The Hydrogen Atom.

The Φ equation.

The first equation we want to solve is

$$\frac{d^2\Phi}{d\varphi^2} = -m^2\Phi$$

This equation is of familiar form; recall that for the free particle, we had

$$\frac{d^2\psi}{dx^2} = -k^2\psi$$

for which the solution is

 $\psi(x) = a_0 \cos kx + a_1 / k \sin kx$

Since

$$e^{\pm ix} = \cos x \pm i \sin x$$

a more general solution to equations of this type is

$$\Phi = A e^{im\phi} + B e^{-im\phi}$$

In order that

$$\Phi(\phi) = \Phi(\phi + 2\pi)$$
The value of Φ at some value of ϕ
must be the same at $\phi + 2\pi$, since Φ
is periodic.

it is necessary that

$$A e^{im\phi} + B e^{-im\phi} = A e^{im(\phi+2\pi)} + B e^{-im(\phi+2\pi)}$$
$$= A e^{im\phi} e^{im2\pi} + B e^{-im\phi} e^{-im2\pi}$$

Since $e^{\pm im2\pi} = \cos(m 2\pi) \pm i \sin(m 2\pi) = 1$ only when $m = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2...$, the Φ equation has solutions

$$\Phi = A e^{im\phi}, m = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

We can determine A by requiring that the wavefunctions be normalized,

$$\int_{0}^{2\pi} \Phi^{*} \Phi \, d\phi = |A|^{2} \int_{0}^{2\pi} e^{-im\phi} \cdot e^{im\phi} \, d\phi = |A|^{2} \int_{0}^{2\pi} d\phi = 1$$
$$|A|^{2} (2\pi - 0) = 1 \Rightarrow |A|^{2} = \frac{1}{2\pi}, \quad A = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$$

so

$$\Phi_{\rm m} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{im\phi} \qquad m = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

are the final solutions to the Φ equation.

A postscript.

These wavefunctions are complex. Sometimes it is more useful to have real wavefunctions. These can be constructed by first defining

$$\Phi_{+} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{+i|m|\phi} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} (\cos m\phi + i \sin m\phi)$$
$$\Phi_{-} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-i|m|\phi} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} (\cos m\phi - i \sin m\phi)$$

and then adding and subtracting $\Phi_{\scriptscriptstyle +}$ and $\Phi_{\scriptscriptstyle -}$...we say, "forming linear combinations":

$$\Phi_{\text{symm}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\Phi_{+} + \Phi_{-}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}}\cos|\mathbf{m}|\phi \qquad \text{These functions are} \\ \Phi_{\text{antisymm}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\Phi_{+} - \Phi_{-}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}}\sin|\mathbf{m}|\phi \qquad \text{These functions to the} \\ \Phi \text{ equation. Try it!}$$

each of which is a real function. We cannot associate with these functions a particular m value, but only with |m|. The first three of these functions are

$$\begin{split} \Phi_0 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \\ \Phi_{\pm 1} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \cos \varphi \\ \Phi_{\pm 1} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \sin \varphi \qquad etc. \end{split}$$

The Θ equation.

The Θ equation is

$$\frac{1}{\sin\theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left(\sin\theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} \right) - \frac{m^2 \Theta}{\sin^2 \theta} + \beta \Theta = 0.$$

Rearranging,

$$\frac{d^2\Theta}{d\theta^2} + \frac{\cos\theta}{\sin\theta}\frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} + \left(\beta - \frac{m^2}{\sin^2\theta}\right)\Theta = 0.$$

Now, make the substitutions

$$x = \cos\theta , \quad \sin^2\theta = 1 - x^2$$
$$\frac{d}{d\theta} = \frac{d}{dx}\frac{dx}{d\theta} = -\sin\theta\frac{d}{dx} , \quad \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} = \sin^2\theta\frac{d^2}{dx^2} - \cos\theta\frac{d}{dx}$$

After some algebra, we get

$$(1-x^2)\frac{d^2\Theta}{dx^2} - 2x\frac{d\Theta}{dx} + \left(\beta - \frac{m^2}{(1-x^2)}\right)\Theta = 0.$$

This equation is identical to the associated equation of Legendre

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

if we identify P with Θ and β with ℓ (ℓ + 1).

The solutions P of the associated Legendre equation are called the associated Legendre functions; these may be expressed in closed form as (since $x = \cos \theta$)

$$P_{\ell}^{|m|}(\cos\theta) = (1-\cos^2\theta)^{\frac{|m|}{2}} \sum_{k=0} \frac{(-1)^k (2\ell-2k)! (\cos\theta)^{\ell-|m|-2k}}{2^\ell (\ell-k)! \, k! \, (\ell-|m|-2k)!}$$

Here, $P_{\ell}^{|m|}$ is a polynomial of degree ℓ and order |m|, where ℓ and m are integers. k is an (integer) index, and the sum (Σ) runs from k = 0 to an upper limit of

k =
$$(\ell - |\mathbf{m}|)/2$$
 if $(\ell - |\mathbf{m}|)$ is even
k = $(\ell - |\mathbf{m}| - 1)/2$ if $(\ell - |\mathbf{m}|)$ is odd

Since m is an integer, and since the solutions to the associated Legendre equation are acceptable only if $(\ell - |m|)$ is an integer, it is necessary that

$$\ell$$
 = integer , with $\ell \ge |\mathbf{m}|$.

The solutions $P(\Theta)$ must of course be normalized; the requirement that

$$1 = \int_0^{\pi} \Theta_{\ell,m}^* \Theta_{\ell,m} d\theta = \int_{-1}^1 |A|^2 P_{\ell}^{*|m|} (\cos \theta) P_{\ell}^{|m|} (\cos \theta) d (\cos \theta)$$

leads to

$$A = \left\{ \left(\frac{2\ell + 1}{2} \right) \frac{(\ell - |\mathbf{m}|!)}{(\ell + |\mathbf{m}|!)} \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

which gives

$$\Theta_{\ell,m}(\theta) = \left\{ \left(\frac{2\ell+1}{2}\right) \frac{(\ell-|\mathbf{m}|)!}{(\ell+|\mathbf{m}|)!} \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} P_{\ell}^{|\mathbf{m}|}(\cos\theta).$$

These wavefunctions, though they appear to be complicated, are not, at least for small ℓ . For example,

$$\ell = 0, \quad m = 0. \qquad \Theta_{0,0}(\theta) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$
 (s)

$$\ell = 1, \quad m = 0. \qquad \Theta_{1,0}(\theta) = \frac{\sqrt{6}}{2}\cos\theta \qquad (p)$$

$$\ell = 1, \quad m = \pm 1. \qquad \Theta_{1,\pm 1}(\theta) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\sin\theta \qquad (p)$$

Spring, 2005

$$\ell = 2, \quad m = 0. \qquad \Theta_{2,0}(\theta) = \frac{\sqrt{10}}{4} (3\cos^2 \theta - 1)$$
 (d)

$$\ell = 2, \quad m = \pm 1. \qquad \Theta_{2,\pm 1}(\theta) = \frac{\sqrt{15}}{4} \sin \theta \cos \theta \qquad (d)$$

$$\ell = 2, \quad m = \pm 2. \qquad \Theta_{2,\pm 2}(\theta) = \frac{\sqrt{15}}{4} \sin^2 \theta$$
 (d)

You have already met these functions before, though possibly not in this form. These are the angular functions describing the probability amplitudes in s, p, d orbitals!

Some postscripts.

• The associated Legendre functions are derivatives of the Legendre polynomials P_ℓ (cos $\theta)$

$$P_{\ell}^{m}(x) = (1-x^{2})^{\frac{m}{2}} \frac{d^{m}}{dx^{m}} P_{\ell}(x)$$

The L. polynomials

$$P_{\ell}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{k=0}^{k=0} \frac{(-1)^{k} (2\ell - 2k)! \mathbf{x}^{\ell-2k}}{2^{\ell} (\ell-k)! k! (\ell-2k)!}$$
 upper limit on Σ : $\ell/2$ if ℓ even. $(\ell-1)/2$ if ℓ odd.

are, in turn, solutions of the Legendre equation

$$(1-x^2)\frac{d^2z}{dx^2} - 2x\frac{dz}{dx} + \ell(\ell+1)z = 0 \qquad (z = P).$$

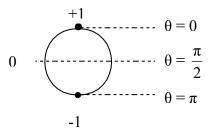
- The functions $\sqrt{\ell + \frac{1}{2}}$ $P_{\ell}(\cos \theta)$ and $P_{\ell}^{|m|}(\cos \theta)$ form an orthonormal set in the interval $-1 \le \cos \theta \le 1$.
- The L. functions are symmetric or antisymmetric as ℓ is even or odd

$$P_{\ell}(-\cos\theta) = (-1)^{\ell} P_{\ell}(\cos\theta)$$
$$P_{\ell}^{|\mathbf{m}|}(-\cos\theta) = (-1)^{\ell-\mathbf{m}} P_{\ell}^{|\mathbf{m}|}(\cos\theta)$$

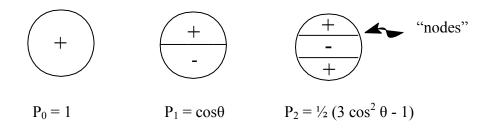
• The functions do not exceed 1 in absolute value

$$|P_{\ell}(\cos\theta)| \le 1$$
; e.g. $P_{\ell}(1) = 1$, $P_{\ell}(-1) = (-1)^{\ell}$.

Since the P_ℓ(x) are polynomials, there exist ℓ roots, or ℓ values of cos θ, for which P_ℓ (x) changes sign. The sign of P_ℓ(x) is often indicated by a circular diagram,



At the north pole in this diagram, $\theta = 0$ and $x = \cos \theta = +1$; at the equator, $x = \cos \frac{\pi}{2}$ = 0; at the south pole, $x = \cos \pi = -1$. We then use lines on the circle to indicate the values of θ at which the polynomial is zero:



- Recurrence relations exist for both the $P_\ell^{|m|}$ and P_ℓ , e.g.

$$(2\ell + 1) (\cos \theta) P_{\ell}^{m} = P_{\ell+1}^{m+1} - P_{\ell-1}^{m+1}$$

• The product functions $Y_{\ell}^{m}(\theta, \phi)$

$$Y_{\ell}^{m}(\theta, \phi) = \Theta_{\ell,m}(\theta) \Phi_{m}(\phi)$$

are called spherical harmonies. These are given by the formula

$$Y_{\ell}^{m}(\theta,\phi) = \left\{ \frac{(2\ell+1)\left(\ell-\left|m\right|\right)!}{4\pi\left(\ell+\left|m\right|\right)!} \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} P_{\ell}^{\left|m\right|}\left(\cos\theta\right) e^{im\phi}.$$

Spring, 2005

The R equation.

The radial equation for the electron "in orbit" about the nucleus of the hydrogen atom is

$$\frac{d^2 R}{dr^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{dR}{dr} + \left[\frac{2m}{\hbar^2} \left(E + \frac{Ze^2}{r}\right) - \frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{r^2}\right] R = 0$$

If we consider bound states (E < 0) only, and introduce the new variables n and ρ , where

$$E = -\frac{m Z^{2} e^{4}}{2 n^{2} h^{2}} = -\frac{Z^{2} e^{2}}{2 n^{2} a_{0}} \qquad \left(a_{0} = \frac{\hbar^{2}}{m e^{2}}\right)$$
$$r = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{n^{2} \hbar^{2}}{m Z e^{2}}\right) \rho = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{n a_{0}}{Z}\right) \rho$$

the radial equation becomes

$$\frac{d^{2}R}{d\rho^{2}} + \frac{2}{\rho}\frac{dR}{d\rho} + \left(-\frac{1}{4} + \frac{n}{\rho} - \frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{\rho^{2}}\right)R = 0.$$
 (A)

We seek solutions of the form

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{p}) \ \mathbf{p}^{\ell} \ \mathbf{e}^{-\mathbf{p}/2} \tag{B}$$

If (B) is substituted into (A), we find that $u(\rho)$ must satisfy the differential equation

$$\rho \frac{d^2 u}{d\rho^2} + (2\ell + 2 - \rho) \frac{du}{d\rho} + (n - \ell - 1) u = 0$$
 (C)

Eq. (C) is of the same form as the associated equation of Laguerre,

$$x \frac{d^2 L}{dx^2} + (\beta + 1 - x) \frac{dL}{dx} + (\alpha - \beta) L = 0.$$
 (D)

(D) has solutions, known as the associated Laguerre polynomials, which are of the form

$$L^{\beta}_{\alpha}(x) = -\sum_{k=0}^{\alpha-\beta} (-1)^{k} \frac{(\alpha!)^{2}}{(\alpha-\beta-k)!(\beta+k)!k!} x^{k}$$

where α and β are integers, k is an index running from 0 to $(\alpha - \beta)$, and $(\alpha - \beta)$ is an integer greater than zero. Thus, the solutions $u(\rho)$ of Eq. (C) are of the form $L^{\beta}_{\alpha}(x)$, providing one makes the identifications

$$x = \rho$$
, $(\beta+1) = (2\ell+2)$, $(\alpha-\beta) = (n-\ell-1)$

Combining these relations, one finds

$$\beta = 2\ell + 1 , \alpha = n + \ell.$$

and

$$L_{n+\ell}^{2\ell+1}(p) = \sum_{k=0}^{n-\ell-1} (-1)^{k+1} \frac{\left[\left(n+\ell\right)!\right]^2}{(n-\ell-1-k)!(2\ell+1+k)!k!} \qquad \rho^k$$

Eigenvalues.

Since the condition for solution is

$$(\alpha - \beta) = (n - \ell - 1) > 0$$

and since $\ell = 0, 1, 2, ..., n$ may take the values

$$n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

with the restriction that

$$n \ge \ell + 1$$

This gives the allowed (negative) values of the energy

$$E_n = -\frac{m Z^2 e^4}{2 n^2 \hbar^2}$$
, $n = 1, 2, 3, ...$ (independent of ℓ, m).

This result is identical with the values obtained by means of the Bohr theory. The resulting energy level diagram is shown on the right.

$$0 \frac{+}{-} 30 \frac{-}{31} \frac{-}{31} \frac{-}{32} \frac{-}{-} \frac{-\frac{me^{4}}{8\hbar^{2}}}{10 - -\frac{me^{4}}{2\hbar^{2}}(Z=1)}$$

Eigenfunctions.

The radial wavefunctions for the hydrogen atom are of the form

$$R(\rho) = c \rho^{\ell} e^{-\rho/2} L_{n+\ell}^{2\ell+1}(\rho)$$

To determine the normalizing constant c, we require that

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} |\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{r})|^{2} r^{2} d\mathbf{r} = c^{2} \int_{0}^{\infty} \rho^{2\ell} e^{-\rho} |L_{n+\ell}^{2\ell+1}(\rho)|^{2} r^{2} d\mathbf{r} = 1$$

Substituting $r = (na_0/2Z)\rho$, this becomes

$$1 = c^{2} \left(\frac{na_{0}}{2Z}\right)^{3} \int_{0}^{\infty} \rho^{2\ell+2} e^{-\rho} \left|L_{n+\ell}^{2\ell+1}(\rho)\right|^{2} d\rho$$
$$= c^{2} \left(\frac{na_{0}}{2Z}\right)^{3} \frac{2n[(n+\ell)!]^{3}}{(n-\ell-1)!} \qquad (EWK, p. 66).$$

so that

c =
$$\pm \left\{ \left(\frac{2Z}{na_0} \right)^3 \frac{(n-\ell-1)!}{2n[(n+\ell)!]^3} \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

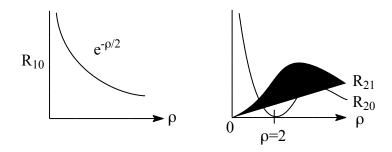
We choose c < 0 to make the (total) wavefunction positive, so

$$R_{nL}(r) = -\left\{ \left(\frac{2Z}{na_0}\right)^3 \frac{(n-\ell-1)!}{2n\left[(n+\ell)!\right]^3} \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\frac{2Zr}{na_0}\right)^{\ell} e^{-Zr/na_0} L_{n+\ell}^{2\ell+1}\left(\frac{2Zr}{na_0}\right)^{\ell}$$

The first few $R_{nL}(r)$ are, expressed in terms of $\rho = 2Zr/na_0$,

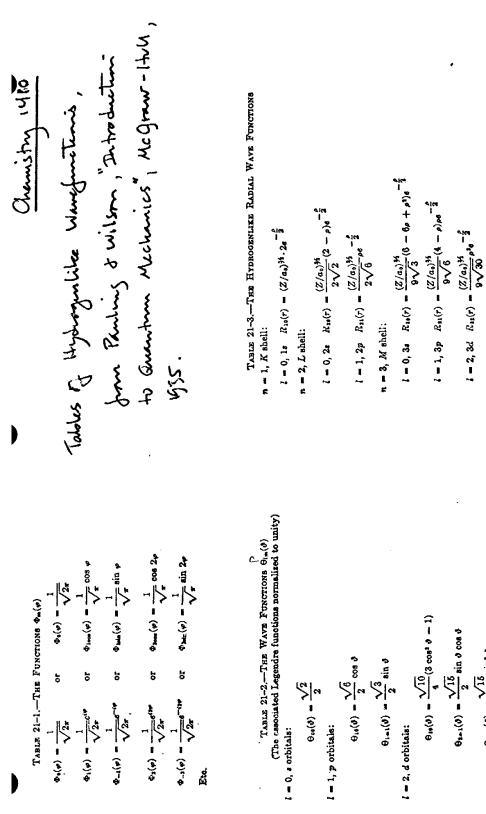
$$R_{10} = 2\left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} e^{-\rho/2} \qquad R_{30} = \frac{1}{9\sqrt{3}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} (6-6\rho+6\rho^2) e^{-\rho/2}$$
$$R_{20} = \frac{2}{2\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} (2-\rho) e^{-\rho/2} \qquad R_{31} = \frac{1}{9\sqrt{6}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} (4-\rho) \rho e^{-\rho/2}$$
$$R_{21} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{6}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \rho e^{-\rho/2} \qquad R_{32} = \frac{1}{9\sqrt{30}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \rho^2 e^{-\rho/2}$$

Note the very important "structure" of these wavefunctions. Each function consists of a constant, times a polynomial in ρ , times an exponential factor in $-\rho/2$. The last factor looks, of course, like



so R_{10} is a simple exponential. But R_{20} , which contains, in addition, the factor (2- ρ), has a **node** at $\rho = 2$, as shown above. And R_{21} , which contains the factor ρ , goes to **zero** at the origin, also as shown above.

Also note that, as n increases, the number of nodes increases as (n - 1)...this structure being dictated by the highest power of ρ appearing in the polynomial!



 $\Theta_{14}(\vartheta) = \frac{\sqrt{10}}{4} (3 \cos^2 \vartheta - 1)$

l = 2, d orbitals:

 $\Theta_{1-2}(\vartheta) = \frac{\sqrt{16}}{4} \sin^2 \vartheta$

l = 3, f orbitals:

0 = 10 = 10 = 10 = 10

 $\Theta_{a+s}(\vartheta) = \frac{\sqrt{105}}{\frac{4}{4}} \sin^3 \vartheta \cos \vartheta$

 $\Theta_{n4}(\vartheta) = \frac{3\sqrt{14}}{4} \left(\frac{5}{3} \cos^2 \vartheta - \cos \vartheta \right)$ $\Theta_{n-1}(\vartheta) = \frac{\sqrt{42}}{8} \sin \vartheta (5 \cos^2 \vartheta - 1)$

- 4, N shell:

 $= 0, 4s \quad R_{10}(r) = \frac{(Z/a_s)^{34}}{96} (24 - 36s + 12s^3 - s^3)s^{-\frac{2}{2}}$

 $l = 1, 4p \quad R_{11}(r) = \frac{(Z/a_0)^{34}}{32\sqrt{15}}(20 - 10p + p^3)pe^{-\frac{p}{2}}$ $(z = 2, 4d R_{11}(r) = \frac{(Z/a_0)^{44}}{96\sqrt{5}}(6 - p)p^2e^{-\frac{2}{2}}$

 $l = 3, 4 \int R_{44}(r) = \frac{(Z/a_4)^{34}}{96\sqrt{35}} \rho^3 e^{-\frac{2}{2}}$

Spring, 2005

TABLE 21-4.-HYDROGENLIKE WAVE FUNCTIONS K Shell n = 1, l = 0, m = 0: $\psi_{1e} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{r}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{-r}$ L Shell n = 2, l = 0, m = 0: $\psi_{1_{4}} = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_{4}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} (2-\sigma) e^{-\frac{\sigma}{2}}$ n = 2, l = 1, m = 0 $\psi_{2p_{1}} = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_{0}}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}} e^{-\frac{\sigma}{2}} \cos \vartheta$ $n = 2, l = 1, m = \pm 1:$ $\psi_{2p_s} = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2r}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_s}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \sigma e^{-\frac{\sigma}{2}} \sin \vartheta \cos \varphi$ $\psi_{iby} = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{35} \sigma e^{-\frac{\sigma}{2}} \sin \vartheta \sin \varphi$ M Shell n = 3, l = 0, m = 0 $\psi_{1a} = \frac{1}{81\sqrt{3r}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_{e}}\right)^{3} (27 - 18\sigma + 2\sigma^{2})e^{-\frac{\sigma}{3}}$ n = 3, l = 1, m = 0: $\psi_{2p} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8!\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_s}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} (6 - \sigma)\sigma e^{-\frac{\sigma}{3}} \cos \vartheta$ $n = 3, l = 1, m = \pm 1:$ $\psi_{1p_{\sigma}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{81\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_{0}}\right)^{3/2} (6 - \sigma) \sigma e^{-\frac{\sigma}{3}} \sin \vartheta \cos \varphi$ $\psi_{1p_0} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{81\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{3/6} (6 - \sigma) \sigma e^{-\frac{\sigma}{3}} \sin \vartheta \sin \varphi$ n = 3, l = 2, m = 0; $\psi_{14_{p}} = \frac{1}{81\sqrt{6\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_{s}}\right)^{\frac{34}{9}} \sigma^{2} e^{-\frac{\sigma}{3}} (3\cos^{2}\vartheta - 1)$ $n = 3, l = 2, m = \pm 1$ $\psi_{1e_{x+\phi}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{81\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_{\phi}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \sigma^{2} e^{-\frac{\sigma}{3}} \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta \cos \varphi$ $\psi_{1d_{T+r}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{81\sqrt{r}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{35} e^{-\frac{\sigma}{3}} \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta \sin \varphi$ $n = 3, l = 2, m = \pm 2$ $\psi_{1d_{1q}} = \frac{1}{81\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{\frac{34}{2}} \sigma^2 e^{-\frac{\sigma}{3}} \sin^2 \vartheta \cos 2\varphi$ $\psi_{1d_{s+p}} = \frac{1}{81\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_{\bullet}}\right)^{34} \sigma^2 e^{-\frac{\sigma}{\delta}} \sin^2 \vartheta \sin 2\varphi$ with $\sigma = \frac{Z}{2\sigma}$.