Quantum Mechanics 1 - Problem 9

The spatial wave function describing the possible states of a particle confined in an infinite 1-dimensional potential square well of width *L* is

$$\psi_n(x) = A \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right),\,$$

where the quantum number n > 0 is any positive integer.

a) Show that the constant that normalises the wave function is

$$A = \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}}.$$

[4 marks]

b) Hence, for a particle in the n = 1 state, find the probability of finding the particle in the region

$$\frac{L}{4} \le x \le \frac{3L}{4}.$$

How does your answer compare to the classically expected value?

[4 marks]

c) Sketch the spatial wave function and the probability density function for the n = 2 state.

[2 marks]