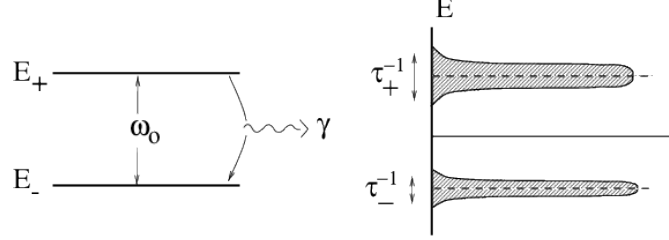


2. A simple model an atom with two atomic levels coupled to a radiation field is described by the Hamiltonian

$$H = H_o + H_I + H_{\text{photon}}, \quad (5)$$



where

$$H_o = \tilde{E}_- c_-^\dagger c_- + \tilde{E}_+ c_+^\dagger c_+ \quad (6)$$

describes the atom, treating it as a *fermion*

$$H_I = V^{-1/2} \sum_{\vec{q}} g(\omega_{\vec{q}}) \left(c_+^\dagger c_- + c_-^\dagger c_+ \right) \left[a_{\vec{q}}^\dagger + a_{-\vec{q}} \right] \quad (7)$$

describes the coupling to the radiation field (V is the volume of the box enclosing the radiation) and

$$H_{\text{photon}} = \sum_{\vec{q}} \omega_{\vec{q}} a_{\vec{q}}^\dagger a_{\vec{q}}, \quad (\omega_q = cq) \quad (8)$$

is the Hamiltonian for the electromagnetic field. The “dipole” matrix element $g(\omega)$ is weak enough to be treated by second order perturbation theory and the polarization of the photon is ignored.

- (i) Calculate the self-energy $\Sigma_+(\omega)$ and $\Sigma_-(\omega)$ for an atom in the $+$ and $-$ states.
(ii) Use the self-energy obtained above to calculate the life-times τ_{\pm} of the atomic states, i.e.

$$\tau_{\pm}^{-1} = 2\text{Im}\Sigma_{\pm}(\tilde{E}_{\pm} - i\delta). \quad (9)$$

If the gas of atoms is non-degenerate, i.e the Fermi functions are all small compared with unity, $f(E_{\pm}) \sim 0$ show that

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_+^{-1} &= 2\pi |g(\omega_o)|^2 F(\omega_o) [1 + n(\omega_o)] \\ \tau_-^{-1} &= 2\pi |g(\omega_o)|^2 F(\omega_o) n(\omega_o), \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

where $\omega_o = \tilde{E}_+ - \tilde{E}_-$ is the separation of the atomic levels and

$$F(\omega) = \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} \delta(\omega - \omega_q) = \frac{\omega^2}{2\pi c^3} \quad (11)$$

is the density of state of the photons at energy ω . What do these results have to do with stimulated emission? Do your final results depend on the initial assumption that the atoms were fermions?

- (iii) Why is the decay rate of the upper state larger than the decay rate of the lower state by the factor $[1 + n(\omega_o)]/n(\omega_o)$?

3. We can construct a state of bosons in which the bosonic field operator has a definite expectation value using a coherent state as follows

$$|\Psi\rangle = \exp \left[\int d^3x \Psi(x) \hat{\psi}^\dagger(x) \right] |0\rangle,$$

where $\Psi(x)$ is a complex function of position. The Hermitian conjugate of this state is $\langle \bar{\psi} | = \langle 0 | e^{\int d^3x \hat{\psi}(x) \Psi^*(x)}$.

- (a) Show that this coherent state is an eigenstate of the field destruction operator: $\hat{\psi}(x)|\Psi\rangle = \Psi(x)|\Psi\rangle$.
- (b) Show that overlap of the coherent state with itself is given by $\langle \bar{\Psi} | \Psi \rangle = e^N$, where $N = \int d^3x |\Psi(x)|^2$ is the number of particles in the condensate.
- (c) If

$$H = \int d^3x \left[\hat{\psi}^\dagger(x) \left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 - \mu \right) \psi(x) + U : (\psi^\dagger(x) \psi(x))^2 : \right]$$

is the (normal ordered) energy density, calculate the expectation value of H , i.e. $\langle \bar{\Psi} | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle / \langle \bar{\Psi} | \Psi \rangle$ in the coherent state.