

❖ Schrodinger Wave Equation for Hydrogen Atom: Separation of Variable in Polar Spherical Coordinates and Its Solution

In the first section of this chapter, we derived and discussed the Schrodinger wave equation for a particle in a three-dimensional box. In this section, we will apply the procedure to an electron that exists around the nucleus. In order to do so, consider an electron at a distance r from the center of the nucleus, and this electron can travel in any direction i.e. along x -, y - and z -axis. The potential energy of such an electron-nucleus system will be $-Ze^2/r$; where Ze and e are charges on nucleus and electron respectively.

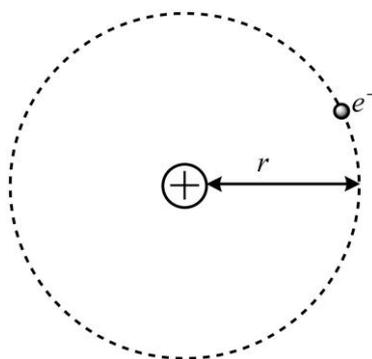


Figure 12. An electron around nucleus at r distance.

So far we have considered a quantum mechanical system of an electron around the nucleus. Now suppose that we need to find various physical properties associated with different states of this system. Had it been a classical system, we would use simple formulas from classical mechanics to determine the value of different physical properties. However, being a quantum mechanical system, we cannot use those expressions because they would give irrational results. Therefore, we need to use the postulates of quantum mechanics to evaluate various physical properties.

Let ψ be the function that describes all the states of the electron around the nucleus. At this point we have no information about the exact mathematical expression of ψ ; nevertheless, we know that there is one operator that does not need the absolute expression of wave function but uses the symbolic form only, the Hamiltonian operator. The operation of Hamiltonian operator over this symbolic form can be rearranged to give to construct the Schrodinger wave equation; and we all know that the wave function as well the energy, both are the obtained as this second-order differential equation is solved. Mathematically, we can say that

$$\hat{H}\psi = E\psi \quad (246)$$

After putting the value of three-dimensional Hamiltonian in equation (1), we get

$$\left[\frac{-h^2}{8\pi^2m} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \right) + V \right] \psi = E\psi \quad (247)$$

or

$$\frac{-h^2}{8\pi^2m} \left(\frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial z^2} \right) + V\psi = E\psi \quad (248)$$

$$\frac{-h^2}{8\pi^2m} \left(\frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial z^2} \right) + V\psi - E\psi = 0 \quad (249)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial z^2} + \frac{8\pi^2m}{h^2} (E - V)\psi = 0 \quad (250)$$

After putting the value of potential energy of the electron-nucleus system in equation (250), we get

$$\frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial z^2} + \frac{8\pi^2m}{h^2} \left(E + \frac{Ze^2}{r} \right) \psi = 0 \quad (251)$$

The above-mentioned second order differential equation is the Schrodinger wave equation for an electron around the nucleus. However, since it is neither completely in cartesian nor completely in polar coordinates (contains x, y, z as well as r variable), the solution is very much difficult. Therefore, recall the transformation of cartesian coordinates to polar coordinates in three dimensions as given below.

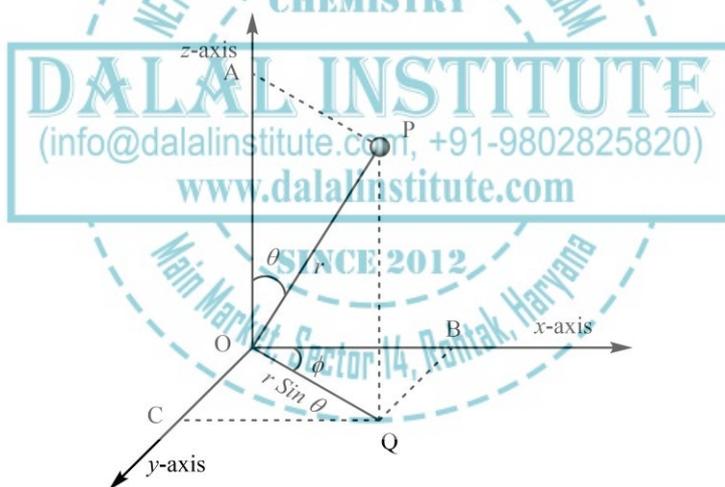


Figure 13. Correlation between cartesian and polar coordinates in three dimensions.

In triangle AOP, the side OA is simply the z-coordinate and can be obtained as

$$\frac{OA}{OP} = \cos \theta \Rightarrow OA = OP \cos \theta \Rightarrow z = r \cos \theta \quad (252)$$

Similarly, in triangle OQP

$$\frac{OQ}{OP} = \sin \theta \Rightarrow OQ = OP \sin \theta \Rightarrow OQ = r \sin \theta \quad (253)$$

In triangle BOQ, the side OB is simply the x -coordinate and can be obtained as

$$\frac{OB}{OQ} = \cos \phi \Rightarrow OB = OQ \cos \phi \Rightarrow x = r \sin \theta \cos \phi \quad (254)$$

Since the side BQ equal to OC, BQ also represents the y -coordinate and can be obtained as

$$\frac{BQ}{OQ} = \sin \phi \Rightarrow BQ = OQ \sin \phi \Rightarrow y = r \sin \theta \sin \phi \quad (255)$$

Now using equation (252-254), the equation (251) can be transformed to polar coordinates as given below.

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi^2} + \frac{8\pi^2 \mu}{h^2} \left(E + \frac{Ze^2}{r} \right) \psi = 0 \quad (256)$$

or

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi^2} \right] + \frac{8\pi^2 \mu}{h^2} \left(E + \frac{Ze^2}{r} \right) \psi = 0 \quad (257)$$

Which is the Schrodinger wave equation for hydrogen and hydrogen-like species in polar coordinates.

► Separation of Variables

The wave function representing quantum mechanical states, in this case, is actually a function of three variable r , θ and ϕ . Now, we know that it is easier to solve three differential equations with one variable in each rather a single differential equation with three variables. Therefore, in order to separate variables, consider that the wave function ψ is the multiplication of three individual functions as

$$\psi(r, \theta, \phi) = \psi(r) \times \psi(\theta) \times \psi(\phi) = R \cdot \theta \cdot \phi \quad (258)$$

After putting the value of equation (258) in equation (257) and then multiplying throughout by r^2 , we get

$$\theta \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{\phi R}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{R \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial \phi^2} + \frac{8\pi^2 \mu r^2}{h^2} \left(E + \frac{Ze^2}{r} \right) \theta \phi R = 0 \quad (259)$$

Furthermore, divide equation (259) throughout $\theta \phi R$ i.e.

$$\frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{\theta} \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\phi} \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial \phi^2} + \frac{8\pi^2 \mu r^2}{h^2} \left(E + \frac{Ze^2}{r} \right) = 0 \quad (260)$$

or

$$\frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{8\pi^2 \mu r^2}{h^2} \left(E + \frac{Ze^2}{r} \right) = - \frac{1}{\theta} \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \theta} \right) - \frac{1}{\phi} \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial \phi^2} \quad (261)$$

The above equation holds true if we put both sides equal to a constant β i.e.

$$\frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{8\pi^2 \mu r^2}{h^2} \left(E + \frac{Ze^2}{r} \right) = \beta \quad (262)$$

and

$$\frac{1}{\theta} \frac{1}{\sin\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin\theta \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{1}{\sin^2\theta} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \phi^2} = -\beta \quad (263)$$

The equation (262) contains only r variable, and therefore, is called as the “radial equation”. However, the equation (263) still contains two variable, and thus, needs further separation. To do so, first multiply equation (263) throughout by $\sin^2\theta$ i.e.

$$\frac{\sin\theta}{\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin\theta \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \phi^2} = -\beta \sin^2\theta \quad (264)$$

or

$$\frac{\sin\theta}{\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin\theta \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \theta} \right) + \beta \sin^2\theta = -\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \phi^2} \quad (265)$$

The above equation also holds true if we put both sides equal to a constant m^2 i.e.

$$\frac{\sin\theta}{\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin\theta \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \theta} \right) + \beta \sin^2\theta = m^2 \quad (266)$$

and

$$\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \phi^2} = -m^2 \quad (267)$$

The equation (266) contains only θ variable, and therefore, is called as “theta equation”. Likewise, the equation (267) contains only ϕ variable, and therefore, is called as “phi equation”.

➤ Solutions of $R(r)$, $\Theta(\theta)$ and $\Phi(\phi)$ Equations

The single variable equations obtained after separation of variables can be solved separately to yield r , θ and ϕ -dependent functions which then are multiplied give total wave function.

1. The solution of $\Phi(\phi)$ equation: Recall and rearrange the differential equation obtained after separation of variables having ϕ dependence i.e.

$$\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \phi^2} = -m^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \phi} + m^2 \Phi = 0 \quad (268)$$

The general solution of such an equation is

$$\Phi(\phi) = N e^{im\phi} \quad (269)$$

Where N represents the normalization constant. The wavefunction given above will be acceptable only if m has integer value i.e. $0, \pm 1, \pm 2$, etc. This can be understood in terms of single-valued, continuous and finite nature of quantum states.

i) *The boundary condition for function Φ* : If we replace the angle “ ϕ ” with “ $\phi + 2\pi$ ”, the position of point under consideration should remain the same i.e.

$$\Phi(\phi + 2\pi) = \Phi(\phi) \quad (270)$$

Therefore

$$N e^{im(\phi+2\pi)} = N e^{im\phi} \quad (271)$$

$$e^{im(\phi+2\pi)} = e^{im\phi} \quad (272)$$

$$e^{im\phi} \cdot e^{im2\pi} = e^{im\phi} \quad (273)$$

$$e^{im2\pi} = e^{im\phi} e^{-im\phi} \quad (274)$$

$$e^{im2\pi} = e^{im\phi - im\phi} = e^0 \quad (275)$$

$$e^{im2\pi} = 1 \quad (276)$$

Since we know from the Euler's expansion $e^{ix} = \cos x + i \sin x$, the equation (276) takes the form

$$e^{im2\pi} = \cos 2\pi m + i \sin 2\pi m \quad (277)$$

After putting the value of equation (277) in equation (276), we get

$$\cos 2\pi m + i \sin 2\pi m = 1 \quad (278)$$

The relation holds true only when we use $m = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4$, etc.

ii) *The normalization constant for function Φ* : In order to determine the normalization constant for the Φ function, we must put the squared-integral over whole configuration space as unity i.e.

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \Phi^* \Phi d\phi = 1 \quad (279)$$

$$N^2 \int_0^{2\pi} e^{im\phi} \cdot e^{-im\phi} d\phi = 1 \quad (280)$$

$$N^2 \int_0^{2\pi} e^{im\phi - im\phi} d\phi = N^2 \int_0^{2\pi} e^0 d\phi = 1 \quad (281)$$

$$N^2[\phi]_0^{2\pi} = N^2[2\pi] = 1 \quad (282)$$

or

$$N = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} \quad (283)$$

After using the value of normalization constant in equation (269), we get

$$\Phi_m(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} e^{im\phi} \quad (284)$$

Which is the complete solution of ϕ -equation.

Table 1. Complex and real forms of some normalized Φ -functions.

$ m $	Complex form	Real form
0	$\Phi_0(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}}$	$\Phi_0(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}}$
1	$\Phi_{+1}(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} e^{i\phi}$	$\Phi_{+1}(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\pi}} \cos \phi$
	$\Phi_{-1}(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} e^{-i\phi}$	$\Phi_{-1}(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\pi}} \sin \phi$
2	$\Phi_{+2}(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} e^{i2\phi}$	$\Phi_{+2}(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\pi}} \cos (2\phi)$
	$\Phi_{-2}(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} e^{-i2\phi}$	$\Phi_{-2}(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\pi}} \sin (2\phi)$
3	$\Phi_{+3}(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} e^{i3\phi}$	$\Phi_{+3}(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\pi}} \cos (3\phi)$
	$\Phi_{-3}(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} e^{-i3\phi}$	$\Phi_{-3}(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\pi}} \sin (3\phi)$

2. The solution of $\Theta(\theta)$ equation: Recall and rearrange the differential equation obtained after separation of variables having θ -dependence i.e.

$$\frac{\sin\theta}{\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} \left(\sin\theta \frac{\partial\Theta}{\partial\theta} \right) + \beta \sin^2\theta = m^2 \quad (285)$$

or

$$\sin\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} \left(\sin\theta \frac{\partial\Theta}{\partial\theta} \right) + \theta\beta\sin^2\theta - m^2\theta = 0 \quad (286)$$

Now dividing the above equation by $\sin^2\theta$, we get

$$\frac{1}{\sin\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} \left(\sin\theta \frac{\partial\Theta}{\partial\theta} \right) + \theta\beta - \frac{m^2\theta}{\sin^2\theta} = 0 \quad (287)$$

or

$$\frac{1}{\sin\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} \left(\sin\theta \frac{\partial\Theta}{\partial\theta} \right) + \left(\beta - \frac{m^2}{\sin^2\theta} \right) \theta = 0 \quad (288)$$

After defining a new variable $x = \cos\theta$, we have

$$\sin^2\theta + \cos^2\theta = 1 \quad (289)$$

$$\sin^2\theta = 1 - \cos^2\theta \quad (290)$$

$$\sin\theta = \sqrt{1 - \cos^2\theta} \quad (291)$$

$$\sin\theta = \sqrt{1 - x^2} \quad (292)$$

Also, since we assumed $x = \cos\theta$, the first derivative w.r.t. θ will be

$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial\theta} = -\sin\theta \quad (293)$$

The derivative of Θ function w.r.t. θ can be rewritten as

$$\frac{\partial\Theta}{\partial\theta} = \frac{\partial\Theta}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial\theta} \quad (294)$$

After putting the values of $\partial x/\partial\theta$ from equation (293) in equation (294), we get

$$\frac{\partial\Theta}{\partial\theta} = -\sin\theta \frac{\partial\Theta}{\partial x} \quad (295)$$

After removing Θ from both sides

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} = -\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \quad (296)$$

Multiplying both sides of equation (295) by $\sin \theta$, we have

$$\sin \theta \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \theta} = -\sin^2 \theta \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} \quad (297)$$

$$\sin \theta \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \theta} = -(1 - x^2) \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} \quad (298)$$

Now, after putting the values of equation (296) and (298) in equation (288), we get

$$\frac{1}{\sin \theta} \left(-\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \left[-(1 - x^2) \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} \right] + \left(\beta - \frac{m^2}{1 - x^2} \right) \theta = 0 \quad (299)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[(1 - x^2) \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} \right] + \left(\beta - \frac{m^2}{1 - x^2} \right) \theta = 0 \quad (300)$$

The equation given above is a Legendre's polynomial and has physical significance only in the range of $x = +1$ to -1 . Therefore, consider that one more form of Θ function so that this condition is satisfied i.e.

$$\Theta(\theta) = (1 - x^2)^{\frac{m}{2}} \cdot X(x) \quad (301)$$

Where X is a function depending upon variable x . The differentiation of the above equation w.r.t. x yields

$$\frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial x} = -mx(1 - x^2)^{\frac{m}{2}-1} \cdot X + (1 - x^2)^{\frac{m}{2}} \cdot \frac{dX}{dx} \quad (302)$$

After multiplying the above equation by $1 - x^2$ and $\partial/\partial x$, we get

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[(1 - x^2) \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial x} \right] = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[-mx(1 - x^2)^{\frac{m}{2}} \cdot X + (1 - x^2)^{\frac{m}{2}+1} \cdot \frac{dX}{dx} \right] \quad (303)$$

$$= \left[-m(1 - x^2)^{m/2} + m^2 x^2 (1 - x^2)^{\frac{m}{2}-1} \right] X - \left[2x(m + 1)(1 - x^2)^{\frac{m}{2}} \right] X' + \left[(1 - x^2)^{\frac{m}{2}+1} \right] X'' \quad (304)$$

Where $\partial/\partial x$ and $\partial^2/\partial x^2$ are represented by the symbol X' and X'' , respectively. Now, after using the value of equation (301) and equation (304) in equation (300), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[-m(1 - x^2)^{m/2} + m^2 x^2 (1 - x^2)^{\frac{m}{2}-1} \right] X - \left[2x(m + 1)(1 - x^2)^{\frac{m}{2}} \right] X' \\ & + \left[(1 - x^2)^{\frac{m}{2}+1} \right] X'' + \left(\beta - \frac{m^2}{1 - x^2} \right) (1 - x^2)^{\frac{m}{2}} \cdot X = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (305)$$

Dividing the above expression by $(1 - x^2)^{m/2}$, we have

$$(1 - x^2)X'' - 2(m + 1)xX' + [\beta - m(m + 1)]X = 0 \quad (306)$$

or

$$(1 - x^2)X'' - 2\alpha xX' + \lambda X = 0 \quad (307)$$

Where $\alpha = m + 1$ and $\lambda = \beta - m(m + 1)$. Now assume that the function X can be expressed as a power series expansion as given below.

$$X = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3 \dots \dots \dots \quad (308)$$

$$X' = a_1 + 2a_2x + 3a_3x^2 \dots \dots \dots \quad (309)$$

$$X'' = 2a_2 + 6a_3x + 12a_4x^2 \dots \dots \dots \quad (310)$$

Putting values of equation (308-310) in equation (307), we get

$$(1 - x^2)(2a_2 + 6a_3x + 12a_4x^2 + 20a_5x^3) - 2\alpha x(a_1 + 2a_2x + 3a_3x^2 + 4a_4x^3) + \lambda(a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3) = 0 \quad (311)$$

or

$$(2a_2 + \lambda a_0) + [6a_3 + (\lambda - 2\alpha)a_1]x + [12a_4 + (\lambda - 2\alpha - 2)a_2]x^2 \dots \dots \dots = 0 \quad (312)$$

The above equation is satisfied only if each term on the left-hand side is individually equal to zero i.e. coefficients of each power of x are vanish. The general expression for the coefficients must follow the condition given below.+

$$(n + 1)(n + 2)a_{n+2} + [\lambda - 2n\alpha - n(n - 1)]a_n = 0 \quad (313)$$

Where $n = 0, 1, 2, 3$ etc. Summarizing the result, we can write

$$a_{n+2} = \frac{2n\alpha + n(n - 1) - \lambda}{(n + 1)(n + 2)} a_n \quad (314)$$

After putting values of α and λ in equation (314), we get

$$\frac{a_{n+2}}{a_n} = \frac{(n + m)(n + m + 1) - \beta}{(n + 1)(n + 2)} \quad (315)$$

Which is the Recursion formula for the coefficients of the power of x . Now, in order to obtain a valid wavefunction, the power series must contain a finite number of terms which is possible only if numerator becomes zero i.e.

$$(n + m)(n + m + 1) - \beta = 0 \quad (316)$$

$$\beta = (n + m)(n + m + 1) \quad (317)$$

Since we know that m as well n both are the whole numbers, their sum must also be a whole number. Therefore, the sum of n and m can be replaced by another whole number symbolized by l i.e.

$$\beta = l(l + 1) \quad (318)$$

Where $l = 0, 1, 2, 3$ etc. After putting the value of β from equation (318) in equation (300), we get

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[(1 - x^2) \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} \right] + \left[l(l + 1) - \frac{m^2}{1 - x^2} \right] \theta = 0 \quad (319)$$

The general solution of equation (319) is

$$\theta = NP_l^m(x) = NP_l^m(\cos \theta) \quad (320)$$

Where N is the normalization constant and $P_l^m(x)$ is the associated “Legendre function” which is defined as given below.

$$P_l^m(x) = (1 - x^2)^{m/2} \frac{d^m P_l(x)}{dx^m} \quad (321)$$

Where $P_l(x)$ is the Legendre polynomial given by

$$P_l(x) = \frac{1}{2^l l!} \frac{d^l (x^2 - 1)^l}{dx^l} \quad (322)$$

In order to proceed further, we must discuss the concept of orthogonality and the normalization of the “Legendre’s function”.

i) *Orthogonality of associated Legendre’s function:* The orthogonality of the associated Legendre’s polynomial follows the conditions given below.

$$\int_{-1}^{+1} P_k^m(x) P_l^m(x) dx = 0 \quad \text{if } k \neq l \quad (323)$$

$$\int_{-1}^{+1} P_k^m(x) P_l^m(x) dx = \frac{2}{(2l + 1)} \frac{(l + m)!}{(l - m)!} \quad \text{if } k = l \quad (324)$$

ii) *Normalization of associated Legendre’s function:* The normalization of the associated Legendre’s polynomial follows the conditions given below.

$$\int_{-1}^{+1} \theta_{m,l} \theta_{m,l}^*(d\theta) = 1 \quad (325)$$

$$N^2 \int_{-1}^{+1} P_k^m(x) P_l^m(x) dx = 1 \quad (326)$$

$$N^2 \cdot \frac{2}{(2l+1)} \frac{(l+m)!}{(l-m)!} = 1 \quad (327)$$

$$N = \sqrt{\frac{(2l+1)(l-m)!}{2(l+m)!}} \quad (328)$$

Using the value of normalization constant in equation (320), we get

$$\Theta_{l,m}(\theta) = \sqrt{\frac{(2l+1)(l-m)!}{2(l+m)!}} \cdot P_l^m(\cos \theta) \quad (329)$$

Which is the complete solution of Θ -equation.

Table 2. Some normalized Θ -functions and corresponding spherical harmonics.

Θ -functions	Spherical harmonics
$\Theta_{0,0} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$Y_{0,0} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}}$
$\Theta_{1,0} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \cos \theta$	$Y_{1,0} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \cos \theta \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$
$\Theta_{1,\pm 1} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}} \sin \theta$	$Y_{1,\pm 1} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}} \sin \theta \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} e^{\pm i\phi}$
$\Theta_{2,0} = \sqrt{\frac{5}{8}} (3\cos^2 \theta - 1)$	$Y_{2,0} = \sqrt{\frac{5}{8}} (3\cos^2 \theta - 1) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$
$\Theta_{2,\pm 1} = \sqrt{\frac{15}{4}} \sin \theta \cos \theta$	$Y_{2,\pm 1} = \sqrt{\frac{15}{4}} \sin \theta \cos \theta \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} e^{\pm i\phi}$
$\Theta_{2,\pm 2} = \sqrt{\frac{15}{16}} \sin^2 \theta$	$Y_{2,\pm 2} = \sqrt{\frac{15}{16}} \sin^2 \theta \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} e^{\pm i2\phi}$

3. The solution of R(r) equation: Recall and rearrange the differential equation obtained after separation of variables having r -dependence i.e.

$$\frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{8\pi^2 \mu r^2}{h^2} \left(E + \frac{Ze^2}{r} \right) = \beta \quad (330)$$

After putting $\hbar = h/2\pi$ and rearranging, we get

$$\frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{2\mu r^2}{\hbar^2} (E - V) = \beta \quad (331)$$

After multiplying by R on both sides and then dividing by r^2 throughout, we get

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} (E - V)R = \frac{\beta R}{r^2} \quad (332)$$

Now, as we know from the solution of Θ -equation that $\beta = l(l+1)$, the above equation takes the form

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} (E - V)R = \frac{l(l+1)R}{r^2} \quad (333)$$

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} (E - V)R - \frac{l(l+1)R}{r^2} = 0 \quad (334)$$

or

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \left[r^2 \frac{\partial^2 R}{\partial r^2} + 2r \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right] + \left[\frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} (E - V) - \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} \right] R = 0 \quad (335)$$

$$\left[\frac{\partial^2 R}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right] + \left[\frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} (E - V) - \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} \right] R = 0 \quad (336)$$

Putting the value of potential energy for atomic hydrogen or hydrogen-like species again in the above equation, we get

$$\frac{\partial^2 R}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} + \left[\frac{2\mu E}{\hbar^2} + \frac{2\mu Z e^2}{\hbar^2 r} - \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} \right] R = 0 \quad (337)$$

As we know from the classical mechanics that elliptical orbits represent bound states have energies less than zero whereas hyperbolic orbits represent unbound states have energies greater than zero. Now assume that electron around the nucleus is bound somehow i.e.

$$-\frac{2\mu E}{\hbar^2} = \alpha^2 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\mu Z e^2}{\hbar^2 \alpha} = \lambda \quad (338)$$

Using equation (338) in equation (337), we get

$$\frac{\partial^2 R}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} + \left[-\alpha^2 + \frac{2\alpha\lambda}{r} - \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} \right] R = 0 \quad (339)$$

At this stage, we need to define a new variable $\rho = 2\alpha r$, so that

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial r} = 2\alpha \quad (340)$$

Which follows

$$\frac{\partial R}{\partial r} = \frac{\partial R}{\partial \rho} \cdot \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial r} = 2\alpha \frac{\partial R}{\partial \rho} \quad (341)$$

Also

$$\frac{\partial^2 R}{\partial r^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left[\frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right] = \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left[2\alpha \frac{\partial R}{\partial \rho} \right] = \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial r} \left[2\alpha \frac{\partial R}{\partial \rho} \right] = \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left[2\alpha \frac{\partial R}{\partial \rho} \right] \quad (341)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 R}{\partial r^2} = 2\alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left[2\alpha \frac{\partial R}{\partial \rho} \right] = 4\alpha^2 \frac{\partial^2 R}{\partial \rho^2} \quad (342)$$

After using the values of $\partial R/\partial r$ and $\partial^2 R/\partial r^2$ from equation (341) and equation (342) in equation (339), we get the following.

$$4\alpha^2 \frac{\partial^2 R}{\partial \rho^2} + \frac{2}{r} 2\alpha \frac{\partial R}{\partial \rho} + \left[-\alpha^2 + \frac{2\alpha\lambda}{r} - \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} \right] R = 0 \quad (343)$$

Now divide the above equation by $4\alpha^2$ i.e.

$$\frac{\partial^2 R}{\partial \rho^2} + \frac{1}{\alpha r} \frac{\partial R}{\partial \rho} + \left[-\frac{1}{4} + \frac{\lambda}{2\alpha r} - \frac{l(l+1)}{4\alpha^2 r^2} \right] R = 0 \quad (344)$$

Using $\rho = 2\alpha r$, we get

$$\frac{\partial^2 R}{\partial \rho^2} + \frac{2}{\rho} \frac{\partial R}{\partial \rho} + \left[-\frac{1}{4} + \frac{\lambda}{\rho} - \frac{l(l+1)}{\rho^2} \right] R = 0 \quad (345)$$

When $\rho \rightarrow \infty$, the above equation takes the form

$$\frac{\partial^2 R}{\partial \rho^2} - \frac{1}{4} R = 0 \quad (346)$$

The general solutions of the differential equation given above are

$$R(\rho) = e^{+\rho/2} \quad \text{and} \quad R(\rho) = e^{-\rho/2} \quad (347)$$

The function $R(\rho) = e^{+\rho/2}$ becomes ∞ when $\rho = \infty$, and hence, is not acceptable. Therefore, we are left with

$$R(\rho) = e^{-\rho/2} \quad (348)$$

Since the acceptable solution given above is valid only at very large values of ρ , it is quite reasonable to think that the exact solution may also contain some pre-exponential part to attain validity at all values of ρ . Therefore, after incorporating some ρ -dependent unknown function ' $F(\rho)$ ' in equation (348), we get

$$R(\rho) = F(\rho) e^{-\rho/2} \quad (349)$$

Differentiating above equation with w.r.t ρ at first and second order and then putting the values of $R(\rho)$, $\partial R/\partial\rho$ and $\partial^2 R/\partial\rho^2$ in equation (345), we get

$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial\rho^2} + \left(\frac{2}{\rho} - 1\right) \frac{\partial F}{\partial\rho} + \left[-\frac{1}{\rho} + \frac{\lambda}{\rho} - \frac{l(l+1)}{\rho^2}\right] F = 0 \quad (350)$$

For simplification, put $\partial^2 R/\partial\rho^2 = F''$ and $\partial R/\partial\rho = F'$ i.e.

$$F'' + \left(\frac{2}{\rho} - 1\right) F' + \left[-\frac{1}{\rho} + \frac{\lambda}{\rho} - \frac{l(l+1)}{\rho^2}\right] F = 0 \quad (351)$$

Hence, the problem has been reduced to the determination of the solution of F which can be assumed as

$$F(\rho) = \rho^s G(\rho) \quad (352)$$

Where $G(\rho)$ represents a power series expansion of ρ i.e.

$$G(\rho) = a_0 + a_1\rho + a_2\rho^2 + a_3\rho^3 \dots \quad (353)$$

Or we can say that

$$G(\rho) = \sum_{k=0}^{k=\infty} a_k \rho^k \quad (354)$$

It is also worthy to mention that $a_0 \neq 0$. Now differentiating equation (352) w.r.t. ρ , we get

$$F'(\rho) = s\rho^{s-1}G + \rho^s G' \quad (355)$$

The double derivative of the same will be

$$F''(\rho) = s(s-1)\rho^{s-2}G + 2s\rho^{s-1}G' + \rho^s G'' \quad (356)$$

After putting the values of $F(\rho)$, $F'(\rho)$ and $F''(\rho)$ from equation (352, 355, 356) into equation (351), we get

$$\begin{aligned} s(s-1)\rho^{s-2}G + 2s\rho^{s-1}G' + \rho^s G'' + \left(\frac{2}{\rho} - 1\right) [s\rho^{s-1}G + \rho^s G'] \\ + \left[-\frac{1}{\rho} + \frac{\lambda}{\rho} - \frac{l(l+1)}{\rho^2}\right] \rho^s G = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (357)$$

Multiplying throughout by $4\rho^2$, we get

$$4\rho^2 s(s-1)\rho^{s-2}G + 4\rho^2 \cdot 2s\rho^{s-1}G' + 4\rho^2 \cdot \rho^s G'' + (8\rho - 4\rho^2)[s\rho^{s-1}G + \rho^s G'] + [-4\rho + 4\rho\lambda - 4l(l+1)]\rho^s G = 0 \quad (358)$$

or

$$4s(s-1)\rho^s G + 8s\rho^{s+1}G' + 4\rho^{s+2}G'' + 8s\rho^s G - 4s\rho^{s+1}G + 8\rho^{s+1}G' - 4\rho^{s+2}G' - 4\rho^{s+1}G + 4\lambda\rho^{s+1}G - 4l(l+1)\rho^s G = 0 \quad (359)$$

or

$$4s(s-1)\rho^s G + 8s\rho^s G - 4s\rho^{s+1}G - 4\rho^{s+1}G + 4\lambda\rho^{s+1}G - 4l(l+1)\rho^s G + 8s\rho^{s+1}G' + 8\rho^{s+1}G' - 4\rho^{s+2}G' + 4\rho^{s+2}G'' = 0 \quad (360)$$

or

$$[4s(s-1)\rho^s + 8s\rho^s - 4s\rho^{s+1} - 4\rho^{s+1} + 4\lambda\rho^{s+1} - 4l(l+1)\rho^s]G + [8s\rho^{s+1} + 8\rho^{s+1} - 4\rho^{s+2}]G' + 4\rho^{s+2}G'' = 0 \quad (361)$$

Dividing throughout by ρ^s , we get

$$[4s(s-1) + 8s - 4s\rho - 4\rho + 4\lambda\rho - 4l(l+1)]G + [8s\rho + 8\rho - 4\rho^2]G' + 4\rho^2 G'' = 0 \quad (362)$$

If $\rho = 0$, the function $G(\rho) = a_0$ and the above equation takes the form

$$[4s(s-1) + 8s - 4l(l+1)]a_0 = 0 \quad (363)$$

Since $a_0 \neq 0$, the quantity that must be equal to zero to satisfy the above result is

$$4s(s-1) + 8s - 4l(l+1) = 0 \quad (364)$$

$$s(s-1) + 2s - l(l+1) = 0 \quad (365)$$

$$s(s+1) - l(l+1) = 0 \quad (366)$$

$$s(s+1) = l(l+1)$$

Which implies that

$$s = l \quad \text{or} \quad s = -(l+1) \quad (367)$$

Now, if we put $s = -(l+1)$ the first term in the function $F(\rho)$ becomes $a_0/0^{l+1}$ at $\rho = 0$ which infinite, and hence is not an acceptable solution. Thus, the only we are left with is $s = l$; after using the same in equation (362), we get

$$[4l(l-1) + 8l - 4l\rho - 4\rho + 4\lambda\rho - 4l(l+1)]G + [8l\rho + 8\rho - 4\rho^2]G' + 4\rho^2G'' = 0 \quad (368)$$

$$[-4l\rho - 4\rho + 4\lambda\rho]G + [8l\rho + 8\rho - 4\rho^2]G' + 4\rho^2G'' = 0 \quad (369)$$

Dividing the above equation by 4ρ , we get

$$[-l-1+\lambda]G + [2l+2-\rho]G' + \rho G'' = 0 \quad (370)$$

Now differentiating equation (353) at first and second order, we get

$$G'(\rho) = a_1 1\rho^{1-1} + a_2 2\rho^{2-1} + a_3 3\rho^{3-1} \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{k=\infty} a_k \cdot k \cdot \rho^{k-1} \quad (371)$$

Similarly

$$G''(\rho) = a_2 \cdot 2 \cdot (2-1)\rho^{2-2} + a_3 \cdot 3 \cdot (3-1)\rho^{3-2} \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{k=\infty} a_k \cdot k \cdot (k-1) \cdot \rho^{k-2} \quad (372)$$

After using the values equation (354, 371, 372) into equation (370), we get

$$[-l-1+\lambda] \sum_{k=0}^{k=\infty} a_k \rho^k + [2l+2-\rho] \sum_{k=0}^{k=\infty} a_k \cdot k \cdot \rho^{k-1} + \rho \sum_{k=0}^{k=\infty} a_k \cdot k \cdot (k-1) \cdot \rho^{k-2} = 0 \quad (373)$$

The above equation holds true only if the coefficients of individual powers of ρ become zero. So, simplifying equation (373) for two summation terms (a_k and a_{k+1}), we have

$$[-l-1+\lambda][a_k \rho^k + a_{k+1} \rho^{k+1}] + [2l+2-\rho][a_k \cdot k \cdot \rho^{k-1} + a_{k+1} \cdot (k+1) \cdot \rho^k] + \rho[a_k \cdot k \cdot (k-1) \cdot \rho^{k-2} + a_{k+1} \cdot (k+1) \cdot k \cdot \rho^{k-1}] = 0 \quad (374)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & -la_k \rho^k - a_k \rho^k + \lambda a_k \rho^k - la_{k+1} \rho^{k+1} - a_{k+1} \rho^{k+1} + \lambda a_{k+1} \rho^{k+1} + 2la_k \cdot k \cdot \rho^{k-1} \\ & + 2a_k \cdot k \cdot \rho^{k-1} - \rho a_k \cdot k \cdot \rho^{k-1} + 2la_{k+1} \cdot (k+1) \cdot \rho^k + 2a_{k+1} \cdot (k+1) \cdot \rho^k \\ & - \rho a_{k+1} \cdot (k+1) \cdot \rho^k + \rho \cdot a_k \cdot k \cdot (k-1) \cdot \rho^{k-2} \\ & + \rho \cdot a_{k+1} \cdot (k+1) \cdot k \cdot \rho^{k-1} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (375)$$

Now putting a coefficient of ρ^k equal to zero, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & -la_k \rho^k - a_k \rho^k + \lambda a_k \rho^k - a_k \cdot k \cdot \rho^k + 2la_{k+1} \cdot (k+1) \cdot \rho^k + 2a_{k+1} \cdot (k+1) \cdot \rho^k \\ & + a_{k+1} \cdot (k+1) \cdot k \cdot \rho^k = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (376)$$

$$-la_k - a_k + \lambda a_k - a_k k + 2la_{k+1}(k+1) + 2a_{k+1}(k+1) + a_{k+1}(k+1)k = 0 \quad (377)$$

or

$$[-l - 1 + \lambda - k]a_k + [2l(k + 1) + 2(k + 1) + (k + 1)k]a_{k+1} = 0 \quad (378)$$

$$[2l(k + 1) + 2(k + 1) + (k + 1)k]a_{k+1} = -[-l - 1 + \lambda - k]a_k \quad (379)$$

or

$$a_{k+1} = \frac{l + 1 - \lambda + k}{2l(k + 1) + 2(k + 1) + (k + 1)k} a_k \quad (380)$$

or

$$a_{k+1} = \frac{l + 1 - \lambda + k}{(k + 1)(2l + k + 2)} a_k \quad (381)$$

The equation (384) is the recursion formula where k is an integer. This expression allows one to determine the coefficient a_{k+1} in terms of a_k which is arbitrary.

Now, since the series $G(\rho)$ consists of the infinite number of terms, the function $F(\rho)$ becomes infinite at a very large value of k i.e. infinite. Consequently, the function $R(\rho)$ will also become infinite if the number of terms is not limited to a finite value. Therefore, we must break off the series to a finite number of terms which is possible only if the numerator becomes zero i.e.

$$l + 1 - \lambda + k = 0 \quad (382)$$

Define a new quantum number “ n ” at this stage as

$$\lambda = l + 1 + k = n \quad (383)$$

Since l and k are integers, n can be 1, 2, 3, 4 ... and so on. Moreover, as $n \geq l + 1$, the largest value that l can have is $n - 1$. Hence, the value of l has a domain ranging from 0 to $n - 1$. Putting $\lambda = n$ in equation (370)

$$[-l - 1 + n]G + [2l + 2 - \rho]G' + \rho G'' = 0 \quad (384)$$

Defining $2l + 1 = p$ and $n + l = q$, we get

$$[q - p]G + [p + 1 - \rho]G' + \rho G'' = 0 \quad (385)$$

The solution of the equation given above is the “associated Laguerre polynomial” multiplied by a constant factor i.e.

$$G(p) = CL_q^p(\rho) = CL_{n+l}^{2l+1}(\rho) \quad (385)$$

The constant C can be set as normalization constant and “associated Laguerre polynomial” is

$$L_{n+l}^{2l+1}(\rho) = \sum_{k=0}^{k=n-l-1} \frac{(-1)^{k+1} [(n+l)!]^2 \rho^k}{(n-l-1-k)! (2l+1+k)! k!} \quad (385)$$

After using the value of $F(\rho)$ from equation (352) in equation (349), we get radial wavefunction as

$$R(\rho) = \rho^s G(\rho) e^{-\rho/2} \quad (386)$$

Since $s = l$ and also using $G(\rho)$ from equation (385), the above equation takes the form

$$R_{n,l}(\rho) = C e^{-\rho/2} \rho^l L_{n+l}^{2l+1}(\rho) \quad (387)$$

Now, after using the value of $L_{n+l}^{2l+1}(\rho)$ from equation (385) in equation (387), we get

$$R_{n,l}(\rho) = C e^{-\rho/2} \rho^l \sum_{k=0}^{k=n-l-1} \frac{(-1)^{k+1} [(n+l)!]^2 \rho^k}{(n-l-1-k)! (2l+1+k)! k!} \quad (388)$$

i) *The normalization constant for function $R(r)$* : In order to determine the normalization constant for the R function, we must put the squared-integral over whole configuration space as unity i.e.

$$\int_0^{\infty} R_{n,l}^2(r) \cdot r^2 \cdot dr = 1 \quad (389)$$

The factor r^2 is introduced to convert the length dr into a volume around the center of the nucleus. At this point, recall the value of ρ again but in terms of equation (338, 383) i.e.

$$\rho = 2ar = \frac{2\mu Z e^2 r}{\hbar^2 \lambda} = \frac{2\mu Z e^2 r}{\hbar^2 n} = \frac{2Zr}{n} \cdot \frac{\mu e^2}{\hbar^2} \quad (390)$$

Since $a_0 = \hbar^2 / \mu e^2$ i.e. the “Bohr radius”, the equation (390) takes the form

$$\rho = \frac{2Zr}{n} \cdot \frac{1}{a_0} \quad (391)$$

So that

$$r = \frac{na_0}{2Z} \rho \quad (392)$$

Also

$$dr = \frac{na_0}{2Z} d\rho \quad (393)$$

After using the values of $R_{n,l}(\rho)$, r and dr from equation (388, 392, 393) in equation (389), we get

$$C^2 \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\rho} \cdot \rho^{2l} \cdot [L_{n+l}^{2l+1}(\rho)]^2 \cdot \left[\frac{na_0}{2Z} \rho\right]^2 \cdot \left[\frac{na_0}{2Z}\right] d\rho = 1 \quad (394)$$

or

$$C^2 \left(\frac{na_0}{2Z}\right)^3 \left[\frac{2n\{(n+l)!\}^3}{(n-l-1)!}\right] = 1 \quad (395)$$

or

$$C = \sqrt{\left(\frac{2Z}{na_0}\right)^3 \left[\frac{(n-l-1)!}{2n\{(n+l)!\}^3}\right]} \quad (395)$$

After using the value of normalization constant from above equation into equation (388), we get

$$R_{n,l}(\rho) = \sqrt{\left(\frac{2Z}{na_0}\right)^3 \left[\frac{(n-l-1)!}{2n\{(n+l)!\}^3}\right]} e^{-\rho/2} \rho^l \sum_{k=0}^{k=n-l-1} \frac{(-1)^{k+1} [(n+l)!]^2 \rho^k}{(n-l-1-k)! (2l+1+k)! k!} \quad (396)$$

$$= \sqrt{\left(\frac{2Z}{na_0}\right)^3 \left[\frac{(n-l-1)!}{2n\{(n+l)!\}^3}\right]} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{Zr}{na_0}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{2Zr}{na_0}\right)^l \sum_{k=0}^{k=n-l-1} \frac{(-1)^{k+1} [(n+l)!]^2 \left(\frac{2Zr}{na_0}\right)^k}{(n-l-1-k)! (2l+1+k)! k!} \quad (397)$$

Which is the complete solution of R -equation.

Table 3. Some of the initial radial wave functions in terms of distance from the center of the nucleus for the hydrogen atom and other hydrogen-like species.

n	l	Radial wave function ($R_{n,l}$)
1	0	$R_{1,0} = 2 \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{3/2} e^{-Zr/a_0}$
2	0	$R_{2,0} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{3/2} \left(2 - \frac{Zr}{a_0}\right) e^{-Zr/2a_0}$
2	1	$R_{2,1} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{6}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{Zr}{a_0}\right) e^{-Zr/2a_0}$
3	0	$R_{3,0} = \frac{2}{81\sqrt{3}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{3/2} \left(27 - 18\frac{Zr}{a_0} - 2\left(\frac{Zr}{a_0}\right)^2\right) e^{-Zr/3a_0}$
3	1	$R_{3,1} = \frac{4}{81\sqrt{6}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{3/2} \left(6\left(\frac{Zr}{a_0}\right) - \left(\frac{Zr}{a_0}\right)^2\right) e^{-Zr/3a_0}$
3	2	$R_{3,2} = \frac{1}{81\sqrt{30}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{Zr}{a_0}\right)^{3/2} - \left(\frac{Zr}{a_0}\right)^2 e^{-Zr/3a_0}$

The total wavefunction: After solving the ϕ -, θ - and r -dependent equations, we have $\Phi_m(\phi)$, $\Theta_{l,m}(\theta)$ and $R_{n,l}(r)$ functions. Now, recall the total wave function that depends upon all the three variable i.e.

$$\psi_{n,l,m}(r, \theta, \phi) = \psi_{n,l}(r) \times \psi_{l,m}(\theta) \times \psi_m(\phi) \quad (398)$$

After putting the values of $\Phi_m(\phi)$, $\Theta_{l,m}(\theta)$ and $R_{n,l}(r)$ from equation (397) in equation (398), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{n,l,m}(r, \theta, \phi) &= R_{n,l} \cdot \Theta_{l,m} \cdot \Phi_m \quad (399) \\ &= \sqrt{\left(\frac{2Z}{na_0}\right)^3 \left[\frac{(n-l-1)!}{2n\{(n+l)!^3}\right]} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{Zr}{na_0}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{2Zr}{na_0}\right)^l \cdot \sum_{k=0}^{k=n-l-1} \frac{(-1)^{k+1} [(n+l)!]^2 \left(\frac{2Zr}{na_0}\right)^k}{(n-l-1-k)! (2l+1+k)! k!} \quad (400) \\ &\quad \times \sqrt{\frac{(2l+1)(l-m)!}{2(l+m)!}} \cdot P_l^m(\cos \theta) \times \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} e^{im\phi} \end{aligned}$$

Which is the complete expression for all the quantum mechanical states of a single electron around the nucleus.

Table 4. Some of the initial total wave functions for the hydrogen atom and other hydrogen-like species.

n	l	m	Total wave function ($\psi_{n,l,m}$)
1	0	0	$\psi_{1,0,0} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{3/2} e^{-Zr/a_0}$
2	0	0	$\psi_{2,0,0} = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{3/2} \left(2 - \frac{Zr}{a_0}\right) e^{-Zr/2a_0}$
2	1	0	$\psi_{2,1,0} = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{5/2} e^{-Zr/2a_0} r \cos \theta$
2	1	± 1	$\psi_{2,1,\pm 1} = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{5/2} e^{-Zr/2a_0} \sin \theta e^{-i\phi}$
3	0	0	$\psi_{3,0,0} = \frac{2}{81\sqrt{3}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{3/2} \left(27 - 18\frac{Zr}{a_0} - 2\left(\frac{Zr}{a_0}\right)^2\right) e^{-Zr/3a_0} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}}$
3	1	0	$\psi_{3,1,0} = \frac{4}{81\sqrt{6}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{3/2} \left(6\left(\frac{Zr}{a_0}\right) - \left(\frac{Zr}{a_0}\right)^2\right) e^{-Zr/3a_0} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \cos \theta \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$
3	1	± 1	$\psi_{3,1,\pm 1} = \frac{4}{81\sqrt{6}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{3/2} \left(6\left(\frac{Zr}{a_0}\right) - \left(\frac{Zr}{a_0}\right)^2\right) e^{-Zr/3a_0} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \sin \theta \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} e^{\pm i\phi}$

The eigenvalues of energy: Since the series $G(\rho)$ consists of infinite number of terms, the function $F(\rho)$ becomes infinite at a very large value of k i.e. infinite. Consequently, the function $R(\rho)$ will also become infinite if the number of terms are not limited to a finite value. Therefore, we must break off the series to a finite number of terms which is possible only if the numerator in equation (381) becomes zero i.e.

$$l + 1 - \lambda + k = 0 \quad (401)$$

or

$$\lambda = l + 1 + k = n \quad (402)$$

Where n is the principal quantum number and can have values 1, 2, 3, 4 ... because l and k are integers always. Now recall the value of λ from equation (338) and then squaring both sides, we get

$$\lambda^2 = \frac{\mu^2 Z^2 e^4}{\hbar^4 \alpha^2} \quad (403)$$

Also putting the value of α^2 from equation (338) in equation (403), we get

$$\lambda^2 = \frac{\mu^2 Z^2 e^4}{\hbar^4 \alpha^2} = \frac{\mu^2 Z^2 e^4}{\hbar^4} \cdot \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu E} = -\frac{\mu Z^2 e^4}{2E \hbar^2} \quad (404)$$

$$E_n = -\frac{\mu Z^2 e^4}{2 \lambda^2 \hbar^2} = -\frac{\mu Z^2 e^4}{2 n^2 \hbar^2} \quad (405)$$

Which is the same as given by the pre-wave-mechanical quantum theory.

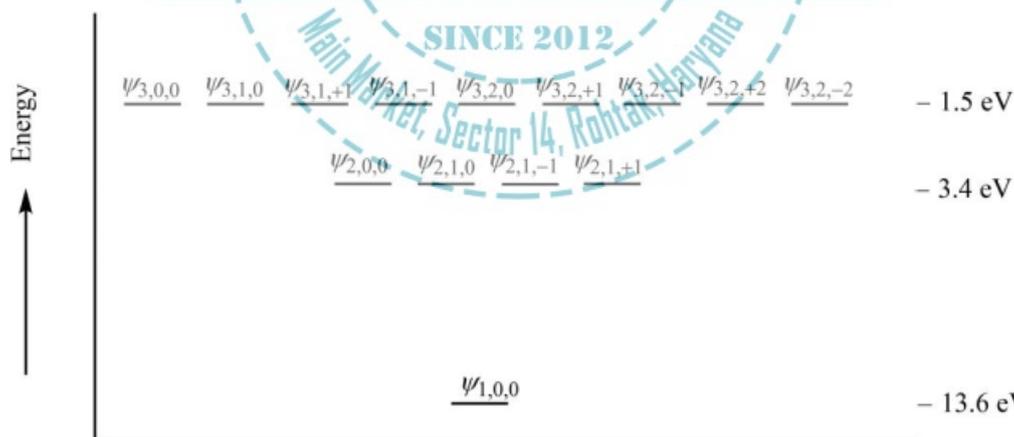


Figure 14. The energy level for various quantum mechanical states of the hydrogen atom.

It is also worthy to note that the total number of wave functions that can be written for a given value of n are n^2 , and therefore, we can say that the degeneracy of any energy level is also n^2 .

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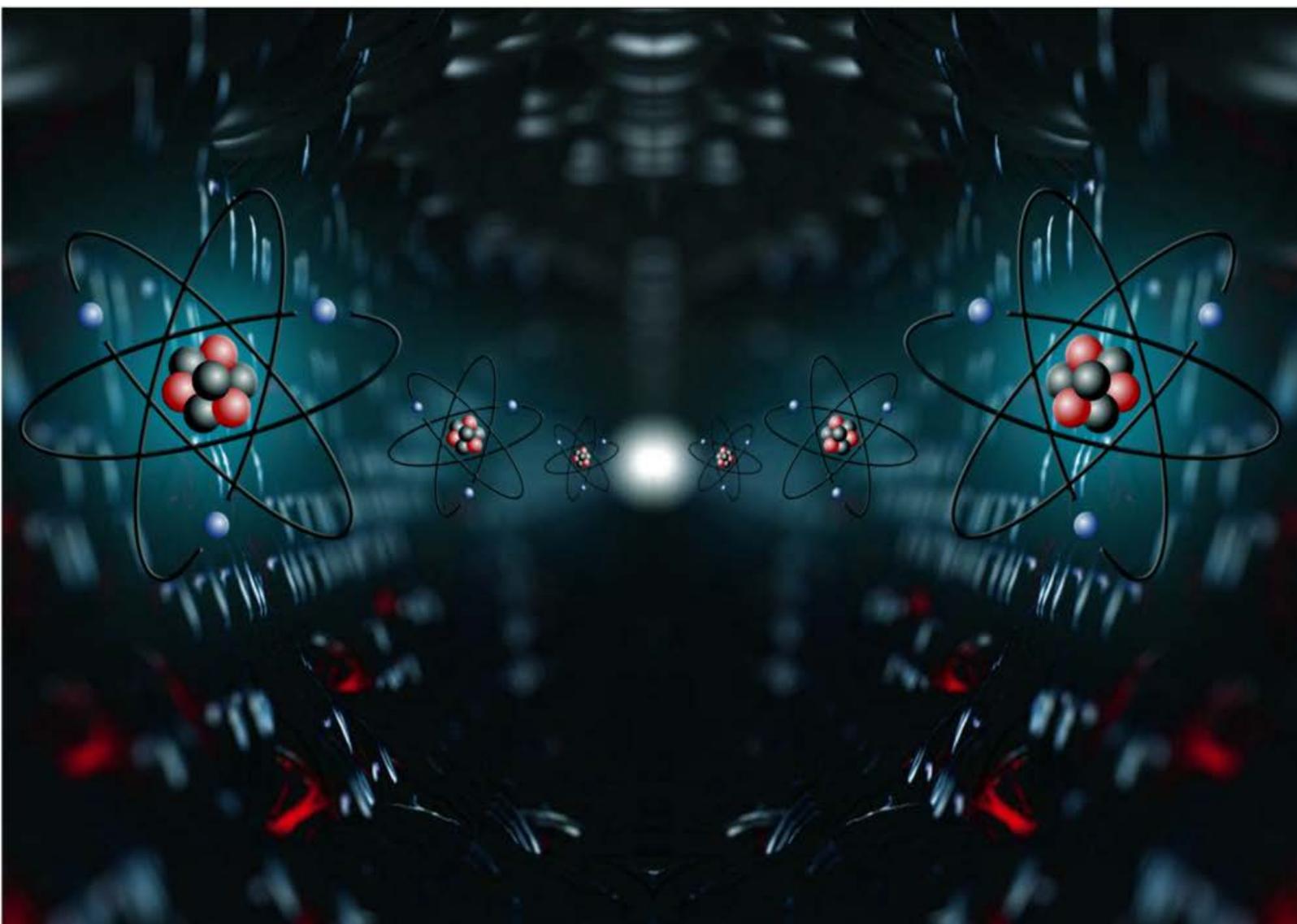
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Volume I

MANDEEP DALAL



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Table of Contents

CHAPTER 1	11
Quantum Mechanics – I	11
❖ Postulates of Quantum Mechanics	11
❖ Derivation of Schrodinger Wave Equation.....	16
❖ Max-Born Interpretation of Wave Functions	21
❖ The Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle.....	24
❖ Quantum Mechanical Operators and Their Commutation Relations.....	29
❖ Hermitian Operators – Elementary Ideas, Quantum Mechanical Operator for Linear Momentum, Angular Momentum and Energy as Hermitian Operator	52
❖ The Average Value of the Square of Hermitian Operators	62
❖ Commuting Operators and Uncertainty Principle (x & p ; E & t).....	63
❖ Schrodinger Wave Equation for a Particle in One Dimensional Box.....	65
❖ Evaluation of Average Position, Average Momentum and Determination of Uncertainty in Position and Momentum and Hence Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle.....	70
❖ Pictorial Representation of the Wave Equation of a Particle in One Dimensional Box and Its Influence on the Kinetic Energy of the Particle in Each Successive Quantum Level	75
❖ Lowest Energy of the Particle	80
❖ Problems	82
❖ Bibliography	83
CHAPTER 2	84
Thermodynamics – I	84
❖ Brief Resume of First and Second Law of Thermodynamics.....	84
❖ Entropy Changes in Reversible and Irreversible Processes.....	87
❖ Variation of Entropy with Temperature, Pressure and Volume	92
❖ Entropy Concept as a Measure of Unavailable Energy and Criteria for the Spontaneity of Reaction	94
❖ Free Energy, Enthalpy Functions and Their Significance, Criteria for Spontaneity of a Process ...	98
❖ Partial Molar Quantities (Free Energy, Volume, Heat Concept).....	104
❖ Gibb's-Duhem Equation.....	108
❖ Problems	111
❖ Bibliography	112

CHAPTER 3	113
Chemical Dynamics – I	113
❖ Effect of Temperature on Reaction Rates.....	113
❖ Rate Law for Opposing Reactions of 1st Order and 2nd Order.....	119
❖ Rate Law for Consecutive & Parallel Reactions of 1st Order Reactions	127
❖ Collision Theory of Reaction Rates and Its Limitations	135
❖ Steric Factor.....	141
❖ Activated Complex Theory	143
❖ Ionic Reactions: Single and Double Sphere Models	147
❖ Influence of Solvent and Ionic Strength.....	152
❖ The Comparison of Collision and Activated Complex Theory	157
❖ Problems.....	158
❖ Bibliography	159
CHAPTER 4	160
Electrochemistry – I: Ion-Ion Interactions	160
❖ The Debye-Huckel Theory of Ion-Ion Interactions	160
❖ Potential and Excess Charge Density as a Function of Distance from the Central Ion.....	168
❖ Debye-Huckel Reciprocal Length	173
❖ Ionic Cloud and Its Contribution to the Total Potential	176
❖ Debye-Huckel Limiting Law of Activity Coefficients and Its Limitations.....	178
❖ Ion-Size Effect on Potential.....	185
❖ Ion-Size Parameter and the Theoretical Mean - Activity Coefficient in the Case of Ionic Clouds with Finite-Sized Ions.....	187
❖ Debye-Huckel-Onsager Treatment for Aqueous Solutions and Its Limitations.....	190
❖ Debye-Huckel-Onsager Theory for Non-Aqueous Solutions.....	195
❖ The Solvent Effect on the Mobility at Infinite Dilution	196
❖ Equivalent Conductivity (Λ) vs Concentration $C^{1/2}$ as a Function of the Solvent	198
❖ Effect of Ion Association Upon Conductivity (Debye-Huckel-Bjerrum Equation)	200
❖ Problems.....	209
❖ Bibliography	210
CHAPTER 5	211
Quantum Mechanics – II	211
❖ Schrodinger Wave Equation for a Particle in a Three Dimensional Box	211

❖ The Concept of Degeneracy Among Energy Levels for a Particle in Three Dimensional Box	215
❖ Schrodinger Wave Equation for a Linear Harmonic Oscillator & Its Solution by Polynomial Method	217
❖ Zero Point Energy of a Particle Possessing Harmonic Motion and Its Consequence	229
❖ Schrodinger Wave Equation for Three Dimensional Rigid Rotator.....	231
❖ Energy of Rigid Rotator	241
❖ Space Quantization.....	243
❖ Schrodinger Wave Equation for Hydrogen Atom: Separation of Variable in Polar Spherical Coordinates and Its Solution	247
❖ Principal, Azimuthal and Magnetic Quantum Numbers and the Magnitude of Their Values.....	268
❖ Probability Distribution Function.....	276
❖ Radial Distribution Function	278
❖ Shape of Atomic Orbitals (<i>s</i> , <i>p</i> & <i>d</i>).....	281
❖ Problems.....	287
❖ Bibliography	288
CHAPTER 6	289
Thermodynamics – II.....	289
❖ Clausius-Clapeyron Equation.....	289
❖ Law of Mass Action and Its Thermodynamic Derivation	293
❖ Third Law of Thermodynamics (Nernst Heat Theorem, Determination of Absolute Entropy, Unattainability of Absolute Zero) And Its Limitation.....	296
❖ Phase Diagram for Two Completely Miscible Components Systems	304
❖ Eutectic Systems (Calculation of Eutectic Point).....	311
❖ Systems Forming Solid Compounds A_xB_y with Congruent and Incongruent Melting Points	321
❖ Phase Diagram and Thermodynamic Treatment of Solid Solutions.....	332
❖ Problems.....	342
❖ Bibliography	343
CHAPTER 7	344
Chemical Dynamics – II	344
❖ Chain Reactions: Hydrogen-Bromine Reaction, Pyrolysis of Acetaldehyde, Decomposition of Ethane.....	344
❖ Photochemical Reactions (Hydrogen-Bromine & Hydrogen-Chlorine Reactions).....	352
❖ General Treatment of Chain Reactions (Ortho-Para Hydrogen Conversion and Hydrogen-Bromine Reactions).....	358

❖ Apparent Activation Energy of Chain Reactions	362
❖ Chain Length	364
❖ Rice-Herzfeld Mechanism of Organic Molecules Decomposition (Acetaldehyde)	366
❖ Branching Chain Reactions and Explosions (H_2-O_2 Reaction)	368
❖ Kinetics of (One Intermediate) Enzymatic Reaction: Michaelis-Menten Treatment	371
❖ Evaluation of Michaelis's Constant for Enzyme-Substrate Binding by Lineweaver-Burk Plot and Eadie-Hofstee Methods	375
❖ Competitive and Non-Competitive Inhibition	378
❖ Problems	388
❖ Bibliography	389
CHAPTER 8	390
Electrochemistry – II: Ion Transport in Solutions	390
❖ Ionic Movement Under the Influence of an Electric Field	390
❖ Mobility of Ions	393
❖ Ionic Drift Velocity and Its Relation with Current Density	394
❖ Einstein Relation Between the Absolute Mobility and Diffusion Coefficient	398
❖ The Stokes-Einstein Relation	401
❖ The Nernst-Einstein Equation	403
❖ Walden's Rule	404
❖ The Rate-Process Approach to Ionic Migration	406
❖ The Rate-Process Equation for Equivalent Conductivity	410
❖ Total Driving Force for Ionic Transport: Nernst-Planck Flux Equation	412
❖ Ionic Drift and Diffusion Potential	416
❖ The Onsager Phenomenological Equations	418
❖ The Basic Equation for the Diffusion	419
❖ Planck-Henderson Equation for the Diffusion Potential	422
❖ Problems	425
❖ Bibliography	426
INDEX	427



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