

New Ways of Treating Data for Diatomic Molecule ‘Shelf’ and Double-Minimum States

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How may we best summarize what we know about a molecule ?

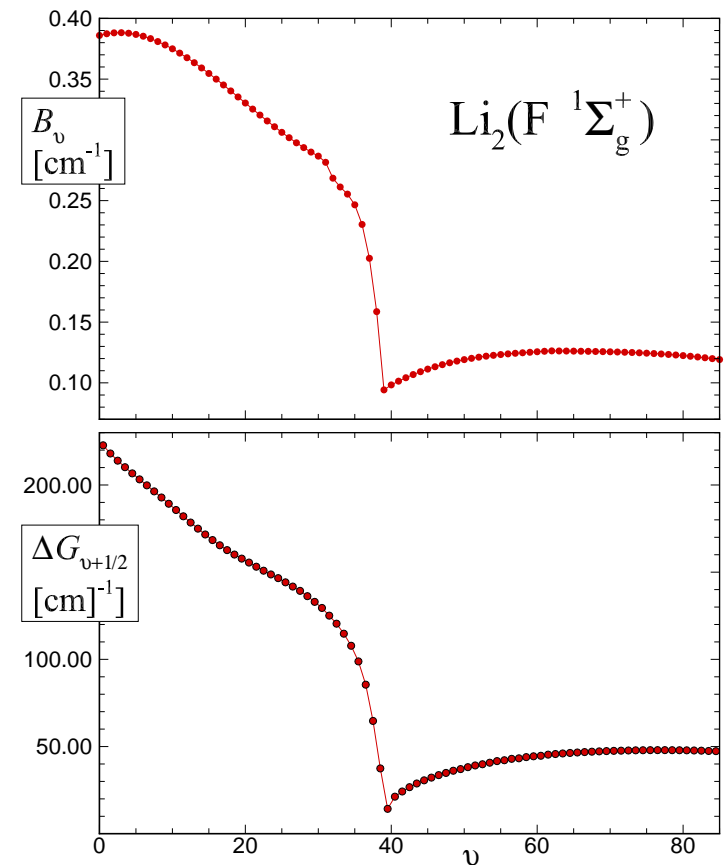
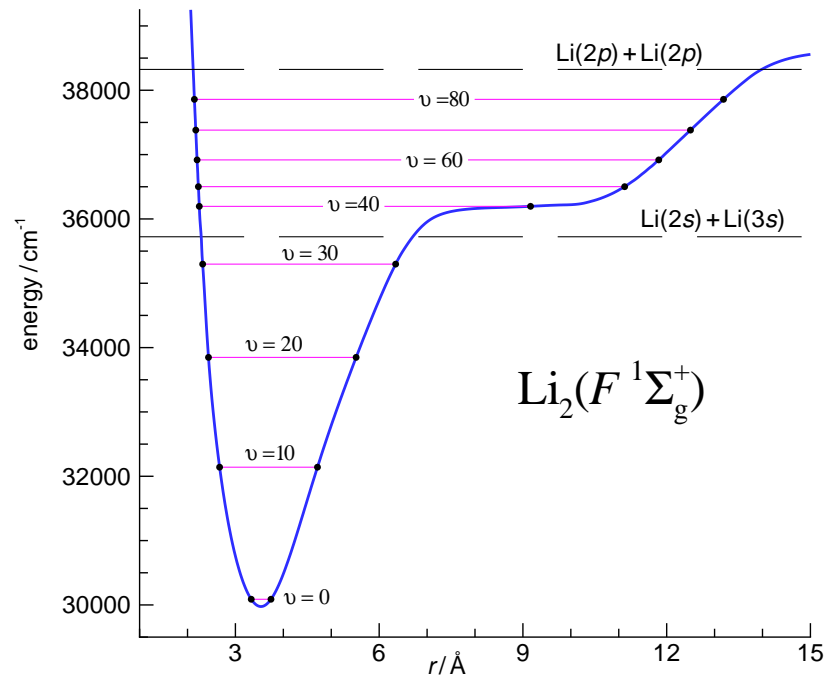
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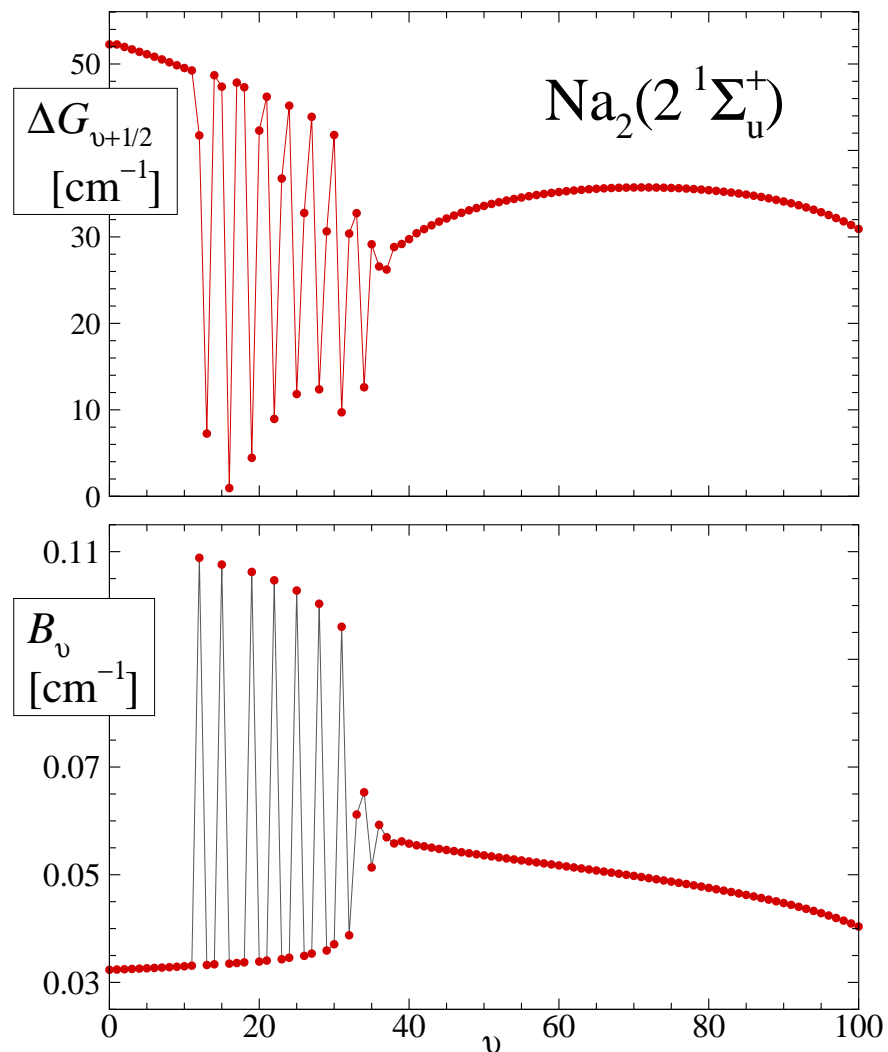
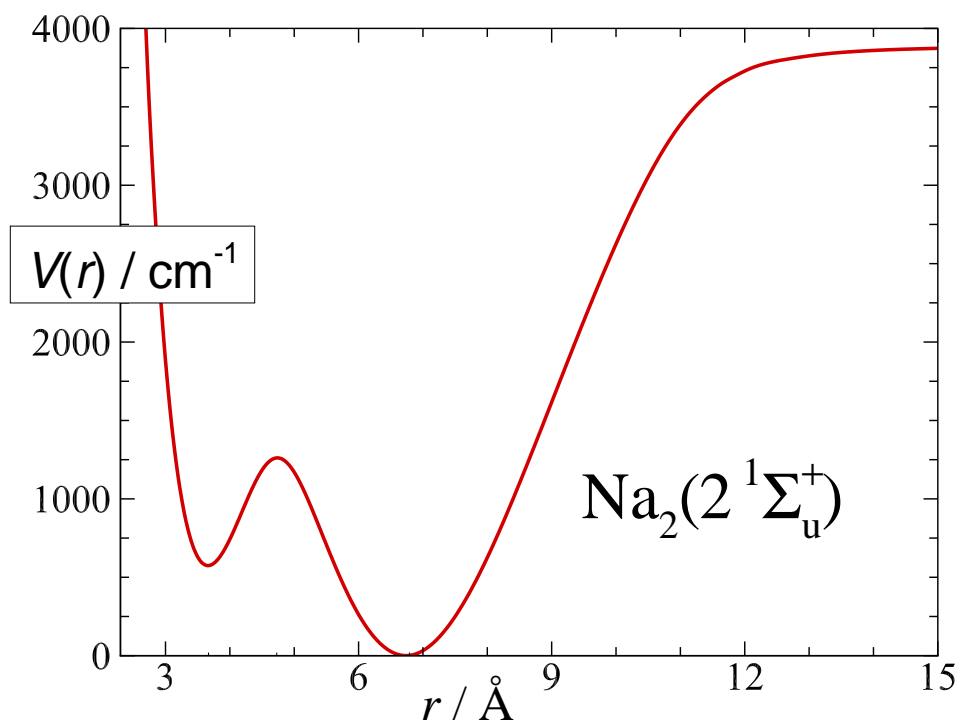
Since the dawn of quantum mechanics, the central paradigm of spectroscopic data analysis was to explain the patterns of observed transition energies in terms of expressions for molecular level energies as functions of vibrational and rotational quantum numbers.

However ... for some types of potentials there are problems with this type of approach ...

(a) for 'shelf-state' potentials

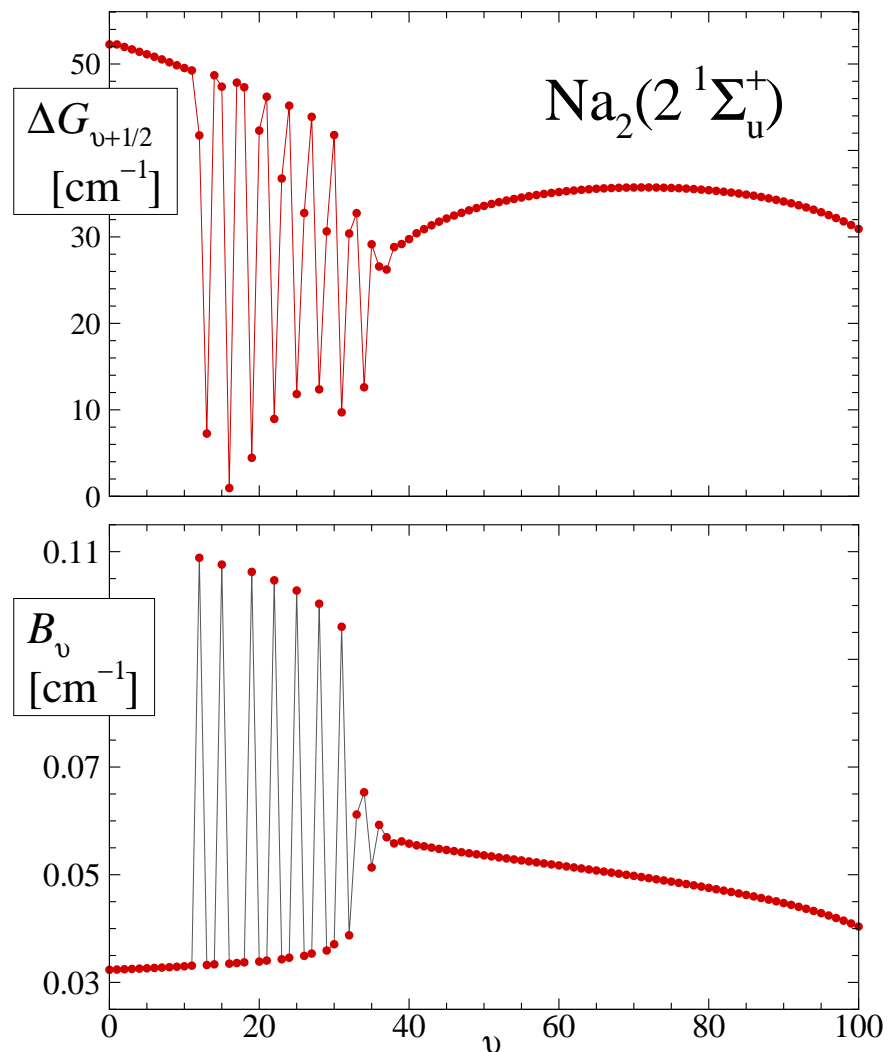
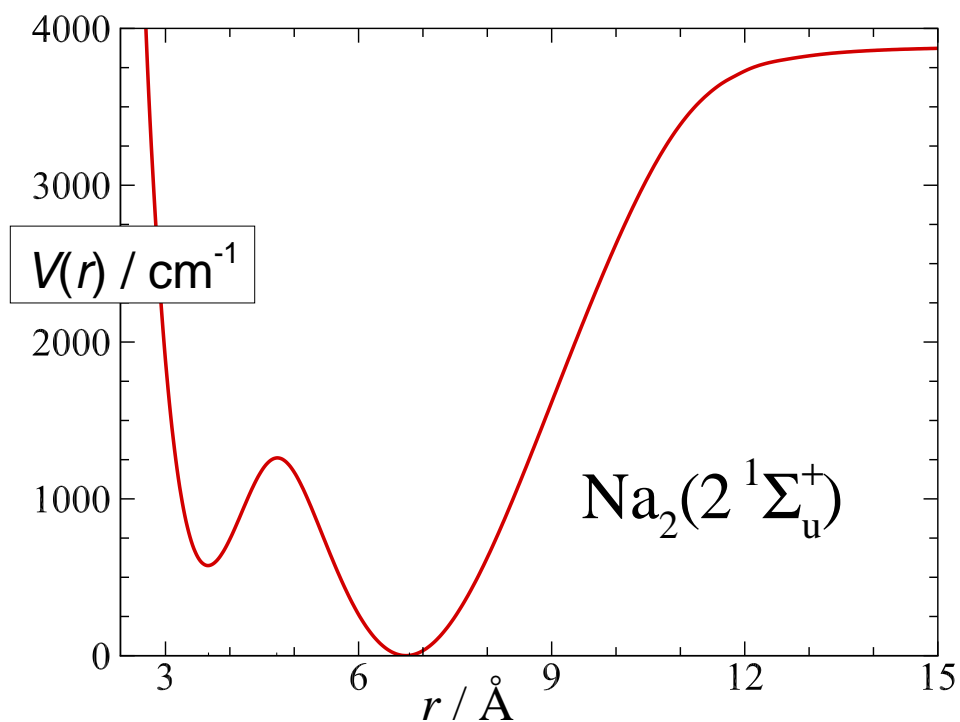


(b) for double-minimum potentials



- large B_v values are for inner well levels
- small B_v values and large $\Delta G_{v+1/2}$ values are for levels of the outer well
- small (and very small) $\Delta G_{v+1/2}$ values arise from accidental near-coincidence of adjacent inner- and outer-well levels

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Conclude: *treating $G(v)$ and B_v as functions of v is not practical*

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- Calculate the partial derivatives of each value of each property w.r.t. each potential function parameter: $\partial F_i(\{p_j\})/\partial p_k$
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- For spectroscopic transition energies this is relatively straightforward, since the data are level energy differences $F_i = E(v', J') - E(v'', J')$, and the partial derivatives of a level energy w.r.t. parameters p_k required for fitting may readily be generated using the Hellmann-Feynman theorem:

$$\frac{\partial E(v, J)}{\partial p_k} = \left\langle \psi_{v,J} \left| \frac{\partial V(r; \{p_j\})}{\partial p_k} \right| \psi_{v,J} \right\rangle$$

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- For 'regular' (non-shelf) single-minimum states this fitting is becoming 'routine'
- ... but how should we represent analytic potential functions for shelf- or double-minimum states ??*

1. Pashov's 'Spline-Pointwise' Potential (SPP) form

- * $V(r)$ is represented by a cubic spline through a set of specified points
- * The energies at those points are the fitting parameters
- * Attach analytic long- and short-range functions at *ad hoc* distances r_{out} and r_{in} , with parameters chosen to give smooth joins

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Advantages

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Disadvantages

- Third derivatives discontinuous at all spline points. Higher-order derivatives do not exist anywhere.
- Requires a large number of parameters/spline points ($\gtrsim 50$), each specified to many significant digits, making it inconvenient to copy and use.
- Discontinuous high derivatives at attachment to the extrapolation regions

2. Prefer a Global Analytic Morse-like ‘MLR’ function

$$V(r) = \mathfrak{D}_e \left(1 - \frac{u_{\text{LR}}(r)}{u_{\text{LR}}(r_e)} e^{-\beta(r) \cdot y_p^{\text{eq}}(r)} \right)^2$$

* in which the exponent radial variable $(r - r_e)$ is replaced by $y_p^{\text{eq}}(r) = \frac{r^p - r_e^p}{r^p + r_e^p}$

* the exponent coefficient function $\beta(r)$ is the constrained polynomial expansion:

$$\beta(r) = \beta_\infty y_p^{\text{ref}}(r) + [1 - y_p^{\text{ref}}(r)] \sum_{i=0}^{N_\beta} \beta_i [y_q^{\text{ref}}(r)]^i$$

in which the coefficients β_i are the shape/fitting parameters, $y_{q/p}^{\text{ref}}(r) = \frac{r^{q/p} - r_{\text{ref}}^{q/p}}{r^{q/p} + r_{\text{ref}}^{q/p}}$

* $u_{\text{LR}}(r) = \sum_{i=1}^{\text{last}} D_{m_i}(r) \frac{C_{m_i}}{r^{m_i}}$ defines the long-range behaviour

* and the explicit constraint

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \beta(r) \equiv \beta_\infty = \ln \left\{ \frac{2 \mathfrak{D}_e}{u_{\text{LR}}(r_e)} \right\}$$

algebraically *requires* the potential to have the long-range form

$$V(r) \simeq \mathfrak{D}_e - u_{\text{LR}}(r)$$

2. Global Analytic Morse/Long-Range (MLR) function

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Advantages

- Incorporates physically meaningful quantities \mathcal{D}_e , r_e , and the C_{m_i} as explicit fitting parameters in the algebraic form, as well as the $\{\beta_i\}$
- Function and derivatives to all order are smooth everywhere
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Disadvantages

- High inter-parameter correlation
- Difficulty accounting for abrupt changes in shape encountered in shelf- and double-minimum potentials

Can we combine the best features of both forms ?

3. The Spline-Exponent-MLR (SE-MLR) form

Same MLR structure, except that instead of being represented by a constrained polynomial, the exponent coefficient $\beta(r)$ is defined as a spline function through a specified set of values $\{\beta_k\}$, which are the fitting parameters. It can be written as:

$$\beta(r) = \sum_{k=1}^N S_k(r) \cdot \beta(y_q^{\text{ref}}(r_k)) = \sum_{k=1}^N S_k(r) \cdot \beta_k$$

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How do we apply the SE-MLR ?

1. Choose parameters q , p , and r_{ref} to define radial variables $y_q^{\text{ref}}(r)$ and $y_p^{\text{eq}}(r)$
2. Place the N spline points $y_q^{\text{ref}}(r_k)$
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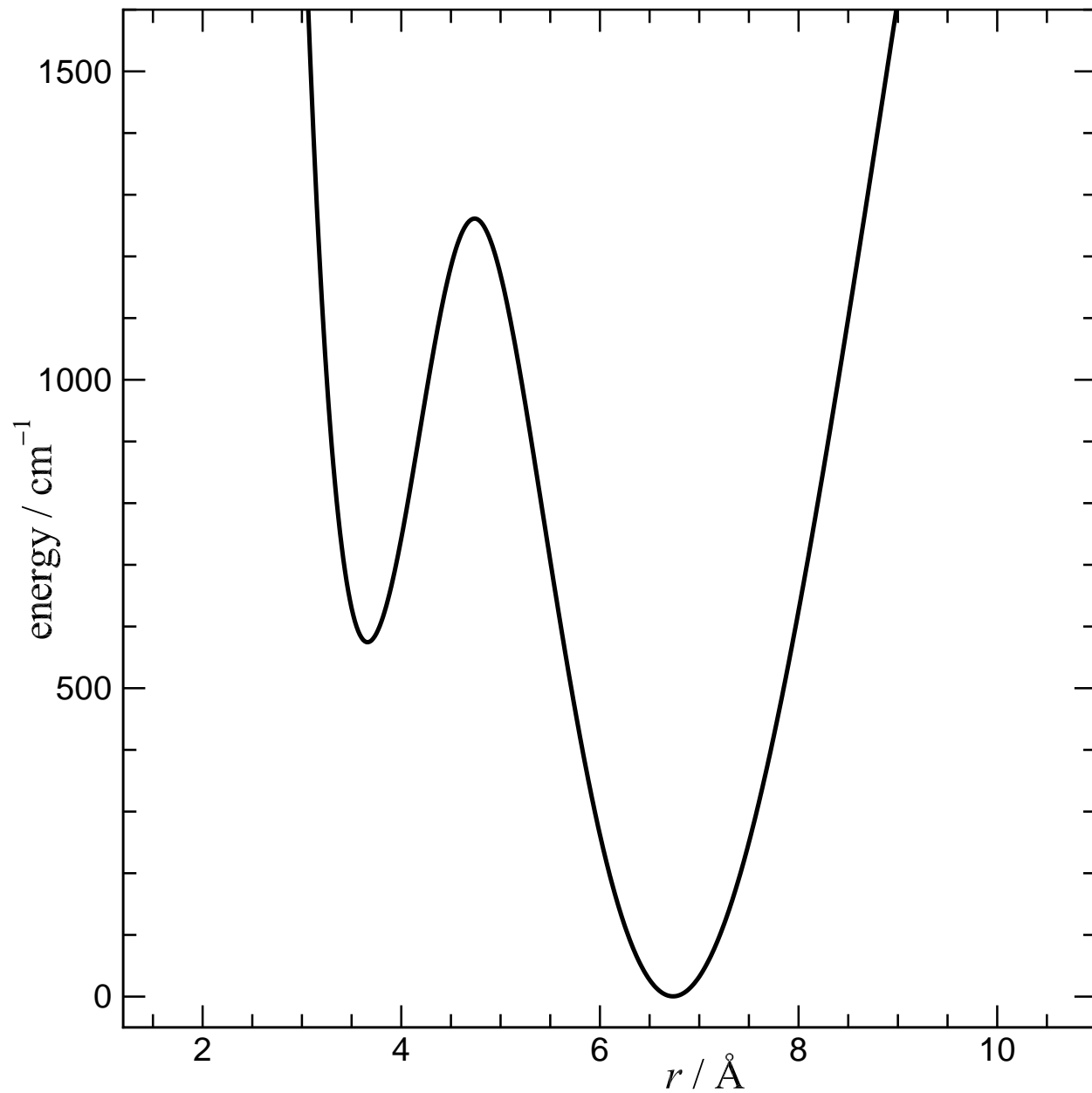
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However, for any form, the central step of a fitting procedure is

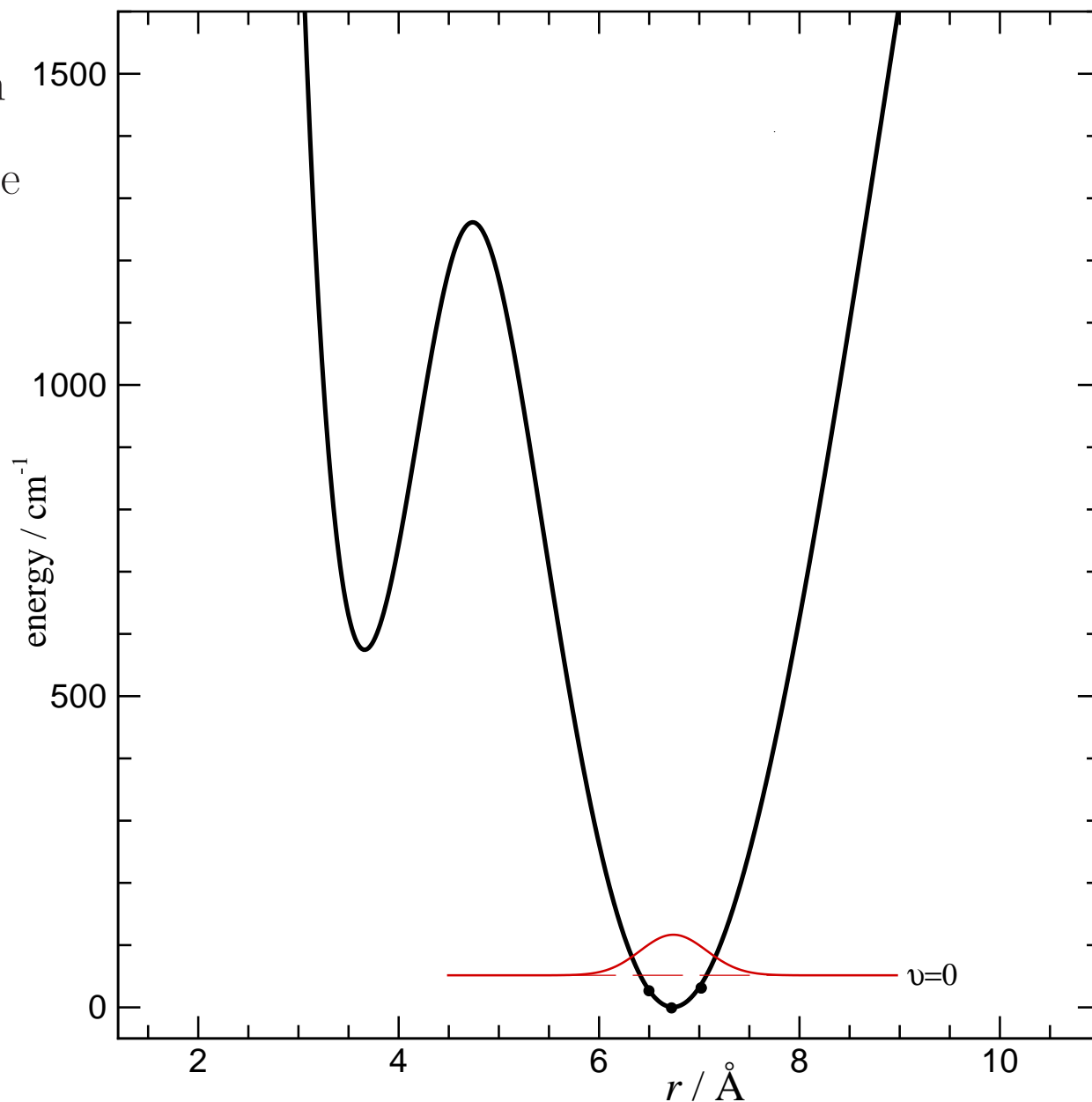
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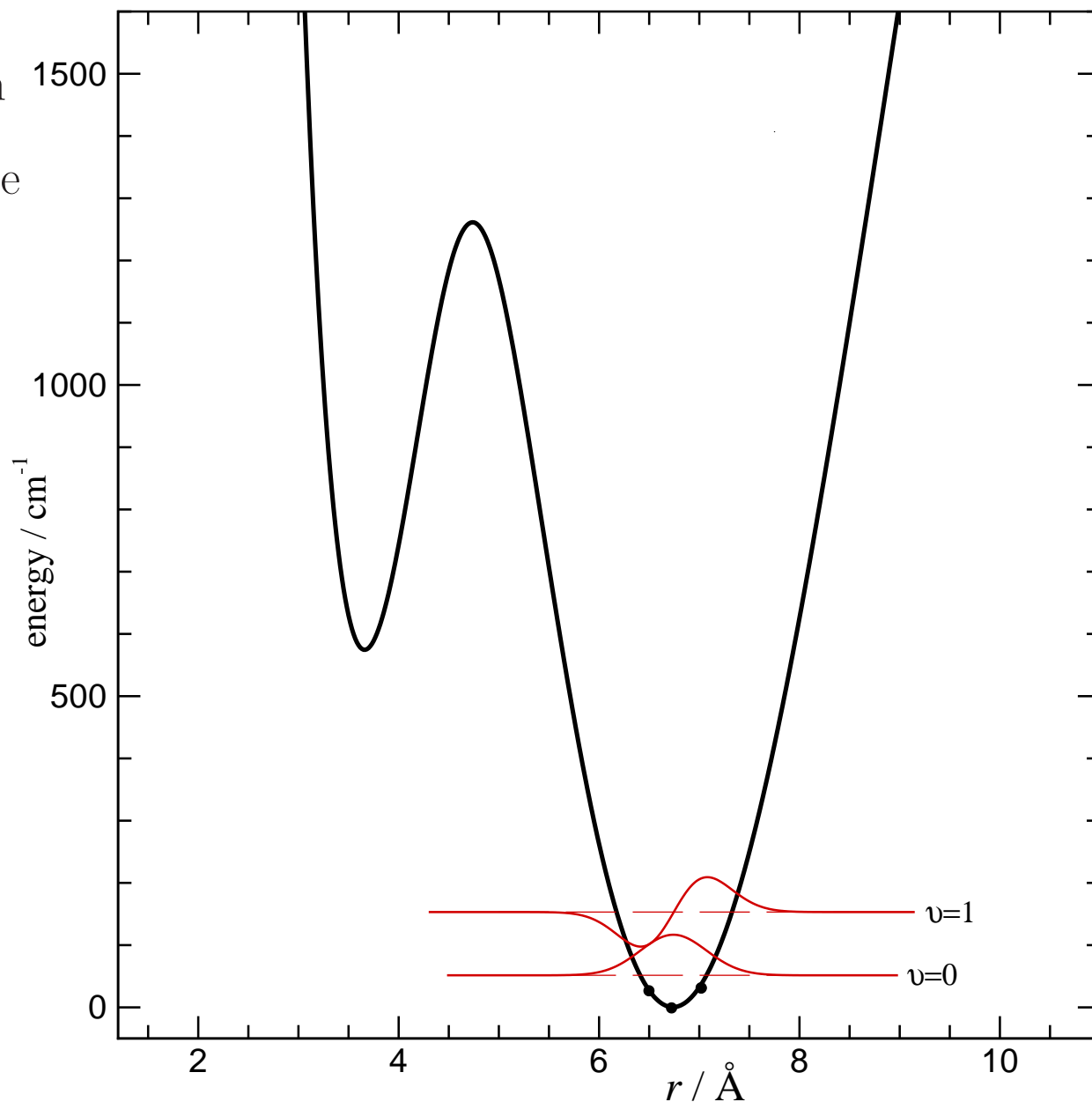


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to estimate level spacing



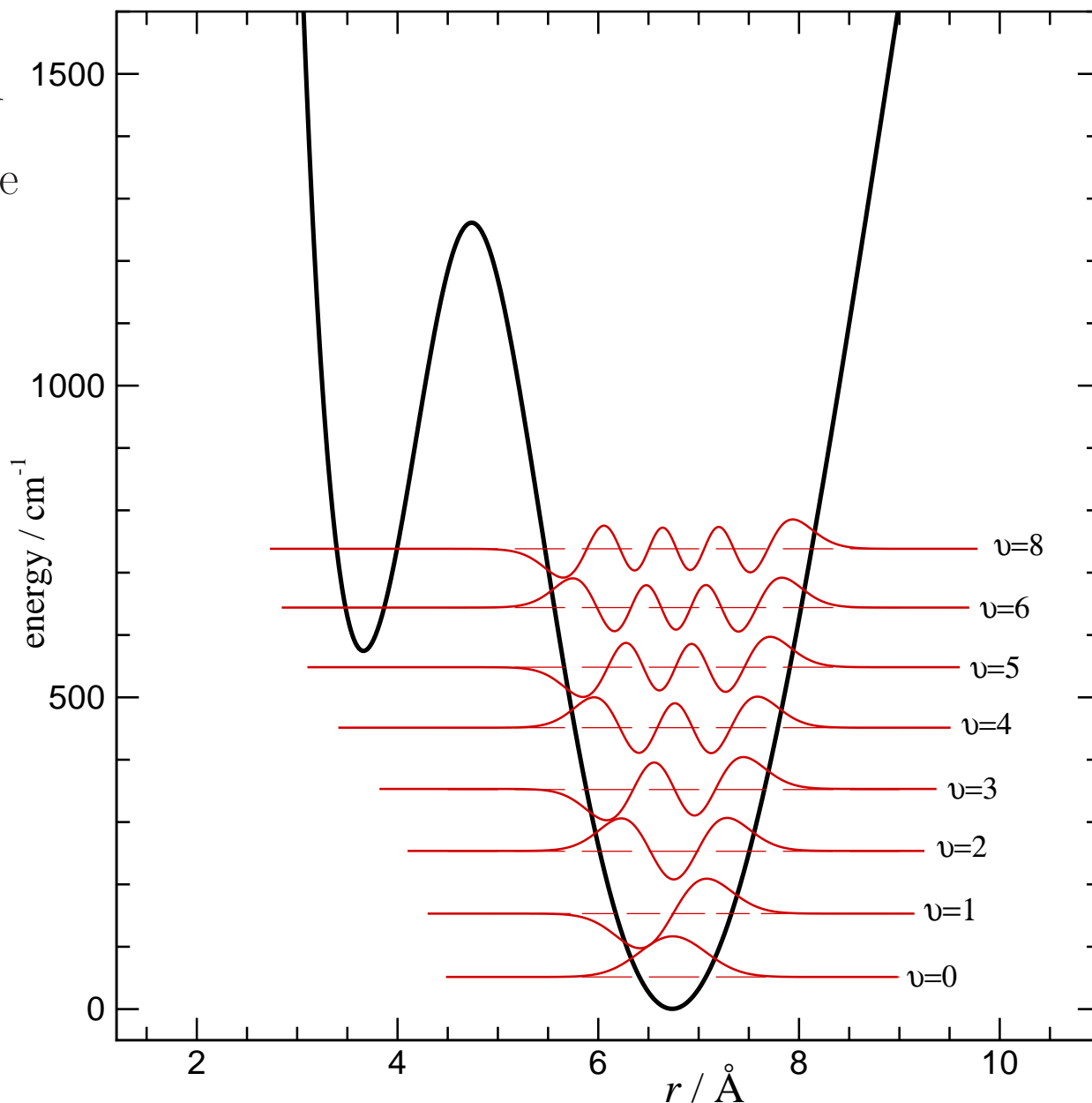
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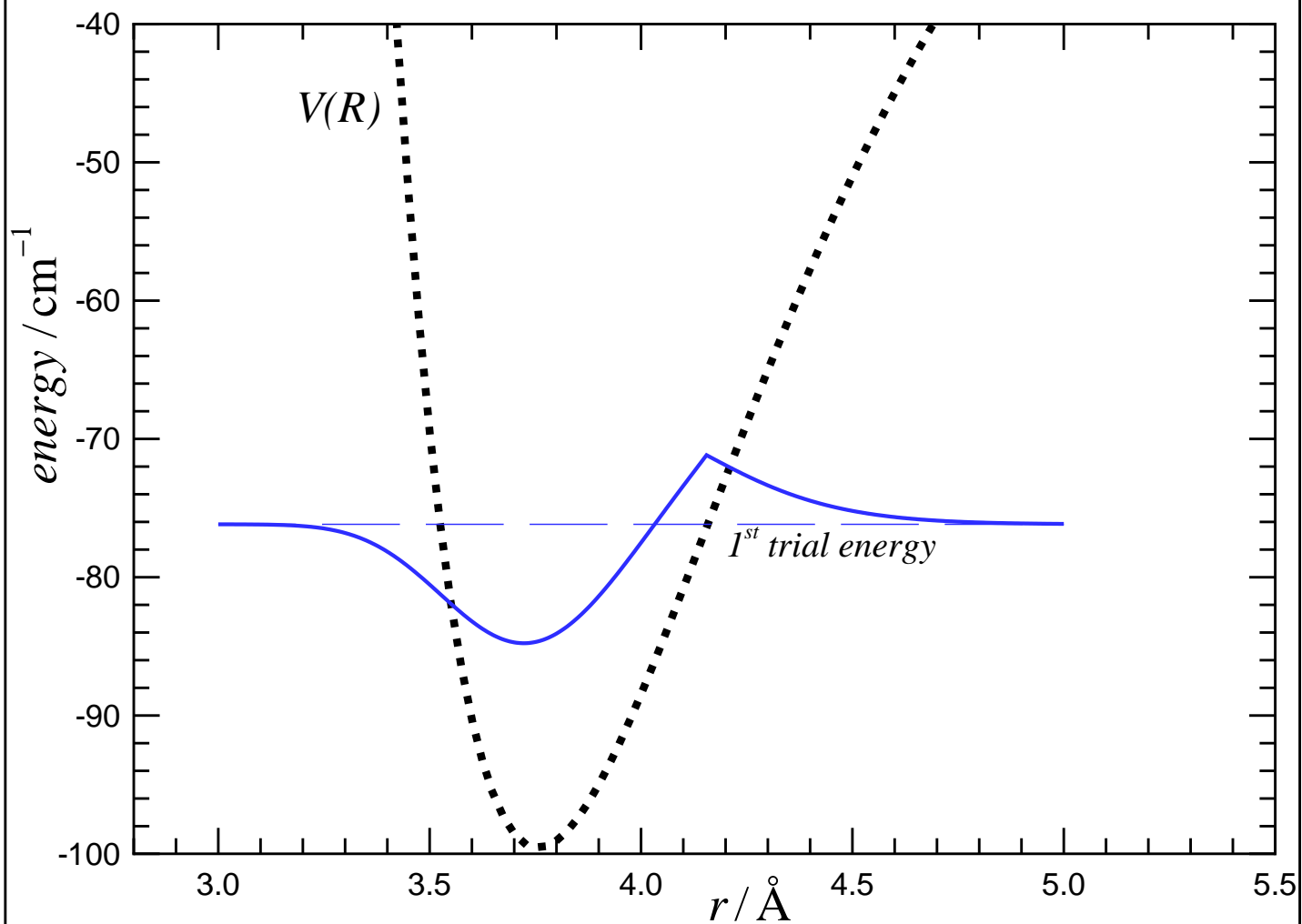
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4. repeat until node count shows *a level was missed*



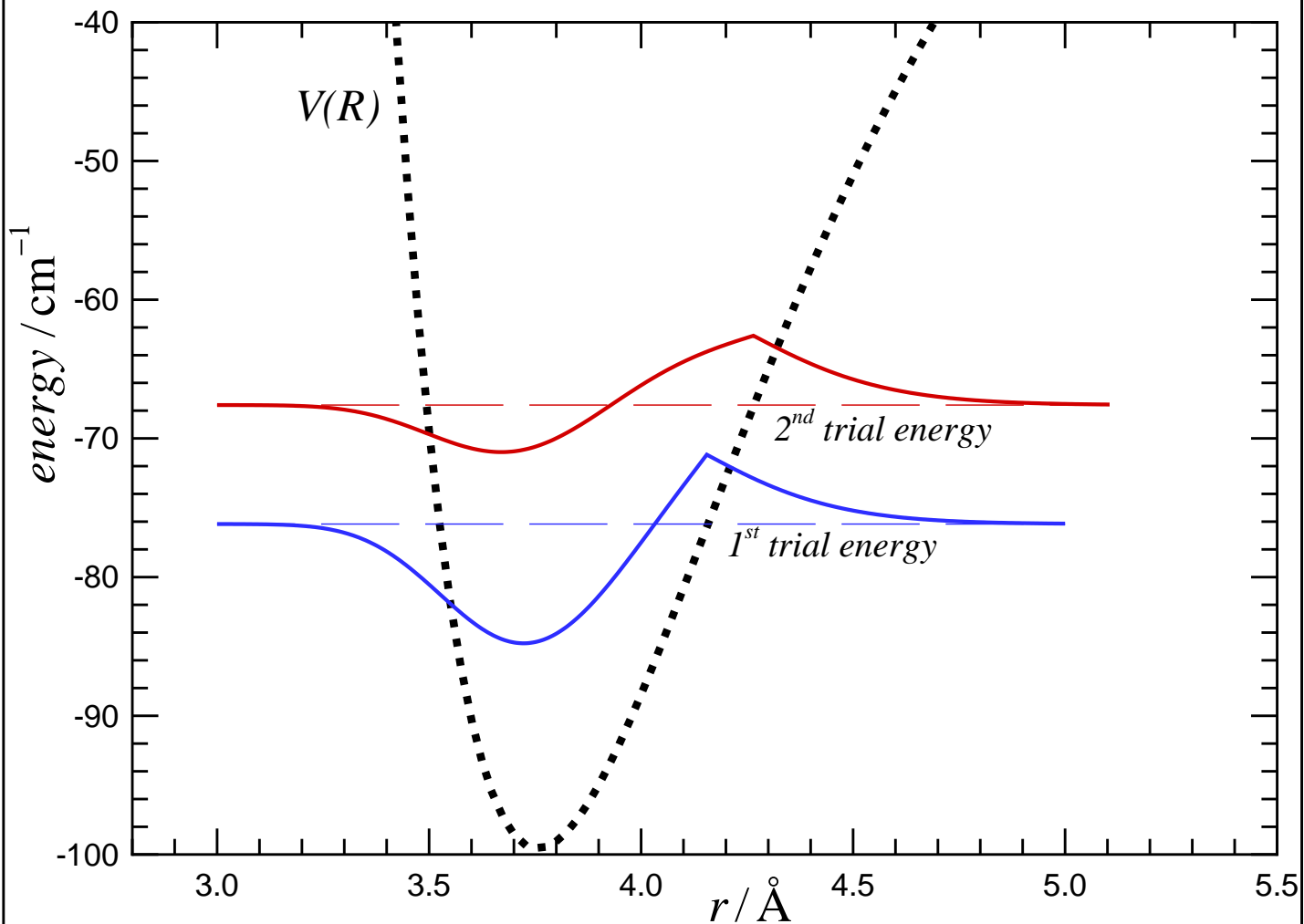
Recall how eigenvalue search procedure works:

- ♠ *match inward- and outward-propagating $\psi(r)$ near a turning point*



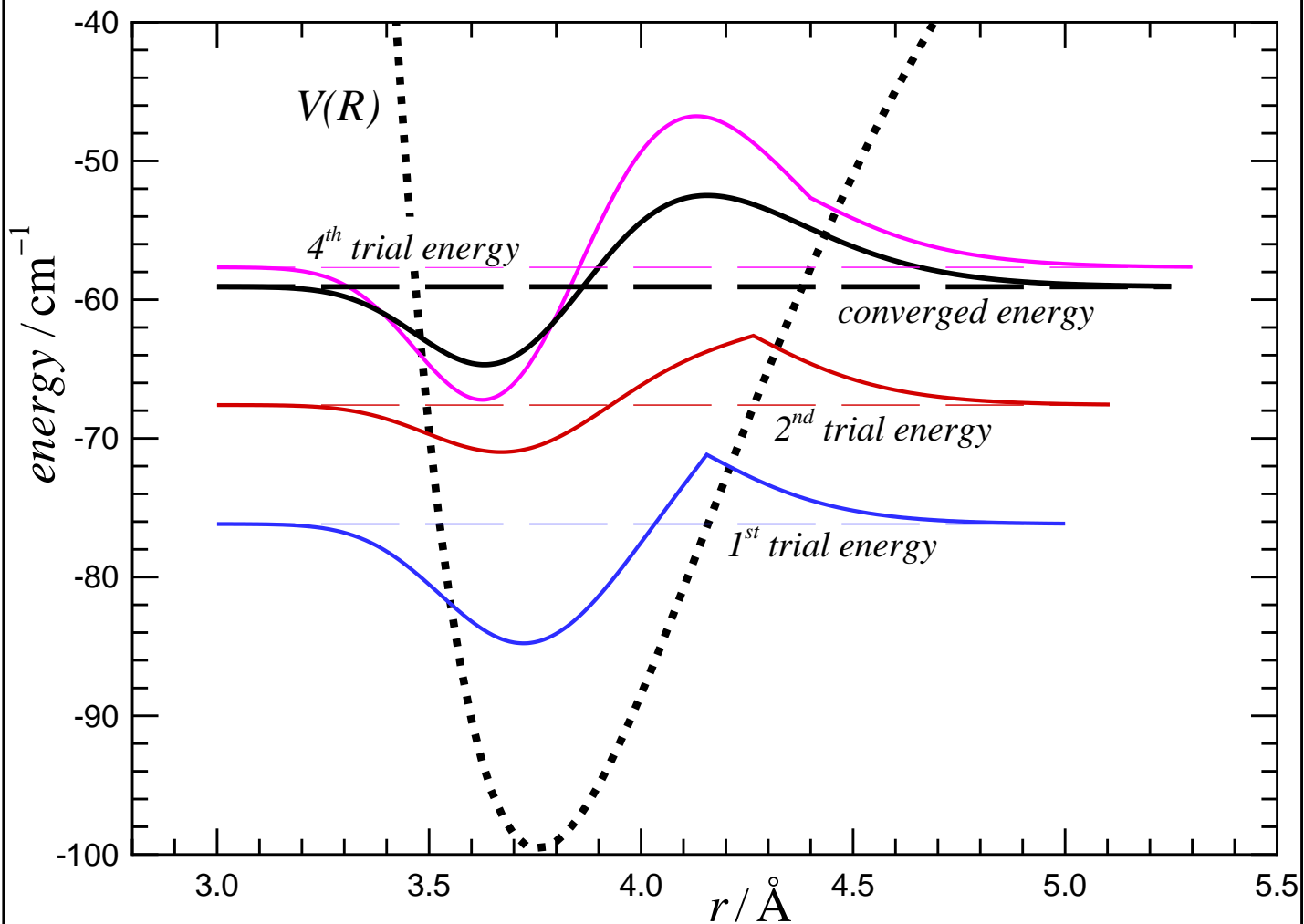
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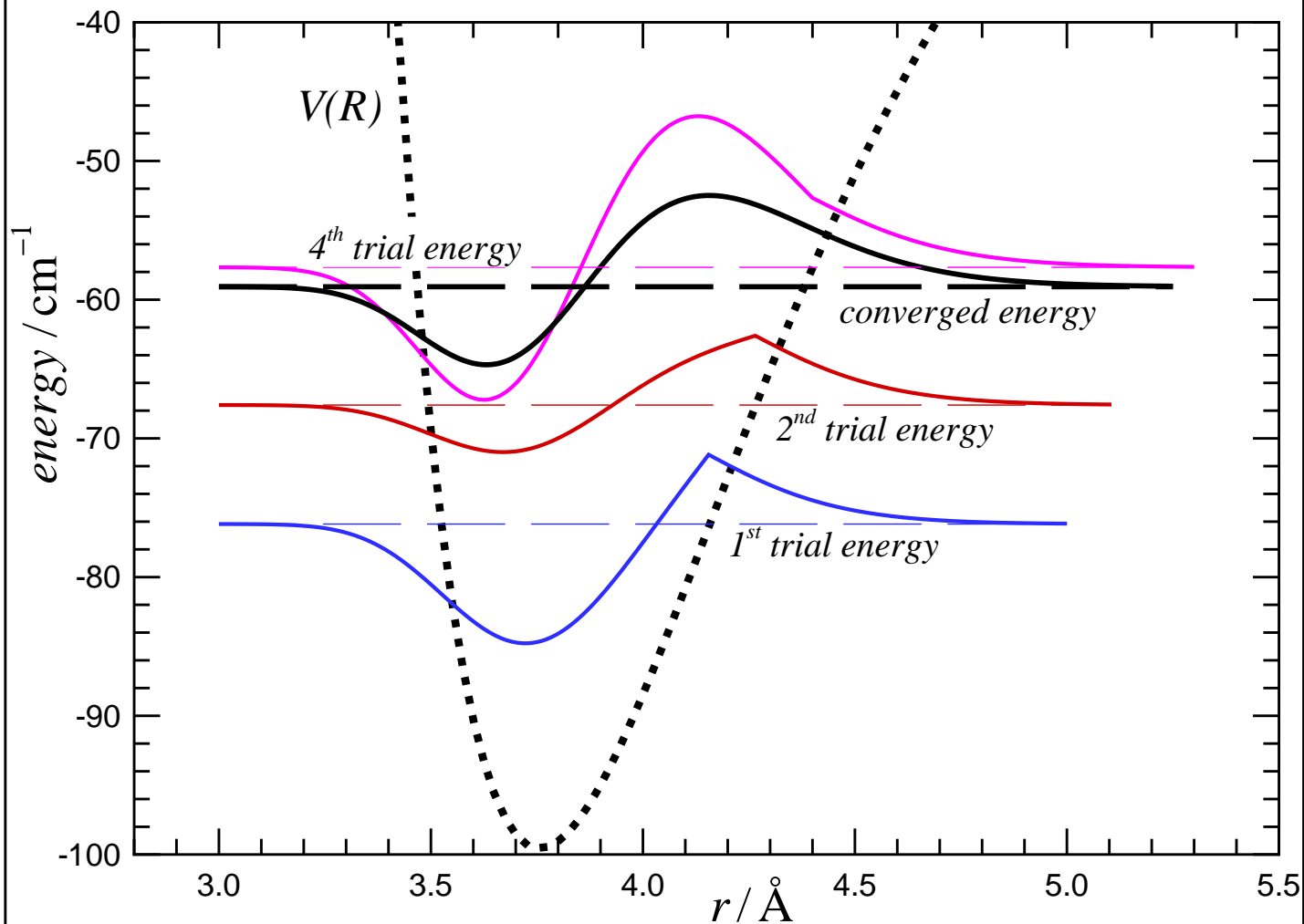
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 - ♠ *iterate to convergence*
- \Rightarrow *for double-minimum potential, matching must occur over well with maximum wavefunction amplitude*

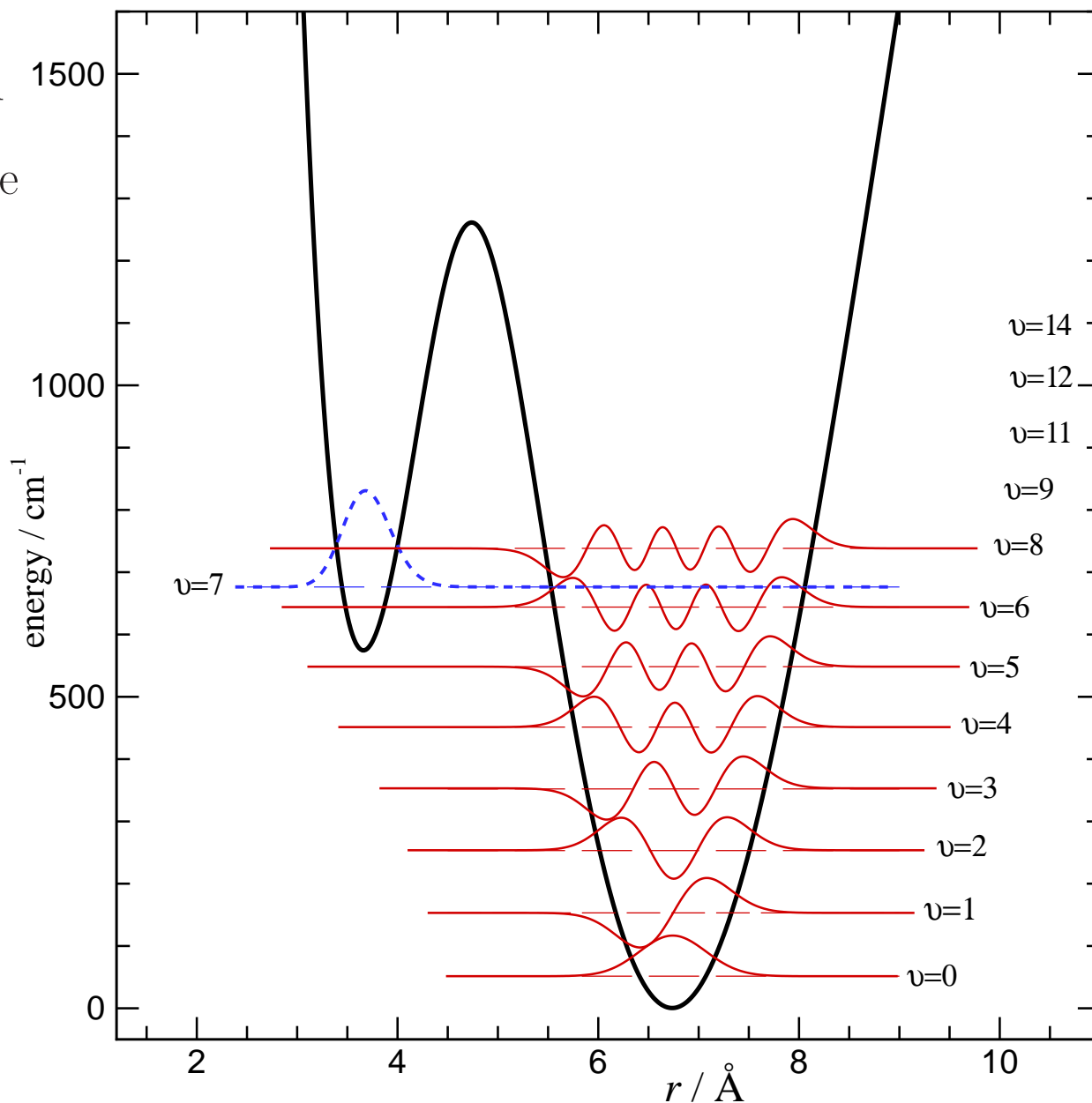


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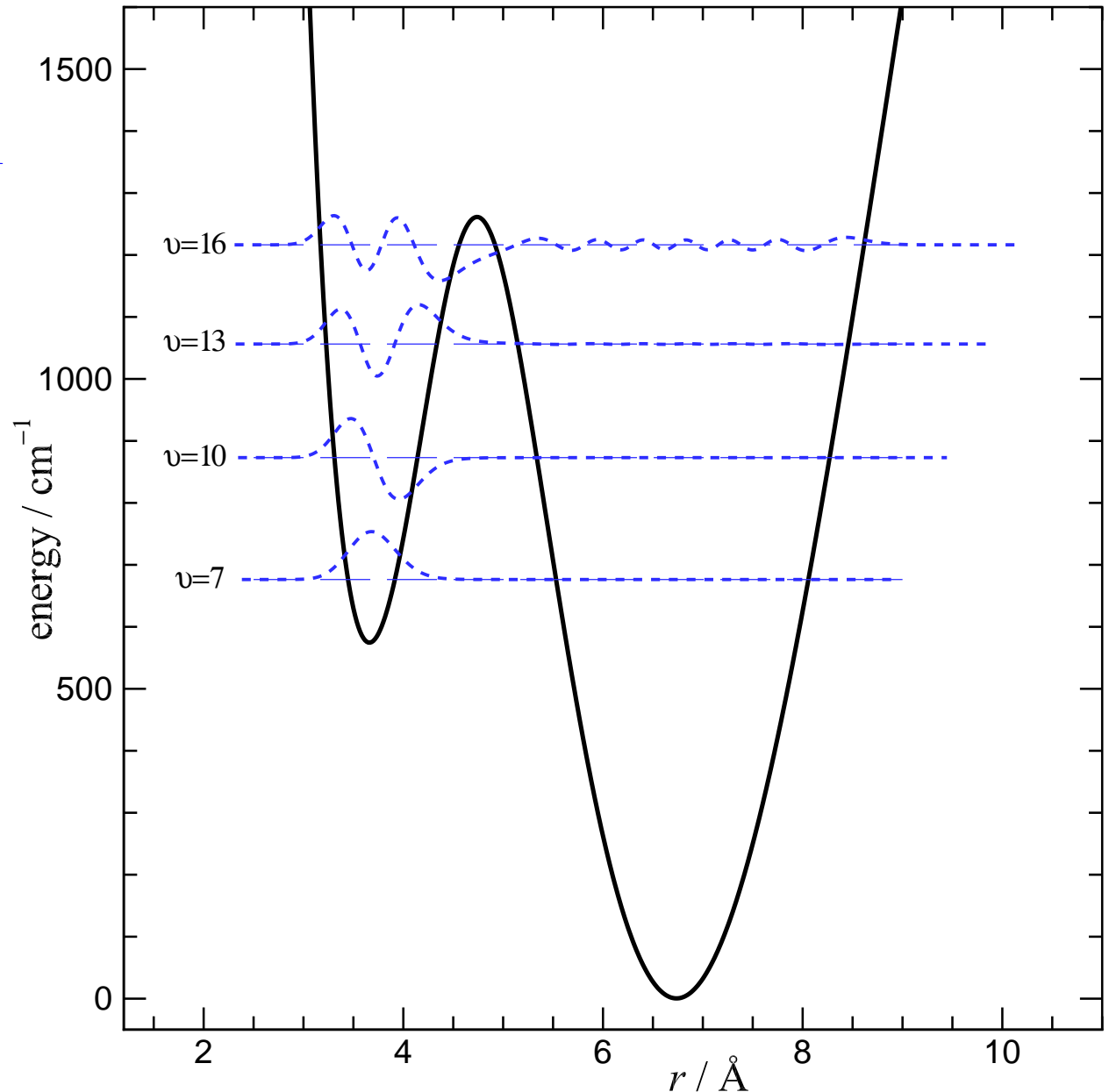
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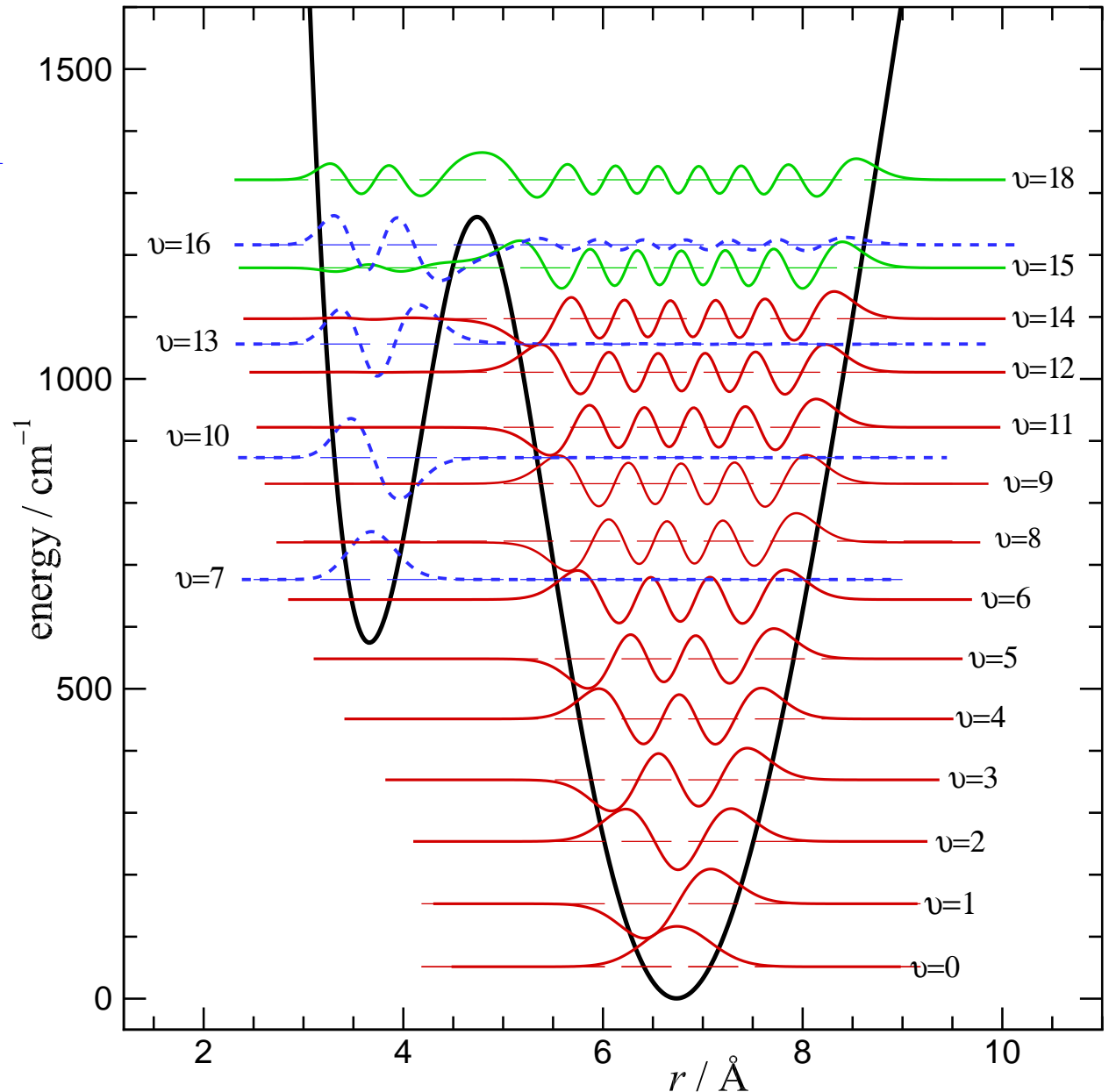
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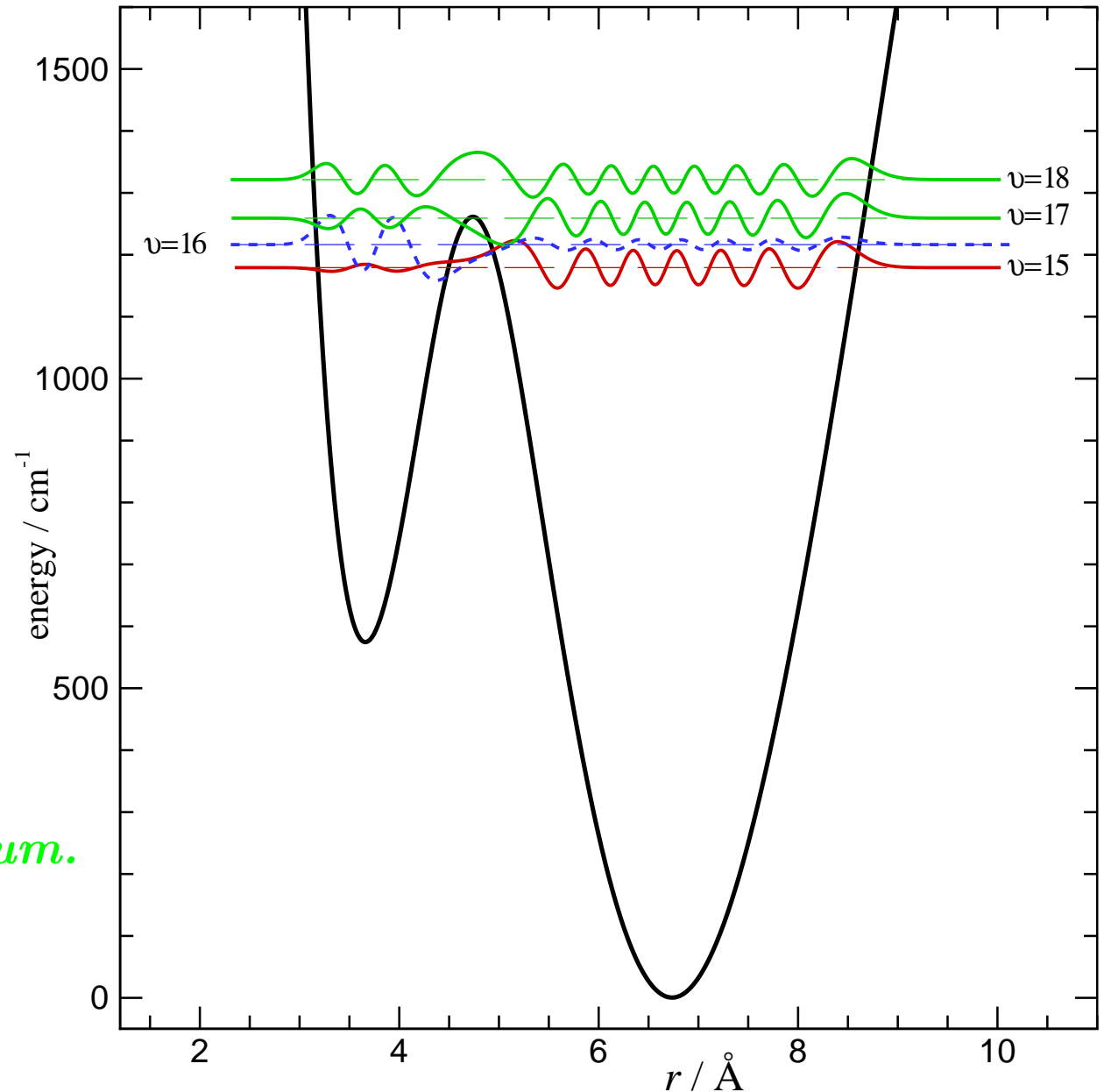
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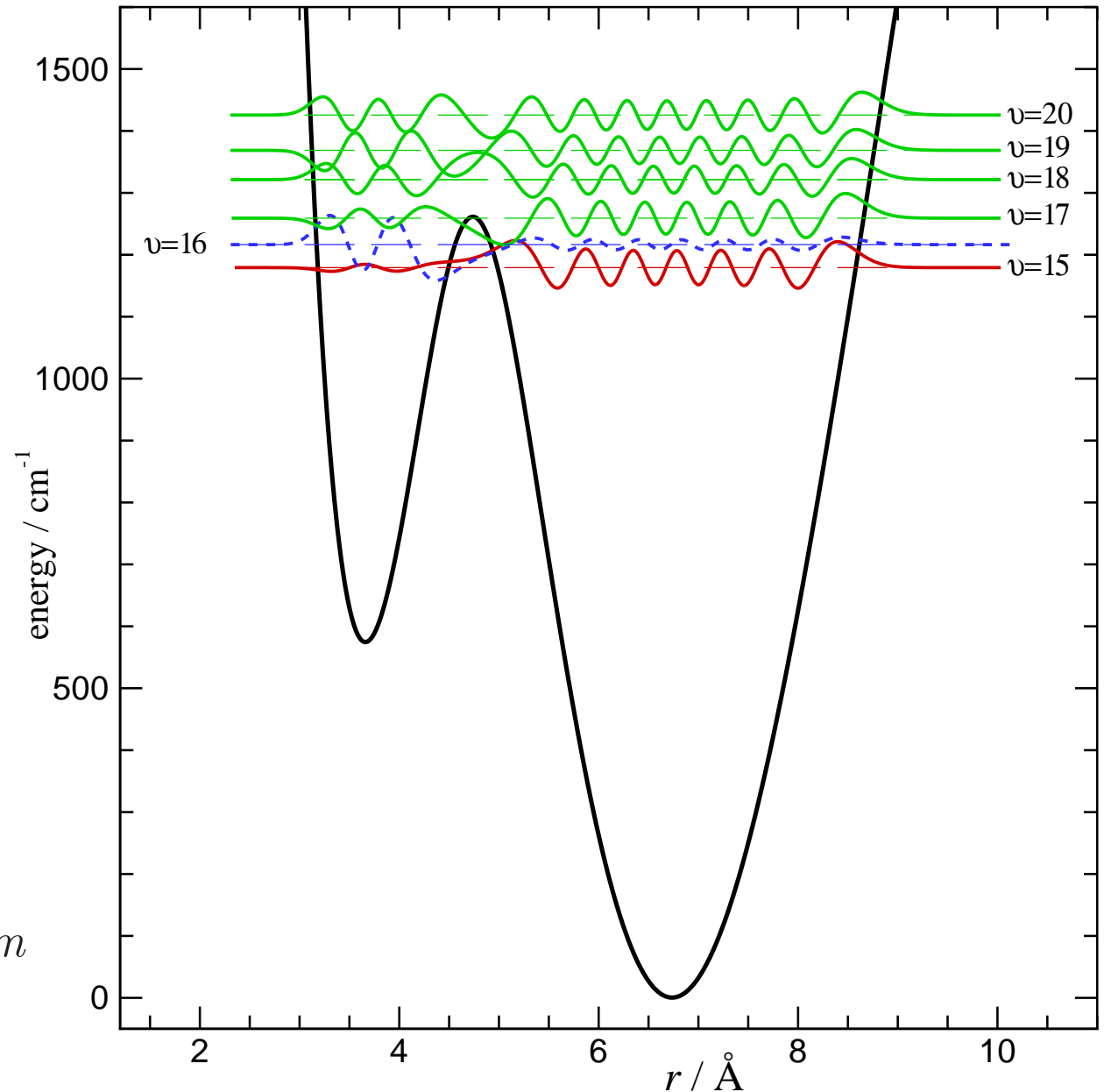
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8. ... where a brute force scan is often required!



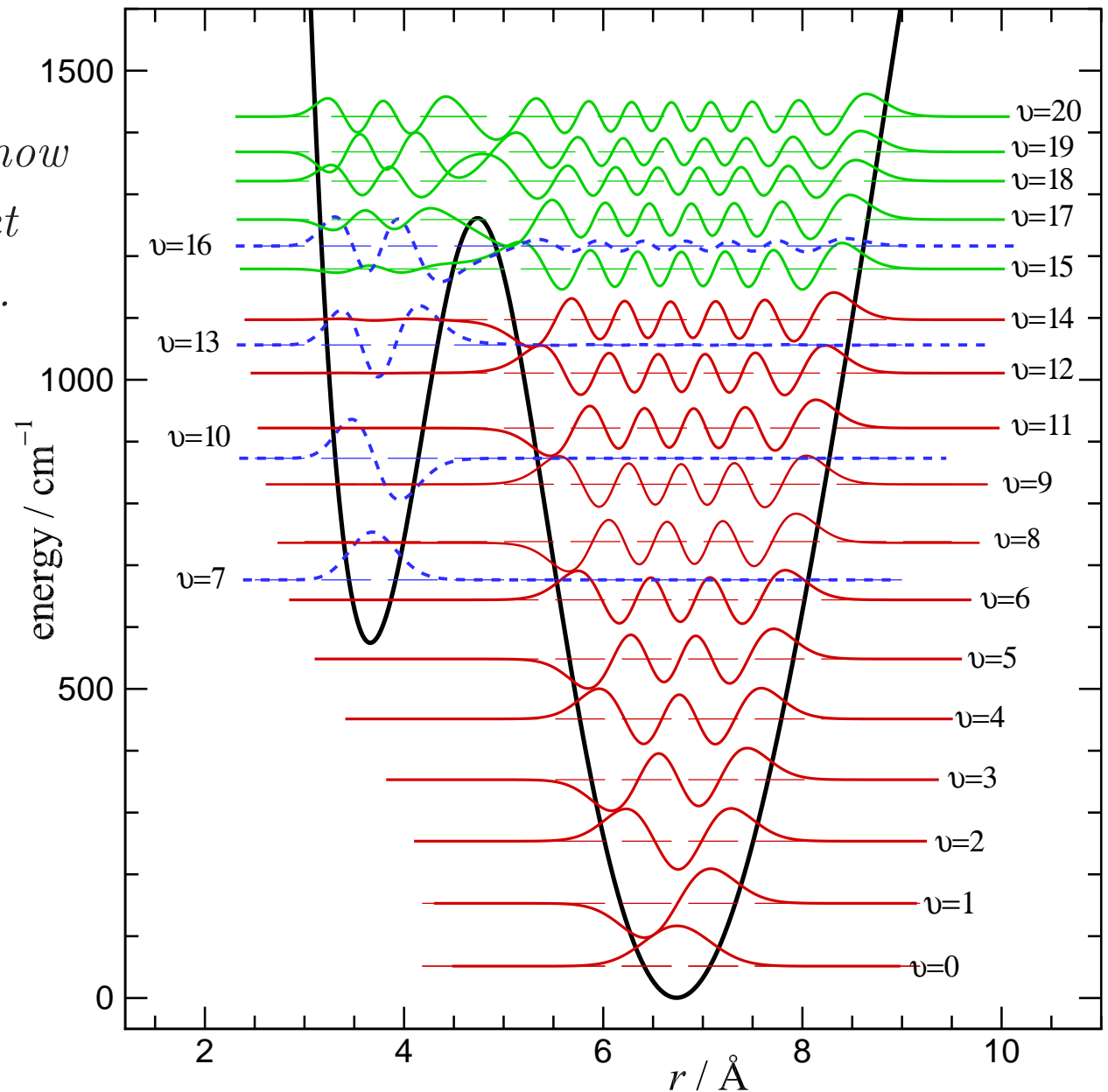
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5. *wavefx. matching at innermost turning point gives inner-well levels*
6. *semiclassical estimates work for inner-well level spacings too!*
7. *sequential semiclassical estimates work until near a barrier maximum.*
8. *... where a brute force search is often required!*
9. *but above barrier maximum semiclassical spacing estimates work again.*



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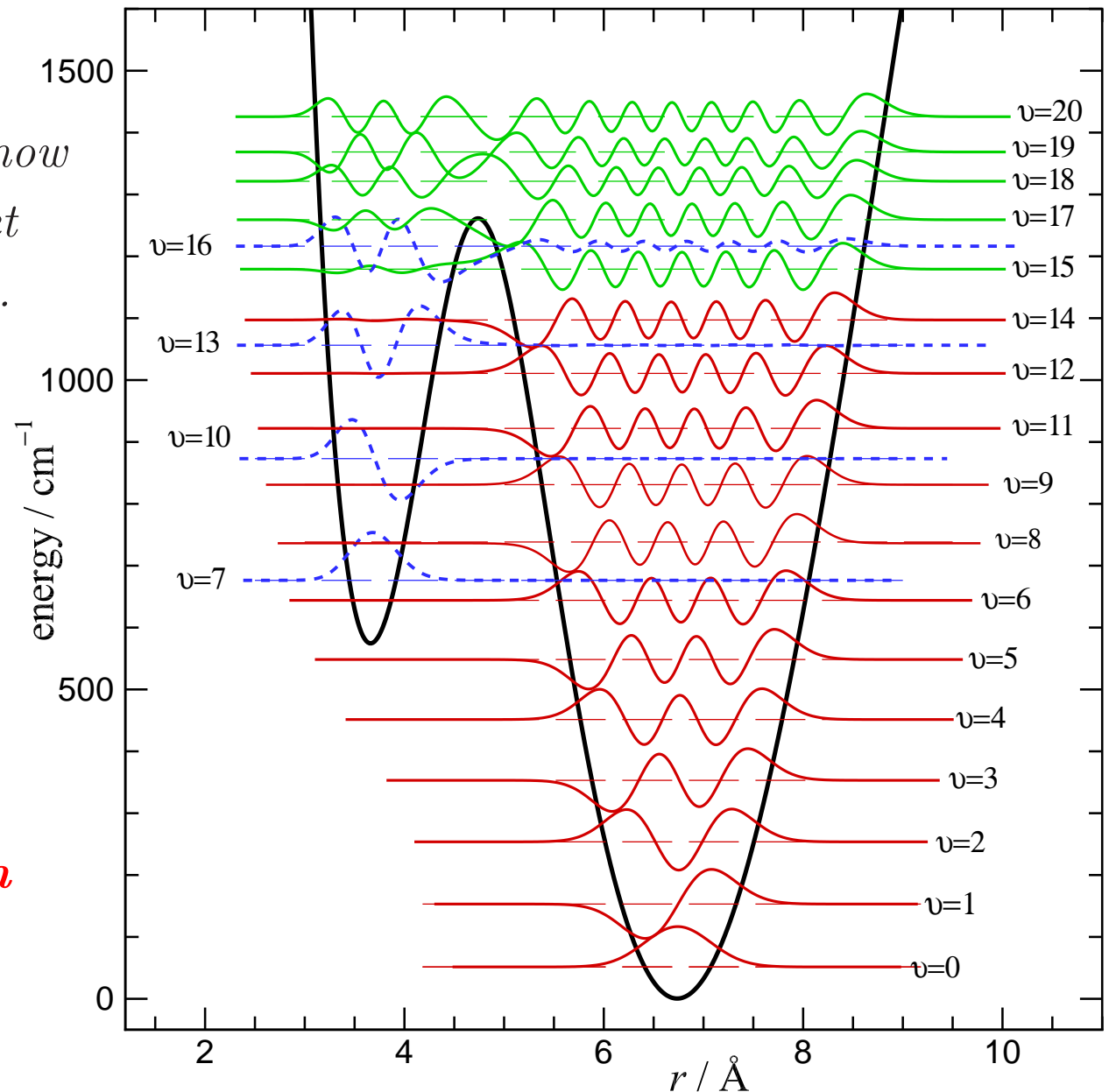
10. Conclude: *for any specified (v, J) level can now 'routinely' and robustly get the energy and the wavefx. $\psi_{v,J}(r)$ required for calculating the partial derivatives needed in the fitting procedure!*



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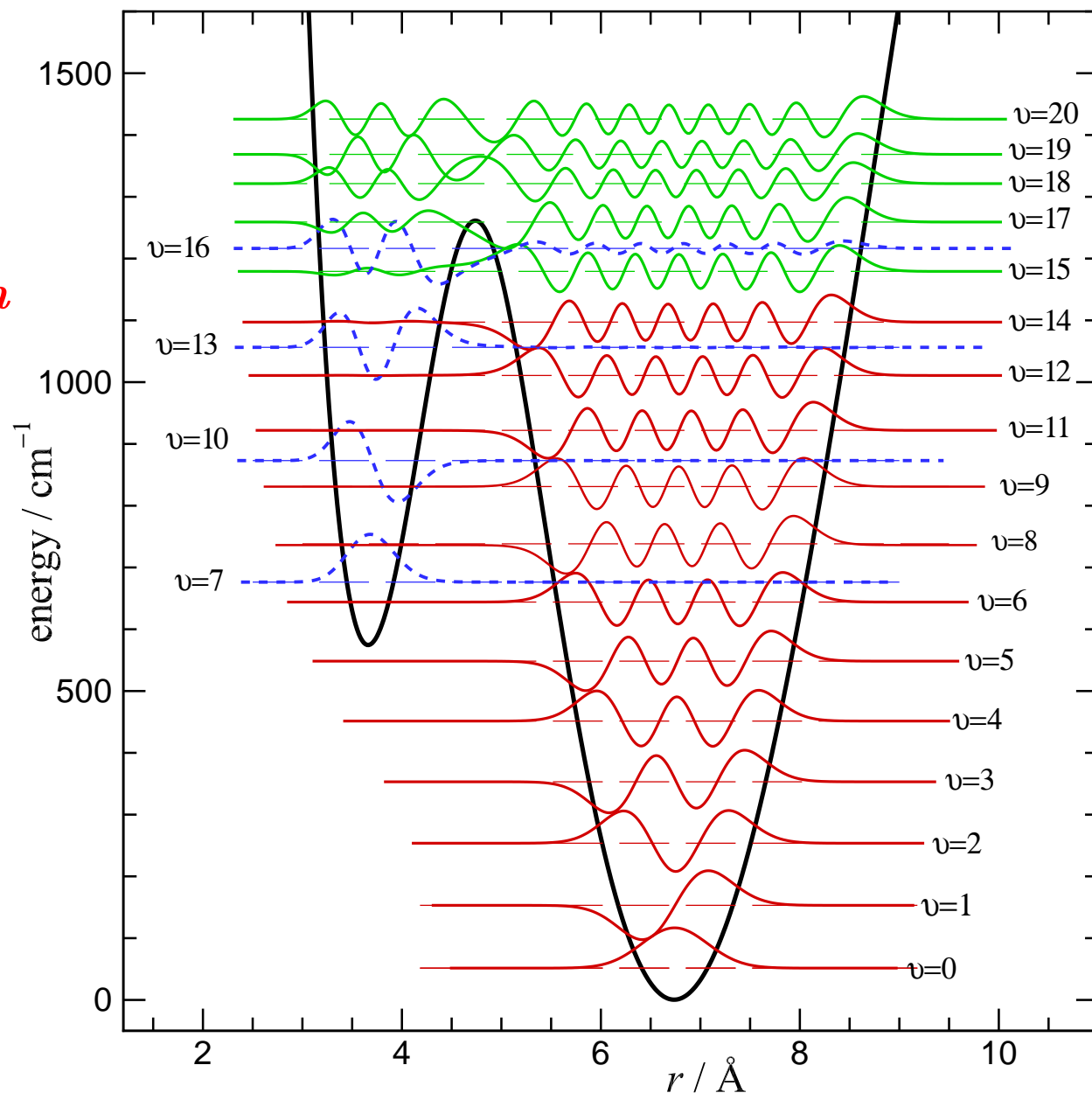
11. *Now we can return to the original problem ... fit experimental data for a double-minimum state to an analytic MLR function!*



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12. Unfortunately, the multi-parameter non-linear least squares problem is proving to be recalcitrant for this case.



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11. Now we can return to the original problem ...
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12. Unfortunately, the multi-parameter non-linear least squares problem is proving to be recalcitrant for this case, and *more work will be needed to provide a robust and reliable procedure.*

