

P2-8.

Consider a wave function of the form

$$\psi(x) = A e^{-\mu|x|}$$

Calculate the wave function in momentum space $\phi(p)$.

Solution:

$$\psi(x) = A e^{-\mu|x|}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(p) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{i\frac{p}{\hbar}x} \psi(x) dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-i\frac{p}{\hbar}x} \cdot A e^{-\mu|x|} dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^0 \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-i\frac{p}{\hbar}x} \cdot A e^{\mu x} dx + \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-i\frac{p}{\hbar}x} \cdot A e^{-\mu x} dx \\ &= \frac{A}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left[\int_{-\infty}^0 e^{\left(\mu - i\frac{p}{\hbar}\right)x} dx + \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\left(i\frac{p}{\hbar} + \mu\right)x} dx \right] \\ &= \frac{A}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left\{ \left[\frac{e^{\left(\mu - i\frac{p}{\hbar}\right)x}}{\mu - i\frac{p}{\hbar}} \right]_{-\infty}^0 + \left[\frac{e^{-\left(i\frac{p}{\hbar} + \mu\right)x}}{-\left(i\frac{p}{\hbar} + \mu\right)} \right]_0^{\infty} \right\} \\ &= \frac{A}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left\{ \left[\frac{1}{\mu - i\frac{p}{\hbar}} - 0 \right] + \left[0 - \frac{1}{-\left(i\frac{p}{\hbar} + \mu\right)} \right] \right\} \\ &= \frac{A}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{1}{\mu - i\frac{p}{\hbar}} + \frac{1}{\mu + i\frac{p}{\hbar}} \right) \\ &= \frac{A}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{\mu + i\frac{p}{\hbar} + \mu - i\frac{p}{\hbar}}{\mu^2 + \left(\frac{p}{\hbar}\right)^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{A\hbar^2}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{2\mu}{\mu^2 + p^2} \right) \\ &= \underline{\underline{A\hbar^2 \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left(\frac{\mu}{\mu^2 + p^2} \right)}} \end{aligned}$$