Homework set 4, Due Fri Dec 14

1. The quarks have spin $\frac{1}{2}$. Construct 3 quarks states with spin $\frac{3}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ respectively.

2. The Hamiltonian for a 3-dimensional isotropic harmonic oscillator is of the form,

$$H = \hbar\omega \left(a_{1}^{\dagger}a_{1} + a_{2}^{\dagger}a_{2} + a_{3}^{\dagger}a_{3} + \frac{3}{2} \right)$$

where

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_i^{\dagger}, a_j \end{bmatrix} = -\delta_{ij}, \qquad [a_i, a_j] = 0, \qquad \begin{bmatrix} a_i^{\dagger}, a_j^{\dagger} \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

(a) Show that the Hamiltonian is invariant under the U(3) transformation, i.e.

$$[H, U_{ij}] = 0,$$
 with $U_{ij} = a_i^{\dagger} a_j,$ $i, j = 1, 2, 3$

(b) Show that

$$[U_{ij}, U_{rs}] = U_{is}\delta_{jr} - U_{rj}\delta_{is}$$

(c) Express U_{ij} in terms of the usual generators of SU(3), $(F_1, \cdots F_8 \text{ or } T_{\pm}, U_{\pm}, V_{\pm})$.

3. Write the general Lie algebra as

$$[X_a, X_b] = i f_{abc} X_c$$

where $f'_{abc}s$ are structure constants.

(a) Show that the generators satisfy the Jacobi identity

$$[X_a, [X_b, X_c]] + [X_b, [X_c, X_a]] + [X_c, [X_a, X_b]] = 0$$

(b) From Jacobi identity show that the matrices of the form

$$(T_a)_{bc} = -if_{abc}$$

satisfy the Lie algebra, i. e.

$$[T_a, T_b] = i f_{abc} T_c$$

4. For any 2×2 unitary matrix U with unit determinant, show that there exists a matrix S which takes U to its complex conjugate U^* through similarity transformation,

$$S^{-1}US = U^*$$

Find such matrix.

5. Let the hermitian traceless $n \times n$ matices be $\lambda_a, a = 1, 2, \dots, n^2 - 1$, with normalization

$$Tr(\lambda_a\lambda_b) = 2\delta_{ab}$$

Show that

$$\sum_{a} \left(\lambda_{a}\right)_{ij} \left(\lambda_{a}\right)_{kl} = 2\delta_{il}\delta_{kj} - \frac{2}{n}\delta_{ij}\delta_{kl}$$