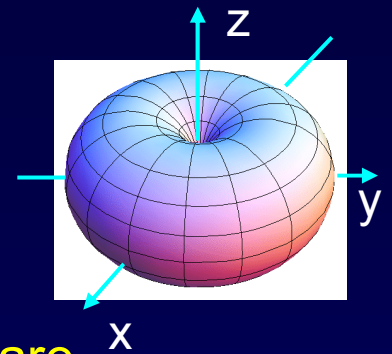


Cylindrical Symmetry

Why do none of the graphs display ϕ -dependence?
(They all have cylindrical symmetry.)



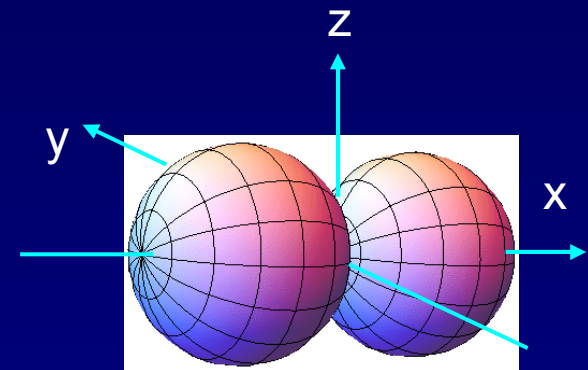
For a given m , the ϕ dependence of ψ is $e^{im\phi}$. When we square it to find the probability, $e^{im\phi}e^{-im\phi} = 1$.

In order to see ϕ dependence, we need a superposition of different m 's.

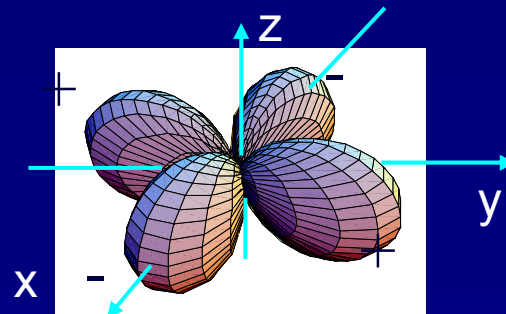
For example, consider the superposition:
($l = 1, m = +1$) & ($l = 1, m = -1$).

This will have an azimuthal wave function:

$e^{i\phi} + e^{-i\phi} \approx \cos \phi$, i.e., lobes along the x-axis:



Similar arguments explain how to create the usual “d” lobes, from $l = 2, m = \pm 2$ superpositions:



See Supplement for more info.