

Contents

1	Harmonic oscillator	3
1.1	Ladder operators	4
1.2	Fock states wave functions	5
1.3	Coherent states	5
1.3.1	Coherent states dynamics	7
1.4	Minimum uncertainty states	7
1.5	Vacuum manipulation	7
1.5.1	General observations	8
2	Angular momentum	9
2.1	Rotations	10
2.2	Commutation relations and angular momentum basis	10
2.3	Ladder operators	10
2.4	Matrix representation	11
2.5	Orbital angular momentum	11

Chapter 1

Harmonic oscillator

1.1 Ladder operators

Definition 1.1.1. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space in a harmonic potential

$$V(\hat{x}) = \frac{\omega^2}{2} \hat{x}^2, \quad \omega^2 = \frac{k}{m}. \quad (1.1)$$

We define the *creation* and *annihilation operators* as

$$\hat{a}^\dagger := \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\hat{x} - \frac{i}{m\omega} \hat{p} \right), \quad \hat{a} := \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\hat{x} + \frac{i}{m\omega} \hat{p} \right), \quad \alpha := \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{\hbar}}. \quad (1.2)$$

Proposition 1.1.1. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space in a harmonic potential. Then,

$$\langle x | \hat{a}^\dagger = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2}} \left(x - \frac{1}{\alpha^2} \frac{d}{dx} \right), \quad \langle x | \hat{a} = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2}} \left(x + \frac{1}{\alpha^2} \frac{d}{dx} \right), \quad \alpha = \frac{m\omega}{\hbar}. \quad (1.3)$$

Proposition 1.1.2. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. Then,

$$\hat{x} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\alpha} (\hat{a}^\dagger + \hat{a}), \quad \hat{p} = i\hbar \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2}} (\hat{a}^\dagger - \hat{a}). \quad (1.4)$$

Proposition 1.1.3. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. Then,

1. \hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger are not hermitian.
2. $[\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger] = \hat{I}$.
3. $\hat{H} = \hbar\omega \left(\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \frac{1}{2} \right)$.

Definition 1.1.2. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. We define the *number operator* as

$$\hat{N} := \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}. \quad (1.5)$$

Proposition 1.1.4. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. Then,

1. \hat{H} is hermitian.
2. $[\hat{N}, \hat{a}] = -\hat{a}$, $[\hat{N}, \hat{a}^\dagger] = \hat{a}^\dagger$,
3. $\hat{H} = \hbar\omega \left(\hat{N} + \frac{1}{2} \hat{I} \right)$.

Proposition 1.1.5. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. Then, \hat{H} and \hat{N} have a common basis of eigenvectors, which is countable, and

$$\hat{a}^\dagger |n\rangle = \sqrt{n+1} |n+1\rangle, \quad \hat{a} |n\rangle = \sqrt{n} |n-1\rangle, \quad (1.6)$$

$$\hat{N} |n\rangle = n |n\rangle, \quad \hat{H} |n\rangle = \hbar\omega \left(n + \frac{1}{2} \right) |n\rangle, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (1.7)$$

Corollary 1.1.6. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. Then,

$$|n\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n!}} (\hat{a}^\dagger)^n |0\rangle. \quad (1.8)$$

Proposition 1.1.7. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. Then, the eigenstates form a non-degenerate basis.

Definition 1.1.3 (Fock states). Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. We define the *Fock states* as the states that determine the basis $(|n\rangle)$ and have a well-defined number of excitations.

Definition 1.1.4. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. We call the fundamental Fock state *the vacuum*.

Proposition 1.1.8. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. Then, \hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger and \hat{N} have the following matrix representation in the basis $(|n\rangle)$.

$$[\hat{N}]_B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}, \quad [\hat{a}]_B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sqrt{1} & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{2} & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}, \quad [\hat{a}^\dagger]_B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ \sqrt{1} & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & \sqrt{2} & 0 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}, \quad (1.9)$$

or in coefficient representation,

$$[\hat{N}]_{ij} = (i-1)\delta_{ij}, \quad [\hat{a}]_{ij} = \sqrt{j-1}\delta_{i,j-1}, \quad [\hat{a}^\dagger]_{ij} = \sqrt{i-1}\delta_{i-1,j}. \quad (1.10)$$

1.2 Fock states wave functions

Proposition 1.2.1. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. Then,

$$\varphi_0(x) = \langle x|0\rangle = \left(\frac{\beta^2}{\pi}\right)^{1/4} \exp\left(-\frac{\alpha^2 x^2}{2}\right), \quad (1.11)$$

$$\varphi_n(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n!}} \left(\frac{\beta}{\sqrt{2}} x - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\beta} \frac{d}{dx} \right) \varphi_0(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2^n n!}} H_n(\beta x) \varphi_0(x). \quad (1.12)$$

Proposition 1.2.2. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential and $\hat{\sigma}$ a sequence formed by $k \hat{a}$ and $l \hat{a}^\dagger$. Then,

$$\langle n | \hat{\sigma} | n \rangle \leftrightarrow k = l. \quad (1.13)$$

Proposition 1.2.3. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. Then,

$$\langle \hat{x} \rangle_n = 0, \quad \langle \hat{x}^2 \rangle = \frac{\hbar}{2m\omega} (2n+1), \quad \langle \hat{p} \rangle_n = 0, \quad \langle \hat{p}^2 \rangle = \frac{\hbar m\omega}{2} (2n+1), \quad (1.14)$$

$$\Delta x \Delta p = \frac{\hbar}{2} (2n+1). \quad (1.15)$$

Proposition 1.2.4. Let \mathcal{H} a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. Then,

$$\langle T \rangle = \langle V \rangle. \quad (1.16)$$

1.3 Coherent states

Definition 1.3.1. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. We define a *coherent state* as a state $|\alpha\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ such that

$$\hat{a} |\alpha\rangle = \alpha |\alpha\rangle. \quad (1.17)$$

Definition 1.3.2. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. We define the *displaced state* as the state $|\psi_\alpha\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ determined by

$$\psi_\alpha(x) = \psi_0(x - x_0). \quad (1.18)$$

Proposition 1.3.1. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential and a force $F = f$. Then, the fundamental state is a displaced state with $x_0 = f/m\omega^2$.

Proposition 1.3.2. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential and $|\psi_\alpha\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ a displaced state with displacement x_0 . Then, $|\psi_\alpha\rangle$ is a coherent state with eigenvalue

$$\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}} x_0. \quad (1.19)$$

Proposition 1.3.3. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential and $|\alpha\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ a coherent state. Then,*

$$|\alpha\rangle = e^{-|\alpha|^2/2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\alpha^n}{\sqrt{n!}} |n\rangle = e^{-|\alpha|^2/2} e^{\alpha \hat{a}^\dagger} |0\rangle. \quad (1.20)$$

Proposition 1.3.4. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential and $|\alpha\rangle$ a coherent state. Then,*

$$\langle \hat{N} \rangle_\alpha = |\alpha|^2, \quad p_{|\alpha\rangle}(n) = e^{-\langle \hat{N} \rangle} \frac{\langle \hat{N} \rangle^n}{n!}. \quad (1.21)$$

Theorem 1.3.5 (Baker-Campbell-Hausdorff formula). *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $\hat{A}, \hat{B} : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ two operators such that $[[\hat{A}, \hat{B}], \hat{A}] = [[\hat{A}, \hat{B}], \hat{B}] = 0$. Then,*

$$\exp(\hat{A} + \hat{B}) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}[\hat{A}, \hat{B}]\right) \exp(\hat{A}) \exp(\hat{B}). \quad (1.22)$$

Proposition 1.3.6. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential and $|\alpha\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ a coherent state. Then,*

$$[\bar{\alpha} \hat{a}, \alpha \hat{a}^\dagger] = |\alpha|^2 \hat{I}, \quad |\alpha\rangle = \exp(\alpha \hat{a}^\dagger - \bar{\alpha} \hat{a}) |0\rangle := \hat{\mathcal{D}}(\alpha) |0\rangle. \quad (1.23)$$

Definition 1.3.3. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. We define the *displacement operator* as

$$\hat{\mathcal{D}}(\alpha) = \exp(\alpha \hat{a}^\dagger - \bar{\alpha} \hat{a}). \quad (1.24)$$

Proposition 1.3.7. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. Then,*

1. $\hat{\mathcal{D}}(\alpha)$ is unitary.
2. $\hat{\mathcal{D}}^\dagger(\alpha) = \hat{\mathcal{D}}(-\alpha)$.
3. $\hat{\mathcal{D}}(\alpha) \hat{\mathcal{D}}^\dagger(\alpha) = \hat{I}$.

Proposition 1.3.8. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential. Then,*

$$\hat{\mathcal{D}}(\alpha) = \exp\left(-i \frac{x_0 \hat{p} - p_0 \hat{x}}{\hbar}\right) = \exp\left(-\frac{i}{2} \frac{x_0 p_0}{\hbar}\right) \exp\left(i \frac{p_0 \hat{x}}{\hbar}\right) \exp\left(-i \frac{x_0 \hat{p}}{\hbar}\right), \quad (1.25)$$

$$x_0 = \sqrt{2l} \operatorname{Re}\{\alpha\}, \quad p_0 = \sqrt{2} \frac{l}{\hbar} \operatorname{Im}\{\alpha\}, \quad l = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{m\omega}}. \quad (1.26)$$

Proposition 1.3.9. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential and $|\alpha\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ a coherent state. Then,*

$$\langle x|\alpha\rangle = \psi_\alpha(x) = \left(\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}\right)^{1/4} \exp\left(\frac{ip_0}{2\hbar}(2x - x_0)\right) \exp\left(-\frac{(x - x_0)^2}{4\sigma_x^2}\right), \quad \frac{1}{4\sigma_x^2} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{m\omega}{\hbar} \quad (1.27)$$

$$x_0 = \sqrt{\frac{2\hbar}{m\omega}} \operatorname{Re}\{\alpha\}, \quad p_0 = \sqrt{2\hbar m\omega} \operatorname{Im}\{\alpha\} \quad (1.28)$$

Proposition 1.3.10. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential and $\{|\alpha\rangle\}$ the set of coherent states. Then, they form a overcomplete basis, that is, not for all pair of states $|\alpha\rangle, |\alpha'\rangle$ it is satisfied $\langle \alpha'|\alpha\rangle = 0$. Hence,*

$$\hat{I} = \frac{1}{\pi} \int |\alpha\rangle \langle \alpha| d^2\alpha, \quad |\langle \alpha|\beta\rangle|^2 = e^{-|\alpha-\beta|^2}. \quad (1.29)$$

Besides, $\langle \alpha|\beta\rangle \rightarrow 0$ if and only if $|\alpha - \beta| \gg 1$.

1.3.1 Coherent states dynamics

Proposition 1.3.11. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential and $|\alpha\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ a coherent state. Then,

$$|\alpha\rangle(t) = e^{i\omega t/2} |\alpha(t)\rangle = e^{i\omega t/2} |\alpha_0 e^{i\omega t}\rangle. \quad (1.30)$$

Proposition 1.3.12. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential and $|\alpha\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ a coherent state. Then,

$$\langle \hat{x} \rangle = x_0 \cos(\omega t) + \frac{p_0}{m\omega} \sin(\omega t), \quad \langle \hat{p} \rangle = p_0 \cos(\omega t) - m\omega x_0 \sin(\omega t). \quad (1.31)$$

1.4 Minimum uncertainty states

Definition 1.4.1. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ a state. We say $|\psi\rangle$ is a *minimum uncertainty state* if and only if

$$\Delta x \Delta p = \frac{\hbar}{2}. \quad (1.32)$$

Proposition 1.4.1. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ a state and $|\psi_x\rangle = \hat{\delta x} |\psi\rangle, |\psi_p\rangle = \hat{\delta p} |\psi\rangle$. Then,

$$\langle \psi_x | \psi_x \rangle \langle \psi_p | \psi_p \rangle \geq |\langle \psi_x | \psi_p \rangle|^2. \quad (1.33)$$

and the equality only occurs when there exists a $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ such that $|\psi_p\rangle = \lambda |\psi_x\rangle$.

Proposition 1.4.2. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ be a state. Then,

$$\left| \langle \psi | \hat{\delta x} \hat{\delta p} | \psi \rangle \right|^2 \geq \frac{1}{4} \left| \langle \psi | [\hat{\delta x}, \hat{\delta p}] | \psi \rangle \right|^2, \quad (1.34)$$

and the equality only occurs when $\{\hat{\delta x}, \hat{\delta p}\} = 0$.

Proposition 1.4.3. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ a minimum uncertainty state. Then,

$$\langle x | \psi \rangle = \psi(x) = C \exp \left[-\frac{|\lambda|}{2} (x - \langle x \rangle)^2 \right] \exp \left[\frac{ix \langle p \rangle}{\hbar} \right], \quad (1.35)$$

for some $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ and with variance $\Delta x^2 = \hbar/2|\lambda|$.

1.5 Vacuum manipulation

Proposition 1.5.1. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential and $\hat{b} = \hat{a} - \alpha \hat{I}$. Then,

$$|\alpha\rangle = |0_\alpha\rangle, \quad \hat{b} |0_\alpha\rangle = 0, \quad \hat{N}_b = \hat{b}^\dagger \hat{b}, \quad (1.36)$$

$$[\hat{b}, \hat{b}^\dagger] = \hat{I}, \quad \hat{N}_b |n\rangle_b = n |n\rangle_b, \quad \hat{b} |n\rangle_b = \sqrt{n+1} |n+1\rangle_b. \quad (1.37)$$

Proposition 1.5.2. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential, $\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}} x_0$ and $\hat{H} = \hbar\omega \left(\frac{1}{2} + \hat{N}_b \right)$. Then,

$$\hat{H}' = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m} + \frac{m\omega^2}{2} (\hat{x} - x_0)^2 - \frac{m\omega^2}{2} x_0^2. \quad (1.38)$$

Proposition 1.5.3 (Bogoliubov's transformation). Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a variant harmonic potential

$$V(\hat{x}) = \begin{cases} \frac{m_a \omega_a^2}{2} \hat{x}^2 & t < 0, \\ \frac{m_b \omega_b^2}{2} \hat{x}^2 & t \geq 0 \end{cases}. \quad (1.39)$$

Then,

$$\begin{cases} \hat{a} = \hat{b} \cosh \gamma + \hat{b}^\dagger \sinh \gamma, \\ \hat{a}^\dagger = \hat{b} \sinh \gamma + \hat{b}^\dagger \cosh \gamma \end{cases}, \quad \begin{cases} \hat{b} = \hat{a} \cosh \gamma - \hat{a}^\dagger \sinh \gamma, \\ \hat{b}^\dagger = -\hat{a} \sinh \gamma + \hat{a}^\dagger \cosh \gamma \end{cases}. \quad (1.40)$$

Proposition 1.5.4. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a variant harmonic potential. Then,*

$$|0_\gamma\rangle = |0\rangle_a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\cosh \gamma}} \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \tanh \gamma (\hat{b}^\dagger)^2 \right] |0\rangle_b, \quad \ln \sqrt{\frac{m_a \omega_a}{m_b \omega_b}}. \quad (1.41)$$

Proposition 1.5.5. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a variant harmonic potential. Then,*

$$|0_\gamma\rangle = \hat{S}(\gamma) |0\rangle_b = \exp \left[-\frac{\gamma}{2} (\hat{b}^{\dagger 2} - \hat{b}^2) \right] |0\rangle_b. \quad (1.42)$$

We call $\hat{S}(\gamma)$ the squeezing operator.

Proposition 1.5.6. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a variant harmonic potential. Then,*

1. *If $\gamma \rightarrow \infty$, then $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$ and $|0_\gamma\rangle \rightarrow |x\rangle$.*
2. *If $\gamma \rightarrow -\infty$, then $\Delta p \rightarrow 0$ and $|0_\gamma\rangle \rightarrow |p\rangle$.*

Proposition 1.5.7. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space with a harmonic potential and $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ a state. Then,*

1. *If $|\psi\rangle$ is the vacuum state, $\Delta p, \Delta x$ are constant.*
2. *If $|\psi\rangle$ is an squeezed state, $\Delta p, \Delta x$ vary.*

1.5.1 General observations

Proposition 1.5.8. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, \hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger ladder operators and $f(\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger), f^\dagger(\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger)$ other ladder operators. Then, their general form is*

$$f(\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger) = \alpha \hat{I} + z_1 \hat{a} + z_2 \hat{a}^\dagger, \quad \alpha, z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{C}, \quad |z_1|^2 - |z_2|^2 = 1. \quad (1.43)$$

Proposition 1.5.9. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. Then, squeezed states are the vacuum states of the operator*

$$\hat{a}_\gamma = \cosh \gamma \hat{a} + \sinh \gamma \hat{a}^\dagger. \quad (1.44)$$

Proposition 1.5.10. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. Then, coherent states are the vacuum states of the operator*

$$\hat{a}_\alpha = \hat{a} - \alpha \hat{I}. \quad (1.45)$$

Proposition 1.5.11. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. Then, the time dependent coherent states $|\alpha\rangle(t)$ are the coherent states of the operator*

$$\hat{a}_t = e^{-i\omega t} \hat{a}. \quad (1.46)$$

Chapter 2

Angular momentum

2.1 Rotations

Definition 2.1.1. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. We define the *angular momentum operator* on \mathcal{H} as the generator of rotations

$$\mathcal{D}_{\mathbf{n}}(\theta) = \exp\left(-\frac{i\theta}{\hbar}\langle\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{J}\rangle_I\right). \quad (2.1)$$

2.2 Commutation relations and angular momentum basis

Proposition 2.2.1. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. Then,

$$[\hat{J}_i, \hat{J}_j] = i\hbar \sum_k \epsilon_{ijk} \hat{J}_k. \quad (2.2)$$

Proposition 2.2.2. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. Then, the angular momentum operator is hermitian, that is, $\hat{J}_i^\dagger = \hat{J}_i \forall i$.

Definition 2.2.1. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. We define the *squared angular momentum operator* as

$$\hat{J}^2 := \langle\mathbf{J}, \mathbf{J}\rangle_I. \quad (2.3)$$

Definition 2.2.2.

$$\hat{J}_{\mathbf{n}} := \langle\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{J}\rangle_I. \quad (2.4)$$

Proposition 2.2.3. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. Then, \hat{J}^2 is unvariant under rotations, that is,

$$[\hat{J}^2, \hat{J}_{\mathbf{n}}] = 0, \quad \forall \mathbf{n}. \quad (2.5)$$

Proposition 2.2.4. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $(|\beta, m\rangle)$ a common eigenbasis of \hat{J}^2 and \hat{J}_z . Then,

$$\beta \geq m^2. \quad (2.6)$$

2.3 Ladder operators

Definition 2.3.1. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and \hat{J}_i the angular momentum operators. We define their *ladder operators* as

$$\hat{J}_+ := \hat{J}_x + i\hat{J}_y, \quad \hat{J}_- := \hat{J}_x - i\hat{J}_y = \hat{J}_+^\dagger. \quad (2.7)$$

Proposition 2.3.1. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. Then,

$$\begin{cases} \hat{J}_x = \frac{1}{2}\hat{J}_+ + \frac{1}{2}\hat{J}_- \\ \hat{J}_y = -\frac{i}{2}\hat{J}_+ + \frac{i}{2}\hat{J}_- \end{cases} \quad (2.8)$$

Proposition 2.3.2. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. Then,

$$[\hat{J}_z, \hat{J}_\pm] = \pm\hbar\hat{J}_\pm, \quad [\hat{J}_+, \hat{J}_-] = 2\hbar\hat{J}_z, \quad [\hat{J}^2, \hat{J}_\pm] = 0. \quad (2.9)$$

Proposition 2.3.3. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. Then,

$$\hat{J}_- \hat{J}_+ = \hat{J}^2 - \hat{J}_z^2 - \hbar\hat{J}_z, \quad (2.10)$$

$$\hat{J}_+ \hat{J}_- = \hat{J}^2 - \hat{J}_z^2 + \hbar\hat{J}_z. \quad (2.11)$$

Proposition 2.3.4. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. Then,

$$\hat{J}_\pm |j, m\rangle \propto |j, m \pm 1\rangle, \quad \hat{J}^2 |j, m\rangle = \hbar^2 j(j+1) |j, m\rangle, \quad \hat{J}_z |j, m\rangle = \hbar m |j, m\rangle. \quad (2.12)$$

Proposition 2.3.5. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. Then,

$$\hat{J}_+ |j, m\rangle = \hbar\sqrt{j(j+1) - m(m+1)} |j, m+1\rangle, \quad (2.13)$$

$$\hat{J}_- |j, m\rangle = \hbar\sqrt{j(j+1) - m(m-1)} |j, m-1\rangle. \quad (2.14)$$

2.4 Matrix representation

Definition 2.4.1. Matrix representation of \hat{J}_z

$$[\hat{J}_z] = \delta_{jj'} \delta_{mm'} \hbar m. \quad (2.15)$$

Corollary 2.4.1. Matrix representation of \hat{J}_z for $j = 0, 1/2, 1, 3/2$

$$[\hat{J}_z^0] = (0), \quad (2.16)$$

$$[\hat{J}_z^{1/2}] = \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & -1/2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.17)$$

$$[\hat{J}_z^1] = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.18)$$

$$[\hat{J}_z^{3/2}] = \begin{pmatrix} 3/2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -3/2 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2.19)$$

Proposition 2.4.2. Matrix representation of \hat{J}_\pm

$$[\hat{J}_\pm] = \hbar \sqrt{j(j+1) - m(m \pm 1)} \delta_{j'j} \delta_{m'm \pm 1}. \quad (2.20)$$

Corollary 2.4.3. Matrix representation of \hat{J}_\pm for $j = 0, 1/2, 1, 3/2$

$$[\hat{J}_+^0] = (0), \quad (2.21)$$

$$[\hat{J}_+^{1/2}] = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.22)$$

$$[\hat{J}_+^1] = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sqrt{2} & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.23)$$

$$[\hat{J}_+^{3/2}] = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sqrt{3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{4} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \sqrt{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2.24)$$

$$[(\hat{J}_+^0)^2] = (0), \quad (2.25)$$

$$[(\hat{J}_+^{1/2})^2] = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.26)$$

$$[(\hat{J}_+^1)^2] = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.27)$$

$$[(\hat{J}_+^{3/2})^2] = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 2\sqrt{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2\sqrt{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2.28)$$

Proposition 2.4.4. Matrix representation of \hat{J}^2 .

$$[\hat{J}^2] = \hbar^2 j(j+1) \delta_{jj'} \delta_{mm'}. \quad (2.29)$$

2.5 Orbital angular momentum

Definition 2.5.1. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. We define the *orbital angular momentum operator* as

$$\mathbf{L} := \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{p} = -i\hbar \mathbf{r} \times \nabla. \quad (2.30)$$

Proposition 2.5.1. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. Then,*

1. $[\hat{L}_i, \hat{L}_j] = \sum_k \epsilon_{ijk} \hat{L}_k$
2. $[\hat{L}^2, L_i] = 0 \ \forall i, [\hat{L}^2, \mathbf{L}] = \mathbf{0}.$

Proposition 2.5.2. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. Then,*

1. *Cartesian basis representation*

$$\langle \mathbf{r} | \mathbf{L} = -i\hbar(y\partial_z - z\partial_y)\mathbf{e}_x - i\hbar(z\partial_x - x\partial_z)\mathbf{e}_y - i\hbar(x\partial_y - y\partial_x)\mathbf{e}_z. \quad (2.31)$$

2. *Spherical basis representation*

$$\langle \mathbf{r} | \mathbf{L} = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \mathbf{e}_\varphi + i\hbar \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} \mathbf{e}_\theta. \quad (2.32)$$

3. *Spherical parameters representation*

$$\langle \mathbf{r} | \hat{L}^2 = -\hbar^2 \left[\frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \varphi^2} \right] \quad (2.33)$$

$$\langle \mathbf{r} | \hat{L}_z = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi}. \quad (2.34)$$

Proposition 2.5.3. *Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. Then,*

$$L_z Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi) = \hbar m Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi) \quad (2.35)$$

$$L^2 Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi) = \hbar^2 l(l+1) Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi), \quad (2.36)$$

with

$$Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi) = (-1)^{\frac{m+|m|}{2}} \left[\frac{(2l+1)(l-|m|)!}{4\pi(l+|m|)!} \right]^{1/2} e^{im\varphi} P_l^{|m|}(\cos \theta). \quad (2.37)$$

Definition 2.5.2. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and \mathbf{L} the orbital angular momentum operator. We define its *ladder operators* as

$$L_+ := L_x + iL_y = \hbar e^{i\varphi} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + i \cot \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} \right], \quad L_- := L_x - iL_y = \hbar e^{i\varphi} \left[-\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + i \cot \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} \right] \quad (2.38)$$