

Sakurai 2-8

given $\langle (\Delta X)^2 \rangle \langle (\Delta P)^2 \rangle = \frac{\hbar^2}{4}$ and $\langle X \rangle = \langle P \rangle = 0$
 thus $\langle X^2 \rangle \langle P^2 \rangle = \frac{\hbar^2}{4}$ because $\langle (\Delta X)^2 \rangle = \langle X^2 \rangle - \langle X \rangle^2$, for example.

$\frac{d}{dt} = \frac{1}{i\hbar} [X, H]$ is the Heisenberg equation of motion for the X operator.

and $\frac{dP}{dt} = \frac{1}{i\hbar} [P, H] = 0 \Rightarrow P = \text{constant} = P_0.$

Putting them together, $\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{P_0}{m} \Rightarrow \int dx = \int_0^t \frac{P_0}{m} dt$
 $x(t) = x_0 + \frac{P_0 t}{m}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \langle x^2(t) \rangle &= \langle (x_0 + \frac{P_0 t}{m})^2 \rangle = \langle x_0^2 + \frac{P_0^2 t^2}{m^2} + \frac{x_0 P_0 t}{m} + \frac{P_0 x_0 t}{m} \rangle \\ &= \langle x_0^2 \rangle + \frac{t^2}{m^2} \langle P_0^2 \rangle + \frac{t}{m} [\langle x_0 P_0 \rangle + \langle P_0 x_0 \rangle] \\ \text{Since } \langle x^2 \rangle \langle p^2 \rangle &= \frac{\hbar^2}{4} \Rightarrow \langle P_0^2 \rangle = \frac{\hbar^2}{4 \langle x_0^2 \rangle} \\ &= \langle x_0^2 \rangle + \left(\frac{\hbar}{2m} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\langle x_0^2 \rangle} + \frac{t}{m} [\lambda^* \langle x_0 P_0 \rangle + \lambda \langle P_0 x_0 \rangle] \end{aligned}$$

where λ is completely imaginary, and we get this using $\Delta A |\alpha\rangle = \lambda \Delta B |\alpha\rangle$ from problem 1.18.

In our case we replace ΔA with A , and ΔB with B .

Then

$$\langle \alpha | A B | \alpha \rangle = \langle \alpha | A \lambda B | \alpha \rangle = \lambda \langle \alpha | A B | \alpha \rangle$$

and since λ is completely imaginary, this just cancels off the other term $\lambda^* \langle \alpha | B A | \alpha \rangle$

Finally $\boxed{\langle x^2(t) \rangle = \langle x_0^2 \rangle + \left(\frac{\hbar}{2m} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\langle x_0^2 \rangle}}$ ✓