

## Sheet 8:

Hand-out: Friday, June 17, 2022<sup>1</sup>

### Problem 1 Fermionic coherent states

In this problem we show some basic properties of fermionic coherent states. We will denote by  $c$  and  $c^*$  the Grassman variables corresponding to the set of fermionic operator  $\hat{c}$  and  $\hat{c}^\dagger$ .

(1.a) Show that the overlap of two coherent states is

$$\langle c^* | c \rangle = e^{c^* c}. \quad (1)$$

(1.b) Show the completeness relation,

$$\int dc^* dc |c\rangle \langle c^*| e^{-c^* c} = 1. \quad (2)$$

*Hint:* Start from the left hand side and use the explicit representation  $|c\rangle = |0\rangle + |1\rangle c$ .

(1.c) Show the trace formula:

$$\text{tr } \hat{A} = \int dc^* dc e^{-c^* c} \langle -c^* | \hat{A} | c \rangle. \quad (3)$$

*Hint:* Show first that:  $\delta_{n,m} = \langle n | m \rangle = \int dc^* dc e^{-c^* c} \langle -c^* | m \rangle \langle n | c \rangle$ , for  $n, m = 0, 1$  labeling Fock states.

### Problem 2 Residue integration

In this problem we use residue integration to calculate observables from the Green's function. We consider a free Fermi gas with spin  $S$  in continuum,

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = \sum_{\sigma} \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^3} \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} \hat{\psi}_{\sigma}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{k}) \hat{\psi}_{\sigma}(\mathbf{k}), \quad \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} = \frac{\hbar^2 \mathbf{k}^2}{2m}, \quad (4)$$

with Fermi wavevector of length  $k_F$ .

(2.a) Show that the homogeneous density can be written as:

$$\langle \hat{\rho}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle \equiv \sum_{\sigma} \langle \hat{\psi}_{\sigma}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{x}) \hat{\psi}_{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle = -i(2S+1) \mathcal{G}(\mathbf{x}, t=0^-)|_{\mathbf{x}=0}. \quad (5)$$

and the homogeneous kinetic energy density as:

$$\langle \hat{T}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle \equiv -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \sum_{\sigma} \langle \hat{\psi}_{\sigma}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{x}) \nabla_{\mathbf{x}}^2 \hat{\psi}_{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle = i(2S+1) \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}}^2 \mathcal{G}(\mathbf{x}, 0^-)|_{\mathbf{x}=0}. \quad (6)$$

Here  $\mathcal{G}(\mathbf{x}, t)$  denotes the two-particle Green's function.

<sup>1</sup>If you would like to present your solution(s), feel free to send them to Felix Palm until Fri, June 24.

(2.b) Write out Fourier transforms to show that:

$$\langle \hat{\rho}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle = (2S + 1) \int \frac{d^d \mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^d} \left[ \int \frac{d\omega}{2\pi i} e^{i\omega\delta} \frac{1}{\omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} + i\delta \text{sgn}(k - k_F)} \right], \quad \delta \rightarrow 0^+. \quad (7)$$

and find a similar expression for  $\langle \hat{T}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle$ .

(2.c) Perform residue integrals to show that in  $d = 3$  dimensions:

$$\langle \hat{\rho}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle = (2S + 1) \frac{V_F}{(2\pi)^3}, \quad \langle \hat{T}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle = \frac{3}{5} \varepsilon_F \langle \hat{\rho}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle. \quad (8)$$

Here  $V_F$  is the volume enclosed by the Fermi surface at the Fermi energy  $\varepsilon_F$ .

### Problem 3 Spin coherent states

In this exercise, we introduce so-called spin-coherent states, which can be used to define path integrals of quantum-spin Hamiltonians. Spin coherent states are defined by rotating the fully polarized state  $|S, S\rangle$  – with  $\hat{\mathbf{S}}^2|S, S\rangle = S(S + 1)|S, S\rangle$  and  $\hat{S}^z|S, S\rangle = S|S, S\rangle$  – by angles  $\theta$  around the  $y$ -axis and  $\phi$  around the  $z$ -axis:

$$|\mathbf{\Omega}\rangle = e^{i\hat{S}^z\phi} e^{i\hat{S}^y\theta} e^{i\hat{S}^z\chi}|S, S\rangle. \quad (9)$$

Here  $\mathbf{\Omega} = (\sin\theta \cos\phi, \sin\theta \sin\phi, \cos\theta)$  is a unit vector, and  $\chi$  is a gauge freedom adding an overall phase. Their following properties will be useful:

$$\frac{2S + 1}{4\pi} \int d\mathbf{\Omega} |\mathbf{\Omega}\rangle \langle \mathbf{\Omega}| = 1, \quad \text{tr} \hat{A} = \frac{2S + 1}{4\pi} \int d\mathbf{\Omega} \langle \mathbf{\Omega} | \hat{A} | \mathbf{\Omega} \rangle \quad (10)$$

where  $d\mathbf{\Omega} = d\theta \sin\theta d\phi$ , and:

$$\langle \mathbf{\Omega} | \mathbf{\Omega}' \rangle = \left( \frac{1 + \mathbf{\Omega} \cdot \mathbf{\Omega}'}{2} \right)^S e^{-iS\psi}, \quad \psi = 2 \arctan \left[ \tan \left( \frac{\phi - \phi'}{2} \right) \frac{\cos[(\theta + \theta')/2]}{\cos[(\theta - \theta')/2]} \right] + \chi - \chi'. \quad (11)$$

(3.a) Construct the spin-coherent path integral, i.e. show that:

$$Z \equiv \text{tr} \mathcal{T}_\tau e^{-\int_0^\beta d\tau \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\tau)} = \int \mathcal{D}\mathbf{\Omega}(\tau) \exp(-\mathcal{S}[\mathbf{\Omega}(\tau)]) \quad (12)$$

with the action:

$$\mathcal{S}[\mathbf{\Omega}(\tau)] = -iS \sum_j \omega[\mathbf{\Omega}_j] + \int_0^\beta d\tau \langle \mathbf{\Omega}(\tau) | \hat{\mathcal{H}}(\tau) | \mathbf{\Omega}(\tau) \rangle. \quad (13)$$

Here  $j$  labels different spins in a lattice, and we defined

$$\exp[iS\omega[\mathbf{\Omega}]] = \prod_{n=1}^N \langle \mathbf{\Omega}(\tau_n + \delta\tau) | \mathbf{\Omega}(\tau_n) \rangle, \quad \tau_n = n\delta\tau, \quad \delta\tau = \beta/N. \quad (14)$$

Which boundary conditions does  $\mathbf{\Omega}(\tau)$  in the path integral obey?

- (3.b) Simplify the contribution  $\omega[\Omega]$  to the action by assuming continuous differentiable trajectories and show that:

$$\omega[\Omega] = - \int_0^\beta d\tau (\partial_\tau \phi) \cos[\theta] + \partial_\tau \chi. \quad (15)$$

By choosing the gauge convention  $\chi_j(\tau) \equiv 0$ , simplify the result further and show that:

$$\omega[\Omega] = - \oint_{\phi_0}^{\phi_\beta} d\phi \cos(\theta). \quad (16)$$

Discuss how this Berry-phase contribution is geometric and does not depend on the explicit time-dependence of  $\phi(\tau)$ .

- (3.c) Construct the effective action  $S$  for a Heisenberg interaction:

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \hat{\mathbf{S}}_i \cdot \hat{\mathbf{S}}_j. \quad (17)$$

*Hint:* Show first that  $\Omega \cdot \hat{\mathbf{S}}|\Omega\rangle = S|\Omega\rangle$ .

- (3.d) Discuss on generic grounds and using the above path-integral formalism why  $S \rightarrow \infty$  corresponds to the classical limit.