

TL 6-33 (Calculating expectation values)

• Find  $\sigma_x \equiv \sqrt{\langle x^2 \rangle - \langle x \rangle^2}$

$\sigma_p \equiv \sqrt{\langle p^2 \rangle - \langle p \rangle^2}$

or  $\sigma_x \sigma_p$  for electron in ground state of  $\infty$  square well.

• Take  $\langle p \rangle = 0$  or  $\langle p^2 \rangle = \langle 2mE \rangle$

• For a  $\infty$  square well of width  $L$ ,  $\langle x \rangle = \frac{L}{2}$  (6-45)

$\langle x^2 \rangle = \frac{L^2}{3} - \frac{L^2}{2n^2\pi^2}$  (6-47)

So  $\sigma_x = \sqrt{L^2 \left( \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{2n^2} \right) - L^2 \left( \frac{1}{4} \right)} = L^2 \left( \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{2n^2} \right)$  if  $n=1$

$= L \sqrt{\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{2n^2} - \frac{1}{4}} = \boxed{0.1808L}$

• Also:  $\langle p \rangle = 0$  or  $\langle p^2 \rangle = \frac{\hbar^2 \pi^2}{L^2}$  (ex 6-5)

So  $\sigma_p = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar^2 \pi^2}{L^2} - 0} = \frac{\hbar \pi}{L} = \boxed{\frac{h}{2L}}$

• Thus  $\sigma_x \sigma_p = (0.1808L) \left( \frac{h}{2L} \right) = \cancel{0.09} \boxed{0.09h}$