

Exercise 1. Low-energy soft-sphere scattering I

In the Born approximation the scattering amplitude reads:

$$f^{(1)}(\theta, \phi) = -\frac{m}{2\pi\hbar^2} \int e^{i(\vec{k}' - \vec{k}) \cdot \vec{r}_0} V(\vec{r}_0) d^3\vec{r}_0 \quad (1)$$

For low-energy (long wave-length) scattering the exponential factor is essentially constant in the scattering region and the Born approximation simplifies to:

$$f^{(1)}(\theta, \phi) \approx -\frac{m}{2\pi\hbar^2} \int V(\vec{r}_0) d^3\vec{r}_0. \quad (2)$$

Consider the scattering off a soft-sphere potential

$$V(\vec{r}) = \begin{cases} V_0, & \text{if } r \leq a \\ 0, & \text{if } r > a \end{cases}$$

- (a) Compute the low-energy scattering amplitude.
- (b) Compute the differential cross section.
- (c) Compute the total cross section.

Exercise 2. Second-order Born approximation

In the lecture you have seen how to derive the Born approximation starting from the integral representation of the Schroedinger equation.

Extending that reasoning derive a formal expression for the second-order Born approximation.

Exercise 3. Low-energy soft-sphere scattering II

Consider again the scattering off a soft-sphere potential as in exercise 1. Compute the scattering amplitude in the second Born approximation.

Exercise 4. One-dimensional Green's function

Consider the one-dimensional Schroedinger equation

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \psi(x) + V(x)\psi(x) = E\psi(x) \quad (3)$$

Using the Green's function method, show that the integral form of the solution is

$$\psi(x) = \psi_0(x) - \frac{im}{\hbar^2 k} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ik|x-y|} V(y)\psi(y) dy \quad (4)$$

where ψ_0 is the solution of the free Schroedinger equation, and $k = \sqrt{2mE/\hbar^2}$.