

# Chapter 15

## The Addition of Angular Momentum

Suppose we have two electrons;

$$[S_{1i}, S_{1j}] = \epsilon_{ijk} \hbar S_{1k} \quad (1)$$

$$[S_{2i}, S_{2j}] = \epsilon_{ijk} \hbar S_{2k}$$

Also  $[\vec{S}_1, \vec{S}_2] = 0 \quad (2)$

Let us now define  $\vec{S} = \vec{S}_1 + \vec{S}_2 \quad (3)$  Total spin

$$\begin{aligned} [S_x, S_y] &= [S_{1x} + S_{2x}, S_{1y} + S_{2y}] = [S_{1x}, S_{1y}] + [S_{1x}, S_{2y}] + 0 + 0 \\ &= \hbar (S_{1z} + S_{2z}) = \hbar S_z \quad (4) \end{aligned}$$

In general  $[S_i, S_j] = \epsilon_{ijk} \hbar S_k \quad (5)$

We are therefore justified in calling  $\vec{S}$  the total spin.

The eigenvalues and eigenfunc. of  $S^2$  and  $S_z$ :

If  $\chi_{\pm}^{(1)}$  : the spinors of the first electron  
and  $\chi_{\pm}^{(2)}$  : " " " " " second "

$$S_1^2 \chi_{\pm}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} + 1\right) \hbar^2 \chi_{\pm}^{(1)}$$

$$S_{1z} \chi_{\pm}^{(1)} = \pm \frac{1}{2} \hbar \chi_{\pm}^{(1)} \quad (6)$$

and  $S_2^2 \chi_{\pm}^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} + 1\right) \hbar^2 \chi_{\pm}^{(2)}$

$$S_{2z} \chi_{\pm}^{(2)} = \pm \frac{1}{2} \hbar \chi_{\pm}^{(2)} \quad (7)$$

The two-spin system actually has 4-states, they are

$$\chi_+^{(1)} \chi_+^{(2)}, \chi_+^{(1)} \chi_-^{(2)}, \chi_-^{(1)} \chi_+^{(2)}, \chi_-^{(1)} \chi_-^{(2)} \quad (8)$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_z (\chi_{\pm}^{(1)} \chi_{\pm}^{(2)}) &= (S_{1z} + S_{2z}) (\chi_{\pm}^{(1)} \chi_{\pm}^{(2)}) \\ &= (S_{1z} \chi_{\pm}^{(1)}) \chi_{\pm}^{(2)} + \chi_{\pm}^{(1)} (S_{2z} \chi_{\pm}^{(2)}) \\ &= \left(\pm \frac{\hbar}{2} \pm \frac{\hbar}{2}\right) \chi_{\pm}^{(1)} \chi_{\pm}^{(2)} \quad (9) \end{aligned}$$

eigenvalue
eigenfunc.

that is  $S_z (\chi_+^{(1)} \chi_+^{(2)}) = \hbar (\chi_+^{(1)} \chi_+^{(2)})$

$$S_z (\chi_+^{(1)} \chi_-^{(2)}) = 0$$

$$S_z (\chi_-^{(1)} \chi_+^{(2)}) = 0$$

$$S_z (\chi_-^{(1)} \chi_-^{(2)}) = -\hbar (\chi_-^{(1)} \chi_-^{(2)}) \quad (10)$$

One might expect that one linear combination of them will form an  $S=1$  state, to form a triplet with  $m=1$  and  $m=-1$  states, and the orthogonal combination will form a singlet  $S=0$  state.

To check this expectation, let us construct the lowering op.

$$S_- = S_{1-} + S_{2-} \quad (11)$$

and apply this to  $m=1$  state

$$\begin{aligned} S_- \chi_+^{(1)} \chi_+^{(2)} &= (S_{1-} \chi_+^{(1)}) \chi_+^{(2)} + \chi_+^{(1)} (S_{2-} \chi_+^{(2)}) \\ &= \frac{1}{\hbar} \chi_-^{(1)} \chi_+^{(2)} + \hbar \chi_+^{(1)} \chi_-^{(2)} = \sqrt{2} \frac{\chi_+^{(1)} \chi_-^{(2)} + \chi_-^{(1)} \chi_+^{(2)}}{\sqrt{2}} \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

where we have used  $S_-^{(i)} \chi_+^{(i)} = \hbar \chi_-^{(i)}$  (13)

which can be established by noting that:

$$\frac{1}{2} \hbar \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - i \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right] \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\hbar} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (14)$$

The combination in (12) has been normalized, and the factor  $\sqrt{2} \hbar$  agrees with what one would expect from;

$$L_{\pm} Y_{\ell}^m = \sqrt{\ell(\ell+1) - m(m\pm 1)} \hbar Y_{\ell}^{m\pm 1}$$

replaced by  $\rightarrow S_{\pm} \chi_s^{m_s} = \sqrt{S(S+1) - m_s(m_s\pm 1)} \hbar \chi_s^{m_s\pm 1}$  (15)

with  $S=1, m_s=1$

Then  $\chi_1^0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\chi_+^{(1)} \chi_-^{(2)} + \chi_-^{(1)} \chi_+^{(2)})$  (16)

Now using  $S_-^{(1)} \chi_-^{(1)} = 0$  (17)

We get ;  $S_- \chi_1^0 = \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} (\chi_+^{(1)} \chi_-^{(2)} + \chi_-^{(1)} \chi_+^{(2)}) = \sqrt{2} \hbar \chi_-^{(1)} \chi_-^{(2)}$

$$\chi_1^{-1} = \chi_-^{(1)} \chi_-^{(2)} \quad (18)$$

Also  $\chi_1^1 = \chi_+^{(1)} \chi_+^{(2)}$  (20)

The remaining state (orthogonal to (16)) ;

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\chi_+^{(1)} \chi_-^{(2)} - \chi_-^{(1)} \chi_+^{(2)}) \quad (21)$$

Because it has no patterns, we conjecture that it is an  $S=0$  state.

$$\chi_0^0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\chi_+^{(1)} \chi_-^{(2)} - \chi_-^{(1)} \chi_+^{(2)}) \quad (22)$$

Let us check it ;

$$\begin{aligned} S^2 &= (S_1 + S_2)^2 = S_1^2 + S_2^2 + 2S_1 \cdot S_2 \\ &= S_1^2 + S_2^2 + (2S_{1z}S_{2z} + S_{1+}S_{2-} + S_{1-}S_{2+}) \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

$$S_1^2 \chi_1^0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (S_1^2 \chi_+^{(1)} \chi_-^{(2)} + S_1^2 \chi_-^{(1)} \chi_+^{(2)}) = \frac{3}{4} \hbar^2 \chi_1^0$$

$$S_1^2 \chi_0^0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} ( \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad ) = \frac{3}{4} \hbar^2 \chi_0^0 \quad (24)$$

Similarly:  $S_2^2 \chi_1^0 = \frac{3}{4} \hbar^2 \chi_1^0$  (25)

$$S_2^2 \chi_0^0 = \hbar^2 \chi_0^0$$

Next;  $2S_{1z}S_{2z} \chi_1^0 = -\frac{1}{2} \hbar^2 \chi_1^0$

$$2S_{1z}S_{2z} \chi_0^0 = -\frac{1}{2} \hbar^2 \chi_0^0 \quad (26)$$

Finally;  $(S_{1+}S_{2-} + S_{1-}S_{2+}) \chi_1^0 =$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (S_{1+} \chi_+^{(1)} S_{2-} \chi_-^{(2)} + S_{1-} \chi_+^{(1)} S_{2+} \chi_-^{(2)} \\ &\quad + S_{1+} \chi_-^{(1)} S_{2-} \chi_+^{(2)} + S_{1-} \chi_-^{(1)} S_{2+} \chi_+^{(2)}) = +\hbar^2 \chi_1^0 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly  $(S_{1+}S_{2-} + S_{1-}S_{2+}) \chi_0^0 = -\hbar^2 \chi_0^0$  (27)

$$\rightarrow S^2 \chi_1^0 = \hbar^2 [1(1+1)] \chi_1^0$$

$$S^2 \chi_0^0 = \hbar^2 \underbrace{[0(0+1)]}_{S(S+1)} \chi_0^0 = 0 \quad (28)$$

Then we have

$$\text{singlet state } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \chi_0^0 \\ \chi_0^0 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\text{triplet states } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \chi_1^1 \\ \chi_1^0 \\ \chi_1^{-1} \end{array} \right. \quad (29)$$

Spin-dop. forces:

$$V = V(\vec{r}, \vec{S}) \quad (30)$$

In this case the eigenfunes of individual spins are no longer simultaneous eigenfunes. of

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} H \\ \text{and say } S_1^2, S_{1z}, S_2^2, S_{2z} \end{array} \right. \quad (31)$$

but they may be simultaneous eigenfunes. of

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} H \\ \text{and } S^2, S_z, S_1^2, S_2^2 \end{array} \right. \quad (32)$$

Ex.

$$V(r) = V_1(r) + \frac{1}{\hbar^2} \mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2 V_2(r) \quad (33)$$

Obviously  $[\mathbf{S}_{1z}, \mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2] \neq 0$   $[\mathbf{S}_{2z}, \mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2] \neq 0$  (34)

Note that  $\mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2 = S_{1x} S_{2x} + S_{1y} S_{2y} + S_{1z} S_{2z}$  (35)

→  $\{H, S_{1z}, S_{2z}\}$  do not form a complete set of observables.

→ The eigenstates of  $H$  cannot be simple product of  $X_{\pm}^{(1)}$  and  $X_{\pm}^{(2)}$ .

However;  $\mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2 = \frac{1}{2} (S^2 - S_1^2 - S_2^2)$  (36)

Since  $[S^2, S_1^2] = 0$   $[S^2, S_2^2] = 0$   $[S_1^2, S_2^2] = 0$  (37)

→  $[H, S^2] = 0$   $[H, S_1^2] = 0$   $[H, S_2^2] = 0$  (38)

→  $\{H, S^2, S_1^2, S_2^2\}$  form a complete set of observables

→ They have simultaneous eigenfunc.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Remark: } [S^2, S_1^2] = [S_1^2 + S_2^2 + 2\mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2, S_1^2] \\ = 0 + 0 + 2[S_1, S_1^2] \cdot \mathbf{S}_2 = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\left[ V_1(r) + \frac{1}{4} S_1 \cdot S_2 V_2(r) \right] \Psi = \left[ V_1(r) + \frac{1}{2} V_2(r) \left[ S(S+1) - \frac{3}{2} \right] \right] \Psi$$

$\uparrow$  eigenfunc.     $\downarrow$  op.     $\downarrow$  op.     $\downarrow$  eigenvalue (3a)

$$\rightarrow V(r) = V_1(r) + \frac{1}{4} V_2(r) \times \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } S=1 \\ -3 & \text{, } S=0 \end{cases} \quad (40)$$

Such a spin-dop. pot. is actually observed in the n-p system.

The bound state :  $S=1$  (deuteron)

Unbound :  $S=0$  (only possible if  $V_2(r) \neq 0$ )

Addition of Ang. Mom. :

$$[S, L] = 0 \quad (41)$$

$$\vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S} \quad (42)$$

$$(41)(42) \rightarrow [J_i, J_j] = \epsilon_{ijk} \hbar J_k \quad (43)$$

Question: What is the linear combination of  $Y_l^m$  and

$X_{\pm}$  that form eigenstates of  $J_z = L_z + S_z$  (44)



Let us consider the linear combination;

$$Y_j^{m+\frac{1}{2}} = Y_{j, m+\frac{1}{2}} = \alpha Y_l^m X_+ + \beta Y_l^{m+1} X_- \quad (45)$$

It is by construction, an eigenfunc. of  $J_z$  with eigenvalue  $(m+\frac{1}{2})\hbar$ .

We now determine  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  such that it is also eigenfunc. of  $J^2$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We know, } L_+ Y_l^m &= \sqrt{l(l+1) - m(m+1)} \hbar Y_l^{m+1} \\ &= \sqrt{(l-m+1)(l+m)} \hbar Y_l^{m+1} \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

$$L_- Y_l^m = \sqrt{(l-m+1)(l+m)} \hbar Y_l^{m-1} \quad (47)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Also } S_+ X_+ &= 0 & S_- X_- &= 0 & (48) \\ S_+ X_- &= \hbar X_+ \\ S_- X_+ &= \hbar X_- & (49) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Since } J^2 = L^2 + S^2 + 2L \cdot S = L^2 + S^2 + 2L_z S_z + L_+ S_- + L_- S_+$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow J^2 Y_j^{m+\frac{1}{2}} &= \alpha \hbar^2 \left\{ l(l+1) Y_l^m X_+ + \frac{3}{4} Y_l^m X_+ + 2m\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) Y_l^m X_+ \right. \\ &+ \left. \sqrt{(l-m)(l+m+1)} Y_l^{m+1} X_- \right\} + \beta \hbar^2 \left\{ l(l+1) Y_l^{m+1} X_- + \frac{3}{4} Y_l^{m+1} X_- \right. \\ &+ \left. 2(m+1)\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) Y_l^{m+1} X_- + \sqrt{(l-m)(l+m+1)} Y_l^m X_+ \right\} \quad (50) \end{aligned}$$

This will be of the form

$$\hbar^2 j(j+1) \psi_j^{m+\frac{1}{2}} = \hbar^2 j(j+1) (\alpha Y_e^m \chi_+ + \beta Y_e^{m+1} \chi_-) \quad (51)$$

provided that;

$$\alpha \left[ l(l+1) + \frac{3}{4} + m \right] + \beta \sqrt{(l-m)(l+m+1)} = j(j+1) \alpha$$

$$\beta \left[ l(l+1) + \frac{3}{4} - m - 1 \right] + \alpha \sqrt{(l-m)(l+m+1)} = j(j+1) \beta \quad (52)$$

This requires that;  $\det = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} (l-m)(l+m+1) &= \left[ j(j+1) - l(l+1) - \frac{3}{4} - m \right] \\ &\quad \cdot \left[ j(j+1) - l(l+1) - \frac{3}{4} + m + 1 \right] \quad (53) \end{aligned}$$

$$\rightarrow j(j+1) - l(l+1) - \frac{3}{4} = l \quad (54)$$

Now let  $l \rightarrow -l-1$  in (53) (a check)

$$\begin{aligned} (-l-1-m)(-l-1+m+1) &= \left[ j(j+1) - l(l+1) - \frac{3}{4} - m \right] \\ &\quad \cdot \left[ j(j+1) - l(l+1) - \frac{3}{4} + m + 1 \right] \quad (55) \end{aligned}$$

$$\rightarrow j(j+1) - l(l+1) - \frac{3}{4} = -l-1 \quad (56)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (54) \\ (56) \end{aligned} \rightarrow j = \begin{cases} l - \frac{1}{2} \\ l + \frac{1}{2} \end{cases} \quad (57)$$

For  $j = l + \frac{1}{2}$

$$(52) \rightarrow \alpha = \sqrt{\frac{l+m+1}{2l+1}} \quad \beta = \sqrt{\frac{l-m}{2l+1}} \quad (58)$$

Actually we just get the ratios; these are already the normalized forms

$$\text{i.e. } \alpha^2 + \beta^2 = 1 \quad (59)$$

$$\rightarrow \psi_{l+\frac{1}{2}}^{m+\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{l+m+1}{2l+1}} Y_l^m \chi_+ + \sqrt{\frac{l-m}{2l+1}} Y_l^{m+1} \chi_- \quad (60)$$

We can guess that for  $j = l - \frac{1}{2}$ ;

$$\psi_{l-\frac{1}{2}}^{m+\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{l-m}{2l+1}} Y_l^m \chi_+ - \sqrt{\frac{l+m+1}{2l+1}} Y_l^{m+1} \chi_- \quad (61)$$

in order to be orthogonal to the  $j = l + \frac{1}{2}$  sol.

General feature:

If we have the eigenstates

$$Y_{l_1, m_1}^{(1)} \quad \text{of } L_1^2 \text{ and } L_{1z} \quad (62)$$

$$Y_{l_2, m_2}^{(2)} \quad ; \quad L_2^2 = L_{2z}$$

We can form;

$$Y_{l_1 m_1}^{(1)} Y_{l_2 m_2}^{(2)} \quad (2l_1+1)(2l_2+1) - \text{m number} \quad (63)$$

where  $-l_1 \leq m_1 \leq l_1$   $-l_2 \leq m_2 \leq l_2$  (64)

These may be classified by the eigenvalue of

$$J_z = L_{1z} + L_{2z} \quad (65)$$

which is  $m_1 + m_2 \equiv m$

$$-(l_1 + l_2) \leq m \leq l_1 + l_2 \quad (66)$$

Now for  $m_1 = l_1$ ,  $m_2 = l_2$

$$J^2 Y_{l_1 l_1}^{(1)} Y_{l_2 l_2}^{(2)} = (L_1^2 + L_2^2 + 2L_{1z}L_{2z} + L_{1+}L_{2-} + L_{1-}L_{2+}) Y_{l_1 l_1}^{(1)} Y_{l_2 l_2}^{(2)} \quad (67)$$

$$= \hbar^2 [l_1(l_1+1) + l_2(l_2+1) + 2l_1 l_2] Y_{l_1 l_1}^{(1)} Y_{l_2 l_2}^{(2)}$$

$$= \hbar^2 \underbrace{(l_1 + l_2)}_j \underbrace{(l_1 + l_2 + 1)}_j Y_{l_1 l_1}^{(1)} Y_{l_2 l_2}^{(2)} \quad (68)$$

Remark:  
 $Y_{l, m}^{(1)} \equiv |l, m\rangle$

Successive application of

$$J_- = L_{1-} + L_{2-} \quad (69)$$

will produce a linear combination of  $Y_{l_1}^{(1)}, Y_{l_2}^{(2)}$  with different  $m_1$  and  $m_2$ .

Some results for decomposition of Ang. Mom. Ops.:

a) The products  $Y_{l_1 m_1}^{(1)} Y_{l_2 m_2}^{(2)}$  can be decomposed into eigenstates of  $J^2$  with eigenvalues  $j(j+1)\hbar^2$ , where

$$|l_1 - l_2| \leq j \leq l_1 + l_2 \quad (70)$$

b) In general

$$|j m\rangle = \Psi_{jm} = \sum_{m_1, m_2} \langle l_1 m_1, l_2 m_2 | j m \rangle Y_{l_1 m_1}^{(1)} Y_{l_2 m_2}^{(2)} \quad (71)$$

$$m_1 + m_2 = m \quad (72) \quad \text{Clebsch-Gordan series}$$

For each  $j$  we have  $(2j+1)$ -states

$$(70) \rightarrow \text{The total number of states} = [2(l_1 + l_2) + 1] + [2(l_1 + l_2 - 1) + 1] + \dots + [2(l_1 - l_2) + 1]$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{2l_2} [2(l_1 - l_2 + n) + 1]$$

$$= (2l_1 + 1)(2l_2 + 1) \quad (73) \quad \text{for } l_1 \geq l_2$$

where we have used  $\sum_{n=0}^{2k} n = \frac{2k}{2} (0 + 2k) + \frac{2k}{2} = k(2k+1)$  ↙ mid term

$$\sum_{n=0}^{2k} (n + \alpha) = \frac{2k}{2} [(0 + \alpha) + (2k + \alpha)] + \left(\frac{2k}{2} + \alpha\right) = (k + \alpha)(2k + 1)$$

↙ mid term

A final comment is in order -

For fermions:  $\Psi(\bar{x}_1, \bar{\sigma}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_n, \bar{\sigma}_n)$  is antisymmetric under the interchange of two particles.

For a system of two identical spin  $\frac{1}{2}$  particles,

The  $S=1$  triplet states  $\begin{cases} \chi_{11}^+ \\ \chi_{10}^0 \\ \chi_{11}^- \end{cases}$  symmetric under spin label interchange

The  $S=0$  singlet state  $\begin{cases} \chi_0^0 \end{cases}$  antisymmetric under spin label interchange

→ The spacial wave func.  $\begin{cases} \text{antisymmetric for } \underline{\text{triplet}} \text{ states} \\ \text{symmetric} = \underline{\text{singlet}} \text{ state} \end{cases}$

The spacial wave func of 2-particle system in C.M. system:

$$U(r) = R_{n\ell m}(r) Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \varphi) \quad (7.61)$$

An interchange of the coordinates of two particles is equivalent to the charge;

$$\begin{aligned}
 r &\longrightarrow r \\
 \theta &\longrightarrow \pi - \theta \quad (75) \\
 \varphi &\longrightarrow \varphi + \pi
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\rightarrow Y_{lm}(0, \varphi) \rightarrow Y_{lm}(\pi - \theta, \varphi + \pi) = (-1)^l Y_{lm}(0, \varphi)$$

$$\text{but } R_{n, l, m}(r) \rightarrow R_{n, l, m}(r) \quad (76) \quad (77)$$

Thus for triplet states :  $l$  odd  
 and singlet :  $l$  even (78)

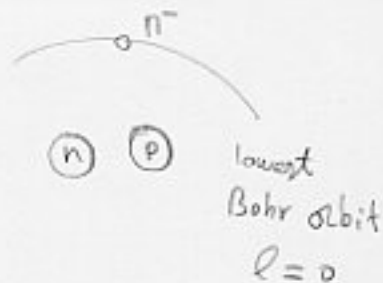
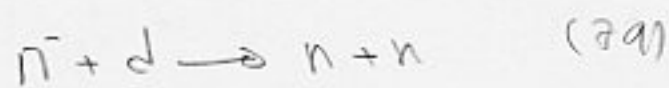
The Parity of Pion:

We know spin of pion  $S_p = 0$

and also intrinsic parity of proton and neutron = +

consider a capture of pion by deuteron (n-p).

A slow pion in liquid deuterium (atom) loses energy by a variety of mechanism, till it finally ends up in the lowest Bohr orbit about the (p-n) nucleus and it is captured through the action of the nuclear forces.



In this reaction the ang. mom. is  $j=1$

$$S_p = 0 \quad l_n = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad j = 1 \quad (\text{left hand side})$$

$$j_d = 1 \quad (80)$$

a) If  $S_{nn} = 0$  The spin of two neutrons

$$\rightarrow l_{nn} = 1 \quad (81)$$

b) If  $S_{nn} = 1 \quad \rightarrow \quad l_{nn} = 0, 1, 2 \quad (82)$

However, (78)  $\rightarrow l = \text{even}$  for singlet state

$\rightarrow$  Case (a) is excluded.

(78)  $\rightarrow l = \text{odd}$  for triplet state

$\rightarrow l_{nn} = 1$  (in case b) (odd parity)

$\rightarrow$  Pion must have odd parity.



In terms of spectroscopic notation,

$$^{2S+1}L_j \quad (83)$$

The two neutron state, form the total class of states

$^1S_0, ^1P_1, ^1D_2, ^1F_3, \dots, ^3S_1, ^3P_2, ^3P_1, ^3P_0, ^3D_3,$

$^3D_2, ^3D_1, ^3F_4, ^3F_3, ^3F_2, \dots$  are restricted to

$^1S_0, ^1D_2, \dots, ^3P_{2,1,0}, ^3F_{4,3,2} \dots$  by the Fermi-

Dirac statistic argument, and of these there is only one state, the  $^3P_1$ , state that has angular momentum 1.