

## Wave particle duality

A moving body behaves like a ~~particle~~ in certain ways as though it has a wave nature.

A photon of light of frequency  $\nu$  has the momentum

$$p = \frac{h\nu}{c} = \frac{h}{\lambda}$$

Since  $\lambda\nu = c$

$\Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{h}{p}$  is called photon wavelength

This is a general expression and can be applied to any material body.

The momentum of a particle of mass  $m$  and velocity  $u$  is  $p = mu$

and hence the equivalent wavelength ( $\lambda$ )

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{p} = \frac{h}{mu}$$

If  $p$  is greater  $\Rightarrow$  shorter is the wavelength.

For relativistic case:

$$m = \frac{m_0}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$$

- Q. Find the de Broglie wavelength of (a) 4.8 g golf ball with a velocity of 80 m/s. and  
(b) an electron with velocity of  $10^7$  m/s.

Soln:

(a) as  $v \ll c \Rightarrow m = m_0$

&  $\lambda = 4.8 \times 10^{-34}$  m.

As  $\lambda$  is very small in comparison to its dimension hence its  $\lambda$  is not detectable.

$\Rightarrow$

(b)

Again  $v \ll c$

$$m = m_0 = 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = 7.3 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m.}$$

As the dimension of electron is comparable with its  $\lambda$  in this form — The radius of H atom is  $5.3 \times 10^{-11}$  m.

$\Rightarrow$  It is detectable.

$\Rightarrow$  The wave character of moving  $e^-$  is the key to understand atomic structure and behaviour.

Find the K.E of a proton whose de Broglie wavelength is  $1000 \text{ fm} = 1.000 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m}$ . Which is roughly the proton diameter.

A relativistic calculation is needed unless  $pc$  for the proton is much smaller than the proton rest mass

$$E_0 = 0.938 \text{ MeV.}$$

$$\Rightarrow pc = (mv)c = \frac{hc}{\lambda} = \frac{(4.136 \times 10^{-15} \text{ eV}\cdot\text{s})(2.998 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s})}{1.00 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m}}$$
$$= 1.24 \times 10^9 \text{ eV} = 1.2410 \text{ MeV}$$

Since  $pc > E_0$ , the relativistic calculation is required.

The total energy

$$E = \sqrt{E_0^2 + p^2 c^2} = \sqrt{(0.938 \text{ MeV})^2 + (1.2410 \text{ MeV})^2}$$
$$= 1.555 \text{ MeV.}$$

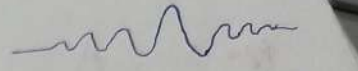
The corresponding K.E is

$$K.E = E - E_0 = (1.555 - 0.938) \text{ MeV}$$
$$= 617 \text{ MeV.}$$

## Need of Uncertainty Principle

# Wave particle duality leads the wave nature of particle  $\Rightarrow$

particle classically  $\equiv$

  
Wave group called wave packet


The particle is inside the equivalent wave packet anywhere

As the probability density  $|\psi|^2$  is very high at the centre and hence it is likely to be here only. Nevertheless, we may still find the particle anywhere that  $|\psi|^2$  is not actually zero.

Now narrow the wave group will leads to more precisely a particle position can be specified.

But here the wavelength is not well defined as not enough wave to measure ~~define~~ wavelength accurately and as  $\lambda = \frac{h}{p}$

$\Rightarrow$  i.e. the momentum is not a precise quantity  
 $\Rightarrow$  If we make a ~~measurements~~ series of measurements then we will find a broad range of values.

On the otherhand, a wide wavegroup,   
in the picture,  $\lambda$  is clearly defined and hence momentum 'p' is precise quantity and a series of measurements will give a narrow range of values. But where is the particle located?

The width of the group is now too great for us to be able to say exactly where ~~is the~~ it is at a given time  $\Rightarrow$  Thus we have the

Uncertainty Principle

## Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle

The product of the uncertainties in determining the position and momentum of the particle can never be smaller than the number of the order  $\frac{h}{2}$

$$\therefore \Delta x \Delta p \geq \frac{h}{2}$$

Similarly if  $\Delta E$  is the uncertainty in the energy and  $\Delta t$  is the time

Then

$$\Delta E \Delta t \geq \frac{h}{2}$$

Similarly  $\Delta J \Delta \theta \geq \frac{h}{2}$

$\Delta J \rightarrow$  uncertainty in total angular momentum  
and  $\Delta \theta \rightarrow$  uncertainty in angular position.

Q. A measurement established the position of a proton with an accuracy of  $\pm 1.00 \times 10^{-11}$  m. Find the uncertainty in the proton's position 1.00 s later. Assume  $v \ll c$

Ans: at  $t=0$ ,  $\Delta x_0 = 1.00 \times 10^{-11}$  m

$$\Rightarrow \Delta p \geq \frac{\hbar}{2\Delta x_0}$$

$$\text{or } \Delta(mv) \geq \frac{\hbar}{2\Delta x_0} \quad \text{as } v \ll c$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta v \geq \frac{\hbar}{2\Delta x_0 m_0} \quad \Delta(mv) = m_0 \Delta v$$

So after time  $t$  the new uncertainty in  $x$  will be

$$\Delta x = \pm \Delta v \geq \frac{\hbar t}{2m_0 \Delta x_0}$$

$$\Delta x \geq \frac{1.054 \times 10^{-34} \times (1.00 \text{ sec})}{2(1.672 \times 10^{-27})(1.00 \times 10^{-11}) \text{ m}}$$

$$\Delta x \geq 3.15 \times 10^3 \text{ m}$$

## Application of Uncertainty Principle

A typical atomic nucleus is about  $5.0 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m}$  in radius. Use the uncertainty principle to place a lower limit on the energy an electron must have if it is to be part of a nucleus.

Soln: Letting  $\Delta x = 5.0 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m}$

$$\text{Now, } \Delta x \Delta p \geq \frac{h}{2} \Rightarrow \Delta p \geq \frac{h}{2\Delta x} \geq \frac{1.054 \times 10^{-34}}{2 \times 5.0 \times 10^{-15}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta p \geq 1.1 \times 10^{-20} \text{ kg m/sec}$$

If this is the uncertainty in the nucleus's momentum, the momentum  $p$  itself must be at least comparable in magnitude. An  $e^-$  with such a momentum has a kinetic energy many times greater than its rest mass energy  $mc^2$ . As we know  $K.E = pc$  here to a sufficient degree of accuracy.

$$\therefore K.E = pc \geq 1.1 \times 10^{-20} \text{ kg m/sec} \times 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/sec}$$
$$K.E \geq 3.3 \times 10^{-12} \text{ J} \geq \frac{3.3 \times 10^{-12} \text{ J}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J/eV}} \geq 20 \text{ MeV}$$

If it is to be inside the nucleus.

Experiments show that even the electrons associated with unstable atoms never have more than a fraction of this energy, and we conclude that nuclei do not contain electrons.

Q.2 A hydrogen atom is  $5.3 \times 10^{-11}$  m in radius. Use the uncertainty principle to estimate the minimum energy an electron can have in this atom.

Soln. here  $\Delta x = 5.3 \times 10^{-11}$  m  
 $\Rightarrow \Delta p \geq \frac{h}{2\Delta x} = 9.9 \times 10^{-25}$  kgm/sec.

An electron whose momentum is of the order of magnitude behaves like a classical particle, and its K.E is

$$K.E = \frac{p^2}{2m} > \frac{(9.9 \times 10^{-25})^2}{2 \times 9.1 \times 10^{-31}} > 5.4 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

$$= 3.4 \text{ eV.}$$

The K.E of an electron in the lowest energy level of a H-atom is actually 13.6 eV.



Q. An "excited atom" gives up its excess energy by emitting a photon of characteristic frequency, as described. The average period that elapses between the excitation of an atom and the time it radiates is  $1.0 \times 10^{-8}$  sec. Find the inherent uncertainty in the frequency of the photon.

Soln: Given:  $\Delta t = 1.0 \times 10^{-8}$  sec.

→ The corresponding uncertainty in energy is

$$\Delta E \cdot \Delta t \geq \frac{h}{2} \Rightarrow \Delta E \geq \frac{h}{2 \Delta t} = \frac{1.054 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J sec}}{2(1.0 \times 10^{-8} \text{ sec})}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta E \geq 5.3 \times 10^{-27} \text{ J}$$

Now the corresponding uncertainty in frequency is

as  $\Delta E = h \Delta \nu$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta \nu = \frac{\Delta E}{h} \geq \frac{5.3 \times 10^{-27} \text{ J}}{6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J sec}} \geq 8.0 \times 10^6 \text{ Hz}$$

This is the irreducible limit to the accuracy with which we can determine the frequency of the radiation emitted by an atom. As a result, the radiation from a group of excited atoms does not appear with the precise frequency  $\nu$ .

Calculate the de-Broglie wavelength associated with the electrons, which are accelerated by a voltage of 50 kV.

Soln: Given  $V = 50 \text{ kV}$ .

We know  $\lambda = \frac{h}{p} = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2mE}}$

as  $E = \frac{p^2}{2m}$

$$= \frac{h}{\sqrt{2mE}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J sec}}{\sqrt{2 \times 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg} \times 50 \times 10^3 \text{ V}}}$$

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$$\Rightarrow \lambda = 5.48 \times 10^{-12} \text{ m} \text{ Ans.}$$