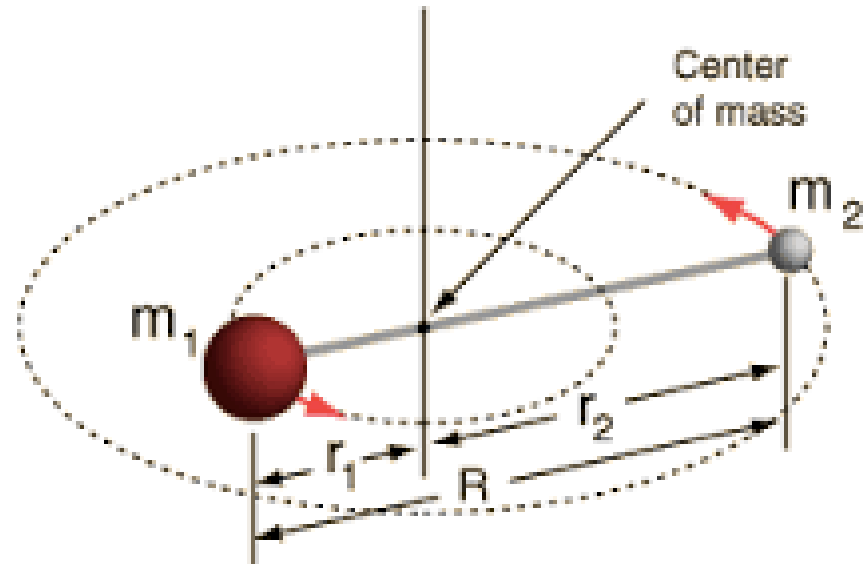
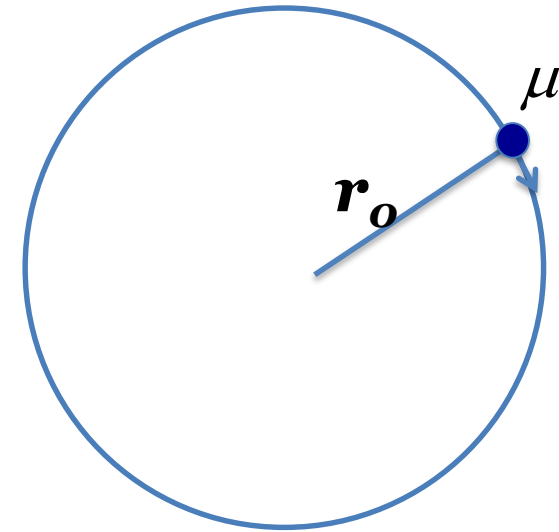
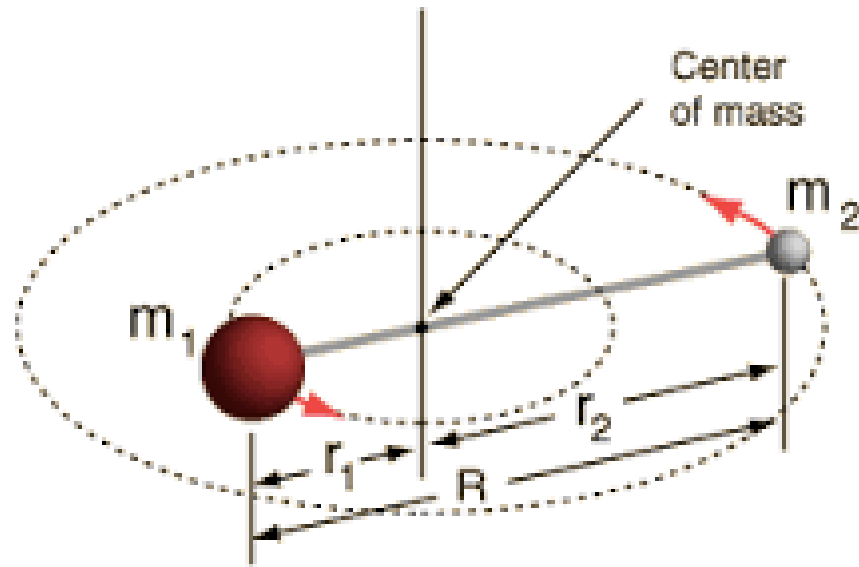


# Rigid rotor

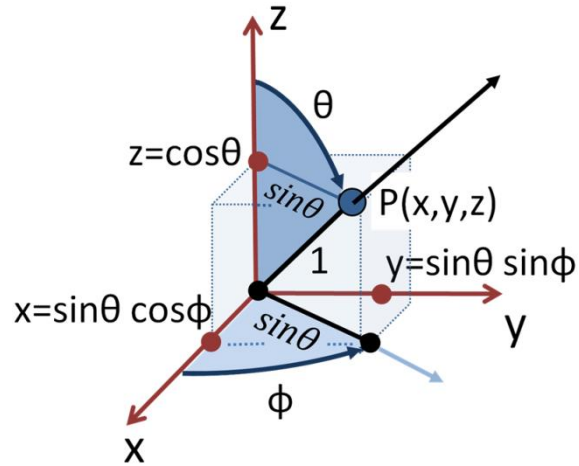


## A rotating diatomic molecule



**Reduced mass:** From two body to one body problem

# Spherical Polar Co-ordinates



$$z = r \cos \theta$$

$$x = r \sin \theta \cos \phi$$

$$y = r \sin \theta \sin \phi$$

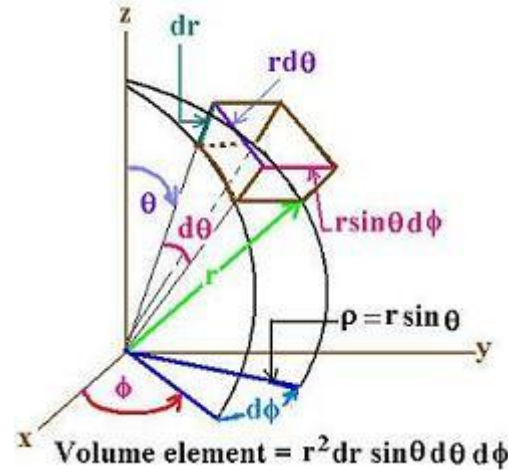


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$$r: 0 \text{ to } \infty$$

$$\theta: 0 \text{ to } \pi$$

$$\phi: 0 \text{ to } 2\pi$$



$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{z}{r} \right)$$

$$\phi = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{y}{x} \right)$$

$$dt = r^2 \times dr \times \sin \theta \times d\theta \times d\phi$$

# **Laplacian in Spherical Coordinates**

# Laplacian in Spherical Coordinates

We start with the primitive definitions

$$x = r \sin \theta \cos \phi$$

$$y = r \sin \theta \sin \phi$$

and

$$z = r \cos \theta$$

and their inverses

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \frac{z}{r} = \cos^{-1} \frac{z}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}}$$

and

$$\phi = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}$$

and attempt to write (using the chain rule)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \left( \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} \right)_{y,z} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right)_{\theta,\phi} + \left( \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} \right)_{y,z} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right)_{r,\phi} + \left( \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_{y,z} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right)_{r,\theta}$$

and

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} = \left( \frac{\partial r}{\partial y} \right)_{x,z} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right)_{\theta,\phi} + \left( \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial y} \right)_{x,z} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right)_{r,\phi} + \left( \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \right)_{x,z} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right)_{r,\theta}$$

and

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} = \left( \frac{\partial r}{\partial z} \right)_{x,y} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right)_{\theta,\phi} + \left( \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial z} \right)_{x,y} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right)_{r,\phi} + \left( \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} \right)_{x,y} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right)_{r,\theta}$$

# Laplacian in Spherical Coordinates

## Appendix-2

The needed (above) partial derivatives are:

$$\left(\frac{\partial r}{\partial x}\right)_{y,z} = \sin \theta \cos \phi \quad (1)$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial r}{\partial y}\right)_{x,z} = \sin \theta \sin \phi \quad (2)$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial r}{\partial z}\right)_{x,y} = \cos \theta \quad (3)$$

and we have as a starting point for doing the  $\theta$  terms,

$$d \cos \theta = -\sin \theta d\theta = \frac{dz}{r} - \frac{z}{r^2} \frac{1}{r} (x dx + y dy + z dz)$$

# Laplacian in Spherical Coordinates

so that, for example

$$-\sin \theta d\theta = -\frac{z}{r^2} \frac{x}{r} dx$$

which is

$$-\sin \theta d\theta = -\frac{r \cos \theta}{r^2} \sin \theta \cos \phi dx$$

so that

$$\left( \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} \right)_{y,z} = \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r} \quad (4)$$

$$\left( \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial y} \right)_{x,z} = \frac{\cos \theta \sin \phi}{r} \quad (5)$$

but, for the z-equation, we have

$$-\sin \theta d\theta = \frac{dz}{r} - \frac{z}{r^2} \frac{1}{r} dz$$

which is

$$-\sin \theta d\theta = \left( \frac{1}{r} - \frac{z^2}{r^3} \right) dz = \frac{r^2 - z^2}{r^3} dz$$

$$-\sin \theta d\theta = \left( \frac{1}{r} - \frac{z^2}{r^3} \right) dz = \frac{r^2 \sin^2 \theta}{r^3} dz$$

# Laplacian in Spherical Coordinates

so one has

$$\left(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial z}\right)_{x,y} = -\frac{\sin \theta}{r} \quad (6)$$

Next, we have (as an example)

$$\tan \phi = \frac{\sin \phi}{\cos \phi} = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}$$

so

$$\left(1 + \frac{\sin^2 \phi}{\cos^2 \phi}\right) d\phi = \frac{dy}{x} - \frac{y}{x^2} dx$$

or

$$\left(\frac{1}{\cos^2 \phi}\right) d\phi = \frac{dy}{x} - \frac{y}{x^2} dx$$

which leads to

$$\left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y}\right)_{x,z} = \frac{\cos \phi}{r \sin \theta} \quad (7)$$

and

$$\left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x}\right)_{y,z} = -\frac{\sin \phi}{r \sin \theta} \quad (8)$$



## Laplacian in Spherical Coordinates

$$\left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z}\right)_{x,y} = 0 \quad (9)$$

Given these results (above) we write

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} = \cos \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial r} - \left(\frac{\sin \theta}{r}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \quad (10)$$

and

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} = (\sin \theta \sin \phi) \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \left(\frac{\cos \theta \sin \phi}{r}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \left(\frac{\cos \phi}{r \sin \theta}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \quad (11)$$

and

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} = (\sin \theta \cos \phi) \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \left(\frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \left(-\frac{\sin \phi}{r \sin \theta}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \quad (12)$$

From Equation 10 we form

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} = \cos \theta \frac{\partial \left[ \cos \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial r} - \left(\frac{\sin \theta}{r}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right]}{\partial r} - \left(\frac{\sin \theta}{r}\right) \frac{\partial \left( \cos \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial r} - \left(\frac{\sin \theta}{r}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right)}{\partial \theta} \quad (13)$$

while from Equation 11 we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} &= (\sin \theta \sin \phi) \frac{\partial \left[ \sin \theta \sin \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \left(\frac{\cos \theta \sin \phi}{r}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \left(\frac{\cos \phi}{r \sin \theta}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right]}{\partial r} \\ &+ \left(\frac{\cos \theta \sin \phi}{r}\right) \frac{\partial \left[ \sin \theta \sin \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \left(\frac{\cos \theta \sin \phi}{r}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \left(\frac{\cos \phi}{r \sin \theta}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right]}{\partial \theta} \\ &+ \left(\frac{\cos \phi}{r \sin \theta}\right) \frac{\partial \left[ \sin \theta \sin \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \left(\frac{\cos \theta \sin \phi}{r}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \left(\frac{\cos \phi}{r \sin \theta}\right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right]}{\partial \phi} \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

# Laplacian in Spherical Coordinates

and from Equation 12 we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} = & (\sin \theta \cos \phi) \frac{\partial \left[ \sin \theta \cos \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \left( \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} - \left( \frac{\sin \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right]}{\partial r} \\ & + \left( \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial \left[ \sin \theta \cos \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \left( \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} - \left( \frac{\sin \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right]}{\partial \theta} \\ & - \left( \frac{\sin \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial \left[ \sin \theta \cos \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \left( \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} - \left( \frac{\sin \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right]}{\partial \phi} \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

Expanding, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} = & \cos^2 \theta \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + \frac{\cos \theta \sin \theta}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} - \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta}{r} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r \partial \theta} \\ & - \left( \frac{\sin \theta}{r} \right) \left( -\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial r} - \cos \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) - \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \left( \frac{\sin \theta}{r} \right)^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

while for the y-equation we have

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} = \sin^2 \theta \sin^2 \phi \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} \quad (17)$$

$$+ \sin \theta \sin \phi \left[ + \left( \frac{\cos \theta \sin \phi}{r^2} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \left( \frac{\cos \theta \sin \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r \partial \theta} \right] \quad (18)$$

# Laplacian in Spherical Coordinates

## Appendix-2

$$+ \sin \theta \sin \phi \left[ \left( -\frac{\cos \phi}{r^2 \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} + \left( \frac{\cos \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r \partial \phi} \right] \quad (19)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\cos \theta \sin \phi}{r} \right) \left[ \cos \theta \sin \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \sin \theta \sin \phi \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r \partial \theta} \right] \quad (20)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\cos \theta \sin \phi}{r} \right) \left[ -\left( \frac{\sin \theta \sin \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \left( \frac{\cos \theta \sin \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \right] \quad (21)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\cos \theta \sin \phi}{r} \right) \left[ -\left( \frac{\cos \phi \cos \theta}{r \sin^2 \theta} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} + \left( \frac{\cos \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi \partial \theta} \right] \quad (22)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\cos \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \left[ \sin \theta \cos \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \sin \theta \sin \phi \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r \partial \phi} \right] \quad (23)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\cos \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \left[ + \left( \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \left( \frac{\cos \theta \sin \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta \partial \phi} \right] \quad (24)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\cos \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \left[ -\left( \frac{\sin \phi \cos \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} + \left( \frac{\cos \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right] \quad (25)$$

# Laplacian in Spherical Coordinates

and finally

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} = (\sin \theta \cos \phi) \sin \theta \cos \phi \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + (\sin \theta \cos \phi) \left[ - \left( \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r^2} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \left( \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta \partial r} \right] \quad (26)$$

$$- (\sin \theta \cos \phi) \left[ - \left( \frac{\sin \phi}{r^2 \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} + \left( \frac{\sin \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi \partial r} \right] \quad (27)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r} \right) \left[ \cos \theta \cos \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \sin \theta \cos \phi \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r \partial \theta} \right] \quad (28)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r} \right) \left[ - \left( \frac{\sin \theta \cos \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \left( \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \right] \quad (29)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r} \right) \left[ + \left( \frac{\sin \phi}{r \sin^2 \theta} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} - \left( \frac{\sin \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi \partial \theta} \right] \quad (30)$$

$$- \left( \frac{\sin \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \left[ \sin \theta \sin \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \sin \theta \cos \phi \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r \partial \phi} \right] \quad (31)$$

$$- \left( \frac{\sin \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \left[ - \left( \frac{\cos \theta \sin \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \left( \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta \partial \phi} \right] \quad (32)$$

$$- \left( \frac{\sin \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \left[ - \left( \frac{\cos \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} - \left( \frac{\sin \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right] \quad (33)$$

Now, one by one, we expand completely each of these three terms. We have

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} = \cos^2 \theta \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} \quad (34)$$

$$+ \frac{\cos \theta \sin \theta}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \quad (35)$$

$$- \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta}{r} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r \partial \theta} \quad (36)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{r} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \quad (37)$$

$$- \left( \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta}{r} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r \partial \theta} \quad (38)$$

$$+ \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \quad (39)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{r^2} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \quad (40)$$

# Laplacian in Spherical Coordinates

and, for the y-equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} = \sin^2 \theta \sin^2 \phi \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} \quad (41)$$

$$(18) \rightarrow + \left( \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta \sin^2 \phi}{r^2} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \quad (42)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\cos \theta \sin \theta \sin^2 \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r \partial \theta} \quad (43)$$

$$(19) \rightarrow - \left( \frac{\sin \phi \cos \phi}{r^2} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \quad (44)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\cos \phi \sin \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r \partial \phi} \quad (45)$$

$$(20) \rightarrow + \left( \frac{\cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \quad (46)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\cos \theta \sin \theta \sin^2 \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r \partial \theta} \quad (47)$$

$$- \left( \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta \sin^2 \phi}{r^2} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \quad (48)$$

$$(21) \rightarrow + \left( \frac{\cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \phi}{r^2} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \quad (49)$$

$$- \left( \frac{\cos^2 \theta \cos \phi \sin \phi}{r \sin^2 \theta} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \quad (50)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi \sin \phi}{r^2 \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi \partial \theta} \quad (51)$$

$$(22) \rightarrow + \left( \frac{\cos^2 \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \quad (52)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\cos \phi \sin \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r \partial \phi} \quad (53)$$

## Laplacian in Spherical Coordinates

$$+ \left( \frac{\cos^2 \phi \cos \theta}{r^2 \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \quad (54)$$

$$(24) \rightarrow + \left( \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi \sin \phi}{r^2 \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta \partial \phi} \quad (55)$$

$$(25) \rightarrow - \left( \frac{\cos^2 \phi \sin \phi}{r \sin^2 \theta} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \quad (56)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\cos^2 \phi}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \quad (57)$$

and finally, for the x-equation, we have

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} = \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \phi \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} \quad (58)$$

$$(26) \rightarrow - \left( \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta \cos^2 \phi}{r^2} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \quad (59)$$

$$(26) \rightarrow + \left( \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta \cos^2 \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta \partial r} \quad (60)$$

$$\left( \frac{\cos \phi \sin \phi}{r^2} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \quad (61)$$

$$- \left( \frac{\sin \phi \cos \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi \partial r} \quad (62)$$

# Laplacian in Spherical Coordinates

## Appendix-2

$$(27) \rightarrow + \left( \frac{\cos^2 \theta \cos^2 \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \quad (63)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta \cos^2 \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r \partial \theta} \quad (64)$$

$$(27) \rightarrow - \left( \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta \cos^2 \phi}{r^2} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \quad (65)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\cos^2 \theta \cos^2 \phi}{r^2} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \quad (66)$$

$$(28) \rightarrow + \left( \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r} \right) \left( \frac{\cos \phi \sin \phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \quad (67)$$

$$- \left( \frac{\sin \phi \cos \phi \cos \theta}{r^2 \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi \partial \theta} \quad (68)$$

$$(29) \rightarrow - \left( \frac{\sin^2 \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \quad (69)$$

$$- \left( \frac{\sin \phi \cos \phi}{r} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r \partial \phi} \quad (70)$$

$$(31) \rightarrow + \left( \frac{\cos \theta \sin^2 \phi}{r^2 \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \quad (71)$$

$$- \left( \frac{\cos \theta \sin \phi \cos \phi}{r^2 \sin \theta} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta \partial \phi} \quad (72)$$

$$(32) \rightarrow + \left( \frac{\sin \phi \cos \phi}{r \sin^2 \theta} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \quad (73)$$

$$+ \left( \frac{\sin^2 \phi}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \quad (74)$$

# Laplacian in Spherical Coordinates

Gathering terms as coefficients of partial derivatives, we obtain (from Equations 34, 41 and 58)

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} (\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta \sin^2 \phi + \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \phi) \rightarrow \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2}$$

and (from Equations 35, 38, 42, 48, 54, 59, 65, and 71)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( +\frac{\cos \theta \sin \theta}{r^2} + \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta}{r^2} - \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta \sin^2 \phi}{r^2} - \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta \sin^2 \phi}{r^2} + \frac{\cos^2 \phi \cos \theta}{r^2 \sin \theta} \right. \\ \left. - \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta \cos^2 \phi}{r^2} - \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta \cos^2 \phi}{r^2} + \frac{\cos \theta \sin^2 \phi}{r^2 \sin \theta} \right) \\ \rightarrow \frac{\cos \theta}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \end{aligned} \quad (75)$$

while we obtain from Equations 40, 49, and 66:

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \left( \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{r^2} + \frac{\cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \phi}{r^2} + \frac{\cos^2 \theta \cos^2 \phi}{r^2} \right) \rightarrow \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \quad (76)$$

From Equations 37, 46, 52, 63, 69,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( +\frac{\sin^2 \theta}{r} + \frac{\cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \phi}{r} + \frac{\cos^2 \phi}{r} + \frac{\cos^2 \theta \cos^2 \phi}{r} - \frac{\sin^2 \phi}{r} \right) \rightarrow \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \quad (77)$$

From Equations 44, 50, 56, 61, 67 and 73 we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \left( -\frac{\sin \phi \cos \phi}{r^2} - \frac{\cos^2 \theta \cos \phi \sin \phi}{r \sin^2 \theta} - \frac{\cos^2 \theta \cos \phi \sin \phi}{r \sin^2 \theta} + \frac{\cos \phi \sin \phi}{r^2} + \left( \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r} \right) \right. \\ \left. + \left( \frac{\cos \theta \cos^2 \phi \sin \phi}{r^2 \sin \theta} \right) + \frac{\sin \phi \cos \phi}{r \sin^2 \theta} \right) \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned} \quad (78)$$



## Laplacian in Spherical Coordinates

$$\nabla^2 y_e = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial y_e}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial y_e}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 y_e}{\partial \phi^2}$$

## Kinetic energy operator in Spherical Coordinates

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \left[ \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right]$$

### **Rigid rotor**

- Potential energy = 0
- KE term: entire Hamiltonian
- $r = \text{constant}$
- Derivative with respect to  $r = 0$

## Hamiltonian in Spherical Coordinates

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \left[ \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right]$$

### **Rigid rotor**

- Potential energy = 0
- KE term: entire Hamiltonian
- $r = \text{constant}$
- Derivative with respect to  $r = 0$

## Hamiltonian from square of angular momentum operator

$$\hat{L}^2 = -\hbar^2 \left[ \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right]$$

## Hamiltonian from square of angular momentum operator

$$\hat{L}^2 = -\hbar^2 \left[ \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right]$$

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{L}^2}{2I} = \frac{\hat{L}^2}{2\mu r_0^2} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu r_0^2} \left[ \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right]$$

$$I = \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2} r_0^2 = m r_0^2, \quad \text{where } m = \text{Reduced mass}$$

## Wavefunctions: Spherical harmonics, same as in H atom

$$Y_J^M(q, f) = Q_{J, |M|}(q) F_M(f)$$

## Schrodinger equation

$$Y_J^M(q, \varphi) = Q_{J, |M|}(q) F_M(\varphi)$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu r_0^2} \left[ \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right] \Theta \Phi = E \Theta \Phi$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu r_0^2} \left[ \frac{\Phi}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{\Theta}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \phi^2} \right] = E \Theta \Phi$$

Multiplying by  $-\frac{2\mu r_0^2}{\hbar^2 \Theta \Phi}$

$$\frac{1}{\Theta \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\Phi \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \phi^2} = \boxed{-\frac{2\mu r_0^2}{\hbar^2} E} = -\beta$$

Multiplying by  $\sin^2 \theta$  and rearranging

$$\frac{\sin \theta}{\Theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial \theta} \right) + \beta \sin^2 \theta = -\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \phi^2}$$

$$= M^2$$

$$\frac{\sin \theta}{\Theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial \theta} \right) + \beta \sin^2 \theta = M^2$$

$$\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \phi^2} = -M^2$$

**Separation of variables**

## Solution to $\phi$ part

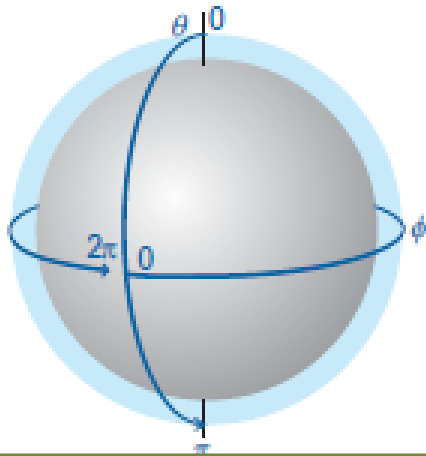
$$\Phi(\phi) = Ae^{\pm im\phi}$$

$$\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{d^2\Phi}{d\phi^2} = -M^2$$

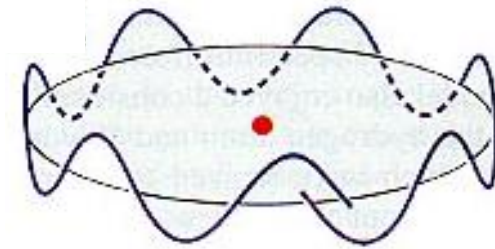
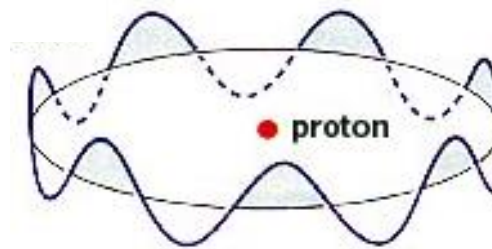


$$\frac{d^2\Phi}{d\phi^2} = -M^2\Phi$$

Trial solution:  $\Phi = A \cdot e^{\pm iM\phi}$



' $\phi$ ' ranges from 0 to  $2\pi$



Wavefunction has to be continuous

$$\Rightarrow \Phi(\phi + 2\pi) = \Phi(\phi)$$

**Periodic Boundary Condition**



## Solution to $\phi$ part

$$\vdash F(f+2\rho) = F(f)$$

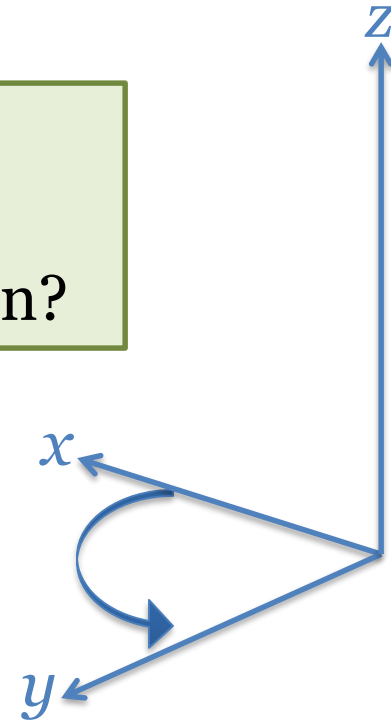
$$A. e^{\pm iM(\phi+2\pi)} = A. e^{\pm iM\phi}$$

$$\cos(2\pi M) = 1$$

- True only if  $M=0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4, \dots$
- What kind of information does  $\Phi$  contain?

Change in  $\phi$ : Circular motion in  $xy$  plane

$z$  – component of angular momentum?



## Angular momentum: from classical to quantum picture

$$\vec{L} = \vec{r} \times \vec{p}$$

$$\widehat{p}_y = \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial y}; \quad \widehat{p}_x = \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$$

$L_z$

$$\therefore \widehat{L}_z = \frac{\hbar}{i} \left( x \frac{\partial}{\partial y} - y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \longrightarrow \longrightarrow$$

$$\widehat{L}_z = \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}$$

Is  $\Phi$  an eigenfunction?

## Moment of truth

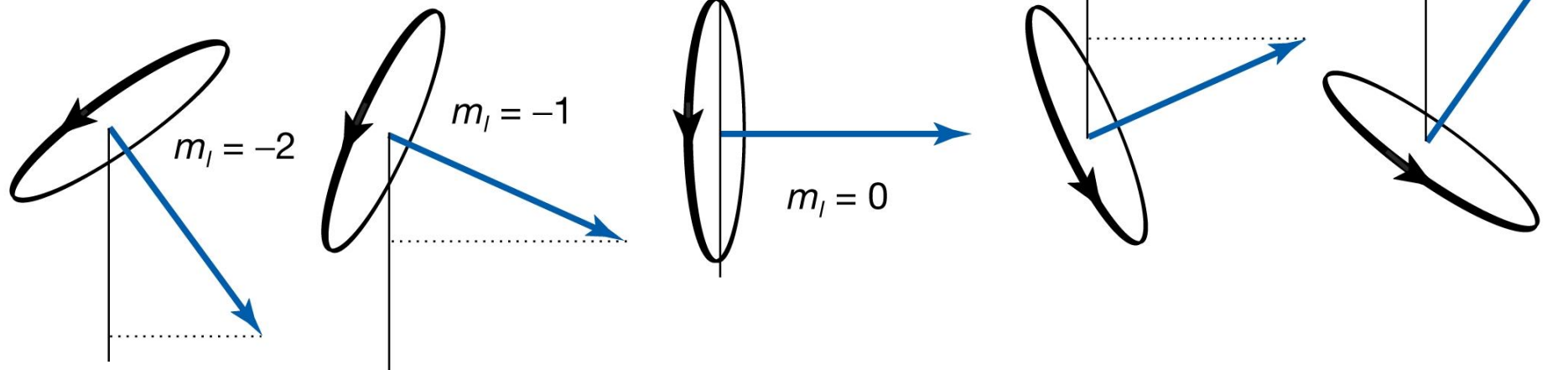
$$\widehat{L}_z = \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}$$

$$\Phi = A \cdot e^{\pm iM\phi}$$

$$\widehat{L}_z \Phi = \frac{\hbar}{i} iM \Phi = M\hbar \Phi$$

z-component of angular momentum

*“Space Quantization”*



## Wavefunctions: Spherical harmonics, same as in H atom

$$Y_J^M(q, f) = Q_{J, |M|}(q) F_M(f)$$

$$F(f) = Ae^{iMf}$$

$$P_J^M(\cos q) = \frac{(-1)^M}{2^l l!} (1 - \cos^2 q)^{M/2} \frac{d^{J+M}}{dx^{J+M}} (\cos^2 q - 1)^J$$

$$\Theta(\theta) =$$

$$P_J^{-M}(\cos q) = (-1)^M \frac{(l - m)!}{(l + m)!} P_J^M(\cos q)$$

$P_J^M(\cos q)$ : Associated Legendre Polynomials

$$Y_J^M(q, f) = N_J^M P_J^M(\cos q) \cdot e^{iMf}$$

## Total Angular Momentum

$$\hat{L}^2 Y(\theta, \phi) = \hbar^2 J(J + 1) Y(\theta, \phi)$$

Total Angular Momentum

## Energies of a rigid rotor

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{L}^2}{2I} = \frac{\hat{L}^2}{2\mu r_o^2}$$

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$$e_J = BJ(J+1) \text{ cm}^{-1}, \text{ where } B = \frac{h}{8\rho^2 I_c} = \text{Rotational Constant}$$

## Rotational energy levels

$$e_J = BJ(J+1) \text{ cm}^{-1}, \text{ where } B = \frac{h}{8\rho^2 Ic} = \text{Rotational Constant}$$

Rotational energy levels get more widely spaced with increasing  $J$

