

Problem 1: Time dependent solutions to Schrodinger's Equation (10 pts)

Consider a particle of mass m in an infinite square well.

$$V(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -\frac{a}{2} \leq x \leq +\frac{a}{2} \\ \infty, & x < -\frac{a}{2} \text{ or } x > +\frac{a}{2} \end{cases}$$

The solutions to the time independent Schrodinger Equation are:
 $H|\Psi_n\rangle = E_n|\Psi_n\rangle$ for $n=1,2,3, \dots$ where $E_n = \frac{n^2\pi^2\hbar^2}{2ma^2}$ and

$$\langle x|\Psi_n\rangle = \Psi_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) \quad n=1,3,5,\dots \quad \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) \quad n=2,4,6,\dots$$

Assume at t_o , the particle is in the state:

$$|\Psi(t_o=0)\rangle = \sqrt{3/10}|\Psi_1\rangle - i\sqrt{7/10}|\Psi_3\rangle$$

Answer the following questions:

a) Using Dirac notation, write down the expression for the time evolution operator, $U(t, t_o=0)$ in terms of energy eigenvalues and eigenstates. (1 pt)

b) Find $|\Psi(t)\rangle = U(t, t_o=0)|\Psi(t_o=0)\rangle$ (1 pt)

c) Does your $|\Psi(t)\rangle$ in part b) satisfy the time independent Schrodinger Equation? Demonstrate explicitly. (1 pt)

d) Does your $|\Psi(t)\rangle$ in part b) satisfy the time dependent Schrodinger Equation? Demonstrate explicitly. (1 pt)

e) Is the uncertainty in the energy $\Delta E > 0$, < 0 or $= 0$ for $|\Psi(t)\rangle$? Discuss. (1 pt)

f) State whether the following properties are time dependent or time independent for a system in the state $|\Psi(t)\rangle$. (4 pts)

i) ΔE

ii) $\langle x^2 \rangle$

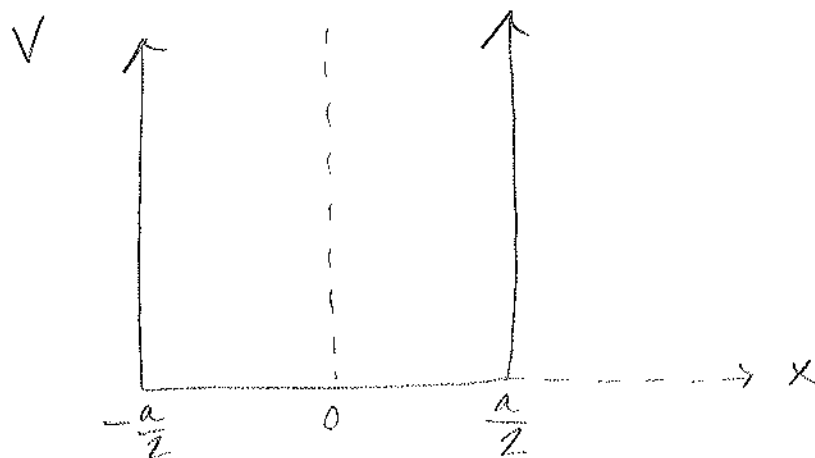
iii) $\langle p \rangle$

iv) $\langle P \rangle$, where P is the parity operator

If observable commutes with H, < > does not change with time

g) How do your answers to part f) change after the energy is measured at time t and the result is $E = \frac{9\pi^2\hbar^2}{2ma^2}$? (1 pt)

Problem 1 — Time dependent solutions to Schrödinger's Equation



$$\psi_{\text{odd}}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) \quad (n=1, 3, 5, \dots)$$

$$\psi_{\text{even}}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) \quad (n=2, 4, 6, \dots)$$

To derive these:

$$\text{Schrödinger equation: } \left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + V \right] \psi = E \psi$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} = E \psi$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} = -\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2} \psi$$

Let

$$k = \frac{\sqrt{2mE}}{\hbar},$$

then differential equation is

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} = -k^2 \psi$$

General solution is

$$\psi(x) = A \sin(kx) + B \cos(kx).$$

Next apply boundary conditions. Must have

$$\psi(-\frac{a}{2}) = 0$$

$$\psi(\frac{a}{2}) = 0.$$

Consider the latter. Then

$$\psi(a/2) = A \sin\left(\frac{ka}{2}\right) + B \cos\left(\frac{ka}{2}\right) = 0$$

Let

$$\frac{ka}{2} = n \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

When $n = 1, 3, 5, \dots$ we know

$$\cos\left(\frac{ka}{2}\right) = 0,$$

so we must have $A = 0$. Then our unnormalized odd solution is

$$\psi_{\text{odd}}(x) = B \cos(kx)$$

$$\psi_{\text{odd}}(x) = B \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right).$$

When $n = 2, 4, 6, \dots$ we know

$$\sin\left(\frac{ka}{2}\right) = 0,$$

so we must have $B = 0$. Then our unnormalized even solution is

$$\psi_{\text{even}}(x) = A \sin(kx)$$

$$\psi_{\text{even}}(x) = A \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right).$$

Now we want to normalize both solutions. We must have

$$\int_{-a/2}^{a/2} |\psi(x)|^2 dx = 1.$$

beginning with the odd solutions, we have

$$\int_{-a/2}^{a/2} \left| B \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) \right|^2 dx = 1$$

$$B^2 \int_{-a/2}^{a/2} \cos^2\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) dx = 1$$

$$B^2 \int_{-a/2}^{a/2} \frac{1}{2} \left[1 + \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{a}\right) \right] dx = 1$$

$$\frac{B^2}{2} \int_{-a/2}^{a/2} \left[1 + \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{a}\right) \right] dx = 1$$

$$\frac{B^2}{2} \left[x + \frac{a}{2n\pi} \sin\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{a}\right) \right] \Big|_{-a/2}^{a/2} = 1$$

$$\frac{B^2}{2} \left[a + \frac{a}{2n\pi} \sin(n\pi) - \frac{a}{2n\pi} \sin(-n\pi) \right] = 1$$

$$\frac{B^2}{2} \left[a + \frac{a}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi) \right] = 1$$

but $\sin(n\pi) = 0$ for all values of n , so we have

$$\frac{B^2 a}{2} = 1$$

$$B = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}}$$

and so

$$\psi_{\text{odd}}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) \quad (n=1, 3, 5, \dots)$$

Now for the even solutions...

$$\int_{-a/2}^{a/2} \left| A \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) \right|^2 dx = 1$$

$$A^2 \int_{-a/2}^{a/2} \sin^2\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) dx = 1$$

$$A^2 \int_{-a/2}^{a/2} \frac{1}{2} \left[1 - \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{a}\right) \right] dx = 1$$

$$\frac{A^2}{2} \int_{-a/2}^{a/2} \left[1 - \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{a}\right) \right] dx = 1$$

$$\frac{A^2}{2} \left[x - \frac{a}{2n\pi} \sin\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{a}\right) \right] \Big|_{-a/2}^{a/2} = 1$$

$$\frac{A^2}{2} \left[a - \frac{a}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi) \right] = 1$$

Again, $\sin(n\pi) = 0$ for all values of n , so we have

$$\frac{A^2 a}{2} = 1$$

$$A = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}}$$

and so

$$\psi_{\text{even}}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) \quad (n = 2, 4, 6, \dots).$$

Part (a)

In general, the time evolution operator is given by

$$U(t, t_0=0) = \sum_n |\Psi_n\rangle \langle \Psi_n| e^{-iE_n t/\hbar},$$

where the $|\Psi_n\rangle$ are in the energy eigenbasis. For this system, we have

$$U(t, t_0=0) = |\Psi_1\rangle \langle \Psi_1| e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} + |\Psi_2\rangle \langle \Psi_2| e^{-iE_2 t/\hbar} + \dots$$

where for $n=1, 3, 5, \dots$ we have

$$\Psi_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right)$$

and for $n=2, 4, 6, \dots$ we have

$$\Psi_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right).$$

For any value of n , the energy is given by

$$E_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2}.$$

Part (b)

We want to determine the time-dependent wave function. We know

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = U(t, t_0=0) |\psi(t_0=0)\rangle.$$

In our case, the initial wavefunction is

$$|\psi(t_0=0)\rangle = \sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} |\psi_1\rangle - i\sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} |\psi_3\rangle.$$

The eigenstates are orthogonal, so the inner product $\langle\psi_n|\psi_m\rangle$ for $n \neq m$ is zero. Thus, we have

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = \left(|\psi_1\rangle \langle\psi_1| e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} + |\psi_2\rangle \langle\psi_2| e^{-iE_2 t/\hbar} + \dots \right) \left(\sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} |\psi_1\rangle - i\sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} |\psi_3\rangle \right)$$

$$= |\psi_1\rangle \langle\psi_1| e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} \sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} |\psi_1\rangle - |\psi_3\rangle \langle\psi_3| e^{-iE_3 t/\hbar} i\sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} |\psi_3\rangle$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} |\psi_1\rangle \langle\psi_1|\psi_1\rangle e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} - i\sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} |\psi_3\rangle \langle\psi_3|\psi_3\rangle e^{-iE_3 t/\hbar}$$

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = \sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} |\psi_1\rangle e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} - i\sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} |\psi_3\rangle e^{-iE_3 t/\hbar}$$

Part (c)

The time-independent Schrödinger Equation is given by

$$\left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + V \right] \psi = E \psi.$$

Plugging in our expression for $|\psi(t)\rangle$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + 0 \right] \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{10}} |\psi_1\rangle e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} - i \frac{\sqrt{7}}{\sqrt{10}} |\psi_3\rangle e^{-iE_3 t/\hbar} \right) \\ &= -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{10}} \frac{\partial^2 |\psi_1\rangle}{\partial x^2} e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} + \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} i \frac{\sqrt{7}}{\sqrt{10}} \frac{\partial^2 |\psi_3\rangle}{\partial x^2} e^{-iE_3 t/\hbar} \\ &= \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{10}} \frac{\sqrt{2}}{a} \frac{\pi^2}{a^2} \cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{a}\right) e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} i \frac{\sqrt{7}}{\sqrt{10}} \frac{\sqrt{2}}{a} \frac{9\pi^2}{a^2} \cos\left(\frac{3\pi x}{a}\right) e^{-iE_3 t/\hbar} \\ &= \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{10}} \frac{\sqrt{2}}{a} \cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{a}\right) e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} - \frac{9\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2} i \frac{\sqrt{7}}{\sqrt{10}} \frac{\sqrt{2}}{a} \cos\left(\frac{3\pi x}{a}\right) e^{-iE_3 t/\hbar} \end{aligned}$$

But

$$E_1 = \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2} \quad \text{and} \quad E_3 = \frac{9\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2},$$

So

$$\left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right] |\psi(t)\rangle = E_1 \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{10}} |\psi_1\rangle e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} - E_3 i \frac{\sqrt{7}}{\sqrt{10}} |\psi_3\rangle e^{-iE_3 t/\hbar}$$

Thus, our wavefunction from part (b) does not satisfy the time-independent Schrödinger Equation. This was to be expected since $|\psi(t)\rangle$ is a non-stationary state.

Part (d)

The time-dependent Schrödinger Equation is given by

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = H\psi,$$

or

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial |\psi(t)\rangle}{\partial t} = \left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + V \right] |\psi(t)\rangle$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial |\psi(t)\rangle}{\partial t} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 |\psi(t)\rangle}{\partial x^2}$$

for our system. Starting with the left-hand side, we have

$$\begin{aligned} i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[\sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} |\psi_1\rangle e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} - i\sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} |\psi_3\rangle e^{-iE_3 t/\hbar} \right] \\ = i\hbar \left[-\frac{iE_1}{\hbar} \sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} |\psi_1\rangle e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} - \frac{E_3}{\hbar} \sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} |\psi_3\rangle e^{-iE_3 t/\hbar} \right] \\ = E_1 \sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} |\psi_1\rangle e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} - E_3 i\sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} |\psi_3\rangle e^{-iE_3 t/\hbar}. \end{aligned}$$

Looking at the right-hand side now, we have

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \left[\sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{a}\right) e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} - i\sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \cos\left(\frac{3\pi x}{a}\right) e^{-iE_3 t/\hbar} \right] \\ = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left[\sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \frac{\pi^2}{a^2} \cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{a}\right) e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} - i\sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \frac{9\pi^2}{a^2} \cos\left(\frac{3\pi x}{a}\right) e^{-iE_3 t/\hbar} \right] \\ = \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2} \sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} |\psi_1\rangle e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} - \frac{9\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2} i\sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} |\psi_3\rangle e^{-iE_3 t/\hbar} \\ = E_1 \sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} |\psi_1\rangle e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} - E_3 i\sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} |\psi_3\rangle e^{-iE_3 t/\hbar}, \end{aligned}$$

which agrees with the left side. Thus, the time-dependent equation is satisfied. @

Part (c)

In general, we know

$$\Delta E = \sqrt{\langle E^2 \rangle - \langle E \rangle^2}.$$

Since $|\Psi(t)\rangle$ is not a stationary state, just a linear combination of stationary states, we know that $\Delta E \neq 0$.

Now we want to determine $\langle E^2 \rangle$ and $\langle E \rangle$. Starting with the latter...

$$\langle E \rangle = \langle \Psi(t) | i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} | \Psi(t) \rangle$$

$$= i\hbar \left[\left(\sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} \langle \psi_1 | e^{\frac{iE_1 t}{\hbar}} + i\sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} \langle \psi_3 | e^{\frac{iE_3 t}{\hbar}} \right) \left(-i\frac{E_1}{\hbar} \sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} | \psi_1 \rangle e^{-\frac{iE_1 t}{\hbar}} - \frac{E_3}{\hbar} \sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} | \psi_3 \rangle e^{-\frac{iE_3 t}{\hbar}} \right) \right]$$

$$= i\hbar \left[\underbrace{-\frac{i}{\hbar} \frac{3E_1}{10} \langle \psi_1 | \psi_1 \rangle}_1 - \underbrace{\frac{i}{\hbar} \frac{7E_3}{10} \langle \psi_3 | \psi_3 \rangle}_1 + \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{21}}{10} \frac{E_1}{\hbar} \langle \psi_3 | \psi_1 \rangle e^{-\frac{i(E_1-E_3)t}{\hbar}}}_0 - \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{21}}{10} \frac{E_3}{\hbar} \langle \psi_1 | \psi_3 \rangle e^{\frac{i(E_1-E_3)t}{\hbar}}}_0 \right]$$

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{3E_1}{10} + \frac{7E_3}{10}$$

Now for $\langle E^2 \rangle$, we have...

$$\langle E^2 \rangle = \langle \Psi(t) | -\hbar^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} | \Psi(t) \rangle$$

$$= -\hbar^2 \left[\left(\sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} \langle \psi_1 | e^{\frac{iE_1 t}{\hbar}} + i\sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} \langle \psi_3 | e^{\frac{iE_3 t}{\hbar}} \right) \left(-\frac{E_1^2}{\hbar^2} \sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} | \psi_1 \rangle e^{-\frac{iE_1 t}{\hbar}} + \frac{E_3^2}{\hbar^2} \sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} | \psi_3 \rangle e^{-\frac{iE_3 t}{\hbar}} \right) \right]$$

$$= -\hbar^2 \left[\underbrace{-\frac{3E_1^2}{10\hbar^2} \langle \psi_1 | \psi_1 \rangle}_1 - \underbrace{\frac{7E_3^2}{10\hbar^2} \langle \psi_3 | \psi_3 \rangle}_1 + \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{21}}{10} \frac{iE_1^2}{\hbar^2} \langle \psi_3 | \psi_1 \rangle e^{\frac{i(E_1-E_3)t}{\hbar}}}_0 - \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{21}}{10} \frac{iE_1^2}{\hbar^2} \langle \psi_3 | \psi_1 \rangle e^{-\frac{i(E_1-E_3)t}{\hbar}}}_0 \right]$$

$$= \frac{3}{10} E_1^2 + \frac{7}{10} E_3^2$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}\langle E \rangle^2 &= \left(\frac{3}{10} E_1 + \frac{7}{10} E_3 \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{9}{100} E_1^2 + \frac{49}{100} E_3^2 + \frac{42}{100} E_1 E_3\end{aligned}$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta E^2 &= \langle E^2 \rangle - \langle E \rangle^2 \\ &= \left(\frac{3}{10} E_1^2 + \frac{7}{10} E_3^2 \right) - \left(\frac{9}{100} E_1^2 + \frac{49}{100} E_3^2 + \frac{42}{100} E_1 E_3 \right) \\ &= \frac{30}{100} E_1^2 + \frac{70}{100} E_3^2 - \frac{9}{100} E_1^2 - \frac{49}{100} E_3^2 - \frac{42}{100} E_1 E_3 \\ &= \frac{21}{100} E_1^2 + \frac{21}{100} E_3^2 - \frac{42}{100} E_1 E_3 \\ &= \frac{21}{100} (E_3^2 - 2 E_1 E_3 + E_1^2) \\ &= \frac{21}{100} (E_3 - E_1)^2\end{aligned}$$

and so

$$\Delta E = \frac{\sqrt{21}}{10} (E_3 - E_1).$$

Since $E_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2}$, then our uncertainty in the energy is positive.

Part (f)

(i)

As we determined in part (e), ΔE has no time-dependence.

(ii)

$$\langle x^2 \rangle = \langle \psi(t) | x^2 | \psi(t) \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left(\sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} \langle \psi_1 | e^{\frac{iE_1 t}{\hbar}} + i\sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} \langle \psi_3 | e^{\frac{iE_3 t}{\hbar}} \right) x^2 \left(\sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} | \psi_1 \rangle e^{-\frac{iE_1 t}{\hbar}} - i\sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} | \psi_3 \rangle e^{-\frac{iE_3 t}{\hbar}} \right) \\ &= \frac{3}{10} \underbrace{\langle \psi_1 | x^2 | \psi_1 \rangle}_{\text{even}} + \frac{7}{10} \underbrace{\langle \psi_3 | x^2 | \psi_3 \rangle}_{\text{even}} - i \frac{\sqrt{21}}{10} \underbrace{\langle \psi_1 | x^2 | \psi_3 \rangle}_{\text{even}} e^{\frac{i(E_1 - E_3)t}{\hbar}} + i \frac{\sqrt{21}}{10} \underbrace{\langle \psi_3 | x^2 | \psi_1 \rangle}_{\text{even}} e^{-\frac{i(E_1 - E_3)t}{\hbar}} \end{aligned}$$

This will be time-dependent since all of our integrals are even and our time-dependence will not cancel out.

(iii)

$$\langle p \rangle = \langle \psi(t) | -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x} | \psi(t) \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= -i\hbar \left(\sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} \langle \psi_1 | e^{\frac{iE_1 t}{\hbar}} + i\sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} \langle \psi_3 | e^{\frac{iE_3 t}{\hbar}} \right) \left(-\frac{\pi}{a} \sqrt{\frac{3}{10}} | \psi_1, \sin \rangle e^{-\frac{iE_1 t}{\hbar}} + \frac{3\pi}{a} i \sqrt{\frac{7}{10}} | \psi_3, \sin \rangle e^{-\frac{iE_3 t}{\hbar}} \right) \\ &= -i\hbar \left(-\frac{\pi}{a} \frac{3}{10} \underbrace{\langle \psi_1 | \psi_1, \sin \rangle}_{\text{odd}} - \frac{3\pi}{a} \frac{7}{10} \underbrace{\langle \psi_3 | \psi_3, \sin \rangle}_{\text{odd}} - i \frac{\pi}{a} \frac{\sqrt{21}}{10} \underbrace{\langle \psi_3 | \psi_1, \sin \rangle}_{\text{odd}} e^{-\frac{i(E_1 - E_3)t}{\hbar}} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{3\pi}{a} i \frac{\sqrt{21}}{10} \underbrace{\langle \psi_1 | \psi_3, \sin \rangle}_{\text{odd}} e^{\frac{i(E_1 - E_3)t}{\hbar}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

All of these integrals are odd, so they will go to zero. Thus, $\langle p \rangle = 0$ and therefore, $\langle p \rangle$ is time-independent.

iv

We want to determine $\langle \pi \rangle$, where $\pi |\psi(x)\rangle = |\psi(-x)\rangle$.

$$\langle \pi \rangle = \langle \psi(x, t) | \pi | \psi(x, t) \rangle$$

$$= \langle \psi(x, t) | \psi(-x, t) \rangle$$

$$= \langle \psi(x, t) | \psi(x, t) \rangle$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \langle \psi_1 | e^{\frac{iE_1 t}{\hbar}} + i \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \langle \psi_3 | e^{\frac{iE_3 t}{\hbar}} \right) \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} |\psi_1\rangle e^{-\frac{iE_1 t}{\hbar}} - i \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} |\psi_3\rangle e^{-\frac{iE_3 t}{\hbar}} \right)$$

$$= \frac{3}{10} \underbrace{\langle \psi_1 | \psi_1 \rangle}_1 + \frac{7}{10} \underbrace{\langle \psi_3 | \psi_3 \rangle}_1 - i \frac{\sqrt{21}}{10} \underbrace{\langle \psi_1 | \psi_3 \rangle}_0 e^{\frac{i(E_1 - E_3)t}{\hbar}} + i \frac{\sqrt{21}}{10} \underbrace{\langle \psi_3 | \psi_1 \rangle}_0 e^{-\frac{i(E_1 - E_3)t}{\hbar}}$$

$$\langle \pi \rangle = 1.$$

This is clearly time-independent.

Part (g)

Our wave-function is now the stationary state

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = |\psi_3\rangle e^{-iE_3 t/\hbar}$$

(i)

ΔE will still be time-independent, and will in fact be zero.

(ii)

$$\langle \psi'(t) | x^2 | \psi'(t) \rangle = \langle \psi_3 | x^2 | \psi_3 \rangle$$

Time dependence cancels out, so $\langle x^2 \rangle$ is time-independent.

(iii)

$\langle p \rangle = 0$, so $\langle p \rangle$ is time-independent.

$[H, p] = 0$ for a free particle.

(iv)

The state is still even, so I expect

$$\langle \pi \rangle = 1.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \psi'(t) | \pi | \psi'(t) \rangle &= \langle \psi'(x, t) | \psi'(-x, t) \rangle \\ &= \langle \psi'(x, t) | \psi'(x, t) \rangle \\ &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $\langle \pi \rangle$ is time-independent.