

B3) Consider the three-level system defined by the Hamiltonian,  $H_0$  with *distinct* eigenvalues,  $\epsilon_A$ ,  $\epsilon_B$ , and  $\epsilon_C$ , corresponding to the eigenstates  $|A\rangle$ ,  $|B\rangle$ , and  $|C\rangle$ , respectively. This system is subject to a time-independent perturbation,  $H_1$  with real matrix elements:

$$\langle A|H_1|A\rangle = \langle B|H_1|B\rangle = \langle C|H_1|C\rangle = 0,$$

and

$$\langle A|H_1|B\rangle = \langle B|H_1|C\rangle = M,$$

and

$$\langle A|H_1|C\rangle = 0.$$

- a) (4 points) Calculate the energy eigenvalues of the full Hamiltonian,  $H_0 + H_1$ , to second order in  $M$  (i.e., including terms of order  $M^2$ ).
- b) (3 points) Calculate the corrections to the state vectors  $|A\rangle$ ,  $|B\rangle$ , and  $|C\rangle$ , to order  $M$ .
- c) (3 points) Suppose now that the unperturbed states are degenerate, so that  $\epsilon_A = \epsilon_B = \epsilon_C \equiv \epsilon$ . Calculate the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the full Hamiltonian to leading order in  $M$ .

You do not need to worry about the normalization of your new eigenstates in parts (b) and (c) above.