

Quantum Physics (I): Midterm (1) Nov. 15, 2019

Problem 1 15% Explain or evaluate the following terms briefly:

- (a) degeneracy
- (b) the Compton effect
- (c) particle-wave duality
- (d) probability current
- (e) $\phi(p) = \frac{1}{1+p^2}$, compute $\hat{x}\hat{p}\phi(p)$.

Problem 2 Suppose that we prepare a cubic cavity (dimension is $L \times L \times L$) in equilibrium at temperature T . Inside the cavity, there will be radiations in various wavelengths. Let the energy density per unit frequency for the radiation with frequency ν be $f(\nu, T)$.

- (a) 4% If we drill a small hole on the wall with area a , find the radiation energy of frequency ν that flows out from this hole per unit time.
- (b) 4% Find the number of the electromagnetic waves (each allowed wave is called a mode) allowed in this cavity with frequency in the range $(\nu, \nu + d\nu)$.
- (c) 4% What is the Planck's expression for the average energy of each mode with frequency ν ? What is the main assumption for Planck to get this expression?
- (d) 10% Suppose that the radiation can be contained in a two dimensional cavity with dimension $L \times L$. Repeat your calculation for problem (a) and (b) by assuming that the only property of the radiation that changes is the dimension it lives, all the other properties remain the same. (Note that in this case, a hole becomes a segment. Therefore, the meaning of a is the length of the segment).

Problem 3 8% The following figure represents a generalized Young's experiments for the electron. We shall denote the "wavefunction" (more appropriate it should be termed "amplitude") for the electron to go from α to δ via β and γ as $\Psi(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta)$. For example, the wavefunction for the electron to go from the source to arrive at the point T via b and c is $\Psi(s, b, c, T)$. Express the total probability for the electron to go from the source to the point T . What would the expression for the total probability if one uses the classical probability concept to calculate?

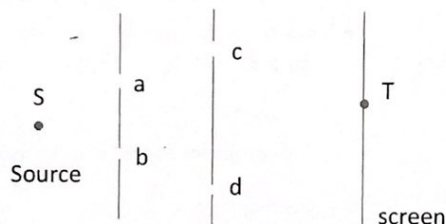


FIG. 1.

Problem 4 15% Use the uncertainty relation to estimate the ground state energy of a particle with mass m for the potential: $V(x) = \alpha r^4$, and find other energy eigenvalues of this potential using the Bohr quantization rule. Here r is the radius of the electron in spherical coordinates.

Problem 5 A particle is described by the following wavefunction

$$\Psi(x, t) = A e^{-|x|/L} e^{-iEt/\hbar}$$

where E is the total energy and A is a normalization constant.

- (a) 5% Find the probability for finding this particle in the range $(-L, L/2)$. What is the probability of finding the particle exactly at $x = 3L$?
- (b) 5% Find the probability current at x .
- (c) 10% Evaluate the uncertainties Δx and Δp .