

Exercise 9.3. Show that the right-hand side of Eq. 9.17 simplifies to the right-hand side of Eq. 9.16. *Hint:* First expand the second term by taking the derivative of the product. Then look for cancellations.

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We are given

$$[\mathbf{V}(x), \mathbf{P}] = i\hbar \frac{dV(x)}{dx} \quad (9.16)$$

$$[\mathbf{V}(x), \mathbf{P}]\psi(x) = V(x) \left( -i\hbar \frac{d}{dx} \right) \psi(x) - \left( -i\hbar \frac{d}{dx} \right) V(x) \psi(x) \quad (9.17)$$

Expand the derivative of the product in (9.17) to obtain

$$[\mathbf{V}(x), \mathbf{P}]\psi(x) = \boxed{V(x) \left( -i\hbar \frac{d}{dx} \right) \psi(x)} + i\hbar \frac{dV(x)}{dx} \psi(x) + \boxed{i\hbar V(x) \frac{d\psi(x)}{dx}}$$

The boxed terms cancel leaving

$$[\mathbf{V}(x), \mathbf{P}]\psi(x) = i\hbar \frac{dV(x)}{dx} \psi(x)$$