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# Quantum Field Theory And Condensed Matter

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## 1. THERMODYNAMICS AND STATISTICAL MECHANICS REVIEW

### 1.1.

For an ideal gas, show that

$$T(S, V) = \frac{\partial U}{\partial S} = \frac{2}{3nR} U$$

to obtain a function of  $T$ . Next construct  $F(T, V) = U(T) - S(T, V)T$  and show that,

$$F(T, V) = \frac{3nRT}{2} \left[ (1 + \ln C) - \ln \frac{3nRT}{2} - \frac{2}{3} \ln V \right].$$

Verify that the partial derivatives with respect to  $T$  and  $V$  give the expected results for the entropy and pressure for an ideal gas.

Sol)

Starting from the definition of  $U$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 U &= C \left( \frac{e^{S/nR}}{V} \right)^{2/3} \\
 T &= \frac{\partial U}{\partial S} = \frac{C}{V^{2/3}} \frac{\partial}{\partial S} e^{2S/3nR} \\
 &= \frac{C}{V^{2/3}} \frac{2}{3nR} e^{2S/3nR} = \frac{2}{3nR} U.
 \end{aligned} \tag{1.1}$$

1.2.

Evaluate  $Z(\beta)$  for the classical oscillator.

Sol)

$$\begin{aligned}
 Z(\beta) &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-\beta \left( \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega_0^2 x^2 \right)} dp dx \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{\beta}{2m} p^2} dp \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{\beta}{2} m \omega_0^2 x^2} dx \\
 &= \sqrt{\frac{2m\pi}{\beta}} \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{m\omega_0^2 \beta}} \\
 &= \frac{2\pi}{\omega_0 \beta}
 \end{aligned} \tag{1.2}$$

Thus for a classical oscillator,

$$Z(\beta)_c = \frac{2\pi}{\omega_0 \beta} \tag{1.3}$$

1.3.

Evaluate  $Z(\beta)$  for the quantum oscillator.

Sol)

For the quantum case, consider the Hamiltonian of the oscillator.

$$H(X, P) = \frac{P^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega_0^2 X^2 \tag{1.4}$$

The eigenvalues  $E_n$  of  $H(X, P)$  can be derived as

$$E_n = \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) \hbar \omega_0 \quad (1.5)$$

The partition function  $Z(\beta)$  is,

$$\begin{aligned} Z(\beta) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-\beta E_n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-\beta \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) \hbar \omega_0} \\ &= e^{-\beta \frac{1}{2} \hbar \omega_0} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-\beta n \hbar \omega_0} \\ &= e^{-\beta \frac{1}{2} \hbar \omega_0} \left( \frac{1}{1 - e^{-\beta \hbar \omega_0}} \right) \\ &= \left[ \sinh \left( \frac{1}{2} \beta \hbar \omega_0 \right) \right]^{-1} \end{aligned} \quad (1.6)$$

Thus for the quantum oscillator,

$$Z(\beta)_q = \left[ \sinh \left( \frac{1}{2} \beta \hbar \omega_0 \right) \right]^{-1} \quad (1.7)$$

1.4.

Evaluate  $\langle E \rangle$  for the classical and quantum oscillators. Show that they become equal in the appropriate limit.

Sol)

For the classical oscillator,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle E \rangle_c &= - \frac{\partial \ln Z_c}{\partial \beta} \\ &= - \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} [\ln 2\pi - \ln(\omega_0 \beta)] \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \ln(\omega_0 \beta) = \beta^{-1} \end{aligned} \quad (1.8)$$

For the quantum oscillator,

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle E \rangle_q &= -\frac{\partial \ln Z_q}{\partial \beta} \\
&= \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \ln \left( \sinh \left( \frac{1}{2} \beta \omega_0 \hbar \right) \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \omega_0 \hbar \left[ \tanh \left( \frac{1}{2} \beta \omega_0 \hbar \right) \right]^{-1}
\end{aligned} \tag{1.9}$$

Consider  $\hbar \sim 0$  limit,

$$\langle E \rangle_q \sim \frac{1}{2} \omega_0 \hbar \left( \frac{1}{2} \beta \omega_0 \hbar \right)^{-1} = \beta^{-1} \tag{1.10}$$

Thus under the limit  $\hbar \sim 0$ ,  $\langle E \rangle_q \sim \langle E \rangle_c$ .

1.5.

Apply the grand canonical ideas to a system which is a quantum state of energy  $\epsilon$  that may be occupied by fermions(bosons). Show that in the two cases,

$$\langle N \rangle = n_{F/B} = \frac{1}{e^{\beta(\epsilon-\mu)} \pm 1}.$$

These averages are commonly referred to with lower case symbols as  $n_F$  and  $n_B$  respectively.

Sol)

First, let us consider the grand partition function of both fermionic and bosonic systems. Let it  $\mathcal{Z}_F$  and  $\mathcal{Z}_B$  respectively. As bosons are indistinguishable and any number can occupy a certain energy state, we could write  $\mathcal{Z}_B$  as

$$\mathcal{Z}_B = \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} e^{N\beta(\mu-\epsilon)} = \frac{1}{1 - e^{\beta(\mu-\epsilon)}} \tag{1.11}$$

A fermionic system will only have 2 states due to the Pauli exclusion theorem, so  $\mathcal{Z}_F$  would be expressed as,

$$\mathcal{Z}_F = e^{0 \cdot \beta(\mu-\epsilon)} + e^{1 \cdot \beta(\mu-\epsilon)} = e^{\beta(\mu-\epsilon)} + 1 \tag{1.12}$$

Using the relation between  $\langle N \rangle$  and  $\mathcal{Z}$ ,

$$\langle N \rangle = \frac{1}{\beta \mathcal{Z}} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{Z}}{\partial \mu} \right) = \frac{1}{\beta} \frac{\partial \ln \mathcal{Z}}{\partial \mu} \quad (1.13)$$

For the fermionic system  $\mathcal{Z}_F$ ,

$$n_F = \frac{1}{\beta} \left( \frac{\partial \ln \mathcal{Z}_F}{\partial \mu} \right) = \frac{1}{e^{\beta(\epsilon - \mu)} + 1} \quad (1.14)$$

For the bosonic system  $\mathcal{Z}_B$ ,

$$n_B = \frac{1}{\beta} \left( \frac{\partial \ln \mathcal{Z}_B}{\partial \mu} \right) = \frac{1}{e^{\beta(\epsilon - \mu)} - 1} \quad (1.15)$$

Thus for fermionic(bosonic) quantum systems,  $\langle N \rangle$  can be expressed as

$$n_{F/B} = \frac{1}{e^{\beta(\epsilon - \mu)} \pm 1} \quad (1.16)$$

## 2. THE ISING MODEL IN $d = 0$ AND $d = 1$

### 2.1.

Show that

$$\frac{\partial^2 [-\beta F(K, h_1, h_2)]}{\partial h_1 \partial h_2} = \langle s_1 s_2 \rangle - \langle s_1 \rangle \langle s_2 \rangle$$

Sol)

As  $Z = e^{-\beta F}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 [-\beta F(K, h_1, h_2)]}{\partial h_1 \partial h_2} &= \frac{\partial^2 \ln Z}{\partial h_1 \partial h_2} \\ &= \frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial h_1 \partial h_2} - \frac{1}{Z^2} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial h_1} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial h_2} \end{aligned} \quad (2.1)$$

Also as  $Z = \sum e^{Ks_1s_2+h_1s_1+h_2s_2}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial h_1 \partial h_2} &= \frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial}{\partial h_1} \left( \frac{\partial Z}{\partial h_2} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial}{\partial h_1} \left( \sum_{s_1, s_2} s_2 e^{Ks_1s_2+h_1s_1+h_2s_2} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{Z} \left( \sum_{s_1, s_2} s_1 s_2 e^{Ks_1s_2+h_1s_1+h_2s_2} \right) = \langle s_1 s_2 \rangle
\end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

The second term,

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{Z^2} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial h_1} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial h_2} &= \left( \frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial h_1} \right) \left( \frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial h_2} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{Z} \left( \sum_{s_1, s_2} s_1 e^{Ks_1s_2+h_1s_1+h_2s_2} \right) \frac{1}{Z} \left( \sum_{s_1, s_2} s_2 e^{Ks_1s_2+h_1s_1+h_2s_2} \right) \\
&= \langle s_1 \rangle \langle s_2 \rangle
\end{aligned} \tag{2.3}$$

Thus ,

$$\langle s_1 s_2 \rangle_c \equiv \frac{\partial^2 [-\beta F(K, h_1, h_2)]}{\partial h_1 \partial h_2} = \langle s_1 s_2 \rangle - \langle s_1 \rangle \langle s_2 \rangle \tag{2.4}$$

## 2.2.

Show that

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4 \rangle_c &\equiv \frac{\partial^4 (-\beta F)}{\partial h_1 \partial h_2 \partial h_3 \partial h_4} \Big|_{h=0} \\
&= \langle s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4 \rangle - \langle s_1 s_2 \rangle \langle s_3 s_4 \rangle - \langle s_1 s_3 \rangle \langle s_2 s_4 \rangle - \langle s_1 s_4 \rangle \langle s_2 s_3 \rangle
\end{aligned}$$

Sol)

The partition function for four spins with their source terms can be written as

$$Z = \sum_{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4} e^{K(s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4) + h_1 s_1 + h_2 s_2 + h_3 s_3 + h_4 s_4} \tag{2.5}$$

We know that  $s_i \in \{+1, -1\}$  and the source terms were originally

$$h(s_1 + s_2 + s_3 + s_4) = h_1 s_1 + h_2 s_2 + h_3 s_3 + h_4 s_4 \tag{2.6}$$

so for the  $h = 0$  condition, there shouldn't be

2.3.

Derive  $\langle s_1 s_2 \rangle$  and discuss its  $K$  dependence at  $h = 0$ .

Sol)

Recall that  $Z = \sum e^{K(s_1 s_2) + h(s_1 + s_2)} = 2e^K \cosh(2h) + 2e^{-K}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle s_1 s_2 \rangle &= \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{s_1, s_2} s_1 s_2 e^{K(s_1 s_2) + h(s_1 + s_2)} \\
 &= \frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial K} = \frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial K} \\
 &= \frac{\partial}{\partial K} \left[ \ln(2e^K \cosh(2h) + 2e^{-K}) \right] \\
 &= \frac{e^K \cosh(2h) - e^{-K}}{e^K \cosh(2h) + e^{-K}}
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.7}$$

Considering the  $h = 0$  case,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle s_1 s_2 \rangle|_{h=0} &= \frac{e^K - e^{-K}}{e^K + e^{-K}} \\
 &= \frac{\sinh(K)}{\cosh(K)} = \tanh(K)
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.8}$$

Thus at  $h = 0$ ,  $K$  dependence of  $\langle s_1 s_2 \rangle$  shows up to be  $\tanh(K)$ .

2.4.

Show that if you use the rates specified by the Metropolis algorithm, you get

$$\frac{p(i)}{p(j)} = e^{-\beta(E_i - E_j)}$$

Given a computer that can generate a random number between 0 and 1, how will you accept a jump with probability  $e^{-\beta(E_i - E_j)}$ ?

Sol)

Let us first assume that the energy levels of two states  $i$  and  $j$  is given as  $E_j > E_i$ . At equilibrium, we will have  $\frac{dp(i)}{dt} = 0$ .

### 3. STATISTICAL TO QUANTUM MECHANICS

3.1.

- (i). Consider  $U(x, x'; \tau)$  for the oscillator as  $\tau \rightarrow \infty$  and read off the ground-state wavefunction and energy. Compare to what you learned as a child. Given this, try to pull out the next state from the subdominant terms.
- (ii). Set  $x = x' = 0$  and extract the energies from  $U(\tau)$  in Eq. (3.24). Why are some energies missing?

Sol)

For an arbitrary initial state,  $|\psi(0)\rangle$

$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} \langle x | U(\tau) | x' \rangle |\psi(0)\rangle = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} U(x, x'; \tau) |\psi(0)\rangle = \psi_0(x) \psi_0(x')^* |\psi(0)\rangle e^{-\frac{1}{\hbar} E_0 \tau} \quad (3.1)$$

Also for a quantum harmonic oscillator we know that  $U(x, x'; \tau)$  is given as

$$\begin{aligned} U(x, x'; \tau) &= \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\pi\hbar \sinh \omega\tau}} \exp \left[ -\frac{m\omega}{2\pi\hbar \sinh \omega\tau} ((x^2 + x'^2) \cosh \omega\tau - 2xx') \right] \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\pi\hbar}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{\sinh \omega\tau}} \exp \left[ -\frac{m\omega}{2\pi\hbar} ((x^2 + x'^2) \frac{1}{\tanh \omega\tau} - 2\frac{xx'}{\sinh \omega\tau}) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

Considering the limit of  $\tau \rightarrow \infty$ , where  $\sinh \omega\tau \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}e^{\omega\tau}$  and  $\tanh \omega\tau \rightarrow 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} U(x, x'; \tau) &= \lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{e^{\omega\tau}}} \exp \left[ -\frac{m\omega}{2\pi\hbar} ((x^2 + x'^2) - \frac{4xx'}{e^{\omega\tau}}) \right] \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}} \exp \left[ -\frac{m\omega}{2\pi\hbar} ((x^2 + x'^2) - \frac{1}{2}\omega\tau) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

Comparing the result with (3.1), terms with  $\tau$  should be identical

$$e^{-\frac{1}{\hbar} E_0 \tau} = e^{-\frac{1}{2}\omega\tau} \quad (3.4)$$



resulting the ground state energy to be  $E_0 = \frac{1}{2}\hbar\omega$ . For the ground state wave function,

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_0(x)\psi_0(x')^* &= \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}} \exp\left[-\frac{m\omega}{2\pi\hbar}(x^2 + x'^2)\right] \\ &= \left[\left(\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} e^{-\frac{m\omega x^2}{2\hbar}}\right] \left[\left(\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} e^{-\frac{m\omega x'^2}{2\hbar}}\right]\end{aligned}\quad (3.5)$$

Thus we can conclude that the ground state wave function  $\psi_0(x)$  is

$$\psi_0(x) = \left(\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} e^{-\frac{m\omega x^2}{2\hbar}} \quad (3.6)$$

Setting  $x = x' = 0$

3.2.

Check that the free energy per site is the same as above for periodic boundary conditions starting with

$$Z = \text{Tr } T^N. \quad (3.7)$$

Sol)

Let's assume  $\lambda_0, \lambda_1$  as the eigenvalues of  $T$  and their respective eigenvectors as  $|0\rangle, |1\rangle$ . We can expand  $T$  and express  $T^N$  as,

$$T = \lambda_0 |0\rangle \langle 0| + \lambda_1 |1\rangle \langle 1|, \quad T^N = \lambda_0^N |0\rangle \langle 0| + \lambda_1^N |1\rangle \langle 1| \quad (3.8)$$

and it tells us that the eigenvalues for  $T^N$  are  $\lambda_0^N, \lambda_1^N$ . Using the periodic boundary condition  $s_0 = s_N$  for the  $d = 1$  Ising model,

$$Z = \text{Tr } T^N = \lambda_0^N + \lambda_1^N \quad (3.9)$$

Let us consider  $\lambda_0 > \lambda_1$ , and calculate the free energy per site under thermodynamic limits.

$$\begin{aligned}
-f &\sim \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} \ln Z \\
&= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} \ln \left[ \lambda_0^N \left( 1 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda_1/\lambda_0)^N \right) \right] \\
&= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \ln \lambda_0 + \frac{1}{N} \mathcal{O}(\lambda_1/\lambda_0)^N \right] = \ln \lambda_0
\end{aligned} \tag{3.10}$$

It shows up to be that the free energy per site  $f$  is the same whether we choose fixed or periodic boundary conditions for the  $d = 1$  Ising model.

### 3.3.

Show that if you invert

$$\tanh K^*(K) = e^{-2K} \tag{3.11}$$

you find  $\tanh K = e^{-2K^*}$ .

Sol)

Starting from  $\tanh K^* = e^{-2K}$

$$\begin{aligned}
\tanh K^* &= \frac{e^{2K^*} - 1}{e^{2K^*} + 1} = e^{-2K} \\
1 - \frac{2}{e^{2K^*} + 1} &= e^{-2K} \\
\frac{2}{e^{2K^*} + 1} &= 1 - e^{-2K} \\
e^{2K^*} + 1 &= \frac{2}{1 - e^{-2K}} \\
e^{2K^*} &= \frac{2}{1 - e^{-2K}} - 1 = \frac{1 + e^{-2K}}{1 - e^{-2K}} \\
e^{-2K^*} &= \frac{e^K - e^{-K}}{e^K + e^{-K}} = \tanh K
\end{aligned} \tag{3.12}$$

### 3.4.

Verify that when the correlation function of Eq.(3.61) is inserted into Eq.(3.62), the power law prefactor drops out in the determination of  $\xi$ .

Sol)

Eq.(3.61) states that

$$\lim_{|j-i| \rightarrow \infty} \langle s_i s_j \rangle_c \sim \frac{e^{-|j-i|/\xi}}{|j-i|^{d-2+\eta}} \quad (3.13)$$

Inserting this into Eq.(3.62),

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{|j-i| \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -\frac{\ln \langle s_i s_j \rangle_c}{|j-i|} \right] &= \lim_{|j-i| \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -\frac{1}{|j-i|} \ln \left( \frac{e^{-|j-i|/\xi}}{|j-i|^{d-2+\eta}} \right) \right] \\ &= \lim_{|j-i| \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{|j-i|} \left[ \frac{|j-i|}{\xi} + (d-2+\eta) \ln |j-i| \right] \\ &= \lim_{|j-i| \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{1}{\xi} + (d-2+\eta) \frac{\ln |j-i|}{|j-i|} \right] \\ &= \xi^{-1} \end{aligned} \quad (3.14)$$

3.5.

Show that  $f$  in Eq.(3.74) agrees with Eq.(2.31) upon subtracting  $\ln \cosh K^*$  and using the definition of  $K^*$ .

Sol)

To avoid confusion let  $f$  in Eq.(3.74) as  $f' = -K^*$ . By the definition of  $K^*$ , we know that  $\tanh K = e^{-2K^*}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} f' - \ln \cosh K^* &= -K^* - \ln \cosh K^* \\ &= \end{aligned} \quad (3.15)$$

3.6.

**(Very Important)** Find the eigenvalues of  $T$  in Eq. (3.78) and show that there is degeneracy only for  $h = K^* = 0$ . Why does this degeneracy not violate the Perron-Frobenius theorem? Show that the magnetization is

$$\langle s \rangle = \sinh h / \left( \sqrt{\sinh^2 h + e^{-4K}} \right)$$

in the thermodynamic limit.

3.7.

Consider the correlation function for the  $h = 0$  problem with periodic boundary conditions and write it as a ratio of two traces. Saturate the denominator with the largest eigenket, but keep both eigenvectors in the numerator and show that the answer is invariant under  $j - i \leftrightarrow N - (j - i)$ . Using the fact that  $\sigma_3$  exchanges  $|0\rangle$  and  $|1\rangle$  should speed things up. Argue that as long as  $|j - i|$  is much smaller than  $N$ , only one term is needed.

3.8.

Recall the remarkable fact that the correlation function  $\langle s_j s_i \rangle$

## 4. QUANTUM TO STATISTICAL MECHANICS

4.1.

Write  $T_{ss'} = e^{R(s,s')}$ , and expand the function  $R$  in a series, allowing all possible powers of  $s$  and  $s'$ . Show that  $R(s, s') = Ass' + B(s + s') + C$  follows, given that  $s^2 = s'^2 = 1$  and both  $T_{ss'}$  and  $R$  are symmetric under  $s \leftrightarrow s'$ .

4.2.

**(Important)**

(i). Solve *Eq.(4.9)* for  $K, h$  and  $c$  terms of  $B_1, B_3$  and  $\varepsilon$  by choosing  $s = s' = \pm 1$  and  $s = -s'$ , and show that

$$\begin{aligned}\tanh h &= \frac{B_3}{B} \tanh \varepsilon B \\ e^{-2K+c} &= \frac{B_1}{B} \sinh \varepsilon B \\ e^2 c (1 - e^{-4K}) &= 1\end{aligned}$$

4.3.

Verify that the exact results in *Eqs. (4.10) - (4.12)* from *Exercise 4.2* reduce to *Eqs. (4.20) and (4.21)* and  $c = 0$  to  $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)$ .

Sol)

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## 5. THE FEYNMAN PATH INTEGRAL

5.1.

Derive Eq. (5.8) by introducing a resolution of the identity in terms of momentum states between the exponential operator and the position eigenket on the left-hand side of Eq. (5.8).

Sol)

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5.2.

To show that the higher derivatives can be ignored in the limit  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ , first shift the origin to  $x = x_0$  and estimate the average value of the new  $x^2$  in terms of  $\alpha$ . Argue that a factor  $e^{\alpha x^3}$  will be essentially equal to 1 in the region where the Gaussian integral has any real support.

Sol)

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5.3.

**(Important)** Consider the oscillator. First solve for a trajectory that connects the spacetime points  $(x, 0)$  to  $(x', t)$  by choosing the two free parameters in its solution. (Normally you choose them given the initial position and velocity; now you want the solution to go through the two end points in spacetime.) Then find its action and show that

$$U(x', x; t) = A(t) \left[ \frac{im\omega}{2\hbar \sin \omega t} [(x^2 + x'^2) \cos \omega t - 2x'x] \right]$$

If you want  $A(t)$  you need to modify the trick used for the free particle, since the exponential is not a Gaussian in  $(x - x')$ . Note, however, that if you choose  $x = 0$ , it becomes a Gaussian in  $x'$  which allows you to show that  $A(t) = (m\omega/2\pi i \hbar \sin \omega t)^{1/2}$ . That the answer for the fluctuation integral  $A$  does not depend on the classical path, especially the end points  $x$  or  $x'$ , is a property of the quadratic action. It amounts in our toy model to the fact that if  $F(x)$  is quadratic, that is  $F = ax^2 + bx + c$ , then  $F'' = 2a$  for all  $x$ , including the minimum.

Sol)

content...

5.4.

Include the kinetic energy  $p^2/2m$  of the atoms in the Boltzmann weight and do the  $p$  integrals as part of  $Z$ . Obtain an overall factor  $(\sqrt{2\pi mkT})^{N-1}$  and show that the statistical properties of the  $x$ 's are still given by the  $Z$  in Eq.(5.44).

Sol)

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5.5.

**(Very Important)** Assume that

$$H = \sum_1^N E_0 |n\rangle \langle n| - t (\langle n| |n+1\rangle + \langle n+1| |n\rangle)$$

describes the low-energy Hamiltonian of a particle in a periodic potential with minima at integers  $n$ . The integers  $n$  go from 1 to  $N$  since it is assumed that the world is a ring of length  $N$ , so that the  $(N+1)$ th point is the first. Thus, the problem has symmetry under translation by one site despite the finite length of the world. The first term in  $H$  represents the energy of the Gaussian state centered at  $x = n$

Sol)

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