

- IN THE CASE OF HARMONIC OSCILLATOR, WE FOUND THAT THE EXPECTATION VALUE OF $[X, P]$ COMMUTATOR WAS INDEPENDENT ON THE STATE $|n\rangle$
- THIS WAS DUE TO THE FACT THAT $[X, P] = i\hbar \mathbb{1}$ DOES NOTHING TO THE STATE $|n\rangle$
- HOWEVER, IN GENERAL $[A, B] = C$; ANOTHER OPERATOR AND $\langle [A, B] \rangle$ IS STATE DEPENDENT

LET US LOOK AT SPIN

$$[S_x, S_y] = i\hbar S_z$$

LET US DENOTE $|S_z \uparrow\rangle \equiv |+\rangle$

$|S_z \downarrow\rangle \equiv |-\rangle$

THEN

STATE #1 = $|S_z \uparrow\rangle$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle + | [S_x, S_y] | + \rangle &= \langle + | i\hbar S_z | + \rangle \\ &= i\hbar \langle + | \frac{\hbar}{2} | + \rangle = \frac{i\hbar^2}{2} \langle + | + \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{AND } \frac{1}{4} |\langle + | [S_x, S_y] | + \rangle|^2 = \frac{\hbar^4}{16}$$

REMEMBER

$$|S_x \uparrow\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|+\rangle + |-\rangle)$$

AND

$$\frac{1}{4} |\langle S_x \uparrow | [S_x, S_y] | S_x \uparrow \rangle|^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} |(\langle + | + \langle - |) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} | i\hbar S_z | \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|+\rangle + |-\rangle) |^2$$

(2)

STATE #2
= $|S_x \uparrow\rangle$

$$= \frac{\hbar^2}{16} \left| \left(\langle + | + \langle - | \right) \left| \frac{\hbar}{2} \right| \left(| + \rangle - | - \rangle \right) \right|^2$$

$$= \frac{\hbar^4}{4 \cdot 16} \left| 1 - 0 + 0 - 1 \right|^2 = \underline{\underline{0}}$$

$\Rightarrow \langle [S_x, S_y] \rangle$ DEPENDS
ON THE STATE

THE OTHER SIDE

$$S_x = \frac{\hbar}{2} (| + \rangle \langle - | + | - \rangle \langle + |)$$

AND

$$\langle + | S_x | + \rangle =$$

$$= \langle + | (| + \rangle \langle - | + | - \rangle \langle + |) | + \rangle \frac{\hbar}{2}$$

$$= \frac{\hbar}{2} (\langle - | + 0) | + \rangle = 0$$

$$\langle + | S_x^2 | + \rangle = \langle + | \left((| + \rangle \langle - | + | - \rangle \langle + |) (| + \rangle \langle - | + | - \rangle \langle + |) \right) | + \rangle$$

(3)

$$= \langle + | \left[\begin{array}{l} |+\rangle \langle -| + |-\rangle \langle +| \\ + |-\rangle \langle +| + |+\rangle \langle -| \end{array} \right] |+\rangle$$

$$= \langle + | (|+\rangle \langle +| + |-\rangle \langle -|) |+\rangle$$

$$= 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle + | S_x^2 | + \rangle = \frac{\hbar^2}{4}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle (\Delta S_x)^2 \rangle &= \langle S_x^2 \rangle - \langle S_x \rangle^2 \\ &= \frac{\hbar^2}{4} - 0 \end{aligned}$$

SIMILARLY FOR $\langle (\Delta S_y)^2 \rangle = \frac{\hbar^2}{4}$

AND $\frac{\hbar^2}{4} \cdot \frac{\hbar^2}{4} \geq \frac{\hbar^4}{16}$ OK

STATE #1 MINIMUM UNCERTAINTY

CALCULATE THE $\langle (\Delta S_x)^2 \rangle \langle (\Delta S_y)^2 \rangle$ AT HOME

TO VERIFY: $0 \geq 0$ FOR STATE #2