

Occupation Numbers for Spin States

The basis for the spin-angular-momentum quantum states of a single particle with spin $\frac{1}{2}$ consists of two orthonormal states: $|\uparrow\rangle$ and $|\downarrow\rangle$.

If there is more than one such particle, the basis of spin states can be expressed in terms of direct products of $|\uparrow\rangle$ and $|\downarrow\rangle$.

If the particles are identical bosons or identical fermions, a more convenient orthonormal basis consists of states $|n_\uparrow, n_\downarrow\rangle$ labeled by occupation numbers.

If the particles are identical bosons, n_\uparrow and n_\downarrow can be $0, 1, 2, \dots$

If the particles are identical fermions, n_\uparrow and n_\downarrow can be $0, 1$.

If there are N identical bosons or N identical fermions, the occupation numbers add up to N : $n_\uparrow + n_\downarrow = N$.

The state $|0, 0\rangle$ can be interpreted as the vacuum state $|\emptyset\rangle$.

The spin states for a single particle are $|1, 0\rangle = |\uparrow\rangle$ and $|0, 1\rangle = |\downarrow\rangle$.

If the two particles are identical bosons, the orthonormal basis consists of 3 states: $|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle), |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$.

A. Express each of these basis states as an occupation-number state $|n_\uparrow, n_\downarrow\rangle$.

$$|2, 0\rangle = |\uparrow\uparrow\rangle \quad |1, 1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle) \quad |0, 2\rangle = |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$$

If the two particles are identical fermions, the orthonormal basis consists of a single state: $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$.

B. Express this state as an occupation-number state $|n_\uparrow, n_\downarrow\rangle$.

$$|1, 1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$$

C. Write down the orthonormal basis of 4 spin states for 3 identical bosons in terms of direct products of $|\uparrow\rangle$ and $|\downarrow\rangle$.

$$|\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow\rangle \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(|\uparrow\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\uparrow\downarrow\uparrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\uparrow\rangle) \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(|\uparrow\downarrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\downarrow\uparrow\rangle) \quad |\downarrow\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$$

D. Express each of these basis states as an occupation-number state $|n_\uparrow, n_\downarrow\rangle$.

$$|3, 0\rangle \quad |2, 1\rangle \quad |1, 2\rangle \quad |0, 3\rangle$$

E. Write down the orthonormal basis of 5 spin states for 4 identical bosons in terms of occupation-number states $|n_\uparrow, n_\downarrow\rangle$.

$$|4, 0\rangle \quad |3, 1\rangle \quad |2, 2\rangle \quad |1, 3\rangle \quad |0, 4\rangle$$

The energies of the single-particle quantum states are

$$|\uparrow\rangle : \varepsilon, \quad |\downarrow\rangle : 0.$$

F. Assuming the particles are noninteracting, what is the energy of the occupation-number state $|n_\uparrow, n_\downarrow\rangle$?

$$n_\uparrow \cdot \varepsilon + n_\downarrow \cdot 0 = n_\uparrow \varepsilon$$

The density matrix for 2 identical bosons in the canonical ensemble with temperature $T = 1/\beta$ is

$$\hat{\rho} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\beta\varepsilon} + e^{-2\beta\varepsilon}} \left(|\downarrow\downarrow\rangle\langle\downarrow\downarrow| + e^{-\beta\varepsilon} \frac{1}{2} (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle) (\langle\uparrow\downarrow| + \langle\downarrow\uparrow|) + e^{-2\beta\varepsilon} |\uparrow\uparrow\rangle\langle\uparrow\uparrow| \right).$$

G. Express this density matrix in terms of occupation-number states.

$$\hat{\rho} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\beta\varepsilon} + e^{-2\beta\varepsilon}} \left(|0,2\rangle\langle 0,2| + e^{-\beta\varepsilon} |1,1\rangle\langle 1,1| + e^{-2\beta\varepsilon} |2,0\rangle\langle 2,0| \right)$$

H. Write down the density matrix for 3 identical bosons in the canonical ensemble in terms of occupation-number states.

$$\hat{\rho} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\beta\varepsilon} + e^{-2\beta\varepsilon} + e^{-3\beta\varepsilon}} \left(|0,3\rangle\langle 3,0| + e^{-\beta\varepsilon} |1,2\rangle\langle 1,2| + e^{-2\beta\varepsilon} |2,1\rangle\langle 2,1| + e^{-3\beta\varepsilon} |3,0\rangle\langle 3,0| \right)$$

The density matrix for identical fermions in the grand canonical ensemble with temperature $T = 1/\beta$ and chemical potential μ is

$$\hat{\rho} = \frac{1}{(1 + e^{\beta\mu})(1 + e^{\beta\mu - \beta\varepsilon})} \times \left(|\emptyset\rangle\langle\emptyset| + e^{\beta\mu - \beta\varepsilon} |\uparrow\rangle\langle\uparrow| + e^{\beta\mu} |\downarrow\rangle\langle\downarrow| + e^{2\beta\mu - \beta\varepsilon} \frac{1}{2} (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle) (\langle\uparrow\downarrow| - \langle\downarrow\uparrow|) \right).$$

I. Verify that $\text{Tr}[\hat{\rho}] = 1$.

$$\text{Tr}[\hat{\rho}] = \frac{1}{(1 + e^{\beta\mu})(1 + e^{\beta\mu - \beta\varepsilon})} \left[1 + e^{\beta\mu - \beta\varepsilon} + e^{\beta\mu} + e^{2\beta\mu - \beta\varepsilon} \right] = 1$$

J. Express this density matrix in terms of occupation-number states.

$$\hat{\rho} = \frac{1}{(1 + e^{\beta\mu})(1 + e^{\beta\mu - \beta\varepsilon})} \left[|0,0\rangle\langle 0,0| + e^{\beta\mu - \beta\varepsilon} |1,0\rangle\langle 1,0| + e^{\beta\mu} |0,1\rangle\langle 0,1| + e^{2\beta\mu - \beta\varepsilon} |1,1\rangle\langle 1,1| \right]$$