

Physics Formula Sheet

402-0023-01L Physics

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Constants

Constant	Symbol	Value
Speed of light	c	3.00×10^8 m/s
Gravitational constant	G	6.674×10^{-11} N(m/kg) ²
Planck's constant	h	6.626×10^{-34} J.s
Mass of the electron	m_e	9.10939×10^{-31} kg
Mass of the proton	m_p	1.67262×10^{-27} kg
Charge of the electron	$-e$	-1.60218×10^{-19} C
Permittivity of free space	ϵ_0	8.85419×10^{-12} C ² /J m
Boltzmann constant	k_B	1.38066×10^{-23} J/ K
Avogadro's constant	N_A	6.022×10^{23} 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	$\frac{\Delta x}{d} = \frac{\lambda}{d} \approx \sin \theta$
Heat Transfer (Fourier's Law)	$Q = mC_v \Delta T$
Continuity Equation	$\nabla \cdot J = -\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}$
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	$E_B = -\mu B$ $\mu = \frac{e\hbar}{2m} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \sigma} = \mu_B \frac{\partial B}{\partial \sigma}$
Rigid rotator	$E_{rot} = \frac{L^2}{2I}$ $I = \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2} R^2$
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:

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

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

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Mathematical equations

Trigonometric functions:

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

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

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

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

$$\int \tan ax dx = -\frac{1}{a} \ln |\cos ax| + C = \frac{1}{a} \ln |\sec ax| + C \quad (4)$$

$$\int \frac{\cos ax}{x} dx = \ln |ax| + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (-)^k \frac{(ax)^{2k}}{2k(2k)!} + C \quad (5)$$

$$\int \cos^2 ax dx = \frac{x}{2} + \frac{1}{4a} \sin 2ax + C \quad (6)$$

$$\int \sin^3 ax dx = \frac{\cos 3ax}{12a} - \frac{3 \cos ax}{4a} + C \quad (7)$$

$$\int \tan^2 x dx = \tan x - x + C \quad (8)$$

$$\int \sin ax \cos ax dx = -\frac{\cos^2 ax}{2a} + C \quad (9)$$

$$\int x \cos ax dx = \frac{\cos ax}{a^2} + \frac{x \sin ax}{a} + C \quad (10)$$

$$\int \cos ax dx = \frac{1}{a} \sin ax + C \quad (11)$$

$$\int x \sin ax dx = \frac{\sin ax}{a^2} - \frac{x \cos ax}{a} + C \quad (12)$$

$$\int (\sin ax)(\cos^n ax) dx = -\frac{1}{a(n+1)} \cos^{n+1} ax + C \quad (13)$$

Exponential functions:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ax^2} dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{\sqrt{a}} \quad (a > 0) \quad (14)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x e^{-ax^2+bx} dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi} b}{2a^{3/2}} e^{\frac{b^2}{4a}} \quad (\Re(a) > 0) \quad (15)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^n e^{-ax} dx = \begin{cases} \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{a^{n+1}} & (n > -1, a > 0) \\ \frac{n!}{a^{n+1}} & (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, a > 0) \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 e^{-ax^2} dx = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a^3}} \quad (a > 0) \quad (17)$$

$$\int x e^{cx} dx = \left(\frac{x}{c} - \frac{1}{c^2} \right) e^{cx} \quad (18)$$

$$\int x^2 e^{cx} dx = \left(\frac{x^2}{c} - \frac{2x}{c^2} + \frac{2}{c^3} \right) e^{cx} \quad (19)$$

$$\int x^4 e^{-ax^2} dx = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}} \frac{3}{4a^2} \quad (20)$$

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

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

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

Quantum Mechanics

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

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

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

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

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

$$\text{Transmission through a barrier : } T = \frac{4E(V_0 - E)}{4E(V_0 - E) + V_0^2 \sinh^2[\sqrt{2m(V_0 - E)} \frac{1}{\hbar}]}$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Spherical coordinates

$$x = r \sin \theta \cos \phi$$

$$y = r \sin \theta \sin \phi$$

$$z = r \cos \theta$$

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:

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

$$\nabla f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \hat{r} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} \hat{\theta} + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \phi} \hat{\phi} \quad (21)$$

$$\text{div } \mathbf{F} = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 F_r) + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\sin \theta F_\theta) + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial F_\phi}{\partial \phi} \quad (22)$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (A_\phi \sin \theta) - \frac{\partial A_\theta}{\partial \phi} \right) \hat{r} + \frac{1}{r} \left(\frac{\partial A_r}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} - \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r A_\phi) \right) \hat{\theta} + \frac{1}{r} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r A_\theta) - \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial \phi} \right) \hat{\phi} \quad (23)$$

$$\nabla^2 f = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \phi^2} = \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) f + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) f + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} f \quad (24)$$

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	$a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\hbar m\omega}} (m\omega x + ip)$	
$a n\rangle = \sqrt{n+1} n+1\rangle$	$a n\rangle = \sqrt{n} n-1\rangle$	
Number operator	$\hat{N} = a^\dagger a, \hat{N} n\rangle = n n\rangle$	
Commutation relation	$[a, a^\dagger] = a a^\dagger - a^\dagger a = 1$	
Hamiltonian	$\hat{H} = \hbar\omega \left(\hat{N} + \frac{1}{2} \right)$	

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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:

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

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:

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$$R_{n\ell}(r) = N_{n\ell} r^\ell e^{-r/2} L_{n-\ell-1}^{2\ell+1}(\rho)$$

Legendre polynomials

Angular momentum

$$L_+ = L_x + iL_y$$

$$L_- = L_x - iL_y$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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:

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

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Clebsch-Gordan coefficients

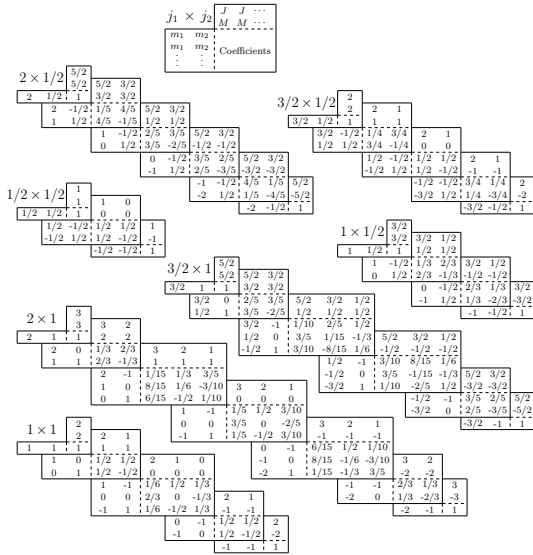


Figure 1: Clebsch-Gordan coefficients. A square root is understood on each coefficient, that is, $-1/3$ means $-\sqrt{1/3}$.

Condensed Matter

Free electron gas:

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

Fermi energy of a metal:

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

Density of states:

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

Distribution functions:

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

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First order perturbation theory:

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

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[illegible]