1.1 Introduction to package qm

The `qm` package was written by Eric Majzoub, University of Missouri. Email: majzoube-at-umsystem.edu

The package is loaded with: `load(qm);`

The `qm` package provides functions and standard definitions to solve quantum mechanics problems in a finite dimensional Hilbert space. For example, one can calculate the outcome of Stern-Gerlach experiments using built-in definitions of the Sx, Sy, and Sz operators for arbitrary spin, e.g. `s={1/2, 1, 3/2, ...}`. For spin-1/2 the standard basis states in the `x`, `y`, and `z`-basis are available as `{xp,xm}`, `{yp,ym}`, and `{zp,zm}`, respectively. One can create general ket vectors with arbitrary but finite dimension and perform standard computations such as expectation value, variance, etc. The angular momentum $|j,m>$ representation of kets is also available. Tensor product states for multiparticle systems can be created to perform calculations on those systems.

Let us consider a simple example involving spin-1/2 particles. A bra vector in the `z`-basis may be written as

<psi| = a <z+| + b <z-|.

The bra `<psi|` will be represented in Maxima by the row vector `[a b]`, where the basis vectors are

<z+| = [1 0]

and

<z-| = [0 1].

1.1.1 Types of kets and bras

There are two types of kets and bras available in the `qm` package, the first type is given by a *matrix representation*, as in the functions `mbra` and `mket`. `mket`s are column vectors and `mbra`s are row vectors, and their components are entered as Maxima *lists* in the `mbra` and `mket` functions. The second type of bra or ket is *abstract*; there is no matrix representation. Abstract bras and kets are entered using the `bra` and `ket` functions, while also using Maxima lists for the elements. These general kets are displayed in Dirac notation. Abstract bras and kets are used for both the `(j,m)` representation of states and also for tensor products. For example, a tensor product of two ket vectors `|a>` and `|b>` is input as `ket([a,b])` and displayed as

|[a,b]>   (general ket)

Note that abstract kets and bras are *assumed to be orthonormal*. These general bras and kets may be used to build arbitrarily large tensor product states.

The following examples illustrate some of the basic capabilities of the `qm` package. Here both abstract, and concrete (matrix representation) kets are shown. The last example shows how to contstruct an entangled Bell pair.

```
(%i1) ket([a,b])+ket([c,d]);
(%o1)                              |[c, d]> + |[a, b]>
(%i2) mket([a,b])+mket([c,d]);
                                       [ c + a ]
(%o2)                                  [       ]
                                       [ d + b ]
(%i3) bell:(1/sqrt(2))*(ket([u,d])-ket([d,u]));
                                   |[u, d]> - |[d, u]>
(%o3)                              -------------------
                                          sqrt(2)
```

Note that `ket([a,b])` is treated as tensor product of states `a` and `b` as shown below.

```
(%i1) braket(bra([a1,b1]),ket([a2,b2]));
(%o1)                  kron_delta(a1, a2) kron_delta(b1, b2)
```

Constants that multiply kets and bras must be declared complex by the user in order for the dagger function to properly conjugate such constants. The example below illustrates this behavior.

```
(%i1) declare([a,b],complex);
(%o1)                                 done
(%i2) psi:a*ket([1])+b*ket([2]);
(%o2)                          |[2]> b + |[1]> a
(%i3) psidag:dagger(psi);
(%o3)                  <[2]| conjugate(b) + <[1]| conjugate(a)
(%i4) psidag . psi;
(%o4)                     b conjugate(b) + a conjugate(a)
```

The following shows how to declare a ket with both real and complex components in the matrix representation.

```
(%i1) declare([c1,c2],complex,r,real);
(%o1)                                 done
(%i2) k:mket([c1,c2,r]);
                                       [ c1 ]
                                       [    ]
(%o2)                                  [ c2 ]
                                       [    ]
                                       [ r  ]
(%i3) b:dagger(k);
(%o3)                  [ conjugate(c1)  conjugate(c2)  r ]
(%i4) b . k;
                            2
(%o4)                      r  + c2 conjugate(c2) + c1 conjugate(c1)
```

1.2 Functions and Variables for qm

hbar   [Variable]

Planck's constant divided by `2*%pi`. `hbar` is not given a floating point value, but is declared to be a real number greater than zero.

ket ($[k_1,k_2,\ldots]$)   [Function]

     `ket` creates a general state ket, or tensor product, with symbols k_i representing the states. The state kets k_i are assumed to be orthonormal.

```
(%i1) k:ket([u,d]);
(%o1)                              |[u, d]>
(%i2) b:bra([u,d]);
(%o2)                              <[u, d]|
(%i3) b . k;
(%o3)                                 1
```

ketp (*abstract ket*)   [Function]

     `ketp` is a predicate function for abstract kets. It returns `true` for abstract `kets` and `false` for anything else.

bra ($[b_1,b_2,\ldots]$)   [Function]

     `bra` creates a general state bra, or tensor product, with symbols b_i representing the states. The state bras b_i are assumed to be orthonormal.

```
(%i1) k:ket([u,d]);
(%o1)                              |[u, d]>
(%i2) b:bra([u,d]);
(%o2)                              <[u, d]|
(%i3) b . k;
(%o3)                                 1
```

brap (*abstract bra*)   [Function]

     `brap` is a predicate function for abstract bras. It returns `true` for abstract `bras` and `false` for anything else.

mket ($[c_1,c_2,\ldots]$)   [Function]

     `mket` creates a *column* vector of arbitrary finite dimension. The entries c_i can be any Maxima expression. The user must `declare` any relevant constants to be complex. For a matrix representation the elements must be entered as a list in `[...]` square brackets.

```
(%i1) declare([c1,c2],complex);
(%o1)                               done
(%i2) mket([c1,c2]);
                                   [ c1 ]
(%o2)                              [    ]
                                   [ c2 ]
(%i3) facts();
(%o3) [kind(hbar, real), hbar > 0, kind(c1, complex), kind(c2, complex)]
```

mketp (*vector*)   [Function]

     `mketp` is a predicate function that checks if its input is an mket, in which case it returns `true`, else it returns `false`. `mketp` only returns `true` for the matrix representation of a ket.

```
(%i1) k:ket([a,b]);
(%o1)                                    |[a, b]>
(%i2) mketp(k);
(%o2)                                    false
(%i3) k:mket([a,b]);
                                         [ a ]
(%o3)                                    [   ]
                                         [ b ]
(%i4) mketp(k);
(%o4)                                    true
```

mbra ($[c_1,c_2,\ldots]$)   [Function]

mbra creates a *row* vector of arbitrary finite dimension. The entries c_i can be any Maxima expression. The user must declare any relevant constants to be complex. For a matrix representation the elements must be entered as a list in [...] square brackets.

```
(%i1) kill(c1,c2);
(%o1)                                    done
(%i2) mbra([c1,c2]);
(%o2)                                [ c1   c2 ]
(%i3) facts();
(%o3)                         [kind(hbar, real), hbar > 0]
```

mbrap (*vector*)   [Function]

mbrap is a predicate function that checks if its input is an mbra, in which case it returns true, else it returns false. mbrap only returns true for the matrix representation of a bra.

```
(%i1) b:mbra([a,b]);
(%o1)                                  [ a  b ]
(%i2) mbrap(b);
(%o2)                                    true
```

Two additional functions are provided to create kets and bras in the matrix representation. These functions conveniently attempt to automatically declare constants as complex. For example, if a list entry is a*sin(x)+b*cos(x) then only a and b will be declare-d complex and not x.

autoket ($[a_1,a_2,\ldots]$)   [Function]

autoket takes a list $[a_1,a_2,\ldots]$ and returns a ket with the coefficients a_i declare-d complex. Simple expressions such as a*sin(x)+b*cos(x) are allowed and will declare only the coefficients as complex.

```
(%i1) autoket([a,b]);
                                         [ a ]
(%o1)                                    [   ]
                                         [ b ]
(%i2) facts();
(%o2)  [kind(hbar, real), hbar > 0, kind(a, complex), kind(b, complex)]
```

```
(%i1) autoket([a*sin(x),b*sin(x)]);
                                    [ a sin(x) ]
(%o1)                               [          ]
                                    [ b sin(x) ]
(%i2) facts();
(%o2)   [kind(hbar, real), hbar > 0, kind(a, complex), kind(b, complex)]
```

autobra ($[a_1, a_2, \ldots]$)   [Function]

autobra takes a list $[a_1, a_2, \ldots]$ and returns a bra with the coefficients a_i declare-d complex. Simple expressions such as `a*sin(x)+b*cos(x)` are allowed and will `declare` only the coefficients as complex.

```
(%i1) autobra([a,b]);
(%o1)                           [ a   b ]
(%i2) facts();
(%o2)   [kind(hbar, real), hbar > 0, kind(a, complex), kind(b, complex)]
(%i1) autobra([a*sin(x),b]);
(%o1)                         [ a sin(x)   b ]
(%i2) facts();
(%o2)   [kind(hbar, real), hbar > 0, kind(a, complex), kind(b, complex)]
```

dagger (*vector*)   [Function]

dagger is the quantum mechanical *dagger* function and returns the `conjugate transpose` of its input. Arbitrary constants must be `declare`-d complex for dagger to produce the conjugate.

```
(%i1) dagger(mbra([%i,2]));
                                    [ - %i ]
(%o1)                               [      ]
                                    [  2   ]
```

braket (psi,phi)   [Function]

Given two kets `psi` and `phi`, `braket` returns the quantum mechanical bracket `<psi|phi>`. The vector `psi` may be input as either a `ket` or `bra`. If it is a `ket` it will be turned into a `bra` with the `dagger` function before the inner product is taken. The vector `phi` must always be a `ket`.

```
(%i1) declare([a,b,c],complex);
(%o1)                               done
(%i2) braket(mket([a,b,c]),mket([a,b,c]));
(%o2)         c conjugate(c) + b conjugate(b) + a conjugate(a)
(%i3) braket(ket([a1,b1,c1]),ket([a2,b2,c2]));
(%o3)      kron_delta(a1, a2) kron_delta(b1, b2) kron_delta(c1, c2)
```

norm (psi)   [Function]

Given a `ket` or `bra` `psi`, `norm` returns the square root of the quantum mechanical bracket `<psi|psi>`. The vector `psi` must always be a `ket`, otherwise the function will return `false`.

```
(%i1) declare([a,b,c],complex);
(%o1)                               done
(%i2) norm(mket([a,b,c]));
(%o2)        sqrt(c conjugate(c) + b conjugate(b) + a conjugate(a))
```

magsqr (c)   [Function]

    magsqr returns `conjugate(c)*c`, the magnitude squared of a complex number.

```
(%i1) declare([a,b,c,d],complex);
(%o1)                               done
(%i2) A:braket(mket([a,b]),mket([c,d]));
(%o2)                  conjugate(b) d + conjugate(a) c
(%i3) P:magsqr(A);
(%o3) (conjugate(b) d + conjugate(a) c) (b conjugate(d) + a conjugate(c))█
```

1.2.1 Handling general kets and bras

General kets and bras are, as discussed, created without using a list when giving the arguments. The following examples show how general kets and bras can be manipulated.

```
(%i1) ket([a])+ket([b]);
(%o1)                             |[b]> + |[a]>
(%i2) braket(bra([a]),ket([b]));
(%o2)                          kron_delta(a, b)
(%i3) braket(bra([a])+bra([c]),ket([b]));
(%o3)                  kron_delta(b, c) + kron_delta(a, b)
```

1.2.2 Spin-1/2 state kets and associated operators

Spin-1/2 particles are characterized by a simple 2-dimensional Hilbert space of states. It is spanned by two vectors. In the z-basis these vectors are {`zp`,`zm`}, and the basis kets in the z-basis are {`xp`,`xm`} and {`yp`,`ym`} respectively.

zp   [Function]

    Return the |z+> ket in the z-basis.

zm   [Function]

    Return the |z-> ket in the z-basis.

xp   [Function]

    Return the |x+> ket in the z-basis.

xm   [Function]

    Return the |x-> ket in the z-basis.

yp   [Function]

    Return the |y+> ket in the z-basis.

ym   [Function]

    Return the |y-> ket in the z-basis.

```
(%i1) zp;
                                           [ 1 ]
(%o1)                                      [   ]
                                           [ 0 ]
(%i2) zm;
                                           [ 0 ]
(%o2)                                      [   ]
                                           [ 1 ]
(%i1) yp;
                                      [    1    ]
                                      [ ------- ]
                                      [ sqrt(2) ]
(%o1)                                 [         ]
                                      [   %i    ]
                                      [ ------- ]
                                      [ sqrt(2) ]
(%i2) ym;
                                      [    1     ]
                                      [  ------- ]
                                      [  sqrt(2) ]
(%o2)                                 [          ]
                                      [    %i    ]
                                      [ - ------- ]
                                      [   sqrt(2) ]
(%i1) braket(xp,zp);
                                          1
(%o1)                                  -------
                                       sqrt(2)
```

Switching bases is done in the following example where a *z*-basis ket is constructed and the *x*-basis ket is computed.

```
(%i1) declare([a,b],complex);
(%o1)                                 done
(%i2) psi:mket([a,b]);
                                      [ a ]
(%o2)                                 [   ]
                                      [ b ]
(%i3) psi_x:'xp*braket(xp,psi)+'xm*braket(xm,psi);
                      b        a              a        b
(%o3)           (------- + -------) xp + (------- - -------) xm
                 sqrt(2)   sqrt(2)         sqrt(2)   sqrt(2)
```

1.2.3 Pauli matrices and Sz, Sx, Sy operators

sigmax   [Function]
  Returns the Pauli x matrix.

`sigmay`   [Function]
  Returns the Pauli y matrix.

`sigmaz`   [Function]
  Returns the Pauli z matrix.

`Sx`   [Function]
  Returns the spin-1/2 Sx matrix.

`Sy`   [Function]
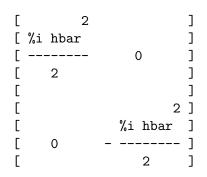 Returns the spin-1/2 Sy matrix.

`Sz`   [Function]
  Returns the spin-1/2 Sz matrix.

```
(%i1) sigmay;
                              [ 0   - %i ]
(%o1)                         [          ]
                              [ %i   0   ]
(%i2) Sy;
                              [            %i hbar ]
                              [    0     - ------- ]
                              [              2     ]
(%o2)                         [                    ]
                              [ %i hbar            ]
                              [ -------       0    ]
                              [    2               ]
```

`commutator (X,Y)`   [Function]
  Given two operators `X` and `Y`, return the commutator `X . Y - Y . X`.

```
(%i1) commutator(Sx,Sy);
                        [       2               ]
                        [ %i hbar               ]
                        [ --------       0      ]
                        [    2                  ]
(%o1)                   [                       ]
                        [                    2  ]
                        [            %i hbar    ]
                        [    0     - -------- ]
                        [               2       ]
```

1.2.4 SX, SY, SZ operators for any spin

`SX (s)`   [Function]
  `SX(s)` for spin `s` returns the matrix representation of the spin operator `Sx`. Shortcuts
  for spin-1/2 are `Sx,Sy,Sz`, and for spin-1 are `Sx1,Sy1,Sz1`.

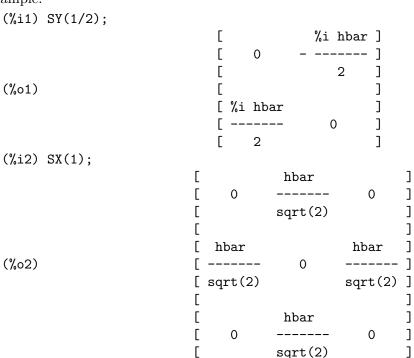`SY (s)`   [Function]
  `SY(s)` for spin `s` returns the matrix representation of the spin operator `Sy`. Shortcuts
  for spin-1/2 are `Sx,Sy,Sz`, and for spin-1 are `Sx1,Sy1,Sz1`.

`SZ (s)`   [Function]

>   `SZ(s)` for spin `s` returns the matrix representation of the spin operator `Sz`. Shortcuts for spin-1/2 are `Sx,Sy,Sz`, and for spin-1 are `Sx1,Sy1,Sz1`.

Example:

`(%i1) SY(1/2);`

```
                                [               %i hbar ]
                                [     0       - ------- ]
                                [                  2    ]
    (%o1)                       [                       ]
                                [ %i hbar               ]
                                [ -------         0     ]
                                [    2                  ]
```

`(%i2) SX(1);`

```
                                [              hbar               ]
                                [     0       -------      0      ]
                                [             sqrt(2)             ]
                                [                                ]
                                [  hbar                   hbar   ]
    (%o2)                       [ -------        0       ------- ]
                                [ sqrt(2)                 sqrt(2) ]
                                [                                ]
                                [              hbar               ]
                                [     0       -------      0      ]
                                [             sqrt(2)             ]
```

1.2.5 Expectation value and variance

`expect (O,psi)`   [Function]

>   Computes the quantum mechanical expectation value of the operator `O` in state `psi`, `<psi|O|psi>`.

>   `(%i1) ev(expect(Sy,xp+ym),ratsimp);`
>   `(%o1)                                   - hbar`

`qm_variance (O,psi)`   [Function]

>   Computes the quantum mechanical variance of the operator `O` in state `psi`, `sqrt(<psi|O`^{2}`|psi> - <psi|O|psi>`^{2}`)`.

>   `(%i1) ev(qm_variance(Sy,xp+ym),ratsimp);`
>   ```
>                                          %i hbar
>       (%o1)                              -------
>                                             2
>   ```

1.2.6 Angular momentum representation of kets and bras

1.2.6.1 Matrix representation of (j,m)-kets and bras

The matrix representation of kets and bras in the `qm` package are represented in the `z`-basis. To create a matrix representation of of a ket or bra in the (j,m)-basis one uses the `spin_mket` and `spin_mbra` functions.

spin_mket $(s, m_s, [1,2])$ [Function]

>   **spin_mket** returns a ket in the **z**-basis for spin **s** and z-projection m_s, for axis 1=X or 2=Y.

spin_mbra $(s, m_s, [1,2])$ [Function]

>   **spin_mbra** returns a bra in the **z**-basis for spin **s** and z-projection m_s, for axis 1=X or 2=Y.

```
(%i1) spin_mket(3/2,1/2,2);
                                    [  sqrt(3)    ]
                                    [  -------    ]
                                    [    3/2      ]
                                    [   2         ]
                                    [             ]
                                    [     %i      ]
                                    [    ----     ]
                                    [     3/2     ]
                                    [    2        ]
(%o1)                               [             ]
                                    [     1       ]
                                    [    ----     ]
                                    [     3/2     ]
                                    [    2        ]
                                    [             ]
                                    [ sqrt(3) %i ]
                                    [ ---------- ]
                                    [    3/2      ]
                                    [    2        ]
(%i2) spin_mbra(1,1,1);
                                    [ 1      1      1 ]
(%o2)                               [ -   -------   - ]
                                    [ 2   sqrt(2)   2 ]
```

1.2.6.2 Abstract (j,m)-kets and bras

To create kets and bras in the $|j,m\rangle$ representation you use the abstract **ket** and **bra** functions with **j**, **m** as arguments, as in **ket([j,m])** and **bra([j,m])**.

```
(%i1) bra([3/2,1/2]);
                                        3  1
(%o1)                                 <[-, -]|
                                        2  2
(%i2) ket([3/2,1/2]);
                                        3  1
(%o2)                                 |[-, -]>
                                        2  2
```

jmketp (*jmket*)   [Function]

>   **jmketp** checks to see that the ket has an **m**-value that is in the set {-j,-j+1,...,+j}.

```
(%i1) jmketp(ket([j,m]));
(%o1)                              false
(%i2) jmketp(ket([3/2,1/2]));
(%o2)                              true
```

jmbrap (*jmbra*)   [Function]
    jmbrap checks to see that the bra has an m-value that is in the set `{-j,-j+1,...,+j}`.

jmcheck (j,m)   [Function]
    jmcheck checks to see that *m* is one of {-j, ..., +j}.

```
(%i1) jmcheck(3/2,1/2);
(%o1)                              true
```

JP (*jmket*)   [Function]
    JP is the J₊ operator. It takes a jmket `jmket(j,m)` and returns `sqrt(j*(j+1)-m*(m+1))*hbar*jmket(j,m+1)`.

JM (*jmket*)   [Function]
    JM is the J₋ operator. It takes a jmket `jmket(j,m)` and returns `sqrt(j*(j+1)-m*(m-1))*hbar*jmket(j,m-1)`.

Jsqr (*jmket*)   [Function]
    Jsqr is the J^2 operator. It takes a jmket `jmket(j,m)` and returns `(j*(j+1)*hbar`^{2}`*jmket(j,m)`.

Jz (*jmket*)   [Function]
    Jz is the J_z operator. It takes a jmket `jmket(j,m)` and returns `m*hbar*jmket(j,m)`.

These functions are illustrated below.

```
(%i1) k:ket([j,m]);
(%o1)                              |[j, m]>
(%i2) JP(k);
(%o2)            hbar |[j, m + 1]> sqrt(j (j + 1) - m (m + 1))
(%i3) JM(k);
(%o3)            hbar |[j, m - 1]> sqrt(j (j + 1) - (m - 1) m)
(%i4) Jsqr(k);
                                   2
(%o4)                     hbar  j (j + 1) |[j, m]>
(%i5) Jz(k);
(%o5)                        hbar |[j, m]> m
```

1.2.7 Angular momentum and ladder operators

SP (s)   [Function]
    SP is the raising ladder operator S_+ for spin `s`.

SM (s)   [Function]
    SM is the raising ladder operator S_- for spin `s`.

Examples of the ladder operators:

```
(%i1) SP(1);
                        [ 0  sqrt(2) hbar      0      ]
                        [                             ]
(%o1)                   [ 0       0       sqrt(2) hbar ]
                        [                             ]
                        [ 0       0            0      ]
(%i2) SM(1);
                        [      0            0      0 ]
                        [                           ]
(%o2)                   [ sqrt(2) hbar      0      0 ]
                        [                           ]
                        [      0       sqrt(2) hbar 0 ]
```

1.3 Rotation operators

RX (s,t)   [Function]
    RX(s) for spin s returns the matrix representation of the rotation operator Rx for
    rotation through angle t.

RY (s,t)   [Function]
    RY(s) for spin s returns the matrix representation of the rotation operator Ry for
    rotation through angle t.

RZ (s,t)   [Function]
    RZ(s) for spin s returns the matrix representation of the rotation operator Rz for
    rotation through angle t.

```
(%i1) RY(1,t);
Proviso: assuming 4*t # 0
                        [ cos(t) + 1     sin(t)    1 - cos(t) ]
                        [ ----------   - -------   ---------- ]
                        [     2          sqrt(2)       2      ]
                        [                                     ]
                        [  sin(t)                    sin(t)   ]
(%o1)                   [  -------      cos(t)     - -------  ]
                        [  sqrt(2)                   sqrt(2)  ]
                        [                                     ]
                        [ 1 - cos(t)    sin(t)     cos(t) + 1 ]
                        [ ----------    -------    ---------- ]
                        [     2         sqrt(2)        2      ]
```

1.4 Time-evolution operator

UU (H,t)   [Function]
    UU(H,t) is the time evolution operator for Hamiltonian H. It is defined as the matrix
    exponential matrixexp(-%i*H*t/hbar).

```
(%i1) UU(w*Sy,t);
Proviso: assuming 64*t*w # 0
                              [      t w          t w   ]
                              [ cos(---)   - sin(---)   ]
                              [      2            2     ]
(%o1)                         [                         ]
                              [      t w          t w   ]
                              [ sin(---)    cos(---)    ]
                              [      2            2     ]
```

1.5 Tensor products

Tensor products are represented as lists in the qm package. The ket tensor product |z+,z+>
could be represented as ket([u,d]), for example, and the bra tensor product <a,b| is
represented as bra([a,b]) for states a and b. For a tensor product where the identity is
one of the elements of the product, substitute the string Id in the ket or bra at the desired
location. See the examples below for the use of the identity in tensor products.

Examples below show how to create abstract tensor products that contain the identity
element Id and how to take the bracket of these tensor products.

```
(%i1) K:ket([a1,b1]);
(%o1)                                |[a1, b1]>
(%i2) B:bra([a2,b2]);
(%o2)                                <[a2, b2]|
(%i3) braket(B,K);
(%o3)                  kron_delta(a1, a2) kron_delta(b1, b2)
(%i1) bra([a1,Id,c1]) . ket([a2,b2,c2]);
(%o1)          |[-, b2, -]> kron_delta(a1, a2) kron_delta(c1, c2)
(%i2) bra([a1,b1,c1]) . ket([Id,b2,c2]);
(%o2)          <[a1, -, -]| kron_delta(b1, b2) kron_delta(c1, c2)
```

Appendix A Function and Variable index