

Physics 111

Exam #1

September 22, 2025

Name _____

Please read and follow these instructions carefully:

- Read all problems carefully before attempting to solve them.
- Your work must be legible, and the organization clear.
- You must show all work, including correct vector notation.
- You will not receive full credit for correct answers without adequate explanations.
- You will not receive full credit if incorrect work or explanations are mixed in with correct work. So, erase or cross out anything you don't want graded.
- Make explanations complete but brief. Do not write a lot of prose.
- Include diagrams.
- Show what goes into a calculation, not just the final number. For example,
 $|\vec{p}| \approx m|\vec{v}| = (5\text{ kg}) \times (2 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}) = 10 \frac{\text{kg}\cdot\text{m}}{\text{s}}$
- Give standard SI units with your results unless specifically asked for a certain unit.
- Unless specifically asked to derive a result, you may start with the formulas given on the formula sheet including equations corresponding to the fundamental concepts.
- Go for partial credit. If you cannot do some portion of a problem, invent a symbol and/or value for the quantity you can't calculate (explain that you are doing this), and use it to do the rest of the problem.
- Each free-response part is worth 6 points.

Problem #1	/24
Problem #2	/24
Problem #3	/24
Total	/72

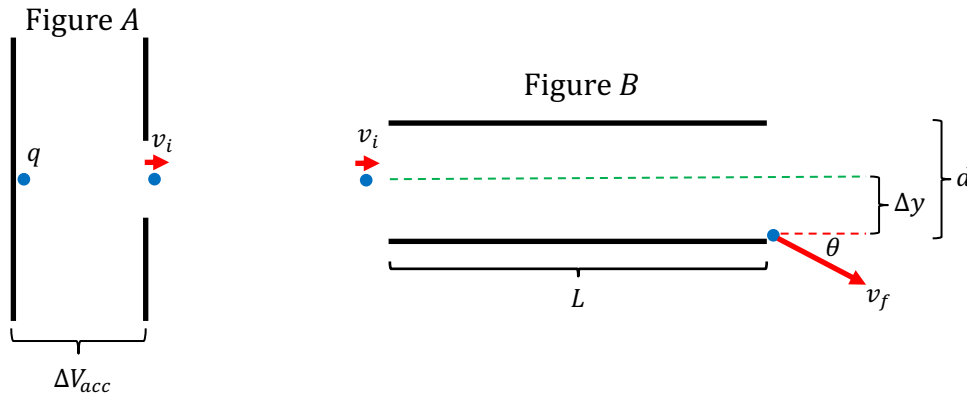
I affirm that I have carried out my academic endeavors with full academic honesty.

1. Calcium chloride ($CaCl_2$) is an ionic salt. In aqueous solutions it separates into Ca^{+2} and Cl^- ions. These ions are essential for cellular functions. Consider building a molecule of calcium chloride by arranging the charges in a line according to chlorine – calcium – chlorine, with each calcium – chlorine ion separated by a distance $s = 0.295nm$.
 - a. How much work (in electron volts) is done to build $CaCl_2$? Hints: The charges of the calcium and chlorine ions are $+2e$ and $-1e$ respectively and suppose that each charge is brought in from very far away and placed in their final locations.
 - b. What is the electric potential energy (in eV) stored in the system? In addition to calculating or stating a value, explain the significance of the sign of the electric potential energy.

- c. What is the net electric field (magnitude and direction) at the right most chlorine ion due to the left most chlorine ion and the calcium ion?

- d. What is the net force on the right most chlorine ion due to the left most chlorine ion and the calcium ion?

2. Suppose an electron is accelerated horizontally from rest using a set of vertical parallel plates. The electron is accelerated from rest at the left vertical plate through a potential difference and the electron emerges from a small hole in the right vertical plate as shown in Figure A below. After the electron emerges from the small hole in the right plate it passes between a set of parallel horizontal plates shown in Figure B below. The electron emerges from these horizontal plates with a speed $v = 9 \times 10^6 \frac{m}{s}$ directed at an angle $\theta = 60^\circ$ below the horizontal, as shown below.



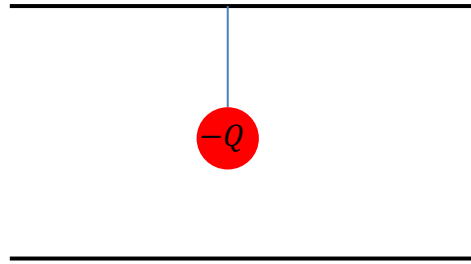
- Through what potential difference ΔV_{acc} was the electron accelerated in Figure A?
- If the electron was accelerated over a vertical distance of $\Delta y = -12cm$, What is the magnitude and direction of the electric field in the horizontal set of plates in Figure B?

- c. How long does the electron spend crossing the horizontal set of plates and what is the length L of the horizontal plates in Figure B?
- d. If the horizontal set of plates were square and separated by a distance $d = 30\text{cm}$, which plate is at the higher electric potential and what is the potential difference across the horizontal set of plates? Justify our choice of which plate is at the higher electric potential with a sentence or two.

3. An air-filled parallel plate capacitor is constructed out of two parallel circular metal plates of radius $r = 1m$ separated by a distance of $d = 10cm$.
 - a. What is the capacitance of the system and how much charge could be stored in the capacitor when it is fully charged if the capacitor was connected to a $1000V$ battery?
 - b. Assuming that the capacitor is fully charged, what is the magnitude of the electric field between the plates of the capacitor?

- c. Suppose we orient the capacitor as shown below in Figure C. From the upper plate we suspend a conducting sphere of mass $m = 0.8\text{ kg}$ at the end of an insulating string. A charge $-Q$ is then placed on the conducting sphere. The system is in equilibrium and when the system is in equilibrium, the tension measured in the string has a value $F_T = 4.6\text{ N}$. What is the magnitude of the charge that was placed on the conducting sphere?

Figure C



- d. For the situation in part c, fully explain what is the direction of the electric field between the plates and which plate (upper or lower) has the positive charge on it.

Physics 111 Formula Sheet

Electrostatics

$$F = k \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$$

$$\vec{F} = q\vec{E}; \quad E_{pc} = k \frac{q}{r^2}; \quad E_{plate} = \frac{q}{\epsilon_0 A}$$

$$E = -\frac{\Delta V}{\Delta x}$$

$$V_{pc} = k \frac{q}{r}$$

$$U_e = k \frac{q_1 q_2}{r} = qV$$

$$W = -q\Delta V = -\Delta U_e = \Delta K$$

Electric Circuits - Capacitors

$$Q = CV; \quad C = \frac{\kappa \epsilon_0 A}{d}$$

$$C_{parallel} = \sum_{i=1}^N C_i$$

$$\frac{1}{C_{series}} = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{C_i}$$

$$Q_{charging}(t) = Q_{max} \left(1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}\right)$$

$$Q_{discharging}(t) = Q_{max} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}$$

$$I(t) = I_{max} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} = \frac{Q_{max}}{\tau} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}$$

$$\tau = RC$$

$$U_C = \frac{1}{2}qV = \frac{1}{2}CV^2 = \frac{Q^2}{2C}$$

Light as a Wave

$$c = f\lambda$$

$$S(t) = \frac{\text{Energy}}{\text{time} \times \text{Area}} = c\epsilon_0 E^2(t) = c \frac{B^2(t)}{\mu_0}$$

$$I = S_{avg} = \frac{1}{2}c\epsilon_0 E_{max}^2 = c \frac{B_{max}^2}{2\mu_0}$$

$$P = \begin{cases} \frac{S}{c}; & \text{absorbed} \\ \frac{2S}{c}; & \text{reflected} \end{cases}$$

$$S = S_0 \cos^2 \theta$$

$$v = \frac{c}{n}$$

$$\theta_{incident} = \theta_{reflected}$$

$$n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$$

$$P = \frac{1}{f} = \frac{1}{d_o} + \frac{1}{d_i}$$

$$M = \frac{d_i}{d_o}; \quad |M| = \frac{h_i}{h_o}$$

Magnetism

$$\vec{F} = q\vec{v} \times \vec{B} \rightarrow F = qvB \sin \theta$$

$$\vec{F} = I\vec{L} \times \vec{B} \rightarrow F = ILB \sin \theta$$

$$V_{Hall} = wv_d B$$

$$B = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi r}$$

$$\mathcal{E} = \Delta V = -N \frac{\Delta \phi_B}{\Delta t}$$

$$\phi_B = BA \cos \theta$$

Electric Circuits - Resistors

$$I = \frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta t}$$

$$I = neAv_d; \quad n = \frac{\rho N_A}{m}$$

$$V = IR$$

$$R = \frac{\rho L}{A}$$

$$R_{series} = \sum_{i=1}^N R_i$$

$$\frac{1}{R_{parallel}} = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{R_i}$$

$$P = \frac{\Delta E}{\Delta t} = IV = I^2 R = \frac{V^2}{R}$$

Light as a Particle/Relativity

$$E = hf = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$

$$K_{max} = hf - \phi$$

$$\Delta \lambda = \lambda' - \lambda = \frac{h}{mc} (1 - \cos \phi)$$

$$\frac{1}{E'} = \frac{1}{E} + \frac{(1 - \cos \phi)}{E_{rest}}; \quad E_{rest} = mc^2$$

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

$$p = \gamma mv$$

$$E_{total} = E_{rest} + K = \gamma mc^2$$

$$K = (\gamma - 1)mc^2$$

$$E_{total}^2 = p^2 c^2 + m^2 c^4$$

Nuclear Physics

$$N = N_0 e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$m = m_0 e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$A = A_0 e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$A = \lambda N$$

$$t_{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{\ln 2}{\lambda}$$

Constants

$$g = 9.8 \frac{m}{s^2}$$

$$1e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} C$$

$$k = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = 9 \times 10^9 \frac{Nm^2}{C^2}$$

$$\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \frac{C^2}{Nm^2}$$

$$1eV = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} J$$

$$\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \frac{Tm}{A}$$

$$c = 3 \times 10^8 \frac{m}{s}$$

$$h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} Js = 4.14 \times 10^{-15} eVs$$

$$N_A = 6.02 \times 10^{23}$$

$$1u = 1.66 \times 10^{-27} kg = 931.5 \frac{MeV}{c^2}$$

$$m_p = 1.67 \times 10^{-27} kg = 937.1 \frac{MeV}{c^2}$$

$$m_n = 1.69 \times 10^{-27} kg = 948.3 \frac{MeV}{c^2}$$

$$m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} kg = 0.511 \frac{MeV}{c^2}$$

Physics 110 Formulas

$$\vec{F} = m\vec{a}; \quad F_G = \frac{GM_1 m_2}{r^2}; \quad F_s = -ky; \quad a_c = \frac{v^2}{r}$$

$$W = -\Delta U_g - \Delta U_s = \Delta K$$

$$U_g = mgy$$

$$U_s = \frac{1}{2}ky^2$$

$$K = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$

$$\vec{r}_f = \vec{r}_i + \vec{v}_i t + \frac{1}{2}\vec{a}t^2$$

$$\vec{v}_f = \vec{v}_i + \vec{a}t$$

$$v_f^2 = v_i^2 + 2a_r \Delta r$$

Common Metric Units

$$\text{nano (n)} = 10^{-9}$$

$$\text{micro (\mu)} = 10^{-6}$$

$$\text{milli (m)} = 10^{-3}$$

$$\text{centi (c)} = 10^{-2}$$

$$\text{kilo (k)} = 10^3$$

$$\text{mega (M)} = 10^6$$

Geometry/Algebra

$$\text{Circles:} \quad A = \pi r^2 \quad C = 2\pi r = \pi$$

$$\text{Spheres:} \quad A = 4\pi r^2 \quad V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$$

$$\text{Triangles:} \quad A = \frac{1}{2}bh$$

$$\text{Quadratics:} \quad ax^2 + bx + c = 0 \rightarrow x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

PERIODIC TABLE OF ELEMENTS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1 H Hydrogen 1.008	2 He Helium 4.0026																
3 Li Lithium 6.94	4 Be Beryllium 9.0122																
5 Na Sodium 22.990	6 Mg Magnesium 24.305																
7 K Potassium 39.098	8 Ca Calcium 40.078	9 Sc Scandium 44.956	10 Ti Titanium 47.867	11 V Vanadium 50.942	12 Cr Chromium 51.996	13 Mn Manganese 54.938	14 Fe Iron 55.845	15 Co Cobalt 58.933	16 Ni Nickel 58.693	17 Cu Copper 63.546	18 Zn Zinc 65.38	19 Ga Gallium 69.723	20 Ge Germanium 72.630	21 As Arsenic 74.922	22 Se Selenium 78.971	23 Br Bromine 79.904	24 Kr Krypton 83.798
25 Rb Rubidium 85.468	26 Sr Strontium 87.62	27 Y Yttrium 88.906	28 Zr Zirconium 91.224	29 Nb Niobium 92.906	30 Mo Molybdenum 95.94	31 Tc Technetium (98)	32 Ru Ruthenium 101.07	33 Rh Rhodium 102.91	34 Pd Palladium 106.42	35 Ag Silver 107.87	36 Cd Cadmium 112.41	37 In Indium 114.82	38 Sn Tin 118.71	39 Sb Antimony 121.76	40 Te Tellurium 127.60	41 I Iodine 126.90	42 Xe Xenon 131.29
37 Cs Cesium 132.91	38 Ba Barium 137.33	39 La Lanthanum 138.91	40 Ce Cerium 140.12	41 Pr Praseodymium 140.91	42 Nd Neodymium 144.24	43 Pm Promethium (145)	44 Sm Samarium 150.36	45 Eu Europium 151.96	46 Gd Gadolinium 157.25	47 Tb Terbium 158.93	48 Dy Dysprosium 162.50	49 Ho Holmium 164.93	50 Er Erbium 167.26	51 Tm Thulium 168.93	52 Yb Ytterbium 173.05	53 Lu Lutetium 174.97	54 Hf Hafnium 178.49
55 Fr Francium (223)	56 Ra Radium (226)	57-71 Lanthanoids (Lanthanides)	72 Hf Hafnium 178.49	73 Ta Tantalum 180.95	74 W Tungsten 183.84	75 Re Rhenium 186.21	76 Os Osmium 190.23	77 Ir Iridium 192.22	78 Pt Platinum 195.08	79 Au Gold 196.97	80 Hg Mercury 200.59	81 Tl Thallium 204.38	82 Pb Lead 207.2	83 Bi Bismuth 208.98	84 Po Polonium (209)	85 At Astatine (210)	86 Rn Radon (222)
87 Fr Francium (223)	88 Ra Radium (226)	89-103 Actinoids (Actinides)	104 Rf Rutherfordium (261)	105 Db Dubnium (268)	106 Sg Seaborgium (266)	107 Bh Bohrium (264)	108 Hs Hassium (277)	109 Mt Meitnerium (268)	110 Ds Darmstadtium (271)	111 Rf Roentgenium (272)	112 Cn Copernicium (285)	113 Nh Nihonium (286)	114 Fl Flerovium (289)	115 Mc Moscovium (290)	116 Lv Livermorium (293)	117 Ts Tennessine (294)	118 Og Oganesson (294)
For elements with no stable isotopes, the mass number of the isotope with the longest half-life is in parentheses.																	
57 La Lanthanum 138.91	58 Ce Cerium 140.12	59 Pr Praseodymium 140.91	60 Nd Neodymium 144.24	61 Pm Promethium (145)	62 Sm Samarium 150.36	63 Eu Europium 151.96	64 Gd Gadolinium 157.25	65 Tb Terbium 158.93	66 Dy Dysprosium 162.50	67 Ho Holmium 164.93	68 Er Erbium 167.26	69 Tm Thulium 168.93	70 Yb Ytterbium 173.05	71 Lu Lutetium 174.97	72 Hf Hafnium 178.49	73 Ta Tantalum 180.95	74 W Tungsten 183.84
89 Ac Actinium (227)	90 Th Thorium 232.04	91 Pa Protactinium 231.04	92 U Uranium 238.03	93 Np Neptunium (237)	94 Pu Plutonium (244)	95 Am Americium (243)	96 Cm Curium (247)	97 Bk Berkelium (247)	98 Cf Californium (251)	99 Es Einsteinium (252)	100 Fm Fermium (257)	101 Md Mendelevium (258)	102 No Nobelium (259)	103 Lr Lawrencium (260)	104 Rf Rutherfordium (261)	105 Db Dubnium (268)	106 Sg Seaborgium (266)

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