

Review:

The time-dependent SE: $i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi(x,t) = \hat{H} \Psi(x,t)$

Separation of variables \Rightarrow special sol'ns = energy eigenstates:

$$\Psi_n(x,t) = \psi_n(x) e^{-iE_n t/\hbar} \quad \text{where}$$

ψ_n 's, E_n 's are solutions of time-independent SE:

$$\hat{H} \psi_n = E_n \psi_n$$

Most general sol'n to TDSE is

$$\Psi(x,t) = \sum_n c_n \Psi_n(x,t) = \sum_n c_n \psi_n(x) e^{-iE_n t/\hbar}$$

c_n 's any complex constants

- Ψ_n 's are "stationary" states: $|\Psi_n(x,t)|^2 = |\psi_n(x)|^2$
- Ψ_n 's are orthonormal $\int \Psi_m^* \Psi_n dx = \int \psi_m^* \psi_n dx = \delta_{mn}$
- $\Psi = \sum_n c_n \Psi_n$ are not stationary states, are not orthogonal states

To normalize $\Psi(x,t) = \sum_n c_n \Psi_n$, must have

$$\begin{aligned} \int \Psi^* \Psi dx &= \int \left(\sum_m c_m^* \Psi_m^* \right) \left(\sum_n c_n \Psi_n \right) dx \\ &= \sum_{m,n} c_m^* c_n \underbrace{\int \Psi_m^* \Psi_n dx}_{\delta_{mn}} = \sum_n |c_n|^2 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

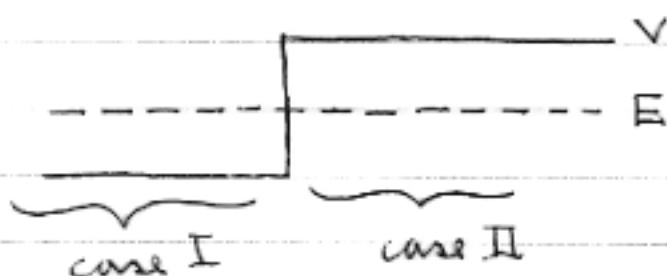
Qualitative Solns to TISE $\hat{H}\Psi_n = E_n\Psi_n$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \Psi(x) + V(x)\Psi(x) = E\Psi(x)$$

$$\Psi'' = -\frac{2m}{\hbar^2} (E - V) \cdot \Psi \Rightarrow \Psi, \Psi' \text{ continuous (unless } E \text{ or } V = \infty)$$

Case I $E > V$

Case II $E < V$



I. $E > V$ (+KE) $\Rightarrow -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} (E - V) = -k^2 = \text{negative nbr}$

$$E - V = KE = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} \stackrel{\text{d.B.}}{=} \frac{p^2}{2m} > 0 \quad (\text{like always in classical Mech.})$$

$$\Psi'' = -k^2 \Psi \Rightarrow \text{sinusoidal solutions}$$

$$\Psi(x) = A \sin kx + B \cos kx \quad \text{or} \quad \alpha e^{ikx} + \beta e^{-ikx}$$

$$KE = E - V = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m}, \quad \sin(kx) = \sin\left(2\pi \frac{x}{\lambda}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{big KE} \Leftrightarrow \text{big } k \Leftrightarrow \text{small } \lambda$$



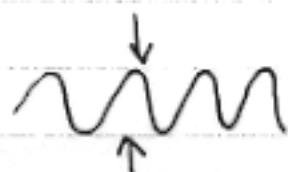
smaller $(E - V)$



bigger $(E - V)$

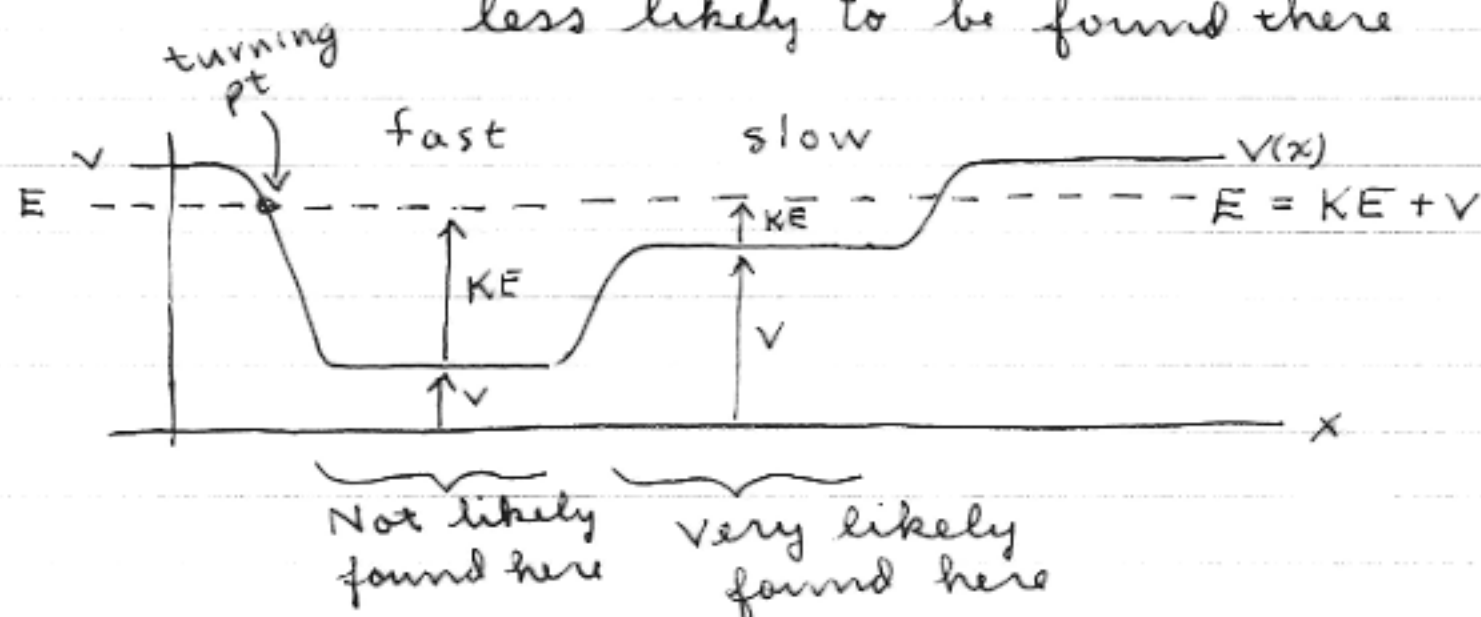
Bigger KE = faster wiggles

What about amplitude of wiggles?



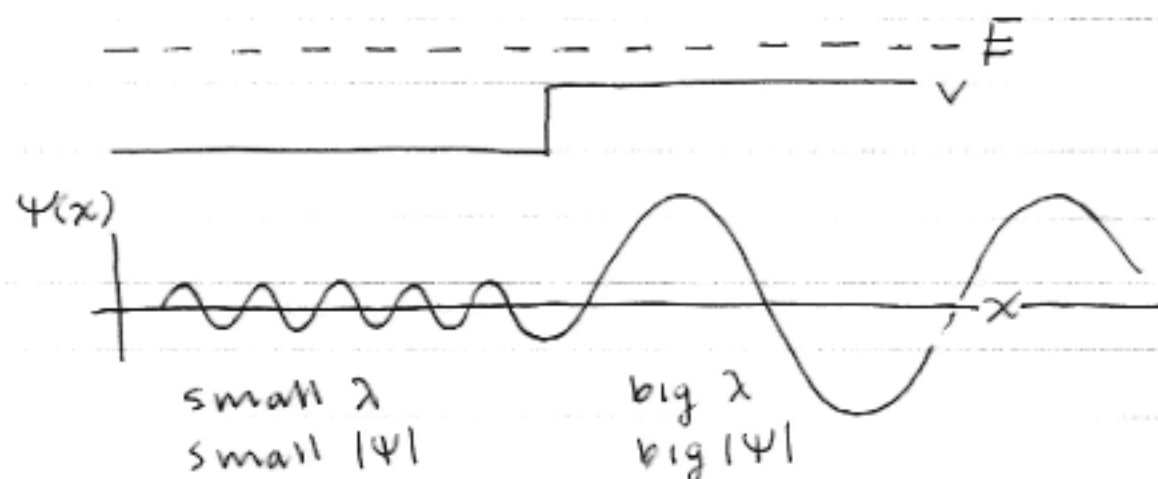
Larger $\Psi \Leftrightarrow$ larger probability of finding there

Classically, big KE \rightarrow higher speed $v \rightarrow$
moves quickly thru region \rightarrow
less likely to be found there



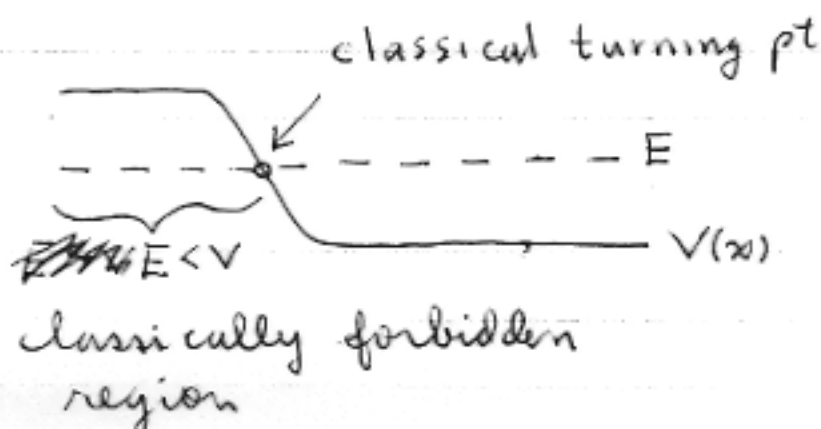
Vestige of this classical behavior found in QM:

Big KE \Rightarrow small $\lambda \Rightarrow$ small $|\Psi|$ (small prob.)
Small KE \Rightarrow big $\lambda \Rightarrow$ big $|\Psi|$ (high prob.)



Case II: $E < V$

\Rightarrow negative KE!



$$E < V \Rightarrow \psi'' = + \underbrace{\frac{2m}{\hbar^2} (V - E)}_{(+)} \psi = + \kappa^2 \psi$$

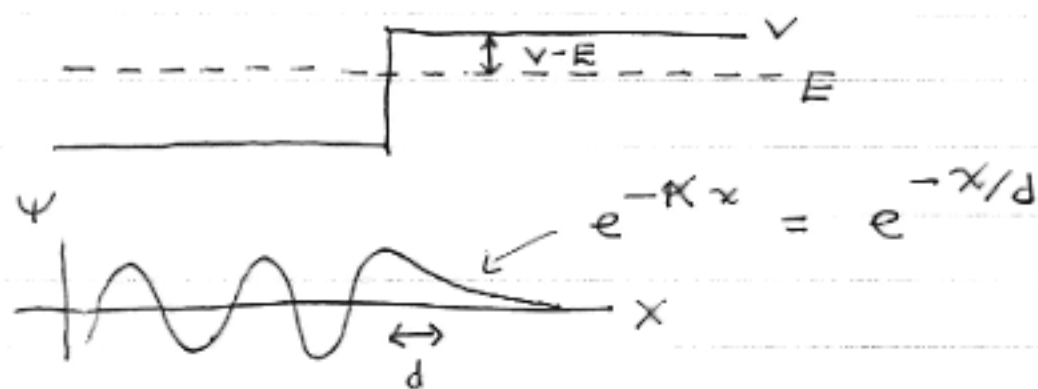
$$\kappa \equiv + \sqrt{\frac{2m(V-E)}{\hbar^2}}, \quad \psi'' = + \kappa^2 \psi \Rightarrow$$

$$\psi = C e^{-\kappa x} + D e^{+\kappa x}$$

~ exponentially decaying and exponentially diverging sol's
Usually, diverging sol'n unphysical due to unnormalizability



In classically forbidden region, $\psi \neq 0$ allowed but ψ must decay to zero (to be normalizable)





$$d = \text{penetration depth} = \frac{1}{\kappa} = \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2m(V-E)}}$$

Large $(V-E)$ = "energy depth" \Rightarrow small d

\Rightarrow small penetration, rapid decay

Infinite square well: $(V-E) = \infty$, $d = 0 \Rightarrow$ no penetration

Recap:

- Ψ, Ψ' continuous (unless V or $E = \infty$)
- $E > V \Rightarrow \Psi$ sinusoidal 
- bigger $KE = (E - V) \Rightarrow$ smaller λ AND smaller $|\Psi|$
- $E < V \Rightarrow \Psi$ exponential decay 
- bigger $(V - E) =$ bigger "energy depth"
 \Rightarrow faster decay, smaller penetration

Finite Square Well

