

HW9: Solutions:

Prob. 1. Prove the Holstein-Primakoff Transformation

$$\begin{cases} S_i^+ = a_i^\dagger \sqrt{2s - a_i^\dagger a_i} \\ S_i^- = \sqrt{2s - a_i^\dagger a_i} a_i \\ S_i^z = a_i^\dagger a_i - s \end{cases}$$

Proof: Take the commutator

$$\begin{aligned} [S_i^+, S_i^-] &= [a_i^\dagger \sqrt{2s - a_i^\dagger a_i}, \sqrt{2s - a_i^\dagger a_i} a_i] \\ &= a_i^\dagger (2s - a_i^\dagger a_i) a_i - \sqrt{2s - a_i^\dagger a_i} \underbrace{a_i a_i^\dagger}_{a_i^\dagger a_i + 1} \sqrt{2s - a_i^\dagger a_i} \\ &= a_i^\dagger a_i (2s - a_i^\dagger a_i) - a_i^\dagger (-1) a_i - (a_i^\dagger a_i) (2s - a_i^\dagger a_i) - (2s - a_i^\dagger a_i) \\ &= 2(a_i^\dagger a_i - s) = 2S_i^z \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} [S_i^+, S_i^z] &= [a_i^\dagger \sqrt{2s - a_i^\dagger a_i}, a_i^\dagger a_i - s] \\ &= a_i^\dagger \sqrt{2s - a_i^\dagger a_i} (a_i^\dagger a_i - s) - \underbrace{(a_i^\dagger a_i - s)}_{(a_i^\dagger a_i - s)} a_i^\dagger \sqrt{2s - a_i^\dagger a_i} \\ &= a_i^\dagger \sqrt{2s - a_i^\dagger a_i} (a_i^\dagger a_i - s) - a_i^\dagger \sqrt{2s - a_i^\dagger a_i} (a_i^\dagger a_i - s) \\ &\quad - [a_i^\dagger a_i, a_i^\dagger] \sqrt{2s - a_i^\dagger a_i} \\ &= -a_i^\dagger \sqrt{2s - a_i^\dagger a_i} = -S_i^+ \end{aligned}$$

Similarly  $[S_i^-, S_i^z] = S_i^-$

So  $S_i^z, S_i^\pm$  satisfy the standard commutators for spin-operators

Prob. 2. Discretize  $H = t \sum_{j=1}^N (C_j C_{j+1}^+ + \text{h.c.})$  ( $N+1 \equiv 1$ )  
 with a Fourier Transform  $C_k = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_j C_j e^{i \frac{2\pi}{N} k j}$

Solution: The inverse Fourier Transform.

$$C_j = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_k C_k e^{-i \frac{2\pi}{N} k j}$$

Substitute it into  $H$

$$H = t \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k,k'} \frac{1}{N} (C_k C_{k'}^+ e^{-i \frac{2\pi}{N} [k j - k'(j+1)]} + \text{h.c.})$$

$$= t \sum_{k,k'} \underbrace{\left[ \sum_j e^{-i \frac{2\pi}{N} j(k-k')} \right]}_{= S_{kk'}} C_k C_{k'}^+ e^{i \frac{2\pi}{N} k j} + \text{h.c.}$$

↑  
take ~~the~~ summation over  $j$  first!

$$= t \sum_k (C_k C_k^+ e^{i \frac{2\pi}{N} k} + \text{h.c.})$$

$$= t \sum_k [ (1 - C_k^+ C_k) \cdot 2 \cos \frac{2\pi k}{N} ]$$

$$= \sum_k E_k (1 - C_k^+ C_k)$$

where  $E_k = 2t \cos \frac{2\pi k}{N}$