

**Problem 1)**

(a) Show that the wave function at time  $t$  for a free particle of mass  $m$  can be written as

$$\Psi(\vec{r}, t) = \int d^3\vec{r}_0 G(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0, t - t_0) \Psi(\vec{r}_0, t_0), \quad (1)$$

where  $\Psi(\vec{r}, t_0)$  is the wave function at the initial time  $t_0$  and the function  $G(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0, t - t_0)$ , known as the free-particle Green's function, reads

$$G(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0, t - t_0) = \int \frac{d^3\vec{p}}{(2\pi\hbar)^3} e^{i[\vec{p} \cdot (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) - E_p(t - t_0)]/\hbar}, \quad E_p = \frac{p^2}{2m}. \quad (2)$$

**Hint:** The free-particle wave function can be generally written as the superposition (wave packet)

$$\Psi(\vec{r}, t) = \int \frac{d^3\vec{p}}{(2\pi\hbar)^{3/2}} f(\vec{p}) e^{i(\vec{p} \cdot \vec{r} - E_p t)/\hbar}. \quad (3)$$

(b) Obtain the explicit expression for the Green's function. **Hint:** Use the following integral

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\alpha^2(x-\beta)^2} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{\alpha}, \quad (4)$$

where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are generally complex numbers with  $-\pi/4 < \arg\alpha < \pi/4$  for convergence.

**Problem 2)**

Show that the probability density and probability current density at position  $\vec{r}_0$  can be expressed as expectation values of the operators  $\rho(\vec{r}_0)$  and  $\vec{j}(\vec{r}_0)$ , defined as

$$\rho(\vec{r}_0) = \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0), \quad \vec{j}(\vec{r}_0) = \frac{1}{2m} [\vec{p} \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) + \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) \vec{p}], \quad (5)$$

where  $\vec{r}$  and  $\vec{p}$  are the position and momentum operators. Derive the expressions for these densities in both coordinate and momentum space.