

H5: the formalism of quantum mechanics

postulates	<p>1: to an ensemble of physical systems one can associate a wave function or state function which contains all information that can be known about the ensemble > this function is complex and may be multipl. by an arbitrary complex number without altering its physical significance</p> <p>2: the superposition principle: $\Psi = c_1\Psi_1 + c_2\Psi_2$</p> <p>3: with every dynamical variable is associated a linear operator</p> <p>4: the only result of a precise measurement of the dynamical variable \mathcal{A} is one of the eigenvalues a_n of the linear operator A associated with \mathcal{A}</p> <p>5: if a series of measurements made of the dynamical variable A on an ensemble of systems, described by the wave function Ψ, the expectation value of A is:</p> $\langle A \rangle = \frac{\langle \Psi A \Psi \rangle}{\langle \Psi \Psi \rangle}.$ <p>6: A wave function representing any dynamical state can be expressed as a linear combination of the eigenfunctions of A > with A is the operator with a dynamical variable</p> <p>7: the time evolution of the wave function of a system is determined by the TDSE:</p> $i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi(t) = H \Psi(t)$ <p>where H is the Hamiltonian, or total energy operator of the system.</p>
5.1 the state of a system	
dynamical state of a quantum system	<p>In quantum the dynamical state of a system is influenced by measurement > system gets unpredictably altered when measured > according to Heisenberg uncertainty relations ie: sets limit to precision with which complementary dynamical variables can be measured</p> <p>Abandon the classical idea that all dynamical variables of a system have well-defined values at all times > quantum predicts the number n of times a particular result will be obtained in N identical, independent, identically prepared physical systems aka ensembles > ie: quantum predicts the probability n/N</p>
postulate 1)	<p>to an ensemble of physical systems one can associate a wave function or state function which contains all information that can be known about the ensemble > this function is complex and may be multipl. by an arbitrary complex number without altering its physical significance</p> <p>but: 1: some ensembles cannot be described by a single state function > such ensembles aren't considered here</p> <p>2: its common practice to speak of the wave function associated with a system > it's implied this works on an ensemble</p>
general particle system	<p>consider a particle in given potential $V(\mathbf{r}, t)$ > particle is structureless ie: no internal degrees of freedom, such as spin</p> <p>this has an associated state function $\Psi(\mathbf{r}, t)$ which is square integrable if:</p> $I = \int \Psi(\mathbf{r}, t) ^2 d\mathbf{r} \text{ is finite}$ <p>for c a complex constant, $c\Psi$ describes the same particle > choose this constant such that:</p> $\int \Psi(\mathbf{r}, t) ^2 d\mathbf{r} = 1.$ <p>with $P(\mathbf{r}, t) = \Psi ^2$ the position probability density</p>
postulate 2)	the superposition principle: $\Psi = c_1\Psi_1 + c_2\Psi_2$

5.1.1 momentum space functions	
state of ensemble in momentum space	<p>Use the Fourier transform of Ψ to go to momentum space wave function $\Phi(\mathbf{p}, t)$ > if Ψ is normalised, so is Φ:</p> $\int \Phi(\mathbf{p}, t) ^2 d\mathbf{p} = 1$ <p>now $\Pi(\mathbf{p}, t) = \Phi ^2$ is the probability density in momentum space > prob. of finding the momentum of a particle in volume $d\mathbf{p}$</p> <p>now the FT of $\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N)$ is:</p> $\Phi(\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_N, t) = (2\pi\hbar)^{-3N/2} \int \exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar}(\mathbf{p}_1 \cdot \mathbf{r}_1 + \dots + \mathbf{p}_N \cdot \mathbf{r}_N)\right] \times \Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N, t) d\mathbf{r}_1 \dots d\mathbf{r}_N.$
5.1.2 Dirac bracket notation	
Dirac bracket notation	define $\langle \Psi_1 \Psi_2 \rangle \equiv \int \Psi_1^*(\mathbf{r}) \Psi_2(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r}$
properties of Dirac bracket	$\langle \Psi_1 \Psi_2 \rangle = \langle \Psi_2 \Psi_1 \rangle^*. \quad (5.15a)$ <p>Moreover, if c is a complex number and Ψ_3 a third function, we also have</p> $\langle \Psi_1 c\Psi_2 \rangle = c \langle \Psi_1 \Psi_2 \rangle, \quad (5.15b)$ $\langle c\Psi_1 \Psi_2 \rangle = c^* \langle \Psi_1 \Psi_2 \rangle, \quad (5.15c)$ $\langle \Psi_3 \Psi_1 + \Psi_2 \rangle = \langle \Psi_3 \Psi_1 \rangle + \langle \Psi_3 \Psi_2 \rangle. \quad (5.15d)$ <p>Two functions Ψ_1 and Ψ_2 are said to be orthogonal if their scalar product vanishes:</p> $\langle \Psi_1 \Psi_2 \rangle = 0. \quad (5.16)$ <p>Using the Dirac bracket notation, we see that the normalisation condition (5.5) can be written compactly as</p> $\langle \Psi \Psi \rangle = 1. \quad (5.17)$
5.2 dynamical variables and operators	
postulate 3)	with every dynamical variable is associated a linear operator
associating operators	<p>in configuration space, for a dynamical variable $\mathcal{A} = A(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N, \mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_N, t)$ > associate the linear operator A:</p> $A(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N, -i\hbar \nabla_1, \dots, -i\hbar \nabla_N, t)$ <p>on the other hand, in momentum space:</p> $A(i\hbar \nabla_{\mathbf{p}_1}, \dots, i\hbar \nabla_{\mathbf{p}_N}, \mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_N, t)$
5.2.1 eigenvalues and eigenfunctions	
postulate 4)	the only result of a precise measurement of the dynamical variable \mathcal{A} is one of the eigenvalues a_n of the linear operator A associated with \mathcal{A}
eigenfunction	<p>ψ_n is an eigenfunction of A with eigenvalue a_n if:</p> $A\psi_n = a_n \psi_n.$ <p>> totality of eigenvalues of A = spectrum of A</p>
5.2.2 Hermitian operators	
Hermitian operator	<p>An operator is Hermitian if:</p> $\langle X (A\Psi) \rangle = \langle (AX) \Psi \rangle$ <p>with Ψ and X square integrable functions</p> <p>However in Dirac notation we usually write</p> $\langle X (A\Psi) \rangle \equiv \langle X A \Psi \rangle$

properties of eigenfunctions	<p>for ψ_n an eigenfunction with eigenvalue a_n, it holds:</p> $\langle \psi_n A \psi_n \rangle = a_n \langle \psi_n \psi_n \rangle.$ <p>In addition, since</p> $(A \psi_n)^* = a_n^* \psi_n^*$ <p>we also have</p> $\langle (A \psi_n) \psi_n \rangle = a_n^* \langle \psi_n \psi_n \rangle.$ <p>Now if A is Hermitian, we have $a_n = a_n^*$ > Hermitian operators always produce <i>real eigenvalues</i></p>
operators for dynamical system \mathcal{A}	<p>An operator A for \mathcal{A} must always give real eigenvalues > A must be a Hermitian operator</p>
measurement and probability	<p>if the wave function of a system is one of the eigenfunctions ψ_n of A > then a measurement of \mathcal{A} will certainly produce a result a_n</p> <p>if the wave function of a system is not one of the eigenfunctions ψ_n of A > then a measurement of \mathcal{A} can produce a_1, a_2, \dots > we can predict the probability of each a_n</p>
postulate 5)	<p>if a series of measurements made of the dynamical variable A on an ensemble of systems, described by the wave function Ψ, the expectation value of A is:</p> $\langle A \rangle = \frac{\langle \Psi A \Psi \rangle}{\langle \Psi \Psi \rangle}.$ <p>if A is Hermitian, then $\langle A \rangle$ is real if Ψ is normalised to unity, $\langle \Psi \Psi \rangle = 1$, thus $\langle A \rangle = \langle \Psi A \Psi \rangle.$</p>
5.2.3 adjoint operator	
adjoint operator of A / Hermitian conjugate	<p>the conjugate operator A^\dagger is defined by:</p> $\begin{aligned} \langle X A^\dagger \Psi \rangle &= \langle (AX) \Psi \rangle \\ &= \langle \Psi A X \rangle^* \end{aligned}$ <p>with X and Ψ square integrable</p>
self-adjoint operator	is an operator A for which $A^\dagger = A$
consequence of adjoint operator	<p>If we define a bra $\langle \Phi$ by the relation</p> $\langle \Phi = \langle X A^\dagger \quad (5.31)$ <p>where the operator A^\dagger acts to the left on the bra $\langle X$, then it follows from (5.30) that the kets $\Phi\rangle$ and $X\rangle$ are related by</p> $ \Phi\rangle = A X\rangle \quad (5.32)$
properties of adjoint operators	$(cA)^\dagger = c^* A^\dagger$ <p>where c is a complex number,</p> $(A + B)^\dagger = A^\dagger + B^\dagger$ <p>and</p> $(AB)^\dagger = B^\dagger A^\dagger.$
5.2.4 functions of operators	
function of an operator	<p>if $f(z)$ can be expanded in a power series</p> $f(z) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} c_i z^i$ <p>the $f(A)$ can be defined as:</p> $f(A) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} c_i A^i.$
eigenfunctions of $f(A)$	<p>as a consequence due to the definition we have: $A^i \psi_n = (a_n)^i \psi_n$ and thus</p> $f(A) \psi_n = f(a_n) \psi_n.$

adjoint of $f(A)$	<p>The adjoint operator to $f(A)$ can be obtained as follows. Using (5.34)–(5.36) and (5.38), we see that</p> $[f(A)]^\dagger = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} c_i^* (A^\dagger)^i = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} c_i^* (A^\dagger)^i = f^*(A^\dagger). \quad (5.40)$ <p>In particular, if A is a self-adjoint operator, we have</p> $[f(A)]^\dagger = f^*(A). \quad (5.41)$
5.2.5 inverse and unitary operators	
inverse of A	<p>The unit operator I is the operator that leaves any function Ψ unchanged</p> $I\Psi = \Psi.$ <p>If, given an operator A, there exists another operator B such that</p> $BA = AB = I$ <p>then B is said to be the <i>inverse</i> of A and one writes</p> $B = A^{-1}.$
unitary linear operator U	<p>A linear operator U is said to be <i>unitary</i> if</p> $U^{-1} = U^\dagger$ <p>or</p> $UU^\dagger = U^\dagger U = I.$ <p>Such an operator can be expressed in the form</p> $U = e^{iA}$ <p>where A is a Hermitian operator. Indeed, using (5.41), we see that</p> $U^\dagger = (e^{iA})^\dagger = e^{-iA}$
5.2.6 projection operators	
idempotent operator	<p>An operator Λ is said to be <i>idempotent</i> if</p> $\Lambda^2 = \Lambda.$ <p>If, in addition, Λ is Hermitian, it is called a <i>projection operator</i>.</p>
projection operator	<p>Any function Ψ can be expressed in terms of two orthogonal functions Φ and X by means of a projection operator. This can be seen as follows. We first write</p> $\Psi = \Phi + X \quad (5.49)$ <p>with $\Phi = \Lambda\Psi$ and $X = (I - \Lambda)\Psi$. Now</p> $\begin{aligned} \langle \Phi X \rangle &= \langle \Lambda\Psi (I - \Lambda)\Psi \rangle \\ &= \langle \Psi \Lambda - \Lambda^2 \Psi \rangle \\ &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (5.50)$ <p>where in the second line we have used the fact that Λ is Hermitian and in the third line we have used (5.48). Note that $I - \Lambda$ is also a projection operator, since it is Hermitian, and</p> $\begin{aligned} (I - \Lambda)^2 &= I - 2\Lambda + \Lambda^2 \\ &= I - \Lambda. \end{aligned} \quad (5.51)$

5.3 expansion in eigenfunctions	
study of eigenfunctions	<p>For an operator A: $A\psi_n = a_n\psi_n$</p> <p>> assume A is linear and Hermitian representing a dynamical variable</p> <p>> eigenvalues a_n are real</p> <p>>> first look at its properties when ψ_n is square integrable $\langle\psi_n \psi_n\rangle = 1$.</p>
5.3.1 orthogonality	
orthogonality of eigenfunctions	<p>for ψ_i, ψ_j two different eigenfunctions with eigenvalues a_i, a_j:</p> $A\psi_i = a_i\psi_i$ <p>and</p> $A\psi_j = a_j\psi_j.$ <p>Hence</p> $\begin{aligned}(a_i - a_j)\langle\psi_i \psi_j\rangle &= \langle a_i\psi_i \psi_j\rangle - \langle\psi_i a_j\psi_j\rangle \\ &= \langle (A\psi_i) \psi_j\rangle - \langle\psi_i (A\psi_j)\rangle \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$ <p>thus we have orthogonality between different eigenfunctions: $\langle\psi_i \psi_j\rangle = 0, \quad i \neq j$</p>
5.3.2 degeneracy	
degeneracy of eigenfunctions	<p>An eigenvalue a_n is degenerate if there are multiple linearly independent eigenfunctions belonging to that eigenvalue</p> <p>> let α be the degree of degeneracy of a certain eigenvalue a_n:</p> $A\psi_{nr} = a_n\psi_{nr}, \quad r = 1, 2, \dots, \alpha.$ <p>via Schmidt orthogonalization: make the eigenfunctions ψ_{nr} mutually orthogonal and normalized to unity</p> <p>> since eigenfunctions belonging to different eigenvalues are mutually orthogonal</p> <p>> all eigenfunctions satisfy the orthonormality relations:</p> $\langle\psi_{ir} \psi_{js}\rangle = \delta_{ij}\delta_{rs}$ <p>its only necessary to distinguish eigenfunctions belonging to a degenerate eigenvalue explicitly</p> <p>> for the other eigenfunctions, just write: $\langle\psi_m \psi_n\rangle = \delta_{mn}$.</p>
postulate 6	<p>A wave function representing any dynamical state can be expressed as a linear combination of the eigenfunctions of A</p> <p>> with A is the operator with a dynamical variable</p>
<p>Now we will study purely discrete eigenvalues for which: $\Psi = \sum_n c_n \psi_n$.</p> <p>> all wave functions can be expanded in a complete set of eigenfunctions $\{\psi_n\}$</p>	
observables	= Hermitian operator that possesses a complete set of eigenfunctions
finding coefficients c_n	<p>due to orthonormality: $\langle\psi_m \Psi\rangle = \sum_n c_n \langle\psi_m \psi_n\rangle$</p> $\begin{aligned}&= \sum_n c_n \delta_{mn} \\ &= c_m.\end{aligned}$
closure relation	<p>for a one-particle system, we have:</p> $\begin{aligned}\Psi(\mathbf{r}, t) &= \sum_n \left[\int \psi_n^*(\mathbf{r}') \Psi(\mathbf{r}', t) d\mathbf{r}' \right] \psi_n(\mathbf{r}) \\ &= \int \left[\sum_n \psi_n^*(\mathbf{r}') \psi_n(\mathbf{r}) \right] \Psi(\mathbf{r}', t) d\mathbf{r}'\end{aligned}$ <p>and hence</p> $\sum_n \psi_n^*(\mathbf{r}') \psi_n(\mathbf{r}) = \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')$ <p>>> expresses the completeness of the set of functions $\{\psi_n\}$</p>

general closure relation	<p>in multiple dimensions:</p> $\sum_n \psi_n^*(\mathbf{r}'_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}'_N) \psi_n(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N) = \delta(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \dots \delta(\mathbf{r}_N - \mathbf{r}'_N).$
scalar product of wave functions	<p>for one-particle case:</p> $\begin{aligned} \langle X \Psi \rangle &= \int X^*(\mathbf{r}, t) \Psi(\mathbf{r}, t) d\mathbf{r} \\ &= \int X^*(\mathbf{r}, t) \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \Psi(\mathbf{r}', t) d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}' \\ &= \sum_n \int X^*(\mathbf{r}, t) \psi_n(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} \int \psi_n^*(\mathbf{r}') \Psi(\mathbf{r}', t) d\mathbf{r}' \\ &= \sum_n \langle X \psi_n \rangle \langle \psi_n \Psi \rangle \end{aligned}$ <p>>> we see that in the Dirac notation the closure relation can be written as:</p> $I = \text{unity operator} \quad \sum_n \psi_n\rangle \langle \psi_n = I$
5.3.3 probability amplitudes	
expectation value of A	<p>For a wave function Ψ describing a state, normalized to unity > $\langle A \rangle$ is then:</p> $\begin{aligned} \langle A \rangle &= \langle \Psi A \Psi \rangle \\ &= \sum_m \sum_n c_m^* c_n \langle \psi_m A \psi_n \rangle \\ &= \sum_m \sum_n c_m^* c_n a_n \langle \psi_m \psi_n \rangle \\ &= \sum_n c_n ^2 a_n \end{aligned}$ <p>Since Ψ is normalized to unity, we also have:</p> $\langle \Psi \Psi \rangle = 1 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \sum_n c_n ^2 = 1.$
probability of measurement of a_n	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All possible results of measurement of A are the eigenvalues a_n - average value obtained in series of measurements is the expectation value $\langle A \rangle$ <p>> interpret the quantity P_n as the probability that in a given measurement the particular value a_n will be obtained:</p> $P_n = c_n ^2 = \langle \psi_n \Psi \rangle ^2$ <p>>> - $\sum_n c_n ^2 = 1$ expresses the fact that the probability of obtaining some result is unity - the coefficients $c_n = \langle \psi_n \Psi \rangle$ are the <i>probability amplitudes</i></p>
P_n for degenerate eigenvalues	<p>For a a_n that's α times degenerate and ψ_{nr} ($r=1, \dots, \alpha$) orthogonal eigenfunctions > we have:</p> $\Psi = \sum_n \sum_{r=1}^{\alpha} c_{nr} \psi_{nr} \quad (5.69)$ <p>with</p> $c_{nr} = \langle \psi_{nr} \Psi \rangle. \quad (5.70)$ <p>A simple reworking of (5.66) then yields</p> $\langle A \rangle = \sum_n \sum_{r=1}^{\alpha} c_{nr} ^2 a_n \quad (5.71)$ <p>so that the probability of obtaining upon measurement of A the degenerate eigenvalue a_n is</p> $P_n = \sum_{r=1}^{\alpha} c_{nr} ^2 = \sum_{r=1}^{\alpha} \langle \psi_{nr} \Psi \rangle ^2. \quad (5.72)$ <p>After a measurement leading to the value a_n, the system is described by the (unnormalised) wave function</p> $\Psi_n = \sum_{r=1}^{\alpha} c_{nr} \psi_{nr} \quad (5.73)$ <p>and if the measurement is immediately repeated the value a_n will be obtained with certainty.</p>

5.3.4 the continuous spectrum

thus far we assumed the observables only posses a spectrum of discrete eigenvalues

> in general they can have a discrete and continuous part

> we need to expand our theory

normalizing continuous spectrum

we have seen that the continuous spectrum cannot be normalised

> solution: - enclose the system in a large box

> render the system completely discrete

> solution independent from size of box, provided its large enough

- 'normalise' in terms of Dirac delta functions

$\langle A \rangle$ for continuous spectrum

Consider A with both a discrete and continuous spectrum

> discrete eigenvalues a_n with eigenfunctions ψ_n

continuous eigenvalues a with eigenfunctions ψ_a

$$A\psi_n = a_n\psi_n, \quad A\psi_a = a\psi_a.$$

- All eigenvalues should be real

- discrete eigenvalues are orthonormal

> postulate 6: a wave function Ψ is expandable in complete set $\{\psi_n, \psi_a\}$

$$\Psi = \sum_n c_n \psi_n + \int c(a) \psi_a da$$

the integral runs over the whole range of values of a

> if Ψ is normalised to unity:

$$\langle A \rangle = \langle \Psi | A | \Psi \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_m \sum_n c_m^* c_n \langle \psi_m | A | \psi_n \rangle + \sum_m \int da c_m^* c(a) \langle \psi_m | A | \psi_a \rangle \\ &\quad + \sum_n \int da' c'^*(a') c_n \langle \psi_{a'} | A | \psi_n \rangle + \int da \int da' c'^*(a') c(a) \langle \psi_{a'} | A | \psi_a \rangle \\ &= \sum_m \sum_n c_m^* c_n a_n \langle \psi_m | \psi_n \rangle + \sum_m \int da c_m^* c(a) a \langle \psi_m | \psi_a \rangle \\ &\quad + \sum_n \int da' c'^*(a') c_n a_n \langle \psi_{a'} | \psi_n \rangle \\ &\quad + \int da \int da' c'^*(a') c(a) a \langle \psi_{a'} | \psi_a \rangle \end{aligned} \quad (5.81a)$$

>> we want to maintain the interpretation of c_n and $c(a)$ as probability amplitudes:

$$\langle A \rangle = \sum_n |c_n|^2 a_n + \int |c(a)|^2 a da.$$

> closure relation

compare the previous two results and we know $\langle \psi_m | \psi_n \rangle = \delta_{mn}$:

- the continuum eigenfunctions are orthogonal to the discrete eigenfunctions

$$\langle \psi_m | \psi_a \rangle = 0.$$

- the continuum eigenfunctions satisfy the orthonormalization condition:

$$\langle \psi_{a'} | \psi_a \rangle = \delta(a - a').$$

> with these conditions the coefficients are given by:

$$c_n = \langle \psi_n | \Psi \rangle, \quad c(a) = \langle \psi_a | \Psi \rangle.$$

and thus the closure relation:

$$\sum_n \psi_n^*(\mathbf{r}') \psi_n(\mathbf{r}) + \int \psi_a^*(\mathbf{r}') \psi_a(\mathbf{r}) da = \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')$$

or thus for N particles

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_n \psi_n^*(\mathbf{r}'_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}'_N) \psi_n(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N) + \int \psi_a^*(\mathbf{r}'_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}'_N) \psi_a(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N) da \\ &= \delta(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}'_1) \dots \delta(\mathbf{r}_N - \mathbf{r}'_N). \end{aligned} \quad (5.81b)$$

box normalization	<p>let ψ_i be the normalised eigenfunction for eigenvalue a_i > large box: eigenvalues a_i for continuum are densely distributed > i can be treated as continuous variable > set $i = i(a)$ and introduce density of states ρ</p> $\rho(a) = \frac{di}{da} \quad (5.82)$ <p>which is equal to the number of discrete states within a unit range of a, we have</p> $\sum_i c_i \psi_i \rightarrow \int c_i \psi_i di = \int \rho(a) c_i \psi_i da. \quad (5.83)$ <p>Requiring that</p> $\int \rho(a) c_i \psi_i da = \int c(a) \psi_a da \quad (5.84)$ <p>and also (from the closure relation and with $\sum_i \rightarrow \int \rho(a) da$)</p> $\int \rho(a) \psi_i^*(\mathbf{r}') \psi_i(\mathbf{r}) da = \int \psi_a^*(\mathbf{r}') \psi_a(\mathbf{r}) da \quad (5.85)$ <p>one can make the identifications</p> $\psi_a = [\rho(a)]^{1/2} \psi_i \quad (5.86a)$ <p>and</p> $c(a) = [\rho(a)]^{1/2} c_i \quad (5.86b)$ <p>which allow one to 'translate' formulae written using the 'box normalisation' into those written using the delta function 'normalisation'.</p>
5.4 commuting observables, compatibility and the Heisenberg uncertainty principles	
commutator $[A, B]$	define: $[A, B] = AB - BA$
commutator of x and p_x	<p>The position and momentum operators satisfy: $[x, p_x] = [y, p_y] = [z, p_z] = i\hbar$</p> <p>For multiple particles $(x_1, y_1, z_1), (x_2, y_2, z_2), \dots$ and $(p_{1x}, p_{1y}, p_{1z}), (p_{2x}, p_{2y}, p_{2z}), \dots$:</p> $[x_i, p_{ix}] = [y_i, p_{iy}] = [z_i, p_{iz}] = i\hbar \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, N).$ <p>>> all other possible combinations commute (ie: $[.,.] = 0$)</p>
5.4.1 commuting observables	
compatible observables	<p>two observables A and B are compatible > if there exists a complete set of ψ_n such that ψ_n is both an eigenfunction of A and B</p> $A\psi_n = a_n\psi_n, \quad B\psi_n = b_n\psi_n.$ <p>example: Cartesian components of \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{p} NOT x and p_x</p>
commutation and compatibility	<p>If A and B are compatible, then</p> $\begin{aligned} AB\psi_n &= a_n b_n \psi_n \\ &= b_n a_n \psi_n \\ &= BA\psi_n. \end{aligned}$ <p>thus: $(AB - BA)\Psi = \sum_n c_n (AB - BA)\psi_n = 0$</p> <p>thus we find $[A, B] = 0$</p> <p>>> this also works in reverse</p> <p>!! if $[A, B] = 0$ and ψ_n is an eigenfunction of A, this doesn't imply ψ_n is an eigenfunc of B!!</p>
commutator algebra	$[A, B] = -[B, A]$ $[A, B + C] = [A, B] + [A, C]$ $[A, BC] = [A, B]C + B[A, C]$ $[A, [B, C]] + [B, [C, A]] + [C, [A, B]] = 0$

5.4.2 Heisenberg uncertainty relations

uncertainty ΔA

For an operator A define ΔA as:

$$\Delta A = [(\langle (A - \langle A \rangle)^2 \rangle)]^{1/2}$$

so that

$$(\Delta A)^2 = \langle (A - \langle A \rangle)^2 \rangle = \langle A^2 \rangle - \langle A \rangle^2$$

general Heisenberg uncertainty

For two variables A and B

For $\langle \Psi | A | \Psi \rangle$ and $\langle \Psi | B | \Psi \rangle$ the expectation values

For uncertainties ΔA and ΔB :

> it holds:

$$\Delta A \Delta B \geq \frac{1}{2} |\langle [A, B] \rangle|.$$

> proof

introduce the linear Hermitian operators:

$$\bar{A} = A - \langle A \rangle, \quad \bar{B} = B - \langle B \rangle$$

note that:

$$(\Delta A)^2 = \langle \bar{A}^2 \rangle, \quad (\Delta B)^2 = \langle \bar{B}^2 \rangle$$

and:

$$[\bar{A}, \bar{B}] = [A - \langle A \rangle, B - \langle B \rangle] = [A, B].$$

next introduce the linear operator with real constant λ :

$$C = \bar{A} + i\lambda \bar{B}$$

and its adjoint $C^\dagger = \bar{A} - i\lambda \bar{B}$

where the expectation value of CC^\dagger is real and nonnegative:

$$\langle CC^\dagger \rangle = \langle \Psi | CC^\dagger | \Psi \rangle = \langle C^\dagger \Psi | C^\dagger \Psi \rangle \geq 0.$$

Now the following expectation value is also real and nonnegative:

$$\langle (\bar{A} + i\lambda \bar{B})(\bar{A} - i\lambda \bar{B}) \rangle = \langle \bar{A}^2 + \lambda^2 \bar{B}^2 - i\lambda [\bar{A}, \bar{B}] \rangle$$

and introduce the real and nonnegative function $f(\lambda)$:

$$\begin{aligned} f(\lambda) &= \langle \bar{A}^2 \rangle + \lambda^2 \langle \bar{B}^2 \rangle - i\lambda \langle [\bar{A}, \bar{B}] \rangle \\ &= (\Delta A)^2 + \lambda^2 (\Delta B)^2 - i\lambda \langle [A, B] \rangle \end{aligned}$$

> implies that $\langle [A, B] \rangle$ is purely imaginary

$f(\lambda)$ has a minimum for

$$\lambda_0 = \frac{i \langle [A, B] \rangle}{2 (\Delta B)^2}$$

for which $f(\lambda_0)$ is equal to:

$$f(\lambda_0) = (\Delta A)^2 + \frac{1}{4} \frac{(\langle [A, B] \rangle)^2}{(\Delta B)^2}.$$

Since this value is non-negative, we must have

$$(\Delta A)^2 (\Delta B)^2 \geq -\frac{1}{4} (\langle [A, B] \rangle)^2$$

Heisenberg for canonical conjugates

For canonical conjugates we have $[A, B] = i\hbar$

> thus also $\langle [A, B] \rangle = i\hbar$

> thus:

$$\Delta A \Delta B \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}.$$

Heisenberg for Δx and Δp

for example:

$$\Delta x \Delta p_x \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}, \quad \Delta y \Delta p_y \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}, \quad \Delta z \Delta p_z \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$$

with

$$\Delta x = [(\langle (x - \langle x \rangle)^2 \rangle)]^{1/2}, \quad \Delta p_x = [(\langle (p_x - \langle p_x \rangle)^2 \rangle)]^{1/2}$$

5.4.3 the minimum uncertainty wave packet

minimum uncertainty wave packet

$$\Delta A \Delta B \geq \frac{1}{2} |\langle [A, B] \rangle|.$$

> there is minimum uncertainty when these two become equal

> this is when $\lambda = \lambda_0$ and $C^\dagger \Psi = 0$:

$$(\bar{A} - i\lambda_0 \bar{B})\Psi = 0.$$

>> use this to find the wave function Ψ such that $\Delta A \Delta B$ is minimal

example: $\Delta x \Delta p_x$

$$\Delta x \Delta p_x = \frac{\hbar}{2}. \quad (5.120)$$

Writing $\psi(x) \equiv \Psi(x, t=0)$, and using (5.119) with $\bar{A} = x - \langle x \rangle$, $\bar{B} = p_x - \langle p_x \rangle$ and $\lambda_0 = i\langle [x, p_x] \rangle / [2(\Delta p_x)^2] = -\hbar / [2(\Delta p_x)^2]$, we find that

$$\left(-i\hbar \frac{d}{dx} - \langle p_x \rangle\right)\psi(x) = \frac{2i(\Delta p_x)^2}{\hbar}(x - \langle x \rangle)\psi(x). \quad (5.121)$$

this gives us:

$$\psi(x) = C \exp\left(\frac{i}{\hbar} \langle p_x \rangle x\right) \exp\left[-\frac{(\Delta p_x)^2 (x - \langle x \rangle)^2}{\hbar^2}\right]$$

with C normalization constant

5.5 matrix representation of wave functions and operators

operators as metrics

The action of a linear Hermitian operator A on Ψ creates a new wave function X:

$$X = A\Psi.$$

The wave function X can also be expanded in terms of the basis $\{\psi_n\}$ as

$$X = \sum_m d_m \psi_m$$

where the coefficients of the expansion are given by $d_m = \langle \psi_m | X \rangle$.

$$\begin{aligned} d_m &= \langle \psi_m | X \rangle \\ &= \langle \psi_m | A | \Psi \rangle \\ &= \sum_n \langle \psi_m | A | \psi_n \rangle c_n \end{aligned}$$

define $A_{mn} = \langle \psi_m | A | \psi_n \rangle$ the matrix elements of operator A on basis $\{\psi_n\}$:

$$d_m = \sum_n A_{mn} c_n.$$

this can be rewritten as a matrix equation: $\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{c}$

thus:

$$\begin{pmatrix} d_1 \\ d_2 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & \dots \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$

$\langle X | \Psi \rangle$ in matrices

Using (5.64) and the fact that $c_n = \langle \psi_n | \Psi \rangle$ and $d_n^* = \langle X | \psi_n \rangle$, the scalar product $\langle X | \Psi \rangle$ can be expressed as

$$\langle X | \Psi \rangle = \sum_n d_n^* c_n = \mathbf{d}^\dagger \cdot \mathbf{c} \quad (5.160)$$

where \mathbf{c} is a column vector with elements c_n and \mathbf{d}^\dagger is a row vector with elements d_n^* . Thus (5.160) can be displayed as

$$\langle X | \Psi \rangle = (d_1^* \ d_2^* \ \dots) \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}. \quad (5.161)$$

5.5.1 matrix properties and definitions	
transpose	$(A^T)_{mn} = A_{nm}$
adjoint	$(A^\dagger)_{mn} = A_{nm}^*$
Hermitian	$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}^\dagger$ thus $A_{mn} = A_{nm}^*$
correspondence between operators and metrics	<p>- Hermitian operator represented by Hermitian matrix</p> <p>unitary unitary</p> <p>- A+B operator represented by $\mathbf{A+B}$ matrix</p> <p>AB \mathbf{AB}</p>
basis and diagonality	If the basis $\{\psi_n\}$ of eigenfunctions of A is used > than \mathbf{A} will be a diagonal matrix
5.5.2 change of representation and unitary transforms	
transformation between matrix representations	<p>For $\{\psi_n\}$ and $\{\phi_m\}$ two different orthonormal bases > each member of $\{\psi_n\}$ can be expanded in the basis $\{\phi_m\}$ as:</p> $\psi_n = \sum_m U_{mn} \phi_m$ <p>with U_{mn} the scalar product of ϕ_m and ψ_n:</p> $U_{mn} = \langle \phi_m \psi_n \rangle.$ <p>now the matrix of U_{mn} is a unitary matrix:</p> $\begin{aligned} (UU^\dagger)_{mn} &= \sum_k U_{mk} (U^\dagger)_{kn} \\ &= \sum_k U_{mk} U_{nk}^* \\ &= \sum_k \langle \phi_m \psi_k \rangle \langle \psi_k \phi_n \rangle \\ &= \langle \phi_m \phi_n \rangle = \delta_{mn} \end{aligned}$ <p>For basis $\{\psi_n\}$ we have wavefunction Ψ via coefficients c_n $\{\phi_m\}$ c'_m</p> $\Psi = \sum_n c_n \psi_n = \sum_m c'_m \phi_m$ <p>met $c_n = \langle \psi_n \Psi \rangle$, $c'_m = \langle \phi_m \Psi \rangle$.</p> <p>Via the closure relation, we find:</p> $\begin{aligned} c'_m &= \langle \phi_m \Psi \rangle \\ &= \sum_n \langle \phi_m \psi_n \rangle \langle \psi_n \Psi \rangle \\ &= \sum_n U_{mn} c_n, \end{aligned}$ <p>or thus: $\mathbf{c'} = \mathbf{Uc}$</p> <p>For matrix \mathbf{A} representing operator A in basis $\{\psi_n\}$ $\mathbf{A'}$ $\{\phi_m\}$</p> $\begin{aligned} A'_{mn} &= \langle \phi_m A \phi_n \rangle \\ &= \sum_k \sum_l \langle \phi_m \psi_k \rangle \langle \psi_k A \psi_l \rangle \langle \psi_l \phi_n \rangle \\ &= \sum_k \sum_l U_{mk} A_{kl} (U^\dagger)_{ln} \end{aligned}$ <p>thus: $\mathbf{A'} = \mathbf{UAU^\dagger}$ and $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{U^\dagger A' U}$.</p> <p>>> for transformations between different matrix representations, the transforming operators are unitary matrices</p>

trace property of unitary matrices	<p>if \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{A}' are connected via $\mathbf{A}' = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{U}^\dagger$ we have:</p> $\begin{aligned}\text{Tr } \mathbf{A}' &= \sum_m A'_{mm} \\ &= \sum_k \sum_l \sum_m U_{mk} A_{kl} (U^\dagger)_{lm} \\ &= \sum_k \sum_l \sum_m [(U^\dagger)_{lm} U_{mk}] A_{kl} \\ &= \sum_k \sum_l \delta_{lk} A_{kl} \\ &= \sum_k A_{kk} = \text{Tr } \mathbf{A}.\end{aligned}$ <p>>> trace of Hermitian matrix is equal to the sum of its eigenvalues</p>
eigenvalues of \mathbf{A}	<p>any Hermitian matrix can be diagonalised by a unitary transformation</p> <p>>> if you want to find the eigenfunction of \mathbf{A}: 1: diagonalise \mathbf{A} via $\mathbf{A}' = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{U}^\dagger$ 2: eigenfunctions are on the diagonal</p>
5.5.3 the state vector	
state vector	$= \Psi\rangle$
Dirac quantum representation	for each state vector there's an associated conjugate bra $\langle\Psi $ > $\langle\Psi \Psi\rangle$ is a real quantity representing the square of the norm of $ \Psi\rangle$
5.5.4 the linear harmonic oscillator revisited	
1D linear harmonic oscillator	<p>with $\omega = (k/m)^{1/2}$ the Hamiltonian for a 1D oscillator is:</p> $H = \frac{p_x^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}kx^2 = \frac{p_x^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 x^2$ <p>introduce the operators a_\pm.</p> $a_\pm = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\left(\frac{m\omega}{\hbar} \right)^{1/2} x \mp i \frac{p_x}{(m\hbar\omega)^{1/2}} \right]$ <p>since x and p_x are Hermitian, a_+ and a_- are adjoint: $a_+ = a_-^\dagger$ > we can find: $[a_+, a_-] = 1$ > the Hamiltonian can be rewritten as, with $N = a_+ a_-$:</p> $H = \frac{\hbar\omega}{2} (a_- a_+ + a_+ a_-) = \hbar\omega \left(a_- a_+ - \frac{1}{2} \right) = \hbar\omega \left(a_+ a_- + \frac{1}{2} \right) = \hbar\omega \left(N + \frac{1}{2} \right)$ <p>furthermore</p> $[H, a_\pm] = \pm \hbar\omega a_\pm.$ <p>If $E\rangle$ is an eigenvector of H with eigenvalue E, so that $H E\rangle = E E\rangle$ we have:</p> $\begin{aligned}H a_\pm E\rangle &= (a_\pm H \pm \hbar\omega a_\pm) E\rangle \\ &= (E \pm \hbar\omega) a_\pm E\rangle.\end{aligned}$ <p>ie: $a_\pm E\rangle$ are eigenvectors of H with eigenvalues $E \pm \hbar\omega$ > a_+ raises & a_- lowers the value of E, thus they are resp. <i>raising</i> and <i>lowering</i> operators</p> <p>now: H only contains squares of p_x and x > expectation value of H cannot be negative > eigenvalues of H must be non-negative</p> <p>Let E be the smallest eigenvalue > then $a_- E_0\rangle = 0$, for otherwise $a_- E_0\rangle$ would be an eigenket with eigenvalue $E_0 - \hbar\omega$ which cannot be since E_0 is the smallest eigenvalue > we can find:</p> $\hbar\omega a_+ a_- E_0\rangle = \hbar\omega N E_0\rangle = \left(H - \frac{1}{2} \hbar\omega \right) E_0\rangle = 0$ <p>thus $E_0 = \hbar\omega/2$ > we find the other eigenkets by working a_+ on $E_0\rangle$</p> $ E_0\rangle, a_+ E_0\rangle, a_+^2 E_0\rangle, \dots,$ <p>thus the eigenvalue corresponding to an eigenket $a_+^n E_0\rangle$ is:</p> $E_n = \left(n + \frac{1}{2} \right) \hbar\omega, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

1D linear harmonic oscillator	<p>for $E_n\rangle$ now a normalised eigenket with eigenvalue E_n > we have, with C_{n+1} the normalization coefficient: $E_{n+1}\rangle = C_{n+1}a_+ E_n\rangle$ since $\langle E_{n+1} E_{n+1}\rangle=1$ and $a_+=a_+^\dagger$, we find that: $C_{n+1} ^2\langle E_n a_-a_+ E_n\rangle = 1.$ since $a_-a_+ = (H/\hbar\omega)+1/2$ and $H E_n\rangle=E_n E_n\rangle$ and $E_n = (n+1/2)\hbar\omega$ and $\langle E_n E_n\rangle$: $C_{n+1} = (n+1)^{-1/2}$ and thus we find: $a_+ E_n\rangle = (n+1)^{1/2} E_{n+1}\rangle.$ or starting from E_0: $E_n\rangle = (n!)^{-1/2}a_+^n E_0\rangle$ We also have $E_n\rangle = C_n a_+ E_{n-1}\rangle$ with $C_n = n^{-1/2}$ > operator both sides with a_-: $a_- E_n\rangle = n^{-1/2}a_-a_+ E_{n-1}\rangle$ now: $a_-a_+ = (H/\hbar\omega) + 1/2$ and $H E_{n-1}\rangle = (n-1/2)\hbar\omega E_{n-1}\rangle$ $a_- E_n\rangle = n^{1/2} E_{n-1}\rangle$</p>
5.5.5 matrix representation in the $\{ E_n\rangle\}$ basis	
matrix representation of H and N	<p>in terms of $\{ E_n\rangle\}$ with $n=0,1,2,\dots$ we find H via its eigenvalues $E_n = (n+1/2)\hbar\omega$ > N is just the diagonal matrix with elements n: $\mathbf{H} = \hbar\omega \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & \frac{3}{2} & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{5}{2} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{N} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$</p>
matrix a₊ and a₋	<p>from the orthogonality of eigenvectors we have: $\langle E_k E_{n+1}\rangle = C_{n+1}\langle E_k a_+ E_n\rangle = \delta_{k,n+1}$ hence, the matrix elements of a₊ in $\{ E_n\rangle\}$: $(a_+)_{kn} = (n+1)^{1/2}\delta_{k,n+1}$ thus a₊ is a real matrix whose elements are directly below the main diagonal from $a_+=a_+^\dagger$ we find: $(a_-)_{kn} = (k+1)^{1/2}\delta_{k+1,n}$ thus: $\mathbf{a}_+ = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ \sqrt{1} & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & \sqrt{2} & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{3} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{a}_- = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sqrt{1} & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{2} & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \sqrt{3} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$</p>

5.5.6 transition from the $\{|E_n\rangle\}$ to the position representation

transition to position

since $x = x$ and $p_x = -i\hbar d/dx$:

$$a_{\pm} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\left(\frac{m\omega}{\hbar} \right)^{1/2} x \mp \frac{1}{(m\hbar\omega)^{1/2}} \frac{d}{dx} \right]$$

or, in terms of the variable $\xi = (m\omega/\hbar)^{1/2} x = \alpha x$

$$a_{\pm} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\xi \mp \frac{d}{d\xi} \right).$$

We can rewrite $a_-|E_0\rangle = 0$ in position representation as:

$$\left(\xi + \frac{d}{d\xi} \right) \psi_0(\xi) = 0.$$

This equation has the solution

$$\psi_0(\xi) = N_0 e^{-\xi^2/2}$$

where N_0 is a constant. Hence

$$\psi_0(x) = N_0 e^{-\alpha^2 x^2/2}.$$

If N_0 is chosen to be real and such that $\psi_0(x)$ is normalised to unity, we have

$$N_0 = \left(\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\pi}} \right)^{1/2}.$$

all other eigenfunctions can be found using $|E_n\rangle = (n!)^{-1/2} a_+^n |E_0\rangle$:

$$\psi_n(\xi) = (n!)^{-1/2} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\xi - \frac{d}{d\xi} \right) \right]^n \psi_0(\xi)$$

and thus:

$$\psi_n(\xi) = \left(\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\pi} 2^n n!} \right)^{1/2} e^{-\xi^2/2} H_n(\xi)$$

where $H_n(\xi)$ is the Hermite polynomial of order n .

5.7 the Schrödinger equation and the time evolution of a system

postulate 7

the time evolution of the wave function of a system is determined by the TDSE:

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi(t) = H \Psi(t)$$

where H is the Hamiltonian, or total energy operator of the system.

obtaining the Hamiltonian

we can find H via substitution rule

> examples: see p231

5.7.1 the evolution operator

evolution operator

TDSE is a first-order diff.eq in time

> state vector $\Psi(t)$ is defined at all t once its specified for any t_0

> introduce an evolution operator $U(t_0, t)$ such that:

$$\Psi(t) = U(t, t_0) \Psi(t_0)$$

with

$$U(t_0, t_0) = I.$$

Applying twice the definition (5.232), we also have

$$U(t, t_0) = U(t, t') U(t', t_0)$$

and

$$U^{-1}(t, t_0) = U(t_0, t)$$

substituting in the TDSE we see U satisfies the equation:

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} U(t, t_0) = H U(t, t_0)$$

remark that we can rewrite this as:

$$U(t, t_0) = I - \frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{t_0}^t H U(t', t_0) dt'.$$

<p>$U(t, t_0)$ a unitary operator</p>	<p>conservation of probability requires: $\langle \Psi(t) \Psi(t) \rangle = \langle \Psi(t_0) \Psi(t_0) \rangle,$ however, from $\Psi(t) = U\Psi(t_0)$ we find: $\begin{aligned} \langle \Psi(t) \Psi(t) \rangle &= \langle U(t, t_0)\Psi(t_0) U(t, t_0)\Psi(t_0) \rangle \\ &= \langle \Psi(t_0) U^\dagger(t, t_0)U(t, t_0) \Psi(t_0) \rangle \end{aligned}$ from which: $U^\dagger(t, t_0)U(t, t_0) = I.$ in same fashion we find, starting from $\langle \Psi(t_0) \Psi(t_0) \rangle$: $U(t, t_0)U^\dagger(t, t_0) = I$ <p>>> U is a unitary transformation</p> </p>
<p>infinitesimal unitary transformation</p>	<p>The change in evolution operator induced after a small time δt:</p> $i\hbar[U(t_0 + \delta t, t_0) - U(t_0, t_0)] = HU(t_0 + \delta t, t_0)\delta t.$ <p>Hence, to first order in δt, and using the initial condition (5.233), we have</p> $U(t_0 + \delta t, t_0) = I - \frac{i}{\hbar}H\delta t.$ <p>> H is the generator of an infinitesimal unitary transformation described by the evolution operator $U(t_0 + \delta t, t_0)$</p>
<p>U in time-independent H</p>	<p>consider the case for which H is time-independent > a solution of U is:</p> $U(t, t_0) = \exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar}H(t - t_0)\right]$ <p>thus a solution of the TDSE for time-ind. H is given by:</p> $\Psi(t) = \exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar}H(t - t_0)\right]\Psi(t_0).$
<p>U in time-independent H and V</p>	<p>suppose the potential V is also time-independent: $V(\mathbf{r})$ > we can rewrite the wave function as:</p> <div style="background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 10px; margin: 10px 0;"> $\begin{aligned} \Psi(\vec{r}, t) &= \exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar}H(t - t_0)\right]\Psi(\vec{r}, t_0) \\ &= \int d\vec{r}' \exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar}H(t - t_0)\right] \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}') \Psi(\vec{r}', t_0) \\ &= \int d\vec{r}' K(\vec{r}, t; \vec{r}', t_0) \Psi(\vec{r}', t_0) \quad (\text{PROPAGATOR}) \end{aligned}$ </div> <p>Now, according to the closure relation satisfied by the energy eigenfunctions, we have</p> $\sum_E \psi_E^*(\mathbf{r}') \psi_E(\mathbf{r}) = \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \quad (5.247)$ <p>so that we can recast (5.246) in the form</p> $\Psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \sum_E \int \exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar}H(t - t_0)\right] \psi_E^*(\mathbf{r}') \psi_E(\mathbf{r}) \Psi(\mathbf{r}', t_0) d\mathbf{r}'. \quad (5.248)$ <p>Since $H\psi_E = E\psi_E$, it follows that</p> $\Psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \sum_E \left[\int \psi_E^*(\mathbf{r}') \Psi(\mathbf{r}', t_0) d\mathbf{r}' \right] \exp[-iE(t - t_0)/\hbar] \psi_E(\mathbf{r}) \quad (5.249)$ <p>in agreement with the result (3.155) obtained in Chapter 3.</p>

5.7.2 time variation of expectation values

A as a constant of motion

consider an observable A

> expectation value $\langle A \rangle$ in state Ψ , normalised to unity is $\langle \Psi | A | \Psi \rangle$

> rate of change of $\langle A \rangle$ is therefore:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt} \langle A \rangle &= \frac{d}{dt} \langle \Psi | A | \Psi \rangle \\ &= \left\langle \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial t} | A | \Psi \right\rangle + \left\langle \Psi | \frac{\partial A}{\partial t} | \Psi \right\rangle + \left\langle \Psi | A | \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial t} \right\rangle \\ &= -(i\hbar)^{-1} \langle H \Psi | A | \Psi \rangle + \left\langle \Psi | \frac{\partial A}{\partial t} | \Psi \right\rangle + (i\hbar)^{-1} \langle \Psi | A H | \Psi \rangle\end{aligned}$$

since H is Hermitian, rewrite the first matrix element on the right as $\langle \Psi | H A | \Psi \rangle$, so that:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle A \rangle = (i\hbar)^{-1} \langle [A, H] \rangle + \left\langle \frac{\partial A}{\partial t} \right\rangle$$

where

$$\langle [A, H] \rangle = \langle \Psi | [A, H] | \Psi \rangle = \langle \Psi | A H - H A | \Psi \rangle$$

and

$$\left\langle \frac{\partial A}{\partial t} \right\rangle = \left\langle \Psi | \frac{\partial A}{\partial t} | \Psi \right\rangle.$$

if A doesn't depend explicitly on time ($\partial A / \partial t = 0$), then this reduces to:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle A \rangle = (i\hbar)^{-1} \langle [A, H] \rangle.$$

>> does not vary in time

> A is constant of motion

5.7.3 time-independent Hamiltonian

energy conservation

If H is time-independent, consider the case A=H:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle H \rangle = (i\hbar)^{-1} \langle [H, H] \rangle = 0$$

total energy is constant of motion

expectation value of A

for ψ_E an eigenfunction of the time-ind. H with eigenenergy E

> for a stationary state $\Psi_E = \psi_E \exp(-iEt/\hbar)$ and time-ind. A it's clear that:

$$\langle \Psi_E | A | \Psi_E \rangle = \langle \psi_E | A | \psi_E \rangle \text{ does not depend on the time.}$$

thus we find:

$$\langle \psi_E | [A, H] | \psi_E \rangle = 0.$$

5.7.4 virial theorem

virial theorem

consider a particle with mass m in potential V(r) with above particular case:

$$H = \frac{\mathbf{p}^2}{2m} + V(\mathbf{r}).$$

choose A = $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p}$ time independent:

$$\langle \psi_E | [\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p}, H] | \psi_E \rangle = 0.$$

we can find that:

$$\begin{aligned}[\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p}, H] &= \left[(xp_x + yp_y + zp_z), \frac{1}{2m} (p_x^2 + p_y^2 + p_z^2) + V(x, y, z) \right] \\ &= \frac{i\hbar}{m} (p_x^2 + p_y^2 + p_z^2) - i\hbar \left(x \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} + z \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} \right) \\ &= 2i\hbar T - i\hbar (\mathbf{r} \cdot \nabla V)\end{aligned}$$

with $T = \mathbf{p}^2 / 2m = -(\hbar^2 / 2m) \nabla^2$ is the kinetic energy operator.

>> thus for a stationary state!!:

$$2\langle T \rangle = \langle \mathbf{r} \cdot \nabla V \rangle$$

5.7.5 the Schrödinger equation for a two-body system

example: interacting masses

Consider two particles with mass m_1, m_2 interacting via time-indep. potential $V(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)$
 > only depends on relative position $\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2$

The classical Hamiltonian of the system is given by:

$$H = \frac{p_1^2}{2m_1} + \frac{p_2^2}{2m_2} + V(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2).$$

now make the substitutions $\mathbf{p} = -i\hbar\nabla$

> we can then formulate the TDSE in configuration space:

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, t) = \left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_1} \nabla_{\mathbf{r}_1}^2 - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_2} \nabla_{\mathbf{r}_2}^2 + V(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) \right] \Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, t).$$

which is a seven-dimensional partial-differential equation

> simplify: introduce \mathbf{r} and \mathbf{R} which determine the centre of mass CM of the system

$$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2$$

and the vector

$$\mathbf{R} = \frac{m_1 \mathbf{r}_1 + m_2 \mathbf{r}_2}{m_1 + m_2}$$

change the variables:

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_1} \nabla_{\mathbf{r}_1}^2 - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_2} \nabla_{\mathbf{r}_2}^2 = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2M} \nabla_{\mathbf{R}}^2 - \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^2$$

with $M = m_1 + m_2$ the total mass and μ the reduced mass of the system

$$\mu = \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2}$$

the TDSE therefore becomes:

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) = \left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2M} \nabla_{\mathbf{R}}^2 - \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^2 + V(\mathbf{r}) \right] \Psi(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t).$$

we can separate this equation

ie: 1: time dependence can be separated like in 3.5

> because the potential $V(\mathbf{r})$ is time-independent

2: spatial part of wave function $\Psi(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t)$ separated in product of functions of
 centre of mass coordinate \mathbf{R} and relative coordinate \mathbf{r}

> TDSE has a solution of the form:

$$\Psi(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}, t) = \Phi(\mathbf{R}) \psi(\mathbf{r}) \exp[-i(E_{\text{CM}} + E)t/\hbar]$$

where $\Phi(\mathbf{R})$ and $\psi(\mathbf{r})$ satisfy respectively:

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2M} \nabla_{\mathbf{R}}^2 \Phi(\mathbf{R}) = E_{\text{CM}} \Phi(\mathbf{R}) \quad \text{and} \quad \left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^2 + V(\mathbf{r}) \right] \psi(\mathbf{r}) = E \psi(\mathbf{r}).$$

the first eq. is a TISE describing the centre of mass as a free particle of mass M

the 2nd eq. is a TISE describing the relative motion of the two particles

> is same as the Schrodinger eq. of a particle with mass μ in $V(\mathbf{r})$

total energy of the system $E_{\text{tot}} = E_{\text{CM}} + E$

>> we have separated the problem into two one-body problems

5.8 The Schrödinger and Heisenberg pictures	
Schrödinger picture	<p>- Operators A are time-independent - wave function Ψ is time-dependent > represents time evolution of the system</p> <p>The wave function Ψ is related to its value at t_0 by performing unitary transformation: $\Psi(t) = U(t, t_0)\Psi(t_0)$ with $U(t, t_0)$ the evolution operator</p> <p>The time dependence of the expectation value of an operator is given by: $\frac{d}{dt}\langle A \rangle = (i\hbar)^{-1}\langle [A, H] \rangle + \left\langle \frac{\partial A}{\partial t} \right\rangle$ >> this is the picture we have used thus far</p>
Heisenberg picture	<p>- Operators A_H are time-dependent - wave function Ψ_H is time-independent</p> <p>The Heisenberg wave function is defined by its value at t_0: > or thus for unitary operator $U(t, t_0)$ this is compared to the Schrödinger picture: $\Psi_H = U^\dagger(t, t_0)\Psi(t) = U(t_0, t)\Psi(t) = \Psi(t_0)$ the corresponding Heisenberg operators are time-dependent > they can be found from the Schrödinger picture via: $A_H(t) = U^\dagger(t, t_0)AU(t, t_0) = U(t_0, t)AU^\dagger(t_0, t)$</p>
> time dependence of A_H	<p>We find via the definition: $\frac{d}{dt}A_H(t) = \frac{\partial U}{\partial t}AU^\dagger + U\frac{\partial A}{\partial t}U^\dagger + UA\frac{\partial U^\dagger}{\partial t}. \quad (5.281)$ Using (5.236) and the facts that H is Hermitian and U is unitary, we then find that $\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}A_H(t) &= (i\hbar)^{-1}(-UHAU^\dagger + UAHU^\dagger) + U\frac{\partial A}{\partial t}U^\dagger \\ &= (i\hbar)^{-1}(-UHU^\dagger UAU^\dagger + UAU^\dagger UHU^\dagger) + U\frac{\partial A}{\partial t}U^\dagger. \end{aligned} \quad (5.282)$ Defining the Heisenberg operators $H_H = UHU^\dagger \quad (5.283)$ and $\left(\frac{\partial A}{\partial t}\right)_H = U\frac{\partial A}{\partial t}U^\dagger \quad (5.284)$ we obtain $\frac{d}{dt}A_H(t) = (i\hbar)^{-1}[A_H, H_H] + \left(\frac{\partial A}{\partial t}\right)_H \quad (5.285)$</p>
> Hamiltonian in Schrödinger vs Heisenberg	<p>In the Schrödinger picture, H is time-independent > the evolution operator in that picture is given by: $U(t, t_0) = \exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar}H(t - t_0)\right]$ The Heisenberg wave function is then related to the Schrödinger one via: $\Psi_H \equiv \Psi(t_0) = \exp\left[\frac{i}{\hbar}H(t - t_0)\right]\Psi(t)$ thus we find $H_H = H$</p>

5.11 the classical limit

5.11.1 the Ehrenfest theorem

First Ehrenfest relation

for a particle of mass m moving in a potential $V(\mathbf{r}, t)$:

$$H = \frac{\mathbf{p}^2}{2m} + V(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

and we know for $\langle x \rangle$ that:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \langle x \rangle &= (i\hbar)^{-1} \langle [x, H] \rangle \\ &= (i\hbar)^{-1} \left\langle \left[x, \frac{\mathbf{p}^2}{2m} + V(\mathbf{r}, t) \right] \right\rangle \end{aligned}$$

since x commutes with $V(\mathbf{r}, t)$, p_y and p_z , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \langle x \rangle &= \frac{1}{2mi\hbar} \langle [x, p_x^2] \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{2mi\hbar} \langle [x, p_x] p_x + p_x [x, p_x] \rangle \end{aligned}$$

and $[x, p_x] = i\hbar$, thus:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle x \rangle = \frac{\langle p_x \rangle}{m}$$

so in 3D we have:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle \mathbf{r} \rangle = \frac{\langle \mathbf{p} \rangle}{m} \quad \text{The first Ehrenfest relation}$$

Second Ehrenfest relation

we do the same for the momentum p_x :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \langle p_x \rangle &= (i\hbar)^{-1} \langle [p_x, H] \rangle \\ &= (i\hbar)^{-1} \left\langle \left[p_x, \frac{\mathbf{p}^2}{2m} + V(\mathbf{r}, t) \right] \right\rangle \\ &= - \left\langle \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \right\rangle \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact that $[p_x, \mathbf{p}^2] = 0$ together with the equation

$$[p_x, V] = -i\hbar \frac{\partial V}{\partial x}$$

We thus find for 3D:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle \mathbf{p} \rangle = - \langle \nabla V(\mathbf{r}, t) \rangle$$

> quantum becomes classical in the limit

For 1D motion in a potential $V(x)$

> expand $dV/dx = V'(x)$ about the expectation value $\langle x \rangle$:

$$V'(x) = V'(\langle x \rangle) + (x - \langle x \rangle) V''(\langle x \rangle) + \frac{1}{2} (x - \langle x \rangle)^2 V'''(\langle x \rangle) + \dots$$

or thus:

$$\langle V'(x) \rangle = V'(\langle x \rangle) + \frac{1}{2} \langle (x - \langle x \rangle)^2 \rangle V'''(\langle x \rangle) + \dots$$

where we've used $\langle x - \langle x \rangle \rangle = 0$

> the quantity $-V'(\langle x \rangle)$ is the classical force at point $\langle x \rangle$

> thus, if only the first term is retained, we have=

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle p_x \rangle = -V'(\langle x \rangle),$$

>> the expectation values $\langle x \rangle$ and $\langle p_x \rangle$ obey Newton's law