

1. INTRODUCTION TO QUANTUM MECHANICS
2. ANGULAR MOMENTUM
3. THE HYDROGEN ATOM
4. MATRIX REPRESENTATION OF QUANTUM MECHANICS
5. ELECTRONIC STRUCTURE OF ATOMS
6. APPROXIMATION METHODS

- 6.1 Time-independent Perturbation Theory

- 6.1.1 For Non-degenerate Levels

- 6.1.2 Wavefunction Correct to First Order,  
Energy Correct to Second Order

- 6.1.3 He Atom Example

- 6.1.4 For Degenerate Levels

- 6.1.5 A d Electron in a Crystal Field

- 6.2 Variational Method

# METHODS OF APPROXIMATION

Why use approximation methods?

- Can't solve Schrödinger equation exactly, too difficult, too many variables
- Actually can get more physical insight into the problem by approximation methods
- Can systematically increase the accuracy by going to higher and higher order.

## SIMPLE MODEL SYSTEM:

Only 2 energy levels

| <u>Hamiltonian</u> | <u>Eigenfunctions</u>                    | <u>Eigenvalues</u>              |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| $H$<br>$H^{(0)}$   | $\Psi$ unknown<br>$\phi_1, \phi_2$ known | $E$ unknown<br>$E_1, E_2$ known |

Need to solve  $H\Psi = E\Psi$ . How? Use matrix form of this equation: Find the matrix representation of  $H$  in the complete orthonormal set  $\{\phi_1, \phi_2\}$

$$H = \begin{vmatrix} H_{11} & H_{12} \\ H_{21} & H_{22} \end{vmatrix} \quad \Psi = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$H\Psi = E\Psi$  in matrix form is:

$$H_{11}c_1 + H_{12}c_2 = Ec_1$$

$$H_{21}c_1 + H_{22}c_2 = Ec_2$$

$$\det \begin{vmatrix} H_{11} - E & H_{12} \\ H_{21} & H_{22} - E \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$(H_{11}-E)(H_{22}-E) - H_{21}H_{12} = 0$$

$$E_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2}(H_{11}+H_{22}) \pm \frac{1}{2} \left\{ (H_{11}-H_{22})^2 + 4H_{12}H_{21} \right\}^{1/2}$$

Suppose  $H$  is only slightly different from  $H^{(0)}$

$$H = H^{(0)} + h \quad \text{a small "perturbation"}$$

Then:  $\det \begin{vmatrix} (E_1+h_{11}-E) & h_{12} \\ h_{21} & (E_2+h_{22}-E) \end{vmatrix} = 0$  gives the roots

$$E_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2}(E_1+h_{11}+E_2+h_{22}) \pm \frac{1}{2} \left\{ (E_1+h_{11}-E_2-h_{22})^2 + 4h_{12}h_{21} \right\}^{1/2}$$

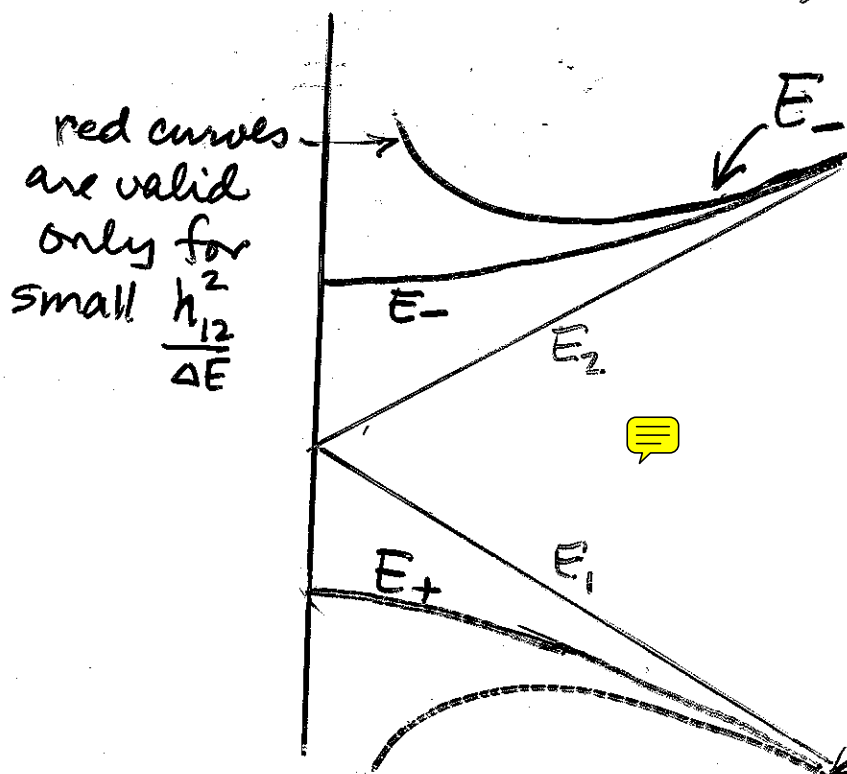
For the SPECIAL CASE where  $h_{11}=h_{22}=0$ , then

$$E_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2}(E_1+E_2) \pm \frac{1}{2} \left\{ (E_1-E_2)^2 + 4h_{12}^2 \right\}^{1/2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(E_1+E_2) \pm \frac{1}{2} \left\{ 1 + \frac{4h_{12}^2}{(E_1-E_2)^2} \right\}^{1/2} (E_1-E_2)$$

Expand the square root:  $\sqrt{1+x} \approx 1 + \frac{1}{2}x + \dots$

$$E_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2}(E_1+E_2) \pm \frac{1}{2}(E_1-E_2) \left\{ 1 + 2 \left( \frac{h_{12}}{E_1-E_2} \right)^2 \right\}$$



The change in energy in going from  $H^{(0)}$  to  $H = H^{(0)} + h$  depends on the integral of  $h$  between  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  and on the energy difference  $\Delta E = E_1 - E_2$

$$E_{\pm} \approx E_1 \pm \frac{h_{12}^2}{(E_1-E_2)}$$

What about the functions? Find  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  by substituting  $E_+$  into

$$E_1 c_1 + h_{12} c_2 = E_+ c_1$$

and using  $c_1^2 + c_2^2 = 1$  (normalization)

$$\cos^2 \beta + \sin^2 \beta = 1$$

$$\Psi_+ = \phi_1 \cos \beta + \phi_2 \sin \beta$$

$$\Psi_- = -\phi_1 \sin \beta + \phi_2 \cos \beta$$

use of sin and cos  
GUARANTEES that  $\Psi_{\pm}$   
are NORMALIZED and  
ORTHOGONAL

where  $\tan \beta = \frac{-h_{12}}{\Delta E}$

Two cases: ① When  $\frac{h_{12}^2}{\Delta E} \ll 1$  then  $\sin \beta \approx \tan \beta = \frac{-h_{12}}{\Delta E}$   
 $\cos \beta \approx 1$

In which case

$$\Psi_+ \approx \phi_1 - \frac{h_{12}}{\Delta E} \phi_2$$

$$\Psi_- \approx \frac{h_{12}}{\Delta E} \phi_1 + \phi_2$$

each state is like one  
state of  $H^{(0)}$  slightly  
contaminated with the  
other state.

② When  $E_1 = E_2$  then  $\det \begin{vmatrix} E_1 - E & h_{12} \\ h_{12} & E_1 - E \end{vmatrix} = 0$

$E = E_1 \pm h_{12}$  which when  
substituted back into the  
equation lead to

$$E = E_1 + h_{12} \Rightarrow -h_{12} c_1 + h_{12} c_2 = 0$$

$$\Psi_+ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\phi_1 + \phi_2)$$

$$\leftarrow c_1 = c_2$$

$$\text{or for } E = E_1 - h_{12} \Rightarrow h_{12} c_1 + h_{12} c_2 = 0$$

$$\Psi_- = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\phi_1 - \phi_2)$$

$$\leftarrow c_1 = -c_2$$

END OF SIMPLE MODEL SYSTEM (2-LEVEL SYSTEM)

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Now let us generalize to more levels:

## A. NON-DEGENERATE TIME-INDEPENDENT PERTURBATION THEORY

Given:  $H = \underbrace{H^{(0)}}_{\text{large part}} + \underbrace{\lambda h}_{\text{a small part}}$   
 $\lambda$  keeps track of orders of magnitude of smallness

To solve:  $H\Psi = E\Psi$   $E$  unknown,  $\Psi$  unknown

Let us use  $H^{(0)}\phi_i = E_i\phi_i$   $E_i$  all known,  $\phi_i$  all known

One way is to set up the MATRIX  $[H]$  for operator  $H$  in the complete orthonormal set  $\{\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3, \dots\}$  and diagonalize it and find the eigenvalues  $E_i$  and eigenvectors  $\begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$  which provide  $\Psi_i = c_1\phi_1 + c_2\phi_2 + c_3\phi_3 + \dots$

- Use perturbation theory as an ALTERNATE way:  
Express both the unknown  $E$  and the unknown  $\Psi$  in a power series expansion:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} E &= E^{(0)} + \lambda E^{(1)} + \lambda^2 E^{(2)} + \dots \\ \Psi &= \Psi^{(0)} + \lambda \Psi^{(1)} + \lambda^2 \Psi^{(2)} + \dots \end{aligned} \right\} \text{for each answer}$$

Substitute these into  $H\Psi_i = E_i\Psi_i$   
and collect terms in powers of  $\lambda$

$$\lambda^0 \text{ terms: } H^{(0)}\phi_i = E_i\phi_i$$

$$\lambda^1 \text{ terms: } \{H^{(0)} - E_i\}\Psi_i^{(1)} = \{E_i^{(1)} - h\}\phi_i$$

$$\lambda^2 \text{ terms: } \text{etc} \dots$$

From the  $\lambda^1$  equation we get by  $\int \phi_i^* d\tau$  on both sides:

$$0 = \int \phi_i^* (E_i^{(1)} - h) \phi_i d\tau$$

$$\text{or } E_i^{(1)} = \int \phi_i^* h \phi_i d\tau$$

$$\left[ \text{or } \Delta E_i^{(1)} = \int \phi_i^* \Delta h \phi_i d\tau \right]$$

so you see we can just leave off the  $\lambda$

$$\text{Let } \Psi = \Psi^{(0)} + \lambda \Psi^{(1)} + \lambda^2 \Psi^{(2)} + \dots$$

$$E = E^{(0)} + \lambda E^{(1)} + \lambda^2 E^{(2)} + \dots$$

Substitute these expansions into  $\mathcal{H}\Psi = E\Psi$

$$\{\mathcal{H}^{(0)} + \lambda h\}\{\Psi^{(0)} + \lambda \Psi^{(1)} + \lambda^2 \Psi^{(2)} + \dots\} =$$

$$\{E^{(0)} + \lambda E^{(1)} + \lambda^2 E^{(2)} + \dots\}\{\Psi^{(0)} + \lambda \Psi^{(1)} + \lambda^2 \Psi^{(2)} + \dots\}$$

collecting all the terms in  $\lambda^0$  we get

$$\mathcal{H}^{(0)} \Psi^{(0)} = E^{(0)} \Psi^{(0)}$$

collecting all the terms in  $\lambda^1$  we get

$$\mathcal{H}^{(0)} \Psi^{(1)} + h \Psi^{(0)} = E^{(0)} \Psi^{(1)} + E^{(1)} \Psi^{(0)}$$

collecting all the terms in  $\lambda^2$  we get

$$\mathcal{H}^{(0)} \Psi^{(2)} + h \Psi^{(1)} = E^{(0)} \Psi^{(2)} + E^{(1)} \Psi^{(1)} + E^{(2)} \Psi^{(0)}$$

and so on.

Let us now examine  $\mathcal{H}^{(0)} \Psi^{(0)} = E^{(0)} \Psi^{(0)}$

This states that  $\Psi^{(0)}$  are the eigenfunctions of  $\mathcal{H}^{(0)}$  with eigenvalues  $E^{(0)}$ .

If  $\mathcal{H}^{(0)}$  is a ***non-degenerate*** system,

then there is only one  $\Psi_i^{(0)}$  for each  $E_i^{(0)}$ .

Since we already know that  $\mathcal{H}^{(0)} \phi_i = \varepsilon_i \phi_i$

Thus,

$$\lim_{\lambda h \rightarrow 0} \{\Psi_i^{(0)} = \phi_i ; E_i^{(0)} = \varepsilon_i\}$$

Let us now examine

$$\mathcal{H}^{(0)} \Psi^{(1)} + \hbar \Psi^{(0)} = E^{(0)} \Psi^{(1)} + E^{(1)} \Psi^{(0)}$$

make use of what we have found about  $\Psi^{(0)}$ ,

$$\mathcal{H}^{(0)} \Psi_i^{(1)} + \hbar \phi_i = \epsilon_i \Psi_i^{(1)} + E_i^{(1)} \phi_i$$

rearrange to

$$(\mathcal{H}^{(0)} - \epsilon_i) \Psi_i^{(1)} = (E_i^{(1)} - \hbar) \phi_i$$

Here, unknowns are  $E_i^{(1)}$  and  $\Psi_i^{(1)}$ .

Let us solve for  $E_i^{(1)}$

Operating with  $\int \phi_i^* d\tau$  on both sides,

$$\int \phi_i^* (\mathcal{H}^{(0)} - \epsilon_i) \Psi_i^{(1)} d\tau = \int \phi_i^* (E_i^{(1)} - \hbar) \phi_i d\tau$$

using Hermitian property of  $\mathcal{H}^{(0)}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS: } \int (\mathcal{H}^{(0)} - \epsilon_i)^* \phi_i^* \Psi_i^{(1)} d\tau &= (\epsilon_i - \epsilon_i) \bullet \int \phi_i^* \Psi_i^{(1)} d\tau \\ &= 0 \quad \text{don't need } \Psi_i^{(1)}! \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{RHS: } E_i^{(1)} - \int \phi_i^* \hbar \phi_i d\tau$$

$$\text{Thus, } E_i^{(1)} = \int \phi_i^* \hbar \phi_i d\tau, \text{ call it } h_{ii}$$

Note that if we had been carrying around the  $\lambda$  we have  $\lambda E_i^{(1)} = \int \phi_i^* \lambda \hbar \phi_i d\tau$ ;

It is not necessary to include  $\lambda$  explicitly except as a means of keeping track of orders of magnitude.

What about the function?

Let us expand the unknown function  $\Psi_i^{(1)}$  in terms of the complete orthonormal set:

$$\Psi_i^{(1)} = c_1 \phi_1 + c_2 \phi_2 + c_3 \phi_3 + \dots$$

Putting this back into the  $\lambda'$  equation,

$$\{H^{(1)} - E_i\}(c_1 \phi_1 + c_2 \phi_2 + c_3 \phi_3 + \dots) = \{E_i^{(1)} - h\} \phi_i$$

Now operate on both sides by  $\int \phi_n^* d\tau$ :

$$(E_n - E_i) c_n = - \int \phi_n^* h \phi_i d\tau$$

$$\text{or } c_n = \frac{-h_{ni}}{E_n - E_i} \quad \text{for } n \neq i$$

Therefore,

$$\Psi_i^{(1)} = - \left[ \frac{h_{1i}}{E_1 - E_i} \phi_1 + \frac{h_{2i}}{E_2 - E_i} \phi_2 + \frac{h_{3i}}{E_3 - E_i} \phi_3 + \dots \right]$$

Furthermore, we can use this to calculate  $E_i^{(2)}$ , the second order correction, giving

$$E_i^{(2)} = - \left[ \frac{|h_{1i}|^2}{E_1 - E_i} + \frac{|h_{2i}|^2}{E_2 - E_i} + \frac{|h_{3i}|^2}{E_3 - E_i} + \dots \right]$$

## SUMMARY:

Energy correct to 2<sup>nd</sup> order:

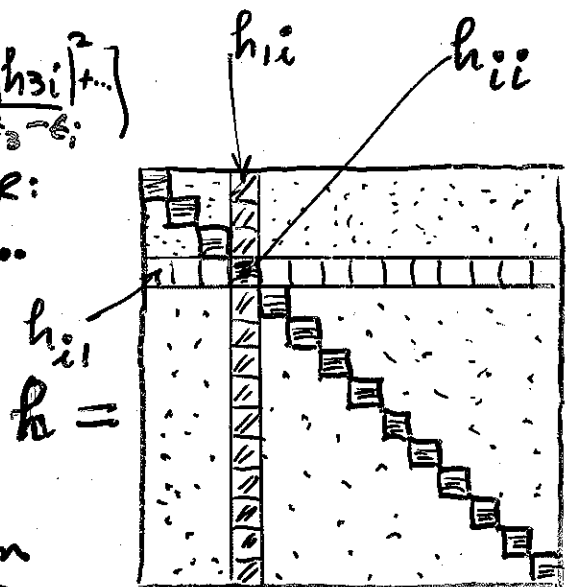
$$E_i = E_i + h_{ii} - \left[ \frac{|h_{1i}|^2}{E_1 - E_i} + \frac{|h_{2i}|^2}{E_2 - E_i} + \frac{|h_{3i}|^2}{E_3 - E_i} + \dots \right]$$

Wavefunction correct to 1<sup>st</sup> order:

$$\Psi_i = \phi_i - \frac{h_{1i}}{E_1 - E_i} \phi_1 - \frac{h_{2i}}{E_2 - E_i} \phi_2 - \dots$$

MATRIX  $H$  is MOSTLY ZEROS since SYMMETRY DICTATES where ZEROS are:

$$\Gamma_n \otimes \Gamma_i \otimes \Gamma_h \text{ must contain } A_{1g}, A_{1g}, A_{1g} \text{ or } \dots$$



To find the second order correction to the energy,  $E_i^{(2)}$ :

When we collected all the terms in  $\lambda^2$ , we got  $\mathcal{H}^{(0)}\Psi_i^{(2)} + \mathbf{h}\Psi_i^{(1)} = E_i^{(0)}\Psi_i^{(2)} + E_i^{(1)}\Psi_i^{(1)} + E_i^{(2)}\Psi_i^{(0)}$

Let us now make use of what we have found about  $\Psi_i^{(0)}$  and  $E_i^{(1)}$ :

$$\mathcal{H}^{(0)}\Psi_i^{(2)} + \mathbf{h}\Psi_i^{(1)} = \varepsilon_i\Psi_i^{(2)} + \mathbf{h}_{ii}\Psi_i^{(1)} + E_i^{(2)}\phi_i$$

Let us solve for  $E_i^{(2)}$  by operating on both sides with  $\int \phi_i^* d\tau$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \int \phi_i^* \mathcal{H}^{(0)}\Psi_i^{(2)} d\tau + \int \phi_i^* \mathbf{h}\Psi_i^{(1)} d\tau &= \varepsilon_i \int \phi_i^* \Psi_i^{(2)} d\tau \\ &\quad + \mathbf{h}_{ii} \int \phi_i^* \Psi_i^{(1)} d\tau + E_i^{(2)} \int \phi_i^* \phi_i d\tau \\ E_i^{(2)} &= \int \phi_i^* \mathcal{H}^{(0)}\Psi_i^{(2)} d\tau + \int \phi_i^* \mathbf{h}\Psi_i^{(1)} d\tau - \varepsilon_i \int \phi_i^* \Psi_i^{(2)} d\tau \\ &\quad - \mathbf{h}_{ii} \int \phi_i^* \Psi_i^{(1)} d\tau \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\mathcal{H}^{(0)}$  is Hermitian,

$$\begin{aligned} \int \phi_i^* \mathcal{H}^{(0)}\Psi_i^{(2)} d\tau &= \left\{ \int \Psi_i^{(2)*} \mathcal{H}^{(0)}\phi_i d\tau \right\}^* \\ &= \left\{ \int \Psi_i^{(2)*} \varepsilon_i \phi_i d\tau \right\}^* = \varepsilon_i \int \phi_i^* \Psi_i^{(2)} d\tau \end{aligned}$$

Collecting terms:

$$\begin{aligned} E_i^{(2)} &= (\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_i) \int \phi_i^* \Psi_i^{(2)} d\tau + \int \phi_i^* \mathbf{h}\Psi_i^{(1)} d\tau \\ &\quad - \mathbf{h}_{ii} \int \phi_i^* \Psi_i^{(1)} d\tau \end{aligned}$$

$$E_i^{(2)} = \int \phi_i^* \mathbf{h}\Psi_i^{(1)} d\tau - \mathbf{h}_{ii} \int \phi_i^* \Psi_i^{(1)} d\tau$$

Let us now make use of our found  $\Psi_i^{(1)}$ :

$$\Psi_i^{(1)} = - \left[ \frac{h_{1i}}{\epsilon_1 - \epsilon_i} \phi_1 + \frac{h_{2i}}{\epsilon_2 - \epsilon_i} \phi_2 + \frac{h_{3i}}{\epsilon_3 - \epsilon_i} \phi_3 + \dots \right]$$

This sum does not include  $\phi_i$  therefore,

$$\int \phi_i^* \Psi_i^{(1)} d\tau = 0. \text{ Therefore,}$$

$$E_i^{(2)} = \int \phi_i^* \mathbf{h} \Psi_i^{(1)} d\tau$$

We now substitute the above  $\Psi_i^{(1)}$  to get  $E_i^{(2)}$ :

$$E_i^{(2)} = - \left[ \frac{(h_{1i})(h_{i1})}{(\epsilon_1 - \epsilon_i)} + \frac{(h_{2i})(h_{i2})}{(\epsilon_2 - \epsilon_i)} + \frac{(h_{3i})(h_{i3})}{(\epsilon_3 - \epsilon_i)} + \dots \right]$$

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3. THE HYDROGEN ATOM
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6. APPROXIMATION METHODS
  - 6.1 Time-independent Perturbation Theory
    - 6.1.1 For Non-degenerate Levels
    - 6.1.2 Wavefunction Correct to First Order,  
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    - 6.1.4 For Degenerate Levels
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  - 6.2 Variational Method

## EXAMPLE:

Ground state of a He-like atom (2 electrons):

$$H = \frac{-\hbar^2}{2\mu} (\nabla_1^2 + \nabla_2^2) - \left( \frac{Ze^2}{r_1} + \frac{Ze^2}{r_2} \right) + \underbrace{\frac{e^2}{|\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|}}_{\frac{e^2}{r_{12}}}$$

Let  $H = H^{(0)} + h$

$$H^{(0)} = \frac{-\hbar^2}{2\mu} \nabla_1^2 - \frac{Ze^2}{r_1} \quad \frac{-\hbar^2}{2\mu} \nabla_2^2 - \frac{Ze^2}{r_2}$$

$$h = e^2/r_{12}$$

1. The known solutions are:

$$H^{(0)} \phi_0(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2) = E_0 \phi_0(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2)$$

$$\phi_0(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2) = \psi_{100}(\vec{r}_1) \cdot \psi_{100}(\vec{r}_2) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{ground} \\ \text{state} \\ n=1, L=0, m=0 \\ \text{for each electron} \end{array}$$

is the solution to

$$\left( \frac{-\hbar^2}{2\mu} \nabla_1^2 - \frac{Ze^2}{r_1} \right) \psi_{100}(\vec{r}_1) = -\frac{Z^2}{1^2} \left( \frac{e^2}{2a_0} \right) \psi_{100}(\vec{r}_1)$$

a hydrogen-like atom

$$E_0 = -\frac{Z^2}{1^2} \frac{e^2}{2a_0} + -\frac{Z^2}{1^2} \frac{e^2}{2a_0} = -2 \frac{Z^2}{1^2} \frac{e^2}{2a_0}$$

$$\phi_0(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left( \frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} e^{-\frac{Zr_1}{a_0}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left( \frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} e^{-\frac{Zr_2}{a_0}}$$

2. The first order correction to energy is

$$E_0^{(1)} = \int \phi_0^* \frac{e^2}{r_{12}} \phi_0 d\tau = \frac{5}{4} Z \frac{e^2}{2a_0}$$

Energy correct to first order

$$E_0 = E_0 + E_0^{(1)} = \left( -2 \frac{Z^2}{1^2} + \frac{5}{4} Z \right) \frac{e^2}{2a_0}$$

The second order correction has also been calculated

$$E_0^{(2)} = -0.31532 \frac{e^2}{2a_0}$$

3. Now make  $h$  as small as possible:

$$\text{Let } H^{(0)} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} (\nabla_1^2 + \nabla_2^2) - \frac{Z'e^2}{r_1} - \frac{Z'e^2}{r_2}$$

$$\text{and } h = \frac{e^2}{r_{12}} - (Z - Z') \left( \frac{e^2}{r_1} + \frac{e^2}{r_2} \right)$$

$$\text{Then } \phi_0(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left( \frac{Z'}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} e^{-Z'r_1/a_0} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left( \frac{Z'}{a_0} \right)^{3/2} e^{-Z'r_2/a_0}$$

$$\epsilon_0 = -\frac{(Z')^2}{1^2} \frac{e^2}{2a_0} - \frac{(Z')^2}{1^2} \frac{e^2}{2a_0}$$

THE SAME AS BEFORE, only  $Z'$  now instead of  $Z$   
The first order correction to energy is

$$E_0^{(1)} = \int \phi_0^* \left\{ \frac{e^2}{r_{12}} - (Z - Z') \left( \frac{e^2}{r_1} + \frac{e^2}{r_2} \right) \right\} \phi_0 d\tau$$

$$= \frac{5}{4} Z' \frac{e^2}{2a_0} - (Z - Z') \cdot 4Z' \frac{e^2}{2a_0}$$

The energy good to first order:

$$E_0 = \epsilon_0 + E_0^{(1)} = \left\{ -2(Z')^2 + \frac{5}{4} Z' - (Z - Z') 4Z' \right\} \frac{e^2}{2a_0}$$

Now choose  $Z'$  such as to make  $E_0^{(1)}$  vanish  
(i.e. make  $h$  as small as possible:

$$E_0^{(1)} = 0 = \left[ \frac{5}{4} Z' - (Z - Z') 4Z' \right] \frac{e^2}{2a_0}$$

$$\frac{5}{4} = 4(Z - Z') \text{ or } Z' = \left( Z - \frac{5}{16} \right)$$

$$\text{then } E_0 = \epsilon_0 + 0 = -2(Z')^2 \frac{e^2}{2a_0} = -2 \left( Z - \frac{5}{16} \right)^2 \frac{e^2}{2a_0}$$

Comparisons with EXPERIMENT (in units of  $e^2/2a_0$ ):

|                       | EXPT   | to FIRST ORDER | to 1 <sup>st</sup> ORDER <sup>Ⓢ</sup> | to 2 <sup>nd</sup> ORDER | $\epsilon_0$ |
|-----------------------|--------|----------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| He $Z=2$              | -2.904 | -2.750         | -2.848                                | -2.908                   | -4           |
| Li <sup>+</sup> $Z=3$ | -7.280 | -7.125         | -7.223                                | -7.283                   | -9           |

$\epsilon_0$  using  $Z' = Z - \frac{5}{16}$

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6. APPROXIMATION METHODS
  - 6.1 Time-independent Perturbation Theory
    - 6.1.1 For Non-degenerate Levels
    - 6.1.2 Wavefunction Correct to First Order, Energy Correct to Second Order
    - 6.1.3 He Atom Example
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  - 6.2 Variational Method

## B. DEGENERATE TIME-INDEPENDENT PERTURBATION THEORY

If some of the states of  $H^{(0)}$  are DEGENERATE, that is if several  $\phi_i$  have the SAME ENERGY  $E_i$  (PARTNER FUNCTIONS) then ① The functions  $\phi_i$  are not unique for an energy  $E_i$  since ANY LINEAR COMBINATION of the degenerate set can satisfy the Schrödinger eqn. ② We can not afford to have ZEROS in the  $(E_n - E_i)$  in the denominator !!

Therefore, we must **FIRST FIND THE APPROPRIATE LINEAR COMBINATIONS OF THE DEGENERATE PARTNER FUNCTIONS**. How to do it?  $\psi_i^{(0)} = a_1\phi_1 + a_2\phi_2 + a_3\phi_3 + \dots$  For the degenerate partner functions we must do this: (Suppose there are 4 of them)

$$\det \begin{vmatrix} h_{11} - E_i^{(0)} & h_{12} & h_{13} & h_{14} \\ h_{21} & h_{22} - E_i^{(0)} & h_{23} & h_{24} \\ h_{31} & h_{32} & h_{33} - E_i^{(0)} & h_{34} \\ h_{41} & h_{42} & h_{43} & h_{44} - E_i^{(0)} \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

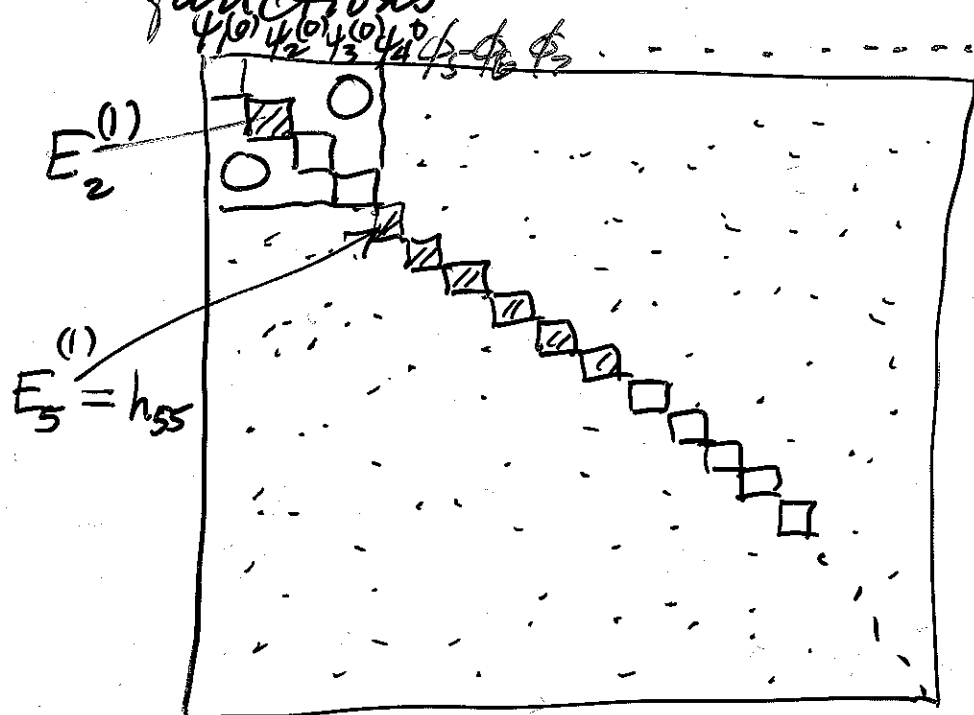
The roots obtained from solving the above give  $E_i^{(1)}$  (4 roots in this case) and the desired coefficients can be found.

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \\ a_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | \\ | \\ | \\ | \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | \\ | \\ | \\ | \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | \\ | \\ | \\ | \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{one set of coeff for each } E_i^{(1)}$$

$$\psi_i^{(0)} = a_1\phi_1 + a_2\phi_2 + a_3\phi_3 + a_4\phi_4$$

In other words, first we find the linear combinations of  $\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3, \phi_4$  that **DIAGONALIZES** that block of the  $h$  matrix.

Now set up the  $h$  matrix in terms of these functions



And now proceed as before

$$\Psi_i^{(1)} = \psi_i^{(0)} - \frac{\langle \phi_5 | h | \psi_i^{(0)} \rangle}{E_5 - E_i} \phi_5 - \frac{\langle \phi_6 | h | \psi_i^{(0)} \rangle}{E_6 - E_i} \phi_6 - \dots$$

where  $\psi_i^{(0)} = a_1 \phi_1 + a_2 \phi_2 + a_3 \phi_3 + a_4 \phi_4$

\*\* Note that the <sup>now</sup> zero off-diagonal elements in the formerly DEGENERATE block ensure that no term in  $\frac{h_{ij}}{E_j - E_i}$  ever arise from the functions in that block. That is why we DIAGONALIZED first before evaluating  $\Psi_i^{(1)}$ .

Need to do this for every degenerate block. After that the  $h$  matrix can be used as in the NON-DEGENERATE case.

1. INTRODUCTION TO QUANTUM MECHANICS
2. ANGULAR MOMENTUM
3. THE HYDROGEN ATOM
4. MATRIX REPRESENTATION OF QUANTUM MECHANICS
5. ELECTRONIC STRUCTURE OF ATOMS
6. APPROXIMATION METHODS
  - 6.1 Time-independent Perturbation Theory
    - 6.1.1 For Non-degenerate Levels
    - 6.1.2 Wavefunction Correct to First Order, Energy Correct to Second Order
    - 6.1.3 He Atom Example
    - 6.1.4 For Degenerate Levels
    - 6.1.5 A d Electron in a Crystal Field**
  - 6.2 Variational Method

## EXAMPLE:

Consider a single electron in DEGENERATE states described by the functions (5 of them)

$$\phi_i = R_{nl}(r) Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi) \quad \text{where } l=2, m=0, \pm 1, \pm 2$$

[This is the approximate description for an ion with a single electron in a d orbital and closed inner shells.]

Place this electron in an **ELECTROSTATIC CRYSTAL-LINE FIELD OF POINT CHARGES** ( $V_{CF}$ ) -  $q_i e$  at positions  $\vec{r}_i$

To find the new states we let

$$H = H^{(0)} + h$$

$$\text{and } h = V_{CF} = \sum_i \frac{(-e)(-q_i e)}{|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}|}$$

First let us examine how we may express  $h$  such as to make it easier to solve this problem.

$\frac{1}{|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}|}$  can be expressed as an expansion in terms of the angular coordinates  $\theta$  and  $\phi$  of the electron and the FIXED coordinates  $\theta_i$  and  $\phi_i$  of the  $i$ th POINT CHARGE

$$\frac{1}{|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}|} = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l}^{+l} \frac{4\pi}{2l+1} \frac{r_{<}^l}{r_{>}^{l+1}} Y_{lm}^*(\theta_i, \phi_i) Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi)$$

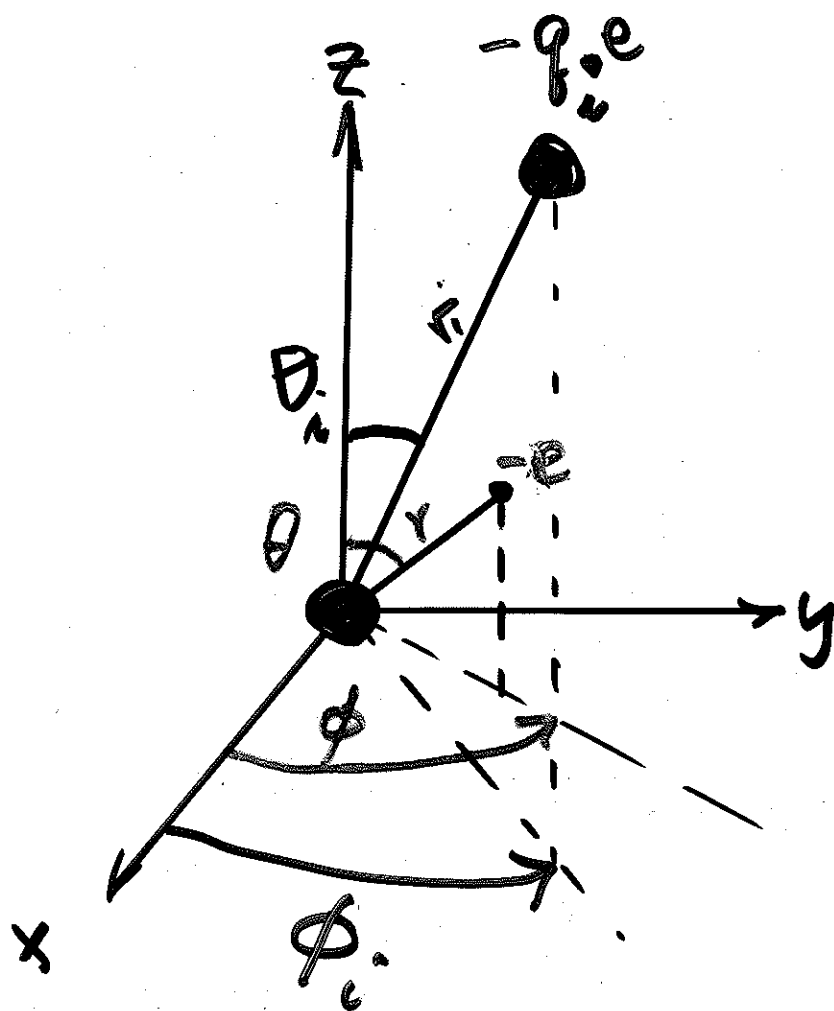
where  $r_{<}$  is the LESSER of  $|\vec{r}_i|$  and  $|\vec{r}|$

$r_{>}$  is the GREATER one of the two

electron is at  $r, \theta, \phi$   $i$ th LIGAND ION is at  $r_i, \theta_i, \phi_i$

same  $lm$  for electron and for  $i$ th LIGAND ION

We need to set up the  $h$  matrix and diagonalize it to find the correct SALCs and  $E^{(1)}$  values.



The matrix elements of  $h$  are: (for row  $m$  column  $m'$ )

$$h_{mm'} = \int R_{nl}(r)^* Y_{2m'}^*(\theta, \phi) V_{CF} R_{nl}(r) Y_{2m}(\theta, \phi) d\tau$$

Each term in the matrix element will be of the form

$$\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m''=-l}^{+l} \frac{4\pi}{2l+1} Y_{lm''}(\theta_i, \phi_i) \int_{r=0}^{\infty} |R_{nl}(r)|^2 \frac{r^2}{(r^2)^{l+1}} r^2 dr \int_{\theta=0}^{\pi} \int_{\phi=0}^{2\pi} Y_{2m'}^* Y_{lm''} Y_{2m} \sin\theta d\theta d\phi$$

Since  $Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi)$  functions are ORTHONORMAL, only certain of the integrals  $\int Y_{2m'}^* Y_{lm''} Y_{2m} \sin\theta d\theta d\phi$  will NOT VANISH.  $\theta=0, \phi=0$

Because the product  $Y_{2m'}^* Y_{2m}$  will give a LINEAR COMBINATION of  $Y_{lm}$  functions with  $l$  no greater than  $2+2$  or  $4$  in this case of a  $d$  orbital, then

the  $l$  in  $Y_{lm''}$  can only be  $l=4$  (max),  $2$ , or  $0$ .

Odd  $l$  values will give rise to ZERO integrals.

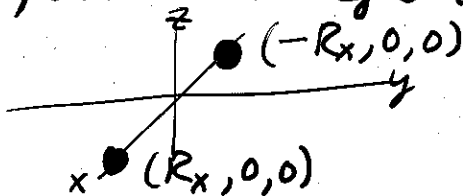
Now let us place the point charges:

Consider 2 point charges on the  $x$  axis:

$$x_i = \pm R_x$$

$$y_i = 0$$

$$z_i = 0$$



Substitute these values into

$$Y_{20}(\theta_i, \phi_i) = \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{5}{\pi}} \left( \frac{3z^2 - r^2}{r^2} \right) \text{ etc}$$

to get  $Y_{00}(\theta_i, \phi_i) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi}}$   $Y_{20}(\theta_i, \phi_i) = -\frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{5}{\pi}}$

$$Y_{2\pm 1}(\theta_i, \phi_i) = 0 \quad Y_{2\pm 2}(\theta_i, \phi_i) = \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{15}{2\pi}}$$

$$Y_{40} = \frac{9}{16\sqrt{\pi}}$$

$$Y_{4\pm 1} = 0$$

$$Y_{4\pm 2} = -\frac{3}{8} \sqrt{\frac{5}{2\pi}}$$

$$Y_{4\pm 3} = 0$$

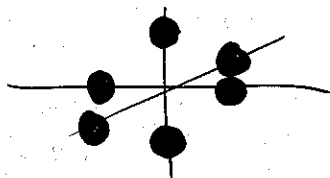
$$Y_{4\pm 4} = \frac{3}{16} \sqrt{\frac{35}{2\pi}}$$

Therefore, for 2 negative ions (charge =  $-qe$ ) positioned on the  $x$  axis,

$$V_{CF} = 2q \left\{ \frac{1}{r} + \frac{4\pi}{5} \left( -\frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{5}{\pi}} \right) \frac{r^2}{r^3} Y_{20}(\theta, \phi) \right. \\ \left. + \frac{4\pi}{5} \left( \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{15}{2\pi}} \right) \frac{r^2}{r^3} (Y_{22}(\theta, \phi) + Y_{2-2}(\theta, \phi)) \right. \\ \left. + \frac{4\pi}{9} \left( \frac{9}{16\sqrt{\pi}} \right) \frac{r^4}{r^5} Y_{40}(\theta, \phi) \right. \\ \left. + \frac{4\pi}{9} \left( -\frac{3}{8} \sqrt{\frac{5}{2\pi}} \right) \frac{r^4}{r^5} (Y_{42}(\theta, \phi) + Y_{4-2}(\theta, \phi)) \right. \\ \left. + \frac{4\pi}{9} \left( \frac{3}{16} \sqrt{\frac{35}{2\pi}} \right) \frac{r^4}{r^5} (Y_{44}(\theta, \phi) + Y_{4-4}(\theta, \phi)) \right\}$$

these are the coordinates of the electron

We can do the same for 2 point charges (LIGAND IONS) on the  $y$  axis and 2 on the  $z$  axis. If OCTAHEDRAL  $O_h$  CRYSTAL FIELD, then sum up over all 3 sets and make  $R_x = R_y = R_z = R$



(the terms in  $\frac{r^2}{r^3}$  cancelled out)

$$V_{CF} = \frac{2q}{R} \left\{ 3 + \left( \frac{r}{R} \right)^4 \left[ \frac{7\sqrt{\pi}}{6} Y_{40}(\theta, \phi) + \frac{1}{6} \sqrt{\frac{35\pi}{2}} (Y_{44}(\theta, \phi) + Y_{4-4}(\theta, \phi)) \right] \right\}$$

for  $R > r$

so that the matrix elements of  $h$

$$h_{m'm} = \int R(r) Y_{2m'}^*(\theta, \phi) V_{CF} R(r) Y_{2m}(\theta, \phi) dr$$

can be calculated.

If we let  $x \equiv \frac{1}{6} q \frac{\langle r^4 \rangle}{R^5}$  where  $\langle r^4 \rangle \equiv \int_0^\infty |R_{nl}(r)|^2 r^4 r^2 dr$

and  $\int Y_{2m'} Y_{40} Y_{2m} \sin\theta d\theta d\phi$  can be looked up in tables  
 $= \frac{1}{21}$  for  $m'=m=2$  for example  
 and  $m'=m=-2$

We find the entire  $h$  matrix:

$$\phi_i = Y_{22} \quad Y_{21} \quad Y_{20} \quad Y_{2-1} \quad Y_{2-2}$$

|    |                    |                     |                     |                     |                    |
|----|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 2  | $\frac{69}{R} + x$ | $\circ$             | $\circ$             | $\circ$             | $5x$               |
| 1  | $\circ$            | $\frac{69}{R} - 4x$ | $\circ$             | $\circ$             | $\circ$            |
| 0  | $\circ$            | $\circ$             | $\frac{69}{R} + 6x$ | $\circ$             | $\circ$            |
| -1 | $\circ$            | $\circ$             | $\circ$             | $\frac{69}{R} - 4x$ | $\circ$            |
| -2 | $5x$               | $\circ$             | $\circ$             | $\circ$             | $\frac{69}{R} + x$ |

Which we can rearrange, of course, to give

$$\phi_i = Y_{21} \quad Y_{20} \quad Y_{2-1} \quad Y_{22} \quad Y_{2-2}$$

|    |                     |                     |                     |                    |                    |
|----|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1  | $\frac{69}{R} - 4x$ | $\circ$             | $\circ$             | $\circ$            | $\circ$            |
| 0  | $\circ$             | $\frac{69}{R} + 6x$ | $\circ$             | $\circ$            | $\circ$            |
| -1 | $\circ$             | $\circ$             | $\frac{69}{R} - 4x$ | $\circ$            | $\circ$            |
| 2  | $\circ$             | $\circ$             | $\circ$             | $\frac{69}{R} + x$ | $5x$               |
| -2 | $\circ$             | $\circ$             | $\circ$             | $5x$               | $\frac{69}{R} + x$ |

DIAGONALIZE it and get roots:  $\psi_{Li}^{(0)}$

$$E_1^{(1)} = \frac{69}{R} - 4x \quad Y_{21}$$

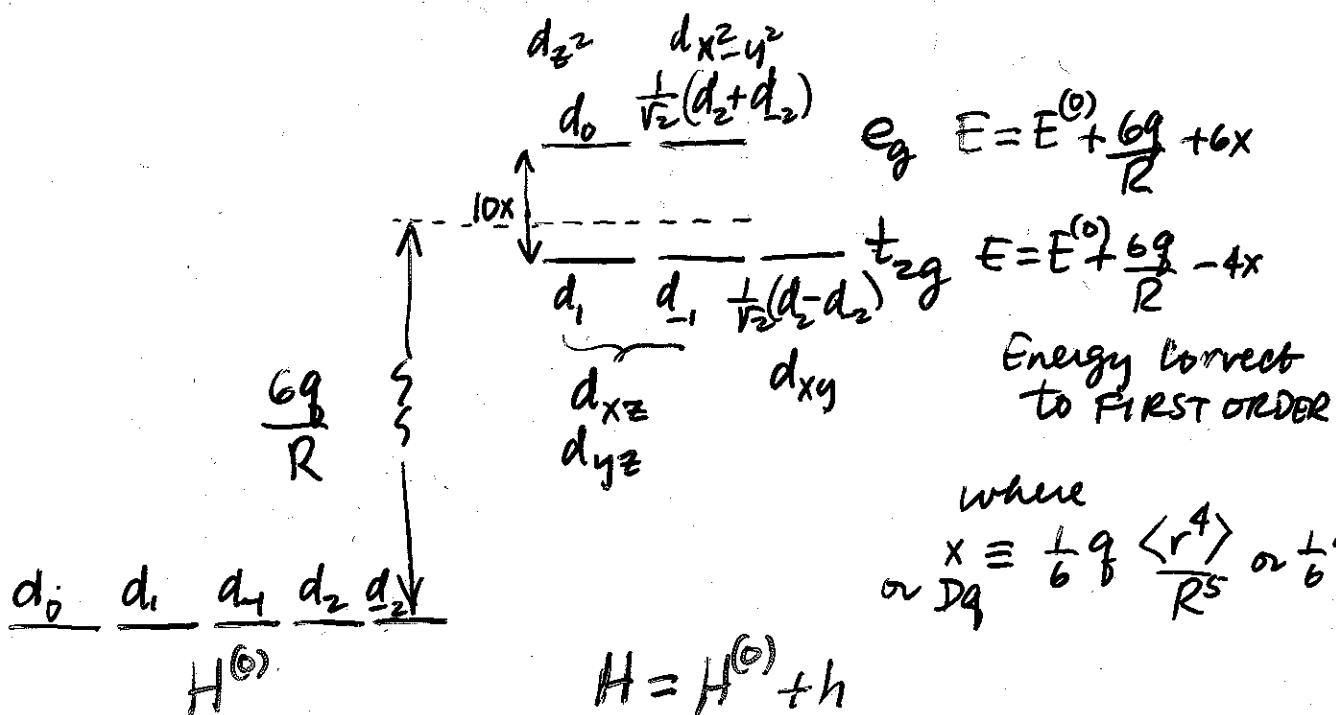
$$E_0^{(1)} = \frac{69}{R} + 6x \quad Y_{20}$$

$$E_{-1}^{(1)} = \frac{69}{R} - 4x \quad Y_{2-1}$$

directly and from the  $2 \times 2$  we get

$$E_+^{(1)} = \frac{69}{R} + 6x \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (Y_{22} + Y_{2-2})$$

$$E_-^{(1)} = \frac{69}{R} - 4x \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (Y_{22} - Y_{2-2})$$



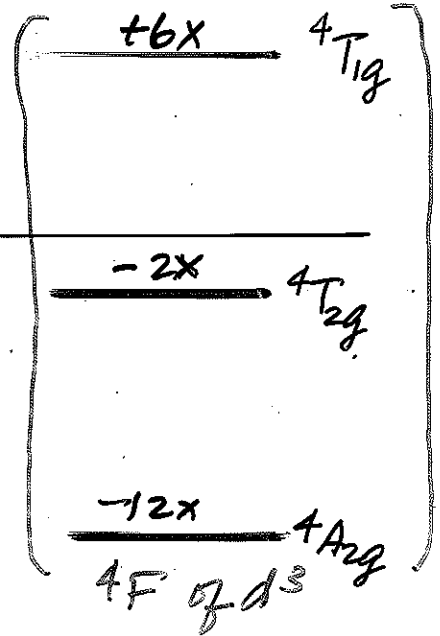
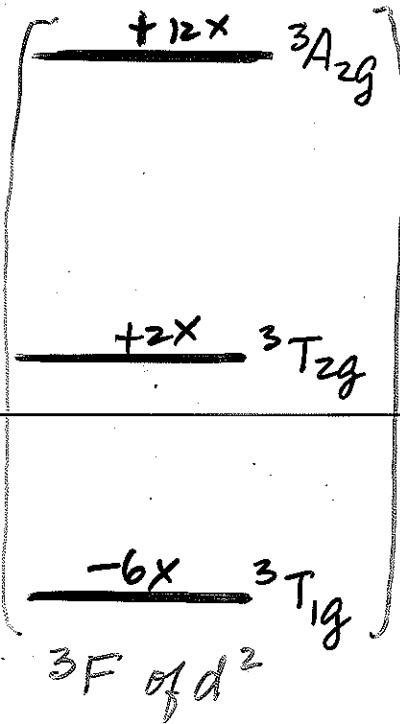
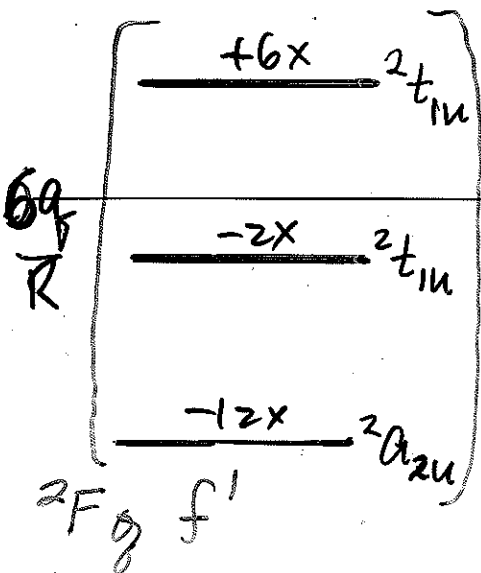
**THIS is the basis for CRYSTAL FIELD THEORY.**

It is merely a simple application of degenerate perturbation theory. Can do it for ANY arrangement of the IONS (tetrahedral, square planar, etc.)

# SPLITTING OF ONE-ELECTRON LEVELS in various symmetries

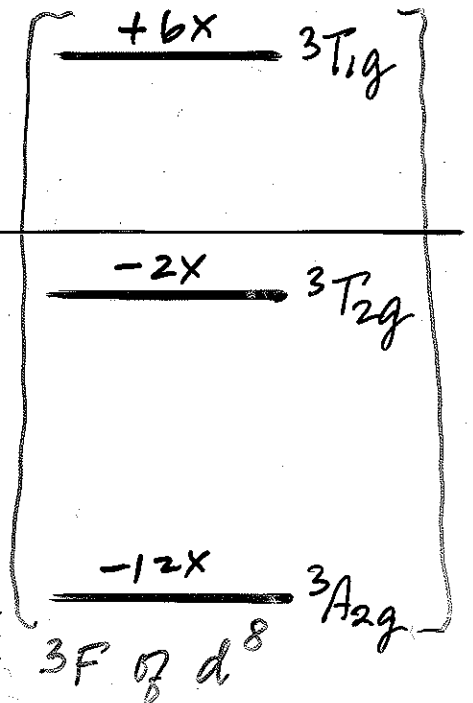
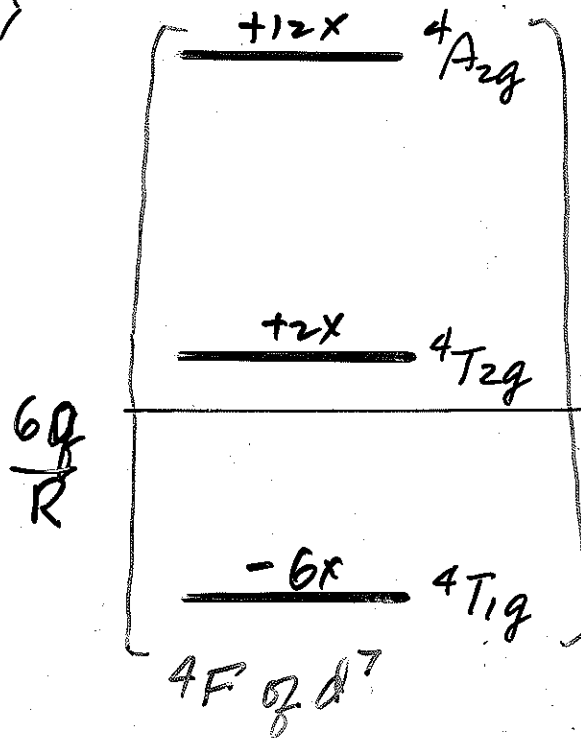
| (2l+1) partner functions |   | SYMMETRY OF ENVIRONMENT                    |                              |                                               |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| l                        |   | $O_h$                                      | $T_d$                        | $D_{4h}$                                      |
| 1                        | s | $a_{1g}$                                   | $a_1$                        | $a_{1g}$                                      |
| 3                        | p | $t_{1u}$                                   | $t_2$                        | $a_{2u} + e_u$                                |
| 5                        | d | $e_g + t_{2g}$                             | $e + t_2$                    | $a_{1g} + b_g + b_{2g} + e_g$                 |
| 7                        | f | $a_{2u} + t_{1u} + t_{2u}$                 | $a_2 + t_1 + t_2$            | $a_{2u} + b_{1u} + b_{2u} + 2e_u$             |
| 9                        | g | $a_{1g} + e_g + t_{1g} + t_{2g}$           | $a_1 + e + t_1 + t_2$        | $2a_{1g} + a_{2g} + b_{1g} + b_{2g} + 2e_g$   |
| 11                       | h | $e_u + 2t_{1u} + t_{2u}$                   | $e + 2t_1 + t_2$             | $a_{1u} + 2a_{2u} + b_{1u} + b_{2u} + 3e_u$   |
| 13                       | i | $a_{1g} + a_{2g} + e_g + t_{1g} + 2t_{2g}$ | $a_1 + a_2 + e + t_1 + 2t_2$ | $2a_{1g} + a_{2g} + 2b_{1g} + 2b_{2g} + 3e_g$ |

$$x \equiv \frac{1}{6} q \left( \frac{r_z^4}{r^5} \right)$$



This one

$$x \equiv \frac{21}{33} \frac{1}{6} q \left( \frac{r_z^4}{r^5} \right)$$



Note:

u for  $f'$

g for any number of electrons

$$d^n \approx d^{(10-n)}$$

$d^2$  and  $f'$  are related by factor  $-\frac{21}{33}$

| $O_h$                | $E$ | $8C_3$ | $6C_2$ | $6C_4$ | $3C_2$ | $i$ | $6S_4$ | $8S_6$ | $3\sigma_h$ | $6\sigma_d$ | $f^{(G)}$               |
|----------------------|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----|--------|--------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| $\rightarrow A_{1g}$ | 1   | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1   | 1      | 1      | 1           | 1           | $x^2 + y^2 + z^2$       |
| $A_{2g}$             | 1   | 1      | -1     | -1     | 1      | 1   | -1     | 1      | 1           | -1          |                         |
| $A_{1u}$             | 1   | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1      | -1  | -1     | -1     | -1          | -1          |                         |
| $A_{2u}$             | 1   | 1      | -1     | -1     | 1      | -1  | 1      | -1     | -1          | 1           |                         |
| $\rightarrow E_g$    | 2   | -1     | 0      | 0      | 2      | 2   | 0      | -1     | 2           | 0           | $3z^2 - r^2, x^2 - y^2$ |
| $E_u$                | 2   | -1     | 0      | 0      | 2      | -2  | 0      | 1      | -2          | 0           |                         |
| $T_{1g}$             | 3   | 0      | -1     | 1      | -1     | 3   | 1      | 0      | -1          | -1          | $R_x, R_y, R_z$         |
| $\rightarrow T_{2g}$ | 3   | 0      | 1      | -1     | -1     | 3   | -1     | 0      | -1          | 1           |                         |
| $T_{1u}$             | 3   | 0      | -1     | 1      | -1     | -3  | -1     | 0      | 1           | 1           | $xy, xz, yz$            |
| $T_{2u}$             | 3   | 0      | 1      | -1     | -1     | -3  | 1      | 0      | 1           | -1          |                         |

| $D_{4h}$ | $E$ | $2C_4^{(z)}$ | $C_2$ | $2C_2'$ | $2C_2''$ | $i$ | $2S_4$ | $\sigma_h$ | $2\sigma_v$ | $2\sigma_d$ | $f^{(j)}$          |
|----------|-----|--------------|-------|---------|----------|-----|--------|------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|
| $A_{1g}$ | +1  | +1           | +1    | +1      | +1       | +1  | +1     | +1         | +1          | +1          | $x^2 + y^2; z^2$   |
| $A_{1u}$ | +1  | +1           | +1    | +1      | +1       | -1  | -1     | -1         | -1          | -1          |                    |
| $A_{2g}$ | +1  | +1           | +1    | -1      | -1       | +1  | +1     | +1         | -1          | -1          | $R_z$              |
| $A_{2u}$ | +1  | +1           | +1    | -1      | -1       | -1  | -1     | -1         | +1          | +1          |                    |
| $B_{1g}$ | +1  | -1           | +1    | +1      | -1       | +1  | -1     | +1         | +1          | -1          | $z$                |
| $B_{1u}$ | +1  | -1           | +1    | +1      | -1       | -1  | +1     | -1         | -1          | +1          |                    |
| $B_{2g}$ | +1  | -1           | +1    | -1      | +1       | +1  | -1     | +1         | -1          | +1          | $x^2 - y^2$        |
| $B_{2u}$ | +1  | -1           | +1    | -1      | +1       | -1  | +1     | -1         | +1          | -1          |                    |
| $E_g$    | +2  | 0            | -2    | 0       | 0        | +2  | 0      | -2         | 0           | 0           | $xy$               |
| $E_u$    | +2  | 0            | -2    | 0       | 0        | -2  | 0      | +2         | 0           | 0           |                    |
|          |     |              |       |         |          |     |        |            |             |             | $R_x, R_y; xz, yz$ |
|          |     |              |       |         |          |     |        |            |             |             | $x, y$             |

| $T_d$ | $E$ | $8C_3$ | $3C_2$ | $6S_4$ | $6\sigma_d$ | $f^{(G)}$               |
|-------|-----|--------|--------|--------|-------------|-------------------------|
| $A_1$ | 1   | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1           | $x^2 + y^2 + z^2$       |
| $A_2$ | 1   | 1      | 1      | -1     | -1          |                         |
| $E$   | 2   | -1     | 2      | 0      | 0           | $3z^2 - r^2, x^2 - y^2$ |
| $T_1$ | 3   | 0      | -1     | 1      | -1          |                         |
| $T_2$ | 3   | 0      | -1     | -1     | 1           | $R_x, R_y, R_z$         |
|       |     |        |        |        |             | $x, y, z; xy, xz, yz$   |

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6. APPROXIMATION METHODS
  - 6.1 Time-independent Perturbation Theory
    - 6.1.1 For Non-degenerate Levels
    - 6.1.2 Wavefunction Correct to First Order,  
Energy Correct to Second Order
    - 6.1.3 He Atom Example
    - 6.1.4 For Degenerate Levels
    - 6.1.5 A d Electron in a Crystal Field
  - 6.2 Variational Method

# VARIATIONAL METHOD

Take an arbitrary well-behaved function  $\Psi_{\text{trial}}$

Expand it in terms of the eigenfunctions of  $H$

$\{\phi_0, \phi_1, \phi_2, \dots\}$  so that  $H\phi_n = E_n\phi_n$

$$\Psi_{\text{trial}} = c_0\phi_0 + c_1\phi_1 + c_2\phi_2 + c_3\phi_3 + \dots$$

Form the quantity: (call  $\epsilon$ )

$$\epsilon = \frac{\int \Psi_{\text{trial}}^* H \Psi_{\text{trial}} d\tau}{\int \Psi_{\text{trial}}^* \Psi_{\text{trial}} d\tau} = \frac{(c_0^2 E_0 + c_1^2 E_1 + c_2^2 E_2 + \dots)}{(c_0^2 + c_1^2 + c_2^2 + \dots)}$$

Factor out  $E_0$  (the ground state energy)

$$E_0 (c_0^2 + c_1^2 \frac{E_1}{E_0} + c_2^2 \frac{E_2}{E_0} + \dots)$$

$$\epsilon = \frac{E_0 (c_0^2 + c_1^2 \frac{E_1}{E_0} + c_2^2 \frac{E_2}{E_0} + \dots)}{(c_0^2 + c_1^2 + c_2^2 + \dots)}$$

calculated  
with arbitrary  
 $\Psi_{\text{trial}}$

$$\geq E_0$$

↑ true ground state energy

This inequality allows us to obtain an **UPPER BOUND** to  $E_0$  when we don't know what it is, by choosing  $\Psi_{\text{trial}}$  to be dependent on any number of **VARIABLE PARAMETERS**  $q_1, q_2, \dots$ . To find the **BEST VALUES** of the parameters, minimize  $\epsilon$ , that is,

$$\frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial q_1} = 0, \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial q_2} = 0, \dots$$

The minimum value of  $\epsilon$  for these values of the parameters gives an upper bound to the unknown  $E_0$ .

### EXAMPLE: 2-electron atom

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} (\nabla_1^2 + \nabla_2^2) - \left( \frac{Ze^2}{r_1} + \frac{Ze^2}{r_2} \right) + \frac{e^2}{r_{12}}$$

Let  $\Psi_{\text{trial}} = N e^{-\frac{Z'}{a_0}(r_1+r_2)}$  normalized by  $N$

$$E = \frac{\int \Psi_{\text{trial}}^* H \Psi_{\text{trial}} d\tau}{1} = \text{(same integrals we have seen before in doing perturbation theory on same atom)}$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial Z'} = 0 \text{ gives } Z' = Z - \frac{5}{16}$$

$$\Psi_{\text{trial}} = N e^{-\frac{(Z - \frac{5}{16})}{a_0}(r_1+r_2)}, \text{ can then find } N.$$

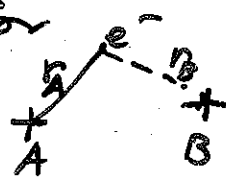
### EXAMPLE:

A very common choice of  $\Psi_{\text{trial}}$  is a linear combination:

$$\Psi_{\text{trial}} = c_1 \phi_1 + c_2 \phi_2$$

where  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  are two known functions, not necessarily orthogonal to each other. For

example  $\phi_1 = \psi_{100}(\vec{r}_A)$   $\phi_2 = \psi_{100}(\vec{r}_B)$  in



$$E = \frac{c_1^2 H_{11} + 2c_1 c_2 H_{12} + c_2^2 H_{22}}{c_1^2 S_{11} + 2c_1 c_2 S_{12} + c_2^2 S_{22}}$$

where  $H_{12} \equiv \int \phi_1^* H \phi_2 d\tau$ , etc...

$$S_{12} \equiv \int \phi_1^* \phi_2 d\tau, \text{ etc.}$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial c_1} = 0 \text{ is of the form } d\left(\frac{u}{v}\right) = \frac{v du - u dv}{v^2} = \frac{1}{v} \left( du - \left(\frac{u}{v}\right) dv \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial c_1} = 0 = \frac{(2c_1 H_{11} + 2c_2 H_{12}) - E(2c_1 S_{11} + 2c_2 S_{12})}{c_1^2 S_{11} + 2c_1 c_2 S_{12} + c_2^2 S_{22}}$$

This reduces to

$$C_1(H_{11} - ES_{11}) + C_2(H_{12} - ES_{12}) = 0$$

$$C_1(H_{12} - ES_{12}) + C_2(H_{22} - ES_{22}) = 0$$

Solutions occur if

$$\det \begin{vmatrix} H_{11} - ES_{11} & H_{12} - ES_{12} \\ H_{12} - ES_{12} & H_{22} - ES_{22} \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

Two roots in this case. Choose that root for  $E$  less than the lower one of  $\frac{H_{11}}{S_{11}}$  or  $\frac{H_{22}}{S_{22}}$ .

In general, need to solve

$$\det \begin{vmatrix} H_{11} - ES_{11} & H_{12} - ES_{12} & H_{13} - ES_{13} & \cdots \\ H_{12} - ES_{12} & H_{22} - ES_{22} & H_{23} - ES_{23} & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

Choose the lowest  $E$  as the approximation to the true  $E_0$ . This substituted back into the equations provides the best approximate  $\Psi$  as

$$\Psi = C_1 \phi_1 + C_2 \phi_2 + C_3 \phi_3 + \cdots$$

the set obtained with the lowest  $E$ .