

## 4.3 Infinite Potential Well in Three Dimensions

Suppose region of three dimensions  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$ , the potential inside this region equals to zero, and the potential outside equals  $=\infty$ .

$v = 0$ when	$0 < x < a$ $0 < y < b$ $0 < z < c$	$v = \infty$ when	$0 \geq x \geq a$ $0 \geq y \geq b$ $0 \geq z \geq c$
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- Schrodinger equation of three dimensions

- $$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \psi (x, y, z) = E \psi(x, y, z)$$

- $$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \right) \psi = E \psi (x, y, z)$$
  
.....(4.9)

The wave function of potential in 3D potential box

- $$\psi (n_x, n_y, n_z) = \sqrt{\frac{8}{abc}} \sin \frac{n_x \pi x}{a} \sin \frac{n_y \pi y}{b} \sin \frac{n_z \pi z}{c}$$

- $$\psi_{n_x, n_y, n_z} (x, y, z)$$
  
$$= \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{n_x \pi x}{a} \sin \frac{n_y \pi y}{a} \sin \frac{n_z \pi z}{a}$$

- The energies of particles in 3D potential box

- $E = T + V = T = \frac{p^2}{2m} = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m}$

- $E = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} = \frac{\hbar^2 k_x^2 + \hbar^2 k_y^2 + \hbar^2 k_z^2}{2m} = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} (k_x^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2)$

- $k_x = \frac{n_x \pi}{a}, k_y = \frac{n_y \pi}{b}, k_z = \frac{n_z \pi}{c}$

- $\therefore E = \frac{\hbar^2 \pi^2}{2m} \left[ \frac{n_x^2}{a^2} + \frac{n_y^2}{b^2} + \frac{n_z^2}{c^2} \right]$

- If the potential box is cubic, then  $a = b = c$

- $\therefore E = \frac{\hbar^2 \pi^2}{2ma^2} (n_x^2 + n_y^2 + n_z^2) \dots\dots(4.10)$

- The energy of particle in 3D P.B. is quantized
- $\frac{3\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2}$  ,  $\frac{6\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2}$  , ... ..
- The ground state  $\psi_{111}$
- The first excited state is:  $\psi_{211}, \psi_{221}, \psi_{112}$
- The second excited state is :  $\psi_{221}, \psi_{212}, \psi_{122}$

ground stat	$\psi_{111} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{\pi z}{a}$
1 <sup>st</sup> excited state	$\psi_{211} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{2\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{\pi z}{a}$ $\psi_{121} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{2\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{\pi z}{a}$ $\psi_{112} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{2\pi z}{a}$

The phenomena of number of different state having the same energy is called degeneracy or degeneracy state and the number of wave function called order of degeneracy.

**Solved Example:** What the energy of particle in potential box of three dimensions at second excited state? write the degeneracy state, and the order of degeneracy?

• **Solution:**

$$\bullet E_{n_x, n_y, n_z} = \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2} (n_x^2 + n_y^2 + n_z^2)$$

$$\bullet E_{n_x, n_y, n_z} = E_{221} = E_{212} = E_{122}$$
$$= \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2} (n_x^2 + n_y^2 + n_z^2)$$

$$\bullet = \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2} [(2)^2 + (2)^2 + (1)^2]$$

$$\bullet = \frac{9\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2}$$

$$\psi_{221} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{2\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{2\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{\pi z}{a}$$

$$\psi_{212} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{2\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{2\pi z}{a}$$

$$\psi_{122} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{2\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{2\pi z}{a}$$

Three wave function return to the same energy

$$E = \frac{9\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2}$$

The order of degenerate = 3

**Solved Example:** find the wave function, the energy, and the order of degenerate of a particle in P.B of 3D in the third excited state?

• **Solution:**

• 
$$\psi_{n_x, n_y, n_z}(x, y, z) = \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{n_x \pi x}{a} \sin \frac{n_y \pi y}{a} \sin \frac{n_z \pi z}{a}$$

• 
$$\psi_{113} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{3\pi z}{a}$$

• 
$$\psi_{131} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{3\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{\pi z}{a}$$

• 
$$\psi_{122} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{3\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{\pi z}{a}$$

• **The energy**

• 
$$E_{n_x, n_y, n_z} = \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2} (n_x^2 + n_y^2 + n_z^2)$$

• 
$$E_{113} = \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2} (1^2 + 1^2 + 3^2)$$

• 
$$= \frac{11\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2}$$

• The order of degenerate = 3

•



## The wave function of fifth excited state:

$$\psi_{123} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{2\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{3\pi z}{a}$$

$$\psi_{132} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{3\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{2\pi z}{a}$$

$$\psi_{213} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{2\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{3\pi z}{a}$$

$$\psi_{231} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{2\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{3\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{\pi z}{a}$$

$$\psi_{312} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{3\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{2\pi z}{a}$$

$$\psi_{321} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{3\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{2\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{\pi z}{a}$$

same energy

$$E = \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2} (n_x^2 + n_y^2 + n_z^2)$$
$$= \frac{14\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2}$$

The order of degenerate = 6



- $= \int_0^a \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{\pi z}{a} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{8}{a^3}} \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{\pi y}{a} \sin \frac{\pi z}{a} d_x d_y d_z$
- $\frac{8}{a^3} \int_0^a \sin^2 \frac{\pi x}{a} dx \int_0^a \sin^2 \frac{\pi y}{a} dy \int_0^a \sin^2 \frac{\pi z}{a} dz$
- $\frac{8}{a^3} \int_0^a \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \cos \frac{2\pi x}{a}\right) dx \int_0^a \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \cos \frac{2\pi y}{a}\right) dy \int_0^a \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \cos \frac{2\pi z}{a}\right) dz$
- $\frac{1}{a^3} \left[ x - \frac{a}{2\pi} \sin \frac{2\pi x}{a} \right]_0^a \left[ y - \frac{a}{2\pi} \sin \frac{2\pi y}{a} \right]_0^a \left[ z - \frac{a}{2\pi} \sin \frac{2\pi z}{a} \right]_0^a$
- $\frac{1}{a^3} [a] [a] [a] = 1$
- $\therefore \psi_{111} = 1$  Normalized
- **Problem:** write the wave function of a particle in P.B of 3D at first excited state and prove it is normalized and orthogonal with the other functions.

• Thank You