

Tema 11: The electron in a central field

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$$V(r) = -\frac{Ze^2}{r} \quad (\text{units} / 4\pi\epsilon_0 = 1)$$

- Nucleus charge $Ze + 1 e^-$ (hydrogenic atom)

Ex.: H, D, T, He⁺, Li⁺⁺...

- Two body problem (nucleus + e^-) → C.M. problem + relative problem

- Originally

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2; t) = \left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_1} \nabla_{\vec{r}_1}^2 - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_2} \nabla_{\vec{r}_2}^2 + V(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2; t) \right] \Psi(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2; t)$$

but

$$V(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2; t) = V(|\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|)$$

We define

$$\vec{R} = \frac{m_1 \vec{r}_1 + m_2 \vec{r}_2}{m_1 + m_2} ; \quad \vec{r} = \vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2$$

(C.M.) (Relative)

$$\frac{1}{2m_1} \nabla_{\vec{r}_1}^2 + \frac{1}{2m_2} \nabla_{\vec{r}_2}^2 = \frac{1}{2\mu} \nabla_{\vec{r}}^2 + \frac{1}{2M} \nabla_{\vec{R}}^2$$

where $M = m_1 + m_2$ (total) ; $\mu = \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2}$ (reduced)

In the new coordinates

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Phi(\vec{r}, \vec{R}; t) = \left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2M} \nabla_{\vec{R}}^2 - \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \nabla_{\vec{r}}^2 + V(r) \right] \Phi(\vec{r}, \vec{R}; t)$$

We can separate variables $\Phi(\vec{r}, \vec{R}; t) = \phi(\vec{r}) \Psi(\vec{R}) T(t)$

For eigenstates of \hat{H} ($\hat{H} \neq \hat{H}(t) \rightarrow T(t) = e^{-\frac{iEt}{\hbar}}$)

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2M} \nabla_R^2 \Psi(\vec{R}) = E_R \Psi(\vec{R})$$

$$\left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \nabla_r^2 + V(r) \right] \phi(\vec{r}) = E_r \phi(\vec{r})$$

where $E = E_r + E_R$

- Free motion of the center of mass
- The relative motion of the system $Ze + 1 e^-$ is subjected to attractive potential $V(r)$
- We will study the relative problem (we're not interested in excitations coming from the C.M. motion)

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We must solve (we ignore subscripts r in $\vec{\nabla}$ and E from now on)

$$\left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \nabla^2 + V(r) \right] \phi(\vec{r}) = E \phi(\vec{r}) \quad ; \quad V(r) = -\frac{Ze^2}{r}$$

Central potencial $\phi(\vec{r}) = R(r) Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi)$

Radial Eq.: $-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} \left(r^2 \frac{dR}{dr} \right) + \left(V(r) + \frac{l(l+1)\hbar^2}{2\mu r^2} \right) R(r) = E R(r)$

Change $u(r) = rR(r)$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \frac{d^2 u}{dr^2} + \left[V(r) + \frac{l(l+1)\hbar^2}{2\mu r^2} \right] u(r) = E u(r) \quad ; \quad u(0) = 0$$

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or, equivalently

$$\frac{d^2 u}{dr^2} + \left[\frac{2 \mu E}{\hbar^2} + \frac{2 \mu Z e^2}{\hbar^2 r} - \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} \right] u = 0$$

We define $x = \frac{2r}{r_0}$ (dimensionless) where $r_0 = \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2 \mu |E|}}$

$$\omega(x) = u(r) ; \quad \omega(0) = 0$$

$\omega(x)$ satisfies

$$\omega'' + \left[\frac{1}{4} \frac{E}{|E|} + \frac{A}{x} - \frac{l(l+1)}{x^2} \right] \omega = 0$$

$$A = \sqrt{\frac{\mu Z^2 e^4}{2 \hbar^2 |E|}} = \frac{Z e^2}{2 |E| r_0}$$

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We will study bound states $\rightarrow E < 0$

$$\omega'' + \left[-\frac{1}{4} + \frac{A}{x} - \frac{l(l+1)}{x^2} \right] \omega = 0 \quad (1)$$

■ a) For $x \rightarrow \infty$ (1) $\Rightarrow \omega'' - \frac{\omega}{4} = 0$

$$\omega(x) = C e^{\frac{x}{2}} + D e^{-\frac{x}{2}}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} e^{\frac{x}{2}} = \infty \Rightarrow R \rightarrow \infty$$

■ b) For $x \rightarrow 0$ (1) $\Rightarrow \omega'' - \frac{l(l+1)}{x^2} \omega = 0$

x^{-l} y x^{l+1} are particular solutions

general solution $\omega(x) = a x^{l+1} + b x^{-l}$

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■ i) $\omega(x) = x^{-l}$; $R \approx \frac{\omega}{x} = x^{-(l+1)}$; $\omega(0) \neq 0 \forall l$ $R(r \rightarrow 0) \rightarrow \infty$ **solution not valid**

■ ii) $\omega(x) = x^{l+1} \rightarrow 0$ cuando $x \rightarrow 0$; $R \approx \frac{\omega}{x} = x^l$ when $x \rightarrow 0$ **valid**

■ c) $\forall x$ $\omega(x) = x^{l+1} e^{-\frac{x}{2}} f_l(x)$ brought to (1)

$$\left[x \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + (2l + 2 - x) \frac{d}{dx} - (l + 1 - A) \right] f_l(x) = 0 \quad (2)$$

Laplace Eq.. Its regular solution is the confluent hypergeometric series of the first kind $F(l + 1 - A; 2l + 2; x)$

We make $f_l(x) = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} b_p x^p$

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$$\sum_{p=2}^{\infty} p(p-1) b_p x^{p-1} + \sum_{p=1}^{\infty} (2l+2) p b_p x^{p-1} - \sum_{p=1}^{\infty} p b_p x^p - \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} (l+1-A) b_p x^p = 0$$

It leads to

$$b_{p+1} = \frac{l+1-A+p}{(p+1)(2l+2+p)} b_p \quad \text{recurrence relation}$$

$$\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b_{p+1}}{b_p} = \frac{1}{p} \rightarrow$$

$f_l(x)$ is equivalent to $e^x = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{p!} x^p \rightarrow$

in $\omega(x)$ there is $e^{-\frac{x}{2}} e^x \rightarrow$ asymptotic dependence is not acceptable for $x \rightarrow \infty \rightarrow$ the expansion must be cut \Rightarrow polynomial

$b_{n'} \neq 0$; $b_{n'+1} = 0$; n' integer, order of the polynomial

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$$l + 1 - A + n' = 0 \quad ; \quad n' = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

l is an integer $\Rightarrow A = \text{integer} \equiv n$ **principal quantum number**

$$A \equiv n = l + 1 + n' \quad ; \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$n \geq l + 1 \quad \rightarrow \quad l \leq n - 1 \quad ; \quad l = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$$

$$A = \sqrt{\frac{\mu Z^2 e^4}{2\hbar^2 |E|}}$$

$$\text{Bound states} \rightarrow E_n = -\frac{\mu Z^2 e^4}{2n^2 \hbar^2}$$

E_n are independent of l

For $\mu = m_e$ and $Z = 1$

$$\rightarrow E_1 = -13.6 \text{ eV} ; E_2 = \frac{E_1}{4} \dots$$

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$$f_l \rightarrow f_{nl} \rightarrow R_{nl}$$

| | | | |
|-----|-----------|--|-------------|
| n=1 | l=0 (=1s) | $R_{10}Y_0^0$ | E_1 deg.1 |
| n=2 | l=0 (=2s) | $R_{20}Y_0^0$ | E_2 deg.4 |
| | l=1 (=2p) | $R_{21}Y_1^1, R_{21}Y_1^0, R_{21}Y_1^{-1}$ | |
| n=3 | l=0 (=3s) | $R_{30}Y_0^0$ | E_3 deg.9 |
| | l=1 (=3p) | $R_{31}Y_1^1, R_{31}Y_1^0, R_{31}Y_1^{-1}$ | |
| | l=2 (=3d) | $R_{32}Y_2^m; m = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2$ | |

For a given $n \rightarrow \text{degeneracy} = n^2$

$$\sum_{l=0}^{n-1} (2l + 1) = n^2$$

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Energies do not depend on m or l

$$\omega_{nl}(x) = x^{l+1} e^{-\frac{x}{2}} \times \text{polynomial of degree } n - l - 1$$

polynomials are the **associated Laguerre polynomials**: $L_j^k(x)$ satisfying the associated Laguerre differential equation

$$x \frac{d^2 L_j^k}{dx^2} + (k+1-x) \frac{dL_j^k}{dx} + (j-k)L_j^k = 0 \quad (3)$$

They can be obtained from the Laguerre polynomials $L_j(x)$ (of order j , solution of the Laguerre differential equation):

$$L_j(x) = e^x \frac{d^j (x^j e^{-x})}{dx^j}$$

$$L_j^k(x) = \frac{d^k L_j(x)}{dx^k}$$

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If we compare (2) with (3)

$$k = 2l + 1 \quad ; \quad j = n + l$$

$$f_{nl}(x) = L_{n+l}^{2l+1}(x)$$

$$\omega_{nl}(x) \sim x^{l+1} e^{-\frac{x}{2}} L_{n+l}^{2l+1}(x)$$

We define $a_0 = \frac{\hbar^2}{\mu e^2}$ ($= 0.528 \text{ \AA}$ if $\mu = m_e$, radius of the first Bohr orbit for H)

Then $r_0 = \frac{na_0}{Z}$; $x = \frac{2Zr}{na_0}$

$$u_{nl}(r) = \left(\frac{2Zr}{na_0} \right)^{l+1} e^{-\frac{Zr}{na_0}} L_{n+l}^{2l+1} \left(\frac{2Zr}{na_0} \right)$$

$$R_{nl}(r) = -A_{nl} \frac{2Z}{na_0} \left(\frac{2Zr}{na_0} \right)^l e^{-\frac{Zr}{na_0}} L_{n+l}^{2l+1} \left(\frac{2Zr}{na_0} \right) \quad (\text{normal.})$$

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$$A_{nl} = \sqrt{\frac{2Z}{na_0}} \sqrt{\frac{(n-l-1)!}{2n[(n+l)!]^3}}$$

$$L_{n+l}^{2l+1}(x) = \sum_{p=0}^{n-l-1} (-)^{p+1} \frac{[(n+l)!]^2 x^p}{(n-l-1-p)!(2l+1+p)! p!} \quad (4)$$

R_{nl} has n zeros:

- of order l in $r = 0$
- of order 1 in $r = \infty$
- of order $n-l-1$ between $0 < r < \infty$

$R_{nl}(r \rightarrow 0) \sim r^l$ and $R_{nl}(r) > 0$ close to the origin ($b_0 < 0$ see Eq. (4))

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$$R_{10}(r) = 2 \left(\frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} e^{-\frac{Zr}{a_0}}$$

$$R_{20}(r) = \left(\frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(1 - \frac{Zr}{2a_0} \right) e^{-\frac{Zr}{2a_0}}$$

$$R_{21}(r) = \left(\frac{Z}{2a_0} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{Zr}{\sqrt{3}a_0} e^{-\frac{Zr}{2a_0}}$$

$$R_{30}(r) = \left(\frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{2}{3\sqrt{3}} \left(1 - \frac{2Zr}{3a_0} + \frac{2}{27} \left(\frac{Zr}{a_0} \right)^2 \right) e^{-\frac{Zr}{3a_0}}$$

$$R_{31}(r) = \left(\frac{Z}{3a_0} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{3} \frac{Zr}{a_0} \left(1 - \frac{Zr}{6a_0} \right) e^{-\frac{Zr}{3a_0}}$$

$$R_{32}(r) = \left(\frac{1}{3a_0} \right)^{3/2} \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{27\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{r}{a_0} \right)^2 e^{-r/3a_0}$$

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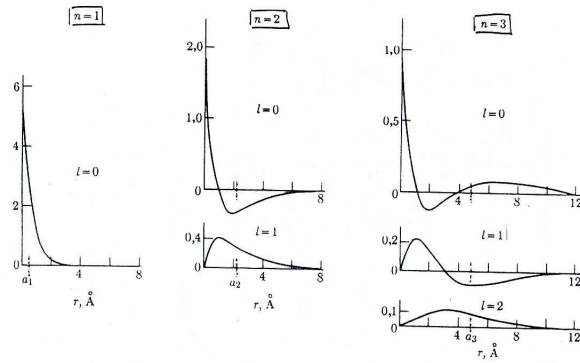


Fig. 3-12. Funciones radiales del hidrógeno para $n = 1, 2$ y 3 . En cada caso, la ordenada de la curva es $[R_{nl}(r) \text{ m}^{-3/2}] \times 10^{-8}$.

a_l Radio clásico de la órbita $l = n^2 a_0$
 n Nodos $\begin{cases} \text{orden } l \text{ en } r=0 \\ n-l-1 & 0 < r < \infty \\ 1 & r = \infty \end{cases}$

| Números cuánticos | | | Eigenfunciones |
|-------------------|-----|---------|---|
| n | l | m_l | |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | $\psi_{100} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} e^{-Zr/a_0}$ |
| 2 | 0 | 0 | $\psi_{200} = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} \left(2 - \frac{Zr}{a_0} \right) e^{-Zr/2a_0}$ |
| 2 | 1 | 0 | $\psi_{210} = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} \frac{Zr}{a_0} e^{-Zr/2a_0} \cos \theta$ |
| 2 | 1 | ± 1 | $\psi_{21\pm 1} = \frac{1}{8\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} \frac{Zr}{a_0} e^{-Zr/2a_0} \sin \theta e^{\pm i\varphi}$ |
| 3 | 0 | 0 | $\psi_{300} = \frac{1}{81\sqrt{3\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} \left(27 - 18 \frac{Zr}{a_0} + 2 \frac{Z^2 r^2}{a_0^2} \right) e^{-Zr/3a_0}$ |
| 3 | 1 | 0 | $\psi_{310} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{81\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} \left(6 - \frac{Zr}{a_0} \right) \frac{Zr}{a_0} e^{-Zr/3a_0} \cos \theta$ |
| 3 | 1 | ± 1 | $\psi_{31\pm 1} = \frac{1}{81\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} \left(6 - \frac{Zr}{a_0} \right) \frac{Zr}{a_0} e^{-Zr/3a_0} \sin \theta e^{\pm i\varphi}$ |
| 3 | 2 | 0 | $\psi_{320} = \frac{1}{81\sqrt{6\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} \frac{Z^2 r^2}{a_0^2} e^{-Zr/3a_0} (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)$ |
| 3 | 2 | ± 1 | $\psi_{32\pm 1} = \frac{1}{81\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} \frac{Z^2 r^2}{a_0^2} e^{-Zr/3a_0} \sin \theta \cos \theta e^{\pm i\varphi}$ |
| 3 | 2 | ± 2 | $\psi_{32\pm 2} = \frac{1}{162\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} \frac{Z^2 r^2}{a_0^2} e^{-Zr/3a_0} \sin^2 \theta e^{\pm 2i\varphi}$ |

For eigenfunctions of H , L^2 and L_z : the probability density

$$\Psi_{nlm_l}^* \Psi_{nlm_l} = R_{nl}^* \Theta_{lm_l}^* \Phi_{m_l}^* R_{nl} \Theta_{lm_l} \Phi_{m_l}$$

- The probability of finding the e^- in $d\tau$

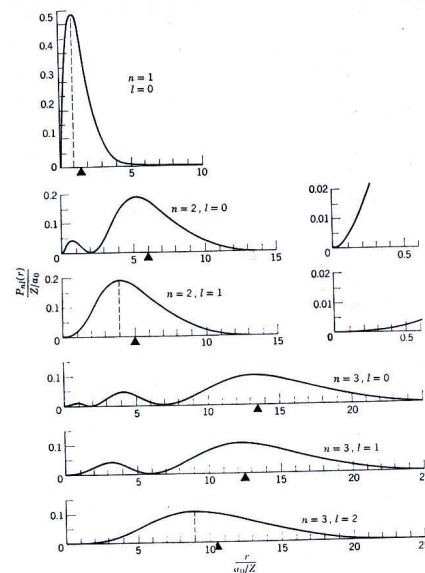
$$|\Psi_{nlm_l}|^2 d\tau$$

in spherical coordinates $d\tau = r^2 \sin \theta dr d\theta d\phi$

- The radial probability of presence (probability of finding the e^- at distance between r and $r + dr$ from the nucleus, with any angle $d\theta$ and $d\phi$)

$$R_{nl}^* R_{nl} r^2 dr = P_{nl}(r) dr$$

$P_{nl}(r) = |R_{nl}|^2 r^2$ is the **radial probability density**



$$\langle r \rangle_{nl} = \int_0^\infty R_{nl}^* r R_{nl} r^2 dr = \frac{n^2 a_0}{Z} \left\{ 1 + \frac{1}{2} \left[1 - \frac{l(l+1)}{n^2} \right] \right\}$$

Plot $\frac{P_{nl}(r)}{Z/a_0}$ vs. $\frac{r}{a_0/Z}$

- for l_{max} compatible with given n

$$r_{most\ probable} = \frac{n^2 a_0}{Z} \quad (= \text{Bohr radius, circular orbits})$$

- $\langle r \rangle_{nl}$ greater than the most probable value (black triangles)
- the scale \rightarrow universal plot (valid for different values of μ and Z)

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- for given n the behavior for $r \rightarrow 0$ depends on l

$$R(r) \sim r^l \quad ; \quad P(r) \sim r^{2(l+1)}$$

- $r \ll$ probability of presence in the nucleus (we assume radius R_n) $\neq 0$ for $l = 0$ (for $l > 0$ negligible in comparison)

$$\int_0^{R_N} \frac{r^{2l+2}}{a_0^{2l+3}} dr \rightarrow \frac{1}{2l+3} \left(\frac{R_N}{a_0} \right)^{2l+3} \quad ; \quad \frac{R_N}{a_0} \sim 10^{-5}$$

- appreciable radial probability density within restricted range of r , longer interval for larger n

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The probability density is independent of ϕ

$$\Phi_{m_l}^*(\phi) \Phi_{m_l}(\phi) = 1$$

the angular dependence of the probability density comes from θ

$\Theta^*(\theta) \Theta(\theta)$ drawn in polar diagram

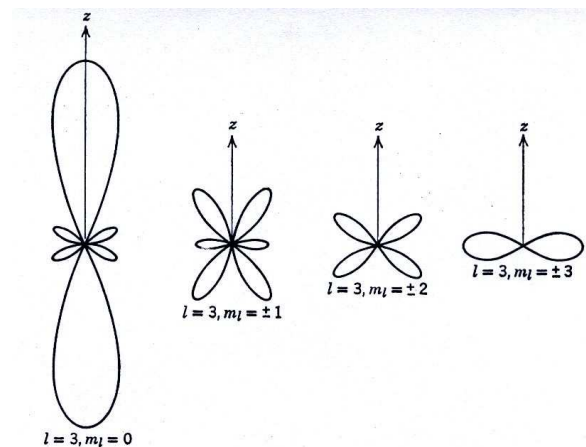
■ $l = 0$ $|\Theta|^2$ is independent of $\theta \rightarrow$ spherical symmetry

■ $l \neq 0$

◆ $m_l = \pm l$ location in the xy plane ($\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$)

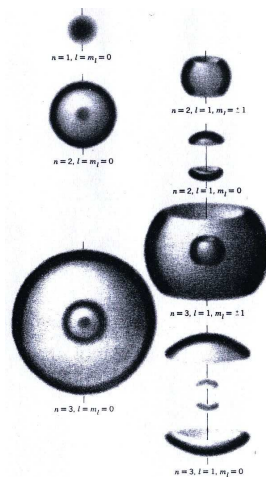
◆ $m_l = 0$ e^- quite located on axis z ($\theta = 0, \pi$)

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Polar diagram of $\Theta^*(\theta) \Theta(\theta)$ (angular dependence of $|\Psi_{nlm_l}|^2$)

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Probability density for an atom with one e^- (the line is the z axis)

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