

Atoms with more than one electron

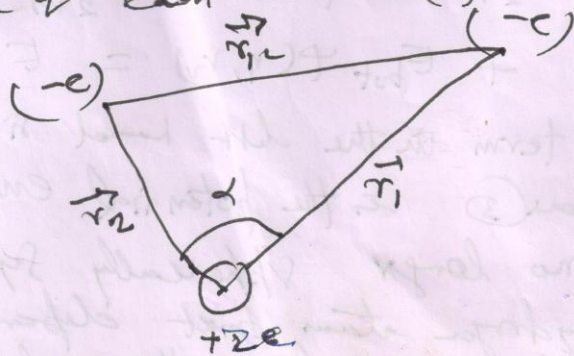
In atoms with more than one electron additional problems that are caused by mutual electrostatic and magnetic interaction between the electrons.

We will ~~not~~ in addition to this, we are now confronted with new symmetry principle that are valid if two electrons are exchanged. This shows that electrons can not be distinguished from each other.

It we will study these phenomena for the helium atom, which represents the simplest system with two electrons.

The Helium Atom

The helium atom consists of a nucleus with charge $+2e$ and mass $m_K \approx 4m_p$ and charge of each electron $(e) = -e$.



The spatial distribution of the two electrons depends on their wave function $\psi(r_1, r_2)$, which is the function of the spatial coordinates $r_1 = (x_1, y_1, z_1)$ and $r_2 = (x_2, y_2, z_2)$.

$$r_1 = |\vec{r}_1|, \quad r_2 = |\vec{r}_2|, \quad r_{12} = |\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|$$

The potential energy of the electrons

$$E_{\text{pot}} = \frac{-e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{2}{r_1} + \frac{2}{r_2} - \frac{1}{r_{12}} \right] \quad (1)$$

$$\hat{E}_{\text{kin}} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} (\Delta_1(r_1) + \Delta_2(r_2)) \quad (2)$$

$$\text{with } \mu = \frac{m_e m_p}{m_e + m_p}$$

Since $m_p \approx 7300 m_e$, using the approximation $\mu \approx m_e \approx m$, the Schrödinger equation

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \Delta_1(\psi(r_1, r_2)) - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \Delta_2(\psi(r_1, r_2)) + E_{\text{pot}} \psi(r_1, r_2) = E \psi(r_1, r_2) \quad (3)$$

the ~~2nd~~ ^{last} term in the left hand side of the equation (3) is the potential energy, which is no longer spherically symmetric as in the hydrogen atom, but depends on the simple distance between the values r_1 & r_2 of the

The electron we can write it as $\textcircled{1}$ $\textcircled{2}$

$$r_{12} = |\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|$$

$$r_{12}^2 = r_1^2 + r_2^2 - 2r_1 r_2 \cos \theta$$

$\textcircled{4}$

We can not separate the total wave function into radial part and an angular part, as we could in the case of one-electron system. This implies that Schrödinger eqn. $\textcircled{3}$ is no longer solvable analytically and we have to use approximate methods.

Approximation Models

Because of the mutual repulsion, the charge distribution of the electrons will be such that the total energy becomes minimum.

i.e. KE + PE, due to the e-e repulsion and attraction between the electrons and nucleus becomes minimum. On this basis average is

$$\langle r_{12} \rangle \rightarrow \langle r_1 \rangle$$

$$\langle r_{12} \rangle \rightarrow \langle r_1 \rangle = \langle r_2 \rangle \dots$$

In a first approximation, we can neglect the last term in $\textcircled{1}$, then we can separate the

$$\text{wave function as } \psi(r_1, r_2) = \psi_1(r_1) \psi_2(r_2) \text{ --- } \textcircled{5}$$

putting $\textcircled{5}$ in the Schrödinger eqn no. $\textcircled{3}$

(6) yields two separate equations from the two electrons (10)

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \Delta_1 \psi_1(r_1) - \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r_1} \psi_1(r_1) = E_1 \psi_1(r_1) \quad (6)$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \Delta_2 \psi_2(r_2) - \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r_2} \psi_2(r_2) = E_2 \psi_2(r_2) \quad (7)$$

with $E = E_1 + E_2$. Each of these equations is identical to the Schrödinger equation of

$$\left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \Delta \psi + E_{\text{pot}}(\mathbf{r}) \psi = E \psi \right] \quad (7)$$

with $E = E_1 + E_2$. This equation is identical to the Schrödinger equation for one electron and can be solved accordingly. With $Z = 2$, we obtain in this approximation

for the energy of the two electrons

in the lowest state with $n=1$

$$E_{\text{He}}(1s) = -2Z^2 E_H = -2 \times 4 \times 13.6 \text{ eV}$$

$$E_{\text{He}}(1s) = -108.8 \text{ eV}$$

The experimental value for this ~~is necessary~~ energy to remove the two electrons from the He atom (it means to convert the He atom into the doubly charged ion He^{++}) is

$$E_{\text{exp}} = 78.9 \text{ eV}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta E &= |E_{\text{exp}} - E_{\text{theor}}| \\ &= |78.9 - (-108.8)| \\ &= 78.9 \text{ eV} \\ &\approx 72\% \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{error} \approx 80\% \text{ to } 100\%$$

Another much better approximation is obtained by a model that assumes that each of the two electrons moves in the Coulomb potential of the nucleus, shielded by the charge distribution of other electron (which is assumed to have spherically symmetric time average). The resulting potential for each electron is then a spherically symmetric potential generated by

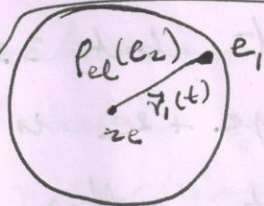


Fig 2. Partial shielding of the nuclear charge $+ze$ by the negative charge distribution $\rho_{el}(r_2)$

$$= -e \int |\psi_{1s}(r_2)|^2$$

of a 1s electron

$$= -4\pi \int_0^{\infty} r^2 |\psi_{1s}(r)|^2 dr \cdot e$$

the electron charge

$$q_{eff} = (z-s)e \quad \text{--- (8)}$$

$s \rightarrow$ shielding coeff $0 \leq s \leq 1$

For the total shielding $s=1$ and one needs the energy E_H to remove the 1st electron from the atom. The remaining ion He^+ now has the nuclear charge $+ze$ and the B.E. of the second electron $e_2 = -z^2 E_H = -4 E_H$.

The total ionization energy of the He atom is then $E_{ion} = -4 E_H - (-13.6 eV) = -5 E_H = -69 eV$ (5)

which comes much closer to the experimental values $E_{He2} = 78.983 \text{ eV}$.

For shielding constant $S = 0.656$ the experimental value is exactly reproduced.

In our model the correct energy is therefore obtained for taking an effective nuclear charge of $Z_{\text{eff}} = +1.344e$. This implies that about 33% of the real nuclear charge $+2e$ is shielding for one electron by the other electron in the $1s$ state.

Note: The shielding for an electron in higher energy state (for example $2s$ or $2p$ state) by an $1s$ electron can be much larger, ~~state~~ because the spatial charge distribution for the higher state has only small values within the $1s$ distribution of the shielding electron.

The spatial charge distribution of the shielding electron in the 1s state is given by

$$\rho_{el} = -e \psi_2^*(1s) \psi_2(1s) \quad (9)$$

The potential energy of the other electron is then

$$E_{pot}(r_1) = -\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{Z}{r_1} - \iiint_{\Omega} \frac{\psi_2^* \psi_2}{r_{12}} d\tau_2 \right) \quad (10)$$

In a first approximation we can assume that the charge distribution of the shielding electron is not changed much by the presence of the second electron.

This means that we can take the unperturbed hydrogenic wave function for its spherically symmetric spatial distribution, this yields for the potential energy

$$E_{pot}(r_1) = -\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{Z}{r_1} - \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^3 \int_{r_2} \frac{e^{-2Zr_2/a_0}}{r_{12}} d\tau_2 \right] \quad (11)$$

where $d\tau_2 = r_2^2 \sin\theta_2 d\theta_2 d\phi_2$

After using (11), we have

$$E_{pot}(r_1) = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{Z}{r_1} + \left(\frac{Z}{a_0} + \frac{1}{r_1} \right) e^{-2Zr_1/a_0} \right] \quad (12)$$

For $Z=2$, $E_{pot}(r_1) = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[1 + \left(\frac{2r_1}{a_0} + 1 \right) e^{-4r_1/a_0} \right] \quad (13)$

Energy solution (13) into the Schrödinger equation gives much better value for the energy of the He ground state than by inserting the shielding factor

$$S = 1$$

In addition the shielding is now dependent on the distance r_i of electron e_i from the nucleus. This is reasonable because the more the electron e_1 penetrates into the charge distribution of e_2 , the lower the shielding by e_2 becomes.

Symmetry of the two wave function

Now we will label the two electrons e_1 and e_2 . The two functions $\psi_1(n_1, l_1, m_{l1})$ and $\psi_2(n_2, l_2, m_{l2})$ of the separated wave function $\psi(r_1, r_2) = \psi_1(r_1) \times \psi_2(r_2)$ depend on the three quantum numbers (n, l, m_l) of the two electrons. To fit we will abbreviate them

$$a = (n_1, l_1, m_{l1}) \text{ and } b = (n_2, l_2, m_{l2})$$

$$\text{The probability} \Rightarrow P(a, b) = |\psi_{ab}(r_1, r_2)|^2$$

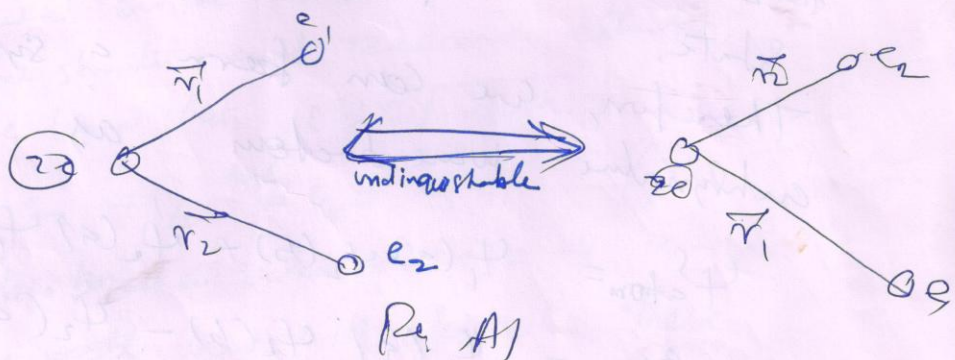
that the atomic state (a, b) is realized, (20)
 this means that e_1 is in the state a & e_2 in
 the state b , and can be ~~expressed~~ expressed in the
 approximate model of independent ~~electron~~ electrons

(i.e. $\frac{e^2}{r_{12}}$ may be ~~neglected~~ neglected) by
 the absolute square of the product
 function: i.e.

$$\psi_{ab}^I = \psi_1(a) \psi_2(b) \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

If we change the two electron (E.g. A)
 i.e. e_1 now in state b & e_2 now in state a
 then our product function becomes

$$\psi_{ab}^{II} = \psi_2(a) \psi_1(b) \quad \text{--- (3)}$$



However, the two electrons are indistinguishable,
 This means that the charge distribution of
 the total atom should not be ~~changed~~
 changed under the exchange of the
 two electrons. We can write this as

as

(10)

(203)

$$|\psi'_{ab}|^2 = |\psi''_{ab}|^2 \Rightarrow \psi'_{ab} = e^{i\varphi} \psi''_{ab} \quad \text{--- (7)}$$

Applying the permutation of the two electrons twice bring the state back into its original configuration.

This demands $\varphi = 0$ or $\varphi = \pi \Rightarrow$

$$\psi'_{ab} = \pm \psi''_{ab} \quad \text{--- (8)}$$

Neither the two functions ψ^I & ψ^II fulfill this condition. They therefore can not represent the correct eigenfunctions for the description of the atomic state.

Therefore, we can form a symmetric & antisymmetric wave functions as

$$\psi^S_{atom} = \psi_1(a) \psi_2(b) + \psi_2(a) \psi_1(b) \quad \text{--- (9)}$$

$$\psi^a_{atom} = \psi_1(a) \psi_2(b) - \psi_2(a) \psi_1(b) \quad \text{--- (10)}$$

Note:- ψ^S & ψ^a represents the probability amplitudes for the configurations that one electron is in state a & other in state b. However, we do not know which of the two electrons is in a & which

in b.

If both electrons are in the same state $a=b$, then

$$\psi_{\text{sym}}^a = 0$$

i.e. The probability to find the two electrons with parallel spins in the same state $(n, l, m_l) = i, j, k$

Two electrons with same quantum nos (n, l, m_l) are described by the symmetric spatial wave function ψ_{sym}

Consideration of Electron Spin.

based on the experimental ~~facts~~ facts (fine structure and Zeeman effects),

$$\text{we know that } |S| = \sqrt{S(S+1)} \hbar$$

$$S_z = +\frac{1}{2} \hbar \text{ or } -\frac{1}{2} \hbar \text{ or } m_s \hbar \quad \text{--- } \textcircled{1}$$

spin projection quantum no. $m_s = +\frac{1}{2}$ or $-\frac{1}{2}$

Here we will describe these

two possible orientations by

spin function χ^+ ($m_s = +\frac{1}{2}$) or χ^- ($m_s = -\frac{1}{2}$)

The spin state of the atom where both electrons have parallel spins must be described by the symmetric wave

factories. There 3 possible ways ⁽¹²⁾ to form the symmetric wave function

$$X_1^S(1,2) = c_1 x^+(1) x^+(2) \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$$

$$X_2^S(1,2) = c_2 x^-(1) x^-(2) \rightarrow \textcircled{2}$$

$$X_3^S(1,2) = c_3 [x^+(1) x^-(2) + x^-(1) x^+(2)] \rightarrow \textcircled{3}$$

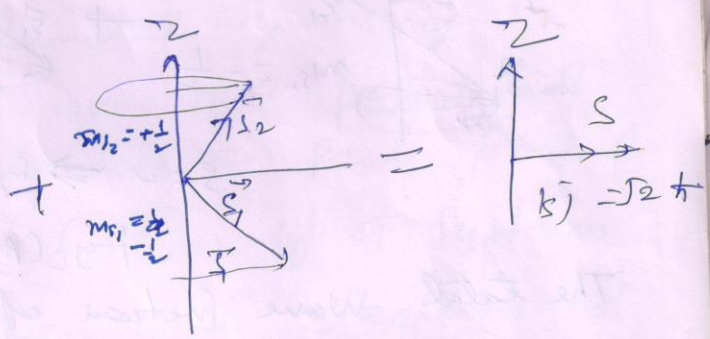
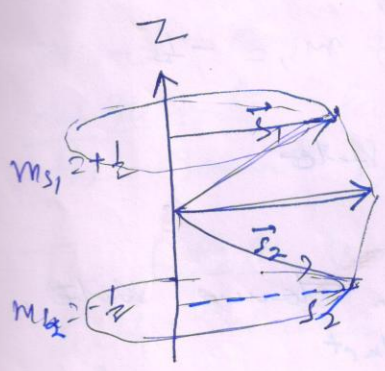
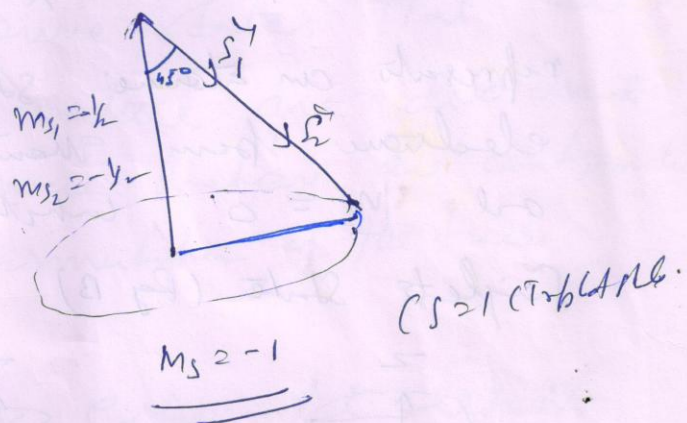
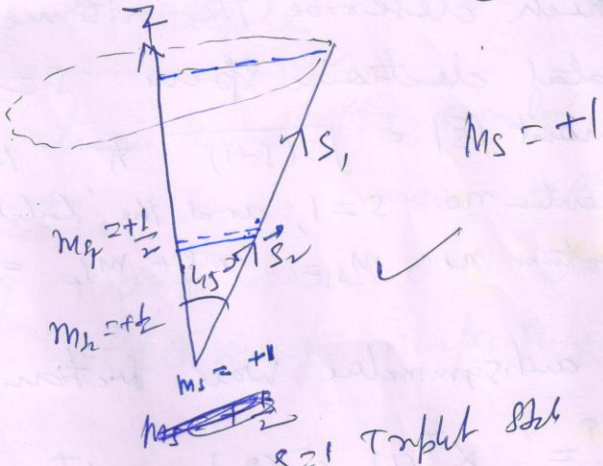
which remain the unchanged, when the two electrons are exchanged.

If we normalized the spin wave functions ^{coefficients} ($|x^* x|^2 = 1$, the ~~coefficients~~ of eqns $\textcircled{1}-\textcircled{3}$, become $c_1 = c_2 = 1$, $c_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

This gives the three normalized symmetric wave functions.

$$\textcircled{3} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} X_1^S(1,2) = x^+(1) x^+(2); \quad m_s = m_{s_1} + m_{s_2} = +1 \\ X_2^S(1,2) = x^-(1) x^-(2); \quad m_s = m_{s_1} + m_{s_2} = -1 \\ X_3^S(1,2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [x^+(1) x^-(2) + x^-(1) x^+(2)]; \quad m_s = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

This is shown in the figure \textcircled{B}

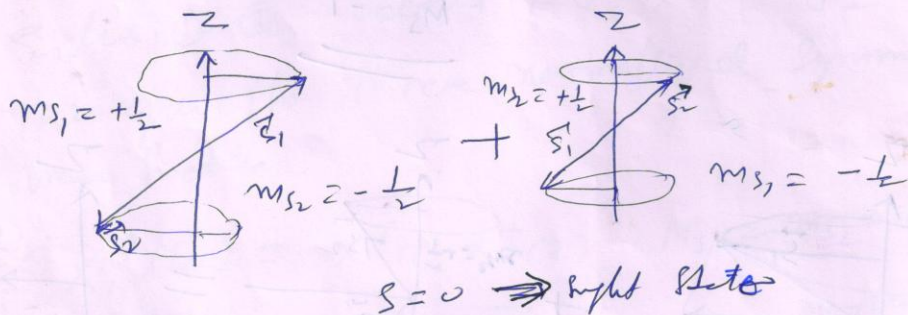


which describe the atomic states with total electronic spin $S = s_1 + s_2$, its amount $|\vec{S}| = \sqrt{S(S+1)}$ & the total spin quantum no. $S = 1$, and the total spin projection quantum no. $M_S = m_{s_1} + m_{s_2} = 0, \pm 1$

The antisymmetric wave function

$$\chi^{\uparrow} = \chi^{\uparrow}(1) \chi^{\downarrow}(2) - \chi^{\uparrow}(2) \chi^{\downarrow}(1) \quad \text{--- (6)}$$

represents an atomic state with total electronic spin quantum no. $S = 0$ or $M_S = 0$, which is called the Singlet State (Pg. 13)



Fg (B)

The total wave function of an atomic state can now be written as the product

$\Psi_{\text{total}} = \Psi_{\text{orb}}(r_1, \theta_1, \phi_1, r_2, \theta_2, \phi_2) \cdot \chi(S, M_S)$
of the spatial wave function $\Psi(r, \theta, \phi)$ that is determined by the two sets of quantum nos. $a = (n_1, l_1, m_1)$ and $b = (n_2, l_2, m_2)$ and the spin wave function $\chi(S, M_S)$.

The Pauli Principle

(15)

The observation and the analysis of the spectrum and many other atoms long have than one electron brought the following surprising result

The only atomic states that are observed in nature are described by the total wave function antisymmetric against the permutation of the two electrons.

Based on these experimental results and on Indemital Symmetry arguments Pauli (1900-1958) postulated the general symmetry rule = Pauli Principle

The total wave function of a system with more than one electron is always antisymmetric with respect to an exchange of two electrons

Two electrons with the same quantum nos n, l, m_l must have different spin quantum numbers $m_s, \neq m_{s_2}$, when we use describe the atomic state by four

quantum nos (n, l, m_l, m_s) for each electron
 when we derive the states
 we formulate the Pauli principle as

$n=1; l=0, m_l=0$	
$\uparrow \downarrow$ $m_s=0$ allowed	$\uparrow \downarrow$ $m_s=1$ Prohibited

Ground State $1s_0$ of the He atom with
 $n=1, l=0, m_l=0, m_s=0$

Lamb Shift

(127)

In 1938, Pusterneck, pointed out that the discrepancy in the separation between the main components of the line could be explained by assuming that the state $2^2S_{1/2}$ to be about 0.03 cm^{-1} higher than $2^2P_{1/2}$ in contradiction to Dirac's theory, which had shown them to have exactly the same energy. In 1947, Puthoff & Lamb proved the ~~correct~~ correctness of this assumption.

They performed a microwave experiment on the hydrogen atom and showed that the hydrogen-like atoms the state of a particular n value having terms with the same l value but different l values such as $2^2P_{1/2}$ and $2^2S_{1/2}$ are not ~~so~~ degenerate but are separated. This is called the Lamb Shift.

If both effects, relativistic & spin-orbit coupling are taken into account. Then we obtain the energy of a fine structure component

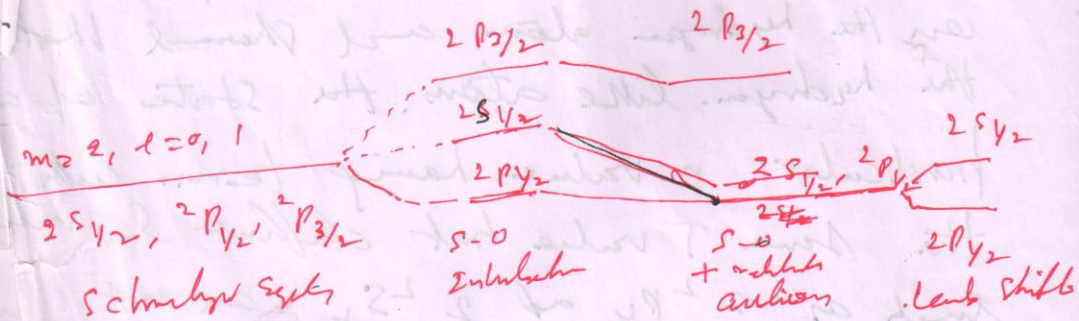
Adding (16) & (17)

$$E = -\frac{Ry Z^2}{n^2} \left(1 + \frac{Z^2 \alpha^2}{n} \left(\frac{l}{j + \frac{1}{2}} - \frac{3}{4n} \right) \right)$$

$$= E_{nr} \left[1 + \frac{Z^2 \alpha^2}{n} \left(\frac{l}{j + \frac{1}{2}} - \frac{3}{4n} \right) \right]$$

$$E_{nj} = E_{nr} \left(1 + \frac{Z^2 \alpha^2}{n} \left(\frac{l}{j + \frac{1}{2}} - \frac{3}{4n} \right) \right)$$

where $E_{nr} = E_{nr} = -\frac{Ry Z^2}{n^2}$ — (18)



Energy of the levels $n=2, l=0, s=1/2$ of H atom within Schrodinger theory and including different relativistic effects