

PROBLEM SET SOLUTIONS

① b)  $\partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi = \frac{1}{c^2} (\partial \phi / \partial t)^2 - (\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x})^2 - (\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y})^2 - (\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z})^2$   
 c) We have:

$$\tilde{A}^\mu(\Lambda x) = \Lambda^\mu_\nu A^\nu(x)$$

OR:  $\tilde{A}^\mu(x) = \Lambda^\mu_\nu A^\nu(\Lambda^{-1}x)$

With  $\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & -\gamma\beta & 0 \\ -\gamma\beta & \gamma & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  we have  $\Lambda^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & \gamma\beta & 0 \\ \gamma\beta & \gamma & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Then  $\Lambda^{-1}x = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma ct + \gamma\beta x \\ \gamma\beta ct + \gamma x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$  ← note  $\gamma$  is unchanged

and  $\tilde{A}^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & -\gamma\beta & 0 \\ -\gamma\beta & \gamma & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} E\gamma/c \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\gamma E\gamma}{c} \\ -\frac{\gamma\beta E\gamma}{c} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Note that we have a const electric & magnetic field after the boost

(2)

a) The angular momentum operator  $S_x$  gives the infinitesimal change in a state after a rotation about the x axis. we have:

$$\delta |\psi\rangle = \delta\theta \cdot \frac{J_x}{i\hbar} |\psi\rangle \quad (*)$$

$$= -\frac{i}{\hbar} \delta\theta \frac{1}{2} (J_+ + J_-) \left| \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \right\rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\delta |\psi\rangle = -\frac{i}{2} \delta\theta \cdot \left| \frac{1}{2} -\frac{1}{2} \right\rangle}$$

b) For a  $45^\circ$  rotation, we need to solve/integrate the differential equation

(\*) :

$$\frac{\delta |\psi\rangle}{\delta\theta} = \frac{J_x}{i\hbar} |\psi\rangle$$

This gives :

$$|\psi_{45}\rangle = e^{\frac{J_x \delta\theta}{i\hbar \frac{1}{4}}} |\psi\rangle$$

③ Starting with  $S = \int dt \int_0^L dx \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \partial_t \phi \partial_t \phi - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 \right\}$ , we can change variables to Fourier modes by writing:

$$\phi(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \phi_n^c \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{L}\right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \phi_n^s \sin\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

← real
→

OR

$$\phi(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \phi_n e^{\frac{2i\pi n x}{L}} \quad \text{with} \quad \phi_{-n}^* = \phi_n$$

← complex
↑ to ensure that  $\phi$  is real

(We take these forms to ensure  $\phi(x+L) = \phi(x)$ )

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We can solve the problem using either choice of variables. With the sines & cosines, we find that:

$$\begin{aligned} E &= \int dt \int_0^L dx \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \dot{\phi}^2 + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x \phi)^2 + \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 \right\} \\ &= \frac{L}{4} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\dot{\phi}_n^c)^2 + \left[ \left( \frac{2\pi n}{L} \right)^2 + m^2 \right] (\phi_n^c)^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{L}{4} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (\dot{\phi}_n^s)^2 + \left[ \left( \frac{2\pi n}{L} \right)^2 + m^2 \right] (\phi_n^s)^2 \end{aligned}$$

So  $\phi_n^c$  and  $\phi_n^s$  all correspond to harmonic oscillators with

$$M = \frac{L}{2} \quad \omega_n = \sqrt{m^2 + \left( \frac{2\pi n}{L} \right)^2}$$

We then define:

$$P_n^s = M \dot{\phi}_n^s = \frac{L}{2} \dot{\phi}_n^s \quad P_n^c = M \dot{\phi}_n^c = \frac{L}{2} \dot{\phi}_n^c$$

To convert classical observables to quantum operators, we write everything in terms of  $\phi_n^{c,s}$  and  $p_n^{c,s}$  then promote these to operators obeying  $[\phi_n^{c,s}, p_n^{c,s}] = i\hbar$ .

For this problem, we're interested in finding momentum eigenstates. Using the standard procedure, we can derive the momentum operator by considering the variation of  $S$  under  $\delta\phi = -\varepsilon(x,t)\phi'$ . This gives:

$$\delta S = -\int dt \int dx \left[ \dot{\varepsilon}(\dot{\phi}\phi') + \varepsilon' \left( -\frac{1}{2}\dot{\phi}^2 - \frac{1}{2}(\phi')^2 + \frac{1}{2}(m^2\phi^2) \right) \right]$$

The momentum density is then  $\dot{\phi}\phi'$  so the net momentum is

$$P = -\int_0^L dx \dot{\phi}\phi'$$

To write the quantum operator, we first change variables to modes:

$$\begin{aligned} P &= -\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n\pi (\dot{\phi}_n^c \phi_n^s - \dot{\phi}_n^s \phi_n^c) \\ &= \frac{2\pi}{L} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n (-p_n^c \phi_n^s + p_n^s \phi_n^c) \end{aligned}$$

To analyze the single particle states, we define cr. & ann. ops as usual by:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_n^{c,s} &= (a_n^c + a_n^{c\dagger}) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2M\omega_n}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L\omega_n}} (a_n^c + a_n^{c\dagger}) \quad \left( \text{we are using } \hbar=1 \right) \\ p_n^{c,s} &= i(a_n^{c\dagger} - a_n^c) \sqrt{\frac{M\omega_n}{2}} = \frac{1}{2} i \sqrt{L\omega_n} (a_n^{c\dagger} - a_n^c) \end{aligned}$$

with equivalent expressions for  $\phi_n^s$  and  $p_n^s$  in terms of  $a_n^s$  and  $a_n^{s\dagger}$ .

Writing  $P$  in terms of  $a$ 's &  $a^\dagger$ 's, we get:

$$P = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2\pi n}{L} i \left( -a_n^{c\dagger} a_n^s + a_n^{s\dagger} a_n^c \right)$$

From this expression, we see that  $P$  acting on  $a_n^{tc}|0\rangle$  will be proportional to  $a_n^{ts}|0\rangle$  and vice versa, so the momentum eigenstates will be linear combinations:

$$|\psi\rangle = \alpha a_n^{tc}|0\rangle + \beta a_n^{ts}|0\rangle$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} P|\psi\rangle &= P(\alpha a_n^{tc}|0\rangle + \beta a_n^{ts}|0\rangle) \\ &= -\frac{2\pi n}{L}(-i\alpha a_n^{ts}|0\rangle + i\beta a_n^{tc}|0\rangle) \end{aligned}$$

Demanding  $P|\psi\rangle = p|\psi\rangle$ , we have:

$$+i\alpha \frac{2\pi n}{L} = p\beta$$

$$-i\beta \frac{2\pi n}{L} = p\alpha$$

The solutions are  $\beta = +i\alpha$  with  $p = \frac{2\pi n}{L}$  and  $\beta = -i\alpha$  with  $p = -\frac{2\pi n}{L}$ . Thus, the momentum eigenstates are:

← chosen for proper normalization

$$|p = \frac{2\pi n}{L}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(a_n^{tc} + i a_n^{ts})|0\rangle \equiv a_n^+|0\rangle \quad n \geq 1$$

$$|p = -\frac{2\pi n}{L}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(a_n^{tc} - i a_n^{ts})|0\rangle \equiv a_{-n}^+|0\rangle \quad n \geq 1$$

We also have the special case  $n=0$ :

$$|p=0\rangle = a_0^{tc}|0\rangle = a_0^+|0\rangle$$

We can now go back and write the field  $\phi(x)$  in terms of these.

We have:

$$\phi(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \phi_n^c \cos\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{L}\right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \phi_n^s \sin\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{L}\right)$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{L\omega_n}} (a_n^c + a_n^{ct}) \cos\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{L}\right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{L\omega_n}} (a_n^s + a_n^{st}) \sin\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{L}\right)$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{L\omega_n}} (a_n^c + a_n^{ct}) \frac{e^{\frac{2\pi i n x}{L}} + e^{-\frac{2\pi i n x}{L}}}{2}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{\sqrt{L\omega_n}} (a_n^s + a_n^{st}) \frac{e^{\frac{2\pi i n x}{L}} - e^{-\frac{2\pi i n x}{L}}}{2i}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{L\omega_0}} (a_0^c + a_0^{ct})$$

$$+ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{L\omega_n}} e^{\frac{2\pi i n x}{L}} \left( \overset{a_n^+}{a_n^{ct}} - i a_n^{st} + a_n^c - i \overset{a_n}{a_n^s} \right)$$

$$+ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{L\omega_n}} e^{-\frac{2\pi i n x}{L}} \left( a_n^{ct} + i \overset{a_n^+}{a_n^{st}} + a_n^c + i \overset{a_n}{a_n^s} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{L\omega_n}} \left\{ e^{-\frac{2\pi i n x}{L}} (a_n^+) + (a_n) e^{\frac{2\pi i n x}{L}} \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi(x) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{L\omega_n}} \left\{ a_n^+ e^{-\frac{2\pi i n x}{L}} + a_n e^{\frac{2\pi i n x}{L}} \right\}$$

$$\text{OR } \phi(x) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{p=\frac{2\pi n}{L}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{L\omega_n}} \left\{ a_p^+ e^{-ipx} + a_p e^{+ipx} \right\}$$

e) We have classically:

$$\partial_t \phi(y) = \sum \dot{\phi}_n^c \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{L}\right) + \dot{\phi}_n^s \sin\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

In terms of the conjugate momenta  $p_n^c = \frac{L}{2} \dot{\phi}_n^c$ , we get

$$\pi(y) = \frac{2}{L} \sum p_n^c \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{L}\right) + p_n^s \sin\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

Quantum mechanically:

$$[\phi_n^c, p_n^c] = i\hbar$$

$$[\phi_n^s, p_n^s] = i\hbar$$

(all other commutators vanish)

So:  $[\phi(x), \pi(y)]$

$$= \left[ \sum_n \phi_n^c \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{L}\right) + \phi_n^s \sin\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{L}\right), \sum_m p_m^c \cos\left(\frac{2m\pi y}{L}\right) + p_m^s \sin\left(\frac{2m\pi y}{L}\right) \right]$$

$$= \frac{2i}{L} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left( \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi y}{L}\right) + \sin\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{2n\pi y}{L}\right) \right) \quad (\text{setting } \hbar=1)$$

$$= \frac{2i}{L} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left( 2e^{(inx - iny) \cdot \frac{2\pi}{L}} + 2e^{(iny - inx) \cdot \frac{2\pi}{L}} \right) \cdot \frac{1}{4}$$

$$= \frac{i}{L} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{in(x-y) \cdot 2\pi}$$

$$= i \delta(x-y)$$

to show that this is a delta fn, we can integrate against  $f(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} f_n e^{2\pi i n x / L}$  and show the result is  $f(y)$ .