

Physics 402
Fall 2022
Prof. Anlage
Discussion Worksheet for 19 September, 2022

1. The Clebsch-Gordan coefficients allow us to go back and forth between the “coupled” and “un-coupled” wavefunctions for multiple-spin systems. Consider two spin-1/2 particles described by kets $\left| \frac{1}{2} m_1 \right\rangle$ and $\left| \frac{1}{2} m_2 \right\rangle$. Using Table 4.8 on page 179 of Griffiths, write down all of the possible states in the coupled representation in terms of the uncoupled single-particle kets. There are 4 possible coupled states, consisting of a “triplet” and a “singlet”.

$1/2 \times 1/2$		↑				
		+↑	1	0		
+1/2	+1/2	1	0	0		
+1/2	-1/2	1/2	1/2	1		
-1/2	+1/2	1/2	-1/2	-1		
		-1/2	-1/2	1		

2. Consider again two spin-1/2 particles. Using Table 4.8 on page 179 of Griffiths, write down the uncoupled single-particle wavefunctions in terms of the coupled kets $|s m_s\rangle$.

$1/2 \times 1/2$		↑					
		+↑					
+1/2 +1/2		1		0			
		0		0			
+1/2 -1/2		1/2		1/2		1	
-1/2 +1/2		1/2		-1/2		-1	
		-1/2		-1/2		1	