PHYS 20323 - HW 13

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1 Introduction

PHYS 20323/60323: Fall 2023 - LaTeX Example

1. The following questions refers to the Table below

Note: There may be multiple answers.

Name	Mass	Luminosity	Lifetime	Temperature	Radius
η Car.	60. $M_\odot$	10^6 $L_\odot$	8.0×10^5 years		
ε Eri.	6.0 $M_\odot$	10^3 $L_\odot$		20,000 K	
δ Scu.	2.0 $M_\odot$		5.0×10^8 years		2 $R_\odot$
β Cyg.	1.3 $M_\odot$	3.5 $L_\odot$			
α Cen.	1.0 $M_\odot$				1 $R_\odot$
γ Del.	0.7 $M_\odot$		4.5×10^{10} years	5000 K	

    (a) (4 points) Which of these stars will produce a planetary nebula.

    (b) (4 points) Elements heavier than Carbon will be produced in which stars.

2. An electron is found to be in the spin state (in the z-basis): $x = A \begin{pmatrix} 3i \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$

    (a) (5 points) Determine the possible values of A such that the state is normalized.

    (b) (5 points) Find the expectation values of the operators S_x, S_y, S_z and $\vec{S^2}$.

The matrix representation in the z-basis for the components of electron spin operators are given by:

$$S_x = \frac{\bar{h}}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} ; \qquad S_y = \frac{\bar{h}}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} ; \qquad S_z = \frac{\bar{h}}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

3. The average electrostatic field in the earth's atmosphere in fair weather is approximately given:

$$\vec{E} = E_0(Ae^{-\alpha z} + Be^{-\beta z})\hat{z}, \qquad (1)$$

where A, B, α, β, are positive constants and z is the height above the (locally flat) earth surface.

    (a) (5 points) Find the average charge density in the atmosphere as a function of height.

    (b) (5 points) Find the electric potential as a function height above the earth.