

LEC 23: TENSOR REPS

11/16

6 MORE LECTURES, NO HW

- ②  $SU(3)$
- ③  $SU(3)$  TENSORS
- ④ POINCARÉ
- ⑤
- ⑥ GAUGE THY

we'll do one more HW

ALL HW DUE DEC 2

(last lec.)

TENSOR PRODUCT REPRESENTATIONS

↳ "ADDITION OF ANGULAR MOMENTUM"

MATHEMATICAL QUESTION

GIVEN REP OF  $\mathcal{L}(G)$  ON VECTOR SPACES  $V_1$  &  $V_2$ ,  
 WHAT ~~ARE~~ IS REP OF  $\mathcal{L}(G)$  ON  $V_1 \otimes V_2$ ?

PHYSICAL QUESTION (example)

AN ELECTRON ORBITS A PROTON. BOTH ARE  
 SPIN- $1/2$  PARTICLES. (ASSUME S-WAVE  $\rightarrow$  NO ANGULAR  
 ORBITAL MOMENTUM) WHAT IS THE ANGULAR  
 MOMENTUM OF THE ATOM?



what are the states?

we know:  $\frac{1}{2} \otimes \frac{1}{2}$  GIVEN BY:

$ \uparrow\uparrow\rangle$	}	is this a rep?
$ \uparrow\downarrow\rangle$		
$ \downarrow\uparrow\rangle$		
$ \downarrow\downarrow\rangle$		

where:  $|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle = |\frac{1}{2}\rangle \otimes |-\frac{1}{2}\rangle$



RECALL:  $J_- |m\rangle = N_m |m-1\rangle$   
 $J_+ |m-1\rangle = N_m |m\rangle$

3

$$N_m^2 = \frac{(j+m)(j-m+1)}{2}$$

(DID ON PGP!)

HIGHEST WEIGHT STATE IS UNIQUE:  $|m_1=j_1, m_2=j_2\rangle$   
 eg  $|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$

THEN WE JUST DO WHAT WE DID BEFORE:  
 APPLY LOWERING OPERATORS

$$J_- |\uparrow\uparrow\rangle = (J_-^{(1)} \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes J_-^{(2)}) |\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$$

$$= (|\downarrow\uparrow\rangle + |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle) \sqrt{2}$$

$m=1$

$m=0$

we won't worry about this

$$J_- (|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle + |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle) = (J_-^{(1)} \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes J_-^{(2)}) (|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle + |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle)$$

$$= |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle \sqrt{2}$$

$m=-1$



SO WE HAVE A COMPLETE REP!

$|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle, |\uparrow\downarrow + \downarrow\uparrow\rangle, |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle \leftarrow \text{SPIN-1 REP}$   
 $m=1 \quad m=0 \quad m=-1$

WE'RE STILL LEFT w/  $|\downarrow\uparrow - \uparrow\downarrow\rangle$

$J_3 |\downarrow\uparrow - \uparrow\downarrow\rangle = 0$   
 $J_\pm |\downarrow\uparrow - \uparrow\downarrow\rangle = 0$

SPIN-0 REP.  
 "SCALAR"

WHAT WE'VE DISCOVERED:  $\frac{1}{2} \otimes \frac{1}{2} = 1 \oplus 0$

the tensor product of 2 spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  states  
(eg  $e^-p^+$  in s-wave) decomposes into  
a spin-1 + spin-0 rep.

these reps are totally separate

SPIN-1 REP HAS TOTAL ANGULAR MOMENTUM = 1  
(ie highest weight state)

SPIN-0 REP HAS TOTAL ANG. MOMENTUM = 0.  
SO THESE STATES DO NOT MIX!

VOCAB: SPIN-1 IS A 3-COMPONENT MULTIPLY  
in a spin-1 rep, no matter  
which state you're in, you  
can do a rotation to go to  
the  $m = \pm 1, 0$  state.

if you're in the spin-0 multiplet,  
you have  $m=0$  & ARE STUCK THERE.

NO ROTATION WILL TAKE YOU TO A  
DIFFERENT ~~STATE~~  $m$ . NO ROTATION WILL  
MIX YOU INTO THE  $|j=1, m=0\rangle$   
STATE.

OFTEN WE LABEL REPS OF  $SU(N)$  BY THEIR DIMENSION, SO  $\text{SPIN } \frac{1}{2} \leftrightarrow \underline{2}$

SO OUR DECOMPOSITION READS:  $\boxed{\underline{2} \otimes \underline{2} = \underline{3} \oplus \underline{1}}$

LET'S DO ANOTHER:  $\text{SPIN } \frac{1}{2} \otimes \text{SPIN } \frac{1}{2}$  ✓ we'll be sloppy w/ norms.

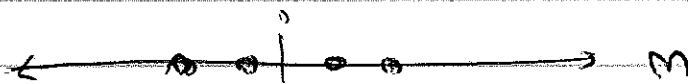
HIGHEST WEIGHT STATE:  $\begin{matrix} \swarrow m_1 & \searrow m_2 \end{matrix}$  } 2 BASES:  
 $|j = \frac{3}{2}, m = \frac{3}{2}\rangle = |1, \frac{1}{2}\rangle$  }  $(j, m)$  (total)  
 $(m_1, m_2)$

APPLYING LOWERING OPS GIVES:

$$|j = \frac{3}{2}, m = \frac{1}{2}\rangle \sim |0, \frac{1}{2}\rangle + |1, -\frac{1}{2}\rangle$$

$$|j = \frac{3}{2}, m = -\frac{1}{2}\rangle \sim |-1, \frac{1}{2}\rangle + (|0, -\frac{1}{2}\rangle + |0, -\frac{1}{2}\rangle)$$

$$|j = \frac{3}{2}, m = -\frac{3}{2}\rangle \sim |-1, -\frac{1}{2}\rangle$$



REMAINING STATES

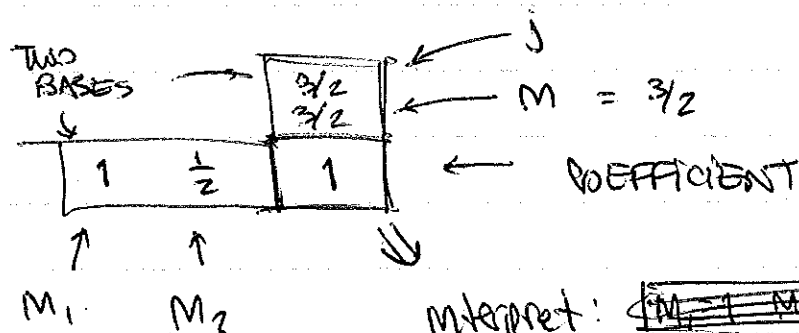
$$\begin{matrix} |1, -\frac{1}{2}\rangle - |0, \frac{1}{2}\rangle \\ |-1, +\frac{1}{2}\rangle - |0, -\frac{1}{2}\rangle \end{matrix} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{matrix} |1, -\frac{1}{2}\rangle - |0, \frac{1}{2}\rangle \\ |-1, +\frac{1}{2}\rangle - |0, -\frac{1}{2}\rangle \end{matrix}} \right\} \text{ form } j = \frac{1}{2} \text{ REP.}$$

AW. BUT THAT WAS REALLY MESSY, ALSO,  
I DON'T TRUST YOUR NORMALIZATIONS OF  
THE RAISING & LOWERING OPS!

(you shouldn't —  $J_{-}^{(1)}$  &  $J_{-}^{(2)}$  in general  
have different normalizations!)

TWO OPTIONS ① DERIVE YOURSELF  
② CLEBSCH - GORDON TABLE

eg.  $1 \otimes \frac{1}{2}$  (what we just did)



interpret:  ~~$|M_1=1, M_2=\frac{1}{2}\rangle$~~   $= \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} |J=\frac{3}{2}, M=\frac{3}{2}\rangle$

$$|j=\frac{3}{2}, m=\frac{3}{2}\rangle = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} |M_1=1, M_2=\frac{1}{2}\rangle$$

NEXT PART OF TABLE

		$\frac{3}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$j$
		$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$M = \frac{1}{2}$
$1$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	
$0$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	
$M_1$	$M_2$			

$$|j = \frac{3}{2} \quad M = \frac{1}{2}\rangle = \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} |1, -\frac{1}{2}\rangle + \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} |0, \frac{1}{2}\rangle$$

$$|j = \frac{1}{2} \quad M = \frac{1}{2}\rangle = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} |1, -\frac{1}{2}\rangle - \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} |0, \frac{1}{2}\rangle$$

observe: these are normalized  
 † are orthogonal  
 (AS THEY MUST BE)

		$\frac{3}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$j$
		$-\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$M = -\frac{1}{2}$
$0$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	
$-1$	$+\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$	

$$|j = \frac{3}{2} \quad M = -\frac{1}{2}\rangle = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} |0, -\frac{1}{2}\rangle + \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} |-1, \frac{1}{2}\rangle$$

$$|j = \frac{1}{2} \quad M = -\frac{1}{2}\rangle = \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} |0, -\frac{1}{2}\rangle - \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} |-1, \frac{1}{2}\rangle$$

THE LAST STEP IS CLEAR

$$\begin{array}{c|c} 3/2 & \\ \hline -3/2 & \\ \hline -1 & -1/2 \end{array} \bigg| 1$$

$$|j = \frac{3}{2}, m = \frac{3}{2}\rangle = |-1, -\frac{1}{2}\rangle$$

CHECK:  $1 \times 1$

		2	1	0	j
		0	0	0	M = 0
1	-1	1/6	1/2	1/3	
0	0	2/3	0	-1/3	
-1	1	1/6	-1/2	1/3	
$m_1$	$m_2$				

$|m_1 = 0, m_2 = 0\rangle$  IS A

STATE w/  $M = 0$ ,

IS  $|j = 1, m = 0\rangle$ ,

BUT THEY HAVE NO OVERLAP



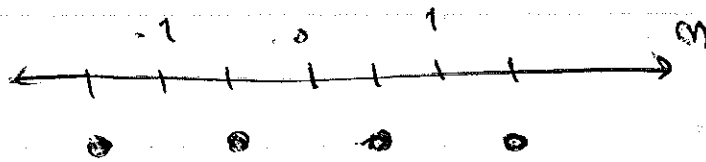
WHAT ABOUT BIGGER TENSOR REPS?

CAN DO IT PAIRWISE

OR THE LONG WAY

(qualitative features are easy)

eg  $\frac{1}{2} \otimes \frac{1}{2} \otimes \frac{1}{2}$



$j = 3/2$  "all plus signs"

$j = 1/2$  "1 neg sign"

$j = 1/2$  "2 neg signs"