

**Teoria quantistica**  
**Sistemi semplici risolvibili**

**esattamente**  
**Particella su una sfera**

**ROTAZIONE in 3D**

**Chimica Fisica 2**

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# Particella su una sfera

## Riassunto

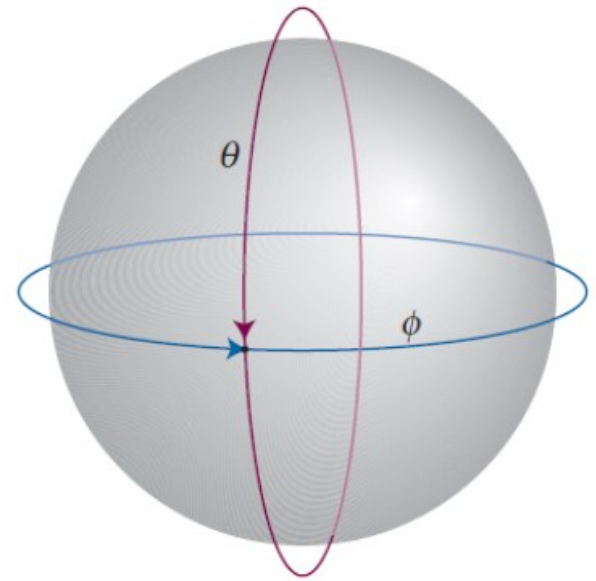
Le energie di una particella costretta a muoversi in una regione finita di spazio sono quantizzate.

1. La funzione d'onda di una particella su una sfera deve soddisfare contemporaneamente a due condizioni cicliche al contorno, quindi due numeri quantici:  $l$  ed  $m_l$ ;
2. L'Energia e il momento angolare della particella sulla sfera sono quantizzati;
3. La quantizzazione spaziale e' la restrizione della componente z del momento angolare a certi valori;
4. Il modello vettoriale del momento angolare usa dei diagrammi (rappresentazioni grafiche) per rappresentare lo stato del momento angolare di una particella rotante nello spazio.

# Particella su una sfera

## Introduzione

We now consider a particle of mass  $m$  that is free to move anywhere on the surface of a sphere of radius  $r$ . We shall need the results of this calculation when we come to describe **rotating molecules** and the **states of electrons in atoms**. The requirement that the wavefunction should match as a path is traced over the poles as well as around the equator of the sphere surrounding the central point, introduces a second cyclic boundary condition and therefore a second quantum number.



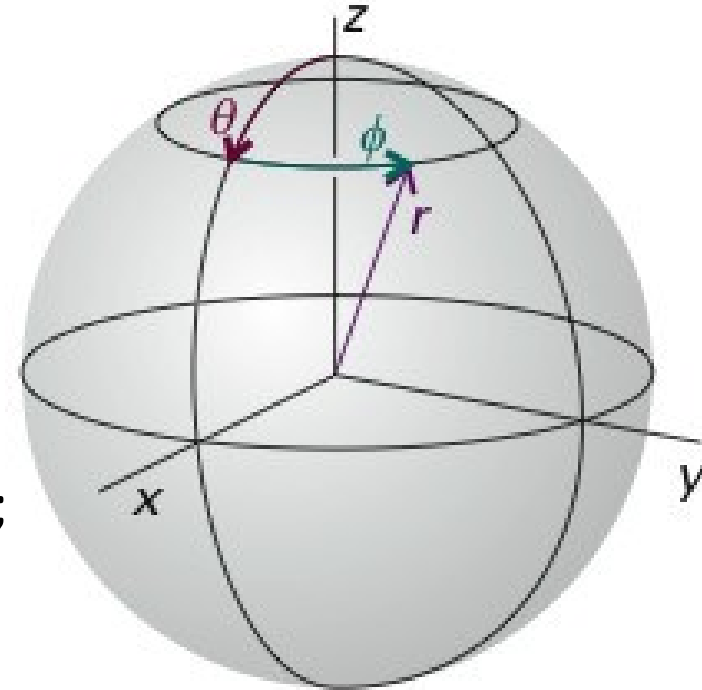
# Rotation in 3 dimensions: the particle on a sphere

## The Schrödinger equation

The hamiltonian for motion in three dimensions is

$$\hat{H} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + V \quad \nabla^2 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2}$$

The symbol  $\nabla^2$  is a convenient abbreviation for the sum of the three second derivatives; it is called the **laplacian**, and read either 'del squared' or 'nabla squared'. For the particle confined to a spherical surface,  $V = 0$  wherever it is free to travel, and the radius  $r$  is a constant. The wavefunction is therefore a function of the **colatitude**,  $\theta$ , and the **azimuth**,  $\phi$  (see the Figure), and so we write it as  $\psi(\theta, \phi)$ .



### Spherical polar coordinates.

For a particle confined to the surface of a sphere, only the colatitude,  $\theta$  and the azimuth,  $\phi$ , can change.

# Rotation in 3 dimensions: the particle on a sphere

## The wavefunctions

### The Schrödinger equation

The Schrödinger equation is

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\nabla^2\psi = E\psi$$

As shown in the following *paragraph*, this partial differential equation can be simplified by the separation of variables procedure by expressing the wavefunction (for constant  $r$ ) as the product

$$\psi(\theta, \phi) = \Theta(\theta)\Phi(\phi) \quad \psi(\theta, \phi) = \Theta(\theta)\Phi(\phi)$$

Separation  
of variables

where  $\Theta$  is a function only of  $\theta$  and  $\Phi$  is a function only of  $\phi$ .

# Rotation in 3 dimensions: the particle on a sphere

## The separation of variables

The laplacian in spherical polar coordinates is

$$\nabla^2 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2} \Lambda^2$$

**r è costante**      laplacian

where the **legendrian**,  $\Lambda^2$ , is

$$\Lambda^2 = \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} + \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta}$$

legendrian



Because  $r$  is constant, we can discard the part of the laplacian that involves differentiation with respect to  $r$ , and so write the Schrödinger equation as

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \Lambda^2 \psi = -\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2} \psi$$

or, because  $I = mr^2$ , as

Questa era l'equazione di partenza

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \psi = E \psi$$

$$\Lambda^2 \psi = -\varepsilon \psi \quad \varepsilon = \frac{2IE}{\hbar^2}$$

# Rotation in 3 dimensions: the particle on a sphere

## The separation of variables

To verify that this expression is separable, we substitute  $\psi = \Theta\Phi$ :

$$\frac{1}{\sin^2\theta} \frac{\partial^2(\Theta\Phi)}{\partial\phi^2} + \frac{1}{\sin\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} \sin\theta \frac{\partial(\Theta\Phi)}{\partial\theta} = -\epsilon\Theta\Phi$$

We now use the fact that  $\Theta$  and  $\Phi$  are each functions of one variable, so the partial derivatives become complete derivatives:

$$\frac{\Theta}{\sin^2\theta} \frac{d^2\Phi}{d\phi^2} + \frac{\Phi}{\sin\theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \sin\theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} = -\epsilon\Theta\Phi$$

Division through by  $\Theta\Phi$ , multiplication by  $\sin^2\theta$ , and minor rearrangement gives

$$\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{d^2\Phi}{d\phi^2} + \frac{\sin\theta}{\Theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \sin\theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} + \epsilon \sin^2\theta = 0$$

The first term on the left depends only on  $\phi$  and the remaining two terms depend only on  $\theta$ .

# Rotation in 3 dimensions: the particle on a sphere

## The separation of variables

We met a similar situation when discussing a particle on a rectangular surface, and by the same argument, the complete equation can be separated. Thus, if we set the first term equal to the numerical constant  $-m_l^2$  (using a notation chosen with an eye to the future), the separated equations are

$$\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{d^2 \Phi}{d\phi^2} - \frac{\sin \theta}{\Theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} \right) + \varepsilon \sin^2 \theta = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{d^2 \Phi}{d\phi^2} = -m_l^2$$

$$\frac{\sin \theta}{\Theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} \right) + \varepsilon \sin^2 \theta = m_l^2$$

The first of these two equations is the same that we have seen studying the particle on a ring, so it has the same solutions

$$\psi_{m_l}(\phi) = \frac{e^{im_l \phi}}{(2\pi)^{1/2}}$$

$$m_l = \pm \frac{(2IE)^{1/2}}{\hbar}$$

The second is much more complicated to solve, but the solutions are tabulated as the associated Legendre functions.



# Rotation in 3 dimensions: the particle on a sphere

## The separation of variables

$$\frac{d^2\psi}{d\phi^2} = -\frac{2IE}{\hbar^2} \psi$$

eq. di  
Schroedinger

da: Particella su circonferenza

$$m_l = \pm \frac{(2IE)^{1/2}}{\hbar}$$

$$\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{d^2\Phi}{d\phi^2} - \frac{\sin\theta}{\Theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \sin\theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} \right) + \epsilon \sin^2\theta = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{d^2\Phi}{d\phi^2} = -m_l^2$$

$$\frac{\sin\theta}{\Theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \sin\theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} \right) + \epsilon \sin^2\theta = m_l^2$$

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$$\psi_{m_l}(\phi) = \frac{e^{im_l\phi}}{(2\pi)^{1/2}}$$

$$m_l = \pm \frac{(2IE)^{1/2}}{\hbar}$$

**1° NUMERO QUANTICO:  $m_l$**

The second is much more complicated to solve, but the solutions are tabulated as the associated Legendre functions.

# Rotation in 3 dimensions: the particle on a sphere

## The separation of variables

For reasons related to the behaviour of these functions, the cyclic boundary conditions on  $\Theta$  arising from the need for the wavefunctions to match at  $\theta = 0$  and  $2\pi$  (the North Pole) result in the introduction of a second quantum number,  $l$ , which identifies the acceptable solutions.

**2° NUMERO QUANTICO:  $l$**

$$\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{d^2\Phi}{d\phi^2} = -m_l^2 \quad \frac{\sin\theta}{\Theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \sin\theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} \right) + \varepsilon \sin^2\theta = m_l^2$$

The presence of the quantum number  $m_l$  in the second equation implies, as we see below, that the range of acceptable values of  $m_l$  is restricted by the value of  $l$ .

$$l = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad m_l = l, l-1, \dots, -l$$

# Rotation in 3 dimensions: the particle on a sphere

## The separation of variables

$$\psi(\theta, \phi) = \Theta(\theta)\Phi(\phi)$$

As indicated in the previous paragraph, solution of the Schrödinger equation shows that the acceptable wavefunctions are specified by two quantum numbers  $l$  and  $m_l$  which are restricted to the values

$$l = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad m_l = l, l-1, \dots, -l$$

Note that the **orbital angular momentum quantum number**  $l$  is **non-negative** and that, for a given value of  $l$ , there are  **$2l + 1$**  permitted values of the **magnetic quantum number**,  $m_l$ .

The normalized wavefunctions are usually denoted  $Y_{l,m_l}(\theta, \phi)$  and are called the **spherical harmonics** (see the Table).

# Rotation in 3 dimensions: the particle on a sphere

## The separation of variables

The normalized wavefunctions are usually denoted  $Y_{l,m_l}(\theta,\phi)$  and are called the **spherical harmonics** (see the Table).

le funzioni  
**Armoniche sferiche**

$l$	$m_l$	$Y_{l,m_l}(\theta,\phi)$
0	0	$\left(\frac{1}{4\pi}\right)^{1/2}$
1	0	$\left(\frac{3}{4\pi}\right)^{1/2} \cos \theta$
	$\pm 1$	$\mp \left(\frac{3}{8\pi}\right)^{1/2} \sin \theta e^{\pm i\phi}$
2	0	$\left(\frac{5}{16\pi}\right)^{1/2} (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)$
	$\pm 1$	$\mp \left(\frac{15}{8\pi}\right)^{1/2} \cos \theta \sin \theta e^{\pm i\phi}$
	$\pm 2$	$\left(\frac{15}{32\pi}\right)^{1/2} \sin^2 \theta e^{\pm 2i\phi}$
3	0	$\left(\frac{7}{16\pi}\right)^{1/2} (5 \cos^3 \theta - 3 \cos \theta)$
	$\pm 1$	$\mp \left(\frac{21}{64\pi}\right)^{1/2} (5 \cos^2 \theta - 1) \sin \theta e^{\pm i\phi}$
	$\pm 2$	$\left(\frac{105}{32\pi}\right)^{1/2} \sin^2 \theta \cos \theta e^{\pm 2i\phi}$
	$\pm 3$	$\mp \left(\frac{35}{64\pi}\right)^{1/2} \sin^3 \theta e^{\pm 3i\phi}$

# Rotational motion

## 3 dimensions



$$l = 0, m_l = 0$$



$$l = 1, m_l = 0$$



$$l = 2, m_l = 0$$



$$l = 3, m_l = 0$$

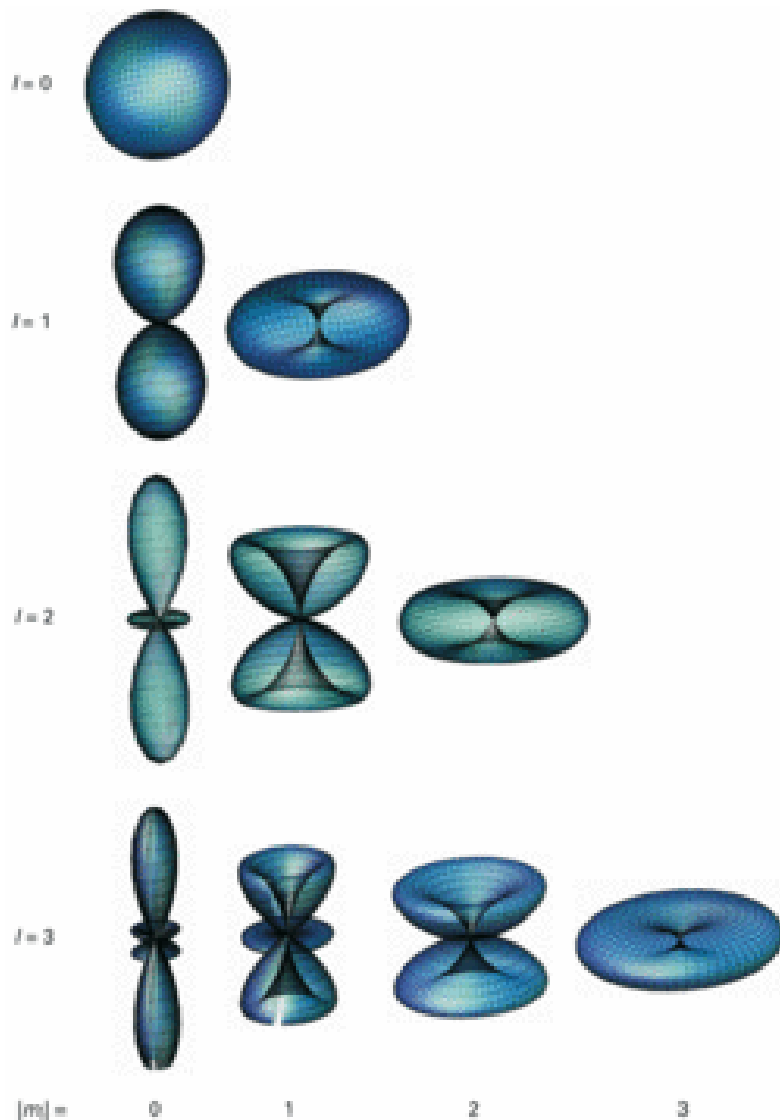


$$l = 4, m_l = 0$$

A representation of the wavefunctions of a particle on the surface of a sphere which emphasizes the location of angular nodes: dark and light shading correspond to different signs of the wavefunction. Note that the number of nodes increases as the value of  $l$  increases. All these wavefunctions correspond to  $m_l = 0$ ; a path around the vertical  $z$ -axis of the sphere does not cut through any nodes.

# Rotational motion

## 3 dimensions



A more complete representation of the wavefunctions for  $l=0, 1, 2$ , and  $3$ . The distance of a point on the surface from the origin is proportional to the square modulus of the amplitude of the wavefunction at that point.

# Rotational motion

## 3 dimensions

$$\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{d^2 \Phi}{d\phi^2} = -m_l^2 \quad \frac{\sin \theta}{\Theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \sin \theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} + \epsilon \sin^2 \theta = m_l^2$$

soluzioni



$$\psi_{m_l}(\phi) = \frac{e^{im_l \phi}}{(2\pi)^{1/2}}$$

$$m_l = \pm \frac{(2IE)^{1/2}}{\hbar}$$

soluzioni



*associated Legendre functions*

$$l = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad m_l = l, l-1, \dots, -l$$

$$E = l(l+1) \frac{\hbar^2}{2I} \quad l = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

**L'ENERGIA non dipende dal numero quantico  $m_l$**

**Degenerazione =  $2l+1$**

# Rotational motion

3 dimensions

Collegamento con la struttura atomica

$$E = l(l+1) \frac{\hbar^2}{2I} \quad l = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

**L'ENERGIA non dipende dal numero quantico  $m_l$**

**Degenerazione =  $2l+1$**

Per questo motivo

gli orbitali p sono 3 e sono degeneri ( $l=1$ ;  $2l+1=3$ )

gli orbitali d sono 5 e sono degeneri ( $l=2$ ;  $2l+1=5$ )

gli orbitali f sono 7 e sono degeneri ( $l=3$ ;  $2l+1=7$ )

.....



# Rotational motion

## 3 dimensions

$$E = l(l+1) \frac{\hbar^2}{2I} \quad l = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$E = J^2/2I$$

Nella rotazione a 2 dimensioni

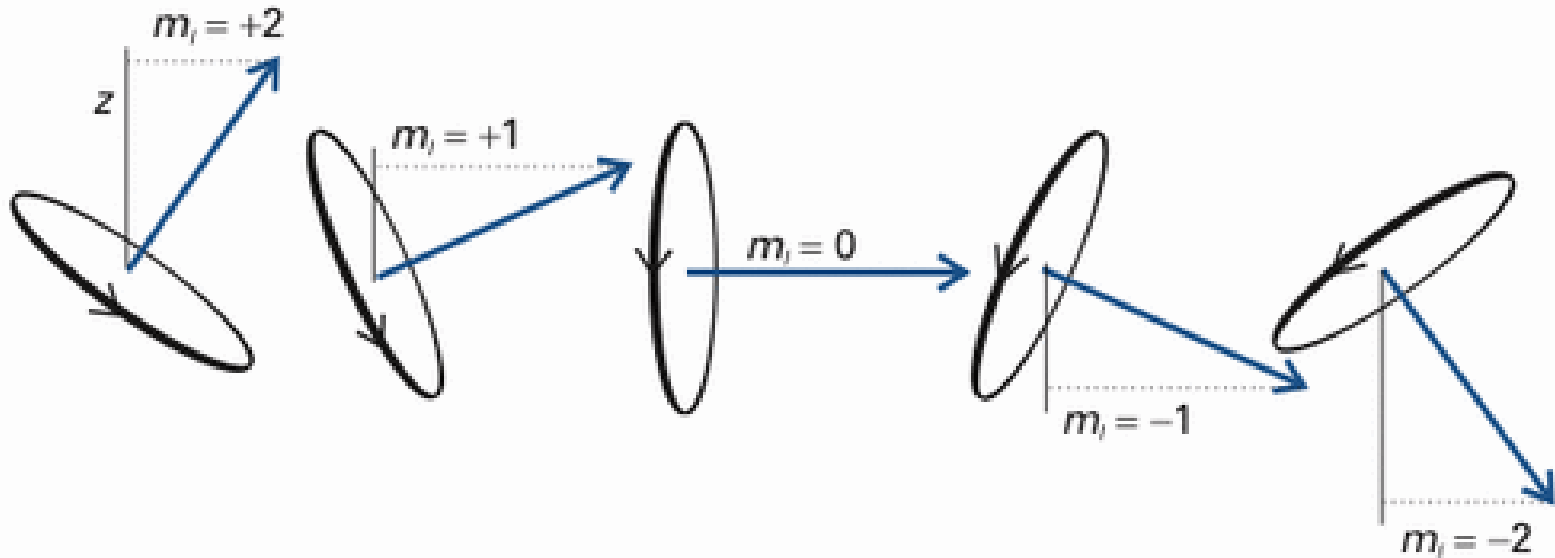
$$E = J_z^2/2I$$

$$|\vec{J}| = \text{Magnitude of angular momentum} = \{l(l+1)\}^{1/2}\hbar \quad l = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$J_z = \text{z-Component of angular momentum} = m_l \hbar \quad m_l = l, l-1, \dots, -l$$

# Rotational motion

## 3 dimensions



The permitted orientations of angular momentum when  $l = 2$ . We shall see soon that this representation is too specific because the azimuthal orientation of the vector (its angle around  $z$ ) is indeterminate.

**QUANTIZZAZIONE SPAZIALE della ROTAZIONE di un corpo  
microscopico**