

Problem 1 (20 marks)

A harmonic oscillator is in the coherent state described by the ket $|a\rangle$. Determine the expectation values of position X and momentum P and their spreads δX and δP . How large is their product $\delta X \delta P$?

Problem 2 (20 marks)

Orbital angular momentum: If the system is in an eigenstate of \vec{L}^2 with eigenvalue $2\hbar^2$, what are the possible outcomes when a measurement of $L_1 L_2 + L_2 L_1$ is performed?

Problem 3 (30 marks)

A harmonic oscillator (natural frequency ω , ladder operators A and A^\dagger) is perturbed by a potential proportional to $i(A^{\dagger 2} - A^2)$, so that the Hamilton operator is

$$H = \hbar\omega A^\dagger A + i\hbar\Omega(A^{\dagger 2} - A^2) \quad \text{with } |\Omega| < \frac{1}{2}\omega.$$

Introduce new ladder operators B and B^\dagger as linear combinations of A and A^\dagger (that is $B = \alpha A + \beta A^\dagger$ with $[B, B^\dagger] = 1$, of course), such that

$$H = \hbar\omega' B^\dagger B + E_0$$

and determine the ground state energy of E_0 thereby.

[Hint: You'll need to establish three equations for $|\alpha|$, $|\beta|$, and ω' .]

Problem 4 (30 marks)

Motion along the x axis; position operator X , momentum operator P . The ground state energy E_0 of the Hamilton operator

$$H = \frac{P^2}{2M} + \frac{1}{2}M\omega^2 X^2 + F|X| \quad \text{with } M > 0, \omega > 0, F \text{ arbitrary}$$

is a function of the parameters M , ω , and F . Determine $\left. \frac{\partial E_0}{\partial F} \right|_{F=0}$.