

Spherical Harmonic Oscillator

$$\hat{h} = \hat{t} + \frac{m\omega_0^2 r^2}{2} \Rightarrow \epsilon_N = \left(N + \frac{3}{2}\right) \hbar \omega_0$$

For each shell, the allowed orbital angular momenta are:

$$\ell = N, N-2, \dots, 1, \text{ or } 0, \quad j = \ell \pm \frac{1}{2}$$

Since each nucleon has an intrinsic spin $s=1/2$, the maximum number of nucleons in a HO shell is:

$$D_N = \sum_{\ell} 2(2\ell + 1) = (N+1)(N+2) \approx \left(N + \frac{3}{2}\right)^2$$

The total number of states is:

$$\sum_{N'=0}^N (N'+1)(N'+2) = \frac{1}{3}(N+1)(N+2)(N+3)$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{3}(N+2)^3$$

N	l	DEGEN.	TOTAL
5 —————	1,3,5	42	112
4 —————	0,2,4	30	70
3 —————	1,3	20	40
2 —————	0,2	12	20
1 —————	1	6	8
0 —————	0	2	2

Dimension of orbits:

$$\langle r^2 \rangle_{N\ell} = \frac{\hbar}{m\omega_0} \left(N + \frac{3}{2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \hbar \omega_0 \approx \frac{41}{A^{1/3}} (\text{MeV})$$

Project 2: Shell structure of the Modified Spherical Harmonic Oscillator (MHO)

See Sec. 6 of [textbook by Nilsson and Ragnarsson on shapes and shells Nucl. Phys. A131, 1 \(1969\)](#); [Phys. Scr. 39, 196 \(1989\)](#)

$$\hbar\omega_0 = \frac{41}{A^{1/3}} \left(1 \pm \frac{N - Z}{3A} \right) \text{ MeV} \quad \text{the plus sign holds for neutrons and the minus sign for protons}$$

The spin-orbit term is proportional to the Thomas potential

$$V_{\ell s} = \frac{g}{2m^2c^2} \frac{1}{r} \frac{dV}{dr} \vec{\ell} \cdot \vec{s}$$

Hence, for the harmonic oscillator, $V_{\ell s} = -2\kappa\hbar\omega_0 \vec{\ell} \cdot \vec{s}$

To account for the flat-bottom effect, one modifies the harmonic oscillator potential by adding the so-called ℓ^2 term:

$$V_{\ell\ell} = -\kappa\mu\hbar\omega_0 \left(\vec{\ell}^2 - \langle \vec{\ell}^2 \rangle_N \right)$$

$$\langle \vec{\ell}^2 \rangle_N = N(N + 3)/2 \quad \text{the average value of } \ell^2 \text{ within an N-shell. It is introduced to restore the average position of the shell}$$

MHO single-particle energies:

$$\epsilon(N\ell j) = \hbar\omega_0 \left[N + \frac{3}{2} - \kappa \begin{Bmatrix} \ell \\ -(\ell + 1) \end{Bmatrix} - \mu' \left(\ell(\ell + 1) - \frac{N(N + 3)}{2} \right) \right] \begin{cases} j = \ell + \frac{1}{2} \\ j = \ell - \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

1. Consider the “empirical” single-particle energy levels listed in Table II of [Schwierz et al.](#) Extract the values of proton and neutron magic gaps at particle numbers 8, 20, 28, 50, 82, and 126. For instance, the size of the neutron (126) gap in ^{208}Pb is $-3.94 - (-7.37) \text{ MeV} = 3.43 \text{ MeV}$.

^{208}Pb				
neutron hole				^{207}Pb
$1h_{9/2}$	-11.40	4.036	0.98	3.400, 5.410, 5.620 [28]
$2f_{7/2}$	-9.81	2.439	0.95	2.340, 4.570 [28]
$1i_{13/2}$	-9.24	1.870	0.91	1.630, 5.990 [28]
$3p_{3/2}$	-8.26	0.89	0.88	0.890 [21]
$2f_{5/2}$	-7.94	0.57	0.60	0.570 [21]
$3p_{1/2}$	-7.37	0	0.90	0 [21]
neutron particle				^{209}Pb [22]
$2g_{9/2}$	-3.94	0	0.83	0
$1i_{11/2}$	-3.16	0.779	0.86	0.779
$1j_{15/2}$	-2.51	1.424	0.58	1.424
$3d_{5/2}$	-2.37	1.565	0.98	1.565
$4s_{1/2}$	-1.90	2.033	0.98	2.033
$2g_{7/2}$	-1.44	2.492	1.05	2.492
$3d_{3/2}$	-1.40	2.537	1.09	2.537

2. By means of the χ^2 minimization, adjust the proton and neutron parameters κ and $\mu' = \kappa\mu$ of the MHO potential to the magic gaps extracted in point 1. Reasonable starting values are $\kappa_p = \kappa_n = 0.06$, $\mu'_p = 0.04$, and $\mu'_n = 0.02$ (see Table 1 of [Nucl. Phys. A131, 1 \(1969\)](#))
3. How uncertain are MHO parameters? Are they correlated?
4. Plot the MHO spectrum. Label the spherical shells.
5. According to the MHO, what should be the next magic nucleus beyond ^{208}Pb ? What are associated magic gaps (with uncertainties)?