

5. Homework in "Path Integrals"

Problem 14: Over-completeness of coherent states

Proof the over-completeness of the fermion coherent states,

$$\langle \psi | \psi' \rangle = \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \bar{\psi} \psi - \frac{1}{2} \bar{\psi}' \psi' + \bar{\psi} \psi' \right\}.$$

Hint: ψ and f^\dagger anti-commute and therefore $\psi|1\rangle = -|1\rangle\psi$ but $\psi|0\rangle = |0\rangle\psi$.

Problem 15: Time evolution of boson and fermion coherent states

Let a, a^\dagger and f, f^\dagger be the boson and fermion annihilation and creation operators, respectively.

For $H_B := \hbar\omega a^\dagger a$ and $H_F := \hbar\omega f^\dagger f$ show that

$$\langle z | e^{-iH_B t/\hbar} | z' \rangle = \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} |z|^2 - \frac{1}{2} |z'|^2 + e^{-i\omega t} z^* z' \right\},$$

$$\langle \psi | e^{-iH_F t/\hbar} | \psi' \rangle = \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \bar{\psi} \psi - \frac{1}{2} \bar{\psi}' \psi' + e^{-i\omega t} \bar{\psi} \psi' \right\}.$$

Problem 16: The pseudoclassical harmonic oscillator

Consider the pseudoclassical Lagrangian

$$L(\dot{x}, x, \dot{\bar{\psi}}, \bar{\psi}, \dot{\psi}, \psi) = \frac{1}{2} \dot{x}^2 - \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 x^2 + \frac{i}{2} (\bar{\psi} \dot{\psi} - \dot{\bar{\psi}} \psi) - \omega \bar{\psi} \psi$$

where x represents a bosonic (even Grassmann number) and $\bar{\psi}, \psi$ are fermionic (odd Grassmann numbers) degrees of freedom.

- Derive the pseudoclassical equations of motion for $x, \bar{\psi}$ and ψ .
- Following the Ansatz $x(t) = x_B(t) + q(t) \bar{\psi}_0 \psi_0$ made in Exercise 14, derive the solutions of the equations of motion for initial conditions $x(0) = x_0 + q_0 \bar{\psi}_0 \psi_0$ and $\dot{x} = \dot{x}_0 + \dot{q}_0 \bar{\psi}_0 \psi_0$, where $\bar{\psi}(0) = \bar{\psi}_0, \psi(0) = \psi_0$.