

Answer ALL SIX questions from Section A and THREE questions from Section B.

The numbers in square brackets at the right-hand margin indicate the provisional allocation of marks per sub-section of a question.

You may assume the following values:

Planck constant $h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$; $\hbar = 1.05 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$;

Electronic charge $e = 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$;

Mass of electron $m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$;

SECTION A

[Part
marks]

1. The time-dependent Schrödinger equation for a particle moving in one dimension can be written

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial x^2} + V(x, t) \Psi(x, t) = i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial t}.$$

Define the quantities V and Ψ appearing in this equation.

[3]

Give an expression involving *one* of the above quantities for the probability that the particle may be found in a small region of space between the positions x and $x + \delta x$.

[3]

2. The function

$$\psi(x) = Ce^{ikx},$$

where C and k are constants, is a solution to the time-independent Schrödinger equation for a particle moving in free space in one dimension.

How is the quantity k related to the de Broglie wavelength of the particle?

[2]

The function $\psi(x)$ is an eigenfunction of the momentum operator

$$\hat{p} = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x}.$$

By substituting $\psi(x)$ into the defining equation for an eigenfunction, find the corresponding eigenvalue.

[4]

3. Let the functions $\{\phi_n\}$ be the eigenfunctions of some Hermitian operator. Explain what is meant if it is stated that this set of functions is *orthonormal*.

[4]

The expansion postulate allows us to express an arbitrary function ψ in terms of such a set of eigenfunctions. What is the general form of such an expression? (You are not required to evaluate the quantities appearing in it.)

[3]

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