

Course code	MTF131
Examination date	2006-10-24
Time	09.00 - 14.00

Examination in: **QUANTUM MECHANICS AND STATISTICAL PHYSICS**

Total number of problems: 5

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The results are put up:

14 November 2006 on the notice-board, building E

The marking may be scrutinised: after the results have been put up

Allowed aids: Fysikalia, Physics Handbook, Beta, calculator, COLLECTION OF FORMULAE

Define notations and motivate assumptions and approximations. Present the solutions so that they are easy to follow. Maximum number of point is 15 p. 7.0 points are required to pass the examination. Grades 3: 7.0, 4: 9.5, 5: 12.0

1. Identical particles

Five identical particles are placed in the potential

$$V(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq a \\ +\infty & \text{for } x > a \text{ and } x < 0. \end{cases}$$

There is no interaction between the particles other than the fact that they are identical.

- Calculate the energy of the ground state and the first excited state if the particles are identical spin 0 bosons.
- Calculate the energy of the ground state and the first excited state if the particles are identical spin $\frac{1}{2}$ fermions.

(3 p)

2. Spin

Evaluate, for a spin 1/2 particle described by the spinor χ the expectation values of the three cartesian components ($\langle S_x \rangle$, $\langle S_y \rangle$, $\langle S_z \rangle$) of the spin and also their squares ($\langle S_x^2 \rangle$, $\langle S_y^2 \rangle$, $\langle S_z^2 \rangle$)

$$\chi = \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 2 - 2i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(3p)

3. Misc.

- Evaluate the commutator $[x^2, p_x^2]$.

- b) Li^{2+} has the nuclear charge +3 but only one electron. How much energy does it take to excite the electron from the ground state to the level 2s? Give a numerical value in electron Volts (eV)!
- c) The wave function of a hydrogen atom in an eigenstate to the Hamilton operator is:

$$\Psi(r, \theta, \phi) = \frac{1}{81\sqrt{6}\pi} (1/a_\mu)^{3/2} (r^2/a_\mu^2) e^{-r/3a_\mu} [3 \cos^2 \theta - 1],$$

where a_μ is the Bohr radius (with the reduced mass). Determine the quantum numbers n, l och m_l .

(3p)

4. Hydrogen like spectra

The Institutet för rymdfysik (IRF) in Kiruna has at the moment active instruments at four different planets in our solar system. One of the instruments detects the following spectra in ultra violet light emitted from a carbon rich area.

λ (nm)	207.80	129.63	104.20	91.84

At IRF they note that the lines listed above very much appear to be like a hydrogen spectra. It is suggested the spectra originates from highly ionized carbon with only one electron left and that the lines belong to the same series ie they all have the same lower level with principal quantum number n and one may assume the upper levels are adjacent. Determine the principal quantum numbers for the levels involved in the transitions listed above.

(3p)

5. Harmonic oscillator in two dimensions

The energy levels of a two dimensional harmonic oscillator are characterized by 2 indices $n_x = 0, 1, 2, 3 \dots \infty$ and $n_y = 0, 1, 2, 3 \dots \infty$. The energy is given by $\epsilon_{n_x, n_y} = (n_x + n_y + 1)\hbar\omega$. The oscillator is coupled to a heat reservoir of temperature τ .

- a) Evaluate an expression for the partition function $Z_{osc}(\tau)$ and the Helmholtz free energy $F_{osc}(\tau)$.
- b) Evaluate the specific heat C_v of the oscillator. What is the low temperature and high temperature limit of C_v draw a figure. Hint use the entropy σ to evaluate C_v .

(3p)

GOOD LUCK !