

Perturbation Theory (cont'd)

Insert

$$E_n = E_n^{(0)} + E_n^{(1)} + E_n^{(2)} \quad (1)$$

$$|n\rangle = |n^{(0)}\rangle + |n^{(1)}\rangle + |n^{(2)}\rangle \quad (2)$$

into

$$\left(H_0 + V - E_n \right) |n\rangle = 0 \quad (3)$$

and separate terms according to powers of λ .

$$0: \left(H_0 - E_n^{(0)} \right) |n^{(0)}\rangle = 0 \quad \checkmark \text{ by assumption} \quad (4)$$

$$1: H_0 |n^{(1)}\rangle + V |n^{(0)}\rangle = E_n^{(0)} |n^{(1)}\rangle + E_n^{(1)} |n^{(0)}\rangle \quad (5)$$

First require $\langle n^{(0)} | n^{(1)} \rangle = 0$ (see below) and project with $\langle n^{(0)} |$ on eq. (5). Result is

$$\langle n^{(0)} | H_0 |n^{(1)}\rangle + \langle n^{(0)} | V |n^{(0)}\rangle = E_n^{(0)} \langle n^{(0)} | n^{(1)} \rangle + E_n^{(1)} \langle n^{(0)} | n^{(0)} \rangle.$$

Making use of the requirement $\langle n^{(0)} | n^{(1)} \rangle = 0$ and that $\langle n^{(0)} | n^{(0)} \rangle = 1$, we have the final result

$$E_n^{(1)} = \langle n^{(0)} | V |n^{(0)}\rangle \quad (I)$$

To proceed project with $\langle \ell^{(0)} |$ on eq. (5). Doing that we have

$$\langle \ell^{(0)} | H_0 |n^{(1)}\rangle + \langle \ell^{(0)} | V |n^{(0)}\rangle = E_n^{(0)} \langle \ell^{(0)} | n^{(1)} \rangle \quad (\text{Recalling that } \langle \ell^{(0)} | n^{(0)} \rangle = 0). \quad (6)$$

Now, since the $\{ |n^{(0)}\rangle \}$ for a complete, orthonormal set, we have

$$|n^{(1)}\rangle = \sum_{\ell} C_{n,\ell} | \ell^{(0)} \rangle ; C_{n,\ell} = \langle \ell^{(0)} | n^{(1)} \rangle \quad (7)$$

and so

$$\langle \ell^{(0)} | H_0 | n^{(1)} \rangle = E_{\ell}^{(0)} C_{n,\ell}$$

and thus from (6), we have

$$E_{\ell}^{(0)} C_{n,\ell} + V_{\ell,n} = E_n^{(0)} C_{n,\ell}; V_{\ell,n} = \langle \ell^{(0)} | V | n^{(0)} \rangle \text{ and thus}$$

$$C_{n,\ell} = \frac{V_{\ell,n}}{E_n^{(0)} - E_{\ell}^{(0)}}. \text{ Finally then}$$

$$|n^{(1)}\rangle = \sum_{\ell} \frac{V_{\ell,n}}{E_n^{(0)} - E_{\ell}^{(0)}} | \ell^{(0)} \rangle \quad \text{II.}$$

Thus, $\sum_{\ell} \frac{V_{\ell,n}}{E_n^{(0)} - E_{\ell}^{(0)}} | \ell^{(0)} \rangle$ and this explains why the term $\ell = n$ is missing from the summation over ℓ .

$$\text{Similar manipulations give } E_n^{(2)} = \sum_{\ell} \frac{V_{\ell,n}^* V_{\ell,n}}{E_n^{(0)} - E_{\ell}^{(0)}} \quad \text{III.}$$