

The Dipole-Dipole Dispersion Forces for Small, Intermediate and Large Distances

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Abstract We obtain an improved expression for the dipole-dipole London dispersion force between closed shell atoms for small, intermediate and large distances compared with their linear dimensions.

1. INTRODUCTION

The London¹ dispersion force theory has been treated, in details, by Longuet-Higgins² for intermediate and large distances. Since the usual multipole expansion fails for intermediate distances, he has written the interaction matrix elements without expanding the interatomic potential in multipoles. Lassette³ suggested applying this method to calculate the interatomic electrostatic potential between neutral atoms. Following Lassette's suggestion Csanak and Taylor⁴ have applied this method to calculate the first terms of the transition matrix element of the charge density operator $X_{n,p}(q)$, also called polarization potential. They have also successfully obtained expressions for the polarization potential for the electron-atom scattering.

Jacobi and Csanak⁵ were the first to calculate⁶ the dipole-dipole term of the London dispersion force at arbitrary distances, using an analytic representation of the Born amplitudes in momentum space and a general analysis of angular momentum.

According to Csanak and Taylor⁴, the matrix element $X_{n1}(q)$ is given by

$$X_{n1}(q) = D_n \left[\frac{q}{(\alpha^2 + q^2)^3} - \frac{2q^3}{(\alpha^2 + q^2)^4} \right] \alpha^6 + M_n \frac{16 q^3 \alpha^3}{\pi (\alpha^2 + q^2)^4}. \quad (1.1)$$

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However, as will be shown in section 2, the matrix element $X_{n1}(q)$ defined in eq. (1.1) is not correct and must be replaced by

$$X_{n1}(q) = \sqrt{2\pi/3} D_n \left[\frac{q}{(\alpha^2+q^2)^3} - \frac{2q^3}{(\alpha^2+q^2)^4} \right] \alpha^6 + M_n \frac{32 q^3 \alpha^3}{\pi(\alpha^2+q^2)^4} \quad (1.2)$$

In section 3, the dipole-dipole interaction energy between two neutral atoms in the ground state is calculated using only the first term on the right hand side of eq. (1.2), since $D_n \gg M_n$, as one can easily verify. We see that for large distances our results agree with those of Dalgarno⁷, as expected. On the other hand, for small distances we show that our results are different from those of Jacobi and Csanak⁵.

2. THE MATRIX ELEMENT $X_{n1}(q)$

We use here the method adopted by Csanak and Taylor⁴ to obtain $X_{n1}(q)$. According to them, the coefficients β and γ are determined by taking $X_{n1}(q)$, which is given by

$$X_{n1}(q) = \beta \frac{q}{(\alpha^2+q^2)^3} + \gamma \frac{q^3}{(\alpha^2+q^2)^4} + \dots, \quad (2.1)$$

in the limit $q \rightarrow 0$ and comparing it with the exact Taylor-series expansion of $X_{nL}(q)$ around $q \rightarrow 0$, defined by

$$X_{nL}(q) = \sum_{x=L}^{\infty} \frac{X_{nL}^{(x)}(q)}{x!} q^x, \quad (2.2)$$

where

$$X_{nL}^{(x)}(q) = 4\pi i^L \sum_{i=1}^N \int \psi_0^*(\vec{r}_1 \dots \vec{r}_N) j_L(qr_i) Y_{LM}(\hat{r}_i) \psi_n(\vec{r}_1 \dots \vec{r}_N) d\vec{r}_1 \dots d\vec{r}_N, \quad (2.3)$$

is the spectroscopic multipole oscillator strength.

For $L=x=1$, eq. (2.3) follows as

$$X_{n1}^{(1)} = \sqrt{2\pi/3} D_n, \quad (2.4)$$

where

$$D_n = \sqrt{8\pi/3} \ i \sum_{i=1}^N \int \psi_0^*(\vec{r}_1 \dots \vec{r}_N) r_i Y_{10}(\hat{r}_i) \psi_n(\vec{r}_1 \dots \vec{r}_N) d\vec{r}_1 \dots d\vec{r}_N, \quad (2.5)$$

is the dipole oscillator strength.

For $x = L+2$, $L = 1$, eq. (2.3) becomes

$$x_{n1}^{(3)}(q) = 4\pi \ i \sum_{i=1}^N \int \psi_0(\vec{r}_1 \dots \vec{r}_N) j_1(qr_i) Y_{10}(\hat{r}_i) \psi_n(\vec{r}_1 \dots \vec{r}_N) d\vec{r}_1 \dots d\vec{r}_N, \quad (2.6)$$

where

$$j_1(qr) = \frac{1}{3} (qr) - \frac{1}{5!} (qr)^3 + \dots, \quad (2.7)$$

is a spherical Bessel function of the first kind¹⁰.

Substituting eq. (2.5) into eq. (2.6), for $x = 3$, $L = 1$, the following result is obtained

$$X_{n1}^{(3)}(q) = \sqrt{2\pi/3} D_n q + \dots, \quad (2.8)$$

neglecting higher-order terms in q .

From eqs. (2.1) and (2.8) we see that the coefficient β is given by

$$\beta = \sqrt{2\pi/3} D_n \alpha^6. \quad (2.9)$$

In the next step γ will be determined by using the exact first moment M_n , which is defined by⁴

$$M_n = \int_0^\infty q X_{n1}(q) dq. \quad (2.10)$$

Then, substituting eqs. (2.1) and (2.9) into eq. (2.10) we find

$$M_n = \sqrt{2\pi/3} D_n \int_0^\infty \frac{q}{(1+q^2/\alpha^2)^3} dq + \frac{\gamma}{\alpha^8} \int_0^\infty \frac{q^4}{(1+q^2/\alpha^2)^4} dq, \quad (2.11)$$

which allows us to find

$$\gamma = -\sqrt{2\pi/3} D_n (2\alpha^6) + 32 M_n \alpha^3 / \pi, \quad (2.12)$$

taking into account the integrals

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{dx}{(x^2+a^2)^n} = \frac{(2n-3)!!}{2(2n-2)!!} \cdot \frac{\pi}{a^{2n-1}}, \quad (2.13)$$

where $n = 1, 2, 3$ and 4.

Now, substituting eqs. (2.9) and (2.12) in to eq. (2.1) we get,

$$X_{n1}(q) = \sqrt{2\pi/3} D_n \left[\frac{q}{(\alpha^2+q^2)^3} - \frac{2q^3}{(\alpha^2+q^2)^4} \right] \alpha^6 + \frac{32M_n q^3 \alpha^3}{\pi (\alpha^2+q^2)^4}. \quad (2.14)$$

Comparing Csanak and Taylor's⁴ result, given by eq. (1.1), with our eq (2.14), we see that they are different by a factor $\sqrt{2\pi/3}$ in the first term and by a factor 2 in the second one.

In the next section we use the matrix element $X_{n1}(q)$ given by eq. (2.14) to calculate the interaction energy $W^{(1,1)}(R)$ for two neutral atoms in the ground state.

3. THE DIPOLE-DIPOLE TERM

Following Jacobi and Csanak⁵ the second order dipole-dipole interaction energy between two neutral atoms in the ground state is given by

$$\begin{aligned} W^{(1,1)}(R) = & -\frac{2}{\pi^4} \int_0^\infty du \int_0^\infty dq \int_0^\infty dq' \sum_{LL'\ell} \begin{pmatrix} L & L' & \ell \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 \\ & \cdot j_L(qR) j_{L'}(q'R) \cdot \frac{(2L+1)(2L'+1)(2\ell+1)}{4\pi} \\ & \cdot \sum_{m \neq 0} \frac{\left(E_{nL}^{(1)} - E_0^{(1)} \right) X_{nL}(q) X_{nL'}^*(q')}{\left(E_{nL}^{(1)} - E_0^{(1)} \right)^2 + u^2} \\ & \cdot \sum_{m \neq 0} \frac{\left(E_{mL}^{(2)} - E_0^{(2)} \right) X_{mL}(q) X_{mL'}^*(q')}{\left(E_{mL}^{(2)} - E_0^{(2)} \right)^2 + u^2}, \quad (3.1) \end{aligned}$$

where R is the distance between the centres of mass of the two systems, E_{nL} refers to the unperturbed excited state energy of the atom with ground state energy E_0 , $X_n(q)$ is the spatial Fourier transform of the transition density matrix between the ground and the n^{th} excited state, $j_L(qR)$ is a Bessel spherical function and

$$\begin{pmatrix} L & L' & \ell \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

is the 3-j Wigner coefficient.

In ref.5 only the first term of $X_{nL}(q)$ for $L = L' = 1$ was used to calculate the dipole-dipole interaction energy and claimed without any justification to be the leading term. Indeed, as it will become apparent from our calculations, the first and the second terms have the same order of magnitude for all values of R.

Substituting eq.(1.2) in eq.(3.1), for $L = L' = 1$, the following result is obtained, taking into account the q-integrals shown explicitly in appendix A

$$\begin{aligned} W^{(1,1)}(R) = & - \frac{2\alpha^2 A}{3\pi^3} \{ [I_1^2(\alpha R) + 2I_2^2(\alpha R)] + \\ & + 8 [2J_1^2(\alpha R) - I_1(\alpha R)J_1(\alpha R) + 2K_1^2(\alpha R) - 4J_1(\alpha R)K_1(\alpha R) + I_1(\alpha R)K_1(\alpha R)] + \\ & + 16 [2J_2^2(\alpha R) - I_2(\alpha R)J_2(\alpha R) + 2K_2^2(\alpha R) - 4J_2(\alpha R)K_2(\alpha R) + I_2(\alpha R)K_2(\alpha R)] \}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

where the functions $I_j(\alpha R)$, $J_j(\alpha R)$ and $K_j(\alpha R)$ are seen in appendix A,

$$A = \int_0^\infty d\omega \alpha_1(i\omega) \alpha_2(i\omega) \quad , \quad (3.3)$$

with $\alpha_j(i\omega)$ denoting the frequency-dependent dipole polarizability, defined by

$$\alpha_j(i\omega) = \sum_n \frac{\left[E_{nL}^{(j)} - E_0^{(j)} \right] D_n D_n^*}{n \left[E_{nL}^{(j)} - E_0^{(j)} \right]^2 + u^2} \quad (3.4)$$

Taking into account $I_{\dot{z}}(R)$, $J_{\dot{z}}(R)$ and $K_{\dot{z}}(R)$, shown in appendix A, eq. (3.2) can be written, only to simplify the analysis of the limits $R \rightarrow 0$ and $R \rightarrow \infty$ of the potential $W^{(1,1)}(R)$, as a sum of two functions, $V_{\text{disp}}^{(1,1)}(R)$ and $U_{\text{disp}}^{(1,1)}(R)$:

$$W^{(1,1)}(R) = V_{\text{disp}}^{(1,1)}(R) + U_{\text{disp}}^{(1,1)}(R), \quad (3.5)$$

where

$$V_{\text{disp}}^{(1,1)}(R) = -\frac{3A}{\pi R^6} \left\{ \left[1 - e^{-\alpha R} P_7(\alpha R) \right]^2 + \frac{2}{9} (\alpha R)^6 \left[e^{-\alpha R} P_4(\alpha R) \right]^2 \right\}, \quad (3.6)$$

$$U_{\text{disp}}^{(1,1)}(R) = -\frac{3A}{\pi R^6} \left\{ \frac{(\alpha R)^6 e^{-2\alpha R}}{2^7 \cdot 3^2} \left[\frac{1}{2^{10}} \left(Q_7(\alpha R) - Q_6(\alpha R) \right)^2 + P_4(\alpha R) \left(Q_7(\alpha R) - Q_6(\alpha R) \right) \right] + \frac{e^{-2\alpha R}}{2^{14} \cdot 3^2} (A_9(\alpha R) - A_8(\alpha R))^2 + \frac{e^{-\alpha R}}{2^6 \cdot 3} (A_9(\alpha R) - A_8(\alpha R)) \cdot \left[1 - e^{-\alpha R} P_7(\alpha R) \right] \right\}, \quad (3.7)$$

and the $P_n(\alpha R)$, $Q_n(\alpha R)$, and $A_n(\alpha R)$ are given by

$$P_4(x) = \frac{1}{2^9} \left(7 + \frac{7}{2} x + 3x^2 + \frac{2}{3} x^3 + \frac{1}{15} x^4 \right), \quad (3.8)$$

$$P_7(x) = \left(1 + x + \frac{1}{2} x^2 + \frac{1}{6} x^3 + \frac{57}{1536} x^4 + \frac{31}{3840} x^5 + \frac{33}{17280} x^6 + \frac{1}{11520} x^7 \right), \quad (3.9)$$

$$Q_6(x) = \left(49 + \frac{7}{3} x + \frac{23}{6} x^2 + \frac{1}{3} x^3 - \frac{1}{15} x^4 - \frac{1}{45} x^5 \right), \quad (3.10)$$

$$Q_7(x) = \left(\frac{35}{2} - \frac{5}{2} x + \frac{7}{4} x^2 - \frac{1}{12} x^3 - \frac{1}{15} x^4 - \frac{1}{90} x^5 + \frac{1}{630} x^6 \right), \quad (3.11)$$

$$A_8(x) = \left(\frac{7}{3} x^4 - \frac{5}{12} x^5 - \frac{13}{30} x^6 + \frac{1}{6} x^7 + \frac{1}{90} x^8 \right), \quad (3.12)$$

$$A_9(x) = (x^4 - \frac{3}{8}x^5 - \frac{61}{280}x^6 + \frac{29}{210}x^7 - \frac{1}{252}x^8 - \frac{1}{1269}x^9) . \quad (3.13)$$

Comparing our $P_4(x)$ and $P_7(x)$ with those calculated by Jacobi and Csanak⁵ we verify that some of their coefficients are not correct. We must note also that the polarizability integral W , defined by them in page 370, is not correct. Indeed, comparing W with the polarizability, which is indicated by A in eq. (3.3), we verify that, in the $R \rightarrow 0$ limit, W must be multiplied by a factor $1/9$.

Considering eqs. (3.6) and (3.7) we have the following limits for $R \rightarrow 0$ and $R \rightarrow \infty$:

$$V_{\text{disp}}^{(1,1)}(R \rightarrow 0) = U_{\text{disp}}^{(1,1)}(R \rightarrow \infty) = 0 , \quad (3.14)$$

and

$$V_{\text{disp}}^{(1,1)}(R \rightarrow 0) = -\frac{A\alpha^2}{6\pi} \left(\frac{7}{256}\right)^2 . \quad (3.15)$$

$$V_{\text{disp}}^{(1,1)}(R \rightarrow \infty) = -\frac{3A}{\pi R^6} . \quad (3.16)$$

From eqs. (3.16), we see that for large R our prediction for $V_{\text{disp}}^{(1,1)}(R \rightarrow \infty) = -3A/\pi R^6$ coincides with that obtained by Dalgarno⁷, as expected. For small $V_{\text{disp}}^{(1,1)}(R \rightarrow 0) = -(A\alpha^2/6\pi)(7/256)^2$ is different from that shown by Jacobi and Csanak⁵.

In figures 1 and 2 our results are seen for $W^{(1,1)}(R)/A$, given by eq. (3.5), for two values of α^2 , compared with those of Jacobi and Csanak⁵. We verify that ours and Jacobi and Csanak's⁵ results agree for intermediate and large distances; for small distances they are different. According to our predictions the interaction potential is very much more attractive than that obtained by Jacobi and Csanak⁵.

In future work we intend to introduce higher order dispersion forces terms, such as dipole-quadrupole, dipole-octupole, quadrupole-quadrupole, and to compare our predictions with experimental results in scattering problems, in virial coefficients⁵ and for compressed solid hydrogen¹¹.

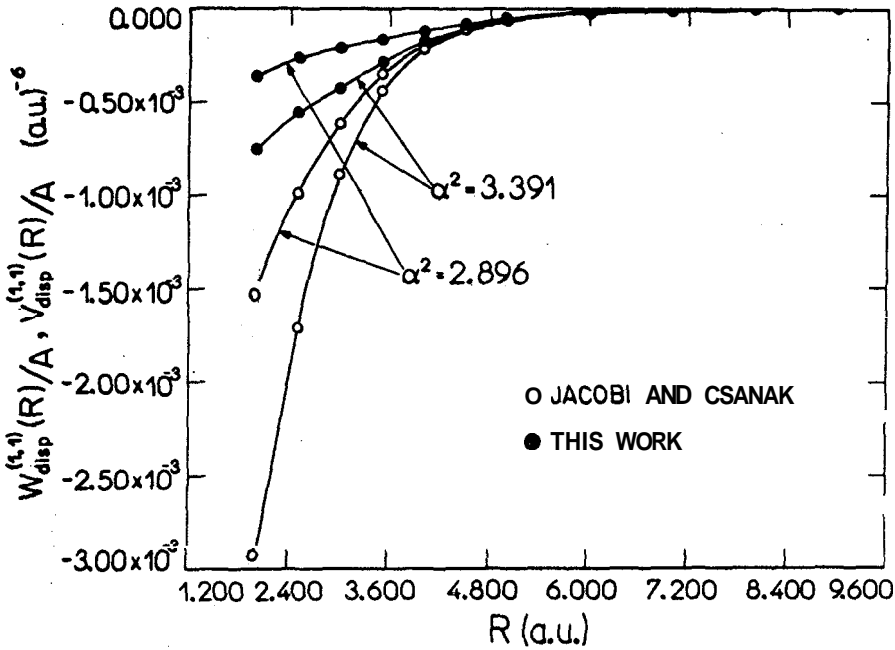


Fig.1 - The Van der Waals potential. Our predictions $W^{(1,1)}(R)/A$ (●) are compared with those of Jacobi and Csanak $V^{(1,1)}(R)/A$ (○) at large distances, for $a^2 = 3.391$ and $a^2 = 2.896$.

APPENDIX A - The q-integrals Results

The q-integrals which appear in section 3 are the following^{3,10}

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{x^{\nu+1} J_\nu(ax)}{(x^2+K^2)^{\mu+1}} dx = \frac{a^\mu K^{\nu-\mu}}{2^\mu \Gamma(\mu+1)} K_{\nu-\mu}(aK) \quad (1A)$$

$$K(z) = \left(\frac{\pi}{2z}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{-z} \sum_{r=0}^N \frac{(n+r)!}{(n-r)! (2z)^r} \quad (2A)$$

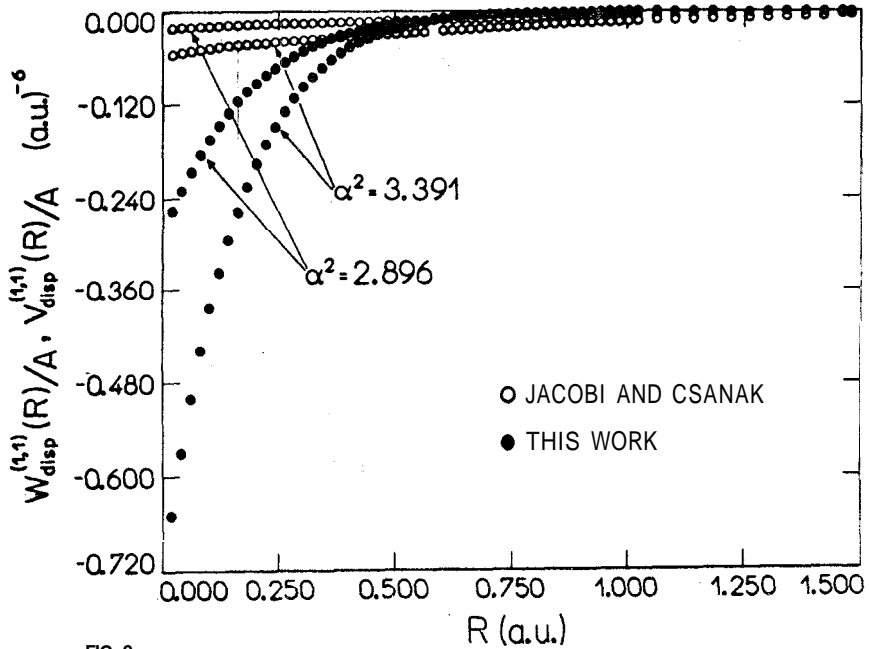


FIG. 2

Fig.2 - The Van der Waals potential. Our predictions $W^{(1,1)}(R)/A$ (●) are compared with those of Jacobi and Csanak $V_{disp}^{(1,1)}(R)/A$ (○) at small distances, for $\alpha^2 = 3.391$ and $\alpha^2 = 2.896$.

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\text{sen}(ax)}{x(\beta^2 + x^2)^{n+1}} dx = \frac{\pi}{2\beta^{2n+2}} \left[1 - \frac{e^{-\alpha\beta}}{2^n \cdot n!} F_n(\alpha\beta) \right], \quad (3A)$$

$$F_0(z) = 1, \quad F_1(z) = z+2, \dots, F_n(z) = (z+2n)F_{n-1}(z) - zF_{n-1}'(z). \quad (4A)$$

For $\ell = 0, 2$ we get:

$$I_1(\alpha R) = \int_0^{\infty} dq \frac{q^2 \cdot j_0(qR)}{(\alpha^2 + q^2)^6} = \frac{\pi e^{-\alpha R}}{\alpha^9} P_4(\alpha R), \quad (5A)$$

$$J_1(\alpha R) = \int_0^\infty dq \frac{q^3 \cdot j_0(qR)}{(\alpha^2 + q^2)^3} = \frac{\pi e^{-\alpha R}}{2^{11} \alpha^9} Q_6(\alpha R) , \quad (6A)$$

$$K_1(\alpha R) = \int_0^\infty dq \frac{q^6 \cdot j_0(qR)}{(\alpha^2 + q^2)^8} = \frac{\pi e^{-\alpha R}}{2^{11} \alpha^9} Q_7(\alpha R) , \quad (7A)$$

$$I_2(\alpha R) = \int_0^\infty dq \frac{q^2 \cdot j_2(qR)}{(\alpha^2 + q^2)^6} = \frac{3\pi}{2 \alpha^{12} R^3} \left[1 - e^{-\alpha R} P_7(\alpha R) \right] , \quad (8A)$$

$$J_2(\alpha R) = \int_0^\infty dq \frac{q^4 \cdot j_2(qR)}{(\alpha^2 + q^2)^7} = \frac{\pi e^{-\alpha R}}{2^{10} \cdot \alpha^{12} R^3} A_8(\alpha R) , \quad (9A)$$

$$K_2(\alpha R) = \int_0^\infty dq \frac{q^6 \cdot j_2(qR)}{(\alpha^2 + q^2)^8} = \frac{\pi e^{-R}}{2^{10} \cdot \alpha^{12} R^3} A_9(\alpha R) , \quad (10A)$$

where the polynomials $P_4(x)$, $P_7(x)$, $Q_6(x)$, $Q_7(x)$, $A_8(x)$, and $A_9(x)$ are indicated by eqs. [(3.7)-(3.12)].

For $i = 1, 2$ we have,

$$J_i(\alpha R) = I_i(\alpha R) + \frac{\alpha}{12} \left[\frac{d I_i(\alpha R)}{d\alpha} \right] , \quad (11A)$$

$$K_i(\alpha R) = J_i(\alpha R) + \frac{\alpha}{14} \left[\frac{d J_i(\alpha R)}{d\alpha} \right] \quad (12A)$$

Substituting eq. (2.13) into eqs.(5A) and (8A) results:

$$I_1(\alpha R) = \frac{\pi}{2} \left(\frac{7}{256} \right) \frac{1}{\alpha^9} , \quad (13A)$$

$$I_2(\alpha R) = \frac{3\pi}{2R^3} \cdot \frac{1}{\alpha^{12}} . \quad (14A)$$

Now, we will derive the $W^{(1,1)}(R)$ limits for small and large R values.

For small R values we find

$$W^{(1,1)}(R \rightarrow 0) = - \frac{2\alpha^{24}A}{3\pi^3} \left[I_1^2 + 8(2J_1^2 - J_1J_1 + 2K_1^2 - 4J_1K_1 + I_1K_1) \right], \quad (15A)$$

which

$$\left| V_{\text{disp}}^{(1,1)}(R \rightarrow 0) \right| = \left| U_{\text{disp}}^{(1,1)}(R \rightarrow 0) \right| = \frac{\alpha^6 A}{6\pi} \left(\frac{7}{256} \right)^2, \quad (16A)$$

taking into account eqs. (11A-13A) and the following integrals^{9,10}

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{x \text{ sen } ax}{(\beta^2+x^2)} dx = \frac{\pi}{2} e^{-a\beta}, \quad (17A)$$

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{\text{sen } ax}{n(\beta^2+x^2)} = \frac{\pi}{2\beta^2} (1 - e^{-a\beta}), \quad (18A)$$

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{\cos ax}{(\beta^2+x^2)} dx = \frac{a}{2\beta} e^{-a\beta} \quad (19A)$$

For large R values we find

$$W^{(1,1)}(R \rightarrow \infty) = V_{\text{disp}}^{(1,1)}(R \rightarrow \infty) = - \frac{4\alpha^{24} A}{3\pi^3} I_2^2; \quad (20A)$$

which

$$W^{(1,1)}(R \rightarrow \infty) = - \frac{3A}{\pi R^6}, \quad (21A)$$

taking into account eqs. (11A-14A) and (17A-19A).

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Resumo

Obtivemos uma expressão mais correta para a força de dispersão de London na interação dipolo-dipolo, para átomos neutros, a distâncias pequenas, intermediárias e grandes em relação as dimensões lineares dos mesmos.