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Degenerate States Pretest

University of Colorado

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Please type your name in the form: Last, First:

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Consider a three-dimensional harmonic oscillator described by the Hamiltonian $\hat{H} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2M} \nabla^2 + \frac{1}{2} M \omega^2 r^2$. In Cartesian co-ordinates, the energy eigenfunctions are given by $\psi(x, y, z) = N \varphi_{n_x}(x) \varphi_{n_y}(y) \varphi_{n_z}(z)$ with eigenvalues $E_{n_x n_y n_z} = \hbar \omega (\frac{3}{2} + n_x + n_y + n_z)$. For the states below, assume that N is always the proper normalization constant.

Q1: Consider the state,

$$\Psi(\vec{r}, t = 0) = N (\varphi_1(x) \varphi_0(y) \varphi_0(z) + \varphi_0(x) \varphi_0(y) \varphi_1(z)) :$$

___a) Is this an allowable state?

Required.

___b) Explain.

___c) Does the state change as time evolves?

Required.

Select one...

___d) Explain.

___e) Does the probability density change as time evolves?

Required.

Select one...

___f) Explain.

Q2: Consider the state,

$$\Psi(\vec{r}, t = 0) = N(\varphi_1(x)\varphi_0(y)\varphi_0(z) + \varphi_1(x)\varphi_0(y)\varphi_1(z)) :$$

___a) Is this an allowable state?

Required.

Select one...

___b) Explain.

___c) Does the state change as time evolves?

Required.

Select one...

___d) Explain.

___e) Does the probability density change as time evolves?

Required.

___f) Explain.

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Questions or Comments?

Contact the 123 tutorial pretest coordinator at uwttl123@u.washington.edu

