

Problems Irodov

6.18. In accordance with classical electrodynamics an electron moving with acceleration w loses its energy due to radiation as $dE/dt = -2(e_0)^2 w^2 / (3c^3)$, where e is the electron charge, c is the velocity of light. Estimate the time during which the energy of an electron performing almost harmonic oscillations with frequency $\omega = 5 \cdot 10^{15} \text{ s}^{-1}$ will decrease $\eta = 10$ times.

Notation: $\gamma = \frac{2e_0^2}{3c^2}$. If the velocity of the e is $v = v_0 \sin \omega t$ the average of the acceleration

squared is $\langle a^2 \rangle = \frac{2\pi}{\omega} \int_0^{2\pi/\omega} \left[\frac{d}{dt} (v_0 \sin \omega t) \right]^2 dt = v_0^2 \omega^2 / 2$. The electron energy diminishes in

time as

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = -\gamma \langle a^2 \rangle = -\gamma \frac{v_0^2 \omega^2}{2} \times \frac{m}{m} = -\gamma E \frac{\omega^2}{m}$$

$$E = E_0 \exp \left[-\gamma \frac{\omega^2}{m} t \right] = E_0 / 10. \text{ Numerical result: } t = 1.47 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ s.}$$

6.25. Calculate the magnetic field induction at the centre of a hydrogen atom caused by an electron moving along the first Bohr orbit.

The Bohr quantification condition $mv_n r_n = m \omega_n r_n^2 = n\hbar$. The normal acceleration is

$$a_n = \omega_n^2 r_n = \frac{e_0^2}{r_n^2 m}. \text{ The } e \text{ moving in a circle is equivalent to an electric current } I_n = e \frac{\omega_n}{2\pi}.$$

$$B = \mu_0 \frac{I}{2r_n} = 12.5 \text{ T}$$

Using Biot-Savart law

6.31. How many spectral lines are emitted by atomic hydrogen excited to the n -th energy level?

$$n(n-1)/2$$