

Solution To PHYS622 Homework Set 3

JJS 1.21, 1.26, 1.29, 1.32, 1.33

1 Solution1

This is the one-dimensional rigid wall potential. The wave functions are $\psi_E(x) = \sqrt{2/a} \sin(n\pi x/a)$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$, $n = 1$ is the ground state $n > 1$ are the excited states. We have $\langle (\Delta x)^2 \rangle = \langle x^2 \rangle - \langle x \rangle^2$, $\langle (\Delta p)^2 \rangle = \langle p^2 \rangle - \langle p \rangle^2$, where $p = -i\hbar \partial_x$ and $p^2 = -\hbar^2 \partial_x^2$. For the rigid wall potential, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\langle x^2 \rangle &= \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a x^2 \sin^2(n\pi x/a) dx = a^2 [1/3 - 1/2n^2\pi^2] \\ \langle x \rangle &= \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a x \sin^2(n\pi x/a) dx = a/2 \\ \langle p^2 \rangle &= \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a \sin(n\pi x/a) (-\hbar^2 \partial_x^2) \sin(n\pi x/a) dx = \hbar^2/a^2 (n\pi)^2 \\ \langle p \rangle &= \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a \sin(n\pi x/a) (-i\hbar \partial_x) \sin(n\pi x/a) dx = 0.\end{aligned}$$

Therefore the uncertainty product $\langle (\Delta x)^2 \rangle \langle (\Delta p)^2 \rangle = \hbar^2/2[(n\pi)^2/6 - 1]$, for ground state $n = 1$, for excited states $n > 1$.

2 Solution2

We have $|S_x; + \rangle = 1/\sqrt{2}(|+ \rangle + |- \rangle)$, $|S_x; - \rangle = 1/\sqrt{2}(|+ \rangle - |- \rangle)$. Let $U = \begin{pmatrix} U_{11} & U_{12} \\ U_{21} & U_{22} \end{pmatrix}$ be the transformation matrix between S_z diagonal basis and S_x diagonal basis, i.e.

$$\begin{pmatrix} |S_x; + \rangle \\ |S_x; - \rangle \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U_{11} & U_{12} \\ U_{21} & U_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} |+ \rangle \\ |- \rangle \end{pmatrix} = U|r \rangle$$

Obviously, $U_{11} = U_{12} = 1/\sqrt{2}$ and $U_{21} = 1/\sqrt{2}$, $U_{22} = -1/\sqrt{2}$.

Take $|S_x; + \rangle = U_{11}|+ \rangle + U_{12}|- \rangle = \sum_a \langle a|S_x; + \rangle |a \rangle$, $|S_x; - \rangle = U_{21}|+ \rangle + U_{22}|- \rangle = \sum_b \langle b|S_x; - \rangle |b \rangle$ with $a, b = +, -$. Take the general form $U = \sum_r |b^{(r)} \rangle \langle a^{(r)}|$, then $U|r \rangle = \sum_r |b^{(r)} \rangle \langle a^{(r)}|r \rangle$. Identity $|a \rangle, |b \rangle$ with $|b^{(r)} \rangle$ and $\langle a^{(r)}|r \rangle$ with $\langle a|S_x; + \rangle, \langle b|S_x; - \rangle$. We see that U can be expressed as $U = \sum_r |b^{(r)} \rangle \langle a^{(r)}|$.

3 Solution3

(a). We assume that $G(\vec{p})$ and $F(\vec{x})$ can be expressed as a power series

$$G(\vec{p}) = \sum_{n,m,l} a_{nml} p_i^n p_j^m p_k^l, F(\vec{x}) = \sum_{n,m,l} B_{nml} x_i^n x_j^m x_k^l.$$

By induction, we can prove $[x_i, p_i^n] = ni\hbar x_i^{n-1}$ and $[p_i, x_i^n] = -ni\hbar x_i^{n-1}$. So we could have

$$[x_i, p_i^n p_j^m p_k^l] = ni\hbar p_i^{n-1} p_j^m p_k^l, [p_i, x_i^n x_j^m x_k^l] = -ni\hbar x_i^{n-1} x_j^m x_k^l.$$

Using the series form for $G(\vec{p})$ and $F(\vec{x})$, we get

$$[x_i, G(\vec{p})] = i\hbar \partial G / \partial p_i, [p_i, F(\vec{x})] = -i\hbar \partial F / \partial x_i.$$

(b). $[x^2, p^2] = [x^2, p]p + p[x^2, p] = 2i\hbar xp + 2i\hbar px = 2i\hbar\{x, p\}$, The classical P.B. for $[x^2, p^2]_{cl} = \frac{\partial x^2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial p^2}{\partial p} - \frac{\partial x^2}{\partial p} \frac{\partial p^2}{\partial x} = 2x(2p) = 4xp$. Since in the classical limit $x, p = 2xp$, we have $[x^2, p^2]_{QM} = i\hbar[x^2, p^2]_{cl}$

4 Solution4

(a). Using $\langle x' | a \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{d\pi}} \exp(ikx' - x'^2/2d^2)$, we have $\frac{\partial}{\partial x'} \langle x' | a \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{d\pi}} (ikx' - x'^2/2d^2) \exp(ikx' - x'^2/2d^2)$ and $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x'^2} \langle x' | a \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{d\pi}} (-k^2 - 1/d^2 - 2ikx'/d^2 + x'^2/d^4) \exp(ikx' - x'^2/2d^2)$. So we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle p \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \langle a | x' \rangle (-i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x'}) \langle x' | a \rangle dx' = \hbar k. \\ \langle p^2 \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \langle a | x' \rangle (-\hbar^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x'^2}) \langle x' | a \rangle dx' = \hbar^2/2d^2 + \hbar^2 k^2. \end{aligned}$$

(b). $\langle p | a \rangle = \frac{\sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{\hbar\pi}} \exp[-(p - \hbar k)^2 d^2 / 2\hbar^2]$. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \langle p \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \langle a | p \rangle p \langle p | a \rangle dp = \hbar k, \\ \langle p^2 \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \langle a | p \rangle p^2 \langle p | a \rangle dp = \hbar^2/2d^2 + \hbar^2 k^2. \end{aligned}$$

5 Solution5

(a).(i) First note

$$\begin{aligned} \langle p' | x | p'' \rangle &= \int \langle p' | x | x' \rangle \langle x' | p'' \rangle dx' \\ &= \int x' \langle p' | x' \rangle \langle x' | p'' \rangle dx' = \frac{1}{2\pi\hbar} \int dx' x' e^{-ix'(p' - p'')/\hbar} \end{aligned}$$

But $\delta(p'-p'') = \frac{1}{2\pi\hbar} \int dx' x' e^{(-ix'(p'-p''))/\hbar}$, so $\frac{\partial}{\partial p'} \delta(p'-p'') = \frac{1}{2\pi\hbar} \int dx' \frac{x'}{i\hbar} e^{-ix'(p'-p'')/\hbar}$. Therefore, $\langle p'|x|p'' \rangle = i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial p'} \delta(p' - p'')$. On the other hand, $\langle p'|x|a \rangle = \int dp'' \langle p'|x|p'' \rangle \langle p''|a \rangle = \int dp'' i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial p'} \langle p''|a \rangle = i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial p'} \langle p'|a \rangle$. For(ii) we can perform an analogous procedure. $\langle \beta|x|\alpha \rangle = \int dp' \langle \beta|p' \rangle \langle p'|x|a \rangle = \int \langle \beta|p' \rangle i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial p'} \langle p'|a \rangle = \int dp' \phi_\beta^*(p') i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial p'} \phi_\alpha(p')$.
(b). Consider momentum eigenket with eigenvalue p' , $p|p' \rangle = p'|p' \rangle$. Now let's consider the ket $|p', \Xi \rangle = \exp[ix\Xi/\hbar]|p' \rangle$. We have

$$p|p', \Xi \rangle = p \exp[ix\Xi/\hbar]|p' \rangle = \exp[ix\Xi/\hbar] p|p' \rangle + [p, \exp[ix\Xi/\hbar]]|p' \rangle$$

And we know $[p, \exp[ix\Xi/\hbar]] = -i\hbar(i\Xi/\hbar) \exp[ix\Xi/\hbar]$. So

$$\begin{aligned} p|p', \Xi \rangle &= p \exp[ix\Xi/\hbar]|p' \rangle = \exp[ix\Xi/\hbar] p|p' \rangle + \Xi \exp[ix\Xi/\hbar]|p' \rangle \\ &= (p' + \Xi) \exp[ix\Xi/\hbar]|p' \rangle = (p' + \Xi)|p', \Xi \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $|p', \Xi \rangle$ is eigenket of p with eigenvalue $p' + \Xi$ and operator $\exp[ix\Xi/\hbar]$ is momentum translation operator and x is the generator of momentum translations.