

## Problems on Harmonic oscillator, Angular momentum and Hydrogen atom.

**Problem. a)** Find the amplitude  $A$  of oscillations for a classical oscillator with energy equal to the energy of a quantum oscillator in the quantum state  $n$ .

b) Consider a classical oscillator of mass  $m = 1.0g$ , it makes 20 oscillation in  $10 \text{ sec}$ . Find the values of quantum number  $n$  corresponding to this oscillation with maximum amplitude  $1 \text{ cm}$ .

### Solution

a) To determine the amplitude  $A$ , we set the classical energy  $E = \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 A^2$  equal to  $E_n = \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) \hbar\omega$

Then we obtain  $A = \sqrt{(2n + 1) \frac{\hbar}{m\omega}}$ .

As the quantum number  $n$  increases, the energy of the oscillator and therefore the amplitude of oscillation increases (for a fixed natural angular frequency). For large  $n$ , the amplitude is approximately proportional to the square root of the quantum number.

b) Solving the equation  $A = \sqrt{(2n + 1) \frac{\hbar}{m\omega}}$  for  $n$  we obtain  
 $n = 6 \times 10^{27}$ .

**Problem.** The vibrational frequency of the hydrogen iodide HI diatomic molecule is  $6.69 \times 10^{13} \text{ Hz}$ . Iodine atom is 127 times more massive than hydrogen atom. ( $m_H = 1.67 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$ ,  $c = 3.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$ )

- What is the force constant of the molecular bond between the hydrogen and the iodine atoms? (295 N/m)
- What is the energy of the emitted photon when this molecule makes a transition between adjacent vibrational energy levels? (0.277 eV)
- What is the wavelength of the emitted photon?
- The possible wavelengths of photons emitted with the HI molecule decays from the third excited state eventually to the ground state.

### Solution

a) Relation between the force constant and frequency is given by:

$$\omega = 2\pi f = \sqrt{\frac{k}{\mu}}$$

Since iodine is 127 times massive than hydrogen then the reduced mass  $\mu$  is given by

$$\mu = \frac{m_H m_I}{m_H + m_I} \cong m_H$$

Substituting values of given quantities we obtain:

$$k = 295 \text{ N/m}$$

b) Adjacent vibrational energy levels are the energy level between  $n$  and  $n+1$

$$E_{n+1} - E_n = \Delta E = \left(n + 1 + \frac{1}{2}\right) \hbar\omega - \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) \hbar\omega = \hbar\omega$$

$$\Delta E = 4.4 \times 10^{-20} \text{J} = 0.277 \text{eV}$$

c)  $\lambda = \frac{c}{f} = 4.48 \times 10^{-6} \text{m} = 4.48 \mu\text{m}$

d) Energy of molecule is given by

$$E_n = 0.277 \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) \text{eV}$$

Then calculate the transitions between  $n = \{3 \rightarrow 2, 3 \rightarrow 1, 3 \rightarrow 0, 2 \rightarrow 1, 2 \rightarrow 0\}$

**Problem.** For a harmonic oscillator, what is the number of degeneracy for the 3<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> energy levels,

**Solution**

In this case we assume that the particles are spinless, then:

	Energy	$n_x n_y n_z$	#degeneracy
0	3/2		
1	5/2		
2	7/2		
3	9/2	003(3), 012(6), 111(1)	10
4	11/2	004(3), 013(6), 022(3), 112(3)	15
5	13/2		
6	15/2		

**Problem.** A particle in the harmonic oscillator potential and start out its motion with an initial wave function:

$$\Psi(x, 0) = A(\psi_0 - 2\psi_1)$$

- Determine A.
- Construct  $\Psi(x, t)$ .
- Find  $\langle x \rangle$  and  $\langle p_x \rangle$ .
- Find  $\Delta x \Delta p$ .
- Find commutation relations  $[a, x]$  and  $[p, a^+]$
- Find  $\langle n | \left(a^+ a + \frac{1}{2}\right) | n \rangle$ .

Hint:

$$a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\hbar\omega m}} (ip_x + m\omega x), \quad a^+ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\hbar\omega m}} (-ip_x + m\omega x).$$

$$p = -i\hbar \frac{d}{dx}; \quad a\psi_n = \sqrt{n}\psi_{n-1}; \quad a^+\psi_n = \sqrt{n+1}\psi_{n+1}.$$

$$\text{Uncertainty of an operator is } \Delta O = \sqrt{\langle O^2 \rangle - \langle O \rangle^2}$$

**Solution:**

a) Using the normalization conditions:

$$1 = A^2(\langle \psi_0 | \psi_0 \rangle + 4\langle \psi_1 | \psi_1 \rangle) = 5A^2, \text{ then } A = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$

b) It is easy to construct time dependent wave function:

$$\Psi(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left( \psi_0 e^{-\frac{iE_0 t}{\hbar}} - 2\psi_1 e^{-\frac{iE_1 t}{\hbar}} \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left( \psi_0 e^{-i\frac{\omega t}{2}} - 2\psi_1 e^{-i\frac{3\omega t}{2}} \right)$$

Using energy values  $E_0 = \frac{1}{2} \hbar \omega$  and  $E_1 = \frac{3}{2} \hbar \omega$ . Norm of the wave function is given by:

c) We can use integral relations or operators to obtain expectation values. Here let us use operators  
The ladder operators then we can obtain the relations

$$x = \frac{\sqrt{2\hbar m \omega}}{2m\omega} (a_+ + a) \text{ and } p = \frac{\sqrt{2\hbar m \omega}}{2i} (a - a^+)$$

with the action of the operators  $a^+ \psi_n = \sqrt{n+1} \psi_{n+1}$  and  $a \psi_n = \sqrt{n} \psi_{n-1}$

See lecture notes

**Problem.** Calculate the energy eigenvalues of an axially symmetric rotator and find the degeneracy of each energy level (i.e., for each value of the azimuthal quantum number  $m$ , find how many states  $|l, m\rangle$  correspond to the same energy). We may recall that the Hamiltonian of an axially symmetric rotator is given by

$$H = \frac{L_x^2 + L_y^2}{2I_1} + \frac{L_z^2}{2I_2}$$

where  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  are the moments of inertia.

(b) From part (a) infer the energy eigenvalues for the various levels of  $l = 3$ .

(c) In the case of a rigid rotator (i.e.,  $I_1 = I_2 = I$ ), find the energy expression and the corresponding degeneracy relation.

(d) Calculate the orbital quantum number  $l$  and the corresponding energy degeneracy for a rigid rotator where the magnitude of the total angular momentum is  $\sqrt{56} \hbar$ .

**Hint:** Use  $L^2 |l, m_l\rangle = l(l+1) \hbar^2 |l, m_l\rangle$  and  $L_z |l, m_l\rangle = m_l \hbar |l, m_l\rangle$ .

**Problem.** Consider the wave function in the state  $\psi_{nlm}$  describing motion of an electron in the Hydrogen atom:

$$\psi = \frac{1}{6} (4\psi_{200} + 3\psi_{211} - c\psi_{210} + \sqrt{10} \psi_{21-1})$$

- Using normalization and orthogonalization conditions determine the constant  $c$ .
- Calculate expectation values of the Energy,  $L^2$  and  $L_z$ .
- Is  $\psi$  eigenfunction of  $L^2$  or Energy?

**Problem.** Energy of the electron in a hydrogen atom depends on the principal quantum number  $n$ , and given by

$$E = -\frac{13.6}{n^2} \text{ eV.}$$

- Using the  $\psi_{nlm_l m_s}$  notation for the wave function, list all the  $n = 1, 2$  and  $3$  hydrogen states.
- Calculate wavelengths of the emitted photons in (nm) when the transitions occurs  $3 \rightarrow 2$ ;  $4 \rightarrow 2$  and  $5 \rightarrow 2$ . ( $1nm = 10^{-9}m$ ).

**Problem.** A wavefunction  $\psi_{nlm_l}$  describe Hydrogen atom. Action of the operators, energy  $H$ , angular momentum  $L$  and magneti moment  $L_z$  on the wavefunction are given by:

$$H\psi_{nlm_l} = -\frac{13.6}{n^2}\psi_{nlm_l}$$

$$L\psi_{nlm_l} = \sqrt{l(l+1)}\hbar\psi_{nlm_l}$$

$$L_z\psi_{nlm_l} = m_l\hbar\psi_{nlm_l}$$

- What is the relation between quantum numbers  $n, l$  and  $m_l$  and explain physical meaning of each quantum number.
- What is the commutation relations  $[H, L]$  and  $[L, L_z]$ .
- Calculate  $\Delta H \Delta L$  and  $\Delta L \Delta L_z$ .

**Problem.** An electron of a hydrogen atom is in the state described by the wave function:

$$\psi = N(\psi_{300} + i\psi_{311} - i\psi_{31-1} + \psi_{320})$$

- Find normalization constant  $N$ .
- Find the expected value of the Energy,  $E$ ,  $L^2$  and  $L_z$ .
- Is  $\psi$  eigenfunction of  $L^2$  or  $E$  or  $L_z$ ?

**Problem.** A state vector  $|nlm_l m_s\rangle$  describe an atom. Where  $n, l, m_l$  and  $m_s$  are principal quantum number, angular momentum quantum number, magnetic quantum number and spin quantum number of an electron in an atom, respectively.

- What is the relation between the quantum numbers  $n, l$  and  $m_l$ ?
- What is the values of  $m_s$ ?
- How many total number of electrons can exist in the  $n = 6$  state?
- If superposition of a wavefunction of an hydrogen atom is given by

$$|nlm_l m_s\rangle = A \left| 210 - \frac{1}{2} \right\rangle + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \left| 210 \frac{1}{2} \right\rangle$$

Find  $A$ .

**Problem.** Find degree of degeneracy of state of electron in hydrogen atom, for the principal quantum numbers,  $n = 1, 2, 5, 8$ .