

Class 1: PWF 2021 - QM

11/29/2021

1901: Black body radiation
1927: double-slit experiments

→ Planck law
1905: Einstein quantization EM

Postulates of Quantum Mechanics

Postulate 1 [State Vector]:

Associated with any isolated physical system is a complex vector space with an inner product (Hilbert space), known as the state space of the system.

The system is described by the state vector.

Hilbert space $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C}^d$

State vector $|2\rangle$ ($d \times 1$) complex vector with a norm $= 1$

$$|\langle 2|2\rangle|^2 = 1$$

Postulate 2 [Evolution]:

The evolution of a closed system is described by a unitary transformation.

$|2\rangle$ at time t

$|2\rangle \rightsquigarrow \rightsquigarrow t'$ with $t' > t$

$$\Rightarrow |2'\rangle = U(t', t)|2\rangle \quad (*) \quad \begin{aligned} U(t', t)U^\dagger(t', t) &= 1 \\ U^\dagger(t', t)U(t', t) &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

[Schrödinger's Equation] The time evolution of the state of a closed quantum system is described by Schrödinger's eq.

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial |2\rangle}{\partial t} = H|2\rangle \quad (*)$$

H is the Hamiltonian of the system.

for any $|x\rangle$ $\langle x|H|x\rangle$ is real.

if H is independent of t $U(t) = e^{-itH}$ $(*)$

Postulate 3 (Quantum Measurements):

Quantum measurements are described by a collection $\{M_m\}$ of measurement operators.

The index m refers to the measurement outcome.

If the state of the system was $|\psi\rangle$, immediately after measurement the probability that outcome m occurs is

$$p(m) = \langle \psi | M_m^\dagger M_m | \psi \rangle$$

and the state of the system post-measurement is

$$\frac{M_m |\psi\rangle}{\sqrt{p(m)}}$$

The operators $\{M_m\}$ satisfy $\sum_m M_m^\dagger M_m = \mathbb{1}$ (completeness)

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= \sum_m p(m) = \sum_m \langle \psi | M_m^\dagger M_m | \psi \rangle = \langle \psi | \underbrace{\sum_m M_m^\dagger M_m}_{\mathbb{1}} | \psi \rangle \\ &= \langle \psi | \mathbb{1} | \psi \rangle = 1 \end{aligned}$$

A special type of measurements: Projective measurements.

Described by an observable: Hermitian operator M

$$M = \sum_m m \underbrace{P_m}_{\uparrow}$$

$$P_m P_m^\dagger = P_m^\dagger P_m = P_m \delta_{m,m'}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \downarrow \\ E[M] &= \sum_m P_m m = \sum_m m \langle \psi | P_m | \psi \rangle = \langle \psi | M | \psi \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Usually when we measure Q.C. = Quantum Computing, we measure in the eigenbasis of Z .

$$Z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbb{1} \otimes \sigma_z = \mathbb{1} \otimes \sigma_z$$

multi-part Description \longrightarrow Evolution \longrightarrow measures

Postulate 4 [Composite System]:

The state space of a composite quantum system is the tensor product of the state space of the component physical systems:

e.g. n -qubit system:

each $\mathcal{H}_i = \mathbb{C}^2$
 whole system $\mathcal{H} = \bigotimes_{i=1}^n \mathcal{H}_i = \mathcal{H}_i^{\otimes n}$

$\{|i\rangle\}$ $|i\rangle = |i_1\rangle \otimes |i_2\rangle \otimes \dots \otimes |i_n\rangle$

\uparrow

$\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$

$\{|0\rangle \otimes |0\rangle, |0\rangle \otimes |1\rangle, |1\rangle \otimes |0\rangle, |1\rangle \otimes |1\rangle\} = \{|\underline{00}\rangle, |01\rangle, |10\rangle, |11\rangle\}$

$\rightarrow |i\rangle = \sum_i c_i \bigotimes_{l=1}^n |i_l\rangle \quad (d \times 1)$

Rephrase postulates & QM in terms of the density operators

Density operator

1) $\{|i\rangle, p_i\}$ $\rho = \sum_i p_i |i\rangle \langle i|$

2) ρ' at time t' $\rho' = U \rho U^\dagger$

3) $p_m = \text{Tr}[M_m^\dagger M_m \rho] = \text{Tr}[P_m \rho]$

$\rho_m = \frac{M_m \rho M_m^\dagger}{\text{Tr}[M_m^\dagger M_m \rho]}$

Properties :

• $\text{Tr}[\rho] = 1$

• $\rho \geq 0 \quad \forall |x\rangle \quad \langle x|\rho|x\rangle \geq 0$

• Pure States

$$\rho = |\psi\rangle\langle\psi|$$

$$\text{Tr}[\rho^2] = 1 \quad \rho^2 = \rho$$

• Mixed states

$$\text{Tr}[\rho^2] < 1$$

$$\rho = \sum_i p_i |\psi_i\rangle\langle\psi_i|$$

$$\underline{\text{QM} \rightarrow \text{QC}}$$