

## E621: Stark effect in Hydrogen atom

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### The problem:

The electron in the Hydrogen atom is a particle of mass  $M$  and charge  $e$  with potential of  $V(r) = -\frac{r}{\alpha}$ .

Assume that we can neglect the probability to find

the particle in an energy level  $n=2$  so we have a five dimensional space for the particle's states, two spherical and three polaric orbitals so the basis for the representation is :  $|s1\rangle, |s2\rangle, |px\rangle, |py\rangle, |pz\rangle$  .

We also neglect spin orbit interaction so we can ignore the spin.

The atom is placed in constant electric field in the  $z$  direction ,

this causes the atom to polarize.

- (1) Write the Hamiltonian in the standard form using the dynamic variables:  $\mathcal{H}(p_r, L, r, \theta, \mathcal{E})$
- (2) Write the two matrices that represent the unperturbed Hamiltonian and the interaction with the electric field.
- (3) Find the expression for the ground state energy  $E_{gr}(\mathcal{E})$  in the second order of perturbation theory.
- (4) Find the expression for the first excited state energy  $E_{ex}(\mathcal{E})$  in the second order of perturbation theory.
- (5) Write the expression for the polarization  $\tilde{P} = e \langle z \rangle$  of the atom that was prepared in the ground state.
- (6) Write the expression for the polarization of the atom that was prepared in the excited state.

### Guidance:

(a) The solutions should be expressed with  $(M, a, e, c_1, c_2)$

(b)  $a = \frac{1}{\alpha M}$  the Bohr atom radius,  $c_1 = \frac{8\sqrt{2}}{9}, c_2 = 3\sqrt{3}$  constants that represent the solution of the radial integral.

(c) The radial functions  $\frac{1}{a^{3/2}} R^{\nu}$  are:  $R^{01} = 2e^{-x}$ ,  $R^{02} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{6}}(\frac{x}{2})e^{-\frac{x}{2}}$ ,  
 $R^{11} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}(1 - \frac{x}{2})e^{-\frac{x}{2}}$  .

(d) Solution will include  $c_1, c_2$  and other factors.

(e) Solution to clauses 5-6 may be derived without complicated calculations.

### The solution:

(1) In the  $|vlm\rangle$  basis the Hamiltonian is :

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{P_r^2}{2M} + \frac{L^2}{2mr^2} - \frac{\alpha}{r} - e\mathcal{E}r\cos\theta$$

when the last term stands for the perturbation caused by the electric field

in the z direction.

(2) The Eigenvalues for the unperturbed Hydrogen atom are:

$$E_{vlm} = \frac{1}{2Ma^2(l+v)^2}$$

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_0 + V$$

The unperturbed Hamiltonian:

$$\mathcal{H}_0 = -\frac{1}{2Ma^2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ & \frac{1}{4} & & & \\ & & \frac{1}{4} & & \\ & & & \frac{1}{4} & \\ & & & & \frac{1}{4} \end{pmatrix}$$

the interaction with the electric field:

$$V = -e\mathcal{E} \langle \nu' l' m' | \cos\theta | \nu l m \rangle = -e\mathcal{E} \int_0^\infty R^{\nu' l' *} r^3 R^{\nu l} dr \int_0^{4\pi} Y_{l' m'}^* Y_{l m} \cos\theta d\Omega$$

$$\cos\theta = \sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{3}} Y_{10}$$

$$V = -\sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{3}} e\mathcal{E} \int_0^\infty R^{\nu' l' *} r^3 R^{\nu l} dr \int_0^{4\pi} Y_{l' m'}^* Y_{l m} Y_{10} d\Omega$$

from parity considerations we see that the only case in which the expression is nonzero is when the function is odd, meaning  $l' \neq l$  and  $m' = m = 0$ .

$$-a \langle s1 | \mathcal{E} e \frac{r}{a} \cos\theta | pz \rangle = -\sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{3}} \mathcal{E} e a \int R^{01*} x^3 R^{11} dx \int_0^{4\pi} Y_{00}^* Y_{10} Y_{10} d\Omega = \frac{-\mathcal{E} e a}{\sqrt{3}} c_1$$

$$-a \langle s2 | \mathcal{E} e \frac{r}{a} \cos\theta | pz \rangle = \frac{-\mathcal{E} e a}{\sqrt{3}} c_2$$

$$V = -\frac{\mathcal{E} e a}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & c_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & c_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ c_1 & c_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

(3) The expression for the ground state energy with second order correction:

$$E_{gr}(\mathcal{E}) = E_{10} - \frac{|\langle s1 | V | pz \rangle|^2}{|E_{10} - E_{11}|} = -\frac{1}{2Ma^2} - \frac{8c_1^2 e^2 \mathcal{E}^2 Ma^4}{9}$$

(4) The expression for the lowest excited state energy will be obtained after using degenerate perturbation theory:

$$\begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{8Ma^2} & -\frac{\mathcal{E}ea}{\sqrt{3}}c_2 \\ -\frac{\mathcal{E}ea}{\sqrt{3}}c_2 & -\frac{1}{8Ma^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$E_{ex}(\mathcal{E}) = -\frac{1}{8Ma^2} - \frac{\mathcal{E}ea}{\sqrt{3}}c_2$$

(5) The polarization can be simply obtain from the concept of generalized forces:  $\mathcal{F} = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial X}$

$$\langle \widetilde{\mathcal{P}}_{gr} \rangle = -\frac{\partial E_{gr}}{\partial \mathcal{E}} = \frac{16c_1^2 e^2 \mathcal{E} Ma^4}{9}$$

(6) For the first excited state due to degenerate perturbation theory the energy has different dependence on the electric field:

$$\langle \widetilde{\mathcal{P}}_{ex} \rangle = -\frac{\partial E_{ex}}{\partial \mathcal{E}} = \frac{ea}{\sqrt{3}}c_2$$

Thus the polarization for this state will be constant.