# SU3 symmetry and link to clusterization 

Frédéric Nowacki



The nuclear interaction: the simple view


## Separation of the effective Hamilitonian

## Monopole and multipole

Multipole expansion:

$$
H=H_{\text {monopole }}+H_{\text {multipole }}
$$

- Spherical mean-field
$H_{\text {monopole }}$ - Evolution of the spherical single particle levels

- Correlations
$H_{\text {multipole }}$ :
- Energy gains

M. Dufour and A. Zuker (PRC 541996 1641)

$$
V=\sum_{J T} V_{i j k l}^{J T}\left[\left(a_{i}^{+} a_{j}^{+}\right)^{J T}\left(\tilde{a}_{k} \tilde{a}_{l}\right)^{J T}\right]^{00}
$$

In order to express the number of articles operators $n_{i}=a_{i}^{+} a_{i} \propto\left(a_{i}^{+} \tilde{a}_{i}\right)^{0}$,
particle-hole recoupling :

$$
\begin{gathered}
V=\sum_{\lambda \tau} W_{i k j l}^{\lambda \tau}\left[\left(a_{i}^{+} \tilde{a}_{k}\right)^{\lambda \tau}\left(a_{j}^{+} \tilde{a}_{l}\right)^{\lambda \tau}\right]^{00} \\
W_{i k j l}^{\lambda \tau} \propto \sum_{J T} V_{i j k l}^{J T}\left\{\begin{array}{ccc}
i & k & \lambda \\
j & l & \lambda \\
J & J & 0
\end{array}\right\}\left\{\begin{array}{ccc}
\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & \tau \\
\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & \tau \\
T & T & 0
\end{array}\right\}
\end{gathered}
$$

$\mathcal{H}_{m}$ corresponds only to the terms $\lambda \tau=00$ and 01 which implies that $i=j$ and $k=I$ and writes as

$$
\mathcal{H}_{m}=\sum_{i} n_{i} \epsilon_{i}+\sum_{i \leq j} n_{i} \cdot n_{j} V_{i j}
$$

$$
V=\sum_{J T} V_{i j k l}^{J T}\left[\left(a_{i}^{+} a_{j}^{+}\right)^{J T}\left(\tilde{a}_{k} \tilde{a}_{l}\right)^{J T}\right]^{00}
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$$

$$
\mathcal{H}_{M}=\mathcal{H}-\mathcal{H}_{m}
$$

$H_{\text {multipole }}$ can be written in two representations, particle-particle and particle-hole. Both can be brought into a diagonal form. When this is done, it comes out that only a few terms are coherent, and those are the simplest ones:

- $L=0$ isovector and isoscalar pairing
- Elliott's quadrupole
- $\vec{\sigma} \vec{\tau} \cdot \vec{\sigma} \vec{\tau}$
- Octupole and hexadecapole terms of the type $r^{\lambda} Y_{\lambda} \cdot r^{\lambda} Y_{\lambda}$

Besides, they are universal (all the realistic interactions give similar values) and scale simply with the mass number

|  | $\mathrm{pp}(\mathrm{JT})$ |  |  |  | $\mathrm{ph}(\lambda \tau)$ |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 10 | 01 | 21 | 20 | 40 | 10 | 11 |  |  |
| KB | -5.83 | -4.96 | -3.21 | -3.53 | -1.38 | +1.61 | +3.00 |  |  |
| USD-A | -5.62 | -5.50 | -3.17 | -3.24 | -1.60 | +1.56 | +2.99 |  |  |
| CCEI | -6.79 | -4.68 | -2.93 | -3.40 | -1.39 | +1.21 | +2.83 |  |  |
| NN+NNN-MBPT | -6.40 | -4.36 | -2.91 | -3.28 | -1.23 | +1.10 | +2.43 |  |  |
| NN-MBPT | -6.06 | -4.38 | -2.92 | -3.35 | -1.31 | +1.03 | +2.49 |  |  |



- Quadrupole regime: deformed nuclei Underlying SU3 symmetry

KB US[ CCE $\mathrm{NN}_{+}$ NN-
prolate nucleus:

Typical example: open shell $\mathbf{N}=\mathbf{Z}$ nuclei
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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | 20 | 40 | 10 | 11 |
| KB | -5.83 | -4.96 | 3.21 | -3.53 | -1.38 | +1.61 | +3.00 |
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| particle-particle | Interaction | particle-hole |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $J T=01$ | $J T=10$ |  | $\lambda \tau=20$ | $\lambda \tau=40$ | $\lambda \tau=11$ |
| -5.42 | -5.43 | KLS | -2.90 | -1.61 | +2.38 |
| -5.48 | -6.24 | BONNB | -2.82 | -1.39 | +3.64 |
| -5.69 | -5.90 | USD | -3.18 | -1.60 | +3.08 |
|  |  |  |  | -1.39 | +2.46 |
| -4.75 | -4.46 | KB3 | -2.79 | -1.67 | +3.17 |
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- Assuming spin-isospin $\operatorname{SU}(4)$ symmetry (no spin-orbit)
- and a quadrupole-quadrupole residual interaction:

$$
\mathcal{H}=\sum_{k}\left(\frac{p_{k}^{2}}{2 m}+\frac{1}{2} m \omega^{2} r_{k}^{2}\right)+\kappa Q \cdot Q
$$

which can be rewritten

$$
\mathcal{H}=\sum_{k}\left(\frac{p_{k}^{2}}{2 m}+\frac{1}{2} m \omega^{2} r_{k}^{2}\right)+4 \kappa C_{S U 3}-3 \kappa(\vec{L} . \vec{L})
$$

the eigenenergies have the following form:

$$
E=\hbar \omega\left(N+\frac{3}{2}\right)+4 \kappa\left(\lambda^{2}+\lambda \mu+\mu^{2}+3(\lambda+\mu)\right)-3 \kappa L(L+1)
$$

where $\lambda$ and $\mu$ are the labels of the SU3 irrep. and L the angular momentum. Therefore it gives a description of deformation via a rotationally invariant mixing of spherical orbits.

Consider the quadrupole force alone, taken to act in the $p$-th oscillator shell. It will tend to maximize the quadrupole moment, which means filling the lowest orbits obtained by diagonalizing the operator

$$
Q_{0}=2 z^{2}-x^{2}-y^{2}
$$

Using the cartesian representation, $Q_{0}=2 n_{z}-n_{x}-n_{y}=3 n_{z}-N$, we find eigenvalues $2 p$, $2 p-3, \ldots$, etc.

By filling the orbits orderly we obtain the intrinsic states for the lowest $\mathrm{SU}(3)$ representations:

- $(\lambda, 0)$ if all states are occupied up to a given level
- $(\lambda, \mu)$ otherwise

Diagonalization of the operator $Q_{0}=2 z^{2}-x^{2}-y^{2}$ in a major HO-shell without spin-orbit (SU3-Nilsson-like single particle levels)

$$
k=2 p
$$

$\pi, \nu$

In the $s d$ shell, $\mathrm{N}=2$

$$
N=n_{x}+n_{y}+n_{z}
$$

There are 6 possible ( $n_{x}, n_{y}, n_{z}$ ): $(2,0,0)(0,2,0)(0,0,2)$ $(1,1,0)(1,0,1)(0,1,1)$

$$
Q_{0}=2 n_{z}-n_{x}-n_{y}=(4,1,-2)
$$

Starting filling from below
Starting filling from above


$$
h=-\frac{\hbar^{2}}{2 m} \Delta+\frac{1}{2}\left(\omega_{x}^{2} x^{2}+\omega_{y}^{2} y^{2}+\omega_{z}^{2} z^{2}\right)
$$

spherical orbits $|n l j m \tau\rangle\left(n_{x}, n_{y}, n_{z}\right)$ due to $\sigma$ and $\tau$ each ( $n x, n y, n z$ ) state is 4 fold degenerate

Correspondance between intrinsic states of harmonic oscillator and SU3 states:
Highest Weight state $(\lambda, \mu)$ build on ( $n_{x}, n_{y}, n_{z}$ ) state at the spherical limit

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
N=n_{x}+n_{y}+n_{z} \\
\lambda=n_{z}-n_{x} \\
\mu=n_{x}-n_{y}
\end{array}\right.
$$

## Spherical Shell Model and Deformation

| Nucleus | configuration | Intrinsic state | $(\lambda \mu)$ | shape |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ${ }^{4} \mathrm{He}$ | OpOh | $(000)^{4}$ | $(0,0)$ | spherical |
| ${ }^{8} \mathrm{Be}$ | OpOh | $(000)^{4}(001)^{4}$ | $(4,0)$ | prolate |
| ${ }^{10} \mathrm{Be}$ | OpOh | $(000)^{4}(001)^{4}(100)^{2}$ | $(4,2)$ | prolate |
|  | 2p2h | $(000)^{4}(001)^{4}(002)^{2}$ | $(6,0)$ | prolate |
| ${ }^{12} \mathrm{C}$ | OpOh | $(000)^{4}(100)^{4}(010)^{4}$ | $(0,4)$ | oblate |
|  | 4p4h | $(000)^{4}(001)^{4}(002)^{4}$ | $(12,0)$ | prolate |
| ${ }^{16} \mathrm{O}$ | OpOh | $(000)^{4}(100)^{4}(010)^{4}(001)^{4}$ | $(0,0)$ | spherical |
|  | 4 p 4 h | $(000)^{4}(100)^{4}(001)^{4}(002)^{4}$ | $(8,4)$ | triaxial |
|  | 8 p 8 h | $(000)^{4}(001)^{4}(002)^{4}(003)^{4}$ | $(24,0)$ | prolate |
| ${ }^{20} \mathrm{Ne}$ | OpOh | $(000)^{4}(100)^{4}(010)^{4}(001)^{4}(002)^{4}$ | $(8,0)$ | prolate |
| ${ }^{24} \mathrm{Mg}$ | OpOh | $(000)^{4}(100)^{4}(010)^{4}(001)^{4}(002)^{4}(101)^{4}$ | $(8,4)$ | triaxial |
| ${ }^{28} \mathrm{Si}$ | OpOh | $(000)^{4}(100)^{4}(010)^{4}(001)^{4}(200)^{4}(020)^{4}(110)^{4}$ | $(0,12)$ | oblate |
|  | OpOh | $(000)^{4}(100)^{4}(010)^{4}(001)^{4}(002)^{4}(101)^{4}(011)^{4}$ | $(12,0)$ | prolate |

Deformed harmonic oscillator, even if inadequate for a detailled description contains already many clusterization effects in light nuclei

- Y. Abgrall, G. Baron, E. Caurier and G. Monsonego

Nuc. Phys. A131 (1969) 609

- Y. Abgrall, B. Morand, and E. Caurier Nuc. Phys. A192 (1972) 372

| Nucleus | configuration | Intrinsic state | $(\lambda \mu)$ | shape |
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journal de physique Colloque C6, supplément au $n^{\circ}$ 11-12, Tome 32, Novembre-Décembre 1971, page C6-63

## DEFORMED STRUCTURES <br> AND ALPHA-PARTICLE DESCRIPTION OF LIGHT NUCLEI

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Laboratoire de Physique Théorique, Centre de Recherches Nucléaires de Strasbourg, France

Moreover, it can be shown to be a limit of the Brink $\alpha$ model when distances go to zero:

Case of ${ }^{8} \mathrm{Be}$ :
$\psi=\mathcal{A}\left|\phi\left(r_{1} r_{2} r_{3} r_{4} ; d_{1}\right) \phi\left(r_{5} r_{6} r_{7} r_{8} ; d_{2}\right)\right\rangle$ with $\phi\left(r_{k}, d_{i}\right)=\operatorname{Nexp}-\frac{\left(r-d_{i}\right)^{2}}{2 b^{2}}$,
$\phi_{1}=e^{-\frac{(x-d)^{2}}{2 b^{2}}}$ and $\phi_{2}=e^{-\frac{(x+d)^{2}}{2 b^{2}}}$
develop when $d \rightarrow 0$ as
$e^{-\frac{x^{2}}{2 b^{2}}}\left(1-\frac{d x}{2 b^{2}}+\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{d x}{2 b^{2}}\right)^{2}-\ldots\right)$ and $e^{-\frac{x^{2}}{2 b^{2}}}\left(1+\frac{d x}{2 b^{2}}+\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{d x}{2 b^{2}}\right)^{2}+\ldots\right)$
After orthogonalization one gets $e^{-\frac{x^{2}}{2 b^{2}}}$ and $x e^{-\frac{x^{2}}{2 b^{2}}}$,
so the Slater Determinant built on these functions corresponds to the $(000)^{4}(001)^{4}$ state of the deformed harmonic oscillator

| Nucleus | configuration | limit | Intrinsic state | $(\lambda \mu)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ${ }^{8} \mathrm{Be}$ | $\bigcirc \stackrel{d}{\bigcirc}$ | $d \rightarrow 0$ | $(000)^{4}(001)^{4}$ | $(4,0)$ |
| ${ }^{12} \mathrm{C}$ |  | $d \rightarrow 0$ | $(000)^{4}(100)^{4}(010)^{4}$ | $(0,4)$ |
|  |  | $d \rightarrow 0$ | $(000)^{4}(001)^{4}(002)^{4}$ | $(12,0)$ |


| Nucleus | configuration | limit | Intrinsic state | $(\lambda \mu)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ${ }^{16} \mathrm{O}$ | $0$ | $d \rightarrow 0$ | $(000)^{4}(100)^{4}(010)^{4}(001)^{4}$ | $(0,0)$ |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} d_{1} & \rightarrow 0 \\ \frac{d_{1}}{d_{2}} & \rightarrow \infty \\ d & \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (000)^{4}(100)^{4}(001)^{4}(002)^{4} \\ & (000)^{4}(001)^{4}(002)^{4}(003)^{4} \end{aligned}$ | $(8,4)$ $(24,0)$ |
| ${ }^{20} \mathrm{Ne}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & d_{1} \rightarrow 0 \\ & \frac{d_{1}}{d_{2}} \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$ | $(000)^{4}(100)^{4}(010)^{4}(001)^{4}(002)^{4}$ | $(8,0)$ |

Brink $\alpha$ cluster model $\rightarrow$ Deformed H.O. $\rightarrow$ SU3 eigenstates

- nuclear shell model often considered to be applied only when nuclear manifestations are dominated by single particle degrees of freedom
- BUT work of Elliot: deformation in light nuclei explained by algebraic SU3 model


## QUESTIONS:

- Is it possible to describe rotationnal motion within the spherical shell model, beyond sd shell where SU3 applies ?
- which are the minimal valence spaces containing the relevant degrees of freedom?
- Is there anything like an intrinsic state in the shell model wavefunctions?
- Limitations of SU3 model:
- as the spin orbit term becomes rapidly important its applicability stops at the sd shell
- but can be recovered approximately as in the pseudo-SU3 or quasi-SU3 schemes.

See:

- A. P. Zuker, J. Retamosa, A. Poves, and E. Caurier Phys. Rev. bf C52, R1741 (1995)
- A. P. Zuker, A. Poves, F. Nowacki, and S. Lenzi Phys. Rev. bf C92, 024320 (2015)

The resulting "quasi $\mathrm{SU}(3)$ " quadrupole operator respects $\mathrm{SU}(3)$
relationships, except for $m=0$, where the correspondence breaks down. The resulting spectrum is a quasi-2 $2 q_{20}$ (to be compared with the SU3 one). The result is not exact for the $K=1 / 2$ orbits but a very good approximation.


$$
k=2 p
$$

$$
\pi, \nu
$$

Diagonalization of the operator $Q_{0}=2 z^{2}-x^{2}-y^{2}$ in a major HO-shell without spin-orbit in the subspace of the aligned orbits (Quasi-SU3)

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$k=2 p-1 / 2$

$$
\pi, \nu
$$

Diagonalization of the operator $Q_{0}=2 z^{2}-x^{2}-y^{2}$ in a major HO-shell without spin-orbit in the subspace of the aligned orbits (Quasi-SU3)
$\diamond$ Strongly deformed states at $N=Z$ :

- Shape transition between ${ }^{84} \mathrm{Mo}$ and ${ }^{86} \mathrm{Mo}$
- Configuration mixing in ${ }^{72} \mathrm{Kr}$
- Most deformed cases for ${ }^{76} \mathrm{Sr},{ }^{80} \mathrm{Zr}$

$\diamond$ Strongly deformed states at $N=Z$ :
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- Configuration mixing in ${ }^{72} \mathrm{Kr}$
- Most deformed cases for ${ }^{76} \mathrm{Sr},{ }^{80} \mathrm{Zr}$
R.D.O. Llewellyn et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 152501 (2020)


FIG. 3. Schematics of the $B(\mathrm{E} 2 \downarrow)$ values for the $N=Z$ nuclei

(30 HF states)

The wave function is written as successive coupling of one shell wave functions (c. f. p. 's) defined by $\left|\left(j_{i}\right)^{n_{i}} v_{i} \gamma_{i} x_{i}\right\rangle$ :

$$
\left[\left[\left|\left(j_{1}\right)^{n_{1}} v_{1} \gamma_{1} x_{1}\right\rangle\left|\left(j_{2}\right)^{n_{2}} v_{2} \gamma_{2} x_{2}\right\rangle\right]^{\Gamma_{2}} \ldots\left|\left(j_{k}\right)^{n_{k}} v_{k} \gamma_{k} x_{k}\right\rangle\right]^{\Gamma_{k}}
$$

Single shell matrix elements calculation can be simplified with the quasi-spin formalism

SU(2) Algrebra for Quasi-Spin:

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
S^{+}=-\sqrt{\frac{\Omega}{2}}\left(\tilde{a}_{j} \tilde{a}_{j}\right)^{0} & S^{-}=-\sqrt{\frac{\Omega}{2}}\left(a_{j}^{\dagger} a_{j}^{\dagger}\right)^{0} \\
S_{z}=\frac{\Omega-n}{2} & S=\frac{\Omega-v}{2}
\end{array}
$$

with $\Omega=(2 j+1) / 2$ and $n$, number of particles in the shell $j$

From $|n v\rangle$ to $\left|S S_{z}\right\rangle$ representation and operators expressed in the two body interaction are spherical tensors in the Quasi-spin space:

- $\mathrm{A} \equiv\binom{\tilde{a}_{j}}{a_{j}^{\dagger}}$ tensor of rank $\frac{1}{2}$
- (AA) ${ }^{\omega}$
$\omega$ even : tensor of rank 1
$\omega$ odd : tensor of rank 0
- $\left[(\mathrm{AA})^{\omega} A\right]^{j} \quad$ mixed tensors of rank $\frac{1}{2}$ et $\frac{3}{2}$
- $\left[(A A)^{\omega}(A A)^{\omega}\right]^{0}$
mixed tensors
of rank 0, 1 and 2

Two main advantages:

- easy C.F.P. calculation:

$$
\left\langle n v \gamma x\|\mathcal{O}\| n^{\prime} v^{\prime} \gamma^{\prime} x^{\prime}\right\rangle=\left\langle S \gamma x\| \| \mathcal{O} \| \mid S^{\prime} \gamma^{\prime} x^{\prime}\right\rangle \times \text { Clebsh-Gordan coeff. }
$$

Matrix elements are doubly reduced in spin and Quasi-spin

- easier calculation of $\mathcal{N}$ body matrix elements:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left\langle S S_{z} \gamma \Gamma\|\mathcal{O}\| S^{\prime} S_{z}^{\prime} \gamma^{\prime} \Gamma^{\prime}\right\rangle \\
= & \left\langle S \gamma \Gamma\left\|\mathcal{O}_{1}\right\| S^{\prime} \gamma^{\prime} \Gamma^{\prime}\right\rangle\left\langle S S_{z}\right| \mathcal{O}_{2}\left|S^{\prime} S_{z}^{\prime}\right\rangle
\end{aligned}
$$

Instead of computing one large matrix $\langle q \times r|\left|q^{\prime} \times r^{\prime}\right\rangle$, one is left with two smaller matrices $\langle q|\left|q^{\prime}\right\rangle$ et $\langle r|\left|r^{\prime}\right\rangle$

## Pairing correlations and $0 \nu \beta \beta$ decay

$0 \nu \beta \beta$ decay favoured by proton-proton, neutron-neutron pairing, but it is disfavored by proton-neutron pairing

Ideal case: superfluid nuclei reduced with high-seniorities

E. Caurier et al., PRL100 052503 (2008)

Addition of isoscalar pairing reduces matrix element value

E. Caurier et al., PRL100 052503 (2008)

Related to approximate $\mathrm{SU}(4)$ symmetry of the $\sum \sum_{i} H\left(r_{0}\right) \sigma_{j} \sigma_{j} \tau_{i} \tau_{j} \mathrm{~s}_{\mathrm{j}}$ operator $r_{312023}$

- Multipole Hamiltonian decomposition shows leading Pairing and Quadrupole terms
- These terms carry underlying SU2/SU3 symmetries
- Intimate natural relation between Brink $\alpha$ cluster model $\rightarrow$ Deformed H.O. $\rightarrow$ SU3 eigenstates
- SU3 variants (pseudo/quasi) still at play and very efficient for development of deformation in heavier mass regions

In $j j$ coupling the angular part of the quadrupole operator $q^{20}=r^{2} C^{20}$ has matrix elements

$$
\begin{aligned}
\langle j m| C^{2}|j+2 m\rangle & \approx \frac{3\left[(j+3 / 2)^{2}-m^{2}\right]}{2(2 j+3)^{2}}, \\
\langle j m| C^{2}|j+1 m\rangle & =-\frac{3 m\left[(j+1)^{2}-m^{2}\right]^{1 / 2}}{2 j(2 j+2)(2 j+4)}
\end{aligned}
$$

The $\Delta j=2$ numbers are-within the approximation made-identical to those in LS scheme, obtained by replacing $j$ by $I$. The $\Delta j=1$ matrix elements are small, both for large and small $m$, corresponding to the lowest oblate and prolate deformed orbits respectively.

|  |  | LS coupling |  | $l \gg\|m\|$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{array}{r} \langle I m\| \tilde{Q}_{20}\|I m\rangle \\ \left.\langle \| m\left\|\tilde{Q}_{20}\right\| I+2 m\right\rangle \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & =\frac{I(I+1)-3 m^{2}}{(2 I-1)(2 I+3)} \\ & =\frac{3\left[(I+1)^{2}-m^{2}\right]^{1 / 2}\left[(I+2)^{2}-m^{2}\right]^{1 / 2}}{2(2 I+1)^{1 / 2}(2 I+3)(2 I+5)^{1 / 2}} \end{aligned}$ |  | $\rightarrow$$\rightarrow$ | 1 |
|  |  |  | $\overline{4}$ |
|  |  |  | 3 |
|  |  |  | $\overline{8}$ |
| jij coupling |  |  |  |  | $j \gg\|m\|$ |
| $\langle j m\| \tilde{Q}_{20}\|j m\rangle$ | $=\frac{j(j+1)-3 m^{2}}{4 j(j+1)}$ |  |  | $\rightarrow$ | 1 |
|  |  |  | $\overline{4}$ |  |
| $\langle j m\| \tilde{Q}_{20}\|j+1 m\rangle$ |  | $\frac{3 m\left[(j+1)^{2}-m^{2}\right]^{1 / 2}}{4 j(j+1)(j+2)}$ |  | $\rightarrow$ | $\underline{3 m} \sim 0$ |
|  |  | $\frac{4 j(j+1)(j+2)}{}$ |  |  |
| $\langle j m\| \tilde{Q}_{20}\|j+2 m\rangle$ |  | $\underline{3\left[(j+1)^{2}-m^{2}\right]^{1 / 2}\left[(j+2)^{2}-m^{2}\right]^{1 / 2}}$ | $\rightarrow$ | 3 |
|  |  | $8(j+1)(j+2)$ |  | 8 |

If the spherical $j$-orbits are degenerate, the $\Delta j=1$ couplings, though small, will mix strongly the two $\Delta j=2$ sequences (e.g., $\left(f_{7 / 2} p_{3 / 2}\right)$ and ( $\left.f_{5 / 2} p_{1 / 2}\right)$ ). The spin-orbit splittings will break the degeneracies and favour the decoupling of the two sequences. Hence the idea of neglecting the $\Delta j=1$ matrix elements and exploit the correspondence

$$
I \longrightarrow j=I+1 / 2 \quad m \longrightarrow m+1 / 2 \text { and }-m \longrightarrow-m-1 / 2
$$

which is one-to-one (except for $m=0$ ).

