

An-Najah National University
Faculty of Graduate Studies
Faculty of Science-Department of Physics
Quantum Mechanics I
Spring 2014
1st Exam, Mar. 5th 2014

Name: _____

Number: _____

1. Vectors $|a\rangle$ and $|b\rangle$ belong to a certain abstract vector space such that:

$$|a\rangle\langle a| + |b\rangle\langle b| = 1$$

- (a) (2 points) What is the dimension of the space
(b) (4 points) Find $\text{Tr}(e^{|a\rangle\langle a|})$
(c) (2 points) Find $[e^{|a\rangle\langle a|}, e^{|a\rangle\langle b|}]$
2. Consider a physical system whose three-dimensional state space is spanned by the orthonormal basis formed by the three kets $|u_1\rangle, |u_2\rangle, |u_3\rangle$. In this basis, the Hamilton operator H and the observable A are written as:

$$H = \hbar\omega_0 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad A = a \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where ω_0 and a are positive real constants. The physical state at time $t=0$ is the state:

$$|\psi(t=0)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|u_1\rangle + \frac{1}{2}|u_2\rangle + \frac{1}{2}|u_3\rangle$$

- (a) (3 points) If operator A is measured at $t=0$, what values we might get and with what probability.
(b) (2 points) What is $|\psi(t)\rangle$
(c) (2 points) What is $\langle A(t) \rangle$
3. (5 points) Consider a spin-1/2 particle with magnetic moment $\mu = \gamma\sigma$ in a uniform magnetic field that points in the z-direction. If at time $t=0$ the x-component of the spin is measured and were found to be $\frac{\pm\hbar}{2}$. At time t , y-component of the spin is measured and were found to be $\frac{\pm\hbar}{2}$, what is t ?
4. A quantum mechanical system is known to possess only two energy eigenstates denoted $|1\rangle$ and $|2\rangle$. The system also includes three other observables \mathbf{P} , \mathbf{Q} , and \mathbf{R} . The eigenstates $|1\rangle$ and $|2\rangle$ are normalized but not necessary to be eigenstates for the observables \mathbf{P} , \mathbf{Q} , and \mathbf{R} . A series of experiments were performed and the following results were obtained:
1. Experiment 1: $\langle 1|P|1\rangle = \frac{1}{2}$, $\langle 1|P^2|1\rangle = \frac{1}{4}$
 2. Experiment 2: $\langle 1|Q|1\rangle = \frac{1}{2}$, $\langle 1|Q^2|1\rangle = \frac{1}{6}$
 3. Experiment 3: $\langle 1|R|1\rangle = \frac{1}{2}$, $\langle 1|R^2|1\rangle = \frac{5}{4}$, $\langle 1|R^3|1\rangle = \frac{7}{4}$
- (a) (2 points) One of the experiments yields an unphysical result, which one?
(b) (3 points) Find as many as possible eigenvalues of P and Q as possible, from the given information

| Question | Points | Score |
|----------|--------|-------|
| 1 | 8 | |
| 2 | 7 | |
| 3 | 5 | |
| 4 | 5 | |
| Total: | 25 | |