

Wavefunction Renormalization

We have obtained the n -th eigenket of the perturbed Hamiltonian:

$$\begin{aligned}
 |n\rangle &= |n^{(0)}\rangle + \lambda \sum_{k \neq n} |k^{(0)}\rangle \frac{\langle k^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle}{E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)}} \\
 &\quad + \lambda^2 \left[\sum_{k \neq n} \sum_{l \neq n} |k^{(0)}\rangle \frac{\langle k^{(0)} | V | l^{(0)} \rangle \langle l^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle}{(E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)})(E_n^{(0)} - E_l^{(0)})} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \sum_{k \neq n} |k^{(0)}\rangle \frac{\langle k^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle \langle n^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle}{(E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)})^2} \right] \\
 &\quad + O(\lambda^3) \\
 &= |n^{(0)}\rangle + \lambda \sum_{k \neq n} |k^{(0)}\rangle \frac{V_{kn}}{E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)}} \\
 &\quad + \lambda^2 \left[\sum_{k \neq n} \sum_{l \neq n} |k^{(0)}\rangle \frac{V_{kl} V_{ln}}{(E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)})(E_n^{(0)} - E_l^{(0)})} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \sum_{k \neq n} |k^{(0)}\rangle \frac{V_{kn} V_{nn}}{(E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)})^2} \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

We call

$$\begin{aligned}
 |n^{(1)}\rangle &= \sum_{k \neq n} |k^{(0)}\rangle \frac{V_{kn}}{E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)}}, \\
 |n^{(2)}\rangle &= \sum_{k \neq n} \sum_{l \neq n} |k^{(0)}\rangle \frac{V_{kl} V_{ln}}{(E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)})(E_n^{(0)} - E_l^{(0)})} \\
 &\quad - \sum_{k \neq n} |k^{(0)}\rangle \frac{V_{kn} V_{nn}}{(E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)})^2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$|n\rangle = |n^{(0)}\rangle + \lambda |n^{(1)}\rangle + \lambda^2 |n^{(2)}\rangle + O(\lambda^3)$$

~~be $|n\rangle = |n^{(0)}\rangle + \lambda |n^{(1)}\rangle + O(\lambda^2)$ / n-th~~

We define the renormalized eigenket

$$|n\rangle_R \equiv \sqrt{Z_n} |n\rangle$$

such that $\langle n | n \rangle_R = 1$.

$$\text{Then } \langle n | n \rangle_R = Z_n \langle n | n \rangle.$$

$$\therefore Z_n = 1 / \langle n | n \rangle.$$

The square of the n-th eigenket is

$$\begin{aligned} \langle n | n \rangle &= \langle n^{(0)} | n^{(0)} \rangle + \lambda (\langle n^{(0)} | n^{(1)} \rangle + \langle n^{(1)} | n^{(0)} \rangle) \\ &\quad + \lambda^2 (\langle n^{(0)} | n^{(2)} \rangle + \langle n^{(1)} | n^{(1)} \rangle + \langle n^{(2)} | n^{(0)} \rangle) + O(\lambda^3) \end{aligned}$$

~~take $k \neq n$~~

$$\text{Because } |n^{(1)}\rangle = \sum_{k \neq n} |k^{(0)}\rangle \frac{\langle k^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle}{E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)}},$$

$$\langle n^{(0)} | n^{(1)} \rangle = 0. \text{ It is also true that}$$

~~Therefore, the norm~~

$$\langle n^{(0)} | n^{(2)} \rangle = 0 \text{ and so on.}$$

[Note that in the beginning, we have chosen the normalization such that

$$\langle n^{(0)} | n \rangle = 1.$$

Sure, $\langle n^{(0)} | n^{(0)} \rangle = 1$.]

Therefore,

$$\langle n | n \rangle = 1 + \lambda^2 \langle n^{(1)} | n^{(1)} \rangle + O(\lambda^3).$$

The normalization deviates from 1 from order λ^2 . There is no shift at order λ .

Because $|n^{(1)}\rangle = \sum_{k \neq n} |k^{(0)}\rangle \frac{\langle k^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle}{E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)}}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle n^{(1)} | n^{(1)} \rangle &= \sum_{k \neq n} \sum_{l \neq n} \frac{V_{nk} \langle k^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle V_{ln}}{(E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)})(E_n^{(0)} - E_l^{(0)})} \delta_{kl} \\ &= \sum_{k \neq n} \frac{|V_{nk}|^2}{(E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)})^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle n | n \rangle &= 1 + \lambda^2 \langle n^{(1)} | n^{(1)} \rangle + O(\lambda^2) \\ &= Z_n^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore Z_n^{-1} = 1 + \lambda^2 \langle n^{(1)} | n^{(1)} \rangle + O(\lambda^3)$$

and $Z_n = 1 - \lambda^2 \langle n^{(1)} | n^{(1)} \rangle + O(\lambda^3)$

$$= 1 - \lambda^2 \sum_{k \neq n} \frac{|V_{nk}|^2}{(E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)})^2} + O(\lambda^3).$$

The renormalization constant Z_n is similar order- λ^2 correction to the to the 2nd order energy shift.

Recall that

$$\Delta_n = E_n - E_n^{(0)} = \lambda V_{nn} + \lambda^2 \sum_{k \neq n} \frac{|V_{kn}|^2}{E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)}} + O(\lambda^3)$$

or $E_n = E_n^{(0)} + \lambda V_{nn} + \lambda^2 \sum_{k \neq n} \frac{|V_{kn}|^2}{E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)}} + O(\lambda^3)$

If we take the partial derivative of E_n w.r.t. $E_n^{(0)}$,

then we find that

$$\frac{\partial E_n}{\partial E_n^{(0)}} = 1 - \lambda^2 \sum_{k \neq n} \frac{|V_{kn}|^2}{(E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)})^2} + O(\lambda^3) = Z_n \quad \begin{matrix} \text{DDD} \\ \text{ooo} \end{matrix}$$

Elementary Examples

$$H_0 = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 x^2 \quad \text{harmonic oscillator}$$

$$V = \frac{1}{2}\epsilon m\omega^2 x^2$$

$$H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}m(1+\epsilon)\omega^2 x^2 \\ = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}m(\omega')^2 x^2,$$

where $\omega' = \sqrt{1+\epsilon}\omega$.

Therefore, the problem is exactly solvable!

$$E_n = \hbar\omega\sqrt{1+\epsilon}\left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right),$$

$$|n\rangle = \frac{(a^\dagger)^n}{\sqrt{n!}} |0\rangle, \quad \text{for } n=0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$|0^{(0)}\rangle \rightarrow |0\rangle \quad \text{order } \epsilon$$

$$|0\rangle = |0^{(0)}\rangle + \sum_{k \neq 0} |k^{(0)}\rangle \frac{|V_{k0}|^2}{E_0^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)}} + O(\epsilon^2)$$

$$E_n^{(0)} = \frac{1}{2}\hbar\omega + \Delta_0$$

$$\Delta_0 = V_{00} + \sum_{k \neq 0} \frac{|V_{k0}|^2}{E_0^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)}} + O(\epsilon^3)$$

order ϵ order ϵ^2

$$H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 x^2$$

$$= \frac{\hbar \omega}{2} \left(\frac{p^2}{\hbar \omega} + \frac{m \omega}{\hbar} x^2 \right)$$

$$= \frac{\hbar \omega}{2} \left(\frac{m \omega}{\hbar} x^2 - \frac{\hbar}{m \omega} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \right)$$

$$p = \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$$

$$p^2 = -\hbar^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}$$

$$\xi \equiv \sqrt{\frac{m \omega}{\hbar}} x$$

$$= \frac{\hbar \omega}{2} \left(\xi^2 - \frac{d^2}{d\xi^2} \right)$$

We define

$$a \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\sqrt{\frac{m \omega}{\hbar}} x + i \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{m \omega}} p \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\xi + \frac{d}{d\xi} \right)$$

$$a^\dagger \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\sqrt{\frac{m \omega}{\hbar}} x - i \frac{p}{\sqrt{m \omega}} \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\xi - \frac{d}{d\xi} \right)$$

$$a^\dagger a = \frac{1}{2} \left(\xi - \frac{d}{d\xi} \right) \left(\xi + \frac{d}{d\xi} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(\xi^2 - \frac{d^2}{d\xi^2} - 1 \right)$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\xi^2 - \frac{d^2}{d\xi^2} \right) = a^\dagger a + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\therefore H = \hbar \omega \left(a^\dagger a + \frac{1}{2} \right) = \hbar \omega \left(N + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$N \equiv a^\dagger a = \frac{1}{2} \left(\xi^2 - \frac{d^2}{d\xi^2} - 1 \right)$$

$$a a^\dagger = \frac{1}{2} \left(\quad + 1 \right)$$

$$\therefore [a, a^\dagger] = a a^\dagger - a^\dagger a = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 [N, a] &= a^\dagger a a - a a^\dagger a \\
 &= [a^\dagger, a] a = -a \\
 [N, a^\dagger] &= a^\dagger a a^\dagger - a^\dagger a^\dagger a \\
 &= a^\dagger [a, a^\dagger] = a^\dagger
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Rightarrow N|n\rangle &\equiv n|n\rangle \quad \downarrow \\
 N(a|n\rangle) &= [N, a]|n\rangle + aN|n\rangle \\
 &= (-a + an)|n\rangle \\
 &= (n-1)a|n\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow a^k|n\rangle \propto |n-k\rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 N(a^\dagger|n\rangle) &= [N, a^\dagger]|n\rangle + a^\dagger N|n\rangle \\
 &= (a^\dagger + na^\dagger)|n\rangle \\
 &= (n+1)(a^\dagger|n\rangle)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow (a^\dagger)^k|n\rangle \propto |n+k\rangle.$$

We can show that

$$|n\rangle = \frac{(a^\dagger)^n}{\sqrt{n!}}|0\rangle$$

and $n=0, 1, 2, \dots$

$$E_n = \hbar \omega' \left(n + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$= \hbar \omega \sqrt{1 + \epsilon} \left(n + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

In the case of the ground state, $(n=0)$

$$E_n = \hbar \omega \sqrt{1 + \epsilon} \times \frac{1}{2} \quad \sqrt{1 + \epsilon} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon + \frac{\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^2 \epsilon^2}{2} + O(\epsilon^3)$$

$$= E_n^{(0)} + \Delta_n^{(1)} + \Delta_n^{(2)} + O(\epsilon^3) \quad = 1 + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon - \frac{1}{8} \epsilon^2 + O(\epsilon^3)$$

$$\Delta_n^{(1)} = \frac{1}{2} \hbar \omega \times \frac{1}{2} \epsilon = \frac{1}{4} \hbar \omega \epsilon$$

$$\Delta_n^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2} \hbar \omega \times \left(-\frac{1}{8} \epsilon^2 \right) = -\frac{1}{16} \hbar \omega \epsilon^2$$

We ~~can~~ want to check $\Delta_n^{(1)}$ and $\Delta_n^{(2)}$ by making use of the perturbation theory.

$$\Delta_n^{(1)} = V_{00} = \langle 0 | \frac{1}{2} \epsilon m \omega^2 x^2 | 0 \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon m \omega^2 \langle 0 | x^2 | 0 \rangle$$

We need to evaluate the matrix element $\langle 0 | x^2 | 0 \rangle$.

We recall that

$$a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{\hbar}} x + i \frac{p}{\sqrt{m\hbar\omega}} \right)$$

$$a^\dagger = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{\hbar}} x - i \frac{p}{\sqrt{m\hbar\omega}} \right)$$

$$\therefore x = \sqrt{\frac{2m\omega}{\hbar}} (a + a^\dagger)$$

$$\text{Therefore, } x^2 = \frac{2m\omega}{\hbar} (a + a^\dagger)^2$$

$$\langle 0 | x^2 | 0 \rangle = \frac{\hbar}{2m\omega} \langle 0 | (a + a^\dagger)^2 | 0 \rangle$$

$$= \frac{\hbar}{2m\omega} \langle 0 | a a^\dagger | 0 \rangle,$$

where we have used

$$a|0\rangle = 0 \quad (\& a^2|0\rangle \neq 0, a^\dagger a|0\rangle = 0)$$

$$(a^\dagger)^2|0\rangle \propto |2\rangle \quad \therefore \langle 0 | (a^\dagger)^2 | 0 \rangle \propto \langle 0 | 2 \rangle = 0$$

$$|n\rangle = \frac{(a^\dagger)^n}{\sqrt{n!}} |0\rangle \Rightarrow (a^\dagger)^n |0\rangle = \sqrt{n!} |n\rangle$$

$$a^\dagger |0\rangle = |1\rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow |a^\dagger |0\rangle|^2 = \langle 0 | a a^\dagger | 0 \rangle = \langle 1 | 1 \rangle = 1$$

$$\therefore \langle 0 | x^2 | 0 \rangle = \frac{\hbar}{2m\omega} \langle 1 | 1 \rangle = \frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta_0^{(1)} = V_{00} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon m \omega^2 x^2 \times \frac{\hbar}{2m\omega} = \frac{1}{4} \hbar \omega \epsilon$$

This result agrees with the first-order energy shift that has been expanded from the exact solution.

Let us compute $\Delta_0^{(2)}$.

$$\Delta_0^{(2)} = \sum_{k \neq 0} \frac{|V_{0k}|^2}{E_0^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)}} = -\frac{1}{\hbar \omega} \sum_{k \neq 0} \frac{|V_{0k}|^2}{k}$$

$$E_k^{(0)} = \hbar \omega \left(\frac{1}{2} + k \right) \quad \rightarrow \quad E_0^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)} = -\hbar \omega k$$

$$E_0^{(0)} = \hbar \omega \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

$$V_{0k} = \langle 0 | \frac{\epsilon}{2} m \omega^2 x^2 | k \rangle$$

$$= \frac{\epsilon}{2} m \omega^2 \frac{\hbar}{2m\omega} \langle 0 | (a + a^\dagger)^2 | k \rangle = \frac{\epsilon}{4} \hbar \omega \langle 0 | (a + a^\dagger)^2 | k \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 0|a^2|k\rangle &\neq 0 \text{ only if } k=2 \\ \langle 0|aa^\dagger|k\rangle &\neq 0 \text{ only if } k=0 \text{ (no need!)} \\ \langle 0|a^\dagger a|k\rangle &= 0 \text{ for all } k \\ \langle 0|(a^\dagger)^2|k\rangle &= 0 \text{ for all } k. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\langle 0|a^2|2\rangle =$

$$\begin{aligned} |a|n\rangle|^2 &= \langle n|a^\dagger a|n\rangle = \langle n|N|n\rangle \\ &= n\langle n|n\rangle = n \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore a|n\rangle = \sqrt{n}|n-1\rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} a^2|n\rangle &= a(a|n\rangle) \\ &= a(\sqrt{n}|n-1\rangle) \\ &= \sqrt{n}(a|n-1\rangle) \\ &= \sqrt{n(n-1)}|n-2\rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore a^2|2\rangle = \sqrt{2 \cdot 1}|0\rangle = \sqrt{2}|0\rangle$$

Therefore, $\langle 0|a^2|2\rangle = \sqrt{2}\langle 0|0\rangle = \sqrt{2}$.

From this, $V_{0k} = \frac{\epsilon}{4}\hbar\omega \langle 0|a^2|k\rangle$

$$(k \neq 0) = \frac{\epsilon}{4}\hbar\omega \sqrt{2}\delta_{k2} = \frac{\epsilon}{2\sqrt{2}}\hbar\omega \delta_{k2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_0^{(2)} &= -\frac{1}{\hbar\omega} \frac{|V_{0k}|^2}{k} = -\frac{1}{\hbar\omega} \times \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\epsilon}{2\sqrt{2}}\hbar\omega\right)^2 \\ &= -\frac{\epsilon^2}{16}\hbar\omega \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow E_n &= \frac{1}{2}\hbar\omega + \frac{\epsilon}{4}\hbar\omega - \frac{\epsilon^2}{16}\hbar\omega + O(\epsilon^3) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\hbar\omega \left[1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2} - \frac{\epsilon^2}{8} + O(\epsilon^3)\right]. \text{ Checked!} \end{aligned}$$