

**PHYS 451 Quantum Mechanics I (Spring 2018)**  
**Homework #1, due Thursday Jan 25 in class**

Review of elementary probability

1. In an experiment a die is thrown repeatedly until a six turns up. When that happens the experiment is stopped.
  - (a) What is the probability distribution function,  $p(k)$ , that the experiment will last  $k$  throws?
  - (b) Show that the total probability is  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p(k) = 1$ .
  - (c) What is the most likely number of throws that will need to be done in this experiment?
  - (d) What is the average number of throws,  $\langle k \rangle$ , that will need to be done?
  - (e) What is the standard deviation,  $\Delta k$ ?
2. Problem 1.11 in Griffiths
3. Problem 1.16 in Griffiths
4. Suppose the wave function of a particle of mass  $m$  is given by

$$\Psi(x, t) = ae^{-ibt - cx^2},$$

where  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are positive constants. Find the potential in which the particle moves.