

**Engineering Quantum Mechanics. Fall 2016.**  
**TTh 9.30 a.m. – 10.50 a.m., VHE 210.**

**Web site:** <http://www.usc.edu/alevi>  
**Web site:** <http://classes.usc.edu/term-20163/classes/ee>

**EE539: Abstract and Prerequisites**

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<b>Grading:</b> <b>Midterm</b> 35% <b>Homework</b> 10% <b>Final Exam</b> 55%	<b>Final Exam:</b> 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., <b>Thursday, December 8, 2015, VHE 210</b> First day of class – Tuesday, August 23, 2016 Last day of class – Thursday, December 1, 2016
<b>Required Text:</b> <b>Applied Quantum Mechanics, A.F.J. Levi, Cambridge University Press</b> <b>Paperback: Call Cambridge University Press at (845) 353-7500 and ask for the "Print on demand version" ISBN: 978-0-521-18399-4</b>	
<b>Optional Text:</b> <b>Optimal Device Design, Cambridge University Press, ISBN: 0521116600</b>	

**Abstract**

Quantum mechanics is the basis for understanding physical phenomena on the atomic and nano-meter scale. There are numerous applications of quantum mechanics in biology, chemistry and engineering. Those with significant economic impact include semiconductor transistors, lasers, quantum optics and photonics. As technology advances, an increasing number of new electronic and opto-electronic devices will operate in ways that can only be understood using quantum mechanics. Over the next twenty years fundamentally quantum devices such as single-electron memory cells and photonic signal processing systems will become commonplace. The purpose of this course is to cover a few selected applications and to provide a solid foundation in the tools and methods of quantum mechanics. The intent is that this understanding will enable insight and contributions to future, as yet unknown, applications.

**Prerequisites**

*Mathematics:*

A basic working knowledge of differential calculus, linear algebra, statistics, and geometry.

*Computer skills:*

An ability to program numerical algorithms in MATLAB or similar language and display results in graphical form.

*Physics background:*

Should include a basic understanding of Newtonian mechanics, waves, and Maxwell's equations.

**Introduction:** *Lectures 1 - 3*

**Lecture 1**

*REVIEW OF CLASSICAL CONCEPTS*

The linear and nonlinear oscillator  
Electromagnetism

*TOWARDS QUANTUM MECHANICS – PARTICLES AND WAVES*

Diffraction, interference, and correlation functions for light  
Black-body radiation and evidence for quantization of light  
Photoelectric effect and the photon particle

**Lecture 2**

Secure quantum communication  
The link between quantization of photons and quantization of other particles  
Diffraction and interference of electrons  
When is a particle a wave?

**Lecture 3**

*THE SCHRÖDINGER WAVE EQUATION*

The wave function description of an electron of mass  $m_0$  in free-space  
The electron wave packet and dispersion  
The Bohr model of the hydrogen atom  
    Calculation of the average radius of an electron orbit in hydrogen  
    Calculation of energy difference between electron orbits in hydrogen  
Periodic table of elements  
Crystal structure  
    Three types of solid classified according to atomic arrangement  
    Two-dimensional square lattice, cubic lattices in three-dimensions  
Electronic properties of semiconductor crystals  
    The semiconductor heterostructure

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**Using the Schrödinger wave equation:** *Lectures 4 - 6*

**Lecture 4**

*INTRODUCTION*

The effect of discontinuities in the wave function and its derivative

*WAVE FUNCTION NORMALIZATION AND COMPLETENESS*

*INVERSION SYMMETRY IN THE POTENTIAL*

Particle in a one-dimensional square potential well with infinite barrier energy

*NUMERICAL SOLUTION OF THE SCHRÖDINGER EQUATION*

Matrix solution to the discretized Schrödinger equation  
Nontransmitting boundary conditions. Periodic boundary conditions

*CURRENT FLOW*

Current flow in a one-dimensional infinite square potential well  
Current flow due to a traveling wave

*DEGENERACY IS A CONSEQUENCE OF SYMMETRY*

Bound states in three-dimensions and degeneracy of eigenvalues

**Lecture 5**

*BOUND STATES OF A SYMMETRIC SQUARE POTENTIAL WELL*

Symmetric square potential well with finite barrier energy

*TRANSMISSION AND REFLECTION OF UNBOUND STATES*

Scattering from a potential step when effective electron mass changes

Probability current density for scattering at a step

Impedance matching for unity transmission

**Lecture 6**

*PARTICLE TUNNELING*

Electron tunneling limit to reduction in size of CMOS transistors

*THE NONEQUILIBRIUM ELECTRON TRANSISTOR*

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**Scattering in one-dimension: The propagation method:** *Lectures 7 - 10*

**Lecture 7**

*THE PROPAGATION MATRIX METHOD*

Writing a computer program for the propagation method

*TIME REVERSAL SYMMETRY*

*CURRENT CONSERVATION AND THE PROPAGATION MATRIX*

**Lecture 8**

*THE RECTANGULAR POTENTIAL BARRIER*

Tunneling

*RESONANT TUNNELING*

Localization threshold

Multiple potential barriers

*THE POTENTIAL BARRIER IN THE  $\delta$ -FUNCTION LIMIT*

**Lecture 9**

*ENERGY BANDS IN PERIODIC POTENTIALS: THE KRONIG-PENNY POTENTIAL*

Bloch's theorem

Propagation matrix in a periodic potential

Real and imaginary band structure

**Lecture 10**

*THE TIGHT BINDING MODEL FOR ELECTRONIC BAND STRUCTURE*

Nearest neighbor and long-range interactions

Crystal momentum and effective electron mass

*USE OF THE PROPAGATION MATRIX TO SOLVE OTHER PROBLEMS IN ENGINEERING*

*THE WKB APPROXIMATION*

Tunneling

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**Related mathematics:** *Lecture 11 - 12*

**Lecture 11**

*ONE PARTICLE WAVE FUNCTION SPACE  
PROPERTIES OF LINEAR OPERATORS*

Hermitian operators  
Commutator algebra

*DIRAC NOTATION*

*MEASUREMENT OF REAL NUMBERS*

Time dependence of expectation values. Indeterminacy in expectation value  
The generalized indeterminacy relation

*THE NO CLONING THEOREM*

**Lecture 12**

*DENSITY OF STATES*

Density of states of particle mass  $m$  in 3D, 2D, 1D and 0D  
Quantum conductance  
Numerically evaluating density of states from a dispersion relation  
Density of photon states

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**The harmonic oscillator:** *Lectures 13 - 14*

**Lecture 13**

*THE HARMONIC OSCILLATOR POTENTIAL  
CREATION AND ANNIHILATION OPERATORS*

The ground state. Excited states

*HARMONIC OSCILLATOR WAVE FUNCTIONS*

Classical turning point

*TIME DEPENDENCE*

The superposition operator. Measurement of a superposition state

**Lecture 14**

Time dependence in the Heisenberg representation  
Charged particle in harmonic potential subject to constant electric field

*ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS*

Laser light  
Quantization of an electrical resonator  
Quantization of lattice vibrations  
Quantization of mechanical vibrations

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**Fermions and Bosons:** *Lecture 15 - 16*

**Lecture 15**

*INTRODUCTION*

The symmetry of indistinguishable particles. Slater determinant

Pauli exclusion principle. Fermion creation and annihilation operators – application to tight-binding Hamiltonian

### Lecture 16

#### *FERMI-DIRAC DISTRIBUTION FUNCTION*

Equilibrium statistics

Writing a computer program to calculate the chemical potential and Fermi-Dirac distribution at finite temperature

#### *BOSE-EINSTEIN DISTRIBUTION FUNCTION*

#### *CURRENT AS FUNCTION OF VOLTAGE BIAS*

Semiconductor heterostructure diode structures in the depletion approximation.

Metal-insulator-metal.

Reduced dimensions

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### **Time dependent perturbation theory and the laser diode: Lectures 17 - 21**

### Lecture 17

#### *FIRST-ORDER TIME-DEPENDENT PERTURBATION THEORY*

Abrupt change in potential

Time dependent change in potential

#### *CHARGED PARTICLE IN A HARMONIC POTENTIAL*

#### *FIRST-ORDER TIME-DEPENDENT PERTURBATION*

### Lecture 18

#### *FERMI'S GOLDEN RULE*

#### *IONIZED IMPURITY ELASTIC SCATTERING RATE IN GaAs*

The coulomb potential. Linear screening of the coulomb potential

Correlation effects in position of dopant atoms

Calculating the electron mean free path

### Lecture 19

#### *EMISSION OF PHOTONS DUE TO TRANSITIONS BETWEEN ELECTRONIC STATES*

Density of optical modes in three dimensions

Light intensity

Background photon energy density at thermal equilibrium

Fermi's golden rule for stimulated optical transitions

The Einstein A and B coefficients

Occupation factor for photons in thermal equilibrium in a two-level system

Derivation of the relationship between spontaneous emission rate and gain

### Lecture 20

#### *THE SEMICONDUCTOR LASER DIODE*

Spontaneous and stimulated emission. Optical gain in a semiconductor. Optical gain in the presence of electron scattering

#### *DESIGNING A LASER CAVITY*

Resonant optical cavity. Mirror loss and photon lifetime

The Fabry-Perot laser diode. Rate equation models

**Lecture 21**

*NUMERICAL METHOD OF SOLVING RATE EQUATIONS*

The Runge-Kutta method. Large-signal transient response. Cavity formation

*NOISE IN LASER DIODE LIGHT EMISSION*

Effect of photon and electron number quantization

Langevin and semiclassical master equations

*QUANTUM THEORY OF LASER OPERATION*

Density matrix

Single and multiple quantum dot, saturable absorber

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**Time independent perturbation theory: Lectures 22 - 23**

**Lecture 22**

*NON-DEGENERATE CASE*

Hamiltonian subject to perturbation  $W$

First-order correction. Second order correction

Harmonic oscillator subject to perturbing potential in  $x$ ,  $x^2$  and  $x^3$

**Lecture 23**

*DEGENERATE CASE*

Secular equation

Two states

Perturbation of two-dimensional harmonic oscillator

Perturbation of two-dimensional potential with infinite barrier

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**Angular momentum and the hydrogenic atom: Lectures 24 - 26**

**Lecture 24**

*ANGULAR MOMENTUM*

Classical angular momentum

The angular momentum operator

Eigenvalues of the angular momentum operators  $L_z$  and  $L^2$

Geometric representation

**Lecture 25**

*SPHERICAL HARMONICS AND THE HYDROGEN ATOM*

Spherical coordinates and spherical harmonics

The rigid rotator

Quantization of the hydrogenic atom

Radial and angular probability density

**Lecture 26**

*ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION*

No eigenstate radiation

Superposition of eigenstates  
Hydrogenic selection rules for dipole radiation  
Fine structure  
Hybridization

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