

Answers mid-term exam  
Quantum Physics 1 24 Sept. 2015

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T1 a) As a starting point you can use that for a normalized state  $|c_1|^2 + |c_2|^2 = 1$ .  
For the state as given,  $|c_1|^2 + |c_2|^2 = |1/5|^2 + |e^{i\pi/10}|^2 = 1/5 + 1 = 1.2$   
This state becomes normalized (while representing the same physical state) when describing it as

$$|\psi_{\text{norm}}\rangle = \frac{c_1}{\sqrt{|c_1|^2 + |c_2|^2}} |\varphi_1\rangle + \frac{c_2}{\sqrt{|c_1|^2 + |c_2|^2}} |\varphi_2\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1.2}} |\varphi_1\rangle + \frac{e^{i\pi/10}}{\sqrt{1.2}} |\varphi_2\rangle$$

b) Use  $\hat{U} = e^{-i\hat{H}t/\hbar}$  and  $e^{i\pi} = e^{-i\pi} = -1$

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = \hat{U} |\psi(t=0)\rangle = \hat{U} |\psi_2\rangle = e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} E_1 t} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\varphi_1\rangle + e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} E_2 t} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\varphi_2\rangle$$

c)  $\langle \hat{A} \rangle(t) = \langle \psi(t) | \hat{A} | \psi(t) \rangle = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Use } \omega_1 = \frac{E_1}{\hbar}, \omega_2 = \frac{E_2}{\hbar} \\ \text{and see also b)} \end{array} \right.$

$$\frac{1}{2} (e^{i\omega_1 t} \langle \varphi_1 | + e^{i\omega_2 t} \langle \varphi_2 |) \hat{A} (-e^{-i\omega_1 t} |\varphi_1\rangle + e^{-i\omega_2 t} |\varphi_2\rangle) =$$

$$\frac{1}{2} (-e^{-i(\omega_2 - \omega_1)t} A_0 - e^{+i(\omega_2 - \omega_1)t} A_0)$$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Using } \langle \varphi_1 | \hat{A} | \varphi_1 \rangle = 0, \\ \langle \varphi_2 | \hat{A} | \varphi_2 \rangle = 0, \\ \langle \varphi_1 | \hat{A} | \varphi_2 \rangle = \langle \varphi_2 | \hat{A} | \varphi_1 \rangle = A_0 \end{array} \right.$

$$= -A_0 \cos((\omega_2 - \omega_1)t) \text{ and since } \omega_2 = 2\omega_1$$

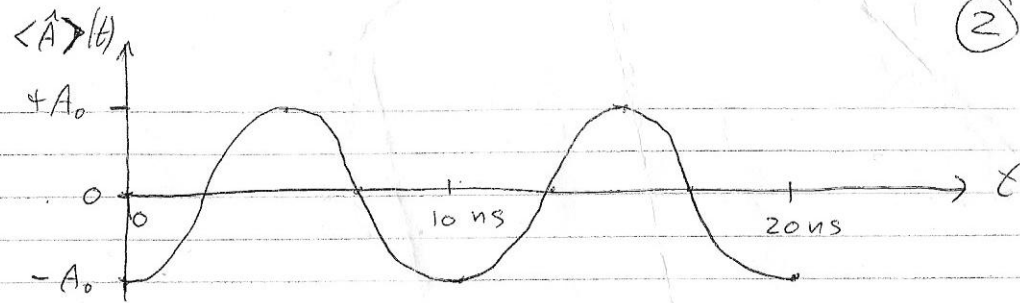
$$\langle \hat{A} \rangle(t) = -A_0 \cos(\omega_1 t)$$

$A_0 = 1 \text{ e nm} \rightarrow$  is the amplitude of osc.

$$\omega_1 = 2\pi f_1 = 2\pi \frac{E_1}{\hbar} = 2\pi \frac{6.626 \cdot 10^{-26}}{6.626 \cdot 10^{-34}} \text{ Hz} = 2\pi \cdot 10^8 \text{ Hz}$$

$\Rightarrow$  period of oscillation is  $T = \frac{1}{f_1} = 10 \text{ ns}$

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T2 a) The answer is  $\psi(x)$ , where  $\psi(x)$  is the Fourier transform of  $\bar{\varphi}(k) \Rightarrow$

$$\psi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ikx} \bar{\varphi}(k) dk = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi a}} \int_{-a/2}^{a/2} e^{+ikx} dk$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi a}} \left[ \frac{1}{ix} e^{ikx} \right]_{-a/2}^{a/2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi a}} \frac{1}{x} 2 \sin\left(\frac{ax}{2}\right)$$

$\rightarrow$  write in sine form  $\Rightarrow \psi(x) = \sqrt{\frac{a}{2\pi}} \frac{\sin\left(\frac{ax}{2}\right)}{\left(\frac{ax}{2}\right)}$

(This is a real and even function of  $x$ .)

b)  $\langle x \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \bar{\varphi}(k)^* \hat{x} \bar{\varphi}(k) dk = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi(x)^* \hat{x} \psi(x) dx$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi(x)^* x \psi(x) dx$$

Since  $\psi(x)$  is real and even, this gives  $\langle x \rangle = 0$

c)  $p_x = \hbar k$ . In the superposition described by  $\bar{\varphi}(k)$ , the highest value of  $k$  in the state is  $+a/2 \Rightarrow$

The maximum  $p_x$  that can be a measurement outcome is  $p_x = \hbar \cdot \frac{a}{2} \Rightarrow$

$$p_x = 1.055 \cdot 10^{-34} \text{ Js} \cdot 1 \cdot 10^{10} \text{ m}^{-1} = 1.055 \cdot 10^{-24} \text{ kg m/s}$$

$\leftarrow$  unit of  $p_x$