

# Notes on three-body bound states

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## Abstract

We use the effective field theory (EFT) approach to investigate the three-body problem. Our particular interest is to compute bound states.

## 1 Introduction

The Fig. 1, taken from Ref. [1], illustrate diagrammatically the Faddeev equations for the case of  ${}^6\text{He}$  bound-state. The single dashed (or solid) line denotes the  $c$  (or  $n$ ) one-body propagator. The thick black and shaded lines represents the  $nc$  and  $nn$  two-body propagators. The  $F_c$  and  $F_n$  are the corresponding Faddeev components. In summary, these components are the partial-wave-decomposed states that are obtained by solving the two coupled-channel integral equations. For the general case of a two-neutron halo ground-state (core-neutron-neutron), they are given as

$$F_c(q) = 8\pi \int_0^\Lambda q'^2 dq' X_{cn}(q, q'; -B_3) \tau_n(q'; -B_3) F_n(q'), \quad (1)$$

$$F_n(q) = 4\pi \int_0^\Lambda q'^2 dq' X_{nc}(q, q'; -B_3) \tau_c(q'; -B_3) F_c(q') \\ + 4\pi \int_0^\Lambda q'^2 dq' X_{nn}(q, q'; -B_3) \tau_n(q'; -B_3) F_n(q'), \quad (2)$$

where  $\Lambda$  is the ultraviolet cutoff. The kernel function  $X_{ij}$  is defined as

$$X_{ij}(q, q'; E) = \iint p^2 dp p'^2 dp' g_{l_i}(p) G_0^{(i)}(p, q; E) g_{l_j}(p') {}_i\langle p, q; \Omega_i | p', q'; \Omega_j \rangle_j,$$

which includes the three-body Green's function

$$G_0^{(i)}(p, q; E) = \left( E - \frac{p^2}{2\mu_{jk}} - \frac{q^2}{2\mu_{i(jk)}} \right)^{-1},$$

and the two-body form factors  $g_{l_i}$  and  $g_{l_j}$  (**falar sobre Yamagushi**). The factor  ${}_i\langle p, q; \Omega_i | p', q'; \Omega_j \rangle_j$  is the projection of the eigenstate of the free Hamiltonian in the partition of spectator  $i$  onto the free eigenstate in the partition of spectator  $j$ :

$${}_i\langle p, q; \Omega_i | t_i | p', q'; \Omega'_i \rangle_i = 4\pi g_{l_i}(p) \tau_i(q; E) g_{l_i}(p') \delta_{\Omega_i \Omega'_i} \frac{1}{q^2} \delta(q - q').$$

$$\tau_{nn}(E) = \frac{1}{4\pi^2 \mu_{nn} (\gamma_0 + ik)},$$

$$\tau_{nc}(E) = \frac{1}{4\pi^2\mu_{nc}(k^2 - k_R^2)}$$

where  $k = \sqrt{2\mu E}$ ,  $\gamma_0 = 1/a_0$  with  $nn$  scattering length  $a_0 = -18.7$  fm, since  $nn$  interaction is dominated by an s-wave virtual state. In addition,  $k_R = \sqrt{2/(a_1 r_1)}$  and  $\gamma_1 = -r_1/2$ , in which

$$\frac{1}{a_1} = \frac{1}{4\pi^2\mu_{nc}\lambda_1} + \frac{2\Lambda^3}{3\pi}$$

$$\frac{r_1}{2} = -\frac{2\Lambda}{\pi}$$

We look the solution for an energy of  $E = -B_3$  where the eigenvalue of the kernel is one.

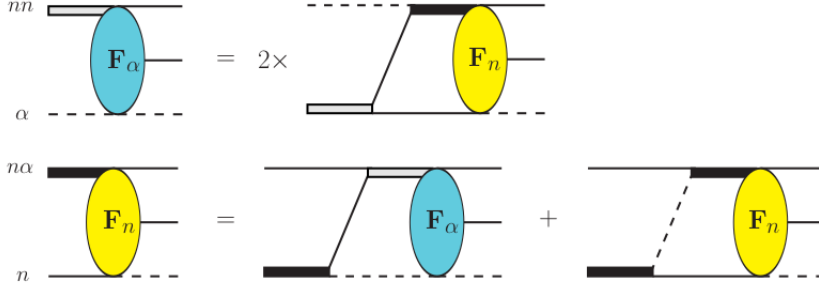


Figure 1: The Faddeev equations for the  ${}^6\text{He}$  bound-state where  $F_c$  and  $F_n$  are the corresponding Faddeev components. Figure taken from Ref. [1].

.... and finally

$$\tau_c(q; -B_3) = \frac{1}{2\pi^2 m_n \gamma_0} \frac{1}{\mathcal{K}_c(q; -B_3)}$$

where the two-body binding momentum  $\mathcal{K}_c$  is related to  $q$  and  $B_3$  by

$$\mathcal{K}_c(q; -B_3) = \sqrt{m_n B_3 + \frac{A+2}{4A} q^2}$$

Here  $A$  indicates the mass ratio between the  $c$ -core and a neutron  $A = m_c/m_n$ . Similarly, we can write  $\tau_n$  as a function of  $B_3$  and the Jacobi momentum  $q$ :

$$\tau_n(q; -B_3) = -\frac{1}{4\pi^2 m_n \gamma_1} \left( \frac{A+1}{A} \right) \frac{1}{\mathcal{K}_n^2(q; -B_3) + k_R^2}$$

with

$$\mathcal{K}_n(q; -B_3) = \sqrt{\frac{2A}{A+1} \left( m_n B_3 + \frac{A+2}{2(A+1)} q^2 \right)}$$

$$X_{nc}(q, q'; -B_3) = -\sqrt{2} m_n \left[ \frac{A}{A+1} \frac{1}{q'} Q_0(z_{nc}) + \frac{1}{q} Q_1(z_{nc}) \right]$$

$$X_{cn}(q, q'; -B_3) = -\sqrt{2} m_n \left[ \frac{A}{A+1} \frac{1}{q} Q_0(z_{cn}) + \frac{1}{q'} Q_1(z_{cn}) \right]$$

$$X_{nn}(q, q'; -B_3) = A m_n \left[ \frac{A^2+2A+3}{(A+1)^2} Q_0(z_{nn}) + \frac{2}{A+1} \frac{q^2+q'^2}{qq'} Q_1(z_{nn}) + Q_2(z_{nn}) \right]$$

with  $A = m_c/m_n$  and  $Q_l$  are the Legendre functions of the second kind, which are related the ordinary Legendre polynomials  $P_l$  by

$$Q_l(z) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 dx \frac{P_l(x)}{z-x}$$

for  $|z| > 1$ . The arguments  $z_{nc}, z_{cn}$  and  $z_{nn}$  in are defined as

$$z_{nc} = -\frac{1}{qq'} (m_n B_3 + q^2 + \frac{A+1}{2A} q'^2)$$

$$z_{cn} = -\frac{1}{qq'} (m_n B_3 + q'^2 + \frac{A+1}{2A} q^2)$$

$$z_{nn} = -\frac{A}{qq'} (m_n B_3 + \frac{A+1}{2A} (q^2 + q'^2))$$

**About the parameters ( to do a table):** "A more recent analysis of  $n\alpha$  data gives  $a_1 = -65.7$  fm<sup>3</sup>,  $r_1 = -0.84$  fm<sup>-1</sup>".

## 2 Numerical Solution

### 2.1 Method 1

For simplicity, we write the Eqs. (1) and (2) as

$$F_c(q) = 2 \int_0^\Lambda dq' K_{cn}(q, q'; -B_3) F_n(q'), \quad (3)$$

$$F_n(q) = \int_0^\Lambda dq' K_{nc}(q, q'; -B_3) F_c(q') + \int_0^\Lambda dq' K_{nn}(q, q'; -B_3) F_n(q'). \quad (4)$$

where

$$K_{cn}(q, q'; -B_3) = 4\pi q'^2 X_{cn}(q, q'; -B_3) \tau_n(q'; -B_3)$$

$$K_{nc}(q, q'; -B_3) = 4\pi q'^2 X_{nc}(q, q'; -B_3) \tau_c(q'; -B_3)$$

$$K_{nn}(q, q'; -B_3) = 4\pi q'^2 X_{nn}(q, q'; -B_3) \tau_n(q'; -B_3)$$

Discretizing expressions (16) and (17), it is possible to write

$$F_c(q_i) = 2 \sum_{j=1}^N K_{cn}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) F_n(q_j) w_j \quad (5)$$

$$F_n(q_i) = \sum_{j=1}^N K_{nc}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) F_c(q_j) w_j + \sum_{j=1}^N K_{nn}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) F_n(q_j) w_j, \quad (6)$$

with

$$K_{cn}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) = 4\pi q_j^2 X_{cn}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) \tau_n(q_j; -B_3)$$

$$K_{nc}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) = 4\pi q_j^2 X_{nc}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) \tau_c(q_j; -B_3)$$

$$K_{nn}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) = 4\pi q_j^2 X_{nn}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) \tau_n(q_j; -B_3).$$

We can write the expressions

$$F_c(q_i) - 2 \sum_{j=1}^N K_{cn}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) F_n(q_j) w_j = 0, \quad (7)$$

$$F_n(q_i) - \sum_{j=1}^N K_{nc}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) F_c(q_j) w_j - \sum_{j=1}^N K_{nn}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) F_n(q_j) w_j = 0, \quad (8)$$

that can be given in the matrix form, such as

$$\left( \delta_{ij} - 2 \sum_{j=1}^N K_{cn}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) w_j \right) \begin{pmatrix} F_c(q_i) \\ F_n(q_i) \end{pmatrix} = 0, \quad (9)$$

$$\left( \delta_{ij} - \sum_{j=1}^N K_{nc}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) w_j - \sum_{j=1}^N K_{nn}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) w_j \right) \begin{pmatrix} F_n(q_i) \\ F_c(q_i) \\ F_n(q_i) \end{pmatrix} = 0, \quad (10)$$

in which the Kronecker's delta was introduced. We can write

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\delta_{ij} & 2 \sum_{j=1}^N K_{cn}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) w_j \\ \sum_{j=1}^N K_{nc}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) w_j & \sum_{j=1}^N K_{nn}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) w_j - \delta_{ij} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} F_c(q_i) \\ F_n(q_i) \end{pmatrix} = 0,$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\hat{1} & 2\sum_{j=1}^N K_{cn}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) w_j \\ \sum_{j=1}^N K_{nc}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) w_j & \sum_{j=1}^N K_{nn}(q_i, q_j; -B_3) w_j - \hat{1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} F_c(q_i) \\ F_n(q_i) \end{pmatrix} = 0. \quad (11)$$

We define

$$\mathcal{M}_{(2N \times 2N)} = \begin{bmatrix} -\hat{1}_{(N \times N)} & 2M_{cn} \\ M_{nc} & M_{nn} - \hat{1}_{(N \times N)} \end{bmatrix} \quad (12)$$

to rewrite the expression 11 as

$$\mathcal{M}_{(2N \times 2N)} \times \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{F}_c \\ \mathcal{F}_n \end{pmatrix} = 0, \quad (13)$$

where

$$M_{xy} = \begin{bmatrix} -K_{xy}(q_1, q_1; -B_3) w_1 & -K_{xy}(q_1, q_2; -B_3) w_2 & \cdots & -K_{xy}(q_1, q_N; -B_3) w_N \\ -K_{xy}(q_2, q_1; -B_3) w_1 & -K_{xy}(q_2, q_2; -B_3) w_2 & \cdots & -K_{xy}(q_2, q_N; -B_3) w_N \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -K_{xy}(q_N, q_1; -B_3) w_1 & -K_{xy}(q_N, q_2; -B_3) w_2 & \cdots & -K_{xy}(q_N, q_N; -B_3) w_N \end{bmatrix}, \quad (14)$$

$$\hat{1}_{(N \times N)} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \end{bmatrix}_{(N \times N)} \quad (15)$$

with

$$\mathcal{F}_n = \begin{bmatrix} F_n(q_1) \\ F_n(q_2) \\ \vdots \\ F_n(q_N) \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and also} \quad \mathcal{F}_c = \begin{bmatrix} F_c(q_1) \\ F_c(q_2) \\ \vdots \\ F_c(q_N) \end{bmatrix}.$$

## 2.2 Method 2

$$F_c(q) = 2 \int_0^\Lambda dq' K_{cn}(q, q'; -B_3) F_n(q'), \quad (16)$$

$$F_n(q) = \int_0^\Lambda dq' K_{nc}(q, q'; -B_3) F_c(q') + \int_0^\Lambda dq' K_{nn}(q, q'; -B_3) F_n(q'). \quad (17)$$

where

$$K_{cn}(q, q'; -B_3) = 4\pi q'^2 X_{cn}(q, q'; -B_3) \tau_n(q'; -B_3)$$

$$K_{nc}(q, q'; -B_3) = 4\pi q'^2 X_{nc}(q, q'; -B_3) \tau_c(q'; -B_3)$$

$$K_{nn}(q, q'; -B_3) = 4\pi q'^2 X_{nn}(q, q'; -B_3) \tau_n(q'; -B_3)$$

Taking Eq. (16) into Eq. (17):

$$\begin{aligned} F_n(q) &= 2 \int_0^\Lambda dq' \tau_n(q'; -B_3) \left[ \int_0^\Lambda dq'' K_{nc}(q, q''; -B_3) X_{cn}(q'', q'; -B_3) \right] F_n(q') \\ &\quad + \int_0^\Lambda dq' K_{nn}(q, q'; -B_3) F_n(q'). \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

## References

- [1] C. Ji, C. Elster, and D. R. Phillips.  ${}^6\text{He}$  nucleus in halo effective field theory. *Phys. Rev. C*, 90:044004, Oct 2014. [doi:10.1103/PhysRevC.90.044004](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevC.90.044004).