

## PROPERTIES OF NUCLEAR FORCE

- ① At short distance it is stronger than Coulomb  $\Rightarrow$  it overcomes the Coulomb repulsion of p
- ② At long distance (i.e. atom size) is negligible, in fact molecular interactions are based on Coulomb only
- ③ Some particles are immune from nuclear force ( $e^-$  do not feel the nuclear force at all)

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④ N-N force is independent of whether the N are p or n ( $\Rightarrow$  charge independence)

⑤ N-N force depends on the spin of nucleus

⑥ N-N interaction includes a repulsive term, which keeps the nucleus at a certain distance

⑦ NN force has a non-central component which does not conserve the orbital angular momentum

# THE FORCE BETWEEN NUCLEONS

Nuclei have structure, we know that. How can we reveal this structure?

More or less in the same way as Rutherford scattering, but with shorter wave length  $\lambda$ . To have a "short" probe, it must have a high energy. For example an  $e^-$  can be used. A 1 GeV electron has a  $\lambda \approx 10^{-15} \text{ m}$  and with such probe we can look inside the nucleon.

Inside the nucleons we have QUARK

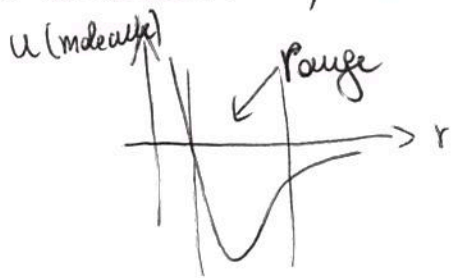
$$\begin{array}{l} u \quad c \quad t \quad \frac{2}{3}e \\ d \quad s \quad b \quad -\frac{1}{3}e \end{array} + \bar{q}$$

p is composed by 3 quark :  $uud$  with total  $e^-$ -charge  $(\frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{3})e =$   
 $n$ , similarly is composed by :  $(udd)$  with total charge  $(\frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{3})e$   
 so its total charge is 0, but it is composed by "charged" components.

We know also that the force among quark is strong and the strong force is carried by gluons; additionally we know that the <sup>strong</sup> charge is called color and that the  $\Sigma \text{ color} = 0$  in "compound" objects.

$\Rightarrow$  Nucleons (p, n) are "color-charge" neutral but they feel the STRONG force.

This is somehow similar to molecules: they can interact through e.m. interaction, but only if they are close.



Nucleons can interact only if they are "close" i.e. only if the separation is  $\leq$  the size of the force length i.e. the "residual" color interaction

The nucleon-nucleon force originates from quark.

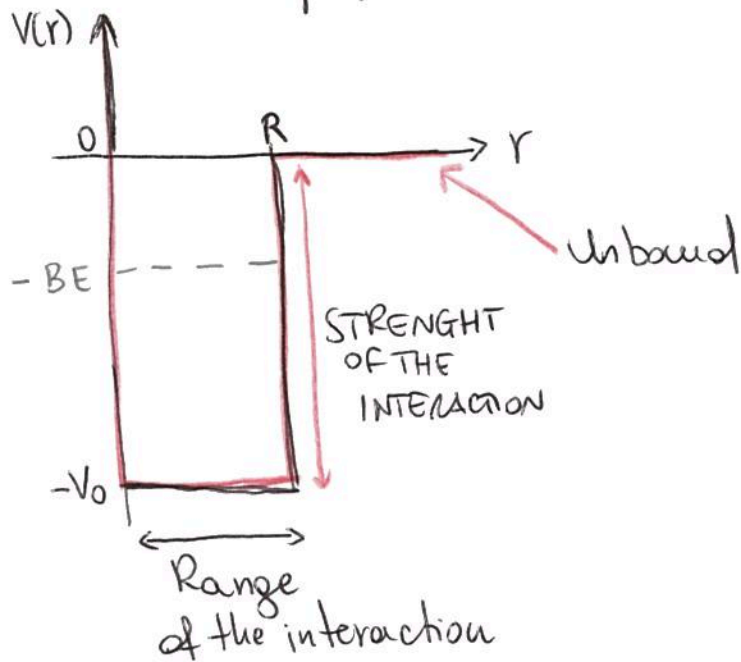
To study nuclear force we will start from the "simplest" case, i.e. the lightest bound system which exist in nature: the DEUTERON.

Deuteron  ${}^2_1\text{H}_1$  is a odd-odd nucleus formed by 1 p and 1 n with a Binding Energy  $BE = 2,225 \text{ MeV}$ . This is weakly bound system  $\frac{B}{A} \approx 1 \text{ MeV}$  while "normal"  ${}^A_Z\text{X}$   $BE/A \approx 8 \text{ MeV}$  11.1875 MeV

- \*  $E_B$  is obtained using radiative capture of neutron by hydrogen.
- In the reaction  $H(n, \gamma)d$  a slow neutron is captured by Hydrogen atom followed by the emission of a  $\gamma$ -ray.
- If the energy of the incident neutron is negligible, the energy of the  $\gamma$ -ray emitted gives the binding energy of the deuteron.
- ~~Usually~~ Since it is much easier to determine  $\gamma$ -ray energies than the masses,  $B_E$  are better ~~ways~~ known than absolute masses.



The D.T. can be studied to understand the property of the deuteron. To simplify the analysis let's assume a square well potential. Although it is oversimplified it can be used to make some analyses



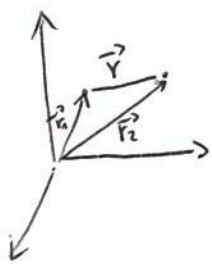
How deep is the potential?  
 For sure we must have  $V_0 > BE$ , because a nucleus have to be formed

Deuteron has no excited state  $\rightarrow$  i.e. only the ground state exists.

3-dim square well potential: this is a CENTRAL POTENTIAL i.e.

$V(\vec{r}) = V(r)$  no dependence on  $\theta$  and  $\phi$   
 $r$  is the relative distance/separation between  $p$  and  $n$ .

We will work in the relative position vector coordinates:



$\vec{r} = \vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2$  Relative separation vector; the origin is the first particle.

Note that this is a non-on shell frame (ptc 1 is accelerated)  $\Rightarrow$  correction are needed; but you can use the reduced mass  $m$  of the two ptc system to be able to work without any correction.

$$m = \frac{m_1 \cdot m_2}{m_1 + m_2}$$

The time independent Schrödinger equation is:

$$H \psi(\vec{r}) = E \psi(\vec{r})$$

$$\left[ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + V(\vec{r}) \right] \psi(\vec{r}) = E \psi(\vec{r})$$

$\nabla^2 = \sum_i \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2}$

In a spherical system:

$$\psi(\vec{r}) = \phi(r) Y_e^{m_e}(\theta, \varphi)$$

$\phi(r)$  depends on  $r$  not  $\vec{r}$

$$\phi(r) = \frac{u(r)}{r}$$

$Y_e^{m_e}(\theta, \varphi) =$  Spherical harmonics

$$l = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$m_e = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

(have standard expression)

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2 u}{dr^2} + \left[ V(r) + \frac{l(l+1)\hbar^2}{2mr^2} \right] u(r) = E u(r)$$

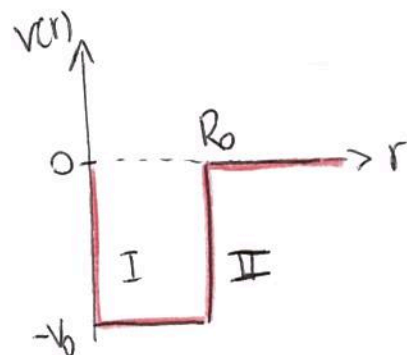
$\Rightarrow$  Only 1 variable equation

Deuteron has only one energy level, which must be the one with lower energy i.e.  $l=0$ . Note that this is true only because we assumed a central potential.

$$l=0, m=0 \quad Y_0^0 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{4\pi}}$$

the Schrodinger equation become:

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2 u}{dr^2} + V(r) u(r) = E u(r)$$



Boundary conditions:

- $\psi$  must be continuous everywhere
- $\psi$  " finite everywhere (i.e. cannot go to  $\infty$  anywhere)
- $\psi$  " square integrable; i.e.  $\int |\psi|^2 d\tau = \text{FINITE}$
- $\frac{d\psi}{dr}$  " continuous (i.e. no cusp)

$$\text{I) } r < R_0 \quad V = -V_0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2 u}{dr^2} - V_0 u = E u$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2 u}{dr^2} = (V_0 + E) u \quad \frac{d^2 u}{dr^2} = -\frac{2m}{\hbar^2} (V_0 + E) u$$

$$\frac{d^2 \mu}{dr^2} = -k^2 \mu$$

$$k = \sqrt{\frac{2m}{\hbar^2} (V_0 + E)}$$

$\uparrow$  POS     $\uparrow$  NEG  $\Rightarrow$  B.E

k is a real quantity

$\Rightarrow$  HARMONIC OSCILLATOR

$$\mu_I(r) = A \cdot \sin k \cdot r + B \cdot \cos k \cdot r$$

at  $r=0$   $\mu_I(0) = 0 \Rightarrow B=0$

$$\mu_I(r) = A \sin kr$$

Ⓐ  $r > R_0$   $V=0$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2 \mu}{dr^2} = E \mu$$

$$\frac{d^2 \mu}{dr^2} = -\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2} \mu = \gamma^2 \mu \quad \gamma = \sqrt{-\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}} \quad E < 0 \Rightarrow \gamma \text{ is real}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Exponential

$$\mu_{II}(r) = C e^{\gamma r} + D e^{-\gamma r}$$

$r \rightarrow \infty$   $\mu \rightarrow 0$  to be finite  $\Rightarrow C=0$   $\mu_{II}(r) = D e^{-\gamma r}$

At boundary  $\mu_I \equiv \mu_{II}$  to be continuous

$$\mu_I(R_0) = \mu_{II}(R_0)$$

Plus the derivative has to be continuous

$$\left. \frac{d\mu_I(r)}{dr} = \frac{d\mu_{II}(r)}{dr} \right|_{r=R_0}$$

$$\begin{cases} A \cdot \sin k R_0 = D e^{-\gamma R_0} \\ k A \cos k R_0 = -\gamma D e^{-\gamma R_0} \end{cases}$$

$$k \cot k R_0 = -\gamma$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{2m}{\hbar^2} (V_0 + E)} \cdot \cot \left[ R_0 \sqrt{\frac{2m}{\hbar^2} (V_0 + E)} \right] = \sqrt{-\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}}$$



$V_0$  can be extracted! Using numerical solution

$V_0 = 36 \text{ MeV}$

Strength of the potential  $\leftrightarrow$  strength of the strong force

SUMMARY

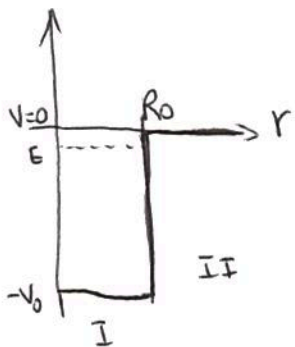
$r_0 = 2,1 \text{ fm}$

$V = 0 \quad r > r_0$

$V = -V_0 \quad r < r_0$

Energy level  $\approx 0$  considering that  $V_0 = 36 \text{ MeV}$   
 $\rightarrow$  deuteron is weakly bound

Only one state  $\rightarrow l=0$



$k = \sqrt{\frac{2m(V_0 + E)}{\hbar^2}}$

$\gamma = \sqrt{-\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}}$

$E = -2,225 \text{ MeV}$

$V_0 = 36 \text{ MeV}$

$k = \sqrt{\frac{2m(V_0 + E)}{\hbar^2}} \quad m = \frac{m_p}{2} \quad \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} = \frac{\hbar^2}{m_p} = \frac{\hbar^2 c^2}{m_p c^2} = \frac{(199 \text{ MeV} \cdot \text{fm})^2}{938 \text{ MeV}} = \frac{497^2 \text{ fm}^2 \text{ MeV}}{938} = 41,3 \text{ MeV} \cdot \text{fm}$

$k = \sqrt{\frac{(36 - 2,225) \text{ MeV}}{41,3 \text{ MeV}}} \text{ fm}^{-1} = 0,90 \text{ fm}^{-1}$

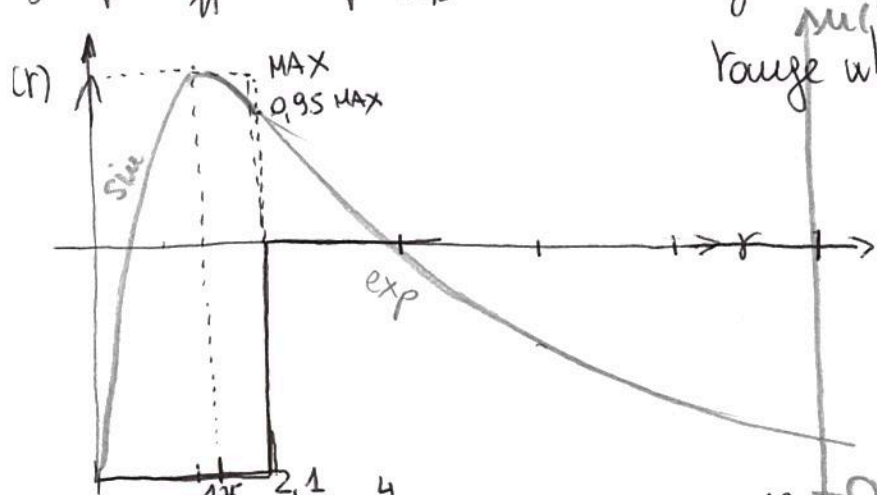
$\sin k \cdot r_0 = \sin(0,90 \cdot 2,21) = 0,95$

The maximum would be at  $\sin kr = 1 \rightarrow kr = 1,57 \quad r = \frac{1,57}{k} = 1,744 \text{ fm}$

$\gamma = \sqrt{-\frac{2Em}{\hbar^2}} = \sqrt{\frac{2 \cdot 2,225}{41,3}} \text{ fm}^{-1} \quad \frac{1}{\gamma} = 4,31 \text{ fm}$

$\frac{1}{\gamma} = 4,31 \text{ fm}$

where the  $\psi$  is maximum



range where the expo decreases by  $1/e$

Most of the time  $p$  and  $n$  are outside the  $2,1 \text{ fm}$  range  $\Rightarrow$  deuteron is very weakly bound!

# ANGULAR MOMENTUM AND PARITY OF DEUTERON

In general,

$$\vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S}$$

$\vec{J}$ : Final total angular momentum of a nucleons  
 $\vec{L}$ : Angular momentum of nucleon  
 $\vec{S}$ : Spin of nucleons

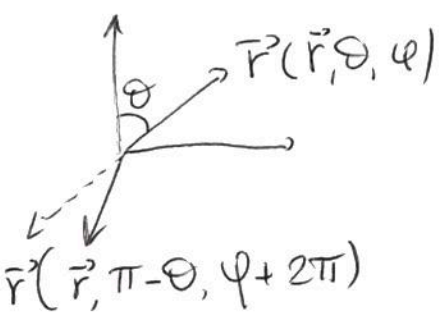
I.e. what can we learn from the fact that  $J^{\pi}_{\text{deuteron}} = 1^+$ ??  
 Let's start from angular momentum

The NUCLEAR SPIN  $\vec{I}$  is the total angular momentum and can be measured

$$\vec{I} = \vec{J}_1 + \vec{J}_2 + \dots$$

The parity is defined in this way: The wave function  $\psi$  can be symmetric or anti-symmetric: this defines the parity.

If we take into consideration the space part of  $\psi(\vec{r}, \theta, \varphi) \rightarrow \phi(r)$   
 then, if  $\phi(\vec{r}) = \phi(-\vec{r})$  the parity  $\pi$  is even or  $\oplus$   
 if  $\phi(\vec{r}) = -\phi(-\vec{r})$   $\pi$  is odd or  $\ominus$



Parity is related to  $\vec{L}$  (orbital angular momentum)

$$l = 0, 2, 4, \dots \Rightarrow \pi = +$$

$$l = 1, 3, 5, \dots \Rightarrow \pi = -$$

For deuteron one can measure parity  $\pi$  and spin  $J$  and isospin  $T$ . What can we learn from that?

$$J = 1 \quad \pi = + \quad J^{\pi} = 1^+ \quad T = 0$$



\* we have a deuteron, the possible spin configurations are:

$|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle_{p,n}$ ,  $|\downarrow\downarrow\rangle_{p,n}$ ,  $|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle$ ,  $|\downarrow\uparrow\rangle$  : In this case spin is not coupled

& pn couple to make the final spin  $S$ ,

$$\vec{S} = \vec{S}_p + \vec{S}_n \quad S_p = S_n = \frac{1}{2}$$

$S = 1, 0$  why? Because  $S$  can range from  $S_1 - S_2$  to  $S_1 + S_2$  with steps of 1

&  $S=0$ ,  $S_z = S_{p_z} + S_{n_z} = 0 \Rightarrow S_{p_z} = -S_{n_z} \Rightarrow |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle, |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle$

$$\Rightarrow S=0, S_z=0 \Rightarrow \frac{|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

if  $S=1$ ,  $S_z = \hbar, 0, -\hbar$  where  $\hbar$  means  $S_{n_z} = S_{p_z} = \uparrow\uparrow$   
 $-\hbar \Leftrightarrow \downarrow\downarrow$

So 3 possible combinations are possible:

$$S=1, S_z = \hbar \quad |\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$$

$$S=1, S_z = -\hbar \quad |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$$

$$S=1, S_z = 0 \quad \frac{|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

In the end, in total we could have 4 states:

75% couple to  $S = 1$

25% couple to  $S = 0$

JT the data tell us that we measure  $J=1$  \*

⊗ Since  $\vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S}$ , and we measure  $J=1$  and we know that  $L$  should be even  $\Rightarrow S=0$  should ~~not~~ be possible in fact:

The possible states are

$J=1, \vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S}$  because the ground state  $\exists$  and so  $L=0 \exists$  and the parity is  $\oplus!$

<del><math>S=0; l=1 \Rightarrow J=1 \quad \pi = -</math></del>
<del><math>S=0; l=0 \Rightarrow J=0</math></del>
<del><math>S=0; l=2 \Rightarrow J=2</math></del>

$S=1; l=0 \Rightarrow J=1 \quad \pi = +$

~~$S=1; l=1 \Rightarrow J=2, 1, 0 \quad \pi = -$~~

$S=1; l=2 \Rightarrow J=3, 2, 1 \quad \pi = +$

For  $l > 2$  it is not possible to obtain a state with  $J=1$ .

From the measurement, it is possible to obtain the the only allowed values are:  $\left. \begin{array}{l} l=0 \quad S=1 \\ l=1 \quad S=1 \end{array} \right\}$  The dominant part will be the "ground state"  $l=0$