

1. A Position operator  $\hat{X}$  is a Hermitian operator, so its eigenvectors form a basis of its corresponding space. But what are their eigenvectors? No one is able to find them within the regular Hilbert space, i.e.

$$\boxed{\hat{X}|?\rangle = x|?\rangle}$$

2. Any function  $\phi(x)$  can be expressed by its basis  $u_n(x)$  as

$$\phi(x) = \sum c_n u_n(x).$$

On the other hand, from the properties of Dirac's  $\delta$ -function

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)\delta(x)dx = f(0), \quad \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)\delta(x-a)dx = f(a)$$

and the Fourier's transformation, we may have

$$\phi(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx' \phi(x')\delta(x-x'), \quad \phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\hbar}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dp \phi(p) e^{ipx/\hbar}$$

where  $\phi(x')$  and  $\phi(p)$  can be treated as the expansion coefficients  $c_n$ . Then, one may build up the following relations

Basis (irregular function) $\leftrightarrow$ State space (non Hilbert space)
$\delta(x-x') \quad \leftrightarrow \quad  x\rangle$
$(1/\sqrt{2\pi\hbar})e^{ipx/\hbar} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad  p\rangle$

3. The collection of  $|x\rangle$  forms a basis of its corresponding space, named as the **position space**. By the similarity to the finite dimensional vector space, one has

$$\hat{1} = \sum_{i=1}^n |e_i\rangle\langle e_i|, \quad \boxed{\hat{1} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx |x\rangle\langle x|}$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \boxed{|\phi\rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx |x\rangle\langle x|\phi\rangle}$$

where we should not treat  $\langle x|\phi\rangle$  as an inner product, because  $|x\rangle$  and  $|\phi\rangle$  do not belong to the same space. It is a kind of expansion coefficient. Similarly, we may also have

$$\langle\phi| = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx' \langle\phi|x'\rangle\langle x'|$$

4. By the requirement of having the finite inner product of any state  $|\phi\rangle$  to itself, say 1, then, with the definition of the inner product of a regular function, we obtain

$$\langle\phi|\phi\rangle \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi^*(x)\phi(x)dx = 1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx dx' \langle\phi|x'\rangle \langle x'|x\rangle \langle x|\phi\rangle$$

The only way to make the above equation meaningful is to set

$$\boxed{\langle x'|x\rangle = \delta(x - x').}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi^*(x)\phi(x)dx &= 1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx dx' \langle\phi|x'\rangle \delta(x - x') \langle x|\phi\rangle \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \langle x|\phi\rangle \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx' \langle\phi|x'\rangle \delta(x - x') \right) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \langle\phi|x\rangle \langle x|\phi\rangle \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, from two ends of the above equality, we may also reach the meaning of the expansion coefficient or the "inner product", in non-strict sense,  $\langle x|\phi\rangle$ , which is

$$\boxed{\langle x|\phi\rangle \equiv \phi(x)}$$

5. The physical application of

$$\boxed{\hat{X}|x\rangle = x|x\rangle}, \quad \text{or} \quad \hat{X}|x'\rangle = x'|x'\rangle$$

can be seen as follows

$$\begin{aligned} \boxed{\hat{X}\phi(x)} &= \hat{X}\langle x|\phi\rangle = \hat{X}^\dagger \langle x|\phi\rangle = \langle x|\hat{X}^\dagger|\phi\rangle = \boxed{\langle x|\hat{X}|\phi\rangle} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \langle x|\hat{X}|x'\rangle \langle x'|\phi\rangle dx' \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x' \langle x|x'\rangle \phi(x') dx' = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x' \phi(x') \delta(x - x') dx' = \boxed{x\phi(x)}. \end{aligned}$$

6. The representation of a momentum operator in the position space:

$$\begin{aligned} \boxed{\hat{P}\phi(x)} &= \hat{P}\langle x|\phi\rangle = \hat{P}^\dagger \langle x|\phi\rangle = \langle x|\hat{P}^\dagger|\phi\rangle = \boxed{\langle x|\hat{P}|\phi\rangle} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \langle x|\hat{P}|p\rangle \langle p|\phi\rangle dp \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p \langle x|p\rangle \phi(p) dp = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\hbar}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p \phi(p) e^{ipx/\hbar} dp = \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\hbar}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi(p) e^{ipx/\hbar} dp \right) = \boxed{-i\hbar \frac{d}{dx} \phi(x)} \\ \Rightarrow \quad \boxed{\hat{P} = -i\hbar \frac{d}{dx}}, & \text{ where the plane wave amplitude } \boxed{\langle x|p\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\hbar}} e^{ipx/\hbar}} \text{ is applied.} \end{aligned}$$

**National Taiwan Normal University**

*Quantum Mechanics - Quiz 1*

*11:50-12:10*

*11-1-2016*

1. In a 3-dimensional real space  $R^3$ , find out the matrix representation of the inversion with respect to the origin in  $R^3$  space. (35%)

2. In  $R^2$  space, the original and new base are as follows, respectively.

$$b = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}, \quad d = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

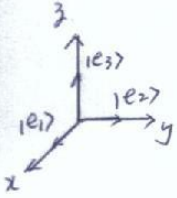
- (a) What is the transition matrix from  $b$  to  $d$ ? (25%)

- (b) If a state

$$|\alpha\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix},$$

- in basis  $b$ , what is the form of  $|\alpha\rangle$  in basis  $d$ ? (40%)

1. In a 3-dimensional real space  $R^3$ , find out the matrix representation of the inversion with respect to the origin in  $R^3$  space. (35%)



$$\begin{aligned} |e_1\rangle &\rightarrow -|e_1\rangle = -|e_1\rangle + 0|e_2\rangle + 0|e_3\rangle \\ |e_2\rangle &\rightarrow -|e_2\rangle = 0|e_1\rangle - |e_2\rangle + 0|e_3\rangle \\ |e_3\rangle &\rightarrow -|e_3\rangle = 0|e_1\rangle + 0|e_2\rangle - |e_3\rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\underline{T} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

(若直接寫答案, 每  $|e_1\rangle, |e_2\rangle, |e_3\rangle$  在反射作用後之結果, 只給 15%)

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- (a) What is the transition matrix from  $b$  to  $d$ ? (25%)  
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in basis  $b$ , what is the form of  $|\alpha\rangle$  in basis  $d$ ? (40%)

$$(a) |d_1\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = P_{11} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + P_{21} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} P_{11} \\ -P_{21} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow P_{21} = -1, P_{11} = 0$$

$$|d_2\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = P_{12} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + P_{22} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} P_{12} \\ -P_{22} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow P_{22} = -1, P_{12} = 1$$

$$\underline{\text{Transition matrix}} = P = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(b) \textcircled{1} |\alpha\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}_b = 1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}_{b_1} + 2 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}_{b_2} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = a \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}_{d_1} + c \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}_{d_2} = \begin{pmatrix} c \\ a+c \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} c=1 \\ a=-3 \end{matrix}$$

$$\text{故 } |\alpha\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}_d$$

$$\text{或 } \textcircled{2} |\alpha\rangle_d = P_{b \rightarrow d}^{-1} |\alpha\rangle_b = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}_b = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}_d$$