

UNIVERSITY OF OSLO

FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCES

Exam in: FYS3110, Quantum mechanics

Day of exam: Dec. 2. 2013

Exam hours: 09:00-13:00 (4 hours)

This examination paper consists of 4 pages.

Permitted material: Approved calculator, D.J. Griffiths: “Introduction to Quantum Mechanics”, the printed notes: “Time evolution of states in quantum mechanics”, “Symmetry and degeneracy” and “WKB connection formulae”, one handwritten A4-sheet(2 pages) with your own notes, and K. Rottmann: “Matematisk formelsamling”.

Check that the problem set is complete before you start working. Some subproblems have more than one question.

Problem 1

Consider a particle with mass m in a spherical symmetric potential $V(r)$.

1.1 How do the energy eigenfunctions depend on the spherical angles θ and ϕ ?

1.2 A weak external field F of unknown origin is applied to the system (this subproblem only). It induces a perturbation $H' = \frac{gF}{\hbar^2} L_z^2$, where $g > 0$. Compute how the energy levels will split up to first order in g and give their remaining degeneracies. Draw a figure of energy vs. F for a few different energy levels in order to illustrate your result.

1.3 Write down the Schrödinger equation for the radial part of the wavefunction and recast it into an equation similar to the one dimensional Schrödinger equation. Write down the effective one dimensional potential and state how the one dimensional wavefunction is related to the radial part of the three dimensional wavefunction.

Assume in the last subproblem the following form of $V(r)$:

$$V(r) = -V_0 e^{-\alpha r}$$

where V_0 is a positive number with units of energy, and α is a positive number with units of inverse length.

1.4 Use the WKB-approximation to find out how deep the potential must be (a minimum value of V_0) in order to have at least one bound state (a state with negative energy) with angular momentum zero. Assume that α is fixed.

Problem 2

Two particles, each with mass m , are in a one dimensional harmonic oscillator potential well with a characteristic frequency ω .

2.1 Write down the energies of the three lowest energy levels and give the degeneracies for each of them (i.e. how many linearly independent states have the same energy). Assume that the particles are distinguishable.

2.2 Assume, in this subproblem only, that the particles are identical spin-1 bosons. What are the degeneracies of each of the three lowest energy levels now?

Assume in the remainder of this problem that the particles are identical bosons without spin. They also have a repulsive interaction so that in real space there is a particle-particle interaction

$$H_{int} = g\delta(x_1 - x_2)$$

where g is a positive quantity with units energy times length, and $\delta(x_1 - x_2)$ is the Dirac delta-function.

2.3 Use perturbation theory with H_{int} as perturbation to calculate the first order correction (in g) to the ground state energy.

2.4 Use the following normalized trial wavefunctions

$$\psi(x_1, x_2) = \left(\frac{2b}{\pi}\right)^{1/2} e^{-b(x_1^2 + x_2^2)}$$

to calculate the variational energy (trial energy) as a function of b ($b > 0$) for the two interacting particles in the harmonic oscillator well. You may use without proof the integral $\left(\frac{2b}{\pi}\right)^{1/2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx e^{-bx^2} \left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 x^2\right) e^{-bx^2} = \frac{\hbar^2 b}{2m} + \frac{m \omega^2}{8b}$. Do not try to minimize the obtained variational energy exactly. Instead, find approximately how the minimum variational energy behaves as a function of g for large g ($g \gg \hbar \omega \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{m \omega}}$).

2.5 Which of the following variational wavefunctions is (are) most likely better variational wavefunction(s) (i.e. have a lower energy) for large positive values of g than the ones considered in 2.4?

$$a) \quad \psi = \frac{2b}{\sqrt{\pi}} |x_1 + x_2| e^{-b(x_1^2 + x_2^2)}$$

$$b) \quad \psi = \frac{2b}{\sqrt{\pi}} |x_1 - x_2| e^{-b(x_1^2 + x_2^2)}$$

$$c) \quad \psi = \frac{2b}{\sqrt{\pi}} (x_1 + x_2) e^{-b(x_1^2 + x_2^2)}$$

$$d) \quad \psi = \frac{2b}{\sqrt{\pi}} (x_1 - x_2) e^{-b(x_1^2 + x_2^2)}$$

To get credit on this subproblem you should give reasons for your answer. NB! Do not attempt to perform the actual variational calculation. All you need to do is to discuss the different alternatives.

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34. CLEBSCH-GORDAN COEFFICIENTS, SPHERICAL HARMONICS, AND d FUNCTIONS

Note: A square-root sign is to be understood over *every* coefficient, e.g., for $-8/15$ read $-\sqrt{8/15}$.

Notation:

J	J	...
M	M	...
m_1	m_2	
m_1	m_2	Coefficients
.	.	
.	.	

$1/2 \times 1/2$

1		
+1/2	+1/2	1
+1/2	-1/2	1/2
-1/2	+1/2	1/2
-1/2	-1/2	1

 $Y_1^0 = \sqrt{\frac{3}{4\pi}} \cos \theta$
 $2 \times 1/2$

5/2		
+5/2		
+2	+1/2	1
+2	-1/2	1/5
+1	+1/2	4/5
		5/2
		3/2
		1/2

 $Y_1^1 = -\sqrt{\frac{3}{8\pi}} \sin \theta e^{i\phi}$
 $1 \times 1/2$

3/2		
+3/2		
+1	+1/2	1
+1	-1/2	1/3
0	+1/2	2/3
		3/2
		1/2
		-1/2

 $Y_2^0 = \sqrt{\frac{5}{4\pi}} \left(\frac{3}{2} \cos^2 \theta - \frac{1}{2} \right)$
 $3/2 \times 1/2$

2		
+2		
+3/2	+1/2	1
+3/2	-1/2	1/4
+1/2	+1/2	3/4
		2
		1
		0

 $Y_2^1 = -\sqrt{\frac{15}{8\pi}} \sin \theta \cos \theta e^{i\phi}$
 2×1

3		
+3		
+2	+1	1
+2	0	1/3
+1	+1	2/3
		3
		2
		1

 $Y_2^2 = \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{15}{2\pi}} \sin^2 \theta e^{2i\phi}$
 $3/2 \times 1$

5/2		
+5/2		
+3/2	+1	1
+3/2	0	2/5
+1/2	+1	3/5
		5/2
		3/2
		1/2

 1×1

2		
+2		
+1	+1	1
+1	0	1/2
0	+1	1/2
		2
		1
		0

 $Y_\ell^{-m} = (-1)^m Y_\ell^{m*}$
 $d_{m,0}^\ell = \sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{2\ell+1}} Y_\ell^m e^{-im\phi}$
 $3/2 \times 3/2$

3		
+3		
+3/2	+3/2	1
+3/2	+1/2	1/2
+1/2	+3/2	1/2
		3
		2
		1

 $d_{0,0}^1 = \cos \theta$
 $d_{1/2,1/2}^{1/2} = \cos \frac{\theta}{2}$
 $d_{1,1}^1 = \frac{1 + \cos \theta}{2}$
 $d_{1/2,-1/2}^{1/2} = -\sin \frac{\theta}{2}$
 $d_{1,0}^1 = -\frac{\sin \theta}{\sqrt{2}}$
 $d_{1,-1}^1 = \frac{1 - \cos \theta}{2}$

Figure 34.1: The sign convention is that of Wigner (*Group Theory*, Academic Press, New York, 1959), also used by Condon and Shortley (*The Theory of Atomic Spectra*, Cambridge Univ. Press, New York, 1953), Rose (*Elementary Theory of Angular Momentum*, Wiley, New York, 1957), and Cohen (*Tables of the Clebsch-Gordan Coefficients*, North American Rockwell Science Center, Thousand Oaks, Calif., 1974). The coefficients here have been calculated using computer programs written independently by Cohen and at LBNL.