

**PHYSICS EXAMINATION PROBLEMS  
SOLUTIONS AND HINTS FOR STUDENT SELF-STUDY**

Module Code	PHY2002
Name of module	Quantum Physics 1
Date of examination	January 2008

1. Radioactive decay, scanning microscopes..

Check general properties of barriers and probabilities distributions in course text.

Approx expression is  $P_{trans} \approx G \exp(-2|q|L)$  with  $G = 16 \frac{E}{V_0} \left(1 - \frac{E}{V_0}\right)$  and  $|q| = \sqrt{\frac{2m|E - V_0|}{\hbar^2}}$  provided  $|q|L \ll 1$ . Should find  $P_{trans} \sim 3 \times 10^{-10}$ .

2. For operators that commute order of measurement of associated properties does not matter.

Use standard formula for zero point energy,  $E = \frac{1}{2} \hbar \omega_0$ .

3 nm.

3. Probabilities are  $P(1) = 3/7$ ,  $P(2) = 1/7$ ,  $P(3) = 0$ ,  $P(4) = 1/7$ ,  $P(5) = 2/7$

Expectation value is  $\frac{12}{7} \hbar$

4. Energy approx  $10^{-20}$  J, wavelength approx  $10 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $Q \sim 20$ .

5. Should find  $\Psi_1 = \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right)$

Probabilities are 0.82 and 0.5, found by appropriate integration.

UNIVERSITY OF EXETER – SCHOOL OF PHYSICS  
SOLUTION TO EXAMINATION QUESTION

Module number	PHY2006
Year of Examination	2007-08
Question Number	
Name of Setter	
Initial of Checker	

HINTS & SOLUTIONS

- Q1 (i) Book work  
(ii) Book work

Q2 (i) Book work  
(ii)  $\oint_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{S} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \int \rho dV \Rightarrow 2\pi r l E = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_0^l dz \int_0^r (ks) s ds$   
 $\therefore \vec{E} = \frac{k}{3\epsilon_0} r^2 \hat{r}$   
 Numerical value  $E = 0.0188 \text{ N/C}$

- Q3 All book work

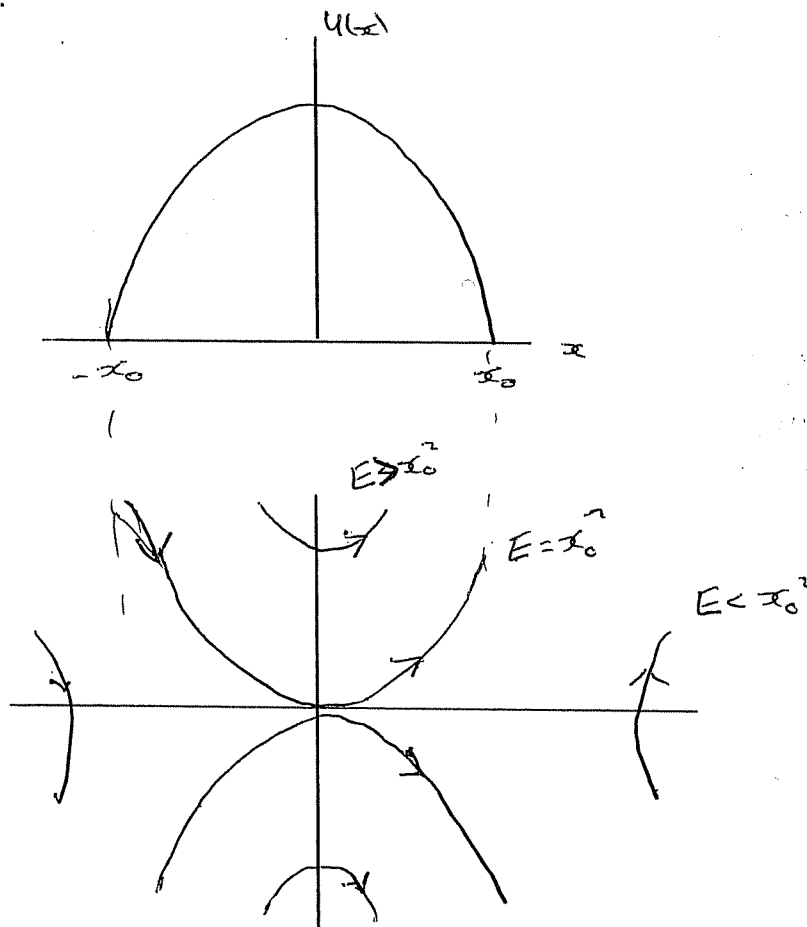
- Q4 (i) Book work  
(ii) Book work  
(iii) Book/home work  
 Numerical solution  $|A_z| = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2a} \ln\left(\frac{4}{2}\right) = 13.8629 \times 10^{-7} \text{ T.m}$

- Q5 All book work

# 1. PHYSICS EXAMINATION PROBLEMS SOLUTIONS AND HINTS FOR STUDENT SELF-STUDY

Module Code	PHY2007
Name of module	Relativity II and Mechanics
Date of examination	June 2008

1. First parts bookwork.  
Torque =  $11 \cdot 10^5 \text{ Nm}$ . (substitution – make sure units are correct including angular speed in  $\text{rad s}^{-1}$ )  
Equate work (power x time) to kinetic energy  $\Rightarrow t = 2205 \text{ s}$ .
  
2. First parts book work. Use parallel axes theorem to show I about corner is  $7\rho a^4/12$ .  
Kinetic energy =  $7\rho a^4 \dot{\theta}^2/12$ . Potential energy  $\approx \rho g a^3 \theta/2\sqrt{2}$ . Set time derivative of total energy to zero to recover eqn for SHM.
  
3. First parts bookwork. For projectile  $L = \frac{1}{2}m\dot{x}^2 + \frac{1}{2}m\dot{y}^2 - mgy \Rightarrow \ddot{x} = 0, \ddot{y} = -g$ . Integration and substitution  $\Rightarrow y = -\frac{1}{2}g(x/C)^2 + Ax/C$  where A and C are constants of integration.
  
4. Trajectories:



5. First parts bookwork. Energy = 305 Mev, angle =  $\cos^{-1} 0.95$ .

For final part, conservation of energy and momentum  $\Rightarrow E_p^2 = p_p^2 c^2 \cos^2 \theta$ , where  $E_p$  and  $p_p$  are the total energy and momentum of the particle, but we also require  $E_p^2 > p_p^2 c^2$ , which is impossible.

**PHYSICS EXAMINATION PROBLEMS  
SOLUTIONS AND HINTS FOR STUDENT SELF-STUDY**

Module Code	PHY2009
Name of module	Physics of Crystals
Date of examination	January 2008

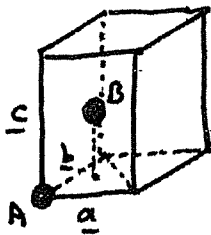
1. (i) Description of bonds & resulting physical properties - see lecture notes.

Examples: metallic bonding - Copper  
van der Waals " - Solid Argon

(ii) hcp structure:

- take 2D triangular structure (as formed by packing billiard balls in a plane)
- stack successive sheets in ABABAB sequence, as distinct from ABCABC sequence which forms ~~fcc~~ fcc structure

Consider hcp unit cell, which contains 2 basis atoms at A, B.



$$\underline{r}_A = 0, \quad \underline{r}_B = \frac{1}{3} \underline{a} + \frac{1}{3} \underline{b} + \frac{1}{2} \underline{c}$$

Spheres of maximum radius touch half way along AB

$$\therefore \frac{1}{4} r_B^2 = a^2 = b^2$$

$$\therefore |c| = 2\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} |a|$$

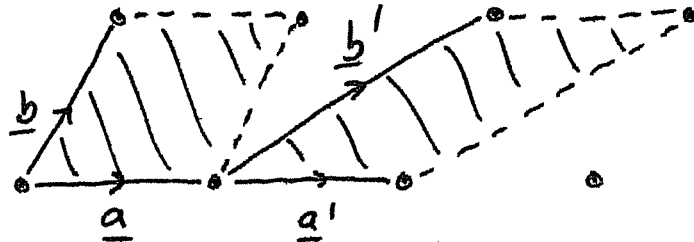
$$\text{Packing fraction} = \frac{2 \times \frac{4}{3} \pi \left(\frac{a}{2}\right)^3}{(\underline{a} \times \underline{b}) \cdot \underline{c}} = \underline{0.740}$$

**PHYSICS EXAMINATION PROBLEMS  
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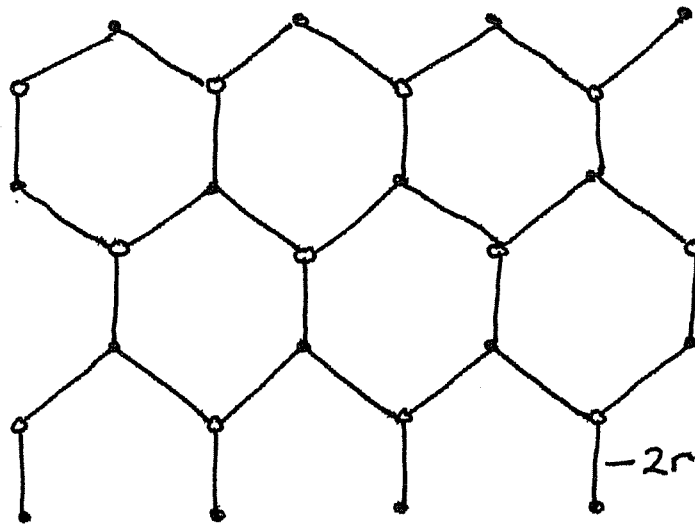
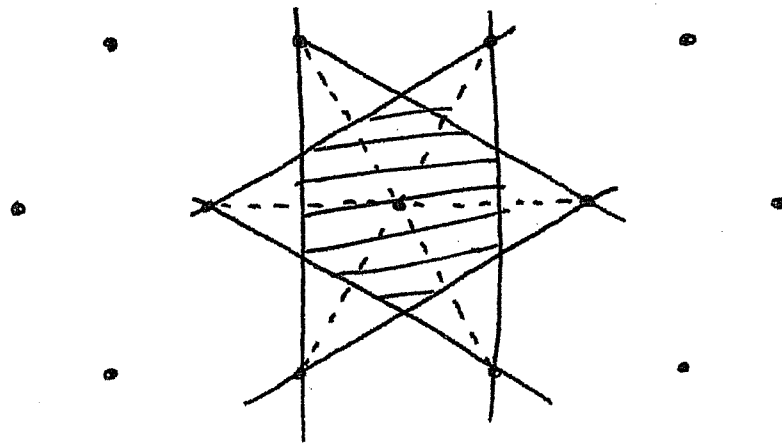
Module Code	PHY2009
Name of module	Physics of Crystals
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2.

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Coordination number = 3

$$\text{Packing fraction} = \frac{2 \times \pi r^2}{|\underline{a} \times \underline{b}|} = \frac{\pi}{3\sqrt{3}}$$

**PHYSICS EXAMINATION PROBLEMS  
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Module Code	PHY2009
Name of module	Physics of Crystals
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3.  $\text{Cu}_3\text{Au}$

Simple cubic

$(0,0,0)$  Au,  $(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0)$ ,  $(\frac{1}{2}, 0, \frac{1}{2})$ ,  $(0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$  Cu

$\theta = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{\lambda}{2d}\right)$  where  $d = \frac{a}{\sqrt{h^2+k^2+l^2}}$  and  $h, k, l$  can take any integer values

$\therefore$  if  $\lambda = 0.154 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\theta = 11.9^\circ, 16.9^\circ, 20.9^\circ, 24.3^\circ, \dots$

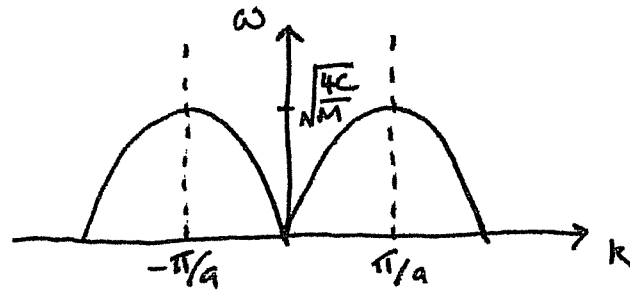
Structure is fcc after heating  $\therefore$  consider fcc structure factor

Only the 3rd & 4th peaks now observed.

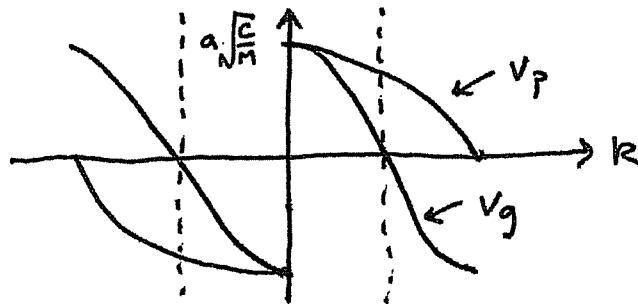
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4. Derivation of equations of motion and dispersion relation is in the lecture notes



$$V_p = \frac{\omega}{k}, \quad V_g = \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k} = a \left( \frac{c}{M} \right)^{1/2} \cos\left(\frac{ka}{2}\right) \quad \text{for } 0 < k < \frac{2\pi}{a}$$



Speed of sound:  $k \approx 0$ ,  $V_p = V_g = a \sqrt{\frac{c}{M}} = \underline{9360 \text{ ms}^{-1}}$

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$$5. \quad N(k) = \frac{k^3}{3\pi^2} \quad \text{and} \quad E = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} \quad \therefore N(E) = \frac{1}{3\pi^2} \left( \frac{2mE}{\hbar^2} \right)^{3/2}$$

Sodium: 2 electrons contained within volume  $(0.423 \text{ nm})^3$   
 $\therefore$  can calculate  $N(E_f) = \frac{2}{(0.423 \text{ nm})^3}$

$$\text{Hence } E_f = 3.22 \text{ eV}$$

$$v_f \approx (2E_f/m)^{1/2} = 1.1 \times 10^6 \text{ m/s}$$

Repeated, reduced and extended zone schemes described in lectures notes as were Fermi level positions of different classes of electrical materials.

# **PHY2013**

## **ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY**

**FOR DISCUSSION WITH PERSONAL TUTOR, THEREFORE NO HINTS & TIPS ARE PROVIDED.**

**THE MODULE LEADER WILL PROVIDE REVISION PROBLEMS AND TUTORIAL AT THE END OF THE COURSE.**

## Hints and Tips for PHY2018, Mathematics with Physical Applications

1. (i) Complementary solution is  $y = a + b \exp(2x) + c \exp(-2x)$ . Try particular solution  $d \exp(-x)$  from which  $d = 2$ . Solution is  $y = a + b \exp(2x) + c \exp(-2x) + 2 \exp(-x)$ . To satisfy boundary conditions, require  $b = 1/4$ ,  $c = -3/2$  and  $a = -3/2$ .

(ii) For  $m = 1$ ,  $n = n_0 \exp(-kt)$  and for  $m = 2$ ,  $n = \frac{1}{c+kt} = \frac{n_0}{1+kn_0t}$

Plot  $\ln(n)$  versus  $t$  in first case and  $1/n$  versus  $t$

2.

$$\frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) = l(l+1)$$

Try the solution  $R = ar^m$ . Then  $m(m+1) = l(l+1)$  and hence  $m = l$  or  $m = -l-1$ . Thus general solution is

$$R = Ar^l + \frac{B}{r^{l+1}}$$

Wronskian is the determinant of the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} r^l & r^{-l-1} \\ lr^{l-1} & (-l-1)r^{-l-2} \end{pmatrix}$$

or  $-(l+1)\frac{1}{r^2} - \frac{l}{r^2} = -\frac{(2l+1)}{r^2}$ . As Wronskian is not zero, functions are independent.

As potential is finite at origin and as  $\cos^2 \theta = 2/3 P_2 + 1/3 P_0$ , solution of Laplace's equation which is  $V_0 \cos^2 \theta$  on surface  $r = a$  is

$$\frac{2V_0}{3} P_2(\cos \theta) (r/a)^2 + \frac{V_0}{3} P_0(\cos \theta)$$

for  $r \leq a$  and

$$\frac{2V_0}{3} P_2(\cos \theta) (a/r)^3 + \frac{V_0}{3} P_0(\cos \theta),$$

for  $r \geq 0$ .

3. Heat equation

$$\kappa \nabla^2 u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$$

Set  $u = 100 - 100x/l + v(x, t)$  and note that as  $u(x, 0)$  is  $100x/l$ , then for  $0 < x < l$ ,  $v(x, 0) = -100 + 200x/l = -200(l-x)/l + 100$ , while  $v(0, t) = v(l, t) = 0$ .

Question 4

a)  $A\underline{X} = \underline{Y}$        $A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$        $\underline{X} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ X_3 \end{pmatrix}$        $\underline{Y} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$  [2]

b)  $\det(A) = -8$        $\det(A) \neq 0 \Rightarrow$  there exists a unique solution [4]

c) Inverse matrix:  $A^{-1} = \frac{(A_{jk})^T}{\det(A)}$  matrix of cofactors [5]

$$A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & -4 & -2 \\ -1 & -2 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{-8}$$

$$AA^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

d)  $\underline{X} = A^{-1}\underline{R} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$  [5]

e)  $\alpha = \arccos\left(\frac{\underline{X} \cdot \underline{Y}}{|\underline{X}||\underline{Y}|}\right) = 0.64 \text{ rad}$  [5]

f)  $\det(A)$  [4]

$\text{inv}(A)$

$\text{inv}(A) * A$

$X = \text{inv}(A) * R$

$\text{Alpha} = \text{acos}(Y * X / (\text{sqrt}(X(1)^2 + X(2)^2 + X(3)^2) * \text{sqrt}(Y(1)^2 + Y(2)^2 + Y(3)^2)))$

Question 5.

$\text{Det}(A - I\lambda) = 0 \rightarrow$  characteristic equation  $(8 - \lambda)(2 - \lambda) = 0 \rightarrow \lambda_{1,2} = 2, 8$ . [4]

Eigenvectors:

$$\lambda_1 = 2: \begin{cases} 3x_1 + 3x_2 = 0 \\ 3x_1 - 3x_2 = 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{let } x_1 = 1 \text{ then } x_2 = -1$$

$$\lambda_2 = 8: \begin{cases} -3x_1 + 3x_2 = 0 \\ 3x_1 - 3x_2 = 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{let } x_2 = 1 \text{ then } x_1 = 1$$

Eigenvector matrix:  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  principle directions [5]

Orthogonal to each other: e.g.  $(1,1) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = 0$  [2]

Ellipsoid. With ratio of axes: 8/2 [2,4]

Diagonal form of A:  $\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_3 \end{pmatrix} = B^{-1}AB$  [2,2]

In MATLAB to find eigenvalues and eigenvectors of A:

$[B,L]=\text{eig}(A)$  [2]

where B matrix of unit eigenvectors and L diagonal matrix of eigenvalues

Question 6.

a) Given the boundary conditions basis functions should be of the form  $k_n = \frac{2\pi n}{L}$  [5]

b) Normalisation:  $\int_0^L f_n(x)f_n(x)dx = 1$

$$A^2 \int_0^L dx = A^2 L = 1$$

$$\rightarrow A = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} \quad [5]$$

Orthogonality ( $n \neq m$ ):  $\int_0^L f_n(x)f_m(x)dx = 0$

$$\frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^L \exp(i(k_m - k_n)x)dx = 0$$

c) Given:  $\hat{H}(x) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2M} \frac{d^2}{dx^2}$ ,  $\Psi(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n f_n(x)$  [2]

the differential equation can be rewritten in the following form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} H_{11} & H_{12} & \dots \\ H_{21} & H_{22} & \dots \\ \dots & H_{mm} & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ \dots \end{pmatrix} = E \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ \dots \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \text{Eigenvalue problem} \quad [3]$$

d) Where matrix elements are found as

$$H_{nm} = \int_0^L f_n^*(x) \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2M} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} f_m(x) \right) dx = \frac{\hbar^2}{2M} k_n^2 \delta_{m,n} \quad [5]$$

The matrix is diagonal so the system is in the canonical form. The wavefunctions will be simply the basis set components: i.e.

$$\psi_1(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} \exp(ik_1x)$$

[5]

$$\psi_2(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} \exp(ik_2x)$$

# **PHY2019**

## **OBSERVING THE UNIVERSE**

**NO HINTS & TIPS ARE PROVIDED.**

**FOR HELP, PLEASE CONTACT THE  
MODULE LEAD.**

**PHYSICS EXAMINATION PROBLEMS  
SOLUTIONS AND HINTS FOR STUDENT SELF-STUDY**

<b>Module Code</b>	<b>PHY2020</b>
<b>Name of module</b>	<b>Lasers and Materials for Quantum Applications</b>
<b>Date of examination</b>	<b>June 2008</b>

3.  $\Delta\nu/\delta\nu = 5$

4.  $N_3/N_2 = 2.79 \times 10^{-41}$

**PHYSICS EXAMINATION PROBLEMS  
SOLUTIONS AND HINTS FOR STUDENT SELF-STUDY**

<b>Module Code</b>	<b>PHY2201</b>
<b>Name of module</b>	<b>Statistical Physics</b>
<b>Date of examination</b>	<b>Jan 2008</b>

1. i) See course notes.  $\Delta S_{total} = -\frac{Q_1}{T_1} + \frac{Q_2}{T_2} \Rightarrow$  if  $Q_2 = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta S < 0$ , contrary to the 2nd Law, unless  $T = 0$ .
- ii)  $P_{min} = Q_2 \frac{T_1 - T_2}{T_2} \approx 0.3 \text{ MW}$ .
- iii) Use  $dS_1 = \frac{m c_v dT}{T}$  for water and  $\Delta S_2 = -m c_v \frac{\Delta T}{T_f}$  for the reservoir, where  $T_f = T_{reservoir}$
- $$\Delta S_{total} = m c_v \left[ \ln\left(\frac{T_f}{T_i}\right) + \frac{T_i}{T_f} - 1 \right] \approx 122 \text{ JK}^{-1}.$$
2. i) See course notes. Equilibrium:  $\langle v_x \rangle = \langle v_y \rangle = \langle v_z \rangle = 0 \Rightarrow$  no bulk motion..
- ii) See course notes.
- $$\langle \varepsilon \rangle = \int_0^\infty \varepsilon p(\varepsilon) d\varepsilon = \frac{3}{2\beta} = \frac{3k_B T}{2} \Rightarrow \beta = \frac{1}{k_B T}.$$
- Conduction electrons – ‘quantum gas’, rules governing occupancy dominate behaviour.
3. i) See course notes.
- ii)  $T = \frac{\Delta \varepsilon}{k_B \ln 10} = 2.5 \times 10^4 \text{ K}$ .
- iii)  $\Omega_{n,k} = \frac{(n+k-1)!}{n!k!} = 35$ . Equally shared energy:  $p = \frac{1}{35} \approx 0.029$ ;  $S = 0$ . Energy shared between two systems:  $p = \frac{6}{35} \approx 0.17$ .
4. i) See course notes.
- ii) See course notes.
- iii) Use  $Z = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\frac{\varepsilon_i}{k_B T}\right)$  and the geometrical series summation rule.
5. i)  $S = k_B \ln \Omega$ ; see course notes.  $\Omega_{A+B} = \Omega_A \cdot \Omega_B \Rightarrow S_{A+B} = k_B \ln \Omega_A + k_B \ln \Omega_B = S_A + S_B$   
a)  $S = 0$ : b)  $S = k_B \ln N \approx 3.2 \times 10^{-23} \text{ JK}^{-1}$ ;  
c)  $S = k_B \ln \Omega_{N/2} = k_B \ln \frac{N!}{(N/2)!(N/2)!} \approx N k_B \ln 2 \approx 7.63 \times 10^{-23} \text{ JK}^{-1}$ .
- ii) See course notes.
- Classical limit:  $\exp\left(\frac{E_i - E_F}{k_B T}\right) \gg 1$ . Therefore,  $\frac{n_i}{w_i} \propto \exp\left(-\frac{E_i}{k_B T}\right)$ .

**PHYSICS EXAMINATION PROBLEMS  
SOLUTIONS AND HINTS FOR STUDENT SELF-STUDY**

Module Code	PHY2208
Name of module	Optics
Date of examination	June 2008

1. (iii)  $\frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{s'} = \frac{2}{R}$ , but the image distance is infinite so  $\frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{\infty} = \frac{2}{0.2}$  and  $s = 0.1$  m.
2.  $D = d + \theta L = d + \frac{L\lambda}{d}$ . Differentiate to give  $\frac{dD}{dd} = 1 - \frac{L\lambda}{d^2}$  and set to zero for min so  $d = \sqrt{\lambda L}$
3.  $Z_R = 25$  cm  
 $\theta = \frac{1.22\lambda}{d} = 305 \times 10^{-9}$  radians giving distance of  $10^5$  Mpc.
4. Quarter wave plate so  $(n_e - n_o)d = \frac{\lambda}{4}$  and  $d = 1.25 \times 10^{-4}$  m
5.  $2nd = m\lambda$  so  $m = 2500$ . For FP  $R = mF$ , so  $10^8 = 2500F$  and  $F = 40000$