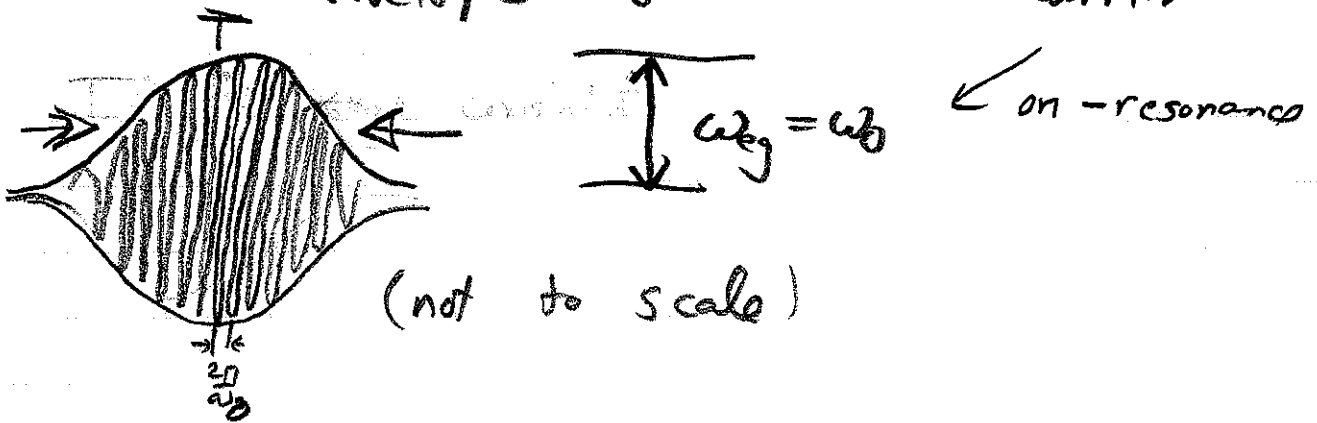


Problem Set #4 Solutions

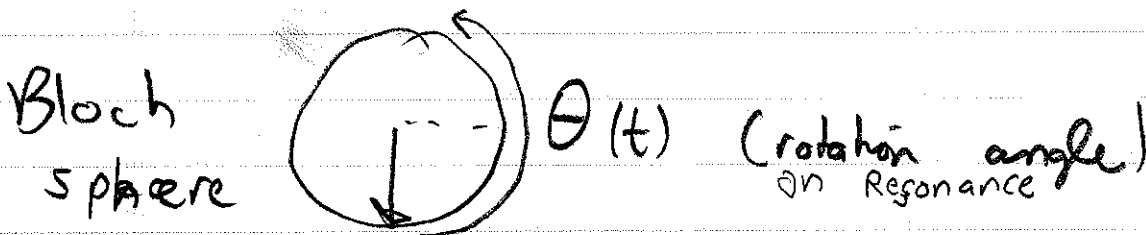
Problem 1: Free induction decay

(a) Atom initial in its ground state.  
Pulse of light of duration  $T \gg \frac{1}{\omega_0}$

$\Rightarrow$  slowly varying envelope  $E(t)e^{-i\omega_0 t}$  carrier



On-resonance (ignoring finite bandwidth due to finite duration)



$$\dot{\theta}(t) = \Omega(t) = \frac{E(t)}{\hbar} \text{ deg} \quad (\text{Instantaneous Rabi Frequency})$$

Rotation angle  $\int_0^T \Omega(t) dt = \text{---} \Rightarrow$  (Next Page)

To achieve  $P_{ee} = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \Theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$

$\Rightarrow$  Condition on 'pulse-area' for  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ -pulse

$$\int_0^T E(t) dt = \frac{\pi \hbar}{2 \text{deg}}$$

Assuming phase of pulse = 0 in rotating frame

After pulse,  $|\tilde{\psi}\rangle = \cos \frac{\Theta}{2} |g\rangle - i \sin \frac{\Theta}{2} |e\rangle$

$\Theta = \frac{\pi}{2} \Rightarrow |\tilde{\psi}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|g\rangle - i|e\rangle)$

$$|\tilde{\psi}\rangle \langle \tilde{\psi}| = \tilde{\rho} \Rightarrow \tilde{\rho}_{eg} = \langle g|\tilde{\psi}\rangle \langle \tilde{\psi}|e\rangle = \frac{i}{2}$$

(b) For  $^{23}\text{Na}$ , first excited state,  $\Gamma^{-1} = 16 \text{ns}$ ,  
wavelength of transition  $\lambda_0 = 589 \text{nm}$ .

Take pulse duration  $T = 100 \text{ps} \ll \Gamma^{-1}$

Fourier transform-limited bandwidth

$$\Delta\omega \sim \frac{2\pi}{100 \text{ps}} = 6 \times 10^{10} \text{s}^{-1}$$

$$\omega_0 = \frac{2\pi c}{\lambda_0} = 3.2 \times 10^{15} \text{s}^{-1} \gg \Delta\omega$$

$\rightarrow$  pulse envelope slowly varying

Constant Amplitude Square  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ -pulse:

$$\Rightarrow \Theta = \underbrace{\Omega T}_{\text{Rabi-Frequency}} = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

To find the intensity use saturation parameter

on resonance:  $S = \frac{I}{I_{\text{sat}}} = \frac{2\Omega^2}{\Gamma^2} = \frac{2\Theta^2}{(\Gamma T)^2}$

$$\Rightarrow I = \frac{\pi^2}{2(\Gamma T)} I_{\text{sat}}$$

$$I_{\text{sat}} = \frac{\hbar\omega_0}{\sigma_0} \frac{\Gamma}{2}$$

$$\sigma_0 = \frac{3}{2\pi} \lambda^2 = 165 \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^2$$

resonance  
cross-section

$$\hbar\omega_0 = \frac{hc}{\lambda} = 3.37 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J} = 2 \text{ eV}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{I_{\text{sat}} \approx 6 \frac{\text{mW}}{\text{cm}^2}}$$

$$\therefore I = \frac{(3.14)^2}{2 \left( \frac{100 \times 10^{-12} \text{ s}}{16 \times 10^{-9} \text{ s}} \right)^2} 6 \frac{\text{mW}}{\text{cm}^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{I \approx 800 \frac{\text{W}}{\text{cm}^2}}$$

Intensity @ which  $\Omega = \Gamma \Rightarrow I = 2I_{\text{sat}}$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{I \approx 12 \frac{\text{mW}}{\text{cm}^2}}$$

(c) After the atom is placed in a superposition of  $|g\rangle$  and  $|e\rangle$ , the dipole will oscillate

@ frequency  $\omega_{eg} = \omega_0$ . In doing so, it will spontaneously decay back to ground state. This is known in "NMR" as "free-induction decay".

To find the evolution, solve the Optical Bloch equations for the initial density operator

$$\rho_{ee} = \rho_{gg} = \frac{1}{2} \quad \rho_{eg} = \frac{i}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow w = \rho_{ee} - \rho_{gg} = 0 \quad u = 0 \quad v = \frac{1}{2}$$

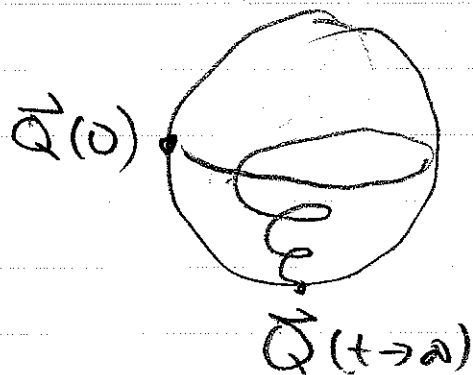
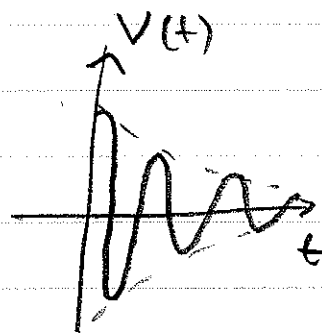
In rotating frame  $\dot{\tilde{u}} = -\frac{\Gamma}{2}\tilde{u}$ ,  $\dot{\tilde{v}} = -\frac{\Gamma}{2}\tilde{v}$ ,  $\dot{\tilde{w}} = -\Gamma\tilde{w} - \frac{\Gamma}{2}$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{u}(t) = \tilde{u}(0)e^{-\frac{\Gamma}{2}t} = 0$$

$$\tilde{v}(t) = \tilde{v}(0)e^{-\frac{\Gamma}{2}t} = \frac{1}{2}e^{-\frac{\Gamma}{2}t}$$

$$\tilde{w}(t) = \frac{1}{2}(e^{-\Gamma t} - 1)$$

In lab frame  $v(t) = \tilde{v}(t)\sin\omega t$

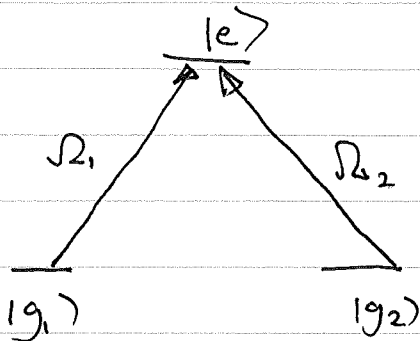


On Bloch sphere trajectory spirals in from equator to ground state @ pole.

## Problem 2: Dark States

(a)

The Hamiltonian for the "lambda"  
3-level atom



$$\hat{H}_{AL} = -\frac{\hbar}{2} \left[ \Omega_1 (|g_1\rangle \langle e| + |e\rangle \langle g_1|) + \Omega_2 (|g_2\rangle \langle e| + |e\rangle \langle g_2|) \right]$$

$$= -\frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \Omega_1 \\ 0 & 0 & \Omega_2 \\ \Omega_1 & \Omega_2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} |g_1\rangle \\ |g_2\rangle \\ |e\rangle \end{matrix} \quad (\text{matrix representation})$$

Eigenvalues: Find characteristic polynomial  
 $\det(\lambda \hat{1} - \hat{H}) = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda^3 - \lambda \left(\frac{\hbar\Omega_1}{2}\right)^2 - \lambda \left(\frac{\hbar\Omega_2}{2}\right)^2 = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  Three energy eigenvalues

$$\lambda_{\pm} = \pm \frac{\hbar}{2} \sqrt{\Omega_1^2 + \Omega_2^2}$$

$$\lambda_D = 0$$

Eigenvectors:

$$\lambda_D = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \Omega_1 \\ 0 & 0 & \Omega_2 \\ \Omega_1 & \Omega_2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_D \\ b_D \\ c_D \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow |\lambda_D\rangle = \Omega_2 |g_1\rangle - \Omega_1 |g_2\rangle$$

(unnormalized)

$$\lambda_{\pm} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \Omega_1 \\ 0 & 0 & \Omega_2 \\ \Omega_1 & \Omega_2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_{\pm} \\ b_{\pm} \\ c_{\pm} \end{bmatrix} = \pm \frac{\hbar}{2} \sqrt{\Omega_1^2 + \Omega_2^2} \begin{bmatrix} a_{\pm} \\ b_{\pm} \\ c_{\pm} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a_{\pm} \\ b_{\pm} \\ c_{\pm} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \pm \Omega_1 \\ \pm \Omega_2 \\ \sqrt{\Omega_1^2 + \Omega_2^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$|\lambda_{\pm}\rangle = \pm \Omega_1 |g_1\rangle \pm \Omega_2 |g_2\rangle + \sqrt{\Omega_1^2 + \Omega_2^2} |e\rangle$$

(unnormalized)

These are the dressed states

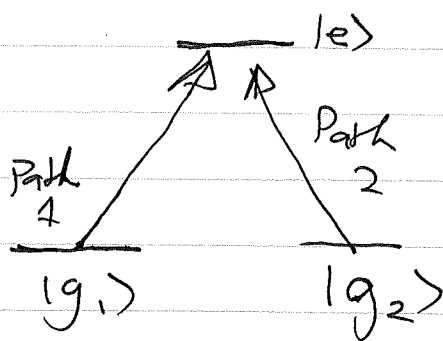
$$\begin{array}{l} E = +\frac{\hbar}{2} \sqrt{\Omega_1^2 + \Omega_2^2} \text{ --- } |\lambda_+\rangle \\ E = 0 \text{ --- } |\lambda_D\rangle \\ E = -\frac{\hbar}{2} \sqrt{\Omega_1^2 + \Omega_2^2} \text{ --- } |\lambda_-\rangle \end{array}$$

The state  $|\lambda_D\rangle = \Omega_2 |g_1\rangle - \Omega_1 |g_2\rangle$  is dark in that  $\hat{H}_{AL} |\lambda_D\rangle = 0$

$\Rightarrow$  If the atom is in this superposition of ground states it doesn't absorb light

How is this possible?

Answer: quantum interference



There are "two paths" to get from the ground manifold to the excited state. If these paths destructively interfere, then the atom cannot absorb the light. Thus the anti-symmetric combination of  $|g_1\rangle$  and  $|g_2\rangle$  weighted by approximated amplitude is dark

$$\hat{H}_{AL}(c_1|g_1\rangle + c_2|g_2\rangle) = (c_1\Omega_1 + c_2\Omega_2)|e\rangle$$

~~If~~ If  $c_1\Omega_1 + c_2\Omega_2 = 0 \Rightarrow$  destructive interference

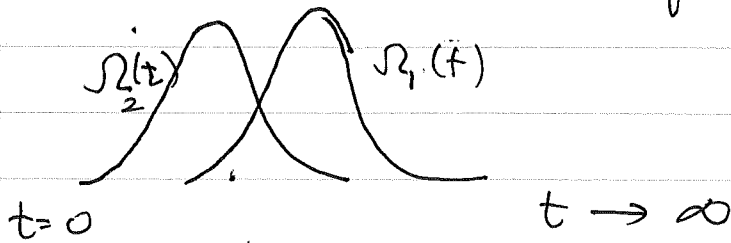
$$\Rightarrow \frac{c_1}{c_2} = -\frac{\Omega_2}{\Omega_1} \quad \checkmark$$

(b) Adiabatic transfer via "nonintuitive pulse sequence".

Goal: Start with atom in  $|g_1\rangle$  and transfer to  $|g_2\rangle$

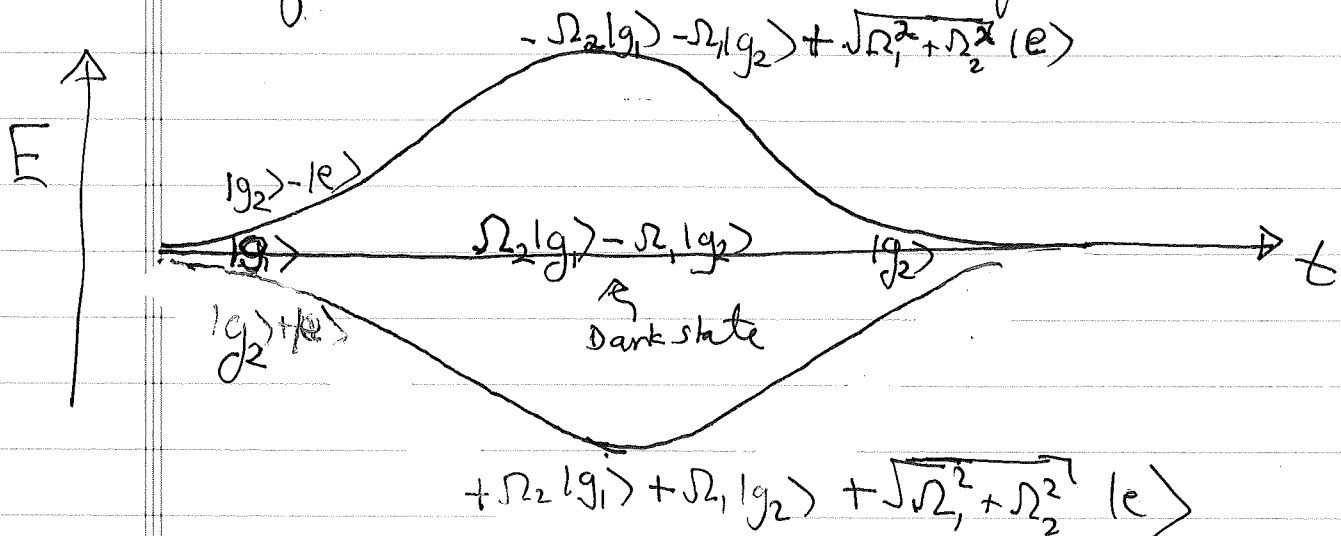
Protocol: Adiabatically "rotate"  $|g_1\rangle$  to  $|g_2\rangle$  by slowly changing the dark state

# Non-intuitive pulse sequence



First apply a pulse ~~driving~~ driving  $|g_2\rangle \rightarrow |e\rangle$ . For this field  $|g_1\rangle$  is dark. The "morph" toward a pulse driving  $|g_1\rangle \rightarrow |e\rangle$ . In this configuration  $|g_2\rangle$  is dark. If this is all done adiabatically, we transfer  $|g_1\rangle \rightarrow |g_2\rangle$

We see this via the dressed energy-level diagram as a function of time:

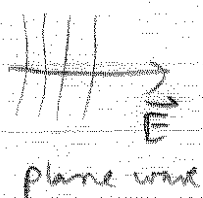


Adiabatic population transfer from

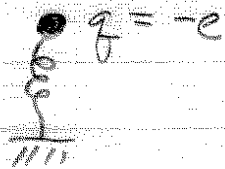
$$|g_1\rangle \rightarrow |g_2\rangle$$



### Problem 3: Lorentz Classical Model



plane wave



$q = -e$

charge on spring

Eq of motion  $m\ddot{\vec{x}} = -m\Gamma\dot{\vec{x}} - m\omega_0^2\vec{x} - e\vec{E}(t)$

Rate at which field does work

$$\frac{dW}{dt} = \dot{\vec{x}} \cdot \vec{F} = -e\dot{\vec{x}} \cdot \vec{E}$$

Need to solve for  $\vec{x}$  in steady state.

Use complex representation:  $\vec{E} = \vec{E}_0 e^{-i\omega t}$

$\Rightarrow$  steady state  $\vec{x} = \vec{x}_0 e^{-i\omega t}$

$$\ddot{\vec{x}} + \Gamma\dot{\vec{x}} + \omega_0^2\vec{x} = -\frac{e}{m}\vec{E}_0 e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$\Rightarrow (-\omega^2 + \omega_0^2 - i\omega\Gamma)\vec{x}_0 = -\frac{e}{m}\vec{E}_0$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x}_0 = \left( \frac{-e/m}{-\omega^2 + \omega_0^2 - i\omega\Gamma} \right) \vec{E}_0$$

Go to near resonance limit  $\omega - \omega_0 \equiv \Delta$

$$\Rightarrow \omega_0 = \omega - \Delta \quad \omega_0^2 - \omega^2 = (\omega - \Delta)^2 - \omega^2 \\ \approx -2\omega\Delta \text{ to } \mathcal{O}(\Delta)$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x}_0 \approx \left( \frac{e/2m\omega}{\Delta + i\frac{\Gamma}{2}} \right) \vec{E}_0$$

$\therefore$  Time averaged over a period

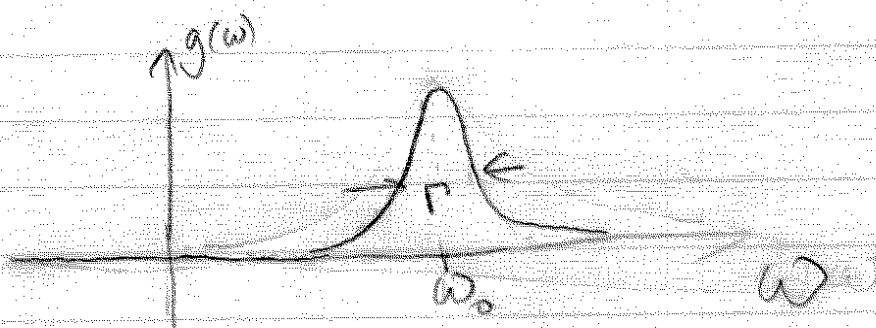
$$\frac{dW}{dt} = \frac{-e}{2} \text{Re}(-i\omega \vec{x}_0 \cdot \vec{E}_0)$$

$$= \frac{-e\omega}{2} \text{Im}(\vec{x}_0 \cdot \vec{E}_0)$$

$$= \frac{-e\omega}{2} \left( \frac{e}{2m\omega} \right) \frac{\frac{\Gamma}{2}}{\Delta^2 + \frac{\Gamma^2}{4}} |\vec{E}_0|$$

$$= \frac{\pi e^2}{4m} \left( \frac{\frac{\Gamma}{2\pi}}{\Delta^2 + \frac{\Gamma^2}{4}} \right) |\vec{E}_0|^2$$

$g(\omega)$   $\leftarrow$  atomic line-shape



(b) Absorption cross-section

$$P_{\text{abs}} = \sigma_{\text{abs}} I_{\text{inc}} = \sigma_{\text{abs}} \frac{c}{8\pi} |\vec{E}_0|^2$$

$$\parallel \frac{dW_{\text{abs}}}{dt} = \frac{\pi e^2}{4m} g(\omega) |\vec{E}_0|^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\sigma_{\text{abs}} = \frac{2\pi^2 e^2}{mc} g(\omega)}$$

Evaluate for  $\frac{\Gamma}{2\pi} = 10 \text{ MHz}$        $\lambda = 589 \text{ nm}$

on resonance  $\Delta = 0$        $g(\omega = \omega_0) = \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{1}{\Gamma}$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_{\text{abs}} = 2 \left( \frac{2\pi}{\Gamma} \right) \frac{e^2}{mc} = 2 \left( \frac{2\pi}{\Gamma} \right) c \left( \frac{e^2}{mc^2} \right)$$

$$= 2 (10^7 \text{ s}^{-1}) \left( 3 \times 10^{10} \frac{\text{cm}}{\text{s}} \right) (2.8 \times 10^{-13} \text{ cm})$$

↑  
classical electron  
radius =  $r_e$

$$\boxed{\sigma_{\text{abs}} = 1.68 \times 10^{-9} \text{ cm}^2}$$

Note: On resonance  $\sigma_{\text{abs}} \sim \lambda_0^2 = 3.5 \times 10^{-9} \text{ cm}^2$

$$(c) \sigma_{\text{quantum}} = 4\pi^2 \frac{e^2}{\hbar c} |\langle e | \vec{x} | g \rangle|^2 \omega g(\omega)$$

Oscillator strength  $f = \frac{\sigma_{\text{quantum}}}{\sigma_{\text{classical}}} \Big|_{\text{resonance}}$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{f = \frac{2m\omega_0}{\hbar} |\langle e | \vec{x} | g \rangle|^2}$$

(d) The driven oscillator will radiate electromagnetically

$$P_{\text{radiated}} = \frac{ck^4}{3} |\vec{d}_0|^2 \text{ Larmor formula}$$

$$= \frac{ck^4 e^2}{3} |\vec{x}_0|^2$$

$$P_{\text{abs}} = -\frac{e\omega}{2} \text{Im}(\vec{x}_0 \cdot \vec{E}_0)$$

Now  $\vec{x}_0 = \alpha \vec{E}_0$  where  $\alpha = \frac{e/2m\omega}{\Delta + i\frac{\Gamma}{2}}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{ck^4 e^2}{3} |\vec{E}_0|^2 \underbrace{|\alpha|^2}_{\frac{e^2}{4m^2\omega^2}} = -\frac{e\omega}{2} |\vec{E}_0|^2 \underbrace{\text{Im}(\alpha)}_{\frac{-i\frac{\Gamma}{2} e/2m\omega}{\Delta^2 + \frac{\Gamma^2}{4}}}$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{class}} = \frac{2}{3} \frac{ck^4}{\omega^2 m} e^2 = \frac{2}{3} \frac{e^2}{mc^3} \omega^2$$

e) We have quantum mechanically,

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{\text{quantum}} &= \frac{4}{3} \frac{k^3}{\hbar} |\langle e | \vec{d}_0 | g \rangle|^2 \\ &= \frac{4}{3} \frac{e^2}{\hbar} |\langle e | \vec{x}_0 | g \rangle|^2 \frac{\omega^3}{c^3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\Gamma_{\text{quant}}}{\Gamma_{\text{class}}} = \frac{2m\omega}{\hbar} |\langle e | \vec{x}_0 | g \rangle|^2 = f \checkmark$$

the  
oscillator  
strength

## Problem 4: Radiation Reaction + decay

### Two-level atom + Vacuum (RWA)

$$\hat{H} = \frac{1}{2} \hbar \omega_{eg} \hat{\sigma}_z + \sum_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \hbar \omega_k \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^\dagger \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} - \sum_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \hbar g_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \hat{\sigma}_+ \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} + g_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^* \hat{\sigma}_- \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^\dagger$$

where  $g_{\vec{k}, \lambda} = i \sqrt{\frac{2\pi \hbar \omega_k}{V}} \vec{\epsilon}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \cdot \vec{d}_{eg}$  (vacuum Rabi freq)

(a) Heisenberg equations of motion

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}, \hat{H}]$$

Notes:  $[\hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}, \hat{a}_{\vec{k}', \lambda'}^\dagger] = \delta_{\vec{k}\vec{k}'} \delta_{\lambda\lambda'}$

all other operators commute with  $\hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{d}{dt} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} = -i\omega_k \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} + i g_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \hat{\sigma}_-}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{\sigma}_- = -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\hat{\sigma}_-, \hat{H}], \quad \frac{d}{dt} \hat{\sigma}_z = -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\hat{\sigma}_z, \hat{H}]$$

Notes:  $[\hat{\sigma}_+, \hat{\sigma}_-] = \hat{\sigma}_z$        $[\hat{\sigma}_z, \hat{\sigma}_\pm] = \pm 2\hat{\sigma}_\pm$

(Next Page)

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \hat{\sigma}_- = -i\omega_{eg} \hat{\sigma}_- - i \sum_{\mathbf{k}, \lambda} g_{\mathbf{k}, \lambda} \hat{\sigma}_z$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{\sigma}_z = 2i \sum_{\mathbf{k}, \lambda} (g_{\mathbf{k}, \lambda} \hat{\sigma}_+ a_{\mathbf{k}, \lambda} - g_{\mathbf{k}, \lambda} \hat{\sigma}_- a_{\mathbf{k}, \lambda}^\dagger)$$

(b) Solve  $\underbrace{\frac{d}{dt} \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}, \lambda} + i\omega_{\mathbf{k}} \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}, \lambda}}_{\text{Homogeneous eq}} = \underbrace{i g_{\mathbf{k}, \lambda}^* \hat{\sigma}_-}_{\text{Source}}$

Use Green's function for homogeneous eq

$$\Rightarrow \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}, \lambda}(t) = \underbrace{\hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}, \lambda}(0) e^{-i\omega_{\mathbf{k}} t}}_{\text{Vacuum}} + \underbrace{i g_{\mathbf{k}, \lambda}^* \int_0^t \hat{\sigma}_-(t') e^{-i\omega_{\mathbf{k}}(t-t')} dt'}_{\text{radiation from source}}$$

(c) Equal-time commutator

$$\begin{aligned} [\hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}, \lambda}(t), \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}', \lambda'}^\dagger(t)] &= [\hat{U}^\dagger(t) \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}, \lambda}(0) \hat{U}(t), \hat{U}^\dagger(t) \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}', \lambda'}^\dagger(0) \hat{U}(t)] \\ &= \hat{U}^\dagger(t) \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}, \lambda}(0) \hat{U}(t) \hat{U}^\dagger(t) \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}', \lambda'}^\dagger(0) \hat{U}(t) \\ &\quad - \hat{U}^\dagger(t) \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}', \lambda'}^\dagger(0) \hat{U}(t) \hat{U}^\dagger(t) \hat{a}_{\mathbf{k}, \lambda}(0) \hat{U}(t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow [\hat{a}_{\vec{k}\lambda}(t), \hat{a}_{\vec{k}'\lambda'}^\dagger(t)] = \hat{U}^\dagger(t) \underbrace{[\hat{a}_{\vec{k}\lambda}(0), \hat{a}_{\vec{k}'\lambda'}^\dagger(0)]}_{\delta_{\vec{k}\vec{k}'} \delta_{\lambda\lambda'}} \hat{U}(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{[\hat{a}_{\vec{k}\lambda}(t), \hat{a}_{\vec{k}'\lambda'}^\dagger(t)] = \delta_{\vec{k}\vec{k}'} \delta_{\lambda\lambda'} = [\hat{a}_{\vec{k}\lambda}(0), \hat{a}_{\vec{k}'\lambda'}^\dagger(0)]}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Equal-time commutators preserved by time evolution, but non-equal time are not.

$$\text{Note: } [\hat{a}_{\vec{k}\lambda}(t), \hat{a}_{\vec{k}'\lambda'}^\dagger(t)] = g_{\vec{k}\lambda}^* g_{\vec{k}'\lambda'} \int_0^t dt' \int_0^t dt'' [\hat{\sigma}_-(t'), \hat{\sigma}_-^\dagger(t'')] e^{-i\omega_k(t-t'')} \neq 0$$

$$\neq \delta_{\vec{k}\vec{k}'} \delta_{\lambda\lambda'}$$

(d) Plug solution for  $\hat{a}_{\vec{k}\lambda}(t)$  into  $\frac{d\hat{\sigma}_z}{dt} =$   
Integro-differential equation

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \hat{\sigma}_z(t) = 2 \left[ \sum_{\vec{k}\lambda} (g_{\vec{k}\lambda} \hat{\sigma}_+(t) \hat{a}_{\vec{k}\lambda}(0) e^{-i\omega_k t} + \text{h.c.}) - \sum_{\vec{k}\lambda} (|g_{\vec{k}\lambda}|^2 \int_0^t dt' \hat{\sigma}_+(t) \hat{\sigma}_-(t') e^{-i\omega_k(t-t')} + \text{h.c.}) \right]$$

Now take the expectation value in

the state  $|\Psi\rangle = |\Psi_{\text{atom}}\rangle \otimes |\text{Vac}\rangle$

(constant in Heisenberg picture)



Note  $\hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}(0) |vac\rangle = 0$

$\langle vac | \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^\dagger = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \langle \hat{\sigma}_z(t) \rangle = -2 \sum_{\vec{k}, \lambda} |g_{\vec{k}, \lambda}|^2 \int_0^t dt' (\langle \hat{\sigma}_+(t) \hat{\sigma}_-(t') \rangle e^{-i\omega(t-t')} + c.c.)$$

(e) Under Markov approx  $\hat{\sigma}_-(t) = \hat{\Sigma}_-(t) e^{-i\omega_g t}$

↓

↑ Slowly varying envelope

$$\langle \hat{\Sigma}_+(t) \hat{\Sigma}_-(t) \rangle \approx \langle \hat{\Sigma}_+(t) \hat{\Sigma}_-(t) \rangle = \langle \hat{\sigma}_+(t) \hat{\sigma}_-(t) \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \langle \hat{\sigma}_+(t) \hat{\sigma}_-(t') \rangle &= \langle \hat{\Sigma}_+(t) \hat{\Sigma}_-(t') \rangle e^{i\omega_g(t-t')} \\ &\approx \langle \hat{\Sigma}_+(t) \hat{\Sigma}_-(t) \rangle e^{+i\omega_g(t-t')} = \langle \hat{\sigma}_+(t) \hat{\sigma}_-(t) \rangle e^{+i\omega_g(t-t')} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \frac{d}{dt} \langle \hat{\sigma}_z(t) \rangle \approx -2 \sum_{\vec{k}, \lambda} |g_{\vec{k}, \lambda}|^2 \int_0^t dt' e^{i(\omega_g - \omega_k)(t-t')} \langle \hat{\sigma}_+(t) \hat{\sigma}_-(t) \rangle + c.c.$$

↑

||  $f(\omega_g - \omega_k)$

$$f(\omega_g - \omega_k) \rightarrow \pi \delta(\omega_g - \omega_k) - i P \left[ \frac{1}{\omega_g - \omega_k} \right]$$

in usual Markov approx  $t \rightarrow \infty$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \langle \hat{\sigma}_z \rangle = -2 \underbrace{\sum_{\mathbf{k}\lambda} |g_{\mathbf{k}\lambda}|^2}_{\Gamma} 2\pi \delta(\omega_k - \omega_0) \langle \hat{\sigma}_+ \hat{\sigma}_- \rangle$$

=  $\Gamma$  (spontaneous emission rate)

Note:  $\hat{\sigma}_+(t) \hat{\sigma}_-(t) = \frac{1 + \hat{\sigma}_z(t)}{2}$  (projector)

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{d}{dt} \langle \hat{\sigma}_z \rangle = -\frac{\Gamma}{2} (1 + \langle \hat{\sigma}_z \rangle)}$$

Moral of the story: One can see spontaneous emission as arising from radiation reaction, i.e. the oscillator decays because energy is carried away by the field. The vacuum part of  $\hat{a}(t)$  played no role. Its role is to induce the initial dipole with a random phase, that then radiates.

### Problem 3: Momentum and Angular Momentum in Field

From Maxwell's Equation

$$\vec{P} = \int d^3\vec{x} \frac{\vec{E}(\vec{x}) \times \vec{B}(\vec{x})}{4\pi c} \equiv \vec{P}(\vec{x}) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{momentum} \\ \text{density} \end{array}$$

$$\vec{J} = \int d^3\vec{x} (\vec{x} \times \vec{P}(\vec{x}))$$

Quantized field  $\hat{A}(\vec{x}) = \hat{A}^{(+)}(\vec{x}) + \hat{A}^{(-)}(\vec{x})$

$$\hat{A}^{(+)}(\vec{x}) = \sum_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \sqrt{\frac{2\pi\hbar c^2}{V\omega_k}} \vec{e}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}$$

$$\hat{A}^{(-)} = (\hat{A}^{(+)})^\dagger$$

$$\hat{E}^{(+)} = i \sum_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \sqrt{\frac{2\pi\hbar\omega_k}{V}} \vec{e}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}$$

$$\hat{B}^{(+)} = i \sum_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \sqrt{\frac{2\pi\hbar\omega_k}{V}} (\vec{e}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \times \vec{e}_{-\vec{k}, \lambda}) e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}$$

Notes:  $\int_V d^3x \frac{e^{i(\vec{k}-\vec{k}') \cdot \vec{x}}}{V} = \delta_{\vec{k}, \vec{k}'}$

$$\vec{e}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^* \cdot \vec{e}_{\vec{k}', \lambda'} = \delta_{\lambda, \lambda'}$$

(3a) Plug mode decomposition into  $\hat{P}$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{P} = \int d^3x \left( \frac{\hat{\vec{E}}^{(+)} \times \hat{\vec{B}}^{(-)}}{4\pi c} + \frac{\hat{\vec{E}}^{(-)} \times \hat{\vec{B}}^{(+)}}{4\pi c} + h.c. \right)$$

Consider first term:

$$\int d^3x \frac{\hat{\vec{E}}^{(+)} \times \hat{\vec{B}}^{(-)}}{4\pi c} = \sum_{\vec{k}, \lambda, \lambda'} \frac{1}{4\pi c} (2\pi\hbar \sqrt{\omega_k \omega_{k'}}) \vec{E}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \times (\vec{E}_{\vec{k}', \lambda'} \times \vec{E}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^*)$$

$$\underbrace{\int \frac{d^3x}{V} e^{i(\vec{k}-\vec{k}') \cdot \vec{x}}}_{\delta_{\vec{k}, \vec{k}'}} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}', \lambda'}^*$$

$$= \sum_{\vec{k}} \sum_{\lambda, \lambda'} \frac{\hbar \omega}{2c} \left[ \vec{E}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \times (\vec{E}_{\vec{k}} \times \vec{E}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^*) \right] \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^*$$

$$\vec{E}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} (\vec{E}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \cdot \vec{E}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^*) - \vec{E}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^* (\vec{E}_{\vec{k}} \cdot \vec{E}_{\vec{k}, \lambda})$$

=  $\delta_{\lambda, \lambda'}$       0

$$= \sum_{\vec{k}} \frac{\hbar k}{2} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^*$$

having used  $k = \frac{\omega}{c} \hat{e}_k$

by similar steps, using  $\int \frac{d^3x}{V} e^{i(\vec{k}+\vec{k}') \cdot \vec{x}} = \delta_{\vec{k}, -\vec{k}'}$

$$\int d^3x \frac{\vec{E}^{(+)} \times \vec{B}^{(+)}}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = \sum_{\vec{k}} \sum_{\lambda, \lambda'} \frac{\hbar\omega}{2\epsilon_0} \underbrace{\left[ \vec{e}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \times (\vec{e}_{-\vec{k}} \times \vec{e}_{-\vec{k}', \lambda'}) \right]}_{\vec{e}_{-\vec{k}} (\vec{e}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \cdot \vec{e}_{-\vec{k}', \lambda'})} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \hat{a}_{-\vec{k}', \lambda'}$$

Aside:  $\vec{e}_{-\vec{k}} = -\vec{e}_{\vec{k}}$ , thus by symmetry, when we sum over all  $\vec{k}$ ,

$$\sum_{\lambda, \lambda'} \vec{e}_{-\vec{k}} (\vec{e}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \cdot \vec{e}_{-\vec{k}', \lambda'}) \xrightarrow{\vec{k} \rightarrow -\vec{k}} \sum_{\lambda, \lambda'} \vec{e}_{\vec{k}} (\vec{e}_{-\vec{k}, \lambda} \cdot \vec{e}_{\vec{k}', \lambda'}) = - \sum_{\lambda, \lambda'} \vec{e}_{-\vec{k}} (\vec{e}_{-\vec{k}, \lambda} \cdot \vec{e}_{\vec{k}', \lambda'})$$

Thus the terms cancel pairwise.

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\vec{p}} = \sum_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \frac{\hbar\vec{k}}{2} (\hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^\dagger + \text{h.c.})$$

$$= \sum_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \hbar\vec{k} (\hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^\dagger \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda} + \frac{1}{2})$$

But  $\sum_{\vec{k}} \frac{\hbar\vec{k}}{2} = 0$  (vectors cancel)

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\vec{p}} = \sum_{\vec{k}, \lambda} \hbar\vec{k} (\hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^\dagger \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda})$$

Next!  
Momentum =  $\hbar\vec{k} \times$  number of photons

(b) Total angular momentum in field:

$$\hat{\mathbf{J}} = \int d^3x \, \vec{x} \times \hat{\mathbf{P}}(\vec{x})$$

where  $\hat{\mathbf{P}}(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{4\pi c} (\hat{\mathbf{E}} \times \hat{\mathbf{B}}) =$  momentum density

Lets massage these equations a bit.

$$(\hat{\mathbf{E}} \times \hat{\mathbf{B}})_i = \epsilon_{ijk} E_j B_k \quad (\text{summation convention})$$

$$= \epsilon_{ijk} E_j \epsilon_{k\ell m} \partial_\ell A_m$$

$$= (\delta_{\ell j} \delta_{\ell m} - \delta_{\ell m} \delta_{\ell j}) E_j \partial_\ell A_m$$

$$= E_\ell \partial_i A_\ell - E_\ell \partial_\ell A_i$$

Now  $\hat{\mathbf{J}} = \int d^3x \, \vec{x} \times \hat{\mathbf{P}}(\vec{x})$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{J}_j = \epsilon_{jki} \int d^3x \, x_k P_i$$

$$= \epsilon_{jki} \frac{1}{4\pi c} \int d^3x \left[ E_\ell (x_k \partial_i) A_\ell - (x_k E_\ell) (\partial_\ell A_i) \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi c} \int d^3x E_\ell (\vec{x} \times \nabla)_j A_\ell$$

$$+ \frac{1}{4\pi c} \int d^3x \underbrace{\epsilon_{jki} \partial_\ell (x_k E_\ell)}_{[\delta_{\ell k} + \nabla \times \mathbf{E}]} A_i \quad (\text{integration by parts})$$

$[\delta_{\ell k} + \nabla \times \mathbf{E}] \rightarrow 0$  in free space

$$\Rightarrow \vec{J}_j = \frac{1}{4\pi c} \left( \int d^3x \vec{E}_e (\vec{x} \times \vec{\nabla})_j A_e + \int d^3x (\vec{E} \times \vec{A})_j \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{J} = \vec{J}_{\text{orb}} + \vec{J}_{\text{spin}}$$

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} \vec{J}_{\text{orb}} &= \frac{1}{4\pi c} \int d^3x \vec{E}_e (\vec{x} \times \vec{\nabla}) A_e \\ \vec{J}_{\text{spin}} &= \frac{1}{4\pi c} \int d^3x (\vec{E} \times \vec{A}) \end{aligned}}$$

(1c)

Let us expand these terms in the plane wave basis:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{J}_{\text{orb}} &= \left( \frac{1}{4\pi c} \int d^3x \vec{E}_e^{(-)} (\vec{x} \times \vec{\nabla}) A_e^{(+)} + \text{h.c.} \right) \\ &+ \left( \frac{1}{4\pi c} \int d^3x \vec{E}_e^{(+)} (\vec{x} \times \vec{\nabla}) A_e^{(-)} + \text{h.c.} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Consider

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{4\pi c} \int d^3x \vec{E}_e^{(-)} (\vec{x} \times \vec{\nabla}) A_e^{(+)} \\ &= \sum_{\vec{k}, \lambda, \lambda'} \frac{\hbar}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\omega_k}{\omega_{k'}}} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^\dagger \hat{a}_{\vec{k}', \lambda'} \vec{\epsilon}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^* \cdot \vec{\epsilon}_{\vec{k}', \lambda'} \quad \text{(Summing over } l)} \\ &\quad \underbrace{\int \frac{d^3x}{V} e^{-i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}} (\vec{x} \times -i\vec{\nabla}) e^{i\vec{k}' \cdot \vec{x}}}_I \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Aside: } & \int \frac{d^3x}{V} e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}} (\vec{x} \times -i\vec{\nabla}) e^{i\vec{k}'\cdot\vec{x}} \\
 &= \int \frac{d^3x}{V} e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}} (\vec{x} \times \vec{k}') e^{i\vec{k}'\cdot\vec{x}} \\
 &= \left[ \int \frac{d^3x}{V} e^{-i(\vec{k}-\vec{k}')\cdot\vec{x}} \vec{x} \right] \times \vec{k}' \\
 &= -i \vec{\nabla}_{\vec{k}'} \underbrace{\left[ \int \frac{d^3x}{V} e^{-i(\vec{k}-\vec{k}')\cdot\vec{x}} \right]}_{\delta_{\vec{k},\vec{k}'}} \times \vec{k}'
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{4\pi c} \int d^3x E_e^{(-)} (\vec{x} \times \vec{\nabla}) A_e^{(-)}$$

$$= \sum_{\vec{k}, \vec{k}'} \frac{\hbar}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\omega_{\vec{k}}}{\omega_{\vec{k}'}}} \hat{a}_i(\vec{k}) \hat{a}_i^\dagger(\vec{k}') \left( -i \left( \vec{\nabla}_{\vec{k}}, \delta(\vec{k}-\vec{k}') \times \vec{k}' \right) \right)$$

~~Integration~~ where  $\hat{\vec{a}}(\vec{k}) \equiv \sum_{\lambda} \vec{E}_{\lambda}(\vec{k}) \hat{a}_{\lambda}(\vec{k})$

Integration by parts

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{4\pi c} \int d^3x E_e^{(-)} (\vec{x} \times \vec{\nabla}) A_e^{(+)}$$

$$= \frac{\hbar}{2} \sum_{\vec{k}} \hat{a}_i(\vec{k}) \underbrace{[+i\vec{k} \times \vec{\nabla}_{\vec{k}}]}_{\uparrow}$$

$\vec{k}$ -space Orbital angular momentum operators



Consider

$$\int d^3x \frac{\vec{E}^{(-)} \times \vec{A}^{(+)}}{4\pi c} = \frac{-i\hbar}{2} \sum_{\vec{k}, \lambda, \lambda'} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^\dagger \hat{a}_{\vec{k}', \lambda'} \vec{e}_{\vec{k}, \lambda}^* \times \vec{e}_{\vec{k}', \lambda'}$$

$$\int \frac{d^3x}{V} e^{i(\vec{k}-\vec{k}') \cdot \vec{x}} \rightarrow \delta^{(3)}(\vec{k}-\vec{k}')$$

$$= \frac{-i\hbar}{2} \sum_{\vec{k}} \left[ (\vec{e}_{\vec{k}, +}^* \times \vec{e}_{\vec{k}, +}) \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, +}^\dagger \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, +} + (\vec{e}_{\vec{k}, -}^* \times \vec{e}_{\vec{k}, -}) \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, -}^\dagger \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, -} \right]$$

Aske  $\vec{e}_{\vec{k}, \pm} \equiv \frac{\vec{e}_1 \pm i\vec{e}_2}{\sqrt{2}}$  where  $\vec{e}_1$  and  $\vec{e}_2$  are two orthonormal vectors with  $\vec{e}_1 \times \vec{e}_2 = \hat{k}$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{e}_{\vec{k}, +}^* \times \vec{e}_{\vec{k}, +} = \pm \hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \int d^3x \frac{\vec{E}^{(-)} \times \vec{A}^{(+)}}{4\pi c} = \frac{\hbar}{2} \sum_{\vec{k}} (\hat{a}_{\vec{k}, +}^\dagger \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, +} - \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, -}^\dagger \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, -}) \vec{e}_{\vec{k}}$$

Now  $\int d^3x \frac{\vec{E}^{(+)} \times \vec{A}^{(-)}}{4\pi c} = \frac{\hbar}{2} \sum_{\vec{k}} (\hat{a}_{\vec{k}, +} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, +}^\dagger - \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, -} \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, -}^\dagger) \vec{e}_{\vec{k}}$

$$= \frac{\hbar}{2} \sum_{\vec{k}} (\hat{a}_{\vec{k}, +}^\dagger \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, +} - \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, -}^\dagger \hat{a}_{\vec{k}, -}) \vec{e}_{\vec{k}} \quad (\text{commutators cancel})$$

Finally note:  $\vec{e}_{\vec{k}, \pm} \times \vec{e}_{\vec{k}, \pm} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \int d^3x \vec{E}^{(+)} \times \vec{A}^{(+)} = \int d^3x \vec{E}^{(-)} \times \vec{A}^{(-)} = 0$$

Thus

$$\vec{J}_{\text{spin}} = \hbar \sum_{\vec{k}} (a_{\vec{k},+}^\dagger a_{\vec{k},+} - a_{\vec{k},-}^\dagger a_{\vec{k},-}) \vec{e}_{\vec{k}}$$

Each photon has intrinsic "spin" angular momentum. In the circularly polarized, plane wave basis, the photon has a definite helicity, ~~carry~~ carry one  $\hbar$  of angular momentum along (opposite to) the direction of propagation  $\vec{e}_{\vec{k}}$  for positive (negative) handed polarization.

The photon is spin  $S=1$ , yet there are only two states with definite projection of angular momentum, whereas, we might expect three ( $2S+1 = 3$ ). This is a very subtle point coming from the fact the photon is massless. For more details see,

"Photons and Atoms",

(1d) Mapping photon spin onto a two-state Hilbert space

$$\text{Define } \hat{J}_{\text{spin}} = \hat{J}_x \hat{e}_x + \hat{J}_y \hat{e}_y + \hat{J}_z \hat{e}_z$$

$$\text{where } \hat{J}_x = \frac{\hbar}{2} (\hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_- + \hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_+)$$

$$\hat{J}_y = \frac{\hbar}{2i} (\hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_- - \hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_+)$$

$$\hat{J}_z = \frac{\hbar}{2} (\hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_+ - \hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_-)$$

This is the Schwinger representation of angular momentum connecting the "Boson algebra"  $[\hat{a}_i, \hat{a}_j^\dagger] = \delta_{ij}$  to the angular momentum algebra  $[\hat{J}_i, \hat{J}_j] = i\hbar \epsilon_{ijk} \hat{J}_k$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Check: } [\hat{J}_x, \hat{J}_y] &= \frac{\hbar^2}{4i} \left( [\hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_-, -\hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_+] + [\hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_+, \hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_-] \right) \\ &= \frac{\hbar^2}{4i} \left[ 2\hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_+ \underbrace{([\hat{a}_+^\dagger, \hat{a}_-])}_{=-1} - 2\hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_- \underbrace{([\hat{a}_-^\dagger, \hat{a}_+])}_{=-1} \right] \\ &= i\hbar \left( \frac{\hbar}{2} (\hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_+ - \hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_-) \right) = i\hbar \hat{J}_z \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} [\hat{J}_x, \hat{J}_z] &= \frac{\hbar^2}{4} \left( [\hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_-, \hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_+] - [\hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_-, \hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_-] \right. \\ &\quad \left. + [\hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_+, \hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_+] - [\hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_+, \hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_-] \right) \\ &= \frac{\hbar^2}{4} (\hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_- (-1) - \hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_- (1) + \hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_+ (1) - \hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_+ (-1)) \\ &= -\frac{\hbar^2}{2} (\hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_- - \hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_+) = -i\hbar \hat{J}_y \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
[\hat{J}_y, \hat{J}_z] &= \frac{\hbar^2}{4i} \left( [\hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_-, \hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_+] - [\hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_-, \hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_-] \right. \\
&\quad \left. - [\hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_+, \hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_+] + [\hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_+, \hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_-] \right) \\
&= \frac{\hbar^2}{4i} (\hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_- (1) - \hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_- (1) - \hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_+ (1) + \hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_+ (1)) \\
&= -\frac{\hbar^2}{2i} (\hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_- + \hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_+) \\
&= i\hbar \left[ \frac{\hbar}{2} (\hat{a}_+^\dagger \hat{a}_- + \hat{a}_-^\dagger \hat{a}_+) \right] = i\hbar \hat{J}_x \quad \checkmark
\end{aligned}$$

The Schwinger representation is the "second quantized form" of the spin  $1/2$  operators

$$\hat{J}_x = \frac{\hbar}{2} (|+\rangle\langle -| + |-\rangle\langle +|)$$

$$\hat{J}_y = \frac{\hbar}{2i} (|+\rangle\langle -| - |-\rangle\langle +|)$$

$$\hat{J}_z = \frac{\hbar}{2} (|+\rangle\langle +| - |-\rangle\langle -|)$$

"Second quantize"  $|+\rangle \Rightarrow \hat{a}_+^\dagger$  create spin up or down

$\langle +| \Rightarrow \hat{a}_+$  annihilate spin up or down

thus, we can easily map the spin angular momentum of the ~~photon~~ photon onto the Bloch sphere, also

known as the Poincaré sphere as we visited in PS# 1