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Models – Problem 6

Consider a quantum mechanical particle moving in two dimensions with the following Hamiltonian:

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{p}_x^2}{2m} + \frac{\hat{p}_y^2}{2m} + V(\hat{x}, \hat{y}),$$

where

$$V(\hat{x}, \hat{y}) = \frac{1}{2}m\omega_x^2 \hat{x}^2 + \frac{1}{2}m\omega_y^2 \hat{y}^2.$$

a) Sketch this potential and write out the energy eigenvalues for this system. Notice that you need two quantum numbers to specify each state. Are there degenerate levels?

b) Now suppose that $\omega_x = 2\omega_y$. Make a diagram of the six lowest energy states of the system, labeling the states and indicating the corresponding energy levels.