

1. Part I (15 pts)

A spaceship is traveling at a speed of $0.6c$ relative to an observer on Earth. At time $t=0$ according to the observer on Earth, a pulse of light is emitted from a point on the spaceship *along the direction of motion*, travels to a mirror on the opposite side of the spaceship, reflects back to the point of emission, and is detected by a sensor on the spaceship.

The distance between the point of emission and the mirror is $L=100$ meters according to the spaceship. How long does it take for the pulse of light to make the round-trip according to

- (a) The observer on Earth?
- (b) An observer on the spaceship?
(Draw a clear diagram for cases (a) and (b)).
- (c) What is the distance between the point of emission and the mirror according to an observer on Earth?

Part II (10 pts)

- (d) The HERA accelerator in Hamburg, Germany collides 27 GeV electrons with 820 GeV protons, what is the available energy for producing new particles i.e. \sqrt{s} in the center of mass frame ? (Useful info $m_e=0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$, $m_p=938 \text{ MeV}/c^2$)
- (e) Does \sqrt{s} depend on the frame of reference? (i.e. center of mass frame or laboratory frame).

2. A system of point-like masses ($m_1 = m_2 = m$) moves in one dimension (x_1, x_2) and is described by the following Lagrangian:

$$L = \frac{m}{2}\dot{x}_1^2 + \frac{m}{2}\dot{x}_2^2 - V(x_1) - V(x_2) - \frac{k}{2}(x_1 - x_2)^2$$

with $V(x_j) = \lambda(x_j^2 - a^2)^2$ and $\lambda > 0$, $a > 0$, $k > 0$. Treat the case of small oscillations around the resting point $x_1 = x_2 = a$ and use the coordinates $y_j = x_j - a$.

- (a) (5 pts) Approximate the Lagrangian for small elongations and neglect terms on the order of y_j^3 .
- (b) (5 pts) Derive the equations of motion.
- (c) (15 pts) Determine the oscillation frequencies of the system and calculate the general solution of the equations of motion.

3. Consider a point mass m moving in a spherically symmetric potential $V(r)$. Assume the motion is confined to the plane $\theta = \pi/2$.
- (5 pts) Write down the Lagrangian using coordinates r and ϕ .
 - (5 pts) Find the equations of motion for r and ϕ . (The equations of motion for ϕ simply give conservation of angular momentum.) Using conservation of angular momentum, eliminate $\dot{\phi}$ for an equation of motion that only depends on r (and its derivatives) and angular momentum L .
 - (5 pts) Write down the effective potential that governs the radial motion.
 - (5 pts) Can the potential $V(r) = -\frac{C}{r}$ (where $C > 0$) yield circular orbits that are stable to small perturbations for any value of r ? Explain your reasoning.
 - (5 pts) For general potential $V(r)$, what inequality must be satisfied by the potential to yield circular orbits that are stable to small perturbations? (You should eliminate L from your equation assuming a circular orbit.)

4. A merry-go-round (infinitely thin solid disk) has a radius $R = 2.0$ m, mass $M = 150$ kg. A child of mass $m = 50$ kg runs tangent to the rim at 4.0 m/s and jumps on.
- (a) (4 pts) Derive the moment of inertia of the merry-go-round and the child (a point particle) with respect to the geometric center of the merry go-round?
 - (b) (5 pts) If the merry-go-round is initially at rest, what is the angular velocity after the boy jumps on (give a numerical result with units) ?
 - (c) (8 pts) Calculate the moment of inertia with respect to the center of mass of the merry-go-round and child.
 - (d) (8 pts) Suppose the merry-go-round is instead located on a frictionless ice rink. (The pivot of the merry-go-round is not constrained to a single point.) What is the angular velocity after the child jumps on the merry-go-round in this case ?

1. A coaxial cable is made from two thin hollow, concentric, perfectly conducting cylinders one inside the other. The inner cylinder is negatively charged ($-Q$) while the outer one is positively charged ($+Q$). The inner cylinder has radius $a = 0.50$ mm while the larger outer one has radius $b = 5.0$ mm. The length L of the cylinders is 18 cm. Assume that this length is long enough so that edge effects at the ends of the cylinders can be neglected.
- (a) (1 pts) Sketch the cylinders and label the dimensions.
 - (b) (3 pts) What is the magnitude and direction of the E field in the region between the two cylinders? (give your result in terms of Q , a , b and L)
 - (c) (2 pts) What is the magnitude and direction of the E field in the region outside the cylinders? (give your result in terms of Q , a , b and L).}
 - (d) (9 pts) What is the potential difference between the cylinders? (give your result in terms of Q , a , b and L).
 - (e) (10 pts) What is the capacitance/length of the coaxial cable? (give a numerical result with units, note $\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F/m}$)

2. **Some helpful information is given at the bottom of this question.**

The electromagnetic four-potential (in SI units) is $A^\mu = (\frac{\Phi}{c}, \vec{A})$ where Φ is the electric scalar potential and \vec{A} is the magnetic vector potential.

- (a) (7 pts) By direct computation, show that the Faraday tensor $F^{\mu\nu} = \partial^\mu A^\nu - \partial^\nu A^\mu$ in SI units is

$$F^{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -E_x/c & -E_y/c & -E_z/c \\ E_x/c & 0 & -B_z & B_y \\ E_y/c & B_z & 0 & -B_x \\ E_z/c & -B_y & B_x & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

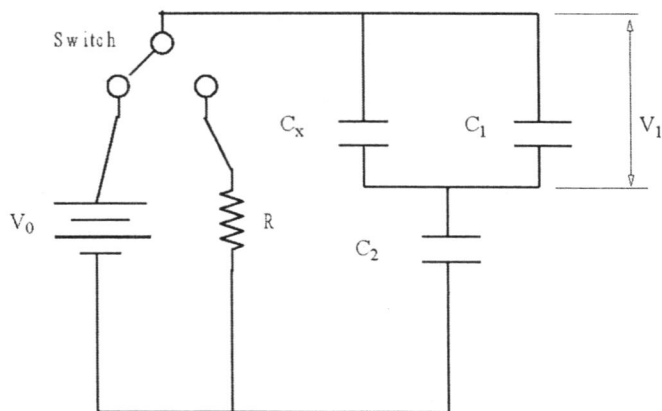
- (b) (6 pts) In a reference frame S, a stationary observer sees an electromagnetic field $\vec{E} = E(\vec{r}, t)\vec{\hat{x}}$, $\vec{B} = B(\vec{r}, t)\vec{\hat{y}}$. By performing an appropriate Lorentz-transformation, show that the electric and magnetic fields observed by a stationary observer in a reference frame S' moving with constant velocity $\vec{v} = v\vec{\hat{z}}$ are $\vec{E}' = \gamma(E - vB)\vec{\hat{x}}$ and $\vec{B}' = \gamma(B - \frac{vE}{c^2})\vec{\hat{y}}$.
- (c) (12 pts) An electromagnetic wave with $\vec{E} = E_i\vec{\hat{x}} e^{i(kz - \omega t)}$ impinges on a dielectric slab with relative permittivity ϵ at normal incidence. The slab moves with constant velocity $\vec{v} = v\vec{\hat{z}}$. Calculate the amplitude of the reflected electric wave in the S frame.

Helpful Information:

- $\nabla \times \vec{c} = (\partial_y c_z - \partial_z c_y)\vec{\hat{x}} + (\partial_z c_x - \partial_x c_z)\vec{\hat{y}} + (\partial_x c_y - \partial_y c_x)\vec{\hat{z}}$.
- The metric on Minkowski space with coordinates $x^\mu = (ct, x, y, z)$ is $g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}(1, -1, -1, -1)$.
- The operator $\partial_\mu = \partial/\partial x^\mu$.
- The Lorentz transformation to a frame moving with constant velocity $\vec{v} = v\vec{\hat{z}}$ is

$$\Lambda^\mu_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & 0 & 0 & -\beta\gamma \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\beta\gamma & 0 & 0 & \gamma \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } \beta = \frac{v}{c} \text{ and } \gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}}.$$

3.



In the circuit sketched above, $C_1 = 2.7 \mu\text{F}$ and $C_2 = 6.4 \mu\text{F}$, $V_0 = 5.0 \text{ V}$ is the battery voltage, and V_1 is the voltage across capacitor C_1 . The circuit is initially in the configuration shown with the capacitors fully charged.

- (a) (5 pts) What capacitance C_x is required for the ratio $V_0/V_1 = 15$?
- (b) (5 pts) What is the total charge and energy stored in the capacitors?
- (c) (5 pts) At time $t = 0$ the switch is flipped to the resistor leg of the circuit. The resistor will be damaged if its instantaneous power dissipation exceeds 0.5 W . What minimum value of R is needed to avoid damage to the resistor?
- (d) (10 pts) For this minimum resistance, how much energy is dissipated in the first 1 millisecond?

4. A closely wound coil has an area of 4 cm^2 , 200 turns, a resistance of $R=50 \text{ Ohms}$, and is located in a uniform magnetic field. The coil is connected to a measuring device (an ammeter) whose resistance is $r=30 \text{ Ohms}$.

When the coil rotates quickly from a position parallel to the uniform field to one perpendicular, the ammeter records a time-integrated current (charge) of $4 \times 10^{-5} \text{ C}$.

- (a) (10 pts) Starting from Maxwell's equations in differential form, show that the potential difference in this situation is $\text{EMF} = - \Delta\phi/\Delta t$ (where ϕ is the magnetic flux).
- (b) (10 pts) What is the magnitude of the magnetic field (give a numerical result with units)?
- (c) (5 pts) How much work is done by rotating the coil from the parallel to the perpendicular orientation?
(Assume a constant angular velocity of 6.28 radians/sec)

1. A particle of mass m is initially in the ground state of an infinite square well of width a , with energy E_1 . The well ranges from $x=0$ to $x=a$. At time $t=0$, a perturbation appears in the well, shifting the potential in the left half of the well (from $x=0$ to $x=a/2$) to V_0 , where $V_0 \ll E_1$. At time T the perturbation is removed again, and you measure the energy of the particle.

- (a) (1 pt) Sketch the well and the perturbation.

Find the probability at time T (to first order in perturbation theory) that the energy measured is E_2 , i.e. corresponds to the first excited state of the infinite square well.

- (b) (9 pts) Write down an expression for this probability in terms of integrals over time and space.
- (b) (8 pts) Perform the time integral.
- (c) (7 pts) Fully simplify your answer, which should include evaluating the spatial integral.

Hint:

$$\int \sin(ax)\sin(bx)dx = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{-1}{a+b} \sin(ax+bx) + \frac{1}{a-b} \sin(ax-bx) \right\}$$

2. An electron of mass m is initially in its *ground state* in an infinite one-dimensional box with walls at 0 and L . The wall of the box at $x=L$ is **suddenly** (in a time $\ll \hbar/E_n$) moved to $x = 2L$.
- (a) (5pts) Using the boundary conditions, derive the wavefunction of the electron in the ground state of the original infinite box.
 - (b) (10 pts) Calculate the **probability** that the electron will be found in the ground state of the expanded box.
 - (c) (5 pts) Calculate the energy of the first excited state of the expanded box.
 - (d) (5 pts) Calculate the **probability** of finding the electron in the first excited state of the expanded box.

Hint:

$$\int \sin(ax)\sin(bx)dx = \frac{1}{2}\left\{\frac{-1}{a+b}\sin(ax+bx) + \frac{1}{a-b}\sin(ax-bx)\right\}$$

3. A particle of mass m moves under the influence of a rusty spring, resulting in a potential slightly steeper than the usual quantum harmonic oscillator. The potential has the form

$$V(x) = \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 x^2 + \beta x^4,$$

where the first term is the usual harmonic oscillator potential.

- (a) (7 pts) Write the Hamiltonian in terms of raising and lowering operators when β is nonzero.
- (b) (18 pts) Consider β to be small, i.e., the spring is only slightly rusty. Using the results of part (a), calculate the energy eigenvalues of the system, to first order in β .

4. A negatively charged π^- meson (zero spin, odd parity) is initially bound in the lowest energy s-wave state around a deuteron. It is captured by the deuteron (which is a parity-even spin 1 bound state of a proton and a neutron) and then converted into a pair of neutrons. (Note that neutrons and protons are spin $\frac{1}{2}$ particles.)

$$\pi^- + d \rightarrow n + n$$

- (a) (8 pts) What is the orbital angular momentum of the neutron pair?
- (b) (2 pts) Should the overall wavefunction of the neutron pair be symmetric, anti-symmetric, or have no definite symmetry (explain your choice)?
- (c) (5 pts) What is the total spin angular momentum of the neutron pair?
- (d) (10 pts) Can the spin-one parity-odd ρ^0 meson decay into a $\pi^+ \pi^-$ pair or $\pi^0 \pi^0$ pair? If so, what are the relative orbital angular momenta for the two cases?

1. [25 points] The fundamental differential thermodynamic relation for a macroscopic system, in terms of its extensive variables, energy, entropy, volume, and number of particles, E, S, V, N , is:

$$dE = TdS - pdV + \mu dN. \quad (1)$$

The intensive variables, absolute temperature, T , pressure, p , and chemical potential, μ , are functions of the independent variables S, V, N , obtained from the partial derivative relations:

$$T = \left(\frac{\partial E}{\partial S} \right)_{V,N}, \quad -p = \left(\frac{\partial E}{\partial V} \right)_{S,N}, \quad \mu = \left(\frac{\partial E}{\partial N} \right)_{S,V}. \quad (2)$$

Consider the Legendre transformation of the energy, defining the enthalpy, $H = E + pV$.

[7 points] (a) **Derive** the differential relation for the enthalpy and its partial differential relations.

Consider the following model system for questions, (b)-(g). The enthalpy H , of a macroscopic system in thermodynamic equilibrium is:

$$H = \varepsilon_0 \left(\frac{S}{k_B} \right) \left(\frac{p}{p_0} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}}, \quad (3)$$

where ε_0 , p_0 are characteristic energy and pressure scales (constants), respectively, of the system, and k_B is Boltzmann's constant. Derive the following equations, expressed in terms of independent variables, T, V :

[2 points] (b) **Derive** the equation for the chemical potential of the system. Explain the physical meaning of the result.

[2 points] (c) **Derive** the equation for the pressure of the system.

[2 points] (d) **Derive** the equation for the entropy of the system.

[2 points] (e) **Derive** the equation for the energy of the system.

The system undergoes a quasi-static change in state, $A \rightarrow B$, which consists of a volume expansion from an initial state, $V_i = V_A$ to a final state, $V_f = V_B = 2V_A$, (volume doubling). **Calculate** the change in energy, heat, and work, for the change in state, under the following separate constraints:

[5 points] (f) Isothermal (constant temperature, $T = T_A$).

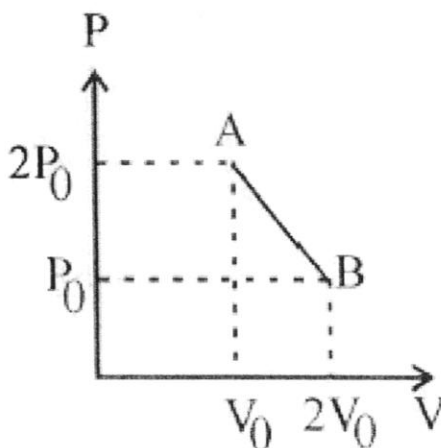
[5 points] (g) Isentropic (constant entropy, $S = S_A$).

2. A Carnot engine (a type of heat engine) takes 2000 J of heat from a reservoir at 500 K (226.85° C), does some work, and discards some heat to a reservoir at 350 K (76.85° C).

Recall for a Carnot engine, $Q_C/Q_H = -T_C/T_H$ (where T_C and T_H are the temperatures of the heat and cold reservoirs, respectively).

- (a) (2 pts) Draw a sketch of the energy flow in this process (labeling the hot and cold reservoirs, indicating the two heat transfers).
- (b) (5 pts) How much heat is discarded (give a numerical result with units)?
- (c) (5 pts) How much work is done (give a numerical result with units)?
- (d) (10 pts) Calculate the efficiency of the Carnot engine (give a numerical result).
- (e) (3 pts) A Carnot cycle with a gas in a cylinder with a piston has the following steps: (1) the gas expands *isothermally* at temperature T_H , absorbing heat Q_H , (2) it expands *adiabatically* until its temperature drops to T_C , (3). The gas is compressed *isothermally* at T_C , rejecting heat $|Q_C|$ and (4) it is compressed *adiabatically* back to its initial state at temperature T_H . **What is the net entropy change in one cycle of a Carnot engine?**

3. Consider n moles of an *ideal gas* undergoing the process A to B as shown in the figure below. The ideal gas law is $PV = nRT$.



- (a) (5 pts) What is the equation of the straight line from A to B in the P-V plane?
- (b) (15 pts) What is the maximum temperature of the gas during the process A to B (give your result in terms of P_0 , V_0 , n and the gas constant R)?
- (c) (5 pts) Does the maximum temperature occur at either point A or B (explain)?

4.

Let there be a surface in contact with a reservoir of two types of atoms, at temperature T . The surface has N trapping sites of type 1, and N trapping sites of type 2, in total, those are $2N$ trapping sites. Each trapping site can either be empty, or occupied by *at most one* atom.

The atoms of type 1 have chemical potential μ_1 , and the atoms of type 2 have chemical potential μ_2 . (We can write more compactly: atoms of type i have chemical potential μ_i , with $i = 1, 2$.)

If a site is empty, the energy is zero. A site of type 1 occupied by an atom of type 1 has energy $-\epsilon_1$, and a site of type 1 occupied by an atom of type 2 has energy $-\epsilon_1 + \epsilon$. A site of type 2 occupied by an atom of type 2 has energy $-\epsilon_2$, and a site of type 2 occupied by an atom of type 1 has energy $-\epsilon_2 + \epsilon$. (More compactly, we can write: a site of type i occupied by an atom of type i has energy $-\epsilon_i$, while a site of type i occupied by an atom of type $j \neq i$ has energy $-\epsilon_i + \epsilon$, where $i = 1, 2$, $j = 1, 2$ (j indicates the other type: if $i = 1$, then $j = 2$; if $i = 2$, then $j = 1$).)

Hint: The trapping sites are independent.

(a) (6 pts) What is the probability, $p_i(n_i, n_j)$, that one site of type i is occupied by n_i atoms of type i , and n_j atoms of type $j \neq i$. Which values are allowed for $\{n_1, n_2\}$?

For example, the probability that a site of type 1 is occupied by one atom of type 1 is denoted by $p_1(n_1 = 1, n_2 = 0)$, while the probability that a site of type 1 is occupied by one atom of type 2 is denoted by $p_1(n_1 = 0, n_2 = 1)$, and the probability that a site of type 1 is empty is $p_1(n_1 = 0, n_2 = 0)$. You can write out all combinations, or alternatively, you can write it more compactly, using indices i and j , as above.

(b) (4 pts) Calculate the average number of empty type i sites ($i = 1, 2$). Explain your reasoning.

(c) (4 pts) Write down the average total number of empty sites. Then assume that $\forall i: \epsilon_i = \epsilon_0$, and $\mu_i = \mu$ (that is: $\epsilon_1 = \epsilon_2 = \epsilon_0$, and $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = \mu$). Under this assumption, what is the simplified formula for the average total number of empty sites, $\langle N_e \rangle$? What conditions do T and μ have to fulfill, such that $\langle N_e \rangle \rightarrow 0$?

(d) (4 pts) What is the average number, $\langle N_{i,j} \rangle$, of atoms of type j found in sites of type i ? (Pay attention to the two cases: $j = i$, $j \neq i$.)

(e) (7 pts) What is the internal energy U ? Can you write it in terms of the $\langle N_{i,j} \rangle$?