

PhysicsByAaryan

CSIR NET · GATE · JEST · BARC – Physics

GATE Physics 2023 — Full Question Paper

Previous Year Questions with Official Answer Key

Inside this PDF

- Every GATE Physics (PH) 2023 question, in order
- Marking scheme + question type (MCQ/MSQ/NAT) on every question
- Subject & topic classification per question
- Official answer key at the end

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Questions
with answer key

*Questions taken from official GATE Physics (PH) papers conducted by IITs / IISc.
Compiled by PhysicsByAaryan for free use by aspirants. Answer key at the end of this PDF.*

Q1. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

General Aptitude · English

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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"You are delaying the completion of the task. Send ____ contributions at the earliest."

- (A) you are
- (B) your
- (C) you're
- (D) yore

Q2. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

General Aptitude · English

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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References : ____ : : Guidelines : Implement

(By word meaning)

- (A) Sight
- (B) Site
- (C) Cite
- (D) Plagiarise

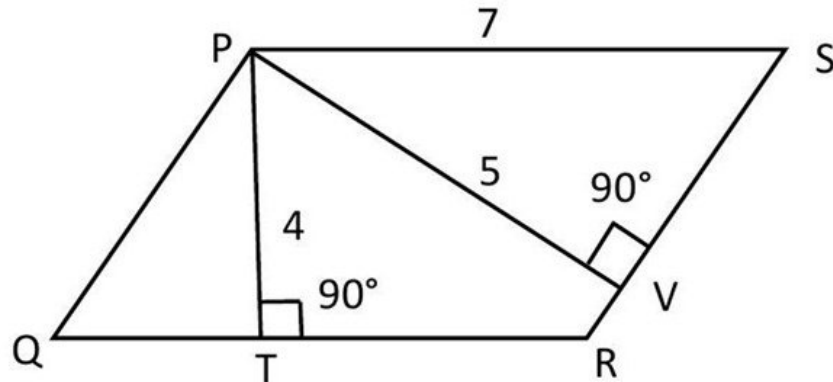
Q3. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

General Aptitude · Geometry

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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In the given figure, PQRS is a parallelogram with $PS = 7$ cm, $PT = 4$ cm and $PV = 5$ cm. What is the length of RS in cm? (The diagram is representative.)

- (A) $20/7$
- (B) $28/5$
- (C) $9/2$
- (D) $35/4$



Q4. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

General Aptitude · Reasoning

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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In 2022, June Huh was awarded the Fields medal, which is the highest prize in Mathematics. When he was younger, he was also a poet. He did not win any medals in the International Mathematics Olympiads. He dropped out of college. Based only on the above information, which one of the following statements can be logically inferred with certainty?

- (A) Every Fields medalist has won a medal in an International Mathematics Olympiad.
- (B) Everyone who has dropped out of college has won the Fields medal.
- (C) All Fields medalists are part-time poets.
- (D) Some Fields medalists have dropped out of college.

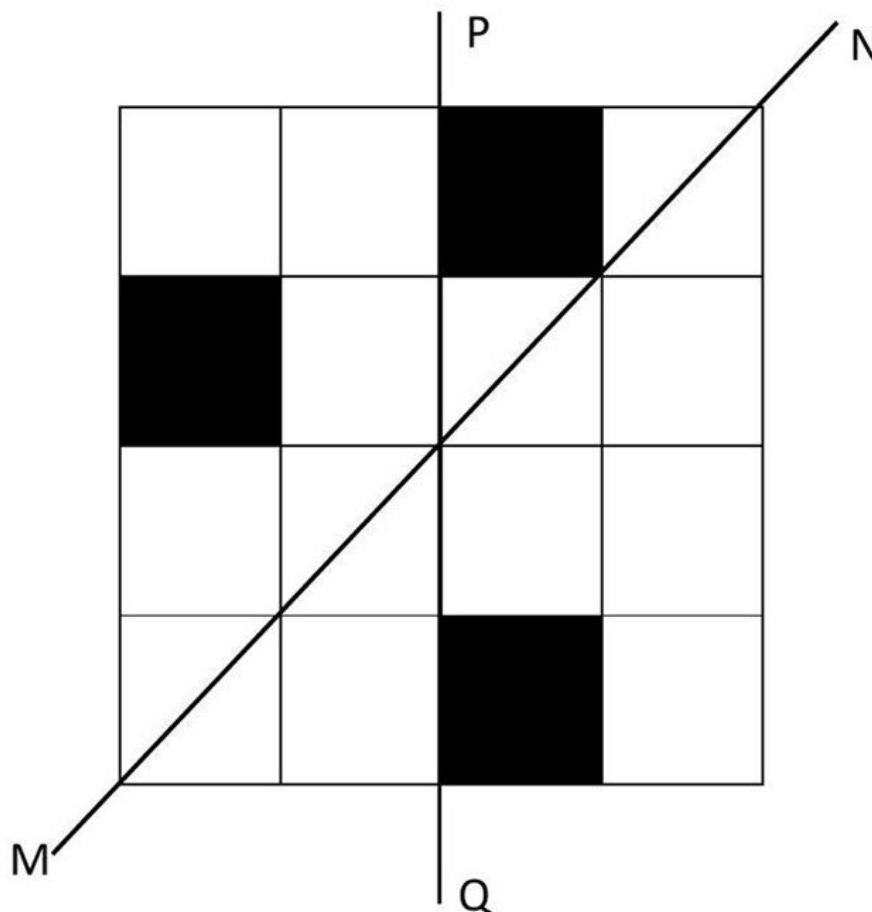
Q5. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

General Aptitude · Reasoning

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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A line of symmetry is defined as a line that divides a figure into two parts in a way such that each part is a mirror image of the other part about that line. The given figure consists of 16 unit squares arranged as shown. In addition to the three black squares, what is the minimum number of squares that must be coloured black, such that both PQ and MN form lines of symmetry? (The figure is representative)

- (A) 3
- (B) 4
- (C) 5
- (D) 6



Q6. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

General Aptitude · Reasoning

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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Human beings are one among many creatures that inhabit an imagined world. In this imagined world, some creatures are cruel. If in this imagined world, it is given that the statement "Some human beings are not cruel creatures" is FALSE, then which of the following set of statement(s) can be logically inferred with certainty?

- (i) All human beings are cruel creatures.
 - (ii) Some human beings are cruel creatures.
 - (iii) Some creatures that are cruel are human beings.
 - (iv) No human beings are cruel creatures.
- (A) only (i)
(B) only (iii) and (iv)
(C) only (i) and (ii)
(D) (i), (ii) and (iii)

Q7. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

General Aptitude · Mathematical Analysis

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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To construct a wall, sand and cement are mixed in the ratio of 3:1. The cost of sand and that of cement are in the ratio of 1:2. If the total cost of sand and cement to construct the wall is 1000 rupees, then what is the cost (in rupees) of cement used?

- (A) 400
- (B) 600
- (C) 800
- (D) 200

Q8. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

General Aptitude · Reasoning

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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The World Bank has declared that it does not plan to offer new financing to Sri Lanka, which is battling its worst economic crisis in decades, until the country has an adequate macroeconomic policy framework in place. In a statement, the World Bank said Sri Lanka needed to adopt structural reforms that focus on economic stabilisation and tackle the root causes of its crisis. The latter has starved it of foreign exchange and led to shortages of food, fuel, and medicines. The bank is repurposing resources under existing loans to help alleviate shortages of essential items such as medicine, cooking gas, fertiliser, meals for children, and cash for vulnerable households. Based only on the above passage, which one of the following statements can be inferred with certainty?

- (A) According to the World Bank, the root cause of Sri Lanka's economic crisis is that it does not have enough foreign exchange.
- (B) The World Bank has stated that it will advise the Sri Lankan government about how to tackle the root causes of its economic crisis.
- (C) According to the World Bank, Sri Lanka does not yet have an adequate macroeconomic policy framework.
- (D) The World Bank has stated that it will provide Sri Lanka with additional funds for essentials such as food, fuel, and medicines.

Q9. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

General Aptitude · Mathematical Analysis

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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The coefficient of x^4 in the polynomial $(x - 1)^3(x - 2)^3$ is equal to ____

- (A) 33
- (B) -3
- (C) 30
- (D) 21

Q10. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

General Aptitude · Geometry

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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Which one of the following shapes can be used to tile (completely cover by repeating) a flat plane, extending to infinity in all directions, without leaving any empty spaces in between them? The copies of the shape used to tile are identical and are not allowed to overlap.

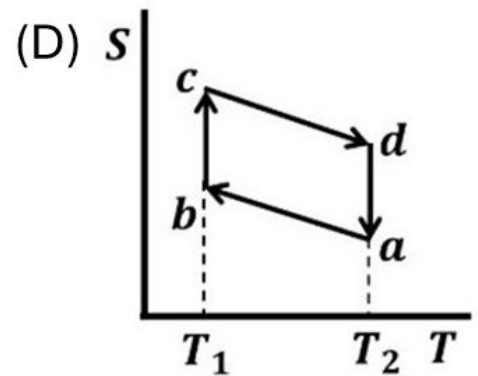
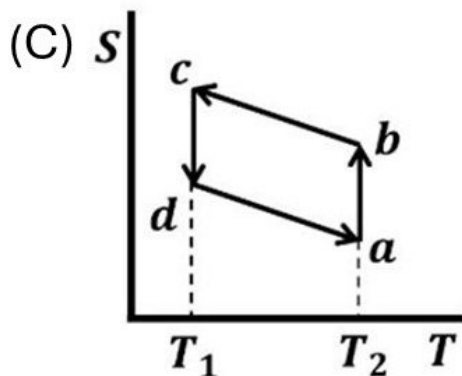
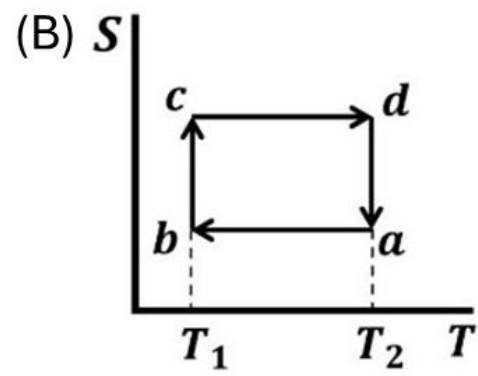
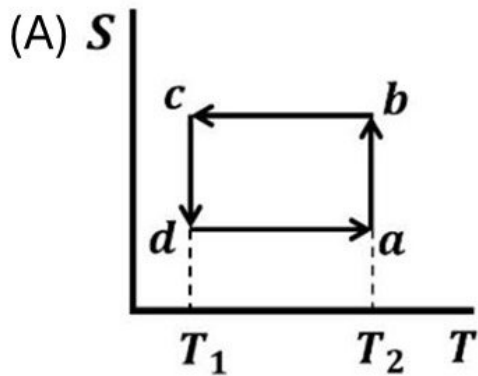
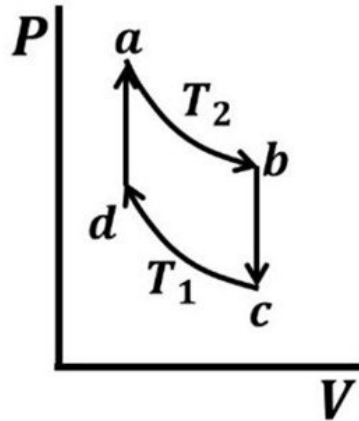
- (A) circle
- (B) regular octagon
- (C) regular pentagon
- (D) rhombus

Q11. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

Thermodynamics · Carnot Cycle

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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Which one of the following entropy (S) – temperature (T) diagrams CORRECTLY represents the Carnot cycle $abcd$ shown in the P - V diagram?



Q12. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

Atomic and Molecular Physics · Effects in atomic physics

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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Which one of the following is a dimensionless constant?

- (A) Permittivity of free space
 - (B) Permeability of free space
 - (C) Bohr magneton
 - (D) Fine structure constant
-

Q13. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

Electronics · Diodes

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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Choose the most appropriate matching of the items in Column 1 with those in Column 2.

Column 1	Column 2
(i) PIN diode	P. Voltage regulation
(ii) Tunnel diode	Q. Radio frequency and microwave devices
(iii) Zener diode	R. Optoelectronic detection
(iv) Photo diode	S. Oscillator

- (A) (i) - Q; (ii) - S; (iii) - P; (iv) - R
(B) (i) - R; (ii) - Q; (iii) - P; (iv) - S
(C) (i) - R; (ii) - S; (iii) - P; (iv) - Q
(D) (i) - P; (ii) - Q; (iii) - R; (iv) - S

Q14. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

Atomic and Molecular Physics · Effects in atomic physics

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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The atomic number of an atom is 6. What is the spectroscopic notation of its ground state, according to Hund's rules?

- (A) 3P_0
- (B) 3P_1
- (C) 3D_3
- (D) 3S_1

Q15. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

Quantum Mechanics · Orbital angular momentum and hydrogen atom

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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H is the Hamiltonian, \vec{L} the orbital angular momentum and L_z is the z-component of \vec{L} . The 1s state of the hydrogen atom in the non-relativistic formalism is an eigen function of which one of the following sets of operators?

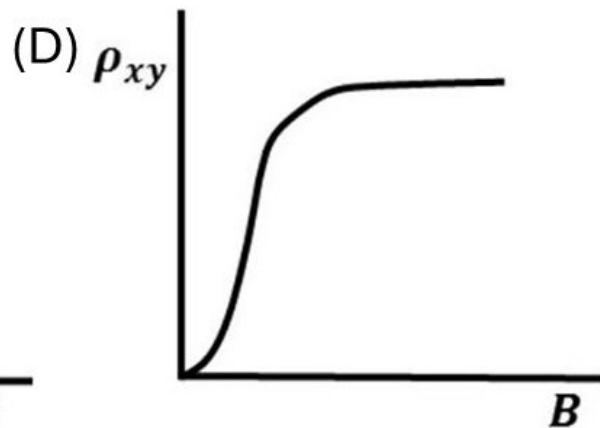
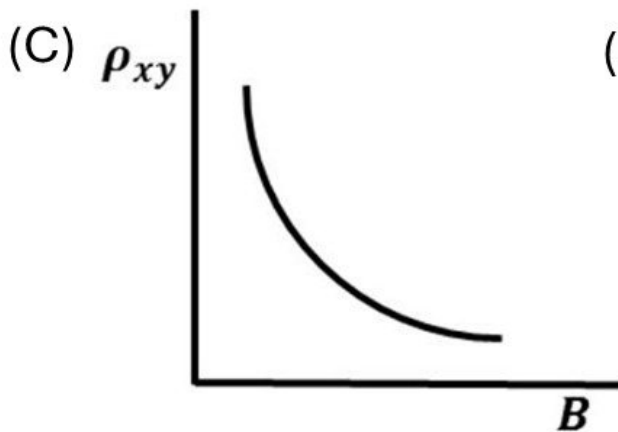
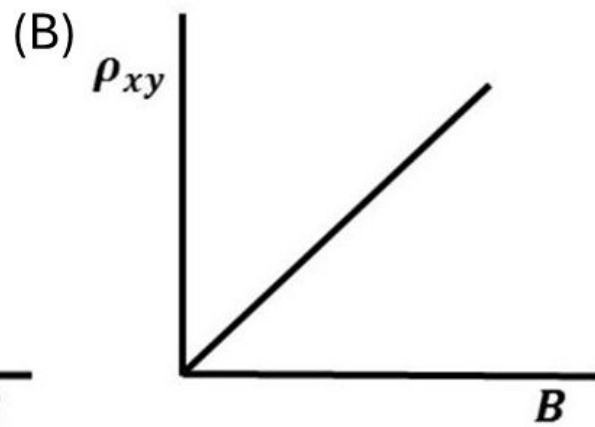
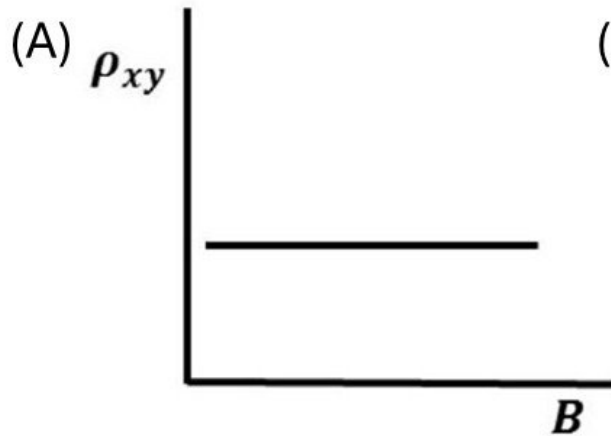
- (A) H, L^2 and L_z
- (B) H, \vec{L}, L^2 and L_z
- (C) L^2 and L_z only
- (D) H only and L_z

Q16. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

Solid State Physics · Hall Effect

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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The Hall experiment is carried out with a non-magnetic semiconductor. The current I is along the X -axis and the magnetic field B is along the Z -axis. Which one of the following is the CORRECT representation of the variation of the magnitude of the Hall resistivity ρ_{xy} as a function of the magnetic field?



Q17. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

Mathematical Physics · Tensors

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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Consider a two dimensional Cartesian coordinate system in which a rank 2 contravariant tensor is represented by the matrix $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$. The coordinate system is rotated anticlockwise by an acute angle θ with the origin fixed. Which one of the following matrices represents the tensor in the new coordinate system?

(A) $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cos 2\theta \\ -\sin 2\theta & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

(B) $\begin{pmatrix} \sin 2\theta & \cos 2\theta \\ \cos 2\theta & -\sin 2\theta \end{pmatrix}$

(C) $\begin{pmatrix} \sin 2\theta & -\cos 2\theta \\ \cos 2\theta & \sin 2\theta \end{pmatrix}$

(D) $\begin{pmatrix} \sin 2\theta & 0 \\ 0 & -\cos 2\theta \end{pmatrix}$

Q18. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

Solid State Physics · Crystallography

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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A compound consists of three ions X, Y and Z . The Z ions are arranged in an FCC arrangement. The X ions occupy $\frac{1}{6}$ of the tetrahedral voids and the Y ions occupy $\frac{1}{3}$ of the octahedral voids. Which one of the following is the CORRECT chemical formula of the compound?

- (A) XY_2Z_4
- (B) XYZ_3
- (C) XYZ_2
- (D) XYZ_4

Q19. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

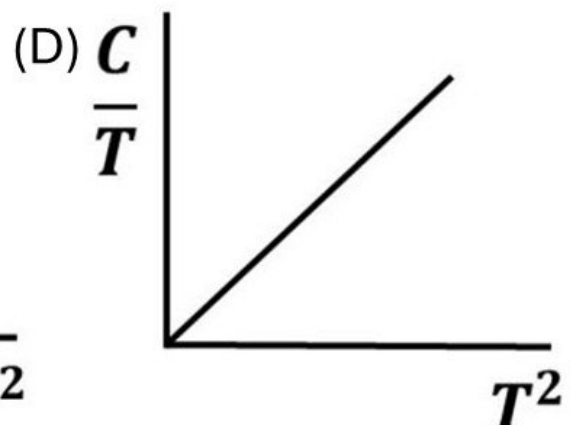
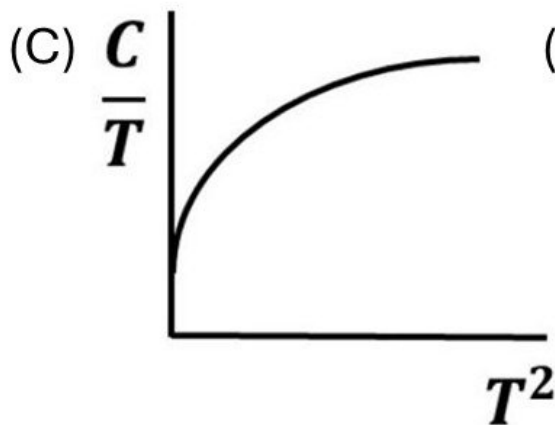
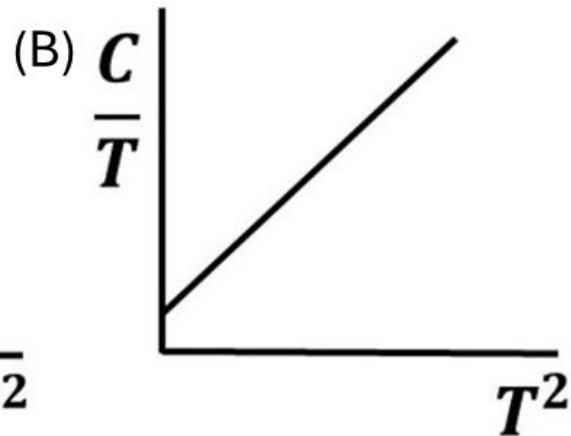
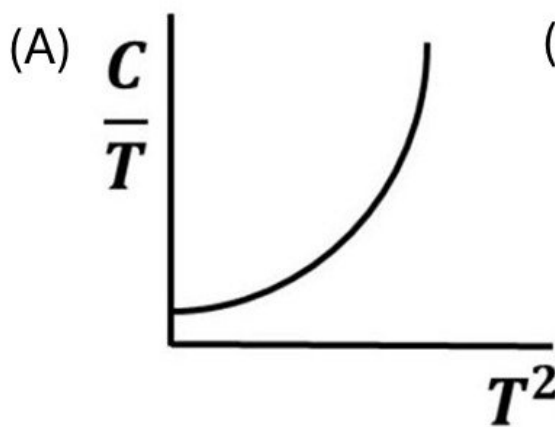
Solid State Physics · Lattice vibration

Gate 2023

MCQ

1M

For a non-magnetic metal, which one of the following graphs best represents the behaviour of $\frac{C}{T}$ vs. T^2 , where C is the heat capacity and T is the temperature?



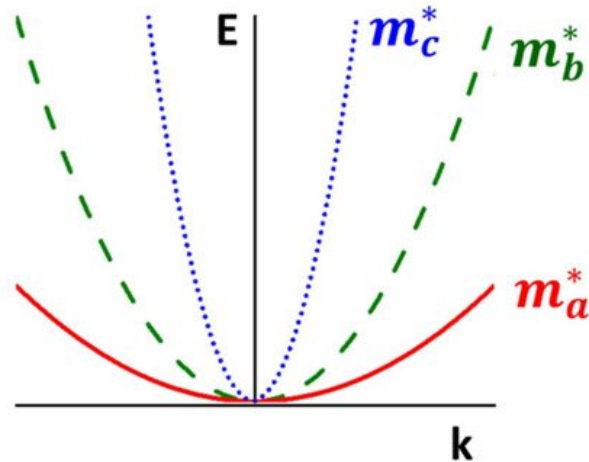
Q20. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

Solid State Physics · Tight binding model

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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For nonrelativistic electrons in a solid, different energy dispersion relations (with effective masses m_a^* , m_b^* , and m_c^*) are schematically shown in the plots. Which one of the following options is CORRECT?

- (A) $m_a^* = m_b^* = m_c^*$
 (B) $m_b^* > m_c^* > m_a^*$
 (C) $m_c^* > m_b^* > m_a^*$
 (D) $m_a^* > m_b^* > m_c^*$

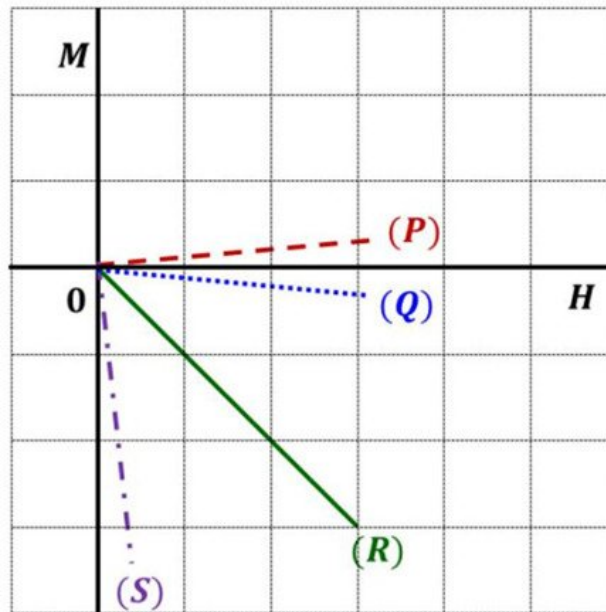


Q21. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

Solid State Physics · Magnetic properties of solids

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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The figure schematically shows the M (magnetization) – H (magnetic field) plots for certain types of materials. Here M and H are plotted in the same scale and units. Which one of the following is the most appropriate combination?



- (A) (Q) - Paramagnet; (R) - Type-I Superconductor; (S) – Antiferromagnet
- (B) (P) - Paramagnet; (Q) - Diamagnet; (R) - Type-I Superconductor
- (C) (P) - Paramagnet; (Q) - Antiferromagnet; (R) - Type-I Superconductor
- (D) (P) - Diamagnet; (R) - Paramagnet; (S) - Type-I Superconductor

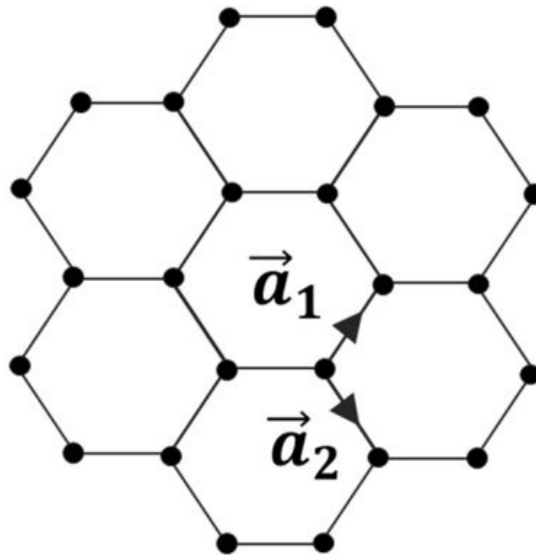
Q22. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

Solid State Physics · Crystallography

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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Graphene is a two dimensional material, in which carbon atoms are arranged in a honeycomb lattice with lattice constant a . As shown in the figure, \vec{a}_1 and \vec{a}_2 are two lattice vectors. Which one of the following is the area of the first Brillouin zone for this lattice?

- (A) $\frac{8\pi^2}{3\sqrt{3}a^2}$
- (B) $\frac{4\pi^2}{3\sqrt{3}a^2}$
- (C) $\frac{8\pi^2}{\sqrt{3}a^2}$
- (D) $\frac{4\pi^2}{\sqrt{3}a^2}$

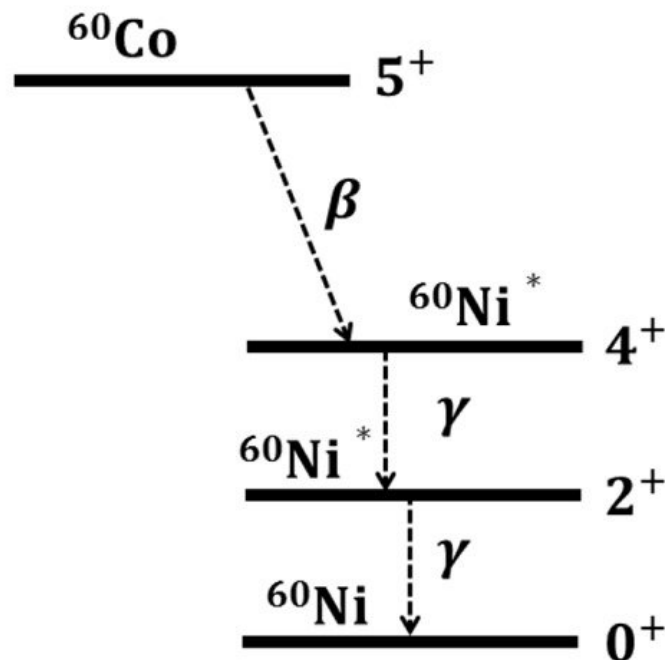


Q23. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

Nuclear and Particle Physics · Radioactivity

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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A ^{60}Co nucleus emits a β -particle and is converted to $^{60}\text{Ni}^*$ with $J^P = 4^+$, which in turn decays to the ^{60}Ni ground state with $J^P = 0^+$ by emitting two photons in succession, as shown in the figure. Which one of the following statements is CORRECT?



- (A) $4^+ \rightarrow 2^+$ is an electric octupole transition
 (B) $4^+ \rightarrow 2^+$ is a magnetic quadrupole transition
 (C) $2^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ is an electric quadrupole transition
 (D) $2^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ is a magnetic quadrupole transition

Q24. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

Electronics · Logic Gates

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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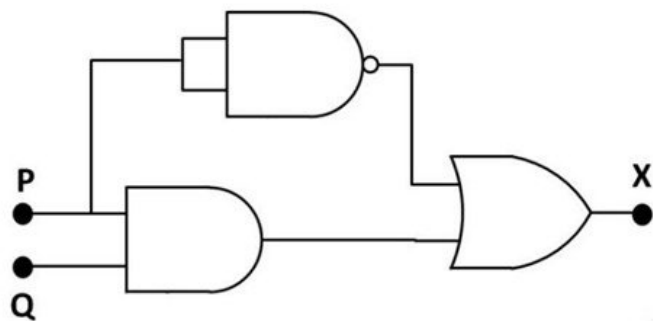
Which one of the following options is CORRECT for the given logic circuit?

(A) $P = 1, Q = 1; X = 0$

(B) $P = 1, Q = 0; X = 1$

(C) $P = 0, Q = 1; X = 0$

(D) $P = 0, Q = 0; X = 1$



Q25. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

Quantum Mechanics · Spin and Total Angular momentum

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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An atom with non-zero magnetic moment has an angular momentum of magnitude $\sqrt{12}\hbar$. When a beam of such atoms is passed through a Stern-Gerlach apparatus, how many beams does it split into?

(A) 3

(B) 7

(C) 9

(D) 25

Q26. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

Mathematical Physics · Matrices

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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A 4×4 matrix M has the property $M^\dagger = -M$ and $M^4 = 1$, where 1 is the 4×4 identity matrix. Which one of the following is the CORRECT set of eigenvalues of the matrix M ?

- (A) $(1, 1, -1, -1)$
- (B) $(i, i, -i, -i)$
- (C) $(i, i, i, -i)$
- (D) $(1, 1, -i, -i)$

Q27. [Marks: 1 | MCQ]

Nuclear and Particle Physics · Particle Physics

Gate 2023	MCQ	1M
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The Ξ^{0*} particle is a member of the Baryon decuplet with isospin state $|I, I_3\rangle = \left| \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right\rangle$ and strangeness quantum number -2. In the quark model, which one of the following is the flavour part of the Ξ^{0*} wavefunction?

- (A) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(uss - ssu)$
- (B) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(uss + sus + ssu)$
- (C) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(uss + ssu)$
- (D) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(uss - sus + ssu)$

Q28. [Marks: 1 | MSQ]

Thermodynamics · Laws of thermodynamics

Gate 2023	MSQ	1M
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Which of the following is(are) the **CORRECT** option(s) for the Joule-Thomson effect?

- (A) It is an isentropic process
 - (B) It is an isenthalpic process
 - (C) It can result in cooling as well as heating
 - (D) For an ideal gas it always results in cooling
-

Q29. [Marks: 1 | MSQ]

Nuclear and Particle Physics · Nuclear Force, deuteron problem and scatteri

Gate 2023	MSQ	1M
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The deuteron is a bound state of a neutron and a proton. Which of the following statements is(are) CORRECT?

- (A) The deuteron has a finite value of electric quadrupole moment due to nonspherical electronic charge distribution
- (B) The magnetic moment of the deuteron is equal to the sum of the magnetic moments of the neutron and the proton
- (C) The deuteron state is an admixture of 3S_1 and 3D_1 states
- (D) The deuteron state is an admixture of 3S_1 and 3P_1 states

Q30. [Marks: 1 | MSQ]

Nuclear and Particle Physics · Particle detector and accelerator

Gate 2023	MSQ	1M
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The Geiger-Muller counter is a device to detect α , β and γ radiations. It is a cylindrical tube filled with monatomic gases like argon, and polyatomic gases such as ethyl alcohol. The inner electrode is along the axis of the cylindrical tube and the outer electrode is the tube. Which of the following statements is(are) CORRECT?

- (A) Argon is used so that ambient light coming from the surroundings do not produce any signal in the detector
- (B) Ethyl alcohol is used as a quenching gas
- (C) The electric field strength decreases from the axis to the edge of the tube and the direction of the field is radially outward
- (D) The electric field increases from the axis to the edge of the tube and the field direction is radially inward

Q31. [Marks: 1 | MSQ]

Electromagnetism · Magnetism in matter

Gate 2023	MSQ	1M
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Consider an isolated magnetized sphere of radius R with a uniform magnetization \vec{M} along the positive z direction, with the north and south poles of the sphere lying on the Z axis. It is given that the magnetic field inside the sphere is $\vec{B} = \frac{2\mu_0}{3}\vec{M}$, where μ_0 is the permeability of vacuum. Which of the following statements is(are) CORRECT?

- (A) The bound volume current density is zero
- (B) The bound surface current density has maximum magnitude at the equator, where this magnitude equals $|\vec{M}|$
- (C) The auxiliary field $\vec{H} = -\frac{2}{3}\vec{M}$
- (D) Far from the sphere, the magnetic field is due to a dipole of moment \vec{m} , where $\frac{\vec{m}}{4\pi R^3} = \frac{B}{2\mu_0}\hat{z}$

Q32. [Marks: 1 | MSQ]

Quantum Mechanics · Basics Quantum Mechanics

Gate 2023	MSQ	1M
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Which of the following options represent(s) linearly independent pair(s) of functions of a real variable x ?

- (A) e^{ix} and e^{-ix}
- (B) x and e^x
- (C) 2^x and 2^{-3+x}
- (D) e^{ix} and $\sin x$

Q33. [Marks: 1 | NAT]

Atomic and Molecular Physics · Vector Model

Gate 2023	NAT	1M
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In the vector model of angular momentum applied to atoms, what is the minimum angle in degrees (in integer) made by the orbital angular momentum vector and the positive Z axis for a $2p$ electron?

Q34. [Marks: 1 | NAT]

Electronics · Transistors

Gate 2023	NAT	1M
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For a transistor amplifier, the frequency response is such that the mid band voltage gain is 200 . The cutoff frequencies are 20 Hz and 20 kHz . What is the ratio (rounded off to two decimal places) of the voltage gain at 10 Hz to that at 100 kHz?

Q35. [Marks: 1 | NAT]

Electromagnetism · Electrostatics

Gate 2023	NAT	1M
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An electric field as a function of radial coordinate r has the form $\vec{E} = \alpha \frac{e^{-r^2}}{r} \hat{r}$, where α is a constant. Assume that dimensions are appropriately taken care of. The electric flux through a sphere of radius $\sqrt{2}$, centered at the origin, is Φ . What is the value of $\frac{\Phi}{2\pi\alpha}$ (rounded off to two decimal places)?

Q36. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Atomic and Molecular Physics · Molecular Physics

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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It is given that the electronic ground state of a diatomic molecule X_2 has even parity and the nuclear spin of X is 0. Which one of the following is the CORRECT statement with regard to the rotational Raman spectrum (J is the rotational quantum number) of this molecule?

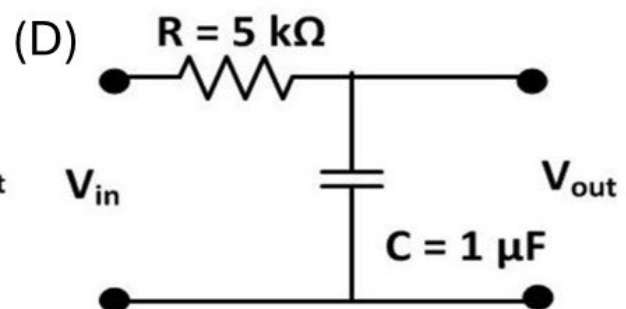
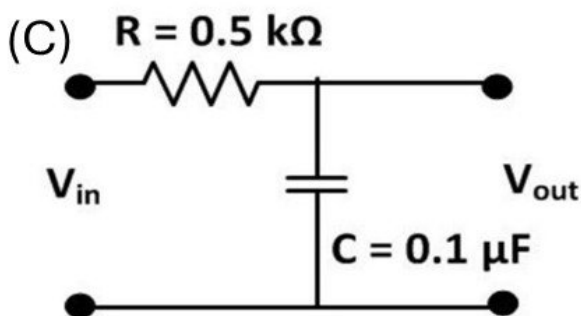
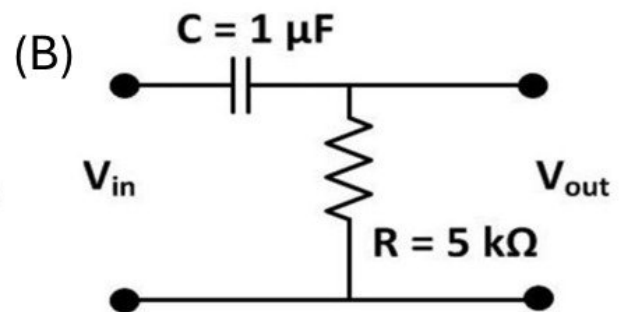
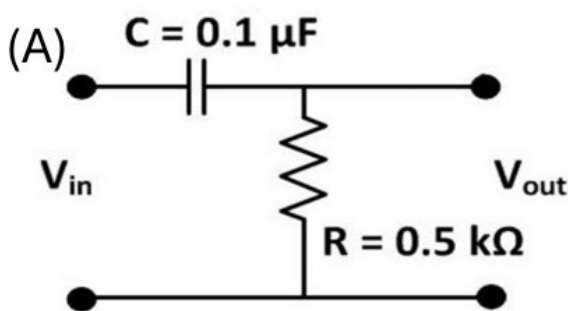
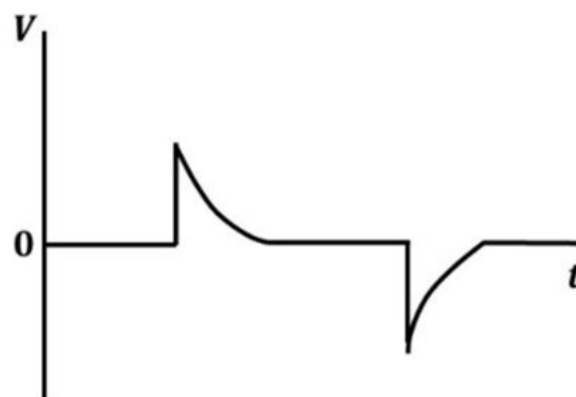
- (A) Lines of all J values are present
 - (B) Lines have alternating intensity in the ratio of 3: 1
 - (C) Lines of only even J values are present
 - (D) Lines of only odd J values are present
-

Q37. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Electronics · Filters

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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An input voltage in the form of a square wave of frequency 1 kHz is given to a circuit, which results in the output shown schematically below. Which one of the following options is the CORRECT representation of the circuit?



Q38. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Statistical Mechanics · Canonical ensemble

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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A simple harmonic oscillator with an angular frequency ω is in thermal equilibrium with a reservoir at absolute temperature T , with $\omega = \frac{2k_B T}{\hbar}$. Which one of the following is the partition function of the system?

- (A) $\frac{e}{e^2 - 1}$
- (B) $\frac{e}{e^2 + 1}$
- (C) $\frac{e}{e - 1}$
- (D) $\frac{e}{e + 1}$

Q39. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Quantum Mechanics · Basics Quantum Mechanics

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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Which one of the following options is the most appropriate match between the items given in Column 1 and Column 2?

Column 1	Column 2
(i) Visible light	P. Transition between core energy levels of atom
(ii) X-rays	Q. Transition between nuclear energy levels
(iii) Gamma rays	R. Pair production
(iv) Thermal neutrons	S. Crystal structure determination
	T. Photoelectric effect

- (A) (i) - T; (ii) - P,S,T; (iii) - Q,R; (iv) - S
 (B) (i) - P,T; (ii) - S; (iii) - R,S; (iv) - S,T
 (C) (i) - T; (ii) - R,S; (iii) - Q,R; (iv) - S
 (D) (i) - S,T; (ii) - P,S; (iii) - R,T; (iv) - S

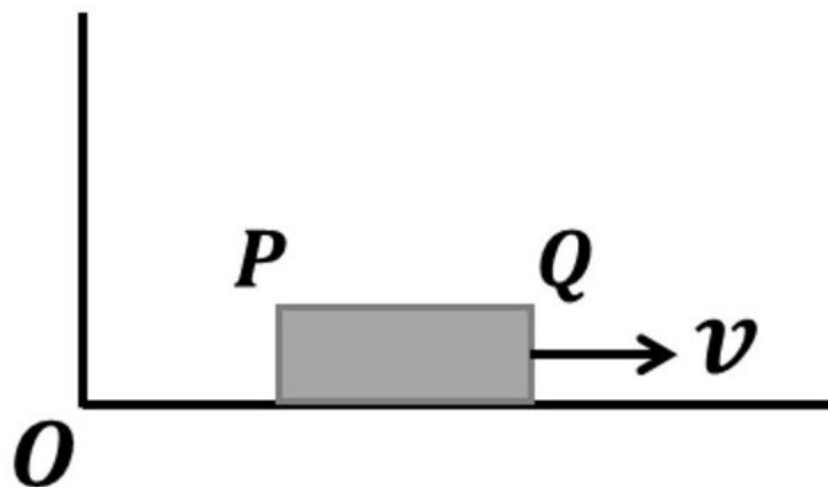
Q40. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Classical Mechanics · Special theory of relativity

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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A rod PQ of proper length L lies along the X -axis and moves towards the positive x direction with speed $v = \frac{3c}{5}$ with respect to the ground (see figure), where c is the speed of light in vacuum. An observer on the ground measures the positions of P and Q at different times t_P and t_Q respectively in the ground frame, and finds the difference between them to be $\frac{9L}{10}$. What is the value of $t_Q - t_P$?

- (A) $\frac{L}{3c}$
 (B) $\frac{L}{5c}$
 (C) $\frac{L}{6c}$
 (D) $\frac{2L}{3c}$



Q41. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Classical Mechanics · Rotation Motion

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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A symmetric top has principal moments of inertia $I_1 = I_2 = \frac{2\alpha}{3}$, $I_3 = 2\alpha$ about a set of principal axes 1, 2, 3 respectively, passing through its center of mass, where α is a positive constant. There is no force acting on the body and the angular speed of the body about the 3 -axis is $\omega_3 = \frac{1}{8}$ rad/s. With what angular frequency in rad/s does the angular velocity vector $\vec{\omega}_1$ precess about the 3 -axis?

- (A) 2
- (B) 3
- (C) 5
- (D) 7

Q42. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Classical Mechanics · Lagrangian and Hamiltonian

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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A particle of mass m is free to move on a frictionless horizontal two dimensional (r, θ) plane, and is acted upon by a force $\vec{F} = -\frac{k}{2r^3} \hat{r}$ with k being a positive constant. If p_r and p_θ are the generalised momenta corresponding to r and θ respectively, then what is the value of $\frac{dp_r}{dt}$?

- (A) $\frac{p_\theta^2 - 2mk}{2mr^3}$
- (B) $\frac{2p_\theta^2 - mk}{mr^3}$
- (C) $\frac{p_\theta^2 - 2mk}{mr^3}$
- (D) $\frac{2p_\theta^2 - mk}{2mr^3}$

Q43. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Mathematical Physics · Complex Analysis

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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Consider two real function

$$U(x, y) = xy(x^2 - y^2),$$
$$V(x, y) = ax^4 + by^4 + cx^2y^2 + k,$$

where k is a real constant and a, b, c are real coefficients. If $U(x, y) + iV(x, y)$ is analytic, then what is the value of $a \times b \times c$?

- (A) $1/8$
- (B) $3/28$
- (C) $5/36$
- (D) $3/32$

Q44. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Optics · Interference and Diffraction

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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Young's double slit experiment is performed using a beam of C_{60} (fullerene) molecules, each molecule being made up of 60 carbon atoms. When the slit separation is 50 nm, fringes are formed on a screen kept at a distance of 1 m from the slits. Now, the experiment is repeated with C_{70} molecules with a slit separation of 92.5 nm. The kinetic energies of both the beams are the same. The position of the 4th bright fringe for C_{60} will correspond to the nth bright fringe for C_{70} . What is the value of n (rounded off to the nearest integer)?

- (A) 5
- (B) 6
- (C) 7
- (D) 8

Q45. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Solid State Physics · Xray diffraction

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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A neutron beam with a wave vector \vec{k} and an energy 20.4 meV diffracts from a crystal with an outgoing wave vector \vec{k}' . One of the diffraction peaks is observed for the reciprocal lattice vector \vec{G} of magnitude 3.14\AA^{-1} . What is the diffraction angle in degrees (rounded off to the nearest integer) that \vec{k} makes with the plane? (Use mass of neutron = $1.67 \times 10^{-27}\text{Kg}$)

- (A) 15
- (B) 30
- (C) 45
- (D) 60

Q46. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Solid State Physics · Lattice vibration

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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In the first Brillouin zone of a rectangular lattice (lattice constants $a = 6\text{\AA}$ and $b = 4\text{\AA}$), three incoming phonons with the same wave vector $\langle 1.2\text{\AA}^{-1}, 0.6\text{\AA}^{-1} \rangle$ interact to give one phonon. Which one of the following is the CORRECT wave vector of the resulting phonon?

- (A) $\langle 2.56\text{\AA}^{-1}, 0.23\text{\AA}^{-1} \rangle$
- (B) $\langle 3.60\text{\AA}^{-1}, 1.80\text{\AA}^{-1} \rangle$
- (C) $\langle 0.48\text{\AA}^{-1}, 0.23\text{\AA}^{-1} \rangle$
- (D) $\langle 3.60\text{\AA}^{-1}, -0.80\text{\AA}^{-1} \rangle$

Q47. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Solid State Physics · Lattice vibration

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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For a covalently bonded solid consisting of ions of mass m , the binding potential can be assumed to be given by

$$U(r) = -\epsilon \left(\frac{r}{r_0} \right) e^{-\frac{r}{r_0}},$$

where ϵ and r_0 are positive constants. What is the Einstein frequency of the solid in Hz ?

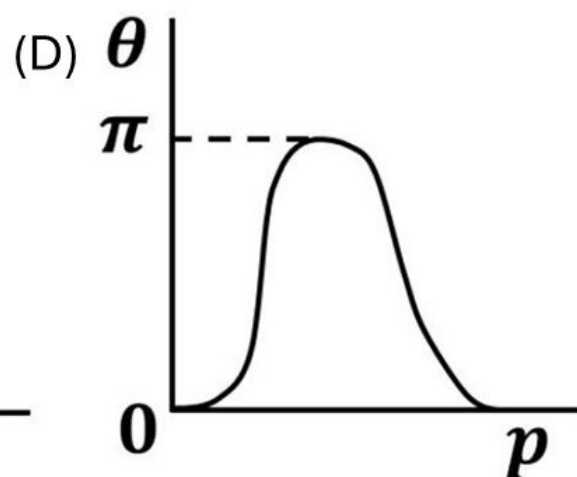
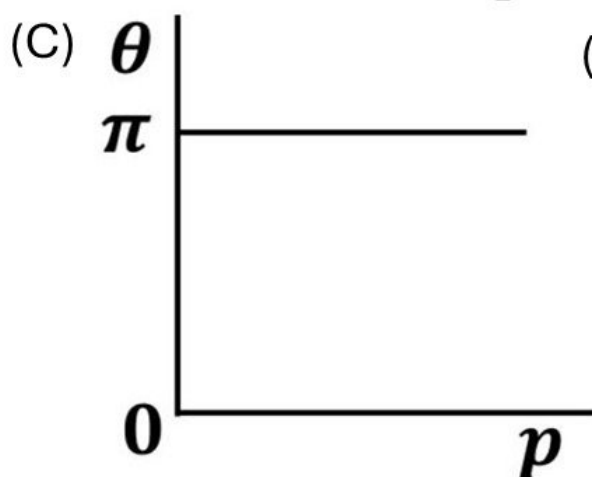
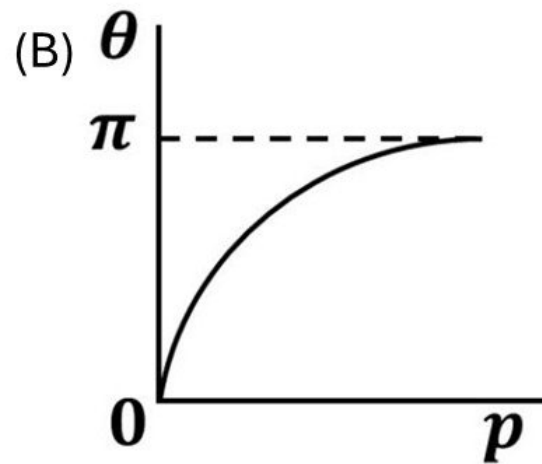
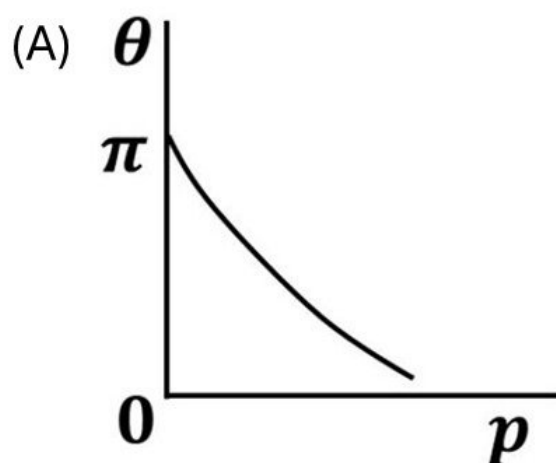
- (A) $\frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon e}{mr_0^2}}$
- (B) $\frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon}{mer_0^2}}$
- (C) $\frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{2\epsilon}{mer_0^2}}$
- (D) $\frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon e}{2mr_0^2}}$

Q48. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Nuclear and Particle Physics · Nuclear Force, deuteron problem and scatteri

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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In a hadronic interaction, π^0 , s are produced with different momenta, and they immediately decay into two photons with an opening angle θ between them. Assuming that all these decays occur in one plane, which one of the following figures depicts the behaviour of θ as a function of the π^0 momentum p ?



Q49. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Quantum Mechanics · Orbital angular momentum and hydrogen atom

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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A particle has wavefunction

$$\psi(x, y, z) = Nze^{-\alpha(x^2+y^2+z^2)},$$

where N is a normalization constant and α is a positive constant. In this state, which one of the following options represents the eigenvalues of L^2 and L_z respectively?

Some values of Y_ℓ^m are :

$$Y_0^0 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{4\pi}}, Y_1^0 = \sqrt{\frac{3}{4\pi}} \cos \theta, Y_1^{\pm 1} = \mp \sqrt{\frac{3}{8\pi}} \sin \theta e^{\pm i\phi}$$

- (A) 0 and 0
- (B) \hbar^2 and $-\hbar$
- (C) $2\hbar^2$ and 0
- (D) \hbar^2 and \hbar

Q50. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

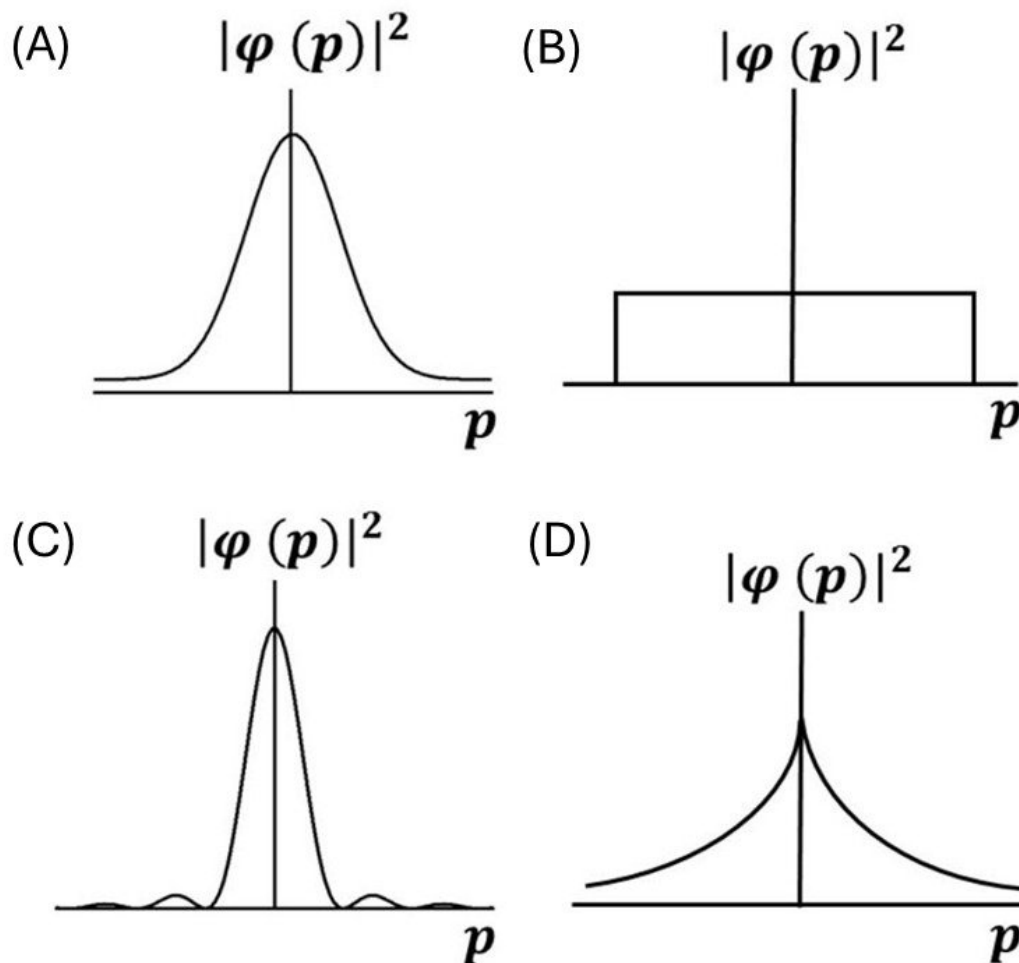
Quantum Mechanics · Basics Quantum Mechanics

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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The wavefunction of a particle in one dimension is given by

$$\psi(x) = \begin{cases} M, & -a < x < a \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Here M and a are positive constants. If $\varphi(p)$ is the corresponding momentum space wavefunction, which one of the following plots best represents $|\varphi(p)|^2$?



Q51. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Quantum Mechanics · Potential Well

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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Consider a particle in a two dimensional infinite square well potential of side L , with $0 \leq x \leq L$ and $0 \leq y \leq L$. The wavefunction of the particle is zero only along the line $y = \frac{L}{2}$, apart from the boundaries of the well. If the energy of the particle in this state is E , what is the energy of the ground state?

- (A) $\frac{1}{4} E$
- (B) $\frac{2}{5} E$
- (C) $\frac{3}{8} E$
- (D) $\frac{1}{2} E$

Q52. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Quantum Mechanics · Spin and Total Angular momentum

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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Consider two non-identical spin $\frac{1}{2}$ particles labelled 1 and 2 in the spin product state $\left|\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right\rangle \left|\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}\right\rangle$. The Hamiltonian of the system is

$$H = \frac{4\lambda}{\hbar^2} \vec{S}_1 \cdot \vec{S}_2,$$

where \vec{S}_1 and \vec{S}_2 are the spin operators of particles 1 and 2, respectively, and λ is a constant with appropriate dimensions. What is the expectation value of H in the above state?

- (A) $-\lambda$
- (B) -2λ
- (C) λ
- (D) 2λ

Q53. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Quantum Mechanics · Spin and Total Angular momentum

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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A spin $\frac{1}{2}$ particle is in a spin up state along the x-axis (with unit vector \hat{x}) and is denoted as $\left| \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right\rangle_x$. What is the probability of finding the particle to be in a spin up state along the direction \hat{x}' , which lies in the xy-plane and makes an angle θ with respect to the positive x-axis, if such a measurement is made?

- (A) $\frac{1}{2} \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{4}$
- (B) $\cos^2 \frac{\theta}{4}$
- (C) $\frac{1}{2} \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2}$
- (D) $\cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2}$

Q54. [Marks: 2 | MCQ]

Atomic and Molecular Physics · Model of atom

Gate 2023	MCQ	2M
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Different spectral lines of the Balmer series (transitions $n \rightarrow 2$, with n being the principal quantum number) fall one at a time on a Young's double slit apparatus. The separation between the slits is d and the screen is placed at a constant distance from the slits. What factor should d be multiplied by to maintain a constant fringe width for various lines, as n takes different allowed values?

(A) $\frac{n^2-4}{4n^2}$

(B) $\frac{n^2+4}{4n^2}$

(C) $\frac{4n^2}{n^2-4}$

(D) $\frac{4n^2}{n^2+4}$

Q55. [Marks: 2 | MSQ]

Nuclear and Particle Physics · Particle Physics

Gate 2023	MSQ	2M
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Under parity and time reversal transformations, which of the following statements is(are) TRUE about the electric dipole moment p and the magnetic dipole moment μ ?

- (A) p is odd under parity and μ is odd under time reversal
 - (B) p is odd under parity and μ is even under time reversal
 - (C) p is even under parity and μ is odd under time reversal
 - (D) p is even under parity and μ is even under time reversal
-

Q56. [Marks: 2 | MSQ]

Mathematical Physics · Complex Analysis

Gate 2023	MSQ	2M
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Consider the complex function

$$f(z) = \frac{z^2 \sin z}{(z-\pi)^4}$$

At $Z = \pi$, which of the following options is(are) CORRECT?

- (A) The order of the pole is 4
- (B) The order of the pole is 3
- (C) The residue at the pole is $\frac{\pi}{6}$
- (D) The residue at the pole is $\frac{2\pi}{3}$

Q57. [Marks: 2 | MSQ]

Mathematical Physics · Vector Analysis

Gate 2023	MSQ	2M
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Consider the vector field \vec{V} consisting of the velocities of points on a thin horizontal disc of radius $R = 2\text{m}$, moving anticlockwise with uniform angular speed $\omega = 2\text{rad/sec}$ about an axis passing through its center. If $V = |\vec{V}|$, then which of the following options is(are) CORRECT ? (In the options, \hat{r} and $\hat{\theta}$ are unit vectors corresponding to the plane polar coordinates r and θ). You may use the fact that in cylindrical coordinates (s, ϕ, z) (S is the distance from the Z -axis), the gradient, divergence, curl and Laplacian operators are:

$$\vec{\nabla} f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial s} \hat{s} + \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \phi} \hat{\phi} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \hat{z};$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} (sA_s) + \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial A_\phi}{\partial \phi} + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z};$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} = \left(\frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial \phi} - \frac{\partial A_\phi}{\partial z} \right) \hat{s} + \left(\frac{\partial A_s}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial s} \right) \hat{\phi} + \frac{1}{s} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial s} (sA_\phi) - \frac{\partial A_s}{\partial \phi} \right) \hat{z}$$

$$\vec{\nabla}^2 f = \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left(s \frac{\partial f}{\partial s} \right) + \frac{1}{s^2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \phi^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2}.$$

- (A) $\vec{\nabla} V = 2\hat{r}$
 (B) $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{V} = 2$
 (C) $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{V} = 4\hat{Z}$, where \hat{Z} is a unit vector perpendicular to the (r, θ) plane
 (D) $\vec{\nabla}^2 V = \frac{4}{3}$ at $r = 1.5\text{ m}$

Q58. [Marks: 2 | MSQ]

Nuclear and Particle Physics · Particle Physics

Gate 2023	MSQ	2M
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A slow moving π^- particle is captured by a deuteron (d) and this reaction produces two neutrons (n) in the final state, i.e., $\pi^- + d \rightarrow n + n$. Neutron and deuteron have even intrinsic parities, whereas π^- has odd intrinsic parity. L and S are the orbital and spin angular momenta, respectively of the system of two neutrons. Which of the following statements regarding the final two-neutron state is(are) CORRECT?

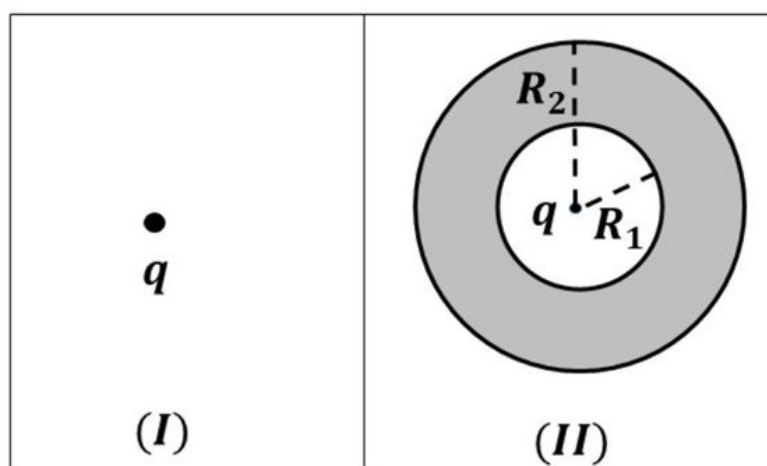
- (A) It has odd parity
- (B) $L + S$ is odd
- (C) $L = 1, S = 1$
- (D) $L = 2, S = 0$

Q59. [Marks: 2 | NAT]

Electromagnetism · Electrostatics

Gate 2023	NAT	2M
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Two independent electrostatic configurations are shown in the figure. Configuration (I) consists of an isolated point charge $q = 1\text{C}$, and configuration (II) consists of another identical charge surrounded by a thick conducting shell of inner radius $R_1 = 1\text{ m}$ and outer radius $R_2 = 2\text{ m}$, with the charge being at the center of the shell. $W_I = \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} \int E_I^2 dV$ and $W_{II} = \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} \int E_{II}^2 dV$, where E_I and E_{II} are the magnitudes of the electric fields for configurations (I) and (II) respectively, ϵ_0 is the permittivity of vacuum, and the volume integrations are carried out over all space. If $\frac{8\pi}{\epsilon_0} |W_I - W_{II}| = \frac{1}{n}$, what is the value of the integer n ?



Q60. [Marks: 2 | NAT]

Nuclear and Particle Physics · Radioactivity

Gate 2023	NAT	2M
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In pion nucleon scattering, the pion and nucleon can combine to form a short lived bound state called the Δ particle ($\pi + N \rightarrow \Delta$). The masses of the pion, nucleon and the Δ particle are $140 \text{ MeV}/c^2$, $938 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ and $1230 \text{ MeV}/c^2$, respectively. In the lab frame, where the nucleon is at rest, what is the minimum energy (in MeV/c^2 , rounded off to one decimal place) of the pion to produce the Δ particle?

Q61. [Marks: 2 | NAT]

Electromagnetism · EM Waves

Gate 2023	NAT	2M
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Consider an electromagnetic wave propagating in the z-direction in vacuum, with the magnetic field given by $\vec{B} = \vec{B}_0 e^{i(kz - \omega t)}$. If $B_0 = 10^{-8} \text{ T}$, the average power passing through a circle of radius 1.0 m placed in the xy plane is P (in Watts). Using $\epsilon_0 = 10^{-11} \frac{\text{C}^2}{\text{Nm}^2}$, what is the value of $\frac{10^3 P}{\pi}$ (rounded off to one decimal place)?

Q62. [Marks: 2 | NAT]

Nuclear and Particle Physics · Radioactivity

Gate 2023	NAT	2M
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An α -particle is emitted from the decay of Americium (Am) at rest, i.e., ${}_{94}^{241}\text{Am} \rightarrow {}_{92}^{237}\text{U} + \alpha$. The rest masses of ${}_{94}^{241}\text{Am}$, ${}_{92}^{237}\text{U}$ and α are $224.544 \text{ GeV}/c^2$, $220.811 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ and $3.728 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ respectively. What is the kinetic energy (in MeV/c^2 , rounded off to two decimal places) of the α -particle?

Q63. [Marks: 2 | NAT]

Statistical Mechanics · Microstates

Gate 2023	NAT	2M
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Consider 6 identical, non-interacting, spin $\frac{1}{2}$ atoms arranged on a crystal lattice at absolute temperature T . The Z-component of the magnetic moment of each of these atoms can be $\pm\mu_B$. If P and Q are the probabilities of the net magnetic moment of the solid being $2\mu_B$ and $6\mu_B$ respectively, what is the value of $\frac{P}{Q}$ (in integer)?

Q64. [Marks: 2 | NAT]

Statistical Mechanics · Microstates

Gate 2023	NAT	2M
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Two identical, non-interacting ${}^4\text{He}_2$ atoms are distributed among 4 different nondegenerate energy levels. The probability that they occupy different energy levels is p . Similarly, two ${}^3\text{He}_2$ atoms are distributed among 4 different non-degenerate energy levels, and the probability that they occupy different levels is q . What is the value of $\frac{p}{q}$ (rounded off to one decimal place)?

Q65. [Marks: 2 | NAT]

Thermodynamics · Carnot Cycle

Gate 2023	NAT	2M
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Two identical bodies kept at temperatures 800 K and 200 K act as the hot and the cold reservoirs of an ideal heat engine, respectively. Assume that their heat capacity (C) in Joules/K is independent of temperature and that they do not undergo any phase change. Then, the maximum work that can be obtained from the heat engine is $n \times C$ Joules. What is the value of n (in integer)?

Answer Key

65 questions · Subject & topic for quick revision · Official keys (IIT/IISc)

Q.No	Subject	Topic	Type	Marks	Answer
Q1	General Aptitude	English	MCQ	1	B
Q2	General Aptitude	English	MCQ	1	C
Q3	General Aptitude	Geometry	MCQ	1	B
Q4	General Aptitude	Reasoning	MCQ	1	D
Q5	General Aptitude	Reasoning	MCQ	1	C
Q6	General Aptitude	Reasoning	MCQ	2	D
Q7	General Aptitude	Mathematical Analysis	MCQ	2	A
Q8	General Aptitude	Reasoning	MCQ	2	C
Q9	General Aptitude	Mathematical Analysis	MCQ	2	A
Q10	General Aptitude	Geometry	MCQ	2	D
Q11	Thermodynamics	Carnot Cycle	MCQ	1	*
Q12	Atomic and Molecular Ph...	Effects in atomic physics	MCQ	1	D
Q13	Electronics	Diodes	MCQ	1	A
Q14	Atomic and Molecular Ph...	Effects in atomic physics	MCQ	1	A
Q15	Quantum Mechanics	Orbital angular momentum and hydr...	MCQ	1	*
Q16	Solid State Physics	Hall Effect	MCQ	1	B
Q17	Mathematical Physics	Tensors	MCQ	1	B
Q18	Solid State Physics	Crystallography	MCQ	1	B
Q19	Solid State Physics	Lattice vibration	MCQ	1	B
Q20	Solid State Physics	Tight binding model	MCQ	1	D
Q21	Solid State Physics	Magnetic properties of solids	MCQ	1	B
Q22	Solid State Physics	Crystallography	MCQ	1	A
Q23	Nuclear and Particle Phy...	Radioactivity	MCQ	1	C
Q24	Electronics	Logic Gates	MCQ	1	D
Q25	Quantum Mechanics	Spin and Total Angular momentum	MCQ	1	B
Q26	Mathematical Physics	Matrices	MCQ	1	B
Q27	Nuclear and Particle Phy...	Particle Physics	MCQ	1	B
Q28	Thermodynamics	Laws of thermodynamics	MSQ	1	B,C
Q29	Nuclear and Particle Phy...	Nuclear Force, deuteron problem an...	MSQ	1	A,C
Q30	Nuclear and Particle Phy...	Particle detector and accelerator	MSQ	1	A,B,C
Q31	Electromagnetism	Magnetism in matter	MSQ	1	A,B,D
Q32	Quantum Mechanics	Basics Quantum Mechanics	MSQ	1	A,B,D
Q33	Atomic and Molecular Ph...	Vector Model	NAT	1	45 to 45
Q34	Electronics	Transistors	NAT	1	2.20 to 2.36
Q35	Electromagnetism	Electrostatics	NAT	1	0.36 to 0.40
Q36	Atomic and Molecular Ph...	Molecular Physics	MCQ	2	C

Answer Key

65 questions · Subject & topic for quick revision · Official keys (IIT/IISc)

Q.No	Subject	Topic	Type	Marks	Answer
Q37	Electronics	Filters	MCQ	2	A
Q38	Statistical Mechanics	Canonical ensemble	MCQ	2	A
Q39	Quantum Mechanics	Basics Quantum Mechanics	MCQ	2	A
Q40	Classical Mechanics	Special theory of relativity	MCQ	2	C
Q41	Classical Mechanics	Rotation Motion	MCQ	2	*
Q42	Classical Mechanics	Lagrangian and Hamiltonian	MCQ	2	D
Q43	Mathematical Physics	Complex Analysis	MCQ	2	D
Q44	Optics	Interference and Diffraction	MCQ	2	D
Q45	Solid State Physics	Xray diffraction	MCQ	2	B
Q46	Solid State Physics	Lattice vibration	MCQ	2	C
Q47	Solid State Physics	Lattice vibration	MCQ	2	B
Q48	Nuclear and Particle Phy...	Nuclear Force, deuteron problem an...	MCQ	2	A
Q49	Quantum Mechanics	Orbital angular momentum and hydr...	MCQ	2	C
Q50	Quantum Mechanics	Basics Quantum Mechanics	MCQ	2	C
Q51	Quantum Mechanics	Potential Well	MCQ	2	B
Q52	Quantum Mechanics	Spin and Total Angular momentum	MCQ	2	A
Q53	Quantum Mechanics	Spin and Total Angular momentum	MCQ	2	D
Q54	Atomic and Molecular Ph...	Model of atom	MCQ	2	C
Q55	Nuclear and Particle Phy...	Particle Physics	MSQ	2	A
Q56	Mathematical Physics	Complex Analysis	MSQ	2	B
Q57	Mathematical Physics	Vector Analysis	MSQ	2	A,C,D
Q58	Nuclear and Particle Phy...	Particle Physics	MSQ	2	A,C
Q59	Electromagnetism	Electrostatics	NAT	2	*
Q60	Nuclear and Particle Phy...	Radioactivity	NAT	2	326.9 to 327.1
Q61	Electromagnetism	EM Waves	NAT	2	11.0 to 13.7
Q62	Nuclear and Particle Phy...	Radioactivity	NAT	2	4.90 to 4.94
Q63	Statistical Mechanics	Microstates	NAT	2	15 to 15
Q64	Statistical Mechanics	Microstates	NAT	2	0.6 to 0.6
Q65	Thermodynamics	Carnot Cycle	NAT	2	200 to 200