Physics 709

Exam 1 KSU 98/10/01

1. A particle of mass m is confined in an infinite 1D square well of width a centered on the origin, that has a delta-function spike in the middle, of strength α :

$$V(x) = \alpha \delta(x), \quad \text{for} \quad |x| < a/2,$$

= $\infty, \quad \text{for} \quad |x| \ge a/2.$ (1)

We want to look for bound states of this potential.

- a) Write down general expressions for the wavefunction $\psi_I(x)$ in the region x < 0, and for $\psi_{II}(x)$ in the region x > 0.
- b) Apply appropriate boundary conditions at |x| = a/2 and thereby eliminate some of your undetermined constants.
- c) Apply any needed matching conditions on $\psi(x)$ at x = 0.
- d) IF you have time (look at problems 2 and 3 first!), find an equation that will determine the allowed wavevectors, k. Do not solve it.
- 2. The usual result for the energy levels of a hydrogen atom is (MKSA)

$$E_n = \frac{-m_e}{2} \left(\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 \hbar}\right)^2 \frac{1}{n^2} = \frac{-13.6\text{eV}}{n^2}.$$
 (2)

Consider the n = 2 to n = 1 (Lyman- α) transition.

- a) Find a *formula* to estimate the energy splitting in this line if the hydrogen is a mixture of normal hydrogen and heavy hydrogen (deuterium). Hint: What are the corrections due to nuclear motion? Proton mass \approx neutron mass $\approx 1.67 \times 10^{-27}$ kg.
- b) Estimate numerically this splitting in electron volts.

3. Consider a 1D square well of width a, with 0 < x < a, with single-particle states,

$$\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right),\tag{3}$$

$$E_n = \left(\frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2}\right) n^2 \equiv E_1 n^2, \qquad n = 1, 2, 3...$$
 (4)

- a) Suppose you put two identical spin-1/2 particles in this well. where the wavefunction is a product over space and spin parts, $\Psi = \psi(x_1, x_2)\chi(\vec{S}_1, \vec{S}_2)$. Give an expression for the ground state wavefunction Ψ , and give its energy in terms of E_1 .
- b) Repeat a) for the first excited state.
- c) Now suppose you put two identical spin-1 particles in the well, again in a product over space and spin parts, $\Psi = \psi(x_1, x_2)\chi(\vec{S}_1, \vec{S}_2)$. If the spin part is a j = 2 state

$$\chi(\vec{S}_1, \vec{S}_2) = |j = 2, m_j = 0\rangle = \sqrt{\frac{1}{6}} \Big\{ |1\rangle| - 1\rangle + 2|0\rangle|0\rangle + |-1\rangle|1\rangle \Big\}$$
(5)

(numbers in brakets are m_{s_1} and m_{s_2} , respectively), then what is the associated lowest energy space wavefunction $\psi_0(x_1, x_2)$ and energy.

d) Repeat c) for a j = 1 spin state:

$$\chi(\vec{S}_1, \vec{S}_2) = |j = 1, m_j = 0\rangle = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} \Big\{ |1\rangle| - 1\rangle - |-1\rangle|1\rangle \Big\}$$
(6)