

Problem 1. In a given representation, the matrix representing the Hamiltonian of a particle is given by

$$H = \hbar\omega_0 \begin{pmatrix} -1 + \varepsilon & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 - \varepsilon & \sqrt{2}\varepsilon & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{2}\varepsilon & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & \sqrt{2}\varepsilon & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \sqrt{2}\varepsilon & -1 - \varepsilon & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 + \varepsilon \end{pmatrix}$$

with $0 < \varepsilon < 1$. Find the energy eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the particle in the representation.

Solution: For convenience, let eigenvalue $\lambda = \hbar\omega_0\lambda'$. The characteristic equation

$$\begin{aligned} |H - \lambda I| &= \hbar\omega_0 \begin{vmatrix} -1 + \varepsilon - \lambda' & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 - \varepsilon - \lambda' & \sqrt{2}\varepsilon & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{2}\varepsilon & -1 - \lambda' & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 - \lambda' & \sqrt{2}\varepsilon & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \sqrt{2}\varepsilon & -1 - \varepsilon - \lambda' & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 + \varepsilon - \lambda' \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \hbar\omega_0 [(-1 + \varepsilon - \lambda')(-1 - \varepsilon - \lambda')(-1 - \lambda')(-1 - \lambda')(-1 - \varepsilon - \lambda')(-1 + \varepsilon - \lambda') \\ &\quad - (-1 + \varepsilon - \lambda')\sqrt{2}\varepsilon\sqrt{2}\varepsilon(-1 - \lambda')(-1 - \varepsilon - \lambda')(-1 + \varepsilon - \lambda') \\ &\quad - (-1 + \varepsilon - \lambda')(-1 - \varepsilon - \lambda')(-1 - \lambda')\sqrt{2}\varepsilon\sqrt{2}\varepsilon(-1 + \varepsilon - \lambda') \\ &\quad + (-1 + \varepsilon - \lambda')\sqrt{2}\varepsilon\sqrt{2}\varepsilon\sqrt{2}\varepsilon\sqrt{2}\varepsilon(-1 + \varepsilon - \lambda')] \\ &= \hbar\omega_0 (-1 + \varepsilon - \lambda')^4 (-1 - 2\varepsilon - \lambda')^2 = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

gives

$$\lambda'_1 = \lambda'_2 = \lambda'_3 = \lambda'_4 = -1 + \varepsilon, \quad \lambda'_5 = \lambda'_6 = -1 - 2\varepsilon \quad (2)$$

so the eigenvalues are

$$\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = \lambda_4 = \hbar\omega_0(-1 + \varepsilon), \quad \lambda_5 = \lambda_6 = \hbar\omega_0(-1 - 2\varepsilon) \quad (3)$$

When the eigenvalue $\lambda = \hbar\omega_0(-1 + \varepsilon)$,

$$(H - \lambda I)\psi = \hbar\omega_0 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2\varepsilon & \sqrt{2}\varepsilon & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{2}\varepsilon & -\varepsilon & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -\varepsilon & \sqrt{2}\varepsilon & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \sqrt{2}\varepsilon & -2\varepsilon & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \\ c_5 \\ c_6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

gives four independent normalized eigenvectors

$$\psi_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{7}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \sqrt{2} \\ \sqrt{2} \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \psi_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{7}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \sqrt{2} \\ \sqrt{2} \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \psi_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{7}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \sqrt{2} \\ -\sqrt{2} \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \psi_4 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{7}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \sqrt{2} \\ -\sqrt{2} \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

When eigenvalue $\lambda = \hbar\omega_0(-1 - 2\varepsilon)$,

$$(H - \lambda I)\psi = \hbar\omega_0 \begin{pmatrix} 3\varepsilon & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \varepsilon & \sqrt{2}\varepsilon & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{2}\varepsilon & 2\varepsilon & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2\varepsilon & \sqrt{2}\varepsilon & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0\sqrt{2}\varepsilon & 2\varepsilon & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3\varepsilon \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \\ c_5 \\ c_6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (6)$$

gives two independent normalized eigenvectors

$$\psi_5 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \sqrt{2} \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ \sqrt{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \psi_6 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \sqrt{2} \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ -\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (7)$$

□

Problem 2. [C-T exercise 2-4] Let \hat{K} be the operator defined by $\hat{K} = |\varphi\rangle\langle\psi|$, where $|\varphi\rangle$ and $|\psi\rangle$ are two vectors of the state space.

- Under what condition is \hat{K} Hermitian?
- Calculate \hat{K}^2 . Under what condition is \hat{K} a projector?
- Show that \hat{K} can always be written in the form $\hat{K} = \lambda\hat{P}_1\hat{P}_2$ where λ is a constant to be calculated and \hat{P}_1 and \hat{P}_2 are projectors.

Solution:

- The definition of Hermitian

$$\hat{K} = \hat{K}^\dagger \quad (8)$$

Plugging in definition of \hat{H} , we get

$$|\varphi\rangle\langle\psi| = (|\varphi\rangle\langle\psi|)^\dagger \quad (9)$$

Using the relation

$$(|\varphi\rangle\langle\psi|)^\dagger = |\psi\rangle\langle\varphi| \quad (10)$$

we get

$$|\varphi\rangle\langle\psi| = |\psi\rangle\langle\varphi| \quad (11)$$

Therefore, \hat{H} is Hermitian when $|\varphi\rangle\langle\psi| = |\psi\rangle\langle\varphi|$.

(b)

$$\hat{K}^2 = |\varphi\rangle\langle\psi|\varphi\rangle\langle\psi| \quad (12)$$

The definition of projector

$$\hat{K}^2 = |\varphi\rangle\langle\psi|\varphi\rangle\langle\psi| = \hat{K} = |\varphi\rangle\langle\psi| \quad (13)$$

$$\implies \langle\psi|\varphi\rangle = 1 \quad (14)$$

Therefore, \hat{K} is a projector when $\langle\psi|\varphi\rangle = 1$.

(c) Rewrite \hat{K} as

$$\hat{K} = \frac{|\varphi\rangle\langle\varphi|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|}{\langle\varphi|\psi\rangle} \quad (15)$$

Therefore, \hat{K} can always be written in the form

$$\hat{K} = \lambda \hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2 \quad (16)$$

where

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{\langle\varphi|\psi\rangle} \quad (17)$$

is a constant to be calculated and

$$\hat{P}_1 = |\varphi\rangle\langle\varphi| \quad (18)$$

$$\hat{P}_2 = |\psi\rangle\langle\psi| \quad (19)$$

are projectors.

□

Problem 3. [C-T exercise 2-5] Let \hat{P}_1 be the orthogonal projector onto the subspace \mathcal{E}_1 , \hat{P}_2 the orthogonal projector on to the subspace \mathcal{E}_2 . Show that, for the product $\hat{P}_1\hat{P}_2$ to be an orthogonal projector as well, it is necessary and sufficient that \hat{P}_1 and \hat{P}_2 commute. In this case, what is the subspace onto which $\hat{P}_1\hat{P}_2$ projects?

Solution: Since \hat{P}_1 and \hat{P}_2 are orthogonal projectors,

$$\text{orthogonal: } \hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_1^T = I \quad (20)$$

$$\hat{P}_2 \hat{P}_2^T = I \quad (21)$$

$$\text{projector: } \hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_1 = \hat{P}_1 \quad (22)$$

$$\hat{P}_2 \hat{P}_2 = \hat{P}_2 \quad (23)$$

First, let's show that \hat{P}_1 and \hat{P}_2 commute is necessary for the product $\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2$ to be orthogonal projector:

Suppose $\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2$ is orthogonal projector,

$$\text{orthogonal: } (\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2)(\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2)^T = I \quad (24)$$

$$\text{projector: } (\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2)(\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2) = (\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2) \quad (25)$$

Premultiplying the equation (25) with $\hat{P}_1^T \hat{P}_2^T$ at both side gives

$$\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2 = \hat{P}_2^T \hat{P}_1^T (\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2)(\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2) = \hat{P}_2^T \hat{P}_1^T (\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2) = I \quad (26)$$

Premultiplying the equation (25) with \hat{P}_1^T and postmultiplying it with \hat{P}_2^T at both side gives

$$\hat{P}_2 \hat{P}_1 = \hat{P}_1^T (\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2)(\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2) \hat{P}_2^T = \hat{P}_1^T (\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2) \hat{P}_2^T = I \quad (27)$$

So

$$[\hat{P}_1, \hat{P}_2] = \hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2 - \hat{P}_2 \hat{P}_1 = I - I = 0 \quad (28)$$

\hat{P}_1 and \hat{P}_2 commute.

Next, let's show that \hat{P}_1 and \hat{P}_2 commute is sufficient for the product $\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2$ to be orthogonal projector:

Suppose \hat{P}_1 and \hat{P}_2 commute,

$$[\hat{P}_1, \hat{P}_2] = \hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2 - \hat{P}_2 \hat{P}_1 = 0 \quad (29)$$

$$\implies \hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2 = \hat{P}_2 \hat{P}_1 \quad (30)$$

Then we have

$$(\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2)(\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2) = \hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2 \hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2 = \hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2 \hat{P}_2 = (\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_1)(\hat{P}_2 \hat{P}_2) = \hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2 \quad (31)$$

so $\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2$ is a projector.

And

$$(\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2)(\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2)^T = \hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2 \hat{P}_2^T \hat{P}_1^T = \hat{P}_1 (\hat{P}_2 \hat{P}_2^T) \hat{P}_1^T = \hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_1^T = I \quad (32)$$

so $\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2$ is orthogonal.

Therefore, for the product $\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2$ to be an orthogonal projector as well, it is necessary and sufficient that \hat{P}_1 and \hat{P}_2 commute.

The subspace onto which $\hat{P}_1 \hat{P}_2$ projects is $\mathcal{E}_1 \otimes \mathcal{E}_2$

□

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Problem 4. [C-T exercise 2-11] Consider a physical system whose three-dimensional state space is spanned by the orthogonal basis formed by the three kets $|u_1\rangle$, $|u_2\rangle$, and $|u_3\rangle$. In the basis of these three vectors, taken in this order, the two operators \hat{H} and \hat{B} are defined by

$$H = \hbar\omega_0 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = b \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where ω_0 and b are real constants.

(a) Are H and B Hermitian?

(b) Show that H and B commute. Give a basis of eigenvectors common to H and B .

Solution:

(a)

$$H^\dagger = (H^T)^* = \hbar\omega_0 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = H \quad (33)$$

so H is Hermitian.

$$B^\dagger = (B^T)^* = b \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = B \quad (34)$$

so B is Hermitian.

(b)

$$[H, B] = HB - BH$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \hbar\omega_0 b \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - \hbar\omega_0 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \hbar\omega_0 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - \hbar\omega_0 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

so H and B commute.

Since H and B commute, they have common eigenspace. Let's first find the eigen-

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vectors of H . Let $\lambda_H = \hbar\omega_0\lambda'_H$, then the characteristic equation of H

$$\begin{aligned} |H - \lambda_H I| &= |H - \hbar\omega_0\lambda'_H I| = \hbar\omega_0 \begin{vmatrix} 1 - \lambda' & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 - \lambda' & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 - \lambda' \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \hbar\omega_0(1 - \lambda'_H)(-1 - \lambda'_H)^2 = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

gives

$$\lambda'_{H1} = 1, \quad \lambda'_{H2} = \lambda'_{H3} = -1 \quad (37)$$

so the eigenvalues of H

$$\lambda_{H1} = \hbar\omega_0, \quad \lambda_{H2} = \lambda_{H3} = -\hbar\omega_0 \quad (38)$$

When the eigenvalue of H $\lambda_H = \hbar\omega_0$,

$$(H - \lambda_H I)\psi = \hbar\omega_0 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (39)$$

gives one normalized eigenvector

$$\psi_{H1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (40)$$

When the eigenvalue of H $\lambda_H = -\hbar\omega_0$,

$$(H - \lambda_H I)\psi = \hbar\omega_0 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (41)$$

gives two independent normalized eigenvectors

$$\psi_{H2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \psi_{H3} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (42)$$

Obviously, ψ_1 are also an eigenvector of B

$$B\psi_{H1} = b \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = b \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = b\psi_{H1} \quad (43)$$

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Let $\lambda_B = b\lambda'_B$, then the characteristic equation of B

$$\begin{aligned} |B - \lambda_B I| &= |B - b\lambda'_B I| = b \begin{vmatrix} 1 - \lambda'_B & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\lambda'_B & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -\lambda'_B \end{vmatrix} \\ &= -b(\lambda'_B - 1)^2(\lambda'_B + 1) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

gives

$$\lambda'_{B1} = \lambda'_{B2} = 1, \quad \lambda'_{B3} = -1 \quad (45)$$

so the eigenvalues of B

$$\lambda'_{B1} = \lambda'_{B2} = b, \quad \lambda'_{B3} = -b \quad (46)$$

When eigenvalue of B $\lambda_B = b$,

$$(B - \lambda_B I)\psi_B = b \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d_1 \\ d_2 \\ d_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (47)$$

Besides, $\psi_{B1} = (1, 0, 0)$, another normalized eigenvector is

$$\psi_{B2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \quad (48)$$

which can be written as a linear combination of eigenvectors of H : $\psi_{B2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\psi_{H2} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\psi_{H3}$.

When eigenvalue of B $\lambda_B = -b$

$$(B - \lambda_B I)\psi_B = b \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d_1 \\ d_2 \\ d_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (49)$$

gives one normalized eigenvector

$$\psi_{B2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \quad (50)$$

which can be written as a linear combination of eigenvectors of H : $\psi_{B3} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\psi_{H2} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\psi_{H3}$

Therefore, $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis of eigenvectors common to H and B .

□

Problem 5. [C-T exercise 2-12] In the same state space as that of the preceding exercise, consider two operators \hat{L}_z and \hat{S} defined by

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{L}_z|u_1\rangle &= |u_1\rangle, & \hat{L}_z|u_2\rangle &= 0, & \hat{L}_z|u_3\rangle &= -|u_3\rangle; \\ \hat{S}|u_1\rangle &= |u_3\rangle, & \hat{S}|u_2\rangle &= |u_2\rangle, & \hat{S}|u_3\rangle &= |u_1\rangle.\end{aligned}$$

- (a) Write the matrices which represent, in the $\{|u_1\rangle, |u_2\rangle, |u_3\rangle\}$ basis, the operator \hat{L}_z , \hat{L}_z^2 , \hat{S} , and \hat{S}^2 . Are these operators observables?
- (b) Give the form of the most general matrix which represents an operator which commutes with \hat{L}_z . Same question for \hat{L}_z^2 , then \hat{S}^2 .
- (c) Do \hat{L}_z^2 and \hat{S} form a CSCO? Give a basis of common eigenvectors.

Solution:

- (a) Diagonalize L_z

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \hat{L}_z \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (51)$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{L}_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (52)$$

so

$$\hat{L}_z^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (53)$$

Diagonalize S

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \hat{S} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (54)$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{S} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (55)$$

so

$$\hat{S}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (56)$$

$$\hat{L}_z^\dagger = (\hat{L}_z^T)^* = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \hat{L}_z \quad (57)$$

so \hat{L}_z is Hermitian.

$$(\hat{L}_z^2)^\dagger = [(\hat{L}_z^2)^T]^* = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \hat{L}_z^2 \quad (58)$$

so \hat{L}_z^2 is Hermitian.

$$\hat{S}^\dagger = (\hat{S}^T)^* = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \hat{S} \quad (59)$$

so \hat{S} is Hermitian.

$$(\hat{S}^2)^\dagger = [(\hat{S}^2)^T]^* = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \hat{S}^2 \quad (60)$$

so \hat{S}^2 is Hermitian.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_i |u_i\rangle\langle u_i| &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &\quad + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = I \end{aligned} \quad (61)$$

so their orthonormal system of eigenvectors forms basis in the state space.
Therefore, these operators are observables.

(b) Suppose the most general matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \quad (62)$$

If A commute with \hat{L}_z

$$\begin{aligned} [A, \hat{L}_z] &= A\hat{L}_z - \hat{L}_z A \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -a_{12} & -2a_{12} \\ a_{21} & 0 & -a_{23} \\ 2a_{31} & a_{32} & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (63)$$

$$\implies a_{12} = a_{13} = a_{21} = a_{23} = a_{31} = a_{32} = 0 \quad (64)$$

so the most general matrix commuting with \hat{L}_z is

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \quad (65)$$

If A commute with \hat{L}_z^2

$$\begin{aligned} [A, \hat{L}_z^2] &= A\hat{L}_z^2 - \hat{L}_z^2 A \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & 0 \\ a_{21} & 0 & a_{23} \\ 0 & a_{32} & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (66)$$

$$\implies a_{12} = a_{21} = a_{23} = a_{32} = 0 \quad (67)$$

so the most general matrix commuting with \hat{L}_z^2 is

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & a_{13} \\ 0 & a_{22} & 0 \\ a_{31} & 0 & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \quad (68)$$

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If A commute with \hat{S}

$$\begin{aligned}
[A, \hat{S}] &= A\hat{S} - \hat{S}A \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{69}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{11} = a_{12} = a_{13} = a_{21} = a_{22} = a_{23} = a_{31} = a_{32} = a_{33} = 0 \tag{70}$$

so the most general matrix commuting with \hat{S} is

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \tag{71}$$

If A commute with \hat{S}^2

$$\begin{aligned}
[A, \hat{S}^2] &= A\hat{S}^2 - \hat{S}^2 A \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{72}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{11} = a_{12} = a_{13} = a_{21} = a_{22} = a_{23} = a_{31} = a_{32} = a_{33} = 0 \tag{73}$$

so the most general matrix commuting with \hat{S}^2 is

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \tag{74}$$

(c)

$$\begin{aligned}
[\hat{L}_z^2, \hat{S}] &= \hat{L}_z^2 \hat{S} - \hat{S} \hat{L}_z^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{75}
\end{aligned}$$

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so \hat{L}_z^2 and \hat{S} commute.

$|u_2\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ is a common eigenvector of \hat{L}_z^2 and \hat{S} .

$$\hat{L}_z^2|u_2\rangle = 0|u_2\rangle, \quad \hat{S}|u_2\rangle = 1|u_2\rangle \quad (76)$$

In the subspace spanned by $|u_1\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $|u_3\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$,

$$\sum_{i=1,3} |u_i\rangle\langle u_i| \hat{L}_z^2 \sum_{i=1,3} |u_i\rangle\langle u_i| = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (77)$$

$$\sum_{i=1,3} |u_i\rangle\langle u_i| \hat{S} \sum_{i=1,3} |u_i\rangle\langle u_i| = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (78)$$

The other two common eigenvectors are

$$|\psi_2\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \quad (79)$$

$$|\psi_3\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \quad (80)$$

$$\hat{L}_z^2|\psi_2\rangle = 1|\psi_2\rangle \quad (81)$$

$$\hat{L}_z^2|\psi_3\rangle = 1|\psi_3\rangle \quad (82)$$

$$\hat{S}|\psi_2\rangle = 1|\psi_2\rangle \quad (83)$$

$$\hat{S}|\psi_3\rangle = -1|\psi_3\rangle \quad (84)$$

so specifying the eigenvalues of \hat{L}_z^2 and \hat{S} determine a unique set of common eigen-

vector $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \right\}$.

Therefore, \hat{L}_z^2 and \hat{S} form a CSCO.

□