



# Advanced Quantum Mechanics II

PEN425

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Week 12

Schrödinger Picture

Heisenberg Picture

Dirac Picture

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# Early Questions

- Interpretation of Quantum Mechanics
  - Mean?
  - Calculations?
  - State?
  - Measurement?
  - Evolution?
  - 
  -

## 3 Different Answers

# Pictures of Quantum Mechanics

Evolution	Picture		
of:	Heisenberg	Interaction	Schrödinger
Ket state	constant	$ \psi_I(t)\rangle = e^{iH_{0,S} t/\hbar}  \psi_S(t)\rangle$	$ \psi_S(t)\rangle = e^{-iH_S t/\hbar}  \psi_S(0)\rangle$
Observable	$A_H(t) = e^{iH_S t/\hbar} A_S e^{-iH_S t/\hbar}$	$A_I(t) = e^{iH_{0,S} t/\hbar} A_S e^{-iH_{0,S} t/\hbar}$	constant
Density matrix	constant	$\rho_I(t) = e^{iH_{0,S} t/\hbar} \rho_S(t) e^{-iH_{0,S} t/\hbar}$	$\rho_S(t) = e^{-iH_S t/\hbar} \rho_S(0) e^{iH_S t/\hbar}$

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**Measurement:** Physical quantities

**Classical mechanics:** Time dependent variables (Vectors, Real Space)

**Quantum mechanics:** Operators, State functions (Linear Complex Vector Space)

**Schrödinger Picture:** Time-independent operators,  
Time-dependent States  $i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\psi_S(\mathbf{x}, t) = H^{op}_S\psi_S(\mathbf{x}, t)$

**Expectation value:**  $\langle A(t) \rangle = \langle \psi_S(t) | O_S | \psi_S(t) \rangle$

**Heisenberg Picture:** Time dependent operators,  
Time-independent States  $i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\psi_H(\mathbf{x}, t) = 0$

**Time evolution operator**  $HU = i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}U$

# Operators in Heisenberg Picture

$$\langle \hat{O}(t) \rangle = \langle \Psi_S^+(t) | \hat{O}_S | \Psi_S(t) \rangle$$

$$\Psi_S(t) \rightarrow \hat{U}(t,0) \Psi_H(0) \quad \Psi_S^+(t) \rightarrow (\hat{U}(t,0) \Psi_H(0))^\dagger = \Psi_H^+(0) \hat{U}^\dagger(t)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \hat{O}(t) \rangle &= \langle \Psi_H^+(0) \hat{U}^\dagger(t,0) | \hat{O}_S | \hat{U}(t) \Psi_H(0) \rangle = \langle \Psi_H^+(0) | \hat{U}^\dagger(t) \hat{O}_S \hat{U}(t) | \Psi_H(0) \rangle \\ &= \langle \Psi_H^+(0) | \hat{O}_H(t) | \Psi_H(0) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{O}_H(t) = \hat{U}^\dagger(t) \hat{O}_S \hat{U}(t) = e^{i\hat{H}t} \hat{O}_S e^{-i\hat{H}t}$$

# Heisenberg EoM

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \hat{O}_H(t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\hat{U}^\dagger(t) \hat{O}_S \hat{U}(t)) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \hat{U}^\dagger(t) \hat{O}_S \hat{U}(t) + \hat{U}^\dagger(t) \hat{O}_S \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \hat{U}(t)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \hat{U} = -i\hat{H}\hat{U} \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \hat{U}^\dagger = +i(\hat{H}\hat{U})^\dagger = +i\hat{U}^\dagger \hat{H}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \hat{O}_H(t) &= i(\hat{U}^\dagger \hat{H} \hat{O}_S \hat{U} - \hat{U}^\dagger \hat{O}_S \hat{H} \hat{U}) = i(\hat{H} \hat{U}^\dagger \hat{O}_S \hat{U} - \hat{U}^\dagger \hat{O}_S \hat{U} \hat{H}) = i(\hat{H} \hat{O}_H - \hat{O}_H \hat{H}) \\ &= i[\hat{H}, \hat{O}_H] \end{aligned}$$

$$i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \hat{O}_H(t) = [\hat{O}_H, \hat{H}]$$



## Operators in Dirac Picture

$$\Psi_I(t) = e^{+i\hat{H}_0 t} \Psi_S(t)$$

$$\Psi_S(t) = e^{-i(\hat{H}_1 + \hat{H}_0)t} \Psi_S(0)$$

## EoM in Dirac Picture

$$\begin{aligned} i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi_I(t) &= i(i\hat{H}_0) \Psi_I(t) + e^{+i\hat{H}_0 t} i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi_S(t) \\ &= -\hat{H}_0 \Psi_I(t) + e^{+i\hat{H}_0 t} (\hat{H}_0 + \hat{H}_1) \Psi_S(t) \\ &= -\hat{H}_0 \Psi_I(t) + e^{+i\hat{H}_0 t} (\hat{H}_0 + \hat{H}_1) e^{-i\hat{H}_0 t} \Psi_I(t) \\ &= e^{+i\hat{H}_0 t} (-\hat{H}_0 + \hat{H}_0 + \hat{H}_1) e^{-i\hat{H}_0 t} \Psi_I(t) \\ &= e^{+i\hat{H}_0 t} \hat{H}_1 e^{-i\hat{H}_0 t} \Psi_I(t) \end{aligned}$$

- Operators in interaction picture

$$i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi_I(t) = \hat{H}_I(t) \Psi_I(t) \quad \hat{H}_I(t) = e^{+i\hat{H}_0 t} \hat{H}_I e^{-i\hat{H}_0 t}$$

Recitation: Prove that  $i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \hat{O}_I(t) = [\hat{O}_I, \hat{H}_0]$

- Schrödinger picture

$$i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi_S(t) = (\hat{H}_0 + \hat{H}_I) \Psi_S(t) \quad \hat{O}_S = \hat{O}_S \quad i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \hat{O}_S = 0$$

- Interaction picture

$$i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi_I(t) = \hat{H}_I(t) \Psi_I(t) \quad \hat{O}_I(t) = e^{+i\hat{H}_0 t} \hat{O}_S e^{-i\hat{H}_0 t} \quad i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \hat{O}_I(t) = [\hat{O}_I, \hat{H}_0]$$

- Heisenberg picture

$$i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi_H(t) = 0 \quad \hat{O}_H(t) = e^{+i\hat{H}t} \hat{O}_S e^{-i\hat{H}t} \quad i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \hat{O}_H(t) = [\hat{O}_H, \hat{H}_H]$$