

(20) In prob^m (19), the Born Approxn (BA) provided cross-sections for scattering from a spherical well: $V(r) = (-) V_0, r < a; V(r) \equiv 0, r > a$. Evaluate the validity of the BA in this case, per class notes p. ScT 10, Eq. (22). Show that the BA can hold down to \sim zero incident energy, if the well is shallow enough. Discuss the shallowness condition on V_0 w.r.t. formation of possible bound states in the well.

(21) [15 pts.]. Using the Born Approxn, find both the differential and total scattering cross-sections for the central potentials: (A) $V(r) = V_0 e^{-\alpha r}$, (B) $V(r) = V_0 e^{-\alpha^2 r^2}$, w/ $\alpha \neq V_0 = \text{const.}$ Now, with the range parameter α held the same for each $V(r)$, adjust the amplitudes V_0 so that each potential has the same "volume", i.e. so that: $\int_0^\infty V(r) \cdot 4\pi r^2 dr = \Lambda = \text{const.}$ Finally, with this adjustment, intercompare and comment on the results for the $V(r)$'s in (A) & (B).

(22) [15 pts.]. Consider the scattering of an electron from a stationary charge distribution $\rho(r)$ which generates a potential ϕ per Poisson's eqn: $\nabla^2 \phi = -4\pi \rho$.

(A) The scattering potential is $V = -e\phi$. Show that in Born Approxⁿ, the differential cross-section is: $\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left| \left(\frac{2me}{\hbar^2 q^2} \right) \int \rho(r) e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} d^3x \right|^2$ w/ $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{k}_{\text{before}} - \mathbf{k}_{\text{after}}$.

(B) Let $\rho(r)$ be due to an atomic ion w/ nucleus of charge Ze and N electrons distributed per their wavefns ψ_k , i.e. $\rho(r) = Ze\delta(r) - e \sum_{k=1}^N |\psi_k(r)|^2$. The atom is randomly oriented, so only the radial dependence of ψ_k is kept; the norm is $\int_0^\infty |\psi_k(r)| \cdot 4\pi r^2 dr = 1$. Show that $d\sigma/d\Omega$ of part (A) can be written: $d\sigma/d\Omega = (4/a_0^2 q^4) |Z - F(q)|^2$, w/ $a_0 = \hbar^2/me^2$. $F(q)$ is the "form factor" for the atomic electrons. Find $F(q)$ and reduce it to a radial integral.

(C) Evaluate $F(q)$ for the single electron in the ground state of the H-atom [i.e. for $\psi(r) = (1/\sqrt{\pi a_0^3}) e^{-r/a_0}$]. Then, write down the cross-section ($d\sigma/d\Omega$), and compare it with Sakurai's result ["Modern QM" (Addison Wesley, 1985), p. 448].

② Validity of Born Approxⁿ (BA) for scattering from a spherical well.

1. The BA validity criterion in Eq. (22), p. ScT10, requires evaluating:

$$\rightarrow J(k) = \int_0^\infty [e^{2ikr} - 1] V(r) dr = \frac{V_0}{k} \int_0^{ka} (1 - e^{2ix}) dx, \text{ for a sph. well;}$$

$$\approx J(k) = \frac{V_0}{k} [\phi - e^{i\phi} \sin \phi], \quad \phi = ka \quad (\& \quad \hbar k = \sqrt{2mE} = \text{incident momentum}). \quad (1)$$

The validity condition is ...

$$|J(k)|^2 \ll (\hbar \cdot \hbar k/m)^2 = (\hbar^2/ma)^2 \phi^2$$

$$\approx \left| (V_0 a) \left[1 - e^{i\phi} \left(\frac{\sin \phi}{\phi} \right) \right] \right|^2 \ll (\hbar^2/ma)^2 \phi^2$$

$$\approx \boxed{\phi^2 \gg Q^2 \left[1 - 2 \cos \phi \left(\frac{\sin \phi}{\phi} \right) + \left(\frac{\sin \phi}{\phi} \right)^2 \right]} \quad \begin{matrix} \phi = ka, \\ Q = mV_0 a^2/\hbar^2. \end{matrix} \quad (2)$$

For high energies, $\phi \gg 1$, this amounts to $\phi \gg Q$, and -- as usual -- is easily satisfied, so long as Q is not huge. The BA is always a good approx for high energies.

2. For low energies, $\phi \ll 1$, and the [] in Eq. (2) has the expansion ...

$$\left[1 - 2 \cos \phi \left(\frac{\sin \phi}{\phi} \right) + \left(\frac{\sin \phi}{\phi} \right)^2 \right] = \phi^2 \left[1 - \frac{2}{9} \phi^2 + \dots \right]$$

$$\approx 1 \gg Q^2 \left[1 - \frac{2}{9} \phi^2 \right], \quad \approx \underline{Q \ll 1 + \frac{1}{9} (ka)^2}, \text{ as } k \rightarrow 0. \quad (3)$$

This low energy validity condition can be satisfied even when $k \rightarrow 0$, if the well is shallow enough so that $Q = mV_0 a^2/\hbar^2 \ll 1$, i.e. if ...

$$\boxed{V_0 \ll \hbar^2/ma^2} \leftrightarrow \text{for validity of BA down to } \sim \text{zero incident } E. \quad (4)$$

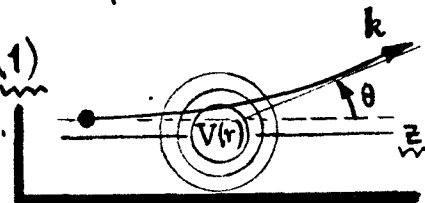
This well is so shallow it cannot even bind the particle in a single state. For if the particle were localized in the well, its momentum would be $p \sim \hbar/a \Rightarrow \text{energy } E = p^2/2m \sim \hbar^2/2ma^2 \gg V_0$; V_0 in (4) is insufficient to bind.

21 [15 pts]. $\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}$ & σ in Born Approxn for: $V(r) = V_0 e^{-\alpha r}$, $V_0 e^{-\alpha^2 r^2}$.

1. From class notes, p. ScT 13, Eq. (31), the differential scattering cross section is:

$$\rightarrow \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left(\frac{2m}{\hbar^2 q} \right)^2 \left| \int_0^\infty r V(r) \sin qr \, dr \right|^2; \quad \text{w/ } \underline{q = 2k \sin \frac{\theta}{2}}, \quad (1)$$

(momentum transfer).



for spherically symmetric potentials. So...

(A) $\underline{V(r) = V_0 e^{-\alpha r}}$.

$$\int_0^\infty r V(r) \sin qr \, dr = V_0 \int_0^\infty r e^{-\alpha r} \sin qr \, dr \quad \text{tabulated: Dwight \# (860.81)} = V_0 \cdot 2\alpha q / (\alpha^2 + q^2)^2. \quad (2)$$

So $\underline{\underline{d\sigma/d\Omega = \left(\frac{4mV_0\alpha}{\hbar^2} \right)^2 / (\alpha^2 + q^2)^4}}$, $q = 2k \sin(\theta/2)$ as above. (3)

For total cross section $\sigma = \int_{4\pi} (d\sigma/d\Omega) d\Omega$, use $d\Omega = \frac{2\pi}{k^2} q dq$, so here...

$$\rightarrow \sigma = \left(\frac{4mV_0\alpha}{\hbar^2} \right)^2 \frac{2\pi}{k^2} \int_0^{2k} \frac{q dq}{(\alpha^2 + q^2)^4} = \left(\frac{4mV_0\alpha}{\hbar^2} \right)^2 \frac{\pi}{3k^2} \left[\frac{1}{\alpha^6} - \frac{1}{(\alpha^2 + 4k^2)^3} \right], \quad \text{Dwight \# (90.4).}$$

So $\underline{\underline{\sigma = \frac{4\pi}{3} \left(\frac{4mV_0}{\hbar^2 \alpha^2} \right)^2 [3\alpha^4 + 12\alpha^2 k^2 + 16k^4] / (\alpha^2 + 4k^2)^3}}$ (4)

(B) $\underline{V(r) = V_0 e^{-\alpha^2 r^2}}$.

$$\int_0^\infty r V(r) \sin qr \, dr = V_0 \int_0^\infty r e^{-\alpha^2 r^2} \sin qr \, dr \quad \text{tabulated: Dwight \# (861.21)} = V_0 \cdot (q \sqrt{\pi} / 4\alpha^3) e^{-q^2/4\alpha^2}. \quad (5)$$

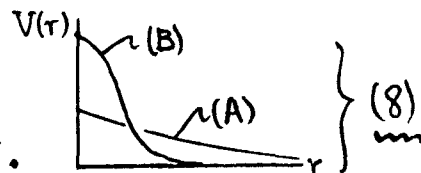
So $\underline{\underline{d\sigma/d\Omega = \pi \left(\frac{mV_0}{2\hbar^2 \alpha^3} \right)^2 e^{-q^2/4\alpha^2}}}$, $q = 2k \sin(\theta/2)$ as above. (6)

$$\underline{\underline{\sigma = \pi \left(\frac{mV_0}{2\hbar^2 \alpha^3} \right)^2 \frac{2\pi}{k^2} \int_0^{2k} e^{-(q^2/4\alpha^2)} q dq = \left(\frac{\pi m V_0}{\hbar^2 \alpha^2} \right)^2 \frac{1}{k^2} [1 - e^{-(k^2/\alpha^2)}]}}. \quad (7)$$

2. Adjust the coefficients V_0 in parts (A) & (B) to same "volume" Λ ...

(A) $\Lambda = \int_0^\infty V_0^{(A)} e^{-\alpha r} \cdot 4\pi r^2 dr \Rightarrow V_0^{(A)} = \alpha^3 \Lambda / 8\pi$;

(B) $\Lambda = \int_0^\infty V_0^{(B)} e^{-\alpha^2 r^2} \cdot 4\pi r^2 dr \Rightarrow V_0^{(B)} = \alpha^3 \Lambda / \pi^{3/2}$.



$V_0^{(B)}$ must be (and is) larger than $V_0^{(A)}$ because the Gaussian falls off much faster

* $d\Omega = 2\pi \sin \theta d\theta = 2\pi (2 \sin \frac{\theta}{2}) d(2 \sin \frac{\theta}{2}) = (2\pi/k^2) q dq$. $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi \Rightarrow 0 \leq q \leq 2k$.

than the exponential. The differential cross-sections in Eqs. (3) & (6) are now:

$$\rightarrow \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right)_A = \frac{s}{[1 + (q^2/\alpha^2)]^4}, \quad \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right)_B = s e^{-\frac{1}{4} q^2/\alpha^2}; \quad q = 2k \sin \frac{\theta}{2}; \quad (9)$$

w/ $\underline{s} = (m\Lambda/2\pi\hbar^2)^2 = \text{const}$ [s has dim²s of an area].

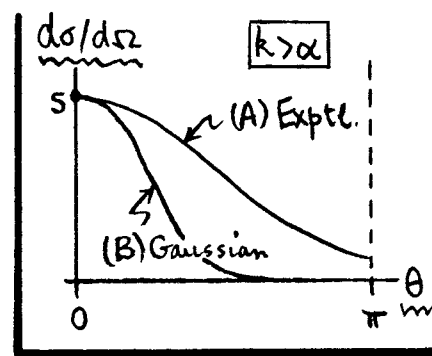
And the total cross sections of Eqs. (4) & (7) can be written as:

$$\rightarrow \sigma_A = 4\pi s \left\{ \frac{1 + 4\epsilon + (16/3)\epsilon^2}{(1 + 4\epsilon)^3} \right\}, \quad \sigma_B = 4\pi s \left\{ \frac{1}{\epsilon} (1 - e^{-\epsilon}) \right\}; \quad (10)$$

w/ $\underline{\epsilon} = k^2/\alpha^2 = (2m/\hbar^2\alpha^2)E$, a dimensionless energy parameter.

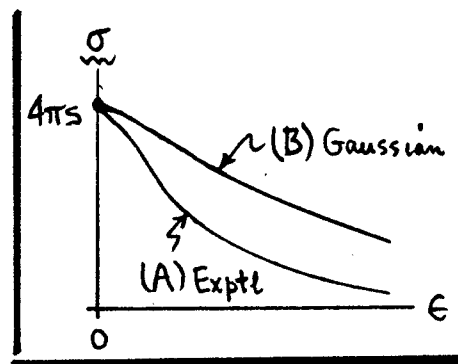
3. In above forms, we can intercompare the scattering effects of the long-range potential $V_A(r) = V_0^{(A)} \exp[-(\alpha r)]$ and the short-range $V_B(r) = V_0^{(B)} \exp[-(\alpha r)^2]$. The following points are relevant:

(1) Re $d\sigma/d\Omega \dots$ (A) & (B) are the same at $\theta=0$, but (for fixed k), (B) falls off much more rapidly as $\theta > 0$. If $k > \alpha$, there is much smaller chance of backscattering from the short-range potential (B).



(2) Re $\sigma \dots$ (A) & (B) again start out the same at ~ zero energy ϵ , but now (A) falls off more rapidly:

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \sigma_A &\approx \begin{cases} 4\pi s \{1 - 8\epsilon\}, & \text{as } \epsilon \rightarrow 0, \\ 4\pi s \{1/12\epsilon\}, & \text{for } \epsilon \gg 1; \end{cases} & (11) \\ \sigma_B &\approx \begin{cases} 4\pi s \{1 - \frac{1}{2}\epsilon\}, & \text{as } \epsilon \rightarrow 0, \\ 4\pi s \{1/\epsilon\}, & \text{for } \epsilon \gg 1. \end{cases} & (12) \end{aligned} \right.$$



The short-range (well-localized) potential is relatively insensitive to the incoming particle energy -- it acts in the manner of a hard-sphere scatterer.

② [15 pts]. Electron-Atom Scattering: Born-Approxn ↔ Form-Factor approach.

(A) 1. If: $\tilde{\phi}(\mathbf{q}) = \int \phi(\mathbf{r}) e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} d^3x$, then the inverse is: $\phi(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int \tilde{\phi}(\mathbf{q}) e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} d^3q$, and $\nabla^2 \phi = (1/2\pi)^3 \int [-q^2 \tilde{\phi}] e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} d^3q$. The Fourier-transformed version of Poisson's Eqn $\nabla^2 \phi = -4\pi\rho$ then yields

$$\rightarrow \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int [-q^2 \tilde{\phi}] e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} d^3q = -4\pi \cdot \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int [\tilde{\rho}] e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} d^3q$$

$$\Rightarrow q^2 \tilde{\phi} = 4\pi \tilde{\rho}, \quad \text{i.e., } \underline{\underline{\tilde{\phi}(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{4\pi}{q^2} \int \rho(\mathbf{r}) e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} d^3x}} \quad \begin{matrix} \uparrow \mathbf{q} = \mathbf{k}_b - \mathbf{k}_a, \\ \uparrow q = 2k \sin(\theta/2). \end{matrix} \quad (1)$$

Back in Born's differential scattering cross section, this gives...*

$$\boxed{\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left| \left(\frac{me}{2\pi\hbar^2} \right) \tilde{\phi}(\mathbf{q}) \right|^2 = \left| \left(\frac{2me}{\hbar^2 q^2} \right) \int \rho(\mathbf{r}) e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} d^3x \right|^2}. \quad (2)$$

(B) 2. If, for an atom (nuclear charge Ze and $k=1 \rightarrow N$ electrons): $\rho(\mathbf{r}) = Ze\delta(\mathbf{r}) - e \sum_{k=1}^N |\psi_k(\mathbf{r})|^2$, then

$$\rightarrow \int \rho(\mathbf{r}) e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} d^3x = Ze - e \sum_{k=1}^N \int |\psi_k(\mathbf{r})|^2 e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} d^3x$$

$$\Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = (4/a_0^2 q^4) |Z - F(q)|^2, \quad \text{w/ } \underline{a_0} = \hbar^2/me^2 = \text{Bohr radius,} \\ \text{where: } F(q) = \sum_{k=1}^N \int |\psi_k(\mathbf{r})|^2 e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} d^3x \leftarrow \text{"form factor" for atomic electrons} \end{array} \right\} \quad (3)$$

The \int integration in $F(q)$ can be done as in class notes, Eq.(31), p. ScT 13...

$$\Rightarrow \underline{\underline{F(q) = \frac{4\pi}{q} \sum_{k=1}^N \int_0^\infty r |\psi_k(r)|^2 \sin qr \, dr.}} \quad (4)$$

3. For H-atom ground state, $N=1$ & $\psi(r) = (1/\sqrt{\pi a_0^3}) e^{-r/a_0}$. Then, with $\rho = r/a_0$ & $Q = qa_0$, Eq.(4) $\Rightarrow F(q) = \frac{4}{Q} \cdot \int_0^\infty \rho e^{-2\rho} \sin Q\rho \, d\rho = 1/(1 + \frac{Q^2}{4})^2$. So (3) gives:

$$\boxed{\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{4a_0^2}{Q^4} \left[1 - \frac{16}{(Q^2+4)^2} \right]^2} \quad \begin{matrix} \uparrow q = 2k \sin \frac{\theta}{2}, \\ \uparrow Q = qa_0 \text{ \& } a_0 = \frac{\hbar^2}{me^2}. \end{matrix} \quad (5) \quad \text{This is } \equiv \text{ Sakurai's result as cited.}$$

* $\nabla^2 \phi = -4\pi\rho$ gives the potential. The interaction is $-e\phi$ for an incident electron.