Chem. 540 Instructor: Nancy Makri

Angular Momentum – Problem 4

Consider a particle moving on a sphere, with wavefunction in spherical polar coordinates given by

$$\Psi(\theta,\phi) = A \left\{ Y_{1,+1}(\theta,\phi) + Y_{1,-1}(\theta,\phi) \right\},\,$$

where Y_{lm} is the usual spherical harmonic.

a) Determine the value of A in order for Ψ to be normalized. (Notice that the individual spherical harmonics are normalized, so you don't need to evaluate tedious integrals.)

b) What will be the distribution of results corresponding to individual measurements of L^2 and L_z on many identically prepared systems?