

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	<i>page</i> 1
1 The Wavefunction	8
1.1 The Quantum State	8
1.1.1 Normalisation	11
1.1.2 Superposition	13
1.2 The Schrödinger Equation	15
1.2.1 The Hamiltonian	16
1.2.2 Conservation of Probability	18
1.2.3 The Collapse of the Wavefunction	20
1.2.4 Erwin Schrödinger (1887-1961)	21
1.3 The Double Slit Experiment	22
2 A Quantum Particle in One Dimension	26
2.1 The Free Particle	28
2.1.1 A Particle on a Circle	29
2.1.2 The Infinite Potential Well	32
2.1.3 The Gaussian Wavepacket	35
2.1.4 A First Look at Expectation Values	38
2.2 The Harmonic Oscillator	42
2.2.1 The Energy Spectrum	43
2.2.2 The Wavefunctions	46
2.3 Bound States	49
2.3.1 A Finite Potential Well	51
2.3.2 A Delta Function Potential	56
2.3.3 Some General Results	58
2.3.4 The Double Well Potential	61
2.4 A First Look at Scattering	64
2.4.1 A Step Potential	65
2.4.2 Tunnelling	69
3 The Formalism of Quantum Mechanics	72
3.1 States	72
3.1.1 Hilbert Space	73
3.1.2 The Inner Product	75
3.1.3 States Are Elements of Hilbert Spaces	79

3.2	Observables	81
3.2.1	Operators on Hilbert Space	82
3.2.2	Eigenstates and Eigenvalues	84
3.2.3	Hermitian Operators	86
3.2.4	Spectral Decomposition	91
3.2.5	Continuum Basis and the Fourier Transform	93
3.3	Time Evolution	96
3.4	Measurement	97
3.4.1	Expectation Values	100
3.5	Commutation Relations	103
3.5.1	The Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle	106
3.5.2	From Classical to Quantum	110
3.5.3	Ehrenfest Theorem	112
3.5.4	Werner Heisenberg (1901–1976)	114
3.6	Tensor Products	115
3.6.1	Hilbert Spaces Can Get Very Big	118
3.7	Interpretations of Quantum Mechanics	119
3.7.1	Hidden Variables	120
3.7.2	Copenhagen and Many Worlds	122
3.7.3	Shut Up and Calculate	124
4	A Qubit	125
4.1	States and Observables	126
4.1.1	Pauli Matrices	127
4.1.2	Spin	131
4.1.3	The Bloch Sphere	132
4.2	Measurement	134
4.2.1	The Stern–Gerlach Experiment	135
4.3	Time Evolution	138
4.3.1	Quantum Zeno Effect	139
5	The Harmonic Oscillator	141
5.1	Creation and Annihilation Operators	141
5.1.1	Energy Eigenstates	144
5.2	Coherent States	145
5.2.1	Properties of Coherent States	147
5.3	An Invitation to Quantum Field Theory	154
5.3.1	Briefly, Quantum Optics and Coherent States	157
5.4	Quantum Mechanics on Phase Space	158
5.4.1	Wigner Functions	158
5.4.2	An Example: The Harmonic Oscillator	162
6	A Quantum Particle in Three Dimensions	164
6.1	Angular Momentum	165

6.1.1	Angular Momentum Commutation Relations	165
6.1.2	The Eigenfunctions are Spherical Harmonics	167
6.2	Solving the 3d Schrödinger Equation	172
6.2.1	From PDE to ODE, Using Angular Momentum	173
6.2.2	The 3d Harmonic Oscillator	175
6.2.3	Bound States in 3d	178
6.2.4	Why Can't the Wavefunction Diverge at the Origin?	179
6.3	The Hydrogen Atom	181
6.3.1	The Energy Spectrum	182
6.3.2	The Wavefunctions	187
6.3.3	An Algebraic Solution	189
6.4	A Pre-Quantum Quantum History	192
6.4.1	The Bohr Model	193
6.4.2	What About the Photon?	195
6.5	A First Look at Renormalisation	196
6.5.1	A Delta Function Potential in the Plane	199
6.5.2	Renormalisation in Quantum Mechanics	202
7	Symmetries	206
7.1	Symmetries on Hilbert Space	207
7.1.1	A Quantum Noether's Theorem	208
7.1.2	Symmetries on Operators	210
7.1.3	Translation	211
7.2	Time Evolution	213
7.2.1	The Heisenberg Picture	214
7.2.2	The Interaction Picture	216
7.3	Rotations and Angular Momentum	217
7.3.1	The Algebra of Rotations	219
7.3.2	Representations of Angular Momentum	222
7.3.3	Spinors	225
7.3.4	What Is a Classical Qubit?	227
7.4	Adding Angular Momentum	233
7.4.1	Combining Angular Momentum States	235
7.4.2	More Examples: Adding Spin	241
7.4.3	Selection Rules	243
7.5	Parity	246
7.5.1	Parity as a Quantum Number	248
7.6	Time Reversal	253
7.6.1	Time Reversal Is an Anti-Unitary Operator	256
7.6.2	An Example: Position and Momentum	259
7.6.3	Another Example: Spin	261
7.6.4	Kramers' Degeneracy	263

8 Identical Particles	265
8.1 Bosons and Fermions	265
8.1.1 Multiple Particles	267
8.2 Particles with Spin	269
8.2.1 The Spin-Statistics Theorem	270
8.2.2 Intrinsic Parity	271
8.3 An Invitation to Anyons	274
9 Particles in a Magnetic Field	278
9.1 Gauge Fields	278
9.1.1 The Hamiltonian	280
9.1.2 Gauge Transformations	280
9.2 Landau Levels	282
9.2.1 Degeneracy	285
9.2.2 Symmetric Gauge	287
9.2.3 An Invitation to the Quantum Hall Effect	289
9.3 Spin in a Magnetic Field	291
9.3.1 Spin Precession	294
9.3.2 A First Look at the Zeeman Effect	295
9.4 The Aharonov–Bohm Effect	295
9.4.1 Particles Moving around a Flux Tube	296
9.4.2 Aharonov–Bohm Scattering	298
9.4.3 Symmetries and the Theta Term	299
9.5 Magnetic Monopoles	304
9.5.1 Dirac Quantisation	305
9.5.2 A Patchwork of Gauge Fields	307
9.5.3 Monopoles and Angular Momentum	309
10 Approximation Methods	311
10.1 Perturbation Theory	311
10.1.1 Non-Degenerate Perturbation Theory	313
10.1.2 The Anharmonic Oscillator	317
10.1.3 Perturbation Theory Does Not Converge	319
10.1.4 Degenerate Perturbation Theory	321
10.2 The Variational Method	325
10.2.1 An Upper Bound on the Ground State	325
10.2.2 An Example: The Helium Atom	328
10.2.3 Do Bound States Exist?	333
10.2.4 An Upper Bound on Excited States	338
10.3 WKB	339
10.3.1 The Semi-Classical Expansion	339
10.3.2 A Linear Potential and the Airy Function	343
10.3.3 Bound State Spectrum	347
10.3.4 Bohr–Sommerfeld Quantisation	350

10.3.5 Tunnelling out of a Trap	351
10.3.6 The Anharmonic Oscillator Revisited	353
11 Hamiltonians with Time Dependence	355
11.1 The Adiabatic Theorem	356
11.1.1 Berry Phase	359
11.1.2 An Example: A Spin in a Magnetic Field	361
11.1.3 The Born–Oppenheimer Approximation	365
11.1.4 An Example: Molecules	367
11.2 The Sudden Approximation	369
11.2.1 Quantum Quench of a Harmonic Oscillator	370
11.3 Time-Dependent Perturbation Theory	374
11.3.1 Dyson’s Formula	374
11.3.2 Interaction Picture and Perturbation Theory	377
11.3.3 Fermi’s Golden Rule	379
12 Atoms	382
12.1 Hydrogen	383
12.1.1 A Review of the Hydrogen Atom	383
12.1.2 Relativistic Motion	386
12.1.3 Spin-Orbit Coupling and Thomas Precession	389
12.1.4 Zitterbewegung and the Darwin Term	395
12.1.5 Finally, Fine Structure	398
12.1.6 Hyperfine Structure	400
12.1.7 Atoms in an Expanding Universe	404
12.2 Atomic Structure	407
12.2.1 A Closer Look at the Periodic Table	407
12.2.2 An Instability of (Very) Large Nuclei	411
12.2.3 Helium and the Exchange Energy	412
12.3 Self-Consistent Field Method	418
12.3.1 The Hartree Method	418
12.3.2 The Slater Determinant	422
12.3.3 The Hartree–Fock Method	424
13 Atoms in Electromagnetic Fields	428
13.1 The Stark Effect	428
13.1.1 The Linear Stark Effect	429
13.1.2 The Quadratic Stark Effect	431
13.1.3 A Little Nazi-Physics History	433
13.2 The Zeeman Effect	434
13.2.1 Strong(ish) Magnetic Fields	435
13.2.2 Weak Magnetic Fields	436
13.2.3 The Discovery of Spin	439
13.3 Shine a Light	441

13.3.1 Rabi Oscillations	442
13.3.2 Spontaneous Emission	446
13.3.3 Selection Rules	450
13.4 Photons	452
13.4.1 The Hilbert Space of Photons	452
13.4.2 Coherent States	454
13.4.3 The Jaynes–Cummings Model	456
14 Scattering Theory	462
14.1 Scattering in One Dimension	462
14.1.1 Reflection and Transmission Amplitudes	464
14.1.2 Introducing the S-Matrix	468
14.1.3 A Parity Basis for Scattering	470
14.1.4 Bound States	473
14.1.5 Resonances	476
14.2 Scattering in Three Dimensions	480
14.2.1 The Cross-Section	480
14.2.2 The Scattering Amplitude	484
14.2.3 Partial Waves	485
14.2.4 The Optical Theorem	489
14.2.5 An Aside: Spherical Bessel Functions	490
14.2.6 An Example: A Hard Sphere	494
14.2.7 The Scattering Length	496
14.2.8 Bound States	496
14.2.9 Resonances	500
14.3 The Lippmann–Schwinger Equation	503
14.3.1 The Born Approximation	508
14.3.2 The Yukawa Potential and the Coulomb Potential	510
14.3.3 The Born Expansion	511
14.4 Rutherford Scattering	513
14.4.1 The Scattering Amplitude	514
14.5 X-Ray Crystallography	516
14.5.1 Scattering Off a Lattice	517
14.5.2 The Bragg Condition	519
15 The Path Integral	522
15.1 The Propagator	525
15.1.1 Building the Path Integral	527
15.1.2 The Free Particle	531
15.1.3 Correlation Functions	533
15.2 The Stationary Phase Approximation	537
15.2.1 Approximating the Path Integral	539
15.2.2 The Harmonic Oscillator	541
15.3 The Statistical Mechanics Partition Function	543

15.3.1	The Harmonic Oscillator Revisited	545
15.3.2	Zeta Function Regularisation	546
15.4	Instantons	549
15.4.1	The Double Well Potential	553
15.4.2	The Dilute Gas Approximation	558
16	Quantum Foundations	562
16.1	Entanglement	562
16.1.1	The Einstein–Podolsky–Rosen ‘‘Paradox’’	564
16.1.2	Bell’s Theorem	566
16.1.3	CHSH Inequality	570
16.1.4	Entanglement Between Three Particles	572
16.1.5	The Kochen–Specker Theorem	574
16.2	Entanglement Is a Resource	576
16.2.1	The CHSH Game	576
16.2.2	Dense Coding	578
16.2.3	Quantum Teleportation	580
16.2.4	Quantum Key Distribution	584
16.3	Density Matrices	586
16.3.1	The Bloch Sphere Revisited	589
16.3.2	Entanglement Revisited	592
16.3.3	Schmidt Decomposition	594
16.3.4	Entropy	597
16.4	Measurement Revisited	598
16.4.1	Projective Measurements	599
16.4.2	Generalised Measurements	601
16.4.3	The Fate of the State	604
16.5	Open Systems	606
16.5.1	Quantum Maps	607
16.5.2	Decoherence	609
16.5.3	The Lindblad Equation	612
16.5.4	The Damped Harmonic Oscillator	614
16.5.5	Entropy Increase	619
17	Quantum Computation	620
17.1	Quantum Circuits	621
17.1.1	Circuit Diagrams	624
17.1.2	Universal Gates	626
17.1.3	Briefly, Complexity	630
17.2	Quantum Algorithms	633
17.2.1	The Deutsch–Josza Algorithm	633
17.2.2	Grover’s Search Algorithm	639
17.2.3	Quantum Fourier Transform	647
17.2.4	Periodicity Determination	652

17.2.5	Shor's Factoring Algorithm	655
17.3	Quantum Error Correction	663
17.3.1	A Warm-Up: One Qubit in Three	665
17.3.2	One Qubit in Nine	668
17.3.3	The Struggle of Memory Against Forgetting	669
<i>Further Reading</i>		671
<i>References</i>		677
<i>Index</i>		683