


PHYS 2D
PROBLEM SESSION

2012/5/17

- 
- Quiz 3 is graded
 - Pick up quiz 3 today or next Tuesday
 - Regrade request: 1 week

6.1

- Determine which wave functions are physical
- Conditions:
 - ◆ Continuous ~~(e)~~
 - ◆ Single-valued ~~(d)~~
 - ◆ Value is finite ~~(a)~~
- Valid ones: b & c

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- Electron in a box, $L=0.3$ nm ($x=0$ to L), find the probability P_n the particle is found within $[0, 0.1$ nm] for $n=1$ & $n=100$
- $\psi_n(x) = A \sin(n\pi x/L)$, $A = (2/L)^{1/2}$
- $$P_n = \int_0^{0.1} |\psi(x)|^2 dx = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^{0.1} \frac{1 - \cos(2n\pi x/L)}{2} dx = \frac{1}{L} \left[x - \frac{L}{2n\pi} \sin(2n\pi x/L) \right]_0^{0.1}$$
$$= 0.1/L - \left(\frac{\sin(0.2n\pi/L)}{2n\pi} - 0 \right) = 1/3 - \frac{\sin(2n\pi/3)}{2n\pi}$$
- $n=1$, $P_n=0.196$; $n=100$, $P_n=0.332$; $n=\infty$, $P_n=1/3$
- Correspondence principle: we get classical result with large n
- Classical: same probability everywhere, $P=1/3$

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- Square well with $V(x < 0) = \infty$, $V(0 < x < L) = 0$, $V(x > L) = U$, particle has energy E , find $\psi(x)$
- Regions I, II, III for $x < 0$, $0 < x < L$, $x > L$
- 1. Write out Schrodinger eq & ψ for each region

◆ Region I: $\psi(x) = 0$

◆ Region II: Free space $-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \psi(x) = E\psi(x)$

$$\psi(x) = A\cos(kx) + B\sin(kx), \quad E = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m}$$

◆ Region III: $-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \psi(x) + U\psi(x) = E\psi(x), \quad E - U < 0$

$$\psi(x) = Ce^{k'x} + De^{-k'x}, \quad E - U = -\frac{\hbar^2 k'^2}{2m}$$

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- 2. Apply boundary conditions
- ◆ Wave function is continuous at $x=0$ & $x=L$
- ◆ $d\psi/dx$ is continuous at $x=L$
- ◆ Wave function is finite at $x=\infty$
- At $x=0$: $\psi(0) = A\cos(0) + B\sin(0) = 0$, so $A=0$
- At $x=\infty$: $\psi(\infty) = Ce^{k'\infty} + De^{-k'\infty} = Ce^{k'\infty}$ is finite, so $C=0$
- At $x=L$:
 $\psi(L) = B\sin(kL) = De^{-k'L}$
 $\psi'(L) = kB\cos(kL) = -k'De^{-k'L}$
- Dividing, we get $\tan(kL) = -k/k'$

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- $\tan(kL) = -k/k'$
- $E = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m}$, $E - U = -\frac{\hbar^2 k'^2}{2m}$
- $\cot^2(kL) = (U - E)/E$
- $\cot^2(kL) + 1 = 1/\sin^2(kL)$
- $(kL)^2/\sin^2(kL) > 1$, so $(kL)^2[(U - E)/E + 1] > 1$
- $(kL)^2[(U - E)/E + 1] = (kL)^2 U/E = 2mL^2 U/\hbar^2 > 1$

- $2mL^2 U/\hbar^2 > 1$ to have a solution
- No solution when $2mL^2 U/\hbar^2 < 1$, or $U < \hbar^2/2mL^2$

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□ Show that $\psi(x) = Cxe^{-\alpha x^2}$ is a solution to Schrodinger's equation for quantum oscillator

□
$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \psi(x) + \frac{1}{2} m\omega^2 x^2 \psi(x) = E\psi(x)$$

□
$$\frac{d\psi}{dx} = -2\alpha x\psi(x) + Ce^{-\alpha x^2}, \quad \frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} = -2\alpha x \frac{d\psi}{dx} - 2\alpha\psi(x) - (2\alpha x)Ce^{-\alpha x^2} = (2\alpha x)^2 \psi(x) - 6\alpha\psi(x)$$

□ Equate $x^2 \psi(x)$ terms and $\psi(x)$ terms

□
$$\alpha = \frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}, \quad E = \frac{3\alpha\hbar^2}{m} = \frac{3}{2}\hbar\omega$$

□ $\psi(x)$ is the $n=1$ state

□ Normalization:
$$1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\psi(x)|^2 dx = 2C^2 \int_0^{\infty} x^2 e^{-2\alpha x^2} dx$$

□ We can find C in terms of $\alpha = \frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}$
$$\left(2C^2 \int_0^{\infty} x^2 e^{-2\alpha x^2} dx = 2C^2 \frac{1}{4\alpha} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2\alpha}} \right)$$

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□ Find $\langle x \rangle$ & $\langle x^2 \rangle$ & Δx for ground state $\psi(x) = C e^{-\alpha x^2}$ of quantum oscillator

□ $\alpha = \frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}$, $C = \left(\frac{1}{\pi} \frac{m\omega}{\hbar}\right)^{1/4}$

□ $\langle x \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x |\psi(x)|^2 dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x C^2 e^{-2\alpha x^2} dx = 0$

$$\langle x^2 \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 |\psi(x)|^2 dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 C^2 e^{-2\alpha x^2} dx = 2 C^2 \int_0^{\infty} x^2 e^{-2\alpha x^2} dx = 2 C^2 \frac{1}{4\alpha} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2\alpha}}$$

$$(\Delta x)^2 = \langle x^2 \rangle - \langle x \rangle^2, \Delta x = \langle x^2 \rangle^{1/2}$$