

Consider a particle moving in the infinitely deep square well (remember that our square wells go from  $-L$  to  $+L$ ), which initially has the state vector

$$|\psi(0)\rangle = A (|1\rangle + |2\rangle).$$

- (a) First, calculate the normalization constant  $A$ . Then, express the normalized time-dependent state vector  $|\psi(t)\rangle$  in terms of the energy eigenkets. Finally, express the position-space time-dependent wavefunction  $\psi(x,t) = \langle x | \psi(t) \rangle$  in terms of the energy eigenfunctions in position space.
- (b) Calculate the time-dependent expectation value of the position of the particle in the well  $\langle x(t) \rangle$ .

Hint: Remember how to integrate the products of even and odd functions over symmetric limits! Also, you might find the following wavefunctions and definite integral helpful:

$$\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{L}} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{2L}\right) \quad \text{when } n \text{ is odd}$$

$$\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{L}} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{2L}\right) \quad \text{when } n \text{ is even}$$

$$\frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^{+L} \cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{2L}\right) x \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x}{2L}\right) dx = \frac{16L}{9\pi^2}$$

- (c) Sketch the ground state wavefunction  $\psi_0(x)$  and the first excited state wavefunction  $\psi_1(x)$  inside the well. Then explain how the sum of these two functions (times their respective time-dependent phase factors) produce the time-dependent motion of the particle in the well. Make a qualitative sketch of the shape of the probability distribution at three times: when the particle has its maximum and minimum expectation values  $\langle x \rangle = \pm 32L/9\pi^2$ , and when it has an expectation value of zero,  $\langle x \rangle = 0$ . Explain how your sketches agree qualitatively with your answer to part b.
- (d) If the position is measured at time  $t$ , what results can be found, and with what probabilities will these results be found?
- (e) If the energy is measured at time  $t$ , what results can be found, and with what probabilities will these results be found?
- (f) Calculate the expectation value of the energy  $\langle E \rangle$  and the standard deviation of the energy  $\Delta E$ . Then sketch  $P(E)$  versus  $E$  and show your values of  $\langle E \rangle$  and  $\Delta E$  on your sketch.