
JEST 2013

PPART A: THREE MARK QUESTIONS

Q1. In an observer's rest frame, a particle is moving towards the observer with an energy E and momentum p . If c denotes the velocity of light in vacuum, the energy of the particle in another frame moving in the same direction as particle with a constant velocity v is

(a) $\frac{(E + vp)}{\sqrt{1 - (v/c)^2}}$ (b) $\frac{(E - vp)}{\sqrt{1 - (v/c)^2}}$ (c) $\frac{(E + vp)}{[1 - (v/c)^2]^2}$ (d) $\frac{(E - vp)}{[1 - (v/c)^2]^2}$

Q2. Consider a system of two particles A and B . each particle can occupy one of three possible quantum states $|1\rangle, |2\rangle$ and $|3\rangle$. The ratio of the probability that the two particles are in the same state to the probability that the two particles are in different states is calculated for bosons and classical (Maxwell- Boltzman) particles. They are respectively

(a) 1,0 (b) 1/2,1 (c) 1,1/2 (d) 0,1/2

Q3. At 'equilibrium there can not be any free charge inside a metal. However, if you forcibly put charge in the interior then it takes some finite time to 'disappear' i.e. move to the surface. If the conductivity, σ , of a metal is $10^6 (\Omega m)^{-1}$ and the dielectric constant $\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12}$ Farad/m, this time will be approximately:

(a) 10^{-5} sec (b) 10^{-11} sec (c) 10^{-9} sec (d) 10^{-17} sec

Q4. The free fall time of a test mass on an object of mass M from a height $2R$ to R is

(a) $(\pi / 2 + 1) \sqrt{\frac{R^3}{GM}}$ (b) $\sqrt{\frac{R^3}{GM}}$
(c) $(\pi / 2) \sqrt{\frac{R^3}{GM}}$ (d) $\pi \sqrt{\frac{2R^3}{GM}}$

Q9. A quantum mechanical particle in a harmonic oscillator potential has the initial wave function $\psi_0(x) + \psi_1(x)$, where ψ_0 and ψ_1 are the real wavefunctions in the ground and first excited state of the harmonic oscillator Hamiltonian. For convenience we take $m = \hbar = \omega = 1$ for the oscillator. What is the probability density of finding the particle at x at time $t = \pi$?

- (a) $(\psi_1(x) - \psi_0(x))^2$ (b) $(\psi_1(x))^2 - (\psi_0(x))^2$
 (c) $(\psi_1(x) + \psi_0(x))^2$ (d) $(\psi_1(x))^2 + (\psi_0(x))^2$

Q10. A spherical planet of radius R has a uniform density ρ and does not rotate. If the planet is made up of some liquid, the pressure at point r from the center is

- (a) $\frac{4\pi\rho^2G}{3}(R^2 - r^2)$ (b) $\frac{4\pi\rho G}{3}(R^2 - r^2)$
 (c) $\frac{2\pi\rho^2G}{3}(R^2 - r^2)$ (d) $\frac{\rho G}{2}(R^2 - r^2)$

Q11. Compute $\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \frac{\operatorname{Re}(z^2) + \operatorname{Im}(z^2)}{z^2}$

- (a) The limit does not exist. (b) 1
 (c) $-i$ (d) -1

Q12. A particle of mass m is thrown upward with velocity v and there is retarding air resistance proportional to the square of the velocity with proportionality constant k . If the particle attains a maximum height after time t , and g is the gravitational acceleration, what is the velocity?

- (a) $\sqrt{\frac{k}{g}} \tan\left(\sqrt{\frac{g}{k}} t\right)$ (b) $\sqrt{gk} \tan\left(\sqrt{\frac{g}{k}} t\right)$
 (c) $\sqrt{\frac{g}{k}} \tan(\sqrt{gk} t)$ (d) $\sqrt{gk} \tan(\sqrt{gk} t)$

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- Q13. Consider a uniform distribution of particles with volume density n in a box. The particles have an isotropic velocity distribution with constant magnitude v . The rate at which the particles will be emitted from a hole of area A on one side of this box is
- (a) nvA (b) $nvA/2$ (c) $nvA/4$ (d) none of the above
- Q14. For a diatomic ideal gas near room temperature, what fraction of the heat supplied is available for external work if the gas is expanded at constant pressure?
- (a) $1/7$ (b) $5/7$ (c) $3/4$ (d) $2/7$
- Q15. A flat surface is covered with non-overlapping disks of same size. What is the largest fraction of the area that can be covered?
- (a) $\frac{3}{\pi}$ (b) $\frac{5\pi}{6}$ (c) $\frac{6}{7}$ (d) $\frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{3}}$
- Q16. If J_x, J_y, J_z are angular momentum operators, the eigenvalues of the operator $(J_x + j_y)/\hbar$ are
- (a) real and discrete with rational spacing
(b) real and discrete with irrational spacing
(c) real and continuous
(d) not all real
- Q17. A metal suffers a structural phase transition from face-centered cubic (FCC) to the simple cubic (SC) structure. It is observed that this phase transition does not involve any change of volume. The nearest neighbor distances d_{fc} and d_{sc} for the FCC and the SC structures respectively are in the ratio (d_{fc}/d_{sc}) [Given $2^{1/3} = 1.26$]
- (a) 1.029 (b) 1.122 (c) 1.374 (d) 1.130

Q18. If, in a Kepler potential, the pericentre distance of particle in a parabolic orbit is r_p while the radius of the circular orbit with the same angular momentum is r_c , then

- (a) $r_c = 2r_p$ (b) $r_c = r_p$ (c) $2r_c = r_p$ (d) $r_c = \sqrt{2}r_p$

Q19. A K meson (with a rest mass of 494 MeV) at rest decays into a muon (with a rest mass of 106 MeV) and a neutrino. The energy of the neutrino, which can be massless, is approximately

- (a) 120 MeV (b) 236 MeV (c) 300 MeV (d) 388 MeV

Q20. The vector field $xz\hat{i} + y\hat{j}$ in cylindrical polar coordinates is

- (a) $\rho(z \cos^2 \phi + \sin^2 \phi)\hat{e}_\rho + \rho \sin \phi \cos \phi(1 - z)\hat{e}_\phi$
(b) $\rho(z \cos^2 \phi + \sin^2 \phi)\hat{e}_\rho + \rho \sin \phi \cos \phi(1 + z)\hat{e}_\phi$
(c) $\rho(z \sin^2 \phi + \cos^2 \phi)\hat{e}_\rho + \rho \sin \phi \cos \phi(1 + z)\hat{e}_\phi$
(d) $\rho(z \sin^2 \phi + \cos^2 \phi)\hat{e}_\rho + \rho \sin \phi \cos \phi(1 - z)\hat{e}_\phi$

Q21. There are on average 20 buses per hour at a point, but at random times. The probability that there are no buses in five minutes is closest to

- (a) 0.07 (b) 0.60 (c) 0.36 (d) 0.19

Q22. Two drunks start out together at the origin, each having equal probability of making a step simultaneously to the left or right along the x axis. The probability that they meet after n steps is

- (a) $\frac{1}{4^n} \frac{2n!}{n!^2}$ (b) $\frac{1}{2^n} \frac{2n!}{n!^2}$ (c) $\frac{1}{2^n} 2n!$ (d) $\frac{1}{4^n} n!$

Q23. The equation describing the shape of curved mirror with the property that the light from a point source at the origin will be reflected in a beam of rays parallel to the x -axis is (with a as some constant)

- (a) $y^2 = ax + a^2$ (b) $2y = x^2 + a^2$ (c) $y^2 = 2ax + a^2$ (d) $y^2 = ax^3 + 2a^2$

Q24. A simple model of a helium-like atom with electron-electron interaction is replaced by Hooke's law force is described by Hamiltonian

$$\frac{-\hbar^2}{2m}(\nabla_1^2 + \nabla_2^2) + \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2(r_1^2 + r_2^2) - \frac{\lambda}{4}m\omega^2|\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|^2.$$

What is the exact ground state energy?

(a) $E = \frac{3}{2}\hbar\omega(1 + \sqrt{1 + \lambda})$

(b) $E = \frac{3}{2}\hbar\omega(1 + \sqrt{\lambda})$

(c) $E = \frac{3}{2}\hbar\omega\sqrt{1 - \lambda}$

(d) $E = \frac{3}{2}\hbar\omega(1 + \sqrt{1 - \lambda})$

Q25. Consider the state $\begin{pmatrix} 1/2 \\ 1/2 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}$ corresponding to the angular momentum $l = 1$ in the L_z basis

of states with $m = +1, 0, -1$. If L_z^2 is measured in this state yielding a result 1, what is the state after the measurement?

(a) $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

(b) $\begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{3} \\ 0 \\ \sqrt{2/3} \end{pmatrix}$

(c) $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

(d) $\begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}$

PART B: ONE MARK QUESTIONS

Q26. A thin uniform ring carrying charge Q and mass M rotates about its axis. What is the gyromagnetic ratio (defined as ratio of magnetic dipole moment to the angular momentum) of this ring?

- (a) $Q/(2\pi M)$ (b) Q/M (c) $Q/(2M)$ (d) $Q/(\pi M)$

Q27. The electric and magnetic field caused by an accelerated charged particle are found to scale as $E \propto r^{-n}$ and $B \propto r^{-m}$ at large distances. What are the value of n and m ?

- (a) $n = 1, m = 2$ (b) $n = 2, m = 1$ (c) $n = 1, m = 1$ (d) $n = 2, m = 2$

Q28. Consider the differential equation

$$\frac{dG(x)}{dx} + kG(x) = \delta(x),$$

where k is a constant. Which of the following statements is true?

- (a) Both $G(x)$ and $G'(x)$ are continuous at $x = 0$
(b) $G(x)$ is continuous at $x = 0$ but $G'(x)$ is not.
(c) $G(x)$ is discontinuous at $x = 0$
(d) The continuity properties of $G(x)$ and $G'(x)$ at $x = 0$ depend on the value of k .

Q29. A metal bullet comes to rest after hitting its target with a velocity of 80m/s. If 50% of the heat generated remains in the bullet, what is the increase in its temperature? (The specific heat of the bullet = 160 Joule per Kg per degree C)

- (a) 14°C (b) 12.5°C (c) 10°C (d) 8.2°C

Q30. What are the eigenvalues of the operator $H = \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{a}$, where $\vec{\sigma}$ are the three Pauli matrices and \vec{a} is a vector?

- (a) $a_x + a_y$ and a_z (b) $a_x + a_z \pm ia_y$ (c) $\pm (a_x + a_y + a_z)$ (d) $\pm |\vec{a}|$

Q31. The hermitian conjugate of the operator $\left(\frac{-\partial}{\partial x}\right)$ is

- (a) $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ (b) $-\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ (c) $i\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ (d) $-i\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$

Q32. If the expectation value of the momentum is $\langle p \rangle$ for the wavefunction $\psi(x)$, then the expectation value of momentum for the wavefunction $e^{ikx/\hbar}\psi(x)$ is

- (a) k (b) $\langle p \rangle - k$ (c) $\langle p \rangle + k$ (d) $\langle p \rangle$

Q33. Two electrons are confined in a one dimensional box of length L . The one-electron states are given by $\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{2/L} \sin(n\pi x/L)$. What would be the ground state wave function $\psi(x_1, x_2)$ if both electrons are arranged to have the same spin state?

(a) $\psi(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\frac{2}{L} \sin\left(\frac{\pi x_1}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x_2}{L}\right) + \frac{2}{L} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x_1}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{\pi x_2}{L}\right) \right]$

(b) $\psi(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\frac{2}{L} \sin\left(\frac{\pi x_1}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x_2}{L}\right) - \frac{2}{L} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x_1}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{\pi x_2}{L}\right) \right]$

(c) $\psi(x_1, x_2) = \frac{2}{L} \sin\left(\frac{\pi x_1}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x_2}{L}\right)$

(d) $\psi(x_1, x_2) = \frac{2}{L} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x_1}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{\pi x_2}{L}\right)$

Q34. What is the value of the following series?

$$\left(1 - \frac{1}{2!} + \frac{1}{4!} - \dots\right)^2 + \left(1 - \frac{1}{3!} + \frac{1}{5!} - \dots\right)^2$$

- (a) 0 (b) e (c) e^2 (d) 1

Q35. A light beam is propagating through a block of glass with index of refraction n . If the glass is moving at constant velocity v in the same direction as the beam, the velocity of the light in the glass block as measured by an observer in the laboratory is approximately

(a) $u = \frac{c}{n} + v \left(1 - \frac{1}{n^2} \right)$

(b) $u = \frac{c}{n} - v \left(1 - \frac{1}{n^2} \right)$

(c) $u = \frac{c}{n} + v \left(1 + \frac{1}{n^2} \right)$

(d) $u = \frac{c}{n}$

Q36. If the distribution function of x is $f(x) = xe^{-x/\lambda}$ over the interval $0 < x < \infty$, the mean value of x is

(a) λ

(b) 2λ

(c) $\lambda / 2$

(d) 0

Q37. Consider a particle with three possible spin states: $s = 0$ and ± 1 . There is a magnetic field h present and the energy for a spin state s is $-hs$. The system is at a temperature T . Which of the following statements is true about the entropy $S(T)$?

(a) $S(T) = \ln 3$ at $T = 0$, and 3 at high T

(b) $S(T) = \ln 3$ at $T = 0$, and zero at high T

(c) $S(T) = 0$ at $T = 0$, and 3 at high T

(d) $S(T) = 0$ at $T = 0$, and $\ln 3$ at high T

Q38. The operator

$$\left(\frac{d}{dx} - x \right) \left(\frac{d}{dx} + x \right)$$

is equivalent to

(a) $\frac{d^2}{dx^2} - x^2$

(b) $\frac{d^2}{dx^2} - x^2 + 1$

(c) $\frac{d^2}{dx^2} - x \frac{d}{dx} x^2 + 1$

(d) $\frac{d^2}{dx^2} - 2x \frac{d}{dx} - x^2$

Q43. The period of a simple pendulum inside a stationary lift is T . If the lift accelerates downwards with an acceleration $g/4$, the period of the pendulum will be

- (a) T (b) $T/4$ (c) $2T/\sqrt{3}$ (d) $2T/\sqrt{5}$

Q44. The velocity of a particle at which the kinetic energy is equal to its rest energy is (in terms of c , the speed of light in vacuum)

- (a) $\sqrt{3}c/2$ (b) $3c/4$ (c) $\sqrt{3/5}c$ (d) $c/\sqrt{2}$

Q45. If the Poisson bracket $\{x, p\} = -1$, then the Poisson bracket $\{x^2 + p, p\}$ is

- (a) $-2x$ (b) $2x$ (c) 1 (d) -1

Q46. The coordinate transformation

$$x' = 0.8x + 0.6y, \quad y' = 0.6x - 0.8y$$

represents

- (a) a translation
(b) a proper rotation
(c) a reflection
(d) none of the above

Q47. The binding energy of the k -shell electron in a Uranium atom ($Z = 92$, $A = 238$) will be modified due to (i) screening caused by other electrons and (ii) the finite extent of the nucleus as follows:

- (a) increases due to (i), remains unchanged due to (ii)
(b) decreases due to (i), decreases due to (ii)
(c) increases due to (i), increases due to (ii)
(d) decreases due to (i), remains unchanged due to (ii)

Q48. A small mass M hangs from a thin string and can swing like a pendulum. It is attached above the window of a car. When the car is at rest, the string hangs vertically. The angle made by the string with the vertical when the car has a constant acceleration $a = 1.2 \text{ m/s}^2$ is approximately

- (a) 1° (b) 7° (c) 15° (d) 90°

Q49. A charge q is placed at the centre of an otherwise neutral dielectric sphere of radius a and relative permittivity ϵ_r . We denote the expression $q/4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2$ by $E(r)$. Which of the following statements is false?

- (a) The electric field inside the sphere, $r < a$, is given by $E(r)/\epsilon_r$
(b) The field outside the sphere, $r > a$, is given by $E(r)$
(c) The total charge inside a sphere of radius $r > a$ is given by q .
(d) The total charge inside a sphere of radius $r < a$ is given by q .

Q50. An electromagnetic wave of frequency ω travels in the x -direction through vacuum. It is polarized in the y -direction and the amplitude of the electric field is E_0 . With $k = \omega/c$ where c is the speed of light in vacuum, the electric and the magnetic fields are then conventionally given by

- (a) $\vec{E} = E_0 \cos(ky - \omega t) \hat{x}$ and $\vec{B} = \frac{E_0}{c} \cos(ky - \omega t) \hat{z}$
(b) $\vec{E} = E_0 \cos(kx - \omega t) \hat{y}$ and $\vec{B} = \frac{E_0}{c} \cos(kx - \omega t) \hat{z}$
(c) $\vec{E} = E_0 \cos(kx - \omega t) \hat{z}$ and $\vec{B} = \frac{E_0}{c} \cos(ky - \omega t) \hat{y}$
(d) $\vec{E} = E_0 \cos(kx - \omega t) \hat{x}$ and $\vec{B} = \frac{E_0}{c} \cos(ky - \omega t) \hat{y}$