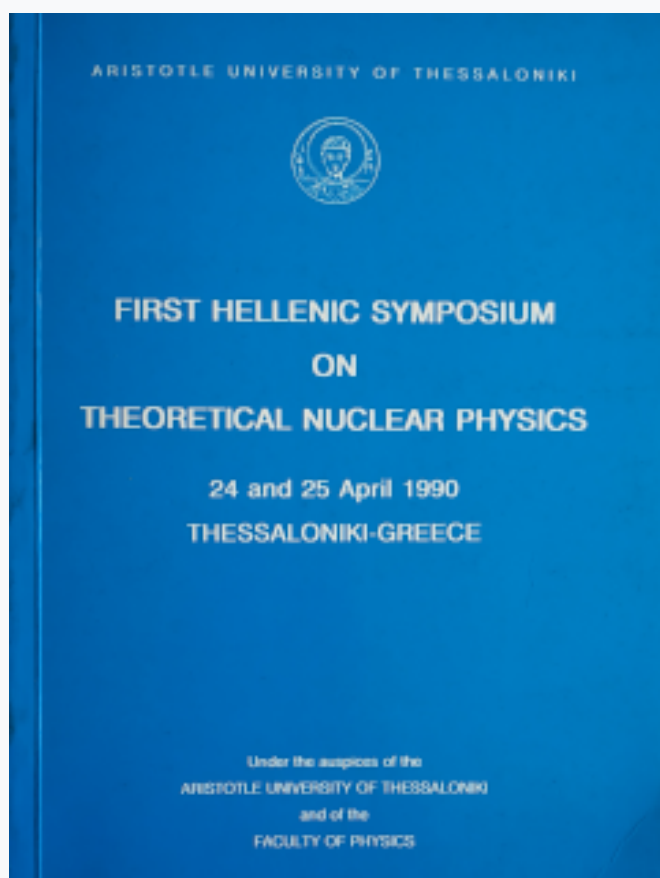


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# Approximate Relativistic Mass-Formulae for the Ground State Binding Energy of a $\Lambda$ in Hypernuclei

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**Abstract** The Dirac equation with potentials having attractive and repulsive parts is considered in a simplified model and approximate semiempirical mass formulae for the ground state binding energy of a  $\Lambda$  in hypernuclei are derived and discussed.

## 1. Introduction

In recent years it became possible by means of ( $\pi^+$ ,  $K^+$ ) experiments to determine<sup>1</sup> the binding energies of the  $\Lambda$  particle in its ground and excited states for a number of hypernuclei ranging from  ${}^9_\Lambda\text{Be}$  up to  ${}^{89}_\Lambda\text{Y}$ .

These results can be analysed by using either non-relativistic or relativistic quantum mechanics<sup>2-6</sup>. In this work we shall use the latter kind of analysis. In the following section the formalism used, following ref.7, is described. In the third section the results for the ground state wave functions and the eigenvalue equation are given in a simple model. In section 4 the asymptotic expression for the ground state binding energy for the  $\Lambda$  particle is given and compared with the non-relativistic one. An (approximate) relativistic semi-empirical mass formula for  $B_\Lambda$  is also given which appears to be fairly satisfactory even for rather small values of the mass number ( $A \approx 16$ ). In the final section numerical results are given and comments are made.

## 2. The formalism

It is assumed that the differential equation governing the motion of the  $\Lambda$ -particle in hypernuclei is the following Dirac equation<sup>4,5</sup>

$$[\vec{c}\vec{\alpha}\vec{p} + \beta\mu c^2 + \beta U_S(r) + U_V(r)]\Psi = E\Psi \quad (1)$$

where the average  $\Lambda$ -nucleus potential is composed of an attractive component  $U_S(r)$  and a repulsive component  $U_V(r)$ .  $\mu$  is taken here to be the  $\Lambda$ -core reduced mass.

<sup>+</sup> Presented by C.G.Koutroulos

The Dirac equation can be reduced to the following pair of radial differential equations.

$$\frac{dG(r)}{dr} = D(r)F(r) - \frac{k}{r} G(r) \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{dF(r)}{dr} = H(r)G(r) + \frac{k}{r} F(r) \quad (3)$$

where  $k = \pm(j+1/2)$ ,  $j = l \pm 1/2$  and

$$D(r) = \frac{1}{\hbar c}(\mu c^2 + E + U_-(r)) = \frac{1}{\hbar c}(2\mu c^2 - B_\Lambda + U_-(r)) \quad (4)$$

$$H(r) = \frac{1}{\hbar c}(\mu c^2 - E + U_+(r)) = \frac{1}{\hbar c}(B_\Lambda + U_+(r)) \quad (5)$$

The potentials  $U_+(r)$  and  $U_-(r)$  are defined as follows:

$$U_+(r) = U_s(r) + U_v(r) \quad (6)$$

$$U_-(r) = U_s(r) - U_v(r) \quad (7)$$

The pair of radial differential equations (2)-(3) is reduced to a second order differential equation of the Schrodinger type i.e.<sup>4)</sup>

$$g''(r) - \left\{ \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} + \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} (V_{\text{centr}} + V_{\text{s.o.}} + B_\Lambda) \right\} g(r) = 0 \quad (8)$$

where the central part of the potential is

$$V_{\text{centr}} = U_+(r) + \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \left\{ \frac{1}{\hbar^2 c^2} (U_+(r) + B_\Lambda)(U_-(r) - B_\Lambda) - \right. \\ \left. - D^{-1}(r) D'(r) r^{-1} - (2D(r))^{-1} D''(r) + \frac{3}{4} D^{-2}(r) (D'(r))^2 \right\} \quad (9)$$

while the spin orbit part is given by the expression

$$V_{\text{s.o.}} = - \frac{\hbar}{2\mu} \frac{1}{(2\mu c^2 - B_\Lambda + U_-(r))} \frac{1}{r} \frac{dU_-(r)}{dr} \frac{\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{r}}{r} \quad (10)$$

It should be noted that the potentials  $V_{\text{centr}}$  and  $V_{\text{S.O.}}$  depend on  $r$  as well as on  $B_\Lambda$  i.e. they are energy dependent.

The large  $G(r)$  and small  $F(r)$  components may be expressed in terms of  $g(r)$  as follows:

$$G(r) = g(r)\sqrt{D(r)} \quad (11a)$$

$$F(r) = [G'(r) + \frac{k}{r} G(r)] D^{-1/2}(r) \quad (11b)$$

In the following we shall apply the above formalism to the rectangular potential model.

### 3. Rectangular Potential shapes

We assume that the potentials  $U_+(r)$  and  $U_-(r)$  are of rectangular shape with the same radius  $R$  and depths  $D_+$  and  $D_-$  respectively i.e.

$$U_{\pm}(r) = -D_{\pm}(1 - \theta(r-R)) \quad (12)$$

where  $\theta(r-R)$  is the unit step function.

The ground state ( $l=0$ ,  $k=-1$ ) wave functions may be obtained analytically in a way similar to that for the usual Dirac equation. The result is:

$$G(r) = N_0 \{ [1 - \theta(r-R)] \sin \eta r + \theta(r-R) \sin \eta R e^{-\eta_0(r-R)} \}, \quad 0 \leq r < \infty \quad (13)$$

$$F(r) = N_0 \left\{ [1 - \theta(r-R)] \frac{1}{(2\mu c^2 - B_\Lambda - D_-)} \right.$$

$$\left. \left[ \eta \cos \eta r - \frac{1}{r} \sin \eta r \right] + \theta(r-R) \frac{-\sin \eta R}{(2\mu c^2 - B_\Lambda)} \right.$$

$$\left. \left[ \eta_0 + \frac{1}{r} \right] e^{-\eta_0(r-R)} \right\}, \quad 0 \leq r < \infty \quad (14)$$

The constant  $N_0$  is determined by using the normalization condition

$$\int_0^\infty (G^2(r) + F^2(r)) dr = 1 \quad (15)$$

The corresponding energy eigenvalue equation is the following

$$\cot \eta R = - \frac{\eta_o}{\eta} \left[ \frac{1 - \{B_\Lambda + D_- [1 + (\eta_o R)^{-1}]\} (2\mu c^2)^{-1}}{1 - B_\Lambda (2\mu c^2)^{-1}} \right] \quad (16)$$

where  $\eta_o$  and  $\eta$  are given by the following expressions:

$$\eta_o = \left\{ \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} B_\Lambda [1 - B_\Lambda (2\mu c^2)^{-1}] \right\}^{1/2} \quad (17)$$

$$\eta = \left\{ \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} (D_+ - B_\Lambda) [1 - (B_\Lambda + D_-) (2\mu c^2)^{-1}] \right\}^{1/2} \quad (18)$$

The eigenvalue equation (16) will be used in the following section to obtain approximate explicit expressions for  $B_\Lambda$ .

#### 4. Approximate semi-empirical mass formulae for the ground state binding energy of the $\Lambda$

Following a method analogous to the one used for the non-relativistic case by D.D.Ivanenco and N.N.Kolesnikov<sup>8</sup> and also by J.D.Walecka<sup>9</sup> the eigenvalue equation (16) can be solved approximately for the ground state binding energy  $B_\Lambda^{g.s.} = B_\Lambda$  if the radius  $R$  is sufficiently large. Thus, various approximate expressions for  $B_\Lambda$  as functions of the mass number of the core nucleus  $A_{\text{core}}$  may be derived. These play the role of (approximate) relativistic "mass formulae". We mention two of these "semi-empirical mass formulae". More complicated expressions may be also derived<sup>10</sup>.

##### i) The asymptotic expression for $B_\Lambda$

$$B_\Lambda^{as} = D_+ - \frac{\hbar^2 \eta^2}{2m^* R^2} \quad (19)$$

where  $R = r_0 A_{\text{core}}^{1/3}$ . The above formula which is valid for very large values of  $R$  looks-like the non-relativistic one except that the effective mass  $m^*$  of the  $\Lambda$ -particle:

$$m^* = m \left[ 1 - \frac{D_+ + D_-}{2mc^2} \right] \quad (20)$$

appears instead of its usual mass  $m$ .

##### ii) An improved expression for $B_\Lambda$

An expression which gives fairly satisfactory values for  $B_\Lambda$  even for rather small values of  $A_{\text{core}}$  is the following:

$$B_{\Lambda}^{\text{approx.}} = D_+ - \frac{\hbar^2 n^2}{2\mu g [1 + (\tilde{f}\eta_0 R)^{-1}]^2 R^2} \quad (21)$$

where

$$g = 1 - (D_+ + D_-)(2\mu c^2)^{-1} \quad (22)$$

and

$$\tilde{f} = \frac{(1 - (D_+ + D_-)(1 + (\eta_0 R)^{-1}))(2\mu c^2)^{-1}}{1 - D_+(2\mu c^2)^{-1}} \quad (23)$$

The quantity  $\eta_0$  is estimated from (17) with  $B_{\Lambda} \approx D_+$

### 5. Numerical results and comments:

The potential parameters have been determined by an (unweighted) least-square fitting of  $B_{\Lambda}$  to the experimental values for a number of hypernuclei (see table 1) by considering the  $D_+$ ,  $D_-$  and  $r_0$  as adjustable parameters. The "exact" values of  $B_{\Lambda}$  were obtained by solving the eigenvalue equation (16) numerically. The best fit values are:

$$D_+ = 489.20 \text{ MeV}, D_- = 30.57 \text{ MeV}, r_0 = 1.05 \text{ fm}$$

Some of our results are displayed in table 2. It is seen that expression (21) gives values fairly close to those obtained by solving the eigenvalue equation for values of the mass number larger than  $A = 16$ . The values of parameters in the r.h.s. of table 2 are those corres-

**TABLE 1**  
Experimental  $B_{\Lambda}$  values used for the fitting.

Hyper-nucleus	$B_{\Lambda}^{\text{exp}}$ (MeV)	$A_{\text{core}}$	$B_{\Lambda}^{\text{exp}}$ (MeV)
$^{10}_{\Lambda}\text{B}$	$8.89 \pm 0.12$	63	$21.90 \pm 0.20$
$^{13}_{\Lambda}\text{C}$	$11.69 \pm 0.12$	72	$23.00 \pm 0.20$
$^{15}_{\Lambda}\text{N}$	$13.59 \pm 0.15$	80	$22.50 \pm 0.20$
$^{16}_{\Lambda}\text{O}$	$13.00 \pm 2.0$	93	$22.80 \pm 0.20$
$^{32}_{\Lambda}\text{S}$	$17.50 \pm 0.5$	103	$23.70 \pm 0.20$

**TABLE 2**  
Comparison between the values of  $B_{\Lambda}$ ("exact") and  $B_{\Lambda}^{\text{approx.}}$ .

A	$D_{-}=489.20 \text{ MeV}$	$D_{+}=30.57 \text{ MeV}$	$D_{-}=590.15 \text{ MeV}$	$D_{+}=29.50 \text{ MeV}$
	$r_o=1.054 \text{ fm}$	$m^{*}=0.767m$	$r_o=1.123 \text{ fm}$	$m^{*}=0.722m$
	$B_{\Lambda}$ ("exact") MeV		$B_{\Lambda}^{\text{approx.}}$ MeV	
12	11.59		9.92	
16	13.97		12.71	
20	15.66		14.61	
32	18.78		17.95	
40	20.05		19.27	
90	23.75		22.98	
140	25.23		24.42	
208	26.30		25.46	

ponding to the fitting of  $B_{\Lambda}^{\text{approx.}}$ . These values have been used in obtaining the results for  $B_{\Lambda}^{\text{approx.}}$  displayed in this table. More numerical results can be found in ref.7. The values of the effective mass of the  $\Lambda$ -particle estimated using the above values of the parameters is found to be  $m^{*} \approx 0.8m$  which is in agreement with other estimates.

More results related to the present approach can be found in ref. 7 . It should be finally noted that the relativistically estimated values of  $B_{\Lambda}$  are very close to the non-relativistic ones.

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# Phenomenological relativistic study of the $\Lambda$ -hypernuclei with the Woods-Saxon and other potentials

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**Abstract** A phenomenological relativistic analysis of the ground and excited states binding energies of a  $\Lambda$  in hypernuclei, as these have been determined by recent ( $\pi^+$ ,  $K^+$ ) experiments, is made by using various  $\Lambda$ -nucleus potentials. The r.m.s. radii of the orbits of the  $\Lambda$ -particle are also determined, in the case of the Woods-Saxon potential.

## 1. Introduction

The relativistic treatment of  $\Lambda$  hypernuclei discussed recently<sup>1,2</sup> has the advantage that approximate analytic expressions for  $B_\Lambda$  can be obtained but it has also the disadvantage that the assumed rectangular shapes of the potentials are quite unrealistic, in particular for lighter hypernuclei. Thus, we have extended our phenomenological relativistic treatment to other potentials like the Gaussian<sup>3,4</sup> or the Woods-Saxon<sup>3,5</sup> e.t.c. The former is expected to be suitable for the lighter hypernuclei while the latter should be quite a realistic representation of the average  $\Lambda$ -nucleus potential for a wide range of mass numbers. Our results concerning the parameters of these potentials, the binding energies of the  $\Lambda$  particle in various hypernuclei in the ground and excited states as well as the mean square radii<sup>6</sup> of the orbits of the  $\Lambda$  particle are given in the following sections. More results can be found in references 3-6.

## 2. Potential shapes and parameters.

In this section we give the values of the potential parameters of the various potentials, some or all of which were determined by a least square fitting procedure, using the experimental values of the binding energies for the ground state of the  $\Lambda$  in hypernuclei displayed in table 1 of the preceding contribution.

### i) Woods-Saxon potential

$$U_{\pm}(r) = \frac{-D_{\pm}}{1 + e^{(r-a)/a}} \quad (1)$$



where c can be either of the simple form<sup>7</sup>

$$c=r_0A^{1/3} \quad (2)$$

or of the more complicated one<sup>8</sup>

$$c=(1/2)^{1/3} r_0A^{1/3} \left[ \left[ 1+(1+2^2 3^{-3} (\frac{\pi a}{r_0A^{1/3}})^6)^{1/2} \right]^{1/3} + \right. \\ \left. + \left[ 1-(1+2^2 3^{-3} (\frac{\pi a}{r_0A^{1/3}})^6)^{1/2} \right]^{1/3} \right] \quad (3)$$

We have considered the following cases with  $c=r_0A^{1/3}$  :

- a) The parameters a and  $D_-$  are kept fixed to the values  $a=0.6\text{fm}$  and  $D_- = 443\text{MeV}$ . The values of the remaining two parameters are then the following:  $D_+ = 30.0\text{MeV}$  and  $r_0 = 1.211\text{fm}$
- b)  $a=0.6\text{ fm}$  (fixed) and  $D_- = 300\text{ MeV}$  (fixed). In this case we obtain  $D_+ = 29.8\text{ MeV}$  and  $r_0 = 1.198\text{ fm}$ .
- c) All the parameters are taken as adjustable . Their values are found to be  $D_+ = 29.5\text{ MeV}$  ,  $D_- = 416.9\text{ MeV}$  ,  $r_0 = 1.153\text{ fm}$  and  $a=0.32\text{ fm}$

Also we have considered the following cases when c is given by the more complicated expression (3):

- a) The parameters a and  $D_-$  are kept fixed to the values  $a=0.6\text{ fm}$  and  $D_- = 443\text{ MeV}$ . The values of the remaining two parameters are then the following:  $D_+ = 28.3\text{ MeV}$  and  $r_0 = 1.45\text{fm}$ .
- b) All the parametrs are taken as adjustable. Their values are found to be  $D_+ = 28.2\text{ MeV}$ ,  $D_- = 427.1\text{ MeV}$ ,  $r_0 = 1.475\text{ fm}$  and  $a=0.63\text{ fm}$ . The advantage of using the more complicated expression for c is that with this the fitting is a little better i.e. the  $\chi^2$  is smaller.

## ii) Gaussian potential

$$U_{\pm}(r) = -D_{\pm} e^{-r^2/R^2} \quad (4)$$

where  $R = r_0A^{1/3}$

The potential parameters obtained are:  $D_+ = 33.6\text{ MeV}$  ,  $D_- = 427\text{ MeV}$  ,  $r_0 = 1.27\text{ fm}$ .

## iii) Symmetrized Woods-Saxon potential

$$U_{\pm}(r) = -D_{\pm} \left[ (1 + e^{(r-c)/a})^{-1} + (1 + e^{(-r-c)/a})^{-1} - 1 \right] \quad (5)$$

The potential parameters obtained (with  $c=r_0A^{1/3}$ ) are:  $D_+ = 29.9$  MeV,  $D_- = 697.5$  MeV,  $r_0 = 1.178$  fm,  $a = 0.31$  fm.

iv) Potential of the form<sup>9,10</sup>

$$U_{\pm}(r) = \frac{-D_{\pm}}{\cosh^2(r/R)} \quad (6)$$

where  $R = r_0A^{1/3}$

This potential has been used in ref.(9,10) for the non relativistic treatment of hypernuclei, where its region of validity is discussed. The potential parameters in this case are:  $D_+ = 39.7$  MeV,  $D_- = 201.6$  MeV,  $r_0 = 0.98$  fm.

Using the parameters of these potentials we have calculated in each case the binding energies of the ground and excited states of various hypernuclei and the results are shown in fig. 1.

### 3. Root mean square radii of the orbits of the $\Lambda$ -particle in hypernuclei.

Using the wave functions  $G(r)$  and  $F(r)$ , we have calculated in the case of the Woods-Saxon potential, the root mean square radii of the orbits of the  $\Lambda$ -particle in hypernuclei in the ground state  $1s_{1/2}$  and also in the excited states  $1p_{3/2}$  and  $1p_{1/2}$  by means of the formula

$$\langle r^2 \rangle^{1/2} = \left( \frac{\int_0^{\infty} r^2 [G^2(r) + F^2(r)] dr}{\int_0^{\infty} [G^2(r) + F^2(r)] dr} \right)^{1/2} \quad (7)$$

For the  $1s$  state we have the approximate formula

$$\hbar\omega_{\Lambda} \approx \frac{3\hbar^2}{2\mu} \frac{1}{\langle r^2 \rangle} \approx \Delta_{sp} \quad (8)$$

for the determination of the r.m.s. radii. The  $\Delta_{sp}$  is given by the formula

$$\Delta_{sp} = B_{\Lambda}(1s) - B_{\Lambda}(1p) \quad (9)$$

The results obtained with the "exact" and approximate formulae, (7) and (8), respectively, are given in table 1.

#### 4. Comments

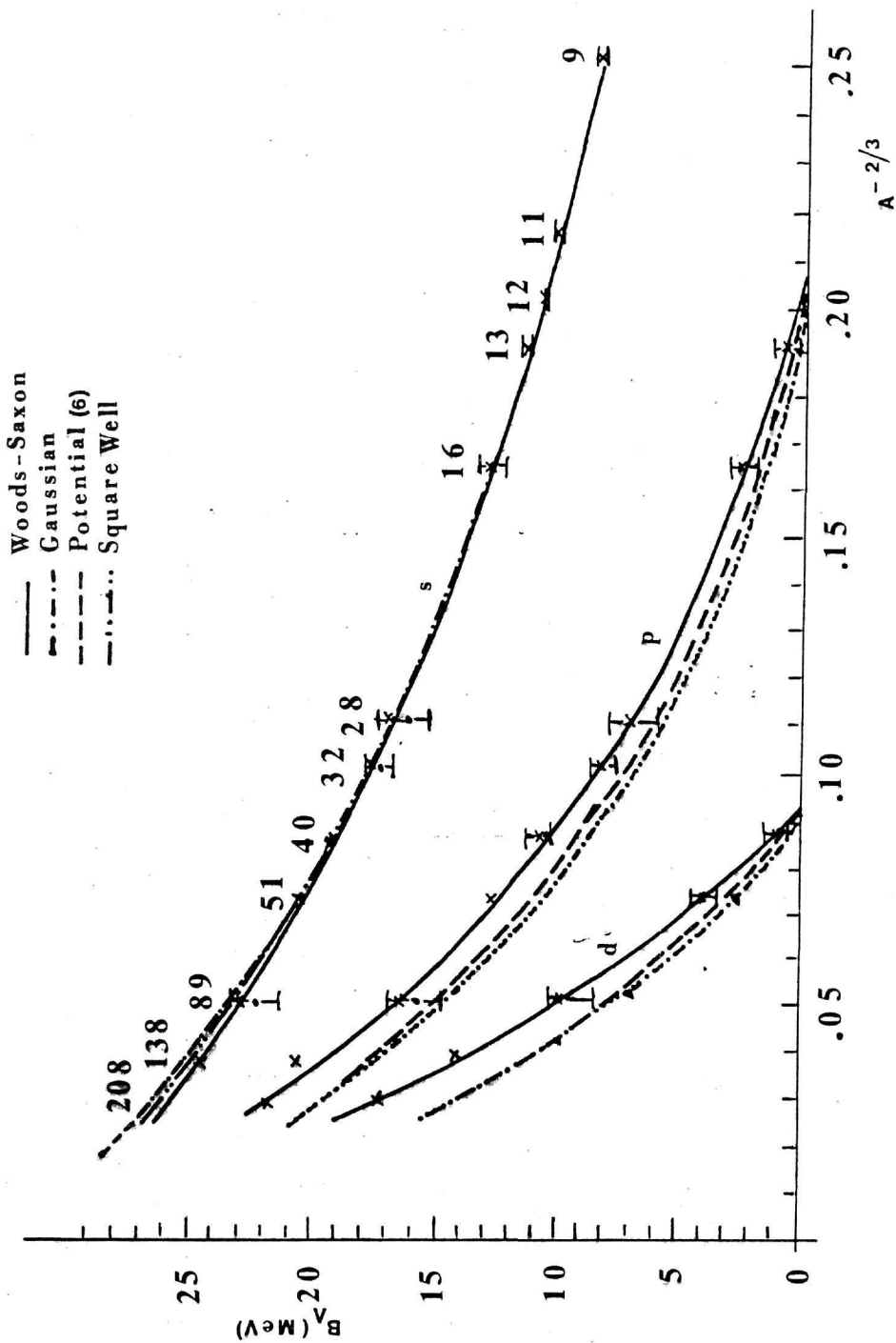
Our results concerning the binding energies  $B_\Lambda$  of the ground and excited states of the Woods-Saxon potential are in a very good agreement with the experimental results of Chrien<sup>11</sup>. This is in agreement with the findings of the non-relativistic treatment of ref. 12. It should be noted also that the symmetrized Woods-Saxon potential gives very close results with those of the Woods-Saxon potential. The results are not so good with the other potentials for the excited states.

In this contribution we gave also an estimate of the root mean square radii of the orbits of the  $\Lambda$ -particle in hypernuclei. The calculations were performed using the Woods-Saxon potential and they refer to the ground state as well as the excited states  $1p_{3/2}$  and  $1p_{1/2}$ . In the ground state the r.m.s. radii were also calculated using the approximate formula (8) (coll. II of table (1)). Comparing these values with the "exact" ones, given in col.(I) of the same table we see that this formula underestimates the r.m.s. radii, the difference being of the order of 4% - 6%. The r.m.s. radii obtained here do not differ very much from the non-relativistic results obtained by Rayet<sup>13</sup>, with a different approach, the values of Rayet being slightly smaller than our values. Also our values for the ground state are smaller than the non-relativistic values found by Daskaloyannis et al.<sup>14</sup>, who used a square well potential.

TABLE 1

Root mean square radii of the orbits of the  $\Lambda$ -particle in hypernuclei  
using the Woods-Saxon potential

Hyper-nuclei	$1s_{1/2}$ "exact"	$1s_{1/2}$ approx.	$1p_{3/2}$	$1p_{1/2}$
$^{13}_{\Lambda}\text{C}$	2.39	2.30		
$^{16}_{\Lambda}\text{O}$	2.40	2.27		
$^{28}_{\Lambda}\text{Si}$	2.52	2.36		
$^{32}_{\Lambda}\text{S}$	2.54	2.39	3.32	3.32
$^{40}_{\Lambda}\text{Ca}$	2.67	2.49	3.37	3.35
$^{51}_{\Lambda}\text{V}$	2.79	2.61	3.47	3.45
$^{89}_{\Lambda}\text{Y}$	3.16	2.93	3.82	3.79
$^{138}_{\Lambda}\text{Ba}$	3.54	3.32	4.22	4.18
$^{208}_{\Lambda}\text{Pb}$	3.97	3.72	4.69	4.65



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