

Problem 1 (5+15+10=30 marks)

The system is in the state described by the position wave function $\psi(x) = \langle x | \rangle$. We consider the function $f(a)$ of the real length parameter a that is defined by

$$f(a) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \psi(x-a)^* \psi(x+a),$$

the so-called “auto-correlation function.”

- How is $f(-a)$ related to $f(a)$?
- Find the operator $W_a(X, P)$, for which $f(a) = \langle |W_a(X, P)| \rangle$. State $W_a(X, P)$ explicitly as a function of position operator X and momentum operator P .
- What is the momentum spread δP if $f(a) = [1 + (ka)^2]^{-2}$ with $k > 0$?

Problem 2 (20 marks)

The X, P -ordered form of operator $Z = e^{iX; P/\hbar}$ is an ordered exponential function. What is the P, X -ordered form of Z ?

Problem 3 (20 marks)

For given x', p', x'' , and p'' , determine x, p , and ϕ such that

$$e^{i(x'P - p'X)/\hbar} e^{i(x''P - p''X)/\hbar} = e^{i(xP - pX)/\hbar} e^{i\phi}$$

holds.

Problem 4 (10 marks)

The state of a particle moving along the x axis is specified by the statistical operator $\rho(X, P)$. Evaluate

$$\text{tr} \left\{ X \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial X} \right\} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{tr} \left\{ P \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial P} \right\}.$$

Hint: The answers do not depend on the particular choice for $\rho(X, P)$.

Problem 5 (10+10=20 marks)

Consider motion along the x axis with the dynamics governed by the Hamilton operator $H = \gamma(XP + PX)$ with $\gamma > 0$.

- State and solve Heisenberg's equations of motion for $X(t)$ and $P(t)$.
- Then determine the total time derivative $\frac{d}{dt}F$ and the parametric time derivative $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}F$ of $F = X(t_1)P(t_2)X(t_1)$, where t_1 and t_2 are two arbitrary instants.