

We found the eigenkets of  $\hat{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta e^{i\phi} \\ \sin\theta e^{-i\phi} & -\cos\theta \end{pmatrix}$  ✓

\*  $|+, \hat{n}\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta/2 \\ \sin\theta e^{i\phi} \end{pmatrix}$   $|-, \hat{n}\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} \sin\theta/2 e^{-i\phi} \\ -\cos\theta/2 \end{pmatrix}$  \*

$\hat{n} = (\sin\theta \cos\phi, \sin\theta \sin\phi, \cos\theta)$

When  $\hat{n} = \hat{z} = (0, 0, 1)$   $\hat{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma} = \sigma_z$ ,  $|+, \hat{z}\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ;  $|-, \hat{z}\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  \*

When  $\hat{n} = \hat{x} = (1, 0, 0)$ ;  $\hat{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma} = \sigma_x$ ;  $|+, \hat{x}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ;  $|-, \hat{x}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$

When  $\hat{n} = \hat{y} = (0, 1, 0)$   $\hat{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma} = \sigma_y$ ;  $|+, \hat{y}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix}$ ;  $|-, \hat{y}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Note the  $(\hat{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma})$  is the dot product of two vectors.

$\vec{\sigma} = (\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3)$

$U(R) [ (\hat{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma}) | \pm, \hat{n}\rangle = \pm | \pm, \hat{n}\rangle ]$   $U^\dagger(R) = U^{-1}(R)$

$U(R) (\hat{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma}) U^\dagger U | \pm, \hat{n}\rangle = \pm U | \pm, \hat{n}\rangle$

In particular,  $\sigma_3 | \pm, \hat{z}\rangle = \pm | \pm, \hat{z}\rangle$

$U(R) \sigma_3 U^\dagger(R) U(R) | \pm, \hat{z}\rangle = \pm U(R) | \pm, \hat{z}\rangle$

$U(R) \sigma_3 U^\dagger(R) = U(R) \hat{z} \cdot \vec{\sigma} U^\dagger(R)$

If  $R$  is rotation that takes  $\hat{z} \rightarrow \hat{n}$

$U(R) \hat{z} \cdot \vec{\sigma} U^\dagger(R) = \hat{n} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$   
 $\& U(R) | \pm, \hat{z}\rangle = | \pm, \hat{n}\rangle$

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow |+, \hat{n}\rangle$

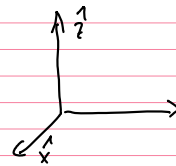
$|+, \hat{z}\rangle \xrightarrow{U} |+, \hat{n}\rangle$

$U \hat{z} U^\dagger = \hat{n}$

$|\psi\rangle \xrightarrow{R} U(R) |\psi\rangle$   
 $\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R} \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta/2 & \sin\theta/2 e^{i\phi} \\ \sin\theta/2 e^{-i\phi} & -\cos\theta/2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$

It must be that,

$U(R) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta/2 & \sin\theta/2 e^{-i\phi} \\ \sin\theta/2 e^{i\phi} & -\cos\theta/2 \end{pmatrix}$  \*



$\det U = +1$

$U(R(\theta, \phi)) U^\dagger(R(\theta, \phi)) = U(R(\phi, \theta))$

Check,

$U^\dagger U = U U^\dagger = 1$

$\begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta/2 & \sin\theta/2 e^{-i\phi} \\ \sin\theta/2 e^{i\phi} & -\cos\theta/2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta/2 & \sin\theta/2 e^{-i\phi} \\ \sin\theta/2 e^{i\phi} & -\cos\theta/2 \end{pmatrix}$

$= \begin{pmatrix} \cos^2\theta/2 + \sin^2\theta/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = 11 \checkmark$

Also,

$U(R) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta/2 & \sin\theta/2 e^{-i\phi} \\ \sin\theta/2 e^{i\phi} & -\cos\theta/2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta/2 & \\ s \theta/2 e^{i\varphi} & \end{pmatrix} \checkmark$$

$$U(R) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^\dagger(R) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & s \theta e^{-i\varphi} \\ s \theta e^{i\varphi} & -\cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$U(R(\hat{z} \rightarrow \hat{x})) = U(R(\theta = \pi/2, \varphi = 0)) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} ; \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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 We can also write  $U(R)$  in the form:

$$U(R) = e^{i \frac{\vec{\Sigma} \cdot \vec{\sigma}}{2}} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta/2 & s \theta/2 e^{i\varphi} \\ s \theta/2 e^{i\varphi} & -\cos \theta/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \sum_n (i)^n \frac{1}{2^n} \frac{\vec{\Sigma}^n}{n!} (\vec{\Sigma} \cdot \vec{\sigma})^n \quad \vec{\Sigma} = \vec{\Sigma}(\theta, \varphi)$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \vec{\sigma}\right)^0 = 1 \quad \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \vec{\sigma}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = 1$$

$$\underline{\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \vec{\sigma}\right)^{2n} = 1}$$

$$\underline{\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \vec{\sigma}\right)^{2n+1} = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \vec{\sigma}\right)}$$