

Homework 5

Sean Ericson

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Problem 1

(a)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{r}) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dT \varphi(\mathbf{r}, T) e^{ik^2 T} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dT \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dE \tilde{\varphi}(\mathbf{r}, E) e^{-iET} e^{ik^2 T} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dE \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dT \tilde{\varphi}(\mathbf{r}, E) e^{-i(E-k^2)T} \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dE \tilde{\varphi}(\mathbf{r}, E) \delta(E - k^2) \\ &= \tilde{\varphi}(\mathbf{r}, k^2)\end{aligned}$$

The $\tilde{\varphi}$ are solutions for particular values of energy, and our desired solution is the $\tilde{\varphi}$ with energy k^2 as expected.

(b) Given that

$$\hbar = 1, \quad m = 1/2$$

we have that

$$L(x, \dot{x}) = \frac{\dot{x}^2}{4} - V(x) = \frac{\dot{x}^2}{4} - k^2(1 - n^2(\mathbf{r}))$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}K(x, T; x_0, 0) &= \int Dx \exp \left[i \int_0^T d\tau L(x, \dot{x}) \right] \\ &= \int Dx \exp \left[i \int_0^T d\tau \left(\frac{\dot{x}^2}{4} - V(x) \right) \right] \\ &= \int Dx \exp \left[i \int_0^T d\tau \left(\frac{\dot{x}^2}{4} - k^2(1 - n^2(\mathbf{r})) \right) \right]\end{aligned}$$

(c) We have that

$$\begin{aligned} G^+(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \tau) &= K(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \tau) \Theta(\tau) \\ &= \Theta(\tau) \int \mathcal{D}x \exp \left[i \int_0^T d\tau \left(\frac{\dot{x}^2}{4} - V(x) \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} G^+(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; E) &= \frac{1}{i\hbar} \int_0^\infty d\tau e^{i(E+i0^+)\tau/\hbar} G^+(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}', \tau) \\ &= -i \int_0^\infty d\tau e^{i(E+i0^+)\tau/\hbar} \int \mathcal{D}x \exp \left[i \int_0^T d\tau \left(\frac{\dot{x}^2}{4} - V(x) \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

where $\hbar = 1$ was used. Finally,

$$G^+(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; k) = -i \int_0^\infty dT e^{ik^2 T} \int \mathcal{D}x \exp \left[i \int_0^T d\tau \left(\frac{\dot{x}^2}{4} - k^2(1 - n^2(\mathbf{r})) \right) \right]$$

where the convergence helper $i0^+$ is understood to be present if necessary.

(d)

$$\begin{aligned} S_{\text{reduced}}[x] &= \int_0^s ds' \sqrt{k^2 - V(x)} \\ &= \int_0^s ds' \sqrt{k^2 - k^2(1 - n^2(x))} \\ &= k \int_0^s ds' n(x) \end{aligned}$$

Given that

$$l[\mathbf{r}] = \int_0^d ds n(x)$$

we have that

$$\delta l = 0 \iff \delta S_{\text{reduced}} = 0$$

Problem 2

(a) Firstly,

$$\begin{aligned} |\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N)\rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{N!}} \hat{\psi}^\dagger(\mathbf{r}_1) \cdots \hat{\psi}^\dagger(\mathbf{r}_N) |0\rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{N!}} \left(\sum_{j_1} \hat{a}_{j_1}^\dagger(t) \phi_{j_1}^*(\mathbf{r}_1) \right) \cdots \left(\sum_{j_N} \hat{a}_{j_N}^\dagger(t) \phi_{j_N}^*(\mathbf{r}_1) \right) |0\rangle \end{aligned}$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{N} |\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N)\rangle &= \left(\sum_{j_0} \hat{a}_{j_0}^\dagger \hat{a}_{j_0} \right) |\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N)\rangle \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{N!}} \left(\sum_{j_0} \hat{a}_{j_0}^\dagger \hat{a}_{j_0} \right) \left(\sum_{j_1} \hat{a}_{j_1}^\dagger(t) \phi_{j_1}^*(\mathbf{r}_1) \right) \cdots \left(\sum_{j_N} \hat{a}_{j_N}^\dagger(t) \phi_{j_N}^*(\mathbf{r}_1) \right) |0\rangle \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{N!}} \sum_{j_0, \dots, j_N} \hat{a}_{j_0}^\dagger \hat{a}_{j_0} \hat{a}_{j_1}^\dagger \hat{a}_{j_1}^\dagger \cdots \hat{a}_{j_N}^\dagger |0\rangle \phi_{j_1}^* \cdots \phi_{j_N}^* \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{N!}} \sum_{j_0, \dots, j_N} \hat{a}_{j_0}^\dagger \left(\hat{a}_{j_1}^\dagger \hat{a}_{j_0} + \delta_{j_0 j_1} \right) \hat{a}_{j_2}^\dagger \cdots \hat{a}_{j_N}^\dagger |0\rangle \phi_{j_1}^* \cdots \phi_{j_N}^* \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{N!}} \sum_{j_0, \dots, j_N} \hat{a}_{j_0}^\dagger \hat{a}_{j_1}^\dagger \hat{a}_{j_0} \hat{a}_{j_2}^\dagger \cdots \hat{a}_{j_N}^\dagger |0\rangle \phi_{j_1}^* \cdots \phi_{j_N}^* + |\Psi\rangle \\
&\quad \dots \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{N!}} \sum_{j_0, \dots, j_N} \hat{a}_{j_0}^\dagger \hat{a}_{j_1}^\dagger \cdots \hat{a}_{j_N}^\dagger \hat{a}_{j_0} |0\rangle + N |\Psi\rangle \\
&= 0 + N |\Psi\rangle \\
&= N |\Psi\rangle
\end{aligned}$$

Notice that commuting the j_0 annihilation operator over one position yields a copy of $|\Psi\rangle$. After moving it over N times, the j_0 annihilation operator will be next to the vacuum state, killing that term and leaving us with N copies of $|\Psi\rangle$. Therefore,

$$\hat{N} |\Psi\rangle = N |\Psi\rangle$$

- (b) The same argument carries over to the fermionic case with one slight change. Commuting the annihilation operator over one position will yield a term like

$$\delta_{j_0 j_i} - \hat{a}_{j_i}^\dagger \hat{a}_{j_0}$$

In the bosonic case, at the end of the argument we're effectively left with

$$\hat{N} |\Psi\rangle = 0 + N |\Psi\rangle = N |\Psi\rangle$$

In the fermionic case, we're instead left with

$$\hat{N} |\Psi\rangle = N |\Psi\rangle - 0 = N |\Psi\rangle$$

Problem 3

- (a) Let

$$\psi_i := \hat{\psi}(\mathbf{r}_i); \quad \psi_i^\dagger := \hat{\psi}^\dagger(\mathbf{r}_i)$$

$$\psi_{i'} := \hat{\psi}(\mathbf{r}'_i); \quad \psi_{i'}^\dagger := \hat{\psi}^\dagger(\mathbf{r}'_i)$$

$$|\Psi\rangle := \frac{1}{\sqrt{N!}} \psi_1^\dagger \cdots \psi_N^\dagger |0\rangle$$

$$|\Psi'\rangle := \frac{1}{\sqrt{N!}} \psi_{1'}^\dagger \cdots \psi_{N'}^\dagger |0\rangle$$

Let's work out the first few cases explicitly:

$N = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} (1!) \langle \Psi' | \Psi \rangle_1 &= \langle 0 | \psi_{1'} \psi_1^\dagger | 0 \rangle \\ &= \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \langle 0 | 0 \rangle + \langle 0 | \psi_1^\dagger \psi_{1'} | 0 \rangle \\ &= \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \end{aligned}$$

$N = 2$

$$\begin{aligned} (2!) \langle \Psi' | \Psi \rangle_2 &= \langle 0 | \psi_{2'} \psi_{1'} \psi_1^\dagger \psi_2^\dagger | 0 \rangle \\ &= \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \langle 0 | \psi_{2'} \psi_2^\dagger | 0 \rangle + \langle 0 | \psi_{2'} \psi_1^\dagger \psi_{1'} \psi_2^\dagger | 0 \rangle \\ &= \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}'_2) + \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \langle 0 | \psi_{2'} \psi_1^\dagger | 0 \rangle + \langle 0 | \psi_{2'} \psi_1^\dagger \psi_2^\dagger \psi_{1'} | 0 \rangle \\ &= \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}'_2) + \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_2) \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \end{aligned}$$

$N = 3$

$$\begin{aligned} (3!) \langle \Psi' | \Psi \rangle_3 &= \langle 0 | \psi_{3'} \psi_{2'} \psi_{1'} \psi_1^\dagger \psi_2^\dagger \psi_3^\dagger | 0 \rangle \\ &= \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \langle 0 | \psi_{3'} \psi_{2'} \psi_2^\dagger \psi_3^\dagger | 0 \rangle + \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \langle 0 | \psi_{3'} \psi_{2'} \psi_1^\dagger \psi_3^\dagger | 0 \rangle + \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_3 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \langle 0 | \psi_{3'} \psi_{2'} \psi_1^\dagger \psi_2^\dagger | 0 \rangle \\ &= \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}'_2) \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_3 - \mathbf{r}'_3) + \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}'_3) \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_3 - \mathbf{r}'_2) \\ &\quad + \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_2) \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_3 - \mathbf{r}'_3) + \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_3) \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_3 - \mathbf{r}'_2) \\ &\quad + \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_2) \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_3 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}'_3) + \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_3) \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}'_2) \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_3 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \end{aligned}$$

For each N , we first use the commutation relation to move $\psi_{1'}$ over all the way to the right, generating N terms. Each of these terms contains a delta function and a matrix element of the form $(N-1)$, up to a re-labeling of the indicies. Continuing inductively,

$$\langle \Psi' | \Psi \rangle = \frac{1}{N!} \sum_{\sigma \in P(N)} \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_{\sigma_1}) \cdots \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_N - \mathbf{r}'_{\sigma_N})$$

- (b) For a fermionic state, nearly the same argument applies, but now the anticommutation relation introduces a minus sign everytime we commute. A commutation corresponds to a transposition of two of the indicies, so the even permutations will get an even number of minus signs, while the odd permutations will get an odd number of minus signs. The net result is therefore

$$\langle \Psi' | \Psi \rangle = \frac{1}{N!} \sum_{\sigma \in P(N)} \epsilon_\sigma \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_{\sigma_1}) \cdots \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_N - \mathbf{r}'_{\sigma_N})$$