

BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION  
FACULTY OF SCIENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS  
DIPSCED PHYSICS PART 3.2  
PH 009: QUANTUM THEORY

JUN 2023

**DURATION: 3 HOURS**

Answer ALL parts of Section A and any THREE questions from Section B. Section A carries 40 marks and each question of Section B carries 20 marks.

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,	$c = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1}$

**SECTION A**

- 1.a) How does quantum mechanics differ from classical mechanics? [3]
- b)(i) State the main properties of a photon [3]
- (ii) Photons in a pale blue light have a wavelength of 500 nm. What is the energy of this photon? [3]
- (iii) Calculate the cycle time and frequency of this light. [4]
- c) State Wien's displacement law [2]
- d) A radiometer used to observe radiation from an object that is heated to maintain a temperature of 1278 K. The radiometer records radiation in a wavelength interval of 12.6 nm. If the radiometer is varied and set to record the most intense radiation emission from the object,
- (i) Determine the wavelength setting for the most intense radiation emission [3]
- (ii) What is the intensity of the emitted radiation in this interval. [5]

(e) (i) What is a black body ? [2]

(ii) Show that the energy in a black body cavity is proportional to  $T^4$  in accordance with the Stefan-Boltzmann law. [4]

(f) . Discuss the statement “**x-ray emission** is the inverse of **photoelectric effect**.” [3]

(g) Calculate the fraction of an incident beam of alpha particles of kinetic energy 5MeV that Geiger and Marsden expected to see for  $\theta \geq 90^\circ$  from a gold foil ( $Z=79$ )  $10^{-6}m$  thick. [3]

(h) Describe what happens when a particle is incident on the wall of a potential well. [3]

(i) The time-independent Schrödinger equation for a particle of mass  $m$  moving in one direction with energy  $E$  is

$$-\frac{\hbar}{2m} \frac{d^2\psi(x)}{dx^2} + V(x)\psi(x) = E\psi(x).$$

What is represented by the symbols  $\psi(x)$  and  $V(x)$  in the equation [2]

## SECTION B

2 (a) Distinguish between Compton scattering and Compton effect [4]

(b) In a Compton scattering experiment it is found that the incident wavelength  $\lambda_1$  is shifted by 1.5 percent when the scattering angle  $\theta = 120^\circ$ .

(i) What is the value of  $\lambda_1$  ? [5]

(ii) What will be the wavelength  $\lambda_2$  of the shifted photon when the scattering angle is  $75^\circ$ ? [5]

(c) Light of wavelength 400nm and intensity  $10^{-2}W/m^2$  is incident on potassium.

Estimate the time lag for the emission of photoelectrons expected classically.

The workfunction of potassium is 2.22eV (assume  $r = 10^{-10}m$  to be the typical radius of an atom) [6]

3(a) state Bohr postulates [5]

(b). 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  $n_f = 2$ . [5]

(c) In a particular experiment, alpha particles from  $^{226}\text{Ra}$  are scattered at  $\theta = 45^\circ$  from a silver foil and 450 particles are counted each minute at the scintillation detector. If everything is kept the same except that the detector is moved to observe particles scattered at  $90^\circ$ , how many particles will be counted per minute? [10]

4(a) What is meant by wave-particle duality? [5]

(b) Calculate the de Broglie wavelength of a Ping-Pong ball of mass 2.0g after it is slammed across the table with speed 5m/s? [5]

(c) An electron is trapped in a one-dimensional region of length  $1.00 \times 10^{-10}\text{m}$  (a typical atomic diameter).

- i) Find the energies of the ground state and first two excited states. [4]
- ii) How much energy must be supplied to excite the electron from the ground state to the second excited state? [3]
- iii) From the second excited state, the electron drops down to the first excited state. How much energy is released in this process? [3]

5(a) State the correspondence principle [4]

(b) An electron is moving in a thin wire 1.0cm long. The potential in the wire is constant on average but rises sharply at each end.

- i. Compute the ground-state energy for the electron. [6]
- ii. If the electron's energy is equivalent to the average kinetic energy of the molecules in a gas at  $T=300\text{K}$ , about 0.03eV, what is the electron's quantum number  $n$ ? [10]

6 (a) State the Heisenberg uncertainty principle [3]

(b) An electron is moving along an x axis with a speed of

$2.052 \times 10^6 \text{ m/s}$  which can be known with precision of 0.50%.

What is the minimum uncertainty with which you can simultaneously measure the position of the electron along the x axis? [7]

(c). Verify explicitly that the function  $\psi''(x) = A \sin kx + B \cos kx$  is a solution

of the Schrödinger equation  $\psi''(x) = -k^2 \psi(x)$  for any values of the constants  $A$  and  $B$ .

[10]

END OF EXAMINATION