

QM Problems

Prob. # (35) Consider a QM state described by the wave function

(40)

φ507

(Apr. 92)

$$\Psi_n(x, t) = [u_n(x) e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} E_n t}] e^{-\frac{1}{2} \Gamma_n t}, \quad t \geq 0.$$

This may be interpreted as a quasi-stationary bound state of energy E_n and lifetime $\Delta t_n = 1/\Gamma_n$. By Fourier analysing $\Psi_n(x, t)$ with respect to time, show that the energy spectrum of the decay contains energy components of width $\Delta E_n = \hbar \Gamma_n$ about E_n . What is the most probable energy associated with the decay?

(20pts.) (36) A particle of mass m is bound in a double well δ -fcn potential: $V(x) = -C[\delta(x+a) + \delta(x-a)]$, $C = \text{const} > 0$. For such a symmetric potential, we can choose solutions ψ_e & ψ_o which exhibit even & odd parity, resp. Do this. Also, write the bound state energies as $E = -\hbar^2 \kappa^2 / 2m$ (this defines κ).

a) Obtain the transcendental equations (in terms of κ , etc.) which give the two allowed energy levels of the system. Solve them approximately for large a , and compare the solutions with the well-known bound state energy of a single well (viz. $E = -\frac{1}{2} m C^2 / \hbar^2$). What is the energy splitting? Which state (ψ_e or ψ_o) is more tightly bound? What happens for $a \rightarrow 0$?

b) Sketch both ψ_e and ψ_o vs. x . What is the physical significance of states described by the linear combinations $\psi_{\pm} = (\psi_e \pm \psi_o) / \sqrt{2}$?

c) Suppose the system is in state ψ_+ at $t=0$. The wave fcn at some later time is then $\Psi = (\psi_e e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} E_e t} + \psi_o e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} E_o t}) / \sqrt{2}$, where E_e and E_o are the eigenenergies. By rewriting Ψ in terms of ψ_+ and ψ_- , show that the system oscillates between the states ψ_+ and ψ_- at a characteristic frequency $\Omega = \frac{1}{2}(E_o - E_e) / \hbar$. Interpret this oscillation physically.

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prob. # (13)
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(37) Show that the unit step fcn may be represented by

$$\theta(\tau) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{i}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (\omega + i\epsilon)^{-1} e^{-i\omega\tau} d\omega = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{for } \tau > 0 \\ 0, & \text{for } \tau < 0 \end{cases}$$

by evaluating an appropriate contour integral in the complex ω -plane. Show that if $\epsilon \rightarrow 0_-$, then the integral generates $\theta(\tau) - 1$, the well known out-of-step fcn. What is the corresponding integral for $\delta(\tau)$?

prob. # (10)
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(38) Let the Hamiltonian $H = H_0 + V$, where H_0 describes a free particle, and V includes all interactions. Let ξ be the space-time pt. (x, t) . Then the S. eqn. is

$$(i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t'} - H_0') \psi(\xi') = \hbar \rho(\xi'), \quad \rho(\xi') = \frac{1}{\hbar} V(\xi') \psi(\xi').$$

ρ acts as a source fcn for the otherwise free propagation of ψ . Let G_0 be the free particle propagator (Green's fcn) which satisfies the pt. source eqn.

$$(i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t'} - H_0') G_0(\xi', \xi) = \hbar \delta(\xi' - \xi).$$

Show that the general solution to the Schrodinger problem may be written

$$\psi(\xi') = \psi_0(\xi') + \int G_0(\xi', \xi) \rho(\xi) d\xi$$

(12) → (9)

where ψ_0 is a free particle wave-fcn.

prob. # (12)
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(39) A free particle in 1D has mean momentum k_0 , and is initially localized within $\Delta x \sim \delta$, so that its wavefcn at $t=0$ is $\psi(x, 0) = A e^{ik_0 x} e^{-x^2/2\delta^2}$. By integrating $\psi(x, 0)$ over the free propagator K_0 , show that at $t > 0$, ψ is given by

$$\psi(x, t) = A (1 + i\tau)^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^{i(k_0 x - \omega_0 t)} e^{-(1 - i\tau)(x - v_0 t)^2 / 2\delta^2 (1 + \tau^2)}, \quad \tau = \frac{\hbar t}{m\delta^2}$$

where $v_0 = \hbar k_0 / m$ & $\omega_0 = \hbar k_0^2 / 2m$. Interpret this result physically.

QM Problems

prob. # (14) (40) Show that the perturbation series for the propagator G , namely

$$G = G_0 + \int G_0 \Omega G_0 + \iint G_0 \Omega G_0 \Omega G_0 + \dots$$

(G_0 = free propagator, Ω = interaction) may be formally summed to yield

$$G(\xi', \xi) = G_0(\xi', \xi) + \int d\xi_1 G_0(\xi', \xi_1) \Omega(\xi_1) G(\xi_1, \xi).$$

(What does this correspond to physically (in terms of Ψ propagation)? Use this result to verify the Lippmann-Schwinger eqn (also proved in problem (38)):

$$\Psi(\xi') = \Psi_0(\xi') + \int d\xi_1 G_0(\xi', \xi_1) \Omega(\xi_1) \Psi(\xi_1).$$

20 pts (41) a) For a bound state problem, the propagator G may be represented by

$$G(\vec{x}', t'; \vec{x}, t) = -i \theta(t' - t) \sum_n u_n^*(\vec{x}) u_n(\vec{x}') e^{-i\omega_n(t' - t)}, \quad \omega_n = E_n/\hbar.$$

Using the integral form for θ (prob. (37)), show G can be Fourier analysed as

$$G(\vec{x}', t'; \vec{x}, t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G_\omega(\vec{x}', \vec{x}) e^{-i\omega(t' - t)} d\omega, \quad G_\omega(\vec{x}', \vec{x}) = \sum_n \frac{u_n^*(\vec{x}) u_n(\vec{x}')}{(\omega - \omega_n) + i\epsilon}.$$

b) G_ω , with $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+}$ understood, is known as the stationary propagator for energy $E = \hbar\omega$. With H the system Hamiltonian, show G_ω obeys the pt. source eqn: $(E - H') G_\omega(\vec{x}', \vec{x}) = \hbar \delta(\vec{x}' - \vec{x})$. Use this to show that the Lippmann-Schwinger eqn for a stationary state at energy E , with time-indpt interaction Ω , is

$$\Psi_E(\vec{x}') = \varphi_E(\vec{x}') + \int d^3x G_{0\omega}(\vec{x}', \vec{x}) \Omega(\vec{x}) \Psi_E(\vec{x}),$$

9 pts \rightarrow with φ_E a free particle wfn, and $G_{0\omega}(\vec{x}', \vec{x})$ the free stationary propagator.

c) By evaluating the sum (and appropriate contour integrals), derive an expression for $G_{0\omega}(\vec{x}', \vec{x})$, the free stationary propagator in 1D. Compare your answer with that in P.B. James, Am. J. Phys. 38, 1319 (Nov. 1970).

12 pts \rightarrow

QM Problems

- (42) In our derivation of $S_{\beta\alpha}^{(n)}$, the n^{th} order scattering term in the S-matrix, we used the relations for a free-particle wfn ϕ_β and propagator G_0

Prob. # (16)

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$$\phi_\beta(\xi') = i \int dx G_0(\xi', \xi) \phi_\beta(\xi), \quad \phi_\beta^*(\xi') = i \int dx \phi_\beta^*(\xi) G_0(\xi, \xi'),$$

where $(\xi) = (x, t)$ as usual. The first relation is "true" by definition.

"Prove" the second. (Hint: note that for a free particle: $\phi_\beta^*(\xi) = \phi_\beta(-\xi)$).

Is this always true? Write the propagation eqn for $\phi_\beta(-\xi)$, and then look at the behavior of G_0 under a space-time reflection: $\xi \rightarrow -\xi, \xi' \rightarrow -\xi'$.

- (43) Show that in a QM state ψ with a well-defined value of the z-component of \mathbf{L} momentum, L_z , i.e. $L_z \psi = m\hbar \psi$, the expectation values of the x and y components, L_x and L_y , are identically zero (Hint: use the commutation relations and the Hermiticity of L_z).

- (44) In a given QM system, the energy level E is doubly degenerate, i.e. there are two orthonormal eigenfns ψ_i such that $H\psi_i = E\psi_i$. Suppose there is an operator Q which commutes with H , i.e. $[H, Q] = 0$, and which has the following matrix elements w.r.t. eigenfns ψ_i

$$Q_{11} = \langle \psi_1 | Q | \psi_1 \rangle, \text{ real}$$

$$Q_{12} = \langle \psi_1 | Q | \psi_2 \rangle = |Q_{21}| e^{-i\theta}$$

$$Q_{22} = \langle \psi_2 | Q | \psi_2 \rangle \equiv Q_{11}$$

$$Q_{21} = \langle \psi_2 | Q | \psi_1 \rangle \equiv Q_{12}^*$$

By taking suitable linear combinations of the ψ_i , explicitly construct wfns ϕ_1 & ϕ_2 which are simultaneously eigenfns of H and Q , and show that the ϕ_j are orthonormal. What are the eigenvalues of Q ? Note: H and Q are a "complete set of commuting observables" here, as they completely specify the quantum numbers E, q_j associated with the by now distinct ϕ_j .

QM Problems

- ④5 Suppose, in order to take into account the past history of a state, the exponential decay law were modified from $dP(t)/dt = -\Gamma_0 P(t)$ to

$$\frac{d}{dt} P(t) = -\Gamma_0 \frac{1}{\tau} \int_{t-\tau}^t P(x) dx, \quad \tau = \text{const}$$

The integral represents an average of $P(t)$ over a time interval τ just prior to time t . Γ_0 is the "natural" decay rate, i.e. the decay rate for $\tau=0$.

- Show that the original law is recovered in the limit $\tau \rightarrow 0$.
- Show that the above law is non-local in time by converting it to a second-order differential eqn. So what?
- Assume a solution of the form $P(t) = P_0 e^{-\Gamma t}$. Derive the (transcendental) eqn. which relates Γ to Γ_0 & τ . Show that for suitably small τ , $\Gamma > \Gamma_0$, but that there is a critical τ_c such that $\tau > \tau_c \Rightarrow$ no solution for Γ (i.e. decay is no longer exponential). Estimate τ_c in terms of Γ_0 .
- What is the nature of the $P(t)$ solution for $\tau > \tau_c$? (\$64 question!)

- ④6 If \vec{r} & \vec{p} do not commute, show that the QM \hat{L} momentum operator is

$$\hat{L}^2 = (\vec{r} \times \vec{p})^2 = r^2 \vec{p}^2 + \hbar^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r}),$$

rather than the simple "classical" guess: $\hat{L}^2 = r^2 \vec{p}^2 + \hbar^2 (r \frac{\partial}{\partial r})^2$

- ④7 Redo problem ③3 (α -decay) for ℓ momentum $\neq 0$. Assume low energies ($E \ll V(r_0)$), and a relatively weak centrifugal barrier: $B(r) = \ell(\ell+1)\hbar^2/2mr^2 \ll V(r)$, $r > r_0$. Show that for $\ell \neq 0$, the transmission coefficient $T = e^{-\gamma}$ is specified by

$$\gamma \approx \frac{2\pi C}{\hbar v} \left[1 - \frac{4}{\pi} \frac{\sqrt{E}}{\sqrt{V(r_0)}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\sigma \right) \right], \quad \sigma = B(r_0)/V(r_0) \ll 1, \quad v = \sqrt{2E/m}.$$

Calculate numbers, including a lifetime, for: $U^{238} \rightarrow Th^{234} + \alpha$, $E = 4.25$ MeV.

QM Problems

- (48) a) By considering a finite rotation $\vec{\alpha}$ to be made up of a very large number of small rotations $\delta\vec{\alpha}$ performed in succession, show that the rotation operator $R(\vec{\alpha})$ which takes a fn $F(\vec{r})$ into $F(\vec{r}') = R(\vec{\alpha})F(\vec{r})$, upon rotation of the coordinate system by $\vec{\alpha}$, is: $R(\vec{\alpha}) = \exp(-\frac{i}{\hbar} \vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{L})$, where \vec{L} is the QM angular momentum operator.
- b) By the same token, show that for a finite translation of the coordinate system by \vec{E} (i.e. $\vec{r} \rightarrow \vec{r}' = \vec{r} - \vec{E}$), the appropriate translation operator is $T(\vec{E}) = \exp(-\frac{i}{\hbar} \vec{E} \cdot \vec{p})$, where \vec{p} is the QM linear momentum operator.

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- (49) With regard to angular momentum \vec{L} , make the following assumptions:
- (1) Space is isotropic, i.e. the x, y , and z axes are all equivalent.
 - (2) The possible values of any one component of \vec{L} are $m\hbar$, where m ranges over the $2l+1$ values $-l, -l+1, \dots, 0, \dots, +l$ (l an integer).
 - (3) All m -values occur with equal a priori probability.
- From these, show that the average value of \vec{L}^2 must be $\overline{L^2} = l(l+1)\hbar^2$.
(Hint: (1) $\Rightarrow \overline{L^2} = 3 \overline{L_z^2} = 3 \overline{m^2} \hbar^2$. Now calculate $\overline{m^2}$ from (2) & (3).)

- (50) Consider the set of fns $u_n(x) = x^n$, where $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$, and the domain of definition is restricted to the interval $-1 \leq x \leq +1$. Clearly the $u_n(x)$ are not orthogonal (or normalized) over this interval. They may be orthogonalized by the Schmidt procedure (with a judicious choice of sign): $\{u_n(x)\} \rightarrow \{v_n(x)\}$, orthogonal. Show that, up to normalization constants, the $v_n(x)$ are just the Legendre polynomials $P_n^0(x)$, for the cases $n = 0$ to 3. Can you prove $v_n(x) \propto P_n^0(x)$ generally? In any case, the $P_n^0(x)$ are sometimes called the fundamental set of orthogonal polynomials on $-1 \leq x \leq +1$.

QM Problems

- 20 pts. (51) In a space where \vec{J} is the \hbar momentum operator, so that a finite rotation of the Cd. system by \hbar $\vec{\alpha}$ is represented by rotation operator $R(\vec{\alpha}) = \exp(-i\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{J})$ (problem (48)), start out with a vector \vec{A} along the x -axis. A rotation by a small but finite \hbar $\Delta\alpha_y$ around the y -axis, then by $\Delta\alpha_x$ around the x -axis, is represented by $R(\Delta\alpha_x)R(\Delta\alpha_y)$. By looking at the final relative position of \vec{A} , show that this operation is equivalent to the sequence $R(\Delta\alpha_z)R(\Delta\alpha_y)R(\Delta\alpha_x)$, where -- to 2nd order in small quantities, $\Delta\alpha_z \approx \Delta\alpha_x \Delta\alpha_y$. That is, establish the equality
- $$R(\Delta\alpha_x)R(\Delta\alpha_y) = R(\Delta\alpha_z)R(\Delta\alpha_y)R(\Delta\alpha_x); \Delta\alpha_z = \Delta\alpha_x \Delta\alpha_y, \text{ to } \mathcal{O}(\Delta\alpha)^2.$$

By plugging in the exp forms for the R 's, and expanding them individually to $\mathcal{O}(\Delta\alpha)^2$ (note: $e^P e^Q \neq e^{P+Q}$ for $[P, Q] \neq 0$; see Merzbacher, p. 167), establish the commutation rule $[J_x, J_y] = iJ_z$.

- Prob. # (6) (52) Using the relations for the creation and annihilation operators J_{\pm} , obtain the most general matrix elements of J_x and J_y . That is, calculate the quantities $\langle j'm' | J_x \text{ and } J_y | j'm \rangle$, with appropriate "selection rules" on j and m .
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- (53) Consider the \hbar momentum operator \vec{S} for a spin $\frac{1}{2}$ particle. If we define $\vec{\sigma} = (2/\hbar) \vec{S}$, then $\vec{\sigma}$ obeys $\vec{\sigma} \times \vec{\sigma} = 2i\vec{\sigma}$. The components of $\vec{\sigma}$ can be represented by 2×2 matrices. If S_z is chosen to have eigenvalues $\pm \frac{\hbar}{2}$, then $\sigma_z = \begin{pmatrix} +1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$. Using the commutation relations, and this choice for σ_z , derive the matrices for σ_x and σ_y (choosing the "simplest" repⁿ). Show that \vec{S}^2 is a diagonal matrix, with eigenvalue $\frac{3}{4}\hbar^2$. Note: the σ_i here are called the Pauli matrices for spin $\frac{1}{2}$.

QM Problems

- (54) a) By direct substitution, show that a series solution to the differential eqn

Prob. # ①
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$$\left[x \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + (b-x) \frac{d}{dx} - a \right] F(x) = 0 \quad \begin{cases} a \neq b = \text{cnsts} \\ b \neq 0 \text{ or } (-) \text{ve integer} \end{cases}$$

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is $F(x) = {}_1F_1(a, b; x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} [(a)_k / (b)_k] (x^k / k!)$, $(a)_k = a(a+1) \cdots (a+k-1)$.

b) Suppose $x \rightarrow +\infty$. By examining the leading terms in the series for ${}_1F_1$, show (using "appropriate" approximations for the Γ -fns) that for k "large", the k^{th} term is $\sim [\Gamma(b)/\Gamma(a)] x^k / (k - (a-b))!$. Argue from this that for large +ve x , ${}_1F_1(a, b; x) \sim [\Gamma(b)/\Gamma(a)] x^{a-b} e^x$. Next, using the Kummer transform, show ${}_1F_1(a, b; -x) \sim [\Gamma(b)/\Gamma(b-a)] x^{-a}$ for large (-)ve x .

- (55) Consider a central potential of the form $V(r) = \frac{A}{r^2} - \frac{B}{r}$, $A \neq B$ cnsts. Draw $V(r)$. What physical situation might be represented by this interaction?

Prob. # ④
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Write the radial eqn in dimensionless variables (N.B. "atomic units" for this problem are: length $a = \hbar^2 / m B$, energy $\mathcal{E} = B/a$). Solve for the radial wavefn $u(\rho)$, and show the bound state energies are $E_{nl} = -\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{E} / (n + \Delta_l)^2$, where -- as for the H atom -- the principal quantum # $n = N + l + 1$, with $N = 0, +1, +2, \dots$. Give an exact expression for Δ_l . For a given n , which l state is most tightly bound? Approximate E_{nl} for $m A / \hbar^2 \ll 1$, and draw the energy spectrum, including both n & l dependence.

- (56) Consider the radial eqn for the 3D isotropic oscillator, with $V(r) = \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 r^2$ ("atomic units" are: $a = \hbar / m \omega$, $\mathcal{E} = \hbar \omega$). Extract the asymptotic behavior of $u(\rho)$ as $\rho = r/a \rightarrow 0$ & ∞ , and convert the u eqn to a confluent hypergeometric eqn by a change of variables, $z = \rho^2$. Solve this, and show the bound state energies are $E_N = (\Lambda + \frac{3}{2}) \mathcal{E}$, where $\Lambda = 2N + l$, $N = 0, 1, 2, \dots$. What states (N, l) are possible for $\Lambda = 0$ to 3? What is the parity & degeneracy of level E_N ?

QM Problems

- (57) The H-atom eigenfns are $|n, l, m\rangle = R_{nl}(r) Y_{lm}(\vartheta, \varphi)$. Give explicit expressions, including normalization cnsts, for all R_{nl} from $(n, l) = (1, 0)$ to $(3, 2)$, and for all Y_{lm} from $(l, m) = (0, 0)$ to $(2, \pm 2)$. Put your results in tabular form! Write the R_{nl} as \propto polynomials in $x = (2Z/na_0)r$, and the Y_{lm} as \propto expressions in $\cos \vartheta$ & $\sin \vartheta$. What are $|2, 1, \pm 1\rangle$ and $|3, 0, 0\rangle$ in terms of r, ϑ, φ ?
- (58) a) Apply the variational method to the ground state of a particle moving in an attractive Yukawa (or screened Coulomb) potential: $V(r) = -V_0 \frac{a}{r} e^{-r/a}$, where V_0 & a are (+)ve cnsts. Use $R(r) = e^{-\beta(r/a)}$ as a trial wavefn, with β the variation parameter. By minimizing the energy $\langle E \rangle$, establish a relation between β and the cnst $\gamma^2 = 2mV_0a^2/\hbar^2$. Derive an expression for $\langle E \rangle_{\min}$ which depends on this "best" value of β alone.
- b) Use these results to describe the binding of a deuteron (n-p system). Assume the "range" of the Yukawa potential is $a = 1.40 \times 10^{-13}$ cm (pion Compton wavelength). For what value of V_0 (in MeV) is $\langle E \rangle_{\min} = -2.226$ MeV, which is the observed deuteron binding energy? With these parameters, what is the rms radius (i.e. $\langle r^2 \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}}$) of the deuteron?
- c) Show that in the limit $a \rightarrow \infty$, but $V_0 a \rightarrow$ finite, the correct energy and wavefn are obtained for the ground state of the Coulomb potential.
- (59) Consider the H-atom problem (i.e. Coulomb potential: $V(r) = -Ze^2/r$) for (+)ve energy $E \geq 0$. This relates to e-p scattering, or ionization, or (with $Z \rightarrow -Z$) to an \bar{e} -p interaction. By examining the asymptotic behavior of the fcn which goes like e^{-ikr} as $r \rightarrow \infty$, show that the "normalized" radial wavefn as $r \rightarrow \infty$ is
- $$R_{kl}(r) \approx \sqrt{2/\pi} \frac{1}{r} \sin \left[(kr - \frac{l\pi}{2}) + (Z/ka_0) \ln 2kr + \delta_l(k) \right],$$
- where: $k = \sqrt{2mE/\hbar^2}$, $a_0 = \hbar^2/me^2$, $\delta_l(k) = \arg \Gamma(l+1 - iZ/ka_0)$.

QM Problems

(60) a) Starting from Bessel's eqn: $[x^2 \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + x \frac{d}{dx} + (x^2 - \nu^2)] J_\nu(x) = 0$, show that the solutions are related to the confluent hypergeometric fn, F_1 , by: $J_\nu(x) = [(x/2)^\nu / \Gamma(\nu+1)] e^{-ix} F_1(\nu+1/2, 2\nu+1; 2ix)$. What are the asymptotic forms for $J_\nu(x)$ as $x \rightarrow 0$ and $x \rightarrow \infty$?

b) For a free particle (mass m , energy E) in 3D sph. polar cds, the radial eigenfns are $R_{kl}(r) = A_k j_l(kr)$, where $k = \sqrt{2mE/\hbar^2}$, j_l is the sph. Bessel fn of order l , and A_k is a norm. const. Show that the choice $A_k = \sqrt{2/\pi} k$ normalizes $R_{kl}(r)$ so that $\int_0^\infty R_{k'l'}^*(r) R_{kl}(r) r^2 dr = \delta(k'-k)$. (Hint: use the asymptotic form for j_l as $r \rightarrow \infty$). If this integral were normalized to $\delta(E'-E)$ instead, what would the norm. const be?

20 pts. (61) Given: an $N \times N$ Hermitian matrix $\underline{H} = (H_{kl})$. The problem is to diagonalize \underline{H} in principle, i.e. find a matrix $\underline{U} \ni$ by a similarity transform (S.T.), $\underline{U} \underline{H} \underline{U}^\dagger = \underline{H}'$ is diagonal. To this end, consider the eigenvalue eqn $\underline{H} \underline{u}_k = E_k \underline{u}_k$, $k = 1$ to N .

a) Write the "secular eqn", which gives the eigenvalues E_k from the H_{kl} . Assume zero degeneracy, i.e. all E_k distinct. Show the E_k are real, and the eigenvectors \underline{u}_k are orthogonal (Note: the vector product here is $\vec{A}^\dagger \cdot \vec{B} = \sum_i A_i^* B_i$).

b) Let the \underline{u}_k be normalized to unit vectors \hat{u}_k (why is this possible?). Let \underline{U} be a matrix with the \hat{u}_k as rows, i.e. $U_{kl} = u_{kl}^*$ ($u_{kl} = l^{\text{th}}$ comp. of \hat{u}_k). Show \underline{U} is unitary. Next, show $\underline{U} \underline{H} \underline{U}^\dagger = \underline{H}'$ is diagonal, so \underline{U} is the desired diagonalization matrix. If the S.T. were written $\underline{V}^\dagger \underline{H} \underline{V} = \underline{H}'$, what would \underline{V} be?

c) Find \underline{H}^{-1} in terms of the E_k and u_{kl} (write an explicit form for H_{kl}^{-1}). What if some $E_k = 0$? Use the result to solve the eqn $\underline{H} \vec{A} = \vec{B}$ for \vec{A} in terms of \vec{B} .

d) Apply a S.T. by \underline{U} to the eqn $\underline{H} \vec{A} = \vec{B}$. How are the comps. of $\vec{A}' = \underline{U} \vec{A}$ and $\vec{B}' = \underline{U} \vec{B}$ related? What is the effect of a S.T. by \underline{U} on the eigenvalue eqn? What does \underline{U} do to the vectors, and the cd. system? What does \underline{V} do?

QM Problems

- (62) a) A representation of the Dirac delta-fcn may be made in terms of a suitably normalized Gaussian, $\delta(x) \propto e^{-x^2/\sigma^2}$, in the limit that the width $\sigma \rightarrow 0$. Find the Gaussian representation for $\delta(x-x')$.
- b) Consider the Hamiltonian operator: $H(x) = -(\hbar^2/2m)d^2/dx^2 + V(x)$. In the co-ordinate representation, this generates a matrix of elements $H_{xx'} = H(x)\delta(x-x')$. Use the above form for $\delta(x-x')$ to explicitly calculate $H_{xx'}$, and draw a "picture" of this matrix (e.g. looking up the diagonal). Is the matrix "diagonal"? What happens as $\sigma \rightarrow 0$?
- (63) Let A, B , and C be QM operators, and consider the eqn $f(A, B) = C$, with f an arbitrary bilinear form. Shew that the same eqn holds for the matrix reps of these operators with respect to a set of basis fns $\{\phi_i\}$. That is, with \underline{A} a matrix of components $A_{mn} = \int dx \phi_m^* A \phi_n$, and similarly for \underline{B} and \underline{C} , shew that $f(\underline{A}, \underline{B}) = \underline{C}$.
- (64) With $\underline{H''}$ a matrix repⁿ of the operator $H(x)$ on the basis $\{u_k(x)\}$, the matrix \underline{W} which diagonalizes $\underline{H''}$ (via a similarity transfⁿ) has entries $W_{k\lambda} = \int dx u_k^*(x) u_\lambda(x)$, where the $\{u_k(x)\}$ are the eigenfns of $H(x)$. By considering the integrals involved, shew explicitly that \underline{W} is unitary, and that $\underline{H'} = \underline{W} \underline{H''} \underline{W}^\dagger$ is diagonal. Next, transform the eigenvalue eqn $\underline{H''} \vec{a}_k = E_k \vec{a}_k$ by \underline{W} , to $\underline{H'} \vec{a}'_k = E_k \vec{a}'_k$, and shew that the \vec{a}'_k are single component unit vectors.
- (65) Try converting the time-dependent S. eqn, $\mathcal{H}\psi = i\hbar \partial\psi/\partial t$, to a matrix problem. Suppose the Hamiltonian can be written $\mathcal{H}(x, p, t) = H(x, p) + V(x, t)$, and that you have at your disposal the basis set $\{u_n(x)\}$ of eigenfns of H , the time-independent part of \mathcal{H} . Can you diagonalize anything relevant?

QM Problems

⑨ (66) Given a set of basis fns $\{u_k(x)\}$, and general QM operators A and B , establish the matrix eqn: $\langle k|AB|l\rangle = \sum_m \langle k|A|m\rangle \langle m|B|l\rangle$ directly, by looking at the integrals $\langle k|A|m\rangle = \int dx u_k^*(x) A u_m(x)$, etc.

φ 507
(1992)

(67) a) For an operator Ω with eigenvalues ω_k , show that the projection operator for the k^{th} eigenstate is $P_k = \prod_{j \neq k} (\Omega - \omega_j) / (\omega_k - \omega_j)$. What is the easiest way, in this case, to verify the conditions $\sum_k P_k = 1$, $P_k P_l = \delta_{kl} P_k$?

b) Define the parity operator P by its effect on an arbitrary wavefn $\psi(x)$, namely $P\psi(x) = \psi(-x)$. Show that P is Hermitian, with eigenvalues ± 1 .

Find the corresponding projection operators P_{\pm} , and use them to show that $\psi(x)$ can be written $\psi_+(x) + \psi_-(x)$, where ψ_+ & ψ_- resp. have even & odd parity.

(68) Consider a two-state QM system, with Hamiltonian $\mathcal{H}(x) = H(x) + V(x)$. Let H generate eigenfns $\langle x|k\rangle = \phi_k(x)$ with eigenenergies E_k , and consider V to be a "perturbation" on H . The problem is to find the "perturbed" eigenfns $\phi_\mu(x)$ and eigenenergies E_μ of \mathcal{H} by using matrix methods (w.r.t. basis $\{\phi_k\}$).

Prob. # ③5
φ 507
(1992)

a) Representing \mathcal{H} as a matrix, and the ϕ_μ as vectors in the k -repⁿ, write the eigenvalue problem for \mathcal{H} as a matrix eqn. Find the E_μ exactly in terms of the matrix elements $\mathcal{H}_{kl} = \langle k|\mathcal{H}|l\rangle$, and show they can be written

$$E_1 = E'_1 + \Delta, \quad E_2 = E'_2 - \Delta \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} E'_k = E_k + V_{kk}, \quad \Delta = \frac{1}{2}(Q-1)(E'_1 - E'_2), \\ Q = \left[1 + \left(2|V_{12}|/(E'_1 - E'_2) \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \end{array} \right.$$

How do the E_μ behave in the case of V "small" and "large"? What happens in the case of degeneracy (i.e. $E_1 = E_2$), with $V_{kk} = 0$, but $V_{12} \neq 0$?

b) Solve for the eigenvectors $\vec{a}_\mu = \begin{pmatrix} a_{\mu 1} \\ a_{\mu 2} \end{pmatrix}$ of \mathcal{H} , and find the ϕ_μ in terms of the ϕ_k . To 1st order terms in V , what are the a_μ as $V \rightarrow$ "small"? Why is V_{12} called a "coupling term"? What happens in the above degenerate case?

QM Problems

- 20 pts. (69) In problem (68), suppose the initial state separation is $\Delta E = E_1 - E_2 > 0$, and the U matrix elements are $U_{11} = -\alpha U$, $U_{22} = +\beta U$, $U_{12} = \gamma U$. Here α, β & γ are +ve consts, and U is an external field strength parameter which varies from 0 to ∞ . Note that if the coupling γ were zero, the state energy levels E_μ would cross one another at $U = U_0 = \Delta E / (\alpha + \beta)$; U_0 is called a "crossing point".
- Prot. # (36)
 #507
 (Mar. 1992)
- How do the energy levels behave for $U \ll U_0$? What happens as $U \rightarrow U_0$? What is the level separation at U_0 ? For $\gamma \neq 0$, can the levels ever cross over?
 - What are the levels for $U \gg U_0$? Which level belongs to which state?
 - Draw a diagram clearly indicating both the low field ($U \ll U_0$) and high field ($U \gg U_0$) behavior of the levels as a fn of U . Find the slopes $\partial E_\mu / \partial U$ at high field in terms of the parameter $Q_\infty = [1 + (2\gamma/(\alpha + \beta))^2]^{1/2}$.
 - What is the approximate distance of closest approach of the levels in terms of U_{12} ? This is called the Wigner-Von Neumann Xing Pt. Theorem.

- 20 pts (70) Consider an atom where the total \vec{L} momentum and spin \vec{S} combine to form a resultant $\vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S}$. The associated magnetic moments $\vec{\mu}_L = -g_L \mu_B \vec{L}$ and $\vec{\mu}_S = -g_S \mu_B \vec{S}$ will couple to form the total magnetic moment $\vec{\mu}_J = \vec{\mu}_L + \vec{\mu}_S$. Using the vector model (i.e. averaging over the mutual precession), show that in an expectation value sense, we can write $\vec{\mu}_J = -g_J \mu_B \vec{J}$, where g_J -- the Lande g -factor -- is given by
- # (12)
 #507
 (1992)

$$g_J = \left[\frac{j(j+1) + l(l+1) - s(s+1)}{2j(j+1)} \right] g_L + \left[\frac{j(j+1) + s(s+1) - l(l+1)}{2j(j+1)} \right] g_S$$

Here j, l, s are the $\vec{J}, \vec{L}, \vec{S}$ quantum numbers. Calculate g_J -values for the states $2P_{J=3/2}$, $2P_{J=1/2}$, $2S_{J=1/2}$ in the hydrogen atom. What is the maximum observable μ_J in each state? Suppose you applied an external magnetic field \vec{H} . How would these states behave as a fn of H ?

QM Problems

- #(14) (71) a) The magnetic moment of a spin $\frac{1}{2}$ particle may be written $\vec{\mu} = -\mu_0 \vec{\sigma}$, where $\vec{\sigma} = (\sigma_x, \sigma_y, \sigma_z)$ are the Pauli matrices of problem (53). Suppose the particle is placed in an external magnetic field $\vec{H} = (H_x, H_y, H_z)$. Using the standard repⁿ of $\vec{\sigma}$ (e.g. Merzbacher, p. 270), write out the Hamiltonian \mathcal{H} for the system in matrix form. What are the allowed eigenenergies for the particle?
- b) With \mathcal{H} a 2×2 matrix, the system eigenstates are two-component "spinors" $\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$. Assume that \vec{H} is given in spherical polar coordinates: $\vec{H} = H(\sin\theta \cos\phi, \sin\theta \sin\phi, \cos\theta)$. Find the eigenspinors corresponding to the eigenenergies calculated above. What are they if \vec{H} is along the z-axis, i.e. $\theta = \phi = 0$?

20 pts.

- #(41) (72) Consider a single-electron atom, where \vec{L} & \vec{S} couple to form $\vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S}$, with eigenvalues $j = l \pm \frac{1}{2}$. To go from the uncoupled to coupled repⁿ, note that with $m_j = \pm \frac{1}{2}$ only, there are only two m_l values for a given m_j , viz. $m_l = m_j \mp \frac{1}{2}$. If we let $\alpha = |s = \frac{1}{2}, m_s = +\frac{1}{2}\rangle$ & $\beta = |s = \frac{1}{2}, m_s = -\frac{1}{2}\rangle$ represent the spin-up & spin-down eigenfns, then the coupled repⁿ has eigenfns with only two terms, i.e.

$$|n; l, s, j, m_j\rangle = C_1(j) |n; l, m_l = m_j - \frac{1}{2}\rangle \alpha + C_2(j) |n; l, m_l = m_j + \frac{1}{2}\rangle \beta.$$

The Clebsch-Gordon transfⁿ here thus amounts to finding just two pairs of cnsts, one for each of $j = l \pm \frac{1}{2}$. By using the J^- operator, calculate the $C_i(j)$. Explicitly calculate the $2P_{3/2}$ & $2P_{1/2}$ eigenfns of hydrogen in terms of $2P$ eigenfns and α & β .

20 pts.

- #(39) (73) In problem (68), let $U_{11} = U_{22} = 0$, but $U_{12} = V \neq 0$. A general state of the system is $\psi(x, t) = \sum_k a_k(t) \phi_k(x) e^{-i\omega_k t}$, $\omega_k = E_k/\hbar$. Use the time-dpt. S. eqn to derive diff. eqns for the $a_k(t)$, and solve them with the boundary conditions $a_1(0) = 1$, $a_2(0) = 0$ (i.e. system is in state #1 at $t=0$). What is the probability that a transition to state #2 occurs at $t > 0$? Interpret your results physically.

(Apr. 92)

QM Problems

- (74) a) A solution to the Dirac eqn for a Coulomb potential $V(r) = -Ze^2/r$ gives
- $$E_{nj} = mc^2 \left(\left[1 + \left(\frac{Z\alpha}{N+j} \right)^2 \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} - 1 \right) \begin{cases} j = \text{total \& mom. q \#}, \\ N = 0, 1, 2, \dots; \text{principal q \#}: n = N + j + \frac{1}{2}. \end{cases}$$

for the allowed eigenenergies. Expand E_{nj} to $O(Z\alpha)^4$ and compare it with the calculation from the S. eqn, including spin-orbit and relativistic corrections.

- b) Consider the fine structure of the $2P_j$ levels of atomic hydrogen. Calculate the splitting in frequency units (i.e. $\Delta\nu = \Delta E/h$) and compare it with the number measured by Lamb et al. in Phys. Rev. 89, 106 (1953).

20 pts.

- (75) The Klein-Gordon (KG) eqn for a particle of mass m in a time-indpt potential V is "derived" by letting E and \vec{p} be the usual QM operators in the relativistic mass-energy relation: $(E-V)^2 = (\vec{p}c)^2 + (mc^2)^2$. Here E is the total particle energy, including rest energy. The resulting operator eqn is (as usual) to be multiplied on the right by a wavefn ψ .

- a) For a Coulomb potential, $V(r) = -Ze^2/r$, show that the KG radial eqn is

$$\left\{ \frac{d^2}{dr^2} + \left[\frac{E^2 - (mc^2)^2}{(\hbar c)^2} + \left(\frac{2EZ\alpha}{\hbar c} \right) \frac{1}{r} - \frac{l(l+1) - (Z\alpha)^2}{r^2} \right] \right\} u(r) = 0$$

assuming the separation $\psi(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{1}{r} u(r) Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi) e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} Et}$. Let $E = mc^2 + \mathcal{E}$, and show that for $c \rightarrow \infty$, this reduces to the S. radial eqn for energy \mathcal{E} in a Coulomb potential.

- b) Assume bound states ($\mathcal{E} < 0$), and show that the allowed eigenenergies are

$$E_{nl} = mc^2 \left(\left[1 + \left(\frac{Z\alpha}{N + \frac{1}{2} + \delta} \right)^2 \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} - 1 \right) \begin{cases} \delta = \sqrt{l(l+\frac{1}{2}) - (Z\alpha)^2}; l = \text{orbital \& mom q \#}, \\ N = 0, 1, 2, \dots; \text{principal q \#}: n = N + l + 1. \end{cases}$$

for the state $|n, l, m\rangle$. (Note: the arithmetic here is \sim that of problem (55)).

- c) Expand E_{nl} to $O(Z\alpha)^4$ and compare with the Dirac result. Draw the allowed energy levels for $n=2$, labelling each with the proper q.#'s. What is the predicted "fine structure" as compared with the Dirac result?

QM Problems

- #15 (76) The dipole-dipole interaction can be written $V(1,2) = g_1 g_2 (\mu_0^2 / r_{12}^3) \Sigma_{12}$, where $\Sigma_{12} = \vec{S}_1 \cdot \vec{S}_2 - 3(\vec{S}_1 \cdot \hat{r}_{12})(\vec{S}_2 \cdot \hat{r}_{12})$ in the usual notation. Suppose both particles have spin $\frac{1}{2}$. Show that $\Sigma_{12} = \frac{1}{2} [\vec{S}^2 - 3(\vec{S} \cdot \hat{r}_{12})^2]$, where $\vec{S} = \vec{S}_1 + \vec{S}_2$ is total spin. Now average Σ_{12} over all relative &/or orientations of \vec{S} and \hat{r}_{12} , and find $(\Sigma_{12})_{av}$ for both singlet and triplet states.

- 20 pts. #16 (77) Hyperfine structure (hfs) of atomic energy levels is caused by the coupling of the nuclear magnetic moment $\vec{\mu}_n = -g_n \mu_0 \vec{I}$ to the magnetic field \vec{H}_e generated by the electrons (due to both orbital motion and spin) at the nucleus. Using the vector model, show that the hfs energies are $E_{hfs} = A_{hfs} (\vec{I} \cdot \vec{J})$, and specify A_{hfs} . Sketch the hfs energy levels allowed in a state of given \vec{I} & \vec{J} , which is an eigenstate of the total system & momentum $\vec{F} = \vec{I} + \vec{J}$. For a single-electron atom, in a state with $l \neq 0$, calculate A_{hfs} explicitly.

- (78) a) Three identical weakly-interacting particles are described by a Hamⁿ $\mathcal{H}(1,2,3) = \sum_{k=1}^3 H(k)$, where $H(k) = (\vec{p}_k^2 / 2m) + V(k)$ is the total energy of the k^{th} particle in an external potential V . Let $\phi_\lambda(k)$ be an eigenfn of $H(k)$ with energy E_λ . Suppose the particles are in the distinct states $\phi_\alpha, \phi_\beta, \phi_\gamma$. Construct the properly symmetrized eigenfn $\Psi(1,2,3)$ of \mathcal{H} from the ϕ_λ for both the fermion and boson case.

- b) Extend this situation to N identical fermions. Show that a suitable eigenfn is: $\Psi(1,2,\dots,N) = A \det \underline{\phi}$, where $\underline{\phi}$ is a square matrix with entries $(\underline{\phi})_{\lambda k} = \phi_\lambda(k)$. You should show that Ψ is in fact an eigenfn of the total system energy, is normalizable (find the norm const A), satisfies exchange symmetry, and is $\equiv 0$ if two or more fermions are in the same state. This Ψ is called a "Slater determinant". What is Ψ for N bosons?

QM Problems

- Prob. # 30
 φ 507
 (Mar. '92)
- (79) a) In non-degenerate stationary-state perturbation theory (abbr. NDSSPT), show that the energy E_k to $\mathcal{O}(V^2)$ is obtainable from the wavefn Ψ_k to $\mathcal{O}(V)$ by calculating the appropriate expectation value.
 b) Extend the results of NDSSPT to calculate the $\mathcal{O}(V^2)$ correction $\Psi_k^{(2)}$ to Ψ_k , and the $\mathcal{O}(V^3)$ correction $E_k^{(3)}$ to E_k .
- (80) A 1D simple harmonic oscillator has Ham^n ; $H_0 = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}kx^2$. Suppose H_0 is perturbed by the addition of a term $V(x) = \frac{1}{2}qx^2$. The $H_0 + V$ problem can of course be solved exactly. Here, however, we wish to use NDSSPT. Calculate the perturbed energy in the n^{th} state to terms of $\mathcal{O}(q^2)$ (Note: it is "convenient" to use matrix methods to get matrix elements of x^2 from those of x). Now compare the perturbation result with an expansion of the exact energy to $\mathcal{O}(q^2)$.
- Prob. # 34
 φ 507
 (Mar. '92)
- (81) To place an upper limit on the size of $E_k^{(2)}$, the $\mathcal{O}(V^2)$ energy correction in NDSSPT, start from the (obvious) inequality: $|E_k^{(2)}| \leq \sum_n' |V_{nk}|^2 / |E_k^{(0)} - E_n^{(0)}|$. Replace the energy denominator by $|\Delta E_k^{(0)}|_{\text{AV}}$, which is a sort of average energy gap between level k and all others. Does this strengthen or weaken the inequality? Proceed to show: $|E_k^{(2)}| \leq (\Delta V)_k^2 / |\Delta E_k^{(0)}|_{\text{AV}}$, where $(\Delta V)_k$ is the rms deviation of V in state k (i.e. by defⁿ: $(\Delta V)^2 = \langle V^2 \rangle - \langle V \rangle^2$).
- (82) Suppose the 1D SHO of prob. (80) is perturbed by $V(x) = \frac{1}{2}kx^2 \left(\frac{x}{b}\right)^2$. Calculating only the 1st order correction, show that the energy of the n^{th} state becomes: $E_n \approx (n + \frac{1}{2})\hbar(\omega + \delta\omega) + n^2\hbar\delta\omega$, where ω is the SHO natural frequency, and $\delta\omega$ depends on b (find $\delta\omega$!). (Hint: evaluate $\langle n | x^4 | n \rangle$ by use of the SHO step operators a^\dagger & a , writing $x = \sqrt{\hbar/2m\omega}(a^\dagger + a)$, and $a^\dagger n | 0 \rangle = \sqrt{n!} | n \rangle$).

QM Problems

- ⑧3 An ion with spin $S=1$ in a crystal experiences magnetic interactions which are represented by the Hamⁿ: $H = AS_z^2 + B(S_x^2 - S_y^2)$, with $A \neq B$ const, and $A \gg B$. The small term in B can be considered a perturbation V on the main contribution $H_0 = AS_z^2$ to the ion crystal field energy.

- a) Using as a basis the spinor eigenfns $\psi_k^{(0)}$ of S_z , and the appropriate matrix for S_z (e.g. Schiff, p. 203), calculate the expectation values $E_k^{(0)}$ of H_0 in each spin state. Draw the energy spectrum. Which states are degenerate?
- b) Show that the inclusion of V lifts the degeneracy, and calculate the perturbed energies E_k and eigenfns ψ_k . Draw and label the new spectrum. Is your solution to this problem approximate, or exact, or what?

- 20 pts ⑧4 In our derivation of the S-matrix (lecture 1/29/71), we developed an expansion technique to give $S_{\beta\alpha} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} S_{\beta\alpha}^{(n)}$ as a series of terms of successively higher order in the interaction $\Omega = V/\hbar$. Suppose Ω is time-independent, so that the eigenstates $\phi_\alpha(x,t) = \varphi_\alpha(x) e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} E_\alpha t}$ have a separable time-dependence. Suppose also that the final state $\beta \neq$ initial state α .

- a) Show that the above perturbation series for $S_{\beta\alpha}$ may be written as

$$S_{\beta\alpha} = -2\pi i \delta(E_\beta - E_\alpha) \left[\langle \beta | V | \alpha \rangle + \sum_n \frac{\langle \beta | V | n \rangle \langle n | V | \alpha \rangle}{E_\alpha - E_n + i\epsilon} + \dots \right],$$

where $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+}$ is understood, and $\langle \beta | V | \alpha \rangle = \int dx \varphi_\beta^*(x) V(x) \varphi_\alpha(x)$, etc.

- b) For $\beta \neq \alpha$, the T-matrix is defined by: $S_{\beta\alpha} = -2\pi i \delta(E_\beta - E_\alpha) \langle \beta | T | \alpha \rangle$; its elements have the expansion in $[]$ derived above. Interpreting $|S_{\beta\alpha}|^2$ as the probability of a transition $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ induced by V , show that the transition probability per unit time is given by the Fermi Golden Rule

$$W(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} |\langle \beta | T | \alpha \rangle|^2 \delta(E_\beta - E_\alpha). \quad \left(\text{Hint: use integral for } \delta\text{-fn, and define an integrated interaction time} \right)$$