

# SL(6,R) AS THE GROUP OF SYMMETRIES FOR NON RELATIVISTIC QUANTUM SYSTEMS

**E. O. IFIDON and E. O. OGHRE**

(Received 3 July 2002; Revision accepted 12 September 2002)

## ABSTRACT

It is shown that the 13 one parameter generators of the Lie group  $SL(6,R)$  are the maximal group of symmetries for nonrelativistic quantum systems. The group action on the set of states  $S = \hat{H}$  ( $H$  complex Hilbert space) preserves transition probabilities as well as the dynamics of the system. By considering a prolongation of the group action on  $\hat{H}$ , we have a generalized rotation of state vectors in which norms are preserved. Thus one obtains new symmetries as well as new representations which aid in the simplification of the system. New solutions can thus be obtained, which in most cases have realistic physical properties.

**KEYWORDS:** Prolongations, Symmetry Groups, Sets of States

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The application of continuous group of transformations otherwise known as Lie groups to the study of systems of partial differential equations has its origin in the researches and work of Sophus Lie, over a century ago. Lie showed that one could reduce the order of an ordinary differential equation if it is invariant under a one-parameter group of point transformation. The Lie group admitted by such a differential equation can be found by a straight forward computational algorithm and involves the solution of a large number of partial differential equation of an elementary type. Early researchers found this method of limited application in the construction of the general solution to a large number of partial differential equation encountered then. Lie's method however came into prominence in the late 1950's following the work of L. V. Ovsiannikov (1982), providing a theoretical foundation for a comprehensive study of the symmetry groups of differential equations. An improved modern version of Lie's theory has been developed by Olver (1986) and gives a ready verifiable means of obtaining the maximal group of symmetries admitted by any system of partial differential equations, linear or nonlinear. In this paper we consider some applications of the general theory developed in Olver (1986) in the construction of the symmetry group of the 3-dimensional time-dependent Schrödinger equation which models a simple nonrelativistic quantum system consisting of a single particle in a conservative force field. The Groups under consideration would be local Lie groups of transformations. The advantage of considering local groups is that Lie's three fundamental theorems have shown that such a group can be completely characterized in terms of the infinitesimal generators of their Lie algebra which are relatively easy to find. Once the infinitesimal generators of the Lie algebra are known, the corresponding Lie groups can be found by exponentiation using Taylor's theorem (Gilmore, 1974). Attempts have been made to globalize Lie's transformation theory see for example (Palais, 1957) but the applications make use of only the local theory since only those group elements in a neighbourhood of the identity can in general be guaranteed to transform functions. Non-local symmetries of differential equations have also been studied for some time now (Muriel and Romero, 2001). Theoretical investigations of non-local symmetries

are based on the theory of coverings in which a system of differential equations is said to cover another system of equations (called the covering system) provided its solutions give rise to solutions of the covered system. Symmetries of the covered system arise as a non-local symmetry of the covered system. This procedure however works only for differential equations which admit non-abelian Lie algebras.

The next few definitions are useful.

Let  $S$  denote a set of possible states of a physical system, then

**Definition 1.1** A group  $G$  is a symmetry group of  $S$  if for each  $s \in S$  and  $g \in G$ ,  $g.s \in S$  whenever  $g.s$  is defined.

In other words  $G$  transforms a given state of the system to a new state.

**Definition 1.2** Let  $G$  be such that

$$g_1.(g_2.s) = (g_1.g_2).s \quad g_1, g_2 \in G$$

$$e.s = s$$

where  $e$  is the identity element in  $G$ , then  $G$  is called a group of symmetries for  $S$ .

In quantum mechanics the set of states  $S = \hat{H}$  is the set of all rays  $\hat{\phi} = \{\lambda\phi, \lambda \in C\}$  where  $\phi$  is a nonzero vector in the complex Hilbert space  $H$ .

**Theorem 1.** Given a ray  $\hat{\phi} \in \hat{H}$ , if  $G$  is a Lie group of symmetries for  $H$ , then the probability of going from the state  $g.\phi$  to the state  $g.\psi$  is the same as that of going from  $\phi$  to  $\psi$  for all  $g \in G$  and  $\phi, \psi \in H$ .

**Proof.** Consider a ray  $\hat{\phi} \in \hat{H}$ . Its trajectory may be calculated by computing solutions to the equation.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\phi_t) = iH(\phi_t) \quad (1.1)$$

where  $H$  is a self adjoint operator called the Hamiltonian of the system.

Thus a ray  $\hat{\phi} \in \hat{H}$  may be uniquely determined by a pair of points  $(x, \phi) \in R^p \times H$ . Here  $x \in R^p$  represents the real line probability measures  $\phi$  assigns to the various self adjoint operators in  $H$  as it evolves in time. If  $G$  acts regularly on  $R^p \times H$ , then since  $G$  is a local transformation group, we have for every  $g \in G$ , close to the identity

$$g(x, \phi) = (\Lambda_g x, \lambda_g \phi) = (\tilde{x}, \tilde{\phi}) = g.\phi$$

where  $(\Lambda_g, \lambda_g)$  are the  $C^\infty$  composition maps of  $G$ .

Thus  $G$  can be viewed as acting to change our frame of reference since  $g.\phi$  is the old state  $\phi$  viewed from a new frame of reference. Since acting to change the frame of reference does not change the state vector, we have a transformation in which norms are preserved. We can conclude therefore that if  $G$  is a local transformation group, then the action of  $G$  on the set of states  $\hat{H}$  preserve transition probabilities in  $H$ . Next we find out which Lie group  $G$  leaves (1.1) invariant.

In the sequel, we shall assume that our system consists of a single spinless particle moving in a conservative force field potential  $v = v(x, y, z)$  so that the Hilbert space is  $H = L^2(R^3, \eta)$ :  $\eta$  Lebesgue measure. A state vector  $\phi$  would be represented by a wave function  $\Psi(x, y, z, t)$  satisfying

$$\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial t} = -iH\Psi$$

with

$$(1.2)$$

$$H = -\frac{\nabla^2}{2} + v$$

where  $\nabla^2$  denotes the Laplacian. (1.2) is the time dependent Schrodinger equation. The rest of this paper is organised as follows, in sec.2, the infinitesimal criteria for G invariance of a system of partial differential equations is adapted in the derivation of the one-parameter group of symmetries for the system (1.2). It has been shown (Theorem1) that if G is a Lie group of symmetries for the set of states  $\hat{H}$  then G preserves transition probabilities in  $\hat{H}$ . Furthermore, we show that (1.2) admits the 13 one-parameter Lie group which are generators of the group SL(6,R) in the representation state as a symmetric group. Thus we conclude that SL(6,R) is the maximal group of symmetries for non-relativistic quantum systems which preserves transition probabilities as well as the dynamics of the system. The fact that the generators of this group are integrals of motion lead to a number of conservation laws in quantum mechanics. The conservation of energy, linear and angular momentum are well known conservation laws, which are consistent with our formulation. Other conservation laws are similarly derived. Group invariant solutions to the Schrodinger equation which are useful in scattering theory are constructed for various values of the potential in sec 3. The scale invariant solutions give a state of the system for which exact values for all three components of the angular momentum can be specified. In sec4 we give an overview of the advantages of considering Lie groups.

**2.0 Derivation of the Infinitesimal Generators of the Group.**

Given a local group of transformation G acting on  $N \times M$  the space of the independent and the dependent variable (x,u), there is induced an action of G on the space  $N \times M^{(k)}$  consisting of points  $(x, u^{(k)})$  where  $u^{(k)}$  represents the derivatives of the dependent variables of order  $\leq k$  given by

$$\partial_j u = \frac{\partial^{j_p} u}{\partial x_1^{j_1} \dots \partial x_p^{j_p}}$$

$$0 \leq |J| \leq k, \quad |J| = j_1 + j_2 + \dots + j_p$$

See (Nwachukwu and Ifidon 1991).

This induced action of G, called the k-th prolongation of G, can easily be obtained from the corresponding prolonged infinitesimal generators  $P_i^{(k)}\chi$  of the group which are vector fields on  $N \times M^{(k)}$  and have a relatively simple expression. The generators  $\chi$  of the group are vector fields on  $N \times M$  given by

$$\chi = \sum_{i=1}^p \xi^i(x, u) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} + \sum_{i=1}^q \phi_i(x, u) \frac{\partial}{\partial u_i}$$

where p and q represents the number of independent variable in the space  $N \times M$  respectively. The corresponding expression for the prolonged vector field is then

$$P_i^{(k)}\chi = \chi + \sum_{l=1}^q \sum_j \phi_l^j(x, u^{(k)}) \frac{\partial}{\partial u_l^j}$$

with

$$\phi_i^j = D^j \left( \phi^i - \sum_{l=1}^p u_l^i \xi_l + \sum_{l=1}^p u_{l,i}^j \xi_l \right)$$

$$D_j = D_1^{j_1} D_2^{j_2} \dots D_p^{j_p}$$

where

$$D_i^j = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} + \sum_{l=1}^q \sum_{\nu=1}^p u_l^\nu \frac{\partial}{\partial u_l^\nu}$$

is the total derivative operator. The infinitesimal criteria for invariance of a system of partial differential equations  $\Delta(x, u^{(k)}) = 0$  under the action of  $G$  states that  $G$  is a symmetry group of the system  $\Delta(x, u^{(k)}) = 0$  if and only if for every infinitesimal generators  $\chi$  of  $G$ ,

$$P_i^{(k)} \chi \Delta(x, u^{(k)}) = 0 \quad (2.1)$$

whenever

$$\Delta(x, u^{(k)}) = 0$$

for the case of the Schrodinger equation

$$\Delta(x, u^{(k)}) = \Psi_t + i(-\nabla^2 + v)\Psi \quad (2.2)$$

A typical vector field on  $N \times M$  on the  $R^4 \times R^2$  with coordinates  $(x, y, z, t, v, \Psi)$  is given by

$$\chi = \xi \partial_x + \eta \partial_y + \lambda \partial_z + \gamma \partial_t + \phi \partial_v + \varphi \partial_\Psi \quad (2.3)$$

where the coefficients  $\{\xi, \eta, \lambda, \gamma, \phi, \varphi\}$  are arbitrary functions of  $x, y, z, t, v$  and  $\Psi$ . The corresponding second prolongation of  $\chi$  is

$$P_i^{(2)} \chi = \chi + \sum_J \theta^J \partial \Psi_J + \sum_J \Lambda^J \partial v_J \quad (2.4)$$

where the  $J$ -sum is over all partitions

$$J = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (1,0,0,0) (0,1,0,0) (0,0,1,0) (0,0,0,1) (1,1,0,0) (1,0,1,0) \\ (1,0,0,1) (0,1,1,0) (0,1,0,1) (0,0,1,1) (2,0,0,0) (0,2,0,0) \\ (0,0,2,0) (0,0,0,2) \end{array} \right\}$$

Substitution of (2.3) and (2.4) in (2.1) yields

$$i\theta^{(0,0,0,1)} + \theta^{(2,0,0,0)} + \theta^{(0,2,0,0)} + \theta^{(0,0,3,0)} - v\phi - \Psi\varphi = 0 \quad (2.5)$$

subject to

$$i\Psi_t + \Psi_{xx} + \Psi_{yy} + \Psi_{zz} - v\Psi \quad (2.6)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 \theta^{(0,0,0,1)} &= \begin{cases} \Phi_t - \Psi_x \xi_t - \Psi_y \eta_t - \Psi_z \lambda_t + \Psi_z (\gamma_\psi - \gamma_t) \\ -\Psi_t \Psi_x \xi_\psi - \Psi_t \Psi_y \eta_\psi - \Psi_t \Psi_z \lambda_\psi - \Psi_t^2 \gamma_\psi \end{cases} \\
 \theta^{(2,0,0,0)} &= \begin{cases} \Phi_{xx} - \Psi_x (2\gamma_{x\psi} - \xi_{xx}) - \Psi_y \eta_{xx} - \Psi_z \lambda_{xx} - \Psi_t \gamma_{xx} \\ + \Psi_{xx} (\Phi_\psi - 2\xi_x) - 2\Psi_{xx} \eta_x - 2\Psi_{xz} \lambda_x - 2\Psi_{tx} \gamma_x \\ + \Psi_x^2 (\phi_{\psi\psi} - 2\xi_{\psi x}) - 2\Psi_x \Psi_y \eta_{\psi x} + 2v_x \Phi_{vx} + 2\Psi_x v_x (\phi_{v\psi} - \xi_{vx}) \\ 2\Psi_x v_x (\phi_{v\psi} - \xi_{vx}) + 2\Psi_x \Psi_z \lambda_{x\psi} - 2\Psi_x \Psi_t \gamma_{\psi x} \\ - 2\Psi_x \Psi_z \lambda_{x\psi} - 2\Psi_x \Psi_t \gamma_{\psi x} \\ - 2v_x \Psi_y \eta_{xv} - 2\Psi_z v_x \lambda_{xv} - 2v_x \Psi_t \gamma_{xv} - 3\Psi_x \Psi_{xx} \xi_\psi \\ \Psi_{xx} \Psi_y \eta_\psi - \Psi_{xx} \Psi_z \lambda_\psi + \Psi_{xx} \Psi_t \gamma_\psi - 2\Psi_{xx} v_x \xi_v \\ - 2\Psi_x \Psi_{xy} \eta_v - 2\Psi_x \Psi_{xz} \lambda_\psi - 2v_x \Psi_{xz} \eta_v - 2\Psi_x \Psi_{xt} \gamma_\psi \\ - \Psi_x^3 \xi_{\psi\psi} - \Psi_x^2 \Psi_y \eta_{\psi\psi} - \Psi_x^2 \Psi_z \lambda_{\psi\psi} \\ - \Psi_x^2 \Psi_t \gamma_{\psi\psi} - 2\Psi_x^2 v_x \xi_{v\psi} - 2v_x \Psi_x \Psi_y \eta_{v\psi} \\ - \Psi_x \Psi_z v_x \lambda_{v\psi} - 2v_x \Psi_x \Psi_t \gamma_{v\psi} + v_x^2 \Phi_{vv} \\ - \Psi_x v_x^2 \xi_{vv} - v_x^2 \Psi_y \eta_{vv} - v_x^2 \Psi_t \gamma_{vv} + v_{xx} \Phi_v \\ - \Psi_x v_{xx} \xi_v - v_{xx} \Psi_y \eta_v - \Psi_z v_{xx} \lambda_v - v_{xx} \Psi_t \gamma_v \end{cases} \\
 \theta^{(0,2,0,0)} &= \begin{cases} \Phi_{yy} - \Psi_x \xi_{yy} + \Psi_y (2\Phi_{\psi y} - \eta_{yy}) - \Psi_z \lambda_{yy} - \Psi_t \gamma_{yy} \\ - 2\Psi_x \Psi_y \xi_{\psi y} + \Psi_y^2 (\Phi_{\psi\psi} - 2\eta_{\psi y}) - 2\Psi_y \Psi_z \lambda_{\psi y} \\ - 2\Psi_t \Psi_y \gamma_{\psi y} - 2\Psi_{xy} \xi_y + \Psi_{yy} (\Phi_\psi - 2\eta_y) - 2\Psi_{zy} \lambda_y \\ - 2\Psi_{ty} \gamma_y + 2v_y \Phi_{vy} - 2\Psi_x v_y \xi_{vy} + 2\Psi_y v_y (\Phi_{v\psi} - \eta_{vy}) \\ - 2\Psi_z v_y \lambda_{vy} - 2\Psi_t v_y \gamma_{vy} - 2\Psi_x \Psi_y^2 \xi_{\psi\psi} - \Psi_y^3 \eta_{\psi\psi} \\ - \Psi_y^2 \Psi_z \lambda_{\psi\psi} - \Psi_t \Psi_y^2 \gamma_{\psi\psi} - 2\Psi_y \Psi_{xy} \xi_\psi - 3\Psi_y \Psi_{yy} \eta_\psi \\ - 2\Psi_y \Psi_{xy} \lambda_\psi - 2\Psi_y \Psi_{ty} \gamma_\psi - 2\Psi_x \Psi_y v_y \xi_{v\psi} - 2v_y \Psi_y^2 \phi_{\psi v} \\ - 2\Psi_y \Psi_z v_y \lambda_{v\psi} - 2\Psi_y \Psi_t v_y \gamma_{v\psi} - 2\Psi_{xy} v_y \xi_v - \Psi_x \Psi_{yy} \xi_\psi \\ - \Psi_{yy} \Psi_z \lambda_\psi - \Psi_{yy} \Psi_t \gamma_\psi - 2\Psi_{yy} v_y \eta_v - 2\Psi_{xy} v_y \lambda_v - v_y \Psi_{ty} \gamma_v \\ + v_y^2 \Phi_{vv} - v_y^2 \Psi_x \xi_{vv} - v_y^2 \Psi_y \eta_{vv} - \Psi_z v_y^2 \lambda_{vv} - \Psi_t v_y^2 \gamma_{vv} - \Psi_z v_{yy} \lambda_v \\ - \Psi_t v_{yy} \gamma_v \end{cases} \\
 \theta^{(0,0,0,2)} &= \begin{cases} \Phi_{zz} - \Psi_x \xi_{zz} - \Psi_y \eta_{zz} + \Psi_z (2\Phi_{\psi z} - \lambda_{zz}) - \Psi_t \gamma_{zz} \\ - 2\Psi_y \Psi_z \eta_{\psi z} + \Psi_z^2 (\Phi_\psi - 2\lambda_{\psi z} - 2\lambda_{\psi z}) - 2\Psi_z \Psi_t \gamma_{\psi z} \\ - 2\Psi_{xz} \xi_z - 2\Psi_{yz} \eta_z + \Psi_{zz} (\Phi_\psi - 2\lambda_z) - 2\Psi_{tz} \gamma_z \\ + 2v_z \Phi_{vz} - 2v_z \Psi_x \xi_{vz} - 2v_z \Psi_y \eta_{vz} + 2\Psi_z v_z (\Phi_{v\psi} - \lambda_{vz}) \\ - 2v_z \Psi_t \gamma_{vz} - \Psi_z^2 \Psi_x \xi_{\psi\psi} - \Psi_z^2 \Psi_y \eta_{\psi\psi} - \Psi_z^3 \lambda_{\psi\psi} - \Psi_z^2 \Psi_t \gamma_{\psi\psi} \\ - 2\Psi_z \Psi_{xz} \xi_\psi - 2\Psi_z \Psi_{yz} \eta_\psi - 3\Psi_z \Psi_{zz} \lambda_\psi - 2\Psi_z \Psi_{tz} \gamma_\psi \\ - 2v_z \Psi_z \Psi_x \xi_{\psi v} - 2\Psi_z v_z \Psi_y \eta_{\psi v} - 2v_z \Psi_{xz} \xi_v - 2\Psi_z \Psi_y \eta_{v\psi} \\ - 2v_z \Psi_{xz} \xi_v - 2v_z \Psi_{yz} \eta_v - \Psi_{zz} \Psi_x \xi_\psi - \Psi_{zz} \Psi_y \eta_\psi - \Psi_{zz} \Psi_t \gamma_\psi \\ - 2v_z \Psi_{zz} \lambda_v - 2v_z \Psi_{tz} \gamma_v + v_z^2 \Phi_{yy} - v_z^2 \Psi_x \xi_{vv} - v_z^2 \Psi_y \eta_{vv} \\ - v_z^2 \Psi_z \lambda_{vv} - v_z^2 \Psi_t \gamma_{vv} + v_{zz} \Phi_v - v_{zz} \Psi_x \xi_v - v_{zz} \Psi_y \eta_v \\ - v_{zz} \Psi_z \lambda_v - v_{zz} \Psi_t \gamma_v \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

from (2.5) and (2.6) the coefficient functions  $\{\xi, \eta, \lambda, \gamma, \phi, \Phi\}$  satisfy the symmetry equations

$$2\Phi_{\psi x} - \xi_{xx} - \xi_{yy} - \xi_{zz} + i\nu\Psi\nu\Psi(\eta_{\psi x} - \xi_{\psi}) - i\xi_t = 0 \quad (2.7a)$$

$$2\Phi_{\psi y} - \eta_{xx} - \eta_{yy} - \eta_{zz} + i\nu\Psi\nu\Psi(\eta_{\psi y} - \eta_{\psi}) - i\eta_t = 0 \quad (2.7b)$$

$$2\Phi_{\psi z} - \lambda_{xx} - \lambda_{yy} - \lambda_{zz} + i\nu\Psi\nu\Psi(\eta_{\psi z} - \lambda_{\psi}) - i\eta_t = 0 \quad (2.7c)$$

$$\gamma_t - 2\xi_x - i(\gamma_{xx} + \gamma_{yy} + \gamma_{zz}) - i\nu\Psi\nu\Psi = 0 \quad (2.7d)$$

$$\gamma_t - 2\eta_y - i(\gamma_{xx} + \gamma_{yy} + \gamma_{zz}) - i\nu\Psi\nu\Psi = 0 \quad (2.7e)$$

$$\gamma_t - 2\lambda_z - i(\gamma_{xx} + \gamma_{yy} + \gamma_{zz}) - i\nu\Psi\nu\Psi = 0 \quad (2.7f)$$

$$\eta_x - \xi_y = 0 \quad (2.7g)$$

$$\lambda_x - \xi_z = 0 \quad (2.7h)$$

$$\lambda_y - \eta_z = 0 \quad (2.7i)$$

$$\eta_{\psi x} - \eta_{\psi y} = \lambda_{\psi x} - \lambda_{\psi y} = \xi_{\psi x} = \xi_{\psi y} = \gamma_{\psi x} = \gamma_{\psi y} = \gamma_{\psi z} = \gamma_{\psi x} = \gamma_{\psi y} = \gamma_{\psi z} = 0 \quad (2.7j)$$

$$\Phi_x + i\nu\Psi\nu\Psi = 0 \quad (2.7k)$$

$$\Phi_{xx} + \Phi_{yy} + \Phi_{zz} - \nu\Phi - \Psi\Phi + i\nu\Psi\nu\Psi(\xi_x + \gamma_{xx} + \gamma_{yy}) + i\Phi_t + \nu\Psi(\Phi_{\psi x} - \gamma_t) + i\nu^2\Psi^2\gamma_{\psi} = 0$$

the most general solutions to the set of equations (2.7) are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \xi &= \frac{1}{2}(c_1 t + c_2)x - c_{10}z - c_{11}y + c_4 t + c_5 \\ \eta &= \frac{1}{2}(c_1 t + c_2)y - c_{12}z - c_{11}x + c_6 t + c_7 \\ \lambda &= \frac{1}{2}(c_1 t + c_2)z - c_{10}x - c_{12}y + c_8 t + c_9 \end{aligned} \quad (2.8)$$

$$\gamma = c_1 t^2 + c_2 t + c_3$$

$$\Phi = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{4}c_1(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) + c_4x + c_6y + c_8z + c_0 \right) \Psi$$

$$\phi = -(c_1 t + c_2)v + \frac{3}{4}ic_1$$

where  $c_i$ ,  $i=0,1,\dots,12$  are arbitrary real constants. Hence the infinitesimal symmetry algebra  $G$  of the Schrödinger equation (1.2) is of dimensions 13, and is

spanned by the basis vectors

$$\begin{aligned}
 \chi_1 &= \partial_x \\
 \chi_2 &= \partial_y \\
 \chi_3 &= \partial_z \\
 \chi_4 &= \partial_t \\
 \chi_5 &= x\partial_x + y\partial_y + z\partial_z + 2t\partial_t - 2v\partial_v \\
 \chi_6 &= -z\partial_x + x\partial_z \\
 \chi_7 &= -y\partial_x + x\partial_y \\
 \chi_8 &= -z\partial_y + y\partial_z \\
 \chi_9 &= t\partial_x + \frac{i}{2}x^i\Psi\partial_\Psi \\
 \chi_{10} &= t\partial_y + \frac{i}{2}y^i\Psi\partial_\Psi \\
 \chi_{11} &= t\partial_z + \frac{i}{2}z^i\Psi\partial_\Psi \\
 \chi_{12} &= tx\partial_x + ty\partial_y + tz\partial_z + t^2\partial_t + \frac{1}{4}(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)\Psi\partial_\Psi + \left(\frac{3}{2}i - 2tv\right)\partial_v \\
 \chi_{13} &= \frac{i}{2}\Psi\partial_\Psi
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.9}$$

the generators (2.9) satisfy the Lie commutation relations

$$\begin{aligned}
 [L, L] &= L & [L, V] &= V & [T, V] &= P & [L, P] &= P & [\chi_5, V] &= V \\
 [\chi_5, P] &= P & [\chi_5, T] &= T & [\chi_5, \chi_{12}] &= \chi_{12} & [P, V] &= \chi_{13} & [T, \chi_{12}] &= \chi_5 \\
 [P, \chi_{12}] &= V
 \end{aligned}$$

with other commutation relations vanishing. Here

$$L_j = (\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{v})_j = \xi_{jik} x^i \partial_k$$

$$V_i = tV_j + \frac{i}{2}x^j\Psi\partial_\Psi$$

$$P_j = \nabla_j$$

$$T = \partial_t$$

Therefore the vector field  $\chi_i, i=1,\dots,13$  are closed under commutation and form a 13 dimensional Lie algebra.

The regular representation  $R(\chi)$  on an arbitrary element  $\chi = \sum_{i=1}^{13} a^i \chi_i$  in the vector space of this algebra is

$\chi_1$	$\chi_2$	$\chi_3$	$\chi_4$	$\chi_5$	$\chi_6$	$\chi_7$	$\chi_8$	$\chi_9$	$\chi_{10}$	$\chi_{11}$	$\chi_{13}$	$\chi_{12}$
$\alpha^5$	$\alpha^7$	$\alpha^6$						$\alpha^{12}$	0	0	$\alpha^8$	
$-\alpha^7$	$\alpha^5$	$\alpha^8$						0	$\alpha^{12}$	0	$\alpha^{10}$	
$-\alpha^6$	$\alpha^8$	$\alpha^5$						0	0	$\alpha^{12}$	$\alpha^{11}$	
$\alpha^9$	$\alpha^{10}$	$\alpha^{11}$	$2\alpha^5$	$\alpha^{12}$								
$-\alpha^1$	$-\alpha^8$	$-\alpha^3$	$-2\alpha^4$					$\alpha^8$	$\alpha^{10}$	$\alpha^{11}$	0	$2\alpha^{12}$
$\alpha^3$	0	$-\alpha^1$			0	$-\alpha^8$	$\alpha^7$	$\alpha^{11}$	0	$-\alpha^9$	0	
$\alpha^2$	$-\alpha^1$	0			$\alpha^8$	0	$-\alpha^8$	$\alpha^{10}$	$-\alpha^9$	0	0	
0	$\alpha^3$	$\alpha^2$			$-\alpha^7$	$\alpha^6$	0	0	$\alpha^{11}$	$-\alpha^{10}$	0	
$-\alpha^4$	0	0						$-\alpha^5$	$\alpha^7$	$\alpha^6$	0	
0	$-\alpha^4$	0						$-\alpha^7$	$-\alpha^5$	$\alpha^9$	0	
0	0	$-\alpha^4$						$-\alpha^6$	$-\alpha^9$	$\alpha^5$	0	
0	0	0						0	0	0	0	
				$-\alpha^4$				$-\alpha^1$	$-\alpha^2$	$-\alpha^3$	0	$-2\alpha^5$

2.10

$$T_i R(\chi_i) = 0$$

(2.10) is the regular representation of the thirteen dimensional subalgebra of  $Sl(6, \mathbb{R})$  with basis matrices obtained from (2.10) by setting  $\alpha^i = 1, i=1,2,\dots,12$   $\alpha^j = 0, j \neq i$  in turn. It follows that  $Sl(6, \mathbb{R})$  is the maximal group of symmetries corresponding to the quantum system (1.2) which preserve transition probabilities as



well as the dynamics of the system. Observe that the fact that the generators  $Z_i$  of this group are integrals of the motion lead to a number of conservation laws in quantum mechanics. For instance to each of the components of the generators,  $L_i$  is associated an observable called the angular momentum of the system. The fact that the angular momentum in a given direction is an integral of the motion is the quantum mechanical analog of the law of conservation of angular momentum. The laws of conservation of total energy and linear momentum corresponds to the generators  $T$  and  $P$  and so on. Other conservation laws can be similarly obtained. From (2.8) it can be seen that the vector fields  $Z_i$  are of the form

$$Z_i = \sum_{j=1}^n \xi_j^i(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} + \phi^i(x, u) \frac{\partial}{\partial u}$$

which implies the symmetry group is projectable (Hammermesh, 1983). It can be shown that  $[H, Z_i] = 0$  for all infinitesimal generators of the Lie group, where  $H$  is the Hamiltonian of the system. Thus the dynamics of the system is preserved.

### 3 Application to the solution of the Schrodinger Equation

Now suppose that  $G$  acts regularly on  $Z \times M$ , so that the quotient space  $Z/G$  can be regarded as a differentiable manifold [4], then if  $\Delta$  is a system of partial differential equations defined on the space  $Z$  which has  $G$  as it's symmetry group, there is a system of partial differential equations  $\Delta/G \subset J^k(Z/G, p-l)$  where  $l$  is the dimensions of the orbits of  $G$  and  $J^k(Z, p)$  is the extended  $k$ -jet bundle of  $p$ -sections of  $Z$  corresponding to the various partial derivatives of the dependent variables of order  $\leq k$ , since  $G$  leaves  $\Delta$  invariant, the problem of finding the  $G$  invariant solutions to  $\Delta$  is equivalent to solving the reduced system  $\Delta/G$  in  $p-l$  independent variables. The solutions of  $\Delta/G$  when lifted back to  $\Delta$  gives all the  $G$ -invariant solutions of  $\Delta$ .

As an illustration of this, we consider the scale invariant solutions, which are more representative. Other solutions may be constructed in a similar fashion.

In this case the vector field is  $Z_5 = x\partial_x + z\partial_z + 2t\partial_t + 2v\partial_v$  with corresponding one parameter group  $G_5 = \exp(\lambda Z_5)$  whose group action is

$$G_\lambda : (x, y, z, t, v, \Psi) \rightarrow (e^\lambda x, e^\lambda y, e^{2\lambda} z, e^{2\lambda} t, e^{2\lambda} v, \Psi) \tag{3.1}$$

in order that  $G_5$  acts regularly, we must consider only the submanifold  $Z = \mathbb{R}^6 - \{0\}$ , which is non Hausdorff so that  $Z/G_5$  can be realized as a 6 dimensional Torus  $T^6$  with four exceptional points

$$q_{++} = \{x = y = z = t = 0, v > 0, \Psi > 0\}$$

$$q_{+-} = \{x = y = z = t = 0, v > 0, \Psi < 0\}$$

$$q_{-+} = \{x = y = z = t = 0, v < 0, \Psi > 0\}$$

$$q_{--} = \{x = y = z = t = 0, v < 0, \Psi < 0\}$$

corresponding to four vertical orbits. Therefore a  $G_5$  invariant solution of the Schrödinger equation corresponds to a curve in  $Z/G_5$  which is a solution to  $\Delta/G_5$ . In order that the  $G_5$  invariant solution be a single valued function of  $x, y, z, t$ , we concentrate on the Hausdorff submanifold  $T \subset Z/G_5$ . In this case the curve does not pass through  $q_{++}, q_{+-}, q_{-+}, q_{--}$ . Choose local coordinates

$$\xi = \frac{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)}{t}; v_c = vt \quad (3.2)$$

clearly  $\xi$  and  $v_c$  are invariant under the group action of  $G_5$ . Treating  $\xi$  as the new independent variable and substituting (3.2) into (1.2) we see that

$$\Delta/G \equiv 4\xi\xi_{\xi\xi} + (6 - i\xi)\Psi_{\xi} - v_c\Psi = 0 \quad (3.3)$$

$G_5$ -invariant solutions to (1.2) corresponding to various values of the potential  $v$  can now be found. For instance for the potential

$$v = \frac{-6\alpha}{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \quad v_c = -\frac{6\alpha}{\xi} \quad (3.4)$$

(3.3) becomes

$$\frac{2}{3}x^2\Psi_{xx} + x(1+x)\Psi_x + \alpha\Psi = 0 \quad (3.5)$$

where  $x = \frac{i\xi}{6}$ . Using the transformation

$$\psi = x^{-\lambda} e^{-\lambda x} \varphi \quad (3.6)$$

(3.5) becomes

$$\varphi_{x'x'} + \left( -\frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4x'} + \frac{\left(\frac{1}{4} - \mu^2\right)}{x'^2} \right) \varphi = 0 \quad (3.7)$$

where  $x' = -\frac{3}{2}x$  and  $\mu^2 = \frac{23}{8} - 3\alpha$

(3.7) is the differential equation satisfied by the Kummer Confluent Hypergeometric function (Abramowitz and Stegun, 1965) and has general solution

$$\varphi = e^{-\frac{1}{4}x'} x'^{\frac{1}{2} + \mu} {}_1F_1\left(\mu - \frac{1}{4}, 1 + 2\mu, x'\right)$$

therefore

$$\Psi(x, y, z, t) = \left( \frac{i}{4} \left( \frac{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}{t} \right) \right)^{\mu - \frac{1}{4}} {}_1F_1\left(\mu - \frac{1}{4}, 1 + 2\mu, \frac{i}{4} \left( \frac{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}{t} \right)\right) \quad (3.8)$$

where  $\mu^2 = \frac{23}{8} - 3\alpha$

are the  $G_5$  invariant solutions of the Schrödinger equation (1.2) corresponding to the potential

$$v(x, y, z) = -\frac{6\alpha}{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$$

Other  $G_5$ -invariant solutions can be constructed for various values of  $v$  using different coordinate patches on  $Z/G_5$ . The  $G_5$ -invariant solution (3.8), represents a special state of the system in which an exact value for all three components of the angular momentum  $L = (\chi_6, \chi_7, \chi_8)$  can be specified, since  $\psi_0$  is an eigen state of each component of  $L$  with eigen value zero (Schiff, 1968). Note that since the components of  $L$  do not commute, the system cannot in general be assigned definite values for all angular momentum components simultaneously. Also, given an initial state  $\phi_0 \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)$  the position probability measure over any measurable subset  $\Delta \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  (Borel subset) for the state  $\phi$ , evolving in the presence of a conservative force field potential  $v \approx \frac{1}{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$  can be asymptotically obtained from (3.8) for large positive or negative times. This is useful in scattering theory. Next we give a general perspective on the usefulness of considering Lie group.

4 **Prolongations; Generalized Rotations in H.**

Let  $H = \{\lambda\phi\}$  be the set of all possible states of a quantum system, where  $\phi$  is a non-zero vector in the complex Hilbert space and  $\lambda$  are scalars. The transformation from  $\phi \rightarrow g\phi$  where  $g$  is an operation from  $H$  to  $H$  is usually referred to as a generalized rotation of the state vectors in  $H$ . Usually the generalized rotations do not conserve norms in  $H$ , thus operations for which norms are conserved are useful in quantum mechanics.

Now consider the set  $Z = \mathbb{R}^n \times H$  where  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are real line projection valued measures, then a pair of points  $(x, \phi) \in Z$  determines uniquely a particular pure state of the system. Let  $G$  be a Lie group of symmetries for  $H$  and consider the group action of  $G$  on  $Z$ . If  $G$  acts regularly on  $Z$ , we may view the quotient space  $Z/G$  as a differentiable manifold. Let  $Z_q$  be a  $q$ -section of  $Z$ , then  $Z_q$  would be characterized by local coordinate systems, which are regular on  $Z$  due to the regularity of the action of  $G$  on  $Z$ . If  $l$  is the dimension of the orbits of  $G$ , then due to the regular coordinate structure of  $Z_q$ , we may construct a subbundle

$(Z_q, P_G, Z_{q-l})$ , where  $P_G = (P_1, \dots, P_{q-l})$  are  $q-l$  independent composition maps of  $G$ .

Thus there is a projection of  $Z_q$  into  $Z_{q-l}$ . Now since from section 1,  $G$  preserves transition probabilities in  $H$ , we have a generalized rotation of state vectors in  $H$  in which norms are preserved (Mackey 1978, Kuku et al, 1985). These generalised rotations, comprising symmetry transformations which involve stretching, scaling or contraction as well as a pure rotation, constitute a change of axes in  $H$  without a change in the state vectors defining the system. However a change in the frame of reference would involve a change in the choice for representation, since a particular state vector has different components when referred to different axes and these constitute the different representation of the state. Thus one expects a change in the representation of the state vectors. Our theory ascertains that under the prolonged action of  $G$  one obtains in  $Z_{q-l}$ , new representations of the state vectors in  $q-l$  fewer components, since  $Z_{q-l}$  comprises of state vectors whose components are defined on  $\mathbb{R}^{q-l}$ . Therefore, for complex quantum systems, one obtains new symmetries, which greatly reduce the complexity of the system.

## REFERENCES

- Abramowitz, M. and Stegun I., 1965. Handbook of Mathematical Functions Dover New York, pp504.
- Gilmore, R., 1974. Lie Groups, Lie Algebras, and some of their applications John Wiley and sons Inc.
- Hamermesh, M., 1983. The Symmetry Group of a Differential Equation. Internal Colloquium on Group Theoretical Methods in Physics, Trieste.
- Kuku, A. O, and Thoma, E. and Rawnsley, J. H., 1985. Group Representation and its Applications. C.I.M.P.A., Nice, p.189
- Mackey, G. W., 1978. Unitary Group Representations in Physics, Probability and Number Theory Benjamin Cummings, pp159
- Muriel, C., and Romero, J., 2001. L IMA J. Appl. Math. pp. 66
- Nwachuku, C. O. and Ifidon, E. O., 1991. J. Nig Math. Soc. 1065.
- Olver, P. J., 1986. Application of Lie Groups to Differential Equations. Graduate Texts in Mathematics, 107, Springer Verlag, New York.
- Ovsiannikov, L. V., 1957. Group Analysis of Differential Equations. Academic Press New York, 1982.
- Palais, R. S. A global formulation of the Lie Theory of Transformation Groups; Men. Amer. Math. Soc. No.22, p13.