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EXAMPLE PROBLEM 15.4

Assume that a particle is confined to a box of length a , and that the system wave function is $\psi(x) = \sqrt{2/a} \sin(\pi x/a)$.

- a. Is this state an eigenfunction of the position operator?
- b. Calculate the average value of the position $\langle x \rangle$ that would be obtained for a large number of measurements. Explain your result.

Using the standard integral $\int x(\sin bx)^2 dx = \frac{x^2}{4} - \frac{\cos 2bx}{8b^2} - \frac{x \sin 2bx}{4b}$