

A Coincidence Algebra Bundle for Decay Quivers

"An Algebraic Approach
to Gamma-ray Spectroscopy"

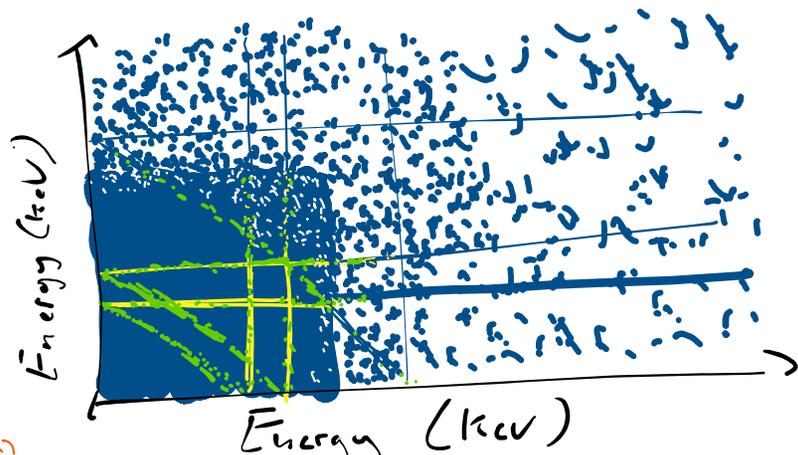
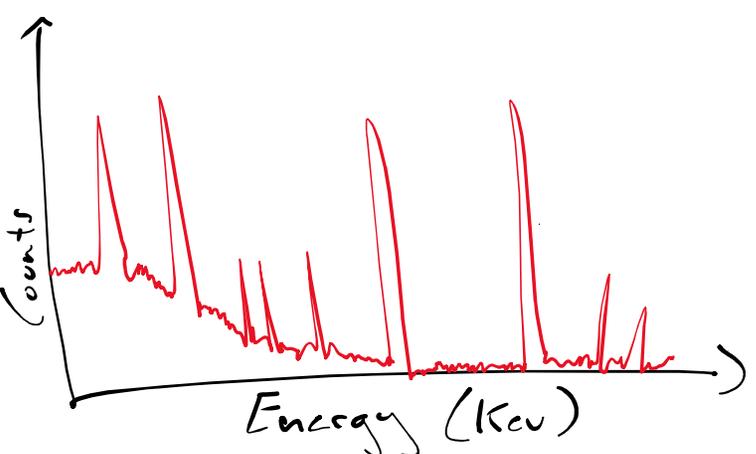
Liam Schmidt University of Guelph

WNPPC 2026

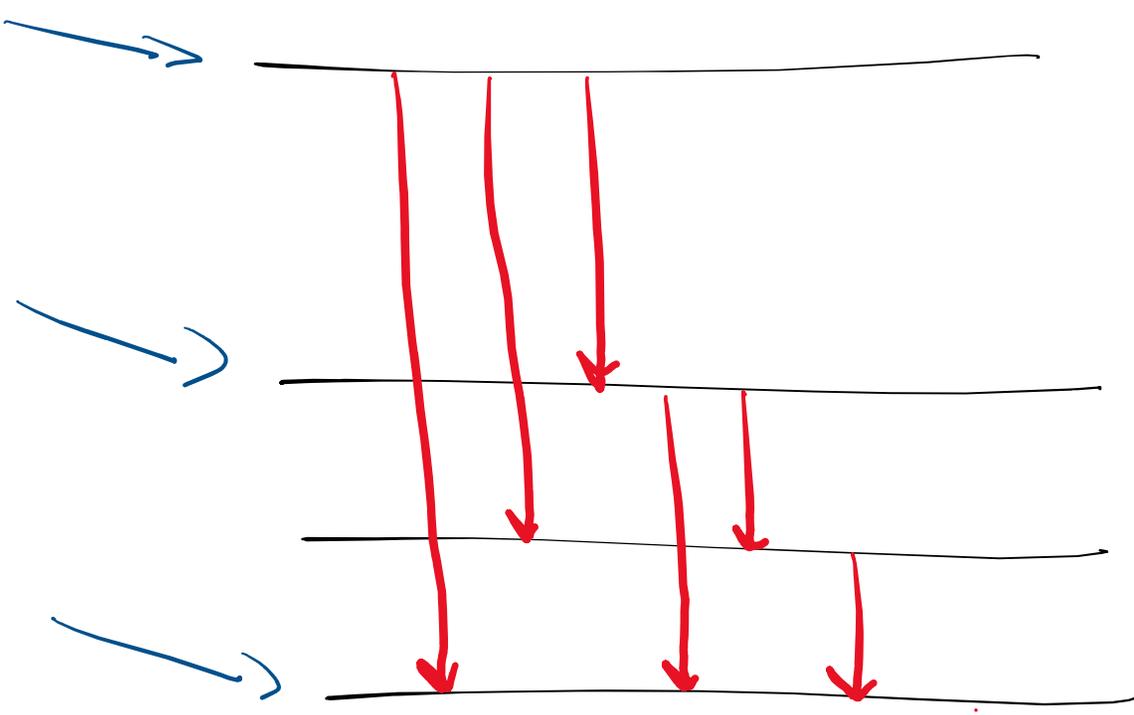
What is the general
Problem of gamma-ray
Spectroscopy?
(For Nuclear Structure)

6 8 5 0

Detected Events \Rightarrow Nuclear Level Schemes



Detected Coincidence Probabilities



Branching Ratios / Transition Probabilities

A Quiver $Q = (Q_0, Q_1, S, t)$

Source & Target Maps

"Set of Vertices"

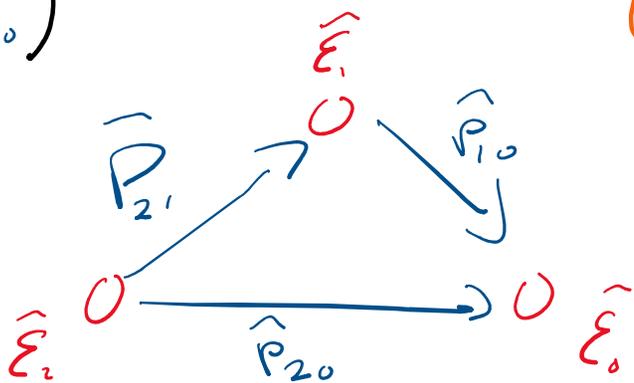
$(\hat{E}_0, \hat{E}_1, \hat{E}_2)$

$$S(\hat{P}_{21}) = \hat{E}_2$$

"Set of Arrows"

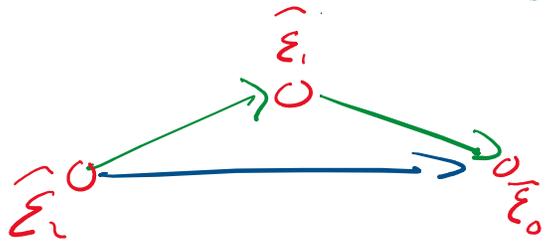
$(\hat{P}_{21}, \hat{P}_{20}, \hat{P}_{10})$

$$t(\hat{P}_{21}) = \hat{E}_1$$



Path Algebra of a Quiver

- o Path of length $l = l$ connected arrows



" $\widehat{P}_{21} \widehat{P}_{10}$ is the path of length 2 from $\hat{\epsilon}_2$ to $\hat{\epsilon}_0$ "

- o {All Paths} \Rightarrow Basis of Vector Space KQ

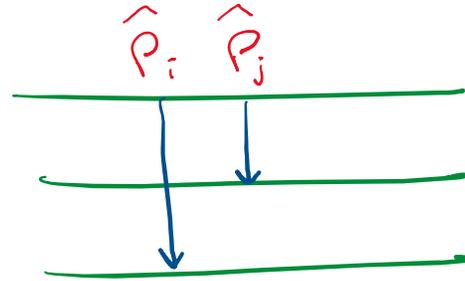
- o Path Algebra : $\widehat{P}_{21} \cdot \widehat{P}_{10} = \widehat{P}_{21} \widehat{P}_{10}$ "Path Concatenation"

- o $\hat{\epsilon}_i$ are Stationary Paths with $l=0$: $\hat{\epsilon}_2 \cdot \widehat{P}_{21} = \widehat{P}_{21}$

Comparing Paths

o "Source Bilinear Form"

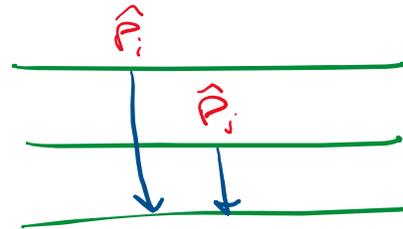
$$\langle \hat{P}_i, \hat{P}_j \rangle_S = \delta_{S(\hat{P}_i) S(\hat{P}_j)}$$



"Diverging Paths"

o "Target Bilinear Form"

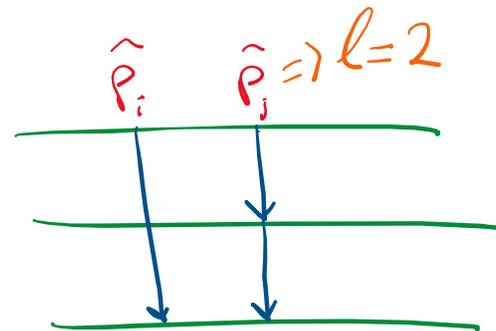
$$\langle \hat{P}_i, \hat{P}_j \rangle_t = \delta_{t(\hat{P}_i) t(\hat{P}_j)}$$



"Converging Paths"

o "Path Bilinear Form"

$$\langle \hat{P}_i, \hat{P}_j \rangle_P = \int_{t(\hat{P}_i) t(\hat{P}_j)} \int_{S(\hat{P}_i) S(\hat{P}_j)}$$



"Equivalent Paths"

Projectors

o "Target Vertex Projector"

$$V_t(d) = \sum_{\hat{E} \in P_0} \langle \hat{E}, d \rangle_t \hat{E}$$

"Sums over converging paths onto vertices"

$$d = x_{2,1} \hat{P}_{2,1} + x_{3,1} \hat{P}_{3,1}$$

$$V_t(d) = (x_{2,1} + x_{3,1}) \hat{E}_1$$

o "Source Vertex Projector"

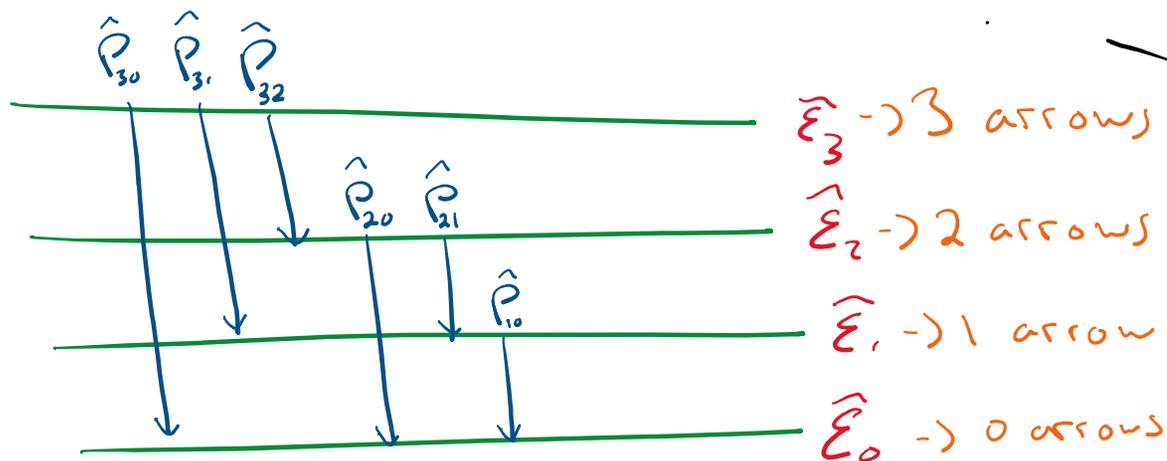
$$V_s(d) = \sum_{\hat{E} \in P_0} \langle \hat{E}, d \rangle_s \hat{E}$$

"Sums over diverging paths onto vertices"

$$d = x_{3,2} \hat{P}_{3,2} + x_{3,1} \hat{P}_{3,1}$$

$$V_s(d) = (x_{3,2} + x_{3,1}) \hat{E}_3$$

Decay Quivers:



"A Decay Quiver D is a Quiver whose Vertex Set is **Totally Ordered** by a vertices number of **diverging arrows**."
 $\hat{E}_i \preceq \hat{E}_j \iff N(\hat{E}_i) \leq N(\hat{E}_j)$

○ A **Decay Vector** $d \in kD$ is a vector whose coefficients are **Branching Ratios / Transition Probabilities**.

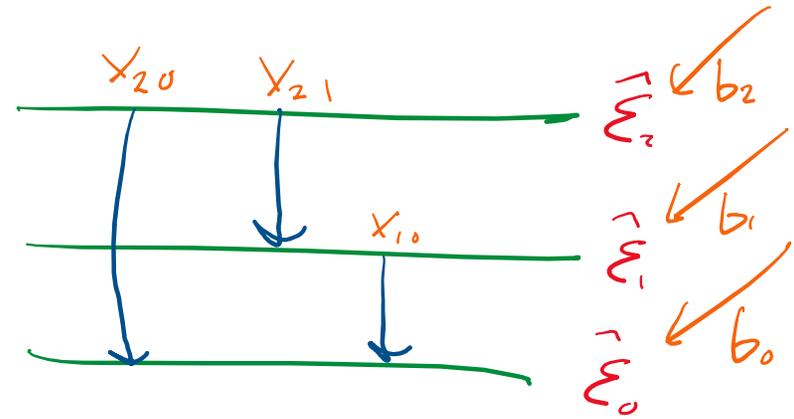
Decay Vectors

o A vector $d \in kD$:

$$d = b_0 \hat{\xi}_0 + b_1 \hat{\xi}_1 + b_2 \hat{\xi}_2 \\ + x_{20} \hat{p}_{20} + x_{21} \hat{p}_{21} + x_{10} \hat{p}_{10}$$

o Path Concatenation \Rightarrow Cascade Terms

$$d \cdot d = b_1 x_{10} \hat{p}_{10} + b_2 (x_{21} \hat{p}_{21} + x_{20} \hat{p}_{20}) + x_{21} x_{10} \widehat{p_{21} p_{10}}$$



Emission Probabilities in PA

- Decompose decay vector: $d = b + \tau$
 - Branching Ratios ($\hat{\epsilon}_i$)
 - Transition Probabilities (\hat{P}_i)
- Power expand to create cascades:

$$\bar{\tau}^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \tau^k \quad * \text{ PA multiplication!}$$

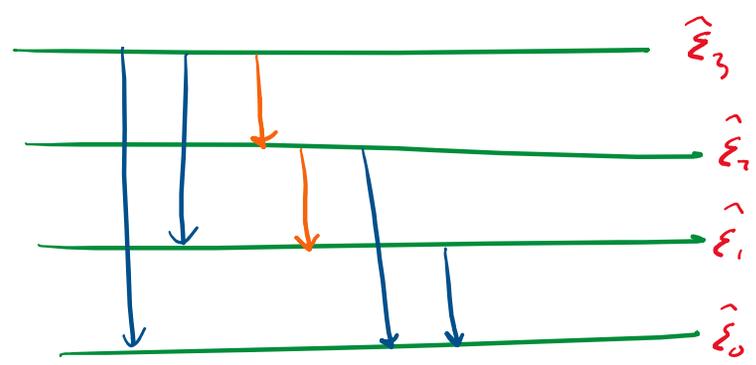
- Emission Probability of path \hat{P}_i :

$$P(\hat{P}_i) = \langle \mathcal{V}_t(b \cdot \bar{\tau}^n) \cdot \tau, \hat{P}_i \rangle_P$$

° Path Algebra only creates cascade terms.

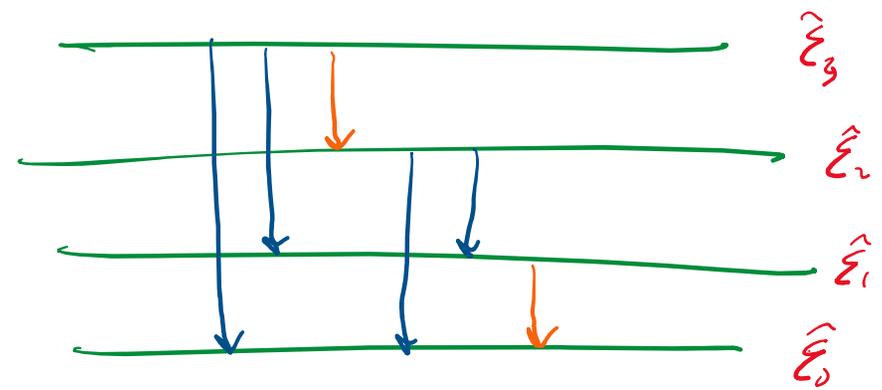
° How can we allow for general coincidence terms?

Path Algebra



$$\hat{P}_{32} \cdot \hat{P}_{21} = \overbrace{P_{32} P_{21}}$$

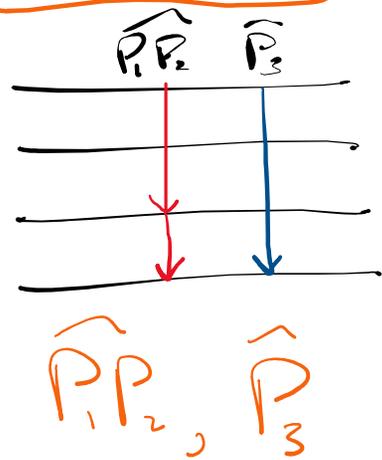
Coincidence Algebra?



$$\tilde{P}_{32} \cdot \hat{P}_{10} = ?$$

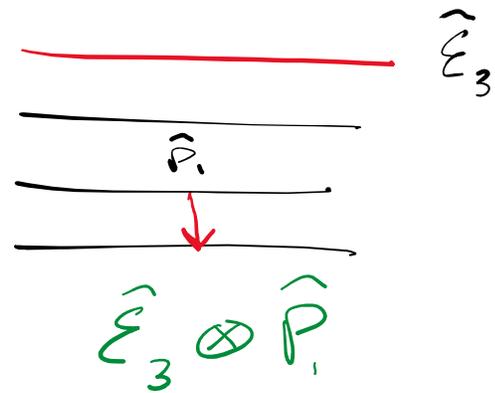
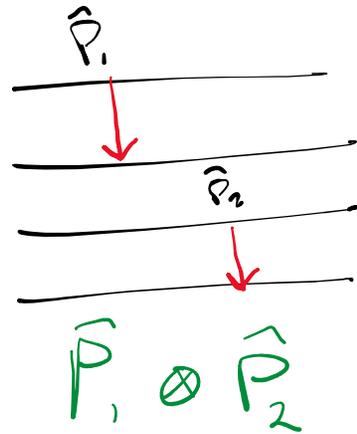
Basis Vectors in The Coincidence Space

Paths:



\oplus

Tensor Products:



$C = \text{Span} \left\{ t = \bigotimes_{i=1}^{|C|} \hat{P}_i \mid \hat{P}_i \in C, \forall C \in \mathcal{O} \cup \mathcal{P} \right\}$ "Coincidence Vector Space"

where, $\mathcal{O} = \left\{ u \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}) \mid |u| \geq 2, \forall \hat{P}_i, \hat{P}_j \in u, S(\hat{P}_i) \neq t(\hat{P}_j) \vee S(\hat{P}_j) \neq t(\hat{P}_i) \right\}$ "Coincidence Set"

Coincidence Multiplication

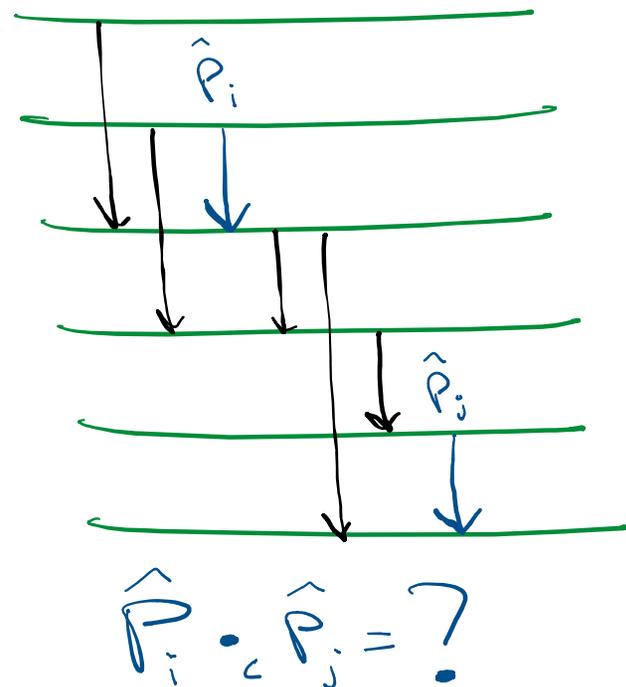
o Multiplication for non-connected paths?

$$\hat{P}_i \cdot \hat{P}_j \neq \hat{P}_i \otimes \hat{P}_j$$

(\hat{P}_i General)

o Must reproduce coincidence probabilities!

$$\hat{P}_i \cdot \hat{P}_j = \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Probability of } \hat{P}_i \\ \text{leading to } \hat{P}_j \end{array} \right) \hat{P}_i \otimes \hat{P}_j$$



Scalar Connection

What connects $\hat{P}_{64} \rightarrow \hat{P}_{10}$?

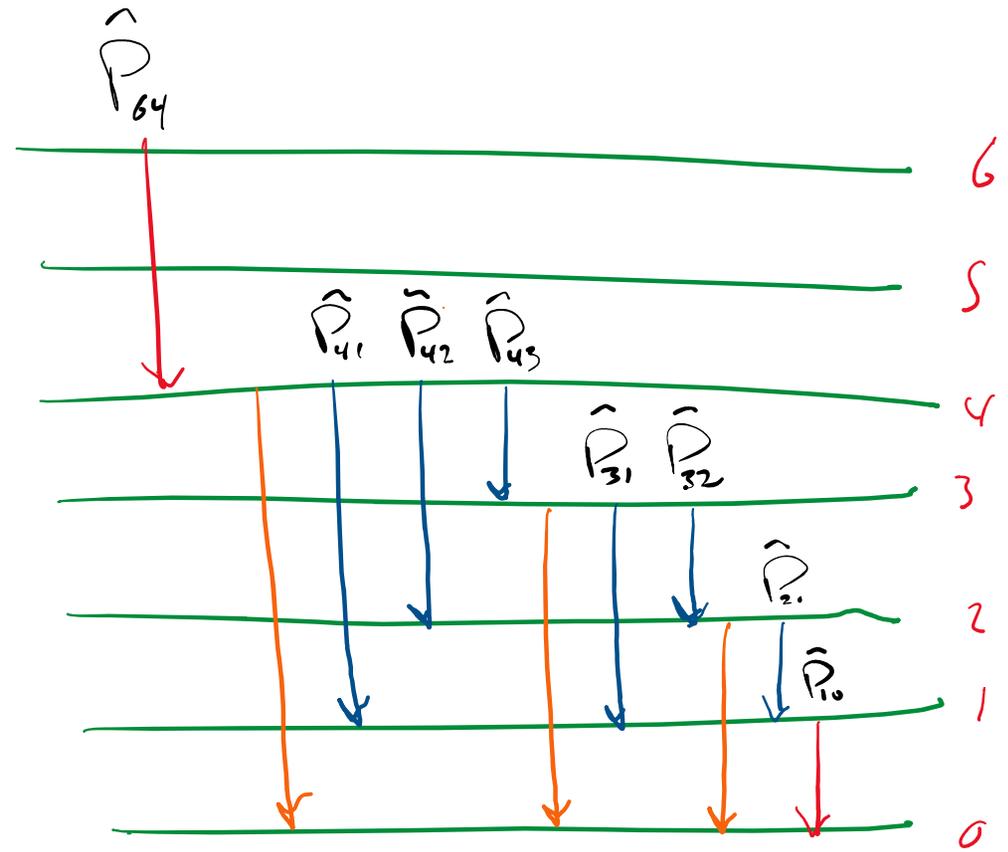
Possible Paths:

$$\begin{array}{l} \hat{P}_{41} \\ \underbrace{\hat{P}_{42} \hat{P}_{21}} \\ \underbrace{\hat{P}_{43} \hat{P}_{32} \hat{P}_{21}} \end{array}$$

⊗ Depends on transition Vector!

Scalar Connection $C_d(\hat{P}_i, \hat{P}_j)$ sums over these connecting paths.

$$C_d = \langle V_t(E_{t(\hat{P}_i)}, \vec{T}), E_{S(\hat{P}_j)} \rangle_P \Rightarrow \text{"Probability } t(\hat{P}_i) \text{ decays to the } S(\hat{P}_j)\text{"}$$



Coincidence Algebra Bundle $A \xrightarrow{\phi} \mathbb{K}^D$

o For each $d \in \mathbb{K}^D$, an algebra can be defined with $C_d(\hat{P}_i, \hat{P}_j)$ as its structure constants.

$$\hat{P}_i \cdot \hat{P}_j = \begin{cases} C_d(\hat{P}_i, \hat{P}_j) \hat{P}_i \otimes \hat{P}_j & , S(\hat{P}_i) \neq t(\hat{P}_j) \\ \hat{P}_i \hat{P}_j & , S(\hat{P}_i) = t(\hat{P}_j) \\ 0 & , \text{else} \end{cases}$$

o Emission Probability Vector $\vec{\Gamma}_1(d)$

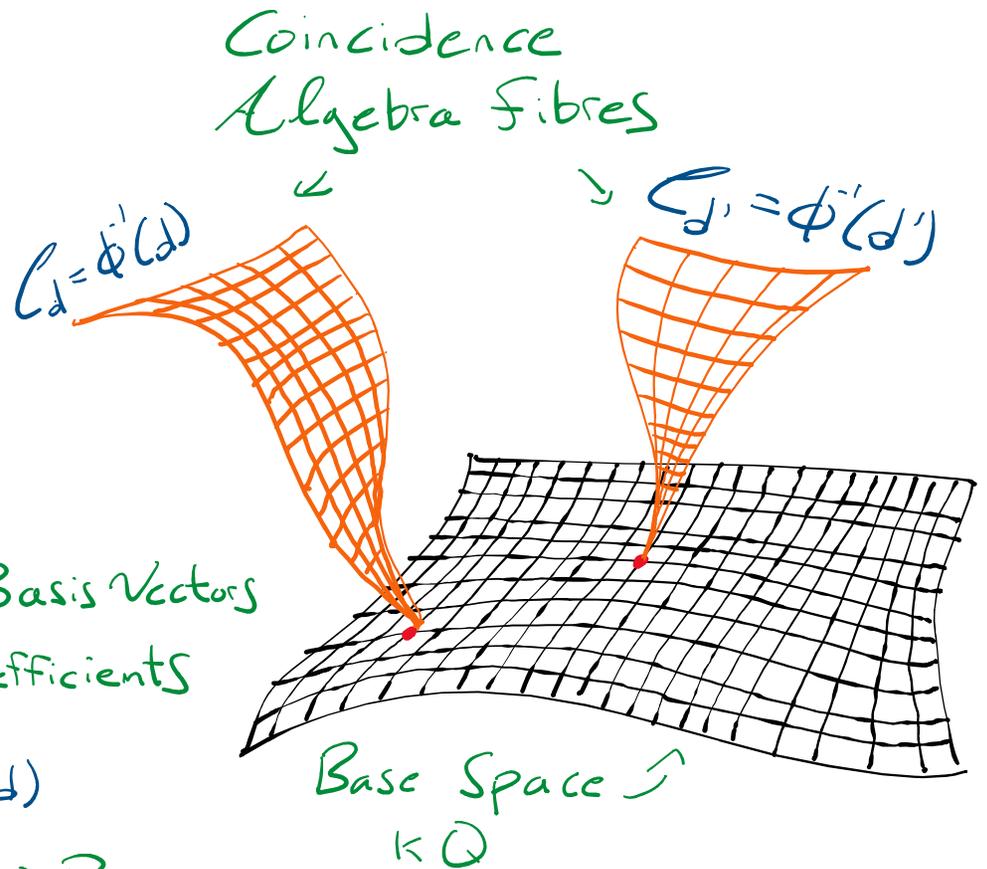
$$\vec{\Gamma}_1(d) = \vec{b} \cdot \vec{c}$$

Transitions \rightarrow Basis Vectors
Probabilities \rightarrow Coefficients

o Coincidence Probability Vector $\vec{\Gamma}_2(d)$

$$\vec{\Gamma}_2(d) = \vec{b} \cdot \vec{c} \cdot \vec{c} \cdot \vec{c}$$

Coincidences \rightarrow Basis Vectors



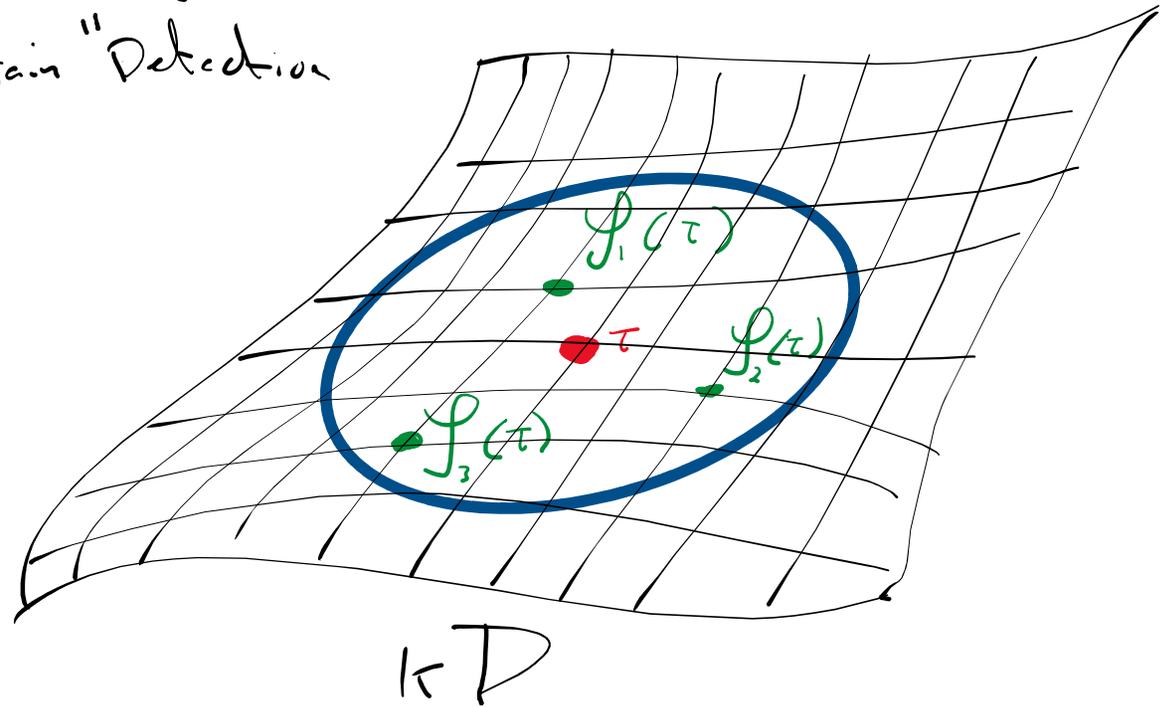
"Detection" Vectors in the Base Space

- A given decay quiver has one decay vector $d = b + \bar{\tau}$
- There exist other "probability vectors" in kD
- These vectors may contain "Detection Probabilities" =

$$\bar{\tau} = X_{21} \hat{P}_{21} + X_{10} \hat{P}_{10}$$

$$J_{e^P}(\bar{\tau}) = e_{21}^P X_{21} \hat{P}_{21} + e_{10}^P X_{10} \hat{P}_{10}$$

↳ "Peak efficiencies for each transition" =



Detection Maps

Full Energy Detection

$$X_{ij} \rightarrow e_{ij}^P X_{ij}$$

Compton Scattering

$$X_{ij} \rightarrow e_{ij}^T X_{ij}$$

A γ -rays detection can be "summed-out" due to other γ -rays being in the same detector

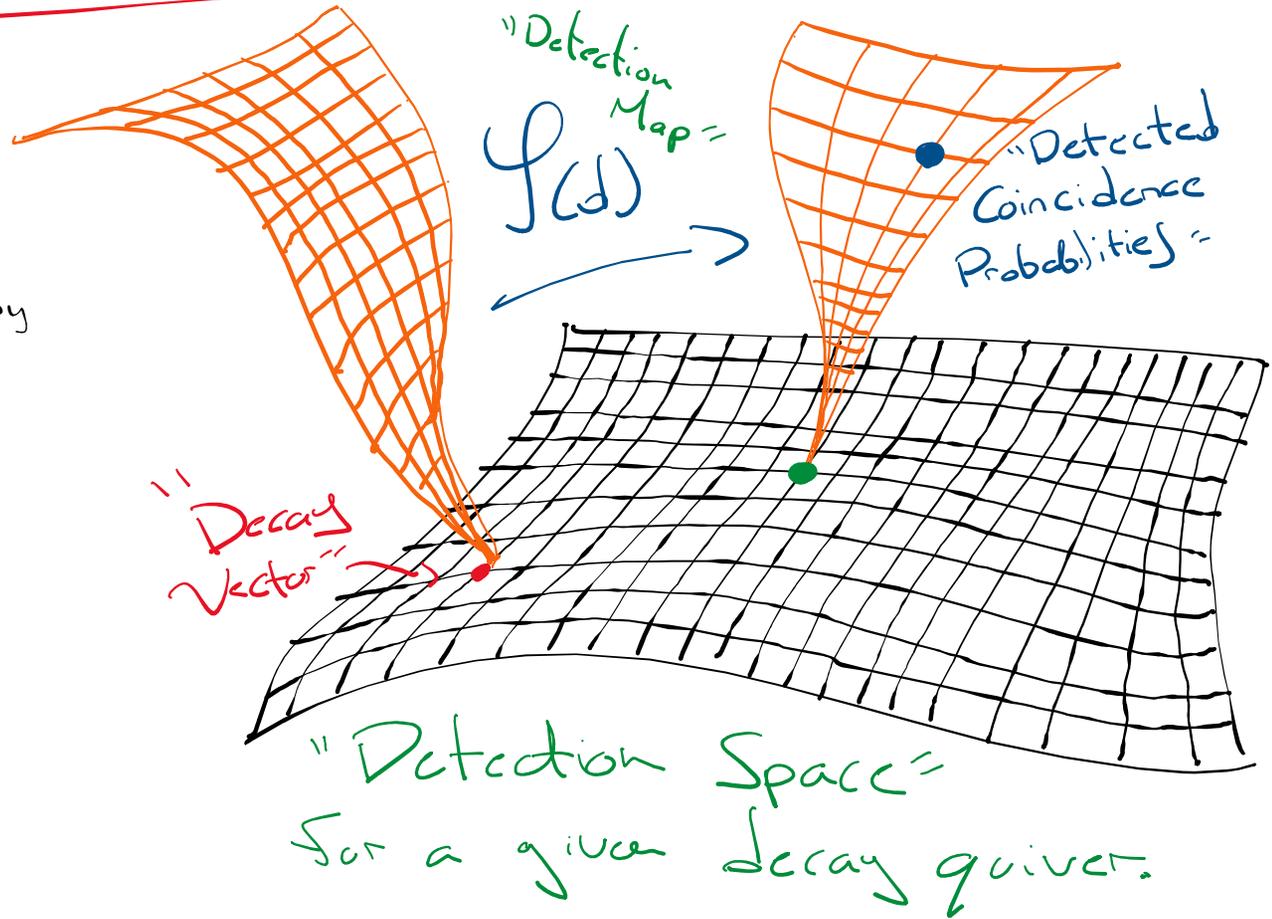
Summing-Out

$$X_{ij} \rightarrow \left(1 - \frac{e_{ij}^T}{N}\right) X_{ij}$$

"Probability X_{ij} does not deposit any energy in a given detector"
(N detectors, isotropic emission)

The Landscape of Detection & Coincidence Probabilities

- The CA-Bundle may provide the correct landscape to frame the general problem of Gamma-ray Spectroscopy for nuclear structure.
- Investigation into the deeper structure of the CA-Bundle may lead to determinability theorems for nuclear level schemes.
- At the very least provides the structure to handle the combinatorics involved in Gamma-ray Spectroscopy



Thank You

WNPPC!

Liam Schmidt - University of Guelph

[1] I. Assem, A. Skowronski, and D. Simson, *Elements of the Representation Theory of Associative Algebras: Techniques of Representation Theory*, London Mathematical Society Student Texts (Cambridge University Press, 2006).

[2] T. M. Semkow, G. Mehmood, P. P. Parekh, and M. Virgil, Coincidence summing in gamma-ray spectroscopy, Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section A: Accelerators, Spectrometers, Detectors and Associated Equipment **290**, 437 (1990).