



Lesson: HIDROGENIC ATOMS

PROBLEM SHEET: QUESTIONS

1. (◆◆◆) The radial $1s$ function is $R_{1,0} = N e^{-Zr/a_0}$. Find the value of r that maximizes the radial distribution function and calculate the normalization constant N .
2. (◆◆◆) Calculate $\langle r \rangle_{1s}$. Compare the result with that provided by the general expression $\langle r \rangle_{n,l} = \frac{a_0}{2Z} (3n^2 - l(l+1))$.
3. (◆◆◆) Consider the following function to describe the angular part for an electron in a hydrogen atom:

$$\psi(\theta, \phi) = N e^{iA\phi} \cos \theta$$

where N and A are constants.

- a) Is $\psi(\theta, \phi)$, in general, eigenfunction of \hat{L}_z ?
 - b) Calculate the value of A so that $\psi(\theta, \phi)$ is eigenfunction of \hat{L}^2 and find the corresponding values of the quantum numbers l and m_l .
4. (◆◆◆) Let us consider two spherical harmonics which \hat{L}^2 and \hat{L}_z eigenvalues are $6\hbar^2$ and $\pm 2\hbar$ respectively.
 - a) Prove that they are orthogonal.
 - b) Obtain a real spherical harmonic expressed as a linear combination of them.
 5. (◆◆◆) Calculate the extremes of the $2s$ radial distribution function for a hydrogenic atom. Identify them as maximum or minimum taking into account that the function is always positive.
 6. (◆◆◆) Calculate the probability of finding an $1s$ electron at distances smaller than a_0 for a hydrogenic atom with atomic number Z . Prove that the probability always increases with Z .
 7. (◆◆◆) Calculate the probability of finding the $1s$ or $2s$ electrons in the classically forbidden region.

Difficulty level: (◆◆◆) Easy, (◆◆◆) Normal, (◆◆◆) To think a bit.

PROBLEM SHEET: SOLUTIONS

Question 1 $\Rightarrow r_{\max} = \frac{a_0}{Z}, N = 2 \left(\frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{3/2}$

Question 2 $\Rightarrow \langle \hat{r} \rangle = \frac{3}{2} \frac{a_0}{Z}$

Question 3 \Rightarrow (a) It is eigenfunction because $\hat{l}_z \psi = \hbar A \psi$
(b) $A = 0, l=1$ and $m_l = 0$.

Question 4 $\Rightarrow \psi_{\text{real}}(\theta, \phi) = \frac{\sqrt{15}}{4\sqrt{\pi}} \sin^2 \theta \cos 2\phi$

Question 5 $\Rightarrow r_{\min} = \frac{2a_0}{Z}, r_{\max} = 0.76 \frac{a_0}{Z}, r_{\text{max}} = 5.23 \frac{a_0}{Z}$

Question 6 $\Rightarrow P(r \leq a_0) = 1 - e^{-2Z}(1 + 2Z + 2Z^2)$

Question 7 $\Rightarrow P_{1s} = 0.238, P_{2s} = 0.186$
