University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Dept. of Physics
COLLOQUIUM

Radiative Cascade in Rydberg Atoms

Daniel Vrinceanu
Texas Southern University

Friday, 10 March 2023
3:30 – 4:30 PM

KIRC 1150

This talk is an introduction to the physics of Rydberg atoms. The two complementary flavors of Rydberg atoms, high and low angular momentum states, have contrasting properties as they relate to the correspondence principle that bridges classical behavior to quantum mechanics. Dynamic symmetries allow a unified point of view to investigate this correspondence. Highly excited atoms dissipate their energy in different ways depending on their initial angular momentum: low angular momentum states make transitions in large energy increments, quickly approaching the ground state, while high angular momentum states make small steps, slowly spiraling towards lower states.

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