

# Quantum 2 HW1

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*Technion*

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## 1 Question 1

### 1.1 Part 1

What are the probabilities  $P_{\pm}$  to measure a magnetic moment  $\mu_z = \pm\mu_0$ , when the neutron's position doesn't matter?

Since the neutron's position doesn't matter, the probability of finding a specific magnetic moment will be the sum of the probabilities in all positions, therefore

$$P_{\pm} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} dP = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\psi_{\pm}(\mathbf{r}, t)|^2 d\mathbf{r} \quad (1)$$

### 1.2 Part 2

Calculate  $\langle \mu_x \rangle$  in the state  $|\psi(\mathbf{r}, t)\rangle$  in terms of  $\psi_{\pm}(\mathbf{r}, t)$ .

First we notice that  $\mu_x = \mu_0 \sigma_x$ , therefore

$$\langle \mu_x \rangle = \mu_0 \langle \psi(t) | \sigma_x | \psi(t) \rangle \quad (2)$$

$$= \mu_0 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \psi^*(\mathbf{r}, t) \sigma_x \psi(\mathbf{r}, t) d\mathbf{r} \quad (3)$$

$$= \mu_0 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (\psi_-^*(\mathbf{r}, t) \langle - | + \psi_+^*(\mathbf{r}, t) \langle + |) \sigma_x (\psi_-(\mathbf{r}, t) | - \rangle + \psi_+(\mathbf{r}, t) | + \rangle) d\mathbf{r} \quad (4)$$

$$= \mu_0 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (\psi_-^*(\mathbf{r}, t) \langle - | + \psi_+^*(\mathbf{r}, t) \langle + |) (| + \rangle \langle - | + | - \rangle \langle + |) (\psi_-(\mathbf{r}, t) | - \rangle + \psi_+(\mathbf{r}, t) | + \rangle) d\mathbf{r} \quad (5)$$

$$= \mu_0 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \psi_+^*(\mathbf{r}, t) \psi_-(\mathbf{r}, t) + \psi_-^*(\mathbf{r}, t) \psi_+(\mathbf{r}, t) d\mathbf{r} \quad (6)$$

$$= 2\mu_0 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \psi_-^*(\mathbf{r}, t) \psi_+(\mathbf{r}, t) d\mathbf{r} \quad (7)$$

## 2 Question 2

The matrix representation of the  $\sigma$  operators in the eigenbasis of  $\sigma_z$  is

$$\mathbb{1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \sigma_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \sigma_y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \sigma_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (8)$$

1. Show that you can write any  $2 \times 2$  hermitian matrix as a superposition of Pauli matrices.
2. Show that for a unitary matrix  $M^\dagger M = \mathbb{1}$ ,  $|n_0 \pm \sqrt{n_x^2 + n_y^2 + n_z^2}| = 1$
3. Show that no  $M \neq 0$  exists such that  $\{M, \sigma_\alpha\} = 0$  for all  $\sigma_\alpha$

### 2.1 Part 1

Let

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 + ib_1 & a_2 + ib_2 \\ a_3 + ib_3 & a_4 + ib_4 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow M^\dagger = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 - ib_1 & a_3 - ib_3 \\ a_2 - ib_2 & a_4 - ib_4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (9)$$

Since  $M = M^\dagger$ :

$$\begin{cases} a_1 + ib_1 = a_1 - ib_1 \\ a_2 + ib_2 = a_3 - ib_3 \\ a_3 + ib_3 = a_2 - ib_2 \\ a_4 + ib_4 = a_4 - ib_4 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} b_1 = b_4 = 0 \\ b_2 = -b_3 \\ a_2 = a_3 \end{cases} \rightarrow M = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 + ib \\ a_2 - ib & a_4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (10)$$

which we can decompose into

$$M = \frac{a_1 + a_4}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{a_1 - a_4}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} + a_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - b \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (11)$$

therefore

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} n_0 + n_z & n_x - in_y \\ n_x + in_y & n_0 - n_z \end{pmatrix} \quad (12)$$

### 2.2 Part 2

I assume the matrix M in this part is still the hermitian matrix we decomposed in part 1. Since it is now also unitary, all of its eigenvalues lie on the unit circle in C.

$$|\lambda \mathbb{1} - M| = \begin{vmatrix} \lambda - n_0 - n_z & -n_x + in_y \\ -n_x - in_y & \lambda - n_0 + n_z \end{vmatrix} \quad (13)$$

$$= (\lambda - n_0 - n_z)(\lambda - n_0 + n_z) + (-n_x + in_y)(n_x + in_y) \quad (14)$$

$$= \lambda^2 - 2\lambda n_0 + n_0^2 - n_z^2 - n_x^2 - n_y^2 \quad (15)$$

$$= (\lambda - n_0)^2 - (n_x^2 + n_y^2 + n_z^2) = 0 \quad (16)$$

rearranging

$$\lambda = n_0 \pm \sqrt{n_x^2 + n_y^2 + n_z^2} \quad (17)$$

and since we know all the eigenvalues are on the unit circle, then

$$|n_0 \pm \sqrt{n_x^2 + n_y^2 + n_z^2}| = 1 \quad (18)$$

as needed.

### 2.3 Part 3

I continue to assume we mean  $M$  is a hermitian matrix as we decomposed earlier. In that case:

$$\{M, \sigma_\alpha\} = \{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{n}, \sigma_\alpha\} \quad (19)$$

$$= \{n_0 \mathbb{1} + n_x \sigma_x + n_y \sigma_y + n_z \sigma_z, \sigma_\alpha\} \quad (20)$$

$$= n_0 \{\mathbb{1}, \sigma_\alpha\} + n_x \{\sigma_x, \sigma_\alpha\} + n_y \{\sigma_y, \sigma_\alpha\} + n_z \{\sigma_z, \sigma_\alpha\} \quad (21)$$

From the exercise session we know that

$$\{\sigma_i, \sigma_j\} = 2\delta_{ij} \mathbb{1} \quad (22)$$

So we can immediately notice that the only way for 21 to be zero is for each element to be zero, which is only possible if all the coefficients  $n_\alpha = 0$ , which means the only matrix for which the anti-commutative relation holds is the 0 matrix.

### 3 Question 3

Prove the following identities:

1.  $\text{Tr}(\sigma_\alpha \sigma_\beta \sigma_\gamma) = 2i\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$  and  $\text{Tr}(\sigma_\alpha \sigma_\beta) = 2\delta_{\alpha\beta}$
2. Given  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  calculate  $(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{a})(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{b})(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{c})$  in two ways: first the two elements then the last 2 elements. What does the result mean?
3. Write down  $e^{i\sigma_x}$  and  $e^{\sigma_x}$  as  $2 \times 2$  matrices.
4. Given  $\theta \in [0, 2\pi]$  and  $\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  a unit vector show that

$$e^{i\theta\mathbf{n}\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma}} = \cos \theta + i(\mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}) \sin \theta$$

#### 3.1 Part 1

From the exercise we know that

$$\text{Tr}(\sigma_\alpha \sigma_\beta) = \text{Tr}(\delta_{\alpha\beta} \mathbb{1} + i\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \sigma_\gamma) \quad (23)$$

$$= 2\delta_{\alpha\beta} + 0 \quad (24)$$

and

$$\text{Tr}(\sigma_\alpha \sigma_\beta \sigma_\gamma) = \text{Tr}((\delta_{\alpha\beta} \mathbb{1} + i\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta\kappa} \sigma_\kappa) \sigma_\gamma) \quad (25)$$

$$= \text{Tr}(\delta_{\alpha\beta} \mathbb{1} \sigma_\gamma) + \text{Tr}(i\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta\kappa} \sigma_\kappa \sigma_\gamma) \quad (26)$$

$$= \text{Tr}(i\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta\kappa} \sigma_\kappa \sigma_\gamma) \quad (27)$$

$$= i\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta\kappa} \text{Tr}(\sigma_\kappa \sigma_\gamma) \quad (28)$$

$$= 2i\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \quad (29)$$

#### 3.2 Part 2

$$[(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{a})(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{b})](\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{c}) = [\sigma_i a_i \sigma_j b_j](\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{c}) \quad (30)$$

$$= [a_i b_j (\delta_{ij} \mathbb{1} + i\varepsilon_{ijk} \sigma_k)](\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{c}) \quad (31)$$

$$= a_i b_i (\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{c}) + i a_i b_j \sigma_l \varepsilon_{ijl} (\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{c}) \quad (32)$$

$$= a_i b_i \sigma_k c_k + i a_i b_j c_m \varepsilon_{ijl} \sigma_l \sigma_m \quad (33)$$

$$= a_i b_i c_k \sigma_k + i a_i b_j c_m \varepsilon_{ijl} (\delta_{lm} \mathbb{1} + i\varepsilon_{lmp} \sigma_p) \quad (34)$$

$$= a_i b_i c_k \sigma_k + i a_i b_j c_m \varepsilon_{ijm} - a_i b_j c_m \varepsilon_{ijl} \varepsilon_{mpl} \sigma_p \quad (35)$$

$$= a_i b_i c_k \sigma_k + i a_i b_j c_m \varepsilon_{ijm} - a_i b_j c_m (\delta_{im} \delta_{jp} - \delta_{ip} \delta_{jm}) \sigma_p \quad (36)$$

$$= a_i b_i c_k \sigma_k + i a_i b_j c_m \varepsilon_{ijm} - a_i b_j c_i \sigma_j + a_i b_j c_j \sigma_i \quad (37)$$

$$= (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})(\mathbf{c} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}) - (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c})(\mathbf{b} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}) + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c})(\mathbf{a} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}) + i(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{c} \quad (38)$$

on the other hand

$$(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{a})[(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{b})(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{c})] = [\sigma_i c_i \sigma_j b_j](\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{a}) \quad (39)$$

$$= [c_i b_j (\delta_{ij} \mathbf{1} + i \varepsilon_{ijk} \sigma_k)](\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{a}) \quad (40)$$

$$= c_i b_i (\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{c}) + i c_i b_j \sigma_l \varepsilon_{ijl} (\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{a}) \quad (41)$$

$$= c_i b_i \sigma_k c_k + i c_i b_j a_m \varepsilon_{ijl} \sigma_l \sigma_m \quad (42)$$

$$= c_i b_i a_k \sigma_k + i c_i b_j a_m \varepsilon_{ijl} (\delta_{lm} \mathbf{1} + i \varepsilon_{lmp} \sigma_p) \quad (43)$$

$$= c_i b_i a_k \sigma_k + i c_i b_j a_m \varepsilon_{ijm} - c_i b_j a_m \varepsilon_{ijl} \varepsilon_{mpl} \sigma_p \quad (44)$$

$$= c_i b_i a_k \sigma_k + i c_i b_j a_m \varepsilon_{ijm} - c_i b_j a_m (\delta_{im} \delta_{jp} - \delta_{ip} \delta_{jm}) \sigma_p \quad (45)$$

$$= c_i b_i a_k \sigma_k + i c_i b_j a_m \varepsilon_{ijm} - c_i b_j a_i \sigma_j + c_i b_j a_j \sigma_i \quad (46)$$

$$= (\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{b})(\mathbf{a} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}) - (\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{a})(\mathbf{b} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}) + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a})(\mathbf{c} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}) + i(\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{a} \quad (47)$$

The two expressions are identical (the vector product element is different in writing but the vector operations result in the same).

### 3.3 Part 3

$$e^{\sigma_x} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\sigma_x^k}{k!} \quad (48)$$

we'll find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors:

$$\begin{vmatrix} \lambda & -1 \\ -1 & \lambda \end{vmatrix} \implies \lambda = \pm 1, \quad v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (49)$$

Therefore

$$e^{\sigma_x} = e \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} e & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \quad (50)$$

and

$$e^{i\sigma_x} = \begin{pmatrix} e^i & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-i} \end{pmatrix} \quad (51)$$

### 3.4 Part 4

$$e^{i\theta\mathbf{n}\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma}} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(i\theta\mathbf{n}\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma})^k}{k!} \quad (52)$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{(i\theta\mathbf{n}\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma})^{2k}}{(2k)!} + \frac{(i\theta\mathbf{n}\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma})^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!} \right) \quad (53)$$

And we notice that

$$(\mathbf{n}^2 \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}^2)^k = \mathbb{1} \quad (54)$$

because of the identity with pauli matrices and their relationship to deltas and epsilon. This gives us

$$e^{i\theta\mathbf{n}\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma}} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{(i\theta)^{2k}}{(2k)!} + \frac{(i\theta)^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!} \mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \right) \quad (55)$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(i\theta)^{2k}}{(2k)!} + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(i\theta)^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!} \mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \quad (56)$$

$$= \cos \theta + i(\mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}) \sin \theta \quad (57)$$

## 4 Question 4

For a two-dimensional Hilbert space we'll define the bases  $\mathcal{B} = \{ |+\rangle, |-\rangle \}$ . This is the eigenbasis of  $\sigma_z$ .

1. Any matrix representing an operator in the space spanned by the basis can be singularly represented as the linear combination

$$A = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha_0 \mathbb{1}_2 + \boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma})$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\alpha} \in \mathbb{C}^3$ ,  $\boldsymbol{\sigma} = (\sigma_x, \sigma_y, \sigma_z)$ , and  $\mathbb{1}_2$  is the identity operator. Show that  $\alpha_0 = \text{Tr}(A)$  and  $\boldsymbol{\alpha} = \text{Tr}(A\boldsymbol{\sigma})$

2. We'll define the operator  $P = |\psi(t)\rangle \langle \psi(t)|$ , where  $|\psi(t)\rangle = a_+(t)|+\rangle + a_-(t)|-\rangle$  where  $a_{\pm} \in \mathbb{C}$ . Calculate  $P^2$ . Write down  $P$  as a matrix in the basis  $\mathcal{B}$ .
3. Let  $P = \frac{1}{2}(M_0(t)\mathbb{1}_2 + \mathbf{M}(t) \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma})$ . Show that  $\text{Tr}[P] = 1$  and conclude  $M_0(t)$ .
4. From the connection between  $P$  and  $P^2$  and  $P$ 's form show that  $\|\mathbf{M}(t)\| = 1$
5. Show that for a general operator  $O$ :  $\text{Tr}[|\psi(t)\rangle \langle \psi(t)| O] = \langle \psi(t)| O |\psi(t)\rangle$
6. Use the previous parts to find a connection between  $\langle \boldsymbol{\sigma} \rangle$  and  $\mathbf{M}$ .
7. Assume the Hamiltonian  $H$  describes the time development of the system. Use the relation between  $\mathbf{M}$  and  $\langle \boldsymbol{\sigma} \rangle$  and the Schrödinger equation to prove that

$$\frac{d\mathbf{M}}{dt} = \frac{i}{\hbar} \langle \psi(t) | [H, \boldsymbol{\sigma}] | \psi(t) \rangle$$

8. Assume that  $H$  has a trace of zero, i.e it can be expressed as  $H = \frac{\hbar}{2}\boldsymbol{\omega} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}$  with  $\boldsymbol{\omega} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ . Show that  $\mathbf{M}$  fulfills  $\frac{d\mathbf{M}}{dt} = \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{M}$ .

### 4.1 Part 1

$$\text{Tr}(A) = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(\alpha_0 \mathbb{1}_2 + \boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}) \quad (58)$$

Since the trace of all pauli matrices is zero, the element including it vanishes. Since we're in a 2 dimensional hilbert space, the trace of the unit matrix is 2, therefore:

$$\text{Tr}(A) = \alpha_0 \quad (59)$$

$$\text{Tr}(A\sigma) = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(\alpha_0\sigma + (\alpha \cdot \sigma)\sigma) \quad (60)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}((\alpha \cdot \sigma)\sigma) \quad (61)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (\alpha_1 \text{Tr}(\sigma_x\sigma) + \alpha_2 \text{Tr}(\sigma_y\sigma) + \alpha_3 \text{Tr}(\sigma_z\sigma)) \quad (62)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (2\alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 + 2\alpha_3) \quad (63)$$

$$= \alpha \quad (64)$$

## 4.2 Part 2

$$P^2 = |\psi(t)\rangle \langle \psi(t)| |\psi(t)\rangle \langle \psi(t)| = |\psi(t)\rangle \langle \psi(t)| = P \quad (65)$$

since the state psi is normalized.

$$P = |\psi(t)\rangle \langle \psi(t)| \quad (66)$$

$$= (a_+(t)|+\rangle + a_-(t)|-\rangle)(a_+^*(t)\langle +| + a_-^*(t)\langle -|) \quad (67)$$

$$= |a_+|^2 |+\rangle \langle +| + |a_-|^2 |-\rangle \langle -| + a_+ a_-^* |-\rangle \langle +| + a_- a_+^* |+\rangle \langle -| \quad (68)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} |a_+|^2 & a_- a_+^* \\ a_+ a_-^* & |a_-|^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (69)$$

## 4.3 Part 3

We notice that the trace of  $P$  is  $|a_+|^2 + |a_-|^2$  which is identical to  $\langle \psi(t) | \psi(t) \rangle$ , and since the state is normalized it's equal to 1. The trace of  $\mathbf{M}(t) \cdot \sigma$  is 0 because the trace of each of the pauli matrices is zero. In total the trace of  $P$  is 1. Since the trace of  $P$  through the previous section must match the trace in the new writing, we find that  $M_0(t) = 1$ .

## 4.4 Part 4

We know that  $P^2 = P$  and  $P = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbb{1}_2 + \mathbf{M}(t) \cdot \sigma)$ . We'll square the decomposed form of  $P$ :

$$P^2 = \frac{1}{4}(\mathbb{1}_2 + \mathbf{M}(t) \cdot \sigma)^2 \quad (70)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4}(\mathbb{1}_2^2 + 2\mathbb{1}_2\mathbf{M}(t) \cdot \sigma + (\mathbf{M}(t) \cdot \sigma)^2) \quad (71)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4}(\mathbb{1}_2 + 2\mathbf{M}(t) \cdot \sigma + \|\mathbf{M}\|^2 \mathbb{1}) = P \quad (72)$$

so we must have

$$\frac{1}{4}(\mathbb{1}_2 + 2\mathbf{M}(t) \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} + \|\mathbf{M}\|^2 \mathbb{1}) = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbb{1}_2 + \mathbf{M}(t) \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}) \quad (73)$$

$$\frac{1}{4}(\mathbb{1}_2 + \|\mathbf{M}\|^2 \mathbb{1}) = \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{1}_2 \quad (74)$$

$$\|\mathbf{M}\|^2 = 4 \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \right) = 1 \quad (75)$$

## 4.5 Part 5

$$\text{Tr}[|\psi(t)\rangle \langle \psi(t)| O] = \langle +| |\psi(t)\rangle \langle \psi(t)| O |+\rangle + \langle -| |\psi(t)\rangle \langle \psi(t)| O |-\rangle \quad (76)$$

$$= \langle \psi(t)| O |+\rangle \langle +| |\psi(t)\rangle + \langle \psi(t)| O |-\rangle \langle -| |\psi(t)\rangle \quad (77)$$

$$= \langle \psi(t)| O | \psi(t)\rangle \quad (78)$$

## 4.6 Part 6

$$\langle \psi(t)| \boldsymbol{\sigma} | \psi(t)\rangle = \text{Tr}[|\psi(t)\rangle \langle \psi(t)| \boldsymbol{\sigma}] \quad (79)$$

$$= \text{Tr}[P\boldsymbol{\sigma}] \quad (80)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}[M_0(t)\boldsymbol{\sigma} + \mathbf{M}(t) \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}^2] \quad (81)$$

$$= \mathbf{M}(t) \quad (82)$$

## 4.7 Part 7

$$\frac{d\mathbf{M}}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt}(\langle \psi(t)| \boldsymbol{\sigma} | \psi(t)\rangle) \quad (83)$$

$$= \langle \dot{\psi}(t)| \boldsymbol{\sigma} | \psi(t)\rangle + \langle \psi(t)| \boldsymbol{\sigma} | \dot{\psi}(t)\rangle \quad (84)$$

$$= \frac{1}{-i\hbar} \langle \psi(t)| H\boldsymbol{\sigma} | \psi(t)\rangle + \frac{1}{i\hbar} \langle \psi(t)| \boldsymbol{\sigma} H | \psi(t)\rangle \quad (85)$$

$$= \frac{i}{\hbar} \langle \psi(t)| H\boldsymbol{\sigma} | \psi(t)\rangle - \frac{i}{\hbar} \langle \psi(t)| \boldsymbol{\sigma} H | \psi(t)\rangle \quad (86)$$

$$= \frac{i}{\hbar} \langle \psi(t)| [H, \boldsymbol{\sigma}] | \psi(t)\rangle \quad (87)$$

## 4.8 Part 8

$$\frac{d\mathbf{M}}{dt} = \frac{i}{\hbar} \langle \psi(t) | [H, \boldsymbol{\sigma}] | \psi(t) \rangle \quad (88)$$

$$= \frac{i}{\hbar} \langle \psi(t) | [\frac{\hbar}{2} \boldsymbol{\omega} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}] | \psi(t) \rangle \quad (89)$$

$$= \frac{i}{2} \boldsymbol{\omega} \cdot \langle \psi(t) | [\boldsymbol{\sigma}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}] | \psi(t) \rangle \quad (90)$$

$$= -\omega_i \langle \psi(t) | \varepsilon_{ijk} \sigma_k | \psi(t) \rangle \quad (91)$$

$$= \varepsilon_{jik} \omega_i \langle \sigma_k \rangle \quad (92)$$

$$= \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{M} \quad (93)$$

## 5 Question 5

Assume that spin is the angular momentum of the electron spinning around itself and that its magnitude is  $\hbar/2$ . Use the fact we know from measurements that the electron's classical radius is smaller than  $10^{-18}$  m to find the electron's speed of rotation. Does the result make sense?

The electron's mass is  $9.109 \times 10^{-31}$  kg, and the formula for its classical angular momentum is  $S = I\omega$  where  $I$  is the moment of inertia of a sphere:  $I = \frac{2}{5}MR^2$  and  $\omega = \frac{v}{R}$ . Plugging this all in we find

$$\frac{\hbar}{2} = \frac{2}{5}m_e R v \implies v = \frac{5\hbar}{4m_e R} = \frac{5 \cdot 1.054 \times 10^{-34} \text{ m}^2 \text{kg/s}}{4 \cdot 9.109 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg} \cdot 10^{-18} \text{ m}} \quad (94)$$

$$\approx 1.446 \times 10^{14} \text{ m s}^{-1} \quad (95)$$

Which is significantly above the speed of light. This of course makes no sense, meaning that electron spin cannot be viewed as classical angular momentum.