

Two interacting particles have Hamiltonian $H = H_0 + H'$, where:

$$H_0 = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} (\nabla_1^2 + \nabla_2^2) + V(\vec{r}_1) + V(\vec{r}_2)$$

$$V(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{2}k|\vec{r}|^2$$

$$H' = \epsilon(x_1x_2 + y_1y_2 - 2z_1z_2)$$

Let us define ω such that $k = m\omega^2$. The second order energy correction for a non-degenerate state is given by:

$$E_n(\epsilon) = E_n^0 + \langle \varphi_n | H' | \varphi_n \rangle + \sum_{p \neq n} \sum_i \frac{|\langle \varphi_p^i | H' | \varphi_n \rangle|^2}{E_n^0 - E_p^0}$$

We also know that:

$$\hat{x} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}} (a + a^\dagger)$$

We can define the eigenstates of the hamiltonian H_0 as $|n_{x1}, n_{y1}, n_{z1}, n_{x2}, n_{y2}, n_{z2}\rangle$. The creation and annihilation operators act like:

Failed to parse (syntax error): $a|\varphi_n\rangle = \sqrt{n}|\varphi_{n-1}\rangle$ and $a^\dagger|\varphi_n\rangle = \sqrt{n+1}|\varphi_{n+1}\rangle$

We find that since the operators x_1 and x_2 commute (and similarly for the y's and z's) and change the ket by one, the second term (first order correction) is zero. For the second order term, since we are in the ground state, we find nonzero contributions:

$$\langle 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0 | x_1x_2 | 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 \rangle = \frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}$$

$$\langle 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0 | y_1y_2 | 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 \rangle = \frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}$$

$$\langle 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1 | -2z_1z_2 | 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 \rangle = -2\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}$$

We get the energy of the excited states to be $E_p = \left(\sum_i n_i + \frac{3}{2}\right)\hbar\omega$. The ground state is obviously then at

$E_n = \frac{3}{2}\hbar\omega$. Inserting these into our equation for the energy shift, we get:

$$E_n(\epsilon) = E_n^0 + \frac{\left|\epsilon\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}\right|^2}{-2\hbar\omega} + \frac{\left|\epsilon\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}\right|^2}{-2\hbar\omega} + \frac{\left|-2\epsilon\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}\right|^2}{-2\hbar\omega} = \frac{3}{2}\hbar\omega - 3\frac{\epsilon^2\hbar}{4m^2\omega^3}$$