

PHYS852 Quantum Mechanics II, Spring 2010  
 HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT 9

Topics covered: hydrogen hyper-fine structure, Wigner-Ekert theorem, Zeeman effect

1. **Relations between  $\vec{V}$  and  $\vec{J}$ :** For a rotation by  $\phi$  about the z-axis, we have  $U^\dagger V_z U = V_z$ ,  $U^\dagger V_x U = \cos \phi V_x - \sin \phi V_y$ , and  $U^\dagger V_y U = \sin \phi V_x + \cos \phi V_y$ , where  $U = e^{-(i/\hbar)\phi J_z}$ .

(a) Consider an infinitesimal rotation by  $\delta\phi$ , and use these expressions to show:

$$[J_z, V_z] = 0, \quad (1)$$

$$[J_z, V_x] = i\hbar V_y, \quad (2)$$

$$[J_z, V_y] = -i\hbar V_x. \quad (3)$$

Write out the six additional commutators generated by cyclic permutation of the indices.

b.) Use the results from (a) to show:

$$[J_z, V_\pm] = \pm\hbar V_\pm \quad (4)$$

$$[J_\pm, V_\pm] = 0 \quad (5)$$

$$[J_\pm, V_\mp] = \pm 2\hbar V_z \quad (6)$$

where  $V_\pm = V_x \pm iV_y$ .

2. **Derivation of Wigner-Ekert theorem:** Verify Eqs. (108)-(127) in the Atomic Physics lecture notes.
3. **Applying the Wigner-Ekert theorem:** Let  $\vec{L} = \vec{L}_1 + \vec{L}_2$ . Use the Wigner-Eckert theorem to show that

$$\langle \ell_1 \ell_2 \ell m_\ell | L_{1z} | \ell_1 \ell_2 \ell m_\ell \rangle = g m_\ell \quad (7)$$

and calculate the g-factor,  $g = g(\ell_1, \ell_2, \ell)$ .

Do the same for  $\langle \ell_1 \ell_2 \ell m_\ell | L_{2z} | \ell_1 \ell_2 \ell m_\ell \rangle$ , and then show that you get the correct result for

$$\langle \ell_1 \ell_2 \ell m_\ell | (L_{1z} + L_{2z}) | \ell_1 \ell_2 \ell m_\ell \rangle \quad (8)$$

4. **Strong-field Zeeman Effect:** for the case  $\hbar\omega_0 \gg |E_1^{(0)}| \alpha^2$ , give the energies and Zeeman sub-levels of the  $n = 3$  level in terms of the Larmor frequency,  $\omega_0 = \frac{|e|B}{2M_3}$ .  
 Verify for  $n = 3$  that there are  $2n + 1 - \delta_{n,1}$  Zeeman sublevels, each separated by  $\hbar\omega_0$ , and that the degeneracy of the  $m^{\text{th}}$  sublevel ( $m \in \{-n, -n+1, \dots, n\}$ , with  $m = 0$  excluded for  $n = 1$ ) is  $d_{n,m} = 2(n - |m|) + \delta_{|m|,n} - 2\delta_{m,0}$ .
5. **Weak-field Zeeman Effect:** for the case  $\hbar\omega_0 \ll |E_1^{(0)}| \alpha^2 \frac{M_e}{M_p}$ , compute the energies and degeneracies of the Zeeman sub-levels for both the  $n = 3, j = 3/2$  and  $n = 3, j = 5/2$  levels.