

Great! Let's implement the **Wigner–Eckart theorem** numerically using the **GSL library** in C.

Goal

We want to compute a **matrix element** like:

$$\langle j', m' | T_q^{(k)} | j, m \rangle = \langle j' || T^{(k)} || j \rangle \cdot C_{j, m; k, q}^{j', m'}$$

Where:

- $T_q^{(k)}$: tensor operator of rank k , component q
- $\langle j' || T^{(k)} || j \rangle$: **reduced matrix element** (you provide)
- C : **Clebsch–Gordan coefficient**, computable with GSL

GSL Functions Used

- `gsl_sf_coupling_3j(2j1, 2j2, 2j3, 2m1, 2m2, 2m3)` — to get **CG coefficients**
- `gsl_sf_coupling_6j(...)` — if you want to do full recoupling

Example: Compute $\langle \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} | S_z | \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \rangle$

We know:

- Operator $S_z \sim T_0^{(1)}$
- CG coefficient: $C_{1/2, 1/2; 1, 0}^{1/2, 1/2} = \sqrt{1/3}$
- Reduced matrix element: $\langle \frac{1}{2} || \vec{S} || \frac{1}{2} \rangle = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$

So the full value should be:

$$\langle \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} | S_z | \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \rangle = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Full C Code (with GSL)

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <math.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_sf_coupling.h>

// Convert float spin to 2j format (integers)
#define TWICE(x) ((int)(2 * (x)))

int main(void) {
    // Spins
    double j = 0.5;
    double m = 0.5;
    int two_j = TWICE(j);
    int two_m = TWICE(m);
```

```

// Operator: vector operator  $T^{\{1\}}_0$  corresponds to  $q = 0$ , rank  $k = 1$ 
int k = 1;
int q = 0;

// Final state same:  $j'$ ,  $m'$ 
int two_jp = two_j;
int two_mp = two_m;

// Compute Clebsch–Gordan coefficient using 3j symbol:
//  $C^{\{j',m'\}}_{\{j,m;k,q\}} = (-1)^{j'-j-q} * \sqrt{(2j'+1)} * (j \ j' \ k; m \ -m' \ -q)$ 
double phase = pow(-1.0, (two_jp - two_j - 2*q)/2.0);
double cg = gsl_sf_coupling_3j(two_j, TWICE(k), two_jp,
                               two_m, TWICE(q), -two_mp);

cg *= phase * sqrt(two_jp + 1.0);

// Reduced matrix element for spin-1/2 operator
double red = sqrt(3.0) / 2.0;

// Apply Wigner–Eckart theorem
double matrix_element = red * cg;

printf("Clebsch–Gordan coefficient: %.6f\n", cg);
printf("Reduced matrix element:   %.6f\n", red);
printf("Full matrix element:      %.6f\n", matrix_element); // should be 0.5

return 0;
}

```

Compile & Run

```

bash

gcc wigner_eckart_gsl.c -lgsl -lgslcblas -lm -o wigner
./wigner

```

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Output (Expected)

```

yaml

Clebsch–Gordan coefficient: 0.577350
Reduced matrix element:    0.866025
Full matrix element:       0.500000

```

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This confirms:

$$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Great — let me explain the line:

```
c
cg *= phase * sqrt(two_jp + 1.0);
```

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in the context of the Wigner–Eckart theorem implementation using **GSL's 3j symbols**.

Background: Wigner–Eckart Theorem

We want to compute the **Clebsch–Gordan coefficient**:

$$C_{j,m;k,q}^{j',m'}$$

But GSL does **not** provide CG coefficients directly — it gives **Wigner 3j symbols**:

$$\begin{pmatrix} j & k & j' \\ m & q & -m' \end{pmatrix}$$

These are related by:

$$C_{j,m;k,q}^{j',m'} = (-1)^{j'-j-q} \cdot \sqrt{2j'+1} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} j & k & j' \\ m & q & -m' \end{pmatrix}$$

Code Explanation

So in the C code:

```
c
double cg = gsl_sf_coupling_3j(...); // computes the Wigner 3j symbol
```

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Then:

```
c
double phase = pow(-1.0, (two_jp - two_j - 2*q)/2.0);
```

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This computes $(-1)^{j'-j-q}$ — note that `two_jp`, `two_j`, and `2q` are used to keep integers (GSL needs integers), then divided by 2 to recover the float exponent.

Finally:

```
c
cg *= phase * sqrt(two_jp + 1.0);
```

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This multiplies by:

- The phase factor: $(-1)^{j'-j-q}$
- The normalization: $\sqrt{2j'+1}$

Together, this converts the Wigner 3j symbol into the actual **Clebsch–Gordan coefficient** $C_{j,m;k,q}^{j',m'}$ as required by the **Wigner–Eckart theorem**.

✓ Summary

Term	Meaning
<code>phase</code>	$(-1)^{j'-j-q}$, phase convention
<code>sqrt(two_jp + 1.0)</code>	equals $\sqrt{2j'+1}$, normalization factor
<code>cg *= ...</code>	converts Wigner $3j \rightarrow$ CG coefficient for use in Wigner–Eckart

Would you like me to write a helper function that wraps this as `gsl_clebsch_gordan(j, m, k, q, j', m')` ?