

- (1) The Hamiltonian for negatively-charged particle in a magnetic field is  $H = -\gamma \vec{S} \cdot \vec{B}$ . Section 1.6 of the course notes discusses the precession of a negatively-charged spin-1/2 particle when the magnetic field is  $\vec{B} = B_0 \hat{k}$ . In this activity, you'll explore the precession of a negatively-charged spin-1 particle under the same conditions.

- (a) Consider a negatively-charged spin-1 particle in state

$$|\Psi_1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|+1_z\rangle - |-1_z\rangle).$$

Find the time evolution of this state if the magnetic field is  $\vec{B} = B_0 \hat{k}$ . Express your answer in terms of the Larmor frequency  $\Omega_0 = |\gamma B_0|$ .

- (b) Calculate  $\mathcal{P}_{+1_x}(t)$  for this particle (the probability that a measurement of spin along the  $x$  axis have a result of  $+\hbar$ ).
- (c) Suppose instead that the initial state of the particle is

$$|\Psi_2\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|+1_z\rangle + |-1_z\rangle).$$

Find the time evolution of this state given the same magnetic field, and calculate  $\mathcal{P}_{+1_x}(t)$  for this state.

- (d) Suppose instead that the initial state of the particle is

$$|\Psi_3\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(|+1_z\rangle + |0_z\rangle + |-1_z\rangle).$$

Find the time evolution of this state given the same magnetic field, and calculate  $\mathcal{P}_{+1_x}(t)$  for this state.

- (e) Compare your answers for  $\mathcal{P}_{+1_x}(t)$  for these three states. How are they similar? How do they differ?