

1. A quantum mechanical system is associated to an unperturbed hamiltonian  $\hat{H}_0$ , with spectrum  $\hat{H}_0|n\rangle = \epsilon_n|n\rangle$ . The system is perturbed at  $t = 0$  by a constant hamiltonian,  $\hat{H}_1(t) = \hat{H}'$ , up until  $t = T$ , when the perturbation is switched off. Consider a transition between an initial state,  $|i\rangle$  at  $t < 0$ , and a final state,  $|f\rangle$  at  $t > T$ .

- (a) Show that the transition probability from first-order perturbation theory is given by the expression

$$\mathcal{P}_{i \rightarrow f}(T) = \frac{|H'_{fi}|^2}{\hbar^2} \frac{\sin^2\left(\frac{\omega_{fi}T}{2}\right)}{\left(\frac{\omega_{fi}}{2}\right)^2},$$

with the Bohr frequencies  $\omega_{fi} = \frac{\epsilon_f - \epsilon_i}{\hbar}$ ; and  $H'_{fi}$ , the matrix element  $H'_{fi} = \langle f|\hat{H}'|i\rangle$ .

- (b) For early times,  $T \ll \frac{2}{\omega_{fi}}$ , how does the transition probability depend on the final state? Provide a physical explanation of this result.  
(c) Find an expression for  $\mathcal{P}_{i \rightarrow f}(T)$  when  $T \gg 1$  and discuss it in the context of the Fermi golden rule.  
(d) How does the expression change for a Gaussian perturbation,  $\hat{H}_1(t) = H'e^{-\frac{t^2}{T^2}}$ , active between  $t = -\infty$  and  $t = \infty$ ?

2. An unperturbed two-state system Hamiltonian gives rise to two degenerate states with energy  $E = \epsilon_1 = \epsilon_2$ . A constant perturbation,  $\hat{H}_1 = v(|1\rangle\langle 2| + |2\rangle\langle 1|)$  acts on the system for a time  $T$ . Show, by adding up perturbation theory terms, that the transition amplitudes are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} a_{1 \rightarrow 1} &= 1 - \frac{v^2 T^2}{2\hbar^2} + \frac{v^4 T^4}{24\hbar^4} + \dots = \cos \frac{vT}{\hbar}, \\ a_{1 \rightarrow 2} &= -i \frac{vT}{\hbar} + i \frac{v^3 T^3}{6\hbar^3} + \dots = -i \sin \frac{vT}{\hbar}. \end{aligned}$$

3. Use the Born approximation to derive the differential elastic scattering cross section,  $\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}$ , for a particle interacting with a target through:

- (a) A square well potential,  $V(r) = V_0$  for  $r < R$  and  $V(r) = 0$  elsewhere.  
(b) A gaussian potential,  $V(r) = \frac{V_0}{2\pi R^{3/2}} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2R^2}}$ .  
(c) Compare the two results above with the Yukawa potential expression. Can you extract some generic conclusions of the cross section dependence as a function of  $V_0$  and  $R$ ?

#### 4. Resonances

In some energy regime, the asymptotic wave function of  $l = 0$  partial waves is  $u(k, r) = e^{-ikr} - S_0 e^{ikr}$ , with  $S_0 = e^{2i\delta_0}$ .

- (a) Compute the logarithmic derivative,  $r \frac{u'}{u}$ , of this wave function.  
(b) By matching this logarithmic derivative to a value  $\mathcal{L}(E) = a(E) - ib(E)$  at  $r = R$ , find  $S_0$ .  
(c) The scattering amplitude is  $f_0 = \frac{1}{2ik} (S_0 - 1)$ . Show that it can be separated in two terms,  $f_{\text{pot}} = \frac{1}{2ik} (e^{-2ikR} - 1)$  and  $f_{\text{res}} = \frac{e^{-2ikR}}{k} \left( \frac{kR}{a - i(kR + b)} \right)$ .

- (d) What is the phase-shift associated to  $f_{\text{pot}}$ ?
- (e) A resonance occurs at an energy  $E_r$  such that  $a(E_r) = 0$ . Taylor expanding around this energy, one finds  $a(E_r) \approx a'(E_r)(E - E_r)$ . Prove that the cross section associated to the scattering amplitude  $f_{\text{res}}$ ,  $\sigma = 4\pi|f_{\text{res}}|^2$ , has a Breit-Wigner shape,

$$\sigma = \frac{\pi}{k^2} \frac{\Gamma_e^2}{(E - E_r)^2 + \Gamma^2/4}$$

close to  $E \approx E_r$ . The scattering width is  $\Gamma_e = -\frac{2kR}{a'(E_r)}$  and the total width  $\Gamma = \Gamma_e - \frac{2b}{a'(E_r)}$ .

5. Consider the  $l = 0$  (or  $s$ -wave) scattering off a potential that reads

$$V(r) = \begin{cases} \infty, & \text{for } r < R_0, \\ -U_0 & \text{for } R_0 < r < R_1, \\ 0, & \text{for } r > R_1. \end{cases}$$

This model represents a rough van der Waals or nuclear interaction.

- (a) Find the solutions of the Schrödinger equation in each of the three regions of space.
- (b) Match the solutions at  $r = R_0$  to find that  $u_0(r) = A \sin[\bar{k}(r - R_0)]$  for  $R_0 < r < R_1$ . What is  $\bar{k}$ ?
- (c) Find the scattering phase shift by matching the solution at  $r = R_1$ .
- (d) Find the scattering length of this potential. How does it compare to the range of the potential,  $R_1$ ?
- (e) What phenomenon may occur as the momentum increases?