

# Q.M. II

## Exercise 2

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### Question 1

Use parity qualities and calculate the following for the harmonic oscillator:

$$\langle n|x|n\rangle \quad (1)$$

$$\langle n|p^2|n+1\rangle \quad (2)$$

$$\langle n|xp x|n\rangle \quad (3)$$

#### Solution:

Firstly, the eigen states of the harmonic oscillator  $|n\rangle$  have a well defined parity.

Hence in (1) we have  $x$  which is an anti-symmetrical operator sandwiched by the same parity so

$$\langle n|x|n\rangle = 0.$$

In (2) we have a symmetrical operator  $p^2$  sandwiched by an inverse parity, so again we have:

$$\langle n|p^2|n+1\rangle = 0.$$

In (3) we again have an anti-symmetrical operator sandwiched by the same parity so

$$\langle n|xp x|n\rangle = 0.$$

### Question 2.1

Given the space inversion operator  $\Pi$  :

$$\Pi : \vec{r} \rightarrow -\vec{r}.$$

Show how the spherical harmonics transmute under the space inversion:

$$\Pi Y_l^m(\theta, \phi) = ?$$

#### Solution:

The space inversion in spherical coordinates:

$$r \rightarrow r$$

$$\theta \rightarrow \pi - \theta$$

$$\phi \rightarrow \phi + \pi$$

$$(\cos \theta \rightarrow -\cos \theta)$$

$$(e^{im\phi} \rightarrow (-1)^m e^{im\phi}).$$

So after the space inversion the spherical harmonics become:

$$Y_l^m \propto (-1)^m P_l^m(-\cos\theta) e^{im\phi}.$$

And the parity of the associated legendre polynomials

$$P_l^m(-x) = (-1)^{l+m} P_l^m(x).$$

Finally we can conclude:

$$\Pi Y_l^m = (-1)^l Y_l^m.$$

So the parity of  $|lm\rangle$  is defined only by the quantum number  $l$ , which means  $|lm\rangle$ 's parity is degenerate  $(2l+1)$  times.

### Question 2.2

Use the parity qualities of  $|nlm\rangle$  to determine:

$$\langle nlm|x|nlm\rangle \quad \langle nlm|\vec{r}|n, l+2, m\rangle \quad \langle nlm|r^2|n, l+1, m\rangle.$$

#### Solution:

As derived in 2.1:  $|lm\rangle$ 's parity is defined solely on  $l$ .

$x$  is asymmetrical, which means  $\vec{r}$  is asymmetrical, and  $r^2$  is simetrical. Hence all of the above are 0.

### Question 3

Let  $T$  be an hermitian generator of an arbitrary transformation, and:

$$[H, T] = 0.$$

Show that  $H$  is diagonal in the eignbase of  $T$ .

#### Solution:

We'll define the eignkets of  $T$ :

$$T|t\rangle = t|t\rangle.$$

And examine:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle t'|[H, T]|t\rangle &= \langle t'|HT - TH|t\rangle \\ &= \langle t'|HT|t\rangle - \langle t'|TH|t\rangle \\ &= \langle t'|Ht|t\rangle - \langle t'|t'H|t\rangle \\ 0 &= (t - t') \langle t'|H|t\rangle \end{aligned}$$

So for  $t \neq t'$ ,  $\langle t'|H|t\rangle$  must be equal to 0. And for  $t' = t$ ,  $\langle t'|H|t\rangle$  can take any value.  $\square$

#### Question 4

Show how the following operators transform under Space Inversion  $\Pi$  and under Time Reversal  $\Theta$ :

$$\mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{p} \quad (4)$$

$$\mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{r} \quad (5)$$

$$\mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{L} \quad (6)$$

$$\mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{S}. \quad (7)$$

#### **Solution:**

Firstly we'll note that under  $\Pi$ :

$$\mathbf{r} \rightarrow -\mathbf{r}$$

$$\mathbf{p} \rightarrow -\mathbf{p}$$

$$\mathbf{S} \rightarrow \mathbf{S}$$

$$\mathbf{L} \rightarrow \mathbf{L}.$$

And under  $\Theta$  :

$$\mathbf{r} \rightarrow \mathbf{r}$$

$$\mathbf{p} \rightarrow -\mathbf{p}$$

$$\mathbf{S} \rightarrow -\mathbf{S}$$

$$\mathbf{L} \rightarrow -\mathbf{L}.$$

$$(4) \rightarrow \Pi \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{p} \Pi^{-1} = -\mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{p}$$

$$(5) \rightarrow \Pi \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{r} \Pi^{-1} = -\mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{r}$$

$$(6) \rightarrow \Pi \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{L} \Pi^{-1} = \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{L}$$

$$(7) \rightarrow \Pi \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{S} \Pi^{-1} = \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{S}$$

$$(4) \rightarrow \Theta \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{p} \Theta^{-1} = \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{p}$$

$$(5) \rightarrow \Theta \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{r} \Theta^{-1} = -\mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{r}$$

$$(6) \rightarrow \Theta \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{L} \Theta^{-1} = \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{L}$$

$$(7) \rightarrow \Theta \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{S} \Theta^{-1} = \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{S}.$$

### Question 5

Given a spinless undegenerate system which upholds:

$$[H, \Theta] = 0.$$

Prove that it is possible to choose the eignkets of the system to be real in the Position-Space.

#### Solution:

The undegeneracy means:

$$H|\psi\rangle = E_n|\psi\rangle.$$

Where  $E_n$  are unique.

Let us reverse the time:

$$\Theta H|\psi\rangle = E_n \Theta|\psi\rangle.$$

And use the commutation relation:

$$H\Theta|\psi\rangle = E_n \Theta|\psi\rangle.$$

Firstly we'll note that  $|\psi\rangle = \Theta|\psi\rangle$  for  $E_n$  are unique.

Now let us recall that in the Position-Space the eignkets and the eignkets after time reversal are  $\langle x|\psi\rangle$  and  $\langle x|\psi\rangle^*$  respectively. Hence:

$$\langle x|\psi\rangle = \langle x|\psi\rangle^*.$$

### Question 6

Partical with spin  $s = \frac{1}{2}$  is under the influence of a magnetic field:

$$\mathbf{B}(t) = B_{\perp} [\cos(\omega t) \hat{x} + \sin(\omega t) \hat{y}] + B_0 \hat{z}.$$

#### Parts 1+2

Write the hemiltonian in the base which diagonalize  $S_z$  using the pauli matrices.

#### Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} H &= -\vec{M} \cdot \vec{B} \\ &= \frac{e}{2mc} \vec{S} \cdot \vec{B} \\ &= \frac{e\hbar}{2mc} \frac{\vec{S}}{\hbar} \cdot \vec{B} \\ &\approx \frac{1}{2} g\mu_B \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{B} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} g\mu_B [B_{\perp} \sigma_x \cos(\omega t) + B_{\perp} \sigma_y \sin(\omega t) + B_0 \sigma_z] = \begin{pmatrix} B_0 & B_{\perp} e^{-i\omega t} \\ B_{\perp} e^{i\omega t} & B_0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} g\mu_B [B_{\perp} \sigma_x (e^{i\omega t} + e^{-i\omega t}) - iB_{\perp} \sigma_y (e^{i\omega t} - e^{-i\omega t}) + B_0 \sigma_z] \\ &= \frac{1}{4} g\mu_B \left[ B_{\perp} e^{i\omega t} \underbrace{(\sigma_x - i\sigma_y)}_{\propto S_-} + B_{\perp} e^{-i\omega t} \underbrace{(\sigma_x + i\sigma_y)}_{\propto S_+} + B_0 \sigma_z \right]. \end{aligned}$$

### Part 3

Let  $U$  be a unitary transformation  $|\bar{\psi}\rangle = U|\psi\rangle$ .  
Show that  $\mathcal{H}$  must transform as such:

$$\bar{\mathcal{H}} = U\mathcal{H}U^\dagger + i\hbar \frac{\partial U}{\partial t} U^\dagger.$$

To uphold the schrodinger equation:

$$\bar{\mathcal{H}}|\bar{\psi}\rangle = i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\bar{\psi}\rangle.$$

#### Solution:

By transforming the RHS:

$$\begin{aligned} i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\bar{\psi}\rangle &= i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} U|\psi\rangle = i\hbar \left( \frac{\partial U}{\partial t} |\psi\rangle + U \frac{\partial |\psi\rangle}{\partial t} \right) \\ &= i\hbar \left( \frac{\partial U}{\partial t} U^\dagger U |\psi\rangle + U \left( \frac{1}{i\hbar} \mathcal{H} |\psi\rangle \right) \right) \\ &= i\hbar \left( \frac{\partial U}{\partial t} U^\dagger U |\psi\rangle + \frac{1}{i\hbar} U (\mathcal{H} U^\dagger U |\psi\rangle) \right) \\ &= \underbrace{\left( i\hbar \frac{\partial U}{\partial t} U^\dagger + U \mathcal{H} U^\dagger \right)}_{\bar{\mathcal{H}}} \underbrace{U |\psi\rangle}_{|\bar{\psi}\rangle} \end{aligned}$$

### Part 4

Let  $U$  the transformation be:

$$U = e^{i \frac{S_z}{\hbar} \Omega_0 t}.$$

Write  $U$  in the diagonalizing base of  $S_z$  and find  $\bar{\mathcal{H}}$ .  
What  $\Omega_0$  must be so  $\bar{\mathcal{H}}$  will be time independent?

#### Solution:

$U$  is comprised solely from  $S_z$  hence:

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} e^{i \frac{\Omega_0}{2} t} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-i \frac{\Omega_0}{2} t} \end{pmatrix}.$$

And due to the previous part:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mathcal{H}} &\propto \begin{pmatrix} e^{i \frac{\Omega_0}{2} t} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-i \frac{\Omega_0}{2} t} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} B_0 & B_\perp e^{-i\omega t} \\ B_\perp e^{i\omega t} & B_0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i \frac{\Omega_0}{2} t} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i \frac{\Omega_0}{2} t} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{\Omega_0}{2} \hbar & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\Omega_0}{2} \hbar \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} B_0 - \frac{\Omega_0}{2} \hbar & B_\perp e^{i(\Omega_0 - \omega)t} \\ B_\perp e^{i(\omega - \Omega_0)t} & -B_0 + \frac{\Omega_0}{2} \hbar \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

So for  $\bar{\mathcal{H}}$  to be time independent  $\Omega_0 = \omega$ .

From here on out I won't show all the calculations, writing everything in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X is too much for me right now.

### Part 5

Find the eigenkets and eigen energies of  $\tilde{\mathcal{H}}$

#### Solution:

Because  $U$  is just a transformation of our choice we'll pick  $\Omega_0 = \omega$  such that  $\tilde{\mathcal{H}}$  will be time independent:

$$\tilde{\mathcal{H}} = \begin{pmatrix} B_0 - \frac{\Omega_0}{2}\hbar & B_{\perp} \\ B_{\perp} & -B_0 + \frac{\Omega_0}{2}\hbar \end{pmatrix}.$$

We'll define a modified magnetic field  $B' = B_0 - \frac{\Omega_0}{2}\hbar$  and find the eigen-energies:

$$E_{\pm} = \pm \sqrt{B'^2 + B_{\perp}^2}.$$

And define:

$$E \equiv |E_{\pm}| = \sqrt{B'^2 + B_{\perp}^2}.$$

And the normalized eigenkets:

$$\begin{aligned} |+\rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2E(E+B')}} \begin{pmatrix} B' + E \\ B_{\perp} \end{pmatrix} \\ |-\rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2E(E-B')}} \begin{pmatrix} B' - E \\ B_{\perp} \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

### Part 6

In  $t = 0$  the state of the system  $|\psi(0)\rangle = |\uparrow\rangle$ .

What's the probability to find the system in the state  $|\downarrow\rangle$  after time  $t$ ?

#### Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi(0)\rangle &= |\uparrow\rangle = \langle +|\uparrow\rangle|+\rangle + \langle -|\uparrow\rangle|-\rangle \\ &= \langle \uparrow|+\rangle|+\rangle + \langle \uparrow|-\rangle|-\rangle \\ &\Downarrow \\ |\psi(t)\rangle &= \langle \uparrow|+\rangle e^{-i\frac{E}{\hbar}t}|+\rangle + \langle \uparrow|-\rangle e^{i\frac{E}{\hbar}t}|-\rangle \\ \langle \downarrow|\psi(t)\rangle &= \langle \uparrow|+\rangle\langle \downarrow|+\rangle e^{-i\frac{E}{\hbar}t} + \langle \uparrow|-\rangle\langle \downarrow|-\rangle e^{i\frac{E}{\hbar}t} \\ &= \frac{B_{\perp}}{2E} e^{-i\frac{E}{\hbar}t} - \frac{B_{\perp}}{2E} e^{-i\frac{E}{\hbar}t} \\ P_t(|\downarrow\rangle) &= |\langle \downarrow|\psi(t)\rangle|^2 = \boxed{\frac{B_{\perp}^2}{4E^2} \sin^2\left(\frac{E}{\hbar}t\right)}. \end{aligned}$$