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## Brief summary

- This is just a brief summary of important points in this course. You certainly need to read the textbook and/or other materials to fully understand these topics.
- Textbook: D.J. Griffiths, “Introduction to Quantum Mechanics”, 2nd ed.  
Chapter “Ch.” and Section “§” numbers refer to this book.
- Other references: J.J. Sakurai, “Modern Quantum Mechanics”.
- Note: Einstein convention of implicit summation over repeated indices.

### Contents

<b>I. Fundamentals and Formalism (~ Ch.1 &amp; Ch.3)</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>II. One-dimensional Eigenvalue Problems (~ Ch.2)</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>III. Three-dimensional Problems (~ Ch.4)</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>IV. Identical Particles (~ Ch.5)</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>V. Time-independent Perturbation Theory (~ Ch.6)</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>VI. Variational Principle (~ Ch.7)</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>VII. The WKB Approximation (~ Ch.8)</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>VIII. Time-dependent Perturbation Theory (~ Ch.9)</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>IX. Adiabatic Approximation (~ Ch.10)</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>X. Scattering (~ Ch.11)</b>	<b>25</b>

## I. FUNDAMENTALS AND FORMALISM ( $\sim$ CH.1 & CH.3)

- **Wavefunction**: complex function  $\psi(\mathbf{r}, t)$ .
  - Here  $\mathbf{r}$  labels the classical configuration of the system, *e.g.* position of a particle.
  - **Normalization**:  $\int d\mathbf{r} |\psi(\mathbf{r}, t)|^2 = 1$ .
  - **Statistical interpretation** (by Max Born):  
 $|\psi(\mathbf{r}, t)|^2$  is the *a priori* probability density for the particle to be at  $\mathbf{r}$ , at time  $t$ .
- Hilbert space:  $\approx$  complex linear space of wavefunctions, with an “inner product”.
  - Inner product:  $(\phi, \psi) \equiv \int d\mathbf{r} (\phi(\mathbf{r}))^* \psi(\mathbf{r})$ , also called “overlap between  $\phi$  and  $\psi$ ”.
    - \* Hermitivity:  $(\phi, \psi) = (\psi, \phi)^*$ .
    - \* Linear with respect to (w.r.t) the 2nd argument:  $(\phi, \sum_i c_i \psi_i) = \sum_i c_i \cdot (\phi, \psi_i)$ .  
 Then anti-linear w.r.t. the 1st argument:  $(\sum_i c_i \phi_i, \psi) = \sum_i c_i^* \cdot (\phi_i, \psi)$ .
    - \* Positive semi-definiteness:  $(\psi, \psi) \geq 0$ .
    - \* Cauchy-Schwarz inequality (can be derived from the above three facts):  
 $(\psi, \psi) \cdot (\phi, \phi) \geq (\psi, \phi) \cdot (\phi, \psi) = |(\psi, \phi)|^2$ .
- **Dirac symbols**: ‘kets’  $|\psi\rangle$ , and ‘bras’  $\langle\psi|$ ;
  - ‘kets’: abstract notation for a (pure) quantum state, a ‘vector’ in Hilbert space.
  - ‘bras’: a ‘dual vector’ in the ‘dual space’ (linear space of linear functionals).  
 $\langle\psi|$  maps a quantum state to a complex number,  $|\phi\rangle \mapsto (\psi, \phi)$ .
  - $\langle\psi|\phi\rangle$  is a complex number, the inner product  $(\psi, \phi) = \int d\mathbf{r} \psi^* \phi$ .
  - $|\phi\rangle\langle\psi|$  is a linear operator, maps one quantum state to another,  $|\varphi\rangle \mapsto |\phi\rangle \cdot \langle\psi|\varphi\rangle$ .
- **Linear operators**: linear mapping of wavefunctions,  $\hat{O} : \psi \mapsto \hat{O}\psi$ 
  - Products of operators,  $\hat{O}_1 \hat{O}_2 : \psi \mapsto (\hat{O}_1 \hat{O}_2)\psi \equiv \hat{O}_1(\hat{O}_2\psi)$ .
  - **Hermitian conjugate**  $\hat{O}^\dagger$  of an operator  $\hat{O}$ :  $\langle\hat{O}^\dagger\psi|\phi\rangle = \langle\psi|\hat{O}\phi\rangle$ , for any states  $\psi, \phi$ .
  - $(\hat{O}^\dagger)^\dagger = \hat{O}$ .  $(\hat{O}_1 \hat{O}_2)^\dagger = \hat{O}_2^\dagger \hat{O}_1^\dagger$ . If  $\hat{O}^\dagger = \hat{O}$  then  $\hat{O}$  is a *hermitian operator*.
  - **Commutator**:  $[\hat{O}_1, \hat{O}_2] \equiv \hat{O}_1 \hat{O}_2 - \hat{O}_2 \hat{O}_1$ .  
 Anti-commutator  $\{\hat{O}_1, \hat{O}_2\} \equiv \hat{O}_1 \hat{O}_2 + \hat{O}_2 \hat{O}_1$ .

- (1D) Position operator,  $\hat{x}: \psi(x) \mapsto x \cdot \psi(x)$ . Hermitian.
- (1D) Momentum operator,  $\hat{p}_x: \psi(x) \mapsto -i\hbar \partial_x \psi(x)$ . Hermitian.
- Canonical commutation relation:  $[\hat{x}, \hat{p}_x] = i\hbar$ .
- Eigenbasis:
  - Eigenstates & eigenvalues: if  $\hat{O}|\psi\rangle = \lambda|\psi\rangle$ , where  $\lambda$  is a complex number, then the state  $|\psi\rangle$  is an eigenstate of  $\hat{O}$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda$  (also denoted by  $|\hat{O} = \lambda\rangle$ )
    - \* If  $[\hat{O}, \hat{B}] = c \cdot \hat{B}$ , then  $\hat{B}|\hat{O} = \lambda\rangle \propto |\hat{O} = \lambda + c\rangle$  (this state may vanish).
  - For “observable” (hermitian operator)  $\hat{O}$ : eigenvalues must be real, eigenstates for different eigenvalues are orthogonal to each other (have zero inner product).
  - Label the eigenstates  $|\psi_k\rangle$  of a hermitian operator by a real number index  $k$  (may not be the eigenvalue itself, may be discrete, *e.g.* integers), without “degeneracy” (given  $k$ , there is a unique eigenstate, upto overall phase factor), **the normalization of these states are**,  $\langle \psi_k | \psi_{k'} \rangle = \begin{cases} \delta_{k,k'}, & \text{discrete eigenvalues \& indices,} \\ \delta(k - k'), & \text{continuous eigenvalues \& indices.} \end{cases}$
  - Completeness of the eigenbasis: any state  $|\psi\rangle$  can be expanded into a linear superposition of the eigenbasis  $|\psi_k\rangle$ ,  $|\psi\rangle = \text{“}\sum_k\text{”} c_k |\psi_k\rangle$ ,  $c_k = \langle \psi_k | \psi \rangle$ . Here “ $\sum_k$ ” may contain integral over continuous index  $k$ .
    - \* “Resolution of identity”:  $\hat{1} = \text{“}\sum_k\text{”} |\psi_k\rangle \langle \psi_k|$ .
  - (1D) Position eigenbasis  $|x\rangle$ :  $\hat{x}|x\rangle = x|x\rangle$ ,  $\langle x|x'\rangle = \delta(x - x')$ .  
 $|\psi\rangle = \int dx |x\rangle \langle x|\psi\rangle$ , and  $\langle x|\psi\rangle = \psi(x)$  is the wavefunction.
  - (1D) Momentum eigenbasis  $|p\rangle$ :  $\hat{p}|p\rangle = p|p\rangle$ ,  $\langle p|p'\rangle = \delta(p - p')$ ,  $\langle x|p\rangle = \frac{e^{ipx/\hbar}}{\sqrt{2\pi\hbar}}$ .  
 $|\psi\rangle = \int dp |p\rangle \langle p|\psi\rangle$ ,  $\langle p|\psi\rangle = \tilde{\psi}(p)$  is “wavefunction in momentum representation”.
    - \* In momentum representation:  $\hat{x}: \tilde{\psi}(p) \mapsto i\hbar \partial_p \tilde{\psi}(p)$ , and  $\hat{p}: \tilde{\psi}(p) \mapsto p \cdot \tilde{\psi}(p)$ .
  - Under *complete orthonormal basis*  $|\psi_k\rangle$ , state  $|\psi\rangle$  is a column vector  $\langle \psi_k | \psi \rangle$ , operator  $\hat{O}$  is a matrix  $O_{k',k} \equiv \langle \psi_{k'} | \hat{O} | \psi_k \rangle$ , and  $\langle \psi_{k'} | \hat{O} \psi \rangle = \text{“}\sum_k\text{”} O_{k',k} \langle \psi_k | \psi \rangle$  (matrix-vector product). The indices  $k, k'$  may be continuous.
- **Measurement ‘postulate’ & generalized statistical interpretation:**
  - Each measurement of an observable  $\hat{O}$  under state  $|\psi\rangle$ , will produce one of the eigenvalues (say,  $\lambda$ ) of  $\hat{O}$ , with *a priori* probability  $|\langle \hat{O} = \lambda | \psi \rangle|^2$ .  $|\hat{O} = \lambda\rangle$  is the ‘normalized’ eigenstate of  $\hat{O}$ .

- If  $\lambda$  is continuous,  $|\langle \hat{O} = \lambda | \psi \rangle|^2$  is the probability density.
- “Collapse postulate”: after this measurement, the state becomes  $|\hat{O} = \lambda\rangle$ .
- If the eigenstates  $|\hat{O} = \lambda, k\rangle$  are degenerate, and labeled by another index  $k$ , then the probability (density) is “ $\sum_k$ ”  $|\langle \hat{O} = \lambda, k | \psi \rangle|^2$ , the “collapsed” state is  $\left( \sum_k |\langle \hat{O} = \lambda, k | \psi \rangle|^2 \right)^{-1/2} \sum_k |\hat{O} = \lambda, k\rangle \langle \hat{O} = \lambda, k | \psi \rangle$ .
- **Expectation value  $\langle \hat{O} \rangle_\psi$ : *a priori* average of measurement results,  $\langle \psi | \hat{O} | \psi \rangle$ .**
- **Uncertainty principle:  $\sigma_A^2 \cdot \sigma_B^2 \geq \frac{1}{4} |\langle [\hat{A}, \hat{B}] \rangle|^2$ .** See §3.5 for proof.  
The variance is  $\sigma_A^2 \equiv \langle (\hat{A} - \langle \hat{A} \rangle)^2 \rangle = \langle \hat{A}^2 \rangle - \langle \hat{A} \rangle^2$ .
- **Schrödinger equation:  $i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \hat{H} \psi(\mathbf{r}, t)$ .**
  - Hamiltonian  $\hat{H}$  is a (bosonic) hermitian operator.
  - For classical Hamiltonian  $H(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p})$ , the quantum Hamiltonian is  $\hat{H} = H(\hat{\mathbf{r}}, \hat{\mathbf{p}})$ , and  $\hat{H} \psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = H(\mathbf{r}, -i\hbar \partial_{\mathbf{r}}) \psi(\mathbf{r}, t)$ . For example: for non-relativistic particle,  $H = \frac{\mathbf{p}^2}{2m} + V(\mathbf{r})$ , then  $\hat{H} \psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = [-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + V(\mathbf{r})] \psi(\mathbf{r}, t)$ 
    - \* Probability current:  $\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}) \equiv \text{Re}[\psi^*(\mathbf{r}) \frac{-i\hbar \nabla}{m} \psi(\mathbf{r})]$  for non-relativistic particle.  
It satisfies the *continuity equation* for probability:  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (|\psi(\mathbf{r})|^2) + \text{div} \mathbf{J} = 0$ .
  - **Stationary states:** eigenstates for time-independent  $\hat{H}$ .  
**Stationary Schrödinger equation:  $\hat{H} \psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = E \psi(\mathbf{r}, t)$ ,**  
then  $\psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \exp(-i \frac{E \cdot t}{\hbar}) \psi(\mathbf{r}, t=0)$ . The expectation value of any observable (not explicitly involving  $t$ ) under a stationary state, does not change over time.
  - If  $\hat{H}$  is independent of time  $t$ , **generic solutions of Schrödinger equation are linear superpositions of stationary states,  $\psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \sum_n c_n e^{-iE_n t/\hbar} \psi_n(\mathbf{r})$ .**  
Here  $n$  labels energy eigenvalues (may be continuous),  $c_n$  are complex coefficients,  $E_n$  are energy eigenvalues (eigenvalues of  $\hat{H}$ ),  $\psi_n$  are eigenstate wavefunctions of  $\hat{H}$  for eigenvalue  $E_n$ .
  - Heisenberg equations of motion (Equation 3.71 in §3.5):  $\frac{d}{dt} \langle \hat{Q} \rangle = \frac{i}{\hbar} \langle [\hat{H}, \hat{Q}] \rangle + \langle \frac{\partial \hat{Q}}{\partial t} \rangle$ .  
The expectation values are taken under a solution  $\psi(t)$  of Schrödinger equation.
  - If  $\frac{\partial \hat{Q}}{\partial t} = 0$  and  $[\hat{H}, \hat{Q}] = 0$ , then observable  $\hat{Q}$  is *conserved*,  $\frac{d}{dt} \langle \hat{Q} \rangle = 0$ .

## II. ONE-DIMENSIONAL EIGENVALUE PROBLEMS ( $\sim$ CH.2)

- $\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m} + V(\hat{x})$ . Namely,  $\hat{H}\psi(x) = [-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\partial_x^2 + V(x)]\psi(x)$ .
- Qualitative features (*c.f.* Sturm-Liouville theory):
  - The “energy spectrum” (collection of energy eigenvalues) contains discrete “bound states”, between  $\min_x V(x)$  and  $\min\{V(+\infty), V(-\infty)\}$ ; and continuous “scattering states”, above  $\min\{V(+\infty), V(-\infty)\}$ .
  - Bound states are non-degenerate, bound state wavefunctions  $\psi_n(x)$ , labeled by integer  $n$ , are orthonormal,  $\langle\psi_n|\psi_{n'}\rangle = \delta_{n,n'}$ . And  $\psi_n(x)$  can be chosen real.
  - If  $V(x)$  is finite in a neighborhood of  $x$ , the eigenstate  $\psi_n(x)$  is smooth at  $x$ . If  $V(x) = +\infty$  in a neighborhood of  $x$ , the eigenstate  $\psi_n(x)$  vanishes at  $x$ .
  - Node: where  $\psi_n(x) = 0$ . (excluding the trivial case above at  $V(x) = +\infty$ ) Nodes are “simple”, where  $\psi_n(x) = 0$ ,  $\partial_x\psi_n(x) \neq 0$ .
  - For bound states, ground state (lowest energy state) wavefunction has no node;  $n$ -th excited state wavefunction has  $n$  nodes,  $x_i^{(n)}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ; nodes of adjacent levels are interpenetrating,  $x_1^{(n)} < x_1^{(n-1)} < x_2^{(n)} < x_2^{(n-1)} < \dots < x_{n-1}^{(n-1)} < x_n^{(n)}$ . NOTE: the  $n$  here may not be exactly the label(quantum number) of  $\psi_n$ .
  - Inversion symmetry: if  $V(x) = V(-x)$ , for bound states, the ground state is even function, the  $n$ -th excited state has  $\psi_n(-x) = (-1)^n\psi_n(x)$ . (see NOTE above) NOTE: the inversion center may be at  $x_0 \neq 0$ ,  $V(x_0 + x) = V(x_0 - x)$ .
- (§2.4) Free particle:  $V(x) = V_0 = \text{const.}$ 
  - System has “translation symmetry”: if  $\psi(x)$  is eigenstate of  $\hat{H}$ , then  $\psi(x + a)$  is also eigenstate with the same eigenvalue. Here  $a$  is an arbitrary real constant.
  - Eigenstates: **plane waves**,  $\psi_p(x) = \frac{e^{ipx/\hbar}}{\sqrt{2\pi\hbar}}$ ,  $E_p = \frac{p^2}{2m} + V_0$ .  $p \in \mathbb{R}$ .
  - Wave packet:  $\Psi(x, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi(p - p_0) \cdot e^{\frac{i}{\hbar}[(p-p_0)\cdot x - (E_p - E_{p_0})\cdot t]} dp \cdot \frac{\exp(\frac{i}{\hbar}(p_0\cdot x - E_{p_0}\cdot t))}{\sqrt{2\pi\hbar}}$   
 $= f(x, t) \cdot \frac{\exp(\frac{i}{\hbar}(p_0\cdot x - E_{p_0}\cdot t))}{\sqrt{2\pi\hbar}}$ . Here  $\phi(p - p_0)$  has a “narrow” peak around  $p = p_0$  (peak width  $\ll p_0$ ),  $f(x, t)$  is a “broad” envelope function (relevant length scale  $\gg \frac{\hbar}{p_0}$ ). The peak of the envelop function moves with the “**group velocity**”  $v_g \equiv \frac{\partial E_p}{\partial p}$ .

- (§2.2) Infinite square potential well:  $V(x) = \begin{cases} +\infty, & x - x_0 < 0 \text{ or } x - x_0 > a; \\ 0, & 0 < x - x_0 < a. \end{cases}$ 
  - Eigenstates: **standing waves**,  $\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \sin(\frac{n\pi}{a}(x - x_0))$ ,  $E_n = \frac{\hbar^2 n^2 \pi^2}{2ma^2}$ .  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$
- (§2.5)  $\delta$ -function potential:  $V(x) = \alpha \cdot \delta(x - x_0)$ . NOTE:  $\alpha$  has unit of (energy·length).
  - Boundary condition for eigenstates  $\psi_n(x)$  at the  $\delta$ -function potential position: integrate the stationary Schrödinger equation over an infinitesimal region  $-\delta < x - x_0 < \delta$ , and take limit  $\delta \rightarrow +0$ ,  $\left[ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \partial_x \psi_n \right]_{x=x_0-0}^{x=x_0+0} + \alpha \psi_n(x_0) = 0$ .  
If the potential contains an additional smooth part, this is still true.
  - The eigenstate wavefunction is continuous, but its 1st derivative may not be continuous, at the  $\delta$ -function potential position.
- (§2.6) Finite square potential well:  $V(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x - x_0 < -a \text{ or } x - x_0 > a; \\ -V_0, & -a < x - x_0 < a. \end{cases}$ 
  - For any positive  $V_0$  and  $a$ , there is at least one “even-parity” bound state.
  - Resonant tunneling for scattering states: when  $E = \frac{\hbar^2 n^2 \pi^2}{2m(2a)^2} - V_0 > 0$ , the would-be bound state energy for infinite square well, the “transmission coefficient” = 1.
- (§2.3) **Harmonic oscillator**:  $V(x) = \frac{m\omega^2}{2} x^2$ .
  - **Ladder operators**:  $\hat{a}_{\pm} = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}} (\hat{x} \mp \frac{i}{m\omega} \hat{p}) = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}} (x \mp \frac{\hbar}{m\omega} \partial_x)$ .  $[\hat{a}_-, \hat{a}_+] = 1$ .  
 $(\hat{a}_{\pm})^\dagger = \hat{a}_{\mp}$ .  $\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m} + \frac{m\omega^2 \hat{x}^2}{2} = \hbar\omega \cdot (\hat{a}_+ \hat{a}_- + \frac{1}{2})$ .
  - $\hat{a}_+ \hat{a}_-$  is positive semi-definite:  $\langle \psi | \hat{a}_+ \hat{a}_- | \psi \rangle = \langle (\hat{a}_+)^{\dagger} \psi | \hat{a}_- \psi \rangle = \langle \hat{a}_- \psi | \hat{a}_- \psi \rangle \geq 0$ , for any  $\psi$ . Therefore hermitian operator  $\hat{a}_+ \hat{a}_-$  has non-negative eigenvalues.
  - Commutators  $[\hat{a}_+ \hat{a}_-, \hat{a}_{\pm}] = (\pm 1) \cdot \hat{a}_{\pm}$ . Then  $\hat{a}_{\pm} | \hat{a}_+ \hat{a}_- = n \rangle \propto | \hat{a}_+ \hat{a}_- = n \pm 1 \rangle$ .
  - Therefore  $\hat{a}_+ \hat{a}_-$  eigenvalues  $n$  are non-negative integers.
  - $\psi_0(x) = (\frac{m\omega}{\hbar\pi})^{1/4} \exp(-\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar} x^2)$ , and  $\psi_n(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n!}} (\hat{a}_+)^n \psi_0(x)$ .  $E_n = \hbar\omega \cdot (n + \frac{1}{2})$ .  
 $\hat{a}_+ \psi_n = \sqrt{n+1} \psi_{n+1}$ ;  $\hat{a}_- \psi_n = \sqrt{n} \psi_{n-1}$ , in particular  $\hat{a}_- \psi_0 = 0$ .
  - See §2.3.2 for “Analytic Method” (solving differential equations):  
 $\psi_n(x) = (\frac{m\omega}{\hbar\pi})^{1/4} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2^n n!}} H_n(\frac{x}{\sqrt{\hbar/m\omega}}) \exp(-\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar} x^2)$ .  $\hat{H}_n$  are Hermite polynomials.
    - \*  $e^{-(x-t)^2} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^n}{n!} H_n(x) e^{-x^2}$ . [Related to the “coherent state”].
    - \*  $H_{n+1}(x) = 2x \cdot H_n(x) - 2n \cdot H_{n-1}(x)$ . [Check  $\hat{x} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}} (\hat{a}_- + \hat{a}_+)$ ].

III. THREE-DIMENSIONAL PROBLEMS ( $\sim$  CH.4)

- Central potential problem:  $\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m} + V(r)$ . Potential  $V$  depends only on radius  $r$ .
  - Separation of variables in polar coordinates  $(r, \theta, \phi)$ :  

$$\hat{H} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + V(r) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left[ \frac{1}{r^2} \partial_r (r^2 \partial_r) - \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\hat{L}^2}{\hbar^2} \right] + V(r).$$

$$\hat{L}^2 = -\hbar^2 \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \partial_\theta (\sin \theta \partial_\theta) + \frac{1}{(\sin \theta)^2} \partial_\phi^2 \right].$$
  - Eigenstates are of the form  $\psi(r, \theta, \phi) = R(r) \cdot Y_\ell^m(\theta, \phi)$ .
  - “spherical harmonics”:  $Y_\ell^m(\theta, \phi) = \begin{cases} (-1)^m \sqrt{\frac{2\ell+1}{4\pi} \frac{(l-|m|)!}{(l+|m|)!}} P_\ell^m(\cos \theta) e^{im\phi}, & m \geq 0; \\ \sqrt{\frac{2\ell+1}{4\pi} \frac{(l-|m|)!}{(l+|m|)!}} P_\ell^m(\cos \theta) e^{im\phi}, & m < 0. \end{cases}$ 
    - \* “associated Legendre polynomial”:  $P_\ell^m(x) = (1-x^2)^{|m|/2} \left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^{|m|} P_\ell(x)$ .
    - \* “Legendre polynomial”:  $P_\ell(x) = \frac{1}{2^\ell \ell!} \left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^\ell [(x^2-1)^\ell]$ .
    - \* “orbital angular momentum quantum number”  $\ell$  is a non-negative integer.
    - \* “magnetic quantum number”  $m = -\ell, -\ell+1, \dots, \ell$ , is integer.
    - \* Orthonormal property:  $\int_0^\pi \sin \theta d\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi [Y_\ell^m(\theta, \phi)]^* Y_{\ell'}^{m'}(\theta, \phi) = \delta_{\ell, \ell'} \delta_{m, m'}$ .
  - Radial equation: define  $u(r) \equiv r \cdot R(r)$ , it satisfies a 1D Schrödinger equation,  

$$\left[ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \partial_r^2 + V(r) + \frac{\hbar^2 \ell(\ell+1)}{2mr^2} \right] u(r) = E \cdot u(r).$$
 Here  $\frac{\hbar^2 \ell(\ell+1)}{2mr^2}$  is the “centrifugal potential”.  $E$  is the energy eigenvalue.
    - \*  $R(r) \sim r^\ell$  when  $r \rightarrow 0$ , for normalizable eigenfunction.
    - \* Energy eigenvalues depend on  $\ell$  and another “principal quantum number”, but will be **independent of  $m$** , so **at least  $(2\ell+1)$ -fold degenerate**.
- Example: free particle,  $V(r) = V_0 = \text{const}$ .
  - Spherical waves:  $\psi_k(r, \theta, \phi) \propto j_\ell(kr) Y_\ell^m(\theta, \phi)$ ,  $E = V_0 + \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m}$ .
  - “spherical Bessel function”:  $j_\ell(x) = (-x)^\ell \left(\frac{1}{x} \frac{d}{dx}\right)^\ell \left(\frac{\sin x}{x}\right)$ .  
 $j_\ell(x) \sim x^\ell$  when  $x \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\sim \frac{\sin(x - \frac{\ell}{2}\pi)}{x}$  when  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ .
  - “spherical Neumann function”:  $n_\ell(x) = -(-x)^\ell \left(\frac{1}{x} \frac{d}{dx}\right)^\ell \left(\frac{\cos x}{x}\right)$ .  
 $n_\ell(x) \sim x^{-\ell-1}$  when  $x \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\sim -\frac{\cos(x - \frac{\ell}{2}\pi)}{x}$  when  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ .
- Example: finite spherical potential well:  $V(r) = \begin{cases} -V_0, & r < a; \\ 0, & r > a. \end{cases}$ 
  - If  $V_0$  or  $a$  is too small, there will be NO bound state. See Textbook Problem 4.9.

- Example: 3D harmonic oscillator (Textbook Problem 4.38, 4.39),  $V(r) = \frac{m\omega^2 r^2}{2}$ .
  - $E_{n\ell m} = \hbar\omega \cdot (n + \frac{3}{2})$ . Here  $(n - \ell)$  is an even non-negative integer.
  - Side remark: the degeneracy  $\frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}$  is higher than  $(2\ell + 1)$ , due to a hidden  $SU(3)$  symmetry, higher than just 3D rotation symmetry  $SO(3)$ . There are more conserved observables than the orbital angular momentum  $\hat{\mathbf{L}}$ , including
 
$$\hat{x}\hat{y} + \frac{\hat{p}_x\hat{p}_y}{m^2\omega^2}, \hat{y}\hat{z} + \frac{\hat{p}_y\hat{p}_z}{m^2\omega^2}, \hat{z}\hat{x} + \frac{\hat{p}_z\hat{p}_x}{m^2\omega^2}, \hat{x}^2 - \hat{y}^2 + \frac{\hat{p}_x^2 - \hat{p}_y^2}{m^2\omega^2}, \hat{x}^2 + \hat{y}^2 - 2\hat{z}^2 + \frac{\hat{p}_x^2 + \hat{p}_y^2 - 2\hat{p}_z^2}{m^2\omega^2},$$
- (§4.2) Example: “hydrogen atom”,  $V(r) = -\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r}$ , here  $e$  is elementary charge.
  - $E_{n\ell m} = E_1 \cdot \frac{1}{n^2}$ . Here  $(n - \ell)$  is a positive integer.
  - The “Rydberg energy”  $E_1 = -\frac{m}{2\hbar^2} (\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0})^2 = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} (\frac{1}{a_0})^2 = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{a_0} \approx -13.6\text{eV}$ .  
The “Bohr radius”  $a_0 = \frac{\hbar^2}{m} \frac{4\pi\epsilon_0}{e^2} \approx 0.53\text{\AA}$ .
  - Ground state wavefunction  $\psi_{100} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi a_0^3}} e^{-r/a_0}$ .
  - $\psi_{n\ell m} = \sqrt{(\frac{2}{na_0})^3 \frac{(n-\ell-1)!}{2n[(n+\ell)!]^3}} e^{-r/na_0} (\frac{2r}{na_0})^\ell L_{n-\ell-1}^{2\ell+1}(\frac{2r}{na_0}) Y_\ell^m(\theta, \phi)$ . (see §4.2).
  - Side remark: the degeneracy  $n^2$  is higher than  $(2\ell + 1)$ , due to a hidden  $SO(4)$  symmetry, higher than just 3D rotation symmetry  $SO(3)$ . There are more conserved observables than the orbital angular momentum  $\hat{\mathbf{L}}$ , including the Laplace-Runge-Lenz vector,  $\hat{\mathbf{A}} \equiv -(\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0}) \cdot m \cdot \frac{\hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r} + \frac{1}{2}(\hat{\mathbf{p}} \times \hat{\mathbf{L}} - \hat{\mathbf{L}} \times \hat{\mathbf{p}})$ .
- (§4.3) Orbital angular momentum:  $\hat{\mathbf{L}} = \hat{\mathbf{r}} \times \hat{\mathbf{p}}$ , or  $\hat{L}_a = \epsilon_{abc} \hat{r}_b \hat{p}_c$ .
  - Levi-Civita symbol:  $\epsilon_{abc} = \begin{cases} +1, & abc = xyz, yzx, zxy; \\ -1, & abc = zyx, xzy, yxz; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$   $\epsilon_{abc}\epsilon_{adf} = \delta_{bd}\delta_{cf} - \delta_{bf}\delta_{cd}$ .
  - $\hat{L}_a$  are all hermitian (observable).  $[\hat{L}_a, \hat{L}_b] = i\hbar\epsilon_{abc}\hat{L}_c$ , or  $\hat{\mathbf{L}} \times \hat{\mathbf{L}} = i\hbar\hat{\mathbf{L}}$ .
  - $\hat{\mathbf{L}}^2 \equiv \hat{L}_x^2 + \hat{L}_y^2 + \hat{L}_z^2$  is hermitian and positive semi-definite.  $[\hat{\mathbf{L}}^2, \hat{L}_a] = 0$ .
  - Ladder operators:  $\hat{L}_\pm = \hat{L}_x \pm i\hat{L}_y$ .  $(\hat{L}_\pm)^\dagger = \hat{L}_\mp$ ,  $[\hat{L}_z, \hat{L}_\pm] = \pm\hbar\hat{L}_\pm$ ,  $[\hat{\mathbf{L}}^2, \hat{L}_\pm] = 0$ .
  - In polar coordinates,  $\hat{L}_a$  does not depend on radius  $r$ .  
 $\hat{L}_z = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}$ ,  $\hat{L}_\pm = \pm\hbar e^{\pm i\phi} (\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \pm i \cot \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi})$
  - Simultaneous eigenstates of  $\hat{\mathbf{L}}^2$  and  $\hat{L}_z$ :  $|\ell, m\rangle \equiv |\hat{\mathbf{L}}^2 = \ell(\ell+1)\hbar^2, \hat{L}_z = m\hbar\rangle$ .  
Here  $\ell$  is non-negative integer,  $m = -\ell, -\ell+1, \dots, \ell$ .



- \* Proof: suppose we have  $|\hat{\mathbf{L}}^2 = \alpha\hbar^2, \hat{L}_z = \beta\hbar\rangle$ , by the commutation relations,  $\hat{L}_\pm|\hat{\mathbf{L}}^2 = \alpha\hbar^2, \hat{L}_z = \beta\hbar\rangle \propto |\hat{\mathbf{L}}^2 = \alpha\hbar^2, \hat{L}_z = (\beta \pm 1)\hbar\rangle$ . By  $\hat{\mathbf{L}}^2 = \hat{L}_z(\hat{L}_z \pm 1) + \hat{L}_\mp \hat{L}_\pm$ ,  $\hat{L}_\mp \hat{L}_\pm$  is positive semi-definite, we have  $\alpha \geq \beta(\beta \pm 1)$ . The “ladder” of  $\beta$  generated by  $\hat{L}_\pm$  must be truncated on both sides. Namely, there is a  $\beta_{\max}$  such that (s.t.)  $\hat{L}_+|\hat{\mathbf{L}}^2 = \alpha\hbar^2, \hat{L}_z = \beta_{\max}\hbar\rangle = 0$ , and a  $\beta_{\min}$  s.t.  $\hat{L}_-|\hat{\mathbf{L}}^2 = \alpha\hbar^2, \hat{L}_z = \beta_{\min}\hbar\rangle = 0$ .  $\beta_{\max} - \beta_{\min}$  is non-negative integer. Then  $\alpha = \beta_{\max}(\beta_{\max} + 1) = \beta_{\min}(\beta_{\min} - 1)$ . The solution is  $\beta_{\max} = -\beta_{\min} = \ell$ ,  $\alpha = \ell(\ell + 1)$ , and  $\beta_{\max} - \beta_{\min} = 2\ell$  is non-negative integer.
- \* For orbital angular momentum, consider  $\hat{L}_z = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}$ , and the fact that the wavefunction  $\psi(r, \theta, \phi) = \psi(r, \theta, \phi + 2\pi)$ , the  $m$  must be integer, then the  $\ell$  must also be integer. For rigorous argument, see Textbook Problem 4.57.
- Wavefunction for  $|\ell, m\rangle$ :  $R(r)Y_\ell^m(\theta, \phi)$ .
- $\hat{L}_\pm|\ell, m\rangle = \hbar\sqrt{(\ell \mp m)(\ell \pm m + 1)}|\ell, m \pm 1\rangle$ , under Condon-Shortley convention.  
NOTE: this fixes the relative phases between  $|\ell, m\rangle$  states with different  $m$ .
- (§4.4.1) Spin-1/2: internal 2-dimensional Hilbert space.
  - Spin angular momentum operators:  $\hat{\mathbf{S}}$ .  $[\hat{S}_a, \hat{S}_b] = i\hbar\epsilon_{abc}\hat{S}_c$ .
  - Two basis states:  $|S = \frac{1}{2}, S_z = +\frac{1}{2}\rangle, |S = \frac{1}{2}, S_z = -\frac{1}{2}\rangle$ . (Usually  $|\uparrow\rangle, |\downarrow\rangle$ )
  - Under above basis,  $\hat{S}_a = \frac{\hbar}{2}\sigma_a$ ,  $\sigma_a$  are Pauli matrices.
  - $\sigma_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\sigma_y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\sigma_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\sigma_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .  $\sigma_a\sigma_b = \delta_{ab}\sigma_0 + i\epsilon_{abc}\sigma_c$ .  
So commutator  $[\sigma_a, \sigma_b] = 2i\epsilon_{abc}\sigma_c$ , anti-commutator  $\{\sigma_a, \sigma_b\} = 2\delta_{ab}\sigma_0$ .
  - Spin-1/2 state:  $|\psi\rangle = \psi_\uparrow|\uparrow\rangle + \psi_\downarrow|\downarrow\rangle$ , also written as  $\begin{pmatrix} \psi_\uparrow \\ \psi_\downarrow \end{pmatrix}$ .  
The expectation values of spin operators are  $\langle\psi|\hat{S}_a|\psi\rangle = \frac{\hbar}{2} \cdot (\psi_\uparrow^*, \psi_\downarrow^*) \cdot \sigma_a \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \psi_\uparrow \\ \psi_\downarrow \end{pmatrix}$ .  
Here  $\psi_\uparrow, \psi_\downarrow$  are complex numbers, with normalization  $|\psi_\uparrow|^2 + |\psi_\downarrow|^2 = 1$ .
  - Spinor wavefunction: the spin-1/2 wavefunctions may depend on  $\mathbf{r}$  (or other degrees of freedom),  $\begin{pmatrix} \psi_\uparrow(\mathbf{r}) \\ \psi_\downarrow(\mathbf{r}) \end{pmatrix}$ . The normalization is  $\int [|\psi_\uparrow(\mathbf{r})|^2 + |\psi_\downarrow(\mathbf{r})|^2] d\mathbf{r} = 1$ .  
This is also written as  $\psi(\mathbf{r}, s)$  with  $s = \uparrow, \downarrow$ , and  $\sum_s \int d\mathbf{r} |\psi(\mathbf{r}, s)|^2 = 1$ .
  - Larmor precession (§4.4):  $\hat{H} = -\gamma \mathbf{B} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{S}} = -\gamma B_b \hat{S}_b$ . By the Heisenberg equation of motion,  $\frac{d}{dt}\langle\hat{S}_a\rangle = \frac{i}{\hbar}\langle[\hat{H}, \hat{S}_a]\rangle = \gamma\epsilon_{bac}B_b\langle\hat{S}_c\rangle$ , or  $\frac{d}{dt}\langle\hat{\mathbf{S}}\rangle = -\gamma \mathbf{B} \times \langle\hat{\mathbf{S}}\rangle$ . So  $\langle\hat{\mathbf{S}}\rangle$  will rotate around  $\mathbf{B}$  without changing length and angle between  $\langle\hat{\mathbf{S}}\rangle$  and  $\mathbf{B}$ .

- (§4.4.3) Addition of angular momentum:
  - Consider two independent Hilbert spaces,  $\mathcal{H}_{J_1}$  and  $\mathcal{H}_{J_2}$ , with complete orthonormal basis  $|J_1, m_1\rangle$  and  $|J_2, m_2\rangle$  respectively. Here  $m_i = -J_i, -J_i + 1, \dots, J_i$ .
  - In each  $\mathcal{H}_{J_i}$ , there are angular momentum operators  $\hat{J}_{i,a}$ , satisfying  $[\hat{J}_{i,a}, \hat{J}_{i,b}] = i\hbar\epsilon_{abc}\hat{J}_{i,c}$ ,  $\hat{J}_{i,z}|J_i, m_i\rangle = \hbar m_i|J_i, m_i\rangle$ ,  $\hat{J}_{i,\pm} \equiv \hat{J}_{i,x} \pm i\hat{J}_{i,y}$ , and  $\hat{J}_{i,\pm}|J_i, m_i\rangle = \hbar\sqrt{(J_i \mp m_i)(J_i \pm m_i + 1)}|J_i, m_i \pm 1\rangle$ .
  - Make the tensor product Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}_{J_1} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{J_2}$ , with  $(2J_1+1)(2J_2+1)$  complete orthonormal basis  $|J_1, m_1\rangle \otimes |J_2, m_2\rangle$  (usuall just  $|J_1, m_1\rangle|J_2, m_2\rangle$ ).
  - In  $\mathcal{H}_{J_1} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{J_2}$ , define total angular momentum operators  $\hat{J}_a = \hat{J}_{1,a} + \hat{J}_{2,a}$ . Here  $\hat{J}_{1,a}$  ( $\hat{J}_{2,a}$ ) acts only on the first (second) factor of  $|J_1, m_1\rangle|J_2, m_2\rangle$  basis, so actually  $\hat{J}_a = \hat{J}_{1,a} \otimes \mathbb{1}_{J_2} + \mathbb{1}_{J_1} \otimes \hat{J}_{2,a}$ , where  $\mathbb{1}_{J_i}$  is the identity operator(matrix) in  $\mathcal{H}_{J_i}$ .  $\hat{\mathbf{J}}$  still satisfies  $[\hat{J}_a, \hat{J}_b] = i\hbar\epsilon_{abc}\hat{J}_c$ . So we can find simultaneous eigenstates of  $\hat{\mathbf{J}}^2$  and  $\hat{J}_z$  in  $\mathcal{H}_{J_1} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{J_2}$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{J}}^2|J, m\rangle = \hbar^2 J(J+1)|J, m\rangle$  and  $\hat{J}_z|J, m\rangle = \hbar m|J, m\rangle$ .
  - **Clebsch-Gordon theorem: the total angular momentum quantum number  $J$  can be  $|J_1 - J_2|$ , or  $(|J_1 - J_2| + 1), \dots$ , up to  $(J_1 + J_2)$ .**
    - \* This means that by some unitary transformation (basis change), the tensor product Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}_{J_1} \otimes \mathcal{H}_{J_2} \sim \mathcal{H}_{|J_1-J_2|} \oplus \mathcal{H}_{|J_1-J_2|+1} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{H}_{J_1+J_2}$ , the direct sum of subspaces with fixed  $J$  quantum number. As consistency check, the dimensions match,  $(2J_1+1)(2J_2+1) = \sum_{J=|J_1-J_2|}^{J_1+J_2} (2J+1)$ .
  - **Clebsch-Gordon coefficient (C-G coefficient):**  $C_{m_1 m_2 m}^{J_1 J_2 J}$ , also  $\langle J_1, m_1; J_2, m_2 | J, m \rangle$ .
    - \* Definition:  $|J, m\rangle = \sum_{m_1, m_2} C_{m_1 m_2 m}^{J_1 J_2 J} |J_1, m_1\rangle |J_2, m_2\rangle$ .
    - \*  $C_{m_1 m_2 m}^{J_1 J_2 J}$  is a  $(2J_1+1)(2J_2+1)$ -dimensional unitary matrix, if we view  $(J, m)$  combination as row index,  $(m_1, m_2)$  combination as column index.
    - \* Selection rule: for non-zero  $C_{m_1 m_2 m}^{J_1 J_2 J}$ ,  $m = m_1 + m_2$ , because  $\hat{J}_z = \hat{J}_{1,z} + \hat{J}_{2,z}$ ; and  $J$  must be one of  $|J_1 - J_2|, (|J_1 - J_2| + 1), \dots, (J_1 + J_2)$ .
    - \* By  $0 = \hat{J}_+|J, J\rangle = (\hat{J}_{1,+} + \hat{J}_{2,+}) \sum_{m_1, m_2} C_{m_1 m_2 J}^{J_1 J_2 J} |J_1, m_1\rangle |J_2, m_2\rangle$ . We have  $\sqrt{(J_1 - m_1 + 1)(J_1 + m_1)} C_{m_1-1, m_2, J}^{J_1 J_2 J} = -\sqrt{(J_2 - m_2 + 1)(J_2 + m_2)} C_{m_1, m_2-1, J}^{J_1 J_2 J}$ . This solves all  $C_{m_1, m_2, J}^{J_1 J_2 J}$  up to overall factor.
  - Example: two spin-1/2, total spin  $S$  can be  $S = 0 = |\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}|$  (**spin singlet**) or  $S = 1 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$  (**spin triplet**). See §4.4.3.

IV. IDENTICAL PARTICLES ( $\sim$  CH.5)

- Generic  $N$ -particle wavefunction:  $\psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N, t)$ ,  $\int |\psi|^2 \prod_i d\mathbf{r}_i = 1$ ,  $i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi = \hat{H}_N \psi$ , and  $\hat{H}_N = H_N(\hat{\mathbf{r}}_1, \hat{\mathbf{p}}_1, \dots, \hat{\mathbf{r}}_N, \hat{\mathbf{p}}_N)$ ,  $\hat{H}_N \psi = H_N(\mathbf{r}_1, -i\hbar \partial_{\mathbf{r}_1}, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N, -i\hbar \partial_{\mathbf{r}_N}) \psi$ .
- *Non-interacting particles*:  $\hat{H}_N = \sum_{i=1}^N H_{1,i}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}_i, \hat{\mathbf{p}}_i)$ . If  $\hat{H}_{1,i}$  has eigenstates  $\psi_{k_i,i}(\mathbf{r})$  with eigenvalue  $E_{k_i,i}$  ( $k_i$  labels eigenstates of  $\hat{H}_{1,i}$ ), then  $\psi_{k_1,1}(\mathbf{r}_1) \cdots \psi_{k_N,N}(\mathbf{r}_N)$  is an eigenstate of  $\hat{H}_N$  with eigenvalue  $\sum_{i=1}^N E_{k_i,i}$ . **These direct product wavefunctions form complete orthonormal basis for  $N$ -particle Hilbert space of distinguishable particles.**
  - Generic  $N$ -particle states will be superpositions of the direct product basis, and may be *entangled* (cannot be written as a direct product state).
- **For identical particles, legitimate observables  $\hat{O}_N(\hat{\mathbf{r}}_1, \hat{\mathbf{p}}_1, \dots, \hat{\mathbf{r}}_N, \hat{\mathbf{p}}_N)$  including  $\hat{H}_N$  must be invariant under permutations of particle labels  $1, 2, \dots, N$ , so that the particles are indistinguishable.** For example, non-interacting  $\hat{H}_N$  must be  $\hat{H}_N = \sum_{i=1}^N H_1(\hat{\mathbf{r}}_i, \hat{\mathbf{p}}_i)$ , the sum of identical 1-particle Hamiltonians for each particle.
  - For example, 2-particle potentials must be  $\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j,i \neq j} V(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_j)$ . Here the  $\frac{1}{2}$  factor is to remove double-counting of the same  $(i, j)$  pair, and  $V(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_j) = V(\mathbf{r}_j, \mathbf{r}_i)$ .
- Permutation group  $S_N$  (not required): *permutation*  $\sigma$ , rearrangement of  $\{1, \dots, N\}$ .  $\sigma(i)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, N$  is also a number in  $1, \dots, N$ , and  $\sigma(i) \neq \sigma(j)$  for  $i \neq j$ . Also represented by  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \cdots & n \\ \sigma(1) & \sigma(2) & \cdots & \sigma(n) \end{pmatrix}$ . There are  $N!$  distinct permutations in  $S_N$ .
  - Product  $\sigma \cdot \mu$  (usually just  $\sigma\mu$ ) of permutations  $\sigma$  and  $\mu$ :  $(\sigma \cdot \mu)(i) = \sigma(\mu(i))$ .
  - Identity permutation  $\mathbf{1}$ :  $\mathbf{1}(i) = i$ . So  $\sigma \cdot \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{1} \cdot \sigma = \sigma$ .
  - Inverse  $\sigma^{-1}$  of a permutation  $\sigma$ :  $\sigma^{-1} \cdot \sigma = \sigma \cdot \sigma^{-1} = \mathbf{1}$ .
  - *Transposition*  $\sigma_{i,j}$  ( $i \neq j$ ): swap of  $i, j$  only,  $\sigma(i) = j$ ,  $\sigma(j) = i$ , and  $\sigma(k) = k$  for  $k \neq i, j$ . Note that  $\sigma_{i,j} \cdot \sigma_{i,j} = \mathbf{1}$ .
  - Any permutation can be represented as a (non-unique) product of transpositions. For example,  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \sigma_{2,4}\sigma_{1,3}\sigma_{1,2} = \sigma_{1,3}\sigma_{1,2}\sigma_{1,4} = \sigma_{3,4}\sigma_{2,3}\sigma_{3,4}\sigma_{1,2}\sigma_{2,3} = \dots$
  - Even(odd) permutations: product of even(odd) number of transpositions.  
*Signature (sign)*  $\text{sgn}(\sigma) = \pm 1$  for even(odd) permutation  $\sigma$ .

- For *identical particles*, a legitimate wavefunction  $\psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N)$  should be invariant (up to overall complex phase factor) under permutations of particle labels  $1, \dots, N$ .
  - $\psi(\mathbf{r}_{\sigma(1)}, \mathbf{r}_{\sigma(2)}, \dots, \mathbf{r}_{\sigma(N)}) = R(\sigma) \cdot \psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N)$ , here  $R(\sigma)$  is a complex phase factor ( $|R(\sigma)| = 1$ ) that depends only on the permutation  $\sigma$ .
  - $R(\sigma\mu) = R(\sigma)R(\mu)$ . Then  $[R(\sigma_{i,j})]^2 = R(\mathbf{1}) = 1$ , so  $R(\sigma_{i,j}) = \pm 1$ , and because  $\sigma_{i',j'} = \sigma_{i,i'}\sigma_{j,j'}\sigma_{i,j}\sigma_{i,i'}\sigma_{j,j'}$ ,  $R(\sigma_{i',j'}) = [R(\sigma_{i,i'})]^2[R(\sigma_{j,j'})]^2R(\sigma_{i,j}) = R(\sigma_{i,j})$ .
  - **Bosons:**  $R(\sigma_{i,j}) = +1$ , then  $R(\sigma) = +1$  for permutation  $\sigma$ .  $\psi$  is fully symmetric.
  - **Fermions:**  $R(\sigma_{i,j}) = -1$ , then  $R(\sigma) = \text{sgn}(\sigma)$ .  $\psi$  is fully anti-symmetric.
  - Given 1-particle basis  $\psi_k(\mathbf{r})$  labeled by quantum number  $k$ ,  $N$ -identical-particle state with 1 particle in  $\psi_{k_1}$ , 1 particle in  $\psi_{k_2}, \dots$ , 1 particle in  $\psi_{k_N}$ , is:
    - bosons:  $\propto \sum_{\sigma} \psi_{k_1}(\mathbf{r}_{\sigma(1)}) \cdots \psi_{k_N}(\mathbf{r}_{\sigma(N)}) = \text{perm}[\psi_{k_i}(\mathbf{r}_j)]$ ;
    - fermions:  $\frac{1}{N!} \sum_{\sigma} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \cdot \prod_{i=1}^N \psi_{k_i}(\mathbf{r}_{\sigma(i)}) = \frac{1}{N!} \det[\psi_{k_i}(\mathbf{r}_j)]$ . (**Slater determinant**)
  - **Pauli exclusion principle:** if  $k_i = k_j$  for  $i \neq j$ , the above anti-symmetrized  $N$  fermion state vanishes. Fermions cannot occupy the same 1-particle state twice.
- Spinful wavefunctions:  $\psi(\mathbf{r}_1, s_1; \mathbf{r}_2, s_2; \dots; \mathbf{r}_N, s_N)$ . Here  $s_i$  labels discrete internal states (*e.g.* spin) of particle  $i$ .
  - $\psi(\mathbf{r}_{\sigma(1)}, s_{\sigma(1)}; \dots; \mathbf{r}_{\sigma(N)}, s_{\sigma(N)}) = \psi(\mathbf{r}_1, s_1; \dots; \mathbf{r}_N, s_N)$  for bosons;
  - $\psi(\mathbf{r}_{\sigma(1)}, s_{\sigma(1)}; \dots; \mathbf{r}_{\sigma(N)}, s_{\sigma(N)}) = \text{sgn}(\sigma) \cdot \psi(\mathbf{r}_1, s_1; \dots; \mathbf{r}_N, s_N)$  for fermions.
  - Simple case:  $\psi = \psi_{\text{orbital}}(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N) \chi_{\text{spin}}(s_1, \dots, s_N)$  factorizes into orbital and spin wavefunctions. Here  $\chi_{\text{spin}}$  is a complex number for given  $(s_1, \dots, s_N)$ . The permutation signs will be distributed to the orbital and spin wavefunctions.
  - For two spin-1/2 identical particles, the spin wavefunction can be anti-symmetric (spin singlet),  $\chi_{\text{spin}}(\uparrow, \downarrow) = -\chi_{\text{spin}}(\downarrow, \uparrow) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ ,  $\chi_{\text{spin}}(\uparrow, \uparrow) = \chi_{\text{spin}}(\downarrow, \downarrow) = 0$ , then  $\psi_{\text{orbital}}$  is anti-symmetric/symmetric for bosons/fermions respectively.
  - The spin triplet states for two spin-1/2 are symmetric.  $|S=1, S_z=1\rangle = |\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$ ,  $|S=1, S_z=0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$ ,  $|S=1, S_z=-1\rangle = |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$ . Then  $\psi_{\text{orbital}}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2)$  is symmetric/anti-symmetric for bosons/fermions respectively.
  - For  $N$  spin-1/2, the highest total spin (total  $S = \frac{N}{2}$ ) states are fully symmetric,  $|S = \frac{N}{2}, S_z\rangle \propto (\hat{S}_-)^{\frac{N}{2}-S_z} |S = \frac{N}{2}, S_z = \frac{N}{2}\rangle = (\sum_i \hat{S}_{i,-})^{\frac{N}{2}-S_z} |\uparrow \dots \uparrow\rangle$ .

V. TIME-INDEPENDENT PERTURBATION THEORY ( $\sim$  CH.6)

- The problem: time-independent Hamiltonian  $\hat{H} = \hat{H}^{(0)} + \lambda \hat{H}^{(1)}$ ,  $\lambda$  is a “small” real parameter.  $\hat{H}^{(0)}$  has complete orthonormal eigenstates  $\psi_n^{(0)}$  with eigenvalues  $E_n^{(0)}$ . Solve the eigenvalues and eigenstates of  $\hat{H}$  as (asymptotic) series of  $\lambda$ .
- Non-degenerate perturbation: energy level  $E_n^{(0)}$  is non-degenerate. Assume the  $n$ -th eigenvalue for  $\hat{H}$  is  $E_n = E_n^{(0)} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda^k E_n^{(k)}$ , and eigenstate  $\psi_n \propto \psi_n^{(0)} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda^k \psi_n^{(k)}$ .
  - Here  $\psi_n^{(k)}$  is not normalized, and  $\langle \psi_n^{(k)} | \psi_n^{(0)} \rangle = 0$  for  $k \geq 1$  can be assumed without loss of generality: If  $\langle \psi_n^{(k)} | \psi_n^{(0)} \rangle \neq 0$ , define  $|\tilde{\psi}_n^{(k)}\rangle = |\psi_n^{(k)}\rangle - |\psi_n^{(0)}\rangle \langle \psi_n^{(0)} | \psi_n^{(k)} \rangle$ , then  $\langle \tilde{\psi}_n^{(k)} | \psi_n^{(0)} \rangle = 0$ , and  $|\psi_n\rangle \propto (1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda^k \langle \psi_n^{(0)} | \psi_n^{(k)} \rangle) |\psi_n^{(0)}\rangle + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda^k |\tilde{\psi}_n^{(k)}\rangle \propto |\psi_n^{(0)}\rangle + \frac{1}{1 + \sum_{k'=1}^{\infty} \lambda^{k'} \langle \psi_n^{(0)} | \psi_n^{(k')} \rangle} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda^k |\tilde{\psi}_n^{(k)}\rangle$ , the 2nd term is orthogonal to  $\psi_n^{(0)}$  and can be re-expanded into Taylor series of  $\lambda$ .
  - Then  $|\psi_n^{(k)}\rangle = \sum_{m, m \neq n} |\psi_m^{(0)}\rangle \cdot c_m^{(k)}$ , for  $k \geq 1$ . And  $c_m^{(k=0)} \equiv \delta_{m,n}$ .
  - $\hat{H}|\psi_n\rangle = E_n|\psi_n\rangle$  expanded to  $\lambda^k$  order is ( $k \geq 1$ ),
 
$$\hat{H}^{(0)}|\psi_n^{(k)}\rangle + \hat{H}^{(1)}|\psi_n^{(k-1)}\rangle = \sum_{j=0}^k E_n^{(j)}|\psi_n^{(k-j)}\rangle. \quad [1]$$
  - Overlap Eq. [1] with  $\langle \psi_n^{(0)} |$ , use  $\langle \psi_n^{(0)} | \hat{H}^{(0)} = E_n^{(0)} \langle \psi_n^{(0)} |$ ,
 
$$\langle \psi_n^{(0)} | \hat{H}^{(1)} |\psi_n^{(k-1)}\rangle = E_n^{(k)}. \quad [2]$$
 For  $k > 1$ , this is  $\sum_{m, m \neq n} \langle \psi_n^{(0)} | \hat{H}^{(1)} |\psi_m^{(0)}\rangle c_m^{(k-1)} = E_n^{(k)}$ .
  - Overlap Eq. [1] with  $\langle \psi_m^{(0)} |$ , for  $m \neq n$ ,
 
$$\sum_{m', m' \neq n} \langle \psi_m^{(0)} | \hat{H}^{(1)} |\psi_{m'}^{(0)}\rangle c_{m'}^{(k-1)} - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} E_n^{(j)} c_m^{(k-j)} = (E_n^{(0)} - E_m^{(0)}) c_m^{(k)}. \quad [3]$$
  - $E_n^{(k)}$  and  $c_m^{(k)}$  can be solved recursively from Eq. [2,3].
  - **1st order perturbation:**  $E_n^{(1)} = \langle \psi_n^{(0)} | \hat{H}^{(1)} | \psi_n^{(0)} \rangle$ ,  $c_m^{(1)} = \frac{\langle \psi_m^{(0)} | \hat{H}^{(1)} | \psi_n^{(0)} \rangle}{E_n^{(0)} - E_m^{(0)}}$ .
  - **2nd order perturbation:**  $E_n^{(2)} = \sum_{m, m \neq n} \frac{\langle \psi_n^{(0)} | \hat{H}^{(1)} | \psi_m^{(0)} \rangle \langle \psi_m^{(0)} | \hat{H}^{(1)} | \psi_n^{(0)} \rangle}{E_n^{(0)} - E_m^{(0)}}$ .  
 2nd order perturbation always lowers the ground state energy, because the denominator is negative, and numerator  $|\langle \psi_n^{(0)} | \hat{H}^{(1)} | \psi_m^{(0)} \rangle|^2$  is non-negative.
  - Side remark: each term in  $E_n^{(k)}$  can be viewed as a “virtual”  $k$ -step transition process, starting and ending at  $\psi_n^{(0)}$ . Each step contribute a matrix element of  $\hat{H}^{(1)}$ , and there are  $k - 1$  energy difference  $E_n^{(0)} -$  (intermediate state energy) in the denominator. For notation simplicity, define  $T_{n,m} \equiv \langle \psi_n^{(0)} | \hat{H}^{(1)} | \psi_m^{(0)} \rangle$ ,  $\Delta_{n,m} \equiv E_n^{(0)} - E_m^{(0)}$ , and  $\sum'_m$  as  $\sum_{m, m \neq n}$ . We have

- \* 3rd order (not required):  $E_n^{(3)} = \sum'_m \sum'_p \frac{T_{n,m} T_{m,p} T_{p,n}}{\Delta_{n,m} \Delta_{n,p}} - \sum'_m \frac{T_{n,m} T_{m,n}}{(\Delta_{n,m})^2} T_{n,n}$ .
- \* 4th order (not required):  $E_n^{(4)} = \sum'_m \sum'_p \sum'_q \frac{T_{n,m} T_{m,p} T_{p,q} T_{q,n}}{\Delta_{n,m} \Delta_{n,p} \Delta_{n,q}} - (\sum'_m \sum'_p \frac{T_{n,m} T_{m,p} T_{p,n}}{(\Delta_{n,m})^2 \Delta_{n,p}} - \sum'_m \frac{T_{n,m} T_{m,n} T_{n,n}}{(\Delta_{n,m})^3}) T_{n,n} - \sum'_m \frac{T_{n,m} T_{m,n}}{(\Delta_{n,m})^2} \sum'_p \frac{T_{n,p} T_{p,n}}{\Delta_{n,p}}$ .
- Non-degenerate perturbation theory is good for  $|\langle \psi_n^{(0)} | \lambda \hat{H}^{(1)} | \psi_m^{(0)} \rangle| \ll |E_n^{(0)} - E_m^{(0)}|$ .
- Example: harmonic oscillator under constant force,
 
$$\hat{H}^{(0)} = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m} + \frac{m\omega^2 \hat{x}^2}{2} = \hbar\omega(\hat{a}_+ \hat{a}_- + \frac{1}{2}), E_n^{(0)} = \hbar\omega(n + \frac{1}{2}), |\psi_n^{(0)}\rangle = \frac{(\hat{a}_+)^n}{\sqrt{n!}} |\psi_0^{(0)}\rangle.$$

$$\lambda \hat{H}^{(1)} = -f \hat{x} = -f \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}} (\hat{a}_+ + \hat{a}_-). \text{ (Let } \lambda = 1 \text{ here, or view } f \text{ as the parameter)}$$
  - \*  $\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m} + \frac{m\omega^2(\hat{x} - f/m\omega^2)^2}{2} - \frac{f^2}{2m\omega^2}$ . Exact eigenvalues are  $E_n = \hbar\omega(n + \frac{1}{2}) - \frac{f^2}{2m\omega^2}$ .
  - \*  $T_{n,m} = -f \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}} (\sqrt{n} \delta_{n,m+1} + \sqrt{m} \delta_{n+1,m}), \Delta_{n,m} = \hbar\omega(n - m)$ .
  - \*  $E_n^{(1)} = T_{n,n} = 0$ .
  - \*  $E_n^{(2)} = \sum'_p \frac{T_{n,p} T_{p,n}}{\Delta_{n,p}} = (-f \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}})^2 (\frac{n}{\hbar\omega} + \frac{n+1}{-\hbar\omega}) = -\frac{f^2}{2m\omega^2}$ , from  $p = n \mp 1$ .
  - \* **Exercise (not required):** check  $E_n^{(3)} = 0$  and  $E_n^{(4)} = 0$ .
  - \* Note:  $\hat{H}(-f) = \hat{I} \cdot \hat{H}(f) \cdot \hat{I}^{-1}$ , where  $\hat{I}$  is the unitary spatial-inversion operator ( $x \rightarrow -x$ ), then  $E_n(-f) = E_n(f)$ , odd-order perturbations must vanish.
- Degenerate perturbation: energy level  $E_n^{(0)}$  is  $g$ -fold degenerate ( $g > 1$ ), with orthonormal eigenstates  $\psi_{n,i}^{(0)}$  ( $i = 1, \dots, g$ ). Assume an eigenvalue for  $\hat{H}$  is  $E_{n,i} = E_n^{(0)} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda^k E_{n,i}^{(k)}$ , and eigenstate  $\psi_{n,i} \propto \sum_{j=1}^g \psi_{n,j}^{(0)} c_{j,i} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda^k \psi_{n,i}^{(k)}$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, g$ .
  - Here  $\psi_{n,i}^{(k)}$  is not normalized, and  $\langle \psi_{n,j}^{(0)} | \psi_{n,i}^{(k)} \rangle = 0$  for  $k \geq 1$  for any  $i, j = 1, \dots, g$ .
  - $c_{j,i}$  is a  $g \times g$  unitary matrix to be solved. Define new basis for the degenerate subspace,  $|\tilde{\psi}_{n,i}^{(0)}\rangle = \sum_{j=1}^g |\psi_{n,j}^{(0)}\rangle c_{j,i}$ . Then  $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \psi_{n,i} = \tilde{\psi}_{n,i}^{(0)}$ .
  - Assume  $|\psi_{n,i}^{(k)}\rangle = \sum_{m, m \neq n} |\psi_m^{(0)}\rangle c_{m,i}^{(k)}$ , for  $k \geq 1$ .
  - Consider  $\hat{H}|\psi_{n,i}\rangle = E_{n,i}|\psi_{n,i}\rangle$ , for  $\lambda^1$  order, overlap with  $\langle \psi_{n,j'}^{(0)}|$ , we have
  - **1st order secular equation:**  $\sum_{j=1}^g \langle \psi_{n,j'}^{(0)} | \hat{H}^{(1)} | \psi_{n,j}^{(0)} \rangle c_{j,i} = E_{n,i}^{(1)} c_{j',i}$ .  
 Each column of  $c_{j,i}$  matrix is an eigenvector of  $\hat{H}^{(1)}$  restricted on the degenerate subspace with  $g \times g$  matrix element  $\langle \psi_{n,j'}^{(0)} | \hat{H}^{(1)} | \psi_{n,j}^{(0)} \rangle$ .
  - If the  $g$  eigenvalues  $E_{n,i}^{(1)}$  of 1st order secular equation are non-degenerate, each column of  $c_{j,i}$  (namely  $|\tilde{\psi}_{n,i}^{(0)}\rangle$ ) is determined up to phase factors. Then higher order perturbations are given by non-degenerate perturbation theory under  $\tilde{\psi}_{n,i}^{(0)}$  basis.  
 For example,  $|\psi_{n,i}^{(1)}\rangle = \sum_{m, m \neq n} |\psi_m^{(0)}\rangle \frac{\langle \psi_m^{(0)} | \hat{H}^{(1)} | \tilde{\psi}_{n,i}^{(0)} \rangle}{E_n^{(0)} - E_m^{(0)}}$ ,  $E_{n,i}^{(2)} = \sum_{m, m \neq n} \frac{|\langle \psi_m^{(0)} | \hat{H}^{(1)} | \tilde{\psi}_{n,i}^{(0)} \rangle|^2}{E_n^{(0)} - E_m^{(0)}}$ .

- If some (or all) of  $E_{n,i}^{(1)}$  are degenerate, we need to find proper basis in that degenerate subspace,  $\tilde{\psi}_{n,i}^{(0)} = \sum_j \tilde{\psi}_{n,j}^{(0)} \tilde{c}_{j,i}$ , from the 2nd order secular equation,  $\sum_j \left( \sum_{m,m \neq n} \frac{\langle \tilde{\psi}_{n,j}^{(0)} | \hat{H}^{(1)} | \psi_m^{(0)} \rangle \langle \psi_m^{(0)} | \hat{H}^{(1)} | \tilde{\psi}_{n,j}^{(0)} \rangle}{E_n^{(0)} - E_m^{(0)}} \right) \tilde{c}_{j,i} = E_{n,i}^{(2)} \tilde{c}_{j,i}$ .
- If there is an observable  $\hat{A}$  that commutes with  $\hat{H}^{(0)}$  and  $\hat{H}^{(1)}$ , then you can divide the Hilbert space by the different eigenvalues of  $\hat{A}$ , and degenerate perturbation theory may be avoided in each subspace. See §6.2.1.
- Almost-degenerate case: if the off-diagonal matrix element of perturbation is larger than energy difference between the two original levels connected by this matrix element,  $|\langle \psi_n^{(0)} | \lambda \hat{H}^{(1)} | \psi_m^{(0)} \rangle| \gg |E_n^{(0)} - E_m^{(0)}|$ , then these two levels should be treated by degenerate perturbation theory. See for example §6.4.2.
- Hellmann-Feynman theorem: if  $\hat{H}_\lambda$  depends on parameter  $\lambda$ , and  $\psi_\lambda$  is the *non-degenerate normalized*  $n$ -th eigenstate with eigenvalue  $E_n(\lambda)$ ,  $\hat{H}_\lambda \psi_\lambda = E_n(\lambda) \psi_\lambda$ , then  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} E_n(\lambda) = \langle \psi_\lambda | \frac{\partial \hat{H}_\lambda}{\partial \lambda} | \psi_\lambda \rangle$ .
  - Proof: take derivative w.r.t.  $\lambda$  on,  $E_n(\lambda) \cdot \langle \psi_\lambda | \psi_\lambda \rangle = \langle \psi_\lambda | \hat{H}_\lambda | \psi_\lambda \rangle$ . And then use  $\hat{H}_\lambda | \psi_\lambda \rangle = E_n(\lambda) | \psi_\lambda \rangle$  and  $\langle \psi_\lambda | \hat{H}_\lambda = \langle \psi_\lambda | E_n(\lambda)$ .
  - This can be used to evaluate certain expectation values under energy eigenstates. For example, harmonic oscillator  $\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m} + \frac{m\omega^2 \hat{x}^2}{2}$  has eigenvalue  $E_n = \hbar\omega \cdot (n + \frac{1}{2})$ , then  $\langle \psi_n | \hat{x}^2 | \psi_n \rangle = \langle \psi_n | \frac{1}{m\omega} \frac{\partial \hat{H}}{\partial \omega} | \psi_n \rangle = \frac{1}{m\omega} \frac{\partial E_n}{\partial \omega} = \frac{\hbar}{m\omega} (n + \frac{1}{2})$ .
  - The “ $\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda}$ ” needs careful treatment, on what other parameters to be held fixed. For example, to evaluate  $\langle \frac{1}{r^2} \rangle$  in a eigenstate of a 3D central potential problem, you can formally take derivative w.r.t. the orbital angular momentum quantum number  $\ell$  (although  $\ell$  should be integers), because the radial equation is (see III),  $-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} [\frac{1}{r^2} \partial_r (r^2 \partial_r) - \frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{r^2}] R(r) = E \cdot R(r)$ , then  $\langle \frac{1}{r^2} \rangle = \frac{2m}{\hbar^2(2\ell+1)} \frac{\partial E}{\partial \ell}$ . However, when computing  $\frac{\partial E}{\partial \ell}$ , it is usually not the “principal quantum number” that should be held fixed. For the 3D harmonic oscillator and hydrogen atom problems,  $(n - \ell)$  should be held fixed instead, because it labels the energy levels for a given  $\ell$ . See Textbook Problem 6.33.

VI. VARIATIONAL PRINCIPLE ( $\sim$  CH.7)

- For a Hamiltonian (hermitian operator)  $\hat{H}$ , its ground state energy (lowest eigenvalue)  $E_0 = \min_{\psi} \frac{\langle \psi | \hat{H} | \psi \rangle}{\langle \psi | \psi \rangle}$ . Here  $\min_{\psi}$  is the minimum with respect to all wavefunction  $\psi$ .
  - Conversely, for any  $\psi$ ,  $\frac{\langle \psi | \hat{H} | \psi \rangle}{\langle \psi | \psi \rangle} \geq E_0$ . The equal sign happens if and only if  $\psi$  is (one of) the ground state(s).
  - In practice, we cannot go over all states  $\psi$  in the Hilbert space. Usually we compute the expectation value  $E(\vec{\lambda}) \equiv \frac{\langle \psi(\vec{\lambda}) | \hat{H} | \psi(\vec{\lambda}) \rangle}{\langle \psi(\vec{\lambda}) | \psi(\vec{\lambda}) \rangle}$  under states  $\psi(\vec{\lambda})$  parametrized by parameter  $\vec{\lambda}$  (which can contain more than one parameters  $\lambda_i$ ). Then  $\min_{\vec{\lambda}} E(\vec{\lambda})$ , the minimum of  $E(\vec{\lambda})$  with respect to  $\vec{\lambda}$ , can be a good approximation (upper bound) for the ground state energy.
  - In practice, we may not obtain the analytic formula for  $E(\vec{\lambda})$ . And some times  $E(\vec{\lambda})$  has to be evaluated by Monte Carlo with statistical error.
  - To minimize  $E(\vec{\lambda})$ , it may be helpful to know its gradient  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda_i} E(\vec{\lambda})$ , and then use methods like “steepest descent”. Similar to the Hellmann-Feynman theorem,  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda_i} E(\vec{\lambda}) = \frac{2}{\langle \psi(\vec{\lambda}) | \psi(\vec{\lambda}) \rangle} \{ \text{Re}[\langle \psi(\vec{\lambda}) | \hat{H} | \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda_i} \psi(\vec{\lambda}) \rangle] - E(\vec{\lambda}) \cdot \text{Re}[\langle \psi(\vec{\lambda}) | \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda_i} \psi(\vec{\lambda}) \rangle] \}$ . If  $\psi(\vec{\lambda})$  is always normalized, the second term vanishes.
  - Although you may get very accurate ground state energy by this variational method, the wavefunction you get may not be very accurate approximation to the true ground state wavefunction. Example:  $\hat{H}$  has two levels  $E_0 < E_1$  with orthonormal eigenstates  $\psi_{0,1}$ , take a not-very-accurate  $\psi = \psi_0 + 0.1\psi_1$ , then the expectation value  $\frac{\langle \psi | \hat{H} | \psi \rangle}{\langle \psi | \psi \rangle} = E_0 + \frac{0.01}{1.01}(E_1 - E_0)$  is very close to  $E_0$ .
- Extension (see Textbook Problem 7.4): once we find a good approximation  $\tilde{\psi}_0$  to the ground state, then the first excited state energy can be *approximated* by  $\min_{\psi, \langle \psi | \tilde{\psi}_0 \rangle = 0} \frac{\langle \psi | \hat{H} | \psi \rangle}{\langle \psi | \psi \rangle}$ . Here the minimum is taken in the subspace orthogonal to  $\tilde{\psi}_0$ .
  - Related theorem (not required) (see *e.g.* Section I.4 of “Methods of Mathematical Physics” volume I by Courant & Hilbert): Hermitian  $\hat{H}$  in  $n$ -dimensional Hilbert space has eigenvalues  $E_1 \leq E_2 \leq \dots \leq E_n$ . Restrict  $\hat{H}$  onto a  $(n-1)$  dimensional subspace (orthogonal to one state in original Hilbert space), with new eigenvalues  $E'_1 \leq E'_2 \leq \dots \leq E'_{n-1}$ . Then  $E_1 \leq E'_1 \leq E_2 \leq E'_2 \leq \dots \leq E'_{n-1} \leq E_n$ .



VII. THE WKB APPROXIMATION ( $\sim$  CH.8)

- Consider eigenvalue problem of  $\hat{H} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\partial_x^2 + V(x)$ ,  $\hat{H}\psi(x) = E \cdot \psi(x)$ .
- The eigenstate “wave” function is  $\psi(x) = A(x) \cdot e^{i\phi(x)}$ , where  $A, \phi$  are real functions (amplitude and phase). Rewrite it as  $\psi(x) = A_0 e^{iu(x)}$ , where  $u(x) = \phi(x) - i \log \frac{A(x)}{A_0}$  is a complex function. The Schrödinger equation becomes  $(\frac{du}{dx})^2 - i \frac{d^2u}{dx^2} = \frac{2m}{\hbar^2}[E - V(x)]$ . Define  $K(x) \equiv \sqrt{\frac{2m}{\hbar^2}[E - V(x)]}$  and  $\kappa(x) \equiv \sqrt{\frac{2m}{\hbar^2}[V(x) - E]}$ .
- Assume  $|\frac{d^2u}{dx^2}| \ll |(\frac{du}{dx})^2|$ , this equation can be solved recursively,  
 $\frac{d}{dx}u_0 = \pm K(x)$ ; and  $\frac{d}{dx}u_{n+1} = \pm \sqrt{[K(x)]^2 + i \frac{d^2}{dx^2}u_n}$ , for  $n = 0, 1, \dots$ . In particular,  
 $\frac{d}{dx}u_1 = \pm \sqrt{[K(x)]^2 + i \frac{d^2}{dx^2}u_0} = \pm \sqrt{[K(x)]^2 \pm i \frac{d}{dx}K(x)}$ .
- Assume  $|\frac{d}{dx}K(x)| \ll |[K(x)]^2|$ , the 1st order result is  $\frac{d}{dx}u_1 \approx \pm K(x) + i \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dx} \log[K(x)]$ .  
 We get the WKB approximation,  $\psi(x) \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{K(x)}} \exp[\pm i \int^x K(x') dx']$ .
  - Classically-allowed region:  $E > V(x)$ .  $K(x)$  is real (local wavevector),  $\psi$  is traveling waves (to the right/left for  $\pm$  sign). The probability amplitude  $|\psi(x)|^2$  is inversely proportional to the classical velocity  $\sqrt{\frac{2[E-V(x)]}{m}}$  at  $x$ . The probability current for  $\frac{A}{\sqrt{K(x)}} e^{\pm i \int^x K(x') dx'}$  is a constant  $\pm |A|^2$ .
  - Classically-forbidden region:  $E < V(x)$ .  $K(x) = i\kappa(x)$  is pure imaginary,  $\psi$  is exponentially decaying/growing functions  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{i\kappa(x)}} \exp[\mp \int^x \kappa(x') dx]$ .
  - Close to the *turning point* [where  $V(x) = E$ ], the above assumptions and the WKB approximation does not work.
- Connection formula: consider a turning point  $x_0$ , with  $V(x) \sim E + V'(x_0)(x - x_0)$  around it. First consider the case  $V'(x_0) > 0$ , define  $z = (\frac{2mV'(x_0)}{\hbar^2})^{1/3}(x - x_0)$ .
  - $\psi$  approximately satisfy the *Airy's equation*,  $\frac{d^2}{dz^2}\psi = z \cdot \psi$ . The solution is  $\psi = a \cdot \text{Ai}(z) + b \cdot \text{Bi}(z)$ . Here  $\text{Ai}, \text{Bi}$  are *Airy functions*, with asymptotic behavior:  
 for  $z \gg 0$ ,  $\text{Ai}(z) \sim \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi}z^{1/4}} e^{-\frac{2}{3}z^{3/2}}$ ,  $\text{Bi}(z) \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}z^{1/4}} e^{\frac{2}{3}z^{3/2}}$ ;  
 for  $z \ll 0$ ,  $\text{Ai}(z) \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}(-z)^{1/4}} \sin[\frac{2}{3}(-z)^{3/2} + \frac{\pi}{4}]$ ,  $\text{Bi}(z) \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}(-z)^{1/4}} \cos[\frac{2}{3}(-z)^{3/2} + \frac{\pi}{4}]$ .
  - For  $x \gg x_0$ ,  $\psi(x)$  is linear superposition of  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{\kappa(x)}} \exp(\mp \int_{x_0}^x \kappa(x') dx')$ , decays/grows exponentially, and  $\int_{x_0}^x \kappa(x') dx' \approx \frac{2}{3}z^{3/2}$ .

- For  $x \ll x_0$ ,  $\psi(x)$  is linear superposition of  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{K(x)}} \exp(\mp i \int_x^{x_0} K(x') dx')$ , traveling to the right/left, and  $\int_x^{x_0} K(x') dx' \approx \frac{2}{3}(-z)^{3/2}$ .
- Match the Airy functions asymptotic form with the WKB results, where  $|z| \gg 1$  but the linear approximation to  $V(x)$  is still good (possible when  $\hbar \rightarrow 0$ ).

For  $V'(x_0) > 0$  case,  $\psi(x) \sim \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{K(x)}} \{2A \sin[\phi(x) + \frac{\pi}{4}] + B \cos[\phi(x) + \frac{\pi}{4}]\}, & x \ll x_0; \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\kappa(x)}} \{A \exp[-\gamma(x)] + B \exp[\gamma(x)]\}, & x \gg x_0. \end{cases}$   
 where  $\phi(x) \equiv \int_x^{x_0} K(x') dx'$ , and  $\gamma(x) \equiv \int_{x_0}^x \kappa(x') dx'$ , are both positive.

- For  $V'(x_0) < 0$  case,  $\psi(x) \sim \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{K(x)}} \{2A \sin[\phi(x) + \frac{\pi}{4}] + B \cos[\phi(x) + \frac{\pi}{4}]\}, & x \gg x_0; \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\kappa(x)}} \{A \exp[-\gamma(x)] + B \exp[\gamma(x)]\}, & x \ll x_0. \end{cases}$   
 but here  $\phi(x) \equiv \int_{x_0}^x K(x') dx'$ , and  $\gamma(x) \equiv \int_x^{x_0} \kappa(x') dx'$ , are both positive.

- Applications: tunneling through a smooth potential barrier.

$V(x) > E$  for  $a < x < b$ ;  $V(x) < E$  otherwise. Assume incoming( $A$ ) and reflected( $B$ ) waves in  $x < a$ , and transmitted waves( $F$ ) in  $x > b$ . Define  $\phi(x) \equiv \int_x^a K(x') dx'$ , and  $\gamma(x) \equiv \int_a^x \kappa(x') dx'$ . And  $\gamma \equiv \gamma(b) = \int_a^b \frac{1}{\hbar} \sqrt{2m[V(x) - E]} dx$  is assumed to be large.

$$\psi(x) \sim \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{K(x)}} \{B \exp[i(\phi(x) + \frac{\pi}{4})] + A \exp[-i(\phi(x) + \frac{\pi}{4})]\}, & x \ll a; \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\kappa(x)}} \left\{ \frac{i(B-A)}{2} \exp[-\gamma(x)] + (B+A) \exp[\gamma(x)] \right\}, & a \ll x \ll b; \\ \frac{2}{\sqrt{K(x)}} F \exp[i(\int_b^x K(x') dx' + \frac{\pi}{4})], & x \gg b. \end{cases}$$

Note that  $\gamma(x) = \gamma - \int_x^b \kappa(x') dx'$ . The connection formula at  $b$  is:  $\frac{i(B-A)}{2} e^{-\gamma} = F$ , and  $(B+A) e^{\gamma} = \frac{iF}{2}$ . So  $F = -i \frac{4}{4e^{\gamma} + e^{-\gamma}} A \approx -i A e^{-\gamma}$ , the transmission coefficient  $T \equiv \frac{|F|^2}{|A|^2} \approx e^{-2\gamma}$ .

- Applications: bound state in a smooth potential well.

$V(x) < E$  for  $a < x < b$ ;  $V(x) > E$  otherwise. Define  $\phi(x) \equiv \int_a^x K(x') dx'$ .

$$\psi(x) \sim \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\kappa(x)}} A \exp[-\int_x^a \kappa(x') dx'], & x \ll a; \\ \frac{2}{\sqrt{K(x)}} A \sin[\phi(x) + \frac{\pi}{4}] = \frac{2}{\sqrt{K(x)}} (-A) \sin[\int_x^b K(x') dx' - \phi(b) - \frac{\pi}{4}], & a \ll x \ll b; \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\kappa(x)}} A' \exp[-\int_b^x \kappa(x') dx'], & x \gg b. \end{cases}$$

The connection formula at  $b$  is:  $\phi(b) - \frac{\pi}{2} = n\pi$  and  $A' = (-1)^n A$ , with integer  $n$ . This is the *Bohr-Sommerfeld quantization condition*  $\int_a^b \frac{1}{\hbar} \sqrt{2m[E - V(x)]} dx = (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi$ , or  $\oint p \cdot dx = (n + \frac{1}{2})h$ , where  $\oint$  is integrating over a closed classical trajectory in the phase space ( $x$ - $p$  space).

### VIII. TIME-DEPENDENT PERTURBATION THEORY ( $\sim$ CH.9)

- The problem: Hamiltonian  $\hat{H}(t) = \hat{H}_0 + \lambda \hat{V}(t)$ ,  $\lambda$  is a “small” parameter.  $\hat{H}^{(0)}$  has complete orthonormal eigenstates  $\psi_n^{(0)}(\mathbf{r})$  with eigenvalues  $E_n^{(0)}$ . Assume the solution to  $i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi = \hat{H}(t) \psi$  is  $\psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \sum_n c_n(t) e^{-iE_n^{(0)}t/\hbar} \psi_n^{(0)}(\mathbf{r})$ . Solve the coefficients  $c_n(t)$  as (asymptotic) series of  $\lambda$ .

- The differential equations for  $c_n(t)$  is,  $\frac{d}{dt} c_n(t) = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \sum_m \lambda V_{n,m}(t) e^{i\omega_{n,m}t} \cdot c_m(t)$ . Here  $V_{n,m}(t) \equiv \langle \psi_n^{(0)} | \hat{V}(t) | \psi_m^{(0)} \rangle$ ,  $\omega_{m,n} \equiv \frac{1}{\hbar} (E_m^{(0)} - E_n^{(0)})$ .

Assume  $c_n(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \lambda^k c_n^{(k)}(t)$ , and  $c_n^{(0)}(t) = c_n(0)$ ,  $c_n^{(k)}(t=0) = 0$  for  $k \geq 1$ .

Then  $c_n^{(k)}(t) = \int_0^t -\frac{i}{\hbar} \sum_m V_{n,m}(t') e^{i(E_n^{(0)} - E_m^{(0)})t'} \cdot c_m^{(k-1)}(t') dt'$ ,

this can in principle solve  $c_n(t)$  to all orders of  $\lambda$  (Dyson series).

- “Sudden approximation”: if  $\hat{V}(t)$  is nonzero for a “short” period  $0 < t < \epsilon$ , and  $\hat{V}(t)$  is “bounded” (for example,  $\sqrt{\sum_m |V_{n,m}(t)|^2} \leq V_0 < +\infty$ , for any  $n$ ), then  $|c_n(\epsilon) - c_n(0)| \leq \frac{1}{\hbar} \lambda V_0 \epsilon$ , the final state equals to the initial state when  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

- “Pulse” perturbation (see Textbook Problem 9.3):  $\hat{V}(t) = \hat{V}_0 \cdot f(t)$ , here  $\hat{V}_0$  is independent of  $t$ , and  $f(t) \sim \delta(t)$  has a “sharp” peak at  $t = 0$  with  $\int f(t) dt = 1$ . Then the above series expansion solution does not work. If the peak width  $\epsilon \ll \frac{1}{\omega_{m,n}}$ , then for  $-\epsilon < t < \epsilon$ , the equation is approximately  $\frac{d}{dt} c_n(t) = f(t) \cdot \sum_m \frac{-i}{\hbar} (\hat{V}_0)_{n,m} \cdot c_m(t)$ . The solution is  $c_n(\epsilon) = \exp[\int_{-\epsilon}^{\epsilon} f(t) dt \cdot \sum_m \frac{-i}{\hbar} (\hat{V}_0)_{n,m}] \cdot c_m(-\epsilon) = \exp[\frac{-i}{\hbar} (\hat{V}_0)]_{n,m} \cdot c_m(-\epsilon)$ . Here  $\exp[\frac{-i}{\hbar} (\hat{V}_0)]$  is the exponential of the constant matrix  $\frac{-i}{\hbar} (\hat{V}_0)$ .

- Transition probability,  $P_{n \rightarrow m}(t)$ : initial ( $t = 0$ ) state is one of original eigenstates,  $c_m(0) = \delta_{m,n}$ , turn on the perturbation for time up to  $t$ , the final probability  $|c_m(t)|^2$  is the “transition probability from initial state  $n$  to final state  $m$  over time  $t$ ” ( $m \neq n$ ).

- **Transition rate**,  $\Gamma_{n \rightarrow m} \equiv \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{P_{n \rightarrow m}(t)}{t}$ .

- Usually just use the 1st order result:  $c_n(t) \approx c_n(0) + \sum_m \frac{-i}{\hbar} \int_0^t \lambda V_{n,m}(t') e^{i\omega_{n,m}t'} dt' \cdot c_m(0)$ . Then the transition probability  $P_{n \rightarrow m}(t) \approx |\frac{-i}{\hbar} \int_0^t \lambda V_{m,n}(t') e^{i\omega_{m,n}t'} dt'|^2$ .

- Harmonic perturbation:  $\hat{V}(t) = \hat{V}_+ e^{-i\omega t} + \hat{V}_- e^{i\omega t}$ .  $\hat{V}_- = (\hat{V}_+)^{\dagger}$  are time-independent.

Then  $\frac{-i}{\hbar} \int_0^t \lambda V_{m,n}(t') e^{i\omega_{m,n}t'} dt' = \frac{-i}{\hbar} [(\lambda V_+)_{m,n} \frac{e^{i(\omega_{m,n}-\omega)t} - 1}{\omega_{m,n} - \omega} + (\lambda V_-)_{m,n} \frac{e^{i(\omega_{m,n}+\omega)t} - 1}{\omega_{m,n} + \omega}]$ .

$$P_{n \rightarrow m}(t) = \frac{1}{\hbar^2} \left[ |(\lambda V_+)_{m,n}|^2 \cdot \frac{4 \sin^2(\frac{(\omega_{m,n}-\omega)t}{2})}{(\omega_{m,n}-\omega)^2} + |(\lambda V_-)_{m,n}|^2 \cdot \frac{4 \sin^2(\frac{(\omega_{m,n}+\omega)t}{2})}{(\omega_{m,n}+\omega)^2} + (\text{cross terms}) \right].$$

Use  $\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\sin^2(xt)}{x^2 t} = \pi \delta(x)$ , we have the “Fermi’s golden rule”:

$$\Gamma_{n \rightarrow m} = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} \left[ |(\lambda V_+)_{m,n}|^2 \delta(E_m^{(0)} - E_n^{(0)} - \hbar\omega) + |(\lambda V_-)_{m,n}|^2 \delta(E_m^{(0)} - E_n^{(0)} + \hbar\omega) \right].$$

- Under 1st order approximation, the system can absorb or emit one energy quantum  $\hbar\omega$  (*e.g.* one photon) in the transition.
- *Lifetime* of a state: the total “decay rate” of state  $n$  is  $\Gamma_n \equiv \sum_{m, m \neq n} \Gamma_{n \rightarrow m}$ .  
Then  $P_{n \rightarrow n}(t) \sim (1 - \Gamma_n t) \sim e^{-\Gamma_n t}$ , the *lifetime* of state  $n$  is  $\tau_n = \frac{1}{\Gamma_n}$ .  
This can be formally represented by an imaginary part of energy,  $-\mathrm{i} \frac{\Gamma_n \hbar}{2}$ .
- About the  $\delta$  functions: define *density of states*  $\rho(E) = \sum_m \delta(E - E_m^{(0)})$ , here  $\sum_m$  may be an integral, define average square matrix element from state  $n$  to energy level  $E$ ,  $|\overline{(\lambda V_{\pm})_{n \rightarrow E}}|^2 \equiv \frac{1}{\rho(E)} \sum_m \delta(E - E_m^{(0)}) |(\lambda V_{\pm})_{m,n}|^2$ , then the 1st order result is,  $\Gamma_n = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} \rho(E_n^{(0)} + \hbar\omega) |(\lambda V_+)_{n \rightarrow (E_n^{(0)} + \hbar\omega)}|^2 + \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} \rho(E_n^{(0)} - \hbar\omega) |(\lambda V_-)_{n \rightarrow (E_n^{(0)} - \hbar\omega)}|^2$ .
- Detailed balance (§9.3):  $\Gamma_{n \rightarrow m} = \Gamma_{m \rightarrow n}$ . Absorption rate = emission rate.
- (§9.2) Application: coupling to classical electromagnetic wave (see also Sakurai’s “Modern Quantum Mechanics”, Section 5.7).
  - Time-dependent electrostatic potential  $\phi(\mathbf{r}, t)$  and vector potential  $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t)$ .  
Electric field  $\mathbf{E} = -\nabla\phi - \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t}$ , magnetic field  $\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$ .
  - Hamiltonian for a non-relativistic particle with mass  $m$  and electric charge  $q$ ,  
 $\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{\mathbf{p}}^2}{2m} + q\phi(\mathbf{r}, t) + V(\mathbf{r})$ .  $\hat{\mathbf{P}} \equiv -\mathrm{i}\hbar\nabla - q\mathbf{A}$ .  $[\hat{P}_a, \hat{P}_b] = \mathrm{i}\hbar q \epsilon_{abc} B_c$ . Under Coulomb gauge ( $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = 0$ ),  $\hat{H} = [\frac{1}{2m} \hat{\mathbf{p}}^2 + V(\mathbf{r})] + [q\phi(\mathbf{r}, t) - \frac{q}{m} \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}} + \frac{q^2}{2m} \mathbf{A}^2]$ .
    - \* The Schrödinger equation is preserved under “gauge transformation”,  
 $\mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{A} + \frac{\hbar}{q} \nabla\theta$ ,  $\phi \rightarrow \phi - \frac{\hbar}{q} \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\theta$ ,  $\psi \rightarrow e^{\mathrm{i}\theta} \psi$ , where  $\theta = \theta(\mathbf{r}, t)$ .  
**Exercise:** check  $\hat{\mathbf{P}}\psi \rightarrow e^{\mathrm{i}\theta} \hat{\mathbf{P}}\psi$ ,  $(\mathrm{i}\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - q\phi)\psi \rightarrow e^{\mathrm{i}\theta} (\mathrm{i}\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - q\phi)\psi$ .
    - \* Classical equations of motion: **Exercise:** check that  $\hat{H}$  produces,  
 $m \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \langle \mathbf{r} \rangle = -\langle \nabla V \rangle + q \langle \mathbf{E} \rangle + q \langle \frac{\hat{\mathbf{p}}}{m} \times \mathbf{B} \rangle$ , for time-independent fields.
  - Monochromatic linear-polarized electromagnetic wave: choose  $\phi(\mathbf{r}, t) = 0$ ,  
 $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t) = 2A_0 \mathcal{E} \cos(\frac{\omega}{c} \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)$ , here  $\mathcal{E}$  is a unit vector (polarization vector),  $\mathbf{n}$  is another unit vector (propagation direction), and  $\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathcal{E} = 0$  (transverse wave).  
Then  $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = 2A_0 \omega \mathcal{E} \sin(\frac{\omega}{c} \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)$ .

- Ignore  $\mathbf{A}^2$  term, treat  $[-\frac{q}{m}\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r},t) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}}]$  as time-dependent perturbation, for monochromatic wave, it is a harmonic perturbation,  $\hat{V}_+ = -\frac{q}{m}A_0 e^{i\frac{\omega}{c}\mathbf{n}\cdot\mathbf{r}}\boldsymbol{\mathcal{E}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}}$ .
- Electric dipole approximation: when the relevant wavelength  $\lambda = \frac{c}{\omega}$  is much larger than relevant wavefunctions' length scale, we can approximate  $e^{i\frac{\omega}{c}\mathbf{n}\cdot\mathbf{r}} \sim 1$ . Then  $(\hat{V}_+)_{m,n} = -qA_0\boldsymbol{\mathcal{E}} \cdot \langle\psi_m^{(0)}|\hat{\mathbf{p}}|\psi_n^{(0)}\rangle = -qA_0\boldsymbol{\mathcal{E}} \cdot \langle\psi_m^{(0)}|\frac{i}{\hbar}[\hat{H}_0, \hat{\mathbf{r}}]|\psi_n^{(0)}\rangle = -i\omega_{m,n}A_0\boldsymbol{\mathcal{E}} \cdot \langle\psi_m^{(0)}|q\mathbf{r}|\psi_n^{(0)}\rangle$ . Here  $\omega_{m,n} \equiv \frac{E_m^{(0)} - E_n^{(0)}}{\hbar}$ . At resonance,  $\omega_{m,n} = \pm\omega$ , then  $(\hat{V}_+)_{m,n} = \mp\frac{i}{2}\mathbf{E}_0 \cdot \mathbf{p}_{m,n}$ , where  $\mathbf{E}_0 = 2A_0\omega\boldsymbol{\mathcal{E}}$  is the amplitude of electric field,  $\mathbf{p}_{m,n} \equiv \langle\psi_m^{(0)}|q\mathbf{r}|\psi_n^{(0)}\rangle$  is the electric dipole matrix element. This justifies formulas (9.32-9.33) in §9.2.1.
  - \* For hydrogen atom problem,  $V(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{Zq^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$ , wavefunctions length scale is  $R_{\text{atom}} \sim \frac{a_0}{Z}$ , where  $a_0$  is Bohr radius, relevant energy scale  $\hbar\omega \sim \frac{Zq^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0(a_0/Z)}$ , so  $\frac{R_{\text{atom}}}{\lambda} \sim Z \cdot \alpha$ , where  $\alpha \equiv \frac{q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar c} \sim \frac{1}{137}$  is fine-structure constant. For light atoms (small  $Z$ ), we can use the electric dipole approximation.
- The energy density for this electromagnetic wave is  $u = \frac{\epsilon_0}{2}E_0^2$ . So  $\Gamma_{n \rightarrow m} = u \cdot \frac{\pi}{\epsilon_0\hbar}|\mathbf{p}_{m,n}|^2[\delta(E_m^{(0)} - E_n^{(0)} - \hbar\omega) + \delta(E_m^{(0)} - E_n^{(0)} + \hbar\omega)]$ . For incoherent electromagnetic radiation (§9.2.3), with frequency distribution  $\rho(\omega)$  for energy density, ( energy density for frequency in  $[\omega, \omega + d\omega]$  is  $\rho(\omega)d\omega$  ), the “stimulated” transition rate is  $\Gamma_{n \rightarrow m} = \frac{\pi}{3\epsilon_0\hbar^2}|\mathbf{p}_{m,n}|^2\rho(|\omega_{m,n}|)$ .
- Spontaneous emission (§9.3): rate “ $A$ ” =  $\frac{\pi}{3\epsilon_0\hbar^2}|\mathbf{p}_{m,n}|^2 \cdot \hbar\omega \cdot \rho_0(\omega)$ , where  $\rho_0$  is the “density of states” for photons,  $\frac{\omega^2}{\pi^2 c^3}$  [see §5.4.5]. This can be viewed as coupling to zero-point fluctuation of electromagnetic fields.
- (§9.3.3) Dipole selection rule: for central potential problem, states  $\psi_{n\ell m}$  are labeled by “principal quantum number”  $n$ , orbital angular momentum quantum number  $\ell$ , and magnetic quantum number  $m$ . Conservation of angular momentum restricts possible nonzero dipole matrix elements  $\langle\psi_{n'\ell'm'}|\mathbf{r}|\psi_{n\ell m}\rangle$ .
  - Nonzero  $\langle\psi_{n'\ell'm'}|\hat{z}|\psi_{n\ell m}\rangle$  must have  $m' = m$ , because  $[\hat{L}_z, \hat{z}] = 0$ , then  $0 = \langle\psi_{n'\ell'm'}|[\hat{L}_z, \hat{z}]|\psi_{n\ell m}\rangle = (m' - m)\hbar\langle\psi_{n'\ell'm'}|\hat{z}|\psi_{n\ell m}\rangle$ .
  - Nonzero  $\langle\psi_{n'\ell'm'}|\hat{x}|\psi_{n\ell m}\rangle = (m' - m)i\langle\psi_{n'\ell'm'}|\hat{y}|\psi_{n\ell m}\rangle = (m' - m)^2\langle\psi_{n'\ell'm'}|\hat{x}|\psi_{n\ell m}\rangle$ , must have  $m' = m \pm 1$ , because  $[\hat{L}_z, \hat{y}] = -i\hbar\hat{x}$ ,  $[\hat{L}_z, \hat{x}] = i\hbar\hat{y}$ .
  - Nonzero  $\langle\psi_{n'\ell'm'}|\mathbf{r}|\psi_{n\ell m}\rangle$  must have  $\ell' = \ell \pm 1$ . (see §9.3.3)

IX. ADIABATIC APPROXIMATION ( $\sim$  CH.10)

- **Adiabatic theorem:** For  $i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\psi(t)\rangle = \hat{H}(t) |\psi(t)\rangle$ , if  $\hat{H}(t)$  changes “slowly”, and  $\psi(t=0)$  is the  $n$ -th instantaneous eigenstate of  $\hat{H}(t=0)$ , then  $\psi(t)$  will remain to be the  $n$ -th instantaneous eigenstate of  $\hat{H}(t)$ .
  - Suppose  $|\psi_{n,t}\rangle$  is the  $n$ -th instantaneous eigenstate of  $\hat{H}(t)$ ,
 
$$\hat{H}(t) |\psi_{n,t}\rangle = E_n(t) |\psi_{n,t}\rangle. \quad [4]$$
 Define  $\theta_n(t) = \frac{1}{\hbar} \int_0^t E_n(t') dt'$ . Assume  $|\psi(t)\rangle = \sum_n c_n(t) e^{-i\theta_n(t)} |\psi_{n,t}\rangle$ . Then
 
$$\frac{d}{dt} c_m(t) = - \sum_n c_n(t) e^{i[\theta_m(t) - \theta_n(t)]} \langle \psi_{m,t} | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi_{n,t} \rangle. \quad [5]$$
 Take  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}$  on Eq. [4], overlap with  $\langle \psi_{m,t} |$ , for  $m \neq n$ ,  $\langle \psi_{m,t} | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi_{n,t} \rangle = \frac{\langle \psi_{m,t} | \frac{\partial \hat{H}}{\partial t} | \psi_{n,t} \rangle}{E_n(t) - E_m(t)}$ .
 
$$\frac{d}{dt} c_m(t) = -c_m(t) \langle \psi_{m,t} | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi_{m,t} \rangle - \sum_{n, n \neq m} c_n(t) e^{i[\theta_m(t) - \theta_n(t)]} \frac{\langle \psi_{m,t} | \frac{\partial \hat{H}}{\partial t} | \psi_{n,t} \rangle}{E_n(t) - E_m(t)}. \quad [6]$$
  - If  $|\frac{\langle \psi_{m,t} | \frac{\partial \hat{H}}{\partial t} | \psi_{n,t} \rangle}{E_n(t) - E_m(t)}| \cdot (\text{time scale}) \ll 1$ , the 2nd term in Eq. [6] can be ignored. Define  $A_m(t) = -i \langle \psi_{m,t} | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi_{m,t} \rangle$ ,  $\gamma_m(t) = \int_0^t A_m(t') dt'$ , then  $c_m(t) \sim e^{-i\gamma_m(t)} c_m(t=0)$ .  $A_m$  and  $\gamma_m$  are real,  $A_m - (A_m)^* = -i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\langle \psi_{m,t} | \psi_{m,t} \rangle) = 0$ .
- **Berry's phase** ( $\gamma_m$  above): If  $\hat{H}$  depends on a vector parameter  $\vec{R}(t)$ , so instantaneous eigenvalues  $E_n(\vec{R})$  and eigenstates  $\psi_{n,\vec{R}}$  are also functions of  $\vec{R}$ .
  - $\gamma_n(T) = -i \int_0^T \langle \psi_n | \nabla_{\vec{R}} \psi_n \rangle \cdot \frac{d\vec{R}}{dt} dt = -i \int_{\vec{R}(0)}^{\vec{R}(T)} \langle \psi_n | \nabla_{\vec{R}} \psi_n \rangle \cdot d\vec{R} = \int_{\vec{R}(0)}^{\vec{R}(T)} \vec{A}_n(\vec{R}) \cdot d\vec{R}$ .  $\vec{A}_n \equiv -i \langle \psi_n | \nabla_{\vec{R}} \psi_n \rangle$  is the “Berry connection” (analogue of vector potential). Here  $\vec{A}_n$  is a vector in parameter space,  $(\vec{A}_n)_i \equiv -i \langle \psi_n | \frac{\partial}{\partial R_i} \psi_n \rangle$ .
  - Gauge transformation: redefine  $\tilde{\psi}_{n,\vec{R}} = e^{i\theta(\vec{R})} \psi_{n,\vec{R}}$ , then  $\vec{\tilde{A}}_n = \vec{A}_n + \nabla_{\vec{R}} \theta$ ,  $\tilde{\gamma}_n = \gamma_n + [\theta(\vec{R}(T)) - \theta(\vec{R}(0))]$ .
  - For periodic evolution,  $\vec{R}(T) = \vec{R}(0)$ , the Berry's phase,  $\gamma_n = \oint \vec{A}_n \cdot d\vec{R}$ , is well-defined modulo integer multiple of  $2\pi$ . It only depends on the path in parameter space, independent of speed of evolution (is a “geometric phase”).
  - By Stokes theorem,  $\oint_{\text{closed path}} \vec{A}_n \cdot d\vec{R} = \iint_{\text{area enclosed}} \vec{B}_n \cdot d\vec{a}$ , here  $\vec{B}_n \equiv \nabla_{\vec{R}} \times \vec{A}_n$  is the “Berry curvature” (analogue of magnetic field, gauge invariant),  $d\vec{a}$  is area element for the surface enclosed by  $\vec{R}(t)$ .
  - The “cross product” of two vectors is a rank-2 antisymmetric tensor,  $(\vec{A} \times \vec{A}')_{i,j} \equiv A_i A'_j - A_j A'_i = -(\vec{A} \times \vec{A}')_{j,i}$ . So  $(\vec{B}_n)_{i,j} \equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial R_i} (\vec{A}_n)_j - \frac{\partial}{\partial R_j} (\vec{A}_n)_i$ . In 3D space,  $\vec{B}_n$  is dual to a vector,  $\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} (\vec{B}_n)_{i,j}$ .

- Area element  $d\vec{a}$  is also a rank-2 antisymmetric tensor, if the surface is defined by real parameters  $u, v$  as  $\vec{R}(u, v)$ , then  $(d\vec{a})_{i,j} = (\frac{\partial R_i}{\partial u} \frac{\partial R_j}{\partial v} - \frac{\partial R_j}{\partial u} \frac{\partial R_i}{\partial v}) du dv$ . The surface integral's integrand is  $\vec{B}_n \cdot d\vec{a} \equiv \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} (\vec{B}_n)_{i,j} (d\vec{a})_{i,j}$ .
- $\vec{B}_n = -i[\langle \nabla_{\vec{R}} \psi_n |] \times [|\nabla_{\vec{R}} \psi_n \rangle] = -i \sum_m \langle \nabla_{\vec{R}} \psi_n | \psi_m \rangle \times \langle \psi_m | \nabla_{\vec{R}} \psi_n \rangle$ , namely,  $(\vec{B}_n)_{i,j} = -i(\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial R_i} \psi_n | \frac{\partial}{\partial R_j} \psi_n \rangle - \langle \frac{\partial}{\partial R_j} \psi_n | \frac{\partial}{\partial R_i} \psi_n \rangle)$   
 $= -i \sum_m (\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial R_i} \psi_n | \psi_m \rangle \langle \psi_m | \frac{\partial}{\partial R_j} \psi_n \rangle - \langle \frac{\partial}{\partial R_j} \psi_n | \psi_m \rangle \langle \psi_m | \frac{\partial}{\partial R_i} \psi_n \rangle)$ ,  
 note the  $m = n$  term does not contribute, because  $\langle \psi_n | \nabla_{\vec{R}} \psi_n \rangle = -\langle \nabla_{\vec{R}} \psi_n | \psi_n \rangle$ , so the “cross product” vanishes; for  $m \neq n$ ,  $\langle \psi_m | \nabla_{\vec{R}} \psi_n \rangle = \frac{\langle \psi_m | \nabla_{\vec{R}} \hat{H} | \psi_n \rangle}{E_n - E_m}$ , similar to  $\langle \psi_{m,t} | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi_{n,t} \rangle$ . Then  $\vec{B}_n = -i \sum_{m,m \neq n} \frac{\langle \psi_n | \nabla_{\vec{R}} \hat{H} | \psi_m \rangle \times \langle \psi_m | \nabla_{\vec{R}} \hat{H} | \psi_n \rangle}{(E_m - E_n)^2}$
- Sum of Berry curvatures for all eigenstates vanishes,  $\sum_n \vec{B}_n = 0$ .
- Example: spin-1/2, parameter  $\vec{R}$  is unit 3D vector ( $|\vec{R}| = 1$ ),  $\hat{H}(\vec{R}) = \vec{R} \cdot \frac{2}{\hbar} \hat{\mathbf{S}}$ .
  - Under  $|\hat{S}_z = \pm \frac{\hbar}{2}\rangle$  eigenbasis ( $|\uparrow\rangle, |\downarrow\rangle$ ),  $\hat{H} = \vec{R} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} = R_x \sigma_x + R_y \sigma_y + R_z \sigma_z$ , here  $\sigma_{x,y,z}$  are Pauli matrices. Then  $\hat{H}^2 = \vec{R}^2 \cdot \mathbb{1}_{2 \times 2} = \mathbb{1}_{2 \times 2}$ , eigenvalues are  $E_{\pm} = \pm 1$ .
  - If  $\vec{R} = (\sin \theta \cos \varphi, \sin \theta \sin \varphi, \cos \theta)$ , then (up to complex phase factors),  
 $|\psi_+(\vec{R})\rangle = \cos \frac{\theta}{2} |\uparrow\rangle + \sin \frac{\theta}{2} e^{i\varphi} |\downarrow\rangle$ ,  $|\psi_-(\vec{R})\rangle = -\sin \frac{\theta}{2} |\uparrow\rangle + \cos \frac{\theta}{2} e^{i\varphi} |\downarrow\rangle$ .  
 $\langle \psi_+ | \boldsymbol{\sigma} | \psi_+ \rangle = \vec{R}$ ,  $\langle \psi_- | \boldsymbol{\sigma} | \psi_- \rangle = -\vec{R}$ . Also note that  $\nabla_{\vec{R}} \hat{H} = \boldsymbol{\sigma}$ .
  - Any spin-1/2 state  $\psi_{\uparrow} |\uparrow\rangle + \psi_{\downarrow} |\downarrow\rangle$  is a  $|\psi_+(\vec{R})\rangle$  state upto a complex phase factor. All inequivalent spin-1/2 states are faithfully parametrized by  $\vec{R}$ .
  - For the  $E_+$  level, the Berry curvature  $\vec{B}_+ = -i \frac{\langle \psi_+ | \boldsymbol{\sigma} | \psi_- \rangle \times \langle \psi_- | \boldsymbol{\sigma} | \psi_+ \rangle}{(E_+ - E_-)^2}$   
 $= -\frac{i}{4} [\langle \psi_+ | \boldsymbol{\sigma} \times \boldsymbol{\sigma} | \psi_+ \rangle - \langle \psi_+ | \boldsymbol{\sigma} | \psi_+ \rangle \times \langle \psi_+ | \boldsymbol{\sigma} | \psi_+ \rangle] = \frac{1}{4} \langle \psi_+ | 2\boldsymbol{\sigma} | \psi_+ \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \vec{R}$ .
  - For a closed path in the parameter space of  $\vec{R}$  (unit sphere  $S^2$ , also called “Bloch sphere”), the Berry's phase =  $(\frac{1}{2})$  of the surface area enclosed on the sphere.
  - $\iint_{\text{Bloch sphere}} \vec{B}_+ \cdot d\vec{a} = 2\pi \neq 0$ . There is a “magnetic monopole” in the center !  
 So you CANNOT define a smooth single-valued  $\vec{A}_+$  over entire sphere.
  - You can define  $\vec{A}_+$  on the sphere excluding one point, *e.g.* the above  $|\psi_+(\vec{R})\rangle$  produces  $\vec{A}_+ = -\frac{1 - \cos \theta}{2 \sin \theta} \vec{e}_{\varphi}$ , where  $\vec{e}_{\varphi}$  is the unit vector along  $\varphi$ -direction, which is well-defined except at the “south pole”  $\theta = \pi$ .
- (§10.2.3) Aharonov-Bohm effect: for a closed path in real space, enclosing magnetic flux  $\Phi = \oint \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{R}) \cdot d\mathbf{R}$ , from a static magnetic field, adiabatically transporting a “local”

electron wavefunction (*e.g.* a bound state in a small potential well moving with  $\mathbf{R}$ ) will generate Berry's phase  $\frac{q\Phi}{\hbar}$ , here  $q$  is the electric charge.

- Consider  $\hat{H} = \frac{[\hat{\mathbf{p}} - q\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r})]^2}{2m} + V(\mathbf{r})$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{p}} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{r}} \psi = \hat{H} \psi$ , in a region with  $\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A} = 0$ . Define  $\psi'(\mathbf{r}) = e^{-i \int_{\mathbf{r}_0}^{\mathbf{r}} \frac{q}{\hbar} \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}') \cdot d\mathbf{r}'} \cdot \psi(\mathbf{r})$ . Here the integral is from a fixed point  $\mathbf{r}_0$  to  $\mathbf{r}$  through a smooth path in the region. Then  $\hat{\mathbf{p}} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{r}} \psi' = [\frac{\hat{\mathbf{p}}^2}{2m} + V(\mathbf{r})] \psi'$ . By semi-classical (WKB-like) approximation,  $\psi$  for particle traveling along this path acquires total phase,  $\int_{\mathbf{r}_0}^{\mathbf{r}} \frac{1}{\hbar} \mathbf{p} \cdot d\mathbf{r} + \int_{\mathbf{r}_0}^{\mathbf{r}} \frac{q}{\hbar} \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$ , (kinetic phase) + (“A-B phase”).
- If the region is “not simply connected” (has a hole, and magnetic flux  $\Phi$  through the hole,  $\oint_{\text{hole}} \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \Phi$ ). The “A-B phase” depends on path from  $\mathbf{r}_0$  to  $\mathbf{r}$ , different paths around the hole produce interference pattern depending on  $\Phi$ .
- Bohr-Sommerfeld quantization condition is,  $\oint \mathbf{p} \cdot d\mathbf{r} + \oint q\mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = (n + \frac{1}{2})h$ . For cyclotron motion, suppose the cyclotron orbit radius is  $r$ , angular frequency  $\omega = qB/m$  (solved by  $q \cdot r\omega \cdot B = m \cdot r\omega^2$ ), then  $(mr\omega \cdot 2\pi r - q\pi r^2 B) = (n + \frac{1}{2})h$ . This produces the exact Landau level energy,  $E_n = \frac{m(r\omega)^2}{2} = \hbar\omega(n + \frac{1}{2})$ .
- Magnetic flux changes “momentum” quantization [Textbook Eq. (10.74)]: use cylindrical coordinates  $(r, \theta, z)$ ; magnetic flux  $\Phi$  along  $r = 0$  line,  $\mathbf{A} = \frac{\Phi}{2\pi r} \mathbf{e}_\theta$ ; particle is on a ring ( $r = R, z = 0$ ),  $\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{P}_\theta^2}{2m}$ ,  $\hat{P}_\theta = -i\hbar \frac{1}{r} \partial_\theta - \frac{q\Phi}{2\pi r}$ . Wavefunction  $\psi$  must be periodic w.r.t.  $\theta \bmod 2\pi$ . “Momentum” eigenvalues are  $\hat{P}_\theta = \frac{2\pi\hbar n - q\Phi}{2\pi R}$ , for integer  $n$ . Quantized energy levels depend on  $\Phi$ . Adiabatically change  $\Phi$  by  $\Phi_0 \equiv \frac{2\pi\hbar}{q}$  (*magnetic flux quantum*) will shift the energy levels by one step in  $n$ .
- Dirac quantization condition for magnetic monopole: a real magnetic monopole with magnetic charge  $q_m$  at  $\vec{r} = 0$  will produce magnetic field  $\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 q_m}{4\pi} \frac{\vec{r}}{r^2}$  at  $\vec{r}$ . The magnetic flux through a sphere enclosing the monopole is  $\Phi = \iint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{a} = \mu_0 q_m$ . Consider a electric charge  $q_e$  moving around the monopole, *e.g.* along the equator, the A-B phase obtained can be computed by the magnetic flux either through the upper hemisphere or the lower hemisphere,  $\frac{q_e \Phi_{\text{upper hemisphere}}}{\hbar} = \frac{\mu_0 q_m q_e}{2\hbar}$  or  $-\frac{q_e \Phi_{\text{lower hemisphere}}}{\hbar} = -\frac{\mu_0 q_m q_e}{2\hbar}$ . Therefore  $q_m q_e = \frac{2\pi n \hbar}{\mu_0}$ , for some integer  $n$ .
  - \* If there is one magnetic monopole  $q_m$  somewhere in the universe, then all electric charges must be quantized !



## X. SCATTERING ( $\sim$ CH.11)

- Hamiltonian is free particle kinetic energy plus a (short-ranged) scattering potential  $V(\mathbf{r})$ , we will consider only 3D non-relativistic particle here.  $\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{\mathbf{p}}^2}{2m} + V(\mathbf{r})$ .
  - We will only consider *elastic scattering* here. Scattering potential is time-independent. Particle's energy is conserved.
- Scattering can be viewed as (degenerate) time-independent perturbation problem: The eigenstate for energy  $E = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m}$  is incoming plane wave  $e^{ikz}$  (assumed to be along  $+z$  direction), plus outgoing scattered waves,  $\psi(r, \theta, \phi) = e^{ikz} + f(\theta, \phi) \frac{e^{ikr}}{r}$ .
  - Current density of incoming plane wave is  $\frac{\hbar k}{m}$ . Scattered particle current through a solid angle element  $d\Omega$  is  $\frac{\hbar k}{m} |f(\theta, \phi)|^2 d\Omega$ . The ratio is the ...
  - **Differential cross section:**  $\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = |f(\theta, \phi)|^2$ . (See Textbook Figure 11.3)
  - **Scattering cross section:**  $\sigma \equiv \int \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} d\Omega$ . Total scattered particle current divided by incoming current density. Note: both  $\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}$  and  $\sigma$  have units of “area”.
- Scattering can also be viewed as time-dependent perturbation problem: Initial( $t \rightarrow -\infty$ ) state is plane wave (broad wave packet)  $e^{ikz}$ ; slowly turn on/off the scattering potential,  $e^{-\epsilon|t|}V(\mathbf{r})$ , ( $\epsilon \rightarrow 0+$ ); final( $t \rightarrow +\infty$ ) state contains outgoing scattered waves and “forward scattering” (remnant of incoming wave).
- General solution: stationary Schrödinger equation becomes,  $(\nabla^2 + k^2)\psi = \frac{2mV(\mathbf{r})}{\hbar^2}\psi$ .
  - Define the Green's function:  $G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$  satisfies,  $(\nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^2 + k^2)G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = -4\pi\delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')$ . Note:  $G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$  as a function of  $\mathbf{r}$  is a spherical wave emitted from  $\mathbf{r}'$ .
  - $G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = G(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')$ . Fourier transform  $G(\mathbf{r})$ ,  $g(\mathbf{k}') \equiv \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int G(\mathbf{r}) e^{-i\mathbf{k}' \cdot \mathbf{r}} d\mathbf{r}$ , then  $g(\mathbf{k}') = \frac{4\pi}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{k'^2 - k^2}$ . But we need to avoid the poles at  $k' = k$ .
  - Green's function:  $G_+(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{4\pi}{(2\pi)^3} \int \frac{1}{k'^2 - (k^2 + i\epsilon)} e^{i\mathbf{k}' \cdot \mathbf{r}} d\mathbf{k}'$  ( $\epsilon \rightarrow 0+$ )  
 $= \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \int_0^\infty (k')^2 dk' \int_{-1}^1 d(\cos \theta) \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \frac{e^{ik'r \cos \theta}}{k'^2 - (k^2 + i\epsilon)} = \frac{1}{i\pi r} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{k'}{k'^2 - (k^2 + i\epsilon)} e^{ik'r} dk' = \frac{e^{ikr}}{r}$ .  
 This is an *outgoing* spherical wave.
  - Lippman-Schwinger equation:  $\psi(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{e^{ikz}}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} - \frac{1}{4\pi} \int G_+(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \frac{2mV(\mathbf{r}')}{\hbar^2} \psi(\mathbf{r}') d\mathbf{r}'$ .  
 When  $|\mathbf{r}| \gg |\mathbf{r}'|$ ,  $|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'| \approx r - \frac{\mathbf{r}}{r} \cdot \mathbf{r}'$ . Define outgoing wavevector  $\mathbf{k}' = k \cdot \frac{\mathbf{r}}{r}$ .

–  $\psi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{3/2}}(e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}} + \frac{e^{ikr}}{r}f(\mathbf{k}', \mathbf{k}))$ . Here  $\mathbf{k}$  ( $\mathbf{k}'$ ) is incoming(outgoing) wavevector.  
The scattering amplitude  $f(\mathbf{k}', \mathbf{k}) = -\frac{(2\pi)^{3/2}}{4\pi} \int e^{-i\mathbf{k}'\cdot\mathbf{r}'} \frac{2mV(\mathbf{r}')}{\hbar^2} \psi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}') d\mathbf{r}'$ .

- (First-order) Born approximation:

$$f(\mathbf{k}', \mathbf{k}) \approx -\frac{(2\pi)^{3/2}}{4\pi} \int e^{-i\mathbf{k}'\cdot\mathbf{r}'} \frac{2mV(\mathbf{r}')}{\hbar^2} \frac{e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}'}}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} d\mathbf{r}' = -\frac{m}{2\pi\hbar^2} \int e^{-i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{r}'} V(\mathbf{r}') d\mathbf{r}'.$$

Here  $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{k}' - \mathbf{k}$  is the “momentum transfer”. For central potential  $V(r)$ ,

$$f(\mathbf{k}', \mathbf{k}) \approx f(q) = -\frac{2m}{\hbar^2} \int_0^\infty \frac{r \sin(qr)}{q} V(r) dr, \text{ depends only on } q = |\mathbf{q}| = 2k \sin(\frac{\theta}{2}).$$

- Range of validity of Born approximation: need “ $\frac{1}{r}f(\mathbf{k}', \mathbf{k})$ ” to be small in the range of  $V$ . Consider a finite-range  $V(r)$ ,  $|V(r)| \leq V_0$ , and  $V(r > a) = 0$ .  
For small  $q$ , we need  $\frac{2mV_0a^2}{\hbar^2} \ll 1$ ; for large  $q$ , we need  $\frac{2mV_0}{\hbar^2 q^2} \ll 1$ .
- Example: Coulomb potential (Rutherford scattering, Textbook Example 11.6).  
 $V(r) = -\frac{A}{r}$ , then  $f(q) = \frac{2mA}{\hbar^2 q^2} = \frac{A}{4E \sin^2(\frac{\theta}{2})}$ . The total cross section diverges.

- Partial wave analysis: for central scattering potential  $V(r)$ ,

$$\psi(r, \theta, \phi) = e^{ikr \cos \theta} + f(\theta) \frac{e^{ikr}}{r}. \text{ Expand into Legendre polynomials } P_\ell(\cos \theta).$$

- $e^{ikr \cos \theta} = \sum_{\ell=0}^\infty (2\ell+1) i^\ell j_\ell(kr) P_\ell(\cos \theta) \sim \sum_{\ell=0}^\infty (2\ell+1) \frac{e^{ikr} - (-1)^\ell e^{-ikr}}{2ikr} P_\ell(\cos \theta)$ ,  
for large  $r$ , contains both outgoing and incoming spherical waves.
- Expand  $f(\theta)$ ,  $f(\theta) = \sum_{\ell=0}^\infty (2\ell+1) f_\ell P_\ell(\cos \theta)$ ,  $f_\ell$  are complex numbers.  
Total cross section  $\sigma = 2\pi \int_0^\pi |f(\theta)|^2 \sin \theta d\theta = \sum_{\ell=0}^\infty 4\pi (2\ell+1) |f_\ell|^2$ .  
For large  $r$ ,  $\psi \sim \sum_{\ell=0}^\infty (2\ell+1) \frac{(1+2ikf_\ell)e^{ikr} - (-1)^\ell e^{-ikr}}{2ikr} P_\ell(\cos \theta)$ .
- $1 + 2ikf_\ell = e^{2i\delta_\ell}$ , for conservation of probability current in each channel. Here  $\delta_\ell$  is the “**phase shift**” in angular momentum  $\ell$  channel. Then  $f_\ell = \frac{1}{k} e^{i\delta_\ell} \sin \delta_\ell$ .
- Total cross section  $\sigma = \sum_{\ell=0}^\infty \sigma_\ell$ .  $\sigma_\ell$  is cross section in angular momentum  $\ell$  channel,  $\sigma_\ell = 4\pi (2\ell+1) |f_\ell|^2 = \frac{4\pi}{k^2} (2\ell+1) \sin^2 \delta_\ell \leq \frac{4\pi}{k^2} (2\ell+1)$ .
- To compute  $\delta_\ell$ , solve radial equation  $[-\frac{1}{r} \frac{d^2}{dr^2} r + \frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{r^2} + \frac{2mV(r)}{\hbar^2}] R(r) = k^2 R(r)$ ,  
then  $R(r) \sim j_\ell(kr) \cos \delta_\ell - n_\ell(kr) \sin \delta_\ell \sim \frac{\sin(kr + \delta_\ell - \frac{\ell\pi}{2})}{kr}$ , for large  $r$ .

- Optical theorem:  $\frac{4\pi}{k} \text{Im}[f(\theta \rightarrow 0)] = \sigma$ . (See *e.g.* Sakurai’s “Modern Quantum Mechanics” Section 7.3). Forward scattering amplitude is related to total cross section.

- In partial wave expansion,  $\sigma_\ell = \frac{4\pi}{k} (2\ell+1) \text{Im}(f_\ell)$ , using  $P_\ell(1) = 1$ .