

Postulates:

- The state of a quantum system at anytime t_0 is given by a complex normalized wavefunction $\Psi(x, t_0)$.
- Operators: Observable (measurable) quantities are represented in QM by linear Hermitian operators.
- Possibilities: A precise measurement of an observable Q can only yield one of the eigenvalues of \hat{Q} where $\hat{Q}^{\dagger} = \hat{Q}$, $\hat{Q}^2 = \hat{Q}$. Remember the squared!
- Probabilities: Given a state $\Psi(x, t_0)$, a measurement of Q at time t yields eigenvalue q_i w/ probability $P(Q=q_i) = |\langle q_i | \Psi(t) \rangle|^2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \Psi^*(x) \Psi(x, t) dx$.
- Collapse: If a measurement of Q yields eigenvalue q_i , immediately after measurement the wavefunction collapses into the normalized eigenfunction belonging to q_i .

Time evolution: The wavefunction evolves in time according to the Schrödinger eqn: $i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial t} = \hat{H} \Psi = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m} \Psi + V(x) \Psi$ (TDSE)

$\Psi(x, t)$ and Operators:

- The probability density is $|\Psi(x, t)|^2$. Expectation value: $\langle f(x) \rangle = \sum_n f(n) P(n)$
- $dP = |\Psi(x, t)|^2 dx \rightarrow P(x \in [a, b]) = \int_a^b |\Psi(x)|^2 dx$
- $\Psi(x, t)$ must be normalized: Unique up to a phase $e^{i\phi}, \phi \in \mathbb{R}$. Operators: $\langle x | p \rangle = \Psi_p(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\hbar}} e^{ipx/\hbar}$. Dirac Delta/Kronecker Delta: $\delta(x) := \begin{cases} \infty & x=0 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$, $\delta_{ij} := \begin{cases} 1 & i=j \\ 0 & i \neq j \end{cases}$

Orthonormality: The eigenfunctions of the Hamiltonian form a complete orthonormal basis. For an orthonormal set $\{|i\rangle\}_i$, we have: $\langle n | m \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \Psi_n^*(x) \Psi_m(x) dx = S_{mn}$

Schrödinger Eqn: Solve by separation of variables, let $\Psi(x, t) = \Psi(x) T(t)$. Plugging in, we see that we have 2 ODEs:

If Ψ_1 and Ψ_2 are solutions, then $\forall \Psi \in \text{span}\{\Psi_1, \Psi_2\}$ are as well. Separable solutions are $\{\Psi_n(x, t)\}$. General solution: Solve TDSE for specific $\Psi_n(x)$, and the soln is:

Stationary states: All probabilities/expected values constant in time. Any solution $\Psi(x, t)$ to the TDSE is a linear combo of separable solutions. General solution: Solve TDSE for specific $\Psi_n(x)$, and the soln is:

Find c_n 's using Fourier's trick - Apply $\int_{\mathbb{R}} dx \Psi_n^*$ to both sides of $\Psi(x, 0) = \sum c_n \Psi_n(x)$. Cn can be determined from boundary conditions

Can view $\Psi(x, t) = \sum c_n \Psi_n(x, t)$ or $\Psi(x, t) = \sum c_n(t) \Psi_n(x)$ w/ $c_n(t) = c_n e^{-iE_n t / \hbar}$. Continuous spectra: $\langle E \rangle = \sum |c_n|^2 E_n$. Use orthonormality: $\langle \alpha | \beta \rangle = S(\alpha - \beta)$

Momentum Space / Sketching: Let $\phi(p)$ be expansion coefficients for a continuous p spectrum ($\phi(p) = \langle p | \Psi \rangle$). Free particle: $\hat{f}_p = \frac{p^2}{2m}$

$\Psi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\hbar}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \phi(p) e^{ipx/\hbar} dp$ If $\phi(p)$ is normalized, then: Begin w/ $\Psi(x, 0) \rightarrow \Psi(p, 0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\hbar}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \Psi(x, 0) e^{-ipx/\hbar} dx$

$\phi(p) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\hbar}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \Psi(x) e^{-ipx/\hbar} dx$ $dP = |\phi(p)|^2 dp$ This is an eigenfn of \hat{f}_p w/ $E = p^2/2m$, so we have: $\langle E \rangle$

Bound States: Energy eigenfn w/ energy Es.t. no CAR extends to $\infty \rightarrow$ quantized energies. Scattering state: ... s.t. at least one CAR extends to $\pm \infty \rightarrow$ continuous energies. To find $\Psi(x, t)$, we inverse F.T. $\Psi(p, t)$: Directly from

Draw potential and determine spectrum. Choose energy - Bound (high or low), tunneling, scattering

Low energy band states, determine loc and # of nodes; high energy bound states use classical P envelope. Scattering use guess of T to determine relative amplitude. Larger $k(x) \rightarrow$ faster oscillation, smaller amplitude. (5) CFRs: Exp. behavior, use $H(x) = \sqrt{2m(V(x)-E)}$, larger H \rightarrow faster decay, more curvature. If $\rightarrow \infty$, only decay behavior

Boundary conditions: Ψ continuous everywhere, Ψ' continuous everywhere $V \neq \pm \infty$. $-V = \infty$ in region $\rightarrow \Psi = 0$; $V = \infty$ at point \rightarrow kink in graph of Ψ w/ $\Delta \Psi = \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} \Psi(x_0) \Psi'(x_0)$ (For $V = \infty$)

(6) Bound states: If $V(x)$ is symmetric, Ψ_n alternates sym/antisym. $e^{+ipx/\hbar}$ is right moving, $e^{-ipx/\hbar}$ is left moving

No nodes in CFR that $\rightarrow \infty$; at most 1 node in a CFR. Probability current: $J(x) = \frac{i\hbar}{2m} (\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x} \Psi^* - \Psi^* \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x})$

Common Potentials:

- Finite Squarewell: SHO: $V(x) = \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 x^2$
- Infinite Squarewell: $V(x) = \begin{cases} -V, & x \in [-a, a] \\ \infty, & \text{else} \end{cases}$

Let $\epsilon := \frac{m\omega}{\hbar} x$, so TDSE is: $4''(\epsilon) = (\epsilon^2 - E) \Psi(\epsilon)$

Split into regions I, II, III and solve TDSE in each. $K = \frac{2E}{\hbar\omega}$ makes up your mind

Apply boundary conditions: and using power series for $\Psi(\epsilon)$. Try to use even/odd before integrating and divide through to get transcendental eqn |

$H_n(\epsilon) = \left(\frac{m\omega}{\hbar\hbar} \right)^{1/4} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2^n n!}} H_n(\sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{\hbar\hbar}} \epsilon) e^{-\frac{m\omega x^2}{2\hbar\hbar}}$

$H_n(\epsilon) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \epsilon^n$, $a_0 = 2^n$, $a_{n-1} = 0$, $H_0 = 1$, $H_1 = 2\epsilon$, $H_2 = 4\epsilon^2 - 1$, $H_3 = 8\epsilon^3 - 12\epsilon$ (1F14)

Ground state is $n=1$

Patrick Care | ① A quantum system is described by a Hilbert space. The state is described (up to a phase) by a normalized ket.

Physics 127A Midterm 2 Cheat Sheet

$$\Delta E \Delta t \geq \hbar/2$$

$$\frac{1}{\Delta t} \sim \frac{d\langle Q \rangle}{dt}$$

Postulates: ② **Observables:** Physically measurable quantities (observables) are represented by Hermitian operators in the Hilbert Space.

③ **Possibilities:** Given an observable Q w/ associated Hermitian operator \hat{Q} , the only possible results of a measurement of Q are the eigenvalues of \hat{Q} . Let $\{\lambda_i\}$ be the eigenvalues of \hat{Q} , then the degeneracies $\{N_{\lambda_i}\}$, and eigenbasis $\{|2_{\lambda_i}, n\rangle\}$. Let

$\{\hat{P}_r\}$ be the associated projection operator onto the 2_r eigenspace ($\hat{P}_r = \sum_n |\lambda_r, n\rangle \langle \lambda_r, n|$). Suppose a wavefunction is in state $|4\rangle$ at $t=t_0$, w/ components $C_{rn} = \langle \lambda_r, n | 4 \rangle$. Then, the probability a measurement of Q will produce λ_r is: $P(Q=\lambda_r) = ||\hat{P}_r|4\rangle||^2 = \langle 4|\hat{P}_r|4\rangle = \sum_n |\langle \lambda_r, n | 4 \rangle|^2 = \sum_n |C_{rn}|^2$

⑤ **Collapse:** Let $|4(t_0)\rangle$ be the state of a system before a measurement is made and $|4(t_0+)\rangle$ be the state just after measurement. If the measurement yielded λ_r , then $|4(t_0+)\rangle = N \hat{P}_r |4(t_0)\rangle$. N is a normalization constant: $1 = ||N|^2 ||\hat{P}_r|4(t_0)\rangle||^2 = ||N|^2 \langle 4(t_0) | \hat{P}_r | 4(t_0) \rangle = \langle 4(t_0) | \hat{P}_r | 4(t_0) \rangle / ||N|^2$

⑥ **Time evolution:** The wavefunction evolves in time according to the time-dependent Schrödinger Equation: $i\hbar \frac{d}{dt} |4(t)\rangle = \hat{H} |4(t)\rangle = i\hbar^2 \cdot P(Q=\lambda_r)$

Kets and Operators: • A Hilbert Space is a complete (every limit that appears to be converging does converge) inner product space over \mathbb{C} . • Basis and Coordinates:

• Bra vectors are linear functionals on H : A bra $\langle \beta | : H \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

• Given a basis of kets $\{|e_i\rangle\}$, we can form its dual basis $\{\langle e^i | \}_{e_i}$ s.t. $\langle e^i | e_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$

• Inner Product: Binary function on H that maps to $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle : H \times H \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$. Must have:

① Skew Symmetry: $\langle u | v \rangle = \langle v | u \rangle^*$ ② Linearity in 2nd argument

③ Positive Semidefinite: $\langle \alpha | \alpha \rangle \geq 0$ • A basis is a set of linearly independent vectors that generate the space

- If $\langle \alpha | \alpha \rangle = 0 \Rightarrow |\alpha\rangle = 0$ • Linear independence: If $\sum c_i |e_i\rangle = 0$, $\forall c_i$ must be 0

• If $|\beta\rangle = \sum \beta_i |e_i\rangle$, $|\alpha\rangle = \sum \alpha_i |e_i\rangle$, then $\langle \beta | \alpha \rangle = \sum \beta_i \alpha_i = \sum (\beta_i)^* \alpha_i$ • Generating set: $\forall V \in H, \exists |c^i\rangle \in \mathbb{C}$ s.t. $V = \sum_i c^i |e_i\rangle$

• Positive Semidefinite: $\langle \alpha | \alpha \rangle \geq 0$ • Coordinates: Let $|4\rangle \in H$, $\{|e_i\rangle\}$ a basis for H . If $|4\rangle = \sum_i c^i |e_i\rangle$, the coordinates of $|4\rangle$ are:

- If $|\alpha\rangle = \sum \alpha_i |e_i\rangle$, $\langle \alpha | \alpha \rangle = \sum \alpha_i^* \alpha_i$ • Normalization: For a physical state, $\langle 4 | 4 \rangle = 1$

- If $|\alpha\rangle = (a^1 \dots a^N)^T$, then $\langle \alpha | \alpha \rangle = (a^1 * \dots a^N)^T$

• Operator: Linear map from H onto H • Ket-bras: A ket times a bra gives an operator

• Expectation value: $\langle Q \rangle = \langle 4 | \hat{Q} | 4 \rangle$ • For $\forall \hat{Q} : H \rightarrow H$ linear, $|\langle Q | Q \rangle| = \left| \begin{array}{cccc} 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{array} \right|$

• Operators have a diagonal matrix representation in their eigenbasis

• Adjoint: $I(\langle \alpha |, \hat{Q} | \beta \rangle) = I(\langle \alpha | \hat{Q} + \beta | \alpha \rangle)$ • Resolution of the identity: $\hat{I} = \sum |e_i\rangle \langle e_i| = \int dx |x\rangle \langle x|$

• $\langle \alpha | \hat{Q} | \beta \rangle = \langle \beta | \hat{Q} + \alpha | \alpha \rangle^*$ • Position/Momentum: $\langle \alpha | \hat{x} | \beta \rangle = \langle \alpha | \hat{I} | \beta \rangle = \sum_i \langle \alpha | e_i \rangle \langle e_i | \beta \rangle = \sum_i \alpha_i \beta_i$

• $[\hat{Q}^\dagger] = [\hat{Q}]^* - [\hat{Q}^\dagger]^*$ • Finding eigenvalues/eigenkets: $\hat{Q} = \sum_i Q_i |e_i\rangle \langle e_i|$

• Unitary: $\hat{U} = \hat{U}^{-1}$ • ① Solve char $(\hat{Q}) = \det([\hat{Q}] - \lambda \hat{I}) = 0$ in a basis

• Preserves norms: • ② For each λ , solve $\text{nul}([\hat{Q}] - \lambda \hat{I})$ for the eigenkets

• $\|\hat{U}|\alpha\rangle\| = \|\hat{U}|\beta\rangle\|$ • Time-translation operator: $\hat{U}(t) := \exp(-i\hat{E}t/\hbar)$

• Preserves inner products: • Brackets are conserved: $\langle \hat{Q}|\hat{P}\rangle = \langle \alpha|\beta\rangle$

• $\langle \alpha | \beta \rangle = \langle \hat{U}|\alpha\rangle \langle \hat{U}|\beta\rangle$ • Space translation: $\hat{T}(a) = \exp(-i\hat{p}a/\hbar)$

• $10|\beta\rangle := \hat{U}|\beta\rangle$, $\langle \hat{U}\alpha | = (\hat{U}\alpha)^*$ • Parity: $\hat{P}/x = 1-x$, $\hat{P}/p = 1-p$

• Expectation value evolution: • Diagonalize and apply $\exp(-it\hat{E}/\hbar)$ to each diagonal element

• Creation/Aihilation: • Unitary: $\hat{U}(t_1) \hat{U}(t_2) = \hat{U}(t_2+t_1)$

• $\hat{a}^\dagger = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\hbar m\omega}} (m\omega\hat{a} + i\hat{p})$ • Time-translation operator: $\hat{U}(t) = \exp(-i\hat{E}t/\hbar)$

• $\hat{a} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\hbar m\omega}} (m\omega\hat{a}^\dagger - i\hat{p})$ • Brackets are conserved: $\langle \hat{Q}|\hat{P}\rangle = \langle \alpha|\beta\rangle$

• $\hat{a}^\dagger |n\rangle = \sqrt{n+1} |n+1\rangle$ • Space translation: $\hat{T}(a) = \exp(-i\hat{p}a/\hbar)$

• $\hat{a} |n\rangle = \sqrt{n} |n-1\rangle$ • Parity: $\hat{P}/x = 1-x$, $\hat{P}/p = 1-p$

• $\hat{a}^\dagger |0\rangle = 0$ • Diagonalize and apply $\exp(-it\hat{E}/\hbar)$ to each diagonal element

• $\hat{p} = \hbar\omega(\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \frac{1}{2})$ • Unitary: $\hat{U}(t_1) \hat{U}(t_2) = \hat{U}(t_2+t_1)$

• $\langle n | \hat{a}^\dagger | m \rangle = \sqrt{m+1} S_{n,m+1}$ • Time-translation operator: $\hat{U}(t) = \exp(-i\hat{E}t/\hbar)$

• $\langle n | \hat{a} | m \rangle = \sqrt{m} S_{n,m-1}$ • Brackets are conserved: $\langle \hat{Q}|\hat{P}\rangle = \langle \alpha|\beta\rangle$

• To find $[\hat{p}]_e$, write as sum of \hat{a}_+ and \hat{a}_- • Space translation: $\hat{T}(a) = \exp(-i\hat{p}a/\hbar)$

• $[\hat{f}\hat{g}, \hat{a}_+] = \hbar\omega \hat{a}_+$ • Parity: $\hat{P}/x = 1-x$, $\hat{P}/p = 1-p$

• $[\hat{f}\hat{g}, \hat{a}_-] = -\hbar\omega \hat{a}_-$ • Diagonalize and apply $\exp(-it\hat{E}/\hbar)$ to each diagonal element

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• $[\hat{f}\hat{g}, \hat{a}_+] = \hbar\omega \hat{a}_+$ • Parity: $\hat{P}/x = 1-x$, $\hat{P}/p = 1-p$

• Raise/lower energy level • Diagonalize and apply $\exp(-it\hat{E}/\hbar)$ to each diagonal element

• $[\hat{f}\hat{g}, \hat{a}_-] = -\hbar\omega \hat{a}_-$ • Time-translation operator: $\hat{U}(t) = \exp(-i\hat{E}t/\hbar)$

• Raise/lower energy level • Brackets are conserved: $\langle \hat{Q}|\hat{P}\rangle = \langle \alpha|\beta\rangle$

• $[\hat{f}\hat{g}, \hat{a}_+] = \hbar\omega \hat{a}_+$ • Space translation: $\hat{T}(a) = \exp(-i\hat{p}a/\hbar)$

