

Physics Formula Sheet

Your Name

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Constants

Constant	Symbol	Value
Speed of light	c	$3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$
Gravitational constant	G	$6.674 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N(m/kg)}^2$
Planck's constant	h	$6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J.s}$
Mass of the electron	m_e	$9.10939 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$
Mass of the proton	m_p	$1.67262 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
Charge of the electron	$-e$	$-1.60218 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
Permittivity of free space	ϵ_0	$8.85419 \times 10^{-12} \text{ C}^2/\text{J m}$
Boltzmann constant	k_B	$1.38066 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J/ K}$
Avogadro's constant	N_A	$6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ 1/mol}$

Classical Physics

Title	Equation
Bragg's Reflection	$n\lambda = 2d \sin(\theta)$
Diffraction (Single Slit)	$\lambda = d \sin(\theta)$
Young's Double Slit	$\frac{\Delta x}{L} = \frac{\lambda}{d} \approx \sin \theta$
Heat Transfer (Fourier's Law)	$\dot{Q} = mC_v \Delta T$
Continuity Equation	$\nabla \cdot J = -\frac{dq}{dt}$
Force of Gravity	$F = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$
Coulomb Force	$F = \frac{q_1 q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2}$
Special Relativity (Time Dilation)	$E^2 = (pc)^2 + (m_0 c^2)^2$

Nuclear and magnetic physics

Magnetic Field	$: E_B = -\mu B,$ $\mu = \frac{e}{2m} L$ $F_z = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial z} = \mu \frac{\partial B}{\partial z}$
Rigid rotator	$: E_{\text{rot}} = \frac{L^2}{2I}$ $I = \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2} R^2$
Radioactive decay	$N(t) = N(0) \exp^{-\lambda t} = N(0) (\frac{1}{2})^{t/\tau_{1/2}}$ $\tau_{1/2} = \ln(2)/\lambda$

Thermodynamics

Black body:

$$D(k)dk = \frac{\partial N(k)}{\partial k} \frac{dk}{V} = \frac{k^2}{\pi^2} dk$$

$$D(\omega)d\omega = \frac{\omega^2}{\pi^2 c^3} d\omega$$

$$u(\omega)d\omega = \frac{\omega^2}{\pi^2 c^3} k_B T d\omega \text{ classical limit}$$

$$u(\omega)d\omega = \frac{h\omega^3}{\pi^2 c^3} \frac{1}{\exp(\frac{h\omega}{k_B T}) - 1} d\omega$$

$$I(\omega) = cu(\omega)d\omega$$

Quantum Mechanics

$$\text{Time-dependent Schrodinger's Equation : } i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi(\vec{r}, t) = [-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2}) + V(x)]$$

$$\text{Energy of a photon : } E = hf$$

$$\text{Time-independent Schrodinger's Equation : } E\phi = \left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\nabla^2 + V(x)\right) \cdot \phi$$

$$\text{Energy of a photon : } E = hf$$

$$\text{Infinite potential well : } E_n = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} k_n^2 = \frac{\hbar^2 \pi^2 n^2}{2mL^2} = n^2 E_0, \psi_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \sin(\frac{n\pi x}{L}), E_0 = \frac{\hbar^2 \pi^2}{2mL^2}$$

$$\text{Transmission through a barrier : } T = \frac{4E(V_0 - E)}{4E(V_0 - E) + V_0^2 \sinh^2[\sqrt{2m(V_0 - E)} \frac{L}{\hbar}]}$$

$$T \approx \frac{16E(V_0 - E)}{V_0^2} e^{-2\rho_2 L}, \text{ with } \rho_2 = \sqrt{\frac{2m(V_0 - E)}{\hbar^2}}, \rho_2 \cdot L \gg 1$$

$$\text{De Broglie wavelength : } \lambda = \frac{h}{mv} = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2mE}}$$

$$\text{Photoelectric effect : } h\nu - \phi_0 = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 = eV$$

$$\text{Bohr-Sommerfeldt condition : } \oint_C \mathbf{p} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = nh, \ 2\pi r = nh(\text{circular orbit})$$

$$\text{Probability current : } j = \frac{\hbar}{2mi}(\psi^* \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x} - \Psi \frac{\partial \Psi^*}{\partial x})$$

$$\text{Compton scattering : } \lambda_2 - \lambda_1 = \frac{h}{m_0 c}(1 - \cos \theta)$$

$$\mathbf{p}_{h\nu 1} = \mathbf{p}_{h\nu 2} + \mathbf{p}_e$$

$$h\nu_1 + m_0 c^2 = h\nu_2 + \sqrt{m_0^2 c^4 + p_e^2 c^2}$$

Mathematical equations

Trigonometric functions:

$$\int \sin^n ax dx = -\frac{1}{a} \cos ax \, {}_2F_1\left[\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1-n}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, \cos^2 ax\right]$$

$$\int \sin^2 ax dx = \frac{x}{2} - \frac{1}{4a} \sin 2ax + C$$

$$\int x \sin^2 ax dx = \frac{x^2}{4} - \frac{x}{4a} \sin 2ax - \frac{1}{8a^2} \cos 2ax + C$$

$$\int x^2 \sin^2 ax dx = \frac{x^3}{6} - \left(\frac{x^2}{4a} - \frac{1}{8a^3}\right) \sin 2ax - \frac{x}{4a^2} \cos 2ax + C$$

$$\int \tan ax dx = -\frac{1}{a} \ln |\cos ax| + C = \frac{1}{a} \ln |\sec ax| + C$$

$$\int \frac{\cos ax}{x} dx = \ln |ax| + \sum_1^{\infty} (-)^k \frac{(ax)^{2k}}{2k(2k)!} + C$$

$$\int \cos^2 ax dx = \frac{x}{2} + \frac{1}{4a} \sin 2ax + C$$

$$\int \sin^3 ax dx = \frac{\cos 3ax}{12a} - \frac{3 \cos ax}{4a} + C$$

$$\int \tan^2 x dx = \tan x - x + C$$

$$\int \sin ax \cos ax dx = -\frac{\cos^2 ax}{2a} + C$$

$$\int x \cos ax dx = \frac{\cos ax}{a^2} + \frac{x \sin ax}{a} + C$$

$$\int \cos ax dx = \frac{1}{a} \sin ax + C$$

$$\int x \sin ax dx = \frac{\sin ax}{a^2} - \frac{x \cos ax}{a} + C$$

$$\int (\sin ax)(\cos^n ax) dx = -\frac{1}{a(n+1)} \cos^{n+1} ax + C$$

Exponential functions:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ax^2} dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{a} \quad (a > 0)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x e^{-ax^2+bx} dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi} b}{2a^{3/2}} e^{\frac{b^2}{4a}} \quad (\Re(a) > 0)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^n e^{-ax} dx = \begin{cases} \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{a^{n+1}} & (n > -1, a > 0) \\ \frac{n!}{a^{n+1}} & (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, a > 0) \end{cases}$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 e^{-ax^2} dx = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a^3}} \quad (a > 0)$$

$$\int x e^{cx} dx = \left(\frac{x}{c} - \frac{1}{c^2}\right) e^{cx}$$

$$\int x^2 e^{cx} dx = \left(\frac{x^2}{c} - \frac{2x}{c^2} + \frac{2}{c^3}\right) e^{cx}$$

$$\int x^4 e^{-ax^2} dx = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}} \frac{3}{4a^2}$$

Spherical coordinates

$$\begin{aligned} x &= r \sin \theta \cos \phi \\ y &= r \sin \theta \sin \phi \\ z &= r \cos \theta \end{aligned}$$

Volume fraction:

$$dV = r^2 \sin \theta dr d\theta d\phi$$

Solid angle:

$$d\Omega = \frac{dS_r}{r^2} = \sin \theta d\theta d\phi$$

Surface element:

$$dS_r = r^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi$$

$$\nabla f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \vec{r} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \phi} \vec{\phi}$$

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{F} = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 F_r) + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\sin \theta F_\theta) + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial F_\phi}{\partial \phi}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times \mathbf{F} &= \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (A_\phi \sin \theta) - \frac{\partial A_\theta}{\partial \phi} \right) \vec{r} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{r} \left(\frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial \phi} - \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r A_\phi) \right) \vec{\theta} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{r} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r A_\theta) - \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial \theta} \right) \vec{\phi} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla^2 f &= \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \phi^2} = \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) f + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) f + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} f \end{aligned}$$

Harmonic oscillator:

First four harmonic oscillator wavefunction	Hermite polynomials	E _n
$\psi_0(\xi) = \left(\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\xi^2}$	1	$\frac{1}{2}\hbar\omega$
$\psi_1(\xi) = \left(\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \sqrt{2}\xi e^{-\frac{1}{2}\xi^2}$	2y	$\frac{3}{2}\hbar\omega$
$\psi_2(\xi) = \left(\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (2\xi^2 - 1) e^{-\frac{1}{2}\xi^2}$	4y ² - 2	$\frac{5}{2}\hbar\omega$
$\psi_3(\xi) = \left(\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (2\xi^3 - 3\xi) e^{-\frac{1}{2}\xi^2}$	8y ³ - 12y	$\frac{7}{2}\hbar\omega$
Harmonic oscillator	$\psi_n(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2^n n!}} \left(\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} (a^\dagger)^n e^{-\frac{1}{2}\frac{m\omega}{\hbar}x^2} \psi_0(x)$	
Raising operator	$a^\dagger = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\hbar m\omega}} (m\omega x - ip)$	
Lowering operator	$a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\hbar m\omega}} (m\omega x + ip)$	
$a^\dagger n\rangle = \sqrt{n+1} n+1\rangle$	$a n\rangle = \sqrt{n} n-1\rangle$	
Number operator	$\hat{N} = a^\dagger a, \hat{N} n\rangle = n n\rangle$	
Commutation relation	$[a, a^\dagger] = aa^\dagger - a^\dagger a = 1$	
Hamiltonian	$\hat{H} = \hbar\omega \left(\hat{N} + \frac{1}{2} \right)$	

Inner product and expectation

Expectation value (discrete)

$$\langle f_i \rangle = \sum_i P_i f_i$$

Expectation value (continuous)

$$\langle f(x) \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) P(x) \, dx$$

$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle = \int \psi^*(\mathbf{r}) \hat{O} \psi(\mathbf{r}) \, d^3r$$

Inner product

$$\langle \psi | \phi \rangle = \int \psi^*(x) \phi(x) \, dx$$

Variance

$$\sigma_f^2 = \langle f^2 \rangle - \langle f \rangle^2$$

Commutation relations

$$\begin{aligned} [A, B] &= AB - BA \\ [AB, C] &= A[B, C] + [A, C]B \\ [x, p_x] &= i\hbar \\ [y, p_y] &= i\hbar \\ [x, y] &= [x, p_y] = [y, p_x] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Hydrogen atom

Fine structure constant:

$$\alpha = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar c} \approx \frac{1}{137}$$

Bohr radius:

$$a_0 = \frac{\hbar}{m_e c \alpha} \approx 0.529 \times 10^{-10} \text{m}$$

Bohr energy:

$$E_n = -\frac{2\pi^2 k^2 e^4 m_e}{\hbar^2 n^2}$$

Ground state energy:

$$E_1 = -13.6 \text{eV}$$

Wave function:

$$\psi_{nlm}(r, \theta, \phi) = R_{nl}(r) Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi)$$

Rydberg formula:

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} = R_H \left(\frac{1}{n_1^2} - \frac{1}{n_2^2} \right)$$

Rydberg constant:

$$R_H \approx 1.097 \times 10^7 \text{m}^{-1}$$

Radial wavefunctions:

Legendre polynomials

Angular momentum

$$L_+ = L_x + iL_y$$

$$L_- = L_x - iL_y$$

$$L^2 = L_z^2 + \frac{1}{2}(L_+ L_- + L_- L_+)$$

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

$$[L^2, L_i] = 0 \quad \text{where } i = x, y, \text{ or } z$$

$$L_x = -i\hbar \left(\sin\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial\phi} + \cot\theta \cos\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial\phi} \right), \quad L_y = i\hbar \left(\cos\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial\phi} - \cot\theta \sin\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial\phi} \right), \quad L_z = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial\phi}$$

$$L_+ = \hbar e^{i\phi} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} + i \cot\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial\phi} \right), \quad L_- = \hbar e^{-i\phi} \left(-\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} + i \cot\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial\phi} \right)$$

$$L^2 = -\hbar^2 \left(\frac{1}{\sin\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} \left(\sin\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin^2\theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial\phi^2} \right)$$

Hund’s rule

- 1: All other thing being equal, the state with the highest total spin (S), will have the lowest.
- 2: For a given spin, the state the highest total orbital angular momentum (L), consistent with overall anti-symmetrization, will have the lowest energy.
- 3: If a subshell (n,l) is no more than half filled, then the lowest energy level has J = |L - S|: if it is more than half filled, then J = L + S has the lowest energy.

Spin

Two particle spin states

$$\begin{aligned} |0, 0\rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle) \quad s = 0 \text{ singlet} \\ |1, 0\rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle), \quad s = 1 \text{ triplet} \\ |1, -1\rangle &= |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$S_z = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad S_x = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad S_y = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad S^2 = \frac{3}{4}\hbar^2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad S_+ = \hbar \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad S_- = \hbar \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Two particle Hamiltonian:

$$\hat{H} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_1} \nabla_1^2 - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_2} \nabla_2^2 + V(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2)$$

Hamiltonian with an atom with atomic number Z:

$$\hat{H} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \nabla^2 - \frac{Ze^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

Clebsch-Gordan coefficients

Condensed Matter

Free electron gas:

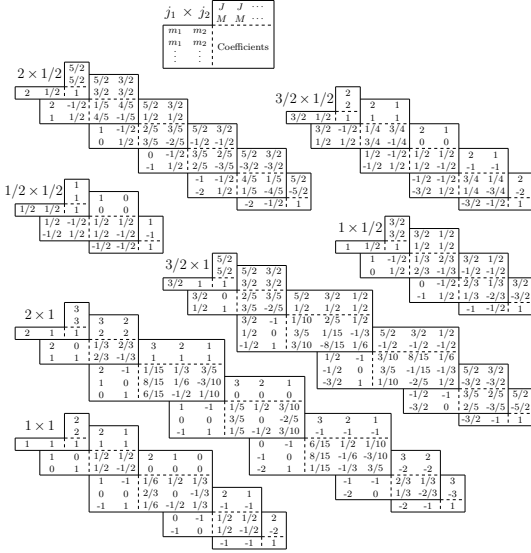


Figure 1: Clebsch-Gordan coefficients. A square root is understood on each coefficient, that is, $-1/3$ means $-\sqrt{1/3}$.

$$\psi_{n_x, n_y, n_z}(\mathbf{r}) = \sqrt{\frac{8}{V}} \sin\left(\frac{n_x \pi x}{L_x}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n_y \pi y}{L_y}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n_z \pi z}{L_z}\right), \quad E(\mathbf{k}) = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m}$$

Fermi energy of a metal:

$$E_F = \frac{\hbar^2 k_F^2}{2m}, \rho \equiv \frac{N_e}{V}, N_e = \text{number of electrons in volume } V, n_e = n_e \exp\left(\frac{E_F - E}{k_B T}\right)$$

Density of states:

$$3D: g(E) = \frac{V m}{2\pi^2 \hbar^3} \sqrt{2mE}, \quad 2D: g(E) = \frac{m}{\pi \hbar^2}$$

Distribution functions:

$$\begin{array}{lll} \text{Maxwell-Boltzmann} & \text{Fermi-Dirac} & \text{Bose-Einstein} \\ f(E) = e^{-\frac{E-\mu}{k_B T}} & f(E) = \frac{1}{e^{\frac{E-\mu}{k_B T}} + 1} & f(E) = \frac{1}{e^{\frac{E-\mu}{k_B T}} - 1} \end{array}$$

First order perturbation theory:

$$\Delta E_n^{(1)} = \langle \psi_n^{(0)} | \hat{H}' | \psi_n^{(0)} \rangle, \quad \psi_n^{(1)} = \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{\langle \psi_m^{(0)} | \hat{H}' | \psi_n^{(0)} \rangle}{E_n^{(0)} - E_m^{(0)}} \psi_m^{(0)}$$

Periodic Table

Insert or link to a detailed periodic table here.