

## Problem 1 The Heisenberg group

1. Consider the set  $\mathcal{H}$  of  $3 \times 3$  matrices defined by

$$M(a, b, c) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & a & c \\ 0 & 1 & b \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (1)$$

- a) Show that  $\mathcal{H}$  is a Lie group under matrix multiplication.  
 b) Give an explicit basis of the corresponding Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{h}$ .  
 c) Show that  $\mathfrak{h}$  is spanned by three operators  $(L_1, L_2, L_3)$  obeying the following commutation relations

$$[L_1, L_2] = L_3 \quad [L_1, L_3] = [L_2, L_3] = 0 \quad (2)$$

- d) A Lie algebra endowed with this structure is known as an *Heisenberg algebra*. Show that in quantum mechanics the operators  $(\hat{x}, \hat{p}, i\hbar)$  span a Heisenberg algebra. What about  $(\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger, 1)$ , where  $\hat{a}$  and  $\hat{a}^\dagger$  are bosonic creation and annihilation operators?
2. Consider now a general Heisenberg algebra spanned by three operators  $(L_1, L_2, L_3)$  obeying the commutation relations (2).  
 a) For any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , calculate  $e^{\lambda L_1} L_2 e^{-\lambda L_1}$ . What relation do we recover in the case of the operators  $\hat{x}$  and  $\hat{p}$ ?
3. *Glauber's relation*. We want here to relate  $e^{L_1} e^{L_2}$  and  $e^{L_1+L_2}$ . For this, let us introduce  $F(\lambda)$  defined by

$$F(\lambda) = e^{\lambda L_1} e^{\lambda L_2} e^{-\lambda^2 L_3/2}. \quad (3)$$

- a) Using the result of 2, show that  $F'(\lambda) = (L_1 + L_2)F(\lambda)$ .  
 b) Solve this differential equation and deduce Glauber's relation

$$e^{L_1} e^{L_2} = e^{L_1+L_2} e^{[L_1, L_2]/2}. \quad (4)$$

## Problem 2 The symplectic group $\text{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{R})$

Consider a quantum system of  $n$  modes or particles with  $2n$  phase space observables

$$\hat{\mathbf{r}} = (\hat{x}_1, \dots, \hat{x}_n, \hat{p}_1, \dots, \hat{p}_n)^T. \quad (18)$$

These operators satisfy the canonical commutation relations

$$[\hat{x}_k, \hat{p}_l] = i\hbar \delta_{kl}. \quad (19)$$

1. Find the  $2n \times 2n$  matrix  $J$  that describes the commutation relations in the compact form

$$[\hat{r}_i, \hat{r}_j] = i\hbar J_{ij}. \quad (20)$$

Show that  $J$  defines a non-degenerate, skew-symmetric bilinear form on  $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$ .

2. Transformations of the phase-space observables are described by the action of real  $2n \times 2n$  matrices  $S$  as

$$\hat{\mathbf{r}}' = S\hat{\mathbf{r}}. \quad (21)$$

Canonical transformations are those that conserve the commutation relations. Show that canonical transformations form a Lie group. This group is known as the symplectic group  $\text{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{R})$ . Show that symplectic matrices can be written as

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}, \quad (22)$$

where  $A, B, C, D$  are real  $n \times n$  matrices satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} AB^T - BA^T &= \mathbf{0}_n \\ CD^T - DC^T &= \mathbf{0}_n \\ AD^T - BC^T &= \mathbf{1}_n. \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

3. Consider a Hamiltonian of second order in the phase space observables, written as

$$\hat{H} = \frac{1}{2}\hat{\mathbf{r}}^T H \hat{\mathbf{r}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{kl} H_{kl} \hat{r}_k \hat{r}_l, \quad (24)$$

where the  $H_{kl}$  form a real symmetric  $2n \times 2n$  matrix  $H$  of coefficients. The evolution of phase space observables is described in the Heisenberg picture by

$$\hat{\mathbf{r}}(t) = e^{i\hat{H}t/\hbar} \hat{\mathbf{r}} e^{-i\hat{H}t/\hbar}. \quad (25)$$

Show that this transformation is canonical and find the symplectic matrix  $S_H$  that satisfies

$$\hat{\mathbf{r}}(t) = S_H \hat{\mathbf{r}}. \quad (26)$$

4. Find the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{R})$ . Show that  $JH \in \mathfrak{sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{R})$ .
5. Find a block decomposition of  $L \in \mathfrak{sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{R})$ , in analogy to (22). What is the dimension of  $\text{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{R})$ ?