

**7.3 Unambiguous state discrimination for two pure states with different probabilities.** If you know that a quantum system has one of two states,  $|\psi_1\rangle$  or  $|\psi_2\rangle$ , there is a three-outcome measurement, two of whose outcomes conclusively identify one state or the other, but whose third outcome is inconclusive. If the states have equal probabilities of  $1/2$ , the minimum probability for the inconclusive outcome is

$$(P_{\text{nd}})_{\text{min}} = |\langle\psi_1|\psi_2\rangle| ,$$

where “nd” stands for “no decision.”

In this problem you generalize this result to the case of unequal prior probabilities,  $q_1$  and  $q_2$ , for the two states. Without loss of generality, we assume that  $q_1 \geq q_2$ . *Find* the minimum no-decision probability  $(P_{\text{nd}})_{\text{min}}$ . [Hint: The answer here is more complicated than the minimum error probability for the same situation; you should find that  $(P_{\text{nd}})_{\text{min}}$  is not an analytic function of  $|\langle\psi_1|\psi_2\rangle|$ , except when  $q_1 = q_2$ .]