

Phys 402

Fall 2022

Homework 8

Due Wednesday, 2 November @ 10 AM as a PDF upload to ELMS

1. Griffiths, 3rd Edition, Problem 11.10 [Stimulated and spontaneous emission rates compared]
2. Griffiths, 3rd Edition, Problem 11.13 [Lifetime of the $n = 2$ states in Hydrogen]
{*Hint: The lifetime is limited by the spontaneous emission rate. For some of the matrix elements, use the results of problem 11.2 from Homework 6.*}
3. Griffiths, 3rd Edition, Problem 11.16 [Decay from the Hydrogen atom $|300\rangle$ state to the ground state]
4. Quadrupole Radiation Matrix Element and Selection Rules
 - a) Suppose we relax the constraint that the electric field is uniform over the size of an atom. By expanding the traveling wave (see Fig. 11.6) electric field $\vec{E}(y,t) = E_0 \hat{z} \cos(ky - \omega t)$, find the potential experienced by the electron in the atom to next order of approximation. {*Hint: assume $ky \ll 1$ and expand the $\cos(ky - \omega t)$ term.*} This is the electric quadrupole potential. Estimate how big the correction is relative to the original term for visible radiation.
 - b) What is the form of the quadrupole matrix element? For the hydrogen atom, what selection rules on changes in the quantum number m arise from this type of matrix element?
5. Consider a charged particle (of charge q) in a one-dimensional harmonic oscillator potential along the x -axis. It is driven by light that is polarized along the x -direction $\vec{E}(t) = E_0 \hat{i} \cos(\omega t)$.
 - a) Write down the perturbing Hamiltonian $\mathcal{H}'(\vec{r}, t)$ assuming the particle has charge q .
 - b) Derive a selection rule for electric dipole transitions of the quantum mechanical harmonic oscillator. {*Hint: make use of the harmonic oscillator raising and lowering operators in the matrix element to find the selection rules.*}

Extra Credit #8

Griffiths, 2nd Edition, Problem 9.17 [Calculating the energy eigenvalues of a symmetric double well in the WKB approximation]

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