Generalized optical potential for weakly bound nuclei: Two-cluster projectiles

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I. INTRODUCTION

During the last few years, reactions with light weakly bound nuclei have been of increased interest from the experimental and theoretical points of view and the progress made in the investigation of these nuclei has been impressive [1,2]. This progress is conditioned by the important efforts devoted to investigating reaction mechanisms and by new techniques enabling the production of exotic nuclei. In spite of that, we are still far from a clear understanding of the unusual structure of exotic nuclei and the reaction mechanisms they induce. This arises from the experimental difficulties (also from the low intensities of available beams) and the difficulties arising in the description of a few-body nuclear dynamics taking place under conditions of a strong coupling of all reaction channels with the breakup channel of weakly bound projectiles.

Generally, it is assumed that in light exotic nuclei, the nucleons tend to group into clusters, whose relative motion mainly defines the properties of these nuclei. This assumption leads to great advantages for models employing the cluster concept for both the structure and the reactions involving light exotic nuclei [3–15]. For the study of nuclear reactions, the coupled-channel (CC) formalism is one of the most consistent and efficient approaches [16–20]. The continuum-discretized reduction of this method (CDCC) allows us to study the interplay between elastic and breakup channels in reactions involving two-cluster nuclei [11,12,15–18,21]. However, the application of the CC approach to reactions with few-body projectiles meets significant computational difficulties if a realistic few-body wave function is used. Consequently, very little work has been done in this area [22,23].

The generalized optical model (GOM) of H. Feshbach [24] is an alternative approach to the problem. Models based on the Feshbach theory are extensively used for the study of coupling effects on different reaction channels. It is worth mentioning, in particular, studies of the role of deuteron breakup in its elastic scattering with heavy ions [25–28], the influence of collective excitations on heavy ion elastic scattering [29–35], and the interplay between breakup and complete fusion channels in weakly bound nucleus reactions [36]. However, the application of the Feshbach method was hampered in the past by the complexity of the formulation and of computational burden. As a result, even in studies of the deuteron breakup, the application of this method has been done with many simplifications.

A generalized optical potential for elastic scattering induced by light nuclei is calculated within the Feshbach projection operator method. The model explicitly takes into account the contribution of the projectile breakup continuum treated within a microscopic few-cluster model. In this work, we formulate the model, deriving an explicit expression for the optical potential, and demonstrate the ability of the model by applying it to deuteron elastic scattering.

II. MODEL

In contrast to the CDCC approach, the GOM allows one to avoid the simplifying discretization of the continuum spectrum. The calculation within the GOM is faster. On the other hand, the CDCC method provides phase shifts in all reaction channels, treats the continuum-to-continuum coupling, and does not require an approximation for Green’s function, while the GOM does. Therefore, for a two-cluster projectile, the CDCC approach is somewhat more efficient. However, for a few-body projectile, the application of the CDCC method becomes difficult (e.g., the large size of the coupling matrix and the complicated procedure of matrix element calculation), while the GOM remains more feasible.

Our main goal is to apply the GOM to studying the elastic scattering of light weakly bound nuclei using a realistic few-body model description of their internal structure. As a test of the approach, in the present work, the GOM is applied to the deuteron elastic scattering from heavy targets at intermediate energies in order to draw conclusions about its applicability. Applications of the model to reactions with few-cluster weakly bound nuclei (such as 6He) will be done in a subsequent publication.

The method proposed earlier [25,27] is extended here to avoid simplifying assumptions. In Refs. [25,27] the authors (i) neglected the spins of the particles, (ii) considered coupling with s-wave continuum only, (iii) neglected or treated the Coulomb forces in an approximate way, and (iv) used the free-particle Green’s function instead of the total one. Our approach goes beyond these assumptions. Within the method, a structureless target nucleus interacts with a projectile treated as a system of a few bound clusters. The bound and continuum states of the projectile are described in the framework of the microscopic cluster model and used to construct the Feshbach projection operators. We derive an explicit expression for the optical potential which takes into account explicitly the coupling with projectile breakup channels. We show also the importance of an accurate treatment of Green’s function appearing in the dynamical polarization potential in the case of light targets.
form
\[ \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbf{R}, \xi} = \hat{T}_R + \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\xi} + \hat{V}_{\mathbf{R}, \xi}, \]
where \( \hat{T}_R \) is the kinetic energy operator of the projectile-target relative motion, \( \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\xi} \) is the Hamiltonian describing the projectile internal structure, and \( \xi \) denotes an appropriate set of internal coordinates. The interaction potential \( \hat{V}_{\mathbf{R}, \xi} \) is a sum of effective (non-Hermitian) cluster-target potentials, which is obtained from a fit of elastic scattering data. By employing these cluster-target interactions, we implicitly take into account the internal properties of the clusters and target.

The total scattering wave function \( |\Phi(\mathbf{R}, \xi)\rangle \) satisfies the Schrödinger equation with the Hamiltonian (1) and eigenvalue \( E = E_p + \varepsilon_0 \), where \( E_p = \hbar^2 p^2 / 2m \) is the projectile-target relative energy, \( m \) is the reduced projectile-target mass, while \( \varepsilon_0 \) is the projectile ground state energy. The ground \( |\phi_p(\mathbf{R}, \varepsilon_0)\rangle \) (here \( \varepsilon_0 \) is a projectile total angular momentum) and continuum \( |\kappa\rangle \) states of the projectile form together the spectrum of the Hamiltonian \( \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\xi} \), since the weakly bound projectile is supposed to have only one bound state. The Feshbach projection operators \( \hat{P}_\xi \) and \( \hat{Q}_\xi \) [24] are constructed as
\[ \hat{P}_\xi + \hat{Q}_\xi = |\phi_p(\mathbf{R}, \varepsilon_0)\rangle\langle \phi_p(\mathbf{R}, \varepsilon_0) | + \int |\kappa\rangle\langle \kappa |d\kappa. \]

The operator \( \hat{P}_\xi \) extracts the elastic component of the total wave function \( |\phi_p(\mathbf{R}, \xi)\rangle = |\Psi(\mathbf{R}, \xi)\rangle \), which satisfies the Schrödinger equation
\[ \left( \hat{\mathcal{T}}_R + \left[ \hat{\mathcal{P}}_\xi \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\xi} \hat{\mathcal{P}} + \hat{\mathcal{Q}}_{\xi} \hat{\mathcal{V}}_{\mathbf{R}, \xi} \hat{\mathcal{Q}} \frac{1}{E - \hat{\mathcal{Q}}_{\mathcal{H}} \hat{\mathcal{P}}} \hat{\mathcal{Q}}_{\mathcal{V}} \hat{\mathcal{P}} \right] \right) |\Psi(\mathbf{R}, \xi)\rangle = (E - \varepsilon_0)|\Psi(\mathbf{R}, \xi)\rangle, \]
where the expression in square brackets is the generalized optical potential (GOP). The first term \( \hat{\mathcal{U}}^{(1)} = \hat{\mathcal{P}} \hat{\mathcal{V}}_{\mathbf{R}, \xi} \hat{\mathcal{P}} \) is the local cluster-target interactions over the projectile ground state. The second term (we will refer to it as \( \hat{\mathcal{U}}^{(2)} \)) is the nonlocal dynamical polarization potential (DPP), describing the coupling of elastic and nonelastic channels.

A. Optical potential for \( N \)-cluster projectiles

Following the usual technique [37], the elastic component of the many-body wave function may be expanded in partial waves as
\[ \psi_{\mathbf{p}, j_0 m_0}^{(+)}(\xi, \mathbf{R}) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{jL} \int_{0}^{2\pi} e^{i\eta_{jL}} \sqrt{2L + 1} (2L + 1)^{1/2} \psi_{jL, j_0}(p, R) \Theta_{j_0 m_0 j L}(\xi, \Omega_R), \]
where \( \mathbf{p} \) is supposed to be parallel to the \( z \) axis. \( \psi_{jL, j_0}(p, R) \) is a partial wave function describing the projectile-target relative motion with total \( (J) \) and orbital \( (L) \) angular momenta, and with asymptotic
\[ \psi_{\mathbf{p}, j_0 m_0}^{(+)}(p, \mathbf{R}) \to \psi_{L}(p, \mathbf{R}) + \frac{S_{c} - 1}{2\pi} H_{L}^{(+)}(p, \mathbf{R}), \]
where \( S_{c} = e^{2i\phi} \) is a scattering \( S \)-matrix element, \( H_{L}^{(+)} = G_{L} + i F_{L} \), while \( F_{L} \) and \( G_{L} \) are the regular and irregular Coulomb functions. In Eq. (3), we use the notation \( \Theta_{j_0 m_0 J L}^{(1)}(\xi, \Omega_R) \) for the spin-angle wave function resulting from the \( L \) and \( j_0 \) vector coupling
\[ \Theta_{j_0 m_0 J L}(\xi, \Omega_R) = \sum_{j_0} \phi_{j_0 m_0}(\xi) \psi_{j_0}(\xi, \Omega_R) \odot Y_{L}(\Omega_R) \odot J M, \]
where \( \phi_{j_0 m_0}(\xi) \) is a partial component of the projectile ground state wave function.

We substitute expansion (3) in the Schrödinger equation (2). Multiplying the resulting equation by \( \Theta_{j_0 m_0 J L}(\xi, \Omega_R) \) from the right, and integrating over \( \mathbf{r} \) and \( \Omega_R \), one obtains a set of coupled Schrödinger equations for the partial wave functions
\[ \left( \frac{d^2}{dr^2} + \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} \sum_{L} \left( U_{LL}(R) \psi_{\mathbf{p}}(R) \right) \right) + R \int_{0}^{\infty} R' U_{LL}(R, R') \psi_{\mathbf{p}}(R')dR' = 0, \]
where index \( v \) denotes the set of quantum numbers \( (J L j_0) \). The sets \( v \) and \( v' \) differ in orbital momentum \( L \) and \( L' \) only, and are used here just for the sake of simplicity. Note that the nondiagonality is very weak in reactions considered here and will be finally neglected (see below). Thus the set of equations (6) becomes uncoupled. In the numerical procedure, we reduce each integro-differential equation (6) to a set of linear algebraic equations applying the finite difference and the Simpson methods to approximate the second derivative and the integral, respectively.

1. Cluster-folding potential

The projectile-target interaction \( \hat{\mathcal{V}}_{\mathbf{R}, \xi} \) is chosen as a sum of effective complex cluster-target potentials. Each potential is supposed to be a sum of Coulomb, nuclear, and spin-orbit terms. The cluster-folding potential \( \mathcal{U}^{(1)} \) can be defined as the integral
\[ \mathcal{U}^{(1)}_{LL}(R) = \int d\xi d\Omega_R \Theta_{j_0 m_0 J L}(\xi, \Omega_R) \mathcal{V}(\mathbf{R}, \xi) \Theta_{j_0 m_0 J L}(\xi, \Omega_R). \]

The cluster model has been used intensively in studies of reactions involving light nuclei. Thus an explicit expression for the cluster-folding potential in some particular cases can be found elsewhere [38,39]. Therefore we give here its final expression only. Using the Fourier-Bessel transform of the potential \( \mathcal{V}_{\mathbf{R}, \xi} \), and performing the integration over angles and the summation over the momenta projections, we obtain the cluster-folding potential in the form
\[ \mathcal{U}^{(1)}_{LL}(R) = \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \sum_{\lambda} (-1)^{\lambda} \tilde{L}^{2} \tilde{\lambda}^{2} C_{LL=0,0,0}^{\mathcal{E}}(j_0, j_0, L, L') F_{j_0 m_0}(R), \]
where \( \tilde{\lambda} = (2a + 1)^{1/2} \), \( C_{LL=0,0,0}^{\mathcal{E}} \) is a Clebsch-Gordan coefficient, \( W(\mathbf{R}) \) is a Racah coefficient. The radial factor in Eq. (8)
reads

\[ \mathcal{F}_{j_{n}l_{n}h_{n}}(R) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{\gamma_{n}l_{n}0} \int_{0}^{\infty} q^{j_{n}}(q R) \tilde{v}_{n}(q) \langle j_{0} \gamma_{0} \| C_{n,l} \| j_{0} \gamma_{0} \rangle dq, \]

(9)

where \( N \) is a number of clusters, \( \tilde{v}_{n}(q) \) is a Fourier transform of the cluster-target potential, and operator \( C_{n,l \mu} \) is defined as

\[ C_{n,l \mu} = \lambda^{-1} \sqrt{2 \pi} j_{l}(q r_{n}) Y_{l \mu}^{*}(\Omega_{n}). \]

(10)

The reduced matrix element arising in Eq. (9) is a partial component of the elastic form factor of the \( n \)th projectile cluster (i.e., the Fourier transform of its spatial distribution).

The contribution of the spin-orbit interactions \( v_{i}^{(SO)}(r) \) to the folding potential can be calculated in the same way as the central one. However, both phenomenological and theoretical analyses [40,41] show that the spin-orbit interaction plays a minor role even for deuteron elastic scattering and becomes almost negligible in heavy ion elastic scattering [41]. It was shown [38] that the nucleon-nucleus spin-orbit interaction in the first-order perturbation also gives only a spin-orbit term for the potential of s-wave projectile (such as deuteron or \( ^{6}\text{Li} \)). It allows us to consider the folding spin-orbit potential within the approximation proposed in Refs. [25,38,41].

2. Dynamical polarization potential

The calculation of the polarization potential \( U^{(2)}(R, R') \) requires the definition of matrix elements of the many-body Green’s operator \( \hat{G}(z) = (z - \hat{H}_{R} - \hat{V}_{R} R) \). We write the total Green’s operator in the form of the Born series as

\[ \hat{G} = \hat{\tilde{G}} + \hat{\tilde{G}} \tilde{V}_{R} - \tilde{\tilde{V}} \hat{G} + \cdots, \]

(11)

where the operator \( \tilde{G} = (z - \hat{H}_{R} - \hat{\tilde{V}} R) \) is Hermitian if the potential \( \tilde{V} \) depends on the relative projectile-target coordinates \( R \) only. The appropriate choice of the potential \( V(R) \) is the cluster-target potential \( U^{(1)}(R) \) obtained above. Note, that in this case, \( \hat{H}_{R} \) is a non-Hermitian operator, because the folding potential \( U^{(1)}(R) = U(R) + i \tilde{V}(R) \) is complex.

For the total Green’s operator, we use the approximation \( \hat{G} \approx \hat{\tilde{G}} \). By this we neglect the transfer channels, whose contribution is included implicitly through the effective cluster-target interactions. Omitting the second term, we neglect also the contribution from the multistep processes such as continuum-to-continuum excitations. The role of continuum-to-continuum coupling has been investigated, in particular, by Sakuragi et al. [17] within the CDCC approach. Significant contribution of the continuum-to-continuum coupling was shown. However, one should point out differences in the formulations of the models in our work and in Ref. [17]. The authors of Ref. [17] defined the projectile-target interaction by using the M3Y-type effective nucleon-nucleon interaction with a complex normalizing coefficient and applied a double-folding procedure for the calculation of coupling matrix elements. The DPP obtained in Ref. [17] has an additional large repulsion of the real part in the peripheral region (Re\( U^{(2)} \approx 20 \text{ MeV} \)) and an almost negligible additional contribution to the imaginary part. On the other hand, in Ref. [42] the DPP for the similar reaction was calculated within the adiabatic breakup model [43], which is quite close to our approach. The DPP found in Ref. [42] provides weak real (Re\( U^{(2)} \approx 3 \text{ MeV} \)) and strong absorptive (Im \( U^{(2)} \approx -10 \text{ MeV} \)) contributions. Our results are similar.

In Ref. [15] the continuum-to-continuum coupling was also neglected. The authors concluded that this approximation should be valid if the elastic component of the total wave function is larger than breakup ones. Obviously this condition becomes stronger with higher collision energies.

It is difficult to define an explicit applicability condition for our approximation. We need to compare the collision time \( t_{\text{coll}} \) with the excitation-deexcitation time which is unknown. Instead, we may use the time \( t_{\text{int}} \) associated with the cluster-cluster relative motion inside the projectile. This gives us the validity criteria in the form \( t = t_{\text{coll}}/t_{\text{int}} \leq 1 \). For all reactions considered in this work, this condition is fulfilled.

Since the total Hamiltonian \( \hat{H}_{R} \approx \hat{\tilde{H}} + \tilde{V} \hat{H} + \hat{H}_{\hat{\xi}} \) is separable, one constructs a basis as the direct product of the \( \hat{H}_{R} \) and \( \hat{H}_{\hat{\xi}} \) bases. The Green’s operator \( \hat{G} \) may be then decomposed over the few-body partial states \( |E_{\rho} \xi \mathcal{J} M L j \gamma \rangle \), which reads

\[ \langle \xi, R | E_{\rho} \xi, JMLj \gamma \rangle \]

\[ = C_{\xi} L \left[ \frac{2 \mp \rho}{\pi \hbar^{2}} \right]^{1/2} |p R \rangle \psi_{jMj}(p, R) \tilde{\Sigma}_{jMj}^{L_{1}M_{1}}(\kappa, \xi, \Omega_{R}), \]

(12)

where \( \tilde{\Sigma}_{L_{1}M_{1}} \) is an energy of the cluster-cluster relative motions, and \( C_{\xi} \) is a phase-volume quantity, which depends on the model used for the description of the projectile structure. The spin-angular wave function

\[ \tilde{\Sigma}_{L_{1}M_{1}}^{L_{1}M_{1}}(\kappa, \xi, \Omega_{R}) \]

has the same structure as function \( \Theta_{L_{1}M_{1}}^{L_{1}M_{1}}(\xi, \Omega_{R}) \) except for the sum over \( \gamma \).

The dynamical polarization potential is written as

\[ U^{(2)}(R', R) = \sum_{n} \int_{0}^{\infty} |C_{\xi}|^{2} \tilde{v}_{j_{n}}(\kappa, R') g_{\xi_{n}}^{(+)}(E - \epsilon_{\kappa}; R', R) \times \tilde{V}(\kappa, R) d\epsilon_{\kappa}, \]

(13)

where the matrix elements read

\[ \tilde{v}_{j_{n}}(\kappa, R) = \delta_{j_{n}j_{n}} \delta_{MM} \Theta_{1}^{L_{1}}(\kappa, \Omega_{R}) \times \tilde{V}(\kappa, R) \tilde{\Sigma}_{L_{1}M_{1}}^{L_{1}M_{1}}(\kappa, \xi, \Omega_{R}) \]

\[ \times \cos\{J, M_{1}L_{1} j \gamma_{1}) \}

\[ \Theta_{1}^{L_{1}M_{1}}(\xi, \Omega_{R}) \]

and the quantum number sets \( \nu = \{JMLj_{0}\} \) and \( \nu_{i} = \{J_{i}M_{i}L_{i} j_{i} \gamma_{i}\} \). The partial two-body Green’s function [34] in Eq. (13) is

\[ g_{\xi_{n}}^{(+)}(E_{p}, R, R') = \frac{2 m}{\hbar^{2} R R'} \frac{\psi_{\nu_{i}}(p, R) \tilde{h}_{\nu_{i}}^{(+)}(p, R_{-})}{p \omega_{\nu_{i}}}, \]

(15)

where notations \( R_{-} \) and \( R \) refer to the smallest and largest coordinates \( R \) and \( R' \). The wave function \( \tilde{h}_{\nu_{i}}^{(+)}(p, R) = \psi_{\nu_{i}}(p, R) + i \psi_{\nu_{i}}(p, R) \) is a combination of two linear-independent solutions of the two-body Schrödinger equation with potential \( \tilde{V}(R) = U^{(1)}(R) \). The regular wave function
$\psi_\nu(p, R)$ has the boundary conditions (4), while the irregular solution $\phi_\nu(p, R)$ has the asymptotic form

$$\phi_\nu(p, R \to 0) \sim (p R)^{-\ell},$$

$$\phi_\nu(p, R \geq R_m) = G_L(p R_m) + \frac{S_m - 1}{2} H_L^{(\nu)}(p R_m).$$

The correct calculation of Green’s function is important for the QOP calculation, since it defines the radial dependence of the polarization potential. Therefore the free-particle Green’s function, which was used in Refs. [25,27], provides a crude approximation and could be used for a qualitative analysis only. Note also that the local plane wave approximation for Green’s function [44] gives a simple and fast calculation method, which is, however, less accurate than Eq. (15) but still applicable.

The matrix elements $\Psi_{\nu i}(k, R)$ have the same structure as the integral (7) except for the difference between functions $\Theta$ and $\Xi$. Following the scheme used for the cluster-folding potential, one gets the polarization potential as

$$U_{LL}^{(2)}(R', R) = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \sum_{L_i, j} \sum_{\lambda, \lambda'} (-\lambda')^+ \lambda^2 \gamma_{2}^{LL} L'_i L_i C_{L,0,0} L_{L_i,0}^{(2)} \times W(j_i J_i \lambda; L'_i, L_i) W(j_i J_i \lambda; L_i j_0) \times \int_{\gamma_0 \gamma_0} |C_{\gamma}|^2 F_{\gamma_0 \gamma_0, \gamma_0 \gamma_0}(\epsilon_k, R') \times g_{LL}^{(2)}(E - \epsilon_k; R', R) F_{\gamma_0 \gamma_0, \gamma_0 \gamma_0}(\epsilon_k, R') d\epsilon_k,$$  \hspace{1cm} (16)

where the functions $F(\epsilon_k, R)$ read

$$F_{\gamma_0 \gamma_0, \gamma_0 \gamma_0}(\epsilon_k, R) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} q^2 j_q(q R) \tilde{v}_n(q) \langle j_0 \gamma_0 | C_{\gamma} | \epsilon_k, j_0 \gamma_0 \rangle dq.$$  \hspace{1cm} (17)

The reduced matrix element in Eq. (17) is a component of the transition form factor, which depends only on the projectile structure and may be calculated once. The integrand in Eq. (17) is an oscillating and decreasing function of $q$, and the integration can be done quite easily with a truncation at $q_{\text{max}} \sim 6 \text{ fm}^{-1}$. The resulting function $F(\epsilon_k, R)$ describes the transition probability and decreases with increasing $\epsilon_k$. Therefore an integration in Eq. (16) may be performed up to some appropriate projectile excitation energy $\epsilon_k$, which is about 40 MeV in the deuteron case [16].

The polarization potential (16) is nondiagonal on $L$ and $L'$ indexes. Consequently, one needs to solve numerically the system of coupled integro-differential equations (6). It can be done by an iteration procedure using a solution of the uncoupled system as an initial approximation. However, we avoid this complicated procedure here. The potential (16) has a more simple form in the case of the s-wave projectile (such as deuteron or $^3\text{He}$). It is still nondiagonal ($L' = L = L_0^2, \ldots, L = L_0^2 J_0$), and this nondiagonality arises from the noncentral part of the cluster-cluster interaction. The calculations show that the nondiagonal terms are about $10^2$ times smaller than the diagonal one, and therefore can be neglected.

## 3. Two-cluster projectile’s form factor

Let us define the bound and continuum state wave function treating the projectile as a two-cluster system (e.g., the deuteron $d = p + n$). Vector $r = r_1 - r_2$ is an appropriate choice of the coordinate $\xi$ for the description of the cluster-cluster dynamics. A wave function describing bound and scattering states of a two-body system $|\epsilon, jmls\rangle$ at a relative energy $\epsilon$ can be expressed as

$$|\epsilon, jmls\rangle = r^{-1} \phi_j(\epsilon, r)|Y(\Omega_r) \otimes \chi_j\rangle_{jml},$$  \hspace{1cm} (18)

where the wave function $\phi_j(\epsilon, r)$ has the usual asymptotic at $r \to \infty$. It is either a condition similar to Eq. (4) for a scattering state or the usual asymptotic with the Whittaker function for a normalizable state [45]. Then using the Wigner-Eckart theorem, the reduced matrix element of the $C_{\gamma,\lambda,\mu}$ operator may be written as

$$\langle \epsilon_k, jlsm | C_{\lambda,\lambda} | j_0 \lambda_0 \rangle = \delta_{\lambda_0,\lambda} P_{\lambda,\lambda}(-\lambda_m^+ \lambda_0^+ \lambda_0^{-1} \lambda_0^+ \lambda_0^+ \lambda_0) \times \tilde{p}^{(n)}_{\lambda,\lambda}(q),$$  \hspace{1cm} (19)

where quantity $P_{\lambda,\lambda}$ is defined by the symmetry properties of the spherical harmonics $Y_{\lambda m}(\Omega_r)$. In particular, $P_{1,1} = 1$ and $P_{2,2} = (-1)^2$, since $r_1 = \frac{m_1}{m_1 + m_2} r$ and $r_2 = -\frac{m_1}{m_1 + m_2} r$, respectively. The function $\tilde{p}^{(n)}_{\lambda,\lambda}(q)$ reads

$$\tilde{p}^{(n)}_{\lambda,\lambda}(q, k) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty \phi_j(\epsilon_k, r) j_q(q r_n) dq dr.$$  \hspace{1cm} (20)

The quantity $C_\ell$ arising in Eq. (13) for the two-cluster system reads

$$C_\ell = i^l e^{im} \left( \frac{2 \mu}{\pi R^2} \right)^{1/2}.$$  

## III. APPLICATION TO DEUTERON ELASTIC SCATTERING

The deuteron is a two-body projectile with only one bound state. We analyze the elastic scattering of $^3\text{He}$ as a test of the model. Only the $s$-wave component of the ground state wave function is considered. The proton-neutron interaction is chosen in a Gaussian form (see Table I) with parameters that give the deuteron binding energy 2.22 MeV, r.m.s. radius $q_0^2 = 1.97$ fm, and triplet scattering length $a_t = 5.46$ fm, close to the experimental data.

As already mentioned, the effect of the deuteron breakup on elastic deuteron-nucleus scattering has been analyzed in many papers [16,18,25–27,38,46]. We confirm here, in particular, that the breakup transition matrix elements $F_{\gamma_0 \gamma_0, \gamma_0 \gamma_0}(k, R)$ [Eq. (17)] with even $\lambda$ dominate in deuteron-induced reactions. The contribution of odd partial waves is weak because of the $P_{2,2}$ coefficient in Eq. (19) and the similarity of the $p$-$A$ and $n$-$A$ nuclear interactions. The Coulomb dipole excitation ($\lambda = 1$) gives comparable effects over energies well above the Coulomb barrier. In particular, the overall contribution of the dipole excitation is less than 10$, while the main part of the polarization potential is defined by the transitions with
\( \lambda = 0 \) and 2 [16,27]. The deuteron breakup energies up to about 15 MeV certainly play a leading role in the expansion of the total wave function. It allows one to truncate the sum over \( \lambda \) in the polarization potential (16) at \( \lambda_{\text{max}} = 6 \) and to perform an integration over the excitation energy \( E_x \) up to 40 MeV.

In spite of the number of applications of the generalized optical model to the deuteron elastic scattering, a detailed study of the subject has not been reported. In this section, we present the results obtained within the approach described above to the deuteron elastic scattering at energies of 30–50 MeV/u. We consider reactions with heavy and light targets separately because of specific features observed in the case of deuteron elastic scattering by light ions.

### A. Scattering by heavy targets

The cluster-target potentials for each reaction were obtained from a phenomenological optical model analysis of appropriate experimental data on the \( n\)-\( A \) and \( p\)-\( A \) elastic scattering at energies around \( E_{n,p} = E_d/2 \) (see discussion in Ref. [16]). We use the optical potential parametrization given in Ref. [47] in the fitting procedure as a starting parameter set. The obtained parameters are listed in Table I.

The cluster-folding potential \( U^{(1)} \) presents well-known properties independent of the target [46]. It is close to the sum of the nucleon-target optical potentials. The resulting radial dependence of the real part has a Woods-Saxon shape with a noticeably larger diffuseness parameter \( (a \sim 1 \text{ fm}) \) and somewhat reduced in magnitude. The same is valid for the imaginary part of \( U^{(1)} \). The folding of the spin-orbit nucleon-target interactions, which are usually chosen as a Thomas form (see Table I), results in a shape close to the Woods-Saxon form with parameters similar to the central part.

The elastic scattering cross sections obtained with the cluster-folding potential \( U^{(1)} \) (dashed curves in Fig. 1) significantly overestimates the experimental data at scattering angles larger than the nuclear-rainbow angle. This means that the imaginary part of the folding is too weak and gives us an estimate of the role of the polarization potential \( U^{(2)} \).

We calculate the generalized optical potentials \( U^{(1)} + U^{(2)} \) for deuteron elastic scattering by \( ^{56}\text{Ni}, \, ^{120}\text{Sn}, \) and \( ^{208}\text{Pb} \) targets at energies 80, 85, and 110 MeV, respectively. The corresponding theoretical cross sections are in good agreement with the experimental data (see Fig. 1).

The polarization potential \( U^{(2)}(r, R') \) is illustrated in the top panel of Fig. 2 for the \( ^{208}\text{Pb}(d, d) \) reaction and

![Image](https://example.com/image.png)

**FIG. 1.** Cross sections for deuteron elastic scattering on different targets. Dashed lines show the cross sections obtained with the cluster-folding potential, while solid lines correspond to the calculation with the nonlocal optical potential. The experimental data from Refs. [49–51] are shown by dots.
nonlocal DPP. In the bottom panel of Fig. 2, the WLP for corresponding partial wave functions. The wave functions the same reaction is shown together with the module of the partial wave function \( \psi_{JL} \), where the dotted line shows the cross section obtained with the WLP. It allows us to analyze the properties of the WLP instead of the DPP.

The relative contribution of polarization potential to the real part of the optical potential is rather small. In particular, the value of \( \text{Re} U_{\text{WLP}}^{(2)}(R) \) at the minimum around \( R = 8 \text{ fm} \) is about \(-0.7 \text{ MeV}\) and amounts to 3% of the folding potential \( U^{(1)} \), whereas the contribution of the imaginary part of the polarization potential is more than 30% of the folding potential at this point. For the \( d + ^{208}\text{Pb} \) collision, the total reaction cross section is \( \sigma_R = 2.9 \text{ b} \) at \( E_d = 110 \text{ MeV} \), where the folding potential gives \( \sigma_R^{(F)} = 2.73 \text{ b} \) and the polarization potential gives \( \sigma_R^{(DPP)} = 0.17 \text{ b} \).

Thus, we may conclude that the generalized optical potential model provides an adequate description of the light two-cluster projectile elastic scattering by heavy nuclei at intermediate energies. The deuteron polarization due to the coupling with the breakup channels properly describes the missing part of the total reaction cross section (about 10%).

B. Scattering by light targets

We study here the \( d + ^{12}\text{C} \) collision at 56 MeV, because there are experimental data both on the elastic scattering [52] and on the proton-neutron correlations in the \( ^{12}\text{C}(d, pn) \) breakup reaction [53]. We use the parameters of the nucleon-carbon potentials taken from Ref. [53] (see Table I).

The general properties of the optical potential are the same as in the case of reactions with heavy targets. The elastic scattering cross section calculated with the folding potential exceeds the experimental data, see Fig. 3(a). However, in contrast to heavy targets, an addition of the polarization potential to the folding does not lead to agreement with experimental data. Comparison of the partial S-matrix elements generated by the folding (dash-dotted line) and by the nonlocal optical potential (solid line) shows that the polarization potential provides a strong additional absorption at low orbital momenta.

We perform a fit of experimental data on the \( d + ^{12}\text{C} \) elastic scattering within the usual phenomenological optical model [54] using the cluster-folding interaction as an initial approximation. The fitted optical model parameters (see Table I) provide an angular distribution which agrees with the experimental points. The corresponding S-matrix elements are shown in Fig. 3(b) by the short-dashed curve. As it can be seen, there is a good agreement of the partial S-matrix elements obtained with the generalized and phenomenological optical potentials at \( L \geq 6 \) and significant differences at \( L < 6 \). Also the phenomenological \( S_{JL} \) elements are rather close to those obtained with the folding at low values of \( L \), i.e., the breakup probability for central collisions should be small. Thus, one may conclude that the model does not describe properly the deuteron breakup and, consequently, elastic scattering at low partial waves.

\[ \psi_{L=25} \] calculated with the nonlocal DPP and with the WLP are indistinguishable and shown by the dashed curve in the top part of the bottom panel of Fig. 2. Note also that the cross sections obtained with the WLP and with the initial nonlocal DPP are almost identical. It is illustrated in Fig. 1 for the case of a lead target, where the dotted line shows the cross section obtained with the WLP. It allows us to analyze the properties of the WLP instead of the DPP.

\[ \text{FIG. 2. Top panel: dynamical polarization potential calculated for the deuteron elastic scattering on the } ^{208}\text{Pb} \text{ target at } E_d = 110 \text{ MeV and } J = L = 25 \text{. The real (imaginary) component of the DPP is shown by the solid (dash) contours. The values of the potential at the extremum are indicated. Bottom panel: module of the partial wave function } \psi_{JL} \text{ corresponding to the } d(110 \text{ MeV}) + ^{208}\text{Pb} \text{ reaction is shown in the top part. Solid and dash curves correspond to the wave functions calculated with the } U^{(1)} \text{ cluster-folding and with } (U^{(1)} + U^{(2)}) \text{ nonlocal optical potentials. Real and imaginary parts of the folding potential (solid curves) and WLP (dash curves) are shown for the same reaction in the middle and bottom parts.} \]

\[ J = L = 25 \text{. The DPP is symmetric with respect to } R \text{ and } R', \text{ therefore we plot the real and imaginary parts of DPP in the same figure. The polarization potential is noticeably nonlocal, nonmonotonic, and } L \text{ dependent. It makes the polarization potential } U^{(1)}_{JL}(R, R') \text{ complicated for analysis. The } L \text{-independent ”weighted mean” local polarization potential (WLP) was proposed in Ref. [48] as an alternative for the nonlocal DPP. In the bottom panel of Fig. 2, the WLP for the same reaction is shown together with the module of the corresponding partial wave functions. The wave functions} \]
1. Deuteron breakup within the prior-form DWBA

The function $F_{j(j')l(l')}(k, R)$ in the polarization potential (16) determines also the prior form of the DWBA breakup amplitude [55]

$$T_{DW} = \langle \psi_p^{(-)}(R)\psi_{k}^{(-)}(r)|V_{R,R'}\phi_{E,S}(r)\psi_p^{(+)}(R)\rangle, \quad (21)$$

where $\phi_{E,S}(r)$ and $\phi_{k}^{(-)}(r)$ are the ground and excited states of the projectile, and $\psi_p^{(\pm)}(R)$ are the distorted waves describing the projectile-target relative motion in the entrance and exit channels. We calculated the deuteron breakup cross section for the $^{12}$C($d, pn$) reaction at 56 MeV and compared it with experimental data [53], where the angular and energy distributions of the protons were measured in coincidence with neutrons emitted at $\theta_{n,lab} = 15^\circ$. Here we used the same optical model parameters as in the analysis of $d + ^{12}$C elastic scattering above.

The results are shown by solid lines in Fig. 4. The DWBA amplitude (21) gives a good agreement with the data for negative proton angles and fails at positive ones. One may suppose that the differences between the calculations and experimental data on deuteron breakup and elastic scattering have the same origin.

2. Deuteron breakup within the classical dynamics model

To confirm this assumption, we performed an analysis of this reaction within the few-body classical molecular dynamics [14]. The models based on the Newtonian equations have been successfully applied to the study of heavy ion fragmentation at intermediate energies (see, for example, Refs. [14,56–59]). Note also that classical dynamics approaches turn out to be very effective in combination with quantum consideration, allowing us to explain many aspects of nuclear dynamics using a “trajectory” language.

Within the classical model, the two-body projectile $d = (p + n)$ and target $^{12}$C are treated as classical particles
moving along the classical trajectories determined by the same interactions \((V_{R}\tau + v_p)\) as in the quantum case considered above. We tested \(10^6\) trajectories with randomly distributed initial parameters (see details in Ref. [14]). Figure 5 shows the averaged angle \(\langle \Delta\theta_{pn}\rangle\) between the proton and neutron emitted during the deuteron breakup as a function of the impact parameter \(b = L/p\). As it can be seen, protons emitted at negative angles (relative to \(\theta_{n,lab} = 15^\circ\), large \(\Delta\theta_{pn}\)) originate mainly in peripheral collisions with \(L > 6\), whereas positive angles \(\theta_p\) correspond to central collisions (small \(\Delta\theta_{pn}\)) values). Hence, the disagreement with experiment at positive values of \(\theta_p\) (Fig. 4) originated from a wrong treatment of the contribution of small angular momenta \((L < 6)\)—just as in the analysis of elastic scattering.

Note that a large \(\langle \Delta\theta_{pn}\rangle\) value in the peripheral deuteron breakup process is caused by the repulsion of protons by the Coulomb field of the target, whereas the neutron is deflected by attractive nuclear forces. In central collisions, the effect of the Coulomb forces is much weaker, therefore the \(\langle \Delta\theta_{pn}\rangle\) angle turns out to be relatively small.

The origin of the critical orbital momentum \(L = 6\) (for \(d + ^{12}\text{C}\) at 56 MeV) also has a clear explanation in the classical model. Using the phenomenological optical potential for the \(d(56 \text{ MeV}) + ^{12}\text{C}\) reaction (see Table I) and employing an appropriate computational code [60], we calculated the classical deflection function and survival probability

\[
P_S(L) = \exp\left(-\int \frac{\mathcal{V}(R) dR}{\sqrt{2m(E_p-U(R))}}\right) \tag{22}
\]

as a function of the orbital momentum \(L = bp\). \(P_S(L)\) is the probability that the projectile, moving along the trajectory with a given impact parameter \(b\), remains in the elastic channel. \(U(R)\) and \(\mathcal{V}(R)\) in Eq. (22) are the real and imaginary parts of the optical potential, and the integration is performed along the trajectory. The calculated survival probability \(P_S\) is very similar to the partial S-matrix elements, which have the same physical meaning (see Fig. 6). The deflection function reveals the nuclear-rainbow angle \(\theta_{NR} \approx 70^\circ\), which is close to the experimental value.

As it can be seen from Fig. 6, the orbital momentum \(L_{NR} = 6\) corresponds to the nuclear-rainbow scattering. This means that the trajectories with \(L < L_{NR}\) pass deeply in the interaction region, while the trajectories with \(L > L_{NR}\) are more peripheral. Thus the model used here for a calculation of the generalized optical potential does not treat properly central collisions with strong overlapping of the colliding nuclei.

3. Projectile-target nonphysical bound states

The phenomenological optical model analysis shows that the absorption at low orbital momenta in the elastic scattering is well described by the imaginary part of the folding potential only and does not require any addition [compare dash-dotted and dashed curves in Fig. 3(b)]. Note that a simple cut of the polarization potential at \(L < 6\) in the elastic scattering analysis and omitting the contribution of these partial waves to the DWBA breakup cross section lead to a significant improvement of the results in both cases. It is shown by the dashed curves in Figs. 3(a) and 4. Thus, the experimental data indicate that the deuteron in the inner region of the target nucleus turns out to be stable relative to the breakup channels, which has been confirmed also in previous studies [25].

Thus, we conclude that the calculated DPP overestimates the absorption at small partial waves, i.e., at small projectile-target relative distance. The radial dependence of the polarization potential in this region is defined mainly by the partial Green’s function \(g_{ij}^{(2)}(R, R')\) (15). The properties of Green’s function at low \(L\) values are significantly affected by the properties of the folding potential \(U^{(ij)}(R)\), which is used to calculate Green’s function. The interaction \(U^{(ij)}(R)\) is calculated as a sum of the folded complex cluster-target optical potentials. Parameters of these potentials are usually
fitted in order to reproduce experimental cross sections. In this procedure, the scattering phase shifts are retrieved but not the wave functions. Thus, the cluster-target potentials may provide an incorrect behavior of the partial wave functions at small distances because of the $\pi$ ambiguity of the phases. In particular, cluster-target potentials and, consequently, cluster-folding ones turn out to be deep and contain many forbidden bound states. This may result in incorrect radial dependence of Green’s function at small distance, since the corresponding partial wave functions penetrate deeply into the interaction region. This leads to the rise of the DPP at small $R$ values.

The observed stability of a deuteron moving in nuclear matter with respect to the breakup means in fact that the deuteron does not penetrate deeply into a target due to the Pauli blocking. The effects of antisymmetrization in deuteron matter with respect to the breakup means in fact that the modifying their further treatment. Therefore we apply a simplified method which makes them nonlocal and results in the complication of

$\text{Re} \, V_{L}(R)$

imaginary

$\text{Im} \, V_{L}(R)$

$S$-matrix poles corresponding to resonant states are symmetric with respect to the imaginary $p$ axis. In the case of a complex potential, this symmetry is broken. Generally, the resonant poles move in clockwise direction in the complex $p$ plane (see Ref. [64] for details). The states with $\text{Re} \, p > 0$ (right half-plane) get negative addition to the $\text{Im} \, p$, while some of the poles in the left complex half-plane cross the real axis and become normalizable states ($\text{Re} \, p < 0$ and $\text{Im} \, p > 0$, i.e., $\psi_{L}(R \to \infty) \sim e^{-\text{Im} \, p \, R}$). The energies corresponding to these states in the $d^{-12}$C folding potential are also listed in Table II.

We apply the technique explained in Refs. [65,66], which allows us to eliminate normalizable states from the spectrum of the complex potential using supersymmetric (SUSY) transforms in each partial wave. The resulting potential becomes $L$ dependent and contains a strong repulsive core at small distances. The SUSY transforms do not modify the scattering phase shifts. Nevertheless, the partial wave function and, consequently, Green’s function turns out to be pushed out from the interaction region [see Fig. 7(a)]. The obtained Green’s function was used in the DPP calculation. The corresponding

$\text{Re} \, V_{L}(R)$

imaginary

$\text{Im} \, V_{L}(R)$

$U_{WLP}$

$U_{d}$

$U_{d}^{(5)}$

TABLE II. Bound, resonant, and normalizable states in the $d + ^{12}$C folding potential.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$L$</th>
<th>Nodes</th>
<th>$E_{nL}^P$ (MeV)</th>
<th>$E_{nL}^S$ (MeV)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$-51.47 + i0$</td>
<td>$-51.29 - i8.25$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$-34.60 + i0$</td>
<td>$-34.52 - i9.11$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$-19.72 + i0$</td>
<td>$-19.57 - i8.34$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$-18.57 + i0$</td>
<td>$-18.48 - i9.25$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$-6.93 + i0$</td>
<td>$-6.37 - i6.82$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$-4.03 + i0$</td>
<td>$-3.62 - i8.39$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$0.14 - i10.0$</td>
<td>$0.49 - i10.65$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$1.24 - i10.2$</td>
<td>$0.82 - i11.25$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$1.89 - i10.18$</td>
<td>$1.76 - i11.72$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$5.95 - i14.51$</td>
<td>$3.51 - i13.49$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$7.36 - i10.59$</td>
<td>$7.11 - i13.57$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$16.45 - i4.88$</td>
<td>$12.12 - i7.45$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$^{a}$The normalizable states in the $d + ^{12}$C folding potential with positive real energy.

FIG. 7. (a) Imaginary part of the partial Green’s functions ($L = 2$) and real part of corresponding interaction potentials for the $^{12}$C$(d, d)$ reaction. Functions $g_{L}$ and $g_{L}^{(S)}$ are calculated using effective potential $V_{L} = U_{L}^{(1)} + i\hbar^{2}L(L + 1)/2mR^{2}$ and its supersymmetric partner $\psi_{L}^{(S)}$ after removal of the state $E_{2} = -(18.5 + i9.3)$ MeV, respectively. (b) WLPs for the same reaction resulting from calculations with nonmodified nonlocal optical potential (dotted line), with nonlocal potential neglecting the polarization part at $L < 6$ (dashed line), and with nonlocal optical potential after removal of forbidden states (solid line).
WLP results are shown in Fig. 7(b) in comparison with the initial WLP and with the WLP resulting from a dropping of the nonlocal polarization potential at \( L < 6 \). We may conclude that the elimination of the forbidden states modifies the DPP in a correct way.

Modules of the \( S \)-matrix elements for the same reaction are shown in Fig. 8(a). One may see that the supersymmetric transform leads to a decrease of the absorption in elastic channels at low partial waves. Thus the elimination of the nonphysical states in the \( d-12C \) folding potential allows one to describe effectively the suppression of the deuteron breakup at low values of angular momenta.

The \( d-12C \) folding interaction does not contain normalizable states with \( L = 5 \) as it may be expected from the behavior of the phenomenological \( S \) matrix [see Fig. 8(a)]. This indicates that the folding potential is not the best substitution for the \( V_{R,F} \) in the Green’s function calculation. Damped \( S_{L=5} \) matrix element [solid circles in Fig. 8(a)] results in the oscillating behavior of the cross section at large scattering angles. This problem is overcome somehow if we use the WLP [solid line in Fig. 7(b)], which smooths the \( S \) matrix [open circles in Fig. 8(a)] by averaging the nonlocal polarization potential over all orbital momenta. The angular distribution in the \( d+12C \) elastic scattering is shown in Fig. 8(b) together with experimental data and the cross section obtained without the SUSY transforms.

### IV. CONCLUSIONS

By extending the model proposed in earlier papers, we derive the generalized optical potential for elastic scattering of a few-cluster projectile, taking into account explicitly the coupling with the breakup channels. We do not use most of the simplifications which were employed in previous papers. In particular, in applying the model to deuteron elastic scattering, we take into account the spin of projectile, consider the coupling to the projectile continuum with cluster-cluster relative orbital momenta \( l \leq 6 \), and apply the suitable approximation of Green’s function instead of the free-particle one used before. It allows us to improve the agreement with the data and previous results obtained within different approaches, which supports the efficiency of the model. The model was applied to studying the deuteron elastic scattering at energies of a few tens of MeV per nucleon, and good agreement with experimental data was obtained.

It was also shown that the behavior of the polarization potential at low orbital momenta is noticeably affected by the nonphysical bound states in the projectile-target system. In light heavy ion scattering, it leads to the overestimation of the absorption in the GOP in low partial waves. The elimination of these forbidden states allows one to obtain an appropriate polarization potential.

Note that the nonphysical bound states do not reveal themselves in the deuteron scattering by heavy targets in spite of their existence for low partial waves. The reason is that the absorption part of the folding potential is much stronger in heavy targets than in light nuclei. Addition of the polarization potential to the folding one gives a negligible effect on the elastic scattering cross section in low partial waves, because the contribution of these partial waves is suppressed by the absorptive part of the folding interaction. Note, however, that the forbidden states may play some role in other reaction channels, for example, in breakup. This subject is an interesting problem for future studies.

Application of the proposed model to reactions with three-cluster weakly bound nuclei (such as \( ^6\text{He} = \alpha + n + n \)) will be done in future work.
Generalized Optical Potential for Weakly...