



Registration No.:  
Date and Session::

**ST. JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY, BENGALURU -27**  
**M.Sc. (PHYSICS) – II SEMESTER**

**SEMESTER EXAMINATION: APRIL 2023**

(Examination Conducted in May 2023)

**PH 8421-Quantum Mechanics-I**

**Time: 2 hours**

**Maximum marks: 50**

*This question paper has 2 printed pages and 2 parts*

**PART A**

Answer any **FIVE** of the following questions. Each question carries 7 marks. [5 × 7 = 35]

- (a) Calculate the expectation value of position and momentum of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  stationary state of an infinite square well potential. [4]

(b) For an infinite potential well, show that for each energy eigenvalue, there exists two momentum states. Explain. [3]
- Solve the azimuthal part of Schrodinger's wave equation for the hydrogen atom using spherical polar coordinates and arrive at the associated Legendre function. [7]
- Solve the radial equation of the hydrogen atom and arrive at the spherical Bessel function and spherical Neumann function of the order  $l$  where  $l$  is the azimuthal quantum number. [7]
- (a) Using the Rodrigues formula obtain the first three Hermite polynomials for a quantum harmonic oscillator. [4]

(b) Prove that conservation of distinguishable states, i.e., two states are distinguishable if they are orthogonal, implies that the time evolution of states have to be unitary. [3]
- (a) How does the expectation value of an operator change with respect to time according to Schrodinger picture? [4]

(b) Evaluate  $\frac{d\langle x \rangle}{dt}$ , given that the potential is independent of time. [3]
- Prove that  $[b, b^\dagger] = 1$  and hence demonstrate that the Hamiltonian  $H = \frac{\hbar\omega}{2}(bb^\dagger + b^\dagger b)$  can be reduced to  $H = \hbar\omega(bb^\dagger + 1/2)$  Given:  $-b = (\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar})^{1/2}(x + \frac{ip}{m\omega})$ ,  $b^\dagger = (\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar})^{1/2}(x - \frac{ip}{m\omega})$  where  $x, p$  are the position and momentum operators respectively. [7]
- If the total angular momentum  $\vec{J} = \vec{J}_1 + \vec{J}_2$  and if it satisfies the commutation relations, given in short form as  $[J_k, J_l] = i\hbar\epsilon_{k,l,m}J_m$ , show that  $[J^2, J_z] = 0$  and  $[J^2, J_1^2] = 0$  [7]

## PART B

Answer any **THREE** of the following questions. Each question carries 5 marks. [ $3 \times 5 = 15$ ]

8. A particle of mass  $m$  moves in a three-dimensional box of sides  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ . If the potential is zero inside and infinity outside the box, find the energy eigenvalues and eigenfunctions
9. A particle of mass  $m$  confined to move in a potential  $V(x) = 0$  for  $0 \leq x \leq a$  and  $V(x) = \infty$  otherwise. The wave function of the particle at time  $t = 0$  is  $\psi(0) = A(2 \sin(\frac{\pi x}{a}) + \sin(\frac{3\pi x}{a}))$ . Normalise the wavefunction.
10. If  $b\psi_0 = 0$ , where  $\psi_0$  is the ground state of the quantum harmonic oscillator, and  $b = (\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar})^{1/2}(x + \frac{i\hat{p}}{m\omega})$ , the annihilation operator, calculate the normalized value of  $\psi_0$ .
11. If  $j = \frac{1}{2}$ , what are the possible values of  $m$ ? Find the matrix form of  $J_+$  and  $J_-$  operators.