

Quantum mechanics problem set 3

December 24, 2019

1. The hamiltonian of a spin in magnetic field \vec{B} is $H = -\gamma\vec{S} \cdot \vec{B}$. γ is gyromagnetic ratio, and vector \vec{S} is the angular momentum operator, $\vec{S} = \frac{\hbar}{2}(\sigma_x, \sigma_y, \sigma_z)$, expressed by Pauli matrices, σ_i . For example, if a magnetic field is pointing to x -direction, the hamiltonian reads $H = -\frac{\gamma\hbar B}{2}\sigma_x$.

Now a magnetic field points to a direction which can be described by the polar angle θ and azimuthal angle ϕ . Namely,

$$H = -\frac{\gamma\hbar B}{2}(\cos\theta\sigma_z + \sin\theta\cos\phi\sigma_x + \sin\theta\sin\phi\sigma_y)$$

Find the energy eigenvalues and corresponding eigenkets using $|+z\rangle$ and $|-z\rangle$

2. (a) Calculate the commutation relations of the Pauli matrices: $[\sigma_x, \sigma_y] = ?$, $[\sigma_y, \sigma_z] = ?$, and $[\sigma_z, \sigma_x] = ?$
(b) Calculate the anti commutation relations: $\{\sigma_x, \sigma_x\} = ?$, $\{\sigma_x, \sigma_y\} = ?$, and $\{\sigma_x, \sigma_z\} = ?$
3. (a) Find out the 2×2 matrices of $\sqrt{\sigma_x}$, $\sqrt{\sigma_y}$, and $\sqrt{\sigma_z}$.
(b) Show that the three matrices respectively represent the $\pi/2$ rotation about x , y and z axis for a quantum state in the Bloch sphere.
4. The spin-up and spin-down states are expressed by $|0\rangle$ and $|1\rangle$. One of the Bell states for two spins is written as

$$|\Psi_-\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle_1|1\rangle_2 - |1\rangle_1|0\rangle_2).$$

Starting with the state $|0\rangle_1|0\rangle_2$, how can one get this Bell state? (Hint: you may use single qubit gates and controlled-NOT gate)

5. Following the previous problem, if the spins are distributed to Alice and Bob. After Alice performs the measurement of S_z and gets the value of $\hbar/2$,
(a) how much probability for Bob observing $\hbar/2$ if he does the same measurement S_z ?

- (b) how much probability for Bob observing $\hbar/2$ if he does the measurement S_x ?
- (c) how much probability for Bob observing $\hbar/2$ if he does the measurement $(S_x + S_z)/\sqrt{2}$?