

Atoms / I.

Helium atom

(43)

The exclusion principle

Atoms with multiple electrons

$$E_p = \sum_{\forall \text{ Electron}} - \frac{Ze^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_i} + \sum_{\forall \text{ pair of electrons}} \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{ij}}$$

The electrons are not independent \rightarrow interact

Approximate solutions only

The helium atom

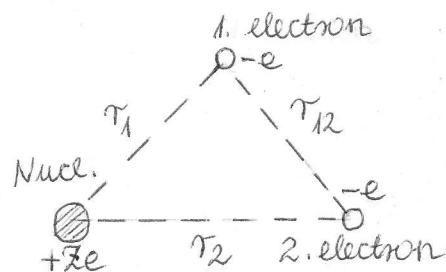
He, $Z=2$

H⁺, $Z=1$

Li⁺, $Z=3$

$$E_p = -\frac{Ze^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_1} - \frac{Ze^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_2} + \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

1. approximation: 3. term (electron-electron interaction) independent particle model



H-like wavefct. $\psi_{n,l,m}$ for both electrons

Energy of the groundstate: $E_{He} = -2 \frac{RhcZ^2}{1^2} = -109 \text{ eV}$

Experimentally $E_{He} = -79 \text{ eV}$

Because e-e interaction was neglected (repulsion: + energy)

2. approximation: interaction considered as perturbation

the electron moves in the field of the nucleus and the average (central) field of the 2. electron

\sim 2. electron shields the charge of nucleus

$$E_{He} = -2 \frac{Rhc(Z-S)^2}{1^2}$$

\downarrow
-79 eV $\rightarrow S = 0,32$ shielding factor

- The possible electron states

1. Independent particle model

$$\{n, l, m_l, m_s\} \rightarrow a \quad \{n', l', m_l', m_s'\} \rightarrow b$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 1. \text{ electron in state } a \\ 2. \text{ electron in state } b \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \psi_{\text{atom}} = \psi_a(1) \psi_b(2)$$

$$|\psi_{\text{atom}}|^2 = |\psi_a(1)|^2 \cdot |\psi_b(2)|^2$$

2. Shielding potential perturbation

Assumed to be central $\rightarrow \frac{1}{r}$ changes some \rightarrow

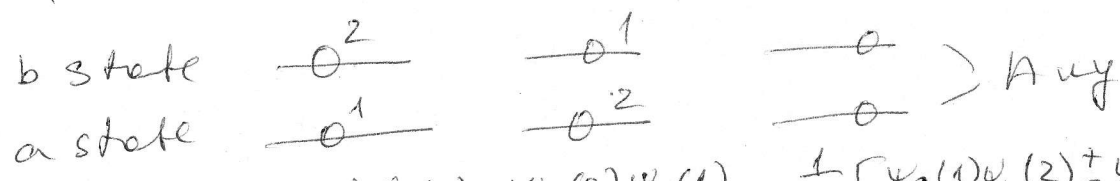
$\rightarrow R_{nl}(r)$ changes but ψ_{nlm} is the same

But the electrons are indistinguishable!

States $\psi_a(1) \psi_b(2)$ and $\psi_a(2) \psi_b(1)$ must have the same energy

$\rightarrow \psi_{\text{atom}}$ must reflect this symmetry, i.e.

$(\psi_{\text{atom}})^2$ must not change when exchanging electron 1 \leftrightarrow 2



$$\psi = \psi_a(1) \psi_b(2) \quad \psi_a(2) \psi_b(1) \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [\psi_a(1) \psi_b(2) \pm \psi_a(2) \psi_b(1)]$$

The symmetry requirement is fulfilled by the states

$$\psi_{\text{atom}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [\psi_a(1) \psi_b(2) \pm \psi_a(2) \psi_b(1)]$$

Symmetric $\psi_S = [+]$ $\psi_S(1,2) = \psi_S(2,1)$

Antisymmetric $\psi_A = [-]$ $\psi_A(1,2) = -\psi_A(2,1)$

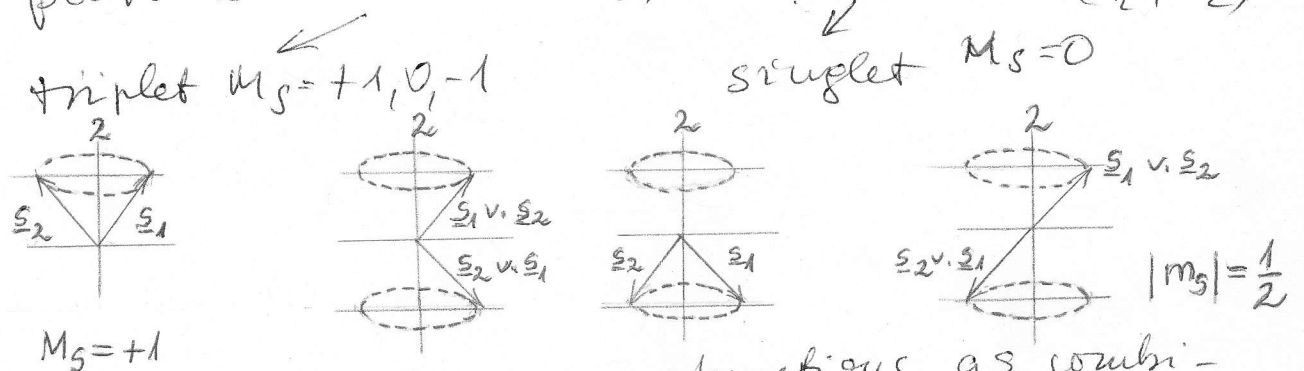
The energies of the symmetric and antisymmetric states are different.

Reason: ψ_A assume the two electrons close in space their wavefunction would be very similar $\rightarrow \psi_A = 0 \Rightarrow$ Therefore in ψ_A the electrons are further away \rightarrow less interaction between them. Unlike for ψ_S where there is no such effect.

\leadsto Sets of 2 stationary states and energy level systems (except when $a=b \leadsto \psi_A=0$, only $\psi_S \exists$)

Spin, was not included in "a" and "b"

There may be two $s=\frac{1}{2}$ spin electrons parallel $S=1$ ($\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$) or antiparallel $S=0$ ($\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}$)



The two electron spin wavefunctions as combinations of the one electron spin wavefns. χ_+ and χ_-

Singlet antisymmetric $\chi_A = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [\chi_+(1)\chi_-(2) - \chi_+(2)\chi_-(1)]$ $M_S = 0$

Triplet symmetric $\chi_S = \begin{cases} \chi_+(1)\chi_+(2) & +1 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [\chi_+(1)\chi_-(2) + \chi_+(2)\chi_-(1)] & 0 \\ \chi_-(1)\chi_-(2) & -1 \end{cases}$

The total electron wavefunction of the atom = (46)
 (orbital wavefunction) \times (spin wavefunction)

By spectral measurements. (ψ_s and ψ_A have different energies)

ψ_s (orbital) always singlet $\rightarrow \chi_A$ is attached

ψ_A (orbital) always triplet $\rightarrow \chi_S$ — " —

Therefore:

The total wavefunction of the system of electrons
is always antisymmetric

He: $S=0$ parahelium / with singlet states /

$S=1$ orthohelium / with triplet states /

Probability of transitions between triplet and singlet states is small \rightarrow would require spin rearrangement /

He: mixture of two gases with ratio 1:3

The energies

$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_1 + \hat{H}_2 + \hat{H}_{12}$$

$$\hat{H}_1 = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla_1^2 - \frac{2e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_1}$$

$$\hat{H}_2 = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla_2^2 - \frac{2e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_2}$$

$$\hat{H}_{12} = -\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{12}}$$

$i = 1, 2$

$$\hat{H}_i \psi_a(i) = E_a \psi_a(i)$$

$$\hat{H}_i \psi_b(i) = E_b \psi_b(i)$$

$$(\hat{H}_1 + \hat{H}_2) \psi = (E_a + E_b) \psi$$

where $\psi = \psi_A$ or ψ_S

Using the above:

The energy

$$E = \int \Psi^* \hat{H} \Psi d\tau = E_a + E_b + \underbrace{\int \Psi^* \hat{H}_{12} \Psi d\tau}_{\text{this must be calculated}}$$

$$\int \Psi^* \hat{H}_{12} \Psi d\tau = C' \pm K + \text{symmetric orbital} - \text{antisymmetric wavefct.}$$

$$C' = \iint_{12} \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{12}} |\Psi_a(1)|^2 d\tau_1 |\Psi_b(2)|^2 d\tau_2 \quad \text{Coulomb integral}$$

$$K = \iint_{12} \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{12}} \Psi_a^*(1) \Psi_b(1) d\tau_1 \Psi_b^*(2) \Psi_a(2) d\tau_2 \quad \text{interaction integral}$$

$C \rightarrow$ interaction between $\rho_1 = -e|\Psi_a(1)|^2$ and $\rho_2 = -e|\Psi_b(2)|^2$

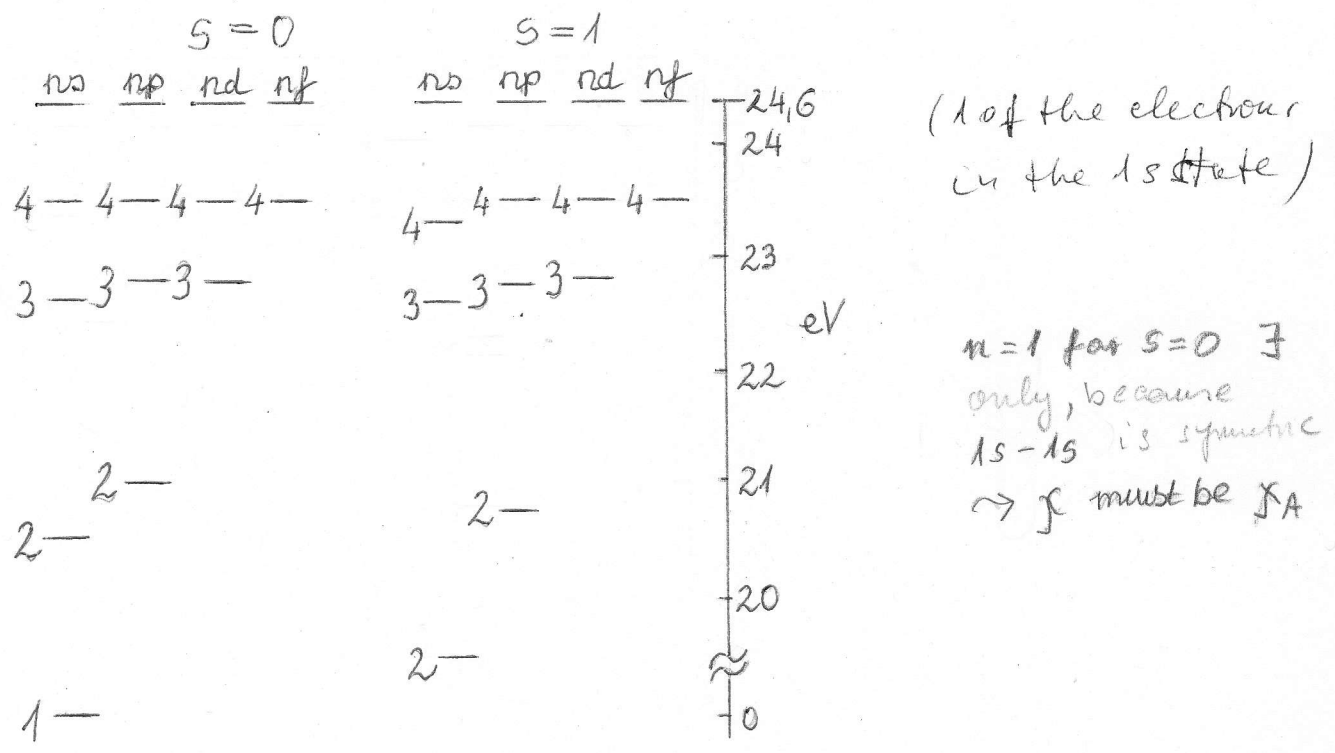
$K > 0$

$K \rightarrow$ $\rho_1' = -e\Psi_a^*(1)\Psi_b(1)$ and $\rho_2' = -e\Psi_b^*(2)\Psi_a(2)$

$$E = E_a + E_b + C' \pm K \quad \text{charge distributions}$$

\rightarrow For Ψ_S / singlet / $+K$ higher } \rightarrow
 Ψ_A / triplet / $-K$ lower }

$2K$ energy difference between the energy levels of para- and ortho-helium.



The exclusion principle

Atom with multiple electrons

Each electron characterized by quantum numbers n, l, m_l, m_s

Energy depends on n, l (ignoring spin-orbit interaction)

With given n, l : a certain number of "equivalent" electrons: these differ only in m_l and m_s

Pauli principle: In an atom all the quantum numbers of 2 electrons can not be identical
This is equivalent with the complete wavefunction of the system being antisymmetric

$$\begin{vmatrix} \psi_a(1) & \psi_a(2) \\ \psi_b(1) & \psi_b(2) \end{vmatrix} = \psi_a(1)\psi_b(2) - \psi_a(2)\psi_b(1) \text{ determinant for 2 electrons}$$

An atom with N electron

$$a = \{n, l, m_l, m_s\} \quad b = \{n', l', m_l', m_s'\} \quad c = \dots$$

The wavefunction of the N electron system is

$$\psi_{abc\dots} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N!}} \begin{vmatrix} \psi_a(1) & \psi_a(2) & \psi_a(3) \dots \\ \psi_b(1) & \psi_b(2) & \psi_b(3) \dots \\ \psi_c(1) & \psi_c(2) & \psi_c(3) \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{vmatrix}$$

$\psi_{abc\dots}$ is antisymmetric since exchange of 2 electrons \equiv exchange of 2 columns in the determinant \rightarrow it changes sign

2 electrons with identical sets of quantum numbers e.g. $a=b \rightarrow$ 2 rows identical \rightarrow determinant = 0

Conclusion: properties of multi-electron systems: atoms, molecules, solids

Principle of antisymmetry: electrons, protons, neutrons etc. \Rightarrow fermions