

CTC2, NWI-MOL176, exercises week 4

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Question 1: Coupled basis for atom-diatom system

- 1a. Show that for coupled angular momentum states, with $|j-l| \leq J \leq j+l$, we have this orthonormality relation:

$$\langle (jl)JM | (j'l')JM \rangle = \delta_{jj'} \delta_{ll'}.$$

Hint: start by expanding the coupled basis in the uncoupled one:

$$|(jl)JM\rangle = \sum_{m_j=-j}^j \sum_{m_l=-l}^l |jm_j\rangle |lm_l\rangle \langle jm_jlm_l|JM\rangle.$$

For the atom-diatom system, the angular part of the kinetic energy is given by [Eq. (7.27) of lecture notes]

$$\hat{T} = \frac{\hat{j}^2}{2\mu_{AB}r^2} + \frac{\hat{l}^2}{2\mu R^2}.$$

- 1b. Evaluate the matrix elements of \hat{T} in the coupled basis.

The angular part of the potential can be expanded in Legendre polynomials [Eq. (8.2)] of the lecture notes.

- 1c. Evaluate the matrix element of $P_L(\cos\theta)$ in the coupled basis:

$$\langle (j_1l_1)JM | P_L(\cos\theta) | (j_2l_2)JM \rangle.$$

Hint: use the spherical harmonics addition theorem and Eq. (8.7) from the lecture notes.

Question 2: Questions chapter 8

Legendre polynomials

- 2a. Use the recursion relation to find the expression for $P_2(z)$.
- 2b. Check the normalization and orthogonality relations for $P_0(z)$, $P_1(z)$, and $P_2(z)$.
- 2c. (*Keep this exercise for last*) Still for $n = 2$, show that the eigenvalues of the \hat{z} operator expressed in a basis of normalized Legendre polynomials are indeed the zeros of $P_2(z)$.

Gauss-Legendre quadrature

A n -point Gauss-Legendre quadrature is exact for polynomials of degree $2n - 1$. The abscissae are the zeros of $P_n(z)$.

- 2d. Derive the points and weights for the 2-point Gauss-Legendre quadrature, and show that it exact for Legendre polynomials up to $P_3(z)$.

Clebsch-Gordan series

- 2e. Show that the orthonormality of spherical harmonics follows from the orthogonality relation for Wigner D-matrices.
- 2f. Use the orthonormality relations of Clebsch-Gordan coefficients to derive Eq. (8.49) from Eq. (8.48).
- 2g. Derive the matrix elements of spherical harmonics [Eq. (8.7)] as a special case of Eq. (8.50).
- 2h. Show that

$$D_{m,0}^{(l),*}(\mathbf{R}) = C_{lm}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}) \quad (1)$$

when

$$\hat{\mathbf{r}} = R\mathbf{e}_z. \quad (2)$$