Physics Problem Solving Computing Project

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Matthew Rossetter

Quarkonium

Matthew Rossetter

Durham University

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Introduction

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- > Project will solve Schrodinger equation of a quarkonium system
- > Study the bound states found given by solutions
- > Expand from this to explore further physics
- Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD) is the study the strong force, quarks and gluons
- Gluons are the force carriers for the strong force
- Quarks cannot exist as free particles



Introduction

Background Physics

- QCD gets split into two regimes one can be studied similarly to **QED**
- Charm and Bottom quark systems have high enough masses to be studied using standard methods
- A Bottom or Charm guark-antiguark bound pair can be modeled similarly to the hydrogen atom
- Apply QCD similarly to QED for hydrogen
- The non-relativistic 3D Schrodinger equation is satisfied by these systems

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu}\nabla^2\psi + [V(r) - E_{nl}]\psi = 0$$

$$V(r) = -\frac{4\alpha_s}{3r} + \beta r$$
(2)

$$V(r) = -\frac{4\alpha_s}{3r} + \beta r \tag{2}$$

Numerical Methods for Solving the Wavefunction

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 \triangleright Radial wavefunction, u_{nl} , found from solving a set of ODEs

$$\frac{du_{nl}}{dr} = v_{nl} \tag{3}$$

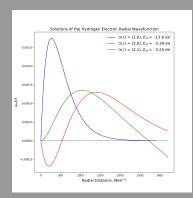
$$\frac{dv_{nl}}{dr} = \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} u_{nl} - 2\mu (E_{nl} - V(r)) u_{nl}$$
 (4)

- Solve iteratively to find correct energy
 - Guess three initial energies/betas and solve equation
 - Compare nodes and turning points of solution and theory
 - Narrow down energies/betas until a solution is found
 - Guess new inital energies if no solutions found
 - Use Simpsons method, or similar numerical integrator, to normalise solution

The Milestone Project

Solving the Hydrogen Wavefunction

Quarkonium

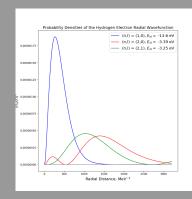


- Program for Quarkonium applied to Hydrogen
- $ightharpoonup rac{4\alpha_s}{3}
 ightharpoonup rac{1}{137}, eta
 ightharpoonup 0, \mu
 ightharpoonup m_e$
- > Iterate over energies

$$E_{1,0} = -13.6 \,\text{eV}$$

$$E_{2,0} = -3.39 \,\text{eV}$$

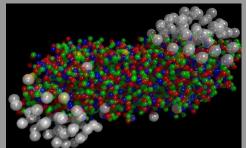
$$E_{2,1} = -3.25 \, \text{eV}$$



Further Extensions

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- Will apply program to charmonium and bottomonium
- Possible ventures:
 - Consider other models of the potential
 - Use program to solve and study other quark systems
 - Time dependence of states and lifetime
 - Hyperfine splitting and transition between spin states
 - Charmonium melting into quark-gluon plasma



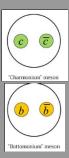


Figure: Quark-Gluon Plasma