

PROFESSOR: We got here finally in terms of position and in terms of momentum. So this was not an accident that it worked for position and wave number. It works with position and for momentum. And remember, this ϕ of p now has interpretation of the weight that is associated with a plane wave of momentum p , and you're summing over P in here. So we'll do the natural thing that we did with x . We'll interpret ϕ of p squared-- ϕ of p squared-- dp is the probability.

Find the particle with momentum in the range $p, p + dp$. Just the same way as we would say that ψ squared of x, dx is the probability to find the particle between x and $x + dx$. So this is allowed now by the conservation of probability and this, therefore, makes sense. It's a postulate, though. It's not something that can derive. I can just argue that it's consistent to think in that way, and that's the way we finally promote this ϕ of p , which did encode ψ of x . ϕ of b has the same information as ϕ of x . ϕ of p is the weight of the superposition but, finally, it's given a probabilistic interpretation. It represents a probability to find the particle with some momentum.

So this is what is going to allow us to do expectation values in a minute. But I want to close off this discussion by writing for you the three-dimensional versions of these equations. 3D version of Fourier transform. So this is what we want to rewrite. So what would it be? It's ψ of the vector x . Since you're going to have three integrals-- because you're going into it over three components of momentum-- this factor appears three times. So actually, it's $2\pi\hbar$ to the three halves integral ϕ of vector p into the i vector p dot product vector x \hbar $d^3 p$, and ϕ of p vector the inverse theorem-- same factor, we keep the nice symmetry between x and p -- ψ of x vector negative exponent same dot product but negative exponent $d^3 x$.

So these are the three dimensional versions of your x versus p . And there is a three-dimensional version of Parseval. So oh there's a three dimensional version of the delta function. Just like we had a delta function here-- a delta function in three dimensional space would be $\delta^3(x - x')$ would be $1/(2\pi)^3$ integral $d^3 k e^{i(k \cdot (x - x'))}$.

It's all quite analogous. I think you should appreciate that you don't have to memorize them or anything like that. They won't be in any formula sheet, but they are very analogous expressions. Parseval also works in the same way. And you have-- just as you would imagine-- that the integral all over three dimensional space of ψ of x squared is equal to the integral

over three dimensional momentum space of ϕ of p squared. So the three results-- the Fourier theorem the delta function and Parseval hold equally well.