

Bound States & Scattered States (Griffiths section 2.5)

Definite
(discrete) energy
states

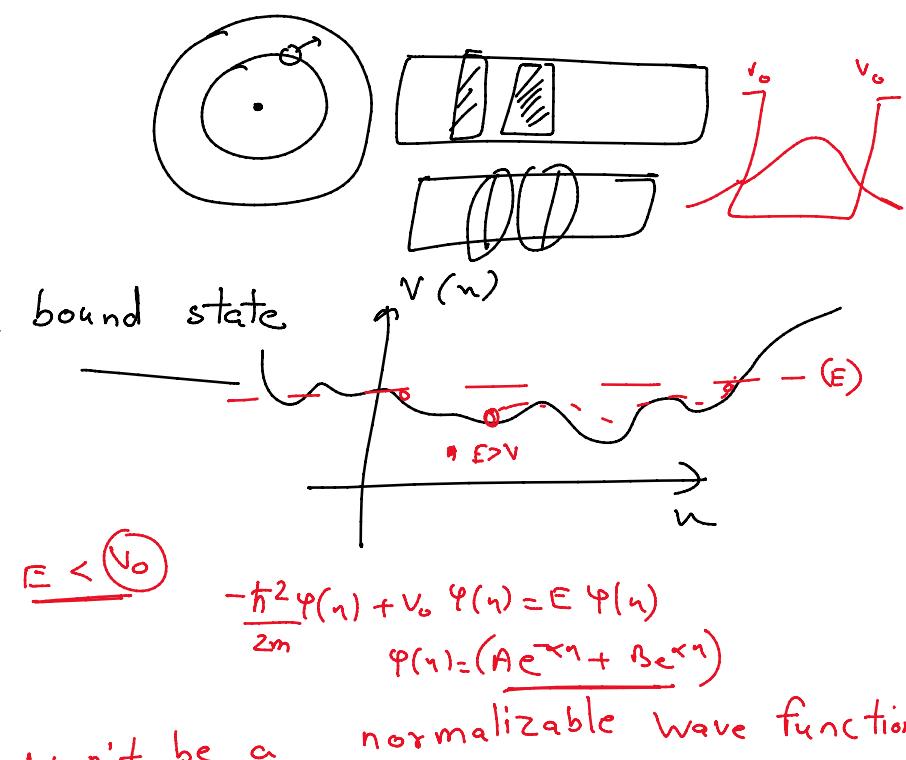
Continuous energy
states

Conditions for a state with energy E to be a bound state

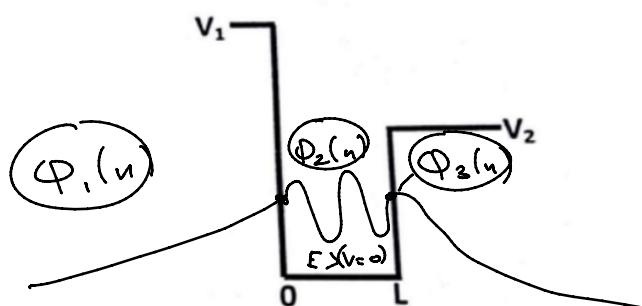
$$(i) \underline{E < V(\infty)} \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{E < V(-\infty)}$$

$$(ii) \underline{E > (V_{\min})} \rightarrow \text{For normalizability}$$

Prove that if $E \leq V_{\min}$ then $\psi(n)$ won't be a



1. * Consider the asymmetric finite potential well of width L , with a barrier V_1 on one side and a barrier V_2 on the other side. Obtain the energy quantization condition for the bound states in such a well. From this condition derive the energy quantization conditions for a semi-infinite potential well (when $V_1 \rightarrow \infty$ and V_2 is finite).



$$\text{Soln} \quad (i) \underline{E < V(\infty)} \Rightarrow \underline{E < V_2} \quad (ii) \underline{E < V(-\infty)} \Rightarrow \underline{E < V_1} \quad (iii) \underline{E > V_{\min} = 0}$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \Phi_1''(n) + V_1 \Phi_1(n) = E \Phi_1(n)$$

$$\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \Phi_1''(n) = (V_1 - E) \Phi_1(n) \quad \alpha < R$$

$$\Phi_1(n) = A e^{\alpha n} + (B e^{-\alpha n})$$

$$n \rightarrow -\infty \quad \Phi_1(n) \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Rightarrow B = 0$$

$$\alpha_1 = \sqrt{\frac{2m(V_1 - E)}{\hbar^2}}$$



$$\Phi_1(n) = A e^{\alpha n}$$

$$\Phi_2(n) = (C e^{i k n} + D e^{-i k n})$$

$$\Phi_3(n) = F e^{-\alpha_2 n}$$

$$k = \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}}$$

$$\alpha_2 = \sqrt{\frac{2m(V_2 - E)}{\hbar^2}}$$

$$\Phi_3(n) = \frac{F e^{-\alpha_2 n}}{1 - \frac{2m(\nu_2 - \epsilon)}{\hbar^2}}$$

$$\Phi_1(0) = \Phi_2(0) \quad \Phi_2(L) = \Phi_3(L)$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} C+D & -D \\ -C & D \end{pmatrix} \quad (e^{ikL} + D)e^{-ikL} = F e^{-\alpha_2 L} \quad (2)$$

$$\Phi_1'(0) = \Phi_2'(0) \quad \Phi_2'(L) = \Phi_3'(L)$$

$$\alpha_1 A = ik(C-D) \quad (3) \quad ik(e^{ikL} - D e^{-ikL}) = -\alpha_2 F e^{-\alpha_2 L}$$

$$(e^{ikL} - D e^{-ikL}) = -\frac{\alpha_2}{ik} F e^{-\alpha_2 L} \quad (4)$$

$$A \left(1 + \frac{\alpha_1}{ik} \right) = 2C \quad (5)$$

$$(2) + (4) \Rightarrow 2C e^{ikL} = F e^{-\alpha_2 L} \left(1 - \frac{\alpha_2}{ik} \right) \quad (7)$$

$$A \left(1 - \frac{\alpha_1}{ik} \right) = 2D \quad (6)$$

$$(2) - (4) \Rightarrow 2D e^{-ikL} = F e^{-\alpha_2 L} \left(1 + \frac{\alpha_2}{ik} \right) \quad (8)$$

$$\frac{5}{6} \Rightarrow \frac{1 + \alpha_1/ik}{1 - \alpha_1/ik} = \frac{C}{D} \quad 7/8 \Rightarrow \frac{C}{D} = \frac{(1 - \alpha_2/ik)}{(1 + \alpha_2/ik)} e^{-2ikL}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1 + \alpha_1/ik}{1 - \alpha_1/ik} = \frac{1 - \alpha_2/ik}{1 + \alpha_2/ik} e^{-2ikL}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\left(1 - \frac{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}{k^2} \right) - i \left(\frac{\alpha_1 + \alpha_2}{k} \right)}{\left(1 - \frac{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}{k^2} \right) + i \left(\frac{\alpha_1 + \alpha_2}{k} \right)} = \frac{e^{-ikL}}{e^{+ikL}}$$

$$\Rightarrow C \& D$$

$$\frac{\left(1 - \frac{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}{k^2} \right)}{1 \left(\frac{\alpha_1 + \alpha_2}{k} \right)} = \frac{\cos kL}{\sin kL}$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan kL = \frac{\frac{\alpha_1}{k} + \frac{\alpha_2}{k}}{1 - \frac{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}{k^2}} \rightarrow \text{Solve graphically}$$

- . . finite well

| finite square box

→ Semi infinite well

$$V_1 \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha_1 = \infty$$

$$\tan kL = -\frac{k}{\alpha_2}$$

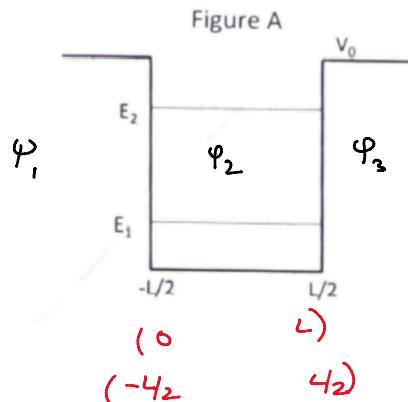
finite square box

$$V_1 = V_2 = V_0 \Rightarrow \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \alpha_0$$

$$\tan kL = \frac{2\alpha_0 k}{k^2 - \alpha_0^2}$$

3

3. An electron is trapped in a 1-dimensional symmetric potential well of height V_0 and width L (Figure A). The energy of electron is E , its wave number inside the well is k , and the magnitude of the wave number outside the well is α .



- (a) Derive the energy quantization conditions, in terms of k , α and L , for the symmetric and anti-symmetric bound states.

- (b) When the width of the well is $L = 0.2$ nm, it is found that the ground state energy $E_1 = 4.45$ eV, and the first excited state energy $E_2 = 15.88$ eV. Calculate V_0 .

$$(E_2 = 4E_1)$$

- (c) Calculate the penetration depth for the ground state.

- (d) If the width of the potential well is doubled to $2L$ keeping V_0 the same, estimate the change in the ground state energy.

- (e) Consider the potential which is generated from Figure A by setting $V = \infty$ at $L = 0$.

- What is the energy of the ground state in this case?

- (f) How many bound states are possible in this case?

$$\text{So, } -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \psi_1''(n) + V_0 \psi_1(n) = E \psi_1(n)$$

$E < V_0$ (Bound states)

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \psi_2''(n) = E \psi_2(n)$$

$E > 0$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \psi_3''(n) + V_0 \psi_3(n) = E \psi_3(n)$$

$E < V_0$

$$\psi_1(n) = A e^{-\alpha n}$$

$$\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{2m(E-V_0)}{\hbar^2}}$$

$$\psi_2(n) = C e^{ikn} + D e^{-ikn}$$

$$k = \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}}$$

$$\psi_3(n) = B e^{-\alpha n}$$

$$\psi_2(L_2) = \psi_3(L_2)$$

$$\psi_1(-L_2) = \psi_2(-L_2)$$

$$\varphi_1(-L/2) = \varphi_2(-L/2)$$

$$\varphi_2(L/2) = 1_3(-1^2)$$

$$A e^{-ikL/2} = (e^{-ikL/2} + D e^{ikL/2}) - ①$$

$$(e^{ikL/2} + D e^{-ikL/2}) = B e^{+ikL/2} - ③$$

$$\varphi_1'(-L/2) = \varphi_2'(-L/2)$$

$$\varphi_2'(-L/2) = \varphi_3'(-L/2)$$

$$+\infty A e^{-ikL/2} = ik (e^{-ikL/2} - D e^{ikL/2}) - ②$$

$$ik (e^{ikL/2} - D e^{ikL/2}) = -\infty B e^{+ikL/2} - ④$$

$$C = \frac{A e^{-ikL/2}}{2} \left(1 + \frac{\alpha}{ik} \right) e^{ikL/2}$$

$$C = \frac{B e^{+ikL/2}}{2} \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{ik} \right) e^{-ikL/2}$$

$$D = \frac{A e^{-ikL/2}}{2} \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{ik} \right) e^{-ikL/2}$$

$$D = \frac{B e^{+ikL/2}}{2} \left(1 + \frac{\alpha}{ik} \right) e^{ikL/2}$$

$$\frac{C}{D} = \frac{e^{ikL/2}}{e^{-ikL/2}} \cdot \left(\frac{1 + \alpha/ik}{1 - \alpha/ik} \right)$$

$$\frac{C}{D} = \frac{e^{-ikL/2}}{e^{ikL/2}} \cdot \frac{\left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{ik} \right)}{\left(1 + \frac{\alpha}{ik} \right)}$$

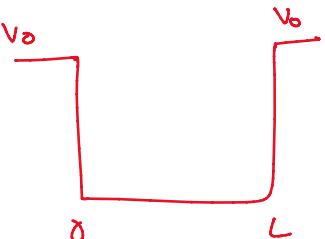
$$e^{ikL} \left(1 + \frac{\alpha}{ik} \right)^2 = e^{-ikL} \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{ik} \right)^2$$

$$\frac{e^{ikL}}{e^{-ikL}} = \frac{\left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{ik} \right)^2}{\left(1 + \frac{\alpha}{ik} \right)^2} = \frac{(1 - \alpha^2/k^2) + 2i\alpha/k}{(1 - \alpha^2/k^2) - 2i\alpha/k}$$

$$\frac{\cos kL}{i \sin kL} = \frac{(1 - \alpha^2/k^2)}{+2i\alpha/k}$$

$$\tan kL = \frac{2\alpha/k}{k^2 - \alpha^2}$$

→ same as the one obtained for



$$\tan kL = \frac{2\alpha/k}{1 - \alpha^2/k^2} = \frac{2\sqrt{\frac{V_0 - E}{E}}}{1 - \frac{V_0 - E}{E}} = \frac{2\sqrt{E(V_0 - E)}}{2E - V_0}$$

$$\tan \left(\sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}} \cdot L \right) = \frac{2\sqrt{E(V_0 - E)}}{2E - V_0}$$

$$(b) E_n = \frac{n^2 h^2}{8m(L + 2s_n)^2} \leftrightarrow s_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{2m(V_0 - E)}{\hbar^2}}}$$

4. Consider a particle of mass m in a potential given by

$$\begin{aligned} V(x) &= 0 \text{ for } |x| < L/2, \\ &= V_0 \text{ for } L/2 < |x| < L \\ &= \infty \text{ for } |x| \geq L \end{aligned}$$

- (4) 4. *Consider a particle of mass m in a potential given by

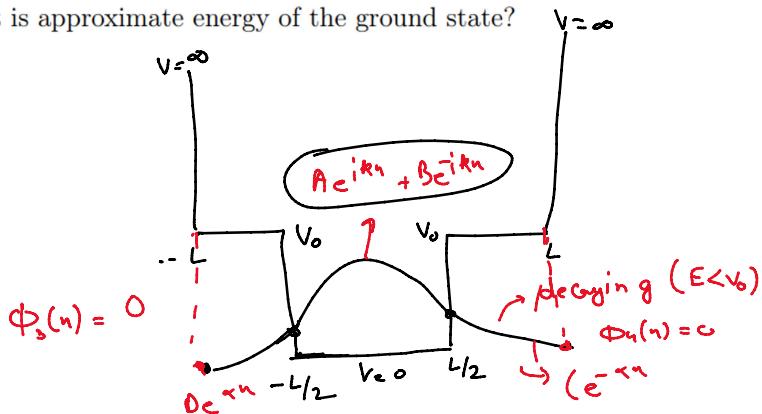
$$\begin{aligned} V(x) &= 0 \text{ for } |x| < L/2, \\ &= V_0 \text{ for } L/2 < |x| < L \\ &= \infty \text{ for } |x| \geq L \end{aligned}$$

(a) Sketch the potential and the qualitative nature of the ground-state wave-function (without solving the Schrodinger equation). Mention the functional form of the wave function in each region.

(b) An electron is trapped in a symmetric finite potential of depth $V_0 = 1000\text{eV}$ and width $L = 1$. What is approximate energy of the ground state?

Ans

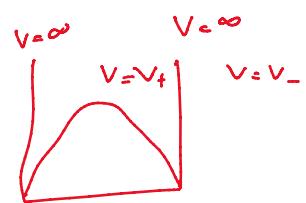
(a)



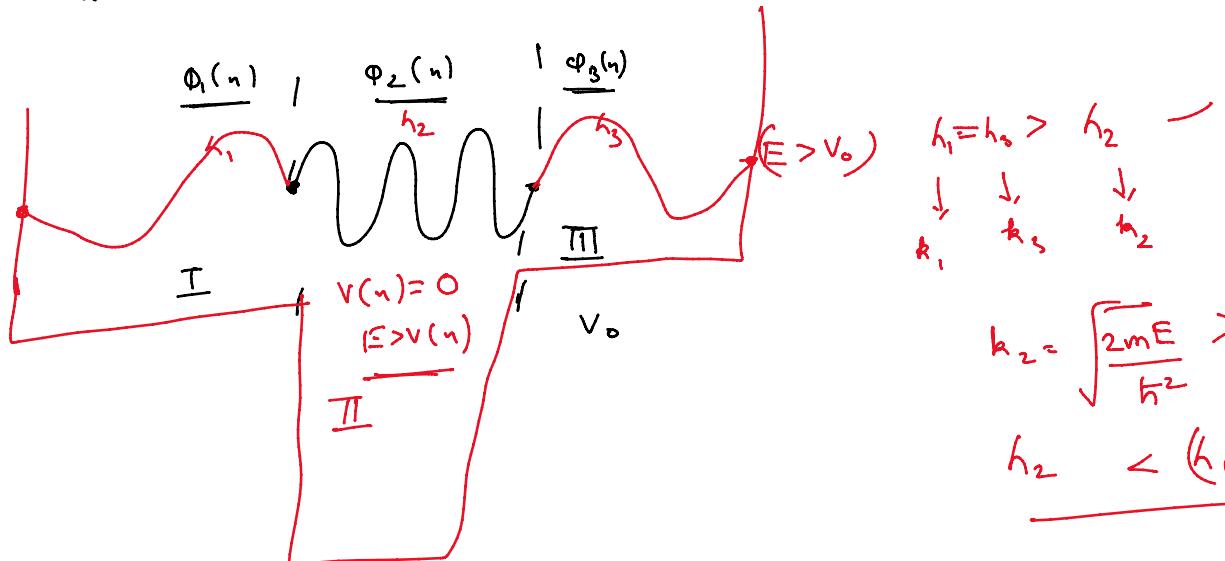
(i) (E < infinity, E < V_0, E > 0)

(E > V_0)

Ground state \rightarrow (E < V_0) (lowest energy bound state)
No Nodes



→ Plot the wavefunction for E > V_0



$$(b) E_n = \frac{n^2 h^2}{8m(k+2S_n)^2}$$

$S_n = \frac{1}{\alpha_n} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar^2}{2m(V_0-E)}}$

penetration depth $= \frac{1}{\alpha_n}$

$$S_n = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar^2}{2m(V_0-E)}} \sim \sqrt{\frac{(0.197 \times 10^{-6})^2}{2 \times 0.511 \times 10^{-6} \times 1000}} \sim 10^{-12}$$

$$E_n = \frac{n^2 h^2}{8m L^2} \left(1 - \frac{4S_n}{L}\right)$$

$$S_n = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar^2}{2m(V_0-E)}} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar^2}{2mV_0}} \left(1 + \frac{E_n}{2V_0}\right)$$

$$\frac{8mL^2}{h^2} E_n = 1 - \frac{4}{L} \sqrt{\frac{\hbar^2}{2mV_0}} \left(1 + \frac{E_n}{2V_0}\right)$$

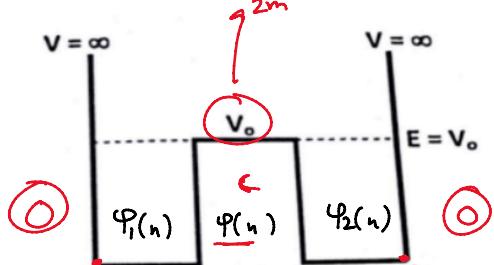
$$E_n \left(\frac{8mL^2}{h^2} - \frac{4}{L} \sqrt{\frac{\hbar^2}{2mV_0}} \cdot \frac{1}{10^3}\right) = \left(1 - \frac{4}{L} \sqrt{\frac{\hbar^2}{2mV_0}}\right) 10^{-5}$$

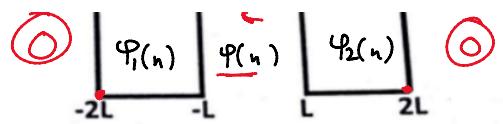
$$E_n \approx \frac{n^2 h^2}{8m L^2}$$

(6)

6. *A particle of mass m is bound in a double well potential shown in the figure. Its energy eigenstate $\psi(x)$ has energy eigenvalue $E = V_0$ (where V_0 is the energy of the plateau in the middle of the potential well). It is known that $\psi(x) = C$ (C is a constant) in the plateau region.

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \psi''(x) + V_0 \psi(x) = E \psi(x) \Rightarrow V_0 \psi(x)$$





(a) Obtain $\psi(x)$ for the regions $-2L < x < -L$ and $L < x < 2L$ and the relation between the wavenumber 'k' and L .

(b) Determine 'C' in terms of L .

(c) Assume that the bound particle is an electron and $L = 1\text{Å}$. Calculate the 2 lowest values of V_0 (in eV) for which such a solution exists.

(d) For the smallest allowed k , calculate the expectation values for x, x^2, p and p^2 and show that Heisenberg's Uncertainty Relation is obeyed.

$$\text{Soln} \quad (a) \quad -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \varphi_1(n) = E \varphi_1(n)$$

$$\varphi_1(n) = A e^{ikn} + B e^{-ikn} \quad k = \sqrt{\frac{2mV_0}{\hbar^2}}$$

Similarly $\varphi_2(n) = E e^{ikn} + F e^{-ikn}$

$$\varphi_2(L) = \varphi(L)$$

$$\varphi_1(-L) = \varphi(-L)$$

$$E e^{ikL} + F e^{-ikL} = C$$

$$A e^{-ikL} + B e^{ikL} = C$$

$$\varphi_1'(-L) = \varphi'(-L)$$

$$ik(E e^{ikL} - F e^{-ikL}) = 0$$

$$ik(A e^{-ikL} - B e^{ikL}) = 0$$

$$A = \frac{C e^{ikL}}{2}$$

$$B = \frac{C e^{-ikL}}{2}$$

$$\varphi_1(n) = \frac{C}{2} e^{ik(n+L)} + \frac{C}{2} e^{-ik(n+L)}$$

$$= C \cos k(n+L)$$

$$\varphi_2(n) = \frac{C}{2} e^{ik(n-L)} + \frac{C}{2} e^{ik(L-n)}$$

$$= C \cos k(n-L)$$

Also $\varphi_1(-2L) = 0$

$$\cos -kL = 0$$

$$\cos kL = 0$$

$$kL = (2n+1) \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{2mV_0}{\hbar^2} \cdot L} = \frac{(2n+1)\pi}{2} \quad n > 0$$

(b) Using normalizability

$$\int_{-2L}^{-L} C^2 \cos^2 k(n+L) \cdot dn + \int_{-L}^L C^2 \cdot dn + \int_L^{2L} C^2 \cos^2 k(n-L) \cdot dn = 1$$

$$C^2 \int_{-L}^0 \cos^2 kt \cdot dt + \int_{-L}^L C^2 \cdot dn + C^2 \int_0^{2L} \cos^2 kt \cdot dt = 1$$

$$C^2 \int_{-L}^L \cos^2 kt \cdot dt + 2LC^2 = 1$$

$$c^2 \int_{-L}^L \cos^2 kx + dt + 2LC^2 = 1$$

$$\frac{c^2}{2} \int_{-L}^L (1 + \cos 2kx) dt + 2LC^2 = 1$$

$$\frac{c^2}{2} \left(2L + \frac{D}{2k} \right) + 2LC^2 = 1$$

$$\boxed{C = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3L}}}$$

$$(c) kL = \frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2}$$

(d) DIY