

**ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET**  
**Bachelor's Degree Programme (B.Sc.)**

**MODERN PHYSICS**

**Valid from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023**

**It is compulsory to submit the Assignment before filling up the  
Term-End Examination Form.**

**Please Note**

- You can take electives (56 or 64 credits) from a minimum of TWO and a maximum of FOUR science disciplines, viz. Physics, Chemistry, Life Sciences and Mathematics.
- You can opt for elective courses worth a MINIMUM OF 8 CREDITS and a MAXIMUM OF 48 CREDITS from any of these four disciplines.
- At least 25% of the total credits that you register for in the elective courses from Life Sciences, Chemistry and Physics disciplines must be from the laboratory courses. For example, if you opt for a total of 64 credits of electives in these 3 disciplines, at least 16 credits out of those 64 credits should be from lab courses.
- You cannot appear in the Term-End Examination of any course without registering for the course. Otherwise, your result will not be declared and the responsibility will be yours.



**School of Sciences**  
**Indira Gandhi National Open University**  
**Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068**

**2023**

Dear Student,

We hope you are familiar with the system of evaluation to be followed for the Bachelor’s Degree Programme. At this stage you may probably like to re-read the section on assignments in the Programme Guide for Elective Courses that we sent you after your enrolment. A weightage of 30 per cent, as you are aware, has been earmarked for continuous evaluation, which would consist of **one tutor-marked** assignment for this course.

### Instructions for Formatting Your Assignments

Before attempting the assignment please read the following instructions carefully:

- 1) On top of the first page of your TMA answer sheet, please write the details exactly in the following format:

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ENROLMENT NO. : .....

NAME : .....

ADDRESS : .....

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COURSE CODE : .....

COURSE TITLE : .....

ASSIGNMENT NO. : .....

STUDY CENTRE : ..... DATE : .....

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**PLEASE FOLLOW THE ABOVE FORMAT STRICTLY TO FACILITATE EVALUATION AND TO AVOID DELAY.**

- 2) Use only foolscap size writing paper (but not of very thin variety) for writing your answers.
- 3) Leave 4 cm margin on the left, top and bottom of your answer sheet.
- 4) Your answers should be precise.
- 5) While solving problems, clearly indicate the question number along with the part being solved. Be precise. Write units at each step of your calculations as done in the text because marks will be deducted for such mistakes. Take care of significant digits in your work. Recheck your work before submitting it.
- 6) **This assignment will remain valid from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.** However, you are advised to submit it within **12 weeks** of receiving this booklet to accomplish its purpose as a teaching-tool.

**We strongly feel that you should retain a copy of your assignment response to avoid any unforeseen situation and append, if possible, a photocopy of this booklet with your response.**

We wish you good luck.

**Tutor Marked Assignment**  
**MODERN PHYSICS**

Course Code: PHE-11  
Assignment Code: PHE-11/TMA/2023  
Max. Marks: 100

**Note: Attempt all questions. Symbols have their usual meanings. The marks for each question are indicated against it.**

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1. a) The mean lifetime of a muon is  $\tau = 2.20\mu\text{s}$ . If the muons are travelling with a speed of  $0.95c$ , calculate the observed lifetime of the muon. (5)
- b) Two rockets of rest length  $L_0$  are approaching the earth from opposite directions with velocities of  $\pm c/4$ . How long would one of them appear to the other? (5)
- c) How fast and in what direction must a galaxy  $S$  be moving, if an absorption line observed at a wavelength of  $550\text{ nm}$  for a stationary galaxy is shifted to  $480\text{ nm}$  for  $S$ . (5)
- d) Electrons in a television set are accelerated through a potential difference of  $40\text{ kV}$ . Assuming that the electrons start from rest, calculate their velocity using the relativistic equation for the kinetic energy. (5)
- e) A particle of mass  $M$ , initially at rest, decays into two particles with rest masses  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  respectively. Show that the total energy of the mass  $m_1$  is:

$$E_1 = \frac{c^2 [M^2 + m_1^2 - m_2^2]}{2M} \quad (5)$$

2. a) Calculate the de Broglie wavelength of an electron which is accelerated through a potential difference of  $15\text{ kV}$ . (5)
- b) Determine the normalization constant  $N$  for the following wave function:

$$\psi(r, t) = N e^{-\frac{iEt}{\hbar}} e^{-\frac{mZq^2}{\hbar^2}r}$$

where  $\psi(r, t)$  is defined over  $0 \leq r \leq \infty$ ,  $E$  is the energy,  $Z$  is a constant,  $q$  is the charge of the electron, and  $m$  is the mass of the particle. (5)

- c) Estimate the minimum kinetic energy a proton confined to a nucleus of diameter  $2.0 \times 10^{-15}\text{ m}$  may have. (5)
- d) Show that

$$[L_y, L_z] = i\hbar L_x \quad (5)$$

- e) The normalized eigenfunction for a particle of mass  $m$  and energy  $E$  is

$$\psi(x) = N e^{-\frac{a^2 x^2}{2}} \quad \text{where } N \text{ and } a \text{ are real constants. Given that } V(x) = 0 \text{ at } x = 0, \text{ determine } E. \quad (5)$$

3. a) Calculate  $\langle p_x \rangle$  for the ground state harmonic oscillator eigen function. (10)
- b) X-rays from a cobalt ( $Z = 27$ ) tube have a strong  $K$  line of wavelength  $1.785 \text{ \AA}$  and a weak line due to chromium impurity ( $Z = 24$ ). Using Moseley's law, calculate the wavelength of the weak line. (5)
- c) Determine the average kinetic energy of the hydrogen atom in its ground state. (10)
4. a) A radioactive sample emits  $n$   $\beta$ -particles in 2s. In next 2s it emits  $0.75 n$   $\beta$ -particles. Calculate the mean life of the sample? (10)
- b) In a nuclear reactor  $^{235}\text{U}$  undergoes fission liberating 200 MeV of energy. The reactor has a 10% efficiency and produces 1000 MW power. If the reactor is to function for 10 years, find the total mass of uranium required. (5)
- c) Describe the principle and working of a cyclotron. Derive an expression of the maximum kinetic energy of the particle when it reaches the outermost radius of the cyclotron. (5)
- d) Write the charge, baryon number and spin of a photon and a proton. (5)

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