MIT OCW 8.05 - 2013 Pset-6 P4 Shlok Vaibhav Singh 2020/06/24

Given that $\widehat{H} = \frac{1}{2m}\widehat{p}^2 + V(\widehat{x})$ and $H|a\rangle = E_{a'}|a\rangle$

a)
$$[[\widehat{x}, \widehat{H}], \widehat{x}]] = 2\widehat{x}\widehat{H}\widehat{x} - \widehat{H}\widehat{x}^2 - \widehat{x}^2\widehat{H}$$

 \widehat{H} contains $V(\widehat{x})$ which will commute with \widehat{x}

$$\Rightarrow [[\widehat{x}, \widehat{H}], \widehat{x}]] = 2\widehat{x} \frac{\widehat{p}^{2}}{2m} \widehat{x} - \frac{\widehat{p}^{2}}{2m} \widehat{x}^{2} - \widehat{x}^{2} \frac{\widehat{p}^{2}}{2m}$$

$$\Rightarrow [[\widehat{x}, \widehat{H}], \widehat{x}]] = [\widehat{x}, \widehat{p}^{2}] \frac{\widehat{x}}{2m} - \frac{\widehat{x}}{2m} [\widehat{x}, \widehat{p}^{2}]$$

$$\Rightarrow [[\widehat{x}, \widehat{H}], \widehat{x}]] = \frac{i\hbar}{m} [\widehat{p}, \widehat{x}] = \frac{\hbar^{2}}{m}$$

$$\langle a|2\widehat{x}\widehat{H}\widehat{x} - \widehat{H}\widehat{x}^{2} - \widehat{x}^{2}\widehat{H}|a\rangle = \frac{\hbar^{2}}{m}|a\rangle \qquad (Assuming |a\rangle \text{ is normalized}) \qquad (1)$$

Since by completenss of eigenkets, $\sum_{a'} |a'\rangle\langle a'| = 1$, the first term is $\langle a|2\widehat{x}\widehat{H}\widehat{x}|a\rangle$ and is

recasted into $\sum_{a'} 2\langle a|\widehat{x}|a'\rangle\langle a'|\widehat{H}\widehat{x}|a\rangle$, now since :

$$\boxed{\langle a' | H = E_a \langle a' | }$$

the term further simplifies to : $\sum_{a'} 2\langle a|\widehat{x}|a'\rangle\langle a'|\widehat{x}|a\rangle E_{a'}$

since \widehat{x} is Hermitian , $\langle a | \widehat{x} | a' \rangle = \langle a' | \widehat{x} | a \rangle^*$, so that the first term is $\sum_{a'} 2|\langle a | \widehat{x} | a' \rangle|^2 E_{a'}$

the second term is $-\langle a|\widehat{H}\widehat{x}^2|a\rangle = -E_a\langle a|\widehat{x}^2|a\rangle$, by noting that $\sum_{a'}|a'\rangle\langle a'|=1$:

this simplifies to :
$$-E_a \sum_{a'} \langle a | \widehat{x} | a' \rangle \langle a' | \widehat{x} | a \rangle = -E_a \sum_{a'} |\langle a | \widehat{x} | a' \rangle|^2$$

the third term is similar to second term, putting these three simplifications together in (2):

$$\sum_{a'} |\langle a | \widehat{x} | a' \rangle|^2 (E_{a'} - E_a) = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m}$$

This is the Thomas-Reiche-Kuhn Sum rule

b) To show:
$$\langle a | \hat{p} | a' \rangle = \frac{im}{\hbar} (E_a - E_{a'}) \langle a | \hat{x} | a' \rangle$$
 and

$$\langle a|\hat{p}^2|a\rangle = \frac{m^2}{\hbar^2} \sum_{a'} (E_a - E_{a'})^2 |\langle a|\hat{x}|a'\rangle|^2$$

$$[\widehat{H}, \widehat{x}] = \frac{\widehat{p}^2}{2m} \widehat{x} - \widehat{x} \frac{\widehat{p}^2}{2m} = -\frac{i\hbar \widehat{p}}{m}$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle a | [\widehat{H}, \widehat{x}] | a' \rangle = -\langle a | \frac{i\hbar \widehat{p}}{m} | a' \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow (E_a - E_{a'}) \langle a | \widehat{x} | a' \rangle = - \langle a | \frac{i\hbar \widehat{p}}{m} | a' \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle a | \hat{p} | a' \rangle = \frac{im}{\hbar} (E_a - E_{a'}) \langle a | \hat{x} | a' \rangle$$

or
$$\langle a' | \hat{p} | a \rangle = \frac{-im}{\hbar} (E_a - E_{a'}) \langle a' | \hat{x} | a \rangle$$
 (\hat{x} and \hat{p} are Hermitian)

Multiplying both equations:

$$\Rightarrow \langle a | \widehat{p} | a' \rangle \langle a' | \widehat{p} | a \rangle = \frac{m^2}{\hbar^2} (E_a - E_{a'})^2 \langle a | \widehat{x} | a' \rangle \langle a' | \widehat{x} | a \rangle$$

Summing over all a':

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{a'} \langle a | \widehat{p} | a' \rangle \langle a' | \widehat{p} | a \rangle = \frac{m^2}{\hbar^2} \sum_{a'} (E_a - E_{a'})^2 \langle a | \widehat{x} | a' \rangle \langle a' | \widehat{x} | a \rangle$$

By completeness of eigenkets, $\sum_{a'} |a'\rangle\langle a'| = 1$, thus

$$\langle a|\widehat{p}^{2}|a\rangle = \frac{m^{2}}{\hbar^{2}} \sum_{a'} (E_{a} - E_{a'})^{2} |\langle a|\widehat{x}|a'\rangle|^{2}$$

c) Virial's theoram:

$$[\widehat{x}\widehat{p},\,\widehat{H}]=\widehat{x}\widehat{p}\widehat{H}-\widehat{H}\widehat{x}\widehat{p}$$

$$\langle a|[\widehat{x}\widehat{p},\,\widehat{H}]|a\rangle = E\langle a|\widehat{x}\widehat{p}-\widehat{x}\widehat{p}]|a\rangle = 0$$

$$\widehat{x}\widehat{p}\widehat{H} - \widehat{H}\widehat{x}\widehat{p} = \widehat{x}\frac{\widehat{p}^3}{2m} + \widehat{x}\widehat{p}V(\widehat{x}) - V(\widehat{x})\widehat{x}\widehat{p} - \frac{\widehat{p}^2}{2m}\widehat{x}\widehat{p}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{i\hbar}{m}\widehat{p}^2 + \widehat{x}\left[\widehat{p}, V(\widehat{x})\right]$$

since
$$[\hat{p}, V(\hat{x})] = -i\hbar \frac{\partial V(\hat{x})}{\partial x}$$

$$\Rightarrow \widehat{x}\widehat{p}\widehat{H} - \widehat{H}\widehat{x}\widehat{p} = \frac{i\hbar}{m}\widehat{p}^2 - i\hbar\widehat{x}\frac{\partial V(\widehat{x})}{\partial x}$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle a | \hat{p}^2 | a \rangle - \langle a | \hat{x} \frac{\partial V(\hat{x})}{\partial x} | a \rangle = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle a | \frac{\widehat{p}^2}{2m} | a \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \langle a | \widehat{x} \frac{\partial V(\widehat{x})}{\partial x} | a \rangle$$

Since this relation holds for each eigenket, it will hold for any superposition of eigenkets, so this holds for any wavefunction:

$$\Rightarrow \langle \Psi | \frac{\widehat{p}^{2}}{2m} | \Psi \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \langle \Psi | \widehat{x} \frac{\partial V(\widehat{x})}{\partial x} | \Psi \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{2 \langle T \rangle = \langle x \frac{dV(x)}{dx} \rangle}$$
For $V = \alpha x^{n}$, $2 \langle T \rangle = \alpha \langle V \rangle$