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# Cold Collisions

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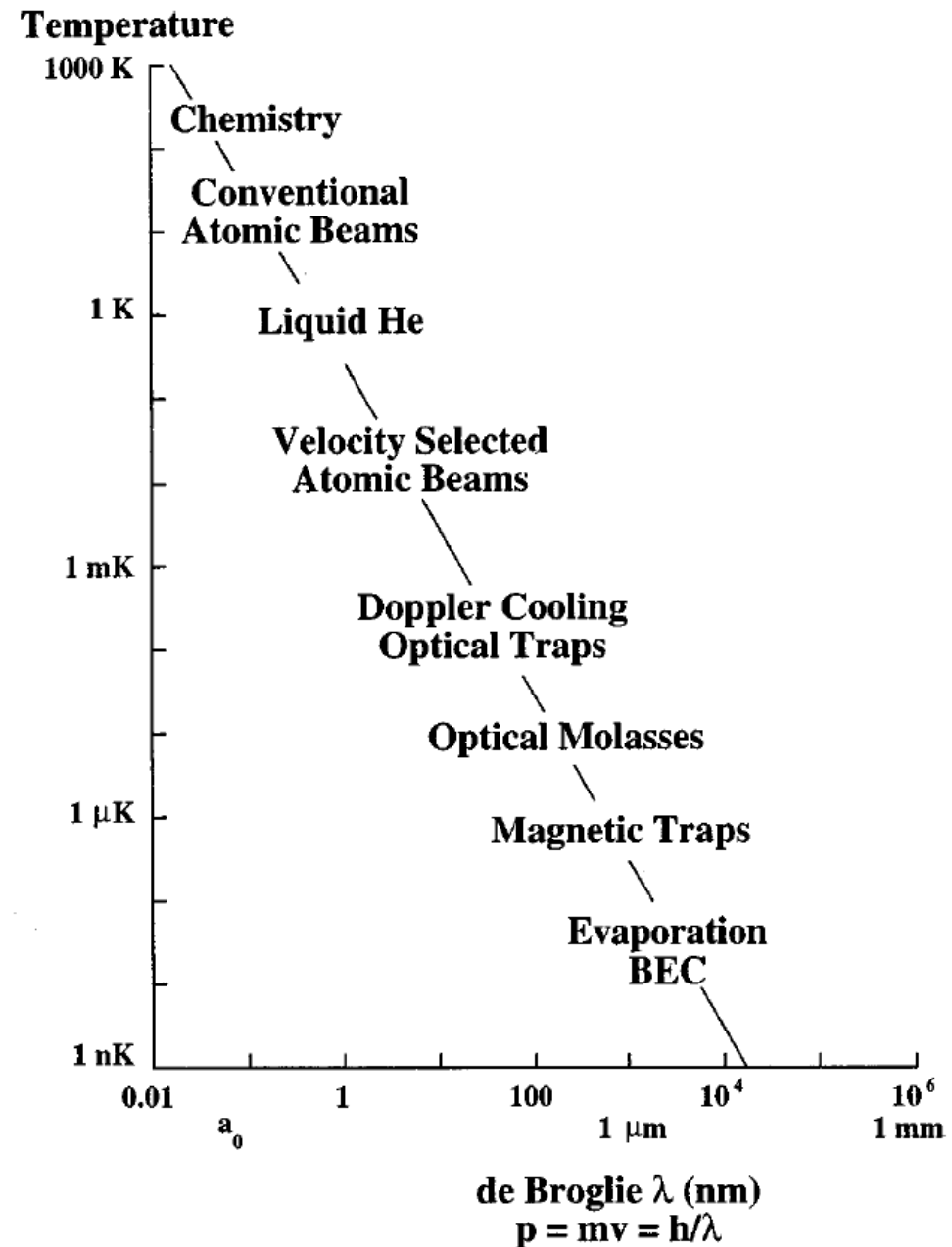
National Cheng-Kung University



# Temperature:

Different scale of temperature and de Broglie wavelength (Na) for various physical phenomena

Photoassociation discussed below is less than 1 mK which corresponding to 21 MHz of energy spread of free state atom pair.





## Motivations for using cold collisions:

Study the atoms free from spectral line broadening and shifts that arise from atomic motions and collisions

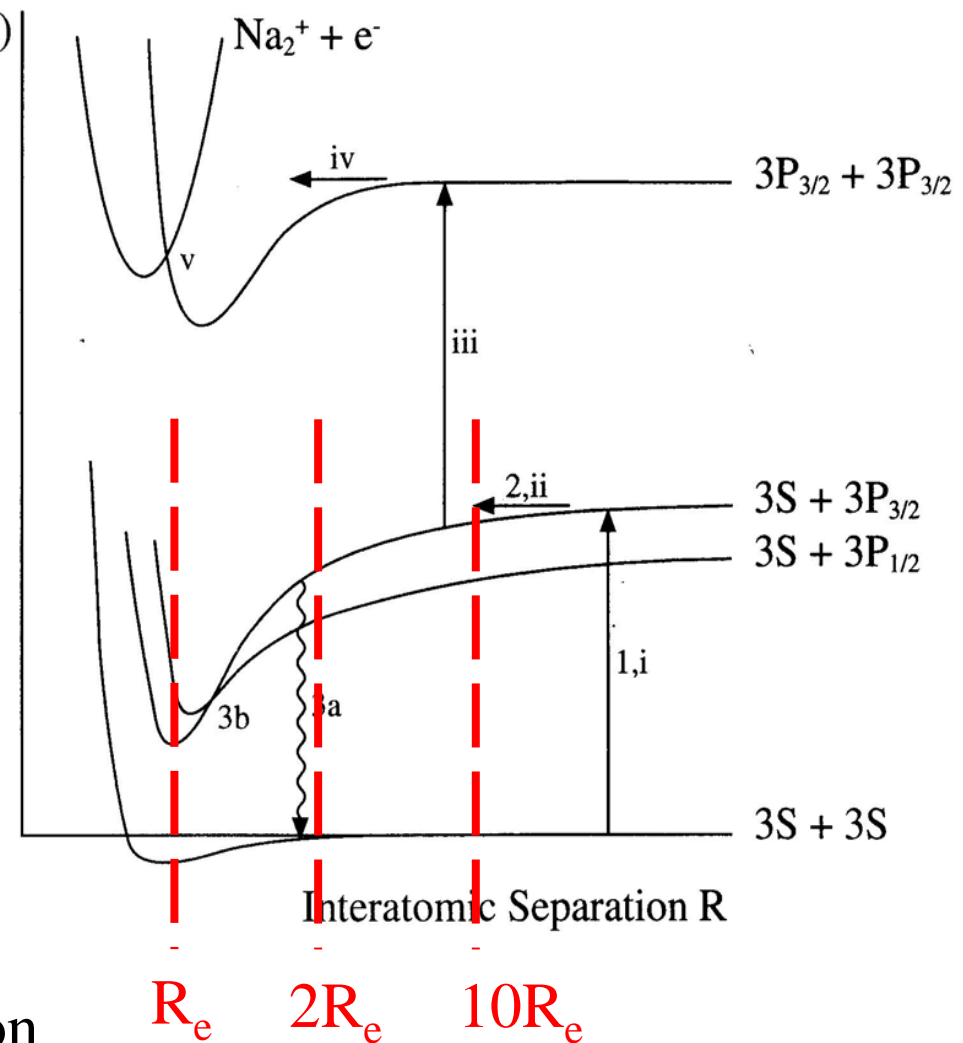
Advantages:

- I. Cold collisions are highly quantum-mechanical in nature
- II. Cold collisions are simple, involving only a few partial waves
- III. Cold collisions are sensitive to long-range interatomic forces
- IV. Long collision times can significantly affect the collision dynamics
- V. Spontaneous emission during the collision may occur to change the collision channels involved.



# Basic collision processes for cold atoms:

- 1,i. Excite by lasers at large  $R$
- 2,ii. Spontaneous decay
- 3a. Radiate to bound or free ground state
- 3b. Fine-structure changing collisions
- iii. Excite to the doubly excited state
- iv. Spontaneous decay or move toward to the small  $R$
- v. Auto-ionization, associative ionization, and pre-dissociation may occur.





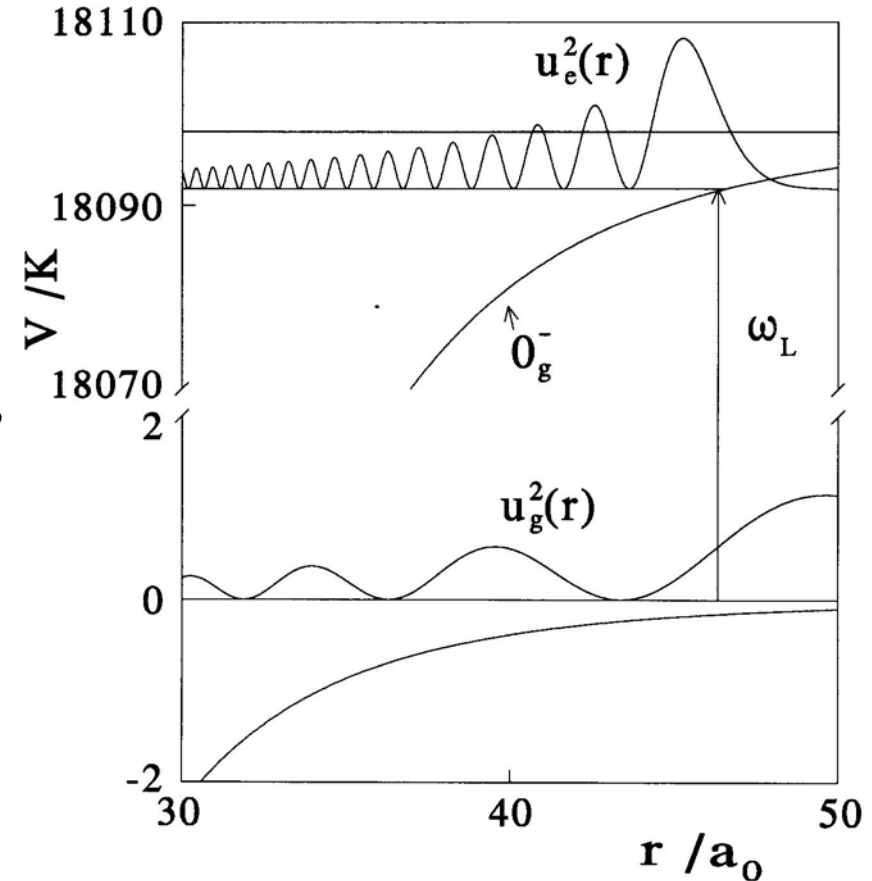
# The long-range behaviors – wave functions:

The square of the wave functions is the probabilities of the atoms to be appeared

The amplitude of the wave functions is larger at the outer turning points

There are nodes and anti-nodes

Wavefunction tunneling occurs at the potential barrier





# The long-range behaviors – potential curves:

$$V = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{V_{ij}(a, b)}{R^{i+j+1}},$$

where

$$V_{ij}(a, b) = (-1)^j \sum_{|m|=0}^{\min(i, j)} d_m(i, j) Q_m^i(a) Q_{-m}^j(b)$$

$$d_m(i, j) = (i + j)! / ((i - m)! (i + m)! \times (j - m)! (j + m)!)^{1/2},$$

$$Q_m^i(a) = \sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{2i + 1}} r_a^i Y_l^m(\theta_a, \phi_a)$$

## 1. Asymptote $ns + ns$

$$C_{2n}(X^1\Sigma_g^+) \equiv C_{2n}(^3\Sigma_u^+), \quad n = 3, 4, 5 \dots$$

$$C_6(\nu) = E_{1111}^{\text{disp}}(\nu, \nu),$$

$$C_8(\nu) = E_{1122}^{\text{disp}}(\nu, \nu) + E_{2211}^{\text{disp}}(\nu, \nu),$$

$$C_{10}(\nu) = E_{1133}^{\text{disp}}(\nu, \nu) + E_{3311}^{\text{disp}}(\nu, \nu) + E_{2222}^{\text{disp}}(\nu, \nu)$$

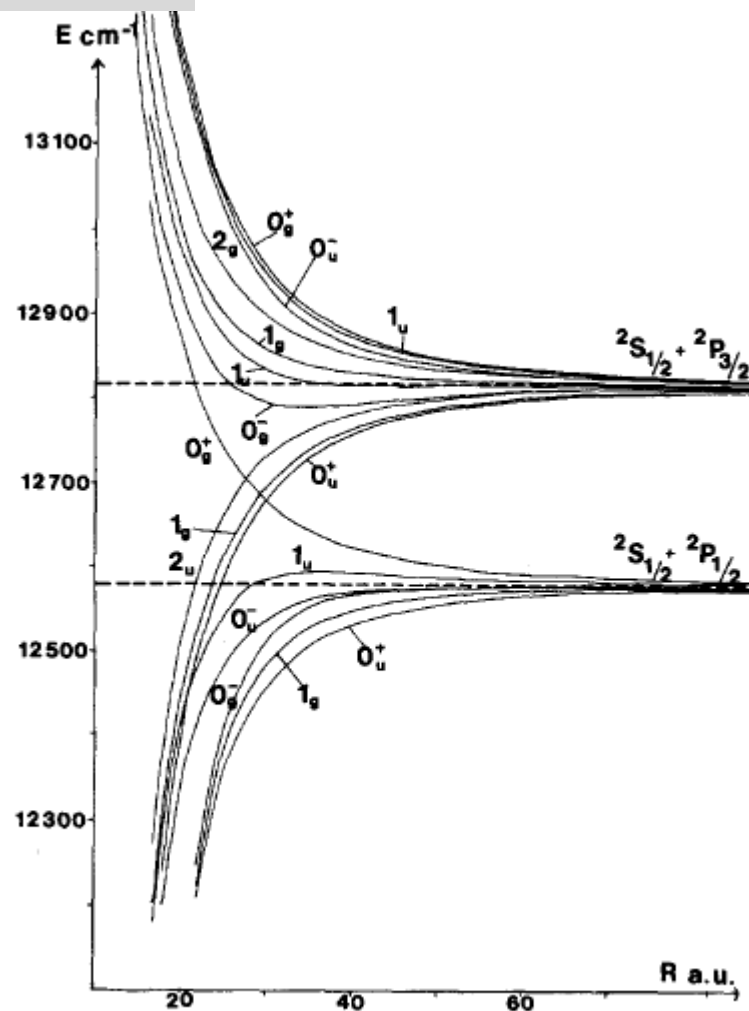


FIG. 4. Potential energy curves for the 16 molecular states of  $\text{Rb}_2$  corresponding to the asymptote  $5s + 5p$ .



# The long-range behaviors – potential curves:

$$C_3(^1\Lambda_g^+, ^3\Lambda_u^+) = -C_3(^1\Lambda_u^+, ^3\Lambda_g^+)$$

for  $\Lambda = 0, 1,$

$$C_3(^1\Sigma_g^+, ^3\Sigma_u^+) = 2C_3(^1\Pi_u, ^3\Pi_g).$$

## 2. Asymptote $ns + np$

Furthermore,

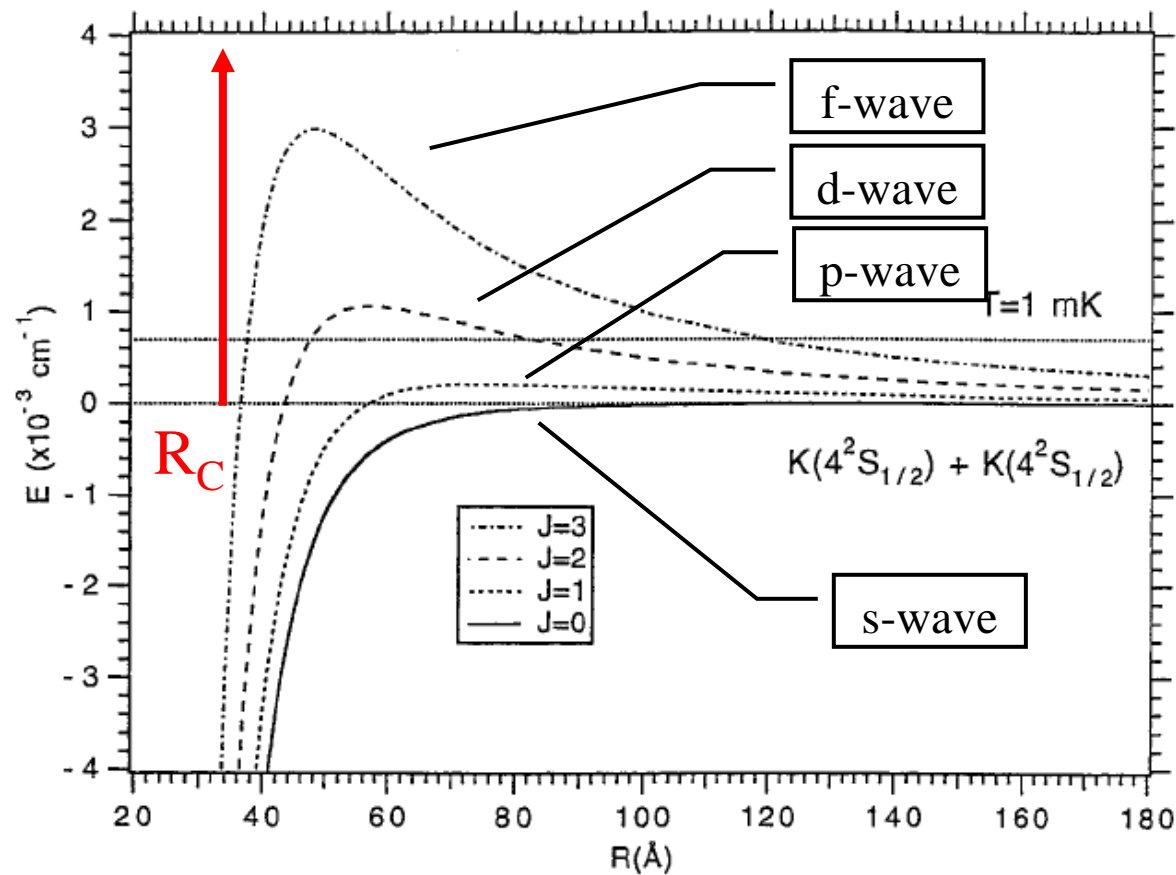
$$C_n(^1\Lambda_k) \equiv C_n(^3\Lambda_l)$$

Asymptote	Molecular states	Molecule	Results	$C_3$	$C_6$	$C_8$ dispersion + induction	$C_{10}$ dispersion + induction
			a	0	-1 383	-75 783	-4 816 675
			b	0	-1 390	-120 000	...
		Li <sub>2</sub>	c	0	-1 381 ± 8	-82 615 ± 2288	...
			d	0	-1 389 ± 8	-80 890	...
			e	0	-1 390	...	...
			a	0	-1 698	-102 810	-6 939 128
		Na <sub>2</sub>	f	0	-1 680	-164 000	...
			e	0	-1 580	...	...
$ns + ns$	$X ^1\Sigma_g^+, ^3\Sigma_u^+$	K <sub>2</sub>	a	0	-4 721	-389 404	-40 694 332
			e	0	-3 820	...	...
			g	0	-3 890	-446 000	-54 900 000
$ns + np$	$^1\Sigma_u^+, ^3\Sigma_g^+$	K <sub>2</sub>	a	-18.68	-10 126	-2 454 301	
			h	-17.54	-9 651	-1 892 000	



# The long-range behaviors – partial wave involved:

$$U_J = V + \{\hbar^2[J(J + 1) - \Omega^2]/2\mu R^2\}$$

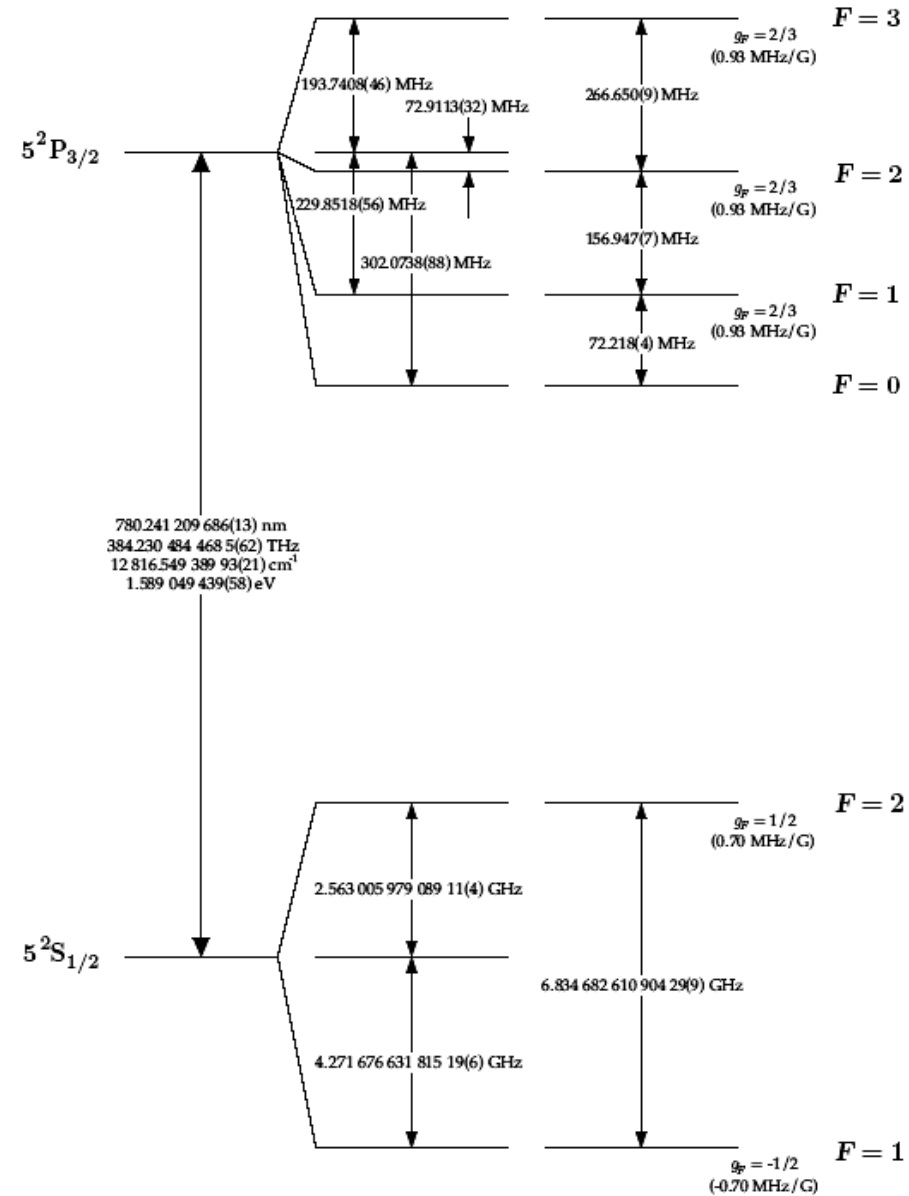


Effective potential with rotational energy to form a centrifugal barrier.





# Hyperfine levels of the $^{87}\text{Rb}$ D<sub>2</sub> line





# Adiabatic molecular fine structure potentials:

## Ground states

$^{87}\text{Rb}$  ( $5s\ ^2S_{1/2}$ ,  $F=1$ )

$^{87}\text{Rb}$  ( $5s\ ^2S_{1/2}$ ,  $F=2$ )

## Designation

$(nl\ 2S+1L_J, F)$

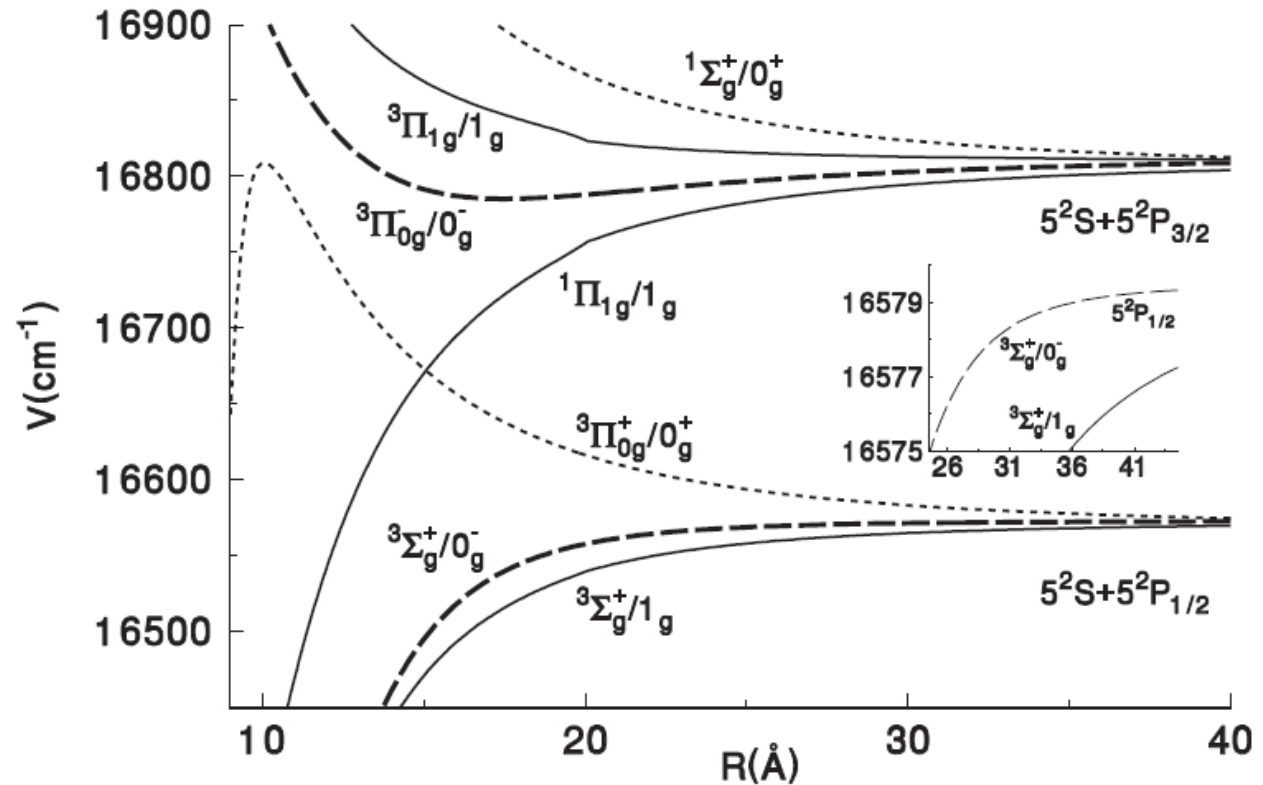
$S=\sum s_i$ ,  $L=\sum l_i$

$J=S+L$

$F=J+I$

## Excited states

$^{87}\text{Rb}$  ( $5p\ ^2P_{1/2}$ ,  $F=1$ , or  $2$ )





# Adiabatic molecular hyperfine potentials:

## Ground states

Na ( $3s\ ^2S_{1/2}$ ,  $F=1$ )

Na ( $3s\ ^2S_{1/2}$ ,  $F=2$ )

## Designation

( $nl\ ^{2S+1}L_J$ ,  $F$ )

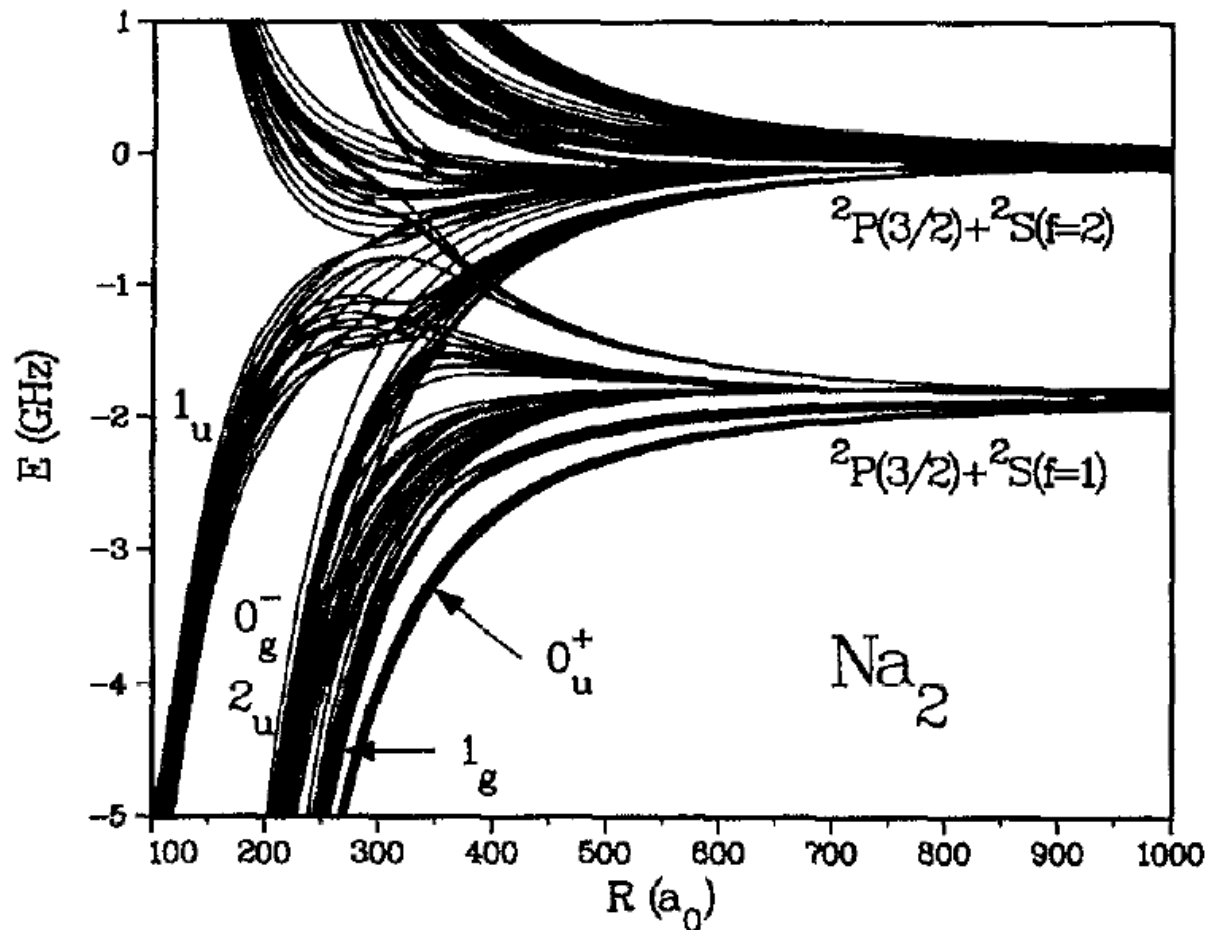
$S = \sum s_i$ ,  $L = \sum l_i$

$J = S + L$

$F = J + I$

## Excited states

Na ( $3p\ ^2P_{1/2}$ ,  $F=1$ , or  $2$ ) ...





# Adiabatic molecular hyperfine potentials:



## Ground states

$^{87}\text{Rb}$  ( $5s\ ^2S_{1/2}$ ,  $F=1$ )

$^{87}\text{Rb}$  ( $5s\ ^2S_{1/2}$ ,  $F=2$ )

## Designation

$(nl\ ^{2S+1}L_J, F)$

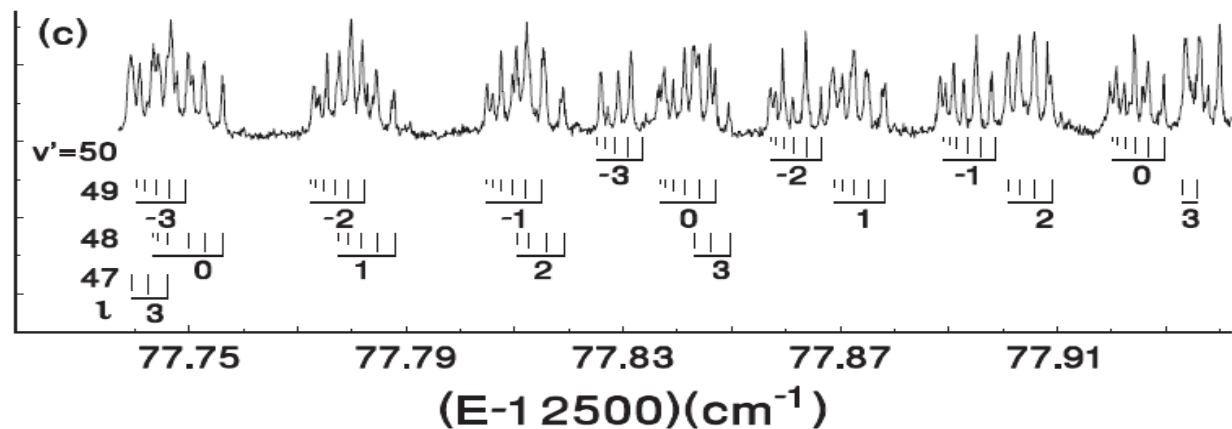
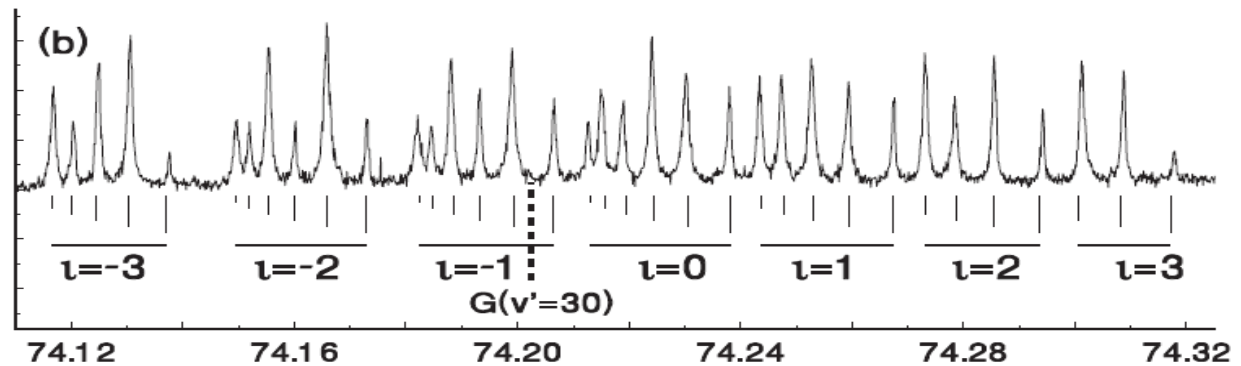
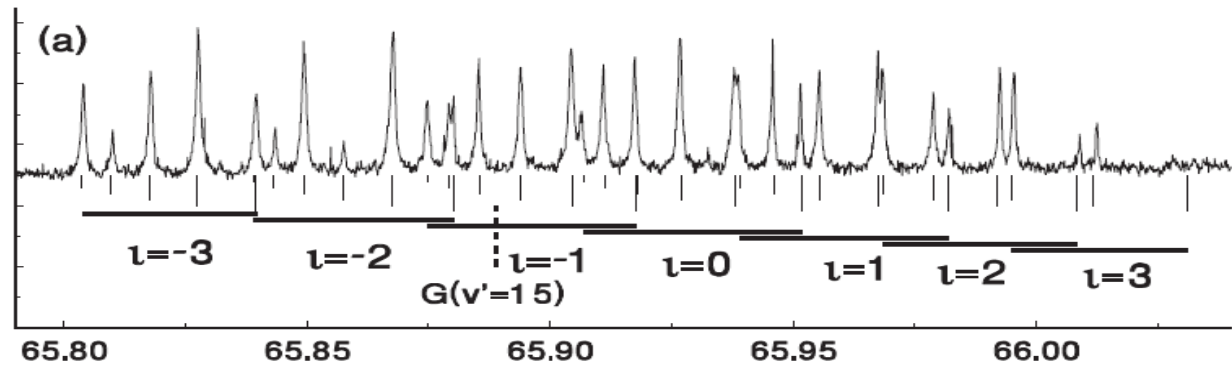
$S=\sum s_i, L=\sum l_i$

$J=S+L$

$F=J+I$

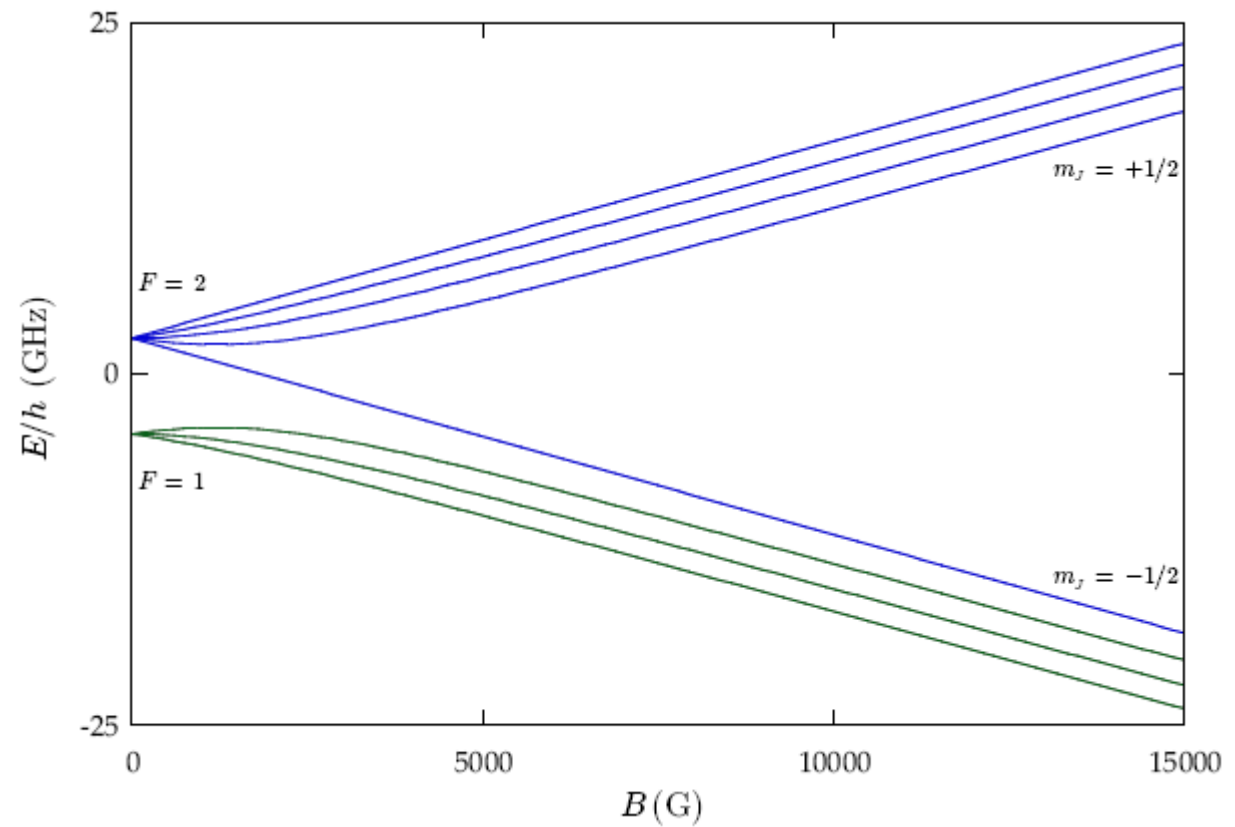
## Excited states

$^{87}\text{Rb}$  ( $5p\ ^2P_{1/2}$ ,  
 $F=1, \text{ or } 2$ )



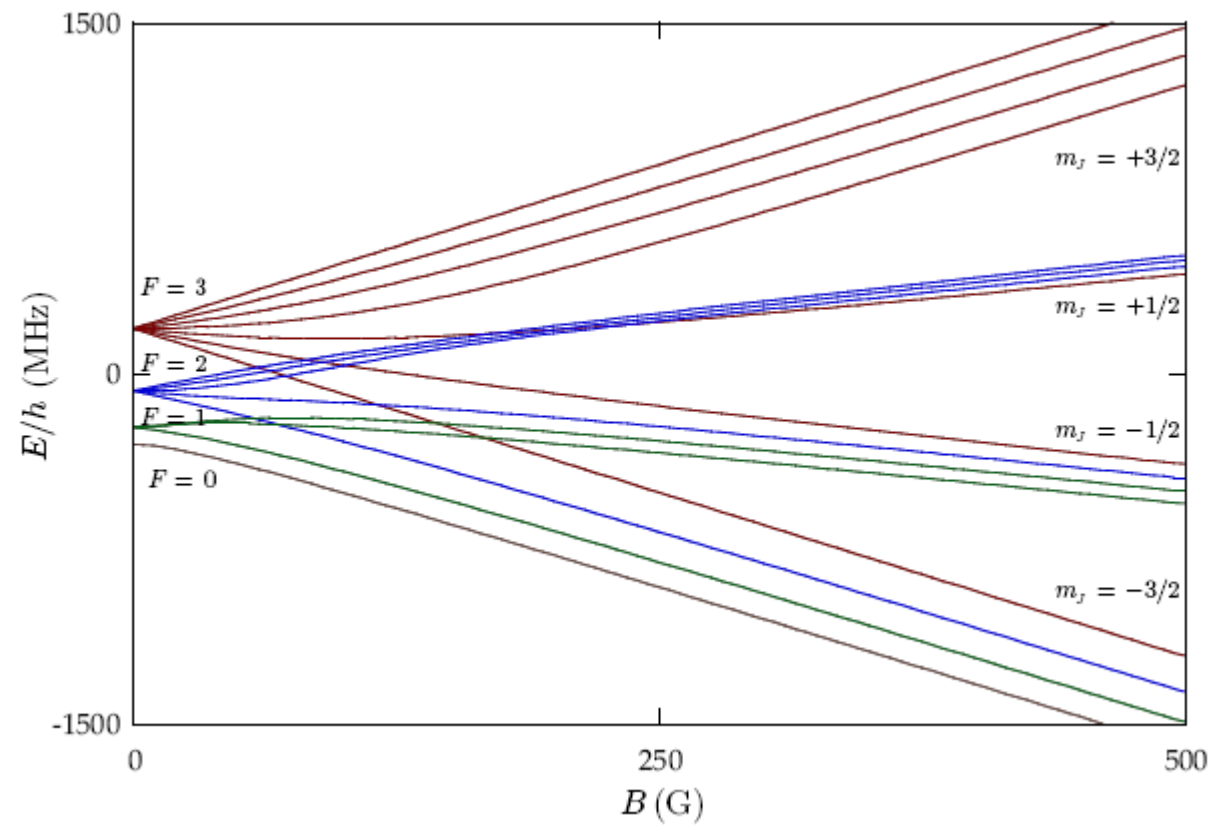


$^{87}\text{Rb } 5s \ ^2\text{S}_{1/2}$  ground state levels with hyperfine structure in an external magnetic field.





$^{87}\text{Rb}$   $5p \ ^2\text{P}_{3/2}$  excited state levels with hyperfine structure in an external magnetic field.





# Symmetries in the collision

Two atoms collide with channels doubled

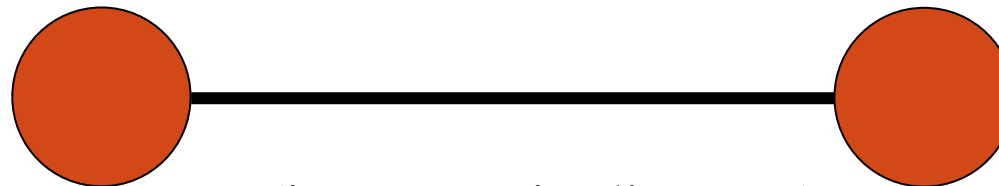
Ground state collisions

Atom1, Rb  $5s\ ^2S_{1/2}$

Atom2, Rb  $5s\ ^2S_{1/2}$

Electron spin	$s_1=1/2$	$s_2=1/2$	total $S=s_1+s_2$
Angular momentum	$l_1=0$	$l_2=0$	total $L=l_1+l_2$

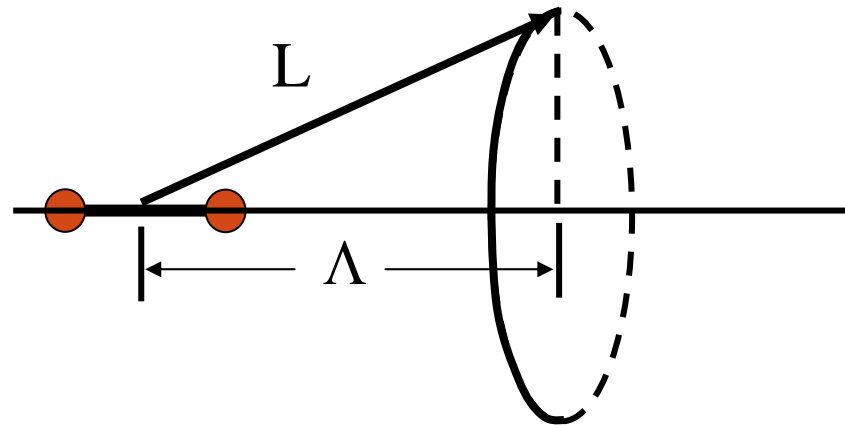
$S=0$  or  $1$  and  $L=0$



R (interatomic distance)



## Symmetries in collision – Electronic states



Orbital angular momentum,  $L$ , is a constant of motion as long as the effect of electron spin is small or neglected.

A precession of  $L$  takes place about the field direction (internuclear axis) with constant component  $M_L = L, L-1, \dots, -L$ , and  $\Lambda = |M_L|$

$\Lambda$  is the electronic angular momentum along the internuclear axis.

$\Lambda = 0, 1, 2, \dots, L$ , called  $\Sigma, \Pi, \Delta \dots$  Electronic states.





## Symmetries in collision – Electronic spin

Electronic spin  $S = \sum s_i$ , where  $s_i$  is the individual electron spin.

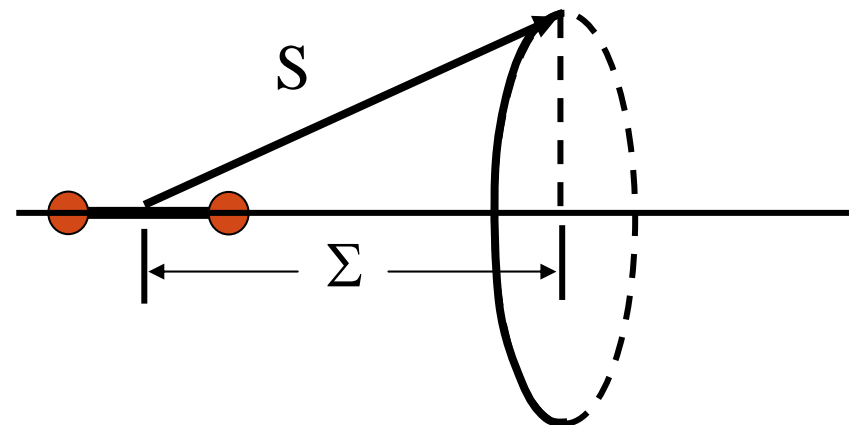
Fine structure of electron bands shows a multiplet structure.

For  $\Lambda \neq 0$ , the internal magnetic field causes a precession of  $S$  about the field direction (internuclear axis).

Components of the precession:

$$\Sigma = S, S-1, S-2, \dots, -S$$

(note  $\Sigma$  can be positive and negative)

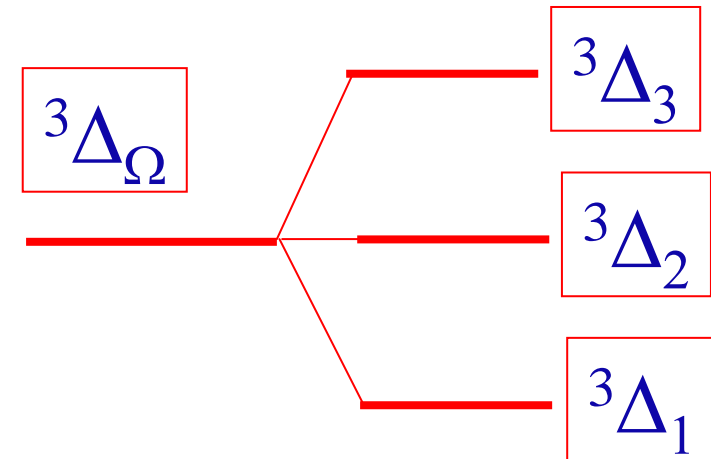
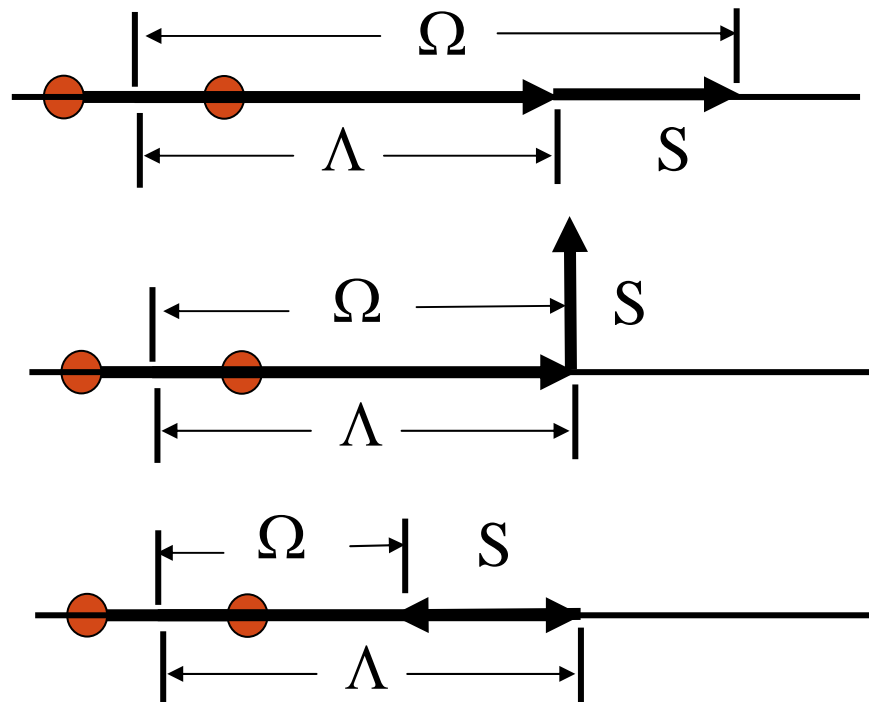




# Symmetries in collision – Total angular momentum

The quantum number of the resultant electronic angular momentum about the internuclear axis is  $\Omega$ :

For example ( $S=1$ ): 
$$\Omega = | \Lambda + \Sigma |$$

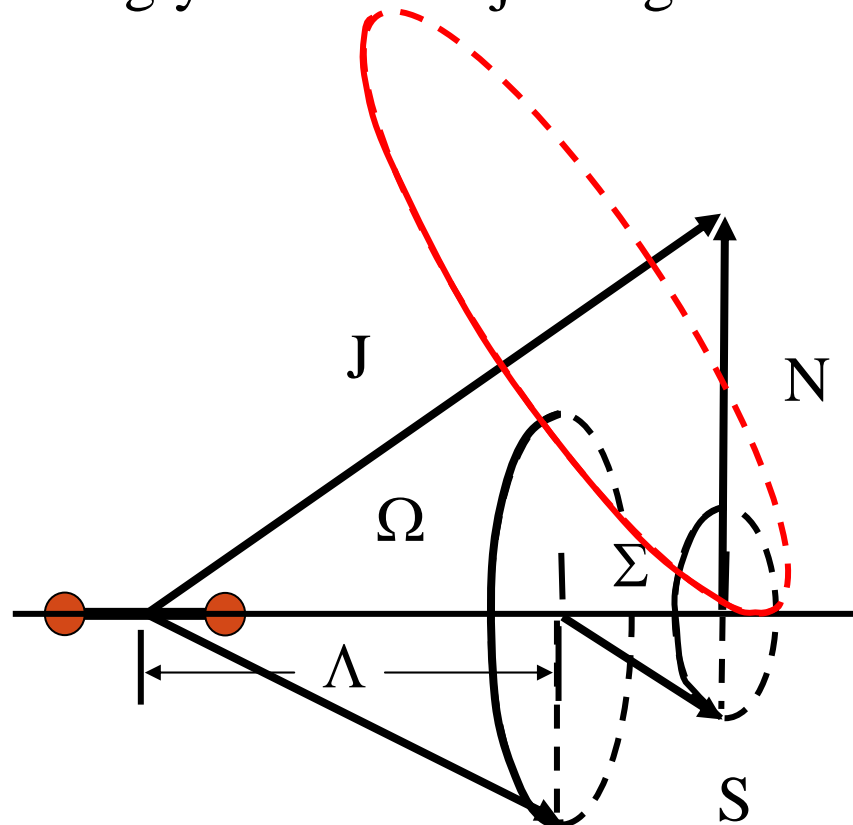




# Symmetries in collision – Hund's coupling cases

## Hund's case(a):

the interaction of the nuclear rotation with the electronic motion is very weak, whereas the electronic motion itself coupled very strongly to the line joining the nuclei.



**N**: angular momentum of nuclear rotation

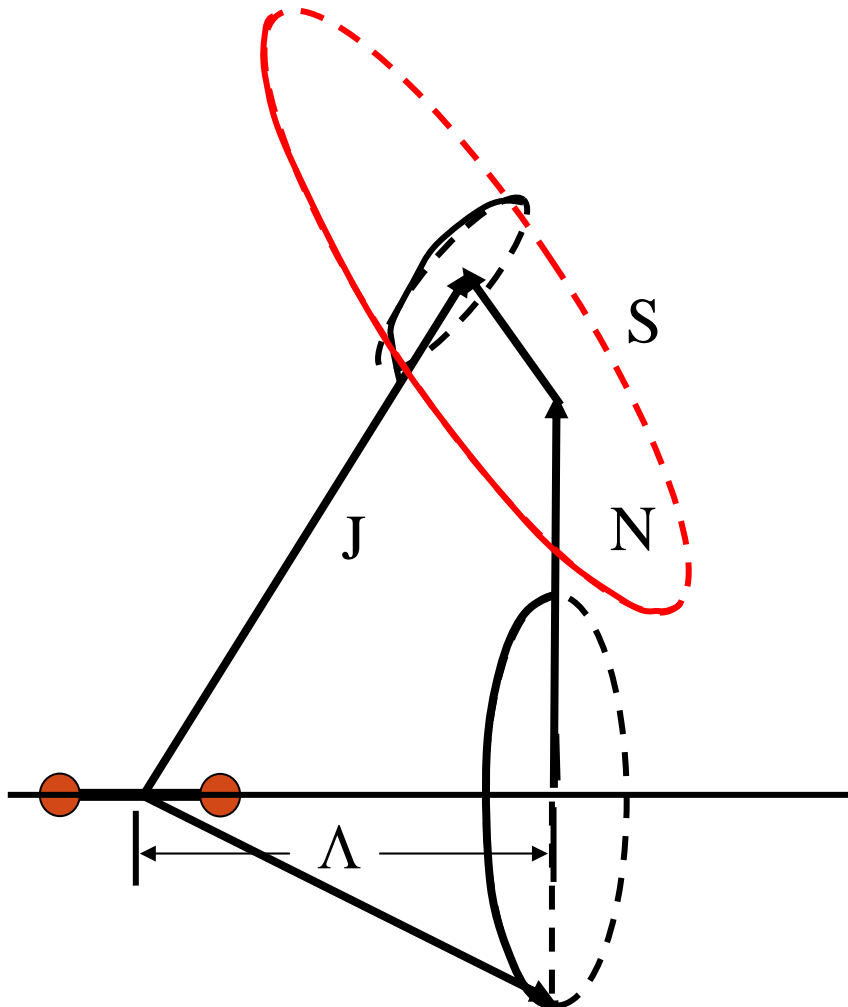
**J**: total angular momentum

$$2S+1 \Lambda_{\Omega}$$



# Symmetries in collision – Hund's coupling cases

Hund's case(b):



$N$ : angular momentum of nuclear rotation

$J$ : total angular momentum

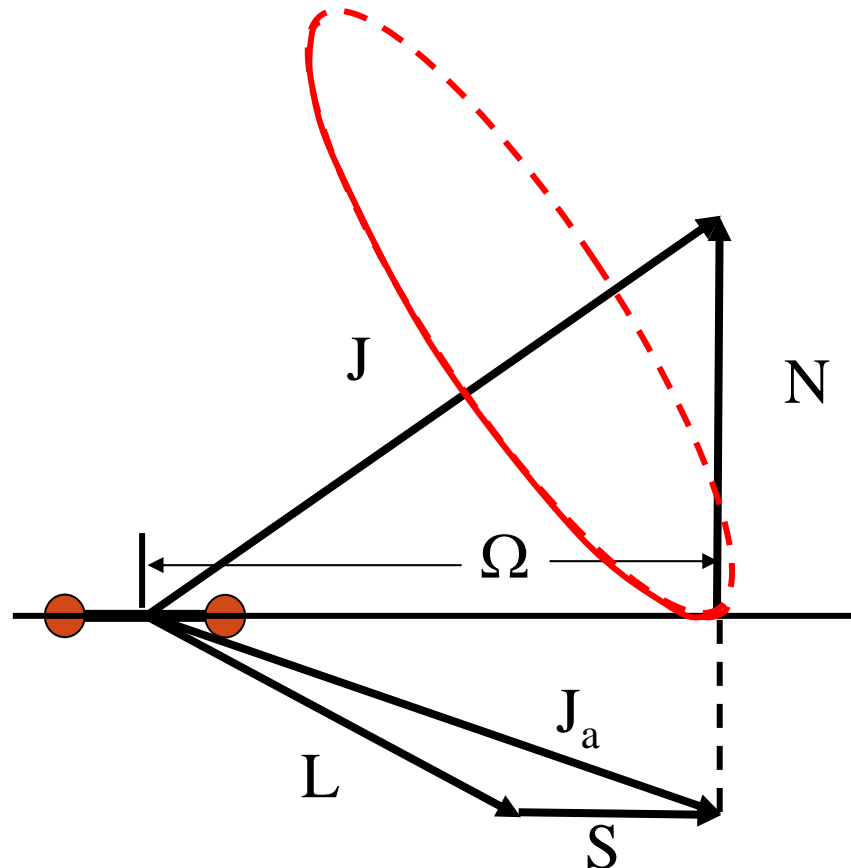
$$2S+1 \Lambda$$



# Symmetries in collision – Hund's coupling cases

## Hund's case(c):

the interaction between L and S may be stronger than the interaction with the nuclear axis, e.g. heavy molecules or molecules with large separation between atoms.



$J_a$ : the resultant of L and S.

For large separation between atoms,  $J_a$  will be the resultant of  $J_{a1}$  and  $J_{a2}$ , where  $J_{a1} = L_1 + S_1$  is the resultant of atom 1.

$\Omega$



# Symmetries Properties of electronic eigenfunctions

## Plane symmetry

$$\hat{i}\Psi(x, y, z) = \Psi(x, y, -z)$$

Non-degenerate states,  $L=0$  or  $\Omega=0$ ,

+: even symmetry as +

-: odd symmetry as -

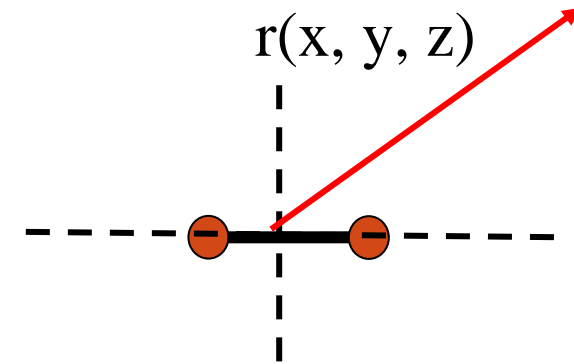
Degenerate states, both + and -  
belong to the same eigenvalue

## Center symmetry:

$$\hat{i}\Psi(x, y, z) = \Psi(-x, -y, -z)$$

+: even symmetry as gerade state,  $g$

-: odd symmetry as ungerade state,  $u$



Case(a)

$$2S+1 \Lambda_{g/u, \Omega}^{\pm}$$

Case(c)

$$\Omega_{g/u}^{\pm}$$



# Symmetries Properties of electronic eigenfunctions

Total wavefunction for electrons (fermions) should be anti-symmetry.

For unlike atoms, there is no center symmetry, *i.e.* without  $g/u$  and the non-degenerate states are  $\Sigma^+$  and  $\Sigma^-$ .

For like atoms, there is a center symmetry, *i.e.*  $g/u$  states.

For both atoms are in the same state, they have equal energy when the two atoms are interchanged.

$$e.g. \quad ns \ ^2S_{1/2} + ns \ ^2S_{1/2}$$

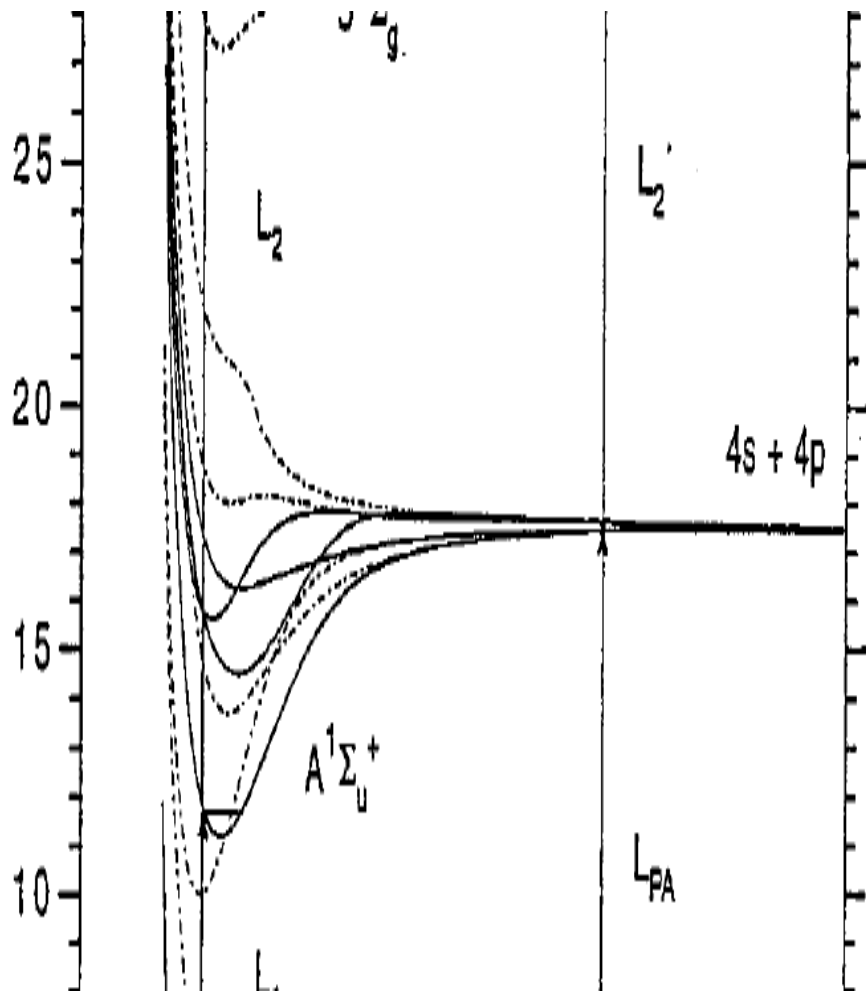
$$^1\Sigma_g^+, \ ^3\Sigma_u^-$$

$$J_1=1/2 + J_1=1/2$$

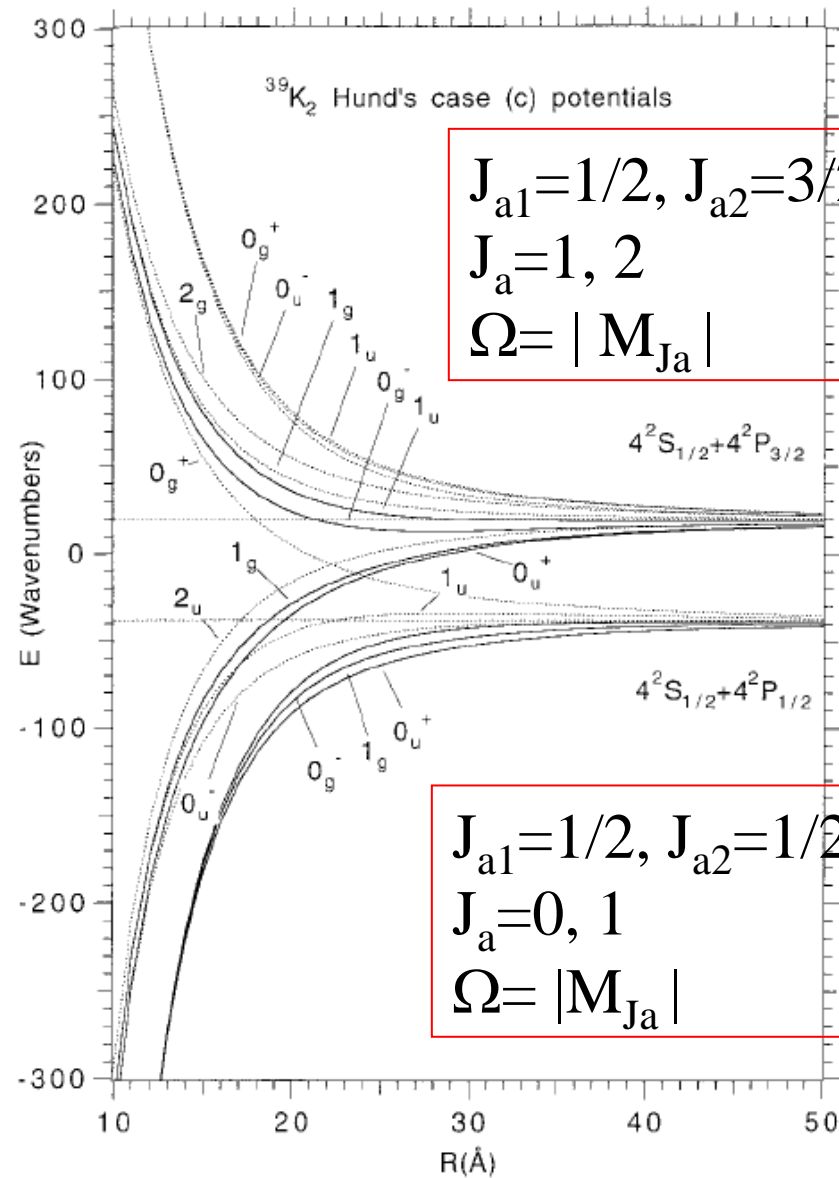
$$1_u, \ 0_g^+, \ 0_u^-$$



# ns+np in Hund's coupling case(a) and case(c)



Case(a)



Case(c)



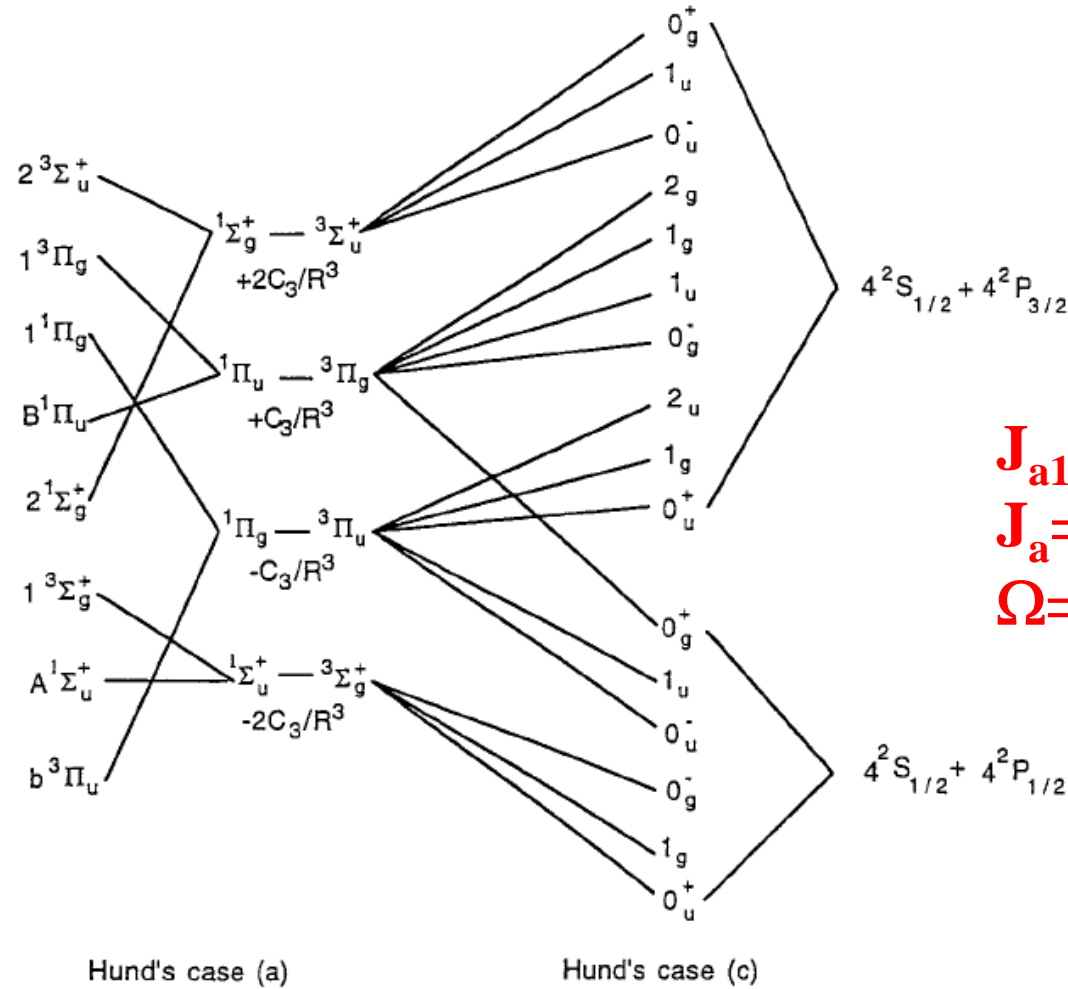


# How about doubly excited states, np+np.

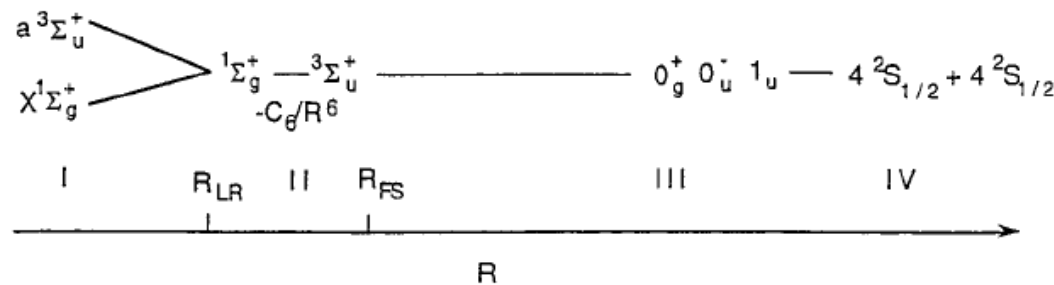


$L_1=0, L_2=1$   
 $L=0, 1$   
 $\Lambda=|M_L|$

$S_1=1/2, S_2=1/2$   
 $S=0, 1$   
 $2S+1=1, 3$



$J_{a1}=1/2, J_{a2}=3/2$   
 $J_a=1, 2$   
 $\Omega=|M_{J_a}|$





# How about doubly excited states, np+np.

$$L_1=0, L_2=1$$

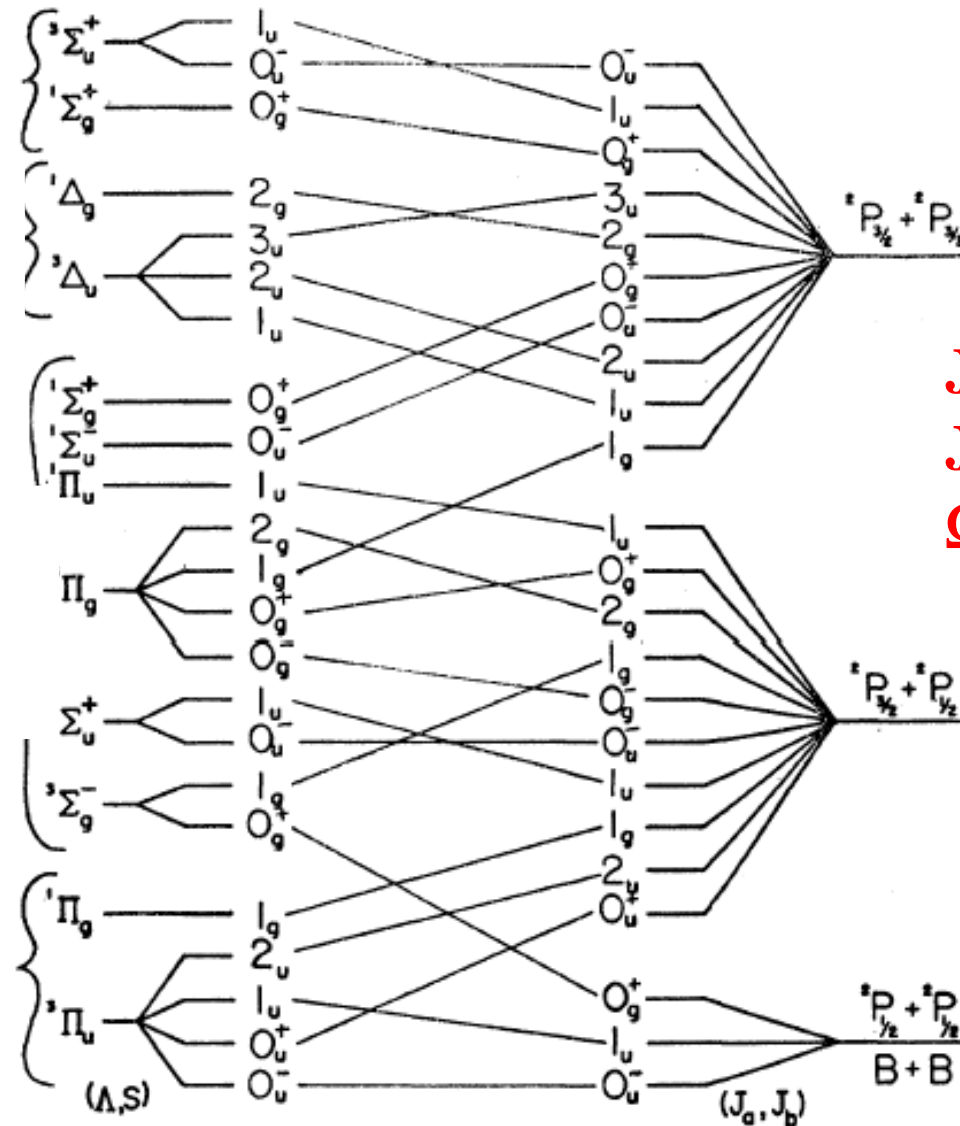
$$L=0, 1$$

$$\Lambda=|M_L|$$

$$S_1=1/2, S_2=1/2$$

$$S=0, 1$$

$$2S+1=1, 3$$



$$J_{a1}=3/2, J_{a2}=3/2$$

$$J_a=0, 1, 2, 3$$

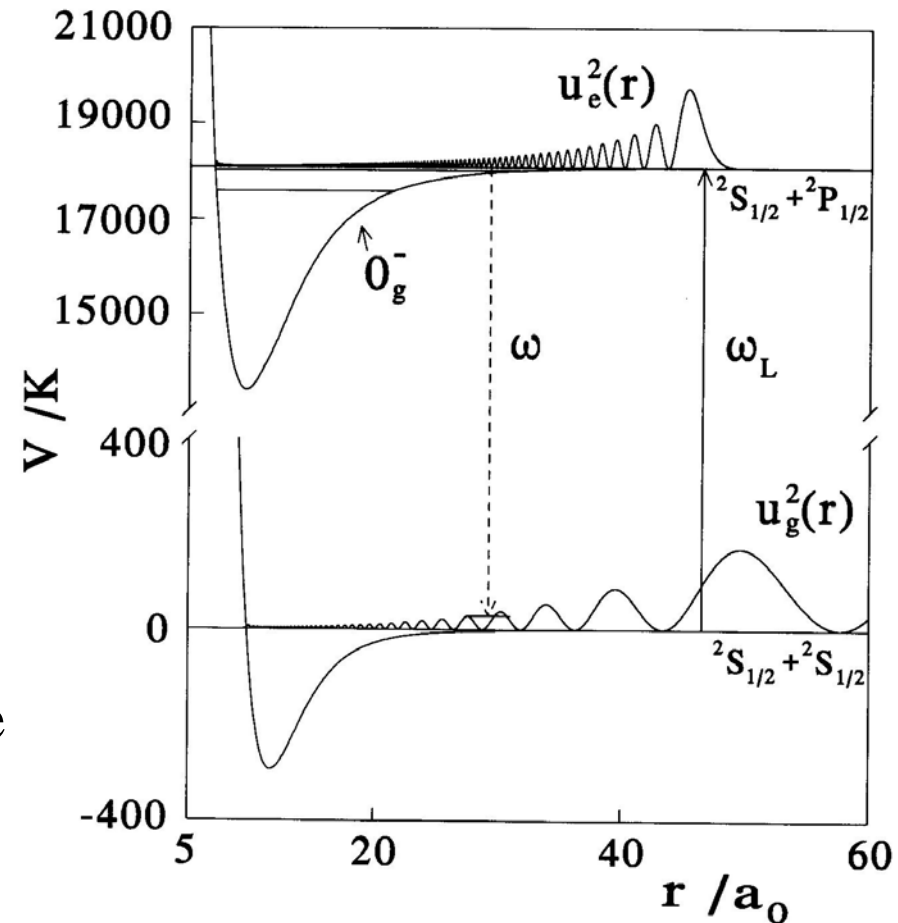
$$\Omega=|M_{J_a}|$$



# Cold atom photoassociation

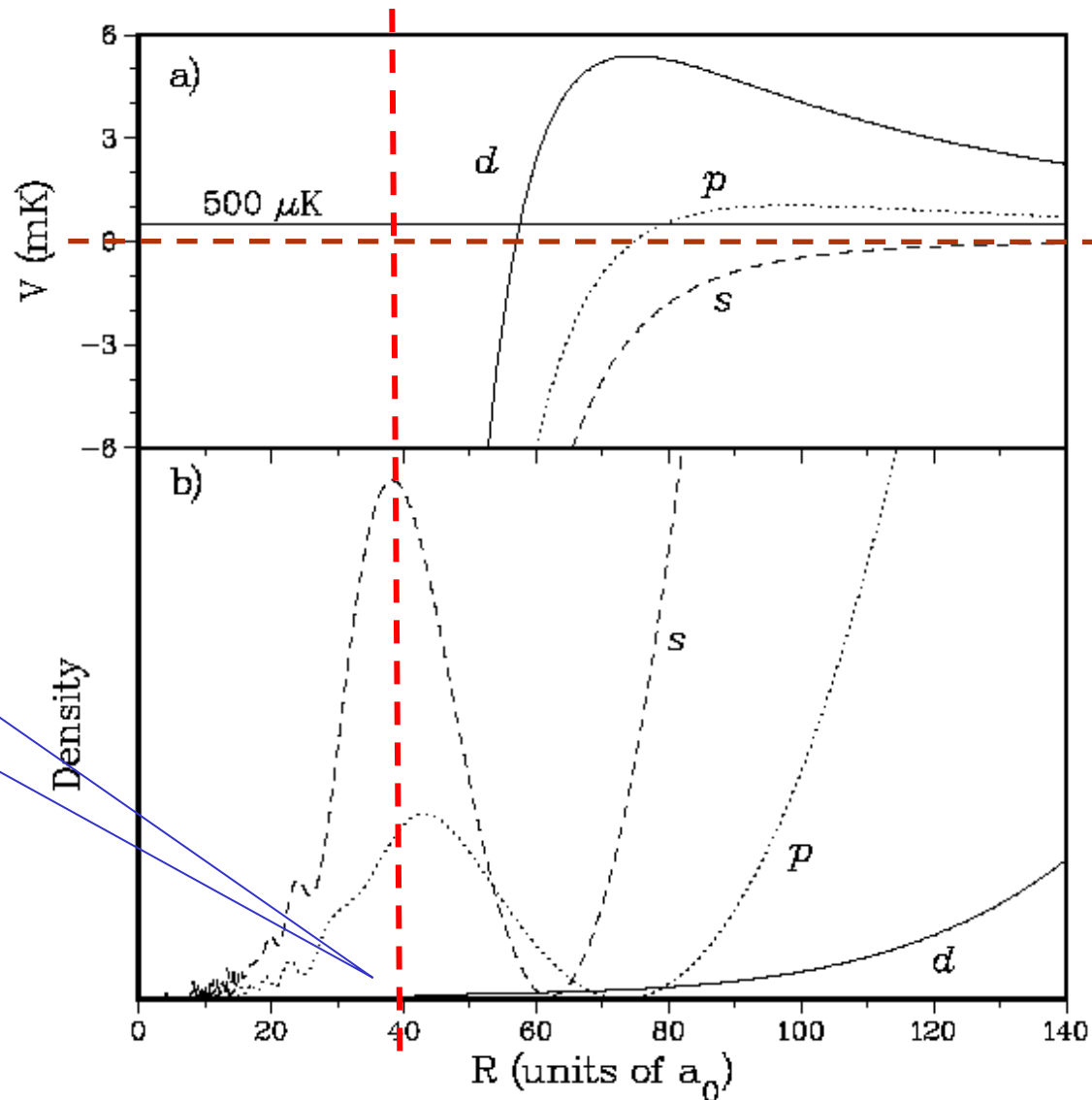
Excitation of a colliding pair of Rb atoms by a photon ( $\omega_L$ ) leads to the formation of an excited Rb<sub>2</sub> molecule in the  $0_g^-$  excited state.

Spontaneous fluorescence radiates a photon ( $\omega$ ) from excited state  $0_g^-$  to the free state of bound molecular ground state  $X^1\Sigma_g^+$ .





# The s-wave scattering length $a$ , why?

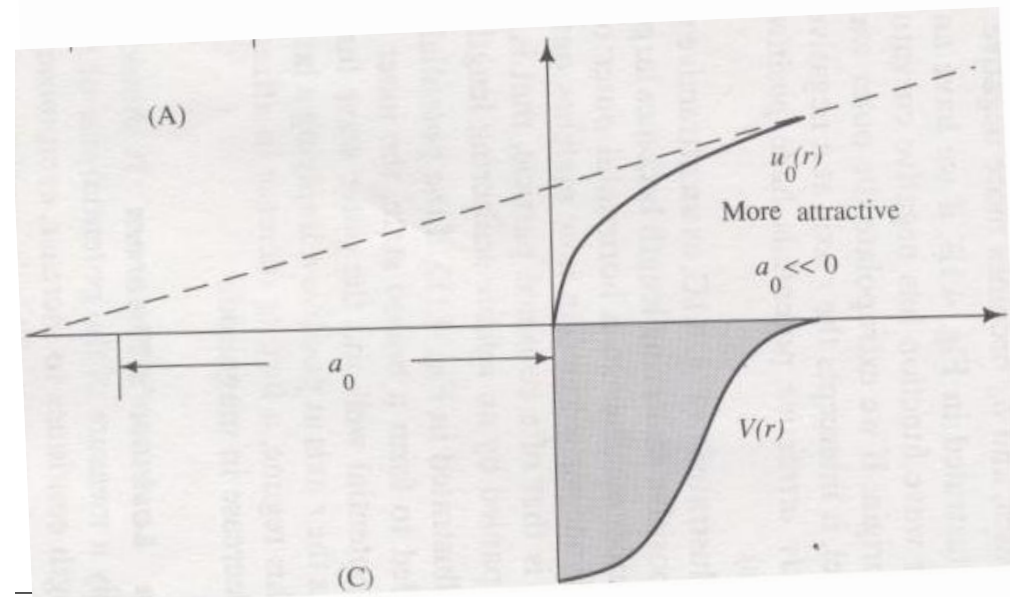
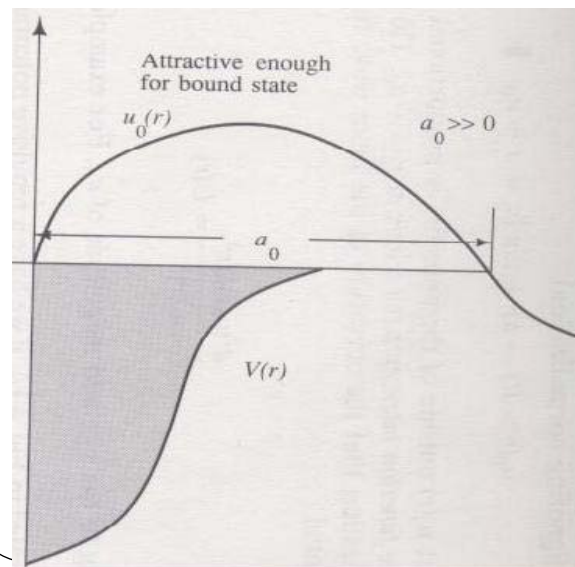
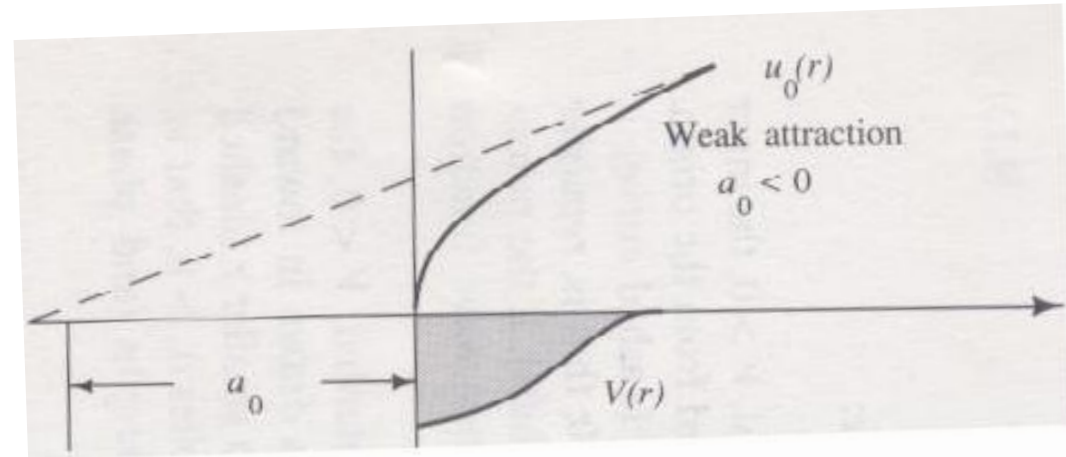
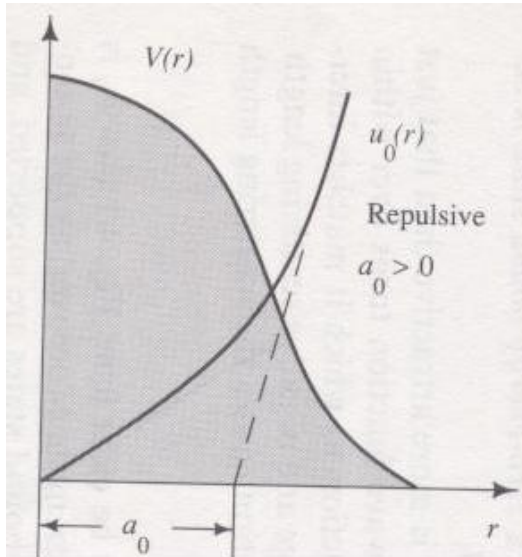


Collision distance

Density



# The s-wave scattering length $a$ , how?





## The s-wave scattering length $a$ , how?

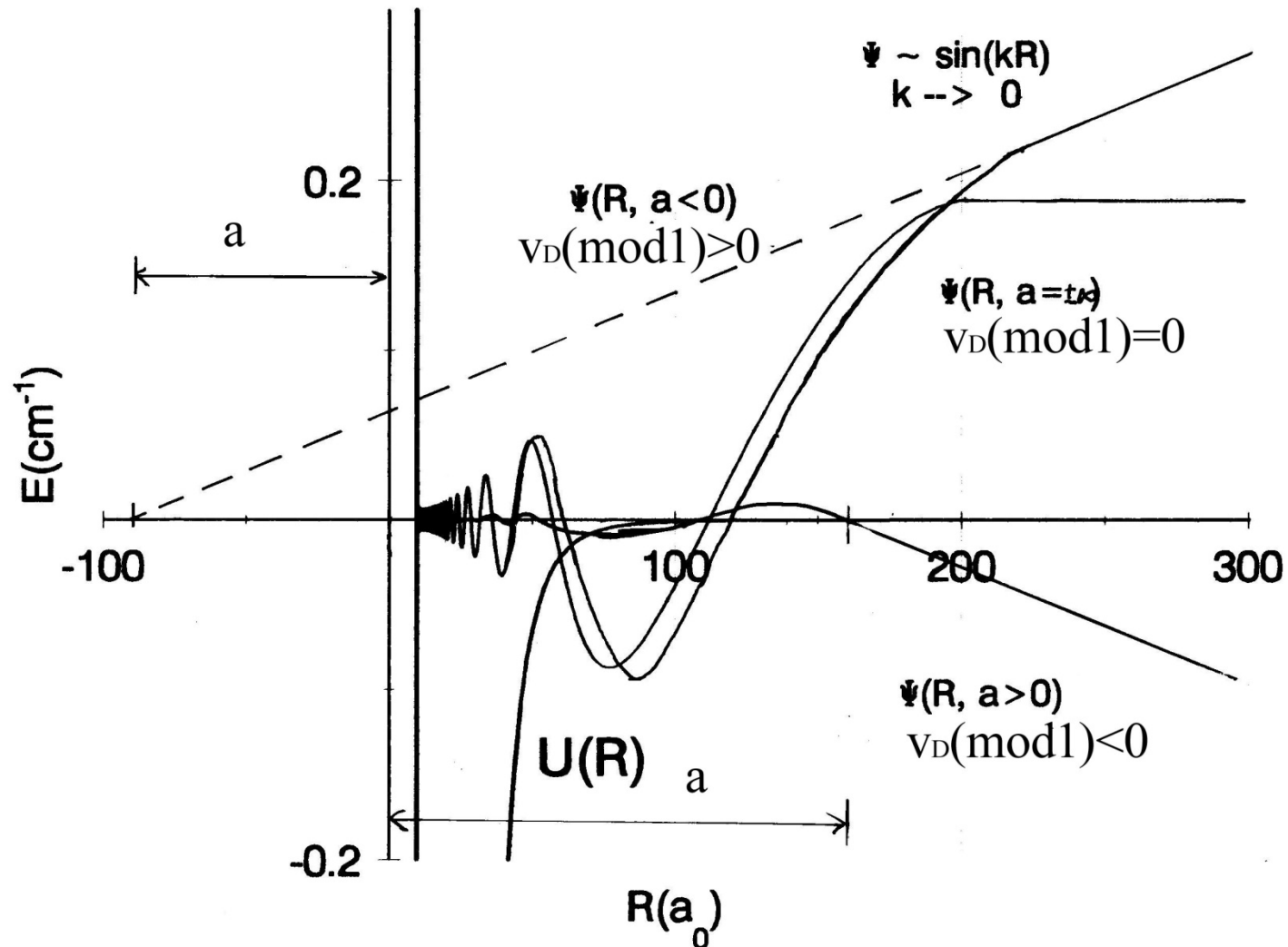
- A. Determined by the interaction potential.
- B. Determined by the free state wave function.
- C. Determined by the last bound state and the long range potential.
- D. Using different type of resonances to determine the collision processes in a certain channel or channels.

.....



# The s-wave scattering length $a$ , how?

## Long Range Wavefunction and Scattering Length





# The s-wave scattering length $a$ , how?

$$\left[ \frac{d^2}{dr^2} + k^2 - \frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{r^2} + V(r) \right] rR_{k\ell}(r) = 0$$

$\ell = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  correspondent s wave, p wave, d wave...

- (i)  $r \ll R$  (potential range),  $V(r) \ll 0$
- (ii) extremely low kinetic energy i.e.  $k \ll 0$
- (iii) for  $\ell = 0 \Rightarrow$  **S-wave**, why **S-wave**?

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{d^2}{dr^2} rR_{k,\ell=0}(r) = \frac{d^2}{dr^2} U(r) = 0 \Rightarrow U(r) = C(r-a) \quad a: \text{S-wave scattering length} \\ \text{simple geometrical meaning: intersection of } U_{\ell=0}(r) \text{ v.s. } r \\ U(r) = A'_\ell \frac{1}{k} \sin(kr + \delta_{\ell=0}) = A'_\ell \frac{1}{k} \sin\left[k\left(r + \frac{1}{k}\delta_{\ell=0}\right)\right] \end{array} \right.$$

radial boundary condition  $\frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} U(r)$ ,  $k \cot\left[k\left(r + \frac{1}{k}\delta_{\ell=0}\right)\right] = \frac{1}{r-a}$

$\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} k \cot \delta_{\ell=0} = \frac{1}{-a}$  (even not the true wavefunction: Sakurai)

$\sigma = \frac{4\pi}{k^2} \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} (2\ell+1) \sin^2 \delta_\ell = 4\pi a^2$  (s-wave total cross section)

$$\therefore \begin{cases} \sigma_{tot} = 4\pi a^2 \\ a = -\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan \delta_{\ell=0}}{k} \end{cases}$$