

PHY 341 HW Ch.3b

Do problems 3.7(a), plus the following.

q3-6

- (a) Let $\hat{Q} = -\frac{d^2}{d\phi^2}$ where ϕ is the azimuthal angle between 0 and 2π . Is \hat{Q} Hermitian? If so, find its eigenfunctions and eigenvalues. If no, why?
(b) Do the same if $\hat{Q} = i\frac{d^2}{d\phi^2}$.

q3-7

Consider the complete basis set $|n\rangle$ representing the n th eigenstate of the SHO, with $n = 0, 1, \dots$. Let $|\Psi_1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle - i|2\rangle)$ and $|\Psi_2\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}(|0\rangle - 2|1\rangle + i|2\rangle)$.

- (a) Find the projections $a_n = \langle n|\Psi_1\rangle$ and $b_n = \langle n|\Psi_2\rangle$. (b) Write down $|\Psi_1\rangle$ and $|\Psi_2\rangle$ as column vectors and $\langle\Psi_1|$ and $\langle\Psi_2|$ as row vectors. (c) Find $\langle\Psi_1|\Psi_1\rangle$, $\langle\Psi_1|\Psi_2\rangle$, and $\langle\Psi_2|\Psi_2\rangle$. Is $\langle\Psi_2|\Psi_1\rangle = \langle\Psi_1|\Psi_2\rangle^*$? Is it zero and what does it mean? (d) Predict, without explicit calculation, whether $\langle x\rangle = \langle\Psi_1|x|\Psi_1\rangle$ and $\langle p\rangle = \langle\Psi_1|p|\Psi_1\rangle$ should be zero. Write down your predictions (really, on your honors). (e) Calculate $\langle x\rangle$ and $\langle p\rangle$. You do not have to complete the calculations fully, and can stop as soon as whether a null result can be ascertained. Compare your results with the predictions, and discuss discrepancies, if any.

q3-8

Consider a two-state basis set consisting of the ground and first excited states of the SHO, $|1\rangle \equiv |\psi_0\rangle$ and $|2\rangle \equiv |\psi_1\rangle$, respectively. Assume an operator $U = \alpha x$. (a) Construct the matrix representation of $U_{mn} = \langle m|U|n\rangle$ with $m(n) = 1, 2$. Use existing results as much as possible (e.g. from the previous problem). (b) Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of U . Confirm that the eigenvectors are orthogonal.

q3-9

- (a) Find the eigenfunction of the position operator \hat{x} in momentum space, call it $\psi_x(p)$, or $\langle p|x\rangle$ in Dirac notation. (b) How does your answer above relate to $\psi_p(x)$, the eigenfunction of momentum in position space? Explain.

q3-10 In matrix form, an operator is (ϵ is real)

$$H = \epsilon \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & i & 0 \\ -i & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- (a) Is H Hermitian? (b) Using computation, find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of H . Verify whether the eigenvectors are orthogonal.