Introduction to Quantum Information Processing

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1 Harmonic Quantum Oscillator - Solution

1.

$$\begin{split} a + a^\dagger &= 2 \cdot X \cdot \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}} \Rightarrow X = \sqrt{\frac{2\hbar}{m\omega}} \frac{a + a^\dagger}{2} \\ a - a^\dagger &= 2 \cdot \frac{i}{m\omega} P \cdot \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}} \Rightarrow P = \sqrt{\frac{2\hbar}{m\omega}} \frac{m\omega}{i} \frac{a - a^\dagger}{2} \end{split}$$

2. We begin by calculating an expression for the operator aa^{\dagger} , by using $[X, P] = i\hbar$:

$$aa^{\dagger} = \frac{m\omega}{2\hbar} \left(X^2 + \frac{i}{m\omega} PX - \frac{i}{m\omega} XP + \frac{1}{m^2 \omega^2} P^2 \right)$$
$$= \frac{m\omega}{2\hbar} \left(X^2 - i\hbar \frac{i}{m\omega} + \frac{1}{m^2 \omega^2} P^2 \right)$$
$$= \frac{m\omega}{2\hbar} \left(X^2 + \frac{1}{m^2 \omega^2} P^2 \right) + \frac{m\omega}{2\hbar} \frac{h}{m\omega} = C + \frac{1}{2}$$

From symmetry, we get that $a^{\dagger}a = C - \frac{1}{2} = N$, thus $aa^{\dagger} = N + 1$. Now we can calculate the hamiltonian:

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{H} &= \frac{P^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 X^2 = \frac{1}{2m} \left(\sqrt{\frac{2\hbar}{m\omega}} \frac{m\omega}{i} \frac{a - a^{\dagger}}{2} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 \left(\sqrt{\frac{2\hbar}{m\omega}} \frac{a + a^{\dagger}}{2} \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2m} \frac{2\hbar}{m\omega} \frac{m^2\omega^2}{-1} \frac{a^2 - (N+1) - N + \left(a^{\dagger}\right)^2}{4} + \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 \frac{2\hbar}{m\omega} \frac{a^2 + (N+1) + N + \left(a^{\dagger}\right)^2}{4} \\ &= -\omega\hbar \frac{a^2 - (N+1) - N + \left(a^{\dagger}\right)^2}{4} + \omega\hbar \frac{a^2 + (N+1) + N + \left(a^{\dagger}\right)^2}{4} \\ &= \hbar\omega \frac{4N + 2}{4} = \hbar\omega \left(N + \frac{1}{2} \right) \end{split}$$

3. for n > 0:

$$N|n\rangle = a^{\dagger}a|n\rangle = \sqrt{n}a^{\dagger}|n-1\rangle = \sqrt{n}^2|n\rangle = n\cdot|n\rangle$$

for n = 0:

$$\begin{array}{l} a^{\dagger}|0\rangle = & \sqrt{1}|1\rangle \\ a|1\rangle = & \sqrt{1}|0\rangle \\ \Downarrow & \\ aa^{\dagger}|0\rangle = a|1\rangle = |0\rangle = (N+1)|0\rangle \Rightarrow N|0\rangle = 0\cdot |0\rangle \end{array}$$