Atomic and Molecular Physics

Compiled by: Mohammad Yasir Updated: June 8, 2023

Part B - Advanced

Quick Note: Atomic and Molecular Physics is not included in the Core Part A syllabus.

1. Diffuse hydrogen gas within a galaxy may be assumed to follow a Maxwell distribution at temperature $10^6~K$, while the temperature appropriate for the H gas in the intergalactic space, following the same distribution, may be taken to be $10^4~K$. The ratio of thermal broadening of the Lyman- α line from the H-atoms within the galaxy to that from the inter-galactic space is closest to.

(February 15, 2022)

A. 100

B. 1/100

C. 10

D. 1/10

2. The absorption lines arising from pure rotational effects of HCl are observed at 83.03 cm^{-1} , 103.73 cm^{-1} , 124.30 cm^{-1} , 145.03 cm^{-1} and 165.51 cm^{-1} . The moment of inertia of the HCl molecule is (take $\frac{\hbar}{2\pi c}=5.6\times 10^{-44}kg.m$) (November 19, 2020)

A. $1.1 \times 10^{-48} \ kg.m^2$

B. $2.8 \times 10^{-47} \ kg.m^2$

C. $2.8 \times 10^{-48} \ kg.m^2$

D. $1.1 \times 10^{-42} \ kg.m^2$

3. If we take the nuclear spin \vec{I} into account, the total angular momentum is $\vec{F} = \vec{L} + \vec{S} + \vec{I}$, where \vec{L} and \vec{S} are the orbital and spin angular momenta of the electron. The Hamiltonian of the hydrogen atom is corrected by the additional interaction $\lambda \vec{I} \cdot (\vec{L} + \vec{S})$, where $\lambda > 0$ is a constant. The total angular momentum quantum number F of the p-orbital state with the lowest energy is

(November 19, 2020)

A. 0

B. 1

C. 1/2

D. 3/2