

The matrices $d^{(j)}(\pi)$ satisfy the following property:

$$(d^{(j)}(\pi))_m^{m'} = \delta_{-m}^{m'} (-1)^{j-m}. \quad (22.41)$$

This fact will not be proved here but it can be seen to be a direct consequence of (22.48) below. The reader should check that it is satisfied by both $d^{(1/2)}(\pi)$ and $d^{(1)}(\pi)$ as given explicitly by (22.13) and (22.28), respectively.

- (5) *Symmetry under sign reversal of the magnetic quantum numbers m and m' of the matrix element $(d^{(j)}(\beta))_m^{m'}$.* We have the following symmetry property:

$$(d^{(j)}(\beta))_m^{m'} = (d^{(j)}(-\beta))_{m'}^m = (-1)^{m'-m} (d^{(j)}(\beta))_{-m}^{-m'}. \quad (22.42)$$

Proof. Since all $d^{(j)}$ matrices commute, we have

$$d^{(j)}(\beta) = d^{(j)}(\pi) d^{(j)}(\beta) d^{(j)}(-\pi). \quad (22.43)$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} (d^{(j)}(\beta))_m^{m'} &= \sum_{l,n} (d^{(j)}(\pi))_l^{m'} (d^{(j)}(\beta))_n^l (d^{(j)}(-\pi))_m^n \\ &= \sum_{l,n} \delta_{-l}^{m'} (-1)^{j-l} (d^{(j)}(\beta))_n^l (d^{(j)}(\pi))_n^m \\ &= \sum_n (-1)^{j+m'} (d^{(j)}(\beta))_n^{-m'} \delta_{-n}^m (-1)^{j-n} \\ &= (-1)^{j+m'} (d^{(j)}(\beta))_{-m}^{-m'} (-1)^{j+m} = (-1)^{2j+m+m'} (d^{(j)}(\beta))_{-m}^{-m'}, \end{aligned} \quad (22.44)$$

where in the second and third equalities we have used (22.41). Since $(-1)^{2(j+m)} = 1$, we have $(-1)^{2j+m} = (-1)^{-m}$, and thus $(-1)^{2j+m+m'} = (-1)^{m'-m}$. The result (22.42) follows. \square

- (6) *Relation to the spherical harmonics.* For $j = l$, l being an integer, we have the following relationships:

$$Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi) = \frac{(-1)^m}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \left(\frac{2l+1}{4\pi} \right)^{1/2} \{ (D^{(l)}(\varphi, \theta, 0))_0^m \}^* \quad (22.45)$$

$$P_l^m(\cos \theta) = \frac{(-1)^m}{\sqrt{\frac{(l+|m|)!}{(l-|m|)!}}} \left(\frac{2l+1}{4\pi} \right)^{1/2} (d^{(l)}(\theta))_0^m, \quad (22.46)$$

$$P_l(\cos \theta) = P_l^0(\cos \theta) = (d^{(l)}(\theta))_0^0. \quad (22.47)$$

Finally, we give (without proof) a general formula for $d^{(j)}(\theta)$. For all allowed values of j ,

$$\left(d^{(j)}(\theta)\right)_{m'}^m = \sum_k \frac{(-1)^k \sqrt{(j+m)! (j-m)! (j+m')! (j-m')!}}{k! (j+m-k)! (j-m'-k)! (k+m'-m)!} \times (\cos(\theta/2))^{2j+m-m'-2k} (\sin(\theta/2))^{2k+m'-m}, \quad (22.48)$$

where the sum over k runs through the $2j+1$ values $0, 1, 2, \dots, 2j$; but includes only terms for which the factorials have meaning. This equation, together with (22.3), give the complete expression for all rotation matrices.

Problem 22.3 Work out the spin $3/2$ representations of J_1, J_2 and J_3 by computing the matrix elements of $J_{\pm} = J_1 \pm iJ_2$. Express your answers as 4 by 4 matrices.
