Equivalent non-rational extensions of the harmonic oscillator, their ladder operators, and coherent states

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Heisenberg-Weyl algebra

Let us take as H the harmonic oscillator Hamiltonian,

$$H = -\frac{1}{2}\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + \frac{1}{2}x^2,$$

whose eigenfunctions and eigenvalues are given by

$$\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2^n \sqrt{\pi n!}}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} H_n(x), \quad E_n = n + \frac{1}{2}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots,$$

where $H_n(x)$ is the Hermite polynomial of *n*-th degree. The first-order differential ladder operators

$$a^{-}=rac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left(rac{d}{dx}+x
ight),\quad a^{+}=rac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left(-rac{d}{dx}+x
ight),$$

factorize the oscillator Hamiltonian as $a^+a^- = H - \frac{1}{2}$ and $a^-a^+ = H + \frac{1}{2}$; they also generate the Lie algebra (Heisenberg-Weyl) $[H, a^{\pm}] = \pm a^{\pm}, \ [a^-, a^+] = \mathbb{I}$, which indicates that work as ladder operators.

Heisenberg-Weyl algebra



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Heisenberg-Weyl algebra



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Coherent States

The coherent states of the harmonic oscillator are given by

$$|z\rangle = e^{-rac{|z|^2}{2}}\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}rac{z^n}{\sqrt{n!}}\left|n
ight
angle.$$

These states can be derived from four definitions:

- 1. Eigenstates of the annihilaton operator, $a^{-} |z\rangle = z |z\rangle$.
- 2. They are obtained by applying the displacement operator $D(z) \equiv e^{za^+ z^*a^-}$ on the harmonic oscillator vacuum state, i.e. $|z\rangle = D(z) |0\rangle$.
- 3. They are states with minimum uncertainty relation for the position *q* and momentum *p* operators: $\langle \triangle q \rangle^2 \langle \triangle p \rangle^2 = \frac{1}{4}$.
- 4. They are an overcomplete set satisfying the completeness relation

$$rac{1}{\pi}\int_{\mathbb{C}}\ket{z}ig\langle z\ket{d^2z}=\mathbb{I}_{\mathbb{H}}.$$

Supersymmetric quantum mechanics

Let us suppose that *H* is an initial solvable Hamiltonian with eigenfunctions $\psi_n(x)$ and eigenvalues E_n , n = 0, 1, 2, ... It is assumed the following relations

 $\widetilde{H}B^+ = B^+H, \quad HB = B\widetilde{H}.$

where H, \tilde{H} are the two Schrödinger Hamiltonians

$$\widetilde{H}=-rac{1}{2}rac{d^2}{dx^2}+\widetilde{V}(x),\quad H=-rac{1}{2}rac{d^2}{dx^2}+V(x).$$

We suppose as well that *k* solutions of the Schrödinger equation

$$Hu_j = \epsilon_j u_j, \quad j = 1, 2, \ldots, k,$$

for *k* different factorization energies ϵ_j are given. Then, the SUSY partner potential \widetilde{V} will be given by

$$\widetilde{V} = V - [\ln W(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)]''.$$

The eigenfunctions of the Hamiltonian \hat{H} can be obtained via

$$\widetilde{\psi}_n \propto B^+ \psi_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2^k}} \frac{W(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k, \psi_n)}{W(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)},$$

with eigenvalue E_n .

The SUSY partner Hamiltonian \tilde{H} could have a finite number of additional eigenfunctions $\tilde{\psi}_{\epsilon_j}$, known as missing states, which corresponding eigenvalues are the factorization energies ϵ_j . They can be written as

$$\widetilde{\psi}_{\epsilon_j} \propto \frac{W(u_1,\ldots,u_{j-1},u_{j+1},\ldots,u_k)}{W(u_1,u_2,\ldots,u_k)}.$$

The intertwining operators B^+ , B satisfy as well the following factorizations:

$$B^+B=(\widetilde{H}-\epsilon_1)\ldots(\widetilde{H}-\epsilon_k), \quad BB^+=(H-\epsilon_1)\ldots(H-\epsilon_k).$$

Supersymmetric quantum mechanics



Supersymmetric quantum mechanics



Equivalent non-rational extensions of the harmonic oscillator and ladder operators

Let us first write down the general solution of the stationary Schrödinger equation for the harmonic oscillator Hamiltonian with energy parameter $\mathcal{E} = \lambda + 1/2$, as follows

$$u(x) = e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} [H_{\lambda}(x) + \gamma H_{\lambda}(-x)],$$

where γ is a real parameter.

Now, we will use two different BUT equivalent SUSY transformation to modify the harmonic oscillator Hamiltonian.

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Equivalent non-rational extensions of the harmonic oscillator and ladder operators



Equivalent non-rational extensions of the harmonic oscillator

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First SUSY transformation

Let us generate now a 2-SUSY partner potential $V^{(1)}$ of the harmonic oscillator. We employ the seed solutions

$$u_1^{(1)}(x) = e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} [H_{\lambda_1}(x) + \gamma H_{\lambda_1}(-x)], \quad u_2^{(1)}(x) = \varphi_1(x),$$

with factorization energies $-3/2 < \mathcal{E}_1 < 1/2$, and $\mathcal{E}_2 = \mathcal{E}_{-2} = -3/2$, respectively with $\lambda_1 = \mathcal{E}_1 - 1/2$. To obtain a nodeless Wronskian $W(u_1^{(1)}, u_2^{(1)})$ we must take $\gamma > 0$. The SUSY partner potential $V^{(1)}$ is

$$V^{(1)} = rac{x^2}{2} - [\ln W(u_1^{(1)}, u_2^{(1)})]''.$$

The intertwining operators $B^{(1)}$, $B^{(1)+}$ relate the Hamiltonian $H^{(1)}$ with the oscillator Hamiltonian in the way

$$H^{(1)}B^{(1)+} = B^{(1)+}H, \quad HB^{(1)} = B^{(1)}H^{(1)}.$$

Second SUSY transformation

We can obtain basically the same spectrum by deleting the first excited level and adding a new level at the right place. We will employ now the seed solutions

$$u_1^{(2)}(x) = \psi_1(x), \quad u_2^{(2)}(x) = e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}}[H_{\lambda_2}(x) + \gamma H_{\lambda_2}(-x)]$$

with factorization energies $\widetilde{\mathcal{E}}_1 = E_1$ and $\widetilde{\mathcal{E}}_2 = \mathcal{E}_1 + 2$, respectively, thus $E_0 < \widetilde{\mathcal{E}}_2 < E_2$, and $\lambda_2 = \lambda_1 + 2$. Moreover, we will take the same value of γ as in the previous SUSY transformation. The Wronskian $W(u_1^{(2)}, u_2^{(2)})$ can be written as

$$W(u_1^{(2)}, u_2^{(2)}) = e^{-x^2} W(x),$$

The SUSY partner potential can be expressed as

$$V^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2}x^2 + 2 - [\ln \mathcal{W}(x)]''.$$

Again, $B^{(2)}$, $B^{(2)+}$ intertwine the Hamiltonian $H^{(2)}$ with *H* as $H^{(2)}B^{(2)+} = B^{(2)+}H, \qquad HB^{(2)} = B^{(2)}H^{(2)}.$

Ladder Operators

Let us define now the operators:

$$\mathcal{L}^+ = B^{(1)+}B^{(2)}, \quad \mathcal{L}^- = B^{(2)+}B^{(1)}.$$

Since these operators fulfill the following commutation relations

$$\begin{split} [\widetilde{H}, \mathcal{L}^{\pm}] &= \pm 2\mathcal{L}^{\pm}, \\ [\mathcal{L}^{-}, \mathcal{L}^{+}] &= (\widetilde{H} + 2 - \mathcal{E}_{1})(\widetilde{H} + 2 - \mathcal{E}_{2})(\widetilde{H} + 2 - \widetilde{\mathcal{E}}_{1})(\widetilde{H} + 2 - \widetilde{\mathcal{E}}_{2}) \\ &- (\widetilde{H} - \mathcal{E}_{1})(\widetilde{H} - \mathcal{E}_{2})(\widetilde{H} - \widetilde{\mathcal{E}}_{1})(\widetilde{H} - \widetilde{\mathcal{E}}_{2}), \end{split}$$

they are in fact ladder operators that connect eigenstates whose energy levels differ by two energy units of \widetilde{H} . The operators \widetilde{H} , \mathcal{L}^- , \mathcal{L}^+ realize a polynomial Heisenberg algebra of third degree.

The kernel of the annihilation operator \mathcal{L}^- is generated by the functions

$$\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{L}^{-}} = \{ \widetilde{\psi}_{E_{-2}}, \widetilde{\psi}_{\epsilon}, \widetilde{\psi}_{1}, \mathcal{B}^{(1)+} \mathcal{U}_{2}^{(2)} \}.$$

Equivalent non-rational extensions of the harmonic oscillator and ladder operators



Diagram of the action of the two-step ladder operators $\mathcal{L}^-, \mathcal{L}^+$.

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Let us construct the Barut-Girardello coherent states in the standard way,

$$\mathcal{L}^{-}\left|z\right\rangle = z\left|z\right\rangle,$$

Recall that $[\widetilde{H}, \mathcal{L}^{\pm}] = \pm 2\mathcal{L}^{\pm}$, thus the Hilbert space \mathbb{H} can be decomposed as the direct sum of two infinite dimension subspaces (labelled by the index $\nu = -2$, 1, i.e., \mathbb{H}^{-2} and \mathbb{H}^{1} , respectively) plus the subspace \mathbb{H}^{ϵ} spanned by the single eigenstate $\widetilde{\psi}_{\epsilon}$.

After some math, the coherent states can be written as

$$\left|z^{\nu}\right\rangle = c_{0}\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{z}{4}\right)^{n} \sqrt{\frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{2\nu-2\epsilon+5}{4}\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{2\nu-2\epsilon+1}{4}\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{\nu+4}{2}\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{\nu+1}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{2\nu-2\epsilon+5}{4}+n\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{2\nu-2\epsilon+1}{4}+n\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{\nu+4}{2}+n\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{\nu+1}{2}+n\right)}} \left|\nu+2n\right\rangle,$$

where c_0 is the normalization constant given by

$$c_{0} = \left[{}_{1}F_{4}\left(1; \frac{2\nu - 2\epsilon + 5}{4}, \frac{2\nu - 2\epsilon + 1}{4}, \frac{\nu + 4}{2}, \frac{\nu + 1}{2}; \frac{|z|^{2}}{16}\right) \right]^{-1/2}.$$

Completeness relation

We can show that our coherent states they fulfill a completeness relation of the form

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}} \left| \boldsymbol{Z}^{\nu} \right\rangle \left\langle \boldsymbol{Z}^{\nu} \right| \mu(\boldsymbol{Z}) \boldsymbol{d}^{2} \boldsymbol{Z} = \mathbb{I}_{\mathbb{H}^{\nu}}$$

on each Hilbert subspace \mathbb{H}^{ν} spanned by the kets $|\nu + 2n\rangle$, where $\mu(z)$ is a positive definite measure function.

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Modulus of the scalar product $\langle z'^{\nu} | z^{\nu} \rangle$ of the coherent states $|z^{\nu}\rangle$ and $|z'^{\nu}\rangle$ for z' = 4 + i in the subspace with $\nu = -2$ (**up**), and $\nu = 1$ (**down**).



Mean energy values as function of |z| in both subspaces for $\epsilon = -\frac{1}{4}$ (up), and $\epsilon = -\frac{3}{4}$ (down).

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Temporal stability

By applying the time evolution operator, $U(t) = e^{-i\tilde{H}t}$, onto our coherent states, it is found the corresponding temporal evolution

$$U(t)\left|z^{\nu}\right\rangle = e^{-iE_{0,\nu}t}\left|\left(ze^{-i2t}\right)^{\nu}\right\rangle,$$

where $E_{0,\nu} = \nu + 1/2$. Up to global phase factor, they evolve in time into another coherent states in the same subspace. As a first indication of their non-classical behavior, it can be seen that the period of every cyclic evolution is $\tau = \pi$, half the period of the standard coherent states.

Time evolution of probability densities



Probability densities of the coherent states with $\epsilon = 0$, $\gamma = 2$. First: $\nu = -2$, z = 10; Second: $\nu = -2$, z = 10; Third: $\nu = 1$, z = 10; Fourth: $\nu = 1$, z = 100.

Wigner distributions



Wigner functions of the ground state $\tilde{\psi}_{E_2}$ (top left), the first excited state $\tilde{\psi}_{\epsilon}$ (top center), the second excited state $\tilde{\psi}_0$ (top left), coherent state with $\nu = -2$, z = 100 (bottom left), and the coherent state with $\nu = 1$, z = 100 (bottom right). The parameters employed are $\epsilon = 0$, $\gamma = 2$.

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Summary

We demonstrated that non-rational SUSY extensions of the harmonic oscillator have equivalent partners.

 Using this equivalence, we were able to find novel ladder operator for such extensions.

We constructed families of coherent states as eigenstates of the annihilation operator and studies its properties.

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