

Potential Barrier:

$$E < V_0$$

The diagram shows a rectangular potential barrier of height  $V_0$  and width  $l$ . The barrier is divided into three regions: Region I ( $x < 0$ ), Region II ( $0 < x < l$ ), and Region III ( $x > l$ ). The potential is zero in regions I and III, and  $V_0$  in region II.

$$k = \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}}, \quad \rho = \sqrt{\frac{2m(V_0 - E)}{\hbar^2}}$$

$$\text{I. } \varphi(x) = A_1 e^{ikx} + A_1' e^{-ikx}$$

$$\text{II. } \varphi(x) = B_2 e^{\rho x} + B_2' e^{-\rho x}$$

$$\text{III. } \varphi(x) = A_3 e^{ikx} + A_3' e^{-ikx}$$

Boundary conditions:

$$\varphi(0^-) = \varphi(0^+) \rightarrow A_1 + A_1' = B_2 + B_2'$$

$$\varphi'(0^-) = \varphi'(0^+) \rightarrow ik(A_1 - A_1') = \rho(B_2 - B_2')$$

$$\varphi(l^-) = \varphi(l^+) \rightarrow A_3 e^{ikl} + A_3' e^{-ikl} = B_2 e^{\rho l} + B_2' e^{-\rho l}$$

$$\varphi'(l^-) = \varphi'(l^+) \rightarrow ik(A_3 e^{ikl} - A_3' e^{-ikl}) = \rho(B_2 e^{\rho l} - B_2' e^{-\rho l})$$

Matrix notation:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ ik_1 & -ik_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_1 \\ A_1' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ \rho & -\rho \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} B_2 \\ B_2' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} e^{\rho l} & e^{-\rho l} \\ \rho e^{\rho l} & -\rho e^{-\rho l} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} B_2 \\ B_2' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{ikl} & e^{-ikl} \\ ik e^{ikl} & -ik e^{-ikl} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_3 \\ A_3' \end{pmatrix}$$

Inverse of a  $2 \times 2$  matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{ad-bc} \begin{pmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_1 \\ A_1' \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{-2ik_1} \begin{pmatrix} -ik & -1 \\ -ik & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ \rho & -\rho \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} B_2 \\ B_2' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{-2ik_1} \begin{pmatrix} -ik - \rho & -ik + \rho \\ -ik + \rho & -ik - \rho \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} B_2 \\ B_2' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - i \frac{\rho}{k}\right) & \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + i \frac{\rho}{k}\right) \\ \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + i \frac{\rho}{k}\right) & \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - i \frac{\rho}{k}\right) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} B_2 \\ B_2' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} B_2 \\ B_2' \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{-2\rho} \begin{pmatrix} -\rho e^{-\rho l} & -e^{-\rho l} \\ -\rho e^{\rho l} & e^{\rho l} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{ikl} & e^{-ikl} \\ ik e^{ikl} & -ik e^{-ikl} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_3 \\ A_3' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{ik}{\rho}\right) e^{-\rho l} e^{ikl} & \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{ik}{\rho}\right) e^{-\rho l} e^{-ikl} \\ \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{ik}{\rho}\right) e^{\rho l} e^{ikl} & \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{ik}{\rho}\right) e^{\rho l} e^{-ikl} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_3 \\ A_3' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$1 + \frac{ik}{\rho} = \frac{\rho + ik}{\rho} = \frac{z}{\rho}, \text{ where } z = \rho + ik$$

$$1 - \frac{ik}{\rho} = \frac{ik + \rho}{\rho} = \frac{z^*}{\rho}$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} A_1 \\ A_1' \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2ik} \begin{pmatrix} z & -z^* \\ -z^* & z \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} B_2 \\ B_2' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} B_2 \\ B_2' \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2\rho} \begin{pmatrix} ze^{-\rho l} e^{ikl} & z^* e^{-\rho l} e^{-ikl} \\ z^* e^{\rho l} e^{ikl} & z e^{\rho l} e^{-ikl} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_3 \\ A_3' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} A_1 \\ A_1' \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{4ipk} \begin{pmatrix} z^2 e^{-\rho l} e^{ikl} & -z^{*2} e^{\rho l} e^{ikl} \\ -|z|^2 e^{-\rho l} e^{ikl} & +|z|^2 e^{\rho l} e^{ikl} \\ |z|^2 e^{-\rho l} e^{-ikl} & -|z|^2 e^{\rho l} e^{-ikl} \\ -z^{*2} e^{-\rho l} e^{-ikl} & +z^2 e^{\rho l} e^{-ikl} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_3 \\ A_3' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$|z|^2 = \rho^2 + k^2$$

$$z^2 = \rho^2 - k^2 + 2ik\rho$$

$$z^{*2} = \rho^2 - k^2 - 2ik\rho$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} A_1 \\ A_1' \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{4ipk} \begin{pmatrix} (\rho^2 - k^2)(e^{-\rho l} - e^{\rho l})e^{ikl} + 2ik\rho(e^{-\rho l} + e^{\rho l})e^{ikl} \\ (\rho^2 + k^2)(e^{\rho l} - e^{-\rho l})e^{ikl} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} (\rho^2 + k^2)(e^{-\rho l} - e^{\rho l})e^{-ikl} \\ (\rho^2 - k^2)(e^{\rho l} - e^{-\rho l})e^{-ikl} + 2ik\rho(e^{\rho l} + e^{-\rho l})e^{-ikl} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_3 \\ A_3' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \cosh(\rho l)e^{ikl} + \frac{k^2 - \rho^2}{2ipk} \sinh(\rho l)e^{ikl} \\ \frac{\rho^2 + k^2}{2ipk} \sinh(\rho l)e^{ikl} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$- \frac{\rho^2 + k^2}{2ipk} \sinh(\rho l)e^{-ikl} \\ \cosh(\rho l)e^{-ikl} + \frac{\rho^2 - k^2}{2ipk} \sinh(\rho l)e^{-ikl} \begin{pmatrix} A_3 \\ A_3' \end{pmatrix}$$

Continue to simplify:

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_1 \\ A'_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh(\rho l) + \frac{k^2 - \rho^2}{2i\rho k} \sinh(\rho l) \\ \frac{\rho^2 + k^2}{2i\rho k} \sinh(\rho l) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -\frac{\rho^2 + k^2}{2i\rho k} \sinh(\rho l) \\ \cosh(\rho l) + \frac{\rho^2 - k^2}{2i\rho k} \sinh(\rho l) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_3 e^{ikl} \\ A'_3 e^{-ikl} \end{pmatrix}$$

This matrix has determinant:

$$\det = \cosh^2(\rho l) - \left(\frac{k^2 - \rho^2}{2i\rho k}\right)^2 \sinh^2(\rho l)$$

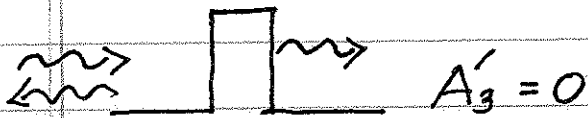
$$+ \left(\frac{\rho^2 + k^2}{2i\rho k}\right)^2 \sinh^2(\rho l)$$

$$= \cosh^2(\rho l) - \frac{1}{4\rho^2 k^2} \left( (\rho^2 + k^2)^2 - (k^2 - \rho^2)^2 \right) \times \sinh^2(\rho l)$$

$$= \cosh^2(\rho l) - \frac{4\rho^2 k^2}{4\rho^2 k^2} \sinh^2(\rho l) = 1.$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} A_3 e^{ikl} \\ A'_3 e^{-ikl} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh(\rho l) + \frac{\rho^2 - k^2}{2i\rho k} \sinh(\rho l) \\ -\frac{\rho^2 + k^2}{2i\rho k} \sinh(\rho l) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\rho^2 + k^2}{2i\rho k} \sinh(\rho l) \\ \cosh(\rho l) + \frac{k^2 - \rho^2}{2i\rho k} \sinh(\rho l) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_1 \\ A'_1 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\Rightarrow \frac{A_1}{A_3 e^{ikl}} = \cosh(\rho l) + \frac{k^2 - \rho^2}{2i\rho k} \sinh(\rho l)$$

$$\frac{A_1'}{A_3 e^{ikl}} = \frac{\rho^2 + k^2}{2i\rho k} \sinh(\rho l)$$

$$T = \frac{k |A_3|^2}{k |A_1|^2} = \frac{1}{\cosh^2(\rho l) + \frac{(k^2 - \rho^2)^2}{4\rho^2 k^2} \sinh^2(\rho l)}$$

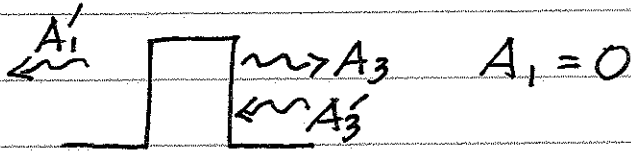
$$R = \frac{k |A_1'|^2}{k |A_1|^2} = \frac{\frac{(\rho^2 + k^2)^2}{4\rho^2 k^2} \sinh^2(\rho l)}{\cosh^2(\rho l) + \frac{(k^2 - \rho^2)^2}{4\rho^2 k^2} \sinh^2(\rho l)}$$

Because  $\cosh^2(\rho l) - \sinh^2(\rho l) = 1$ ,  
 $\cosh^2(\rho l) = 1 + \sinh^2(\rho l)$ , and

$$T = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{(k^2 + \rho^2)^2}{4\rho^2 k^2} \sinh^2(\rho l)}$$

$$R = \frac{\frac{(k^2 + \rho^2)^2}{4\rho^2 k^2} \sinh^2(\rho l)}{1 + \frac{(k^2 + \rho^2)^2}{4\rho^2 k^2} \sinh^2(\rho l)}$$

$$\rightarrow T + R = 1 \checkmark$$



$$\frac{A_3 e^{ikl}}{A_1'} = \frac{\rho^2 + k^2}{2i\rho k} \sinh(\rho l)$$

$$\frac{A_3' e^{-ikl}}{A_1'} = \cosh(\rho l) + \frac{k^2 - \rho^2}{2i\rho k} \sinh(\rho l)$$

$$\rightarrow T = \frac{k |A_1'|^2}{k |A_3'|^2} = \frac{1}{\cosh^2(\rho l) + \frac{(k^2 - \rho^2)^2}{4\rho^2 k^2} \sinh^2(\rho l)}$$

$$R = \frac{k |A_3|^2}{k |A_3'|^2} = \frac{\frac{(\rho^2 + k^2)}{4\rho^2 k^2} \sinh^2(\rho l)}{\cosh^2(\rho l) + \frac{(k^2 - \rho^2)^2}{4\rho^2 k^2} \sinh^2(\rho l)}$$

These are the same as the first case.

For  $\rho l \gg 1$ ,  $\sinh(\rho l) \approx \frac{1}{2} e^{\rho l}$  and

$$T \approx \frac{16 \rho^2 k^2}{(\rho^2 + k^2)^2} e^{-2\rho l} \quad \left. \vphantom{\frac{16 \rho^2 k^2}{(\rho^2 + k^2)^2}} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{quantum} \\ \text{tunneling} \end{array}$$

$$R \approx 1.$$