

QM thread: Physical significance of $\mathbf{a} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}$ in expectation $-\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{a} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \mathbf{b} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma})$?

N88 — physicsforum.com — 13 March 2017

1 Appendix

4.1. From ¶2.18, we now provide an analogous local-realistic calculation of the expectation $\langle AB|E\rangle$. We allow that the pairwise conservation of total angular momentum in (4) [$\lambda_i + \mu_i = 0$] reduces to the pairwise conservation of intrinsic spin [$\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 + \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 = 0$] during each particle's continued interaction with a polarizing-field. Each pair now emerges under the correlating influence of $\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 + \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 = 0$; our results unchanged.

4.2. Let the intrinsic spin of a pristine spin-half particle be $\mathbf{s} = \frac{\hbar}{2}\boldsymbol{\sigma}$. So \mathbf{s} has magnitude $\frac{\hbar}{2}$ in direction $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$; ie, $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ is a direction-vector with $\sigma \equiv |\boldsymbol{\sigma}| = 1$. In the context of a pristine particle $q(\boldsymbol{\sigma})$ interacting with a polarizer $\delta_{\hat{a}}^{\pm}$, we now introduce and define the spin-product $\hat{a} \circ \boldsymbol{\sigma}$ where \circ denotes the scalar product of \hat{a} with $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ after $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ rotates to be parallel or antiparallel with \hat{a} . As is well known: \mathbf{s} is then spin-up or spin-down with respect to \hat{a} after $q(\boldsymbol{\sigma})$ interacts with a polarizer-field oriented \hat{a} . The spin-product is consistent with our use of λ in (X2), etc:

$$q(\lambda) \Rightarrow \delta_{\hat{a}}^{\pm} \rightarrow q(\hat{a}^{\pm}) \Rightarrow [\hat{a} \cdot *] \rightarrow [\hat{a} \cdot \hat{a}^{\pm}] = \pm 1; \text{ etc. } \hat{a} \circ \boldsymbol{\sigma} \equiv \pm \hat{a} \cdot \hat{a} = \sigma_{\hat{a}} = \pm 1; \langle (\hat{a} \circ \boldsymbol{\sigma})^2 \rangle = 1; \langle \hat{a} \circ \boldsymbol{\sigma} \rangle = 0. \quad (1)$$

$$\sigma^2 = \sigma_x^2 = \sigma_y^2 = \sigma_z^2 = 1 \because \sigma_x, \sigma_y, \sigma_z \text{ are rotations-onto, not projections-onto, a Cartesian frame.} \quad (2)$$

$$\langle \sigma_x \sigma_y \rangle = \langle \sigma_y \sigma_z \rangle = \langle \sigma_z \sigma_x \rangle = 0 \because \sigma_x, \sigma_y, \sigma_z \text{ take positive and negative values equiprobably; etc.} \quad (3)$$

$$\therefore \langle AB|E\rangle \equiv \langle (\hat{a} \circ \boldsymbol{\sigma}_1)(\hat{b} \circ (-\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2)) \rangle = -\langle (\hat{a} \circ \boldsymbol{\sigma}_1)(\hat{b} \circ \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2) \rangle = -\langle (\hat{a} \circ \boldsymbol{\sigma})(\hat{b} \circ \boldsymbol{\sigma}) \rangle \text{ (for convenience)} \quad (4)$$

$$= -(\hat{a}_x \hat{a}_y \hat{a}_z) \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_x \\ \sigma_y \\ \sigma_z \end{pmatrix} (\sigma_x \sigma_y \sigma_z) \right\rangle \begin{pmatrix} \hat{b}_x \\ \hat{b}_y \\ \hat{b}_z \end{pmatrix} = -(\hat{a}_x \hat{a}_y \hat{a}_z) \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_x^2 & \sigma_x \sigma_y & \sigma_x \sigma_z \\ \sigma_y \sigma_x & \sigma_y^2 & \sigma_y \sigma_z \\ \sigma_z \sigma_x & \sigma_z \sigma_y & \sigma_z^2 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle \begin{pmatrix} \hat{b}_x \\ \hat{b}_y \\ \hat{b}_z \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

$$= -(\hat{a}_x \hat{a}_y \hat{a}_z) \begin{pmatrix} \langle \sigma_x^2 \rangle & \langle \sigma_x \sigma_y \rangle & \langle \sigma_x \sigma_z \rangle \\ \langle \sigma_y \sigma_x \rangle & \langle \sigma_y^2 \rangle & \langle \sigma_y \sigma_z \rangle \\ \langle \sigma_z \sigma_x \rangle & \langle \sigma_z \sigma_y \rangle & \langle \sigma_z^2 \rangle \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{b}_x \\ \hat{b}_y \\ \hat{b}_z \end{pmatrix} = -(\hat{a}_x \hat{a}_y \hat{a}_z) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{b}_x \\ \hat{b}_y \\ \hat{b}_z \end{pmatrix} = -\hat{a} \cdot \hat{b}. \text{ QED.} \quad (6)$$

4.3. As foreshadowed in ¶2.18, the generality of Malus' Law under CLR follows. From the fundamental definition of $\langle AB|E\rangle$, then using (6) and its independence from Malus, we have (X19) anew:

$$P(B^+|EA^+) = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \langle AB|E\rangle) = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \hat{a} \cdot \hat{b}) = \sin^2 \frac{1}{2}(\hat{a}, \hat{b}). \text{ QED.} \quad \blacksquare \quad (7)$$

4.4. Of interest: Fröhner 1998:(75), allowing spin $\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 = -\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2$ to be ordinary vectors in 3-space, obtains:

$$\langle (\hat{a} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_1)(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \hat{b}) \rangle = -\langle (\hat{a} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_1)(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \hat{b}) \rangle = -\frac{\langle \sigma_1^2 \rangle}{3} \hat{a} \cdot \hat{b} = -\hat{a} \cdot \hat{b} \text{ allowing } \langle \sigma_1^2 \rangle = 3 \text{ under QM.} \quad (8)$$

4.5. Via our rotations-onto, no QM-based adjustment is required in (4)-(6). In Fröhner 1998:(75), our (8), working with projections-onto: $\langle \sigma_1^2 \rangle = \langle \sigma_x^2 \rangle + \langle \sigma_y^2 \rangle + \langle \sigma_z^2 \rangle = 3$.

2 References

1. Fröhner, F. H. (1998). "Missing link between probability theory and quantum mechanics: the Riesz-Fejér theorem." Z. Naturforsch. 53a, 637-654.