

Computing the Inverse Fourier Transform

As when we computed the Fourier transform of Ψ , we created a matrix:

$$\bar{\phi}_{\bar{x}}(\bar{q}) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{ix_1q_1} & e^{ix_1q_2} & \dots & e^{ix_1q_m} \\ e^{ix_2q_1} & e^{ix_2q_2} & \dots & e^{ix_2q_m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ e^{ix_nq_1} & e^{ix_nq_2} & \dots & e^{ix_nq_m} \end{pmatrix}$$

so that

$$\Psi_t(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iqx} A_t(q) \frac{dq}{2\pi}$$

where

$$A_t(q) = A(q)e^{-iEt/\hbar}$$

Then, our wave function evaluated at time t is approximated discretely by

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_t(x) &= \sum_{\{q\}} \bar{\phi}(q) \bar{A}_t(q) \frac{\delta q}{2\pi} = \bar{\phi}(q) \cdot \bar{A}_t \frac{\delta q}{2\pi} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} e^{iq_1x_1} & e^{iq_2x_1} & \dots & e^{iq_mx_1} \\ e^{iq_1x_2} & e^{iq_2x_2} & \dots & e^{iq_mx_2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ e^{iq_1x_n} & e^{iq_2x_n} & \dots & e^{iq_mx_n} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} A_t(q_1) \\ A_t(q_2) \\ \vdots \\ A_t(q_m) \end{pmatrix} \frac{\delta q}{2\pi} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} A_t(q_1)e^{iq_1x_1} + A_t(q_2)e^{iq_2x_1} + \dots + A_t(q_m)e^{iq_mx_1} \\ A_t(q_1)e^{iq_1x_2} + A_t(q_2)e^{iq_2x_2} + \dots + A_t(q_m)e^{iq_mx_2} \\ A_t(q_1)e^{iq_1x_3} + A_t(q_2)e^{iq_2x_3} + \dots + A_t(q_m)e^{iq_mx_3} \\ \vdots \\ A_t(q_1)e^{iq_1x_n} + A_t(q_2)e^{iq_2x_n} + \dots + A_t(q_m)e^{iq_mx_n} \end{pmatrix} \frac{\delta q}{2\pi} \end{aligned}$$

which is just

$$\Psi_t(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_t(x_1) \\ \Psi_t(x_2) \\ \vdots \\ \Psi_t(x_n) \end{pmatrix}$$