

Ch. 1

The wave function and Schrödinger equation

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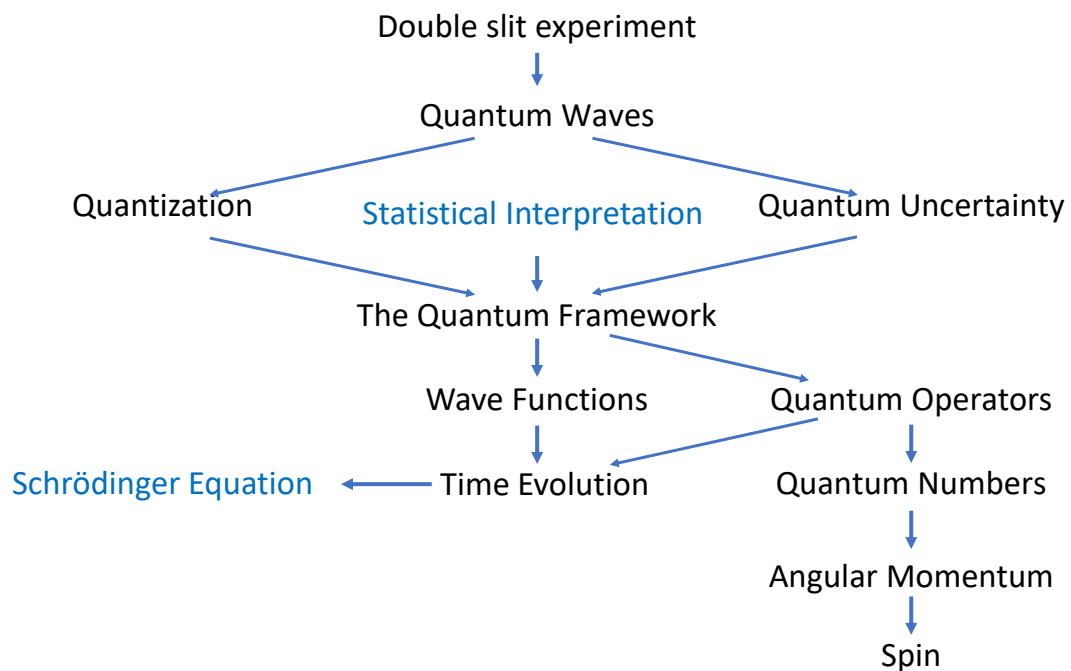
QM - Overview

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Lưu ý 'format' email nộp bài

21VLH1TN - HoVaTen - Tuần N
(với $N=1, 2, 3\dots$)

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Quantum Mechanics

Concepts

Wave functions
State vectors
Operators
...

Equations

Schrödinger Equation
...

Tools

Expectation values
Eigenfunctions
Eigenvalues
...

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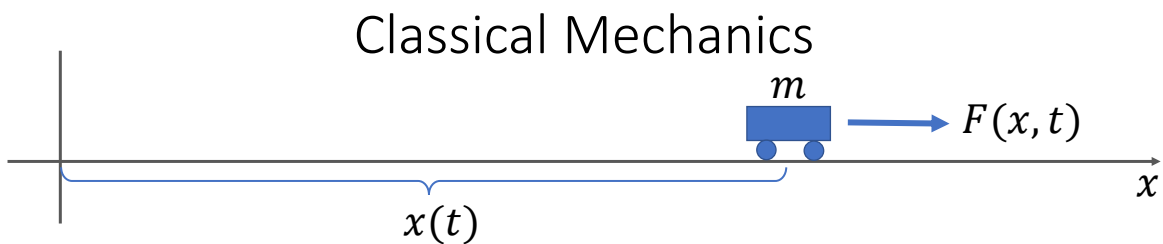
Ch. 1 The wave function and Schrödinger equation

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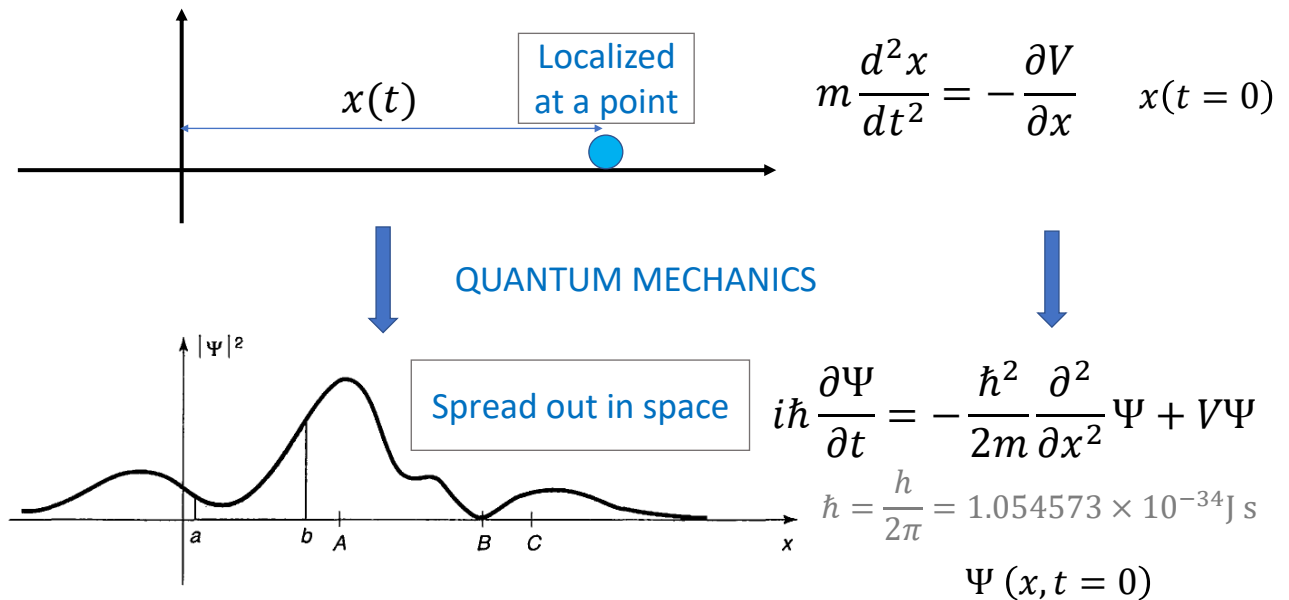
21VLH1TN - HoVaTen - Tuần N
(với $N=1, 2, 3\dots$)

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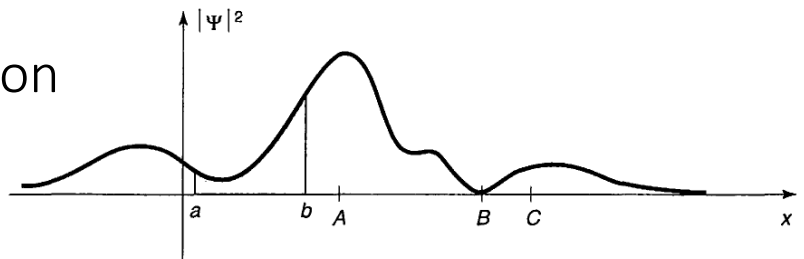
- The state (of the particle) is determined by: $x(t)$
- The velocity $v = \dot{x}(t)$, $\rightarrow p = mv$, $T = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$, ...
- How to determine $x(t)$?
- $F = ma = m\ddot{x} = m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}$
- $F = -\frac{dV}{dx}$ (conservative system) [$F = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial x}$]. V : potential energy.
- \rightarrow Equation of motion: $m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \xrightarrow{x(t=0)\dots} x(t)$

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The wave function
 $\Psi(x, t)$



- The wave function is **the most important concept** in QM.
- Particle may be described as a wave → the wave function.

Born's statistical interpretation:

- A particle is described by a wave function $\Psi(x, t)$;
- $|\Psi(x, t)|^2 (= \Psi^* \Psi)$ gives the probability of finding the particle at point x , at time t .
- The wave function is also called the state function, or the state.

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Hàm sóng $\Psi(x, t)$

- $|\Psi(x, t)|^2 (= \Psi^* \Psi)$ gives the probability of finding the particle at point x , at time t .

- More precisely:

$$\int_a^b |\Psi(x, t)|^2 dx$$

= {probability of finding the particle between a and b , at time t }.

- Thus,

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

= {probability of finding the particle in the entire space, at time t }.

- This is known as **the normalization condition** for the wave function.
- Chú ý: $\Psi(x, t) \rightarrow 0$ khi $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$

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The wave function and Schrödinger equation

In general, the wave function $\Psi(x, t)$ is the solution to the time dependent Schrödinger equation

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi(x, t)}{\partial t} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \Psi(x, t) + V(x, t) \Psi(x, t)$$

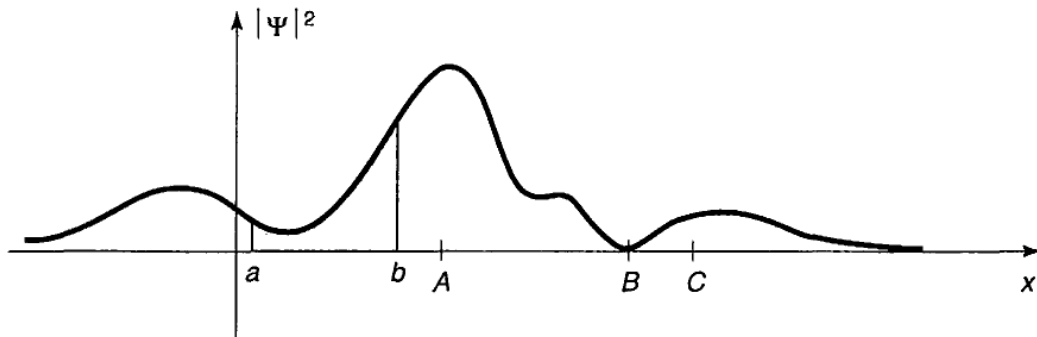
$V(x, t)$: position and time dependent potential energy.

m : mass of the particle.

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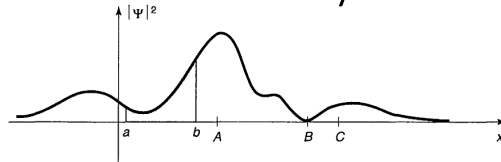
QM: Indeterminacy

- $|\Psi(x, t)|^2$: Probability
- \rightarrow Indeterminacy: Quantum mechanics \rightarrow **statistical** information about the **possible** results.



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QM: Indeterminacy vs. Determinacy

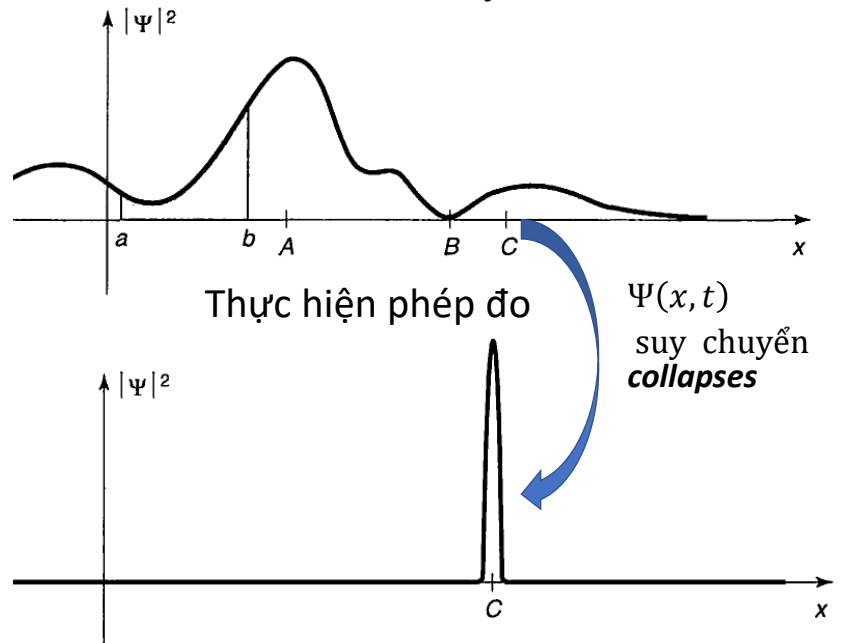


- Suppose we do measure the position of the particle, and find it to be at point C.
 - Question: Where was the particle just before we made the measurement?
1. [**Determinacy**] It is at C!
QM is an incomplete theory \rightarrow unable to tell us where the particle is. Ψ is not the whole story. Some additional information (known as a HIDDEN VARIABLE) is needed to provide a complete description.
 2. [**Indeterminacy**] The orthodox position: The particle wasn't really anywhere! It was the act of measurement that forced it to "take a stand" [Copenhagen interpretation]

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What if we made a second measurement, *immediately* after the first?
 We get C again!

The first measurement
 $\rightarrow \Psi$ ***collapses***,
 upon measurement, to a
 spike at the point C.
 And it soon spreads out
 again, in accordance
 with the Schrödinger
 equation, so the second
 measurement must be
made quickly



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Links to “pilot – wave dynamics”

- <http://math.mit.edu/~bush/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Gallery-Harris-2013.pdf>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nmC0ygr08tE>

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Probability

Continuous Variables

- The average of x :

$$\langle x \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x \rho(x) dx$$

$\rho(x)$ is probability density,

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \rho(x) dx = 1$$

- The average of $f(x)$

$$\langle f(x) \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) \rho(x) dx$$

Discrete Variables

- The average value of j

$$\langle j \rangle = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} j P(j)$$

$P(j) = \frac{N(j)}{N}$ is the probability of getting j , and

$$\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} P(j) = 1$$

- The average value of function of j :

$$\langle f(j) \rangle = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f(j) P(j)$$

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Probability

Continuous Variables

- The standard deviation

σ is given by the variance:

$$\sigma^2 = \langle x^2 \rangle - \langle x \rangle^2$$

Discrete Variables

- The standard deviation σ :

$$\sigma^2 = \langle (\Delta j)^2 \rangle, \text{ với } \Delta j = j - \langle j \rangle$$

$$\sigma^2 = \langle j^2 \rangle - \langle j \rangle^2$$

- σ^2 : The variance

- σ is a measure of the amount of variation or dispersion of a set of values.

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Normalization of the wave function

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

= {probability of finding the particle in the entire space, at time t }.

- This is the normalization condition for the wave function
- It is proved that [see Griffiths' book]!

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |\Psi(x, t)|^2 dx = 0$$

- \rightarrow If the wave function is normalized at $t = 0$, it stays normalized for all $t > 0$ [all future time]

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Problem 1

At time $t = 0$ a particle is represented by the wave function

$$\Psi(x, 0) = \begin{cases} A \frac{x}{a}, & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq a, \\ A \frac{(b-x)}{(b-a)}, & \text{if } a \leq x \leq b, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where A , a , and b are constants.

- Normalize Ψ (that is, find A , in terms of a and b).
- Sketch $\Psi(x, 0)$, as a function of x .
- Where is the particle most likely to be found, at $t = 0$?
- What is the probability of finding the particle to the left of a ? Check your result in the limiting cases $b = a$ and $b = 2a$.
- What is the expectation value of x ?

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Bài tập 1

- Tại thời điểm ban đầu $t = 0$, 1 hạt được biểu diễn bởi hàm sóng [hoặc 1 hạt ở trạng thái được cho bởi]

$$\Psi(x, t = 0) = \begin{cases} A \frac{x}{a} & \text{nếu } 0 \leq x \leq a \\ A \frac{(b-x)}{(b-a)} & \text{nếu } a \leq x \leq b \\ 0 & \text{trong những vùng khác} \end{cases}.$$

a, b là những hằng số đã biết. A là hằng số chưa biết

- Hãy xác định A . [Người ta còn thể nói: Hãy chuẩn hoá hàm sóng]
- Hãy phác vẽ hàm sóng $\Psi(x, t = 0)$ theo biến x
- Tại $t = 0$, khả năng tìm thấy hạt ở đâu cao nhất?
- Tính xác suất tìm thấy hạt trong miền bên trái của điểm a [tức là $x \leq a$].
Hãy kiểm tra lại kết quả trong 2 trường hợp: $b = a$ và $b = 2a$.
- Hãy tìm giá trị trung bình của x .

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How to calculate the expectation value of any physical quantity in QM

The expectation value of x, v, p (momentum)

- The expectation value (the average) of x :

$$\langle x \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x \rho(x) dx$$

- $|\Psi(x, t)|^2$ is probability density \rightarrow

$$\langle x \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x |\Psi(x, t)|^2 dx$$

- The expectation value of $\langle x \rangle$ is the average of measurements performed on particles all in the state Ψ .

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The expectation value of x, v, p (momentum)

- $\langle x \rangle$ is the average of measurements performed on particles all in the state Ψ .
- \rightarrow We must find some way of returning the particle to its original state after each measurement,
or **we have to prepare a whole ensemble of particles, each in the same state Ψ , and measure the positions of all of them.**
- **The expectation value is the average of measurements on an ensemble of identically-prepared systems** [not the average of repeated measurements on one and the same system].

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the average



Ψ

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the average



Ψ



Ψ



Ψ



Ψ



Ψ



Ψ



Ψ



Ψ



Ψ



Ψ

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The expectation value of x, v, p (momentum)

- The expectation value of x

$$\langle x \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x |\Psi(x, t)|^2 dx$$

- Prove that [See Griffiths' book]

$$\frac{d\langle x \rangle}{dt} = -\frac{i\hbar}{m} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi^* \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x} dx$$

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The expectation value of x, v, p (momentum)

- Postulate that

$$\langle v \rangle = \frac{d\langle x \rangle}{dt}$$

- Momentum:

$$\langle p \rangle = m\langle v \rangle = m \frac{d\langle x \rangle}{dt} = -i\hbar \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi^* \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x} dx$$

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The expectation value of x, v, p (momentum)

- Rewrite $\langle x \rangle$ and $\langle p \rangle$:

$$\langle x \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x |\Psi(x, t)|^2 dx = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi^* x \Psi dx$$

$$\langle p \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi^* \left(\frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \Psi dx = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi^* \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \Psi dx = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi^* p \Psi dx$$

• \rightarrow

$$p = \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$$

- Momentum p is an **operator** (toán tử)! [One often let an operator “wear a hat” \hat{p} to distinguish an operator to a number]. Position x is also an **operator**.

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The expectation value of a physical quantity

- The expectation value of a quantity $Q(x, p)$

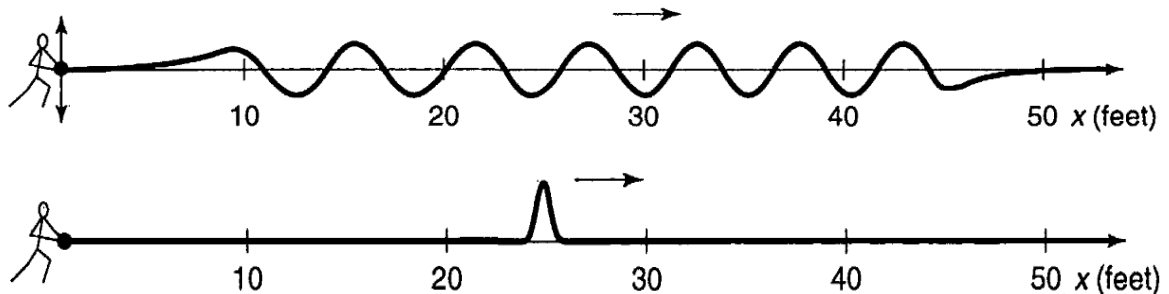
$$\langle Q(x, p) \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi^* Q(\hat{x}, \hat{p}) \Psi dx = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi^* Q\left(x, \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) \Psi dx$$

- Calculate the expectation value of the kinetic energy

$$\hat{T} = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2m}$$

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The Uncertainty Principle



The more precise a wave's position is, the less precise is its wavelength, and vice versa.

This applies also to the quantum mechanical wave function.

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The Uncertainty Principle

- de Broglie formula:

$$p = \frac{h}{\lambda} = \frac{2\pi\hbar}{\lambda}$$

- A change/spread in wavelength \rightarrow a change/spread in momentum.
- \Rightarrow **The more precisely determined a particle's position is, the less precisely is its momentum, and vice versa.**

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The Uncertainty Principle

- **The more precisely determined a particle's position is, the less precisely is its momentum, and vice versa.**
- Mathematically,

$$\sigma_x \sigma_p \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$$

(σ_x is the standard deviation in x , σ_p is the standard deviation in p .)

- This is Heisenberg's famous uncertainty principle..

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[Standard deviation]

- $\sigma^2 = \langle j^2 \rangle - \langle j \rangle^2$
- $\sigma_x^2 = \langle x^2 \rangle - \langle x \rangle^2$
- $\langle x \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi^* x \Psi dx$
- $\langle x^2 \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi^* x^2 \Psi dx$
- $\langle p \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi^* \hat{p} \Psi dx$
- $\langle p^2 \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi^* \hat{p}^2 \Psi dx$

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