

Modern Physics

Problem Set 6

JC-29) de Broglie Waves

A photon and a particle have the same wavelength.

- (10 points) How do their linear momenta compare?
- (10 points) How does the photon's energy compare to the particle's total energy?
- (10 points) How does the photon's energy compare to the particle's kinetic energy?

JC-30) Atomic Nucleus

In order to study the atomic nucleus, we would like to observe the diffraction of particles whose de Broglie wavelength is about the size as the nuclear diameter, ~ 14 fm for a heavy nucleus such as lead. What kinetic energy should we use if the diffracted particles are

- (10 points) electrons
- (10 points) neutrons
- (10 points) alpha particles (mass = 4 u)

JC-31) Davisson-Germer Experiment Revisited

(10 points) In the Davisson-Germer experiment using Ni crystal, a second-order intensity maximum is observed at an angle of 55 degrees. For what accelerating voltage does this occur?

JC-32) de Broglie Wavelength of Nitrogen Molecules

(10 points) According to statistical mechanics, the average kinetic energy of a particle in a system that is at temperature T is $3kT/2$ where k is the Boltzmann constant. What is the average de Broglie wavelength of nitrogen molecules at room temperature?

JC-33) Free Particle

(10 points) A free particle is represented by the following plane wave function

$$\Psi(x, t) = Ae^{i(Bx - Ct)}$$

where $B = 1.58 \times 10^{12}$ and $C = 7.91 \times 10^{16}$ and SI units are understood. What are the momentum, kinetic energy and mass of the particle?

JC-34) Schroedinger Equation

- (10 points) Does the wave function $\Psi(x, t) = A \sin(kx - \omega t)$ satisfy the Schroedinger equation? Justify your answer.
- (10 points) Does the wave function $\Psi(x, t) = A \cos(kx - \omega t) + iA \sin(kx - \omega t)$ satisfy the Schroedinger equation? Justify your answer.

Talk 1) Topics

(10 points) List 3 potential topics for your end of the semester presentation.