

Perturbation theory – basics

Read McIntyre 10.1-10.2

PH451/551

Recap $|\psi(t)\rangle = e^{-i\omega t/2} \left[\frac{e^{-in\omega t}}{\sqrt{2}} |n\rangle + \frac{e^{-im\omega t}}{\sqrt{2}} |m\rangle \right]$

1. Time dependence of $\langle x \rangle$:

$$\langle \psi | x | \psi \rangle = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}} \left[\frac{e^{+in\omega t}}{\sqrt{2}} \langle n | + \frac{e^{+im\omega t}}{\sqrt{2}} \langle m | \right] (a^\dagger + a) \left[\frac{e^{-in\omega t}}{\sqrt{2}} |n\rangle + \frac{e^{-im\omega t}}{\sqrt{2}} |m\rangle \right]$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{8m\omega}} \left[e^{+i(n-m)\omega t} \langle n | (a^\dagger + a) | m \rangle + e^{+i(m-n)\omega t} \langle m | (a^\dagger + a) | n \rangle \right]$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{8m\omega}} \left[e^{+i(n-m)\omega t} \left(\sqrt{m+1} \delta_{n,m+1} + \sqrt{m} \delta_{n,m-1} \right) + e^{+i(m-n)\omega t} \left(\sqrt{n+1} \delta_{m,n+1} + \sqrt{n} \delta_{m,n-1} \right) \right]$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{8m\omega}} \left[\left(e^{+i\omega t} \sqrt{n} + e^{-i\omega t} \sqrt{n+1} \right) + \left(e^{+i\omega t} \sqrt{n+1} + e^{-i\omega t} \sqrt{n} \right) \right]$$

Recap $|\psi(t)\rangle = e^{-i\omega t/2} \left[\frac{e^{-in\omega t}}{\sqrt{2}} |n\rangle + \frac{e^{-im\omega t}}{\sqrt{2}} |m\rangle \right]$

1. Time dependence of $\langle x \rangle$:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \psi | x | \psi \rangle &= \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{8m\omega}} \left[(e^{+i\omega t} + e^{-i\omega t}) \sqrt{n} + (e^{+i\omega t} + e^{-i\omega t}) \sqrt{n+1} \right] \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}} \left[\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1} \right] \cos \omega t \end{aligned}$$

2. Radiation at freq omega!

3. Selection rule:

$$n - m = \pm 1$$

Reading Quiz

1. Write the Hamiltonian H of spin $\frac{1}{2}$ electron in a magnetic field in the z direction (in the S_z basis):
2. Write the Hamiltonian H of spin $\frac{1}{2}$ electron in a magnetic field that has components in the z direction and the x -direction (in the S_z basis):

Reading Quiz

1. Write the Hamiltonian H of spin $\frac{1}{2}$ electron in a magnetic field in the z direction (in the S_z basis):

$$H = -\vec{\mu} \cdot \vec{B} = \frac{e}{2m} g \vec{S} \cdot \vec{B} = \frac{e}{2m} g S_z B_z$$

2. Write the Hamiltonian H of spin $\frac{1}{2}$ electron in a magnetic field that has components in the z direction and the x -direction (in the S_z basis):

$$H = -\vec{\mu} \cdot \vec{B} = \frac{e}{2m} g (S_z B_z + S_x B_x)$$

Exact solutions – spin 1/2

1. Hamiltonian H : $H = -\vec{\mu} \cdot \vec{B} = \frac{e}{2m} g \vec{S} \cdot \vec{B}$
2. Large B in z direction (0^{th} order Hamiltonian H_0):

$$H_0 = \frac{e}{2m} g S_z B_{0(z)} = \omega_0 S_z = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \omega_0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\omega_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

3. Add small B in z (perturbation Hamiltonian H'):

$$H = \frac{e}{2m} g S_z [B_{0(z)} + B_{1(z)}] = H_0 + H' =$$
$$= (\omega_0 + \omega_1) S_z = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \omega_0 + \omega_1 & 0 \\ 0 & -\omega_0 - \omega_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Exact solutions – spin 1/2

4. Add small B in z and x (perturbation Hamiltonian H'): (Mcl 2.1.2)

$$H = \frac{e}{2m} g \left\{ S_z [B_{0(z)} + B_{1(z)}] + S_x B_{2(x)} \right\} = H_0 + H' =$$

$$= \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \omega_0 + \omega_1 & \omega_2 \\ \omega_2 & -\omega_0 - \omega_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

5. Eigenvalues? (do for homework)

$$E_+ = \frac{\hbar}{2} \sqrt{(\omega_0 + \omega_1)^2 + \omega_2^2}$$

$$E_- = -\frac{\hbar}{2} \sqrt{(\omega_0 + \omega_1)^2 + \omega_2^2}$$

Approx solutions – spin 1/2

1. IF we assume perturbation is small, then

$$E_{\pm} \cong \pm \left[\frac{\hbar\omega_0}{2} + \frac{\hbar\omega_1}{2} + \frac{\hbar\omega_2^2}{4\omega_0} \right]$$

0th order energy $E^{(0)}$

1st order
correction $E^{(1)}$

2nd order
correction $E^{(2)}$

$$H_0 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\hbar\omega_0}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{\hbar\omega_0}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$H' = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\hbar\omega_1}{2} & \frac{\hbar\omega_2}{2} \\ \frac{\hbar\omega_2}{2} & -\frac{\hbar\omega_1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Eigenstates – exact & approx

1. Exact eigenstates (Mcl 2.2):

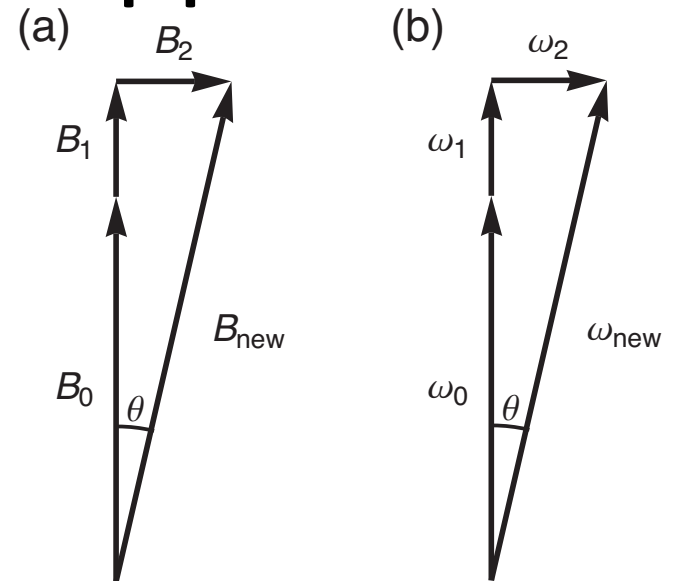
$$|+\rangle_n = \cos \frac{\theta}{2} |+\rangle + \sin \frac{\theta}{2} |-\rangle$$

$$|-\rangle_n = -\sin \frac{\theta}{2} |+\rangle + \cos \frac{\theta}{2} |-\rangle$$

2. IF we assume perturbation is small, then ...

$$|+\rangle_n \cong |+\rangle + \frac{\theta}{2} |-\rangle = |+\rangle + \frac{\omega_2}{2\omega_0} |-\rangle$$

$$|-\rangle_n \cong |-\rangle - \frac{\theta}{2} |+\rangle = |-\rangle - \frac{\omega_2}{2\omega_0} |+\rangle$$



1st order
correction from
orthog state

$$H' = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\hbar\omega_1}{2} & \frac{\hbar\omega_2}{2} \\ \frac{\hbar\omega_2}{2} & -\frac{\hbar\omega_1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

spin $\frac{1}{2}$ in B_z + little B_z

$$H_0 = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \omega_0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\omega_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$H' = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \omega_1 & 0 \\ 0 & -\omega_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

spin $\frac{1}{2}$ in B_z + little B_x

$$H_0 = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \omega_0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\omega_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

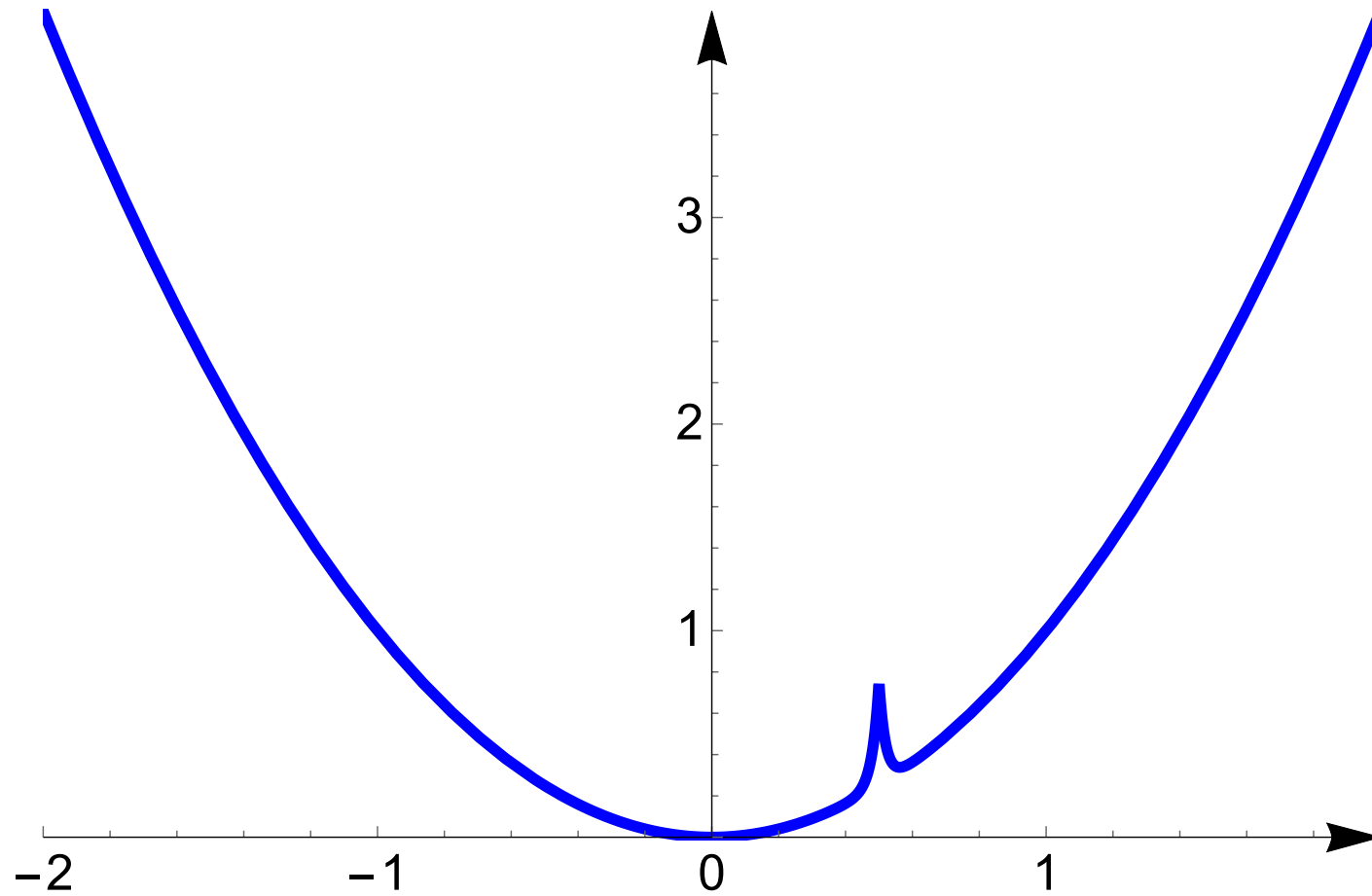
$$H' = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \omega_2 \\ \omega_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

spin $\frac{1}{2}$ in B_z + little B_x

$$H_0 = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \omega_0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\omega_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

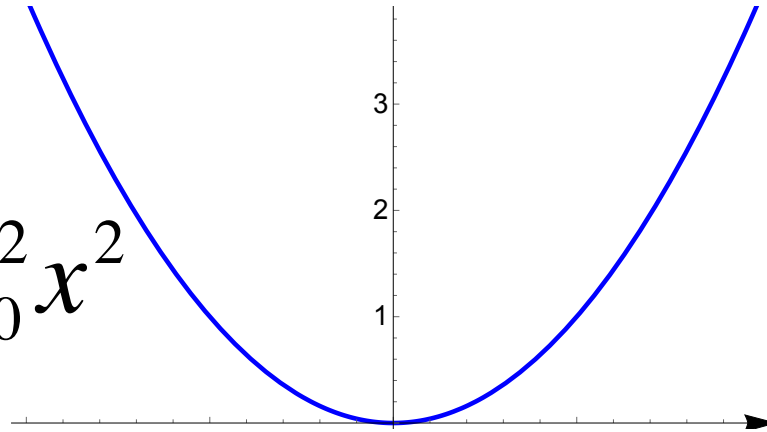
$$H' = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \omega_2 \\ \omega_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Harmonic Oscillator + perturbation



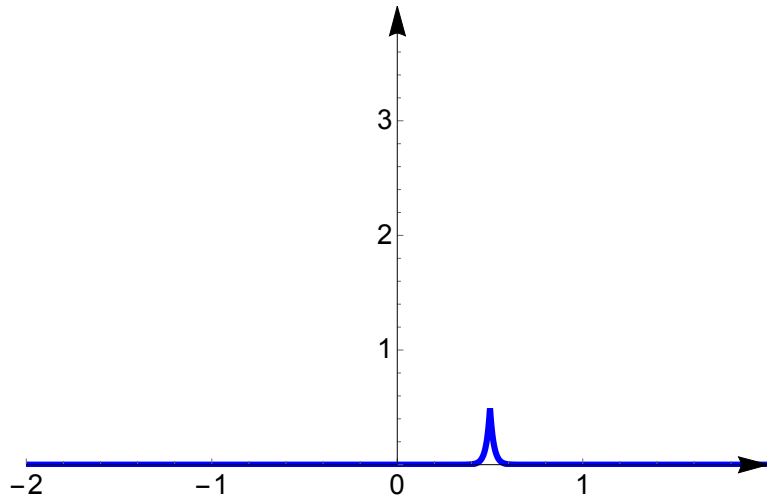
Harmonic Oscillator + perturbation

$$H_0 = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega_0^2 x^2$$

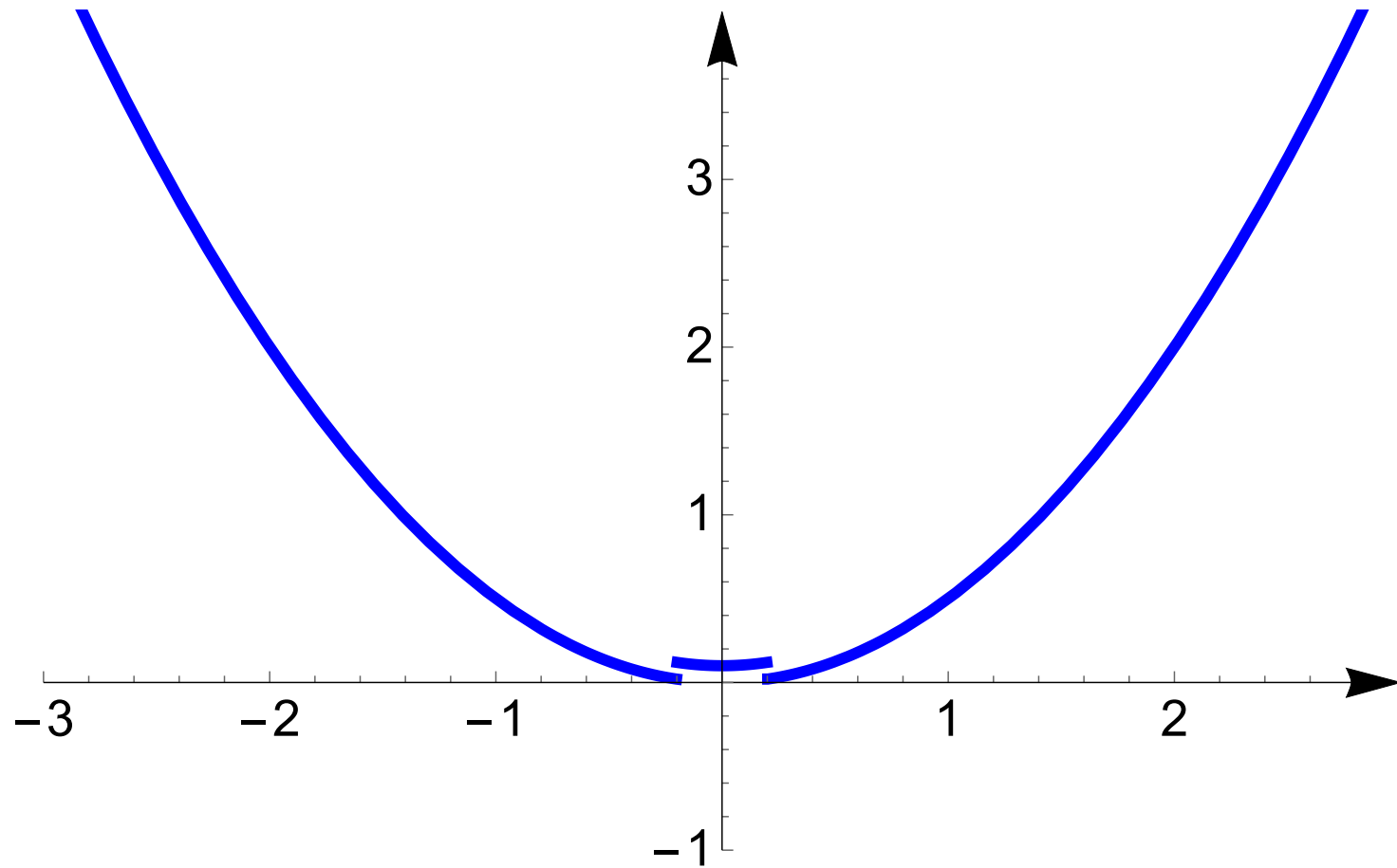


$$H' = \varepsilon e^{-|x-x_0|/d}$$

$$\varepsilon \ll \frac{\hbar \omega_0}{2}$$

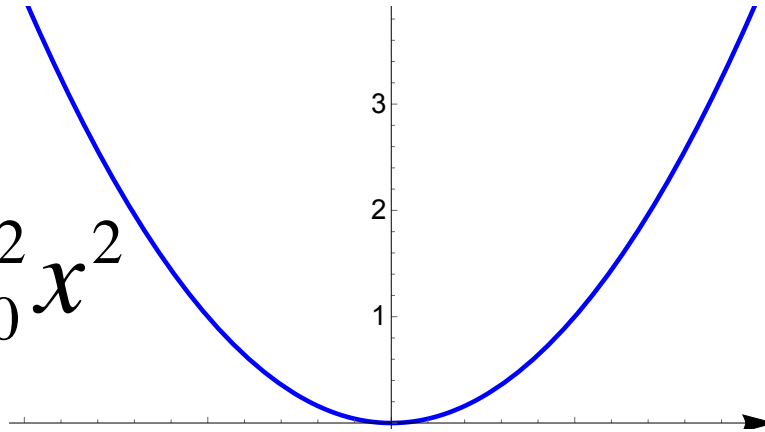


Harmonic Oscillator + perturbation



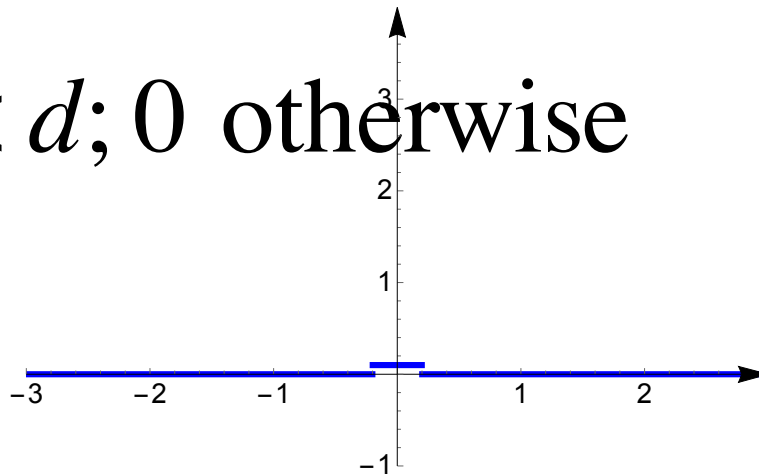
Harmonic Oscillator + perturbation

$$H_0 = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega_0^2 x^2$$



$$H' = \varepsilon \quad -d < x < d; 0 \text{ otherwise}$$

$$\varepsilon \ll \frac{\hbar \omega_0}{2}$$



Harmonic Oscillator + perturbation

$$H_0 = \hbar\omega_0 \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3/2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & n+1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \end{pmatrix}$$

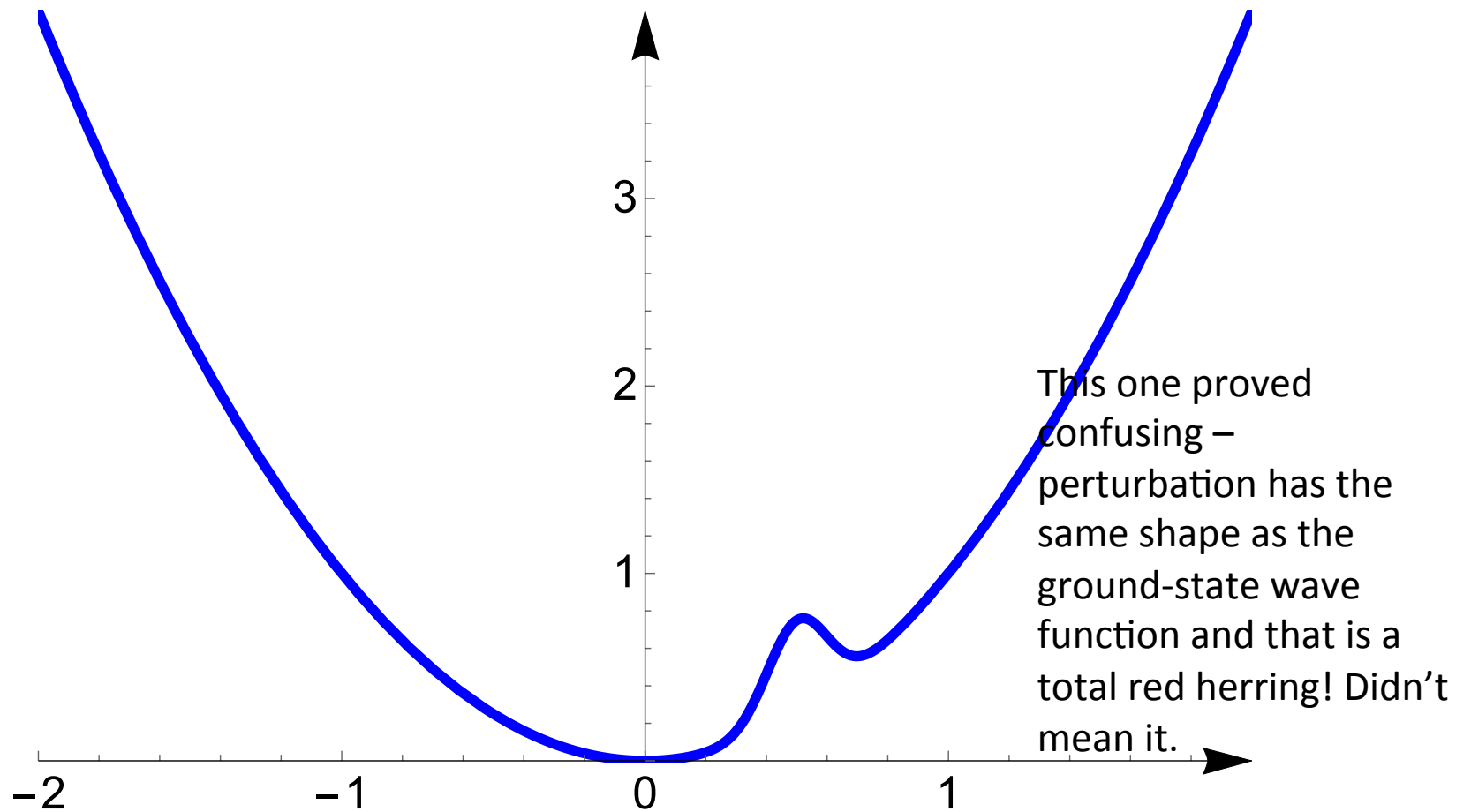
$$H' = ???$$

Harmonic Oscillator + perturbation

$$H_0 = \hbar\omega_0 \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3/2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & n+1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \end{pmatrix}$$

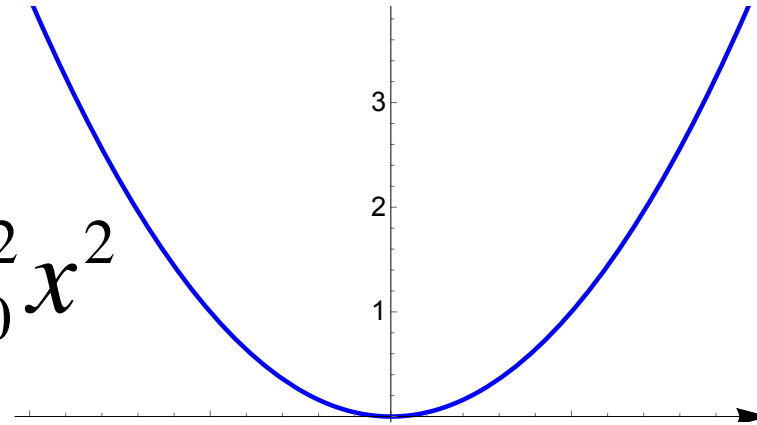
$$H' = \hbar\omega_0 \begin{pmatrix} 0.0222703 & 0. & -0.015332 \\ 0. & 0.000587563 & 0. \\ -0.015332 & 0. & 0.0105616 \end{pmatrix}$$

Harmonic Oscillator + different perturbation

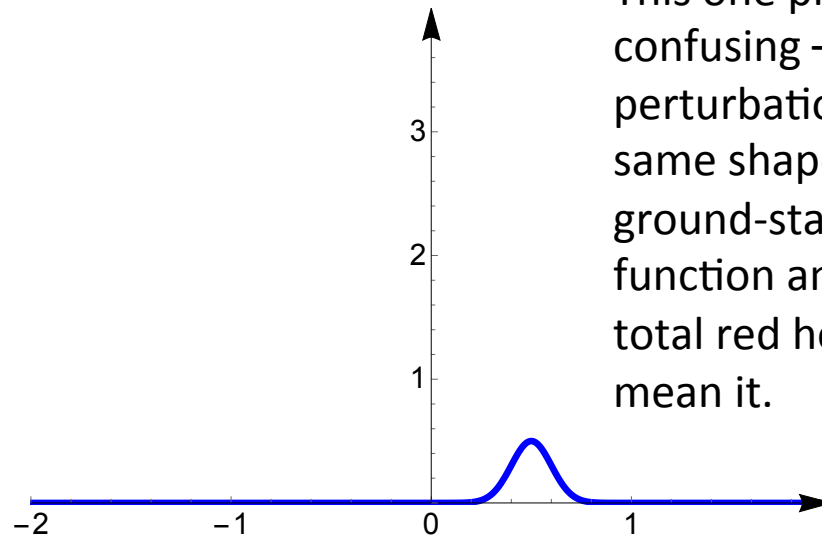


Harmonic Oscillator + different perturbation

$$H_0 = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega_0^2 x^2$$



$$H' = \epsilon e^{-(x-x_0)^2/d}$$



This one proved
confusing –
perturbation has the
same shape as the
ground-state wave
function and that is a
total red herring! Didn't
mean it.