

What is the Energy of the Electron?

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The Coulomb force binds an electron and a proton into a hydrogen atom with a force that is mathematically identical to the gravitational force that binds the planets in our Solar System, the Moon to the Earth, *etc.* What is the energy of an electron?



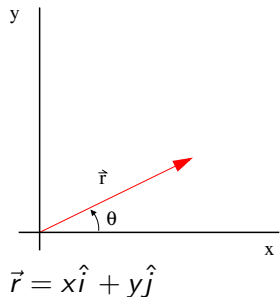
- The Organizing Principle.

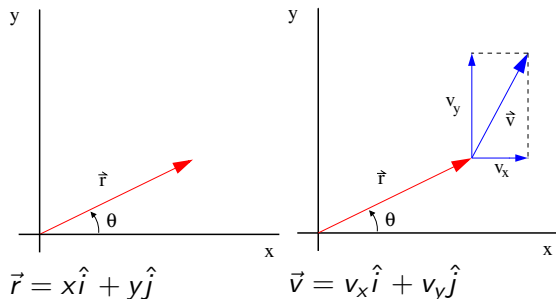
$$\begin{aligned}ME_0 &= ME_1 \\KE_0 + PE_0 &= ME_1 + PE_1 \\ \frac{1}{2}mv_0^2 + PE_0 &= \frac{1}{2}mv_1^2 + PE_1\end{aligned}$$

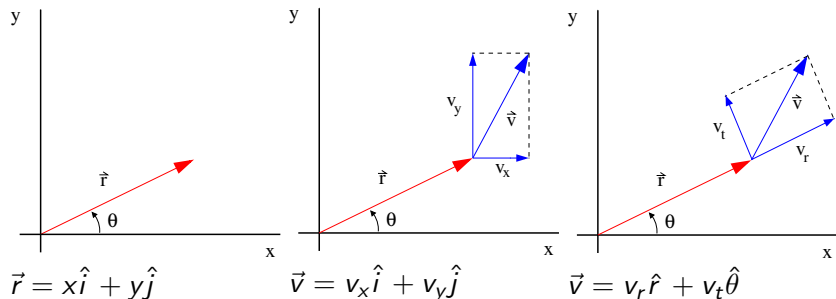
- The Forces

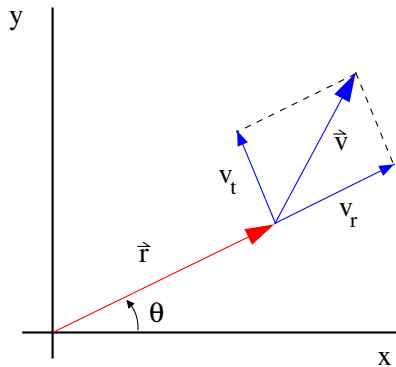
$$\vec{F}_{grav} = -\frac{Gm_1m_2}{r_{12}^2}\hat{r}_{12} \quad \vec{F}_{coul} = \frac{k_e q_1 q_2}{r_{12}^2}\hat{r}_{12}$$

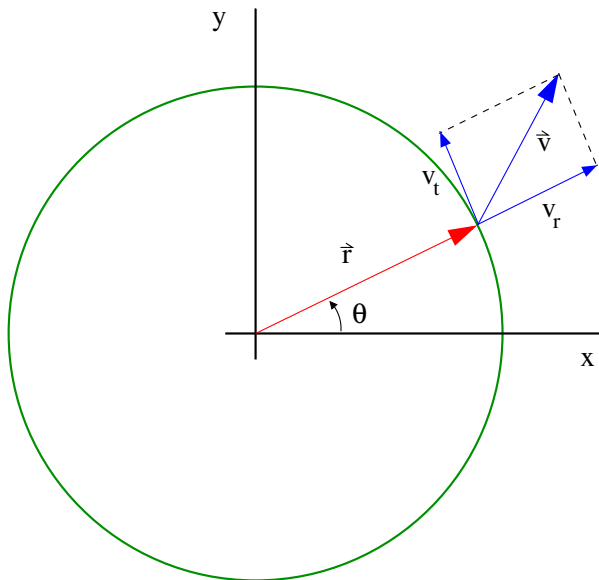
The simulation is [here](#).

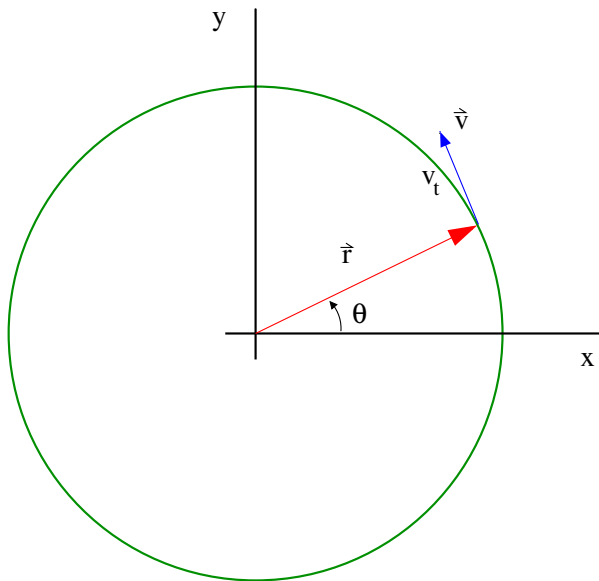


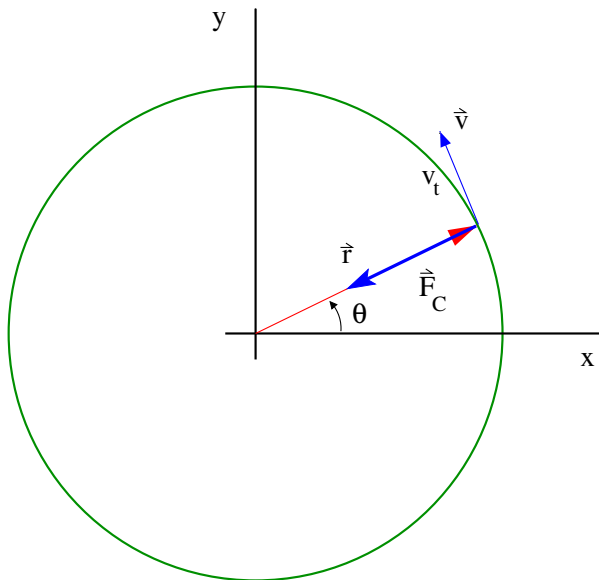


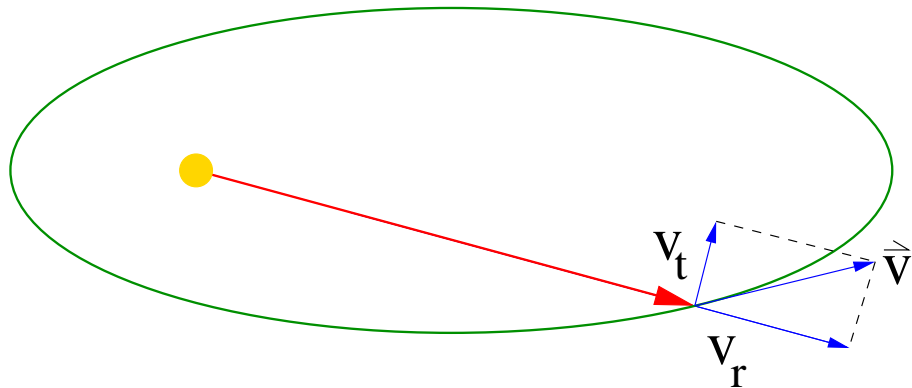


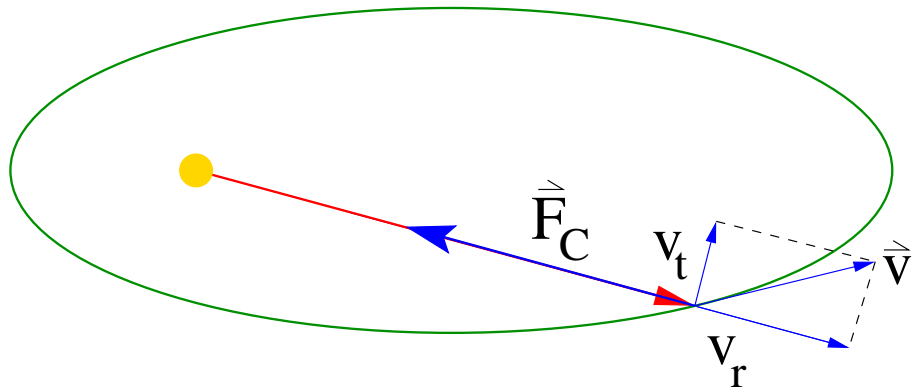


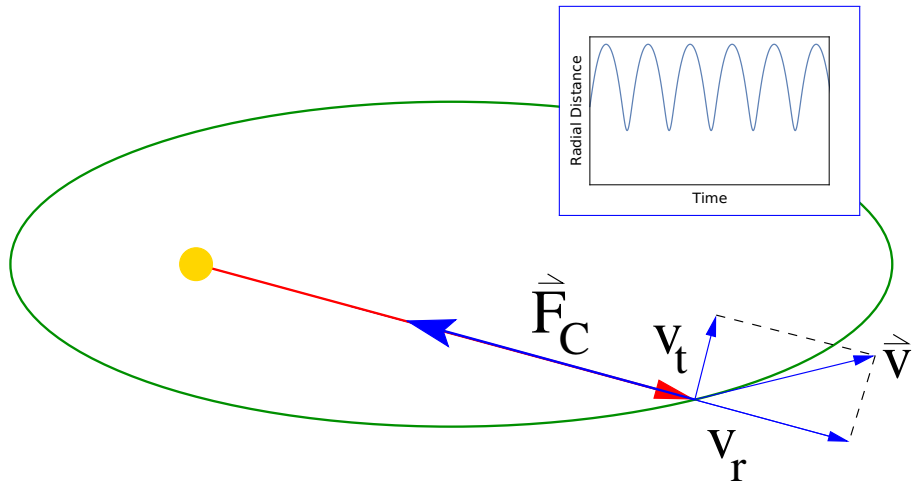








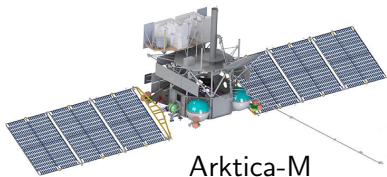




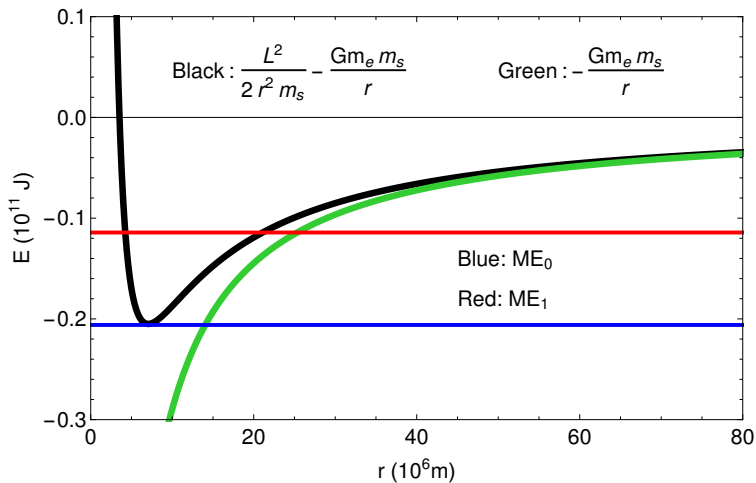
A Russian Arctica satellite that monitors polar weather follows an elliptical orbit around the Earth at an altitude of $h = 300 \text{ km}$ above the surface (radius $r_s = 6.67 \times 10^6 \text{ m}$) at a velocity

$$\vec{v} = 4.1 \times 10^3 \text{ m/s } \hat{r} + 7.5 \times 10^3 \text{ m/s } \hat{\theta} \quad .$$

What is the angular momentum? What is the total energy? What is the distance of closest approach to the Earth? The satellite mass is $m_s = 600 \text{ kg}$.



$$\begin{aligned} R_{\text{earth}} &= 6.37 \times 10^6 \text{ m} \\ m_{\text{earth}} &= 5.97 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg} \\ G &= 6.673 \times 10^{-11} \text{ Nm}^2/\text{kg}^2 \end{aligned}$$



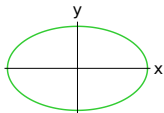
Classical Physics

1. Start with Newton's Laws.
2. Insert the force/potential.
3. Solve the differential equation with initial conditions

$$\vec{F} = m \frac{d^2 \vec{r}}{dt^2}$$

where \vec{r} is the position.

4. Get the position $\vec{r}(t)$ as a function of time.



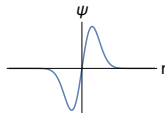
Quantum Physics

1. Start with Schroedinger's equation.
2. Insert the force/potential.
3. Solve the differential equation with initial conditions

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2 \psi}{dr^2} + \frac{L^2}{2mr^2} \psi + V\psi = E\psi(\vec{r})$$

where ψ is a wave function.

4. Get the probability $|\psi(\vec{r})|^2$ as a function of time.



- 1 The quantum state of a particle is characterized by a wave function $\Psi(\vec{r}, t)$, which contains all the information about the system an observer can possibly obtain. The square of the magnitude of the wave function $|\Psi(\vec{r}, t)|^2$ is interpreted as a probability or probability density for the particle's presence.
- 2 The things we measure (e.g. energy, momentum) are called observables. Each observable has a corresponding mathematical object called an operator that does 'something' to the wave function $\Psi(\vec{r}, t)$ and we obtain the value of the observable. The radial dependence of the wave function $\Psi(\vec{r}, t)$ is governed by the energy operator which generates a famous expression called the Schrödinger equation.

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left(\frac{d^2}{dr^2} \right) \Psi(r) + \frac{L^2}{2mr^2} \Psi(r) + V\Psi(r) = E\Psi(r)$$

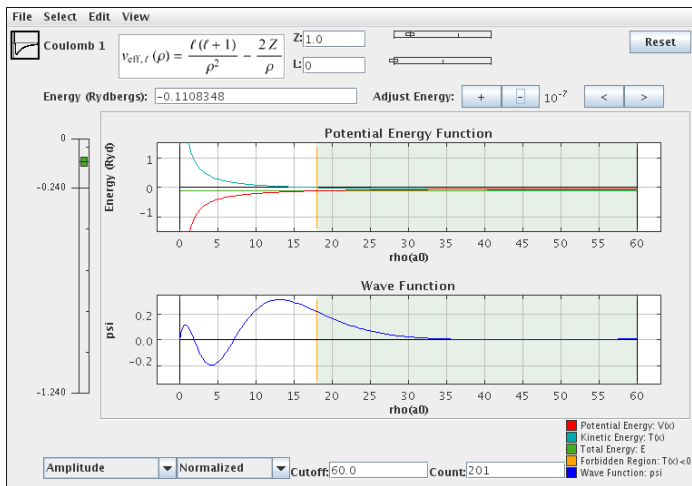
What did your ground-state wave function look like?

The Coulomb force binds an electron and a proton into a hydrogen atom with a force that is mathematically identical to the gravitational force that binds the planets in our Solar System, the Moon to the Earth, *etc.* For an electron with energy E_e where can it be found as a function of r where r is the distance from the proton?

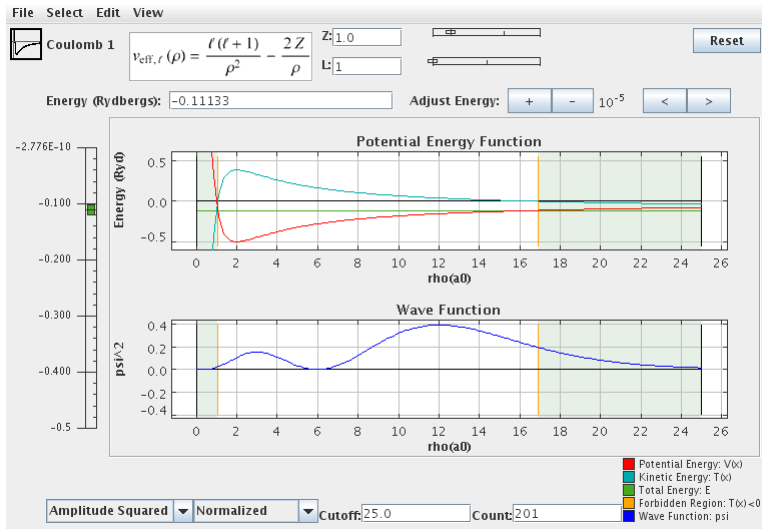


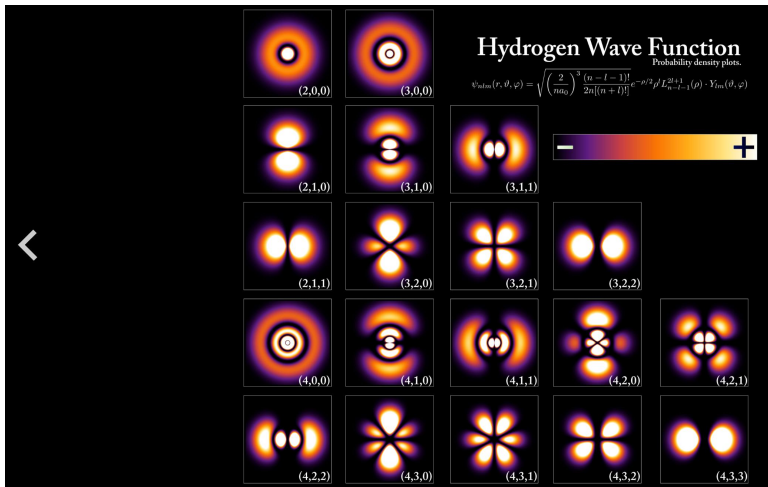
What did your $n=3$ wave function look like?

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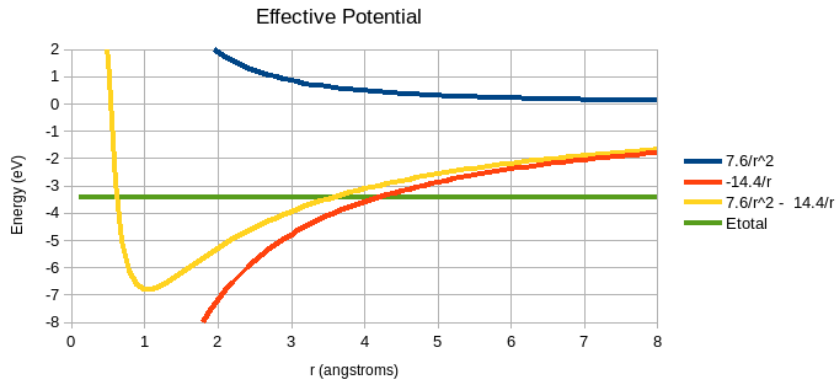


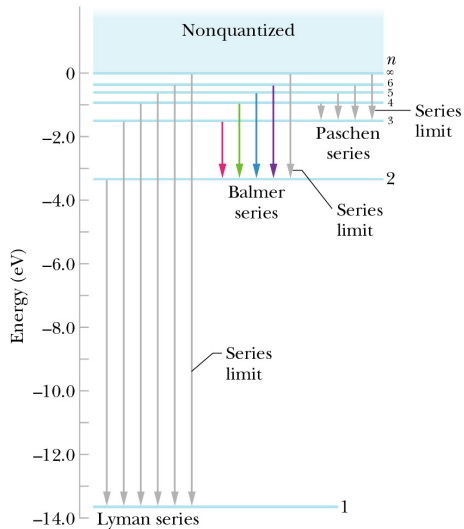
For $n = 3$, $L = 1$.

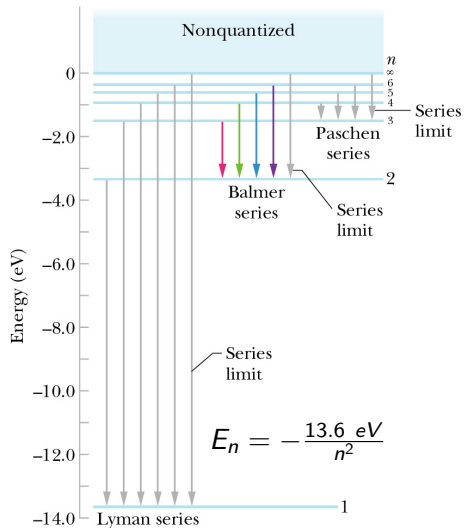


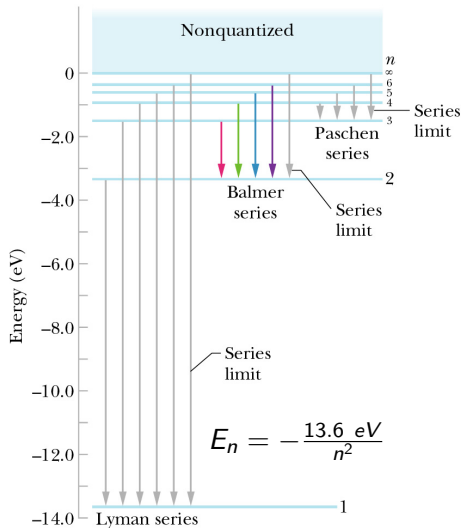


The electron probability density for the first few [hydrogen atom electron orbitals](#) shown as cross-sections. These orbitals form an [orthonormal basis](#) for the wave function of the electron. Different orbitals are depicted with different scale.

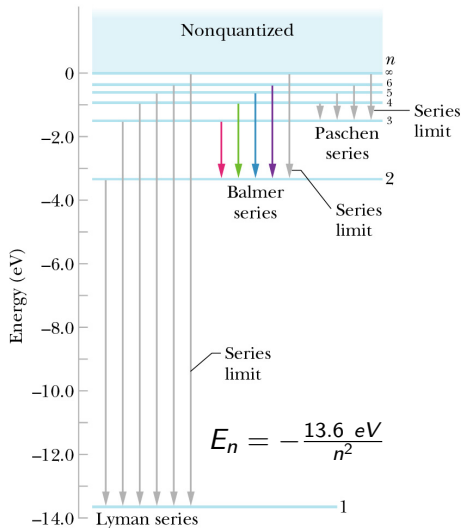








n	$E = 0 \text{ eV}$	Ionization limit			
4	-0.85 eV	<u>4s</u>	<u>4p</u>	<u>4d</u>	<u>4f</u>
3	-1.51 eV	<u>3s</u>	<u>3p</u>	<u>3d</u>	
2	-3.40 eV	<u>2s</u>	<u>2p</u>		
1	-13.60 eV	<u>1s</u>			Ground state



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n \swarrow \searrow ℓ
 $3p$ n - principal quantum number
 ℓ - angular momentum

n_i	n_f	Energy (eV)
5	2	2.82 ± 0.04
4	2	2.55 ± 0.08
3	2	1.86 ± 0.02