

# NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

PC4243: Atomic & Molecular Physics II

(Semester 2: AY 2016-17)

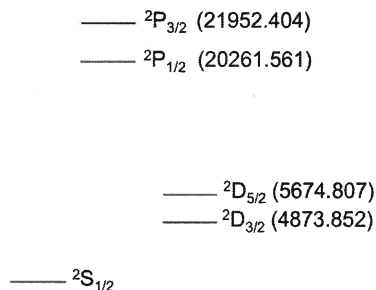
Time allowed: 2 hours

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## INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Write your matriculation number only on your answer booklet. Do not write your name.
2. This exam paper contains **FOUR** questions and comprises **SIX** printed pages.
3. You have to answer **THREE** out of the four questions.
4. Non-programmable calculators are permitted.
5. This is a **CLOSED BOOK** examination but **ONE** A4 sheet of hand written notes is permitted.
6. Please use only the supplied answer books, and don't mix answers to different problems on the same sheet.
7. There is a table of Clebsch-Gordan coefficients attached.

## 1: Atomic Structure



The figure above shows the level structure of singly-ionized Barium ( $\text{Ba}^+$ ) for the three lowest electronic configurations. The numbers in parentheses give the energies in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  of each level relative to the  ${}^2S_{1/2}$  ground state. The lifetime of  ${}^2P_{3/2}$  is measured to be 6.4 ns and the branching ratio for decay to  ${}^2D_{5/2}$  is measured to be 0.215.

- List all possible states that can be populated from an allowed electric dipole decay of  $|{}^2P_{3/2}, m_J = 3/2\rangle$ . For each state, give an expansion in the LS basis assuming  $LS$ -coupling holds.
- For each possible decay from  $|{}^2P_{3/2}, m_J = 3/2\rangle$ , express the decay rate in terms of the reduced dipole matrix elements  $\langle P || r || S \rangle$  and  $\langle P || r || D \rangle$ .
- From your answer in (b), estimate all branching ratios for decays to the lower S and D levels from either P level. Also determine the lifetime of  ${}^2P_{1/2}$ .

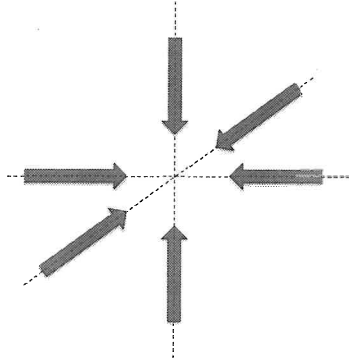
**Note:** You may find the following helpful

$$A_{ij} = \frac{\omega_{ij}^3 \mu_{ij}^2}{3\pi\epsilon_0 \hbar c^3},$$

$$\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F m}^{-1}, \quad c = 2.9979 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}, \quad \hbar = 1.055 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$$

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## 2: Photon recoil



- (a) What is the physical mechanism that limits the final temperature when Doppler cooling two level atoms?
- (b) Consider an ensemble of two level atoms that are initially at rest ( $k_B T = 0$ ). The atoms are excited by three pairs of counter-propagating beams along three mutually orthogonal directions as illustrated in the figure above. The duration of the excitation is such that the atoms scatter one photon per atom on average.
- Determine the energy gained by the ensemble and hence the final temperature. Express your answer in terms of the recoil temperature ( $T_r$ ) defined by  $k_B T_r = (\hbar k)^2 / 2m$  where  $k$  is the wavenumber of the light field and  $m$  is the mass of the atom.
  - What would be the mean and root-mean-square (rms) velocity of the atoms along each direction? Express your answer in terms of the recoil velocity ( $v_r = \hbar k / m$ ).
  - How would you answer to (ii) change if only one of the six beams was used, assuming that the atoms still scatter one photon per atom on average?
  - How would you answer to (ii) change if the atoms were excited with a  $\pi$ -pulse by one of the six beams and subsequently decayed? Assume the  $\pi$ -pulse is much shorter than the lifetime of the excited state.

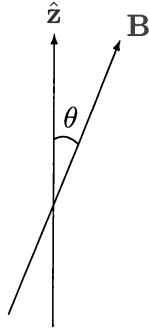
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### 3: AC Stark shifts and the Zeeman effect

Consider the  ${}^2S_{1/2}$  to  ${}^2P_{3/2}$  transition of  ${}^{87}\text{Rb}$ , which has a nuclear spin  $I = 3/2$ . An atom is subject to a laser field propagating along the positive  $z$ -axis with electric field amplitude  $E_0$ , polarisation  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_+ = -(\hat{\mathbf{x}} + i\hat{\mathbf{y}})/\sqrt{2}$ , and detuning  $\Delta$  from resonance with the  ${}^2S_{1/2}$  to  ${}^2P_{3/2}$  transition. In what follows you may assume  $\Delta$  is much larger than the  ${}^2P_{3/2}$  hyperfine splittings and neglect any coupling to  ${}^2P_{1/2}$ .

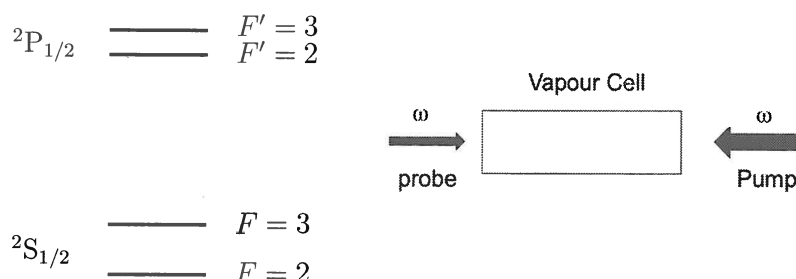
- Determine the AC Stark shifts for all  $F = 1$  ground states in terms of  $\Delta$ ,  $E_0$ , and the reduced dipole matrix element  $\mu = \langle J' = 3/2 || r || J = 1/2 \rangle$ .
- Show that the AC Stark shifts found in (a) can, up to a constant term, be described by an effective magnetic field. **Note:**  $g_F = -1/2$  for  $F = 1$ .
- Suppose that the atom is prepared in  $|F = 1, m_F = 1\rangle$ . In addition to the laser field, a static magnetic field  $\mathbf{B} = B_0(\cos\theta\hat{\mathbf{z}} + \sin\theta\hat{\mathbf{x}})$  is applied at an oblique angle,  $\theta$ , to the  $z$ -axis as shown below. Show that there is a  $B_0$  at which the atom will oscillate between the  $m_F = \pm 1$  states. Comment on any practical implications this may have for Sisyphus cooling.

**Note:**  $J_{\pm} = J_x \pm iJ_y$ ,  $J_{\pm}|j, m\rangle = \sqrt{j(j+1) \mp m(m \pm 1)}|j, m \pm 1\rangle$



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#### 4: Saturated absorption spectroscopy



The figure above shows the hyperfine structure of the  $^2S_{1/2}$  to  $^2P_{1/2}$  transition of  $^{85}\text{Rb}$  at 795 nm. The natural linewidth of the transition is  $\Gamma = 2\pi \times 5.75$  MHz. The hyperfine splittings of  $^2S_{1/2}$  and  $^2P_{1/2}$  are 3 GHz and 360 MHz, respectively. Doppler free saturated absorption spectroscopy is carried out on the transition with a set up shown schematically to the right.

- Calculate the amount of Doppler broadening at room temperature (300 K) for this transition. Give a brief description or illustration of the expected probe transmission as a function of laser frequency.
- Consider the absorption feature near to the  $F = 3$  to  $F' = 3$  transition. Sketch the velocity distributions for the  $F = 3$  ground state when the lasers are tuned to (i)  $\omega - \omega_0 = 2\pi \times 90$  MHz, (ii)  $\omega - \omega_0 = -2\pi \times 90$  MHz, and (iii)  $\omega - \omega_0 = -2\pi \times 180$  MHz where  $\omega_0$  is the resonant frequency of the  $F = 3$  to  $F' = 3$  transition. Your sketch need not be to scale, but you should comment on the width, relative size, and relative position of any features you include. You may neglect scattering into the  $F = 2$  ground state.
- With reference to the diagrams in (b) or otherwise, give a brief account of Doppler free saturated absorption spectroscopy. No calculations are required.
- Briefly discuss the influence that optical pumping and polarization can have on probe transmission.

**Note:**

$$k_B = 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J/K}, \quad 1 \text{ a.m.u.} = 1.66 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$$

[MDB]

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### 36. CLEBSCH-GORDAN COEFFICIENTS, SPHERICAL HARMONICS, AND $d$ FUNCTIONS

Note: A square-root sign is to be understood over every coefficient, e.g., for  $-8/15$  read  $-\sqrt{8/15}$ .

Notation:

$J$	$J$	...
$M$	$M$	...
$m_1$	$m_2$	
$m_1$	$m_2$	Coefficients
...	...	
...	...	

$1/2 \times 1/2$

1	0	0
+1/2	-1/2	1/2
-1/2	1/2	-1/2
1	0	0

$Y_1^0 = \sqrt{\frac{3}{4\pi}} \cos \theta$

$Y_1^1 = -\sqrt{\frac{3}{8\pi}} \sin \theta e^{i\phi}$

$2 \times 1/2$

5/2	3/2
+5/2	1
+2	-1/2
+1	+1/2

$1 \times 1/2$

3/2	1/2
+3/2	1
+1	+1/2
0	1/2
-1	-1/2

$Y_2^0 = \sqrt{\frac{5}{4\pi}} \left(\frac{3}{2} \cos^2 \theta - \frac{1}{2}\right)$

$Y_2^1 = -\sqrt{\frac{15}{8\pi}} \sin \theta \cos \theta e^{i\phi}$

$Y_2^2 = \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{15}{2\pi}} \sin^2 \theta e^{2i\phi}$

$2 \times 1$

3	2	1
+3	+2	+1
+2	0	1/3
+1	2/3	-1/3

$3/2 \times 1$

5/2	3/2
+5/2	1
+3/2	0
+1/2	+1

$3/2 \times 1/2$

2	1
+2	1
+3/2	-1/2
+1/2	+1/2

$1 \times 1$

2	1	0
+2	1	0
+1	0	1/2
0	1/2	-1/2

$Y_\ell^{-m} = (-1)^m Y_\ell^{m*}$

$d_{\ell,0}^\ell = \sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{2\ell+1}} Y_\ell^m e^{-im\phi}$

$3/2 \times 3/2$

3	2	1
+3	+2	+1
+3/2	+1/2	1/2
+1/2	+3/2	1/2

$d_{1,0}^1 = \cos \theta$

$d_{1/2,1/2}^{1/2} = \cos \frac{\theta}{2}$

$d_{1/2,-1/2}^{1/2} = -\sin \frac{\theta}{2}$

$d_{1,1}^1 = \frac{1 + \cos \theta}{2}$

$d_{1,0}^1 = -\frac{\sin \theta}{\sqrt{2}}$

$d_{1,-1}^1 = \frac{1 - \cos \theta}{2}$

$2 \times 2$

4	3	2	1
+4	+3	+2	+1
+2	1/2	1/2	4
+1	2/2	-1/2	3

$d_{3/2,3/2}^{3/2} = \frac{1 + \cos \theta}{2} \cos \frac{\theta}{2}$

$d_{3/2,1/2}^{3/2} = -\sqrt{3} \frac{1 + \cos \theta}{2} \sin \frac{\theta}{2}$

$d_{3/2,-1/2}^{3/2} = \sqrt{3} \frac{1 - \cos \theta}{2} \cos \frac{\theta}{2}$

$d_{3/2,-3/2}^{3/2} = -\frac{1 - \cos \theta}{2} \sin \frac{\theta}{2}$

$d_{1/2,1/2}^{3/2} = \frac{3 \cos \theta - 1}{2} \cos \frac{\theta}{2}$

$d_{1/2,-1/2}^{3/2} = -\frac{3 \cos \theta + 1}{2} \sin \frac{\theta}{2}$

$d_{2,2}^2 = \left(\frac{1 + \cos \theta}{2}\right)^2$

$d_{2,1}^2 = -\frac{1 + \cos \theta}{2} \sin \theta$

$d_{2,0}^2 = \frac{\sqrt{6}}{4} \sin^2 \theta$

$d_{2,-1}^2 = -\frac{1 - \cos \theta}{2} \sin \theta$

$d_{2,-2}^2 = \left(\frac{1 - \cos \theta}{2}\right)^2$

$d_{1,1}^2 = \frac{1 + \cos \theta}{2} (2 \cos \theta - 1)$

$d_{1,0}^2 = -\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \sin \theta \cos \theta$

$d_{1,-1}^2 = \frac{1 - \cos \theta}{2} (2 \cos \theta + 1)$

$d_{0,0}^2 = \left(\frac{3}{2} \cos^2 \theta - \frac{1}{2}\right)$

Figure 36.1: The sign convention is that of Wigner (*Group Theory*, Academic Press, New York, 1959), also used by Condon and Shortley (*The Theory of Atomic Spectra*, Cambridge Univ. Press, New York, 1953), Rose (*Elementary Theory of Angular Momentum*, Wiley, New York, 1957), and Cohen (*Tables of the Clebsch-Gordan Coefficients*, North American Rockwell Science Center, Thousand Oaks, Calif., 1974).