

# Cartesian and spherical tensors for NLO

## Today

Origin, meaning, and use of tensors and their properties

Spherical tensors and connection with angular momentum

Spherical tensors for NLO

## Next time

Explicit calculations of transformation between Cartesian and spherical tensors

Applications to 3D nonlinear optical systems

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# Reading list

## Fundamentals

“Angular momentum in quantum mechanics,” A.R. Edmonds (Princeton University Press 1996)

“Lectures on quantum mechanics,” Steven Weinberg (Cambridge University Press 2013)

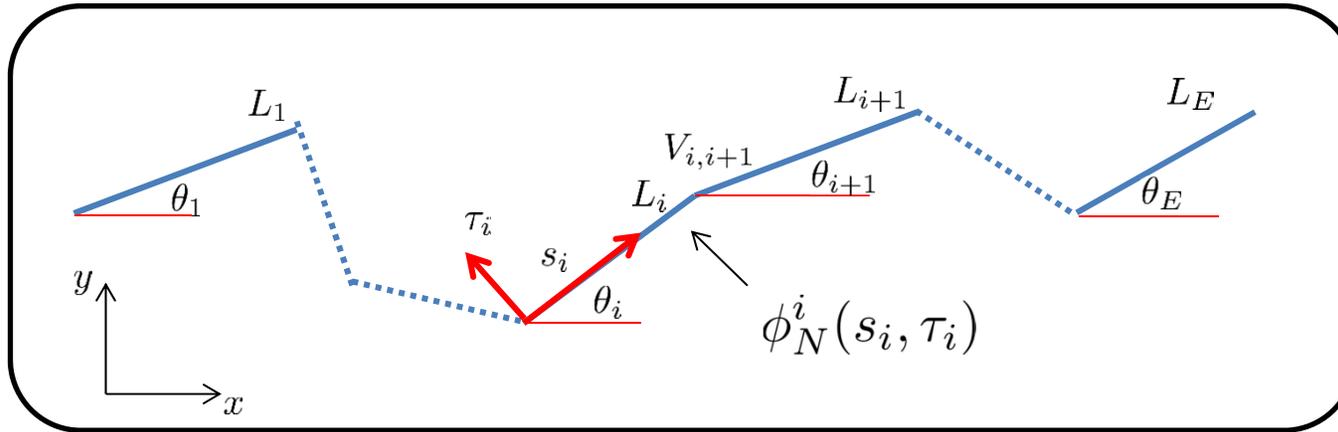
## Applications

“The description of the physical properties of condensed matter using irreducible tensors,” K. Jerphagnon, D. Chemla, and R. Bonneville, *Advances in Physics* 27, 609 (1978).

“Transformation between Cartesian and spherical tensors,” A.J. Stone, *Mol. Phys.* 29, 1461 (1975).

“Influence of geometry and topology of quantum graphs on their nonlinear optical properties,” Rick Lytel, Shoresh Shafei, Julian H. Smith, and Mark G. Kuzyk, *Phys Rev A* 87, 043824 (2013).

# How to solve a quantum graph



$$H\phi_N^i(s_i, \tau_i) = E_N\phi_N^i(s_i, \tau_i)$$

$$\text{At } V_{i,i+1}, \phi_N^i = \phi_N^{i+1}, \partial\phi_N^i = \partial\phi_N^{i+1}$$

$$\text{Union of } \phi_N^i(s_i, \tau_i) \Rightarrow \psi_N(x, y)$$

$$f_{sec}(E_N; L_i, \theta_i) = 0 \Rightarrow E_N$$

$$H\psi_N(x, y) = E_N\psi_N(x, y)$$

- Eigenstates and eigenvalues
- Complete and orthonormal
- “A solved graph”

# Monte Carlo simulation for NLO of quantum graphs

Select & connect vertices, solve for edge functions and energies

$$H\phi_N^i(s_i, \tau_i) = E_N\phi_N^i(s_i, \tau_i)$$

Calculate transition moments in graph's frame

$$r_{NM} = \sum_{i=1}^E \int_i ds_i r(s_i)\phi_N^{*i}(s_i)\phi_M^i(s_i)$$

Calculate the first hyperpolarizability tensor  $\beta_{ijk}$

$$\beta_{ijk} = -.5e^3 P_{ijk} \sum_{n,m}' \frac{r_{0n}^i \bar{r}_{nm}^j r_{m0}^k}{E_{n0} E_{m0}}$$

Normalize to the fundamental limit

$$\beta_{max} = 3^{1/4} \left( \frac{e\hbar}{\sqrt{m}} \right)^3 \left( \frac{N^{3/2}}{E_{10}^{7/2}} \right) \rightarrow -1 \leq \beta_{int} \equiv \frac{\beta}{\beta_{max}} \leq 1$$

Which orientation of the graph has the largest  $\beta_{xxx}$  in the lab frame?

How does  $\beta_{xxx}$  change as the graph is rotated?

How does this change depend upon the shape of the graph?

# Monte Carlo simulation for NLO of quantum graphs

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Calculate the angle that gives the max value of  $\beta_{xxx}$  in the lab frame, and rotate to that frame

$$\beta_{xxx}(\theta) = \beta_{xxx} \cos^3 \theta + 3\beta_{xxy} \cos^2 \theta \sin \theta + 3\beta_{xyy} \cos \theta \sin^2 \theta + \beta_{yyy} \sin^3 \theta$$

Calculate the invariant tensor norm to find the allowable extreme values of the topology

$$|\beta| = \sqrt{\beta_{xxx}^2 + 3\beta_{xxy}^2 + 3\beta_{xyy}^2 + \beta_{yyy}^2}$$

# Rotation group (2D example)

Length-preserving, unitary spatial transformations

$$\vec{r} \rightarrow \vec{r}' = R(\theta)\vec{r} \quad r'_i = R_{ij}r_j \quad R(\theta) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$
$$R(\theta)R^\dagger(\theta) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad R(\theta)R^{-1}(\theta) = 1$$

Group property

$$\text{if } R(\theta_1) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_1 & \sin \theta_1 \\ -\sin \theta_1 & \cos \theta_1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad R(\theta_2) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_2 & \sin \theta_2 \\ -\sin \theta_2 & \cos \theta_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} R(\theta_1 + \theta_2) &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_1 \cos \theta_2 - \sin \theta_1 \sin \theta_2 & \sin \theta_1 \cos \theta_2 + \cos \theta_1 \sin \theta_2 \\ -\sin \theta_1 \cos \theta_2 - \cos \theta_1 \sin \theta_2 & \cos \theta_1 \cos \theta_2 - \sin \theta_1 \sin \theta_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2) & \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2) \\ -\sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2) & \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= R(\theta_1)R(\theta_2) \end{aligned}$$

# Cartesian tensor transformations

Definition of an Nth rank Cartesian tensor:

$$T_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n} \rightarrow T'_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n} = R_{i_1 j_1} R_{i_2 j_2} \dots R_{i_n j_n} T_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_n}$$

Each index 'rotates' like a vector

But rotation group has the property that:

$$R^\dagger R = 1 \Rightarrow \det(R)\det(R^\dagger) = \det(R)^2 = 1 \Rightarrow \det(R) = \pm 1$$

**Det(R) = 1 for special orthogonal group of rotations SO(N)**

**Det(R) = -1 for inversions**

$$R^\dagger(\theta) = R^{-1}(\theta) \Rightarrow R_{ij} = R_{ji}^{-1} \Rightarrow R_{ij}R_{ik} = R_{ji}^{-1}R_{ik} = \delta_{jk}$$

**So the length of a vector is preserved**

$$\vec{r}' \cdot \vec{r}' \equiv r'_i r'_i = R_{ij} r_j R_{ik} r_k = R_{ji}^{-1} R_{ik} r_j r_k = \delta_{jk} r_j r_k = \vec{r} \cdot \vec{r}$$

# Contraction and reduction of tensors

Definition of an Nth rank Cartesian tensor:

$$T_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n} \rightarrow T'_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n} = R_{i_1 j_1} R_{i_2 j_2} \dots R_{i_n j_n} T_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_n}$$

**with**  $R_{ij} = R_{ji}^{-1}$

Reduction of Nth rank tensor to (N-1)th rank tensor:

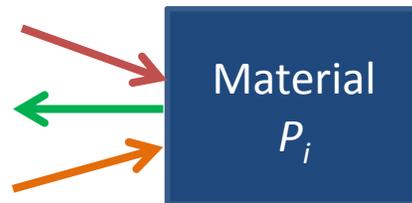
$$\begin{aligned} T_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n} U_{i_n} &\equiv W_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_{n-1}} \Rightarrow \\ W_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_{n-1}} &\rightarrow W'_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_{n-1}} = R_{i_1 j_1} R_{i_2 j_2} \dots R_{i_{n-1} j_{n-1}} W_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_{n-1}} \end{aligned}$$

Tensor norms are invariant (for any rank):

$$\begin{aligned} T'_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n} T'_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n} &= R_{i_1 j_1} R_{i_2 j_2} \dots R_{i_n j_n} T_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_n} R_{i_1 k_1} R_{i_2 k_2} \dots R_{i_n k_n} T_{k_1 k_2 \dots k_n} \\ &= (R_{i_1 j_1} R_{i_1 k_1}) \dots (R_{i_n j_n} R_{i_n k_n}) T_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_n} T_{k_1 k_2 \dots k_n} \\ &= T_{k_1 k_2 \dots k_n} T_{k_1 k_2 \dots k_n} = \text{invariant} \end{aligned}$$

# Nonlinear optics: Polarizability tensors

Optical fields  $E(\omega)$   
 On, near, off resonance  
 Multilevel transitions  
 “Light-by-light control”



Eigenstates  $|N\rangle$  and energies  $E_N$   
 Transition moments  $\langle M | r^k | N \rangle$  etc  
 $\Delta E_{NM}$ ,  $\Delta \Gamma_{NM}$   
 Nonlinear response to  $E(\omega)$

$$P_i = \alpha_{ij} E_j + \beta_{ijk} E_j E_k + \gamma_{ijkl} E_j E_k E_l + \dots$$

$\alpha$  = polarizability  
 tensor

- birefringence
- Snell's law

$\beta$  = first  
 hyperpolarizability  
 tensor

- 2<sup>nd</sup> harmonic gen
- EO effect

$\gamma$  = second  
 hyperpolarizability  
 tensor

- phase conjugation
- optical bistability
- 3<sup>rd</sup> harmonic gen

# Off-resonance tensors: Direct products of vectors

$$\beta_{ijk} = -\frac{e^3}{2} \sum'_{n,m} \frac{1}{E_{n0}E_{m0}} \left( r_{0n}^i \bar{r}_{nm}^j r_{m0}^k + r_{0n}^i \bar{r}_{nm}^k r_{m0}^j + r_{0n}^k \bar{r}_{nm}^i r_{m0}^j + h.c. \right) \quad \text{3rd rank Cartesian tensor}$$

$$\beta_{max} = 3^{1/4} \left( \frac{e\hbar}{\sqrt{m}} \right)^3 \left( \frac{N^{3/2}}{E_{10}^{7/2}} \right) \rightarrow -1 \leq \beta_{int} \equiv \frac{\beta}{\beta_{max}} \leq 1$$

$$\gamma_{ijkl} = (1/6) P_{ijkl} \left( \sum'_{n,m,l} \frac{r_{0n}^i \bar{r}_{nm}^j \bar{r}_{ml}^k r_{l0}^l}{E_{n0}E_{m0}E_{l0}} - \sum'_{n,m} \frac{r_{0n}^i r_{n0}^j r_{0m}^k r_{m0}^l}{E_{n0}^2 E_{m0}} \right) \quad \text{4th rank Cartesian tensor}$$

$$\gamma_{max} = 4 \left( \frac{e^4 \hbar^4}{m^2} \right) \left( \frac{N^2}{E_{10}^5} \right) \rightarrow -1/4 \leq \gamma_{int} \equiv \frac{\gamma}{\gamma_{max}} \leq 1$$

**Both tensors transform as products of vectors under the rotation group**

# Hyperpolarizability tensor norms (2D graphs)

Full contraction produces an invariant sum of eight independent components

$$|\beta|^2 \equiv \beta_{ijk}\beta_{ijk}$$

$$\beta'_{ijk} = R_{il}R_{jm}R_{kn}\beta_{lmn}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\beta'|^2 &= (R_{il}R_{jm}R_{kn}\beta_{lmn})(R_{ip}R_{jq}R_{kr}\beta_{pqr}) \\ &= (R_{il}R_{ip})(R_{jm}R_{jq})(R_{kn}R_{kr})\beta_{lmn}\beta_{pqr} \\ &= \delta_{lp}\delta_{mq}\delta_{nr}\beta_{lmn}\beta_{pqr} \\ &= \beta_{pqr}\beta_{pqr} \equiv |\beta|^2 = \text{invariant} \end{aligned}$$

$$|\beta|^2 = \beta_{xxx}^2 + \beta_{xxy}^2 + \beta_{xyx}^2 + \beta_{yxx}^2 + \beta_{yyx}^2 + \beta_{yxy}^2 + \beta_{xyy}^2 + \beta_{yyy}^2$$

Full permutation symmetry reduces # independent components to four

$$\beta_{xxy} = \beta_{xyx} = \beta_{yxx} \text{ and } \beta_{yyx} = \beta_{yxy} = \beta_{xyy} \Rightarrow |\beta|^2 = \beta_{xxx}^2 + 3\beta_{xxy}^2 + 3\beta_{yyx}^2 + \beta_{yyy}^2$$

$$|\beta| = \sqrt{\beta_{xxx}^2 + 3\beta_{xxy}^2 + 3\beta_{xyy}^2 + \beta_{yyy}^2}$$

**Tensor norm (invariant under rotations of graph)**

# Frame transformation

## Cartesian tensor transformation law

$$T_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n} \rightarrow T'_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n} = R_{i_1 j_1} R_{i_2 j_2} \dots R_{i_n j_n} T_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_n}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_{xxx}(\theta) &= R_{xl}(\theta) R_{xm}(\theta) R_{xn}(\theta) \beta_{lmn} \\ &= R_{xx} R_{xx} R_{xx} \beta_{xxx} + R_{xx} R_{xx} R_{xy} \beta_{xxy} + R_{xx} R_{xy} R_{xx} \beta_{xyx} + R_{xy} R_{xx} R_{xx} \beta_{yxx} \\ &+ R_{xx} R_{xy} R_{xy} \beta_{xyy} + R_{xy} R_{xx} R_{xy} \beta_{yxy} + R_{xy} R_{xy} R_{xx} \beta_{yyx} + R_{xy} R_{xy} R_{xy} \beta_{yyy} \\ &= \cos^3 \theta \beta_{xxx} + \cos^2 \theta \sin \theta (\beta_{xxy} + \beta_{xyx} + \beta_{yxx}) \\ &+ \cos \theta \sin^2 \theta (\beta_{xyy} + \beta_{yyx} + \beta_{yxy}) + \sin^3 \theta \beta_{yyy} \end{aligned}$$

## Full permutation symmetry reduces # independent components to four

$$\beta_{xxy} = \beta_{xyx} = \beta_{yxx} \text{ and } \beta_{yyx} = \beta_{yxy} = \beta_{xyy}$$

$$\beta_{xxx}(\theta) = \cos^3 \theta \beta_{xxx} + 3 \cos^2 \theta \sin \theta \beta_{xxy} + 3 \cos \theta \sin^2 \theta \beta_{xyy} + \sin^3 \theta \beta_{yyy}$$

## Summarizing, for 1<sup>st</sup> hyperpolarizability...

$$\beta_{ijk} = -\frac{e^3}{2} \sum'_{n,m} \frac{1}{E_{n0}E_{m0}} \left( r_{0n}^i \bar{r}_{nm}^j r_{m0}^k + r_{0n}^i \bar{r}_{nm}^k r_{m0}^j + r_{0n}^k \bar{r}_{nm}^i r_{m0}^j + h.c. \right)$$

**Fully symmetric 3<sup>rd</sup> rank Cartesian tensor**

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_{xxx}(\theta) &= \beta_{xxx} \cos^3 \theta + 3\beta_{xxy} \cos^2 \theta \sin \theta \\ &+ 3\beta_{xyy} \cos \theta \sin^2 \theta + \beta_{yyy} \sin^3 \theta \end{aligned}$$

**Four independent components relating lab and graph frames**

$$|\beta| = \sqrt{\beta_{xxx}^2 + 3\beta_{xxy}^2 + 3\beta_{xyy}^2 + \beta_{yyy}^2}$$

**Tensor norm (invariant under rotations of graph)**

$$\beta_{max} = 3^{1/4} \left( \frac{e\hbar}{\sqrt{m}} \right)^3 \left( \frac{N^{3/2}}{E_{10}^{7/2}} \right) \longrightarrow -1 \leq \beta_{int} \equiv \frac{\beta}{\beta_{max}} \leq 1$$

**Normalization for scale-invariant calculations**

## Summarizing, for 2nd hyperpolarizability...

$$\gamma_{ijkl} = (1/6)P_{ijkl} \left( \sum_{n,m,l} \frac{r_{0n}^i \bar{r}_{nm}^j \bar{r}_{ml}^k r_{l0}^l}{E_{n0} E_{m0} E_{l0}} - \sum_{n,m} \frac{r_{0n}^i r_{n0}^j r_{0m}^k r_{m0}^l}{E_{n0}^2 E_{m0}} \right)$$

Fully symmetric 4<sup>th</sup> rank Cartesian tensor

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{xxxx}(\theta) &= \gamma_{xxxx} \cos^4 \theta + 4\gamma_{xxxy} \cos^3 \theta \sin \theta \\ &+ 6\gamma_{xxyy} \cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \theta + 4\gamma_{xyyy} \cos \theta \sin^3 \theta \\ &+ \gamma_{yyyy} \sin^4 \theta \end{aligned}$$

Five independent components relating lab and graph frames

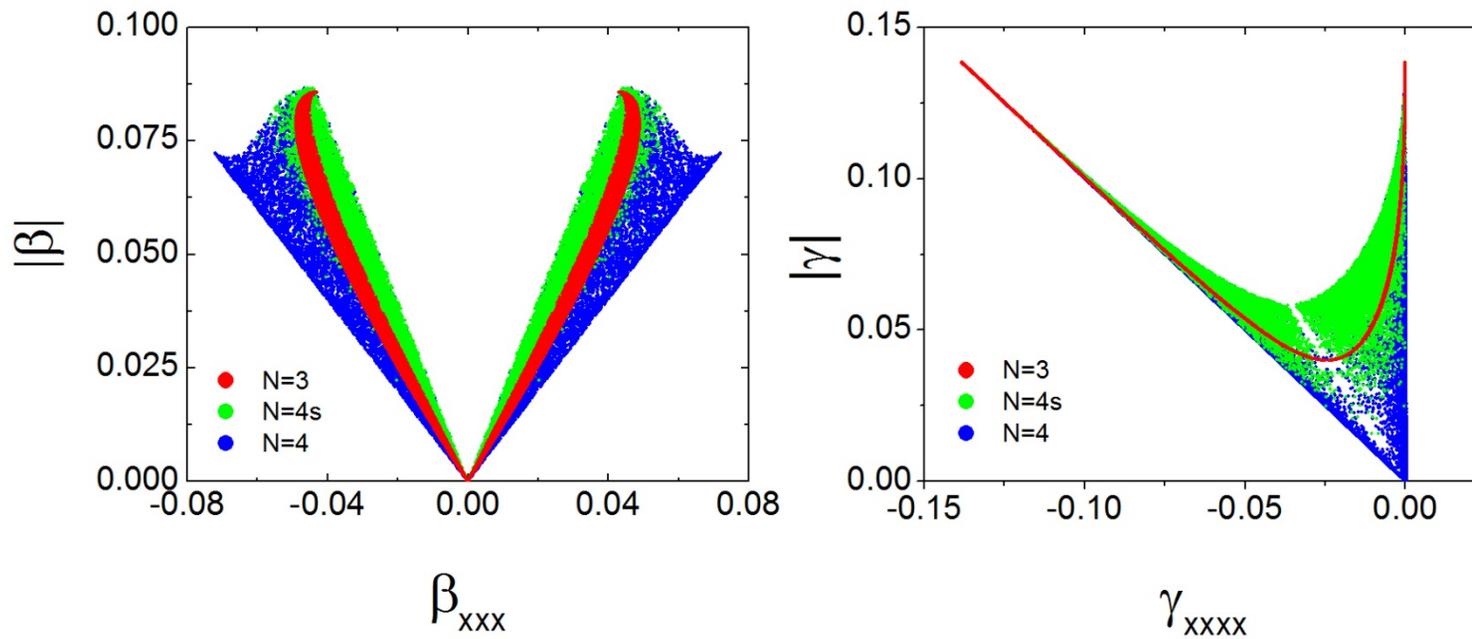
$$|\gamma| = \sqrt{\gamma_{xxxx}^2 + 4\gamma_{xxxy}^2 + 6\gamma_{xxyy}^2 + 4\gamma_{xyyy}^2 + \gamma_{yyyy}^2}$$

Tensor norm (invariant under rotations of graph)

$$\gamma_{max} = 4 \left( \frac{e^4 \hbar^4}{m^2} \right) \left( \frac{N^2}{E_{10}^5} \right) \longrightarrow -1/4 \leq \gamma_{int} \equiv \frac{\gamma}{\gamma_{max}} \leq 1$$

Normalization for scale-invariant calculations

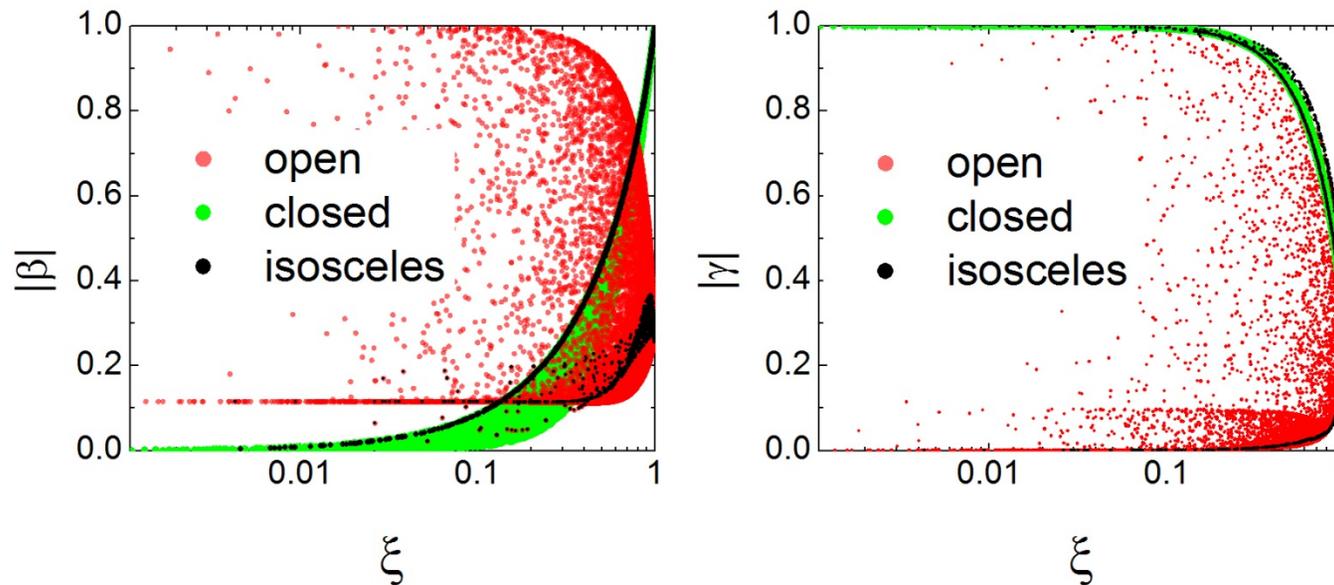
# Application: Tensor norms for triangle quantum graphs



- 3-sided loop is highly constrained and has  $\beta_{xxx} \ll |\beta|$
- Additional degrees of freedom open up ranges of hyperpolarizabilities
- There is no obvious shape information in these plots

# Extracting shape information from tensor norms

(NOTE:  $|\beta|$  and  $|\gamma|$  below are both normalized to unity)



- For triangle loops, norms vs area-to-perimeter ratios yield shape info
- Closed-loop triangles have maximum  $|\beta|$  when they are  $\sim$  equilateral
- Not very satisfying view of the impact of shape on tensor properties

**But we still need a general way to relate shape to response**

# Rotations in quantum mechanics

Angular momentum  $\mathbf{J}$  generates rotations

$$\Psi \rightarrow \Psi' = U(R)\Psi \quad U(R) = 1 + \frac{i\epsilon \mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{n}}{\hbar}$$

$$\Psi \rightarrow U(R_2)U(R_1)\Psi \equiv U(R_2R_1)\Psi \Rightarrow U(R_2)U(R_1) = U(R_2R_1)$$

How do vector operators  $\mathbf{V}$  rotate?  $\mathbf{V}$  could be  $\mathbf{x}$ ,  $\mathbf{p}$ ,  $\mathbf{L}$ , etc.

$$v'_i = R_{ij}v_j \quad \text{where} \quad \vec{v} = \langle \Psi | \mathbf{V} | \Psi \rangle \quad \text{Complex numbers, not operators}$$

so

$$\langle \Psi' | \mathbf{V}_i | \Psi' \rangle = \langle \Psi | U(R^{-1}) | \mathbf{V}_i | U(R) | \Psi \rangle = R_{ij} \langle \Psi | \mathbf{V}_j | \Psi \rangle$$

so

$$U^{-1}(R) \mathbf{V}_i U(R) = \sum_j R_{ij} \mathbf{V}_j \quad \text{or equivalently,} \quad U(R) \mathbf{V}_i U^{-1}(R) = \sum_j R_{ji} \mathbf{V}_j$$

Generalizing, we get for an  $n$ th rank Cartesian tensor operator

$$U(R) \mathbf{T}_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n} U^{-1}(R) = \sum_{j_1, j_2 \dots j_n} R_{j_1 i_1} R_{j_2 i_2} \dots R_{j_n i_n} \mathbf{T}_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_n}$$

# Commutation relations among rotation generators and operators

## Action of rotations on vector operator

$$U^{-1}(R)\mathbf{V}_iU(R) = \sum_j R_{ij}\mathbf{V}_j \quad \text{where} \quad U(R) = 1 + \frac{i\epsilon\mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{n}}{\hbar}$$

e.g., for a rotation about z-axis:  $R(\epsilon) \approx \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \epsilon^2/2 & \epsilon & 0 \\ -\epsilon & 1 - \epsilon^2/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

so

$$\left(1 - \frac{i\epsilon J_z}{\hbar}\right) \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{V}_x \\ \mathbf{V}_y \\ \mathbf{V}_z \end{bmatrix} \left(1 + \frac{i\epsilon J_z}{\hbar}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{V}_x + \epsilon\mathbf{V}_y \\ \mathbf{V}_y - \epsilon\mathbf{V}_x \\ \mathbf{V}_z \end{bmatrix}$$

so  $[\mathbf{V}_i, \mathbf{J}_j] = i\epsilon_{ijk}\mathbf{V}_k$  or equivalently,  $[\mathbf{J}_i, \mathbf{V}_j] = i\epsilon_{ijk}\mathbf{V}_k$

## Action of rotations on tensor operator

$$U^{-1}(R)\mathbf{T}_{ij}U(R) = \sum_{kl} R_{ik}R_{jl}\mathbf{T}_{kl}$$

# Representations

Definition of an Nth rank Cartesian tensor:

$$T_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n} \rightarrow T'_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n} = R_{i_1 j_1} R_{i_2 j_2} \dots R_{i_n j_n} T_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_n}$$

In general, Cartesian tensors are reducible:

$$T_{ij} = U_i V_j$$

$$T_{ij} = \frac{\mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{V}}{3} \delta_{ij} + \frac{U_i V_j - U_j V_i}{2} + \left( \frac{U_i V_j + U_j V_i}{2} - \frac{\mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{V}}{3} \delta_{ij} \right)$$

scalar under  
rotations

antisymmetric  
under  
rotations

symmetric &  
traceless under  
rotations

$$1 \otimes 1 = 0 \oplus 1 \oplus 2$$

Irreducible subsets transform among themselves

$$[2(1)+1][2(1)+1] = [2(0)+1] + [2(1)+1] + [2(2)+1]$$

Looks like the multiplicities for addition of two J=1 angular momentum states!

# Addition of angular momenta

## Addition of angular momenta

$$|j_1 j_2 j m\rangle = \sum_{m_1=-j_1}^{m_1=+j_1} \sum_{m_2=-j_2}^{m_2=+j_2} \langle j_1 m_1 j_2 m_2 | j_1 j_2 j m \rangle |j_1 m_1 j_2 m_2\rangle$$

### Clebsch-Gordan coefficients

$$|j_1 - j_2| \leq j \leq |j_1 + j_2| \quad m = m_1 + m_2$$

Direct product of two kets has a scalar, axial vector, and traceless tensor component

$$j_1 = 1, j_2 = 1 \Rightarrow j = 0, 1, 2$$

$$1 \otimes 1 = 0 \oplus 1 \oplus 2$$

**This is identical to the irreducible representation of rotation group for 2<sup>nd</sup> rank tensor!**

# Spherical tensors: Irreducible reps of SO(3) that transform like angular momenta

## Spherical tensor operator

$$D^{-1}(R)\mathbf{T}_q^{(k)}D(R) = \sum_{q'=-k}^k D_{qq'}^{(k)}(R)\mathbf{T}_{q'}^{(k)} \quad D_{qq'}^{(k)}(R) = \langle kq|D(R)|kq' \rangle$$

$$[\mathbf{J}_z, \mathbf{T}_q^{(k)}] = \hbar q \mathbf{T}_q^{(k)} \quad D(R) = 1 + \frac{i\epsilon \mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{n}}{\hbar}$$

$$[\mathbf{J}_\pm, \mathbf{T}_q^{(k)}] = \hbar \sqrt{(k \mp q)(k \pm q + 1)} \mathbf{T}_{q\pm 1}^{(k)}$$

## Cartesian tensor operator

$$U^{-1}(R)\mathbf{V}_i U(R) = \sum_j R_{ij} \mathbf{V}_j \quad U(R) = 1 + \frac{i\epsilon \mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{n}}{\hbar}$$

$$[\mathbf{J}_i, \mathbf{V}_j] = i\epsilon_{ijk} \mathbf{V}_k$$

# Example: Rank k=1 spherical tensors for 1<sup>st</sup> rank Cartesian tensor (ie, a vector)

Define spherical components  $T$  of a vector operator  $V$

$$T_0^{(1)} = V_z \quad T_{\pm 1}^{(1)} = \mp \frac{V_x \pm iV_y}{\sqrt{2}}$$

with  $[\mathbf{J}_i, \mathbf{V}_j] = i\epsilon_{ijk} \mathbf{V}_k$

Then  $T$  is a rank 1 spherical tensor:

$$[\mathbf{J}_z, \mathbf{T}_q^{(1)}] = \hbar q \mathbf{T}_q^{(1)}$$

$$[\mathbf{J}_{\pm}, \mathbf{T}_q^{(1)}] = \hbar \sqrt{(1 \mp q)(1 \pm q + 1)} \mathbf{T}_{q \pm 1}^{(1)}$$

The explicit expansion is:

$$T_q^{(1)} = \sum_i \langle i | 1q \rangle V_i$$



	$ 11\rangle$	$ 10\rangle$	$ 1-1\rangle$
$\langle x $	$-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	0	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$
$\langle y $	$\frac{-i}{\sqrt{2}}$	0	$\frac{-i}{\sqrt{2}}$
$\langle z $	0	1	0

# Example: Rank k=2 spherical tensors for 2<sup>nd</sup> rank Cartesian tensor

$$T_{ij} = \frac{\mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{V}}{3} \delta_{ij} + \frac{U_i V_j - U_j V_i}{2} + \left( \frac{U_i V_j + U_j V_i}{2} - \frac{\mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{V}}{3} \delta_{ij} \right)$$

scalar under rotations

antisymmetric under rotations

symmetric & traceless under rotations

$$1 \otimes 1 = 0 \oplus 1 \oplus 2$$

Define rank 1 spherical components of  $\mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{V}$

$$U_0 = U_z \quad U_{\pm 1} = \mp \frac{U_x \pm i U_y}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$V_0 = V_z \quad V_{\pm 1} = \mp \frac{V_x \pm i V_y}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$[\mathbf{J}_i, \mathbf{U}_j] = i \epsilon_{ijk} \mathbf{U}_k \quad [\mathbf{J}_i, \mathbf{V}_j] = i \epsilon_{ijk} \mathbf{V}_k$$

$$[\mathbf{J}_z, \mathbf{T}_q^{(k)}] = \hbar q \mathbf{T}_q^{(k)}$$

$$[\mathbf{J}_{\pm}, \mathbf{T}_q^{(1)}] = \hbar \sqrt{(1 \mp q)(1 \pm q + 1)} \mathbf{T}_{q \pm 1}^{(1)}$$

Then the J=0,1, 2 spherical tensors are:

$$T_0^{(0)} = -\frac{\mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{V}}{3} = \frac{U_{+1} V_{-1} + U_{-1} V_{+1} - U_0 V_0}{3}$$

$$T_q^{(1)} = \frac{(\mathbf{U} \times \mathbf{V})_q}{i \sqrt{2}}$$

$$T_{\pm 2}^{(2)} = U_{\pm 1} V_{\pm 1}$$

$$T_{\pm 1}^{(2)} = \frac{U_{\pm 1} V_0 + U_0 V_{\pm 1}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$T_0^{(2)} = \frac{U_{+1} V_{-1} + 2U_0 V_0 + U_{-1} V_{+1}}{\sqrt{6}}$$

# Cartesian to spherical tensor conversion

First, convert each Cartesian component to its reducible spherical form for J=1

$$T_{m_1 m_2 \dots m_n}^J = \langle i_1 | 1 m_1 \rangle \langle i_2 | 1 m_2 \rangle \dots \langle i_n | 1 m_n \rangle T_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n}$$

Then form the irreducible spherical tensors by adding angular momenta

$$T_M^J = \sum_{m_1=-1}^1 \dots \sum_{m_n=-1}^1 \langle 1 m_1 1 m_2 \dots 1 m_n | J M \rangle T_{m_1 m_2 \dots m_n}^J$$

The final form is a direct transformation from Cartesian space to an irreducible angular momentum defined by J

$$T_M^J = \sum_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n} \langle i_1 i_2 \dots i_n | J M \rangle T_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_n}$$

**Explicit calculation reduces to repeated addition of angular momenta**

# Spherical tensors for fully symmetric 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> rank Cartesian tensors

$$|\beta| = \sqrt{\sum_{J=0}^3 |\beta^J|^2}$$

$$\beta^J = \sqrt{\sum_{M=-J}^J |S_M^J|^2}$$

$$S_{\pm 1}^1 = \sqrt{(3/10)} [\pm(\beta_{xxx} + \beta_{xyy}) + i(\beta_{yyy} + \beta_{xxy})]$$

$$S_{\pm 1}^3 = \sqrt{(3/40)} [\pm(\beta_{xxx} + \beta_{xyy}) + i(\beta_{yyy} + \beta_{xxy})]$$

$$S_{\pm 3}^3 = \sqrt{(1/8)} [\pm(-\beta_{xxx} + 3\beta_{xyy}) + i(\beta_{yyy} - 3\beta_{xxy})]$$

$$|\beta| = \sqrt{\beta_{xxx}^2 + 3\beta_{xxy}^2 + 3\beta_{xyy}^2 + \beta_{yyy}^2}$$

$$|\gamma| = \sqrt{\sum_{J=0}^4 |\gamma^J|^2}$$

$$\gamma^J = \sqrt{\sum_{M=-J}^J |T_M^J|^2}$$

$$T_0^0 = \sqrt{(1/5)} [\gamma_{xxxx} + 2\gamma_{xxyy} + \gamma_{yyyy}]$$

$$T_0^2 = \sqrt{(1/7)} [\gamma_{xxxx} + 2\gamma_{xxyy} + \gamma_{yyyy}]$$

$$T_{\pm 2}^2 = \sqrt{(3/14)} [(-\gamma_{xxxx} + \gamma_{yyyy}) \mp 2i(\gamma_{xxyy} + \gamma_{yyxx})]$$

$$T_0^4 = \sqrt{(9/280)} [\gamma_{xxxx} + 2\gamma_{xxyy} + \gamma_{yyyy}]$$

$$T_{\pm 2}^4 = \sqrt{(1/28)} [(-\gamma_{xxxx} + \gamma_{yyyy}) \mp 2i(\gamma_{xxyy} + \gamma_{yyxx})]$$

$$T_{\pm 4}^4 = \sqrt{(1/4)} [(\gamma_{xxxx} - 6\gamma_{xxyy} + \gamma_{yyyy}) \pm 4i(\gamma_{xxyy} - \gamma_{yyxx})]$$

$$|\gamma| = \sqrt{\gamma_{xxxx}^2 + 4\gamma_{xxyy}^2 + 6\gamma_{xxyy}^2 + 4\gamma_{xyyy}^2 + \gamma_{yyyy}^2}$$

# Spherical tensors for triangle quantum graphs

