

Homework 4

Solutions

4.1

a) Relevant states: $|j = \frac{1}{2}, m_j = \pm \frac{1}{2}\rangle$, $|j = \frac{3}{2}, m_j = \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{3}{2}\rangle$

$$A \vec{L} \cdot \vec{S} = \frac{A}{2} ((L+S)^2 - L^2 - S^2) = \frac{A \hbar^2}{2} [j(j+1) - l(l+1) - s(s+1)]$$

$$= \frac{A \hbar^2}{2} \begin{cases} -2, & j = \frac{1}{2} \\ +1, & j = \frac{3}{2} \end{cases}$$

Matrix:

$$\frac{A \hbar^2}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & & \\ & 1 & & & & \\ & & -2 & & & \\ & & & 1 & & \\ & & & & -2 & \\ & & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\chi_{\vec{\mu}} \cdot \vec{B} = \frac{e}{2m} (\vec{L} + 2\vec{S}) \cdot \vec{B} = \frac{e}{2m} (L_z + 2S_z) B = \mu_B B (m_l + 2m_s)$$

$$= \frac{e B \hbar}{2m} [2|1 \frac{1}{2}\rangle \langle 1 \frac{1}{2}| + 0|1 -\frac{1}{2}\rangle \langle 1 -\frac{1}{2}| +$$

$$+ 1|0 \frac{1}{2}\rangle \langle 0 \frac{1}{2}| + (-1)|0 -\frac{1}{2}\rangle \langle 0 -\frac{1}{2}| +$$

$$+ 0|-1 \frac{1}{2}\rangle \langle -1 \frac{1}{2}| + (-2)|-1 -\frac{1}{2}\rangle \langle -1 -\frac{1}{2}|] \quad (\text{in } |m_l, m_s \text{ basis})$$

Now use Clebsch-Gordan coefficients to write

$$|1 \frac{1}{2}\rangle = |j = \frac{3}{2}, m_j = \frac{3}{2}\rangle$$

$$|0 \frac{1}{2}\rangle = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} |j = \frac{3}{2}, m_j = \frac{1}{2}\rangle - \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} |j = \frac{1}{2}, m_j = \frac{1}{2}\rangle$$

$$|0 -\frac{1}{2}\rangle = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} |j = \frac{3}{2}, m_j = -\frac{1}{2}\rangle + \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} |j = \frac{1}{2}, m_j = -\frac{1}{2}\rangle$$

$$|-1 -\frac{1}{2}\rangle = |j = \frac{3}{2}, m_j = -\frac{3}{2}\rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \chi_{\vec{\mu}} \cdot \vec{B} = \mu_B B [2| \frac{3}{2} \frac{3}{2}\rangle \langle \frac{3}{2} \frac{3}{2}|$$

$$+ 1(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} | \frac{3}{2} \frac{1}{2}\rangle - \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} | \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2}\rangle)(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \langle \frac{3}{2} \frac{1}{2}| - \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} \langle \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2}|)$$

$$+ (-1)(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} | \frac{3}{2} -\frac{1}{2}\rangle + \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} | \frac{1}{2} -\frac{1}{2}\rangle)(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \langle \frac{3}{2} -\frac{1}{2}| + \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} \langle \frac{1}{2} -\frac{1}{2}|)$$

$$+ (-2) | \frac{3}{2} -\frac{3}{2}\rangle \langle \frac{3}{2} -\frac{3}{2}|]$$

(in $|j, m_j\rangle$ basis)

Matrix:

$$\frac{eB\hbar}{2m} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & & & & & \\ & \begin{matrix} 2/3 & -\sqrt{2}/3 \\ -\sqrt{2}/3 & 1/3 \end{matrix} & & & & \\ & & \begin{matrix} -2/3 & -\sqrt{2}/3 \\ -\sqrt{2}/3 & -1/3 \end{matrix} & & & \\ & & & & & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Full matrix:

$$\hat{H} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha + 2\beta & & & & & \\ & \begin{matrix} \alpha + 2/3\beta & -\sqrt{2}/3\beta \\ -\sqrt{2}/3\beta & -2\alpha + 1/3\beta \end{matrix} & & & & \\ & & \begin{matrix} \alpha - 2/3\beta & -\sqrt{2}/3\beta \\ -\sqrt{2}/3\beta & -2\alpha - 1/3\beta \end{matrix} & & & \\ & & & & & \alpha - 2\beta \end{pmatrix}$$

← Block 1
← Block 2
← Block 3
← Block 4

b) Eigenvalue of Block 1:

$$E_1 = \alpha + 2\beta$$

Eigenvalues of Block 2:

$$E_2 = \frac{1}{2} (-\alpha + \beta + \sqrt{9\alpha^2 + 2\alpha\beta + \beta^2})$$

$$E_3 = \frac{1}{2} (-\alpha + \beta - \sqrt{9\alpha^2 + 2\alpha\beta + \beta^2})$$

Eigenvalues of Block 3:

$$E_4 = \frac{1}{2} (-\alpha - \beta + \sqrt{9\alpha^2 - 2\alpha\beta + \beta^2})$$

$$E_5 = \frac{1}{2} (-\alpha - \beta - \sqrt{9\alpha^2 - 2\alpha\beta + \beta^2})$$

Eigenvalue of Block 4:

$$E_6 = \alpha - 2\beta$$

c) for $\alpha \gg \beta$: $\sqrt{9\alpha^2 + 2\alpha\beta + \beta^2} = 3\alpha \sqrt{1 + \frac{2\alpha\beta + \beta^2}{9\alpha^2}}$

$$\approx 3\alpha \left(1 + \frac{\alpha\beta}{3\alpha^2}\right) = 3\alpha + \beta/3$$

$$\sqrt{9\alpha^2 - 2\alpha\beta + \beta^2} \approx 3\alpha - \beta/3$$

For $\alpha \ll \beta$: $\sqrt{9\alpha^2 + 2\alpha\beta + \beta^2} = \beta \sqrt{1 + \frac{9\alpha^2 + 2\alpha\beta}{\beta^2}}$

$$\approx \beta \left(1 + \frac{\alpha\beta}{\beta^2}\right) = \beta + \alpha$$

$$\sqrt{9\alpha^2 - 2\alpha\beta + \beta^2} \approx \beta - \alpha$$

For $\alpha \gg \beta$: $E_2 \approx \alpha + \frac{2}{3} \beta$

$E_3 \approx -2\alpha + \frac{1}{3} \beta$

$E_4 \approx \alpha - \frac{2}{3} \beta$

$E_5 \approx -2\alpha - \frac{1}{3} \beta$

For $\alpha \ll \beta$: $E_2 \approx \beta$

$E_3 \approx -\alpha$

$E_4 \approx -\alpha$

$E_5 \approx -\beta$

d) - For $\alpha \gg \beta$, level $j = \frac{3}{2}$ ($E_{j=3/2} = +\alpha$)

splits into four: $E_1 = \alpha + 2\beta$ ($m_j = 3/2$)

$E_2 = \alpha + \frac{2}{3}\beta$ ($m_j = 1/2$)

$E_4 = \alpha - \frac{2}{3}\beta$ ($m_j = -1/2$)

$E_6 = \alpha - 2\beta$ ($m_j = -3/2$)

$\Rightarrow E_{j=3/2, m_j} = \frac{4}{3} \beta m_j = \frac{4}{3} \mu_B B m_j$

level $j = \frac{1}{2}$ ($E_{j=1/2} = -2\alpha$)

splits into two: $E_3 = -2\alpha + \frac{1}{3}\beta$ ($m_j = 1/2$)

$E_5 = -2\alpha - \frac{1}{3}\beta$ ($m_j = -1/2$)

$\Rightarrow E_{j=1/2, m_j} = \frac{2}{3} \beta m_j = \frac{2}{3} \mu_B B m_j$

Verify: $g_j = 1 + \frac{j(j+1) + s(s+1) - l(l+1)}{2j(j+1)} = \begin{cases} 4/3, & j=3/2 \\ 2/3, & j=1/2 \end{cases}$

e) For $\beta \gg \alpha$, five asymptotic energy levels

$E_1 = \alpha + 2\beta$ ($m_l = 1, m_s = 1/2$)

$E_2 = \beta$ ($m_l = 0, m_s = 1/2$)

$E_3 = E_4 = -\alpha$ ($m_l = 1, m_s = -1/2$ and $m_l = -1, m_s = 1/2$)

$E_5 = -\beta$ ($m_l = 0, m_s = -1/2$)

$E_6 = \alpha - 2\beta$ ($m_l = -1, m_s = -1/2$)

4.2 (a) Using the table of Clebsch-Gordan coefficients,

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\Psi_{AB}(0)\rangle &= |S_A = \frac{1}{2}, S_B = 1, s = \frac{1}{2}, m_s = \frac{1}{2}\rangle \\
 &= \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} |m_A = -\frac{1}{2}, m_B = 1\rangle - \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} |m_A = -\frac{1}{2}, m_B = 0\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho_1 &= \frac{2}{3}, |\Psi_1(0)\rangle = |\downarrow\rangle \\
 \rho_2 &= \frac{1}{3}, |\Psi_2(0)\rangle = |\uparrow\rangle
 \end{aligned}
 \left\{ \Rightarrow \rho_A(0) = \frac{2}{3} |\downarrow\rangle\langle\downarrow| + \frac{1}{3} |\uparrow\rangle\langle\uparrow| = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{2}{3} \end{pmatrix} \right.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho_{AB}(0) &= \frac{2}{3} |\downarrow, 1\rangle\langle\downarrow, 1| - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3} |\downarrow, 1\rangle\langle\uparrow, 0| \\
 &\quad - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3} |\uparrow, 0\rangle\langle\downarrow, 1| + \frac{1}{3} |\uparrow, 0\rangle\langle\uparrow, 0|
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\rho_A(0) = \text{Tr}_B [\rho_{AB}(0)] = \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\langle m_B = 1 | \rho_{AB}(0) | m_B = 1 \rangle + \langle m_B = 0 | \rho_{AB}(0) | m_B = 0 \rangle + \langle m_B = -1 | \rho_{AB}(0) | m_B = -1 \rangle \\
 &= \frac{2}{3} |\downarrow\rangle\langle\downarrow| + \frac{1}{3} |\uparrow\rangle\langle\uparrow|
 \end{aligned}$$

$$d) H = -\gamma \vec{S} \cdot \vec{B} = -\gamma B S_{Ax} = -\gamma B \hbar \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Evolution operator

$$e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} H t} = e^{i \gamma B \sigma_x t} = \hat{1} \cos \gamma B t + i \sigma_x \sin \gamma B t = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \gamma B t & i \sin \gamma B t \\ i \sin \gamma B t & \cos \gamma B t \end{pmatrix}$$

$$|\Psi_1(t)\rangle = U \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} i \sin \gamma B t \\ \cos \gamma B t \end{pmatrix}$$

$$|\Psi_2(t)\rangle = U \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \gamma B t \\ i \sin \gamma B t \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho_A(t) &= \frac{2}{3} |\Psi_1(t)\rangle\langle\Psi_1(t)| + \frac{1}{3} |\Psi_2(t)\rangle\langle\Psi_2(t)| \\
 &= \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \sin^2 \gamma B t + \cos^2 \gamma B t & i \cos \gamma B t \sin \gamma B t \\ -i \cos \gamma B t \sin \gamma B t & 2 \cos^2 \gamma B t + \sin^2 \gamma B t \end{pmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$e) \rho_A(t) = e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} H t} \rho_A(0) e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} H t} \quad \text{same as in (d)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f) \text{Tr} \rho_A(t) &= \frac{1}{3} \left[(2 \sin^2 \gamma B t + \cos^2 \gamma B t)^2 + 2 (\cos \gamma B t \sin \gamma B t)^2 \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + (2 \cos^2 \gamma B t + \sin^2 \gamma B t)^2 \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{9} \left[(1 + \sin^2 \gamma B t)^2 + 2 \cos^2 \gamma B t \sin^2 \gamma B t + (1 + \cos^2 \gamma B t)^2 \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{9} \left[2 + 2 \sin^2 \gamma B t + 2 \cos^2 \gamma B t + (\sin^2 \gamma B t + \cos^2 \gamma B t)^2 \right] = \frac{5}{9}
 \end{aligned}$$

g) Method 1: $|R\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix}$; $|L\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Pr}(|R\rangle) &= \frac{2}{3} |\langle R | \psi_1(t) \rangle|^2 + \frac{1}{3} |\langle R | \psi_2(t) \rangle|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{3} (\sin \gamma B t - \cos \gamma B t)^2 + \frac{1}{6} (\cos \gamma B t + \sin \gamma B t)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} \sin \gamma B t + \cos \gamma B t = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{6} \sin 2\gamma B t \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Pr}(|L\rangle) &= \frac{2}{3} |\langle L | \psi_1(t) \rangle|^2 + \frac{1}{3} |\langle L | \psi_2(t) \rangle|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{3} (\sin \gamma B t + \cos \gamma B t)^2 + \frac{1}{6} (\cos \gamma B t - \sin \gamma B t)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} \sin 2\gamma B t \end{aligned}$$

Method 2:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Pr}(|R\rangle) &= \langle R | \rho_A(t) | R \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{6} (1 \ -i) \begin{pmatrix} 2 \sin^2 \gamma B t + \cos^2 \gamma B t - \cos \gamma B t \sin \gamma B t \\ -i \cos \gamma B t \sin \gamma B t + 2i \cos^2 \gamma B t + i \sin^2 \gamma B t \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{6} (3 \sin^2 \gamma B t + 3 \cos^2 \gamma B t - 2 \cos \gamma B t \sin \gamma B t) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{6} \sin 2\gamma B t \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Pr}(|L\rangle) = \langle L | \rho_A(t) | L \rangle = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} \sin \gamma B t.$$