

### 331(2) : The Fine Structure of the Relativistic Zeeman Effect

From the previous note this is given by :

$$H_1 = -\frac{e}{2m} \left( 1 - \frac{p_0^2}{m^2 c^2} \right)^{-1/2} \underline{L}_0 \cdot \underline{B} \quad - (1)$$
$$\sim -\frac{e}{2m} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{p_0^2}{m^2 c^2} \right) \underline{L}_0 \cdot \underline{B}$$

if  $p_0 \ll mc \quad - (2)$

Therefore:

$$\langle H_1 \rangle = -\frac{e}{2m} \langle \underline{L}_0 \rangle \cdot \underline{B} - \frac{e}{2m} \frac{1}{mc^2} \left\langle \frac{p_0^2}{2m} \right\rangle \underline{L}_0 \cdot \underline{B} \quad - (3)$$

If  $\underline{B}$  is aligned with the Z axis then:

$$\underline{L}_0 \cdot \underline{B} = L_{0z} B_z \quad - (4)$$

In quantum angular momentum theory:

$$\hat{L}_{0z} \phi = \hbar m_L \phi \quad - (5)$$

where  $m_L = L, L-1, \dots, -L \quad - (6)$

Therefore:  $\langle \underline{L}_0 \rangle = \hbar m_L \quad - (7)$

and:

$$d) \quad \left\langle \frac{p_0^2}{2m} L_{0z} \right\rangle = \hbar m_L \left\langle \frac{p_0^2}{2m} \right\rangle - (8)$$

In atomic hydrogen:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle H_0 \rangle &= \left\langle \frac{p_0^2}{2m} + U \right\rangle = -\frac{e^4}{32\pi^2 \epsilon_0^2 \hbar^2 c^2 n^2} \\ &= -\frac{\hbar c}{2n^2} \frac{d}{r_B} - (9) \end{aligned}$$

where  $d$  is the fine structure constant and  $r_B$  the Bohr radius. We have:

$$\langle U \rangle = \left\langle -\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \right\rangle = -\frac{\hbar c}{n^2} \frac{d}{r_B} - (10)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and } \left\langle \frac{p_0^2}{2m} \right\rangle &= \left\langle -\frac{\hbar^2 \nabla^2}{2m} \right\rangle = \frac{\hbar c}{2n^2} \frac{d}{r_B} - (11) \\ &= -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \int \psi^* \nabla^2 \psi d\tau \end{aligned}$$

It follows that:

$$\boxed{\langle H_1 \rangle = -\frac{e\hbar}{2m} m_L B_z \left( 1 - \frac{1}{mc^2} \frac{\hbar c}{2n^2} \frac{d}{r_B} \right)}$$

-(12)

The order of the effect is given by:

$$\langle H_1 \rangle = -\frac{e\hbar}{2m} m_L B_z \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\lambda_c \alpha}{n^2 r_B} \right) \quad - (13)$$

where  $\lambda_c = \frac{h}{mc}$   $- (14)$

is the Compton wavelength of the electron.

We have:

$$\lambda_c = 3.861591 \times 10^{-13} \text{ m} \quad - (15)$$

$$r_B = 5.29177 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m} \quad - (16)$$

$$\alpha = 0.007297351 \quad - (17)$$

So:

$$\langle H_1 \rangle = -\frac{e\hbar}{2m} m_L B_z \left( \frac{1 - 2.662567 \times 10^{-5}}{n^2} \right) \quad - (18)$$

in atomic H, where  $H_0$  depends only on the principal quantum number  $n$ . In other atoms and molecules there is a richer structure.

There is a small  $n$  dependent shift in the non-relativistic Zeeman effect, and this can be measured by high resolution studies of atomic spectra.