

# 'Second quantization' - commutation etc.

Last lecture:

- \* Fock space = occupation number representation
- \* Annihilation operator  $a_i$ , reduces number in state  $i$
- \* Creation operator increases number
- \* Multiply by  $\sqrt{N_i}$  makes single-particle operators simple

$$\langle N_k - 1 | a_k | N_k \rangle = \sqrt{N_k} \quad \langle N_i | a_i^\dagger | N_i - 1 \rangle = \sqrt{N_i}$$

$$V = \sum_i V(x_i) = \sum_{ik} V_{ik} a_i^\dagger a_k \quad V_{ik} = \int \psi_i^*(x) V(x) \psi_k(x) dx$$

$$U = \sum_{i < j} U(x_i, x_j) = \sum_{iklm} U_{iklm} a_i^\dagger a_k^\dagger a_l a_m \dots$$

Basis for number counting

Pick basis of position states.

\*  $|0\rangle$  = state with no particles

Note:  $a_x^\dagger, a_x$  often written  $\hat{\psi}^\dagger(x), \hat{\psi}(x)$

•  $|x\rangle = a_x^\dagger |0\rangle \Rightarrow |\psi\rangle = \int \psi(x) a_x^\dagger |0\rangle$

•  $|\psi(x_1, x_2)\rangle = \int dx_1 dx_2 \psi(x_1, x_2) a_{x_1}^\dagger a_{x_2}^\dagger |0\rangle = \int dy_2 dy_1 \psi(y_2, y_1) a_{y_2}^\dagger a_{y_1}^\dagger |0\rangle$

Bosons  $\psi(x_1, x_2) = \psi(x_2, x_1) \Rightarrow a_{x_1}^\dagger a_{x_2}^\dagger = a_{x_2}^\dagger a_{x_1}^\dagger \Rightarrow [a_i^\dagger, a_j^\dagger] = 0$

Fermions  $\psi(x_1, x_2) = -\psi(x_2, x_1) \Rightarrow a_{x_1}^\dagger a_{x_2}^\dagger = -a_{x_2}^\dagger a_{x_1}^\dagger$

$$\Rightarrow \{a_i^\dagger, a_j^\dagger\} = a_i^\dagger a_j^\dagger + a_j^\dagger a_i^\dagger = 0$$

Anticommutator

Fermions  $a_i^\dagger, a_j$  usually called  $c_i^\dagger, c_j$

Hermitian Conjugate  $\Rightarrow [a_i, a_j] = \{c_i, c_j\} = 0$

Q: Does  $a_i^\dagger a_i$  change  $N_i$ ? What is it?

A:  $a_i^\dagger a_i |N_i\rangle = a_i^\dagger (\sqrt{N_i} |N_i - 1\rangle) = \sqrt{N_i} \sqrt{N_i} |N_i\rangle$

$a_i^\dagger a_i = N_i$  Number operator

Remember, non-interacting particles energy  $\epsilon_i$

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum \epsilon_i a_i^\dagger a_i = \sum \epsilon_i N_i \quad (\text{makes sense})$$

True for bosons

Q: What is  $a_i a_i^\dagger$ ? What is  $[a_i, a_i^\dagger]$ ?

A:  $a_i a_i^\dagger |N_i\rangle = a_i \underbrace{\sqrt{N_i+1}}_{N_i+1} |N_i\rangle = (N_i+1) |N_i\rangle$   
*in formula*

$[a_i, a_i^\dagger] = a_i a_i^\dagger - a_i^\dagger a_i = (N_i+1) - N_i = 1$

$\{c_i, c_j^\dagger\} = \delta_{ij}$   
 $= \delta_{ij}$   
 without

$[a_i, a_j^\dagger] = \delta_{ij}, \{c_i, c_j^\dagger\} = \delta_{ij}$

$[a_i, a_j] = 0, \{c_i, c_j\} = 0$

$[a_i^\dagger, a_j^\dagger] = 0, \{c_i^\dagger, c_j^\dagger\} = 0$

Commutation Relations

\* Hamiltonians almost always in second quantized form

\* Gregarious bosons exercise:

$a_r^\dagger = \psi^\dagger(\vec{r}) = \sum \underbrace{\langle \vec{r} | \psi_i \rangle}_{1/\sqrt{M}} a_i^\dagger$

M lowest states

$a_r^\dagger (a_0^\dagger)^{N_0} |0\rangle = \sum_{i=0}^{M-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} a_i^\dagger |N_0\rangle$

$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} \left\{ \underbrace{\sqrt{N_0+1}}_{\text{Probability up by } N_0+1!} |N_0+1\rangle + \sum_{i=1}^{M-1} |N_0, 0, 0, \dots, N_i=1, 0, \dots\rangle \right\}$

Bosons like to collect in same state:

Lasers, superfluids

[View exercise as new derivation  $a_i^\dagger |N_i\rangle = \sqrt{N_i+1} |N_i+1\rangle$ ]

\* Off-diagonal long-range order extra credit exercise:  
apply  $a$ ,  $a^\dagger$  to ground state of many-particle soup

$$\langle \Psi | a^\dagger(r') a(r) | \Psi \rangle = \text{'reduced' density matrix}$$

(tracing over all but one  
particle)