

$$(\hat{H}_0 + \epsilon \hat{V}) (\psi_0 + \epsilon \psi_1 + \epsilon^2 \psi_2) = (E_0 + \epsilon E_1 + \epsilon^2 E_2) (\psi_0 + \epsilon \psi_1 + \epsilon^2 \psi_2)$$

Let $\epsilon = 0$. Then

$$\hat{H}_0 \psi_0 = E_0 \psi_0$$

Let $\epsilon^1 = 1$ and $\epsilon^k = 0$ for $k > 1$. Then

$$\hat{H}_0(\psi_0 + \psi_1) + \hat{V} \psi_0 = E_0(\psi_0 + \psi_1) + E_1 \psi_0$$

Since $\hat{H}_0 \psi_0 = E_0 \psi_0$ we can cancel $\hat{H}_0 \psi_0$ with $E_0 \psi_0$ and obtain

$$\hat{H}_0 \psi_1 + \hat{V} \psi_0 = E_0 \psi_1 + E_1 \psi_0$$

We want to solve for E_1 . Multiply both sides by ψ_0^\dagger and integrate over all space.

$$\int_V \psi_0^\dagger (\hat{H}_0 \psi_1 + \hat{V} \psi_0) dV = \int_V \psi_0^\dagger (E_0 \psi_1 + E_1 \psi_0) dV$$

Then by the distributive property

$$\int_V \psi_0^\dagger \hat{H}_0 \psi_1 dV + \int_V \psi_0^\dagger \hat{V} \psi_0 dV = E_0 \int_V \psi_0^\dagger \psi_1 dV + E_1 \int_V \psi_0^\dagger \psi_0 dV$$

Because \hat{H}_0 is Hermitian we have

$$\psi_0^\dagger \hat{H}_0 \psi_1 = (\hat{H}_0 \psi_0)^\dagger \psi_1 = E_0 \psi_0^\dagger \psi_1$$

Hence the \hat{H}_0 and E_0 integrals cancel. We now have

$$\int_V \psi_0^\dagger \hat{V} \psi_0 dV = E_1 \int_V \psi_0^\dagger \psi_0 dV$$

Rearrange to solve for E_1 .

$$E_1 = \frac{\int_V \psi_0^\dagger \hat{V} \psi_0 dV}{\int_V \psi_0^\dagger \psi_0 dV}$$