

71(7): New Radial Wavefunctions of Atoms and Molecules

From the Lagrangian:

$$L = \frac{1}{2} m (\dot{r}^2 + r^2 \dot{\beta}^2) - U(r) \quad (1)$$

it is found that:

$$r = \frac{a}{1 + \epsilon \cos \beta} \quad (2)$$

and

$$\dot{\beta} = \frac{L}{mr^2} \quad (3)$$

where L is a constant of motion. By definition:

$$\dot{\beta} = \dot{\theta}^2 + \dot{\phi}^2 \sin^2 \theta \quad (4)$$

and

$$U = \frac{-e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \quad (5)$$

for the H atom. The classical orbit of the electron around the proton is given by eq. (2). The classical velocity is

$$v^2 = \left(\frac{dr}{dt}\right)^2 + r^2 \left(\frac{d\beta}{dt}\right)^2 \quad (6)$$

Use

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{dr}{d\beta} \frac{d\beta}{dt}; \quad \frac{d\beta}{dt} = \frac{L}{mr^2} \quad (7)$$

to find that:

$$v^2 = \frac{L^2}{a^2} \left(\frac{2}{r} - \frac{1}{a} \right) \quad (8)$$

where

$$a = \frac{a}{1 - \epsilon^2} \quad (9)$$

2) is the semi-major axis of the ellipse (2).

Quantization occurs via:

$$-\hbar^2 \nabla^2 \psi = p^2 \psi \quad (10)$$

where $\nabla^2 \psi = \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \quad (11)$

So:

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} = -\frac{L^2}{\hbar^2 a} \left(\frac{2}{r} - \frac{1}{a} \right) \psi} \quad (12)$$

Solving this with Maxima gives new radial wavefunctions of the H atom, and also the radial wavefunctions of the Newtonian orbit.
