

QM1 Concept test 5.1

Choose all of the following pairs of spin states that are orthogonal to each other for a spin-1/2 particle.

(1) $|\uparrow_z\rangle$ and $|\downarrow_z\rangle$ (2) $|\uparrow_x\rangle$ and $|\uparrow_z\rangle$ (3) $|\uparrow_z\rangle + |\downarrow_z\rangle$ and $|\uparrow_z\rangle - |\downarrow_z\rangle$

- A. 1 only B. 2 only C. 1 and 2 only D. 1 and 3 only
E. all of the above

Concept test 5.2

Choose all of the following statements that are correct about the basis vectors for the spin degree of freedom of a single electron.

- (1) The basis vector must be an eigenstate of the operator \hat{S}^2 .
 - (2) The basis vector must be an eigenstate of the operator \hat{S}_z .
 - (3) Different basis vectors can be chosen based upon convenience.
- A. None of the above B. 1 and 2 only C. 1 and 3 only
D. 2 and 3 only E. All of the above

QM1 Concept test 5.3

Consider a spin-3/2 system. What is the dimension of the vector space associated with this system?

- A. one dimension
- B. two dimensions
- C. three dimensions
- D. four dimensions
- E. infinite dimensional space with discrete basis vectors

QM1 Concept test 5.4

Consider a spin-3/2 system. Which one of the following is true about the dimensions of the matrices used to represent the spin operators \hat{S}_x , \hat{S}_y , and \hat{S}_z if we choose a complete set of orthonormal basis sets?

- A. Each of them is a 2×2 matrix.
- B. Each of them is a 3×3 matrix.
- C. Each of them is a 4×4 matrix.
- D. The spin operators \hat{S}_x , \hat{S}_y , and \hat{S}_z are infinite dimensional matrices.

QM1 Concept test 5.5

Suppose the initial spin state of an electron is $a|\uparrow\rangle_z + b|\downarrow\rangle_z$ where a and b are non-zero constants. Choose all of the following statements that are correct.

- (1) If we measure the z -component of the spin of the electron, we can obtain $+\hbar/2$ with a probability $|a|^2$.
- (2) If we measure the x -component of the spin of the electron, we can obtain $+\hbar/2$ with a probability $|a|^2$.
- (3) If we measure the x -component of the spin of the electron, we can obtain $+\hbar/2$ with a probability $\frac{1}{2}|a+b|^2$.
- A. 1 only B. 2 only C. 3 only D. 1 and 2 only E. 1 and 3 only

Concept test 5.6

Choose all of the following statements that are true about the Hamiltonian $\hat{H}_0 = C(\hat{S}^2 - \hat{S}_z^2)$ for a spin-1/2 system where C is a constant.

- (1) If we choose $|\uparrow_z\rangle$ and $|\downarrow_z\rangle$ as the basis vectors for the spin space, the Hamiltonian is a diagonal matrix.
- (2) If we choose $|\uparrow_x\rangle$ and $|\downarrow_x\rangle$ as the basis vectors for the spin space, the Hamiltonian is a diagonal matrix.
- (3) The Hamiltonian must always be diagonal by definition.

- A. 1 only B. 2 only C. 1 and 2 only D. all of the above
E. none of the above