

# Quantum Mechanics

Luis A. Anchordoqui

Department of Physics and Astronomy  
Lehman College, City University of New York

Lesson V  
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# LAST CLASS WE SAW

$$E\psi = \hbar\omega\psi = -j\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\psi \quad p_x\psi = \hbar k\psi = j\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\psi$$

$$E = \frac{p^2}{2m} \quad (\text{free-particle})$$

Notation  $\Rightarrow i = j$



$$-j\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\psi = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial x^2} \quad (\text{free-particle})$$



Erwin Schrödinger (1887-1961)  
Image in the Public Domain

..The Free-Particle Schrodinger Wave Equation !

probability

$$P(x) = |\psi|^2 dx$$

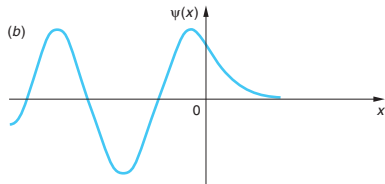
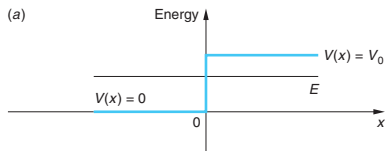
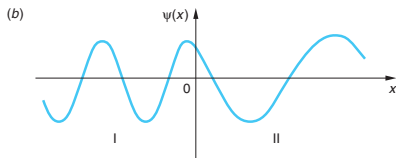
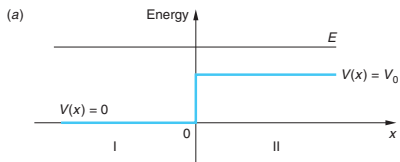
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The Schrodinger Wave Equation

$$E\psi(x) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\frac{\partial^2\psi(x)}{\partial x^2} + V(x)\psi(x)$$

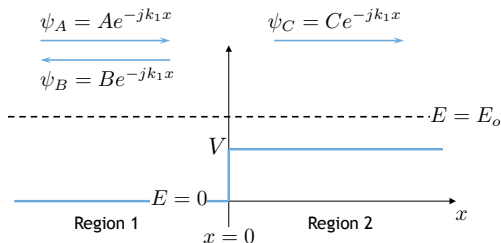
# Quantum Intuition

$$V(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < 0 \\ V_0 & \text{for } x \geq 0 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$



## A Simple Potential Step

CASE I:  $E_o > V$

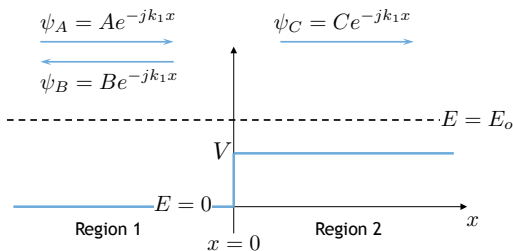


In Region 1:  $E_o \psi = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} \Rightarrow k_1^2 = \frac{2mE_o}{\hbar^2}$

In Region 2:  $(E_o - V) \psi = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} \Rightarrow k_2^2 = \frac{2m(E_o - V)}{\hbar^2}$

## A Simple Potential Step

CASE I:  $E_o > V$



$$\psi_1 = Ae^{-jk_1x} + Be^{jk_1x}$$

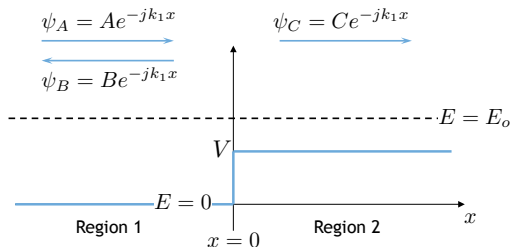
$$\psi_2 = Ce^{-jk_2x}$$

$\psi$  is continuous:  $\psi_1(0) = \psi_2(0) \quad \Rightarrow \quad A + B = C$

$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x}$  is continuous:  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \psi_1(0) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \psi_2(0) \quad \Rightarrow \quad A - B = \frac{k_2}{k_1} C$

## A Simple Potential Step

CASE I :  $E_o > V$



$$\begin{aligned}\frac{B}{A} &= \frac{1 - k_2/k_1}{1 + k_2/k_1} \\ &= \frac{k_1 - k_2}{k_1 + k_2}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{C}{A} &= \frac{2}{1 + k_2/k_1} \\ &= \frac{2k_1}{k_1 + k_2}\end{aligned}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} A + B = C \\ A - B = \frac{k_2}{k_1} C \end{array} \right.$$

## Quantum Electron Currents

Given an electron of mass  $m$

that is located in space with charge density  $\rho = q |\psi(x)|^2$

and moving with momentum  $\langle p \rangle$  corresponding to  $\langle v \rangle = \hbar k/m$

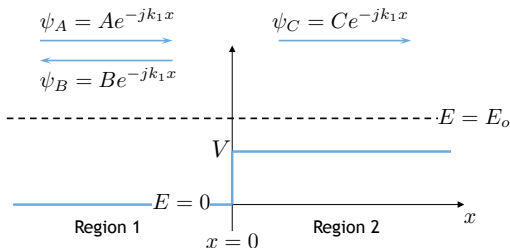
... then the current density for a *single electron* is given by

$$J = \rho v = q |\psi|^2 (\hbar k/m)$$



## A Simple Potential Step

CASE I :  $E_o > V$



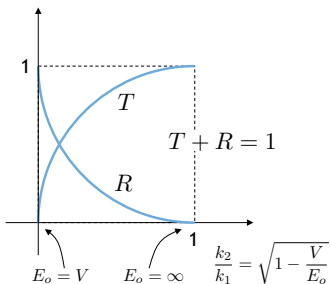
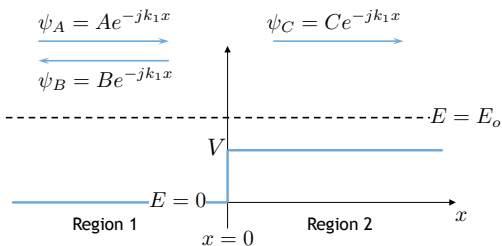
$$\text{Reflection} = R = \frac{J_{\text{reflected}}}{J_{\text{incident}}} = \frac{J_B}{J_A} = \frac{|\psi_B|^2(\hbar k_1/m)}{|\psi_A|^2(\hbar k_1/m)} = \left| \frac{B}{A} \right|^2$$

$$\text{Transmission} = T = \frac{J_{\text{transmitted}}}{J_{\text{incident}}} = \frac{J_C}{J_A} = \frac{|\psi_C|^2(\hbar k_2/m)}{|\psi_A|^2(\hbar k_1/m)} = \left| \frac{C}{A} \right|^2 \frac{k_2}{k_1}$$

$$\frac{B}{A} = \frac{1 - k_2/k_1}{1 + k_2/k_1} \quad \frac{C}{A} = \frac{2}{1 + k_2/k_1}$$

## A Simple Potential Step

CASE I :  $E_o > V$

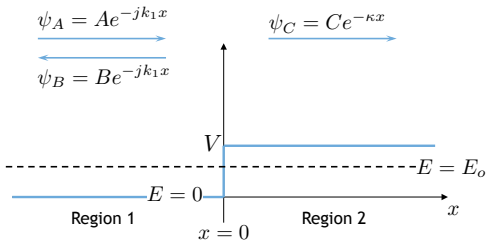


$$\text{Reflection} = R = \left| \frac{B}{A} \right|^2 = \left| \frac{k_1 - k_2}{k_1 + k_2} \right|^2$$

$$\text{Transmission} = T = 1 - R = \frac{4k_1k_2}{|k_1 + k_2|^2}$$

## A Simple Potential Step

CASE II :  $E_o < V$

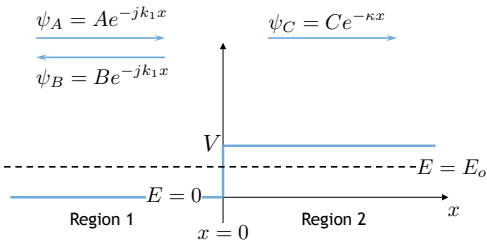


In Region 1: 
$$E_o\psi = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad k_1^2 = \frac{2mE_o}{\hbar^2}$$

In Region 2: 
$$(E_o - V)\psi = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \kappa^2 = \frac{2m(E_o - V)}{\hbar^2}$$

## A Simple Potential Step

CASE II :  $E_o < V$



$$\psi_1 = Ae^{-jk_1x} + Be^{jk_1x}$$

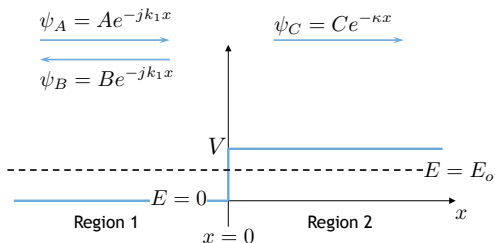
$$\psi_2 = Ce^{-\kappa x}$$

$\psi$  is continuous:  $\psi_1(0) = \psi_2(0) \quad \Rightarrow \quad A + B = C$

$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x}$  is continuous:  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \psi_1(0) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \psi_2(0) \quad \Rightarrow \quad A - B = -j \frac{\kappa}{k_1} C$

## A Simple Potential Step

CASE II :  $E_o < V$



$$\frac{B}{A} = \frac{1 + j\kappa/k_1}{1 - j\kappa/k_1}$$

$$\frac{C}{A} = \frac{2}{1 - j\kappa/k_1}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} A + B = C \\ A - B = -j\frac{\kappa}{k_1}C \end{array} \right. \leftarrow$$

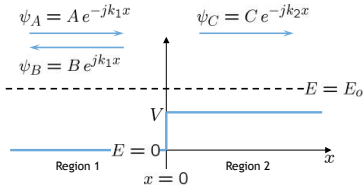
$$\boxed{R = \left| \frac{B}{A} \right|^2 = 1 \quad T = 0}$$

Total reflection  $\rightarrow$  Transmission must be zero

**KEY TAKEAWAYS**A Simple Potential Step

$$\text{Reflection} = R = \left| \frac{B}{A} \right|^2 = \left| \frac{k_1 - k_2}{k_1 + k_2} \right|^2$$

$$\text{Transmission} = T = 1 - R = \frac{4 k_1 k_2}{|k_1 + k_2|^2}$$

**PARTIAL REFLECTION**CASE I:  $E_o > V$ 

$$\psi_1 = A e^{-jk_1 x} + B e^{jk_1 x}$$

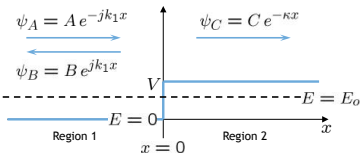
$$\psi_2 = C e^{-jk_2 x}$$

$$k_1^2 = \frac{2m E_o}{\hbar^2}$$

$$k_2^2 = \frac{2m (E_o - V)}{\hbar^2}$$

$$R = \left| \frac{B}{A} \right|^2 = 1$$

$$T = 0$$

**TOTAL REFLECTION**CASE II:  $E_o < V$ 

$$\psi_1 = A e^{-jk_1 x} + B e^{jk_1 x}$$

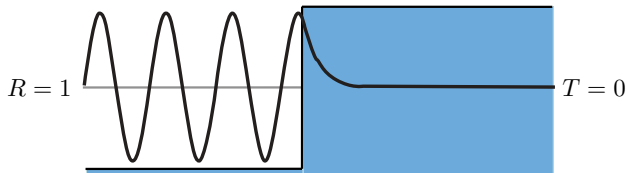
$$\psi_2 = C e^{-\kappa x}$$

$$k_1^2 = \frac{2m E_o}{\hbar^2}$$

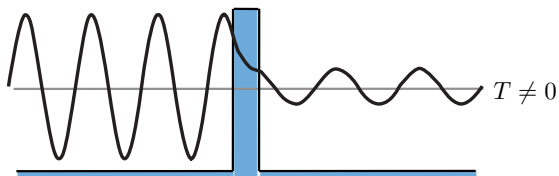
$$\kappa^2 = \frac{2m (V - E_o)}{\hbar^2}$$

## Quantum Tunneling Through a Thin Potential Barrier

### Total Reflection at Boundary

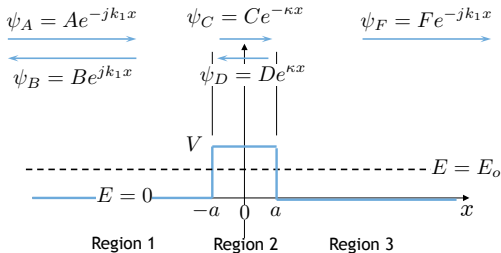


### Frustrated Total Reflection (Tunneling)



## A Rectangular Potential Step

CASE II :  $E_o < V$



In Regions 1 and 3:

$$E_o\psi = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial x^2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad k_1^2 = \frac{2mE_o}{\hbar^2}$$

In Region 2:

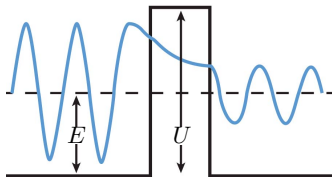
$$(E_o - V)\psi = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial x^2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \kappa^2 = \frac{2m(V - E_o)}{\hbar^2}$$

for  $E_o < V$ :

$$T = \left| \frac{F}{A} \right|^2 = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{4} \frac{V^2}{E_o(V - E_o)} \sinh^2(2\kappa a)}$$



## A Rectangular Potential Step



for  $E_o < V$  :

$$T = \left| \frac{F}{A} \right|^2 = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{4} \frac{V^2}{E_o(V-E_o)} \sinh^2(2\kappa a)}$$

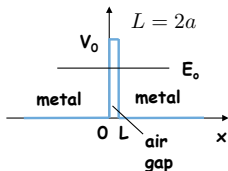
$$\sinh^2(2\kappa a) = [e^{2\kappa a} - e^{-2\kappa a}]^2 \approx e^{-4\kappa a}$$

$$T = \left| \frac{F}{A} \right|^2 \approx \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{4} \frac{V^2}{E_o(V-E_o)}} e^{-4\kappa a}$$

### Example: Barrier Tunneling

- Let's consider a tunneling problem:

An electron with a total energy of  $E_o = 6 \text{ eV}$  approaches a potential barrier with a height of  $V_o = 12 \text{ eV}$ . If the width of the barrier is  $L = 0.18 \text{ nm}$ , what is the probability that the electron will tunnel through the barrier?



$$T = \left| \frac{F}{A} \right|^2 \approx \frac{16E_o(V - E_o)}{V^2} e^{-2\kappa L}$$

$$\kappa = \sqrt{\frac{2m_e}{\hbar^2}(V - E_o)} = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{2m_e}{h^2}(V - E_o)} = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{6\text{eV}}{1.505\text{eV}\cdot\text{nm}^2}} \approx 12.6 \text{ nm}^{-1}$$

$$T = 4e^{-2(12.6 \text{ nm}^{-1})(0.18 \text{ nm})} = 4(0.011) = \boxed{4.4\%}$$

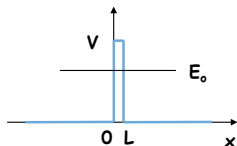
Question: What will T be if we double the width of the gap?

## Multiple Choice Questions

Consider a particle tunneling through a barrier:

1. Which of the following will increase the likelihood of tunneling?

- a. decrease the height of the barrier  
 b. decrease the width of the barrier  
 c. decrease the mass of the particle



2. What is the energy of the particles that have successfully “escaped”?
- a. < initial energy  
 b. = initial energy  
 c. > initial energy

Although the *amplitude* of the wave is smaller after the barrier, no energy is lost in the tunneling process

## Schrodinger Equations

Key to solving for the wave function of a particle hitting a potential barrier is finding the **Schrodinger equations** which describe the system. First, define the energy potential,  $V(x)$ , of the system as this:

$$V(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ V_0, & 0 < x < a \\ 0, & x > a \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Writing the wave function of the particle as  $\psi_1(x)$  for  $x < 0$ ,  $\psi_2(x)$  for  $0 < x < a$ , and  $\psi_3(x)$  for  $x > a$ , the **Schrodinger equations** for  $x < 0$ ,  $0 < x < a$ , and  $x > a$  are respectively:

$$E\psi_1(x) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \psi_1(x) \quad (2)$$

$$E\psi_2(x) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \psi_2(x) + V_0\psi_2(x) \quad (3)$$

$$E\psi_3(x) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \psi_3(x) \quad (4)$$

This can be simplified, considering the wavenumbers,  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ , of the wave function for inside and outside the barrier respectively. Since  $k_1^2 = 2mE/\hbar^2$  and  $k_2^2 = 2m(E - V_0)/\hbar^2$ , this can be said of the wave function of a particle with  $E \geq V_0$ .

$$0 = \frac{d^2}{dx^2}\psi_1(x) + k_1^2\psi_1(x) \quad (5)$$

$$0 = \frac{d^2}{dx^2}\psi_2(x) + k_2^2\psi_2(x) \quad (6)$$

$$0 = \frac{d^2}{dx^2}\psi_3(x) + k_1^2\psi_3(x) \quad (7)$$

Notice, however that if  $E < V_0$ ,  $k_2$  is imaginary and thus no longer an observable. By convention therefore,  $\kappa$ , defined by  $\kappa^2 = 2m(V_0 - E)/\hbar^2$ , is used instead for  $E < V_0$ . The differential equations defining the wave function of a particle with insufficient energy are thus:

$$0 = \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \psi_1(x) + k_1^2 \psi_1(x) \quad (8)$$

$$0 = \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \psi_2(x) - \kappa^2 \psi_2(x) \quad (9)$$

$$0 = \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \psi_3(x) + k_1^2 \psi_3(x) \quad (10)$$

## If There Is Sufficient Energy

For  $E \geq V_0$ , to find the wave function of the particle, equations (5), (6), and (7) must be solved. These are homogeneous second-order linear differential equations and have the following general solutions:

$$\psi_1(x) = Ae^{r_A x} + Be^{r_B x} \quad (11)$$

$$\psi_2(x) = Ce^{r_C x} + De^{r_D x} \quad (12)$$

$$\psi_3(x) = Fe^{r_F x} + Ge^{r_G x} \quad (13)$$

where  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$ ,  $D$ ,  $F$ , and  $G$  are constants and  $r_A = r_F$  and  $r_B = r_G$  are the two solutions to the equation  $r^2 + k_1^2 = 0$  while  $r_C$  and  $r_D$  are the two solutions to the equation  $r^2 + k_2^2 = 0$ .

$$\psi_1(x) = Ae^{ik_1x} + Be^{-ik_1x} \quad (14)$$

$$\psi_2(x) = Ce^{ik_2x} + De^{-ik_2x} \quad (15)$$

$$\psi_3(x) = Fe^{ik_1x} + Ge^{-ik_1x} \quad (16)$$

tice, considering **Euler's formula**, that  $Ae^{ik_1x}$ ,  $Ce^{ik_2x}$ , and  $Fe^{ik_1x}$  represent waves travelling in the positive direction while  $Be^{-ik_1x}$ ,  $De^{-ik_2x}$ , and  $Ge^{-ik_1x}$  represent waves travelling in the negative direction. Since reflection by a potential barrier is conceivable, it is possible to have wave components travelling in the negative direction for  $x < a$ , but there is no reason to have waves doing so for  $x > a$ . Thus,  $G = 0$ .

$$\psi_1(x) = Ae^{ik_1x} + Be^{-ik_1x} \quad (17)$$

$$\psi_2(x) = Ce^{ik_2x} + De^{-ik_2x} \quad (18)$$

$$\psi_3(x) = Fe^{ik_1x} \quad (19)$$

solve for  $B$  and  $F$  in relation to  $A$ , impose these four boundary conditions to ensure that the wave function is a smooth curve as  $x \rightarrow 0$  and as  $x \rightarrow a$ :

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \psi_1(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \psi_2(x)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{d}{dx} \psi_1(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{d}{dx} \psi_2(x)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} \psi_2(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} \psi_3(x)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} \frac{d}{dx} \psi_2(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} \frac{d}{dx} \psi_3(x)$$

$$A + B = C + D \quad (20)$$

$$ik_1 A - ik_1 B = ik_2 C - ik_2 D \quad (21)$$

$$Ce^{ik_2 a} + De^{-ik_2 a} = Fe^{ik_1 a} \quad (22)$$

$$ik_2 Ce^{ik_2 a} - ik_2 De^{-ik_2 a} = ik_1 Fe^{ik_1 a} \quad (23)$$

$$k_1 A + k_1 B = k_1 C + k_1 D \quad (24)$$

$$k_1 A - k_1 B = k_2 C - k_2 D \quad (25)$$

$$k_2 Ce^{ik_2 a} + k_2 De^{-ik_2 a} = k_2 Fe^{ik_1 a} \quad (26)$$

$$k_2 Ce^{ik_2 a} - k_2 De^{-ik_2 a} = k_1 Fe^{ik_1 a} \quad (27)$$



$$2k_1 A = (k_1 + k_2)C + (k_1 - k_2)D \quad (28)$$

$$2k_1 B = (k_1 - k_2)C + (k_1 + k_2)D \quad (29)$$

$$2k_2 C e^{ik_2 a} = (k_1 + k_2)F e^{ik_1 a} \quad (30)$$

$$2k_2 D e^{-ik_2 a} = (k_2 - k_1)F e^{ik_1 a} \quad (31)$$

To solve for  $F$  in relation to  $A$ , consider equations (28), (30), and (31).

$$2k_1 A = \frac{(k_1 + k_2)^2}{2k_2} F e^{i(k_1 - k_2)a} - \frac{(k_1 - k_2)^2}{2k_2} F e^{i(k_1 + k_2)a} \quad (32)$$

$$4k_1 k_2 e^{-ik_1 a} A = (k_1 + k_2)^2 F e^{-ik_2 a} - (k_1 - k_2)^2 F e^{ik_2 a} \quad (33)$$

Using **Euler's formula** to expand  $e^{-ik_2 a}$  and  $e^{ik_2 a}$ , the following can be derived:

$$4k_1 k_2 e^{-ik_1 a} A = (-2ik_1^2 \sin k_2 a + 4k_1 k_2 \cos k_2 a - 2ik_2^2 \sin k_2 a) F \quad (34)$$

$$F = \frac{2k_1 k_2 e^{-ik_1 a} A}{2k_1 k_2 \cos k_2 a - i(k_1^2 + k_2^2) \sin k_2 a} \quad (35)$$

To solve for  $B$  in relation to  $A$ , consider equations (29), (30), and (31).

$$2k_1 B = \frac{k_1^2 - k_2^2}{2k_2} F e^{i(k_1 - k_2)a} - \frac{k_1^2 - k_2^2}{2k_2} F e^{i(k_1 + k_2)a} \quad (36)$$

$$\frac{4k_1 k_2 e^{-ik_1 a} B}{k_1^2 - k_2^2} = (e^{-ik_2 a} - e^{ik_2 a}) F \quad (37)$$

Using **Euler's formula** to expand  $e^{-ik_2 a}$  and  $e^{ik_2 a}$ , the following can be derived:

$$\frac{2k_1 k_2 e^{-ik_1 a} B}{-i(k_1^2 - k_2^2) \sin k_2 a} = F \quad (38)$$

Comparing equations (35) and (38),  $B$  is solved for in relation to  $A$ .

$$B = \frac{-i(k_1^2 - k_2^2) \sin(k_2 a) A}{2k_1 k_2 \cos k_2 a - i(k_1^2 + k_2^2) \sin k_2 a} \quad (39)$$

Considering equations (30) and (31) alongside equation (35),  $C$  and  $D$  can also be solved for in relation to  $A$ , but since only  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $F$  are needed to calculate the reflection and transmission coefficients, the derivations of  $C$  and  $D$  are omitted here. In order to find the reflection and transmission coefficients, the wave function must be first written in terms of its incident, reflected, and transmitted components,  $\psi_i(x)$ ,  $\psi_r(x)$ , and  $\psi_t(x)$  respectively.

$$\psi_i(x) = A e^{ik_1 x} \quad (40)$$

$$\psi_r(x) = B e^{-ik_1 x} \quad (41)$$

$$\psi_t(x) = F e^{ik_1 x} \quad (42)$$

The reflection and transmission coefficients,  $R$  and  $T$  respectively, are defined as follows:

$$R = -\frac{\dot{j}_r}{\dot{j}_i} \quad (43)$$

$$T = \frac{\dot{j}_t}{\dot{j}_i} \quad (44)$$

where  $\dot{j}_i$ ,  $\dot{j}_r$ , and  $\dot{j}_t$  are the incident, reflected, and transmitted **probability currents** respectively.

$$R = -\frac{\psi_r(x) \frac{d}{dx} \psi_r^*(x) - \psi_r^*(x) \frac{d}{dx} \psi_r(x)}{\psi_i(x) \frac{d}{dx} \psi_i^*(x) - \psi_i^*(x) \frac{d}{dx} \psi_i(x)} \quad (45)$$

$$T = \frac{\psi_t(x) \frac{d}{dx} \psi_t^*(x) - \psi_t^*(x) \frac{d}{dx} \psi_t(x)}{\psi_i(x) \frac{d}{dx} \psi_i^*(x) - \psi_i^*(x) \frac{d}{dx} \psi_i(x)} \quad (46)$$

$$R = \frac{|B|^2}{|A|^2} \quad (47)$$

$$T = \frac{|F|^2}{|A|^2} \quad (48)$$

Applying the solutions for  $B$  and  $F$  found in equations (39) and (35) respectively gives:

$$R = \frac{(k_1^2 - k_2^2)^2 \sin^2 k_2 a}{4k_1^2 k_2^2 \cos^2 k_2 a + (k_1^2 + k_2^2)^2 \sin^2 k_2 a} \quad (49)$$

$$T = \frac{4k_1^2 k_2^2}{4k_1^2 k_2^2 \cos^2 k_2 a + (k_1^2 + k_2^2)^2 \sin^2 k_2 a} \quad (50)$$

$$R = \frac{(k_1^2 - k_2^2)^2 \sin^2 k_2 a}{4k_1^2 k_2^2 + (k_1^2 - k_2^2)^2 \sin^2 k_2 a} \quad (51)$$

$$T = \frac{4k_1^2 k_2^2}{4k_1^2 k_2^2 + (k_1^2 - k_2^2)^2 \sin^2 k_2 a} \quad (52)$$

$$R = \left[ \frac{4k_1^2 k_2^2}{(k_1^2 - k_2^2)^2 \sin^2 k_2 a} + 1 \right]^{-1} \quad (53)$$

$$T = \left[ \frac{(k_1^2 - k_2^2)^2 \sin^2 k_2 a}{4k_1^2 k_2^2} + 1 \right]^{-1} \quad (54)$$

Interestingly contrary to classical mechanics, quantum mechanics suggests that the particle may actually be reflected by the potential barrier, despite having a total energy of equal or greater value than  $V_0$ .

## If There Is Insufficient Energy

For  $E < V_0$ , equations (8), (9), and (10) must be solved to find  $\psi_1(x)$ ,  $\psi_2(x)$ , and  $\psi_3(x)$ . To do this, follow the methodology employed in the previous section, **"If There Is Sufficient Energy"**. The solutions of equations (8), (9), and (10) are identical to those of (5), (6), and (7) respectively save for the use of  $i\kappa$  in the place of  $k_2$ .

$$\psi_1(x) = Ae^{ik_1 x} + Be^{-ik_1 x} \quad (55)$$

$$\psi_2(x) = Ce^{-\kappa x} + De^{\kappa x} \quad (56)$$

$$\psi_3(x) = Fe^{ik_1 x} \quad (57)$$

Applying the same boundary conditions as in the previous section and manipulating algebra in the same manner, it can also be found that:

$$2ik_1A = (ik_1 - \kappa)C + (ik_1 + \kappa)D \quad (58)$$

$$2ik_1B = (ik_1 + \kappa)C + (ik_1 - \kappa)D \quad (59)$$

$$2\kappa C e^{-\kappa a} = (\kappa - ik_1)F e^{ik_1 a} \quad (60)$$

$$2\kappa D e^{\kappa a} = (ik_1 + \kappa)F e^{ik_1 a} \quad (61)$$

To solve for  $F$  in relation to  $A$ , consider equations (58), (60), and (61).

$$2ik_1A = -\frac{(ik_1 - \kappa)^2}{2\kappa} F e^{(ik_1 + \kappa)a} + \frac{(ik_1 + \kappa)^2}{2\kappa} F e^{(ik_1 - \kappa)a} \quad (62)$$

$$4ik_1\kappa e^{-ik_1 a} A = -(ik_1 - \kappa)^2 F e^{\kappa a} + (ik_1 + \kappa)^2 F e^{-\kappa a} \quad (63)$$

$$4ik_1\kappa e^{-ik_1 a} A = [(k_1^2 - \kappa^2)(e^{\kappa a} - e^{-\kappa a}) + 2ik_1\kappa(e^{\kappa a} + e^{-\kappa a})] F \quad (64)$$

$$F = \frac{2ik_1\kappa e^{-ik_1 a} A}{(k_1^2 - \kappa^2) \sinh \kappa a + 2ik_1\kappa \cosh \kappa a} \quad (65)$$

(In case you are unfamiliar with **hyperbolic functions**,  $\sinh u = (e^u - e^{-u})/2$  is the **hyperbolic sine function** and  $\cosh u = (e^u + e^{-u})/2$  is the **hyperbolic cosine function**.) To solve for  $B$  in relation to  $A$ , consider equations (59), (60), and (61).

$$2ik_1B = \frac{k_1^2 + \kappa^2}{2\kappa} Fe^{(ik_1 + \kappa)a} - \frac{k_1^2 + \kappa^2}{2\kappa} Fe^{(ik_1 - \kappa)a} \quad (66)$$

$$\frac{4ik_1\kappa e^{-ik_1a}B}{k_1^2 + \kappa^2} = Fe^{\kappa a} - Fe^{-\kappa a} \quad (67)$$

$$\frac{2ik_1\kappa e^{-ik_1a}B}{(k_1^2 + \kappa^2) \sinh \kappa a} = F \quad (68)$$



Comparing equations (65) and (68),  $B$  is solved for in relation to  $A$ .

$$B = \frac{(k_1^2 + \kappa^2) \sinh(\kappa a) A}{(k_1^2 - \kappa^2) \sinh \kappa a + 2ik_1 \kappa \cosh \kappa a} \quad (69)$$

As in the previous section, the wave function written in terms of its incident, reflected, and transmitted components is:

$$\psi_i(x) = Ae^{ik_1x} \quad (70)$$

$$\psi_r(x) = Be^{-ik_1x} \quad (71)$$

$$\psi_t(x) = Fe^{ik_1x} \quad (72)$$

Furthermore, the reflection and transmission coefficients, derivable using the same method as in the previous section, are again given by:

$$R = \frac{|B|^2}{|A|^2} \quad (73)$$

$$T = \frac{|F|^2}{|A|^2} \quad (74)$$

$$R = \frac{(k_1^2 + \kappa^2)^2 \sinh^2 \kappa a}{(k_1^2 - \kappa^2)^2 \sinh^2 \kappa a + 4k_1^2 \kappa^2 \cosh^2 \kappa a} \quad (75)$$

$$T = \frac{4k_1^2 \kappa^2}{(k_1^2 - \kappa^2)^2 \sinh^2 \kappa a + 4k_1^2 \kappa^2 \cosh^2 \kappa a} \quad (76)$$

$$R = \frac{(k_1^2 + \kappa^2)^2 \sinh^2 \kappa a}{(k_1^2 + \kappa^2)^2 \sinh^2 \kappa a + 4k_1^2 \kappa^2} \quad (77)$$

$$T = \frac{4k_1^2 \kappa^2}{(k_1^2 + \kappa^2)^2 \sinh^2 \kappa a + 4k_1^2 \kappa^2} \quad (78)$$

$$R = \left[ \frac{4k_1^2 \kappa^2}{(k_1^2 + \kappa^2)^2 \sinh^2 \kappa a} + 1 \right]^{-1} \quad (79)$$

$$T = \left[ \frac{(k_1^2 + \kappa^2)^2 \sinh^2 \kappa a}{4k_1^2 \kappa^2} + 1 \right]^{-1} \quad (80)$$

Contrary to classical expectations which would suggest that the particle has zero probability of travelling beyond  $x = 0$ , quantum mechanics asserts that the particle has a non-zero probability of tunneling through the rectangular potential barrier, despite having a total energy less than  $V_0$ . This phenomenon marks a major difference between quantum and classical mechanics.