

Recitation #3
Quantum 521

1. Prove that if the Hamiltonian is time dependent but $[\hat{H}(t_2), \hat{H}(t_1)] = 0$

$$\exp\left(\frac{-i}{\hbar} \int_0^t \hat{H}(t') dt'\right)$$

Hint: for infinitesimal Δt

$$\hat{U}(t + \Delta t, t) = \hat{I} - i\Delta t \hat{H}(t)/\hbar = \exp(-i\Delta t \hat{H}(t)/\hbar)$$

2. Shankar postulates that the momentum operator is

$$\langle x | \hat{p} | x' \rangle = -i\hbar \delta'(x - x')$$

Use this to find a first order differential equation for the plane wave state $\langle x | p \rangle = \phi_p(x)$. Integrate to find $\phi_p(x)$ up to a normalization constant. Determine the normalization constant from $\langle p | p' \rangle = \delta(p - p')$