

**PHY 745 Group Theory**  
**11-11:50 AM MWF Olin 102**

**Plan for Lecture 13:**

**Group properties of atomic orbitals and crystals**

**Reading: Chapter 5 in DDJ**

- 1. Correction: Cambell-Baker-Hausdorff equation**
- 2. Group properties of atomic orbitals**
- 3. Atomic orbitals in crystal fields**

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**Course schedule for Spring 2017**  
(Preliminary schedule -- subject to frequent adjustment.)

| Lecture date       | DDJ Reading | Topic                                    | HW  | Due date   |
|--------------------|-------------|--|-----|------------|
| 1 Wed: 01/11/2017  | Chap. 1     | Definition and properties of groups      | #1  | 01/20/2017 |
| 2 Fri: 01/13/2017  | Chap. 1     | Theory of representations                |     |            |
| Mon: 01/16/2017    |             | MLK Holiday - no class                   |     |            |
| 3 Wed: 01/18/2017  | Chap. 2     | Theory of representations                |     |            |
| 4 Fri: 01/20/2017  | Chap. 2     | Proof of the Great Orthogonality Theorem | #2  | 01/23/2017 |
| 5 Mon: 01/23/2017  | Chap. 3     | Notion of character of a representation  | #3  | 01/25/2017 |
| 6 Wed: 01/25/2017  | Chap. 3     | Examples of point groups                 | #4  | 01/27/2017 |
| 7 Fri: 01/27/2017  | Chap. 4 & 8 | Symmetry of vibrational modes            | #5  | 01/30/2017 |
| 8 Mon: 01/30/2017  | Chap. 4 & 8 | Symmetry of vibrational modes            | #6  | 02/01/2017 |
| 9 Wed: 02/01/2017  | Chap. 8     | Vibrational excitations                  | #7  | 02/03/2017 |
| 10 Fri: 02/03/2017 | Notes       | Continuous groups                        | #8  | 02/06/2017 |
| 11 Mon: 02/06/2017 | Notes       | Group of three-dimensional rotations     | #9  | 02/08/2017 |
| 12 Wed: 02/08/2017 | Notes       | Continuous groups                        | #10 | 02/10/2017 |
| 13 Fri: 02/10/2017 | Chap. 5     | Atomic orbitals                          | #11 | 02/14/2017 |
| 14 Mon: 02/13/2017 |             |  |     |            |
| 15 Wed: 02/15/2017 |             |  |     |            |

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**Correction to previous lecture notes**

Simplifying notation for spin-angular operators:  $\bar{J}_i \equiv J_i / \hbar$

Cambell-Baker-Hausdorff relation

$$e^{-ia_a \bar{J}_a} e^{-ia_b \bar{J}_b} = e^{-i(a_a \bar{J}_a + a_b \bar{J}_b - iF(a_1, a_2, \bar{J}_1, \bar{J}_2, [\bar{J}_1, \bar{J}_2]) )}$$

where  $F = \frac{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}{2} [\bar{J}_1, \bar{J}_2] + \frac{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}{12} (\alpha_1 [\bar{J}_1, [\bar{J}_1, \bar{J}_2]] - \alpha_2 [\bar{J}_2, [\bar{J}_1, \bar{J}_2]]) + \frac{\alpha_1^2 \alpha_2^2}{24} [\bar{J}_1, [\bar{J}_2, [\bar{J}_2, \bar{J}_1]]] + \dots$

Note that when the generators satisfy a commutation relation such as  $[\bar{J}_a, \bar{J}_b] = if_{abc} \bar{J}_c$ , the group multiplication property follows.

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Symmetry properties of electronic states in an atom

For a hydrogen atom:

$$H\Psi_{nlm}(\mathbf{r}) = E_{nl}\Psi_{nlm}(\mathbf{r})$$

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e}\nabla^2 - \frac{Ze^2}{r}$$

$$\Psi_{nlm}(\mathbf{r}) = R_{nl}(r)Y_{lm}(\hat{\mathbf{r}})$$

For a multi-electron atom in a mean-field approximation:

$$H\Psi_{nlm}(\mathbf{r}) = E_{nl}\Psi_{nlm}(\mathbf{r})$$

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e}\nabla^2 + V(r)$$

$$\Psi_{nlm}(\mathbf{r}) = R_{nl}(r)Y_{lm}(\hat{\mathbf{r}})$$

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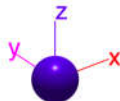
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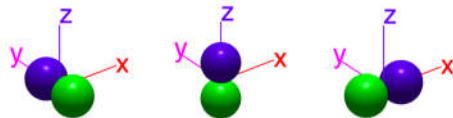
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Geometric forms of spherical harmonics (real forms)

$l=0$



$l=1$



<https://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/mlcdownloads/downloads/submissions/43856/versions/9/screenshot.jpg>

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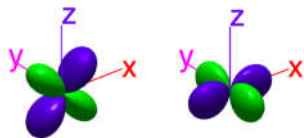
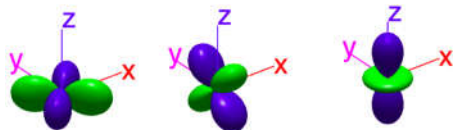
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Geometric forms of spherical harmonics (real forms)

$l=2$



<https://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/mlcdownloads/downloads/submissions/43856/versions/9/screenshot.jpg>

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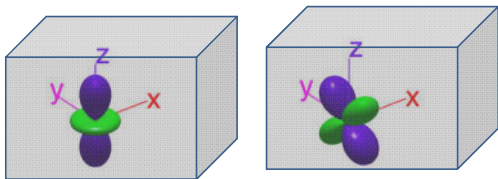
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Symmetry of a spherical atom

$$\Psi_{nlm}(\mathbf{r}) = R_{nl}(r)Y_{lm}(\hat{\mathbf{r}})$$

$\Rightarrow$  states have degeneracy of  $2l + 1$

What happens when that atom is placed in a lower symmetry environment?



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Symmetry of a spherical atom

$$\Psi_{nlm}(\mathbf{r}) = R_{nl}(r)Y_{lm}(\hat{\mathbf{r}})$$

$\Rightarrow$  states have degeneracy of  $2l + 1$

In terms of the spherical harmonic basis functions, the state have characters for rotation by an angle  $\alpha$  :

$$\chi^l(\alpha) = \frac{\sin\left[\alpha\left(l + \frac{1}{2}\right)\right]}{\sin(\alpha/2)}$$

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Using character tables to analyze the “crystal field” effects on atomic symmetry

The point symmetries are described by rotations, inversions, and reflections.

Rotation by an angle  $\alpha$  :

$$\chi^l(\alpha) = \frac{\sin\left[\alpha\left(l + \frac{1}{2}\right)\right]}{\sin(\alpha/2)}$$

Inversion  $\mathfrak{I}$ :

$$\text{Since } Y_{lm}(-\hat{\mathbf{r}}) = (-1)^l Y_{lm}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}), \quad \chi^l(\mathfrak{I}) = (2l + 1)(-1)^l$$

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Decomposition of the continuous rotation representations into irreducible representations of the crystallographic point group:

$$\chi(R) = \sum_i a_i \chi^i(R)$$

$$a_i = \frac{1}{h} \sum_k (\chi^i(R))^\ast \chi(R)$$

Example for the group  $O_h$  (48 group members)

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Compatibility of continuous rotation group with the cubic group:

| $\Gamma, R, H$  | E | $3C_4^2$ | $6C_4$ | $6C_2$ | $8C_3$ | J  | $3JC_4^2$ | $6JC_4$ | $6JC_2$ | $8JC_3$ |
|-----------------|---|----------|--------|--------|--------|----|-----------|---------|---------|---------|
| $\Gamma_1$      | 1 | 1        | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1  | 1         | 1       | 1       | 1       |
| $\Gamma_2$      | 1 | 1        | -1     | -1     | 1      | 1  | 1         | -1      | -1      | 1       |
| $\Gamma_{12}$   | 2 | 2        | 0      | 0      | -1     | 2  | 2         | 0       | 0       | -1      |
| $\Gamma_{15}^f$ | 3 | -1       | 1      | -1     | 0      | 3  | -1        | 1       | -1      | 0       |
| $\Gamma_{25}^f$ | 3 | -1       | -1     | 1      | 0      | 3  | -1        | -1      | 1       | 0       |
| $\Gamma_1^f$    | 1 | 1        | 1      | 1      | 1      | -1 | -1        | -1      | -1      | -1      |
| $\Gamma_2^f$    | 1 | 1        | -1     | -1     | 1      | -1 | -1        | 1       | 1       | -1      |
| $\Gamma_{12}^f$ | 2 | 2        | 0      | 0      | -1     | -2 | -2        | 0       | 0       | 1       |
| $\Gamma_{15}$   | 3 | -1       | 1      | -1     | 0      | -3 | 1         | -1      | 1       | 0       |
| $\Gamma_{25}$   | 3 | -1       | -1     | 1      | 0      | -3 | 1         | 1       | -1      | 0       |

|       |   |    |    |    |    |    |   |    |   |    |
|-------|---|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|---|----|
| $l=0$ | 1 | 1  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1  |
| $l=1$ | 3 | -1 | 1  | -1 | 0  | -3 | 1 | -1 | 1 | 0  |
| $l=2$ | 5 | 1  | -1 | 1  | -1 | 5  | 1 | -1 | 1 | -1 |

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| $\Gamma, R, H$  | E | $3C_4^2$ | $6C_4$ | $6C_2$ | $8C_3$ | J  | $3JC_4^2$ | $6JC_4$ | $6JC_2$ | $8JC_3$ |
|-----------------|---|----------|--------|--------|--------|----|-----------|---------|---------|---------|
| $\Gamma_1$      | 1 | 1        | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1  | 1         | 1       | 1       | 1       |
| $\Gamma_2$      | 1 | 1        | -1     | -1     | 1      | 1  | 1         | -1      | -1      | 1       |
| $\Gamma_{12}$   | 2 | 2        | 0      | 0      | -1     | 2  | 2         | 0       | 0       | -1      |
| $\Gamma_{15}^f$ | 3 | -1       | 1      | -1     | 0      | 3  | -1        | 1       | -1      | 0       |
| $\Gamma_{25}^f$ | 3 | -1       | -1     | 1      | 0      | 3  | -1        | -1      | 1       | 0       |
| $\Gamma_1^f$    | 1 | 1        | 1      | 1      | 1      | -1 | -1        | -1      | -1      | -1      |
| $\Gamma_2^f$    | 1 | 1        | -1     | -1     | 1      | -1 | -1        | 1       | 1       | -1      |
| $\Gamma_{12}^f$ | 2 | 2        | 0      | 0      | -1     | -2 | -2        | 0       | 0       | 1       |
| $\Gamma_{15}$   | 3 | -1       | 1      | -1     | 0      | -3 | 1         | -1      | 1       | 0       |
| $\Gamma_{25}$   | 3 | -1       | -1     | 1      | 0      | -3 | 1         | 1       | -1      | 0       |

|       |   |    |    |    |    |    |   |    |   |               |
|-------|---|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|---|---------------|
| $l=0$ | 1 | 1  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 1 | 1  | 1 | $\Gamma_1$    |
| $l=1$ | 3 | -1 | 1  | -1 | 0  | -3 | 1 | -1 | 1 | $\Gamma_{15}$ |
| $l=2$ | 5 | 1  | -1 | 1  | -1 | 5  | 1 | -1 | 1 | -1            |

$\Gamma_{12} + \Gamma_{25}$

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Visualization of  $l=2$  orbitals from  
[http://chemwiki.ucdavis.edu/Inorganic\\_Chemistry/Crystal\\_Field\\_Theory/Crystal\\_Field\\_Theory](http://chemwiki.ucdavis.edu/Inorganic_Chemistry/Crystal_Field_Theory/Crystal_Field_Theory)

$\Gamma_{12}$   $\Gamma_{25}$

Octahedral symmetry

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Octahedral symmetry effects on d-orbitals

$\Gamma_{12} = e_g$   $\Gamma_{25} = t_{2g}$

Energy diagram

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Tetrahedral symmetry effects on d-orbitals

$\Gamma_{12} = e$   $\Gamma_{25} = t_2$

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