

Problem Set 4 Answers
On Expectation Values

$$\begin{aligned}\langle z \rangle &= \int_0^b \Psi^* z \Psi dz \\ &= \int_0^b [2/b]^{1/2} \sin[\pi z/b] z [2/b]^{1/2} \sin[\pi z/b] dz\end{aligned}$$

Physical quantity	z	z^2	p_z	E_{kin}
Operator	z	z^2	$(\hbar/i) \partial/\partial z$	$-(\hbar^2/2m) \partial^2/\partial z^2$
$\text{Op}\Psi$	$z[2/b]^{1/2} \sin[\pi z/b]$	$z^2[2/b]^{1/2} \sin[\pi z/b]$	$(\hbar/i) [2/b]^{1/2} \pi/b \cos[\pi z/b]$	$(\hbar^2/2m) [2/b]^{1/2} \pi^2/b^2 \sin[\pi z/b]$
$\Psi^*\text{Op}\Psi$	$z[2/b] \sin^2[\pi z/b]$	$z^2[2/b] \sin^2[\pi z/b]$	$(\hbar/i) [2/b] \pi/b \sin[\pi z/b] \cos[\pi z/b]$	$(\hbar^2/2m) [2/b] \pi^2/b^2 \sin^2[\pi z/b]$
Integration $\int x \sin^2 ax dx = \frac{1}{4}x^2 - (\frac{1}{4}a)x \sin 2ax - (1/8a^2)\cos 2ax$ $\int x^2 \sin^2 ax dx = (1/6)x^3 - [(1/4a)x^2 - (1/8a^3)]\sin 2ax - (1/4a^2)x \cos 2ax$ $\int \sin^2(ax) dx = \frac{1}{2}x - (1/4a)\sin(2ax)$	$[2/b]\{ \frac{1}{4}z^2 - (b/4\pi)z \sin[2\pi z/b] - (b^2/8\pi^2)\cos[2\pi z/b] \}$ taken between 0 and b: $[2/b]\{ b^2/4 - (b/4\pi)b \sin 2\pi - (b^2/8\pi^2)(\cos 2\pi - \cos 0) \}$ $= [2/b]\{ b^2/4 \}$	$[2/b]\{ (1/6)z^3 - [(b/4\pi)z^2 + (b/2\pi)^3] \sin[2\pi z/b] + (b/2\pi)^2 z \cos[2\pi z/b] \}$ taken between 0 and b: $[2/b]\{ b^3/6 - [b^3/4\pi + (b/2\pi)^3] \sin 2\pi + (b/2\pi)^2 [b(\cos 2\pi - 0 \cos 0)] \}$ $= [2/b]\{ b^3/6 + b^3/4\pi^2 \}$	$(\hbar/i) [2\pi/b^2]^{1/2} [b/\pi] \sin^2[\pi z/b]$ taken between 0 and b: $(\hbar/i)[1/b] [\sin^2 \pi - \sin^2 0] = 0$	$(\hbar^2/2m) [2\pi^2/b^3] \{ z/2 - (\pi/4b) \sin[2\pi z/b] \}$ taken between 0 and b: $(\hbar^2/2m) [2\pi^2/b^3] \{ b/2 - (\pi/4b)[\sin 2\pi - \sin 0] \}$ $= (\hbar^2/2m) [2\pi^2/b^3] \{ b/2 \}$
Expectation value	$\langle z \rangle = b/2$	$\langle z^2 \rangle = b^2 \{ 1/3 + (2\pi^2)^{-1} \}$	$\langle p_z \rangle = 0$	$\langle E_{\text{kin}} \rangle = (\hbar^2/2m) \pi^2/b^2 = h^2/8mb^2$

The classical average $\langle z^2 \rangle$ is $(1/3)b^2$, which is only the first term in the quantum mechanical average.