

EASTERN UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA

SECOND EXAMINATION IN SCIENCE – 2013/2014

FIRST SEMESTER (February/March 2016)

PH 201 ATOMIC PHYSICS AND QUANTUM MECHANICS



Time: 02 hour.

Answer ALL Questions

You may find the following information useful

Charge of electron $e = 1.602 \times 10^{-19} C$

Mass of electron $m = 9.109 \times 10^{-31} kg$

Planck's constant $h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} Js$

Permittivity in free space $\epsilon_0 = 8.854 \times 10^{-12} C^2 N^{-1} m^{-2}$

$1 eV = 1.602 \times 10^{-19} J$

$c = 3 \times 10^8 ms^{-1}$

01.

- (a) State the postulates of Bohr regarding his atomic model and hence the electron energy of the n^{th} orbit is expressed by

$$E_n = - \left[\frac{me^4}{2\hbar^2(4\pi\epsilon_0)^2} \right] \frac{1}{n^2}$$

where the symbols have their usual meaning.

- i. Calculate the value of the Rydberg constant, assuming that wavelength is 6563 \AA .
 - ii. Determine the wavelengths of the first two lines of the Paschen series.
- (b) State and explain Pauli's exclusion principle as applied to electrons in the basis of this principle write down the electron configuration for employing modern symbolism and explain it.

02.

- (a) Differentiate Russell-Saunders (or LS) coupling scheme from jj coupling scheme.
- (b) Explain briefly the nature of the Zeeman effect in a magnetic field.

The sample of atomic hydrogen is placed in a weak magnetic field of strength B . The hydrogen atom makes the transition from state $n = 2$ to $n = 1$ and emission of three spectral lines, show that the frequency of these three spectral lines are approximately given by

$$\nu_1 = \nu_0 - \frac{eB}{4\pi m}$$

$$\nu_2 = \nu_0$$

$$\nu_3 = \nu_0 + \frac{eB}{4\pi m}$$

where ν_0 is the frequency of the radiation emitted by the transition in the absence of the magnetic field, and the other symbols have their usual meaning.

Explain the experimental setup to observe photoelectric effect. Hence, define the following terms in photoelectric effect.

- i. threshold frequency
- ii. stopping potential
- iii. work function of a metal

Write down Einstein's equation adopted in photoelectric effect and show how it explains the main characteristics of the effect. Hence, outline how to determine the Planck's constant and the work function of a given metal using the above experimental setup.

In a photoelectric experiment a light of wavelength 200 nm falls on an aluminium surface. The work function of aluminum is 4.20 eV. Determine the following

- i. the kinetic energy of the fastest electron
- ii. the stopping potential
- iii. threshold wavelength

State and write down the expression for the Heisenberg uncertainty principle which refers to the simultaneous determination of time-energy and position-momentum of a particle.

A particle of mass m and energy E is moving in a potential V inside an infinite square potential well of width a , described by

$$V = 0, \quad \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq a$$

$$V \rightarrow \infty, \quad \text{for } x > a \text{ and } x < 0.$$

- i. Write down the time-independent Schrödinger equation in a rectangular Cartesian co-ordinate system, for the motion of the particle.
- ii. State clearly the boundary conditions and normalization condition for the wave function ψ .
- iii. Using the above conditions, show that the wave function of the particle is

$$\text{given by } \psi = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}\right) x.$$