

Rotational Motion (Ch. 5, Levine; Ch. 4 Atkins)

Previous example – particle constrained to a ring:

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$$\frac{-\hbar^2}{2m} \left( \frac{f^2}{R^2} + \frac{f^2}{R^2} \right) = E \quad x = R \cos \theta$$

$$\frac{-\hbar^2}{2mR^2} \frac{f^2}{f^2} (\theta) = E (\theta) \quad y = R \sin \theta$$

$$(\theta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} e^{im\theta}$$

No dep of  $\psi$  on R since R is const

$m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  from B.C. continuity

$$\psi(0) = \psi(2\pi)$$

and substituting back:  $E = m^2 \hbar^2 / 2I$

$$I = mR^2$$

moment of inertia

Meaning from

$$L_z = xpy - ypx$$

$$= (-i\hbar) \left( x \frac{\partial}{\partial y} - y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)$$

$$L_z = (-i\hbar) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta}$$

angular momentum about z

$$L_z \psi_m(\theta) = m\hbar \psi_m(\theta)$$

so for this solution eigen fct of ang. mom. and sign of m indicates direction motion

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[NOTE:  $\psi(\theta) = Ae^{-im\theta} + Be^{+im\theta}$  perfectly okay but not eigen fct of  $L_z$ ]

same for  $\sin(m\theta)$  or  $\cos(m\theta)$

[NOTE: plotting  $\cos m\theta$  **INSERT PICTURE** may look like distrib non-uniform

but  $\int_0^{2\pi} \cos^2 m\theta d\theta = 1/2 \int_0^{2\pi} (e^{im\theta} + e^{-im\theta}) d\theta = 1/2 \int_0^{2\pi} 1 d\theta = \pi$  const & uniform]

[NOTE: no zero point motion  $m = 0 \rightarrow \langle L_z \rangle = 0$ , numbers don't need curvature to fulfill bonding coord]

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# nodes increases  $|m| + E_m$  and so does  $\langle L_z \rangle$

alternate up – plot amplitude of  $\psi$  as radius at angle

symmetry  $(+ ) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} e^{i(+ )m} = e^{i m} = (-1)^m$

Now go to higher dimension – particle confined to sphere

$$= \frac{-\hbar^2}{2m} \left( \frac{f^2}{f_x^2} + \frac{f^2}{f_y^2} + \frac{f^2}{f_z^2} \right) = \frac{-\hbar^2}{2m} f^2 = E$$

but again since R constant can effectively reduce dimension (2 variables)

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$$\begin{aligned} x &= R \sin \theta \cos \phi \\ y &= R \sin \theta \sin \phi \quad (x,y,z) \quad (R, \theta, \phi) \\ z &= R \cos \theta \end{aligned}$$

rearrangement of Laplacian ( $\nabla^2$ ) into (R,  $\theta$ ,  $\phi$ ) coordinates

$$\nabla^2 = \left( \frac{1}{R^2} \right) \frac{f^2}{f^2} R + \frac{1}{R^2} \nabla^2$$

Legendrian:

$$\nabla^2 = \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{f^2}{f^2} + \frac{1}{(\sin \theta)^2} \left( \frac{f}{f} \right) \sin \left( \frac{f}{f} \right)$$

since R-fixed, terms in  $\frac{f}{fR}$  = 0

$$= \frac{-\hbar^2}{2mR^2} \nabla^2 = E$$

$$\nabla^2 (\theta, \phi) = - \frac{2EI}{\hbar^2} (\theta, \phi) \quad I = mR^2$$

This problem is separable, let  $(\theta, \phi) = (\theta) (\phi)$

$$\frac{(\phi)}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{f^2}{f^2} (\theta) = \frac{(\theta)}{\sin \theta} \frac{f}{f} \sin \frac{f}{f} (\phi) = \frac{-2EI}{\hbar^2} (\theta) (\phi)$$

divide by  $(\theta, \phi)$ , mult by  $\sin^2 \theta$  :  $\frac{1}{f^2} \frac{f^2}{f^2} (\theta) = \frac{-\sin \theta}{(\theta)} \frac{f}{f} \sin \frac{f}{f} (\phi) - \frac{2EI}{\hbar^2} \sin^2 \theta$

solve each independently

since fct of indep variables – set each equal to a const i – m

$$\text{LHS: } \frac{f^2}{f^2} = -m^2 \quad = \frac{1}{\sqrt{e}}^{-im} \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

just like for particle on a ring

RHS – This is more complex and involves another power series solution done Levine pp 95ff

But again this equation is one solved by Legendre and his solution well-known (at least in 19<sup>th</sup> cent!)

$$P_\ell^m(\cos \theta) = p_\ell^{|m|}(\cos \theta)$$

$p_\ell^{|m|}$  Legendre polynomial

$\ell = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

$m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \ell$  limit on m

Normally we write  $\nabla^2 Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi) = -\ell(\ell + 1)Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi)$

so by combining  $Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi) = P_\ell^m(\cos \theta) e^{im\phi}$  -- spherical harmonics (waves on flooded plat)

$$\text{and } -\ell(\ell + 1) = \frac{-2EI}{\hbar^2}$$

$$E_\ell = \frac{\hbar^2}{2I} \ell(\ell + 1) \quad \text{only fct of } \ell \text{ not } m$$

spacing  $\sim (\ell^2 + \ell)$

zero E possible  $\ell = 0$  solution

each  $\ell$  level --  $(2\ell + 1)$  degenerate

plot length of vector  $\sim |\ell|^2$

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Solution:  $Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi)$

$\ell$   $m$

$$0 \ 0 \quad Y_0 \sqrt{2}$$

$$1 \ 0 \quad \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{1/2} \cos \theta$$

$$\pm 1 \quad \mp \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{1/2} \sin \theta e^{\pm i\phi}$$

$$2 \ 0 \quad \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^{1/2} (3\cos^2 \theta - 1)$$

$$\pm 1 \quad \mp \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{15}{2}\right)^{1/2} \cos \theta \sin \theta e^{\pm i\phi}$$

$$\pm 2 \quad \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{15}{2}\right)^{1/2} \sin^2 \theta e^{\pm 2i\phi}$$

Note:  $\hat{H} = \hat{T}$ ,  $[\hat{L}, \hat{H}] = 0$  so expect solution to have parity

?????????

## Angular Momentum

Classically  $\vec{L} = \vec{r} \times \vec{p}$

the magnitude  $|\vec{L}| = I \omega$  – angular freq

converting to K.E.:  $\frac{I \omega^2}{2} = \frac{|\vec{L}|^2}{2I}$

but we got q.m.  $E_\ell = \frac{\hbar^2 \ell(\ell+1)}{2I}$

?  $|\vec{L}|^2 = \hbar^2 \ell(\ell+1)$

on magnitude angular momentum  $\hbar \sqrt{\ell(\ell+1)}$

so total ang mom quantized and operator is

$$\hat{L}^2 = -\hbar^2 \ell(\ell+1) Y_{\ell m}$$

from before know  $\hat{L}_z = -i\hbar^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}$

$$\hat{L}_z Y_{\ell m} = m\hbar Y_{\ell m}$$

so both  $L^2$  &  $L_z$  are quantized (conserved) in 2-D particle on sphere problem or  $Y_{\ell m}$  eigen fct of  $L^2$  and  $L_z$  --  $[L^2, L_z] = 0$

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-- space quantization know magnitude, direction restricted to cone of precession

ang momentum vector  $\vec{L}$  must precess about some axis z,  $|\vec{L}_z| \leq |\vec{L}|$

gives uncertainty in  $L_x, L_y$

-- Clean why value of m restricted by l

\*find  $[L_z, L_x] = i\hbar L_y$  etc but  $[L_x, L^2] = 0$  ?

(work it out  $-i\hbar L_y$ )

point one can know one component of angular momentum and the total magnitude (not omit)

How about 2 particles \_

$$H_2 = \frac{-\hbar^2}{2m_1} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y_1^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z_1^2} \right) - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_2} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_2^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y_2^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z_2^2} \right)$$

Clearly this is separable if  $V = 0$ , no interaction between the particles means solve each independently:

$$= \psi_1(\mathbf{R}_1, \theta_1, \phi_1) \psi_2(\mathbf{R}_2, \theta_2, \phi_2)$$

$$= \psi_1 + \psi_2$$

## Rigid Rotor

Now what if we have a very high force binding the particles together at specific sep'n d

now only motion of interest is of  $m_1$  w/r/t  $m_2$  – relative motion since  $d$  is fixed – rotation of whole body

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Key change variables

$$\begin{aligned} X &= m_1x_1 + m_2x_2/M \\ Y &= m_1y_1 + m_2y_2/M \\ Z &= m_1z_1 + m_2z_2/M \end{aligned} \quad \text{center of mass}$$

$$M = m_1 + m_2$$

$$\text{and } x = x_2 - x_1, \quad y = y_2 - y_1, \quad z = z_2 - z_1 \quad \mu = \frac{m_1m_2}{m_1 + m_2}$$

Levine 6.3

$$\text{Then } H = \frac{-\hbar^2}{fM} \left( \frac{f^2}{fX^2} + \frac{f^2}{fY^2} + \frac{f^2}{fZ^2} \right) - \frac{\hbar^2}{f\mu} \left( \frac{f^2}{fx^2} + \frac{f^2}{fy^2} + \frac{f^2}{fz^2} \right)$$

(Note: Still no potential,  $V = 0$  but B.C.  $R = d$ ) – quant

6.4

Since not interested in motion of center of mass – it is solved by 3-D place were (not quant)

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Transform  $(x,y,z)$  –  $(r, \theta, \phi)$  but note  $r = d = \text{const}$   
then solution just

$$H_{rr} = \frac{-\hbar^2}{f\mu d^2} \nabla^2 = \frac{-\hbar^2}{fI} \nabla^2 Y_{JM}(\theta, \phi) = J^2 Y_{JM}(\theta, \phi)$$

this can describe rotation of rigid body  $T = \mu d^2$  (linear only)

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Note: traditional to use  $J$  as angular momentum operator for rotation

$$E_{\ell m} = \frac{\hbar^2}{2I} J(J + 1) \quad I = \mu d^2 \quad g_J = 2J + 1$$

no dependence on  $m$

$$E_{J-J+1}(J + 1) \left( \frac{\hbar^2}{I} \right)$$

levels expand and spacing between them increase linearly with  $J$

$Y_{JM}$  Ang. Mom. eigen fct Since some problem:  $J_z Y_{JM} = M\hbar Y_{JM}$ ,  $J^2 Y_{JM} = J(J + 1)\hbar^2 Y_{JM}$

Good model for molecular rotational spectroscopy – molecules with ???

$E = h \nu = (J + 1)h^2/2I$  for  $\Delta J = 1$  selection rule  
 $= (J + 1)h^2/2I$   $I = 2B$   $B = h^2/4I$  (in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$   $B = h^2/4cI$ )  
 increase  $\mu$  on d  $\rightarrow$  I inc  $\rightarrow$  dec  
 – for very light molecules (H-containing)  
 $\mu \sim 1 \text{ cm}$ ,  $d \sim 0.1 \text{ nm}$   
 gives rise to absorptions in far-ir ( $10^3 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ )  
 – heavier molecules  $\rightarrow$  in microwave so termed  $\mu$ -wave spectra  
 Spectra complex since  $B \ll kT$  so many J levels populated  $\rightarrow$  Thermometer

Note: measure  $DE \rightarrow I \rightarrow d$  if know  $\mu$  for diatomic that is the molec geometry  
 – due to  $\mu$ -wave technology this can be done with very high precision

Note: polyatomic non-linear molecule has another dimension (rotation of linear about axis  $\rightarrow$  no moment)  
 thus need another quantum number (K-momentum about the figure axis) and spectra a bit more complex  
 $\rightarrow$  vib/rot  $J = 1$  can lose energy not while gain vib handout. Check data