



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA  
PLOT 91, CADASTRAL ZONE, NNAMDI AZIKIWE EXPRESSWAY, JABI - ABUJA  
FACULTY OF SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS  
2024 1 EXAMINATION

COURSE CODE: PHY 309  
COURSE TITLE: QUANTUM MECHANICS I  
CREDIT UNIT: 3  
TIME ALLOWED: 3 HRS  
INSTRUCTION: Answer question 1 and any other three questions

- 1a. Define vector space, Orthogonality and Orthonormality **9marks**  
1b. show that the following vectors are mutually orthogonal

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \sqrt{2} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -\sqrt{2} \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \sqrt{2} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

**7marks**

- 1c. Replace the following classical mechanical expressions with their corresponding quantum mechanical operators.

i.  $K.E = \frac{mv^2}{2}$  in three-dimensional space

ii.  $P = mv$ , a three-dimensional Cartesian vector

iii.  $y$  - component of angular momentum:  $L_y = z p_x - x p_z$ .

**9marks**

- 2a. Transform the following functions accordingly from spherical polar to Cartesian coordinates:  $r = 2 \sin \theta \cos \phi$  **5marks**

- b. Solve the following second-order linear differential equation subject to the specified boundary conditions:

$$\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + k^2(t) = 0, \text{ where } x(t=0) = L, \text{ and } \frac{dx(t=0)}{dt} = 0. \text{ Assume } x(t) = e^{\alpha t}, \text{ with } \alpha \text{ unknown}$$

**10marks**

- 3a. Define coherent and incoherent scattering **4marks**

- b. The wave function  $\varphi(x, t)$  satisfies the time dependent Schrodinger equation of a free particle. Show that  $H = \frac{-\hbar}{2m} \nabla^2 + V$  represent the Hamiltonian operator. Where  $\varphi(x, t) = \varphi_0 e^{-i\omega t}$ . **11marks**

- 4a. Given the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ , find the corresponding eigenvectors and eigenvalue. **8marks**

- b. For the Hermitian matrix 4a, show that the Eigen functions can be normalized and that they are orthogonal. **7marks**

- 5a. State the Correspondence Principle **3marks**

- b.  $\Psi(x) = A(ax - x^2)$  for  $|x| \leq a$ . Normalise the wavefunction and find  $\langle x \rangle$ . **12marks**

- 6a. States the postulates of Quantum Mechanics **4marks**

- b. A particle trapped in the well  $V \begin{cases} 0, & 0 < x < a \\ \infty, & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$

- 5(a). Describe the algorithm to prove the finiteness of a regular language L. (*6marks*)
- b) Explain the term Finite in respect to automaton and with the aid of a diagram, show the following (i) transition state, ii) start state iii) Final State. (*9 marks*)
- 6 a) When is a grammar said to be ambiguous and in what state is language is said to be recursively enumerable (*9 marks*)
- b) State the Types of PDAs (*6 marks*)

is found to have a wave function  $\frac{i}{2}\sqrt{\frac{2}{a}}\sin\frac{\pi x}{a} + \sqrt{\frac{2}{3a}}\sin\frac{3\pi x}{a} - \sqrt{\frac{2}{16a}}\sin\frac{3\pi x}{a}$

- (a) If the energy is measured, what are the possible results and what is the probability of obtaining each result?
- (b) What is the most probable energy for this particle?
- (c) What is the average energy of the particle? **11marks**