

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

Its **2/3** main properties are that it is linear in both of its arguments, $[\hat{A}_1 + \hat{A}_2, \hat{B}] = [\hat{A}_1, \hat{B}] + [\hat{A}_2, \hat{B}]$ and $[\hat{A}, \hat{B}_1 + \hat{B}_2] = [\hat{A}, \hat{B}_1] + [\hat{A}, \hat{B}_2]$, and that it is antisymmetric, $[\hat{A}, \hat{B}] = -[\hat{B}, \hat{A}]$.

1. Another important general property is the Jacobi identity

$$[\hat{A}, [\hat{B}, \hat{C}]] + [\hat{B}, [\hat{C}, \hat{A}]] + [\hat{C}, [\hat{A}, \hat{B}]] = 0. \quad (8)$$

Prove it.

2. Show that

$$[\hat{A}, \hat{B}_1 \hat{B}_2] = [\hat{A}, \hat{B}_1] \hat{B}_2 + \hat{B}_1 [\hat{A}, \hat{B}_2], \quad (9)$$

and that in general

$$[\hat{A}, \hat{C}_1 \hat{C}_2 \cdots \hat{C}_n] = [\hat{A}, \hat{C}_1] \hat{C}_2 \cdots \hat{C}_n + \hat{C}_1 [\hat{A}, \hat{C}_2] \hat{C}_3 \cdots \hat{C}_n + \cdots + \hat{C}_1 \cdots \hat{C}_{n-1} [\hat{A}, \hat{C}_n]. \quad (10)$$

Tip: use induction.

3. Let us now consider the position \hat{x} and momentum $\hat{p} = -i\hbar\partial_x$ operators. Using the commutation relation $[\hat{p}, \hat{x}] = -i\hbar$, show that

$$[\hat{p}, f(\hat{x})] = -i\hbar f'(\hat{x}) \quad (11)$$

where f is an analytic function so $f(\hat{x})$ is defined via Eq. (9). (Matrices are the simplest examples of operators

$$[\hat{A}, \hat{B}_1 \hat{B}_2]$$

$$= \hat{A} \hat{B}_1 \hat{B}_2 - \hat{B}_1 \hat{B}_2 \hat{A}$$

$$= \hat{A} \hat{B}_1 \hat{B}_2 - \hat{B}_1 \hat{A} \hat{B}_2 - \hat{B}_1 \hat{B}_2 \hat{A} + \hat{B}_1 \hat{A} \hat{B}_2$$

$$= (\hat{A} \hat{B}_1 - \hat{B}_1 \hat{A}) \hat{B}_2 + \hat{B}_1 (\hat{A} \hat{B}_2 - \hat{B}_2 \hat{A})$$

$$= [\hat{A}, \hat{B}_1] \hat{B}_2 + \hat{B}_1 [\hat{A}, \hat{B}_2]$$

u.

Induktionsanfang $n = 3$

$$[[\hat{A}, \hat{C}_1 \hat{C}_2 \hat{C}_3]] =$$

$$[\hat{A}, \hat{C}_1] \hat{C}_2 \hat{C}_3 + \hat{C}_1 [\hat{A}, \hat{C}_2] \hat{C}_3 + \hat{C}_1 \hat{C}_2 [\hat{A}, \hat{C}_3]$$

$$= (\hat{A} \hat{C}_1 - \hat{C}_1 \hat{A}) \hat{C}_2 \hat{C}_3 + \hat{C}_1 (\hat{A} \hat{C}_2 - \hat{C}_2 \hat{A}) \hat{C}_3$$

$$+ \hat{C}_1 \hat{C}_2 (\hat{A} \hat{C}_3 - \hat{C}_3 \hat{A})$$

$$= \hat{A} \hat{C}_1 \hat{C}_2 \hat{C}_3 - \hat{C}_1 \hat{A} \hat{C}_2 \hat{C}_3 + \hat{C}_1 \hat{A} \hat{C}_2 \hat{C}_3 - \hat{C}_1 \hat{C}_2 \hat{A} \hat{C}_3$$

$$+ \hat{C}_1 \hat{C}_2 \hat{A} \hat{C}_3 - \hat{C}_1 \hat{C}_2 \hat{C}_3 \hat{A}$$

$$= \hat{A} \hat{C}_1 \hat{C}_2 \hat{C}_3 - \hat{C}_1 \hat{C}_2 \hat{C}_3 \hat{A} = [\hat{A}, \hat{C}_1 \hat{C}_2 \hat{C}_3] \quad \checkmark$$

Es gelte Sei $n \geq 3$

Es gelte (IV)

$$[\hat{A}, \hat{C}_1 \hat{C}_2 \dots \hat{C}_n]$$

$$= [\hat{A}, \hat{C}_1] \hat{C}_2 \dots \hat{C}_n + \hat{C}_1 [\hat{A}, \hat{C}_2] \hat{C}_3 \dots \hat{C}_n + \hat{C}_1 \dots \hat{C}_{n-1} [\hat{A}, \hat{C}_n]$$

Induktionsschritt

$$[\hat{A}, \underbrace{\hat{C}_1 \hat{C}_2 \dots \hat{C}_n}_{\hat{B}_1} \underbrace{\hat{C}_{n+1}}_{\hat{B}_2}]$$

$$= [\hat{A}, \hat{C}_1 \hat{C}_2 \dots \hat{C}_n] \hat{C}_{n+1} + \hat{C}_1 \hat{C}_2 \dots \hat{C}_n [\hat{A}, \hat{C}_{n+1}]$$

$$\stackrel{IV}{=} \left([\hat{A}, \hat{C}_1] \hat{C}_2 \dots \hat{C}_n + \hat{C}_1 [\hat{A}, \hat{C}_2] \hat{C}_3 \dots \hat{C}_n + \hat{C}_1 \dots \hat{C}_{n-1} [\hat{A}, \hat{C}_n] \right) \hat{C}_{n+1}$$

$$+ \hat{C}_1 \hat{C}_2 \dots \hat{C}_n (\hat{A} \hat{C}_{n+1} - \hat{C}_{n+1} \hat{A})$$

$$= [\hat{A}, \hat{C}_1] \hat{C}_2 \dots \hat{C}_n \hat{C}_{n+1} + \hat{C}_1 [\hat{A}, \hat{C}_2] \hat{C}_3 \dots \hat{C}_n \hat{C}_{n+1}$$

$$+ \hat{C}_1 \dots \hat{C}_{n-1} [\hat{A}, \hat{C}_n] \hat{C}_{n+1} + \hat{C}_1 \hat{C}_2 \dots \hat{C}_n [\hat{A}, \hat{C}_{n+1}]$$

$$\stackrel{IV}{=} \hat{C}_1 \dots \hat{C}_{n-1} (\hat{A} \hat{C}_n - \hat{C}_n \hat{A}) \hat{C}_{n+1} + \hat{C}_1 \dots \hat{C}_n (\hat{A} \hat{C}_{n+1} - \hat{C}_{n+1} \hat{A})$$

$$= \hat{C}_1 \dots \hat{C}_{n-1} \hat{A} \hat{C}_n \hat{C}_{n+1} - \hat{C}_1 \dots \hat{C}_{n-1} \hat{C}_n \hat{A} \hat{C}_{n+1}$$

$$+ \hat{C}_1 \dots \hat{C}_n \hat{A} \hat{C}_{n+1} - \hat{C}_1 \dots \hat{C}_n \hat{C}_{n+1} \hat{A}$$

$$= \hat{C}_1 \dots \hat{C}_{n-1} \hat{A} \hat{C}_n \hat{C}_{n+1} - \hat{C}_1 \dots \hat{C}_n \hat{C}_{n+1} \hat{A}$$

$$= \hat{c}_1 \dots \hat{c}_{n-1} \hat{c}_n (\hat{c}_1 \dots \hat{c}_n \hat{A} \hat{c}_{n+1} - \hat{c}_1 \dots \hat{c}_n \hat{c}_{n+1} \hat{A})$$

$$= (\hat{c}_1 \dots \hat{c}_n [\hat{A}, \hat{c}_{n+1}])$$

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$$\rightarrow [\hat{A}, \hat{c}_1 \hat{c}_2 \dots \hat{c}_n \hat{c}_{n+1}]$$

$$= [\hat{A}, \hat{c}_1] \hat{c}_2 \dots \hat{c}_n \hat{c}_{n+1} + \hat{c}_1 [\hat{A}, \hat{c}_2] \hat{c}_3 \dots \hat{c}_n \hat{c}_{n+1}$$

$$+ \hat{c}_1 \dots \hat{c}_n [\hat{A}, \hat{c}_{n+1}]$$