

Written test of Advanced Quantum Mechanics

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Exam time: 2 hours. You can use the Clebsch-Gordan sheet by PDG.

EXERCISE 1

We consider a system of two identical particles A and B , having mass m and spin 1. The hamiltonian in the center of mass is given by:

$$H = \frac{\mathbf{p}^2}{2\mu} + \frac{1}{2}\mu\omega^2\mathbf{r}^2 + \frac{\alpha}{\hbar}S_z \quad (1)$$

where \mathbf{p} and \mathbf{r} are the relative momentum and relative coordinate, and $\mu = m/2$ is the reduced mass. We take $\alpha \ll \hbar\omega$.

1. Calculate the commutator $[H, \mathbf{J}^2]$, where $\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{L} + \mathbf{S}$, \mathbf{L} the orbital angular momentum, and \mathbf{S} the total spin.
2. Determine the spectrum (i.e. the eigenstates, and the associated energies and degenerations) up to $E < 3\hbar\omega$.
3. Consider the normalized state:

$$|\psi\rangle = \delta |n=0, l=0, l_z=0\rangle |s=0, s_z=0\rangle + \gamma |n=1, l=1, l_z=0\rangle |s=1, s_z=0\rangle \quad (2)$$

where δ and γ are real numbers. Determine δ and γ , assuming that a measurement of \mathbf{J}^2 gives $6\hbar^2$ with probability $1/3$.

EXERCISE 2

Consider a particle of spin 1 with Hamiltonian:

$$H = \frac{\mathbf{p}^2}{2\mu} + \frac{1}{2}\mu\omega^2\mathbf{r}^2 + \frac{\alpha}{\hbar}\mathbf{J}^2 \quad (3)$$

with $\alpha \ll \omega$, $\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{L} + \mathbf{S}$.

1. Calculate energies and degenerations of the first 4 levels.
2. Consider the state $|\psi\rangle = |n = 1, l = 1, l_z = 0\rangle |s = 1, s_z = 1\rangle$. Calculate the time evolution, and the mean values of L_z , \mathbf{L}^2 , S_z , \mathbf{J}^2 as a function of time.
3. When the result is time independent, comment about that.