

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

APPLIED PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

SPH 1104 MODERN PHYSICS

BSc HONOURS PART I: JANUARY 2004

DURATION : 3 HOURS

ANSWER ALL PARTS OF QUESTION 1 IN SECTION A AND ANY THREE QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B. SECTION A CARRIES 40 MARKS AND SECTION B CARRIES 60 MARKS

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|-----------------------------|---|
| Planck's constant, | $h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s}$ |
| Electron rest mass, | $m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$ |
| Speed of light, | $c = 3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ |
| 1 electron volt | $e = 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$ |
| Mass of electron, | $m_e = 5.48 \times 10^{-4} \text{ u}$ |
| Mass of proton, | $m_p = 1.007 825 \text{ u}$ |
| Mass of neutron, | $m_n = 1.008 665 \text{ u}$ |
| 1 atomic mass unit, | $1\text{u} = 931.49 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ |
| Electronic Charge, | $e = 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$ |
| Stefan – Boltzmann constant | $\sigma = 5.67 \times 10^{-8} \text{ W/m}^2\cdot\text{K}^4$ |
| Wein's constant, | $k = 2.899 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}\cdot\text{K}$ |
| Mass of ${}^4\text{He}$ | ${}^4\text{He} = 4.002 603\text{u}$ |
| Mass of ${}^1\text{H}$ | ${}^1\text{H} = 1.007825\text{u}$ |

SECTION A

1. (a) For the photoelectrical effect, define the following terms:
- (i) work function,
 - (ii) photoelectron,
 - (iii) threshold frequency,
 - (iv) write down the photoelectric equation [5]
- (b) (i) What is the "ULTRAVIOLET CATASTROPHE"? [2]
(ii) For a black body at a temperature of 800K, find the wavelength of the most intense part of radiation that it emits. [3]
- (c) (i) State Bohr's postulates as well as the one he adopted from

- Rutherford for his model of the atom. [3]
- (ii) What does the "Ground state" mean for the hydrogen atom and why is energy associated with this state negative? [4]
- (iii) State Wien's displacement law defining all symbols and explain why it is called a "Displacement Law" [3]
- (d) (i) Why does the "Photoelectric effect" not work for free electrons? [2]
- (ii) A source emits light of wavelength $4.5 \times 10^{-7} \text{m}$ at a rate of 1.1W. How many photons leave the source every second? [4]
- (e) A baseball player dispatches the ball of mass 150g at a speed of 115km/h. Determine its De Broglie wavelength. [2]
- (f) (i) Define the terms "isotopes", "isotones" and "isobars" in terms of the mass number, A, neutron number N, and the atomic number Z. Give an example of each. [4]
- (ii) The most abundant isotope of helium is ${}^4_2\text{He}$. Using atomic mass units and electron volts, Determine the mass deficit and the binding energy per nucleon of ${}^4_2\text{He}$. [4]
- (g) Differentiate between continuous and line spectra and explain how you would go about producing each. [2]
- (h) Write a statement for Heisenberg's principle of uncertainty and write down the relationship for position and momentum. [2]

SECTION B

2. (a) (i) What is your understanding of a 'black body'? [4]
- (ii) Show that in the limits of long wavelengths, Planck's radiation equation given by:
- $$R(\lambda) = \frac{2\pi^5 h^6}{15 \lambda^5} \cdot \frac{1}{e^{hc/\lambda kT} - 1}$$
- reduces to Rayleigh - Jeans equation or relation. [5]
- (iii) Show that for the most intense part of radiation, Planck's radiation relation reduces to Wein's displacement law. [8]

(iv) Assuming that the earth has a mean temperature of 300K, determine the power radiated from 1cm^2 of the earth. [3]

3. (a) Define the terms “fusion” and “fission”. [2]

(b) Define life time T and half life $T_{1/2}$ as applied to radioactive decay. [4]

(c) (i) The following table shows the results of measuring the dependence of the activity A of a certain radioactive element on time t .

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| $t(\text{hrs})$ | 0 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 15 |
| $A(\text{mCi})$ | 21.6 | 12.6 | 7.6 | 4.2 | 2.4 | 1.8 |

Find the half life of this element. [5]

(ii) A radioactive substance with decay constant λ has an activity A_1 at $t = t_1$ and activity A_2 at $t = t_2$. What is the total number of atoms that have decayed between t_1 and t_2 ? [5]

(d) Calculate the disintegration energy Q for the Beta decay of ^{32}P , given that the atomic masses are 31.97391U for ^{32}P and 31.97207U for ^{32}S . [4]

4. (a) (i) Show that the radius for the n^{th} orbit of Bohr’s model of the hydrogen atom is given by:

$$r_n = \left(\frac{4\pi\epsilon_0 \hbar^2}{me^2} \right) n^2 \quad [5]$$

(ii) Show also, that the energy of the electron in the n^{th} orbit is given by:

$$E_n = \frac{-me^4}{32\pi^2\epsilon_0^2\hbar^2n^2} \quad [5]$$

(iii) Hence or otherwise find an expression for the energy quantum required to excite a hydrogen atom in its ground state to its “third excited state”. [3]

(b) (i) List any three deficiencies of Bohr’s model. [3]

(ii) What weaknesses led to Thomson’s ‘plum pudding’ model being discarded? [4]

5. (a) (i) Briefly describe Compton's experiment and explain how it can be used as a basis to support the particulate nature of electromagnetic radiation. [4]
- (ii) Show, using diagrammatic illustrations, that the expression for the Compton shift, $\Delta\lambda$ is given by:

$$\lambda' - \lambda = \frac{h}{mec}(1 - \cos\theta)$$
 where θ is the scattering angle of the photon. [8]
- (b) In a Compton scattering experiment, x-rays of wavelength 0.015nm are scattered through an angle of 45° by 'free' electrons, what is their new wavelength. [2]
- (c) At what angle θ does the maximum possible wavelength of the scattered x-rays occur. [2]
- (d) Explain why in the Compton scattering experiment, the recoil electrons are regarded as 'free'. [2]
- (e) What would be the effect of replacing electrons by protons? [2]
6. (a) What features of the photoelectric effect could not be explained by classical physics? How does Einstein explain these features? [6]
- (b) When sodium metal is illuminated with light of wavelength $3.10 \times 10^2 \text{ nm}$, the stopping potential is 1.69V.
- (i) Define the term 'stopping potential' [2]
- (ii) Find the 'work function' of sodium. [3]
- (iii) Calculate the kinetic energy of the most energetic electrons emitted from the sodium surface when it is illuminated with light of wavelength $2.9 \times 10^2 \text{ nm}$. [2]
- (iv) Why do some electrons have kinetic energies smaller than K_{max} ? [2]
- (c) In the photoelectric effect how can a photon moving in one direction eject an electron moving in a different direction? What happens to conservation of momentum? [2]
- (d) Briefly explain the phrase 'wave-particle duality' [3]

- END OF EXAMINATION -