

$$\textcircled{1} [X, Y] = c$$

a. prove result by induction. $[X, Y^n] = ncY^{n-1}$

$$[X, Y^1] = (1)c \cdot Y^{1-1} = c \quad \checkmark \quad [X, Y^0] = [X, I] = 0$$

$$\text{assume } [X, Y^n] \text{ \& find } [X, Y^{n+1}] \quad = (0) \cdot c \cdot Y^{0-1} = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

$$[X, Y^{n+1}] = XY^{n+1} - Y^{n+1}X$$

$$= XY \cdot Y^n - Y Y^n X + Y X Y^n - Y X Y^n$$

$$= XY Y^n - Y X Y^n + Y X Y^n - Y Y^n X$$

$$= [X, Y] Y^n + Y [X, Y^n]$$

$$= c Y^n + Y \cdot nc Y^{n-1}$$

$$= (n+1)c Y^n \quad \checkmark$$

$$\text{so } [X, Y] = c n Y^{n-1}$$

$$\text{b. } f(Y) = \sum_n a_n Y^n$$

$$[X, f(Y)] = \sum_n a_n [X, Y^n] = c \sum_n a_n \cdot \underbrace{n Y^{n-1}}_{= \frac{d}{dY}(Y^n)}$$

$$[X, f(Y)] = c \cdot \frac{d}{dY} \left(\sum_n a_n Y^n \right)$$

$$[X, f(Y)] = c \cdot \frac{df}{dY}$$

② a. $g(x) = e^{xA} B e^{-xA}$

$$\frac{dg}{dx} = e^{xA} A B e^{-xA} - e^{xA} B A e^{-xA}$$

$$\frac{dg}{dx} = e^{xA} [A, B] e^{-xA} \quad (\text{not } \otimes)$$

rewrite $e^{\pm xA}$ as series:

$$\frac{dg}{dx} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{A^n x^n}{n!} [A, B] \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-A)^m x^m}{m!}$$

$$\frac{dg}{dx} = \sum_n \sum_m \frac{1}{n!} \frac{1}{m!} A^n [A, B] (-A)^m x^{n+m}$$

$$g(x) = \int_0^x \frac{dg(y)}{dy} dy + g(0) \quad g(0) = e^{0A} B e^{-0A} = I B I = B$$

$$g(x) = B + \int_0^x \sum_n \sum_m \frac{1}{n!} \frac{1}{m!} A^n [A, B] (-A)^m y^{n+m} dy \quad n+m \geq 0$$

$$g(x) = B + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \frac{1}{m!} A^n [A, B] (-A)^m \frac{1}{n+m+1} x^{n+m+1}$$

use this to find the first few terms in the expansion of:

$$e^A B e^{-A} = g(1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} e^A B e^{-A} &= B + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \frac{1}{m!} A^n [A, B] (-A)^m \frac{1}{n+m+1} \\ &= B + \underbrace{[A, B]}_{n=1, m=0} + \underbrace{A[A, B] \frac{1}{2}}_{n=1, m=0} - \underbrace{[A, B] A \frac{1}{2}}_{n=0, m=1} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$e^A B e^{-A} = B + [A, B] + \frac{1}{2} [A, [A, B]] + \dots$$

all remaining
terms $\propto [A, B]$

b. if $[A, B] = c$, the LHS is:

$$\begin{aligned} e^A B e^{-A} &= e^A (e^{-A} B + B e^{-A} - e^{-A} B) \\ &= e^A e^{-A} B + e^A [B, e^{-A}] \\ &= B + e^A [B, e^{-A}] \end{aligned}$$

find $[B, e^{-A}]$ using:

$$\text{if } [X, Y] = \alpha, [X, f(Y)] = \alpha \frac{df}{dY}$$

$$X = B \quad Y = A \quad \alpha = -c$$

$$[B, e^{-A}] = \frac{-c}{dA} (e^{-A}) = \cancel{+A} + c e^{-A}$$

$$e^A B e^{-A} = B + e^A (c e^{-A}) = B + c \quad \checkmark$$

from the Hadamard lemma,

$$\begin{aligned} e^A B e^{-A} &= B + [A, B] + \frac{1}{2} [A, [A, B]] + \dots \\ &= B + c + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} [A, c]}_0 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

0 c is a c number

$$e^A B e^{-A} = B + c \quad \checkmark$$

in agreement!

or, from (A),

$$\cancel{g(x)} \quad \frac{dg}{dx} = e^{xA} [A, B] e^{-xA} = c \cdot e^{xA} e^{-xA} = c$$

$$g(x) = cx + g(0) = B + cx$$

$$e^A B e^{-A} = g(1) = B + c \quad \checkmark$$

$$c. e^A B e^{-A} = B + [A, B] + \frac{1}{2} [A, [A, B]] + \dots$$

$$\text{consider } Q \equiv e^{ipa/\hbar} f(x) e^{-ipa/\hbar}$$

$$B = f(x) \quad A = ipa/\hbar$$

$$Q = f(x) + \left[\frac{ipa}{\hbar}, f(x) \right] + \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{ipa}{\hbar}, \left[\frac{ipa}{\hbar}, f(x) \right] \right] + \dots$$

$$Q = f(x) + \left(\frac{ia}{\hbar} \right) [p, f(x)] + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{ia}{\hbar} \right)^2 [p, [p, f(x)]] + \dots$$

$$\text{evaluate: } [p, f(x)] \text{ from } [p, x] = -i\hbar$$

$$\text{and } [X, f(Y)] = c \frac{df}{dY} \text{ for } [X, Y] = c$$

$$X = p \quad x = Y \quad c = -i\hbar$$

$$[p, f(x)] = -i\hbar \frac{df}{dx}$$

$$Q = f(x) + \frac{ia}{\hbar} (-i\hbar) \frac{df}{dx} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{ia}{\hbar} \right)^2 (-i\hbar) \left[p, \frac{df}{dx} \right] + \dots$$

$$Q = f(x) + a \cdot f'(x) + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \underbrace{\left(\frac{ia}{\hbar} \right) a \cdot [p, f'(x)]}_{-i\hbar f''(x)} + \dots$$

$$Q = f(x) + a \cdot f'(x) + \frac{1}{2} a^2 f''(x) + \dots$$

recognize Taylor series for $f(x+a)$

$$e^{ipa/\hbar} f(x) e^{-ipa/\hbar} = f(x) + a \cdot f'(x) + \frac{1}{2} a^2 f''(x) + \dots$$

$$\boxed{e^{ipa/\hbar} f(x) e^{-ipa/\hbar} = f(x+a)}$$