

BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE EDUCATION DEGREE  
PHYSICS PART 2  
PH202 (2): QUANTUM PHYSICS 1  
DURATION: 3 HOURS

AUG 2024

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Answer ALL parts of Section A and any THREE questions from Section B.

Section A carries 40 marks and Section B carries 60 marks.

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Electron charge,	$e = 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
Planck's constant,	$h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$
Mass of an electron,	$m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$
Acceleration due to gravity,	$g = 9.81 \text{ ms}^{-2}$
Permittivity of free space,	$\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \text{ Fm}^{-1}$
Speed of light,	$c = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1}$
Permeability of free space	$\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ T.m/A,}$

**SECTION A**

1. (a) State the 3 postulates of quantum mechanics [3]
- (b) What is the de Broglie wavelength of an electron whose mass is  $0.51 \text{ MeV}/c^2$  energy is  $6.0 \text{ eV}$ ? [3]
- (c) Distinguish between
  - (i) Boundstate and unbound state [1]
  - (ii) Potential step and Potential Barrier [1]
  - (iii) dispersive and non-dispersive medium in the movement of wave packets [1]

- (d) Some ocean waves travel with a phase velocity  $V_{phase} = \sqrt{g\lambda/2\pi}$ , where  $g$  is the acceleration due to gravity. Determine the group velocity of a “wave packet” of these waves? [4]
- (e) Using clearly labeled sketch diagrams compare the energy levels of infinite potential well, Harmonic oscillator and hydrogen atom [6]
- (f) What is the physical meaning of  $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |\psi|^2 dx = 1$  ? [2]
- (g) Compute the wavelength of  $H_\beta$  spectral lines (i.e. the second line of the Balmer Series predicted by Bohr’s model of atomic structure). The  $H_\beta$  line is emitted in the transition from  $n_i = 4$  to  $n_f = 2$ . [4]
- (h) The gold foil ( $\rho = 19.3\text{g/cm}^3$ ,  $M = 197\text{g/mole}$ ) has a thickness of  $2.0 \times 10^{-4}\text{cm}$ . It is used to scatter alpha particles of Kinetic energy  $8.0\text{MeV}$ . What fraction of alpha particles is scattered at angles greater than  $90^\circ$ ? [4]
- (i) The first excited state of an iron atom  $^{53}\text{Fe}$  collapses to the ground state by emitting a photon of energy  $14.4\text{KeV}$ . If the life time of the excited state is  $41\text{ns}$ , Calculate the recoil energy of the atom [4]
- (k) An electron is moving along the x-axis with speed  $2.05 \times 10^6\text{m/s}$  which can be known with precision at  $0.50\%$ . What is the minimum uncertainty with which you can simultaneously measure the position of the electron along the x-axis? [4]
- (l) Briefly describe the process of quantum mechanical tunnelling [3]

## SECTION B

2. (a) Discuss the statement “x-ray emission is the inverse of photoelectric effect.” [2]

(b) The work function( $\phi$ ) for tungsten metal is 4.52 eV. Calculate

(i) cut-off wavelength  $\lambda_c$  for tungsten [2]

(ii) maximum kinetic energy of the electrons when radiation of wavelength 198 nm is used. [2]

(iii) Stopping potential in this case. [2]

(c) 1. With aid of an appropriate diagram derive the Compton shift equation

$$\Delta\lambda = \lambda' - \lambda = \frac{h}{m_e c} (1 - \cos \theta). \quad [4]$$

2. X-ray of wavelength 0.2400nm are Compton Scattered and the scattered beam is observed at an angle of  $60^\circ$

Relative to the incident beam. Find

(i) the wavelength of the scattered X-rays [3]

(ii) energy of the scattered photons [3]

(iii) kinetic energy of the scattered electrons [2]

3(a) Describe in words what is meant by normalization of the wave function [2]

(b) A particle which is confined to move in one dimension between 0 and

L is described by the wave function  $\psi(x) = Ax(L - x)$

(i) Use the Normalisation condition to determine the constant A [4]

(ii) Derive an expression for the average value (expectation) of position

Of the particle [4]

(iii) Determine the expression for the average values of the kinetic energy

of the particle [4]

(c ) For a free particle show that the Schrodinger wave equation leads to the

de Broglie relation  $\lambda = \frac{h}{p}$  [6]

4 (a) (i) State the Correspondence principle [2]

(ii) Show that the Bohr Model of the atom does indeed obey

the Correspondence principle [4]

(b) An electron is confined in a region of size of an atom (0.1nm). Calculate

the minimum uncertainty in the momentum of the electron [3]

(c) In a region of space a particle with mass  $m$  and zero energy has a

time independent wave function  $\psi(x) = Ae^{-x^2/L^2}$  where  $A$  and  $L$

are constants Determine the potential energy of the particle [8]

4 (a) State three principles of quantum mechanics [2]

(b) An electron is bound in one-dimensional infinite well of width  $1 \times 10^{-10}m$

Find the energy values in the ground state. [3]

(c) A free particle has initial wave function

$$\psi(x,0) = A \exp - ax^2$$

where  $A$  and  $a$  are positive real constants.

(i) Normalize  $\psi(x,0)$ . [3]

(ii) Determine  $\psi(x,t)$ . [3]

(iii) Find  $|\psi(x,t)|^2$ . Express your answer in terms of the quantity

$$w \equiv \frac{a}{1 + \left( \frac{2\hbar a t}{m} \right)^2} \quad [3]$$

(iv) Determine  $\langle x^2 \rangle$  [6]

5(a) Write Schrödinger's equation for a free particle [2]

(b) (i) Show that the wave function  $\psi(x) = Ae^{ikx}$  represents a state for which

momentum of the particle has the value  $P = \hbar k$  [5]

(ii) Find the kinetic energy of the particle in this state [5]

(c) A spring mass system has a mass equal to 0.10 kg and a spring

constant equal to 10 N/m. The system oscillates with amplitude of 0.10 m.

(i) If the energy of the oscillator is quantized what is the quantum number  $n$

associated with this energy? [3]

(ii) If the quantum number  $n$  changes by unity, what is the fractional change

in energy? [3]

(iii) What conclusion do you draw from (ii)? [2]

6. (a) A particle in the infinite square well has the initial wave function

$$\Psi(x, 0) = \begin{cases} Ax, & 0 \leq x \leq a/2, \\ A(a-x), & a/2 \leq x \leq a. \end{cases}$$

(i) Sketch  $\Psi(x, t)$  [3]

(ii) Determine the constant  $A$  [4]

(iii) Find  $\Psi(x, t)$  . [4]

(b) Like the classical wave equation the Schrödinger equation is linear.  
Why is this important? [2]

(c ) A particle of mass  $m$  has the wave function

$$\Psi(x, t) = Ae^{-a[(mx^2/h)+it]}$$

where  $A$  and  $a$  are positive real constants.

(i) Find  $A$  [3]

(ii) For what potential energy function,  $V(x)$  is this a solution to the  
Schrödinger equation? [4]

END OF EXAM