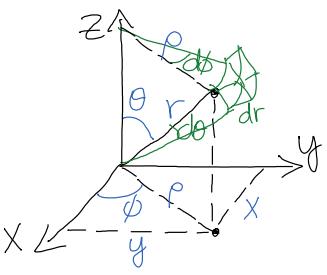


## L27-Curvilinear Laplacian Eigenfunctions

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### \* Curvilinear coordinates

cart	cyl	sph
$x = \rho \cos\phi$	$= r s_\theta c_\phi$	
$y = \rho \sin\phi$	$= r s_\theta s_\phi$	
$z = \rho$	$[z = r \cos\theta]$	
	$\rho = r s_\theta$	



$$\begin{aligned} d\tau &= dx dy dz \text{ [cart]} \\ &= d\rho \cdot \rho d\phi \cdot dz \text{ [cyl]} \\ &= dr \cdot r d\theta \cdot \rho d\phi \text{ [sph]} \\ &= \underline{h_1} d\underline{\rho} \cdot \underline{h_2} d\underline{\phi} \cdot \underline{h_3} d\underline{z} \end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla^2 = \frac{1}{h_1 h_2 h_3} \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial q^i} \left[ \frac{h_j h_k}{h_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial q^j} \right] \quad i, j, k \text{ cyclic}$$

$h_1 h_2 h_3$  = Jacobian (weight)

- The Laplacian is manifestly self-adjoint (Hermitian)!
- This gives us a Sturm-Liouville system for each co-ordinate
- Laplacian & free particle solutions:  $H\Psi = E\Psi$  or  $(\nabla^2 + k^2)\Psi = 0$  where  $E = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m}$

$$\nabla_{\text{cart}}^2 = \frac{\partial^2}{k_x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{k_y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{k_z^2}$$

$$\Psi = e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} = e^{ik_x x} e^{ik_y y} e^{ik_z z} \quad k^2 = k_x^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2$$

$$\nabla_{\text{cyl}}^2 = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{k_z^2}$$

$$\Psi = J_m(k_\rho \rho) e^{im\phi} e^{ik_z z} \quad k^2 = k_\rho^2 + k_z^2$$

$$\nabla_{\text{sph}}^2 = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2} \left[ \frac{1}{s_\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} s_\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \frac{1}{s_\theta^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right]$$

$$\Psi = j_l(k_r r) P_l^{ml}(s_\theta) e^{im\phi} \quad k^2 = k_r^2$$

- \* The following operators/eigenvalues are used to reduce these equations:  
Each of these is a Sturm-Liouville system with eigenvalues & quantization.

+ circular functions: linear ( $x, y, z$ ) and azimuthal ( $\phi$ ) waves:

$$\partial_x e^{ikx} = ik e^{ikx} \quad \text{or} \quad -\partial_x^2 \sin(kx) = k^2 \sin(kx)$$

(1st order!)

$$\int_0^b dx \sin(k_n x) \cdot \sin(k_m x) = \frac{b}{2} \delta_{mn}$$

$$\partial_\phi e^{im\phi} = im e^{im\phi} \quad \text{or} \quad -\partial_\phi^2 e^{im\phi} = m^2 e^{im\phi}$$

$$\int_0^{2\pi} d\phi e^{im\phi} e^{im'\phi} = 2\pi \delta_{mm'}$$

+ associated Legendre functions: polar ( $\theta$ ) waves (N to S pole)

$$\left[ -\frac{1}{s_\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} s_\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \frac{m^2}{s_\theta^2} \right] P_l^{ml}(s_\theta) = l(l+1) P_l^{ml}(s_\theta)$$

$$\int_0^\pi \sin \theta d\theta P_l^{ml}(s_\theta) P_{l'}^{m'l'}(s_\theta)$$

$$\text{or } \left[ -\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (1-x^2) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{m^2}{1-x^2} \right] P_l^{ml}(x) = l(l+1) P_l^{ml}(x)$$

$$= \int_1^1 dx P_l^{ml}(x) P_{l'}^{m'l'}(x) = \frac{2}{2l+1} \frac{(l+m)!}{(l-m)!}$$

+ Bessel functions : 2-d radial ( $\rho$ ) waves

$k_n \cdot b = \beta_{nm}$ , the  $n^{\text{th}}$  zero of  $J_m(x)$

$$\left[ -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} + \frac{m^2}{\rho^2} \right] J_m(k_{np}) = k_p^2 \cdot J_m(k_{np}) \quad \int_a^b \rho d\rho J_m(k_{np}) \cdot J_m(k_{np}) = \frac{b^2}{2} \delta_{nn'} J_m'^2(\beta_{nn'})$$

+ Spherical Bessel functions: 3-d radial (r) waves  $k_n \cdot b = \beta_{nl}$ ,  $n^{\text{th}}$  zero of  $j_l(x)$

$$\left[ \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} \right] j_l(k_r r) = k_r^2 j_l(k_r r) \quad \int_0^b r^2 dr j_l(k_n r) j_l(k_n r) = \frac{b^2}{2} \delta_{nn'} j_l'^2(\beta_{nl})$$

There are other radial functions, one set for each potential  $V(r)$ , but the angular functions are always the same [rotational symmetry].

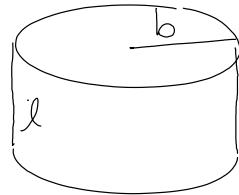
\* Summary of Sturm-Liouville systems: Hermitian operators & orthogonal functions:

$$L|n\rangle = |n\rangle \lambda \quad \frac{1}{w} \left( \frac{d}{dx} p \frac{df}{dx} - q \right) f_n(x) = \lambda f_n(x) \quad \langle n|n' \rangle = \int_a^b w dx f_n^*(x) f_{n'}(x) = \delta_{nn'} h_n$$

$f_n(x)$	index	$a$	$b$	$w dx$	$\frac{+P}{-P}$	$\frac{+q}{-q}$	$\frac{-\lambda}{\lambda}$	$h_n$	wave type
i) $e^{im\phi}$	$m \in \mathbb{Z}$	$0 < \phi < 2\pi$	$d\phi$	1	0	$m^2$	$2\pi$		(cyl. harmonics)
ii) $P_l^{(m)}(x)$ ( $C_\theta$ )	$l=0,1,2\dots$	$-1 < x < 1$	$dx$	$1-x^2$	$\frac{m^2}{1-x^2}$	$l(l+1)$	$\frac{2(l+m)!}{(2l+1)(l-m)!}$		(sph. harmonics, polar co-ords)
iii) $\sin(k_n x)$	$k_n = \frac{n\pi}{b}$	$0 < x < b$	$dx$	1	0	$k_n^2$	$\frac{b}{2}$		(linear wave)
iv) $J_m(k_n \rho)$	$k_n = \frac{\beta_{nm}}{b}$	$0 < \rho < b$	$\rho d\rho$	$\rho$	$\frac{m^2}{\rho}$	$k_n^2$	$\frac{b^2}{2} J_{m+1}^2(\beta_{nm})$		(circular wave)
v) $j_l(k_n r)$	$k_n = \frac{\beta_{nl}}{b}$	$0 < r < b$	$r^2 dr$	$r^2$	$\frac{l(l+1)}{r^2}$	$k_n^2$	$\frac{b^2}{2} j_{l+1}^2(\beta_{nl})$		(spherical wave)
vi) $Ai(x+x_n)$	$n=1,2,\dots$	$0 < x < \infty$	$dx$	1	$x$	$x_n$	$Ai'(x_n)^2$		(linear potential)
vii) $H_n(x)$	$n=0,1,2\dots$	$-\infty < x < \infty$	$e^{-x^2} dx$	$e^{-x^2}$	0	$2n$	$\sqrt{\pi} 2^n n!$		(1-d oscillator)
viii) $L_n^{(2)}(x)$	$n=0,1,2\dots$	$0 < x < \infty$	$x^l e^{-x} dx$	$x^{l+1} e^{-x}$	0	$n$	$\frac{\Gamma(l+1+n)}{n!}$		(Harmonic osc. Coulomb potential)

\* Example: Free particle confined to a cylinder

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left( \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \right) \psi = E \psi$$



let  $\Psi(p, \phi, z) = J_m(k_p p) e^{im\phi} \sin(k_z z)$  and  $E = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m}$ , where  $k^2 = k_p^2 + k_z^2$

$$z: \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \sin(k_z z) = -k_z^2 \sin(k_z z) \quad \Psi(p, \phi, 0) = \Psi(p, \phi, l) = 0$$

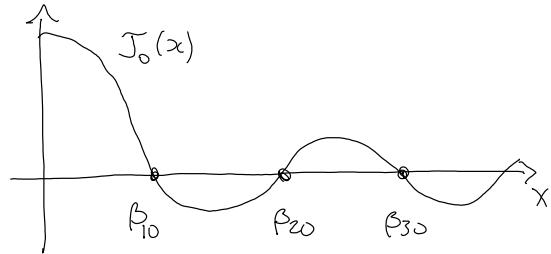
$$\sin(k_z 0) = 0 \quad \sin(k_z l) = 0 \Rightarrow k_z l = j\pi, \quad j = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$\phi: \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} e^{im\phi} = -m^2 e^{im\phi} \quad \Psi(p, 0, z) = \Psi(p, 2\pi, z) \quad e^{im0} = e^{im \cdot 2\pi} \Rightarrow m \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$p: \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial p^2} + \frac{1}{p} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} - \frac{m^2}{p^2} + k_p^2 \right) J_m(k_p p) \quad \text{let } x = k_p p$$

$$\left( \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + \frac{1}{x} \frac{d}{dx} - \frac{m^2}{x^2} + 1 \right) J_m(x) = 0$$

This is Bessel's equation,  
general solution:  $A J_m(x) + B Y_m(x)$



$Y_m(x)$  blows up at  $x=0 \rightarrow B=0$

$$\Psi(b, \phi, z) = 0 \quad J_m(k_{mn} b) = 0 \quad k_{mn} = \frac{\beta_{nm}}{b} \quad \beta_{nm} = n^{\text{th}} \text{ zero of } J_m(x)$$

$$\text{Thus } \Psi_{nmj}(p, \phi, z) = N J_m(k_{mn} p) e^{im\phi} \sin(k_j z) \quad E_{nmj} = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} \quad k^2 = k_{mn}^2 + k_j^2$$

$$\langle n'm'j' | nmj \rangle = |N|^2 \int_0^b p dp J_m(k_{nm} p) J_m(k_{n'm'} p) \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi e^{-im'\phi} e^{im\phi} \int_0^l dz \sin(k_j z) \sin(k_{j'} z) \\ = |N|^2 \cdot \delta_{nn} \frac{b^2}{2} J_{m+1}(k_{nm}) \cdot \delta_{mm'} 2\pi \cdot \delta_{jj'} \frac{l}{2} \Rightarrow N = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi b^2 l} J_{m+1}(k_{nm})}$$

$$\Psi(\vec{r}, t) = \sum_{nmj} c_{nmj} \Psi_{nmj}(p, \phi, z) e^{-i\omega t} \quad \text{where } c_{nmj} = \langle nmj | \Psi(\vec{r}, 0) \rangle$$