

## Quantum bouncing ball

from  $x = 0$  and (kinetic) energy  $E$

$$x_{max} = A = \frac{E}{mg}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{1}^{\text{st}} \text{ bounce at time } t_1 &= \frac{1}{2}\tau \\ \text{2}^{\text{nd}} \text{ bounce at time } t_2 = t_1 + \tau &= \frac{3}{2}\tau \\ \text{3}^{\text{rd}} \text{ bounce at time } t_3 = t_2 + \tau &= \frac{5}{2}\tau \end{aligned}$$

since  $A = \frac{1}{2}g(\frac{1}{2}\tau)^2$

$$\text{bounce period } \tau = \sqrt{\frac{8a}{g}} = \sqrt{\frac{8E}{mg^2}}.$$

if we set  $t = 0$  at the time of a bounce, the flight up until the next bounce follows

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= \frac{1}{2}gt(\tau - t) & : & \quad 0 < t < \tau \\ \dot{x}(t) &= \frac{1}{2}g\tau - gt & : & \quad 0 < t < \tau \end{aligned}$$

**Action per bounce:** we have

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= \frac{1}{2}gt(\tau - t) \\ p(t) &= \frac{1}{2}mg(\tau - 2t) \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$p(x) = p_0 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{x}{A}\right)} \quad \text{with} \quad p_0 \equiv \frac{1}{2}mg\tau$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Action} &= \oint p dx = 2 \int_0^A p_0 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{x}{A}\right)^2} dx \\
&= \frac{4}{3} p_0 A = \frac{4}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{2} mg\tau \cdot \frac{1}{8} g\tau^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{12} mg^2 \tau^2
\end{aligned}$$

**Quantization condition:**

$$\begin{aligned}
\oint p dx &= nh \quad : \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \\
\Rightarrow \quad \frac{1}{12} mg^2 \tau^2 &= nh \\
\Rightarrow \quad \tau_n &= \left[ \frac{12nh}{mg^2} \right]^{\frac{1}{3}} \quad : \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{by } \tau &= \sqrt{\frac{8E}{mg^2}} \Rightarrow E_n = \frac{mg^2}{8} \tau_n^2 \\
&= \xi n^{\frac{2}{3}} \text{ with } \xi \equiv \left[ \frac{9}{64} mg^2 h^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{3}}
\end{aligned}$$

And since  $E = mgA = mgx_{max}$

$$\begin{aligned}
x_{max} &= \frac{E}{mg} = \frac{\xi n^{\frac{2}{3}}}{mg} \\
&= \frac{\left[ \frac{9}{64} mg^2 h^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{3}} n^{\frac{2}{3}}}{mg} \\
&= \left( \frac{9}{64} \frac{h^2 n^2}{m^2 g} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}
\end{aligned}$$