

THINGS I EXPECT YOU TO KNOW AFTER COMPLETING THIS MODULE

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This handy little document will help you in preparing for the exams and tests. Listed below you will find a rough layout of the minimum that I expect you to know by the end of this module. This is a check list which you can now use to gauge whether you are ready for the exam or tests. The sections indicated in **bold** are the key concepts of this module.

1. RELATIVITY

You must

- be comfortable with classical relativity and the speed of light
- understand and interpret the Michelson-Morley experiment
- state the postulates of relativity
- be able to derive the equations of **time dilation and length contraction** and use them to solve problems
- be able to use and derive the Lorentz transformations
- be able to use and derive the relativistic velocity addition formulas
- understand mass in relativity
- derive and use relativistic momentum and energy
- derive the “**Pythagorean Relation**” and be able to use it
- derive and use force in relativity
- understand the mechanics of massless particles
- be able to distinguish when to use relativistic and nonrelativistic mechanics
- have a general idea about general relativity, such as stating the equivalence principle

2. QUANTUM MECHANICS

Here you must

- (1)
 - be familiar with some of the atomic parameters including the **atomic mass unit**
 - be able to derive and use the formula for the mean free path
 - grasp the experiment used by Thomson to discover the electron
- (2)
 - understand the concept of quantization
 - understand Planck and **black body radiation**
 - grasp the **photoelectric effect** and use it
 - understand x-rays
 - derive **Bragg’s law** and be able to use it
 - be able to interpret x-ray spectra
 - be able to derive the **Compton formula** and use it

- understand and be able to use the **particle wave duality**
- (3)
- understand atomic spectra
 - be able to derive the **Balmer-Rydberg formula** and use to solve problems
 - understand the problem of atomic stability
 - understand **Bohr's explanation of atomic spectra**
 - be able to derive the formulas **Bohr used in his model**
 - understand the **properties of the Bohr atom**
 - apply the results of Bohr to hydrogen like ions
 - understand the evidence for atomic energy levels
- (4)
- understand **De Broglie's hypothesis**
 - understand the **quantum wave function** and its experimental verification
 - understand the double slit experiment and all its consequences
 - be familiar with the workings of sinusoidal waves
 - be able to use **Fourier analysis** to solve problems with wave packets
 - be able to derive and use the **uncertainty relations**
 - understand and be able to use the velocity of wave packets
- (5)
- understand classical standing waves
 - understand how standing waves will look in quantum mechanics
 - **stationary states** in quantum mechanics
 - be able to determine the **allowed energies** for the particle in the **rigid box** using the SE and by just using standing wave arguments
 - be able to use the **TISE** NB!!
 - be able to solve and comment on the results of the energies of a free particle
 - find the solutions of **TISE** for the **nonrigid box** and allowed energies
 - understand the workings of the quantum simple harmonic oscillator and be able to draw the wave functions
 - understand why the quantum simple harmonic oscillator is such an important example
 - derive formulas for **tunneling** and be able to use those to solve problems NB!!
- (6)
- be able to solve the **two dimensional SE** for infinite potential using the **separation of variables** method and the **determinant method** which we did in class
 - be able to solve the **2D central force** problem and derive the laplacian

$$\nabla^2 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2}$$
 in polar coordinates
 - be able to set up the **3D central force** problem and comment why this is such an important example
 - understand and derive formulas regarding the **quantization of angular momentum**

- be able to derive the **energy levels** of the H-atom (heuristically) and interpret them
 - be familiar with using hydrogenic wave functions
 - be familiar with the concept of shell model
 - be able to find solution of the allowed energies for hydrogen like ions
- (7)
- understand angular and **spin** angular momentum
 - be able to derive formulas for the **magnetic moment** and use them
 - understand the **Zeeman effect**
 - understand and derive the spin magnetic moments
 - understand the **anomalous Zeeman effect**
 - understand and interpret the **Fine Structure**
 - have a basic idea about the workings of **Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)**
- (8)
- Know the workings of the Independent Particle Approximation (IPA)
 - Know and be able to apply the **Pauli Exclusion principle**
- (9)
- Understand simple nuclear properties, which include:
 - nuclear constituents
 - sizes and shapes of nuclei
 - nuclear energy levels
 - angular momenta of nuclei
 - understand the nuclear force, this includes the charge independence
 - understand why **neutrons rather than electrons** are nuclear constituents
 - be able to calculate the energies of nuclear constituents
 - be able to describe the IPA potential energy for nucleon
 - be able to describe the **Pauli principle** and **symmetry effect**
 - be able to derive and use the semiempirical Binding-Energy formula
 - understand the shell model of the nucleus
 - understand the workings of a mass spectrometer
- (10)
- be able to describe the different types of radioactive decay (α, β, γ)
 - be able to derive the exponential decay law
 - apply exponential decay law in problems regarding radiocarbon dating
 - understand where the **neutrino** can come from and how it was discovered
 - understand the natural radioactive series
 - understand the discovery of the proton and neutrons
 - understand reactions made in man made accelerators
 - be able to calculate nuclear cross sections
 - understand the concept of nuclear fission
 - understand nuclear fusion
 - understand the theory of α -decay

I will see where we get to by the end of the lectures, most probably we won't be able to cover all the concepts mentioned in the final section.