

1. Use

$$\vec{B}_{\text{int}} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{e}{m_e c^2 r^3} \vec{L},$$

where  $e$  is the elementary charge, to estimate the internal magnetic field in a hydrogen atom. This value characterizes the boundary between the strong and weak field limit.

The magnitude of the internal magnetic field is given by

$$\vec{B}_{\text{int}} \cdot \vec{B}_{\text{int}} = |\vec{B}_{\text{int}}|^2 = \left( \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{e}{m_e c^2} \right)^2 \left( \frac{1}{r^3} \right)^2 |\vec{L}^2|.$$

Let  $\beta$  be defined as the pre-factors,

$$\beta \equiv \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{e}{m_e c^2}.$$

Then, the magnitude of the internal magnetic field may be represented in terms of operators

$$|\vec{B}_{\text{int}}|^2 = \hat{B}_{\text{int}} = \beta^2 \frac{1}{\hat{r}^3} \frac{1}{\hat{r}^3} \hat{L}^2.$$

The average internal magnetic field can then be found as

$$\langle \Psi | \hat{B}_{\text{int}} | \Psi \rangle = \beta^2 \langle \Psi | \left( \frac{1}{\hat{r}^3} \frac{1}{\hat{r}^3} \hat{L}^2 \right) | \Psi \rangle = \beta^2 \left\langle \frac{1}{r^3} \frac{1}{r^3} L^2 \right\rangle.$$

We may insert the identity matrix between each of the three terms of the expectation value. The identity matrix may be expressed as the outer-product of wavefunctions. This allows us to express the expectation value of the internal magnetic field as

$$\langle B_{\text{int}} \rangle = \beta^2 \left\langle \frac{1}{r^3} \right\rangle \left\langle \frac{1}{r^3} \right\rangle \langle L^2 \rangle.$$

These expectation values are known for our chosen basis:

$$\left\langle \frac{1}{r^3} \right\rangle = \frac{1}{l(l + \frac{1}{2})(l + 1)n^3 a^3}, \quad \langle L^2 \rangle = \hbar^2 l(l + 1).$$

Then,

$$\langle B_{\text{int}} \rangle = \beta^2 \frac{\hbar^2 l(l + 1)}{[l(l + \frac{1}{2})(l + 1)n^3 a^3]^2} = \beta^2 \frac{\hbar^2}{l(l + 1) [(l + \frac{1}{2}) n^3 a^3]^2}.$$

This implies that the strength of the internal magnetic field is strongest at low values of  $n$  and  $l$ , which makes sense by the classical picture. Let  $n = 1$ . Then,  $l \in \{0, 1\}$ . While  $l = 0$  appears problematic, we recall that for  $l = 0$   $\langle L^2 \rangle = 0$  and thus  $\langle B_{\text{int}} \rangle = 0$ . Therefore, let  $l = 1$ . Then, substituting known values,

$$\langle B_{\text{int}} \rangle \approx 34 \text{ T}.$$

Therefore,  $|B_{\text{ext}}| \ll 30 \text{ T}$  is a weak field while  $|B_{\text{ext}}| \gg 30 \text{ T}$  is a strong field.

2. Consider the eight  $n = 2$  states for the hydrogen atom,  $\langle 2, l, j, m_j |$ . Determine the energy of each state under weak-field Zeeman splitting and construct a diagram like the one in Figure 6.11 of Griffiths to show how the energies evolve as a function of  $B_{\text{ext}}$ . Label each line clearly and indicate the slope of each line on the graph.