

Exercise 1: Vacuum expectation value for the harmonic oscillator (4 points)

In the lecture you found the following euclidean generating functional for the one-dimensional harmonic oscillator

$$Z_E[j] = \exp\left(\frac{1}{4m\omega} \int \int j(\tau_1) e^{-\omega|\tau_1-\tau_2|} j(\tau_2) d\tau_1 d\tau_2\right). \quad (1)$$

Calculate the vacuum expectation value of

$$\langle 0 | x^2 | 0 \rangle, \quad (2)$$

using $Z_E[j]$.

Exercise 2: Euclidean path integral (6 points)

Following the same steps as in the lecture, derive the one dimensional, euclidean path integral

$$\langle x_2 | U(\tau_2 - \tau_1) | x_1 \rangle = \int_{y(\tau_1)=x_1}^{y(\tau_2)=x_2} e^{-S_E[y]} Dy, \quad (3)$$

with evolution operator (for imaginary time $\tau_2 > \tau_1$)

$$U(\tau_2 - \tau_1) = e^{-(\tau_2 - \tau_1)H}, \quad (4)$$

with a time independent Hamilton operator $H = H_0 + V = \frac{p^2}{2m} + V$. The quantity $S_E[y]$ is the euclidean action

$$S_E[y] = \int \left(\frac{m\dot{y}^2}{2} + V \right) d\tau, \quad (5)$$

that needs to be identified in the derivation.

Exercise 3: Gaussian integrals II (5+5=10 points)

Prove the following Gaussian integrals

- i) Let $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be a n-dimensional vector and $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be a real, symmetric matrix, with positive eigenvalues $\lambda_i > 0$, that can be diagonalized. Prove that

$$\int e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^T A x} d^n x = \sqrt{\frac{(2\pi)^n}{\det(A)}}. \quad (6)$$

Hint: Diagonalize the matrix A (recall the spectral theorem).

- ii) In the same manner prove that

$$\int e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^T A x + J^T x} d^n x = \sqrt{\frac{(2\pi)^n}{\det(A)}} e^{\frac{1}{2}J^T A^{-1} J}. \quad (7)$$