Problem Set II

FYS3110

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September 6, 2016

Problem 2.1

An operator $\hat{H}$ is represented in a particular orthonormal basis as the matrix

$$\hat{H} \simeq \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{i}{2} & 0 \\ -\frac{i}{2} & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \tag{1}$$

a)

$\hat{H}$ is Hermitian if it is equal to its own transpose conjugate, $\hat{H} = \hat{H}^\dagger$.

$$\hat{H}^\dagger = (\hat{H}^*)^T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{i}{2} & 0 \\ \frac{i}{2} & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}^T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{i}{2} & 0 \\ -\frac{i}{2} & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} = \hat{H} \tag{2}$$

b)

Three ket vectors are given

$$|1\rangle \simeq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{3}$$

$$|2\rangle \simeq \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{4}$$

$$|3\rangle \simeq \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} -i \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{5}$$

$|1\rangle$ is and eigenvector of $\hat{H}$ with eigenvalue $\frac{3}{2}$:

$$\hat{H}\,|1\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{i}{2} & 0 \\ -\frac{i}{2} & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3i}{2} \\ \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{3}{2}\,|1\rangle \tag{6}$$

$|2\rangle$ is and eigenvector of $\hat{H}$ with eigenvalue $\frac{1}{2}$:

$$\hat{H}\,|2\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{i}{2} & 0 \\ -\frac{i}{2} & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2}\,|2\rangle \tag{7}$$

$|3\rangle$ is and eigenvector of $\hat{H}$ with eigenvalue $\frac{1}{2}$:

$$\hat{H}\,|3\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{i}{2} & 0 \\ -\frac{i}{2} & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} -i \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{i}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2}\,|3\rangle \tag{8}$$

c)