

Exact expression for the projected energy

CHINDHU S WARKE

Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay 400005

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Abstract. The angle integrated exact expression for the projected energy is derived from two different expansions of the rotation operator. In one, the spin matrix polynomial expansion method is used while in the other the disentangling theorem for angular momentum operator is used.

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1. Introduction

The eigenvalue problem of a nuclear Hamiltonian with realistic interactions is a difficult one. In such a manybody problem one often aims at finding a good approximation to the exact solution. The straightforward method would be the diagonalization of the Hamiltonian (H) matrix in a given manybody basis states. The calculation of the H -matrix for anti-symmetric basis states of given angular momentum is not easy. Moreover, a prohibitively large basis set is required to study the low lying spectrum of H . This is because such a calculation amounts to the introduction of linear variational parameters in the trial wavefunction. It is well known that such variational wavefunction is not as effective as the one in which the dependence of the variational parameters is nonlinear. The projected Hartree-Fock (HF) or Hartree-Fock-Bogoliubov (HFB) trial wavefunction can have such variational parameters describing the nuclear shape. This powerful method is used in almost all the microscopic calculations of nuclear energy levels and their properties. Besides the numerical calculations there has been no attempt to find the exact angular momentum (J) dependence of the energy expression obtained from this method. Based on the observation of numerical results, Warke and Gunye (1967), and Warke and Khadkikar (1968) had derived the approximate form of the projected energy $E(J)$ as a function of J . This work was criticized by McDonald (1970). In a recent paper by Warke (1974) the exact expression of $E(J)$ was derived. There we developed a method of angular momentum projection operator based on the Lanczos algorithm, In the present paper we derive the functional form of $E(J)$ starting from the usual well-known projection operator used in numerical calculations.

2. Derivation

In this paper we follow the spin matrix polynomial expansion method of an arbitrary function of the spin matrix J_y . Such an expansion was developed by Williams

et al (1966) for fixed value J of the spin. However, this expansion is valid even if the spin takes a set of values say $(0, 2, \dots, J_m)$. From the eigen-values of J_y , a complete set of polynomials $W_{2S+1}(J_y)$ and $J_y W_{2S+1}(J_y)$ are constructed as follows

$$W_{2S+1}(x) = (x - S) \dots (x - 1) x (x + 1) \dots (x + S); \quad W_{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{x}.$$

The coefficients of expansion of a function can be calculated by evaluating the function at the successive zeros of the polynomials $W_{2S+1}(x)$. From this we obtain the expansion

$$\cos \beta J_y = \sum_0^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n 2^n}{(2n)!} (1 - \cos \beta)^n J_y W_{2n-1}^{(J_y)}. \quad (1)$$

In a manybody variational calculation one uses a trial wave function $\phi(\beta, \Delta_n, \Delta_p, a_i)$, where the deformation parameter β , the neutron and proton pairing gaps Δ_n and Δ_p and a_i are the variational parameters. Such a wavefunction in general is not an eigenfunction of the total angular momentum of all the nucleons. The required trial wave function Ψ^J can easily be constructed from ϕ by using the projection operator

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi^J &= \frac{(2J+1)}{8\pi^2} \int_0^{2\pi} d\alpha \int_0^{2\pi} d\gamma \int_0^{\pi} d\theta e^{-i\alpha J_z} e^{-i\theta J_y} e^{-i\gamma J_z} \phi_K D_{MK}^* (a, \theta, \gamma) \\ &\equiv P_{MK}^J \phi_K. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

With the axial symmetry restrictions on the nuclear shape variations, the angular momentum component on the nuclear symmetry axis is a constant of motion. We restrict our discussion to the case of even-even nuclei in which case the corresponding quantum number $K = 0$. The nuclear energy expression to be minimized is then given by

$$\begin{aligned} E_J(\beta, \Delta_p, \Delta_n, a_i) &= \langle \Psi^J | H | \Psi^J \rangle / \langle \Psi^J | \Psi^J \rangle \\ &= h_J / p_J. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

where

$$\begin{pmatrix} h_J \\ p_J \end{pmatrix} = \int_0^{\pi} d_{00}^J(\theta) \langle \phi | \begin{pmatrix} H \\ I \end{pmatrix} e^{-i\theta J_y} | \phi \rangle \sin \theta d\theta. \quad (4)$$

and I is an identity operator. In deriving the above expression for E_J the axial symmetry of ϕ and the rotational and time invariance of H are used. For even-even nuclei with axial symmetry it was proved by Warke and Gunye (1967) that ϕ has components corresponding to the even values of $J = 0, 2, \dots, J_m$. This allows one to replace $e^{-i\theta J_y}$ by $\cos \theta J_y$ in the integrand of eq. (4). As seen from the expansion of $\cos \beta J_y$ in eq. (1), the general integral to be evaluated is

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_0^{\pi} d_{00}^J(\theta) (1 - \cos \theta)^n \sin \theta d\theta \\ &= 2^{n+1} \int_0^1 y^n P_J(1 - 2y) dy \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

$$= \frac{2^{n+1}}{(n+1)} {}_3F_2(-J, J+1, n+1; 1, n+2; 1). \quad (6)$$

The function ${}_3F_2$ is the generalized hypergeometric series. It is to be noted that ${}_3F_2$ of the above arguments is a Saalschutsonian series. Therefore, from Saalschutz's theorem (Bateman 1953)

$${}_3F_2(-J, J+1, n+1; 1, n+2; 1) = \frac{(n-J+1, J)(1, J)}{(n+2, J)(-J, J)} \quad (7)$$

The appell symbol (a, n) is defined as follows,

$$(a, 0) = 1 \text{ and } (a, n) = a(a+1) \dots (a+n-1). \quad (8)$$

Using this result, it is easy to prove that

$$\int_0^\pi P_J(\cos \theta) (1 - \cos \theta)^n \sin \theta d\theta = \frac{2^{n+1}}{(n+1)} \frac{(n-J+1, J)}{(n+2, J)}. \quad (9)$$

We also used the result that J is an even integer. As expected this integral vanishes for $n < J$. Substituting this result in the expression for h_J and p_J , we obtain the exact angle integrated expression for E_J

$$E_J = \left[\sum_J^{J_m} \frac{(-1)^n 2^{2n}}{(2n)!} \frac{(n+1-J, J)}{(n+1)(n+2, J)} \langle \phi | H J_y W_{2n-1}(J_y) | \phi \rangle \right] / \left[\sum_J^{J_m} \frac{(-1)^n 2^{2n}}{(2n)!} \frac{(n+1-J, J)}{(n+1)(n+2, J)} \langle \phi | J_y W_{2n-1}(J_y) | \phi \rangle \right]. \quad (10)$$

The upper limit J_m for the series is derived from the observation that $W_{2n-1}(J_y)$ vanishes for $n > J_m$ (The maximum value of J contained in ϕ) in the infinite series expansion of $\cos \theta J_y$. The lower limit J on the series follows from the fact that $(n+1-J, J)$ vanishes for $n < J$.

Let us now use the disentangling theorem (Arecchi *et al* 1972) for the operator $e^{i\theta J_y}$ in eq. (4), instead of the expansion of $\cos \theta J_y$ in eq. (1).

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-i\theta J_y} &= e^{-\theta [J_+^{1/2} J_y (J_+^{-1/2} J_y)^{1/2}] / 2} \equiv \exp[-\theta (J_+ - J_-) / 2] \\ &= e^{t J_+} e^{i \log(1+t^2) J_z} e^{-t J_-} \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where

$$t = -\tan(\theta/2).$$

In order to carry out the integration in eq. (4), the following general expectation value is to be calculated first (the operator $O = H$ or I).

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \phi | O e^{-i\theta J_y} | \phi \rangle &= \langle \phi | O e^{t J_+} e^{i \log(1+t^2) J_z} e^{-t J_-} | \phi \rangle \\ &= \sum_0^{J_m} \frac{(-1)^n}{(n!)^2} \sin^{2n}(\theta/2) \langle \phi | O J_+^n J_-^n | \phi \rangle \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

In obtaining the last step, we used that the operator O is invariant under rotations; the state vector ϕ has the projection quantum number zero and has the components up to a maximum angular momentum J_m . From eq. (12) and the integration result in eq. (9), we obtain the second expression for E_J in eqs (3) and (4).

$$E_J = \left[\sum_J^{J_m} \frac{(-1)^n}{(n!)^2} \frac{(n-J+1, J)}{(n+1)(n+2, J)} \langle \phi | H J_+^n J_-^n | \phi \rangle \right] / \left[\sum_J^{J_m} \frac{(-1)^n}{(n!)^2} \frac{(n-J+1, J)}{(n+1)(n+2, J)} \langle \phi | J_+^n J_-^n | \phi \rangle \right]. \quad (13)$$

3. Conclusion

The angle integrated exact expression for the projected energy is derived using two different expansions of the rotation operator. In one, the spin matrix polynomial expansion method is used, while in the other the disentangling theorem for angular momentum operator is used. Neither of the two expressions of E_J so obtained have the same J dependence as that derived in the earlier work. All the expressions for E_J have different forms. This suggests that the construction of projection operator is not unique. This gives rise to the non-uniqueness in the J dependence of E_J . The simplest projection operator, which would also work for the $K \neq 0$ intrinsic state ϕ_K , can be taken as the polynomial in J^2 of degree N . It is assumed that there are N components of $J = K, K+1, \dots, K+N-1$ in ϕ_K . The N unknown coefficients in this polynomial are to be found from the conditions that this polynomial projects out the component corresponding to the angular momentum J . It is expected that the E_J so obtained would be similar to that derived from the Lanczos algorithm.

References

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