

AQM - Recall of the Hilbert space: generalities

$\Psi(0, \vec{x}) = f(\vec{x})$  (wave function at  $t=0$  to be definite...),  $f(\vec{x}) \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)$ , which means that  $\int_V |f(\vec{x})|^2 d^3x < \infty$ .

Hilbert space  $\mathcal{F}$  is introduced via the correspondence

$f(\vec{x}) \longleftrightarrow |f\rangle \in \mathcal{F}$  (ket  $|f\rangle$ ). One has:

$(f_1, f_2) = \int d^3x f_1^*(\vec{x}) f_2(\vec{x})$  is a scalar product.  $(\cdot, \cdot): L^2 \times L^2 \mapsto \mathbb{C}$ .

$(f_1, f_2) = \langle f_1 | f_2 \rangle = \int d^3x f_1^*(\vec{x}) f_2(\vec{x})$ . NOTE:  $\langle f_2 | f_1 \rangle = \langle f_1 | f_2 \rangle^*$

Note, the "bra"  $\langle f_1 |$  can be seen as an operator:  $L^2 \mapsto \mathbb{C}$ .

Namely,  $\langle f_1 | (|f\rangle) = \langle f_1 | f \rangle$  associates  $|f\rangle$  to the complex number  $\langle f_1 | f \rangle$ .

Now, in  $L^2$  a basis is given for instance by the set of functions  $\{\varphi_m(\vec{x})\}$ . The basis is ON if  $(\varphi_m, \varphi_n) = \int d^3x \varphi_m^*(\vec{x}) \varphi_n(\vec{x}) = \delta_{mn}$  and is complete if each function  $f(\vec{x}) \in L^2$  can be expressed as

$$f(\vec{x}) = \sum_n c_n \varphi_n(\vec{x})$$

The  $c_n$  can be obtained by multiplying by  $\varphi_m^*(\vec{x})$  and integrating:

$$\varphi_m^*(\vec{x}) f(\vec{x}) = \sum_n c_n \varphi_m^*(\vec{x}) \varphi_n(\vec{x}) \mapsto \int d^3x \varphi_m^*(\vec{x}) f(\vec{x}) = (\varphi_m, f) = \sum_n c_n (\varphi_m, \varphi_n) = \sum_n c_n \delta_{mn} = c_m$$

ergo:  $c_m = (\varphi_m, f)$

In the language of  $\mathcal{F}$  the set of functions  $\{\varphi_m(\vec{x})\}$  is replaced by  $\{|\varphi_m\rangle\}$  with  $\langle \varphi_m | \varphi_n \rangle = \int d^3x \varphi_m^*(\vec{x}) \varphi_n(\vec{x}) = \delta_{mn}$ .



Then, each ket  $|f\rangle$  can be rewritten as

$$|f\rangle = \sum_m c_m |\varphi_m\rangle$$

In order to determine the  $c_m$  one acts from the left with the operator  $\langle \varphi_m |$ :

$$\langle \varphi_m | f \rangle = \sum_n c_n \langle \varphi_m | \varphi_n \rangle = \sum_n c_n \delta_{mn} = c_m$$

$$\text{So } c_m = \langle \varphi_m | f \rangle = \int d^3x \varphi_m^*(\vec{x}) f(\vec{x}) \quad (\text{just as before})$$

In the present language one can easily prove that a ONC basis is such that:

$$\sum_m |\varphi_m\rangle \langle \varphi_m| = 1$$

First, note that  $\langle f_1 | : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ; However,  $|f_2\rangle \langle f_1| : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$ .

Namely,

$$|f_2\rangle \langle f_1| : |f\rangle \in \mathcal{F} \mapsto \langle f_1 | f \rangle |f_2\rangle \in \mathcal{F}$$

So, indeed  $\sum_m |\varphi_m\rangle \langle \varphi_m| : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$ . But:

$$\left( \sum_m |\varphi_m\rangle \langle \varphi_m| \right) |f\rangle = \sum_m \underbrace{\langle \varphi_m | f \rangle}_{c_m} |\varphi_m\rangle = \sum_m c_m |\varphi_m\rangle = |f\rangle$$

$$1_{\mathcal{F}} = 1$$

One writes simply:  $\sum_m |\varphi_m\rangle \langle \varphi_m| = 1 \rightarrow$  completeness.



## EXAMPLE:

$$\{|1\rangle, |2\rangle, |3\rangle\} \quad H|m\rangle = E_m|m\rangle$$

① IS THE STATE  $|f\rangle = |1\rangle + |2\rangle + |3\rangle$  physical  $\rightarrow$  NO BECAUSE  $\langle f|f\rangle = 3$ .

② A PHYSICAL STATE IS FOR INSTANCE

$$|f\rangle = \frac{e^{i\phi_1}}{\sqrt{3}}|1\rangle + \frac{e^{i\phi_2}}{\sqrt{3}}|2\rangle + \frac{e^{i\phi_3}}{\sqrt{3}}|3\rangle = \sum_m c_m|m\rangle$$

$$c_m = \frac{e^{i\phi_m}}{\sqrt{3}} \quad |c_m|^2 = \frac{1}{3}$$

If we make a meas. of  $H$  we find  $E_1$  with probability  $1/3$ ,  $E_2$  with prob.  $1/3$  and  $E_3$  with prob.  $1/3$ .

$$P_{E_1} = |\langle 1|f\rangle|^2$$

③ WHICH IS THE PROB. THAT THE STATE IS DESCRIBED BY  $|A\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|1\rangle + |2\rangle)$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} P &= |\langle A|f\rangle|^2 = \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\langle 1| + \langle 2|) \left( \frac{e^{i\phi_1}}{\sqrt{3}}|1\rangle + \frac{e^{i\phi_2}}{\sqrt{3}}|2\rangle + \frac{e^{i\phi_3}}{\sqrt{3}}|3\rangle \right) \right|^2 \\ &= \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (e^{i\phi_1} + e^{i\phi_2}) \right|^2 = \frac{1}{3} (1 + \cos(\Delta\phi)) \end{aligned}$$



AQM - Recall of Hilbert space  $\{|\vec{x}\rangle, |\vec{p}\rangle\}$

A BASIS IN 3D IS GIVEN BY THE POSITION EIGENSTATES

$$\{|\vec{x}\rangle\} \quad (\hat{x}|\vec{x}_0\rangle = \vec{x}_0|\vec{x}_0\rangle)$$

with  $\langle\vec{x}|\vec{x}'\rangle = \delta(\vec{x}-\vec{x}') \quad \forall \vec{x}, \vec{x}' \in \mathbb{R}^3; \quad \int d^3x |\vec{x}\rangle\langle\vec{x}| = 1$  (identity operator)

A GENERIC STATE  $|f\rangle$  CAN BE EXPRESSED AS

$$|f\rangle = \int d^3x \langle\vec{x}|f\rangle |\vec{x}\rangle$$

WHERE  $\psi(\vec{x}) = \langle\vec{x}|f\rangle$  IS THE WAVE FUNCTION ( $\langle\vec{x}_0|\vec{x}\rangle = \delta(\vec{x}-\vec{x}_0$ )  
 (→ you know where the particle is)

ANOTHER POSSIBLE BASIS IS THAT OF MOMENTA EIGENSTATES:

$$\{|\vec{p}\rangle\} \quad (\hat{p}|\vec{p}_0\rangle = \vec{p}_0|\vec{p}_0\rangle)$$

WITH

$$\langle\vec{p}|\vec{p}'\rangle = \delta(\vec{p}-\vec{p}') \quad \forall \vec{p}, \vec{p}' \in \mathbb{R}^3; \quad \int d^3p |\vec{p}\rangle\langle\vec{p}| = 1$$

RECALL THAT:

$$\langle\vec{x}|\vec{p}\rangle = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} e^{+i\vec{x}\cdot\vec{p}} \quad (\text{WAVE-FUNCTION WITH DEFINITE } \vec{p} = \text{"PLANE WAVE"})$$

$$\langle\vec{p}|\vec{p}'\rangle = \int d^3x \langle\vec{p}|\vec{x}\rangle \langle\vec{x}|\vec{p}'\rangle = \int \frac{d^3x}{(2\pi)^3} e^{+i(\vec{p}'-\vec{p})\cdot\vec{x}} = \delta(\vec{p}-\vec{p}') \quad \#$$

$|f\rangle$  CAN BE ALSO EXPRESSED AS:

$$|f\rangle = \int d^3p \langle\vec{p}|f\rangle |\vec{p}\rangle = \int d^3p a(\vec{p}) |\vec{p}\rangle$$

OBVIOUSLY:  $|\langle\vec{x}|f\rangle|^2 d^3x$  IS THE PROB. TO FIND THE PARTICLE BETW.  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{x}+d^3x$  FOR A MEAS. OF THE POSITION AT  $t=0$   
 for  $\psi(t, \vec{x}) = f(\vec{x})$

$|\langle\vec{p}|f\rangle|^2 d^3p$  IS THE PROB. THAT THE PARTICLE HAS A MOMENTUM BETWEEN  $\vec{p}$  and  $\vec{p}+d^3p$  IF A MEAS. OF



Property:  $A(t, \vec{p})$  is the Fourier transformation of  $\psi(t, \vec{x})$

$$\begin{aligned} A(\vec{p}) &= \langle \vec{p} | f \rangle = \int d^3x \langle \vec{p} | \vec{x} \rangle \langle \vec{x} | f \rangle = \\ &= \int d^3x \frac{e^{-i\vec{p}\vec{x}}}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} f(\vec{x}) = \int \frac{d^3x}{(2\pi)^3} f(\vec{x}) e^{-i\vec{p}\vec{x}} \end{aligned}$$