

Closed-channel parameters of Feshbach resonances

Pascal Naidon

*Few-Body Systems Physics Laboratory, RIKEN Nishina Centre, RIKEN Wakō, 351-0198 Japan.**

(Dated: March 25, 2024)

In the work of Phys. Rev. A 100, 042710 (2019), it was argued that the general description of two-body Feshbach resonances requires “closed-channel parameters” related to the bare bound state causing the resonance. The present work shows that once the resonance theory is renormalised (i.e. its parameters are expressed in terms of physical observables) the dependence of two-body observables on the closed-channel parameters disappears when the inter-channel coupling is localised in a region where the wave functions are energy independent. In such a regime, the resulting quantum defect theory is surprisingly independent of the bare bound state energy. This result highlights a qualitative difference between resonances in this regime, such as magnetic resonances in ultracold atoms, and other kinds of resonances, such as hadron resonances. Although the closed-channel parameters of magnetic resonances do not affect two-body observables, it is suggested that they could be evidenced experimentally from short-distance probing and three-body observables.

There have been numerous studies on Fano-Feshbach resonances [1, 2], the situations in which discrete quantum states are coupled to a continuum of states. They are particularly important in the field of ultracold atoms, where the “magnetic Feshbach resonances” [3, 4] have provided the possibility to control interatomic interactions through the application of a magnetic field [5, 6]. It is also a widely used concept in hadron physics to account for exotic bound states or resonances close to hadron thresholds [7–9].

Many of the previous theoretical studies of Feshbach resonances have been concerned with building up models that reproduce experimental data [10–16]. Here, an opposite approach is taken by considering which parts of the model are constrained by the observables. The following analysis is restricted to isolated resonances of a two-particle system, i.e. a single two-body bound state $|\phi_b\rangle$ coupled to a two-body continuum. More specifically, the bound state $|\phi_b\rangle$, which is called the “bare bound state”, is assumed to occur in a “closed channel” described by a Hamiltonian H_{cc} , such that $(H_{cc} - E_b)|\phi_b\rangle = 0$, and this closed channel is coupled through coupling terms H_{oc} and $H_{co} = H_{oc}^\dagger$ to an “open channel” described by a Hamiltonian H_{oo} featuring a scattering continuum above a certain threshold E_o . The two channels correspond to two different internal states of the particles, such as two hyperfine states of two atoms, or two quark configurations of a hadron. The isolated resonance theory of this two-channel model shows that the system at energy E is described by the complex energy shift (see Appendix I and II)

$$\Delta^+(E) \equiv \langle \phi_b | H_{co} | (E + i0^+ - H_{oo})^{-1} | H_{oc} | \phi_b \rangle, \quad (1)$$

whose real and imaginary parts Δ and $-\Gamma/2$ define respectively the shift and width of the resonance.

For energies E above the open-channel threshold E_o , the scattering properties are strongly modified for energies around the energy E_b of the bare bound state. Indeed, in a certain partial wave set by the angular

momentum of ϕ_b , the scattering phase shift,

$$\eta(E) = \eta_{bg}(E) - \arctan \frac{\Gamma(E)/2}{E - E_b - \Delta(E)} \quad (2)$$

can reach unitarity (i.e. $\sin^2 \eta = 1$) at a particular energy, corresponding to a resonant state. Here, η_{bg} denotes the “background” scattering phase shift away from that resonance. In the following, the s wave will be considered, although other partial waves can be treated in the same way. In this case, in the limit of small scattering wave number $k \equiv \sqrt{2\mu(E - E_o)}/\hbar$ (with μ being the reduced mass of the two scattering particles), the scattering properties are governed by the s-wave scattering length $a \equiv -\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \eta/k$. From Eq. (2) one finds

$$a = a_{bg} - \gamma / (E_b + \Delta_0 - E_o) \quad (3)$$

where $a_{bg} \equiv -\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \eta_{bg}/k$ is the background scattering length away from resonance, $\gamma \equiv \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \Gamma/2k \geq 0$ will be referred to as the “reduced width” [17], and $\Delta_0 \equiv \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \Delta(E)$ is the zero-energy shift. Equation (3) shows that the scattering length can be arbitrarily large when the bare bound state energy E_b shifted by Δ_0 approaches the threshold E_o . This divergent behaviour of the scattering length is the basis for its control in ultracold-atomic systems by tuning E_b , thanks to its dependence on an applied magnetic field.

For energies E below the open-channel threshold E_o , the coupled system may feature a “dressed bound state” (called “Feshbach molecule” [3, 18] in the context of ultracold-atom physics) whose energy E_d is shifted from the bare energy E_b according to the formula:

$$E_d = E_b + \Delta(E_d) \quad (4)$$

Whether the effect of the bare bound state appears as a resonant state above threshold, or a dressed bound state below threshold, or both, depends on the value of the shifted energy $E_b + \Delta_0$ with respect to the threshold E_o . It is readily seen from Eq. (1) that both the resonant and dressed bound state will in general depend on the characteristics of the bare bound state $|\phi_b\rangle$ and the coupling $H_{co} = H_{oc}^\dagger$. These characteristics thus introduce “closed-channel parameters” [19] into the problem.

*Electronic address: pascal@riken.jp

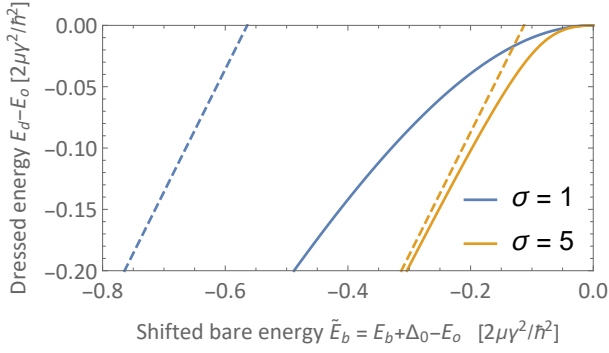


Figure 1: Energy spectrum of the Gaussian model, given by Eq. (6), as a function of the energy difference $\tilde{E}_b = E_b + \Delta_0 - E_o$, in units of $2\mu\gamma^2/\hbar^2$ for a given reduced width γ . The results for two different values of $\sigma = 1$ and 5 (in units of $\hbar^2/2\mu\gamma$) are shown in blue and orange, respectively. The dashed lines show the corresponding bare energy E_b .

A simple example is shown in Fig. 1 corresponding to a well-known non-relativistic model [20–22] where there is no interaction between particles in the open channel, and the coupling factor $\langle \mathbf{k} | H_{oc} | \phi_b \rangle$ is taken to be of the isotropic Gaussian type $W_0 \exp(-k^2\sigma^2/2)$, where W_0 and σ constitute here the closed-channel parameters. In this case, the shift and width above threshold can be calculated analytically:

$$\Delta(k) = \Delta_0 + \frac{\Gamma(k)}{2} \text{Im}[\text{erf}(ik\sigma)] \quad ; \quad \frac{\Gamma(k)}{2} = \gamma k e^{-k^2\sigma^2} \quad (5)$$

as well as the dressed energy E_d below threshold:

$$E_d = E_b + \Delta_0 + \gamma \kappa e^{\kappa^2\sigma^2} (1 - \text{erf}(\kappa\sigma)) \quad (6)$$

where erf is the error function and $\kappa = \sqrt{2\mu(E_o - E_d)}/\hbar$ is the binding wave number. In this model, the reduced width is given by $\gamma = \frac{2\mu}{4\pi\hbar^2} W_0^2$, and the zero-energy shift by $\Delta_0 = -\frac{\gamma}{\sqrt{\pi}\sigma}$. Assume that the scattering phase shift can be measured for different scattering energies (as in high-energy experiments) or the dressed bound state energy can be measured for different values of $E_b - E_o$ (as in ultracold-atom experiments). Then, fitting the data by Eqs. (5) or Eq. (6) should unambiguously determine the parameters γ , σ and $E_b - E_o$. Figure 1 illustrates how different values of the closed-channel parameter σ at fixed γ lead to different dressed energies E_d .

The situation is radically different for systems in which the inter-channel coupling occurs around a distance r_w where the open-channel wave functions are energy independent. This happens when the potential $V_o(r)$ has the form $E_o + V_{\text{tail}}(r)$ beyond a certain distance r_0 , where $V_{\text{tail}}(r) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} 0$ is a potential tail that is independent of the value of the open-channel scattering length a_o , which is set by the form of $V_o(r)$ at shorter distances $r \lesssim r_0$. If the tail is deep enough, for a given energy E , there is a range of distances $r_0 \lesssim r \ll r_{\text{tail}}(E)$ where the kinetic energy is negligible with respect to the potential, namely $|E - E_o| \ll |V_{\text{tail}}(r_{\text{tail}})|$. In that region, the open-channel wave functions are energy independent, i.e. all proportional to the threshold solution at $E = E_o$.

If the coupling occurs in that region, one can employ the quantum defect theory (QDT) [11, 13–15, 23–30] to accurately describe the system for all the energies above and below the threshold E_o that are smaller than $|V_{\text{tail}}(r_w)|$. Although the usual treatment of QDT makes use of the short-distance K and Y matrices, here all quantities shall be expressed in terms of observables such as a_o and γ .

Above the threshold, one finds that the scattering phase shift Eq. (2) is given by the following expressions for the shift and width (see Appendix IV.A):

$$\Delta(k) = \Delta_0 + B_o(k) \frac{\Gamma(k)}{2} \quad ; \quad \frac{\Gamma(k)}{2} = \gamma \frac{k [A(k)]^{-2}}{1 + [B_o(k)]^2} \quad (7)$$

with $B_o(k) \equiv [\tan \bar{\eta}(k)]^{-1} - ka_o [A(k)]^{-2}$, where $\bar{\eta}(k)$ and $A(k)$ are two dimensionless functions universally determined by the tail of V_o (see Appendix III.A). Physically, $\bar{\eta}$ is the difference $\eta^{(\infty)} - \eta^{(0)}$, where $\eta^{(a)}$ denotes the scattering phase shift for a potential with tail V_{tail} and scattering length a , and A is the amplitude of its radial wave function $u_{\infty}^{(k)}$ at infinite scattering length in the energy-independent region where $u_{\infty}^{(k)}(r) = A(k) \times u_{\infty}^{(0)}(r)$, with the zero-energy solution $u_{\infty}^{(0)}$ normalised so that $u_{\infty}^{(0)}(r) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} 1$.

Below the threshold, one finds an even simpler result for the dressed bound state energy:

$$E_d = E_b + \Delta_0 + \frac{\gamma}{\lambda(\kappa) - a_o} \quad (8)$$

where the function $\lambda(\kappa)$ is determined purely from the tail of V_o (see Appendix III.C). In fact, the energy $-\frac{\hbar^2\kappa^2}{2\mu}$ as a function of $\lambda(\kappa)$ simply corresponds to the bound-state spectrum for a potential with tail V_{tail} as a function of its scattering length. It is quite remarkable that the mere knowledge of the bare bound state spectrum for V_o as a function of its scattering length entirely determines the dressed bound state spectrum through Eq. (8) once γ and a_o are known.

The crucial point in this renormalised formulation of QDT is that the zero-energy shift Δ_0 is taken apart and the width is expressed in terms of the reduced width γ . These are the only quantities that depend upon the three closed-channel parameters W_0, a_c, a'_c through the expressions,

$$\gamma = \frac{2\mu}{4\pi\hbar^2} W_0^2 (1 - a_o/a_c)^2 \quad ; \quad \Delta_0 = \gamma \frac{a_o - a_c - a'_c}{(a_o - a_c)^2} \quad (9)$$

where a_c and a'_c are lengths characterising the closed channel [48], and W_0 characterises the strength of the coupling between the open-channel and the bare bound state (see Appendix IV.A). As a result, W_0, a_c , and a'_c cannot be individually determined from the observables of Eq. (7) or (8). This is in sharp contrast with Eqs. (5-6), which depend explicitly on the closed-channel parameter σ even after taking apart the zero-energy width Δ_0 .

The QDT typically applies to ultracold atoms undergoing a magnetic Feshbach resonance, which feature a van der Waals tail $V_{\text{tail}}(r) = -C_6/r^6$. An example is shown in Fig. 2 for a resonance between ^{40}K

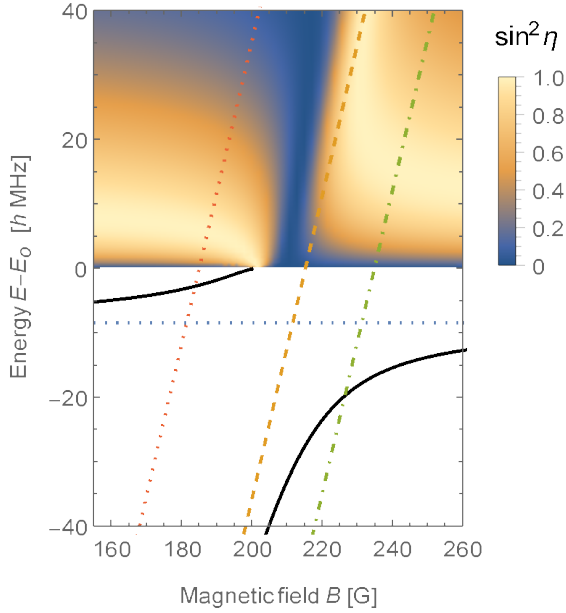


Figure 2: Energy spectrum and scattering phase shift of the ^{40}K ab resonance near $B_0 = 202$ G. The solid curve below the continuum threshold shows the dressed bound state energy obtained from the QDT formula Eq. (8), and the shading above the continuum threshold shows the quantity $\sin^2 \eta$ obtained from Eq. (2) with the QDT formulas Eq. (7). The functions $\lambda(\kappa)$, $\bar{\eta}(k)$, and $A(k)$ are obtained for a van der Waals tail $V_{\text{tail}}(r) = -C_6/r^6$, and the following parameters are used: $\tilde{E}_b = E_b + \Delta_0 - E_o = \delta\mu \times (B - B_0)$ with $\delta\mu/h = 2.35$ MHz/G, $\gamma/h = 50$ MHz $\times r_{\text{vdW}}$, $a_{\text{bg}} = 2.635 r_{\text{vdW}}$, and $E_{\text{vdW}}/h = \frac{\hbar}{4\pi\mu r_{\text{vdW}}^2} = 21$ MHz. The horizontal dotted line shows the bound state energy of the open channel. This plot reproduces Fig. 13 of Ref. [3], except that the bare bound state energy E_b is shifted. The slanted lines (dotted, dashed, dot-dashed) show the bare bound state energy E_b for three different models, for which $a'_c = 0$ and $a_c = 4r_{\text{vdW}}, r_{\text{vdW}}, 2r_{\text{vdW}}$, respectively. All models reproduce the same dressed energy and scattering phase shift. This shows that the position of the bare bound state is arbitrary and not constrained by observables.

atoms. It is described by three models with different closed-channel parameters W_0, a_c, a'_c , but conforming to the same renormalised QDT given by Eqs. (7-8). Thus there is no way of determining the values of the closed-channel parameters from the observables shown in that figure. Of course, if one could alter a_o independently of the other model parameters, then the values of W_0 and a_c could be inferred from the change in γ by virtue of Eq. (9) [19]. However this does not appear to be possible experimentally, and in any case the value of a'_c would remain undetermined. One must conclude that although the two-channel QDT provides an excellent description of isolated resonances, its closed-channel parameters W_0, a_c, a'_c are not fully constrained by observables [49], and thus the shift Δ_0 and the bare energy E_b are ambiguous quantities.

The QDT also applies to any resonance whose energy is very close to the threshold. In this case, the open-channel potential and couplings may be approximated by contact interactions, which can be regarded

as the limit of deep potentials localised at very short distances. The wave function is thus energy independent at these vanishing separations and the QDT formalism can be applied, yielding $A(k) = 1$, $\bar{\eta}(k) = \pi/2$, and $\lambda(\kappa) = 1/\kappa$. For the Gaussian model, this limit can be seen in the top right corner of Fig. 1, where the results for different values of σ coincide just below the threshold. In this low-energy limit, the closed-channel parameter σ , and thus Δ_0 and E_b , become irrelevant. This is simply the manifestation of the zero-range universality, well known both in ultracold-atom physics [31] and hadron physics [7, 9], regarded here as a special case of QDT. However, away from this universal regime, magnetic Feshbach resonances are described by the van der Waals QDT since their interactions feature a deep van der Waals tail, whereas hadron resonances are not described by a QDT since hadronic interactions feature a shallow tail [32], for which the wave functions are not energy independent. Hence, the closed-channel parameters of such hadron resonances can in principle be identified with enough data.

Let us now mention a remarkable point. While the properties of the bare bound state appear to be unobservable in the QDT regime, its proportion Z in the dressed bound state (called the “closed-channel fraction” [17, 18, 33–37] in the context of ultracold-atom physics and “elementariness” [7] in hadronic physics) is observable and has indeed been measured in ultracold-atomic systems [33, 37]. It can be easily calculated from the Hellmann-Feynman theorem [36], yielding $Z = dE_d/dE_b$. For the Gaussian model, taking the derivative of Eq. (8) with respect to E_d results in a closed-channel fraction Z that explicitly depends on the parameter σ and thus Δ_0 . In contrast, in the QDT regime, taking the derivative of Eq. (8) with respect to E_d gives an expression that is independent of the closed-channel parameters, and in particular of the shift Δ_0 . It may be surprising that the fraction of the bare bound state in the dressed wave function remains unaltered, even though the bare bound state energy itself can be arbitrarily shifted away by Δ_0 . For instance, one would intuitively think that the fraction goes to unity only when the dressed energy approaches the bare energy. However, the formula $Z = dE_d/dE_b$ shows that this is the case even when the two energy curves are parallel to each other. Physically, it means that even away from the resonance where the dressed bound state is almost purely in the bare state, its energy may be significantly shifted from the bare state energy through the coupling to the open channel. This reconciles the two facts that the closed-channel bare bound state is not directly observable but its fraction in the dressed bound state is.

One should note that non-observable quantities such as the zero-energy shift Δ_0 do depend on the closed-channel parameters. In particular, the following expression for Δ_0 [3, 15, 18, 38–41],

$$\frac{\gamma}{\bar{a}} \frac{\frac{a_o}{\bar{a}} - 1}{1 + (\frac{a_o}{\bar{a}} - 1)^2} \quad (10)$$

has been shown to be incorrect in Ref. [19], resulting from an invalid approximation in the QDT formal-

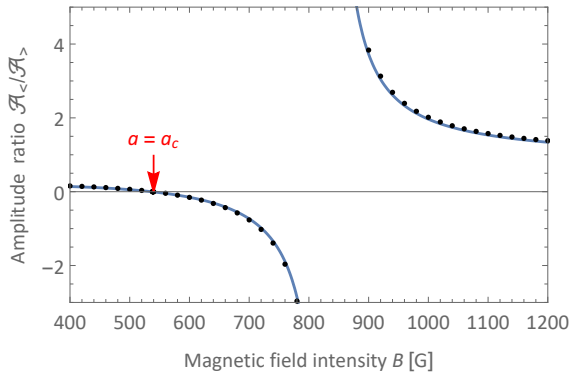


Figure 3: Ratio of the amplitudes $\mathcal{A}_<$ and $\mathcal{A}_>$ defined in Eq. (11) as a function of magnetic field, for the ${}^6\text{Li}$ ab resonance near $B_0 = 834$ G. The dots correspond to a realistic calculation with five hyperfine channels, where the two amplitudes are obtained from the triplet component of the zero-energy open-channel wave function. The solid curve represents Eq. (12) with the values $a_c = 2.391$ nm and $a_o = -112.8$ nm, corresponding respectively to the singlet and triplet scattering lengths. The scattering length a is given by Eq. (3) with $a_{\text{bg}} = -84.89 - 24.19(B/B_0 - 1) + 22.77(B/B_0 - 1)^2$ nm, $\gamma/h = 62770$ MHz nm, and $\tilde{E}_b = E_b + \Delta_0 - E_o = \delta\mu \times (B - B_0)$ with $\delta\mu/h = 2.8$ MHz/G.

ism. It can readily be seen that this expression depends only on a_o and the characteristic range \bar{a} of the open-channel potential $V_o(r)$, but has no dependence on the closed channel, in disagreement with the correct expression in Eq. (9). Nevertheless, since Δ_0 is unobservable, it is always possible for fixed values of γ and a_o to devise a model with a choice of W_0, a_c, a'_c satisfying Eq. (10), as done in Refs. [38, 41]. This arbitrary choice does not affect the two-body observables. Thus, while the value of Δ_0 in Eq. (10) has no special significance, its use in these works has no consequence on two-body observables.

However, the works of Refs. [38, 41] are concerned with three-body systems. This raises the important question whether the value of Δ_0 , and more generally the closed-channel parameters, could affect three-body observables. Indeed, three-body observables are not only affected by two-body binding energies and scattering phase shifts, but also off-the-energy-shell two-body quantities, such as the short-distance two-body wave function.

The QDT gives a simple account of the short-distance two-body physics. The wave function can be expressed by its open-channel radial component $u_o(r)$ and closed-channel radial component $u_c(r)$. In the energy independent region $r_0 \lesssim r \ll r_{\text{tail}}(E)$, one finds that $u_o(r)$ exhibits oscillations with a different phase and amplitude beneath and beyond the coupling distance r_w (see Appendix IV.B):

$$u_o(r) = \begin{cases} \mathcal{A}_< \times u_{a_o}^{(0)}(r) & r \ll r_w \\ \mathcal{A}_> \times u_{a_{\text{eff}}}^{(0)}(r) & r \gg r_w \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

where $u_a^{(0)}(r) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} r - a$ is the zero-energy solution of the open-channel potential with scattering length a , and a_{eff} is the energy-dependent scattering length $a_{\text{bg}} + \gamma/(E - E_b - \Delta_0)$. At low energy, the ratio of the amplitudes $\mathcal{A}_</math>/ $\mathcal{A}_>$ is given by:$

$$\frac{\mathcal{A}_<}{\mathcal{A}_>} = \frac{a - a_c}{a_o - a_c}. \quad (12)$$

This formula gives a physical interpretation of a_c as the scattering length at which the short-distance amplitude $\mathcal{A}_<$ vanishes. This is illustrated in Fig. 3 for the case of the 834 G magnetic resonance between ${}^6\text{Li}$ atoms. This case is fortunate, since a two-channel model has been clearly identified for this resonance as originating from the coupling of a spin triplet open channel with a spin singlet bare bound state. This suggests a photoassociation experiment to measure a_c : by photoassociating ${}^6\text{Li}$ atoms to an excited triplet bound state with an extent smaller than r_w , one could measure $\mathcal{A}_<$ from the photoassociation signal, and determine a_c from the magnetic field at which $\mathcal{A}_<$ vanishes. For other multi-channel resonances, however, it remains a challenge to identify the effective two-channel model in general.

In summary, this work clarifies the role of closed-channel parameters in Feshbach resonances. On the one hand, it is shown that they do not affect the two-body observables of magnetic Feshbach resonances of ultracold atoms. On the other hand, they do affect short-distance two-body physics, which could be probed by photoassociation. This in turn should have implications on three-body observables, such as three-body recombination loss rates. They could thus play a role in the determination of the three-body parameter characterising the Efimov spectrum of three-body states near a magnetic resonance [42], which has been measured in various experiments, and for which a full theoretical understanding is still in progress [41, 43–46].

Acknowledgments

This work was supported by the JSPS Kakenhi grant No. JP23K03292. The author is grateful to P. S. Julienne, E. Tiesinga, L. Pricoupenko, M. Raoult, S. Kokkelmans, N. Kjærgaard, and M. Oka for stimulating discussions on this topic.

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- [48] The length a_c was introduced in Ref. [19], which focused on a specific regime where $a'_c = 0$. In general, $a'_c \neq 0$. Like scattering lengths, both a_c and a'_c can be positive or negative.
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Appendix

I. TWO-CHANNEL MODEL

The Hamiltonian for a two-channel model of a two-particle system reads,

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} H_{oo} & H_{oc} \\ H_{co} & H_{cc} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{I.1})$$

where the open-channel Hamiltonian H_{oo} and the closed-channel Hamiltonian H_{cc} are given by

$$H_{oo} = T + V_o \quad (\text{I.2})$$

$$H_{cc} = T + V_c \quad (\text{I.3})$$

where T is the relative kinetic operator, which for non-relativistic systems is given by $\langle \mathbf{p} | T | \mathbf{q} \rangle = \frac{\hbar^2 \mathbf{p}^2}{2\mu} \delta^3(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q})$ where μ is the reduced mass of the particles. The open-channel interaction potential V_o asymptotes to a certain energy threshold E_o with a potential tail V_{tail} , i.e. $V_o(r) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} E_o + V_{\text{tail}}(r)$. The closed-channel potential V_c asymptotes to a certain energy $E_c > E_o$.

The wave function ϕ of the system has two components, ϕ_o and ϕ_c , respectively for the open and closed channels. At energy E , they satisfy the coupled Schrödinger equations,

$$(T + V_o - E) |\phi_o\rangle + H_{oc} |\phi_c\rangle = 0 \quad (\text{I.4})$$

$$(T + V_c - E) |\phi_c\rangle + H_{co} |\phi_o\rangle = 0 \quad (\text{I.5})$$

For energy $E < E_c$ (such that the second channel is indeed closed), these equations lead to:

$$|\phi_o\rangle = |\bar{\phi}_o^{E, \hat{k}}\rangle + G_o^+ H_{oc} |\phi_c\rangle \quad (\text{I.6})$$

$$|\phi_c\rangle = G_c H_{co} |\phi_o\rangle \quad (\text{I.7})$$

where $G_o^+ = (E + i0^+ - T - V_o)^{-1}$ and $G_c = (E - T - V_c)^{-1}$ are the resolvents of the open and closed channels, and $|\bar{\phi}_o^{E, \hat{k}}\rangle$ is the scattering eigenstate of the open-channel Hamiltonian at energy E and scattering direction \hat{k} , normalised as $\langle \bar{\phi}_o^{E, \hat{k}} | \bar{\phi}_o^{E, \hat{k}} \rangle = \delta(E - E') \delta(\hat{k} - \hat{k}')$.

II. TWO-CHANNEL ISOLATED RESONANCE THEORY

A. Definition of the resonance shift and width

The closed-channel potential V_c is assumed to support a bound state $|\phi_b\rangle$ with energy E_b :

$$H_{cc} |\phi_b\rangle = E_b |\phi_b\rangle \quad (\text{II.8})$$

It is normalised as $\langle \phi_b | \phi_b \rangle = 1$. In the isolated resonance approximation, only this bound state gives a significant contribution to the resonance, so that one may write:

$$G_c = \frac{|\phi_b\rangle \langle \phi_b|}{E - E_b} + G_c^{\text{nr}} \quad (\text{II.9})$$

where the non-resonant part G_c^{nr} only gives a small contribution from the other states of the closed channel. This leads to:

$$|\phi_o\rangle = |\phi_{bg}\rangle + \frac{G_o^+ |W\rangle \langle W| \phi_{bg}\rangle}{E - E_b - \Delta^+} \quad (\text{II.10})$$

$$|\phi_c\rangle = |\phi_b\rangle \frac{\langle W | \phi_{bg} \rangle}{E - E_b - \Delta^+} + G_c^{\text{nr}} H_{co} |\phi_o\rangle \quad (\text{II.11})$$

with the short-hand notations

$$|W\rangle \equiv H_{oc} |\phi_b\rangle \quad (\text{II.12})$$

$$|\phi_{bg}\rangle \equiv |\bar{\phi}_o^{E, \hat{k}}\rangle + G_o^+ H_{oc} G_c^{\text{nr}} H_{co} |\phi_o\rangle \quad (\text{II.13})$$

and

$$\Delta^+ \equiv \langle W | G_o^+ | W \rangle \equiv \Delta - i \frac{\Gamma}{2} \quad (\text{II.14})$$

which defines the energy-dependent shift $\Delta(E)$ and width $\Gamma(E)$.

B. Partial wave expansion

Combining Eqs. (I.6-I.7) gives a closed equation on ϕ_o :

$$|\phi_o\rangle = |\bar{\phi}_o^{E, \hat{k}}\rangle + G_o^+ H_{oc} G_c H_{co} |\phi_o\rangle$$

Making the partial wave expansion along the direction \hat{k} of the incoming wave,

$$\langle \mathbf{r} | \phi_o \rangle \equiv \sum_{\ell} \frac{\phi_{o, \ell}(r)}{r} Y_{\ell 0}(\hat{r}) \quad (\text{II.15})$$

$$\langle \mathbf{r} | \bar{\phi}_o^{E, \hat{k}} \rangle \equiv \sum_{\ell} \frac{\bar{\phi}_{o, \ell}(r)}{r} Y_{\ell 0}(\hat{r}) \quad (\text{II.16})$$

$$\langle \mathbf{r} | H_{oc} G_c H_{co} | \mathbf{r}' \rangle \equiv \sum_{\ell} \frac{H_{\ell}(r, r')}{r r'} Y_{\ell 0}(\hat{r}) Y_{\ell 0}^*(\hat{r}') \quad (\text{II.17})$$

one finds for each partial wave ℓ the following complex radial wave equation:

$$\phi_{o, \ell}(r) = \bar{\phi}_{o, \ell}(r) + \int_0^{\infty} dr' g_{o, \ell}^+(r, r') \int_0^{\infty} dr'' H_{\ell}(r', r'') \phi_{o, \ell}(r'') \quad (\text{II.18})$$

where the retarded partial-wave Green's function $g_{o, \ell}^+$ is given by

$$g_{o, \ell}^+(r, r') = -\frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2 k} \bar{u}_o(r_{<}) \bar{v}_o^+(r_{>}) \quad (\text{II.19})$$

with $r_{>} = \max(r, r')$ and $r_{<} = \min(r, r')$. The two functions \bar{u}_o and $\bar{v}_o^+ \equiv \bar{v}_o + i \bar{u}_o$ are two independent solutions of the partial-wave radial equation:

$$\left(-\frac{d^2}{dr^2} + \frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{r^2} + \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} [V_o(r) - E_o] - k^2 \right) u(r) = 0, \quad (\text{II.20})$$

satisfying

$$\bar{u}_o(r) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} \sin(kr - \ell\pi/2 + \eta_o) \quad (\text{II.21})$$

$$\bar{v}_o(r) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} \cos(kr - \ell\pi/2 + \eta_o) \quad (\text{II.22})$$

where η_o is the ℓ -wave scattering phase shift of the open channel. The solution $\bar{u}_o(r)$ is regular (vanishing when $r \rightarrow 0$), whereas the solutions $\bar{v}_o^+(r)$ and $\bar{v}_o(r)$ are irregular (non-vanishing for $r \rightarrow 0$).

In the following, the notations $(A|B) \equiv \int dr A(r)B(r)$ and $(A|B|C) \equiv \int dr \int dr' A(r)B(r,r')C(r')$ will be used.

From the definitions of $\bar{\phi}_{o,\ell}^{E,\hat{k}}$ and \bar{u}_o , one finds

$$\bar{\phi}_{o,\ell}(r) = \bar{\mathcal{N}}_\ell \times \bar{u}_o(r) \quad (\text{II.23})$$

with the complex coefficient $\bar{\mathcal{N}}_\ell \equiv \sqrt{\frac{2\mu(2\ell+1)}{\pi\hbar^2 k}} i^\ell e^{i\eta_o}$. The complex equation Eq. (II.18) can then be made real by splitting the real and imaginary parts of the Green's function Eq. (II.19), and setting

$$\phi_{o,\ell}(r) \equiv \mathcal{N}_\ell \times u_o(r) \quad (\text{II.24})$$

with the complex coefficient $\mathcal{N}_\ell \equiv \bar{\mathcal{N}}_\ell (1 + i \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2 k} (\bar{u}_o | H_\ell | u_o))^{-1}$. This yields the following equation for the real radial wave function u_o :

$$u_o(r) = \bar{u}_o(r) + \int_0^\infty dr' g_{o,\ell}(r, r') \int_0^\infty dr'' H_\ell(r', r'') u_o(r'') \quad (\text{II.25})$$

with the non-retarded partial-wave Green's function,

$$g_{o,\ell}(r, r') \equiv -\frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2 k} \bar{u}_o(r_<) \bar{v}_o(r_>) \quad (\text{II.26})$$

C. Isolated resonance

Using the isolated resonance decomposition Eq. (II.9) in Eq. (II.25), and assuming that $|W\rangle = H_{oc}|\phi_b\rangle$ is of the form

$$\langle r | W \rangle = \frac{w(r)}{r} Y_{\ell 0}(\hat{r}) \quad (\text{II.27})$$

acting on a specific partial wave ℓ , one obtains for that partial wave:

$$H_\ell(r, r') = \frac{w(r)w(r')}{E - E_b} + H_\ell^{\text{nr}}(r, r') \quad (\text{II.28})$$

where H_ℓ^{nr} correspond to the non-resonant part $H_{oc}G_c^{\text{nr}}H_{co}$. This gives

$$u_o(r) = u_{\text{bg}}(r) + (w|u_o) \frac{\int_0^\infty dr' g_{o,\ell}(r, r') w(r')}{E - E_b} \quad (\text{II.29})$$

with the background function

$$u_{\text{bg}}(r) \equiv \bar{u}_o(r) + \int_0^\infty dr' g_{o,\ell}(r, r') w_{\text{nr}}(r') \quad (\text{II.30})$$

where

$$w_{\text{nr}}(r) = \int_0^\infty dr' H_\ell^{\text{nr}} u_o(r') \quad (\text{II.31})$$

corresponds to the coupling to other states than the bare bound state causing the resonance.

Applying $(w|$ to the left of Eq. (II.29) to find $(w|u_o)$, and inserting the result back into Eq. (II.29) gives

$$u_o(r) = u_{\text{bg}}(r) + (w|u_{\text{bg}}) \frac{\int_0^\infty dr' g_{o,\ell}(r, r') w(r')}{E - E_b - \Delta} \quad (\text{II.32})$$

with the shift $\Delta = (w|g_{o,\ell}|w)$. At large distances, the radial wave function becomes

$$u_o(r) = \bar{u}_o(r) - \left[\xi_{\text{nr}} + \frac{(\Gamma + \Gamma_{\text{nr}})/2}{E - E_b - \Delta} \right] \bar{v}_o(r) \quad (\text{II.33})$$

with the width $\Gamma/2 = \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2 k} |(w|\bar{u}_o)|^2$ and the non-resonant corrections

$$\Gamma_{\text{nr}}/2 \equiv \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2 k} (w|g_{o,\ell}|w_{\text{nr}})(\bar{u}_o|w) \quad (\text{II.34})$$

$$\xi_{\text{nr}} \equiv \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2 k} (\bar{u}_o|w_{\text{nr}}) \quad (\text{II.35})$$

Using the asymptotic behaviours of \bar{u}_o and \bar{v}_o given in Eqs. (II.21-II.22), one obtains from Eq. (II.33),

$$u_o(r) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} \propto \sin(kr - \ell\pi/2 + \eta) \quad (\text{II.36})$$

with the scattering phase shift,

$$\eta = \eta_o - \arctan \left(\xi_{\text{nr}} + \frac{(\Gamma + \Gamma_{\text{nr}})/2}{E - E_b - \Delta} \right) \quad (\text{II.37})$$

Treating the non-resonant corrections as a first-order perturbation, one finally arrives at

$$\eta = \eta_{\text{bg}} - \arctan \frac{\tilde{\Gamma}/2}{E - E_b - \Delta} \quad (\text{II.38})$$

with the background phase shift:

$$\eta_{\text{bg}} \equiv \eta_o - \xi_{\text{nr}} \left[1 + \left(\frac{\Gamma/2}{E - E_b - \Delta} \right)^2 \right]^{-1} \quad (\text{II.39})$$

and the corrected width:

$$\tilde{\Gamma} \equiv \Gamma + \Gamma_{\text{nr}} \quad (\text{II.40})$$

In the fully isolated resonance approximation, one neglects the non-resonant corrections, yielding $\eta_{\text{bg}} \approx \eta_o$ and $\tilde{\Gamma} \approx \Gamma$ in Eq. (II.38).

In the case of s wave ($\ell = 0$), the quantities $\Gamma, \Gamma_{\text{nr}}$, and ξ_{nr} for small k are proportional to k (being proportional to \bar{u}_o) and thus one obtains the s-wave scattering length:

$$a = -\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \eta/k = a_{\text{bg}} + \frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{E_b + \Delta_0} \quad (\text{II.41})$$

where $a_{\text{bg}} = -\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \eta_{\text{bg}}/k = a_o + a_{\text{nr}}$ with $a_{\text{nr}} = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \xi_{\text{nr}}/k$, and $\tilde{\gamma} = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \tilde{\Gamma} = \gamma + \gamma_{\text{nr}}$, with $\gamma_{\text{nr}} \equiv \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \Gamma_{\text{nr}}/k$.

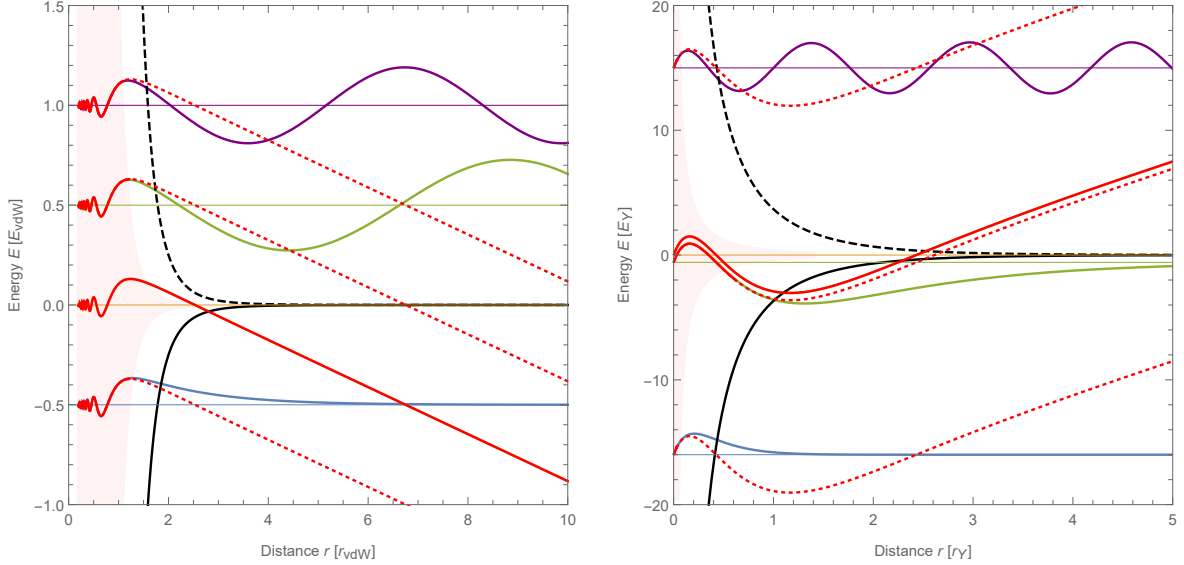


Figure 4: Energy independence of s-wave radial wave functions for two potentials: a deep van der Waals potential $V(r) = -E_{\text{vdW}} \left(\frac{r_{\text{vdW}}}{r}\right)^6$ with many bound states (left panel) and a shallow Yukawa potential $V(r) = -10E_Y \frac{\exp(-r/r_Y)}{r/r_Y}$ with only two bound states (right panel). Here, r_{vdW} and r_Y are the van der Waals and Yukawa ranges, and $E_{\text{vdW}} \equiv \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu r_{\text{vdW}}^2}$ and $E_Y \equiv \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu r_Y^2}$ are their associated energies. Each panel shows $V(r)$ (black curve) and $-V(r)$ (black dashed curve), along with the radial wave functions at selected energies (the curves are shifted according to their respective energies). The zero-energy radial wave function is shown in solid red, and superimposed as a red dotted curve onto the curves corresponding to radial wave functions at other energies. The region of energy independence $r_0 \lesssim r \ll r_{\text{tail}}$ (or equivalently $r \gtrsim r_0$ and $E \ll |V(r)|$) is shown as a pink shaded area. In that region, the zero-energy wave function matches the wave functions at other energies, and is shown in solid red. The energy independent region is much smaller in the case of a shallow potential, for which the quantum defect theory is barely applicable, except at very small energies $\ll E_Y$ and large distances $\gg r_Y$ corresponding to the zero-range limit. For instance, the last bound state is well described by the zero-range limit for $r \gg r_Y$, because it can be determined from a boundary condition at $r \approx r_Y$ that is similar to that of the zero-energy state. That is not the case for the lowest bound state, which differs too much from the zero-energy state.

III. QUANTUM DEFECT THEORY

The key point of the quantum defect theory is that when an interaction potential is sufficiently deep in a certain region $r_0 \lesssim r \ll r_{\text{tail}}$, the wave functions in that region are nearly energy-independent for a range of energies that remain much smaller than the potential energy $V(r_{\text{tail}})$. In that region (and only in that region), the wave function at any of these energies is accurately described by a superposition of two independent solutions of the potential at zero energy. For a specific choice of two reference solutions, there is a particular linear combination reproducing the wave function in the region. The coefficients of this linear combination can be parametrised by a global normalisation factor, and a parameter called the *quantum defect*.

In the following, the reference functions are chosen as the two s-wave radial solutions of the potential at zero-energy, with respectively zero and infinite scattering length:

$$f_0(r) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} r \quad (\text{III.42})$$

$$f_\infty(r) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} 1 \quad (\text{III.43})$$

The zero-energy solution with scattering length a is thus $f_0(r) - af_\infty(r) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} r - a$. With this choice,

the quantum defect is simply the s-wave scattering length a .

For example, for a van der Waals interaction $V(r) \rightarrow -C_6/r^6$, one has:

$$f_0(r) = r_{\text{vdW}} \sqrt{x} \Gamma(3/4) J_{-1/4}(2x^{-2}) \quad (\text{III.44})$$

$$f_\infty(r) = \sqrt{x} \Gamma(5/4) J_{1/4}(2x^{-2}) \quad (\text{III.45})$$

where $x = r/r_{\text{vdW}}$ and r_{vdW} is the van der Waals length $r_{\text{vdW}} \equiv \frac{1}{2} (2\mu C_6/\hbar^2)^{1/4}$. The range of energy-independence at energy $|E| = \hbar^2 k^2/2\mu$ is given by $r_0 \lesssim r \ll r_{\text{tail}}$ with $r_{\text{tail}} = r_{\text{vdW}}^{2/3} k^{-1/3}$. It is illustrated in the left panel of Fig. 4 as a pink shaded area.

Interestingly, the quantum defect approach also applies to contact interactions. In this case, the region of energy-independence is restricted to the neighbourhood of $r = 0$ (i.e. $r_0 = r_{\text{tail}} = 0$) but extends to any energy. The two reference solutions are simply $f_0(r) = r$ and $f_\infty(r) = 1$. This is of course an idealisation, which can be regarded as the limit of a short-range interaction potential with vanishing range and infinite depth. Physically, it describes the wave functions of a short-range interaction potential for energies much smaller than the potential depth and distances larger than the potential range. The energy independent region in this case corresponds to energies smaller than the potential depth and distances smaller than

the potential range. This is illustrated in the right panel of Fig. 4 for a shallow Yukawa potential. In the contact interaction limit, this region reduces to a boundary condition on the logarithmic derivative at $r = 0$.

A. Positive energy

Let us now consider a potential $V(r) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} 0$ of s-wave scattering length a and its regular and irregular radial solutions \bar{u}_a and \bar{v}_a in the ℓ th partial wave at finite positive energy $E = \hbar^2 k^2 / 2\mu > 0$. The regular function \bar{u}_a is defined such that $\bar{u}_a(0) = 0$, which gives at large distance $\bar{u}_a(r) \rightarrow \sin(kr + \eta_a - \ell\pi/2)$ where η_a is the scattering phase shift. The irregular solution \bar{v}_a is chosen such that its phase at large distances is shifted by $\pi/2$ with respect to \bar{u}_a .

$$\bar{u}_a(r) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} \sin(kr + \eta_a - \ell\pi/2) \quad (\text{III.46})$$

$$\bar{v}_a(r) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} \cos(kr + \eta_a - \ell\pi/2) \quad (\text{III.47})$$

According to the quantum defect assumption, in the energy independent region $r_0 \lesssim r \ll r_{\text{tail}}$ the two functions \bar{u}_a and \bar{v}_a are linear combinations of the two zero-energy reference solutions f_0 and f_∞ . The regular solution \bar{u}_a is simply proportional to the zero-energy solution $f_0 - af_\infty$ with scattering length a :

$$\bar{u}_a(r) \xrightarrow{r_0 \lesssim r \ll r_{\text{tail}}} D_a(k) (f_0(r) - af_\infty(r)) \quad (\text{III.48})$$

Similarly, the irregular solution \bar{v}_a has the form:

$$\bar{v}_a(r) \xrightarrow{r_0 \lesssim r \ll r_{\text{tail}}} P_a(k) (f_0(r) - b_a(k)f_\infty(r)) \quad (\text{III.49})$$

The Wronskian $W[\bar{u}_a, \bar{v}_a] = \bar{u}_a(\bar{v}_a)' - (\bar{u}_a)'\bar{v}_a$ has the conserved value $-k$ calculated from Eqs. (III.46-III.47), so from the expressions of Eqs. (III.48-III.49), one finds:

$$[b_a(k) - a] D_a(k) P_a(k) = -k \quad (\text{III.50})$$

which shows that only two of the functions D_a, b_a, P_a are independent for a given a .

One can determine η_a, D_a, b_a , and P_a for any scattering length a , by just knowing four functions of k : $\eta_0, \eta_\infty, D_0, A$.

$$\tan \eta_a = \frac{(D_0)^{-1} \sin \eta_0 - a(A)^{-1} \sin \eta_\infty}{(D_0)^{-1} \cos \eta_0 - a(A)^{-1} \cos \eta_\infty} \quad (\text{III.51})$$

$$D_a = \left[(D_0)^{-2} + \left(\frac{a}{A} \right)^{-2} - 2a \frac{\cos \bar{\eta}}{D_0 A} \right]^{-1/2} \quad (\text{III.52})$$

$$b_a = \frac{(A/D_0) - a \cos \bar{\eta}}{\cos \bar{\eta} - a(D_0/A)} \quad (\text{III.53})$$

$$P_a = -\frac{\cos \bar{\eta} - a(D_0/A)}{\sin \bar{\eta}} D_a \quad (\text{III.54})$$

with the notations

$$\bar{\eta} \equiv \eta_\infty - \eta_0 \quad (\text{III.55})$$

and

$$\eta_0 \equiv \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \eta_a \quad ; \quad D_0 \equiv \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} D_a \quad (\text{III.56})$$

$$\eta_\infty \equiv \lim_{a \rightarrow -\infty} \eta_a \quad ; \quad A \equiv \lim_{a \rightarrow -\infty} -a D_a \quad (\text{III.57})$$

Again the four functions $\eta_0, \eta_\infty, D_0, A$ are not independent, because the Wronskian $W[\bar{u}_0, \bar{u}_\infty]$ can be expressed at short distance as

$$W[D_0 f_0, A f_\infty] = D_0 A \underbrace{W[f_0, f_\infty]}_{-1} = -D_0 A \quad (\text{III.58})$$

and at large distance as:

$$\begin{aligned} W[\sin(kr - \ell\pi/2 + \eta_0), \sin(kr - \ell\pi/2 + \eta_\infty)] \\ = -k \sin(\eta_\infty - \eta_0) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{III.59})$$

leading to the relation,

$$D_0(k) A(k) = k \sin \bar{\eta}(k) \quad (\text{III.60})$$

Using this relation, one can express D_a, b_a, P_a in terms of only two functions A and $\bar{\eta}$:

$$D_a = \frac{k}{A} \left[1 + (B_a)^2 \right]^{-1/2} \quad (\text{III.61})$$

$$b_a = \frac{(A)^2}{k} \left[(B_a)^{-1} + \frac{1}{\tan \bar{\eta}} \right] \quad (\text{III.62})$$

$$P_a = B_a D_a \quad (\text{III.63})$$

where

$$B_a \equiv \frac{1}{\tan \bar{\eta}} - \frac{ka}{(A)^2} \quad (\text{III.64})$$

B. Alternative choice

One may consider an alternative choice $\bar{v}_a^+(r) \equiv \bar{v}_a(r) + i\bar{u}_a(r)$ for the irregular function, that has the complex asymptote:

$$\bar{v}_a^+(r) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow \infty} e^{i(kr + \eta_a - \ell\pi/2)} \quad (\text{III.65})$$

It can be expanded on f_0 and f_∞

$$\bar{v}_a^+(r) \xrightarrow{r_0 \lesssim r \ll r_{\text{tail}}} P_a^+ (f_0(r) - b_a^+ f_\infty(r)) \quad (\text{III.66})$$

where the complex quantities P_a^+ and b_a^+ are readily obtained from Eqs. (III.48-III.49):

$$P_a^+ = P_a + iD_a \quad (\text{III.67})$$

$$b_a^+ = \frac{P_a b_a + iD_a a}{P_a + iD_a} \quad (\text{III.68})$$

The interest of this alternative choice is that the quantity b_a^+ is independent of a . Indeed, using Eqs. (III.52-III.54), one finds:

$$b^+ = (A/D_0) e^{i\bar{\eta}} \quad (\text{III.69})$$

where the label a is now dropped, due to the independence on a .

Again, from the Wronskian $W[\bar{u}_a, \bar{v}_a] = -k$, one finds

$$(b^+ - a) D_a P_a^+ = -k \quad (\text{III.70})$$

From Eqs. (III.67-III.70) one also finds the useful relations:

$$\frac{1}{b^+ - a} = \frac{1}{b_a - a} - \frac{i(D_a)^2}{k} = -\frac{D_a(P_a + iD_a)}{k} \quad (\text{III.71})$$

C. Negative energy

For negative energies $E = -\frac{\hbar^2 \kappa^2}{2\mu}$ obtained when k is continued to imaginary values $i\kappa$, the quantity b^+ becomes real. For convenience, $b^+(i\kappa)$ is denoted as $\lambda(\kappa)$. One can see from Eq. (III.65) that for imaginary $k = i\kappa$, the irregular function \bar{v}_a^+ is exponentially decreasing at large distance. Equation (III.66) shows that if $\lambda(\kappa)$ happens to be equal to a , then \bar{v}_a^+ is proportional to the regular solution \bar{u}_a , as seen from Eq. (III.46). In this case, being both regular at the origin and at infinity, the solution corresponds to a bound state. This shows that $\lambda(\kappa)$ is simply the s-wave scattering length a of the potential at which there is a bound state in the ℓ th partial wave with energy $-\frac{\hbar^2 \kappa^2}{2\mu}$.

D. Calculation of the universal functions

1. General case

The functions $\eta_0, \eta_\infty, D_0, A$ may in some cases be calculated analytically for a given tail of the potential V , for example in the case of a contact interaction (see below). If only the analytical forms of f_0 and f_∞ are known at small distance, one may numerically integrate the radial Schrödinger equation with positive energy E from the known f_0 and f_∞ at small distance, outwards to large distances. This gives the long-range oscillations $(D_0)^{-1} \sin(kr + \eta_0 - \ell\pi/2)$ and $(A)^{-1} \sin(kr + \eta_\infty - \ell\pi/2)$, from which D_0, η_0, A , and η_∞ can be extracted.

To calculate $\lambda(\kappa)$, one can start at large distance from the exponentially decaying form $\exp(-\kappa r)$ and integrate inwards with negative energy $E = -\hbar^2 \kappa^2 / 2\mu$ to find the short-distance oscillations $f_0 - \lambda(\kappa) f_\infty$ and extract $\lambda(\kappa)$. Alternatively, one can calculate the bound state spectrum of the potential V in the ℓ th wave for different values of the scattering length a set by altering the short-range part of V . In all cases, the universal functions $\eta_0, \eta_\infty, D_0, A$, and $\lambda(\kappa)$ can be easily obtained with these numerical procedures.

2. Case of van der Waals interactions

For potentials with a van der Waals tail $-C_6/r^6$, the characteristic length scale is the van der Waals length $r_{\text{vdW}} = \frac{1}{2} (2\mu C_6 / \hbar^2)^{1/4}$ or equivalently the mean scattering length $\bar{a} = \frac{4\pi}{\Gamma(1/4)^2} r_{\text{vdW}}$. One can in principle obtain analytical expressions of the universal functions from the analytical solution of the Schrödinger equation for van der Waals potentials [47], although they are rather involved. Alternatively, one can employ the numerical method sketched above. Figure 5 shows the result for the s wave.

The functions for the s wave admit the following analytical expressions for small $k \ll \bar{a}^{-1}$:

$$\eta_0(k) = -\frac{8}{3} \bar{a} r_{\text{vdW}} k^3 + O(k^4) \quad (\text{III.72})$$

$$\eta_\infty(k) = \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{4}{3} \frac{r_{\text{vdW}}^2}{\bar{a}} k + O(k^3) \quad (\text{III.73})$$

$$D_0(k) = k - \frac{4}{3} r_{\text{vdW}}^2 k^3 + O(k^4) \quad (\text{III.74})$$

$$A(k) = 1 + \frac{4}{3} \left(1 - \frac{2}{3} \frac{r_{\text{vdW}}^2}{\bar{a}^2} \right) k^2 r_{\text{vdW}}^2 + O(k^3) \quad (\text{III.75})$$

From this and using Eq. (III.51), one can perform the effective range expansion:

$$k \cot \eta_a = -\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{2} r_e k^2 + O(k^3) \quad (\text{III.76})$$

yielding the effective range

$$r_e = r_e^{(\infty)} \left[\left(\frac{\bar{a}}{a} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\bar{a}}{a} - 1 \right)^2 \right] \quad (\text{III.77})$$

with $r_e^{(\infty)} = \frac{8}{3} \frac{r_{\text{vdW}}^2}{\bar{a}}$.

For negative energies, one finds for small $\kappa \ll \bar{a}^{-1}$:

$$\lambda(\kappa) = \frac{1}{\kappa} + \frac{1}{2} r_e^{(\infty)} + O(\kappa) \quad (\text{III.78})$$

One can also derive the following expressions in the high-energy limit $k \gg \bar{a}^{-1}$ using the WKB approximation:

$$\eta_0(k) = -\xi \times (kr_{\text{vdW}})^{2/3} + 5\pi/8 \quad (\text{III.79})$$

$$\eta_\infty(k) = -\xi \times (kr_{\text{vdW}})^{2/3} + 7\pi/8 \quad (\text{III.80})$$

$$D_0(k) = \sqrt{\frac{k}{2\bar{a}}} \quad (\text{III.81})$$

$$A(k) = \sqrt{k\bar{a}} \quad (\text{III.82})$$

with $\xi = -2^{-1/3} \pi^{-1/2} \Gamma(-\frac{1}{3}) \Gamma(\frac{5}{6}) \approx 2.0533$.

3. Case of contact interactions

The case of contact interactions can be obtained by taking the limit $r_{\text{vdW}} \rightarrow 0$ of Eqs. (III.72-III.75) and

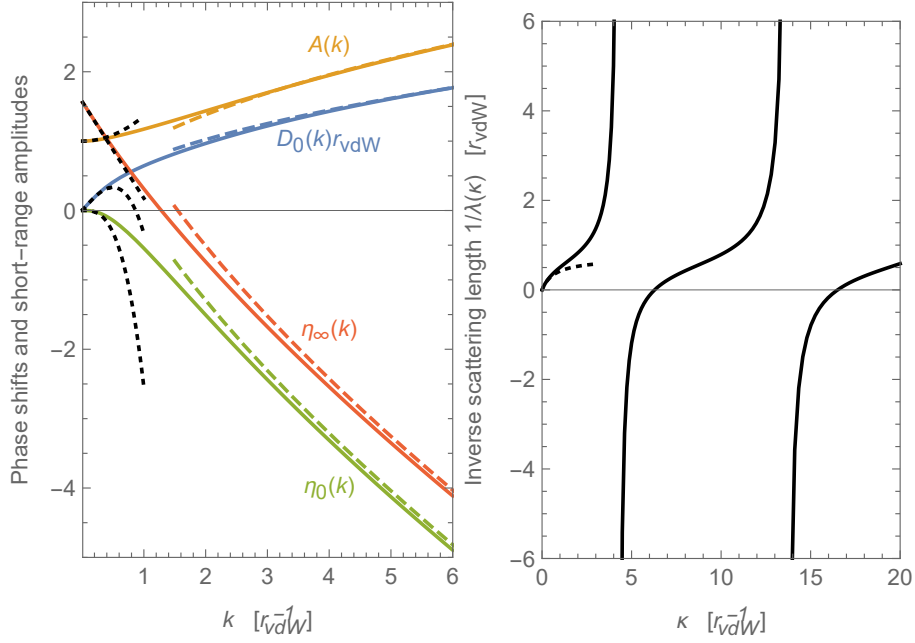


Figure 5: Universal functions in the s wave for potentials with van der Waals tail $V_{\text{tail}}(r) = -C_6/r^6$. Left panel: functions $\eta_0(k)$, $\eta_\infty(k)$, $D_0(k)$, and $A(k)$ for positive energies $\frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2\mu}$. Right panel: function $1/\lambda(\kappa)$ for negative energies $-\frac{\hbar^2 \kappa^2}{2\mu}$. The quantity $\lambda(\kappa)$ is simply the scattering length for which the potential admits a bound state with binding energy $\frac{\hbar^2 \kappa^2}{2\mu}$. All quantities are plotted in units of the van der Waals length $r_{vdW} = \frac{1}{2} (2\mu C_6/\hbar^2)^{1/4}$. The dotted curves correspond to the small- k formulas Eqs. (III.72-III.75) and Eq. (III.78) and the dashed curves correspond to the large- k formulas Eqs. (III.79-III.82).

(III.78), yielding:

$$\eta_0(k) = 0 \quad (\text{III.83})$$

$$\eta_\infty(k) = \frac{\pi}{2} \quad (\text{III.84})$$

$$D_0(k) = k \quad (\text{III.85})$$

$$A(k) = 1 \quad (\text{III.86})$$

$$\lambda(\kappa) = 1/\kappa \quad (\text{III.87})$$

and conversely,

$$Z_{gg} = \bar{a}^{-1} (D_0)^{-1} \sin \eta_0 - (A)^{-1} \sin \eta_\infty \quad (\text{III.93})$$

$$Z_{fg} = -(A)^{-1} \sin \eta_\infty \quad (\text{III.94})$$

$$Z_{gf} = (A)^{-1} \cos \eta_\infty - \bar{a}^{-1} (D_0)^{-1} \cos \eta_0 \quad (\text{III.95})$$

$$Z_{ff} = (A)^{-1} \cos \eta_\infty \quad (\text{III.96})$$

E. Connection with other QDT notations

In the works of Refs. [13, 27, 28], the quantum defect theory is formulated with a set of four functions Z_{ff} , Z_{gg} , Z_{fg} , and Z_{gf} along with a short-distance K_0^0 that is related to the scattering length a , such that the scattering phase shift reads:

$$\tan \eta_a = \frac{K_0^0 Z_{gg} - Z_{fg}}{Z_{ff} - K_0^0 Z_{gf}} \quad \text{with } K_0^0 = \left(1 - \frac{a}{\bar{a}}\right)^{-1} \quad (\text{III.88})$$

Therefore, the functions η_0 , η_∞ , D_0 , and A are related to these functions by the relations:

$$\eta_0 = \arctan \frac{Z_{gg} - Z_{fg}}{Z_{ff} - Z_{gf}} \quad (\text{III.89})$$

$$\eta_\infty = -\arctan \frac{Z_{fg}}{Z_{ff}} \quad (\text{III.90})$$

$$(D_0)^{-1} = \bar{a} \sqrt{(Z_{gg} - Z_{fg})^2 + (Z_{ff} - Z_{gf})^2} \quad (\text{III.91})$$

$$(A)^{-1} = \sqrt{Z_{ff}^2 + Z_{fg}^2} \quad (\text{III.92})$$

Note that the four functions η_0 , η_∞ , D_0 , and A shown in Fig. 5 all have a simple monotonic variation with k , whereas the four functions Z_{ff} , Z_{gg} , Z_{fg} , and Z_{gf} have oscillatory variations.

In Refs [19, 29, 39], the short-distance energy-independent radial functions were connected to the long-range energy-normalised radial functions through a phase shift φ and two amplitudes $A_k^{-1/2}$ and \mathcal{G}_k , also denoted as $C(E)$ and $\tan \lambda(E)$. With the current notations, φ is the quantum defect related to a through:

$$\tan \varphi = K_0^0 = \left(1 - \frac{a}{\bar{a}}\right)^{-1} \quad (\text{III.97})$$

and C_k and \mathcal{G}_k are related to D_a , P_a , and b_a by the relations:

$$D_a(k) = (C_k)^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{k/\bar{a}}{1 + (1 - a/\bar{a})^2}} \quad (\text{III.98})$$

$$P_a(k) = -\sqrt{\frac{k/\bar{a}}{1 + (1 - r_0)^2}} \left(\mathcal{G}_k + 1 - \frac{a}{\bar{a}} \right) C_k \quad (\text{III.99})$$

$$b_a(k) = \bar{a} \frac{\frac{a}{\bar{a}}(\mathcal{G}_k - 1) + 2}{\mathcal{G}_k + 1 - \frac{a}{\bar{a}}} \quad (\text{III.100})$$

IV. RENORMALISED QUANTUM DEFECT THEORY OF THE ISOLATED RESONANCE

A. Width and shift

Combining the results of the two preceding sections, one can now formulate the quantum defect theory of the isolated resonance. According to Eqs. (II.14), (II.27) and (II.19), the complex shift Δ^+ is given by

$$\Delta^+ = -\frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2 k} \int_0^\infty dr \int_0^\infty dr' w(r) \bar{u}_o(r_<) \bar{v}_o^+(r_>) w(r') \quad (\text{IV.101})$$

Now, assuming that the coupling $w(r)$ is localised in the region $r_0 \lesssim r \ll r_{\text{tail}}$ where Eqs. (III.48-III.66) can be used, and using Eq. (III.70) one finds

$$\Delta^+ = \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} \frac{(A - a_o B)(A - b^+ B) - (b^+ - a_o)C}{b^+ - a_o} \quad (\text{IV.102})$$

with

$$A = \int_0^\infty dr w(r) f_0(r) \quad (\text{IV.103})$$

$$B = \int_0^\infty dr w(r) f_\infty(r) \quad (\text{IV.104})$$

$$C = \int_0^\infty dr \int_r^\infty dr' w(r) w(r') \times (f_0(r) f_\infty(r') - f_\infty(r) f_0(r')) \quad (\text{IV.105})$$

Thus, introducing the lengths

$$a_c \equiv A/B, \quad (\text{IV.106})$$

$$\tilde{a}_c \equiv C/B^2, \quad (\text{IV.107})$$

one obtains

$$\Delta^+ = \frac{\gamma}{b^+(k) - a_o} + \Delta_0 \quad (\text{IV.108})$$

with

$$\Delta_0 \equiv \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} B^2 (a_o - a_c - \tilde{a}_c) \quad (\text{IV.109})$$

$$\gamma \equiv \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} B^2 |a_c - a_o|^2 = \frac{2\mu}{4\pi\hbar^2} W_0^2 \left(1 - \frac{a_o}{a_c} \right) \quad (\text{IV.110})$$

where the quantity $W_0 \equiv \sqrt{4\pi} |w| f_0$ characterises the strength of the coupling between the open and closed

channels. Note that $\Delta_0 = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \Delta$ in the case of the s wave ($\ell = 0$), for which $b^+(k) \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow 0} \infty$.

The simplicity of Eq. (IV.108) is striking, as the dependence on the closed-channel parameters W_0 , a_c , and \tilde{a}_c is entirely encapsulated in Δ_0 and γ , while the dependence on the open-channel parameters only appears through the scattering length a_o in the denominator of Eq. (IV.108). For energies E below the open-channel threshold E_o , the shift Δ^+ and the length $b^+(ik) = \lambda(\kappa)$ are real, leading to the simple result:

$$\Delta = \frac{\gamma}{\lambda(\kappa) - a_o} + \Delta_0 \quad (\text{IV.111})$$

For energies E above the open-channel threshold E_o , the real and imaginary parts of $\Delta^+ = \Delta - i\Gamma/2$ can be obtained from Eq. (IV.108) using Eq. (III.71):

$$\Delta = \frac{\gamma}{b_o - a_o} + \Delta_0 = -\gamma \frac{D_o P_o}{k} + \Delta_0 \quad (\text{IV.112})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma}{2} = \gamma \frac{(D_o)^2}{k} \quad (\text{IV.113})$$

Using the expressions Eqs. (III.61-III.63) one finds

$$\Delta = -\frac{\Gamma}{2} B_o + \Delta_0 \quad (\text{IV.114})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma}{2} = \gamma \frac{k}{(A)^2 [1 + (B_o)^2]} \quad (\text{IV.115})$$

B. Short-distance amplitudes

The QDT gives a simple account of the wave function inside the tail region. The radial wave function in the open-channel component is given by the isolated resonance theory equation (II.32). Assuming that the coupling $w(r)$ is localised around a distance r_w , one can use Eqs. (II.26) and (II.37) to obtain the radial wave function for $r \gg r_w$:

$$u_o(r) \underset{r \gg r_w}{=} \bar{u}_o(r) + \tan(\eta - \eta_o) \bar{v}_o(r) \quad (\text{IV.116})$$

This shows that for distances beyond the coupling region, the wave function is proportional to the solution of the open-channel potential with a short-distance boundary condition yielding the modified scattering phase shift η instead of the original phase shift η_o .

One can also use Eqs. (II.32) and (II.26) to obtain the radial wave function for $r \ll r_w$:

$$u_o(r) \underset{r \ll r_w}{=} \left[1 - \left(\zeta_{\text{nr}} + \frac{\tilde{\Gamma}/2}{E - E_b - \Delta} \frac{(\bar{v}_o|w)}{(\bar{u}_o|w)} \right) \right] \times \bar{u}_o(r) \quad (\text{IV.117})$$

with

$$\zeta_{\text{nr}} \equiv \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2 k} (\bar{v}_o|w_{\text{nr}}) \quad (\text{IV.118})$$

This shows that for distances beneath the coupling region the wave function is proportional to the unperturbed solution \bar{u}_o of the open-channel potential V_o .

Now, assuming that the coupling region $r \sim r_w$ lies in the range $r_0 \lesssim r \ll r_{\text{tail}}$ where the wave functions \bar{u}_o and \bar{v}_o are energy independent, one can use the QDT formalism, namely Eqs. (III.48-III.49), to further specify the form of the radial wave function u_o . For $r \gg r_w$, one finds that u_o is proportional to the zero-energy solution with an energy-dependent scattering length a_{eff} :

$$u_o(r) \Big|_{r_w \ll r \ll r_{\text{tail}}} = \mathcal{A}_>(k) \times (f_0(r) - a_{\text{eff}}(k)f_\infty(r)) \quad (\text{IV.119})$$

with the amplitude $\mathcal{A}_>$ and scattering length a_{eff} given by:

$$\mathcal{A}_>(k) \equiv D_o + \tan(\eta - \eta_o) P_o \quad (\text{IV.120})$$

$$a_{\text{eff}}(k) \equiv a_o - \frac{\tan(\eta - \eta_o) \frac{k}{D_o^2}}{1 + \tan(\eta - \eta_o) \frac{P_o}{D_o}} \quad (\text{IV.121})$$

For $r \ll r_w$, the wave function is proportional to the zero-energy solution with the unperturbed scattering length a_o :

$$u_o(r) \Big|_{r_0 \lesssim r \ll r_w} = \mathcal{A}_<(k) \times (f_0(r) - a_o f_\infty(r)) \quad (\text{IV.122})$$

with the amplitude $\mathcal{A}_<$ given by:

$$\mathcal{A}_<(k) \equiv D_o - P_o \left(\xi_{\text{nr}} \frac{b_o - a_c^{\text{nr}}}{a_o - a_c^{\text{nr}}} + \frac{\tilde{\Gamma}/2}{E - E_b - \Delta} \frac{b_o - a_c}{a_o - a_c} \right) \quad (\text{IV.123})$$

where the non-resonant closed-channel scattering length a_c^{nr} is defined by:

$$a_c^{\text{nr}} \equiv \frac{(f_0|w_{\text{nr}})}{(f_\infty|w_{\text{nr}})}.$$

In the s wave, for small k , one finds:

$$\mathcal{A}_>(k) \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow 0} k \quad (\text{IV.124})$$

$$\mathcal{A}_<(k) \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{A}_>(k) \frac{a - a_c - a_{\text{nr}} \frac{a_c - a_c^{\text{nr}}}{a_o - a_c^{\text{nr}}}}{a_o - a_c} \quad (\text{IV.125})$$

$$a_{\text{eff}}(k) \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow 0} a \quad (\text{IV.126})$$

In the fully isolated resonance limit where the non-resonant parts are negligible, the expressions of Eqs. (IV.120, IV.121, IV.123) simplify to:

$$\mathcal{A}_>(k) = D_o(k) \frac{a_o - b_o(k)}{a_{\text{eff}}(k) - b_o(k)} \quad (\text{IV.127})$$

$$\mathcal{A}_<(k) = \mathcal{A}_>(k) \frac{a_{\text{eff}}(k) - a_c}{a_o - a_c} \quad (\text{IV.128})$$

$$a_{\text{eff}}(k) = a_o + \frac{\gamma}{E - E_b - \Delta_0} \quad (\text{IV.129})$$

In particular, at low energy such that $a_{\text{eff}}(k) \approx a$, one finds the simple formula for the ratio:

$$\frac{\mathcal{A}_<}{\mathcal{A}_>} = \frac{a - a_c}{a_o - a_c} \quad (\text{IV.130})$$

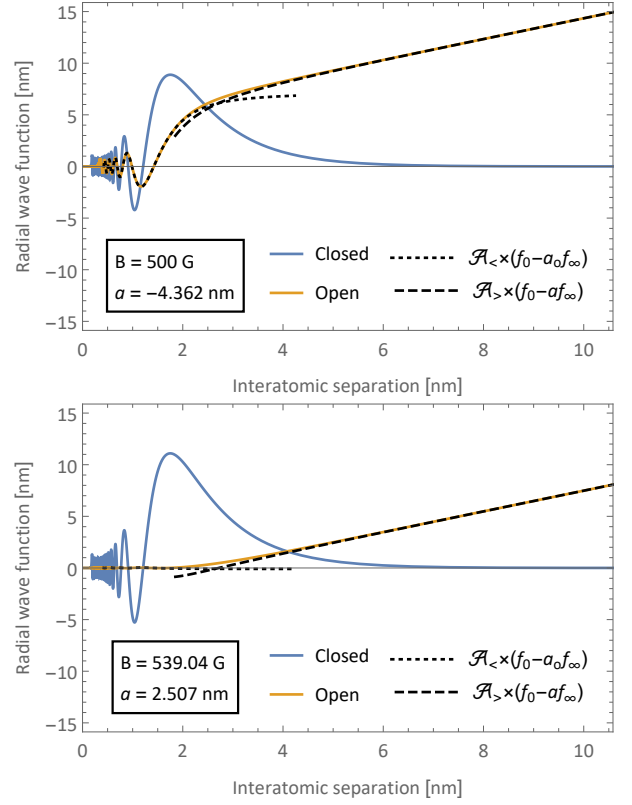


Figure 6: Effective two-channel radial wave functions u_c (“closed”, blue curve) and u_o (“open”, orange curve) of the lithium-6 diatomic ab resonance near $B = 834$ G. Top: wave functions at $B = 500$ G, corresponding to a scattering length $a = -4.362$ nm. Bottom: wave functions at $B = 539.04$ G, corresponding to a scattering length $a = a_c = 2.507$ nm. The open-channel wave function u_o is fitted at large distance by the wave function of Eq. (IV.119) (dashed curve) and at short by the wave function of Eq. (IV.122) (dotted curve).

showing that the short-distance amplitude vanishes when $a = a_c$. Note that the general formula Eq. (IV.124) for a partially isolated resonance reduces to Eq. (IV.130) in the special case where $a_c^{\text{nr}} = a_c$. This happens when the wave functions of the resonant and non-resonant bare states in the closed channel are also energy-independent in the coupling region, and thus characterised by the same scattering length.

C. Application to lithium-6

The lithium-6 ab diatomic resonance (where ab designates the two lowest hyperfine states of lithium-6) near the magnetic field intensity $B = 834$ G is described by five hyperfine channels characterised by a total spin projection $m_F = 0$. The interaction between the atoms depends on the total electronic spin S of the two valence electrons, which can be either in a singlet ($S = 0$) or triplet ($S = 1$) state. This multi-channel system with radial components $u_i(r)$ ($i = 1, \dots, 5$) can thus be solved numerically using the singlet and triplet interaction potentials and the atomic hyperfine Hamiltonian.

The bare bound state causing this resonance has

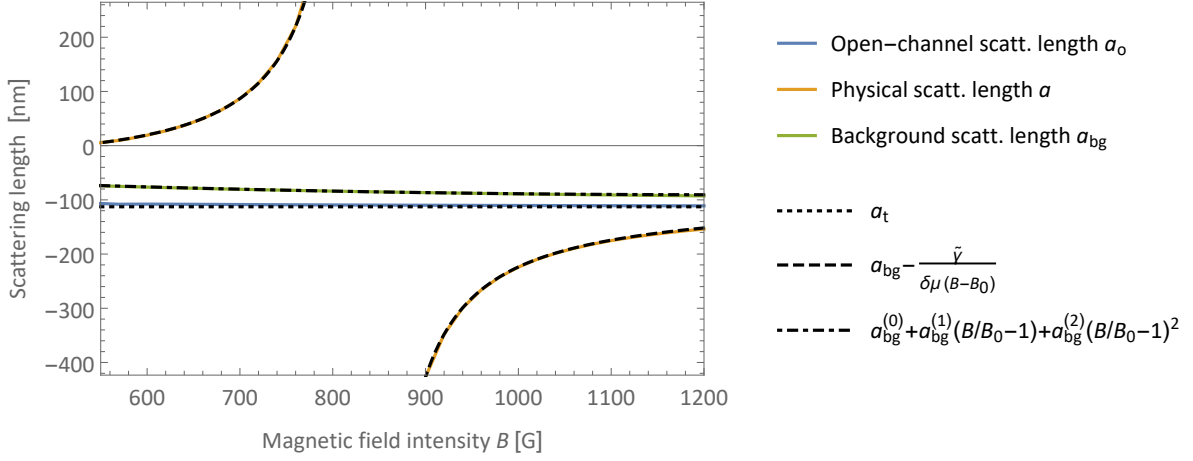


Figure 7: Open-channel scattering length a_o (orange curve), physical scattering length a (blue curve), and background scattering length a_{bg} of the lithium-6 diatomic ab resonance near $B = 834$ G, obtained by fitting the numerical wave functions, as a function of magnetic field intensity. The open-channel scattering length a_o is close to the triplet scattering length $a_t = -112.8$ nm (dotted line), while the physical scattering length is well reproduced by Eq. (II.41) (dashed curve) with $\tilde{\gamma}/h = 62\,770$ MHz nm, and $\tilde{E}_b = E_b + \Delta_0 - E_o = \delta\mu \times (B - B_0)$ with $\delta\mu/h = 2.8$ MHz/G and $B_0 = 834.08$ G. This yields the background scattering length a_{bg} , which is well reproduced by Eq. (IV.133).

been identified as the $\nu = 38$ s-wave level of the singlet interaction potential, with radial wave function $u_b(r)$. Therefore, to construct the effective two-channel components, one can project the components u_i onto the bare bound state to obtain the closed-channel component u_c , and project out the bare bound state and retain only the ab entrance component ($i = 1$) to obtain the open-channel component u_o . Explicitly,

$$u_c(r) = \sqrt{\sum_{i,j=1}^5 |\alpha_{i,j}(u_b|u_j)|^2} u_b(r) \quad (\text{IV.131})$$

$$u_o(r) = u_1(r) - \sum_{j=1}^5 \alpha_{1,j}(u_b|u_j) u_b(r) \quad (\text{IV.132})$$

where α_{ij} are the matrix elements of the projector $1 - \hat{S}^2$ onto the singlet state.

The zero-energy components are shown in Fig. 6 for two different values of the magnetic field intensity. The open-channel wave function u_o (orange curve) is well fitted at large distance by the wave function of Eq. (IV.119) (dashed curve), and at short distance by the wave function of Eq. (IV.122) (dotted curve). The two fits deviate from u_o in a region of distances around $r_w = 2.6$ nm, which shows that the inter-channel coupling is localised in that region. The QDT is therefore an accurate description for energies smaller than 240 hMHz ~ 10 mK above and below the threshold. The fits enable to extract the amplitudes $\mathcal{A}_>$ and $\mathcal{A}_<$, as well as the open-channel scattering length a_o and the physical scattering length a .

Both scattering lengths a_o and a are plotted as a function of magnetic field intensity as blue and orange curves in Fig. 7. One can see that the open-channel scattering length a_o is close to the triplet scattering length $a_t = -112.8$ nm, confirming the spin triplet character of the open channel, while the physical scattering length a is well reproduced by the formula of Eq. (II.41). This yields the background scattering

length a_{bg} , which has a small dependence on the magnetic field as shown by the green curve in Fig. 7. This dependence is captured by the following Taylor expansion around B_0 :

$$a_{bg} = a_{bg}^{(0)} + a_{bg}^{(1)} (B/B_0 - 1) + a_{bg}^{(2)} (B/B_0 - 1)^2 \quad (\text{IV.133})$$

with $a_{bg}^{(0)} = -84.89$ nm, $a_{bg}^{(1)} = -24.19$ nm, and $a_{bg}^{(2)} = 22.77$ nm.

The ratio $|\mathcal{A}_</\mathcal{A}_>|$ is plotted in Fig. 8 as a function of magnetic field intensity. It is well reproduced by the formula Eq. (IV.130) with a closed-channel scattering length $a_c = 2.507$ nm $\approx a_s$ and an open-channel scattering length $a_o = -109.6$ nm $\approx a_t$. It should be noted that the non-resonant contribution is not negligible for this resonance: the background scattering length a_{bg} is found to be around -85 nm, significantly differing from a_o . Thus, in principle one may not use Eq. (IV.130) which is obtained in the fully isolated resonance limit, but Eq. (IV.124), which includes the non-resonant correction. However, it turns out that a_o is very large compared to a_c and a_c^{nr} (presumably of the same order, or even possibly equal) so that Eq. (IV.130) is a good approximation of Eq. (IV.124) in this case.

One can see that the short-distance amplitude vanishes at the magnetic field intensity $B = 539.04$ G corresponding as expected to $a = a_c$. This suppression of the open-channel amplitude at short distance can be visualised in the bottom panel of Fig. 6. A close look around this magnetic field (see the bottom panel of Fig. 8) reveals that a very narrow resonance accidentally occurs close to that point. Although the presence of this extra resonance, which is due to a bound state with total nuclear spin $I = 2$ [3], complicates a bit the variation of $|\mathcal{A}_</\mathcal{A}_>|$, it is still reproduced by Eq. (IV.130) with the same value of a_c when the precise variation of a (including the narrow resonance) is taken into account. This is because both the broad and narrow resonances originate from the same bound

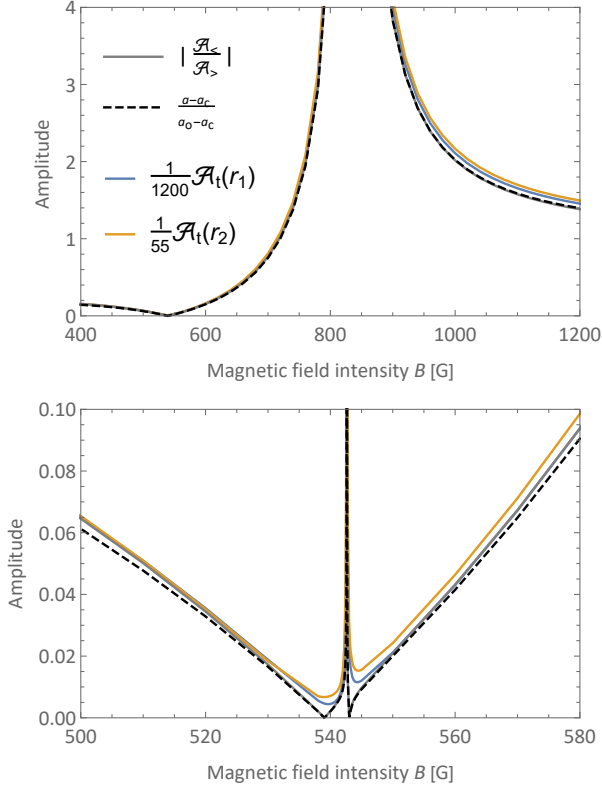


Figure 8: Top: Short-distance amplitude of the lithium-6 diatomic open channel as a function of magnetic field intensity. The grey curve shows the ratio of the amplitudes $\mathcal{A}_<$ and $\mathcal{A}_>$ of Eqs. (IV.119-IV.122). It is well reproduced by Eq. (IV.130) with $a_c = 2.510$ nm (dashed curve). The blue and orange curves show the triplet amplitude $\mathcal{A}_t(r)$ of Eq. (IV.134) at the probing distance $r_1 = 1.9$ nm (blue) and $r_2 = 0.8$ nm (orange). Bottom: closeup of the top figure in the region where the short-distance amplitude vanishes.

state $\nu = 38$ of the singlet potential, thus having the same values of a_c . The fact that the obtained value of $a_c = 2.507$ nm is very close to the singlet scattering length $a_s = 2.391$ nm confirms that the singlet character of the closed-channel bound state.

Since the open channel corresponds essentially to the triplet component, an experiment probing the triplet component, for instance by photoassociation, could reveal how the amplitude of the open-channel wave function vanishes near $a = a_c$. This is illustrated in Fig. 8, where the triplet amplitude

$$\mathcal{A}_t(r) \equiv \sqrt{\sum_{i,j=1}^5 |(1 - \alpha_{i,j})u_j(r)|^2} \quad (\text{IV.134})$$

at two different probing distances r is plotted as a function of the magnetic field intensity. For both probing distances, the triplet amplitude reproduces very well the short-distance amplitude $\mathcal{A}_<$ up to a scaling factor. However, very close to the points where $\mathcal{A}_<$ vanishes, the triplet amplitude does not completely vanish, an indication that the triplet component does not perfectly account for the open channel, but also includes non-vanishing admixtures. Nevertheless, the measurement of $\mathcal{A}_<$ over a wide enough

range of magnetic field intensities would enable to determine a_c .