

Question

Let

$$\Psi_{1s} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi a_0^3}} e^{-\frac{r}{a_0}}, \quad \Psi_{2s} = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2\pi a_0^3}} \left(2 - \frac{r}{a_0}\right) e^{-\frac{r}{2a_0}},$$

and

$$\Psi_{2p_z} = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2\pi a_0^5}} r e^{-\frac{r}{a_0}} \cos(\theta).$$

Show that each of Ψ_{1s} , Ψ_{2s} and Ψ_{2p_z} is *normalised*, i.e. that

$$\iiint \Psi^2 dV = 1$$

where the integration is taken over all of space. Show also that

$$\iiint \Psi_{1s} \Psi_{2s} dV = \iiint \Psi_{1s} \Psi_{2p_z} dV = 0.$$

Answer

In the spherical polar coordinates a volume element is

$$dv = r^2 \sin \theta dr d\theta d\phi$$

Integrating over all of space means that $\left. \begin{array}{l} 0 \leq \phi \leq 2\pi \\ 0 \leq \theta \leq \pi \\ 0 \leq r \end{array} \right\}$ We will require

the following integrals:

$$\int_0^\pi \sin \theta d\theta = 2,$$

$$\int_0^{2\pi} d\phi = 2\pi$$

$$\int_0^\pi \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta = \int_0^\pi \frac{1}{2} \sin 2\theta d\theta = \left[-\frac{1}{4} \cos 2\theta\right]_0^\pi = -\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = 0$$

Note that $\frac{d}{d\theta} \left(-\frac{1}{3} \cos^3 \theta\right) = \cos^2 \theta \sin \theta$ so that $\int_0^\pi \cos^2 \theta \sin \theta d\theta = \left[-\frac{1}{3} \cos^3 \theta\right]_0^\pi = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3} = \frac{2}{3}$

Also note we have $\int_0^\infty r^n e^{-\lambda r} dr = \frac{n!}{\lambda^{n+1}}$

To see this let $I_n = \int_0^\infty r^n e^{-\lambda r} dr$ (n a positive integer)

As a special case we have

$$\begin{aligned} I_0 &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\lambda r} dr \\ &= \left[-\frac{1}{\lambda} e^{-\lambda r} \right]_0^{\infty} \\ &= \left(0 + \frac{1}{\lambda} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\lambda} \end{aligned}$$

In general

$$\begin{aligned} I_n &= \int_0^{\infty} r^n e^{-\lambda r} dr \\ &= \left[\frac{r^n}{-\lambda} e^{-\lambda r} \right]_0^{\infty} + \int_0^{\infty} \frac{n r^{n-1}}{\lambda} e^{-\lambda r} dr \\ &= 0 + \frac{n}{\lambda} \int_0^{\infty} r^{n-1} e^{-\lambda r} dr \\ &= \frac{n}{\lambda} I_{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

So $I_n = \frac{n}{\lambda} I_{n-1}$. We find that:

$$\begin{aligned} I_n &= \left(\frac{n}{\lambda} \right) I_{n-1} \\ &= \left(\frac{n}{\lambda} \right) \left(\frac{n-1}{\lambda} \right) I_{n-2} \\ &= \left(\frac{n}{\lambda} \right) \left(\frac{n-1}{\lambda} \right) \left(\frac{n-2}{\lambda} \right) I_{n-3} \\ &\quad \dots \\ &= \left(\frac{n}{\lambda} \right) \left(\frac{n-1}{\lambda} \right) \left(\frac{n-2}{\lambda} \right) \dots \left(\frac{1}{\lambda} \right) I_0 \\ &= \frac{n!}{\lambda^n} I_0 \\ &= \left(\frac{n!}{\lambda^n} \right) \left(\frac{1}{\lambda} \right) \\ &= \frac{n!}{\lambda^{n+1}} \end{aligned}$$

[QED]

$$\begin{aligned}
\iiint \Psi_{1s}^2 dv &= \frac{1}{\pi a_0^3} \int_0^\infty r^2 e^{-\frac{2r}{a_0}} dr \int_0^\pi \sin\theta d\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \\
&= \frac{4}{a_0^3} \int_0^\infty r^2 e^{-\frac{2r}{a_0}} dr \\
&= \left(\frac{4}{a_0^3}\right) \left(\frac{2!}{\left(\frac{2}{a_0}\right)^3}\right) \\
&= \frac{8a_0^3}{8a_0^3} \\
&= 1
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\iiint \Psi_{2s}^2 dv &= \frac{1}{32\pi a_0^3} \int_0^\infty r^2 \left(2 - \frac{r}{a_0}\right)^2 e^{-\frac{r}{a_0}} dr \int_0^\pi \sin\theta d\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \\
&= \frac{1}{8a_0^3} \int_0^\infty \left(4r^2 - \frac{4r^3}{a_0} + \frac{r^4}{a_0^2}\right) e^{-\frac{r}{a_0}} dr \\
&= \frac{1}{8a_0^3} \left\{ 4 \left(\frac{2!}{\left(\frac{1}{a_0}\right)^3}\right) - \frac{4}{a_0} \left(\frac{3!}{\left(\frac{1}{a_0}\right)^4}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{a_0^2}\right) \left(\frac{4!}{\left(\frac{1}{a_0}\right)^5}\right) \right\} \\
&= \frac{1}{8a_0^3} \{8a_0^3 - 24a_0^3 + 24a_0^3\} \\
&= \frac{8a_0^3}{8a_0^3} \\
&= 1
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\iiint \Psi_{2p_z}^2 dv &= \frac{1}{23\pi a_0^5} \int_0^\infty r^4 e^{-\frac{r}{a_0}} dr \int_0^\pi \sin\theta \cos^2\theta d\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \\
&= \frac{\frac{4\pi}{3}}{32\pi a_0^5} \int_0^\infty r^4 e^{-\frac{r}{a_0}} dr \\
&= \frac{1}{24a_0^5} (4! a_0^5) \\
&= 1
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\iiint \Psi_{1s} \Psi_{2s} dv &= \frac{1}{4\pi a_0^3 \sqrt{2}} \int_0^\infty r^2 \left(2 - \frac{r}{a_0}\right) e^{-\frac{r}{a_0}} e^{-\frac{r}{2a_0}} dr \int_0^\pi \sin\theta d\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \\
&= \frac{1}{a_0^3 \sqrt{2}} \int_0^\infty \left(2r^2 e^{-\frac{3r}{2a_0}} - \frac{r^3}{a_0} e^{-\frac{3r}{2a_0}}\right) dr \\
&= \frac{1}{a_0^3 \sqrt{2}} \left\{ 2 \left(\frac{2!}{\left(\frac{3}{2a_0}\right)^3}\right) - \frac{1}{a_0} \left(\frac{3!}{\left(\frac{3}{2a_0}\right)^4}\right) \right\}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{a_0^3 \sqrt{2}} \left\{ \frac{2^5 a_0^3}{3^3} - \left(\frac{1}{a_0} \right) \left(\frac{2^5 a_0^4}{3^3} \right) \right\} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \iiint \Psi_{1s} \Psi_{2P_z} dv &= \frac{1}{4\pi a_0^4 \sqrt{2}} \int_0^\infty r^3 e^{-\frac{3r}{2a_0}} dr \int_0^\pi \sin\theta \cos\theta d\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\int_0^\infty \sin\theta \cos\theta d\theta = 0$ by above.