

Chemistry 432
Problem Set 3
Spring 2019
Solutions

1. Consider a particle of mass m with quantum number n moving in a one-dimensional box of length L .

- (a) Find the probability of finding the particle in the left two-thirds of the box.

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned}
 p &= \frac{2}{L} \int_0^{2L/3} \sin^2 \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \\
 y &= \frac{n\pi x}{L} \quad dx = \frac{L}{n\pi} dy \\
 p &= \frac{2}{L} \frac{L}{n\pi} \int_0^{2n\pi/3} \sin^2 y dy \\
 &= \frac{2}{n\pi} \left[\frac{y}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \sin 2y \right]_0^{2n\pi/3} \\
 &= \frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{2n\pi} \sin \frac{4n\pi}{3}
 \end{aligned}$$

- (b) For what value of n is this probability a maximum?

Answer:

n	p
1	.804
2	.598
3	.667
4	.701
5	.639
6	.667
7	.686
8	.649
9	.667
10	.680

Maximum at $n = 1$.

(c) What is the probability as $n \rightarrow \infty$?

Answer:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p = \frac{2}{3}$$

the classical result.

2. For a particle of mass m in a box of length L in quantum state n , find:

(a) $\langle x \rangle$;

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x \rangle &= \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} x \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \\ y &= \frac{n\pi x}{L} \quad x = \frac{Ly}{n\pi} \quad dx = \frac{L}{n\pi} dy \\ \langle x \rangle &= \frac{2}{L} \left(\frac{L}{n\pi} \right)^2 \int_0^{n\pi} y \sin^2 y dy \\ &= \frac{2L}{(n\pi)^2} \left[\frac{y^2}{4} - \frac{y \sin 2y}{4} - \frac{\cos 2y}{8} \right]_0^{n\pi} \\ &= \frac{2L}{(n\pi)^2} \frac{(n\pi)^2}{4} = \frac{L}{2} \end{aligned}$$

(b) $\langle p \rangle$;

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle p \rangle &= \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{d}{dx} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \\ &= \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{2}{L} \frac{n\pi}{L} \int_0^L \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx = 0 \end{aligned}$$

(c) $\langle K = p^2/2m \rangle$.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle K \rangle &= \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \left(\frac{-\hbar^2}{2m} \right) \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \\ &= -\frac{2}{L} \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \int_0^L \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \left[-\left(\frac{n\pi}{L} \right)^2 \right] \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \\ &= \frac{\hbar^2}{mL} \frac{(n\pi)^2}{L^2} \int_0^L \sin^2 \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \\ &= \frac{\hbar^2 n^2 \pi^2 L}{mL^3} \frac{1}{2} \\ &= \frac{n^2 \pi^2 \hbar^2}{2mL^2} \end{aligned}$$

3. Consider a one-dimensional particle of mass m confined to move in a box of length L on a coordinate system defined so that the potential energy is given by

$$V(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & -\frac{L}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{L}{2} \\ \infty & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

- (a) Show that the normalized wavefunctions

$$\psi_n(x) = \left(\frac{2}{L}\right)^{1/2} \sin \left[n\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right] \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

satisfy the Schrödinger equation for the particle within the box.

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} &= E\psi \\ \frac{d\psi}{dx} &= \left(\frac{2}{L}\right)^{1/2} \frac{n\pi}{L} \cos \left[n\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right] \\ \frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} &= -\left(\frac{2}{L}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 \sin \left[n\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right] = -\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 \psi \\ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} &= \frac{n^2\pi^2\hbar^2}{2mL^2} \psi = E\psi \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Give the appropriate boundary conditions for the system defined in part “a,” and show that the wavefunctions given in part ‘a’ satisfy the boundary conditions.

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(-L/2) &= \psi(L/2) = 0 \\ \psi(-L/2) &= \left(\frac{2}{L}\right)^{1/2} \sin \left[n\pi \left(-\frac{L}{2L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right] = \left(\frac{2}{L}\right)^{1/2} \sin(0) = 0 \\ \psi(L/2) &= \left(\frac{2}{L}\right)^{1/2} \sin \left[n\pi \left(\frac{L}{2L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right] = \left(\frac{2}{L}\right)^{1/2} \sin(n\pi) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

- (c) For a particle in the first excited state with associated wavefunction

$$\psi_2(x) = \left(\frac{2}{L}\right)^{1/2} \sin \left[2\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right]$$

determine at what point or points in space the particle is most likely to be found.

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned} p_2(x) &= \frac{2}{L} \sin^2 \left[2\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right] \\ p_2'(x) &= \frac{4}{L} \frac{2\pi}{L} \sin \left[2\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right] \cos \left[2\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right] \\ &= 0 \quad \text{at} \end{aligned}$$

$$2\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{3\pi}{2}$$

Then

$$x = -\frac{L}{4}, \frac{L}{4}$$

- (d) For a particle represented by the first excited state wavefunction given in part “c,” calculate the probability that a measurement of the position of the particle will give a result in the interval $-L/2 \leq x \leq 0$.

Answer:

$$p = \frac{2}{L} \int_{-L/2}^0 \sin^2 \left[2\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right] dx$$

$$\text{Let } y = \frac{2\pi x}{L} + \pi \quad dx = \frac{L}{2\pi} dy$$

$$p = \frac{2}{L} \frac{L}{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \sin^2 y \, dy = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{y}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \sin 2y \right]_0^\pi = \frac{1}{2}$$

4. The wavefunction for a particle of mass m in a box of length L defined on the interval $-L/2 \leq x \leq L/2$ is given by

$$\psi(x) = N \sin \left[\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right]$$

where N is the normalization factor. Derive an expression for the expectation value of the kinetic energy of the particle.

Answer:

$$N^2 \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} \sin^2 \left[\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right] dx = 1$$

$$y = \pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \quad dy = \frac{\pi}{L} dx \quad dx = \frac{L}{\pi} dy$$

$$N^2 \frac{L}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \sin^2 y \, dy = N^2 \frac{L}{\pi} \left[\frac{y}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \sin 2y \right]_0^\pi = N^2 \frac{L}{2} = 1$$

or

$$\psi(x) = \left(\frac{2}{L} \right)^{1/2} \sin \left[\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right]$$

$$\langle T \rangle = \int_D \psi^*(x) \left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \right) \psi(x) dx$$

$$= -\frac{2\hbar^2}{2mL} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} \sin \left[\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right] \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \sin \left[\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right] dx$$

$$= \left(\frac{2\hbar^2}{2mL} \right) \left(\frac{\pi^2}{L^2} \right) \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} \sin^2 \left[\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right] dx$$

$$= \left(\frac{2\hbar^2}{2mL} \right) \left(\frac{\pi^2}{L^2} \right) \left(\frac{L}{2} \right) = \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2mL^2}$$

5. A particle of mass m is confined to a one-dimensional box of length L in the domain $-L/4 < x < 3L/4$. Show that the wavefunction

$$\psi(x) = \sin \left(\frac{\pi x}{L} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right)$$

satisfies the time-independent Schrödinger equation for the system as well as the appropriate boundary conditions.

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{H}\psi &= E\psi = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} \\ \psi'(x) &= \frac{\pi}{L} \cos \left(\frac{\pi x}{L} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \quad \psi''(x) = -\frac{\pi^2}{L^2} \sin \left(\frac{\pi x}{L} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \\ \hat{H}\psi &= \frac{\hbar^2 \pi^2}{2mL^2} \sin \left(\frac{\pi x}{L} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \quad E = \frac{\hbar^2 \pi^2}{2mL^2} \\ \psi(-L/4) &= \psi(3L/4) = 0 \\ \psi(-L/4) &= \sin \left(\frac{\pi}{L} \frac{-L}{4} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) = \sin 0 = 0 \\ \psi(3L/4) &= \sin \left(\frac{\pi}{L} \frac{3L}{4} + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) = \sin \pi = 0 \end{aligned}$$

6. The normalized wavefunction for a particle of mass m in a one-dimensional box of length L on the domain $0 < x < L$ in its 4th excited energy state is given by

$$\psi_5(x) = \left(\frac{2}{L} \right)^{1/2} \sin \left(\frac{5\pi x}{L} \right).$$

Calculate the probability that a measurement of the position of the particle will give a result in the region between $x = 0$ and the first node of the wavefunction.

Answer:

The first node occurs at

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{5\pi x}{L} &= \pi \quad \text{or} \quad x = \frac{L}{5} \\ p &= \int_0^{L/5} \psi^*(x) \psi(x) dx = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^{L/5} \sin^2 \left(\frac{5\pi x}{L} \right) dx \\ y &= \frac{5\pi x}{L} \quad dx = \frac{L}{5\pi} dy \\ p &= \left(\frac{2}{L} \right) \left(\frac{L}{5\pi} \right) \int_0^\pi \sin^2 y dy \\ &= \frac{2}{5\pi} \left(\frac{y}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \sin 2y \right) \Big|_0^\pi = \frac{1}{5} \end{aligned}$$

7. The normalized wavefunction for a particle of mass m in a one-dimensional box in quantum state n on the domain $-L/2 \leq x \leq L/2$ is given by

$$\psi_n(x) = \left(\frac{2}{L}\right)^{1/2} \sin\left(n\pi \left[\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2}\right]\right).$$

Calculate the probability the particle is found on the interval between $-L/2$ and the first node of the wavefunction.

Answer:

The first node is found at

$$n\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2}\right) = \pi \quad \frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{n} \quad x = L \left(\frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$p = \frac{2}{L} \int_{-L/2}^{L(1/n-1/2)} \sin^2\left(n\pi \left[\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2}\right]\right) dx$$

$$y = n\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2}\right) \quad dx = \frac{L}{n\pi} dy$$

$$\begin{aligned} p &= \left(\frac{2}{L}\right) \left(\frac{L}{n\pi}\right) \int_0^\pi \sin^2 y \, dy \\ &= \frac{2}{n\pi} \left[\frac{y}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \sin 2y\right]_0^\pi = \frac{1}{n} \end{aligned}$$

8. A particle of mass m is confined to move in a box of length L on the domain $-L/10 \leq x \leq 9L/10$ by action of potential energy

$$V(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & -\frac{L}{10} \leq x \leq \frac{9L}{10} \\ \infty & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

The particle is in the state with quantum number $n = 2$ and associated normalized wavefunction

$$\psi_2(x) = \left(\frac{2}{L}\right)^{1/2} \sin\left[\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{10}\right)\right].$$

Show that $\psi_2(x)$ satisfies the appropriate boundary conditions for the system, and find the points in space that the particle is most likely to be found.

Answer:

$$\psi_2(-L/10) = \psi_2(9L/10) \text{ should} = 0$$

$$\psi_2(-L/10) = \left(\frac{2}{L}\right)^{1/2} \sin\left[\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(-\frac{L}{10} + \frac{L}{10}\right)\right] = \left(\frac{2}{L}\right)^{1/2} \sin 0 = 0$$

$$\psi_2(9L/10) = \left(\frac{2}{L}\right)^{1/2} \sin\left[\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(\frac{9L}{10} + \frac{L}{10}\right)\right] = \left(\frac{2}{L}\right)^{1/2} \sin 2\pi = 0$$

$$p(x) = \frac{2}{L} \sin^2\left[\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{10}\right)\right]$$

$$p'(x) = \frac{4}{L} \frac{2\pi}{L} \sin \left[\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{10} \right) \right] \cos \left[\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{10} \right) \right] = 0$$

at

$$\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{10} \right) = \frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2}$$

or

$$x = \frac{3L}{20}, \frac{13L}{20}$$

9. A particle of mass m in a box of length L , defined on the domain $-L/5 \leq x \leq 4L/5$, occupies its first excited energy state with associate normalized wavefunction

$$\psi_2(x) = \left(\frac{2}{L} \right)^{1/2} \sin \left[\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{5} \right) \right].$$

Let x_n be the coordinate of the node of the wavefunction, x_L and x_U be the coordinates where the particle is most likely to be found such that $x_L < x_U$. Determine the locations x_n, x_L and x_U , and calculate the probability that a measurement of the coordinate of the particle gives a result in the range $x_L \leq x \leq x_n$.

Answer:

$$\sin \left[\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{5} \right) \right] = 0$$

when

$$\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x_n + \frac{L}{5} \right) = \pi \quad \text{or} \quad x_n = \frac{3L}{10}$$

Now

$$p(x) = \left(\frac{2}{L} \right) \sin^2 \left[\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{5} \right) \right]$$

and

$$p'(x) = \left(\frac{8\pi}{L^2} \right) \sin \left[\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{5} \right) \right] \cos \left[\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{5} \right) \right]$$

$$p'(x) = 0 \quad \text{when} \quad \cos \left[\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{5} \right) \right] = 0$$

or

$$\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{5} \right) = \frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2}$$

and

$$x_L = \frac{L}{20} \quad x_U = \frac{11L}{20}$$

$$p = \frac{2}{L} \int_{L/20}^{3L/10} \sin^2 \left[\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{5} \right) \right] dx$$

$$y = \frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{5} \right) \quad dy = \frac{2\pi}{L} dx$$

$$p = \frac{2}{L} \frac{L}{2\pi} \int_{\pi/2}^{\pi} \sin^2 y \, dy = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{y}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \sin 2y \right]_{\pi/2}^{\pi} = \frac{1}{4}$$

10. A quantum particle of mass m is confined to a one-dimensional box on the domain $-L/2 \leq x \leq L/2$. The normalized solutions to the Schrödinger equation for the particle are given by

$$\psi_n(x) = \left(\frac{2}{L}\right)^{1/2} \sin \left[n\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right], n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Let x_1 be the first node of the wavefunction for $n = 3$ and x_2 be the second node of the wavefunction for $n = 3$. Calculate the probability that a measurement of the position of the particle in the state defined by $n = 3$ gives a result in the range $x_1 \leq x \leq x_2$.

Answer:

$$x_1 : 3\pi \left(\frac{x_1}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) = \pi \quad x_1 = -\frac{L}{6}$$

$$x_2 : 3\pi \left(\frac{x_2}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) = 2\pi \quad x_2 = \frac{L}{6}$$

$$p = \frac{2}{L} \int_{-L/6}^{L/6} \sin^2 \left[3\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \right] dx$$

$$y = 3\pi \left(\frac{x}{L} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \quad dy = \frac{3\pi}{L} dx$$

$$p = \frac{2}{L} \frac{L}{3\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} \sin^2 y \, dy$$

$$= \frac{2}{3\pi} \left[\frac{y}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \sin 2y \right]_{\pi}^{2\pi} = \frac{2}{3\pi} \frac{\pi}{2} = \frac{1}{3}$$

11. The first-excited state normalized wavefunction for a particle of mass m confined to move in a one-dimensional box on the domain $-L/7 \leq x \leq 6L/7$ is given by

$$\psi_2(x) = \left(\frac{2}{L}\right)^{1/2} \sin \left[\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{7} \right) \right].$$

Show that the wavefunction satisfies the proper boundary conditions for the system, find the first node of the wavefunction, and calculate the probability that a measurement of the position of the particle lies in the range from $x = -L/7$ to the first node of the wavefunction.

Answer:

Boundary conditions

$$\sin \left[\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(-\frac{L}{7} + \frac{L}{7} \right) \right] = \sin 0 = 0$$

$$\sin \left[\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(\frac{6L}{7} + \frac{L}{7} \right) \right] = \sin 2\pi = 0$$

Node

$$\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{7} \right) = \pi \text{ at } x = \frac{5L}{14}$$

Probability

$$p = \frac{2}{L} \int_{-L/7}^{5L/14} \sin^2 \left[\frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{7} \right) \right] dx$$

$$y = \frac{2\pi}{L} \left(x + \frac{L}{7} \right) \quad dx = \frac{L}{2\pi} dy$$

$$p = \frac{2}{L} \frac{L}{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \sin^2 y \, dy = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{y}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \sin 2y \right]_0^\pi = \frac{1}{2}$$

12. Calculate $\langle xy^2 \rangle$ for a particle of mass m having quantum numbers n_x and n_y in a two-dimensional box whose sides have lengths L_x and L_y .

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle xy^2 \rangle &= \frac{2}{L_x} \frac{2}{L_y} \int_0^{L_x} dx \int_0^{L_y} dy \, xy^2 \sin^2 \frac{n_x \pi x}{L_x} \sin^2 \frac{n_y \pi y}{L_y} \\ &= \frac{2}{L_x} \frac{2}{L_y} \int_0^{L_x} dx \, x \sin^2 \frac{n_x \pi x}{L_x} \int_0^{L_y} dy \, y^2 \sin^2 \frac{n_y \pi y}{L_y} \\ &\quad \frac{L_x}{2} \frac{2}{L_y} \int_0^{L_y} dy \, y^2 \sin^2 \frac{n_y \pi y}{L_y} \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the result found in Problem 2a. Using

$$z = \frac{n_y \pi y}{L_y} \quad dy = \frac{L_y}{n_y \pi} dz$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle xy^2 \rangle &= \frac{L_x}{2} \frac{2}{L_y} \left(\frac{L_y}{n_y \pi} \right)^3 \int_0^{n_y \pi} dz \, z^2 \sin^2 z \\ &= \frac{L_x}{2} \frac{2L_y^2}{(n_y \pi)^3} \left[\frac{z^3}{6} - \left(\frac{z^2}{4} - \frac{1}{8} \right) \sin 2z - \frac{z \cos 2z}{4} \right]_0^{n_y \pi} \\ &= L_x L_y^2 \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{2(n_y \pi)^2} \right] \end{aligned}$$

13. The normalized wavefunctions for a particle of mass m in a one-dimensional box of length L on the domain $0 \leq x \leq L$ are given by the set

$$\psi_n(x) = \left(\frac{2}{L} \right)^{1/2} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Calculate $\langle xyz \rangle$ for a particle of mass m having quantum numbers n_x, n_y and n_z in a three-dimensional box whose sides have lengths L_x, L_y and L_z .

Answer:

In one dimension

$$\langle x \rangle = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L x \sin^2 \frac{n\pi x}{L} \, dx$$

$$\begin{aligned}
y &= \frac{n\pi x}{L} & x &= \frac{Ly}{n\pi} & dx &= \frac{L}{n\pi} dy \\
\langle x \rangle &= \frac{2}{L} \left(\frac{L}{n\pi} \right)^2 \int_0^{n\pi} y \sin^2 y \, dy \\
&= \frac{2L}{(n\pi)^2} \left[\frac{y^2}{4} - \frac{1}{4} y \sin(2y) - \frac{1}{8} \cos(2y) \right]_0^{n\pi} = \frac{L}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

In three dimensions

$$\Psi_{n_x, n_y, n_z}(x, y, z) = \psi_{n_x}(x) \psi_{n_y}(y) \psi_{n_z}(z)$$

so that

$$\langle xyz \rangle = \langle x \rangle \langle y \rangle \langle z \rangle = \frac{L_x L_y L_z}{8}$$

14. The normalized wavefunction for a quantum particle of mass m in a one-dimensional box of length L on the domain $0 \leq x \leq L$ with quantum number n is given by

$$\psi_n(x) = \left(\frac{2}{L} \right)^{1/2} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

Consider a particle of mass m in a two-dimensional box whose sides are of lengths L_x and L_y ; i.e. the domain is $0 \leq x \leq L_x$ and $0 \leq y \leq L_y$. Suppose the quantum state of the particle is defined by the quantum numbers in the x and y Cartesian directions by $n_x = 1$ and $n_y = 2$. Calculate $\langle x^2 y \rangle$ for the particle.

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle x^2 y \rangle &= \langle x^2 \rangle \langle y \rangle \\
\langle x^2 \rangle &= \int_0^{L_x} \left(\frac{2}{L_x} \right)^{1/2} \sin \frac{\pi x}{L_x} x^2 \left(\frac{2}{L_x} \right)^{1/2} \sin \frac{\pi x}{L_x} dx = \frac{2}{L_x} \int_0^{L_x} x^2 \sin^2 \frac{\pi x}{L_x} dx \\
z &= \frac{\pi x}{L_x} & x &= \frac{L_x}{\pi} z & dx &= \frac{L_x}{\pi} dz \\
\langle x^2 \rangle &= \frac{2}{L_x} \left(\frac{L_x}{\pi} \right)^3 \int_0^\pi z^2 \sin^2 z \, dz = \frac{L_x^2}{6\pi^3} [2\pi^3 - 3\pi] \\
\langle y \rangle &= \frac{2}{L_y} \int_0^{L_y} y \sin^2 \frac{2\pi y}{L_y} dy \\
z &= \frac{2\pi y}{L_y} & y &= \frac{L_y}{2\pi} z & dy &= \frac{L_y}{2\pi} dz \\
\langle y \rangle &= \frac{2}{L_y} \left(\frac{L_y}{2\pi} \right)^2 \int_0^{2\pi} z \sin^2 z \, dz = \frac{2}{L_y} \left(\frac{L_y}{2\pi} \right)^2 \frac{4\pi^2}{4} = \frac{L_y}{2} \\
\langle x^2 y \rangle &= \frac{L_y}{2} \frac{L_x^2}{6\pi^3} [2\pi^3 - 3\pi]
\end{aligned}$$