

Angular momentum and shapes of orbitals

January 22, 2014

Angular solutions determine shapes of orbitals

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left(\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right) - \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left(\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{\hat{L}^2}{2mr^2} - \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}\psi(r, \theta, \phi) = E\psi(r, \theta, \phi)$$

$$\psi(r, \theta, \phi) = R(r)Y(\theta, \phi)$$

Solutions of radial Schrödinger equation are $R(r)$.

Angular momentum is quantized

$$\hat{L}^2 = -\hbar^2 \left(\frac{1}{\sin \theta} \right) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) - \frac{\hbar^2}{\sin^2 \theta} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right)$$

Solutions are denoted $Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi)$ and eigenvalues are $l(l+1)\hbar^2$

$$\hat{L}^2 Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi) = l(l+1)\hbar^2 Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi)$$

Possible values for l are 0, 1, 2, \dots .

Separation of θ and ϕ is possible

$$Y(\theta, \phi) = P(\theta)Q(\phi)$$

$$\left[- \left(\frac{1}{\sin \theta} \right) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) - \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right) \right] PQ = l(l+1)PQ$$

$$-Q \left(\frac{1}{\sin \theta} \right) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) P - P \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right) Q = l(l+1)PQ$$

Multiply by $\frac{\sin^2 \theta}{PQ}$

$$-\frac{\sin \theta}{P} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) P(\theta) - l(l+1) \sin^2 \theta = \frac{1}{Q} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right) Q(\phi)$$

Separation constant $-m^2$

$Q(\phi)$ is $Ae^{im\phi}$

$$\frac{d^2 Q(\phi)}{d\phi^2} = -m^2 Q(\phi)$$

$$Q(\phi) = Ae^{im\phi}$$

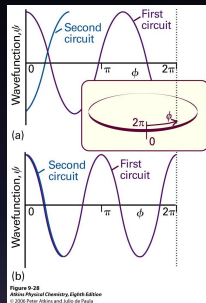
"Single-valuedness" of

$$Q \implies Q(\phi) = Q(\phi + 2\pi)$$

$$m = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

Normalization of Q gives A

$$A = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\int_0^{2\pi} d\phi}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$$



$P(\theta)$ are solutions of a well-known DE

$$(1 - x^2) \frac{d^2 P}{dx^2} - 2x \frac{dP}{dx} + \left(l(l+1) - \frac{m^2}{1-x^2} \right) P = 0$$

where

$$x = \cos \theta$$

Acceptable solutions when l is a positive integer and $|m| \leq l$. They are denoted $P_{l|m|}$. Normalization of $P_{l|m|}$ is given by

$$\int_0^\pi |P_{l|m|}|^2 \sin \theta d\theta = 1$$

$P(\theta)$ are polynomials in $\cos \theta$

$$P_{00} = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}$$

$$P_{10} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \cos \theta$$

$$P_{1\pm 1} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}} \sin \theta$$

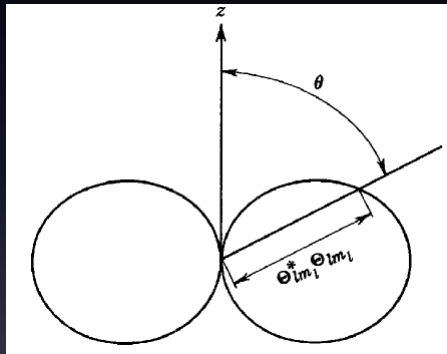
$$P_{20} = \sqrt{\frac{5}{8}} (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)$$

$$P_{2\pm 1} = \sqrt{\frac{15}{4}} \sin \theta \cos \theta$$

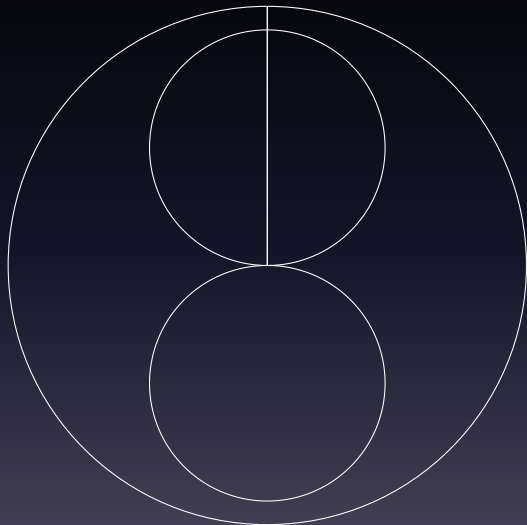
$$P_{2\pm 2} = \sqrt{\frac{15}{16}} \sin^2 \theta$$

Shapes of the atomic orbitals are determined by $P(\theta)$.

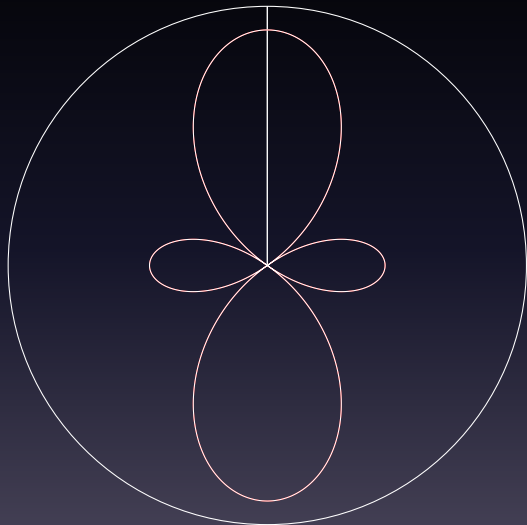
Polar plots of wavefunctions



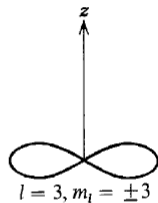
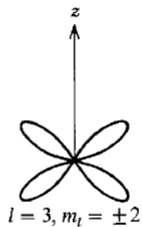
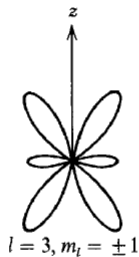
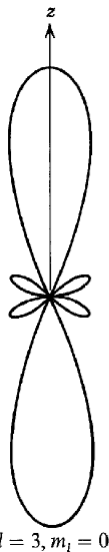
P_{10} is the p_z orbital



P_{20} is the d_{z^2} orbital



Polar plots of wavefunctions



Y_{lm} is a product of $P_{l|m|}$ and Q_m

Wavefunctions of the square of the angular momentum are

$$Y_{lm} = P_{l|m|}(\theta)Q_m(\phi)$$

For example,

$$Y_{2-1} = P_{2\pm 1}(\theta)Q_{-1}(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{15}{4}} \sin \theta \cos \theta \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \exp(-i\phi)$$

$$Y_{10} = P_{10}(\theta)Q_0(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \cos \theta \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

p_x orbital is a linear combination of Y_{11} and Y_{1-1}

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{Y_{11} + Y_{1-1}}{\sqrt{2}} &= \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}} \sin \theta \frac{(\exp(i\phi) + \exp(-i\phi))}{\sqrt{2}} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}} \sqrt{2} \sin \theta \cos \phi\end{aligned}$$

The angular part looks like $\sin \theta \cos \phi$ which is identical to $x = r \sin \theta \cos \phi$.

Orbitals oriented along any Cartesian axes ($p_y, d_{xy}, d_{x^2-y^2}, \dots$) formed by linearly combining appropriate Y_{lm} .

Y_{lm} are simultaneous eigenfunctions of \hat{L}^2 and \hat{L}_z

Y_{lm} are eigenfunctions of \hat{L}^2 with eigenvalue $l(l+1)\hbar^2$

$$\left[-\hbar^2 \left(\frac{1}{\sin \theta} \right) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) - \frac{\hbar^2}{\sin^2 \theta} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right) \right] Y_{2-1} = 2(3)\hbar^2 Y_{2-1}$$

Y_{lm} are also eigenfunctions of $\hat{L}_z = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}$ with eigenvalue $m\hbar$

$$-i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} Y_{2-1} = -1\hbar Y_{2-1}$$

Hydrogen atom wavefunctions are products of r , θ , and ϕ parts

$$\psi_{nlm}(r, \theta, \phi) = R_{nl}(r)Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi) = R_{nl}(r)P_{l|m|}(\theta)Q_m(\phi)$$

$$n = 1, 2, 3, \dots; l = 0, 1, \dots, (n - 1);$$

$$m = -l, -(l - 1), \dots, (l - 1), l$$

$$\psi_{100} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{1}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} \exp\left(-\frac{r}{a_0}\right)$$

$$\psi_{21-1} = \frac{1}{8\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{1}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{r}{a_0} \right) \exp\left(-\frac{r}{2a_0}\right) \sin\theta \exp(-i\phi)$$

$$\psi_{322} = \frac{1}{81\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{1}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{r}{a_0} \right)^2 \exp\left(-\frac{r}{3a_0}\right) \sin^2\theta \exp(i2\phi)$$

Energy of hydrogen atom independent of l and m .

Real hydrogen atom wavefunctions

$$\psi_{1s} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{1}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} \exp \left(-\frac{r}{a_0} \right)$$

$$\psi_{2p_z} = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{1}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{r}{a_0} \right) \exp \left(-\frac{r}{2a_0} \right) \cos \theta$$

$$\psi_{2p_x} = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{1}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{r}{a_0} \right) \exp \left(-\frac{r}{2a_0} \right) \sin \theta \cos \phi$$

$$\psi_{3d_{x^2-y^2}} = \frac{1}{81\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{1}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{r}{a_0} \right)^2 \exp \left(-\frac{r}{3a_0} \right) \sin^2 \theta \cos 2\phi$$

$$\psi_{3d_{xy}} = \frac{1}{81\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{1}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{r}{a_0} \right)^2 \exp \left(-\frac{r}{3a_0} \right) \sin^2 \theta \sin 2\phi$$