

$$|\odot\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\rangle + |\downarrow\rangle)$$

$$|\otimes\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\rangle - |\downarrow\rangle)$$

Superposition states
not mixtures
of $|\uparrow\rangle_s$ & $|\downarrow\rangle_s$.

Representing States as Matrices

We can represent kets as column vectors
if we specify a basis

e.g., a S_z basis

$$|\uparrow\rangle \doteq \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$|\downarrow\rangle \doteq \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

\doteq means
"represented by"

$$|\odot\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\rangle + |\downarrow\rangle) \doteq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\doteq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

$$|\otimes\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$|\psi\rangle \doteq \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \doteq a|\uparrow\rangle + b|\downarrow\rangle$$

$$a = \langle \uparrow | \psi \rangle \quad b = \langle \downarrow | \psi \rangle$$

$$|\psi\rangle \doteq \begin{pmatrix} \langle \uparrow | \psi \rangle \\ \langle \downarrow | \psi \rangle \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\langle \uparrow | \uparrow \rangle = 1$$

$$\langle \uparrow | \doteq (1 \ 0)$$

$$|\psi\rangle \doteq \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\langle \psi | = (a^* \ b^*)$$

$$\langle \psi | \psi \rangle = (a^* \ b^*) \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = |a|^2 + |b|^2$$

General quantum systems may have more than 2 dimensions

e.g. a spin-1 system can have $S_z = \hbar, 0, -\hbar$

e.g. a harmonic oscillator can have $E = \frac{1}{2}\hbar\omega, \frac{3}{2}\hbar\omega, \frac{5}{2}\hbar\omega, \dots$

If an observable A yields quantized measurement results a_n .

$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline A \\ \hline a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow |a_1\rangle \\ \rightarrow |a_2\rangle \\ \rightarrow |a_3\rangle \end{array}$$

Kronecker
delta

orthonormal $\langle a_i | a_j \rangle = \delta_{ij} \equiv \begin{cases} 1, & i=j \\ 0, & i \neq j \end{cases}$

completeness $|\psi\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n \langle a_i | \psi \rangle |a_i\rangle$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \langle a_i | \psi \rangle |a_i\rangle$$

e.g. spin 1 system $|+\rangle, |0\rangle, |-\rangle$

$$|\psi\rangle = 2i|+\rangle - |0\rangle + |-\rangle$$

What is probability that a S_z measurement will give outcome $|+\rangle$?

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \psi | \psi \rangle &= (-2i\langle +| - \langle 0| + \langle -|)(2i|+\rangle - |0\rangle + |-\rangle) \\ &= 4 + 1 + 1 = 6 \end{aligned}$$

$$|\psi'\rangle = \frac{2i}{\sqrt{6}}|+\rangle - \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}|0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}|-\rangle$$

$$P_+ = |\langle + | \psi \rangle|^2 = \left| \frac{2i}{\sqrt{6}} \right|^2 = \frac{4}{6} = \frac{2}{3}$$

wavefunction $\psi(x) = \langle x | \psi \rangle$ o.o. future

Chapter 2

Physical observables (e.g. S_z) are represented by operators.

Operator acts on a ket and returns a ket.

$$\downarrow A|\psi\rangle = |\phi\rangle$$

Operators have special kets which do not change under operation except for a multiplicative constant.

$$\exists |\psi\rangle \quad \overset{\text{operator}}{\downarrow} A|\psi\rangle = \overset{\text{number}}{\downarrow} a|\psi\rangle$$

These $|\psi\rangle$'s are eigenkets or eigenstates of A and corresponding numbers a are eigenvalues.

e.g. eigenstates of S_z

$S_z |\psi\rangle$ means "run $|\psi\rangle$ through a S_z analyzer"

eigenstates of S_z
are $|\uparrow\rangle$ & $|\downarrow\rangle$

$$|\uparrow\rangle \xrightarrow{S_z} |\uparrow\rangle$$

$$|\downarrow\rangle \xrightarrow{S_z} |\downarrow\rangle$$

$$S_z |\uparrow\rangle = \frac{\hbar}{2} |\uparrow\rangle$$

$$S_z |\downarrow\rangle = -\frac{\hbar}{2} |\downarrow\rangle$$

(sometimes we'll choose units
so $\frac{\hbar}{2} = 1$.)

When you measure an observable A , only possible outcomes are the eigenvalues of A , and the system will end up in corresponding eigenstate of A .

Operators are ~~not~~ ^{represented by} matrices.

In the S_z basis

$$S_z = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad S_z |\uparrow\rangle = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$S_z |\uparrow\rangle = \frac{\hbar}{2} |\uparrow\rangle$$

An operator is always diagonal in its own basis -
with eigenvalues on the diagonal.