

Bonus Homework 9

(due Friday, Nov. 8)

Because of Veteran's Day on Monday Nov. 11 and Exam 2 on Nov. 13, I am treating this homework as a bonus assignment. Your score on this will add to your overall homework grade. To get the bonus points you must hand it in on the due date: Friday, Nov. 8. No points will be given for late assignments. I will post the solution on Saturday, Nov. 9 so that you can study for the exam on the following Wednesday. Note: you can not get more than 100% on the homework part of your grade. Also, the references to the book below are for the previous edition of the textbook.

1. Hydrogen atom:

Solve for the radial wave functions of the hydrogen atom for $n = 2$. There are two possible l values for $n = 2$: $l = 0$ and $l = 1$.

- (a) The first step is to solve for the coefficients of the power series using the recursion relation

$$c_{j+1} = \frac{2(j+l+1-n)}{(j+1)(j+2l+2)}c_j \quad (1)$$

For $n = 2$ and $l = 1$ show that $c_1 = 0$. For $n = 2$ and $l = 0$ show that $c_2 = 0$. Note: I am using the book's notation, which is slightly different from mine. Please stick with their conventions, which are listed here, to avoid confusion.

- (b) Using the book's notation, the function $u(\rho)$ is then

$$u(\rho) = \rho^{l+1}e^{-\rho} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} c_j \rho^j. \quad (2)$$

Express u in terms of r instead of ρ using $\rho = r/(a_0 n)$, where $n = 2$ here.

- (c) Apply the normalization condition

$$\int_0^{\infty} (u(r))^2 dr = 1 \quad (3)$$

to determine the coefficient c_0 .

- (d) Finally compute $R(r) = u(r)/r$ and compare your results to those in Table 4.7 in the book.

2. 3D Particle in a box: (Problem 4.9 in book)

In three dimensions a particle in a finite box has the potential $V(r) = -V_0$ for $r < a$ and $V(r) = 0$ for $r > a$ with $V_0 > 0$. We are going to look for solutions to the radial Schrodinger equation for $-V_0 < E < 0$ and for $l = 0$. By using $l = 0$ we will readily be able to solve the radial equation for u .

Hint: For this problem if you define

$$k = \sqrt{\frac{2m((E + V_0))}{\hbar^2}} = \sqrt{\frac{2m((V_0 - |E|))}{\hbar^2}} \quad (4)$$

$$\kappa = \sqrt{\frac{2m|E|}{\hbar^2}}, \quad (5)$$

then the relation

$$k^2 + \kappa^2 = \frac{2mV_0}{\hbar^2} \quad (6)$$

will allow you to eliminate κ in part (d).

- (a) Write down the equation for $u(r)$ for $r < a$ with $l = 0$ and solve it. (See Eq. 4.37 in the book.) It is a second order differential equation so there will be two independent solutions. Given that $R(r) = u(r)/r$ which of the solutions is the physical one?
- (b) Write down the equation for $u(r)$ for $r > a$ with $l = 0$ and solve it. Again there will be two independent solutions, but only one of them will be physical (normalizable). Indicate which solution is physical.
- (c) As in one dimensional problems, match the solutions for $u(r)$ at $r = a$ by assuming that both u and its first derivative are continuous at $r = a$. Derive an equation to determine the bound state energies.
- (d) Show that there is no bound state if $V_0 a^2 < \pi^2 \hbar^2 / 8m$.
- (e) For a general V_0 how many bound states are there?