

Department of Physics – Unit Test

1. An ideal gas with adiabatic exponent, undergoes a process in which its pressure P is related to its volume V by the relation $P = P_0 - \alpha V$, where P_0 and α are positive constants. The volume starts from being very close to zero and increases monotonically to P_0/α . At what value of the volume during the process does the gas have maximum entropy?
 - a) $\frac{P_0}{\alpha(1+\gamma)}$
 - b) $\frac{\gamma P_0}{\alpha(1-\gamma)}$
 - c) $\frac{\gamma P_0}{\alpha(1-\gamma)}$
 - d) $\frac{P_0}{\alpha(1-\gamma)}$

2. The H₂ molecule has a reduced mass $M=8.35 \times 10^{-28}$ kg and an equilibrium internuclear distance $R = 0.742 \times 10^{-10}$ m. The rotational energy in terms of the rotational quantum number J is :
 - a) $E_{rot}(J) = 7J(J - 1)meV$
 - b) $E_{rot}(J) = \frac{5}{2}J(J + 1)meV$
 - c) $E_{rot}(J) = 7J(J + 1)meV$
 - d) $E_{rot}(J) = \frac{5}{2}J(J - 1)meV$

3. The mean value of random variable x with probability density $P(x)=\frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{\pi}}\exp(-\frac{x^2+\mu x}{2\sigma^2})$
 - a) 0
 - b) $\frac{\mu}{2}$
 - c) $\frac{\mu}{2}$
 - d) σ

4. Self inductance per unit length of a long solenoid of radius R with n turns per unit length is:
 - a) $\mu_0\pi R^2 n^2$
 - b) $2\mu_0\pi R^2 n^2$
 - c) $\mu_0\pi R^2 n$
 - d) $2\mu_0\pi R^2 n$

5. How much force does light from a 1.8 W laser exert when it is totally absorbed by an object?
 - a) $6.0 \times 10^{-9}N$
 - b) $0.6 \times 10^{-9}N$
 - c) $6.0 \times 10^{-8}N$
 - d) $4.8 \times 10^{-9}N$

6. A cylindrical shell of mass m has an outer radius b and an inner radius a . The moment of inertia of the shell about the axis of the cylinder is:
 - a) $\frac{1}{2}m(b^2 - a^2)$
 - b) $\frac{1}{2}m(b^2 + a^2)$
 - c) $m(b^2 - a^2)$
 - d) $m(b^2 + a^2)$

7. A gas contains particles of type A with fraction 0.8, and particles of type B with fraction 0.2. The probability that among 3 randomly chosen particles at least one is of type A is:
 - a) 0.8
 - b) 0.25
 - c) 0.33
 - d) 0.992

8. The half-life of a radioactive nuclear source is 9 days. The fraction of nuclei which are left undecayed after 3 days is:
 - a) $7/8$
 - b) $1/3$
 - c) $5/6$
 - d) $1/2^{\frac{1}{3}}$

9. A semicircular piece of paper is folded to make a cone with the center of the semicircle as the apex. The half angle of the resulting cone would be:
 - a) 90°
 - b) 60°
 - c) 30°
 - d) 45°

10. Circular fringes are obtained with a Michelson interferometer using 600nm laser light. What minimum displacement of one mirror will make the central fringe from bright to dark?
 - a) 600nm
 - b) 300nm
 - c) 150nm
 - d) $120A^\circ$

11. In the ground state of hydrogen atom, the most probable distance of the electron from the nucleus, in units of Bohr radius a_0 is:
 - a) $\frac{1}{2}$
 - b) 1
 - c) 2
 - d) $3/2$

12. The adjoint of a differential operator d/dx acting on a wavefunction $\varphi(x)$ for a quantum mechanical system is :
- A) d/dx b) $-i\hbar \frac{d}{dx}$ c) $-d/dx$ d) $i\hbar \frac{d}{dx}$
13. The number of different Bravais lattices possible in two dimension is:
- a) 2 b) 3 c) 5 d) 6
14. A transistor in common base configuration has ratio of collector current to emitter current β and ratio of collector to base current α . Which of the following is true :
- a) $\beta = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha+1}$ b) $\beta = \frac{\alpha+1}{\alpha}$ c) $\beta = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}$ d) $\beta = \frac{\alpha-1}{\alpha}$
15. The central force which results in the orbit $r = a(1 + \cos\theta)$ for a particle is proportional to :
- a) r b) r^2 c) r^{-2} d) None of these
16. The maximum relativistic kinetic energy of β particles from a radioactive nucleus is equal to the rest mass energy of the particle. A magnetic field is applied perpendicular to the beam of β particles, which bends it to a circle of radius R . The field is given by :
- a) $3m_0c/eR$ b) $\sqrt{2}m_0c/eR$ c) $\sqrt{3}m_0c/eR$ d) $\sqrt{3}m_0c/2eR$
17. The strength of magnetic field at the center of a regular hexagon with sides of length a carrying a steady current I is:
- a) $\mu_0 I/\sqrt{3}\pi a$ b) $\sqrt{6}\mu_0 I/\pi a$ c) $3\mu_0 I/\pi a$ d) $\sqrt{3}\mu_0 I/\pi a$
18. A point charge q of mass m is released from rest at a distance d from an infinite grounded conducting plane (ignore gravity). How long does it takes for the charge to hit the plane ?
- a) $\frac{\sqrt{2\pi^3 m \epsilon_0 d^3}}{q}$ b) $\frac{\sqrt{2\pi^3 m \epsilon_0 d}}{q}$ c) $\frac{\sqrt{\pi^3 m \epsilon_0 d^3}}{q}$ d) $\frac{\sqrt{\pi^3 m \epsilon_0 d}}{q}$
19. Light takes approximately 8 minutes to travel from the Sun to the Earth. Suppose in the frame of the Sun an event occurs at $t = 0$ at the Sun and another event occurs on Earth at $t = 1$ minute. The velocity of the inertial frame in which both these events are simultaneous is:
- a) $c/8$ with the velocity vector pointing from Earth to Sun
b) $c/8$ with the velocity vector pointing from Sun to Earth
c) The events can never be simultaneous - no such frame exists
d) $C\sqrt{1 - (1/8)^2}$ with velocity vector pointing from sun to earth
20. A spherical shell of radius R carries a constant surface charge density ω and is rotating about one of its diameters with an angular velocity ω . The magnitude of the magnetic moment of the shell is:
- a) $4\pi\sigma\omega R^4$ b) $4\pi\sigma\omega R^4/3$ c) $4\pi\sigma\omega R^4/15$ d) $4\pi\sigma\omega R^4/9$
21. Consider N non-interacting electrons ($N \sim N_A$) in a box of sides L_x, L_y, L_z . Assume that the dispersion relation is $\epsilon(k) = Ck^4$, where C is a constant, the ratio of the ground state energy per particle to the Fermi energy is :
- a) $3/7$ b) $7/3$ c) $3/5$ d) $5/7$
22. You receive on average 5 emails per day during a 365 days year. The number of days on average on which you do not receive any emails in that year are:
- (a) more than 5 b) more than 2 c) 1 d) none of these

23. An ideal gas has a specific heat ratio C_p/C_v . Starting at a temperature T_1 the gas under goes an isothermal compression to increase its density by a factor of two. After this an adiabatic compression increases its pressure by a factor of two. The temperature of the gas at the end of the second process would be:
 a) $\sqrt{2}T_1$ b) $2T_1$ c) $T_1/2$ d) $T_1/\sqrt{2}$
24. A thin air film of thickness d is formed in a glass medium. For normal incidence, the condition for constructive interference in the reflected beam is (in terms of wavelength λ and integer $m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$):
 a) $2d=(m-1/2)\lambda$ b) $2d=m\lambda$ c) $2d=(m-1)\lambda$ d) $2\lambda = (m - 1/2)d$
25. A bead of mass M slides along a parabolic wire described by $z = 2(x^2 + y^2) +$. The wire rotates with angular velocity Ω about the z -axis. At what value of Ω does the bead maintain a constant nonzero height under the action of gravity along $-\hat{z}$?
 a) \sqrt{g} b) $\sqrt{2g}$ c) $\sqrt{3g}$ d) $2\sqrt{g}$
26. If the mean square fluctuations in energy of a system in equilibrium at temperature T is proportional to T^α , then the energy of the system is proportional to :
 a) $T^{\alpha-2}$ b) T^α c) $T^{\alpha/2}$ d) $T^{\alpha-1}$
27. Suppose the spin degrees of freedom of a 2-particle system can be described by a 21-dimensional Hilbert subspace. Which among the following could be the spin of one of the particles ?
 a) $\frac{1}{2}$ b) 3 c) $3/2$ d) 2
28. Water is poured at a rate of R m³/hour from the top into a cylindrical vessel of diameter D . The vessel has a small opening of area a ($\sqrt{a} \ll D$) at the bottom. What should be the minimum height of the vessel so that water does not overflow ?
 a) ∞ b) $R^2/2ga^2$ c) $R^2/2gaD^2$ d) $8R^2/\pi D^2g^2$
29. What is the equation of the plane which is tangent to the surface $4xyz$ at the point $(1, 2, 2)$?
 a) $x+2y+4z=12$ b) $4x+2y+z=12$ c) $x+4y+z=0$ d) $2x+y+z=6$
30. Two equal positive charges of magnitude $+q$ separated by a distance d are surrounded by a uniformly charged thin spherical shell of radius $2d$ bearing a total charge $-2q$ and centred at the midpoint between the two positive charges. The net electric field at distance r from the midpoint is?
 a) Zero b) proportional to d c) proportional to $\frac{1}{r^3}$ d) proportional to $\frac{1}{r^4}$

31. If the Hamiltonian of a classical particle is $H = (P_x^2 + P_y^2)/2m$, then $\langle x^2 + xy + y^2 \rangle$ at temperature T is equal to:
 a) $K_B T$ b) $(1/2) K_B T$ c) $2K_B T$ d) $(3/2) K_B T$
32. After the detonation of an atom bomb, the spherical ball of gas was found to be 15 meter radius at a temperature of 3×10^5 K. Given the adiabatic expansion coefficient $\gamma = 5/3$, what will be the radius of the ball when its temperature reduces to 3×10^3 K ?
 a) 156m b) 150m c) 100m d) 50m
33. The electric field $\vec{E} = E_0 \sin(\omega t - kz) \hat{x} + 2E_0 \sin(\omega t - kz + \frac{\pi}{2}) \hat{y}$ represents:
 a) a linearly polarized wave b) a right hand circularly polarized wave
 c) a left hand circularly polarized wave d) an elliptically polarized wave
34. A solid, insulating sphere of radius 1 cm has charge 10^{-7} C distributed uniformly over its volume. It is surrounded concentrically by a conducting thick spherical shell of inner radius 2 cm, outer radius 2.5 cm and is charged with -2×10^{-7} C. What is the electrostatic potential in Volts on the surface of the sphere?
35. The Fourier transform of the function $\frac{1}{x^4 + 3x^2 + 2}$ upto the proportionality constant is:
 a) $\sqrt{2} \exp(-k^2) - \exp(-2k^2)$ b) $\sqrt{2} \exp(-k) - \exp(-\sqrt{2}|k|)$
 c) $\sqrt{2} \exp(-\sqrt{|k|}) - \exp(-\sqrt{2|k|})$ d) $\sqrt{2} \exp(-\sqrt{2}k^2) - \exp(-2k^2)$
36. A cylindrical at temperature $T = 0$ is separated into two compartments A and B by a free sliding piston. Compartments A and B are filled by Fermi gases made of spin 1/2 and 3/2 particles respectively, if particles in both the compartments have same mass, the ratio of equilibrium density of the gas in compartment A to that of gas in compartment B is:
 a) $\frac{1}{3^{2/5}}$ b) 1 c) $\frac{1}{2^{2/5}}$ d) $\frac{1}{3^{2/3}}$
37. The temperature in a rectangular plate bounded by the lines $x=0, y=0, x=3$ and $y=5$, $T = xy^2 - x^2y + 100$ What is the maximum temperature difference between two points on the plate?
38. A sphere of inner radius 1 cm and outer radius 2 cm, centered at origins has a volume charge density $\rho_0 = \frac{k}{4\pi r}$, where k is a nonzero constant and r is the radial distance. A point charge of magnitude 10^{-3} C is placed at the origin. For what value of k in units of C/m², the electric field inside the shell is constant ?
39. Suppose that the number of microstates available to a system of N particles depends on N and the combined variable UV^2 , where U is the internal energy and V is the volume of the system. The system initially has volume 2m³ and energy 200 J. It undergoes an isentropic expansion to volume 4m³. What is the final pressure of the system in SI units ?

40. Let a particle of mass 1×10^{-9} kg, constrained to have one dimensional motion, be initially at the origin ($x=0$ m). The particle is in equilibrium with a thermal bath $K_B T = 10^{-8}$ J . What is $\langle x^2 \rangle$ of the particle after a time $t= 5$ s?