

Ira N. Levine, Quantum Chemistry



Quantum Mechanics

- Chapter 2

Differential Equations



Ordinary differential equations

Partial differential equations

$$y''' + 2x(y')^2 + \sin x \cos y = 3e^x$$

Third order

Linear differential equation

$$A_n(x)y^{(n)} + A_{n-1}(x)y^{(n-1)} + \dots + A_1(x)y' + A_0(x)y = g(x)$$

$g(x) = 0$ Homogeneous; otherwise it is inhomogeneous

Linear homogeneous differential equation

$$y'' + P(x)y' + Q(x)y = 0$$

Differential Equations



$$y'' + P(x)y' + Q(x)y = 0$$

y_1, y_2 solutions

$$y = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2 \quad \text{General solution}$$

$$\begin{aligned} c_1 y_1'' + c_2 y_2'' + P(x)c_1 y_1' + P(x)c_2 y_2' + Q(x)c_1 y_1 + Q(x)c_2 y_2 \\ = c_1 [y_1'' + P(x)y_1' + Q(x)y_1] + c_2 [y_2'' + P(x)y_2' + Q(x)y_2] \\ = c_1 \cdot 0 + c_2 \cdot 0 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Differential Equations



Linear homogeneous second order differential equation
with constant coefficients

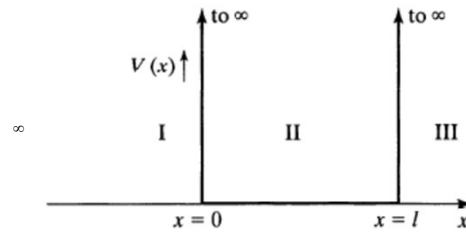
$$y'' + py' + qy = 0$$

$$y = e^{sx} \quad \rightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} s^2 e^{sx} + p s e^{sx} + q e^{sx} &= 0 \\ s^2 + ps + q &= 0 \quad \text{Auxiliary equation} \end{aligned}$$

$$y_1 = e^{s_1 x} \quad y_2 = e^{s_2 x}$$

$$y = c_1 e^{s_1 x} + c_2 e^{s_2 x}$$

particle in a one-dimensional box



Potential energy function $V(x)$ for the particle in a one-dimensional box

boundary conditions $\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} V(x) = 0 & \text{when } 0 < x < l \\ V(x) = \infty & \text{elsewhere} \end{array} \right.$

particle in a one-dimensional box



Schrödinger equation for regions I and III: $V(x) = \infty$

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \psi(x)}{\partial x^2} + \infty \psi(x) &= E \psi(x) \\ \frac{\partial^2 \psi(x)}{\partial x^2} + \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} (E - \infty) \psi(x) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Neglecting E in comparison with ∞

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 \psi(x)}{\partial x^2} &= -\infty \psi(x) \\ \frac{\partial^2 \psi(x)}{\partial x^2} \frac{1}{-\infty} &= \psi(x) \end{aligned}$$

We conclude that $\psi(x)$ is zero outside the box:

$$\psi_I(x) = \psi_{III}(x) = 0$$

particle in a one-dimensional box



For region II (inside the box): $V(x) = 0$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi(x)}{\partial x^2} + \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} E \psi(x) = 0$$

where, m = mass of the particle, and E is a total energy

a linear homogeneous second-order differential equation with constant coefficients

$$Y'' + py' + qy = 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad s^2 + ps + q = 0$$

$$y_1 = e^{s_1 x} \quad y_2 = e^{s_2 x}$$

The general solution is: $y = C_1 e^{s_1 x} + C_2 e^{s_2 x}$

particle in a one-dimensional box



$$\left. \begin{array}{l} s^2 + q = 0 \\ q = \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} E \end{array} \right\} \quad s^2 + 2mE/\hbar^2 = 0 \quad s^2 = (-2mE)/\hbar^2 \quad s = \pm(-2mE)^{1/2}/\hbar$$

$$\psi_{II} = c_1 e^{i(2mE)^{1/2} x / \hbar} + c_2 e^{-i(2mE)^{1/2} x / \hbar}$$

$$\text{Let: } \theta = (2mE)^{1/2} x / \hbar$$

$$\psi(x) = c_1 e^{i\theta} + c_2 e^{-i\theta}$$

particle in a one-dimensional box



$$\psi_{II}(x) = c_1 e^{i\theta} + c_2 e^{-i\theta}$$

$$e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$$

$$e^{-i\theta} = \cos(-\theta) + i \sin(-\theta) = \cos \theta - i \sin \theta$$

$$\psi_{II}(x) = c_1 \cos \theta + i c_1 \sin \theta + c_2 \cos \theta - i c_2 \sin \theta$$

$$\psi_{II}(x) = (c_1 + c_2) \cos \theta + (i c_1 - i c_2) \sin \theta$$

$$\boxed{\psi_{II}(x) = A \cos \theta + B \sin \theta}$$

A and B are new arbitrary constants

particle in a one-dimensional box



$$\psi_{II}(x) = A \cos[\hbar^{-1}(2mE)^{1/2} x] + B \sin[\hbar^{-1}(2mE)^{1/2} x]$$

$$\psi_{II}(x) = A \cos \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}} x + B \sin \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}} x$$

Now we determine A and B by applying boundary conditions.

particle in a one-dimensional box



It seems reasonable to **postulate** that the wave function will be continuous.

If $\Psi(x)$ is to be continuous at the point $x=0$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \psi(x) = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} [A \cos \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}} x + B \sin \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}} x] = 0$$

$$A \cos \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}} (0) + B \sin \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}} (0) = 0$$

$$A \cos \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}} (0) = 0$$

$$A = 0$$

particle in a one-dimensional box



$$\psi(x) = B \sin \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}} x$$

If $\Psi(x)$ is to be continuous at the point $x=l$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow l} \psi(x) = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow l} [B \sin \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}} x] = 0$$

$$B \sin \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}} (l) = 0$$

B cannot be zero because this would make the wave function zero everywhere.

particle in a one-dimensional box



$$\sin \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}} l = 0$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}} l = \pm n\pi \quad , \quad n=1,2,\dots$$

We must reject the value zero for n, which makes E = 0. why?

$$E = n^2 \frac{h^2}{8ml^2} \quad , \quad n=1,2,\dots$$

Ground state $n = 1$

Excited state $n > 1$

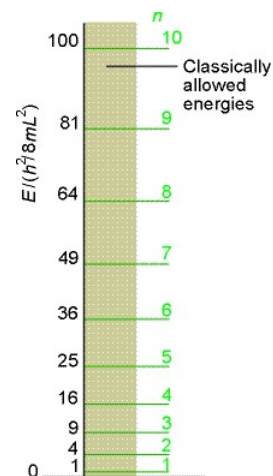
Application of boundary conditions has forced us to the conclusion that the values of the energy are quantized.

particle in a one-dimensional box



$$E = n^2 \frac{h^2}{8ml^2} \quad , \quad n=1,2,\dots$$

$$\frac{E}{\frac{h^2}{8ml^2}} = n^2$$



Example:

A particle of mass 2.00×10^{-26} g is in a one-dimensional box of length 4.00 nm. Find the frequency and wavelength of the photon emitted when this particle goes from the $n = 3$ to the $n = 2$ level.

By conservation of energy,

$$h\nu = E_{\text{upper}} - E_{\text{lower}} = n_u^2 h^2 / 8ml^2 - n_l^2 h^2 / 8ml^2$$

$$\nu = \frac{(n_u^2 - n_l^2)h}{8ml^2} = \frac{(3^2 - 2^2)(6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s})}{8(2.00 \times 10^{-29} \text{ kg})(4.00 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m})^2} = 1.29 \times 10^{12} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$\lambda = 2.32 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m.}$$



particle in a one-dimensional box

$$\psi(x) = B \sin \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}} x$$

↓

$$\psi(x) = B \sin \left(\frac{n\pi x}{l} \right)$$

$\sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}} l = \pm n\pi$

$n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

?

The constant B is still arbitrary. To fix its value, we use the normalization requirement:



particle in a one-dimensional box



$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |\psi(x)|^2 dx = 1$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^a |\psi(x)|^2 dx + \int_0^l |\psi(x)|^2 dx + \int_l^{\infty} |\psi(x)|^2 dx = 1$$

$$|B|^2 \int_0^l \sin^2\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) dx = 1 = |B|^2 \frac{l}{2}$$

$$|B| = \sqrt{\frac{2}{l}} \quad (2/l)^{1/2} e^{i\alpha}$$

Note that we have determined only the absolute value of B.

$$\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{l}} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right)$$

particle in a one-dimensional box



To explain this:

$$\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta = 1$$

$$\cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta = \cos 2\theta$$

By summation

$$2 \cos^2 \theta = \cos 2\theta + 1$$

By subtraction

$$2 \sin^2 \theta = 1 - \cos 2\theta \quad \sin^2 \theta = (1 - \cos 2\theta) / 2$$

particle in a one-dimensional box



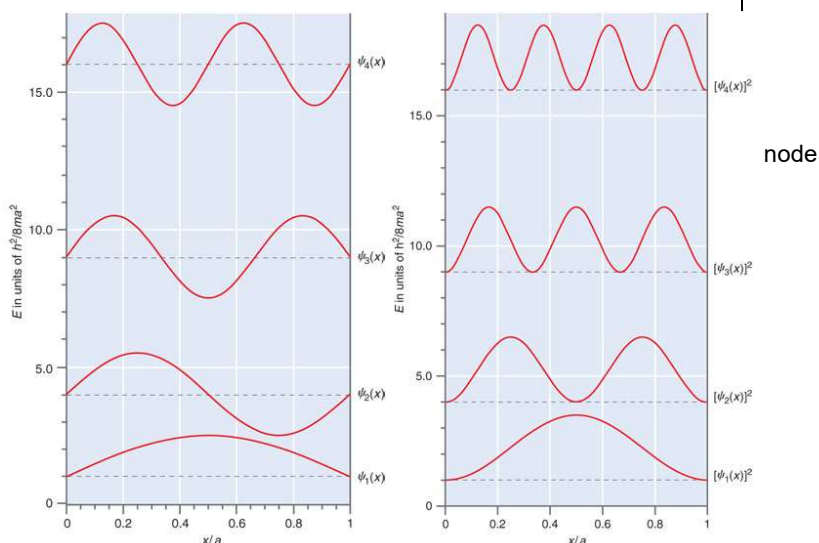
$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^l \sin^2\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) dx &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^l 2 \sin^2\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^l \left(1 - \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{l}\right) dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^l dx - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^l \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{l} dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} x \Big|_0^l - \frac{l}{4n\pi} \int_0^l \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{l} d \frac{2n\pi x}{l} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} l - \frac{l}{4n\pi} \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{l} \Big|_0^l = \frac{1}{2} l - \frac{l}{4n\pi} [\sin 2n\pi - \sin 0] = \frac{1}{2} l
 \end{aligned}$$

particle in a one-dimensional box

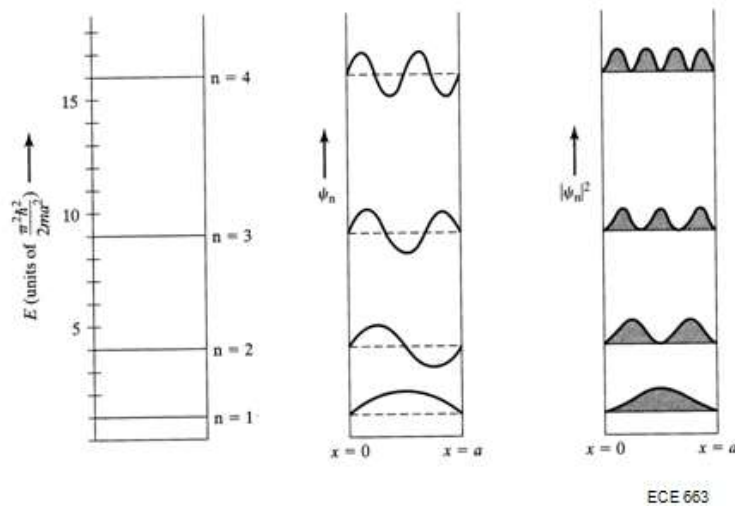


$$\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{l}} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right)$$

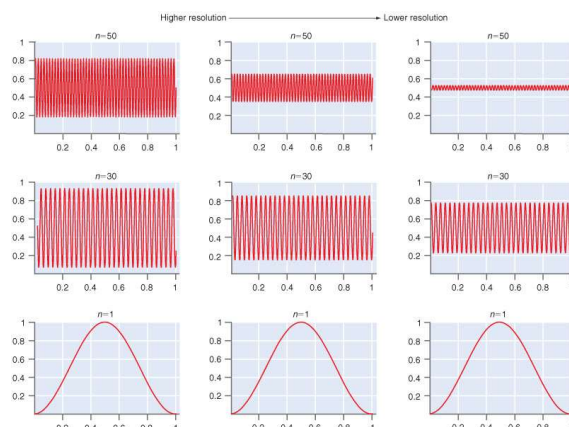
$$|\psi_n(x)|^2 = \psi_n^* \psi_n = \frac{2}{l} \left(\sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) \right)^2$$



particle in a one-dimensional box



Graph of $\psi_n^2(x) / [\psi_1^2(x)]_{\max}$



Bohr correspondence principle
Result of Q.M 'approach' to the C.M when classical limit

Exercise:

- For particle in a box show:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi_i^* \psi_j dx = 1 \quad \text{if } i = j$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi_i^* \psi_j dx = 0, \quad i \neq j$$

Example:

Find the probability of finding the particle in the first tenth (from 0 to $L/10$) of the box for $n = 1, 2$, and 3 states.

Solution: The wavefunction is given by:

$$\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$



To find the probability in a region, the probability density must be integrated over that region of space.

$$P_n = \int_0^{L/10} \left[\sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \right] \left[\sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \right] dx = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^{L/10} \sin^2\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

$$\downarrow \quad \int \sin^2(cx) dx = \frac{x}{2} - \left(\frac{1}{4c}\right) \sin(2cx)$$

$$P_n = \frac{2}{L} \left[\frac{L}{20} - \left(\frac{L}{4n\pi}\right) \sin\left(\frac{2n\pi}{10}\right) \right] = \left[\frac{1}{10} - \left(\frac{1}{2n\pi}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{5}\right) \right]$$





$$\text{For } n = 1: P_1 = \frac{1}{10} - \frac{1}{2\pi} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{5}\right) \cong 0.0064$$

$$\text{For } n = 2: P_2 = \frac{1}{10} - \frac{1}{4\pi} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{5}\right) \cong 0.024$$

$$\text{For } n = 3: P_3 = \frac{1}{10} - \frac{1}{6\pi} \sin\left(\frac{3\pi}{5}\right) \cong 0.050$$

Exercise:

For the particle in a one-dimensional box of length l , we could have put the coordinate origin at the center of the box. Find the wave functions and energy levels for this choice of origin.



The free particle in one dimension

$$F = 0 \rightarrow V = \text{cte}$$

$$V(x) = 0$$

$$\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} + \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} E\psi = 0$$

$$\psi = c_1 e^{i(2mE)^{1/2}x/\hbar} + c_2 e^{-i(2mE)^{1/2}x/\hbar}$$

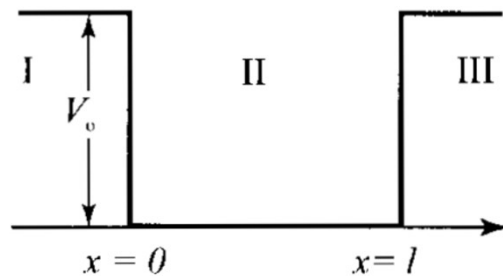
It seems reasonable to postulate that ψ will remain finite as x goes to $\pm\infty$.

For $E < 0$:

$$i(2mE)^{1/2} = i(-2m|E|)^{1/2} = i \cdot i \cdot (2m|E|)^{1/2} = -(2m|E|)^{1/2}$$

$$E \geq 0$$

Particle in a rectangular well



$$V = V_0 \quad \text{for } x < 0,$$

$$V = 0 \quad \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq l$$

$$V = V_0 \quad \text{for } x > l$$

Particle in a rectangular well



$$E < V_0$$

$$d^2\psi/dx^2 + (2m/\hbar^2)(E - V_0)\psi = 0$$

$$s^2 + (2m/\hbar^2)(E - V_0) = 0$$

$$s = \pm(2m/\hbar^2)^{1/2}(V_0 - E)^{1/2}$$

$$\psi_I = C \exp [(2m/\hbar^2)^{1/2}(V_0 - E)^{1/2}x] + D \exp [-(2m/\hbar^2)^{1/2}(V_0 - E)^{1/2}x]$$

$$\psi_{III} = F \exp [(2m/\hbar^2)^{1/2}(V_0 - E)^{1/2}x] + G \exp [-(2m/\hbar^2)^{1/2}(V_0 - E)^{1/2}x]$$

$$x \rightarrow -\infty$$

$$D = 0$$

$$x \rightarrow +\infty$$

$$F = 0$$

Particle in a rectangular well



$$\psi_I = C \exp [(2m/\hbar^2)^{1/2}(V_0 - E)^{1/2}x]$$

$$\psi_{III} = G \exp [-(2m/\hbar^2)^{1/2}(V_0 - E)^{1/2}x]$$

In region II, $V = 0$

$$\psi_{II} = A \cos [(2m/\hbar^2)^{1/2}E^{1/2}x] + B \sin [(2m/\hbar^2)^{1/2}E^{1/2}x]$$

Particle in a rectangular well



$$\psi_I(0) = \psi_{II}(0) \quad x = 0$$

$$\psi_{II}(l) = \psi_{III}(l) \quad x = l$$

$$d\psi_I/dx = d\psi_{II}/dx \quad x = 0$$

$$d\psi_{II}/dx = d\psi_{III}/dx \quad x = l$$

if d/dx changed discontinuously at a point then its derivative $d^2\psi/dx^2$ would become infinite at that point.
 $d^2\psi/dx^2 = (2m/\hbar^2)(V - E)\psi$
 does not contain anything infinite on the right

$$\psi_I(0) = \psi_{II}(0) \quad C = A$$

$$\psi'_I(0) = \psi'_{II}(0) \quad B = (V_0 - E)^{1/2} A / E^{1/2}$$

$$\psi_{II}(l) = \psi_{III}(l) \quad G \text{ as a function of } A$$

Particle in a rectangular well



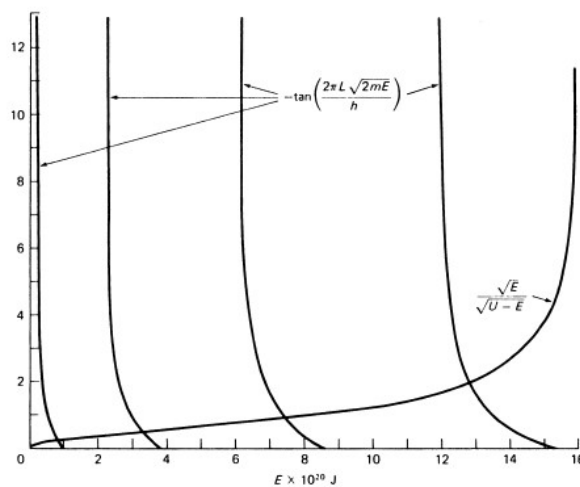
$$\psi'_{\text{II}}(l) = \psi'_{\text{III}}(l)$$

$$\psi_{\text{II}}(l) = \psi_{\text{III}}(l)$$

$$(2E - V_0) \sin [(2mE)^{1/2}l/\hbar] = 2(V_0E - E^2)^{1/2} \cos [(2mE)^{1/2}l/\hbar]$$

$$\varepsilon \equiv E/V_0 \quad b \equiv (2mV_0)^{1/2}l/\hbar$$

$$(2\varepsilon - 1) \sin (b\varepsilon^{1/2}) - 2(\varepsilon - \varepsilon^2)^{1/2} \cos (b\varepsilon^{1/2}) = 0$$



Graphical solution of the equation $\tan(2\pi L\sqrt{2mE}/h) = \sqrt{E}/\sqrt{U-E}$. Here $L = 2.50 \text{ nm}$, $m = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$, $U = 1 \text{ eV} = 16.02 \times 10^{-20} \text{ J}$. Intersections occur at $E = 0.828 \times 10^{-20} \text{ J}$, $3.30 \times 10^{-20} \text{ J}$, $7.36 \times 10^{-20} \text{ J}$ and $12.8 \times 10^{-20} \text{ J}$.



Particle in a rectangular well



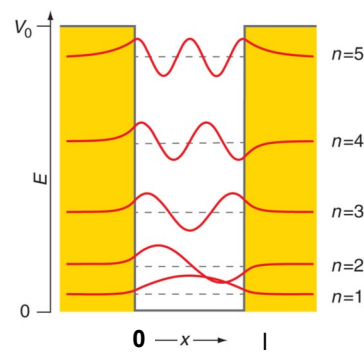
$$N - 1 < b/\pi \leq N$$

$$b \equiv (2mV_0)^{1/2}l/\hbar$$

$$V_0 = \hbar^2/m l^2$$

$$b/\pi = 2(2^{1/2}) = 2.83$$

$$N = 3$$



bound states when $E < V_0$

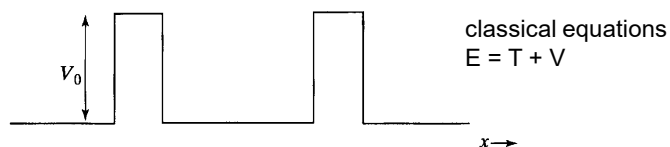
unbound states when $E > V_0$



- ✓ For $E > V_0$, $(V_0 - E)^{1/2}$ is imaginary \rightarrow all energies above V_0 are allowed.
- ✓ A state in which $\psi \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$ and as $x \rightarrow -\infty$ is called a bound state.
- ✓ For an unbound state, ψ does not go to zero as $x \rightarrow \pm \infty$ and is not normalizable.
- ✓ For the particle in a rectangular well, states with $E < V_0$ are bound and states with $E > V_0$ are unbound.
- ✓ For the particle in a box with infinitely high walls, all states are bound.
- ✓ For the free particle, all states are unbound.

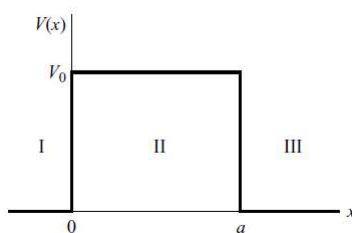
Tunneling

Tunneling: the penetration of a particle into a classically forbidden region or the passage of a particle through a potential-energy barrier whose height exceeds the particle's energy.



- ✓ The emission of alpha particles from a radioactive nucleus
- ✓ The inversion of the NH_3 pyramidal molecule
- ✓ Internal rotation in CH_3CH_3
- ✓ Tunneling of electrons in oxidation-reduction reactions
- ✓ The scanning tunneling microscope (STM)

Tunneling



Potential energy barrier of height V_0 and width a .

$$V(x) = \begin{cases} V_0, & 0 \leq x \leq a \\ 0, & x < 0, \quad x > a \end{cases}$$

Tunneling



$$T = 16\varepsilon(1 - \varepsilon)e^{-2l/D} \quad \text{The transmission coefficient}$$

$$\varepsilon = \frac{E}{V_0}$$

$$D = \frac{\hbar}{\{2m(V_0 - E)\}^{1/2}}$$