UNIVERSAL 1/r² POTENTIALS at short and long range avoids collapse holds quasi-bound states A. R. P. Rau Department of Physics and Astronomy

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TIFR, Nov 2010, N-N Interactions and Nuclear Many-Body Problem





Efimov, Faddeev, Belyaev



Vary Mitra Warke



Themes:

Quantum binding, 1/r² potentials at small and large r

Attractive dipole 1/r² potential - bound states

Resonances: asymmetric "Fano" profiles

Scattering length, and its tuning

Neutron rich species: n + n + A

Universal aspects: atomic, molecular, nuclear

Angular Kinetic Energy $\ell^2/2mr^2$ **Repulsive** barrier: at small r avoids collapse, at large r holds low energy particles from penetration and/or escape Classical Physics: Collapse for straight line $l \equiv 0$ Quantum Physics, \hbar always an \hbar^2/mr^2 radial kinetic energy **Stability** of H atom $\hbar^2/(2mr^2) - e^2/r$ Bohr radius a_0 Wigner Threshold Law $k^{2\ell+1}$ tunneling at large r

Tunneling through angular potential barrier



inelastic cross-section

Attractive $-a/2r^2$ potential, effective complex angular momentum $\lambda = -\frac{1}{2} + i\alpha$ $\alpha = \sqrt{a - \frac{1}{4}}$

Number of bound states: Infinite number for long range

$$\hbar^2/2mr^2$$
 vs $-e^2/r$

1/r² the dividing falloff between long/short range, infinite/finite # for 1/r² itself, the strength parameter a decides

Infinite sequence described by $\sin() = 0 =>$ eigenvalues $\epsilon = -\kappa^2/2$ Coulomb: $\pi Z/\kappa = n\pi, \epsilon_n = -Z^2/2n^2$ Dipole bound states: molecules (OH, H₂O), H atom in n > 1: $\alpha \ln(2/\kappa) - \arg\Gamma(1 - i\alpha) = (n + 1/2)\pi$ $\epsilon_n = \epsilon_0 e^{-2n\pi/\alpha}$ D-dimensional Laplacian:



Universal, reflecting all but one R coordinate, "hard-sphere" at small R, long range tail

Resonances in physics: symmetric Lorentzian shapes Breit-Wigner in nuclear and particle physics

$$\sigma = \frac{A}{(E - E_r)^2 + (\Gamma/2)^2} = \frac{\sigma_0}{1 + \epsilon^2}$$

$$\epsilon \equiv (E - E_r) / (\Gamma/2)$$

Fano (1961) resonance as interference between two pathways

$$\sigma = \sigma_0 \frac{(q+\epsilon)^2}{(1+\epsilon^2)}$$

Fano profile, asymmetric, zero at $\ \ \epsilon = -q$ Reduces to Lorentzian for $q
ightarrow \infty$

Elastic scattering $\sigma = (4\pi/k^2) \sin^2 \delta$ δ_a background

 $\sin \delta = \sin(\delta_a + \delta - \delta_a) = \sin \delta_a \cos(\delta - \delta_a) + \cos \delta_a \sin(\delta - \delta_a)$

$$\sin^2 \delta = \sin^2 \delta_a \frac{[\cot(\delta - \delta_a) + \cot \delta_a]^2}{1 + \cot^2(\delta - \delta_a)}$$

$$q = -\cot \delta_a, \ \epsilon = -\cot(\delta - \delta_a)$$

 δ_a = 0, $q \to \infty$ reduces to Lorentzian



Scattering length: s-wave



weak binding: very large spread of wave function, e.g. deuteron, H⁻⁻

V. Efimov, Phys. Lett. 33B, 563 (1970) L.H.Thomas (1935)

Two-body with range r₀ Effective 1/R² potential as scattering length gets large

$$N = \frac{1}{\pi} \ln \frac{|a|}{r_0}$$

As two-body binding increases, Efimov states disappear

Excited state of helium trimer ⁴He₃; ⁴He₂ weakly bound

Cold atom traps, magnetic tuning of atom-atom scattering length. Cesium atoms through van der Waals, $r_0 = 100 a_0$ Tune a between -2500 and 1600 a_0 10 nK

Kraemer et al, Nature 440, 315 (2006); Esry-Greene, p.289

Efimov states of Cesium trimers



Kraemer et al, Nature **440**, 315 (2006), Esry-Greene, p.289 C. H. Greene, Phys. Today **63** (3), 40 (2010)

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neutron-rich, halo nuclei. ${}^{20}C: n + n + {}^{18}C$ two-body energy ${}^{19}C$ tuned elastic n + ${}^{19}C$ cross-section for energy E_i



eV Doubly-excited He

^{keV} Two-neutron states in nuclei



N – N Potential Repulsive Barrier/Core at small R

1969 U. Fano Wannier 3-body threshold law with Coulomb \longrightarrow H⁺ + e + e





Not really a two-body but an effective potential of a manybody system

Number of particles not defined, a conjugate phase as in BCS

Born approximation: $\sigma_{el} \sim [E^2 \ln \vec{p}^2 - \vec{p}^2]/\vec{p}^2$

$$E^2 = \vec{p}^2 + m^2$$