

PHYS 5260 HW6

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Problem 1. Sakurai 3.21

The goal of this problem is to determine degenerate eigenstates of the three dimensional isotropic harmonic oscillator written as eigenstates of \mathbf{L}^2 and L_z , in terms of the Cartesian eigenstates $|n_x, n_y, n_z\rangle$.

(a) Show that the angular-momentum operators are given by:

$$L_i = i\hbar\epsilon_{ijk}a_ja_k^\dagger$$
$$\mathbf{L}^2 = \hbar^2 \left[N(N+1) - a_k^\dagger a_k^\dagger a_j a_j \right]$$

where summation is implied over repeated indices, ϵ_{ijk} is the totally antisymmetric symbol, and $N \equiv a_j^\dagger a_j$ counts the total number of quanta.

Recall for L_z , we have $L_z = xp_y - yp_x$. In general we have the following relation:

$$L_i = \epsilon_{ijk}x_jp_k$$

Next, consider the following relations:

$$x_j = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}}(a_j^\dagger + a_j)$$
$$p_k = i\sqrt{\frac{\hbar m\omega}{2}}(a_k^\dagger - a_k)$$
$$x_jp_k = \frac{i\hbar}{2}(a_j^\dagger + a_j)(a_k^\dagger - a_k)$$

*L^AT_EX source code: <https://github.com/rstanuwijaya/hkust-advanced-qm/>

Then, note that a_i, a_j commutes since they are independent. Therefore, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
L_i &= \epsilon_{ijk} x_j p_k \\
&= \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{i\hbar}{2} (a_j^\dagger + a_j)(a_k^\dagger - a_k) \\
&= \frac{i\hbar}{2} [(a_j^\dagger + a_j)(a_k^\dagger - a_k) - (a_k^\dagger + a_k)(a_j^\dagger - a_j)] \\
&= i\hbar(a_j a_k^\dagger - a_k a_j^\dagger) \\
&= i\hbar \epsilon_{ijk} a_j a_k^\dagger
\end{aligned}$$

Next, consider the following relations:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{L}^2 &= L_i L_i \\
&= -\hbar^2 \epsilon_{ijk} a_j a_k^\dagger \epsilon_{iuv} a_u a_v^\dagger \\
&= -\hbar^2 (a_j a_k^\dagger a_j a_k^\dagger - a_k a_j^\dagger a_j a_k^\dagger) \\
&= -\hbar^2 [(a_k^\dagger a_j + \delta_{jk})^2 - a_k a_j^\dagger (a_k^\dagger a_j + \delta_{jk})] \\
&= -\hbar^2 [a_k^\dagger a_j a_k^\dagger a_j + 2a_k^\dagger a_k + 3 - a_k a_j^\dagger a_k^\dagger a_j - a_k a_k^\dagger] \\
&= -\hbar^2 [a_k^\dagger (a_k^\dagger a_j + \delta_{jk}) a_j + 2a_k^\dagger a_k + 3 - a_k a_j^\dagger a_k^\dagger a_j - a_k a_k^\dagger] \\
&= -\hbar^2 [a_k^\dagger a_k^\dagger a_j a_j + a_k^\dagger a_k + 2a_k^\dagger a_k + 3 - a_k a_k^\dagger a_j^\dagger a_j - a_k a_k^\dagger] \\
&= -\hbar^2 [a_k^\dagger a_k^\dagger a_j a_j + 3a_k^\dagger a_k + 3 - a_k a_k^\dagger (a_j^\dagger a_j - 1)] \\
&= -\hbar^2 [a_k^\dagger a_k^\dagger a_j a_j + 3a_k^\dagger a_k + 3 - (a_k^\dagger a_k + 1)(a_j^\dagger a_j - 1)] \\
&= -\hbar^2 [a_k^\dagger a_k^\dagger a_j a_j + 3N + 3 - (N + 3)(N - 1)] \\
\mathbf{L}^2 &= -\hbar^2 [a_k^\dagger a_k^\dagger a_j a_j + N(N + 1)] \quad (\text{Q.E.D})
\end{aligned}$$

- (b) Use these relations to express the states $|qlm\rangle = |01m\rangle, m = 0, \pm 1$, in terms of the three eigenstates $|n_x n_y n_z\rangle$ that are degenerate in energy. Write down the representation of your answer in coordinate space, and check that the angular and radial dependences are correct.

First, consider the following relation:

$$\langle n_x n_y n_z | L_z | qlm \rangle = m\hbar \langle n_x n_y n_z | qlm \rangle = i\hbar \langle n_x n_y n_z | (a_x a_y^\dagger - a_y a_x^\dagger) | qlm \rangle$$

Which yield:

$$\begin{aligned}
m \langle n_x n_y n_z | qlm \rangle &= i\sqrt{(n_x + 1)n_y} \langle n_x + 1, n_y - 1, n_z | qlm \rangle \\
&\quad - i\sqrt{n_x(n_y + 1)} \langle n_x - 1, n_y + 1, n_z | qlm \rangle
\end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

$$|qlm\rangle = \sum_{n_x n_y n_z} |n_x n_y n_z\rangle \langle n_x n_y n_z | qlm \rangle$$

For $N = 1$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} m \langle 100|01m \rangle &= -i \langle 010|01m \rangle \\ m \langle 010|01m \rangle &= i \langle 100|01m \rangle \\ m \langle 001|01m \rangle &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} |0, 1, \pm 1\rangle_q &= \langle 100|0, 1, \pm 1\rangle |100\rangle_n + \langle 010|0, 1, \pm 1\rangle |010\rangle_n + \langle 001|0, 1, \pm 1\rangle |001\rangle_n \\ &= \langle 100|0, 1, \pm 1\rangle (|100\rangle_n \pm i |010\rangle_n) \end{aligned}$$

$$|0, 1, \pm 1\rangle_q = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|100\rangle_n \pm i |010\rangle_n)$$

$$|0, 1, 0\rangle_q = |001\rangle$$

(c) Repeat for $|qlm\rangle = |200\rangle$.

Using the Equation 1 we have the following relations:

$$\begin{aligned} m \langle 110|200 \rangle &\rightarrow \langle 200|200 \rangle - \langle 020|200 \rangle = 0 \\ m \langle 101|200 \rangle &\rightarrow \langle 011|200 \rangle = 0 \\ m \langle 011|200 \rangle &\rightarrow \langle 101|200 \rangle = 0 \\ m \langle 200|200 \rangle &\rightarrow \langle 110|200 \rangle = 0 \\ m \langle 020|200 \rangle &\rightarrow \langle 110|200 \rangle = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Using the given form of \mathbf{L}^2 we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 002|L^2|200\rangle &= 0 = 6 \langle 002|200\rangle - 2 |200\rangle |200\rangle - 2 |020\rangle |200\rangle - 2 |002\rangle |200\rangle \\ &= 4 \langle 002|200\rangle - 2 |200\rangle |200\rangle - 2 |020\rangle |200\rangle \end{aligned}$$

Combining with the previous result, we have:

$$\langle 002|200\rangle = \langle 020|200\rangle = \langle 200|200\rangle$$

which implies these three states have the same probability amplitude, whereas the others are 0. Therefore, we have:

$$|200\rangle_q = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (|200\rangle_n + |020\rangle_n + |002\rangle_n)$$

(d) Repeat for $|qlm\rangle = |02m\rangle$, with $m = 0, 1, 2$.

Using the Equation 1 we have the following relations:

$$\begin{aligned} m \langle 110|02m\rangle &= i\sqrt{2}(\langle 200|02m\rangle - \langle 020|02m\rangle) \\ m \langle 101|02m\rangle &= -i \langle 011|02m\rangle \\ m \langle 011|02m\rangle &= i \langle 101|02m\rangle \\ m \langle 200|02m\rangle &= -i\sqrt{2} \langle 110|02m\rangle \\ m \langle 020|02m\rangle &= i\sqrt{2} \langle 110|02m\rangle \\ m \langle 002|02m\rangle &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Meanwhile, using the given form of \mathbf{L}^2 , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 200|L^2|02m\rangle &\rightarrow 6 \langle 200|02m\rangle = 6 \langle 200|02m\rangle + 2(\langle 200|02m\rangle + \langle 020|02m\rangle + \langle 002|02m\rangle) \\ 0 &= \langle 200|02m\rangle + \langle 020|02m\rangle + \langle 002|02m\rangle \end{aligned}$$

$\langle 020|L^2|02m\rangle$ and $\langle 002|L^2|02m\rangle$ will yield similar result.

For $m = 0$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \langle 200|020\rangle + \langle 020|020\rangle + \langle 002|020\rangle \\ 0 &= \langle 200|002\rangle - \langle 020|002\rangle \end{aligned}$$

While the rest are 0. Therefore, for $|020\rangle$, we have:

$$|200\rangle_q = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}(|200\rangle_n + |020\rangle_n - 2|002\rangle_n)$$

For $m = 1$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 002|021\rangle &= 0 \\ \langle 200|021\rangle &= -i\sqrt{2} \langle 110|021\rangle \\ \langle 020|021\rangle &= i\sqrt{2} \langle 110|021\rangle \\ \langle 110|021\rangle &= i\sqrt{2}(\langle 200|021\rangle - \langle 020|021\rangle) \\ \langle 011|021\rangle &= i \langle 101|021\rangle \end{aligned}$$

Which implies:

$$0 = \langle 110|021\rangle = \langle 200|021\rangle = \langle 020|021\rangle = \langle 002|021\rangle$$

Thus, for $|021\rangle$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} |021\rangle_q &= (\langle 101|021\rangle |101\rangle_n + \langle 011|021\rangle |011\rangle_n) \\ &= \langle 101|021\rangle (|101\rangle_n + i|011\rangle_n) \end{aligned}$$

$$|021\rangle_q = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|101\rangle_n + i|011\rangle_n)$$

For $m = 2$, we also have:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \langle 101|022\rangle = \langle 011|022\rangle = \langle 002|022\rangle \\ 0 &= \langle 200|022\rangle + \langle 020|022\rangle \\ \langle 200|022\rangle &= -i\sqrt{2} \langle 110|022\rangle \\ \langle 020|022\rangle &= i\sqrt{2} \langle 110|022\rangle \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, for $|022\rangle$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} |022\rangle_q &= (\langle 110|022\rangle |110\rangle_n + \langle 200|022\rangle |200\rangle_n + \langle 020|022\rangle |020\rangle_n) \\ &= \langle 110|022\rangle (|110\rangle_n + -i\sqrt{2}|200\rangle_n + i\sqrt{2}|020\rangle_n) \end{aligned}$$

$$|022\rangle_q = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}(|110\rangle_n + -i\sqrt{2}|200\rangle_n + i\sqrt{2}|020\rangle_n)$$

Problem 2. Sakurai 3.24

We are to add angular momenta $j_1 = 1$ and $j_2 = 1$ to form $j = 2, 1$, and 0 states. Using either the ladder operator method or the recursion relation, express all (nine) $\{j, m\}$ eigenkets in terms of $|j_1 j_2; m_1, m_2\rangle$. Write your answer as:

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

where $+$ and 0 stand for $m_{1,2} = 1, 0$ respectively.

First, recall the ladder operator method:

$$J_{\pm} |j, m\rangle = \hbar \sqrt{j(j+1) - m(m \pm 1)} |j, m \pm 1\rangle$$

For $j = j_1 + j_2 = 2$, we have:

$$|2, 2\rangle = |++\rangle$$

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

$$\sqrt{6-2} |2, 1\rangle = \sqrt{2} |0+\rangle + \sqrt{2} |+0\rangle$$

$$|2, 1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |0+\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |+0\rangle$$

$$J_- |2, 1\rangle = (J_{1-} \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes J_{2-}) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0+\rangle + |+0\rangle)$$

$$\sqrt{6-0} |2, 0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\sqrt{2} |-0\rangle + \sqrt{2} |00\rangle + \sqrt{2} |00\rangle + \sqrt{2} |0-\rangle)$$

$$|2, 0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (|-0\rangle + 2|00\rangle + |0-\rangle)$$

By symmetry argument, we have:

$$|2, -1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |0-\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |-0\rangle$$

$$|2, -2\rangle = |--\rangle$$

For $j = j_1 + j_2 = 1$, first note that: $\langle 2, 1 | 1, 1 \rangle = 0$, and $|1, 1\rangle$ must be normalizable. Thus, we have:

$$|1, 1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|+0\rangle - |0+\rangle)$$

$$J_- |1, 1\rangle = (J_{1-} \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes J_{2-}) \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|+0\rangle - |0+\rangle) \right)$$

$$\sqrt{2} |1, 0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\sqrt{2} |00\rangle - \sqrt{2} |-+\rangle + \sqrt{2} |+-\rangle - \sqrt{2} |0\rangle)$$

$$|1, 0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|+-\rangle - |-+\rangle)$$

$$|1, -1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|-0\rangle - |0-\rangle)$$

For $j = j_1 + j_2 = 0$, we have:

$$|0, 0\rangle = a | - + \rangle + b | 00 \rangle + c | + - \rangle$$

Taking inner product $\langle 00|10\rangle$ and $\langle 00|20\rangle$ gives:

$$\langle 00|10\rangle = a - c = 0$$

$$\langle 00|20\rangle = a + 2b + c = 0$$

Which yields: $a = c$ and $b = -a = -c$. Therefore:

$$|0, 0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (| - + \rangle - | 00 \rangle + | + - \rangle)$$

Problem 3. Sakurai 3.27

Express the matrix element $\langle \alpha_2 \beta_2 \gamma_2 | \mathbf{J}_3^2 | \alpha_1 \beta_1 \gamma_1 \rangle$ in terms of a series in

$$\mathcal{D}_{mn}^j(\alpha\beta\gamma) = \langle \alpha\beta\gamma | jmn \rangle$$

We can simply insert an identity operator as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \alpha_2 \beta_2 \gamma_2 | \mathbf{J}_3^2 | \alpha_1 \beta_1 \gamma_1 \rangle &= \sum_{jmn} \sum_{j'm'n'} \langle \alpha_2 \beta_2 \gamma_2 | jmn \rangle \langle jmn | \mathbf{J}_3^2 | j'm'n' \rangle \langle j'm'n' | \alpha_1 \beta_1 \gamma_1 \rangle \\ &= \sum_{jmn} \sum_{j'm'n'} \langle \alpha_2 \beta_2 \gamma_2 | jmn \rangle n^2 \delta_{jj'} \delta_{mm'} \delta_{nn'} \langle j'm'n' | \alpha_1 \beta_1 \gamma_1 \rangle \\ &= \sum_{jmn} n^2 \langle \alpha_2 \beta_2 \gamma_2 | jmn \rangle \langle j'm'n' | \alpha_1 \beta_1 \gamma_1 \rangle \\ &= \sum_{jmn} n^2 \mathcal{D}_{mn}^j(\alpha_2 \beta_2 \gamma_2) (\mathcal{D}_{mn}^j(\alpha_1 \beta_1 \gamma_1))^* \end{aligned}$$