B. SC. (HONOURS) PHYSICS

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE – DSC -16: STATISTICAL MECHANICS

Course Title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility Criteria	Pre-requisite of the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical		
Statistical Mechanics DSC – 16	4	3	1	0	Class XII pass with Physics and Mathematics as main subjects	Thermal physics and quantum mechanics papers of this course or their equivalents. Basics of probability and statistics

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Statistical Mechanics deals with the derivation of the macroscopic parameters (internal energy, pressure, specific heat etc.) of a physical system consisting of large number of particles (solid, liquid or gas) from knowledge of the underlying microscopic behaviour of atoms and molecules that comprises it. The main objective of this course is to introduce the techniques of statistical mechanics which has applications in various fields including astrophysics, semiconductor physics, plasma physics, biophysics etc. and in many other directions. All the problems of different units should be done in the tutorial classes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course, students will be able to,

- Understand the concepts of phase space, macrostate, microstate, thermodynamic probability and partition function.
- Understand the use of thermodynamic probability and partition function for calculation of thermodynamic properties for physical systems (ideal gas, finite level system).
- Understand the difference between classical and quantum statistics and their applicability.
- Understand the properties and laws associated with thermal radiation.
- Apply the Fermi- Dirac distribution to model problems such as electrons in solids and white dwarf stars
- Apply the Bose-Einstein distribution to model problems such as blackbody radiation and liquid Helium.

SYLLABUS OF DSC – 16

THEORY COMPONENT

Unit - I **(22 Hours)**

Classical Statistics: Phase space, macrostates and microstates, entropy and thermodynamic probability, concept of ensemble - Introduction to three types, Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution law, partition function, thermodynamic functions of an ideal gas, Gibbs paradox, Sackur-Tetrode equation. Saha's ionization formula, Law of equipartition of energy (with proof) – Applications to specific heat of gases (monoatomic and diatomic), solids and its

limitations, thermodynamic functions of a finite level system, negative temperature

Unit – II (5 Hours)
Radiation: Blackbody radiation and its spectral distribution. Kirchhoff law (No Proof), Planck's quantum postulates, Planck's law of blackbody radiation, deduction of Wien's distribution law, Rayleigh-Jeans law, Stefan-Boltzmann law and Wien's displacement law from Planck's law, ultraviolet catastrophe

Unit – III (9 Hours)
Bose-Einstein Statistics: Bose-Einstein distribution law, thermodynamic functions of a strongly degenerate Bose gas (non- relativistic), Bose-Einstein condensation, properties of liquid He (qualitative description), Radiation as a photon gas and thermodynamic functions of photon gas. Bose derivation of Planck's law

Unit – IV (9 Hours)
Fermi-Dirac Statistics: Fermi-Dirac distribution law, thermodynamic functions of a completely and strongly degenerate fermions (non-relativistic), specific heat of metals, relativistic Fermi gas, white dwarf stars, Chandrasekhar mass limit.

References:
Essential Readings:
1) Statistical Mechanics, R. K. Pathria and P. D. Beale, Academic Press
2) Introductory Statistical Mechanics, R. Bowley and M. Sanchez, Oxford Univ. Press
3) Statistical Physics, F. Mandl, Wiley
4) A treatise on Heat, M. N. Saha and B. N. Srivastava, Indian Press
5) Problems and Solutions on Thermodynamics and Statistical Mechanics, Lim Yung-Kou, Sarat Book House
6) An Introduction to Thermal Physics, D. Schroeder, Pearson
7) Statistical Physics, Berkeley Physics Course, F. Reif, McGraw-Hill

Additional Readings:
1) An Introduction to Statistical Physics, W. G. V. Rosser, Wiley
2) Thermal Physics, Kittel and Kroemer, CBS
3) Concepts in Thermal Physics, Blundell and Blundell, Oxford University Press
4) Statistical and Thermal Physics, Loknathan and Gambhir, PHI
5) Thermodynamics, Kinetic theory and Statistical thermodynamics, Sears and Salinger, PHI
6) Statistical Mechanics, G. Sanon, Alpha Science International Ltd.

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE – DSC - 17: ATOMIC, MOLECULAR AND NUCLEAR PHYSICS

Course Title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility Criteria	Pre-requisite of the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical		
Atomic, Molecular and Nuclear Physics DSC – 17	4	3	1	0	Class XII pass with Physics and Mathematics as main subjects	Light and Matter, Modern Physics and Quantum Mechanics-I of this course or their equivalent

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

This course introduces the basic concepts of atomic, molecular and nuclear physics to an undergraduate student. Advanced mathematics is avoided and the results of quantum mechanics are attempts to explain, or even to predict, the experimental observations of spectroscopy. The student learns to visualize a nucleus, an atom or molecule as a physical entity rather than a series of mathematical equations.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of the module students should be able to elucidate the following main features.

- Stern-Gerlach experiment, electron spin, spin magnetic moments, space quantization and Zeeman effect, spectral notations for atomic and molecular states and corresponding term symbols, understanding of atomic spectra and molecular spectra
- Basic principle of Raman spectroscopy and Franck Condon principle.
- The radioactive processes, stability of the nuclei and the nuclear models
- The full scientific potential lies on how we are able to interpret the fundamental astrophysical and nuclear data. The acquired knowledge can be applied in the areas of astrophysics, nuclear, medical, geology and other interdisciplinary fields of Physics, Chemistry and Biology. It will enhance the special skills required for these fields

SYLLABUS OF DSC - 17

THEORY COMPONENT

Unit – I - Atomic Physics   **(15 Hours)**

One-electron atoms: Degeneracy of energy levels and selection rules, modes of relaxation of an excited atomic state.

Fine structure of Hydrogenic atoms: Shifting of energy levels, Splitting of spectral lines, relativistic correction to kinetic energy, spin-orbit term, Darwin term, fine structure spectral lines, Lamb shift (qualitative idea).

Atoms in external magnetic fields: Larmor's theorem, Stern-Gerlach experiment, normal Zeeman Effect, Paschen Back effect, anomalous Zeeman effect, Lande g-factor.

Unit - II – Molecular Physics (15 Hours)

Molecular structure: The Born-Oppenheimer approximation, Concept of bonding and anti-bonding molecular orbitals, Concept of Potential energy curve for a diatomic molecule, Morse potential, Classification of molecular states of diatomic molecule, The Franck-Condon principle

Molecular spectra of diatomic molecule: Rotational Spectra (rigid and non-rigid rotor), Vibrational Spectra (harmonic and anharmonic), Vibration-Rotation Spectrum of a diatomic molecule, Isotope effect, Intensity of spectral lines

Raman Effect: Classical theory (with derivation) of Raman effect, pure rotational Raman Lines, Stoke's and Anti-Stoke's Lines, comparison with Rayleigh scattering.

Unit – III – Nuclear Physics (15 Hours)

Nucleus stability: *Alpha decay:* Energetics of alpha-particle decay, barrier penetration model, Geiger-Nuttall rule, α- decay spectroscopy, decay Chains. *Beta Decay:* Q-values for beta decay, β-spectrum, positron emission, electron capture, neutrino hypothesis, Qualitative idea about Fermi theory, Fermi and Gamow-Teller decays, the role of angular momentum and parity, electron capture, and selection rules. *Gamma decay:* Gamma-ray production, and multipolarities, Weisskopf estimates, the role of angular momentum and parity, internal conversion.

Nuclear models: Evidence of shell structure in nuclei, Magic numbers, nuclear mean field, single particle shell model, spin-orbit splitting, shell model configurations for nuclear ground states, and low-lying excited levels

References:
Essential Readings:
1) Physics of Atoms and Molecules, B. H. Bransden and C. J. Jochain, 2nd edition, Pearson
2) Fundamentals of Molecular Spectroscopy, C. N. Banwell and E. M. McCash, 1994, Tata McGraw – Hill
3) Atomic physics, J. B. Rajam and foreword by Louis De Broglie, 2010, S. Chand & Co.
4) Atoms, Molecules and Photons, W. Demtroder, 2nd edition, 2010, Springer
5) Introduction to Spectroscopy, D. L. Pavia, G. M. Lampman, G. A. Kriz and J. R. Vyvyan, 5th edition, 2014, Brookes/Cole
6) Concept of Nuclear Physics, B. L. Cohen, 2003, Tata McGraw – Hill
7) Nuclear Physics, S. N. Ghoshal, 1st edition, 2019, S. Chand Publication
8) Introducing Nuclear Physics, K. S. Krane, 2008, Wiley India

Additional Readings:
1) Basic Atomic and Molecular Spectroscopy, J. M. Hollas, Royal Society of Chemistry
2) Molecular Spectra and Molecular Structure, G. Herzberg
3) Basic Ideas and Concepts in Nuclear Physics: An Introductory Approach (Series in Fundamental and Applied Nuclear Physics), K. Heyde (Institute of Physics Publishing 3rd edition
4) Nuclear Physics: principles and applications, John Lilley, 2006, Wiley
5) Schaum's Outline of Modern Physics, 1999, McGraw-Hill Education
6) Introduction to elementary particles, D. J. Griffiths, 2008, Wiley
7) Atomic and molecular Physics, R. Kumar, 2013, Campus Book Int.
8) The Fundamentals of Atomic and Molecular Physics (Undergraduate Lecture Notes in Physics), 2013, Springer

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE – DSC - 18: STATISTICAL ANALYSIS IN PHYSICS

Course Title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility Criteria	Pre-requisite of the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical		
Statistical Analysis in Physics DSC – 18	4	2	0	2	Class XII pass with Physics and Mathematics as main subjects	Basic understanding of statistics and probability

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
This course provides an elementary introduction to the principles of Bayesian statistics and working knowledge of some of the data analysis techniques. The objective is to equip the students with certain techniques so that they may successfully apply these to the real world problems, in their research areas as well as in industry.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
After completing this course, students will be able to,
● Understand the fundamental concepts in statistical data analysis.
● Define in a Bayesian context, the likelihood, prior and posterior distributions and their role in Bayesian inference and hypothesis testing.
● Estimate the parameters of a distribution from sample.
● Perform hypothesis testing and validate a model.
● Apply multi-linear and logistic models to real life situation.
In the practical component, students will be able to
● Learn basic data analysis techniques such as linear and non-linear fittings
● Apply hypothesis testing techniques in physics
● Perform multi-linear and logistic regression analysis for a given data
● Understand the concept of gradient descent and use it for the regression analysis
● Understand the stochastic processes, Markov chains and transition probability matrix.

SYLLABUS OF DSC - 18

THEORY COMPONENT

Unit – I (8 Hours)
Random variables, Discrete and Continuous Probability Distributions. Bivariate and multivariate random variables, Joint Distribution Functions (with examples from Binomial, Poisson and Normal). Mean, variance and moments of a random vector, covariance and correlation matrix, eigendecomposition of the covariance matrix (bivariate problem). Cumulative Distribution Function and Quantiles. Point Estimation, Interval estimation, Central Limit Theorem (statement, consequences and limitations).

Unit – II (11 Hours)
Bayesian Statistics: Conditional probability and Bayes Theorem, Prior and Posterior

probability distributions, examples of Bayes theorem in everyday life. Bayesian parameter estimation. Normal, Poisson and Binomial distributions, their conjugate priors and properties. Bayes factors and model selection.

Unit – III (11 Hours)

Bayesian Regression: Introduction to Bayesian Linear Regression. Bayesian logistic regression and its applications. Bayesian parameter estimation for regression models. Posterior distribution of model parameters and the posterior predictive distributions.

References:
Essential Readings:
1) Schaum's Outline Series of Probability and Statistics, M. R. Spiegel, J. J. Schiler and R. A. Srinivasan, 2012, McGraw Hill Education
2) Schaum's Outline Series of Theory and Problems of Probability, Random Variables, and Random Processes, H. Hsu, 2019, McGraw Hill Education
3) Bayesian Logical Data Analysis for the Physical Sciences: A Comparative Approach with Mathematica Support, P. Gregory, 2010, Cambridge University Press
4) Linear Regression: An Introduction to Statistical Models, P. Martin, 2021, Sage Publications Ltd.
5) Data Analysis: A Bayesian Tutorial, D. S. Sivia and J. Skilling, 2006, Oxford University Press
6) Data Reduction and Error analysis for the Physical Sciences, P. R. Bevington and D. K. Robinson, 2002, McGraw-Hill Education

Additional Readings:
1) A Guide to the Use of Statistical Methods in the Physical Sciences, R. J. Barlow, 1993, Wiley Publication
2) An Introduction to Error Analysis, J. R. Taylor, 1996, Univ. Sci. Books
3) Applied Multivariate Data Analysis, Volume I: Regression and Experimental Design, J. D. Jobson, 2012, Springer-Verlag
4) Statistical Rethinking A Bayesian Course with Examples in R and STAN, Richard McElreath, 2020, CRC Press
5) Introduction to Bayesian Statistics, W. Bolstad, 2007, John Wiley

PRACTICAL COMPONENT

(15 Weeks with 4 hours of laboratory session per week)

The objective of this lab is to familiarise the students with the techniques of data analysis. The instructors are required to discuss the concepts and the pseudo-codes of the recommended programs in the practical sessions before their implementation. The implementation can be in any programming language. Inbuilt libraries can be used wherever applicable. **All units are mandatory.**

Unit 1 (12 Hours)
Probability Distributions
1) Generate sequences of N random numbers M (at least 10000) number of times from different distributions (e.g. Binomial, Poisson, Normal). Use the arithmetic mean of each random vector (of size N) and plot the distribution of the arithmetic means. Verify the Central Limit Theorem (CLT) for each distribution. Show that CLT is violated for the

Cauchy-Lorentz distribution.

2) Given a data for two independent variables (x_i, y_i). Write a code to compute the joint probability in a given sample space. Verify the same for the data generated by random number generator based on a given probability distribution of pair of independent variables (both discrete and continuous).

Unit 2 (16 Hours)
1) Hypothesis testing
   Make a random number generator to simulate the tossing of a coin n times with the probability for the head being q. Write a code for a Binomial test with the Null hypothesis H_0 ($q = 0.5$) against the alternative hypothesis H_1 ($q \neq 0.5$).

2) Bayesian Inference
   a) In an experiment of flipping a coin N times, M heads showed up (fraction of heads $f = M/N$). Write a code to determine the posterior probability, given the following prior for the probability of f:
      i. Beta Distribution $B(a, b)$ with given values of a and b .
      ii. Gaussian Distribution with a given mean and variance.
   b) Using the Likelihood of Binomial distribution, determine the value of f (fraction of heads) that maximizes the probability of the data.
   c) Plot the Likelihood (normalised), Prior and Posterior Distributions.

Unit 3 (20 hours)
Regression Analysis and Gradient Descent:
1) Given a dataset (X_i, Y_i). Write a code to obtain the parameters of linear regression equation using the method of least squares with both constant and variable errors in the dependent variable (Y). The data obtained in a physics lab may be used for this purpose. Also obtain the correlation coefficient and the 90% confidence interval for the regression line. Make a scatter plot along with error bars. Also, overlay the regression line and show the confidence interval.

2) Write a code to minimize the cost function (mean squared error) in the linear regression using gradient descent (an iterative optimization algorithm, which finds the minimum of a differentiable function) with at least two independent variables. Determine the correlation matrix for the regression parameters.

3) Write a code to map a random variable X that can take a wide range of values to another variable Y with values lying in limited interval say [0, 1] using a sigmoid function (logistic function). Considering the Log Loss as the cost function of logistic regression, compute its minimum with gradient descent method and estimate the parameters.

Unit 4 (12 Hours)
Markov Chain (Any one)
1) Write a code to generate a Markov chain by defining (a finite number of) M (say 2) states. Encode states using a number and assign their probabilities for changing from state i to state j. Compute the transition matrix for $1, 2, ..., N$ steps. Following the rule, write a code for Markovian Brownian motion of a particle.

2) Given that a particle may exist in one of the given energy states (E_i, $i = 1, ... 4$) and the

transition probability matrix T, so that T_{ij} gives the probability for the particle to make transition from energy state E_i to state E_j. Determine the long-term probability of a particle to be in state in the state E_f if the particle was initially in state E_i.

References for laboratory work:
1) Data Science from Scratch – First Principles with Python, J. Grus, O'Reilly, 2019, Media Inc.
2) Bayes' Rule with Python: A tutorial introduction to Bayesian Analysis, J. V. Stone, 2016, Sebtel Press
3) Practical Bayesian Inference, B. Jones, 2017, Cambridge University Press
4) Modeling and Simulation in Scilab/Scicos with Scicos Lab 4.4, S. L. Campbell, Jean-P. Chancelier and R. Nikoukhah, Springer.
5) Scilab Textbook Companion for Probability And Statistics For Engineers And Scientists, S. M. Ross, 2005, Elsevier
6) Numerical Recipes: The art of scientific computing, W. H. Press, S. A. Teukolsky and W. Vetterling, 2007, Cambridge University Press