

# 9-10. Summary of lectures on rotational symmetry

$O(3)$  group: continuous rotations of a sphere

eigenstates of  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{am}}$  for motion in central potential form basis for representation of  $O(3)$

1e  $\psi_{\text{orb}}(x, y, z) \propto Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi)$  form  $(2l+1)$  dimensional rep<sup>m</sup>  $D^{(l)}$

$$R_z(\alpha) Y_l^m = e^{-im\alpha} Y_l^m \quad (\text{in natural basis})$$

multi-e  $R_z(\alpha) |L, m_L\rangle = e^{-im_L\alpha} |L, m_L\rangle$   
 form rep<sup>m</sup>  $D^{(L)}$

character  $\chi^{(L)}(\alpha) = \frac{\sin(L + \frac{1}{2})\alpha}{\sin \frac{\alpha}{2}}$  proper rot<sup>m</sup>

$$\chi^{(L)}(\bar{\alpha}) = \underbrace{(-1)^{\sum_i l_i}}_{\text{parity}} \chi(\alpha) \quad \text{improper rot<sup>m}}</sup>$$

Spin wavefn<sup>s</sup> can also form basis

$$R_z(\alpha) |S, m_S\rangle = e^{-im_S\alpha} |S, m_S\rangle \quad (\text{in natural basis})$$

if  $S = \frac{1}{2}$   $R(2\pi) |\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\rangle = e^{-i\frac{1}{2}2\pi} |\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\rangle = (-1) |\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\rangle$   
 change sign upon rot<sup>m</sup> by  $2\pi$

Conventional point groups do not capture full symmetry properties of half-integer spin wavefn, extra element

$$\bar{E} = R(2\pi) \quad \bar{E} \psi_{\text{spin}} = (-1)^{2S} \psi_{\text{spin}}$$

if Hamiltonian spherical  $\rightarrow$  lower symmetry p.s.  $G$

decompose  $D^{(J)}$  into irr.s of double group

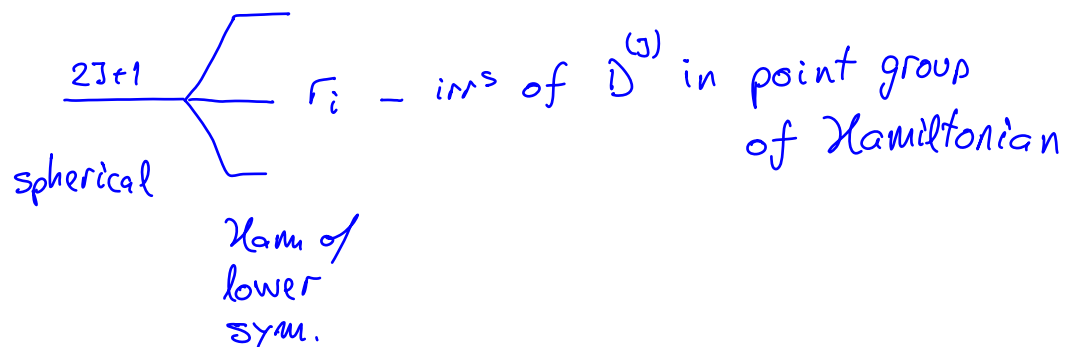
$$d-G = \{R, \bar{E}R\}$$

$\downarrow$   
operation of  $G$

in general

for given angular momentum  $J$

$|J, m_J\rangle$  form rep<sup>n</sup>  $D^{(J)}$



characters

$$\chi^{(J)}(\alpha) = \frac{\sin(J + \frac{1}{2})\alpha}{\sin \frac{\alpha}{2}}$$

if environment centrosymmetric

$$\chi^{(J)}(\bar{\alpha}) = \underbrace{(-1)^{\sum l_i}}_{\text{parity}} \chi(\alpha)$$

if half-odd  $J$ , use double group  $d-G$

$$\chi(\bar{E}\alpha) = (-1)^{2S} \chi(\alpha)$$

$$\chi(\bar{E}\bar{\alpha}) = (-1)^{2S} \chi(\bar{\alpha})$$

spin wavefn invariant under spatial inversion by def<sup>n</sup>

## Double Groups

Example,  $d-432$

| $d-432$        |   | [C]<br>same class [12] |           |        |                   |          |          |          |                 |             |
|----------------|---|------------------------|-----------|--------|-------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------------|-------------|
|                |   | $E$                    | $\bar{E}$ | $3[8]$ | $\bar{E}3$<br>[8] | $2_z[3]$ | $2_d[6]$ | $4_z[6]$ | $\bar{E}4_z[6]$ |             |
| Same as<br>432 | { | $\Gamma_1$ $A_1$       | 1         | 1      | 1                 | 1        | 1        | 1        | 1               | 1           |
|                |   | $\Gamma_2$ $A_2$       | 1         | 1      | 1                 | 1        | 1        | -1       | -1              | -1          |
|                |   | $\Gamma_3$ $E$         | 2         | 2      | -1                | -1       | 2        | 0        | 0               | 0           |
|                |   | $\Gamma_4$ $T_1$       | 3         | 3      | 0                 | 0        | -1       | -1       | 1               | 1           |
|                |   | $\Gamma_5$ $T_2$       | 3         | 3      | 0                 | 0        | -1       | 1        | -1              | -1          |
| new<br>i.r.'s  | { | $\Gamma_6$             | 2         | -2     | 1                 | -1       | 0        | 0        | $\sqrt{2}$      | $-\sqrt{2}$ |
|                |   | $\Gamma_7$             | 2         | -2     | 1                 | -1       | 0        | 0        | $-\sqrt{2}$     | $\sqrt{2}$  |
|                |   | $\Gamma_8$             | 4         | -4     | -1                | 1        | 0        | 0        | 0               | 0           |

A complete listing of double groups may be found in G.F. Koster et al, Properties of the Thirty-Two Point Groups (MIT Press, Cambridge MA, 1963)