

Science I (Quiz 1) [22 marks]

- ✓ (1) Define the Hamiltonian of an interacting N-particle system. [1]
- ✓ (2) What are Hamilton's equations of motion? Why do we need them? [2]
- (3) Show that for an isolated system, the Hamiltonian is a constant of motion. [2]
- (4) Compare the phase space trajectories of an isolated and a closed one-dimensional harmonic oscillators. [3]
- ✓ (5) What is Boltzmann's entropy formula? What is its significance? [1]
- (6) How do you define the entropy of a closed system? Calculate the entropy of an ideal gas when it is (a) isolated and (b) closed. Compare these entropies. [1+3+3+1]
- (7) What is the physical significance of energy fluctuations in a closed system? [5]

Science I (Quiz 2) [21 marks]

- ✓ (1) Define action. What is the principle of least action? Why do we need it? [2]
- ✓ (2) Write the Lagrangian for a system of N ideal gas atoms confined in a cubic box of volume V and kept at a temperature T . Determine the Lagrange's equation of motion for the i^{th} atom in this system. [2]
- ✓ (3) Using the Lagrangian function, discuss the law of conservation of angular momentum. [4]
- ✓ (4) State at least four properties of a wave function. [2]
- ✓ (5) Starting from the one-dimensional random walk model, derive the diffusion equation. [3]
- ✓ (6) The solution $P(x,t)$ of the one-dimensional diffusion equation was discussed in the class. Using the normalized $P(x,t)$, calculate the following averages: $\langle x \rangle$ and $\langle x^2 \rangle$ [4]
- ✓ (7) Draw the ground state and first excited state wave functions and probability densities of a quantum particle confined in a one-dimensional? [3]
- (8) Write the time-independent Schrodinger equation for a one-dimensional quantum system. [1]

Mid Semester Exam (Monsoon 2019)

Science I

Time: 90 min

Total: 25 marks

(1) The equation of state of a van der Waals gas is given by

$$\left(P + a \frac{n^2}{V^2}\right) \left(\frac{V}{n} - b\right) = RT$$

where P is the pressure, V is the volume, T is the temperature, R is the gas constant, n is the number of moles of the gas, a and b are positive constants. Determine the second and third virial coefficients of this gas (Note: The equation of state of an ideal gas is $PV = nRT$ and you may need to use molar density in the virial expansion). [5]

~~(2)~~ What are Hamilton's equations of motion? Why do we need them? [1]

(3) Compare the phase space trajectories of an isolated and a closed one-dimensional harmonic oscillators. [2]

~~(4)~~ What is Boltzmann's entropy formula? What is its significance? [1]

~~(5)~~ For a closed system at a constant temperature T , derive the relationships between the partition function and (a) internal energy (b) heat capacity (c) entropy and (d) Helmholtz free energy. [6]

~~(6)~~ What are thermodynamic potentials? Under what conditions spontaneous processes minimize these potentials? [3]

- ✓ (7) Using the second law of thermodynamics, show that the process of flow of heat from a colder object to a hotter object is not spontaneous. You may assume that these two objects are in contact and they are isolated from the surroundings. [2]
- ✓ (8) How is chemical potential related to the Gibbs free energy of system? [1]
- ✓ (9) Discuss the following: (a) phase stability (b) phase diagram (c) phase boundary (d) phase transition (e) triple point. [4]

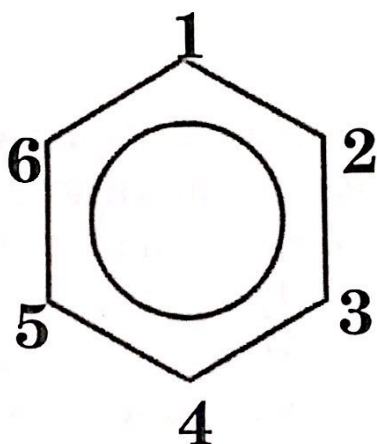
End Semester Exam (Monsoon 2019)

Science I

Time: 3 hours

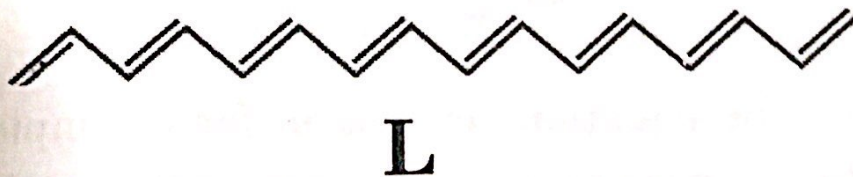
Total: 40 marks

- (1) The following figure shows the structure of a benzene molecule, whose carbon atoms are numbered from 1 to 6. Using the particle on a ring model, calculate the probability of finding a pi-electron between carbons 1 and 4 of the benzene molecule (you can assume that these pi-electrons are free particles on the ring). $\frac{1}{2}$ [3]



- (2) The following figure shows a conjugated polyene (a molecule with alternating single and double carbon-carbon bonds) of length L . Assume that you can model a pi-electron of this molecule as a free particle in a box bounded by infinite potentials.

- (a) Calculate the probability that an electron in the state with $n=1$ will be found between $x=0.25L$ and $x=0.75L$ (with $x=0$ at the left-end of the molecule). $\frac{1}{2}$
- (b) Calculate the energy gap between the ground state and the first excited state of a pi-electron. [4]



(3) A quantum particle of mass m is confined in an infinite one-dimensional square well potential with walls at $x = -L/2$ and $x = L/2$, where L is the length of the box. Write the wave functions for the ground state ($n = 1$), first excited state ($n = 2$) and the second excited state ($n = 3$). [4]

(4) The ground state wavefunction of a one-dimensional quantum harmonic oscillator is given by [6]

$$\psi(x) = A e^{-\frac{m\omega x^2}{2\hbar}}$$

where A is the normalization constant. (a) By normalizing this wavefunction, determine A . (b) calculate the product of the uncertainty in x (denoted by Δx) and uncertainty in momentum (denoted by Δp).

$$A = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$$

$$\frac{\Delta x \cdot \Delta p}{\langle x \rangle \cdot \langle p \rangle}$$

(5) (a) Write the Schrodinger equation for a hydrogen atom. [4]

(b) Discuss the three quantum numbers involved in the hydrogen atom model. How would you understand different atomic orbitals using these quantum numbers?

(6) The equation of state of a van der Waals gas is given by

$$(P + a \frac{n^2}{V^2})(\frac{V}{n} - b) = RT$$

where P is the pressure, V is the volume, T is the temperature, R is the gas constant, n is the number of moles of the gas, a and b are positive constants. Determine the second and third virial coefficients of this gas (Note: The equation of state of an ideal gas is $PV = nRT$ and you may need to use molar density in the virial expansion). [3]

(7) Determine the equations of motion for a simple pendulum using the (a) Lagrangian mechanics and (b) Hamiltonian mechanics. [4]

- ✓ (8) Determine the Lagrangian for a coplanar double pendulum (recall the assignment problem). [3]
- ✓ (9) For a closed system at a constant temperature T , derive the relationships between the partition function and (a) internal energy (b) heat capacity (c) entropy and (d) Helmholtz free energy. [4]
- ✓ (10) What are thermodynamic potentials? Why do we need them? [1]
- ✓ (11) Discuss the following: (a) phase stability (b) phase diagram (c) phase boundary (d) phase transition (e) triple point. [2]
- ✓ (12) Derive the one-dimensional diffusion equation using the one-dimensional random walk model. [2]