

CHEM 571A - Problem Set #2

Due Monday September 9th

1. *McQuarrie 3-3*: In each case, show that $f(x)$ is an eigenfunction of the operator given. Find the eigenvalue.

| \hat{A} | $f(x)$ |
|--|------------------|
| (a) $\frac{d^2}{dx^2}$ | $\cos(\omega x)$ |
| (b) $\frac{d}{dt}$ | $e^{i\omega t}$ |
| (c) $\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + 2\frac{d}{dx} + 3$ | $e^{\alpha x}$ |
| (d) $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}$ | $x^2 e^{6y}$ |

2. *McQuarrie 3-5*: Write out the operator for \hat{A}^2 for $\hat{A} =$

- (a) $\frac{d^2}{dx^2}$
- (b) $\frac{d}{dx} + x$
- (c) $\frac{d^2}{dx^2} - 2x\frac{d}{dx} + 1$

3. *McQuarrie 4-7*: Calculate the values of $\sigma_E^2 = \langle E^2 \rangle - \langle E \rangle^2$ for a particle in a box in the state described by

$$\psi(x) = \left(\frac{630}{a^2}\right)^{1/2} x^2(a-x)^2 \quad 0 \leq x \leq a$$

4. *McQuarrie 4-9*: The momentum operator in two dimensions is

$$\hat{P} = -i\hbar \left(\mathbf{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \mathbf{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right).$$

Using the wave function for a free particle constrained to move over a rectangular region $0 \leq x \leq a$ and $0 \leq y \leq b$, given as

$$\psi_{n_x, n_y}(x, y) = \left(\frac{4}{ab}\right)^{1/2} \sin \frac{n_x \pi x}{a} \sin \frac{n_y \pi y}{b} \quad \begin{cases} n_x = 1, 2, 3, \dots \\ n_y = 1, 2, 3, \dots \end{cases},$$

calculate $\langle p \rangle$ and $\sigma_p^2 = \langle p^2 \rangle - \langle p \rangle^2$.