

Outline for qualifying exams

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1 Classical Mechanics

1. Newtonian Mechanics

- (a) Newton's Laws/Kinematics
- (b) Energy
- (c) Momentum/Angular Momentum

2. Lagrangian Mechanics

- (a) Calculous of Variations
- (b) Principle of Least Action/Lagranges Equation
- (c) Generalized Coordinates
- (d) Holonomic/Non-Holonomic Constraints
- (e) Noether's Theorem
- (f) Rigid Body Motion
 - i. Inertia Tensor
 - ii. Euler's Equations

3. Hamiltonian Formalism

- (a) Legendre Transformation/Hamilton's Equations
- (b) Generalized Momenta/Cyclic Coordinates/Conserved Quantities
- (c) Liouville's Theorem
- (d) Poisson Brackets
- (e) Canonical Transformations

2 Statistical Mechanics

1. Thermodynamics Review
 - (a) Laws of Thermodynamics
 - (b) Intensive vs Extensive Variables
 - (c) Thermodynamic Potentials and Ensembles
 - (d) Maxwell's Relations
 - (e) Various Definitions
 - i. Compressibility
 - ii. Heat Capacity etc.
2. Statistical Mechanics
 - (a) Statistical Review
 - (b) Partition Function/Trace
 - (c) Thermodynamic Limit
 - (d) Density Matrix
 - (e) Ideal Gas
 - (f) Ideal Bose Gas
 - (g) Ideal Fermi Gas
 - (h) Photons (BB)
 - (i) Phonons
 - (j) Bose-Einstein Condensates
 - (k) Cluster Expansion

3 Quantum Mechanics

1. Shankar Math Review
2. Postulates
3. Free Particle
4. Particle in a Box
5. Harmonic Oscillator
6. Angular Momentum
7. Hydrogen Atom
8. Spin

- 9. Angular Momentum Addition
- 10. Time-Independent Perturbation Theory
- 11. Time-Dependent Perturbation Theory
 - (a) Einstein A and B Coefficients
- 12. Scattering
- 13. WKB Formula
- 14. Dirac Equation

4 Electricity and Magnetism

- 1. Electrostatics
 - (a) Coulomb's Law
 - (b) Electrostatic Potentials
 - i. Poisson/Laplace's Equations
 - (c) Boundary Conditions
 - (d) Method of Images
 - (e) Multipole Expansion
 - (f) Work and Energy
 - (g) Electric Fields in Matter
- 2. Magnetostatics
 - (a) Lorentz Force Law
 - (b) Biot-Savart Law
 - (c) Vector Potential
 - (d) Magnetic Fields in Matter
- 3. Electrodynamics
 - (a) Faraday's Law
 - (b) Ampere's Law
 - (c) Ohm's Law
 - (d) Maxwell's Equations
 - (e) Boundary Conditions to Maxwell's Equations
 - (f) Continuity Equation

- (g) Poynting's Theorem
- (h) Maxwell Stress Tensor
- (i) Electromagnetic Waves
 - i. The Wave Equation from Maxwell's Eq.
 - ii. EM Waves in Matter
 - iii. Wave Guides
- 4. Scalar and Vector Potentials
- 5. Coulomb and Lorentz Gauge
- 6. Retarded Potentials
- 7. Lienard-Wiechert Potentials
- 8. Radiation
 - (a) Electric/Magnetic Dipole Radiation
- 9. Helmholtz Theorem
- 10. Special Relativity
 - (a) Einstein's Postulates
 - (b) Lorentz Transformation
 - (c) 4-Vectors
 - (d) Field Tensor and Transformation
 - (e) Relativistic Potentials