



KISII UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

SPECIAL EXAMINATION
THIRD YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE RENEWABLE ENERGY /GEOPHYSICS
SECOND SEMESTER 2021/2022
(JULY, 2022)

PHYS 322: QUANTUM MECHANICS 1

STREAM: Y3 S2

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY: FRIDAY, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

DATE: 29/07/2022

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Do not write anything on this question paper.*
2. *Answer Question ONE (Compulsory) and any other TWO questions.*

QUESTION ONE [30 marks]

- a) For the wave function $\psi(x) = A(ax - x^2)$ for $0 \leq x \leq a$, where A is a constant normalise the wave function [6 marks]
- b) Consider the wave function $\psi(x) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$, using the relation $\phi(p) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi\hbar}} \int_{-a}^a \psi(x) e^{-\frac{ipx}{\hbar}} dx$, obtain, Momentum space wave function [6 marks]
- c) Heisenberg's uncertainty principle relates the position and the momentum of a particle clearly state this principle and outline its physical significance [4 Marks]
- d) For a normalised ground state wave function of an oscillator, find the probability that the particle is found between $a \leq x \leq 2a$ [6 marks]
- e) Information about a state make a wave function valid of a quantum system is contained in the wave functions outline the four properties of a valid wave function? [5 marks]
- f) Suppose $\psi(x,t) = A(x - x^3)\exp(-iEt/\hbar)$ Find $V(x)$ such that the Schrödinger equation is satisfied. [3 marks]

QUESTION TWO

a) For a particle of mass m trapped in 1 dimensional potential defined by

$$V(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & 0 \leq x \leq a \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Solve the Schrodinger equation and obtained the general expression for the ground state wave function and energy [10 marks]

2) Using the wave function obtained in a) compute the expectation values $\langle x \rangle$, $\langle x^2 \rangle$, $\langle p \rangle$, $\langle p^2 \rangle$, [10 marks]

QUESTION THREE

A beam of particles coming from $\mathbf{x} = -\infty$ meets a potential barrier described by $V(\mathbf{x}) = V$, where V is a positive constant, at $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$.

Suppose particles have energy $0 < E < V$.

- Sketch this potential [3 Marks]
- Find the wave function for $\mathbf{x} < \mathbf{0}$ and for $\mathbf{x} > \mathbf{0}$, [5 Marks]
- Describe the transmission and reflection coefficients for this potential barrier [8 Marks]
- Describe the behavior of the wave function behave on both sides of the barrier? Indicate using a sketch. Comment on your results. [4 Marks]

QUESTION FOUR

The operators for \mathbf{J}^2 and \mathbf{J}_z are diagonal in the basis given by their joint eigenstates

a) Find the matrix representation of the operators \mathbf{J}^2 and \mathbf{J}_z for the case where $j = 1$

- Obtain the joint eigenstates of \mathbf{J}^2 and \mathbf{J}_z
- Use the matrices to calculate $[\mathbf{J}_y, \mathbf{J}_z]$

QUESTION FIVE

Consider a delta function perturbation $H' = \alpha \delta(x - \frac{a}{2})$ at the centre of an infinite square, where α is a constant

- Find the first-order correction to the allowed energies. Explain why energies are not perturbed for even n

- b) Find the first three nonzero terms in the expansion of the correction to the ground state wave function .

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