

Exercise 1: Natural units

Natural units are defined by setting $c = \hbar = 1$.

Use natural units to express $1kg$ in GeV , as well as $1s$ in $1/GeV$. Use your results to express Newton's constant of gravity

$$G_N = 6,67 \times 10^{-11} \frac{m^3}{kg s^2} \quad (1)$$

in natural units.

Finally give the value of the Planck mass $M_{pl} = 1/\sqrt{G_N}$.

Exercise 2: Charged particle in a constant magnetic field

We consider a particle with charge e and mass m .

- i) The Lagrangian of a charged particle in an electromagnetic field is given by

$$L(\mathbf{r}, \dot{\mathbf{r}}, t) = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{\mathbf{r}}^2 + e \frac{\dot{\mathbf{r}}}{c} \cdot \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) - e\Phi(\mathbf{r}) \quad (2)$$

with the scalar potential $\Phi(\mathbf{r})$ and the vector potential $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r})$.

Calculate the Hamilton function $H(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p}, t)$ of the system, using a Legendre transformation.

- ii) We consider now a charged particle moving in a constant magnetic field $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}) = B \cdot \mathbf{e}_z$, $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) = 0$. Determine the corresponding vector potential $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r})$ (const. in time), as well as the scalar potential $\Phi(\mathbf{r})$. Use your results to formulate the Hamilton function of the system.

(Hint: Choose the vector potential such, that it has only a non-zero value in y direction $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) = A(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \mathbf{e}_y$)

- iii) We are now going to describe the system quantum-mechanically. Use the correspondence principle of quantum mechanics to formulate the Hamilton operator. Finally give the time-independent Schrödinger equation of the system.

Exercise 3: Harmonic oscillator in quantum mechanics

Recall the time-independent Schrödinger equation of the one-dimensional harmonic oscillator in quantum mechanics

$$\left(\frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2\hat{x}^2\right)\psi(x) = E\psi(x), \quad (3)$$

with momentum operator \hat{p} and the position operator \hat{x} .

It has been shown that the energy eigenvalues E can be calculated easily in an energy basis of the system $\{|n\rangle\}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, by making use of two operators defined as

$$\hat{a} := \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}} \left(\hat{x} + \frac{i}{m\omega}\hat{p}\right), \quad \hat{a}^\dagger := \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}} \left(\hat{x} - \frac{i}{m\omega}\hat{p}\right), \quad (4)$$

with the property to raise and lower ('create' and 'annihilate') the states

$$\hat{a}|n\rangle = c_n^-|n-1\rangle, \quad \hat{a}^\dagger|n\rangle = c_n^+|n+1\rangle. \quad (5)$$

The occupation number operator acts as

$$\hat{N}|n\rangle = \hat{a}^\dagger\hat{a}|n\rangle = n|n\rangle. \quad (6)$$

Calculate the commutator $[\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger]$ and the normalization constants c_n^- and c_n^+ . Use the operators \hat{a} and \hat{a}^\dagger to reformulate the Hamilton operator and give the energy eigenvalues E_n .

Exercise 4: Continuity equation in quantum mechanics

Consider a wave function $\psi(\mathbf{r}, t)$ satisfying the Schrödinger equation

$$\left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\Delta + V(\mathbf{r})\right)\psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = i\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\psi(\mathbf{r}, t). \quad (7)$$

The probability density is defined as $\rho(\mathbf{r}, t) := \psi^*(\mathbf{r}, t)\psi(\mathbf{r}, t)$. Show that it satisfies the continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\rho(\mathbf{r}, t) + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}, t) = 0, \quad (8)$$

where $\mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}, t)$ is the probability current

$$\mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}, t) := \frac{\hbar}{2im}(\psi^*(\nabla\psi) - (\nabla\psi^*)\psi). \quad (9)$$