

## 3.012 Fund of Mat Sci: Bonding – Lecture 4

# CURIOSITY KILLED THE CAT



# Specific Heat of Graphite (Dulong and Petit)

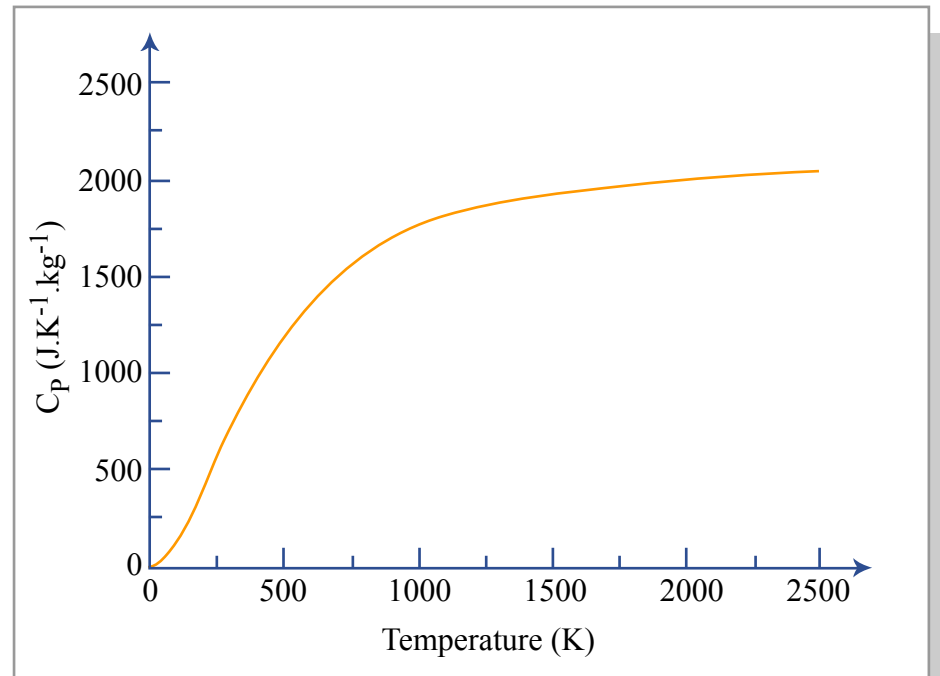
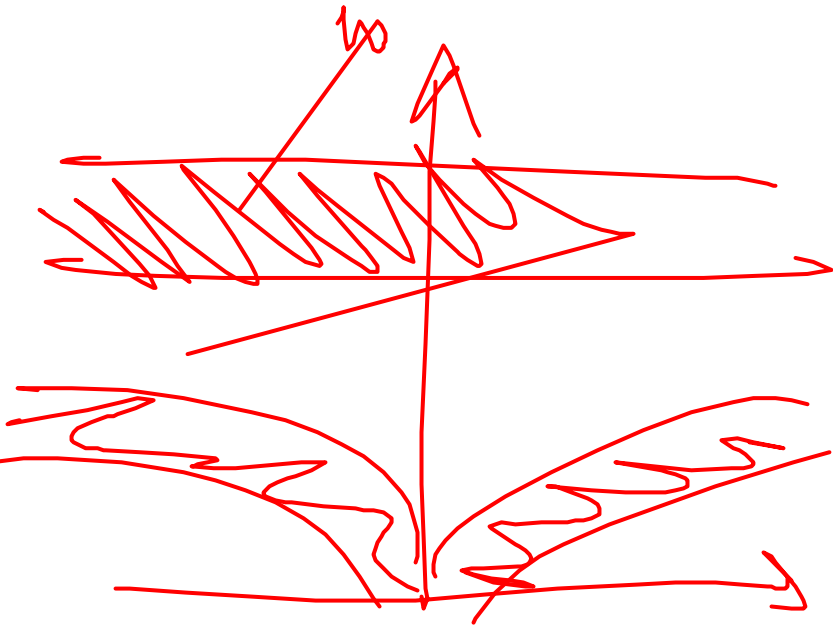


Figure by MIT OCW.

# Last Time

$$\frac{h^2}{8m} \left( \frac{h^2}{a^2} \right)$$

- Expectation values of the energy in an infinite well (particle-in-a-box)
- Absorption lines (linear conjugated molecules)
- Particles in 3-dim box (quantum dots, “Farbe” defects)

# Homework for Fri 23

- Study: 14.1, 14.2, 14.3
- Read: 14.4

# Metal Surfaces (I)

$$\left[ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + V(x) \right] \varphi(x) = E\varphi(x)$$

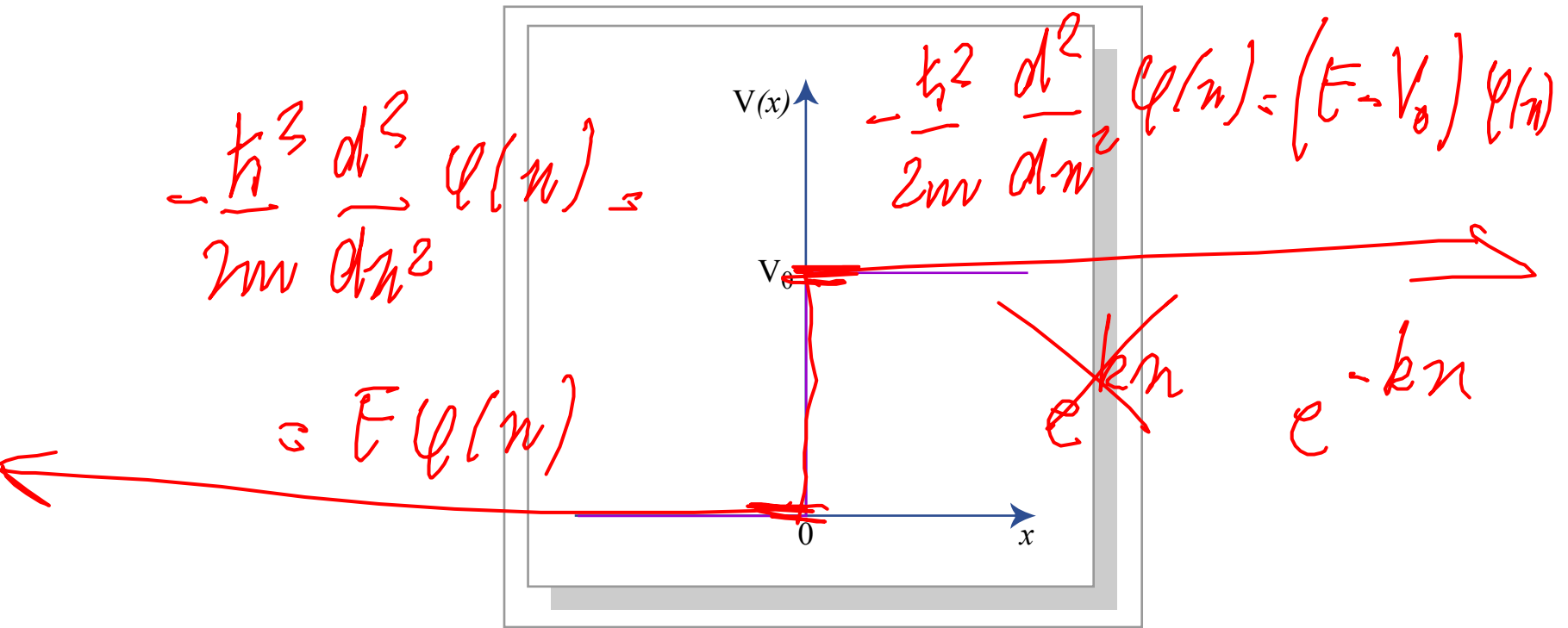


Figure by MIT OCW.

# Metal Surfaces (II)

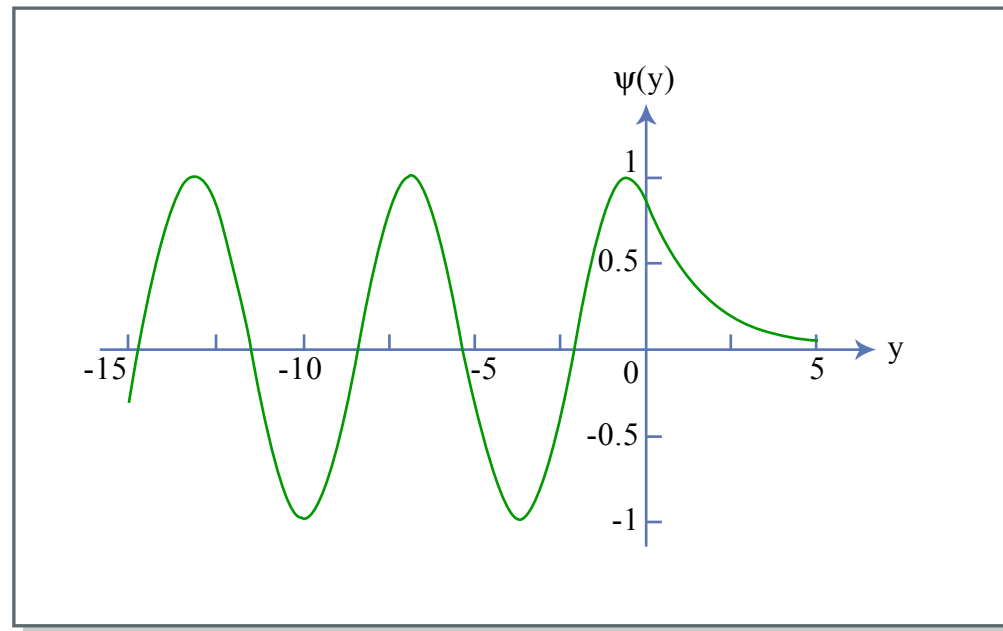


Figure by MIT OCW.

# Scanning Tunnelling Microscopy

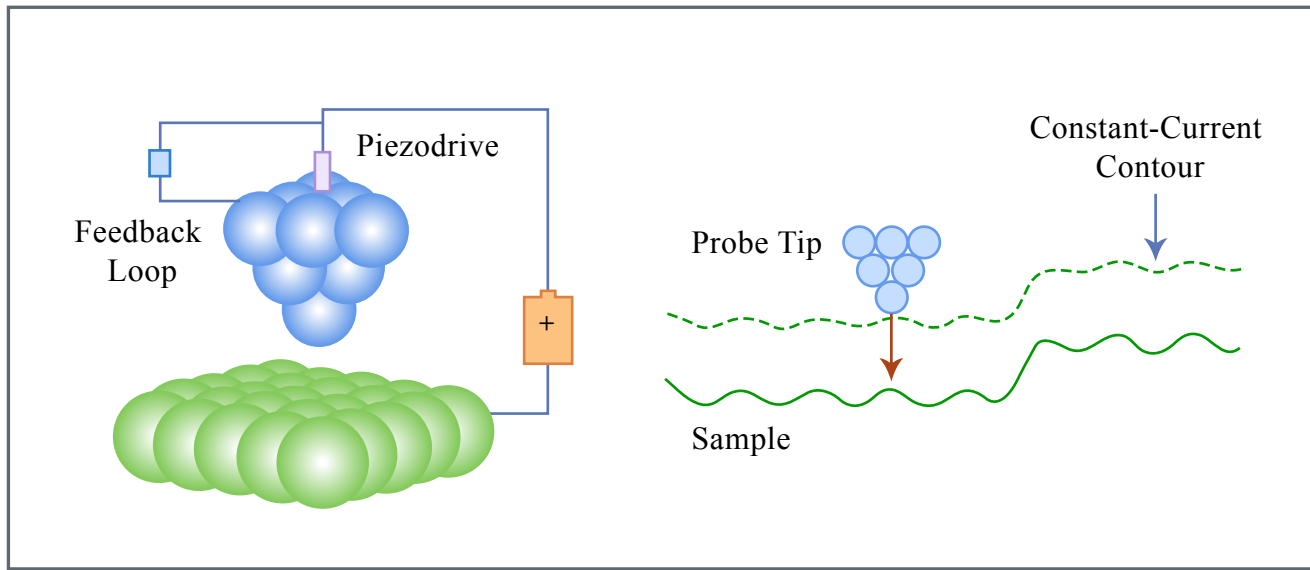


Figure by MIT OCW.

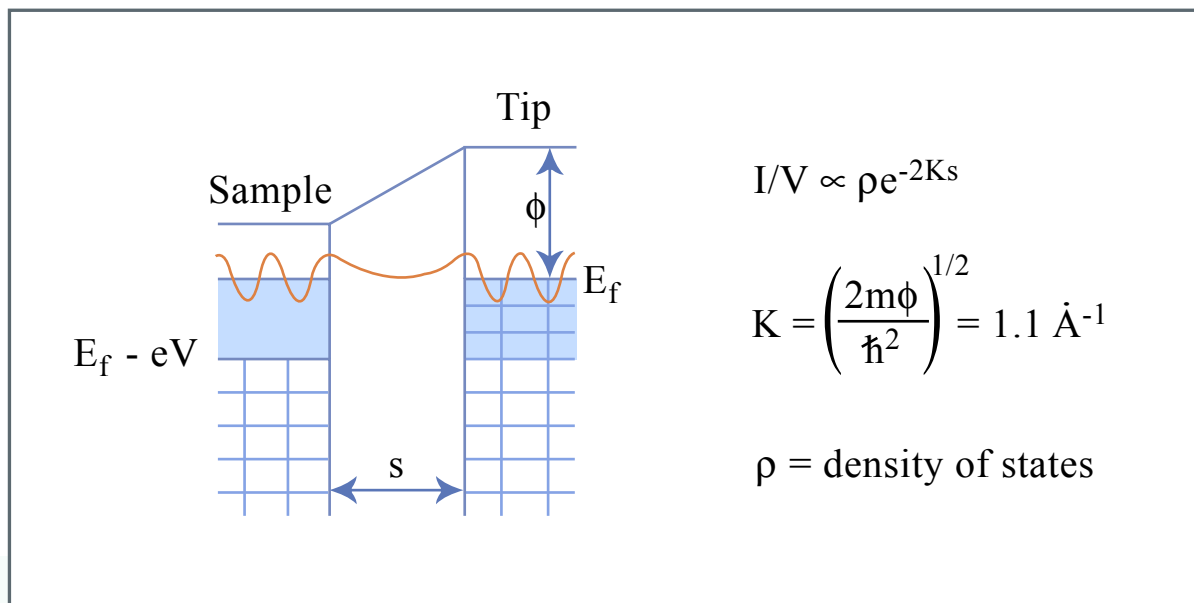


Figure by MIT OCW.

# Wavepacket tunnelling through a nanotube

Images removed for copyright reasons. See <http://www.mfa.kfki.hu/int/nano/online/kirchberg2001/index.html>



# Dirac Notation

- Eigenvalue equation:

$$\hat{A}|\psi_i\rangle = a_i|\psi_i\rangle$$

$$\left( \Rightarrow \langle \psi_i | \psi_j \rangle = \delta_{ij} \right)$$

BRA
KET

$$\int \psi_i^* \psi_j = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i=j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \end{cases}$$

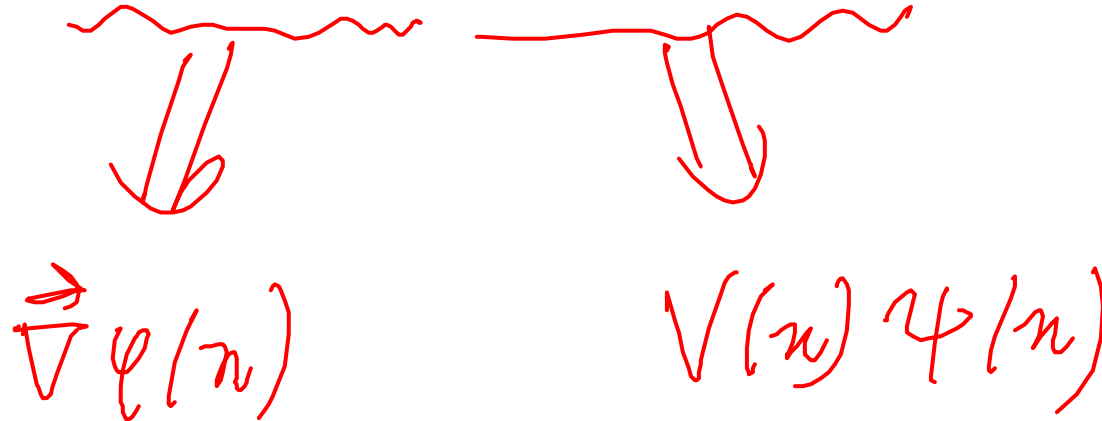
- Expectation values:

$$\langle \psi_i | \hat{H} \psi_i \rangle = \langle \psi_i | \hat{H} | \psi_i \rangle = \int \psi_i^*(\vec{r}) \left[ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + V(\vec{r}) \right] \psi_i(\vec{r}) d\vec{r} = E_i$$

$b_1 = (1, 0, 0)$   
 $b_2 = (0, 1, 0)$   
 $b_3 = (0, 0, 1)$   
 $b_i \cdot b_j = \delta_{ij}$

# Operators and operator algebra

- Examples: derivative, multiplicative



# Product of operators, and commutators

- $\hat{A}\hat{B}\psi = \hat{A}(\hat{B}\psi)$

- $[\hat{A}, \hat{B}] = \hat{A}\hat{B} - \hat{B}\hat{A}$

$$\left[ x, \frac{d}{dx} \right] f(x) = x \frac{d}{dx} f(x) - \frac{d}{dx} (x f(x))$$

- $\left[ x, \frac{d}{dx} \right] = -1$

$$\cancel{x \frac{df}{dx}} - \cancel{x \frac{df}{dx}} - f \frac{dx}{dx} = -f$$

# Linear and Hermitian

- $\hat{A}[\alpha|\varphi\rangle + \beta|\psi\rangle] = \alpha\hat{A}|\varphi\rangle + \beta\hat{A}|\psi\rangle$

$\downarrow \frac{d}{dx} (\alpha f(x) + \beta g(x)) =$

$= \alpha \frac{df}{dx} + \beta \frac{dg}{dx}$

- $\langle \varphi | \hat{A} \psi \rangle = \langle \hat{A} \varphi | \psi \rangle = \int \varphi^* A \psi = \int (A \psi)^* \varphi$

$\searrow$  OPERATIONS THAT CORRESPOND TO  
PHYS. VARIABLES ARE HERMITIAN

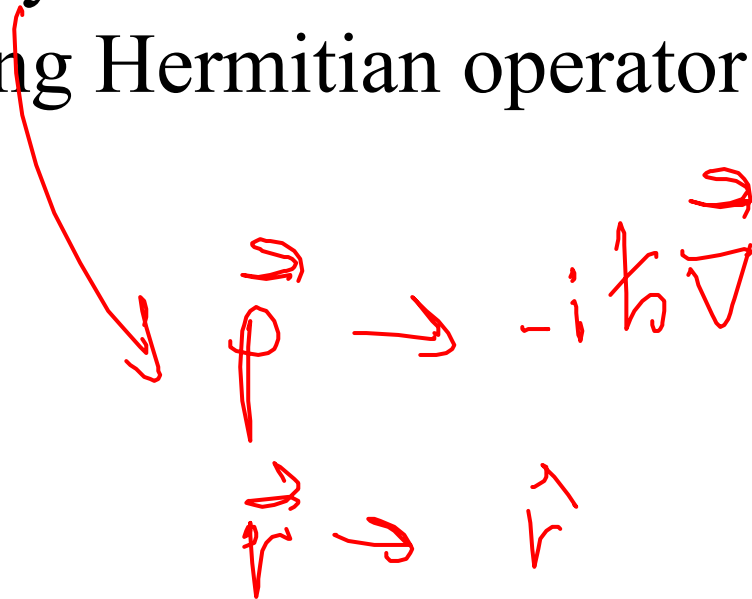
Examples:  $(d/dx)$  and  $i(d/dx)$

# First postulate

- All information of **an ensemble of identical physical systems** is contained in the wavefunction  $\Psi(x,y,z,t)$ , which is complex, continuous, finite, and single-valued; square-integrable. (i.e.  $\int \|\varphi\|^2 d\vec{r}$  is finite)

# Second Postulate

- For every physical observable there is a corresponding Hermitian operator



# Hermitian Operators

1. The eigenvalues of a Hermitian operator are real
2. Two eigenfunctions corresponding to different eigenvalues are orthogonal
3. The set of eigenfunctions of a Hermitian operator is complete
4. Commuting Hermitian operators have a set of common eigenfunctions



# The set of eigenfunctions of a Hermitian operator is complete

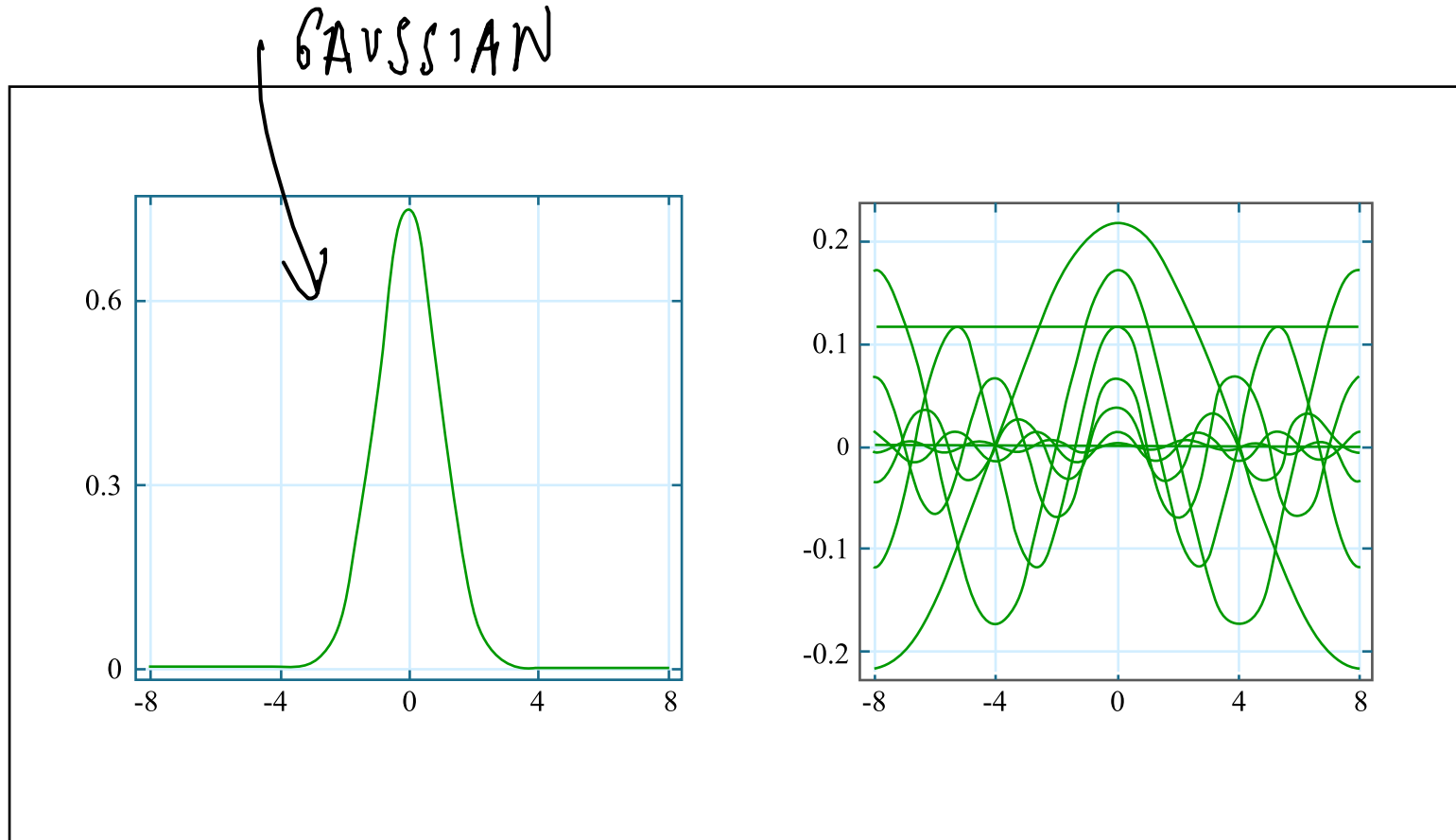


Figure by MIT OCW.

# Position and probability

Graph of the probability density for positions of a particle in a one-dimensional hard box removed for copyright reasons.

See Mortimer, R. G. *Physical Chemistry*. 2nd ed.  
San Diego, CA: Elsevier, 2000, p. 554, figure 15.2.

Graphs of the probability density for positions of a particle in a one-dimensional hard box according to classical mechanics removed for copyright reasons.

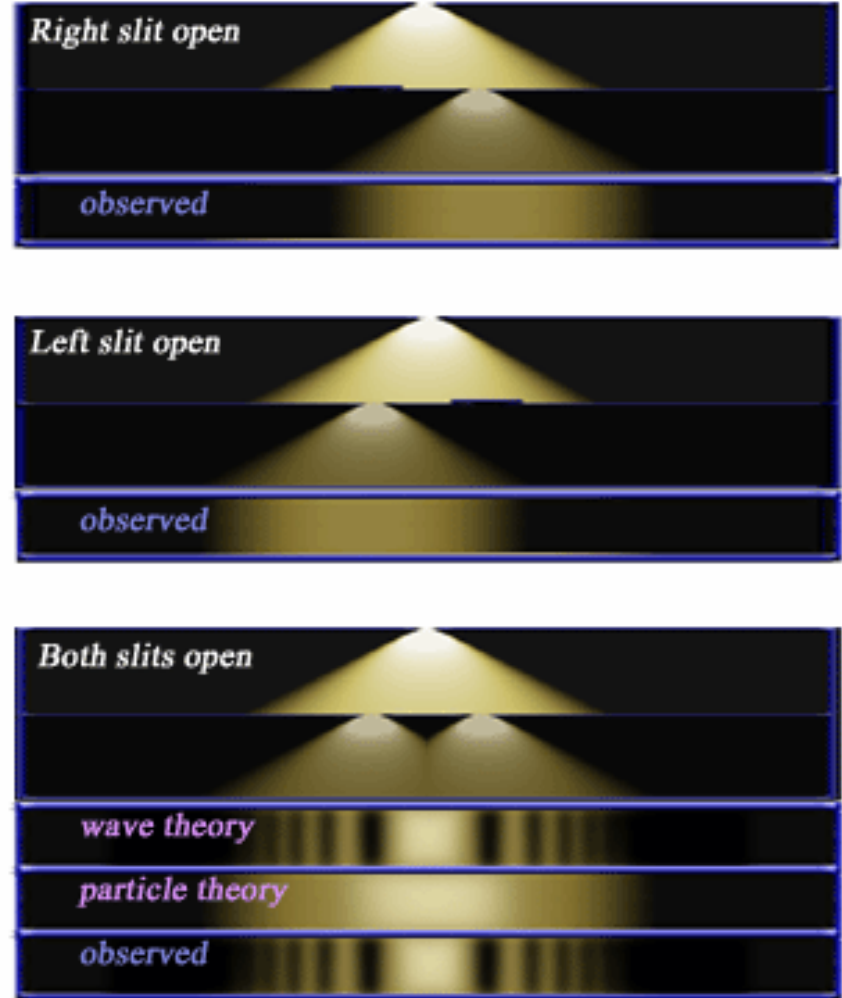
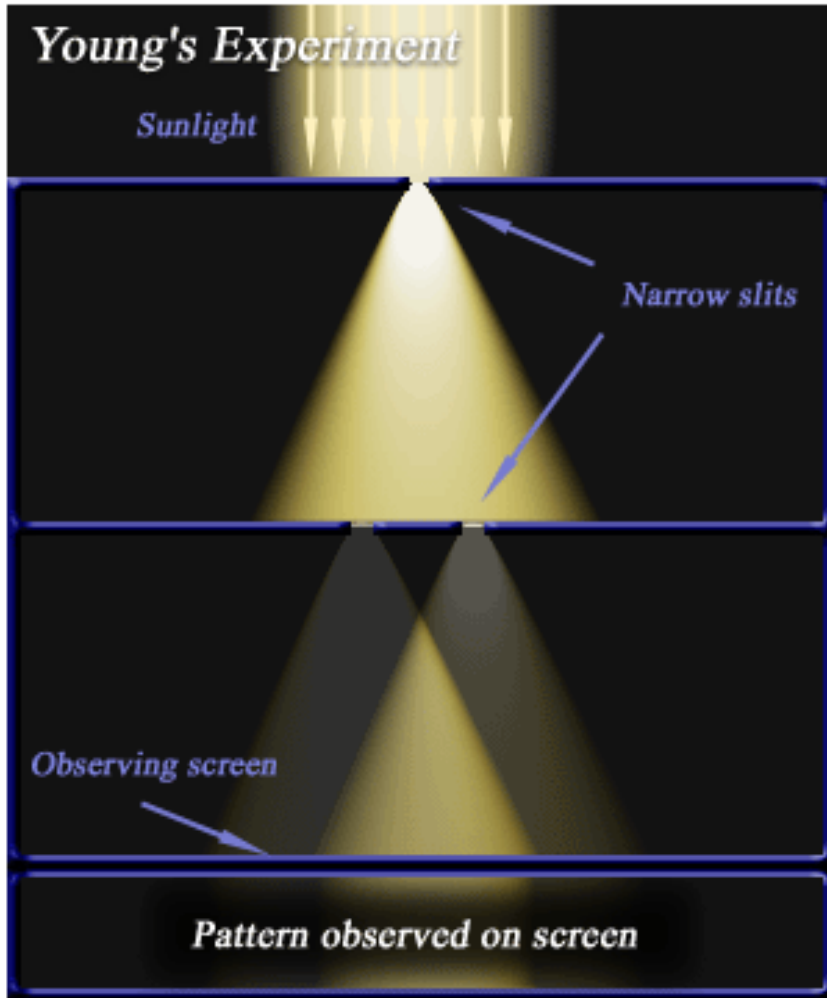
See Mortimer, R. G. *Physical Chemistry*. 2nd ed.  
San Diego, CA: Elsevier, 2000, p. 555, figure 15.3.

Commuting Hermitian operators have a  
set of common eigenfunctions

# Fourth Postulate

- If a series of measurements is made of the dynamical variable  $A$  on an ensemble described by  $\Psi$ , the average (“expectation”) value is  $\langle A \rangle = \frac{\langle \Psi | \hat{A} | \Psi \rangle}{\langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle}$

# Quantum double-slit



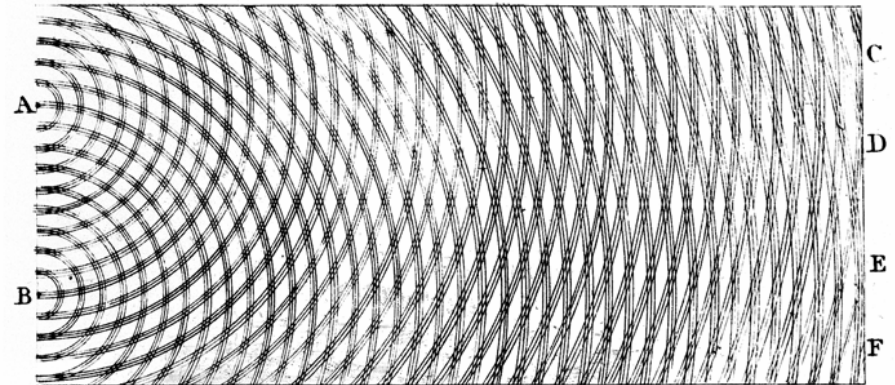
Source: Wikipedia

# Quantum double-slit

Image of the double-slit experiment removed for copyright reasons.

See the simulation at <http://www.kfunigraz.ac.at/imawww/vqm/movies.html>:

"Samples from *Visual Quantum Mechanics*": "Double-slit Experiment."



Above: Thomas Young's sketch of two-slit diffraction of light. Narrow slits at A and B act as sources, and waves interfering in various phases are shown at C, D, E, and F. Source: Wikipedia

# Deterministic vs. stochastic

- Classical, macroscopic objects: we have well-defined values for all dynamical variables at every instant (position, momentum, kinetic energy...)
- Quantum objects: we have **well-defined probabilities** of measuring a certain value for a dynamical variable, when a **large number of identical, independent, identically prepared physical systems** are subject to a measurement.

# Top Three List

- **Albert Einstein:** *“Gott wurfelt nicht!” [God does not play dice!]*
- **Werner Heisenberg** *“I myself . . . only came to believe in the uncertainty relations after many pangs of conscience. . . .”*
- **Erwin Schrödinger:** *“Had I known that we were not going to get rid of this damned quantum jumping, I never would have involved myself in this business!”*