

# Quantum Mechanics: Fall 2022

## Final Exam (B): Brief Solutions

Possibly useful facts:

- 1D harmonic oscillator:  $\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{p}_x^2}{2m} + \frac{m\omega^2}{2}\hat{x}^2 = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{m\omega^2}{2}x^2$ .  
 $[\hat{x}, \hat{p}_x] = i\hbar$ , and in position representation  $\hat{p}_x = -i\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ . Define  $\hat{a}_{\mp} = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}}(\hat{x} \pm i\frac{1}{m\omega}\hat{p}_x) = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}}(x \pm \frac{\hbar}{m\omega}\frac{\partial}{\partial x})$ . Then  $[\hat{a}_-, \hat{a}_+] = 1$  and  $\hat{H} = \hbar\omega(\hat{a}_+\hat{a}_- + \frac{1}{2})$ . It has a unique ground state  $|\psi_0\rangle$  with  $\hat{a}_-|\psi_0\rangle = 0$ , and excited states  $|\psi_n\rangle \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{n!}}(\hat{a}_+)^n|\psi_0\rangle$  with energy  $E_n = (n + \frac{1}{2})\hbar\omega$ . The ground state wavefunction is  $\psi_0(x) = (\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar})^{1/4} \exp(-\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}x^2)$ .
- $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^{2n} e^{-x^2/(2a)} dx = (2n-1)!! \cdot a^n \cdot \sqrt{2\pi a}$ , for  $a > 0$  and non-negative integer  $n$ .
- Generic angular momentum:  $[\hat{J}_x, \hat{J}_y] = i\hbar\hat{J}_z$ ,  $[\hat{J}_y, \hat{J}_z] = i\hbar\hat{J}_x$ ,  $[\hat{J}_z, \hat{J}_x] = i\hbar\hat{J}_y$ .  
For eigenstate  $|j, m\rangle$  of  $\hat{\mathbf{J}}^2$  and  $\hat{J}_z$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{J}}^2|j, m\rangle = j(j+1)\hbar^2|j, m\rangle$ ,  $\hat{J}_z|j, m\rangle = m\hbar|j, m\rangle$ ,  
and  $(\hat{J}_x \pm i\hat{J}_y)|j, m\rangle = \sqrt{(j \mp m)(j \pm m + 1)}\hbar|j, m \pm 1\rangle$ .  
Here  $2j$  is non-negative integer,  $m = -j, -j+1, \dots, j$ .  
  
– Spin-1/2: basis states  $|\uparrow\rangle$  and  $|\downarrow\rangle$ , namely  $|S_z = +\frac{1}{2}\hbar\rangle$  and  $|S_z = -\frac{1}{2}\hbar\rangle$ .  
Under this basis,  $\hat{S}_a = \frac{\hbar}{2}\sigma_a$  where  $\sigma_{x,y,z}$  are Pauli matrices.  
 $\sigma_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\sigma_y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\sigma_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ .
- (Degenerate) Time-independent perturbation theory:  $\hat{H} = \hat{H}^{(0)} + \hat{H}^{(1)}$ . Denote the (degenerate) orthonormal eigenstates of  $\hat{H}^{(0)}$  by  $|\psi_{n\alpha}^{(0)}\rangle$ ,  $\hat{H}^{(0)}|\psi_{n\alpha}^{(0)}\rangle = E_n^{(0)}|\psi_{n\alpha}^{(0)}\rangle$ .  
Suppose  $\hat{H}|\psi_n\rangle = E_n|\psi_n\rangle$ ,  $E_n$  is close to  $E_n^{(0)}$ , then  $(E_n - E_n^{(0)})$  is an eigenvalue of “secular equation” matrix,  $\langle\psi_{n\beta}^{(0)}|\hat{H}^{(1)}|\psi_{n\alpha}^{(0)}\rangle + \sum_{m, m' \neq n} \frac{1}{E_n^{(0)} - E_m^{(0)}} \langle\psi_{n\beta}^{(0)}|\hat{H}^{(1)}|\psi_m^{(0)}\rangle \langle\psi_m^{(0)}|\hat{H}^{(1)}|\psi_{n\alpha}^{(0)}\rangle$   
up to second order. Here  $\beta$  &  $\alpha$  are row/column index, the sum is over all eigenstates of  $\hat{H}^{(0)}$  with energy different from  $E_n^{(0)}$ . In non-degenerate case, this is a  $1 \times 1$  matrix.
- Dyson series: Solution to  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}c_n(t) = \sum_m V_{n,m}(t)c_m(t)$  is formally,  

$$c_n(t) = c_n(t=0) + \sum_m \int_0^t V_{n,m}(t') dt' \cdot c_m(t=0)$$

$$+ \sum_m \sum_{m'} \int_0^t V_{n,m}(t') \left[ \int_0^{t'} V_{m,m'}(t'') dt'' \right] dt' \cdot c_{m'}(t=0) + \dots$$
- Series inversion: from series  $x = z + a_1 z^2 + a_2 z^3 + a_3 z^4 + O(z^5)$  for  $|z| \ll 1$ ,  
solve  $z$ , then  $z = x + (-a_1)x^2 + (2a_1^2 - a_2)x^3 + (-5a_1^3 + 5a_1a_2 - a_3)x^4 + O(x^5)$ .

---

**Problem 1.** (35 points) Consider a non-relativistic particle of mass  $m$  moving on a ring of circumference  $L$ . This can be viewed as a 1D problem defined on  $x$ -axis with periodic boundary condition for the wavefunction,  $\psi(x+L) = \psi(x)$ , inner product  $\langle \phi(x) | \psi(x) \rangle$  is defined as  $\int_{x=-\frac{L}{2}}^{\frac{L}{2}} \phi^*(x) \psi(x) dx = 1$ .

(a) (5pts) For free particle,  $\hat{H}_0 = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m}$ , with this periodic boundary condition, *write down all the energy eigenvalues  $E_n^{(0)}$  and normalized eigenstate wavefunctions  $\psi_n^{(0)}(x)$ .*

(b) (10pts) Add a perturbation  $V(x) = V_0 \cos(\frac{2\pi x}{L})$  to  $\hat{H}_0$ , here  $V_0$  is a “small” real parameters. *Compute the correction to the ground state energy in (a) to second order of  $V_0$ .*

(c) (10pts\*) *Compute the correction to all excited states energies by  $V(x)$  to second order of  $V_0$ . [Note: degenerate perturbation theory can be avoided]*

(d) (10pts\*) Consider a variational state  $\psi_A(x) = 1 + A \cos(\frac{2\pi x}{L})$  with real variational parameter  $A$ , *compute the expectation value of  $\hat{H} = \hat{H}_0 + V(x)$  under  $\psi_A(x)$ ,  $E(A) = \frac{\langle \psi_A(x) | \hat{H} | \psi_A(x) \rangle}{\langle \psi_A(x) | \psi_A(x) \rangle}$ ; then minimize  $E(A)$  with respect to  $A$ .*

**Solution:**

(a) this is the same as a midterm problem,

$$E_n^{(0)} = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left( \frac{2\pi n}{L} \right)^2, \psi_n^{(0)}(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} e^{i \frac{2\pi n}{L} x}, n \text{ is an integer.}$$

For later convenience, we can use another set of eigenbasis,

$$\psi_{0,\text{even}}^{(0)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}}, \psi_{n,\text{even}}^{(0)}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi n}{L} x\right) \text{ and } \psi_{n,\text{odd}}^{(0)}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi n}{L} x\right) \text{ for } n = 1, 2, \dots, \\ \text{with } E_n^{(0)} = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left( \frac{2\pi n}{L} \right)^2.$$

(b)

The ground state in (a) is  $\psi_0^{(0)}(x) = \psi_{0,\text{even}}^{(0)}(x)$ ,

$$V(x) |\psi_0^{(0)}\rangle = V_0 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} = \frac{V_0}{\sqrt{2}} |\psi_{1,\text{even}}^{(0)}\rangle.$$

The 1st order correction  $\langle \psi_0^{(0)} | V(x) | \psi_0^{(0)} \rangle = 0$ .

The correction to ground state energy to 2nd order is  $0 + \frac{|\frac{V_0}{\sqrt{2}}|^2}{E_0^{(0)} - E_1^{(0)}} = -\frac{V_0^2 m L^2}{4\pi^2 \hbar^2}$

(c)  $\hat{H}_0 + V(x)$  is invariant under  $x \rightarrow -x$  (inversion symmetry), by considering the subspace of even/odd functions separately, we can avoid degenerate perturbation theory.

(even,  $n = 1$ ) case:

$$\begin{aligned} V(x)|\psi_{1,\text{even}}^{(0)}\rangle &= V_0 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) \cdot \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) = V_0 \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \cdot \frac{1}{2} [1 + \cos\left(\frac{4\pi x}{L}\right)] \\ &= \frac{V_0}{\sqrt{2}} |\psi_0^{(0)}\rangle + \frac{V_0}{2} |\psi_{2,\text{even}}^{(0)}\rangle, \\ \text{then } E_{1,\text{even}} &\approx E_1^{(0)} + 0 + \frac{|V_0/\sqrt{2}|^2}{E_1^{(0)} - E_0^{(1)}} + \frac{|V_0/2|^2}{E_1^{(0)} - E_2^{(1)}} = E_1^{(0)} + \frac{V_0^2 m L^2}{4\pi^2 \hbar^2} \cdot \frac{5}{6} \end{aligned}$$

(even,  $n > 1$ ) case:

$$\begin{aligned} V(x)|\psi_{n,\text{even}}^{(0)}\rangle &= V_0 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) \cdot \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi n x}{L}\right) = V_0 \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \cdot \frac{1}{2} [\cos\left(\frac{2\pi(n-1)x}{L}\right) + \cos\left(\frac{2\pi(n+1)x}{L}\right)] \\ &= \frac{V_0}{2} |\psi_{n-1,\text{even}}^{(0)}\rangle + \frac{V_0}{2} |\psi_{n+1,\text{even}}^{(0)}\rangle, \\ \text{then } E_{n,\text{even}} &\approx E_n^{(0)} + 0 + \frac{|V_0/2|^2}{E_n^{(0)} - E_{n-1}^{(1)}} + \frac{|V_0/2|^2}{E_n^{(0)} - E_{n+1}^{(1)}} = E_n^{(0)} + \frac{V_0^2 m L^2}{4\pi^2 \hbar^2} \cdot \frac{1}{4n^2 - 1} \end{aligned}$$

(odd,  $n = 1$ ) case:

$$\begin{aligned} V(x)|\psi_{1,\text{odd}}^{(0)}\rangle &= V_0 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) \cdot \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) = V_0 \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sin\left(\frac{4\pi x}{L}\right) \\ &= \frac{V_0}{2} |\psi_{2,\text{odd}}^{(0)}\rangle, \\ \text{then } E_{1,\text{odd}} &\approx E_1^{(0)} + 0 + \frac{|V_0/2|^2}{E_1^{(0)} - E_2^{(1)}} = E_1^{(0)} - \frac{V_0^2 m L^2}{4\pi^2 \hbar^2} \cdot \frac{1}{6} \end{aligned}$$

(odd,  $n > 1$ ) case:

$$\begin{aligned} V(x)|\psi_{n,\text{odd}}^{(0)}\rangle &= V_0 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) \cdot \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi n x}{L}\right) = V_0 \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \cdot \frac{1}{2} [\sin\left(\frac{2\pi(n-1)x}{L}\right) + \sin\left(\frac{2\pi(n+1)x}{L}\right)] \\ &= \frac{V_0}{2} |\psi_{n-1,\text{odd}}^{(0)}\rangle + \frac{V_0}{2} |\psi_{n+1,\text{odd}}^{(0)}\rangle, \\ \text{then } E_{n,\text{odd}} &\approx E_n^{(0)} + 0 + \frac{|V_0/2|^2}{E_n^{(0)} - E_{n-1}^{(1)}} + \frac{|V_0/2|^2}{E_n^{(0)} - E_{n+1}^{(1)}} = E_n^{(0)} + \frac{V_0^2 m L^2}{4\pi^2 \hbar^2} \cdot \frac{1}{4n^2 - 1} \end{aligned}$$

Note: as a consistency check,  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E_{n,\text{even}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E_n^{(0)}$ , and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} E_{n,\text{odd}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n^{(0)}$ , because  $V(x)$  has no diagonal matrix elements, and should not change the trace of Hamiltonian in each subspace.

(d)

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_A &= \sqrt{L}(\psi_0^{(0)} + \frac{A}{\sqrt{2}}\psi_{1,\text{even}}^{(0)}), \\ \text{therefore } \frac{\langle \psi_A | \hat{H}_0 | \psi_A \rangle}{\langle \psi_A | \psi_A \rangle} &= \frac{E_0^{(0)} + E_1^{(0)} \cdot |A/\sqrt{2}|^2}{1 + |A/\sqrt{2}|^2} = \frac{2\pi^2 \hbar^2}{m L^2} \cdot \frac{A^2}{2 + A^2} \end{aligned}$$

Use the result in (b)(c),  $V(x)|\psi_A\rangle = V_0\sqrt{L}(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\psi_{1,\text{even}}^{(0)}\rangle + \frac{A}{2}|\psi_{0,\text{even}}^{(0)}\rangle + \frac{A}{2\sqrt{2}}|\psi_{2,\text{even}}^{(0)}\rangle)$

$$\frac{\langle\psi_A|V(x)|\psi_A\rangle}{\langle\psi_A|\psi_A\rangle} = V_0\frac{A}{1+|A/\sqrt{2}|^2} = \frac{2V_0A}{2+A^2}$$

The variational energy is  $E(A) = \frac{E_1^{(0)}A^2+2V_0A}{2+A^2} = E_1^{(0)} + 2\frac{V_0A-E_1^{(0)}}{2+A^2}$

From  $0 = \frac{d}{dA}E(A) = 2 \cdot \frac{(V_0)(2+A^2)-(V_0A-E_1^{(0)})(2A)}{(2+A^2)^2} = 2 \cdot \frac{-V_0A^2+2E_1^{(1)}A+2V_0}{(2+A^2)^2}$ ,

note that when  $V_0 \rightarrow 0$ , we should have  $A \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$A = \frac{E_1^{(1)}}{V_0} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{E_1^{(1)}}{V_0}\right)^2 + 2} \approx -\frac{V_0}{E_1^{(1)}} + O(V_0^3)$$

to simplify the calculation, use  $A^2 = \frac{2}{V_0^2} \left[ (E_1^{(0)})^2 + V_0^2 - E_1^{(0)} \sqrt{(E_1^{(0)})^2 + 2V_0^2} \right]$ ,

Minimal variational energy is  $\min E(A) = E_1^{(0)} - \frac{\sqrt{(E_1^{(0)})^2+2V_0^2}}{(1/V_0)[(E_1^{(0)})^2+2V_0^2-E_1^{(0)}\sqrt{(E_1^{(0)})^2+2V_0^2}]}$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left[ E_1^{(0)} - \sqrt{(E_1^{(0)})^2 + 2V_0^2} \right] \approx -\frac{1}{2} \frac{V_0^2}{E_1^{(0)}}, \text{ consistent with 2nd order perturbation.}$$

Method #2 for minimization: let  $A = \sqrt{2} \tan(k)$ , then

$$E(A) = E_1^{(0)} \sin^2(k) + \sqrt{2}V_0 \sin(k) \cos(k) = \frac{1}{2}[E_1^{(0)} - E_1^{(0)} \cos(2k) + \sqrt{2}V_0 \sin(2k)]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}[E_1^{(0)} - \sqrt{(E_1^{(0)})^2 + 2V_0^2} \cos(2k + \phi)], \text{ where}$$

$$\cos(\phi) = \frac{E_1^{(0)}}{\sqrt{(E_1^{(0)})^2 + 2V_0^2}}, \sin(\phi) = \frac{\sqrt{2}V_0}{\sqrt{(E_1^{(0)})^2 + 2V_0^2}},$$

then  $\min E(A) = \frac{1}{2}[E_1^{(0)} - \sqrt{(E_1^{(0)})^2 + 2V_0^2}]$ , when  $2k = \phi$ .

Method #3 for minimization:

the result of  $E(A)$  can be rewritten as  $[E(A) - E_1^{(0)}]A^2 + 2V_0A + 2E(A) = 0$ ,

for  $A$  to have real solution,  $(2V_0)^2 - 4 \cdot [E(A) - E_1^{(0)}] \cdot [2E(A)] \geq 0$ ,

namely,  $V_0^2 + 2E_1^{(0)}E(A) - 2[E(A)]^2 \geq 0$ ,

then  $E(A) \geq \frac{1}{2}E_1^{(0)} - \sqrt{[\frac{1}{2}E_1^{(0)}]^2 + \frac{V_0^2}{2}}$ ,

**Problem 2.** (25 points) Consider 1D harmonic oscillator  $\hat{H}_0 = \frac{1}{2m}\hat{p}^2 + \frac{m\omega^2}{2}x^2$  (see page 1). Add a time-dependent perturbation (“non-linear coupling to external oscillating force”)  $V(t) = -f_1 \cdot \sin(\Omega t) \cdot x - f_2 \cdot \sin(2\Omega t) \cdot x^2$ , here  $\Omega$  is a positive parameter,  $f_1, f_2$  are “small” real parameters.

(a) (5pts) Assume the solution to  $i\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial t}|\psi(t)\rangle = [\hat{H}_0 + V(t)]|\psi(t)\rangle$  is  $|\psi(t)\rangle = \sum_n c_n(t)e^{-iE_nt/\hbar}|\psi_n\rangle$ , here  $E_n, \psi_n$  are eigenvalues/states of  $\hat{H}_0$  (see page 1). *Derive*

the differential equations for coefficients  $c_n(t)$ , the results should not contain unknown matrix elements.

(b) (10pts) With initial condition,  $c_0(t=0) = 1$  and other  $c_n(t=0) = 0$ , solve  $c_n(t)$  to first order of  $f_1, f_2$ .

(c) (5pts\*) Use the approximate solutions to  $c_n(t)$  in (b), compute the approximate expectation value of position  $x$  under  $\psi(t)$ ,  $\langle \psi(t) | x | \psi(t) \rangle$

(d) (5pts) Suppose  $\Omega \ll \omega$ , by the adiabatic theorem,  $\psi(t)$  will be approximately the instantaneous ground state of  $\hat{H}_0 + V(t)$  (up to overall phase factor), under this approximation, compute  $\langle \psi(t) | x | \psi(t) \rangle$ . [Hint:  $\hat{H}_0 + V(t)$  is still a harmonic oscillator]

**Solution:**

(a)  $i\hbar \frac{d}{dt} c_n(t) = \sum_m e^{i\omega_{nm}t} \langle \psi_n | V(t) | \psi_m \rangle c_m(t)$ , where  $\omega_{nm} = (E_n - E_m)/\hbar = (n - m)\omega$ , use  $x = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}}(\hat{a}_+ + \hat{a}_-)$ ,  $x^2 = \frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}(\hat{a}_+ + \hat{a}_-)^2 = \frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}(\hat{a}_+^2 + \hat{a}_-^2 + 2\hat{a}_+\hat{a}_- + 1)$ , The involved matrix element is  $\langle \psi_n | V(t) | \psi_m \rangle$

$$= -\sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}} f_1 \sin(\Omega t) (\sqrt{n} \delta_{n,m+1} + \sqrt{n+1} \delta_{n,m-1})$$

$$- \frac{\hbar}{2m\omega} f_2 \sin(2\Omega t) (\sqrt{n(n-1)} \delta_{n,m+2} + \sqrt{(n+1)(n+2)} \delta_{n,m-2} + (2n+1) \delta_{n,m})$$

(b) With given initial condition, to first order of  $f_1, f_2$ , non-trivial  $c_n(t)$  are

$$c_0(t) \approx 1 + \int_0^t \frac{1}{i\hbar} \left[ -\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega} f_2 \sin(2\Omega t) \right] \cdot 1 dt = 1 + i \frac{\hbar}{2m\omega} f_2 \cdot \frac{1}{2\hbar\Omega} [1 - \cos(2\Omega t)]$$

$$= 1 + i \frac{\hbar}{2m\omega} f_2 \cdot \frac{1}{\hbar\Omega} \sin^2(\Omega t)$$

$$c_1(t) \approx 0 + \int_0^t \frac{1}{i\hbar} e^{i\omega t} \left[ -\sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}} f_1 \sin(\Omega t) \right] \cdot 1 dt = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}} \frac{f_1}{2\hbar} \int_0^t [e^{i(\omega+\Omega)t} - e^{i(\omega-\Omega)t}] dt$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}} \frac{f_1}{2\hbar} \left[ \frac{e^{i(\omega+\Omega)t} - 1}{i(\omega+\Omega)} - \frac{e^{i(\omega-\Omega)t} - 1}{i(\omega-\Omega)} \right] = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}} \frac{f_1}{\hbar} \left[ e^{i(\omega+\Omega)t/2} \left( \frac{\sin((\omega+\Omega)t/2)}{(\omega+\Omega)} \right) - e^{i(\omega-\Omega)t/2} \left( \frac{\sin((\omega-\Omega)t/2)}{(\omega-\Omega)} \right) \right]$$

$$c_2(t) \approx 0 + \int_0^t \frac{1}{i\hbar} e^{i2\omega t} \left[ -\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega} f_2 \sin(2\Omega t) \cdot \sqrt{2} \right] \cdot 1 dt = \frac{\sqrt{2}\hbar}{2m\omega} \frac{f_2}{2\hbar} \int_0^t [e^{i2(\omega+\Omega)t} - e^{i2(\omega-\Omega)t}] dt$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{2}\hbar}{2m\omega} \frac{f_2}{2\hbar} \left[ \frac{e^{i2(\omega+\Omega)t} - 1}{i2(\omega+\Omega)} - \frac{e^{i2(\omega-\Omega)t} - 1}{i2(\omega-\Omega)} \right] = \frac{\sqrt{2}\hbar}{2m\omega} \frac{f_2}{\hbar} \left[ e^{i(\omega+\Omega)t} \left( \frac{\sin((\omega+\Omega)t)}{2(\omega+\Omega)} \right) - e^{i(\omega-\Omega)t} \left( \frac{\sin((\omega-\Omega)t)}{2(\omega-\Omega)} \right) \right]$$

Other  $c_n(t)$  (for  $n > 2$ ) vanish at first order of  $f_1, f_2$ .

(c) Generically  $\langle \psi(t) | x | \psi(t) \rangle = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}} \sum_n [c_{n+1}^*(t) c_n(t) e^{i\omega t} + c_n^*(t) c_{n+1}(t) e^{-i\omega t}]$

The result for plugging in results of (b) is omitted here.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{To lowest order of } f_1, f_2, \langle \psi(t) | x | \psi(t) \rangle &\approx \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}} [c_1^*(t) c_0(t) e^{i\omega t} + c_0^*(t) c_1(t) e^{-i\omega t}] \\ &\approx \frac{f_1}{2m\omega} \cdot 2\text{Re}[e^{i(\omega-\Omega)t/2} \left( \frac{\sin((\omega+\Omega)t/2)}{(\omega+\Omega)} \right) - e^{i(\omega+\Omega)t/2} \left( \frac{\sin((\omega-\Omega)t/2)}{(\omega-\Omega)} \right)] \\ &= \frac{f_1}{m\omega} \cdot [-\sin(\omega t) \frac{\Omega}{\omega^2 - \Omega^2} + \sin(\Omega t) \frac{\omega}{\omega^2 - \Omega^2}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(d) At time } t, \hat{H}(t) &= \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m} + [\frac{m\omega^2}{2} - f_2 \sin(2\Omega t)]x^2 - f_1 \sin(\Omega t)x \\ &= \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m} + \frac{m(\omega')^2}{2}x^2 - f_1 \sin(\Omega t)x = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m} + \frac{m(\omega')^2}{2}(x-a)^2 - \frac{m(\omega')^2}{2}a^2 \\ \text{here } \omega' &= \sqrt{\omega^2 - 2\frac{f_2}{m} \sin(2\Omega t)}, \quad a = \frac{f_1 \sin(\Omega t)}{m(\omega')^2}, \end{aligned}$$

therefore under the instantaneous ground state of  $\hat{H}(t)$ ,  $\langle x \rangle = a = \frac{f_1 \sin(\Omega t)}{m\omega^2 - 2f_2 \sin(2\Omega t)}$

this is consistent with the result of (c), if we keep only the first order term of  $f_1, f_2$  and assuming  $\Omega \ll \omega$ .

**Problem 3.** (25 points) Consider two identical particles moving on the ring of length  $L$  defined in Problem 1, with Hamiltonian  $\hat{H}_0 = \frac{1}{2m}(\hat{p}_1^2 + \hat{p}_2^2)$ . Subscripts <sub>1</sub> and <sub>2</sub> label the two particles.  $\hat{p}_1 = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}$ ,  $\hat{p}_2 = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}$ .

(a) (5pts) For two identical spinless BOSONS under  $\hat{H}_0$ , write down the normalized ground state(s) and first excited state(s), and second excited state(s) wavefunctions, and corresponding energies. You can use the single particle basis in Problem 1(a) to represent these states.

(b) (5pts) For two identical spinless FERMIONS under  $\hat{H}_0$ , write down the normalized ground state(s) and first excited state(s), and second excited state(s) wavefunctions, and corresponding energies.

(c) (10pts) For spin-1/2 BOSONS and FERMIONS under  $\hat{H}_0$ , write down the normalized ground state(s) and first excited state(s), and corresponding energies, for the boson/fermion cases respectively.

---

(d) (5pts\*\*) Add a perturbation  $\hat{H}_1 = \lambda \cdot [1 - \cos(2\pi \cdot \frac{x_1 - x_2}{L})] \cdot (\hat{S}_{1z} \cdot \hat{S}_{2z})$ , here  $\lambda$  is a “small” real parameter. *Compute the corrections to all the FERMION case energies in (c) to lowest nontrivial order of  $\lambda$*

**Solution:**

In this problem we omit the superscript  $^{(0)}$  for the single-particle basis in Problem 1, and will use the even/odd basis.

(a) for two spinless bosons,

ground state  $\psi_{0,0}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \psi_0(x_1)\psi_0(x_2)$ , with energy  $E_{0,0} = E_0 + E_0 = 0$ .

first excited states energy is  $E_{0,1} = E_0 + E_1 = \frac{2\pi^2\hbar^2}{mL^2}$ , states are

$$\psi_{0,(1,\text{even})}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[\psi_0(x_1)\psi_{1,\text{even}}(x_2) + \psi_{1,\text{even}}(x_1)\psi_0(x_2)],$$

$$\psi_{0,(1,\text{odd})}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[\psi_0(x_1)\psi_{1,\text{odd}}(x_2) + \psi_{1,\text{odd}}(x_1)\psi_0(x_2)],$$

NOTE: if using planewave basis for single particle, the two boson basis are

$$\psi_{0,\pm 1}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[\psi_0(x_1)\psi_{\pm 1}(x_2) + \psi_{\pm 1}(x_1)\psi_0(x_2)]$$

second excited states energy is  $E_{1,1} = E_1 + E_1 = \frac{4\pi^2\hbar^2}{mL^2}$ , states are

$$\psi_{(1,\text{even}),(1,\text{even})}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \psi_{(1,\text{even})}(x_1)\psi_{(1,\text{even})}(x_2),$$

$$\psi_{(1,\text{odd}),(1,\text{odd})}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \psi_{(1,\text{odd})}(x_1)\psi_{(1,\text{odd})}(x_2),$$

$$\psi_{(1,\text{even}),(1,\text{odd})}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[\psi_{(1,\text{even})}(x_1)\psi_{1,\text{odd}}(x_2) + \psi_{1,\text{odd}}(x_1)\psi_{(1,\text{even})}(x_2)]$$

NOTE: if using planewave basis for single particle, the two boson basis are

$$\psi_{1,1}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \psi_1(x_1)\psi_1(x_2),$$

$$\psi_{-1,-1}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \psi_{-1}(x_1)\psi_{-1}(x_2),$$

$$\psi_{1,-1}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[\psi_1(x_1)\psi_{-1}(x_2) + \psi_{-1}(x_1)\psi_1(x_2)]$$

(b) for two spinless fermions,

ground states energy is  $E_{0,1} = E_0 + E_1 = \frac{2\pi^2\hbar^2}{mL^2}$ , states are

$$\psi_{0,(1,\text{even})}^{(F,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[\psi_0(x_1)\psi_{1,\text{even}}(x_2) - \psi_{1,\text{even}}(x_1)\psi_0(x_2)],$$

$$\psi_{0,(1,\text{odd})}^{(F,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[\psi_0(x_1)\psi_{1,\text{odd}}(x_2) - \psi_{1,\text{odd}}(x_1)\psi_0(x_2)],$$

NOTE: if using planewave basis for single particle, the two fermion basis are

$$\psi_{0,\pm 1}^{(F,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[\psi_0(x_1)\psi_{\pm 1}(x_2) - \psi_{\pm 1}(x_1)\psi_0(x_2)]$$

first excited state energy is  $E_{1,1} = E_1 + E_1 = \frac{4\pi^2\hbar^2}{mL^2}$ , state is

$$\psi_{(1,\text{even}), (1,\text{odd})}^{(F, \text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[\psi_{(1,\text{even})}(x_1)\psi_{1,\text{odd}}(x_2) - \psi_{1,\text{odd}}(x_1)\psi_{(1,\text{even})}(x_2)]$$

NOTE: if using planewave basis for single particle, the two boson basis is

$$\psi_{1,\pm 1}^{(F, \text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[\psi_1(x_1)\psi_{-1}(x_2) - \psi_{-1}(x_1)\psi_1(x_2)]$$

second excited states energy is  $E_{0,2} = E_0 + E_2 = \frac{8\pi^2\hbar^2}{mL^2}$ , states are

$$\psi_{0,(2,\text{even})}^{(F, \text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[\psi_0(x_1)\psi_{2,\text{even}}(x_2) - \psi_{2,\text{even}}(x_1)\psi_0(x_2)],$$

$$\psi_{0,(2,\text{odd})}^{(F, \text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[\psi_0(x_1)\psi_{2,\text{odd}}(x_2) - \psi_{2,\text{odd}}(x_1)\psi_0(x_2)],$$

NOTE: if using planewave basis for single particle, the two boson basis are

$$\psi_{0,\pm 2}^{(F, \text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[\psi_0(x_1)\psi_{\pm 2}(x_2) - \psi_{\pm 2}(x_1)\psi_0(x_2)]$$

(c) Factorize the eigenbasis into orbital and spin wavefunctions, the spin part of wavefunctions can be spin single  $|S = 0, S_z = 0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\rangle|\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\rangle|\uparrow\rangle)$ , or spin triplet states  $|S = 1, S_z = 1\rangle = |\uparrow\rangle|\uparrow\rangle$ ,  $|S = 1, S_z = -1\rangle = |\downarrow\rangle|\downarrow\rangle$ , and  $|S = 1, S_z = 0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\rangle|\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\rangle|\uparrow\rangle)$ ,

For two spin-1/2 bosons,

- ground states are  $\psi_{0,0}^{(B, \text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2)|S = 1, S_z\rangle$ , for  $S_z = -1, 0, 1$ , with energy  $E_{0,0} = 0$

- first excited states are

$$\psi_{0,(1,\text{even})}^{(B, \text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2)|S = 1, S_z\rangle \text{ and } \psi_{0,(1,\text{odd})}^{(B, \text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2)|S = 1, S_z\rangle \text{ for } S_z = -1, 0, 1, \text{ and}$$

$$\psi_{0,(1,\text{even})}^{(F, \text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2)|S = 0, S_z = 0\rangle, \text{ and } \psi_{0,(1,\text{odd})}^{(F, \text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2)|S = 0, S_z = 0\rangle,$$

with energy  $E_{0,1}$

For two spin-1/2 fermions,

- ground states are  $\psi_{0,0}^{(B, \text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2)|S = 0, S_z = 0\rangle$ , with energy  $E_{0,0} = 0$

- first excited states are

$$\psi_{0,(1,\text{even})}^{(F, \text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2)|S = 1, S_z\rangle \text{ and } \psi_{0,(1,\text{odd})}^{(F, \text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2)|S = 1, S_z\rangle \text{ for } S_z = -1, 0, 1, \text{ and}$$

$$\psi_{0,(1,\text{even})}^{(B, \text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2)|S = 0, S_z = 0\rangle, \text{ and } \psi_{0,(1,\text{odd})}^{(B, \text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2)|S = 0, S_z = 0\rangle,$$

with energy  $E_{0,1}$



(d) The perturbation preserves  $\hat{S}_z = \hat{S}_{1z} + \hat{S}_{2z}$ , note that  $\hat{S}_{1z} \cdot \hat{S}_{2z} = \frac{1}{2}(\hat{S}_{1z} + \hat{S}_{2z})^2 - \frac{1}{2}(\hat{S}_{1z}^2 + \hat{S}_{2z}^2) = \frac{1}{2}(\hat{S}_{1z} + \hat{S}_{2z})^2 - \frac{\hbar^2}{4}$

The perturbation is invariant under inversion,  $x_{1,2} \rightarrow -x_{1,2}$ , so we can divide the Hilbert space into even/odd functions under this inversion, note that  $\psi_{(n,\text{even}),(m,\text{even})}^{(B/F,\text{spinless})}$  is even function,  $\psi_{(n,\text{even}),(m,\text{odd})}^{(B/F,\text{spinless})}$  is odd function,  $\psi_{(n,\text{odd}),(m,\text{odd})}^{(B/F,\text{spinless})}$  is even function.

By considering the exchange of only the coordinates,  $x_1 \leftrightarrow x_2$ , we have  $\langle \psi_{?,?}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) | [1 - \cos(2\pi \frac{x_1 - x_2}{L})] | \psi_{?,?}^{(F,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) \rangle = 0$ , therefore if we can always factorize the wavefunction into orbital and spin parts, we can divide the Hilbert space into subspaces which is even/odd under  $x_1 \leftrightarrow x_2$  (like spinless boson or spinless fermion).

Finally we can divide the two spin-1/2 fermion Hilbert space by  $S_z$  quantum number(1, 0, -1), inversion symmetry(even or odd), exchange symmetry of orbital part of wavefunction(spinless-boson-like, or spinless-fermion-like).

Then for the ground and first excited two spin-1/2 fermion states in (c), we can completely avoid degenerate perturbation theory, and all the first order energy correction  $\langle \psi | \hat{H}_1 | \psi \rangle$  is non-zero (see below).

Use the following results,  $\langle S, S_z | \hat{S}_{1z} \cdot \hat{S}_{2z} | S, S_z \rangle = \frac{\hbar^2}{2}(S_z^2 - \frac{1}{2})$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \psi_{0,0}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) | [1 - \cos(2\pi \frac{x_1 - x_2}{L})] | \psi_{0,0}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) \rangle \\ &= \int_0^L dx_1 \int_0^L dx_2 \left(\frac{1}{L}\right)^* [1 - \cos(2\pi \frac{x_1 - x_2}{L})] \left(\frac{1}{L}\right) = 1, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \psi_{0,(1,\text{even})}^{(F,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) | [1 - \cos(2\pi \frac{x_1 - x_2}{L})] | \psi_{0,(1,\text{even})}^{(F,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) \rangle \\ &= \int_0^L dx_1 \int_0^L dx_2 \left[\frac{1}{L}(\cos \frac{2\pi x_1}{L} - \cos \frac{2\pi x_2}{L})\right]^* [1 - \cos(2\pi \frac{x_1 - x_2}{L})] \left[\frac{1}{L}(\cos \frac{2\pi x_1}{L} - \cos \frac{2\pi x_2}{L})\right] = \frac{3}{2}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \psi_{0,(1,\text{odd})}^{(F,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) | [1 - \cos(2\pi \frac{x_1 - x_2}{L})] | \psi_{0,(1,\text{odd})}^{(F,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) \rangle \\ &= \int_0^L dx_1 \int_0^L dx_2 \left[\frac{1}{L}(\sin \frac{2\pi x_1}{L} - \sin \frac{2\pi x_2}{L})\right]^* [1 - \cos(2\pi \frac{x_1 - x_2}{L})] \left[\frac{1}{L}(\sin \frac{2\pi x_1}{L} - \sin \frac{2\pi x_2}{L})\right] = \frac{3}{2}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \psi_{0,(1,\text{even})}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) | [1 - \cos(2\pi \frac{x_1 - x_2}{L})] | \psi_{0,(1,\text{even})}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) \rangle \\ &= \int_0^L dx_1 \int_0^L dx_2 \left[\frac{1}{L}(\cos \frac{2\pi x_1}{L} + \cos \frac{2\pi x_2}{L})\right]^* [1 - \cos(2\pi \frac{x_1 - x_2}{L})] \left[\frac{1}{L}(\cos \frac{2\pi x_1}{L} + \cos \frac{2\pi x_2}{L})\right] = \frac{1}{2}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \psi_{0,(1,\text{odd})}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) | [1 - \cos(2\pi \frac{x_1 - x_2}{L})] | \psi_{0,(1,\text{odd})}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) \rangle \\ &= \int_0^L dx_1 \int_0^L dx_2 \left[\frac{1}{L}(\sin \frac{2\pi x_1}{L} + \sin \frac{2\pi x_2}{L})\right]^* [1 - \cos(2\pi \frac{x_1 - x_2}{L})] \left[\frac{1}{L}(\sin \frac{2\pi x_1}{L} + \sin \frac{2\pi x_2}{L})\right] = \frac{1}{2}, \end{aligned}$$

The states and their symmetry and first order correction to their energies are listed in the table below

$S_z$	$x_{1,2} \rightarrow -x_{1,2}$	$x_1 \leftrightarrow x_2$	state	1st order correction to energy
0	even	even	$\psi_{0,0}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) S=0, S_z=0\rangle$	$\lambda \cdot (-\frac{\hbar^2}{4}) \cdot 1$
1	even	odd	$\psi_{0,(1,\text{even})}^{(F,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) S=1, S_z=1\rangle$	$\lambda \cdot (\frac{\hbar^2}{4}) \cdot \frac{3}{2}$
0	even	odd	$\psi_{0,(1,\text{even})}^{(F,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) S=1, S_z=0\rangle$	$\lambda \cdot (-\frac{\hbar^2}{4}) \cdot \frac{3}{2}$
-1	even	odd	$\psi_{0,(1,\text{even})}^{(F,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) S=1, S_z=-1\rangle$	$\lambda \cdot (\frac{\hbar^2}{4}) \cdot \frac{3}{2}$
1	odd	odd	$\psi_{0,(1,\text{odd})}^{(F,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) S=1, S_z=1\rangle$	$\lambda \cdot (\frac{\hbar^2}{4}) \cdot \frac{3}{2}$
0	odd	odd	$\psi_{0,(1,\text{odd})}^{(F,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) S=1, S_z=0\rangle$	$\lambda \cdot (-\frac{\hbar^2}{4}) \cdot \frac{3}{2}$
-1	odd	odd	$\psi_{0,(1,\text{odd})}^{(F,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) S=1, S_z=-1\rangle$	$\lambda \cdot (\frac{\hbar^2}{4}) \cdot \frac{3}{2}$
0	even	even	$\psi_{0,(1,\text{even})}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) S=0, S_z=0\rangle$	$\lambda \cdot (-\frac{\hbar^2}{4}) \cdot \frac{1}{2}$
0	odd	even	$\psi_{0,(1,\text{odd})}^{(B,\text{spinless})}(x_1, x_2) S=0, S_z=0\rangle$	$\lambda \cdot (-\frac{\hbar^2}{4}) \cdot \frac{1}{2}$

**Problem 4.** (15 points\*) Consider a two-dimensional harmonic oscillator,  $\hat{H}_0 = (\frac{1}{2m}\hat{p}_x^2 + \frac{m\omega^2}{2}x^2) + (\frac{1}{2m}\hat{p}_y^2 + \frac{m\omega^2}{2}y^2)$ . Here  $\hat{p}_x = -i\hbar\partial_x$ ,  $\hat{p}_y = -i\hbar\partial_y$ .

(a) (5pts) Write down the ground state, first excited states, and second excited states of  $\hat{H}_0$ . You can use the 1D harmonic oscillator eigenstates to represent them, and do not need to write down the explicit formula. [Hint: it would be convenient to define ladder operators for the  $x$ - and  $y$ - parts of  $\hat{H}_0$ ].

(b) (10pts\*) Add a time-dependent perturbation  $V(t) = -f \cdot [x \cos(\Omega t) + y \sin(\Omega t)]$ , here  $f, \Omega$  are real parameters. By time-dependent perturbation theory, compute the transition probability from the ground state in (a) to the second excited states, over time  $t$ , to lowest nontrivial order of  $f$ .

**Solution:**

(a) Define  $\hat{a}_{x,\pm} = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}}(\hat{x} \mp \frac{i}{m\omega}\hat{p}_x)$ ,  $\hat{a}_{y,\pm} = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}}(\hat{y} \mp \frac{i}{m\omega}\hat{p}_y)$ , then  $[\hat{a}_{i,-}, \hat{a}_{j,+}] = \delta_{i,j}$ ,  $[\hat{a}_{i,-}, \hat{a}_{j,-}] = 0$ ,

$\hat{H}_0 = \hbar\omega(\hat{a}_{x,+}\hat{a}_{x,-} + \hat{a}_{y,+}\hat{a}_{y,-} + 1)$  is the sum of two independent 1D harmonic oscillators.

The ground state of  $\hat{H}_0$  satisfies  $\hat{a}_{x,-}\psi_0(x,y) = \hat{a}_{y,-}\psi_0(x,y) = 0$ , and is  $\psi_0(x,y) = \psi_0(x) \cdot \psi_0(y)$ , with  $E_{0,0} = E_0 + E_0 = \hbar\omega$ .

the first excited states of  $\hat{H}_0$  are

$$\psi_{1,0}(x,y) = \psi_1(x) \cdot \psi_0(y) = \hat{a}_{x,+}\psi_0(x) \cdot \psi_0(y), \text{ and}$$

$$\psi_{0,1}(x,y) = \psi_0(x) \cdot \psi_1(y) = \psi_0(x) \cdot \hat{a}_{y,+}\psi_0(y), \text{ with } E_{1,0} = E_{0,1} = E_0 + E_1 = 2\hbar\omega.$$

the second excited states of  $\hat{H}_0$  are

$$\psi_{2,0}(x,y) = \psi_2(x) \cdot \psi_0(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\hat{a}_{x,+}^2\psi_0(x) \cdot \psi_0(y), \text{ and}$$

$$\psi_{0,2}(x,y) = \psi_0(x) \cdot \psi_2(y) = \psi_0(x) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\hat{a}_{y,+}^2\psi_0(y), \text{ and}$$

$$\psi_{1,1}(x,y) = \psi_1(x) \cdot \psi_1(y) = \hat{a}_{x,+}\psi_0(x) \cdot \hat{a}_{y,+}\psi_0(y), \text{ with}$$

$$E_{2,0} = E_{0,2} = E_{1,1} = 3\hbar\omega.$$

Generically the eigenstates of  $\hat{H}_0$  are

$$\psi_{n_x,n_y}(x,y) = \psi_{n_x}(x) \cdot \psi_{n_y}(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n_x!n_y!}}(\hat{a}_{x,+})^{n_x}(\hat{a}_{y,+})^{n_y}\psi_{0,0}(x,y), \text{ with}$$

$$E_{n_x,n_y} = E_{n_x} + E_{n_y} = \hbar\omega(n_x + n_y + 1), \text{ where } n_x, n_y = 0, 1, \dots$$

(b)

$$\hat{V}(t) = -f\sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}}[(\hat{a}_{x,+} + \hat{a}_{x,-})\cos(\Omega t) + (\hat{a}_{y,+} + \hat{a}_{y,-})\sin(\Omega t)]$$

We can assume  $|\psi(t)\rangle = \sum_{n_x,n_y} c_{n_x,n_y}(t)e^{-iE_{n_x,n_y}t/\hbar}|\psi_{n_x,n_y}\rangle$ , then

$$i\hbar\frac{d}{dt}c_{n_x,n_y}(t) = \sum_{n'_x,n'_y} e^{i(n_x+n_y-n'_x-n'_y)\omega t}\langle\psi_{n_x,n_y}|\hat{V}(t)|\psi_{n'_x,n'_y}\rangle \cdot c_{n'_x,n'_y}(t),$$

However to compute the transition amplitude from ground state to second excited states, we will need 2nd order term of the Dyson series, for the processes  $(0,0) \rightarrow (1,0) \rightarrow (2,0)$ ,

$$(0,0) \rightarrow \begin{cases} (1,0) \\ (0,1) \end{cases} \rightarrow (1,1), (0,0) \rightarrow (0,1) \rightarrow (0,2),$$

the following identities will be useful,

$$\int_0^t dt_1 \int_0^{t_1} dt_2 f(t_1)f(t_2) = \frac{1}{2}[\int_0^t dt_1 f(t_1)]^2,$$

$$\int_0^t dt_1 \int_0^{t_1} dt_2 f(t_1)g(t_2) + \int_0^t dt_1 \int_0^{t_1} dt_2 g(t_1)f(t_2) = [\int_0^t dt_1 f(t_1)] \cdot [\int_0^t dt_2 g(t_2)],$$

For  $(0,0) \rightarrow (1,0) \rightarrow (2,0)$ , the transition amplitude to lowest order is

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{1}{i\hbar}\right)^2 \int_0^t dt_1 \int_0^{t_1} dt_2 e^{i\omega t_1} (-f\sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}}) \cos(\Omega t_1) \sqrt{2} \cdot e^{i\omega t_2} (-f\sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}}) \cos(\Omega t_2) \\ &= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{f^2}{2m\omega\hbar} [\int_0^t dt_1 e^{i\omega t_1} \cos(\Omega t_1)]^2 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{f^2}{2m\omega\hbar} \cdot \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{e^{i(\omega+\Omega)t}-1}{i(\omega+\Omega)} + \frac{e^{i(\omega-\Omega)t}-1}{i(\omega-\Omega)} \right] \right\}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } P_{(0,0) \rightarrow (2,0)}(t) \approx \frac{1}{128} \frac{f^4}{m^2\hbar^2\omega^2} \left| \frac{e^{i(\omega+\Omega)t}-1}{(\omega+\Omega)} + \frac{e^{i(\omega-\Omega)t}-1}{(\omega-\Omega)} \right|^4$$

For  $(0, 0) \rightarrow (0, 1) \rightarrow (0, 2)$ , the transition amplitude to lowest order is

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{1}{i\hbar}\right)^2 \int_0^t dt_1 \int_0^{t_1} dt_2 e^{i\omega t_1} (-f \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}}) \sin(\Omega t_1) \sqrt{2} \cdot e^{i\omega t_2} (-f \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}}) \sin(\Omega t_2) \\ &= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{f^2}{2m\omega\hbar} \left[ \int_0^t dt_1 e^{i\omega t_1} \sin(\Omega t_1) \right]^2 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{f^2}{2m\omega\hbar} \cdot \left\{ \frac{1}{2i} \left[ \frac{e^{i(\omega+\Omega)t}-1}{i(\omega+\Omega)} - \frac{e^{i(\omega-\Omega)t}-1}{i(\omega-\Omega)} \right] \right\}^2 \\ \text{So } P_{(0,0) \rightarrow (0,2)}(t) &\approx \frac{1}{128} \frac{f^4}{m^2 \hbar^2 \omega^2} \left| \frac{e^{i(\omega+\Omega)t}-1}{(\omega+\Omega)} - \frac{e^{i(\omega-\Omega)t}-1}{(\omega-\Omega)} \right|^4 \end{aligned}$$

For  $(0, 0) \rightarrow \begin{cases} (1, 0) \\ (0, 1) \end{cases} \rightarrow (1, 1)$  processes, to total transition amplitude to lowest order is

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{1}{i\hbar}\right)^2 \int_0^t dt_1 \int_0^{t_1} dt_2 e^{i\omega t_1} (-f \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}}) \sin(\Omega t_1) \cdot e^{i\omega t_2} (-f \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}}) \cos(\Omega t_2) \\ &+ \left(\frac{1}{i\hbar}\right)^2 \int_0^t dt_1 \int_0^{t_1} dt_2 e^{i\omega t_1} (-f \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}}) \cos(\Omega t_1) \cdot e^{i\omega t_2} (-f \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}}) \sin(\Omega t_2) \\ &= -\frac{f^2}{2m\omega\hbar} \left[ \int_0^t dt_1 e^{i\omega t_1} \sin(\Omega t_1) \right] \left[ \int_0^t dt_2 e^{i\omega t_2} \cos(\Omega t_2) \right] \\ &= -\frac{f^2}{2m\omega\hbar} \cdot \frac{1}{4i} \left[ \frac{e^{i(\omega+\Omega)t}-1}{i(\omega+\Omega)} - \frac{e^{i(\omega-\Omega)t}-1}{i(\omega-\Omega)} \right] \left[ \frac{e^{i(\omega+\Omega)t}-1}{i(\omega+\Omega)} + \frac{e^{i(\omega-\Omega)t}-1}{i(\omega-\Omega)} \right] \\ \text{So } P_{(0,0) \rightarrow (1,1)}(t) &\approx \frac{1}{64} \frac{f^4}{m^2 \hbar^2 \omega^2} \left| \frac{e^{i(\omega+\Omega)t}-1}{(\omega+\Omega)} - \frac{e^{i(\omega-\Omega)t}-1}{(\omega-\Omega)} \right|^2 \left| \frac{e^{i(\omega+\Omega)t}-1}{(\omega+\Omega)} + \frac{e^{i(\omega-\Omega)t}-1}{(\omega-\Omega)} \right|^2 \end{aligned}$$

The overall transition probability to 2nd excited states are

$$P_{(0,0) \rightarrow (2,0)}(t) + P_{(0,0) \rightarrow (0,2)}(t) + P_{(0,0) \rightarrow (1,1)}(t) \approx \frac{1}{32} \frac{f^4}{m^2 \hbar^2 \omega^2} \left[ \left| \frac{e^{i(\omega+\Omega)t}-1}{(\omega+\Omega)} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{e^{i(\omega-\Omega)t}-1}{(\omega-\Omega)} \right|^2 \right]^2$$

We can also view this as two independent 1D systems( $x$  and  $y$ ), and compute the transition probabilities separately,

$$P_{(0,0) \rightarrow (2,0)}(t) = P_{x,0 \rightarrow 2}(t) \cdot P_{y,0 \rightarrow 0}(t),$$

$$P_{(0,0) \rightarrow (0,2)}(t) = P_{x,0 \rightarrow 0}(t) \cdot P_{y,0 \rightarrow 2}(t),$$

$$P_{(0,0) \rightarrow (1,1)}(t) = P_{x,0 \rightarrow 1}(t) \cdot P_{y,0 \rightarrow 1}(t).$$