

Homework 10: Due November 17

1. Clebsch-Gordan coefficients can be expressed in the form $\langle j_1 j_2 m_1 m_2 | jm \rangle$. Here I want you to compute from first principles all nonvanishing Clebsch-Gordan coefficients obtained from combining to angular momenta with $j=1$. That is you should calculate

$$\begin{aligned} &\langle 1111|22 \rangle \langle 1101|21 \rangle \langle 1110|21 \rangle \langle 11-11|20 \rangle \langle 1100|20 \rangle \langle 111-1|20 \rangle \langle 11-10|2-1 \rangle \langle 110-1|2-1 \rangle \langle 11-1-1|2-2 \rangle \\ &\langle 1101|11 \rangle \langle 1110|11 \rangle \langle 11-11|10 \rangle \langle 1100|10 \rangle \langle 111-1|10 \rangle \langle 11-10|1-1 \rangle \langle 110-1|1-1 \rangle \\ &\langle 11-11|00 \rangle \langle 1100|00 \rangle \langle 111-1|00 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Do this by noting that the state $|22\rangle = |1111\rangle$ and using the lowering operator and orthogonality. Alternatively you may use the recursion relation in the book. Compare your results with a C-G table.

2. Consider two Cartesian vectors \vec{A} and \vec{B} . There are several ways to take products of the two to produce Cartesian tensors of various ranks: one can produce a scalar, namely the dot product $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}$ the cross product $\vec{A} \times \vec{B}$ and traceless symmetric tensor \vec{C} whose components are given by $C_{ij} = \frac{1}{2}(A_i B_j + A_j B_i) - \frac{1}{3} \delta_{ij} \vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}$. Note that the components of these three structures are linearly independent: there are nine possible combination of $A_i B_j$ and there is one dot product, three components of the cross product and 5 independent components of C (once the fact that it is traceless and symmetric is included). This same information can be expressed in terms of three spherical tensor: an $l=0$, and $l=1$ and $l=2$. Derive the forms for these in terms of the Cartesian components A_i, B_j from first principles. In effect this is like deriving 3.10.16 but for a more general case Express Do not start from 3.10.16

3. Consider a system of three distinguishable spin $\frac{1}{2}$ particles whose positional degrees of freedom are irrelevant (held fixed dynamically). Clearly there are a total of 8 states: $|\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow\rangle, |\uparrow\uparrow\downarrow\rangle$ etc.

Obviously, the total spin must be either $3/2$ or $1/2$. Moreover there must be two different linear independent ways to make the total spin $1/2$ (otherwise one would only have 6 states: 4 from the spin $3/2$ and 2 from the $1/2$). One way to make these states is to first couple spins 1 & 2 together to get s_{12} which has a magnitude of either 1 or 0 and then couple this to the third spin to get a total spin. Thus the states can be labeled by $|s_{12} s_{total} m\rangle$. Thus for example the $|1 \frac{3}{2} \frac{3}{2}\rangle$ in the $|s_{12} s_{total} m\rangle$ basis is equal to $|\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$ in the $|m_1 m_2 m_3\rangle$ basis. Find all of the states in the $|s_{12} s_{total} m\rangle$ basis as a superposition of states in the $|m_1 m_2 m_3\rangle$.

4. Consider the system described in problem 3. This problem concerns operators for that system. One can construct a rank three spherical tensor which acts on these states. As it happens in this small basis of states there is only one such operator (up to an overall constant); let us label the operator $\hat{T}_\mu^{(3)}$. One way to construct this operator is in terms of products of the Pauli spin operators acting on each of the three separate spins $\hat{\sigma}_1, \hat{\sigma}_2$ and $\hat{\sigma}_3$. It is easier to work with these Pauli operators in a spherical basis, eg. $\hat{\sigma}_{\mu 1}, \hat{\sigma}_{\mu 2}$ and $\hat{\sigma}_{\mu 3}$ where $\hat{\sigma}_{01} = \hat{\sigma}_{z1}, \hat{\sigma}_{\pm 1} = \mp \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\hat{\sigma}_{x1} \pm i\hat{\sigma}_{y1})$ and analogously for the

operators acting on particle 2 and particle 3. The purpose of this problem is to express $\hat{T}_\mu^{(3)}$ as linear combinations of operators of the form $\hat{\sigma}_{\mu_1 1} \hat{\sigma}_{\mu_2 2} \hat{\sigma}_{\mu_3 3}$.

- As a first step show that $\hat{T}_{+3}^{(3)} = A \hat{\sigma}_{+1 1} \hat{\sigma}_{+1 2} \hat{\sigma}_{+1 3}$ where A is a constant.
- It should be clear that $\hat{T}_{+2}^{(3)} = B \hat{\sigma}_{0 1} \hat{\sigma}_{+1 2} \hat{\sigma}_{+1 3} + C \hat{\sigma}_{+1 1} \hat{\sigma}_{0 2} \hat{\sigma}_{+1 3} + D \hat{\sigma}_{+1 1} \hat{\sigma}_{+1 2} \hat{\sigma}_{0 3}$. Find B,C, and D. You can do this by using $[\hat{J}_-, \hat{T}_{+3}^{(3)}]$ and the fact that $\hat{J}_- = \hat{J}_{1-} + \hat{J}_{2-} + \hat{J}_{3-}$.
- Generate $\hat{T}_{+1}^{(3)}$ and $\hat{T}_0^{(3)}$ in a similar fashion. (You do not need to compute $\hat{T}_{-1}^{(3)}$, $\hat{T}_{-2}^{(3)}$ or $\hat{T}_{-3}^{(3)}$)