

An Infinite Family of Maximally Superintegrable Systems in a Magnetic Field with Higher Order Integrals

Antonella MARCHESIELLO [†] and Libor ŠNOBL [‡]

[†] Czech Technical University in Prague, Faculty of Information Technology,
Department of Applied Mathematics, Thákurova 9, 160 00 Prague 6, Czech Republic
E-mail: marchant@fit.cvut.cz

[‡] Czech Technical University in Prague, Faculty of Nuclear Sciences and Physical Engineering,
Department of Physics, Břehová 7, 115 19 Prague 1, Czech Republic
E-mail: Libor.Snobl@fjfi.cvut.cz

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Abstract. We construct an additional independent integral of motion for a class of three dimensional minimally superintegrable systems with constant magnetic field. This class was introduced in [*J. Phys. A: Math. Theor.* **50** (2017), 245202, 24 pages] and it is known to possess periodic closed orbits. In the present paper we demonstrate that it is maximally superintegrable. Depending on the values of the parameters of the system, the newly found integral can be of arbitrarily high polynomial order in momenta.

Key words: integrability; superintegrability; higher order integrals; magnetic field

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1 Introduction

In our recent paper [13] we found a class of minimally superintegrable systems in three spatial dimensions with constant magnetic field which possesses closed bounded periodic trajectories for a particular choice of parameters. Namely, a quantity κ constructed out of them (cf. equation (2.7) below) must be rational, $\kappa = \frac{m}{n}$. For three particular choices of κ this system is known to be maximally superintegrable with integrals of at most second order in momenta [13]. Thus a natural question arises asking whether also for the remaining values of the parameters satisfying the rationality constraint a missing independent integral can be constructed.

In this paper we describe how the considered system can be reduced to the two dimensional anisotropic harmonic oscillator and how the known integrals of the anisotropic oscillator give rise to a new integral for the system with the magnetic field. Assuming we have $\kappa = \frac{m}{n}$ where m and n are incommensurable, the additional integral is of order $m+n-1$ in momenta. Its leading order terms involve angular momenta linearly.

For the sake of clearness, let us recall that in classical mechanics (with or without magnetic field) integrability means that there exist N integrals of motion X_j including the Hamiltonian that Poisson commute pairwise, are well defined functions on the phase space and are functionally independent. The system is superintegrable if it allows k further independent integrals Y_a that Poisson commute with the Hamiltonian, but not necessarily with each other, nor with the integrals X_j . The integer k satisfies $1 \leq k \leq N-1$ where $k=1$ and $k=N-1$ correspond to minimal and maximal superintegrability, respectively. Similarly, in quantum mechanics we assume that the integrals are well-defined commuting self-adjoint operators, polynomial in the operators \hat{x}_j and \hat{p}_j representing the coordinates and the momenta, or more general objects,

such as convergent series in these operators. Requirement of independence in this case means that no nontrivial fully symmetrized polynomial in the integrals of motion should vanish.

Maximally superintegrable systems are of special interest in classical physics because all finite trajectories in these systems are closed in configuration space and the motion is periodic. In quantum mechanics the energy levels are degenerate and it has been conjectured that maximally superintegrable systems are exactly solvable [24].

Most of the recent research on superintegrability focused on “natural” Hamiltonians with scalar potentials. For early systematic study in three dimensions see [6, 7, 12, 27]. This paper belongs to a series of papers [13, 14, 15] studying superintegrability of three dimensional systems with magnetic fields. We refer the reader to the papers [14, 15] for discussion of a general motivation for our research and to [13] for details concerning the introduction of the system considered in this paper. For a general discussion of integrability and superintegrability see a recent review [18], for superintegrability in the presence of vector potentials, e.g., [2, 4, 11, 16, 17, 20, 21, 28]. The influence of constant magnetic field on the motion in a given potential was studied, e.g., in [5, 26] where the two body Coulomb problem was studied. Despite the similarities the reader should notice the differences between the two approaches: in [5] additional, so called particular, integrals conserved only on special “superintegrable” trajectories were constructed whereas we consider the appearance of additional global integrals when a particular relation among the parameters of the system holds.

The structure of the paper is as follows: In Section 2 we describe our system, its integrals and its trajectories as presented in [13]. In Section 3 we reduce its dynamics to the well-known case of two dimensional anisotropic harmonic oscillator (cf. [10, 19, 22]). In Section 4 we use the known integrals of the anisotropic oscillator to construct previously unknown integrals for the three dimensional problem under investigation. In Section 5 we present an explicit example. In the last section we conclude with a summary of our results and comment on the superintegrability of the quantum analogue of our system.

2 The system

We consider the Hamiltonian system on the phase space with coordinates (\vec{x}, \vec{p}) where $\vec{x} = (x, y, z)$ and $\vec{p} = (p_1, p_2, p_3)$. We assume that its magnetic field and effective potential are given by

$$\vec{B}(\vec{x}) = (-\Omega_1, \Omega_2, 0), \quad W(\vec{x}) = \frac{\Omega_1 \Omega_2}{2S} (Sx - y)^2, \quad (2.1)$$

where Ω_1, Ω_2, S are real constants such that $S \neq 0$ and $\Omega_1^2 + \Omega_2^2 \neq 0$. Its Hamiltonian can be written as

$$H = \frac{1}{2} (\vec{p}^A)^2 + W(\vec{x}), \quad (2.2)$$

where

$$p_j^A = p_j + A_j(\vec{x})$$

are gauge covariant expressions for the momenta (for our choice of mass equal to 1 they coincide with the velocities). We notice that in the usual formulation of Hamiltonian dynamics which we shall use here for computational reasons, the equations of motion on the phase space and thus also the integrals of motion expressed in terms of the canonical variables x_i and p_j depend on the chosen gauge. However, the existence of the integrals as well as their expression in terms of the coordinates x_i and the covariantized momenta p_j^A does not depend on the choice of gauge. This

is best seen from the fact that the (non-canonical) Poisson brackets among the coordinates x_i and p_j^A

$$\{x_i, x_j\}_{\text{P.B.}} = 0, \quad \{x_i, p_j^A\}_{\text{P.B.}} = \delta_{ij}, \quad \{p_i^A, p_j^A\}_{\text{P.B.}} = -\epsilon_{ijk} B_k$$

as well as Poisson bracket of any functions expressed in terms of them are explicitly gauge invariant (see, e.g., [25, Remark 5.1.10(6), p. 217]). Thus the notions of integrability and superintegrability are gauge-invariant.

The system (2.1) is already known to be minimally superintegrable [13]. It has three Cartesian type integrals

$$\begin{aligned} X_0 &= p_3^A + \Omega_2 x + \Omega_1 y, \\ X_1 &= (p_1^A)^2 - 2\Omega_2 x p_3^A - \Omega_2^2 x^2 + \Omega_1 \Omega_2 x (Sx - 2y), \\ X_2 &= (p_2^A)^2 - 2\Omega_1 y p_3^A - \Omega_1^2 y^2 + \frac{\Omega_1 \Omega_2}{S} y (y - 2Sx) \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

on which the Hamiltonian is polynomially dependent, $H = \frac{1}{2}(X_0^2 + X_1 + X_2)$, and an additional first order integral

$$X_3 = p_1^A + S p_2^A - (S\Omega_1 + \Omega_2)z. \quad (2.4)$$

The classical trajectories of the system (2.1) are known, cf. [13]

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= \frac{1}{\omega_1^2} ((\omega_1^2 x_0 - \Omega_2 p_{30}) \cos(\omega_1 t) + \omega_1 p_{10} \sin(\omega_1 t) + \Omega_2 p_{30}), \\ y(t) &= \frac{1}{\omega_2^2} ((\omega_2^2 y_0 - \Omega_1 p_{30}) \cos(\omega_2 t) + \omega_2 p_{20} \sin(\omega_2 t) + \Omega_1 p_{30}), \\ z(t) &= \frac{1}{\Omega_1 S + \Omega_2} \left(p_{10} (\cos(\omega_1 t) - 1) + S p_{20} (\cos(\omega_2 t) - 1) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{\Omega_2 p_{30} - \omega_1^2 x_0}{\omega_1} \sin(\omega_1 t) + \frac{\Omega_1 p_{30} - \omega_2^2 y_0}{\omega_2} \sin(\omega_2 t) \right) + z_0, \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

where we introduced the constants

$$\omega_1 = \sqrt{\Omega_2(\Omega_1 S + \Omega_2)}, \quad \omega_2 = \sqrt{\frac{\Omega_1}{S}(\Omega_1 S + \Omega_2)} = \sqrt{\frac{\Omega_1}{S\Omega_2}} \omega_1 \quad (2.6)$$

in order to shorten the terms in (2.5).

In [13] it was also proven that in the special cases

$$S = \frac{\Omega_1}{\Omega_2}, \quad S = 4\frac{\Omega_1}{\Omega_2} \quad \text{and} \quad S = \frac{\Omega_1}{4\Omega_2}$$

the system (2.1) is maximally superintegrable, with the additional integral of order 1 and 2, respectively. In the following we prove that the system (2.1) is maximally superintegrable whenever the trajectories (2.5) are periodic (or, equivalently, closed), i.e., for

$$S = \frac{\Omega_1}{\Omega_2} \kappa^2, \quad \text{where} \quad \kappa = \frac{m}{n}, \quad m, n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ are incommensurable,} \quad (2.7)$$

with the fifth integral of order $m + n - 1$ in the momenta p_1, p_2, p_3 . We notice that systems with the parameters $\Omega_1, \Omega_2, \kappa$ and $\Omega_2, \Omega_1, \frac{1}{\kappa}$ are equivalent, differ just by a choice of Cartesian coordinates, cf. [13].

We present the system as expressed in (2.1) since this is the form in which its mathematical structure is most easy to analyze. However, this is not the best point of view for its physical interpretation. Through a rotation the system can be brought to a form where either the magnetic field \vec{B} or the harmonic potential W is aligned with one of the coordinate axis. In [13] we demonstrated its form when the magnetic field is aligned with the x -axis; however it may be more illuminating to rotate it so that the potential W acts along a coordinate axis. Thus we rotate our coordinate system about the z -axis by an angle α such that $\tan \alpha = \frac{1}{S} = \frac{\Omega_2}{\kappa^2 \Omega_1}$. The system takes the form (2.2) with the harmonic oscillator potential acting along one coordinate axis,

$$\tilde{W}(\tilde{x}, \tilde{y}, \tilde{z}) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\kappa^2 \Omega_1^2 + \frac{\Omega_2^2}{\kappa^2} \right) \tilde{x}^2 \equiv \frac{1}{2} (\hat{\omega})^2 \tilde{x}^2 \quad (2.8)$$

in the constant magnetic field

$$\vec{B} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\Omega_2^2 + \kappa^4 \Omega_1^2}} (-\kappa^2 \Omega_1^2 - \Omega_2^2, \Omega_1 \Omega_2 (\kappa^2 - 1), 0) \equiv (\hat{B} \cos \beta, \hat{B} \sin \beta, 0).$$

Vice versa, we may, at least on some open neighborhood, express Ω_1 , Ω_2 and κ in terms of the three new parameters $\hat{\omega}$, \hat{B} and β by solving algebraic equations. Such three dimensional unidirectional harmonic oscillator inserted in a constant magnetic field is minimally superintegrable with two first order integrals \tilde{p}_2^A and $\tilde{p}_3^A - \hat{B}y \cos \beta + \hat{B}x \sin \beta$ and one independent second order integral. We see that the integral (2.4) reflects the invariance of the system under translation along the \tilde{y} direction. The solutions of the equations of motion exhibit oscillatory behaviour with two independent frequencies

$$\omega_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{\hat{B}^2 + \hat{\omega}^2 + \sqrt{(\hat{B}^2 + \hat{\omega}^2)^2 - 4\hat{B}^2 \hat{\omega}^2 \cos(\beta)^2}},$$

$$\omega_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{\hat{B}^2 + \hat{\omega}^2 - \sqrt{(\hat{B}^2 + \hat{\omega}^2)^2 - 4\hat{B}^2 \hat{\omega}^2 \cos(\beta)^2}}$$

(they coincide with the frequencies $\omega_{1,2}$ in (2.6)). When these frequencies become resonant,

$$\frac{\omega_1}{\omega_2} = \kappa = \frac{m}{n},$$

a new higher order integral to be constructed below appears.

3 Reduction to the anisotropic oscillator

Oscillator potentials and constant magnetic fields share some similarities, as noticed, e.g., in [3]. On the other hand, the first order integrals X_0 and X_3 in (2.3) and (2.4) show that the system can be regarded as an oscillator in the direction of \tilde{x} , cf. (2.8) plus a constant magnetic field. In the following we see how, by using the known first order integrals, the system (2.1) can indeed be reduced to a two dimensional anisotropic oscillator for the parameter S satisfying (2.7). With gauge chosen as

$$\vec{A} = (0, 0, -\Omega_2 x - \Omega_1 y), \quad (3.1)$$

the Hamilton equations read

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= p_1, & \dot{y} &= p_2, & \dot{z} &= -\Omega_1 y - \Omega_2 x + p_3, & \dot{p}_3 &= 0, \\ \dot{p}_1 &= -(\Omega_2^2 + \kappa^2 \Omega_1^2)x + \Omega_2 p_3, & \dot{p}_2 &= -\left(\Omega_1^2 + \frac{\Omega_2^2}{\kappa^2}\right)y + \Omega_1 p_3. \end{aligned}$$

By substituting $p_3 \equiv p_{30}$ and by the shift

$$x = X + \frac{\Omega_2 p_{30}}{\Omega_2^2 + \Omega_1^2 \kappa^2}, \quad y = Y + \frac{\Omega_1 p_{30} \kappa^2}{\Omega_2^2 + \Omega_1^2 \kappa^2}, \quad (3.2)$$

the equations simplify to

$$\dot{P}_1 = -(\Omega_2^2 + \kappa^2 \Omega_1^2) X, \quad \dot{P}_2 = -\left(\Omega_1^2 + \frac{\Omega_2^2}{\kappa^2}\right) Y, \quad \dot{X} = P_1, \quad \dot{Y} = P_2, \quad (3.3)$$

$$\dot{z} = -\Omega_1 Y - \Omega_2 X + p_{30}, \quad (3.4)$$

where P_1, P_2 are the momenta conjugated to the new space coordinates X, Y (once evaluated they are equal to the original p_1, p_2). By solving the first two equations in (3.3) with respect to X and Y and substituting into (3.4) we find

$$\Omega_2 \dot{P}_1 + \Omega_1 \kappa^2 \dot{P}_2 - (\Omega_2^2 + \Omega_1^2 \kappa^2) \dot{z} = 0$$

corresponding to the integral (2.4). The dynamics are thus reduced to the dynamics of an anisotropic oscillator, whose frequency ratio is κ and canonical coordinates are (X, Y, P_1, P_2) . It is known [22] that if κ satisfies (2.7), such an oscillator is superintegrable. Let us henceforth restrict to this case and set

$$\omega^2 = \frac{\Omega_1^2}{n^2} + \frac{\Omega_2^2}{m^2}.$$

The Hamiltonian of the two degree of freedom (from now on abbreviated to d.o.f.) oscillator (3.3) is obtained by substituting (3.2) into the Hamiltonian (2.2) and reads

$$H_2 = \frac{1}{2}(P_1^2 + P_2^2) + \frac{1}{2}\omega^2(m^2 X^2 + n^2 Y^2). \quad (3.5)$$

By introducing complex coordinates $z_1 = iP_1 + m\omega X$, $z_2 = iP_2 + n\omega Y$, the ring of the invariants of the oscillator (3.5) is generated by [10, 22]

$$I_1 = z_1 \bar{z}_1, \quad I_2 = z_2 \bar{z}_2, \quad I_3 = \operatorname{Re}(z_1^n \bar{z}_2^m), \quad I_4 = \operatorname{Im}(z_1^n \bar{z}_2^m). \quad (3.6)$$

The invariants (3.6) are clearly not independent; they satisfy the relation

$$I_3^2 + I_4^2 = I_1^n I_2^m.$$

Equivalently, the integrals I_3, I_4 can be expressed in terms of Chebyshev polynomials as [8]

$$\begin{aligned} I_3 &= |z_1|^{n-1} |z_2|^{m-1} \left(|z_1| |z_2| T_n \left(\frac{\operatorname{Re} z_1}{|z_1|} \right) T_m \left(\frac{\operatorname{Re} z_2}{|z_2|} \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \operatorname{Im} z_1 \operatorname{Im} z_2 U_{n-1} \left(\frac{\operatorname{Re} z_1}{|z_1|} \right) U_{m-1} \left(\frac{\operatorname{Re} z_2}{|z_2|} \right) \right), \\ I_4 &= |z_1|^{n-1} |z_2|^{m-1} \left(|z_2| \operatorname{Im} z_1 U_{n-1} \left(\frac{\operatorname{Re} z_1}{|z_1|} \right) T_m \left(\frac{\operatorname{Re} z_2}{|z_2|} \right) - \right. \\ &\quad \left. - |z_1| \operatorname{Im} z_2 T_n \left(\frac{\operatorname{Re} z_1}{|z_1|} \right) U_{m-1} \left(\frac{\operatorname{Re} z_2}{|z_2|} \right) \right), \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

where T_n, U_n denote the Chebyshev polynomial of degree n of the first and second type, respectively.

As we will show in the next section, the integrals I_1 and I_2 correspond to the Cartesian type integrals X_1 and X_2 of the original system while I_3 (or I_4) gives a new independent integral for the system (2.1). We find it interesting to note that, under the assumption (2.7), the system reduces to the Landau problem (i.e., a particle moving in a constant magnetic field without any potential force) in the limit $\Omega_1 \rightarrow 0$ if S is kept constant, i.e., $\kappa \rightarrow +\infty$, $\Omega_1 \approx \frac{1}{\kappa^2}$. This reflects the fact that one of the frequencies in the oscillator (3.5) goes to zero, and the polynomial integrals (3.7) are becoming of increasing order until they are lost in the limit.

4 The fifth integral

Let us first invert the shift (3.2). The integrals I_1 and I_2 give, after neglecting terms proportional to p_{30}^2 ,

$$\tilde{I}_1 = p_1^2 - 2\Omega_2 x p_{30} + \frac{\Omega_1^2 m^2 + \Omega_2^2 n^2}{n^2} x^2, \quad (4.1)$$

$$\tilde{I}_2 = p_2^2 - 2\Omega_1 y p_{30} + \frac{\Omega_1^2 m^2 + \Omega_2^2 n^2}{m^2} y^2. \quad (4.2)$$

By substituting back $p_3 = p_{30}$ into (4.1)–(4.2) we see they correspond to the Cartesian type integrals X_1 and X_2 of (2.1).

Similarly, we can find the expressions of the integrals I_3 and I_4 in the original phase space coordinates. We find it convenient to work with the following series expressions for Chebyshev polynomials

$$T_n(a) = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} \binom{n}{2k} a^{n-2k} (a^2 - 1)^k, \quad U_n(a) = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} \binom{n+1}{2k+1} a^{n-2k} (a^2 - 1)^k,$$

so that we can explicitly write the two integrals as polynomials in the momenta. Namely, after inverting the shift (3.2) and substituting $p_{30} = p_3$ we have, in gauge covariant form,

$$\begin{aligned} X_4 = & \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \rfloor} (-1)^k \binom{n}{2k+1} (m\omega \tilde{X}^A)^{n-2k-1} (p_1^A)^{2k+1} \\ & \times \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{m-1}{2} \rfloor} (-1)^k \binom{m}{2k+1} (n\omega \tilde{Y}^A)^{m-2k-1} (p_2^A)^{2k+1} \\ & + \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} (-1)^k \binom{n}{2k} (m\omega \tilde{X}^A)^{n-2k} (p_1^A)^{2k} \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor} (-1)^k \binom{m}{2k} (n\omega \tilde{Y}^A)^{m-2k} (p_2^A)^{2k} \end{aligned} \quad (4.3)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} X_5 = & \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \rfloor} (-1)^k \binom{n}{2k+1} (m\omega \tilde{X}^A)^{n-2k-1} (p_1^A)^{2k+1} \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor} (-1)^k \binom{m}{2k} (n\omega \tilde{Y}^A)^{m-2k} (p_2^A)^{2k} \\ & - \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} (-1)^k \binom{n}{2k} (m\omega \tilde{X}^A)^{n-2k} (p_2^A)^{2k} \\ & \times \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{m-1}{2} \rfloor} (-1)^k \binom{m}{2k+1} (n\omega \tilde{Y}^A)^{m-2k-1} (p_1^A)^{2k+1}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.4)$$

where

$$\tilde{X}^A = x - \frac{n^2 \Omega_2 (p_3^A + \Omega_2 x + \Omega_1 y)}{n^2 \Omega_2^2 + m^2 \Omega_1^2}, \quad \tilde{Y}^A = y - \frac{m^2 \Omega_1 (p_3^A + \Omega_2 x + \Omega_1 y)}{n^2 \Omega_2^2 + m^2 \Omega_1^2}.$$

Since I_1 , I_2 , I_3 are independent integrals for the oscillator system, by applying the chain rule we see that the integrals X_0 , X_1 , X_2 , X_4 form a set of independent integrals for the original system, where $X_0 = p_3$. Moreover, if the gauge is chosen as in (3.1), none of them depends on the z variable, while X_3 does. Therefore the five integrals X_0 , X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are

independent. This implies the maximally superintegrability of the system (2.1). Notice that the same argument also applies to X_0, X_1, X_2, X_3, X_5 .

Let us now discuss the order of the new integrals X_4, X_5 . From the expressions (4.3) and (4.4), it is clear that their order is at most $m + n$. However from (4.3) we see that the terms of order $m + n$ in X_4 are only of the form

$$\alpha_k \gamma_j p_1^{2k} p_2^{2j} p_3^{n+m-2(k+j)}, \quad k = 0, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor, \quad j = 0, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{m}{2} \right\rfloor \quad (4.5)$$

or

$$\beta_k \delta_j p_1^{2k+1} p_2^{2j+1} p_3^{n+m-2(k+j+1)}, \quad k = 0, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \right\rfloor, \quad j = 0, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{m-1}{2} \right\rfloor, \quad (4.6)$$

where $\alpha_j, \beta_j, \gamma_j, \delta_j$ are coefficients whose explicit expression can be found through (4.3). We can eliminate all the terms of the form (4.5) by subtracting the integrals

$$\alpha_k \gamma_j X_0^{n+m-2(k+j)} X_1^k X_2^j, \quad k = 0, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor, \quad j = 0, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{m}{2} \right\rfloor. \quad (4.7)$$

Similarly, we can subtract

$$\frac{\beta_k \delta_j}{2} X_0^{n+m-2(k+j+1)} X_1^k X_2^j \left(\frac{\Omega_2}{\kappa^2 \Omega_1} (X_3^2 - X_1) - \kappa^2 \frac{\Omega_1}{\Omega_2} X_2 \right), \quad (4.8)$$

where $k = 0, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \right\rfloor, j = 0, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{m-1}{2} \right\rfloor$, and eliminate all the terms (4.6). Therefore the order of the integral X_4 can be reduced to $m + n - 1$. By construction the terms of order $m + n - 1$ of the reduced integral \tilde{X}_4 take the form of products of $m + n - 1$ linear momenta and one coordinate. Since the highest order terms of any integral must belong to the enveloping algebra of the Euclidean algebra [14, 18], we deduce that each of the highest order terms of \tilde{X}_4 is a product of $m + n - 2$ linear momenta and one angular momentum. Since the leading order terms of all the other independent integrals X_0, X_1, X_2, X_3 contain only linear momenta, it is not possible to further reduce the order of the integral \tilde{X}_4 by polynomial combinations of the other integrals.

Concerning the order of X_5 , we notice that this integral contains the highest order terms of the type

$$\alpha_k \gamma_j p_2^{2k} p_1^{2j+1} p_3^{n-2(k+j)-1}, \quad k = 0, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{m}{2} \right\rfloor, \quad j = 0, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \right\rfloor$$

or

$$\beta_k \delta_j p_1^{2k+1} p_2^{2j} p_3^{n-2(k+j)-1}, \quad k = 0, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{m-1}{2} \right\rfloor, \quad j = 0, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor,$$

whose order as polynomials in p_1 and p_2 is odd. Therefore, it is not possible to eliminate them by polynomial combinations of the other integrals. As far as we can see, the order of X_5 cannot be reduced and it is $m + n$.

5 Example: $n = 2, m = 3$

In order to illustrate the concepts and general results introduced above let us consider a particular nontrivial example. We choose the constants $n = 2$ and $m = 3$, i.e., $\kappa = \frac{3}{2}$. Thus the Hamiltonian of the 2 d.o.f. oscillator (3.5) reads

$$H_2 = \frac{1}{2} (P_1^2 + P_2^2) + \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 (9X^2 + 4Y^2), \quad \omega^2 = \frac{1}{4} \Omega_1^2 + \frac{1}{9} \Omega_2^2.$$

The integral X_4 is of order $n + m - 1 = 4$. Thus its leading order terms are fourth order terms in the enveloping algebra of the Euclidean algebra, linear in angular momenta l_j and cubic in linear momenta p_j . Explicitly, they are as follows

$$\begin{aligned} X_4^{(\text{h.o.})} = & \frac{1}{\sqrt{9\Omega_1^2 + 4\Omega_2^2}} \left(\left(\frac{16\Omega_2^3}{9\Omega_1} + 4\Omega_1\Omega_2 \right) l_2 p_2^2 p_3 - 4\Omega_1\Omega_2 (3l_2 p_3 + 8l_3 p_2) p_3^2 \right. \\ & \left. - (4\Omega_2^2 + 9\Omega_1^2) (l_1 p_3 + l_3 p_1) p_2^2 + 27\Omega_1^2 (l_1 p_3 + l_3 p_1) p_3^2 \right). \end{aligned} \quad (5.1)$$

The highest order terms take the same form also when X_4 is expressed in a gauge covariant way, using $p_j^A = p_j + A_j(\vec{x})$ and $l_j^A = \sum_{k,l} \epsilon_{jkl} x_k p_l^A$ instead of p_j, l_j .

For the sake of completeness let us also write down rather unwieldy expression for the lower order terms (for our fixed gauge (3.1) since the gauge covariant expression is even more cumbersome)

$$\begin{aligned} X_4 - X_4^{(\text{h.o.})} = & 2\Omega_1 \tau y^2 p_1^2 p_3 - 2\tau \left(3\Omega_1 x + \frac{8}{9}\Omega_2 y \right) y p_1 p_2 p_3 - \frac{8\Omega_2 \tau}{9} y z p_1 p_3^2 \\ & + \tau \left(\frac{\Omega_1}{2} (9x^2 + y^2 - z^2) + 2\Omega_2 x y + \frac{2\Omega_2^2}{9\Omega_1} (x^2 - z^2) \right) p_2^2 p_3 \\ & - \frac{1}{2\tau} \left(27 \left(x^2 - \frac{1}{3}y^2 - z^2 \right) \Omega_1^3 - 36\Omega_1^2 \Omega_2 x y \right. \\ & \left. + 4\Omega_2^2 \Omega_1 (3x^2 + 4y^2 - 3z^2) - \frac{64\Omega_2^3}{9} x y \right) p_3^3 \\ & - 2\Omega_1 \tau y z p_2 p_3^2 - \frac{\tau^3}{27} y^3 p_1^2 + \frac{\tau^3}{3} x y^2 p_1 p_2 + \frac{4\Omega_2 \tau^3}{81\Omega_1} y^2 z p_1 p_3 \\ & - \frac{\tau^3}{4} x^2 y p_2^2 + \frac{\tau^3}{9} y^2 z p_2 p_3 \\ & - \tau \left(\Omega_1^2 \left(9\frac{x^2}{4} + 2y^2 - z^2 \right) + \frac{4\Omega_2^2}{9} \left(x^2 - \frac{1}{3}y^2 - z^2 \right) + \frac{16\Omega_2^3}{81\Omega_1} x y \right) y p_3^2 \\ & + \frac{1}{18\Omega_1} \tau^3 \left(\left(\Omega_1 y - \frac{2}{3}\Omega_2 x \right)^2 - \left(\Omega_1^2 + \frac{4}{9}\Omega_2^2 \right) z^2 \right) y^2 p_3 + \frac{\tau^5}{108} y^3 x^2, \end{aligned}$$

where $\tau = \sqrt{9\Omega_1^2 + 4\Omega_2^2} = 6\omega$.

Sample trajectories for two different choices of the frequencies $\Omega_{1,2}$ are shown in Fig. 1.

6 Conclusions

We have demonstrated in a constructive way that the classical system given by the potentials (2.1) is maximally superintegrable whenever the parameters satisfy the rationality constraint (2.7). The constructed fifth independent integral is polynomial in the momenta and coordinates and it is of order $m + n - 1$ where m and n are incommensurable integers such that $S = \frac{m^2 \Omega_1}{n^2 \Omega_2}$. Its leading order terms contain angular momenta, in contrast with all the other, previously known integrals for the system (2.1).

The explicit form of the integral X_4 given as the expression (4.3) minus terms of the form (4.7) and (4.8) is unfortunately rather complicated, cf. (5.1). We were not yet able to obtain any better insight into the structure of the monomials in (5.1). In particular we would like to be able to predict the monomials appearing in the highest order terms for arbitrary m, n , together with relations between their coefficients. This understanding should be postponed to future work.

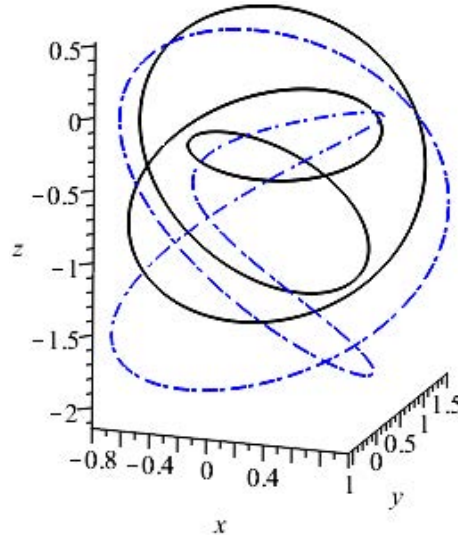


Figure 1. Sample trajectories for $n = 2$, $m = 3$, $\vec{x}_0 = (1, 0, 0)$, $\vec{p}_0 = (0, 1, \frac{1}{2})$ and $\Omega_1 = 1$, $\Omega_2 = \frac{3}{2}$ (solid line) versus $\Omega_1 = 1$, $\Omega_2 = \frac{1}{2}$ (dashed line).

Up to this point our analysis was purely classical. Thus a natural question arises whether its results can be taken over into the quantum case. We notice that the quantum analogues of the expressions z_1 and z_2

$$\hat{z}_1 = i\hat{P}_1 + m\omega\hat{X}, \quad \hat{z}_2 = i\hat{P}_2 + n\omega\hat{Y}$$

satisfy $[\hat{z}_1, \hat{z}_2] = 0$. Thus the hermitean expressions

$$\hat{I}_3 = \frac{1}{2}(\hat{z}_1^n (\hat{z}_2^\dagger)^m + \hat{z}_2^m (\hat{z}_1^\dagger)^n), \quad \hat{I}_4 = \frac{1}{2i}(\hat{z}_1^n (\hat{z}_2^\dagger)^m - \hat{z}_2^m (\hat{z}_1^\dagger)^n) \quad (6.1)$$

are again integrals of motion,

$$[\hat{H}, \hat{I}_3] = 0, \quad [\hat{H}, \hat{I}_4] = 0$$

(this claim can be also verified directly through a simple commutator evaluation, see also [10]). Thus the integrals of the 2 d.o.f. anisotropic oscillator are preserved by the quantization although their explicit expression as polynomials in \hat{X} , \hat{Y} and $\hat{P}_{1,2}$ needs to be symmetrized due to presence of terms involving the same component of both the coordinate and the momentum, e.g., \hat{X} and \hat{P}_1 in \hat{z}_1 .

In order to return to the system (2.1) we assume that the gauge is fixed as in (3.1). We notice that the Hamiltonian as well as the integrals (2.3) and (2.4) contain only commuting terms in each of their monomials, thus can be taken into quantum mechanics without any need for symmetrization. In the substitution

$$\hat{X} = \hat{x} - \frac{n^2\Omega_2\hat{p}_3}{n^2\Omega_2^2 + m^2\Omega_1^2}, \quad \hat{Y} = \hat{y} - \frac{m^2\Omega_1\hat{p}_3}{n^2\Omega_2^2 + m^2\Omega_1^2} \quad (6.2)$$

we have only commuting variables \hat{x} , \hat{y} and \hat{p}_3 . The momentum \hat{p}_3 also commutes with \hat{p}_1 and \hat{p}_2 . Thus substituting (6.2) into the expressions (6.1) for \hat{I}_3 and \hat{I}_4 one can directly obtain the quantum integrals

$$\hat{X}_4 = \frac{1}{2} \left(\left(i\hat{p}_1 - \frac{\Omega_2\hat{p}_3}{m\omega} + m\omega\hat{x} \right)^n \left(-i\hat{p}_2 - \frac{\Omega_1\hat{p}_3}{n\omega} + n\omega\hat{y} \right)^m + \text{h.c.} \right) \quad (6.3)$$

and

$$\hat{X}_5 = \frac{1}{2i} \left(\left(i\hat{p}_1 - \frac{\Omega_2 \hat{p}_3}{m\omega} + m\omega \hat{x} \right)^n \left(-i\hat{p}_2 - \frac{\Omega_1 \hat{p}_3}{n\omega} + n\omega \hat{y} \right)^m - \text{h.c.} \right), \quad (6.4)$$

where “h.c.” stands for hermitean conjugate. Expanding the powers in (6.3) and (6.4) one obtains quantum analogues of equations (4.3) and (4.4) as their properly symmetrized versions.

Also the argument concerning the lowering of the order of the integral X_4 remains the same in the quantum case, thus the integral \hat{X}_4 makes the quantum system maximally superintegrable of order $(m+n-1)$.

Let us notice that in accordance with [1] and [23] both the Hamilton–Jacobi and the Schrödinger equations separate in Cartesian coordinates. E.g., the Hamilton’s principal function $S(\vec{x}, t)$ can be written as

$$S(\vec{x}, t) = -Et + K_3 z + S_1(x) + S_2(y),$$

where the functions $S_{1,2}$ are solutions of

$$S'_1(x) = \pm \sqrt{-(\kappa^2 \Omega_1^2 + \Omega_2^2)x^2 + 2K_3 x \Omega_2 + 2K_1},$$

$$S'_2(y) = \pm \sqrt{-\left(\Omega_1^2 + \frac{\Omega_2^2}{\kappa^2}\right)y^2 + 2K_3 y \Omega_1 - K_3^2 - 2K_1 - 2E},$$

expressible in terms of square roots and inverse trigonometric functions. Whether it separates also in some other coordinate system, i.e., whether the maximally superintegrable system (2.1) is multiseparable, remains to our knowledge an open question.

Our considerations are by construction nonrelativistic. We mention that some of the non-relativistic superintegrable systems with magnetic fields give rise also to their superintegrable relativistic versions, as was observed in [9], e.g., in the case of helical undulator. Due to the complicated structure of the integral (4.3) we are presently unable to construct its relativistic version and thus we do not know whether the relativistic analogue of the system (2.1) is also superintegrable.

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