

## Assignment - 2

Q.1 Why should the wave function  $\psi(x)$  be a single value everywhere.

Ans The probability density of finding the particle is given by  $P = \psi\psi^*$ .  $\psi$  should be single value so the probability has unique value at everywhere.

Q.2 What do you mean by a free particle?

Ans Free particle is a particle on which no forces are acting. Such particle is characterized by definite momentum energy.

Q.3 Why should Schrodinger equation have the 1st order time derivative?

Ans To describe completely the wave function it is necessary to get the first order time derivative.

Q.4 Can we represent a matter wave associated with

Ans the free particle by a wave function  $\psi(x,t) = A \sin(Kx - \omega t)$

If this wave function  $\psi(x,t) = A \sin(Kx - \omega t)$  describe the free particle it must satisfy the one-dimensional time dependent Schrodinger wave equation

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} = i \hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t}$$

After taking derivative LHS  $\neq$  RHS. Hence, this function does not represent a matter wave.

Q.5 Why can't a function  $e^{i(Kx - \omega t)}$  be used to represent a localised particle in quantum mechanics?

Ans For localized particle  $\psi^*$  &  $\psi$  must depend on  $x$

$$\psi(x, t) = e^{i(Kx - \omega t)}$$

$$P = \psi^* \psi$$

$$P = e^{-i(Kx - \omega t)} \cdot e^{i(Kx - \omega t)}$$

$$P = 1$$

But, here it is independent of  $x$ , so, it fails to represent the localized particle

Q.6 Is the Schrodinger equation valid for realistic particles?

Ans No, Because we used to classical expression

$$E = \frac{P^2}{2m} + V$$

For the derivation of Schrodinger wave equation

Q.7 What are orthogonal wave functions?

Two wave functions are said to be orthogonal if it satisfy the following condition

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi_m^* \psi_n dx = 0$$

Q.8 The mass of the particle appears in Schrodinger's wave equation but its change does not. Both change the mass effect the motion. Why?

The Schrodinger equation describes the de-Broglie wave associated with the particle. The de-Broglie wavelength depends only on mass. Hence, the mass of the particle appears in Schrodinger wave equation but its change does not.



Q9 which operator is used for calculating the expectation value of momentum

$$P_x \rightarrow i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$$

$$P_y \rightarrow i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial y}$$

$$P_z \Rightarrow -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial z}$$

Q10 which operator is used for calculating the expectation value of energy

$$E \Rightarrow i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$$