

Spring 98 10

$$\vec{B} = (B \sin \theta, 0, B \cos \theta)$$

$$+ = 0 \quad \text{spin } z = \hbar/2 = \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{with } \hbar = 1$$

$$H = -\vec{\mu} \cdot \vec{B} = \frac{g \mu_B \vec{B} \cdot \vec{\sigma}}{2}$$

$$g = 2 \Rightarrow H = \mu_B \vec{B} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$$

$$H = \mu_B \begin{pmatrix} B \cos \theta & B \sin \theta \\ B \sin \theta & -B \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} = \frac{\omega}{2} \hat{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma} \quad \omega = 2 \mu_B B$$

$$\psi(t) = e^{-iHt} \psi(0) = e^{-i\omega t + \hat{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma} / 2} \psi(0)$$

eigenstates of $\hat{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$, in σ_z basis are

$$\chi_+ = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta/2 \\ \sin \theta/2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \chi_- = \begin{pmatrix} \sin \theta/2 \\ -\cos \theta/2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{eigenvalues } \pm 1$$

$$\psi(t) = C_+ e^{-i\omega t/2} \chi_+ + C_- e^{i\omega t/2} \chi_- = \begin{pmatrix} C_+ e^{-i\omega t/2} \cos \theta/2 + C_- e^{i\omega t/2} \sin \theta/2 \\ C_+ e^{-i\omega t/2} \sin \theta/2 - C_- e^{i\omega t/2} \cos \theta/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

So, since $\psi(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$C_+ \sin \theta/2 = C_- \cos \theta/2 \quad C_+ = C_- \frac{\cos \theta/2}{\sin \theta/2}$$

$$C_+ \cos \theta/2 + C_- \sin \theta/2 = 1$$

$$C_- \cos^2 \theta/2 + C_- \sin^2 \theta/2 = \sin \theta/2$$

$$C_- = \sin \theta/2$$

$$C_+ = \cos \theta/2 = \begin{pmatrix} a_+(t) \\ b_+(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\psi(t) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\omega t/2} \cos^2 \theta/2 + e^{i\omega t/2} \sin^2 \theta/2 \\ -i \cos \theta/2 \sin \theta/2 e^{-i\omega t/2} - i \sin \theta/2 \cos \theta/2 e^{i\omega t/2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Probability of being in spin up state $|a_+(t)\rangle^2$

$$\text{since } P_+ = \langle z_+ | \psi(t) \rangle^2 \quad z_+ = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_+(t) &= e^{-i\omega t/2} \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} + e^{i\omega t/2} \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \\
 &= e^{-i\omega t/2} \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} + i e^{i\omega t/2} - e^{i\omega t/2} \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \\
 &= \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} (e^{-i\omega t/2} - e^{i\omega t/2}) + e^{i\omega t/2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= -2i \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \sin \frac{\omega t}{2} + \cos \frac{\omega t}{2} + i \sin \frac{\omega t}{2}$$

$$\cos \frac{\theta}{2} = \sqrt{\frac{1 + \cos \theta}{2}} \quad = -i (1 + \cos \theta) \sin \frac{\omega t}{2} + \cos \frac{\omega t}{2} + i \sin \frac{\omega t}{2}$$

$$= \cos \frac{\omega t}{2} - i \cos \theta \sin \frac{\omega t}{2}$$

$$|a_+(t)|^2 = \cos^2 \frac{\omega t}{2} + \cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \frac{\omega t}{2}$$

at $\theta = 0$ probability is 1

at $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ probability is $\cos^2 \frac{\omega t}{2}$