

S.Q. 24.

P.1

Aim: To calculate the Laplacian in plane polar coordinate

When the potential is circular symmetric, you are suggested to express the Hamiltonian in plane polar coordinates. ($\hat{H}(x, y, \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y})$)

$\rightarrow \hat{H}(r, \phi, \frac{\partial}{\partial r}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi})$. It's because it's usually way more easier to do the problem in this way.

In this question, we want to express

$\nabla_{2D}^2 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2}$, relating to kinetic energy,

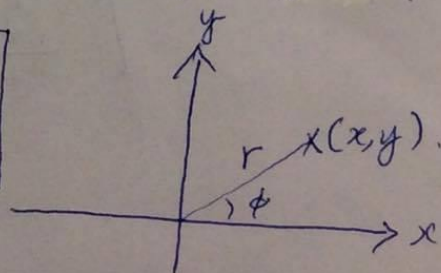
in terms of $r, \phi, \frac{\partial}{\partial r}$ and $\frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}$.

$$\text{Proof: } \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2}$$

Step ①: Express x, y in terms of r, ϕ

$$x = r \cos \phi \quad \text{--- [1]}$$

$$y = r \sin \phi \quad \text{--- [2]}$$



Step ②: Express r, ϕ in terms of x, y

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$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \quad - [3]$$

$$\tan \phi = \frac{y}{x} \quad - [4]$$

Step ③ Find the chain rules for $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}$.

If the wavefunction is expressed in plane polar coordinate: $\psi(r(x,y), \phi(x,y))$.

$$\text{Then, } \begin{cases} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} & (*) \\ \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \frac{\partial r}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} & (\star) \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Using [3]: } \begin{cases} \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} = \frac{2x}{2\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} = \frac{x}{r} = \cos \phi \\ \frac{\partial r}{\partial y} = \frac{2y}{2\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} = \frac{y}{r} = \sin \phi \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Using [4]: } \begin{cases} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \tan \phi = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{y}{x} \right) \\ \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \sec^2 \phi = -\frac{y}{x^2} = -\frac{r \sin \phi}{r^2 \cos^2 \phi} \\ \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = -\frac{1}{r} \sin \phi \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \tan \phi = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{y}{x} \right) \\ \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \sec^2 \phi = \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{r \cos \phi} \\ \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} = \frac{1}{r} \cos \phi \end{cases}$$

Therefore, the chain rules become.

(P.3)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Using } \left. \begin{array}{l} (*) \\ \text{and} \\ (\star) \end{array} \right\} & \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \psi = \left(\frac{\partial r}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right) \psi \\ & = \left(\cos \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} - \frac{1}{r} \sin \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right) \psi \\ & \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) \psi = \left(\frac{\partial r}{\partial y} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right) \psi \\ & = \left(\sin \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r} \cos \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right) \psi. \end{aligned}$$

Step 14, you can calculate $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}$ and $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \psi &= \left(\cos \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} - \frac{1}{r} \sin \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right) \left(\cos \phi \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} - \frac{1}{r} \sin \phi \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} \right) \\ &= \cos \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(\cos \phi \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} - \frac{1}{r} \sin \phi \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} \right) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{r} \sin \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \left(\cos \phi \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} - \frac{1}{r} \sin \phi \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} \right) \\ &= \cos \phi \left(\cos \phi \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r^2} + \sin \phi \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} - \sin \phi \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r \partial \phi} \right) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{r} \sin \phi \left(-\sin \phi \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} + \cos \phi \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r \partial \phi} - \cos \phi \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} - \sin \phi \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi^2} \right) \\ &= \cos^2 \phi \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r^2} + \sin^2 \phi \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} - 2 \sin \phi \cos \phi \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r \partial \phi} + 2 \sin \phi \cos \phi \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} \\ &\quad + \sin^2 \phi \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} \right) \psi &= \left(\sin \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \cos \phi \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right) \left(\sin \phi \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} + \cos \phi \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} \right) \\ &= \sin \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(\sin \phi \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} + \cos \phi \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{r} \cos \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \left(\sin \phi \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} + \cos \phi \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} \right) \\ &= \sin \phi \left(\sin \phi \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r^2} - \cos \phi \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} + \cos \phi \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r \partial \phi} \right) \\ &\quad + \cos \phi \frac{1}{r} \left(\cos \phi \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} + \sin \phi \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r \partial \phi} - \sin \phi \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} + \cos \phi \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi^2} \right) \\ &= \sin^2 \phi \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r^2} + \cos^2 \phi \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} + 2 \sin \phi \cos \phi \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r \partial \phi} - 2 \sin \phi \cos \phi \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} \\ &\quad + \cos^2 \phi \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi^2} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} \right) \psi \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right) \psi + \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} \right) \psi \\ &= \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi^2} \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right) \psi \end{aligned}$$

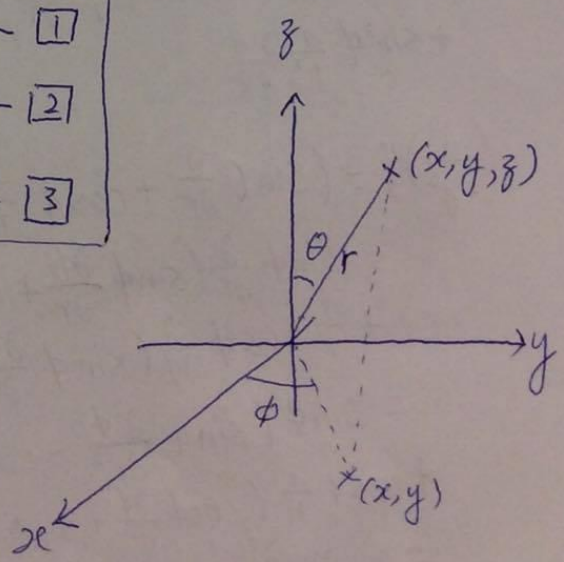
S.Q. 25

Aim : To demonstrate that a state of definite L_z has uncertain \hat{L}_y and $\langle \hat{L}_y \rangle = 0$

(a) We want to express \hat{L}_y in spherical coordinates. $(\hat{L}_y = \hat{z} \hat{p}_x - \hat{x} \hat{p}_z = \frac{\hbar}{i} (z \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - x \frac{\partial}{\partial z}))$

Step (1) ^{starting with} Express x, y, z in terms of r, θ, ϕ .

$$\begin{aligned} x &= r \cos \theta \cos \phi & - [1] \\ y &= r \sin \theta \sin \phi & - [2] \\ z &= r \cos \theta & - [3] \end{aligned}$$



Step ② Express r, θ, ϕ in terms of x, y, z

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \quad - [4]$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{z}{r} \quad - [5]$$

$$\tan \phi = \frac{y}{x} \quad - [6]$$

Step ③ Find the chain rules for $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial}{\partial z}$.

If the wavefunction is expressed in polar coordinates: $\Psi(r(x,y,z), \theta(x,y,z), \phi(x,y,z))$

$$\text{Then, } \begin{cases} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \phi} \\ \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial r}{\partial z} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial z} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \phi} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Using [4]: } \begin{cases} \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} = \frac{2x}{2\sqrt{x^2+y^2+z^2}} = \frac{x}{r} = \sin \theta \cos \phi \\ \frac{\partial r}{\partial z} = \frac{2z}{2\sqrt{x^2+y^2+z^2}} = \frac{z}{r} = \cos \theta \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Using [5]: } \begin{cases} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \cos \theta = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{z}{r} \right) \\ (-\sin \theta) \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} = z \left(-\frac{1}{r^2} \right) \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} \\ (-\sin \theta) \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} = -\frac{zx}{r^3} \\ (-\sin \theta) \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} = -\frac{(\cos \theta)(\sin \theta \cos \phi)}{r} \\ \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} = \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \cos \theta = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{z}{r} \right) \\ (-\sin \theta) \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial z} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{z}{r^2} \frac{\partial r}{\partial z} \end{cases}$$

$$(-\sin\theta) \left(\frac{\partial\theta}{\partial z} \right) = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{z^2}{r^3}$$

$$= \frac{1}{r} - \frac{\cos^2\theta}{r}$$

$$= \frac{\sin^2\theta}{r}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial\theta}{\partial z} = -\frac{\sin\theta}{r}}$$

Using [6] :

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \tan\phi = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{y}{x} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x} \sec^2\phi = -\frac{y}{x^2}$$

$$= -\frac{\sin\phi}{r\sin\theta\cos^2\phi}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x} = -\frac{\sin\phi}{r\sin\theta}}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \tan\phi = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{y}{x} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial z} \sec^2\phi = 0$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial z} = 0}$$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial\theta}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} + \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial\phi}$$

$$= \sin\theta\cos\phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \cos\theta\cos\phi \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} - \sin\phi \frac{1}{r\sin\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial\phi}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial r}{\partial z} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial\theta}{\partial z} \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} + \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial z} \frac{\partial}{\partial\phi}$$

$$= \cos\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial r} - \frac{\sin\theta}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta}$$

$$y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - x \frac{\partial}{\partial z} = (r\cos\theta) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - (r\sin\theta\cos\phi) \frac{\partial}{\partial z}$$

$$= (r\sin\theta\cos\theta\cos\phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \cos^2\theta\cos\phi \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} - \sin\phi \cot\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial\phi})$$

$$- (r\sin\theta\cos\theta\cos\phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} - \sin^2\theta\cos\phi \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta})$$

$$= \cos\phi \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} - \sin\phi \cot\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial\phi}$$

$$\hat{L}_y = \frac{\hbar}{i} \left(-z \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - x \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right)$$

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$$= \frac{\hbar}{i} \left(\cos\phi \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} - \sin\phi \cot\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right)$$

(b). In this question, we want to calculate $\hat{L}_y Y_{11}(\theta, \phi)$.

$$Y_{11}(\theta, \phi) = -\left(\frac{3}{8\pi}\right)^{1/2} \sin\theta e^{i\phi}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{L}_y Y_{11}(\theta, \phi) &= -\left(\frac{3}{8\pi}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{\hbar}{i}\right) \left(\cos\phi \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} - \sin\phi \cot\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right) (\sin\theta e^{i\phi}) \\ &= -\left(\frac{3}{8\pi}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{\hbar}{i}\right) (\cos\phi \cos\theta e^{i\phi} - \sin\phi \cot\theta \sin\theta (i) e^{i\phi}) \\ &= -\left(\frac{3}{8\pi}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{\hbar}{i}\right) (\cos\phi \cos\theta e^{i\phi} - i \sin\phi \cos\theta e^{i\phi}) \quad \left. \vphantom{\frac{\hbar}{i}} \right\} (e^{i\phi} = \cos\phi + i \sin\phi) \\ &= -\left(\frac{3}{8\pi}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{\hbar}{i}\right) (\cos^2\phi \cos\theta + i \cos\phi \sin\phi \cos\theta \\ &\quad - i \sin\phi \cos\theta \cos\phi + \sin^2\phi \cos\theta) \\ &= -\left(\frac{3}{8\pi}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{\hbar}{i}\right) \cos\theta \\ &= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{\hbar}{i}\right) \left[\left(\frac{3}{4\pi}\right)^{1/2} \cos\theta \right] \\ &= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{\hbar}{i}\right) Y_{10}(\theta, \phi). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $Y_{11}(\theta, \phi)$ is not an eigenfunction of \hat{L}_y .

(c). In this question, we want to demonstrate that a state of definite L_z ($Y_{11}(\theta, \phi)$) has ① uncertain \hat{L}_y and ② $\langle \hat{L}_y \rangle = 0$.

① Uncertain \hat{L}_y .

$$\text{Since } [\hat{L}_y, \hat{L}_z] = i\hbar \hat{L}_x \neq 0$$

\Rightarrow A state of definite L_x should have uncertain L_y .

② $\langle L_y \rangle = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} & \int Y_{11}(\theta, \phi) \hat{L}_y Y_{11}(\theta, \phi) d\Omega \\ &= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{\hbar}{2}\right) \int Y_{11}(\theta, \phi) Y_{10}(\theta, \phi) d\Omega \quad (\text{using the result in (b)}) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $Y_{11}(\theta, \phi)$ has uncertain \hat{L}_y and $\langle \hat{L}_y \rangle = 0$.

SQ26)

H.O. potential in cartesian coordinate:

$$U(x, y) = \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 (x^2 + y^2)$$

In plane polar coordinates:

$$U(r, \phi) = U(r) = \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 r^2, \text{ here we only consider } U(r)$$

For $E = 2\hbar\omega$, we know that in cartesian coordinate the possible eigenstates are $(n_x, n_y) = (1, 0)$ or $(0, 1)$ $\therefore E_{n_x, n_y} = (n_x + n_y + 1)\hbar\omega$

For $(n_x, n_y) = (1, 0)$,

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{10}(x, y) &= \psi_{10}(x) \psi_0(y) = \left[\left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \sqrt{2\alpha} x e^{-\alpha x^2/2} \right] \left[\left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} e^{-\alpha y^2/2} \right] \\ &= \alpha \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} x e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}(x^2 + y^2)} \end{aligned}$$

For $(n_x, n_y) = (0, 1)$, similarly we get

$$\psi_{01}(x, y) = \psi_0(x) \psi_1(y) = \alpha \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} y e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}(x^2 + y^2)}$$

Form the new eigenstate as $\psi_{\pm}(x, y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [\psi_{10}(x) \psi_0(y) \pm i \psi_0(x) \psi_1(y)]$!

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{\pm}(x, y) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\alpha \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} x e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}(x^2 + y^2)} \pm i \alpha \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} y e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}(x^2 + y^2)} \right] \\ &= \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}(x^2 + y^2)} (x \pm iy) \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore x = r \cos \phi, \quad y = r \sin \phi, \quad x^2 + y^2 = r^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \psi_{\pm}(r, \phi) &= \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2} r^2} (r \cos \phi \pm i r \sin \phi) \\ &= \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\pi}} r e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2} r^2} (\cos \phi \pm i \sin \phi) \end{aligned}$$

* Euler formula: $e^{\pm i\phi} = \cos \phi \pm i \sin \phi$!

$$\therefore \psi_+(r, \phi) = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\pi}} r e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2} r^2} e^{i\phi}$$

$$\psi_-(r, \phi) = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\pi}} r e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2} r^2} e^{-i\phi}$$

They are in the form $\psi(r, \phi) = R(r) \Phi(\phi)$!