

Start with (no interaction)

$$\left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dr_1^2} - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dr_2^2} + \frac{1}{2} k r_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} k r_2^2 \right) u(r_1, r_2) = E u(r_1, r_2)$$

change variables

$$\vec{r} = \vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2 \quad \wedge \quad \vec{R} = \frac{1}{2}(\vec{r}_1 + \vec{r}_2) \Rightarrow \vec{r}_2 = 2\vec{R} - \vec{r}_1$$

$$\vec{r}_1 = \vec{r} + \vec{r}_2$$

$$2\vec{r}_2 = 2\vec{R} - \vec{r}$$

$$\vec{r}_2 = \vec{R} - \frac{\vec{r}}{2}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} k r_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} k r_2^2 = \frac{1}{4} k r^2 + k R^2$$

In QM

$$\vec{p} = -i\hbar \nabla$$

momentum:

Relative momentum:

$$\vec{p} = \frac{1}{2} (\vec{p}_1 - \vec{p}_2)$$

center of mass momentum

kinetic energy

$$\vec{p} = \vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2$$

$$\frac{p_1^2}{2m} + \frac{p_2^2}{2m} = \frac{p^2}{m} + \frac{p^2}{4m}$$

$$= -\frac{\hbar^2}{m} \nabla_r^2 - \frac{\hbar^2}{4m} \nabla_R^2$$

$$\left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{m} \frac{d^2}{dr^2} + \frac{1}{4} k r^2 \right) u(r) = E_r$$

$$\left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{4m} \frac{d^2}{dR^2} + k R^2 \right) u(R) = E_R$$

$$E = E_1 + E_2 = E_r + E_R$$