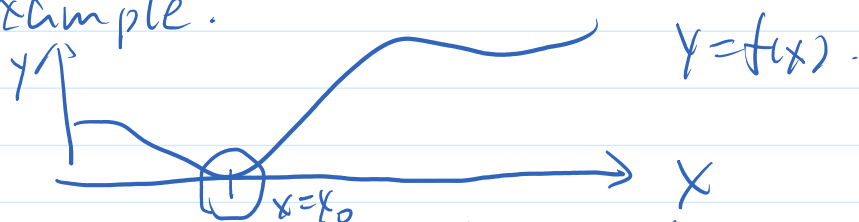


# Chapter 5 approximation methods

## §1 time-independent perturbation theory.

philosophy: we start with the problem really close to a solved problem, then we can use the solution at hand to do approximation.

example.



↑ would like to look at behavior at bottom.

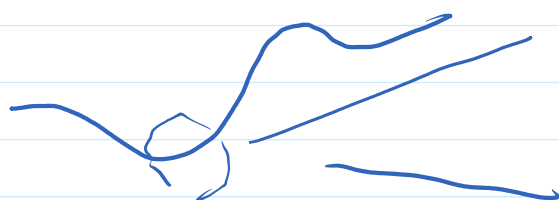
to begin with assume polynomials are good.

Taylor-expansion 泰勒展开.

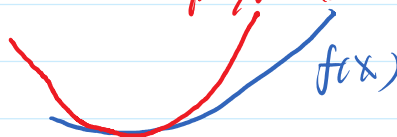
$$f(x) \approx f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x-x_0) + \frac{f''(x_0)}{2!}(x-x_0)^2 + \dots$$

it keep all the way to  $(x-x_0)^2$ !

→ do a fit with a polynomial.



polynomial to second order



Quantum: time independent perturbation theory.

$$\textcircled{1} H = H_0 + H'$$

$H_0$  has a known solution for eigen energy  $E_n^{(0)}$ , and eigenstate  $\{|w^{(0)}\rangle\}$

$$H_0 |n^{(0)}\rangle = E_n^{(0)} |n^{(0)}\rangle$$

$H' = \lambda V$ ,  $V$  is another part of Hamiltonian, but  $\lambda$  a number,  $\lambda \ll 1$

② try to find  $H |n\rangle = E_n |n\rangle$ .

$E_n$  must be a function of  $\lambda$ , which is a function of  $\lambda$ , so as  $|n\rangle \rightarrow E_n(\lambda), |n(\lambda)\rangle$

we can make a Taylor expansion of  $E_n(\lambda)$

$$\Rightarrow E_n(\lambda) = E_n^{(0)} + \lambda E_n^{(1)} + \lambda^2 E_n^{(2)} + \dots$$

$$|n\rangle = |n^{(0)}\rangle + \lambda |n^{(1)}\rangle + \lambda^2 |n^{(2)}\rangle + \dots$$

$\lambda E_n^{(1)}$  is first order energy shift

$\lambda E_n^{(2)}$  second

plug it back to  $H |n\rangle = E |n\rangle$  with  $H = H_0 + \lambda V$

$$(H_0 + \lambda V) (|n^{(0)}\rangle + \lambda |n^{(1)}\rangle + \lambda^2 |n^{(2)}\rangle + \dots) = (E_n^{(0)} + \lambda E_n^{(1)} + \lambda^2 E_n^{(2)} + \dots) (|n^{(0)}\rangle + \lambda |n^{(1)}\rangle + \lambda^2 |n^{(2)}\rangle + \dots)$$

$\lambda^0$ , or not containing  $\lambda$

$$\Rightarrow H_0 |n^{(0)}\rangle = E_n^{(0)} |n^{(0)}\rangle$$

$$\lambda^1 \Rightarrow H_0 |n^{(1)}\rangle + V |n^{(0)}\rangle = E_n^{(0)} |n^{(1)}\rangle + E_n^{(1)} |n^{(0)}\rangle$$

if we apply  $\langle n^{(0)}|$  to the left.

$$\langle n^{(0)} | n^{(0)} \rangle = 1, \quad \langle n^{(0)} | H | n^{(1)} \rangle = E_n^{(0)} \langle n^{(0)} | n^{(1)} \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle n^{(0)} | H_0 | n^{(1)} \rangle + \langle n^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle = E_n^{(0)} \langle n^{(0)} | n^{(1)} \rangle + E_n^{(1)} \langle n^{(0)} | n^{(0)} \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \cancel{E_n^{(0)} \langle n^{(0)} | n^{(1)} \rangle} + \langle n^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle = \cancel{E_n^{(0)} \langle n^{(0)} | n^{(1)} \rangle} + E_n^{(1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow E_n^{(1)} = \langle n^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{E_n^{(1)} = \langle n^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle}$$

$\Rightarrow$  first order perturbation for  $E_n$

$$E_n = E_n^{(0)} + \lambda E_n^{(1)} = E_n^{(0)} + \langle n^{(0)} | \lambda V | n^{(0)} \rangle$$

$$\boxed{E_n = E_n^{(0)} + \langle n^{(0)} | H' | n^{(0)} \rangle}$$

$H = H_0 + \lambda V$ , we can express it in the energy representation in the basis of  $\{|n^{(0)}\rangle\}$

$$H_0 = \begin{pmatrix} E_0^{(0)} & & & \\ & E_1^{(0)} & & \\ & & E_2^{(0)} & \\ & & & \ddots & E_n^{(0)} & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

$\lambda V$  in the same basis

$$\lambda V = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda V_{11} & \lambda V_{12} & \lambda V_{13} & \dots \\ \lambda V_{21} & \lambda V_{22} & \lambda V_{23} & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{for } n=0 \quad E_0 \simeq E_0^{(0)} + \lambda V_{11}$$

1st order perturbation is just  $n^{\text{th}}$  row,  $n^{\text{th}}$  column for matrix  $H_0 + \lambda V$  in  $\{|n^{(0)}\rangle\}$  basis.

1st order perturbation for state

$$\begin{cases} H_0 |n^{(1)}\rangle + V |n^{(0)}\rangle = E_n^{(0)} |n^{(1)}\rangle + \frac{E_n^{(1)}}{1} |n^{(0)}\rangle \\ E_n^{(1)} = \langle n^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle. \end{cases}$$

we try to solve for  $|n^{(1)}\rangle$ .

$\begin{cases} \text{we apply } \langle k^{(0)} | \text{ to left, with } \underline{k \neq n}. \langle k^{(0)} | n^{(0)} \rangle = 0 \\ \text{also require } E_n^{(0)} \neq E_k^{(0)} \end{cases}$

Also require  $E_n^{(0)} \neq E_k^{(0)}$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle k^{(0)} | H_0 | n^{(0)} \rangle + \langle k^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle &= E_n^{(0)} \langle k^{(0)} | n^{(1)} \rangle \\ &+ E_n^{(1)} \langle k^{(0)} | n^{(0)} \rangle \\ E_k^{(0)} \langle k^{(0)} | n^{(1)} \rangle + \langle k^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle &= E_n^{(0)} \langle k^{(0)} | n^{(1)} \rangle \\ \Rightarrow E_n^{(0)} \langle k^{(0)} | n^{(1)} \rangle &= \langle k^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$\langle k^{(0)} | n^{(1)} \rangle$  — inner product between an unknown state  $|n^{(1)}\rangle$  and a state in the known basis — amplitude.

$|n^{(1)}\rangle = \sum_m C_m |m^{(0)}\rangle$ , since  $\{|m^{(0)}\rangle\}$  form a basis.

$$\langle k^{(0)} | n^{(1)} \rangle = \sum_m C_m \langle k^{(0)} | m^{(0)} \rangle = C_k$$

0 unless  $k=m$

$$\Rightarrow C_k = \frac{\langle k^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle}{E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)}}, \quad k \neq n.$$

$$|n^{(1)}\rangle = \sum_{k \neq n} \frac{\langle k^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle}{E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)}} |k^{(0)}\rangle.$$

the 1<sup>st</sup> order perturbation for state

$$|n\rangle = |n^{(0)}\rangle + \sum_{k \neq n} \frac{\langle k^{(0)} | H' | n^{(0)} \rangle}{E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)}} |k^{(0)}\rangle$$

$\langle k^{(0)} | H' | n^{(0)} \rangle$  — matrix element in the  $k^{\text{th}}$  row and  $n^{\text{th}}$  column of matrix  $H'$  in the basis of  $\{|n^{(0)}\rangle\}$

$H_0 + H'$  matrix in  $\{|n^{(0)}\rangle\}$

$\left( \begin{array}{ccc} & k^{\text{th}} & n^{\text{th}} \text{ column} \\ \vdots & E_k^{(0)} - H'_{kn} & \vdots \end{array} \right) k^{\text{th}} \text{ row}$

$$H_0 + H' \longrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \dots & E_k^{(0)} & H'_{kn} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \dots & H'_{nk} & E_n^{(0)} & \dots \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} k^{\text{th}} \text{ row} \\ \\ n^{\text{th}} \end{matrix}$$

$$H'_{kn} = \langle k^{(0)} | H' | n^{(0)} \rangle$$

• example spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  system.

$$H_0 = \Omega \sigma_z \longrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \Omega & 0 \\ 0 & -\Omega \end{pmatrix}$$

$$H' = \lambda \sigma_x \longrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \lambda \\ \lambda & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$H = H_0 + H' = \begin{pmatrix} \Omega & \lambda \\ \lambda & -\Omega \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Omega \gg \lambda$$

$$\Rightarrow E = \Omega + \frac{\lambda^2}{2\Omega}, \quad |\psi\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \frac{\lambda^2}{2\Omega^2} \\ \frac{\lambda}{2\Omega} \end{pmatrix}, \text{ keep d to Second order}$$

$$E = -\Omega - \frac{\lambda^2}{2\Omega}, \quad |\psi\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{\lambda}{2\Omega} \\ 1 - \frac{\lambda^2}{2\Omega^2} \end{pmatrix}.$$