

M.Sc. PHYSICS  
FIRST SEMESTER  
QUANTUM MECHANICS  
MSP – 101  
[USE OMR FOR OBJECTIVE PART]

**SET  
A**

Duration: 3 hrs.

Full Marks: 70

Time: 30 min.

( Objective )

Marks: 20

Choose the correct answer from the following:

1×20=20

- The probability density  $|\Psi(x, t)|^2$  is defined as
  - $\Psi(x, t)\Psi(x, t)$
  - $\Psi^*(x, t)\Psi^*(x, t)$
  - $\Psi^*(x, t)\Psi(x, t)$
  - none of these
- The operator representation of momentum in quantum mechanics is
  - $-i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$
  - $-i \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$
  - $-\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$
  - $-\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$
- A wave function has the form,  $\psi(x, t) = Ae^{-ibt/\hbar}$  ( $A, b$  are real, independent of both  $x$  and  $t$ ). We can conclude that
  - The probability density is zero
  - The probability density oscillates with time
  - The probability density is a constant over time
  - The probability density decays with time
- Heisenberg's uncertainty relation between  $x$  and  $p$  is (symbols have their usual meanings)
  - $\sigma_x \sigma_p \geq \hbar/2$
  - $\sigma_x \sigma_p < \hbar/2$
  - $\sigma_x \sigma_p = 0$
  - $\sigma_x \sigma_p = \infty$
- The energy difference between adjacent simple harmonic oscillator (1D) energy levels is
  - $\frac{1}{2} \hbar \omega$
  - $\hbar \omega$
  - $\frac{3}{2} \hbar \omega$
  - $2 \hbar \omega$
- The commutator of  $x$  and  $p$ ,  $[x, p] =$ 
  - $i$
  - $\hbar$
  - $1$
  - $i\hbar$
- The number of nodes in the first excited state of the harmonic oscillator potential is
  - 0
  - 1
  - 2
  - 3



c.  $h_r = 1, h_\phi = 1, h_z = r$

d.  $h_r = r, h_\phi = 1, h_z = 1$

19. The Klein-Gordon equation is given by

a.  $\partial_\mu \partial^\mu \Psi = \left(\frac{m_0 c}{\hbar}\right)^2 \Psi$

b.  $\partial_\mu \partial^\mu \Psi = \left(\frac{m_0 c}{\hbar}\right) \Psi$

c.  $\partial^\nu \partial^\mu \Psi = \left(\frac{m_0 c}{\hbar}\right) \Psi$

d.  $\partial^\nu \partial^\mu \Psi = \left(\frac{m_0 c}{\hbar}\right)^2 \Psi$

20. The energy operator will be

a.  $E = -i \hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$

b.  $E = i \hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$

c.  $E = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$

d.  $E = \frac{i}{\hbar} \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$

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**Descriptive**

Time : 2 hrs. 30 min.

Marks : 50

*[ Answer question no.1 & any four (4) from the rest ]*

1. a. Draw the first three stationary states of the infinite square well (bounded between 0 to  $a$ ). Identify the number of nodes in each of them. 3+2+5  
=10
- b. A particle in the infinite square well has as its initial wave function an even mixture of the first two stationary states:  

$$\Psi(x, 0) = A[\psi_1(x) + \psi_2(x)]$$
  - (i) Normalize  $\Psi(x, 0)$ . [No explicit integration is allowed.]
  - (ii) Find  $\Psi(x, t)$  and  $|\Psi(x, t)|^2$ . (Express the latter in terms of sinusoidal functions of time, eliminating the exponentials with the help of Euler's formula:  $e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$ .) Let  $\omega \equiv \pi^2 \hbar / 2ma^2$ .
2. a. Derive covariant form of the Klein-Gordon equation using the relativistic energy-momentum relation. 6+4=10
- b. Obtain the equation of continuity using the Klein-Gordon equation.
3. For the  $n$ th stationary state of the harmonic oscillator, compute the followings using the ladder operators. 2+2+3+  
3=10
  - (a)  $\langle x \rangle$
  - (b)  $\langle p \rangle$
  - (c)  $\langle x^2 \rangle$
  - (d)  $\langle p^2 \rangle$

[Helpful:  $a_+ \psi_n = \sqrt{n+1} \psi_{n+1}$ ,  $a_- \psi_n = \sqrt{n} \psi_{n-1}$ ,

The ladder operators are defined as  $a_\pm \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\hbar m \omega}} (\mp i p + m \omega x)$ .]

4. For the given line-element  $ds^2 = dr^2 + r^2(d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\varphi^2)$  4+6=10

(a) Write down the metric tensor  $g_{\mu\nu}$  and find its determinant.

(b) Find inverse metric tensor  $g^{\mu\nu}$  for the above line-element.

5. A free particle, which is initially localized in the range  $-a < x < a$ , is released at time  $t = 0$ : 2+3+2+  
3=10

$$\Psi(x, 0) = \begin{cases} A & \text{if } -a < x < a \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

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

(a) Normalize  $\Psi(x, 0)$ .

(b) Find  $\phi(k)$  using the relation  $\phi(k) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \Psi(x, 0) e^{-ikx} dx$ .

(c) Construct  $\Psi(x, t)$  following the relation

$$\Psi(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi(k) e^{-i\left(kx - \frac{\hbar k^2}{2m}t\right)} dk.$$

[Note that you cannot solve it analytically. This could be done numerically. So just concentrate on the construction of the wave function.]

(d) Discuss the limiting cases for  $\Psi(x, 0)$  and  $\phi(k)$  ( $a$  very large, and  $a$  very small).

6. a. Derive the Dirac equation in covariant form. 4+6=10  
b. Discuss all the properties associated with  $\alpha$ 's and  $\beta$ 's matrices.

7. The needle of a broken car speedometer is free to swing, and bounces perfectly off the pins at either end, so that if you give it a flick it is equally likely to come to rest at any angle between  $0$  to  $\pi$ . 1+2+2+  
3+2=10

(a) What is the probability density,  $\rho(\theta)$ ?

(b) Plot  $\rho(\theta)$  as a function of  $\theta$ , from  $\frac{-\pi}{2}$  to  $\frac{3\pi}{2}$ .

(c) Compute  $\langle \theta \rangle$ ,  $\langle \theta^2 \rangle$ , and  $\langle \sigma \rangle$  for this distribution.

8. a. Write the differences between the Klein-Gordon equation and the Dirac equation. 6+4=10

b. why the Klein-Gordon equation possesses negative energy? Explain it?

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