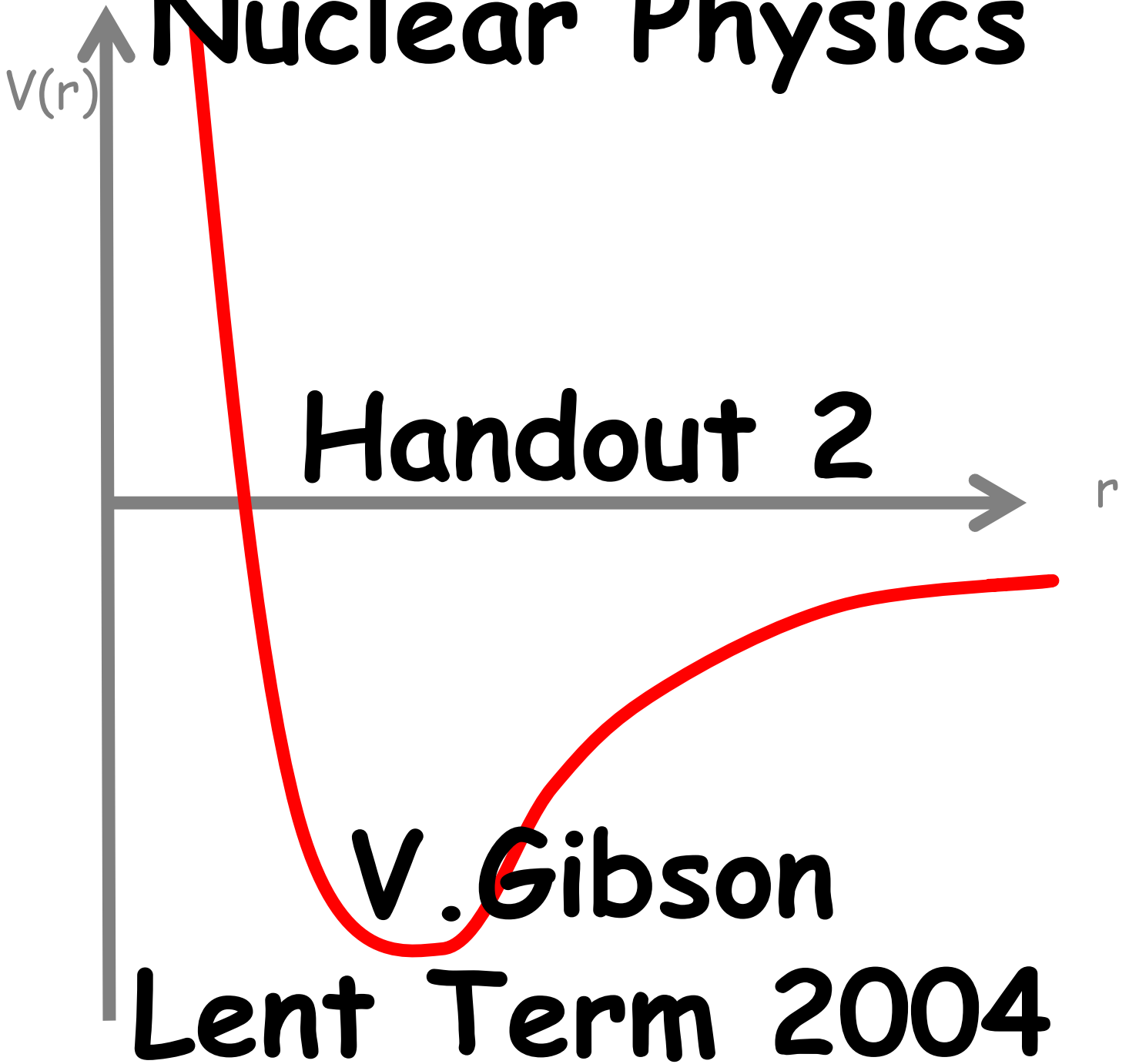


Part II

Nuclear Physics



Section III

The Nucleon Force

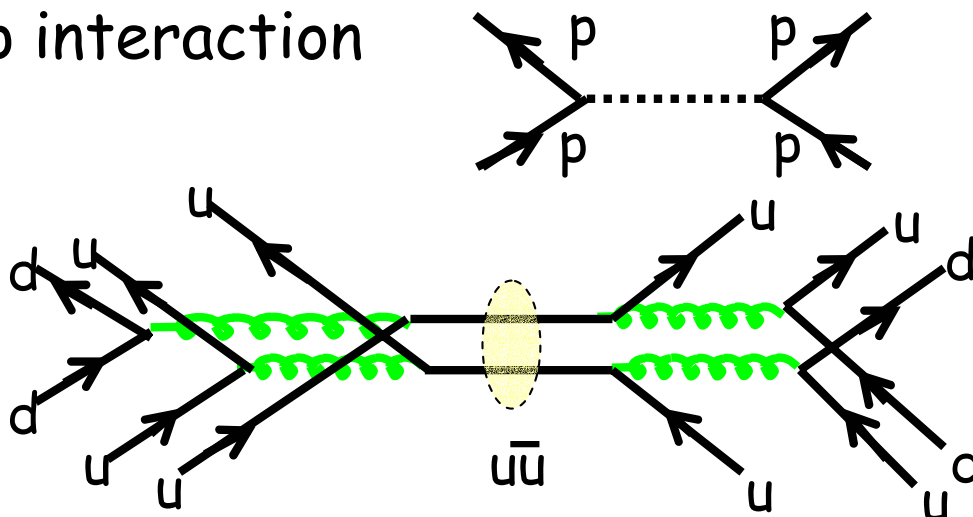
Nucleons are made of spin 1/2 point-like quarks.

Quarks are held together by the strong interaction arising from the exchange of other quarks and spin 1 gluons (see Particles course).

The force between nucleons (the strong nuclear force) is a many-body problem in which

- ▶ quarks do not behave as if they were completely independent inside the nuclear volume
- ▶ nor do they behave as if they were completely bound to form protons and neutrons.

e.g. p-p interaction



The nuclear force is therefore not calculable in detail at the quark level and can only be deduced empirically from nuclear data.

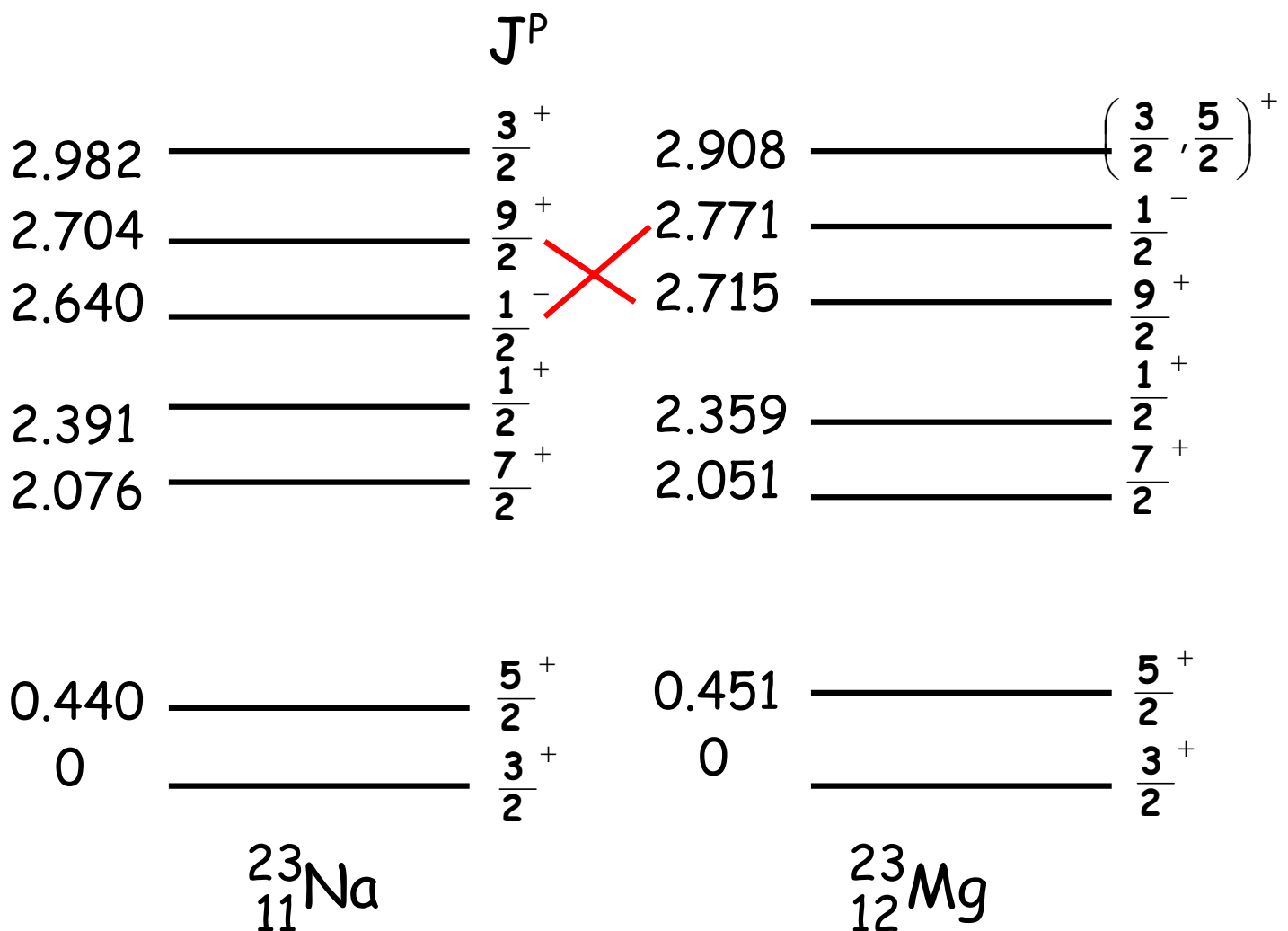
General Features

The fact that a nucleus exists implies that the nuclear force is:

- ▶ Strong: stronger than the electromagnetic, weak and gravitational forces.
- ▶ Short range: nuclei experience the strong interaction at short distances (~ 2 fm) as they start to overlap.
- ▶ Attractive.
- ▶ Repulsive core: Volume $\sim A$, nucleus doesn't collapse to ∞ density.
- ▶ Saturates: $B/A \sim \text{constant}$; in a nucleus the nucleons are only attracted by nearby nucleons.
- ▶ Charge independent: No distinction between protons and neutrons. Evidence seen from tendency for small nuclei to have $N=Z$ and similarities of the low-lying energy levels of pairs of mirror nuclei.

Mirror Nuclei

Example $({}_{11}^{23}\text{Na}, {}_{12}^{23}\text{Mg})$

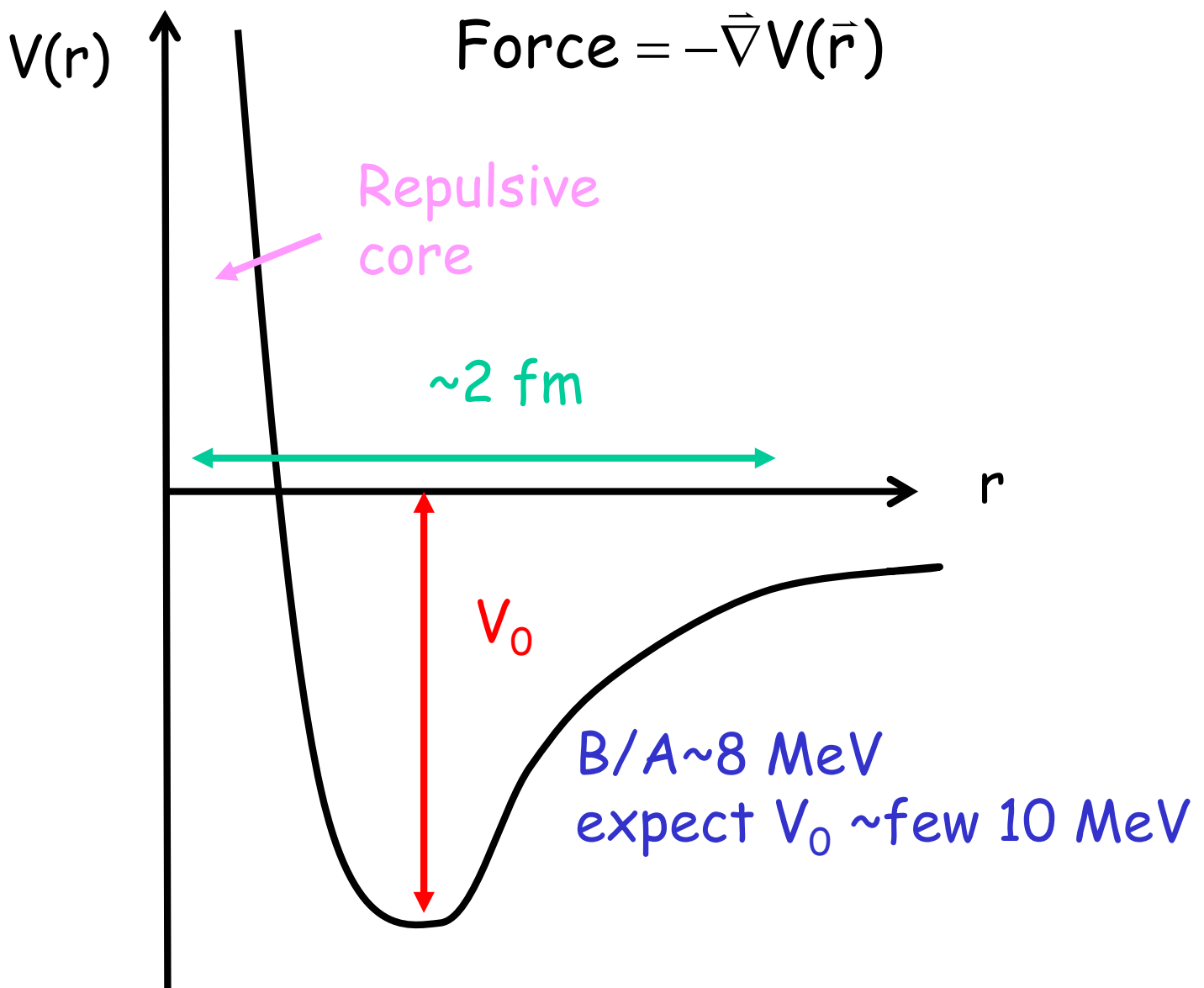


Illustrates charge symmetry,

p-p interaction \equiv n-n interaction

Does not imply p-n = p-p or n-n because the number of p-n pairs is the same in both nuclei.

The Nucleon-Nucleon Potential



Study detailed features using interactions between two nucleons:

The deuteron and nucleon-nucleon scattering.

The Deuteron

The deuteron is the only two nucleon (n-p) bound state (no p-p or n-n bound states).



Property summary:

$$B = 2.23 \text{ MeV}$$

$$J^P = 1^+$$

$$\mu = +0.857 \mu_N$$

$$Q = +2.82 \times 10^{-31} \text{ m}^2$$

$$R = 2.1 \text{ fm}$$

No excited states observed



Prolate
 $Q > 0$

Deductions:

n-p state

$${}^3S_1 \ (l=0, S=1 \uparrow\uparrow) : \mu = \mu_p + \mu_n = 0.88 \mu_N$$

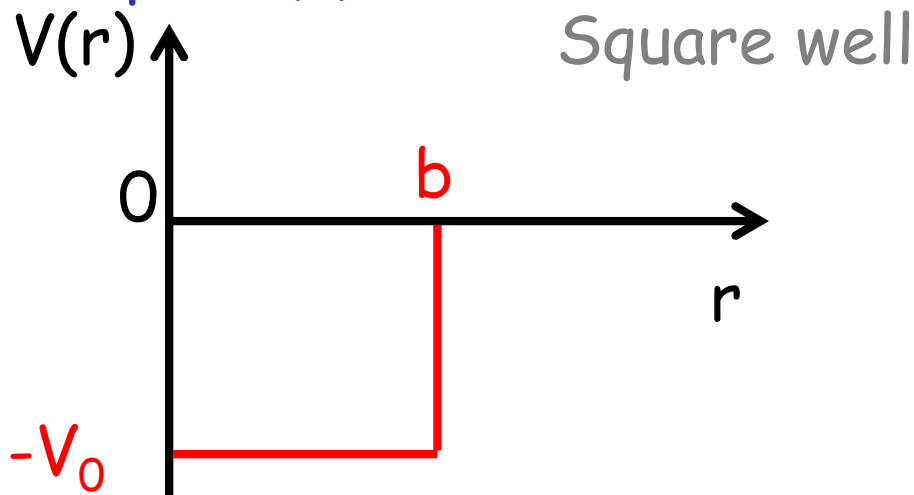
$${}^1S_0 \ (l=0, S=0 \uparrow\downarrow) : \mu = \mu_p - \mu_n = 4.71 \mu_N$$

Experimental value $\mu = +0.857 \mu_N$

\Rightarrow $n=1$, no orbital contributions to μ ($l=0$)

Deuteron is a 3S_1 state.

Assume simple $V(r)$



Consider radial Schrödinger's equation ($l=0$):

$$\left[\frac{-\hbar^2}{2M} \frac{d^2}{dr^2} + V(r) \right] R(r) = ER(r)$$

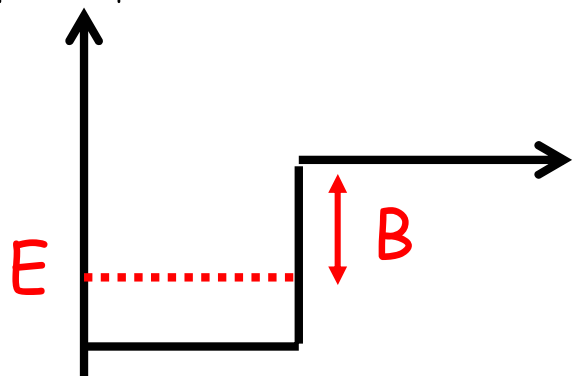
where $M = \text{reduced mass} = \frac{m_p m_n}{m_p + m_n}$

Let $u(r) = rR(r)$ $r = \text{internucleon distance}$

Probability particle between r and $r+dr =$

$$r^2 |R(r)|^2 dr = |u(r)|^2 dr$$

For bound state $E < 0$
= -Binding energy



Two regions:

$$\begin{array}{ll} 1) & r < b \quad V = -V_0, \quad E = -B \\ 2) & r > b \quad V = 0, \quad E = -B \end{array}$$

1) $r < b$

$$\frac{-\hbar^2}{2M} \frac{d^2 u(r)}{dr^2} + (B - V_0) u(r) = 0$$

General solution $u(r) = A \sin \alpha r + C \cos \alpha r$

$$\alpha^2 = \frac{2M}{\hbar^2} (V_0 - B)$$

Require $R(r) = \frac{u(r)}{r}$ finite for $r \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow C=0$

(i.e. don't want infinite density $|R(r)|^2$ at centre of nucleus.)

$$\therefore \underline{u(r) = A \sin \alpha r \quad r < b}$$

2) $r > b$

$$\frac{-\hbar^2}{2M} \frac{d^2 u(r)}{dr^2} + B u(r) = 0$$

General solution $u(r) = D e^{-\beta r} + F e^{+\beta r}$

$$\beta^2 = \frac{2M B}{\hbar^2}$$

$r \rightarrow \infty, e^{+\beta r} \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow F=0$

$$\therefore \underline{u(r) = D e^{-\beta r} \quad r > b}$$

r=b $u(r)$ and $du(r)/dr$ continuous

$u(r)$ $A \sin \alpha b = D e^{-\beta b}$

$du(r)/dr$ $\alpha A \cos \alpha b = -\beta D e^{-\beta b}$

Ratio $\cot \alpha b = -\frac{\beta}{\alpha} = -\left(\frac{B}{V_0 - B}\right)^{1/2}$

Assume $V_0 > B$: 2 unknowns b, V_0

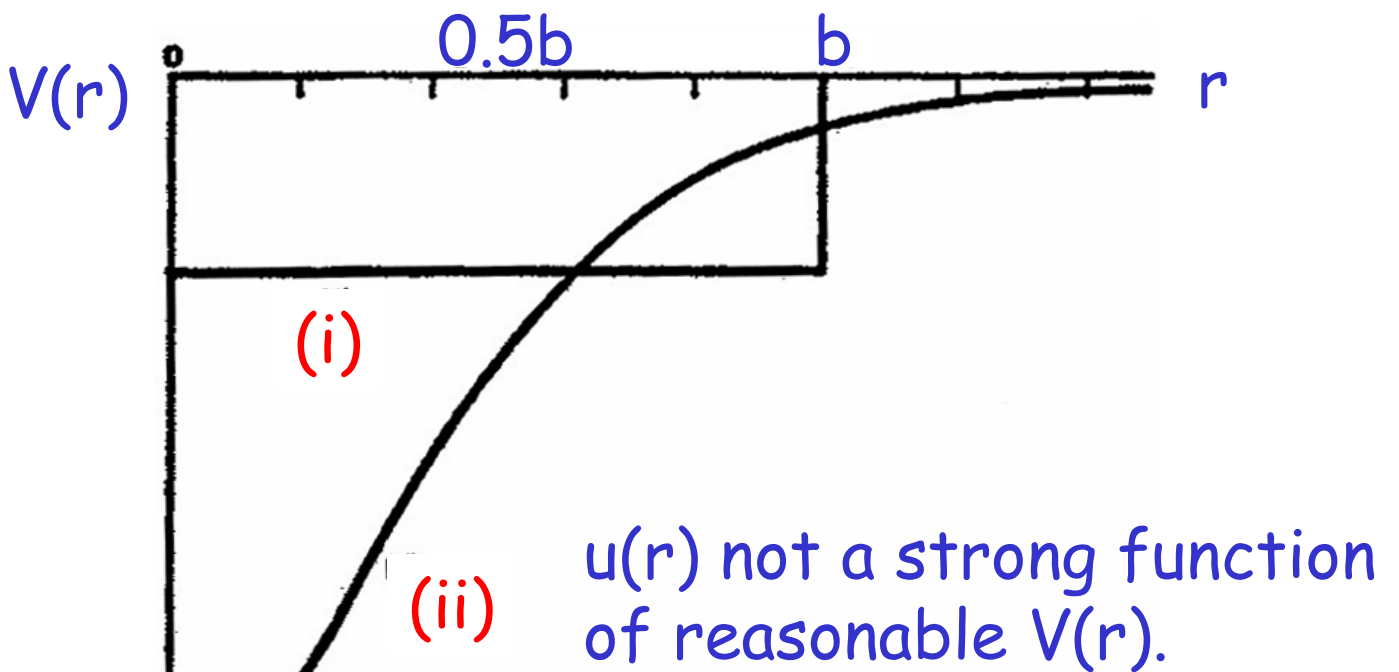
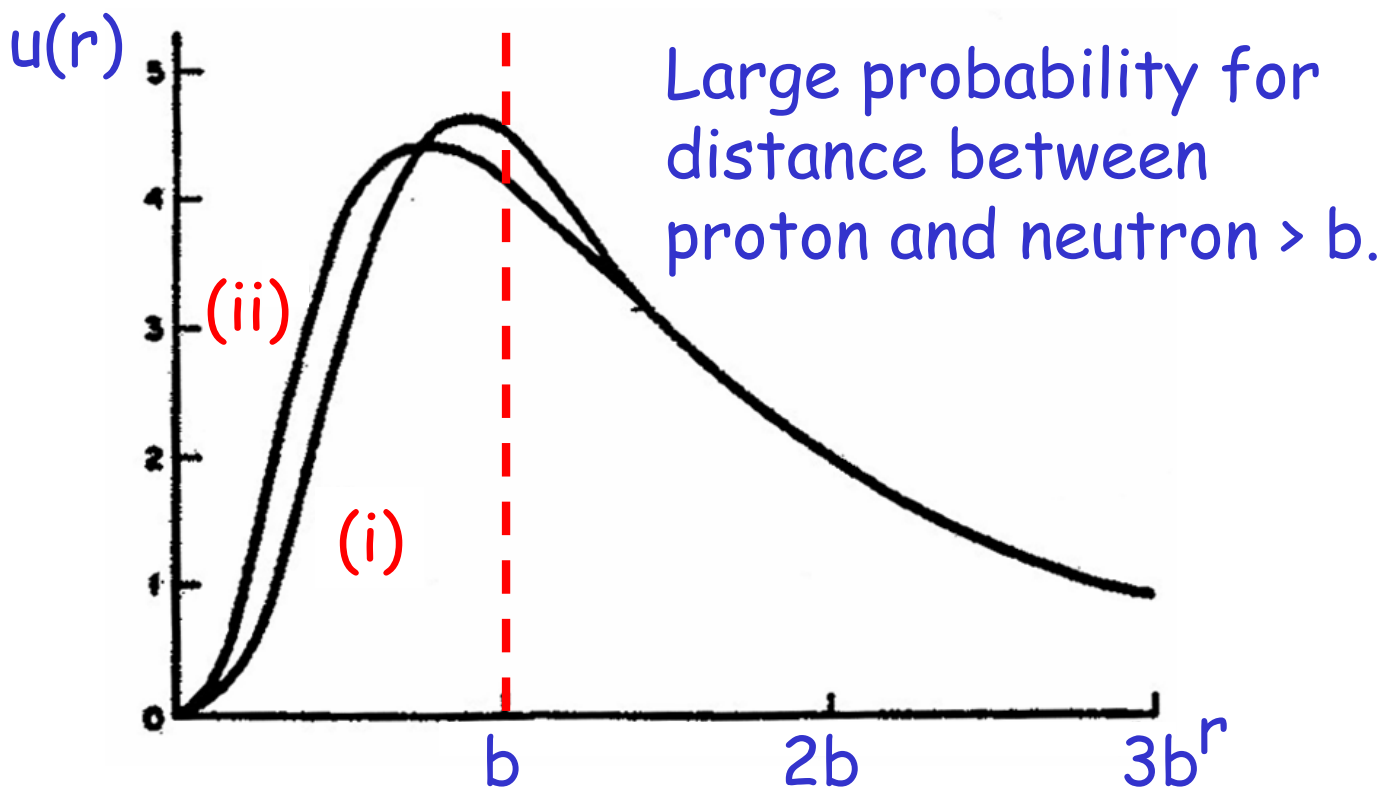
$\cot \alpha b \approx 0$ $\alpha b = \frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2}, \frac{5\pi}{2}, \dots$

$\frac{2M}{\hbar^2} V_0 b^2 = \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^2$ lowest energy

$V_0 b^2 \approx \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2}{8M} \approx 10^{-28} \text{ MeV m}^2$

For $b = 2 \text{ fm} \Rightarrow V_0 \sim 25 \text{ MeV}$

(c.f. $B/A \sim 8 \text{ MeV}$)



Size of the deuteron determined by Binding Energy not range of force.

Spin Dependence

If there were no spin dependence in the deuteron potential, expect to observe both $J=0$ and $J=1$ bound states with same energy.

Only $J=1$ states is observed ($\uparrow\uparrow$)

Also no n-n and p-p bound states are observed which would require spins to be $\uparrow\downarrow$ due to exclusion principle.

Require angular momentum and parity to be conserved

\Rightarrow scalar potential, simplest $\sim \vec{s}_1 \cdot \vec{s}_2$

Deuteron spin

$$\vec{J} = \vec{s}_1 + \vec{s}_2$$

$$\vec{J}^2 = (\vec{s}_1 + \vec{s}_2)^2$$

$$J(J+1)\hbar^2 = s_1(s_1+1)\hbar^2 + s_2(s_2+1)\hbar^2 + 2\vec{s}_1 \cdot \vec{s}_2$$

$$\langle \vec{s}_1 \cdot \vec{s}_2 \rangle = \frac{1}{2} [J(J+1) - s_1(s_1+1) - s_2(s_2+1)]\hbar^2$$

$$J=1, s_1=s_2=1/2 \quad \langle \vec{s}_1 \cdot \vec{s}_2 \rangle = \frac{\hbar^2}{4}$$

$$J=0, \quad \langle \vec{s}_1 \cdot \vec{s}_2 \rangle = -\frac{3\hbar^2}{4}$$

Different potentials for singlet and triplet states

Non-Central Term

The deuteron has a small electric quadrupole moment, $Q = +2.82 \times 10^{-31} \text{ m}^2$. Hence, the nucleon potential is not spherically symmetric.

However, 3S_1 $\ell=0, J=1 \uparrow\uparrow$ is symmetric

Require some angular dependence in the deuteron wavefunction, ψ .

For $J=1$, other possible states:

L	S		
1	0	1P_1	$P = (-1)^\ell$
1	1	3P_1	
2	1	3D_1	

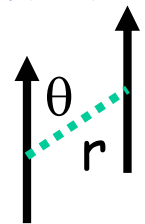
Overall state must have definite parity (same as 3S_1 $J^P=1^+$).

ψ has 5% 3D_1 state.

$$(\psi = a_1 \psi_S + a_2 \psi_D, |a_1|^2 = 0.95, |a_2|^2 = 0.05)$$

i.e. 5% of time L switches $0 \rightarrow 2$ and hence nuclear force must apply a torque. Potential is a function of θ as well as r .

\Rightarrow non-central force (tensor force).



Also explains small difference in expected $\mu = 0.88 \mu_N$ and measured $\mu = +0.857 \mu_N$.

Deuteron Summary

In addition to the general features of the nucleon-nucleon interaction, the properties of the deuteron imply:

- ▶ Depth of nucleon potential,
 $V_0 \sim 25 \text{ MeV}$ for nuclear radius $(b) = 2 \text{ fm}$.
- ▶ Nuclear force is spin dependent
- ▶ Non-central terms in potential

Two nucleon potential

$$V = V_C(r) + V_S(\vec{s}_1 \cdot \vec{s}_2) + V_T(\vec{r}, \vec{s}) + \dots$$

central spin tensor

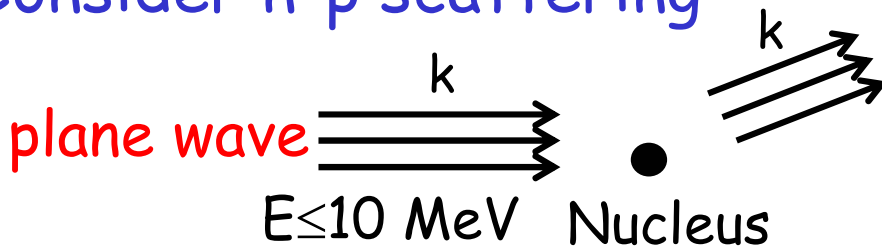
Limitations:

- ▶ only one state to study
- ▶ not enough information to determine all parameters required
- ▶ no information for $\ell \neq 0$ and excited states

⇒ Study nucleon-nucleon scattering

Nucleon-Nucleon Scattering

Consider n-p scattering



$$\psi_{\text{IN}} = e^{ikz} = e^{ikr \cos \vartheta}, \quad k = \frac{1}{\hbar} \sqrt{2mE}$$

Expand ψ_{IN} in spherical harmonics

where $\psi_{\text{IN}} = e^{ikr \cos \vartheta} = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} B_{\ell}(r) Y_{\ell 0}(\vartheta)$ Spherical harmonic

$$B_{\ell}(r) = i^{\ell} (4\pi (2\ell + 1))^{1/2} j_{\ell}(kr)$$

Spherical Bessel function

$$j_0 = \frac{\sin kr}{kr}, \quad j_1 = \frac{\sin kr}{(kr)^2} - \frac{\cos kr}{kr}, \dots$$

Each term is a solution of the Schrödinger equation in spherical coordinates for a constant potential energy and with scattering centre as the origin.

Terms are called Partial Waves

For low energies ($E \leq 10 \text{ MeV}$) only need consider $l=0$ term.

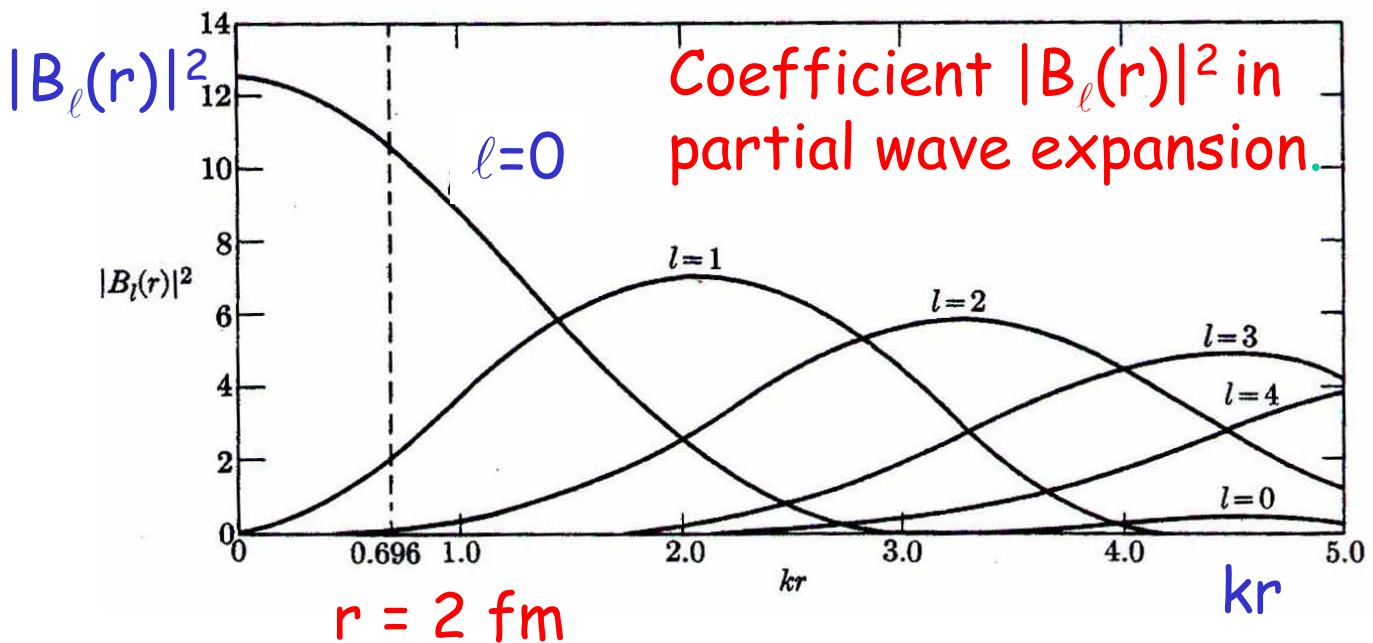
Example: A nucleon of 10 MeV (5 MeV cms)

$$k = \sqrt{2ME} = \sqrt{2 \cdot \frac{940}{2} \cdot 5}$$

$$= 68.6 \text{ MeV}$$

$$= \underline{0.348 \text{ fm}^{-1}}$$

$M = \text{reduced mass} \approx m_n/2$
 $m_n = 940 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
 $\hbar = 1, \hbar c = 197 \text{ MeV fm}$



For a range of 2 fm for the nuclear force only the $l=0$ partial wave important for beam energies $\leq 10 \text{ MeV}$.

Angular momentum conserved, l does not change in scattering processes.

Consider $\ell=0$:

Free particle wavefunction,

$$V=0 \quad \psi_{\text{IN}} \rightarrow \psi_0 = \frac{e^{ikr} - e^{-ikr}}{2ikr}$$

e^{-ikr} represents a spherical wave going towards the origin.

e^{+ikr} represents a spherical wave going away from the origin.

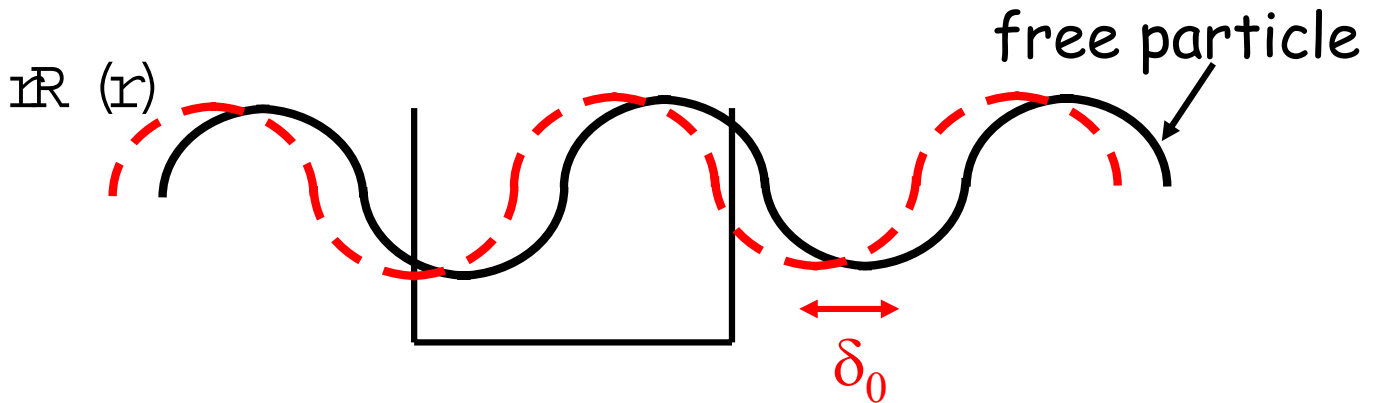
In presence of nucleon potential,

e^{-ikr} is not affected for $r >$ range of potential (i.e. before particle gets to scattering centre)

e^{+ikr} for elastic scattering, amplitude must be same as e^{-ikr} part i.e. no particles created or destroyed.

\Rightarrow Phase change only

Attractive potential raises K.E. within range of force $\Rightarrow \lambda$ decreases.



Attractive potential \Rightarrow +ve phase shift $\delta_0 > 0$
 Repulsive potential \Rightarrow -ve phase shift $\delta_0 < 0$

Introducing $V \neq 0$ changes the phase of the outgoing wave:

$$V \neq 0 \quad \psi' = \frac{e^{i(kr+2\delta_0)} - e^{-ikr}}{2ikr} = \frac{e^{i\delta_0} \sin(kr + \delta_0)}{kr}$$

Convention:

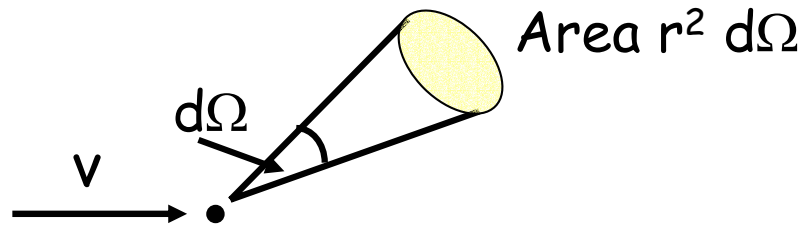
$2\delta_0$ phase shift in outgoing partial wave
 δ_0 " " in $\ell=0$ scattered wave

Probability of scattering given by the amplitude of the scattered wave:

$$\psi_{\text{scat}} = \psi' - \psi_0 = \frac{e^{i(kr+\delta_0)}}{kr} \sin \delta_0$$

Differential cross section:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\text{Number of particles/sec scattered into } d\Omega}{\text{Incident flux} \cdot d\Omega}$$



Number particles/sec through area $r^2 d\Omega$

$$= |\psi_{\text{scat}}|^2 r^2 d\Omega v \quad v = \text{velocity of particles}$$

Flux = Number of particles through unit area/sec = v

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{|\psi_{\text{scat}}|^2 r^2 d\Omega v}{v d\Omega} = |\psi_{\text{scat}}|^2 r^2 = \frac{\sin^2 \delta_0}{k^2 r^2} r^2$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\sin^2 \delta_0}{k^2}$$

In centre of mass, $\ell=0$, isotropic

$$\sigma = \frac{4\pi \sin^2 \delta_0}{k^2}$$

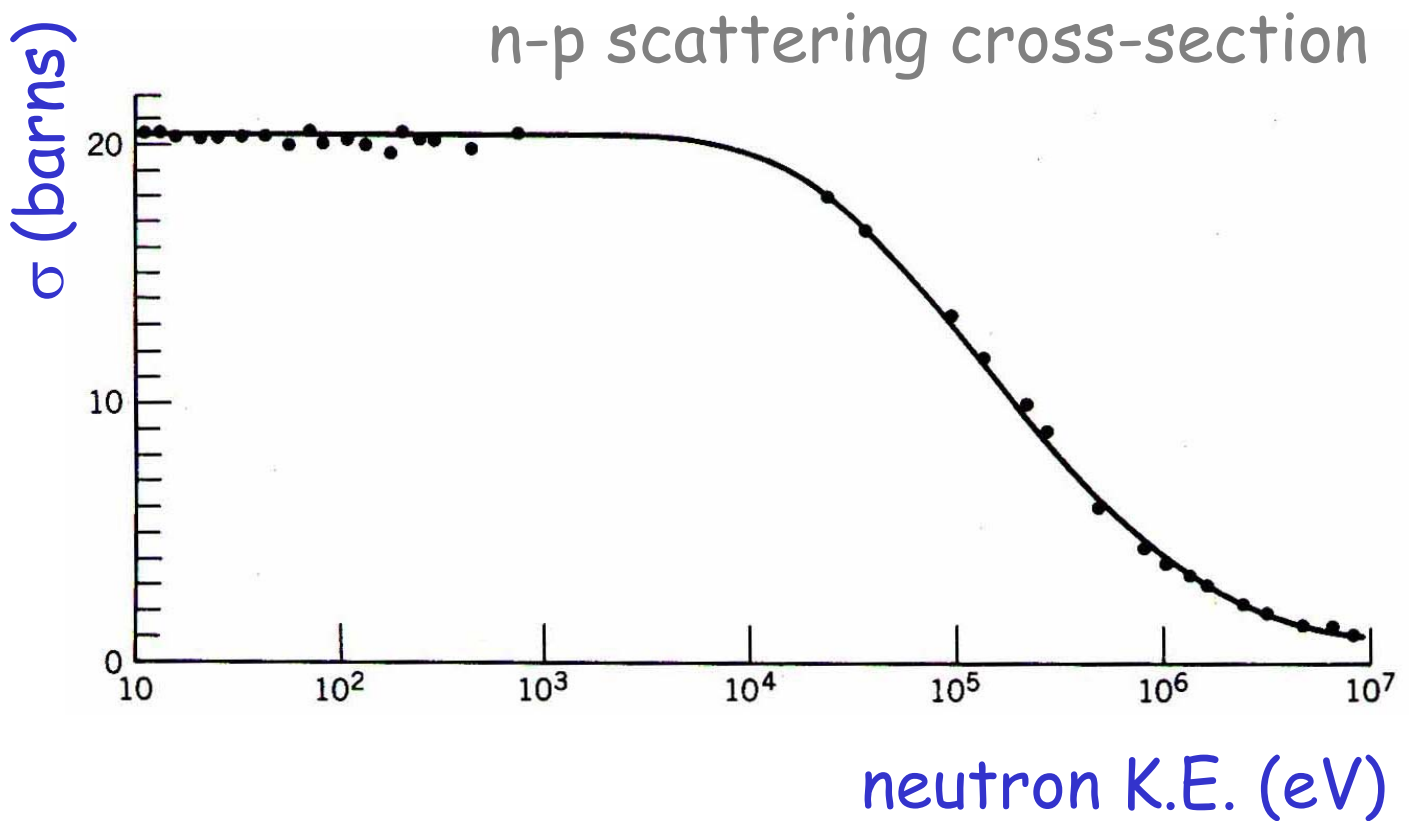
Low E, $k \rightarrow 0$, $\delta_0 \rightarrow 0$

$$\psi_{\text{scat}} = \frac{e^{i(kr+\delta_0)}}{kr} \sin \delta_0 = \frac{(e^{2i\delta_0} - 1) e^{ikr}}{2ik r}$$

$$\xrightarrow{k \rightarrow 0, \delta_0 \rightarrow 0} \frac{\delta_0 e^{ikr}}{k r} = \frac{a e^{ikr}}{r}$$

$$\sigma = 4\pi a^2$$

a is the amplitude of ψ_{scat} , often called the "scattering length".



Low energy $\sigma \sim \text{constant} \approx 20$ barns

Extract phase shifts, δ_0 , from experimental measurements of the differential cross-section and compare to predicted phase shifts to determine the nucleon potential.

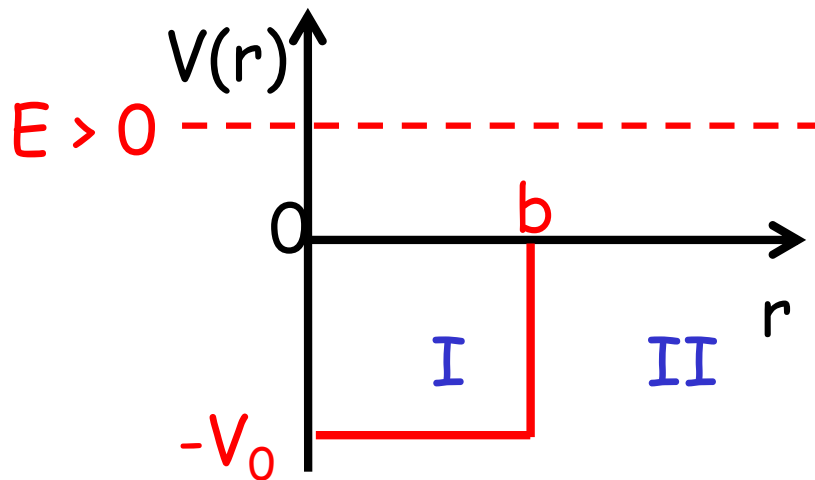
Need to relate the phase shift, δ_0 , to the parameters of nucleon potential.

Phase Shift δ_0

Solve Schrödinger's equation in interaction region. Particles can collide in $\uparrow\downarrow$ or $\uparrow\uparrow$

$n p$ $n p$

Consider a square well potential:



Radial wave equation: $u(r) = rR(r)$

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

$M = \text{reduced mass}$

Region I
 $r < b$

$$\frac{d^2 u(r)}{dr^2} + \frac{2M}{\hbar^2} (V_0 + E) u(r) = 0$$

$$\underline{u_{\text{I}}(r) = A \sin kr} \quad k = \sqrt{2M (E + V_0)} / \hbar$$

Region II
 $r > b$

$$\frac{d^2 u(r)}{dr^2} + \frac{2M}{\hbar^2} E u(r) = 0$$

$$\underline{u_{\text{II}}(r) = B \sin(k'r + \delta_0)} \quad k' = \sqrt{2M E} / \hbar$$

Boundary conditions: $u(r)$, $du(r)/dr$ continuous

$$u(r) \quad A \sin kb = B \sin (k'b + \delta_0)$$

$$du(r)/dr \quad kA \cos kb = k'B \cos (k'b + \delta_0)$$

$$\text{ratio} \quad k \cot kb = k' \cot (k'b + \delta_0)$$

$$\delta_0 = \cot^{-1} \left(\frac{k}{k'} \cot kb \right) - k'b$$

$$k = \sqrt{2M (E + V_0)}/\hbar \quad k' = \sqrt{2M E}/\hbar$$

Given a set of potential well parameters V_0 , b , δ_0 can be compared to the measured value extracted from $\sigma = 4\pi \sin^2 \delta_0 / k'^2$ as a function of energy.

Example: Using triplet parameters for deuteron

$$V_0 b^2 \approx 10^{-28} \text{ MeV m}^2$$

$$b = 2.1 \text{ fm and } V_0 = 25 \text{ MeV}$$

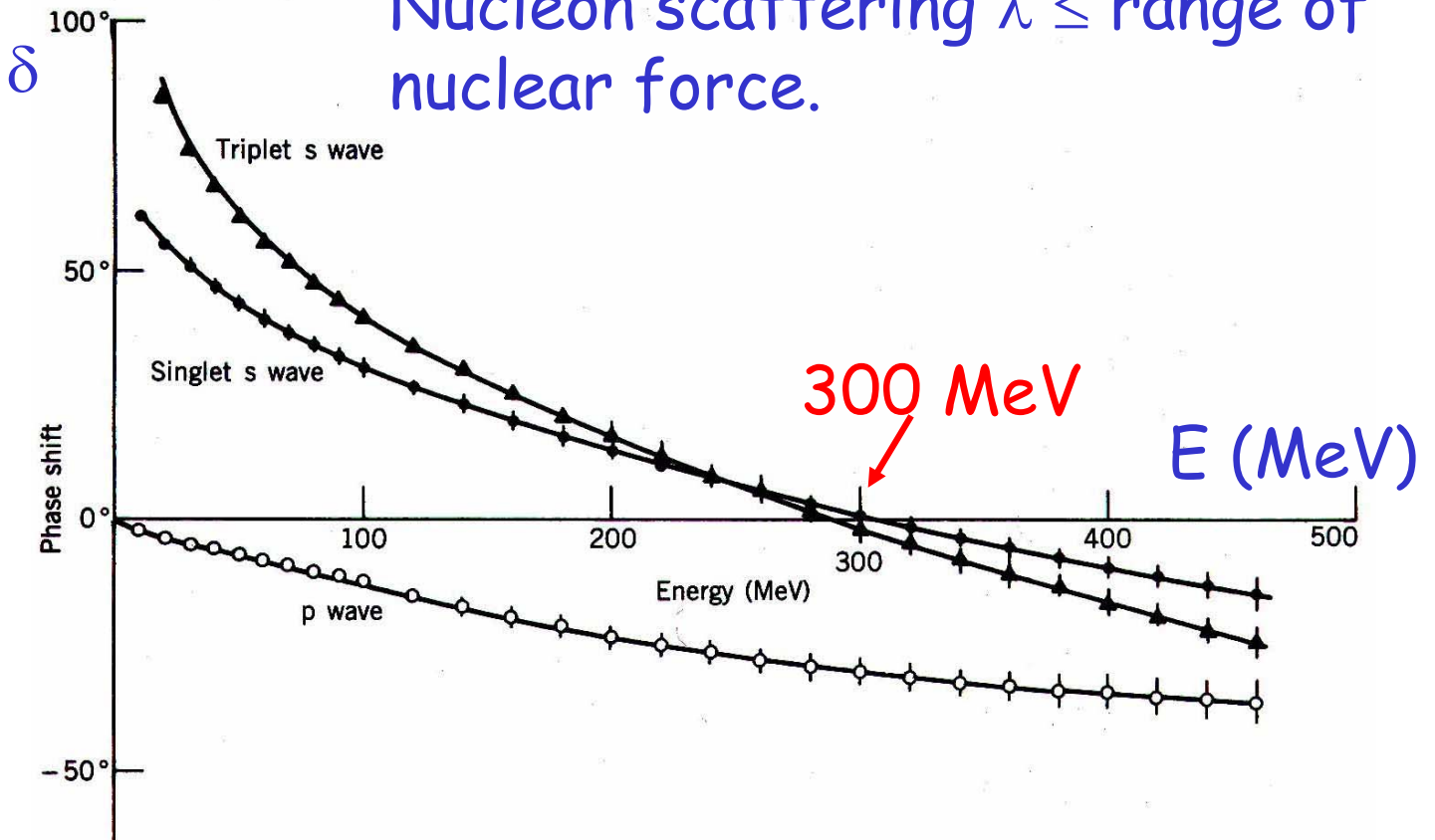
$$\Rightarrow \sigma \sim 5 \text{ barns}$$

(c.f. 20 barns experimentally)

Need to consider spin dependence

Repulsive Core

Nucleon scattering $\lambda \leq$ range of nuclear force.



At 300 MeV: Phase shift becomes negative
 \Rightarrow repulsive force

$$\begin{aligned}
 V &= +\infty & r < R_{\text{core}} \\
 &= -V_0 & R_{\text{core}} < r < R \\
 &= 0 & r > R
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{p} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2mE}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2 \times 940 \times 300}}$$

$$= 1.3 \times 10^{-3} \text{ MeV}^{-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{R_{\text{core}} \approx 0.5 \text{ fm}}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 m &= 940 \text{ MeV}/c^2 \\
 \hbar &= 1, \hbar c = 197 \text{ MeV fm}
 \end{aligned}$$

Spin Dependence

The total cross-section for n-p scattering is made up of a fixed mixture of n-p interactions in the n-p states:

and $S=0$ 1S_0 $\uparrow\downarrow - \downarrow\uparrow$
 $S=1$ 3S_1 $\uparrow\uparrow, \downarrow\downarrow, \uparrow\downarrow + \downarrow\uparrow$

If the orientations of the neutrons in the incident beam and protons in the target are random, then

$$\sigma = \frac{3}{4} \sigma_t + \frac{1}{4} \sigma_s \quad \begin{array}{l} t = \text{triplet} \\ s = \text{singlet} \end{array}$$

To separate the contributions of σ_t and σ_s , scatter very low-energy neutrons ($E < 1 \text{ KeV}$) from ortho- and para-hydrogen (H_2):

ortho- H_2 $\uparrow \uparrow$ $S_{\text{H}_2} = 1$

p p

para- H_2 $\uparrow \downarrow$ $S_{\text{H}_2} = 0$

p p

Low neutron E : $\lambda \gg$ separation of protons in H_2

Get coherent scattering $\sigma = (\sum \text{amplitudes})^2$

(c.f. incoherent $\sigma = \sum (\text{amplitudes})^2$)

Total amplitude for scattering neutron from one proton

$$\hat{a}_p = a_s \hat{\pi}_s + a_t \hat{\pi}_t$$

where $\hat{\pi}_s$ and $\hat{\pi}_t$ are operators that project singlet and triplet parts of the n-p wavefn:

$$\uparrow p \uparrow n \quad \hat{\pi}_s |\Psi_{np}\rangle = 0, \quad \hat{\pi}_t |\Psi_{np}\rangle = 1, \quad a_p = a_t$$

$$\uparrow p \downarrow n \quad \hat{\pi}_s |\Psi_{np}\rangle = 1, \quad \hat{\pi}_t |\Psi_{np}\rangle = 0, \quad a_p = a_s$$

For coherent scattering of neutron from two protons in H_2

$$\hat{a} = \hat{a}_{p_1} + \hat{a}_{p_2} = a_s (\hat{\pi}_{s_1} + \hat{\pi}_{s_2}) + a_t (\hat{\pi}_{t_1} + \hat{\pi}_{t_2})$$

Total cross-section $\sigma = 4\pi a^2$

$$\text{para-}H_2 \quad \uparrow \downarrow \quad \sigma_{\text{para}} = 4\pi \left(\frac{1}{2} a_s + \frac{3}{2} a_t \right)^2 \quad \text{see question sheet}$$

$$\text{ortho-}H_2 \quad \uparrow \uparrow \quad \sigma_{\text{ortho}} = 4\pi \left(\underbrace{\frac{2}{3} (2a_t)^2}_{\substack{\uparrow n \\ S=3/2}} + \frac{1}{3} \left(\underbrace{\frac{3}{2} a_s + \frac{1}{2} a_t}_{\substack{\uparrow n \\ S=1/2}} \right)^2 \right)$$

σ_{para} can be measured using H_2 at 20K.
 H_2 at 20K is all para-hydrogen.

If the nuclear force were independent of spin, $\sigma_{\text{t}} = \sigma_{\text{s}}$ and $a_{\text{t}} = a_{\text{s}}$, thus σ_{para} and σ_{ortho} would be the same.

Experimentally, $\sigma_{\text{para}} = 4 \text{ b}$ and $\sigma_{\text{ortho}} = 130 \text{ b}$

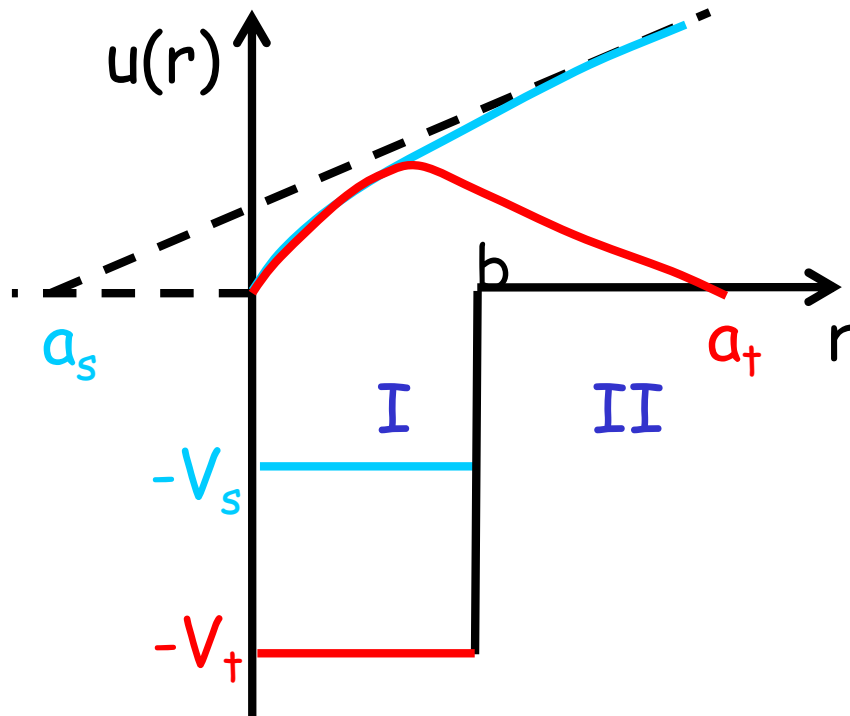
\Rightarrow Nuclear force is spin-dependent

The large difference between the measured values shows that $a_{\text{t}} \neq a_{\text{s}}$ and that a_{t} and a_{s} must have different signs to make σ_{para} small.

$$a_{\text{t}} = 5.4 \text{ fm} \quad \text{and} \quad a_{\text{s}} = -23.7 \text{ fm}$$

\Rightarrow $\begin{matrix} \uparrow & \downarrow \\ \uparrow & \uparrow \end{matrix}$ singlet state is unbound
 $\begin{matrix} \uparrow & \uparrow \end{matrix}$ triplet state is bound

Sketch of the radial wavefunction solution to Schrödinger's equation



$$\begin{array}{lll}
 r < b & u_{\text{I}}(r) = A \sin kr & k = \sqrt{2M(E + V_0)}/\hbar \\
 r > b & u_{\text{II}}(r) = B \sin(k'r + \delta_0) & k' = \sqrt{2M E}/\hbar
 \end{array}$$

a is where $u_{\text{II}}(r)$ crosses r axis for $k' \rightarrow 0$

$$u_{\text{II}}(r) = 0 \quad \text{at} \quad r = -\frac{\delta_0}{k'} = a$$

Convention: $a = -\lim_{k' \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin \delta_0}{k'}$

a negative \rightarrow unbound state
a positive \rightarrow bound state

Charge Dependence

Study charge dependence of nuclear force by comparing p-p and n-n scattering.

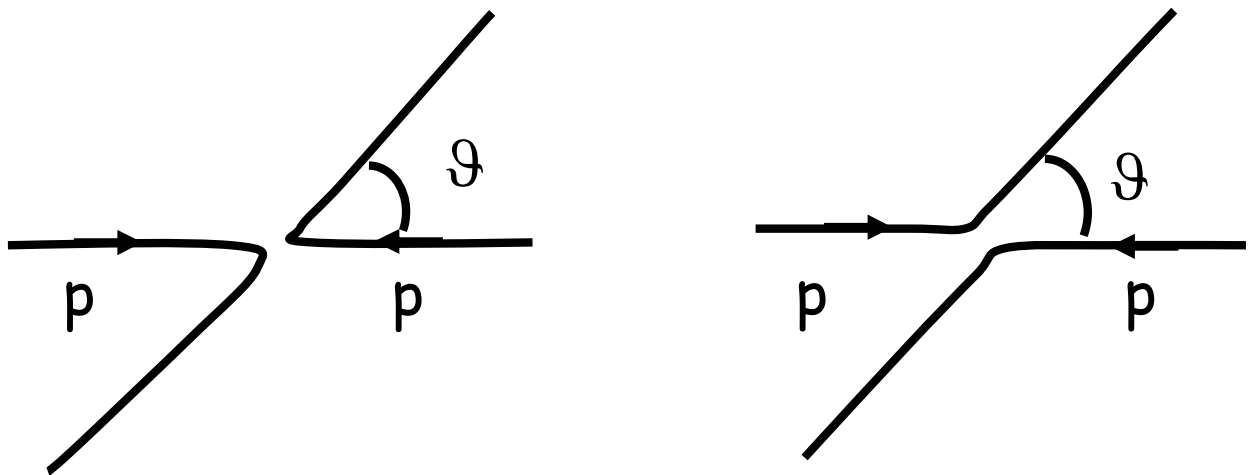
Important difference to n-p scattering:

→ Identical particles

▶ Total wavefunction antisymmetric

∴ $l=0$ (i.e. low energy) scattering only possible in singlet state $\uparrow\downarrow$

▶ Cannot distinguish



Must include interference between 2 possibilities.

p-p scattering

Exclusive study of singlet interaction. However, both Coulomb and nuclear interactions are present.

Theoretical expression for $d\sigma/d\Omega$ for p-p scattering:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left(\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right)^2 \frac{1}{4T^2} \left\{ \frac{1}{\sin^4(\vartheta/2)} \right.$$

Rutherford scattering

$$+ \frac{1}{\cos^4(\vartheta/2)} - \frac{\cos[\eta L \tan^2(\vartheta/2)]}{\sin^2(\vartheta/2) \cos^2(\vartheta/2)}$$

Rutherford classical term

Wave-mechanical interference term

Corrections for two identical particles

Mott Scattering

$$- \frac{2}{\eta} \sin\delta_0 \left(\frac{\cos[\delta_0 + \eta L \sin^2(\vartheta/2)]}{\sin^2(\vartheta/2)} + \frac{\cos[\delta_0 + \eta L \cos^2(\vartheta/2)]}{\cos^2(\vartheta/2)} \right)$$

Wave interference cross-terms between Coulomb and nuclear potential scattering

$$+ \frac{4}{\eta^2} \sin^2 \delta_0 \left. \right\}$$

Pure nuclear potential scattering

T = laboratory K.E.

ϑ = scattering angle in c.m.s system

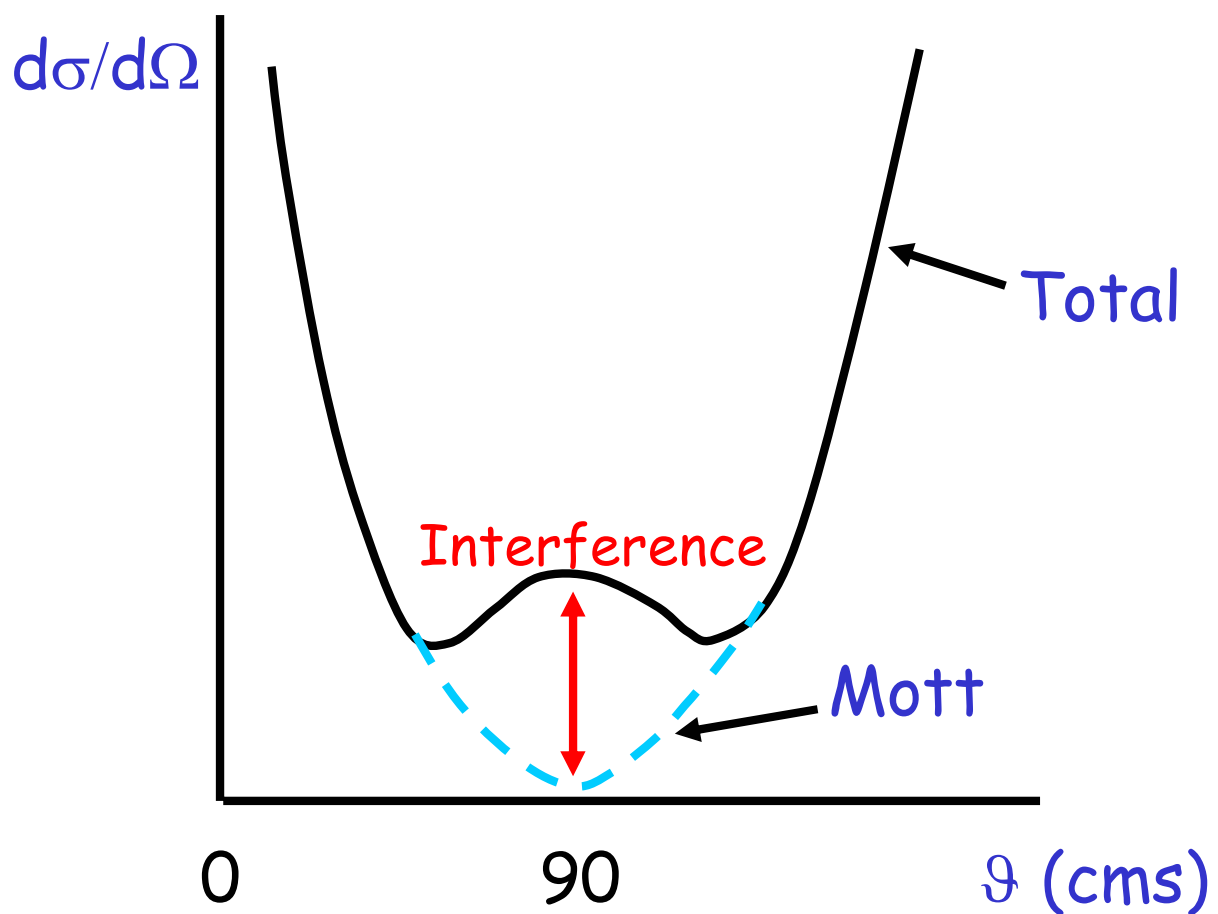
$\eta = (e^2/4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar c)\beta^{-1}$ $\beta = v/c$

$\delta_0 = \ell=0$ phase shift

δ_0 only unknown

From $d\sigma/d\Omega$ find sign and magnitude of δ_0

Interference allows sign determination:



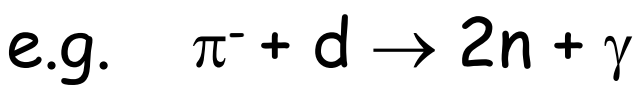
Find a -ve \rightarrow no pp bound states

$$\underline{\sigma_{pp} = 36.7 \pm 0.1 \text{ b}}$$

n-n scattering

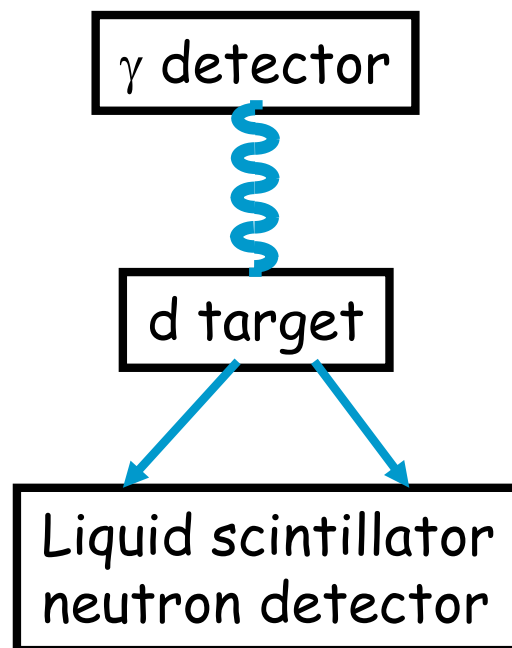
Difficult as no neutron only targets.

Use reactions that create 2 neutrons within nuclear range as separate (comparable to a scattering experiment)



π^- beam
→

- ▶ π stop in target
- ▶ Look for coincidences of 2n and γ



If 2n bound \Rightarrow γ monochromatic,
2 body final state

If no n-n interaction \Rightarrow energy shared
between 3 particles

$$\underline{\sigma_{nn} = 33.8 \pm 1.8 \text{ b}}$$

$$\text{(c.f. } \sigma_{pp} = 36.7 \pm 0.1 \text{ b)}$$

\Rightarrow Nuclear force is charge independent

Spin-Orbit Potential

A momentum dependent force can be represented by a spin-orbit term in the potential

$$\sim V_{\text{so}}(\mathbf{r})\vec{L} \cdot \vec{S}$$

Atomic electrons experience a spin-orbit coupling arising from the interaction of the electrons spin and the internal magnetic field of the atom.

Nucleons experience a spin-orbit coupling arising from the interaction of the nucleon spin and the strong nuclear force.

20x strength and opposite sign
c.f. atomic spin-orbit term

Evidence for a nucleon spin-orbit term from the polarization of scattered nucleons.

Polarized: magnetic substates not equally populated

$$\text{Polarization} = \frac{N(\uparrow) - N(\downarrow)}{N(\uparrow) + N(\downarrow)}$$

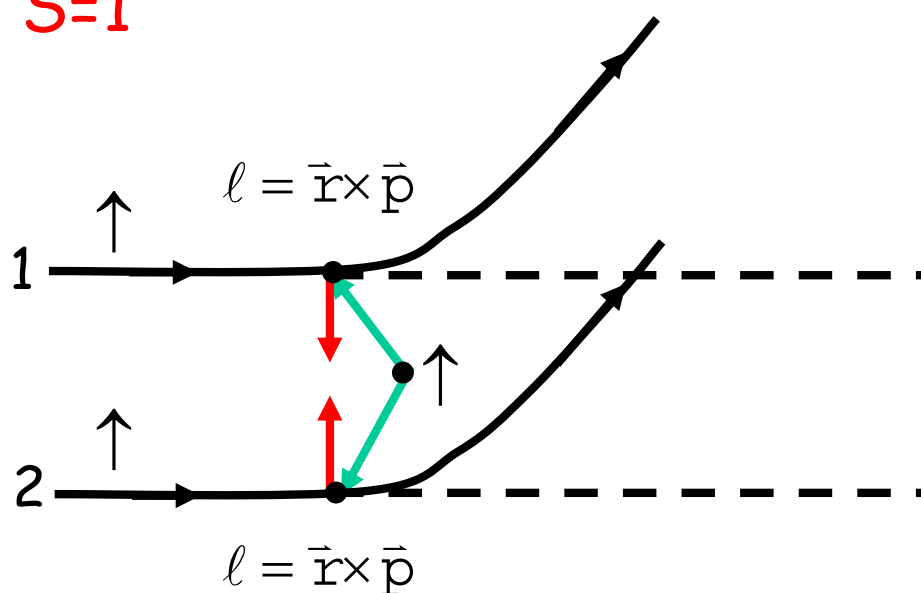
$P = \pm 1$ 100% polarization, $P=0$ unpolarized

Observe polarization of scattered nucleon when beam and target unpolarized.

Assume $V \sim -V_{\infty}(\mathbf{r})\vec{L} \cdot \vec{S}$

3 possibilities:

(i) Beam nucleon spin \uparrow , target nucleon spin \uparrow
Total $S=1$

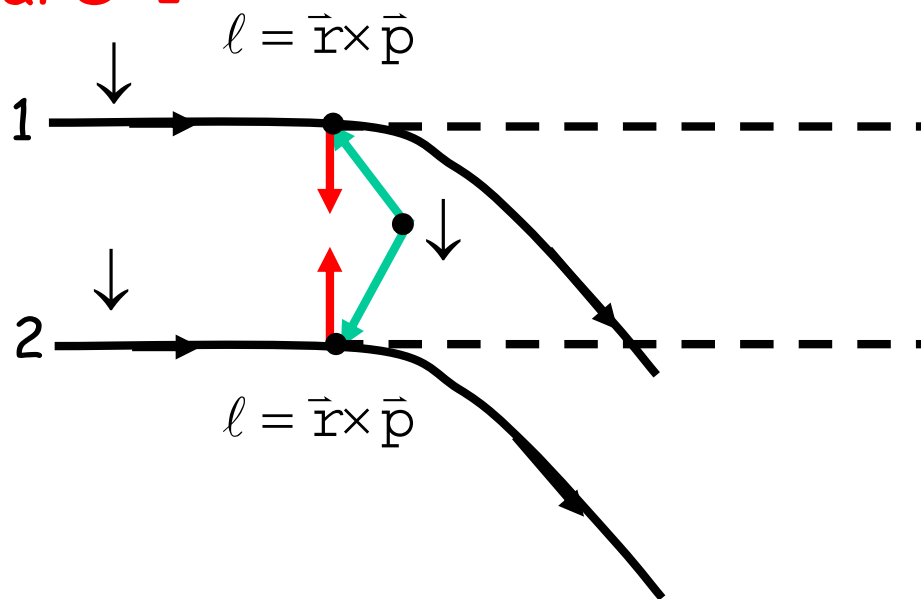


Nucleon 1: $\vec{l} = \vec{r} \times \vec{p}$ into plane $\therefore \vec{l} \cdot \vec{s} -ve$
 $\Rightarrow V$ is **+ve** i.e. repulsive.

Nucleon 2: $\vec{l} = \vec{r} \times \vec{p}$ out of plane $\therefore \vec{l} \cdot \vec{s} +ve$
 $\Rightarrow V$ is **-ve** i.e. attractive.

All spin \uparrow incident on spin \uparrow (target) deflected in same direction due to spin-orbit potential.

(ii) Beam nucleon spin \downarrow , target nucleon spin \downarrow
Total $S=1$



Nucleon 1: $\vec{l} = \vec{r} \times \vec{p}$ into plane $\therefore \vec{\ell} \cdot \vec{s}$ +ve
 $\Rightarrow V$ is -ve i.e. attractive.

Nucleon 2: $\vec{l} = \vec{r} \times \vec{p}$ out of plane $\therefore \vec{\ell} \cdot \vec{s}$ -ve
 $\Rightarrow V$ is +ve i.e. repulsive.

(iii) Beam nucleon spin \downarrow or \uparrow ,
 target nucleon spin \downarrow or \uparrow . **Total $S=0$**
 $\vec{\ell} \cdot \vec{s} = 0 \therefore$ No deflection due to spin orbit

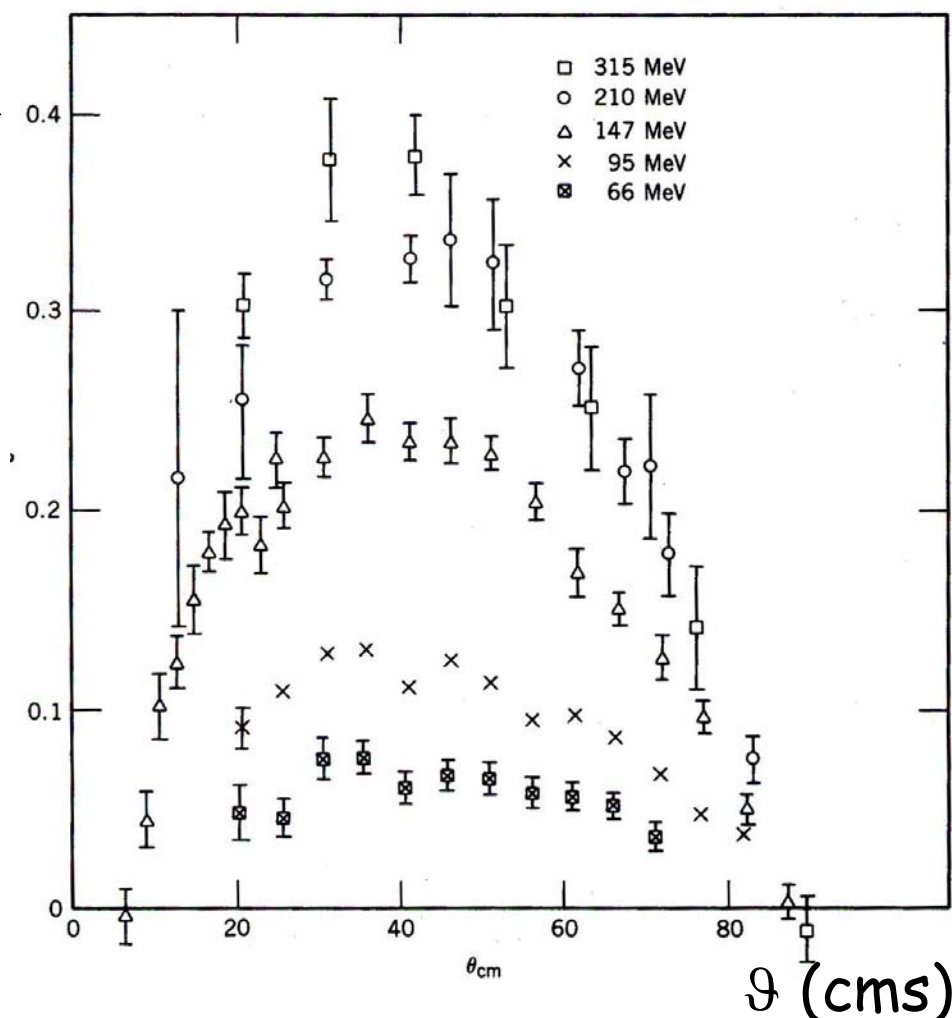
The spin-orbit interaction deflects the spin \uparrow component of the incident beam left and the spin \downarrow component of the incident beam right if total $S=1$.

Any individual nucleon passing through the interior of a nucleus will on average pass an equal number of nucleons with spin \uparrow and spin \downarrow , hence there will be no net spin-orbit interaction.

A net spin-orbit interaction is obtained from those nucleons passing near the surface of the nucleus.

p-p scattering

$$P = \frac{N(\uparrow) - N(\downarrow)}{N(\uparrow) + N(\downarrow)}$$



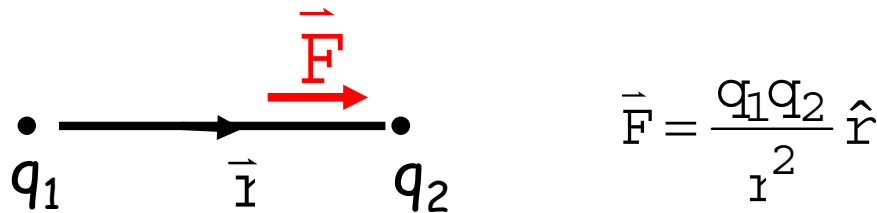
Only see effect when incident beam energy is high enough for $\ell > 0$.

Polarization increases with energy.

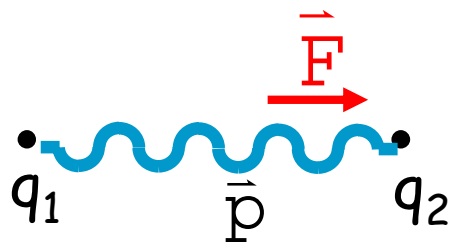
Yukawa Potential

Consider the electromagnetic interaction:

- ▶ Classically: E-M forces arise from action at a distance of the \vec{E} and \vec{B} fields.



- ▶ Quantum mechanically: Forces arise due to exchange of virtual field quanta (second quantization)



The field strength at any point is uncertain

$$\Delta p \Delta r \sim \hbar \quad \Delta t = \Delta r / c$$

Number of quanta emitted and absorbed $\sim q_1 q_2$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{F} = \frac{dp}{dt} = \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} \hat{r}$$

Massless particle e.g. photon, force has infinite range.

Nucleons start to experience the strong interaction at a distance of $\sim 2\text{fm}$.

$$\Delta E \Delta t \sim \hbar \quad E = mc^2$$

$$\Rightarrow mc^2 \sim \frac{\hbar}{\Delta t} \sim \frac{\hbar c}{r}$$

$$\underline{m \sim \frac{\hbar}{rc} = \frac{1}{r}}$$

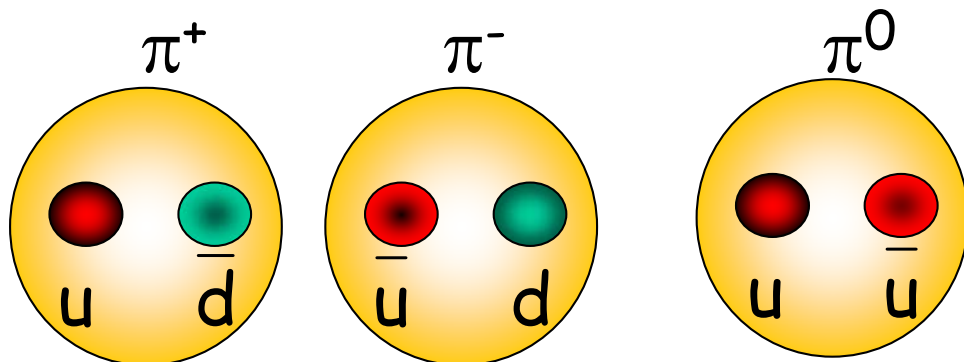
$$\hbar = c = 1$$

For $r = 2\text{ fm}$, predict existence of a particle of mass $\approx 100\text{ MeV}/c^2$ (i.e. $m \approx 200\text{ me}$)

\Rightarrow Meson (e.g. pion)

The pion (π) was discovered in cosmic ray photographic plates in 1947.

3 types:



$$\text{mass}(\pi^+) = \text{mass}(\pi^-) = 139.6\text{ MeV}/c^2$$

$$\text{mass}(\pi^0) = 135\text{ MeV}/c^2$$

$$J^P = 0^+$$

Relativistic wave equation:

$$E^2 = p^2 + m^2 \quad c = 1$$

Operator $E \rightarrow i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}$ $p \rightarrow -i\vec{\nabla}$

$$-\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} = -\nabla^2 \psi + m^2 \psi$$

$$\nabla^2 \psi - m^2 \psi - \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} = 0$$

**Klein-Gordon
Equation**

Static solution

$$\psi = -\frac{g^2}{4\pi} \frac{e^{-m r}}{r}$$

Assume the pion wavefunction can be represented equivalently by a potential in the vicinity of the nucleon:

$$V(r) = -\frac{g^2}{4\pi} \frac{e^{-m r}}{r}$$

**Yukawa
Potential**

g = coupling constant
(dimensionless)

Note: $m \rightarrow 0, V(r) \rightarrow 1/r$

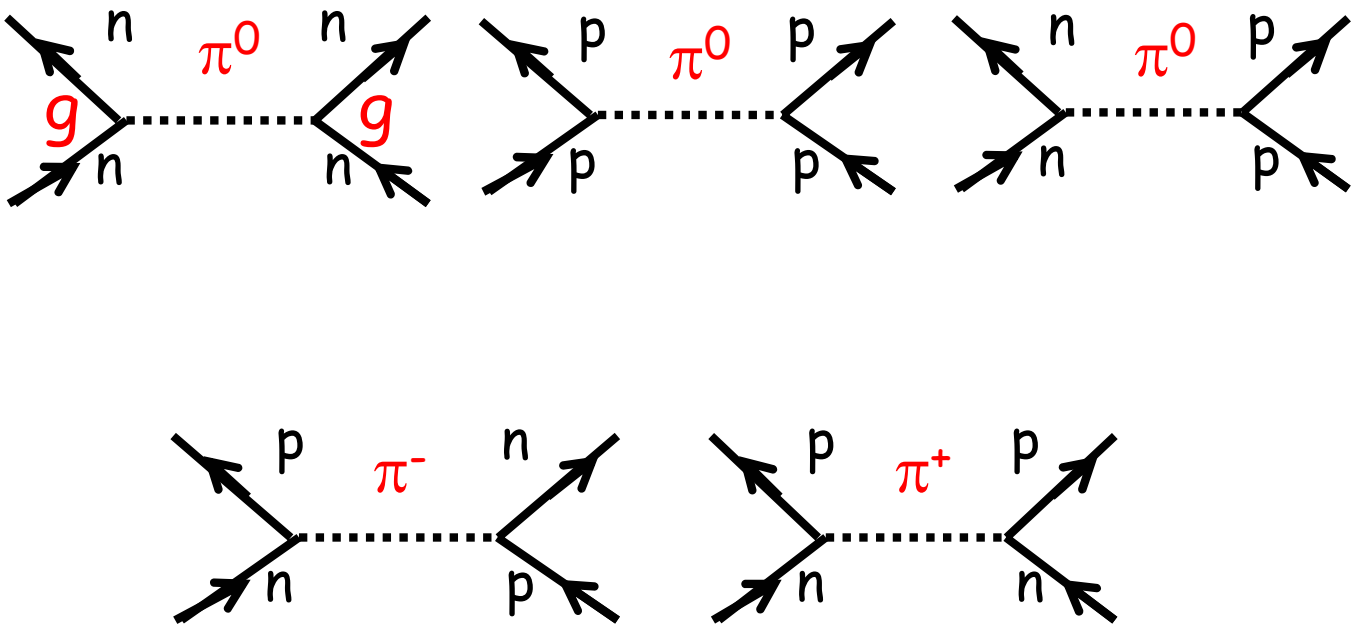
$$\alpha_s = \frac{g^2}{4\pi} \sim O(1)$$

**Strong coupling
constant**

$$\text{c.f. } \alpha = \frac{e^2}{4\pi} \approx \frac{1}{137}$$

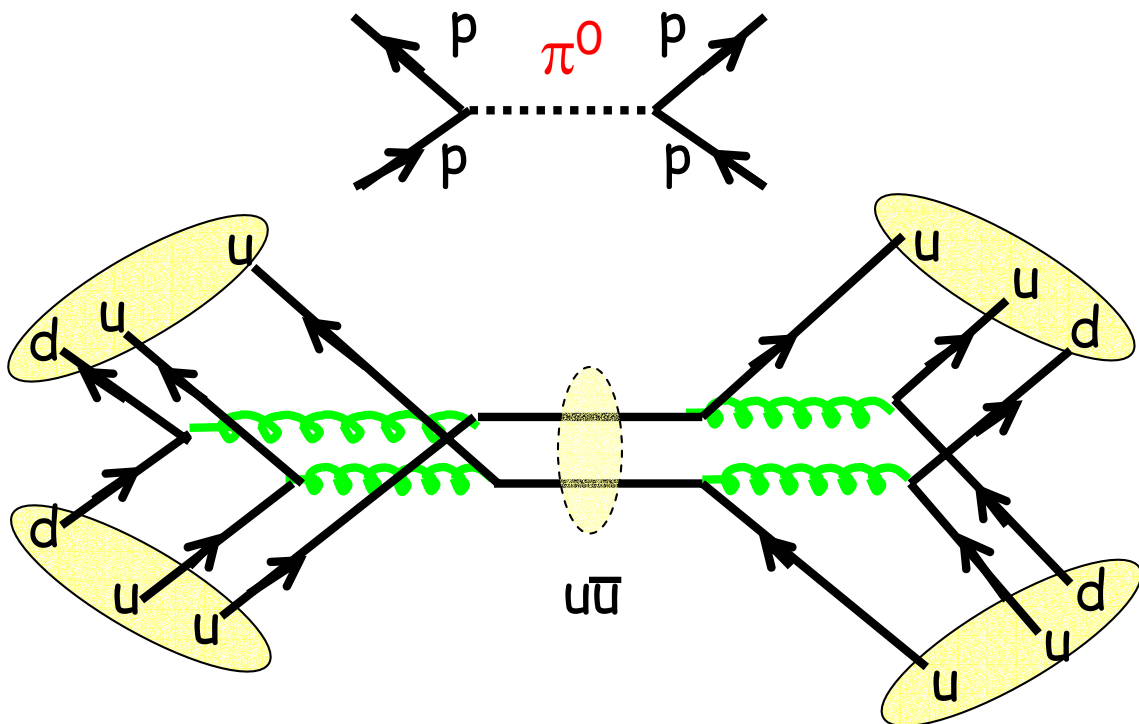
**Fine structure
constant (EM)**

Yukawa interaction between 2 nucleons:



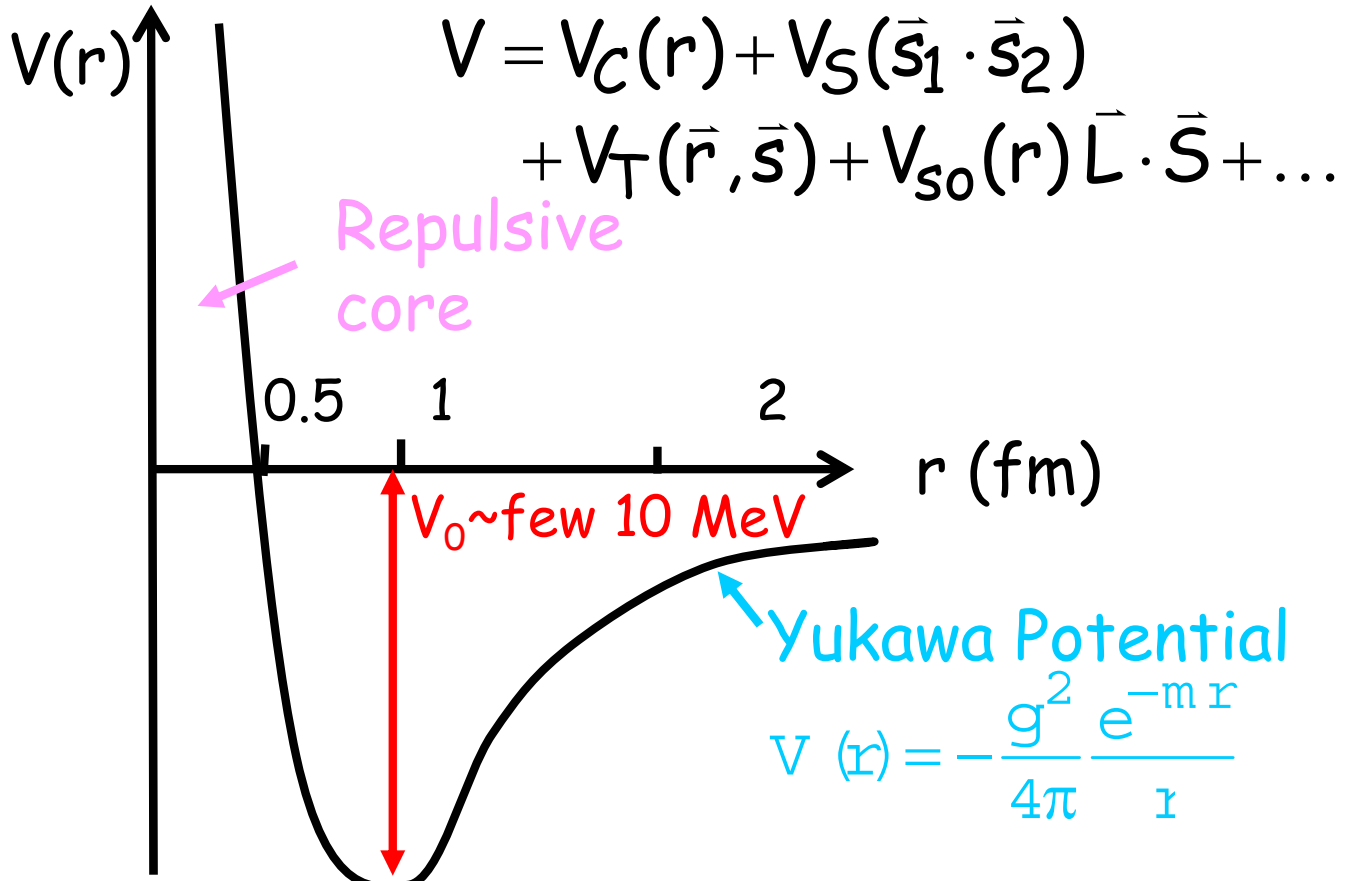
Quark model:

(see Particles course)



Summary

Nucleon-Nucleon Potential



The nucleon force is

- ▶ strong, (existence of nuclei, nucleon scattering, strength $\alpha_s \sim O(1)$)
- ▶ short range, (nuclei size \rightarrow range ~ 2 fm)
- ▶ attractive, (existence of nuclei)
- ▶ has a repulsive core, (nucleon scattering $r < 0.5$ fm)
- ▶ saturates, ($B/A \sim \text{constant}$)
- ▶ charge independent, (mirror nuclei, pp vs nn vs np scattering)
- ▶ spin dependent, (deuteron $J=1$, np and nH_2 scattering)
- ▶ spin-orbit interaction (polarization in nucleon scattering at high E)
- ▶ non-central terms (deuteron Q)