

# Modern Physics (Phys. IV): 2704

Professor Jasper Halekas  
Van Allen 70  
MWF 12:30-1:20 Lecture

# Traveling Wave Solution

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \psi(x)}{\partial x^2} = E\psi(x) \quad \psi(x) = A \exp(ikx)$$

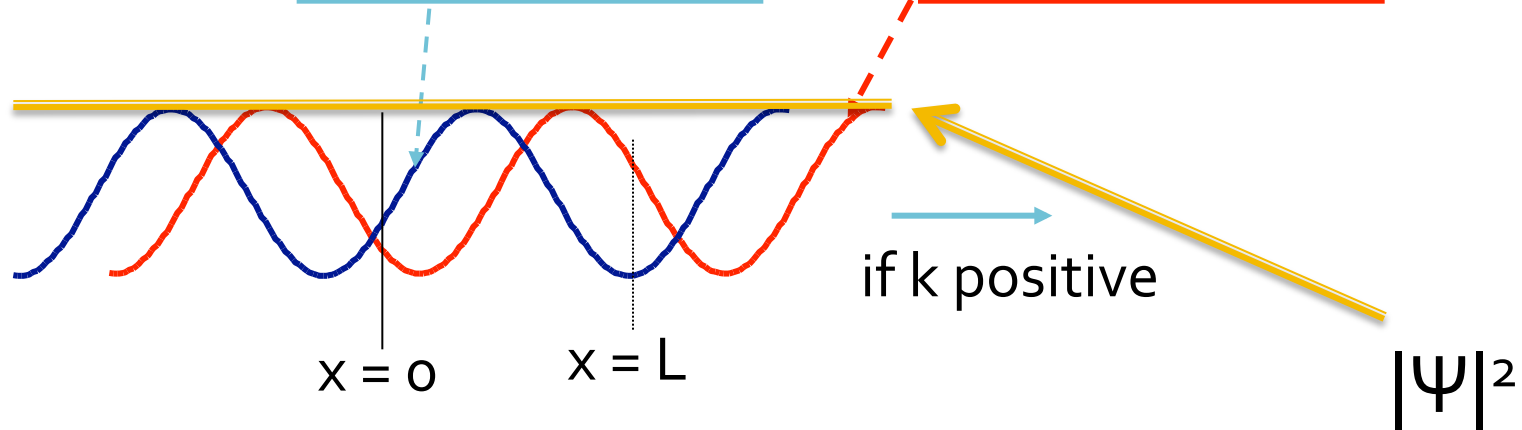
$$\frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} = E$$

$$\Psi(x, t) = \psi(x)\phi(t) \quad \phi(t) = e^{-iEt/\hbar}$$

$$\Psi(x, t) = A \exp[i(kx - \omega t)]$$

# Traveling Wave Probability

$$\Psi(x,t) = \underbrace{A \cos(kx - \omega t)}_{\text{blue}} + \underbrace{Ai \sin(kx - \omega t)}_{\text{red}}$$





$$\text{If } u(x, t) = u(x)$$

$$\Psi(x, t) = \psi(x) e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$|\Psi(x, t)|^2$$

$$= \psi^*(x) e^{i\omega t} \psi(x) e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$= \psi^*(x) \psi(x)$$

$$= |\psi(x)|^2 \quad (\text{no time dependence})$$

$$= A^2 \quad \text{if } \psi(x) = A e^{ikx}$$

— Not true if wave has multiple components

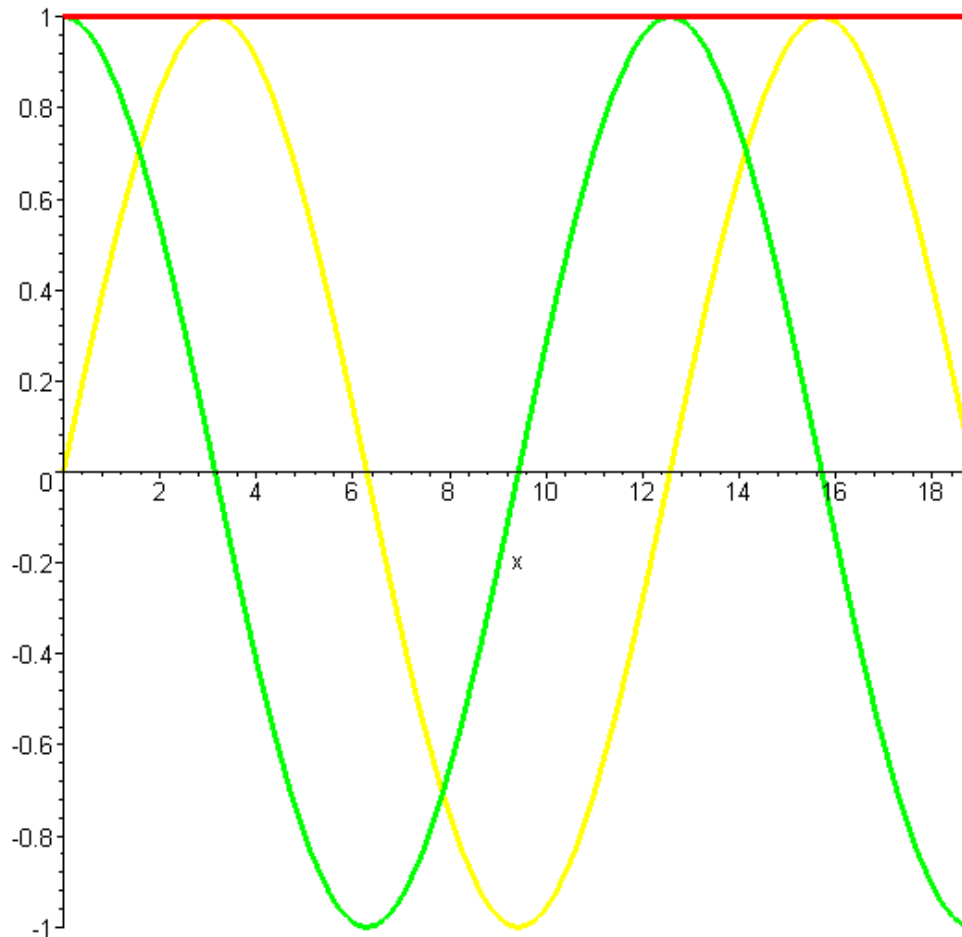
$$\text{i.e. } \Psi(x, t) = A \psi_1(x) e^{-i\omega_1 t} + B \psi_2(x) e^{-i\omega_2 t}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\Psi(x, t)|^2 &= A^2 |\psi_1(x)|^2 + B^2 |\psi_2(x)|^2 \\ &\quad + AB \psi_1^*(x) \psi_2(x) e^{-i(\omega_1 - \omega_2)t} \\ &\quad + AB \psi_2^*(x) \psi_1(x) e^{-i(\omega_2 - \omega_1)t} \end{aligned}$$

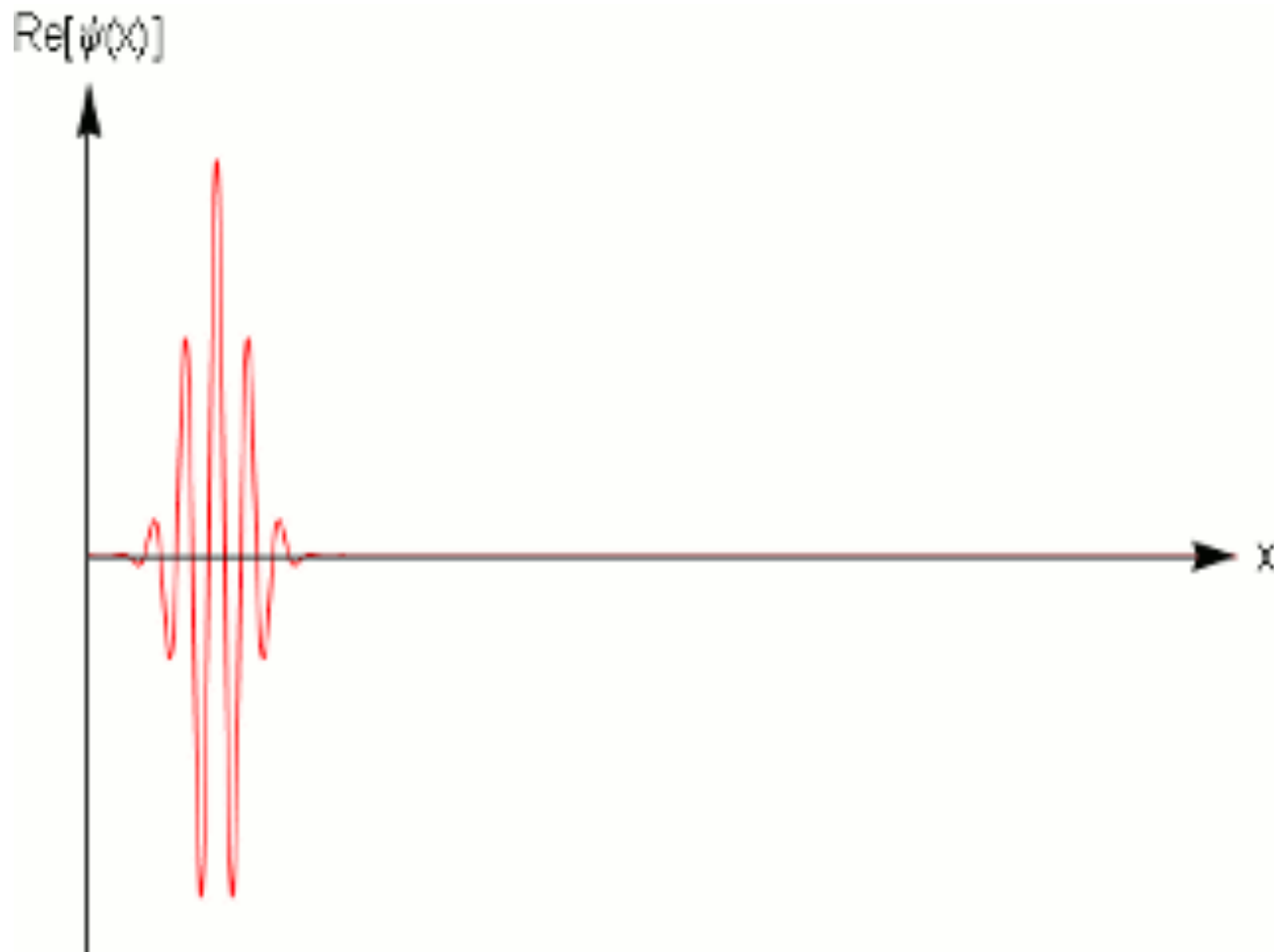
— (cross terms  $\Rightarrow$  beat patterns)



# Traveling Wave Functions



# Traveling Wave Packet



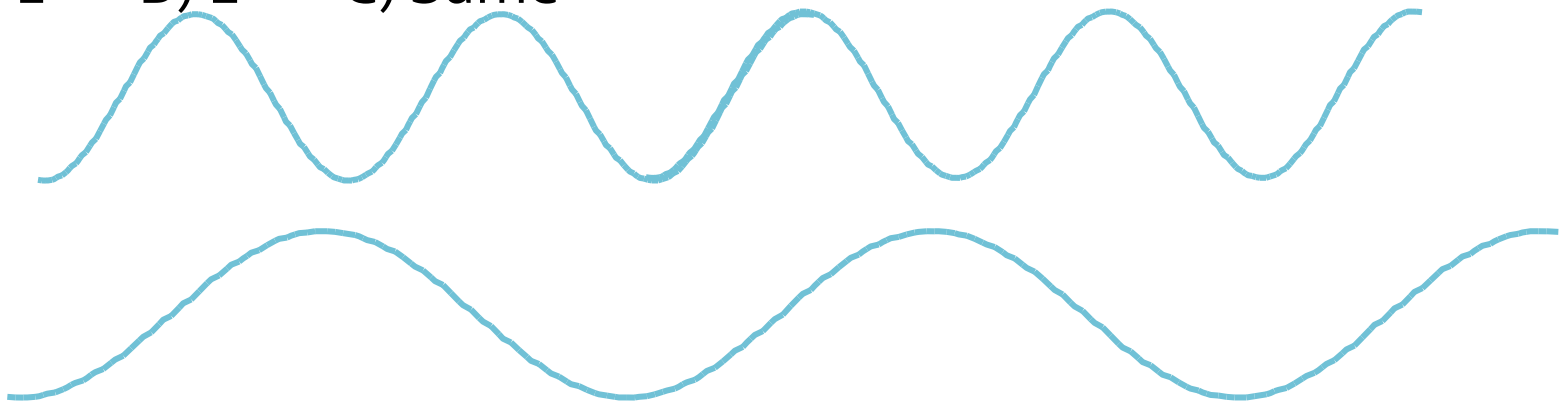
# Concept Check

Given the wave functions below, which free electron has more kinetic energy?

A) 1    B) 2    C) Same

1.

2.



# Concept Check

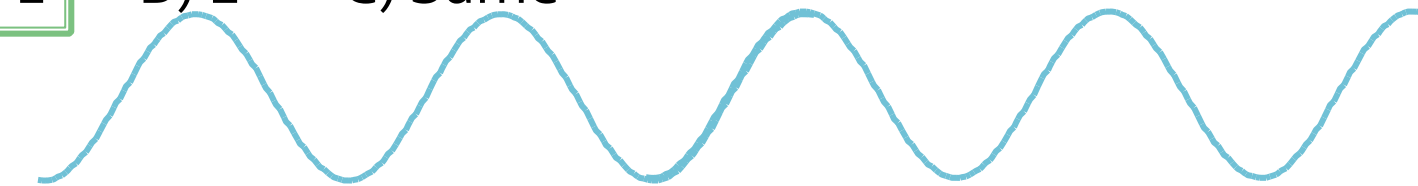
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A) 1

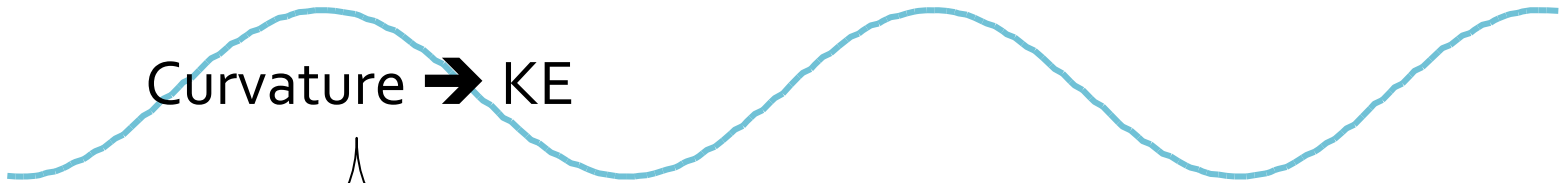
B) 2

C) Same

1.



2.

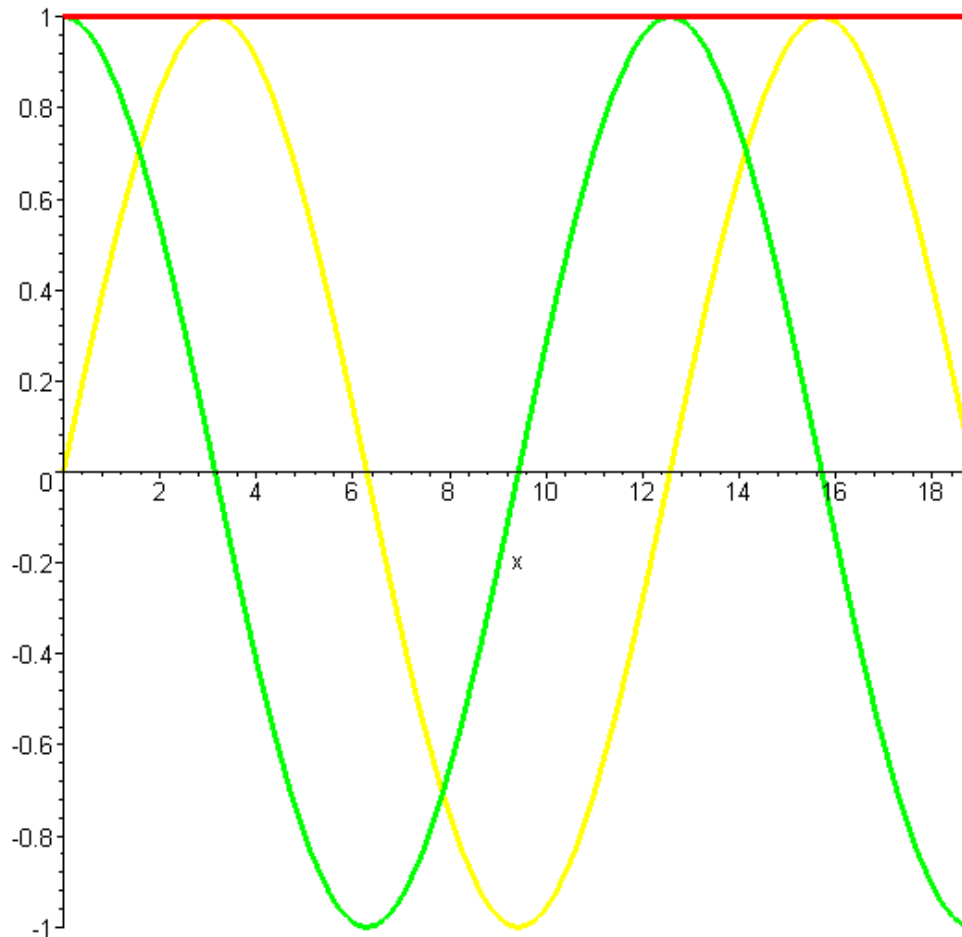


Curvature  $\rightarrow$  KE

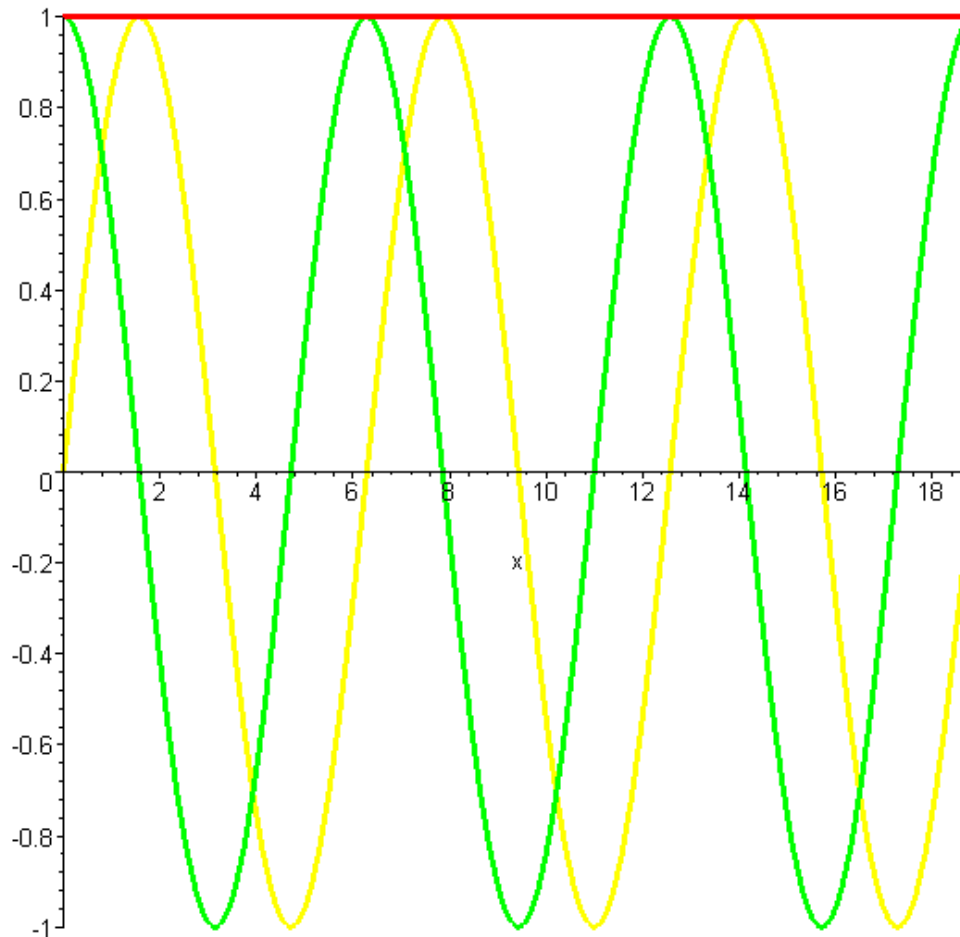
$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \psi(x) = E\psi(x)$$



# Traveling Wave Functions



# Traveling Wave Functions

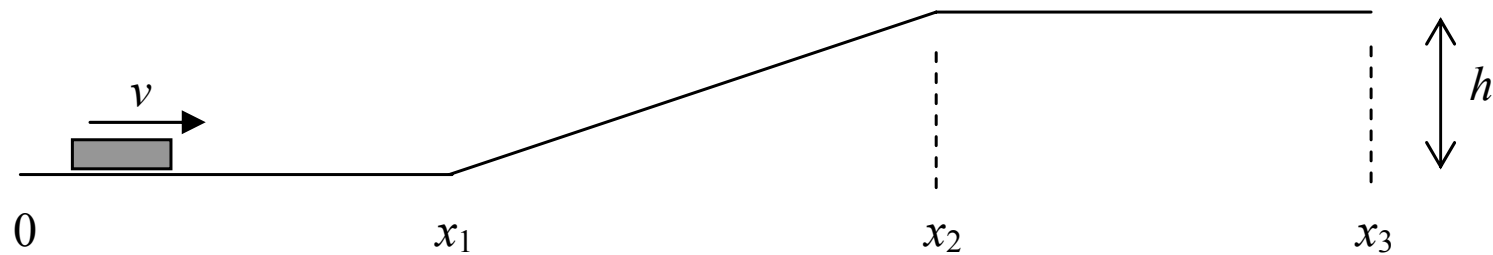


2x momentum  
4x kinetic energy

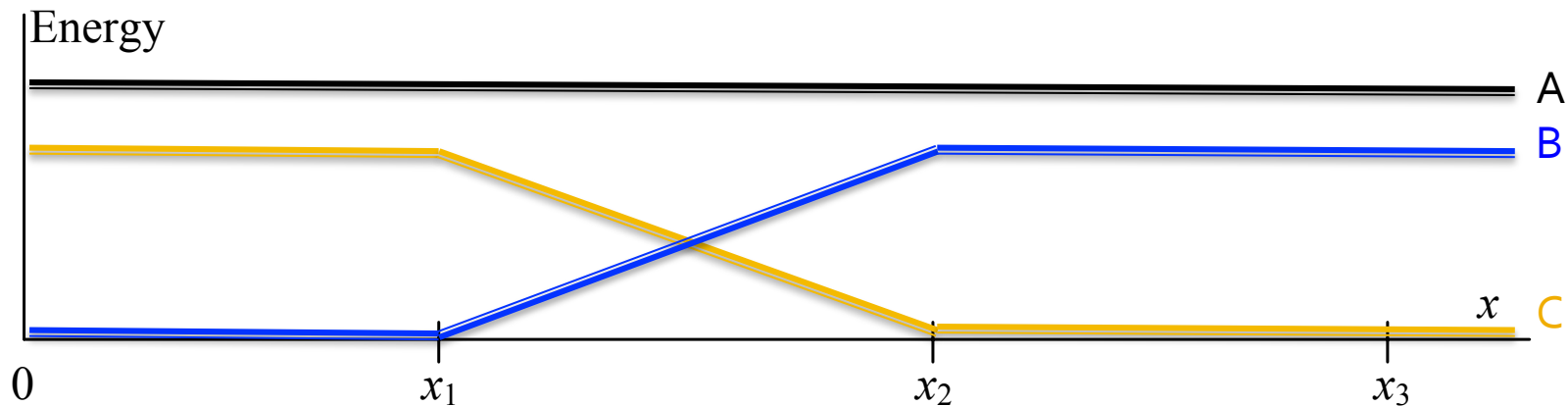


# Energy Diagrams

1. A small puck is gliding with initial speed  $v$  across a frictionless horizontal surface. It glides up a small hill and then moves on a horizontal surface that is a distance  $h$  above the first surface.

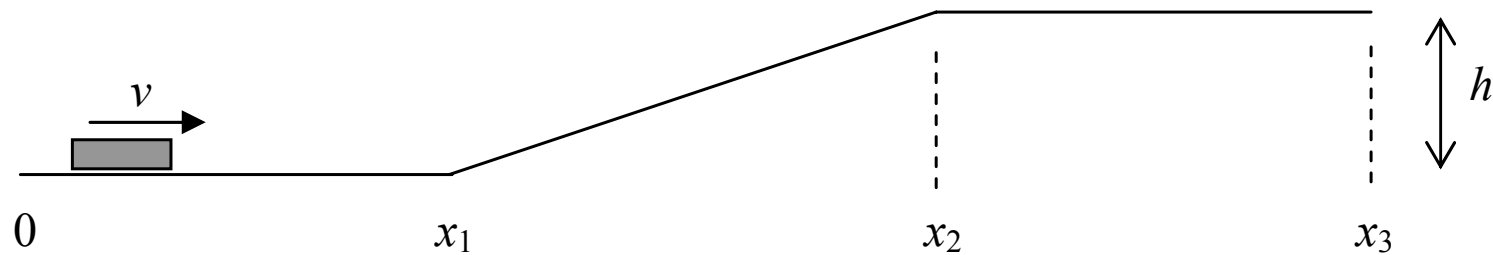


Which is the correct plot for the puck's potential energy?

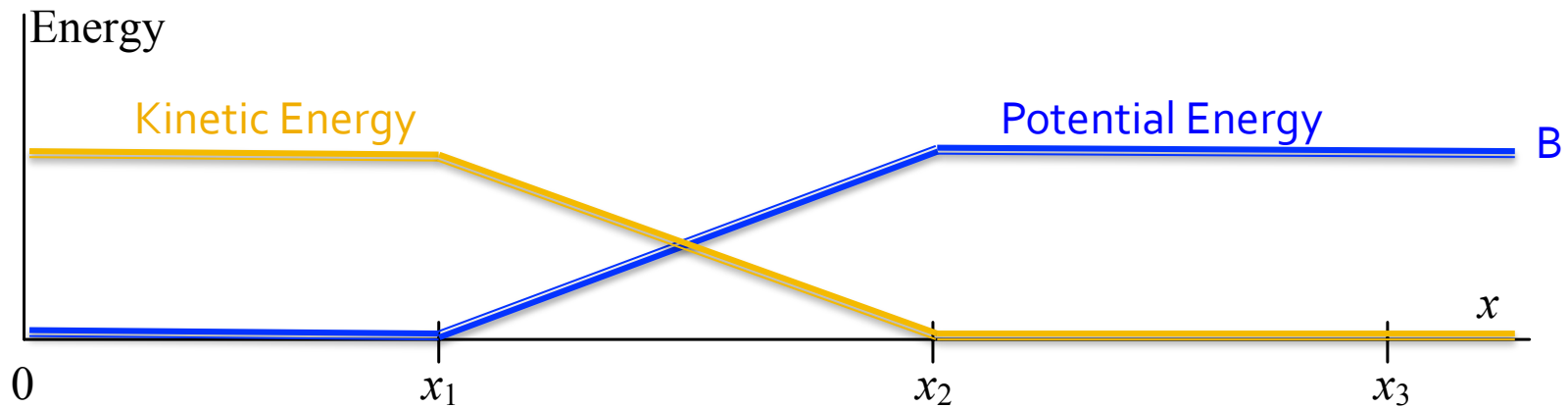


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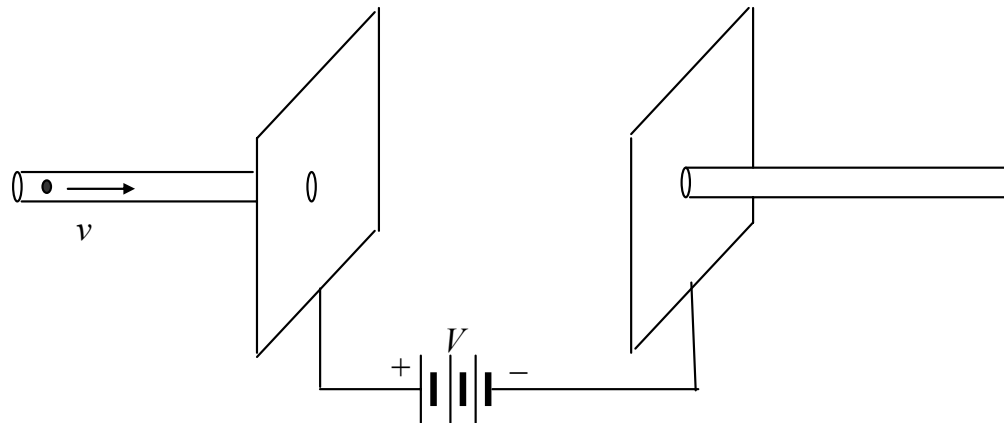
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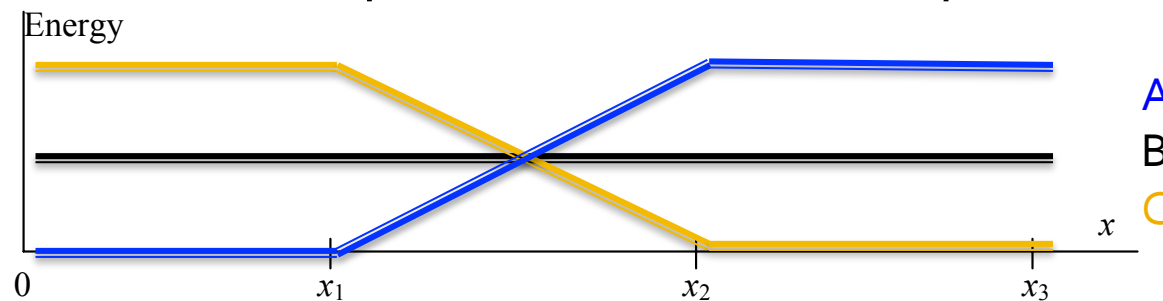


# Energy Diagrams

2. An electron is moving with initial speed  $v$  inside a thin hollow metal tube. It emerges from the tube through a hole in a large metal plate and continues through a hole in a second plate into another thin tube. The two plates are connected across a battery of potential difference  $V$ .

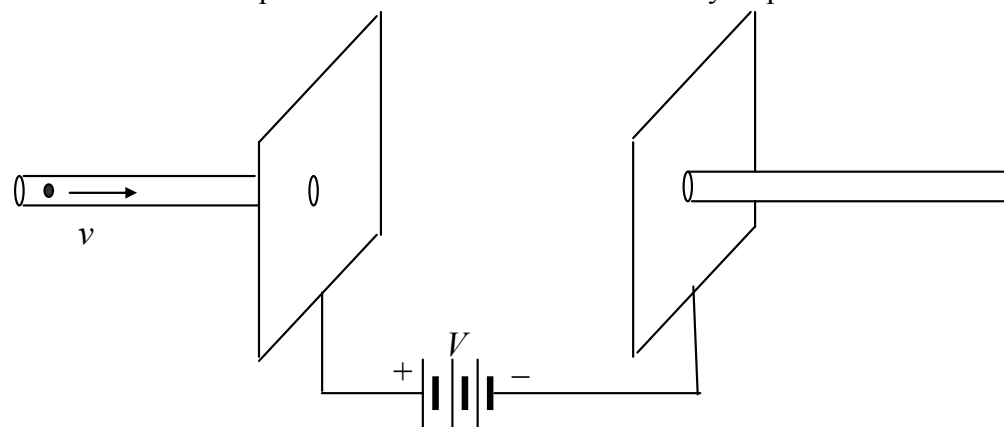


Which is the correct plot for the electron's potential energy?

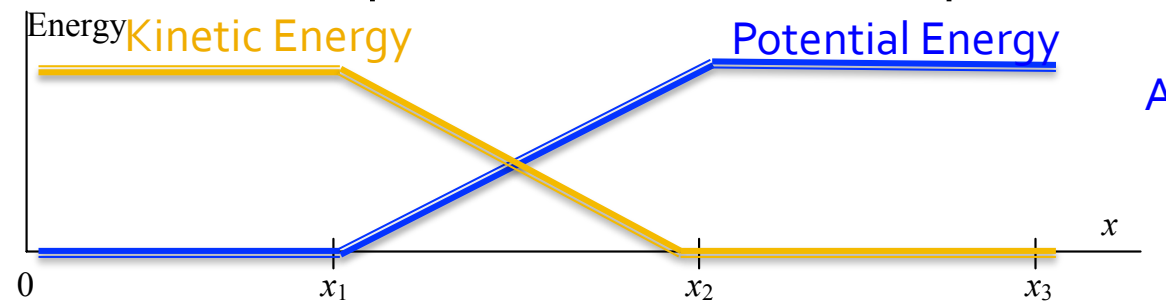


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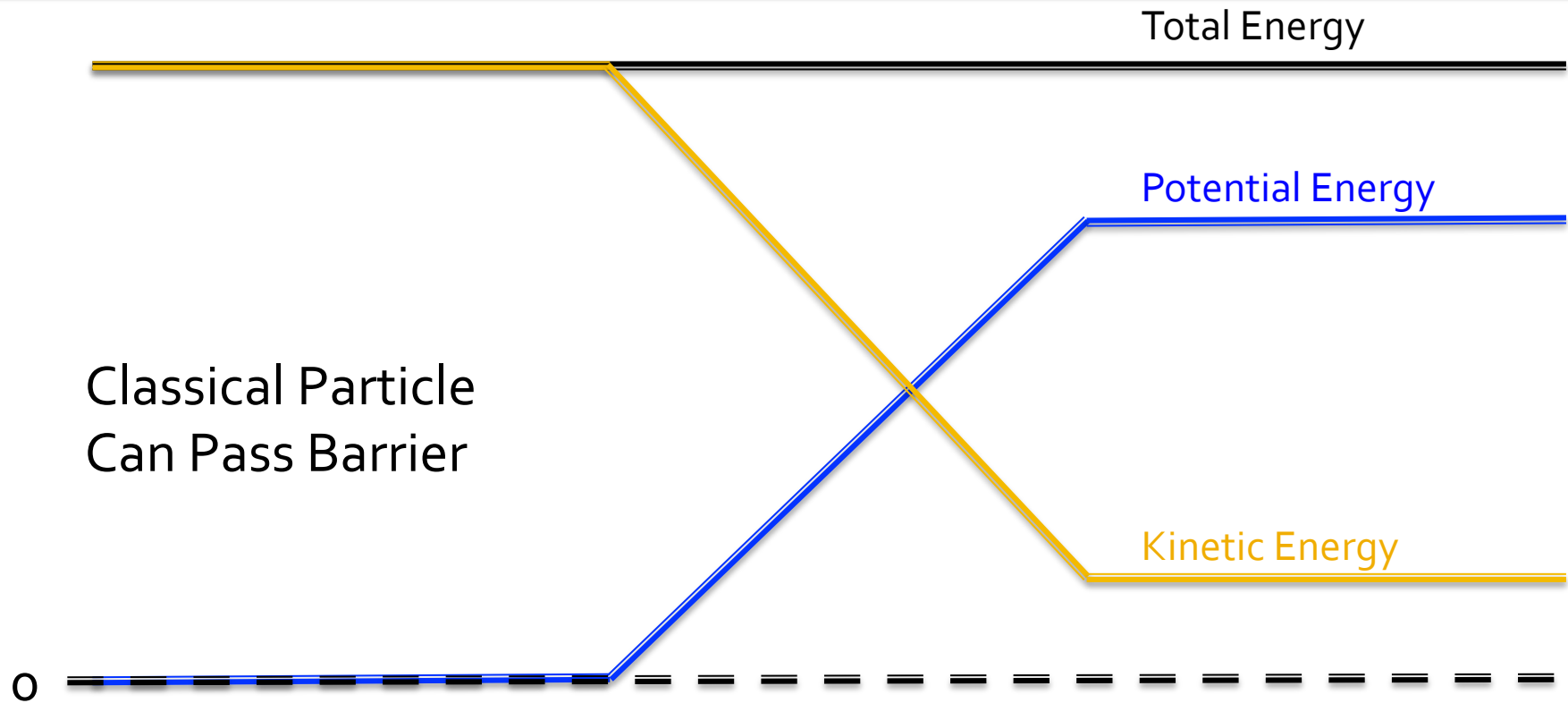


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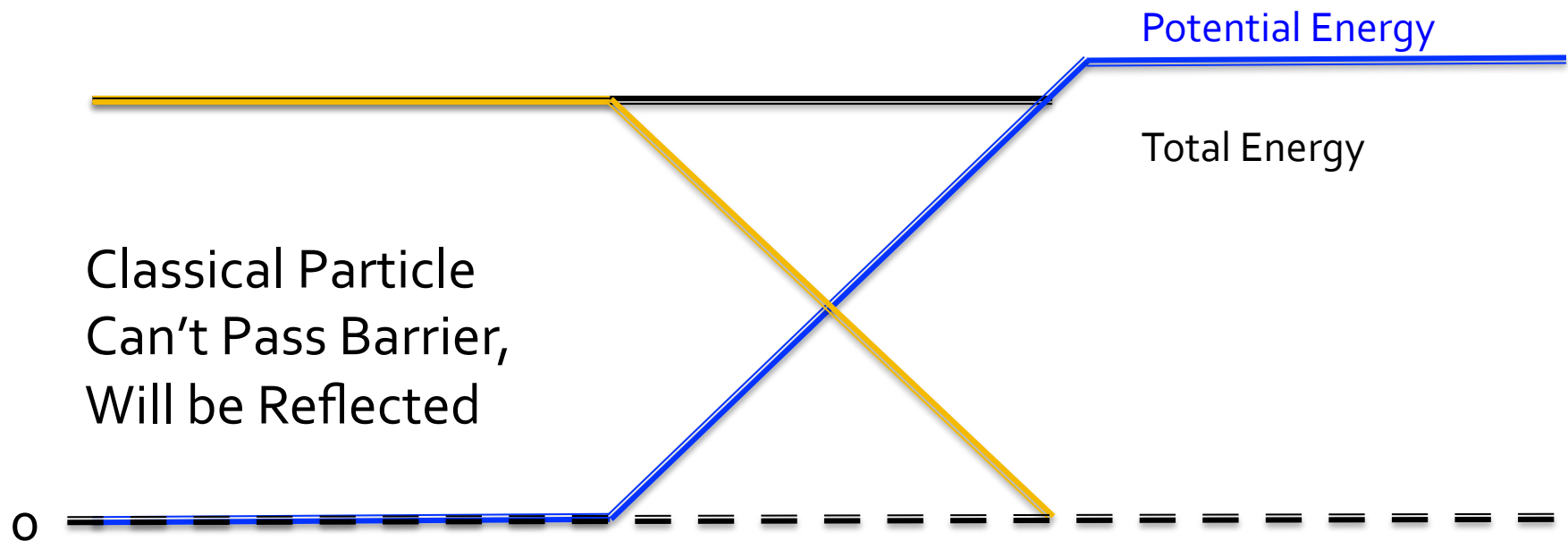




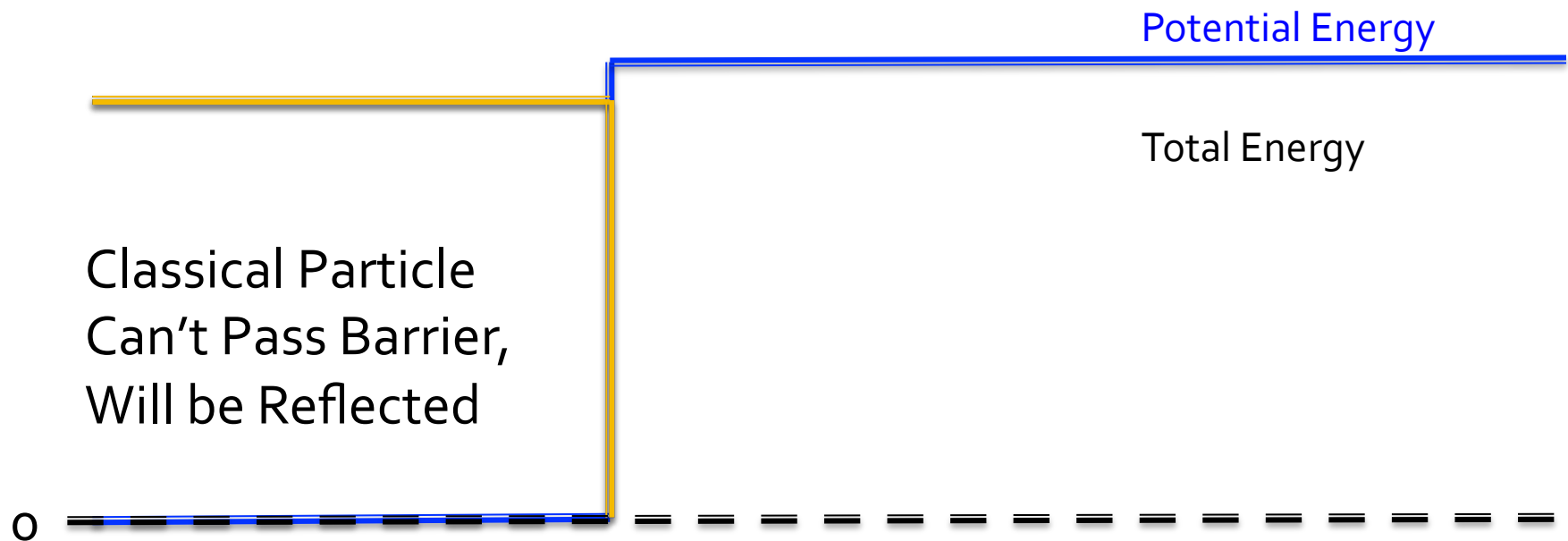
# Energy Diagrams



# Energy Diagrams



# Sharp Barrier Energy Diagram





# Schrodinger Equation for constant potential

$$U(x) = U \neq 0$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \psi + U\psi = E\psi$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \psi = (E - U)\psi$$

$$\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} = -\frac{2m}{\hbar^2} (E - U)\psi$$

$$E > U: \text{ put } k^2 = \frac{2m(E - U)}{\hbar^2}$$

$$\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} = -k^2\psi$$

$$\text{solutions } \psi(x) = e^{ikx}, e^{-ikx}$$

$$E < U: \text{ put } k^2 = \frac{2m(U - E)}{\hbar^2}$$

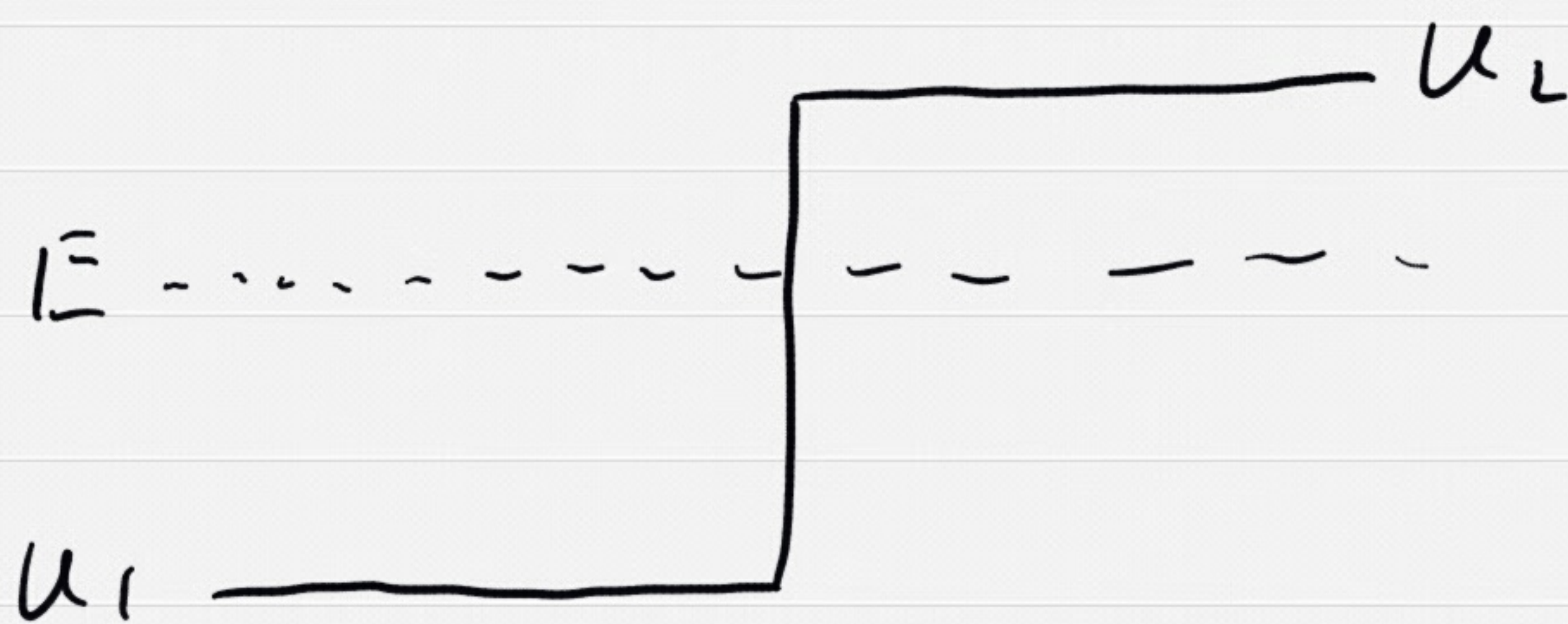
$$\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} = k^2\psi$$

$$\text{solutions } \psi(x) = e^{kx}, e^{-kx}$$

(i.e.  $e^{ikx}, e^{-ikx}$  w/  
imaginary  $k$ )



# Step potential



$$\psi(x) = A e^{i k_1 x} + B e^{-i k_1 x}$$

on left

$$\text{w/ } k_1 = \sqrt{2m(E - U_1)/\hbar^2}$$

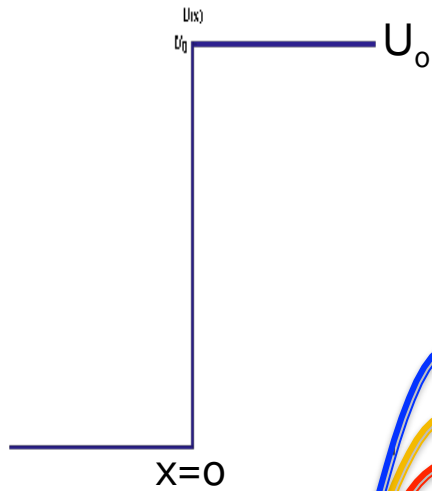
$$\psi(x) = C e^{-k_2 x}$$

on right

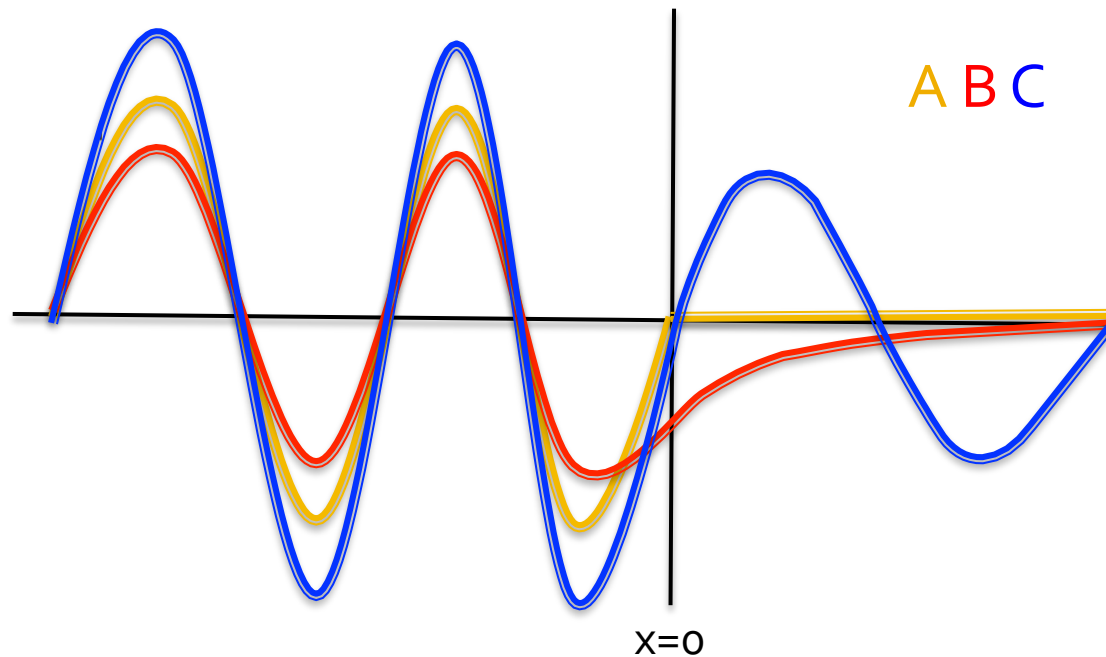
$$\text{w/ } k_2 = \sqrt{2m(U_2 - E)/\hbar^2}$$



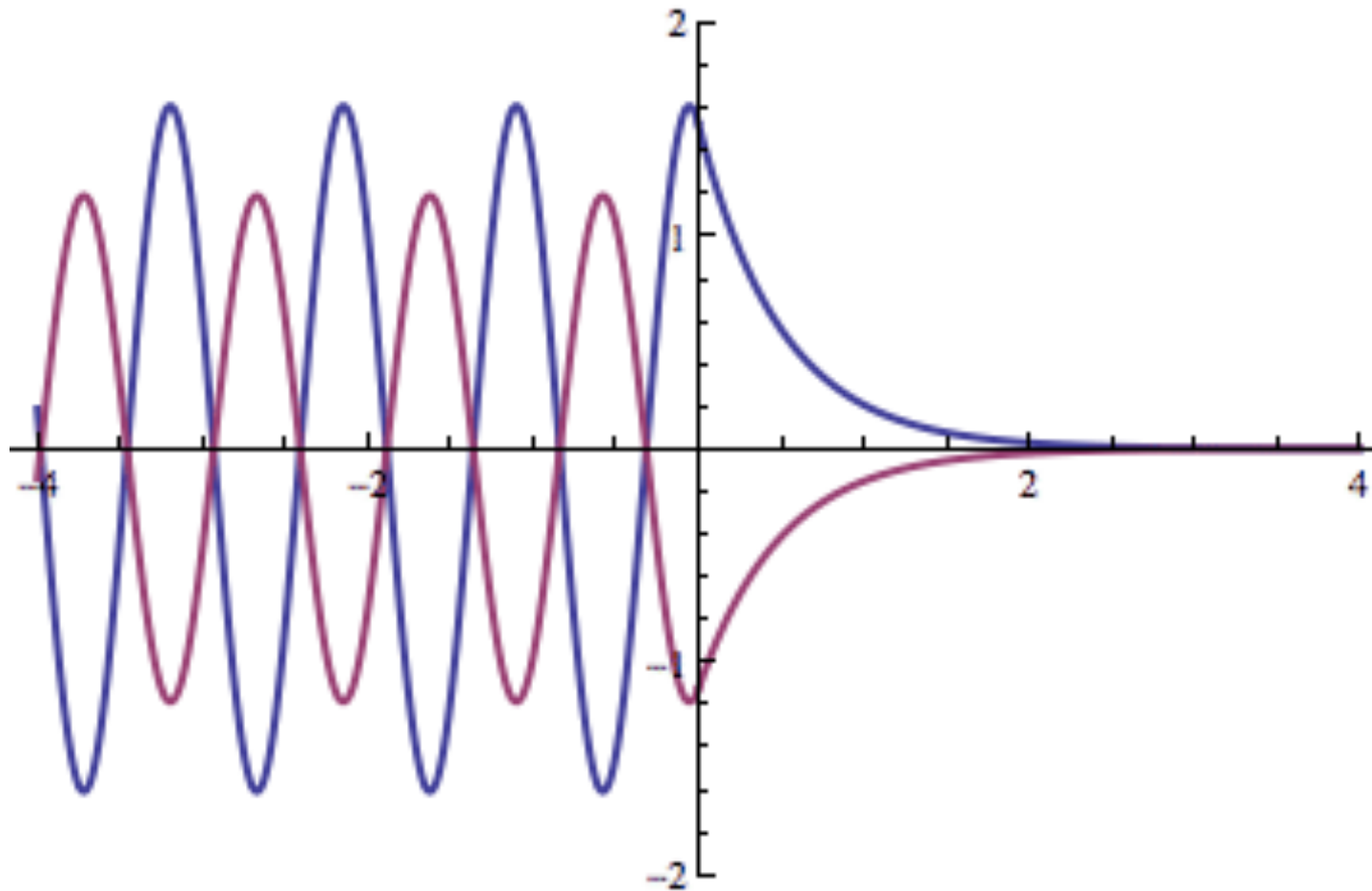
# Wave Approaching a Potential Barrier



What does the wavefunction look like for an electron with  $E < U_0$  ( $U_0 =$  the height of the step)?



# Actual Wave Function



# Wave Function Components

