

Eigenstates of three particles with $S = 1/2$ and $S = 1$
Masatsugu Sei Suzuki
Department of Physics, SUNY at Binghamton
(Date: December 23, 2014)

We present a method to obtain the eigenstates of three particles having either $S = 1/2$ or $L = 1$ using the Mathematica program (Kronecker Product and Eigensystem). For simplicity, We use the unit of $\hbar = 1$.

1. Eigenstates of three particles with spin 1/2

$$\begin{aligned} D_{1/2} \times D_{1/2} \times D_{1/2} &= (D_1 + D_0) \times D_{1/2} \\ &= D_{3/2} + 2D_{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

There are 8 states $\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \xi_4, \xi_5, \xi_6, \xi_7, \xi_8$, defined by

$$\xi_1 = \alpha \otimes \alpha \otimes \alpha = \alpha\alpha\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \xi_2 = \alpha\alpha\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\xi_3 = \alpha\beta\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \xi_4 = \alpha\beta\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\xi_5 = \beta\alpha\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \xi_6 = \beta\alpha\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\xi_7 = \beta\beta\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \xi_8 = \beta\beta\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

where

$$\alpha = | +z \rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \beta = | -z \rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

These state are not the eigenstates of \hat{M}^2 (the square of the total angular momentum) and \hat{M}_z (the z component of the total angular momentum). We need to find the eigenstates and eigenvalues of \hat{M}^2 and \hat{M}_z , where

$$[\hat{M}^2, \hat{M}_z] = 0.$$

The eigenstates are the superposition of the eight states, $\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \xi_4, \xi_5, \xi_6, \xi_7, \xi_8$. The matrices of \hat{M}^2 and \hat{M}_z (the size 8 x 8) are obtained as

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{M}^2 &= 2(\hat{S}_x \otimes \hat{S}_x \otimes \hat{I}_2 + \hat{S}_y \otimes \hat{S}_y \otimes \hat{I}_2 + \hat{S}_z \otimes \hat{S}_z \otimes \hat{I}_2 \\
&\quad + \hat{S}_x \otimes \hat{I}_2 \otimes \hat{S}_x + \hat{S}_y \otimes \hat{I}_2 \otimes \hat{S}_y + \hat{S}_z \otimes \hat{I}_2 \otimes \hat{S}_z \\
&\quad + \hat{I}_2 \otimes \hat{S}_x \otimes \hat{S}_x + \hat{I}_2 \otimes \hat{S}_y \otimes \hat{S}_y + \hat{I}_2 \otimes \hat{S}_z \otimes \hat{S}_z) \\
&\quad + 3S(S+1)\hat{I}_2 \otimes \hat{I}_2 \otimes \hat{I}_2 \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} 15/4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 7/4 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 7/4 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 7/4 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 7/4 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 7/4 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 7/4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 15/4 \end{pmatrix}.
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{M}_z &= \hat{S}_z \otimes \hat{I}_2 \otimes \hat{I}_2 + \hat{I}_2 \otimes \hat{S}_z \otimes \hat{I}_2 + \hat{I}_2 \otimes \hat{I}_2 \otimes \hat{S}_z \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} 3/2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1/2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1/2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -3/2 \end{pmatrix},
\end{aligned}$$

where $S = \frac{1}{2}$,

$$\hat{S}_x = \frac{\hbar}{2} \hat{\sigma}_x = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \hat{S}_y = \frac{\hbar}{2} \hat{\sigma}_y = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\hat{S}_z = \frac{\hbar}{2} \hat{\sigma}_z = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \hat{I}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ (identity matrix)}$$

We use the Mathematica programs (KroneckerProduct and Eigensystem) to solve the eigenvalue problems for \hat{M}^2 and \hat{M}_z . The results are as follows.

(a) $j = 3/2$ (symmetric)

$$|j = 3/2, m = 3/2\rangle = U_{\xi_1} = \alpha\alpha\alpha,$$

$$|j = 3/2, m = 1/2\rangle = U_{\xi_2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(\alpha\alpha\beta + \alpha\beta\alpha + \beta\alpha\alpha),$$

$$|j = 3/2, m = -1/2\rangle = \hat{U}_{\xi_3} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(\alpha\beta\beta + \beta\alpha\beta + \beta\beta\alpha),$$

$$|j = 3/2, m = -3/2\rangle = U_{\xi_4} = \beta\beta\beta.$$

(b) $j = 1/2$

$$|j = 1/2, m = 1/2\rangle = \hat{U}_{\xi_5} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\alpha\alpha\beta - \beta\alpha\alpha),$$

$$|j = 1/2, m = -1/2\rangle = \bar{U}_{\xi_6} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\alpha\beta\beta - \beta\beta\alpha),$$

(c) $j = 1/2$

$$|j = 1/2, m = 1/2\rangle = \hat{U}_{\xi_7} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}(\alpha\alpha\beta - 2\alpha\beta\alpha + \beta\alpha\alpha),$$

$$|j = 1/2, m = -1/2\rangle = \hat{U}_{\xi_8} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}(\alpha\beta\beta - 2\beta\alpha\beta + \beta\beta\alpha).$$

The corresponding unitary operator is given by

$$\hat{U} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\hat{U}^+ \hat{M}^2 \hat{U} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{15}{4} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{15}{4} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{15}{4} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{15}{4} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{3}{4} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{3}{4} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{3}{4} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{3}{4} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\hat{U}^+ \hat{M}_z \hat{U} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{3}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

These matrices ($\hat{U}^+ \hat{M}^2 \hat{U}$ and $\hat{U}^+ \hat{M}_z \hat{U}$) can be written as block-diagonal form. It is formed of (4x4) matrix denoted by the irreducible representation $D_{3/2}$ (for $j = 3/2$) and two (2x2) matrices denoted by the irreducible representation $D_{1/2}$ (for $j = 1/2$).

2. Eigenstates of three particles with the spin $S = L = 1$.

We now consider the state of three particles with $L = 1$ (we use $L = 1$ instead of $S = 1$).

$$D_1 \times D_1 \times D_1 = (D_2 + D_1 + D_0) \times D_1 = D_3 + 2D_2 + 3D_1 + D_0.$$

The wave function of three particles with $S = 1$. We consider the 27 states $\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \xi_4, \dots, \xi_{26}, \xi_{27}$, which are defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_1 &= \alpha \otimes \alpha \otimes \alpha = \alpha\alpha\alpha, \\ \xi_2 &= \alpha \otimes \alpha \otimes \beta = \alpha\alpha\beta, \\ \xi_3 &= \alpha \otimes \alpha \otimes \gamma = \alpha\alpha\gamma, \\ \xi_4 &= \alpha \otimes \beta \otimes \alpha = \alpha\beta\alpha, \\ \xi_5 &= \alpha \otimes \beta \otimes \beta = \alpha\beta\beta, \\ \xi_6 &= \alpha \otimes \beta \otimes \gamma = \alpha\beta\gamma, \\ \xi_7 &= \alpha \otimes \gamma \otimes \alpha = \alpha\gamma\alpha, \\ \xi_8 &= \alpha \otimes \gamma \otimes \beta = \alpha\gamma\beta, \\ \xi_9 &= \alpha \otimes \gamma \otimes \gamma = \alpha\gamma\gamma, \\ \xi_{10} &= \beta \otimes \alpha \otimes \alpha = \beta\alpha\alpha, \\ \xi_{11} &= \beta \otimes \alpha \otimes \beta = \beta\alpha\beta, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\xi_{12} &= \beta \otimes \alpha \otimes \gamma = \beta\alpha\gamma, \\
\xi_{13} &= \beta \otimes \beta \otimes \alpha = \beta\beta\alpha, \\
\xi_{14} &= \beta \otimes \beta \otimes \beta = \beta\beta\beta, \\
\xi_{15} &= \beta \otimes \beta \otimes \gamma = \beta\beta\gamma, \\
\xi_{16} &= \beta \otimes \gamma \otimes \alpha = \alpha\gamma\alpha, \\
\xi_{17} &= \beta \otimes \gamma \otimes \beta = \alpha\gamma\beta, \\
\xi_{18} &= \beta \otimes \gamma \otimes \gamma = \alpha\gamma\gamma, \\
\xi_{19} &= \gamma \otimes \alpha \otimes \alpha = \gamma\alpha\alpha, \\
\xi_{20} &= \gamma \otimes \alpha \otimes \beta = \gamma\alpha\beta, \\
\xi_{21} &= \gamma \otimes \alpha \otimes \gamma = \gamma\alpha\gamma, \\
\xi_{22} &= \gamma \otimes \beta \otimes \alpha = \gamma\beta\alpha, \\
\xi_{23} &= \gamma \otimes \beta \otimes \beta = \gamma\beta\beta, \\
\xi_{24} &= \gamma \otimes \beta \otimes \gamma = \gamma\beta\gamma, \\
\xi_{25} &= \gamma \otimes \gamma \otimes \alpha = \gamma\gamma\alpha, \\
\xi_{26} &= \gamma \otimes \gamma \otimes \beta = \gamma\gamma\beta, \\
\xi_{27} &= \gamma \otimes \gamma \otimes \gamma = \gamma\gamma\gamma,
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = |l=1, m=1\rangle,$$

$$\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = |l=1, m=0\rangle,$$

$$\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = |l=1, m=-1\rangle.$$

These state are not the eigenstates of \hat{M}^2 and \hat{M}_z . We need to find the eigenstates and eigenvalues of \hat{M}^2 and \hat{M}_z , where

$$|j=3, m=-2\rangle = U_{\xi_6} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(\beta\gamma\gamma + \gamma\beta\gamma + \gamma\gamma\beta),$$

$$|j=3, m=-3\rangle = U_{\xi_7} = \gamma\gamma\gamma.$$

$$|j=2, m=2\rangle = U_{\xi_8} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}(\alpha\alpha\beta - 2\alpha\beta\alpha + \beta\alpha\alpha),$$

$$|j=2, m=2\rangle = U_{\xi_9} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\alpha\alpha\beta - \beta\alpha\alpha),$$

$$|j=2, m=1\rangle = U_{\xi_{10}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}(2\alpha\alpha\gamma + \alpha\beta\beta - \alpha\gamma\alpha + \beta\alpha\beta - 2\beta\beta\alpha - \gamma\alpha\alpha),$$

$$|j=2, m=1\rangle = U_{\xi_{11}} = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha\beta\beta + \alpha\gamma\alpha - \beta\alpha\beta - \gamma\alpha\alpha),$$

$$|j=2, m=0\rangle = U_{\xi_{12}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{23}}(\alpha\beta\gamma + 2\alpha\gamma\beta - \beta\alpha\gamma + \beta\gamma\alpha - 2\gamma\alpha\beta - \gamma\beta\alpha),$$

$$|j=2, m=0\rangle = U_{\xi_{13}} = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha\beta\gamma + \beta\alpha\gamma - \beta\gamma\alpha - \gamma\beta\alpha),$$

$$|j=2, m=-1\rangle = U_{\xi_{14}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}(2\alpha\gamma\gamma + \beta\beta\gamma + \beta\gamma\beta - \gamma\alpha\gamma - 2\gamma\beta\beta - \gamma\gamma\alpha),$$

$$|j=2, m=-1\rangle = U_{\xi_{15}} = \frac{1}{2}(\beta\beta\gamma - \beta\gamma\beta + \gamma\alpha\gamma - \gamma\gamma\alpha),$$

$$|j=2, m=-2\rangle = U_{\xi_{16}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}(\beta\gamma\gamma - 2\gamma\beta\gamma + \gamma\gamma\beta),$$

$$|j=2, m=-2\rangle = U_{\xi_{17}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\beta\gamma\gamma - \gamma\gamma\beta).$$

$$|j=1, m=1\rangle = U_{\xi_{18}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{15}}(\alpha\alpha\gamma - 3\alpha\beta\beta + 6\alpha\gamma\alpha + 2\beta\alpha\beta - 3\beta\beta\alpha + \gamma\alpha\alpha),$$

$$|j=1, m=1\rangle = U_{\xi_{19}} = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha\alpha\gamma - \alpha\beta\beta + \beta\beta\alpha - \gamma\alpha\alpha),$$

$$|j=1, m=1\rangle = U_{\xi_{20}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(\alpha\alpha\gamma - \beta\alpha\beta + \gamma\alpha\alpha),$$

$$|j=1, m=0\rangle = U_{\xi_{21}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{10}}(\alpha\beta\gamma + \alpha\gamma\beta - 4\beta\alpha\gamma + 2\beta\beta\beta - 4\beta\gamma\alpha + \gamma\alpha\beta + \gamma\beta\alpha),$$

$$|j=1, m=0\rangle = U_{\xi_{22}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{6}}(\alpha\beta\gamma - 3\alpha\gamma\beta + 2\beta\beta\beta - 3\gamma\alpha\beta + \gamma\beta\alpha),$$

$$|j=1, m=0\rangle = U_{\xi_{23}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(\alpha\beta\gamma - \beta\beta\beta + \gamma\beta\alpha),$$

$$|j=1, m=-1\rangle = U_{\xi_{24}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{15}}(\alpha\gamma\gamma - 3\beta\beta\gamma + 2\beta\gamma\beta + 6\gamma\alpha\gamma - 3\gamma\beta\beta + \gamma\gamma\alpha),$$

$$|j=1, m=-1\rangle = U_{\xi_{25}} = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha\gamma\gamma - \beta\beta\gamma + \gamma\beta\beta - \gamma\gamma\alpha),$$

$$|j=1, m=-1\rangle = U_{\xi_{26}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(\alpha\gamma\gamma - \beta\gamma\beta + \gamma\gamma\alpha).$$

$$|j=0, m=0\rangle = U_{\xi_{27}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}(\alpha\beta\gamma - \alpha\gamma\beta - \beta\alpha\gamma + \beta\gamma\alpha + \gamma\alpha\beta - \gamma\beta\alpha).$$

Note that these matrices ($\hat{U}^+ \hat{M}^2 \hat{U}$ and $\hat{U}^+ \hat{M}_z \hat{U}$) can be written as block-diagonal form. It is formed of (7x7) matrix denoted by the irreducible representation D_3 (for $j=3$), two (5x5) matrices denoted by the irreducible representation D_2 (for $j=2$), three (3x3) matrices denoted by the irreducible representation D_2 (for $j=1$), and one (1x1) matrices denoted by the irreducible representation D_2 (for $j=0$),