



▶ **Definition:** $(\nabla^2 + k^2) G_k(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') = \delta^3(\vec{r} - \vec{r}')$

▶ **Fourier transform:** $G_k(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') \equiv G_k(\vec{r} - \vec{r}') = \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\vec{q}\cdot(\vec{r}-\vec{r}')} \tilde{G}_k(\vec{q})$

▶ **Representation of the δ -Funktion:** $\delta^3(\vec{r} - \vec{r}') = \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\vec{q}\cdot(\vec{r}-\vec{r}')}$

$$\Rightarrow (\nabla^2 + k^2) G_k(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') = \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\vec{q}\cdot(\vec{r}-\vec{r}')} (\vec{k}^2 - \vec{q}^2) \tilde{G}_k(\vec{q}) \stackrel{!}{=} \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\vec{q}\cdot(\vec{r}-\vec{r}')}$$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{G}_k(\vec{q}) = \frac{1}{\vec{k}^2 - \vec{q}^2} \quad (\text{Here we wrote } \vec{k}^2 \text{ for } k^2 \text{ because eventually } \vec{k} \text{ will be identified with the wave vector of the incoming wave.})$$

$\tilde{G}_k(\vec{q})$ diverges at $\vec{q}^2 = \vec{k}^2$

→ introduce an infinitesimal imaginary term to circumvent the pole:

$$\tilde{G}_k^{(\pm)}(\vec{q}) = \frac{1}{\vec{k}^2 - \vec{q}^2 \pm i\epsilon}$$



- ▶ explicit evaluation of the Fourier integral (→ exercises):

$$G_k^{(\pm)}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{e^{\pm ik|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|}}{|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|}$$

- ▶ asymptotic behavior (→ exercises):

$$G_k^{(\pm)}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') \xrightarrow{r \gg r'} -\frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{e^{\pm ikr}}{r} e^{\mp i\vec{k}' \cdot \vec{r}'}, \quad \vec{k}' \equiv k \frac{\vec{r}}{r}$$

- ▶ $G_k^{(+)}$: outgoing spherical wave → correct asymptotics
- ▶ $G_k^{(-)}$: incoming spherical wave → wrong asymptotics

$$\psi_{\vec{k}}(\vec{r}) = e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} + \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} \int d^3r' G_k^{(+)}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') V(\vec{r}') \psi_{\vec{k}}(\vec{r}')$$



$$\begin{aligned} \blacktriangleright \psi_{\vec{k}}(\vec{r}) &= e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}} + \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} \int d^3r' G_k^{(+)}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') V(\vec{r}') \psi_{\vec{k}}(\vec{r}') \\ &\xrightarrow{r \gg r'} e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}} - \frac{\mu}{2\pi\hbar^2} \frac{e^{ikr}}{r} \int d^3r' e^{-i\vec{k}'\cdot\vec{r}'} V(\vec{r}') \psi_{\vec{k}}(\vec{r}') \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{f(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) = -\frac{\mu}{2\pi\hbar^2} \int d^3r' e^{-i\vec{k}'\cdot\vec{r}'} V(\vec{r}') \psi_{\vec{k}}(\vec{r}')}$$

2.4 The Born series

► So far:

Schrödinger equation not yet solved,
we just transformed an **differential equation** into an **integral equation**:

$$\psi_{\vec{k}}(\vec{r}) = e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}} + \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} \int d^3r' G_k^{(+)}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') V(\vec{r}') \psi_{\vec{k}}(\vec{r}')$$

► Advantages:

- boundary conditions already incorporated
- starting point for numerical or approximative solutions:
For weak potentials the integral is only a small correction to the incoming wave.
→ **iterative solution**

► Define $U(\vec{r}) = \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} V(\vec{r})$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Rightarrow \psi_{\vec{k}}(\vec{r}) &= e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}} + \int d^3r' G_k^{(+)}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') U(\vec{r}') \psi_{\vec{k}}(\vec{r}') \\
 &= e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}} + \int d^3r' G_k^{(+)}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') U(\vec{r}') \left[e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}'} \right. \\
 &\qquad\qquad\qquad \left. + \int d^3r'' G_k^{(+)}(\vec{r}', \vec{r}'') U(\vec{r}'') \psi_{\vec{k}}(\vec{r}'') \right] \\
 &= e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}} \\
 &\quad + \int d^3r' G_k^{(+)}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') U(\vec{r}') e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}'} \\
 &\quad + \int d^3r' \int d^3r'' G_k^{(+)}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') U(\vec{r}') G_k^{(+)}(\vec{r}', \vec{r}'') U(\vec{r}'') e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}''} \\
 &\quad + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$



→ Born series:

$$\psi_{\vec{k}}(\vec{r}) = e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}} + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int d^3 r' K_k^{(j)}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}'}$$

with

$$K_k^{(1)}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') = G_k^{(+)}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') U(\vec{r}')$$

$$K_k^{(j+1)}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') = \int d^3 r'' G_k^{(+)}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}'') U(\vec{r}'') K_k^{(j)}(\vec{r}'', \vec{r}')$$



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▶ Scattering amplitude: $f(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^3 r' e^{-i\vec{k}'\cdot\vec{r}'} U(\vec{r}') \psi_{\vec{k}}(\vec{r}')$



→ Born series:

$$\psi_{\vec{k}}(\vec{r}) = e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}} + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int d^3 r' K_k^{(j)}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}'}$$

with

$$K_k^{(1)}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') = G_k^{(+)}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') U(\vec{r}')$$

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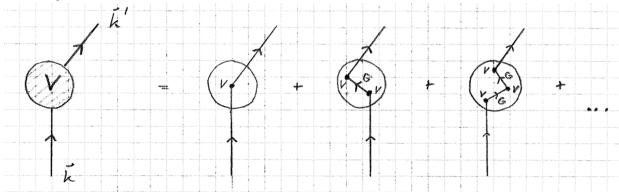
▶ **Scattering amplitude:** $f(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^3 r' e^{-i\vec{k}'\cdot\vec{r}'} U(\vec{r}') \psi_{\vec{k}}(\vec{r}')$

$$\Rightarrow f(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \left\{ \int d^3 r' e^{-i\vec{k}'\cdot\vec{r}'} U(\vec{r}') e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}'} \right. \\ \left. + \int d^3 r' \int d^3 r'' e^{-i\vec{k}'\cdot\vec{r}'} U(\vec{r}') G_k^{(+)}(\vec{r}', \vec{r}'') U(\vec{r}'') e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}''} \right. \\ \left. + \dots \right\}$$

► Born series for the scattering amplitude:

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) = & -\frac{1}{4\pi} \left\{ \int d^3r' e^{-i\vec{k}' \cdot \vec{r}'} U(\vec{r}') e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}'} \right. \\
 & + \int d^3r' \int d^3r'' e^{-i\vec{k}' \cdot \vec{r}'} U(\vec{r}') G_k^{(+)}(\vec{r}', \vec{r}'') U(\vec{r}'') e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}'} \\
 & + \dots \left. \right\} = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} f^{(j)}(\vec{k}', \vec{k})
 \end{aligned}$$

► Interpretation:



single scattering + double scat. + triple scat. + ...

(First-order) Born approximation



- ▶ Only consider the first term:

$$f(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) \approx f^{(1)}(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^3r' e^{-i\vec{k}' \cdot \vec{r}'} U(\vec{r}') e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}'}$$

(First-order) Born approximation

- ▶ Only consider the first term:

$$\begin{aligned} f(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) &\approx f^{(1)}(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^3r' e^{-i\vec{k}' \cdot \vec{r}'} U(\vec{r}') e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}'} \\ &= -\frac{\mu}{2\pi\hbar^2} \int d^3r' e^{-i(\vec{k}' - \vec{k}) \cdot \vec{r}'} V(\vec{r}') \end{aligned}$$

(First-order) Born approximation

- Only consider the first term:

$$\begin{aligned} f(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) &\approx f^{(1)}(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^3r' e^{-i\vec{k}' \cdot \vec{r}'} U(\vec{r}') e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}'} \\ &= -\frac{\mu}{2\pi\hbar^2} \int d^3r' e^{-i(\vec{k}' - \vec{k}) \cdot \vec{r}'} V(\vec{r}') \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f^{(1)}(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) &= -\frac{\mu}{2\pi\hbar^2} \tilde{V}(\vec{q}) \\ \Rightarrow \tilde{V}(\vec{q}) &= \int d^3r' e^{-i\vec{q} \cdot \vec{r}'} V(\vec{r}') && \text{Fourier transform of the Potential} \\ \vec{q} &= \vec{k}' - \vec{k} && \text{„momentum transfer”} \end{aligned}$$

(First-order) Born approximation



- ▶ Only consider the first term:

$$\begin{aligned} f(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) &\approx f^{(1)}(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^3r' e^{-i\vec{k}' \cdot \vec{r}'} U(\vec{r}') e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}'} \\ &= -\frac{\mu}{2\pi\hbar^2} \int d^3r' e^{-i(\vec{k}' - \vec{k}) \cdot \vec{r}'} V(\vec{r}') \end{aligned}$$

$f^{(1)}(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) = -\frac{\mu}{2\pi\hbar^2} \tilde{V}(\vec{q})$	
$\Rightarrow \tilde{V}(\vec{q}) = \int d^3r' e^{-i\vec{q} \cdot \vec{r}'} V(\vec{r}')$	Fourier transform of the Potential
$\vec{q} = \vec{k}' - \vec{k}$	„momentum transfer“

- ▶ central potential: $V(\vec{r}) = V(r) \Rightarrow \tilde{V}(\vec{q}) = \tilde{V}(q)$

(First-order) Born approximation



- ▶ Only consider the first term:

$$\begin{aligned} f(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) &\approx f^{(1)}(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^3r' e^{-i\vec{k}' \cdot \vec{r}'} U(\vec{r}') e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}'} \\ &= -\frac{\mu}{2\pi\hbar^2} \int d^3r' e^{-i(\vec{k}' - \vec{k}) \cdot \vec{r}'} V(\vec{r}') \end{aligned}$$

$f^{(1)}(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) = -\frac{\mu}{2\pi\hbar^2} \tilde{V}(\vec{q})$	
$\Rightarrow \tilde{V}(\vec{q}) = \int d^3r' e^{-i\vec{q} \cdot \vec{r}'} V(\vec{r}')$	Fourier transform of the Potential
$\vec{q} = \vec{k}' - \vec{k}$	„momentum transfer“

- ▶ central potential: $V(\vec{r}) = V(r) \Rightarrow \tilde{V}(\vec{q}) = \tilde{V}(q)$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{q}^2 &= (\vec{k}' - \vec{k})^2 = \vec{k}'^2 + \vec{k}^2 - 2\vec{k}' \cdot \vec{k} \stackrel{k' = k}{=} 2k^2(1 - \cos \theta) = 4k^2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \\ q &= 2k \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \rightarrow f^{(1)}(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) \equiv f_k^{(1)}(\theta) \text{ depends only on } k \text{ and } \theta \\ &\text{(holds for higher orders as well)} \end{aligned}$$

Second-order Born approximation

▶ $f(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) \approx f^{(1)}(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) + f^{(2)}(\vec{k}', \vec{k})$

▶ $f^{(2)}(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \left(\frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2}\right)^2 \int d^3r' \int d^3r'' e^{-i\vec{k}' \cdot \vec{r}'} V(\vec{r}') G_k^{(+)}(\vec{r}', \vec{r}'') V(\vec{r}'') e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}'}$

▶ $G_k^{(+)}(\vec{r}', \vec{r}'') = \int \frac{d^3k''}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\vec{k}'' \cdot (\vec{r}' - \vec{r}'')} \frac{1}{k^2 - k''^2 + i\epsilon}$

$$\Rightarrow f^{(2)}(\vec{k}', \vec{k}) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \left(\frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2}\right)^2 \int \frac{d^3k''}{(2\pi)^3} \left(\int d^3r' e^{-i\vec{k}' \cdot \vec{r}'} V(\vec{r}') e^{i\vec{k}'' \cdot \vec{r}'} \right) \frac{1}{k^2 - k''^2 + i\epsilon} \\ \times \left(\int d^3r'' e^{-i\vec{k}'' \cdot \vec{r}''} V(\vec{r}'') e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}''} \right)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{4\pi} \left(\frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2}\right)^2 \int \frac{d^3k''}{(2\pi)^3} \tilde{V}(\vec{k}' - \vec{k}'') \frac{1}{k^2 - k''^2 + i\epsilon} \tilde{V}(\vec{k}'' - \vec{k})$$

$$= -\frac{\mu}{2\pi\hbar^2} \int \frac{d^3k''}{(2\pi)^3} \tilde{V}(\vec{k}' - \vec{k}'') \frac{1}{E - E'' + i\epsilon} \tilde{V}(\vec{k}'' - \vec{k})$$

with $E = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2\mu}$ und $E'' = \frac{\hbar^2 k''^2}{2\mu}$

