

**CSIR-UGC National Eligibility Test (NET) for Junior Research Fellowship
and Lecturer-ship**

PHYSICAL SCIENCES

PART 'A'
CORE

I. Mathematical Methods of Physics

Dimensional analysis. Vector algebra and vector calculus. Linear algebra, matrices, Cayley-Hamilton Theorem. Eigenvalues and eigenvectors. Linear ordinary differential equations of first & second order. Special functions (Hermite, Bessel, Laguerre and Legendre functions). Fourier series, Fourier and Laplace transforms. Elements of complex analysis, analytic functions; Taylor & Laurent series; poles, residues and evaluation of integrals. Elementary probability theory, random variables, binomial, Poisson and normal distributions. Central limit theorem.

II. Classical Mechanics

Newton's laws. Dynamical systems; Phase space dynamics, stability analysis. Central force motions. Two body Collisions - scattering in laboratory and Centre of mass frames. Rigid body dynamics - moment of inertia tensor. Non-inertial frames and pseudoforces. Variational principle. Generalized coordinates. Lagrangian and Hamiltonian formalism and equations of motion. Conservation laws and cyclic coordinates. Periodic motion: small oscillations, normal modes. Special theory of relativity - Lorentz transformations, relativistic kinematics and mass-energy equivalence.

III. Electromagnetic Theory

Electrostatics: Gauss's law and its applications, Laplace and Poisson equations, boundary value problems. Magnetostatics: Biot-Savart law, Ampere's theorem. Electromagnetic induction. Maxwell's equations in free space and linear isotropic media; boundary conditions on the fields at interfaces. Scalar and vector potentials, gauge invariance. Electromagnetic waves in free space. Dielectrics and conductors. Reflection and refraction, polarization, Fresnel's law, interference, coherence, and diffraction. Dynamics of charged particles in static and uniform electromagnetic fields.

IV. Quantum Mechanics

Wave-particle duality. Schrödinger equation (time-dependent and time-independent). Eigenvalue problems (particle in a box, harmonic oscillator, etc.). Tunneling through a barrier. Wave-function in coordinate and momentum representations. Commutators and Heisenberg uncertainty principle. Dirac notation for state vectors. Motion in a central potential: orbital angular momentum, angular momentum algebra, spin, addition of angular momenta; Hydrogen atom. Stern-Gerlach experiment. Time-independent perturbation theory and applications. Variational method. Time dependent perturbation theory and Fermi's golden rule, selection rules. Identical particles, Pauli exclusion principle, spin-statistics connection.

V. Thermodynamic and Statistical Physics

Laws of thermodynamics and their consequences. Thermodynamic potentials, Maxwell relations, chemical potential, phase equilibria. Phase space, micro- and macro-states. Micro-canonical, canonical

and noise reduction, shielding and grounding. Fourier transforms, lock-in detector, box-car integrator, modulation techniques.

High frequency devices (including generators and detectors).

VII. Atomic & Molecular Physics

Quantum states of an electron in an atom. Electron spin. Spectrum of helium and alkali atom. Relativistic corrections for energy levels of hydrogen atom, hyperfine structure and isotopic shift, width of spectrum lines, LS & JJ couplings. Zeeman, Paschen-Bach & Stark effects. Electron spin resonance. Nuclear magnetic resonance, chemical shift. Frank-Condon principle. Born-Oppenheimer approximation. Electronic, rotational, vibrational and Raman spectra of diatomic molecules, selection rules. Lasers: spontaneous and stimulated emission, Einstein A & B coefficients. Optical pumping, population inversion, rate equation. Modes of resonators and coherence length.

VIII. Condensed Matter Physics

Bravais lattices. Reciprocal lattice. Diffraction and the structure factor. Bonding of solids. Elastic properties, phonons, lattice specific heat. Free electron theory and electronic specific heat. Response and relaxation phenomena. Drude model of electrical and thermal conductivity. Hall effect and thermoelectric power. Electron motion in a periodic potential, band theory of solids: metals, insulators and semiconductors. Superconductivity: type-I and type-II superconductors. Josephson junctions. Superfluidity. Defects and dislocations. Ordered phases of matter: translational and orientational order, kinds of liquid crystalline order. Quasi crystals.

IX. Nuclear and Particle Physics

Basic nuclear properties: size, shape and charge distribution, spin and parity. Binding energy, semi-empirical mass formula; liquid drop model. Nature of the nuclear force, form of nucleon-nucleon potential, charge-independence and charge-symmetry of nuclear forces. Deuteron problem. Evidence of shell structure, single-particle shell model, its validity and limitations. Rotational spectra. Elementary ideas of alpha, beta and gamma decays and their selection rules. Fission and fusion. Nuclear reactions, reaction mechanism, compound nuclei and direct reactions.

Classification of fundamental forces. Elementary particles and their quantum numbers (charge, spin, parity, isospin, strangeness, etc.). Gellmann-Nishijima formula. Quark model, baryons and mesons. C, P, and T invariance. Application of symmetry arguments to particle reactions. Parity non-conservation in weak interaction. Relativistic kinematics.

Syllabus for Research Methodology

RM (Part-A)

The literature review: The literature review: writing a survey and identifying the problem. Planning and writing a research proposal, Research projects, major funding agencies.

Ethics and related issues in research: Concepts in ethics, Intellectual Property Rights, Plagiarism, Fraud and misconduct in science, Unscientific practices in thesis work.

Information Sources: Types of publications, Indexing and abstracting services, online library, search engines, citation indexes, citation analysis, online searching methods, initiatives for knowledge managements.

RM (Part-B) – Synthesis/fabrication/Characterization

Synthesis/fabrication: bottom up and top down approaches for synthesis of nano materials, Synthesis of zero-dimensional nanostructures (nanoparticles): Sol-gel process, Synthesis inside micelles or using micro-emulsions and growth termination, epitaxial core-shell nanoparticles, Ball milling, One-dimensional nanostructures (Nanowires, Nanorods Nanotubes): vapor (or solution)-liquid-solid (VLS or SLS) growth and size control, Electrochemical deposition, Lithography, melt quench method.

Characterization

XRD (basic principle, brief idea of set up), TEM (basic principle, brief idea of set up, sample preparation, imaging modes (dark & bright field), Photoluminescence (PL) spectroscopy (Basic principle and idea of instrumentation) UV-NIR/absorption: Basic principle and idea of instrumentation, Raman Spectroscopy (Basic principle and idea of instrumentation), FTIR (basic principle, brief idea of set up), DSC/TGA (Basic principle and idea of instrumentation).

3/11/11