

PHYS2581 Foundations 2A: QM2.6

Hydrogen-like ions (any atomic nucleus with one electron) have orbitals with typical size scale  $a = 4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar^2/\mu Ze^2$  and reduced mass  $\mu = Mm_e/(M + m_e)$  (where  $M$  is the mass of the charge  $+Ze$  nucleus, and  $m_e$  is the mass of the charge  $-e$  electron). This system has energy levels  $E_n = -\hbar^2/(2\mu a^2 n^2)$ . In Hydrogen,  $E_1 = -13.6$  eV,  $a = a_H$  and  $\mu_H \approx m_e$ .

- (a) Calculate the typical size scale in units of  $a_H$  for Hydrogen-like iron ( $Z = 26$ , mass of the nucleus is  $55.8m_p$ ). Calculate the energies (in eV) of  $E_1$  and the  $n = 1 \rightarrow 2$ ,  $n = 1 \rightarrow 3$  and  $n = 1 \rightarrow 4$  transitions (1st three Lyman series) for this ion. [3 marks]
- (b) Calculate the typical size scale in units of  $a_H$  and energy  $E_1$  (in units of the  $E_1$  value for hydrogen) for a bound state made from a proton and muon (muon charge is  $-e$ , mass is  $200m_e$ ). [2 marks]
- (c) Any hydrogen-like ion has a ground state wavefunction of the form  $\psi_{100} = (\pi a^3)^{-1/2} e^{-r/a}$ . This state has  $l = 0$ , and so the kinetic energy operator simplifies to

$$T = \frac{p^2}{2\mu} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu r^2} \frac{d}{dr} \left( r^2 \frac{d}{dr} \right)$$

calculate  $\langle T \rangle$  (express your answer in terms of  $\mu$  and  $a$ ). [4 marks]

- (d) Compare  $\langle T \rangle$  in (c) above with  $\langle V \rangle$  for this state, where  $V(r) = -Ze^2/(4\pi\epsilon_0 r) = -\hbar^2/(a\mu r)$ . [1 mark]

**Useful Integrals**

$$\int_0^\infty x^p e^{-qx} dx = \frac{p!}{q^{p+1}}$$