

Operators and Commutation relations

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$$L^2(a, b)$$

$$f(x): \mathbb{R} \mapsto \mathbb{C} \in L^2(a, b) \text{ if } \int_a^b |f(x)|^2 dx < \infty$$

Operators:

$$\hat{A}: L^2(a, b) \mapsto L^2(a, b)$$

$$f \mapsto \hat{A}f = g \in L^2$$

Linear operators:

$$\hat{A}(c_1 f_1 + c_2 f_2) = c_1 (\hat{A} f_1) + c_2 (\hat{A} f_2)$$

Example of operators:

$$\hat{x}: f(x) \mapsto x f(x) \quad (\text{Hermitian})$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \hat{d} : f(x) \mapsto \frac{df(x)}{dx} \quad (\text{Antihermitian}) \\ \hat{p}_x = -i\hbar \frac{d}{dx} \end{array} \right.$$

One studies in QM the eigenvalue equations:

$$\hat{A} \varphi_i = \lambda_i \varphi_i \qquad f(x) = \sum_i c_i \varphi_i$$

For the momentum operator:

$$\hat{P} \varphi_k = P \varphi_k \qquad P = \hbar K$$

$$\varphi_k = \frac{e^{iKx}}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$$

$$\hat{P} \varphi_k = -i \hbar \frac{d\varphi_k}{dx} = (\hbar K) \varphi_k = P \varphi_k$$

φ_k describes a particle with momentum $\hbar K$ (speed $\frac{\hbar K}{m} = v$)

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} \text{In 3d:} \\ L \end{array} \right. \varphi_{\vec{k}} = \frac{e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}}}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} \rightarrow \vec{P} = \hbar \vec{k} \left. \right]$$

Then:

$$f(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dk}{\sqrt{2\pi}} g(k) e^{iKx} \Rightarrow \text{superposition of } f(x) \text{ in the basis of eigenfun of } \hat{P}$$

mathematics: Fourier Transform

$$\int_{k_1}^{k_2} |g(k)|^2 dk \rightarrow \text{prob. to find } P \text{ in the range } \hbar K_1 \text{ and } \hbar K_2.$$

\hat{x} operation:

$$\hat{x} \phi(x) = x \phi(x) = x_0 \phi(x)$$

$$\phi(x) \equiv \phi_{x_0}(x) = \delta(x-x_0) \quad \Rightarrow \text{state with definite position} \\ \text{(although "Achtung": NO norm.)}$$

$$f(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx_0 \phi_{x_0}(x) f(x_0) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx_0 \delta(x-x_0) f(x_0) = f(x)$$



$f(x)$ written as a superposition of eigenstates of the position.

$\int_{x_1}^{x_2} |f(x)|^2 dx$ is the prob. to find the particle between x_1 and x_2 .

Summary:

$$f(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dk}{\sqrt{2\pi}} g(k) e^{ikx} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx_0 f(x_0) \delta(x-x_0)$$

\downarrow eigenvalue of \hat{p}
 $P = \hbar k$

\downarrow eigenvalue of \hat{x} : x_0 .

In $L^2(a, b)$ there is a scalar product:

$$(\varphi_1, \varphi_2) = \int_a^b \varphi_1^* \varphi_2 dx \quad \in \mathbb{C}$$

Given the operator \hat{A} , the conjugate \hat{A}^\dagger is defined by:

$$(\varphi_1, \hat{A}\varphi_2) = (\hat{A}^\dagger \varphi_1, \varphi_2)$$

$$= \int_a^b \varphi_1^* (\hat{A}\varphi_2) dx = \int_a^b (\hat{A}^\dagger \varphi_1)^* \varphi_2 dx$$

An operator is Hermitian if $\underline{\hat{A} = \hat{A}^\dagger}$.

$$(\varphi_1, \hat{A}\varphi_2) = (\hat{A}\varphi_1, \varphi_2) \quad \forall \varphi_1, \varphi_2 \in L^2(a, b).$$

\hat{p}_x and $\hat{p} = -i\hbar \frac{d}{dx}$ are both Hermitian!

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Remark: Note:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \text{ is anti-Hermitian: } \left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^\dagger = -\frac{d}{dx}$$

(assuming periodic function at the borders)

Simple properties and defs:

④ \hat{A} generic operator: $L^2(a,b) \rightarrow L^2(a,b)$

① $\hat{S} = \hat{A} + \hat{A}^+$ is Hermitian.

$$\left[\hat{S}^+ = \hat{A}^+ + \hat{A}^{++} = \hat{A}^+ + \hat{A} = \hat{A} + \hat{A}^+ = \hat{S} \right]$$

② $\hat{D} = \hat{A} - \hat{A}^+$ is Anti-Hermitian.

$$\left[\hat{D}^+ = \hat{A}^+ - \hat{A}^{++} = \hat{A}^+ - \hat{A} = -(\hat{A} - \hat{A}^+) = -\hat{D} \right]$$

③ \hat{A}, \hat{B} operators.

$$\hat{P} = \hat{A}\hat{B}$$

$$(\hat{A}\hat{B})f(x) = \hat{A}(\hat{B}f(x))$$

$$\hat{P}^+ = (\hat{A}\hat{B})^+ = \hat{B}^+\hat{A}^+ \quad !$$

if \hat{A} and \hat{B} are Hermitian, \hat{P} is not necessarily such! Namely: $\hat{P}^+ = \hat{B}^+\hat{A}^+ \neq \hat{A}\hat{B}$

④ \hat{A} herm. | \hat{A} antiherm.
 $\hat{B} = i\hat{A}$ is antiherm. | $\hat{B} = i\hat{A}$ is herm.

(they are equal only if \hat{A} and \hat{B} commute!)

$$[\hat{A}, \hat{B}] = \hat{A}\hat{B} - \hat{B}\hat{A}$$

Properties:

$$1) \hat{A}^\dagger = \hat{A}, \hat{B}^\dagger = \hat{B}$$

$$[\hat{A}, \hat{B}] \text{ is anti-hermitian; } ([\hat{A}, \hat{B}] = i\hat{C} \text{ with } \hat{C}^\dagger = \hat{C})$$

$$[\hat{A}, \hat{B}]^\dagger = (\hat{A}\hat{B} - \hat{B}\hat{A})^\dagger = \hat{B}^\dagger \hat{A}^\dagger - \hat{A}^\dagger \hat{B}^\dagger = \hat{B}\hat{A} - \hat{A}\hat{B} = -[\hat{A}, \hat{B}].$$

$$2) [\hat{A}, \hat{B}] = -[\hat{B}, \hat{A}]$$

$$3) [\hat{A}, \hat{B} + \hat{C}] = [\hat{A}, \hat{B}] + [\hat{A}, \hat{C}]$$

$$4) [\hat{A}, \hat{B}\hat{C}] = \hat{B}[\hat{A}, \hat{C}] + [\hat{A}, \hat{B}]\hat{C}$$

$$[\hat{A}\hat{B}, \hat{C}] = \hat{A}[\hat{B}, \hat{C}] + [\hat{A}, \hat{C}]\hat{B}$$

$$5) [\hat{A}, [\hat{B}, \hat{C}]] + [\hat{C}, [\hat{A}, \hat{B}]] + [\hat{B}, [\hat{C}, \hat{A}]] = 0.$$

"crucial commutator"

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$$[\hat{x}, \hat{p}] = \hat{x}\hat{p} - \hat{p}\hat{x}$$

Let us evaluate:

$$[\hat{x}, \hat{p}](f(x)) = \left(x \left(-i\hbar \frac{d}{dx} \right) - \left(-i\hbar \frac{d}{dx} \right) x \right) f(x) =$$

$$= -i\hbar x \frac{df}{dx} + i\hbar \frac{d}{dx} (x f(x)) =$$

$$= -i\hbar x \frac{df}{dx} + i\hbar f(x) + i\hbar x \frac{df}{dx}$$

$$= i\hbar f(x) \quad \forall f(x)$$

ergo:

$$[\hat{x}, \hat{p}] = i\hbar$$

\subset herm. operator

Both \hat{x}, \hat{p} are herm. $\rightarrow [\hat{x}, \hat{p}] = i\hbar$

Remember the Poisson parentheses? $\{x, p\}_P = 1$!!! Formally: Poisson
 \downarrow
Commutator

Going further:

$$[x, p] = i\hbar$$

calculate:

$$\circ [x^2, p] = x \overset{+i\hbar}{[x, p]} + \overset{+i\hbar}{[x, p]} x = 2i\hbar x \quad ; \quad [x^m, p] = i\hbar (m x^{m-1})$$

$$\circ [h(x), p] = i\hbar \frac{dh}{dx}$$

$$[x, q(p)] = i\hbar \frac{dq}{dp}$$

$$= H = T + V = \frac{p^2}{2m} + V(x)$$

Do x and p commute with H ? In general no. (Remark: commutation with H means constant of motion)

$$[H, x] = \left[\frac{p^2}{2m}, x \right] = -i\hbar \frac{p}{m} \neq 0$$

$$[H, p] = [V(x), p] = i\hbar \frac{dV}{dx} \neq 0$$

This means also: eigenstate of H are not eigenstates of p and x .

What is the operator $\hat{X}\hat{P}$? Is it Hermitian?

$$\begin{aligned} (XP)^{\dagger} &= P^{\dagger}X^{\dagger} = PX = PX - XP + XP = [P, X] + XP \\ &= -i\hbar + XP \end{aligned}$$

Ergo:

$$(XP)^{\dagger} = (XP) - i\hbar \neq (XP)$$

The operator XP is not Hermitian... note, classically we have no problem in discussing position \times momentum... but in QM there is an issue when constructing this quantity.

Which is the analogous operator in QM? It must be Hermitian:

$$\frac{1}{2} (\hat{X}\hat{P} + \hat{P}\hat{X})$$

is the correct QM counterpart of XP .

We have two observables \hat{A}, \hat{B} ($\hat{A}^\dagger = \hat{A}; \hat{B}^\dagger = \hat{B}$).

The sentence "can we measure both of them at the same time" is actually meaningless.

We can measure first \hat{A} and just a bit later \hat{B} (or vice versa).

Now, if $[\hat{A}, \hat{B}] = 0 \Leftrightarrow$ I can construct eigenfunctions ψ_m which are at the same time eigenstates of \hat{A} and \hat{B} :

$$\begin{cases} \hat{A}\psi_m = a_m \psi_m \\ \hat{B}\psi_m = b_m \psi_m \end{cases}$$

←

$$[A, B]\psi_m = (a_m b_m - b_m a_m)\psi_m = 0 \quad \forall m \rightarrow [A, B] = 0$$

→

Let us consider $\psi_m / \hat{A}\psi_m = a_m \psi_m$

$$[A, B]\psi_m = A(B\psi_m) - B(A\psi_m) = A(B\psi_m) - B a_m \psi_m = 0$$

$$\rightarrow A(B\psi_m) = a_m (B\psi_m)$$

$B\psi_m$ is eigenfunction of A with eigenvalue a_m .

if f_m is not degenerate.

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$$B\psi_m = \varrho_m \psi_m \quad \Rightarrow \quad \psi_m \text{ is also eigent. of } B \quad (\text{with same eigenvalue as } \varrho_m).$$

The proof for the most general case (degeneration is possible) is much more complicated.

$$A\psi_1 = \alpha\psi_1$$

$$A\psi_2 = \alpha\psi_2$$

then you get that $B\psi_1$ and $B\psi_2$ are also eigenfunctions of A .

$$B\psi_1 = \alpha\psi_1 + \beta\psi_2$$

$$B\psi_2 = \gamma\psi_1 + \delta\psi_2$$

it is now possible to write down two [⊥] combinations $\Psi_1 = \# \psi_1 + \# \psi_2$

$$\Psi_2 = -\# \psi_1 + \# \psi_2 \quad \checkmark$$

$$\bar{B}\Psi_1 = \varrho_1 \Psi_1$$

$$\bar{B}\Psi_2 = \varrho_2 \Psi_2$$

(also:

$$\Psi_1 = c\psi_1 + s\psi_2$$

$$\Psi_2 = -s\psi_1 + c\psi_2)$$

(while both Ψ_1, Ψ_2 are both eigenstates of A with eigenvalue α)

Suppose now that we start from

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$$\Psi(x) = \sum_m c_m \phi_m$$

No degeneracy:

if we make a measurement of the observable \hat{A} ,

the result is a_m with prob. $|c_m|^2$.

The wave function collapses to

$$\phi_m$$

if then I measure B, I find b_m .

(Note, if I had done the opposite \rightarrow same result)

Degeneracy: $\phi_m, \phi_{m+1}, \dots, \phi_{n+m} \Rightarrow$ SAME EIGENVALUE a_m ?

We find $|a_m|$ with prob. $|c_m|^2 + |c_{m+1}|^2 + \dots + |c_{n+m}|^2$?

The wave function collapses to:

$$\Psi(x) = N \left(c_m \phi_m + c_{m+1} \phi_{m+1} + \dots + c_{n+m} \phi_{n+m} \right)$$

$$N = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|c_m|^2 + \dots + |c_{n+m}|^2}}$$

Now, each of these is also an eigenv. of B .

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E.g., if we measure B we find (no deg. for B): b_m with prob.

$$|N| |C_m|^2 = \dots \rightarrow \text{collapse to } \phi_m \text{ only}$$

(a degeneracy in B implies $|N|^2 (|C_m|^2 + |C_{m+1}|^2 + \dots)$).

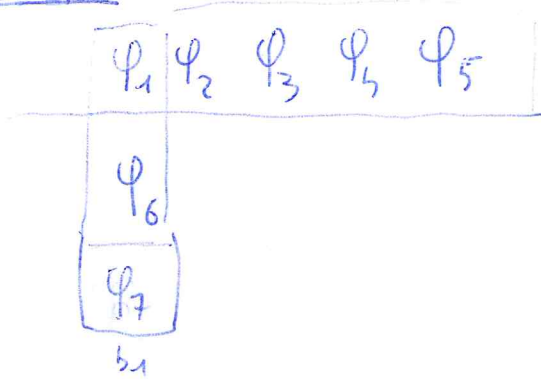
Then, the prob. to find a_m, b_m is $|N|^2 |C_m|^2$.

$$\left(|C_m|^2 + \dots |C_{m+1}|^2 \right) \cdot |N|^2 |C_m|^2 = |C_m|^2$$

Viewing, if I had measured first B and then $A \rightarrow$ same result,

same outcomes.

"One after the other: we can measure them at the same time... ACTUALLY"



a_1

$a_6 \neq a_1$

$A\psi_i = a_i \psi_i \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, 5$

$$\begin{cases} B\psi_1 = b_1 \psi_1 \\ B\psi_6 = b_1 \psi_1 \\ B\psi_7 = b_1 \psi_1 \end{cases}$$

$A\psi_2 = b_2 \psi_1$ with $b_2 \neq b_1, \dots$ ($b_1 = b_6 = b_7$)

$$\Psi(0, x) = \sum_n c_n \psi_n$$

Measurement \hat{A} :

The prob. to measure a_1 is

$|c_1|^2 + |c_2|^2 + |c_3|^2 + |c_4|^2 + |c_5|^2$

The state collapses to

$$\Psi(0^+, x) = N \sum_{n=1}^5 c_n \psi_n$$

$$N = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|c_1|^2 + \dots + |c_5|^2}}$$

Then, let us do a meas. of B . The prob. to find b_1 is

$|N|^2 \cdot (|c_1|^2)$

Then, the prob. to measure (a_1, b_1) is:

$(|c_1|^2 + |c_2|^2 + |c_3|^2 + |c_4|^2 + |c_5|^2) \cdot |N|^2 \cdot |c_1|^2 = |c_1|^2$

The wf after both meas is

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$$\Psi(0^{++}, x) = \psi_1(x)$$

(with prob. $|c_1|^2$).

If now we repeat a meas. of A we find a_1 (as oft as we want) and if we meas. B we find b_1 (as oft as we want, but we should do these meas. right after the first one, otherwise the time evolution can bring us far away from that.

Now, if we first perform a meas. of B:

$$|c_1|^2 + |c_6|^2 + |c_7|^2 \rightarrow b_1$$

$$\Psi' = N' (c_1 \psi_1 + c_6 \psi_6 + c_7 \psi_7)$$

$$N' = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|c_1|^2 + |c_6|^2 + |c_7|^2}}$$

Now we meas. A \rightarrow the prob. to find a_1 is

$$|N'|^2 \cdot |c_1|^2$$

Summary $\rightarrow a_1, b_1$ with prob.

$$(|c_1|^2 + |c_6|^2 + |c_7|^2) \cdot |N'|^2 |c_1|^2 = |c_1|^2$$

After both meas. \rightarrow prob. is $|c_1|^2$ just as before, $\Psi(0^{++}, x) = \psi_1!$

A more complicated example:

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \psi_1 & \psi_2 & \psi_3 & a_1 \\ & \psi_4 & & \\ & \sim & & \\ & b_1 & & \end{array}$$

$$\psi = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n \psi_n$$

Meas. $A \rightarrow a_1$ with prob. $|c_1|^2 + |c_2|^2 + |c_3|^2$

$$\psi = N (c_1 \psi_1 + c_2 \psi_2 + c_3 \psi_3).$$

Meas. $B \rightarrow$
Now, prob. to find b_1 is $|N|^2 (|c_1|^2 + |c_2|^2)$

The prob. to find a_1 first and b_1 after is:

$$(|c_1|^2 + |c_2|^2 + |c_3|^2) |N|^2 (|c_1|^2 + |c_2|^2) = |c_1|^2 + |c_2|^2$$

Then if is:

$$\psi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|c_1|^2 + |c_2|^2}} (c_1 \psi_1 + c_2 \psi_2)$$

By Post meas. B and then $A \rightarrow$ same result.

A very interesting case takes place when two observables do NOT commute:

$$[\hat{A}, \hat{B}] \neq 0.$$

In this case there is no common set of eigenfunctions.

$$\begin{cases} \hat{A} \psi_m = a_m \psi_m \\ \hat{B} \eta_k = b_k \eta_k \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} (\psi_m, \psi_n) = \delta_{mn} \\ (\eta_k, \eta_r) = \delta_{kr} \end{cases}$$

$$\psi(0, x) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} c_m \psi_m = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} d_k \eta_k$$

$$\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} |c_m|^2 = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |d_k|^2 = 1$$

Equivalent writing of $\psi(0, x)$.

Now \hat{A} :

The prob. to find $|c_1|$ is $|c_1|^2$ (no degeneracy for ψ_1).

But \hat{B} , the set of η states after this first meas. is:

$$\psi(0^+, x) = \psi_1(x).$$

But now ψ_1 is NOT an eigenstate of B .

$$\text{Let us write } \psi_1 = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{1k} \eta_k$$

Then, if I meas. B I find b_1 with prob.

$$|\alpha_{11}|^2$$

Then, the w.f. after the 2nd meas. is: η_1 .

The prob. for (a_1, b_1) is:

$$|c_1|^2 \cdot |\alpha_{11}|^2$$

Now, let us reverse the order:

We first measure B ; the prob. to find b_1 is $|d_1|^2$. Then we have η_1 , which

$$\eta_1 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \beta_{1n} \psi_n$$

out of which we get a_1 by a meas. of \hat{A} the result a_1 with prob. $|\beta_{11}|^2$.

Put it together:

$$|\beta_{11}|^2 \cdot |d_1|^2 =$$

and the w.f. is ψ_1 .

$$\psi = \sum_m c_m \phi_m = \sum_k d_k \eta_k$$

A	$ \alpha_1\rangle \rightarrow \psi_1$ $\psi_1 = \sum_k \alpha_{1k} \eta_k$	$ \alpha_1\rangle \rightarrow \eta_1$ $\eta_1 = \sum_m \beta_{1m} \phi_m$	B
B	$ \alpha_{1k}\rangle \rightarrow \eta_1$	$ \beta_{11}\rangle \rightarrow \psi_1$	A

Total prob: $|\alpha_1\rangle \cdot |\alpha_{11}\rangle$

$$\psi(\alpha_1, x) = \eta_1$$

↓

if I measure B
 I find b_1, \dots but if
 I measure A I get
 (possibly) something
 else!!!

Total prob: $|\alpha_1\rangle \cdot |\beta_{11}\rangle$

$$\psi(\alpha_1, x) = \psi_1$$

if I measure A \rightarrow I find a_1
 but if I measure B I get b_1, b_2, \dots
 very possible \neq reality!!!

Example:

 ψ_1, ψ_2
 η_1, η_2

$$\begin{cases} \psi_1 = \cos \eta \eta_1 + \sin \eta \eta_2 \\ \psi_2 = -\sin \eta \eta_1 + \cos \eta \eta_2 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \eta_1 = \cos \eta \psi_1 - \sin \eta \psi_2 \\ \eta_2 = \sin \eta \psi_1 + \cos \eta \psi_2 \end{cases}$$

$$\psi = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \psi_1 + \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} \psi_2$$

$$\begin{cases} A \psi_1 = a_1 \psi_1 \\ A \psi_2 = a_2 \psi_2 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} B \psi_1 = b_1 \psi_1 \\ B \psi_2 = b_2 \psi_2 \end{cases}$$

$$\psi = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} (c \eta_1 + s \eta_2) + \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} (-s \eta_1 + c \eta_2) =$$

$$\psi = \left(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} c - \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} s \right) \eta_1 + \left(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} s + \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} c \right) \eta_2$$

Measure A and B

Prob. $\frac{2}{3} \rightarrow a_1$; $\psi_1 = c\eta_1 + s\eta_2$

$a_1 \wedge b_1 \rightarrow \frac{2}{3} (\cos^2 \theta) \rightarrow \psi = \eta_1$

Measure B as A.

Prob: $(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} c - \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} s)^2 \rightarrow \eta_1 = c\psi_1 - s\psi_2$

Exp: $(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} c - \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} s)^2 \cdot c^2$ with $\psi = \psi_1$ in this case...
 $\neq \frac{2}{3} c^2$ (since $\neq 0$... but $\neq 0$ means that they are
 equal).

General formula

$$\hat{A}, \hat{B} / [\hat{A}, \hat{B}] \neq 0.$$

$$\Delta \hat{A} = \sqrt{\langle \hat{A}^2 \rangle - \langle \hat{A} \rangle^2} ;$$

$$\langle \hat{A} \rangle = (\psi, \hat{A} \psi)$$

$$\langle \hat{A}^2 \rangle = (\psi, \hat{A}^2 \psi)$$

$$\Delta \hat{B} = \sqrt{\langle \hat{B}^2 \rangle - \langle \hat{B} \rangle^2} ;$$

$$\Delta \hat{A} \cdot \Delta \hat{B} \geq \frac{1}{2} | \langle i [\hat{A}, \hat{B}] \rangle | \quad (*)$$

$$[\Delta \hat{A} = 0 \text{ only if } \hat{A} \psi = a \psi$$

$$\text{For } [\hat{x}, \hat{p}] = i \hbar$$

$$\Delta \hat{x} \Delta \hat{p} \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$$

(we saw it with the Gauss distribution one week ago).

But conceptually, this is a bit different. Here, for ΔA and ΔB , we do not need to measure A and B on the same particle ...

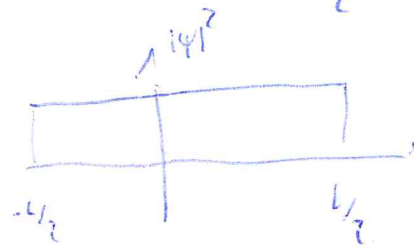
better: we should not. The necessary is that: we prepare the same particle 10000 times, on the 50% we meas. A, on the other 50% B

Then, $\Delta \hat{A} \Delta \hat{B}$ holds: (*).

In the "Coherent" case $\rightarrow \Delta x \Delta p = \frac{h}{2}$

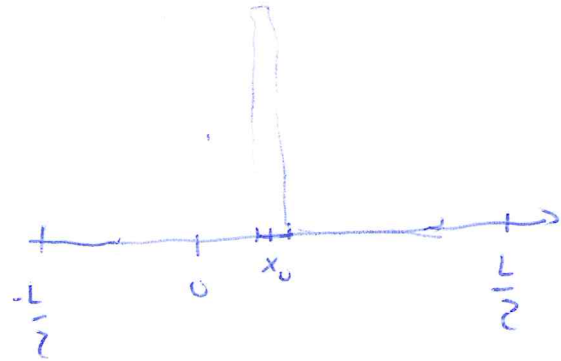
Measure X and P on the same particle: but in general $\Delta x \cdot \Delta p \geq \frac{h}{2}$

$$\psi = N e^{+i k_0 x}$$



Measure $P \rightarrow h k_0$, ψ doesn't change.

Measure $x \rightarrow x_0$ with prob. $\frac{\delta x}{L}$



The wave function after the x -meas. is:

$$\tilde{N} \delta(x-x_0) \propto \int dk e^{i k x}$$

If I measure P again... I get with equal prob. each result for P ... Prob. $P_0 \wedge x_0 = \frac{\delta x}{L}$

If you first measure x you get $\delta(x-x_0)$ with prob. $\frac{\delta x}{L}$.

Then, meas. $P \rightarrow P_0$ with prob. $\frac{\delta P}{L}$.

$$\text{Total Prob.} = \frac{\delta x}{L} \cdot \frac{\delta P}{L}$$