

**October 23, 2023**

1. The Hamiltonian for a free particle of mass  $M$  and spin  $\hat{\mathbf{S}}$  placed in an external magnetic field  $\mathbf{B}$  in the  $z$  direction is

$$H = \frac{\hat{\mathbf{p}}^2}{2M} - g|\mathbf{B}|\hat{S}_z, \quad (1)$$

where  $g$  is a constant proportional to the magnetic moment of the particle. Give the equations that govern the time-dependence of the expectation values of all three components of  $\hat{\mathbf{S}}$ .

2. The Hamiltonian for a spin-1 particle reads

$$H = A\hat{S}_z + B\hat{S}_x^2, \quad (2)$$

with  $A$  and  $B$  constants. Obtain the energy levels of the system. If at  $t = 0$ , the system is in the eigenstate of  $\hat{S}_z = \hbar$ , obtain the expectation value of  $\hat{\mathbf{S}}$  as a function of time ( $t > 0$ ).