

# Plan of lectures

- 1 15.04.2015 Preliminary Discussion / Introduction
- 2 22.04.2015 Experiments (discovery of the positron, formation of antihydrogen, ...)
- 3 29.04.2015 Experiments (Lamb shift, hyperfine structure, quasimolecules and MO spectra)
- 4 06.05.2015 Theory (from Schrödinger to Dirac equation, solutions with negative energy)
- 5 13.05.2015 Theory (bound-state solutions of Dirac equation, quantum numbers)
- 6 20.05.2015 Theory (matrix elements and their evaluation, radiative decay and absorption)
- 7 27.05.2015 Experiment (photoionization, radiative recombination, ATI, HHG...)
- 8 03.06.2015 Theory (single and multiple scattering, energy loss mechanisms, channeling regime)
- 9 10.06.2015 Experiment (Kamiokande, cancer therapy, ....)
- 10 17.06.2015 Experiment (Auger decay, dielectronic recombination, double ionization)
- 11 24.06.2015 Theory (interelectronic interactions, extension of Dirac (and Schrödinger) theory for the description of many-electron systems, approximate methods)
- 12 01.07.2015 Theory (atomic-physics tests of the Standard Model, search for a new physics)
- 13 08.07.2015 Experiment (Atomic physics PNC experiments (Cs,...), heavy ion PV research)

# Bound-state solutions of Dirac equation

(Spectroscopic notations and wavefunctions)

# Plan of lecture

- ◆ **Reminder from the last lecture: Free-particle solution**
- ◆ **Dirac's spectroscopic notations**
  - ⊕ Integrals of motion
  - ⊕ Parity of states
- ◆ **Energy levels of the bound-state Dirac's particle**
- ◆ **Structure of Dirac's wavefunction**
- ◆ **Radial components of the Dirac's wavefunction**

# Dirac equation: Free-particle solution

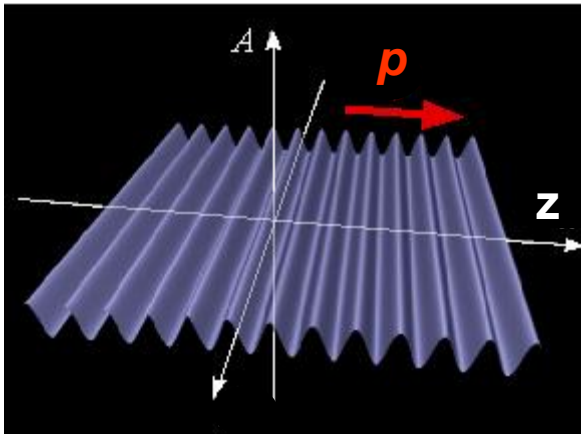
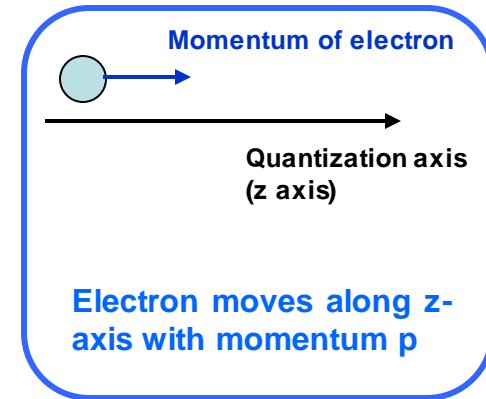
(reminder from the last lecture)

- Dirac equation for the free particle in time-independent form:

$$\left(-i\hbar c\boldsymbol{\alpha}\cdot\nabla + m_e c^2\alpha_0\right)\psi(\mathbf{r}) = E\psi(\mathbf{r})$$

- ◆ We have found the plane-wave solutions of this equation:

$$\psi_p(\mathbf{r}) = w(p)\exp(ipz/\hbar)$$



Picture from: [www.rpi.edu](http://www.rpi.edu)

- ◆ Where  $w(p)$  were found as a solution of:

$$\begin{bmatrix} m_e c^2 & 0 & pc & 0 \\ 0 & m_e c^2 & 0 & -pc \\ pc & 0 & -m_e c^2 & 0 \\ 0 & -pc & 0 & -m_e c^2 \end{bmatrix} w = Ew$$

# Dirac equation: Free-particle solution

(reminder from the last lecture)

- Dirac equation for the free particle in time-independent form:

$$\left(-i\hbar c\boldsymbol{\alpha}\cdot\nabla + m_e c^2\alpha_0\right)\psi(\mathbf{r}) = E\psi(\mathbf{r})$$

- ◆ Positive- and negative-energy solutions have been found:

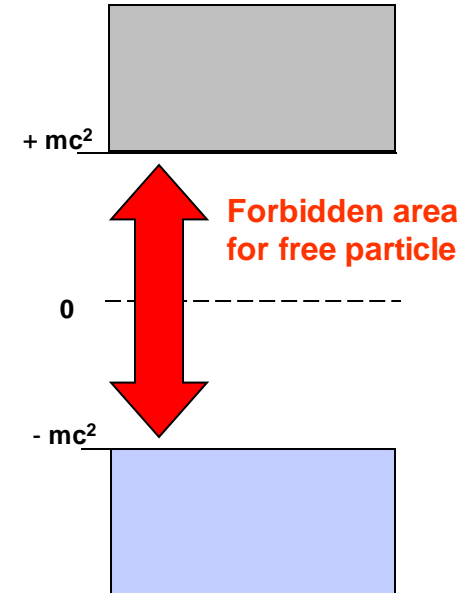
$$E_+(p) = \sqrt{(m_e c^2)^2 + (pc)^2}$$

and

$$E_-(p) = -\sqrt{(m_e c^2)^2 + (pc)^2}$$

- ◆ With the wavefunctions:

$$w_{m_s}^+ = N \begin{pmatrix} \chi_{sm_s} \\ \frac{cp\sigma_z}{E_+ + m_e c^2} \chi_{sm_s} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad w_{m_s}^- = N \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{cp\sigma_z}{|E_-| + m_e c^2} \chi_{sm_s} \\ \chi_{sm_s} \end{pmatrix}$$



# Dirac equation: Free-particle solution

(reminder from the last lecture)

- For each eigenvalue  $E$  there are two eigenfunctions which correspond to two different spin states of the particle:

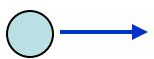
$$w_{m_s}^+ = N \begin{pmatrix} \chi_{sm_s} \\ \frac{cp\sigma_z}{E_+ + m_e c^2} \chi_{sm_s} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\chi_{1/2 +1/2} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\chi_{1/2 -1/2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



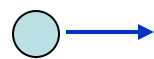
Electron spin  
→



Momentum of electron

$$w_{+1/2} = N \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ cp \\ E_+ + m_e c^2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Electron spin  
←



Momentum of electron

$$w_{-1/2} = N \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ -cp \\ E_+ + m_e c^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Plan of lecture

- ◆ **Reminder from the last lecture: Free-particle solution**

- ◆ **Dirac's spectroscopic notations**

- ⊕ Integrals of motion
- ⊕ Parity of states

- ◆ **Energy levels of the bound-state Dirac's particle**

- ◆ **Structure of Dirac's wavefunction**

- ◆ **Radial components of the Dirac's wavefunction**

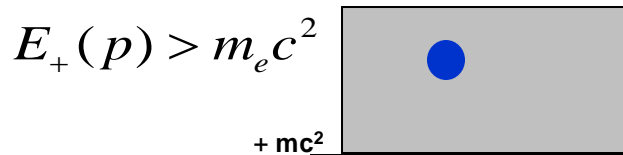
# Dirac equation for particle in the potential

- Stationary Dirac equation reads (let us add potential):

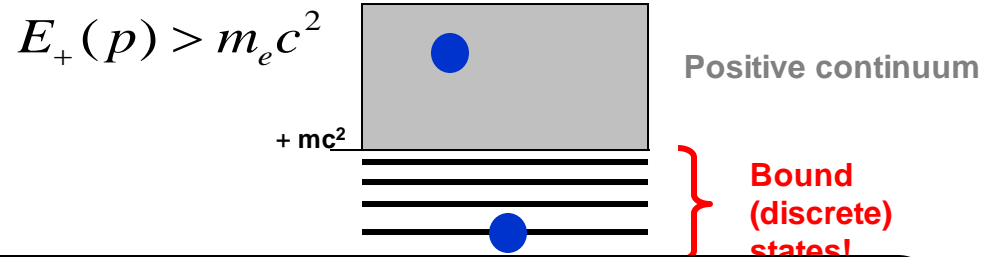
$$\left(-i\hbar c \boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \nabla + V(\mathbf{r}) + m_e c^2 \alpha_0\right) \psi(\mathbf{r}) = E \psi(\mathbf{r})$$

- Its solutions depend, of course, on the particular form of  $V(\mathbf{r})$

Free particle  
(discussed before):  $V(\mathbf{r}) = 0$

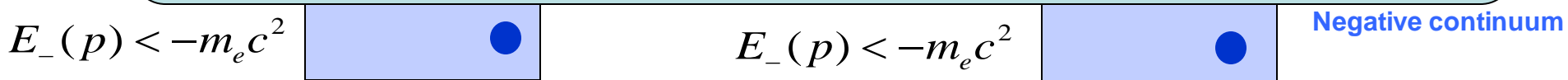


Particle in Coulomb potential:  $V(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{Ze^2}{r}$



How to describe (characterize) discrete bound state of Dirac spectrum?

By the way: how did we characterize Schrödinger spectrum?





# Schrödinger equation: Quantum numbers

(just a reminder)

- One needs three quantum numbers to define the state of hydrogen (hydrogen-like) atom:

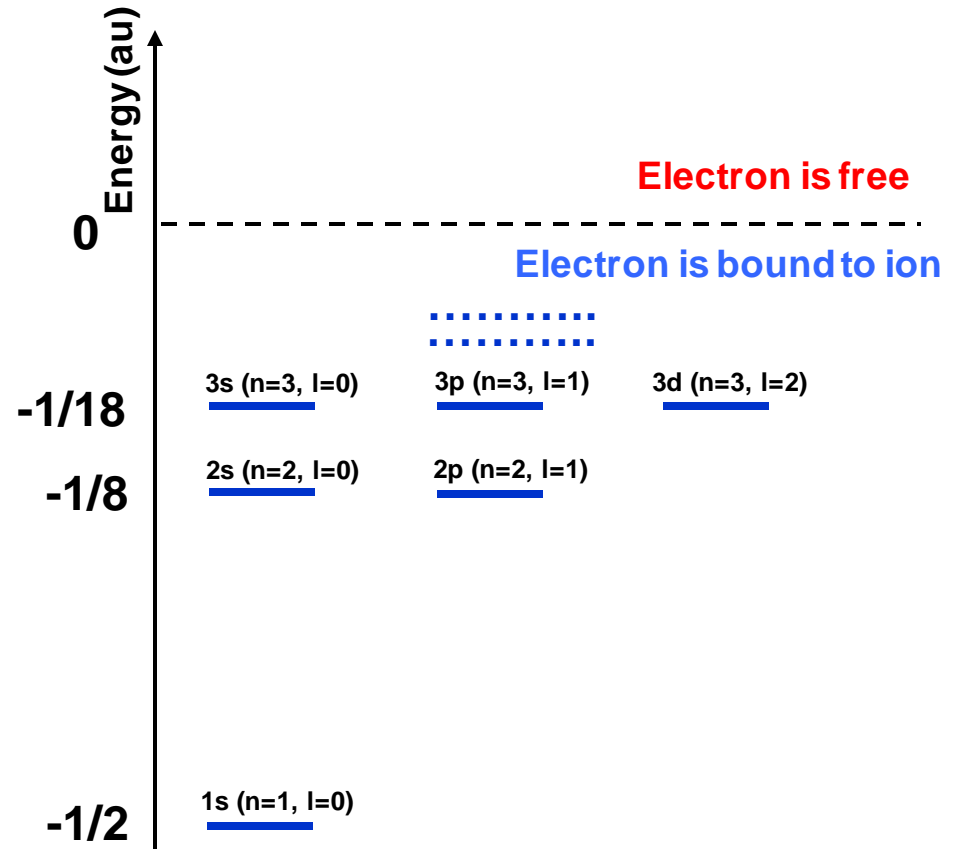
- $n = 1, 2, 3 \dots$  (principal)
- $l = 0, \dots, n-1$  (orbital)
- $m_l = -l, \dots, +l$  (magnetic)

- The energy depends only on the principal quantum number:

$$E_n = -\frac{\epsilon_0 Z^2}{2n^2}$$

- i.e. in nonrelativistic theory the states are degenerate ( $l, m$ )!

$$\psi(\mathbf{r}) = \psi(r, \theta, \varphi) = R_{nl}(r)Y_{lm_l}(\theta, \varphi)$$



Can we use the same set of quantum numbers ( $n, l, m$ ) for Dirac spectrum?

# Plan of lecture

- ◆ **Reminder from the last lecture: Free-particle solution**
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# Constants of motion (1)

- For the description of the (stable) atom we need to have a set of quantum numbers which do not change as time evolves.
- Let us take some observable (operator which represents some physical quantity)  $Q$  and its expectation value in some quantum state:

$$\langle Q \rangle = \langle \Psi | \hat{Q} | \Psi \rangle$$

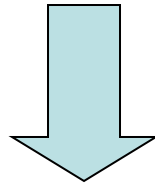
- To find the general requirement for  $\langle Q \rangle$  being not dependent on time, let us first derive the (matrix form of) Heisenberg equation of motion:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle Q \rangle = \frac{d}{dt} \langle \Psi | \hat{Q} | \Psi \rangle = \frac{i}{\hbar} \langle \Psi | [\hat{H}, \hat{Q}] | \Psi \rangle + \left\langle \Psi \left| \frac{\partial \hat{Q}}{\partial t} \right| \Psi \right\rangle$$

# Constants of motion (2)

- To find the general requirement for  $\langle Q \rangle$  being not dependent on time, let us first derive the (matrix form of) Heisenberg equation of motion:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\langle Q \rangle = \frac{d}{dt}\langle \Psi | \hat{Q} | \Psi \rangle = \frac{i}{\hbar}\langle \Psi | [\hat{H}, \hat{Q}] | \Psi \rangle + \left\langle \Psi \left| \frac{\partial \hat{Q}}{\partial t} \right| \Psi \right\rangle$$



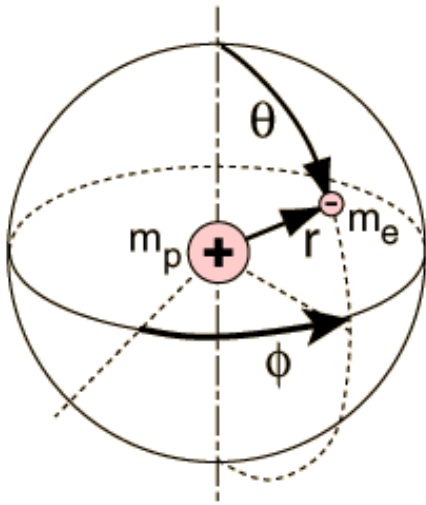
- ◆ Therefore, if  $[\hat{H}, \hat{Q}] = 0$  and  $\hat{Q}$  do not depend (directly) on time, we find:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\langle Q \rangle = 0$$

- ◆ Expectation value  $q = \langle Q \rangle$  does not change with time and provides us a “good quantum number” for the description of quantum system!

# Non-relativistic hydrogen

Good quantum numbers



- ◆ Schrödinger Hamiltonian in spherical coordinates:

$$\hat{H} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 - \frac{Ze^2}{r} = \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{\hat{\mathbf{L}}^2}{2mr^2} - \frac{Ze^2}{r} \right)$$

- ◆ Its eigenfunctions:  $\psi(\mathbf{r}) = \psi(r, \theta, \varphi) = R_{nl}(r) Y_{lm_l}(\theta, \varphi)$

- ◆ Operators  $\hat{H}, \hat{L}_z, \hat{\mathbf{L}}^2$  commute with each other:  $[\hat{\mathbf{L}}^2, \hat{H}] = 0, [\hat{L}_z, \hat{H}] = 0, [\hat{\mathbf{L}}^2, \hat{L}_z] = 0$

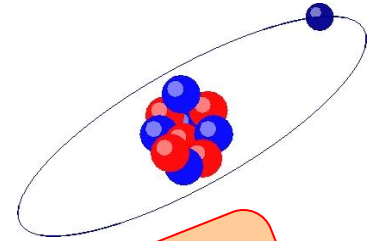
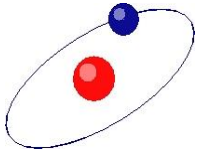
- ◆ And:  $\hat{\mathbf{L}}^2 \psi(\mathbf{r}) = l(l+1)\hbar^2 \psi(\mathbf{r}), \hat{L}_z \psi(\mathbf{r}) = m_l \hbar \psi(\mathbf{r}), \hat{H} \psi(\mathbf{r}) = E \psi(\mathbf{r})$



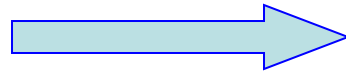
**(n, l, m) are good quantum numbers.  
... but only in the nonrelativistic case!**

# Relativistic hydrogen

„Bad“ quantum numbers



$$\hat{H}_S = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 - \frac{Ze^2}{r}$$



$$\hat{H}_D = -i\hbar c \boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \nabla + \beta m c^2 - \frac{Ze^2}{r}$$

$$\psi_{nlm_l}(\mathbf{r}) = R_{nl}(r) Y_{lm_l}(\theta, \varphi)$$

$$\psi_{nlm_l}(\mathbf{r}) \chi_{sm_s}(\sigma)$$

- ◆ In Dirac's theory, however, neither  $L$  nor  $L^2$  commute with Hamiltonian. Instead,  $\mathbf{S}$  and  $\mathbf{J}$  are good quantum numbers.

**Quantum numbers  $l, m_l, s, m_s$  are not "good" for relativistic Hamiltonian! But what is good quantum number then?**

- ◆ The Dirac spin operator:  $\hat{S} = \frac{\hbar}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\sigma} & 0 \\ 0 & \hat{\sigma} \end{pmatrix}$

$$[\hat{S}, \hat{H}] = -i\hbar c \boldsymbol{\alpha} \times \mathbf{p}$$



## Task 5.1

**Please, prove commutation relations for the Dirac Hamiltonian:**

$$[\hat{\mathbf{L}}, \hat{H}] = i\hbar c \boldsymbol{\alpha} \times \mathbf{p}$$

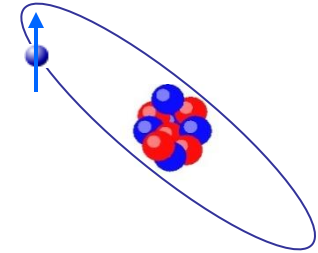
**and**

$$[\hat{\mathbf{S}}, \hat{H}] = -i\hbar c \boldsymbol{\alpha} \times \mathbf{p}$$

# Relativistic hydrogen

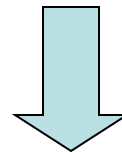
- ◆ Dirac equation for the hydrogen-like ions:

$$\left( -i\hbar c \boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \nabla - \frac{Ze^2}{r} + m_e c^2 \alpha_0 \right) \psi(\mathbf{r}) = E \psi(\mathbf{r})$$

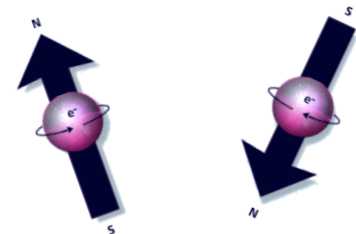


- ◆ Why  $l$ ,  $m_l$ ,  $s$ ,  $m_s$  are not good quantum numbers?

- ◆ The main difference from the non-relativistic picture is the spin of electron!



**Spin-orbit interaction!**

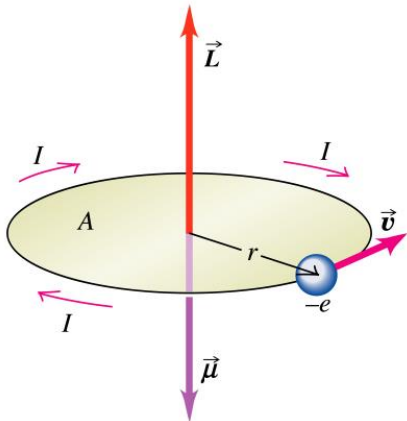




# Spin-orbit interaction (1)

(qualitative and rather rough derivation)

✓ Please, remind yourself discussion from the last lecture concerning magnetic dipole moment



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In classical  
electrodynamics:

$$|\mu| = I \cdot A$$

current

vector area  
of the  
current loop

$$|\mu| = I \cdot A = \frac{q}{T} \pi r^2 = \frac{qv}{2\pi r} \pi r^2 = \frac{q}{2m} L$$

In quantum mechanics,  
for electron:  $q = -e$

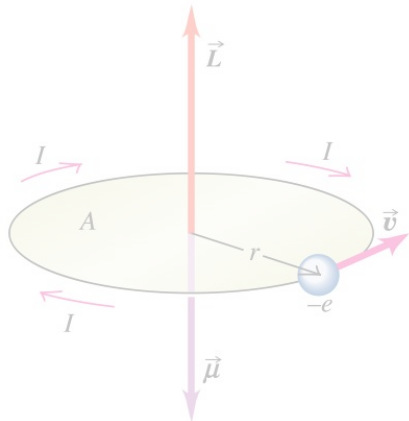
$$\hat{\mu}_l = -\mu_0 \hat{L} / \hbar, \quad \mu_0 = \frac{e\hbar}{2m_e}$$

Bohr magneton

# Spin-orbit interaction (1)

(qualitative and rather rough derivation)

✓ Let us move to the rest frame of electron (we are riding with electron)



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In classical electrodynamics:

$$|\mu| = I \cdot A$$

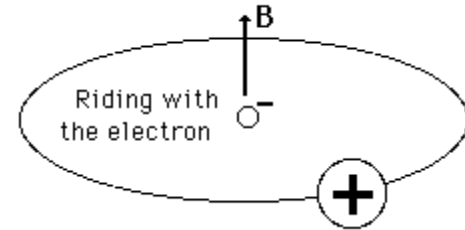
current                      vector area of the current loop

$$|\mu| = I \cdot A = \frac{q}{T} \pi r^2 = \frac{qv}{2\pi r} \pi r^2 = \frac{q}{2m} L$$

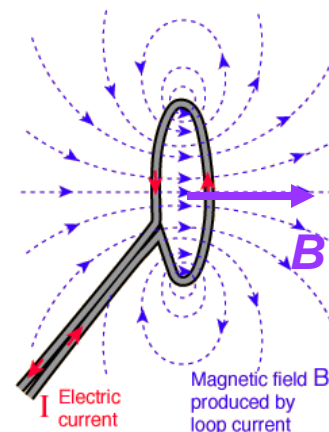
In quantum mechanics, for electron:  $q = -e$

$$\hat{\mu}_l = -\mu_0 \hat{L} / \hbar, \quad \mu_0 = \frac{e\hbar}{2m_e}$$

Bohr magneton



◆ In the rest frame of electron there is a magnetic field caused by the relative motion of the nucleus (magnetic field of current loop)!



$$B = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2r}$$

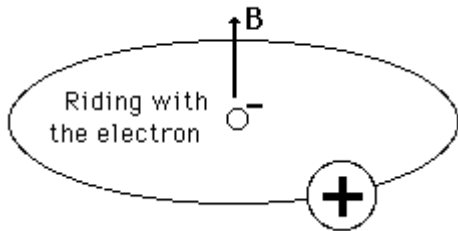
where

$$I = \frac{Ze}{T} = \frac{Zev}{2\pi r}$$

$$= \frac{Ze}{2\pi r^2} mvr$$

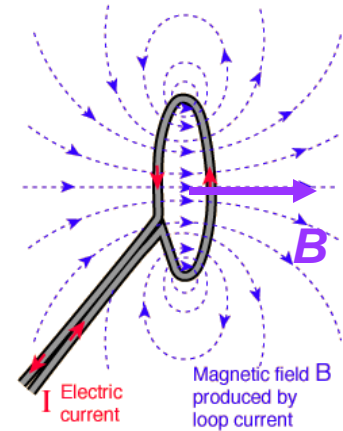
# Spin-orbit interaction (2)

(qualitative and rather rough derivation)



- ◆ In the rest frame of electron there is a magnetic field caused by the relative motion of the nucleus (magnetic field of current loop)!

$$\mathbf{B} = \frac{\mu_0 Z e \mathbf{L}}{4\pi r^3 m} = \xi(r) \mathbf{L}$$



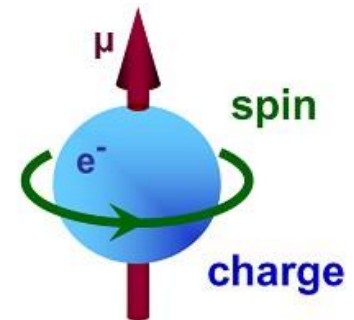
- ◆ Electron has spin (intrinsic moment) and, hence, spin magnetic moment:

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_s = -g_s \mu_0 \hat{\mathbf{S}} / \hbar$$

- ◆ Which interacts with external field as:

$$\hat{H}' = -\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_s \cdot \mathbf{B} = \zeta(r) \hat{\mathbf{L}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{S}}$$

Spin-orbit term! (A more rigorous derivation requires detailed analysis of Dirac equation.)

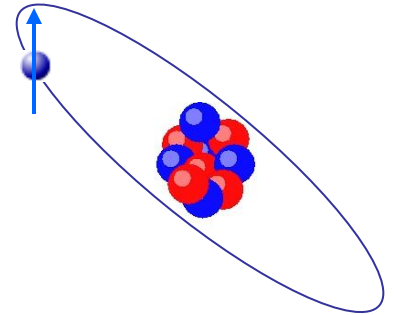


# Spin-orbit interaction (3)

(qualitative and rather rough derivation)

- ◆ Coming back to Dirac equation for the hydrogen-like ions:

$$\left( -i\hbar c \boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \nabla - \frac{Ze^2}{r} + m_e c^2 \alpha_0 \right) \psi(\mathbf{r}) = E \psi(\mathbf{r})$$



- ◆ Which should include the spin-orbit term:  $\hat{H}' = -\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_s \cdot \mathbf{B} = \zeta(r) \hat{\mathbf{L}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{S}}$

- ▶ Now it becomes clear why the wavefunction

$$\psi_{nlm_l s m_s}(\mathbf{r}) = R_{nl}(r) Y_{lm_l}(\theta, \varphi) \chi_{sm_s}(\sigma)$$

is not adequate for Dirac's case and, hence,  $l$ ,  $m_l$ ,  $s$ ,  $m_s$  are “bad” quantum numbers.

- ▶ The reason is:  $\hat{\mathbf{L}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{S}}$  does not commute with  $L_z$  or  $S_z$

What to do?

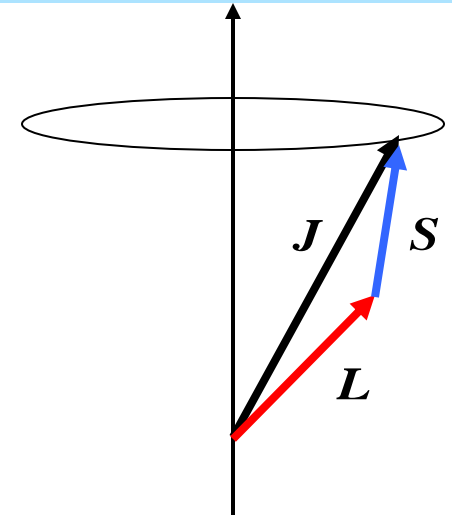
Obviously: we have to build from  $L$  and  $S$  operator which commutes with  $LS$ .

# Total angular momentum

- We shall introduce the total angular momentum :

$$\vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S}$$

Total angular momentum  $\vec{J}$  is the sum of Orbital angular momentum  $\vec{L}$  and Spin  $\vec{S}$ .



- Operators  $\hat{J}^2$  and  $J_z$  commutes with  $LS$  and with Dirac Hamiltonian!



$\hat{J}$  is a “right” observable for the Dirac equation!

- Since like any other angular momentum it satisfies:

$$\hat{J}^2 \Omega_{jm_j} = j(j+1)\hbar^2 \Omega_{jm_j} \quad \hat{J}_z \Omega_{jm_j} = m_j \hbar \Omega_{jm_j}$$

Now we can describe the state of relativistic hydrogen atom (ion) by set of quantum numbers:  $n, j, m_j$

... and by parity.

 Task 5.2

Please, prove that operator  $\hat{L} \cdot \hat{S}$  commute with  $\hat{J}^2, \hat{J}_z$

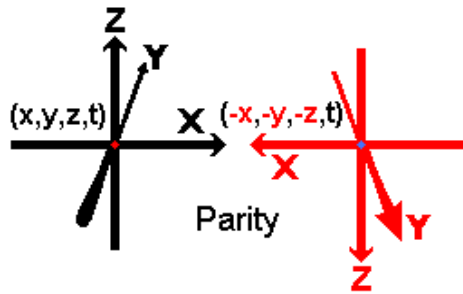
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- ◆ **Reminder from the last lecture: Free-particle solution**
- ◆ **Dirac's spectroscopic notations**
  - ⊕ **Integrals of motion**
  - ⊕ **Parity of states**
- ◆ **Energy levels of the bound-state Dirac's particle**
- ◆ **Structure of Dirac's wavefunction**
- ◆ **Radial components of the Dirac's wavefunction**

# Parity operator

- Solutions of the Dirac (as well as Schrödinger) equation may be separated on the basis of their response to spatial coordinate inversion.

- Parity operator:



$$\hat{P}\mathbf{r} = \hat{P} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -x \\ -y \\ -z \end{pmatrix}$$

Cartesian coordinates

$$\hat{P}\mathbf{r} = \hat{P} \begin{pmatrix} r \\ \theta \\ \varphi \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} r \\ \pi - \theta \\ \varphi + \pi \end{pmatrix}$$

Spherical coordinates

- For the Schrödinger case the parity operator commutes with Hamiltonian:

$$[\hat{P}, \hat{H}_S] = 0 \quad \text{where} \quad \hat{H}_S = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 - \frac{Ze^2}{r}$$

Parity is a good quantum number!

- Hence, solutions of Schrödinger equation are - at the same time - eigenfunctions of permutation operator:

$$\hat{P}\psi_{nlm_l}(\mathbf{r}) = \psi_{nlm_l}(-\mathbf{r}) = \varepsilon\psi_{nlm_l}(\mathbf{r})$$



# Parity operator

- For the Schrödinger case the parity operator commutes with Hamiltonian:

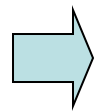
$$[\hat{P}, \hat{H}_S] = 0 \quad \text{where} \quad \hat{H}_S = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 - \frac{Ze^2}{r}$$

Parity is a good quantum number!

- Hence, solutions of Schrödinger equation are - at the same time - eigenfunctions of permutation operator:

$$\hat{P} \psi_{nlm_l}(\mathbf{r}) = \psi_{nlm_l}(-\mathbf{r}) = \varepsilon \psi_{nlm_l}(\mathbf{r})$$

- How to find eigenvalue  $\varepsilon$ ?  $\hat{P}^2 \psi_{nlm_l}(\mathbf{r}) = \varepsilon \hat{P} \psi_{nlm_l}(\mathbf{r}) = \varepsilon^2 \psi_{nlm_l}(\mathbf{r})$



$$\varepsilon = \pm 1$$

Solutions of Schrödinger equation are either having even or odd parity! Why we usually don't use  $\varepsilon$  as an additional quantum number?

- By employing properties of spherical harmonics we may find:

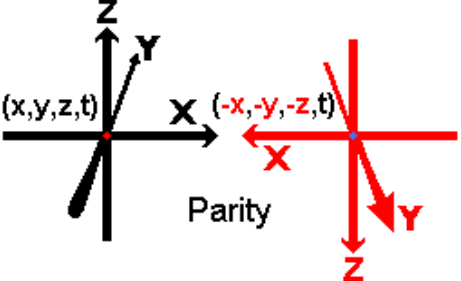
$$\hat{P} \psi_{nlm_l}(\mathbf{r}) = \hat{P} [R_{nl}(r) Y_{lm_l}(\theta, \varphi)] = R_{nl}(r) Y_{lm_l}(\pi - \theta, \varphi + \pi) = (-1)^l R_{nl}(r) Y_{lm_l}(\theta, \varphi) = (-1)^l \psi_{nlm_l}(\mathbf{r})$$

Orbital momentum / defines also parity!

How it is for Dirac case?

# Parity of Dirac states

- Solutions of the Dirac (as well as Schrödinger) equation may be separated on the basis of their response to spatial coordinate inversion.

$$\hat{P}\mathbf{r} = \hat{P} \begin{pmatrix} r \\ \theta \\ \varphi \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} r \\ \pi - \theta \\ \varphi + \pi \end{pmatrix}$$


$$\hat{P}\Psi(\mathbf{r}) = \Psi(-\mathbf{r})$$

- Dirac equation:**  $\hat{H}_D = -i\hbar c \boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \nabla - \frac{Ze^2}{r} + m_e c^2 \alpha_0$

- Does not commute with non-relativistic parity operator:**  $[\hat{H}_D, \hat{P}] \neq 0$

- But:**  $[\hat{H}_D, \alpha_0 \hat{P}] = 0$  where  $\alpha_0 = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} & 0 \\ 0 & -\mathbf{I} \end{pmatrix}$

(Dirac's) parity is a good quantum number!  
... but what does it mean?

# Structure of Dirac wavefunctions

- Stationary Dirac equation for particle in Coulomb field reads:

$$\left( -i\hbar c \boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \nabla - \frac{Ze^2}{r} + m_e c^2 \alpha_0 \right) \psi(\mathbf{r}) = E \psi(\mathbf{r})$$

- The four-spinor  $\psi(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_1(\mathbf{r}) \\ \varphi_2(\mathbf{r}) \\ \varphi_3(\mathbf{r}) \\ \varphi_4(\mathbf{r}) \end{pmatrix}$  is more convenient to write as:  $\psi(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{pmatrix} g(\mathbf{r}) \\ f(\mathbf{r}) \end{pmatrix}$

- In this case:  $\alpha_0 \hat{P} \psi(\mathbf{r}) = \alpha_0 \hat{P} \begin{pmatrix} g(\mathbf{r}) \\ f(\mathbf{r}) \end{pmatrix} = \alpha_0 \begin{pmatrix} g(-\mathbf{r}) \\ f(-\mathbf{r}) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} g(-\mathbf{r}) \\ -f(-\mathbf{r}) \end{pmatrix}$ 

←

large component  

←

small component

- Obviously, since the wavefunction  $\psi(\mathbf{r})$  should have definite parity, its large and small components must have an opposite parities!

For the spectroscopic notation one uses parity of the large component.

# Structure of Dirac wavefunctions

- We just found:  $\alpha_0 \hat{P} \psi(\mathbf{r}) = \alpha_0 \hat{P} \begin{pmatrix} g(\mathbf{r}) \\ f(\mathbf{r}) \end{pmatrix} = \alpha_0 \begin{pmatrix} g(-\mathbf{r}) \\ f(-\mathbf{r}) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} g(-\mathbf{r}) \\ -f(-\mathbf{r}) \end{pmatrix}$ 

← large component  
← small component

- We shall remember from the nonrelativistic quantum mechanics that parity is related to the orbital angular momentum  $l$ :

$$\hat{P} \psi_{nlm_l}(\mathbf{r}) = \hat{P} [R_{nl}(r) Y_{lm_l}(\theta, \varphi)] = R_{nl}(r) Y_{lm_l}(\pi - \theta, \varphi + \pi) = (-1)^l \psi_{nlm_l}(\mathbf{r})$$

- We can attribute to the large and small components their (individual) angular momenta  $l$ :

one  $j$  (good quantum number)
 

⇒  
⇒

$l$  (and  $p=(-1)^l$ ) for large component  
 $l'$  (and  $p=(-1)^{l'}$ ) for small component

Completely confused? OK, now it becomes easier....

## ⊕ Task 5.3

Consider an operator:

$$H_W = f(\mathbf{r}) \gamma_5 \quad \text{where} \quad \gamma_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I \\ I & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and } f(r) \text{ is some even function.}$$

Prove that matrix element of this operator:

$$\langle \psi_a | H_W | \psi_b \rangle$$

is non-vanishing only if the functions  $\psi_a$  and  $\psi_b$  are opposite-parity functions (for example 2s and  $2p_{1/2}$ ).

# Dirac quantum number $\kappa$

- To make relativistic notations of the bound-state Dirac's states more convenient a new quantum number  $\kappa$  is introduced (which combines together  $j$ ,  $l$  ( $l'$ ) and parity:)

$$\kappa = -1, +1, -2, +2, -3, +3, \dots$$

$$j = |\kappa| - 1/2$$

$$l = \begin{cases} \kappa & \kappa > 0 \\ -\kappa - 1 & \kappa < 0 \end{cases}, \quad l' = \begin{cases} -\kappa & \kappa < 0 \\ \kappa - 1 & \kappa > 0 \end{cases}$$



Finally: we shall describe Dirac's states by quantum numbers:

$$n \kappa m_j \Leftrightarrow n \kappa l l' j m_j$$

# Spectroscopic notations

Shell	$n$	$n' = n -  \kappa $	$\kappa = \pm(j + \frac{1}{2})$	$j$	$l$	$l'$	Notation
K	1	0	-1	1/2	0	1	1s <sub>1/2</sub>
L	2	1	-1	1/2	0	1	2s <sub>1/2</sub>
		1	+1	1/2	1	0	2p <sub>1/2</sub>
		0	-2	3/2	1	2	2p <sub>3/2</sub>
M	3	2	-1	1/2	0	1	3s <sub>1/2</sub>
		2	+1	1/2	1	0	3p <sub>1/2</sub>
		1	-2	3/2	1	2	3p <sub>3/2</sub>
		1	+2	3/2	2	1	3d <sub>3/2</sub>
		0	-3	5/2	2	3	3d <sub>5/2</sub>

- Finally, we know how to characterize bound states of (relativistic) hydrogen.
- What are the energies of these states?

# Plan of lecture

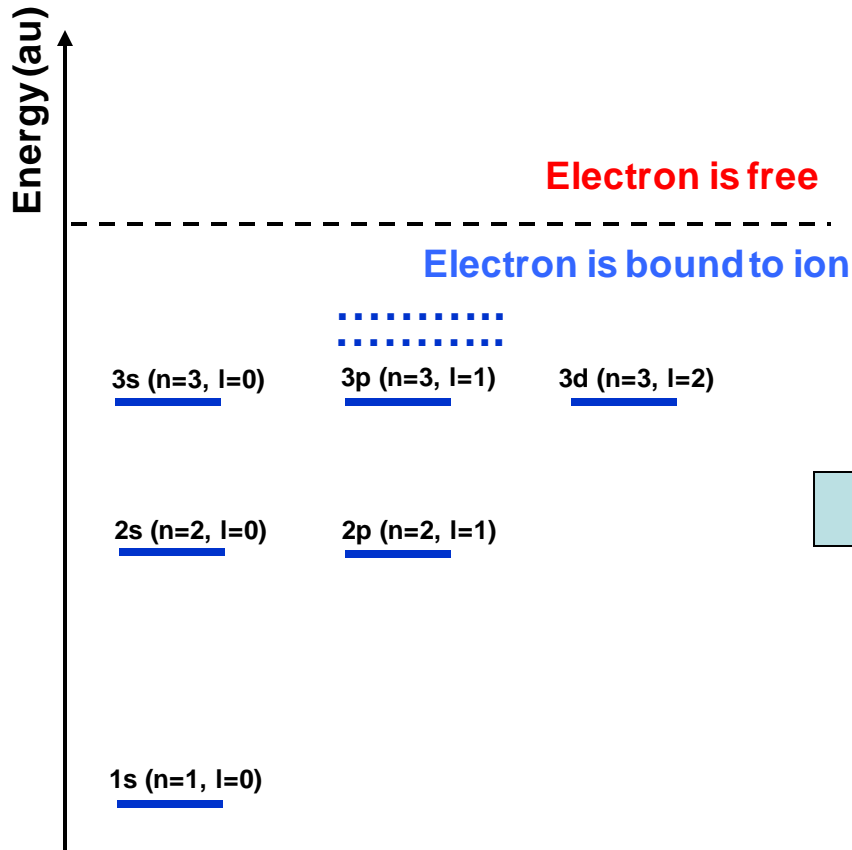
- ◆ **Reminder from the last lecture: Free-particle solution**
- ◆ **Dirac's spectroscopic notations**
  - ⊕ **Integrals of motion**
  - ⊕ **Parity of states**
- ◆ **Energy levels of the bound-state Dirac's particle**
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- ◆ **Radial components of the Dirac's wavefunction**



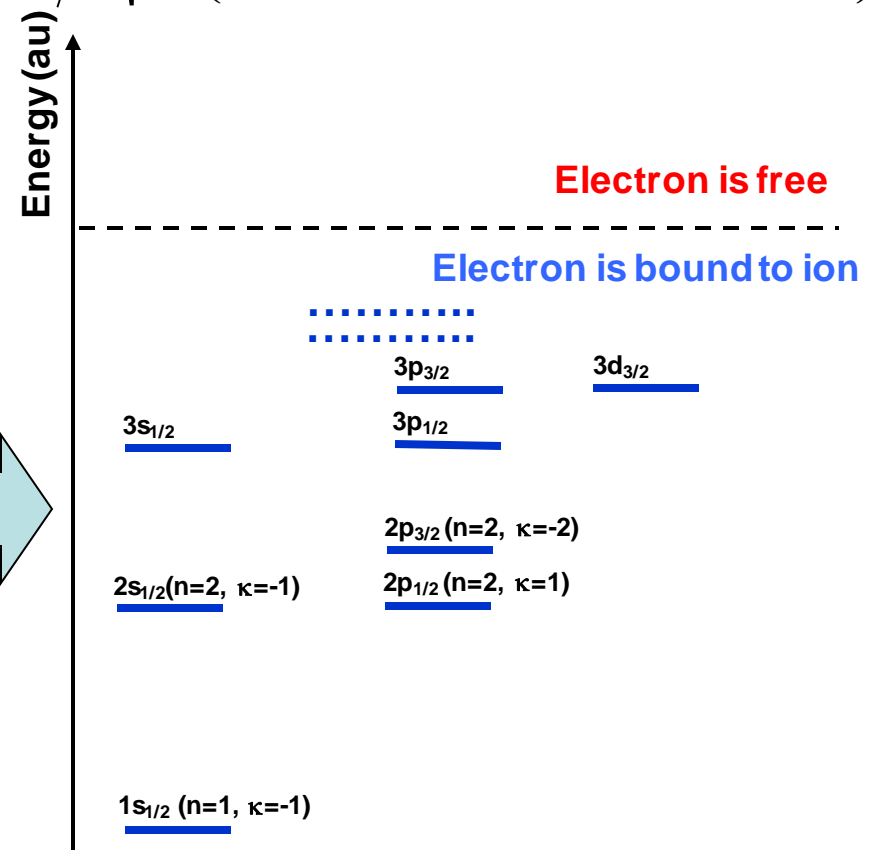
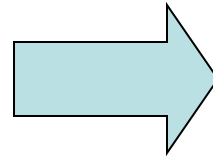
# Energy levels of hydrogen ion

$$E_n = -Z^2 \varepsilon_0 / 2n^2$$

$$E_{nj} = mc^2 / \sqrt{1 + \left( \frac{Z\alpha}{n - |j + 1/2| + \sqrt{(j + 1/2)^2 - (Z\alpha)^2}} \right)^2}$$



**All state with the same n are degenerated!**



**All state with the same n and j are degenerated!**

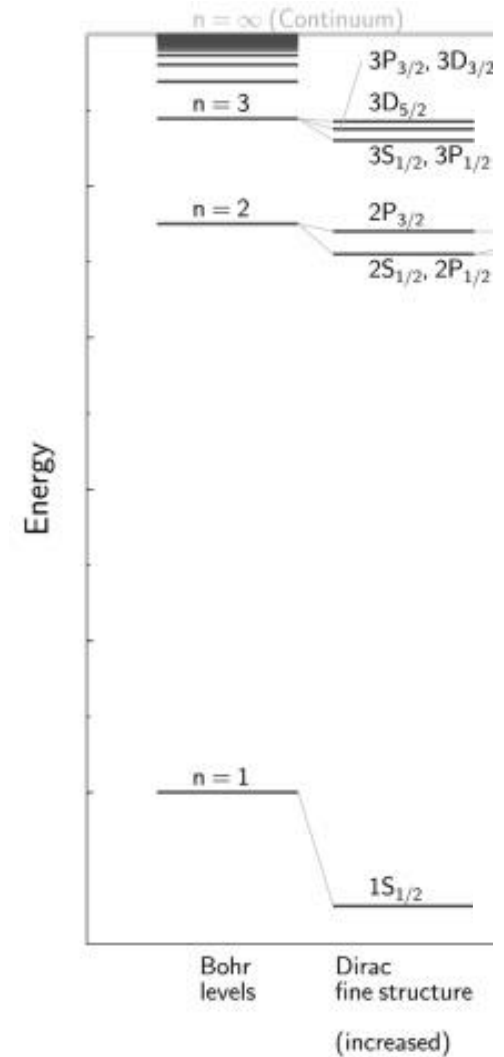
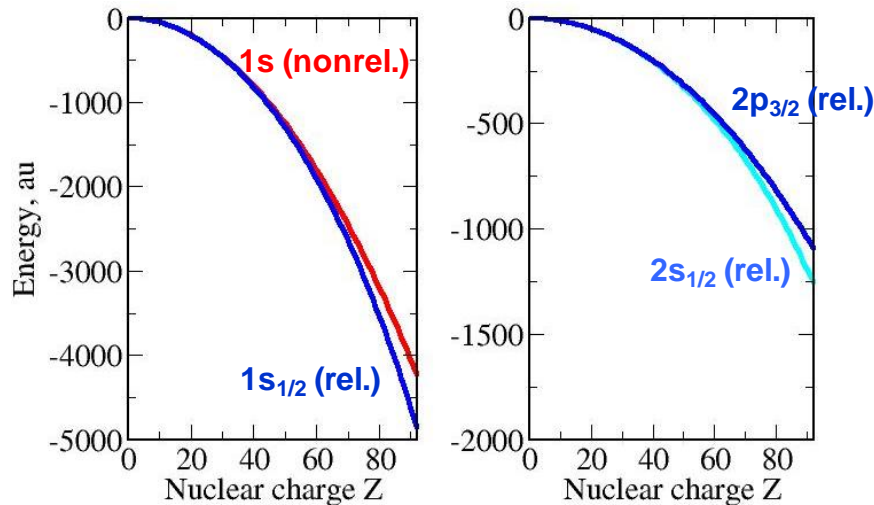
# Energy levels of hydrogen ion

$$E_{nj} = mc^2 / \sqrt{1 + \left( \frac{Z\alpha}{n - |j + 1/2| + \sqrt{(j + 1/2)^2 - (Z\alpha)^2}} \right)^2}$$

$$\approx mc^2 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{(\alpha Z)^2}{n^2} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{(\alpha Z)^4}{n^3} \left( \frac{1}{j + 1/2} - \frac{3}{4n} \right) - \dots \right)$$

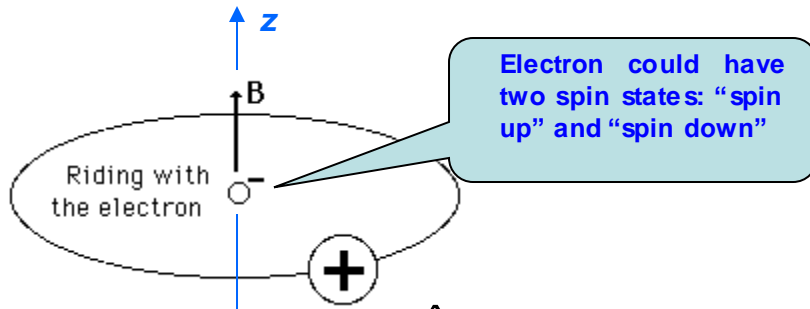
Rest mass term      Nonrelativistic energy      First relativistic correction

- Relativistic effects results both in shifting and splitting of energy levels.

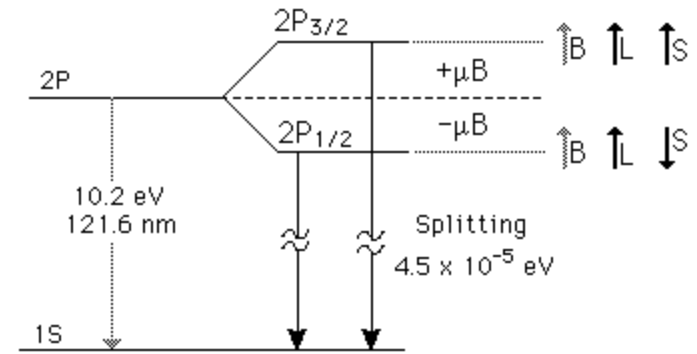


# Splitting of energy levels

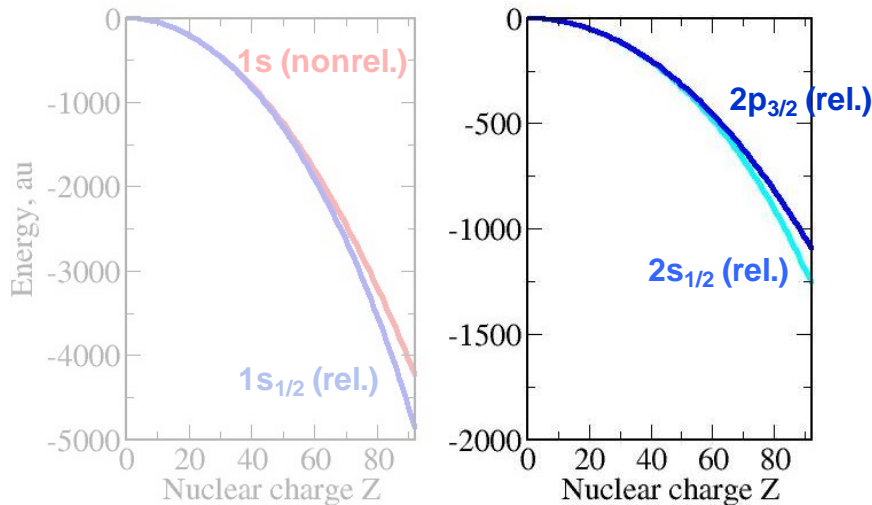
- Splitting of energy levels with the same principal quantum number  $n$  but different total angular momenta  $j$  can be seen as a result of spin-orbit interaction:



Spin-orbit interaction:  $\hat{H}' = -\hat{\mu}_s \cdot \mathbf{B} = \zeta(r) \hat{\mathbf{L}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{S}}$



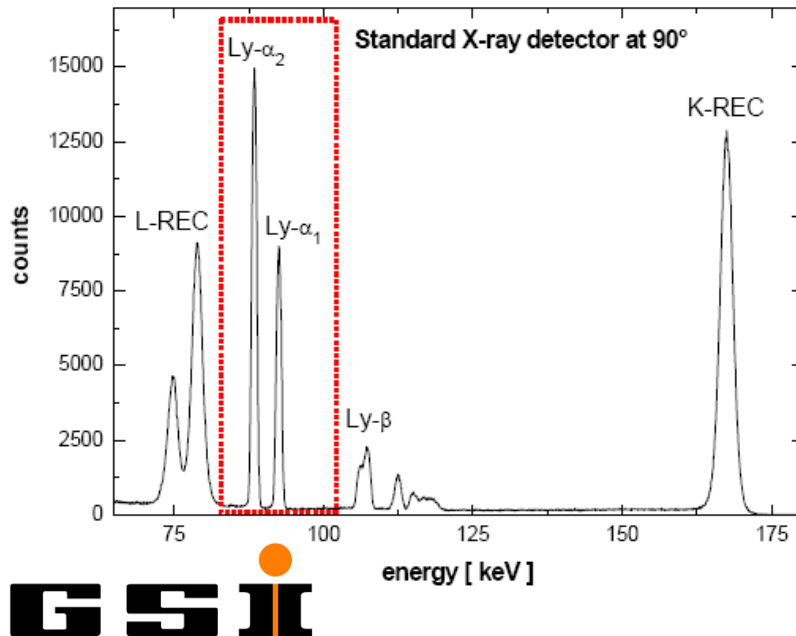
Pictures from: [hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu](http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu)



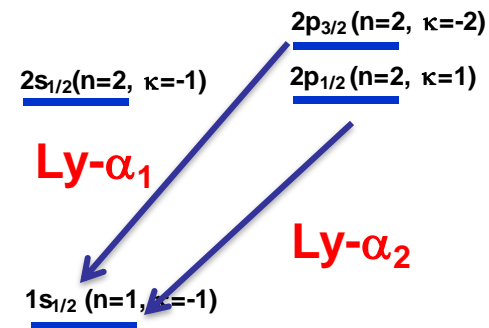
- For neutral hydrogen fine structure splitting is very small but increases with nuclear charge  $Z$ .

# Splitting of energy levels

- Can one observe fine-structure splitting of energy levels in experiment? Yes!



- ▶ Example: Fine-structure splitting in H-like uranium ion.



- Nowadays a fine-structure spectroscopy of heavy ions plays an important role in studying relativistic, QED and many-electron effects in atomic systems.

## ✦ Task 5.4

Calculate the energies of the Ly- $\alpha_1$  and Ly- $\alpha_2$  lines of hydrogen-like uranium. Compare with experimental findings presented on the previous transparency.

# Plan of lecture

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# Structure of Dirac wavefunctions

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What are the (large and small) components of wavefunction?

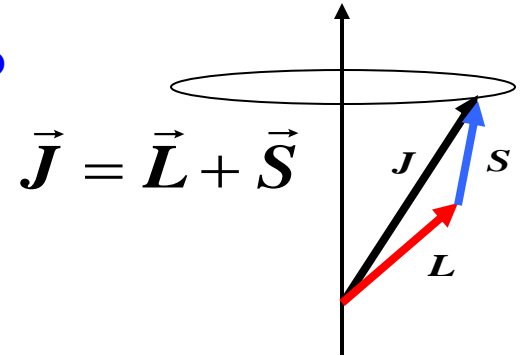
- ◆ Please, remind yourself our (wrong) guess:

$$\psi_{nlm_l s m_s}(\mathbf{r}) = R_{nl}(r) Y_{lm_l}(\theta, \varphi) \chi_{sm_s}(\sigma)$$

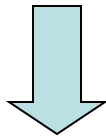
What is wrong here? We already learned that  $l$  and  $s$  should be coupled together to form total angular momentum  $j$ .

# Building Dirac spinor

- ◆ We shall “couple” together angular momentum and spin to obtain total angular momentum:



$$Y_{lm_l}(\theta, \varphi) \chi_{sm_s}(\sigma)$$



$$\Omega_{ljm_j}(\hat{r}) = \sum_{m_l m_s} \left( lm_l \ sm_s \mid jm_j \right) Y_{lm_l}(\theta, \varphi) \chi_{sm_s}(\sigma)$$

Clebsch-Gordan coefficients  
(more detailed discuss comes later)

- ◆ Dirac spinors are the eigenfunctions of operators  $\hat{J}^2$  and  $\hat{J}_z$ :

$$\hat{J}^2 \Omega_{jm_j} = j(j+1)\hbar^2 \Omega_{jm_j}$$

$$\hat{J}_z \Omega_{jm_j} = m_j \hbar \Omega_{jm_j}$$



# Structure of Dirac wavefunctions

- Stationary Dirac equation for particle in Coulomb field reads:

$$\left( -i\hbar c \boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \nabla - \frac{Ze^2}{r} + m_e c^2 \alpha_0 \right) \psi(\mathbf{r}) = E \psi(\mathbf{r})$$

- Wavefunctions can be written now as:  $\psi_{nljm_j}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{r} \begin{pmatrix} g_{nj}(r) \Omega_{ljm_j}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}) \\ i f_{nj}(r) \Omega_{l'jm_j}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}) \end{pmatrix}$

- Where the angular and spin dependence is in Dirac spinors:

$$\Omega_{ljm_j}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}) = \sum_{m_l m_s} \left( l m_l \ s m_s \mid j m_j \right) Y_{lm_l}(\theta, \varphi) \chi_{sm_s}(\sigma)$$

- And  $g(r)$  and  $f(r)$  are the large and small radial components of the Dirac wavefunction.

◆ How to find these radial components?

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# Coupled radial equations

- By substituting wavefunction  $\psi_{nljm_j}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{r} \begin{pmatrix} g_{n\kappa}(r) \Omega_{ljm_j}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}) \\ i f_{n\kappa}(r) \Omega_{l'jm_j}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}) \end{pmatrix}$

- into Dirac's equation  $\left( -i\hbar c \boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \nabla - \frac{Ze^2}{r} + m_e c^2 \alpha_0 \right) \psi(\mathbf{r}) = E \psi(\mathbf{r})$

- we obtain the coupled radial equations:

$$\left( \frac{d f_{n\kappa}(r)}{dr} - \frac{\kappa}{r} f_{n\kappa}(r) \right) = -(E - V(r) - m_e c^2) g_{n\kappa}(r)$$

$$\left( \frac{d g_{n\kappa}(r)}{dr} + \frac{\kappa}{r} g_{n\kappa}(r) \right) = (E - V(r) + m_e c^2) f_{n\kappa}(r)$$

- which can be solved and ...

# Dirac's radial components

- We finally may derive analytic expressions for the radial components of the Dirac's equation (for point-like nucleus!):

$$f_{n\kappa}(r) = N_{n\kappa} \sqrt{1 + W_{n\kappa} r} (2qr)^{s-1} e^{-qr} \\ \times \left[ -n' F(-n' + 1, 2s + 1; 2qr) - \left( \kappa - \frac{\alpha Z}{q\lambda_c} \right) F(-n', 2s + 1; 2qr) \right],$$

$$g_{n\kappa}(r) = -N_{n\kappa} \sqrt{1 - W_{n\kappa} r} (2qr)^{s-1} e^{-qr} \\ \times \left[ n' F(-n' + 1, 2s + 1; 2qr) - \left( \kappa - \frac{\alpha Z}{q\lambda_c} \right) F(-n', 2s + 1; 2qr) \right],$$

where  $n' = n - |\kappa| = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  denotes the number of nodes of the radial components,  $\lambda_c = \hbar/m_e c$  the Compton length of the electron, and

$$s = \frac{\sqrt{\kappa^2 - (\alpha Z)^2}}{Z},$$

$$q = \frac{Z}{\sqrt{(\alpha Z)^2 + (n' + s)^2}}.$$

Moreover, the normalization factor

$$N_{n\kappa} = \frac{\sqrt{2} q^{5/2} \lambda_c}{\Gamma(2s + 1)} \left[ \frac{\Gamma(2s + n' + 1)}{n'! (\alpha Z) (\alpha Z - \kappa q \lambda_c)} \right]^{1/2}$$

the so-called hypergeometric function

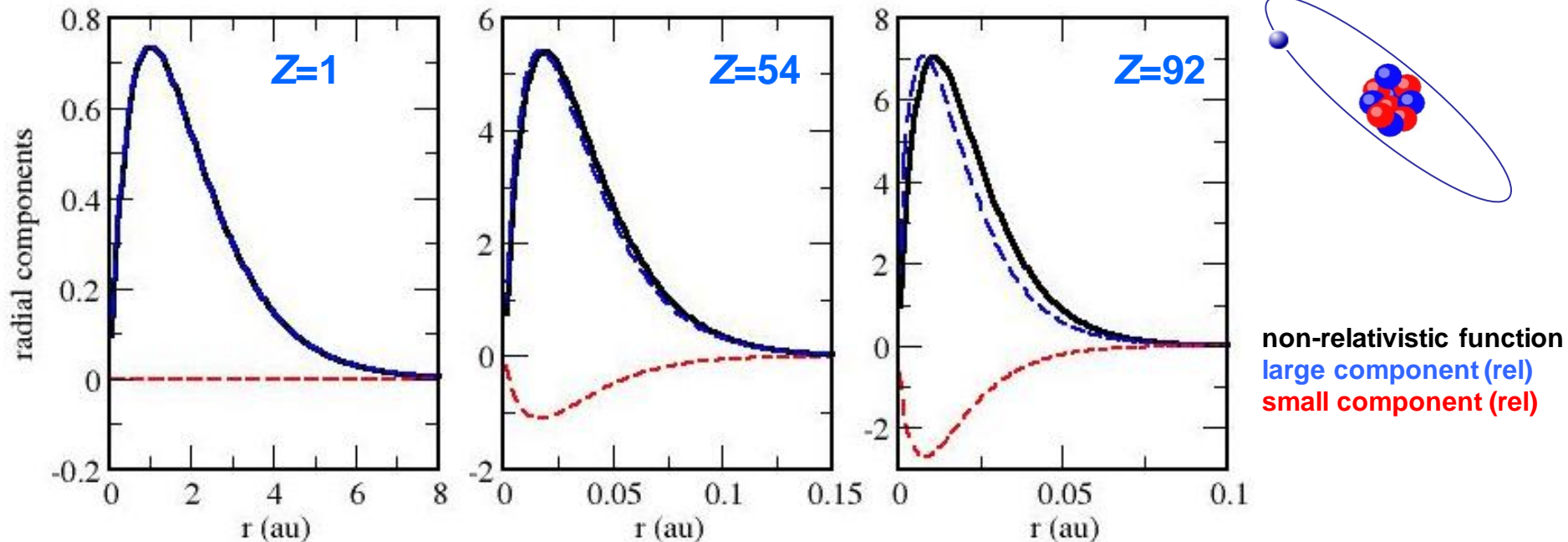
- Radial components of the Dirac's equation are implemented in many computer codes so there is usually no need to re-program these relations again.



# Dirac's radial components

(...behaviour)

- Let us consider radial components of the wavefunction  $\psi_{nljm_j}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{r} \begin{pmatrix} g_{nj}(r) \Omega_{ljm_j}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}) \\ i f_{nj}(r) \Omega_{l'jm_j}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}) \end{pmatrix}$  for particular case of  $1s_{1/2}$  ground state.



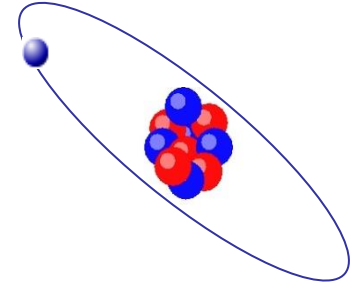
- ▶ For low-Z regime: Dirac and Schrödinger wavefunctions basically coincides.
- ▶ For high-Z regime: small component becomes significant and ...

# Relativistic contraction of atomic orbitals

- From the simple model one can “estimate” the electron “velocity” in the ground state:

$$v = (\alpha Z) c$$

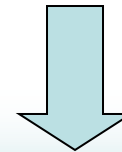
Speed of light



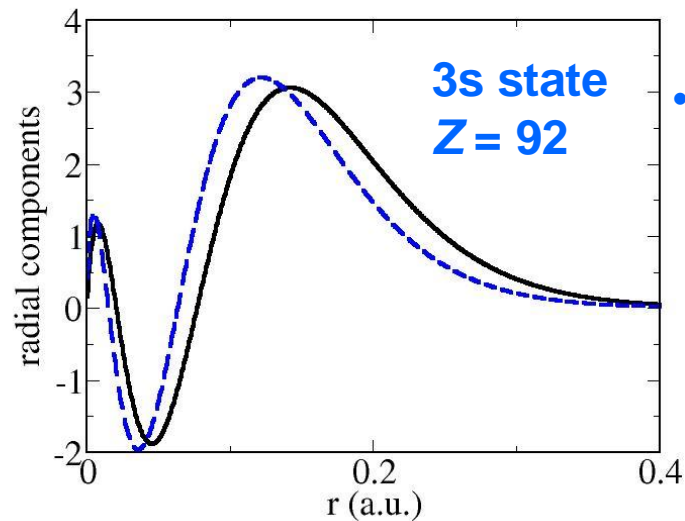
- For hydrogen-like Uranium ( $Z=92$ ):  $\alpha Z \approx 0.67$

- due to STR:  $m_{\text{el}} = \frac{m_{\text{el}}^0}{\sqrt{1-(v/c)^2}}$  (electron becomes heavier)

- due to simple Bohr's model:  $r_n \propto \frac{n^2}{Z m_{\text{el}}}$



As the electron's mass increases, the radius of an orbit with constant angular momentum shrinks proportionately.



# Plan of lectures

- 1 15.04.2015 Preliminary Discussion / Introduction
- 2 22.04.2015 Experiments (discovery of the positron, formation of antihydrogen, ...)
- 3 29.04.2015 Experiments (Lamb shift, hyperfine structure, quasimolecules and MO spectra)
- 4 06.05.2015 Theory (from Schrödinger to Dirac equation, solutions with negative energy)
- 5 13.05.2015 Theory (bound-state solutions of Dirac equation, quantum numbers)
- 6 20.05.2015 Theory (matrix elements and their evaluation, radiative decay and absorption)
- 7 27.05.2015 Experiment (photoionization, radiative recombination, ATI, HHG...)
- 8 03.06.2015 Theory (single and multiple scattering, energy loss mechanisms, channeling regime)
- 9 10.06.2015 Experiment (Kamiokande, cancer therapy, ....)
- 10 17.06.2015 Experiment (Auger decay, dielectronic recombination, double ionization)
- 11 24.06.2015 Theory (interelectronic interactions, extension of Dirac (and Schrödinger) theory for the description of many-electron systems, approximate methods)
- 12 01.07.2015 Theory (atomic-physics tests of the Standard Model, search for a new physics)
- 13 08.07.2015 Experiment (Atomic physics PNC experiments (Cs,...), heavy ion PV research)