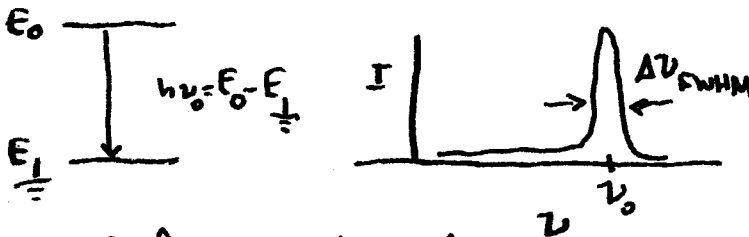


Let's play with degenerate perturbation theory analytically and pictorially. First

- #1 draw a very simple energy level diagram between a hypothetical ground state ( $E_{\frac{1}{2}}$ ) and an excited state ( $E_0$ ) which we will imagine is two fold degenerate.



There is also an intensity vs frequency graph to capture the 'spectral line'.

Take a minute to draw in the 'lines' on both diagrams. What

An ensemble of atoms in thermal equil. at temp  $T$  produces a 'Doppler-broadened' line where the Full Width - Half Max (FWHM) is determined by  $T$ ,  $\Delta\nu_D = \nu_0 \sqrt{\frac{8kT \ln 2}{Mc^2}}$  ...  $T$

physical process gives rise to a finite thickness to the 'spectral line' on the right? Jot down an answer.

- #2 Imagine that the Hamiltonian, which gives the two fold degenerate energy eigenvalue  $E_0$ , may be represented as the matrix

$$\underline{H}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} E_0 & 0 \\ 0 & E_0 \end{pmatrix},$$

and that there exists some 'small' perturbation, the matrix for which (in the basis in which the unperturbed Hamiltonian is diagonal) is shown below, and added to the unperturbed Hamiltonian, giving, to a first approximation, the complete Hamiltonian,

† the sodium D line (1 of them! :-)) has a Doppler broadening of 1.7 GHz at  $T = 500\text{K}$ ... those sodium discharge lamps get HOT!

#2 
$$\underline{H} = \underline{H}_0 + \underline{V}' \quad \begin{pmatrix} E_0 & 0 \\ 0 & E_0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} V'_{11} & V'_{12} \\ V'_{21} & V'_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \underline{H}$$

Try to find the new energy eigenvalues by diagonalizing the perturbation matrix (that is, by finding eigenvalues of the perturbation matrix). Find (or call them), assuming that  $\underline{V}'$  is hermitian,

(a) 
$$\underline{V}' = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{V} + \Delta E & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{V} - \Delta E \end{pmatrix}$$
 in terms of the  $\underline{V}'$  matrix elements  
 ... from  $\underline{V}' \underline{\chi} = \lambda \underline{\chi} \rightarrow \{ \underline{V}' - \lambda \underline{I} \} \cdot \underline{\chi} = 0$ ,  
 we find the ev's of  $\underline{V}'$  from the determinant,

$$\det \begin{vmatrix} V'_{11} - \lambda & \kappa \\ \kappa & V'_{22} - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0 \quad \dots (V'_{11} - \lambda)(V'_{22} - \lambda) - \kappa^2 = 0$$
  

$$\Leftrightarrow V'_{11}V'_{22} + \lambda^2 - \lambda(V'_{11} + V'_{22}) - \kappa^2 = 0$$
  

$$\lambda^2 - \lambda(V'_{11} + V'_{22}) + (V'_{11}V'_{22} - \kappa^2) = 0$$
  

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{V'_{11} + V'_{22}}{2} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{V'_{11} - V'_{22}}{2}\right)^2 + \kappa^2}$$
  
 after a little algebra... words!  

$$\lambda = \bar{V} \pm \Delta E$$
  
 where  $\bar{V} =$  'level shift'  $= \frac{V'_{11} + V'_{22}}{2}$   

$$\Delta E = \sqrt{\left(\frac{V'_{11} - V'_{22}}{2}\right)^2 + \kappa^2}$$
 ☺

$\underline{V}'$  must be hermitian, and for simplicity, let's take it to be real...

(b) The eigenstates of the perturbation then are linear combinations of the unperturbed eigenstates, say  $\underline{\xi}_1 = \sum_j c_j | \psi_j \rangle$ ,  $\underline{\xi}_2 = \sum_j d_j | \psi_j \rangle$  where  $\hat{H}_0 | \psi_j \rangle = E_0 | \psi_j \rangle$  etc.

Q: is  $\underline{H}_0$  diagonal in the new basis? YES. This follows from the original degeneracy  

$$\hat{H}_0 \underline{\xi}_1 = \sum_j c_j \hat{H}_0 | \psi_j \rangle = E_0 \sum_j c_j | \psi_j \rangle = E_0 \underline{\xi}_1$$
  
 etc...

(c) -- just a comment. We expect that the energy differences will depend on quantum #'s some how, which are associated with operators that commute with  $\underline{H}$ , that is, with both  $\underline{H}_0$  &  $\underline{V}'$ . These are called "GOOD QUANTUM #'S". Why are these quantum #'s the 'good ones'?

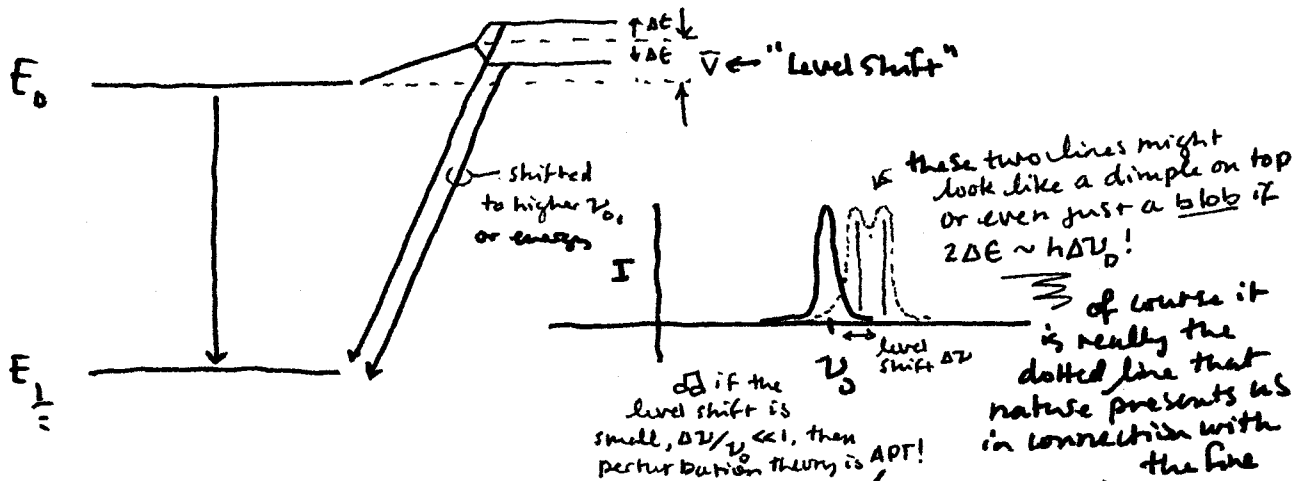
because they are constants of the motion, which is to say, they have values that exist simultaneously with the energies (this has to be a good thing ...). The other day, by chance, I was reading the world's 2nd paper on Quantum Mechanics, and in it Born writes which indicates that  $\hat{Q}$  &  $\hat{P}$  are constants of the motion in they commute!

$$\hat{Q} = \frac{1}{i} [H, Q]$$

$$\hat{P} = \frac{1}{i} [H, P]$$

see Mandl Sec. 3.3

#3 Now let's picture our results, and construe, or consider the implications. Go back to the 2 graphs, diagrams in part 1 and modify them in a way that make sense to you, but keep the 2 lines you drew ----- use dashed lines or something <sup>for the new ones.</sup> What about your new picture expresses the truth that  $v' \ll H_0$ .



#4 Our first physical application is the 'SPIN-ORBIT' effect in which the electron experiences the electric field of the proton (think H), but which, relativistically, becomes a magnetic field in its own frame of rest. That there is a splitting indicates that an electron (in its own rest frame :) has its own magnetic moment  $\vec{\mu}$  [the SG experiment was not understood, by them to prove this!!] It's the Fine Structure that convinces physicists that the 'intrinsic' magnetic moment exists! This is Sem Goudschmidt and George Uhlenbach! 'Discoverers of Spin' along with Pauli, who predicted/understood

its necessity in advance of the 'discovery' of Goudschmidt & Uhlenbach. 1924 I think ...

Anyway it turns out that

↑ in 24 Pauli gets the 'two-valuedness' of  $e^-$ , in 1925, Sept. ~~was before~~ Stern & George used Spin to understand the fine structure....  
Uhlenbeck.

$$\hat{V}_{SO} = A \hat{L} \cdot \hat{S}$$

$\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   
 $\alpha \frac{h}{m_e}$

$\propto \vec{B}$  which arises by a relativistic transformation of the electric field experienced by an electron w.  $g \neq 1$  in the H atom (or any atom....)

A depends on  $\left\langle \frac{1}{r} \frac{dV}{dr} \right\rangle_{nl}$  and can be gotten experimentally for precise comparison w. theory....

$\frac{dV}{dr}$  !!

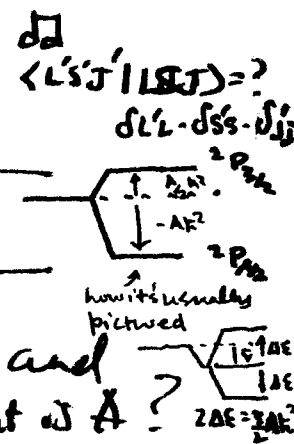
Mendel shows us that  $\vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S} \Rightarrow \vec{L} \cdot \vec{S} = \frac{1}{2} (J^2 - L^2 - S^2)$   
 $\therefore \hat{V}_{SO} = \frac{A}{2} \{ \hat{J}^2 - \hat{L}^2 - \hat{S}^2 \} \Rightarrow$  the good Q#s are  $J, L, S$  (not! M!) so the kets  $|JM\rangle$  are a natural basis for the spin-orbit effect, w. M suppressed and with L & S expressed in every ket,  $|LSJ\rangle$ ....

Find  $V_{SO}$  in the  $^2P$  ket basis and read off the new eigenvalues with the perturbation 'turned on'

\*  $L=1, S=\frac{1}{2}$  For  $^2P$  term...  $J=\frac{3}{2}$   
 $\therefore \hat{L} \cdot \hat{S} |1 \frac{1}{2} \frac{3}{2}\rangle = \frac{\hbar^2}{2} \left\{ \frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{3}{2} + 1 \right) - 1(1+1) - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{2} + 1 \right) \right\} |1 \frac{1}{2} \frac{3}{2}\rangle$   
 $= \hbar^2 \left[ \frac{15}{4} - \frac{8}{4} - \frac{3}{4} \right]$   
 $= \hbar^2 \left[ \frac{4}{4} \right]$

$V_{SO} = \langle LS \frac{3}{2} |$

	$ LS \frac{3}{2}\rangle$	$ LS \frac{1}{2}\rangle$	
$\langle LS \frac{3}{2}  $	$\frac{A\hbar^2}{2}$	0	
$\langle LS \frac{1}{2}  $	0	$-A\hbar^2$	



$2\Delta E = 4.6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}$   
 $\therefore \frac{3}{2} A \hbar^2 = 4.6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}$   
 $A = \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{4.6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}}{\hbar^2}$

Show that there is a level shift of  $-\frac{A}{4}$  and that  $\Delta E = \pm \frac{3A}{4}$ . If the gap is  $4.6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}$ , what is A?



$$\therefore A = \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{4.6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}}{\hbar^2} = \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{4.6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}}{\left(1.055 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s} \cdot \frac{1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ eV}}{\text{J}}\right)^2}$$

$$= 7.06 \times 10^{25} \frac{1}{\text{eV}\cdot\text{s}^2}$$

→ crazy unit that!

$$1 \text{ eV} = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

$$\hbar = 6.59 \times 10^{-16} \text{ eV}\cdot\text{s}$$

but if  $A \hbar^2 \approx 5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}$ ,  $\hbar^2$  being fantastically small,  $A$  had better be fantastically big...