

# Exercises 04.02.

Find and document mistakes in the lecture notes.

Find the parameters for a laser pulse that implements a resonant Hadamard gate

How many rotations by an angle  $\beta = 1$  do you need for an approximate rotation by  $\alpha = \pi/2$  if the error should be  $< 0.1$  ?  
How many for  $< 10^{-2}$  ? How many for  $< 10^{-3}$  ?

Find suitable parameters for implementing a Hadamard gate with a near-resonant ac field for (i) a spin with a Larmor frequency of 100 MHz and (ii) for an atom with a energy level splitting of 2 eV.

## Exercises QIP 02/4/26

### 1. Qubit Projector in the Pauli Basis

Given a general single-qubit state:

$$|\psi\rangle = a|0\rangle + b|1\rangle$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are complex numbers satisfying  $|a|^2 + |b|^2 = 1$ , express the projector  $|\psi\rangle\langle\psi|$  as a linear combination of Pauli matrices:

$$|\psi\rangle\langle\psi| = c_1 I + c_x X + c_y Y + c_z Z$$

### 2. Decoherence: Pure Dephasing from a Stochastic Phase

Consider a spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  particle initially polarized along the  $x$ -axis, i.e.,

$$\rho(0) = \frac{1}{2}I + S_x,$$

assuming  $\hbar = 1$ , and subject to a time-dependent stochastic phase  $\delta(t)$  accumulated due to a fluctuating magnetic field along the  $z$ -axis. That is,  $\delta(t)$  incorporates the effect of the field over time, and represents the net phase difference acquired between the spin states  $|0\rangle$  and  $|1\rangle$ . In the interaction (rotating) frame, the time evolution of the density matrix is given by

$$\rho(t) = e^{-i\delta(t)S_z} \rho(0) e^{i\delta(t)S_z}.$$

We are interested in computing the normalized ensemble-averaged magnetization along the  $x$ -axis,

$$\langle S_x(t) \rangle = \frac{\text{Tr}[\rho(t)S_x]}{\text{Tr}[\rho(0)S_x]}.$$

(a) Show that

$$\langle S_x(t) \rangle = \langle \cos(\delta(t)) \rangle,$$

assuming that  $\delta(t)$  is a real-valued stochastic variable with zero mean.

(b) Suppose  $\delta(t)$  is a *Gaussian random variable* with zero mean and variance  $\langle \delta^2(t) \rangle$ . Express  $\langle S_x(t) \rangle$  in terms of the real part of the characteristic function  $\langle e^{i\delta(t)} \rangle$ .

(c) Prove that for a zero-mean Gaussian random variable  $\delta$ ,

$$\langle e^{i\delta} \rangle = e^{-\langle \delta^2 \rangle / 2}.$$

*Hint:* Expand  $e^{i\delta}$  in a Taylor series and use the known moments of a Gaussian variable: all odd moments vanish, and even moments are given by

$$\langle \delta^{2n} \rangle = (2n - 1)!! \langle \delta^2 \rangle^n.$$

(d) Use the result from part (c) to show that

$$\langle S_x(t) \rangle = e^{-\langle \delta^2(t) \rangle / 2}.$$

(e) Consider the case where  $\delta(t)$  arises from a random walk process (Markovian noise), such that

$$\langle \delta^2(t) \rangle = \frac{2t}{T_2},$$

i.e., the phase variance grows linearly with time. Show that

$$\langle S_x(t) \rangle = e^{-t/T_2},$$

and interpret the physical meaning of the time constant  $T_2$ .