Coherent States for the Two-Dimensional Dirac–Moshinsky Oscillator Coupled to an External Magnetic Field

D. Ojeda-Guillén,¹,† R.D. Mota,² and V.D. Granados³

¹Escuela Superior de Física y Matemáticas, Instituto Politécnico Nacional, Ed. 9, Unidad Profesional Adolfo López Mateos, C.P. 07738, México D.F., Mexico
²Escuela Superior de Ingeniería Mecánica y Eléctrica, Unidad Culhuacán, Instituto Politécnico Nacional, Av. Santa Ana No. 1000, Col. San Francisco Culhuacán, Delegación Coyoacán, C.P. 04430, México D. F., Mexico

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Abstract We show that the (2+1)-dimensional Dirac–Moshinsky oscillator coupled to an external magnetic field can be treated algebraically with the SU(1,1) group theory and its group basis. We use the su(1,1) irreducible representation theory to find the energy spectrum and the eigenfunctions. Also, with the su(1,1) group basis we construct the relativistic coherent states in a closed form for this problem.

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1 Introduction

The study of the non-relativistic quantum harmonic oscillator leads to Schrödinger to discover the coherent states.¹ The works of Glauber,² Klauder³ and Sudarshan⁴ related the coherent states to the field of quantum optics. Barut and Girardello⁵ and Perelomov⁶ extended the idea of harmonic oscillator coherent states (related to the Heisenberg–Weyl group) for other Lie groups, in particular for the SU(1,1) group. Since its introduction, the coherent states have been obtained for many problems in physics, as it is shown in Refs. [7–8].

On the other hand, the Dirac oscillator was first introduced by Ito et al.⁹ and Cook¹⁰ by adding the linear term $-\text{i}mc\omega/3\alpha \cdot r$ to the relativistic momentum $p$ of the free-particle Dirac equation. Moshinsky and Szczechaniak reintroduced this problem and called it “Dirac oscillator”. They constructed its explicit solutions,¹¹ showed that its symmetry Lie algebra is so(4) ⊕ so(3,1) and found its generators.¹² For the uncoupled equations the su(1,1) Lie algebra was introduced in Ref. [13]. This problem has the property that, in the non-relativistic limit, it reduces to the harmonic oscillator plus a spin-orbit coupling term. Since its introduction, the Dirac–Moshinsky oscillator has been extensively studied and applied in many branches of physics, as can be seen in Refs. [14–20].

The importance of the study of the (3+1)-dimensional Dirac–Moshinsky oscillator relies in its application to quark confinement models in quantum chromodynamics. Moreover, the (2+1)-dimensional Dirac–Moshinsky oscillator has been related to quantum optics¹⁵–²² via the Jaynes–Cummings and anti-Jaynes–Cummings model.²³ Recently, the Dirac–Moshinsky oscillator coupled to an external magnetic field has been studied. In Ref. [24] it has been shown that this problem can be mapped to the anti-Jaynes–Cummings model for arbitrary strength of the magnetic field.

The aim of the present work is to study algebraically the (2+1)-dimensional Dirac–Moshinsky oscillator coupled to an external magnetic field by introducing properly the SU(1,1) group theory and its irreducible unitary representation. We obtain the energy spectrum, the eigenstates and the radial coherent states in a closed form for this problem.

This work is organized as it follows. In Sec. 2, we introduce the Dirac–Moshinsky oscillator in (2+1) dimensions coupled to an external magnetic field in polar coordinates. We decouple the radial equations for the upper and lower wave functions. We notice that each of these equations can be treated by an su(1,1) Lie algebra realization and obtain the energy spectrum and the eigenfunctions. In Sec. 3, we construct the SU(1,1) Perelomov coherent states for each radial component, and we calculate the normalized complete radial coherent state. Finally, we give some concluding remarks.

2 Dirac–Moshinsky Oscillator Coupled to an External Magnetic Field

The time-independent Dirac equation for the Dirac–Moshinsky oscillator is given by the Hamiltonian¹¹

$$H_D \Psi = [\alpha \cdot (p - im\omega r\beta) + mc^2\beta] \Psi = E\Psi .$$  (1)

In the presence of an external uniform magnetic field $B$, the Dirac Hamiltonian is modified as

$$H_D = \alpha \cdot \left( p - \frac{eA}{c} \right) - \text{i}mc\omega r\beta + mc^2\beta ,$$  (2)

where $\omega$ is the frequency, $r$ is the position vector of the oscillator and $A$ is the vector potential in the symmetric

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†E-mail: dojedadg@ipn.mx
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gauges:

\[ A = \left(-\frac{B_y}{2}, \frac{B_x}{2}\right) . \]  

In (2+1) dimensions Dirac matrices are set in the standard way in terms of Pauli spin matrices \( \alpha_1 = \sigma_1, \alpha_2 = \sigma_2, \beta = \sigma_3 \). In polar coordinates \((r, \varphi)\) the Hamiltonian of Eq. (2) takes the form

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
mc^2 & \hbar e^{-i\varphi}\left(\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi}\right) - i mc \bar{\omega} r e^{i\varphi} \\
\hbar e^{i\varphi}\left(\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi}\right) - imc \bar{\omega} r e^{-i\varphi} & -mc^2
\end{pmatrix}
\]

Therefore, the differential equation for the upper component \( G(x) \) can be written in terms of \( K_0 \) as

\[
\left[4K_0 - 2(l+1) - \frac{E^2}{\hbar mc^2} + \frac{mc^2}{\hbar^2}\right] G(x) = 0.
\]  

From the action of the Casimir operator \( K^2 \) on the radial function \( G(x) \) and the theory of unitary irreducible representation it follows that

\[
K^2 G(x) = \left(\frac{l}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(\frac{l}{2} + \frac{1}{2} - 1\right) G(x) = (k(k-1)) G(x).
\]

Thus, the group number \( k \) (Bargmann index) has two possibilities,

\[
k = \frac{1}{2}(l+1), \quad k = -\frac{1}{2}(l-1).
\]

Since \( l = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \ldots \), both choices produces discrete series \((k > 0)\). Without lose of generality, in what follows we will consider only the case for which \( k = (1/2)(l+1) \). By substituting this result into Eq. (12) and by using Eq. (35), we obtain

\[
K_0 G(x) = \left[k + \frac{E^2}{4\hbar \omega mc^2} - \frac{mc^2}{4\hbar^2}\right] G(x) = (k + n) G(x).
\]

Thus, we can identify the other group number \( n \) as

\[
n = \frac{E^2}{4\hbar \omega mc^2} - \frac{mc^2}{4\hbar^2},
\]

from which we obtain the energy spectrum \( E \) for the Dirac–Moshinsky oscillator coupled to an external magnetic field

\[
E = \pm mc^2 \sqrt{1 + \frac{4\hbar \omega}{mc^2} n}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots
\]

This result is in agreement with those previously reported in Refs. [24, 27]. Notice that our result mainly rests on the SU(1,1) theory of unitary irreducible representations. Moreover, since the differential equation for \( G(r) \) was written by means of the su(1,1) Lie algebra generators, this radial component can be expressed in terms of the group basis (11) as

\[
G(r) = A_n (ar)^n e^{-a^2 r^2 /2} I_n(a^2 r^2),
\]

where \( a = b^{-1} = \sqrt{\hbar \omega / \hbar} \). It can be shown that the equation for the other radial component \( F(r) \) can be obtained from Eq. (9) by making the changes \( l \rightarrow l + 1, n \rightarrow n - 1, \) and \( G(r) \rightarrow F(r) \). Thus, the lower Dirac radial component \( F(r) \) is

\[
F(r) = B_n (ar)^{n+1} e^{-a^2 r^2 /2} I_{n+1}(a^2 r^2).
\]

In these last equations \( A_n \) and \( B_n \) are the normalization constants to be determined by following the procedure of
Ref. [28]. The relationship between these coefficients is obtained by substituting the functions (18) and (19) into the coupled equation (6), and taking the limit \( r \to 0 \). This leads to

\[
B_n[2a(l + 1)L_{n+1}^l(0)] = \frac{(E - mc^2)}{\hbar} A_n L_n^l(0). \tag{20}
\]

The well known property of the Laguerre polynomials at the limit \( r \to 0 \)

\[
L_n^l(0) = \frac{\Gamma(n + l + 1)}{n!} \delta_{nm}, \tag{21}
\]

allows to simplify the relationship between \( A_n \) and \( B_n \) to

\[
B_n = \frac{E - mc^2}{2\hbar \omega} A_n. \tag{22}
\]

The relativistic normalization for a two-dimensional space is given by[29]

\[
\int_0^\infty r(F^a F + G^a G) dr = \int_0^\infty r(F^2 + G^2) dr = 1. \tag{23}
\]

The integrals are calculated by using the orthogonality of the Laguerre polynomials \( L_n^l(x) \)[30]

\[
\int_0^\infty x^l e^{-x} L_n^l(x) L_m^l(x) dx = \frac{\Gamma(n + l + 1)}{n!} \delta_{nm}. \tag{24}
\]

With these results we find that the normalization constant \( A_n \) is

\[
A_n^2 = \frac{2a^2n!}{\Gamma(n + l + 1)[1 + n(E - mc^2)/2\hbar \omega]^2}. \tag{25}
\]

Therefore, the radial functions \( G(r) \) and \( F(r) \) for the Dirac–Moshinsky oscillator coupled to an external magnetic field are given explicitly by

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
G(r) \\
F(r)
\end{bmatrix}
= A_n (ar)^l \\
\times e^{-a^2r^2/2} \sum_{n=0}^\infty \xi^n L_n^l(a^2r^2),
\]

\[
F(r, \xi) = \left[ \frac{2(1 - |\xi|^2)^{l+1}}{\Gamma(l + 1)} \right]^{1/2} (ar)^{l+1} \\
\times e^{-a^2r^2/2} \sum_{n=1}^\infty \xi^{n-1} L_n^l(a^2r^2). \tag{28}
\]

If we use the generating function for the Laguerre polynomials[31]

\[
\sum_{n=0}^\infty L_n^l(x)y^n = e^{x(y/(1 - y))} \left( \frac{1}{1 - y} \right), \quad |y| < 1,
\]

the sums can be calculated in a closed form and the coherent states \( G(r, \xi) \) and \( F(r, \xi) \) result to be

\[
G(r, \xi) = A'_n (ar)^l (1 - \xi)^{l+1} \quad \text{and} \quad F(r, \xi) = B'_n (ar)^{l+1} (1 - \xi)^l.
\]

The coefficients \( A'_n \) and \( B'_n \) are two new normalization constants. The relationship between the normalization coefficients \( A'_n \) and \( B'_n \) can be obtained by noting that the coherent states \( G(r, \xi) \) and \( F(r, \xi) \) must satisfy the coupled equation (6). Consequently, the substitution of Eq. (30) into Eq. (6), and considering the limit \( r \to 0 \), leads to

\[
B'_n = \frac{E - mc^2}{\hbar \omega \sqrt{1 + n(E - mc^2)/2\hbar \omega}^2} A'_n. \tag{31}
\]

The coefficient \( A'_n \) is obtained from the relativistic normalization, Eq. (23). The two integrals are reduced to an appropriate Gamma function. Thus \( A'_n \) results to be

\[
A'_n = \frac{1}{1 + ((E - mc^2)/\hbar \omega \sqrt{1 + n(E - mc^2)/2\hbar \omega}^2)}.
\]

With these previous results, we are in position to give the explicit form of the SU(1,1) relativistic coherent state for the Dirac–Moshinsky oscillator coupled to an external magnetic field

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
G(r, \xi) \\
F(r, \xi)
\end{bmatrix}
= A'_n (ar)^l (1 - \xi)^{l+1} \\
\times \exp \left[ \frac{a^2r^2 - 3a^2r^2\xi}{2(1 - \xi)} \right] \left( \frac{1}{\hbar \omega \sqrt{1 + n(E - mc^2)/2\hbar \omega}^2} \right).
\]

The coherent states of Dirac–Moshinsky oscillator were first introduced with the study of the behavior of wave packets in (1+1) dimensions.[32] These relativistic coherent states are related to the Heisenberg–Weyl algebra. The relativistic coherent states were also calculated for the Dirac–Kepler–Coulomb problem in (3+1) dimensions[33] and its generalization to (D+1) dimensions.[34]

### 4 Concluding Remarks

We have studied the (2+1)-dimensional Dirac–Moshinsky oscillator coupled to an external magnetic field by using pure algebraic methods. The eigenfunctions and
energy spectrum are obtained by properly introducing the su(1,1) Lie algebra theory and its irreducible unitary repre-
sentation to the Dirac radial equations. Moreover, the
SU(1,1) group theory and its Sturmian basis allow us to
find the radial coherent states for each spinor component.
We use relativistic normalization to obtain the final form
of the SU(1,1) relativistic radial coherent states for this
problem. We emphasize that the method used in this work
to obtain the eigenfunctions, the eigenspectrum and the
radial coherent states for this problem is purely algebraic.

Appendix

Three operators $K_{\pm}, K_0$ close the su(1,1) Lie algebra
if they satisfy the commutation relations\cite{33}
\[ [K_0, K_{\pm}] = \pm K_{\pm}, \quad [K_-, K_+] = 2K_0. \quad (A1) \]
The action of these operators on the Fock space states
\[ \{k, n\}, n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots \] is
\[ K_+|k, n\rangle = \sqrt{(n+1)(2k+n+1)}|k, n+1\rangle, \quad (A2) \]
\[ K_-|k, n\rangle = \sqrt{n(2k+n-1)}|k, n-1\rangle, \quad (A3) \]
\[ K_0|k, n\rangle = (k+n)|k, n\rangle, \quad (A4) \]
where $|k, 0\rangle$ is the lowest normalized state. The Casimir
operator $K^2$ for any irreducible representation of this
group is given by
\[ K^2 = K_0^2 - \frac{1}{2}(K_+K_- + K_-K_+) \quad (A5) \]
and satisfies the relationship $K^2 = k(k-1)$. Thus, a repre-
sentation of su(1,1) algebra is determined by the number
$k$, called the Bargmann index. The discrete series are
those for which $k > 0$.

The SU(1,1) Perelomov coherent states are defined as
the action of the displacement operator $D(\xi)$ onto the
lowest normalized state $|k, 0\rangle$ as\cite{36}
\[ |\xi\rangle = D(\xi)|k, 0\rangle = (1 - |\xi|^2) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\Gamma(n+2k)}{n!\Gamma(2k)} \xi^n |k, n\rangle. \quad (A6) \]
The displacement operator $D(\xi)$ is defined in terms of
the creation and annihilation operators $K_+, K_-$ as
\[ D(\xi) = \exp(\xi K_+ - \xi^* K_-), \quad (A7) \]
where $\xi = -(1/2)\tau e^{i\phi}$, $-\infty < \tau < \infty$, and $0 \leq \phi \leq 2\pi$.
The so-called normal form of the squeezing operator is
given by
\[ D(\xi) = \exp(\xi K_+) \exp(\eta K_0) \exp(-\xi^* K_-), \quad (A8) \]
where $\xi = -\tanh((1/2)\tau) e^{i\phi}$ and $\eta = -2 \ln \cosh |\xi|$ =
\[ \ln(1 - |\xi|^2). \quad (37) \]

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