

## Ming Zhang

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**From:** Marc Baarmand  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 17, 2009 9:25 AM  
**To:** Ming Zhang  
**Subject:** Modern physics HW problems

Hi Ming:

Here are the home work problems I have assigned for my course. Keep in mind that this is for the material I covered in the course which is of course not all everything I wanted to do due to time constraints.

Cheers,  
Marc

The following problems from Young and Freedman University Physics (12 edition) are assigned:

Chapter 37: 2, 4, 7, 11, 13  
Chapter 37: 20, 21, 29, 33, 44, 69  
Chapter 38: 2, 13, 17, 19, 27, 30, 33, 45  
Chapter 39: 5, 15, 19, 31, 38, 47  
Chapter 40: 5, 14, 24, 33, 37, 39  
Chapter 41: 6, 8, 15, 19, 23, 25  
Chapter 42: 17, 19, 21, 26, 27, 29  
Chapter 43: 6, 7, 18, 22, 33  
Chapter 44: 5, 21, 29, 49

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**37.2.** The positive muon ( $\mu^+$ ), an unstable particle, lives on average  $2.20 \times 10^{-6}$  s (measured in its own frame of reference) before decaying. (a) If such a particle is moving, with respect to the laboratory, with a speed of  $0.900c$ , what average lifetime is measured in the laboratory? (b) What average distance, measured in the laboratory, does the particle move before decaying?

**37.4.** A spaceship flies past Mars with a speed of  $0.985c$  relative to the surface of the planet. When the spaceship is directly overhead, a signal light on the Martian surface blinks on and then off. An observer on Mars measures that the signal light was on for  $75.0 \mu\text{s}$ . (a) Does the observer on Mars or the pilot on the spaceship measure the proper time? (b) What is the duration of the light pulse measured by the pilot of the spaceship?

**37.7.** A spacecraft flies away from the earth with a speed of  $4.80 \times 10^6$  m/s relative to the earth and then returns at the same speed. The spacecraft carries an atomic clock that has been carefully synchronized with an identical clock that remains at rest on earth. The spacecraft returns to its starting point 365 days (1 year) later, as measured by the clock that remained on earth. What is the difference in the elapsed times on the two clocks, measured in hours? Which clock, the one in the spacecraft or the one on earth, shows the shortest elapsed time?

**37.11. Why Are We Bombarded by Muons?** Muons are unstable subatomic particles that decay to electrons with a mean lifetime of  $2.2 \mu\text{s}$ . They are produced when cosmic rays bombard the upper atmosphere about 10 km above the earth's surface, and they travel very close to the speed of light. The problem we want to address is why we see any of them at the earth's surface. (a) What is the greatest distance a muon could travel during its  $2.2\text{-}\mu\text{s}$  lifetime? (b) According to your answer in part (a), it would seem that muons could never make it to the ground. But the  $2.2\text{-}\mu\text{s}$  lifetime is measured in the frame of the muon, and muons are moving very fast. At a speed of  $0.999c$ , what is the mean lifetime of a muon as measured by an observer at rest on the earth? How far would the muon travel in this time? Does this result explain why we find muons in cosmic rays? (c) From the point of view of the muon, it still lives for only  $2.2 \mu\text{s}$ , so how does it make it to the ground? What is the thickness of the 10 km of atmosphere through which the muon must travel, as measured by the muon? It is now clear how the muon is able to reach the ground?

**37.13.** As measured by an observer on the earth, a spacecraft runway on earth has a length of 3600 m. (a) What is the length of the runway as measured by a pilot of a spacecraft flying past at a speed of  $4.00 \times 10^7$  m/s relative to the earth? (b) An observer on earth measures the time interval from when the spacecraft is directly over one end of the runway until it is directly over the other end. What result does she get? (c) The pilot of the spacecraft measures the time it takes him to travel from one end of the runway to the other end. What value does he get?

**37.20.** Two particles in a high-energy accelerator experiment are approaching each other head-on, each with a speed of  $0.9520c$  as measured in the laboratory. What is the magnitude of the velocity of one particle relative to the other?

**37.21.** Two particles in a high-energy accelerator experiment approach each other head-on with a relative speed of  $0.890c$ . Both particles travel at the same speed as measured in the laboratory. What is the speed of each particle, as measured in the laboratory?

**37.29.** (a) At what speed is the momentum of a particle twice as great as the result obtained from the nonrelativistic expression  $mv$ ? Express your answer in terms of the speed of light. (b) A force is applied to a particle along its direction of motion. At what speed is the magnitude of force required to produce a given acceleration twice as great as the force required to produce the same acceleration when the particle is at rest? Express your answer in terms of the speed of light.

**37.33.** A proton (rest mass  $1.67 \times 10^{-27}$  kg) has total energy that is 4.00 times its rest energy. What are (a) the kinetic energy of the proton; (b) the magnitude of the momentum of the proton; (c) the speed of the proton?

**37.44. Creating a Particle.** Two protons (each with rest mass  $M = 1.67 \times 10^{-27}$  kg) are initially moving with equal speeds in opposite directions. The protons continue to exist after a collision that also produces an  $\eta^0$  particle (see Chapter 44). The rest mass of the  $\eta^0$  is  $m = 9.75 \times 10^{-28}$  kg. (a) If the two protons and the  $\eta^0$  are all at rest after the collision, find the initial speed of the protons, expressed as a fraction of the speed of light. (b) What is the kinetic energy of each proton? Express your answer in MeV. (c) What is the rest energy of the  $\eta^0$ , expressed in MeV? (d) Discuss the relationship between the answers to parts (b) and (c).

**37.69. Space Travel?** Travel to the stars requires hundreds or thousands of years, even at the speed of light. Some people have suggested that we can get around this difficulty by accelerating the rocket (and its astronauts) to very high speeds so that they will age less due to time dilation. The fly in this ointment is that it takes a great deal of energy to do this. Suppose you want to go to the immense red giant Betelgeuse, which is about 500 light-years away. (A light-year is the distance that light travels in a year.) You plan to travel at constant speed in a 1000-kg rocket ship (a little over a ton), which, in reality, is far too small for this purpose. In each case that follows, calculate the time for the trip, as measured by people on earth and by astronauts in the rocket ship, the energy needed in joules, and the energy needed as a percentage of U.S. yearly use (which is  $1.0 \times 10^{19}$  J). For comparison, arrange your results in a table showing  $v_{\text{rocket}}$ ,  $t_{\text{earth}}$ ,  $t_{\text{rocket}}$ ,  $E$  (in J), and

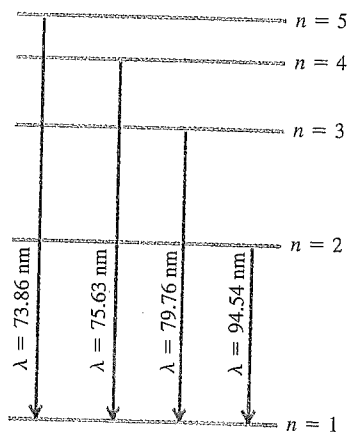
**38.2. Response of the Eye.** The human eye is most sensitive to green light of wavelength 505 nm. Experiments have found that when people are kept in a dark room until their eyes adapt to the darkness, a *single* photon of green light will trigger receptor cells in the rods of the retina. (a) What is the frequency of this photon? (b) How much energy (in joules and electron volts) does it deliver to the receptor cells? (c) to appreciate what a small amount of energy this is, calculate how fast a typical bacterium of mass  $9.5 \times 10^{-12}$  g would move if it had that much energy.

**38.13.** When ultraviolet light with a wavelength of 254 nm falls on a clean copper surface, the stopping potential necessary to stop emission of photoelectrons is 0.181 V. (a) What is the photoelectric threshold wavelength for this copper surface? (b) What is the work function for this surface, and how does your calculated value compare with that given in Table 38.1?

**38.17.** (a) An atom initially in an energy level with  $E = -6.52$  eV absorbs a photon that has wavelength 860 nm. What is the internal energy of the atom after it absorbs the photon? (b) An atom initially in an energy level with  $E = -2.68$  eV emits a photon that has wavelength 420 nm. What is the internal energy of the atom after it emits the photon?

**38.19.** In a set of experiments on a hypothetical one-electron atom, you measure the wavelengths of the photons emitted from transitions ending in the ground state ( $n = 1$ ), as shown in the energy-level diagram in Fig. 38.37. You also observe that it takes 17.50 eV

Figure 38.37 Exercise 38.19.



to ionize this atom. (a) What is the energy of the atom in each of the levels ( $n = 1, n = 2$ , etc.) shown in the figure? (b) If an electron made a transition from the  $n = 4$  to the  $n = 2$  level what wavelength of light would it emit?

**38.27.** (a) Using the Bohr model, calculate the speed of the electron in a hydrogen atom in the  $n = 1, 2$  and 3 levels. (b) Calculate the orbital period in each of these levels. (c) The average lifetime of the first excited level of a hydrogen atom is  $1.0 \times 10^{-8}$  s. In the Bohr model, how many orbits does an electron in the  $n = 2$  level complete before returning to the ground level?

**38.30. PRK Surgery.** Photorefractive keratectomy (PRK) is a laser-based surgical procedure that corrects near- and farsightedness by removing part on the lens of the eye to change its curvature and hence focal length. This procedure can remove layers 0.25  $\mu\text{m}$  thick using pulses lasting 12.0 ns from a laser beam of wavelength 193 nm. Low-intensity beams can be used because each individual photon has enough energy to break the covalent bonds of the tissue. (a) In what part of the electromagnetic spectrum does this light lie? (b) What is the energy of a single photon? (c) If a 1.50-mW beam is used, how many photons are delivered to the lens in each pulse?

**38.33.** Protons are accelerated from rest by a potential difference of 4.00 kV and strike a metal target. If a proton produces one photon on impact, what is the minimum wavelength of the resulting x rays? How does your answer compare to the minimum wavelength if 4.00-keV electrons are used instead? Why do x-ray tubes use electrons rather than protons to produce x rays?

**38.45.** Radiation has been detected from space that is characteristic of an ideal radiator at  $T = 2.728$  K. (This radiation is a relic of the Big Bang at the beginning of the universe.) For this temperature, at what wavelength does the Planck distribution peak? In what part of the electromagnetic spectrum is this wavelength?

**39.5.** In the Bohr model of the hydrogen atom, what is the de Broglie wavelength for the electron when it is in (a) the  $n = 1$  level and (b) the  $n = 4$  level? In each case, compare the de Broglie wavelength to the circumference  $2\pi r_n$  of the orbit.

**39.15.** A beam of neutrons that all have the same energy scatters from the atoms that have a spacing of 0.0910 nm in the surface plane of a crystal. The  $m = 1$  intensity maximum occurs when the angle  $\theta$  in Fig. 39.3 is  $28.6^\circ$ . What is the kinetic energy (in electron volts) of each neutron in the beam?

**39.19.** By extremely careful measurement, you determine the  $x$ -coordinate of a car's center of mass with an uncertainty of only 1.00  $\mu\text{m}$ . The car has a mass of 1200 kg. (a) What is the minimum uncertainty in the  $x$ -component of the velocity of the car's center of mass as prescribed by the Heisenberg uncertainty principle? (b) Does the uncertainty principle impose a practical limit on our ability to make simultaneous measurements of the positions and velocities of ordinary objects like cars, books, and people? Explain.

**39.31. Normalization of the Wave Function.** Consider a particle moving in one dimension, which we shall call the  $x$ -axis. (a) What does it mean for the wave function of this particle to be *normalized*? (b) Is the wave function  $\psi(x) = e^{ax}$ , where  $a$  is a positive real number, normalized? Could this be a valid wave function? (c) If the particle described by the wave function  $\psi(x) = Ae^{bx}$ , where  $A$  and  $b$  are positive real numbers, is confined to the range  $x \geq 0$ , determine  $A$  (including its units) so that the

**39.38.** A beam of 40-eV electrons traveling in the  $+x$ -direction passes through a slit that is parallel to the  $y$ -axis and 5.0  $\mu\text{m}$  wide. The diffraction pattern is recorded on a screen 2.5 m from the slit. (a) What is the de Broglie wavelength of the electrons? (b) How much time does it take the electrons to travel from the slit to the screen? (c) Use the width of the central diffraction pattern to calculate the uncertainty in the  $y$ -component of momentum of an electron just after it has passed through the slit. (d) Use the result of part (c) and the Heisenberg uncertainty principle (Eq. 39.11 for  $y$ ) to estimate the minimum uncertainty in the  $y$ -coordinate of an electron just after it has passed through the slit. Compare your result to the width of the slit.

**39.47.** (a) What is the de Broglie wavelength of an electron accelerated from rest through a potential increase of 125 V? (b) What is the de Broglie wavelength of an alpha particle ( $q = +2e$ ,  $m = 6.64 \times 10^{-27}$  kg) accelerated from rest through a potential drop of 125 V?

**40.5.** A certain atom requires 3.0 eV of energy to excite an electron from the ground level to the first excited level. Model the atom as an electron in a box and find the width  $L$  of the box.

**40.14.** An electron is moving past the square well shown in Fig. 40.6. The electron has energy  $E = 3U_0$ . What is the ratio of the de Broglie wavelength of the electron in the region  $x > L$  to the wavelength for  $0 < x < L$ ?

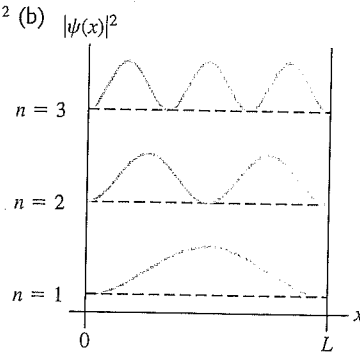
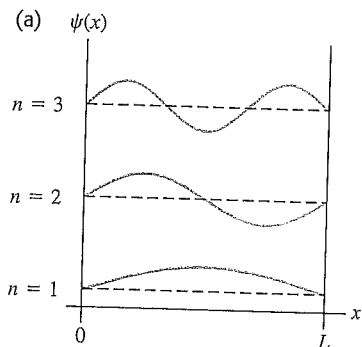
**40.24.** A proton with initial kinetic energy 50.0 eV encounters a barrier of height 70.0 eV. What is the width of the barrier if the probability of tunneling is  $3.0 \times 10^{-3}$ ? How does this compare with the barrier width for an electron with the same energy tunneling through a barrier of the same height with the same probability?

**40.33.** For the sodium atom of Example 40.6, find (a) the ground-state energy, (b) the wavelength of a photon emitted when the  $n = 4$  to  $n = 3$  transition occurs; (c) the energy difference for any  $\Delta n = 1$  transition.

**40.37. Photon in a Dye Laser.** An electron in a long, organic molecule used in a dye laser behaves approximately like a particle in a box with width 4.18 nm. What is the wavelength of the photon emitted when the electron undergoes a transition (a) from the first excited level to the ground level and (b) from the second excited level to the first excited level?

**40.39.** What is the probability of finding a particle in a box of length  $L$  in the region between  $x = L/4$  and  $x = 3L/4$  when the particle is in (a) the ground level and (b) the first excited level? (Hint: Integrate  $|\psi(x)|^2 dx$ , where  $\psi$  is normalized, between  $L/4$  and  $3L/4$ .) (c) Are your results in parts (a) and (b) consistent with Fig. 40.5b? Explain.

**40.5** Graphs of (a)  $\psi(x)$  and (b)  $|\psi(x)|^2$  for the first three wave functions ( $n = 1, 2, 3$ ) for a particle in a box. The horizontal dashed lines represent  $\psi(x) = 0$  and  $|\psi(x)|^2 = 0$  for each of the three levels. The value of  $|\psi(x)|^2 dx$  at each point is the probability of finding the particle in a small interval  $dx$  about the point.



**41.6.** (a) Make a chart showing all the possible sets of quantum numbers  $l$  and  $m_l$  for the states of the electron in the hydrogen atom when  $n = 5$ . How many combinations are there? (b) What are the energies of these states?

**41.8.** (a) What is the probability that an electron in the  $1s$  state of a hydrogen atom will be found at a distance less than  $a/2$  from the nucleus? (b) Use the results of part (a) and of Example 41.3 to calculate the probability that the electron will be found at distances between  $a/2$  and  $a$  from the nucleus.

**41.15.** A hydrogen atom in the  $5g$  state is placed in a magnetic field of 0.600 T that is in the  $z$ -direction. (a) Into how many levels is this state split by the interaction of the atom's orbital magnetic dipole moment with the magnetic field? (b) What is the energy separation between adjacent levels? (c) What is the energy separation between the level of lowest energy and the level of highest energy?

**41.19.** Calculate the energy difference between the  $m_s = \frac{1}{2}$  ("spin up") and  $m_s = -\frac{1}{2}$  ("spin down") levels of a hydrogen atom in the  $1s$  state when it is placed in a 1.45-T magnetic field in the *negative*  $z$ -direction. Which level,  $m_s = \frac{1}{2}$  or  $m_s = -\frac{1}{2}$ , has the lower energy?

**41.23. Classical Electron Spin.** (a) If you treat an electron as a classical spherical object with a radius of  $1.0 \times 10^{-17}$  m, what angular speed is necessary to produce a spin angular momentum of magnitude  $\sqrt{\frac{3}{4}}\hbar$ ? (b) Use  $v = r\omega$  and the result of part (a) to calculate the speed  $v$  of a point at the electron's equator. What does your result suggest about the validity of this model?

**41.25.** Make a list of the four quantum numbers  $n$ ,  $l$ ,  $m_l$ , and  $m_s$  for each of the 10 electrons in the ground state of the neon atom. Do *not* refer to Table 41.2 or 41.3.

**42.17.** The maximum wavelength of light that a certain silicon photocell can detect is  $1.11 \mu\text{m}$ . (a) What is the energy gap (in electron volts) between the valence and conduction bands for this photocell? (b) Explain why pure silicon is opaque.

**42.19.** The gap between valence and conduction bands in silicon is 1.12 eV. A nickel nucleus in an excited state emits a gamma-ray photon with wavelength  $9.31 \times 10^{-4}$  nm. How many electrons can be excited from the top of the valence band to the bottom of the conduction band by the absorption of this gamma ray?

**42.21.** Calculate the density of states  $g(E)$  for the free-electron model of a metal if  $E = 7.0$  eV and  $V = 1.0 \text{ cm}^3$ . Express your answer in units of states per electron volt.

**42.26.** The Fermi energy of sodium is 3.23 eV. (a) Find the average energy  $E_{av}$  of the electrons at absolute zero. (b) What is the speed of an electron that has energy  $E_{av}$ ? (c) At what Kelvin temperature  $T$  is  $kT$  equal to  $E_F$ ? (This is called the *Fermi temperature* for the metal. It is approximately the temperature at which molecules in a classical ideal gas would have the same kinetic energy as the fastest-moving electron in the metal.)

**42.27.** For a solid metal having a Fermi energy of 8.500 eV, what is the probability, at room temperature, that a state having an energy of 8.520 eV is occupied by an electron?

**42.29.** Germanium has a band gap of 0.67 eV. Doping with arsenic adds donor levels in the gap 0.01 eV below the bottom of the conduction band. At a temperature of 300 K, the probability is  $4.4 \times 10^{-4}$  that an electron state is occupied at the bottom of the conduction band. Where is the Fermi level relative to the conduction band in this case?

**43.6.** The most common isotope of uranium,  ${}^{238}_{92}\text{U}$ , has atomic mass 238.050783 u. Calculate (a) the mass defect; (b) the binding energy (in MeV); (c) the binding energy per nucleon.

**43.7.** What is the maximum wavelength of a  $\gamma$  ray that could break a deuteron into a proton and a neutron? (This process is called photodisintegration.)

**43.18.** What particle ( $\alpha$  particle, electron, or positron) is emitted in the following radioactive decays? (a)  ${}^{27}_{14}\text{Si} \rightarrow {}^{27}_{13}\text{Al}$ ; (b)  ${}^{238}_{92}\text{U} \rightarrow {}^{234}_{90}\text{Th}$ ; (c)  ${}^{74}_{33}\text{As} \rightarrow {}^{74}_{34}\text{Se}$ .

**43.22.** Radioactive isotopes used in cancer therapy have a “shelf-life,” like pharmaceuticals used in chemotherapy. Just after it has been manufactured in a nuclear reactor, the activity of a sample of  ${}^{60}\text{Co}$  is 5000 Ci. When its activity falls below 3500 Ci, it is considered too weak a source to use in treatment. You work in the radiology department of a large hospital. One of these  ${}^{60}\text{Co}$  sources in your inventory was manufactured on October 6, 2004. It is now April 6, 2007. Is the source still usable? The half-life of  ${}^{60}\text{Co}$  is 5.271 years.

**43.33.** The unstable isotope  ${}^{40}\text{K}$  is used for dating rock samples. Its half-life is  $1.28 \times 10^9$  y. (a) How many decays occur per second in a sample containing  $1.63 \times 10^{-6}$  g of  ${}^{40}\text{K}$ ? (b) What is the activity of the sample in curies?

**44.5.** A positive pion at rest decays into a positive muon and a neutrino. (a) Approximately how much energy is released in the decay? (Assume the neutrino has zero rest mass. Use the muon and pion masses given in terms of the electron mass in Section 44.1.) (b) Why can't a positive muon decay into a positive pion?

**44.21.** In which of the following decays are the three lepton numbers conserved? In each case, explain your reasoning. (a)  $\mu^- \rightarrow e^- + \nu_e + \bar{\nu}_\mu$ ; (b)  $\tau^- \rightarrow e^- + \bar{\nu}_e + \nu_\tau$ ; (c)  $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \gamma$ ; (d)  $n \rightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$ .

**44.29.** The quark content of the neutron is  $udd$ . (a) What is the quark content of the antineutron? Explain your reasoning. (b) Is the neutron its own antiparticle? Why or why not? (c) The quark content of the  $\psi$  is  $c\bar{c}$ . Is the  $\psi$  its own antiparticle? Explain your reasoning.

**44.49. Pair Annihilation.** Consider the case where an electron  $e^-$  and a positron  $e^+$  annihilate each other and produce photons. Assume that these two particles collide head-on with equal, but slow, speeds. (a) Show that it is not possible for only one photon to be produced. (Hint: Consider the conservation law that must be true in any collision.) (b) Show that if only two photons are produced, they must travel in opposite directions and have equal energy. (c) Calculate the wavelength of each of the photons in part (b). In what part of the electromagnetic spectrum do they lie?