

\*this assignment is optional (you lose no marks if you don't hand it in – happy studying)

Q1. A two-dimensional rotor in the  $x$ - $y$  plane is described by the wave function  $\psi_m(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} e^{im\phi}$

a) The only permissible values of  $m$  are ...  $-3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$  Why?

b) Show  $\psi_m(\phi)$  is normalized.

c) Give the average value of  $\phi$ .

d) Use the  $\hat{L}_z = -i\hbar\partial/\partial\phi$  operator to show the angular momentum of the rotor is  $mh/2\pi$ .

[7] e) Use the angular momentum of the rotor to show the energy of the rotor is  $m^2h^2/8\pi^2\mu r^2$ .

f) Rotors described by the wave functions  $\psi_{-2}(\phi)$  and  $\psi_2(\phi)$  have exactly the same energy but have different rotational states. Explain.

g) Show the de Broglie wavelength of the rotor is  $2\pi r/m$ .

Q2. The transition dipole moment for a molecule absorbing or emitting a photon and changing from rotational state  $\ell, m$  to rotational state  $\ell', m'$  in three dimensions is

$$(\mu_z)_{\ell m, \ell' m'} = \mu N_{\ell m} N_{\ell' m'} \int_0^{2\pi} e^{i(m-m')\phi} d\phi \int_{-1}^1 \left[ \frac{\ell - |m| + 1}{2\ell + 1} P_{\ell+1}^{|m|} + \frac{\ell + |m|}{2\ell + 1} P_{\ell-1}^{|m|} \right] P_{\ell'}^{|m'|}(x) dx$$

[3] Use this result to derive three selection rules for microwave spectroscopy. *Hints:*  $\mu$  is the electric dipole moment of the molecule and the  $P_{\ell}^m(x)$  Legendre polynomials are orthogonal.

Q3. World War II led to huge advances in microwave technology. Why? [1]

Q4. If a mug of tea or coffee is warmed up in a microwave oven, the coffee or tea gets hot, but the mug remains relatively cool. Why? [1]

Q5. In the 1960s, research teams at Bell Labs were developing ultra-sensitive microwave receivers for high-speed radio communication. (*No fiber optic cables back then!*) When the receiver antennas were pointed at the sky, a strange background microwave signal was detected. What is the source of this signal? [1]  
*Hint:* Arno Penzias and Robert Wilson won the 1978 Nobel Physics Prize for solving this problem.

- Q6. The Boltzmann distribution we've used previously suggests the probability of finding a molecule in energy level  $E_\ell$  is proportional to  $\exp(-E_\ell / kT)$ . But the probability a molecule is in rotational energy level  $E_\ell$  is proportional to  $(2\ell + 1)\exp(-E_\ell / kT)$ . Why the difference?

- Q7. The energy levels of a diatomic molecule rotating in 3 dimensions are

$$E_\ell = \ell(\ell+1)B \quad \ell = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

- [2]  $B$  is the rotational constant  $B = \frac{h^2}{8\pi^2 I} = hc\tilde{B}$

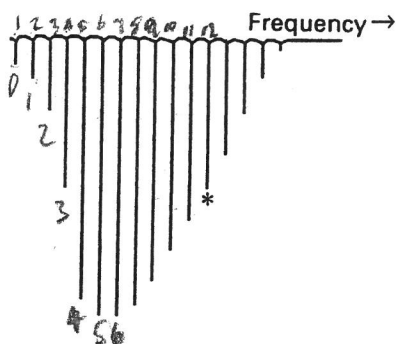
At temperature  $T$ , show the most probable value of quantum number  $\ell$  is

$$\ell_{\text{mp}} = \sqrt{\frac{kT}{2B}} - \frac{1}{2}$$

- Q8. The diagram below shows the microwave absorption spectrum for  $^{12}\text{CO}$  ( $\tilde{B} = 1.9313 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ).

- [2] a) Give the initial  $\ell$  value and the final  $\ell$  value for the labeled (\*) frequency.

- b) Estimate the temperature of the gas.



- Q9. High-resolution microwave spectroscopy is used for the most precise measurements of chemical bond lengths. For example, spectroscopic data give  $10.5912 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  for the rotational constant

$$\tilde{B} = \frac{h}{8\pi^2 c I}$$

- [1] of  $\text{H}^{35}\text{Cl}$  molecules. Calculate a precise bond length of the molecule. *Hint:  $I = \mu r^2$  Data:*

$$h = 6.626070 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s} \quad m_{\text{H}} = 1.673534 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg} \quad m_{^{35}\text{Cl}} = 5.806719 \times 10^{-26} \text{ kg}$$

$$c = 2.997924 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm s}^{-1}$$

- Q10. How rapidly are the nuclei moving in a rotating molecule? Calculate the speed of the H nuclei in a rotating  $\text{H}_2$  molecule with  $\ell = 1$ . Use  $0.07414 \text{ nm}$  for the bond length  $r$ .

Q1

2-dimensional rotise in the x-y plane is described by the wave function

$$\psi_m(\phi) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{im\phi}$$

with  $m = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \dots$

a) why are the allowed values of  $m$  integers?

$\psi_m(\phi)$  must be single-valued

$$\psi_m(\phi) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} [\cos(m\phi) + i \sin(m\phi)]$$

and  $\psi_m(\phi) = \psi_m(\phi + 2\pi)$

trigonometry:  
 $\cos(\alpha + \beta) = \cos(\alpha)\cos(\beta) - \sin(\alpha)\sin(\beta)$

$$\cos[m(\phi + 2\pi)] = \cos(m\phi)\cos(m2\pi) - \sin(m\phi)\sin(m2\pi)$$

$$= \cos(m\phi)(1) - \sin(m\phi)(0)$$

$$\cos[m(\phi + 2\pi)] = \cos(m\phi)$$

only if  $m = \dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots$

similarly,  $\sin[m(\phi + 2\pi)] = \sin(m\phi)$

only if  $m = \dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots$

b) is  $\psi_m(\phi)$  normalized?

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \psi_m^*(\phi) \psi_m(\phi) d\phi = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-im\phi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{im\phi} d\phi$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} e^{-im\phi + im\phi} d\phi = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} e^0 d\phi$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi = \frac{1}{2\pi} (2\pi - 0) = 1 \quad (\text{yes})$$

c) average  $\phi$  value?

$$\langle \phi \rangle = \int_0^{2\pi} \phi P(\phi) d\phi = \int_0^{2\pi} \phi \psi_m^*(\phi) \psi_m(\phi) d\phi$$

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} \phi \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-im\phi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{im\phi} d\phi$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \phi d\phi = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left( \frac{\phi^2}{2} \right) \Big|_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left( \frac{4\pi^2}{2} - 0 \right)$$

$$\langle \phi \rangle = \pi$$

d) angular momentum of the rotor?

$$\hat{L}_z \psi_m(\phi) = -\frac{i\hbar}{2\pi} \frac{\partial \psi_m(\phi)}{\partial \phi}$$

$$= -\frac{i\hbar}{2\pi} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{im\phi}$$

$$= -\frac{i\hbar}{2\pi} (im) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{im\phi}$$

$$\hat{L}_z \psi_m(\phi) = \left( m \frac{\hbar}{2\pi} \right) \psi_m(\phi)$$

eigenvalue  $m \frac{\hbar}{2\pi} = m\hbar$  is the z-angular momentum of the rotor

e) the energy of the rotor is "all kinetic"

$$E_m = T_m = \frac{L_z^2}{2I}$$

$$E_m = \frac{m^2 \hbar^2}{2I}$$

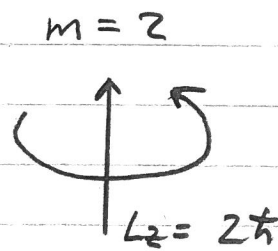
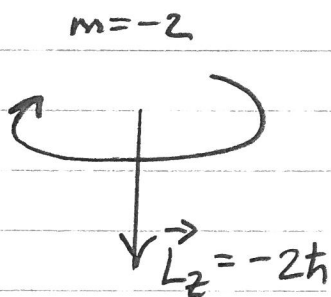
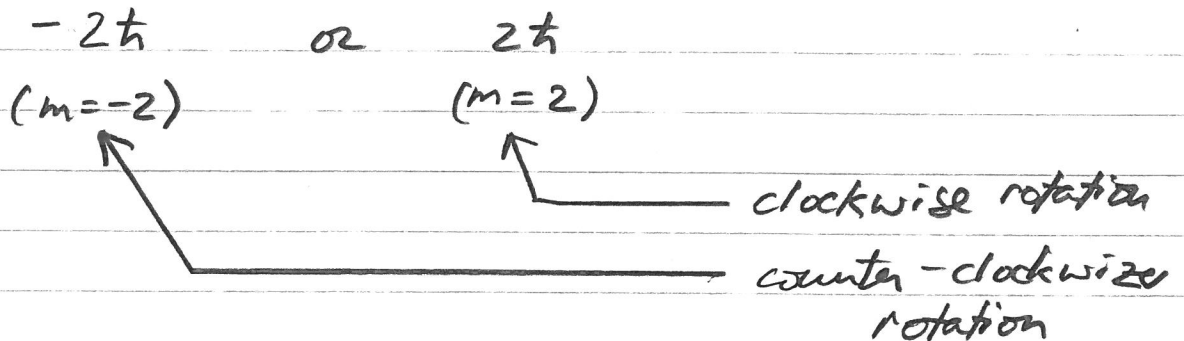
(analogous to  $\frac{p_x^2}{2\pi}$   
for linear momentum)

$$I = \mu r^2 = \text{moment of inertia}$$

f) rotors described by the wave functions  $\psi_{-2}(\phi)$  and  $\psi_2(\phi)$  have identical energies

$$E_{\pm 2} = \frac{4\hbar^2}{2I}$$

but different angular momentum



g) de Broglie wavelength  $\lambda_m = \frac{h}{P_m}$  ← linear momentum

$$E_m = T_m = \frac{m^2 \hbar^2}{2I} = \frac{P_m^2}{2\mu}$$

$$P_m^2 = \frac{m^2 \hbar^2}{2I} 2\mu = \frac{m^2 \hbar^2}{\mu r^2} \mu \quad P_m = \frac{m\hbar}{r}$$

$$\lambda_m = \frac{h}{P_m} = \frac{h}{m\hbar/r} = \frac{h}{m \frac{\hbar}{2\pi r}} = \frac{2\pi r}{m} = \frac{\text{circumference}}{m}$$

for a "standing" wave

(Q2) a rotation transition from state  $l, m$  to state  $l', m'$  is possible if the transition dipole moment is not zero

this requires :

i)  $\mu \neq 0$  the molecule must have a permanent electric dipole moment

ii) because the Legendre polynomials are orthogonal

$$\Rightarrow \begin{array}{|l} l' = l + 1 \\ \text{or} \\ l' = l - 1 \\ \hline m' = m \end{array}$$

iii)

"

(Q3) huge advances in microwave technology in WWII to develop radar for locating ships and aircraft, navigation, proximity fuses, fire control

(Q4) freely rotating water molecules absorb more microwave radiation and heat up more quickly than the solid ceramic mug.

(Q5) Cosmic Microwave Background Radiation! photons from the "big-bang" birth of the universe expanded adiabatically and cooled to a few degrees K

Q6 a 3-dimensional rotor with quantum number  $l$  has  $2l+1$  different states with identical energy  $E_l = l(l+1)\hbar^2/(2mr^2)$

the probability of finding a rotor in energy level  $E_l$  is proportional to

$$P_l \propto \underbrace{(2l+1)}_{\text{degeneracy}} e^{-E_l/KT}$$

larger degeneracy  $\Rightarrow$  higher probability of being in energy level  $E_l$

Q7 
$$P_l = k \underbrace{(2l+1)}_{\substack{\text{increases} \\ P_l}} \underbrace{e^{-Bl(l+1)/KT}}_{\substack{\text{decreases} \\ P_l}}$$
 (k is a normalization constant)

maximum  $P_l$  when:

$$\frac{dP_l}{dl} = 0 = \frac{d}{dl} k(2l+1)e^{-Bl(l+1)/KT}$$

$$0 = k e^{-Bl(l+1)/KT} \left[ -(2l+1) \frac{B}{KT} (2l+1) + 2 \right]$$

$$(2l+1)^2 = \frac{2KT}{B} \quad 2l+1 = \sqrt{\frac{2KT}{B}} \quad l = \sqrt{\frac{KT}{2B}} - \frac{1}{2}$$



Q8 a) first (lowest frequency line)  $l=0$  to  $l=1$

⋮

12th line (labeled)  $l=11$  to  $l=12$

b) max intensity for  $l=5$  to  $l=6$   
and  $l=6$  to  $l=7$

suggests most probable  $l$  value is about  $l_{mp} = 5.5$

$$l_{mp} = \sqrt{\frac{kT}{2B}} - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\left(l_{mp} + \frac{1}{2}\right) \sqrt{\frac{2B}{k}} = \sqrt{T} \quad T = \left(l_{mp} + \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 \frac{2B}{k}$$

$$\tilde{B} = 1.9313 \text{ cm}^{-1} \quad B = hc\tilde{B}$$

(in Joules)

$$B = (6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s})(2.998 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm s}^{-1})(1.9313 \text{ cm}^{-1})$$

$$B = 3.836 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J}$$

$$T = \left(5.5 + \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 \frac{2(3.836 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J})}{1.381 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J K}^{-1}}$$

$$T = 200 \text{ K}$$

remote sensing  
applications

Q9 accurate bond length of  $H^{35}Cl$

$$\tilde{B} = \frac{h}{8\pi^2 c I} = \frac{h}{8\pi^2 c \mu r^2}$$

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{h}{8\pi^2 c \mu \tilde{B}}}$$

reduced mass  $\mu = \frac{m_H m_{Cl}}{m_H + m_{Cl}}$

$$\mu = 1.626653 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{6.626070 \times 10^{-34}}{8\pi^2 (2.997924 \times 10^{10}) (1.626653 \times 10^{-27}) (0.5912)}}$$

$$r = 1.274685 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$$

Q10 for a  $H_2$  molecule with  $l=1$

$$\left( \mu = \frac{m_p m_p}{m_p + m_p} \right)$$

$$= \frac{m_p}{2}$$

$$E_1(\text{all kinetic}) = l(l+1)B = 1(1+1) \frac{h^2}{8\pi^2 \mu r^2}$$

$$E_1 = \frac{2(6.626 \times 10^{-34})^2}{8\pi^2 \frac{1.6735 \times 10^{-27}}{2} (0.07414 \times 10^{-9})^2} = 2.418 \times 10^{-21} \text{ J}$$

$$E_1 = \frac{1}{2} m_p v_p^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_p v_p^2 = m_p v_p^2$$

$v_p =$  proton speed  
(2 protons in  $H_2$ )

$$v_p = \sqrt{\frac{E_1}{m_p}} = \sqrt{\frac{2.418 \times 10^{-21} \text{ J}}{1.6735 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}}} = 1202 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$