



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
PLOT 91, CADASTRAL ZONE, NNAMDI AZIKIWE EXPRESSWAY, JABI - ABUJA
FACULTY OF SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE

2021_2 EXAMINATIONS

COURSE CODE: PHY309
COURSE TITLE: QUANTUM MECHANICS 1
CREDIT UNIT: 3
TIME ALLOWED: (2½ HRS)

INSTRUCTION: Answer question 1 and any other four questions

QUESTION 1

You are given the set $S_1 = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$,

- (a) Are they linearly independent? 3 marks
- (b) Are they orthogonal? 3 marks
- (c) Are they normalized? If not, normalize them. 4 marks
- (d) Write the vector $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$
 - (i) In terms of the usual basis in the Euclidean plane, 4 marks
 - (ii) In terms of the basis $S_U = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$, 4 marks
- (e) Write the matrix of transformation from basis S_U to basis S_1 4 marks

QUESTION 2

- (a) Find the maximum kinetic energy with which an electron is emitted from a metal of work function 3.2×10^{-39} J when a radiation of energy $E = 3.313 \times 10^{-39}$ J falls on it, given that the work function is 3.2×10^{-39} J. 4 marks
- (b) What value does Rayleigh-Jeans formula predict for the radiation of frequency 6×10^{13} Hz emitted by a blackbody per unit time, per unit area at 2500 K. Compare this value with that predicted by Planck. 8 marks

QUESTION 4

- (a) Normalize each vector in the set $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$, 6 marks
- (b) Write the function $h(x) = e^{2x} \sin x$ as a sum of odd and even functions. 6 marks

QUESTION 5

You are provided with ladder operators $\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}}\left(x + \frac{ip}{m\omega}\right)$, $\alpha^+ = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}}\left(x - \frac{ip}{m\omega}\right)$. Also,

the position and momentum operators are given by $\hat{x} = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{\hbar}}x$ and $\hat{p} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{m\hbar\omega}}p$,

- (i) Obtain the value of the commutator $[\hat{x}, \hat{p}]$. 2 marks
- (ii) Show that $\hat{x} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\alpha + \alpha^+)$, $\hat{p} = \frac{-i}{\sqrt{2}}(\alpha - \alpha^+)$. 2 marks
- (iii) For the ground state, find $\langle \hat{x}^2 \rangle$ and $\langle \hat{p}^2 \rangle$. 2 marks
- (b) Given that the expectation of the position and the momentum operators under consideration are zero in the ground state of the oscillator, prove that the following expression holds: $\langle x^2 \rangle \langle p^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{4} |\langle [x, p] \rangle|^2$

$$\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}}\left(x + \frac{ip}{m\omega}\right), \quad \alpha^+ = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}}\left(x - \frac{ip}{m\omega}\right) \quad \text{6 marks}$$

QUESTION 6

Given the matrix $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ find the corresponding eigenvectors and the eigenvalues. 12 marks