Pauli Hamiltonian

May 2, 2025

Since we are working with the charge in the interaction between the 1/2 charge and the external field, we need to use the Pauli Equation instead of the original Schrödinger equation. In general, it reads:

$$\left[\frac{1}{2m}(\vec{\sigma}(\vec{p}-q\vec{A}))^2 + q\phi\right]|\psi\rangle = i\hbar \frac{\partial|\psi\rangle}{\partial t}$$
 (1)

To separate the spinor part and the radius part, we use the Pauli vector identity:

$$(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{b}) = \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} + i\vec{\sigma} \cdot (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}), \tag{2}$$

which in turn, implies: $\sigma_j \sigma_k = \delta_{jk} I + i \varepsilon_{jkl} \sigma_l$. Also, since $\vec{p} \propto \nabla$ and $\nabla \times \vec{A} = \vec{B}$, then the standard Pauli equation will be:

$$\left[\frac{1}{2m}\left[(\vec{p}-q\vec{A})^2 - q\hbar\sigma \cdot \vec{B}\right] + q\phi\right]|\psi\rangle = i\hbar\frac{\partial|\psi\rangle}{\partial t}$$
 (3)