

1. A particle is trapped in a harmonic oscillator potential. We know that at $t = 0$, the particle can be represented by the wavefunction

$$\Psi(x, 0) = A (2\psi_0(x) + 5\psi_2(x)) ,$$

where ψ_0 and ψ_2 are the stationary-state solutions for $n = 0$ and $n = 2$, respectively.

- (a) Normalize $\Psi(x, 0)$.

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= \langle \Psi(x, 0) | \Psi(x, 0) \rangle \\ &= A^2 (4\langle \psi_0 | \psi_0 \rangle + 25\langle \psi_2 | \psi_2 \rangle + 20\langle \psi_0 | \psi_2 \rangle) \\ &= 29A^2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $A = \sqrt{1/29}$.

- (b) Construct $\Psi(x, t)$ and then determine $|\Psi(x, t)|^2$. Will $\langle x \rangle$ depend on time?

The complete wavefunction is given by

$$\Psi(x, t) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{29}} (2\Psi_0 + 5\Psi_2) ,$$

where Ψ_n represents $\psi_n(x)\phi_n(t)$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} |\Psi(x, t)|^2 &= \frac{1}{29} (2\Psi_0^* + 5\Psi_2^*) (2\Psi_0 + 5\Psi_2) \\ &= \frac{1}{29} (4|\Psi_0|^2 + 2\Psi_0^*\Psi_2 + 5\Psi_2^*\Psi_0 + 25|\Psi_2|^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{29} (4|\psi_0|^2 + 20\psi_0\psi_2 (e^{-2i\omega t} + e^{2i\omega t}) + 25|\psi_2|^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{29} (4|\psi_0|^2 + 10\psi_0\psi_2 \cosh(2i\omega t) + 25|\psi_2|^2) \end{aligned}$$

2. Consider the stationary states of the harmonic oscillator. As straightforwardly as possible, compute the following quantities for the n th stationary state $\psi_n(x)$.

(a) $\langle x \rangle$

(b) $\langle x^2 \rangle$

(c) $\langle p \rangle$

(d) $\langle p^2 \rangle$

(e) $\langle T \rangle$

(f) Is the Heisenberg uncertainty principle satisfied for all values of n ?

3. A particle in a harmonic oscillator potential is described by the normalized wave-function

$$|\Psi(x, 0)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}|1\rangle + \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}}|2\rangle,$$

where $|n\rangle$ represents the n th stationary state.

- (a) What is $|\Psi(x, t)\rangle$?
- (b) What is the expectation value for energy?
- (c) What is $\langle x(t) \rangle$?