

## The normalization of raising & lowering

$$\tilde{a}|n\rangle = C_n|n-1\rangle \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{replaced } \varepsilon \text{ by} \\ n, \varepsilon = n + \frac{1}{2} \end{array} \right)$$

$$\varepsilon = n + \frac{1}{2} \quad \varepsilon = n + \frac{1}{2} - 1 = n - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\tilde{a}^+|n\rangle = C_{n+1}|n+1\rangle$$

adjoint  $\langle n|\tilde{a} = C_{n+1}^* \langle n+1|$

so  $\langle n|\tilde{a}\tilde{a}^+|n\rangle = C_{n+1}C_{n+1}^* \langle n+1|n+1\rangle$

recall  $\hat{H} = \tilde{a}^+\tilde{a} + \frac{1}{2} = \tilde{a}\tilde{a}^+ - \frac{1}{2}$

$$\tilde{a}\tilde{a}^+ = \hat{H} + \frac{1}{2}$$

so  $\langle n|(\hat{H} + \frac{1}{2})|n\rangle = |C_{n+1}|^2$

$\hat{H}|n\rangle = (n + \frac{1}{2})|n\rangle$  since  $|n\rangle$  is an eigenket

so  $\langle n|(n+1)|n\rangle = |C_{n+1}|^2$

$(n+1)\langle n|n\rangle = |C_{n+1}|^2$

$\sqrt{n+1} e^{i\phi} = C_{n+1} \iff \phi \text{ a real } \neq$   
take  $\phi = 0$

$$C_{n+1} = \sqrt{n+1}$$

or  $\tilde{a}^+|n\rangle = \sqrt{n+1}|n+1\rangle$

also

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

in book, p.206

Number  
Operator

$$\hat{H}|n\rangle = (n + \frac{1}{2})|n\rangle$$

$$\hat{H} = \tilde{a}^\dagger \tilde{a} + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{so } (\tilde{a}^\dagger \tilde{a} + \frac{1}{2})|n\rangle = (n + \frac{1}{2})|n\rangle$$

$$\tilde{a}^\dagger \tilde{a}|n\rangle = n|n\rangle$$

so, named the number operator  $\tilde{N}$ 

$$\tilde{N} \equiv \tilde{a}^\dagger \tilde{a}$$

$$\text{another way: } \tilde{a}^\dagger \tilde{a}|n\rangle = \tilde{a}^\dagger \sqrt{n}|n-1\rangle = \sqrt{n} \tilde{a}^\dagger |n-1\rangle \\ = \sqrt{n} \sqrt{n-1+1}|n\rangle$$

$$\tilde{a}^\dagger \tilde{a}|n\rangle = n|n\rangle$$

Matrix Elements of  $\tilde{a}, \tilde{a}^\dagger$ 

$$\langle n' | \tilde{a} | n \rangle = \langle n' | \sqrt{n} | n-1 \rangle = \sqrt{n} \langle n' | n-1 \rangle$$

$$\langle n' | \tilde{a} | n \rangle = \sqrt{n} \delta_{n', n-1} \quad 7.4.26, \text{ p. 207}$$

$$\langle n' | \tilde{a}^\dagger | n \rangle = \langle n' | \sqrt{n+1} | n+1 \rangle = \sqrt{n+1} \langle n' | n+1 \rangle$$

$$\langle n' | \tilde{a}^\dagger | n \rangle = \sqrt{n+1} \delta_{n', n+1}$$

these can be visualized as matrices.

$$\langle n' | a | n \rangle = \sqrt{n'} \delta_{n', n-1}$$

	$n=0$	1	2	3	4	5	6 ...
$n'=0$	0	$\sqrt{1}$	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	$\sqrt{2}$	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	$\sqrt{3}$	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	$\sqrt{4}$	0	0
4	0	0	0	0	0	$\sqrt{5}$	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	$\sqrt{6}$
$\vdots$							

$$\langle n' | a^\dagger | n \rangle = \sqrt{n+1} \delta_{n', n+1}$$

$n'=0$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	$\sqrt{1}$	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	$\sqrt{2}$	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	$\sqrt{3}$	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	$\sqrt{4}$	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	$\sqrt{5}$	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	$\sqrt{6}$	0
$\vdots$							

These are pretty clearly not Hermitian.  
 What about  $\tilde{x}$  and  $\tilde{p}$ ?

$$\tilde{a} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ \frac{\tilde{x}}{b} + \frac{ib}{\hbar} \tilde{p} \right] \quad b = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{m\omega}}$$

$$\tilde{a}^\dagger = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ \frac{\tilde{x}}{b} - \frac{ib}{\hbar} \tilde{p} \right]$$

$$\tilde{a} + \tilde{a}^\dagger = \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\tilde{x}}{b} \Rightarrow \tilde{x} = \frac{b}{\sqrt{2}} (\tilde{a} + \tilde{a}^\dagger)$$

$$\tilde{a} - \tilde{a}^\dagger = \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{ib}{\hbar} \tilde{p} \Rightarrow \tilde{p} = \frac{i\hbar}{\sqrt{2}b} (\tilde{a}^\dagger - \tilde{a})$$

$$\langle n' | \tilde{x} | n \rangle =$$

	$n=0$	1	2	3	4	5	6
$n'=0$	0	$\sqrt{1}$	0	0	0	0	0 ...
1	$\sqrt{1}$	0	$\sqrt{2}$	0	0	0	0
2	0	$\sqrt{2}$	0	$\sqrt{3}$	0	0	0
3	0	0	$\sqrt{3}$	0	$\sqrt{4}$	0	0
4	0	0	0	$\sqrt{4}$	0	$\sqrt{5}$	0
5	0	0	0	0	$\sqrt{5}$	0	$\sqrt{6}$
6	0	0	0	0	0	$\sqrt{6}$	0

$$\langle n' | \hat{p} | n \rangle =$$

	$n=0$	1	2	3	4	5	6	...
$n'=0$	0	$-i$	0	0	0	0	0	
$\frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2b}} \times 1$	$i$	0	$-\sqrt{2}i$	0	0	0	0	
$\frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2b}} \times 2$	0	$\sqrt{2}i$	0	$-\sqrt{3}i$	0	0	0	
3	0	0	$\sqrt{3}i$	0	$-\sqrt{4}i$	0	0	
4	0	0	0	$\sqrt{4}i$	0	$-\sqrt{5}i$	0	
5	0	0	0	0	$\sqrt{5}i$	0	$-\sqrt{6}i$	
6	0	0	0	0	0	$\sqrt{6}i$	0	
$\vdots$								$\ddots$

These are the representations of  $\hat{x}, \hat{p}$  in the basis of energy eigenkets.

We know 3 bases now....

- ①  $\langle x | \hat{x} | x' \rangle = x \delta(x'-x)$  or  $\hat{x} \rightarrow x$
- $x$   $\langle x | \hat{p} | x' \rangle = \frac{\hbar}{i} \delta'(x-x')$  or  $\hat{p} \rightarrow \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{d}{dx}$
- ②  $\langle p | \hat{x} | p' \rangle = i\hbar \delta'(p-p')$  or  $\hat{x} \rightarrow i\hbar \frac{d}{dp}$
- $p$   $\langle p | \hat{p} | p' \rangle = p \delta(p'-p)$  or  $\hat{p} \rightarrow p$

these are  $H$ -independent

(3)  $\hbar$  dependent: when  $V(x) = \frac{1}{2} k x^2$ ,  
 $\langle n' | x | n \rangle$ ,  $\langle n' | p | n \rangle$  as previously  
 given.

In any basis,  $[x, p] = i\hbar$

Energy:

$$x p = \frac{b}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots \\ 1 & 0 & \sqrt{2} & \\ 0 & \sqrt{2} & 0 & \sqrt{3} \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{3} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \frac{i\hbar}{\sqrt{2}b} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -\sqrt{2} \\ 0 & \sqrt{2} & 0 & -\sqrt{3} \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{3} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{i\hbar}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -\sqrt{6} \\ \sqrt{2} & 0 & 1 & \\ & \sqrt{6} & & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

$$p x = \frac{i\hbar}{\sqrt{2}b} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -\sqrt{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{2} & 0 & -\sqrt{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{3} & 0 & -\sqrt{4} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \sqrt{4} & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & \ddots \end{bmatrix} \frac{b}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & \sqrt{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{2} & 0 & \sqrt{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{3} & 0 & \sqrt{4} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \sqrt{4} & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{i\hbar}{2} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & -\sqrt{2} & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & -\sqrt{6} & 0 \\ \sqrt{2} & 0 & -1 & 0 & -\sqrt{12} \\ 0 & \sqrt{6} & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ \vdots & & \sqrt{12} & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

so

$$x p - p x = i\hbar \cdot I$$

The generalization of Postulate II:

old  $\rightarrow$  in  $x$  basis

new  $\rightarrow x, p$  (classical)  $\Rightarrow \hat{x}, \hat{p}$  with  $[\hat{x}, \hat{p}] = i\hbar$

$$\Omega(x, p) \Rightarrow \Omega(\hat{x}, \hat{p})$$

like • Hamiltonian  
• angular momentum

occasional challenge:  
want  $\hat{\Omega}$  to be  
Hermitian;  
 $\hat{x}\hat{p} \neq \hat{p}\hat{x}$

so  $xp$  in  $\Omega$  usually replaced  
by  $\frac{1}{2}(\hat{x}\hat{p} + \hat{p}\hat{x})$ .

Generalizing to 2, 3, ... dimensions  
(more when  $> 1$ )  
particles

$$[\hat{x}, \hat{p}_x] = i\hbar \quad [\hat{y}, \hat{p}_x] = 0 \quad [\hat{z}, \hat{p}_x] = 0$$

$$[\hat{x}, \hat{p}_y] = 0 \quad [\hat{x}, \hat{p}_y] = i\hbar \quad [\hat{z}, \hat{p}_y] = 0$$

$$[\hat{x}, \hat{p}_z] = 0 \quad [\hat{x}, \hat{p}_z] = 0 \quad [\hat{z}, \hat{p}_z] = i\hbar$$

$\rightarrow$  coordinate variables don't commute  
with only their conjugate momenta

$\langle n' | \Omega(\hat{x}, \hat{p}) | n \rangle$  in S.H.O.

Three ways to do this! (That we discuss)

① Represent in  $x$ -basis

$$\langle n' | \hat{x}^3 | n \rangle \doteq \int dx \Psi_{n'}^*(x) x^3 \Psi_n(x)$$

$$\langle n' | \hat{x} p^2 \hat{x} | n \rangle \doteq \int dx \Psi_{n'}^*(x) x \left( -\hbar^2 \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \right) x \Psi_n(x)$$

② multiply matrices (did so for  $\hat{x} p$ ,  $p \hat{x}$ ).

③ expand  $\hat{x}$ ,  $p$  in terms of  $a$ ,  $a^\dagger$   
specifically,

$$\langle 3 | \hat{x}^3 | 0 \rangle = \left( \frac{b}{\sqrt{2}} \right)^3 \langle 3 | \underbrace{(a + a^\dagger)(a + a^\dagger)(a + a^\dagger)}_{\text{look out: } [a, a^\dagger] \neq 0} | 0 \rangle$$

$\begin{matrix} \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ \text{odd} & \text{odd} & \text{even} \end{matrix}$

under parity overall even,  $\neq 0$

$$= \left( \frac{b}{\sqrt{2}} \right)^3 \langle 3 | \left\{ a^3 + a^2 a^\dagger + a a^\dagger a + a^\dagger a^2 + a a^\dagger a + a^\dagger a a^\dagger + a^\dagger a^\dagger a + a^\dagger a^\dagger a^\dagger \right\} | 0 \rangle$$

$$= \left( \frac{b}{\sqrt{2}} \right)^3 \langle 3 | a^{\dagger 3} | 0 \rangle$$

$$a^{\dagger 3} | 0 \rangle = \sqrt{1} a^{\dagger 2} | 1 \rangle = \sqrt{1 \cdot 2} a^\dagger | 2 \rangle = \sqrt{6} | 3 \rangle$$

$$\text{so } \langle 3 | \hat{x}^3 | 0 \rangle = \frac{b^3}{2\sqrt{2}} \cdot \sqrt{6} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}} b^3$$