

2008–09–03

Einstein:

$$E = h\nu = \frac{h}{2\pi} \cdot 2\pi\nu = \hbar\omega$$

Bohr:

$$L = n\hbar$$

$$L = p r$$

de Broglie:

Standing waves, the circumference is an integer number of wavelengths:

$$L = n\hbar = p r = p \frac{n\lambda}{2\pi} \Rightarrow p = \frac{2\pi\hbar}{\lambda}$$

Schrödinger:

$$\psi = e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x} - \omega t)}: \text{solution}$$

$$p\psi = \hbar k \psi = \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \psi$$

$$\frac{p^2}{2m} = \dots = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \psi$$

$$E\psi = \hbar\omega\psi = i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi$$

$$E = \frac{p^2}{2m} + V$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi = \left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \cdot \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + V \right) \psi$$

Canonical substitution

$$\begin{aligned} E &\mapsto i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \\ p_x &\mapsto \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \end{aligned}$$

Take the classical equation and substitute the above to get the quantum version.

What do we do in electromagnetism?

$$\omega = c |k|$$

$$\omega^2 = c^2 \mathbf{k}^2$$

$$\psi = e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x} - \omega t)}$$

$$-\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \psi = -c^2 \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \right) \psi$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \nabla^2 \right) \psi = 0$$

$$\mathbf{E} = \operatorname{Re}(\psi)$$

ψ can be taken as a real field, because it is governed by a real equation. The Schrödinger equation, on the other hand, has a necessarily complex solution. The real part cannot be interpreted as a density, because it becomes negative. The correct interpretation is

$$\rho = |\psi|^2.$$

We demand that ρ obeys the equation of continuity:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi^* \psi = \psi^* \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi + \text{complex conjugate} = \\ &= \frac{\psi^*}{i\hbar} \cdot i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi + \text{complex conjugate} = [\text{Schrödinger}] = \\ &= \frac{\psi^*}{i\hbar} \left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \psi + V\psi \right) + \text{complex conjugate} = \\ &= -\frac{\hbar}{2m i} \nabla \cdot (\psi^* \nabla \psi) + \text{complex conjugate} = \\ \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} &= -\frac{\hbar}{2m i} \nabla \cdot (\psi^* \nabla \psi - \psi \nabla \psi^*) \\ \mathbf{J} &= \frac{\hbar}{2m i} (\psi^* \nabla \psi - \psi \nabla \psi^*) \end{aligned}$$

The equation of continuity

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = 0$$

$$\int \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} d^3x + \int \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} d^3x = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int \rho d^3x + \oint_{\partial V} -\mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{A} = 0$$

If $\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{0}$ at the surface the latter term vanishes.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} Q_{\text{tot}} = 0$$

Polarization:

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_x \\ E_y \end{pmatrix} = e^{i(kz - \omega t)} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = e^{i(kz - \omega t)} |\psi\rangle$$

$$|\psi\rangle_{x \text{ polarization}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$|\psi\rangle_{y \text{ polarization}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$|\psi\rangle_{\text{circular}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix}$$