

PHY4311 ASSIGNMENT 6

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Assume $\frac{N_2}{N_T} \sim 1$. Assume a cavity with $r_1 = 1$ ($t_1 = 0$) and $r_2 = 0.99$ ($t_2 = 0.01$) with no losses. Assume finally that the cavity is $L = 50\text{cm}$ long and the gain medium fills the cavity length ($\ell = L$) having a small signal gain of $g_0 = 0.01\text{cm}^{-1}$ and a saturation intensity of 10^4W/cm^2 .

(a) Please calculate the output intensity in W/cm^2 of the laser.

$$\begin{aligned} I^{out} &= tI^+ = \frac{t_2}{2} I^{sat} \left(\frac{g_0}{g_t} - 1 \right) \\ &= \frac{t_2}{2} I^{sat} \left(\frac{2\ell g_0}{1 - r_2} - 1 \right) \\ &= \frac{0.01}{2} (10^4) \left(\frac{2(50)(0.01)}{1 - 0.99} - 1 \right) \\ &= 4950\text{W/cm}^2 \equiv P \end{aligned}$$

(b) Please calculate the photon cavity lifetime and the cavity linewidth.

The cavity linewidth is

$$\begin{aligned} \delta\nu_c &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{c\ell g_t}{2L} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{c g_t}{2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{c(1 - r_2)}{4\ell} \quad (g_t = \frac{1}{2\ell}(1 - r_2)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{3 \times 10^8(1 - 0.99)}{4(0.5)} = 2.39 \times 10^5\text{Hz} \end{aligned}$$

The photon cavity lifetime is

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_c &= \frac{L}{\ell c g_t} \quad (\ell = L) \\ &= \frac{1}{c g_t} = \frac{2\ell}{c(1 - r_2)} \\ &= \frac{2(0.5)}{3 \times 10^8(1 - 0.99)} = 330\text{ns} \end{aligned}$$

(c) Assuming $\lambda = 500\text{nm}$, please calculate the Townes-Schawlow Limit $\Delta\nu$ of the laser.

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta\nu &= \frac{h\nu N_u}{\Delta N} \frac{4\pi(\delta\nu_c)^2}{P} \\
&= h\nu \frac{4\pi\delta\nu_c}{P} \left(\frac{N_u}{\Delta N} = \frac{N_u}{N_u - N_l} = 1 \text{ since } N_l = 0 \right) \\
&= h \frac{4\pi c \delta\nu_c}{P\lambda} \\
&= 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \frac{4\pi(3 \times 10^8)(2.39 \times 10^5)^2}{4950 \times 10^4 \text{W/m}^2 (500 \times 10^{-9})} \\
&= 5.77 \times 10^{-15} \text{Hz}
\end{aligned}$$

(d) How far δL would you have to shift one mirror to move the cavity mode frequency by the Townes-Schawlow linewidth?

The change in length δL is the difference between the length L of the cavity that gives $\lambda = 500\text{nm}$ with frequency ν and the length L' of the cavity that gives frequency $\nu' = \nu + \Delta\nu$.

$$\delta L = |L' - L|$$

We know that

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda &= \frac{2L}{n} \\
n &= \frac{2L}{\lambda} \\
&= \frac{2(0.5)}{500 \times 10^{-9}} \\
&= 2 \times 10^6
\end{aligned}$$

So now

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda &= \frac{c}{\nu} = \frac{2L}{n} \\
\nu &= \frac{cn}{2L}
\end{aligned}$$

And the new length can be found

$$\begin{aligned}
\nu' &= \frac{cn}{2L'} \\
L' &= \frac{cn}{2\nu'} \\
&= \frac{cn}{2(\nu + \Delta\nu)} \\
&= \frac{3 \times 10^8 (2 \times 10^6)}{2(\frac{3 \times 10^8}{500 \times 10^{-9}} + 5.77 \times 10^{-15})} \\
&= 0.5
\end{aligned}$$

The difference is so small my calculator can't handle it

$$\delta L = 0$$

(e) How does δL compare with an atom

It's a looooot smaller than an atom