

Title: 14/15 PSI - Quantum Mechanics 3

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Abstract:

## Gaussian Integral

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\{-ax^2 + bx + c\} dx = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}} \exp\left\{\frac{b^2}{4a} + c\right\}$$

Richard Mackenzie  
arXiv: quant-ph/0004090  
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Path integrals in QM

Single in 1D

$$H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + V(x)$$

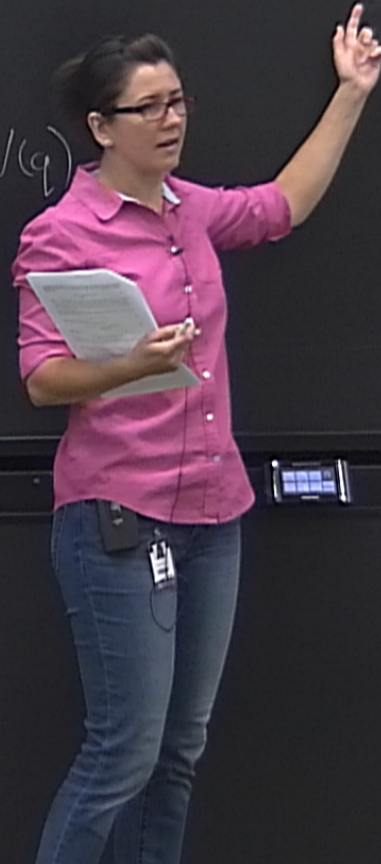
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$$= \langle q' | e^{-iH(T-t)} e^{-iHt} | q \rangle$$

$$= \langle q' | e^{-iH(T-t)} \left[ \int dq'' \langle q' | e^{-iHt} | q'' \rangle \langle q'' | e^{-iHt} | q \rangle \right]$$

$$A = \langle q_1 | \underbrace{e^{-iHT}}_{\equiv K(q_1, T; q_1, 0)} | q_1 \rangle$$

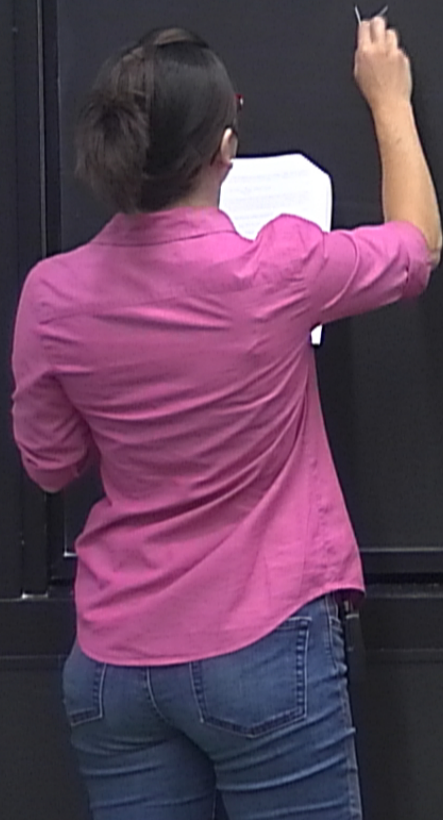
$$= \langle q_1 | e^{-iH(T-t_1)} e^{-iHt_1} | q_1 \rangle$$

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$$= \int dq_2 K(q_1, T; q_2, t_1) K(q_2, t_1; q_1, 0) \Rightarrow \text{"sum" over intermediate positions "q_2"}$$



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Insert resolution of identity:

$$K = \langle q_f | e^{-iHS} \int dq_{N-1} |q_{N-1}\rangle \langle q_{N-1}| e^{-iHS} \int dq_{N-2} |q_{N-2}\rangle \langle q_{N-2}| \dots \int dq_1 |q_1\rangle \langle q_1| e^{-iHS} |q_i\rangle$$

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$$= \int dq_1 \dots q_{N-1} K_{q_N, q_{N-1}} K_{q_{N-1}, q_{N-2}} \dots K_{q_2, q_1} K_{q_1, q_i}$$

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Split up  $T$  into  $N$  (large number) time intervals  $S = T/N$ .

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Insert resolution of identity:

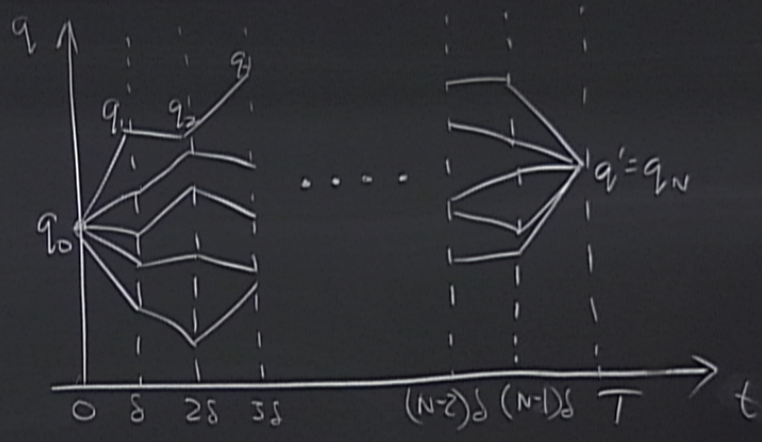
$$K = \langle q' | e^{-iHS} \underbrace{\int dq_{N-1} |q_{N-1}\rangle \langle q_{N-1}|}_{\mathbb{I}} e^{-iHS} \int dq_{N-2} |q_{N-2}\rangle \langle q_{N-2}| \dots \int dq_1 |q_1\rangle \langle q_1| e^{-iHS} |q\rangle$$

$$= \int dq_1 \dots q_{N-1} K_{q_N, q_{N-1}} K_{q_{N-1}, q_{N-2}} \dots K_{q_2, q_1} K_{q_1, q_0} \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} q_0 \equiv q \\ q_N \equiv q' \end{array} \right. K_{q_{j+1}, q_j} \equiv \langle q_{j+1} | e^{-iHS} | q_j \rangle$$

$$\langle q_i | q_j \rangle = \langle q_i | e^{-iH\delta} | q_j \rangle$$

$$q_j | K_{q_{j+1}, q_j} = \langle q_{j+1} | e^{-iH\delta} | q_j \rangle$$

$$q_i$$



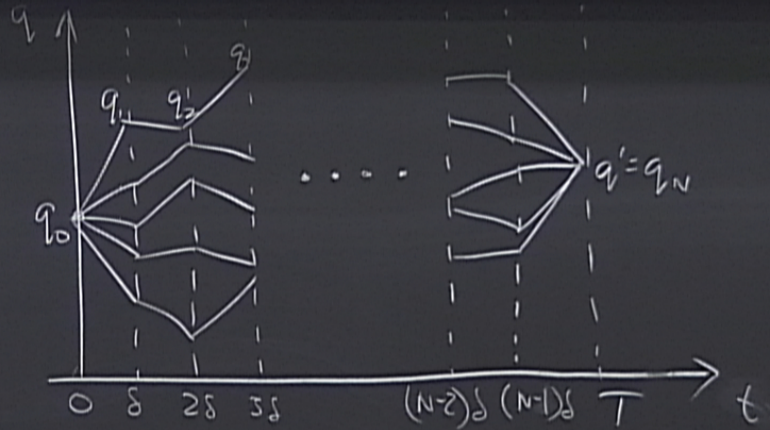
$$K = \int A_{path}$$



$$= \int dq_1 K(q_1, T; q_1, t_1) K(q_1, t_1; q_1, 0) \Rightarrow \text{"sum" over intermediate positions "q_1"}$$

$$\int dq_1 \langle q_1 | X | q_1 \rangle e^{-iH_S} | q_1 \rangle$$

$$\langle q_1 | K_{q_{j+1}, q_j} = \langle q_{j+1} | e^{-iH_S} | q_j \rangle$$



$$K = \sum_{\text{paths}} A_{\text{path}}$$

$$\sum_{\text{paths}} = \int dq_1 \dots dq_{N-1}$$

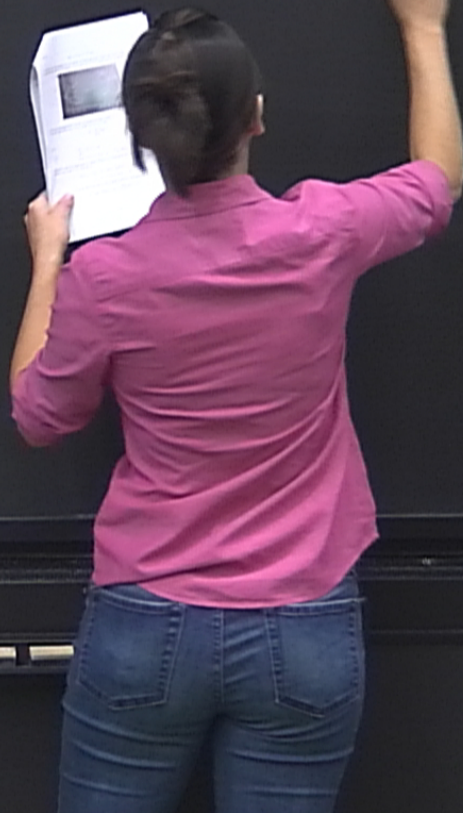
$$A_{\text{path}} = K_{q_N, q_{N-1}} K_{q_{N-1}, q_{N-2}} \dots K_{q_1, q_0}$$

Gaussian Integral

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\{-ax^2 + bx + c\} dx = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}} \exp\left\{\frac{b^2}{4a} + c\right\}$$

Lets consider last term

$$K_{q_j, q_j} = \langle q_j, q_j \rangle \left( 1 - \langle HS \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \langle HS \rangle^2 + \dots \right)$$



Lets consider last term

$$K_{q_{j+1}q_j} = \langle q_{j+1} | \left( 1 - iHS - \frac{1}{2}(HS)^2 + \dots \right) | q_j \rangle$$

$$\underbrace{\langle q_{j+1} | q_j \rangle} - iS \langle q_{j+1} | H | q_j \rangle + o(S^2)$$

Lets consider last term

$$\begin{aligned} K_{q_{j+1}q_j} &= \langle q_{j+1} | \left( 1 - iHS - \frac{1}{2}(HS)^2 + \dots \right) | q_j \rangle \\ &= \underbrace{\langle q_{j+1} | q_j \rangle}_{\textcircled{1}} - iS \langle q_{j+1} | H | q_j \rangle + o(S^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \langle q_{j+1} | q_j \rangle = \delta(q_{j+1} - q_j) = \int \frac{dp_j}{2\pi} e^{ip_j(q_{j+1} - q_j)}$$

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②

$$\textcircled{2} -i\delta \langle q_{j+1} | \left( \frac{p^2}{2m} + V(q) \right) \underbrace{\int \frac{dp_j}{2\pi} |p_j\rangle \langle p_j|}_{\text{II}} |q_j\rangle$$

Gaussian Int

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\{-ax^2 + bx + c\} dx$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \dots \rangle |q_j\rangle \\
 & \dots (p_j) \\
 & \dots (q_{j+1} - q_j) \\
 & \textcircled{2} -i\delta \langle q_{j+1} | \left( \frac{p_j^2}{2m} + V(q) \right) \underbrace{\int \frac{dp_j}{2\pi} |p_j\rangle \langle p_j|}_{\text{II}} |q_j\rangle \\
 & = i\delta \langle p_j | \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

Gaussian Int

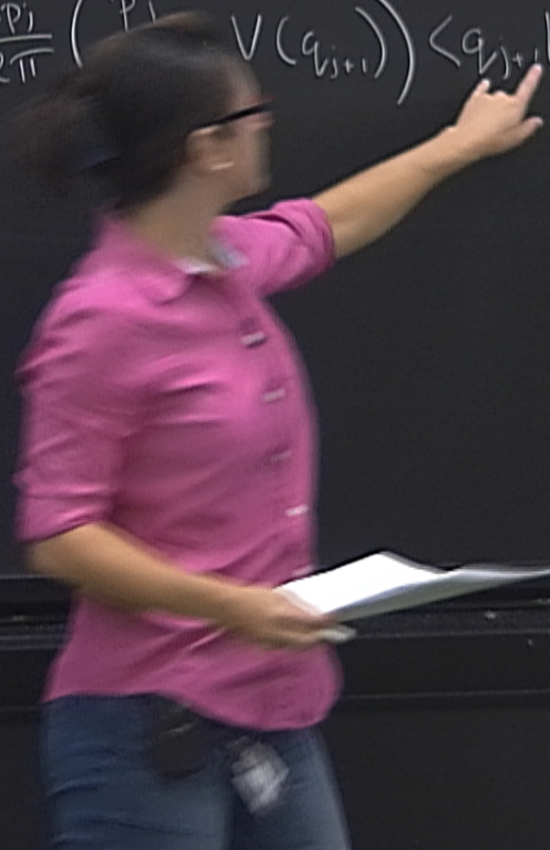
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\{-ax^2 + bx + c\} dx$$

...  $|q_j\rangle$

$(\delta^2)$

$(q_{j+1} - q_j)$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{2} \quad & -i\delta \langle q_{j+1} | \left( \frac{p^2}{2m} + V(q) \right) \int \frac{dp_j}{2\pi} |p_j\rangle \langle p_j| q_j \rangle \\ & = i\delta \int \frac{dp_j}{2\pi} \left( p_j^2 + V(q_{j+1}) \right) \langle q_{j+1} | p_j \rangle \langle p_j | q_j \rangle \end{aligned}$$



Gaussian Int

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\{-ax^2 + bx + c\} dx$$

$$\langle q | p \rangle = e^{ipq}$$



...  $|q_j\rangle$

$\delta(q^2)$

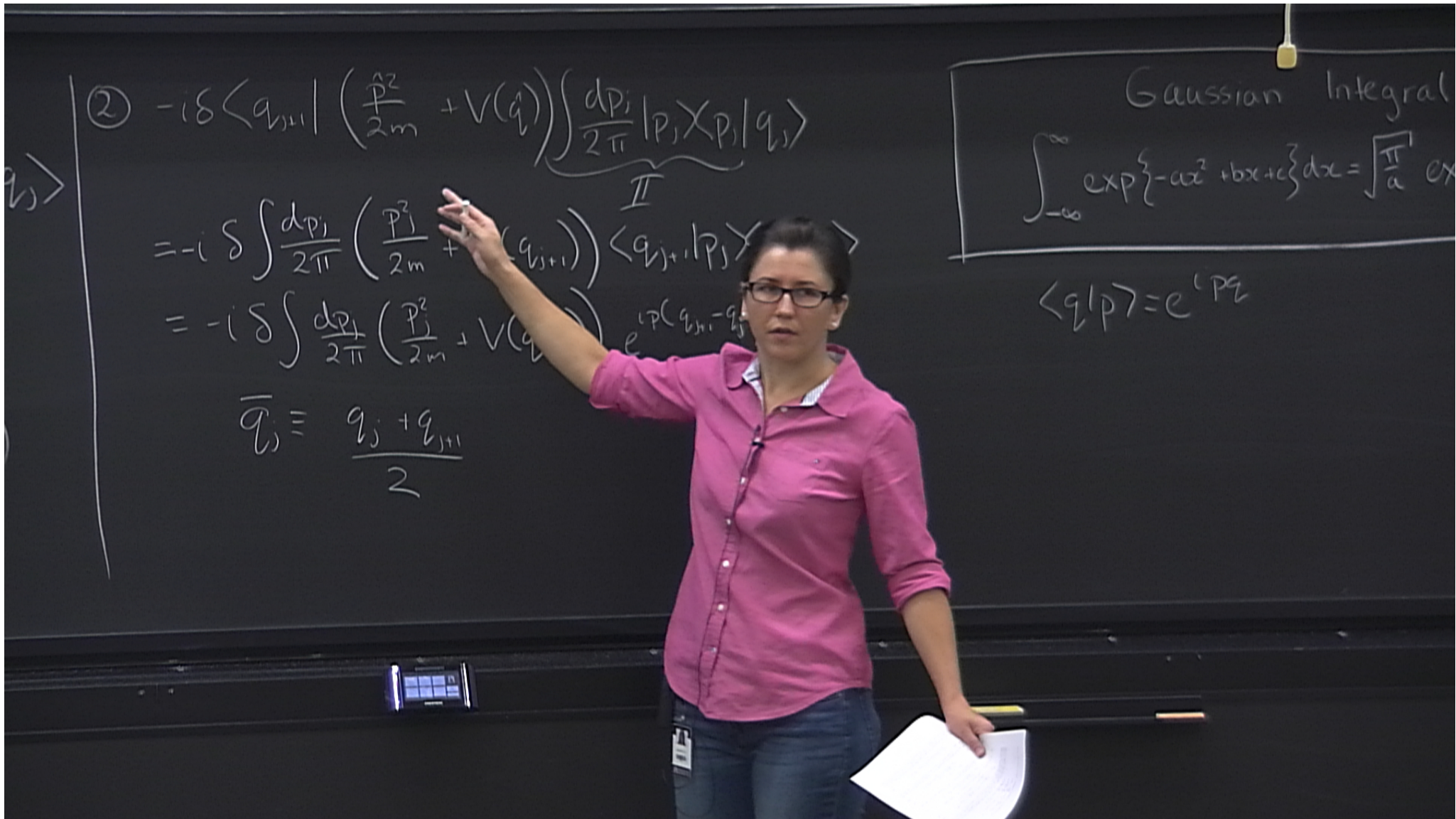
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Combine solutions to ① and ②:

$$K_{q_{j+1}, q_j} = \int \frac{dp_j}{2\pi} e^{ip_j(q_{j+1} - q_j)} ($$

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$$A_{\text{path}} = \int \prod_{j=0}^{N-1} \frac{dp_j}{2\pi} \exp \left( i \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} p_j (q_{j+1} - q_j) - i \epsilon \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \left( \frac{p_j^2}{2m} + V(q_j) \right) \right)$$

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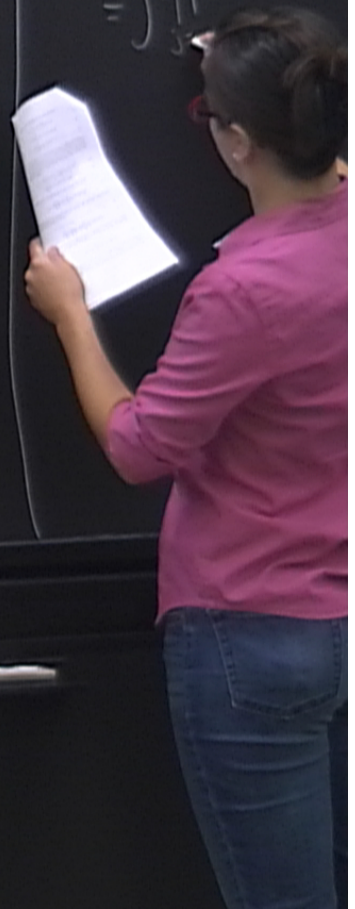
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(ignoring  $(1 + o(\delta^2))^N$ ) also  $\dot{q} \equiv \frac{q_{j+1} - q_j}{\delta}$

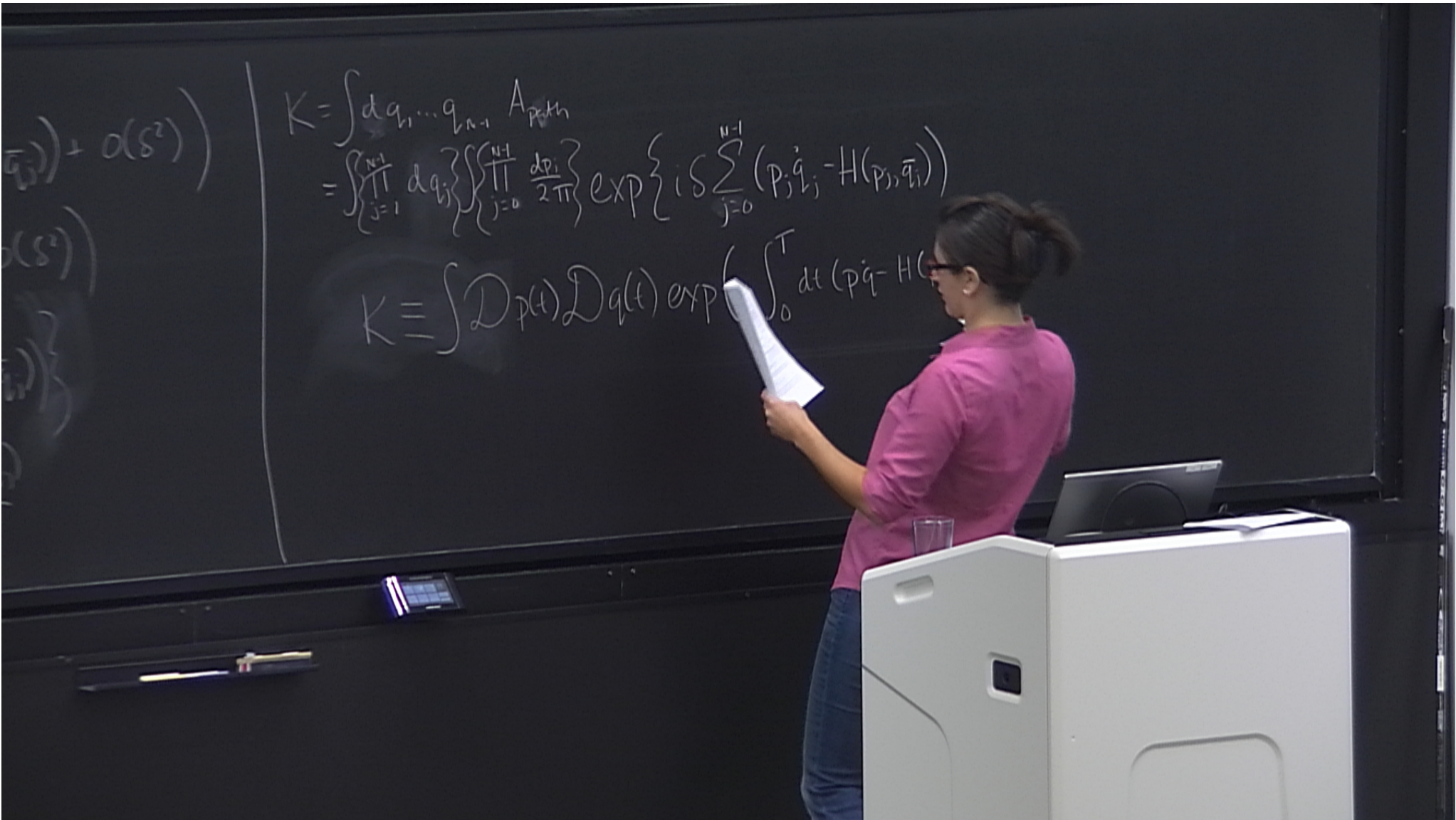
$$K = \int dq_1 \dots dq_N$$

$$= \int \prod_{j=1}^N \Pi$$



$$K = \int dq_1 \dots q_{n-1} A_{path}$$
$$= \int \prod_{j=1}^{N-1} dq_j \int \prod_{j=0}^{N-1} \frac{dp_j}{2\pi} \exp \left\{ iS \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} (p_j \dot{q}_j - H(p_j, q_j)) \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 K &= \int dq_1 \dots q_{n-1} A_{\text{path}} \\
 &= \underbrace{\left\{ \prod_{j=1}^{N-1} dq_j \right\}}_{\int dq_1 dq_2 dq_3} \left\{ \prod_{j=0}^{N-1} \frac{dp_j}{2\pi} \right\} \exp \left\{ iS \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} (p_j \dot{q}_j - H(p_j, \bar{q}_j)) \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$



$$H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + V(q)$$

$$K = \int \prod_{j=1}^{N-1} dq_j \exp\left(-iS \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} V(\bar{q}_j)\right)$$

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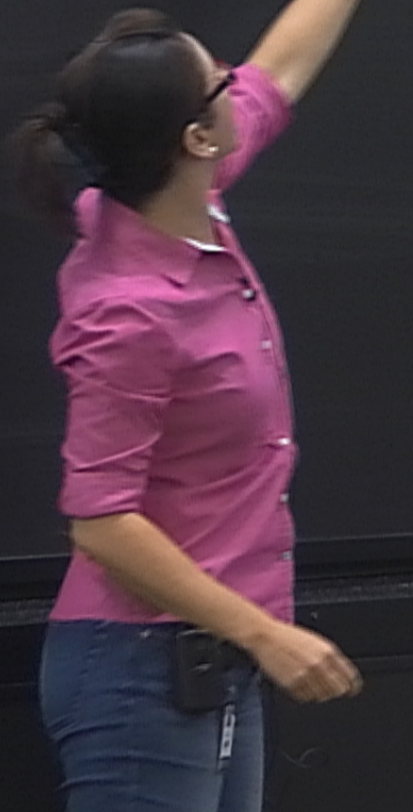
$$H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + V(q)$$

$$K = \int \prod_{j=1}^{N-1} dq_j \exp\left(-i\delta \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} V(\bar{q}_j)\right) \int \prod_{j=0}^{N-1} \frac{dp_j}{2\pi} \exp\left(i\delta \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \left(p_j \dot{q}_j - \frac{p_j^2}{2m}\right)\right)$$

$$\int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{i\delta \left(p\dot{q} - \frac{p^2}{2m}\right)} = \sqrt{\frac{m}{2\pi i\delta}} e^{i \frac{\delta m \dot{q}^2}{2}}$$

$$K = \int \prod_{j=1}^{N-1} \delta q_j \exp\left(-i\delta \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} V(\bar{q}_j)\right) \prod_{j=0}^{N-1} \left(\sqrt{\frac{m}{2\pi i\delta}} e^{i \frac{\delta m \dot{q}_j^2}{2}}\right)$$

$$K = \left( \frac{m}{2\pi f} \right)^{2/3}$$



$$K = \left(\frac{m}{2\pi i\hbar}\right)^{\frac{N}{2}} \int \prod_{j=1}^{N-1} dq_j \exp\left(i\delta \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \left(\frac{m\dot{q}_j}{2} - V(\bar{q}_j)\right)\right)$$

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$$K \equiv \int \mathcal{D}q(t) e^{iS[q(t)]}$$

$$K = \langle q' | e^{-iH_S} \int dq_{N-1} |q_{N-1}\rangle \langle q_{N-1}| e^{-iH_S} \int dq_{N-2} |q_{N-2}\rangle \langle q_{N-2}| \dots \int dq_1 |q_1\rangle \langle q_1| e^{-iH_S} |q\rangle$$

$$= \int dq_1 \dots q_{N-1} K_{q_{N-1}, q_{N-1}} K_{q_{N-1}, q_{N-2}} \dots K_{q_2, q_1} K_{q_1, q_0}$$

0 5 25 35 (N-2) S

$$q_0 \equiv q \quad K_{q_{j+1}, q_j} = \langle q_{j+1} | e^{-iH_S} |q_j\rangle$$

$$q_N \equiv q'$$

Free particle

$$H = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m}$$

Standard

$$K = \langle q' | e^{-iHT} |q\rangle$$

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K =

$$K = \langle q' | e^{-iH_S} \underbrace{\int dq_{N-1} |q_{N-1}\rangle \langle q_{N-1}| e^{-iH_S} \int dq_{N-2} |q_{N-2}\rangle \langle q_{N-2}| \dots \int dq_1 |q_1\rangle \langle q_1| e^{-iH_S}}_I |q\rangle$$

$$= \int dq_1 \dots q_{N-1} K_{q_{N-1}, q_{N-1}} K_{q_{N-1}, q_{N-2}} \dots K_{q_2, q_1} K_{q_1, q_0}$$

0 5 25 35 (N-2) S

$$q_0 \equiv q \quad K_{q_j, q_j} = \langle q_j | e^{-iH_S} |q_j\rangle$$

$$q_N \equiv q'$$

Free particle

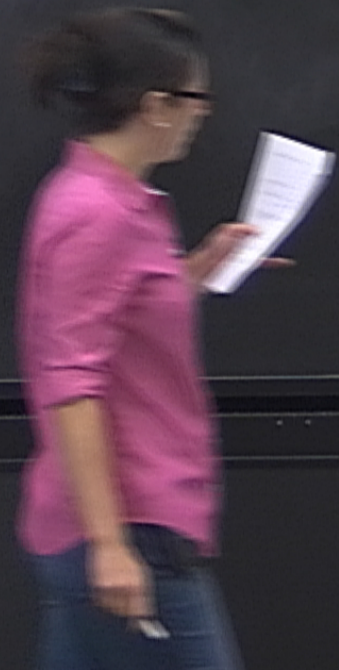
$$H = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m}$$

Standard QM.

$$K = \langle q' | e^{-iHT} |q\rangle$$

$$= \langle q' | e^{-i\frac{\hat{p}^2 T}{2m}} \int \frac{dP}{2\pi} |P\rangle \langle P| q\rangle$$

K =



$$K_{q_2, q_1}, K_{q_1, q_0} \quad \left| \quad \begin{array}{l} q_0 = q \\ q_{j+1}, q_j = \langle q_{j+1} | e^{-iH\epsilon} | q_j \rangle \\ q_N = q' \end{array} \right.$$

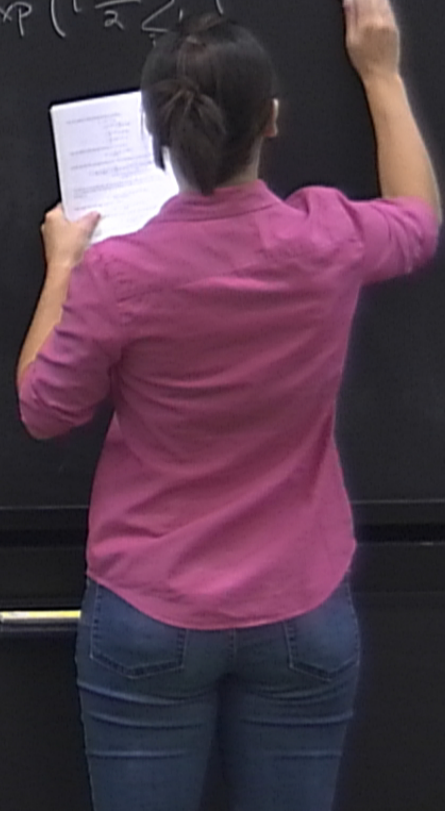
$$K = \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-i\frac{p^2}{2m}T} \langle q' | p \rangle \langle p | q \rangle$$

$$= \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-i\frac{p^2}{2m}T + i(q'-q)p}$$

$$= \left( \frac{m}{2\pi i T} \right)^{1/2} e^{-i\frac{m(q'-q)^2}{2T}}$$

Path integral:

$$K \equiv \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{m}{2\pi i \epsilon} \right)^{N/2} \int \prod_{j=1}^{N-1} dq_j \exp \left( i \frac{m\epsilon}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} \dot{q}_j^2 \right)$$



$$q_0 = q, \quad \langle q_{j+1}, q_j \rangle = \langle q_{j+1} | e^{-iH\delta t} | q_j \rangle$$

$$q_N = q'$$

$$K = \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-i\frac{p^2}{2m}T} \langle q' | p \rangle \langle p | q \rangle$$

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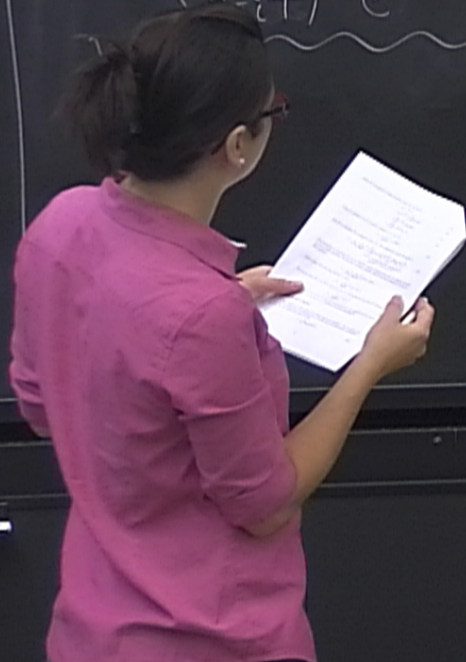
$$K_{q_2, q_1}, K_{q_1, q_0} \quad \left| \quad \begin{array}{l} q_0 = q \\ q_{j+1}, q_j = \langle q_{j+1} | e^{-iH\epsilon} | q_j \rangle \\ q_N = q' \end{array} \right.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 K &= \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-i\frac{p^2}{2m}T} \langle q' | p \rangle \langle p | q \rangle \\
 &= \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-i\frac{p^2}{2m}T + i(p-q')T} \\
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$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \left(\frac{2\pi i \epsilon}{m}\right)^{(N-1)/2} e^{im(q'-q)^2/2N\epsilon}$$



$$K_{q_2, q_1}, K_{q_1, q_0}$$

$$q_0 = q, \quad K_{q_{j+1}, q_j} = \langle q_{j+1} | e^{-iH\tau} | q_j \rangle$$

$$q_N = q'$$

$$K = \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-i\frac{p^2}{2m}T} \langle q' | p \rangle \langle p | q \rangle$$

$$= \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-i\frac{p^2}{2m}T + i(p-q')T}$$

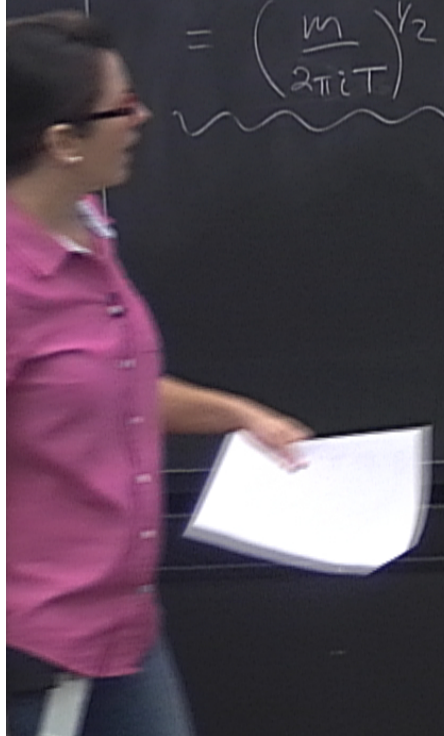
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Path integral:

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$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \left(\frac{2\pi i \delta}{m}\right)^{(N-1)/2} e^{im(q'-q)^2/2N\delta}$$

$$= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{m}{2\pi i N\delta}\right)^{N/2} e^{im(q'-q)^2/2N\delta}$$



$q_0 = q$      $\langle q_{j+1}, q_j \rangle = \langle q_{j+1} | e^{-iH\delta} | q_j \rangle$   
 $q_N = q'$

$$\begin{aligned}
 K &= \int \frac{dp}{2\pi} e^{-i\frac{p^2}{2m}T} \langle q' | p \rangle \langle p | q \rangle \\
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 &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{m}{2\pi i N\delta} \right)^{N/2} e^{im(q'-q)^2/2N\delta} \\
 &= \left( \frac{m}{2\pi i T} \right)^{1/2} e^{im(q'-q)^2/2T}
 \end{aligned}$$

$N\delta = T$

Harmonic Oscillator

$$K = \int \mathcal{D}q(t) e^{iS[q(t)]}$$

$$S[q(t)] = \int_0^T dt \left( \frac{1}{2} m \dot{q}^2 - \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 q^2 \right)$$

Suppose we know solution  $q_c(t)$

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Suppose we know solution  $q_c(t)$

$$\ddot{q}_c + \omega^2 q_c = 0$$

$$q_c(0) = q$$

$$q_c(T) = q'$$

$q(t)$

$$q(t) = q_c(t) + y(t)$$

$$S[q(t)] = S[q_c(t) + y(t)]$$

$$= \int_0^T dt \left( \frac{1}{2} m \dot{q}_c^2 - \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 q_c^2 \right) + (\text{linear in } y) + \int_0^T dt \left( \frac{1}{2} m \dot{y}^2 - \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 y^2 \right)$$

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$$= S[q_c(t)] + S[y(t)]$$

$$K = e^{iS[q_c(t)]} \int D y(t) e^{iS[y(t)]}$$

$$S[q_c(t)] = \frac{m\omega}{2\sin(\omega T)} \left( (q_1'^2 + q_2'^2) \cos(\omega T - 2q_1' q_2') \right)$$

Use tricks to solve P.I.

$$K = \left( \frac{m\omega}{2\pi i \sin(\omega T)} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{iS[q_c(t)]}$$



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$(\omega T - 2q'q)$

Classical limit

$$K = \int \mathcal{D}q(t) e^{iS[q(t)]}$$

Gaussian Integral

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\{-ax^2 + bx + c\} dx = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}} \exp\left\{\frac{bx - b^2/4a + c}{a}\right\}$$

$$S[q_c(t)] = \frac{m\omega}{2\sin(\omega T)} \left( (q_1'^2 - q_2^2) \cos(\omega T - 2q_1' q_2) \right)$$

Use tricks to solve P.I.

$$K = \left( \frac{m\omega}{2\pi i \sin(\omega T)} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{iS[q_c(t)]}$$

Classical limit

$$K = \int Dq(t) e^{iS[q(t)]/\hbar}$$

Two neighbouring paths  $q(t)$

q

$$+q^2) \cos(\omega T - 2q'q)$$

P.I.  
 $c(t)$

Classical limit

$$K = \int \mathcal{D}q(t) e^{iS[q(t)]/\hbar}$$

Two neighbouring paths  $q(t)$  and  $q'(t) = q(t) + \eta(t)$

$$S[q'] = S[q + \eta] = S[q] + \int dt \eta(t) \frac{\delta S[q]}{\delta q(t)} + O(\eta^2)$$

Gaussian Int

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\{-ax^2 + bx + c\} dx =$$

$$+q^2) \cos(\omega T - 2q'q)$$

P.I.  
 $c(t)$

Classical limit

$$K = \int \mathcal{D}q(t) e^{iS[q(t)]/\hbar}$$

Two neighbouring paths  $q(t)$  and  $q'(t) = q(t) + \eta(t)$

$$S[q'] = S[q + \eta] = S[q] + \int dt \eta(t) \frac{\delta S[q]}{\delta q(t)} + o(\eta^2)$$

Sum two paths:  $A \approx e^{iS[q]/\hbar} \left( 1 + \exp \frac{i}{\hbar} \int dt \eta(t) \frac{\delta S[q]}{\delta q(t)} \right)$

Gaussian Int

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\{-ax^2 + bx + c\} dx =$$