

Chapter 7 - Problem 3

7.3 Given an initial state for the 1D harmonic oscillator in normalized units

$$\psi(\zeta, 0) = N \exp(-\zeta^2/2) (\zeta^2 + 2)$$

- Find N such that this initial state is normalized.
- Find $\psi(\zeta, t)$ for $t > 0$.
- Compute the average energy of this state.

```
In[ ]:= Clear["Global`*"]
```

```
wavefunction[ξ_] = Exp[-ξ^2/2] * (ξ^2 + 2);
```

```
normconst = 1/Sqrt[Integrate[wavefunction[ξ] * wavefunction[ξ], {ξ, -∞, ∞}]]
```

$$\text{Out[]} = \frac{2}{3\sqrt{3}\pi^{1/4}}$$

```
In[ ]:= groundphi[ξ_] = normconst * wavefunction[ξ]
```

$$\text{Out[]} = \frac{2 e^{-\frac{\xi^2}{2}} (2 + \xi^2)}{3\sqrt{3}\pi^{1/4}}$$

```
In[ ]:= C0 = Integrate[groundphi[ξ] * (2^0 * 0! * Sqrt[Pi])^(-1/2) * HermiteH[0, ξ] * Exp[-ξ^2/2], {ξ, -∞, ∞}]
```

$$\text{Out[]} = \frac{5}{3\sqrt{3}}$$

```
In[ ]:= C2 = Integrate[groundphi[ξ] * (2^2 * 2! * Sqrt[Pi])^(-1/2) * HermiteH[2, ξ] * Exp[-ξ^2/2], {ξ, -∞, ∞}]
```

$$\text{Out[]} = \frac{\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}}{3}$$

```
In[ ]:= C0^2 + C2^2 (*double check that this totals to 1*)
```

$$\text{Out[]} = 1$$

Part C. Average energy of the state

```
In[ ]:= e[n_] = (2 * n) + 1;
```

```
avgenergy = ((Abs[C0]^2) * e[0]) + ((Abs[C2]^2) * e[2])
```

$$\text{Out[]} = \frac{35}{27}$$