

We have the potential  $V(x) = \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2x^2 + \lambda x^4$ , and we want to compute the ground state energy of the system. Since we know the ground state solution to the harmonic oscillator, we let  $H^0 = \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2x^2$ , and let  $H^1 = \lambda x^4$ . We then have that  $\psi_0^0 = \left(\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}\right)^{1/4} e^{-m\omega x^2/2\hbar}$ , and  $E_0^0 = \frac{1}{2}\hbar\omega$ . We can now compute the first order corrections to the energy,  $E_0^1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} E_0^1 &= \langle \psi_0^0 | H^1 | \psi_0^0 \rangle \\ &= \left(\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}\right)^{1/2} \lambda \int e^{-m\omega x^2/\hbar} x^4 dx \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}\right)^{1/2} \lambda \left(\frac{\pi\hbar^5}{m^5\omega^5}\right)^{1/2} \\ &= \frac{3}{4}\lambda \end{aligned}$$

Where we have let  $m = \omega = \hbar = 1$ , and we have used the known solution to the gaussian integral

$$\int x^4 e^{-ax^2} dx = \frac{3}{4} \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{a^{5/2}}$$

Now applying the first order corrections, we have that the ground state energy is given by

$$E_0 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{4}\lambda$$