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Math Methods-I (PHY421)

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**Homework-3**

1. Consider a classical harmonic oscillator described by the Hamiltonian  $H = \frac{p^2(t)}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 x^2(t)$ . Construct a dimensionless complex variable  $z$  as  $z(t) = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}}x(t) + i\frac{p(t)}{\sqrt{2m\hbar\omega}}$ . Find an equation of motion in the complex variable  $z(t)$ . Solve the equation of motion and extract  $x(t)$  and  $p(t)$ .

[Note: The system is one dimensional but we are using momentum as a second dimension and constructing a complex variable. While solving harmonic oscillator quantum mechanically, we use bosonic ladder operators. The form of the ladder operators is exactly same as  $z(t)$ . In quantum case, we treat  $x$  and  $p$  as operators.]

2. Show that

(a)

$$S_N = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{in\theta} = \frac{\sin(N\theta/2)}{\sin(\theta/2)} e^{i(N-1)\theta/2}.$$

Plot  $|S_N|^2$  vs  $\theta$  for  $N = 10, 100$  and  $1000$ .

(b)

$$S_p = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p^n e^{in\theta} = \frac{1 - pe^{-i\theta}}{1 - 2p \cos \theta + p^2},$$

where  $|p| < 1$ . Plot  $|S_p|^2$  vs  $\theta$  for  $p = 0.01, 0.5$  and  $0.99$ . These results are very useful in optics.

(c)

$$S_p = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} p^{|n|} e^{in\theta} = \frac{1 - p^2}{1 - 2p \cos \theta + p^2} = \operatorname{Re} \left[ \frac{1 + pe^{i\theta}}{1 - pe^{i\theta}} \right],$$

where  $0 \leq |p| < 1$ . This is known as Poisson kernel for the unit disc.

3. Determine number of branches, branch points and their order of the following complex functions:

$$(i) z^{1/2}(z-1)^{1/3}, (ii) (z^2+1)^{1/3}, (iii) \sqrt{z(z-1)}, (iv) \log(z^2-1) (v) (z+1)^{1/2} + (z-1)^{1/2}.$$

Draw all possible branch cuts and domains where the function is single-valued.

4. Is  $\log(i^2) = 2\log(i)$  for all branches?
5. Show that  $f(z) = \cos^{-1} z$  is an infinitely many-valued function. Find the branch points.
6. Consider a function

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y) &= \frac{x^2 y}{x^4 + y^2}, & z \neq 0 \\ &= 0, & z = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Is this function continuous at  $z = 0$ ?

[Hints: Along all the straight lines  $y = mx$ , it seems to be continuous. Consider a set of parabolic paths  $y = ax^2$  and see what happens.]

7. (a) Is  $f(z) = z^m e^{-|z|^2/4}$  an analytic function?  
 (b) Consider  $f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$  is an analytic function. Check whether  $F(x, y) = u(x, y)v(x, y)$  is a solution of the Laplace equation or not.  
 (c) Consider the real part of an analytic function is given by  $u(x, y) = -2xy + y/(x^2 + y^2)$ . Calculate its harmonic conjugate function  $v(x, y)$ .
8. Consider the following **matrix-differential** operator

$$H = \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nabla},$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\nabla} = \hat{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{y} \frac{\partial}{\partial y}$ . Note that  $x$  and  $y$  are dimensionless here.

- (a) Show that the components of the operator  $\boldsymbol{\nabla}$  can be expressed in terms of complex conjugate coordinates as

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z^*} \right]$$

and

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} = i \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z^*} \right].$$

- (b) Express the operator  $H$  in complex coordinates.  
 (c) Find the eigenvector  $|\psi\rangle$  which satisfies  $H|\psi\rangle = 0$ .
9. The quantum mechanical Hamiltonian of a two-dimensional isotropic harmonic oscillator is given by

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2M} \left[ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} \right] + \frac{1}{2} M \omega^2 (x^2 + y^2).$$

Here  $M$  is the mass of the particle and  $\omega$  is the oscillator frequency.

Note: The energy spectrum is

$$E_{n_r, m} = \hbar\omega(2n_r + |m| + 1) = \hbar\omega(n + 1),$$

where  $n = 2n_r + |m|$  with  $n_r = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  and  $m = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$ . For a given  $n$ , there are  $(n + 1)$  degenerate states.

- (a) Obtain the Hamiltonian  $H$  in complex coordinates as given below:

$$H = \hbar\omega \left[ -2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z \partial z^*} + \frac{z z^*}{2} \right].$$

Note that here  $z$  is a dimensionless variable:  $z = (x + iy)/a_0$  with the oscillator length  $a_0 = \sqrt{\hbar/(M\omega)}$ . Note that  $H = H^*$  since the system is invariant under time-reversal operation.

- (b) Show that the complex function  $\psi_l(z)$  (normalized to one)

$$\psi_l(z, z^*) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi a_0^2 n!}} z^l e^{-|z|^2/2}, \quad l = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

and its conjugate  $\psi_l^*(z)$  are the eigenfunctions of  $H$  with the same eigenvalues  $E_l = \hbar\omega(l + 1)$ .

Note: The eigenvalues  $E_l = \hbar\omega(l + 1)$  are for  $n_r = 0$  and  $l$  correspond to  $m$ .

- (c) Show that the **angular momentum** operator in terms of the complex coordinates can be expressed as

$$L_z = -i\hbar \left( x \frac{\partial}{\partial y} - y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) = \hbar \left[ z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} - z^* \frac{\partial}{\partial z^*} \right].$$

- (d) Show that

$$L_z \psi_l(z, z^*) = l\hbar \psi_l(z, z^*), \quad L_z \psi_l^*(z, z^*) = -l\hbar \psi_l^*(z, z^*).$$

- (e) Show that

$$\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\psi_l(z)|^2 = \frac{1}{\pi a_0^2}.$$

10. You have already derived the following Hamiltonian for a charge ( $q > 0$ ) particle in presence of the magnetic field  $\mathbf{B} = B\hat{z}$  in the symmetric gauge:

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2M} \nabla^2 - \frac{qB}{2M} (xp_y - yp_x) + \frac{q^2 B^2}{8M} (x^2 + y^2).$$

Introducing **dimensionless** and **independent** complex conjugate variables  $z = (x + iy)/l_0$  and  $z^* = (x - iy)/l_0$ , where  $l_0 = \sqrt{\hbar/(qB)}$  is the magnetic length scale.

- (a) Show that the components of the canonical momentum operator can be expressed in terms of complex conjugate coordinates as

$$p_x = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x} = -\frac{i\hbar}{l_0} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z^*} \right]$$

and

$$p_y = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial y} = \frac{\hbar}{l_0} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z^*} \right].$$

- (b) You have already derived **canonical angular momentum** operator in terms of the complex coordinates in the previous problem:

$$L_z = (\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{p})_z = +\hbar \left[ z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} - z^* \frac{\partial}{\partial z^*} \right].$$

The **mechanical angular momentum** operator is given by  $L_z^{\text{mech}} = (\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{\Pi})_z = (x\Pi_y - y\Pi_x)$ . Show that the mechanical angular momentum  $L_z^{\text{mech}}$  can be written in terms of the complex coordinates as

$$L_z^{\text{mech}} = +\hbar \left[ z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} - z^* \frac{\partial}{\partial z^*} - \frac{|z|^2}{2} \right]$$

- (c) Show that the above Hamiltonian  $H$  can be re-written as

$$H = \hbar\omega_c \left[ -2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z \partial z^*} - \frac{1}{2} \left( z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} - z^* \frac{\partial}{\partial z^*} \right) + \frac{zz^*}{8} \right].$$

Here,  $\omega_c = qB/M$  is the cyclotron frequency.

- (d) You have already derived the commutator  $[\Pi_x, \Pi_y] = i\hbar qB$ , which is similar to  $[x, p_x] = i\hbar$ . We know that two ladder operators (or, raising and lowering operators) in terms of  $x$  and  $p_x$  are constructed in order to quantize the Hamiltonian of a quantum mechanical harmonic oscillator.

Similarly, constructing the following ladder operators:

$$a = \frac{i}{\sqrt{2\hbar qB}}[\Pi_x + i\Pi_y], \quad a^\dagger = \frac{-i}{\sqrt{2\hbar qB}}[\Pi_x - i\Pi_y].$$

Show that the ladder operators can be expressed in complex coordinates as

$$a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ \frac{z}{2} + 2 \frac{\partial}{\partial z^*} \right], \quad a^\dagger = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ \frac{z^*}{2} - 2 \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right].$$

Show that  $[a, a^\dagger] = 1$ .

- (e) Show that

$$a^\dagger a + \frac{1}{2} = \left[ -2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z \partial z^*} - \frac{1}{2} \left( z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} - z^* \frac{\partial}{\partial z^*} \right) + \frac{|z|^2}{8} \right].$$

Therefore, the Hamiltonian can be re-written as

$$H = \hbar\omega_c \left( a^\dagger a + \frac{1}{2} \right).$$

Here,  $\hat{N} = a^\dagger a$  is the number operator.

[This is the Hamiltonian of a simple harmonic oscillator with the quantized energy levels  $E_n = (n + 1/2)\hbar\omega_c$  with  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Each discrete energy is called Landau level.]

- (f) Show that

$$a^\dagger a \psi_m(z, z^*) = 0,$$

where  $\psi_m(z, z^*) = \phi_m(z) e^{-\frac{|z|^2}{4}}$ . Here  $\phi_m(z)$  is a set of analytic functions given as

$$\phi_m(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi l_0^2 2^m m!}} z^m,$$

with  $m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

- (g) Show that

$$\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} |\psi_m(z, z^*)|^2 = \frac{qB}{2\pi\hbar} = \frac{1}{2\pi l_0^2}.$$

- (h) Show that

$$L_z \psi_m(z, z^*) = m\hbar \psi_m(z, z^*).$$

Show that

$$\langle \psi_m(z, z^*) | L_z^{\text{mech}} | \psi_m(z, z^*) \rangle = -\hbar.$$

Note that  $\psi_m(z, z^*)$  are eigenfunctions of  $L_z$ , but not the eigenfunctions of  $L_z^{\text{mech}}$ .

11. Consider a set of analytic functions

$$\phi_m(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi 2^m m!}} z^m,$$

where  $m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . One can use  $\phi_m(z)$  as basis states with the measure or weight factor  $\mu[z, z^*] = e^{-|z|^2/2}$  to construct an infinite dimensional complex space with finite norm. Defining an inner product as

$$\langle \phi_n | \phi_m \rangle = \int \phi_n^*(z) \phi_m(z) \mu[z, z^*] dx dy.$$

- (a) Prove that  $\langle \phi_n | \phi_m \rangle = \delta_{mn}$ .
- (b) Show that  $b^\dagger = \frac{z}{\sqrt{2}}$  and  $b = \sqrt{2} \frac{d}{dz}$  act like raising and lowering operators, respectively, in this infinite dimensional complex space.
- (c) Check that  $b^\dagger$  and  $b$  satisfy the bosonic commutation relation:  $[b, b^\dagger] = 1$ .