

Exercises for Introduction to Quantum Computing

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1 Mapping 1+1D Quantum Electrodynamics to Qubits

a) We are to show that the mass term of staggered fermions contains a factor of a . We know that the mass term of the lattice Hamiltonian reads as,

$$\sum_{n=0,2,4,\dots}^{N-2} \bar{\psi}(n)\psi(n)$$

We can transform the fermions into staggered fermions via the transform,

$$\psi(n) = \sqrt{a} \begin{pmatrix} \phi(n) \\ \phi(n+1) \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus, for a single term we have

$$\bar{\psi}(n)\psi(n) = a \left[\phi^\dagger(n)\phi(n) - \phi^\dagger(n+1)\phi(n+1) \right]$$

Therefore, we can rewrite the sum to be

$$\sum_{n=0,2,4,\dots}^{N-2} \bar{\psi}(n)\psi(n) = a \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} (-1)^n \phi^\dagger(n)\phi(n)$$

b) We will now show that the Jordan Wigner transformation given by,

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(n) &= \left(\prod_{l<n} i\sigma_3(l) \right) \sigma^-(n) \\ \phi^\dagger(n) &= \left(\prod_{l<n} -i\sigma_3(l) \right) \sigma^+(n) \end{aligned}$$

is a faithful transformation i.e. it preserves the Fermionic algebra.

$$\begin{aligned} \{ \phi^\dagger(n), \phi(m) \} &= \delta_{nm} \\ \{ \phi(n), \phi(m) \} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Let's look at the first anti-commutator relation,

$$\{ \phi^\dagger(n), \phi(m) \} = \left\{ \left(\prod_{l<n} -i\sigma_3(l) \right) \sigma^+(n), \left(\prod_{l<m} i\sigma_3(l) \right) \sigma^-(m) \right\}$$

The Pauli strings cancel if and only if $n \leq m$, thus we have,

$$\{ \phi^\dagger(n), \phi(m) \} = \delta_{nm} \{ \sigma^+(n), \sigma^-(m) \}$$

We know that,

$$\{ \sigma^+(n), \sigma^-(m) \} = \mathbb{I}$$

Thus,

$$\{ \phi^\dagger(n), \phi(m) \} = \delta_{nm}$$

QED. Now to prove the other Fermionic anti-commutator relation, we have,

$$\{ \phi(n), \phi(m) \} = \left\{ \left(\prod_{l<n} i\sigma_3(l) \right) \sigma^-(n), \left(\prod_{l<m} i\sigma_3(l) \right) \sigma^-(m) \right\}$$

Once again, due to the cancellation of the Jordan-Wigner strings, we have,

$$\{ \phi(n), \phi(m) \} = \delta_{nm} \{ \sigma^-(n), \sigma^-(m) \}$$

We know that,

$$\{ \sigma^-(n), \sigma^-(m) \} = 0$$

$\forall n, m$, thus,

$$\{ \phi(n), \phi(m) \} = 0$$

QED.

c) We shall now rewrite the in terms of spin operators by means of the Jordan Wigner transformation which we explored in (b). Our full lattice Hamiltonian reads as,

$$H = -ix \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left[\phi^\dagger(n) e^{i\theta(n)} \phi(n+1) - \text{h.c.} \right] + \mu \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} (-1)^n \phi^\dagger(n) \phi(n) + \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} L^2(n)$$

substituting the spin operators we have,

$$H = -ix \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left[\left(\prod_{l<n} -i\sigma_3(l) \right) \sigma^+(n) e^{i\theta(n)} \left(\prod_{l<n} i\sigma_3(l) \right) \sigma^-(n+1) - \text{h.c.} \right] + \mu \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} (-1)^n \left(\prod_{l<n} -i\sigma_3(l) \right) \sigma^+(n) \left(\prod_{l<n} i\sigma_3(l) \right) \sigma^-(n) + \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} L^2(n)$$

the Jordan-Wigner strings i.e. the product of the Pauli Z operators that are non-local, cancel out almost completely to leave,

$$H = -ix \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left[\sigma^+(n) e^{i\theta(n)} \sigma_3(n) \sigma^-(n+1) - \text{h.c.} \right] + \mu \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} (-1)^n \sigma^+(n) \sigma^-(n) + \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} L^2(n)$$

We know that,

$$[\sigma^+(n), \sigma^-(m)] = 2\delta_{nm} \sigma_3(n)$$

$$[\sigma^\pm(n), \sigma_3(n)] = 0$$

and we can commute the Z Pauli through the exponential since it is just a scalar, thus we have,

$$H = -ix \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left[\sigma^+(n) e^{i\theta(n)} \sigma^-(n+1) + \text{h.c.} \right] + \frac{\mu}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} (-1)^n \sigma_3(n) + \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} L^2(n)$$

d) We are given the transformations,

$$s^-(n) = \prod_{l<n} e^{-i\theta(l)} \sigma^-(n)$$

$$s^+(n) = \prod_{l<n} e^{i\theta(l)} \sigma^+(n)$$

we need to invert these in order to substitute them into the Hamiltonian,

$$\sigma^-(n) = \prod_{l<n} e^{i\theta(l)} s^-(n)$$

$$\sigma^+(n) = \prod_{l<n} e^{-i\theta(l)} s^+(n)$$

Thus, inserting these into the Hamiltonian we get,

$$H = -ix \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} [s^+(n) s^-(n+1) - \text{h.c.}] + \frac{\mu}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} (-1)^n \sigma_3(n) + \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} L^2(n)$$

From Gauss' law, we know that,

$$L(n) - L(n-1) = q(n)$$

where the Fermionic charge is given by,

$$q(n) = \phi^\dagger(n) \phi(n) - \frac{1}{2} [1 - (-1)^n]$$

Rewriting this in terms of spins, we have,

$$q(n) = \frac{1}{2} [(-1)^n - i\sigma_3]$$

Applying Gauss' law recursively and the spin reformulation of the Fermionic charge to the final term of the Hamiltonian we get,

$$+ \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} L^2(n) = \sum_{n=1}^{N-2} \left[\frac{1}{2} \sum_{m=1}^n (\sigma_3(m) + (-1)^m) \right]^2$$

Thus, the full Hamiltonian reads as,

$$H = -ix \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} [s^+(n) s^-(n+1) - \text{h.c.}] + \frac{\mu}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} (-1)^n \sigma_3(n) + \sum_{n=1}^{N-2} \left[\frac{1}{2} \sum_{m=1}^n (\sigma_3(m) + (-1)^m) \right]^2$$

e) If we set periodic boundary conditions i.e.

$$L(N) = L(0)$$

the topology of the lattice reduced to that of a circle. From the definition of the gauge field, we would have,

$$L(N) = L(N-1) + q(N)$$

Doing this recursively, we have,

$$L(N) = \sum_{i=1}^N q(i) + L(0)$$

From the boundary conditions we would have,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N q(i) = 0$$

Thus, the gauge field cannot be eliminated.