

**QM4226**  
**QUANTUM THEORY &**  
**HOMEWORK PROBLEMS 4**

These questions form part of the continuous assessment of the course. To be  
handed in by ...

1. Construct the state:  
 $|j_1 j_2 JM \rangle = |3/2 \ 1 \ 5/2 \ 1/2 \rangle$  using the eigenstates  $|j_1 m_1 \rangle |j_2 m_2 \rangle$ , of the one-particle operators, using the tables of Clebsch-Gordan coefficients.
2. Repeat for  $|1/2 \ 1 \ 3/2 \ 1/2 \rangle$ .
3. Work out  $\langle J_{1Z} \rangle$  for the states in (1) and (2).
4. A quantum state is in a superposition of the orthonormal eigenstates:  
 $\chi = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}|3/2 \ 1 \ 5/2 \ 1/2 \rangle + \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}}|1/2 \ 1 \ 3/2 \ 1/2 \rangle$ .  
Work out  $\langle \mathbf{J}_1 \cdot \mathbf{J}_2 \rangle$ .
5. For the same state, work out  $\langle J_{1+} J_{2-} + J_{2+} J_{1-} \rangle$ .
6. Two electrons interact via a potential:  $V(\mathbf{r}) = A \sigma_1 \cdot \sigma_2$   
The electrons are in a orthonormal spatial eigenstate, and a spin singlet state, ie  
 $\Psi(\mathbf{r})\chi = R_{ns}(r)Y_{00}\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}(\alpha_1\beta_2 - \beta_1\alpha_2)$  Work out the interaction energy  $\langle V(\mathbf{r}) \rangle$ .
7.  $\mathbf{n} = (\cos \phi \sin \theta, \sin \phi \sin \theta, \cos \theta)$  is a vector of unit length, representing the orientation of the proton-proton axis. Show that:

$$(\mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{n}) = \frac{1}{2}[S_+ e^{-i\phi} \sin \theta + S_- e^{i\phi} \sin \theta + 2S_z \cos \theta]$$

Represent  $(\mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{n})$  as a matrix, using the eigenstates of  $\mathbf{S}_z$ .

Work out the expectation value of  $(\mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{n})^2$  if a quantum system is in the spin-state

$$\chi = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}|\alpha \rangle + \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}}|\beta \rangle.$$

8. Show that  $R_\pi e^{-i\beta_n \sigma_z t} R_\pi = e^{+i\beta_n \sigma_z t}$  Eq.(4.92) in the lecture notes.
9. Show that  $e^{+ia\sigma_z}(\sigma_x \cos \omega t + \sigma_y \sin \omega t)e^{-ia\sigma_z} = \sigma_x$  if  $a = \frac{\omega t}{2}$  ie Eq.(4.84) in the lecture notes.