

1. Use separation of variables in cartesian coordinates to solve the infinite cubical well. The potential of the infinite cubical well is

$$V(x, y, z) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } x, y, z \text{ are all between } 0 \text{ and } a, \\ \infty, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- (a.) Find the stationary states and their corresponding energies. Apply boundary conditions at the boundaries of the well. Note that solutions should depend on three distinct quantum numbers.
- (b.) Call the distinct energies E_1, E_2, E_3 , etc., in order of increasing energy. Note that the subscripted integer is not a quantum number here; instead, these number simply represent the lowest energy, E_1 , second lowest energy, E_2 , etc. Determine what E_1, E_2, E_3, E_4, E_5 , and E_6 are in terms of \hbar, m, π , and a . Determine the degeneracy of each of these energies.
- (c.) What is the degeneracy of E_{14} , and what is unusual about this case?

2. Construct the spherical harmonics $Y_0^0(\theta, \phi)$ and $Y_2^1(\theta, \phi)$ using the formula for spherical harmonics,

$$Y_\ell^m(\theta, \phi) = \epsilon \sqrt{\frac{(2\ell+1)}{4\pi} \frac{(\ell-|m|)!}{(\ell+|m|)!}} \exp(im\phi) P_\ell^m(\cos(\theta)),$$

where the constant ϵ is defined to be

$$\epsilon = \begin{cases} (-1)^m, & m \geq 0, \\ 1, & m \leq 0, \end{cases}$$

the Rodrigues formula for the Legendre polynomial,

$$P_\ell^m(x) \equiv (1-x^2)^{|m|/2} \frac{d^{|m|}}{dx^{|m|}} P_\ell(x).$$

Check that solutions for $Y_0^0(\theta, \phi)$ and $Y_2^1(\theta, \phi)$ are normalized and orthogonal.