

**Brackets and Operators:**

1. A system is in the state  $|\psi\rangle = A(2|1\rangle + 3|2\rangle + |5\rangle)$  where  $|n\rangle$  denotes the normalized eigenstate of an observable  $O$  with eigenvalue  $n$ . What is the expectation value of  $O$  in the state  $|\psi\rangle$ ?

- A) 13/14
- B) 1
- C)  $13/[14^{1/2}]$
- D) 27/14
- E) 27

The state  $\psi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}\psi_{-1} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\psi_1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\psi_2$  is linear combination of three orthonormal eigenstates of the operator  $\hat{O}$  corresponding to eigenvalues -1, 1 and 2. What is the expectation value of  $\hat{O}$  for this state?

- A. 2/3
- B.  $\sqrt{7/6}$
- C. 1
- D. 4/3
- E.  $(\sqrt{3} + 2\sqrt{2} - 1)/\sqrt{6}$

**(GR0177 #29)**

The Hamiltonian operator in the Schrodinger equation can be formed from the classical Hamiltonian by substituting

- A. Wavelength and frequency for momentum and energy
- B. A differential operator for momentum
- C. Transition probability for potential energy
- D. Sums over discrete eigenvalues for integrals over continuous variables
- E. Gaussian distributions of observables for exact values

**(GR8677 #49)**

2. Let  $|s\rangle$  and  $|t\rangle$  denote orthonormal states. Let  $|\psi_1\rangle = |s\rangle + 2i|t\rangle$  and  $|\psi_2\rangle = 2|s\rangle + x|t\rangle$ . What must the value of  $x$  be such that  $|\psi_1\rangle$  and  $|\psi_2\rangle$  are orthogonal?

- A)  $i$
- B)  $-i$
- C) 1
- D) -1
- E)  $i/[5^{1/2}]$

$$|\psi_1\rangle = 5|1\rangle - 3|2\rangle + 2|3\rangle$$

$$|\psi_2\rangle = |1\rangle - 5|2\rangle + x|3\rangle$$

The states  $|1\rangle$ ,  $|2\rangle$  and  $|3\rangle$  are orthonormal. For what value of  $x$  are the states  $|\psi_1\rangle$  and  $|\psi_2\rangle$  given above orthogonal?

- A. 10
- B. 5
- C. 0
- D. -5
- E. -10

**(GR0177 #28)**

The state of a quantum mechanical system is described by a wave function. Consider two physical observables that have discrete eigenvalues: observable A with eigenvalues  $\{\alpha\}$ , and observable B with eigenvalues  $\{\beta\}$ . Under what circumstances can all wave functions be expanded in a set of basis states, each of which is a simultaneous eigenfunction of both A and B?

- A. Only if the values  $\{\alpha\}$  and  $\{\beta\}$  are nondegenerate
- B. Only if A and B commute
- C. Only if A commutes with the Hamiltonian of the system
- D. Only if B commutes with the Hamiltonian of the system
- E. Under all circumstances

**(GR9277 #50)**

3. Let  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$  be energy eigenstates of a time-independent Hamiltonian with energies  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ . At time  $t=0$ , a system is in state  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\psi_1 - \psi_2)$ . At time  $t$ , what is the probability that a measurement of the energy of the system will return  $E_1$ ?

- A) 0
- B)  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$
- C)  $\frac{1}{2}$
- D)  $\cos[(E_2 - E_1)/\hbar]$
- E)  $\cos[(E_2 + E_1)/\hbar]$

Let  $|n\rangle$  represent the normalized  $n^{\text{th}}$  energy eigenstate of the one-dimensional harmonic oscillator,

$$H|n\rangle = \hbar\omega \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right) |n\rangle$$

If  $|\psi\rangle$  is a normalized ensemble state that can be expanded as a linear combination

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{14}}|1\rangle - \frac{2}{\sqrt{14}}|2\rangle + \frac{3}{\sqrt{14}}|3\rangle$$

of the eigenstates, what is the expectation value of the energy operator in this ensemble state?

A.  $\frac{101}{14}\hbar\omega$

B.  $\frac{43}{14}\hbar\omega$

C.  $\frac{23}{14}\hbar\omega$

D.  $\frac{17}{\sqrt{14}}\hbar\omega$

E.  $\frac{7}{\sqrt{14}}\hbar\omega$

**(GR0177 #45)**

The energy eigenstates for a particle of mass  $m$  in a box of length  $L$  have wave functions

$$\phi_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

and energies

$$E_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2 \hbar^2}{2mL^2}$$

where  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ . At time  $t = 0$ , the particle is in a state described as follows.

$$\psi(t = 0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{14}}(\phi_1 + 2\phi_2 + 3\phi_3)$$

Which of the following is a possible result of a measurement of energy for the state

- A.  $2E_1$
- B.  $5E_1$
- C.  $7E_1$
- D.  $9E_1$
- E.  $14E_1$

**(GR0177 #44)**

4. Let  $|a\rangle$  and  $|b\rangle$  denote momentum eigenstates with respective eigenvalues  $a$  and  $b$  where  $a \neq b$ . What is  $\langle a|p|b\rangle$ ?

- A)  $a$
- B)  $b$
- C)  $|ab|$
- D)  $|ab|^{1/2}$
- E)  $0$

5. A particle of mass  $m$  in a harmonic oscillator potential with angular frequency  $\omega$  is in the state  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|1\rangle + |4\rangle)$ . What is the expectation value of  $p^2$  for this particle?

- A)  $3\hbar\omega/2$
- B)  $9\hbar\omega/2$
- C)  $6\sqrt{2}m\hbar\omega/2$
- D)  $3m\hbar\omega$
- E)  $6m\hbar\omega$

6. What is the expectation value of the operator  $a_+a_- + a_-a_+$  in the ground state of the harmonic oscillator?

- A) 0
- B) 1
- C)  $\sqrt{2}$
- D) 2
- E)  $\hbar\omega$

7. A free particle of mass  $m$  is in a momentum eigenstate  $|p\rangle$ . What is the uncertainty on a measurement of its energy?

- A) 0
- B)  $\infty$
- C)  $p^2/2m$
- D)  $p$
- E) Cannot be determined from the information given

8. A free particle has the wavefunction  $\sin(kx)$ . The particle has:

- I. A definite value of position
  - II. A definite value of momentum
  - III. A definite value of energy
- A) I only
  - B) II only
  - C) III only
  - D) I and II
  - E) II and III

The operator,  $\hat{a} = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega_0}{2\hbar}}\left(\hat{x} + i\frac{\hat{p}}{m\omega_0}\right)$  when operating on a harmonic energy eigenstate  $\psi_n$  with energy  $E_n$ , produces another energy eigenstate whose energy is  $E_n - \hbar\omega_0$ . Which of the following is true?

- I.  $\hat{a}$  commutes with the Hamiltonian.
- II.  $\hat{a}$  is a Hermitian operator and therefore an observable.
- III. The adjoint operator  $\hat{a}^\dagger \neq \hat{a}$

- A. I only
- B. II only
- C. III only
- D. I and II only
- E. I and III only

**(GR9677 #100)**

Which of the following is an eigenfunction of the linear momentum operator  $-i\hbar \partial/\partial x$  with a positive eigenvalue  $\hbar k$ ; i.e., an eigenfunction that describes a particle that is moving in free space in the direction of positive  $x$  with a precise value of linear momentum?

- A.  $\cos kx$
- B.  $\sin kx$
- C.  $e^{-ikx}$
- D.  $e^{ikx}$
- E.  $e^{-kx}$

**(GR8677 #57)**

### Angular Momentum, Spherical Harmonics

The components of the orbital angular momentum operator

$\vec{L} = (L_x, L_y, L_z)$  satisfy the following commutation relations.

$$[L_x, L_y] = i\hbar L_z$$

$$[L_y, L_z] = i\hbar L_x$$

$$[L_z, L_x] = i\hbar L_y$$

What is the value of the commutator  $[L_x L_y, L_z]$ ?

A.  $2i\hbar L_x L_y$

B.  $i\hbar(L_x^2 + L_y^2)$

C.  $-i\hbar(L_x^2 + L_y^2)$

D.  $i\hbar(L_x^2 - L_y^2)$

E.  $-i\hbar(L_x^2 - L_y^2)$

**(GR0177 #43)**

9. A spin-zero particle has angular wavefunction  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(Y_3^2(\theta, \phi) + Y_2^1(\theta, \phi))$  where  $Y_l^m(\theta, \phi)$  are the normalized spherical harmonics. What is the expectation value of the total spin  $L^2$ ?

A)  $2\hbar^2$

B)  $5\hbar^2/2$

C)  $3\hbar^2$

D)  $9\hbar^2$

E)  $18\hbar^2$



A diatomic molecules is initially in the state  $\Psi(\Theta, \Phi) = (5Y_1^1 + 3Y_5^1 + 2Y_5^{-1}) / (38)^{1/2}$  where  $Y_l^m$  is a spherical harmonics. If measurements are made of the total angular momentum quantum number  $l$  and of azimuthal angular momentum quantum number  $m$ , what is the probability of obtaining the results  $l = 5$ ?

- A. 36/1444
- B. 9/38
- C. 13/38
- D.  $5/(38)^{1/2}$
- E. 34/38

**(GR9677 #33)**

A system is know to be in the normalized state described by the wave function

$$\psi(\theta, \varphi) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{30}}(5Y_4^3 + Y_6^3 - 2Y_6^0)$$

Where  $Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi)$  are the spherical harmonics. The probability of finding the system in a state with azimuthal orbital quantum number  $m = 3$  is

- A. 0
- B. 1/15
- C. 1/6
- D. 1/3
- E. 13/15

**(GR9277 #28)**



Which of the following is the orbital angular momentum eigenfunction  $Y_l^m(\theta, \phi)$  in a state for which the operators  $L^2$  and  $L_z$  have eigenvalues  $6\hbar^2$  and  $-\hbar$  respectively?

- A.  $Y_2^1(\theta, \phi)$
- B.  $Y_2^{-1}(\theta, \phi)$
- C.  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[Y_2^1(\theta, \phi) + Y_2^{-1}(\theta, \phi)]$
- D.  $Y_2^3(\theta, \phi)$
- E.  $Y_3^{-1}(\theta, \phi)$

**(GR0177 #81)**

64. Consider a single electron atom with orbital angular momentum  $L = \sqrt{2}\hbar$ . Which of the following gives the possible values of a measurement of  $L_z$ , the  $z$ -component of  $L$ ?

- (A) 0
- (B) 0,  $\hbar$
- (C) 0,  $\hbar$ ,  $2\hbar$
- (D)  $-\hbar$ , 0,  $\hbar$
- (E)  $-2\hbar$ ,  $-\hbar$ , 0,  $\hbar$ ,  $2\hbar$

95. Let  $\hat{\mathbf{J}}$  be a quantum mechanical angular momentum operator. The commutator  $[\hat{J}_x \hat{J}_y, \hat{J}_x]$  is equivalent to which of the following?

- (A) 0
- (B)  $i\hbar \hat{J}_z$
- (C)  $i\hbar \hat{J}_z \hat{J}_x$
- (D)  $-i\hbar \hat{J}_x \hat{J}_z$
- (E)  $i\hbar \hat{J}_x \hat{J}_y$

## Spin 1/2, Matrices

86. Which of the following are the eigenvalues

of the Hermitian matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & i \\ -i & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ ?

- (A) 1, 0
- (B) 1, 3
- (C) 2, 2
- (D)  $i$ ,  $-i$
- (E)  $1 + i$ ,  $1 - i$

$$\sigma_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma_y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

87. Consider the Pauli spin matrices  $\sigma_x$ ,  $\sigma_y$ , and  $\sigma_z$  and the identity matrix  $I$  given above. The commutator  $[\sigma_x, \sigma_y] \equiv \sigma_x \sigma_y - \sigma_y \sigma_x$  is equal to which of the following?

- (A)  $I$
- (B)  $2i\sigma_x$
- (C)  $2i\sigma_y$
- (D)  $2i\sigma_z$
- (E) 0

The matrix  $A = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$  has 3 eigenvalues  $\lambda_i$  defined by  $Av_i = \lambda_i v_i$ .

Which of the following statements is NOT true?

- A.  $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 = 0$
- B.  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$ , and  $\lambda_3$  are all the real numbers
- C.  $\lambda_1 \lambda_2 = +1$  for some pair roots
- D.  $\lambda_1 \lambda_2 + \lambda_2 \lambda_3 + \lambda_3 \lambda_1 = 0$
- E.  $\lambda_i^3 = +1, i = 1, 2, 3$

**(GR9277 #98)**

88. A spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  particle is in a state described by the spinor

$$\chi = A \begin{pmatrix} 1+i \\ 2 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $A$  is a normalization constant. The probability of finding the particle with spin projection  $S_z = -\frac{1}{2}\hbar$  is

- (A)  $\frac{1}{6}$
- (B)  $\frac{1}{3}$
- (C)  $\frac{1}{2}$
- (D)  $\frac{2}{3}$
- (E) 1

10. What is the expectation value of  $S_z$  for a spin  $\frac{1}{2}$  particle with the same spinor as given above?

- A)  $-\hbar/6$
- B)  $-\hbar/3$
- C)  $-\hbar/2$
- D)  $\hbar/2$
- E)  $\hbar/3$

11. A spin  $\frac{1}{2}$  particle is initially measured to have  $S_z = \hbar/2$ . A subsequent measurement of  $S_x$  yields  $-\hbar/2$ . If a third measurement is made, this time of  $S_z$  again, what is the probability the measurement yields  $\hbar/2$ ?

- A) 0
- B)  $\frac{1}{4}$
- C)  $\frac{1}{2}$
- D)  $\frac{3}{4}$
- E) 1

12. A meson is a bound state of a quark and an antiquark, both with spin  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Which of the following is a possible value of *total* angular momentum  $l = 2$ ?

- I.  $j = 0$
- II.  $j = 1$

III.  $j = 2$

IV.  $j = 3$

A) I and II

B) I and III

C) II and IV

D) I, II, and III

E) II, III, and IV

13. A deuterium atom, consisting of a proton and neutron in the nucleus with a single orbital electron, is measured to have total angular momentum  $j = 3/2$  and  $m_j = 1/2$  in the ground state.

Let the up and down states of the proton and neutron be given by  $|\uparrow\rangle_P, |\downarrow\rangle_P$  and  $|\uparrow\rangle_N, |\downarrow\rangle_N$  respectively. Assuming the nucleus has no orbital angular momentum, its spin state could be:

I.  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\rangle_P |\downarrow\rangle_N - |\downarrow\rangle_P |\uparrow\rangle_N)$

II.  $|\uparrow\rangle_P |\uparrow\rangle_N$

III.  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\rangle_P |\downarrow\rangle_N + |\downarrow\rangle_P |\uparrow\rangle_N)$

IV.  $|\downarrow\rangle_P |\downarrow\rangle_N$

A) I only

B) I and III

C) II and IV

D) II and III

E) III and IV

The state of a spin  $1/2$  particle can be represented using the eigenstate  $|\uparrow\rangle$  and  $|\downarrow\rangle$  of the  $S_z$  operator.

$$S_z |\uparrow\rangle = \frac{1}{2}\hbar |\uparrow\rangle$$

$$S_z |\downarrow\rangle = -\frac{1}{2}\hbar |\downarrow\rangle$$

Given the Pauli matrix  $\sigma_x = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  which of the following is an eigenstate of  $S_x$  with eigenvalue  $-\frac{1}{2}\hbar$ ?

- A.  $|\uparrow\rangle$
- B.  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\rangle + |\downarrow\rangle)$
- C.  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\rangle - |\downarrow\rangle)$
- D.  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\rangle + i|\downarrow\rangle)$
- E.  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\rangle - i|\downarrow\rangle)$

**(GR0177 #83)**

14. In the ground state of helium, which of the following gives the total spin quantum numbers of the two electrons?

- A)  $s=0, m_s=0$
- B)  $s=1, m_s=1$
- C)  $s=1, m_s=0$
- D)  $s=1, m_s=-1$
- E)  $s=1/2, m_s=1/2$

15. Two spin  $1/2$  electrons are placed in a one dimensional harmonic oscillator potential of angular frequency  $\omega$ . If a measurement of  $S_z$  of the system returns  $\hbar$ , which of the following is the smallest possible energy of the system?

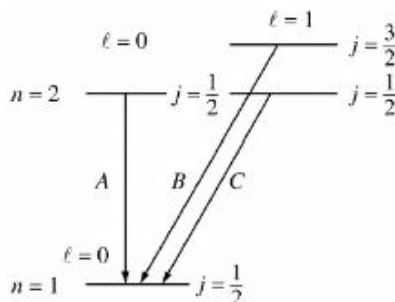
- A)  $\hbar\omega/2$
- B)  $\hbar\omega$
- C)  $3\hbar\omega/2$
- D)  $2\hbar\omega$
- E)  $5\hbar\omega/2$

### Selection Rules, Atomic Physics

Which of the following is NOT compatible with the selection rule that controls electric dipole emission of photons by excited states of atoms?

- A.  $\Delta n$  may have any negative integral value
- B.  $\Delta l = \pm 1$
- C.  $\Delta m_l = 0, \pm 1$
- D.  $\Delta s = \pm 1$
- E.  $\Delta j = \pm 1$

(GR8677 #92)



An energy-level diagram of the  $n = 1$  and  $n = 2$  levels of atomic hydrogen (including the effect of spin-orbit coupling and relativity) is shown in the figure. Three transitions are labeled A, B, and C. Which of the transitions will be possible electric-dipole transition?

- A. B only
- B. C only
- C. A and C only
- D. B and C only
- E. A, B, and C

(GR0177 #84)



A transition in which one photon is radiated by the electron in a hydrogen atom when the electron's wave function changes from  $\psi_1$  to  $\psi_2$  is forbidden if  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$

- A. have opposite parity
- B. are orthogonal to each other
- C. are zero at the center of the atomic nucleus
- D. are both spherically symmetrical
- E. are associated with different angular momenta

(GR8677 #48)

16. In the Bohr model of the hydrogen atom, let  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  be the radii of the  $n=1$  and  $n=2$  orbital shells. What is  $r_2 / r_1$ ?

- A)  $\frac{1}{2}$
- B)  $1/\sqrt{2}$
- C) 1
- D) 2
- E) 4

17. The bohr model is inconsistent with the modern picture of quantum mechanics because it predicts which of the following?

- A) The electron will not lose energy as it orbits the nucleus
- B) The electron is confined to distinct energy shells
- C) Angular momentum of the atom is quantized
- D) The ground state has nonzero angular momentum
- E) The energy levels go as  $1/n^2$  where  $n$  is the principal quantum number

18. An atom has electron configuration  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^3$ . A measurement of the total orbital angular momentum of the outermost electron in the ground state could return which of the following?

- A)  $\hbar$
- B)  $\hbar/\sqrt{2}$
- C)  $2\hbar$
- D)  $\hbar/\sqrt{6}$
- E)  $3\hbar$

19. An atom with the electron configuration  $1s^2 2s^3$  is forbidden by which of the following?

- A) Conservation of angular momentum
- B) Hund's Rule
- C) The Pauli exclusion principle

- D) The uncertainty principle
- E) None of the above

20. Which of the following is the most likely decay chain of the 3s state of hydrogen?

- A)  $3s \rightarrow 1s$
- B)  $3s \rightarrow 2s \rightarrow 1s$
- C)  $3s \rightarrow 2p \rightarrow 1s$
- D)  $3s \rightarrow 2p \rightarrow 2s \rightarrow 1s$
- E) The 3s state is stable

The ground state configuration of a neutral sodium atom ( $Z = 11$ ) is

- A.  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^5 3s^2$
- B.  $1s^2 2s^3 2p^6$
- C.  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s$
- D.  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3p$
- E.  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^5$

**(GR9277 #58)**

The ground state electron configuration for phosphorus, which has 15 electrons, is

- A.  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^1 3p^4$
- B.  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^2 3p^3$
- C.  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^2 3d^3$
- D.  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^1 3d^4$
- E.  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3p^2 3d^3$

**(GR0177 #17)**

The configuration of the potassium atom in its ground state is  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^6 3s^2 3p^6 4s^1$ . Which of the following statement about potassium is true:

- A. Its  $n = 3$  shell is completely filled
- B. Its  $4s$  subshell is completely filled
- C. Its least tightly bound electron has  $l = 4$
- D. Its atomic number is 17
- E. Its electron charge distribution is spherically symmetrical

**(GR8677 #30)**

The ground state of the helium atom is a spin

- A. singlet
- B. doublet
- C. triplet
- D. quartet
- E. quintuplet

**(GR9277 #59)**

The configuration of three electrons is  $1s^2 2p^3$  has which of the following as the value of its maximum possible total angular momentum quantum number?

- A.  $7/2$
- B. 3
- C.  $5/2$
- D. 2
- E.  $3/2$

**(GR9277 #76)**

Sodium has eleven electrons and the sequence in which energy levels fill in atom is  $1s, 2s, 2p, 3s, 3p, 4s, 3d$ , etc. What is the ground state of sodium in the usual notation  $^{2s+1}L_j$ ?

- A.  $^1S_0$
- B.  $^2S_{1/2}$
- C.  $^1P_0$
- D.  $^2P_{1/2}$
- E.  $^3P_{1/2}$

**(GR8677 #84)**

A  $3p$  electron is found in the  $^3P_{3/2}$  energy level of a hydrogen atom. Which of the following is true about the electron in this state?

- A. It is allowed to make an electric dipole transition to the  $^2S_{1/2}$  level
- B. It is allowed to make an electric dipole transition to the  $^2P_{1/2}$  level
- C. It has quantum numbers  $l = 3, j = 3/2, s = 1/2$
- D. It has quantum numbers  $n = 3, j = l, s = 3/2$
- E. It has exactly the same energy as it would in the  $^3D_{3/2}$  level

**(GR9677 #41)**

In a  $^3S$  state of the helium atom, the possible values of the total electronic angular momentum quantum number are

- A. 0 only
- B. 1 only
- C. 0 and 1 only
- D. 0,  $1/2$ , and 1
- E. 0, 1, and 2

**(GR9277 #31)**

Two ions 1 and 2, at fixed separation, with spin angular momentum operators  $\mathbf{S}_1$  and  $\mathbf{S}_2$ , have the interaction Hamiltonian  $H = -J \mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2$ , where  $J > 0$ . The values of  $\mathbf{S}_1^2$  and  $\mathbf{S}_2^2$  are fixed at  $S_1(S_1 + 1)$  and  $S_2(S_2 + 1)$ , respectively. Which of the following is the energy of the ground state of the system?

- A. 0
- B.  $-JS_1S_2$
- C.  $-J[S_1(S_1 + 1) - S_2(S_2 + 1)]$
- D.  $-(J/2)[(S_1 + S_2)(S_1 + S_2 + 1) - S_1(S_1 + 1) - S_2(S_2 + 1)]$
- E.  $-(J/2)[(S_1(S_1 + 1) + S_2(S_2 + 1))/(S_1 + S_2)(S_1 + S_2 + 1)]$

**(GR9677 #77)**

Let  $|\alpha\rangle$  represent the state of an electron with spin up and  $|\beta\rangle$  the state of an electron with spin down. Valid spin eigenfunctions for a triplet state ( $^3S$ ) of a two-electron atom include which of the following?

- I.  $|\alpha\rangle_1|\alpha\rangle_2$
- II.  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\alpha\rangle_1|\beta\rangle_2 - |\alpha\rangle_2|\beta\rangle_1)$
- III.  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\alpha\rangle_1|\beta\rangle_2 + |\alpha\rangle_2|\beta\rangle_1)$

- A. I only
- B. II only
- C. III only
- D. I and III
- E. II and III

**GR0177 #82)**



A system containing two identical particles is described by a wave function of the form

$$\psi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [\psi_{\alpha}(x_1)\psi_{\beta}(x_2) + \psi_{\beta}(x_1)\psi_{\alpha}(x_2)]$$

Where  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  represent the spatial coordinates of the particles and  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  represent all the quantum numbers, including spin, of the states that they occupy. The particles might be

- A. Electrons
- B. Positrons
- C. Protons
- D. Neutrons
- E. Deuterons

**(GR8677 #89)**

The electronic energy levels of atoms of a certain gas are given by  $E_n = E_1 n^2$ , where  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ . Assume that transitions are allowed between all levels. If one wanted to construct a laser from this gas by pumping the  $n = 1 \rightarrow n = 3$  transitions, which energy level or levels would have to be metastable?

- A.  $n = 1$  only
- B.  $n = 2$  only
- C.  $n = 1$  and  $n = 3$  only
- D.  $n = 1, n = 2$ , and  $n = 3$
- E. None

**(GR9677 #99)**



**Perturbations:**

21. A harmonic oscillator Hamiltonian of angular frequency  $\omega$  is perturbed by a potential of the form  $V = K(a_- - a_+)^2$  where  $K$  is constant and  $a_-|n\rangle = \sqrt{n}|n-1\rangle$ ,  $a_+|n\rangle = \sqrt{n+1}|n+1\rangle$ . What is the first order energy shift of the state with unperturbed energy  $3\hbar\omega/2$ ?

- A)  $-3K$
- B)  $-K$
- C) 0
- D)  $K$
- E)  $2K$

In perturbation theory, what is the first order correction to the energy of a hydrogen atom (Bohr radius  $a_0$ ) in its ground state due to the presence of a static electric field  $E$ ?

- A. 0
- B.  $eEa_0$
- C.  $3eEa_0$
- D.  $\frac{8e^2Ea_0^3}{3}$
- E.  $\frac{8e^2E^2a_0^3}{3}$

(GR9277 #99)

22. A particle in the ground state of an infinite square well between  $x=0$  and  $x=a$  is subject to the perturbation  $\Delta H = Vx$  where  $V$  is constant. What is the first order shift in the energy?

- A)  $\frac{V\sqrt{2}a^3}{\pi}$
- B)  $-Va/2$
- C) 0
- D)  $Va/2$
- E)  $2Va/\pi$

23. A particle of mass  $m$  is subject to a square well potential of size  $a$ , and is found to have energy  $E$ . The well is now expanded slowly to size  $2a$ . What is  $E^1/E$  where  $E^1$  is the expectation value of the energy of the particle after the expansion has finished?

- A) 0
- B) 1
- C)  $1/\sqrt{2}$
- D)  $1/2$
- E)  $1/4$

A particle of mass  $M$  is in an infinitely deep square well potential  $V$  where

$$V = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad -a \leq x \leq a, \quad \text{and}$$

$$V = \infty \quad \text{for} \quad x < -a, a < x.$$

A very small perturbing potential  $V'$  is superimposed on  $V$  such that

$$V' = \epsilon \left( \frac{a}{2} - |x| \right) \quad \text{for} \quad -\frac{a}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{a}{2}, \quad \text{and}$$

$$V' = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad x < -\frac{a}{2}, \quad \frac{a}{2} < x.$$

If  $\psi_0, \psi_1, \psi_2, \psi_3, \dots$  are the energy eigenfunctions for a particle in the infinitely deep square well potential, with  $\psi_0$  being the ground state, which of the following statements is correct about the eigenfunction  $\psi'_0$  of a particle in the perturbed potential  $V + V'$ ?

A.  $\psi'_0 = a_{00}\psi_0, \quad a_{00} \neq 0$

B.  $\psi'_0 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{0n}\psi_n$  with  $a_{0n} = 0$  for all odd values of  $n$ .

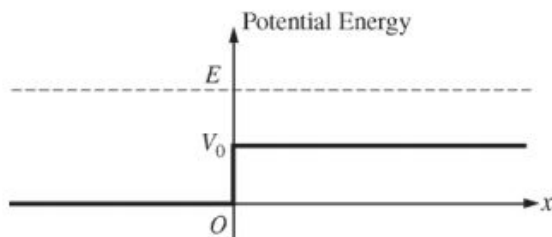
C.  $\psi'_0 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{0n}\psi_n$  with  $a_{0n} = 0$  for all even values of  $n$ .

D.  $\psi'_0 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{0n}\psi_n$  with  $a_{0n} = 0$  for all values of  $n$ .

E. None of the above

**(GR8677 #96)**

### Wavefunctions and Free Particles:



89. An electron with total energy  $E$  in the region  $x < 0$  is moving in the  $+x$ -direction. It encounters a step potential at  $x = 0$ . The wave function for  $x \leq 0$  is given by

$$\psi = Ae^{ik_1x} + Be^{-ik_1x}, \text{ where } k_1 = \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}};$$

and the wave function for  $x > 0$  is given by

$$\psi = Ce^{ik_2x}, \text{ where } k_2 = \sqrt{\frac{2m(E - V_0)}{\hbar^2}}.$$

Which of the following gives the reflection coefficient for the system?

(A)  $R = 0$

(B)  $R = 1$

(C)  $R = \frac{k_2}{k_1}$

(D)  $R = \left( \frac{k_1 - k_2}{k_1 + k_2} \right)^2$

(E)  $R = \frac{4k_1k_2}{(k_1 + k_2)^2}$

A free particle with initial kinetic energy  $E$  and de Broglie wavelength  $\lambda$  enters a region in which it has potential energy  $V$ . What is the particle's new de Broglie wavelength?

A.  $\lambda(1 + E/V)$

B.  $\lambda(1 - V/E)$

C.  $\lambda(1 - E/V)^{-1}$

D.  $\lambda(1 + V/E)^{1/2}$

E.  $\lambda(1 - V/E)^{-1/2}$

**(GR0177 #46)**

Which of the following functions could represent the radial wave function for an electron in an atom? ( $r$  is the distance of the electron from the nucleus;  $A$  and  $b$  are constants.)

I.  $Ae^{-br}$

II.  $A \sin(br)$

III.  $A/r$

A. I only

B. II only

C. I and II only

D. I and III only

E. I, II, and III

**(GR0177 #30)**

## Quantum Mechanics - Schrodinger Equation

The solution to the Schrödinger equation for a particle bound in a one-dimensional, infinitely deep potential well, indexed by quantum number  $n$ , indicates that in the middle of the well the probability density vanishes for

A. The ground state ( $n = 1$ ) only

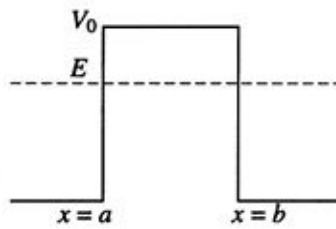
B. States of even  $n$  ( $n = 2, 4, \dots$ )

C. States of odd  $n$  ( $n = 1, 3, \dots$ )

D. All states ( $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ )

E. All states except the ground state

**(GR9677 #51)**



Consider a potential of the form

$$V(x) = 0, x \leq a$$

$$V(x) = V_0, a < x < b$$

$$V(x) = 0, x \geq b$$

As shown in the figure above. Which of the following wave functions is possible for a particle incident from the left with energy  $E < V_0$ .

- (A)
- (B)
- (C)
- (D)
- (E)

## Quantum Mechanics - Gaussian Wave Packet

A Gaussian wave packet travels through free space. Which of the following statement about the wave packet are correct for all such wave packets?

- I. The average momentum of the wave packet is zero
- II. The width of the wave packet increases with time, as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .
- III. The amplitude of the wave packet remains constant with time.
- IV. The narrower the wave packet is in momentum space, the wider it is in coordinate space.

- A. I and III only
- B. II and IV only
- C. I, II, and IV only
- D. II, III, and IV only
- E. I, II, III, and IV only

**(GR9677 #76)**

The wave function of a particle is  $e^{i(kx - \omega t)}$  where  $x$  is distance,  $t$  is time, and  $k$  and  $\omega$  are positive real numbers. The  $x$ -component of the momentum of the particle is

- A. 0
- B.  $\hbar\omega$
- C.  $\hbar k$
- D.  $\hbar\omega/c$
- E.  $\hbar k/\omega$

**(GR9277 #01)**



If a freely moving electron is localized in space to within  $\Delta x_0$  of  $x_0$ , its wave function can be described by a wave packet

$$\psi(x, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i(kx - \omega t)} f(k) dk$$

where  $f(k)$  is peaked around a central value  $k_0$ . Which of the following is most nearly the width of the peak in  $k$ ?

A.  $\Delta k = \frac{1}{x_0}$

B.  $\Delta k = \frac{1}{\Delta x_0}$

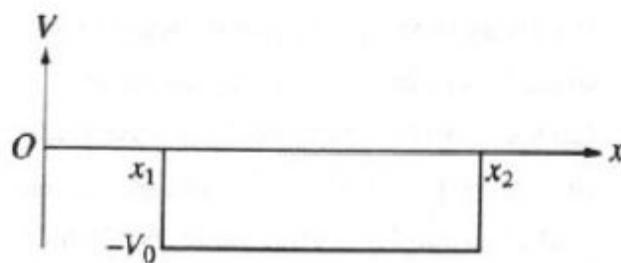
C.  $\Delta k = \frac{\Delta x_0}{x_0^2}$

D.  $\Delta k = \left( \frac{\Delta x_0}{x_0} \right) k_0$

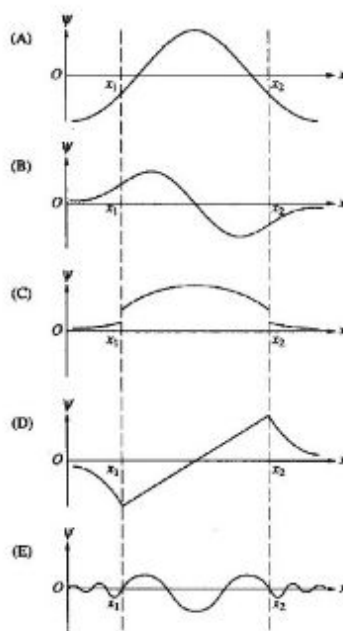
E.  $\Delta k = \sqrt{k_0^2 + \left( \frac{1}{x_0} \right)^2}$

**(GR9277 #27)**

## Quantum Mechanics, Particle in a box



An attractive, one-dimensional square well has depth  $V_0$  as shown above. Which of the following best shows a possible wave function for a bound state?



**(GR9277 #29)**

A particle of mass  $m$  is confined to an infinitely deep square-well potential:

$$V(x) = \infty, x \leq 0, x \geq a$$

$$V(x) = 0, 0 < x < a$$

The normalized eigenfunction, labeled by the quantum number  $n$ , are

$$\psi_n = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{a}$$

For any state  $n$ , the expectation value of the momentum of the particle is

A. 0

B.  $\frac{\hbar n \pi}{a}$

C.  $\frac{2\hbar n \pi}{a}$

D.  $\frac{\hbar n \pi}{a} (\cos n\pi - 1)$

E.  $\frac{-i\hbar n \pi}{a} (\cos n\pi - 1)$

**(GR9277 #51)**

A measurement of energy  $E$  will always satisfy which of the following relationships?

A.  $E \leq \pi^2 \hbar^2 / 8ma^2$

B.  $E \geq \pi^2 \hbar^2 / 2ma^2$

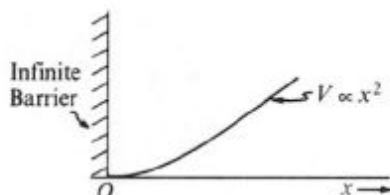
C.  $E = \pi^2 \hbar^2 / 8ma^2$

D.  $E = n^2 \pi^2 \hbar^2 / 8ma^2$

E.  $E = \pi^2 \hbar^2 / 2ma^2$

**(GR9277 #53)**

## Quantum Mechanics - Harmonic Oscillator



The energy levels for the one-dimensional harmonic oscillator are  $h\nu(n + \frac{1}{2})$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . How will the energy levels for the potential shown in the graph above differ from those for the harmonic oscillator?

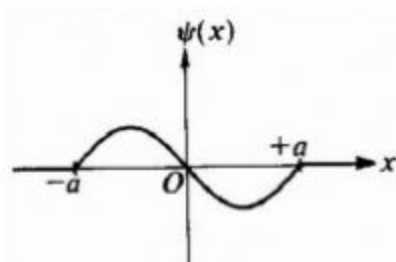
- A. The term  $\frac{1}{2}$  will be changed to  $\frac{3}{2}$
- B. The energy of each level will be doubled.
- C. The energy of each level will be halved.
- D. Only those for even values of  $n$  will be present.
- E. Only those for odd values of  $n$  will be present.

**(GR9277 #89)**

The wave function  $\psi(x) = A \exp(-b^2x^2/2)$ , where  $A$  and  $b$  are real constants, is a normalized eigenfunction of the Schrodinger equation for a particle of mass  $M$  and energy  $E$  in a one dimensional potential  $V(x)$  such that  $V(x) = 0$  at  $x = 0$ . Which of the following is correct?

- A.  $V = \hbar^2 b^4 / 2M$
- B.  $V = \hbar^2 b^4 x^2 / 2M$
- C.  $V = \hbar^2 b^6 x^4 / 2M$
- D.  $E = \hbar^2 b^2 (1 - b^2 x^2)$
- E.  $E = \hbar^2 b^4 / 2M$

**(GR8677 #18)**



The figure above shows one of the possible energy eigenfunctions  $\psi(x)$  for a particle bouncing freely back and forth along the  $x$ -axis between impenetrable walls located at  $x = -a$  and  $x = +a$ . The potential energy equals zero for  $|x| > a$ . If the energy of the particle is 2 electron volts when it is in the quantum state associated with this eigenfunction, what is its energy when it is in the quantum state of lowest possible energy?

- A. 0 eV
- B.  $1/\sqrt{2}$  eV
- C.  $1/2$  eV
- D. 1 eV
- E. 2 eV

**(GR8677 #90)**