

A 3D surface plot showing a complex, oscillating wave function. The surface is colored with a gradient from blue (low values) to red (high values). The plot is set within a 3D coordinate system with axes labeled 0, -1, and 2.

Quantum Mechanics for Scientists and Engineers

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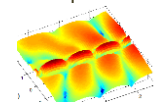
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Outline

Quantum Mechanics for Scientists and Engineers

- **Bilinear expansion of linear operators**
- **The identity operator**
- **Inverse and Unitary operators**



Bilinear expansion of linear operators

❖ Expand functions in a basis set

$$f(x) = \sum_n c_n \psi_n(x) \quad \text{or} \quad |f(x)\rangle = \sum_n c_n |\psi_n(x)\rangle$$

- By acting with a specific operator \hat{A}

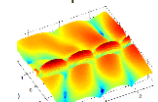
$$|g\rangle = \hat{A}|f\rangle$$

- Expand g and f on the basis set ψ_i

$$|g\rangle = \sum_i d_i |\psi_i\rangle \quad |f\rangle = \sum_j c_j |\psi_j\rangle$$

- From our matrix representation of $|g\rangle = \hat{A}|f\rangle$

$$d_i = \sum_j A_{ij} c_j \quad \text{we know that} \quad c_j = \langle \psi_j | f \rangle \quad \text{So,} \quad d_i = \sum_j A_{ij} \langle \psi_j | f \rangle$$



Bilinear expansion of linear operators

❖ Expand functions in a basis set

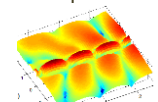
- **Substituting** $d_i = \sum_j A_{ij} \langle \psi_j | f \rangle$ **back into** $|g\rangle = \sum_i d_i |\psi_i\rangle$

$$|g\rangle = \sum_{i,j} A_{ij} \langle \psi_j | f \rangle |\psi_i\rangle$$

- **Remember that** $c_j = \langle \psi_j | f \rangle$ **is simply a number**
- **So, switched multiplicative order**

$$|g\rangle = \sum_{i,j} A_{ij} |\psi_i\rangle \langle \psi_j | f \rangle = \left[\sum_{i,j} A_{ij} |\psi_i\rangle \langle \psi_j | \right] |f\rangle$$

$$\hat{A} \equiv \sum_{i,j} A_{ij} |\psi_i\rangle \langle \psi_j |$$



Bilinear expansion of linear operators

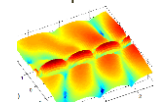
❖ Expand functions in a basis set

- This form $\hat{A} \equiv \sum_{i,j} A_{ij} |\psi_i\rangle\langle\psi_j|$

is referred to as a “**bilinear expansion**” of the operator \hat{A} on the basis $|\psi_i\rangle$ and is analogous to the linear expansion of a vector on a basis

- Though the Dirac notation is more general $g(x) = \int \hat{A}f(x_1)dx_1$

$$\hat{A} \equiv \sum_{i,j} A_{ij} \psi_i(x) \psi_j^*(x_1)$$



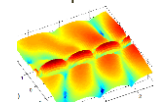
Outer product

❖ Bilinear expansion form

- An expression of the form $\hat{A} \equiv \sum_{i,j} A_{ij} |\psi_i\rangle\langle\psi_j|$

Contains an **outer product** of two vectors

- An inner product expression of the form $\langle g|f\rangle$
 - ➔ Complex number
- An outer product expression of the form $|g\rangle\langle f|$
 - ➔ Matrix



Outer product

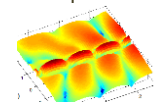
$$|g\rangle\langle f| = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 \\ d_2 \\ d_3 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1^* & c_2^* & c_3^* & \dots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 c_1^* & d_1 c_2^* & d_1 c_3^* & \dots \\ d_2 c_1^* & d_2 c_2^* & d_2 c_3^* & \dots \\ d_3 c_1^* & d_3 c_2^* & d_3 c_3^* & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

- The specific summation $\hat{A} \equiv \sum_{i,j} A_{ij} |\psi_i\rangle\langle\psi_j|$

is actually, then, a sum of matrices

- In the matrix $|\psi_i\rangle\langle\psi_j|$

the element in the i th row and the j th column is **1**, another's are **0**



The identity operator

❖ The identity operator \hat{I}

- In matrix form, the identity operator is

$$\hat{I} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

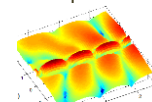
- In bra-ket form

The identity operator can be written

$$\hat{I} = \sum_i |\psi_i\rangle\langle\psi_i|$$

where the $|\psi_i\rangle$

form a complete basis for the space



The identity operator

❖ Proof

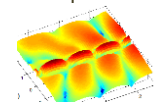
- For an arbitrary function $|f\rangle = \sum_i c_i |\psi_i\rangle$, we know $c_m = \langle \psi_m | f \rangle$

So
$$|f\rangle = \sum_i \langle \psi_i | f \rangle |\psi_i\rangle$$

- And, the multiplication $|f\rangle$ each side of $\hat{I} = \sum_i |\psi_i\rangle \langle \psi_i|$

$$\hat{I}|f\rangle = \sum_i |\psi_i\rangle \langle \psi_i | f \rangle = \sum_i \langle \psi_i | f \rangle |\psi_i\rangle$$

- By using, $|f\rangle = \sum_i \langle \psi_i | f \rangle |\psi_i\rangle$. So, $\hat{I}|f\rangle = |f\rangle$



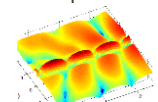
The identity operator

❖ The statement $\hat{I} = \sum_i |\psi_i\rangle\langle\psi_i|$

$$|\psi_1\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{So that} \quad |\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1| = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

▪ Similarly, we can obtain

$$\hat{I} = \sum_i |\psi_i\rangle\langle\psi_i| = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$



Proof that the trace is independent of the basis

❖ Consider the sum, S

- of the diagonal elements of an operator \hat{A} on some complete orthonormal basis $|\psi_i\rangle$

$$S = \sum_i \langle \psi_i | \hat{A} | \psi_i \rangle$$

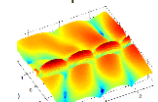
- And, suppose some other complete orthonormal basis $|\phi_i\rangle$

$$\hat{I} = \sum_m |\phi_m\rangle \langle \phi_m|$$

- In $S = \sum_i \langle \psi_i | \hat{A} | \psi_i \rangle$, we can insert an identity operator just before \hat{A}

$$\hat{I}\hat{A} = \hat{A}$$

$$S = \sum_i \langle \psi_i | \hat{I}\hat{A} | \psi_i \rangle = \sum_i \langle \psi_i | \left(\sum_m |\phi_m\rangle \langle \phi_m| \right) \hat{A} | \psi_i \rangle$$



Proof that the trace is independent of the basis

❖ **Rearranging** $S = \sum_i \langle \psi_i | \hat{I} \hat{A} | \psi_i \rangle = \sum_i \langle \psi_i | \left(\sum_m |\phi_m\rangle \langle \phi_m| \right) \hat{A} | \psi_i \rangle$

reordering the sums

$$S = \sum_m \sum_i \langle \psi_i | \phi_m \rangle \langle \phi_m | \hat{A} | \psi_i \rangle$$

moving the number $\langle \psi_i | \phi_m \rangle$

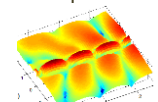
$$= \sum_m \sum_i \langle \phi_m | \hat{A} | \psi_i \rangle \langle \psi_i | \phi_m \rangle$$

moving a sum and associating

$$= \sum_m \langle \phi_m | \hat{A} \left(\sum_i |\psi_i\rangle \langle \psi_i| \right) | \phi_m \rangle$$

recognizing $\hat{I} = \sum_i |\psi_i\rangle \langle \psi_i|$

$$= \sum_m \langle \phi_m | \hat{A} \hat{I} | \phi_m \rangle$$



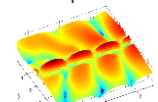
Proof that the trace is independent of the basis

❖ So, with now $S = \sum_i \langle \psi_i | \hat{A} | \psi_i \rangle = \sum_m \langle \phi_m | \hat{A} \hat{I} | \phi_m \rangle$

- Using the $\hat{A} \hat{I} = \hat{A}$

$$S = \sum_i \langle \psi_i | \hat{A} | \psi_i \rangle = \sum_m \langle \phi_m | \hat{A} | \phi_m \rangle$$

- Hence the trace of an operator the sum of the diagonal elements **is independent of the basis used to represent the operator**



Inverse and projection operator

❖ Inverse operator

- For an operator \hat{A} operating on an arbitrary function $|f\rangle$

The inverse operator \hat{A}^{-1}

- Using the inverse operator $|f\rangle = \hat{A}^{-1}\hat{A}|f\rangle$

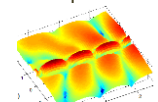
$$\hat{A}^{-1}\hat{A} = \hat{I}$$

❖ Projection operator

- For example, $\hat{P} = |f\rangle\langle f|$ **In general has no inverse**

because it projects all input vectors onto only one axis in the space

the one corresponding to the specific vector $|f\rangle$



Unitary operator

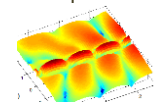
❖ Unitary operator \hat{U}

- One for which $\hat{U}^{-1} = \hat{U}^\dagger$

That is, its inverse is its **Hermitian adjoint**

- The Hermitian adjoint is formed by reflecting on a -45 degree line and taking the complex conjugate

$$\begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & u_{13} & \cdots \\ u_{21} & u_{22} & u_{23} & \cdots \\ u_{31} & u_{32} & u_{33} & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}^\dagger = \begin{bmatrix} u_{11}^* & u_{21}^* & u_{31}^* & \cdots \\ u_{12}^* & u_{22}^* & u_{32}^* & \cdots \\ u_{13}^* & u_{23}^* & u_{33}^* & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$



Unitary operator

❖ Conservation of length for unitary operators

- For two matrices \hat{A} and \hat{B} $(\hat{A}\hat{B})^\dagger = \hat{B}^\dagger \hat{A}^\dagger$

- That is, the Hermitian adjoint of the product is the “**flipped round**” product of the Hermitian adjoints

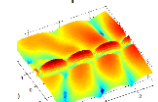
❖ Consider the unitary operator \hat{U} and vectors $|f_{old}\rangle$ $|g_{old}\rangle$

- Using the operator $|f_{new}\rangle = \hat{U}|f_{old}\rangle$ $|g_{new}\rangle = \hat{U}|g_{old}\rangle$

- Then, $\langle g_{new} | = \langle g_{old} | \hat{U}^\dagger$ **So,**

$$\begin{aligned}\langle g_{new} | f_{new} \rangle &= \langle g_{old} | \hat{U}^\dagger \hat{U} | f_{old} \rangle = \langle g_{old} | \hat{U}^{-1} \hat{U} | f_{old} \rangle = \langle g_{old} | \hat{I} | f_{old} \rangle \\ &= \langle g_{old} | f_{old} \rangle\end{aligned}$$

- The unitary operation does not change the inner product
- The **length** of a vector is **not changed** by a unitary operator





**Thank You for Your Attention,
Do You Have Any Questions?**

