

With increasing quantum number the energy difference between adjacent levels in atoms.

**Solution.**

The energy levels of an electron around a nucleus:

$$E_n = -\frac{me^4Z^2}{8\varepsilon_0^2h^2n^2};$$

$m$  - the rest mass of the electron;

$e$  - the elementary charge;

$Z$  - the atomic number;

$\varepsilon_0$  - the permittivity of free space;

$h$  - the Planck constant;

$n$  - the principal quantum number.

The energy difference between adjacent levels with quantum numbers  $n + 1$  and  $n$ :

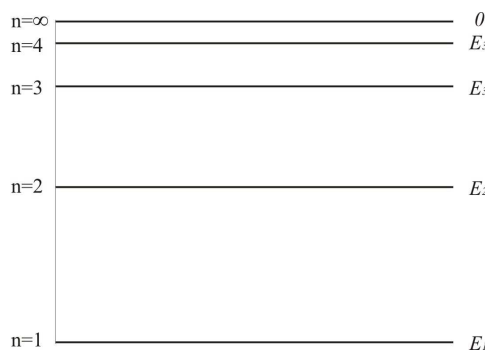
$$\begin{aligned} \Delta E_{n+1,n} &= E_{n+1} - E_n = -\frac{me^4Z^2}{8\varepsilon_0^2h^2} \left( \frac{1}{(n+1)^2} - \frac{1}{n^2} \right) = \\ &= \frac{me^4Z^2}{8\varepsilon_0^2h^2} \left( \frac{1}{n^2} - \frac{1}{(n+1)^2} \right) = \frac{me^4Z^2}{8\varepsilon_0^2h^2} \left( \frac{2n+1}{n^4+2n^3+n^2} \right). \end{aligned}$$

The energy difference between adjacent levels with quantum numbers  $n + 2$  and  $n + 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta E_{n+2,n+1} &= E_{n+2} - E_{n+1} = -\frac{me^4Z^2}{8\varepsilon_0^2h^2} \left( \frac{1}{(n+2)^2} - \frac{1}{(n+1)^2} \right) = \\ &= \frac{me^4Z^2}{8\varepsilon_0^2h^2} \left( \frac{1}{(n+1)^2} - \frac{1}{(n+2)^2} \right) = \frac{me^4Z^2}{8\varepsilon_0^2h^2} \left( \frac{2n+3}{n^4+6n^3+13n^2+12n+4} \right). \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{2n+3}{n^4+6n^3+13n^2+12n+4} < \frac{2n+1}{n^4+2n^3+n^2}, \text{ then } \Delta E_{n+2,n+1} < \Delta E_{n+1,n}.$$

With increasing quantum number the energy difference between adjacent levels in atoms decreases.



**Answer:** With increasing quantum number the energy difference between adjacent levels in atoms decreases.