## Electronic transitions Matter $\leftrightarrow$ matter; matter $\leftrightarrow$ photons



## Excitation



## Emission and Absorption

$$
\Delta \mathrm{E}=\mathrm{h} v
$$

Two ways to decay down from an excited state

- Spontaneous emission

$$
X_{2} \rightarrow X_{1}+h v
$$

occurrence rate $\leftrightarrow$ atomic properties

- Stimulated emission

$$
X_{2}+h v \rightarrow X_{1}+2 h v
$$

occurrence rate $\leftrightarrow$ density of incoming photons of the same $v$, polarization, and direction of propagation

## Einstein Coefficients

## Stimulated

Spontaneous emission

$$
\begin{gathered}
2-h v \\
X_{2} \rightarrow X_{1}+h v \\
v=\left(E_{2}-E_{1}\right) / h
\end{gathered}
$$

$\boldsymbol{A}_{21}$--- probability [ $\mathrm{s}^{-1}$ ]
$n_{2} A_{21} d t$ : \# of spontaneous radiative transitions during $d t$

Die formale Ảhnlichkeit der Kurve der chromatischen Verteilung der Temperaturstrahlung mit dem Maxwell'schen Ge-schwindigkeits-Verteilungsgesetz ist zu frappant, als daß sie lange hätte verborgen bleiben können. In der Tat wurde bereits $W$. Wien in der wichtigen theoretischen Arbeit,-in welcher er sein Verschiebungsgesetz

$$
\begin{equation*}
\varrho=\nu^{3} \mathrm{f}\left(\frac{\nu}{\mathrm{~T}}\right) \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

ableitete. durch diese Ähnlichkeit auf eine weitergehende Bestimmung der Strahlungsformel geführt. Er fand hiebei bekanntlich die Formel

$$
\varrho=\alpha \nu^{3} \mathrm{e}
$$

welche als Grenzgesetz für große Werte von $\frac{v}{T}$ auch heute als richtig anerkannt wird (Wien'sche Strahlungsformel). Heute wissen wir, daß keine Betrachtung, welche auf die klassische Mechanik und Elektrodynamik aufgebaut ist, eine brauchbare Strahlungsformel liefern kann, sondern daß die klassische Theorie notwendig auf die Reileigh'sche Formel

$$
\begin{equation*}
\varrho=\frac{\mathrm{k} \alpha}{\mathrm{~h}} \nu^{2} T \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

führt. Als dann Planck in seiner grundlegenden Untersuchung seine Strablungsformel

$$
\begin{equation*}
\ell \quad \varrho=\alpha \nu^{3} \frac{1}{e^{\frac{n v}{k T}}-1} \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

auf die Voraussetzung von-diskreten Energie-Elementen gegründet hatte, aus welcher sich in rascher Folge die Quantentheorie entwickelte, geriet jene Wien'sche Oberlegung, welche zur Gleichung (2) geführt hatte, naturgemäß wieder in Vergessenheit.

Vor kurzem nun fand ich eine der ursprünglichen Wien'schen Betrachtung ${ }^{1}$ ) verwandte, auf die Grundvoraussetzung der Quanten1) Verh. d. deutschen physikal. Gesellschaft, Nr. 13/14, 1916, S. 318 . In der vorliegenden Untersuchung sind die in der eben zitierten Abhandlung gegebenen Oberlegungen wiederhoit

## "On the Quantum Theory of Radiation" from A. Einstein

https://einstein.manhattanrarebooks.com/pages/books/17 /albert-einstein/zur-quantentheorie-der-strahlung-on-the-quantum-theory-of-radiation

## Transition Probability

Considering a 2 -level system, we calculate the emission arising from the transition.


$$
\begin{aligned}
& j_{v}\left[\mathrm{erg} \mathrm{~s}^{-1} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3} \mathrm{ster}^{-1} \mathrm{~Hz}^{-1}\right] \\
& j=\int j_{v} d v\left[\mathrm{erg} \mathrm{~s}^{-1} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3} \mathrm{ster}^{-1}\right] \text { volume emissivity }
\end{aligned}
$$

For a line emission, assuming $j_{v} \leftrightarrow \leftrightarrow \theta, \varphi$, $j_{v}$ is governed by a distribution function $\phi(v)$ (line profile),

$$
\int_{0}^{\infty} \Phi_{v} d v=1
$$



Once an atom is excited, there is a finite probability within $d t$ of $A(2,1) d t$ to jump spontaneously from level 2 to level 1 (deexcitation), emitting a photon. The total number of downward transitions $2 \rightarrow 1$ is $n_{2} A(2,1)$, where $n_{2}$ is the number of atoms (population) in level 2 per unit volume.
$\boldsymbol{A}_{\mathbf{2 1}}\left[\mathrm{s}^{\mathbf{- 1}}\right]$ : Einstein $\boldsymbol{A}$ coefficient for spontaneous transition $=$ probability per unit time.
$1 / A_{21}[\mathrm{~s}]$ : lifetime staying at level 2 (remaining excited)

$$
j_{v}=\frac{h v_{0}}{4 \pi} n_{2} A_{21} \phi(v)
$$

## Principle of detailed balancing

Consider a 2 -level system, excitation occurs if the incoming free electrons have kinetic energy $\frac{1}{2} m v^{2}>\chi$


Define the excitation rate coefficient $\gamma_{01}$, so that \# of excitation $\mathrm{s}^{-1} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}\left(=n_{e} n_{0} v \sigma\right) \equiv n_{e} n_{0} \gamma_{01}$, where both $n_{e}$ and $n_{0}$ have units of [ $\mathrm{cm}^{-3}$ ]

$$
\gamma_{01} \equiv\langle\sigma v\rangle=\int_{\chi=\frac{1}{2} m v^{2}}^{\infty} \sigma_{01}(v) v f(\vec{v}) d^{3} \vec{v}
$$

Here $\sigma_{01}$ is the excitation cross section, and $f(\vec{v})$ is the Maxwellian distribution function,

$$
f(\vec{v}) d v=4 \pi\left(\frac{m}{2 \pi k T}\right)^{3 / 2} v^{2} e^{-\frac{m v^{2}}{2 k T}} d v
$$

So

$$
\gamma_{01}=\frac{4}{\sqrt{\pi}}\left(\frac{1}{2 k T}\right)^{1 / 2} \int_{\chi=\frac{1}{2} m v^{2}}^{\infty} v^{3} \sigma_{01}(v) e^{-\frac{m v^{2}}{2 k T}} d v \ldots(\mathrm{~A})
$$

This is upward $0 \rightarrow 1$ transition.

For downward $1 \rightarrow 0$ transition, the spontaneous emission rate $=n_{1} A_{10}$, and the deexcitation rate by collisions $=n_{1} n_{e} \gamma_{10}$, where $\gamma_{10}=\int_{0}^{\infty} v \sigma_{10}(v) f(\vec{v}) d^{3} \vec{v}=\gamma_{10}(T)$

In steady state, [upwards rate]=[downwards rate], i.e., detailed balancing,

$$
\begin{align*}
& n_{0} n_{e} \gamma_{01}(T)=n_{1}\left[A_{10}+n_{e} \gamma_{10}(T)\right] \text {, so } \\
& \frac{n_{1}}{n_{0}}=\frac{n_{e} \gamma_{01}}{A_{10}+n_{e} \gamma_{10}}=\frac{\gamma_{01}}{\gamma_{10}} \frac{1}{1+\frac{A_{10}}{n_{e} \gamma_{10}}} \ldots \text { (I } \tag{B}
\end{align*}
$$

(i) At high densities, i.e., $n_{e} \rightarrow \infty$

$$
\frac{n_{1}}{n_{0}}=\frac{n_{e} \gamma_{01}}{A_{10}+n_{e} \gamma_{10}}=\frac{\gamma_{01}}{\gamma_{10}} \frac{1}{1+\frac{A_{10}}{n_{e} \gamma_{10}}}
$$

(i.e., collisional excitation and deexcitation dominate $\rightarrow$ in TE)

$$
\frac{n_{1}}{n_{0}} \approx \frac{\gamma_{01}}{\gamma_{10}}
$$

but because $\frac{n_{1}}{n_{0}}=\frac{g_{1}}{g_{0}} e^{-\chi / k T}$

$$
\frac{\gamma_{01}}{\gamma_{10}}=\frac{g_{1}}{g_{0}} e^{-\chi / k T} \quad \text { for } n_{e} \gg 1
$$

So when collision dominates, c.f. (A)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& n_{e} n_{0} v_{0}^{3} \sigma_{01}\left(v_{0}\right) \exp \left(-\mu v_{0}^{2} /(2 k T)\right) d v_{0} \\
& =n_{e} n_{1} v_{1}^{3} \sigma_{10}\left(v_{1}\right) \exp \left(-\mu v_{1}^{2} /(2 k T)\right) d v_{1}
\end{aligned}
$$

where $\mu$ : reduced mass, $v_{0}$ and $v_{1}$ are speed of colliding particles.

## At high densities (cont.)

Energy conservation, $(1 / 2) \mu v_{0}^{2}=(1 / 2) \mu v_{1}^{2}+\chi$, so $v_{0} d v_{0}=v_{1} d v_{1}$. Plugging this back, we get

$$
\begin{aligned}
& n_{0} v_{0}^{2} \sigma_{01} \exp \left(-\frac{\mu v_{0}^{2}}{2 k T}\right)=n_{1} v_{1}^{2} \sigma_{10} \exp \left(-\frac{\mu v_{1}^{2}}{2 k T}\right) \\
& =n_{0} \frac{g_{1}}{g_{0}} e^{-\chi / k T} v_{1}^{2} \sigma_{10} \exp \left(-\frac{\mu v_{1}^{2}}{2 k T}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

The exponential parts are eliminated from energy conservation, so

$$
g_{0} v_{0}^{2} \sigma_{01}=g_{1} v_{1}^{2} \sigma_{10}
$$

(i) At low densities, i.e., $n_{e} \rightarrow 0$

$$
\frac{n_{1}}{n_{0}}=\frac{n_{e} \gamma_{01}}{A_{10}+n_{e} \gamma_{10}}=\frac{\gamma_{01}}{\gamma_{10}} \frac{1}{1+\frac{A_{10}}{n_{e} \gamma_{10}}}
$$

$$
\frac{n_{1}}{n_{0}} \approx \frac{\gamma_{01}}{\gamma_{10}} \frac{n_{e} \gamma_{10}}{A_{10}}=\frac{n_{e} \gamma_{01}}{A_{10}}=\frac{\text { [upward by collisions] }}{[\text { downward by radiation only }]}
$$

This means every collisional excitation is followed by emission of a photon.

The cooling rate [ $\mathrm{erg} \mathrm{s}^{-1} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}$ ] in this case then, is

$$
n_{1} A_{10} h v_{10}=n_{\mathrm{e}} n_{0} \gamma_{01} h v_{10}
$$

$$
n_{0} n_{e} \gamma_{01}(T)=n_{1}\left[A_{10}+n_{e} \gamma_{10}(T)\right]
$$

The competition for downward transition between the two terms in the bracket $\rightarrow$ the critical density

$$
n_{\mathrm{crit}}=\frac{A_{10}}{\gamma_{10}}
$$

When $n_{e}>n_{\text {crit }}$, collisions dominate deexcitation process $\rightarrow$ LTE, populations governed by Boltmann equation.

Consider the radiative transition $1 \rightarrow 0$, the rate of emission of line photons [ $\mathrm{s}^{-1}$ atom $^{-1}$ ] ... cf. eq. (B)

$$
\frac{n_{1}}{n_{0}} A_{10}=A_{10} \frac{\gamma_{01}}{\gamma_{10}} \frac{1}{1+\frac{A_{10}}{n_{e} \gamma_{10}}}
$$

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{n_{1}}{n_{0}}=\frac{n_{e} \gamma_{01}}{A_{10}+n_{e} \gamma_{10}}=\frac{\gamma_{01}}{\gamma_{10}} \frac{1}{1+\frac{A_{10}}{n_{e} \gamma_{10}}} \tag{B}
\end{equation*}
$$

(i) At high densities, TE

$$
\frac{n_{1}}{n_{0}} A_{10}=A_{10} \frac{\gamma_{01}}{\gamma_{10}}=A_{10} \frac{g_{1}}{g_{2}} e^{-\chi / k T} \nLeftarrow n_{e}
$$

(ii) At low densities,

$$
\frac{n_{1}}{n_{0}} A_{10}=A_{10} \frac{\gamma_{01}}{\gamma_{10}} \frac{n_{e} \gamma_{10}}{A_{10}}=n_{e} \gamma_{01} \not \leftrightarrow T
$$

Every collisional excitation $\rightarrow$ emission of a line photon.

Consider a 2-level system, for which the electron collides with an ion in the lower level. cross section, $\sigma_{01}=\sigma_{01}(v)$.

Consider electron $v$ only; ions are neglected.

Collisions between electrons and ions in a lower level


$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\sigma_{01}=0, \text { if }(1 / 2) m v^{2}<\chi \\
\sigma_{01} \propto 1 / v^{2}, \text { if }(1 / 2) m v^{2}>\chi
\end{array}\right.
$$

Usually $\sigma$ is expressed in terms of collision strength $\Omega(0,1)$,

$$
\sigma_{01}(v)=\frac{\pi \hbar^{2}}{m_{e}^{2} v_{0}^{2}} \frac{\Omega(0,1)}{g_{0}}=\frac{4.21}{v^{2}} \frac{\Omega(0,1)}{g_{0}}\left[\mathrm{~cm}^{2}\right]
$$

Recall that $g_{0} v_{0}^{2} \sigma_{01}=g_{1} v_{1}^{2} \sigma_{10}$

The deexcitation rate coefficient is

$$
\begin{aligned}
\gamma_{10} & =\int_{0}^{\infty} v \sigma_{10}(v) f(v) d v \\
& =\sqrt{\frac{2 \pi}{k T}} \frac{\hbar^{2}}{m^{3 / 2}} \frac{\Omega(0,1)}{g_{1}}=8.629 \times 10^{-6} \frac{\Omega(0,1)}{g_{1} T^{1 / 2}}
\end{aligned}
$$

Excitation per volume per time is $n_{e} n_{0} \gamma_{01}$, where $\gamma_{01}=\left(g_{1} / g_{0}\right) \gamma_{10} \exp (-\chi / k T)$

- $\Omega$ must be calculated quantum mechanically;
- tabulation available with specific temperature values;
- typically on the order of unity.

The collisional deexcitation rate is then

$$
\begin{aligned}
n_{e} n_{1} \gamma_{10} & =n_{1} \int_{0}^{\infty} n_{e} v \sigma_{10}(v) f(v) d v \\
& =n_{e} n_{1} \sqrt{\frac{2 \pi}{k T}} \frac{\hbar^{2}}{m^{3 / 2}} \frac{\Omega(1,0)}{g_{1}} \\
& =8.629 \times 10^{-6} \frac{n_{e} n_{1}}{g_{1} T^{1 / 2}} \Omega(1,0) \quad\left[\mathrm{cm}^{-3} \mathrm{~S}^{-1}\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

For typical nebular $T=7000 \mathrm{~K}$, and abundances, $\gamma_{10} \approx 10^{-7} \mathrm{~cm}^{3} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$

Table 8. Wavelengths, $\lambda_{i j}$, transition probabilities, $A_{i j}$, and collision strengths, $\Omega(i, j)$, for the forbidden transitions of the most abundant elements ${ }^{1}$

| Element | $\begin{aligned} & \lambda_{21} \\ & (\AA) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & A_{21} \\ & \left(\sec ^{-1}\right) \end{aligned}$ | $\Omega(1,2)$ | $\lambda_{31}$ <br> (A) | $\begin{aligned} & A_{31} \\ & \left(\sec ^{-1}\right) \end{aligned}$ | $\Omega(1,3)$ | $\lambda_{32}$ <br> (A) | $\begin{aligned} & A_{32} \\ & \left(\sec ^{-1}\right) \end{aligned}$ | $\Omega(3,2)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| O II | $\begin{array}{r} 3,728.8 \\ +3,726.0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 4.8 \times 10^{-5} \\ +1.70 \times 10^{-4} \end{gathered}$ | 1.43 | $\begin{array}{r} 2,470.4 \\ +2,470.3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.060 \\ +0.0238 \end{gathered}$ | 0.428 | $\begin{array}{r} 7,319.4 \\ +7,330.7 \\ +7,318.6 \\ +7,329.9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 0.115 \\ +0.061 \\ +0.061 \\ +0.100 \end{array}$ | 1.70 |
| O III | $\begin{array}{r} 5,006.8\left(N_{1}\right) \\ +4,958.9\left(N_{2}\right) \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.021 \\ +0.0071 \end{gathered}$ | 2.39 | 2,321.1 | 0.23 | 0.335 | 4,363.2 | 1.60 | 0.310 |
| N II | $\begin{array}{r} 6,583.4 \\ +6,548.1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.003 \\ +0.00103 \end{gathered}$ | 3.14 | 3,063.0 | 0.034 | 0.342 | 5,754.6 | 1.08 | 0.376 |
| Ne III | $\begin{array}{r} 3,868.8 \\ +3,967.5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.17 \\ +0.052 \end{gathered}$ | 1.27 | 1,814.8 | 2.2 | 0.164 | 3,342.5 | 2.8 | 0.188 |
| Ne IV | $\begin{array}{r} 2,441.3 \\ +2,438.6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5.9 \times 10^{-4} \\ +5.6 \times 10^{-3} \end{array}$ | 1.04 | $\begin{array}{r} 1,608.8 \\ +1,609.0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1.33 \\ +0.53 \end{array}$ | 0.427 | $\begin{array}{r} 4,714.3 \\ +4,724.2 \\ +4,715.6 \\ +4,725.6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 0.40 \\ +0.44 \\ +0.11 \\ +0.39 \end{array}$ | 1.42 |
| $\mathrm{Ne} V$ | $\begin{array}{r} 3,425.9 \\ +3,345.8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 0.38 \\ +0.138 \end{array}$ | 1.38 | 1,575.2 | 4.2 | 0.218 | 2,972 | 2.60 | 0.185 |
| S II | $\begin{array}{r} 6,716.4 \\ +6,730.8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} 4.7 & \times 10^{-5} \\ +3.0 & \times 10^{-4} \end{aligned}$ | 3.07 | $\begin{array}{r} 4,068.6 \\ +4,076.4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.34 \\ +0.134 \end{gathered}$ | 1.28 | $\begin{array}{r} 10,320.6 \\ +10,287.1 \\ +10,372.6 \\ +10,338.8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.21 \\ + & 0.17 \\ + & 0.087 \\ + & 0.20 \end{aligned}$ | 6.22 |
| S III | $\begin{array}{r} 9,532.1 \\ +9,069.4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 0.064 \\ +0.025 \end{array}$ | 4.97 | $\begin{array}{r} 3,721.7 \\ +3,796.7 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 0.85 \\ +0.016 \end{array}$ | 1.07 | 6,312.1 | 2.54 | 0.961 |
| Ar III | $\begin{array}{r} 7,135.8 \\ +7,751.0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.32 \\ +0.083 \end{gathered}$ | 4.75 | $\begin{array}{r} 3,109.0 \\ +3,005.1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 4.0 \\ +0.043 \end{gathered}$ | 0.724 | 5,191.8 | 3.1 | 0.665 |
| Ar IV | $\begin{array}{r} 4,740.2 \\ +4,711.3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.028 \\ & 0.0022 \end{aligned}$ | 1.43 | $\begin{array}{r} 2,854.8 \\ +2,869.1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 2.55 \\ +0.97 \end{array}$ | 0.645 | $\begin{array}{r} 7,237.3 \\ +7,170.6 \\ +7,332.0 \\ +7,262.8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.67 \\ & +0.91 \\ & +0.122 \\ & +0.68 \end{aligned}$ | 4.92 |
| Ar V | $\begin{array}{r} 7,005.7 \\ +6,435.1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 0.51 \\ +0.22 \end{array}$ | 1.19 | $\begin{array}{r} 2,691.4 \\ +2,784.4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 6.8 \\ +0.081 \end{gathered}$ | 0.141 | 4,625.5 | 3.78 | 0.945 |

${ }^{1}$ After Garstang (1968) and Czyzak et al. (1968) by permission of the International Astronomical Union.

## Spectroscopic Notation

Ionization State
I ---- neutral atom, e.g., H I $\rightarrow \mathrm{H}^{0}$
II --- singly ionized atom, e.g., H II $\rightarrow \mathrm{H}^{+}$
III - doubly ionized atom, e.g., O III $\rightarrow \mathrm{O}^{++}$
..... and so on....e.g., Fe XXIII

## Peculiar Spectra

e (emission lines), p (peculiar, affected by magnetic fields), $m$ (anomalous metal abundances), e.g., B5 Ve

## Forbidden Lines

Allowed transitions (via an electric dipole) satisfying selection rules

1. Parity change
2. $\Delta L=0, \pm 1, L=0 \rightarrow 0$ forbidden
3. $\Delta J=0, \pm 1, J=0 \rightarrow 0$ forbidden
4. Only one electron with $\Delta \ell= \pm 1$
5. $\Delta S=0$ (Spin not changed)

A forbidden transition is one that fails to fulfill at least one of the selection rules 1 to 4 . It may arise from a magnetic dipole or an electric quadrupole transition.

## The Origin of the Nebulium Spectrum.

In the spectra of the gaseous nebulæ several very strong lines are found which have not been duplicated in any terrestrial source. Many lines of evidence point to the fact that the lines are emitted by an element of low atomic weight. Since the spectra of the light elements, as excited in terrestrial sources, are well known, this leads to the conclusion that there must be some condition, presumably low density, which exists in the nebulæ, that causes additional lines to be emitted.

# REVIEWS OF <br> Modern Physics 

## Forbidden Lines

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$\square$ Allowed (regular) Lines (no bracket), $A \approx 10^{+8} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$, e.g., C IV
$\square$ Semi-forbidden Lines (a single bracket), $A \approx 10^{+2} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$, e.g., [OII
$\square$ Forbidden Lines (a pair of square brackets),
$A \approx 10^{0}$ to $10^{-4} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$, e.g., [O III], [ N II ]

Some examples,
Lyman $\alpha, A_{21} \approx 6.25 \times 10^{8} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$
[O III] $A_{21}=0.021 \mathrm{~s}^{-1}, \lambda_{21}=5007 \AA$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& A_{21}=0.0281 \mathrm{~s}^{-1}, \lambda_{21}=4959 \AA \\
& A_{32}=1.60 \mathrm{~s}^{-1}, \lambda_{32}=4364 \AA
\end{aligned}
$$

[S II] $A_{21}=4.7 \times 10^{-5} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}, \lambda_{21}=6716 \AA$
H I 21 cm hyperfine line $A_{21} \approx 2.88 \times 10^{-15} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$; probability extremely low

- Normally an atom stays in the excited state for $10^{-8} \mathrm{~s}$.
- A forbidden transition occurs for excitation levels < a few Ev; stays in the excited state for seconds or longer before returning to the ground state.
- In the lab $n \uparrow \uparrow$, both excitation and de-excitation take place frequently, so radiative transition (emitting a photon) is unlikely.
- In ISM, the electrons are not energetic enough to excite the atoms to normal levels ( 10 to 20 eV ) , but enough to excite to metastable levels. In hot, low-density environments, e.g., H II regions, PNe , solar corona, earth aurora
- Once (collisionally) excited $\rightarrow$ emission
$\rightarrow$ photons escaped $\rightarrow$ efficient cooling

Forbidden lines observed in space and terrestrial upper atmosphere, where densities are low so collisions are rare. The most efficient cooling mechanism in nebular gas: intermediatemass ions excited by collision with electrons (kinetic energy about $k T) \rightarrow$ emission of forbidden line photons

Also the 21-cm line for cold atomic H gas


UV


Green


Red

Compare to hydrogen,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& E_{1 \rightarrow 2}=10.2 \mathrm{eV}, \\
& E_{1 \rightarrow \infty}=13.6 \mathrm{eV}
\end{aligned}
$$

| Line | Transition | Wavelength <br> $(\AA)$ | $A_{u l}$ <br> $\left(\mathrm{~s}^{-1}\right)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\frac{\text { Infrared }}{\mathrm{Br} \gamma}$ | $n=7 \rightarrow 4$ | 21661 | $3.0 \times 10^{5}$ |
| $\mathrm{~Pa} \beta$ | $n=5 \rightarrow 3$ | 12822 | $2.2 \times 10^{6}$ |
| Ca II | ${ }^{2} P_{1 / 2} \rightarrow{ }^{2} D_{3 / 2}$ | 8662 | $2.8 \times 10^{5}$ |
| Ca II | ${ }^{2} P_{3 / 2} \rightarrow{ }^{2} D_{5 / 2}$ | 8542 | $1.2 \times 10^{6}$ |
| Ca II | ${ }^{2} P_{3 / 2} \rightarrow{ }^{2} D_{3 / 2}$ | 8498 | $6.3 \times 10^{5}$ |
| Optical |  |  |  |
| [S II] | ${ }^{2} D_{3 / 2} \rightarrow{ }^{4} S_{3 / 2}$ | 6731 | $8.8 \times 10^{-4}$ |
| [S II] | ${ }^{2} D_{5 / 2} \rightarrow{ }^{4} S_{3 / 2}$ | 6716 | $2.6 \times 10^{-4}$ |
| H $\alpha$ | $n=3 \rightarrow 2$ | 6563 | $1.0 \times 10^{8}$ |
| [O I] | ${ }^{1} D_{2} \rightarrow{ }^{3} P_{2}$ | 6300 | $6.3 \times 10^{-3}$ |
| Na I D | ${ }^{2} P_{1 / 2} \rightarrow{ }^{2} S_{1 / 2}$ | 5896 | $6.2 \times 10^{7}$ |
| Na I D 2 | ${ }^{2} P_{3 / 2} \rightarrow{ }^{2} S_{1 / 2}$ | 5890 | $6.2 \times 10^{7}$ |
| He I | $3^{3} D_{3} \rightarrow{ }^{3} P_{2}$ | 5876 | $7.1 \times 10^{7}$ |
| Fe II | ${ }^{6} P_{3 / 2} \rightarrow{ }^{6} S_{5 / 2}$ | 4924 | $3.3 \times 10^{6}$ |
| H $\beta$ | $n=4 \rightarrow 2$ | 4861 | $3.8 \times 10^{7}$ |
| H $\gamma$ | $n=5 \rightarrow{ }^{2} 2$ | 4340 | $1.6 \times 10^{7}$ |
| Fe I | ${ }^{3} F_{3} \rightarrow{ }^{3} F_{2}$ | 4132 | $1.2 \times 10^{7}$ |
| [S II] | ${ }^{2} P_{1 / 2} \rightarrow{ }^{4} S_{3 / 2}$ | 4076 | $9.1 \times 10^{-2}$ |
| Ca II H | ${ }^{2} P_{1 / 2} \rightarrow{ }^{2} S_{1 / 2}$ | 3969 | $1.4 \times 10^{8}$ |
| Ca II K | ${ }^{2} P_{3 / 2} \rightarrow{ }^{2} S_{1 / 2}$ | 3934 | $1.5 \times 10^{8}$ |
|  |  |  |  |
| Ultraviolet |  |  |  |
| Mg II h | ${ }^{2} P_{1 / 2} \rightarrow{ }^{2} S_{1 / 2}$ | 2803 | $2.6 \times 10^{8}$ |
| Mg II k | ${ }^{2} P_{3 / 2} \rightarrow{ }^{2} S_{1 / 2}$ | 2796 | $2.6 \times 10^{8}$ |
| C IV | ${ }^{2} P_{3 / 2} \rightarrow{ }^{2} S_{1 / 2}$ | 1548 | $2.7 \times 10^{8}$ |
| Si IV | ${ }^{2} P_{1 / 2} \rightarrow{ }^{2} S_{1 / 2}$ | 1403 | $7.6 \times 10^{8}$ |
| O I | ${ }^{3} S_{1} \rightarrow{ }^{3} P_{1}$ | 1305 | $2.0 \times 10^{8}$ |
| S I | ${ }^{3} P_{1} \rightarrow{ }^{3} P_{2}$ | 1296 | $4.9 \times 10^{8}$ |
| Ly $\alpha$ | $2 p \rightarrow{ }^{1 s}$ | 1216 | $6.3 \times 10^{8}$ |
|  |  |  |  |



Gray \& Corbally
Figure 7.14 A montage of T Tauri stars and the Fuor prototype.






P Cygni profile of a spectral line --- a blue-shifted absorption superimposed on an emission line $\rightarrow$ mass loss (cool gas toward us)


Figure 21.5 FU Orionis, Ho appearing as P Cygni profile and massively broadened, fully saturated Na I lines - clear evidences for a strong outtlowing wind. Li I absorption is evidence for a very young object, SQUES echelle spectrograph. Ha and Na I lines, SQUES, slit width $70 \mu \mathrm{~m}$, $2 \times 3600 \mathrm{~s}, 2 \times 2$ binning. Li I line, SQUES, slit width $85 \mu \mathrm{~m}, 2 \times 3600 \mathrm{~s}, 3 \times 3$ binning

## P Cygni stars

- Higher mass-loss rate, $>10^{-5} \mathrm{M}_{\odot} \mathrm{yr}^{-1}$
- Lower terminal velocity, $v_{\infty}<10^{2.5} \mathrm{~km} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$
- Higher wind density, $n_{H}>10^{10} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}$ at $2 R_{*}$
than normal stars (Lamers 1986).


## The [O I]6300 profile of a T Tauri star; blueshifted wind



Inference: the redshifted emission is blocked by an optically thick dusty disk


5


## An example ----Ring Nebula (M57), a planetary nebula

```
Slit = 8' x 1'
```

                                    \(\mathrm{Hg}+\mathrm{He}\)
    
calibration lamps

- $\ldots \ldots$. M57
calibration lamps


4861Å line from hydrogen
$n=4 \rightarrow 2$
(called $\mathrm{H}_{\beta}$ line)

1-D spectrum shows little continuum, and a few emission lines
$\rightarrow$ A line spectrum
$4959 \AA ̊$ and $5007 \AA ̊$ doublet from twice-ionized oxygen, O++, or OIII in spectroscopic notation $\rightarrow$ (oxygen) gas is ionized, with $\mathrm{T}>\mathrm{a}$ few thousand K and density $<100 / \mathrm{cm}^{3}$


Fig. 1.1. General structure of the spectrum of a planetary nebula in the optical region, 3 300-7000 $\AA$. Only the most important emission lines, both permitted and forbidden, are shown. The shaded part from the left, beginning from $\lambda=3646 \AA$, is the Balmer continuum of hydrogen

## Excitation Theory --- Applications

## For [0 II],

consider a 3-level system, with the two upper levels close together,


$$
\frac{j_{\lambda 3729}}{j_{\lambda 3726}}=\frac{j_{21}}{j_{31}}=\frac{n_{2} A_{21} h v_{21}}{n_{3} A_{31} h v_{31}}
$$

Note: $\Delta \lambda=0.3 \mathrm{~nm} \rightarrow$ need high-dispersion spectroscopy


$$
\frac{j_{\lambda 3729}}{j_{\lambda 3726}}=\frac{j_{21}}{j_{31}}=\frac{n_{2} A_{21} h v_{21}}{n_{3} A_{31} h v_{31}}
$$

$\checkmark n_{e} \rightarrow \infty$, collisional excitation and deexcitation dominate

$$
\frac{j_{21}}{j_{31}}=\frac{g_{2} A_{21} v_{21}}{g_{3} A_{31} v_{31}} e^{-E_{23} / k T} \approx \frac{g_{2} A_{21}}{g_{3} A_{31}}=\frac{6}{4} \frac{3.6 \times 10^{-5}}{1.8 \times 10^{-4}}=0.3
$$

Note: statistical weight $g=2 J+1$
$\checkmark n_{e} \rightarrow 0$, every collisional excitation followed by emission

$$
\frac{j_{21}}{j_{31}}=\frac{\gamma_{12}}{\gamma_{13}}=\frac{g_{2}}{g_{3}} e^{-E_{23} / k T} \approx \frac{g_{2}}{g_{3}}=\frac{6}{4}=1.5
$$

Because $\gamma_{21} \approx \gamma_{12}$, and $E_{23} \ll k T$
Transition of density limits occurs $n_{e, 2} \approx 3 \times 10^{3} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}$;
$n_{e, 3} \approx 1.4 \times 10^{4} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}$

So this kind of level configuration (upper close), the line ratio is sensitive to the electron number density.


| Similar pairs of lines |
| :--- |
| $[\mathrm{O}$ II $]$ |
| $[\mathrm{S} \mathrm{II}]$ |
| $[\mathrm{N} \mathrm{I]}$ |
| $[\mathrm{C} \mathrm{III}]$ |
| $[\mathrm{Ar} \mathrm{IV}]$ |
| $[\mathrm{K} \mathrm{V}]$ |
| $[\mathrm{Ne} \mathrm{IV}]$ |

Some examples of density determinations for H II regions

```
TABLE 5.6
Electron densities in H II regions
```

| Object | $\frac{I(\lambda 3729)}{I(\lambda 3726)}$ | $N_{e}\left(\mathrm{~cm}^{-3}\right)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| NGC 1976 A | 0.50 | $3.0 \times 10^{3}$ |
| NGC 1976 M | 1.26 | $1.4 \times 10^{2}$ |
| M 8 Hourglass | 0.65 | $1.5 \times 10^{3}$ |
| M 8 outer | 1.26 | $1.5 \times 10^{2}$ |
| NGC 281 | 1.37 | 7 |$\times 10$.

## For planetary nebulae

Electron densities in planetary nebulae

|  | [O II] |  | $[\mathrm{S} \mathrm{II}]$ |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nebula | $\frac{\lambda 3729}{\lambda 3726}$ | $N_{e}{ }^{a}\left(\mathrm{~cm}^{-3}\right)$ | $\frac{\lambda 6716}{\lambda 6731}$ | $N_{e} a\left(\mathrm{~cm}^{-3}\right)$ |  |
| NGC 40 | 0.78 | $1.1 \times 10^{3}$ | 0.69 | $2.1 \times 10^{3}$ |  |
| NGC 650/1 | 1.23 | $2.1 \times 10^{2}$ | 1.08 | $4.0 \times 10^{2}$ |  |
| NGC 2392 | 0.78 | $1.1 \times 10^{3}$ | 0.88 | $9.1 \times 10^{2}$ |  |
| NGC 2440 | 0.64 | $1.9 \times 10^{3}$ | 0.62 | $3.2 \times 10^{3}$ |  |
| NGC 3242 | 0.62 | $2.2 \times 10^{3}$ | 0.64 | $2.8 \times 10^{3}$ |  |
| NGC 3587 | 1.30 | $1.4 \times 10^{2}$ | 1.25 | $1.8 \times 10^{2}$ |  |
| NGC 6210 | 0.47 | $5.8 \times 10^{3}$ | 0.66 | $2.5 \times 10^{3}$ |  |
| NGC 6543 | 0.44 | $7.9 \times 10^{3}$ | 0.54 | $5.9 \times 10^{3}$ |  |
| NGC 6572 | 0.38 | $2.1 \times 10^{4}$ | 0.51 | $8.9 \times 10^{3}$ |  |
| NGC 6720 | 1.04 | $4.7 \times 10^{2}$ | 1.14 | $3.2 \times 10^{2}$ |  |
| NGC 6803 | 0.57 | $2.8 \times 10^{3}$ | - |  | - |
| NGC 6853 | 1.16 | $2.9 \times 10^{2}$ | - |  | - |
| NGC 7009 | 0.50 | $4.6 \times 10^{3}$ | 0.61 | $3.3 \times 10^{3}$ |  |
| NGC 7027 | 0.48 | $5.2 \times 10^{3}$ | 0.59 | $4.0 \times 10^{3}$ |  |
| NGC 7293 | 1.32 | $1.3 \times 10^{2}$ | 1.28 | $1.6 \times 10^{2}$ |  |
| NGC 7662 | 0.56 | $3.0 \times 10^{3}$ | 0.64 | $2.8 \times 10^{3}$ |  |
| IC 418 | 0.37 | $3.2 \times 10^{5}$ | 0.49 | $9.5 \times 10^{3}$ |  |
| IC 2149 | 0.56 | $3.0 \times 10^{3}$ | 0.57 | $4.6 \times 10^{3}$ |  |
| IC 4593 | 0.63 | $2.0 \times 10^{3}$ | - | - |  |
| IC 4997 | 0.34 | $1.0 \times 10^{6}$ | 0.45 | $1.0 \times 10^{5}$ |  |

Osterbrock

[^0]
## Now consider a different level configuration with [0 III] or

 [ NII ], for which the two lower levels are close together.

Rate of excitation to ${ }^{1} S$ and ${ }^{1} D$ levels $\Leftrightarrow T$
When $n \rightarrow 0$, i.e., collisional deexcitation is negligible

- Every excitation to ${ }^{1} D \rightarrow \lambda 5007$ or $\lambda 4959$ (probability $3: 1$ )
- Every excitation to ${ }^{1} \mathrm{~S} \rightarrow \lambda 4363$ or $\lambda 2321$
$\longrightarrow \lambda 5007$ or $\lambda 4959$
One can show that

$$
\begin{aligned}
& I_{4959} \propto \gamma_{\left({ }^{3} P_{1}{ }^{1} D\right)} \frac{A_{\left({ }^{1} D,{ }^{3} P_{1}\right)}}{A_{\left({ }^{1} D,{ }^{3} P_{2}\right)}+A_{\left({ }^{1},{ }^{3} P_{1}\right)}} h \nu_{4959} \\
& I_{5007} \propto \gamma_{\left({ }^{3} P^{1} D\right)} \frac{A_{\left({ }^{1} D,{ }^{3} P_{2}\right)}}{A_{\left({ }^{1} D,{ }^{3} P_{2}\right)}+A_{\left({ }^{1},{ }^{3} P_{1}\right)}} h \nu_{5007} \\
& I_{4363} \propto \gamma_{\left({ }^{3} P,{ }^{1} S\right)} \frac{A_{\left(1, S,{ }^{1} D\right)}}{A_{\left(1, S,{ }^{1} D\right)}+A_{\left({ }^{1} S,{ }^{3} P\right)}} h \nu_{4363}
\end{aligned}
$$

So

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \begin{array}{l}
\frac{j_{4959}+j_{5007}}{j_{4363}}=\frac{\Omega_{\left({ }^{3} P,{ }^{1} D\right)}}{\Omega_{\left({ }^{3} P,{ }^{1} S\right)}}\left[\frac{A_{\left({ }^{1} S,{ }^{1} D\right)}+A_{\left({ }^{1} S,{ }^{3} P\right)}}{A_{\left({ }^{1} S,{ }^{1} D\right)}}\right] \frac{\left.\bar{\nu}_{(3}{ }^{3} P,{ }^{1} D\right)}{} \\
\nu_{4363} \\
e x p \\
\\
\end{array}(\Delta E / k T) \\
& \\
& \approx \frac{7.73 \exp \left[\left(3.29 \times 10^{4}\right) / T\right]}{1+4.5 \times 10^{-4}\left(N_{e} / T^{1 / 2}\right)}=\frac{7.15}{1+0.0028 x} 10^{14300 / T_{e}} \\
& \text { where } \quad x=\frac{0.01 n_{e}}{\sqrt{T_{e}}} \\
& \qquad \bar{\nu}=\frac{A_{\left({ }^{1} D,{ }^{3} P_{2}\right)} \nu_{5007}+A_{\left({ }^{1} D,{ }^{3} P_{1}\right)} \nu_{4959}}{A_{\left({ }^{1} D,{ }^{3} P_{2}\right)}+A_{\left({ }^{1} D,{ }^{3} P_{1}\right)}}
\end{aligned}
$$

and $\Delta E$ is the energy difference between ${ }^{1} D$ and ${ }^{1} S$.
This holds up to $n_{e} \approx 10^{5} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}$.
At higher densities, collisionalde-excitation begins to play a role.
Similarly, for [N II],

$$
\frac{j_{6548}+j_{6583}}{j_{5755}} \approx \frac{6.91 \exp \left[\left(2.50 \times 10^{4}\right) / T\right]}{1+2.5 \times 10^{-3}\left(N_{e} / T^{1 / 2}\right)}=\frac{8.5}{1+0.29 x} 10^{10800 / T_{e}}
$$

So with this kind of level configuration (lower close; [O III] or [ N II]), the line ratio is sensitive to temperature.


Difficulties:

1. $\mathrm{I}_{4959}$ and $\mathrm{I}_{5007}$ are strong but $\mathrm{I}_{4363}$ is weak
2. $\mathrm{I}_{4363}$ is close to $\mathrm{Hg} \mathrm{I} \lambda 4358$ (sky!)

## Temperature determinations for $\underline{H}$ II regions

table 5.1
Temperature determinations in H II regions

| [ NII ] |  |  |  | [ O III ] |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nebula | $\frac{I(\lambda 6548)+I(\lambda 6583)}{I(\lambda 5755)}$ | $T\left({ }^{\circ} \mathrm{K}\right)$ | $N_{e} / T^{1 / 2}$ | $\frac{I(\lambda 4959)+I(\lambda 5007)}{I(\lambda 4363)}$ | $T\left({ }^{\circ} \mathrm{K}\right)$ |
| NGC 1976 2b | 81 | 10,000 | 51 | 338 | 8,700 |
| NGC 1976 1a | 102 | 9,100 | 68 | 371 | 8,500 |
| NGC 1976 5b | 111 | 8,900 | 21 | 310 | 8,900 |
| NGC 1976 5a | 189 | 7,500 | 12 | 263 | 9,300 |
| M 8 I | 162 | 7,900 | (10) | 445 | 8,100 |
| M 17 I | 257 | 6,900 | (10) | 330 | 8,700 |
| NGC 2467 1a | 46 | 13,000 | (1) | 129 | 11,600 |
| NGC 2467 1b | 53 | 12,200 | (1) | 137 | 11,400 |
| NGC 2359 av | - | - | (1) | 90 | 13,200 |

TABLE 5.2
Temperature determinations
for planetary nebulae

| Nebula | $T[\mathrm{~N} \mathrm{II}]$ <br> $\left({ }^{\circ} \mathrm{K}\right)$ | $T[\mathrm{O} \mathrm{III}]$ <br> $\left({ }^{\circ} \mathrm{K}\right)$ |
| :--- | :---: | ---: |
| NGC 650 | 9,500 | 10,700 |
| NGC 4342 | 10,100 | 11,300 |
| NGC 6210 | 10,700 | 9,700 |
| NGC 6543 | 9,000 | 8,100 |
| NGC 6572 | - | 10,300 |
| NGC 6720 | 10,600 | 11,100 |
| NGC 6853 | 10,000 | 11,000 |
| NGC 7027 | - | 12,400 |
| NGC 7293 | 9,300 | 11,000 |
| NGC 7662 | 10,600 | 12,800 |
| IC 418 | - | 9,700 |
| IC 5217 | - | 11,600 |
| BB 1 | 10,500 | 12,900 |
| Haro 4-1 | - | 12,000 |
| K 648 | - | 13,100 |

Typically T~10,000 K

# ELECTRON TEMPERATURES IN PLANETARY NEBULAE 

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## ABSTRACT

Electron temperatures for 107 planetary nebulae are calculated with the most recent atomic parameters from [ O III ] or [ N II ] line intensities or both taken from a variety of sources. The two temperatures exhibit quite different variations with respect to nebular ionization level, or excitation. Within somewhat broad limits, $T_{e}[\mathrm{O}$ III $]$ can be taken as constant at $10,200 \mathrm{~K}$ for nebulae without $\mathrm{He}_{\text {II }} \lambda 4686$; with the onset of that line, this temperature quickly climbs according to $T_{e}[\mathrm{O} \mathrm{III}]=9700 \mathrm{~K}+58 \mathrm{I}(\lambda 4686)$, where the line intensity is scaled as usual to $I(\mathrm{H} \beta)=100 . T_{e}[\mathrm{~N} \mathrm{II}]$ behaves oppositely. With $\lambda 4686$ present, there is little discernable trend with excitation around a median value of $10,300 \mathrm{~K}$; as the excitation drops and $\lambda 4686$ disappears, this temperature appears first to increase, and then to decrease to values well below 8000 K : for $\log T_{*}$ (central star temperature) $<4.7, T_{e}\left[\mathrm{~N}_{\text {II }}\right]=14,670 \log T_{*}-57,330$. The dispersion in $T_{e}$ for a specific excitation correlates negatively with $\mathrm{O} / \mathrm{H}$ as expected.

Combination of the [ O III] and $[\mathrm{N}$ II $]$ data sets shows that the mean ratio of $T_{e}[\mathrm{NII}] / T_{e}[\mathrm{O}$ III $]=\bar{r}$ varies smoothly and strongly also as a function of overall nebular excitation. As excitation increases from $T_{*} \approx$ $25,000 \mathrm{~K}$ to $\sim 50,000 \mathrm{~K}, \bar{r}$ increases from $\sim 0.7$ to $\sim 1.1$. It then decreases through the onset of $\mathrm{He}^{+2}$, dropping to 0.7 again for the highest levels of ionization, that is, the nebular temperature gradient as inferred from $\mathrm{O}^{+2}$ and $\mathrm{N}^{+}$is usually negative with respect to distance from the central star but reverses to positive for nebulae in the midrange of excitation for $T_{*} \approx 50,000 \mathrm{~K}$.

Comparison of [ O III ] temperatures among major reference sources shows clear systematic differences. The observations by French and by Torres-Peimbert and Peimbert yield the highest values, roughly 1000 K higher than those obtained from Aller and Czyzak and from Barker. No such trends are seen for $T_{e}[\mathrm{~N}$ II], possibly because the scatter in the data is considerably larger.

## Read the paper by Donald Menzel

# PHYSICAL PROCESSES IN GASEOUS NEBULAE 

## I. ABSORPTION AND EMISSION OF RADIATION

DONALD H. MENZEL

## ABSTRACT

In this paper, the first of a series dealing with the physical state of gaseous nebulae, various fundamental formulae are derived. The total emission and absorption of radiation by atomic hydrogen are evaluated, together with the number of transitions to and from any quantum level, discrete or continuous.' The equations are thrown into simple homogeneous form. The general equations that determine the statistical equilibrium of the assembly and the partition of atoms into various atomic states are developed. Solution of these equations is deferred until a later paper.

## The Interstellar Medium --- HW20220331

1. Consider a speck of spherical dust grain of a radius $a$ and at a distance of $d$ from a star with a surface temperature of $T_{*}$ and a stellar radius of $R_{*}$. (a) Find the equilibrium temperature $T_{d}$ of the grain. (b) Plot $T_{d}$ as a function $d$. (c) Now replace the dust with the Earth, still at $d$ from the same star, and estimate $T_{\oplus}$.
2. As in the last question, compute now the temperatures of the 8 planets in the solar system and our Moon versus their distances. Make a plot to show this and mark in the plot the actual average temperature of each object. Comment on possible discrepancies.
3. (extra credit) Find the 'habitable zone' of Vega.

[^0]:    ${ }^{a} N_{e}$ given for assumed $T=10^{4}{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{K}$; for any other $T$ divide listed value by $\left(T / 10^{4}\right)^{1 / 2}$.

