

## Exercise 256: scattering over a step

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for given potential:

$$V(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < 0 \\ V_0 & \text{for } x > 0 \end{cases}$$

There is a particle with  $E > V_0$ , left of the potential.

- a. find the transmission and reflection coefficient.
- b. find the S matrix.

solution:

The stationary solution, of Schrödinger equation are :

$$\Psi_L(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{v_1}} (A_L e^{iK_1 x} - B_L e^{-iK_1 x}) \quad K_1^2 = \frac{2mE}{\hbar^2} \quad v_1 = \frac{\hbar K_1}{m}$$

$$\Psi_R(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{v_2}} (A_R e^{-iK_2 x} - B_R e^{iK_2 x}) \quad K_2^2 = \frac{2m(E - V_0)}{\hbar^2} \quad v_2 = \frac{\hbar K_2}{m}$$

Note:

In the class, don't write these equations in generally in spherical coordinates, (function of "r").  
In this problem you must be attentive that we do a 1D problem then,  
for left side of the potential  $r \equiv -x$  and for right side of the potential  $r \equiv x$ .

The matching condition at  $x = 0$ , the continuity of  $\Psi(x)$  and  $\Psi'(x)$   
Yields:

$$I. \quad \Psi_L(0) = \Psi_R(0)$$

$$II. \quad \Psi'_L(0) = \Psi'_R(0)$$

So:

$$1. \quad \frac{A_L}{\sqrt{v_1}} - \frac{B_L}{\sqrt{v_1}} = \frac{A_R}{\sqrt{v_2}} - \frac{B_R}{\sqrt{v_2}}$$

$$2. \quad \frac{K_1 A_L}{\sqrt{v_1}} - \frac{K_1 B_L}{\sqrt{v_1}} = -\frac{K_2 A_R}{\sqrt{v_2}} - \frac{K_2 B_R}{\sqrt{v_2}}$$

we obtain:

$$1. \quad B_R = \frac{K_1 - K_2}{K_1 + K_2} A_R - \frac{2\sqrt{K_1 K_2}}{K_1 + K_2} A_L$$

$$2. \quad B_L = \frac{K_2 - K_1}{K_1 + K_2} A_L - \frac{2\sqrt{K_1 K_2}}{K_1 + K_2} A_R$$

a. consider incident particle from  $x = -\infty \longleftrightarrow A_R = 0$

then:

$$B_R = -\frac{2\sqrt{K_1 K_2}}{K_1 + K_2} A_L$$

$$B_L = B_L = \frac{K_2 - K_1}{K_1 + K_2} A_L$$

The transmission coefficient is:

$$T = \left| \frac{B_R}{A_L} \right|^2 = \frac{4K_1 K_2}{(K_1 + K_2)^2}$$

the reflectin coefficient is :

$$R = \left| \frac{B_L}{A_L} \right|^2 = \left( \frac{K_2 - K_1}{K_1 + K_2} \right)^2 = 1 - \frac{4K_1 K_2}{(K_1 + K_2)^2}$$

we can see that  $T + R = 1$

b. The S matrix.

$$\begin{pmatrix} B_R \\ B_L \end{pmatrix} = S \begin{pmatrix} A_R \\ A_L \end{pmatrix} \longleftrightarrow S_{matrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{K_1 - K_2}{K_1 + K_2} & -\frac{2\sqrt{K_1 K_2}}{K_1 + K_2} \\ -\frac{2\sqrt{K_1 K_2}}{K_1 + K_2} & \frac{K_2 - K_1}{K_1 + K_2} \end{pmatrix}$$