

## Problem 1.17

A particle is represented (at time  $t = 0$ ) by the wave function

$$\Psi(x, 0) = \begin{cases} A(a^2 - x^2), & \text{if } -a \leq x \leq a \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

a.)

Determine the normalization constant  $A$ .

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |\Psi(x, 0)|^2 dx &= \int_{-\infty}^{-a} 0 dx + \int_{-a}^{+a} A^2(a^2 - x^2)^2 dx + \int_{+a}^{\infty} 0 dx \\ &= \int_{-a}^{+a} A^2(a^4 - 2a^2x^2 + x^4) dx = 1 \\ a^4x - \frac{2}{3}a^2x^3 + \frac{x^5}{5} \Big|_{x=-a}^{+a} &= \frac{1}{A^2} \\ a^4(a+a) - \frac{2}{3}a^2(a^3 - (-a^3)) + \frac{(a^5 - (-a^5))}{5} &= \frac{1}{A^2} \\ 2a^5 - \frac{4}{3}a^5 + \frac{2}{5}a^5 &= \frac{1}{A^2} \\ \frac{2}{3}a^5 + \frac{2}{5}a^5 &= \frac{1}{A^2} \\ \frac{16}{15}a^5 &= \frac{1}{A^2} \\ A^2 &= \frac{15}{16a^5} \\ A &= \sqrt{\frac{15}{16a^5}} \end{aligned}$$

b.)

What is the expectation value of  $x$  (at time  $t = 0$ )?

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle x \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi(x, 0) x \Psi^*(x, 0) dx \\
 &= \int_{-a}^{+a} \frac{15}{16a^5} (a^4 - 2a^2x^2 + x^4) x dx \\
 &= \int_{-a}^{+a} \frac{15}{16a^5} (a^4x - 2a^2x^3 + x^5) dx
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $x, x^3, x^5$  are all odd functions, so:

$$\langle x \rangle = 0$$

**c.)**

What is the expectation value of  $p$  at time  $t = 0$ ? (Note that you cannot get it from  $p = m \frac{d\langle x \rangle}{dt}$ . Why not?)

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle p \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi(x, 0) \hat{p} [\Psi^*(x, 0)] dx \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi(x, 0) \left[ i\hbar \frac{d}{dx} \right] [\Psi^*(x, 0)] dx \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{15}{16a^5} (a^2 - x^2) i\hbar \frac{d}{dx} [(a^2 - x^2)] dx \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{15}{16a^5} (a^2 - x^2) i\hbar [(0 - 2x)] dx \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{15}{16a^5} (a^2 - x^2) i\hbar [(0 - 2x)] dx \\
 &= \frac{-i\hbar 15}{16^5} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (a^2x - x^3) dx
 \end{aligned}$$

Since both  $x^3, x$  are both odd functions, so:

$$\langle p \rangle = 0$$

$\langle p \rangle \neq m \frac{d\langle x \rangle}{dt}$ , because  $\langle x \rangle$  is always a constant, so that  $\frac{d\langle x \rangle}{dt}$  will always be 0, which just so happens to be the answer here, but is not generally.

**d.)**

Find the expectation value of  $\langle x^2 \rangle$ .

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}\langle x^2 \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi(x, 0) x^2 \Psi^*(x, 0) dx \\&= \int_{-a}^{+a} \frac{15}{16a^5} (x^2)(a^2 - x^2)^2 dx \\&= \int_{-a}^{+a} \frac{15}{16a^5} (a^4 - 2a^2x^2 + x^4)(x^2) dx \\&= \int_{-a}^{+a} \frac{15}{16a^5} (a^4x^2 - 2a^2x^4 + x^6) dx \\&= \frac{15}{16a^5} \left[ a^4 \frac{x^3}{3} - 2a^2 \frac{x^5}{5} + \frac{x^7}{7} \right]_{x=-a}^{+a} \\&= \frac{15}{16a^5} \left[ \frac{a^4}{3}(a^3 + a^3) - \frac{2a^2}{5}(a^5 + a^5) + \frac{1}{7}(a^7 + a^7) \right] = \frac{15}{16a^5} \left( \frac{2a^7}{3} - \frac{4a^7}{5} + \frac{2a^7}{7} \right) \\&= \frac{15a^2}{16} (2/3 - 4/5 + 2/7) = \frac{15a^2}{16} \frac{16}{105} = \frac{a^2}{7}\end{aligned}$$

**e.)**

Find the expectation value of  $p^2$ .

**Solution:**

First, I'll calculate  $p^2[\Psi^*(x, 0)]$  separately for aesthetic purposes.

$$\begin{aligned}p^2[\Psi^*(x, 0)] &= \left( i\hbar \frac{d}{dx} \right)^2 \left[ \sqrt{\frac{15}{16a^5}} (a^2 - x^2) \right] \\&= -\hbar^2 \sqrt{\frac{15}{16a^5}} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} (a^2 - x^2) = 2\hbar^2 \sqrt{\frac{15}{16a^5}}\end{aligned}$$

So that our expectation value becomes:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle p^2 \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi(x, 0) \hat{p}^2 \Psi^*(x, 0) dx \\&= \int_{-a}^{+a} \frac{\hbar^2 15}{8a^5} (a^2 - x^2) dx \\&= \frac{\hbar^2 15}{8a^5} \left[ a^2 x - \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_{x=-a}^{+a} \\&= \frac{\hbar^2 15}{8a^5} \left[ 2a^3 - \frac{2}{3}a^3 \right] = \frac{\hbar^2 15}{8a^5} \frac{4}{3} a^3 = \frac{5\hbar^2}{2a^2}\end{aligned}$$

f.)

Find the uncertainty in  $x$  ( $\sigma_x$ ).

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_x &= \sqrt{\langle x^2 \rangle - \langle x \rangle^2} \\&= \sqrt{\frac{a^2}{7}} = \frac{a}{\sqrt{7}} = \frac{a\sqrt{7}}{7}\end{aligned}$$

g.)

Find the uncertainty in  $p$  ( $\sigma_p$ ).

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_p &= \sqrt{\langle p^2 \rangle - \langle p \rangle^2} \\&= \sqrt{\frac{5\hbar^2}{2a^3}} = \frac{\hbar}{a} \frac{5}{2}\end{aligned}$$

h.)

Check that your results are consistent with the uncertainty principle.

**Solution:**

$$\sigma_x \sigma_p = \frac{a\sqrt{7}}{7} \frac{\hbar}{a} \frac{5}{2} = \frac{5\sqrt{7}}{14} \hbar \approx 0.9449\hbar \geq \frac{\hbar}{2} \checkmark$$

## Problem 2.4

Calculate  $\langle x \rangle$ ,  $\langle x^2 \rangle$ ,  $\langle p \rangle$ ,  $\langle p^2 \rangle$ ,  $\sigma_x$ , and  $\sigma_p$ , for the  $n$ th stationary state of the infinite square well. Check that the uncertainty principle is satisfied. Which state comes closed to the uncertainty principle.

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle x \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x |\psi_n(x)|^2 dx \\
 &= \int_0^a \frac{2}{a} x \sin^2 \frac{n\pi}{a} x dx \\
 u = x, du &= dx, dv = \sin^2 \frac{n\pi x}{a} dx = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \cos \frac{2\pi n x}{a} \right) dx, v = \frac{1}{2} \left( x - \frac{a}{2\pi n} \sin \frac{2\pi n x}{a} \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{2}{a} x \left( x - \frac{a}{2\pi n} \sin \frac{2\pi n x}{a} \right) \Big|_{x=0}^a - \frac{1}{a} \int_0^a \left( x - \frac{a}{2\pi n} \sin \frac{2\pi n x}{a} \right) dx \\
 &= a - \frac{1}{a} \frac{x^2}{2} \Big|_{x=0}^a + \frac{1}{2\pi n} \int_0^a \sin \frac{2\pi n x}{a} dx \\
 &= a - \frac{a}{2} - \frac{a}{(2\pi n)^2} \cos \frac{2\pi n x}{a} \Big|_{x=0}^a \\
 &= \frac{a}{2} + 0 = \frac{a}{2} \\
 \langle p \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \psi_n(x) \hat{p} [\psi_n^*(x)] dx \\
 &= \int_0^a \frac{2i\hbar}{a} \sin \left( \frac{\pi n}{a} x \right) \frac{\pi n}{a} \cos \left( \frac{\pi n}{a} x \right) dx
 \end{aligned}$$

Using a u-sub with  $u = \sin \frac{\pi n x}{a}$  and  $du = \frac{\pi n}{a} \cos \frac{\pi n x}{a}$ , however, now our limits out  $[0, \sin \pi n = 0]$ , thus we have  $\langle p \rangle = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle x^2 \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x^2 |\psi_n(x)|^2 dx \\
 &= \int_0^{+a} x^2 \frac{2}{a} \sin^2 \left( \frac{\pi n x}{a} \right) dx \\
 u &= x^2, du = 2x dx, dv = \sin^2 \left( \frac{\pi n x}{a} \right) dx, v = \frac{1}{2} \left( x - \frac{a}{2\pi n} \sin \left( \frac{2\pi n x}{a} \right) \right) \\
 &= \frac{2}{a} \frac{x^2}{2} \left( x - \frac{a}{2\pi n} \sin \left( \frac{2\pi n x}{a} \right) \right) \Big|_{x=0}^{+a} - \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a x \left( x - \frac{a}{2\pi n} \sin \left( \frac{2\pi n x}{a} \right) \right) dx \\
 &= a^2 - \frac{2}{a} \int_0^{+a} x^2 - \frac{a}{2\pi n} x \sin \left( \frac{2\pi n x}{a} \right) dx \\
 &= a^2 - \frac{2}{a} \frac{x^3}{3} \Big|_{x=0}^{+a} + \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a \frac{a}{2\pi n} x \sin \left( \frac{2\pi n x}{a} \right) dx \\
 u &= x, du = dx, dv = \sin \frac{2\pi n x}{a} dx, v = \frac{-a}{2\pi n} \cos \frac{2\pi n x}{a} \\
 &= a^2 - \frac{2}{3} a^2 + \frac{2}{a} \left[ x \frac{-a^2}{(2\pi n)^2} \cos \frac{2\pi n x}{a} \Big|_{x=0}^a + \frac{a^2}{(2\pi n)^2} \int_0^{+a} \cos \frac{2\pi n x}{a} dx \right] \\
 &= a^2 - \frac{2}{3} a^2 + \frac{2}{a} \left[ \frac{-a^3}{(2\pi n)^2} \cos(2\pi n) + \left( \frac{a^3}{(2\pi n)^3} \right) \sin \frac{2\pi n x}{a} \Big|_{x=0}^a \right] \\
 &= a^2 - \frac{2}{3} a^2 + \frac{-a^2}{2(\pi n)^2} \\
 &= \frac{a^2}{3} - \frac{a^2}{2(\pi n)^2} = \frac{2(\pi n a)^2 - 3a^2}{6(\pi n)^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle p^2 \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \psi_n(x) \hat{p}^2 [\psi_n^*(x)] dx \\
 &= \int_0^a \frac{-2\hbar^2}{a} \sin \left( \frac{\pi n x}{a} \right) \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \left( \sin \left( \frac{\pi n x}{a} \right) \right) dx \\
 &= \int_0^{+a} \frac{-2(-\hbar^2)}{a} \left( \frac{\pi n}{a} \right)^2 \sin^2 \left( \frac{\pi n x}{a} \right) dx = \frac{\hbar^2 \pi^2 n^2}{a^2} \int_0^a \frac{2}{a} \sin^2 \left( \frac{\pi n x}{a} \right) dx = \left( \frac{\hbar \pi n}{a} \right)^2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_x &= \sqrt{\langle x^2 \rangle - \langle x \rangle^2} = \sqrt{\frac{2(\pi na)^2 - 3a^2}{6\pi^2 n^2} - \frac{a^2}{4}} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{8(\pi na)^2 - 12a^2 - 6(\pi na)^2}{24\pi^2 n^2}} = \frac{a}{2\pi n} \sqrt{\frac{2(\pi n)^2 - 12}{6}} \\ \sigma_p &= \sqrt{\langle p^2 \rangle - \langle p \rangle^2} = \sqrt{\frac{a^2(4\pi^3 n^3 - 6\pi n)}{12\pi^3 n^3} - 0^2} = \frac{\hbar \pi n}{a} \\ \sigma_x \sigma_p &= \frac{\hbar}{2} \sqrt{\frac{2(\pi n)^2 - 12}{6}} \geq \frac{\hbar}{2} \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N}\end{aligned}$$

The minimum value of  $\sigma_x \sigma_p \approx (1.1357)\frac{\hbar}{2}$  occurs at the ground state, when  $n = 1$ .

## 2.5

A particle in the infinite square well has as its initial wave function an even mixture of the first two stationary states:

$$\Psi(x, 0) = A[\psi_1(x) + \psi_2(x)].$$

a.)

Normalize  $\Psi(x, 0)$ . (That is, find  $A$ . This is very easy, if you exploit the orthonormality of  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$ . Recall that, having normalized  $\Psi$  at  $t = 0$ , you can rest assured that it *stays* normalized - if you doubt this, check it explicitly after doing part(b).)

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |\Psi(x, 0)|^2 dx &= 1 \\ \int_0^a A^2 [\psi_1(x) + \psi_2(x)]^2 dx &= 1 \\ \int_0^a [\psi_1^2(x) + 2\psi_1(x)\psi_2(x) + \psi_2^2(x)] dx &= \frac{1}{A^2} \\ 1 + 0 + 1 &= \frac{1}{A^2}, \text{ by orthonormality} \\ A^2 &= \frac{1}{2} \\ A &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\end{aligned}$$

b.)

Find  $\Psi(x, t)$  and  $|\Psi(x, t)|^2$ . Express the latter as a sinusoidal function of time, as in Example 2.1. To simplify the result, let  $\omega \equiv \pi^2 \hbar / 2ma^2$ .

**Solution:**

Now we have a normalized  $\Psi(x, 0)$ :

$$\Psi(x, 0) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\psi_1(x) + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\psi_2(x)$$

So note that  $A = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$  is our  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  in our general solution, so that since  $\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)^2 = 1$ .

So multiplying in our time dependence we get:

$$\Psi(x, t) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\psi_1(x) \exp\left(\frac{-iE_1 t}{\hbar}\right) + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\psi_2(x) \exp\left(\frac{-iE_2 t}{\hbar}\right)$$

So then finding  $|\Psi(x, t)|^2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} |\Psi(x, t)|^2 &= \Psi(x, t)\Psi^*(x, t) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left( \psi_1 \exp\left(\frac{-iE_1 t}{\hbar}\right) + \psi_2 \exp\left(\frac{-iE_2 t}{\hbar}\right) \right) \left( \psi_1^* \exp\left(\frac{+iE_1 t}{\hbar}\right) + \psi_2^* \exp\left(\frac{+iE_2 t}{\hbar}\right) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left( \psi_1 \psi_1^* + \psi_1 \psi_2^* \exp\left(\frac{-iE_1 t}{\hbar}\right) \exp\left(\frac{+iE_2 t}{\hbar}\right) + \psi_1^* \psi_2 \exp\left(\frac{-iE_2 t}{\hbar}\right) \exp\left(\frac{+iE_1 t}{\hbar}\right) + \psi_2 \psi_2^* \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left( |\psi_1|^2 + |\psi_2|^2 + \psi_1 \psi_2^* \exp\left(\frac{-i(E_2 - E_1)t}{\hbar}\right) + \psi_1^* \psi_2 \exp\left(\frac{-i(E_1 - E_2)t}{\hbar}\right) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left( |\psi_1|^2 + |\psi_2|^2 + \psi_1 \psi_2^* \exp\left(\frac{-i(E_2 - E_1)t}{\hbar}\right) + \left( \psi_1 \psi_2^* \exp\left(\frac{-i(E_2 - E_1)t}{\hbar}\right) \right)^* \right) \end{aligned}$$

Now I will show that the fact that for any  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $z + \bar{z} = 2\Re(z)$ .

$$z + \bar{z} = a + bi + a - bi = 2a = 2\Re(z)$$

So now we have:

$$|\Psi(x, t)|^2 = \frac{1}{4}|\psi_1|^2 + \frac{1}{4}|\psi_2|^2 + \frac{1}{2}\psi_1 \psi_2^* \cos\left(\frac{(E_2 - E_1)t}{\hbar}\right)$$

For the infinite quantum square well, we know:

$$E_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2}$$



And that the standing waves are real, so that:

$$\begin{aligned} |\Psi(x, t)|^2 &= \frac{1}{4}|\psi_1|^2 + \frac{1}{4}|\psi_2|^2 + \frac{1}{2}\psi_1\psi_2 \cos\left(\frac{\left(\frac{4\pi^2\hbar^2}{2ma^2} - \frac{\pi^2\hbar^2}{2ma^2}\right)t}{\hbar}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4}|\psi_1(x)|^2 + \frac{1}{4}|\psi_2(x)|^2 + \frac{1}{2}\psi_1(x)\psi_2(x) \cos(3\omega t) \end{aligned}$$

**c.)**

Compute  $\langle x \rangle$ . Notice that it oscillates in time. What is the angular frequency of the oscillation? What is the amplitude of the oscillation?

**Solution:**

Assuming that we have the solutions for standing waves in the infinite square well as:

$$\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right)$$

Then note that:

$$|\psi_n|^2 = \frac{2}{a} \sin^2\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) = \frac{1}{a} \left(1 - \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{a}\right)\right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x \rangle &= \int_0^a \frac{x}{4} |\psi_1|^2 + \frac{x}{4} |\psi_2|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \psi_1 \psi_2 \cos(3\omega t) \\ &= \int_0^a \frac{x}{4a} \left(1 - \cos\left(\frac{2\pi x}{a}\right)\right) + \frac{x}{4a} \left(1 - \cos\left(\frac{4\pi x}{a}\right)\right) + \frac{x}{2} \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi x}{a}\right) \sin^2\left(\frac{2\pi x}{a}\right) \cos(3\omega t) dx \end{aligned}$$

To preserve our sanity, we'll evaluate these three integrands separately:

$$I_1 = \int_0^a \frac{x}{4a} \left(1 - \cos\left(\frac{2\pi x}{a}\right)\right) dx \quad (1)$$

$$u = \frac{x}{4a}, du = \frac{1}{4a}, dv = 1 - \cos\frac{2\pi x}{a}, v = x - \frac{a}{2\pi} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x}{a}\right) \quad (2)$$

$$= \frac{x}{4a} \left(x - \frac{a}{2\pi} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x}{a}\right)\right) \Big|_{x=0}^a - \frac{1}{4a} \int_0^a x - \frac{a}{2\pi} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x}{a}\right) dx \quad (3)$$

$$= \frac{a}{4} + \frac{-1}{4a} \left(\frac{x^2}{2} - \left(\frac{a}{2\pi}\right)^2 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi x}{a}\right)\right) \Big|_{x=0}^a \quad (4)$$

$$= \frac{a}{4} + \frac{-1}{4a} \left(\frac{a^2}{2} - \frac{a^2}{4\pi^2} + \frac{a^2}{4\pi^2}\right) = \frac{a}{4} + \frac{-a}{8} = \frac{a}{8} \quad (5)$$

Notice that in steps (3) and (4), that the cosine and sine terms are actually non-consequential, since they cancel out on  $[0, a]$ , the same will happen for  $I_2$ , so that:

$$I_2 = \frac{a}{8}$$

$$\begin{aligned} I_3 &= \int_0^a \frac{x}{2} \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi x}{a}\right) \sin^2\left(\frac{2\pi x}{a}\right) \cos(3\omega t) dx \\ &= \frac{\cos(3\omega t)}{2} \int_0^a x \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi x}{a}\right) \sin^2\left(\frac{2\pi x}{a}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{\cos(3\omega t)}{8} \int_0^a x \left(1 - \cos\frac{2\pi x}{a}\right) \left(1 - \cos\frac{4\pi x}{a}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{\cos(3\omega t)}{8} \int_0^a \left(x - x \cos\frac{2\pi x}{a}\right) \left(1 - \cos\frac{4\pi x}{a}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{\cos(3\omega t)}{8} \int_0^a \left(x - x \cos\frac{4\pi x}{a} - x \cos\frac{2\pi x}{a} + \cos\frac{2\pi x}{a} \cos\frac{4\pi x}{a}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{\cos(3\omega t)}{8} \int_0^a \left(x(1 - \cos(\frac{4\pi x}{a})) - x \cos(\frac{2\pi x}{a}) + \cos(\frac{2\pi x}{a}) \cos(\frac{4\pi x}{a})\right) dx \\ &= \frac{\cos(3\omega t)}{8} \left(\int_0^a x(1 - \cos\frac{4\pi x}{a}) dx - \int_0^a x \cos\frac{2\pi x}{a} dx + \int_0^a \cos\frac{2\pi x}{a} \cos\frac{4\pi x}{a} dx\right) \\ &= \frac{\cos(3\omega t)}{8} \left(\frac{a^2}{2} - \int_0^a x \cos\frac{2\pi x}{a} dx + 0\right) \\ &= \frac{\cos(3\omega t)}{8} \left(\frac{a^2}{2} - \left(\frac{a}{2\pi} \sin\frac{2\pi x}{a}\right)\Big|_{x=0}^a - \int_0^a \frac{a}{2\pi} \sin\frac{2\pi x}{a} dx\right) \\ &= \frac{\cos(3\omega t)}{8} \left(\frac{a^2}{2}\right) = \frac{\cos(3\omega t)a^2}{16} \end{aligned}$$

This last step follows because  $\sin\frac{2\pi x}{a}$  has a period of  $[0, a]$  and cosine and sine are both self-orthogonal on their periods.

So that:

$$\langle x \rangle = \frac{2a}{8} + \frac{\cos(3\omega t)a^2}{16} = \frac{a(a \cos(3\omega t) + 4)}{16}$$

So the amplitude of this oscillation is  $\frac{a^2}{16}$  with an angular frequency of:  $3\omega$

d.)

Compute  $\langle p \rangle$ .

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} \langle p \rangle = & \int_0^a \frac{-i\hbar\pi}{4a} \left( \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{a}\right) \exp\left(\frac{-iE_1 t}{\hbar}\right) + \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x}{a}\right) \exp\left(\frac{-iE_2 t}{\hbar}\right) \right) \\ & * \left( \cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{a}\right) \exp\left(\frac{-iE_1 t}{\hbar}\right) + 2 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi x}{a}\right) \exp\left(\frac{-iE_2 t}{\hbar}\right) \right) dx \end{aligned}$$

Since sine and cosine are always orthogonal on their period we have:

$$\langle p \rangle = 0$$

e.)

If you measured the energy of this particle, what values might you get, and what is the probability of getting each of them? Find the expectation value of  $H$ . How does it compare with  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ ?

**Solution:**

The probability of each energy level occurring is the coefficient  $|c_n|^2$ , so that  $E_1$ 's,  $E_2$ 's probability of finding the particle in those levels is  $\frac{1}{2}$ .  $E_1, E_2$  are the only possible energy levels for this particle.  $\langle H \rangle = \frac{E_1}{2} + \frac{E_2}{2} = \frac{5\pi^2\hbar^2}{4ma^2}$ .