

Clom. 1410
Sept. 24, 2007

Particle on a Ring



Naively: $-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \rightarrow -\frac{\hbar^2}{2mR^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} = \hat{H}$
 $dx = R d\theta$
 \hat{H} ↑
 "Ring"

More formally, for any 2-D particle in box: $\hat{H} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} \right) + \text{B.C.'s}$

Note identity: $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial R^2} + \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} + \frac{1}{R^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2}$ [ie, $(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2}) f(x,y) = (\frac{\partial^2}{\partial R^2} + \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} + \frac{1}{R^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2}) f(R \cos \theta, R \sin \theta)$
 $x = R \cos \theta; y = R \sin \theta$]

Here, R is "frozen" $\Rightarrow -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} \right) \rightarrow -\frac{\hbar^2}{2mR^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2}$ ✓

So, Schröd Eq. reads:

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2I} \frac{\partial^2 \psi(\theta)}{\partial \theta^2} = E \psi(\theta)$$

solved by: $\psi_n(\theta) = A e^{in\theta}$; must have $\psi_n(\theta + 2\pi) = \psi_n(\theta)$ [to be single-valued] $\Rightarrow n = -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots$

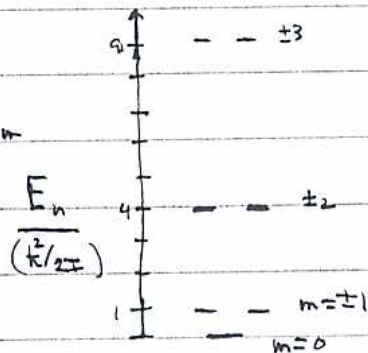
$$E_n = \frac{\hbar^2 n^2}{2I}$$

factor compute norm. A:

$$I = \int_0^{2\pi} \psi_n^*(\theta) \psi_n(\theta) = A^2 2\pi \Rightarrow A = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}}$$

Notes:

(a) energy level diagram



All levels doubly degenerate, except ground state

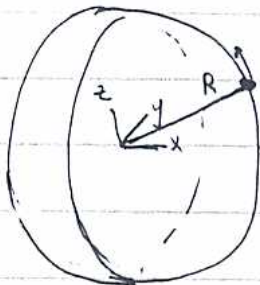
finally, $\psi_n(\theta)$ is eigenfunction of \hat{L}_z : Classically $\vec{L} = \vec{r} \times \vec{p}$, e.g. $L_z = x p_y - y p_x$

So, quantum mechanically, $\hat{L}_z = \hat{x} \hat{p}_y - \hat{y} \hat{p}_x = \frac{\hbar}{i} \left(x \frac{\partial}{\partial y} - y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) = \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta}$

Note: $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\partial x}{\partial \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial y}{\partial \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial y}$
 $\downarrow -r \sin \theta = -y$ $\downarrow r \cos \theta = x$

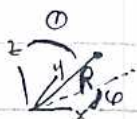
thus $\hat{L}_z e^{i n \theta} = \frac{\hbar}{i} (i n) e^{i n \theta}$
 $\rightarrow L_z = \hbar n$

Particle on a Sphere [Rigid Rotor]



Same strategy as particle on ring, but details more complicated

Recall: Cartesian \leftrightarrow spherical polar coords



$$z = R \cos \theta$$

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

$$y = R \sin \theta \sin \phi$$

"Laplacian" in 3-d: $\nabla^2 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2}$

Hamiltonian operator for 3d particle: $\hat{H} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + V(x, y, z)$

Expression for Laplacian in spherical polar coords: $\nabla^2 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} = \frac{1}{R^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \left(R^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \right) + \frac{1}{R^2} \left\{ \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right\}$

[NB: this means $\nabla^2 f(x, y, z) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2} = \frac{1}{R^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \left(R^2 \frac{\partial f}{\partial R} \right) + \frac{1}{R^2} \left\{ \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \phi^2} \right\}$
 $f(R \sin \theta \cos \phi, R \sin \theta \sin \phi, R \cos \theta)$

So, for particle on sphere [$R = \text{fixed}$, otherwise $V = \infty$], S.E. reads:

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2mR^2} \left\{ \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right\} \psi(\theta, \phi) = E \psi(\theta, \phi)$$

Only factors that solve the S.E. and are both finite and single-valued on sphere are

"Spherical Harmonic"

$$\psi_{l m_l}(\theta, \phi) = Y_{l m_l}(\theta, \phi) = N \prod_{l m_l} Y_{l m_l}(\theta) e^{i m_l \phi}$$

"magnetic q.n."

"Associated Legendre function"

$l = 0, 1, 2, \dots$
 $m_l = -l, -(l-1), \dots, l = m_l$

Typical Assoc. Legendre fractns:

$$\begin{aligned} \Theta_{00} &= 1 \\ \Theta_{10} &= \cos\theta \\ \Theta_{11} &= \sin\theta \\ \Theta_{20} &= \frac{1}{2}(3\cos^2\theta - 1) \end{aligned}$$

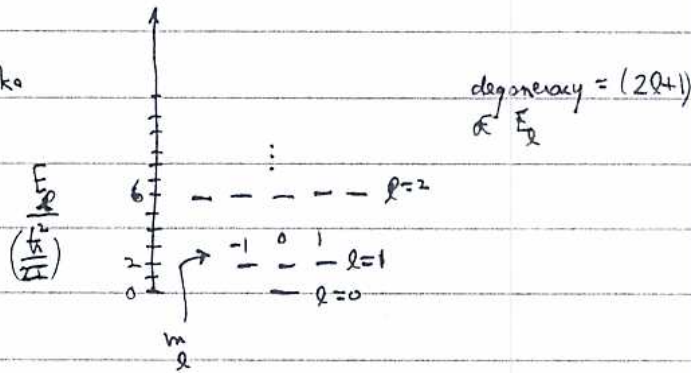
Note: for $m=0$ $\Theta_{l0} \rightarrow \frac{l}{2} P_l(\cos\theta) =$ Legendre polynomial

Corresponding Energy levels:

$$E_{l, m_l} = E_l = \frac{\hbar^2}{2I} l(l+1) \quad l=0, 1, 2, \dots$$

↑
independent of m_l !

Hence E diagram looks like



More Features: (i) connection to z -momentum; Recall

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{L}_x &= \hat{y}\hat{p}_z - \hat{z}\hat{p}_y = y \cdot \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} - z \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \\ \hat{L}_y &= \hat{z}\hat{p}_x - \hat{x}\hat{p}_z = \dots \\ \hat{L}_z &= \hat{x}\hat{p}_y - \hat{y}\hat{p}_x = \frac{\hbar}{i} (x \frac{\partial}{\partial y} - y \frac{\partial}{\partial x}) \end{aligned}$$

It can be shown that

$$\hat{L}^2 = \hat{L}_x^2 + \hat{L}_y^2 + \hat{L}_z^2 = \frac{\hbar^2}{2} \left[\frac{1}{\sin^2\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin^2\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin^2\theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right]$$

Hence $\hat{L}^2 \psi_{l, m_l} = \hbar^2 l(l+1) \psi_{l, m_l}$ ← thus, ψ_{l, m_l} is also an eigenfn. of \hat{L}^2 w/ eigenvalue indicated

Furthermore, $\hat{L}_z = \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \Rightarrow \hat{L}_z \psi_{l, m_l} = \hbar m_l \psi_{l, m_l}$ ← thus, ψ_{l, m_l} is also an eigenfn. of \hat{L}_z w/ eigenvalue indicated

④

Note: $\hat{H} = \frac{L^2}{2I}$ for rigid rotor, "as expected"

(ii) volume element; normalization: $\langle \hat{O} \rangle_{\psi} = \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_0^{\pi} \sin\theta d\theta \int_{-1}^1 d(\cos\theta) \psi^*(\theta, \phi) \hat{O} \psi(\theta, \phi)$

Ex: consider normalization of ψ_{lm} :

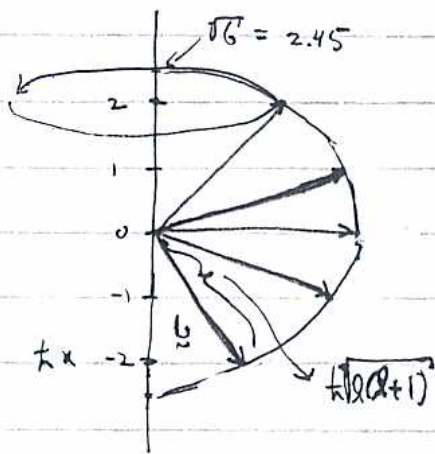
$$1 = \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_{-1}^1 d(\cos\theta) \left| \psi_{lm}^*(\theta, \phi) \right|_{\frac{2m}{R}}^2 = 2\pi N^2 \int_{-1}^1 d(\cos\theta) \left| Y_{lm}(\theta) \right|_{\frac{2m}{R}}^2$$

For $l=m=0$

$$1 = 2\pi N^2 \int_{-1}^1 d(\cos\theta) \Rightarrow N_{00} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}}$$

(iii) Vector model of l -mom [exploits fact that L^2, L_z values are precisely known]

Ex: $l=2$



[Note L_x, L_y are "completely uncertain"]

≡ Molecular example: microwave spectroscopy...

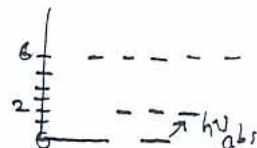
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A bit of rotational ("microwave") spectroscopy



Rotational Energy levels given by

$$E_l = \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu R_e^2} l(l+1) ; l=0,1,2,\dots$$



NB: $\mu = \frac{m_H m_{Cl}}{m_H + m_{Cl}}$

Given: lowest absorption frequency is $\nu_{abs} = 6.35E11 \text{ Hz}$

for ^{35}HCl $\left(= \frac{6.35E11/\text{sec}}{3E10 \text{ cm/sec}} = 21.17 \text{ cm}^{-1} \right)$

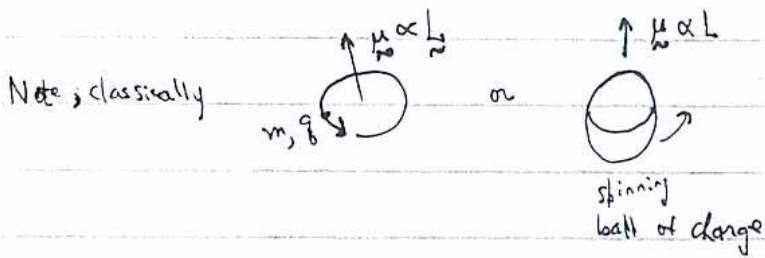
What is R_e ?

$$E_1 - E_0 = 2 \cdot \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu R_e^2} = h\nu_{abs} ;$$

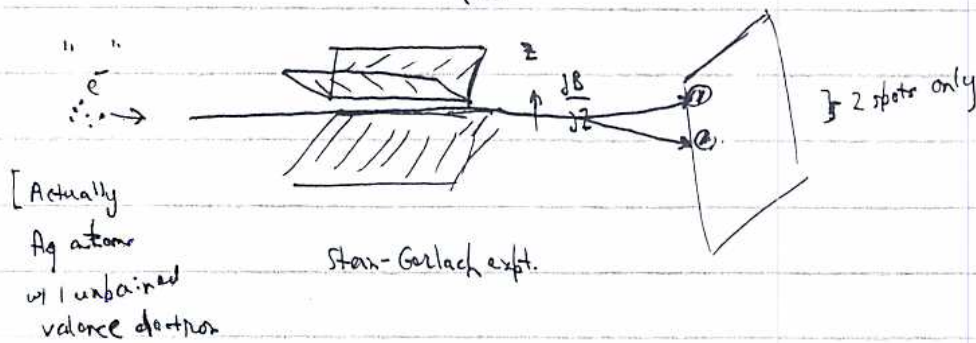
$$21.17 \text{ cm}^{-1} \times \left(\frac{1.99E-16 \text{ cal}}{\text{cm}^{-1}} \right) = \frac{(1.05E-27 \text{ kg m}^2)}{\left[\left(\frac{35.1}{36} \right) \frac{1 \text{ gm}}{6.02E23} \right] R_e^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow R_e = 1.27 \text{ \AA}$$

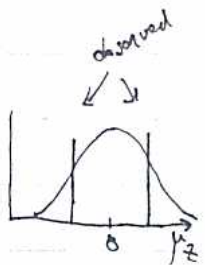
"Spin" = Intrinsic \vec{p} momentum of the electron



Motion in an inhomogeneous magnetic field: $\vec{F} \propto \vec{\mu} \cdot \nabla B = \mu_z \frac{\partial B}{\partial z}$ if B changes in z direction



Analysis: 1) classically $\vec{\mu}$ isotropic distribution of μ_z expected $\Rightarrow N(\mu_z)$



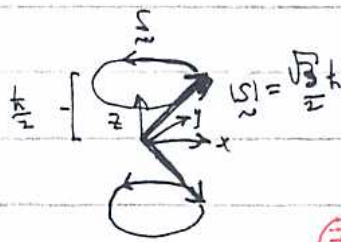
2) Apparently $\mu_z = \pm \frac{\mu_0}{2}$, only
 \propto some constant
 $\pm \frac{1}{2}$

Analysis is consistent w/ postulate that spin \vec{p} -momentum $\vec{L} \rightarrow \vec{S}$ of an electron characterized by $\hbar \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}$.

Then:

$$S_z = \pm \frac{1}{2} \hbar ; S^2 = \hbar^2 \frac{1}{2}(\frac{1}{2}+1) = \frac{3}{4} \hbar^2$$

Vector model:



electron is "spin up", or "spin down"