

PHYSICS- DSE:
ELEMENTS OF MODERN PHYSICS
(Credits: Theory-04, Practicals-02) Theory: 60 Lectures

UNIT I (15 Lectures)

Planck's quantum, Planck's constant and light as a collection of photons; Photo-electric effect and Compton scattering. De Broglie wavelength and matter waves; Davisson Germer experiment. Problems with Rutherford model- instability of atoms and observation of discrete atomic spectra; Bohr's quantization rule and atomic stability; calculation of energy levels for hydrogen like atoms and their spectra.

UNIT II (15 Lectures)

Position measurement- gamma ray microscope thought experiment; Wave-particle duality, Heisenberg uncertainty principle- impossibility of a particle following a trajectory; Estimating minimum energy of a confined particle using uncertainty principle; Energy-time uncertainty principle. Matter waves and wave amplitude; Schrodinger equation for non-relativistic particles. Momentum and Energy operators; stationary states; physical interpretation of wavefunction, probabilities and normalization; Probability and probability current densities in one dimension.

UNIT III (15 Lectures)

One dimensional infinitely rigid box- energy eigenvalues and eigenfunctions, normalization; Quantum dot as an example; Quantum mechanical scattering and tunnelling in one dimension - across a step potential and across a rectangular potential barrier.

Size and structure of atomic nucleus and its relation with atomic weight; Impossibility of an electron being in the nucleus as a consequence of the uncertainty principle

UNIT IV (15 Lectures)

Nature of nuclear force, NZ graph, semi-empirical mass formula and binding energy. Radioactivity: stability of nucleus; Law of radioactive decay; Mean life & half-life; α decay; β decay - energy released, spectrum and Pauli's prediction of neutrino; γ -ray emission.

Fission and fusion - mass deficit, relativity and generation of energy; Fission - nature of fragments and emission of neutrons. Nuclear reactor: slow neutrons interacting with Uranium 235; Fusion and thermonuclear reactions.

Reference Books:

- Concepts of Modern Physics, Arthur Beiser, 2009, McGraw-Hill
- Modern Physics, John R. Taylor, Chris D. Zafiratos, Michael A. Dubson, 2009, PHI Learning
- Six Ideas that Shaped Physics: Particle Behave like Waves, Thomas A. Moore, 2003, McGraw Hill
- Quantum Physics, Berkeley Physics Course Vol.4. E.H. Wichman, 2008, Tata McGraw-Hill Co.
- Modern Physics, R.A. Serway, C.J. Moses, and C.A. Moyer, 2005, Cengage Learning
- Modern Physics, G. Kaur and G.R. Pickrell, 2014, McGraw Hill