

1. Prove the following identities:

(a) $[A, B + C] = [A, B] + [A, C]$.

(b) $[A, BC] = [A, B]C + B[A, C]$.

(c) $[A, [B, C]] + [B, [C, A]] + [C, [A, B]] = 0$.

(d) $[f(\hat{X}), \hat{P}] = i\hbar \frac{df}{dx}$, where f is operator function of \hat{X} .

2. For any operator A , show that $(A + A^\dagger)$, $i(A - A^\dagger)$ and AA^\dagger are hermitian operators.

3. Prove:

$$e^A B e^{-A} = B + [A, B] + \frac{1}{2!} [A, [A, B]] + \frac{1}{3!} [A, [A, [A, B]]] + \dots$$

and if A and B commute with their commutator then

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

4. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. Prove Schwarz inequality, that is, for any two vectors, $f, g \in \mathcal{H}$, show that

$$|\langle f, g \rangle|^2 \leq \langle f, f \rangle \langle g, g \rangle.$$

[Hint: Consider $\langle f + \lambda g, f + \lambda g \rangle \geq 0$. Now find λ such that the lhs is minimum.]

5. Let a time dependent observable be represented by a hermitian operator $\hat{\Omega}(t)$. If the system is in state $\Psi(t)$, show that

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle \hat{\Omega} \rangle = \frac{i}{\hbar} \langle [\hat{H}, \hat{\Omega}] \rangle + \left\langle \frac{\partial \hat{\Omega}}{\partial t} \right\rangle$$

where \hat{H} is the hamiltonian operator. [Hint: If $f(t)$ and $g(t)$ are any two states, then prove that

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle f(t), g(t) \rangle = \left\langle \frac{d}{dt} f(t), g(t) \right\rangle + \left\langle f(t), \frac{d}{dt} g(t) \right\rangle$$

using the properties of inner product and

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle f(t), g(t) \rangle = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\langle f(t + \Delta t), g(t + \Delta t) \rangle - \langle f(t), g(t) \rangle}{\Delta t}.$$

6. If the hamiltonian operator of a system is given by $\hat{H} = \hat{P}^2/2m + V(\hat{X})$, then prove the Ehrenfest's theorem:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \langle \hat{X} \rangle &= \frac{1}{m} \langle \hat{P} \rangle \\ \frac{d}{dt} \langle \hat{P} \rangle &= \langle -V'(\hat{X}) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

where V' is derivative of V wrt x . [Use the result of previous problem.]

7. Consider a quantum system consisting of a particle in a conservative force field. The energy spectrum is $\{E_1, E_2, \dots\}$ with corresponding normalized stationary states $\{\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots\}$. Let x_0 be an eigenvalue of the position operator with eigenvector ξ_{x_0} . Let $\alpha_1 = \langle \xi_{x_0}, \phi_1 \rangle$ and $\alpha_2 = \langle \xi_{x_0}, \phi_2 \rangle$. Let $\Psi(t)$ denote the state of the system at time t . Express, in terms of α_1 , α_2 and eigenenergies, the answers to the following questions:

- (a) If $\Psi(0) = \phi_1$, what is the probability density of finding the particle at x_0 at time t ?
- (b) If $\Psi(0) = \phi_2$, what is the probability density of finding the particle at x_0 at time t ?
- (c) If $\Psi(0) = (\phi_1 + \phi_2) / \sqrt{2}$, what is the probability density of finding the particle at x_0 at time t ? What is the maximum probability density? And minimum?
8. Here is an example of time dependent Hamiltonian: An electron in an oscillating electric field is described by a Hamiltonian operator

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{P}^2}{2m} - (eE_0 \cos \omega t) x$$

where E_0 is the amplitude of the electric field. Calculate $d\langle \hat{X} \rangle / dt$, and $d\langle \hat{P} \rangle / dt$.

9. The potential energy of a harmonic oscillator is given by $V(x) = m\omega^2 x^2 / 2$. Assuming that $\langle \hat{X} \rangle = \langle \hat{P} \rangle = 0$, find the lower limit to the expectation value of the Hamiltonian operator. [Hint: Use the uncertainty principle.]
10. The first excited state of the harmonic oscillator is given by

$$\psi_1(x) = \left(\frac{2\alpha}{\sqrt{\pi}} \right)^{1/2} (\alpha x) e^{-\alpha^2 x^2 / 2}.$$

Find ΔX and ΔP and check uncertainty principle. $\alpha^2 = m\omega / \hbar$.