

Physics 115C Hw 2

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Problem 1

(a)

We have that the first order corrections to the energy is given by

$$E_n^1 = \langle \psi_n | H' | \psi_n \rangle$$

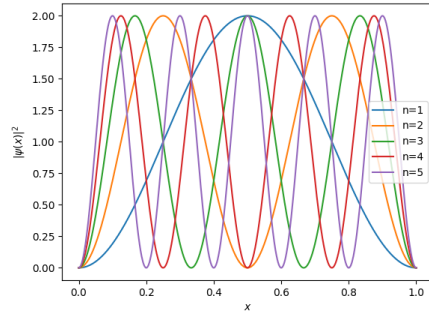
Therefore in our case we have that

$$E_n^1 = \alpha \langle \psi_n | \delta(x - \frac{L}{2}) | \psi_n \rangle$$

Therefore we get that

$$\begin{aligned} E_n^1 &= \alpha \int \psi_n^*(x) \delta(x - \frac{L}{2}) \psi_n(x) dx \\ &= \alpha |\psi(\frac{L}{2})|^2 \\ &= \alpha \frac{2}{L} \sin^2\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right) \\ &= \begin{cases} \alpha \frac{2}{L} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \\ 0 & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

(b)



As we can see the states that do not exhibit a energy shift of the first order, are states where the probability density is zero at the location of the perubation. Thus the particle will not feel the effect of the perubation.

(c)

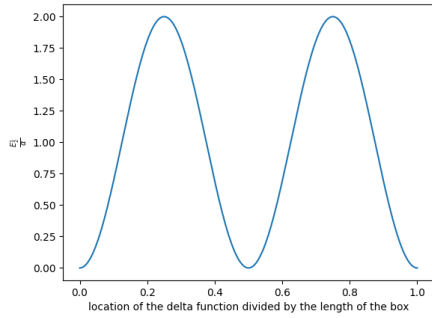
Likewise we can see that the states that do exhibit a energy shift are states where the probability density is not zero at the location of the perubation. Thus the particle will feel the effect of the perubation.

(d)

The delta function acts to effectively "sample" the wavefunction for the first order correction in the energy. Thus for the maximum first order energy corrections, we would want to place the delta function at the location where the probability density is the largest. Therefore for the $n = 2$ state this will be $\delta(x - \frac{L}{4}), \delta(x - \frac{3L}{4})$. For the $n = 4$ state this would be $\delta(x - \frac{L}{8}), \delta(x - \frac{3L}{8}), \delta(x - \frac{5L}{8}), \delta(x - \frac{7L}{8})$. And for the $n = 6$ state this would be $\delta(x - \frac{1}{12}L), \delta(x - \frac{3}{12}L), \delta(x - \frac{5}{12}L), \delta(x - \frac{7}{12}L), \delta(x - \frac{9}{12}L), \delta(x - \frac{11}{12}L)$.

(e)

Since it samples the wavefunction, as we move the delta function, the resulting first order correction will just be the amplitude of the wavefunction at the delta function:



Problem 2

(a)

$H^0 = \omega S_z$, therefore the eigenvalues are $+1$ and -1 , and the eigenstates are $|\uparrow_z\rangle = [1, 0]^T$ and $|\downarrow_z\rangle = [0, 1]^T$.

(b)

We have that the characteristic equation is given by

$$x^2 - \omega^2 - (\lambda\Omega)^2 = 0$$

Therefore the eigenvalues are $\pm\sqrt{\omega^2 + (\lambda\Omega)^2}$.