PHYS4702 Atomic, Nuclear, & Particle Physics Fall 2015 HW #8 Due at the start of class on Thursday 15 Oct 2015

(1) You know that for a (charged) particle moving in any spherically symmetric potential, the wave function will be proportional to $Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi)$ where l and m are the usual orbital angular momentum quantum numbers. Use the form of the Y_{lm} to show that electric dipole transitions imply the selection rule $\Delta m = 0, \pm 1$.

(2) Using, from the textbook, figures 9-6 and 9-15 (below) estimate the energy required to remove the remaining electron from the ground state of a singly ionized helium atom. Compare this to the exact value, which you already know how to calculate.



(3) The $2p \to 1s$ transition in atomic hydrogen has a lifetime of about 10^{-8} sec. Use this to estimate the lifetime of the K_{α} X-ray transition in lead. Can you find a reference that confirms your answer?