

your name(s) _____

Physics 851 Quiz #5 - Friday, Oct. 25th

Consider a particle of mass M confined to a two-dimensional circle of radius R . The particle moves in a periodic potential,

$$V(\phi + 2\pi/N) = V(\phi),$$

where N is an integer. Assuming the wave-function has the form,

$$\psi(\phi) = e^{im\phi} + Be^{-im\phi}, \quad 0 < \phi < 2\pi/N,$$

and that the eigenstate of the translation operator, $\mathcal{R}(2\pi/N) = e^{i\gamma}$, i.e.,

$$\psi(\phi + 2\pi/N) = e^{i\gamma}\psi(\phi).$$

In your homework you showed that m could be found that the allowed values of γ were $j\alpha$, where $\alpha = 2\pi/N$. You then considered a potential of the form,

$$V(\phi) = \sum_{j=1,N} \delta(\phi - 2\pi j/N),$$

and found a transcendental equation for m ,

$$0 = p \sin(m\alpha) + 2m \cos(m\alpha) - 2m \cos(j\alpha),$$

$$\gamma = j\alpha, \quad \alpha = 2\pi/N,$$

$$p = 2M\beta R^2/\hbar^2.$$

Write a program (you can use any packages you wish, to solve for the lowest 4 values of m as a function of γ . Plot m (energy is $\hbar^2 m^2 / 2MR^2$) as a function of γ for $-\pi \leq \gamma \leq \pi$. Assume $p\alpha = 5.0$ and make plots for $N = 4$ and for $N = 100$. Note that the function will be multi-valued because you will find four values of m for each γ .