

# Chapter 6

## Techniques of approximation

All the following material © P.W. Atkins and R.S. Friedman.

### Exercises

**6.1** The first-order WKB wavefunction is given in eqn 6.6 in classically allowed regions (note here that  $E > V$  since  $a$  and  $x$  are positive). With  $p(x)$  given by eqn 6.1b,

$$p(x) = \{2m[E - V(x)]\}^{1/2} = (2ma)^{1/2}x$$

The first-order WKB wavefunction is

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(x) &= \frac{C}{(2ma)^{1/4}x^{1/2}} \sin\left(\frac{1}{\hbar} \int_0^x (2ma)^{1/2}x dx + \delta\right) = \frac{C}{(2ma)^{1/4}x^{1/2}} \sin\left(\frac{(2ma)^{1/2}x^2}{2\hbar} + \delta\right) \\ &= \frac{C}{(2ma)^{1/4}x^{1/2}} \sin\left(\left[\frac{ma}{2\hbar^2}\right]^{1/2} x^2 + \delta\right) \end{aligned}$$

**6.2** The energies of a two-level system are given by eqn 6.15. Therefore, with all energies in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  units,

$$E_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2}(5000 + 10000) \pm \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{(10000 - 5000)^2 + 4 \times 500^2}$$

yielding  $E_+ = 10\,049.51 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $E_- = 4950.49 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

**6.3** The wavefunction for the ground-state harmonic oscillator is given by

$$\psi_0(x) = \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi^{1/2}}\right)^{1/2} e^{-\alpha^2 x^2/2}$$

The first-order energy correction, eqn 6.24, is

$$E_0^{(1)} = \langle \psi_0 | H^{(1)} | \psi_0 \rangle = \frac{\alpha}{\pi^{1/2}} \int_0^b ax e^{-\alpha^2 x^2} dx = \frac{a}{2\alpha\pi^{1/2}} (1 - e^{-\alpha^2 b^2})$$

**6.4** The second-order energy correction is given in eqn 6.30. Here,  $H^{(1)} = a$  and  $H^{(2)} = 0$ . The ground-state wavefunction is given by

$$\psi_0(x) = \left( \frac{\alpha}{\pi^{1/2}} \right)^{1/2} e^{-\alpha^2 x^2 / 2}$$

and the  $\nu = 1$  wavefunction by

$$\psi_1(x) = \left( \frac{2\alpha^3}{\pi^{1/2}} \right)^{1/2} x e^{-\alpha^2 x^2 / 2}$$

Since the wavefunctions are real,  $H_{01}^{(1)} = H_{10}^{(1)}$ ; the denominator of the  $\nu = 1$  contribution to  $E^{(2)}$  is  $(0 + \frac{1}{2}) \hbar\omega - (1 + \frac{1}{2}) \hbar\omega = -\hbar\omega$ . The matrix element  $H_{01}^{(1)}$  is

$$H_{01}^{(1)} = \int_0^\infty a \left( \frac{\alpha}{\pi^{1/2}} \right)^{1/2} e^{-\alpha^2 x^2 / 2} \left( \frac{2\alpha^3}{\pi^{1/2}} \right)^{1/2} x e^{-\alpha^2 x^2 / 2} dx = a \frac{2^{1/2} \alpha^2}{\pi^{1/2}} \left( \frac{1}{2\alpha^2} \right) = \frac{a}{2^{1/2} \pi^{1/2}}$$

Therefore, the contribution to  $E^{(2)}$  from  $\nu = 1$  is

$$\frac{H_{01}^{(1)} H_{10}^{(1)}}{E_0^{(0)} - E_1^{(0)}} = \frac{a^2}{2\pi} \times \left( \frac{1}{-\hbar\omega} \right) = -\frac{a^2}{\hbar\omega}$$

**6.5** As discussed in Section 6.3, to know the energy correct to order  $2n + 1$  in the perturbation, it is sufficient to know the wavefunctions only to  $n$ th order in the perturbation. Therefore, if the perturbed wavefunction is known to second order, the energy is accurately known to 5<sup>th</sup> order.

**6.6** Following Example 6.5 in the text, we need to decide which matrix elements  $\langle s | y | n \rangle$  are non-zero. The function for a s-orbital ( $l = 0$ ) is a component of the basis for  $\Gamma^{(0)}$  and  $y$  is likewise a component of the basis for  $\Gamma^{(1)}$ . Because  $\Gamma^{(0)} \times \Gamma^{(1)} = \Gamma^{(1)}$  by eqn 5.51, we can

infer that only p-orbitals can be mixed into the ground state. Furthermore, because the perturbation is in the  $y$ -direction, only  $p_y$  can be mixed.

**6.7** The optimum form of the wavefunction corresponds to a minimum in the Rayleigh ratio.

Therefore, we seek the value of  $k$  such that the derivative of the Rayleigh ratio with respect to  $k$  vanishes.

$$\frac{d}{dk} \left( \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} - \frac{hcR_H k}{a_0} \right) = \frac{\hbar^2 k}{m} - \frac{hcR_H}{a_0} = 0$$

and therefore

$$k = \frac{mhcR_H}{\hbar^2 a_0} = \frac{2\pi mcR_H}{\hbar a_0}$$

**6.8** Use the Hellmann-Feynman theorem, eqn 6.48.

$$\frac{dE}{dP} = \langle \partial H / \partial P \rangle = \langle x^2 \rangle$$

**6.9** The probability of finding the system in state 2 for a degenerate two-level system is given

by eqn 6.64. Therefore, we should use this formula to find the time for which a perturbation should be applied to result in  $P_2(t) = 1/3$ , and then immediately extinguish the perturbation:

$$\sin^2 |V| t = \frac{1}{3}$$

so

$$t = \frac{\arcsin \sqrt{1/3}}{|V|}$$

The perturbation should be applied for this amount of time and then removed.

**6.10** The transition rate to a continuum of states is given by Fermi's golden rule, eqn 6.84.

The molecular density of states here is

$$\rho_M = \frac{2.50 \times 10^4}{1.50 \times 10^{-18} \text{J}} = 1.67 \times 10^{22} \text{J}^{-1}$$

Fermi's golden rule then yields

$$W = 2\pi\hbar|V|^2\rho_M = 2\pi(1.055\times 10^{-34}\text{Js})(4.50\times 10^{12}\text{s}^{-1})^2(1.67\times 10^{22}\text{J}^{-1}) \\ = 2.24\times 10^{14}\text{s}^{-1}$$

**6.11** Use the lifetime broadening relation, eqn 6.97.

$$\tau = \frac{\hbar}{\delta E} = \frac{1.055\times 10^{-34}\text{Js}}{1.92\times 10^{-24}\text{J}} = 5.49\times 10^{-11}\text{s}$$

## Problems

**6.1** First consider  $\exp(+iS_+(x)/\hbar)$ . Noting that

$$\frac{d}{dx}\exp\left(\frac{iS}{\hbar}\right) = \frac{i}{\hbar}\frac{dS}{dx}\exp\left(\frac{iS}{\hbar}\right)$$

we obtain upon substitution of  $\exp(+iS_+(x)/\hbar)$  into eqn 6.1:

$$\hbar^2\left\{\frac{i}{\hbar}\frac{d^2S}{dx^2}\exp\left(\frac{iS}{\hbar}\right) + \left(\frac{i}{\hbar}\frac{dS}{dx}\right)^2\exp\left(\frac{iS}{\hbar}\right)\right\} + p^2\exp\left(\frac{iS}{\hbar}\right) = 0$$

After factoring out the common term of  $\exp(+iS_+(x)/\hbar)$ , we obtain

$$i\hbar\frac{d^2S}{dx^2} - \left(\frac{dS}{dx}\right)^2 + p^2 = 0$$

which is eqn 6.3 for  $S_+$ . Next consider  $\exp(-iS_-(x)/\hbar)$ . Noting that

$$\frac{d}{dx}\exp\left(\frac{-iS}{\hbar}\right) = \frac{-i}{\hbar}\frac{dS}{dx}\exp\left(\frac{-iS}{\hbar}\right)$$

we obtain upon substitution of  $\exp(-iS_-(x)/\hbar)$  into eqn 6.1:

$$\hbar^2\left\{\frac{-i}{\hbar}\frac{d^2S}{dx^2}\exp\left(\frac{-iS}{\hbar}\right) + \left(\frac{-i}{\hbar}\frac{dS}{dx}\right)^2\exp\left(\frac{-iS}{\hbar}\right)\right\} + p^2\exp\left(\frac{-iS}{\hbar}\right) = 0$$

After factoring out the common term of  $\exp(-iS_-(x)/\hbar)$ , we obtain

$$-i\hbar\frac{d^2S}{dx^2} - \left(\frac{dS}{dx}\right)^2 + p^2 = 0$$

which is eqn 6.3 for  $S_-$ .

**6.4** We begin with eqn 6.13 applied to the wavefunction  $\psi_-$  and corresponding energy  $E_-$ .

Therefore, from eqn 6.17a and eqn 6.15,

$$c_1 = \cos \zeta$$

$$c_2 = \sin \zeta$$

$$E = E_- = \frac{1}{2}(E_1^{(0)} + E_2^{(0)}) - \frac{1}{2}d$$

$$d = \left\{ (E_2^{(0)} - E_1^{(0)})^2 + 4|H_{12}^{(1)}|^2 \right\}^{1/2}$$

Substitution into eqn 6.13 yields, with  $H_{11} = E_1^{(0)}$ ,  $H_{22} = E_2^{(0)}$ , and  $H_{12} = H_{21} = |H_{12}^{(1)}| e^{i\varphi}$

$$\frac{1}{2} \cos \zeta (E_1^{(0)} - E_2^{(0)} + d) + \sin \zeta |H_{12}^{(1)}| e^{i\varphi} = 0$$

$$\cos \zeta |H_{12}^{(1)}| e^{i\varphi} + \frac{1}{2} \sin \zeta (E_2^{(0)} - E_1^{(0)} + d) = 0$$

Multiplication of the first of the equations by  $\sin \zeta$  and the second of the equations by  $\cos \zeta$  produces

$$\frac{1}{2} \cos \zeta \sin \zeta (E_1^{(0)} - E_2^{(0)} + d) + \sin^2 \zeta |H_{12}^{(1)}| e^{i\varphi} = 0$$

$$\cos^2 \zeta |H_{12}^{(1)}| e^{i\varphi} + \frac{1}{2} \sin \zeta \cos \zeta (E_2^{(0)} - E_1^{(0)} + d) = 0$$

Subtracting the top equation from the bottom equation and using the trigonometric identities

$$\cos 2\zeta = \cos^2 \zeta - \sin^2 \zeta$$

$$\sin 2\zeta = 2 \sin \zeta \cos \zeta$$

yields

$$\cos 2\zeta |H_{12}^{(1)}| e^{i\varphi} + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2\zeta (E_2^{(0)} - E_1^{(0)}) = 0$$

and therefore, since  $\tan 2\zeta = \sin 2\zeta / \cos 2\zeta$ ,

$$\tan 2\zeta = \frac{-2|H_{12}^{(1)}|e^{i\varphi}}{E_2^{(0)} - E_1^{(0)}}$$

If we now let  $\varphi = \pi$  so that  $e^{i\varphi} = -1$ , we obtain eqn 6.17b.

**6.7**  $H = -(\hbar^2/2m)(d^2/dx^2) + mgx$

$$H^{(0)} = -(\hbar^2/2m)(d^2/dx^2); \quad H^{(1)} = mgx$$

$$E^{(1)} = \langle 0|H^{(1)}|0\rangle = mg \langle x\rangle = \underline{\underline{\frac{1}{2}mgL}}$$

The first-order correction disregards the adjustment of the location of the particle in the gravitational field, so  $E^{(1)}$  is the potential energy of a particle at its average height ( $\frac{1}{2}L$ ).

For  $m = m_e$ ,

$$E^{(1)}/L = \frac{1}{2}mg = \underline{\underline{4.47 \times 10^{-30} \text{ J m}^{-1}}}$$

**6.10** The first-order correction to the energy is given by eqn 6.24:

$$E_0^{(1)} = \langle 0|H^{(1)}|0\rangle$$

where the state  $|0\rangle$  is the ground-state harmonic oscillator wavefunction of Section 2.14:

$$\psi_0(x) = \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi^{1/2}}\right)^{1/2} e^{-\alpha^2 x^2/2} \quad \alpha = \left(\frac{mk}{\hbar^2}\right)^{1/4}$$

and the perturbation hamiltonian is

$$H^{(1)} = ax^3 + bx^4$$

The following standard integrals will be useful:

$$\int_0^{\infty} x^3 e^{-cx^2} dx = \frac{1}{2c^2}$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} x^4 e^{-cx^2} dx = \frac{3}{8c^2} \left(\frac{\pi}{c}\right)^{1/2}$$

We also use the result that if the function  $f(x)$  in the integrand is an even function of  $x$ , then

$$\int_{-\infty}^0 f(x) dx = \int_0^{\infty} f(x) dx$$

and if the function is odd, then

$$\int_{-\infty}^0 f(x) dx = -\int_0^{\infty} f(x) dx$$

**(a)** The anharmonic perturbation is present for all values of  $x$ .

$$\begin{aligned} E_0^{(1)} &= \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi^{1/2}}\right) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\alpha^2 x^2} (ax^3 + bx^4) dx \\ &= \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi^{1/2}}\right) \left[0 + \frac{3b\pi^{1/2}}{4\alpha^5}\right] \\ &= \frac{3b}{4\alpha^4} \end{aligned}$$

**(b)** The anharmonic perturbation is only present during bond expansion so  $H^{(1)}$  vanishes for  $x < 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_0^{(1)} &= \left( \frac{\alpha}{\pi^{1/2}} \right) \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\alpha^2 x^2} (ax^3 + bx^4) dx \\
 &= \left( \frac{\alpha}{\pi^{1/2}} \right) \left[ \frac{a}{2\alpha^4} + \frac{3b\pi^{1/2}}{8\alpha^5} \right] \\
 &= \frac{a}{2\alpha^3 \pi^{1/2}} + \frac{3b}{8\alpha^4}
 \end{aligned}$$

- (c) The anharmonic perturbation is only present during bond compression so  $H^{(1)}$  vanishes for  $x > 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_0^{(1)} &= \left( \frac{\alpha}{\pi^{1/2}} \right) \int_{-\infty}^0 e^{-\alpha^2 x^2} (ax^3 + bx^4) dx \\
 &= \left( \frac{\alpha}{\pi^{1/2}} \right) \left[ -\frac{a}{2\alpha^4} + \frac{3b\pi^{1/2}}{8\alpha^5} \right] \\
 &= -\frac{a}{2\alpha^3 \pi^{1/2}} + \frac{3b}{8\alpha^4}
 \end{aligned}$$

**Exercise:** Repeat the problem for the  $\nu = 1$  harmonic oscillator wavefunction.

**6.13 (a)**  $x\psi_0$  spans  $B_1 \times A_1 = B_1$  in  $C_{2v}$ ; hence  $\underline{B_1}$  states are admixed.

**(b)**  $l_x\psi_0$  spans  $B_2 \times A_1 = B_2$  in  $C_{2v}$ ; hence  $\underline{B_2}$  states are admixed.

**Exercise:** : The symmetry of the ground state of  $\text{ClO}_2$  is  ${}^2B_1$ . What symmetry species of excited states are admixed?

**6.16**  $H^{(1)} = \varepsilon \sin^2 \phi$

Form the secular determinant by using



$$\begin{aligned}
 H_{m'_l m_l}^{(1)} &= (\varepsilon/2\pi) \int_0^{2\pi} e^{-i(m'_l - m_l)\phi} (e^{2i\phi} + e^{-2i\phi} - 2) d\phi / (-4) \\
 &= -(\varepsilon/8\pi) \int_0^{2\pi} \{e^{i(2-m'_l+m_l)\phi} + e^{i(-2-m'_l+m_l)\phi} - 2e^{-i(m'_l-m_l)\phi}\} d\phi \\
 &= -(\varepsilon/4) \{\delta_{m'_l, m_l+2} + \delta_{m'_l, m_l-2} - 2\delta_{m'_l, m_l}\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$H_{1,1}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon, \quad H_{-1,-1}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon, \quad H_{1,-1}^{(1)} = -\frac{1}{4} \varepsilon, \quad H_{-1,1}^{(1)} = -\frac{1}{4} \varepsilon$$

$$S_{1,1} = S_{-1,-1} = 1; \quad S_{1,-1} = S_{-1,1} = 0$$

$$\det |H^{(1)} - SE| = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon - E & -\frac{1}{4} \varepsilon \\ -\frac{1}{4} \varepsilon & \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon - E \end{vmatrix} = (\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon - E)^2 - (-\frac{1}{4} \varepsilon)^2 = 0$$

Consequently,  $E = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon \pm \frac{1}{4} \varepsilon = \frac{3}{4} \varepsilon$  and  $\frac{1}{4} \varepsilon$ . Find the coefficients from the secular equations and  $|c_1|^2 + |c_2|^2 = 1$  (or by intuition):

$$\begin{cases} (\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon - E)c_1 - \frac{1}{4} \varepsilon c_2 = 0 \\ -\frac{1}{4} \varepsilon c_1 + (\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon - E)c_2 = 0 \end{cases} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \phi_{\frac{3}{4}} = (\psi_1 - \psi_{-1})/\sqrt{2} \\ \phi_{\frac{1}{4}} = (\psi_1 + \psi_{-1})/\sqrt{2} \end{array} \right.$$

For the first-order energies we have  $E = \frac{3}{4} \varepsilon$  and  $\frac{1}{4} \varepsilon$ . If desired, check this as follows:

$$H_{3/4,3/4}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{2} (H_{1,1}^{(1)} + H_{-1,-1}^{(1)} - H_{1,-1}^{(1)} - H_{-1,1}^{(1)}) = \frac{1}{2} (\varepsilon + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon) = \frac{3}{4} \varepsilon$$

$$H_{1/4,1/4}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{2} (H_{1,1}^{(1)} + H_{-1,-1}^{(1)} + H_{1,-1}^{(1)} + H_{-1,1}^{(1)}) = \frac{1}{2} (\varepsilon - \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon) = \frac{1}{4} \varepsilon$$

$$H_{3/4,1/4}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{2} (H_{1,1}^{(1)} - H_{-1,-1}^{(1)} + H_{1,-1}^{(1)} - H_{-1,1}^{(1)}) = 0$$

This calculation confirms that  $H^{(1)}$  is diagonal in the  $\phi_{\frac{3}{4}}, \phi_{\frac{1}{4}}$  basis, and that its eigenvalues are  $\frac{3}{4}\varepsilon$  and  $\frac{1}{4}\varepsilon$ .

For the second-order energies we require the following matrix elements:

$$\begin{aligned} H_{m_l, \frac{3}{4}}^{(1)} &= (1/\sqrt{2})\{H_{m_l, 1}^{(1)} - H_{m_l, -1}^{(1)}\} \\ &= \begin{cases} (1/\sqrt{2})H_{3,1}^{(1)} & = -(\varepsilon/4\sqrt{2}) \quad \text{for } m_l = 3 \\ -(1/\sqrt{2})H_{-3,-1}^{(1)} & = +(\varepsilon/4\sqrt{2}) \quad \text{for } m_l = -3, \text{ all others zero} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} H_{m_l, \frac{1}{4}}^{(1)} &= (1/\sqrt{2})\{H_{m_l, 1}^{(1)} + H_{m_l, -1}^{(1)}\} \\ &= \begin{cases} (1/\sqrt{2})H_{3,1}^{(1)} & = -(\varepsilon/4\sqrt{2}) \quad \text{for } m_l = 3 \\ (1/\sqrt{2})H_{-3,-1}^{(1)} & = -(\varepsilon/4\sqrt{2}) \quad \text{for } m_l = -3, \text{ all others zero} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

$$E_{m_l}^{(0)} = m_l^2 \hbar^2 / 2mr^2 = m_l^2 A, \text{ with } A = \hbar^2 / 2mr^2$$

Both  $\phi$  linear combinations correspond to  $|m_l| = 1$ , and so for them  $E^{(0)} = A$ . For the  $\phi_{\frac{3}{4}}$  combination:

$$\begin{aligned} E^{(2)} &= \sum_{m_l \neq 0} \left\{ H_{3/4, m_l}^{(1)} H_{m_l, 3/4}^{(1)} / (1 - m_l^2) A \right\} \\ &= |H_{3/4, 3}^{(1)}|^2 / (-8A) + |H_{3/4, -3}^{(1)}|^2 / (-8A) = -\varepsilon^2 / 128A \end{aligned}$$

For the  $\phi_{1/4}$  combination:

$$\begin{aligned} E^{(2)} &= \sum_{m_l \neq 0} \left\{ H_{1/4, m_l}^{(1)} H_{m_l, 1/4}^{(1)} / (1 - m_l^2) A \right\} \\ &= |H_{1/4, 3}^{(1)}|^2 / (-8A) + |H_{1/4, -3}^{(1)}|^2 / (-8A) = -\varepsilon^2 / 128A \end{aligned}$$

[The  $m_l = 0$  does not in fact make a contribution to the sum.] The energies to second order are therefore

$$\underline{E_{3/4} = A + \frac{3}{4}\varepsilon - \varepsilon^2/128A, E_{1/4} = A + \frac{1}{4}\varepsilon - \varepsilon^2/128A}$$

**Exercise:** Find the first- and second-order energy corrections for a particle subject to

$$H^{(1)} = \varepsilon \sin^4 \phi.$$

**6.19** First, normalize the linear combinations to 1:

$$\begin{aligned} \int (a'_2)^2 d\tau &= \frac{1}{2} \int (s_A + s_C)^2 d\tau = \frac{1}{2} \int (s_A^2 + s_C^2 + 2s_A s_C) d\tau \\ &= 1 + S_{AC} \end{aligned}$$

$$\int (a'')^2 d\tau = 1 - S_{AC}$$

Therefore,

$$a'_2 = (s_A + s_C) / \{2(1 + S_{AC})\}^{1/2}$$

$$a'' = (s_A - s_C) / \{2(1 - S_{AC})\}^{1/2}$$

Now construct the matrix elements of  $H$ :

$$\int a'_1 H a'_1 d\tau = \alpha$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int a'_2 H a'_2 d\tau &= \int (s_A + s_C) H (s_A + s_C) d\tau / 2(1 + S_{AC}) \\ &= (\alpha + \gamma) / (1 + S_{AC}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\int a'' H a'' d\tau = (\alpha - \gamma) / (1 - S_{AC})$$

$$\int a_1' H a_2' d\tau = \int s_B H (s_A + s_C) d\tau / \{2(1 + S_{AC})\}^{1/2} = \{2/(1 + S_{AC})\}^{1/2} \beta$$

$$\int a_1' a_2' d\tau = \{2/(1 + S_{AC})\}^{1/2} S_{AB} \quad [S_{AB} = S_{BC}]$$

Hence, the  $2 \times 2$  secular determinant is

$$\det |H - ES| = \begin{vmatrix} \alpha - E & \frac{(\beta - ES_{AB})\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{(1+S_{AC})}} \\ \frac{(\beta - ES_{AB})\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{(1+S_{AC})}} & \left(\frac{\alpha + \gamma}{1+S_{AC}}\right) - E \end{vmatrix}$$

Set  $\gamma = (S_{AC}/S_{AB})\beta$ , then with  $S_{AB} = 0.723$  and  $S_{AC} = 0.345$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \det |H - ES| &= \begin{vmatrix} \alpha - E & 1.219(\beta - 0.723E) \\ 1.219(\beta - 0.723E) & (\alpha + 0.477\beta)/1.345 - E \end{vmatrix} \\ &= 0.223E^2 + (1.794\beta - 1.744\alpha)E \\ &\quad + (0.355\alpha\beta + 0.744\alpha^2 - 1.486\beta^2) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we must solve

$$E^2 + (8.045\beta - 7.821\alpha)E + (1.592\alpha\beta + 3.336\alpha^2 - 6.664\beta^2) = 0$$

Write  $E/\alpha = \varepsilon$  and  $\beta/\alpha = \lambda$ ; then

$$\varepsilon^2 + (8.045\lambda - 7.821)\varepsilon + (1.592\lambda + 3.336 - 6.664\lambda^2) = 0$$

$$\varepsilon = 3.911 - 4.023\lambda \pm \sqrt{\{22.845\lambda^2 - 33.052\lambda + 11.956\}}$$

which can be plotted as a function of  $\lambda$ , Fig. 6.2. (The result from Problem 6.18,  $\varepsilon = 1 \pm \lambda\sqrt{2}$ , is also shown.)

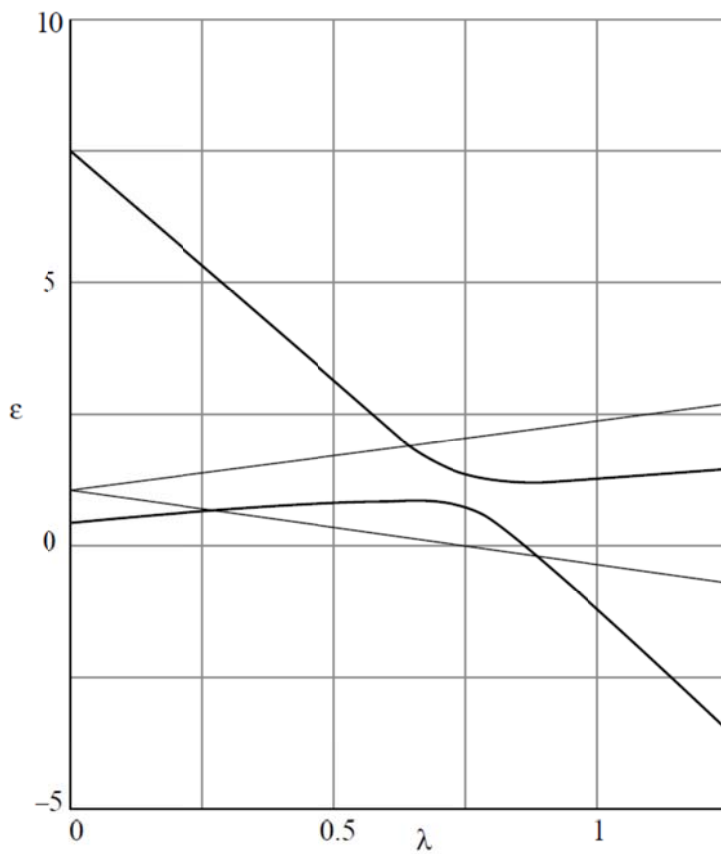


Figure 6.2: The energies calculated in Problem 6.19. The straight lines are the energies calculated in Problem 6.18.

**Exercise:** Include overlap in the *Exercise* attached to Problem 6.18.

## 6.22

$$c_f(t) = (1/i\hbar) \int_0^t H_{fi}^{(1)}(t') e^{i\omega_{fi}t'} dt' \quad [\text{eqn 6.71}]$$

$$c_{2p}(t) = (1/i\hbar) \langle 2p_z | e z | 1s \rangle \int_0^t \mathcal{E}(t') e^{i\omega_{2p,1s}t'} dt' \quad [H^{(1)}(t) = -\mu_z \mathcal{E}(t) = e z \mathcal{E}(t)]$$

Set  $\mathcal{E}(t) = \gamma t$ ; note that  $\omega_{2p,1s} = \frac{3}{4} hc_{\text{RH}}/\hbar = (3\pi/2)c_{\text{RH}}$ . For simplicity of notation, write  $\omega = \omega_{2p,1s}$

$$\begin{aligned} c_{2p}(t) &= \gamma(e/i\hbar)\langle 2p_z|z|1s\rangle \int_0^t t e^{i\omega t} dt \\ &= (e\gamma/i\hbar)\langle 2p_z|z|1s\rangle \left\{ (t/i\omega)e^{i\omega t} + (1/\omega^2)(e^{i\omega t} - 1) \right\} \\ |c_{2p}(t)|^2 &= (e\gamma/\hbar)^2 \langle 2p_z|z|1s\rangle^2 (2/\omega^4) \left\{ 1 - \cos \omega t - \omega t \sin \omega t + \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 t^2 \right\} \end{aligned}$$

**Exercise:** Find  $|c_{2p}(t)|^2$  in the case where the perturbation is turned on quadratically ( $\mathcal{E} \propto t^2$ ).

**6.25** We use eqn 6.87 for the rate of stimulated emission, taking the value of  $B$  from eqn 6.88 and the density of states of the radiation field from eqn 6.92b. The transition dipole moment is calculated by using the hydrogen orbitals  $R_{nl}Y_{lm}$ , where the radial functions are listed in Table 3.4 and the spherical harmonics in Table 3.2; the transition frequency  $\nu$  is obtained from the energies in eqn 3.66. For the rate of spontaneous emission, use the relation between  $A$  and  $B$  in eqn 6.93.

First consider the transition dipole moment  $\mu_z$  for the  $3p_z \rightarrow 2s$  transition.

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_z &= -e \int \psi_{3p_z}^* z \psi_{2s} d\tau = -\frac{3^3 \times 2^{10}}{5^6} ea_0 \\ &= -1.769ea_0 = -1.500 \times 10^{-29} \text{ C m} \end{aligned}$$

Since the lower (2s) state of the atom is spherically symmetrical, the contributions for  $3p_x$ ,  $3p_y$  and  $3p_z$  are identical. Therefore

$$|\mu|^2 = |\mu_x|^2 + |\mu_y|^2 + |\mu_z|^2 = 3 \times 3.131e^2 a_0^2 = 6.752 \times 10^{-58} \text{ C}^2 \text{ m}^2$$

The Einstein coefficient of stimulated emission is

$$B = \frac{|\mu|^2}{6\epsilon_0\hbar^2} = 1.143 \times 10^{21} \text{ J}^{-1} \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-2}$$

The frequency of the transition (with  $R$  the Rydberg constant) is

$$\nu = \left( \frac{1}{2^2} - \frac{1}{3^2} \right) cR = 4.567 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

and so it follows that

$$A = \frac{8\pi h \nu^3}{c^3} B = 6.728 \times 10^7 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

At 1000 K and for the transition frequency,

$$\rho_{\text{rad}} = \frac{8\pi h \nu^3 / c^3}{e^{h\nu/kT} - 1} = 1.782 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J Hz}^{-1} \text{ m}^{-3}$$

It then follows that the rate of stimulated emission is  $B\rho_{\text{rad}} = 2.036 \times 10^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  whereas that of spontaneous emission is  $A = 6.728 \times 10^7 \text{ s}^{-1}$ .

**Exercise:** Find the dependence on atomic number of the rates of stimulated and spontaneous emission for the  $3p \rightarrow 2s$  transition in hydrogenic atoms at 1000 K.

**6.28** We use eqn 6.97 to estimate the lifetime  $\tau$  from the full width at half maximum, which we denote  $\Delta$ . The latter is converted from a wavenumber to an energy in joules by multiplication by  $hc$ ; the full width as an energy in joules is then identified with  $\delta E$ .

$$\tau = \frac{\hbar}{(\delta E)} = \frac{1}{2\pi c\Delta}$$

---

(a)  $\tau = (2\pi \times 2.9979 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm s}^{-1} \times 0.010 \text{ cm}^{-1})^{-1} = 5.3 \times 10^{-10} \text{ s} = \underline{530 \text{ ps}}$

(b)  $\tau = (2\pi \times 2.9979 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm s}^{-1} \times 1.5 \text{ cm}^{-1})^{-1} = 3.5 \times 10^{-12} \text{ s} = \underline{3.5 \text{ ps}}$

(c)  $\tau = (2\pi \times 2.9979 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm s}^{-1} \times 40 \text{ cm}^{-1})^{-1} = 13 \times 10^{-14} \text{ s} = \underline{130 \text{ fs}}$

**Exercise:** What is the full width of the spectral peak if the lifetime of the upper state is  $1.0 \mu\text{s}$ ?