

Supersymmetry and the relationship between a class of singular potentials in arbitrary dimensions

This article has been downloaded from IOPscience. Please scroll down to see the full text article.

2001 J. Phys. A: Math. Gen. 34 8271

(<http://iopscience.iop.org/0305-4470/34/40/305>)

View [the table of contents for this issue](#), or go to the [journal homepage](#) for more

Download details:

IP Address: 171.66.16.98

The article was downloaded on 02/06/2010 at 09:19

Please note that [terms and conditions apply](#).

Supersymmetry and the relationship between a class of singular potentials in arbitrary dimensions

B Gönül, O Özer, M Koçak, D Tutcu and Y Çançelik

Department of Engineering Physics, University of Gaziantep, 27310 Gaziantep, Turkey

Received 15 February 2001, in final form 6 July 2001

Published 28 September 2001

Online at stacks.iop.org/JPhysA/34/8271

Abstract

The eigenvalues of the potentials

$$V_1(r) = \frac{A_1}{r} + \frac{A_2}{r^2} + \frac{A_3}{r^3} + \frac{A_4}{r^4} \quad \text{and} \quad V_2(r) = B_1 r^2 + \frac{B_2}{r^2} + \frac{B_3}{r^4} + \frac{B_4}{r^6}$$

and of the special cases of these potentials such as Kratzer and Goldman–Krivchenkov potentials, are obtained in N -dimensional space. The explicit dependence of these potentials in higher-dimensional space is discussed, which has not been previously covered.

PACS numbers: 03.65.Fd, 03.65.Ge, 11.30.Pb

1. Introduction

Singular potentials have attracted much attention in recent years for a variety of reasons, two of them being that: (i) the ordinary perturbation theory fails badly for such potentials, and (ii) in physics, one often encounters phenomenological potentials that are strongly singular at the origin such as certain types of nucleon–nucleon potentials, singular models of fields in zero dimensions, etc. Thus a study of such potentials is of interest, both from a fundamental and applied point of view.

One of the challenging problems in non-relativistic quantum mechanics is to find exact solutions to the Schrödinger equation for potentials that can be used in different fields of physics. Recently, several authors obtained exact solutions for the fourth-order inverse-power potential

$$V_1(r) = \frac{A_1}{r} + \frac{A_2}{r^2} + \frac{A_3}{r^3} + \frac{A_4}{r^4} \quad (1)$$

using analytical methods [1–3]. These methods yield exact solutions for a single state only for a potential of type (1) with restrictions on the coupling constants. The interest is mainly due to the wide applicability of these inverse-power-type potentials. Some areas of interest are ion–atom scattering [4], several interactions between the atoms [5], low-energy physics [6], interatomic interactions in molecular physics [7] and solid-state physics [8].

The advent of supersymmetry has had a significant impact on theoretical physics in a number of distinct disciplines. One subfield that has received much attention is supersymmetric quantum mechanics [9] in which the Hamiltonians of distinct systems are related by a supersymmetry algebra. In this paper, we are concerned with, via supersymmetric quantum mechanics, clarifying the relationship between two distinct systems having an interaction potential of type (1) and interacting through

$$V_2(r) = B_1 r^2 + \frac{B_2}{r^2} + \frac{B_3}{r^4} + \frac{B_4}{r^6} \quad (2)$$

singular even-power potentials which have been widely used in a variety of fields, for example, see [6, 10]. In recent years, the higher-order anharmonic potentials have drawn the attention of physicists and mathematicians in order to partly understand newly discovered phenomena such as structural phase transitions [11], polaron formation in solids [12], the concept of false vacuo in field theory [13], fibre optics [14] and molecular physics [15]. In addition, over 60 years ago Michels *et al* [16] proposed the idea of simulating the effect of pressure on an atom by enclosing it in an impenetrable spherical box. Since that time there have been a large number of publications (for an overview see [17]) dealing with studies on quantum systems enclosed in boxes, which involve an interaction potential that is a special case ($B_2 = 0$) of (2). This field has received added impetus in recent years because of the fabrication of semiconductor quantum dots [18].

The main motivation behind this paper is to reveal the existence of a link between potentials of types (1) and (2) in N -dimensional space, and between their special cases such as a Mie-type potential (or Kratzer) [19] and pseudoharmonic-like (or Goldman–Krivchenkov) potential [20] in higher dimensions, which to our knowledge has never been covered in the literature. On the other hand, with the advent of growth techniques for the realization of semiconductor quantum wells, the quantum mechanics of low-dimensional systems has become a major research field. The work presented in this paper would also be helpful in this respect as the results can readily be extended to lower dimensions.

2. The Schrödinger equation in N -dimensional space

It is well known that the general framework of non-relativistic quantum mechanics is by now well understood and its predictions have been carefully proved against observations. Physics is permanently developing in a tight interplay with mathematics. It is of importance to know therefore whether some familiar problems are a particular case of a more general scheme or to search if a map between the radial equations of two different systems exists. It is hence worthwhile studying the Schrödinger equation in the arbitrary-dimensional spaces which has attracted the attention of many authors. Many efforts have in particular been produced in the literature over several decades to study the stationary Schrödinger equation in various dimensions with a central potential containing negative powers of the radial coordinates ([21] and references therein).

The radial Schrödinger equation for a spherically symmetric potential in N -dimensional space (throughout this paper we shall use natural units so that $\hbar = m = 1$)

$$-\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{d^2 R}{dr^2} + \frac{N-1}{r} \frac{dR}{dr} \right] + \frac{\ell(\ell + N - 2)}{2r^2} R = [E - V(r)]R \quad (3)$$

is transformed to

$$-\frac{d^2 \Psi}{dr^2} + \left[\frac{(M-1)(M-3)}{4r^2} + 2V(r) \right] \Psi = 2E\Psi \quad (4)$$

where Ψ , the reduced radial wavefunction, is defined by

$$\Psi(r) = r^{(N-1)/2} R(r) \quad (5)$$

and

$$M = N + 2\ell. \quad (6)$$

Equation (4) can also be written as

$$-\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 \Psi}{dr^2} + \left[\frac{\Lambda(\Lambda + 1)}{2r^2} + V(r) \right] \Psi = E \Psi \quad (7)$$

where $\Lambda = (M - 3)/2$. We see that the radial Schrödinger equation in N -dimensions has the same form as the three-dimensional one. Consequently, given that the potential has the same form in any dimension, the solution in three dimensions can be used to obtain the solution in any dimension simply by using the substitution $\ell \rightarrow \Lambda$. It should be noted that N and ℓ enter into expressions (4) and (7) in the form of the combinations $N + 2\ell$. Hence, the solutions for a particular central potential $V(r)$ are the same as long as $M (= N + 2\ell)$ remains unaltered. Therefore the s -wave eigensolutions ($\Psi_{\ell=0}$) and eigenvalues in four-dimensional space are identical to the p -wave solutions ($\Psi_{\ell=1}$) in two dimensions.

The technique of changing the independent coordinate has always been a useful tool in the solution of the Schrödinger equation. For instance, this allows something of a systematic approach enabling one to recognize the equivalence of superficially unrelated quantum mechanical problems. Many recent papers have addressed this old subject. In the light of these works we proceed by substituting $r = \alpha\rho^2/2$ and $R = F(\rho)/\rho^\lambda$, where λ is an integer, suggested by the known transformations between Coulomb and harmonic-oscillator problems [22] and used to show the relation between the perturbed Coulomb problem and the sextic anharmonic oscillator in arbitrary dimensions [23, 24], we transform (3) to another Schrödinger-like equation in $N' = 2N - 2 - 2\lambda$ dimensional space with angular momentum $L = 2\ell + \lambda$,

$$-\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{d^2 F}{d\rho^2} + \frac{N' - 1}{\rho} \frac{dF}{d\rho} \right] + \frac{L(L + N' - 2)}{2\rho^2} F = [\hat{E} - \hat{V}(\rho)] F \quad (8)$$

where

$$\hat{E} - \hat{V}(\rho) = E\alpha^2\rho^2 - \alpha^2\rho^2 V\left(\frac{\alpha\rho^2}{2}\right) \quad (9)$$

and α is a parameter to be adjusted properly. Note that leaving re-scaling constant α arbitrary for now gives us an additional degree of freedom. When we discuss bound-state eigenvalues later, we can use this to allow the values of the potential coefficients to be completely independent of each other. Thus, by this transformation, in general, the N -dimensional radial wave Schrödinger equation with angular momentum ℓ can be transformed to a $N' = 2N - 2 - 2\lambda$ -dimensional equation with angular momentum $L = 2\ell + \lambda$. If we choose $\alpha^2 = 1/|E|$, with E corresponding the eigenvalue for the inverse power potential of equation (1), then equation (8) corresponds to the Schrödinger equation of an singular even-power potential

$$\hat{V}(\rho) = \rho^2 + \frac{4A_2}{\rho^2} + \frac{8A_3}{\rho^4} |E|^{1/2} + \frac{16A_4}{\rho^6} |E| \quad (10)$$

with eigenvalue

$$\hat{E} = \frac{-2A_1}{|E|^{1/2}}. \quad (11)$$

Thus, the system given by equation (1) in N -dimensional space is reduced to another system defined by equation (2) in $N' = 2N - 2 - 2\lambda$ -dimensional space. In other words, by

changing the independent variable in the radial Schrödinger equation, we have been able to demonstrate a close equivalence between singular potentials of types (1) and (2). Note that when $N = 3$ and $\lambda = 0$ one finds $N' = 4$, and when $\lambda = 1$ we get $N' = 2$. It is also easy to see that $N' + 2L$ does not depend on λ , which leads to the mapping of two distinct problems in three- and four-dimensional space [24].

3. Mappings between two distinct systems

3.1. Quasi-exactly solvable case

Since (4) for the reduced radial wave $\Psi(r)$ in the N -dimensional space has the structure of the one-dimensional Schrödinger equation for a spherically symmetric potential $V(r)$, we may define the supersymmetric partner potentials [9]

$$V_{\pm}(r) = W^2(r) \pm W'(r) \quad (12)$$

which has a zero-energy solution, and the corresponding eigenfunction is given by

$$\Psi_{n=0}(r) \propto \exp \left[\pm \int^r W(r) dr \right]. \quad (13)$$

In constructing these potentials one should be careful about the behaviour of the wavefunction $\Psi(r)$ near $r = 0$ and $r \rightarrow \infty$. It may be mentioned that $\Psi(r)$ behaves like $r^{(M-1)/2}$ near $r = 0$ and it should be normalizable. For the inverse-power potential of (1) we set

$$W(r) = \frac{-a}{r^2} + \frac{c}{r} - b \quad b, c > 0 \quad (14)$$

and identify $V_+(r)$ with the effective potential so that

$$V_+(r) = \left(\frac{2A_4}{r^4} + \frac{2A_3}{r^3} + \frac{2A_2}{r^2} + \frac{2A_1}{r} \right) + \frac{(M-1)(M-3)}{4r^2} - 2E_{n=0} \quad (15)$$

and substituting (14) into (12) we obtain

$$V_+(r) = \frac{a^2}{r^4} + \frac{2a(1-c)}{r^3} + \frac{c(c-1) + 2ab}{r^2} - \frac{2bc}{r} + b^2 \quad (16)$$

and the relations between the parameters satisfy the supersymmetric constraints

$$a = \pm \sqrt{2A_4} \quad c = 1 - \frac{A_3}{\pm \sqrt{2A_4}}. \quad (17)$$

The potential (1) admits the exact solutions

$$\Psi_{n=0}(r) = N_0 r^c \exp \left(\frac{a}{r} - br \right) \quad (18)$$

where N_0 is the normalization constant, with the physically acceptable eigenvalues

$$E_{n=0} = -\frac{b^2}{2} = -\frac{1}{16A_4} \left[\frac{A_3}{\sqrt{2A_4}} \left(1 + \frac{A_3}{\sqrt{2A_4}} \right) - \frac{1}{4}(M-1)(M-3) - 2A_2 \right]^2 \quad (19)$$

in the case of $a < 0$ and under the constraints

$$A_1 = - \left(1 + \frac{A_3}{\sqrt{2A_4}} \right) \sqrt{-2E_{n=0}}. \quad (20)$$

The results obtained agree with those in [2, 3, 21] for three dimensions. Note that in order to retain the well behaved solution at $r \rightarrow 0$ and at $r \rightarrow \infty$ we have chosen $a = -\sqrt{2A_4}$.

The expressions obtained above can easily be extended to lower dimensions. For example, one can readily check that our two-dimensional solutions ($N = 2, \ell \rightarrow \ell - 1/2$) for the inverse-power potential considered are in excellent agreement with the literature [21]. The ground-state solutions in arbitrary dimensions for the Coulomb ($A_2 = A_3 = A_4 = 0$), for the Kratzer ($A_3 = A_4 = 0$) [19], and for inverse-power $A_3 = 0$ [1, 2] potentials can also be found from the above prescriptions.

For the singular even-power anharmonic-oscillator potential of (2), we set

$$W(r) = \mu r + \frac{\delta}{r} + \frac{\eta}{r^3} \quad \delta > 0 \quad (21)$$

which leads to

$$\Psi_{n=0}(r) = C_0 r^\delta \exp\left(\frac{\mu r^2}{2} - \frac{\eta}{2r^2}\right) \quad (22)$$

with C_0 being the corresponding normalization constant, and identify $V_+(r)$ with the effective potential so that

$$\begin{aligned} V_+(r) &= \left(\frac{2B_4}{r^6} + \frac{2B_3}{r^4} + \frac{2B_2}{r^2} + 2B_1 r^2\right) + \frac{(M-1)(M-3)}{4r^2} - 2\tilde{E}_{n=0} \\ &= W^2(r) + W'(r) = \frac{\eta^2}{r^6} + \frac{\eta(2\delta-3)}{r^4} + \frac{\delta(\delta-1) + 2\eta\mu}{r^2} + \mu^2 r^2 + \mu(2\delta+1) \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

and the relations between the potential parameters satisfy the supersymmetric constraints

$$\eta = \pm\sqrt{2B_4} \quad \delta = \frac{3}{2} + \frac{B_3}{\eta} \quad \mu = \pm\sqrt{2B_1}. \quad (24)$$

As we are dealing with a confined particle system, the positive values for η and the negative values for μ would of course be the right choice to ensure the well behaved nature of the wavefunction behaviour at the origin and at infinity. Hence, physically meaningful ground-state energy eigenvalues for the potential of interest are

$$\tilde{E}_{n=0} = -\frac{\mu}{2}(2\delta+1) = \sqrt{\frac{B_1}{2}} \left\{ 2 + \sqrt{1 - 16\sqrt{B_1 B_4} + 8B_2 + (M-1)(M-3)} \right\}. \quad (25)$$

At this point we should report that our results reproduce those obtained by [17, 25, 26] when potential (2) (in the case $B_2 = 0$) is confined to an impenetrable spherical box in two and three dimensions. It is also not difficult to see that if one takes $\eta = 0$ in (23), then (25) becomes the exact energy spectra of an N -dimensional harmonic oscillator. Furthermore, one can easily check that in the case $B_4 = B_3 = 0$, the above energy expression correctly reproduces the eigenvalues of the pseudo-type potential in three dimensions [27] which is the subject of the next section.

Finally, we wish to discuss briefly the explicit mapping between the singular potentials given by (1) and (2). If one considers the transformed anharmonic-oscillator potential of (10) and repeats the above mathematical procedure carried out through (21)–(25), then the corresponding eigenvalue equation reads

$$\hat{E}_{n=0} = -2\mu \left(1 + \frac{A_3}{\sqrt{2A_4}} \right). \quad (26)$$

Using the physically acceptable definition of A_1 in (20), the above equation can be rearranged as

$$\hat{E}_{n=0} = -\frac{2A_1}{|E_{n=0}|^{1/2}} \quad (27)$$

where $E_{n=0}$ is described in (19). This brief discussion shows explicitly the relation between the two singular potentials in higher dimensions and verifies (11).

3.2. Exactly solvable case

Kasap *et al* [27] and his co-workers used supersymmetric quantum mechanics to find exact results for the special cases of the singular potentials of (1) and (2), more precisely the solutions of the Kratzer and pseudoharmonic potentials in three dimensions. Their results can be easily generalized to N -dimensions by the substitution $\ell \rightarrow \Lambda = (M - 3)/2$ as indicated in section 2. This extension to arbitrary dimensions helps us in constructing the map between these two distinct systems.

The study of anharmonic oscillators has raised a considerable amount of interest because of its various applications especially in molecular physics. The Morse potential is commonly used for anharmonic oscillators. However, its wavefunction does not vanish at the origin, but those for Mie-type and pseudoharmonic potentials do. The Mie-type potential possesses the general features of the true interaction energy, interatomic and intermolecular, and the dynamical properties of solids [28]. On the other hand, the pseudoharmonic potential may be used for the energy spectrum of linear and nonlinear systems [20]. The Mie-type and pseudoharmonic potentials are two special kinds of analytically solvable singular-power potentials as they have the property of shape invariance.

Starting with the general form of the Mie-type potential

$$V(r) = D_0 \left[\frac{p}{q-p} \left(\frac{\sigma}{r} \right)^q - \frac{q}{q-p} \left(\frac{\sigma}{r} \right)^p \right] \quad (28)$$

where D_0 is the interaction energy between two atoms in a molecular system at $r = \sigma$, and $q > p$ is always satisfied. If we take $q = 2p$ and $p = 1$, we arrive at a special case of the potential in (28), which is exactly solvable

$$V(r) = \frac{A}{r^2} - \frac{B}{r} \quad (29)$$

where $A = D_0\sigma^2$ and $B = 2D_0\sigma$. The above potential, the so-called Kratzer potential, includes the terms which give the representation of both the steep repulsive branch and long-range attraction. A single minimum occurs at $r = \sigma$ where the energy is $-D_0$. Considerable interest has recently been shown in this potential as a model to describe internucleon vibration [29] and, in applications this Mie-type potential offers one of the most important exactly solvable models of atomic and molecular physics and quantum chemistry [30].

We set the superpotential for the Kratzer effective potential

$$W(r) = \frac{B/2}{\beta + (\beta^2 + C)^{1/2}} - \frac{\beta + (\beta^2 + C)^{1/2}}{r} \quad (30)$$

where

$$C = \frac{\Lambda(\Lambda + 1)}{2} + A \quad \Lambda = \ell + \frac{1}{2}(N - 3) \quad \beta = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \quad (31)$$

and obtained the exact spectrum in N -dimensional space as

$$E_n = \left(\frac{B/2\beta}{2n + 1 + [(2\Lambda + 1)^2 + A/\beta^2]^{1/2}} \right)^2 \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad (32)$$

and from (13) the exact unnormalized ground-state wavefunction can be expressed as

$$\Psi_{n=0}(r) = r^{1/2\{1+[(2\Lambda+1)^2+A/\beta^2]^{1/2}\}} \exp\left(-\frac{Br/4\beta^2}{1+[(2\Lambda+1)^2+A/\beta^2]^{1/2}}\right). \quad (33)$$

The excited-state wavefunctions can be easily determined from the usual approach in supersymmetric quantum mechanics [9] and the normalization coefficients for each quantum-state wavefunction can be analytically worked out using the explicit recurrence relation given in a recent work [31].

As a second application, we consider the general form of the pseudoharmonic potential

$$\tilde{V}(r) = V_0 \left(\frac{r}{r_0} - \frac{r_0}{r} \right)^2 = \tilde{B}r^2 + \frac{\tilde{A}}{r^2} - 2V_0 \quad (34)$$

which can be used to calculate the vibrational energies of diatomic molecules with the equilibrium bond length r_0 and force constant $k = 8V_0/r_0^2$, and set the corresponding superpotential as

$$W(r) = \sqrt{\tilde{B}}r - \frac{\beta + (\beta^2 + \tilde{C})^{1/2}}{r} \quad (35)$$

where $\tilde{B} = V_0/r_0^2$, $\tilde{C} = [\Lambda(\Lambda+1) + 2\tilde{A}]/2$, $\tilde{A} = V_0r_0^2$. The exact full spectrum of the potential in arbitrary dimensions is

$$\tilde{E}_n = 2\beta\sqrt{\tilde{B}} \{4n + 2 + [(2\Lambda + 1)^2 + \tilde{A}/\beta^2]^{1/2}\} - 2V_0 \quad (36)$$

and the unnormalized exact ground-state wavefunction is

$$\Psi_{n=0}(r) = r^{1/2\{1+[(2\Lambda+1)^2+\tilde{A}/\beta^2]^{1/2}\}} \exp\left(-\frac{\sqrt{\tilde{B}}r^2}{4\beta}\right). \quad (37)$$

Using the discussion in section 2, one can transform the Kratzer potential in (29) to its dual potential: shifted (by $2V_0$) pseudoharmonic-like potential in (34) with some restrictions in potential parameters. In the light of (9)–(11), the transformed potential reads

$$\hat{V}(\rho) = \rho^2 + \frac{4A}{\rho^2} \quad (38)$$

which is in the form of the Goldman–Krivchenkov potential. Here $A (= D_0\sigma^2)$ is the Kratzer potential parameter and, considering (34) through (36), constraints on the potential parameters are such that $\tilde{B} = 1$ and $\tilde{A} = 4A$. In this case corresponding eigenvalues are

$$\hat{E}_{n'} = \frac{2B}{|E_n|^{1/2}} = 4\beta \left\{ 1 + 2n' + \left[1 + 4\Lambda'(\Lambda' + 1) + \frac{A}{\beta^2} \right] \right\} \quad (39)$$

$$\Lambda' = L + \frac{1}{2}(N' - 3)$$

where $B (= 2D_0\sigma)$ and E_n are the coupling parameter and the eigenenergy values (equation (32)), respectively, of the Kratzer potential.

The ensuing relationships among the dimensionalities and quantum numbers of the two distinct systems considered in this section are

$$N' = 2N - 2 - 2\lambda, \quad L = 2\ell + \lambda, \quad n' = 2n - 2 + \lambda. \quad (40)$$

Clearly, the mapping parameter λ must be an integer if n' , L , n and ℓ are integers. It is worthwhile to discuss briefly the physics behind this transformation in the light of the comprehensive work of Kostelecky *et al* [22]. We note that it is a general feature of this map that the spectrum of the N -dimensional problem involving the Kratzer potential is related to half the spectrum of the N' -dimensional problem involving the Goldman–Krivchenkov potential for any even integer N' . However, the quantities in (40) have parameter spaces that are further restricted by the properties chosen for the map. For instance, suppose we wish to map all states corresponding the N -dimensional Kratzer potential into those corresponding to the Goldman–Krivchenkov potential. Since on physical grounds we know that $N' \geq 2$, $n' \geq 0$, $L \geq 0$, we must impose $N \geq 2 + \lambda$, $n \geq 1 - \lambda/2$, $\ell \geq -\lambda/2$. This yields the bound $-2\ell \leq \lambda \leq N - 2$. Furthermore requiring $n \geq 1$, $\ell \geq 0$ restricts the bound to $0 \leq \lambda \leq N - 2$. We conclude that all states of the N -dimensional Kratzer problem can be mapped into the appropriate Goldman–Krivchenkov problem, except for $N = 1$.

As an example, consider the three-dimensional Kratzer problem. Assuming we wish to map all its states into those of its dual, the Goldman–Krivchenkov potential, we must impose $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$. First, take $\lambda = 0$. Then, the s-orbitals in the Kratzer potential ($n \geq 1, \ell = 0$) are related to the ($n' = 2n - 2 \geq 0, L = 0$) states of the four-dimensional Goldman–Krivchenkov problem. Similarly, the p-states ($n \geq 2, \ell = 1$) correspond to the ($n' = 2n - 2 \geq 0, L = 0$) same problem. Next, suppose $\lambda = 1$. The states corresponding to the potential in (29) are then mapped onto the odd-integer states of the two-dimensional oscillator problem of (38). The s-orbitals of the Kratzer potential ($n \geq 1, \ell = 0$) map onto the ($n' = 2n - 1 \geq 1, L = 1$) anharmonic-oscillator states corresponding to the Goldman–Krivchenkov potential, while the Kratzer p-orbitals ($n \geq 2, \ell = 1$) map onto the ($n' = 2n - 1 \geq 3, L = 1$) oscillator states of the Goldman–Krivchenkov problem. As a rule, in both cases ($\lambda = 0, 1$), the lowest-lying states of the Goldman–Krivchenkov potential are excluded, one by one, with each higher value of ℓ .

As a final remark, a student of introductory quantum mechanics often learns that the Schrödinger equation is exactly solvable (for all angular momenta) for two central potentials in (29) and (38), as are for special cases ($A = 0$) the Coulomb and harmonic-oscillator problems. Less frequently, the student is made aware of the relation between these two problems, which are linked by a simple change of the independent variable discussed in detail throughout this paper. Under this transformation, energies and coupling constants trade places, and orbital angular momenta are rescaled. Thus, we have in this section shown that there is really only one quantum mechanical problem, not two involving the Kratzer and Goldman–Krivchenkov potentials, which can be exactly solved for all orbital angular momenta.

4. Conclusion

The main aim of this paper has been to establish a very general connection between a class of singular potentials in higher-dimensional space through the application of a suitable transformation. Although the literature covered similar problems, to our knowledge an investigation such as the one we have discussed in this paper was missing. In addition, it is shown that supersymmetric quantum mechanics yield exact solutions for a single state only for quasi-exactly solvable potentials such as the ones given in (1) and (2) with some restrictions on the potential parameters in N -dimensional space, unlike the shape-invariant exactly solvable potentials. We have also shown how to obtain exact solutions to such problems in any dimension by applying an adequate transformation to previously known three-dimensional results. This simple and intuitive method discussed through this paper is easily generalized. The application of this method to other potentials involving non-central ones is in progress.

References

- [1] Barut A O, Berrondo M and Garcia-Calderon G 1980 *J. Math. Phys.* **21** 1851
- [2] Özçelik S and Şimşek M 1991 *Phys. Lett. A* **152** 145
Özçelik S 1996 *Tr. J. Phys.* **20** 1233
- [3] Papp E 1991 *Phys. Lett. A* **157** 192
- [4] Gribakun G F and Flambaum V V 1993 *Phys. Rev. A* **48** 546
Szmytkowski R 1995 *J. Phys. A: Math. Gen.* **28** 7333
- [5] Vogt E and Wannier G H 1954 *Phys. Rev.* **95** 1190
Bates D R and Esterman I 1970 *Advances in Atomic and Molecular Physics* (New York: Academic)
- [6] Barut A O 1980 *J. Math. Phys.* **21** 568
- [7] Kaplus M and Porter R N 1970 *Atoms and Molecular Physics* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press)
Le Roy R J and Bernstein R B 1970 *J. Chem. Phys.* **52** 3869

- Le Roy R J and Lam W 1980 *Chem. Phys. Lett.* **71** 544
- [8] Sherry A M and Kumar M 1991 *J. Chem. Solids* **52** 1145
- [9] For an overview of the impact of supersymmetry see: Kostelecky V A and Campbell D K 1985 *Supersymmetry in Physics* (Amsterdam: North-Holland)
- Cooper F, Khare A and Sukhatme U 1995 *Phys. Rep.* **251** 267
- [10] Bransden B H and Joachain C J 1983 *Physics of Atoms and Molecules* (London: Longman)
- Maitland G C, Rigby M, Smith E B and Wakeham W A 1987 *Intermolecular Forces* (Oxford: Oxford University Press)
- [11] Share A and Behra S N 1980 *Pramana J. Phys.* **14** 327
- [12] Emin D and Holstein T 1976 *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **36** 323
- Emin D and Holstein T 1982 *Phys. Today* **35** 34
- [13] Coleman S 1988 *Aspects of Symmetry, Selected Erice Lectures* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press)
- [14] Hashimoto H 1979 *Int. J. Electron.* **46** 125
- Hashimoto H 1980 *Opt. Commun.* **32** 383
- [15] Child M S 1998 *J. Phys. A: Math. Gen.* **31** 657
- [16] Michels A, de Boer J and Bijl A 1937 *Physica* **4** 981
- [17] Varshni Y P 1997 *Can. J. Phys.* **75** 907
- [18] Reed M A 1993 *Sci. Am.* **268** 118
- Chuu D S, Hsiao C M and Mei W N 1992 *Phys. Rev. B* **46** 3898
- [19] Mie G 1903 *Ann. Phys., Lpz.* **11** 657
- Kratzer A 1920 *Z. Phys.* **3** 289
- [20] Goldman I I and Krivchenkov V D 1961 *Problems in Quantum Mechanics* (New York: Pergamon)
- Landau L D and Lifshitz E M 1977 *Quantum Mechanics: Non-relativistic Theory* (Oxford: Pergamon)
- [21] Dong S, Ma Z and Esposito G 1999 *Found. Phys. Lett.* **12** 465
- (Dong S, Ma Z and Esposito G 1999 *Preprint* quant-ph/9902081)
- Dong S and Ma Z 1999 *Preprint* quant-ph/9901036
- [22] Schrödinger E 1941 *Proc. R. Ir. Acad. A* **46** 183
- Bergmann D and Frishman Y 1965 *J. Math. Phys.* **6** 1855
- Kostelecky V A, Nieto M M and Truax D R 1985 *Phys. Rev. D* **32** 2627
- Kostelecky V A and Russell N 1996 *J. Math. Phys.* **37** 2166
- Grant A K and Rosner J L 1994 *Am. J. Phys.* **62** 310
- [23] Chaudhuri R N and Mondal M 1995 *Phys. Rev. A* **52** 1850
- [24] Morales D A and Parra-Mejias Z 1999 *Can. J. Phys.* **77** 863
- [25] Mustafa O 2001 *Preprint* math-ph/0101030
- Dong S, Hou X and Ma Z 1998 *Preprint* quant-ph/9808037
- [26] Dong S 2000 *Int. J. Theor. Phys.* **39** 1119
- Dong S 2000 *J. Phys. A: Math. Gen.* **31** 9855
- [27] Kasap E, Gönül B and Şimşek M 1990 *Chem. Phys. Lett.* **172** 499
- [28] Maitland G C, Rigby M, Smith E B and Wakeham W A 1987 *Intermolecular Forces* (Oxford: Oxford University Press)
- [29] Secrets D 1988 *J. Chem. Phys.* **89** 1017
- Morales J *et al* 1997 *J. Math. Chem.* **21** 273
- [30] Znojil M 1999 *J. Math. Chem.* **26** 157
- Hall R L and Saad N 1998 *J. Chem. Phys.* **109** 2983
- [31] Jia C, Wang X, Yao X and Chen P 1998 *J. Phys. A: Math. Gen.* **31** 4763