

**1. Quantum kinematics.** Consider motion along the  $x$  axis with, as usual, position operator  $X$  and momentum operator  $P$  as well as their respective eigenkets  $|x\rangle$  and  $|p\rangle$ .

(a) Show that the operator defined by

$$U = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\lambda |p = \lambda p_0\rangle \sqrt{p_0 x_0} \langle x = \lambda x_0|$$

is unitary, whereby the parameter  $x_0 > 0$  is a reference length and  $p_0 > 0$  is a reference momentum. [8 marks]

(b) Show that  $U$  turns position kets into momentum kets in accordance with

$$U|x\rangle = |p = p_0 x/x_0\rangle \sqrt{p_0/x_0}.$$

[6 marks]

(c) Conversely, do you get a position bra if  $U$  is applied to  $\langle p|$ ? Justify your answer. [3 marks]

(d) Show that

$$U^\dagger f(X, P) U = f(-x_0 P/p_0, p_0 X/x_0)$$

for any function of  $X$  and  $P$ . [8 marks]

**2. Temporal evolution.** The Hamilton operator of a two-dimensional system is

$$H = \frac{1}{2M}(P_1^2 + P_2^2) + \omega(X_1 P_2 - X_2 P_1)$$

with constant mass  $M$  and frequency  $\omega$ , and  $[X_j, P_k] = i\hbar\delta_{jk}$  for  $j, k = 1, 2$ .

(a) State the Heisenberg equations of motion for  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $P_1$ , and  $P_2$ . [4 marks]

(b) Show that  $P_1^2 + P_2^2$  and  $X_1 P_2 - X_2 P_1$  are constants of motion. [6 marks]

(c) Solve the equations of motion of part (a) for  $P_1(t)$  and  $P_2(t)$ . [7 marks]

(d) Determine the time transformation function  $\langle x_1, x_2, t | p_1, p_2, t_0 \rangle$ . [8 marks]

**3. Orbital angular momentum.** As usual we denote by  $L_1$ ,  $L_2$ , and  $L_3$  the cartesian components of the orbital angular momentum vector operator  $\vec{L}$ , and the common eigenkets of  $\vec{L}^2$  and  $L_3$  by  $|l, m\rangle$ . The state of the system is given by a ket of the form

$$|\rangle = |l = 1, m = 1\rangle\alpha + |l = 1, m = -1\rangle\beta,$$

where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are complex coefficients with  $|\alpha|^2 + |\beta|^2 = 1$ .

- (a) Determine the expectation values of  $L_1$ ,  $L_2$ , and  $L_3$  as well as their spreads  $\delta L_1$ ,  $\delta L_2$ , and  $\delta L_3$ . [10 marks]
- (b) For each pair of the spreads  $\delta L_1$ ,  $\delta L_2$ , and  $\delta L_3$ , state the uncertainty relation that the pair obeys. [5 marks]
- (c) Verify that the equal sign applies in the uncertainty relation for  $\delta L_1$  and  $\delta L_2$  if  $\alpha = \frac{3}{5}$  and  $\beta = \frac{4}{5}$ . [5 marks]
- (d) What can you say, quite generally, about the coefficients  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  if the equal sign applies in the uncertainty relation for  $\delta L_1$  and  $\delta L_2$ ? [5 marks]

**4. Perturbed oscillator.** A harmonic oscillator (ladder operators  $A$ ,  $A^\dagger$ ; circular frequency  $\omega$ ) is perturbed by a cubic interaction of strength  $\hbar\Omega$ ,

$$H = H_0 + H_1 \quad \text{with} \quad H_0 = \hbar\omega A^\dagger A, \quad H_1 = \hbar\Omega(A^\dagger A A^\dagger + A A^\dagger A).$$

- (a) Determine the 1st-order change of the  $n$ th energy level. [5 marks]
- (b) Determine the 2nd-order change of the  $n$ th energy level. [10 marks]
- (c) What is the energy spacing  $\Delta E_n$  between the  $n$ th and the  $(n - 1)$ th level when the perturbation  $H_1$  is taken into account up to 2nd order? [5 marks]
- (d) For which values of  $n$  will it surely be necessary to include higher than 2nd-order corrections? [5 marks]