

Exercise 1: Natural units (5 points)

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 (5 points)

We consider a particle with charge e and mass m . 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.

Exercise 3: Continuity equation in quantum mechanics (3 points)

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

$$\left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\Delta + V(\mathbf{r}) \right) \psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi(\mathbf{r}, t). \quad (3)$$

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

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho(\mathbf{r}, t) + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}, t) = 0, \quad (4)$$

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

$$\mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}, t) := \frac{\hbar}{2im} (\psi^* (\nabla \psi) - (\nabla \psi^*) \psi). \quad (5)$$

Exercise 4: Harmonic oscillator in quantum mechanics (7 points)

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

$$\left(\frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2\hat{x}^2 \right) \psi(x) = E\psi(x), \quad (6)$$

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

$$\hat{a} := \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}} \left(\hat{x} + \frac{i}{m\omega}\hat{p} \right), \quad \hat{a}^\dagger := \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}} \left(\hat{x} - \frac{i}{m\omega}\hat{p} \right), \quad (7)$$

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

$$\hat{a} |n\rangle = c_n^- |n-1\rangle, \quad \hat{a}^\dagger |n\rangle = c_n^+ |n+1\rangle. \quad (8)$$

The occupation number operator acts as

$$\hat{N} |n\rangle = \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} |n\rangle = n |n\rangle. \quad (9)$$

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 .