

Physics 2D Quiz 6 Solutions #1 p.1

(a) Normalization condition:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \Psi^* \Psi dx = 1$$

Our wavefunction is  $\Psi(x) = Ae^{-|x|/a}$  so we have

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (Ae^{-|x|/a})^2 dx = A^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-2|x|/a} dx = 2A^2 \int_0^{\infty} e^{-2x/a} dx$$

by symmetry about  $x=0$

Change variables, let  $u = 2x/a \Rightarrow du = 2dx/a$

$x=0 \Rightarrow u=0$  and  $x=\infty \Rightarrow u=\infty$ , so

$$2A^2 \int_0^{\infty} e^{-u} \left(\frac{adu}{2}\right) = \frac{2A^2 a}{2} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-u} du = A^2 a [-e^{-u}]_0^{\infty} = A^2 a = 1$$

by Normalization

$$A = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1}{a}}$$

You can choose the + sign for convenience.

(b) Probability of being between ① and ② is given by

$\int_{\text{①}}^{\text{②}} \Psi^* \Psi dx$ , so we have

$$\frac{1}{a} \int_a^{2a} e^{-2x/a} dx = \frac{1}{2} [-e^{-u}]_2^4 = \frac{(-e^{-4} + e^{-2})}{2} \approx 0.117$$

same integral as in part (a)

note:  $A^2 a = 1$  and  $x=a \Rightarrow u=2$ ,  $x=2a \Rightarrow u=4$

also, the  $\frac{1}{2}$  that comes from  $dx \rightarrow du$  is not cancelled by the "symmetry 2" this time

# Physics 2D Quiz 6 Solutions #2 p.1

TISE:

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2\Psi(x)}{dx^2} + U(x)\Psi(x) = E\Psi(x)$$

Our wavefunction is  $\Psi(x) = Ae^{-\alpha x^2}$

Plug in our wavefunction to the TISE:

$$\frac{d\Psi}{dx} = -2\alpha x \Psi(x)$$

$$\frac{d^2\Psi}{dx^2} = -2\alpha \Psi(x) + (-2\alpha x)^2 \Psi(x) = \Psi(x) (4\alpha^2 x^2 - 2\alpha)$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left( \Psi(x) (4\alpha^2 x^2 - 2\alpha) \right) + U(x)\Psi(x) = E\Psi(x)$$

$$\Psi(x) \left( -\frac{4\hbar^2\alpha^2}{2m} x^2 + \frac{2\hbar^2\alpha}{2m} + U(x) \right) = E\Psi(x)$$

$E$  is a constant so the term in parentheses must also be a constant if the equality is to hold for all  $x$ .

$$\Rightarrow U(x) = \left( \frac{4\hbar^2\alpha^2}{2m} \right) x^2 \Rightarrow \boxed{C = \left( \frac{2\hbar^2\alpha^2}{m} \right)} \text{ and } \boxed{E = \frac{\hbar^2\alpha}{m}}$$