

1 Quantum

1.1 Problem 2

(a) A discontinuity in the wavefunction would mean there is a step function in the wavefunction, which would mean a delta function in the kinetic energy (derivative of the wavefunction). This is an infinite kinetic energy, which is unacceptable. Thus, we write the basic condition:

$$\psi_{left} = \psi_{right} \quad (1)$$

Deriving the other condition should be very simple. The Schrödinger equation reads:

$$\int_{-\epsilon}^{\epsilon} \frac{1}{2} p(m(x))^{-1} p \psi dx + \int_{-\epsilon}^{\epsilon} V(x) \psi dx = \int_{-\epsilon}^{\epsilon} E \psi dx$$

Since all V, E, ψ are finite, the only remaining term is the first one:

$$m(0^-)^{-1} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x}(0^-) = m(0^+)^{-1} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x}(0^+) \quad (2)$$

(b) The easiest quantity to get is the k quantity. Just apply the Hamiltonian on both sides:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} p(m_0)^{-1} (-i\hbar) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} &= E \psi \\ \frac{1}{2} p(m_0)^{-1} (-i\hbar) k A \cos[k(x - x_0)] &= E \psi \\ \frac{1}{2} (\hbar^2/m_0) k^2 A \sin[k(x - x_0)] &= E A \sin[k(x - x_0)] \\ k &= \frac{\sqrt{2m_0 E}}{\hbar} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Solve the Schrödinger equation on the left side of the discontinuity:

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_1}$$