

Derivation of  $i \frac{da}{dt} = [a, H]$  . Heisenberg picture time derivative

In schrodinger picture,  $\psi(t_0 + t) = e^{-iHt} \psi(t_0)$ , moving time dependence onto operators:

$$a(t_0 + t) = e^{iHt} a(t_0) e^{-iHt}$$

$$\Rightarrow a(t_0 + dt) = e^{iHdt} a(t_0) e^{-iHdt}$$

$$\approx (1 + iHdt) a (1 - iHdt)$$

$$= (a + iHdt a) (1 - iHdt)$$

$$= a + i(Hdt)a - i a(Hdt) + O(dt^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow a(t_0 + dt) - a(t_0) = i dt [H, a] + O(dt^2)$$

$$\frac{a(t_0 + dt) - a(t_0)}{dt} = i [H, a]$$

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} \frac{da}{dt} &= i [H, a] \\ i \frac{da}{dt} &= [a, H] \end{aligned}}$$

Davidson Cheng

3.7.2024