

1 Mathematical formulism of quantum mechanics

Definition 1.1. We define a *Hilbert space* \mathcal{H} as a vector space over the field \mathbb{C} where there is an inner product \langle, \rangle that has the properties of

1. Linearity: $\langle \phi | (a|\psi_1\rangle + b|\psi_2\rangle) = a\langle \phi | \psi_1 \rangle + b\langle \phi | \psi_2 \rangle$,
2. Positivity: $\langle \psi | \psi \rangle > 0, \forall \psi \neq 0$,
3. Hermiticity: $\langle \psi | \phi \rangle = \overline{\langle \phi | \psi \rangle}$,

and such that is complete in the norm $\| |\psi\rangle \| := \sqrt{\langle \psi | \psi \rangle}$.

Definition 1.2. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. We define an *orthonormal basis* $\mathcal{B} = (|e_i\rangle)$ as a collection of vectors that satisfy the following conditions

1. $\forall |\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H} \exists! (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ such that $|\psi\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i |e_i\rangle$,
2. $\forall i, j \leq n \langle e_i | e_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$.

Proposition 1.1. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ a vector and $\mathcal{B} = (|e_i\rangle)$ a basis. Then,

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i |e_i\rangle, \text{ with } \alpha_i = \langle e_i | \psi \rangle. \quad (1)$$

Definition 1.3. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ a vector and $\mathcal{B} = (|e_i\rangle)$ a basis. We define the *representation of $|\psi\rangle$ in the basis \mathcal{B}* as

$$|\psi\rangle_{\mathcal{B}} := \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_i \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_n \end{pmatrix}_{(|e_i\rangle)}. \quad (2)$$

Definition 1.4. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ a vector. We define a *bra* as

$$\langle \psi | := |\psi\rangle^\dagger \in \mathcal{H}. \quad (3)$$

Proposition 1.2. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ a vector and $\mathcal{B} = (|e_i\rangle)$ a basis. If $|\psi\rangle = \sum \alpha_i |e_i\rangle$, then

$$\langle \psi | = \sum_{i=1}^n \overline{\alpha_i} \langle e_i|. \quad (4)$$

Definition 1.5. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. we define the *inner product* as the function $f_{in} : \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ that acts as follows

$$f_{in}(|\psi\rangle, |\phi\rangle) := \langle \psi | \phi \rangle = |\psi\rangle^\dagger |\phi\rangle = \quad (5)$$

$$(\overline{\alpha_1} \quad \dots \quad \overline{\alpha_n}) \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_n \end{pmatrix} = \sum_{i=1}^n \overline{\alpha_i} \beta_i. \quad (6)$$

Proposition 1.3. The inner product satisfies the conditions of hermitic product for a Hilbert space.

Definition 1.6. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $|\psi\rangle, |\phi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ two vectors. We say they are *orthogonal* if and only if $\langle \psi | \phi \rangle = 0$.

Definition 1.7. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ a vector. We say it is *normalized* if and only if $\langle \psi | \psi \rangle = 1$.

Definition 1.8. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. We define the *exterior product* as the function $f_{ext} : \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{2 \times 2}$ that acts as follows

$$f_{ext}(|\psi\rangle, |\phi\rangle) := |\psi\rangle \langle \phi| = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_n \end{pmatrix} (\overline{\beta_1} \quad \dots \quad \overline{\beta_n}) = \quad (7)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \overline{\beta_1} & \dots & \alpha_1 \overline{\beta_n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \alpha_n \overline{\beta_1} & \dots & \alpha_n \overline{\beta_n} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (8)$$

Definition 1.9. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. we define a *linear operator* as an application $A : \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ such that if $a, b \in \mathbb{C}$ and $\psi_1, \psi_2 \in \mathcal{H}$, then

$$A(a|\psi_1\rangle + b|\psi_2\rangle) = aA(|\psi_1\rangle) + bA(|\psi_2\rangle). \quad (9)$$

We denote the matrix form of A as \hat{A} .

Proposition 1.4. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, A an operator and $\mathcal{B} = (|e_i\rangle)$ a basis. If $|\psi\rangle = \sum \alpha_i |e_i\rangle$, then $\hat{A}|\psi\rangle$ is uniquely determined by the elements $|f_i\rangle = |f(e_i)\rangle$ as follows

$$A(|\psi\rangle) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i |f_i\rangle. \quad (10)$$

Proposition 1.5. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, $A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ an operator and $\mathcal{B} = (|e_i\rangle)$ a basis. Then,

$$\hat{A} = \sum_{i=1}^n |f_i\rangle \langle e_i|. \quad (11)$$

Proposition 1.6. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, $A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ an operator and $\mathcal{B} = (|e_i\rangle)$ a basis. Then,

$$\hat{A} = \sum_{i=1}^n A_{ij} |e_i\rangle \langle e_j|, \text{ with } A_{ij} = f_i^{(j)} = \langle e_i | \hat{A} | e_j \rangle. \quad (12)$$

Proposition 1.7. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, $A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ an operator and $\mathcal{B} = (|e_i\rangle)$ a basis. Then,

$$\hat{A} | e_k \rangle = \sum_{l=1}^n \hat{a}_{lk} | e_l \rangle. \quad (13)$$

Proposition 1.8. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, $A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ an operator, $\mathcal{B} = (|e_i\rangle)$ a basis and $|\psi\rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ a vector. If $|\psi\rangle = \sum \alpha_i |e_i\rangle$ and $|\phi\rangle = \hat{A}|\psi\rangle = \sum \beta_i |e_i\rangle$, then

$$\beta_j = \langle e_j | \phi \rangle = \sum_{k=1}^j \hat{A}_{jk} \alpha_k. \quad (14)$$

Definition 1.10. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ an operator. We define the *action by the right* of A as the following way.

$$(\langle \phi | \hat{A} | \psi \rangle) := \langle \phi | (\hat{A} | \psi \rangle), \quad \forall | \psi \rangle, | \phi \rangle \in \mathcal{H} \quad (15)$$

Definition 1.11. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, $A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ an operator that transforms $| \psi \rangle$ in $| \phi \rangle = \hat{A} | \psi \rangle$. We define the *adjoint operator* A^\dagger as the operator that transforms $\langle \psi |$ to $\langle \phi | = \langle \psi | \hat{A}^\dagger$.

Proposition 1.9. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, $A, B : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ two operators and $| \psi \rangle, | \phi \rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ two vectors. Then,

1. $| \psi \rangle^\dagger = \langle \psi |$,
2. $(| \phi \rangle \langle \psi |)^\dagger = | \psi \rangle \langle \phi |$,
3. $(\lambda \hat{A})^\dagger = \bar{\lambda} \hat{A}^\dagger$,
4. $(\hat{A} | \psi \rangle)^\dagger = \langle \psi | \hat{A}^\dagger$,
5. $(\hat{A} \hat{B})^\dagger = \hat{B}^\dagger \hat{A}^\dagger$.

Proposition 1.10. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ an operator. Then,

$$\hat{A}^\dagger = \hat{A}^\dagger, \quad [A^\dagger]_{ij} = [A]_{ij}^*. \quad (16)$$

Definition 1.12. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. We define the *identity operator* $I : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ as the operator that satisfies

$$\hat{I} | \psi \rangle = | \psi \rangle, \quad \forall | \psi \rangle \in \mathcal{H}. \quad (17)$$

Proposition 1.11. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $B = (| e_i \rangle)$ an orthonormal basis. Then,

$$\hat{I} = \sum_{i=1}^n | e_i \rangle \langle e_i |. \quad (18)$$

Proposition 1.12. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space. Then, \hat{I} is independent of the orthonormal basis.

Definition 1.13. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ an operator. We define the *trace* of A as the trac of its matrix \hat{A} , that is,

$$\text{tr } A := \text{tr } \hat{A} = \sum_{i=1}^n \langle e_i | \hat{A} | e_i \rangle. \quad (19)$$

Definition 1.14. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ an operator. Then, $\text{tr } A$ is independent of the orthonormal basis.

Proposition 1.13. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $A, B : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ two operators. Then,

$$\text{tr}(\hat{A} \hat{B}) = \text{tr}(\hat{B} \hat{A}). \quad (20)$$

Corollary 1.14. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $A, B, C : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ three operators. Then,

$$\text{tr}(\hat{A} \hat{B} \hat{C}) = \text{tr}(\hat{C} \hat{A} \hat{B}) = \text{tr}(\hat{B} \hat{C} \hat{A}). \quad (21)$$

Proposition 1.15. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, $A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ an operator and $| \psi \rangle, | \phi \rangle \in \mathcal{H}$ two vectors. Then,

$$\text{tr}(\hat{A} | \psi \rangle \langle \phi |) = \langle \phi | \hat{A} | \psi \rangle. \quad (22)$$

Definition 1.15. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ an operator. We say A is *hermitian* or *auto-adjoint* if and only if $A = A^\dagger$.

Proposition 1.16. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ an hermitian operator. Then, \hat{A} is diagonalizable and there exists an orthonormal basis $\mathcal{B} = (| e_i \rangle)$ such that

$$\hat{A} = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i | e_i \rangle \langle e_i |, \quad (23)$$

where λ_i s are the eigenvalues and $| e_i \rangle$ s the eigenvectors of \hat{A} .

Theorem 1.17. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ a hermitian operator. Then,

1. The eigenvalues λ_i are all real.
2. The eigenvectors with different eigenvalues are orthogonal, that is, $\langle e_i | e_j \rangle = 0$.

Definition 1.16. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, $A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ a hermitian operator and $| e_1 \rangle, \dots, | e_r \rangle$ the eigenvectors of \hat{A} . We say $| e_i \rangle, | e_j \rangle$ are *degenerate* if and only if they have the same eigenvalue. In this case, we define the *degree of the egeneration* of an eigenvalue λ as $\dim E_\lambda$.

Definition 1.17. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, $G \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ a subspace of dimension m and $\mathcal{B} = (| g_i \rangle)$ an orthonormal basis of G . We define the *projector to the subspace* G as the operator $P : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow G$ determined by

$$\hat{P} = \sum_{i=1}^r | g_i \rangle \langle g_i |. \quad (24)$$

Proposition 1.18. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, $V_1, \dots, V_m \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ subspaces and $P_1 : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow G_1, \dots, P_m : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow G_m$ the projectors to these spaces. Then,

$$\hat{P}_i \hat{P}_j = \delta_{ij} \hat{P}_j. \quad (25)$$

Proposition 1.19. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space and $A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ an hermitian operator. Let $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$ be the different eigenvalues of \hat{A} with their subspaces V_1, \dots, V_m of dimensions d_1, \dots, d_m and $P_1 : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow V_1, \dots, P_m : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow V_m$ the projectors to these subspaces. Then,

$$\hat{A} = \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \hat{P}_i. \quad (26)$$

We call this expression the *spectral decomposition*.