UCLouvain

Imapr1491

2019

Statistical & quantum physics

In view of the health context linked to the spread of the coronavirus, the methods of organisation and evaluation of the learning units could be adapted in different situations; these possible new methods have been - or will be - communicated by the teachers to the students.

5 credits 50.0 H + 50.0 H Q1	5 credits	30.0 h + 30.0 h	Q1
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Teacher(s)	Charlier Jean-Christophe ;Gonze Xavier (coordinator) ;Piraux Luc ;Rignanese Gian-Marco ;				
Language :	French				
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve				
Main themes	Quantum physics: non-relativistic quantum mechanics postulates; measure theory; hydrogen atom; polyelectronic atoms; harmonic oscillator; spin; variational principle (Ritz); formation of the chemical bonds. Statistical physics: basic notions, the kinetic theory of gases, the different statistical ensembles (microcanonical, canonical and grand-canonical), and quantum fluids (fermions and bosons)				
Aims	Contribution of the course to the program objectives Axis №1:1.1 Specific learning outcomes of the course At the end of their classes, the students are expected to be able: 1. To explain the postulated and basic equations of the non-relativistic QM including the measure theory. 2. To apply MQ to the treatment of different simple systems. 3. To compute the mean values of simple observables for wavefunctions with one electron, their fluctuations, to check Heisenberg uncertainty relationship, and to build the matrix representation of an operator. 4. To build a molecular orbital diagram for a simple specific molecule, and to deduce from it the physical characteristics (bond order, total spin). 5. To explain the basic principles of statistical physics. 6. To compute the thermodynamical properties of a perfect gas, and to use Maxwell-Boltzmann statistics. 7. To work with the different statistical formalisms: microcanonical (e.g. study lattice specific heat - Einstein model), canonical (e.g. Debye model), and grand-canonical (e.g. to derive Fermi-Dirac and Bose-Einstein statistics) 8. To predict the temperature-dependent behaviour of systems (specfic heat, internal energy, mean number of particules, superfuildity, superconductivity) thanks to statistical ensembles. **The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s)				
Evaluation methods	can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit". Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information in this section is particularly likely to change. The students are evaluated individually, in a written examination, on the basis of the above-mentioned learning				
	outcomes (questions will focus on their knowledge, their understanding, their ability to apply the concepts explained during the lecture, the latter being developed during the exercise sessions). Concerning quantum fluids, a tasting session is organized.				
Teaching methods	Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information in this section is particularly likely to change. Ex cathedra lectures and exercice sessions.				
Content	1 Quantum physics 1.1. Introduction/Reminders 1.2. Postulates 1.3. Operators 1.4. Measure theory (including Heisenberg uncertainty principle) 1.5. Hydrogen atom 1.6. Polyelectronic atoms 1.7. Matrix mechanics 1.8. Harmonic oscillator (creation and annihilation operators) 1.9. Spin 1.10. Variational principle 1.11. Tight-binding method (understanding of the electronic structure and cohesion of diatomic molecules)				

Université catholique de Louvain - Statistical & quantum physics - en-cours-2019-lmapr1491

Inline resources Faculty or entity in charge	Moodle UCL FYKI
	2 Statistical Physics 2.1. Introduction: Elements of Statistical Physics 2.2. Kinetic Theory of Gases and , and billiard game theory 2.3. Microcanonical Ensemble 2.4. Canonical Ensemble 2.5. Grand-Canonical Ensemble 2.6. Quantum Fluids

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)						
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Aims		
Minor in Engineering Sciences : Applied Chemistry and Physics (only available for reenrolment)	LFYKI100I	5		•		
Minor in Applied Chemistry and Physics	LFSA131I	5		•		
Specialization track in applied Chemestry and Physics	LFYKI100P	5		0		