Noncommutative quantum mechanics from a Drinfel'd Twist

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Based on joint work with

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A bialgebra with an antipode (coinverse):

- a vector space H over a field k
- structures $\mu: H \otimes H \to H$ and $\eta: \mathbf{k} \to H$.
- costructures $\Delta: H \to H \otimes H$ and $\varepsilon: H \to \mathbf{k}$
- antipode $S: H \rightarrow H$ which is the inverse of the identity map with respect to the convolution operation

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Hopf Algebras

subject to the commutativity of the diagram



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Let H be cocommutative and take an element $\mathcal{F} \in H \otimes H$ which is invertible and is a 2-cocycle, i.e.,

$$(\mathcal{F} \otimes \mathbf{1})(\Delta \otimes id)\mathcal{F} = (\mathbf{1} \otimes \mathcal{F})(id \otimes \Delta)\mathcal{F}.$$

Notation: $\mathcal{F} = f^{\alpha} \otimes f_{\alpha}$ and $\mathcal{F}^{-1} = \overline{f}^{\alpha} \otimes \overline{f}_{\alpha}$, with α a multi-index.

 \mathcal{F} is called a *twist*.

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Defining (with $\chi = f^{\alpha}S(f_{\alpha}) \in H$)

$$egin{array}{rcl} \Delta^{\mathcal{F}}(a) &=& \mathcal{F}\Delta(a)\mathcal{F}^{-1}\ S^{\mathcal{F}}(a) &=& \chi S(a)\chi^{-1}, \end{array}$$

 $(H, \mu, \eta, \Delta^{\mathcal{F}}, \varepsilon, S^{\mathcal{F}})$ is a triangular Hopf algebra with universal R-matrix given by $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{F}_{21}\mathcal{F}^{-1}$. Call it $H^{\mathcal{F}}$.

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Take a Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} (with generators τ_i). Its universal enveloping algebra

$$\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}) = T(\mathfrak{g})/I,$$

with $T(\mathfrak{g}) = \bigoplus_{n \ge 0} \mathfrak{g}^{\otimes n}$ the tensor algebra of \mathfrak{g} and I the ideal generated by elements of the form $(x \otimes y - y \otimes x - [x, y])$, is a Hopf algebra with

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \Delta(\tau_i) &=& \tau_i \otimes \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{1} \otimes \tau_i \\ \varepsilon(\tau_i) &=& \mathbf{0} \\ S(\tau_i) &=& -\tau_i. \end{array}$$

Drinfel'd Twist of the Universal Enveloping Algebra

 $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})$ can be deformed into $\mathcal{U}^{\mathcal{F}}(\mathfrak{g})$.

One can ask which is the linear subspace $\mathfrak{g}^{\mathcal{F}} \subset \mathcal{U}^{\mathcal{F}}(\mathfrak{g})$, analogous to $\mathfrak{q} \subset \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{q}).$

Conditions on the generators of $\mathfrak{g}^{\mathcal{F}}$:

- $\{\tau_i^{\mathcal{F}}\}$ generates $\mathfrak{g}^{\mathcal{F}}$
- minimal deformation of the Leibniz rule: $\Delta^{\mathcal{F}}(\tau_i^{\mathcal{F}}) = \tau_i^{\mathcal{F}} \otimes \mathbf{1} + f_i^{\mathcal{I}} \otimes \tau_i^{\mathcal{F}}$
- under deformed adjoint action $[\tau_i^{\mathcal{F}}, \tau_i^{\mathcal{F}}]_{\mathcal{F}} = (\tau_i^{\mathcal{F}})_1 \tau_i^{\mathcal{F}} S^{\mathcal{F}}((\tau_i^{\mathcal{F}})_2),$ the structure constants of \mathfrak{q} are reproduced.¹

¹Sweedler indexless notation

Drinfel'd Twist of the Universal Enveloping Algebra

Take as deformed generators

$$\tau_i^{\mathcal{F}} = \bar{f}^{\alpha}(\tau_i)\bar{f}_{\alpha},$$

with coproduct

$$\Delta^{\mathcal{F}}(au_{i}{}^{\mathcal{F}})= au_{i}{}^{\mathcal{F}}\otimes \mathbf{1}+ar{R}^{lpha}\otimesar{R}_{lpha}(au_{i}{}^{\mathcal{F}}).$$

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Start with the Heisenberg algebra $\mathfrak{h}_d = \{x_i, p_i, \hbar\}$ satisfying

$$[x_i, p_j] = i\hbar\delta_{ij}, \quad [\hbar, x_i] = [\hbar, p_i] = 0$$

and introduce the elements

$$H = \frac{1}{2\hbar} (p_i p_i),$$

$$K = \frac{1}{2\hbar} (x_i x_i),$$

$$D = \frac{1}{4\hbar} (x_i p_i + p_i x_i),$$

$$L_{i_1 i_2 \cdots i_{d-2}} = \frac{1}{\hbar} \epsilon_{i_1 i_2 \cdots i_{d-1} i_d} x_{i_{d-1}} p_{i_d}.$$

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Two-particle states $|\psi_1\rangle \otimes |\psi_2\rangle$:

•
$$\Delta(ec{P}^2) = ec{P}^2 \otimes \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{1} \otimes ec{P}^2$$
, $(ec{P}_{tot}^2 = ec{P}_1^2 + ec{P}_2^2)$

•
$$\Delta(\vec{L}^2) = \vec{L}^2 \otimes \mathbf{1} + 2\vec{L} \otimes \vec{L} + \mathbf{1} \otimes \vec{L}^2$$
, $(\vec{L}_{tot}^2 = \vec{L}_1^2 + 2\vec{L}_1 \cdot \vec{L}_2 + \vec{L}_2^2)$

Primitiveness may be required on physical grounds.

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The elements H, K, D and $L_{i_1...i_{d-2}}$ are now declared to be primitive elements of the enlarged Lie algebra

$$\mathcal{G}_d = \{\hbar, x_i, p_i, H, K, D, L_{i_1 i_2 \cdots i_{d-2}}\}, i = 1, ..., d.$$

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For d = 2, the nonvanishing commutation relations read

$$\begin{split} [x_i, p_j] &= i\hbar \delta_{ij}, \\ [D, H] &= iH, \\ [D, K] &= -iK, \\ [K, H] &= 2iD, \\ [x_i, H] &= ip_i, \\ [x_i, D] &= \frac{i}{2}x_i, \end{split} \ \ \begin{bmatrix} p_i, K \end{bmatrix} &= -ix_i, \\ [p_i, D] &= -\frac{i}{2}p_i, \\ [p_i, D] &= -\frac{i}{2}p_i, \\ [L, x_i] &= i\epsilon_{ij}x_j, \\ [L, p_i] &= i\epsilon_{ij}p_j. \end{split}$$

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For d = 3, the nonvanishing commutation relations read

 $\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{G}_d)$ can be deformed into $\mathcal{U}^{\mathcal{F}}(\mathcal{G}_d)$ by the Abelian twist

$$\mathcal{F} = \exp\left(i\alpha_{ij}\mathbf{p}_i\otimes\mathbf{p}_j\right), \quad \alpha_{ij} = -\alpha_{ji}.$$

The deformed generators are

$$\begin{aligned} x_i^{\mathcal{F}} &= x_i - \alpha_{ij} p_j \hbar, \\ \mathcal{K}^{\mathcal{F}} &= \mathcal{K} - \alpha_{ij} x_i p_j + \frac{\alpha_{jk} \alpha_{jl}}{2!} p_k p_l \hbar, \\ \mathcal{L}_{i_1 i_2 \cdots i_{d-2}}^{\mathcal{F}} &= \mathcal{L}_{i_1 i_2 \cdots i_{d-2}} - \epsilon_{i_1 i_2 \cdots i_{d-2} j k} \alpha_{jl} p_k p_l. \end{aligned}$$

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This deformation yields the constant noncommutativity

$$[x_i^{\mathcal{F}}, x_j^{\mathcal{F}}] = i\Theta_{ij},$$

where

$$\Theta_{ij}=2\alpha_{ij}\hbar^2.$$

Remark: The Jordanian twist $e^{iD\otimes \ln(1+\xi H)}$ yields the Snyder noncommutativity.

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Consider the harmonic oscillator with Hamiltonian

 $\mathbf{H}=H+K.$

The deformed Hamiltonian $\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}} \in \mathcal{U}^{\mathcal{F}}(\mathcal{G}_2)$ is

$$\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}} = H^{\mathcal{F}} + K^{\mathcal{F}} = H + K - \alpha x p_y + \alpha y p_x + \frac{\alpha^2}{2} \hbar (p_x^2 + p_y^2),$$

where $\alpha_{ij} = \epsilon_{ij}\alpha$.

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As usual, we introduce

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{a}_i &= \frac{\mathbf{x}_i - i\mathbf{p}_i}{\sqrt{2}}, \\ \mathbf{a}_i^{\dagger} &= \frac{\mathbf{x}_i + i\mathbf{p}_i}{\sqrt{2}}, \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$[a_i, a_j^{\dagger}] = \hbar \delta_{ij}.$$

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A change of basis will prove to be convenient:

$$egin{array}{rcl} b_{\pm}&=&rac{a_{x}\mp ia_{y}}{\sqrt{2}},\ b_{\pm}^{\dagger}&=&rac{a_{x}^{\dagger}\pm ia_{y}^{\dagger}}{\sqrt{2}}. \end{array}$$

They are creation and annihilation operators, because

$$[b_{\pm}, b_{\pm}^{\dagger}] = \hbar$$

and

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{H}, b_{\pm} \end{bmatrix} = -b_{\pm}, \\ \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{H}, b_{\pm}^{\dagger} \end{bmatrix} = b_{\pm}^{\dagger}.$$

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To calculate the single-particle spectrum, we set $\hbar=1.$ The Hamiltonian can be written as

$${f H}=rac{1}{2}\sum_{i=\pm}\{b_i,b_i^\dagger\},$$

and the number operator and the angular momentum operator as

$$\begin{array}{rcl} N & = & b_{+}^{\dagger}b_{+} + b_{-}^{\dagger}b_{-} = N_{+} + N_{-}, \\ L & = & b_{+}^{\dagger}b_{+} - b_{-}^{\dagger}b_{-} = N_{+} - N_{-}. \end{array}$$

Since $[\mathbf{H}, L] = 0$, the $|n_+n_-\rangle$ basis simultaneously diagonalizes both operators:

$$\begin{array}{lll} {\sf H} |n_{+}n_{-}\rangle & = & (n_{+}+n_{-}+1)|n_{+}n_{-}\rangle, \\ {\cal L} |n_{+}n_{-}\rangle & = & (n_{+}-n_{-})|n_{+}n_{-}\rangle. \end{array}$$

Changing labels to $n = n_+ + n_-$ and $m = n_+ - n_-$, we have

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At the one-particle level **only**, the deformed Hamiltonian

$$\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}} = H^{\mathcal{F}} + K^{\mathcal{F}} = H + K - \alpha x p_y + \alpha y p_x + \frac{\alpha^2}{2} (p_x^2 + p_y^2)$$

can be reproduced by the linear combination

$$\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}} = \widetilde{\mathbf{H}} - \alpha L,$$

where

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{H}} = (1 + \alpha^2)H + K$$

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is just the undeformed Hamiltonian of an oscillator with frequency $\tilde{\omega}=\sqrt{1+\alpha^2}.$

The spectrum of $\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}}$ can now be easily computed:

$$\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}}|nm\rangle = (\widetilde{\mathbf{H}} - \alpha L)|nm\rangle = \left[(\sqrt{1+lpha^2})(n+1) - \alpha m\right]|nm\rangle,$$

where $m = -n, -n+2, \ldots, n-2, n$ and n is a non-negative integer.

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The energy of the first few states:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} |0,0\rangle & : & \sqrt{1+\alpha^2}, \\ |1,1\rangle & : & 2\sqrt{1+\alpha^2}-\alpha, \\ |1,-1\rangle & : & 2\sqrt{1+\alpha^2}+\alpha, \\ |2,2\rangle & : & 3\sqrt{1+\alpha^2}-2\alpha, \\ |2,0\rangle & : & 3\sqrt{1+\alpha^2}, \\ |2,-2\rangle & : & 3\sqrt{1+\alpha^2}+2\alpha. \end{array}$$

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Since

$$\Delta^{\mathcal{F}}(\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}}) = \mathcal{F} \cdot \Delta(\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}}) \cdot \mathcal{F}^{-1},$$

as operators acting on $\mathcal{H}\otimes\mathcal{H}$, the undeformed and the deformed coproducts of the deformed Hamiltonian are unitarily equivalent:

$$\widehat{\Delta^{\mathcal{F}}}(\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}}) = F \cdot \widehat{\Delta}(\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}}) \cdot F^{-1}.$$

The same is true for the multi-particle operators of three or more particles:

$$\widehat{\Delta_{(n)}^{\mathcal{F}}}(\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}}) = U_{(n)} \cdot \widehat{\Delta}(\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}}) \cdot U_{(n)}^{-1}, \quad n \ge 2$$

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We are therefore entitled to use the undeformed coproduct, which is manifestly symmetric under particle exchange.

The two-particle Hamiltonian is

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}}) &= \mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}} \otimes \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}} \\ &+ \alpha (y \otimes p_{x} + p_{x} \otimes y - x \otimes p_{y} - p_{y} \otimes x) \\ &+ \frac{\alpha^{2}}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{2} (2p_{i}\hbar \otimes p_{i} + 2p_{i} \otimes p_{i}\hbar + p_{i}^{2} \otimes \hbar + \hbar \otimes p_{i}^{2}). \end{aligned}$$

Energy is no longer additive:

$$E_{12}^{\mathcal{F}} = E_1^{\mathcal{F}} + E_2^{\mathcal{F}} + \Omega_{12}.$$

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The three-particle Hamiltonian is explicitly given by

$$\begin{split} \Delta_{(2)}(\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}}) &= \mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}} \otimes \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}} \otimes \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}} \\ &+ \alpha (\mathbf{1} \otimes y \otimes p_{x} + y \otimes \mathbf{1} \otimes p_{x} + y \otimes p_{x} \otimes \mathbf{1}) \\ &+ \alpha (\mathbf{1} \otimes p_{x} \otimes y + p_{x} \otimes \mathbf{1} \otimes p_{y} + p_{x} \otimes y \otimes \mathbf{1}) \\ &- \alpha (\mathbf{1} \otimes x \otimes p_{y} + x \otimes \mathbf{1} \otimes p_{y} + x \otimes p_{y} \otimes \mathbf{1}) \\ &- \alpha (\mathbf{1} \otimes p_{y} \otimes x + p_{y} \otimes \mathbf{1} \otimes x + p_{y} \otimes x \otimes \mathbf{1}) \\ &+ \alpha^{2} \sum_{i=1}^{2} [\mathbf{1} \otimes p_{i} \hbar \otimes p_{i} + p_{i} \hbar \otimes p_{i} \otimes \mathbf{1} + p_{i} \hbar \otimes p_{i} \otimes \mathbf{1} \\ &+ \mathbf{1} \otimes p_{i} \otimes p_{i} \hbar + p_{i} \otimes p_{i} \hbar \otimes \mathbf{1} + p_{i} \otimes p_{i} \hbar \otimes \mathbf{1} \\ &+ \hbar \otimes p_{i} \otimes p_{i} + p_{i} \otimes p_{i} \otimes \hbar + p_{i} \otimes p_{i} \otimes \hbar \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{1} \otimes \hbar \otimes p_{i}^{2} + \hbar \otimes p_{i}^{2} \otimes \mathbf{1} + \hbar \otimes p_{i}^{2} \otimes \mathbf{1} \\ &+ \mathbf{1} \otimes p_{i}^{2} \otimes \hbar + p_{i}^{2} \otimes \hbar \otimes \mathbf{1} + p_{i}^{2} \otimes \hbar \otimes \mathbf{1})], \end{split}$$

where the coassociativity of the coproduct

$$(\mathit{id}\otimes\Delta)\Delta(\mathsf{H}^{\mathcal{F}})=(\Delta\otimes\mathit{id})\Delta(\mathsf{H}^{\mathcal{F}})\equiv\Delta_{(2)}(\mathsf{H}^{\mathcal{F}})$$

guarantees the associativity of the energy

$$E_{123}^{\mathcal{F}} \equiv E_{(12)3}^{\mathcal{F}} = E_{1(23)}^{\mathcal{F}} = E_{1}^{\mathcal{F}} + E_{2}^{\mathcal{F}} + E_{3}^{\mathcal{F}} + \Omega_{12} + \Omega_{23} + \Omega_{31} + \Omega_{123}.$$

We can express

$$\alpha_{ij} = \epsilon_{ijk} \alpha_k$$

and then choose a reference frame where

$$\vec{\alpha} = (0, 0, \alpha).$$

The deformed Hamiltonian is then

$$\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}} = H + K - \alpha(xp_y - yp_x) + \frac{\alpha^2}{2}\hbar(p_x^2 + p_y^2).$$

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To calculate the single-particle spectrum we are entitled to set $\hbar = 1$. We introduce the usual creation and annihilation operators and then perform the change of basis

$$b_{\pm} = \frac{a_x \mp ia_y}{\sqrt{2}},$$

$$b_{\pm}^{\dagger} = \frac{a_x^{\dagger} \pm ia_y^{\dagger}}{\sqrt{2}},$$

$$b_z = a_z,$$

$$b_z^{\dagger} = a_z^{\dagger}.$$

We write the Hamiltonian as

$$\mathbf{H} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=\pm,z} \{b_i, b_i^{\dagger}\},$$

and introduce the operators

$$egin{array}{rcl} N_{xy} &=& b_{+}^{\dagger}b_{+}+b_{-}^{\dagger}b_{-}=N_{+}+N_{-},\ N_{z} &=& b_{z}^{\dagger}b_{z},\ L_{z} &=& b_{+}^{\dagger}b_{+}-b_{-}^{\dagger}b_{-}=N_{+}-N_{-}. \end{array}$$

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We can use a basis labeled by the three non-negative integeres n_+, n_z , where

Changing to $n_{xy} = n_+ + n_-$ and $m = n_+ - n_-$, we have

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We now split **H** into its *xy*-part and its *z*-part:

 $\mathbf{H}=\mathbf{H}_{xy}+\mathbf{H}_{z},$

where $\mathbf{H}_{xy} = \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + p_x^2 + y^2 + p_y^2)$ and $\mathbf{H}_z = \frac{1}{2}(z^2 + p_z^2)$.

This is feasible only at the one-particle level.

The deformation will only affect the *xy*-part.

The deformed Hamiltonian

$$\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}} = H + K - \alpha (x p_y - y p_x) + \frac{\alpha^2}{2} (p_x^2 + p_y^2)$$

can be written as

$$\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}} = \widetilde{\mathbf{H}}_{xy} - \alpha L_z + \mathbf{H}_z,$$

where \mathbf{H}_{xy} a two-dimensional undeformed Hamiltonian with frequency $\tilde{\omega} = \sqrt{1 + \alpha^2}$.

Isotropy is lost.

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The spectrum of $\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}}$ is

$$\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}}|n_{xy}n_{z}m\rangle = \left[\sqrt{1+\alpha^{2}}(n_{xy}+1)-\alpha m+\left(n_{z}+\frac{1}{2}\right)\right]|n_{xy}n_{z}m\rangle,$$

with
$$m = -n_{xy}, -n_{xy} + 2, \dots, n_{xy} - 2, n_{xy}$$
.

The *z*-part of the Hamiltonian remains additive, so the multi-particle Hamiltonians are basically the same as in two-dimensional case.

First few states:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} |0,0,0\rangle & : & \frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{1 + \alpha^2} \\ |0,1,0\rangle & : & \frac{3}{2} + \sqrt{1 + \alpha^2} \\ 1,0,-1\rangle & : & \frac{1}{2} + 2\sqrt{1 + \alpha^2} + \alpha \\ |1,0,1\rangle & : & \frac{1}{2} + 2\sqrt{1 + \alpha^2} - \alpha \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{array}{rcl} |0,2,0\rangle & : & \displaystyle\frac{5}{2} + \sqrt{1+\alpha^2} \\ |1,1,-1\rangle & : & \displaystyle\frac{3}{2} + 2\sqrt{1+\alpha^2} + \alpha \\ |1,1,1\rangle & : & \displaystyle\frac{3}{2} + 2\sqrt{1+\alpha^2} - \alpha \\ |2,0,-2\rangle & : & \displaystyle\frac{1}{2} + 3\sqrt{1+\alpha^2} + 2\alpha \\ |2,0,0\rangle & : & \displaystyle\frac{1}{2} + 3\sqrt{1+\alpha^2} \\ |2,0,2\rangle & : & \displaystyle\frac{1}{2} + 3\sqrt{1+\alpha^2} - 2\alpha \end{array}$$

 $\frac{1}{2}$ is the zero-point energy along the *z*-axis.

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Rotational invariance in 2D

The undeformed generator of rotations on the plane satisfies

$$[L, x_i^{\mathcal{F}}] = i\epsilon_{ij}x_j^{\mathcal{F}}$$

and

$$[L, \mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}}] = 0.$$

The deformed oscillator retains its so(2) invariance, even for multiparticle states:

$$\left[\Delta(\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}}),\Delta(L)
ight]=0.$$

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Rotational invariance in 3D

If we perform the same calculation for the L_i 's in three dimensions, we obtain

$$[L_i, x_j^{\mathcal{F}}] = i\epsilon_{ijk}x_k^{\mathcal{F}} - i\hbar(\delta_{ij}\alpha p_z - p_i\alpha_j).$$

The second term on the right hand side vanishes only for i = 3.

Also
$$[\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}}, L_i]$$
 only vanishes for $i = 3$.

So, L_z is a generator of rotational symmetry, while L_x and L_y are not, and thus the so(3) invariance is broken down to an so(2) invariance around the *z*-axis.

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The same holds for multiparticle states, because

$$\begin{split} [\Delta(\mathbf{H}^{\mathcal{F}}), \Delta(L_i)] &= i\epsilon_{3ij} \left(\alpha L_j - 2\alpha^2 p_j p_z \right) \otimes \mathbf{1} \\ &+ \mathbf{1} \otimes i\epsilon_{3ij} \left(\alpha L_j - 2\alpha^2 p_j p_z \right) \\ &- i\alpha (x_i \otimes p_z + p_z \otimes x_i - z \otimes p_i - p_i \otimes z) \end{split}$$

is zero only for i = 3.

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Conclusions

- The single-particle spectrum of the quantum harmonic oscillator in the presence of a constant noncommutativity can be calculated in the framework of a Drinfel'd twist
- The costructures are required to unambiguously fix the multi-particle states
- Measuring multi-particle states is required to detect deformation
- The unitary equivalence between deformed and undeformed coproduct guarantees the symmetry under particle exchange
- In two dimensions, so(2) invariance is retained
- In three dimensions, the *so*(3) invariance is broken down to an *so*(2) invariance

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