PHY 6646 - Quantum Mechanics II - Spring 2018 Homework #13, due April 18

1. Consider the properties of a fluid composed of a huge number N (of order Avogadro's number) of identical spinless particles moving in a given potential $V(\vec{r},t)$ and all in the same state. The particles do not interact with one another. The state is described by a wavefunction $\Psi(\vec{r},t)$ which is a solution of the time-dependent Schrödinger equation

$$i\partial_t \Psi = \left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2u} \nabla^2 + V(\vec{r}, t)\right) \Psi \quad . \tag{0.1}$$

The wavefunction may be written in terms of a real amplitude and a phase: $\Psi(\vec{r},t) = A(\vec{r},t)e^{i\beta(\vec{r},t)}$. Assume it has unit norm.

a) Justify the following expression for the density of the fluid

$$n(\vec{r},t) = NA(\vec{r},t)^2 \quad . \tag{0.2}$$

b) Motivate the following expression for the velocity field of the fluid

$$\vec{v}(\vec{r},t) = \frac{\hbar}{\mu} \vec{\nabla} \beta(\vec{r},t) \quad . \tag{0.3}$$

- c) Using Eq. (0.1), show that the continuity equation is satisfied.
- d) Also using Eq. (0.1), derive the following Euler-like equation for the velocity field:

$$\partial_t \vec{v} + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{v} = -\frac{1}{\mu} \vec{\nabla} V - \vec{\nabla} q \quad , \tag{0.4}$$

where

$$q(\vec{r},t) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu^2} \frac{\nabla^2 \sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{n}} \, . \tag{0.5}$$

How does Eq. (0.4) differ from the corresponding equation for classical particles?

- 2. Problem 19.5.5
- 3. Problem 21.1.16
- 4. Problem 21.2.2