

# 1 Definitions

a) What is a wavefunction and what does it describe?

A wavefunction is a representation of quantized state and it describes the probability of how much a system is allowed on that state.

b) What is an expectation value? How would you calculate an expectation value?

Expectation value is the result of a measurement of a quantum mechanics ensemble.

$$\langle \Omega \rangle = \langle \psi | \Omega | \psi \rangle$$

c) What is the Hamiltonian?

Hermitian operator  $H$  is a Hamiltonian.

d) What is an operator?

An operator  $\Omega$  is an instruction for transforming a given vector  $|V\rangle$  into another,  $|V'\rangle$ .

e) What are eigenvalues and eigenfunctions/vectors?

$$\text{In Schrodinger's Equation, } H|\psi\rangle = E|\psi\rangle$$

$H$  operator is acting on  $|\psi\rangle$  and get back with the same  $|\psi\rangle$  with a multiply constant  $E$ , which is an eigen value.

$|\psi\rangle$  is an eigenvector

f) What is degeneracy in an eigen value?

When finding eigenvalues on wavefunction, sometimes, we get same eigenvalues. These repeated eigenvalues are called degeneracy

## 2. Definitions

a) What does it mean for a matrix to be Hermitian?

Let  $\Omega = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and its adjoint is  $\Omega^\dagger = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,

then the operator  $\Omega$  is Hermitian.

b) What is a Unitary Matrix?

A unitary matrix is defined as  $I$ , where its diagonals are 1s and the rest are 0s. For example,  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is a Unitary Matrix

c) How is the commutator defined?

The commutator is defined as  $[\Omega, \Lambda] = \Omega\Lambda - \Lambda\Omega$ .

d) Why do we use the Dirac bracket notation? Why not always write out the Schrodinger equation in  $x$ ?

We use the Dirac bracket notation because the energy operator is likely to depend on two positions, which is a "non-local" operator and we want to choose to enforce "locality" by requiring that this operator depends on only 1 position.

$$3. \quad |1\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{bmatrix} \quad |2\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(a) \quad |1\rangle \cdot |2\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & i \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{bmatrix} = 1 + i^2 = 1 - 1 = 0 \neq$$

They are orthogonal.

(b) Check normalized.

$$\text{For } |1\rangle, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{bmatrix} = 1 + i^2 = 1 - 1 = 0 \neq$$

$$\text{For } |2\rangle, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{bmatrix} = 1 + i^2 = 1 - 1 = 0 \neq$$

They are normalized.

$$(c) \quad |\psi\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \alpha |1\rangle + \beta |2\rangle = \alpha \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{bmatrix} + \beta \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\langle 1|\psi\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = 2 + 3i$$

$$\langle 2|\psi\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = 2 - 3i$$

$$\alpha = 2 + 3i, \quad \beta = 2 - 3i$$

$$4. \quad |\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}|0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}|2\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|4\rangle$$

$$E_n = (n + \frac{1}{2}) \hbar \omega$$

$$\begin{aligned} (a) \quad \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \psi^* \psi &= \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{2} \\ &= \frac{2+1+3}{6} \\ &= \frac{6}{6} = 1 \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

The wavefunction is normalized

$$(b) \quad \text{Probability of finding the particle in ground state } (n=0) \text{ is } \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right|^2 = \frac{1}{3}.$$

$$(c) \quad \text{Probability of finding the particle in the } n=4 \text{ state is } \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right|^2 = \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} (d) \quad \langle E \rangle &= \frac{1}{3} (0 + \frac{1}{2}) \hbar \omega + \frac{1}{6} (2 + \frac{1}{2}) \hbar \omega + \frac{1}{2} (4 + \frac{1}{2}) \hbar \omega \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \hbar \omega + \frac{5}{12} \hbar \omega + \frac{9}{4} \hbar \omega \\ &= \frac{2+5+9}{12} \hbar \omega = \frac{16}{12} \hbar \omega = \frac{5}{3} \hbar \omega \end{aligned}$$

$$5. \quad |a\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad |b\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} -i \\ 0 \\ +i \end{bmatrix} \quad \Omega = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 & -i \\ -2 & 1 & 1 \\ i & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(a) \quad |a\rangle = \frac{|a\rangle}{| |a\rangle |} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$|b\rangle = \frac{|b\rangle}{| |b\rangle |} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}i} \begin{bmatrix} -i \\ 0 \\ +i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(b) \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -i \\ 0 \\ +i \end{bmatrix} = -i + 0 + i = 0$$

They are orthogonal.

$$(c) \quad \Omega |a\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 & -i \\ -2 & 1 & 1 \\ i & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 2 + 2i - i \\ -2 - i + 1 \\ i - i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2+i \\ -1-i \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(d) compute  $\langle b | \Omega | a \rangle$ .

$$\langle b | \Omega | a \rangle = [-i \ 0 \ +i] \begin{bmatrix} 2+i \\ -1-i \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= (-2i - \cancel{2i}) + 0 + 0$$

$$= -2i$$

6

$$L_x = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad L_y = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\frac{i\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{i\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & -\frac{i\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & \frac{i\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad L_z = \begin{bmatrix} \hbar & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\hbar \end{bmatrix}$$

(a) Verify the commutation relation

$$[L_x, L_y] = i\hbar L_z$$

$$[L, L] = L L - L L$$

$$[L_x, L_y] = L_x L_y - L_y L_x$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\frac{i\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{i\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & -\frac{i\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & \frac{i\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\frac{i\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{i\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & -\frac{i\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & \frac{i\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{\hbar^2}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{\hbar^2}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{\hbar^2}{2} \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{\hbar^2}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\hbar^2}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{\hbar^2}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \hbar^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\hbar^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$i\hbar L_z = i\hbar \begin{bmatrix} \hbar & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\hbar \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} i\hbar^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -i\hbar^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

c b)

$$L_{\alpha} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det L_{\alpha} = \det \begin{bmatrix} -\lambda & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\lambda & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\lambda \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$-\lambda ( (-\lambda)(-\lambda) - (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}) ) + 0 + 0 = 0$$

$$-\lambda ( \lambda^2 - \frac{1}{2} ) = 0$$

$$\lambda = 0, \quad \lambda^2 = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

c) For  $\lambda = 0$ ,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} b = 0 \Rightarrow b = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} a + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} c = 0$$

$$a = -c$$

pick  $c = 1, a = -1$

$$\lambda = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{For } \lambda = \hbar, \begin{bmatrix} -\hbar & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & -\hbar & \hbar \\ 0 & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & -\hbar \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-\hbar a + \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} b = 0 \Rightarrow a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} b$$

$$\frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} b - \hbar c = 0 \Rightarrow c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} b$$

$$\text{If } b = \sqrt{2}, a = 1, c = 1$$

$$\lambda = \hbar \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \sqrt{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \text{Normalize} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \sqrt{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{For } \lambda = -\hbar, \begin{bmatrix} \hbar & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & \hbar & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & \hbar \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hbar a + \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} b = 0 \Rightarrow a = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} b$$

$$\frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} b + \hbar c = 0 \Rightarrow c = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} b$$

$$\text{pick } b = -\sqrt{2}, a = 1, c = 1$$

$$\lambda = -\hbar \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -\sqrt{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ Normalize} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -\sqrt{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$



$$(d) \quad |\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |-1\rangle - i \frac{1}{2} |+1\rangle$$

$$\langle \psi | L_x | \psi \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \langle -1 | - i \frac{1}{2} \langle +1 | \cdot L_x \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |-1\rangle - i \frac{1}{2} |+1\rangle$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} - \frac{i}{2} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \cdot L_x \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} - \frac{i}{2} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \frac{i}{4} & \frac{i}{2\sqrt{2}} & \frac{i}{4} \end{bmatrix} \cdot L_x \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \frac{i}{4} \\ \frac{i}{2\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{i}{4} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} \left(-\frac{1}{2} - \frac{i}{2\sqrt{2}}\right) & \sqrt{2} \hbar \left(\frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} - \frac{i}{4}\right) & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} \left(-\frac{1}{2} - \frac{i}{2\sqrt{2}}\right) \end{bmatrix}$$

7.

$$\lambda = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda = -\hbar$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -\sqrt{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda = \hbar$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \sqrt{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Take  $U = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$

$$U^T = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$UU^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

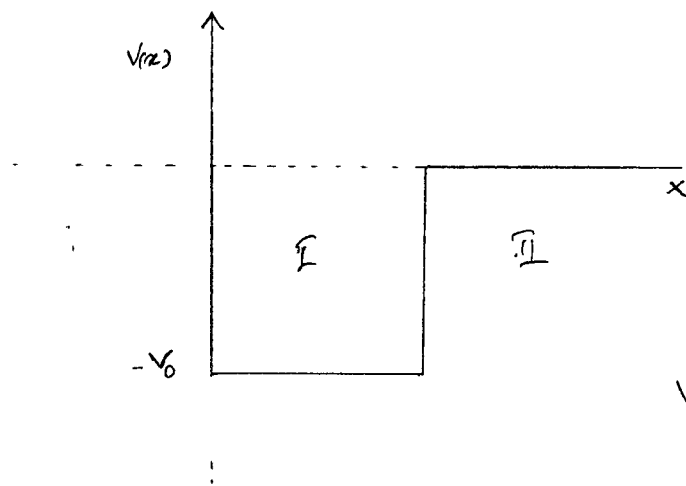
$$L_x UU^T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$L_z UU^T = \begin{bmatrix} \hbar & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\hbar \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \hbar & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\hbar \end{bmatrix}$$

8.



$$V(x) = \begin{cases} \infty & x < 0 \\ -V_0 & 0 \leq x < a \\ 0 & x \geq a \end{cases}$$

a). Region II,  $-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} = -E_0\psi$

Region I,  $-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} - V_0\psi = -E_0\psi$

b) Region II,  $\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} - \frac{2mE_0}{\hbar^2}\psi = 0$

$$\boxed{\psi_{II}(x) = Ae^{Kx} + Be^{-Kx}}, \quad K = \sqrt{\frac{2mE_0}{\hbar^2}}$$

Region I,  $\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} + \frac{2mV_0}{\hbar^2}\psi = \frac{2mE_0}{\hbar^2}\psi$

$$\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} + \frac{2m}{\hbar^2}(V_0 - E_0)\psi = 0$$

$$V_0 > E_0 \quad \text{so} \quad \frac{2m}{\hbar^2}(V_0 - E_0) > 0$$

$$\boxed{\psi_I(x) = Ce^{ikx} + De^{-ikx}}, \quad k = \sqrt{\frac{2m(V_0 - E_0)}{\hbar^2}}$$

Region II,  $\psi_{II}(x) = Ae^{Kx} + Be^{-Kx}$

when  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ , since  $Ae^{Kx}$  grows exponentially.

$$\boxed{\psi_{II}(x) = Be^{-Kx}}$$

Region I,  $\psi_I(x) = Ce^{ikx} + De^{-ikx}$

Since  $\psi_I(0) = 0$ ,  $\psi_I(x) = Ce^{ikx} - Ce^{-ikx} \quad (C = -D)$

$$\boxed{\psi_I(x) = C(e^{ikx} - e^{-ikx})}$$

$$(c) \quad \psi_I(x) = C (e^{ikx} - e^{-ikx}) \quad \psi_I'(x) = ik C (e^{ikx} + e^{-ikx})$$

$$\psi_{II}(x) = B e^{-Kx} \quad \psi_{II}'(x) = -K B e^{-Kx}$$

$$K = \sqrt{\frac{2mE_0}{\hbar^2}}$$

$$k = \sqrt{\frac{2m(V_0 - E_0)}{\hbar^2}}$$

From continuity,

$$\psi_I(a) = \psi_{II}(a) \quad , \quad \psi_I'(a) = \psi_{II}'(a)$$

$$\frac{\psi_I'(a)}{\psi_I(a)} = \frac{\psi_{II}'(a)}{\psi_{II}(a)}$$

$$\frac{ik C (e^{ika} + e^{-ika})}{C (e^{ika} - e^{-ika})} = \frac{-K B e^{-Ka}}{B e^{-Ka}}$$

$$ik = -K$$

$$i \sqrt{\frac{2m(V_0 - E_0)}{\hbar^2}} = - \sqrt{\frac{2mE_0}{\hbar^2}}$$

9.

$$H|\psi\rangle = E|\psi\rangle$$

$$\langle x|H|\psi\rangle = E\langle x|\psi\rangle$$

$$\langle x|H|\psi\rangle = E\psi(x)$$

$$\int \langle x|H|x'\rangle \langle x'|\psi\rangle dx' = E\psi(x)$$

$$\int H(x, x') \psi(x') dx' = E\psi(x)$$

where  $\langle x'|\psi\rangle = \psi(x')$ ,  $\langle x|H|x'\rangle = H(x, x')$

Using Dirac Notation,

$$\langle x|H|x'\rangle = H(x, x') = \left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + V(x)\right) \delta(x-x')$$

$$\int \left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + V(x)\right) \delta(x-x') dx' = E\psi(x)$$

$$\boxed{-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \psi(x) + V(x) \psi(x) = E \psi(x)}$$