



**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA**

**DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS**

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAMME -2017/2018

LEVEL 04

PHU4300 /PYU 2160 – MODERN PHYSICS

FINAL EXAMINATION.

**TIME: -TWO HOURS (2 hrs.) ANSWER FOUR QUESTIONS ONLY.**

**Date: 20.04.2019**

**Time: 9.30 am – 11.30 am**

$c=3 \times 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ ,  $h=6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$ ,  $1 \text{ eV}=1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$ ,  $\pi=3.14$ , mass of the electron= $9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$ , mass of the proton= $1.67 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$ ,  $R_H=1.097 \times 10^7 \text{ m}^{-1}$ ,  $e=1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

1. (a) What is the photoelectric effect? (3 marks)
  - (b) How does the kinetic energy of the photoelectrons depend on the intensity and frequency of the incident radiation? (3 marks)
  - (c) Define the terms (i) photoelectric work function (ii) stopping potential and (iii) Threshold frequency (6 marks)
  - (d) Write down the Einstein's photoelectric equation. (2 marks)
  - (e) The work function for tungsten metal is 4.52 eV.
    - (i) What is the cutoff wavelength for tungsten?
    - (ii) What is the maximum kinetic energy of the electrons when radiation of wavelength 198 nm used?
    - (iii) What is the stopping potential in this case? (6 marks)
  - (f) The electromagnetic radiation itself is quantized and consists of photons. What are the energy and momentum of a photon of red light of wavelength 650nm? (5 marks)
2. In the Bohr model of the hydrogen atom, an electron is orbiting around a proton such that its angular momentum  $mvr_n = n\hbar$  (where  $n$  is an integer 1,2,3.....) and its radius of an orbit is  $r_n = \frac{n^2 \hbar^2}{mk_e e^2}$  (where  $k_e = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = 8.9 \times 10^9 \text{ Nm}^2 \text{C}^{-2}$ )
- (a) Derive the expressions for, the kinetic energy of the electron in the  $r_n^{\text{th}}$  orbit of the hydrogen atom. (3 marks)
  - (b) What is meant by Bohr radius of the hydrogen atom? Show that Bohr radius is given as  $a_0 = \frac{\hbar^2}{mk_e e^2}$ . (5 marks)

- (c) If the total energy of the atom  $E$  is given by  $E = -k_e \frac{e^2}{2r}$ , show that the energy of the electron in the hydrogen atom is given by  $E_n = \frac{-1}{n^2} \frac{k_e e^2}{2a_0}$  (4 marks)
- (d) Calculate the binding energy for the hydrogen atom in eV. Hence show that the energy values of the electron in a hydrogen atom can be expressed as  $E_n = \frac{-13.6}{n^2} \text{ eV}$  ( $n=1, 2, 3, \dots$ ) (6 marks)
- (e) Using the result obtained in part (d), find the wavelength of the photon that is emitted when the electron in a hydrogen atom make a transition from  $n_i=4$  to  $n_f=2$ . (7 marks)
3. A quantum particle of mass  $m$  moves in a potential well of length  $a$ . Its potential energy is infinite for  $x < 0$  and for  $x > a$ . Inside the region  $0 \leq x \leq a$ , its potential energy is zero.
- (a) Show that proper solution of the time-independent Schrodinger equation can be written as  $\psi(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{a}$   $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  (7 marks)
- (b) Show that the allowed energies are given by  $E_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2}$   $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  (6 marks)
- (c) If the particle, confined to a two-dimensional, potential rectangle of length  $a$  and width  $b$ , which is defined as the potential energy  $V(x, y) = 0$  in the region  $0 \leq x \leq a$  and  $0 \leq y \leq b$ , and  $V(x, y) = \infty$  elsewhere.
- Write down the normalized wave function and the corresponding energy values for the particle using the results obtained in part (a) and part (b). (6 marks)
- (d) When the given potential rectangle becomes a potential square of side  $a$  (i.e. when  $a=b$ ), describe the degeneracies of the ground and the first excited levels of the particle. (6 marks)
4. (a) State the Einstein's postulates of special relativity. (4 marks)
- (b) What is meant by the "Time dilation"? (2 marks)
- (c) Write down the Lorentz transformations with usual notation. (4 marks)
- (d) Using the Lorentz transformations show that the simultaneity is not possible between

two reference frames. (4 marks)

- (e) A beam of muons travels through the laboratory with speed  $v = \frac{4c}{5}$  ( $c$  is the velocity of light). The lifetime of a muon in its rest frame is  $2.2 \times 10^{-6}$  s. Find the mean distance travelled by the muons in the lab frame. (5 marks)
- (f) According to observer  $O$ , a blue flash occurs at  $x_b = 10.4$  m when  $t_b = 0.124$   $\mu$ s, and a red flash occurs at  $x_r = 23.6$  m when  $t_r = 0.138$   $\mu$ s. According to the observer  $O'$ , who is in motion relative to  $O$  at velocity  $u$ , the two flashes appear to be simultaneous. Find the velocity  $u$ . (6 marks)

5. (a) Briefly describe the red shift related to the Doppler effect in light. (5 marks)

(b) If an observer directly moving away from a light source of wavelength  $\lambda_0$  with a relative velocity,  $v$ , write an expression for the wavelength  $\lambda$  measured by the observer. (5 marks)

(c) The wavelength of the Balmer series of spectral lines of hydrogen atom can be described by using the Rydberg formula.

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} = R_H \left[ \frac{1}{n_{lower}^2} - \frac{1}{n_{upper}^2} \right]$$

The longest wavelength of light emitted by hydrogen in the Balmer series is measured as  $\lambda = 1458$  nm in light from a distant galaxy. Find the speed at which the galaxy is receding from earth. (15 marks)

6. (a) Without deriving any equation state the relativistic expression of mass-velocity relation for a particle of mass  $m_0$ , write down the relativistic expressions for its momentum,  $p$  and its total energy,  $E$ . Hence or otherwise, prove that  $E^2 = p^2 c^2 + m_0^2 c^4$  (10 marks)

(b) A neutral K meson (rest energy 497.7 MeV) is moving with a kinetic energy of 77.0 MeV. It decays into a pi meson (rest energy 139.6 MeV) and another particle of unknown mass. The pi meson is moving in the direction of the original K meson with momentum of  $127.2 \times 10^{-8}$  MeV.

- (i) Find the momentum and total relativistic energy of the unknown particle.  
 (ii) Find the rest energy of the unknown particle.

(15 marks)