

10586-714 (16) Quantum Mechanics B (Advanced Formalism and Applications) (3l, 3p)

2015

Bra-ket notation, the axioms of quantum mechanics, basis transformations and unitary operators, position and momentum representations, Schrödinger and Heisenberg images, spin, formal theory of angular momentum, time-dependent perturbation theory, scattering theory, identical particles.

Outcomes of course:

After introductory courses in quantum mechanics this course equips the student with an understanding and working knowledge of the formal structure of quantum mechanics and its relation to wave mechanics. In particular the student is skilled in operator techniques which are an essential tool in any more advanced application of quantum mechanics.

Lecturer:

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Course content:

Fundamental concepts

Bra- and ket spaces, state vectors and basis states. Matrix representations and change of basis. Dynamical variables, their operators and the simultaneous measurement of different variables. Continuous bases with application to the position and momentum bases and their mutual transformations. The uncertainty principle.

Quantum dynamics

Time development of states, the time-dependent Schrödinger equation and the energy-time uncertainty relation. The Heisenberg picture, Heisenberg equation of motion and applications.

Angular momentum

The rotation operator in terms of the angular momentum operator J and the characteristic non-commuting property of the components of J . Eigenvalues and eigenvectors. The coupling of angular momenta and the calculations of Clebsch-Gordan coefficients. Spherical tensor operators.

Identical Particles

The principle of the indistinguishability of particles. The symmetrisation and exclusion principles.

Time-dependent perturbation theory

Time-dependent potentials, the interaction picture and time dependent perturbation theory with applications.

Scattering theory

The Lippmann-Schwinger equation, Born approximation, phase shifts and the optical theorem.

Practical (Tutorials):

1 Tutorial every week as per schedule provided at start of course

Study material:

A set of lecture notes is provided. These notes contain references to additional sources which the student is required to consult.

Learning opportunities:

3 Lectures per week

Assessment:***Methods of Assessments***

Continuous Evaluation

Venue and time of assessment opportunities

See timetable

Availability of marks:

As soon as possible.

Calculation of final mark for the module:

Test 1 - 25% Test 2 - 25% Tutorial and take home tests - 20%, Homework Problems - 30%.