

3. (a) *Briefly* outline the use in scattering theory of

- (i) The Born Approximation;
- (ii) The method of partial waves;
- (iii) The Lippmann-Schwinger equation.

Address the physical basis of the methods and their applicability with no more than a few sentences for each.

(b) Describe the components of the wavefunction

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}) \sim e^{ikz} + f(\theta, \phi) \frac{e^{ikr}}{r}$$

and the physical justification for interpreting it as the scattering solution of the time independent Schrödinger equation.

(c) For a finite ranged *central* scattering potential, the scattering problem is considerably simplified. The wavefunction outside the potential can be expanded as

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(\mathbf{x}) &= \sum_l \psi_l(r) P_l(\cos \theta), \\ \psi_l(r) &= A_l [\cos \delta_l j_l(kr) - \sin \delta_l n_l(kr)], \end{aligned}$$

where j_l and n_l are spherical Bessel and Neumann functions, and P_l are Legendre polynomials. Give a brief justification for this expansion.

(d) Consider the *hard sphere potential*

$$V(r) = \begin{cases} \infty, & r < a, \\ 0, & r \geq a. \end{cases}$$

- (i) Use the above expansion and the boundary condition at $r = a$ to show that for any l , $\cot \delta_l = n_l(ka)/j_l(ka)$.
- (ii) The scattering length a_s and effective range r_0 are given by the low- k expansion

$$k \cot \delta_0 \approx -\frac{1}{a_s} + \frac{1}{2} r_0 k^2 + O(k^4).$$

Using this expansion, find the scattering length and effective range for the hard sphere potential.