

# Lect 2.8 Formal theory of Scattering

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Time-dependent method

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi(t) = (H_0 + V) \psi(t), \text{ where } H_0 = -\frac{i\hbar \nabla^2}{2m}, \text{ } V: \text{ short ranged}$$

at  $t \rightarrow -\infty$ ,  $\psi(t)$  should be a wave packet with well-defined

momentum as

$$\phi_0(r, t) = \int C(p; p_0, \Delta p_0) \frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^{3/2}} e^{i(p \cdot r - E(p)t)/\hbar} d^3p$$

$C(p; p_0, \Delta p_0)$  is a sharp distribution around  $p_0$  with the width  $\Delta p_0$ .

If  $\Delta p_0 \rightarrow 0$ , then  $C(p; p_0, \Delta p_0) \rightarrow \delta^3(p - \vec{p}_0)$ .  $\phi_0(r, t)$  satisfies

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \phi_0(r, t) = H_0 \phi_0(r, t).$$

Let us suppose at  $t \leq T$ , ( $T$  is a certain negative time in the distant past).

$$\boxed{\Psi(t) = \phi_0(t), \text{ at } t \leq T.}$$

Now take  $T$  as the initial time, and  $\psi(T) = \phi_0(T)$  as the initial condition

$$\Psi(t) = e^{-iH(t-T)/\hbar} \phi_0(T) = e^{-iHt} \underbrace{e^{iHT/\hbar} \phi_0(T)}_{\Psi(0)} = e^{-iHt} \Psi(0)$$

define  $\Psi(0) = \lim_{T \rightarrow -\infty} e^{iHT/\hbar} \phi_0(T)$

$$= \lim_{T \rightarrow -\infty} e^{iHT/\hbar} e^{-iH_0 T/\hbar} \underbrace{e^{iH_0 T/\hbar} \phi_0(T)}_{\phi_0(0)}$$

$$= \lim_{T \rightarrow -\infty} u(0, T) \phi_0(0)$$

$t = 0$  is the instant that particle moves to the central region of  $V(r)$

$u(0, T) = e^{iHT/\hbar} e^{-iH_0T/\hbar}$ , thus  $\psi(0)$  is different from the free state. (2)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial T} u(0, T) = \frac{i}{\hbar} e^{iHT/\hbar} (H - H_0) e^{-iH_0T/\hbar} = \frac{i}{\hbar} e^{iHT/\hbar} V e^{-iH_0T/\hbar}$$

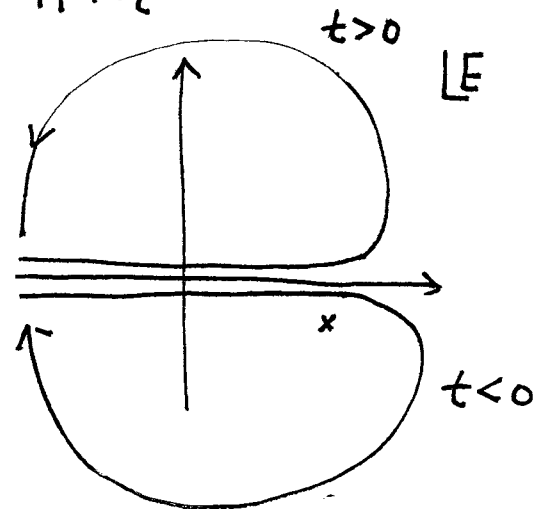
$$u(0, T) = 1 + \frac{i}{\hbar} \int_T^0 dt e^{iHt/\hbar} V e^{-iH_0t/\hbar}$$

AMPAD  $T \rightarrow -\infty \Rightarrow u(0, -\infty) = 1 + \frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^0 dt e^{iHt/\hbar} V e^{-iH_0t/\hbar}$

use the identity

$$\Theta(-t) e^{iHt/\hbar} = \frac{i}{2\pi} \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dE \frac{e^{iEt/\hbar}}{E - H + i\eta}$$

$$\Rightarrow u(0, -\infty) = 1 + \frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dE \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dt \frac{i}{2\pi} \frac{e^{iEt/\hbar}}{E - H + i\eta} \cdot V e^{-iH_0t/\hbar}$$



perform the integral of  $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dt e^{iEt/\hbar} e^{-iH_0t/\hbar}$

$$= 2\pi \delta\left(\frac{E - H_0}{\hbar}\right) = 2\pi \hbar \delta(E - H_0)$$

$$u(0, -\infty) = 1 + \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dE \frac{1}{E - H + i\eta} V \delta(E - H_0)$$

define  $\Omega_+(E) = 1 + \frac{1}{E - H + i\eta} V$ , we have

$$\psi(0) = u(0, -\infty) \phi(0) = \int dp C(p; p_0, \Delta p) u(0, -\infty) |p\rangle \leftarrow \text{plane wave}$$

define  $\psi_p^\dagger = u(0, -\infty) |p\rangle$ , then  $\psi(0) = \int dp C(p; p_0, \Delta p) \psi_p^\dagger$

$$\psi_p^+ = \left( 1 + \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dE \frac{1}{E - H + i\eta} V \delta(E - H_0) |p\rangle \right)$$

$$= \left( 1 + \frac{1}{E(p) - H + i\eta} V \right) |p\rangle = \Omega_+(E(p)) |p\rangle$$

$$E(p) = \frac{\hbar^2 p^2}{2m}$$

Comments: ①  $\psi_p^+$  is the eigenstate of  $H$

Proof:

$$H \psi_p^+ = \left[ H + \frac{1}{E - H + i\eta} H V \right] |p\rangle$$

$$= \left[ H_0 + V + \frac{1}{E - H + i\eta} (-E + H) V + \frac{1}{E - H + i\eta} V E \right] |p\rangle$$

$$= H_0 + \frac{1}{E - H + i\eta} V H_0 |p\rangle = \Omega_+(E) H_0 |p\rangle = E_p \psi_p^+$$

later, we will show

$$\langle r | \psi_p^+ \rangle \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^{3/2}} \left( e^{i\vec{p}\cdot\vec{r}/\hbar} + \frac{e^{ikr}}{r} f(\theta, \varphi) \right) \quad k = p/\hbar$$

outgoing eigenstate, which is just the boundary condition that is used for time-independent method.

② Similarly we can formally define the state  $\psi^-(0)$  from the future by setting  $T \rightarrow +\infty$ . Then

$$\psi^-(0) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} U(0, T) \phi_0(0)$$

$$U(0, +\infty) = 1 + \frac{1}{i\hbar} \int_0^{+\infty} dt e^{iHt/\hbar} V e^{-iH_0 t/\hbar} \quad (\text{exercise}).$$

$$= 1 + \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dE \frac{1}{E - H - i\eta} V \delta(E - H_0)$$

$$\int dp |\psi_p^+\rangle \langle \psi_p^+| = \int dp |\psi_p^-\rangle \langle \psi_p^-| \neq 1$$

$$|\psi_p^+\rangle = U(0, -\infty) |p\rangle, \quad |\psi_p^-\rangle = U(0, +\infty) |p\rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow U(0, -\infty) \int dp |p\rangle \langle p| U(-\infty, 0) = U(0, +\infty) \int dp |p\rangle \langle p| U(+\infty, 0)$$

$$\Rightarrow U(0, -\infty) U(-\infty, 0) = U(0, +\infty) U(+\infty, 0) \neq 1.$$

AMPAD

Derive Lipman-Schwinger Eq

$$\Omega_+ = 1 + \frac{1}{E - H + i\eta} V$$

$$\frac{1}{E - H + i\eta} = \frac{1}{E - H_0 + i\eta} + \frac{1}{E - H_0 + i\eta} V \frac{1}{E - H_0 + i\eta} + \dots$$

$$= \frac{1}{E - H_0 + i\eta} + \frac{1}{E - H_0 + i\eta} V \frac{1}{E - H + i\eta}$$

$$\Omega_+ = 1 + \frac{1}{E - H_0 + i\eta} V \Omega_+$$

$$\Omega_+ = 1 + \frac{1}{E - H_0 + i\eta} V \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{E - H + i\eta} V \right]$$

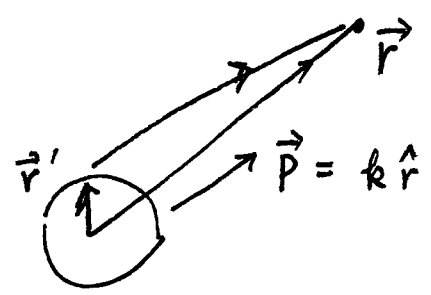
$$|\psi_{p_0}^+\rangle = |p_0\rangle + \frac{1}{E - H_0 + i\eta} V |\psi_{p_0}^+\rangle \xrightarrow{\text{coordinate Rep}}$$

$$\psi_{p_0}^+(r) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^{3/2}} e^{i p_0 r / \hbar} + \int \langle r | \frac{1}{E - H_0 + i\eta} |r'\rangle V(r') \psi_{p_0}^+(r') dr'$$

$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^{3/2}} e^{i p_0 r / \hbar} - \frac{m}{2\pi\hbar^2} \int \frac{e^{i k_0 |\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|} V(r') \psi_{p_0}^+(r') dr'$$

$$|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'| = r - \vec{r}' \cdot \hat{r}$$

$$e^{i\mathbf{k}_0 \cdot |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} = e^{i\mathbf{k}_0 \cdot \mathbf{r}} e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}'}$$



$$\Rightarrow \psi_{P_0}^+(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^{3/2}} e^{i\mathbf{P}_0 \cdot \mathbf{r} / \hbar} - \frac{m}{2\pi\hbar^2} \frac{e^{i\mathbf{k}_0 \cdot \mathbf{r}}}{r}$$

$$(2\pi\hbar)^{3/2} \int \frac{e^{i\mathbf{P} \cdot \mathbf{r}'}}{(2\pi\hbar)^{3/2}} V(\mathbf{r}') \psi_{P_0}^+(\mathbf{r}') d\mathbf{r}'$$

$$\text{AMPAD} = \frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^{3/2}} \left[ e^{i\mathbf{P}_0 \cdot \mathbf{r} / \hbar} - \frac{m}{2\pi\hbar^2} \cdot 8\pi^3 \hbar^3 \frac{e^{i\mathbf{k}_0 \cdot \mathbf{r}}}{r} \langle P | V | \psi_{P_0}^+ \rangle \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{f(\theta, \varphi) = -4\pi^2 \hbar m \langle P | V | \psi_{P_0}^+ \rangle}$$
 where  $\vec{P}$  along the direction of  $\vec{r}$ .

$$\langle P | V | \psi_{P_0}^+ \rangle = \langle P | V \frac{1}{E - H + i\eta} V | P_0 \rangle$$
$$= \langle P | (1 + V \frac{1}{E - H + i\eta}) V | P_0 \rangle$$

$$= \langle (1 + \frac{1}{E - H - i\eta} V) P | V | P_0 \rangle = \langle \psi_P^- | V | P_0 \rangle$$

$$\boxed{f(\theta, \varphi) = -4\pi^2 \hbar m \langle \psi_P^{(-)} | V | P_0 \rangle}$$

check unit  
 $|p\rangle$  normalized to  $\delta^{(3)}(p-p')$   
 $\langle \psi_P^- | V | P_0 \rangle \rightarrow P^{-3} P^2 = \frac{1}{m_p}$   
 $[f] = \hbar/p = [1/k] = \text{length}$

§ Cross-section & optical theorem

we write  $\psi(t) = \phi_0(t) + W(t)$ ;  $\phi_0(t)$  is the incident wavepacket and  $W(t)$  is the scattering wave.  $\phi_0(t) \rightarrow e^{-iE_0 t/\hbar} |\vec{p}_0\rangle$ .

The scattering rate to the state  $|\vec{p}\rangle$

$$\omega_p d^3p = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\langle p | W(t) \rangle|^2 d^3p$$

$$\sigma(\theta, \varphi) d\Omega = \frac{(2\pi\hbar)^3}{v_0} d\Omega \int_0^{+\infty} \omega_p p^2 dp$$

$$v_0 = \frac{p_0}{m}$$

$|p\rangle$  normalization according to  $\delta^{(3)}(p-p')$

check dimension

$$\omega_p - \text{dimension } [p]^6 [T]^{-1}$$

$$\rightarrow [\sigma] = \frac{[\hbar]^3 [p]^{-3} [T]^{-1}}{[L][T]^{-1}} = [L]^2$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\langle p | W(t) \rangle|^2 = \langle W(t) | p \rangle \langle p | W(t) \rangle + c.c.$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} W(t) = \frac{1}{i\hbar} [H\psi(t) - H_0\phi_0(t)]$$

$$= \frac{1}{i\hbar} [H_0\psi(t) + V\psi(t) - H_0\phi_0(t)]$$

$$= \frac{1}{i\hbar} [V\psi(t) + H_0W(t)]$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\langle p | W(t) \rangle|^2 = \frac{1}{i\hbar} \left[ \langle W(t) | p \rangle \langle p | V | \psi(t) \rangle + E_p \langle W(t) | p \rangle \langle p | W(t) \rangle \right] + c.c.$$

$$= \frac{1}{i\hbar} \langle W(t) | p \rangle \langle p | V | \psi(t) \rangle + c.c.$$

~~$\frac{d}{dt} \langle p | W(t) \rangle = \frac{1}{i\hbar} \langle p | V | \psi(t) \rangle$~~

$$\sigma_T = \int \sigma(\theta, \varphi) d\Omega = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int d^3p \langle w(t) | p \rangle \langle p | w(t) \rangle \frac{(2\pi\hbar)^3}{v_0}$$

$$= \left[ \frac{1}{i\hbar} \int d^3p \langle w(t) | p \rangle \langle p | V | \psi(t) \rangle + c.c. \right] \frac{(2\pi\hbar)^3}{v_0}$$

$$= \left[ \frac{1}{i\hbar} \langle w(t) | V | \psi(t) \rangle + c.c. \right] \frac{(2\pi\hbar)^3}{v_0}$$

$$|w(t)\rangle = |\psi(t)\rangle - |\phi_0(t)\rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_T = \left\{ \frac{-1}{i\hbar} \langle \phi_0(t) | V | \psi(t) \rangle + c.c. \right\} \frac{(2\pi\hbar)^3}{v_0}$$

set  $\Delta p \rightarrow 0$

$$\sigma_T = -\frac{2}{\hbar} \text{Im} \langle \vec{p}_0 | V | \psi_{\vec{p}_0}^+ \rangle \frac{(2\pi\hbar)^3}{v_0} \leftarrow v_0 = \frac{\hbar k_0}{m}$$

$$\sigma_T = \frac{4\pi}{k_0} \text{Im} f(p_0, p_0)$$

ADPAPD

§ Scattering matrix

$$S = U(+\infty, -\infty)$$

§ interaction picture

$$H = H_0 + V,$$

state vector  $|\psi_I(t)\rangle = e^{iH_0 t} |\psi_S(t)\rangle$

operator  $O_I(t) = e^{iH_0 t} O_S e^{-iH_0 t}$

time evolution operator

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi_I(t)\rangle &= e^{iH_0 t} |\psi_S(t)\rangle = e^{iH_0 t} e^{-iH(t-t_0)} |\psi_S(t_0)\rangle \\ &= e^{iH_0 t} e^{-iH(t-t_0)} e^{-iH_0 t_0} |\psi_I(t_0)\rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow U_I(t, t_0) = e^{iH_0 t} e^{-iH(t-t_0)} e^{-iH_0 t_0}$$

$$U(t, t) = 1; \quad U(t, t_1) U(t_1, t_0) = U(t, t_0); \quad U^\dagger(t, t_0) = U(t_0, t) = U^\dagger(t, t_0)$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} U(t, t_0) = V_I(t) U(t, t_0); \quad -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t_0} U(t, t_0) = U(t, t_0) V_I(t_0)$$

§ Scattering matrix

$$S = U(+\infty, -\infty) = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \lim_{t_0 \rightarrow -\infty} U(t, t_0)$$

$$= U(+\infty, 0) U(0, -\infty)$$

↑ wave operator defined last in

lecture

$$\Psi_S(t=0) = U(0, -\infty) \phi_0(0) = \lim_{T \rightarrow -\infty} e^{iHT} \phi_0(T) = e^{iHT} e^{-iH_0 T} \phi_0(0)$$



In the interaction picture

$$\Psi_I(t) = U_I(t, 0) \Psi_I(0)$$

$$= U_I(t, 0) \Psi_S(0) = U_I(t, 0) U(0, -\infty) \phi_0(0) = U_I(t, 0) U_I(0, -\infty) \phi_0(0)$$

$$= U_I(t, -\infty) \phi_0(0)$$

$$\Psi_I(+\infty) = U(+\infty, -\infty) \phi_0(0)$$

$U(+\infty, -\infty)$  contains all the information of the scattering problem.

$U(+\infty, -\infty) = S$  satisfies

① Time reversal

$$T S = T U(+\infty, 0) U(0, -\infty) = U(-\infty, 0) U(0, +\infty) T$$

$t \rightarrow -t$

$$\Rightarrow T S T^{-1} = S^\dagger$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{2} H_0 S &= H_0 U(+\infty, 0) U(0, -\infty) = U(+\infty, 0) H U(0, -\infty) \\ &= U(+\infty, 0) U(0, -\infty) H_0 = S H_0 \end{aligned}$$

Completeness for the scattering states

③ Unitarity

$$\begin{aligned} S^\dagger S &= U(-\infty, 0) \underline{U(0, \infty)} U(\infty, 0) U(0, -\infty) \\ &= U(-\infty, 0) \underline{U(0, -\infty)} U(+\infty, 0) U(0, -\infty) \\ &= I \cdot I = I \end{aligned}$$

Similarly  $S S^\dagger = I$

③ S-matrix and scattering amplitude.

$$\langle p' | S | p \rangle = \langle p' | u(+\infty, 0) u(0, -\infty) | p \rangle = \langle \psi_{p'}^- | \psi_p^+ \rangle$$

$$|\psi_p^+\rangle - |\psi_p^-\rangle = \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0^+} \left( \frac{1}{E(p) - H + i\eta} - \frac{1}{E(p) - H - i\eta} \right) V |p\rangle$$

$$= -2\pi i \delta(E(p) - H) V |p\rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle p' | S | p \rangle = \langle \psi_{p'}^+ | \psi_p^+ \rangle - 2\pi i \langle p' | V \delta(E(p') - H) | \psi_p^+ \rangle$$

$$= \delta(p' - p) - 2\pi i \langle p' | V | \psi_p^+ \rangle \delta(E(p') - E(p))$$

$$= \delta(p' - p) - 2\pi i \langle \psi_{p'}^{(+)} | V | p \rangle \delta(E(p) - E(p'))$$

or  $\langle p' | S^{-1} | p \rangle = -2\pi i \langle p' | V | \psi_p^{(+)} \rangle \delta(E(p') - E(p))$

$$= -2\pi i \langle \psi_{p'}^{(+)} | V | p \rangle \delta(E(p) - E(p'))$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle p | (S - 1) | p_0 \rangle = \frac{i}{2\pi \hbar m} f(p, p_0) \delta(E(p) - E(p_0))$$

where  $f(p, p_0) = -4\pi^2 \hbar m \langle p | V | \psi_{p_0}^{(+)} \rangle$

check unit [left] =  $\delta^3(p - p_0) \sim [p]^{-3}$

[right] =  $\frac{1}{\hbar m} \frac{1}{\hbar} \cdot \frac{1}{E} = \frac{1}{p m} \frac{m}{p^2} = [p]$

④ Reciprocal relation

~~$$\langle p' | S | p \rangle = \langle p' | T^{-1} S^{\dagger} T | p \rangle = \langle T p' | S^{\dagger} | T p \rangle$$~~

~~$$= \langle T p' | S | T p \rangle$$~~

~~$$\langle A | 0 | B \rangle$$~~

~~$$= \langle A | T T^{-1} 0 | B \rangle$$~~

~~$$= \langle$$~~

★ Reciprocal relation:

⑫

$$\langle A|B\rangle = \langle TA|TB\rangle^* = \langle TB|TA\rangle$$

T: time reversal

$$\begin{aligned}\langle A|\hat{O}|B\rangle &= \langle TOB|TA\rangle = \langle (TOT^{-1})TB|TA\rangle \\ &= \langle TB|(TOT^{-1})^\dagger|TA\rangle\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\langle P'|S|P\rangle} = \langle TP|(TST^{-1})^\dagger|TP'\rangle = \langle TP|(S^\dagger)^\dagger|TP'\rangle$$
$$\boxed{= \langle TP|S|TP'\rangle} \quad \leftarrow \text{Scattering amplitudes}$$

i.e.  $f(\vec{p}'; \vec{p}) = f(T\vec{p}; T\vec{p}')$

are the same for two processes related by TR.