

Exercise 1: Periodic potential (2 Points)

Consider the following potential:  $V(x) = g \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x - (na + c)) + U(x)$ , where  $U(x) = 0$ , except for the regions  $na - b < x < na$ , where it is  $U(x) = V_0$ . Consider a particle with energy  $E < V_0$ . Express the wavefunctions in the different regions of the potential, and write down (without solving them) the equations that these wavefunctions must fulfill.

Exercise 2: Creation and destruction operators (3 Points)

Consider the  $n$ -th state ( $|n\rangle$ ) of the harmonic oscillator

$$|n\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n!}} (\hat{a}^\dagger)^n |0\rangle$$

where  $|0\rangle$  is the ground-state of the harmonic oscillator. We employ a slightly different definition for the creation and annihilation operators as that of the theory class, which is indeed the more standard way of defining these operators:

$$\hat{a} = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}} \hat{x} + i \frac{\hat{p}}{\sqrt{2m\hbar\omega}},$$

$$\hat{a}^\dagger = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}} \hat{x} - i \frac{\hat{p}}{\sqrt{2m\hbar\omega}},$$

Note that compared with the theory class  $\hat{a} = \hat{A}/\sqrt{\hbar}$ , and  $\hat{a}^\dagger = \hat{A}^\dagger/\sqrt{\hbar}$ , and hence  $[\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger] = 1$ , and the harmonic oscillator Hamiltonian is of the form  $\hat{H} = \hbar\omega(\hat{a}^\dagger\hat{a} + 1/2)$ .

- Show that  $\hat{a}^\dagger|n\rangle = \sqrt{n+1}|n+1\rangle$ .
- Show that  $\hat{a}|n\rangle = \sqrt{n}|n-1\rangle$ . In order to show this, you will need the commutation relation of  $\hat{a}$  and  $\hat{a}^\dagger$ .
- Calculate  $\langle n|\hat{x}|m\rangle$  showing that it is zero except when  $n = m \pm 1$ .

Exercise 3: Heisenberg picture (3 Points)

Consider the following Hamiltonian Operator:

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m} + \frac{m}{2} (\omega_1^2 \hat{x}^2 + \omega_2 \hat{x} + \epsilon).$$

- Using the commutation relation of the position operator  $\hat{x}$  and the momentum operator  $\hat{p}$ , obtain the Heisenberg equations for  $\frac{d}{dt}\hat{x}$ , and  $\frac{d}{dt}\hat{p}$ .
- Solve the Heisenberg equations to obtain the time-dependence of the operator  $\hat{x}(t)$ .

- Express the Hamiltonian operator as a function of the creation and annihilation operators (using the definition of exercise 2). Write down (without solving it) the Heisenberg equation for  $\frac{d}{dt}\hat{a}$ .

Exercise 4: Heisenberg picture II (2 Points)

- Using the definition of commutator calculate the commutator  $[\hat{p}, \frac{1}{x^2}]$ .
- Consider the Hamiltonian:

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m} + \frac{m}{2}\omega^2 x^2 + \frac{A}{x^2},$$

where  $A$  is a constant. Write down (without solving them) the Heisenberg equations for  $\frac{d}{dt}\hat{x}$ , and  $\frac{d}{dt}\hat{p}$ .