

Homework 8

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Phys 632

March 10, 2022

Problem 1

First, let's identify

$$\mathbf{e} = e^{\beta\hbar\omega}, \quad \coth(\beta\hbar\omega) = \frac{\mathbf{e}^1 + \mathbf{e}^{-1}}{\mathbf{e}^1 - \mathbf{e}^{-1}}, \quad \operatorname{csch}(\beta\hbar\omega) = \frac{2}{\mathbf{e}^1 - \mathbf{e}^{-1}}$$

as well as

$$Z = \sum_n \mathbf{e}^{-(n+1/2)} = \mathbf{e}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sum_n \mathbf{e}^{-n} = \frac{\mathbf{e}^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{1 - \mathbf{e}^{-1}} = \frac{1}{\mathbf{e}^{\frac{1}{2}} - \mathbf{e}^{-\frac{1}{2}}}$$

Now, neglecting units for the time being,

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(x, x') &= \langle x | \rho | x' \rangle \\ &= Z^{-1} \sum_n \mathbf{e}^{-(n+1/2)} \langle x | n \rangle \langle n | x' \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\mathbf{e}^{\frac{1}{2}} - \mathbf{e}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) \mathbf{e}^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-(x^2 + (x')^2)/2} \sum_n \frac{\mathbf{e}^{-n}}{2^n n!} H_n(x) H_n(x') \end{aligned}$$

Letting $z = \mathbf{e}^{-1}$ and applying Mehler's formula gives

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(x, x') &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{1 - \mathbf{e}^{-1}}{\sqrt{1 - \mathbf{e}^{-2}}} e^{-(x^2 + (x')^2)/2} \exp \left[\frac{2xx' \mathbf{e}^{-1} - (x^2 + (x')^2) \mathbf{e}^{-2}}{1 - \mathbf{e}^{-2}} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{\mathbf{e}^{\frac{1}{2}} (\mathbf{e}^{\frac{1}{2}} - \mathbf{e}^{-\frac{1}{2}})}{\mathbf{e}^{\frac{1}{2}} \sqrt{\mathbf{e}^1 - \mathbf{e}^{-1}}} \exp \left[\frac{2xx'}{\mathbf{e}^1 - \mathbf{e}^{-1}} - (x^2 + (x')^2) \left(\frac{\mathbf{e}^{-1}}{\mathbf{e}^1 - \mathbf{e}^{-1}} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{\mathbf{e}^{\frac{1}{2}} - \mathbf{e}^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{\sqrt{(\mathbf{e}^{\frac{1}{2}} - \mathbf{e}^{-\frac{1}{2}})(\mathbf{e}^{\frac{1}{2}} + \mathbf{e}^{-\frac{1}{2}})}} \exp \left[xx' \operatorname{csch}(\beta\hbar\omega) - \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + (x')^2) \coth(\beta\hbar\omega) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi \coth(\beta\hbar\omega/2)}} \exp \left[xx' \operatorname{csch}(\beta\hbar\omega) - \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + (x')^2) \coth(\beta\hbar\omega) \right] \end{aligned}$$

Restoring units,

$$\rho(x, x') = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi x_s^2 \coth(\beta \hbar \omega / 2)}} \exp \left[\frac{xx'}{x_s^2} \operatorname{csch}(\beta \hbar \omega) - \frac{(x^2 + (x')^2)}{2x_s^2} \coth(\beta \hbar \omega) \right]$$

For the position uncertainty, $\rho(x, x)$ is a gaussian, so we can immediately read off the uncertainty as

$$\sigma_x = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} x_s^2 \coth(\beta \hbar \omega / 2)} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar \coth(\beta \hbar \omega / 2)}{2m\omega}}$$

As $T \rightarrow 0$, this becomes the typical harmonic oscillator ground state position uncertainty,

$$\sigma_x = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}}.$$

As $T \rightarrow \infty$, $\coth(\beta \hbar \omega / 2) \rightarrow 2/\beta \hbar \omega$, and the uncertainty approaches

$$\sigma_x = \sqrt{\frac{k_B T}{m\omega^2}}$$

as expected by the equipartition theorem, $\frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 \sigma_x^2 = \frac{1}{2} k_B T$.

Problem 2

Before Alice performs her measurement, the three qubits are in the state

$$|\psi_{\text{TAB}}\rangle = \frac{1}{2} [|11\rangle |\psi_{11}\rangle + |10\rangle |\psi_{10}\rangle + |01\rangle |\psi_{01}\rangle - |00\rangle |\psi_{00}\rangle]$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi_{11}\rangle &= c_0 |1\rangle + c_1 |0\rangle = \sigma_x |\psi_{10}\rangle \\ |\psi_{10}\rangle &= c_1 |1\rangle + c_0 |0\rangle = \mathcal{I} |\psi_{10}\rangle \\ |\psi_{01}\rangle &= c_0 |1\rangle - c_1 |0\rangle = i\sigma_y |\psi_{10}\rangle \\ |\psi_{00}\rangle &= c_1 |1\rangle - c_0 |0\rangle = \sigma_z |\psi_{10}\rangle \end{aligned}$$

After Bob hears about Alice's measurement result and performs the necessary unitary operation, his state is

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_B &= (1 - \epsilon) |\psi_{10}\rangle\langle\psi_{10}| + \frac{\epsilon}{3} (|\psi_{11}\rangle\langle\psi_{11}| + |\psi_{01}\rangle\langle\psi_{01}| + |\psi_{00}\rangle\langle\psi_{00}|) \\ &= (1 - \epsilon - \frac{\epsilon}{3}) |\psi_{10}\rangle\langle\psi_{10}| + \frac{\epsilon}{3} (|\psi_{11}\rangle\langle\psi_{11}| + |\psi_{01}\rangle\langle\psi_{01}| + |\psi_{00}\rangle\langle\psi_{00}| + |\psi_{10}\rangle\langle\psi_{10}|) \\ &= (1 - \frac{4}{3}\epsilon) |\psi_{10}\rangle\langle\psi_{10}| + \frac{4}{3}\epsilon \mathcal{I} \end{aligned}$$

With a matrix representation the $\{|1\rangle, |0\rangle\}$ basis of

$$\begin{pmatrix} (1 - \frac{4}{3}\epsilon) |c_1|^2 + \frac{4}{3}\epsilon & (1 - \frac{4}{3}\epsilon) c_0^* c_1 \\ (1 - \frac{4}{3}\epsilon) c_0 c_1^* & (1 - \frac{4}{3}\epsilon) |c_0|^2 + \frac{4}{3}\epsilon \end{pmatrix}$$

Problem 3

The mean-squared separation is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\langle (x_A - x_B)^2 \rangle &= \langle x^2 \rangle_A + \langle x^2 \rangle_B - 2 \langle x \rangle_A \langle x \rangle_B \mp 2 \left| \langle \psi_1 | x | \psi_2 \rangle \right|^2 \\ &= \sigma_x^2(n) + \sigma_x^2(n') \mp 2 \left| \langle n | x | n' \rangle \right|^2\end{aligned}$$

where the last term is + for fermions, - for bosons, and 0 for distinguishable particles. The position-variances are simply

$$\sigma_x^2 = \frac{\hbar(n + 1/2)}{m\omega_0}$$

and the overlap is

$$\begin{aligned}\langle n | x | n' \rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \langle n | a + a^\dagger | n' \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\sqrt{n+1} \delta_{n,n'-1} + \sqrt{n} \delta_{n,n'+1} \right)\end{aligned}$$

So, for distinguishable particles we have

$$\langle (x_A - x_B)^2 \rangle = \frac{\hbar(n + n' + 1)}{m\omega_0}$$

For indistinguishable bosons,

$$\langle (x_A - x_B)^2 \rangle = \frac{\hbar(n + n' + 1)}{m\omega_0} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\sqrt{n+1} \delta_{n,n'-1} + \sqrt{n} \delta_{n,n'+1} \right)$$

For indistinguishable fermions,

$$\langle (x_A - x_B)^2 \rangle = \frac{\hbar(n + n' + 1)}{m\omega_0} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\sqrt{n+1} \delta_{n,n'-1} + \sqrt{n} \delta_{n,n'+1} \right)$$

Problem 4

- (a) Parahelium should have the lower energy. Since the electrons' spins are antisymmetric, their spacial degree of freedom must be bosonic, so they can both occupy the lowest energy state.
- (b) For the delium atom, the electrons' wavefunctions need not be symmetric or antisymmetric, so their degree of localization should be between that of the para/orthohelium cases, and its energy should also be between that of para/orthohelium.

Problem 5

$$\text{Tr}[Q] = p_0 - p_1; \quad \det[Q] = [(p_0 - p_1)^2 - 1] \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \theta$$

$$\begin{aligned} q_{\pm} &= \frac{\text{Tr}[Q]}{2} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{\text{Tr}[Q]}{2}\right)^2 - \det[Q]} \\ &= \frac{p_0 - p_1}{2} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{p_0 - p_1}{2}\right)^2 - [(p_0 - p_1)^2 - 1] \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \theta} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(p_0 - p_1 \pm \sqrt{(p_0 - p_1)^2 - [(p_0 - p_1)^2 - 1] \sin^2(2\theta)} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(p_0 - p_1 \pm \sqrt{(p_0 - p_1)^2 - [(p_0 - p_1)^2 - 1] (1 - \cos^2(2\theta))} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(p_0 - p_1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \cos^2(2\theta) - (p_0 - p_1)^2 \cos^2(2\theta)} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(p_0 - p_1 \pm \sqrt{1 + (1 - (p_0 - p_1)^2) \cos^2(2\theta)} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(p_0 - p_1 \pm \sqrt{1 - 4p_0 p_1 \cos^2 2\theta} \right) \end{aligned}$$