

# Quantum Mechanics Fall 2019

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Important equations and constants

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## Schrödinger equation

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi(x, t) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \Psi(x, t) + V\Psi$$
$$\text{or : } \hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi = H\Psi$$

## Hamiltonian operator

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + V$$

## Week 1

Get into the quantum world

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### Notes on Lesson 1

Monday Sep 2

### Notes on Lesson 2

Tuesday Sep 3

### Notes on Lesson 3

Friday Sep 6

## Born Statistical Interpretation of Wave Function

The wave function  $\Psi(x, t)$  describes the "Amplitude" of the probability finding the particle at coordinate  $(x, t)$ . While the probability density equals amplitude squared.

That is, the probability finding the particle among  $x \in [a, b]$  at time  $t_0$  is described as:

$$P(x \in [a, b], t = t_0) = \int_a^b |\psi|^2 dx = \int_a^b \psi^* \psi dx$$

Or, to say, the *Probability Density* can be written as:

$$p(x, t) = |\psi(x, t)|^2 = \psi^*(x, t)\psi(x, t)$$

## Homework

[week1 hw1]

- Problem 1 - [Thinking][Optional] A Brief History of Clues

- Problem 2 - Calculate wave length of an electron after a 1000V potential field

- Problem 3 - Derivation of Klein-Golden equation

[week1 hw2]

- Problem 4 - Griffiths 1.2

(a) Find the standard deviation of the distribution in Example 1.1.

(b) What is the probability that a photograph, selected at random, would show a distance  $x$  more than one standard deviation away from the average?

• Problem 5 - Griffiths 1.4

At time  $t = 0$  a particle is represented by the wave function

$$\Psi(x, 0) = \begin{cases} A \frac{x}{a}, & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq a, \\ A \frac{(b-x)}{(b-a)}, & \text{if } a \leq x \leq b, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where  $A$ ,  $a$  and  $b$  are constants.

- (a) Normalize  $\Psi$  (that is, find  $A$  in terms of  $a$  and  $b$ )
- (b) Sketch  $\Psi(x, 0)$ , as a function of  $x$ .
- (c) Where is the particle most likely to be found, at  $t = 0$ ?
- (d) What is the probability of finding the particle to the left of  $a$ ? Check your result in the limiting cases  $b = a$  and  $b = 2a$ .
- (e) What is the expectation value of  $x$ ?

## Week 2

Play with Schrödinger equation

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### Notes on Lesson 1

Monday Sep 9