

Quantum Mechanics

1 Momentum + Position

For a given wave, $\psi(x)$ we have:

Probability of finding particle in the range between x and dx :

$$|\psi(x)|^2 dx \quad (1)$$

Square integrable functions

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \psi^*(x) \psi(x) = 1 \quad (2)$$

Mean value of position:

$$\langle x \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \psi^*(x) x \psi(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx |\psi(x)|^2 x \quad (3)$$

Mean square deviation of position:

$$(\Delta x)^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \psi^*(x) (x - \langle x \rangle)^2 \psi(x) \quad (4)$$

$$(\Delta x)^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \psi^*(x) [x^2 + \langle x \rangle^2 - 2x\langle x \rangle] \psi(x) \quad (5)$$

Uncertainty in position:

$$\Delta x = \sqrt{\langle x^2 \rangle - \langle x \rangle^2} \quad (6)$$

Mean value of momentum:

$$\langle p \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \psi^*(x) p \psi(x) \quad (7)$$

Solve using:

$$\psi(x, t) = A e^{i(kx - \omega t)} \quad (8)$$

$$\frac{\partial \psi(x, t)}{\partial x} = ik \psi(x, t) \quad (9)$$

$$p \psi(x, t) = \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{\partial \psi(x, t)}{\partial x} \quad (\text{Using } p = \hbar k) \quad (10)$$

Gives:

$$\langle p \rangle = \frac{\hbar}{i} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \psi^*(x) \frac{\partial \psi(x)}{\partial x} \quad (11)$$

Similarly:

$$\Delta p = \sqrt{\langle p^2 \rangle - \langle p \rangle^2} \quad (12)$$

Check that:

$$\Delta x \Delta p \geq \frac{\hbar}{2} \quad (13)$$

2 Operators

$$\langle O \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \psi^*(x) \hat{O} \psi(x) \quad (14)$$

Kinetic Energy:

$$\hat{T} = \frac{\hat{P}^2}{2m} = \frac{-\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \quad (15)$$

Angular Momentum:

$$\vec{\hat{L}} = \vec{\hat{R}} \times \vec{\hat{P}} \quad (16)$$

Commutator:

$$[\hat{A}, \hat{B}] = \hat{A}\hat{B} - \hat{B}\hat{A} \quad (17)$$

3 Schroedinger Equation

Time evolution:

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi(\vec{r}, t) = \hat{H} \Psi(\vec{r}, t) \quad (18)$$

Hamiltonian:

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{P}^2}{2m} + \hat{V}(\vec{r}, t) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + \hat{V}(\vec{r}, t) \quad (19)$$

Solving Schroedinger Equation:

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi(x, t) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \Psi(x, t) + V(x) \Psi(x, t) \quad (20)$$

Use separation of variables gives two equations:

$$i\hbar \frac{d\phi(t)}{dt} = E\phi(t) \rightarrow \phi(t) = e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} Et} \quad (21)$$

Time independent Schroedinger equation:

$$\vec{H}(x) \psi(x) = E \psi(x) \quad (22)$$

Full time independent Schroedinger equation:

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2 \psi(x)}{dx^2} + V(x) \psi(x) = E \psi(x) \quad (23)$$

4 Infinite Square Well

Square well:

$$V(x) = \{0 \rightarrow 0 \leq x \leq a | \infty \rightarrow \text{otherwise}\} \quad (24)$$

Outside the well

$$\psi(x) = 0 \quad (25)$$

Inside the well:

$$\frac{d^2\psi(x)}{dx^2} = -\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}\psi(x) = -k^2\psi(x) \quad (26)$$

$$k = \frac{\sqrt{2mE}}{\hbar}, (E > 0) \quad (27)$$

General Solution:

$$\psi(x) = A\sin(kx) + B\cos(kx) \quad (28)$$

Boundary conditions, continuity of Ψ :

$$\psi(0) = \psi(a) = 0 \quad (29)$$

$$\psi(0) = B \rightarrow B = 0 \quad (30)$$

$$\psi(x) = A\sin(kx) \quad (31)$$

$$\psi(a) = A\sin(ka) \rightarrow k_n = \frac{n\pi}{a}, n = 1, 2, 3 \dots \quad (32)$$

Energy:

$$E_n = \frac{\hbar^2 k_n^2}{2m} = \frac{n^2 \pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2} \quad (33)$$

4.1 Time Dependence

$$\Psi_n(x, t) = \psi_n(x)e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}E_n t} \quad (34)$$

Linear combination:

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \psi_n(x) \quad (35)$$

In this case:

$$\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \sin(k_n x) \quad (36)$$

Fourier Series:

$$C_n = \int dx \psi_n^*(x) f(x) \quad (37)$$

So time dependence is:

$$\Psi_n(x, t) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \sin\left(\frac{nx\pi}{a}\right) e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}\left(\frac{n^2 \pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2}\right)t} \quad (38)$$

5 Harmonic Oscillator