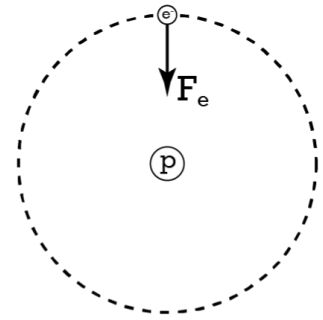




Flipping Physics Lecture Notes:

Determining the Speed of the Electron  
in the Bohr Model of the Hydrogen Atom

<https://www.flippingphysics.com/electron-speed-bohr.html>



Assuming a circular orbit of the electron about the nuclear proton in the Bohr model of the hydrogen atom, determine the speed of the electron. The electron orbits at a radius of  $5.29 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}$ .

Draw free body diagram of the electron.  
Only one force, the electric force, inward toward the proton.

$$r_{orbit} = 5.29 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}; v_t = ? (\text{magnitude})$$

$$\sum F_{in} = F_e = ma_c \Rightarrow \frac{kq_1q_2}{r^2} = m \left( \frac{v_t^2}{r} \right) \Rightarrow \frac{kq_1q_2}{r} = mv_t^2 \Rightarrow v_t = \sqrt{\frac{kq_1q_2}{mr}}$$

$$\Rightarrow v_t = \sqrt{\frac{(8.99 \times 10^9)(1.60 \times 10^{-19})^2}{(9.11 \times 10^{-31})(5.29 \times 10^{-11})}} = 2.1853 \times 10^6 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \approx \boxed{2.19 \times 10^6 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}}$$

$$v_t = 2.1853 \times 10^6 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \left( \frac{3600 \text{ sec}}{1 \text{ hour}} \right) \left( \frac{1 \text{ mile}}{1609 \text{ m}} \right) \approx 4.89 \times 10^6 \frac{\text{mi}}{\text{hr}}$$