As in Eq. (20), the overall wavefor will be $\Psi(r_k, \sigma_k) = u(r_k) \times (\sigma_k)$, $k=1 \le 2$, and this Ψ must have <u>odd</u> exchange symmetry, because we are dealing with two fermions. Even though the dipole-depole interaction is not explicit in 96(1,2) of Eq. (27), its existence will force the Spin eigenstates $\chi(\sigma_k)$ to be either the <u>TRIPLET or SINGLET</u> variety in Eq. (16). Then, since the $\chi(\sigma_k)$ show exchange symmetry (+) for TRIPLET, (-) for SINGLET], the space eigenstates $u(r_k)$ and also show exchange symmetry [1-) for TRIPLET, (+) for SINGLET]. That is !

for X = spin TRIPLET eigenstate: U(K, NZ) = U(K, NZ), odd space state;

for X = spin SINGLET eigenstate: U(K, NZ) = U+(K, NZ), even space state,

Assume the electrons are in different individual states $\phi_{\alpha} \notin \phi_{\beta}$, and use the overall symmetrized states $\mathcal{U}^{\pm}(\kappa_{1},\kappa_{2})$ of Eq.(21) to colculate the system <u>energies</u>:

 $\Rightarrow \mathcal{E}_{S,T} = \langle \mathcal{U}^{\pm}(\mathbf{r}_{1},\mathbf{r}_{2})|\mathcal{Y}_{b}(1,2)|\mathcal{U}^{\pm}(\mathbf{r}_{1},\mathbf{r}_{2})\rangle \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1} \frac{$

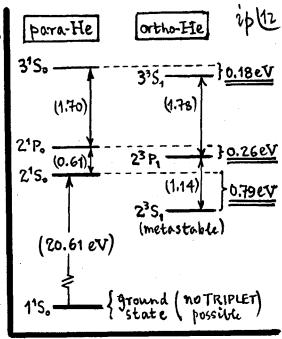
 $E_{S,T} = (E_{\alpha} + E_{\beta}) + J \pm K \iff SINGLET, TRIPLET energies;$ $W/J = \langle \phi_{\alpha}(1) \phi_{\beta}(2) | \frac{e^2}{\gamma_{12}} | \phi_{\alpha}(1) \phi_{\beta}(2) \rangle \int Coulomb "direct integral";$ $K = \langle \phi_{\alpha}(1) \phi_{\beta}(2) | \frac{e^2}{\gamma_{12}} | \phi_{\beta}(1) \phi_{\alpha}(2) \rangle \int Coulomb "exchange integral";$ (30) $K = \langle \phi_{\alpha}(1) \phi_{\beta}(2) | \frac{e^2}{\gamma_{12}} | \phi_{\beta}(1) \phi_{\alpha}(2) \rangle \int Coulomb "exchange integral";$

So here we see a direct effect on the system energies due to exchange symmetry. Had we used the non-symmetrized space state $U(K_1,K_2)=\phi_{\alpha}(1)\phi_{\beta}(2)$, the term in J would still have been present, but not K...K appears as a result of symmetrizing U to U^{\pm} . With K>0, the measurable physical effect is:

-> Es - En = 2K => SINGLET states are less tightly bound than TRIPLET states. (31)

Actual SINGLET-TRIPLET corrections to He-spectrum.

He is confirmed by experiment. A level diagram of low-lying states in He is shown at right. The numbers at the far right show the depression of the TRIPLET state relative to its companion SING-TET in the same shell—l.g. in shell#2, the 351 State lies lower than 150 by 0.79 eV; the effect of exchange here is ~4% of the binding for 25,



so the exchange corrections contribute non-trivially to the He spectrum.

REMARKS

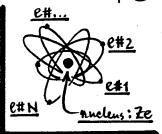
1. The TRIPLET [T] - SINGLET [S] defect can be throught of interms of the previously calculated electron separation. By Eq. (28), the T-state space waveform is odd, u, and by (25) the inter-electron spacing T12 is <u>lurger</u> than usual because of exchange symmetry; this <u>reduces</u> the electron repulsion energy $\frac{e^2}{T_{12}}$. By comparison, the S-state waveform is <u>even</u>, u, so the spacing Y_{12} is <u>smaller</u> than usual; this <u>increases</u> the e-e repulsion $\frac{e^2}{T_{12}}$. So the SINGLET states are less tightly bound because the e's are forced closer together by exchange forces.

* Bethe & Salpeter "an of Onc- and Two Electron Atoms" (Academic Press, 1957), pp. 132-136.

The problem of the N-electron atom.

A problem of abiding interest in the QM of identical particles has been that of colonlating the energy levels of an N-electron atom, W/N > 2. In lowest order, the system Hame is:

$$\longrightarrow \mathcal{A}_{k}(1,2,...,N) = \sum_{k=1}^{N} \left[-(\hbar^{2}/2m) \nabla_{k}^{2} - Ze^{2}/\gamma_{k} \right] + \sum_{k>\hat{\sigma}} \sum_{\hat{\sigma}=1}^{N} (e^{2}/\gamma_{\hat{\sigma}k}).$$



(31)

This Y6 ignores magnetic dipole-dipole interactions. Here m=electron mass, I'k is the position of the k^{\pm} electron w.n.t. an ∞ by heavy nucleus of change Ze, $\nabla_k = \partial/\partial I'_k$ is the gradient operator, and $Y_{jk} = |I'_{j} - I'_{k}|$ is the separation between j^{\pm} & k^{\pm} electron.

The Schrodinger problem is: \(\frac{46 \text{ T} = E \text{ T}, \frac{40}{4} \text{ T} = \text{ T}(1, 2, \ldots, N) \) dependent on all N e's Simplest question is: what eigenenergies E are allowed? The question of "what E's?" has been answered \(\text{ Successfully by various approximation methods and brute-force computations, but even today—after 60 years of effort—reliable solutions for the wavefons \(\text{ are problematic. Consequently, calculations which depend on matrix elements of various operator \(\text{ N. 1. t. to the } \text{ T's (Such as ionization processes, Cross—Sections for Scattering of atoms with \(\text{ N. 1. \text{ E N. 2 electrons resp.} \) are not well-posed. In general, the \(\text{ N-body problem remains an active research field—witness solid-state physics. In what follows, we will outline briefly some attacks on the question of "what \(\text{ E's?" for \$46 of (31)} \). We won't say much on "what \(\text{ T's?"} \)

The e-e repulsion terms (e²/rjk) in Eq. (31) prevent a strict separation-of-variables (for He I = EI) into N one-electron problems -- a procedure which would be possible if such terms were absent. However, the most successful (tractable) approximations are based on representing the potential energy terms in Ho of (31) by a sum of one-electron potentials U(Irk), so that Ho of Eq. (31) is written:

$$\rightarrow \frac{\%(1,2,...,N) = \sum_{k=1}^{N} H_k}{H_k}, \quad \frac{W_k}{H_k = -(t^2/2m) \nabla_k^2 + U(t_k)}.$$

When "snitable" U(1/2) can be found, then we can form product states of oneelectron eigenfons $\phi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{r})$, i.e.

$$\rightarrow \psi(1,2,...,N) = \phi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{r}_1)\phi_{\beta}(\mathbf{r}_2)...\phi_{\mu}(\mathbf{r}_N), \qquad (33)$$

and find that H& Y = EY generates N one-electron problems, viz

+ ye
$$\psi = E\psi \Rightarrow H_k \phi_{\lambda}(r_k) = E_{\lambda} \phi_{\lambda}(r_k) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} k=1 \text{ to } N; \lambda = \alpha, \beta, \dots M;$$

and total energy; $E = \sum E_{\lambda}$. (34)

Producing "suitable" $U(r_k)^{l_s}$ for: $H_k = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla_k^2 + U(r_k)$, involves the most effort.

The product wavefer 4 in Eq. (33) does not properly account for the electron exchange symmetry, which requires the overall wavefor $\Psi(1,2,...,N)$ be odd under exchange of any two electrons. Also 4 in Eq. (33) does not include spin ... even though 46 of Eq. (31) ignores dipole-dipole coupling, a spin labelling is Withmately essential to specify the state. What can be done is as follows: choose one-electron } $\frac{\varphi_{\lambda}(k) = \varphi_{\lambda}(lr_{k})\chi(l\sigma_{k})}{\chi(l\sigma_{k}) = l\sigma_{k}} \int \frac{\varphi_{\lambda}(lr_{k})}{\chi(l\sigma_{k})} = space state, per Eq. (34); (35)}{\chi(l\sigma_{k}) = l\sigma_{k}} \int \frac{\varphi_{\lambda}(lr_{k})}{\chi(l\sigma_{k})} = space state, per Eq. (34); (35)}{\chi(l\sigma_{k}) = l\sigma_{k}} \int \frac{\varphi_{\lambda}(lr_{k})}{\chi(l\sigma_{k})} = space state, per Eq. (34); (35)}{\chi(l\sigma_{k}) = l\sigma_{k}}$

... Construct the "Slater-Determinant Warefon" ,...

By the rules of determinants, if any two particles are exchanged (say 1+>2) 4 changes sign as required (because, for the determinant, this is equivalent to interchanging two columns => det changes sign). Also, the Slater & respects the Pauli Exclusion Principle: no two electrons can be in the same state... 4 (say) B= a, then two rows of the det are identical, and the det = 0 of ¥=0. But we won't use Slater's Ψ initially. We focus first on the $U(r_k)^5$ in Eq. (34).

10) It would be inice if in Ho of Eq. (31) we could neglect the e-e repulsion terms (ℓ^2/r_{jk}) to zeroth order and then treat them by perturbation theory. But this work here, because although any one of the (ℓ^2/r_{jk}) may be small compared to the nuclear binding $(\Xi e^2/r_k)$, there are so many of them [namely: $\frac{1}{2}N(N-1)$] that their total effect is comparable to the binding. So the terms (ℓ^2/r_{jk}) must be dealt with in some other way. That is what motivates trying to write $\sum_{k=1}^{N} \left[-\frac{Ze^2}{r_k} + \sum_{j>k} \frac{e^2}{r_{jk}}\right]$ as a sum of one-electron potentials $U(r_k)$.

To get an idea of what a "reasonable" $U(r_k)$ might be, we consider the limits $r_k \to \infty$ and $r_k \to 0$. For r_k "large" compared to the other $r_{j \neq k}$, have $r_{j k} \simeq r_k$, and $(e^2/r_{j k}) \simeq e^2/r_k$. Since there are (N-1) values of j for each k, then the e-e repulsion for the $k^{\underline{m}}$ electron is $\simeq (N-1)e^2/r_k$, and it moves in

 $\frac{U(r_k) \simeq -[Z-(N-1)]e^2/r_k}{(37)}, \quad \alpha \leq \gamma_k \to \infty.$

As $r_{k} \rightarrow \infty$ (the $k^{\underline{m}}$ e is far away from the nucleus), the (N-1) estern Left behind <u>screen</u> the nuclear charge from Z to [Z-(N-1)].

But now when T_k approaches the value of the other $Y_{j \neq k}$, the severing becomes poorly defined -- only when T_k is "small" compared to the $Y_{j \neq k}$ can we again say something about how $U(T_k)$ behaves. As $T_k \rightarrow 0$, the $k^{\frac{p_k}{2}}$ electron "sees" the fully unscreened nucleus, and also interacts with the outlying e'^s -- whose effect we can account for approximately by assuming that the (N-1) outlying e^{ls} are distributed N Spherically symmetrically at mean distance R from the nucleus. In this case, we can write...

 $U(r_k) \simeq -2e^2/r_k + (N-1)e^2/R$, as $r_k \rightarrow 0$.

The asymptotic forms in (37) 4 (38) must characterize any one-electron potential Ulvk). Now, specialize to N=Z (neutral) and try to find neasonable forms for Ulvk).

Thomas- Fermi model for U(r): the statistical atom.

11) A first attempt to derive a reasonable U(Tk) depended on a <u>statistical</u> (sic!) <u>model</u> of a many-electron atom. The model was developed independently by Thomas and Fermi, and it works best for atoms with a <u>large</u> #N of electrons.

1. We begin a description of the Thomas-Fermi model by imagining the space surrounding the nucleus to be divided up into a large

of Small box of small box of

of a single electron within a given box is ~ constant.

We assume spherical symmetry, so that U is a for of T,

To there there the Mr. The surround states available to the electron-in-a-box should

rather than B. The energy states available to the electron-in-a-box should range from U(r) [for gero kinetic energy] up to 0 [for max. K.E. = - U(r), with U(r) negative for binding]. Then the electron-in-a-box can have its momentum distributed from $\beta=0$ up to $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$

2. If k = p/h is the wave# of our electron-in-a-box (where $U(\tau) = anst$), then the # of distinct energy states per unit volume available between $k \neq k+dk$ is just $\frac{dn}{\Delta V} = 2 \cdot 4\pi k^2 dk/(2\pi)^3$. Since these states are occupied from k = 0 up to $k_{mix} = \frac{dn}{\Delta V} = \frac{2 \cdot 4\pi k^2 dk}{2\pi V}$

^{*} Let the box be rectangular, with sides of length $l \ll r$. For $U(r) \simeq cnst$ in the box, and for periodic boundary conditions, the wave vector k of the electron will have its components k: (i=x,y,z) quantized per: k: $l=2\pi n$; l=1,2,3,.... Then l=1,2,3,

A L.H. Thomas, Proc. Camb. Phil. Soc. 23, 542 (1927); E. Fermi, Z. Physik 48, 73 (1928). Most recently, J.S. Schwinger has worked on this problem.

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= $\beta_{mix}/\hbar = [-(2m/\hbar^2)U(r)]^{\frac{1}{2}}$, then the total # distinct electron states available in the "box" of physical volume ΔV is ...

$$\rightarrow \Delta n = \Delta V \int_{0}^{k_{max}} 2.4\pi k^{2} dk / (2\pi)^{3} = \Delta V \cdot k_{max}^{3} / 3\pi^{2}, k_{max} = \left[-\frac{2m}{\hbar^{2}} U(r) \right]_{0}^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{ density }$$
of states
$$\frac{\rho(r) = \Delta n / \Delta V = \left[-2m U(r) \right]_{0}^{\frac{3}{2}} / 3\pi^{2} t^{3}.$$

$$\frac{(39)}{mm}$$

If An distinct states are available in DV, then there can be Dn electrons in that volume at maxem. (this respects the Exclusion Principle), so at full occupation, the box will show an electron change density: (-)ep(r).

3. When the atom settles into a minimum energy state, the boxes DV will be fully occupied -- starting with those in close to the nucleus, and extending out to a value of r sufficient to accommodate all N electrons (actually r > 00). Then the charge density (-) ep(r) of Eq. (39) determines an effective potential U(r) which -- classically -- can be found from Poisson's Equation:

$$\rightarrow \nabla^2 \left[-\frac{1}{e} U(r) \right] = -4\pi \left[(-)e \rho(r) \right]. \tag{40}$$

Plug in p(r) et Eq. (39), and use $\nabla^2 = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} (r^2 \frac{d}{dr})$ for radial fens r...

Now make the following substitutions ...

$$\begin{bmatrix}
U(\tau) = -\frac{Ze^2}{r}\phi(x), & x = \frac{r}{b} \leftarrow \phi(x) \text{ is the Thomas-Fermi screening fen;} \\
v_y b = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{3\pi}{4}\right)^{2/3} \frac{t^2}{me^2 Z^{1/3}} = 0.8853 \, Q_o/Z_3^3, & Q_o = \frac{t^2}{me^2} = 0.529 \times 10^{-8} \, \text{on JRADIUS;}$$

Eq. (41) becomes:
$$x^{\frac{1}{2}}(d^2\phi/dx^2) = \phi^{\frac{3}{2}}$$
. (42)

This is the Thomas-Fermi equation for the screening for ϕ . It is a 2nd order <u>monlinear</u> differential extres a solution is not possible in terms of elementary fors. A numerical solution is needed. NOTE: ϕ is a universal for of x, $\frac{16}{10}$ barameters.

4. It is important to notice that the Thomas-Fermi Eqt., Eq. (42), does not contain the atomic # Z explicitly, so its solution $\phi(x)$ defines a <u>universal</u> for of x-good for all atoms Z. Of course Z is still in the problem, through the scale length b = 0.8853 $a_0/Z^{1/3}$ used in defining x = Y/b.

The Thomas-Fermi Egth is solved with the following boundary conditions:

- 1 lim [TU(r)] = 0 \ There is no net charge within a very => $\phi(x\to\infty)=0$; large sphere surrounding the neutral otom;
- 2 lim $[U(r)] = (-)\frac{Ze^2}{r}$ the potential near the nucleus must be $\Rightarrow \phi(x \rightarrow 0) = 1$. (43)

B.C. #1 here is a bit stronger than that of Eq. (37). B.C. #2 conforms to Eq. (38) with the const term (N-1) e²/R being dropped.

The result of a numerical solution to the Thomas-Fermi Egtn, Eg. (42), is shown at right. The screening for $\phi(x)$ falls off more slowly than a Yukawa-type screening factor e^{-x} , but certainly decreases rapidly— $\phi(x)$ is down by a factor ~ 10 at $\propto -4$. A reasonable analytic fit to the calculated energy is:

With this, the Thomas-Fermi effective

Thomas-Fermi Screening Fen $\phi(x)vs.x$ $\phi(x)$ $\phi(x)$ $\phi(x)$

potential for a neutral atom of atomic # Z is: $\underline{\underline{U(r)}=(-)}\frac{\underline{Ze^{2}}}{r}\phi(x)$, $\frac{1}{2}$ and b=0.8853 a. $\frac{1}{2}$.

5. The next step, after obtaining a numerical representation of $\phi(x)$ such as in Eq. (44), is to use $U(r) = -\frac{Ze^2}{r}\phi(x)$ in the None-electron problems of Eq. (34), viz: $\frac{[-(h^2/2m)\nabla^2 + U(r)]\phi_{\lambda}(r) = E_{\lambda}\phi_{\lambda}(r)}{\nabla^2 + U(r)}$. This is a central-force problem, but With a Nopectacularly complicated potential U(r). More numerical work is needed.

The first comprehensive numerical work for solving the one-electron problem for a Thomas-Fermi potential Ulr) was done by R. Latter, Phys. Rev. 99, 510 (1955). Some of his results are Shown below [his Figs. 849, for Thinding energy] vs. Z, for one-electron 5 & p states]. The results agree with experimental values fairly well (esp. on a log-log plot), particularly for high Z atoms, where the statistical model works best. Shown on the graphs are the Thomas-Fermi energies (solid lines) and also Thomas-Fermi-Dirac energies (dashed lines)... the latter correct the pure Thomas-Fermi theory for electron correlations (i.e. exchange symmetry). Clearly,

exchange
Corrections
are "small"
as Z>large.
Also shown;
Some values
Calculated
Via Hartree
and Hartree
-Fock theory.
We examine
that theory

next.

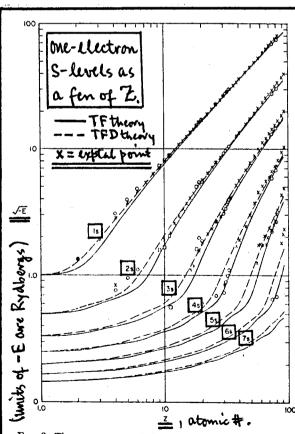


Fig. 9. The square root of the computed s-levels are shown with the solid line for the Thomas-Fermi atom and with the dashed line for the Thomas-Fermi-Dirac atom. The circles (O) are the values computed by the Hartree method; the squares (II) are the values computed by the Hartree-Fock method. The crosses (X) are the experimental values.

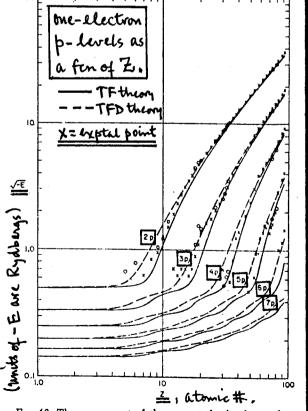


Fig. 10. The square root of the computed p-levels are shown with the solid line for the Thomas-Fermi atom and with the dashed line for the Thomas-Fermi-Dirac atom. The circles (O) are the values computed by the Hartree method; the squares (\square) are the values computed by the Hartree-Fock method. The crosses (X) are the experimental values where the doublet energies have been averaged.