Theoretical Physics (Prof. Ruiz/UNCA) Exam 2 M

Open Book/Notes/Internet (90 minutes including scan and email return).

Posted Syllabus Exam Time is 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm.

Exam emailed 5:45 pm and you can start as soon as you get it.

All work and related steps must be explicitly shown for full credit.

[25] 1. Combinatorics. There are 10 students taking a flexible course where 3 of the 10 are attending face to face, another 3 are attending online, and the remaining 4 are attending in a mixed more. How many different ways can this arrangement be realized?

[25] 2. Inverse Matrix. Find the inverse matrix for the Pauli combination

$$M = \sigma_{y} + \sigma_{z} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -i \\ i & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Express your final answer in terms of $\,M\,$.

[25] 3. Matrix as Exponent. Find the simplest form for e^A , where $A = i\theta\sigma_z$ and σ_z is the third Pauli matrix. Simplest form is defined by the least amount of characters needed to express the final answer. As an example, the function $\cos\theta$ consists of 4 characters. A left or right parenthesis counts as one character.

[25] 4. Recurrence Relation. You are given the recurrence relation

$$a_{k+2} = \frac{2(k-n)}{(k+1)(k+2)} a_k \text{ for } f(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + a_3 x^3 + \dots,$$

where $k = 0, 1, 2, 3...$ and $n = 0, 1, 2, 3...$

Find the specific polynomial f(x) where $a_0 = 0$, $a_1 = 1$, and n = 5.

Theoretical Physics (Prof. Ruiz/UNCA) Exam 2 - Solutions

[15] 1. Combinatorics.
$$\frac{10!}{3!3!4!} = \frac{10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5}{(3 \cdot 2)(3 \cdot 2)} = 10 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 7 \cdot 5 = 4200$$

[20] 2. Inverse Matrix.
$$M = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -i \\ i & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$
. Then $M^{-1} = \frac{1}{|M|} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}$.

$$M^{-1} = \frac{1}{[-1 - (-i^{2})]} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & i \\ -i & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{(-2)} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & i \\ -i & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -i \\ i & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} M$$

[25] 3. Matrix as Exponent.

$$e^{A} = e^{i\theta\sigma_{z}} = I + i\theta\sigma_{z} - \frac{\theta^{2}}{2!}\sigma_{z}^{2} - i\frac{\theta^{3}}{3!}\sigma_{z}^{3} + \frac{\theta^{4}}{4!}\sigma_{z}^{4} + i\frac{\theta^{5}}{5!}\sigma_{z}^{5}...$$

Note that $\sigma_z^2 = I$, $\sigma_z^3 = \sigma_z$, ... so that even powers give I and odd powers σ_z .

$$e^{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \frac{\theta^{2}}{2!} + \frac{\theta^{4}}{4!} - \dots \end{bmatrix} I + i \begin{bmatrix} \theta - \frac{\theta^{3}}{3!} + \frac{\theta^{5}}{5!} - \dots \end{bmatrix} \sigma_{z} = I \cos \theta + i \sigma_{z} \sin \theta$$
$$e^{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} i \sin \theta & 0 \\ 0 & -i \sin \theta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} e^{i\theta} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-i\theta} \end{bmatrix}$$
$$I251 4. \text{ Recurrence Relation, } a_{k+2} = \frac{2(k-n)}{(1+1)(1+2)} a_{k} \text{ with } a_{0} = 0, a_{1} = 1, n = 5.$$

[25] 4. Recurrence Relation. $a_{k+2} = \frac{1}{(k+1)(k+2)} a_k$ with $a_0 = 0$, $a_1 = 1$, n = 2

Will only have odd cases.
$$a_3 = \frac{2(1-5)}{(1+1)(1+2)}a_1 = -\frac{2\cdot 4}{2\cdot 3}a_1 = -\frac{4}{3}a_1 = -\frac{4}$$

$$a_{5} = \frac{2(3-5)}{(3+1)(3+2)}a_{3} = -\frac{2 \cdot 2}{4 \cdot 5}a_{3} = -\frac{1}{5}a_{3} = -\frac{1}{5}(-\frac{4}{3}) = \frac{4}{15}$$
. Note $a_{7} = 0$.
$$f(x) = x - \frac{4}{3}x^{3} + \frac{4}{15}x^{5}$$