

## Practice Problems Related to the Saha Equation

Write a code to compute, and plot,

$$\log_{10} \left( \frac{y^2}{1-y} \right) \tag{1}$$

over a range of temperatures from  $T = 10^3$  K to  $T = 10^6$  K, in logarithmic steps  $d \log_{10} T(\text{K}) = 0.1$  for  $\rho = 10^{-31}$  g cm<sup>-3</sup> (roughly the average baryon density of the universe,  $\rho = 10^{-24}$  g cm<sup>-3</sup> (representative of the average density of the interstellar medium), and  $\rho = 10^{-16}$  g cm<sup>-3</sup> (a reasonable density for a core of a molecular cloud). What trends do you see, and how would you explain them?