

Physics 492: Recitation #11a
April 20, 2022

1. Consider a perturbation to the hydrogen atom, $H' = \gamma/r$ where γ is a small constant.
 - (a) Argue that the energy should depend only on the principle quantum number n and therefore can be written as $E_n(\gamma) = \langle n\ell m | H^0 + H' | n\ell m \rangle$
 - (b) Show that the exact answer is $E_n = E_n^0 (1 - \gamma/Ze^2)^2$ where $E_n^0 = -\mu Z^2 e^4 / 2\hbar^2 n^2$ is the unperturbed hydrogen energy.
 - (c) Show that perturbation theory implies that the first perturbation correction

$$\gamma E_n^1 = \gamma \left(\frac{dE_n}{d\gamma} \right)_{\gamma=0}$$

- (d) Show that

$$\left\langle n\ell m \left| \frac{1}{r} \right| n\ell m \right\rangle = \frac{\mu Z e^2}{\hbar^2 n^2}$$

2. Consider elastic scattering by a spherical delta-function potential,

$$v(r) = \frac{\hbar^2 \gamma}{2\mu} \delta(r - a)$$

where $q = 2k \sin(\theta/2)$.

In the Born approximation, the scattering amplitude is

$$f^{(1)} = \frac{-2\mu}{\hbar^2 q} \int_0^\infty r dr \sin(qr) V(r)$$

- (a) Find the differential cross section.
- (b) Show that in the low energy limit the differential cross section is isotropic and independent of k .
- (c) Find the criteria for the validity of the Born approximation starting from the general criteria,

$$\frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2 k} \left| \int_0^\infty dr e^{ikr} \sin(qr) V(r) \right| \ll 1$$