

Chapter 4 One-Electron Atoms

One-electron atoms: H, He⁺, Li²⁺, etc.

4-1 Quantum Theory of the One-electron Atom

$\hbar^2 \nabla^2 \Psi / 2m + (E - V)\Psi = 0$, where $V = -e^2 / 4\pi\epsilon_0 r$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial \phi^2} + \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} \left(E + \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \right) \Psi = 0$$

Let $\Psi(r, \theta, \phi) = R(r)\Theta(\theta)\Phi(\phi)$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} \left(r^2 \frac{dR}{dr} \right) + \left[\frac{2m}{\hbar^2} \left(E_n + \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \right) - \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} \right] R = 0 \dots (1),$$

$$\frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} \right) + \left[l(l+1) - \frac{m_l^2}{\sin^2 \theta} \right] \Theta = 0 \dots (2), \text{ and } \frac{d^2 \Phi}{d\phi^2} + m_l^2 \Phi = 0 \dots (3)$$

E_n is the eigenvalue of (1), and we can prove that $E_n = \frac{-me^4}{32n^2 \pi^2 \epsilon_0^2 \hbar^2}$, where $n=1, 2, \dots$

(Principal quantum number).

$l(l+1)$ is the eigenvalue of (2), and we can prove that $l=0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ (**Orbital quantum number**).

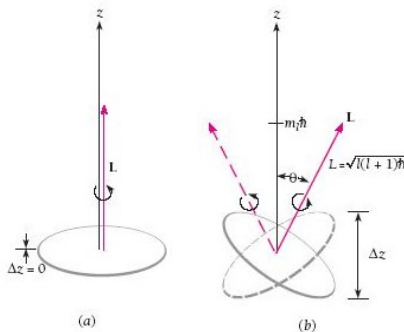
m_l is the eigenvalue of (3), and we can prove that $m_l=0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots, \pm l$ (**Magnetic quantum number**).

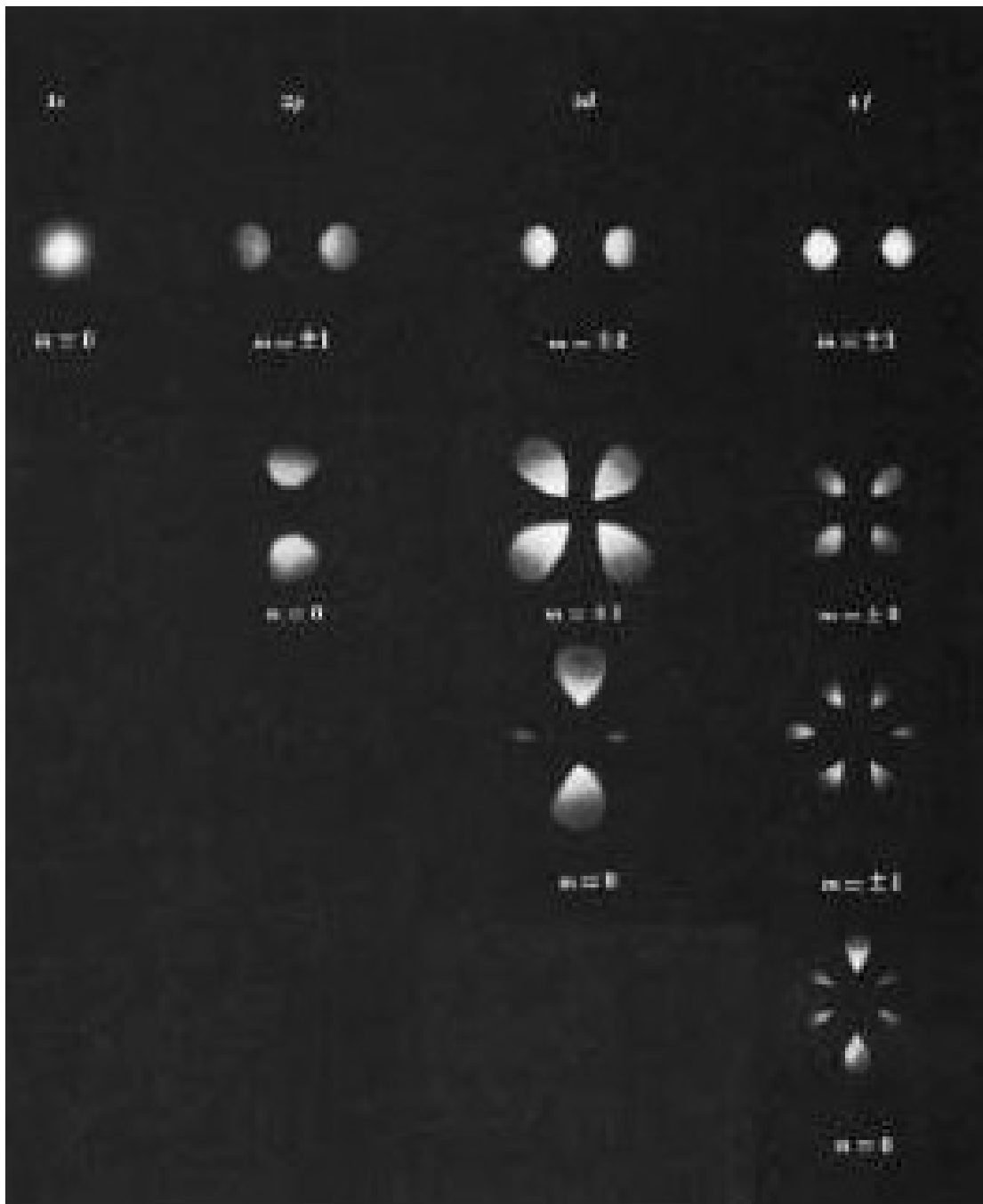
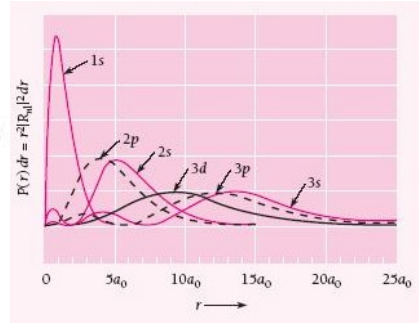
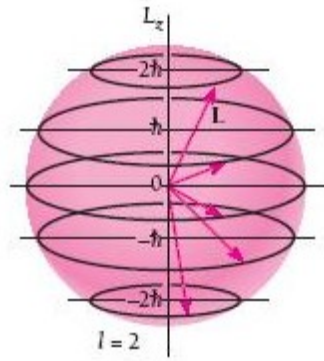
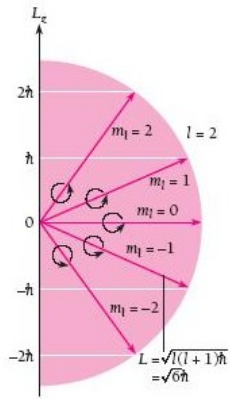
By (1): $\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} \left(r^2 \frac{dR}{dr} \right) + \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} \left[(E_n - V) - \frac{\hbar^2 l(l+1)}{2mr^2} \right] R = 0$, and set $E = K_{\text{radial}} + K_{\text{orbital}} + V$.

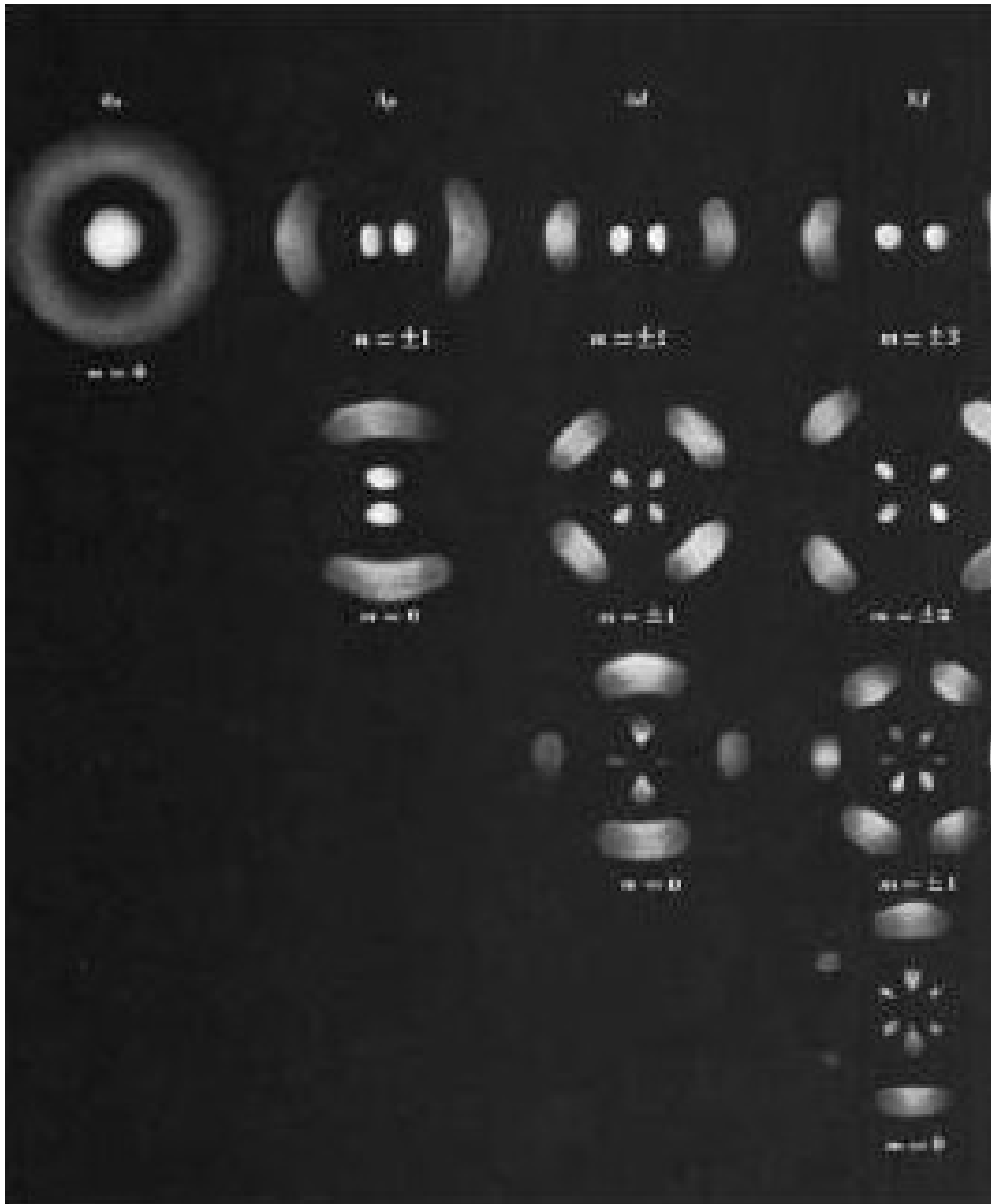
If $K_{\text{orbital}} = \frac{\hbar^2 l(l+1)}{2mr^2}$, then (1) $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} \left(r^2 \frac{dR}{dr} \right) + \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} K_{\text{radial}} R = 0$ is dependent on only r and the energy of radial motion. It is in agreement with the physical depiction.

$\therefore K_{\text{orbital}} = \frac{\hbar^2 l(l+1)}{2mr^2} = \frac{(mvr)^2}{2mr^2} = \frac{L^2}{2mr^2} \Rightarrow$ Angular momentum of an electron is

$$L = \sqrt{l(l+1)} \hbar.$$





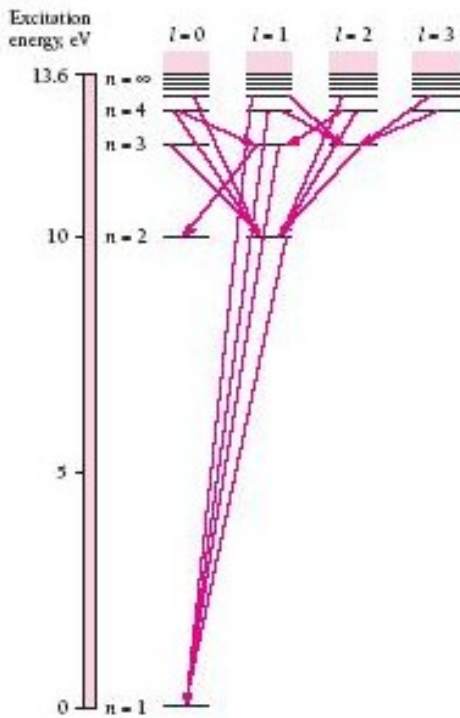


Eg. The wave function of a 1s electron is $\Psi = \frac{e^{-\frac{r}{a_0}}}{\sqrt{\pi a_0^3}}$. Please find the average of $1/r$ for an electron in the hydrogen atom. [台大電研]

Normalized Wave Functions of the Hydrogen Atom for $n = 1, 2,$ and 3^*

n	l	m_l	$\Phi(\phi)$	$\Theta(\theta)$	$R(r)$	$\psi(r, \theta, \phi)$
1	0	0	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{2}{a_0^{3/2}} e^{-r/a_0}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi} a_0^{3/2}} e^{-r/a_0}$
2	0	0	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{2} a_0^{3/2}} \left(2 - \frac{r}{a_0}\right) e^{-r/2a_0}$	$\frac{1}{4\sqrt{2\pi} a_0^{3/2}} \left(2 - \frac{r}{a_0}\right) e^{-r/2a_0}$
2	1	0	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$	$\frac{\sqrt{6}}{2} \cos \theta$	$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{6} a_0^{3/2}} \frac{r}{a_0} e^{-r/2a_0}$	$\frac{1}{4\sqrt{2\pi} a_0^{3/2}} \frac{r}{a_0} e^{-r/2a_0} \cos \theta$
2	1	± 1	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{\pm i\phi}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sin \theta$	$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{6} a_0^{3/2}} \frac{r}{a_0} e^{-r/2a_0}$	$\frac{1}{8\sqrt{\pi} a_0^{3/2}} \frac{r}{a_0} e^{-r/2a_0} \sin \theta e^{\pm i\phi}$
3	0	0	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{2}{81\sqrt{3} a_0^{3/2}} \left(27 - 18\frac{r}{a_0} + 2\frac{r^2}{a_0^2}\right) e^{-r/3a_0}$	$\frac{1}{81\sqrt{3\pi} a_0^{3/2}} \left(27 - 18\frac{r}{a_0} + 2\frac{r^2}{a_0^2}\right) e^{-r/3a_0}$
3	1	0	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$	$\frac{\sqrt{6}}{2} \cos \theta$	$\frac{4}{81\sqrt{6} a_0^{3/2}} \left(6 - \frac{r}{a_0}\right) \frac{r}{a_0} e^{-r/3a_0}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{81\sqrt{\pi} a_0^{3/2}} \left(6 - \frac{r}{a_0}\right) \frac{r}{a_0} e^{-r/3a_0} \cos \theta$
3	1	± 1	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{\pm i\phi}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sin \theta$	$\frac{4}{81\sqrt{6} a_0^{3/2}} \left(6 - \frac{r}{a_0}\right) \frac{r}{a_0} e^{-r/3a_0}$	$\frac{1}{81\sqrt{\pi} a_0^{3/2}} \left(6 - \frac{r}{a_0}\right) \frac{r}{a_0} e^{-r/3a_0} \sin \theta e^{\pm i\phi}$
3	2	0	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$	$\frac{\sqrt{10}}{4} (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)$	$\frac{4}{81\sqrt{30} a_0^{3/2}} \frac{r^2}{a_0^2} e^{-r/3a_0}$	$\frac{1}{81\sqrt{6\pi} a_0^{3/2}} \frac{r^2}{a_0^2} e^{-r/3a_0} (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)$
3	2	± 1	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{\pm i\phi}$	$\frac{\sqrt{15}}{2} \sin \theta \cos \theta$	$\frac{4}{81\sqrt{30} a_0^{3/2}} \frac{r^2}{a_0^2} e^{-r/3a_0}$	$\frac{1}{81\sqrt{\pi} a_0^{3/2}} \frac{r^2}{a_0^2} e^{-r/3a_0} \sin \theta \cos \theta e^{\pm i\phi}$
3	2	± 2	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{\pm 2i\phi}$	$\frac{\sqrt{15}}{4} \sin^2 \theta$	$\frac{4}{81\sqrt{30} a_0^{3/2}} \frac{r^2}{a_0^2} e^{-r/3a_0}$	$\frac{1}{162\sqrt{\pi} a_0^{3/2}} \frac{r^2}{a_0^2} e^{-r/3a_0} \sin^2 \theta e^{\pm 2i\phi}$

*The quantity $a_0 = \pi \epsilon_0 \hbar^2 / me^2 = 0.5292 \times 10^{-10}$ m is equal to the radius of the innermost Bohr orbit.



Selection rules of transitions:

If $\int \Psi_n^* x \Psi_m dr \neq 0$, the electron can transfer from quantum state Ψ_m (energy level E_m) to state Ψ_n (energy level E_n).

(Proof) Consider a composite wavefunction $\Psi = a\Psi_n + b\Psi_m$, where $\Psi_n = \Psi_n e^{-i(2\pi E_n/h)t}$, $\Psi_m = \Psi_m e^{-i(2\pi E_m/h)t}$, and $|a|^2 + |b|^2 = 1$.

$$\langle x \rangle = \int \Psi^* x \Psi dr = a^2 \cdot \int x |\Psi_n|^2 dr + b^2 \cdot \int x |\Psi_m|^2 dr + 2a^* b \cos(2\pi \nu t) \cdot \int \Psi_n^* x \Psi_m dr,$$

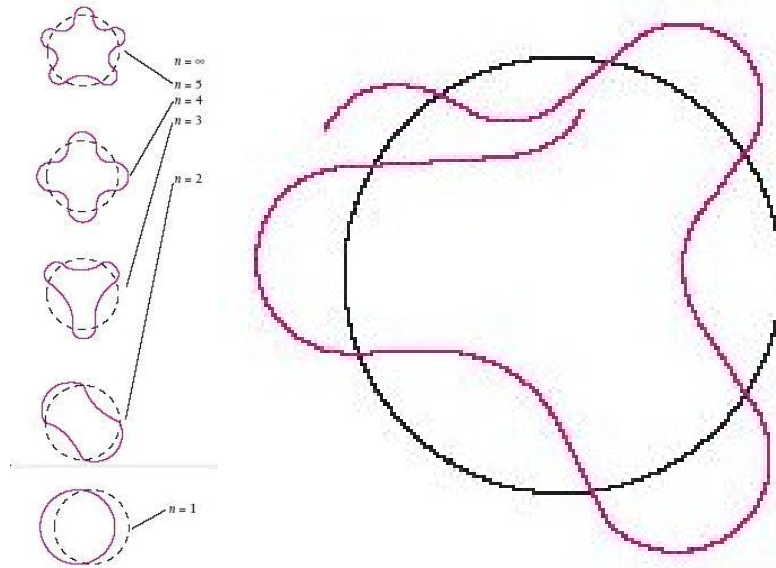
where $\nu = (E_n - E_m)/h$

If $\int \Psi_n^* x \Psi_m dr = 0$, the average electron position $\langle x \rangle$ is independent of t . Therefore, it is a forbidden transition.

\therefore Transition from quantum state Ψ_m to state Ψ_n is allowed if $\int \Psi_n^* x \Psi_m dr \neq 0$.

For hydrogen, selection rules are $\Delta l = l' - l = \pm 1$ and $\Delta m_l = m_l' - m_l = 0, \pm 1$ if an electron is transferred from Ψ_{n,l,m_l} to $\Psi_{n',l',m_l'}$.

4-2 Bohr's Model of One-electron Atoms



For a one-electron atom, the stability conditions of orbit are

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} n\lambda = 2\pi r_n \\ \lambda = \frac{h}{mv} \\ \frac{mv^2}{r_n} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{Ze^2}{r_n^2} \end{array} \right. ,$$

where $n=1, 2, 3, \dots$, and Z is atomic number. We can solve the above equations and

$$\text{obtain } v = \frac{\sqrt{Ze}}{\sqrt{4\pi\epsilon_0 m r_n}}, \lambda = \frac{h}{e} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_n}{mZ}}, r_n = \frac{n^2 h^2 \epsilon_0}{Z\pi m e^2}, n=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$\text{Total energy: } E_n = K + V = mv^2/2 - Ze^2/4\pi\epsilon_0 r_n = Ze^2/8\pi\epsilon_0 r_n - Ze^2/4\pi\epsilon_0 r_n = -Ze^2/8\pi\epsilon_0 r_n \\ = -mZ^2 e^4 / 8n^2 h^2 \epsilon^2 = -E_1 Z^2 / n^2, \text{ where } E_1 = 13.6 \text{ eV}$$

Eg. (a) An electron of H atom drops from the second excited state to the ground state, how much energy does it lose? **(b)** For He^+ atom, repeat the calculation.

$$\text{(Sol.) (a) } n: 3 \rightarrow 1, E_1 - E_3 = -13.6(1/1^2 - 1/3^2) = -12.08 \text{ eV}$$

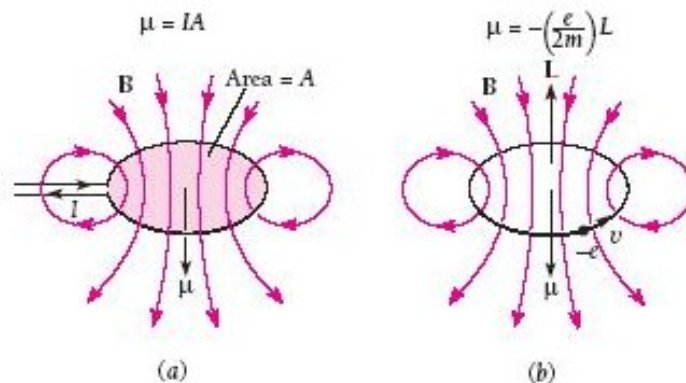
$$\text{(b) } -12.08 \times 2^2 = -48.355 \text{ eV}$$

4-3 Zeeman Effect

The torque τ on a magnetic dipole $\mu=IA=-eL/2m$ of an orbiting electron in B : $\tau=\mu\times B=\mu B\sin\theta$. Hence the potential energy is $U_m=\int\mu d\theta=-\mu B\cos\theta=eLB\cos\theta/2m$. And

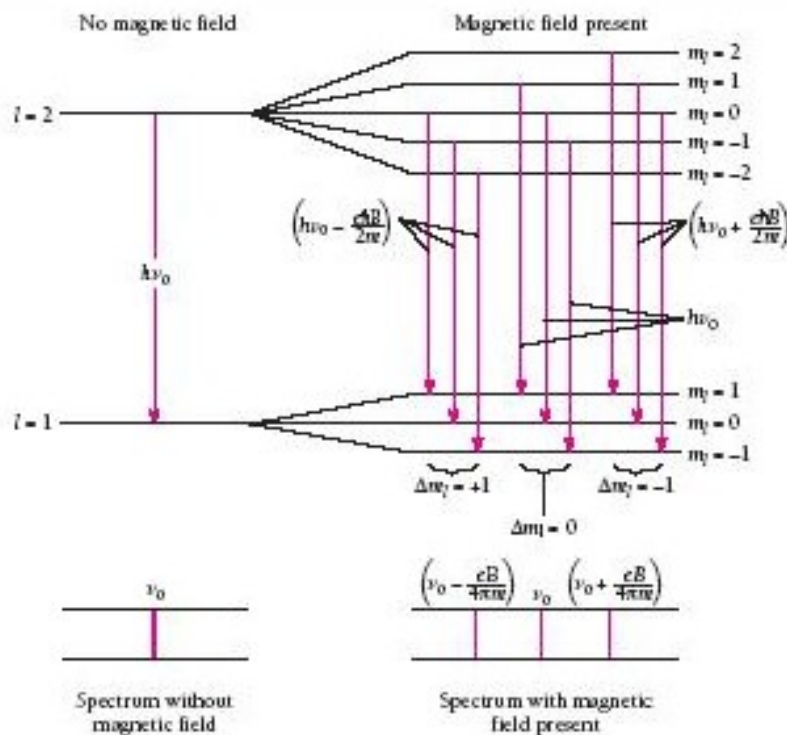
utilizing $\cos\theta=\frac{m_l}{\sqrt{l(l+1)}}$ and $L=\sqrt{l(l+1)}\hbar$, we have $U_m=m_l B(e\hbar/2m)$, where

$\mu_B=e\hbar/2m$ is called Bohr's magneton.



(a) Magnetic moment of a current loop enclosing area A . (b) Magnetic moment of an orbiting electron of angular momentum L .

Normal Zeeman effect: $\nu_1=\nu_0-\mu_B B/h=\nu_0-eB/4\pi m$, $\nu_2=\nu_0$, $\nu_3=\nu_0+\mu_B B/h=\nu_0+eB/4\pi m$.



In the normal Zeeman effect a spectral line of frequency ν_0 is split into three components when the radiating atoms are in a magnetic field of magnitude B . One component is ν_0 and the others are less than and greater than ν_0 by $eB/4\pi m$. There are only three components because of the selection rule $\Delta m_l = 0, \pm 1$.