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Time-Dependent Perturbation Theory – Problem 3

Consider a symmetric two-level system described by the usual Hamiltonian,

$$\hat{H} = -\hbar\Omega(|R\rangle\langle L| + |L\rangle\langle R|)$$

whose eigenstates are separated by the tunneling splitting $2\hbar\Omega$. The system is in its ground state. Suppose at t = 0 the TLS begins to interact with an external field, which changes the Hamiltonian by the term

$$\hat{V} = \mathscr{C}(|R\rangle\langle R|-|L\rangle\langle L|).$$

Use first order perturbation theory to calculate the probability of finding the TLS in the excited state, as a function of time.