

The Schrödinger equation is given by

$$\begin{cases} H = -\frac{1}{2m}\nabla_1^2 - \frac{1}{2m}\nabla_2^2 + V(|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|) \\ H\Psi = E\Psi \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

For two electrons with total momentum $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 = 0$, $\mathbf{k}_1 = -\mathbf{k}_2 = \mathbf{k}$, the wave function of the relative motion can be decomposed into plane waves as

$$\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = \Psi(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \Psi_{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)}. \quad (2)$$

We also set $\hbar = 1$.

1. With $\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} = \mathbf{k}^2/(2m)$ and using

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2 \\ \mathbf{R} = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{r}_1 + \mathbf{r}_2) \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} H\Psi(\mathbf{r}) &= \left(-\frac{1}{2m}\nabla_1^2 - \frac{1}{2m}\nabla_2^2 + V(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) \right) \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \Psi_{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)} \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \left(\frac{\mathbf{k}^2}{2m} + \frac{\mathbf{k}^2}{2m} + V(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) \right) \Psi_{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)} \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{k}} (2\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} + V(\mathbf{r})) \Psi_{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}} \end{aligned}$$

After a Fourier transform,

$$\begin{aligned} \int d^3\mathbf{r} H\Psi(\mathbf{r}) e^{-i\mathbf{k}'\cdot\mathbf{r}} &= \sum_{\mathbf{k}} 2\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} \Psi_{\mathbf{k}} \underbrace{\int d^3\mathbf{r} e^{i(\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{k}')\cdot\mathbf{r}}}_{=\Omega\delta_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'}} + \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \Psi_{\mathbf{k}} \underbrace{\int d^3\mathbf{r} V(\mathbf{r}) e^{i(\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{k}')\cdot\mathbf{r}}}_{\equiv V_{\mathbf{k}'-\mathbf{k}}} \\ &= \Omega 2\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}'} \Psi_{\mathbf{k}'} + \sum_{\mathbf{k}} V_{\mathbf{k}'-\mathbf{k}} \Psi_{\mathbf{k}} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, for $E\Psi(\mathbf{r})$,

$$\int d^3\mathbf{r} E\Psi(\mathbf{r}) e^{-i\mathbf{k}'\cdot\mathbf{r}} = E \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \Psi_{\mathbf{k}} \underbrace{\int d^3\mathbf{r} e^{i(\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{k}')\cdot\mathbf{r}}}_{=\Omega\delta_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{k}'}} = \Omega E \Psi_{\mathbf{k}'}$$

Thus, the Schrödinger equation in momentum space is given by

$$(E - 2\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}'}) \Psi_{\mathbf{k}'} = \frac{1}{\Omega} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} V_{\mathbf{k}'-\mathbf{k}} \Psi_{\mathbf{k}} \quad (4)$$

2. Let us consider the case $V_{\mathbf{k}'-\mathbf{k}} = -|v|$, then the equation (4) becomes

$$\Psi_{\mathbf{k}'} = -\frac{|v|}{\Omega} \frac{1}{E - 2\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}'}} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \Psi_{\mathbf{k}} \quad (5)$$

Summing over \mathbf{k}' on both sides of the equation,

$$\sum_{\mathbf{k}'} \Psi_{\mathbf{k}'} = -\frac{|v|}{\Omega} \sum_{\mathbf{k}'} \frac{1}{E - 2\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}'}} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \Psi_{\mathbf{k}} \quad (6)$$

and thus

$$-\frac{1}{|v|} = \frac{1}{\Omega} \sum_{\mathbf{k}'} \frac{1}{E - 2\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}'}} \quad (7)$$

3. We assume

$$\Psi_{\mathbf{k}} = 0 \quad \text{if } |k| < k_F \quad (8)$$

and

$$V_{\mathbf{k}'-\mathbf{k}} = \begin{cases} -|v| & \text{if } \epsilon_F < \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}}, \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}'} < \epsilon_F + \omega_D \\ 0 & \text{if not} \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

Thus, by defining k_0 by $k_0^2/2m = \epsilon_F + \omega_D = k_F^2/2m + \omega_D$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\Omega} \sum_{\mathbf{k}'} \frac{1}{E - 2\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}'}} &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{k}'}{E - 2\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}'}} = \frac{4\pi m}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{k_F}^{k_0} \frac{k'^2}{mE - k'^2} dk' \\ &= \frac{4\pi m}{(2\pi)^3} \left[-k' + \frac{\sqrt{mE}}{2} \ln \left(\frac{k' + \sqrt{mE}}{k' - \sqrt{mE}} \right) \right]_{k_F}^{k_0} \\ &= \frac{4\pi m}{(2\pi)^3} \left(k_F - k_0 + \frac{\sqrt{mE}}{2} \ln \left(\frac{(k_0 + \sqrt{mE})(k_F - \sqrt{mE})}{(k_0 - \sqrt{mE})(k_F + \sqrt{mE})} \right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

But for $\omega_D \ll \epsilon_F$ we have $k_0 = \sqrt{2m\epsilon_F(1 + \frac{\omega_D}{\epsilon_F})} \simeq k_F + m\omega_D/k_F$.

On the other hand $E = 2\epsilon_F - \epsilon_b$ and with $\epsilon_b \ll \epsilon_F \Rightarrow \sqrt{mE} \simeq k_F - \frac{m\epsilon_b}{2k_F}$. The argument of the log therefore becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(k_0 + \sqrt{mE})(k_F - \sqrt{mE})}{(k_0 - \sqrt{mE})(k_F + \sqrt{mE})} &\simeq \frac{\left(k_F + \frac{m\omega_D}{k_F} + k_F - \frac{m\epsilon_b}{2k_F}\right) \left(k_F - k_F + \frac{m\epsilon_b}{2k_F}\right)}{\left(k_F + \frac{m\omega_D}{k_F} - k_F + \frac{m\epsilon_b}{2k_F}\right) \left(k_F + k_F - \frac{m\epsilon_b}{2k_F}\right)} \\ &= \frac{\left(2k_F + \frac{m\omega_D}{k_F} - \frac{m\epsilon_b}{2k_F}\right) \frac{m\epsilon_b}{2k_F}}{\left(\frac{m\omega_D}{k_F} + \frac{m\epsilon_b}{2k_F}\right) \left(2k_F - \frac{m\epsilon_b}{2k_F}\right)} \\ &= \frac{m\epsilon_b + \frac{m^2\omega_D\epsilon_b}{2k_F^2} - \left(\frac{m\epsilon_b}{2k_F}\right)^2}{2m\omega_D + m\epsilon_b - \frac{m^2\omega_D\epsilon_b}{2k_F^2} - \left(\frac{m\epsilon_b}{2k_F}\right)^2} \\ &\simeq \frac{\epsilon_b}{2\omega_D + \epsilon_b} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\int \frac{d^3\mathbf{k}'}{E - 2\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}'}} \simeq 2\pi m k_F \ln \left(\frac{\epsilon_b}{2\omega_D + \epsilon_b} \right) \quad (10)$$

Eq.(7) then becomes

$$-\frac{1}{|v|} \simeq \frac{mk_F}{(2\pi)^2} \ln\left(\frac{\epsilon_b}{2\omega_D + \epsilon_b}\right) \quad (11)$$

and we get

$$\epsilon_b \simeq 2\omega_D \left(e^{\frac{2}{\rho_F|v|}} - 1\right)^{-1} \quad (12)$$

with $\rho_F = mk_F/(2\pi^2)$ the density of states at the Fermi level.

This calculation could also be done in the following way:

$$\frac{1}{|v|} = \frac{1}{\Omega} \sum_{\mathbf{k}'} \frac{1}{2\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}'} - E} = \int_{\epsilon_F}^{\epsilon_F + \omega_D} d\epsilon \rho(\epsilon) \frac{1}{2\epsilon - E}$$

This integral is restricted to energies close to ϵ_F (at a maximum distance of the order of ω_D) for which $\rho(\epsilon) \simeq \rho_F$, and so

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{|v|} &\simeq \rho_F \int_{\epsilon_F}^{\epsilon_F + \omega_D} d\epsilon \frac{1}{2\epsilon - E} = \frac{1}{2}\rho_F \ln\left(\frac{2(\epsilon_F + \omega_D) - E}{2\epsilon_F - E}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\rho_F \ln\left(1 + \frac{2\omega_D}{\epsilon_b}\right), \end{aligned}$$

which gives exactly the same result.

4. We immediately get the expression in the limit $\rho_F|v| \ll 1$,

$$\epsilon_b \simeq 2\omega_D e^{-\frac{2}{\rho_F|v|}}, \quad (13)$$

and in the limit $\rho_F|v| \gg 1$

$$\epsilon_b \simeq \omega_D \rho_F |v|. \quad (14)$$