

# GATE Questions 18

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1) P and Q are two Hermitian matrices and there exists a matrix R, which diagonalizes both of them, such that  $RPR^{-1} = S_1$  and  $RQR^{-1} = S_2$ , where  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are diagonal matrices. The correct statement(s) is(are) :

- a) All the elements of both matrices  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are real
- b) The matrix PQ can have complex eigenvalues.
- c) The matrix QP can have complex eigenvalues.
- d) The matrices P and Q commute.

2) A uniform block of mass  $M$  slides on a smooth horizontal bar. Another mass  $m$  is connected to it by an inextensible string of length  $l$  of negligible mass, and is constrained to oscillate in the X-Y plane only. Neglect the sizes of the masses. The number of degrees of freedom of the system is two and the generalized coordinates are chosen as  $x$  and  $\theta$  as shown in the figure.

If  $p_x$  and  $p_\theta$  are the generalised momenta corresponding to  $x$  and  $\theta$ , respectively, then the correct option(s) is(are)

- a)  $p_x = (m + M) \dot{x} + m l \cos \theta \dot{\theta}$
- b)  $p_\theta = m l^2 \dot{\theta} - m l \cos \theta \dot{x}$
- c)  $p_x$  is conserved
- d)  $p_\theta$  is conserved

3) The Gell-Mann-Okuba mass formula defines the mass of baryons as

$$M = M_0 + aY + b \left[ I(I + 1) - \frac{1}{4}Y^2 \right], \text{ where } M_0, a \text{ and } b \text{ are constants}$$

If the mass of  $\sigma$  hyperons is same as that of  $\Lambda$  hyperons, then the correct option(s) is(are)

- a)  $M \propto I(I + 1)$
- b)  $M \propto Y$
- c)  $M$  does not depend on  $I$
- d)  $M$  does not depend on  $Y$

4) The time derivative of a differentiable function  $g(q_i, t)$  is added to a Lagrangian  $L(q_i, \bar{q}_i, t)$  such that

$$L' = L(q_i, \bar{q}_i, t) + \frac{d(g(q_i, t))}{dt}$$

where  $q_i, \bar{q}_i, t$  are the generalised coordinates, generalized velocities and time respectively. Let  $p_i$  be the generalized momentum and  $H$  the Hamiltonian associated with  $L(q_i, \bar{q}_i, t)$ . If  $p'_i$  and  $H'$  are those associated with  $L'$ , then the correct option(s) is(are)

- a) Both  $L$  and  $L'$  satisfy Euler-Lagrange's equations of motion.
- b)  $p'_i = p_i + \frac{\partial}{\partial q_i} g(q_i, t)$
- c) If  $p_i$  is conserved, then  $p'_i$  is necessarily conserved.

d)  $H' = H + \frac{d}{dt}g(q_i, t)$

- 5) A linear charged particle accelerator is driven by an alternating voltage source operating at 10 MHz. Assume that it is used to accelerate electrons. After a few drift-tubes, the electrons attain a velocity  $2.9 \times 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ . The minimum length of each drift-tube, in m, to accelerate the electrons further is \_
- 6) The Coulomb energy component in the binding energy of a nucleus is 18.432 MeV. If the radius of the uniform and spherical charge distribution in the nucleus is 3 fm, the corresponding atomic number is \_
- 7) For a two-nucleon system, in spin singlet state, the spin is represented through the Pauli matrices  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2$  for particles 1 and 2, respectively. The value of  $(\sigma_1 \cdot \sigma_2)$  is
- 8) A contour is defined as

$$I_n = \int \frac{dz}{(z-n)^2 + \pi^2}$$

where  $n$  is a positive integer and  $C$  is the closed contour, as shown in the figure, consisting of the line from -100 to 100 and the semicircle traversed in the counter-clockwise sense. The value of  $\sum_{n=1}^5 I_n$  is

- 9) The normalised radial wave function of the second excited state of hydrogen atom is

$$R(r) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{24}} a^{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{r}{a} e^{-\frac{r}{2a}}$$

where  $a$  is the Bohr radius and  $r$  is the distance from the centre of the atom. The distance at which the electron is most likely to be found is  $y \times a$ , the value of  $y$  is

- 10) Consider an atomic gas with number density  $n = 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$ , in the ground state at 300 K. The valence electronic configuration of atoms is  $f^7$ . The paramagnetic susceptibility of the gas  $\chi = m \times 10^{-11}$ . The value of  $m$  is
- 11) Consider a cross-section of an electromagnet having an air-gap of 5 cm as shown. It consists of a magnetic material with  $\mu = 20000\mu_0$  and is driven by a coil having  $NI = 10^4$  where  $N$  is the number of turns and  $I$  is the current in Ampere. Ignoring the fringe fields, the magnitude of the magnetic field  $\bar{B}$  in the air-gap between the magnetic poles is
- 12) The spin  $\mathbf{S}$  and orbital angular momentum  $\mathbf{L}$  of an atom precess about  $\mathbf{J}$ , the total angular momentum.  $\mathbf{J}$  precesses about an axis fixed by a magnetic field  $\mathbf{B}_1 = 2B_0\hat{z}$ , where  $B_0$  is a constant. Now the magnetic field is changed to  $\mathbf{B}_2 = B_0(\hat{x} + \sqrt{2}\hat{y} + \hat{z})$ . Given the orbital angular momentum quantum number  $l = 2$  and spin quantum number  $s = 1/2$ ,  $\theta$  is the angle between  $\mathbf{B}_1$  and  $\mathbf{J}$  for the largest possible values of total angular quantum number  $j$  and its  $z$ -component  $j_z$ . The value of  $\theta$  (in degree, rounded off to the nearest integer) is \_.
- 13) The spin-orbit effect splits the  ${}^2P \rightarrow {}^2S$  transition (wavelength,  $\lambda = 6521 \text{ \AA}$ ) in Lithium into two lines with separation of  $\Delta\lambda = 0.14 \text{ \AA}$ . The corresponding positive value of energy difference between the above two lines, in eV, is  $m \times 10^{-5}$ . The value of  $m$  (rounded off to the nearest integer) is \_.