SECOND PUBLIC EXAMINATION

Honour School of Physics Part A: 3 and 4 Year Courses

Honour School of Physics and Philosophy Part A

A3: QUANTUM PHYSICS

TRINITY TERM 2011

Friday, 24 June, 9.30 am - 12.30 pm

Answer all of Section A and three questions from Section B.

For Section A start the answer to each question on a fresh page. For Section B start the answer to each question in a fresh book.

A list of physical constants and conversion factors accompanies this paper.

The numbers in the margin indicate the weight that the Examiners expect to assign to each part of the question.

Do NOT turn over until told that you may do so.

Section A

1. For a quantum mechanical operator Q, what do the expectation value $\langle Q \rangle$ and the dispersion $D(Q) = \sqrt{\langle (Q - \langle Q \rangle)^2 \rangle}$ represent?

If a system is in a eigenstate of Q with eigenvalue q, evaluate $\langle Q \rangle$ and D(Q) for the system.

[4]

2. What is the parity operator in quantum mechanics and what are the parity eigenvalues of the eigenstates under its action?

If ψ_1 and ψ_2 are degenerate eigenstates of a quantum-mechanical Hamiltonian, what does this imply about them?

Show that the non-degenerate eigenstates of a Hamiltonian which is symmetric under space inversion of the coordinates have definite parity. Comment on the degenerate case.

[5]

3. How is the probability current density related to the static probability density?

Considering a particle moving in one dimension in a potential V(x), derive an expression for the probability current density j, starting from the time-dependent Schrödinger equation.

[6]

4. By considering the time-independent Schrödinger equation, comment on the general form of the wavefunction ψ in regions where E < V and in regions where E > V, taking V to be a constant. If a particle of energy E travels from the region x < 0, for which V = 0, into the region x > 0, for which $V = V_0 > E$, what is the probability that the particle will be reflected? What is the probability to observe the particle at distance x = d (d > 0), relative to the probability to observe it at x = 0?

[7]

5. At time t=0, a free particle of mass m moving in one dimension is described by the normalised wavefunction

$$\psi(x) = \left(\frac{2}{\pi a^2}\right)^{1/4} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{a^2} + ikx\right).$$

Obtain the expectation values of the position and momentum of the particle and estimate the size of the region in which it is located. Show that the probability current density can be written as $(\hbar k/m)|\psi(x)|^2$.

[9]

6. For a two-state system, the time-independent Schrödinger equation, $H|\psi\rangle = E|\psi\rangle$, can be written as an eigenvalue equation for the energy E:

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_1 + \lambda & \lambda \\ \lambda & E_2 + \lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = E \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}.$$

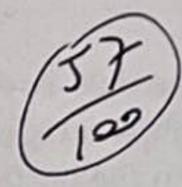
What are the eigenvalues of H when $E_1 = E_2$ and what are the associated eigenstates of the system?

Comment on how your answer relates to first-order perturbation theory.

[9]

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Section B



Hydrogen-like wavefunctions have the form

$$\psi_{n\ell m} = R_{n\ell}(r) Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi).$$

Which property of the Coulomb interaction allows for the above separation of variables? What do the symbols n, ℓ and m represent? For a given n, what values can ℓ and mtake?

[5]

The ground-state wavefunction is given by

$$R_{10}(r) = \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{3/2} 2e^{-Zr/a_0}$$
 and $Y_{00}(\theta, \phi) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}}$,

where $a_0 = 4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar^2/\mu e^2$. What do μ and Z represent? What is the significance of a_0 ? Sketch the probability density for the electron as a function of r.

[5]

A tritium atom, ³H is in its ground state when the nucleus undergoes a beta decay and becomes ³He. Using the 'sudden approximation' calculate the probability that this helium ion is in the 1s state.

[10]

8. J_x , J_y and J_z , are the angular momentum operators. Evaluate the commutators $[J_z, J_+], [J_z, J_-], [J^2, J_+], \text{ and } [J^2, J_-], \text{ where } J^2 = J_x^2 + J_y^2 + J_z^2 \text{ and } J_{\pm} = J_x \pm iJ_y.$ [3]

If $|j,m\rangle$ is an eigenket of J^2 , J_z with eigenvalues j(j+1), m show that $J_+|j,m\rangle$ and $J_{-}|j,m\rangle$ are also eigenkets and give the corresponding eigenvalues.

[3]

Derive matrices representing J_x, J_y, J_z for j = 1.

[8]

The matrix for the angular momentum in a direction at 45° to the z axis in the xz plane is:

 $J_{45^{\circ}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(J_x + J_z).$

Find the eigenvector of this operator corresponding to the eigenvalue zero.

[3]

A spin-1 particle is prepared in a state with magnetic quantum number m=0with respect to a reference axis at 45° to the z axis in the xz plane. It then passes through a filter which only transmits particles in the m=1 state with respect to the z direction. What is the probability that the particle is still in the m=0 state with respect to the original 45° axis?

[3]

9. A particle is confined in an infinitely deep square well described by a potential V(x) which is zero for $-\frac{1}{2}a \le x \le \frac{1}{2}a$. Use the Schrödinger equation to find the energies available to the particle and sketch the wavefunctions of the three states of lowest energy.

[8]

Explain how the wavefunction of the ground state is changed if the well is perturbed by a small added potential V':

(a) $V' = V_1 x$ $(V_1 > 0, V_1 a \ll E_0, \text{ the ground-state energy}),$

(b)
$$V' = V_2 x^2$$
 $(V_2 > 0, V_2 a^2 \ll E_0)$. [5]

The well is perturbed by the addition to V(x) of a potential $V' = V_3 \sin(\pi x/a)$. Show that in perturbation theory to first order, only the first excited-state wavefunction then mixes with the ground-state wavefunction and evaluate its relative contribution.

[7]

10. The Hamiltonian for the interaction between an electron and an uniform magnetic field \vec{B} is

$$H = \frac{e\hbar}{m_{\rm e}} \vec{B} \cdot \vec{S},$$

where \vec{S} is the electron spin with components:

$$S_x = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \qquad S_y = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \qquad S_z = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The magnetic field (of magnitude B) is along the z-axis. Show that the wavefunction for the electron takes the form

$$\psi(t) = \begin{pmatrix} a(0) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} i \omega_L t\right) \\ b(0) \exp\left(\frac{1}{2} i \omega_L t\right) \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } \omega_L = eB/m_e$$

and specify the energy eigenvalues.

[6]

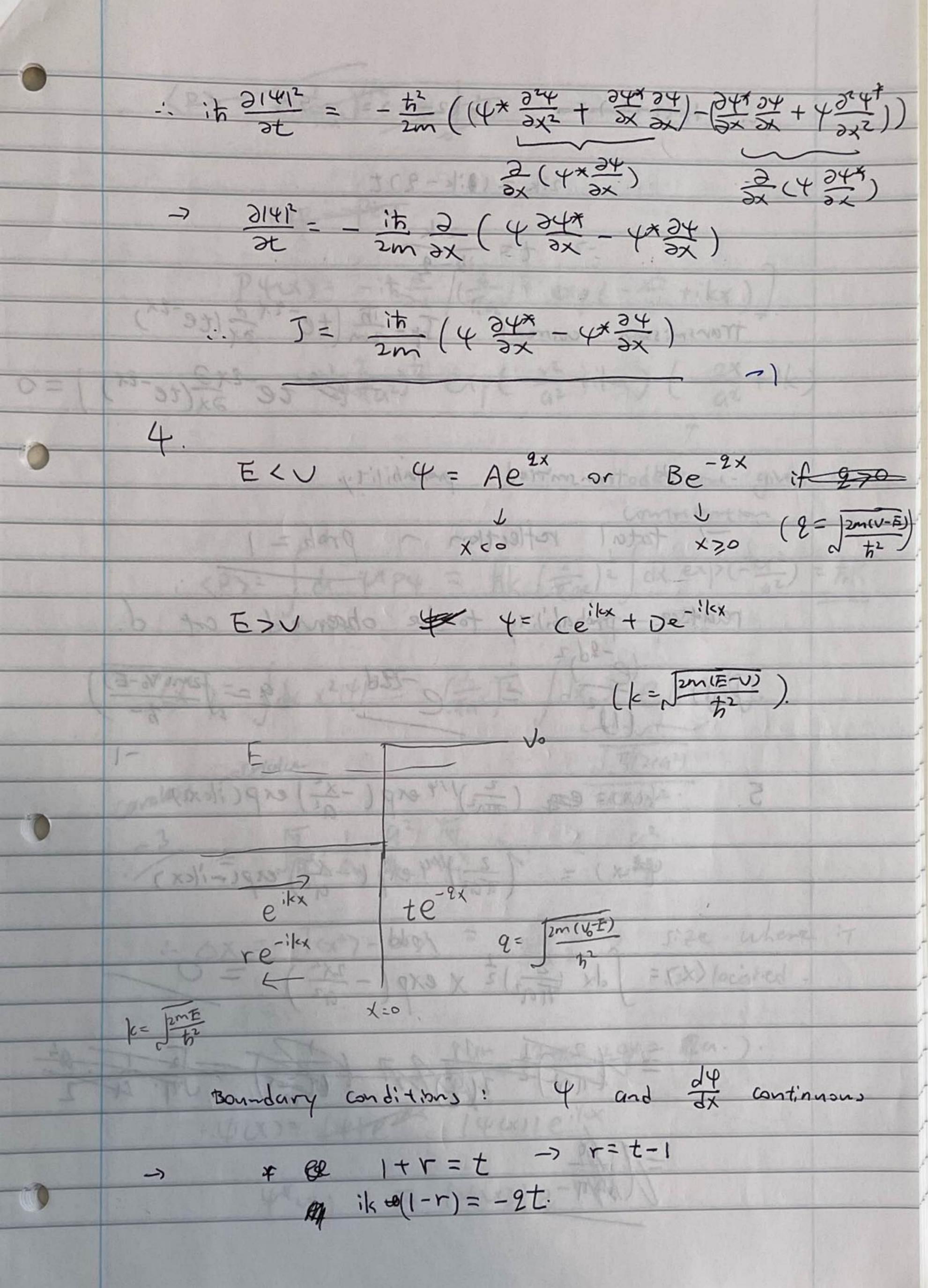
A magnetic field of magnitude $B' \ll B$, which rotates in the xy plane at angular velocity ω , is applied to the system in the lower eigenstate. What is the probability that it will be found in the higher energy eigenstate at time t?

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First Attempt A3 2011 Homel Hadday I To File and (Q) is the average of vom value obtained when the observable Q is measured successively. Dee) is the standard devoation from the mean (Q); + it measure the me uncertainty of Q. WHOR gold gold out to the faithful ? If Q19>=919). then Dealered to the ! - light torter (0)= (2/0/9) = 2(2/27 = 2) Des (Q2) = (2/Q2/27= 92 man deal trade printe our trade D(e)= J((e-(e))2 = J((e2-20(e)+(e)2) said no the total of month of $= \int \langle e^2 \rangle - \langle e \rangle^2 = \int g^2 - g^2 = 0$ The parity operator reverses the squared coordinates of the state. P(x14)= (-x14)=H · P2 (×147 = (×147 if $\{47\}$ is an eigenstate then this implies $\Lambda^2 = 1 \rightarrow \Lambda = \pm 1$ are eigenvalues -> 4, and 42 cire degenerate eigenstates of the same eigenvalue, then any linear combination of them is also an eigenstate of the same eigenstate

-> Symmetric Hamiltonian [P, H]=0 Bod and a me and special see the see the 21 Ch non-degenerate - States of H are eigenstates of 1-1 must be eigenstates of P i. eigenstates of H have definite parity. -) Degenerate case! eigenstates of H with degenerare eigenvalues does not necessarily heure definite parity, but me can my notes Construct linear constit combinations of them that have. 1 31412 \$ = - \D. J = - \frac{25}{25} (in 1-D) 1D: H= - # d2 + U(x) 708E it 34 = - th de + v4 talany complex conjugate: -it 34 = - th dyx + VY* - 12 (4× 24 - 4 24)

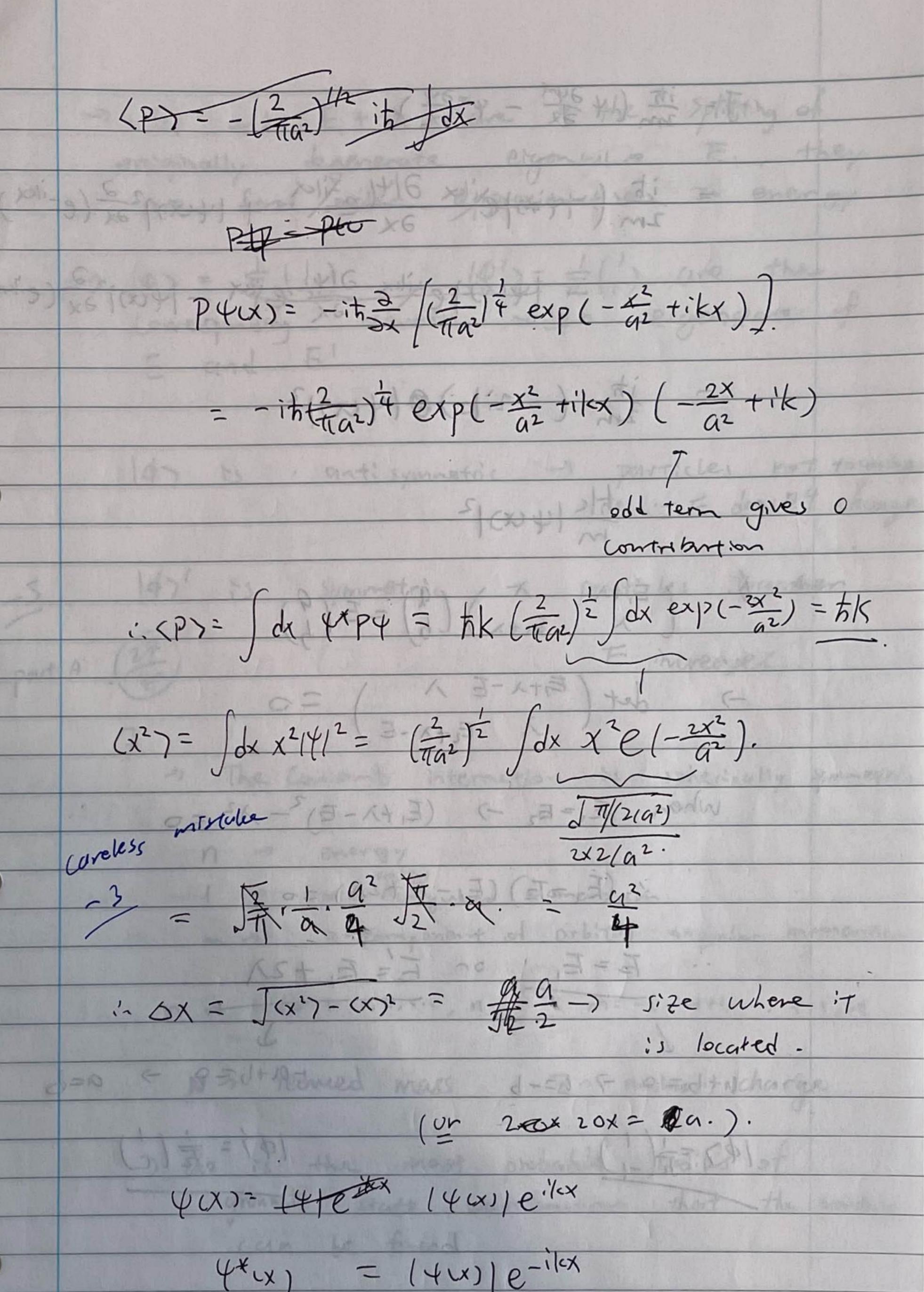
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itele=1 - ik (2-t) = -9t

$$\frac{2!k = (1!k-9)t}{1!k-2}$$
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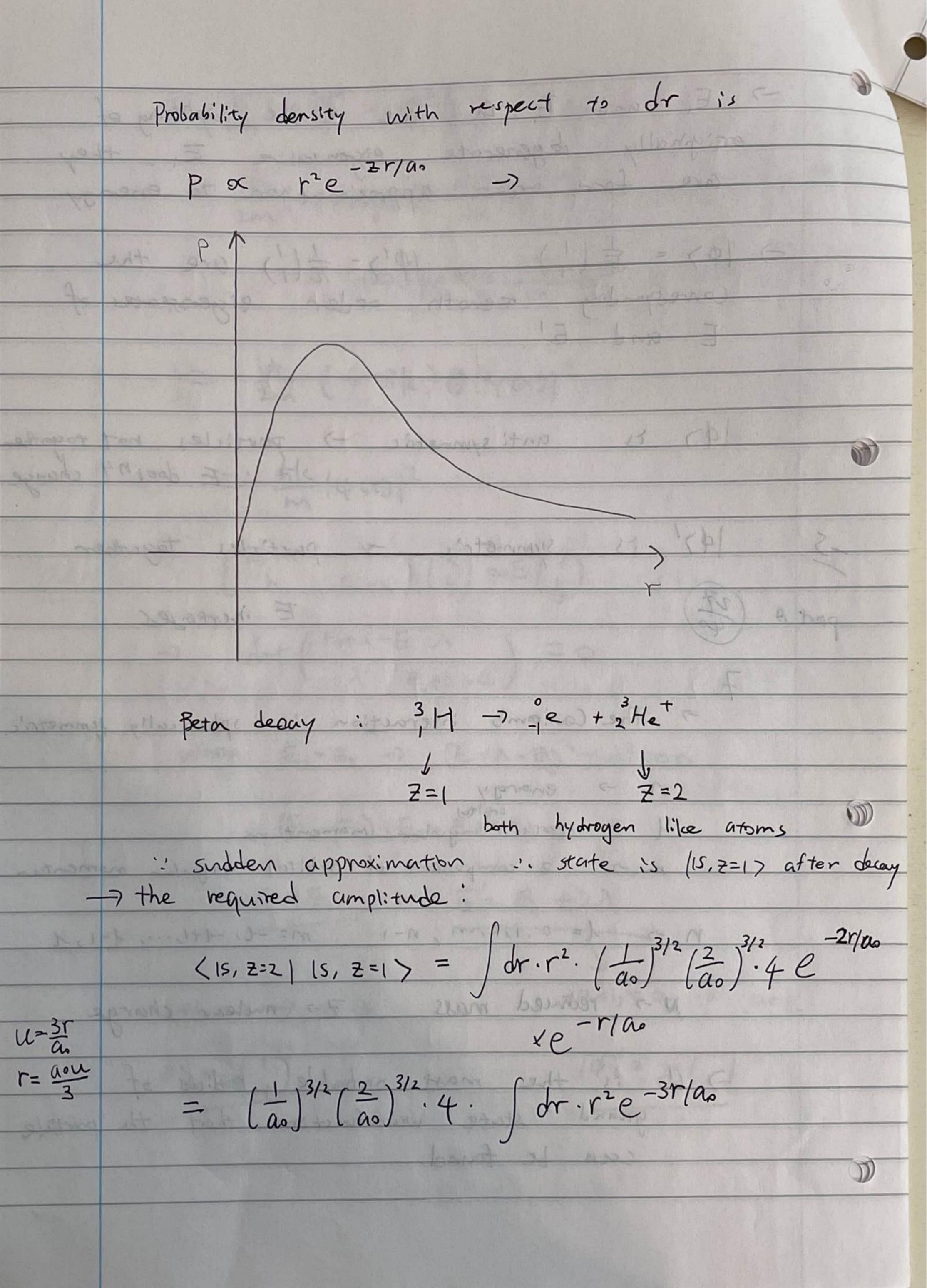
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TE, and E, t 22 are the Splitting of originally degenerate eigenvalue E, they are first order approximation to energy) $|\phi\rangle = \frac{1}{2}(1)$, $|\phi'\rangle = \frac{1}{2}(1)$ are the corresponding zeroth order eigensporter of antisymmetric -) particles not together + .. E does n4 change -5 |47' 15 symmetric - particles together E increases. 7. The Coulomb interaction is spherically symmetric. n -> energy total vangular momentum m > Z-component of orbital angular momentum - The verying ounglitude. 1=0.1,2,..., n-1 . m=-1,-1+1,..., 1-1,1. (18) 5=55 | 12) E=1 | QL. L. 1 N-> reduced mass Z-> nuclear charge -) do is the most probable radius of ground state wavefunction that the particle can be found.



$$= \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{3^{2}}{2\pi} \frac{(2\pi)^{3/2}}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} + \frac{3\pi}{3} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} du u^{2} e^{-u} \frac{2! - 2!}{2! - 2!}$$

$$= \frac{212 \cdot 4 \cdot 2}{3^{3}} = \frac{3\pi}{2} \frac{16J^{2}}{27}$$

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一つ JJ-11,m7) = J-Jz1j,m7 + [Jz,J-]1j,m7
       mt
            = tantitation (m-1) to (J-11,m) -> ce En
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                    Caris di + Fili
      J2 J_1j,m) = J-J2/j,m) = j(j+1) t3 (J-1j,m7) 70ED
                                  eigorvalue
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           I trivially
        Jx= - (5++J-)
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                                            (States orthogonal)
   sim: larly
  (11]x12) = - (1,11]++J-11,0) = = (1,11]+11,0)
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2 1 m 1 m 1 2 1 3

$$J_{1}(1,0) = J_{2}(1,1) \qquad \therefore \langle 1|J_{x}|^{2}\rangle = \langle 2|J_{x}|1\rangle = \frac{E}{2}$$

$$\langle 1|J_{x}|3\rangle = \frac{1}{2}\langle 1,0|J_{+}+J_{-}|1,-1\rangle = 0 = \langle 3|J_{1}|1\rangle$$

$$\langle 2|J_{x}|3\rangle = \frac{1}{2}\langle 1,0|J_{+}+J_{-}|1,-1\rangle$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}\langle 1,0|J_{+}|1,-1\rangle = \frac{1}{2}\langle 1,0|J_{+}|1,-1\rangle$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}\langle 1,0|J_{+}|1,-1\rangle = \frac{1}{2}\langle 1,0|J_{+}|1,-1\rangle$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}\langle 1,0|J_{+}|1,-1\rangle = \frac{1}{2}\langle 1,0|J_{+}|1,-1\rangle$$

$$\therefore \text{ similarly } \langle 1|J_{y}|1,7 = \langle 2|J_{y}|2,7 = \langle 3|J_{y}|3,7 = 0$$

$$\langle 1|J_{y}|2,7 = \frac{1}{2}\langle 1,0|1,7 - J_{+}|1,0,7 = \frac{1}{2}\langle 1,0|1,7 - J_$$

211 Jy (3) = (31 Jy 1 17 = 0 about Harris Borings F

(21112)= 上(10) J+-J-11,-17= 豆=-i

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\int_{45}^{2} = \frac{1}{J_{2}} (J_{x} + J_{z}) = \frac{1}{J_{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \\
 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{J_{x}} & \frac{1}{J_{x}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{J_{x}} & 0 & \frac{1}{J_{x}} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{J_{x}} & -\frac{1}{J_{x}} \end{pmatrix}$$

For the eigenvalue m=0 let
$$|\phi\rangle = \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)$$
, then

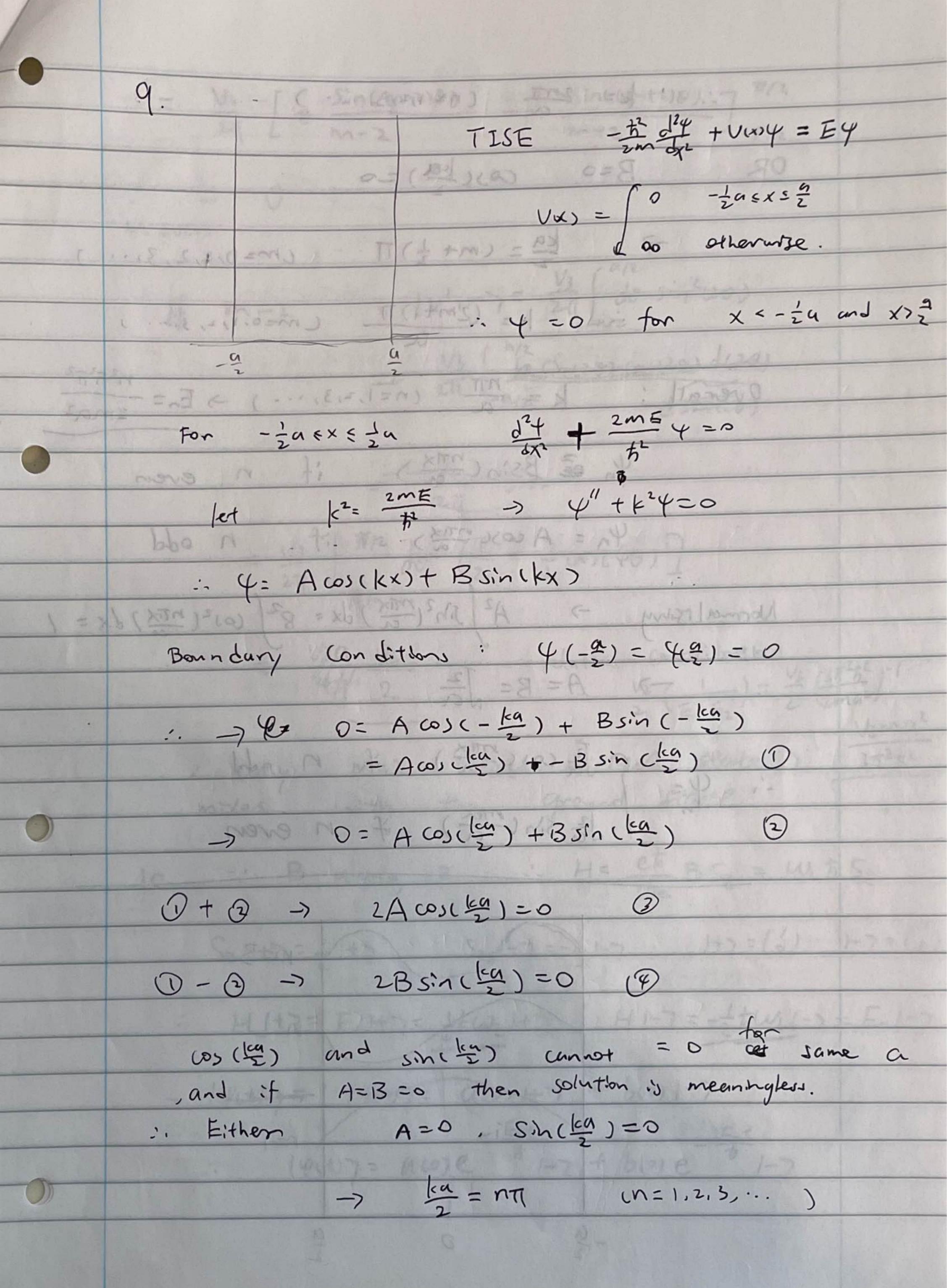
$$\frac{1}{5}a + \frac{1}{2}b = 0 \quad -7 \quad b = -5a$$

$$\frac{1}{2}a + \frac{1}{2}c = 0 \quad -7 \quad (=-a) = 7 \quad (\phi) = \frac{1}{2}(-5a)$$

$$\frac{1}{2}a + \frac{1}{2}c = 0 \quad -7 \quad b = 5a$$

After passing the filter the state is of particle

-> required amplitude:



K= 2nt (n=1,2,3,...) B=0 cos(100)=0 Ka = (m+ =) TT alphane cm=0,1,2,3,...) fox by | <= (2m+1)TI (m=0.1,2,3...) Overall: $k = \frac{n\pi}{\alpha}$ $(n=1,2,3,...) \rightarrow E_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2 \pi^2}{2m\alpha^2}$ yn de Bsin(nπx) if n even 4n = Acosc ntix nodd Normalishy -> A2 sih2 (mix) dx = B2 (os2 (ntix) dx = 1 -> A=B= J= (Jacos (max) if nodd Jasin (mix) if n even N=2 terman a cont N 512 the most whole (CAR napatia 历日 号中江

(a) \"= V, X First order | \\(\(\frac{\psi_{\mu}}{m^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \frac{\sum_{\mu} |v'| |v|}{m^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \frac{\sum_{\mu} |v'| |v|}{E_1 - E_m} \) because integrand and $(m|V'|1)-2V_1\int_{a/2} dx = x \sin(\pi x) \frac{\pi \pi x}{a}$ blom & for odd m (ATO AR W=) $(m|v'|1) = \frac{2V_1}{\alpha} \int_{a/2}^{a/2} dx \times \cos(\frac{\pi x}{\alpha}) sos(\frac{m\pi x}{\alpha})$ =0 integrand odd $(m|v'|i) = \frac{2V_i}{\alpha} \int_{-\alpha/2}^{\alpha/2} dx \times cos(\frac{\pi \times}{\alpha}) sin(\frac{m\pi \times}{\alpha})$ $=\frac{2V_{1}u}{a}\left[\frac{\pi \times (m-1)\sin\left(\frac{\pi \times (m-1)}{a}\right) + a\cos\left(\frac{\pi \times (m-1)}{a}\right)}{(m-1)^{2}}\right]$ + Txim+1)sih(Txcm+1) + a cos (Tx cm+1)

only states with next m even told stage could parity, mixes with the ground sentes. =0 integrand odd in only states with model (even parity)
mixed with the ground state. 在一个If V'= V3 sin(TX), then if modd. $\langle 1|V'|m\rangle = \frac{2U_3}{a} \int_{a/2}^{a/2} dx \sin(\frac{\pi x}{a})\cos(\frac{\pi x}{a})$ =0 & integrand odd $= \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\alpha} \int_{-\alpha/2}^{\alpha/2} dx \sin(\frac{2\pi x}{\alpha}) \sin(\frac{m\pi x}{\alpha})$

$$= \frac{V_{3}}{2\pi} \left[\frac{8 \sin(8m-2)9}{m-2} - \frac{8 \sin(2m+2)8}{m+2} \right]^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{1}{7} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{1} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{1} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{1} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{$$

:. 14ct) = a(0) e Hy + 610) e = 1-7 energy eigenvalues $E_{+}=\pm\hbar\omega_{L}$ $E_{-}=-\pm\hbar\omega_{L}$ let the time dependent perturbation be. V= Bisin et B/(coswt) Sx + (sin wt) Sy]. initial condition: Start from lower energy Seate: aco = 0 bco = 1 Time dependent perturbation theory: itae=1:00t = ae=1:00t <+1v1+> + be 2100Lt (+1111-) 0 it be = ae = = ae -= 1: wet <-101+> + be 2: Wet <-1V1-7 (2) (+1V1+7 = ehB' [(oswt (o) + sinwt(a)] = ehB street 0 (+1V1-) = etiB' [coswe (=) + sincwe) (-=)]

