

1. Consider a system of bosons that are trapped in a harmonic potential in the $x - y$ plane but free to move in the z direction. The Hamiltonian for the system is

$$H = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx dy dz \left[\frac{1}{2m} \nabla \Psi^* \cdot \nabla \Psi + V(\mathbf{x}) \Psi^* \Psi \right]$$

where

$$V(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 (x^2 + y^2),$$

and all products of operators are taken to mean the symmetric combination

$$AB := \frac{1}{2}(AB + BA). \quad (0.1)$$

- (a) Show that this Hamiltonian is diagonalized by writing

$$\Psi(x, y, z, t) = \sum_{mn} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dk}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left[\mathbf{a}_{nmk} u_{mn}(x, y) e^{-i\omega_{nm}(k)t + ikz} \right]$$

with commutation relations

$$\left[\mathbf{a}_{mnk}, \mathbf{a}_{rsq}^* \right] = \delta_{mr} \delta_{ns} \delta(k - q),$$

and mode functions $u_{mn}(x, y)$ satisfying

$$\left[-\frac{1}{2m} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} \right) + V(\mathbf{x}) \right] u_{mnk}(x, y) = \varepsilon_{mn} u_{mnk}(x, y),$$

with normalization conditions

$$\int dx dy u_{mn}^*(x, y) u_{rs}(x, y) = \delta_{mr} \delta_{ns}.$$

(You do not need to compute the explicit form of these mode functions.)

- (b) Show that the single-particle energy eigenvalues are given by

$$\omega_{mn}(k) = \frac{k^2}{2m} + \varepsilon_{mn}$$

with

$$\varepsilon_{mn} = (m + n + 1) \omega.$$

What are the allowed values for m and n ?

- (c) Show that the ground state energy per-unit-length in the z direction is

$$\rho_0 = \lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \frac{E_0}{L} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{mn} \int \frac{dk}{2\pi} \omega_{mn}(k).$$

Evaluate the integral and the mode sums (regulate them using the same trick we did in class) and compute how ρ_0 depends on the parameters m and ω .

You may find the following integral useful:

$$\int_0^\infty ds \frac{s^a e^{ws}}{(e^{ws} - 1)^2} = \frac{\Gamma(a+1)}{w^{a+1}} \zeta(a),$$

where $\Gamma(z)$ is Euler's factorial function and $\zeta(a)$ is the Riemann ζ -function defined by

$$\zeta(a) := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^a}.$$