Course: PHYS 304 - Introduction to Quantum Mechanics

Note: The solutions of the homework submitted need to include steps showing how to solve the problems.

Term: Winter 2022

Instructor: Dr. Ke Zou

Problem 1

Griffiths, Problem 2.4. Calculate $\langle x \rangle$, $\langle x^2 \rangle$, $\langle p \rangle$, $\langle p^2 \rangle$, σ_x , and σ_p , for the nth stationary state of the infinite square well. Check that the uncertainty principle is satisfied. Which state comes closes to the uncertainty limit?

Problem 2

Obtain ψ_n , this is, the stationary states of the Schrödinger Equation, for a case with V=0 if -a < x < a and $V=\infty$ everywhere else.

Problem 3

Griffiths, Problem 2.7. A particle in the infinite square well has the initial wavefunction

$$\Psi(x,0) = \begin{cases} Ax, & 0 \le x \le a/2, \\ A(a-x), & a/2 \le a \end{cases}$$

- a) Sketch $\Psi(x,0)$, and determine the constant A.
- b) Find $\Psi(x,t)$.
- c) What is the probability that a measurement of the energy would yield the value E_1 ?
- d) Find the expectation value of the energy, using equation 2.21.

Problem 4

Griffiths, Problem 2.8. A particle of mass m in the infinite square well (of width a) starts out in the state

$$\Psi(x,0) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} A, & 0 \leq x \leq a/2, \\ 0, & a/2 \leq \leq a \end{array} \right.$$

for some constant A, so it is (at t=0) equally likely to be found at any point in the left half of the well. What is the probability that a measurement of the energy (at some later time t) would yield the value $\pi^2\hbar^2/2ma^2$?