

**Note:** Please insert your assignment into the mailboxes 5th floor, building 46. The problems marked by a  $\blacktriangle$  have to be submitted.

$\blacktriangle$  **Problem 36. Kinetic momentum**

Different from the canonical momentum  $\hat{p}$  the kinetic momentum  $m\hat{v} = \hat{p} - \frac{q}{c}\vec{A}$  describes a charged particle in an external electromagnetic field and is invariant under gauge transformation. Show that for  $\hat{v}$  the following commutation relations hold:

$$[\hat{x}_i, m\hat{v}_j] = i\hbar\delta_{ij} \quad (1)$$

$$[m\hat{v}_i, m\hat{v}_j] = i\hbar\frac{q}{c}\epsilon_{ijk}B_k, \quad (2)$$

where  $\vec{B} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}$ .

$\blacktriangle$  **Problem 37. Unitary invariants**

Let  $\hat{A}, \hat{B}, \hat{C}$  be operators on a separable Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  and let  $\hat{U}$  be a unitary operator on  $\mathcal{H}$ . Show:

(a)

$$\text{Tr}\{\hat{A}\hat{B}\hat{C}\} = \text{Tr}\{\hat{B}\hat{C}\hat{A}\} = \text{Tr}\{\hat{C}\hat{A}\hat{B}\}. \quad (3)$$

(b)

$$\text{Tr}\{\hat{A}\} = \text{Tr}\{\hat{U}^{-1}\hat{A}\hat{U}\} = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i, \quad (4)$$

$$\det\{\hat{A}\} = \det\{\hat{U}^{-1}\hat{A}\hat{U}\} = \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i, \quad (5)$$

where  $a_i$  are the eigenvalues of  $\hat{A}$ .

$\blacktriangle$  **Problem 38. Determinant and trace 1**

Let  $\hat{A}$  be a self-adjoint operator on a separable Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ . Show that for  $\epsilon \ll 1$ :

$$\det\{1 + \epsilon\hat{A}\} = 1 + \epsilon\text{Tr}\{\hat{A}\} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2). \quad (6)$$

**Problem 39. Determinant and trace 2**

Use problem 38 to show that for a self-adjoint operator on a separable Hilbert space holds:

$$\det\{\exp\{\hat{A}\}\} = \exp\{\text{Tr}\{\hat{A}\}\}. \quad (7)$$

*Hint:* Consider  $\hat{D}(\lambda) = \det\{\exp\{\lambda\hat{A}\}\}$  and write  $\frac{d\hat{D}(\lambda)}{d\lambda}$  as the difference quotient. Alternatively consider a unitary transformation  $\hat{U}$ , that diagonalises  $\hat{A}$ .

**Problem 40. Landau levels - alternative access**

Let  $\vec{B} = (0, 0, B)$  be a constant, homogeneous magnetic field in  $z$ -direction. Let the electric field and the scalar potential be zero, so that the vector potential  $\vec{A}$  is a function of space only. Show that the Hamilton operator

$$\hat{H} = \frac{1}{2m} \left( \hat{\vec{p}} - q\vec{A} \right)^2 = \hat{H}_\perp + \hat{H}_\parallel \quad (8)$$

can be separated in a transversal and longitudinal part

$$\hat{H}_\perp = \frac{m}{2} (\hat{v}_x^2 + \hat{v}_y^2), \quad \hat{H}_\parallel = \frac{m}{2} \hat{v}_z^2. \quad (9)$$

Show that both parts commute, i.e.  $[\hat{H}_\perp, \hat{H}_\parallel] = 0$ . Define the following operators

$$\hat{Q} = \frac{\sqrt{m/M}}{\omega_c} \hat{v}_x, \quad \hat{P} = \sqrt{mM} \hat{v}_y, \quad (10)$$

where  $\omega_c = qB/m$  is the cyclotron frequency. Show that  $\hat{Q}$  and  $\hat{P}$  obey  $[\hat{Q}, \hat{P}] = i\hbar$ . Express  $\hat{H}_\perp$  through  $\hat{Q}$  and  $\hat{P}$  and determine the eigenvalues of  $\hat{H}_\perp$ . What are the energy eigenvalues of  $\hat{H}$  (*Landau levels*)?