ECE 456 - Problem Set 2

David Lenfesty lenfesty@ualberta.ca

Phillip Kirwin pkirwin@ualberta.ca

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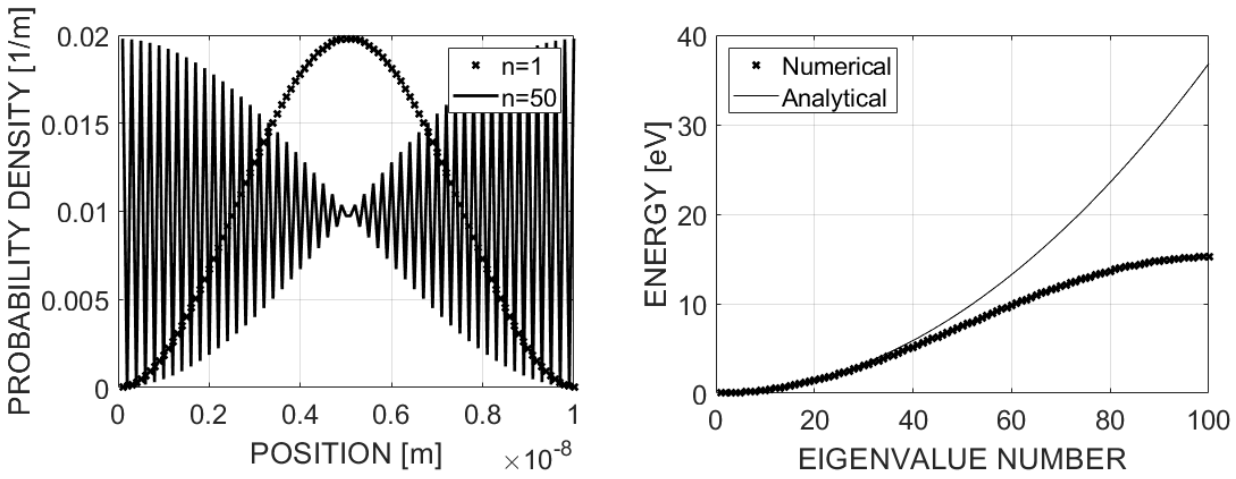
Problem 1

(a) Code:

```
clear all;
%physical constants in MKS units

hbar = 1.054e-34;
q = 1.602e-19;
m = 9.110e-31;

%generate lattice

N  = 100;                    %number of lattice points
n  = [1:N];                  %lattice points
a  = 1e-10;                  %lattice constant
x  = a * n;                  %x-coordinates
t0 = (hbar^2)/(2*m*a^2)/q;   %encapsulating factor
L  = a * (N+1);              %total length of consideration

%set up Hamiltonian matrix

U = 0*x; %0 potential at all x
main_diag  = diag(2*t0*ones(1,N)+U,0); %create main diagonal matrix
lower_diag = diag(-t0*ones(1,N-1),-1); %create lower diagonal matrix
upper_diag = diag(-t0*ones(1,N-1),+1); %create upper diagonal matrix

H = main_diag + lower_diag + upper_diag; %sum to get Hamiltonian matrix

[eigenvectors,E_diag] = eig(H); %"eigenvectors" is a matrix wherein each
                                %column is an eigenvector
                                %"E_diag" is a diagonal matrix where the
                                %corresponding eigenvalues are on the
                                %diagonal.

E_col = diag(E_diag); %folds E_diag into a column vector of eigenvalues

% return eigenvectors for the 1st and 50th eigenvalues

phi_1  = eigenvectors(:,1);
phi_50 = eigenvectors(:,50);

% find the probability densities of position for 1st and 50th eigenvectors

P_1 = phi_1 .* conj(phi_1);
P_50 = phi_50 .* conj(phi_50);

% Find first N analytic eigenvalues
E_col_analytic = (1/q) * (hbar^2 * pi^2 * n.*n) / (2*m*L^2);

% Plot the probability densities for 1st and 50th eigenvectors

figure(1); clf; h = plot(x,P_1,'kx',x,P_50,'k-');
grid on; set(h,'linewidth',[2.0]); set(gca,'Fontsize',[18]);
xlabel('POSITION [m]'); ylabel('PROBABILITY DENSITY [1/m]');
legend('n=1','n=50');

```

```
% Plot numerical eigenvalues
figure(2); clf; h = plot(n,E_col,'kx'); grid on;
set(h,'linewidth',[2.0]); set(gca,'Fontsize',[18]);
xlabel('EIGENVALUE NUMBER'); ylabel('ENERGY [eV]');
axis([0 100 0 40]);

% Add analytic eigenvalues to above plot

hold on;
plot(n,E_col_analytic,'k-');
legend({'Numerical','Analytical'},'Location','northwest');
```



(a) (b)

Figure 1. *(a) Probability densities for $n = 1$ and $n = 50$. (b) Comparison of first 101 numerical and analytic eigenvalues.*

(b) (i) The analytical solution is:

$$\phi(x) = A \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right). \tag{1}$$

In order to normalise this equation it must conform to the following:

$$\int_0^L |\phi(x)|^2 \, dx = 1. \tag{2}$$

We use the following identity:

$$\int \sin^2(ax)\, dx = \frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{4a}\sin(2ax). \tag{3}$$

Given that the sine of a real value is always real, we can disregard the norm operation, and directly relate (1) to the above identity. Evaluating the integral gives us the following relationship:

$$\frac{1}{A^2} = \frac{1}{2}L - \cancel{\frac{L}{4n\pi}\sin\left(\frac{2n\pi}{L}L\right)} - \cancel{\frac{1}{2}\cdot 0} + \cancel{\frac{L}{4n\pi}\sin(0)}.$$

From this, we find:

$$\boxed{A = \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}}.}$$

(ii) Starting with the normalization condition for the numerical case:

$$a\sum_{\ell=1}^{N} |\phi_l|^2 = a \tag{4}$$
$$a\sum_{\ell=1}^{N} \left|B\sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x_\ell\right)\right|^2 = a,$$

recalling that $x = a\ell$, and allowing $a \to 0$, while holding L constant, implies that $N \to \infty$, since $a = \frac{L}{N}$. An integral is defined as the limit of a Riemann sum as follows:

$$\int_c^d f(x)\,dx \equiv \lim_{n\to\infty}\sum_{i=1}^{n} \Delta x \cdot f(x_i), \tag{5}$$

where $\Delta x = \frac{d-c}{n}$ and $x_i = c + \Delta x \cdot i$. In our case, $n = N$, $i = \ell$, $c = 0$, $d = L$, and $\Delta x = a$, $x_i = x_\ell$, $f(x) = \left|B\sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right)\right|^2$. Therefore we can write

$$\int_0^L \left|B\sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right)\right|^2 dx = \lim_{N\to\infty}\sum_{\ell=1}^{N} a \cdot \left|B\sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x_l\right)\right|^2 = a.$$

Using (3), we have

$$\int_0^L \left|B\sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right)\right|^2 dx = \frac{1}{2}L - \frac{L}{\cancel{4n\pi}}\cancel{\sin\left(\frac{2n\pi}{L}L\right)} - 0 + 0 = \frac{a}{B^2}.$$

This means that B must be

$$\boxed{B = \sqrt{\frac{2a}{L}} = \sqrt{a} \times A.}$$

(c) (i) From the base form of $\phi_\ell = B\sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}a\ell\right)$, we can see that $\phi_{\ell+1}$ and $\phi_{\ell-1}$ correspond to the trigonometric identities $\sin(a+B) = \sin(a)\cos(B) + \cos(a)\sin(B)$ and $\sin(a+B) = \sin(a)\cos(B) + \cos(a)\sin(B)$, respectively, where $a = \frac{n\pi a\ell}{L}$ and $B = \frac{n\pi a}{L}$.

Plugging these identities into equation (7) from the assignment and simplifying, we get to this equation:

$$-t_0 B\sin\left(\frac{n\pi a\ell}{L}\right) + 2t_0\phi_\ell - t_0\sin\left(\frac{n\pi a\ell}{L}\right).$$

At this point, we notice that $\phi_\ell = B\sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}a\ell\right)$, so we can factor it out.

With some minor rearranging, this leaves us with the final expression for E:

$$\boxed{E = 2t_0\left(1 - \cos\left(\frac{n\pi a}{L}\right)\right).} \tag{6}$$

(ii)

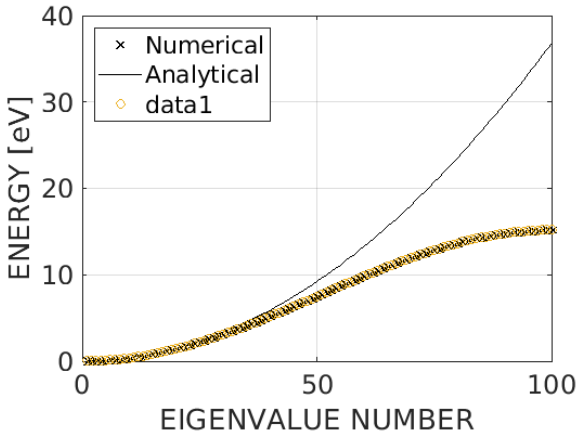


Figure 2. *Comparison between analytical result and numerical result. Above $n = 50$, the results diverge substantially.*

We can see here that the "predicted" numerical response matches nearly exactly the actual calculated numerical solution.

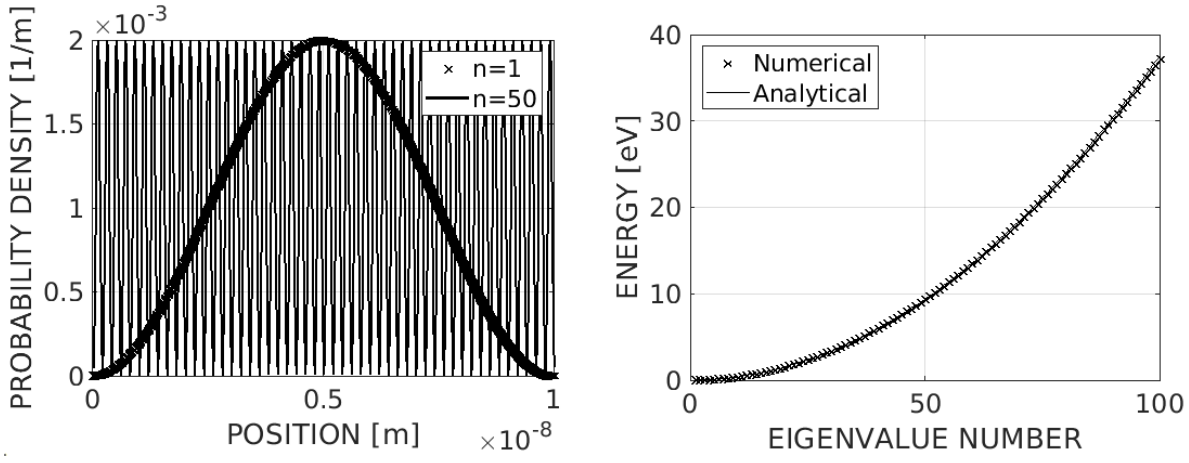
(iii) Applying the approximation $\cos(\theta) \approx 1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2}$ for small θ on equation (6), we get the following expression:

$$E = 2t_0 \left(\frac{n^2 \pi^2 a^2}{2L^2} \right).$$

We can get our final analytical expression for E by fully substituting the explicit form of t_0:

$$\boxed{E = \frac{\hbar^2 n^2 \pi^2}{2mL^2}.} \tag{7}$$

(iv) With the decreased lattice spacing and increased number of points we can see the numerical solution more closely matches the analytical solution. As well, the $n = 50$ case is now a constant-amplitude wave, which corresponds to the expected analytic result, in contrast to the plot in section (a), which has a low-frequency envelope around it.



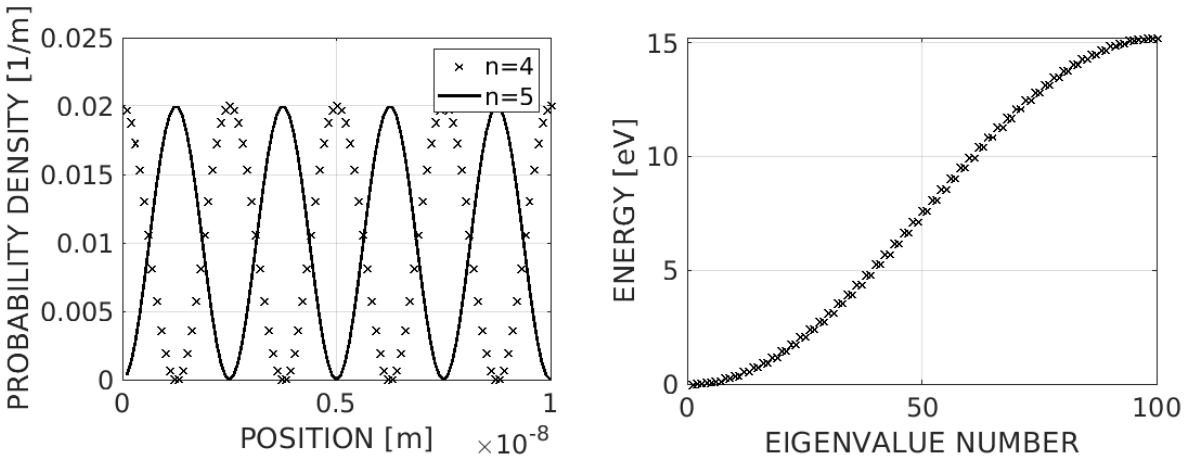
(a) (b)

Figure 3. *(a) Probability densities for $n = 1$ and $n = 50$. (b) Comparison of first 101 numerical and analytic eigenvalues.*

(d) (i) In order to modify the computations to those for a particle in a "ring" we simply had to add $-t_0$ elements

as the "corner" elements of the hamiltonian operator array:

```
% Modify hamiltonian for circular boundary conditions
H(1, N) = -t0;
H(N, 1) = -t0;
```



(a) (b)

Figure 4. *(a) Probability densities for $n = 4$ and $n = 5$. (b) Comparison of first 101 numerical and analytic eigenvalues.*

(ii) The energy levels for eigenvalues number 4 and 5 are both $\boxed{0.06\text{ eV}}$. These eigenstates are degenerate because they both have the same eigenvalue/energy.

(iii)

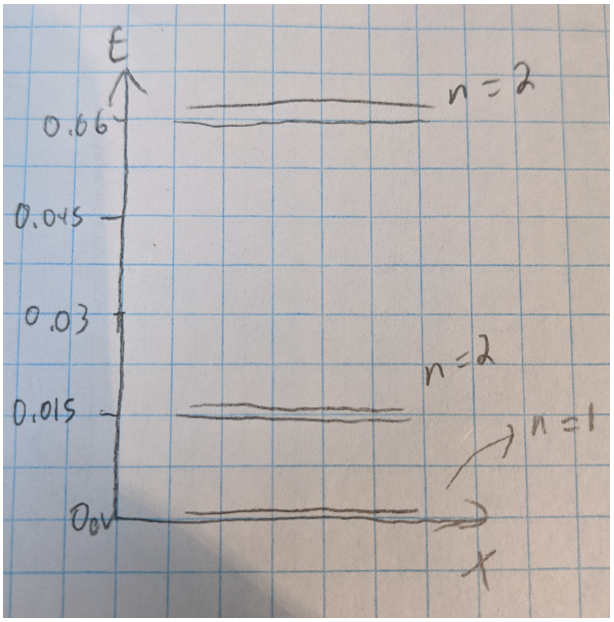


Figure 5. *Sketch of degenerate energy levels. In the sketch, closely-spaced levels are in fact degenerate.*

(iv) Plugging the valid levels for n into equation (10) from the assignment (and dividing by the requisite q), we get energy levels of 0 eV, 0.0147 eV, and 0.0589 eV for the indices $n = 0$, 1, and 2, respectively. These match within an acceptable margin to the numerical results from part (ii).

Problem 2

(a) Since $t_0 = \frac{\hbar^2}{2ma^2}$, and $U_l = -\frac{q^2}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 r_l} + \frac{l_o(l_o+1)\hbar^2}{2mr_l^2}$, the middle diagonal elements will have values

$$\boxed{\hat{H}_{ll} = \frac{\hbar^2}{ma^2} - \frac{q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_l} + \frac{l_o(l_o+1)\hbar^2}{2mr_l^2},}$$

and the upper and lower diagonals elements will have values

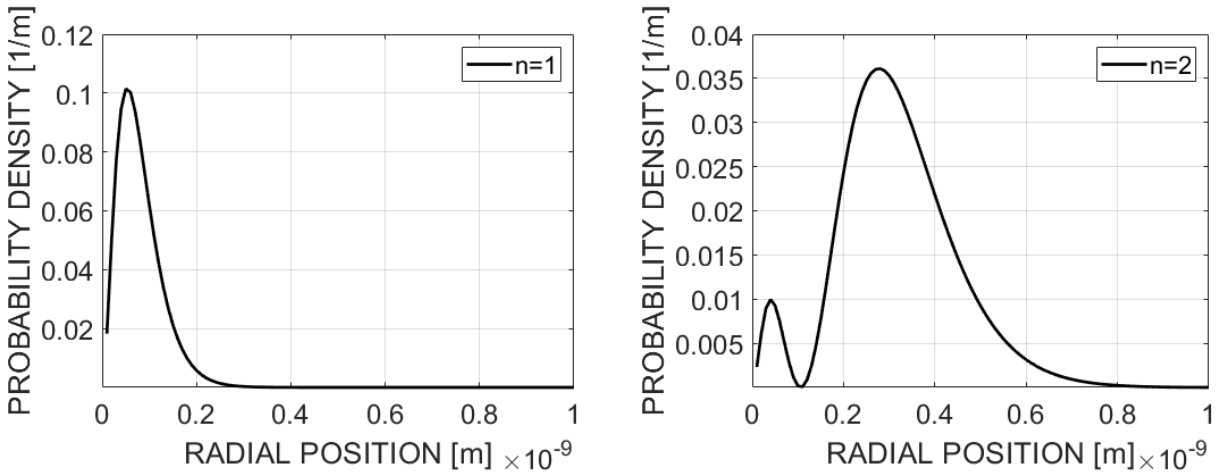
$$\boxed{\hat{H}_{l(l\pm1)} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2ma^2}.}$$

(b) Homogenous boundary conditions imply that the corner entries of $\hat{H}$ will be $\boxed{0}$.

(c) Code:

```
clear all;
%physical constants in MKS units


hbar = 1.054e-34;
q = 1.602e-19;
m = 9.110e-31;
epsilon_0 = 8.854e-12;

%generate lattice

N  = 100;                    %number of lattice points
n  = [1:N];                  %lattice points
a  = 0.1e-10;                  %lattice constant
r  = a * n;                  %x-coordinates
t0 = (hbar^2)/(2*m*a^2)/q;   %encapsulating factor
L  = a * (N+1);              %total length of consideration

%set up Hamiltonian matrix

U = -q^2./(4*pi*epsilon_0.*r) * (1/q); %potential at r in [eV]
main_diag  = diag(2*t0*ones(1,N)+U,0); %create main diagonal matrix
lower_diag = diag(-t0*ones(1,N-1),-1); %create lower diagonal matrix
upper_diag = diag(-t0*ones(1,N-1),+1); %create upper diagonal matrix

H = main_diag + lower_diag + upper_diag; %sum to get Hamiltonian matrix

[eigenvectors,E_diag] = eig(H); %"eigenvectors" is a matrix wherein each
    column is an eigenvector
                                %"E_diag" is a diagonal matrix where the
                                %corresponding eigenvalues are on the
                                %diagonal.

E_col = diag(E_diag); %folds E_diag into a column vector of eigenvalues

% return eigenvectors for the 1st and 50th eigenvalues

phi_1  = eigenvectors(:,1);
phi_2 = eigenvectors(:,2);

```

```
% find the probability densities of position for 1st and 50th eigenvectors

P_1 = phi_1 .* conj(phi_1);
P_2 = phi_2 .* conj(phi_2);

% Plot the probability densities for 1st and 2nd eigenvectors

figure(1); clf; h = plot(r,P_1,'k-');
grid on; set(h,'linewidth',[2.0]); set(gca,'Fontsize',[18]);
xlabel('RADIAL POSITION [m]'); ylabel('PROBABILITY DENSITY [1/m]');
yticks([0.02 0.04 0.06 0.08 0.10 0.12]);
legend('n=1');
axis([0 1e-9 0 0.12]);

figure(2); clf; h = plot(r,P_2,'k-');
grid on; set(h,'linewidth',[2.0]); set(gca,'Fontsize',[18]);
xlabel('RADIAL POSITION [m]'); ylabel('PROBABILITY DENSITY [1/m]');
yticks([0.005 0.01 0.015 0.02 0.025 0.03 0.035 0.04]);
legend('n=2');
axis([0 1e-9 0 0.04]);
```



(a) (b)

Figure 6. *(a) 1s probability density. (b) 2s probability density.*

(d) For the 1s level, $\boxed{E = -13.4978\,\text{eV}}$.

(e) Beginning with equation (11) from the assignment, with $l_o = 0$:

$$\left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\frac{d^2}{dr^2} - \frac{q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}\right] f(r) = Ef(r)$$
$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\frac{d^2}{dr^2}\left(\frac{2r}{a_0^{3/2}}e^{-r/a_0}\right) - \frac{q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}f(r) = Ef(r)$$
$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\frac{2}{a_0^{3/2}}\frac{d}{dr}\left(e^{-r/a_0} - \frac{r}{a_0}e^{-r/a_0}\right) - \frac{q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}f(r) = Ef(r)$$
$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\frac{2}{a_0^{3/2}}\left(-\frac{1}{a_0}e^{-r/a_0} - \frac{1}{a_0}e^{-r/a_0} + \frac{r}{a_0^2}e^{-r/a_0}\right) - \frac{q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}f(r) = Ef(r)$$
$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\left(-\frac{2}{a_0 r} + \frac{1}{a_0^2}\right) f(r) - \frac{q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}f(r) = Ef(r)$$
$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\left(-\frac{2}{a_0 r} + \frac{1}{a_0^2}\right) - \frac{q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} = E.$$

Recalling that $a_0 = 4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar^2/mq^2$, we can eliminate r:

$$\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\frac{2mq^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar^2}\frac{1}{r} - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\frac{1}{a_0^2} - \frac{q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\frac{1}{r} = E$$
$$\frac{q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\frac{1}{r} - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\frac{1}{a_0^2} - \frac{q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\frac{1}{r} = E.$$

We can then solve for E:

$$E\,[\text{eV}] = -\frac{1}{q}\cdot\frac{\hbar^2}{2ma_0^2} = -\frac{1}{q}\cdot\frac{(1.054\times10^{-34}\,\text{J}\cdot\text{s})^2}{2(9.110\times10^{-31}\,\text{kg})(0.0529\,\text{nm})^2} = \boxed{-13.6\,\text{eV}.}$$

This is very similar to the result in (d).

(f) In the figure below we can see that the numerical and analytical results agree up to scaling by a. The scale difference is expected, as discussed in Problem 1. From (d), we also expect agreement in the curve shapes because the numerical and analytical energies for the 1s level are very similiar. We can see that the peak value of the analytic result is very slightly higher than that of the numerical result, which corresponds to the analytical result for the energy being slightly greater in magnitude (-13.6 eV versus -13.4978 eV).

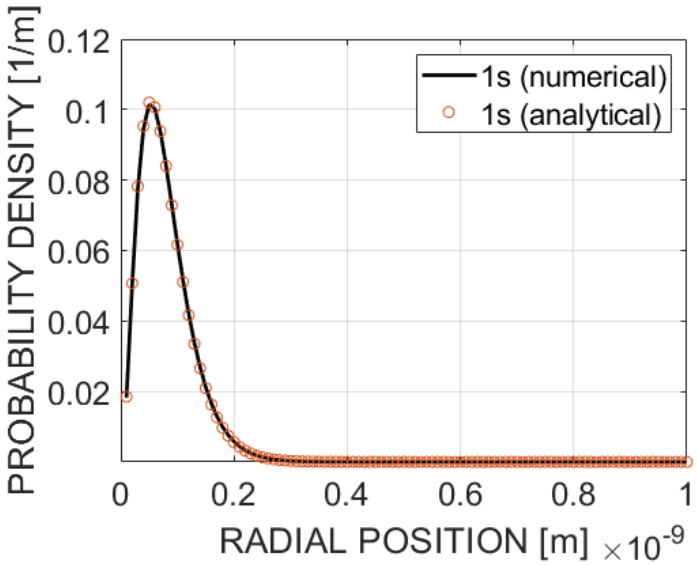


Figure 7. *Numerical result (black line) and analytical solution scaled by a (orange circles).*

Problem 3

(a) Recalling the identity

$$\cos u = \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + u\right), \tag{8}$$

we can write

$$\phi(x') = \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \sin\left(\frac{\pi(x' + L/2)}{L}\right)$$

$$\phi(x') = \boxed{\sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \cos\left(\frac{\pi x'}{L}\right).} \tag{9}$$

(b) (i) Mapping the provided Fourier identities from t and ω onto x' and k', we can evaluate the Fourier transform of $\phi(x') = \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{L}x'\right) \times \text{rect}\left(\frac{x'}{L}\right)$, denoted $A(k')$, using the following:

$$\mathcal{F}\left[\text{rect}\left(\frac{x'}{L}\right)\right] = \frac{L}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \text{sinc}\left(\frac{k'L}{2\pi}\right)$$

$$\mathcal{F}\left[f(x') \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{L}x'\right)\right] = \frac{1}{2}\left[F(k' + k_1) + F(k' - k_1)\right]$$

Letting $f(x') = \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \text{rect}\left(\frac{x'}{L}\right)$, we can obtain

$$A(k') = \boxed{\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\frac{L}{\pi}} \left\{\text{sinc}\left(\frac{L}{2\pi}(k' + k_1)\right) + \text{sinc}\left(\frac{L}{2\pi}(k' - k_1)\right)\right\},}$$

where $k_1 = \pi/L$.

(ii) Beginning with the result for $A(k')$ above, and writing

$$\Phi(p') \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{\hbar}} A\left(\frac{p'}{\hbar}\right),$$

we can obtain

$$\boxed{\Phi(p') = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\frac{L}{\pi\hbar}} \left\{\text{sinc}\left(\frac{L}{2\pi\hbar}(p' + p_1)\right) + \text{sinc}\left(\frac{L}{2\pi\hbar}(p' - p_1)\right)\right\},}$$

where $p_1 = \hbar\pi/L$.

(iii) $|\Phi(p')|^2$ has units of $[\text{s}\,\text{kg}^{-1}\,\text{m}^{-1}]$, which are those of inverse momentum. Thus, multiplication (or integration) by a differential of momentum results in a unitless probability, as we should expect. This holds in the 1D case and can easily be generalized to higher dimensions.

(iv) *sinc* is a purely real function, so we can ignore taking the norm of the integrand. As well, to simplify the intermediate equations we will define the constants $A = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\frac{L}{\pi\hbar}}$ and $B = \frac{L}{2\pi\hbar}$. Then we have

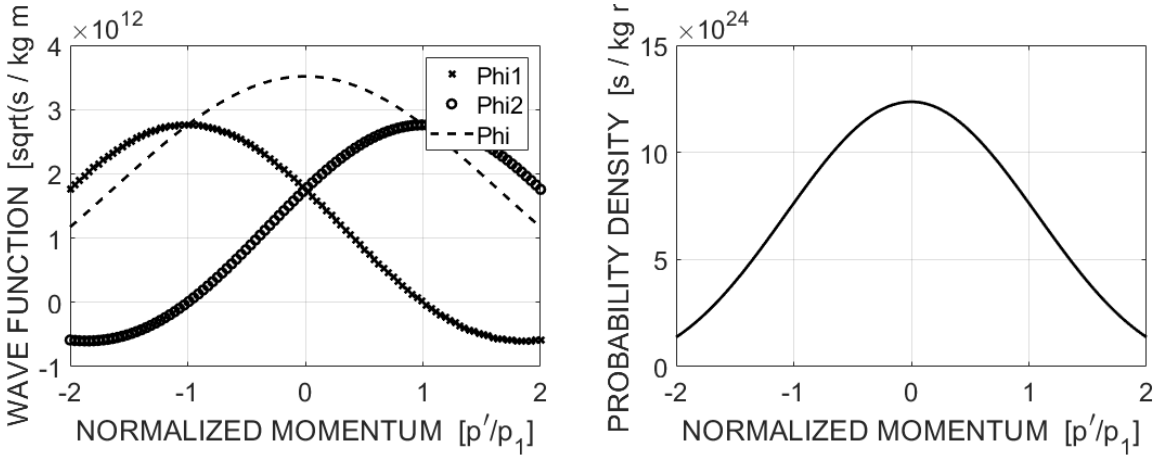
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \Phi(p')^2\, dp' = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A^2 \Big[\text{sinc}\left(B\left(p' + p_1\right)\right)^2 + 2\,\text{sinc}\left(B(p' + p_1)\right)\text{sinc}\left(B(p' - p_1)\right) + \text{sinc}\left(B(p' - p_1)\right)^2\Big]\, dp'.$$

Given property (26) of the *sinc* function in the assignment, we can evaluate the left and right terms to be $1/B$. Using a change of variable $p'' = p_1 - p'$, and properties (27) and (28), we can further evaluate the central cross term:

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \Phi(p')^2\, dp &= A^2 \frac{2}{B} - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A^2 \left[2\,\mathrm{sinc}\left(B(2p_1 - p'')\right)\mathrm{sinc}\left(B(-p'')\right)\right] dp'' \\
&= A^2 \frac{2}{B} - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A^2 \left[2\,\mathrm{sinc}\left(B(2p_1 - p'')\right)\mathrm{sinc}(Bp'')\right] dp'' \\
&= \frac{2A^2}{B} - A^2\,\mathrm{sinc}(2Bp_1) \\
&= 1 + A^2\,\mathrm{sinc}(1) \\
&= \boxed{1.}
\end{aligned}$$

Since we obtained $\Phi(p')$ from a normalized position wave function and we have reasoned that it should have the same properties, but with respect to momentum rather than position, it makes sense that this normalization integral should be 1, just as it would be for the associated position wave function.

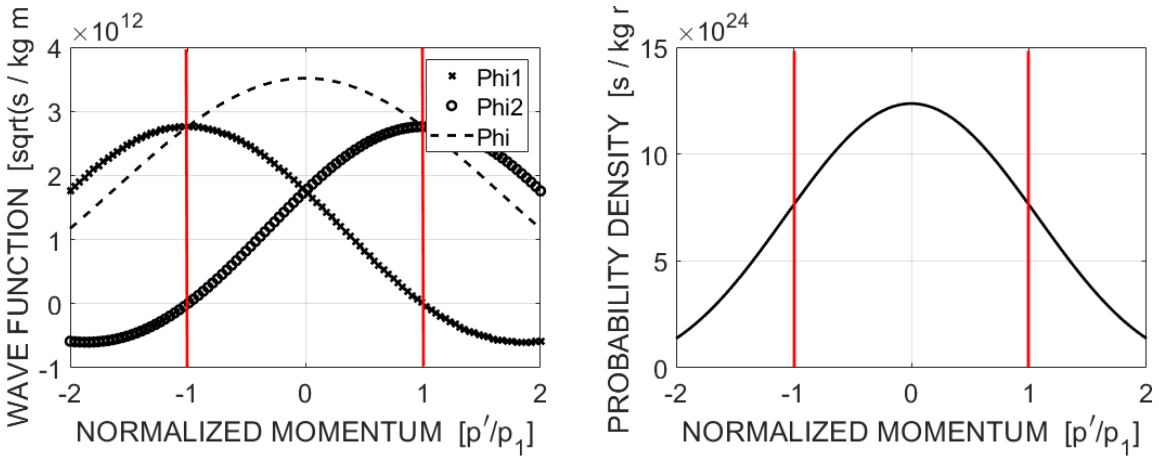
(v)



(a) (b)

Figure 8. *(a) momentum wave function versus normalized momentum. (b) Probability density versus normalized momentum.*

(vi) The points of classical momentum are given by $p_1 = \pm\sqrt{2mE}$. On the normalized plots, these occur at ± 1 on the p/p_1 axis. Given that $L = 101\,\text{Å}$, we can find the velocity of the electron by taking $v = \frac{p_1}{m_e}$. We find that $\boxed{v = \pm 3.6 \times 10^4\,\text{m/s}}$.



(a) (b)

Figure 9. *(a),(b) Previous plots but with the classical momentum marked in red.*

(vii) From the plot of the probability density, we can clearly see that the particle can take a continuum of momentum values. Thus the statement is false.

(c) Because the probability density is even about $p' = 0$, we can surmise that $\boxed{\langle p' \rangle = 0}$.

To verify this, we find $\langle p' \rangle$ from $\phi(x') = \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{L}x'\right) \times \text{rect}\left(\frac{x'}{L}\right)$ according to

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle p' \rangle &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi^*(x')\, \hat{p}\, \phi(x')\, dx' \\
\langle p' \rangle &= -i\hbar \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{L}x'\right) \frac{d}{dx'} \left[\sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{L}x'\right)\right] dx' \\
\langle p' \rangle &= \frac{-2i\pi\hbar}{L^2} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{L}x'\right) \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{L}x'\right) dx'.
\end{aligned}$$

Using Equation (31) in the assignment we can write

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle p' \rangle &= \frac{-i\hbar}{L} \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi}{L}x'\right)\Big|_{-L/2}^{L/2} \\
\langle p' \rangle &= \frac{-i\hbar}{L}(1-1) = \boxed{0},
\end{aligned}$$

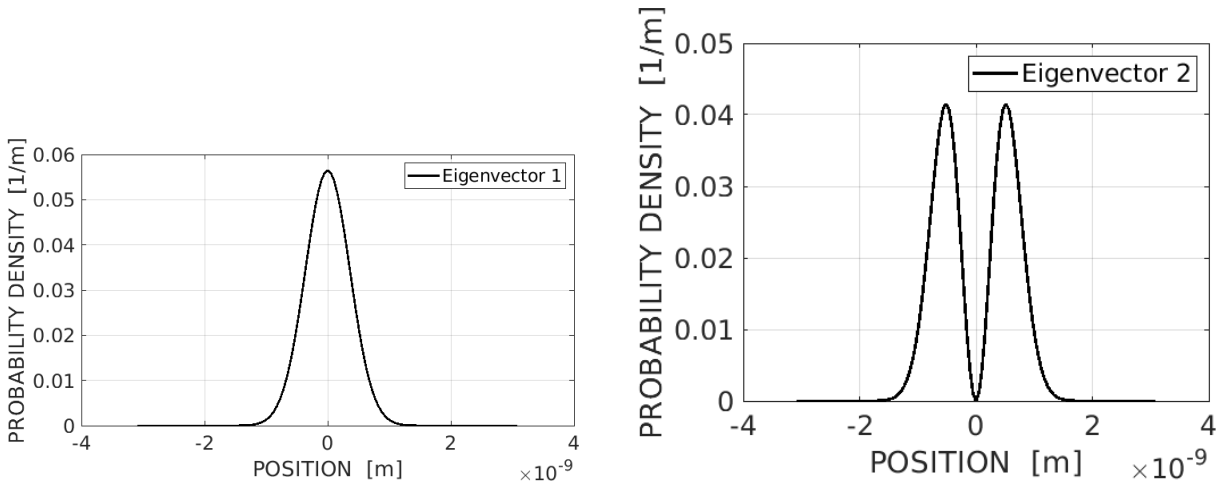
which verifies our above inference.

(d) The momentum associated with the wave function $\theta(x') = e^{ik'x'}$ is $\boxed{\text{sharp}}$, and the corresponding value is $\boxed{p' = \hbar k'}$.

$$\hat{p} = -i\hbar \frac{d}{dx'} e^{ik'x'} = -i^2 \hbar k' e^{ik'x'} = \hbar k' e^{ik'x'}$$

Problem 4

(a)



(a) (b)

Figure 10. *Probability densities versus position for first two energy levels.*

An a value of $\boxed{0.53\text{Å}}$ was chosen in order to provide an adequately shaped graph without sacrificing too much computation time and to ensure that the first two numerical energies correspond to the given experimental results. The experimental results are 0.143 95 eV and 0.431 85 eV for the first and second energy levels respectively, and the numerical results with our chosen a are 0.143 86 eV and 0.431 40 eV, which are in agreement.

(b) (i) The energies used were 0.143 95 eV and $0.43185 - 0.1$ eV for the first and second energy levels, respectively.

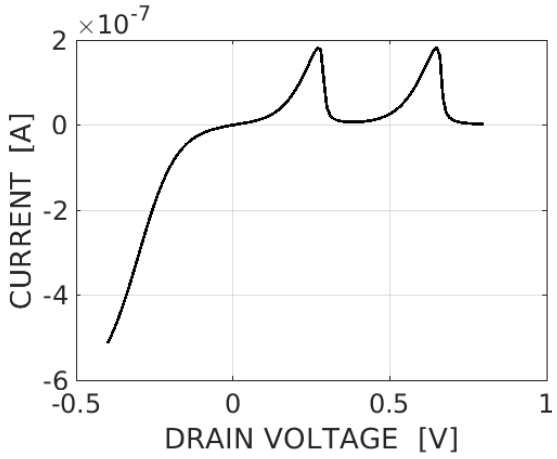


Figure 11. *Current-voltage characteristic of a 2-level molecule.*

(ii) Between 0 V and 0.25 V, only the first energy level is carrying any current. This current drops to 0 above 0.25 V because the coupling between the contacts and that energy level drops to 0, meaning no electrons can transfer.

Between 0.4 V and 0.65 V, only the second energy level is carrying current. This energy level stops conducting current above 0.65 V because its shifted energy drops below the threshold where the contacts have any coupling with it.

(iii) Negative differential resistance is present in this design from a V_D of approximately 0.27 V to 0.45 V, as well as from 0.65 V to 0.8 V.