

PHY 202 - Quantum Mechanics - Assignment # 5

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1. 15 points Refer to the Question paper attached below.

Solution:

1.

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \hat{p} \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi^*(x) \hat{p} \psi(x) dx \\ \Rightarrow &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ik_1 x} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) dk_1 \right) \hat{p} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ik_2 x} \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \right) dx \\ \Rightarrow &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ik_1 x} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) dk_1 \right) \left(-i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ik_2 x} \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \right) dx \\ \Rightarrow &= \frac{\hbar}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ik_1 x} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) dk_1 \right) \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} k_2 e^{ik_2 x} \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \right) dx \\ \Rightarrow &= \hbar \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) \left(\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-i(k_1 - k_2)x} dx \right) k_2 \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_1 dk_2 \\ \Rightarrow &= \hbar \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) \delta(k_1 - k_2) k_2 \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_1 dk_2 \\ \Rightarrow &= \hbar \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) \delta(k_1 - k_2) dk_1 \right) k_2 \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \\ \Rightarrow &= \hbar \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} k_2 \tilde{\psi}^*(k_2) \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \\ \Rightarrow \langle \hat{p} \rangle &= \hbar \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} k |\tilde{\psi}(k)|^2 dk\end{aligned}$$

2.

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle \hat{p}^2 \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi^*(x) \hat{p}^2 \psi(x) dx \\
&\Rightarrow = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ik_1 x} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) dk_1 \right) \hat{p}^2 \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ik_2 x} \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \right) dx \\
&\Rightarrow = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ik_1 x} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) dk_1 \right) \left(-i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)^2 \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ik_2 x} \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \right) dx \\
&\Rightarrow = \frac{\hbar^2}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ik_1 x} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) dk_1 \right) \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} k_2^2 e^{ik_2 x} \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \right) dx \\
&\Rightarrow = \hbar^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) \left(\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-i(k_1 - k_2)x} dx \right) k_2^2 \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_1 dk_2 \\
&\Rightarrow = \hbar^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) \delta(k_1 - k_2) k_2^2 \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_1 dk_2 \\
&\Rightarrow = \hbar^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) \delta(k_1 - k_2) dk_1 \right) k_2^2 \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \\
&\Rightarrow = \hbar^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} k_2^2 \tilde{\psi}^*(k_2) \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \\
&\Rightarrow \langle \hat{p}^2 \rangle = \hbar^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} k^2 |\tilde{\psi}(k)|^2 dk
\end{aligned}$$

3.

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle f(\hat{p}) \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi^*(x) f(\hat{p}) \psi(x) dx \\
&\Rightarrow = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ik_1 x} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) dk_1 \right) f(\hat{p}) \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ik_2 x} \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \right) dx \\
&\Rightarrow = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ik_1 x} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) dk_1 \right) \sum_{j \geq 0} \frac{f^{(j)}(0)}{j!} \hat{p}^j \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ik_2 x} \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \right) dx \\
&\Rightarrow = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ik_1 x} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) dk_1 \right) \sum_{j \geq 0} \frac{f^{(j)}(0)}{j!} \left(-i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)^j \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ik_2 x} \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \right) dx \\
&\Rightarrow = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ik_1 x} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) dk_1 \right) \sum_{j \geq 0} \frac{f^{(j)}(0)}{j!} (-i)^j \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} i^j \hbar^j k_2^j e^{ik_2 x} \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \right) dx \\
&\Rightarrow = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ik_1 x} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) dk_1 \right) \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{j \geq 0} \frac{f^{(j)}(0)}{j!} (\hbar k_2)^j e^{ik_2 x} \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \right) dx \\
&\Rightarrow = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ik_1 x} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) dk_1 \right) \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\hbar k_2) e^{ik_2 x} \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \right) dx \\
&\Rightarrow = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) \left(\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-i(k_1 - k_2)x} dx \right) f(\hbar k_2) \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_1 dk_2 \\
&\Rightarrow = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) \delta(k_1 - k_2) f(\hbar k_2) \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_1 dk_2 \\
&\Rightarrow = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{\psi}^*(k_1) \delta(k_1 - k_2) dk_1 \right) f(\hbar k_2) \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \\
&\Rightarrow = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\hbar k_2) \tilde{\psi}^*(k_2) \tilde{\psi}(k_2) dk_2 \\
&\Rightarrow \langle f(\hat{p}) \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\hbar k) |\tilde{\psi}(k)|^2 dk
\end{aligned}$$

2. 15 points Refer to the Question paper attached below.

Solution:

1. ψ_A would evolve with time as,

$$\psi_A(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}\varphi_0(x)e^{-iE_0t/\hbar} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\varphi_1(x)e^{-iE_1t/\hbar} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\varphi_2(x)e^{-iE_2t/\hbar}$$

2. It is given that,

$$E_n = \frac{(n+1)^2\pi^2}{mL^2} \implies \forall n > 0, E_n = (n+1)^2 E_0$$

$$\langle \hat{E} \rangle = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}\right)^2 E_0 + \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right)^2 E_1 + \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2 E_2$$

$$\langle \hat{E} \rangle = \frac{1}{6}E_0 + \frac{4}{3}E_0 + \frac{9}{2}E_0$$

$$\langle \hat{E} \rangle = 6E_0$$

The Energy eigen values do not change with time.

3. We have,

$$\langle \hat{E} \rangle = 6E_0$$

$$(n+1)^2 E_0 = 6E_0$$

But there exists no integer value of n such that $(n+1)^2$ is 6. Hence, the probability of measuring the energy equals to $\langle \hat{E} \rangle$ at time $t = 0$ and $t = t_1$ is zero.

4. The energy values which will be measured are E_0 with probability of $\frac{1}{6}$, E_1 with probability of $\frac{1}{3}$ and E_2 with probability of $\frac{1}{2}$. These probabilities are conserved which means they do not change with time.
5. If E_2 is measured at time $t = t_1$ then for the time $t > t_1$ the wave function will be,

$$\psi_A(x, t) = \varphi_2(x)e^{-iE_2t/\hbar}$$

This means all the states except the state with energy E_2 will be zero. This means all other states have been collapsed.

6. Let our new wave function be ψ_B . For ψ_B to have same energies and probabilities, coefficients need to be same. But for independence ψ_A must be orthogonal to ψ_B , we would alter the sign of the wave function,

$$\psi_B(x, 0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}\varphi_0(x) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\varphi_1(x) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\varphi_2(x)$$

7. The new wave function will be,

$$\psi_C(x, 0) = \sqrt{\frac{7}{4}}\varphi_0(x) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\varphi_1(x) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{4}}\varphi_2(x)$$

Verify that the new wave function has same total energy as ψ_A .

$$\langle \hat{E} \rangle = \frac{7}{4}E_0 + \frac{4}{2}E_0 + \frac{9}{4}E_0 = 6E_0$$

3. points Refer to the Question paper attached below.

Solution: Solving using time independent Schrodinger equation,

$$\nabla^2\psi - \frac{2m}{\hbar^2}(V - E)\psi = 0$$

$$\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} - \frac{2m}{\hbar^2}(V - E)\psi = 0$$

For $x > 0$, we have,

$$\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} + \frac{2m}{\hbar^2}E\psi = 0$$

Now let $\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2} = \alpha^2$, then our equation becomes,

$$\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} + \alpha^2\psi = 0$$

Therefore the solution to this ODE is,

$$\psi(x) = A \sin(\alpha x) + B \cos(\alpha x)$$

For $x = 0 \implies \psi(x) = 0$ as the potential goes to infinite,

$$0 = A \sin(\alpha \cdot 0) + B \cos(\alpha \cdot 0) \implies B = 0$$

Hence,

$$\psi(x) = A \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{2mE}}{\hbar}x\right)$$

as it is a 1D motion the energy eigenvalues are known to be,

$$E = \frac{p^2}{2m}$$

4. Refer to the Question paper attached below.

Solution: Solving using time independent Schrodinger equation,

$$\nabla^2\psi - \frac{2m}{\hbar^2}(V - E)\psi = 0$$

$$\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} - \frac{2m}{\hbar^2}(V - E)\psi = 0$$

For $x \leq 0$, we have,

$$\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} - \frac{2m}{\hbar^2}(V - E)\psi = 0$$

$$\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} + \alpha^2\psi = 0 \implies \psi(x) = Ae^{\alpha ix} + Be^{-\alpha ix}$$

Where $\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2} = \alpha^2$. As $x \rightarrow \infty$ the only finite part remains is the first part therefore the appropriate solution to the ODE is,

$$\psi(x) = Ae^{\alpha ix}$$

For $x > 0$, we have,

$$\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} - \beta^2\psi = 0 \implies \psi(x) = Ce^{\beta x} + De^{-\beta x}$$

Where $\beta^2 = \frac{2m(V_0 - E)}{\hbar^2}$. As $x \rightarrow \infty$ the only finite part remains is the second part therefore the appropriate solution to the ODE is,

$$\psi(x) = De^{-\beta x}$$

5. Refer to the Question paper attached below.

Solution:

$$\begin{cases} \psi_a = 0 \\ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2\psi_b}{dx^2} - V_0\psi_b = E\psi_b \\ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2\psi_c}{dx^2} = E\psi_c \end{cases}$$

For region b,

$$\frac{d^2\psi_b}{dx^2} + \frac{2m(V_0 + E)}{\hbar^2}\psi_b = 0 \implies \psi_b = A \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{2m(V_0 + E)}}{\hbar}x\right) + B \cos\left(\frac{\sqrt{2m(V_0 + E)}}{\hbar}x\right)$$

For region c,

$$\frac{d^2\psi_c}{dx^2} + \frac{\sqrt{2mE}}{\hbar^2}\psi_c = 0 \implies \psi_c = C \exp\left(\frac{\sqrt{2mE}}{\hbar}x\right) + D \exp\left(-\frac{\sqrt{2mE}}{\hbar}x\right)$$

As $x \rightarrow \infty$, $C \exp\left(\frac{\sqrt{2mE}}{\hbar}x\right)$ explodes which means the appropriate solution is,

$$\psi_c = D \exp\left(-\frac{\sqrt{2mE}}{\hbar}x\right)$$

Using boundary conditions,

$$\psi_a(0) = \psi_b(0)$$

$$0 = A \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{2m(V_0 + E)}}{\hbar}0\right) + B \cos\left(\frac{\sqrt{2m(V_0 + E)}}{\hbar}0\right)$$

$$0 = B$$

$$\psi_b(a) = \psi_c(a)$$

$$A \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{2m(V_0 + E)}}{\hbar}a\right) = D \exp\left(-\frac{\sqrt{2mE}}{\hbar}a\right)$$

$$\implies \left.\frac{d\psi_b}{dx}\right|_{x=a} = \left.\frac{d\psi_c}{dx}\right|_{x=a}$$

$$\implies \frac{\sqrt{2m(V_0 + E)}}{\hbar} A \cos\left(\frac{\sqrt{2m(V_0 + E)}}{\hbar}a\right) = -\frac{\sqrt{2mE}}{\hbar} D \exp\left(-\frac{\sqrt{2mE}}{\hbar}a\right)$$

Dividing both equations, we get,

$$\frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2m(E + V_0)}} \tan\left(\frac{\sqrt{2m(V_0 + E)}}{\hbar}a\right) = -\frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2mE}}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{E + V_0}} \tan\left(\frac{\sqrt{2m(V_0 + E)}}{\hbar}a\right) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{E}}$$

This is transcendental equation and we can't solve it analytically. We can solve it numerically using Newton Raphson method.

6. Refer to the Question paper attached below.

Solution:

1.

$$\int_{-3}^1 (x^3 - 3x^2 + 2x - 1) \delta(x + 2) dx = (-2)^3 - 3(-2)^2 + 2(-2) - 1 = -25$$

2.

$$\int_0^\infty |\cos(3x) + 2| \delta(x - \pi) dx = |\cos(3\pi) + 2| = 1$$

3.

$$\int_{-1}^1 (\exp(|x| + 3)) \delta(x - 2) dx = 0$$

is 0 within the given range for the integral.

7. Refer to the Question paper attached below.

Solution:

1. I am unable to attach the image here. It is in the comments.

2.

$$\psi(x) = \begin{cases} Ae^{kx}, & -\infty < x < -a \\ Be^{kx} + Ce^{-kx}, & -a < x < a \\ De^{-kx}, & a < x < \infty \end{cases}$$

Where $k = \sqrt{\frac{-2mE}{\hbar}}$. If the function is even;

$$\psi(x) = \begin{cases} Ae^{kx}, & -\infty < x < -a \\ B(e^{kx} + e^{-kx}), & -a < x < a \\ Ae^{-kx}, & a < x < \infty \end{cases}$$

Comparing the piecewise functions at the boundary point (-a) for instance.

$$\begin{aligned} Ae^{-ka} &= B(e^{-ka} + e^{ka}) \\ Ae^{-ka} &= Be^{-ka}(e^{2ka} + 1) \\ A &= B(e^{2ka} + 1) \end{aligned}$$

Using the result given in the book;

$$\left. \frac{d\psi}{dx} \right|_{a-\epsilon}^{a-\epsilon} = -\frac{2m\alpha}{\hbar^2} \psi(a)$$

$$\frac{d\psi}{dx} = \begin{cases} B(ke^{kx} - ke^{-kx}), & -a < x < a \\ -kAe^{-kx}, & a < x < \infty \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} -kAe^{-ka} - B(ke^{ka} - ke^{-ka}) &= -\frac{2m\alpha}{\hbar^2} \psi(a) \\ -kB(e^{2ka} + 1)e^{-ka} - B(ke^{ka} - ke^{-ka}) &= -\frac{2m\alpha}{\hbar^2} B(e^{ka} + e^{-ka}) \end{aligned}$$

Multiplying by e^{ka} on both sides,

$$\begin{aligned} -(e^{2ka} + 1) - (e^{2ka} - 1) &= -\frac{2m\alpha}{\hbar^2}(e^{2ka} - 1) \\ e^{2ka} &= \frac{m\alpha}{k\hbar^2}(e^{2ka} + 1) \\ 1 &= \frac{m\alpha}{k\hbar^2}(e^{-2ka} + 1) \\ \frac{k\hbar^2}{m\alpha} - 1 &= e^{-2ka} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly if the function is odd;

$$\psi(x) = \begin{cases} -Ae^{kx}, & -\infty < x < -a \\ B(e^{kx} - e^{-kx}), & -a < x < a \\ Ae^{-kx}, & a < x < \infty \end{cases}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\psi}{dx} &= \begin{cases} B(ke^{kx} + ke^{-kx}), & -a < x < a \\ -kAe^{-kx}, & a < x < \infty \end{cases} \\ -kAe^{-ka} - B(ke^{ka} + ke^{-ka}) &= -\frac{2m\alpha}{\hbar^2}\psi(a) \end{aligned}$$

By analogy from the even function analysis using $A = B(e^{2ka} - 1)$;

$$-kB(e^{2ka} - 1)e^{-ka} - B(ke^{ka} - ke^{-ka}) = -\frac{2m\alpha}{\hbar^2}B(e^{ka} - e^{-ka})$$

Simplifying this gives:

$$e^{-2ka} = 1 - \frac{k\hbar^2}{m\alpha}$$

Finding the bounded states when the wavefunction is odd;

$$e^{-y} = 1 - qy$$

Where $y = 2ka$ and $q = \frac{\hbar^2}{2am\alpha}$. Both the graphs intersect only when $q > 1$, hence there are 2 bound states when $\alpha > \frac{\hbar^2}{2ma}$. One of them is when the function is odd and the other one is when the function is even, as for the case when the wavefunction is even the intersection of both the functions (right side and the left side of the solution) is definite. However, if $\alpha \leq \frac{\hbar^2}{2ma}$ then there will be only 1 bound state for the case when the function is even.