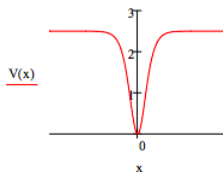


## 10.42: Variation Method Using the Wigner Function - The Feshbach Potential

Define potential energy:

$$V_0 = 2.5 \quad d = 0.5 \quad V(x) = V_0 \tanh\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^2$$

Display potential energy:



Choose trial wave function:

$$\psi(x, \beta) = \left(\frac{2\beta}{\pi}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \exp(-\beta x^2)$$

Calculate the Wigner distribution function:

$$W(x, p, \beta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi\left(x + \frac{s}{2}, \beta\right) \exp(isp) \psi\left(x - \frac{s}{2}, \beta\right) ds \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{simplify} \\ \text{assume, } \beta > 0 \end{array} \right. \rightarrow \frac{1}{\pi} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \frac{4\beta^2 x^2 + p^2}{\beta}}$$

Evaluate the variational integral:

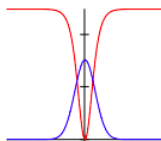
$$E(\beta) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} W(x, p, \beta) \left( \frac{p^2}{2} + V(x) \right) dx dp$$

Minimize the energy integral with respect to the variational parameter,  $\beta$ .

$$\beta = 1 \quad \beta = \text{Minimize}(E, \beta) \quad \beta = 0.913 \quad E(\beta) = 1.484$$

Calculate and display the coordinate distribution function:

$$Px(x, \beta) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} W(x, p, \beta) dp$$



Classical turning point:

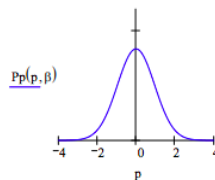
$$V_0 \tanh\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^2 = 1.484 \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{solve, } x \\ \text{float, 3} \end{array} \right. \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{c} -.511 \\ .511 \end{array} \right)$$

Probability that tunneling is occurring:

$$2 \int_{0.511}^{\infty} Px(x, \beta) dx = 0.329$$

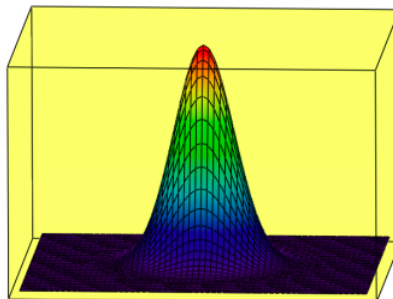
Calculate and display the momentum distribution function:

$$Pp(p, \beta) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} W(x, p, \beta) dx$$



Display the Wigner distribution function:

$$N = 60 \quad i = 0 \dots N \quad x_i = -3 + \frac{6i}{N} \quad j = 0 \dots N \quad p_j = -5 + \frac{10j}{N} \quad \text{Wigner}_{i,j} = W(x_i, p_j, \beta)$$



This page titled [10.42: Variation Method Using the Wigner Function - The Feshbach Potential](#) is shared under a [CC BY 4.0](#) license and was authored, remixed, and/or curated by [Frank Rioux](#) via [source content](#) that was edited to the style and standards of the LibreTexts platform.