

ELEMENTS OF QUANTUM MECHANICS - EXAMPLES CLASS 5
Answers

Q1 The electron in a Hydrogen atom is in a combined state

$$\psi(r, \theta, \phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{21}}(2\psi_{210} + \psi_{321} + 4\psi_{422})$$

- (a) L^2 has eigenvalues $l(l+1)\hbar^2$ so we get values of $2\hbar^2$ for $l = 1$ with probability $4/21$ and value $6\hbar^2$ for $l = 2$ with probability $17/21$ (as there are two with $l = 2$)
- (b) L_z has eigenvalues $m\hbar$ so $m = 0$ we get 0 for $4/21$ and $m = 1$ we get \hbar for $1/21$ and $m = 2$ we get $2\hbar$ for $16/21$
- (c) H i.e. energy is E_2 for $4/21$, E_3 for $1/21$ and E_4 for $16/21$
- (d) if measure energy $-13.6/9$ eV it means that $n=3$ so we are looking at ψ_{321} . A subsequent measure of E is certain to give the same value (collapse of the wavefunction). and measuring L^2 is certain to give $6\hbar^2$ ($l = 2$) and L_z is certain to give \hbar . All of these can be measured simultaneously, without disturbing the wavefunction as they all commute. BUT if we now try and measure L_x this does not commute so we don't get a deterministic answer.

Q2

(a) $E_3 - E_2 = -13.6(1/3^2 - 1/2^2) = 1.89$ eV

$$E_4 - E_2 = -13.6(1/16 - 1/4) = 2.55$$
 eV

(b) $m_{uD} = 2m_p m_e / (2m_p + m_e) = 2m_p / (2m_p/m_e + 1)$

$$\mu_H = m_p m_e / (m_p + m_e)$$

$$\mu_D / \mu_H = 2(m_p + m_e) / (2m_p + m_e) = 2(m_p/m_e + 1) / (2m_p/m_e + 1) = 1.000272$$

$$a_D / a_H = \mu_H / \mu_D$$

$$E_{n,D} / E_{n,H} = (\mu_H / \mu_D)(a_H^2 / a_D^2) = \mu_D / \mu_H = 1.000272$$

$$(E_{n,D} - E_{n,H}) = 1.000272 E_{n,H} - E_{n,H} = 0.000272 E_{n,H}$$

so the shift due to the presence of some deuterium is 5×10^{-4} eV, which is WAY bigger than observed!

Q3 $p = -i\hbar d/dx$

$$[H, p]\psi = [p^2/2m, p]\psi + [V, p]\psi = [V, p]\psi$$

$$[H, p]\psi = [V, p]\psi = Vp\psi - p(V\psi) = V \cdot -i\hbar \frac{d\psi}{dx} - -i\hbar d/dx(V\psi)$$

$$= -i\hbar(Vd\psi/dx - Vd\psi/dx - \frac{dV}{dx}\psi) = i\hbar \frac{dV}{dx}\psi$$