

$$J^2 |j m\rangle = j(j+1)\hbar^2 |j m\rangle$$

$$j = 0, \frac{1}{2}, 1, \frac{3}{2}, \dots$$

$$J_z |j m\rangle = m\hbar |j m\rangle$$

$$m = -j, -j+1, \dots, 0, \dots, j-1, j$$

We want to solve

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \nabla^2 \psi + V\psi = E\psi$$

$V(r, \theta, \phi) = V(r) \Rightarrow$ rotationally invariant problem

• Due to rotational invariance, do the problem in (r, θ, ϕ) coordinates.

We need ∇^2 in (r, θ, ϕ) coordinates

$$\nabla^2 \rightarrow \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2}$$

Hence, Schrodinger eqn becomes

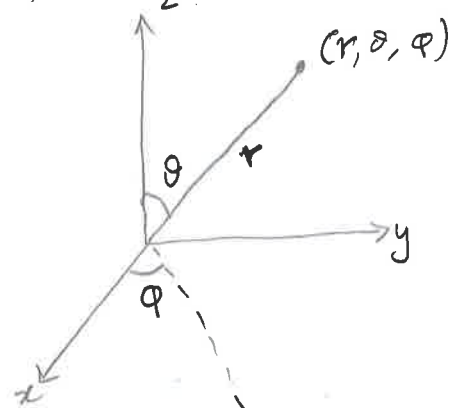
$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \left[\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right] \psi(r, \theta, \phi) + V\psi(r, \theta, \phi) = E \psi(r, \theta, \phi)$$

$$\text{Let } \psi(r, \theta, \phi) = R(r) Y(\theta, \phi)$$

Substitute this into Schrodinger Eqn

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \left[Y(\theta, \phi) \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) R(r) + \frac{R(r)}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) Y(\theta, \phi) + \frac{R(r)}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} Y(\theta, \phi) \right] + V \cdot R(r) Y(\theta, \phi) = E R(r) Y(\theta, \phi)$$

• Spherical-polar coordinates



$r \geq 0$
 $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$
 $0 \leq \phi \leq 2\pi$
 polar angle
 azimuth angle

$$\begin{aligned} x &= r \sin \theta \cos \phi \\ y &= r \sin \theta \sin \phi \\ z &= r \cos \theta \end{aligned}$$

- multiply by $-\frac{2\mu r^2}{\hbar^2}$ and divide throughout by $R(r) Y(\theta, \varphi)$ (2)
we get

$$\frac{1}{R(r)} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) R(r) + \frac{1}{Y(\theta, \varphi) \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) Y(\theta, \varphi) + \frac{1}{Y(\theta, \varphi) \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \varphi^2} Y(\theta, \varphi) + \frac{2\mu r^2}{\hbar^2} (V(r) - E) = 0$$

- Rewrite it as:

$$\left\{ \frac{1}{R(r)} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) R(r) - \frac{2\mu r^2}{\hbar^2} [V(r) - E] \right\} + \left\{ \frac{1}{Y(\theta, \varphi) \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) Y(\theta, \varphi) + \frac{1}{Y(\theta, \varphi) \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \varphi^2} Y(\theta, \varphi) \right\} = 0$$

- There are two terms in this eqn. First one depends only on r , second term depends only on (θ, φ) .
Let each term be equal to same constant but opposite sign:
 $\{C\} - \{E\} = 0$

- \therefore We have two equations:

$$\frac{1}{R(r)} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) R(r) - \frac{2\mu r^2}{\hbar^2} [V(r) - E] = C$$

AND $\frac{1}{Y(\theta, \varphi) \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) Y(\theta, \varphi) + \frac{1}{Y(\theta, \varphi) \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \varphi^2} Y(\theta, \varphi) = -C$

- $\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) R(r) - \frac{2\mu r^2}{\hbar^2} [V(r) - E] R(r) = C R(r)$ ----- (1)

- $\frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) Y(\theta, \varphi) + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \varphi^2} Y(\theta, \varphi) = -C Y(\theta, \varphi)$ ----- (2)

- Now, let's examine L_x, L_y, L_z and L^2 in (r, θ, ϕ) representation

$$L_x = i\hbar \left(\sin \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \cot \theta \cos \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right)$$

$$L_y = i\hbar \left(-\cos \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \cot \theta \sin \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right)$$

$$L_z = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}$$

$$L_+ = L_x + iL_y$$

$$\text{and } L_- = L_x - iL_y$$

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

- Now, rewrite Eq (2) as:

$$\left[\frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right] Y(\theta, \phi) = -c Y(\theta, \phi)$$

$$-\hbar^2 \left[\frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right] Y(\theta, \phi) = c\hbar^2 Y(\theta, \phi)$$

$$L^2 Y(\theta, \phi) = c\hbar^2 Y(\theta, \phi)$$

$$\Rightarrow c = l(l+1)$$

- Now, put $Y(\theta, \phi) = \Theta(\theta) \Phi(\phi)$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{\sin \theta} \Phi(\phi) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) \Theta(\theta) - \frac{\hbar^2}{\sin^2 \theta} \Theta(\theta) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \Phi(\phi) = c\hbar^2 \Theta(\theta) \Phi(\phi)$$

Divide by $\Theta(\theta) \Phi(\phi)$

$$\frac{-\hbar^2}{\Theta(\theta) \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) \Theta(\theta) - \frac{\hbar^2}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \Phi(\phi) = c\hbar^2$$

multiply by $-\sin^2 \theta$

$$\cancel{\frac{\hbar^2}{\Theta(\theta)}} \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) \Theta(\theta) + \sin^2 \theta \cancel{c\hbar^2} = -\cancel{\hbar^2} \frac{1}{\Phi(\phi)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \Phi(\phi) = m^2$$

• we know this result

- $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \varphi^2} \Phi(\varphi) = -m^2 \Phi(\varphi)$

- $\Phi(\varphi) = \frac{e^{im\varphi}}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$

- Assemble LHS of this equ:

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

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

- Divide throughout by $\sin^2 \theta$

$$\left(\frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{d}{d\theta} \right) + \left[l(l+1) - \frac{m^2}{\sin^2 \theta} \right] \right) \Theta(\theta) = 0$$

- This equation is not easy to solve.

put $\mu = \cos \theta$ to get

- $$\frac{d}{d\mu} \left[(1-\mu^2) \frac{d\Theta}{d\mu} \right] + \left[l(l+1) - \frac{m^2}{1-\mu^2} \right] \Theta = 0$$

$$-1 \leq \mu \leq 1$$

- Solution is $\Theta(\theta) = A P_l^m(\cos \theta)$
 \downarrow
 associated Legendre function

where $P_l^m(\cos \theta) = \frac{(-1)^l}{2^l l!} \sin^m \theta \frac{d^{l+m}(\sin^{2l} \theta)}{d(\cos^{l+m} \theta)}$

- $Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi) = \Theta(\theta) \Phi(\varphi) = A \frac{e^{im\varphi}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} P_l^m(\cos \theta)$

- Normalisation $\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi [Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi)]^* [Y_{l'}^{m'}(\theta, \varphi)] \sin \theta d\theta d\varphi = \delta_{ll'} \delta_{mm'}$

$$Y_0^0(\theta, \varphi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{4\pi}}$$

$$Y_2^0(\theta, \varphi) = \sqrt{\frac{5}{16\pi}} (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)$$

$$Y_1^0(\theta, \varphi) = \sqrt{\frac{3}{4\pi}} \cos \theta$$

$$Y_2^{\pm 1}(\theta, \varphi) = \mp \sqrt{\frac{15}{8\pi}} \sin \theta \cos \theta e^{\pm i\varphi}$$

$$Y_1^{\pm 1}(\theta, \varphi) = \mp \sqrt{\frac{3}{8\pi}} \sin \theta e^{\pm i\varphi}$$

$$Y_2^{\pm 2}(\theta, \varphi) = \sqrt{\frac{15}{32\pi}} \sin^2 \theta e^{\pm 2i\varphi}$$

- Some properties:

$$Y_l^{-m} = (-1)^m (Y_l^m)^* \quad (\text{Prove this!})$$

$$Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi) = (-1)^m \sqrt{\frac{2l+1}{4\pi} \frac{(l-|m|)!}{(l+|m|)!}} e^{im\varphi} P_l^m(\cos \theta) \quad (m \geq 0)$$

$$Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi) = \sqrt{\frac{(2l+1)}{4\pi} \frac{(l-|m|)!}{(l+|m|)!}} \quad \text{,,} \quad \text{,,} \quad (m \leq 0)$$

Remember $l = 0, 1, 2, \dots$
 $m = -l, -l+1, \dots, 0, 1, \dots, l-1, l.$

- Radial equation:

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

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \left[\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} - \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} \right] R_{El}(r) + V(r) R_{El}(r) = E R_{El}(r) \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

Note: This is radial Schrodinger equation.
 Does not depend on m . Depends on l .
 So, H will display $(2l+1)$ -fold degeneracy.

$$\bullet \text{ Put } R_{El}(r) = \frac{U_{El}(r)}{r}$$

- Now, Eq (3) becomes

$$\frac{d^2}{dr^2} + \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} \left[E - V(r) - \frac{l(l+1)\hbar^2}{2\mu r^2} \right] U_{El} = 0$$

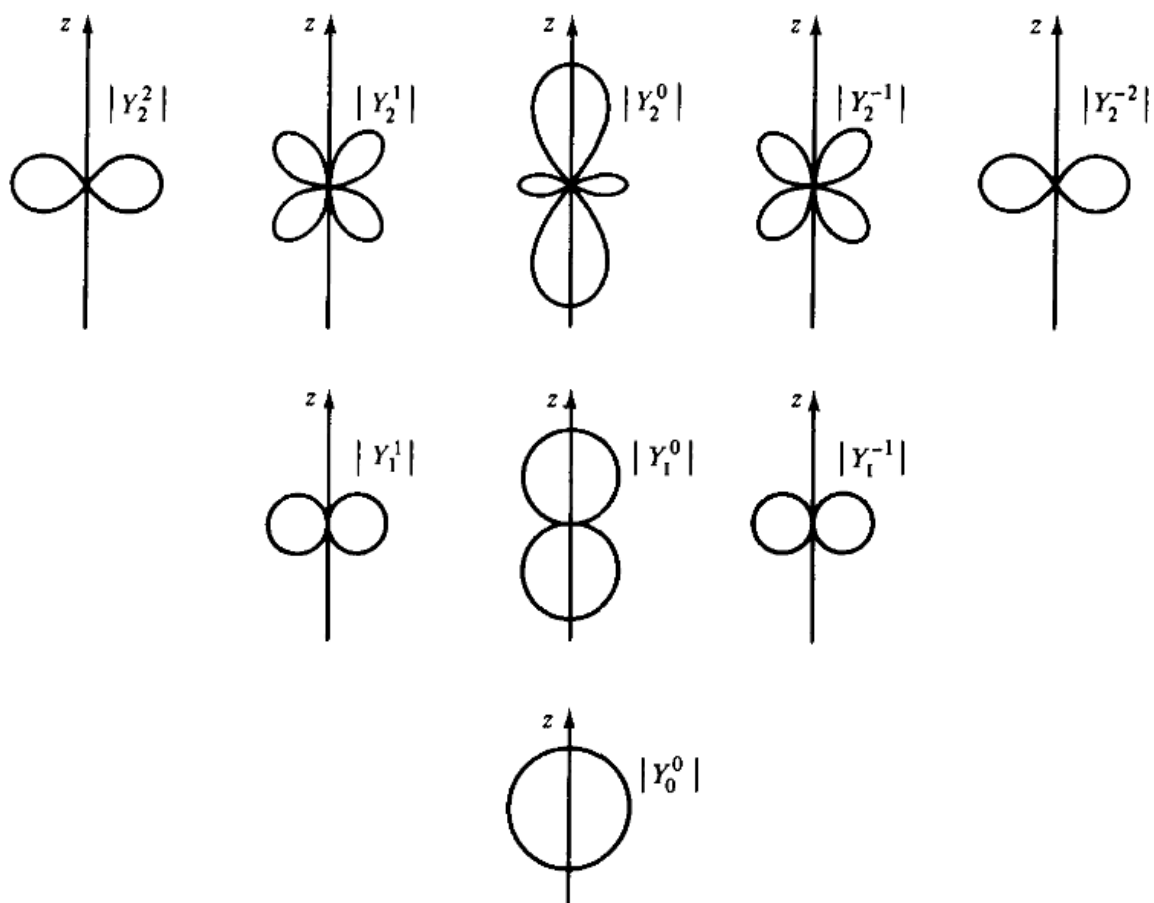


FIGURE 9.10 Polar plots of $|Y_l^m|$ versus θ in any plane through the z axis for $l = 0, 1, 2$. The equality $|Y_l^m| = |Y_l^{-m}|$ is exhibited.

From *Introduction to Quantum Mechanics* by Richard Liboff