

Greek Alphabet

Capital	A	B	Γ	Δ	E	Z	H	Θ	I	K	Λ	M
Lowercase	α	β	γ	δ	ε	ζ	η	θ, ϑ	ι	κ	λ	μ
Name	alpha	beta	gamma	delta	epsilon	zeta	eta	theta	iota	kappa	lambda	mu
Capital	N	Ξ	O	Π	P	Σ	T	Υ	Φ	X	Ψ	Ω
Lowercase	ν	ξ	ο	π	ρ	σ	τ	υ	φ, ϕ	χ	ψ	ω
Name	nu	xi	omicron	pi	rho	sigma	tau	upsilon	phi	chi	psi	omega

Fundamental constants:

Speed of light: $c = 2.9979 \cdot 10^8$ m/s (roughly a foot per nanosecond)

Planck constant: $h = 6.626 \cdot 10^{-34}$ J s; $\hbar = h / 2\pi$

Fundamental charge unit: $e = 1.602 \cdot 10^{-19}$ C

Electron mass: $m_e = 9.109 \cdot 10^{-31}$ kg

Hydrogen atom (^1H) mass: $m_{\text{H}} = 1.6735 \cdot 10^{-27}$ kg ($A = 1.0078$)

Helium atom (^4He) mass: $m_{\text{He}} = 6.6465 \cdot 10^{-27}$ kg ($A = 4.0026$)

Coulomb's Law constant: $k = 1 / 4\pi\epsilon_0 = 8.988 \cdot 10^9$ Nm²/C²

Gravitational constant: $G = 6.674 \cdot 10^{-11}$ Nm²/kg²

Avogadro constant: $N_A = 6.022 \cdot 10^{23}$ particles per mol

Boltzmann constant: $k = 1.38 \cdot 10^{-23}$ J/K = $8.617 \cdot 10^{-5}$ eV/K; $R = N_A \cdot k = 8.314$ J/K/mol

Stefan-Boltzmann constant: $\sigma = 5.67 \cdot 10^{-8}$ W/m²K⁴

Useful conversions:

1 fm (= 1 "Fermi") = 10^{-15} m, 1 nm = 10^{-9} m = 10 Å; 1 PHz = 10^{15} Hz ("Petahertz")

1 eV = $e \cdot 1\text{V} = 1.602 \cdot 10^{-19}$ J (Energy of elementary charge after 1 V potential difference)

1 keV = 1000 eV, 1 MeV = 10^6 eV, 1 GeV = 10^9 eV, 1 TeV = 10^{12} eV ("Tera-electronvolt")

New unit of mass m : 1 eV/ c^2 = mass equivalent of 1 eV (Relativity!) = $1.78 \cdot 10^{-36}$ kg

Momentum p : 1 eV/ c = $5.34 \cdot 10^{-28}$ kg m/s; p in eV/ c = mass in eV/ c^2 times velocity in units of c

Planck constant: $\hbar = h/2\pi = 197.33$ eV/ $c \cdot$ nm = $6.582 \cdot 10^{-16}$ eV \cdot s = 0.658 eV/PHz

Fine-structure constant: $\alpha = e^2 / 4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar c = 1/137.036$

Electron mass: $m_e = 510,999$ eV/ $c^2 \approx 0.511$ MeV/ c^2

Muon mass: $m_\mu = 105.658$ MeV/ $c^2 \approx 207 \cdot m_e$

Proton mass: $m_p = 938.272$ MeV/ $c^2 \approx 1836 \cdot m_e$

Neutron mass: $m_n = 939.565$ MeV/ $c^2 \approx 1839 \cdot m_e$

Atomic mass unit (1/12 of the mass of a ^{12}C atom): $u = 931.494$ MeV/ $c^2 \approx 1823 \cdot m_e$

Rydberg constant: $Ry = m_e c^2 \alpha^2 / 2 \approx 13.606$ eV

Bohr Radius: $a_0 = \hbar c / (m_e c^2 \alpha) = 0.0529$ nm (roughly $\frac{1}{2}$ Å; 1 Å = 10^{-10} m).

Special Relativity:

For an inertial system S' moving along the x-axis of S with constant velocity $v < c$, and with all axes aligned and the same origin ($x = y = z = ct = 0 \Leftrightarrow x' = y' = z' = ct' = 0$):

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}}; x' = \gamma \left(x - \frac{v}{c} ct \right); ct' = \gamma \left(ct - \frac{v}{c} x \right); y = y'; z = z'$$

Clocks in S' appear to S as if they were going slow by factor $1/\gamma$, and vice versa.

Length of object at rest in S' appears contracted by factor $1/\gamma$ in S.

Velocity addition:
$$\frac{u_x}{c} = \frac{\frac{u'_x}{c} + \frac{v}{c}}{1 + \frac{u'_x v}{c^2}}; \frac{u_y}{c} = \frac{\frac{u'_y}{c}}{1 + \frac{u'_x v}{c^2}}$$

Doppler shift:
$$\frac{\lambda_{obs}}{\lambda_{emitted}} = (z + 1) = \frac{1 + v_{||}/c}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}}$$
 (v is the **relative** velocity between emitter and

observer and $v_{||}$ is its component along the line of sight; $z > 0$ is redshift, $z < 0$ is blueshift)

Four-vectors: $x^\mu = (ct, x, y, z); x_\mu = (ct, -x, -y, -z)$ ($\mu=0,1,2,3$ for ct,x,y,z).

Invariant (squared) interval between two events (=points in 4-dim. space-time) is same in all inertial systems: $\Delta x^\mu = (\Delta ct, \Delta x, \Delta y, \Delta z) \Rightarrow \Delta s^2 = \Delta x^\mu \Delta x_\mu = \Delta ct^2 - \Delta x^2 - \Delta y^2 - \Delta z^2$

$$(\Delta s)^2 = (\Delta ct)^2 - (\Delta \vec{r})^2 = \sum_{\mu, \nu=0...3} \Delta x^\mu g_{\mu\nu} \Delta x^\nu = \begin{pmatrix} \Delta ct & \Delta x & \Delta y & \Delta z \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta ct \\ \Delta x \\ \Delta y \\ \Delta z \end{pmatrix}$$

The 4x4 matrix g is called the “metric” - it helps measure distances in terms of coordinates.

Positive Δs^2 : “time-like separation”, $\Delta s^2 =$ square of elapsed eigentime $c\tau$ in a system that travels from the start point (event) to the end point (event) of the interval.

Negative Δs^2 : “space-like separation”, $-\Delta s^2 =$ square of distance between the two events in a system (which always exists!) where they occur simultaneously.

$\Delta s^2 = 0$: “light-like separation”; a light ray could travel from one event to the other.

Four-momentum: $P^\mu = (E/c, P_x, P_y, P_z) = (\Gamma mc, \Gamma m\vec{u})$; $\Gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \vec{u}^2/c^2}}$. u = velocity,

$E = P^0 c$ is total energy of object = sum of rest mass energy ($E_{rest} = mc^2$) plus kinetic energy

$T_{kin} = (\Gamma - 1) * mc^2$ ($\approx m/2 u^2$ **only** if $u \ll c$). Sum of all momenta is conserved in collisions,

separately for each component. Transformation of P^μ to coordinate system S' is analog to

x^μ (see above). Objects with no rest mass (e.g., photons): always $u = c$, $E = |P|c$.

Invariant Interval: $(P^0)^2 - \vec{P}^2 = \left(\frac{E}{c}\right)^2 - P_x^2 - P_y^2 - P_z^2 = m^2 c^2 \Rightarrow E = c\sqrt{m^2 c^2 + \vec{P}^2}; \frac{\vec{u}}{c} = \frac{\vec{P}c}{E}$.

Quantum Mechanics:

Formal/abstract: All *possible* knowledge about a system is encoded in its state vector $|\psi\rangle$

- often only probabilities can be predicted. State vectors are members of a (complex) Hilbert space: they can be added, multiplied by a complex number (scalar), and we can define a scalar product $\langle\psi_1|\psi_2\rangle$ (= some complex number c , with $\langle\psi_2|\psi_1\rangle=c^*$). All state vectors must be normalizable and by convention are normalized to 1: $\langle\psi|\psi\rangle=1$.

Example: Motion in Motion in 1D => state vector represented by “wave function” $\psi(x)$.

Addition: $[\psi_1 + \psi_2](x) = \psi_1(x) + \psi_2(x)$. Multiplication with scalar: $[c\psi_1](x) = c\psi_1(x)$.

Scalar product: $\langle\psi_1|\psi_2\rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi_1^*(x)\psi_2(x)dx$. Normalizable: $\langle\psi|\psi\rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi^*(x)\psi(x)dx < \infty \Rightarrow$

Normalized vector: $|\psi\rangle / (\langle\psi|\psi\rangle)^{1/2}$. Probability to find particle in interval $x \dots x+dx$:

$$dPr(x \dots x + dx) = |\psi(x)|^2 dx = \psi(x)^* \psi(x) dx \text{ (assuming normalized state vector, } \langle\psi|\psi\rangle=1 \text{)}.$$

Formal/abstract: Operators are linear functions turning vectors into other vectors:

$\mathbf{O}|\psi\rangle = |\varphi\rangle$; $\mathbf{O}[c|\psi\rangle] = c|\varphi\rangle$; $\mathbf{O}[|\psi_1\rangle + |\psi_2\rangle] = \mathbf{O}|\psi_1\rangle + \mathbf{O}|\psi_2\rangle$. A vector $|\varphi_\omega\rangle$ is called an eigenvector of an operator \mathbf{O} with eigenvalue ω (=complex number) IF $\mathbf{O}|\varphi_\omega\rangle = \omega|\varphi_\omega\rangle$.

Observables are represented by (Hermitian) operators $\mathbf{\Omega}$ with only **real** eigenvalues ω_i . Any measurement of the observable must give one of these eigenvalues as result. After we measure ω_i , the system will be in the state described by vector $|\varphi_{\omega_i}\rangle$ (“collapse of the wave function”).

The probability to measure this particular eigenvalue for a state described by $|\psi\rangle$ is given by $Pr(\omega_i) = |\langle\varphi_{\omega_i}|\psi\rangle|^2$. The average (expectation value) for the observable over many independent trials with the same initial state $|\psi\rangle$ is $\langle\mathbf{\Omega}\rangle_\psi = \langle\psi|\mathbf{\Omega}|\psi\rangle$ with standard

$$\text{deviation } \sigma_\Omega = \sqrt{\langle\mathbf{\Omega}^2\rangle - \langle\mathbf{\Omega}\rangle^2}.$$

Example: Motion in 1D => Important observables:

Position $\mathbf{X}\psi(x) = x \cdot \psi(x) \rightarrow$ eigenvectors $\psi_{x_0}(x) = \delta(x - x_0)$ w/ eigenvalue x_0 ; Momentum

$\mathbf{P}\psi(x) = \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \psi(x) \rightarrow$ eigenvectors $\psi_{p_0}(x) = e^{ip_0x/\hbar}$ w/ eigenvalue p_0 ; Hamiltonian (= total

energy, kinetic plus potential): $\mathbf{H}\psi(x) = \left(\frac{\mathbf{P}^2}{2m} + V(X) \right) \psi(x) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \psi(x) + V(x)\psi(x)$.

Heisenberg’s uncertainty principle: Position x and momentum p cannot be predicted with arbitrary precision simultaneously; $\sigma_x \sigma_p \geq \hbar/2$.

Formal/abstract: Time evolution (Schrödinger Equation): State vector becomes function

of time: $|\psi\rangle(t)$; $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\psi\rangle(t) = \frac{1}{i\hbar} \mathbf{H} |\psi\rangle(t)$ where \mathbf{H} is the Hamiltonian operator.

Eigenstates of \mathbf{H} : $\mathbf{H}|\varphi_E\rangle = E|\varphi_E\rangle \Rightarrow$ “stationary” solutions of Schrödinger Equation:
 $|\psi_E(t)\rangle = |\varphi_E\rangle e^{-iEt/\hbar}$ (no time dependence for any observable).

Example: Motion in 1D \Rightarrow Eigenvalue equation: $-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \psi(x) + V(x)\psi(x) = E\psi(x)$.

Solution: “Stationary States”. Eigenstates of the free Hamiltonian ($V(x) = 0$):

$$\psi_p(x,t) = A e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} p x} e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} \frac{p^2}{2m} t} \text{ (simultaneously eigenstates of momentum operator)}$$

Gaussian Wave Package:

= Linear combination of “free Hamiltonian eigenstates” (but not an eigenstate itself), with Gaussian weighting over a range of momenta. At time $t = 0$:

$$\psi_{GWP}(x,t=0) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_p}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{(p-p_0)^2}{4\sigma_p^2}} e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} p x} dp = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_x}} e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} p_0 x} e^{-\frac{x^2}{4\sigma_x^2}}; \sigma_x = \frac{\hbar}{2\sigma_p}$$

Average momentum p_0 , with standard deviation σ_p . Average position $x = 0$; standard deviation for position is $\sigma_x = \frac{\hbar}{2\sigma_p}$ which is the smallest possible given Heisenberg’s

Uncertainty Relation. However, σ_x will increase with time while σ_p is constant.

Eigenstates of a 1-dim. square well potential ($V(x) = 0$ for $0 \leq x \leq L$, infinite elsewhere):

$$\varphi_n(x) = 0 \text{ for } x < 0, x > L; \text{ else } \varphi_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right); E_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2 \hbar^2}{2mL^2}, n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Eigenstates of Harmonic Oscillator:

$$\mathbf{H} = \frac{\mathbf{P}^2}{2m} + \frac{m\omega^2}{2} \mathbf{X}^2$$

$$\varphi_n(x) = A H_n \left(\sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{\hbar}} x \right) e^{-\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar} x^2}; E_n = (n + \frac{1}{2})\hbar\omega, n = 0, 1, \dots$$

$$H_0(y) = 1, H_1(y) = 2y, H_2(y) = 4y^2 - 2;$$

$$A_0 = \left(\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}\right)^{1/4}, A_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}\right)^{1/4}, A_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} \left(\frac{m\omega}{\pi\hbar}\right)^{1/4}.$$

Quantum Mechanics in 3D:

Cartesian coordinates: (x,y,z)

$$\psi(x,y,z); \mathbf{H} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \right) + V(x,y,z); \Delta \text{Pr}(\vec{r}, \Delta\tau) = |\psi(x,y,z)|^2 \Delta\tau$$

(Small volume $\Delta\tau = \Delta x \Delta y \Delta z$ located at position (x,y,z)).

Separation of variables: Look for solutions for the eigenvalue equation of the type

$$\psi(x,y,z) = \psi_1(x)\psi_2(y)\psi_3(z)$$

Example: Infinite square well in 3D:

$$\varphi_{njk}(x, y, z) = \sqrt{\frac{8}{L^3}} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \sin \frac{j\pi y}{L} \sin \frac{k\pi z}{L}; E_{njk} = (n^2 + j^2 + k^2) \frac{\hbar^2 \pi^2}{2mL^2}$$

Spherical coordinates: r, θ, ϕ

Small volume for probability: $\Delta\tau = r^2 \Delta r \sin\theta \Delta\theta \Delta\phi$

Hamiltonian in spherical coordinates:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{H} &= -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left(\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{1}{\sin\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} \sin\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{1}{\sin^2\theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial\phi^2} \right) + V(r) \\ &= -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{2mr^2} \bar{\mathbf{L}}^2 + V(r) \end{aligned}$$

Here, $\bar{\mathbf{L}}^2$ is the squared orbital angular momentum operator with eigenfunctions

$$Y_{\ell m}(\vartheta, \varphi); \bar{\mathbf{L}}^2 Y_{\ell m} = \hbar^2 \ell(\ell+1) Y_{\ell m}; \ell = 0, 1, 2, \dots; \mathbf{L}_z Y_{\ell m} = \hbar m Y_{\ell m}; m = -\ell, -\ell+1, \dots, \ell$$

(\mathbf{L}_z is the z-component of the angular momentum operator). Examples:

$$\begin{aligned} Y_1^{-1}(\theta, \varphi) &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{3}{2\pi}} \cdot e^{-i\varphi} \cdot \sin\theta \\ Y_1^0(\theta, \varphi) &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{3}{\pi}} \cdot \cos\theta \\ Y_1^1(\theta, \varphi) &= \frac{-1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{3}{2\pi}} \cdot e^{i\varphi} \cdot \sin\theta \end{aligned}$$

$$Y_{00}(\vartheta, \varphi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{4\pi}}$$

Separation of variables: Look for eigenstates of the Hamiltonian of form

$$\psi_{E\ell m}(r, \vartheta, \varphi) = R_{E,\ell}(r) Y_{\ell m}(\vartheta, \varphi) \text{ with}$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} R_{E,\ell}(r) + \frac{\hbar^2 \ell(\ell+1)}{2mr^2} R_{E,\ell}(r) + V(r) R_{E,\ell}(r) = E \cdot R_{E,\ell}(r)$$

Probability to find particle in volume $\Delta\tau$ at position (r, θ, ϕ) : $|\psi_{E\ell m}(r, \vartheta, \varphi)|^2 \Delta\tau$

Radial probability distribution: $\Delta\text{Pr}(r \dots r+\Delta r) = |R_{E,\ell}(r)|^2 r^2 \Delta r$

Hydrogen-like atoms:

(Nucleus of mass m_i and charge Ze , bound particle of mass m_e and charge $-e$)

$$V(r) = -\frac{Ze^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} = -\frac{Z\alpha\hbar c}{r} \quad \alpha = e^2 / 4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar c$$

Mass must be replaced by “reduced mass” of 2-body system with masses m_1 and m_2 :

$$\mu_r = \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2}$$

Energy Eigenvalues:

$$E_{n\ell} = -\frac{\mu_r Z^2}{m_e n^2} Ry \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots; Ry = m_e c^2 \alpha^2 / 2 = 13.6 \text{ eV}). \text{ Degenerate in } \ell \text{ and } m; \ell = 0,$$

$1, \dots, n-1, m_\ell = -\ell \dots +\ell$; also degenerate in electron spin $m_s = \pm 1/2 \Rightarrow$ total degeneracy $2n^2$.

Characteristic radius: $a = \frac{m_e}{\mu_r Z} a_0$ $a_0 = \hbar c / (m_e c^2 \alpha) = 0.53 \text{ \AA} = 0.053 \text{ nm}$.

Eigenstates: $\psi_{n,\ell,m}(r, \vartheta, \varphi) = R_{n,\ell}(r) Y_{\ell m}(\vartheta, \varphi) \cdot R_{n,\ell}(r)$ (examples):

$$R_{1,0}(r) = \frac{2}{a^{3/2}} e^{-r/a}; R_{2,0}(r) = \frac{2-r/a}{\sqrt{8}a^{3/2}} e^{-r/2a}; R_{2,1}(r) = \frac{r/a}{\sqrt{24}a^{3/2}} e^{-r/2a}$$

Energy of a photon: $E_\gamma = hf = hc/\lambda$

Momentum of a photon: $p_\gamma = h/\lambda$

Light emitted or absorbed in transition with energy difference $\Delta E = E_{\text{init}} - E_{\text{final}}$:

$$f = \Delta E/h, \lambda = hc/\Delta E = 2\pi\hbar c/\Delta E$$

Pauli principle: No two identical Fermions (spin-1/2, 3/2, ... particles) can be in the same exact quantum state. (-> See Fermi-Dirac statistics)

Nuclear Physics

Mass-energy of an atom: (Z protons, N neutrons, $A = Z+N$):

$$M_A c^2 = Z M_p c^2 + N M_n c^2 + Z m_e c^2 - BE \text{ (Binding energy)}$$

typical binding energies $BE = 7-8 \text{ MeV} \cdot A$ with a maximum for nuclei around iron ($A=56$).

Light nuclei have significantly lower BE per nucleon; beyond iron, the BE per nucleon decreases slowly with A (due to Coulomb repulsion).

Energy liberated during a nuclear fusion reaction $1 + 2 \rightarrow 3$: $\Delta E = M_1 c^2 + M_2 c^2 - M_3 c^2$

Energy liberated during a nuclear decay $1 \rightarrow 2 + 3$: $\Delta E = M_1 c^2 - M_2 c^2 - M_3 c^2$

Density: roughly constant $\rho = 0.16 \text{ Nucleons / fm}^3 = 2 \times 10^{17} \text{ kg/m}^3$

Radioactive nuclei:

alpha-decay: $(Z,A) \rightarrow (Z-2,A-2) + {}^4\text{He} + \text{energy}$

beta-plus decay: $(Z,A) \rightarrow (Z-1, A) + e^+ + \nu_e$

beta-minus decay: $(Z,A) \rightarrow (Z+1, A) + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$

Decay probability in time Δt : $\Delta \text{Pr}(\Delta t) = \Delta t/\tau$ ($\tau = \text{lifetime} = T_{1/2} / \ln 2$)

Number of undecayed nuclei at time t (starting with N_0): $N(t) = N_0 e^{-t/\tau}$

Particle Physics

Fundamental Fermions (spin-1/2 particles obeying Pauli Exclusion Principle):

quarks (up, down, charm, strange, top, bottom) and leptons (electron, muon, tau, electron-neutrino, muon-neutrino, tau-neutrino) and their antiparticles.

Force-mediating Gauge Bosons (spin-1 particles obeying Bose-Einstein statistics):

Photon γ (electromagnetic interaction), W^+ , W^- , Z^0 (weak interaction), gluons (strong interaction) [graviton (gravity) only conjectured]. All except weak interaction bosons are massless; the latter gain mass (80-91 GeV/c²) through interaction with the Higgs field.

Name	Symbol	Mass (MeV/c ²) [*]	J	B	Q (e)	Particle/antiparticle name	Symbol	Q (e)
Up	u	2.3 ^{+0.7} _{-0.5}	1/2	+1/3	+2/3	Electron / Positron ^[18]	e ⁻ / e ⁺	-1 / +1
Down	d	4.8 ^{+0.5} _{-0.3}	1/2	+1/3	-1/3	Muon / Antimuon ^[19]	μ ⁻ / μ ⁺	-1 / +1
Charm	c	1275 ± 25	1/2	+1/3	+2/3	Tau / Antitau ^[21]	τ ⁻ / τ ⁺	-1 / +1
Strange	s	95 ± 5	1/2	+1/3	-1/3	Electron neutrino / Electron antineutrino ^[34]	ν _e / ν̄ _e	0
Top	t	173 210 ± 510 ± 710	1/2	+1/3	+2/3	Muon neutrino / Muon antineutrino ^[34]	ν _μ / ν̄ _μ	0
Bottom	b	4180 ± 30	1/2	+1/3	-1/3	Tau neutrino / Tau antineutrino ^[34]	ν _τ / ν̄ _τ	0

All interactions proceed via gauge bosons coupling to various charges:

- electromagnetic interaction: electric charge (+ or -) (all charged Fermions plus W bosons)
- weak interaction: weak charges (“weak isospin and weak hypercharge”) – all particles except gluons
- strong interaction: color charges (“red”, “green”, “blue”) – all quarks and gluons.

Molecules and Condensed Matter

Ionic Bond: One atom gives up 1 (or more) electron(s), the other picks it (them) up; binding through electrostatic attraction.

Covalent Bond: Electron(s) shared between two atoms. Example: Let $\psi_1(\vec{r}_e)$ = wave function for hydrogen ground state with proton at position 1, and $\psi_2(\vec{r}_e)$ for proton at position 2. Symmetric superposition $\psi_s(\vec{r}_e) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\psi_1(\vec{r}_e) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\psi_2(\vec{r}_e)$ is attractive (net charge between protons), antisymmetric superposition $\psi_A(\vec{r}_e) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\psi_1(\vec{r}_e) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\psi_2(\vec{r}_e)$ is non-binding (zero net charge between protons).

Metallic Bond: Many electrons (one or more per atom) shared between a large number N of atoms -> positively charged “rest atoms” in “Fermi gas” of electrons. Electron energy eigenstates are clustered in “bands”; highest (partially or totally unoccupied) band = conduction band, next lower (filled) band = valence band. Each band contains of order N eigenstates. Interaction between electron gas and oscillation modes (=phonons) of the “rest atoms” gives rise to conductive heating, $V = RI$, and superconductivity (Bose-Einstein condensation of “Cooper pairs” of electrons).

Conductors: partially filled conduction band and/or overlapping conduction and valence bands.

Isolators: Completely empty conduction band, completely filled valence band, large band gap.

Semi-conductors: Similar to isolators, but with smaller band gap. Can conduct at finite temperatures (see Fermi-Dirac distribution below). Conductivity increased through electron donor (n-doped) or electron acceptor (p-doped) impurities. pn-junction = diode.

Thermal/Statistical Physics

Boltzmann Distribution: number $n(E)$ of atoms (molecules, ...) out of an ensemble with a total of N atoms (...) with given energy E in a system with absolute temperature T (in K).

Discrete energy levels E_i (e.g., quantum systems) with degeneracy g_i (= number of eigenstates of the Hamiltonian with energy eigenvalue E_i):

$$n(E_i) = C g_i e^{-E_i/kT} = \frac{g_i}{e^{(E_i-\mu)/kT}}; C = e^{\mu/kT} = N / \sum g_i e^{-E_i/kT}$$

(C is a normalization constant; μ is the “chemical potential”)

Continuous energy levels E (classical system, e.g. monatomic gas) with state density $g(E)dE$ (= volume in “phase space” between energy E and energy $E + dE$):

$$dn(E...E + dE) = C g(E)dE e^{-E/kT}; C = N / \int g(E)dE e^{-E/kT}$$

State density for simple monatomic gas:

$$g(E)dE = 4\pi p^2 dp = 4\pi m \sqrt{2mE} dE$$

Consequences: Ideal gas law $PV = nRT = n N_A kT$, (n = number of mols; $N = n N_A$);

average energy per degree of freedom (dimension of motion) = $\frac{1}{2} kT \Rightarrow$ total kinetic energy of a monatomic gas = $\frac{3}{2} kT$ per atom or $E_{tot} = \frac{3}{2} n N_A kT = \frac{3}{2} nRT$

Fermi-Dirac Distribution (for a system of indistinguishable Fermions):

$$n(E_i) = N \frac{g_i}{e^{(E_i-\mu)/kT} + 1}; \mu \text{ here is right above the Fermi energy = the highest filled}$$

energy level necessary to accommodate all N fermions, where all lower energy levels are filled with as many Fermions as the Pauli principle allows

(= the state of a (degenerate) Fermi gas at close to zero temperature).

Bose-Einstein Distribution (for a system of indistinguishable bosons):

$$n(E_i) = N \frac{g_i}{e^{(E_i-\mu)/kT} - 1}; \mu \text{ here is right below the ground state energy (the lowest}$$

available energy level). If T goes to zero, all levels but that lowest energy level are empty = Bose-Einstein condensation.

Photon density for black-body radiation:
$$\frac{dn_\gamma(\lambda... \lambda + d\lambda)}{dV} = \frac{8\pi}{\lambda^4} \frac{d\lambda}{e^{hc/\lambda kT} - 1} = 8\pi \frac{f^2}{c^3} \frac{df}{e^{hf/kT} - 1}$$

Energy density (= energy contained in electromagnetic radiation of wave length λ , per unit volume V) for black-body radiation (i.e., Bose-Einstein Distribution for a photon gas):

$$\frac{dE}{V} = 8\pi h \frac{f^3}{c^3} \frac{df}{e^{hf/kT} - 1} = \frac{8\pi hc}{\lambda^5} \frac{d\lambda}{e^{hc/\lambda kT} - 1}; \text{Energy flux/surface area } \frac{dE}{dAdt} = \frac{2\pi hc^2}{\lambda^5} \frac{d\lambda}{e^{hc/\lambda kT} - 1}$$

(Planck's Law); Maximum for $\lambda = \frac{hc}{4.9663kT} = \frac{2.9 \text{ mm}}{T[K]}$. Total over all wave lengths: σT^4