

phys522: HW #3

1. The deuteron is weakly bound, so only the ground state exists. Consider a 3D spherical well potential model,

$$V(r) = -V_0 \text{ for } r < a \text{ and } V(r) = 0 \text{ for } r > a$$

Substitute $R(r) = u(r)/r$ and obtain the radial equation for u . Solve to obtain two transcendental equations. Show that the ground state has $u(r) \rightarrow r$ as $r \rightarrow 0$. Prove that if this were not the case, ψ would not be a solution to the Schrodinger equation.

Using a graphical solution, find a condition for a bound state to exist. Assuming that E is only slightly less than zero for the deuteron, use the experimental value of $a = 1.7$ fm to determine V_0 . Find the value of the exponential decay length (in nm) for the wave function for $r > a$.

2. The deuteron has spin 1 and isospin 0. For the di-nucleon ground state, treat the nucleons as identical particles and write the antisymmetrized wave functions.

Refer to the meson theoretic potential given in class. Show that the deuteron potential is a factor of three larger than the di-neutron potential. Then since the deuteron binding is weak, the di-neutron is not bound.