

Eigenfunctions of Schrodinger eqn in
an ∞ 3D spherical well

$$V(r) = \begin{cases} 0 & r < a \\ \infty & r \geq a \end{cases}$$

We used separation of variables to get ordinary differential eqns for $R(r) \Theta(\theta) \Phi(\phi)$

$$\Phi: \quad \frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{d^2 \Phi}{d\phi^2} = -m^2 \quad \Phi(\phi) = e^{im\phi} \quad \phi \text{ integer for single-valuedness}$$

$$\Theta: \quad \sin \theta \frac{d}{d\theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} \right) + \left[\ell(\ell+1) \sin^2 \theta - m^2 \right] \Theta = 0$$

$$\Theta(\theta) = P_\ell^m(\cos \theta)$$

Together
 $A P_\ell^m(\theta) e^{im\phi}$
 $= Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi)$

$$P_\ell^m(x) = (1-x^2)^{|m|/2} \left(\frac{d}{dx} \right)^{|m|} P_\ell(x) \quad \text{Associated Legendre Functions}$$

$$P_\ell(x) = \frac{1}{2^\ell \ell!} \left(\frac{d}{dx} \right)^\ell (x^2-1)^\ell \quad \text{Legendre polynomials}$$

$$R: \quad \frac{d}{dr} \left(r^2 \frac{dR}{dr} \right) - \frac{2mr^2}{\hbar^2} [V(r) - E] R = \ell(\ell+1) R$$

Note: If we put $\ell(\ell+1)$ on lhs we get an extra term in $V(r)$ of $\frac{\hbar^2 \ell(\ell+1)}{2mr^2}$.

$\ell = \frac{|\vec{L}|}{\hbar}$ length of AM vector

This looks rather like our classical $V_{\text{eff}}(r) = V(r) + \frac{\ell^2}{2mr^2}$

which suggests $\hbar^2 \ell(\ell+1)$ might be angular momentum.

We have not dealt at all with $R(r)$.

The first step simplifies the radial eqn a bit by defining

$u(r) = rR(r)$ whence

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2 u}{dr^2} + \left[V + \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} \right] u = Eu$$

Again the extra piece in "Veff" is evident.

For spherical well $V=0$ for $r < a$

$$\frac{d^2 u}{dr^2} = \left[\frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} - k^2 \right] u \quad \text{with} \quad \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} \equiv E$$

The $l=0$ case is simple: $u = A \sin kr + B \cos kr$

Note this means $R = \frac{u}{r} = \frac{A \sin kr + B \cos kr}{r}$

If R well defined at $r=0$ require $B=0$

$$R = (A \sin kr)/r \quad \text{But } ka = n\pi \text{ since } R(r=a) = 0$$

$$R = \frac{A}{r} \sin \frac{n\pi r}{a} \quad E = \frac{\hbar^2 \pi^2 n^2}{2m a^2} \quad \leftarrow \text{same as 1d!}$$

\uparrow
 $l=0$

$$Y_{00}(\theta, \phi) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}}$$

$$\int_0^\infty |u|^2 dr = \int_0^\infty R^2 r^2 dr = 1 \quad \leftarrow \text{Convention: } R(r) \text{ and } Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi) \text{ separately normalized to unity}$$

\uparrow
 $u = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \sin kr$

$$\Psi_{n00}(r, \theta, \phi) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \frac{1}{r} \sin \frac{n\pi r}{a} \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}}$$

$l \neq 0$ The eqn is that of "spherical Bessel functions"

$$u(r) = A r j_l(kr) + B r n_l(kr)$$

↑

Bessel

↑

Neumann

Can think of these as sort of like sines and cosines in sense of oscillating + and -, but distance between zeroes is not uniform (π in case of sine and cosine) and also amplitude decreases.

pictures on p 143

$$j_l(x) = (-x)^l \left(\frac{1}{x} \frac{d}{dx} \right)^l \frac{\sin x}{x} = 2^l x^l \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^s (s+l)!}{s! (2s+2l+1)!} x^{2s}$$

$$n_l(x) = -(-x)^l \left(\frac{1}{x} \frac{d}{dx} \right)^l \frac{\cos x}{x} = \frac{(-1)^{l+1}}{2^l x^{l+1}} \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^s (s-l)! x^{2s}}{s! (2s-2l+1)!}$$

as before when we set $l=0$

Examples $j_0(x) = \frac{\sin x}{x}$ $n_0(x) = \frac{\cos x}{x}$

$$j_1(x) = -x \frac{1}{x} \frac{d}{dx} \frac{\sin x}{x} = - \left[\frac{\cos x}{x} - \frac{\sin x}{x^2} \right] = \frac{\sin x - x \cos x}{x^2}$$

$$n_1(x) = -(-x) \frac{1}{x} \frac{d}{dx} \frac{\cos x}{x} = - \left[\frac{-\sin x}{x} - \frac{\cos x}{x^2} \right] = \frac{\cos x + x \sin x}{x^2}$$

Notice as $x \rightarrow 0$ $j_0(x) \rightarrow 1$

$$j_1(x) \approx \frac{x - x^3/6 - x(1 - x^2/2)}{x^2} = \frac{x}{3}$$

But as $x \rightarrow 0$ $n_0(x) \rightarrow 1/x$

$$n_1(x) \rightarrow 1/x^2$$

So j_l finite @ $x=0$ and n_l blow up @ $x=0$.

3DSW-4

For the 3D spherical well, the conversions $R \rightarrow u$ and $u \rightarrow R$ undo each other

$$R(r) = u(r)/r \quad u(r) = Ar f_l(kr)$$

so that $R(r) = A f_l(kr)$, so the definition $R \equiv u/r$ seems unnecessary. In general, however, it is useful.

We already considered the case $l=0$ and saw $R = \frac{\sin kr}{kr}$ gave correct soln of radial eqn.

Let's also do $l=1$ just for fun... Griffiths problem 4-8

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2}{dr^2} u(r) &\Rightarrow \frac{d^2}{dr^2} r f_l(kr) = \frac{d^2}{dr^2} \left(\frac{\sin kr - kr \cos kr}{k^2 r} \right) \\ &= \frac{d}{dr} \left(\frac{k \cos kr - k \cos kr + k^2 r \sin kr + k^2 r \sin kr}{k^2 r} - \frac{\sin kr - kr \cos kr}{k^2 r^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{d}{dr} \left(\frac{k^2 r^2 \sin kr - \sin kr + k \cos kr}{k^2 r^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{2k^2 r \sin kr + k^3 r^2 \cos kr - k \cos kr + k \cos kr - k^2 r \sin kr}{k^2 r^2} \quad \leftarrow \text{term (A)} \\ &= 2 \frac{1}{k^2 r^3} (k^2 r^2 \sin kr - \sin kr + k \cos kr) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{1}{k^2 r^3} \left\{ \begin{aligned} &2k^2 r^2 \sin kr + k^3 r^3 \cos kr - \\ &- 2k^2 r^2 \sin kr \quad \quad \quad + 2 \sin kr - 2k \cos kr \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{k^2 r^3} \left[\left\{ -k^2 r^2 + 2 \right\} \sin kr + \left\{ k^3 r^2 - 2 \right\} k \cos kr \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{k^2 r^3} (2 - k^2 r^2) (\sin kr - k \cos kr) = \left(\frac{2}{r^2} - k^2 \right) \frac{\sin kr - k \cos kr}{k^2 r}$$

\uparrow $(l(l+1)/r^2 - k^2)$ $\quad \quad \quad \uparrow$ $u_l(r)$ $\quad \checkmark$

Require also $R(r=a) = 0$ since $V \rightarrow \infty$ there.

In $l=0$ case since $R = j_0(kr) = \frac{\sin kr}{kr}$

We needed $\sin ka = 0$ or $k_n = n\pi/a$.

In $l \neq 0$ case, one needs $j_l(ka) = 0$. If we denote by β_{nl} the values where $j_l(\beta_{nl}) = 0$ then k is discretized to $k_{nl} = \beta_{nl}/a$ and the energy levels are

$$E_{nl} = \frac{\hbar^2}{2ma^2} \beta_{nl}^2 \quad \leftarrow \text{indep of } m \text{ but not } l$$

$$\Psi_{nlm}(r, \theta, \phi) = A_{nl} j_l(\beta_{nl} r/a) Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi)$$

Numerical HW problem ??

Code up Newton's method to find roots.

Then use it for roots of j_l , first spherical Bessel functions
 Try out before assigning

Vibrating string
 Vibrating drumhead, ...