

EXAM:

Course title: "Atomic Astrophysics with computational Workshops
 University of Rajshahi, Rajshahi, Bangladesh, October 30-31, 2017
 - By Sultana N. Nahar, The Ohio State University, USA

Total points = 52

Note: Number of points for each question is given within parentheses
 Good luck!

1. i) What are the most abundant elements in the universe? (1)
- ii) How do elements heavier than iron form (1)?
- iii) How do we describe the distribution of electrons in plasma (1)?
2. i) How do we describe the radiation of a black body? (1)
- ii) Why do we see the yellow sun? (1)
- iii) What is opacity? (1)
- iv) What are the main atomic processes in astrophysical plasmas? (2)
3. i) Which part of an atom is studied under Atomic Physics? (1)
- ii) How do we identify an element from an astrophysical spectra? (1)
4. i) Write down the Rydberg formula for hydrogen energies? (1)
- ii) What is the K_α line? (1)
- iii) Give its wavelength of Lyman α . (1)
5. i) What is quantum defect? (1)
- ii) Write down the Rydberg formula with the quantum defect. (1)
- iii) When is this formula used? (1)
6. i) What is configuration for an atomic system? (1)
- ii) Write down the ground configuration of oxygen atom with 8 electrons. (1)
- iii) What quantum numbers do we use to write the symmetry of an electronic state with quantum numbers? (1)
7. i) What are equivalent and non-equivalent states? (1)
- ii) Which kind has less number of LS states and why? (2)
- iii) Write down all the LS states of configuration $2p3d$ and list them in energy according to Hund's rule. (3)
- iv) Write down all the LS states of configuration $2p^2$ and list them in energy order following Hund's rule. (2)

8. i) Why do we get exact wavefunction for hydrogen, but not for multi-electrons systems? (1)
- ii) What are the equations we need to solve for multi-electron systems: 1) non-relativistic, 2) relativistic approximations? (2)
9. i) What approximations can we use to include relativistic effects for higher accuracy? (1)
- ii) What interaction splits the LS term energy in to fine structure levels? (1)
10. i) What are the types of radiative transition we have studied (2) and what is the name of the rules that regulate the transitions (1)?
- ii) What does SUPERSTRUCTURE calculate (2)?
- iii) Give an example of an allowed transition (1)
- iv) How can the lifetime of an atomic state be calculated? (1)
11. i) What is an autoionizing state? (1)
- ii) What does it lead to? (1) How does it appear in a process (1)
12. i) What is the difference in features between hydrogenic and multi-electron photoionization? (1)
- ii) Which approximation can calculate the resonances naturally? (1)
14. i) What is the relation between photoionization and electron-ion recombination? (1)
- ii) How many ways does electron-ion recombination take place? (1)
- iii) Which is the method that incorporates them together? (1)
15. What do R-matrix codes calculate? (1) What atomic process did you study using R-matrix codes and what quantity did you calculate? (2)

EXAM with Answers:

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1. i) What are the most abundant elements in the universe? (1)
 - H, He, Li, ..., Fe
- ii) How do elements heavier than iron formed (1)?
 - During supernoval explosions, also through the s-process of neutrino capture
- iii) How do we describe the distribution of electrons in plasma? (1)
 - Using Maxwellian distribution function
2. i) How do we describe radiation field of a black body? (1)
 - By Planck distribution function
- ii) Why do we see the yellow sun? (1)
 - Planck function peaks at yellow wavelength at solar surface temperature
- iii) What is opacity? (1)
 - It is a quantity that measures the radiation transfer in the medium
- iv) What are the main atomic processes in astrophysical plasmas? (2)
 - Photo-excitation, Photoionization, Electron-ion recombination, Electron-impact ionization, electron impact ionization
3. i) Which part of an atom is studied under Atomic Physics? (1)
 - Electronic properties
- ii) How do we identify an element from an astrophysical spectra? (1)
 - By matching the observed spectral lines to those at the same energy positions of various known elements

4. i) Write down the Rydberg formula for hydrogen energies? (1)

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$$\mathcal{E}_{n'} = \mathcal{R}_H \frac{1}{n^2}$$

ii) What is the K_α line? (1)

- Absorption or emission line for 1s-2p transition

iii) Give its wavelength of Lyman α . (1)

- 1215 Å

5. i) What is quantum defect? (1)

- It is the effect of electron screening around nucleus of a multi-electron system

ii) Write down the Rydberg formula with the quantum defect. (1)

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$$E(nl) = \frac{z^2}{(n - \mu)^2}$$

iii) When is this formula used? (1)

- Largely for energies of excited levels

6. i) What is configuration for an atomic system? (1)

- Arrangement of electrons in the atom or ion

ii) Write down the ground configuration of oxygen atom with 8 electrons. (1)

- Oxygen: $1s^2 2s^2 2p^4$ iii) What quantum numbers do we use to write the symmetry of an electronic state with quantum numbers? (1)

- $(2S+1)L_J^\pi$ 7. i) What are equivalent and non-equivalent states? (1)

- Equivalent: More than one electron in the outer orbital

Non-equivalent: One electron in the outer electron

ii) Which kind has less number of LS states and why? (2)

- Equivalent electron states are less due to Pauli exclusion principle of no two electrons can have the same state

iii) Write down all the LS states of configuration 2p3d and list them in energy according to Hund's rule. (3)

- $2p3d \rightarrow {}^3(F, D, P)^o, {}^1(F, D, P)^o$

iv) Write down all the LS states of configuration 2p² and list them in energy order following Hund's rule. (2)- ${}^3P, {}^1D, {}^1S$

8. i) Why do we get exact wavefunction for hydrogen, but not for multi-electron systems? (1)

- Hydrogen has one electron with central potential to the nucleus and hence can be solved exactly for the wave function

ii) What equations do we need to solve for multi-electron systems: 1) non-relativistic, 2) relativistic approximations? (3)

- 1) Hartree-Fock equations, 2) Dirac-Fock equations or Breit-Pauli equations

9. i) What approximations can we use to include relativistic effects for higher accuracy? (1)
 - Dirac equation
- ii) What interaction splits the LS term energy into fine structure levels? (1)
 - Spin-orbit interaction term
10. i) What are the types of radiative transition we have studied (2) and what is the name of the rules that regulate the transitions (1)?
 - Electric dipole, quadrupole, octupole, and magnetic dipole, quadrupole
- ii) What does SUPERSTRUCTURE calculate (2)?
 - Wave functions, energies of the atomic system, and transition parameters - A, f, S
- Give an example of an allowed transition (1)
 - $^3P \rightarrow ^3(S, P, D)^0$
- iii) How can the lifetime of an atomic state be calculated? (1)
 -
- $$\tau_k(s) = \frac{1}{\sum_i A_{ki}(s^{-1})}$$
11. i) What is an autoionizing state? (1)
 - A doubly excited state above the ionization threshold
- ii) What does it lead to? (1) How does it appear in a process (1)
 - Autoionization or dielectronic recombination
12. i) What is the difference in features between hydrogenic and multi-electron photoionization? (1)
 - Multi-electron systems have resonances, hydrogen does not
- ii) Which approximation can calculate the resonances naturally? (1)
 - Close coupling approximation
14. i) What is the relation between photoionization and electron-ion recombination? (1)
 - They are inverse processes and connected by Principle of Detailed balance
- ii) How many ways does electron-ion recombination take place? (1)
 - Two ways: Radiative recombination, dielectronic recombination
- iii) Which is the method that incorporates them together? (1)
 - Unified method
15. What do R-matrix codes calculate? (1) What atomic process did you study using R-matrix codes and quantity did you calculate? (2)
 - Quantities for atomic processes. Electron impact excitation, Collision strength