a \partial^\mu \phi^a$$

= $-\int d^4 x \epsilon^{abc} (\beta^c \partial_\mu \phi^b \partial^\mu \phi^a + \partial_\mu \beta^c \phi^b \partial^\mu \phi^a)$ (23)
= $\int d^4 x \beta^c \partial_\mu (\epsilon^{abc} \phi^b \partial^\mu \phi^a).$

Now, if the fields follow a classical path (that is, if they satisfy the equations of motion), the variation of the action must vanish even under the circumstances where the β are (infinitesimal) arbitrary functions of spacetime. This implies that on the equations of motion,

$$\partial_{\mu}(\epsilon^{abc}\phi^{b}\partial^{\mu}\phi^{a}) = 0.$$
(24)

That means our conserved currents are given by

$$J^{a\mu} = \epsilon^{abc} \phi^b \partial^\mu \phi^c.$$
 (25)

The above argument is just Noether's theorem. See section 7.3 of Weinberg I for a good summary.

4. (b)

We see that the Qs are given by

$$Q^a = \int \mathrm{d}^3 x \epsilon^{abc} \phi^b \dot{\phi}^c. \tag{26}$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} [Q^{a},Q^{b}] &= \int \mathrm{d}^{3}x \, \mathrm{d}^{3}y \epsilon^{acd} \epsilon^{bkl} [\phi^{c} \dot{\phi}^{d}, \phi^{k} \dot{\phi}^{l}] \\ &= \int \mathrm{d}^{3}x \, \mathrm{d}^{3}y \epsilon^{acd} \epsilon^{bkl} (\phi^{c} [\dot{\phi}^{d}, \phi^{k}] \dot{\phi}^{l} + [\phi^{c}, \phi^{k}] \dot{\phi}^{d} \dot{\phi}^{l} + \phi^{k} \phi^{c} [\dot{\phi}^{d}, \dot{\phi}^{l}] + \phi^{k} [\phi^{c}, \dot{\phi}^{l}] \dot{\phi}^{d}) \\ &= \epsilon^{acd} \epsilon^{bkl} \int \mathrm{d}^{3}x \, \mathrm{d}^{3}y [-i\delta^{3}(x-y)\delta^{dk} \phi^{c} \dot{\phi}^{l} + i\delta^{3}(x-y)\delta^{cl} \phi^{k} \dot{\phi}^{d}] \\ &= -i\epsilon^{acd} \epsilon^{bdl} \int \mathrm{d}^{3}x \phi^{c} \dot{\phi}^{l} + i\epsilon^{acd} \epsilon^{bkc} \int \mathrm{d}^{3}x \phi^{k} \dot{\phi}^{d} \\ &= -i(\delta^{al} \delta^{cb} - \delta^{ab} \delta^{cl}) \int \mathrm{d}^{3}x \phi^{c} \dot{\phi}^{l} + i(\delta^{db} \delta^{ak} - \delta^{dk} \delta^{ab}) \int \mathrm{d}^{3}x \phi^{k} \dot{\phi}^{d} \\ &= i(\delta^{ak} \delta^{bd} - \delta^{ad} \delta^{bl}) \int \mathrm{d}^{3}x \phi^{k} \dot{\phi}^{d} \\ &= i\epsilon^{cab} \epsilon^{ckd} \int \mathrm{d}^{3}x \phi^{k} \dot{\phi}^{d} \\ &= \overline{i}\epsilon^{abc} Q^{c}. \end{aligned}$$

$$(27)$$