

Handbook of Physics

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For course:

Quantum Physics for Engineers

Fundamental Constants

All the constants in this table are taken from *The NIST Reference on Constants, Units & Uncertainty* found in <http://physics.nist.gov/constants>.

Quantity	Symbol	Value	Unit
Speed of light in vacuum	c	299 792 458	m s^{-1}
Magnetic constant	μ_0	$4\pi \times 10^{-7}$	N A^{-2}
Electric constant $1/\mu_0 c^2$	ϵ_0	$8.854 187 817 \times 10^{-12}$	F m^{-1}
Newtonian constant of gravitation	G	$6.673 84 \times 10^{-11}$	$\text{m}^3 \text{kg}^{-1} \text{s}^{-2}$
Planck constant	h	$6.626 069 57 \times 10^{-34}$	J s
$h/2\pi$	\hbar	$1.054 571 726 \times 10^{-34}$	J s
Elementary charge	e	$1.602 176 565 \times 10^{-19}$	C
Bohr magneton $e\hbar/2m_e$	μ_B	$927.400 968 \times 10^{-26}$	J T^{-1}
Nuclear magneton $e\hbar/2m_p$	μ_N	$5.050 783 53 \times 10^{-27}$	J T^{-1}
Fine-structure constant $e^2/4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar c$	α	$7.297 352 569 8 \times 10^{-3}$	
Rydberg constant $\alpha^2 m_e c/2h$	R_∞	10 973 731.568 539	m^{-1}
Bohr radius $\alpha/4\pi R_\infty = 4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar^2/m_e e^2$	a_0	$0.529 177 210 92 \times 10^{-10}$	m
Electron mass	m_e	$9.109 382 91 \times 10^{-31}$	kg
energy equivalent	$m_e c^2$	0.510 998 928	MeV
Proton mass	m_p	$1.672 621 777 \times 10^{-27}$	kg
energy equivalent	$m_p c^2$	938.272 046	MeV
Neutron mass	m_n	$1.674 927 351 \times 10^{-27}$	kg
energy equivalent	$m_n c^2$	939.565 379	MeV

Quantity	Symbol	Value	Unit
Avogadro constant	N_A	$6.022\,141\,29 \times 10^{23}$	mol^{-1}
Atomic mass constant $m_u = \frac{1}{12}m(^{12}\text{C}) = 1\text{u}$ energy equivalent	m_u $m_u c^2$	$1.660\,538\,921 \times 10^{-27}$ $1.492\,417\,954 \times 10^{-10}$	kg J
Faraday constant $N_A e$	F	96 485.336 5	C mol^{-1}
Universal gas constant	R_u	8.314 462 1	J $\text{mol}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$
Boltzmann constant R/N_A	k	$1.380\,648\,8 \times 10^{-23}$	J K^{-1}
Stefan-Boltzmann constant $(\pi^2/60)k^4/\hbar^3 c^2$	σ	$5.670\,373 \times 10^{-8}$	$\text{W m}^{-2} \text{K}^{-4}$
First radiation constant $2\pi\hbar c^2$	c_1	$3.741\,771\,53 \times 10^{-16}$	W m^2
Second radiation constant hc/k	c_2	$1.438\,777\,0 \times 10^{-2}$	m K
Wien displacement law constant $b = \lambda_{\text{max}} T$ constant $b' = \nu_{\text{max}}/T$	b b'	$2.897\,772\,1 \times 10^{-3}$ $5.878\,925\,4 \times 10^{10}$	m K Hz K^{-1}
Molar mass constant	M_u	1×10^{-3}	kg mol^{-1}
Molar mass of ^{12}C	$M(^{12}\text{C})$	12×10^{-3}	kg mol^{-1}
Standard atmosphere		101.325	k Pa
Standard acceleration of gravity	g	9.806 65	m s^{-2}

Quantum Mechanics

Quantity	Formula	Glossary
Planck's formula for the blackbody radiation: Power radiated per unit area per unit solid angle per unit frequency by a black body at temperature T :	$U(\nu, T) = \frac{8\pi\hbar\nu^3/c^3}{\left[\exp\left(\frac{\hbar\nu}{kT}\right) - 1\right]}$	h = Planck constant c = speed of light in vacuum k = Boltzmann constant ν = frequency of the electromagnetic radiation

Einstein's fundamental equation for photoelectric effect:	$E_K = h\nu - \Phi$	E_K = kinetic energy of the ejected electron ν = frequency of photon Φ = work function of the metal
Energy of the discrete emission or absorption of radiation by atoms:	$h\nu = E_i - E_f $	E_i = initial state energy E_f = final state energy
Energy of the emitted photon:	$E = h\nu = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$	λ = wavelength of the emitted photon
Compton formula:	$\lambda' - \lambda = \frac{h}{m_e c} (1 - \cos \theta)$	λ = wavelength of the incident photon λ' = wavelength after scattering m_e = electron rest mass c = speed of light θ = scattering angle
Compton wavelength of the electron:	$\lambda_e = \frac{h}{m_e c}$ $= 2.43 \times 10^{-12} \text{ m}$	
Compton formula in terms of the energies:	$E_{\gamma'} = \frac{E_{\gamma}}{1 + \frac{E_{\gamma}}{m_e c^2} (1 - \cos \theta)}$	$E_{\gamma} = hc/\lambda$ = incident energy $E_{\gamma'}$ = scattered photon energy
de Broglie wavelength:	$\lambda = \frac{h}{p}$ $\lambda = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2mqV}}$	p = momentum of the particle m = mass of the particle q = charge of the particle V = potential with which the particle is accelerated
Phase velocity:	$v_p = \frac{\omega}{k} = \nu\lambda$	ω = angular frequency $k = 2\pi/\lambda$ = wave number ν = frequency
Group velocity:	$v_g = \frac{d\omega}{dk}$	

Relation between group velocity and phase velocity:	$v_g = v_p - \frac{2\pi}{k} \left(\frac{dv_p}{d\lambda} \right)$	
Heisenberg uncertainty relationships:	$\Delta x \Delta p_x \geq \frac{h}{4\pi}$ $\Delta E \Delta t \geq \frac{h}{4\pi}$ $\Delta J \Delta \theta \geq \frac{h}{4\pi}$	$\Delta x, \Delta p_x, \Delta E, \Delta t, \Delta J$ and $\Delta \theta$ are the uncertainties in the measurement of the position, momentum, energy, time, angular momentum and angular position respectively.
Time independent Schrödinger wave equation in one dimension:	$\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} + \frac{8\pi^2m}{h^2}(E - V)\psi = 0$	$\psi \equiv \psi(x)$ = wave function E = total energy V = potential energy
Probability density:	$P(x, t) = \Psi^* \Psi = \Psi(x, t) ^2$	
Normalization condition:	$\int_x \Psi(x, t) ^2 dx = 1$	
Schrödinger equation in operator form:	$\hat{H}\psi = E\psi$	\hat{H} = Hamiltonian operator
Particle in one-dimensional potential well of infinite depth:		
a) Differential equation:	$\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} + k^2\psi = 0$ $k^2 = \frac{8m\pi^2E}{h^2}$	
b) Solution:	$\psi = A \cos(kx) + B \sin(kx)$	
c) Energy eigen values:	$E = \frac{n^2 h^2}{8ma^2}$ $n = 1, 2, 3 \dots$	a = width of the well
d) Normalized wave function:	$\psi_n = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}x\right)$	

Principles of Quantum Computation

Quantity	Formula	Glossary
Inner product of two wave functions $\psi(x)$ and $\phi(x)$:	$\langle \psi \phi \rangle = \int \psi^* \phi \, dx$ $\langle \phi \psi \rangle = \int \phi^* \psi \, dx = \langle \psi \phi \rangle^*$	
Wave function as linear combination of basis vectors:	$ \psi\rangle = a_1 \phi_1\rangle + a_2 \phi_2\rangle + \dots$ $ \psi\rangle = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \phi_n\rangle$	$ \phi_1\rangle, \phi_2\rangle, \dots$ are basis vectors. a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots are complex coefficients.
Inner product of $ \psi\rangle$ with itself:	$\langle \psi \psi \rangle = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n ^2$	
Normalization condition:	$\langle \psi \psi \rangle = 1$	
Orthogonality condition:	$\langle \psi_1 \psi_2 \rangle = \langle \psi_2 \psi_1 \rangle = 0$	
Condition for orthonormality of basis vectors:	$\langle \phi_1 \phi_2 \rangle = \langle \phi_2 \phi_1 \rangle = 0$ $\langle \phi_1 \phi_1 \rangle = 1 \text{ and } \langle \phi_2 \phi_2 \rangle = 1$ <p>In general $\langle \phi_m \phi_n \rangle = \delta_{mn}$</p>	$\delta_{mn} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } m \neq n \\ 1 & \text{for } m = n \end{cases}$
Hermitian matrix M :	$M^\dagger = M$	M^\dagger is the conjugate transpose of M
Unitary matrix U :	$U^\dagger U = U U^\dagger = I$	
Pauli's spin matrices:	$\sigma_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \sigma_y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix},$ $\sigma_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$	$ 0\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $ 1\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ α and β are complex numbers, called the amplitude of the states.
A qubit:	$ \psi\rangle = \alpha 0\rangle + \beta 1\rangle$	θ = polar angle ϕ = azimuth angle
Bloch sphere representation:	$ \psi\rangle = \cos \frac{\theta}{2} 0\rangle + e^{i\phi} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} 1\rangle$	

Electrical Conductivity in Solids and Band Theory of Solids

Quantity	Formula	Glossary
Ohm's Law:	$V = IR$	<p>V = voltage applied I = current flowing R = resistance A = area of cross-section L = length of the material n = carrier concentration e = electronic charge v_d = drift velocity m = mass of the electron τ = mean collision time</p>
Resistivity:	$\rho = \frac{RA}{L}$	
Conductivity:	$\sigma = \frac{1}{\rho} = \frac{L}{RA}$	
Electric field:	$E = \frac{V}{L}$	
Current density:	$J = \frac{I}{A} = \sigma E$	
Electric current in a conductor:	$I = nev_d A$	
Drift velocity:	$v_d = \frac{eE}{m}\tau$	
Electrical conductivity of a conductor:	$\sigma = \frac{ne^2\tau}{m}$	
Mobility of electrons:	$\mu = \frac{v_d}{E} = \frac{e\tau}{m}$	
Fermi factor:	$f(E) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{E-E_F}{kT}\right)}$	
Density of states in a material in the energy range E & $E + dE$:	$g(E)dE = \frac{4\pi}{h^3}(2m)^{3/2}E^{1/2}dE$	<p>E = energy level E_F = Fermi level k = Boltzmann constant T = temperature of the material</p>
Number of free electrons per unit volume in the energy range E & $E + dE$:	$N(E) dE = g(E)f(E) dE$	
Total number of free electrons per unit volume in metals:	$n = \frac{8\pi}{3h^3}(2m)^{3/2}E_F^{3/2}$	

Fermi energy at 0 K:	$E_F = \frac{h^2}{8m} \left(\frac{3n}{\pi} \right)^{2/3}$	
Carrier concentration in intrinsic semiconductor:		
a) for electrons:	$n = N_C e^{-(E_C - E_F)/kT}$ $N_C = 2 \left[\frac{2\pi m_e^* kT}{h^2} \right]^{3/2}$	<p>N_C and N_V are effective density of states in the conduction and valence band.</p> <p>m_e^* = effective mass of electron in the material</p> <p>m_h^* = effective mass of hole in the material</p> <p>E_C = lowest energy level in the conduction band</p> <p>E_V = is the highest energy level in the valence band</p> <p>E_g = is the energy gap</p>
b) for holes:	$p = N_V e^{-(E_F - E_V)/kT}$ $N_V = 2 \left[\frac{2\pi m_h^* kT}{h^2} \right]^{3/2}$	
Fermi level in intrinsic semiconductor:	$E_F = \left(\frac{E_C + E_V}{2} \right) + \frac{3}{4} kT \ln \left(\frac{m_h^*}{m_e^*} \right)$	
a) For small kT :	$E_F = \frac{E_C + E_V}{2}$	
b) With $E_C - E_V = E_g$:	$E_F = \frac{E_g}{2} + E_V$	
Intrinsic charge carrier concentration:	$n_i = \sqrt{np} = 2 \left(\frac{2\pi k}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} (m_e^* m_h^*)^{3/4} T^{3/2} e^{-E_g/2kT}$	
Conductivity of an intrinsic semiconductor:	$\sigma_i = en_i (\mu_e + \mu_h)$	<p>μ_e = mobility of electrons</p> <p>μ_h = mobility of holes</p>
Fermi energy for extrinsic semiconductors:		
a) n-type	$E_{F_n} = \frac{E_C + E_D}{2} - \frac{kT}{2} \ln \frac{N_C}{N_d}$	N_d = donor concentration
b) p-type	$E_{F_p} = \frac{E_V + E_A}{2} + \frac{kT}{2} \ln \frac{N_V}{N_a}$	N_a = acceptor concentration
Law of Mass Action:	$np = n_i^2 = \text{constant}$	

Hall voltage:	$V_H = R_H \frac{BI}{t}$	R_H = Hall coefficient B = applied magnetic field I = current flowing t = thickness of the material
Hall coefficient:		
a) For metals and n -type semiconductors:	$R_H = \frac{-1}{ne}$	
b) For p -type semiconductors:	$R_H = \frac{1}{pe}$	

Lasers

Quantity	Formula	Glossary
Boltzmann factor:	$\frac{N_2}{N_1} = e^{-h\nu/kT}$	h = Planck constant k = Boltzmann constant T = temperature ν = frequency of the electromagnetic radiation $A = A_{21}$ $B = B_{21}$ λ = wavelength
Einstein's coefficients:	$\frac{A_{21}}{B_{21}} = \frac{8\pi h\nu^3}{c^3}$ $B_{12} = B_{21}$	
Energy density at thermal equilibrium:	$U(\nu, T) = \frac{A}{B} \frac{1}{\exp\left(\frac{h\nu}{kT}\right) - 1}$	
Length of the resonator cavity:	$L = n\frac{\lambda}{2}, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$	

Optical Fibers

Quantity	Formula	Glossary
Snell's law:	$n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$	n_1 and n_2 are the refractive indices. θ_1 and θ_2 are angle of incidence & refraction. c and v are velocities of light in vacuum and the medium. θ_0 = acceptance angle n_0 , n_1 and n_2 are the refractive indices of surrounding medium, core and cladding.
Absolute refractive index:	$n = \frac{c}{v}$	
Numerical aperture:	$NA = \sin \theta_0 = \frac{\sqrt{n_1^2 - n_2^2}}{n_0}$	
Fraction Index Change:	$\Delta = \frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_1}$	
Relation between NA and Δ :	$NA = n_1 \sqrt{2\Delta}$	
V-number if surrounding medium is air:	$V = \frac{\pi d}{\lambda} NA$	d = core diameter λ = wavelength of light P_{out} = output power P_{in} = input power L = length of the optical fiber
Number of modes for step index fiber:	$\approx \frac{V^2}{2}$	
Number of modes for graded index fiber:	$\approx \frac{V^2}{4}$	
Attenuation co-efficient (loss per unit length):	$\alpha = -\frac{10}{L} \log \left(\frac{P_{out}}{P_{in}} \right)$	

Superconductivity

Quantity	Formula	Glossary
Critical current required to destroy the superconductivity:	$I_c = 2\pi RH_c$	R = radius of the wire H_c = critical magnetic field
Minimum magnetic field required to destroy superconductivity at temperature T :	$H_c = H_0 \left[1 - \frac{T^2}{T_c^2} \right]$	H_0 = minimum magnetic field required at 0 K to destroy superconductivity T_c = transition temperature
Frequency of electromagnetic radiation emitted by a Josephson junction:	$\nu = \frac{qV}{h} = \frac{2eV}{h}$	h = Planck's constant V = voltage applied q = total charge of the pair e = electronic charge

Formulae used in lab

Quantity	Formula	Glossary
Volume resonator:	$f_x = \sqrt{\frac{(f^2 V)_{avg}}{V_x}}$	f = frequency of the tuning fork V = volume of the resonating air
Young's modulus of the material of the cantilever:	$q = \frac{4mgL^3}{bd^3 \delta_{mean}}$	δ_{mean} = depression for mass m L, b, d = length, breadth and thickness of the cantilever

Rigidity modulus of the wire of a torsional pendulum:	$\eta = \frac{8\pi L}{R^4} \left(\frac{I}{T^2} \right)$	R = radius L = length of the wire I = moment of inertia of the attached rigid body about the axis of rotation
Moment of Inertia: (with rotation axis passing through their centers)		
a) For circular disc with radius R and mass M :	$I_1 = MR^2/2$	axis \perp to disc plane
	$I_2 = MR^2/4$	axis along diameter
b) For rectangular plate with length L , breadth B and mass M :	$I_3 = M(L^2 + B^2)/12$	axis \perp to plate plane
	$I_4 = ML^2/12$	axis \perp to plate length
	$I_5 = MB^2/12$	axis \perp to plate breadth
Thickness of the paper by interference at an air wedge:	$t = \frac{\lambda L}{2\beta}$	λ = wavelength of the light L = air wedge length β = fringe width
Laser diffraction:	$\lambda = \frac{C \sin \theta_n}{n}$ $\theta_n = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{x_n}{d} \right)$	C = grating constant n = order of diffraction x_n = distance between central and n th maxima d = distance between grating and screen
Numerical Aperture (NA):	$\sin \theta_0 = \frac{W}{\sqrt{(4L^2 + W^2)}}$	L = distance from the optical fiber to screen
Capacitance and dielectric constant:	$C = \frac{\tau}{R}$ and $\epsilon_r = \frac{Cd}{\epsilon_0 A}$	τ = time constant R = resistance in series
Black box:	$R = \frac{V}{I}$ $L = \frac{V}{2\pi f I}$ $C = \frac{I}{2\pi f V}$	f = frequency of the applied AC source

Series LCR:	$X_L = 2\pi f_0 L$ $X_C = \frac{1}{2\pi f_0 C}$ $L = \frac{1}{4\pi^2 f_0^2 C}$ $Q = f_0 / \Delta f$	L = inductance C = capacitance f_0 = resonance frequency
The diode equation: (at temperature T)	$I = I_0 \left[\exp \left(\frac{eV}{kT} \right) - 1 \right]$	e = electronic charge V = voltage across diode, I = current through the diode. I_0 = reverse saturation current
Wavelength of LED:	$\lambda = \frac{hc}{eV_K}$	V_K = knee voltage of the LED
Transistor parameters:	$\beta = \left[\frac{I_{C_2} - I_{C_1}}{I_{B_2} - I_{B_1}} \right]_{V_{CE}}$ $\alpha = \frac{\beta}{\beta + 1}$	I_C = collector current I_B = base current V_{CE} = voltage across collector & emitter
Fermi energy of copper:	$E_F = 1.36 \times 10^{-15} \sqrt{\frac{\rho A m}{l}}$ (in J)	ρ = density of copper. A and l are area of cross-section and length of the wire. m = slope of the resistance versus temperature graph.
Linear Least Square Fit formulas:	$m = \frac{n \sum xy - \sum x \sum y}{n \sum x^2 - (\sum x)^2}$ $c = \frac{\sum y \sum x^2 - \sum x \sum xy}{n \sum x^2 - (\sum x)^2}$	n = number of data points m = slope c = y -intercept
Band gap of a thermister:	$E_g = \frac{4.606 km}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} \quad (\text{in eV})$	k = Boltzmann constant m = slope of the log R versus $1/T$ graph