Recap interaction picture.  $H=H_0+H^\prime$ . Define time evolution operator with respect to  $H_0$  as

$$\frac{\partial U_0(t,t_0)}{\partial t} = -\frac{i}{\hbar}H_0(t)U_0(t,t_0)$$

Integrating both sides from  $t_0$  to t with  $U_0(t_0,t_0)=1$ 

$$U_{0}(t,t_{0}) = 1 - \frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{t_{0}}^{t} H_{0}(\tau)U_{0}(\tau,t_{0})d\tau$$

$$= 1 - \frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{t_{0}}^{t} H_{0}(\tau)d\tau + \left(\frac{i}{\hbar}\right)^{2} \int_{t_{0}}^{t} H_{0}(\tau) \int_{t_{0}}^{\tau} H_{0}(\tau')U_{0}(\tau',t_{0})d\tau'd\tau$$

$$= 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar}\right)^{n} \int_{t_{0}}^{t} d\tau_{n} \int_{t_{0}}^{\tau_{n}} d\tau_{n-1} \cdots \int_{t_{0}}^{\tau_{2}} d\tau_{1} H_{0}(\tau_{n})H_{0}(\tau_{n-1}) \cdots H_{0}(\tau_{1})$$

$$\equiv \exp_{+} \left[-\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{t_{0}}^{t} d\tau H_{0}(\tau)\right]$$

which is a positive time ordered exponential. In interaction picture,

$$|\psi_S(t)\rangle \equiv U_0(t,t_0) |\psi_I(t)\rangle$$

Plug back to TDSE,

$$\frac{\partial U_0(t,t_0) |\psi_I(t)\rangle}{\partial t} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} H U_0(t,t_0) |\psi_I(t)\rangle$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial U_0(t,t_0)}{\partial t}\right) |\psi_I(t)\rangle + U_0(t,t_0) \frac{\partial |\psi_I(t)\rangle}{\partial t} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} H U_0(t,t_0) |\psi_I(t)\rangle$$

$$-\frac{i}{\hbar} H_0(t) U_0(t,t_0) |\psi_I(t)\rangle + U_0(t,t_0) \frac{\partial |\psi_I(t)\rangle}{\partial t} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} H U_0(t,t_0) |\psi_I(t)\rangle$$

$$U_0(t,t_0) \frac{\partial |\psi_I(t)\rangle}{\partial t} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} H'(t) U_0(t,t_0) |\psi_I(t)\rangle$$

$$\frac{\partial |\psi_I(t)\rangle}{\partial t} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} H'_I(t) |\psi_I(t)\rangle$$

where  $H_I'(t)=U_0^\dagger(t,t_0)H'(t)U_0(t,t_0)$ . We got a Schrödinger-like equation. Define interaction time evolution operator,  $|\psi_I(t)\rangle=U_I(t,t_0)\,|\psi_I(t_0)\rangle$ . One

has,

$$|\psi_S(t)\rangle = U_0(t, t_0)U_I(t, t_0) |\psi_I(t_0)\rangle$$
$$= U_0(t, t_0)U_I(t, t_0) |\psi_S(t_0)\rangle$$
$$= U(t, t_0) |\psi_S(t_0)\rangle$$

where  $|\psi_S(t_0)\rangle=U_0(t_0,t_0)\,|\psi_I(t_0)\rangle=|\psi_I(t_0)\rangle$  by definition. And  $U(t,t_0)$  is the time evolution operator under Schrödinger picture, it evolves the system with total Hamiltonian. Plug this back to the equation above, one gets the infinite series expansion of  $U_I(t,t_0)$ 

$$U_I(t, t_0) = \exp_+ \left[ -\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{t_0}^t d\tau H_I'(\tau) \right]$$

With this, one can write  $U(t, t_0)$  in another way,

$$U(t,t_{0})$$

$$=U_{0}(t,t_{0}) \exp_{+}\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{t_{0}}^{t} d\tau H_{I}'(\tau)\right]$$

$$=U_{0}(t,t_{0}) + U_{0}(t,t_{0}) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar}\right)^{n} \int_{t_{0}}^{t} d\tau_{n} \cdots \int_{t_{0}}^{\tau_{2}} d\tau_{1} H_{I}'(\tau_{n}) \cdots H_{I}'(\tau_{1})$$

$$=U_{0}(t,t_{0}) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar}\right)^{n} \int_{t_{0}}^{t} d\tau_{n} \cdots \int_{t_{0}}^{\tau_{2}} d\tau_{1} U_{0}(t,t_{0}) U_{0}^{\dagger}(\tau_{n},t_{0}) H'(\tau_{n}) U_{0}(\tau_{n},t_{0}) \times U_{0}^{\dagger}(\tau_{n-1},t_{0}) H'(\tau_{n-1}) U_{0}(\tau_{n-1},t_{0}) \cdots U_{0}^{\dagger}(\tau_{1},t_{0}) H'(\tau_{1}) U_{0}(\tau_{1},t_{0})$$

$$=U_{0}(t,t_{0}) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar}\right)^{n} \int_{t_{0}}^{t} d\tau_{n} \cdots \int_{t_{0}}^{\tau_{2}} d\tau_{1} U_{0}(t,\tau_{n}) H'(\tau_{n}) U_{0}(\tau_{n},\tau_{n-1}) H'(\tau_{n-1}) \times U_{0}(\tau_{2},\tau_{1}) H'(\tau_{1}) U_{0}(\tau_{1},t_{0})$$