Bound-State Quantum Electrodynamics in Strong Fields Beyond the Furry Picture by g-Factor Measurements



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Quantum mechanics, Relativity, and P.A.M. Dir



Dirac sea of negative energy states

Negative energy states: observable in energy levels and g-factors of few-electron ions



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51

Ref.:

Quantum Electrodynamics (QED)

QED = Dirac theory + quantized radiation field



QED coupling parameter: fine-structure constant $\alpha = e^2/2\epsilon_0 hc \approx 1/137 \approx 0.007$

Ref.: T. Beier, Physics Reports 339, 79 (2000)



Quantum Electrodynamics

The g-factor: $\vec{\mu} = -g \mu_B \frac{\vec{s}}{\hbar}$ Bohr magneton: $\mu_B = \frac{1}{2}$

Most stringent test: *g*-factor of the free electron:

$$\frac{g_{e}}{2} = 1 + C_{1} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^{1} + C_{2} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^{2} + C_{3} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^{3} + C_{4} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^{4} + C_{5} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^{5} + \dots$$

$$= 1.001 \ 159 \ 652 \ 181 \ 78 \ (77)$$
[T. Aoyama et al., PRL **109**, 111807 (2012)]
$$\frac{g_{e}}{2} = 1.001 \ 159 \ 652 \ 180 \ 73 \ (28)$$
[D. Hanneke et al., Phys. Rev. A 83, 052122 (2011)]



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Free electron: QED contributions of 2nd and 3rd order

 $g_{\text{free}} = 2 (1 + C_1 \alpha / \pi + C_2 (\alpha / \pi)^2 + C_3 (\alpha / \pi)^3 + C_4 (\alpha / \pi)^4 + C_5 (\alpha / \pi)^5 + \dots$



Free electron: QED contributions of 5th order

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$g_{\text{free}} = 2 (1 + C_1 \alpha / \pi + C_2 (\alpha / \pi)^2 + C_3 (\alpha / \pi)^3 + C_4 (\alpha / \pi)^4 + C_5 (\alpha / \pi)^5 + \dots$ Harvard g-2 measurement 2011:

 g_{free} = 2 (1.001 159 652 180 73 (28)) \rightarrow determination of α

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5th order in α: C₅ = 9.16 12672 graphs

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"I am digging at the roots of physics to see whether there is some treasure there." *Toichiro Kinoshita*

Ref.:

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Kinoshita et al., arXiv:1205.5368v1 [hep-ph] 24 May 2012



I(d)

Ώ

III(c)

III(b)

VI(i)

I(e)

VI(ề̀)

VI(k)

g-Factor of the free electron



Hans Dehmelt

Nobel Prize 1989 "for the development of the ion trap technique





g-Factor of the electron and positron

VOLUME 59, NUMBER 1

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

6 JULY 1987

New High-Precision Comparison of Electron and Positron g Factors

Robert S. Van Dyck, Jr., Paul B. Schwinberg, and Hans G. Dehmelt Department of Physics, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington 98195 (Received 23 March 1987)

Single electrons and positrons have been alternately isolated in the same compensated Penning trap in order to form the geonium pseudoatom under nearly identical conditions. For each, the g-factor anomaly is obtained by measurement of both the spin-cyclotron difference frequency and the cyclotron frequency. A search for systematic effects uncovered a small (but common) residual shift due to the cyclotron excitation field. Extrapolation to zero power yields e^+ and e^-g factors with a smaller statistical error and a new particle-antiparticle comparison: $g(e^-)/g(e^+) = 1 + (0.5 \pm 2.1) \times 10^{-12}$.

PACS numbers: 14.60.Cd, 06.30.Lz, 12.20.Fv, 32.30.Bv

Electron: $g = 2 \times 1.001 \ 159 \ 652 \ 188 \ 4 \ (43)^*$ Positron: $g = 2 \times 1.001 \ 159 \ 652 \ 187 \ 9 \ (43)^*$

*CODATA



QED and highly charged ions (HCI)

bound-state QED: quantum physics in strong fields

basic processes in bound-state QED:



self energy vacuum polarization vertex correction

bound-state QED coupling parameter for H-like uranium U⁹¹⁺: $Z\alpha \approx 0.67$

Ref.: T. Beier, Physics Reports 339, 79 (2000)



Bound-electron g-factor: Feynman graphs 1st order in α/π



T. Beier, Physics Reports 339, 79 (2000)

Ref.:



QED in strong fields



Common theoretical approach:

Furry picture of bound-state QED



Wendell Hinkle Furry 1907-1984 Prof. at Harvard University







A single highly charged ion stored in a Penning trap







Ion oscillation frequencies

 Measurement of the tiny image currents (~ fA) on the trap electrodes requires:





High-resolution cyclotron frequency measurement of a single highly charged silicon ion





Continuous Stern-Gerlach effect: Determination of spin direction



Quantum jump spectroscopy: Spin-flip transitions in the analysis trap









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Dirac sea: contribution of negative energy states to bound electron magnetic moment in Li-like HCI





Quantum Electrodanymics in strong fields: non-perturbative treatment in Zα beyond the Furry picture

 External field approximation: Nucleus approximated as an external Coulomb

field, V(r),

 $\left[-i\vec{\alpha}\nabla + \beta + V(\vec{r})\right]\psi(\vec{r}) = E\psi(\vec{r})$

reducing a 2-body system to a 1-body system

Wendell Hinkle Furry 1907-1984 Prof. at Harvard University

Common theoretical approach:

Furry picture of bound-state QED





Quantum Electrodanymics in strong fields: non-perturbative treatment in Zα beyond the Furry picture

> Isotope shift in bound-electron *g*-factors

 \rightarrow All contributions cancel

except for:

- Nuclear recoil
- Nuclear size

Not included in

Furry picture

Our test system:

 $g(^{40}Ca^{17+}) \leftrightarrow g(^{48}Ca^{17+})$



- nuclear recoil dominates the isotope shift (99.96%), since nuclear size:

 $r_{nucl.}({}^{40}Ca) = 3.4776(19) \cdot 10^{-15} \text{ fm}$ $r_{nucl.}({}^{48}Ca) = 3.4771(20) \cdot 10^{-15} \text{ fm}$

[I. Angeli et al., Atomic Data and Nuclear Data Tables 99 (2013)]

Ref.: F. Köhler, S. Sturm



g-Factors of lithium-like calcium $^{40}Ca^{17+}$ and $^{48}Ca^{17+}$ \rightarrow sensitive test of QED beyond the Furry picture

$$g = 2\Gamma \frac{m_e}{m_{ion}} \frac{q_{ion}}{e}$$

Measured *g*-factors:

 $g({}^{40}\text{Ca}{}^{17+}) = 1.999\ 202\ 040\ 55\ (10)\ (12)\ (110)\ \cdot10^{-10} \rightarrow \delta g/g = 5.6 \cdot 10^{-10}$ $g({}^{48}\text{Ca}{}^{17+}) = 1.999\ 202\ 028\ 85\ (12)\ (13)\ (80)\ \cdot10^{-10} \rightarrow \delta g/g = 4.1 \cdot 10^{-10}$

 $\Delta g_{exp} = g({}^{40}Ca^{17+}) - g({}^{48}Ca^{17+}) = 11.70 (16) (3) (138) \cdot 10^{-9}$ $\checkmark Most precise g-factors of lithium-like ions!$

 $\Delta g_{\text{theo}} = g({}^{40}\text{Ca}{}^{17+}) - g({}^{48}\text{Ca}{}^{17+}) = 10.305 (27) \cdot 10^{-9}$

[Sz. Nagy et al. Eur. Phys. J. D 39, (2006)]

[A. V. Volotka et. al., PRL 112, 253004 (2014)]

comparison to theory: V. Shabaev et al.

g-Factors of lithium-like calcium $^{40}Ca^{17+}$ and $^{48}Ca^{17+}$ \rightarrow sensitive test of QED beyond the Furry picture



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Isotope dependence of the Zeeman effect in lithium-like calcium

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Thank you for your attention !

