

Interaction and disorder :

Light scattering by cold atoms: Localization and Cooperative Scattering



Robin KAISER Nice, France





Lecture 1 : Multiple Scattering of Light in Cold Atoms

1.1 Steady State Results : Ohm's Law for Photons

+ Numerical Random Walk Simulations

1.2 Time dependent scattering : radiation trapping

+ Numerical Random Walk Simulations

1.3 Random laser

Lecture 2 : Interference Effects in Light Scattering by Cold Atoms

2.1 Coherent Backscattering of Light by Cold Atoms
+Numerical Simulations with Weak Localization Corrections
2.2 Dicke Super- and Subradiance
+Numerical Simulations with Coupled Dipoles

Lecture 3 : Anderson Localisation of Light

3.1 Anderson Lattice Model

3.2 Effective Hamiltonian Approach

3.3 Scalar vs vectorial light : red light for Anderson localization

3.4 Outlook : towards localization of light in cold atoms

Link to Mathlab codes :

http://www.kaiserlux.de/coldatoms/LesHouches2019Kaiser.html

Lecture 1 : Multiple Scattering of Light in Cold Atoms

1.1 Steady State Results : Ohm's Law for Photons Single Atom response: optical Bloch equations Random Walk : Beer-Lambert's Law, diffusion, Ohm's law, Transmission profile Numerical Simulations

1.2 Time dependant Scattering : radiation trapping Phase, group and transport velocity Slow diffusion Numerical Simulations

1.3 Multiple Scattering + gain : random lasers

Scattering Properties of Atoms



• Resonant scattering (elastic and inelastic) matter waves and ultracold atoms cold atoms (③) moving atoms (Doppler) multilevel atoms (Raman)



Single Atom response : Optical Bloch Equations

1. Spontaneous Emission



Single Atom response : Optical Bloch Equations

2. Stimulated Emission

$$\begin{split} \frac{d\rho_{ee}}{dt} &= -\Gamma\rho_{ee} + i\frac{\Omega_L}{2}\left(\rho_{eg} - \rho_{ge}\right) \\ \frac{d\rho_{ge}}{dt} &= -(i\delta + \frac{\Gamma}{2})\rho_{ge} - i\frac{\Omega_L}{2}\left(\rho_{ee} - \rho_{gg}\right) \\ \frac{d\rho_{gg}}{dt} &= +\Gamma\rho_{ee} - i\frac{\Omega_L}{2}\left(\rho_{eg} - \rho_{ge}\right) \end{split}$$

$$\rho_{ee}(0) = 1$$



Rabi Oscillations (courtesy of J. Evers)

$$s_0 = \frac{2\Omega_L^2}{\Gamma^2} = \frac{I}{I_{sat}}$$

$$\hbar Ω_L$$
=-dE

Single Atom response : Optical Bloch Equations

3. Photon Absorption

$$\begin{split} \frac{d\rho_{ee}}{dt} &= -\Gamma\rho_{ee} + i\frac{\Omega_L}{2} \left(\rho_{eg} - \rho_{ge}\right) \\ \frac{d\rho_{ge}}{dt} &= -(i\delta + \frac{\Gamma}{2})\rho_{ge} - i\frac{\Omega_L}{2} \left(\rho_{ee} - \rho_{gg}\right) \\ \frac{d\rho_{gg}}{dt} &= +\Gamma\rho_{ee} - i\frac{\Omega_L}{2} \left(\rho_{eg} - \rho_{ge}\right) \end{split}$$

initial condition: t=0 : ground state

$$\rho_{gg}(0) = 1$$



s<<1 : absorption spectrum = emission spectrum

Optical Bloch Equations

Photon Scattering



optical coherence = dipole population ≠ dipoles



elastic scattering

Dipole emission diagram

Induced dipole $d = \alpha E_L$

index of refraction of dilute cloud :

$$< d >= Tr(\rho d) = ||d||(\rho_{ge} - \rho_{eg})$$

n = 1 - $\frac{3}{4\pi^2}\rho\lambda^3 \frac{\delta/\Gamma}{1 + 4(\delta/\Gamma)^2} + i\frac{3}{4\pi^2}\rho\lambda^3 \frac{1}{1 + 4(\delta/\Gamma)^2}$
n - 1 \approx 10^4 (MOT)
n - 1 \approx 0.1 (BEC)

Scattered field

induced dipole with precise phase relation to incident field scattered field with precise phase relation to induced dipole

|e>

|g>



scattering of photon ≠ absorption + spont. emission !!!



elastic scattering for : cold atoms (kv $<<\Gamma$), low incident intensity (I $<<I_{sat}$), no internal structure (Raman scattering)

Inelastic Scattering

Emission spectrum

Dressed atom



Multiple Scattering





Random walk : **Diffusion** coefficient $D_0 \approx \ell^2$ / τ

 $\ell = 1/n \sigma$



Single scattering (b= $L/l_{sc} <<1$)

Mean free path :
$$l_{sc} = \frac{1}{n\sigma}$$

Beer-Lambert law : $T_{coh} = e^{-\frac{L}{l_{sc}}}$





$$T_{diff} \propto \frac{l_{sc}}{L}$$



Random Walk



Numerical Simulations



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Link to Mathlab codes of Robin Kaiser's lecture in Les Houches 2019

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- Ohm LH2019.m
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📝 Editor - C:\Users\Kaiser\Documents\speaches\2019\LesHouches2019\NumericalSimulations\1RandomWalk\RandomWalk_LH2019.m - 0 \times File Edit Text Go Cell Tools Debug Desktop Window Help × 5 × 🞦 🗃 📕 👗 🐂 🛱 🤊 🔍 🦓 📨 🛤 🖛 🔶 🈥 🕨 🖉 👘 👘 👘 🖬 🕼 Stack: Base 💌 🍂 *🗏 🚛 🛛 – 1.0 + 🛛 ÷ 1.1 🛛 × 🕺 💥 🕕 1 % Random walk (RW) in a finite slab % All lengths (Lz, R, ell, x0, y0) have to be given in the same unit: e.g in 1/k. 2 3 * The outputs are: the Trajectory, the number of scattering events Nsc (0 for transmitted photons), the output angles theta, phi, the output positions x, y 4 5 clear all: % Parameters of the slab 6 7 -Lz=5; % length of the slab (e.g. Lz=5) 8 -R=10; %transverse size (e.g. R=10) 9 ell=1; %scattering mean free path (e.g. ell=1) 10 11 -Nph=10; % number of photons 12 - for iph=1:1:Nph %loop on different photons injected in the slab 13 clear X Y Z 14 % Initial Conditions 15 Nsc=1; % number of scattering events already done 16 -17 cos_phi = 1; theta=0; % direction of inicident propagation 18 x=0; %initial position along x 19 y=0; %initial position along y 20 z=0; % Initial impact with the vapor (NOT the lst scattering event!) 21 r=sqrt(x^2+y^2); 22 23 % length of the 1st step using an exponential distribution (Beer-Lambert) 24 step = -ell*log(rand); % use the inverse function f^(-1) to draw the random number following a distribution f: exp -> log 25 26 % The first step is ballistic in forward direction 27 z = z + step;28 % register position of the photon after this first step 29 -X(Nsc) = x;30 -Y(Nsc) = y;31 -Z(Nsc) = z;32 33 34 - while all(z<=Lz && z>0 && r<R) % Next scattering event inside the slab 35 36 % draw a new random direction 37 theta = 2*pi*rand: 38 cos phi = -1+2*rand; % uniform between -1 and 1 (always check that the distribution is uniform; mistakes often happen with cos, sin etc) 39 sin phi = sqrt(l-cos phi^2); % always >0 since phi is between 0 and pi 40 41 % length of the next step in an exponential ditribution (Beer-Lambert) 42 step = -ell*log(rand); 43 44 % new position 45 x = x + step*sin phi*cos(theta);46 y = y + step*sin phi*sin(theta); 47 z = z + step*cos phi; 48 $r = sqrt(x^2+y^2);$ 49 50 % register the next steps (trajectory) 51 -Nsc = Nsc+1; % add 1 to number of scattering events 52 -X(Nsc) = x;53 -Y(Nsc) = y;Z(Nsc) = z;54 -55 56 end 57 phi = acos(cos phi); %outgoing angle 58 59 60 % plotting the trajectory (for illustration) 61 62 63 %plot an indication of the contour of the slab 64 -Rc=[R R]; 65 -N=1000: 66 -[Xc,Yc,Zc] = cylinder(Rc,N); 67 surf(Xc,Yc,Lz*Zc, 'edgecolor','none'); alpha(0.1); %indiction of slab 68 hold on; 69 %plot trajectory plot3([0 X], [0 Y], [0 Z]), xlabel('x/l'), ylabel('y/l'), zlabel('z/l'), axis([-R R -R R -2 Lz+2]); 70 -71 pause(1); 72 close(gcf); 73 74 end: 75 76 77

Ln 54 Col 16 OVR

script



Contact : Robin Kaiser e-mail: Robin.Kaiser@inphyni.cnrs.fr http://www.kaiserlux.eu/coldatoms/

Random walk through a slab:



Scattering Experiments with Cold Atomic



A short digression ③

Mean free path :

$$l_{sc} = \frac{1}{n\sigma}$$

$$P(x) \propto e^{-x/lsc}$$
 step = -ell*log(rand);

$$< x > = \int xP(x)dx = l_{sc}$$
$$D = < x^{2} > = \int x^{2}P(x)dx = l_{sc}$$
$$\int P(x)dx = 1$$

If $\langle x \rangle$ and $\langle x^2 \rangle$ are finite, the distribution of a large number of steps Σx_i converges to a Gaussian distribution (central limit theorem) What if ... 'heavy tail' step size distribution . :

 $P(x) \propto \frac{1}{\chi^{\alpha}}$



how to measure $\langle x \rangle \pm \sqrt{\langle x^2 \rangle}$: weak ergodicity breaking

On Radiation Diffusion and the Rapidity of Escape of Resonance Radiation from a Gas

By CARL KENTY

General Electric Vapor Lamp Company, Hoboken, N. J.

(Received August 25, 1932)

The radiation diffusion process is considered from the standpoint of the free paths of the diffusing resonance quanta as influenced by the Doppler and other line broadening effects. Abnormally long free paths are found to be of such importance as to enable resonance radiation to escape from a body of gas faster than has usually been supposed. It is assumed that a large concentration of diffusing resonance quanta will, on the basis of Doppler broadening only, give rise to a characteristic excitation of atoms, as dependent on their speeds, which can be represented by a distribution function which will lie between two limiting distribution functions, namely (1) Maxwell's distribution function and (2) a distribution function expressing a lower relative excitation of the high speed atoms than that of Maxwell, based on the excitation of all atoms as if by absorption of the core of the line. On the basis of (1) and (2), limiting expressions are derived for: (a) the fraction of emitted quanta traversing at least a given distance before absorption, (b) the diffusion coefficient, (c) the average square free path, (d) the average free path. A fundamental difference between radiation diffusion and molecular diffusion appears in that whereas (a) decreases exponentially with the distance in the latter case it is found to decrease only linearly (roughly) with the distance in the former case. For this reason very long free paths are found to be of relatively great importance in radiation diffusion. It is found that, for a gas container of infinite size, (b), (c), and (d) are all infinite. For a gas container of finite size, esti-

Multiple Scattering of Light in Hot Atomic vapors :



Random walk of photons / Radiation trapping in

- dense atomic vapours
- discharge
- hot plasmas
- gas lasers
- stars
- intergalactic scattering
- •GPS/ Galileo (hot Rb atom clock)

Milne Equation (diffusion)
$$\frac{\partial n(r,t)}{\partial t} - D\Delta n(r,t) = S(r,t)$$

WRONG ! A random walk of photons in hot atomic vapours is NOT correctly described by a diffusion equation

Holstein Equation

$$\frac{\partial n(\vec{r},t)}{\partial t} = S(\vec{r},t) - \frac{1}{\tau_n} n(\vec{r},t) + \frac{1}{\tau_n} \int_{\text{volume}} n(\vec{r}',t) G(\vec{r}',\vec{r}) dv'$$

Important ingredient G(r',r) = P(x): how far does a photon travel

PHYSICAL REVIEW

Imprisonment of Resonance Radiation in Gases

T. HOLSTEIN

Research Laboratories, Westinghouse Electric Corporation, East Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (Received September 8, 1947)

VOLUME 93, NUMBER 12

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending 17 SEPTEMBER 2004

Photon Trajectories in Incoherent Atomic Radiation Trapping as Lévy Flights

Eduardo Pereira*

Universidade do Minho, Escola de Ciências, Departamento de Física, 4710-057 Braga, Portugal

José M. G. Martinho and Mário N. Berberan-Santos

Centro de Química-Física Molecular, Instituto Superior Técnico, 1049-001 Lisboa, Portugal (Received 19 November 2003; published 13 September 2004)

Photon trajectories in incoherent radiation trapping for Doppler, Lorentz, and Voigt line shapes under complete frequency redistribution are shown to be Lévy flights. The jump length (r) distributions display characteristic long tails. For the Lorentz line shape, the asymptotic form is a strict power law $r^{-3/2}$, while for Doppler the asymptotic is $r^{-2}(\ln r)^{-1/2}$. For the Voigt profile, the asymptotic form always has a Lorentz character, but the trajectory is a self-affine fractal with two characteristic Hausdorff scaling exponents.

How to measure P(x) ?

$$\frac{\partial n(\vec{r},t)}{\partial t} = S(\vec{r},t) - \frac{1}{\tau_n} n(\vec{r},t) + \frac{1}{\tau_n} \int_{\text{volume}} n(\vec{r}',t) G(\vec{r}',\vec{r}) dv$$

How to track a Photon ????

In Stars ... 🕲

in the lab



2005/01/19 19:19



No correlation $x_0 - P(x)$: annealed disorder

Step length distribution



neglecting the natural width of the atoms : $\mu=2$

Spatial evolution of the spectrum



Lévy flight usually **not** important for cold atoms...

As long as ;

 $kv \ll \Gamma$: so be careful for ultranarrow lines

Or other inelastic broadening mechanisms

Random walk through a slab:



Light diffusion in milk





Diffusion equation + boundary conditions



Numerical Simulations



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Link to Mathlab codes of Robin Kaiser's lecture in Les Houches 2019

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Coupled Dipole based codes :

• CoupledDipoles LH2019.m

Contact : Robin Kaiser e-mail: Robin.Kaiser@inphyni.cnrs.fr http://www.kaiserlux.eu/coldatoms/ % Transmission profile through a finite slab

clear all; % Parameters of the slab Lz=20; % length of the slab R=2000; %transverse size ell=2; %scattering mean free path

tic; %useful to estimate the computation time : toc gives the elapsed time Nph=100000; % number of photons (100 000 photons take 20 seconds computing time) for iph=1:1:Nph

% Initial Conditions Nsc=0; % number of scattering events already done cos_phi = 1; theta=0; % direction of incident propagation x=0; %initial position along x y=0; %initial position along y z=0; % Initial impact with the vapor (NOT the 1st scattering event!) r=sqrt(x^2+y^2);

% length of the 1st step using an exponential distribution (Beer-Lambert)
step = -ell*log(rand); % use the inverse function f^(-1) to draw the random number following a distribution f: exp -> log

```
% The first step is ballistic in forward direction
z = z+step;
z1=z;
```

while all(z<=Lz && z>0 && r<R) % Next scattering event inside the slab

Nsc = Nsc+1; % add 1 to number of scattering events

% % record the trajectory (optional)

- % X(Nsc) = x;
- % Y(Nsc) = y; % Z(Nsc) = z;
- 2 (1100) 27

% draw a new random direction

theta = 2*pi*rand; cos_phi = -1+2*rand; % uniform between -1 and 1 (always check that the distribution is uniform: mistakes often happen with cos, sin etc) sin_phi = sqrt(1-cos_phi^2); % always >0 since phi is between 0 and pi

% length of the next step in an exponential ditribution (Beer-Lambert)
step = -ell*log(rand);

% new position

x = x + step*sin_phi*cos(theta) ; y = y + step*sin_phi*sin(theta); z = z + step*cos_phi; r = sqrt(x^2+y^2);

% record the trajectory

X(Nsc) = x; Y(Nsc) = y; Z(Nsc) = z;

end

if z>Lz Nfinx(iph)=x; Nfiny(iph)=y; Nfinz(iph)=z; Nfinr(iph)=x^2+y^2; end;

end;

```
rr=(1:1:R);
pr=hist(Nfinr, rr);
pr(1)=0;
figure('Position', [450 550 400 300]);
plot(Nfinx, Nfiny, 'o', 'MarkerSize', 1)
axis([-3*Lz 3*Lz -3*Lz 3*Lz])
```

```
figure('Position', [100 50 1300 400]);
subplot(1,2,1), plot(rr, pr./rr), xlabel('r'), ylabel('P(r)/r'), axis([0 10*Lz 0 1.5*pr(2)/rr(2)])
subplot(1,2,2), plot(rr, log(pr./rr)), xlabel('r'), ylabel('log(P(r)/r)'), axis([0 5*Lz -2.5 log(3*pr(2)/rr(2))])
%subplot(1,3,3), plot(log(rr), log(pr./rr)), xlabel('log(r)'), ylabel('log(P(r)/r)'),
```
Transmission profile



Lecture 1 : Multiple Scattering of Light in Cold Atoms

1.1 Steady State Results : Ohm's Law for Photons Single Atom response: optical Bloch equations Random Walk : Beer-Lambert's Law, diffusion, Ohm's law, Transmission profile Numerical Simulations

1.2 Time dependant Scattering : radiation trapping Phase, group and transport velocity Slow diffusion Numerical Simulations

1.3 Multiple Scattering + gain : random lasers

How long takes scattering ?

 au_{W}

Resonant Single scattering

Resonant scattering delay

$$\alpha(\omega) = \frac{6\pi}{k_0^3} \times \frac{-2(\omega - \omega_0)/\Gamma + i}{1 + 4(\omega - \omega_0)^2/\Gamma^2}$$
$$\phi(\omega) = \arctan\left(\frac{-\Gamma/2}{\omega - \omega_0}\right)$$
$$\tau_{\rm W} = \frac{2}{\Gamma}\mathcal{L}(\omega)$$



R. Bourgain et al., Opt. Lett. 38, 1963 (2013)

How long takes scattering ?



A. Lagendijk, B. v. Tiggelen, Phys. Rep. 270, 143 (1996)



G. Labeyrie et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 91, 223904 (2003) P. Weiss et al., New J. Phys. 20, 063024 (2018)

Time Resolved Experiments



Velocities in resonant scattering



Time dependent diffuse transmission through a slab



R. Berkovitz, M. Kaveh, J. Phys. Condens. Matter 2, 307 (1990) Martin Störzer et al., PRL 96, 063904 (2006)

Numerical Simulations



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```
% Random walk (RW) in a finite slab
1
       % All lengths (Lz, R, ell, x0, y0) have to be given in the same unit: e.g in 1/k.
 2
       % The outputs are: the Trajectory, the number of scattering events Nsc (0 for transmitted photons), the output angles theta
 3
 4
 5 -
       clear all:
       % Parameters of the slab
 6
       LzMax=1000; % length of the slab
 7 -
 8 -
       Lz=LzMax;
 9 -
       R=2000; %transverse size
       ell=20; %scattering mean free path
10 -
11 -
       Tdiff=0;
12
13
       Nph=10000; % number of photons (use Nph=10000 - 6 secondes computing - or more for a nice curve)
14 -
15 - _ for iph=1:1:Nph
16 -
       clear X Y Z RR S; %clear the parameters of the loop
17
       % Initial Conditions
18 -
       Nsc=0; % number of scattering events already done
19 -
       cos phi = 1; theta=0; % direction of inicident propagation
20 -
       x=0; %initial position along x
21 -
       y=0; %initial position along y
22 -
       z=0; % Initial impact with the vapor (NOT the 1st scattering event!)
23 -
       r=sqrt(x^2+y^2);
24
25
       % length of the 1st step using an exponential distribution (Beer-Lambert)
26 -
       step = -ell*log(rand); % use the inverse function f^(-1) to draw the random number following a distribution f: exp -> log
27
28
       % The first step is ballistic in forward direction
29 -
       z = z + step;
30
31 - while all(z<=Lz && z>0 && r<R) % Next scattering event inside the slab
32
33 -
           Nsc = Nsc+1; % add 1 to number of scattering events
34
35
           % draw a new random direction
36 -
           theta = 2*pi*rand;
37 -
           cos phi = -1+2*rand; % uniform between -1 and 1 (always check that the distribution
38 -
           sin phi = sqrt(1-cos phi^2); % always >0 since phi is between 0 and pi
39
40
           % length of the next step in an exponential ditribution (Beer-Lambert)
41 -
           step = -ell*log(rand);
42
43
           % new position
44 -
           x = x + step*sin phi*cos(theta);
45 -
           y = y + step*sin_phi*sin(theta);
46 -
           z = z + step*cos phi;
47 -
           r = sqrt(x^2+y^2);
48
49 -
       - end
50
51 -
       if (z>Lz)
52 -
           Tdiff=Tdiff+1; %just to count diffuse transmission
53 -
           RTtime(iph)=Nsc; % register number of events, which we put to time
54 -
       end
55
56 -
      -end;
57
58 -
       Tdiff
59 -
       ps=hist(RTtime, 100); %histrgram of transit times
60 -
       ps(1)=0; %remove points which have not been scattered
61 -
       plot (ps (1,1:100), 'DisplayName', 'ps (1,1:100)', 'YDataSource', 'ps (1,1:100)'); figure (gcf)
```

Time dependent diffuse transmission through a slab



Time Resolved Experiments



Optical Thickness



A. Fioretti et al., Opt. Comm. 149, 415 (1998)



G. Labeyrie et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 91, 223904 (2003)

Transport time for light in cold atoms



Double scattering in cold atoms :

- 1) Diffusion (scattering : phase + amplitude)
- 2) Propagation in effective medium (index effect)



Enhanced effects with magnetic field (Hanle + Faraday effects)

Time Resolved Experiments



$$\frac{\mathrm{v}_{\mathrm{tr}}}{\mathrm{c}_0} = \frac{\ell_{\mathrm{tr}}}{\mathrm{c}_0 \tau_{\mathrm{tr}}} \approx 3 \cdot 10^{-5}$$

Slow diffusion of light \neq diffusion of slow light

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1.3 Multiple Scattering + gain : random lasers

Multiple scattering beyond linear optics 'quantum' at the single atom level

Pump-probe spectroscopy

G. Grynberg, C. Robilliard, Phys. Rep. 355, 335 (2001)

Random lasers

H. Cao, Waves Random Media 13, 1 (2003).
H. Cao, J. Phys. A 38, 10497 (2005).
D. Wiersma, Nature Physics 4, 359 (2008).

Cold atom random lasers

W. Guerin et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 101 ,093002 (2008)
L.S. Froufe-Perez & al, PRL. 102, 173903 (2009)
W. Guerin et al., J. Opt. 12, 024002 (2010)



Ingredients:

- Gain Medium
- Cavity
 - \rightarrow Feedback & Mode Selection



Ingredients:

- Gain Medium
 - Cavity \rightarrow Feedback & Mode Selection

• Random Laser

D. Wiersma, Nat. Phys. 4 359 (2008)

- Gain Medium
- Multiple scattering

V.S. Letokhov, Sov. Phys. JETP 26, 835 (1968)



1939–2009

Main ingredient for a random laser :

Gain in volume (ℓ_g) vs Losses at surface (via diffusion : ℓ_{sc})

- ⇒ Critical volume / mass : photonic bomb
- 1) Diffusion equation with gain + boundary conditions $\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \Phi_{\omega}(\mathbf{r},t)}{\partial t} = D\Delta \Phi_{\omega}(\mathbf{r},t) + Q_{\omega}(\mathbf{r},t)N_{0}\Phi_{\omega}(\mathbf{r},t)$
- 2) Unfolded path longer than gain length

$$N \ell_{sc} > \ell_{g}$$

$$N \propto b^{2} = (L/\ell_{sc})^{2}$$

$$L > 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{l_{g}l_{sc}}{3}}$$





Pionneering experiments by

A. Migus et al. : laser crystal into a powder *J. Opt. Soc. Am.* **B10,** 2358 (1993)

N. Lawandy et al. : suspended TiO_2 laser dye *Nature* **368**, 436 (1994)







H. Cao et al. : ZnO powder PRL, **82**, 2278 (1999)



Some reviews papers:

H. Cao, Waves Random Media 13, 1 (2003).

- H. Cao, J. Phys. A 38, 10497 (2005).
- D. Wiersma, Nature Physics 4, 359 (2008).

Lasing with Cold Atoms

 $\Rightarrow \text{ excited/ground state population inversion} : \pi_e > \pi_e$

(used in 'Collective Atomic Recoil Laser) \Rightarrow external degree of freedom (metion) \Rightarrow population inversion : $\pi(v + dv) > \pi(v)$ (free moving atoms) \Rightarrow vibrational levels of ground population inversion : $\pi_n > \pi_{n'}$ (atoms bound in lattice)

Raman gain

 \Rightarrow internal degree of freedom of multilevel system

- \Rightarrow population inversion : $\pi_{g1} > \pi_{g2}$
- \Rightarrow large in cold atoms

Four Wave Mixing

- \Rightarrow phase conjugation
- \Rightarrow self-alignement / multimode



Gain Mechanisms with Cold Atoms



Gain Mechanisms with Cold Atoms



Lasing with Cold Atoms in a Cavity :

• Raman Lasers with cold atoms



L. Hilico, C. Fabre, E. Giacobino, Europhys. Lett. 18, 685 (1992)

Figure 1: A steady-state superradiant laser.



a, Left: in a standard, good-cavity laser far above threshold, many photons (yellow) circulate inside the cavity, extracting energy from the largely incoherent atomic gain medium (blue). Thermal vibrations of the mirror surfaces modulat...

J. Bohnet, et al., Nature 484, 78 (2012).

Lasing with Cold Atoms in a Cavity :

• « Recoil Induced Resonance » Lasers with cold atoms





K.Baumann, et al. Nature 464, 1301 (2010)

Lasing with Cold Atoms in a Cavity :



Lasing without external mirrors

Laser DFB (distributed feedback laser)

Optical parametric oscillation with distributed feedback in cold atoms



A. Schilke et al., Nature Photon. 6, 101 (2011).

- Multiple Scattering of Light by Cold Atoms
- Lasing with Cold Atoms:

How to combine these ingredients ?



Letokhov **diffusive** model



Transmission experiments:



with the extinction length



The atomic polarizability

$$\sigma_{ex} = k \operatorname{Im}(\alpha) = \sigma_0 \operatorname{Im}(\tilde{\alpha})$$

$$\sigma_{sc} = \frac{k^4}{6\pi} |\alpha|^2 = \sigma_0 |\tilde{\alpha}|^2$$

$$\sigma_{sc} = \frac{k^4}{6\pi} |\alpha|^2 = \sigma_0 |\tilde{\alpha}|^2$$

$$\alpha = \frac{\sigma_0}{k} |\tilde{\alpha}| = \operatorname{polarizability}_{(\text{with } \sim : \text{ dimensionless})}$$

$$L > 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{\ell_{sc}\ell_g}{3}}$$

$$\frac{1}{\ell_{ex}} = \frac{1}{\ell_{sc}} - \frac{1}{\ell_g}$$
On-resonance optical depth : $b_0 = n \sigma_0 L$

$$b_0 > \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{3|\tilde{\alpha}|^2 (|\tilde{\alpha}|^2 - \operatorname{Im}(\tilde{\alpha}))}}$$

- α depends on : $\ \, \bullet \ \, Gain \ \, scheme$
 - Rabi frequency Ω of the pump
 - atom-pump detuning Δ
 - \bullet detuning δ from the pump

Example : Mollow gain

$$\tilde{\alpha}(\Omega, \Delta, \delta) = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{1+4\Delta^2}{1+4\Delta^2+2\Omega^2} \times \frac{(\delta+i)(\delta-\Delta+i/2) - \Omega^2 \delta/(2\Delta-i)}{(\delta+i)(\delta-\Delta+i/2)(\delta+\Delta+i/2) - \Omega^2(\delta+i/2)}$$

with Ω , Δ , δ in unit of Γ .



L.S. Froufe-Perez & al, PRL. 102, 173903 (2009)

Best choice of gain scheme ?

Gain mechanism	Evaluation method	$b_{0 \mathrm{cr}}$	Validity of the diffusion approx.	Other problem	Ref.
Mollow gain	Analytical α	~ 200	×	Pump penetration ☺	[1]
NDFWM	Exp. & Num.	×	 ✓ 	Inelastic scattering ☺	
Raman gain (Zeeman)	Exp.	~ 200	×	Detection 😕	[2]
Raman gain (Hyperfine)	Num.	~ 90	×		
Raman gain (Hyperfine) + additional scattering	Num.	~ 30	✓		

[1] Phys. Rev. Lett. **102**, 173903 (2009).[2] Opt. Express **17**, 11236 (2009).

Our choice for gain : Hyperfin Raman Gain



Rubidium 85

gain \odot : b_{0,cr} = 90

scattering \otimes

Added scattering

F=2-F'=1 : scattering O

b_{0,cr}=30

The Experimental Setup : What to detect first ?






ASE and gain saturation



- No increase due to redirection of emitted photons (as in cavity laser)
- N= c^{te} ! vary compression = change $b_0 @ c^{te} N$



Q. Baudouin et al., Nat. Phys. 9, 357 (2013)





Microscopic modelling for cold atom random lasing

1) Input parameters : pump and repump lasers { $\Omega_{Raman}, \Delta_{Raman}, \Omega_{pump}, \Delta_{pump}$ } system « size » b₀

2) Ω_{RL}, Δ_{RL} => optical Bloch equations (4 level, 3 lasers : 2 external + selfgenerated RL)
i => density matrix solution

=> σ_{sc} , σ_{ext} , σ_{g} => 4+1 model : σ_{sc} + scattering σ_{2-1} .

3) Compute $2\pi \sqrt{(\sigma_0^2 / 3\sigma_g \sigma_{sc})} = b_{0,\text{Letokhov}}$ 4) Start with small Ω_{RL} & find Δ_{RL} to get smallest $b_{0,\text{Letokhov}}$ 5) If $b_{0,\text{exp}} < b_{0,\text{Letokhov}}$: even without gain saturation, sample too small : no RL If $b_{0,\text{exp}} > b_{0,\text{Letokhov}}$: our experiment must have more scattering : increase Ω_{RL} leading to gain saturation and larger $b_{0,\text{Letokhov}}$

6) $b_{0,exp} = b_{0,Letokhov}$: we know Ω_{RL} (including saturation, which sets losses = gain) 7) Compute pump and repump extinction = total fluorescence S

⊗ misses Raman hyperfin gain below threshold

Microscopic modelling for cold atom random lasing



Input parameters : pump and repump lasers { Ω_P , Δ_P , Ω_{rep} , Δ_{rep} }, system « size » b_0



Microscopic modelling for cold atom random lasing

Generalised Letokhov threshold

Model decomposition of radiative transfer equation



W. Guerin et al., J. Opt. Soc. Am. B 33, 1888 (2016)



A&A, **432**, 531, 2005

Random lasing in Space ?

V. Letokhov, Stimulated Radio Emission of the interstellar Medium, JETP 4, 321 (1966)



Letokhov, V. S. & Johansson S. *Astrophysical Lasers* (Oxford University Press, 2009).

Table 1			
Maser/laser	action	in	space

Microwaves	Molecules	OH, 18.5 cm	Weaver et al. (1965)
	>100 molecular	H_2O , 1.35 cm	Cheung et al. (1969)
	-Peeree	1.00 0.00	Townes (1997)
Submillimeters	Atom	H**	Strelnitskii et al. (1996)
IR	Molecule (Mars, Venus)	CO ₂ , 10 μm	Johnson et al. (1976)
			Mumma et al. (1981)
Optical waves	Ion, atom	$\mathrm{Fe}^+ \simeq 1 \ \mathrm{\mu m}$	Johansson and Letokhov (2002)
	η Carinae, gas condensations	OI, 8446 Å	Johansson and Letokhov (2005a–c)

S. Johansson ,V. Letokhov, New Astronomy Reviews, 51, 443 (2007)

<image>

That's all for now

Next lecture : wave / interference effects