

**Problem 31.** –*Trotter decompositions*

Show, that while

$$e^{-i\epsilon \frac{T+V}{\hbar}} = e^{-i\epsilon \frac{V}{\hbar}} e^{-i\epsilon \frac{T}{\hbar}} \left(1 + \frac{\epsilon^2}{2\hbar^2} [V, T]\right) \quad (1)$$

it holds

$$e^{-i\epsilon \frac{T+V}{\hbar}} = e^{-i\epsilon \frac{V}{2\hbar}} e^{-i\epsilon \frac{T}{\hbar}} e^{-i\epsilon \frac{V}{2\hbar}} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3) \quad (2)$$

**Problem 32.** –*Feynman path integral*

In the lecture we used expression (2) to construct a path integral. Using (1) show, that alternatively one finds

$$\langle x_b, t | x_a, t = 0 \rangle = \int \mathcal{D}x \int \mathcal{D}p \, e^{i \int dt \frac{1}{\hbar} (p\dot{x} - H)} \quad (3)$$

where

$$\mathcal{D}x = \prod_{n=1}^N dx_n \quad \mathcal{D}p = \prod_{n=1}^{N+1} \frac{dp_n}{2\pi\hbar}$$

Show first, that up to second order in  $\epsilon$

$$\langle x_n | e^{-i\epsilon \frac{H}{\hbar}} | x_{n-1} \rangle \approx \int \frac{dp_y}{2\pi\hbar} e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} p_n (x_n - x_{n-1}) - \frac{i}{\hbar} \epsilon [T(p_n) + V(x_n)]}$$