

Exercise Sheet 9 due 9 July 2018

1. Clebsch-Gordan coefficients

Prove the following recursion relation for the Clebsch-Gordan coefficients:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{j(j+1) - m(m \pm 1)} \langle j_1, m_1; j_2, m_2 | j, m \pm 1; j_1; j_2 \rangle \\ &= \sqrt{j_1(j_1 + 1) - m_1(m_1 \mp 1)} \langle j_1, m_1 \mp 1; j_2, m_2 | j, m; j_1; j_2 \rangle \\ &+ \sqrt{j_2(j_2 + 1) - m_2(m_2 \mp 1)} \langle j_1, m_1; j_2, m_2 \mp 1 | j, m; j_1; j_2 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

2. Clebsch-Gordan coefficients

Write a program that takes two angular momentum quantum numbers j_a and j_b as input and produces a matrix for transforming from the product states $|j_a, m_a; j_b, m_b\rangle$ to the total angular momentum states $|j, m\rangle$. Example:

$j_a = 1$	$j_b = 1/2$	$j = 3/2$				$j = 1/2$	
m_a	m_b	$m = 3/2$	$m = 1/2$	$m = -1/2$	$m = -3/2$	$m = 1/2$	$m = -1/2$
1	1/2	1					
1	-1/2		$\sqrt{1/3}$			$\sqrt{2/3}$	
0	1/2		$\sqrt{2/3}$			$-\sqrt{1/3}$	
0	-1/2			$\sqrt{2/3}$			$\sqrt{1/3}$
-1	1/2			$\sqrt{1/3}$			$-\sqrt{2/3}$
-1	-1/2				1		

Hint: Expand the square of the coefficients into a continued fraction.

3. Addition of three angular momenta

- i. Consider three independent spin 1/2 systems with spin operators \vec{S}_a , \vec{S}_b , and \vec{S}_c . Add the spins in two different ways:

(a) $(\vec{S}_a + \vec{S}_b) + \vec{S}_c$

(b) $\vec{S}_a + (\vec{S}_b + \vec{S}_c)$

Compare the results.

- ii. Extend your code to add more than two angular momenta in a given order.