Contents

Preface xv

I Essentials 1

1 Key Features of Quantum Mechanics 3

1.1 Linearity of the Equations of Motion 4
1.2 Complex Numbers Are Essential 7
1.3 Loss of Determinism 10
1.4 Quantum Superpositions 14
1.5 Entanglement 22
1.6 Making Atoms Possible 25
Problems 27

2 Light, Particles, and Waves 31

2.1 Mach-Zehnder Interferometer 31
2.2 Elitzur-Vaidman Bombs 37
2.3 Toward Perfect Bomb Detection 39
2.4 Photoelectric Effect 44
2.5 Compton Scattering 47
2.6 Matter Waves 51
2.7 De Broglie Wavelength and Galilean Transformations 53
2.8 Stationary Phase and Group Velocity 58
Problems 60

3 Schrödinger Equation 67

3.1 The Wave Function for a Free Particle 67
3.2 Equations for a Wave Function 69
3.3 Schrödinger Equation for a Particle in a Potential 73
3.4 Interpreting the Wave Function 78
3.5 Normalization and Time Evolution 79
3.6 The Wave Function as a Probability Amplitude 81
3.7 The Probability Current 83

3.8 Probability Current in Three Dimensions and Current Conservation 85
Problems 87

4 Wave Packets, Uncertainty, and Momentum Space 93

4.1 Wave Packets and Uncertainty 93
4.2 Wave Packet Shape Changes 98
4.3 Time Evolution of a Free Wave Packet 100
4.4 Uncovering Momentum Space 101
Problems 106

5 Expectation Values and Hermitian Operators 111

5.1 Expectation Values of Operators 111
5.2 Time Dependence of Expectation Values 114
5.3 Hermitian Operators and Axioms of Quantum Mechanics 117
5.4 Free Particle on a Circle—a First Look 123
5.5 Uncertainty 125
Problems 128

6 Stationary States I: Special Potentials 133

6.1 Stationary States 133
6.2 Solving for Energy Eigenstates 137
6.3 Free Particle on a Circle—a Second Look 140
6.4 The Infinite Square Well 144
6.5 The Finite Square Well 148
6.6 The Delta Function Potential 156
6.7 The Linear Potential 161
Problems 165

7 Stationary States II: General Features 171

7.1 General Properties 171
7.2 Bound States in Slowly Varying Potentials 175
7.3 Sketching Wave Function Behavior 180
7.4 The Node Theorem 185
7.5 Shooting Method 187
7.6 Removing Units from the Schrödinger Equation 189
7.7 Virial Theorem 191
7.8 Variational Principle 194
7.9 Hellmann-Feynman Lemma 198
Problems 201

8 Stationary States III: Scattering 211

8.1 The Step Potential 211
8.2 Wave Packets in the Step Potential 218
8.3 Resonant Transmission in a Square Well 223
Problems 227

9 Harmonic Oscillator 233

9.1 Harmonic Oscillator 233
9.2 Solving the Harmonic Oscillator Differential Equation 236
9.3 Algebraic Solution for the Spectrum 242
9.4 Excited States of the Oscillator 246
Problems 251

10 Angular Momentum and Central Potentials 255

10.1 Angular Momentum in Quantum Mechanics 255
10.2 Schrödinger Equation in Three Dimensions and Angular Momentum 259
10.3 The Angular Momentum Operator 261
10.4 Commuting Operators and Rotations 264
10.5 Eigenstates of Angular Momentum 267
10.6 The Radial Equation 272
Problems 277

11 Hydrogen Atom 281

11.1 The Two-Body Problem 281
11.2 Hydrogen Atom: Potential and Scales 285
11.3 Hydrogen Atom: Bound State Spectrum 287
11.4 Rydberg Atoms 295
11.5 Degeneracies and Semiclassical Electron Orbits 298
Problems 302

12 The Simplest Quantum System: Spin One-Half 307

12.1 A System with Two States 307
12.2 The Stern-Gerlach Experiment 314
12.3 Spin States 322
12.4 Quantum Key Distribution 326
Problems 330

II Theory 335

13 Vector Spaces and Operators 337

13.1 Vector Spaces 337
13.2 Subspaces, Direct Sums, and Dimensionality 344
13.3 Linear Operators 349
13.4 Null Space, Range, and Inverses of Operators 354
13.5 Matrix Representation of Operators 360
13.6 Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors 366
13.7 Functions of Linear Operators and Key Identities 370
Problems 377

14 Inner Products, Adjoints, and Bra-kets 381

14.1 Inner Products 381
14.2 Orthonormal Bases 387

14.3 Orthogonal Projectors 390
14.4 Linear functionals and Adjoint Operators 395
14.5 Hermitian and Unitary Operators 398
14.6 Remarks on Complex Vector Spaces 403
14.7 Rotation Operators for Spin States 404
14.8 From Inner Products to Bra-kets 407
14.9 Operators, Projectors, and Adjoints 411
14.10 Nondenumerable Basis States 417
Problems 421

15 Uncertainty Principle and Compatible Operators 427

15.1 Uncertainty Defined 427
15.2 The Uncertainty Principle 431
15.3 Energy-Time Uncertainty 435
15.4 Lower Bounds for Ground State Energies 438
15.5 Diagonalization of Operators 440
15.6 The Spectral Theorem 442
15.7 Simultaneous Diagonalization of Hermitian Operators 447
15.8 Complete Set of Commuting Observables 451
Problems 454

16 Pictures of Quantum Mechanics 459

16.1 Schrödinger Picture and Unitary Time Evolution 459
16.2 Deriving the Schrödinger Equation 461
16.3 Calculating the Time Evolution Operator 464
16.4 Heisenberg Operators 467
16.5 Heisenberg Equations of Motion 469
16.6 Axioms of Quantum Mechanics 474
Problems 478

17 Dynamics of Quantum Systems 481

17.1 Basics of Coherent States 481
17.2 Heisenberg Picture for Coherent States 484
17.3 General Coherent States 489
17.4 Photon States 492
17.5 Spin Precession in a Magnetic Field 494
17.6 Nuclear Magnetic Resonance 498
17.7 Two-State System Viewed as a Spin System 503
17.8 The Factorization Method 504
Problems 511

18 Multiparticle States and Tensor Products 519

18.1 Introduction to the Tensor Product 519
18.2 Operators on the Tensor Product Space 522
18.3 Inner Products for Tensor Spaces 526
18.4 Matrix Representations and Traces 527

18.5 Entangled States 530
18.6 Bell Basis States 532
18.7 Quantum Teleportation 536
18.8 EPR and Bell Inequalities 538
18.9 No-Cloning Property 545
Problems 547

19 Angular Momentum and Central Potentials: Part II 555

19.1 Angular Momentum and Quantum Vector Identities 555
19.2 Properties of Angular Momentum 559
19.3 Multiplets of Angular Momentum 562
19.4 Central Potentials and Radial Equation 573
19.5 Free Particle and Spherical Waves 578
19.6 Rayleigh's Formula 581
19.7 The Three-Dimensional Isotropic Oscillator 584
19.8 The Runge-Lenz Vector 589
Problems 593

20 Addition of Angular Momentum 599

20.1 Adding Apples to Oranges? 599
20.2 Adding Two Spin One-Half Angular Momenta 601
20.3 A Primer in Perturbation Theory 606
20.4 Hyperfine Splitting 607
20.5 Computation of $\mathbf{1} \otimes \frac{1}{2}$ 612
20.6 Spin-Orbit Coupling 615
20.7 General Aspects of Addition of Angular Momentum 619
20.8 Hydrogen Atom and Hidden Symmetry 625
Problems 631

21 Identical Particles 639

21.1 Identical Particles and Exchange Degeneracy 640
21.2 Permutation Operators 643
21.3 Complete Symmetrizer and Antisymmetrizer 648
21.4 The Symmetrization Postulate 652
21.5 Building Symmetrized States and Probabilities 659
21.6 Particles with Two Sets of Degrees of Freedom 665
21.7 States of Two-Electron Systems 667
21.8 Occupation Numbers 671
Problems 677

III Applications 685

22 Density Matrix and Decoherence 687

22.1 Ensembles and Mixed States 687
22.2 The Density Matrix 692
22.3 Dynamics of Density Matrices 700

22.4 Subsystems and Schmidt Decomposition 701
22.5 Open Systems and Decoherence 709
22.6 The Lindblad Equation 717
22.7 A Theory of Measurement? 721
Problems 730

23 Quantum Computation 737

23.1 Qubits and Gates 739
23.2 Deutsch's Computation 747
23.3 Grover's Algorithm 749
Problems 756

24 Charged Particles in Electromagnetic Fields 761

24.1 Electromagnetic Potentials 761
24.2 Schrödinger Equation with Electromagnetic Potentials 763
24.3 Heisenberg Picture 767
24.4 Magnetic Fields on a Torus 770
24.5 Particles in Uniform Magnetic Field: Landau Levels 774
24.6 The Pauli Equation 779
24.7 The Dirac Equation 781
Problems 783

25 Time-Independent Perturbation Theory 793

25.1 Time-Independent Perturbations 793
25.2 Nondegenerate Perturbation Theory 796
25.3 The Anharmonic Oscillator 804
25.4 Degenerate Perturbation Theory 807
25.5 Degeneracy Lifted at Second Order 814
25.6 Review of Hydrogen Atom 817
25.7 Fine Structure of Hydrogen 821
25.8 Zeeman Effect 833
Problems 838

26 WKB and Semiclassical Approximation 849

26.1 The Classical Limit 849
26.2 WKB Approximation Scheme 852
26.3 Using Connection Formulae 860
26.4 Airy Functions and Their Expansions 863
26.5 Connection Formulae Derived 868
26.6 Tunneling through a Barrier 872
26.7 Double-Well Potentials 876
Problems 884

27 Time-Dependent Perturbation Theory 891

27.1 Time-Dependent Hamiltonians 891
27.2 The Interaction Picture 893

27.3 Perturbative Solution in the Interaction Picture 899
27.4 Constant Perturbations 904
27.5 Harmonic Perturbations 907
27.6 Fermi's Golden Rule 911
27.7 Helium Atom and Autoionization 919
27.8 Modeling the Decay of a Discrete State to the Continuum 921
27.9 Ionization of Hydrogen 928
27.10 Atoms and Light 935
27.11 Atom-Light Dipole Interaction 939
27.12 Selection Rules 943
Problems 945

28 Adiabatic Approximation 953

28.1 Adiabatic Changes and Adiabatic Invariants 953
28.2 From Classical to Quantum Adiabatic Invariants 955
28.3 Instantaneous Energy Eigenstates 960
28.4 Quantum Adiabatic Theorem 964
28.5 Landau-Zener Transitions 969
28.6 Berry's Phase 975
28.7 Born-Oppenheimer Approximation 981
28.8 The Hydrogen Molecule Ion 987
Problems 993

29 Scattering in One Dimension 999

29.1 Scattering on the Half Line 999
29.2 Time Delay 1003
29.3 Levinson's Theorem 1009
29.4 Resonances 1011
29.5 Modeling Resonances 1015
Problems 1020

30 Scattering in Three Dimensions 1025

30.1 Energy Eigenstates for Scattering 1026
30.2 Cross Sections from Scattering Amplitudes 1029
30.3 Scattering Amplitude in Terms of Phase Shifts 1031
30.4 Computation of Phase Shifts 1036
30.5 Integral Equation for Scattering 1042
30.6 The Born Approximation 1046
Problems 1050

References 1057
Index 1065