

Why must the wave function of a particle be normalized?
 If a particle is in a stationary state, does that mean that the particle is not moving? If a particle moves in empty space with momentum \vec{p} and hence constant energy $E = p^2/2m$, is it in a stationary state? Explain your answers.
 For a particle in a box, we chose $k = n\pi/L$ with $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ to fit the boundary condition that $\psi = 0$ at $x = 0$ and $x = L$. Do other values of n also satisfy that boundary condition? Explain your answers.
 Why didn't we also choose those values of n ?
 If ψ is normalized, what is the physical significance of the area under the graph of $|\psi|^2$ versus x between x_1 and x_2 ? What is the significance of the area under the graph of $|\psi|^2$ when all x are included? Explain.
 For a particle in a box, what would the probability distribution $|\psi|^2$ look like if the particle behaved like a classical (nonquantum) particle? Do the actual probability distributions resemble this classical form when n is very large? Explain.
 In Chapter 15 we represented a standing wave as a superposition of two waves traveling in opposite directions. Can the wave functions for a particle in a box also be thought of as a combination of two traveling waves? Why or why not? What physical interpretation does this representation have? Explain.
 A particle in a box is in the ground level. What is the probability of finding the particle in the right half of the box? (Refer to Fig. 40.12a but don't evaluate an integral.) Is the answer the same if the particle is in an excited level? Explain.
 The wave functions for a particle in a box (see Fig. 40.12a) are zero at certain points. Does this mean that the particle can't be found at these points? Explain.
 For a particle confined to an infinite square well, is it correct to say that each state of definite energy is also a state of definite momentum? Is it also a state of definite momentum? Explain. (Remember that momentum is a vector.)
 For a particle in a finite potential well, is it correct to say that each bound state of definite energy is also a state of definite momentum? Is it a state of definite momentum? Explain.
 In Fig. 40.12b, the probability function is zero at the points $x = 0$ and $x = L$, the "walls" of the box. Does this mean that the particle never strikes the walls? Explain.
 A particle is confined to a finite potential well in the region $0 < x < L$. How does the area under the graph of $|\psi|^2$ in the region $0 < x < L$ compare to the total area under the graph of $|\psi|^2$ when including all possible x ?
 Compare the wave functions for the first three energy levels of a particle in a box of width L (see Fig. 40.12a) to the corresponding wave functions for a finite potential well of the same width (see Fig. 40.15a). How does the wavelength in the interval $0 < x < L$ for the $n = 1$ level of the particle in a box compare to the corresponding wavelength for the $n = 1$ level of the finite potential well? Use this to explain why E_1 is less than $E_{1-\text{DW}}$ in the situation depicted in Fig. 40.15b.
 It is stated in Section 40.3 that a finite potential well always has at least one bound level, no matter how shallow the well. Does this mean that as $U_0 \rightarrow 0$, $E_1 \rightarrow 0$? Does this violate the Heisenberg uncertainty principle? Explain.
 Figure 40.15a shows that the higher the energy of a bound state for a finite potential well, the more the wave function extends outside the well (into the intervals $x < 0$ and $x > L$). Explain why this happens.
 In classical (Newtonian) mechanics, the total energy E of a particle can never be less than the potential energy U because the kinetic energy K cannot be negative. Yet in barrier tunneling (Section 40.4) a particle passes through regions where E is less than U . Is this a contradiction? Explain.

- Q40.20** Figure 40.17 shows the scanning tunneling microscope image of 48 iron atoms placed on a copper surface, the pattern indicating the density of electrons on the copper surface. What can you infer about the potential-energy function inside the circle of iron atoms?
- Q40.21** Qualitatively, how would you expect the probability for a particle to tunnel through a potential barrier to depend on the height of the barrier? Explain.
- Q40.22** The wave function shown in Fig. 40.20 is nonzero for both $x < 0$ and $x > L$. Does this mean that the particle splits into two parts when it strikes the barrier, with one part tunneling through the barrier and the other part bouncing off the barrier? Explain.
- Q40.23** The probability distributions for the harmonic oscillator wave functions (see Figs. 40.27 and 40.28) begin to resemble the classical (Newtonian) probability distribution when the quantum number n becomes large. Would the distributions become the same as in the classical case in the limit of very large n ? Explain.
- Q40.24** In Fig. 40.28, how does the probability of finding a particle in the center half of the region $-A < x < A$ compare to the probability of finding the particle in the outer half of the region? Is this consistent with the physical interpretation of the situation?
- Q40.25** Compare the allowed energy levels for the hydrogen atom, the particle in a box, and the harmonic oscillator. What are the values of the quantum number n for the ground level and the second excited level of each system?
- Q40.26** Sketch the wave function for the potential-energy well shown in Fig. Q40.26 when E_1 is less than U_0 and when E_3 is greater than U_0 .

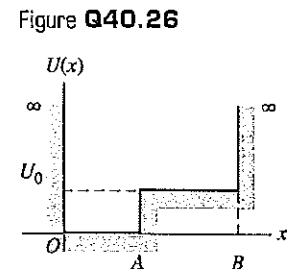


Figure Q40.26

EXERCISES

Section 40.1 Wave functions and the One-Dimensional Schrödinger Equation

- 40.1** • An electron is moving as a free particle in the $-x$ -direction with momentum that has magnitude 4.50×10^{-24} kg · m/s. What is the one-dimensional time-dependent wave function of the electron?
- 40.2** • A free particle moving in one dimension has wave function

$$\Psi(x, t) = A[e^{i(kx - \omega t)} - e^{i(2kx - 4\omega t)}]$$

where k and ω are positive real constants. (a) At $t = 0$ what are the two smallest positive values of x for which the probability function $|\Psi(x, t)|^2$ is a maximum? (b) Repeat part (a) for time $t = 2\pi/\omega$. (c) Calculate v_{av} as the distance the maxima have moved divided by the elapsed time. Compare your result to the expression $v_{av} = (\omega_2 - \omega_1)/(k_2 - k_1)$ from Example 40.1.

40.3 • Consider the free-particle wave function of Example 40.1. Let $k_2 = 3k_1 = 3k$. At $t = 0$ the probability distribution function $|\Psi(x, t)|^2$ has a maximum at $x = 0$. (a) What is the smallest positive value of x for which the probability distribution function has a maximum at time $t = 2\pi/\omega$, where $\omega = \hbar k^2/2m$. (b) From your result in part (a), what is the average speed with which the probability distribution is moving in the $+x$ -direction? Compare your result to the expression $v_{av} = (\omega_2 - \omega_1)/(k_2 - k_1)$ from Example 40.1.

40.4 • Consider the free particle of Example 40.1. Show that $v_{av} = (\omega_2 - \omega_1)/(k_2 - k_1)$ can be written as $v_{av} = p_{av}/m$, where $p_{av} = (\hbar k_2 + \hbar k_1)/2$.

40.5 • Consider a wave function given by $\psi(x) = A \sin kx$, where $k = 2\pi/\lambda$ and A is a real constant. (a) For what values of x is there the highest probability of finding the particle described by this wave function? Explain. (b) For which values of x is the probability zero? Explain.

40.6 •• Compute $|\Psi|^2$ for $\Psi = \psi \sin \omega t$, where ψ is time independent and ω is a real constant. Is this a wave function for a stationary state? Why or why not?

40.7 • CALC Let ψ_1 and ψ_2 be two solutions of Eq. (40.23) with energies E_1 and E_2 , respectively, where $E_1 \neq E_2$. Is $\psi = A\psi_1 + B\psi_2$, where A and B are nonzero constants, a solution to Eq. (40.23)? Explain your answer.

40.8 • A particle is described by a wave function $\psi(x) = Ae^{-\alpha x^2}$, where A and α are real, positive constants. If the value of α is increased, what effect does this have on (a) the particle's uncertainty in position and (b) the particle's uncertainty in momentum? Explain your answers.

40.9 • CALC **Linear Combinations of Wave Functions.** Let ψ_1 and ψ_2 be two solutions of Eq. (40.23) with the same energy E . Show that $\psi = B\psi_1 + C\psi_2$ is also a solution with energy E , for any values of the constants B and C .

Section 40.2 Particle in a Box

40.10 •• CALC A particle moving in one dimension (the x -axis) is described by the wave function

$$\psi(x) = \begin{cases} Ae^{-bx}, & \text{for } x \geq 0 \\ Ae^{bx}, & \text{for } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

where $b = 2.00 \text{ m}^{-1}$, $A > 0$, and the $+x$ -axis points toward the right. (a) Determine A so that the wave function is normalized. (b) Sketch the graph of the wave function. (c) Find the probability of finding this particle in each of the following regions: (i) within 50.0 cm of the origin, (ii) on the left side of the origin (can you first guess the answer by looking at the graph of the wave function?), (iii) between $x = 0.500 \text{ m}$ and $x = 1.00 \text{ m}$.

40.11 • **Ground-Level Billiards.** (a) Find the lowest energy level for a particle in a box if the particle is a billiard ball ($m = 0.20 \text{ kg}$) and the box has a width of 1.3 m, the size of a billiard table. (Assume that the billiard ball slides without friction rather than rolls; that is, ignore the *rotational* kinetic energy.) (b) Since the energy in part (a) is all kinetic, to what speed does this correspond? How much time would it take at this speed for the ball to move from one side of the table to the other? (c) What is the difference in energy between the $n = 2$ and $n = 1$ levels? (d) Are quantum-mechanical effects important for the game of billiards?

40.12 • A proton is in a box of width L . What must the width of the box be for the ground-level energy to be 5.0 MeV, a typical value for the energy with which the particles in a nucleus are bound? Compare your result to the size of a nucleus—that is, on the order of 10^{-14} m .

40.13 •• Find the width L of a one-dimensional box for which the ground-state energy of an electron in the box equals the absolute value of the ground state of a hydrogen atom.

40.14 •• When a hydrogen atom undergoes a transition from the $n = 2$ to the $n = 1$ level, a photon with $\lambda = 122 \text{ nm}$ is emitted. (a) If the atom is modeled as an electron in a one-dimensional box, what is the width of the box in order for the $n = 2$ to $n = 1$ transition to correspond to emission of a photon of this energy? (b) For a box with the width calculated in part (a), what is the ground-state energy? How does this correspond to the ground-state energy of a hydrogen atom? (c) Do you think a one-dimensional box is a good

model for a hydrogen atom? Explain. (*Hint:* Compare the spacing between adjacent energy levels as a function of n .)

40.15 •• A certain atom requires 3.0 eV of energy to excite an electron from the ground level to the first excited level. Model the atom as an electron in a box and find the width L of the box.

40.16 • An electron in a one-dimensional box has ground-state energy 1.00 eV. What is the wavelength of the photon absorbed when the electron makes a transition to the second excited state?

40.17 • CALC Show that the time-dependent wave function given by Eq. (40.35) is a solution to the one-dimensional Schrödinger equation, Eq. (40.23).

40.18 • Recall that $|\psi|^2 dx$ is the probability of finding the particle that has normalized wave function $\psi(x)$ in the interval x to $x + dx$. Consider a particle in a box with rigid walls at $x = 0$ and $x = L$. Let the particle be in the ground level and use ψ_n as given in Eq. (40.35). (a) For which values of x , if any, in the range from 0 to L is the probability of finding the particle zero? (b) For which values of x is the probability highest? (c) In parts (a) and (b) are your answers consistent with Fig. 40.12? Explain.

40.19 • Repeat Exercise 40.18 for the particle in the first excited level.

40.20 • CALC (a) Show that $\psi = A \sin kx$ is a solution to Eq. (40.25) if $k = \sqrt{2mE}/\hbar$. (b) Explain why this is an acceptable wave function for a particle in a box with rigid walls at $x = 0$ and $x = L$ only if k is an integer multiple of π/L .

40.21 • CALC (a) Repeat Exercise 40.20 for $\psi = A \cos kx$. (b) Explain why this cannot be an acceptable wave function for a particle in a box with rigid walls at $x = 0$ and $x = L$ no matter what the value of k .

40.22 • (a) Find the excitation energy from the ground level to the third excited level for an electron confined to a box that has a width of 0.125 nm. (b) The electron makes a transition from the $n = 1$ to $n = 4$ level by absorbing a photon. Calculate the wavelength of this photon.

40.23 • An electron is in a box of width $3.0 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$. What are the de Broglie wavelength and the magnitude of the momentum of the electron if it is in (a) the $n = 1$ level; (b) the $n = 2$ level; (c) the $n = 3$ level? In each case how does the wavelength compare to the width of the box?

40.24 •• CALC **Normalization of the Wave Function.** Consider a particle moving in one dimension, which we shall call the x -axis. (a) What does it mean for the wave function of this particle to be *normalized*? (b) Is the wave function $\psi(x) = e^{ax}$, where a is a positive real number, normalized? Could this be a valid wave function? (c) If the particle described by the wave function $\psi(x) = Ae^{bx}$, where A and b are positive real numbers, is confined to the range $x \geq 0$, determine A (including its units) so that the wave function is normalized.

Section 40.3 Potential Wells

40.25 • CALC (a) Show that $\psi = A \sin kx$, where k is a real (not complex) constant, is *not* a solution of Eq. (40.23) for $U = U_0$ and $E < U_0$. (b) Is this ψ a solution for $E > U_0$?

40.26 •• An electron is moving past the square well shown in Fig. 40.13. The electron has energy $E = 3U_0$. What is the ratio of the de Broglie wavelength of the electron in the region $x > L$ to the wavelength for $0 < x < L$?

40.27 • An electron is bound in a square well of depth $U_0 = 6E_{1-\text{DW}}$. What is the width of the well if its ground-state energy is 2.00 eV?

40.28 •• An electron is bound in a square well of width 1.50 nm and depth $U_0 = 6E_{1-\text{DW}}$. If the electron is initially in the ground

level and absorbs a photon, what maximum wavelength can the photon have and still liberate the electron from the well?

40.29 • CALC Calculate $d^2\psi/dx^2$ for the wave function of Eq. (40.38), and show that the function is a solution of Eq. (40.37).

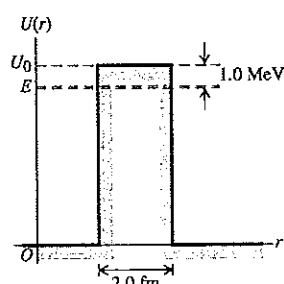
40.30 •• An electron is bound in a square well with a depth equal to six times the ground-level energy E_{1-IDW} of an infinite well of the same width. The longest-wavelength photon that is absorbed by the electron has a wavelength of 400.0 nm. Determine the width of the well.

40.31 •• A proton is bound in a square well of width 4.0 fm = 4.0×10^{-15} m. The depth of the well is six times the ground-level energy E_{1-IDW} of the corresponding infinite well. If the proton makes a transition from the level with energy E_1 to the level with energy E_3 by absorbing a photon, find the wavelength of the photon.

Section 40.4 Potential Barriers and Tunneling

40.32 •• Alpha Decay. In a simple model for a radioactive nucleus, an alpha particle ($m = 6.64 \times 10^{-27}$ kg) is trapped by a square barrier that has width 2.0 fm and height 30.0 MeV. (a) What is the tunneling probability when the alpha particle encounters the barrier if its kinetic energy is 1.0 MeV below the top of the barrier (Fig. E40.32)? (b) What is the tunneling probability if the energy of the alpha particle is 10.0 MeV below the top of the barrier?

Figure E40.32



40.33 • An electron with initial kinetic energy 6.0 eV encounters a barrier with height 11.0 eV. What is the probability of tunneling if the width of the barrier is (a) 0.80 nm and (b) 0.40 nm?

40.34 • An electron with initial kinetic energy 5.0 eV encounters a barrier with height U_0 and width 0.60 nm. What is the transmission coefficient if (a) $U_0 = 7.0$ eV; (b) $U_0 = 9.0$ eV; (c) $U_0 = 13.0$ eV?

40.35 •• An electron is moving past the square barrier shown in Fig. 40.19, but the energy of the electron is *greater* than the barrier height. If $E = 2U_0$, what is the ratio of the de Broglie wavelength of the electron in the region $x > L$ to the wavelength for $0 < x < L$?

40.36 • A proton with initial kinetic energy 50.0 eV encounters a barrier of height 70.0 eV. What is the width of the barrier if the probability of tunneling is 3.0×10^{-3} ? How does this compare with the barrier width for an electron with the same energy tunneling through a barrier of the same height with the same probability?

40.37 •• (a) An electron with initial kinetic energy 32 eV encounters a square barrier with height 41 eV and width 0.25 nm. What is the probability that the electron will tunnel through the barrier? (b) A proton with the same kinetic energy encounters the same barrier. What is the probability that the proton will tunnel through the barrier?

Section 40.5 The Harmonic Oscillator

40.38 • CALC Show that $\psi(x)$ given by Eq. (40.47) is a solution to Eq. (40.44) with energy $E_0 = \hbar\omega/2$.

40.39 • A wooden block with mass 0.250 kg is oscillating on the end of a spring that has force constant 110 N/m. Calculate the ground-level energy and the energy separation between adjacent levels. Express your results in joules and in electron volts. Are quantum effects important?

40.40 • A harmonic oscillator absorbs a photon of wavelength 8.65×10^{-6} m when it undergoes a transition from the ground state to the first excited state. What is the ground-state energy, in electron volts, of the oscillator?

40.41 • Chemists use infrared absorption spectra to identify chemicals in a sample. In one sample, a chemist finds that light of wavelength 5.8 μm is absorbed when a molecule makes a transition from its ground harmonic oscillator level to its first excited level. (a) Find the energy of this transition. (b) If the molecule can be treated as a harmonic oscillator with mass 5.6×10^{-26} kg, find the force constant.

40.42 •• The ground-state energy of a harmonic oscillator is 5.60 eV. If the oscillator undergoes a transition from its $n = 3$ to $n = 2$ level by emitting a photon, what is the wavelength of the photon?

40.43 • In Section 40.5 it is shown that for the ground level of a harmonic oscillator, $\Delta x \Delta p_x = \hbar/2$. Do a similar analysis for an excited level that has quantum number n . How does the uncertainty product $\Delta x \Delta p_x$ depend on n ?

40.44 •• For the ground-level harmonic oscillator wave function $\psi(x)$ given in Eq. (40.47), $|\psi|^2$ has a maximum at $x = 0$. (a) Compute the ratio of $|\psi|^2$ at $x = +A$ to $|\psi|^2$ at $x = 0$, where A is given by Eq. (40.48) with $n = 0$ for the ground level. (b) Compute the ratio of $|\psi|^2$ at $x = +2A$ to $|\psi|^2$ at $x = 0$. In each case is your result consistent with what is shown in Fig. 40.27?

40.45 •• For the sodium atom of Example 40.8, find (a) the ground-state energy, (b) the wavelength of a photon emitted when the $n = 4$ to $n = 3$ transition occurs; (c) the energy difference for any $\Delta n = 1$ transition.

PROBLEMS

40.46 • The discussion in Section 40.1 shows that the wave function $\Psi = \psi e^{-i\omega t}$ is a stationary state, where ψ is time independent and ω is a real (not complex) constant. Consider the wave function $\Psi = \psi_1 e^{-i\omega_1 t} + \psi_2 e^{-i\omega_2 t}$, where ψ_1 and ψ_2 are different time-independent functions and ω_1 and ω_2 are different real constants. Assume that ψ_1 and ψ_2 are real-valued functions, so that $\psi_1^* = \psi_1$ and $\psi_2^* = \psi_2$. Is this Ψ a wave function for a stationary state? Why or why not?

40.47 •• A particle of mass m in a one-dimensional box has the following wave function in the region $x = 0$ to $x = L$:

$$\Psi(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\psi_1(x)e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\psi_3(x)e^{-iE_3 t/\hbar}$$

Here $\psi_1(x)$ and $\psi_3(x)$ are the normalized stationary-state wave functions for the $n = 1$ and $n = 3$ levels, and E_1 and E_3 are the energies of these levels. The wave function is zero for $x < 0$ and for $x > L$. (a) Find the value of the probability distribution function at $x = L/2$ as a function of time. (b) Find the angular frequency at which the probability distribution function oscillates.

40.48 •• CALC Consider the wave packet defined by

$$\psi(x) = \int_0^\infty B(k) \cos kx \, dk$$

Let $B(k) = e^{-\alpha^2 k^2}$. (a) The function $B(k)$ has its maximum value at $k = 0$. Let k_h be the value of k at which $B(k)$ has fallen to half its maximum value, and define the width of $B(k)$ as $w_k = k_h$. In terms of α , what is w_k ? (b) Use integral tables to evaluate the integral that gives $\psi(x)$. For what value of x is $\psi(x)$ maximum? (c) Define the width of $\psi(x)$ as $w_x = x_h$, where x_h is the positive

value of x at which $\psi(x)$ has fallen to half its maximum value. Calculate w_x in terms of α . (d) The momentum p is equal to $\hbar k/2\pi$, so the width of B in momentum is $w_p = \hbar w_k/2\pi$. Calculate the product $w_p w_x$ and compare to the Heisenberg uncertainty principle.

40.49 •• CALC (a) Using the integral in Problem 40.48, determine the wave function $\psi(x)$ for a function $B(k)$ given by

$$B(k) = \begin{cases} 0 & k < 0 \\ 1/k_0 & 0 \leq k \leq k_0 \\ 0 & k > k_0 \end{cases}$$

This represents an equal combination of all wave numbers between 0 and k_0 . Thus $\psi(x)$ represents a particle with average wave number $k_0/2$, with a total spread or uncertainty in wave number of k_0 . We will call this spread the *width* w_k of $B(k)$, so $w_k = k_0$. (b) Graph $B(k)$ versus k and $\psi(x)$ versus x for the case $k_0 = 2\pi/L$, where L is a length. Locate the point where $\psi(x)$ has its maximum value and label this point on your graph. Locate the two points closest to this maximum (one on each side of it) where $\psi(x) = 0$, and define the distance along the x -axis between these two points as w_x , the width of $\psi(x)$. Indicate the distance w_x on your graph. What is the value of w_x if $k_0 = 2\pi/L$? (c) Repeat part (b) for the case $k_0 = \pi/L$. (d) The momentum p is equal to $\hbar k/2\pi$, so the width of B in momentum is $w_p = \hbar w_k/2\pi$. Calculate the product $w_p w_x$ for each of the cases $k_0 = 2\pi/L$ and $k_0 = \pi/L$. Discuss your results in light of the Heisenberg uncertainty principle.

40.50 • CALC Show that the wave function $\psi(x) = Ae^{ikx}$ is a solution of Eq. (40.23) for a particle of mass m , in a region where the potential energy is a constant $U_0 < E$. Find an expression for k , and relate it to the particle's momentum and to its de Broglie wavelength.

40.51 •• CALC Wave functions like the one in Problem 40.50 can represent free particles moving with velocity $v = p/m$ in the x -direction. Consider a beam of such particles incident on a potential-energy step $U(x) = 0$, for $x < 0$, and $U(x) = U_0 < E$, for $x > 0$. The wave function for $x < 0$ is $\psi(x) = Ae^{ik_1x} + Be^{-ik_1x}$, representing incident and reflected particles, and for $x > 0$ is $\psi(x) = Ce^{ik_2x}$, representing transmitted particles. Use the conditions that both ψ and its first derivative must be continuous at $x = 0$ to find the constants B and C in terms of k_1 , k_2 , and A .

40.52 • Let ΔE_n be the energy difference between the adjacent energy levels E_n and E_{n+1} for a particle in a box. The ratio $R_n = \Delta E_n/E_n$ compares the energy of a level to the energy separation of the next higher energy level. (a) For what value of n is R_n largest, and what is this largest R_n ? (b) What does R_n approach as n becomes very large? How does this result compare to the classical value for this quantity?

40.53 • Photon in a Dye Laser. An electron in a long, organic molecule used in a dye laser behaves approximately like a particle in a box with width 4.18 nm. What is the wavelength of the photon emitted when the electron undergoes a transition (a) from the first excited level to the ground level and (b) from the second excited level to the first excited level?

40.54 • CALC A particle is in the ground level of a box that extends from $x = 0$ to $x = L$. (a) What is the probability of finding the particle in the region between 0 and $L/4$? Calculate this by integrating $|\psi(x)|^2 dx$, where ψ is normalized, from $x = 0$ to $x = L/4$. (b) What is the probability of finding the particle in the region $x = L/4$ to $x = L/2$? (c) How do the results of parts (a) and (b) compare? Explain. (d) Add the probabilities calculated in parts (a) and (b). (e) Are your results in parts (a), (b), and (d) consistent with Fig. 40.12b? Explain.

40.55 •• CALC What is the probability of finding a particle in a box of length L in the region between $x = L/4$ and $x = 3L/4$ when the particle is in (a) the ground level and (b) the first excited level? (*Hint:* Integrate $|\psi(x)|^2 dx$, where ψ is normalized, between $L/4$ and $3L/4$.) (c) Are your results in parts (a) and (b) consistent with Fig. 40.12b? Explain.

40.56 •• Consider a particle in a box with rigid walls at $x = 0$ and $x = L$. Let the particle be in the ground level. Calculate the probability $|\psi|^2 dx$ that the particle will be found in the interval x to $x + dx$ for (a) $x = L/4$; (b) $x = L/2$; (c) $x = 3L/4$.

40.57 •• Repeat Problem 40.56 for a particle in the first excited level.

40.58 •• CP A particle is confined within a box with perfectly rigid walls at $x = 0$ and $x = L$. Although the magnitude of the instantaneous force exerted on the particle by the walls is infinite and the time over which it acts is zero, the impulse (that involves a product of force and time) is both finite and quantized. Show that the impulse exerted by the wall at $x = 0$ is $(\hbar h/L)\hat{i}$ and that the impulse exerted by the wall at $x = L$ is $-(\hbar h/L)\hat{i}$. (*Hint:* You may wish to review Section 8.1.)

40.59 •• CALC A fellow student proposes that a possible wave function for a free particle with mass m (one for which the potential-energy function $U(x)$ is zero) is

$$\psi(x) = \begin{cases} e^{+\kappa x} & x < 0 \\ e^{-\kappa x} & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

where κ is a positive constant. (a) Graph this proposed wave function. (b) Show that the proposed wave function satisfies the Schrödinger equation for $x < 0$ if the energy is $E = -\hbar^2\kappa^2/2m$ —that is, if the energy of the particle is *negative*. (c) Show that the proposed wave function also satisfies the Schrödinger equation for $x \geq 0$ with the same energy as in part (b). (d) Explain why the proposed wave function is nonetheless *not* an acceptable solution of the Schrödinger equation for a free particle. (*Hint:* What is the behavior of the function at $x = 0$?) It is in fact impossible for a free particle (one for which $U(x) = 0$) to have an energy less than zero.

40.60 •• The *penetration distance* η in a finite potential well is the distance at which the wave function has decreased to $1/e$ of the wave function at the classical turning point:

$$\psi(x = L + \eta) = \frac{1}{e}\psi(L)$$

The penetration distance can be shown to be

$$\eta = \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2m(U_0 - E)}}$$

The probability of finding the particle beyond the penetration distance is nearly zero. (a) Find η for an electron having a kinetic energy of 13 eV in a potential well with $U_0 = 20$ eV. (b) Find η for a 20.0-MeV proton trapped in a 30.0-MeV-deep potential well.

40.61 • CALC (a) For the finite potential well of Fig. 40.13, what relationships among the constants A and B of Eq. (40.38) and C and D of Eq. (40.40) are obtained by applying the boundary condition that ψ be continuous at $x = 0$ and at $x = L$? (b) What relationships among A , B , C , and D are obtained by applying the boundary condition that $d\psi/dx$ be continuous at $x = 0$ and at $x = L$?

40.62 • An electron with initial kinetic energy 5.5 eV encounters a square potential barrier with height 10.0 eV. What is the width of

the barrier if the electron has a 0.10% probability of tunneling through the barrier?

40.63 •• A particle with mass m and total energy E tunnels through a square barrier of height U_0 and width L . When the transmission coefficient is *not* much less than unity, it is given by

$$T = \left[1 + \frac{(U_0 \sinh \kappa L)^2}{4E(U_0 - E)} \right]^{-1}$$

where $\sinh \kappa L = (e^{\kappa L} - e^{-\kappa L})/2$ is the hyperbolic sine of κL . (a) Show that if $\kappa L \gg 1$, this expression for T approaches Eq. (40.42). (b) Explain why the restriction $\kappa L \gg 1$ in part (a) implies either that the barrier is relatively wide or that the energy E is relatively low compared to U_0 . (c) Show that as the particle's incident kinetic energy E approaches the barrier height U_0 , T approaches $[1 + (kL/2)^2]^{-1}$, where $k = \sqrt{2mE}/\hbar$ is the wave number of the incident particle. (*Hint:* If $|z| \ll 1$, then $\sinh z \approx z$.)

40.64 • CP A harmonic oscillator consists of a 0.020-kg mass on a spring. Its frequency is 1.50 Hz, and the mass has a speed of 0.360 m/s as it passes the equilibrium position. (a) What is the value of the quantum number n for its energy level? (b) What is the difference in energy between the levels E_n and E_{n+1} ? Is this difference detectable?

40.65 • For small amplitudes of oscillation the motion of a pendulum is simple harmonic. For a pendulum with a period of 0.500 s, find the ground-level energy and the energy difference between adjacent energy levels. Express your results in joules and in electron volts. Are these values detectable?

40.66 •• Some 164.9-nm photons are emitted in a $\Delta n = 1$ transition within a solid-state lattice. The lattice is modeled as electrons in a box having length 0.500 nm. What transition corresponds to the emitted light?

40.67 •• CALC Show that for $\psi(x)$ given by Eq. (40.47), the probability distribution function has a maximum at $x = 0$.

40.68 •• CALC (a) Show by direct substitution in the Schrödinger equation for the one-dimensional harmonic oscillator that the wave function $\psi_1(x) = A_1 x e^{-\alpha^2 x^2/2}$, where $\alpha^2 = m\omega/\hbar$, is a solution with energy corresponding to $n = 1$ in Eq. (40.46). (b) Find the normalization constant A_1 . (c) Show that the probability density has a minimum at $x = 0$ and maxima at $x = \pm 1/\alpha$, corresponding to the classical turning points for the ground state $n = 0$.

40.69 •• CP (a) The wave nature of particles results in the quantum-mechanical situation that a particle confined in a box can assume only wavelengths that result in standing waves in the box, with nodes at the box walls. Use this to show that an electron confined in a one-dimensional box of length L will have energy levels given by

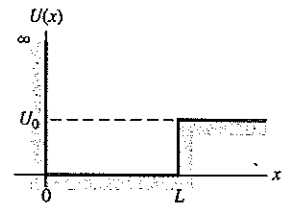
$$E_n = \frac{n^2 \hbar^2}{8mL^2}$$

(*Hint:* Recall that the relationship between the de Broglie wavelength and the speed of a nonrelativistic particle is $mv = h/\lambda$. The energy of the particle is $\frac{1}{2}mv^2$.) (b) If a hydrogen atom is modeled as a one-dimensional box with length equal to the Bohr radius, what is the energy (in electron volts) of the lowest energy level of the electron?

40.70 ••• Consider a potential well defined as $U(x) = \infty$ for $x < 0$, $U(x) = 0$ for $0 < x < L$, and $U(x) = U_0 > 0$ for $x > L$ (Fig. P40.70). Consider a particle with mass m and kinetic energy $E < U_0$ that is trapped in the well. (a) The boundary condition at the infinite wall ($x = 0$) is $\psi(0) = 0$. What must the form of

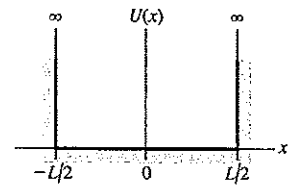
the function $\psi(x)$ for $0 < x < L$ be in order to satisfy both the Schrödinger equation and this boundary condition? (b) The wave function must remain finite as $x \rightarrow \infty$. What must the form of the function $\psi(x)$ for $x > L$ be in order to satisfy both the Schrödinger equation and this boundary condition at infinity? (c) Impose the boundary conditions that ψ and $d\psi/dx$ are continuous at $x = L$. Show that the energies of the allowed levels are obtained from solutions of the equation $k \cot kL = -\kappa$, where $k = \sqrt{2mE}/\hbar$ and $\kappa = \sqrt{2m(U_0 - E)}/\hbar$.

Figure P40.70



40.71 ••• Section 40.2 considered a box with walls at $x = 0$ and $x = L$. Now consider a box with width L but centered at $x = 0$, so that it extends from $x = -L/2$ to $x = +L/2$ (Fig. P40.71). Note that this box is symmetric about $x = 0$. (a) Consider possible wave functions of the form $\psi(x) =$

Figure P40.71



$A \sin kx$. Apply the boundary conditions at the wall to obtain the allowed energy levels. (b) Another set of possible wave functions are functions of the form $\psi(x) = A \cos kx$. Apply the boundary conditions at the wall to obtain the allowed energy levels. (c) Compare the energies obtained in parts (a) and (b) to the set of energies given in Eq. (40.31). (d) An odd function f satisfies the condition $f(x) = -f(-x)$, and an even function g satisfies $g(x) = g(-x)$. Of the wave functions from parts (a) and (b), which are even and which are odd?

CHALLENGE PROBLEMS

40.72 ••• CALC The WKB Approximation. It can be a challenge to solve the Schrödinger equation for the bound-state energy levels of an arbitrary potential well. An alternative approach that can yield good approximate results for the energy levels is the *WKB approximation* (named for the physicists Gregor Wentzel, Hendrik Kramers, and Léon Brillouin, who pioneered its application to quantum mechanics). The WKB approximation begins from three physical statements: (i) According to de Broglie, the magnitude of momentum p of a quantum-mechanical particle is $p = h/\lambda$. (ii) The magnitude of momentum is related to the kinetic energy K by the relationship $K = p^2/2m$. (iii) If there are no non-conservative forces, then in Newtonian mechanics the energy E for a particle is constant and equal at each point to the sum of the kinetic and potential energies at that point: $E = K + U(x)$, where x is the coordinate. (a) Combine these three relationships to show that the wavelength of the particle at a coordinate x can be written as

$$\lambda(x) = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2m[E - U(x)]}}$$

Thus we envision a quantum-mechanical particle in a potential well $U(x)$ as being like a free particle, but with a wavelength $\lambda(x)$ that is a function of position. (b) When the particle moves into a region of increasing potential energy, what happens to its wavelength? (c) At a point where $E = U(x)$, Newtonian mechanics says that the particle has zero kinetic energy and must be instantaneously at rest. Such a point is called a *classical turning point*, since this is where a Newtonian particle must stop its motion and

reverse direction. As an example, an object oscillating in simple harmonic motion with amplitude A moves back and forth between the points $x = -A$ and $x = +A$; each of these is a classical turning point, since there the potential energy $\frac{1}{2}k'x^2$ equals the total energy $\frac{1}{2}k'A^2$. In the WKB expression for $\lambda(x)$, what is the wavelength at a classical turning point? (d) For a particle in a box with length L , the walls of the box are classical turning points (see Fig. 40.8). Furthermore, the number of wavelengths that fit within the box must be a half-integer (see Fig. 40.10), so that $L = (n/2)\lambda$ and hence $L/\lambda = n/2$, where $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ [Note that this is a restatement of Eq. (40.29).] The WKB scheme for finding the allowed bound-state energy levels of an arbitrary potential well is an extension of these observations. It demands that for an allowed energy E , there must be a half-integer number of wavelengths between the classical turning points for that energy. Since the wavelength in the WKB approximation is not a constant but depends on x , the number of wavelengths between the classical turning points a and b for a given value of the energy is the integral of $1/\lambda(x)$ between those points:

$$\int_a^b \frac{dx}{\lambda(x)} = \frac{n}{2} \quad (n = 1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

Using the expression for $\lambda(x)$ you found in part (a), show that the WKB condition for an allowed bound-state energy can be written as

$$\int_a^b \sqrt{2m[E - U(x)]} dx = \frac{n\hbar}{2} \quad (n = 1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

(e) As a check on the expression in part (d), apply it to a particle in a box with walls at $x = 0$ and $x = L$. Evaluate the integral and show that the allowed energy levels according to the WKB approximation are the same as those given by Eq. (40.31). (*Hint:* Since the walls of the box are infinitely high, the points $x = 0$ and $x = L$ are classical turning points for any energy E . Inside the box, the potential energy is zero.) (f) For the finite square well shown in Fig. 40.13, show that the WKB expression given in part (d) predicts the same bound-state energies as for an infinite square well of the same width. (*Hint:* Assume $E < U_0$. Then the classical turning points are at $x = 0$ and $x = L$.) This shows that the WKB approximation does a poor job when the potential-energy function changes discontinuously, as for a finite potential well. In the next two problems we consider situations in which the potential-energy function changes gradually and the WKB approximation is much more useful.

40.73 ... CALC The WKB approximation (see Challenge Problem 40.72) can be used to calculate the energy levels for a harmonic oscillator. In this approximation, the energy levels are the solutions to the equation

$$\int_a^b \sqrt{2m[E - U(x)]} dx = \frac{n\hbar}{2} \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Here E is the energy, $U(x)$ is the potential-energy function, and $x = a$ and $x = b$ are the classical turning points (the points at

which E is equal to the potential energy, so the Newtonian kinetic energy would be zero). (a) Determine the classical turning points for a harmonic oscillator with energy E and force constant k' . (b) Carry out the integral in the WKB approximation and show that the energy levels in this approximation are $E_n = \hbar\omega$, where $\omega = \sqrt{k'/m}$ and $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ (*Hint:* Recall that $\hbar = h/2\pi$. A useful standard integral is

$$\int \sqrt{A^2 - x^2} dx = \frac{1}{2} \left[x\sqrt{A^2 - x^2} + A^2 \arcsin\left(\frac{x}{A}\right) \right]$$

where \arcsin denotes the inverse sine function. Note that the integrand is even, so the integral from $-x$ to x is equal to twice the integral from 0 to x .) (c) How do the approximate energy levels found in part (b) compare with the true energy levels given by Eq. (40.46)? Does the WKB approximation give an underestimate or an overestimate of the energy levels?

40.74 ... CALC Protons, neutrons, and many other particles are made of more fundamental particles called *quarks* and *antiquarks* (the antimatter equivalent of quarks). A quark and an antiquark can form a bound state with a variety of different energy levels, each of which corresponds to a different particle observed in the laboratory. As an example, the ψ particle is a low-energy bound state of a so-called charm quark and its antiquark, with a rest energy of 3097 MeV; the $\psi(2S)$ particle is an excited state of this same quark-antiquark combination, with a rest energy of 3686 MeV. A simplified representation of the potential energy of interaction between a quark and an antiquark is $U(x) = A|x|$, where A is a positive constant and x represents the distance between the quark and the antiquark. You can use the WKB approximation (see Challenge Problem 40.72) to determine the bound-state energy levels for this potential-energy function. In the WKB approximation, the energy levels are the solutions to the equation

$$\int_a^b \sqrt{2m[E - U(x)]} dx = \frac{n\hbar}{2} \quad (n = 1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

Here E is the energy, $U(x)$ is the potential-energy function, and $x = a$ and $x = b$ are the classical turning points (the points at which E is equal to the potential energy, so the Newtonian kinetic energy would be zero). (a) Determine the classical turning points for the potential $U(x) = A|x|$ and for an energy E . (b) Carry out the above integral and show that the allowed energy levels in the WKB approximation are given by

$$E_n = \frac{1}{2m} \left(\frac{3mA\hbar}{4} \right)^{2/3} n^{2/3} \quad (n = 1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

(*Hint:* The integrand is even, so the integral from $-x$ to x is equal to twice the integral from 0 to x .) (c) Does the difference in energy between successive levels increase, decrease, or remain the same as n increases? How does this compare to the behavior of the energy levels for the harmonic oscillator? For the particle in a box? Can you suggest a simple rule that relates the difference in energy between successive levels to the shape of the potential-energy function?