

## J08Q.1 - Deuteron

### Problem

A deuteron is a bound state of a neutron (charge 0, mass 939.5 MeV) and a proton (charge  $e$ , mass 938.2 MeV). Scattering measurements determine that the separation of the neutron and proton is about  $a = 1.5$  fm and mass measurements determine that the binding energy is  $E_b = 2.226$  MeV. Approximate the potential energy as a spherical square well,  $V(r) = -V_0$  for  $r < a$  and  $V(r) = 0$  for  $r > a$ . (Recall that  $\hbar = 6.5817 \times 10^{-16}$  eV s.)

- What is the value of  $V_0$  in MeV?
- Can the deuteron have an excited (but still bound!) state with angular momentum  $\ell = 0$ ?
- Are there bound states with  $\ell > 0$ ? Explain!