

Quantum Technology and Quantum Phenomena in Macroscopic Systems
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Lecture – 6
2 Level System III

Hello! Welcome to lecture 4 of this course. In the last lecture, we discussed a generic 2 level system. In this lecture we are going to study a 2 level atom interacting with a classical field, and this will enable us to introduce some theoretical tools, and also it will help us deepen our understanding about 2 level atoms. So, let us begin.

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$\vec{E}(t) = \hat{\eta} E_0 \cos \omega t$

↑ polarization direction ↑ amplitude

Let us consider as an example of a real physical system: a 2-level atom interacting with a classical electromagnetic field, a laser. The atom is created as a quantum system while the field is considered as classical. So, we are considering that a laser field with frequency ω is incident on the atom which is modeled as a 2-level atom having the ground state is leveled as ket g and the excited state is labeled as ket e . We assume that the laser field is monochromatic and its electric field is represented by this particular equation E of t is equal to η cap $E_0 \cos \omega t$, where η cap is the unit polarization vector of the electric field and E_0 is the amplitude of the electric field.

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$$\begin{aligned}
\vec{E}(t) &= \hat{n} E_0 \cos \omega t \\
&= \hat{n} \frac{E_0}{2} \left(e^{-i\omega t} + e^{i\omega t} \right) \\
&= \vec{E}^+(t) + \vec{E}^-(t) \\
\vec{E}^+(t) &\sim e^{-i(+\omega)t} = e^{-i\omega t} \\
\vec{E}^-(t) &\sim e^{-i(-\omega)t} = e^{+i\omega t}
\end{aligned}$$

While writing this expression we are not considering or we are neglecting the spatial dependence of the field and we can do that if we assume that the wavelength of the field is much longer than the size of the atom. So, we are assuming here that the wavelength of the laser is longer than the size of the atom and this approximation is known as the long-wavelength approximation and sometimes it is also known as, actually more famously, it is known as the dipole approximation.

And under this approximation one can ignore the variation of the field over the extent of the atom and this is a quite a valid approximation if one deals with optical transition as atomic dimensions are in the angstrom scales while the optical wavelengths are hundreds of nanometers. Now we can write the electric field in this way as well, say E of t is equal to $\epsilon_0 E_0 \cos \omega t$ this we can write as $\epsilon_0 E_0$ by $2 e$ to the power $i \omega t - i \omega t + e$ to the power $i \omega t$.

So, in fact many times it is convenient to decompose the electric field into positive and negative frequency components and we'll see the benefit later. So, what I mean to say is that I can now write this as 2 parts, one is the positive frequency part and another one is the negative frequency part. By this I mean that this E^+ of t is associated with e to the power $-i \omega t$ which is e to the power $-i \omega t$, this term. On the other hand, E^- of t is related to e to the power $+i \omega t$, this is negative frequency $-\omega t$ so, which is e to the power $+i \omega t$.

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$$\begin{aligned}
 & + |e\rangle\langle e| H_A |g\rangle\langle g| \\
 & + |e\rangle\langle e| H_A |e\rangle\langle e| \\
 \\
 H_A |g\rangle &= 0 & \langle g|e\rangle &= 0 \\
 H_A |e\rangle &= \hbar\omega_0 |e\rangle \\
 \\
 \boxed{H_A} &= \hbar\omega_0 |e\rangle\langle e|
 \end{aligned}$$

The atom which is modeled as a 2-level system has atomic transition frequency ω_0 . So, here say the ground state has energy zero then the excited state will have energy $\hbar\omega_0$. The ground state as I said is labeled as ket g and this is labeled as ket e . When the laser frequency, which has frequency ω , when it exactly matches the transition frequency when ω is equal to ω_0 , we say that the laser is in resonance with the atom or this is generally known as a resonant interaction.

In general, the laser frequency is slightly detuned. It is slightly detuned or off from the atomic transition frequency and this difference is quantified. So, this is what our ω is and this difference is quantified by a parameter known as the detuning parameter and defined as $\omega - \omega_0$. We can write the Hamiltonian for the atom at the field as a sum of the free atomic Hamiltonian.

So, that is say H_A and the atomic Hamiltonian let me write it as H_0 . In the basis state, ket g ket e , we can express the free atomic Hamiltonian as H_0 in this way. We already know how we can express an operator in the matrix form. So, we can sandwich two identity operator this way. So, we already discussed it in the first lecture. So, now I have 2 states. It is a 2-state problem.

So, therefore if I open it up I will have ket g bra g + H_0 ket g bra g + ket g bra g H_0 ket e bra e + ket e bra e H_0 ket g bra g + ket e bra e H_0 ket e bra e . So, we will have these four terms. Now we have this eigenvalue equation when atomic Hamiltonian operates on the ground state we are going to get the zero energy and if the atomic operator operates on the

excited state it will pop out energy $\hbar \omega_0$ and this is what we will get and also, we know that these states are orthogonal to each other.

So, $\langle e | \mu | g \rangle$, this scalar product is equal to zero. So, therefore you can immediately see from these relations that the atomic Hamiltonian can be written as $\hbar \omega_0 |e\rangle\langle e|$.

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$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mu} &= \begin{pmatrix} \mu_{gg} & \mu_{ge} \\ \mu_{eg} & \mu_{ee} \end{pmatrix} \\ \mu_{gg} &= \langle g | \hat{\mu} | g \rangle \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi_g^* (-e \hat{r}_e) \psi_g d\tau \\ &= 0 \\ \hat{\mu} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mu_{ge} \\ \mu_{eg} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Now what about the atom field interaction part of the Hamiltonian that is H_{AF} . What is this? The electric field interacts with the dipole moment of the atom and this interaction is given by $-\mu \cdot E$ where μ is the dipole moment operator of the atom. While writing it the electric field is considered as classical and the atom is considered as quantum. The dipole moment operator μ is equal to $-e r_e$ for a single electron atom with r_e denoting the position operator of the electron.

We can express the dipole moment operator also in the basis states of $|e\rangle$ and $|g\rangle$. This is our basis states and it can be written in the matrix form as follows. Let me write it, we have the elements like $\langle g | \mu | g \rangle$, then we have $\langle g | \mu | e \rangle$, $\langle e | \mu | g \rangle$ and $\langle e | \mu | e \rangle$. In short notation, we can write this dipole moment operator in the matrix form as: this term would be first μ_{gg} this one and then we have μ_{ge} , μ_{eg} and μ_{ee} .

It can be shown that the diagonal elements of this matrix vanish as the dipole moment operator has odd parity. Let me explain. We can write μ_{gg} in the integral form also. μ_{gg} is equal to $\langle g | \mu | g \rangle$ and in the Schrodinger representation, in the integral form, we can write it

as $\langle g | \hat{\mu} | e \rangle$ and the dipole moment operator is $-e r e$ and this is the integration is taken over the full volume.

Now the dipole moment operator this has a odd parity. It is a odd function but this wave function has a definite parity and because of that this overall whole integrand is an odd function and because the integration is taken from $-\infty$ to $+\infty$. So, you know that integration over a odd function will result in zero and that is the reason we have this dipole moment operator. we do not have the diagonal elements and we will have only the off diagonal elements μ_{ge} and μ_{eg} .

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$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\mu} &= \langle g | \hat{\mu} | e \rangle (\hat{\sigma} + \hat{\sigma}^\dagger) \\ &= \vec{\mu}^+ + \vec{\mu}^- \end{aligned}$$

Here, $\vec{\mu}^+ \sim \hat{\sigma}^-$
 $\vec{\mu}^- \sim \hat{\sigma}^+$

$\langle \hat{\sigma}^- \rangle$ has Time dependence $e^{-i(+\omega_0)t}$

Let me write the full form of the dipole moment operator as follows: we have μ is equal to $\langle g | \hat{\mu} | e \rangle$ you already know how to write it in the Dirac notations. The full form you know how to write it. So, let me write it and here I have $\langle e | \hat{\mu} | e \rangle$ then we have $+\langle g | \hat{\mu} | e \rangle$ + $\langle e | \hat{\mu} | g \rangle$. So, all the four elements I have written now four terms now this term is μ_{gg} this term vanishes. Similarly, this term also vanishes. So, therefore I can write it as μ_{ge} and this would be $\langle g | e \rangle + \langle e | g \rangle$.

Let me define 2 operators, atomic lowering operator $\hat{\sigma}_-$, say we are going from the excited state to the ground state. So, this is the lowering atomic lowering operator. Similarly, atomic raising operator would be we are going from the ground state to the excited state. In terms of these operators we can write the dipole moment operator $\hat{\mu}$ as follows: we can write $\hat{\mu} = \mu_{ge} \hat{\sigma}_+ + \mu_{eg} \hat{\sigma}_-$.

Let me write it σ and σ^+ . The full Hamiltonian for the atom field system we can write in terms of these new operators as follows: we have atomic part in the atom field interaction part. Now I can write atom part is $\hbar \omega_0 e^{-i\omega_0 t} (g \mu_e \sigma^+ + \sigma^+ \mu_e \sigma)$. Sometimes this we can write also as $\hbar \omega_0 (\sigma^+ \mu_e \sigma + \sigma \mu_e \sigma^+)$, this would retain as it is $\sigma^+ + \sigma \mu_e \sigma$.

Let me quickly show you $\sigma^+ \mu_e \sigma$ would be σ^+ is the atomic raising operator going from the ground state to the excited state and σ is the lowering operator going from the excited state to the ground state. You can always remember it this way it is easy. Then you see that this is scalar product of the ket g 's and that would be equal to 1.

Then we will be left out with this here and this is exactly this one. So, that is the reason I can write the full Hamiltonian exclusively in terms of this atomic raising and lowering operators. Now just like the way we decompose the electric field into positive and negative frequency parts we can also do the same for the dipole moment operator. If you recall we earlier wrote the electric field electric field as E^+ and E^- where the electric field this is the positive frequency part of the electric field and it has this time dependence $e^{-i(\omega_0 + \omega)t}$.

So, that is why it is positive frequency part and E^- is $e^{-i(\omega_0 - \omega)t}$. Now exactly in the same way let us see if we can do that for the dipole moment operator. The dipole moment operator is $g \mu_e (\sigma^+ + \sigma)$. This let me write as μ^+ and μ^- . Here, μ^+ the positive frequency part is related to σ operator the atomic lowering operator. on the other hand, μ^- is associated with σ^+ operator.

Why the time dependency here is the positive frequency part on the other hand here negative frequency part? The reason is that it can be actually shown that the expectation value of this atomic lowering operator has time dependence $e^{-i(\omega_0 + \omega)t}$, ω_0 is the atomic transition frequency. Similarly, we can show that the σ^+ has time dependence $e^{-i(\omega_0 - \omega)t}$.

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$$\begin{aligned}
&= |g\rangle \langle e| \\
&= \sigma \\
i\hbar \frac{d\langle \sigma \rangle}{dt} &= \hbar \omega_0 \langle \sigma \rangle \\
\Rightarrow \frac{d\langle \sigma \rangle}{dt} &= -i\omega_0 \langle \sigma \rangle \\
\Rightarrow \langle \sigma(t) \rangle &= \langle \sigma(0) \rangle e^{-i\omega_0 t} \\
\text{Similarly, } \langle \sigma^\dagger(t) \rangle &= \langle \sigma^\dagger(0) \rangle e^{+i\omega_0 t}
\end{aligned}$$

Actually, let me show this. To do that let me first write the atomic lowering operator as this and we can work out the time evolution of this lowering operator using the Heisenberg equation of motion. So, that would be $i\hbar \frac{d\sigma}{dt}$ is equal to σ because this atomic it is related to the atom sigma operator receptor. So, let me just deal with this atomic part of the Hamiltonian only. Then I have here sigma, this would be $\hbar \omega_0 \sigma^\dagger \sigma$.

And this would be equal to $\hbar \omega_0$ as you can see this would be $\sigma \sigma^\dagger \sigma$. This commutation relation can be very easily worked out and that would be equal to, in fact this whole relation can be worked out, and this will give you $\hbar \omega_0 \sigma$. Let me quickly show you how it can be worked out. $\sigma \sigma^\dagger$, first let me work it out, $\sigma \sigma^\dagger$ would be sigma is this one, atomic lowering operator, sigma dagger is e.g.

And that would be minus you will have here e.g. and here would have g.e. So, I hope you are getting it. This is your sigma and this is your sigma dagger and this is your sigma dagger and this is your sigma and you can immediately see that this is going to give me this, $-\ket{e}\bra{e}$ and then if I multiply this by sigma okay and sigma here is, you are going from excited to lower. So, this is what you will have if you can now immediately see that this will simply give you $g \ket{e}\bra{e}$ and this is nothing but the lowering operator atomic lowering operator.

So, we have $i\hbar \frac{d\langle \sigma \rangle}{dt}$ is equal to $\hbar \omega_0 \langle \sigma \rangle$ expectation value of sigma and immediately you see that I have the equation $\frac{d\langle \sigma \rangle}{dt}$ is

equal to $-i\omega_0 \sigma$ and if you solve it trivially you will get the time evolution of this atomic lowering operator would be the $\sigma_0 e^{-i\omega_0 t}$. Similarly, you can show that $\sigma_+ e^{i\omega_0 t}$ is equal to $\sigma_+ e^{i\omega_0 t}$ and that is the reason we can decompose the atomic dipole moment operator into 2 parts like this. We can now open up the atom field Hamiltonian using this decomposition in terms of the electric field as well as the dipole moment operator.

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$\vec{\mu} \cdot \vec{E} \sim e^{\pm i\Delta t}$
 If $|\omega - \omega_0| \ll \omega + \omega_0$, then
 we can discard all the highly oscillating terms.
 The Rotating Wave Approximation — RWA

So, we have atom field Hamiltonian as $\mu \cdot E$ which I can now write as $-\mu_+ \cdot E_- + \mu_- \cdot E_+$. If I take the dot product on both sides I will get four terms. So, that would be $-\mu_+ \cdot E_- + \mu_- \cdot E_+ - \mu_+ \cdot E_+ - \mu_- \cdot E_-$. Now let me again write that μ_+ varies with time as $e^{-i\omega_0 t}$, μ_- varies as $e^{i\omega_0 t}$ and E_+ varies as $e^{-i\omega t}$ and E_- varies as $e^{i\omega t}$. So, you can see that we have this term as well as this term, these 2 terms.

Let me write here $\mu_+ \cdot E_-$ or $-\mu_- \cdot E_+$ these 2 terms vary as $e^{-i(\omega + \omega_0)t}$. Similarly, you will have $\mu_+ \cdot E_+$ that will vary as $e^{i(\omega - \omega_0)t}$ or $\mu_- \cdot E_-$ that combination will vary as $e^{-i(\omega - \omega_0)t}$. So, clearly there are these 2 terms varies very rapidly, they oscillates very rapidly.

On the other hand, these 2 terms oscillate with frequency $e^{\pm i\Delta t}$. It oscillates with frequency Δ that is the detuning parameter and that means that out of these four terms 2 terms will oscillates very rapidly and if we assume that $\omega - \omega_0$. The modulus of

this is much much less than $\omega + \omega_0$. We can discard all the highly oscillating terms.

This is a very reasonable approximation as the frequencies involved are generally in the optical domain. So, if this condition is there then we can discard all the highly oscillating terms and this approximation is widely used and this approximation is known as the rotating wave approximation or famously in sort it is called RWA.

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Handwritten equations on a whiteboard background:

$$\Omega \gg \nu$$

$$H_{AF} = \frac{\hbar\Omega}{2} \left(\sigma^- e^{i\omega t} + \sigma^+ e^{-i\omega t} \right)$$

$$|\psi\rangle = \underline{c}_g |g\rangle + \underline{c}_e |e\rangle$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial |\psi\rangle}{\partial t} = H |\psi\rangle = (H_A + H_{AF}) |\psi\rangle$$

Now under RWA, under the rotating wave approximation, we can therefore write the atom field interaction term as $-\mu \cdot \dot{E} - \mu \cdot \dot{E}^+$. So, therefore we can write, if I put up the terms here I will have $-g \mu \cdot \sigma \cdot \dot{E}_0 -$. I am writing the first term here E_0^- , that is the amplitude of the electric field e to the power $i\omega t$ and from this second term I will have $-g \mu \cdot \sigma^\dagger \cdot \dot{E}_0^+ e^{-i\omega t}$.

Now this electric field amplitude vector $-+$. Let me write it explicitly writing the polarization state direction as \hat{e} then the magnitude of the amplitude is E_0 it is $-+$ and using this I can write the atom field interaction term Hamiltonian as $g \mu \cdot \hat{e} \cdot \sigma \cdot E_0^- - \sigma^\dagger \cdot \hat{e} \cdot \mu \cdot E_0^+ e^{-i\omega t}$. Let us define a quantity known as the Rabi frequency and it is a very important parameter.

It is defined as Ω is equal to minus twice that of the matrix element $g \hat{e} \cdot \mu$ by \hbar cross into E_0^- . This is equal to $-$ of the twice that of the matrix element $g \hat{e} \cdot \mu$

μ_e by $\hbar \text{cross } E_0 +$. Now assume that these amplitudes E_0 and $E_0 +$ and $E_0 -$ are real and take $E_0 +$ is equal to $E_0 -$ is equal to E_0 by 2 then the Rabi frequency we can write as Ω is equal to $-g \mu_e \text{ dot } \eta_e$ by $\hbar \text{cross } E_0$.

Now generally the phase of the dipole matrix element, phase of the dipole moment matrix element that means this guy is chosen. So, that Rabi frequency is always positive, Ω is greater than zero. The Rabi frequency characterizes the strength of the atom field coupling and in terms of Rabi frequency our atom field interaction Hamiltonian will take this form. It would be $\hbar \text{cross } \Omega$ by 2 σ_e to the power $i \Omega t + \sigma_g$ dagger e to the power $-i \Omega t$.

Now the atomic state of our 2-level atom can be written as superposition of the ground state and the excited state with the corresponding coefficients complex coefficients c_g and c_e . The time dependencies are contained in this coefficient c_g and c_e and the time evolution is given by the Schrodinger equation, that is $i \hbar \text{cross } \text{del } \psi \text{ del } t$ is equal to $H \psi$ where we have this as atomic part and the atom field interaction part.

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Handwritten mathematical derivation showing the Schrodinger equation for coefficients c_g and c_e . The equations are:

$$i \hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = \frac{\hbar \Omega}{2} e$$

$$i \hbar \frac{\partial c_e}{\partial t} = \hbar \omega_0 c_e + \frac{\hbar \Omega}{2} c_g e^{-i \omega t}$$

Then, the equations are boxed:

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{\partial c_g}{\partial t} = -i \frac{\Omega}{2} e^{i \omega t} \\ \frac{\partial c_e}{\partial t} = -i \omega_0 c_e - \frac{i \Omega}{2} c_g e^{-i \omega t} \end{cases}$$

Now if I use this state and then using this Schrodinger equation we can obtain a couple differential equation for these coefficients and we'll have $i \hbar \text{cross } \text{del } c_g \text{ del } t$ is equal to $\hbar \text{cross } \Omega$ by 2 $c_e e$ to the power $i \Omega t$ and we will have $\text{del } c_e \text{ del } t$ is equal to $\hbar \text{cross } \Omega$ by 2 $c_g e$ to the power $-i \Omega t$ or we can simply write $\text{del } c_g \text{ del } t$ is equal to $-i \Omega$ by 2 e to the power $i \Omega t$ and $\text{del } c_e \text{ del } t$ is equal to $-i \omega_0 c_e - i \Omega$ by 2 $c_g e$ to the power $-i \Omega t$.

These coupled equations, this couple first order differential equations involve oscillating terms at optical frequencies. Many time it is more convenient to transform into a core rotating frame to get rid of this fast rotation or the explicit time dependence and to do that let us make the transformation.

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$$\frac{d}{dt} = c + -e \dots 2 0$$

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{\hbar\Omega}{2} \\ \frac{\hbar\Omega}{2} & -\hbar\Delta \end{pmatrix}$$

or $\tilde{H} = -\hbar\Delta |e\rangle\langle e| + \frac{\hbar\Omega}{2} (\sigma + \sigma^\dagger)$

Unitary transformation

Make a transformation. Let us take say c e tilde we are making the transformation from say c g c e to c g tilde and c tilde they are defined as c tilde is equal to c e e to the power i ω t and c g tilde it remains the same with c g and if I do this transformation I can rewrite my couple differential equation very trivially as $\frac{d}{dt} c$ g $\frac{d}{dt}$ is equal to $-i$ ω c e tilde and $\frac{d}{dt} c$ e tilde $\frac{d}{dt}$ is equal to i Δ this is the detuning parameter c e tilde $-i$ ω c g .

Let me remind you that Δ you will find as $\omega - \omega_0$ where is the detuning of the laser from the atomic resonance and now in the transform frame the Hamiltonian in the matrix form it would take this form. You will have 0 \hbar Ω $\frac{\hbar}{2}$ \hbar Ω $\frac{\hbar}{2}$ $-\hbar$ Δ . As you can see the time dependency is no longer there or if I write it in terms of the basis states I have $-\hbar$ Δ $|e\rangle\langle e| + \hbar$ $\frac{\Omega}{2}$ $(\sigma + \sigma^\dagger)$.

What we have done in more sophisticated language is termed as unitary transformation and I think I have already discussed about unitary transformation in lecture one but considering its significance let me once again remind you about it.

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$$\Rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$$

$$\tilde{H} = U H U^\dagger + i\hbar \frac{\partial U}{\partial t} U^\dagger$$

Take $U = e^{i\omega t |e\rangle\langle e|}$

$$\tilde{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{\hbar\Omega}{2} \\ \frac{\hbar\Omega}{2} & -\hbar\Delta \end{pmatrix}$$

Suppose we have a unitary transformation that takes us from the state vector ψ to a new state vector $\tilde{\psi}$ via this transformation say $\tilde{\psi}$ is equal to $U\psi$, U is the unitary transformation $U\psi$. Now the question is how does the Hamiltonian transform? That means when I am in the whole state vector its time evolution is given by this Schrodinger equation $i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = H\psi$ and when I go over to a new state vector $\tilde{\psi}$ its time evolution is again given by the Schrodinger equation but now here this H is replaced by a new Hamiltonian \tilde{H} .

I want to know how this \tilde{H} is related to the old Hamiltonian that we can do easily. Let me show you how to do that how to find that relation. So, I have $i\hbar \frac{\partial \tilde{\psi}}{\partial t} = \tilde{H}\tilde{\psi}$. Let me now use this transformation $\tilde{\psi} = U\psi$ here I have $U\psi$ is equal to $\tilde{H}U\psi$. If I open up the left-hand side of the equation I have $i\hbar \frac{\partial U\psi}{\partial t} = \tilde{H}U\psi$ which I can again write as $i\hbar \frac{\partial U}{\partial t}\psi + U i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = \tilde{H}U\psi$ which I can again write as $i\hbar \frac{\partial U}{\partial t}\psi + U i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = \tilde{H}U\psi$. You see this one $i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t}$, okay let me write here $= H\psi$. I can write it as $H\psi$.

And I will take ψ to the other side. So, I will have H in fact I will have UH and then let me write here it is ψ and $\tilde{H}U\psi$ from here I can immediately get what is \tilde{H} . If I multiply these sides or operate this side from the right by U^\dagger then I will have \tilde{H} and I will have $i\hbar \frac{\partial U}{\partial t} U^\dagger + U H U^\dagger$. So, therefore I have this transformation relation that the new Hamiltonian is related to the old Hamiltonian by this relation.

And this relation is actually worth remembering. So, this is what we have. We can immediately apply it for our considered case. If we take the unitary transformation as $e^{i\omega t}$ take it as $i\omega t$ ket e bra e and apply it to our 2 level system case here then we can show that this Hamiltonian H tilde would indeed turn out to be 0 h cross ω by 2 h cross ω by $2 - h$ cross δ .

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Assume $t=0$, $c_g(0) = 1$, $c_e(0) = 0$

$$c_g(t) = \cos \frac{\Omega}{2} t$$

$$c_e(t) = -i \sin \frac{\Omega}{2} t$$

$$P_g(t) = |c_g|^2 = \cos^2 \frac{\Omega}{2} t = \frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos \Omega t)$$

$$P_e(t) = |c_e|^2 = \sin^2 \frac{\Omega}{2} t = \frac{1}{2} (1 - \cos \Omega t)$$

Now let us discuss an interesting phenomena which is known as Rabi flopping. First, we consider the case of exact resonance when detuning is equal to zero that means our laser frequency is exactly tuned to the atomic resonance frequency. So, the laser frequency laser that is incident exactly matches the transition frequency of the atom. In this case the coupled differential equation that we wrote for the coefficient will take this form. It would be $\frac{d c_g}{d t}$ is equal to $-i \omega$ by $2 c_e$ tilde.

And the other one would be $\frac{d c_e}{d t}$ is equal to $-i \omega$ by $2 c_g$. Now we can easily obtain the uncoupled second order differential equation from here. It is easy to see that you will get $\frac{d^2 c_g}{d t^2} + \omega^2 c_g = 0$ and $\frac{d^2 c_e}{d t^2} + \omega^2 c_e = 0$. These equations are well known and they are frequently solved in many textbooks. However, let me write down the general solution here.

The general solution for this couple equations. The general solutions $c_g(t)$ would be equal to $A \sin \omega t + B \cos \omega t$. Now let me find out this constants A and B. At time t is equal to 0 I can write $c_g(0)$ is equal to B. On the other hand, I can find out the

other constant a from this equation because c_e at time t from this equation I can write it as $2i$ by ω del c_g del t and therefore I will get $2i$ by ω A ω by $2 \cos \omega$ by $2t - \omega$ by $2B \sin \omega$ by $2t$.

So, immediately you will find that this constant A would be equal to $-i c_e$ at time t is equal to 0 and therefore we can write that c_g of t is equal to c_g of $0 \cos \omega$ by $2t - i c_e$ tilde $\sin \omega$ by $2t$ and c_e tilde at time t is equal to c tilde times t is equal to $0 \cos \omega$ by $2t - i c_g$ at time t is equal to 0 and $\sin \omega$ by $2t$. Now assume that that at time t is equal to 0 the atom is in the ground state. So, this coefficient c_g is equal to 1 at time t is equal to 0 and c tilde at time t is equal to 0 is 0 and therefore the general solution will simply become c_g t is equal to $\cos \omega$ by $2t$ and c tilde at time t would be equal to $-i \sin \omega$ by $2t$.

The ground and the excited state populations are therefore will be given by the probabilities. So, P_g of t is equal to $\text{mod of } c_g \text{ square}$ which is equal to $\cos \text{ square } \omega$ by $2t$ on the other hand the population in the excited state would be given by $c_e \text{ tilde mod square}$ and that would be $\sin \text{ square } \omega$ by $2t$. In fact, I can write it $\cos \text{ square } \omega$ t as half of $1 + \cos \omega$ t and this one I can write as half of $1 - \cos \omega$ t .

Clearly the population oscillates between the ground state and the excited states at angular frequency ω . This oscillation phenomenon is referred to as Rabi flopping. We can discuss this phenomenon by pictorial diagram.

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$\tilde{\Omega} > \Omega$

- oscillation rate increases as Δ increase
- For weak fields $|\Delta| \gg \Omega$
 $\Rightarrow \tilde{\Omega} \approx |\Delta|$
- For strong fields $|\Delta| \ll \Omega$
 $\tilde{\Omega} \approx \Omega$

^
12
/
13
v

If I plot the probability versus the Rabi frequency. Let me plot ωt rather. Then initially the atom is in the ground state. So, it will go from the ground state and this ground state population will oscillate with the Rabi frequency ω . On the other hand, the excited state will also oscillate and it will be like this. So, this bold one solid curve represents the ground state probability P_g and this dotted one corresponds to excited state population. So, here this is 0, this is π and this is 2π and so on. The period of oscillation is $2\pi/\omega$.

Now you can see some interesting facts from this plot say, if the field is turned on for a duration if the laser field is turned on for a duration say half of the time period of oscillation that is the time period of oscillation then the product ωt by 2. This ωt Rabi frequency into time product would be equal to π . So, I am talking about this one as you can see this means that the atom which is initially in the ground state is promoted to the excited state. You see here it is now going to the excited state with 100 probability or unit probability this is one.

On the other hand, say we have a and this kind of pulse are actually called π pulse. So, when the Rabi frequency into time product is equal to π , the laser pulse is known as π pulse. On the other hand, if we have this product as say $\pi/2$ if your ωt is equal to $\pi/2$ in that case this will refer to this particular point $\pi/2$. Actually this is 0.5. I am not drawing it appropriately.

So, this is the point here. So, in this case we will be able to create a state which would be the superposition of the ground state and the excited state. So, we will have a state which will be superposition of the ground state and the excited state. So, this method can be used for state preparation though it has lot of issues but in principle this method is useful for state preparation. In the case of non-zero detuning, that is when δ is not equal to 0 non-zero detuning that means the laser field is not in resonance with the atomic transition frequency.

We need to solve the coupled equation $\frac{d c_g}{dt}$ is equal to $-i\omega/2 c_e - \delta c_g$ and $\frac{d c_e}{dt}$ is equal to $i\delta c_e - i\omega/2 c_g$. This can be solved and if we solve it then one can get the solution like this $c_g(t)$ would be equal to $e^{-i\delta t/2} \cos(\tilde{\omega} t/2)$. I will define what is $\tilde{\omega}$ here $\tilde{\omega} = \sqrt{\omega^2/4 - \delta^2}$ and $c_e(t)$ is equal to $i\delta c_g(0) \frac{\sin(\tilde{\omega} t/2)}{\tilde{\omega}} + c_e(0) \cos(\tilde{\omega} t/2)$ and $c_e(t)$ this

would be equal to $e^{-i\delta t} \cos(\Omega t) + i \frac{\delta}{\Omega} e^{-i\delta t} \sin(\Omega t)$ multiplied by c_0 .

Here, this Ω is the square root of $\omega^2 + \delta^2$ and this is known as the generalized Rabi frequency. It is called generalized Rabi frequency. Just like in the resonant case if we assume that initially the atom is in the ground state that means c_g at time t is equal to 1 and c_e at time t is equal to 0 then our solution would be $c_g(t)$. For this specific case would be $e^{-i\delta t} \cos(\Omega t) - i \frac{\delta}{\Omega} e^{-i\delta t} \sin(\Omega t)$ and $c_e(t)$ would be equal to $e^{-i\delta t} \sin(\Omega t)$.

So, the excited state population would be, $P_e(t)$ would be equal to $|c_e(t)|^2$ and this would be $\frac{\delta^2}{\Omega^2} \sin^2(\Omega t)$. Thus, we notice that the Rabi oscillations now occurs at the generalized Rabi frequency Ω and Ω is greater than ω . So, clearly the oscillation rate, this means that the oscillation rate increases as the detuning increases because as the tuning increases Ω increases.

And for weak fields the Rabi frequency, not the generalized one, is much smaller than the magnitude of the detuning and which implies that the generalized frequency Ω is nearly equal to the magnitude of the detuning. This is for the weak fields. And for strong fields, actually weak fields and strong fields are defined in term compared to with reference to the detuning parameter that is the reason I am telling again and again that the tuning parameter is extremely important.

Because this is one of the controllable parameters for us and for strong fields the magnitude of the detuning is much smaller than the Rabi frequency, not the generalized frequency. So, in that case the generalized Rabi frequency would be nearly equal to the Rabi frequency.

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$|g\rangle$ and $|e\rangle$ are not eigenstates
of $\tilde{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{\hbar\Omega}{2} \\ \frac{\hbar\Omega}{2} & -\hbar\Delta \end{pmatrix}$
Eigenstates of \tilde{H} are known as
Dressed states.

Now in the Δ is not equal to zero case non-zero resonance (non-resonant case) one cannot have excited probability. This population in the excited state can never exactly go to 1. Let me better write it. P can never be equal to unity because the amplitude reduces, in fact, this can be shown in this diagram here P_e of t if i plot versus Ωt in the case of resonant case it will be able to suppose the atom is in the ground state.

So, if its excited state would be zero initially at time t is equal to 0. So, we will have this kind of a plot for the resonant case this dotted one is for Δ is equal to 0. On the other hand, if Δ is not equal to zero we'll have a I think we will have a situation like this. Here you see the oscillation increases but it is unable to touch P is equal to 1 and here it would be π this would be 2π and so on.

Rabi oscillation phenomena clearly indicates that these states $|g\rangle$ and $|e\rangle$ are not eigenstates of the Hamiltonian which is called the dressed Hamiltonian in a way because it is dressed by the laser field. So, clearly $|g\rangle$ and $|e\rangle$ are not the eigenstate of this Hamiltonian. In fact, eigenstate of Hamiltonian we can work out and they would be different from $|g\rangle$ and $|e\rangle$ and they are known as dressed state eigenstates of \tilde{H} are known as dressed states.

Dressed state formalism of a 2-level atom is a very powerful tool. Let me stop for today. In the next class we are going to discuss the dressed state picture of 2-level atoms and will conclude our discussion regarding 2-level atoms, thank you.