

Casimir Operators

$$\hat{L}_z, \hat{L}^2$$

$$\hat{L}^2 = \hat{L}_x^2 + \hat{L}_y^2 + \hat{L}_z^2$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \hat{L}_x^\dagger &= \hat{L}_x \\ \hat{L}_y^\dagger &= \hat{L}_y \\ \hat{L}_z^\dagger &= \hat{L}_z \end{aligned} \right\} \text{Hermit.}$$

$$[\hat{L}_j, \hat{L}_k] = i\hbar \epsilon_{jkr} \hat{L}_r$$

↑ Levi-Civita tensor

$$\epsilon_{123} = +1 = \epsilon_{231} = \epsilon_{312}$$

$$\epsilon_{321} = -1 = \epsilon_{213} = \epsilon_{312}$$

$$\epsilon_{222} = 0, \epsilon_{113} = 0$$

$$(\vec{A} \times \vec{B})_k = \epsilon_{ijk} A_i B_j$$

$$\sum_i \epsilon_{ijk} A_i B_j$$

$$[\hat{A}\hat{B}, \hat{C}] = \hat{A}[\hat{B}, \hat{C}] + [\hat{A}, \hat{C}]\hat{B}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \downarrow \\ \hat{A}\hat{B}\hat{C} - \hat{C}\hat{A}\hat{B} &\stackrel{?}{=} \hat{A}(\hat{B}\hat{C} - \hat{C}\hat{B}) + (\hat{A}\hat{C} - \hat{C}\hat{A})\hat{B} \\ &\quad \hat{A}\hat{B}\hat{C} - \cancel{\hat{A}\hat{C}\hat{B}} + \cancel{\hat{A}\hat{C}\hat{B}} - \hat{C}\hat{A}\hat{B} \end{aligned}$$

$$[\hat{L}^2, \hat{L}_x] = [(\hat{L}_x^2 + \hat{L}_y^2 + \hat{L}_z^2), \hat{L}_x]$$

$$= [\hat{L}_x^2, \hat{L}_x] + [\hat{L}_y^2, \hat{L}_x] + [\hat{L}_z^2, \hat{L}_x]$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \hat{L}_y [\hat{L}_y, \hat{L}_x] + [\hat{L}_y, \hat{L}_x] \hat{L}_y + \hat{L}_z [\hat{L}_z, \hat{L}_x] + [\hat{L}_z, \hat{L}_x] \hat{L}_z \\ &\quad \underbrace{-i\hbar \hat{L}_z} \quad \underbrace{-i\hbar \hat{L}_z} \quad \underbrace{+i\hbar \hat{L}_y} \quad \underbrace{+i\hbar \hat{L}_y} \end{aligned}$$

$$= 0 = [\hat{L}^2, \hat{L}_y] = [\hat{L}^2, \hat{L}_z]$$

Prepare a state $|\psi\rangle$

① Measure $\hat{L}^2 |\psi\rangle = 2\hbar^2 |\psi\rangle = \ell(\ell+1)\hbar^2 |\psi\rangle$
 $\rightarrow \ell=1$

② Measure $\hat{L}_x |\psi\rangle = \boxed{-1}\hbar |\psi\rangle = m\hbar |\psi\rangle$
 $\rightarrow m=-1$

③ $\hat{L}_x \hat{L}^2 \hat{L}_x \hat{L}^2 \hat{L}_x \hat{L}_x \hat{L}^2 |\psi\rangle = ? |\psi\rangle$

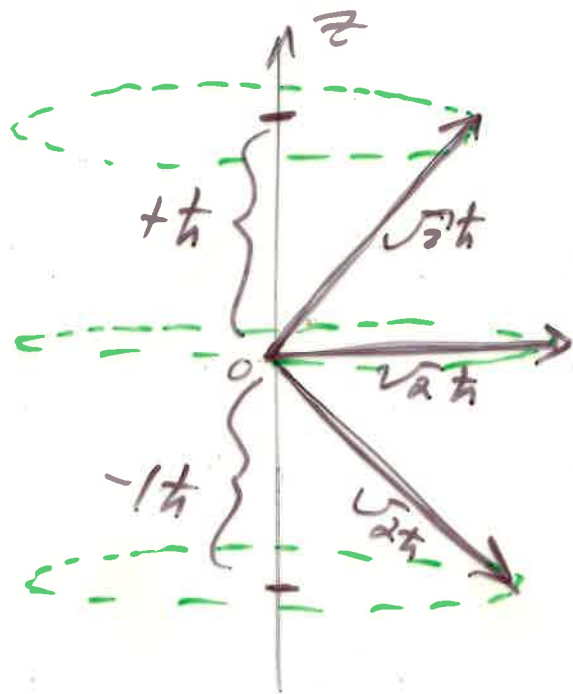
$\hat{L}_y |\psi\rangle = \boxed{0}\hbar |\psi\rangle \leftarrow \text{New state (ket)}$
 $\uparrow$
 $+1, 0, -1$

$\hat{L}_x |\psi\rangle = 0\hbar |\psi\rangle$

each with 33% chance

$\hat{L}^2 |\psi\rangle = 2\hbar^2 |\psi\rangle$

$|\psi_{\ell=1, m_x=-1}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} |\psi_{\ell=1, m_y=+1}\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} |\psi_{\ell=1, m_y=0}\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} |\psi_{\ell=1, m_y=-1}\rangle$



$$l=1$$

$$|\vec{L}| = \sqrt{l(l+1)} \hbar$$

$$= \sqrt{2} \hbar \approx 1.414 \hbar$$

$$\vec{L}_z = +\hbar, 0, -\hbar$$

$l=0$ (~~1~~ s state)

$$\begin{aligned} L_x &\rightarrow 0 \\ L_y &\rightarrow 0 \\ L_z &\rightarrow 0 \\ L^2 &\rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

prepare state $l=1$

measure $L_z \rightarrow$ get $+\hbar$

measure $L_y \rightarrow$ get $-\hbar$

measure L_z again $\rightarrow$ get $0\hbar$

measure $L^2 \rightarrow$ get $2\hbar^2$ always.

$$\vec{L} = L_x \vec{e}_x + L_y \vec{e}_y + L_z \vec{e}_z$$

It is possible to find a state $|\psi\rangle$ which is simultaneously an eigenstate of $\hat{L}^2, \hat{L}_z$.

$$\hat{L}^2|\psi\rangle = l(l+1)\hbar^2|\psi\rangle, \quad \hat{L}_z|\psi\rangle = m\hbar|\psi\rangle$$

$$\hat{L}^2|Y_l^m(\theta, \phi)\rangle = l(l+1)\hbar^2|Y_l^m(\theta, \phi)\rangle$$

$$\hat{L}_z|Y_l^m(\theta, \phi)\rangle = m\hbar|Y_l^m(\theta, \phi)\rangle =$$

$$|Y_l^m(\theta, \phi)\rangle = |l, m\rangle$$

$$m, l \in \text{Integer}$$

$$l = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$m = \underbrace{-l, -l+1, \dots, 0, l-1, l}_{2l+1}$$

Ladder Operator

$$\hat{L}_+ = \hat{L}_x + i\hat{L}_y, \quad \hat{L}_- = \hat{L}_x - i\hat{L}_y$$

$$\hat{L}_+^\dagger = \hat{L}_x^\dagger - i\hat{L}_y^\dagger = \hat{L}_x - i\hat{L}_y = \hat{L}_- \quad // \quad \hat{L}_-^\dagger = \hat{L}_+$$

Commutator of $\hat{L}_z$ and $\hat{L}_\pm$.

$$[\hat{L}_z, \hat{L}_\pm] = [\hat{L}_z, (\hat{L}_x \pm i\hat{L}_y)]$$

$$= \underbrace{[\hat{L}_z, \hat{L}_x]}_{i\hbar\hat{L}_y} \pm i \underbrace{[\hat{L}_z, \hat{L}_y]}_{-i\hbar\hat{L}_x}$$

$$= \hbar[\pm\hat{L}_x + i\hat{L}_y] = \pm\hbar[\hat{L}_x \pm i\hat{L}_y] = \pm\hbar\hat{L}_\pm$$

$$[\hat{L}^2, \hat{L}_\pm] = 0$$

$|\psi\rangle$ is a state, $\hat{L}_\pm |\psi\rangle = |\psi\rangle$

Claim: If $|\psi\rangle$ is a simultaneous eigenstate of both $\hat{L}^2$ and $\hat{L}_z$ operators, then

$|\psi\rangle$ is also a simultaneous eigenstate of $\hat{L}^2$ and $\hat{L}_z$.

$$\text{If } \hat{L}^2 |\psi\rangle = \ell(\ell+1)\hbar^2 |\psi\rangle, \quad \hat{L}_z |\psi\rangle = m\hbar |\psi\rangle$$

$$\text{then } \hat{L}^2 |\psi\rangle = \ell(\ell+1)\hbar^2 |\psi\rangle, \quad \hat{L}_z |\psi\rangle = (m+1)\hbar |\psi\rangle \text{ or } 0 |\psi\rangle$$

$$\hat{L}^2|\psi\rangle = \hat{L}^2(\hat{L}_+|\psi\rangle) = \hat{L}_+ \hat{L}^2|\psi\rangle$$

$$= \hat{L}_+ [\ell(\ell+1)\hbar^2|\psi\rangle] = \ell(\ell+1)\hbar^2 \hat{L}_+|\psi\rangle$$

$$= \ell(\ell+1)\hbar^2|\psi\rangle$$