

Modern Physics (Phys. IV): 2704

Professor Jasper Halekas
Van Allen 70
MWF 12:30-1:20 Lecture

Light Wave

$$E(x, t) = E_0 \sin(kx - \omega t)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial x^2} = -k^2 E$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2} = -\omega^2 E$$

Photon: $\omega = 2\pi\nu = 2\pi E/h$
 $k = 2\pi/\lambda = 2\pi p/h$

$$\omega/k = \nu\lambda = c$$
$$\Rightarrow E/p = c$$

S_q $\frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}$



$$-k^2 = -\omega^2/c^2$$

$$\text{or } \omega/k = \pm c$$

Schrödinger Equation

$$\text{Assume } \Psi(x,t) = A e^{i(kx - \omega t)}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial x^2} = -k^2 \Psi$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial t^2} = -\omega^2 \Psi$$

$$\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x} = ik \Psi$$

$$\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial t} = -i\omega \Psi$$

Classical energy Eq.

$$E = \frac{1}{2} m v^2 + U$$

$$= \frac{p^2}{2m} + U$$

$$p = \frac{h}{\lambda} = \frac{h k}{2\pi} = \hbar k$$

$$E = h\nu = \frac{h\omega}{2\pi} = \hbar\omega$$

$$\frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} + U = \hbar\omega$$



$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial x^2} + U \Psi = i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial t}$$

1-D Schrodinger Equation

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

We want to use this to calculate electron waves. What's the first step?

- A. Figure out how many electrons will be interacting
- B. Figure out what general solutions will be by plugging in trial solutions and seeing if can solve.
- C. Figure out what the forces will be on the electron in that physical situation.
- D. Figure out what the boundary conditions must be on the electron wave.
- E. Figure out what potential energy is at different x and t for the physical situation.

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Time - Independent Schrödinger Eq.

$$E = \hbar \omega = \text{const.}$$

$$(\text{true if } U(x,t) = U(x))$$

$$\partial \Psi / \partial t = -i\omega \Psi$$

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

Factor out $e^{-i\omega t}$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + U(x) \psi(x) = E \psi(x)$$

$$\Psi(x,t) = \psi(x) e^{-i\omega t}$$

For physical solutions

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\Psi(x,t)|^2 dx = 1$$

Time-Independent Schrodinger Eq.

- Most physical situations, like H atom, no time dependence in U!
 - e.g. $U(r) = -ke^2/r$ for H atom...

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \psi(x)}{\partial x^2} + U(x)\psi(x) = E\psi(x)$$

with $\Psi(x,t) = \psi(x) e^{-iEt/\hbar}$

Steps to Solving Time-Independent Schrodinger Equation

- 1. Figure out what $U(x)$ is, for situation given.
- 2. Guess or look up functional form of solution.
- 3. Plug in to check if ψ 's and all x 's drop out, leaving an equation involving only a bunch of constants.
- 4. Figure out what boundary conditions must be to make sense physically.
- 5. Figure out values of constants to meet boundary conditions and normalization:
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\psi(x)|^2 dx = 1$$
- 6. Multiply by time dependence $\varphi(t) = \exp(-iEt/\hbar)$ to obtain full time-dependent solution if needed.

Simplest Case of Schrodinger Eq

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \psi(x)}{\partial x^2} + U(x)\psi(x) = E\psi(x)$$



Electron in free space, no electric fields or gravity around.

1. Where does it want to be?

1. No preference- all x the same.

2. What is U(x)?

2. Constant.

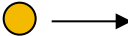
3. What are boundary conditions on $\psi(x)$?

3. None, could be anywhere.

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \psi(x)}{\partial x^2} = E\psi(x)$$

Concept Check

What does this equation describe?
$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \psi(x)}{\partial x^2} = E\psi(x)$$

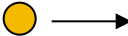
- A. Nothing physical, just a math exercise.
- B. Only an electron in free space along the x-axis with no electric fields around. 
- C. An electron flying along the x-axis between two metal plates with a voltage between them (as in photoelectric effect)
- D. An electron in an enormously long wire not hooked to any voltages.



E. More than one of the above.

Concept Check

What does this equation describe?
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Correct Eq for B or D.

Solution for Free Electron

A solution to this differential equation is:

(A) $A \cos(kx)$

(B) $A e^{-kx}$

(C) $A e^{ikx}$

(D) (B & C)

(E) (A & C)

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Check Solution

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \psi(x)}{\partial x^2} = E\psi(x) \quad \psi(x) = A \exp(ikx)$$

$$\frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} = E$$

...makes sense, because $p = \hbar k$

Condition on k is just saying that $(p^2)/2m = E$.

$U(x)=0$, so $E = KE = \frac{1}{2} mv^2 = p^2/2m$

Concept Check

The total energy of the free electron is:

- A. Quantized according to $E_n = (\text{constant}) \times n^2$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$
- B. Quantized according to $E_n = \text{const.} \times (n)$
- C. Quantized according to $E_n = \text{const.} \times (1/n^2)$
- D. Quantized according to some other condition but don't know what it is.
- E. Not quantized, energy can take on any value.

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Time Dependence

$$\psi(x) = A \exp(ikx) \quad \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} = E$$

k (and therefore E) can take on any value.

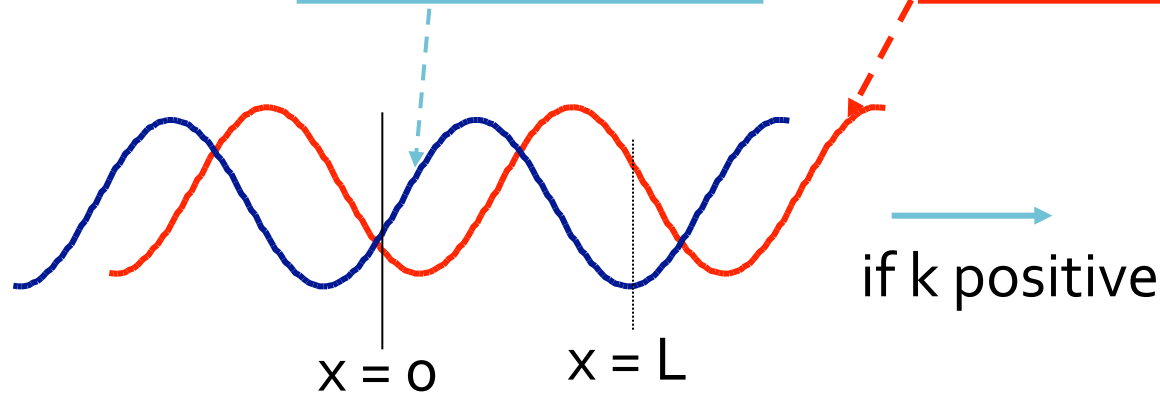
Almost have a solution, but remember we still have to include time dependence:

$$\Psi(x, t) = \psi(x)\phi(t) \quad \phi(t) = e^{-iEt/\hbar}$$

$$\Psi(x, t) = A \exp[i(kx - \omega t)]$$

Concept Check: Probabilities

$$\Psi(x,t) = \underbrace{A \cos(kx - \omega t)}_{\text{blue}} + \underbrace{Ai \sin(kx - \omega t)}_{\text{red}}$$

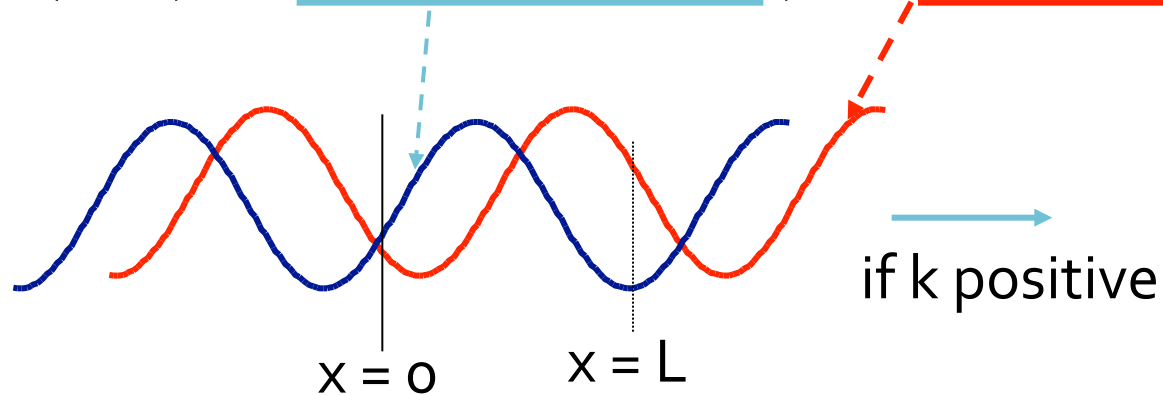


Using equation, probability $|\Psi|^2$ of electron being in dx at $x = L$ is _____ probability of being in dx at $x = 0$.

- A. always bigger than
- B. always same as
- C. always smaller than
- D. oscillates up and down in time between bigger and smaller
- E. Without being given k , can't figure out

Concept Check: Probabilities

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