Finite temperature field theory (FTFT)

Return by 12.00, Monday 20.9.2021,

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Excercise 1. Consider a plasma with 4-velocity u^{μ} and energy momentum tensor $T^{\mu\nu}$. We can then write a relativistic generalization of the Gibbs relation as follows:

$$\mathrm{d}s^{\mu} = \beta u_{\nu} \mathrm{d}T^{\nu\mu} - \sum_{a} \xi_{a} \mathrm{d}j_{a}^{\mu}, \qquad (1)$$

where $\beta \equiv 1/T$ and s^{μ} is the entropy flux, j_a^{μ} a set of conserved currents and $\xi_a \equiv \mu_a/T$ where μ_a are chemical potentials. For a perfect fluid there is only one 4-vector available, u^{μ} , so that $s^{\mu} = su^{\mu}$ and $j_a^{\mu} = n_a u^{\mu}$ and $T^{\mu\nu} = (\rho + P)u^{\mu}u^{\nu} - p\eta^{\mu\nu}$, where $\eta^{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}(1, -1, -1, -1)$ is the Minkowski metric. Using these definition show that (1) gives both the differential Gibbs relation: $ds = \beta d\rho - \sum_a \xi_a dn_a$ and thermal potential relation $s = \beta(\rho + P) - \sum \xi_a n_a$.

Excercise 2. Show that the generating function $Z(\beta, j)$ for the simple harmonic oscillator can be expressed in the form

$$\mathcal{Z}[\beta, j] = \mathcal{Z}(\beta) e^{-\frac{1}{2} \int_0^\beta \mathrm{d}\tau \mathrm{d}\tau' j(\tau) \Delta_0(\tau, \tau') j(\tau')},$$

(perform the Gaussian integral using periodicity). Show also that $\mathcal{Z}(\beta, j)$ can be expressed in the form

$$\mathcal{Z}(\beta, j) = \operatorname{Tr}[e^{-\beta \hat{H}} \mathcal{T}(e^{\int_0^\beta \mathrm{d}\tau j(\tau)\hat{q}(\tau)})].$$

Excercise 3. Show by direct evaluation in the τ -representation, that the solution to equation

$$(-\partial_{\tau}^2 + \omega^2)\Delta_0(\tau) = \delta(\tau)$$

is the propagator

$$\Delta_0(\tau,\omega) = \frac{1}{2\omega} \Big((1+n_{\rm BE}(\omega))e^{-\omega|\tau|} + n_{\rm BE}(\omega)e^{\omega|\tau|} \Big).$$

Start by making exponential ansaz and then require that result obeys the KMS-condition and you get the correctly normalized $\delta(\tau)$ -distribution from the derivative terms.

Excercise 4. Show by direct discretization of the path integral that the partition function is exactly given by

$$\mathcal{Z}(\beta) = \int_{\beta} \mathcal{D}q e^{-\int_0^{\beta} \mathrm{d}\tau (\frac{1}{2}\dot{q}^2 + \frac{1}{2}\omega^2 q^2)} = \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{2}\beta\omega}}{1 - e^{-\beta\omega}}.$$

Start by dividing the quantum path into a classical parth and a perturbation $q = q_{cl} + h$ and show that partition function separates $\mathcal{Z} = \mathcal{Z}_{cl}\mathcal{Z}_h$. Find classical part evaluating $S_{E,cl}$ by using the propagator derived in excercise 3. Then show that the fluctuation part can be written as:

$$\mathcal{Z}_{h} = \lim_{N \to \infty} \kappa_{N}^{N+1} \int \prod_{i=1}^{N} \mathrm{d}h_{i} \exp\left[-\sum_{ij} h_{i} A_{ij} h_{j}\right]$$
(2)

where

$$A_{ij} = \frac{1}{2a_N \Delta \tau_N} \Big(\delta_{ij} - a_N (\delta_{i+1,j} + \delta_{i-1,j}) \Big), \tag{3}$$

with $a_N \equiv (2 + (\Delta \tau \omega)^2)^{-1}$ and $\Delta \tau = \beta/(N+1)$. Evaluate the determinant and finally show that $\kappa_N = 1/\sqrt{2\pi\Delta\tau}$, requiring that the path integral for transition amplitude obeys

$$F(h, -i\beta; h, 0) = \sum_{h'} F(h, -i\beta; h', -i(\beta - \Delta\tau))F(h', -i(\beta - \Delta\tau); h, 0)$$

Excercise 5. Prove the identity

$$\frac{\sinh\pi x}{\pi x} = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 + \frac{x^2}{n^2}).$$

Note: excercise 4 is probably the most demanding, maybe equivalent to in workload to all others combined.