

6.10 Let $H = \frac{\hbar\omega}{2} \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$.

- (1) What are the possible energies of the system and what are the eigenvectors of H ?
 (2) If the system starts in state $|uu\rangle$ what is the state at time t ?
 (3) " " " $|ud\rangle, |du\rangle, \text{ or } |dd\rangle$ " ?

Solution⁽¹⁾ From 6.9, the eigenvectors of H are $|sing\rangle, |T_1\rangle, |T_2\rangle$, and $|T_3\rangle$.

The table shows the eigenvalues of $\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$. The possible energies are the eigenvalues of H , namely $\frac{\hbar\omega}{2}$ times the eigenvalues of $\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$:

$-3 \frac{\hbar\omega}{2}$ and $\frac{\hbar\omega}{2}$ w/ degeneracy 3

Eigenvalues of $\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$ and its components

	$ sing\rangle$	$ T_1\rangle$	$ T_2\rangle$	$ T_3\rangle$
$\sigma_x \sigma_x$	-1	1	1	-1
$\sigma_y \sigma_y$	-1	1	-1	1
$\sigma_z \sigma_z$	-1	-1	1	1
$\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$	-3	1	1	1

(2) We use the Cookbook Recipe to compute $|\Psi(t)\rangle$.

1) $H = \frac{\hbar\omega}{2} \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\sigma} = \frac{\hbar\omega}{2} [\sigma_x \sigma_x + \sigma_y \sigma_y + \sigma_z \sigma_z]$

2) Prepare a state vector: $|\Psi(0)\rangle = |uu\rangle$

3) The energy eigenvalues and eigenvectors are as listed in (1)

4) $\alpha_{sing}(0) = \langle sing | \Psi(0) \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\langle ud | - \langle du |) |uu\rangle = 0$

$\alpha_{T_1}(0) = \langle T_1 | \Psi(0) \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\langle ud | + \langle du |) |uu\rangle = 0$

$\alpha_{T_2}(0) = \langle T_2 | \Psi(0) \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\langle uu | + \langle dd |) |uu\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

$\alpha_{T_3}(0) = \langle T_3 | \Psi(0) \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\langle uu | - \langle dd |) |uu\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

5) Rewrite $|\Psi(0)\rangle = \alpha_{sing}(0) |sing\rangle + \alpha_{T_1}(0) |T_1\rangle + \alpha_{T_2}(0) |T_2\rangle + \alpha_{T_3}(0) |T_3\rangle$
 $= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|T_2\rangle + |T_3\rangle)$

Sanity check: $|uu\rangle = |\Psi(0)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|uu\rangle + |dd\rangle + |uu\rangle - |dd\rangle) = |uu\rangle \checkmark$

6, 7) $|\Psi(t)\rangle = \alpha_{T_2}(t) |T_2\rangle + \alpha_{T_3}(t) |T_3\rangle \stackrel{(7)}{=} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} \frac{\hbar\omega}{2} (1)t} (|T_2\rangle + |T_3\rangle)$

$|\Psi(t)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} e^{-\frac{i\omega t}{2}} (|T_2\rangle + |T_3\rangle)$

Sanity check: $|\Psi(t)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} e^{-\frac{i\omega t}{2}} (|uu\rangle + |dd\rangle + |uu\rangle - |dd\rangle) = e^{-\frac{i\omega t}{2}} |uu\rangle$

$t=0 \Rightarrow |\Psi(0)\rangle = |uu\rangle \checkmark$

(4)

$$2) |\Psi(0)\rangle = |ud\rangle$$

$$4) \alpha_{\text{sing}}(0) = \langle \text{sing} | \Psi(0) \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\langle ud | - \langle du |) | ud \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\alpha_{T_1}(0) = \langle T_1 | \Psi(0) \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\langle ud | + \langle du |) | ud \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\alpha_{T_2}(0) = \alpha_{T_3}(0) = 0 \text{ since } \langle uu | ud \rangle = \langle uu | du \rangle = 0 \text{ and } \langle du | ud \rangle = 0$$

$$5) |\Psi(0)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\text{sing}\rangle + |T_1\rangle). \text{ Sanity check: } |ud\rangle = |\Psi(0)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|ud\rangle - |du\rangle + |ud\rangle + |du\rangle) = |ud\rangle$$

$$6,7) |\Psi(t)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}(-3)\frac{\hbar\omega}{2}t} |\text{sing}\rangle + e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}(1)\frac{\hbar\omega}{2}t} |T_1\rangle \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} e^{\frac{i\omega t}{2}} \left(e^{i\omega t} |\text{sing}\rangle + e^{-i\omega t} |T_1\rangle \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} e^{\frac{i\omega t}{2}} \{ 2 \cos \omega t |ud\rangle + 2i \sin \omega t |du\rangle \} = e^{\frac{i\omega t}{2}} (\cos \omega t |ud\rangle + i \sin \omega t |du\rangle)$$

$$2) |\Psi(0)\rangle = |du\rangle$$

$$4) \alpha_{T_1}(0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\langle ud | + \langle du |) | du \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\alpha_{\text{sing}}(0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\langle ud | - \langle du |) | du \rangle = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\alpha_{T_2}(0) = \alpha_{T_3}(0) = 0$$

$$5) |\Psi(0)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (-|\text{sing}\rangle + |du\rangle). \text{ Sanity check: } |du\rangle = |\Psi(0)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (-|ud\rangle + |du\rangle + |ud\rangle + |du\rangle) = |du\rangle$$

$$6,7) |\Psi(t)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(-e^{\frac{3}{2}i\omega t} |\text{sing}\rangle + e^{\frac{1}{2}i\omega t} |T_1\rangle \right) = -e^{\frac{1}{2}i\omega t} (\sin \omega t |ud\rangle + i \cos \omega t |du\rangle)$$

$$= e^{\frac{1}{2}i\omega t} (\cos \omega t |du\rangle - i \sin \omega t |ud\rangle)$$

$$2) |\Psi(0)\rangle = |dd\rangle$$

$$4) \alpha_{T_2}(0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \alpha_{T_3}(0) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \alpha_{\text{sing}}(0) = T_1(0) = 0$$

$$5) |\Psi(0)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|T_2\rangle - |T_3\rangle) \text{ Sanity check: } |dd\rangle = |\Psi(0)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|uu\rangle + |dd\rangle - |uu\rangle + |dd\rangle) = |dd\rangle$$

$$6,7) |\Psi(t)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} e^{-\frac{i\omega t}{2}} (|T_2\rangle - |T_3\rangle)$$

$$\text{Also, } |\Psi(t)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} e^{-\frac{i\omega t}{2}} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|uu\rangle + |dd\rangle - |uu\rangle + |dd\rangle) \right) = e^{-\frac{i\omega t}{2}} |dd\rangle$$

$$|\Psi(t)\rangle = e^{-\frac{i\omega t}{2}} |dd\rangle$$