

Scaling Schroedinger's Equation, Lab 5.3 and 5.5, Physics 430

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[ > restart;
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(5.3)

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[ > eq:=-hbar^2/2/m*diff(psi(x),x$2)+1/2*k*x^2*psi(x)=E*psi(x);
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$$-\frac{1}{2} \frac{\hbar^2 \left(\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{d}{dx} \psi(x) \right) \right)}{m} + \frac{1}{2} k x^2 \psi(x) = E \psi(x)$$

Rescale it with $x = a \xi$.

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[ > eqnew:=-hbar^2/2/m*diff(psi(xi),xi$2)/a^2+1/2*k*a^2*xi^2*psi(x)=E*
psi(x);
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$$-\frac{1}{2} \frac{\hbar^2 \left(\frac{d}{d\xi} \left(\frac{d}{d\xi} \psi(\xi) \right) \right)}{m a^2} + \frac{1}{2} k a^2 \xi^2 \psi(x) = E \psi(x)$$

Divide by $k a^2$ so that the potential term is dimensionless

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[ > eqnew:=expand(lhs(eqnew)/k/a^2=rhs(eqnew)/k/a^2);
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$$-\frac{1}{2} \frac{\hbar^2 \left(\frac{d}{d\xi} \left(\frac{d}{d\xi} \psi(\xi) \right) \right)}{k a^4 m} + \frac{1}{2} \xi^2 \psi(x) = \frac{E \psi(x)}{k a^2}$$

We now choose a so that

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[ > eqa:=hbar^2/k/a^4/m=1;
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$$\frac{\hbar^2}{k a^4 m} = 1$$

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[ > s:=solve(eqa,a);
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$$\frac{(\hbar^2 k^3 m^3)^{(1/4)}}{k m}, \frac{(\hbar^2 k^3 m^3)^{(1/4)}}{k m} I, -\frac{(\hbar^2 k^3 m^3)^{(1/4)}}{k m},$$

$$\frac{-I (\hbar^2 k^3 m^3)^{(1/4)}}{k m}$$

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[ > a:=s[1];
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$$\frac{(\hbar^2 k^3 m^3)^{(1/4)}}{k m}$$

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[ > a:=simplify(a,symbolic);
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$$\frac{\sqrt{\hbar}}{k^{(1/4)} m^{(1/4)}}$$

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[ > eqnew;
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$$\left[-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{d}{d\xi} \left(\frac{d}{d\xi} \psi(\xi) \right) \right) + \frac{1}{2} \xi^2 \psi(x) = \frac{E \psi(x) \sqrt{m}}{\sqrt{k} \hbar} \right.$$

And now we can make the right side dimensionless by making the scaled energy be $\varepsilon = \frac{E \sqrt{\frac{m}{k}}}{\hbar}$, or

$$E = \varepsilon E_{\text{bar}} \text{ with } E_{\text{bar}} = \hbar \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}.$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} > \text{E:=epsilon*\hbar*sqrt(k/m);} \\ & \varepsilon \hbar \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} \\ > \text{simplify(eqnew,symbolic);} \\ & -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{d}{d\xi} \left(\frac{d}{d\xi} \psi(\xi) \right) \right) + \frac{1}{2} \xi^2 \psi(x) = \varepsilon \psi(x) \end{array} \right.$$

(5.5) Now do the same thing for the 4th power potential

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} > \text{restart;} \\ > \text{eq:=-\hbar^2/2/m*diff(psi(x),x$2)+mu*x^4*psi(x)=E*psi(x);} \\ & -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\hbar^2 \left(\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{d}{dx} \psi(x) \right) \right)}{m} + \mu x^4 \psi(x) = E \psi(x) \end{array} \right.$$

Rescale it with $x = a \xi$.

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} > \text{eqnew:=-\hbar^2/2/m*diff(psi(xi),xi$2)/a^2+mu*a^4*xi^4*psi(x)=E*psi} \\ & \text{(x);} \\ & -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\hbar^2 \left(\frac{d}{d\xi} \left(\frac{d}{d\xi} \psi(\xi) \right) \right)}{m a^2} + \mu a^4 \xi^4 \psi(x) = E \psi(x) \end{array} \right.$$

Divide by μa^4 so that the potential term is dimensionless

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} > \text{eqnew:=expand(lhs(eqnew)/mu/a^4=rhs(eqnew)/mu/a^4);} \\ & -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\hbar^2 \left(\frac{d}{d\xi} \left(\frac{d}{d\xi} \psi(\xi) \right) \right)}{\mu a^6 m} + \xi^4 \psi(x) = \frac{E \psi(x)}{\mu a^4} \end{array} \right.$$

We now choose a so that

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} > \text{eqa:=-\hbar^2/mu/a^6/m=1;} \\ & \frac{\hbar^2}{\mu a^6 m} = 1 \\ > \text{s:=solve(eqa,a);} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\left[\frac{(\hbar^2 \mu^5 m^5)^{(1/6)} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} I \sqrt{3} \right) (\hbar^2 \mu^5 m^5)^{(1/6)}}{\mu m}, \frac{(\hbar^2 \mu^5 m^5)^{(1/6)} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} I \sqrt{3} \right) (\hbar^2 \mu^5 m^5)^{(1/6)}}{\mu m}, \right.$$

$$\left. \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} I \sqrt{3} \right) (\hbar^2 \mu^5 m^5)^{(1/6)}}{\mu m}, -\frac{(\hbar^2 \mu^5 m^5)^{(1/6)}}{\mu m}, \right.$$

$$\left. \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} I \sqrt{3} \right) (\hbar^2 \mu^5 m^5)^{(1/6)}}{\mu m}, \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} I \sqrt{3} \right) (\hbar^2 \mu^5 m^5)^{(1/6)}}{\mu m} \right]$$

> **a:=simplify(s[1],symbolic);**

$$\frac{\hbar^{(1/3)}}{\mu^{(1/6)} m^{(1/6)}}$$

> **eqnew;**

$$-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{d}{d\xi} \left(\frac{d}{d\xi} \psi(\xi) \right) \right) + \xi^4 \psi(x) = \frac{E \psi(x) m^{(2/3)}}{\mu^{(1/3)} \hbar^{(4/3)}}$$

And now we can make the right side dimensionless by making the scaled energy be

$$\varepsilon = E \left(\frac{m^2}{\mu \hbar^4} \right)^{\left(\frac{1}{3} \right)} \quad \text{which is in the form } E = \varepsilon \text{ Ebar with } \text{Ebar} = \left(\frac{\hbar^4 \mu}{m^2} \right)^{\left(\frac{1}{3} \right)}.$$

> **E:=epsilon*(mu*hbar^4/m^2)^(1/3);**

$$\varepsilon \left(\frac{\mu \hbar^4}{m^2} \right)^{(1/3)}$$

> **simplify(eqnew,symbolic);**

$$-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{d}{d\xi} \left(\frac{d}{d\xi} \psi(\xi) \right) \right) + \xi^4 \psi(x) = \varepsilon \psi(x)$$

which is the dimensionless form we want