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DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS
OSAKA IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

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Entropy in Quantum Mechanics

Irreversible Property of Quantum Mechanical Ensemble.

§ 1. Introduction

In statistical mechanics the dynamical system treated in statistical mechanics has so many degrees of freedom as we can not usually determine in which state microscopic state it is.

Quantum Mechanics and its system's state is wave function ψ . It is discrete and continuous. It is orthogonal. Eigenfunctions are orthogonal normalized eigenfunctions of complete system $\psi = \sum c_n \psi_n$. For the sake of convenience, eigenfunctions are discrete and orthogonal, normalized.

$$\text{Then, } \psi \text{ is a wave function. } \psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_n \text{ are eigenvectors.}$$

System's state was ψ . At time t , ψ is $\psi(t)$. It is a linear combination of eigenfunctions.

At time t , $\psi(t) = \sum c_n \psi_n$. c_n depends on time t .

For system's quantity ψ , $\psi(t)$ depends on time t .