

PHYS 234: Quantum Physics 1 (Winter 2026)

Quiz 2

Let $|\pm\rangle$ denote the S_z eigenstates for a spin-1/2 particles. Given the vector

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{e^{i\theta}}{\sqrt{2}} (|+\rangle + e^{i\varphi} |-\rangle), \quad \theta, \varphi \in \mathbb{R}$$

which of the following statements is true? Justify your answer.

1. $|\psi\rangle$ is not a physically-valid state, since it is not normalized.
2. For arbitrary φ , $|\psi\rangle$ is an eigenstate of the S_x operator.
3. The probabilities of measuring different values of S_x is independent of φ .
4. The probabilities of measuring different values of S_x is independent of θ .

Hint: Recall that the S_x eigenstates are $|\pm\rangle_x = (|+\rangle \pm |-\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$.