

①

$$\begin{aligned}
 1. \quad \hat{J}_z \hat{J}_x |+\rangle &= \frac{\hbar}{2} \hat{J}_z |+\rangle \\
 &= \frac{\hbar}{2} \hat{J}_z \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |+\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |-\rangle \right) \\
 &= \frac{\hbar^2}{4} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |+\rangle - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |-\rangle \right) \\
 &= \frac{\hbar^2}{4} |-\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{J}_x \hat{J}_z |+\rangle &= \frac{\hbar}{2} \hat{J}_x |-\rangle \\
 &= -\frac{\hbar^2}{4} |-\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 4. \quad i\hbar \hat{J}_y |+\rangle &= i\frac{\hbar^2}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{\hbar^2}{2\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \frac{\hbar^2}{2} |-\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } [\hat{J}_z, \hat{J}_x] = i\hbar \hat{J}_y$$

2. Jay's answer (may be others)

Lets call the expectation value of the observable  $a$  and the (Hermitian) operator  $\hat{A}$   
 $a = \langle \lambda | \hat{A} | \lambda \rangle$ . Normally the expectation value is also the eigen value so

$$a = a \langle \lambda | \lambda \rangle \quad \text{so} \quad \langle \lambda | \lambda \rangle = 1$$

$$\text{Eg Let } \hat{A} = \hat{J}_z \quad \text{and } |\lambda\rangle = |+\rangle$$

$$\frac{\hbar}{2} = \langle + | \hat{J}_z | + \rangle = \frac{\hbar}{2} \langle + | + \rangle \Rightarrow \langle + | + \rangle = 1$$

We also normally use the eigenvectors as an

orthonormal basis

3. Note

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

Now we need to work out

$$\left( \begin{array}{c} \langle \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} | \hat{J}_+ | \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \rangle \\ \langle \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} | \hat{J}_+ | \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \rangle \\ \langle \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} | \hat{J}_+ | \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \rangle \end{array} \right) \quad \left( \begin{array}{c} \langle \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} | \hat{J}_+ | \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \rangle \\ \langle \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} | \hat{J}_+ | \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \rangle \\ \langle \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} | \hat{J}_+ | \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \rangle \end{array} \right)$$

- ① b/c can't raise  $|\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2}\rangle$   
 ② If we raise  $|\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2}\rangle$  to  $|\frac{1}{2} \frac{3}{2}\rangle$  it will be orthogonal to the bra on the left

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} | \hat{J}_+ | \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \rangle &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}(\frac{1}{2}+1) + \frac{1}{2}(\frac{1}{2}+1)} \hbar \langle \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} | \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \rangle \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{4}} \hbar \\ &= \hbar \end{aligned}$$

So  $\hat{J}_+ \xrightarrow{\text{z basis}} \hbar \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

Check  $\hat{J}_+ | -z \rangle = \hat{J}_+ | \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \rangle$   
 $\rightarrow \hbar \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \hbar \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} | +z \rangle \checkmark$

$$\hat{J}_+ | +z \rangle = \hat{J}_+ | \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \rangle$$

$$\rightarrow \hbar \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \hbar \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \checkmark$$