

Dispersion approach to the calculation of three-particle bound states and contributions of three-particle unitarity

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The following are demonstrated: 1) the equivalence of the single-channel N/D method to the pole approximation in the Amado model, and 2) the need for taking into account three-particle, s -channel unitarity in the calculation (within the framework of the dispersion method) of the ground and excited states of a three-particle system.

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A dispersion method based on the use of the analytic properties of the scattering amplitude has been widely discussed in the theory of systems with few nucleons.^[1-5] Recent investigations have demonstrated the possibility of using this approach for systems containing antibaryons.^[6] However, in practical solutions of the N/D equations, it is customary to use a number of approximations whose accuracy remains uncertain to this day. In particular, the following questions arise: what is the practical conversion of the method, i.e., how many Born diagrams it is necessary to use to reconstruct the total amplitude with the aid of the N/D equations? 2) What role is played in this case by the multiparticle unitarity condition? In the present article we answer both questions by comparing the predictions of the dispersion method for bound states in a system of three particles with the results of an exactly solvable three-particle model.

Consider a system of three identical particles with mass m , which interact via a separable potential with a form factor $\Gamma(p) = (p^2 + \beta^2)^{-1}$ (Amado model).^[7] This system is characterized by two parameters: the binding energy $\epsilon = \alpha^2/m$ of the two-particle subsystem and the interaction radius $r_0 = 1/\beta$. It is known that if the pairing potential is strong enough to bind each pair of particles, then the system of three identical bosons has two bound states with $J^P = 0^+$, namely a deep ground state (E_1) and a weakly bound excited state (E_2). Table I gives the value of E_1 and E_2 in cases when ϵ and β correspond to triplet NN interactions^[7] and to low-energy α - α scattering.^[8] We consider below these two cases, in the first of which $\alpha r_0 \ll 1$ ($\xi = \beta/\alpha = 6.26$), and in the second $\alpha r_0 \sim 1$ ($\xi = 1.45$), so that the relative positions of the dynamics singularities of the three-particle amplitudes are substantially different.

TABLE I. Comparison of results obtained by solving the N/D equations with two-particle unitarity with the results of the exact solution of the Amado model. The bound-state energies (in MeV) reckoned from the threshold of the three-particle breakup.

	E_b	N/D equations		Amado model	
		$B^{(1)}$	$B^{(1)} + B_{\text{bare}}^{(2)}$	Pole approximation	Exact solution
$3N$ system	E_1	2.7	4.3	4.6	25.5
	$\zeta = 6.26$	E_2	—	—	2.38
3α system	E_1	3.3	4.4	5.9	13.0
	$\zeta = 1.45$	E_2	—	—	3.07

We consider the s -wave amplitude of the scattering of a particle by a bound state of two particles $f(E)$, where E is the kinetic energy in the c.m.s.³ Neglecting the contribution of the two-particle unitarity and linearizing the two-particle unitarity condition with the aid of the substitution $\tilde{f} = \tilde{n}/D$, we obtain for $D(x)$ the integral equation:

$$D(x) = 1 + \frac{2x}{\pi} \int_{\tilde{\alpha}}^{\infty} \frac{\tilde{\xi}(x')D(x')}{x+x'} dx',$$

where $\tilde{\xi}(x)$ is the dynamic jump of the Born amplitude; this amplitude is usually approximated by the first few terms of the multiple-scattering series: $\tilde{f} = \tilde{B}^{(1)} + \tilde{B}^{(2)} + \dots$.

The pole amplitude $\tilde{B}^{(1)}$ has two logarithmic cuts, which overlap at $\zeta < 3$ and can partially cancel each other. The explicit expression for the jumps in our model is⁴:

$$\tilde{\xi}^{(1)}(x) = -\frac{4\pi\gamma}{\sqrt{3}} \left\{ \frac{1}{x^2} (\theta_1 - \theta_2) + (1 - \zeta^{-2}) \left[\delta(x^2 - 3\zeta^2) - \delta\left(x^2 - \frac{\zeta^2}{3}\right) \right] \right\},$$

where

$$\gamma = \frac{\zeta(1+\zeta)^3}{(\zeta^2-1)^2}, \quad \theta_1 = \theta\left(x^2 - \frac{1}{3}\right) \theta(3-x^2), \quad \theta_2 = \theta\left(x^2 - \frac{\zeta^2}{3}\right) \theta(3\zeta^2 - x^2).$$

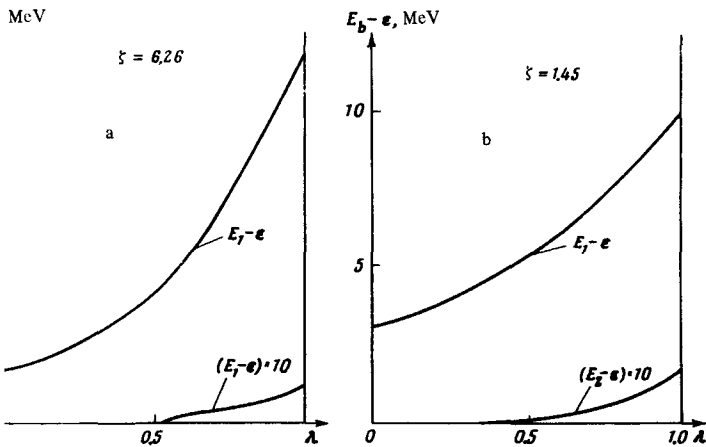
The triangular amplitude $\tilde{B}^{(2)}$ has an anomalous cut that begins at the point $x_a = \sqrt{3}$, a number of potential cuts that begin at the points x_p , which are arranged at $\zeta = 6.26$ in the following sequence:

$$x_p = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \zeta, \quad \frac{\sqrt{3}}{5} (1 + 2\zeta), \quad \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} (1 + \zeta), \quad \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{5} \zeta, \quad \frac{2\zeta + 1}{\sqrt{3}}, \quad \zeta \sqrt{3}.$$

The explicit form of the jumps of $\tilde{B}^{(2)}$ is quite complicated and will be presented elsewhere; here we confine ourselves to the limiting expression for $\tilde{\xi}^{(2)}$ at $\zeta \rightarrow \infty$:

$$\tilde{\xi}^{(2)}(x) = -\frac{64\pi}{3} \frac{1}{x^3} \ln \frac{3x - \sqrt{3}}{x + \sqrt{3}} \theta(x - \sqrt{3}).$$

The relative positions of the anomalous and potential cuts depend on the value of the parameter ζ ; in particular, at $\zeta < 2$ the closest to the physical region is one of the potential



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As to the singularities of the more complicated diagrams, firstly, in our case of particles with 1 masses diagrams with two and more rescatterings have no anomalous singularities^[10] that nd only on ϵ . Thus, as $r_0 \rightarrow 0$ the singularities of the pole and triangular diagrams account for ie left-hand singularities of the amplitude. On the other hand, the potential singularities can r go off to infinity or have condensation points^[4] with increasing number of rescatterings.

We can now ascertain the contribution of the higher Born diagrams by comparing the ctions of the N/D equations in the form (1) with allowance for the left-hand singularities of the amplitudes $\tilde{B}^{(1)}$ and $\tilde{B}^{(2)}$, on the one hand, with the exact solution of the Amado model in ole approximation, on the other. In this approximation the amplitude f has (in accordance the terminology of^[3]) a two-particle unitary jump Δ , and a "crossing" three-particle unitary Δ_{3n} , but does not contain a "direct" three-particle cut. The results are given in Table I. From olution of the N/D equations with a triangular diagram containing a bare propagator, we ned a binding energy 4.3 MeV, while the exact answer is 4.6 MeV; thus, the contribution of iscarded diagrams is $\sim 10\%$. This result is very important from the point of view of the rson method as a whole. It shows that at $\alpha r_0 \ll 1$ the pole and triangle diagrams account with accuracy for the entire dynamic input amplitude. In the region $\alpha r_0 \sim 1$, the influence of the rded terms is more significant and amounts to $\sim 25\%$, but here, too, one can speak of nable qualitative agreement with the exact solution.

We examine now the contribution of the three-particle unitarity. We note first that in the pole ximation the Amado model yields one shallow level, while the exact solution contains two i. The question is therefore whether the shallow level corresponds to an excited state of the -particle system or is a very weakly bound ground state. This question can be answered by ducing the parameter $\lambda (0 \leq \lambda \leq 1)$, which determines the contribution of the direct three- le intermediate states, and by tracing the trajectory of the shallow level with changing λ . This veniently done technically by replacing

$$r(y) = \left\{ 1 - \frac{(1 + \zeta)^2}{(\zeta + \sqrt{1 - y})^2} \right\}^{-1} \tag{4}$$

in the Faddeev equation by

$$\tau(y, \lambda) = \frac{1 + \zeta}{y} + \lambda \left\{ 1 + \frac{\zeta(1 + \zeta)}{1 + \sqrt{1 - y}} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + 2\zeta + \sqrt{1 - y}} \right\}$$

and considering the behavior of the Faddeev solutions as a function of λ . Our calculations show that with changing λ the shallow levels deepens continuously ($dE_1/d\lambda < 0$), and becomes ground level at $\lambda = 1$, while the excited level first manifests itself at a certain $\lambda > 0$. Fig. 1 shows behaviors of $J^P = 0^+$ levels in $3N$ and 3α systems as a function of λ . The excited level first appears at $\lambda = 0.6$ in the case of the $3N$ system and $\lambda = 0.4$ in the case of 3α system. Thus, in the calculation of the bound states of three-particle systems, allowance for multiparticle unitarity is essential.⁵⁾ It applies equally well to four-particle bound states.^[11] We indicate also that multiparticle unitarity is essential for the explanation (within the framework of the N/D method) of the two principal qualitative effects in systems with few nucleons. It is well known that the kernel of the Faddeev equation diverges in the two limiting cases $r_0 \rightarrow 0$ and $\alpha \rightarrow 0$, which leads to the Thomas theorem and to the Efimov effect.^[12] Yet it is easily seen that the N/D equations with two-particle unitarity remain of the Fredholm type in these limiting cases. Therefore the divergence of the solutions of the N/D equations as $r_0 \rightarrow 0$ and $\alpha \rightarrow 0$ can be due only to inclusion of three-particle unitarity.

We note in conclusion that physical situations are possible in which the contribution of three-particle unitarity is inessential. An example of such a situation is the quartet $n-d$ scattering when by virtue of the Pauli principle all three particles cannot be simultaneously at short distance from one another. In this case even the simplest approximation in the single-channel N/D method yields satisfactory results.^[1]

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³⁾Following^[1], we use henceforth the dimensionless amplitudes $\tilde{f}(y) = 2\alpha f(y)/\sqrt{3}$ and $\tilde{B}(y) = 2\alpha B(y)/\sqrt{3}$ and the dimensionless variable $y = -x^2 = E/\epsilon$; the first sheet of the energy plane corresponds to values $\text{Re } x > 0$.

⁴⁾We note that $\xi^{(1)}$ has δ -like singularities that cause the function $n(x)$ to have poles at $x = \pm \zeta/\sqrt{3}$ and $\zeta\sqrt{3}$. The poles on the second sheet of the energy plane, $x = -\zeta/\sqrt{3}$ and $-\zeta\sqrt{3}$, cancelled by the corresponding poles of the function $D(x)$,^[9] so that the total amplitude has poles on the first sheet at $x = \zeta/\sqrt{3}$ and $\zeta\sqrt{3}$.

⁵⁾The phenomenological contribution of the three-particle intermediate states can be taken into account in single-channel N/D equations by introducing CDD poles.^[5]

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