

Lecture #17 Rigid Rotor Eigenvalues and spectroscopy

I. Rigid Rotor: 2-body Problem

II. Rigid Rotor Eigenfunction Problems

I. Rigid Rotor: 2-body Problem

In a plane 2: $m_1, m_2, \rightarrow \mu$, and $r_1, r_2, \rightarrow r$ = internal coord (relative)

$$H = \frac{L_z^2}{2I} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2I} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{q}^2} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mathbf{m}} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} \right) \text{ where } I = m_1 r_1^2 + m_2 r_2^2 = \mu r^2: \quad (1)$$

NOTE: The above step is proved by problem 5-30 of Mcquarrie:

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{q}^2} = \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} \right) \quad (2)$$

$$\text{S.E. } -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mathbf{m}} \left(\frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{Y}}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{Y}}{\partial y^2} \right) = E\mathbf{Y} \quad (3)$$

Rigid Rotor S.E. for 2 bodies in 3 dimensions (nonplanar):

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mathbf{m}} \left(\frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{Y}}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{Y}}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{Y}}{\partial z^2} \right) = E\mathbf{Y} \quad (4)$$

we want to transform this equation (4) into one using spherical coordinates instead of x,y,z.

$$x = r \sin \mathbf{q} \cos \mathbf{f} \quad \text{or} \quad r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

$$y = r \sin \mathbf{q} \sin \mathbf{f} \quad \text{or} \quad \cos \mathbf{q} = \frac{z}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}}$$

$$z = r \cos \mathbf{q} \quad \text{or} \quad \tan \mathbf{f} = \frac{y}{x}$$

$dt = r^2 \sin \mathbf{q} d\mathbf{q} d\mathbf{f} dr$ = volume element will be used for H-like atom

For the rigid rotor, since r is constant the $dt = \sin \mathbf{q} d\mathbf{q} d\mathbf{f}$

Note: Int limits $\int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\infty$

to finally arrive at the **Internal Motion Hamiltonian in Spherical Coordinates:**

$r = r_0$ for rigid (fixed distance between bodies) rotor.

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{H}Y &= -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m r_0^2} \left[\frac{1}{\sin \mathbf{q}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{q}} \left(\sin \mathbf{q} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{q}} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \mathbf{q}} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{f}^2} \right] Y = EY \quad (5) \\
&= -\frac{\hbar^2}{2I} \left[\frac{1}{\sin \mathbf{q}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{q}} \left(\sin \mathbf{q} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{q}} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \mathbf{q}} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{f}^2} \right] Y = EY \\
&= \frac{\tilde{L}^2}{2I} = EY
\end{aligned}$$

The eigenfunctions \mathbf{L}^2 and hence \mathbf{H} of this are written as Y instead of Ψ , and are called **Spherical Harmonics**: $Y_l^m = F(\mathbf{f})Q(\mathbf{q})$.

$$\begin{aligned}
Y_0^0 &= \frac{1}{(4\pi)^{1/2}} \\
Y_1^0 &= \left(\frac{3}{4\pi} \right)^{1/2} \cos \mathbf{q} \\
Y_1^1 &= \left(\frac{3}{8\pi} \right)^{1/2} \sin \mathbf{q} e^{i\mathbf{f}} \\
Y_1^{-1} &= \left(\frac{3}{8\pi} \right)^{1/2} \sin \mathbf{q} e^{-i\mathbf{f}} \\
Y_2^0 &= \left(\frac{5}{16\pi} \right)^{1/2} (3 \cos^2 \mathbf{q} - 1) \\
Y_2^1 &= \left(\frac{15}{8\pi} \right)^{1/2} \sin \mathbf{q} \cos \mathbf{q} e^{i\mathbf{f}} \\
Y_2^{-1} &= \left(\frac{15}{8\pi} \right)^{1/2} \sin \mathbf{q} \cos \mathbf{q} e^{-i\mathbf{f}} \\
Y_2^2 &= \left(\frac{15}{32\pi} \right)^{1/2} \sin^2 \mathbf{q} e^{2i\mathbf{f}} \\
Y_2^{-2} &= \left(\frac{15}{32\pi} \right)^{1/2} \sin^2 \mathbf{q} e^{-2i\mathbf{f}}
\end{aligned}$$

II. Rigid Rotor Eigenfunction Problems

Be able to (1) Prove orthogonality of Y_l^m (2) normalization of Y_l^m (3) Expectation values of an observable with Y_l^m basis functions (4) most probable value of θ and ϕ . (5) and the probability of θ and ϕ in an interval. For $0 \leq \mathbf{q} \leq \pi$, $0 \leq \mathbf{f} \leq 2\pi$, $0 \leq m \leq l$

Use the following two integrals to solve the 3 problems below.

$$\begin{aligned}
\int x \sin x dx &= -x \cos x + \sin x \\
\int x \sin^3 x dx &= \frac{3}{4} \sin x - \frac{1}{36} \sin 3x - \frac{3}{4} x \cos x + \frac{x}{12} \cos 3x
\end{aligned}$$

1. Prove the normalization of $Y_0^0 = \frac{1}{(4p)^{1/2}}$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{2p} \int_0^p Y_0^0 Y_0^0 \sin q dq df &= \frac{1}{4p} \int_0^{2p} df \int_0^p \sin q dq = \frac{1}{4p} f \Big|_0^{2p} - \cos q \Big|_0^p = \frac{1}{4p} (2p) (-\cos p - (-\cos 0)) \\ &= \frac{1}{4p} (2p)(1+1) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

2. For $l=0, m=0$, determine the expectation value of θ , which intuitively one would guess as $\pi/2$.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle q \rangle &= \int_0^{2p} \int_0^p Y_0^0 q Y_0^0 \sin q dq dj = \int_0^{2p} \int_0^p \frac{1}{\sqrt{4p}} q \frac{1}{\sqrt{4p}} \sin q dq dj = \frac{1}{4p} \int_0^{2p} dj \int_0^p q \sin q dq \\ &= \frac{1}{4p} \int_0^{2p} dj \int_0^p q \sin q dq = \frac{1}{4p} \left[f \Big|_0^{2p} \int_0^p q \sin q dq \right] = \frac{1}{4p} (2p) \left(-x \cos x + \sin x \Big|_0^p \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4p} (2p) \left(-p \cos p + \sin p \right) - \left(-0 \cos 0 + \sin 0 \right) = \frac{1}{2} - p(-1) = \frac{p}{2} \end{aligned}$$

3. Similarly show that for $l=0, m=0$, the expectation value of ϕ is π .

4. For $l=1, m=0$, determine the expectation value of θ .

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{1,0} &= \left(\frac{3}{4p} \right)^{1/2} (\cos q) \\ \langle q \rangle &= \int_0^{2p} df \int_0^p Y_{1,0}^* q Y_{1,0} \sin q dq \\ &= 2p \left[\frac{3}{4p} \int_0^p (\cos^2 q) q \sin q dq \right] \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \int_0^p q (1 - \sin^2 q) \sin q dq \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \int_0^p q \sin q - q \sin^3 q dq \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \left[\{-q \cos q + \sin q\} \Big|_0^p - \left\{ -\frac{3}{4} q \cos q + \frac{q}{12} \cos 3q \right\} \Big|_0^p \right] \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \left[p - \left(\frac{3}{4} p - \frac{p}{12} \right) \right] = \frac{p}{2} \text{ radians} = 90^\circ \end{aligned}$$