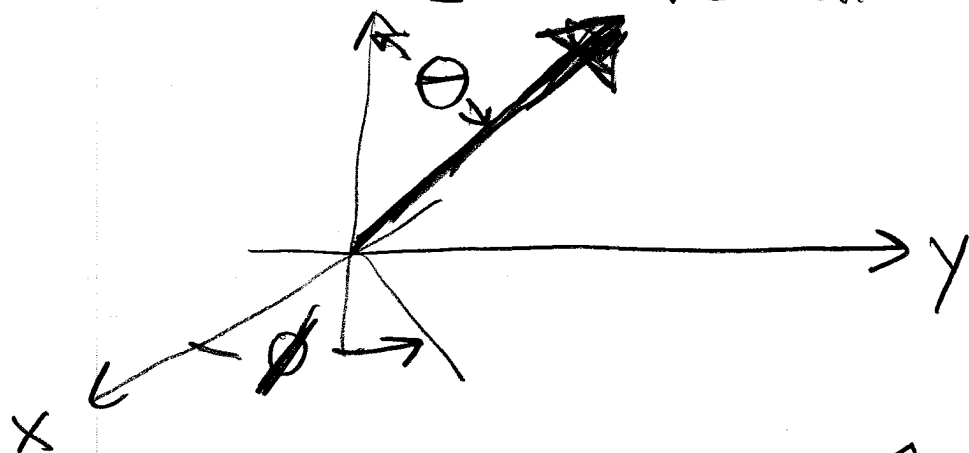


THE BIG FUN

Suppose you don't like the choice of z-axis ... z n axis ...



$$\hat{n} = \hat{x} \sin \theta \cos \phi + \hat{y} \sin \theta \sin \phi + \hat{z} \cos \theta$$

what matrix represents " \hat{S}_n "

The secret knowledge

$$\text{Let } \hat{S}_z = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{\hbar}{2} \hat{\sigma}_z$$

$$\hat{S}_x = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{\hbar}{2} \hat{\sigma}_x$$

$$\hat{S}_y = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{\hbar}{2} \hat{\sigma}_y$$

CLAIM

$$\hat{S}_n = \frac{\hbar}{2} \left[\hat{\sigma}_x \sin \theta \cos \phi + \hat{\sigma}_y \sin \theta \sin \phi + \hat{\sigma}_z \cos \theta \right]$$

Check property #1

$$\hat{S}_n^2 = \left(\frac{\hbar}{2}\right)^2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

note: $\hat{S}_z^2 = \left(\frac{\hbar}{2}\right)^2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ($\hat{S}_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$)

$$\hat{S}_x^2 = \left(\frac{\hbar}{2}\right)^2 \left[\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

$$\hat{S}_x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\hat{S}_y^2 = \left(\frac{\hbar}{2}\right)^2 \left[\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

$$\hat{S}_y = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\hat{S}_n^2 = \left(\frac{\hbar}{2}\right)^2 \left\{ \begin{aligned} &\hat{S}_x^2 \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \phi + \sin^2 \theta \sin \phi \cos \phi (\hat{S}_x \hat{S}_y + \hat{S}_y \hat{S}_x) \\ &+ \hat{S}_y^2 \sin^2 \theta \sin^2 \phi + \sin \theta \cos \theta \sin \phi (\hat{S}_y \hat{S}_z + \hat{S}_z \hat{S}_y) \\ &+ \hat{S}_z^2 \cos^2 \theta + \sin \theta \cos \theta \cos \phi (\hat{S}_x \hat{S}_z + \hat{S}_z \hat{S}_x) \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Pauli Matrices "Anticommutate"

all zero $\therefore \hat{S}_n^2 = \left(\frac{\hbar}{2}\right)^2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$S_n = \frac{k}{2} \left[\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \sin \theta \cos \phi + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \sin \theta \sin \phi + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \cos \theta \right]$$

$$= \frac{k}{2} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta e^{-i\phi} \\ \sin \theta e^{i\phi} & -\cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \text{"generic" } 2 \times 2 \text{ matrix}$$

eigen vectors ?

$$\left(\frac{k}{2} \cos \theta - \lambda \right) \left(\frac{k}{2} \cos \theta - \lambda \right) - \left(\frac{k}{2} \right)^2 \sin^2 \theta = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 - \left(\frac{k}{2} \right) (\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta) = 0$$

$\lambda = \pm \frac{k}{2}$

expected.

$\lambda = +k/2$:

$$\frac{k}{2} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta - 1 & \sin \theta e^{-i\phi} \\ \sin \theta e^{i\phi} & -\cos \theta - 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$\cos \theta = \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} - \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \qquad \sin \theta = 2 \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \cos \frac{\theta}{2}$$

$$\cos \theta - 1 = -2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2}$$

$$-\cos \theta - 1 = -2 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2}$$

$$\frac{k}{2} \begin{bmatrix} -\sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} & \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \cos \frac{\theta}{2} e^{-i\phi} \\ \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \cos \frac{\theta}{2} e^{i\phi} & -\cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_+ \\ b_+ \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$-\sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} a_+ + \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \cos \frac{\theta}{2} e^{-i\phi} b_+ = 0$$

$$\frac{b_+}{a_+} = \frac{\sin \frac{\theta}{2}}{\cos \frac{\theta}{2}} e^{i\phi} \quad \begin{pmatrix} a_+ \\ b_+ \end{pmatrix}_{\hbar/2} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \\ \sin \frac{\theta}{2} e^{i\phi} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda = +\hbar/2$$

$$\frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta + 1 & \sin \theta e^{-i\phi} \\ \sin \theta e^{i\phi} & -\cos \theta + 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_- \\ b_- \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$\frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{bmatrix} \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} & \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \cos \frac{\theta}{2} e^{-i\phi} \\ \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \cos \frac{\theta}{2} e^{i\phi} & \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_+ \\ b_+ \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$\frac{b_-}{a_-} = -\frac{\cos \theta/2}{\sin \theta/2} e^{i\phi}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_- \\ b_- \end{pmatrix}_{-\hbar/2} = \begin{pmatrix} \sin \theta/2 e^{-i\phi} \\ \cos \theta/2 e^{i\phi} \end{pmatrix}$$

x: $\theta = 90^\circ, \phi = 0$

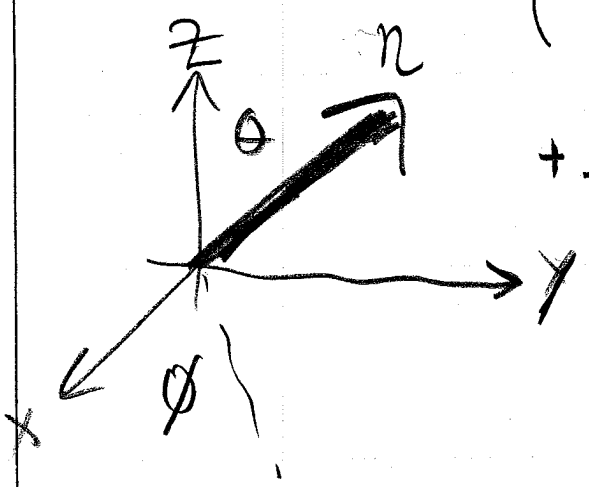
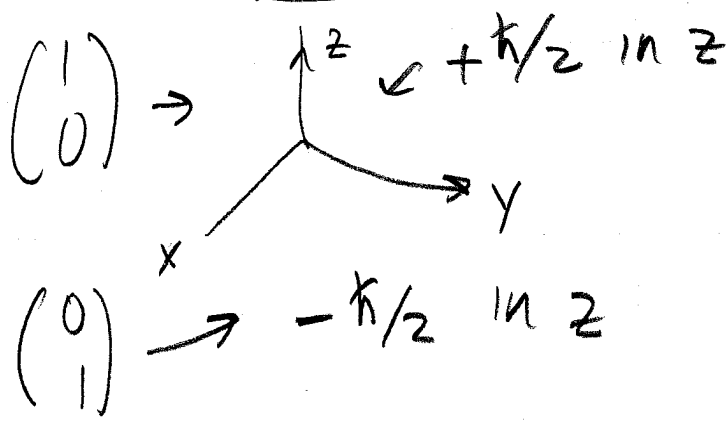
$$\begin{pmatrix} a_+ \\ b_+ \end{pmatrix}_{\hbar/2} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} a_- \\ b_- \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

4.2.2.

Spin Eigenstate
in θ, ϕ direction

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{\theta}{2} & -\sin \frac{\theta}{2} e^{-i\phi} \\ \sin \frac{\theta}{2} e^{i\phi} & \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}$$

eigenstates in z-basis.



$+\frac{\hbar}{2}$ along n direction
is

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \\ \sin \frac{\theta}{2} e^{i\phi} \end{pmatrix}$$

in z basis.

$\cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2}$ spin up along z }
 $\sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2}$ spin down along z }

sobtle

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

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

$$U(\theta)^\dagger U(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} + \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} & (\cos \frac{\theta}{2} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} - \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \sin \frac{\theta}{2}) e^{-i\phi} \\ (\sin \frac{\theta}{2} \cos \frac{\theta}{2} - \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \cos \frac{\theta}{2}) e^{i\phi} & \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} + \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \leftarrow \text{"Unitary"}$$

$U(\theta)$ above are a representation of $SU(2)$

Note :

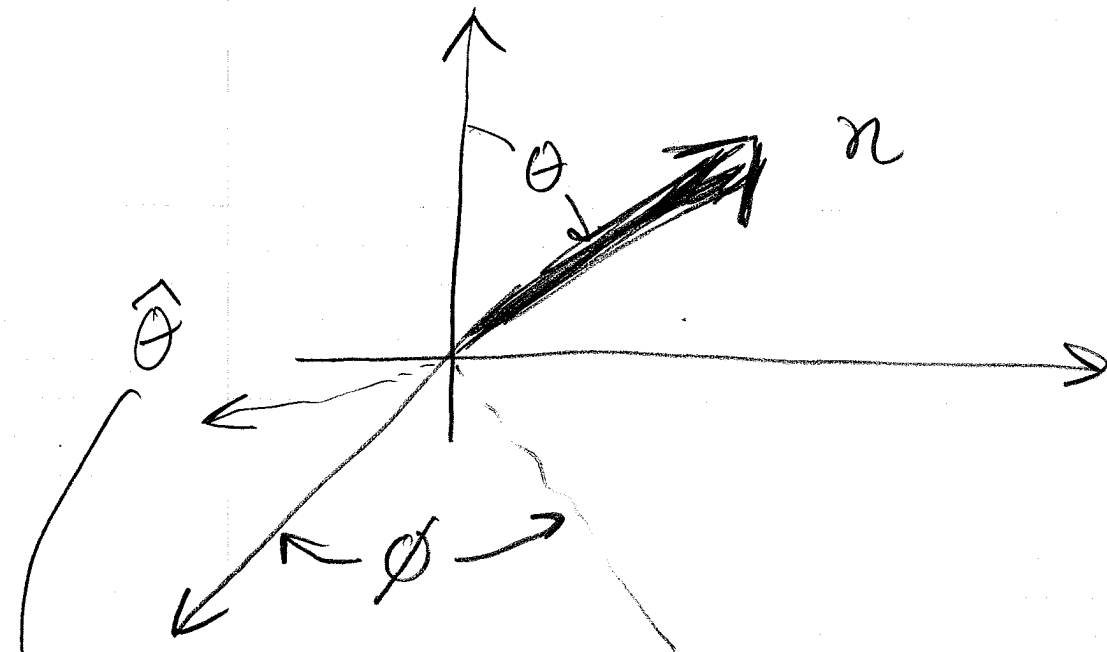
$$U(\theta) = \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \cdot \mathbb{1} - i \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \left(\sin \phi \underline{\sigma}_x - \cos \phi \underline{\sigma}_y \right)$$

not so obvious

$$\sin \frac{\theta}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \sin \phi + \cos \phi \\ -i \sin \phi - \cos \phi & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \cdot \mathbb{1} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sin \frac{\theta}{2} e^{-i\phi} \\ \sin \frac{\theta}{2} e^{i\phi} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \checkmark$$

Define $\hat{\theta} = \hat{x} \sin \phi - \hat{y} \cos \phi$!



is \perp to the ϕ direction!

$$U(\theta) = \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \cdot \underline{\underline{1}} - i \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \left[\hat{\theta} \cdot \underline{\underline{\sigma}} \right]$$

means $\sigma_x \sin \phi - \sigma_y \cos \phi$

$$e^{-i\frac{\alpha}{2}} = \cos\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) - i \sin\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)$$

$$e^{-i\frac{\theta}{2} \hat{\theta} \cdot \underline{\underline{\sigma}}} = \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \cdot \underline{\underline{1}} - i \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \left[\hat{\theta} \cdot \underline{\underline{\sigma}} \right]$$

(Spin $\frac{1}{2}$) ... When \hat{H} has no preferred direction,

$$[\hat{H}, \hat{U}^\dagger(\theta)] = 0 \quad \forall \theta$$

or $[\hat{H}, \hat{\sigma}_x] = [\hat{H}, \hat{\sigma}_y] = [\hat{H}, \hat{\sigma}_z] = 0$

simultaneous eigenstates.

($u \leftrightarrow d$) Generalized Spin- $\frac{1}{2}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} u' \\ d' \end{pmatrix} = \hat{U}_{\text{I}}^\dagger(\theta) \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix}$$

↑

fix isospin

↓

Your definition of up & down

My definition

(Remember, electric charge neglected)

Sees same physics

← $[\hat{H}, \hat{U}_{\text{I}}(\theta)] = 0$
simultaneous eigenstates