

1. When the wave function is an eigenfunction of the operator \hat{A} then show that the expectation value of \hat{A} is the eigenvalue of the wave function.

Answer: Eigenvalue equation for operator \hat{A} is as follows

$$\hat{A} \psi(x) = a \psi(x)$$

Then expectation value of operator \hat{A} is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \langle A \rangle &= \int \psi^* \hat{A} \psi \, dx \\ &= \int \psi^* a \psi \, dx \\ &= a \int \psi^* \psi \, dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \langle A \rangle = a \quad \left[\because \int \psi^* \psi \, dx = 1 \right]$$

2. Find the eigenvalue of momentum corresponding to the wavefunction $\psi(x) = A e^{-ikx}$

Answer: Eigenvalue equation for momentum operator \hat{P} is as follows

$$\hat{P} \psi(x) = p \psi(x)$$

Momentum operator is $-i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$

$$\text{Therefore } -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (A e^{-ikx}) = -i\hbar A (-ik) e^{-ikx} = -\hbar k (A e^{-ikx})$$

\Rightarrow The eigenvalue of momentum is $-\hbar k$