

1. Quantum Mechanics (Fall 2005)

Let  $H$  be the Hamiltonian for the hydrogen atom, including spin.  $\hbar\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{p}$  and  $\hbar\mathbf{s}$  are the orbital and spin angular momentum, respectively, and  $\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{L} + \mathbf{s}$ . Conventionally, the states are labeled  $|n, l, j, m\rangle$  and they are eigenstates of  $H$ ,  $L^2$ ,  $J^2$ , and  $J_z$ .

In parts (a) and (d) you may state the answer to lowest nonvanishing order — ignore spin-orbit and relativistic effects.

- (a) If the electron is in the state  $|n, l, j, m\rangle$ , what values will be measured for these four observables in terms of  $\hbar$ ,  $c$ , the fine-structure constant  $\alpha$ , and the electron mass  $m$ ?
- (b) What are the restrictions on the possible values of  $n$ ,  $l$ ,  $j$ , and  $m$ ?
- (c) Let  $J_{\pm} = J_x \pm iJ_y$ . What are

(i)  $\langle 3, 1, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2} | J_+ | 3, 1, \frac{3}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} \rangle = ?$   $J_+ \rightarrow T_1^1 \quad \Delta m \neq q = 1 \Rightarrow \boxed{0}$

(ii)  $\langle 3, 1, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2} | J_+ | 3, 1, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \rangle = ?$   $\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}(\frac{3}{2}+1) - \frac{1}{2}(\frac{1}{2}+1)} = \sqrt{\frac{15}{4} - \frac{3}{4}} = \sqrt{3} \Rightarrow \boxed{\sqrt{3}}$

(iii)  $\langle 2, 1, \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} | L^2 | 2, 1, \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} \rangle = ?$   $L^2 \rightarrow T_0^0 \quad l(l+1) = 1(1+1) = \boxed{2}$

(iv)  $\langle 3, 2, \frac{3}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} | J^2 | 3, 2, \frac{3}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} \rangle = ?$   $J^2 \rightarrow T_0^0 \quad j(j+1) = \frac{3}{2}(\frac{3}{2}+1) = \boxed{\frac{15}{4}}$

(v)  $\langle 3, 1, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2} | J_z | 3, 1, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \rangle = ?$   $J_z \rightarrow T_0^0 \quad \Delta m \neq q = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{0}$

(d) What are

(i)  $\langle 2, 1, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2} | p_z | 2, 1, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \rangle = ?$   $p_z \rightarrow T_1^0 \quad \Delta m \neq q = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{0}$

(ii)  $\langle 1, 0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} | p_i p_j | 1, 0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \rangle = ?$

a)  $H: E_n = -\frac{1}{2} \alpha^2 m c^2 \frac{1}{n^2} \quad L^2 = l(l+1) \quad J^2 = j(j+1) \quad J_z = m = m_j$

b)  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+ = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\} \quad l \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1\} \quad s = \frac{1}{2}$

$j \in \{|l-s|, |l-s|+1, |l-s|+2, \dots, l+s-1, l+s\}$

$m \in \{-j, -j+1, \dots, j-1, j\}$

c) Wigner-Eckart selection rules:  $\langle \alpha' j' m' | T_k^q | \alpha j m \rangle = 0$  unless  $m' = m + q$  and  $|j-k| \leq j' \leq j+k$

d) ii)  $p_i p_j = \underbrace{\frac{1}{3} \vec{p}^2 \delta_{ij}}_{T_0^0} + \frac{1}{2} (p_i p_j - p_j p_i) + \underbrace{\left[ \frac{1}{2} (p_i p_j + p_j p_i) - \frac{1}{3} \vec{p}^2 \delta_{ij} \right]}_{\sum T_2^q}$

$[p_i, p_j] = 0 \quad |\frac{1}{2} - 2| = \frac{3}{2} \neq \frac{1}{2} = j' \Rightarrow \emptyset$

$\Rightarrow \langle p_i p_j \rangle = \frac{1}{3} \langle \vec{p}^2 \rangle \delta_{ij} = \frac{1}{3} 2m \langle T \rangle \delta_{ij} \stackrel{\text{Virial theorem}}{=} -\frac{2m}{3} \langle E \rangle \delta_{ij} = +\frac{1}{3} \alpha^2 m^2 c^2 \frac{1}{n^2} \delta_{ij}$