

Problem SS-4

Begin with  $L_+$ :

$$L_+ |\alpha, \beta\rangle = C_+(\alpha, \beta) |\alpha, \beta + \hbar\rangle \rightarrow L_+ |l, m\rangle = C_+(l, m) |l, m+1\rangle$$

$L_+$  is the adjoint of  $L_-$ ; it must therefore be true that:

$$(L_+ |l, m\rangle)^\dagger = \langle l, m | L_- = (C_+(l, m) |l, m+1\rangle)^\dagger = \langle l, m+1 | C_+^\dagger(l, m)$$

We can then compute the inner product of the original state,  $L_+ |l, m\rangle$ , and its adjoint:

$$\langle l, m | L_- L_+ |l, m\rangle = C_+^\dagger(l, m) C_+(l, m) \underbrace{\langle l, m+1 | l, m+1\rangle}_{= 1, \text{ since these are orthonormal basis vectors.}}$$

↓

$$L_- L_+ = L^2 - L_z^2 - \hbar L_z$$

↓

$$\begin{aligned} \langle l, m | (L^2 - L_z^2 - \hbar L_z) |l, m\rangle &= \langle l, m | (l(l+1)\hbar^2 - m^2\hbar^2 - m\hbar^2) |l, m\rangle \\ &= (l(l+1) - m^2 - m)\hbar^2 \underbrace{\langle l, m | l, m\rangle}_{1} \\ &= |C_+(l, m)|^2 \underbrace{\langle l, m+1 | l, m+1\rangle}_{1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\hbar^2 (l-m)(l+m+1) = |C_+(l, m)|^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{C_+(l, m) = \hbar [(l-m)(l+m+1)]^{1/2}}$$

Then handle  $L_-$ :

$$\left[ \begin{aligned} L_- |l, m\rangle &= C_-(l, m) |l, m-1\rangle \\ \langle l, m | L_+ &= \langle l, m-1 | C_-^*(l, m) \end{aligned} \right.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle l, m | L_+ L_- |l, m\rangle &= \langle l, m | (L^2 - L_z^2 + \hbar L_z) |l, m\rangle \\ &= \left[ l(l+1)\hbar^2 - m^2\hbar^2 + m\hbar^2 \right] \langle l, m | l, m\rangle \\ &= |C_-(l, m)|^2 \langle l, m-1 | l, m-1\rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\hbar^2 [l(l+1) - m^2 + m] = \hbar^2 [l^2 + l - m^2 + m] = \hbar^2 (l+m)(l-m+1)$$

$$C_-(l, m) = \hbar [(l+m)(l-m+1)]^{1/2}$$

$$C_{\pm}(l, m) = \hbar [(l \mp m)(l \pm m + 1)]^{1/2}$$

Problem SS-5.

Find matrix elements of  $L^2$  for  $l=0,1$ .

$$L^2 = \begin{bmatrix} \langle 1|L^2|1\rangle & \langle 1|L^2|2\rangle & \dots \\ \langle 2|L^2|1\rangle & \dots & \dots \\ \vdots & \dots & \dots \\ \langle n|L^2|n\rangle \end{bmatrix}; \text{ here, } \begin{aligned} |1\rangle &= |l=0, m=0\rangle \\ |2\rangle &= |l=1, m=1\rangle \\ |3\rangle &= |l=1, m=0\rangle \\ |4\rangle &= |l=1, m=-1\rangle \end{aligned}$$

Thus:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 1|L^2|1\rangle &= \langle 0,0|L^2|0,0\rangle = 0\hbar^2 \\ \langle 1|L^2|2\rangle &= \langle 0,0|L^2|1,1\rangle = \frac{1(1+1)\hbar^2}{2} \underbrace{\langle 0,0|1,1\rangle}_{\emptyset} = 0\hbar^2 \\ \langle 2|L^2|2\rangle &= \langle 1,1|L^2|1,1\rangle \\ &= 2\hbar^2 \end{aligned}$$

In fact, all off-diagonal elements will be  $0\hbar^2$ , while on-diagonal elements can be nonzero.

$$L^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0\hbar^2 & \dots & \emptyset \\ \vdots & 2\hbar^2 & \emptyset \\ \emptyset & \dots & 2\hbar^2 \\ \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \emptyset & \dots & 2\hbar^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Next,  $L_z$ ; let's check a few diagonal and off-diagonal

elements:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 1|L_z|1\rangle &= \langle 0,0|L_z|0,0\rangle = 0\hbar \\ \langle 2|L_z|2\rangle &= \langle 1,1|L_z|1,1\rangle = \hbar \\ \langle 3|L_z|3\rangle &= 0\hbar \\ \langle 4|L_z|4\rangle &= -1\hbar \\ \langle 1|L_z|2\rangle &= \langle 0,0|L_z|1,1\rangle = 1\hbar \cdot \emptyset = 0\hbar \\ &\vdots \\ &\text{etc} \end{aligned}$$

Again, we find that off-diagonal elements will be zero. (We could have assumed this for  $L^2$  and  $L_z$ , since  $|l, m\rangle$  are the eigenvectors of both and they commute, so they probably are diagonal.)

$$L_z = \begin{bmatrix} 0\hbar & & 0 \\ & 1\hbar & \\ 0 & & 0 \\ & & & -1\hbar \end{bmatrix}$$

Now for  $L_x$ .

$$L_x = \frac{1}{2}(L_+ + L_-)$$

We know that there will be no diagonal elements, since  $L_+|l, m\rangle = C_+(l, m)|l, m+1\rangle$ , and thus

$\langle l, m | L_+ | l, m \rangle$  will vanish. We need to consider only the  $\langle i | L_x | j \rangle$  cases where  $\langle i |$  and  $| j \rangle$  differ by  $\pm 1\hbar$  in  $m$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 1 | L_x | 2 \rangle &= \langle 0, 0 | L_x | 1, 1 \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \langle 0, 0 | (L_+ + L_-) | 1, 1 \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \underbrace{\langle 0, 0 | C_+(1, 1) | 0 \rangle}_{\text{null ket}} + \underbrace{\langle 0, 0 | C_-(1, 1) | 1, 0 \rangle}_{\text{inner product vanishes due to orthogonality}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 2 | L_x | 3 \rangle &= \langle 1, 1 | L_x | 1, 0 \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \langle 1, 1 | L_+ | 1, 0 \rangle - \underbrace{\langle 1, 1 | L_- | 1, 0 \rangle}_{\text{vanishes by orthogonality}} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} C_+(1, 0) \underbrace{\langle 1, 1 | 1, 1 \rangle}_1 = \frac{1}{2} \hbar [1 \cdot (1+1)]^{1/2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \hbar \end{aligned}$$

$$\langle 3 | L_x | 2 \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \left( \underbrace{\langle 1, 0 | L_+ | 1, 1 \rangle}_{\substack{10 \\ \text{null ket}}} + \langle 1, 0 | L_- | 1, 1 \rangle \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} C_- (1, 1) \langle 1, 0 | 1, 1 \rangle$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \hbar \left[ (1+1)(1) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \hbar$$

Thus:

$$L_x = \begin{bmatrix} 0\hbar & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0\hbar & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\hbar & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\hbar & 0\hbar & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\hbar \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\hbar & 0\hbar \end{bmatrix}$$

$\langle 3 | L_x | 4 \rangle \rightarrow$  also  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \hbar$

$\langle 4 | L_x | 3 \rangle$

Finally,  $L_y$ :

$$L_y = \frac{-i}{2} [L_+ - L_-]$$

Again, focus on the off-diagonal elements where  $l=l'$   
and  $m=m' \pm 1$ :

$$\langle 2 | L_y | 3 \rangle = \frac{-i}{2} \left( \langle 1, 1 | (L_+ - L_-) | 1, 0 \rangle \right) = \frac{-i}{2} \langle 1, 1 | L_+ | 1, 0 \rangle$$

$$= \frac{-i}{2} C_+ (1, 0) = \frac{-i}{2} (\sqrt{2}) \hbar = \frac{-i}{\sqrt{2}} \hbar$$

$$\langle 3 | L_y | 2 \rangle = \frac{-i}{2} \left( \langle 1, 0 | (L_+ - L_-) | 1, 1 \rangle \right) = \frac{-i}{2} (-C_- (1, 1)) = \frac{i}{2} \sqrt{2} \hbar = \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \hbar$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 3 | L_y | 4 \rangle &= \frac{-i}{2} \left[ \langle 1, 0 | (L_+ - L_-) | 1, -1 \rangle \right] = \frac{-i}{2} \langle 1, 0 | L_+ | 1, -1 \rangle \\ &= \frac{-i}{2} C_+(1, -1) = \frac{-i}{2} \sqrt{(1-(-1))(1-1+1)} \hbar \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{-i}{\sqrt{2}} \hbar$$

$$\langle 4 | L_y | 3 \rangle = \frac{-i}{2} \left[ \langle 1, -1 | (L_+ - L_-) | 1, 0 \rangle \right] = \frac{-i}{2} \left[ -\langle 1, -1 | L_- | 1, 0 \rangle \right]$$

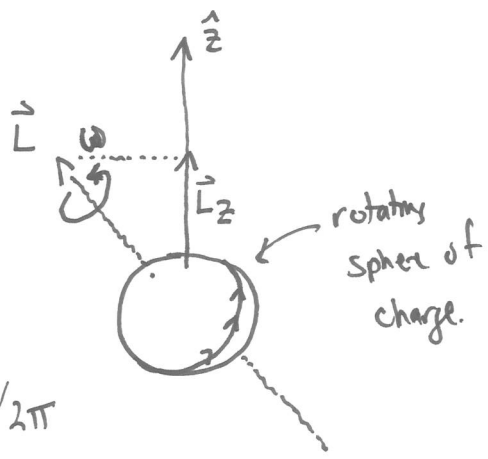
$$= \frac{i}{2} C_-(1, 0) = \frac{i}{2} \hbar \sqrt{(1+0)(1-0+1)} = \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \hbar$$

Thus:

$$L_y = \begin{bmatrix} 0\hbar & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0\hbar & \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}\hbar & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}\hbar & 0\hbar & \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}\hbar \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}\hbar & 0\hbar \end{bmatrix}$$

# Problem SS-6

Classical picture of electron:



$$L_z = \frac{1}{2} \hbar = \frac{1}{2} (6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s}) / 2\pi$$

$$r_0 = 2.818 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m} \quad L = \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}} \hbar$$

What is the maximal linear velocity on the sphere?  
 → at "equator" of sphere.

$\vec{L} = I \vec{\omega}$ . We need the moment of inertia of the sphere. It is unspecified whether this is a shell of charge or a sphere, uniformly populated; let's consider both:

$$I_{\text{shell}} = \frac{2}{3} m r_0^2$$

$$m_e = 9.109 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$$

$$I_{\text{solid}} = \frac{2}{5} m r_0^2$$

$$I_{\text{shell}}^e = 4.822 \times 10^{-60} \text{ kg}\cdot\text{m}^2$$

$$I_{\text{solid}}^e = 2.893 \times 10^{-60} \text{ kg}\cdot\text{m}^2$$

$$\omega_{\text{shell}} = \frac{|\vec{L}|}{I_{\text{shell}}^e} = 1.894 \times 10^{25} \frac{\text{radians}}{\text{s}} \rightarrow v_{\text{equator}} = \omega_{\text{shell}} r_0 = 5.337 \times 10^{10} \text{ m/s}$$

$$\omega_{\text{solid}} = \frac{|\vec{L}|}{I_{\text{solid}}^e} = 3.156 \times 10^{25} \frac{\text{radians}}{\text{s}} \rightarrow v_{\text{equator}} = \omega_{\text{solid}} r_0 = 8.895 \times 10^{10} \text{ m/s}$$

Both exceed the speed of light. The charge radius of the electron in modern experiments is known to be  $< 10^{-18} \text{ m}$ . This would make the electron have to spin even faster.