

# PH-107: Introduction to Quantum Mechanics

## Tutorial Sheet 4

Only "\*" to be solved in the tutorials

### Fourier Transform

1. \*If  $\phi(k) = A(a - |k|)$ ,  $|k| \leq a$ , and 0 elsewhere. Where  $a$  is a positive parameter and  $A$  is a normalization factor to be found.
  - (a) Find the Fourier transform for  $\phi(k)$
  - (b) Calculate the uncertainties  $\Delta x$  and  $\Delta p$  and check whether they satisfy the uncertainty principle.
2. A wave packet is of the form  $f(x) = \cos^2\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)$  (for  $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$ ) and  $f(x) = 0$  elsewhere
  - (a) Plot  $f(x)$  versus  $x$ .
  - (b) Calculate the Fourier transform of  $f(x)$ , i.e.  $g(k) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x)e^{-ikx}dx$  ?
  - (c) At what value of  $k$ ,  $|g(k)|$  attains its maximum value?
  - (d) Calculate the value(s) of  $k$  where the function  $g(k)$  has its first zero.
  - (e) Considering the first zero(s) of both the functions  $f(x)$  and  $g(k)$  to define their spreads (i.e.  $\Delta x$  and  $\Delta k$ ), calculate the uncertainty product  $\Delta x \cdot \Delta k$ .
3. \*A wave function  $\psi(x)$  is defined such that  $\psi(x) = \sqrt{2/L} \sin(\pi x/L)$  for  $0 \leq x \leq L$  and  $\psi(x) = 0$  otherwise.
  - (a) Writing  $\psi(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} a(k)e^{ikx}dk$ , find  $a(k)$ .
  - (b) What is the amplitude of the plane wave of wavelength  $L$  constituting  $\psi(x)$  ?
4. A wave packet is of the form  $f(x) = \exp(-\alpha|x|) \cdot \exp(ik_0x)$  ( for  $-\infty \leq x \leq \infty$ ) where  $\alpha, k_0$  are positive constants.
  - (a) Plot  $|f(x)|$  versus  $x$ .
  - (b) At what values of  $x$  does  $|f(x)|$  attain half of its maximum value? Consider the full width at half maxima (FWHM) as a measure of the spread (uncertainty) in  $x$ , find  $\Delta x$
  - (c) Calculate the Fourier transform of  $f(x)$ , i.e.  $g(k) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x)e^{ikx}dx$
  - (d) Plot  $g(k)$  versus  $k$ .
  - (e) Find the values of  $k$  at which  $g(k)$  attains half its maximum value? Using the same concept of FWHM as in part (b), calculate  $\Delta k$  ? Hence calculate the product  $\Delta x \cdot \Delta k$   
[ Given :  $\int_0^{\infty} e^{-(\alpha - ik)x}dx = \frac{1}{\alpha - ik}$  ]

### Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle

1. Estimate the uncertainty in the position of (a) a neutron moving at  $5 \times 10^6 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  and  
(b) a 50 kg person moving at  $2 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ .

2. A lead nucleus has a radius  $7 \times 10^{-15}$  m. Consider a proton bound within nucleus. Using the uncertainty relation  $\Delta p \Delta r \geq \hbar/2$ , estimate the root mean square speed of the proton, assuming it to be non-relativistic. (You can assume that the average value of  $p^2$  is square of the uncertainty in momentum.)
3. For a non-relativistic electron, using the uncertainty relation  $\Delta x \Delta p_x = \hbar/2$ 
  - (a) Derive the expression for the minimum kinetic energy of the electron localized in a region of size '  $a$  '.
  - (b) If the uncertainty in the location of a particle is equal to its de Broglie wavelength, show that the uncertainty in the measurement of its velocity is same as the particle velocity.
  - (c) Using the expression in (b), calculate the uncertainty in the velocity of an electron having energy 0.2keV
  - (d) An electron of energy 0.2keV is passed through a circular hole of radius  $10^{-6}$  m. What is the uncertainty introduced in the angle of emergence in radians? (Given  $\tan \theta \cong \theta$  )
4. A particle of mass  $m$  moves in a one-dimensional potential  $V(x) = \alpha|x|$  where  $\alpha > 0$ . Using Heisenberg's uncertainty relation, the minimum total energy of the particle is found to have the form  $E_{\min} = AB^{1/3}$ . Find  $A$  and  $B$ .