

1.  $H'_{ij}$  must be small compared to the distance between the (non-degenerate) energy levels. Since the units of the delta-function are  $\frac{1}{x}$  and the natural length of the problem is  $a$ , we can estimate

$$\gamma \frac{1}{a} \frac{1}{a} \ll \frac{\hbar^2}{ma^2} \quad \text{or} \quad \gamma \ll \frac{\hbar^2}{m}$$

2. The third excited energy level is two-fold degenerate:

$$n_x=1 \quad n_y=3 \quad \psi_1 = \frac{2}{a} \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{3\pi y}{a}$$

$$n_x=3 \quad n_y=1 \quad \psi_2 = \frac{2}{a} \sin \frac{3\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{\pi y}{a}$$

So we need to apply the perturbation theory for the degenerate states

$$H'_{11} = \frac{4\gamma}{a^2} \underbrace{\int_0^a \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} \delta(x-\frac{a}{2}) \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} dx}_1 \underbrace{\int_0^a \sin \frac{3\pi y}{a} \delta(y-\frac{a}{2}) \sin \frac{3\pi y}{a} dy}_1 = \frac{4\gamma}{a^2}$$

$$H'_{22} = H'_{11} = \frac{4\gamma}{a^2} \quad (\text{symmetry } x \leftrightarrow y)$$

$$H'_{12} = \frac{4\gamma}{a^2} \underbrace{\int_0^a \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} \delta(x-\frac{a}{2}) \sin \frac{3\pi x}{a} dx}_{-1} \underbrace{\int_0^a \sin \frac{3\pi y}{a} \delta(y-\frac{a}{2}) \sin \frac{\pi y}{a} dy}_{-1} = \frac{4\gamma}{a^2}$$

$$H' = \frac{4\gamma}{a^2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{vmatrix} 1-\epsilon & 1 \\ 1 & 1-\epsilon \end{vmatrix} = 0 \quad \begin{aligned} (1-\epsilon)^2 &= 1 \\ \epsilon &= 0, 2 \end{aligned}$$

So in the first order we get

$$E^{(1)} = 0, \frac{8\gamma}{a^2}$$

The degeneracy is lifted and the energy level of the third excited state splits into two. The distance between the latter two is  $\Delta E = \frac{8\gamma}{a^2}$

In the case of the second excited state there is no degeneracy:

$$n_x = 2 \quad n_y = 2 \quad \psi = \frac{2}{a} \sin \frac{2\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{2\pi y}{a}$$

Moreover, all matrix elements of  $H'$  are zeros

$$H'_{11} = H'_{22} = H'_{12} = 0$$

Hence, nothing happens to this energy level.