

**Engineering Quantum Mechanics. Fall 2017.**  
**TTh 9.00 a.m. – 10.50 a.m., VHE 210.**

**Web site:** <http://alevi.usc.edu>  
**Web site:** <http://classes.usc.edu/term-20173/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 7, 2017, VHE 210</b> First day of class – Tuesday, August 22, 2017 Last day of class – Thursday, November 30, 2017
<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 Texts:</b> <b>Essential Classical Mechanics for Device Physics, IoP, ISBN: 9781681744124</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 - 5*

**Lecture 1-2**

*REVIEW OF CLASSICAL CONCEPTS*

Extended discussion to include material from the book “Essential classical mechanics for device physics”.

The linear and nonlinear oscillator

Electromagnetism

Mechanical model of light-matter interaction due to Lorentz.

**Lecture 3**

*TOWARDS QUANTUM MECHANICS – PARTICLES AND WAVES*

Diffraction, interference, and correlation functions for light

Black-body radiation and evidence for quantization of light

Photoelectric effect

*THE PHOTON PARTICLE*

The existence of the photon particle

The photon at a beam splitter

Secure quantum communication

**Lecture 4-5**

*WAVE-PARTICLE DUALITY*

The link between quantization of photons and quantization of other particles

Diffraction and interference of electrons

When is a particle a wave?

*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

**Using the Schrödinger wave equation:** *Lectures 6 - 7*

**Lecture 6-7**

*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

*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

*PARTICLE TUNNELING*

Electron tunneling limit to reduction in size of CMOS transistors

*THE NONEQUILIBRIUM ELECTRON TRANSISTOR*

**Scattering in one-dimension: The propagation method:** *Lectures 8 - 10*

**Lecture 8**

*THE PROPAGATION MATRIX METHOD*

Writing a computer program for the propagation method

*TIME REVERSAL SYMMETRY*

*CURRENT CONSERVATION AND THE PROPAGATION MATRIX*

**Lecture 9**

*THE RECTANGULAR POTENTIAL BARRIER*

Tunneling

*RESONANT TUNNELING*

Localization threshold

Multiple potential barriers

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

*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

**RELATED MATHEMATICS: LECTURE 11- 12**

**Lecture 11-12**

*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*

*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

**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

**Lecture 15**

Review

**Midterm:**

Class following Review

**Fermions and Bosons: Lecture 17 - 18**

**Lecture 17**

*INTRODUCTION*

The symmetry of indistinguishable particles. Slater determinant  
Pauli exclusion principle. Fermion creation and annihilation operators –  
application to tight-binding Hamiltonian

*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

**Lecture 18 - 19**

*PHOTON FOCK STATES*

The Mandel effect

n-photons at a beam splitter

n-photons at a FP resonator

*THE MANDEL EFFECT*

Dual photon source

Fiber-optic beam splitter and delay line

Photon counting and correlation

**Time dependent perturbation theory and the laser diode: Lectures 20 - 22**

**Lecture 20**

*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*

*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 21**

*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

*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 22**

*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

**Time independent perturbation theory: Lectures 24**

**Lecture 23**

*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  $x_3$

*DEGENERATE CASE*

Secular equation  
Two states  
Perturbation of two-dimensional harmonic oscillator  
Perturbation of two-dimensional potential with infinite barrier

**Angular momentum, the hydrogenic atom, and bonds: Lectures 25 - 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

*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 25

### *ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION*

- No eigenstate radiation
- Superposition of eigenstates
- Hydrogenic selection rules for dipole radiation
- Fine structure

### BONDS.

- The hydrogen molecule ion.
- The hydrogen molecule covalent bond
- Valence bond description.
- Molecular orbital description
- The ionic bond