

Q3. a) In the $|m\rangle$ basis we have

$$P_{mn} = \langle m | \hat{\rho} | n \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dP_{mn}}{dt} = \langle m | \frac{d\hat{\rho}}{dt} | n \rangle$$

since \hat{M} is an observable, $\hat{M}^\dagger = \hat{M}$

$$= 2mn \langle m | \hat{\rho} | n \rangle - m^2 \langle m | \hat{\rho} | n \rangle - n^2 \langle m | \hat{\rho} | n \rangle$$

$$= -(n-m)^2 P_{mn}$$

$$\Rightarrow P_{mn}(t) = P_{mn}(0) e^{-(n-m)^2 t}$$

For an initial ~~state~~ ^{pure} state, $\hat{\rho}(0) = \frac{\cancel{\hat{\rho}}}{\cancel{\hat{\rho}}} |\psi\rangle\langle\psi|$, where $|\psi\rangle = \sum_m c_m |m\rangle$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\rho}(0) = \sum_{m,n} c_m c_n^* |m\rangle\langle n|$$

$$\Rightarrow P_{mn}(t) = c_m c_n^* e^{-(n-m)^2 t}$$

b) As $t \rightarrow \infty$ $P_{mn} \rightarrow 0$, $m \neq n$

$$P_{mm} = |c_m|^2$$

This means that $\hat{\rho}$ becomes a mixed state of all the $|m\rangle$ states with probability of being in that state being given by $|c_m|^2$. Since all off-diagonal terms are zero, there is no coherence between these states.