

**College: S. S. College. Jehanabad (Magadh University)**

**Subject : Quantum Mechanics**

**Class : B.Sc( H) Physics Part III**

**Topic: Heisenberg Uncertainty Proof.**

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## Ehrenfest's Theorem

According to Ehrenfest's theorem, The expectation values of the position and momentum vectors for a wave packets are formally identical to Newton's equations of classical mechanics.

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle x \rangle = \frac{\langle p \rangle}{m}$$

$$\text{and } \frac{d}{dt} \langle p \rangle = - \langle \nabla V \rangle$$

## Heisenberg Uncertainty Relation Proof

It is simple to define uncertainty as the root mean square deviation from the mean value.

$$\Delta x = \langle (x - \langle x \rangle)^2 \rangle^{1/2}$$

$$\Delta p = \langle (p - \langle p \rangle)^2 \rangle^{1/2}$$

Let

$$A = x - \langle x \rangle$$

$$B = p - \langle p \rangle = i\hbar \left[ \frac{d}{dx} - \left\langle \frac{d}{dx} \right\rangle \right]$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} (\Delta x)^2 (\Delta p)^2 &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi^* A^2 \psi dx \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi^* B^2 \psi dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (A^* \psi^*) (A \psi) dx \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (B^* \psi^*) (B \psi) dx \end{aligned}$$

from the Schwarz inequality

$$\int |H|^2 dx \int |g|^2 dx \geq \left| \int f^* g dx \right|^2$$

$$(\Delta x)^2 (\Delta p)^2 \geq \left| \int (A^* \psi^*) (B \psi) dx \right|^2 = \left| \int \psi^* A B \psi dx \right|^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left[ \int \psi^* A B \psi dx \right]^* &= \int \psi A^* B^* \psi^* dx \\
 &= \int \psi^* B^* A^* \psi dx \\
 &= \int \psi^* B A \psi dx
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (AB - BA)\psi &= -i\hbar \left[ x \frac{d\psi}{dx} - \frac{d}{dx}(x\psi) \right] \\
 &= -i\hbar \left[ x \frac{d\psi}{dx} - x \frac{d\psi}{dx} - \psi \right] \\
 &= +i\hbar \psi
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int \psi^* (AB - BA) \psi dx &= i\hbar \int \psi^* \psi dx \\
 &= i\hbar
 \end{aligned} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

from (1), R.H.S side can be written as

$$\left| \int \psi^* A B \psi dx \right|^2 = \left| \int \psi^* \left[ \frac{1}{2}(AB - BA) + \frac{1}{2}(AB + BA) \right] \psi dx \right|^2 \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

using (2) & (3), we get

$$(\Delta x)^2 (\Delta p)^2 \geq \hbar^2 / 4$$

$$\Delta x \Delta p \geq \hbar / 2$$