

13.15 The number of transition radiation quanta emitted in the frequency interval $(\omega, \omega + d\omega)$

is given by
$$\frac{dN_T}{d\nu} = \frac{1}{\hbar\omega} \frac{dT}{d\nu} = \frac{Z^2 e^2}{\hbar\pi c} \frac{1}{\nu} \left[(1 + \gamma^2 \nu^2) \log\left(1 + \frac{1}{\gamma^2 \nu^2}\right) - 2 \right]$$

Then, the total number is

$$N_T = \int_{1/\gamma}^{+\infty} \frac{dN_T}{d\nu} d\nu = \frac{Z^2 e^2}{\hbar\pi c} \int_{1/\gamma}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{\nu} \left[(1 + \gamma^2 \nu^2) \log\left(1 + \frac{1}{\gamma^2 \nu^2}\right) - 2 \right] d\nu.$$

Using the result (from Mathematica).

$$\int_a^{+\infty} \left[(1 + \gamma^2 x^2) \log\left(1 + \frac{1}{\gamma^2 x^2}\right) - 2 \right] \frac{dx}{x} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \text{Li}_2\left(-\frac{1}{a^2}\right) - (1 + a^2) \log\left(1 + \frac{1}{a^2}\right),$$

we know that

$$N_T = \frac{Z^2 e^2}{\hbar\pi c} \left[1 - \frac{1}{2} \text{Li}_2\left(-\gamma^2\right) - \left(1 + \frac{1}{\gamma^2}\right) \log\left(1 + \gamma^2\right) \right],$$

where $\text{Li}_2(x)$ is the dilogarithm function. Using its expansion at infinity,

$$\text{Li}_2(x) = -\frac{1}{2} \log^2(-x) - \frac{\pi^2}{6} - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^2 x^k},$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} N_T &= \frac{Z^2 e^2}{\hbar\pi c} \left[1 + \frac{1}{4} \log^2(\gamma^2) + \frac{\pi^2}{12} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{k^2 \gamma^{2k}} - \left(1 + \frac{1}{\gamma^2}\right) \log(1 + \gamma^2) \right] \\ &= \frac{Z^2 e^2}{\hbar\pi c} \left[1 + \log^2 \gamma + \frac{\pi^2}{12} - 2 \log \gamma + O\left(\frac{1}{\gamma^2}\right) \right] \\ &= \frac{Z^2 e^2}{\hbar\pi c} \left[(\log \gamma - 1)^2 + \frac{\pi^2}{12} \right]. \end{aligned}$$