

Quantum transport in RTD: asymptotic models and simulations of Schrödinger–Poisson systems.

“The unreasonable effectiveness of semiclassical analysis.”

Francis Nier

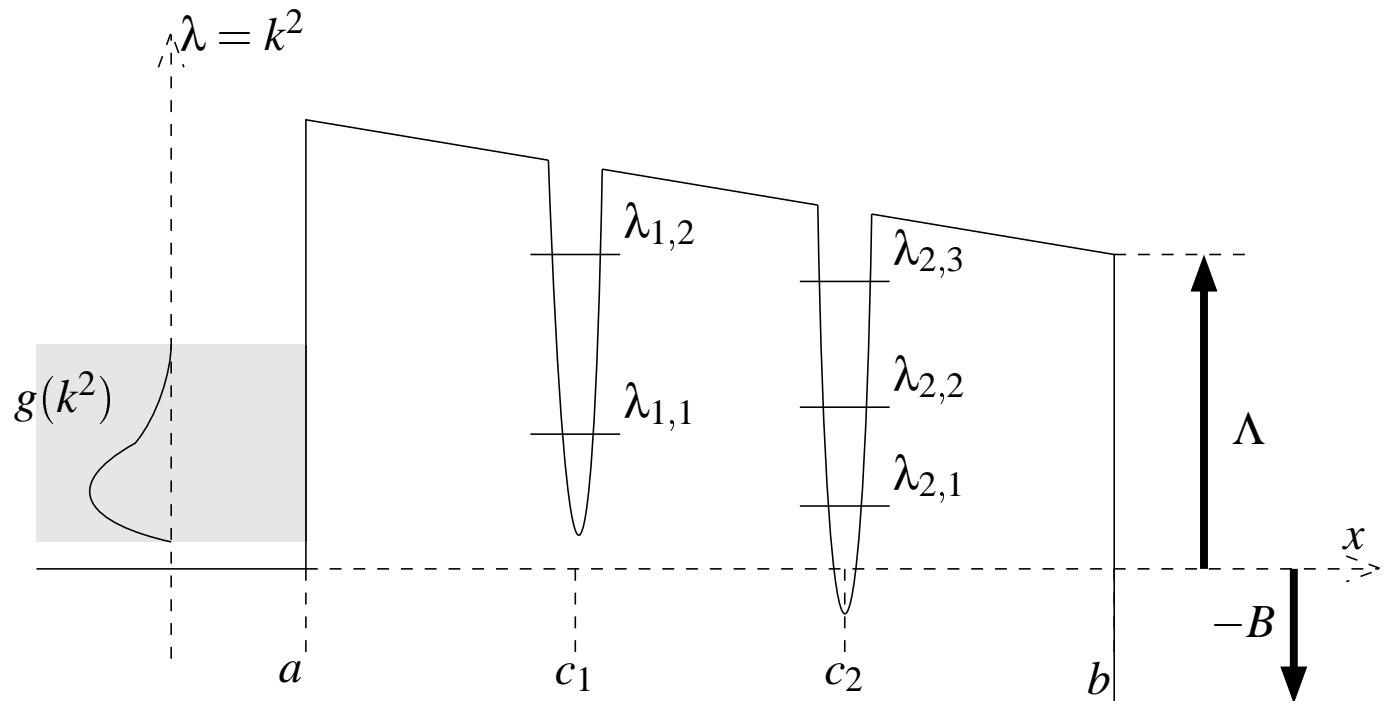
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Joint work with V. Bonnaillie and A. Faraj.

Model

Quantum wells in a (semiclassical) island
Injection from the left (and right). Applied Bias B .



Model

$$H = -h^2 \Delta + \tilde{V}_0(x) - W^h(x) + V_{NL}^h(x)$$

$$-W^h(x) = - \sum_{i=1}^N w_i \left(\frac{x - c_i}{h} \right)$$

$$[H, \varrho] = 0$$

ϱ F.F.E.S.S (Landauer-Büttiker)

$$-\Delta V_{NL}^h = n$$

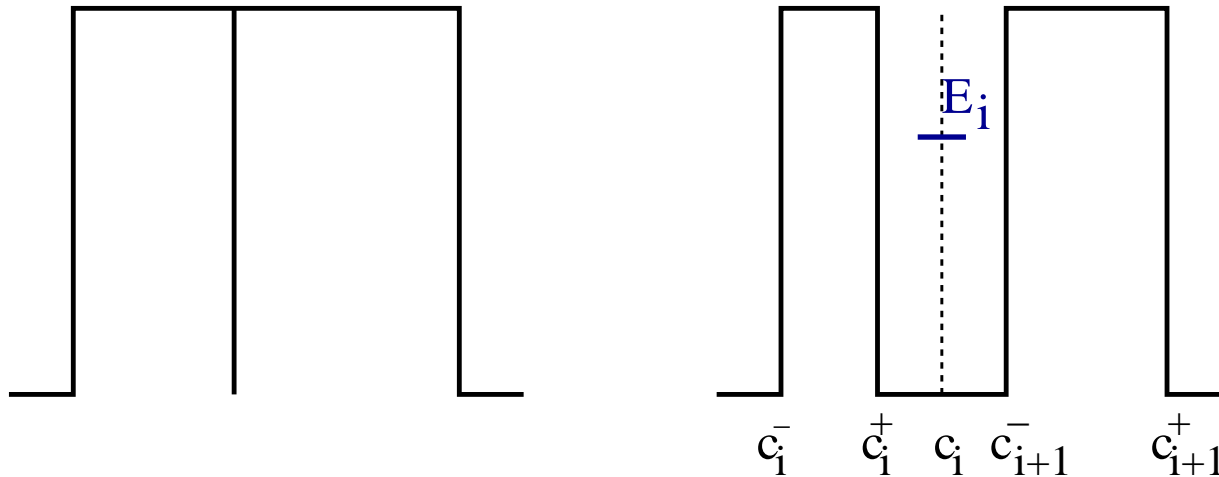
$$V(a) = V(b) = 0 \quad \int n(x) \varphi(x) = \text{Tr} [\varrho \varphi]$$

$h = h_{eff}$ after rescaling

Model

Limit $h \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow$ finite dimensional system:
“The phenomena are governed by a finite number of resonant states”

Asymptotical model



Model

Limit $h \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow$ finite dimensional system:
Easy to solve numerically after some adaptations

$$h = h_{eff} \sim 0.1 \text{ or } 0.3$$

- Imaginary parts of resonances $e^{-\frac{d_{Ag}}{h}} \sim 0$ **OK**
- Comparison of tunnel effects: $e^{-\frac{A(h)}{h}} \stackrel{\geq}{\leq} e^{-\frac{B(h)}{h}}$
 $A(h \neq 0), B(h \neq 0), h = O(1)$.
- Charge in a well $\sim \delta_c?$. Feynmann-Hellman interpolation
when V_{NL}^h small.

First results

Bonnaillie-Nier-Patel JCP-2006

- Fast numerical simulation (about 1 minute to solve 100 nonlinear problems) – > allows to study the effect of changing the values of the size of the barriers, the donor density...

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- Provides complete bifurcation diagrams and explains the possibility of hysteresis effects.

First results

Bonnaillie-Nier-Patel JCP-2006

- Fast numerical simulation (about 1 minute to solve 100 nonlinear problems) – > allows to study the effect of changing the values of the size of the barriers, the donor density...
- Provides complete bifurcation diagrams and explains the possibility of hysteresis effects.
- At first sight, good agreement with other numerical simulations (Pinaud for Ga-As and Kumar-Laux-Fischetti for Si-SiO₂).

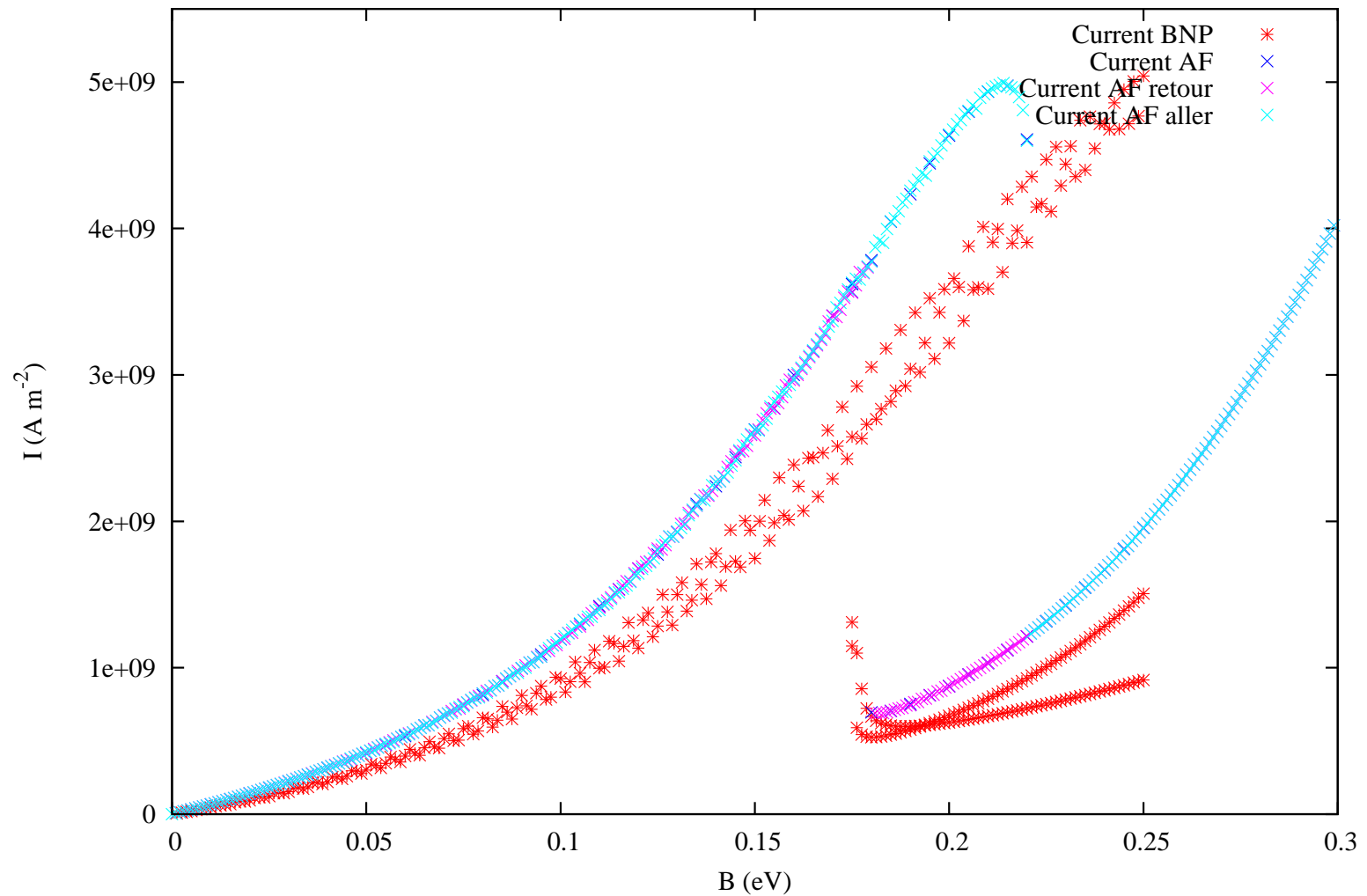
Comparison

- Full Schrödinger-Poisson and asymptotic model tested with the same numerical data.
- Check that the asymptotic model helps to guess all the possible nonlinear solutions.
- Check that the solutions with interaction of resonances detected with the asymptotic model make sense.
Dynamics: beating effect?

GaAs, 1 well, 1 resonance

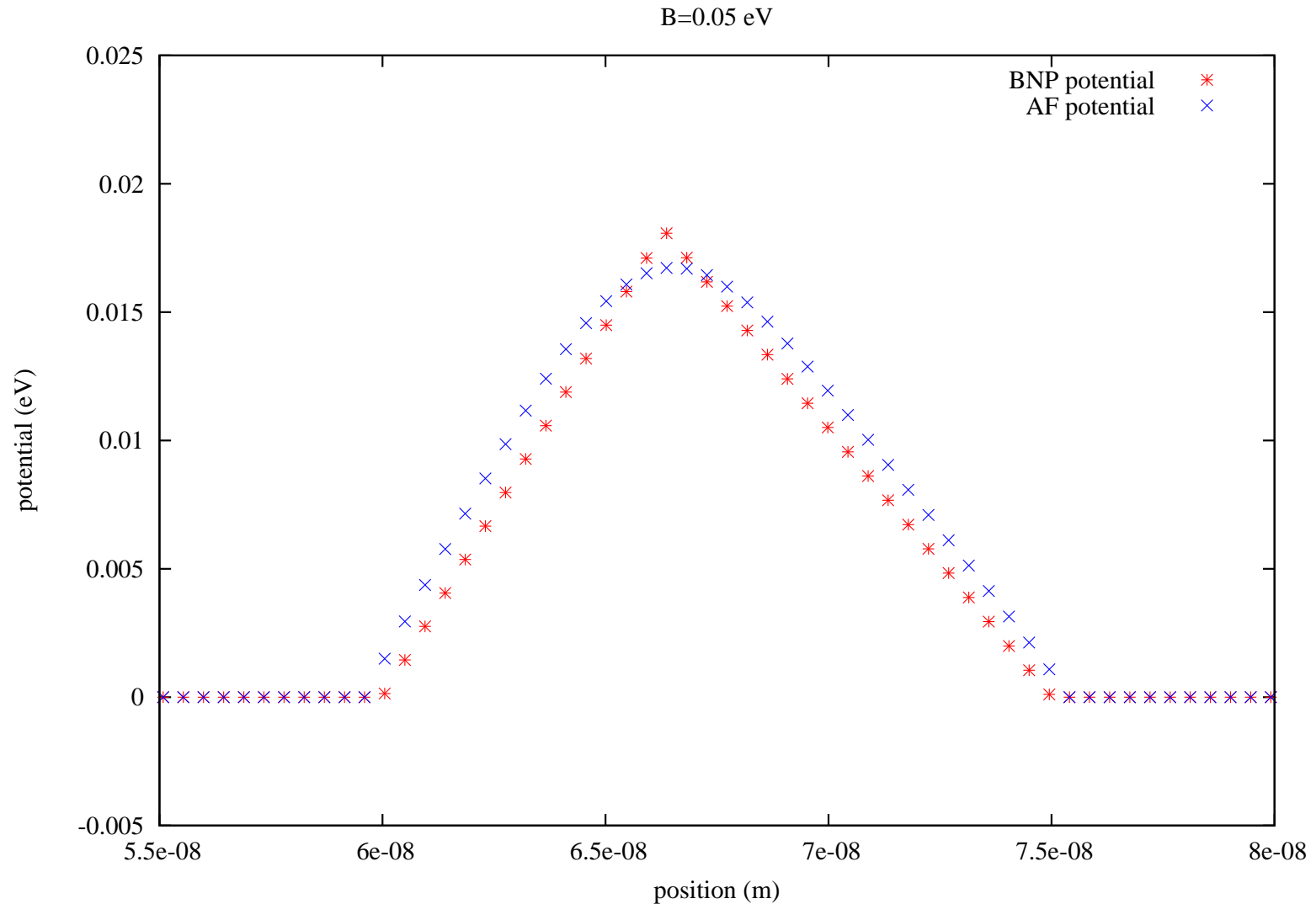
I-V curve

Diagramm current-voltage



GaAs, 1 well, 1 resonance

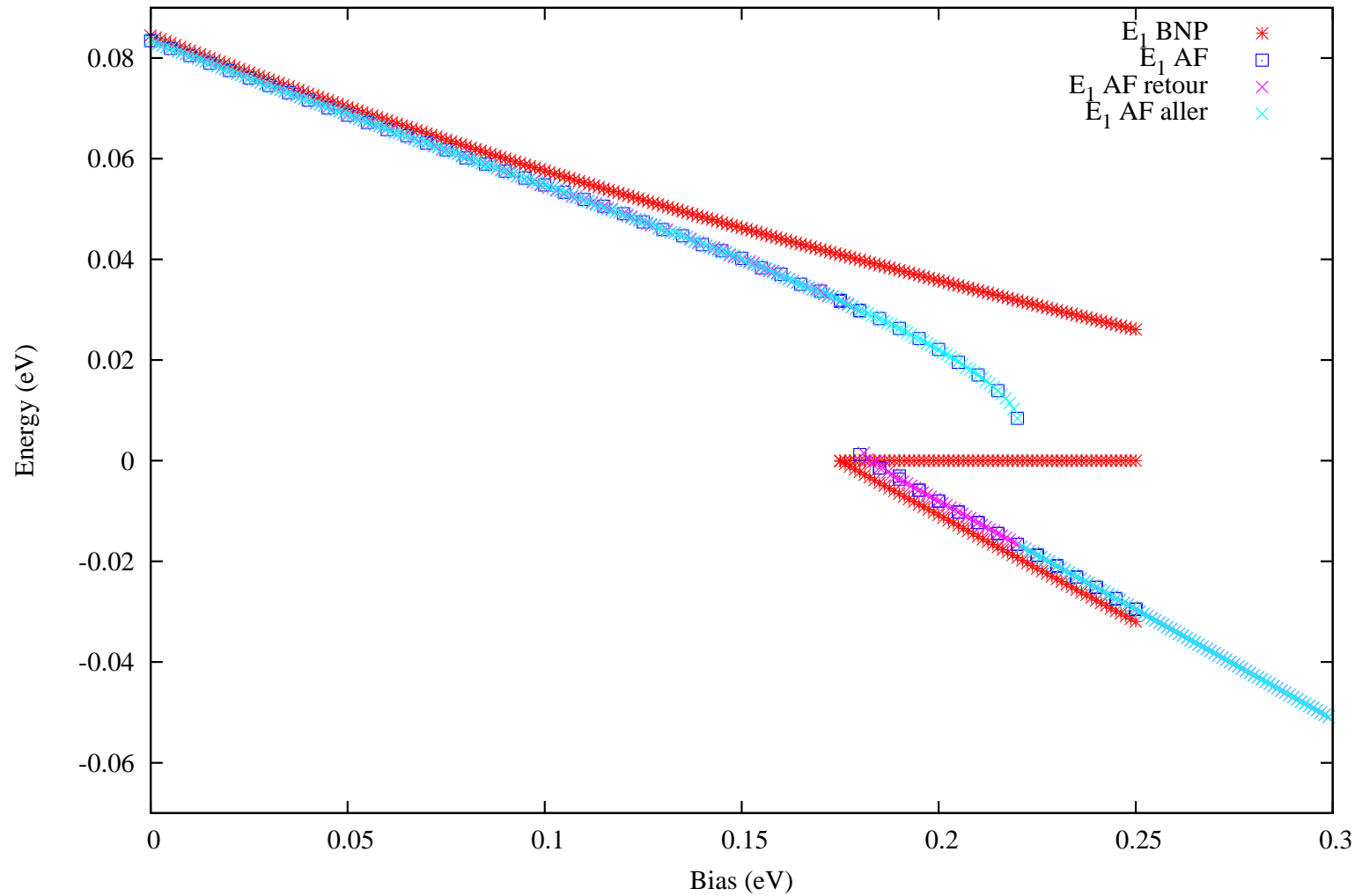
Nonlinear potential



GaAs, 1 well, 1 resonance

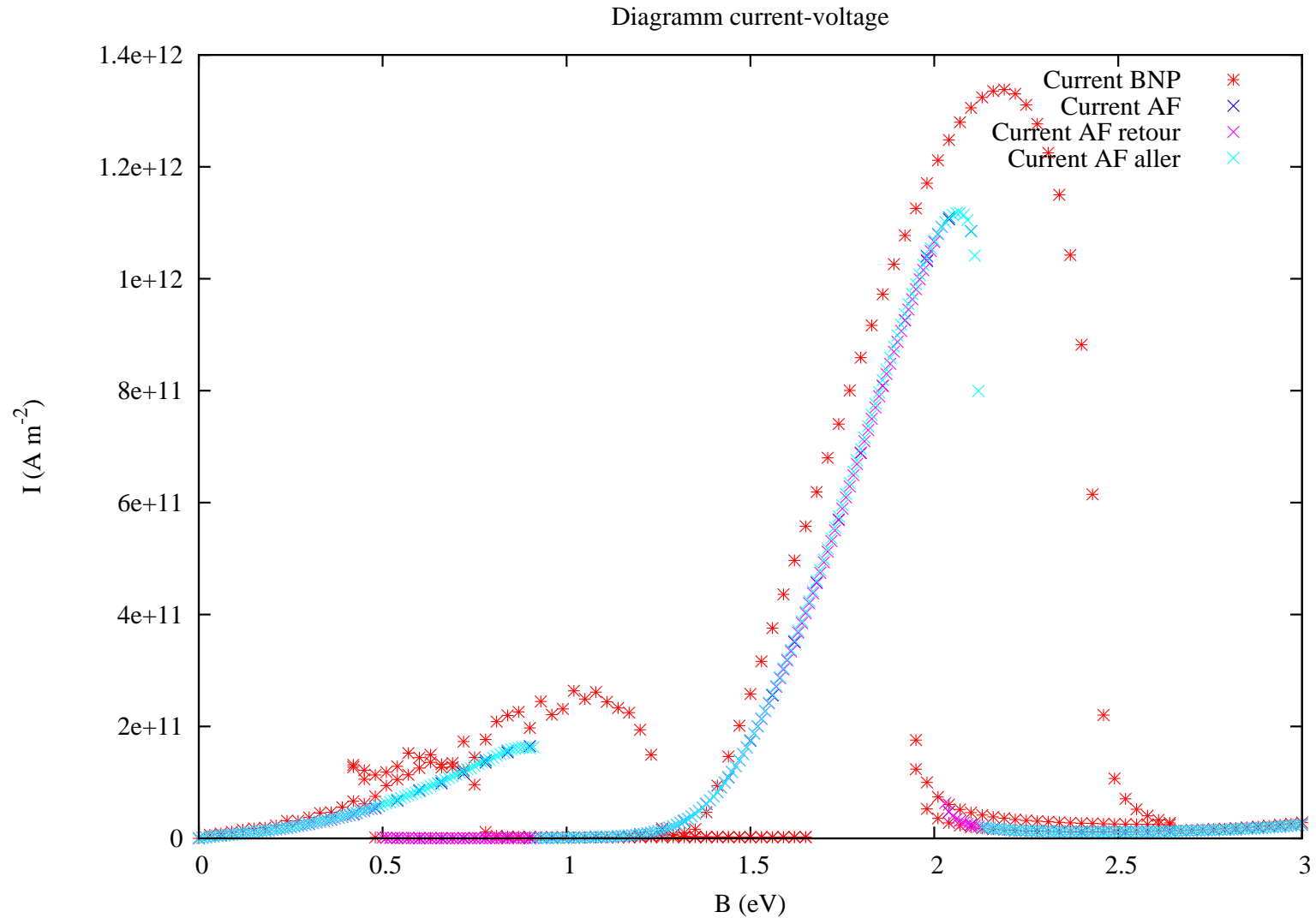
$E_{res} - V$ curve

Energy on the well according to the bias



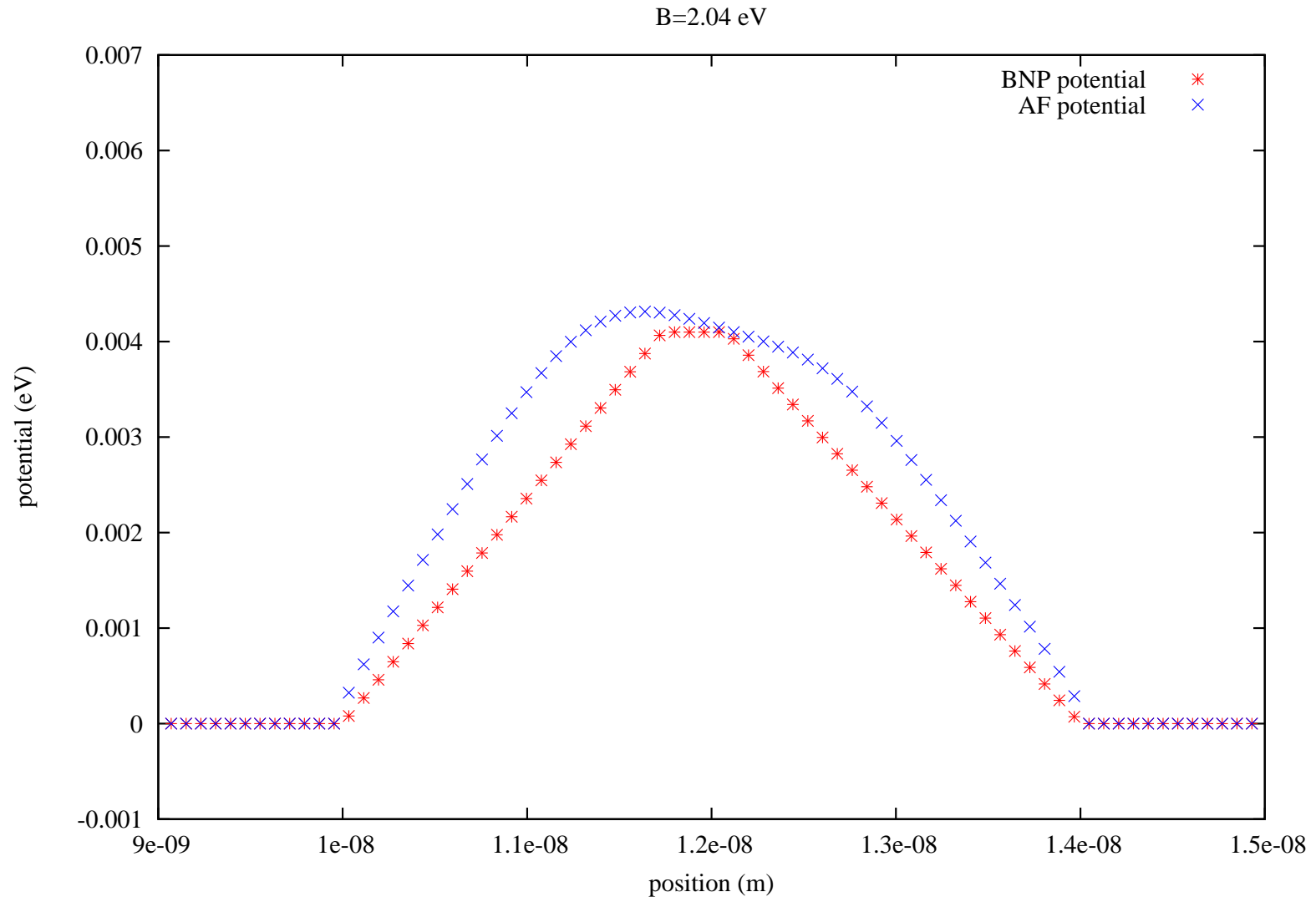
Si-SiO₂, 1 well, 2 resonances

I-V curve



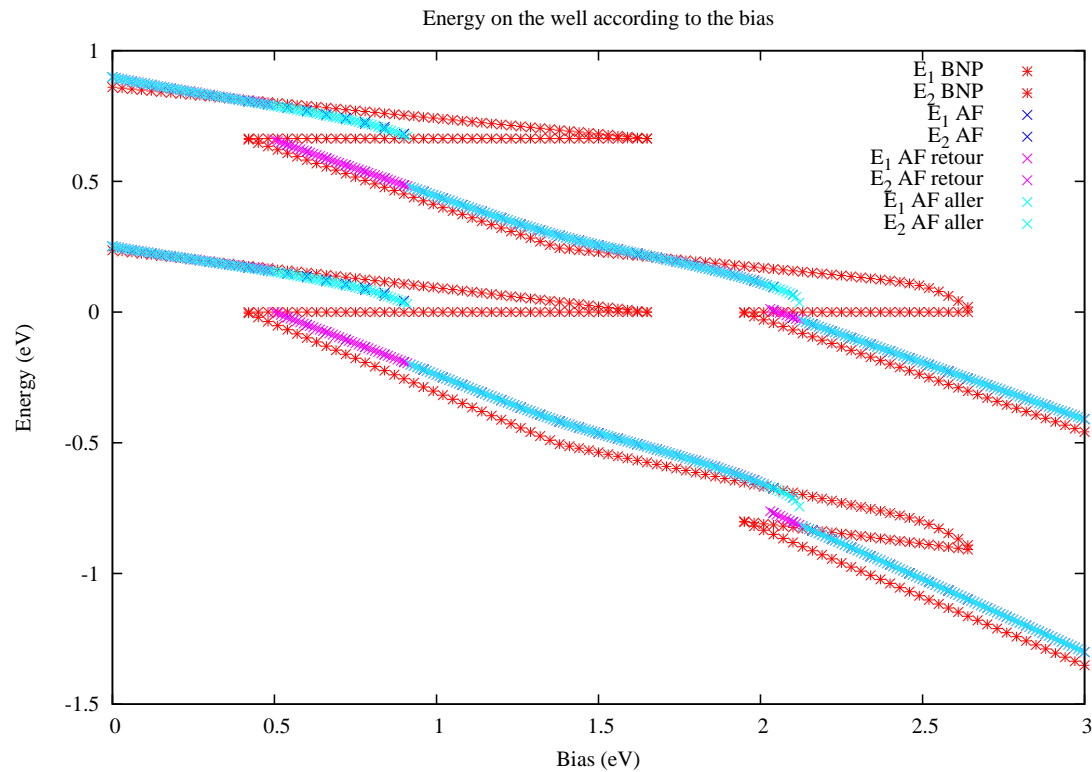
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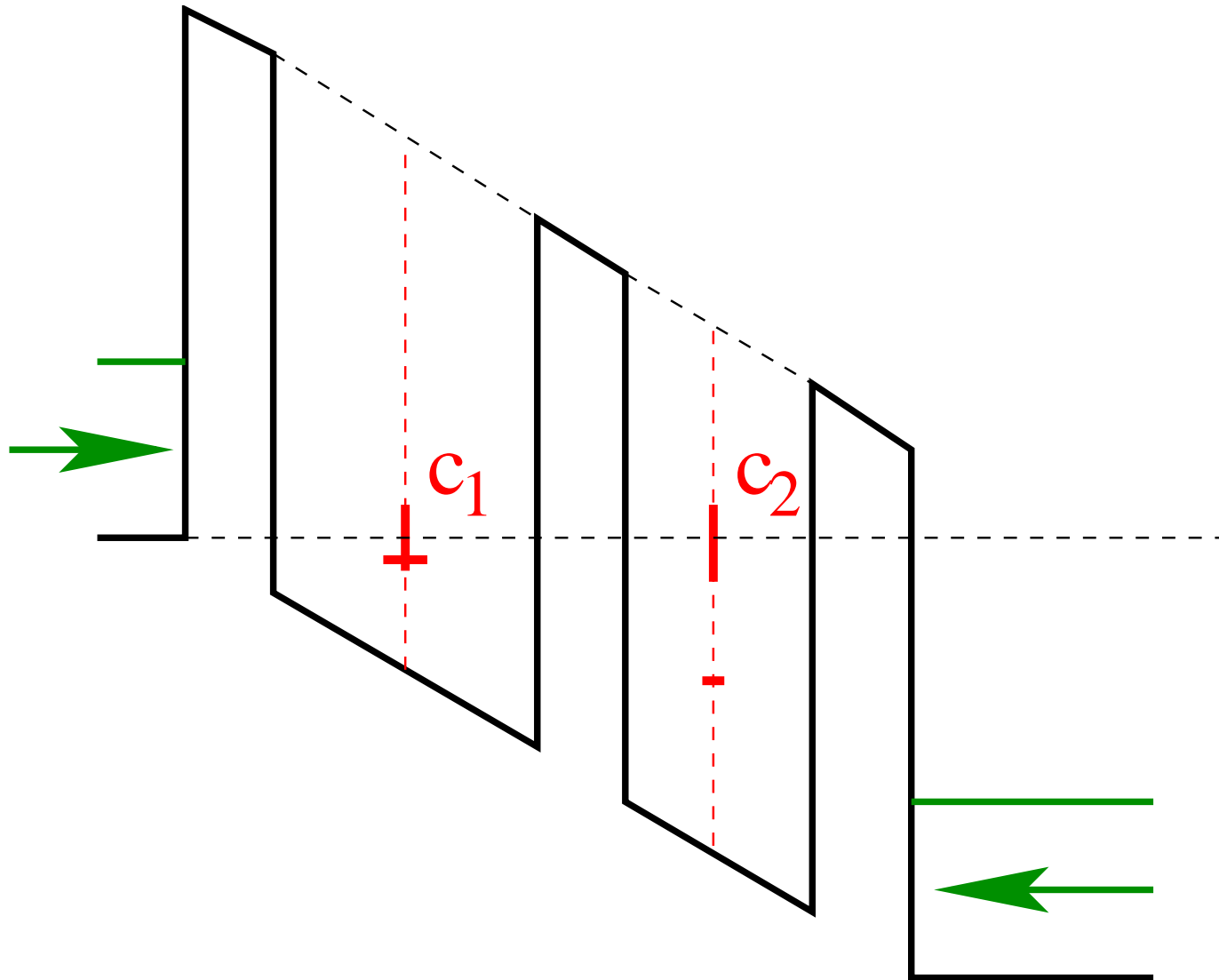
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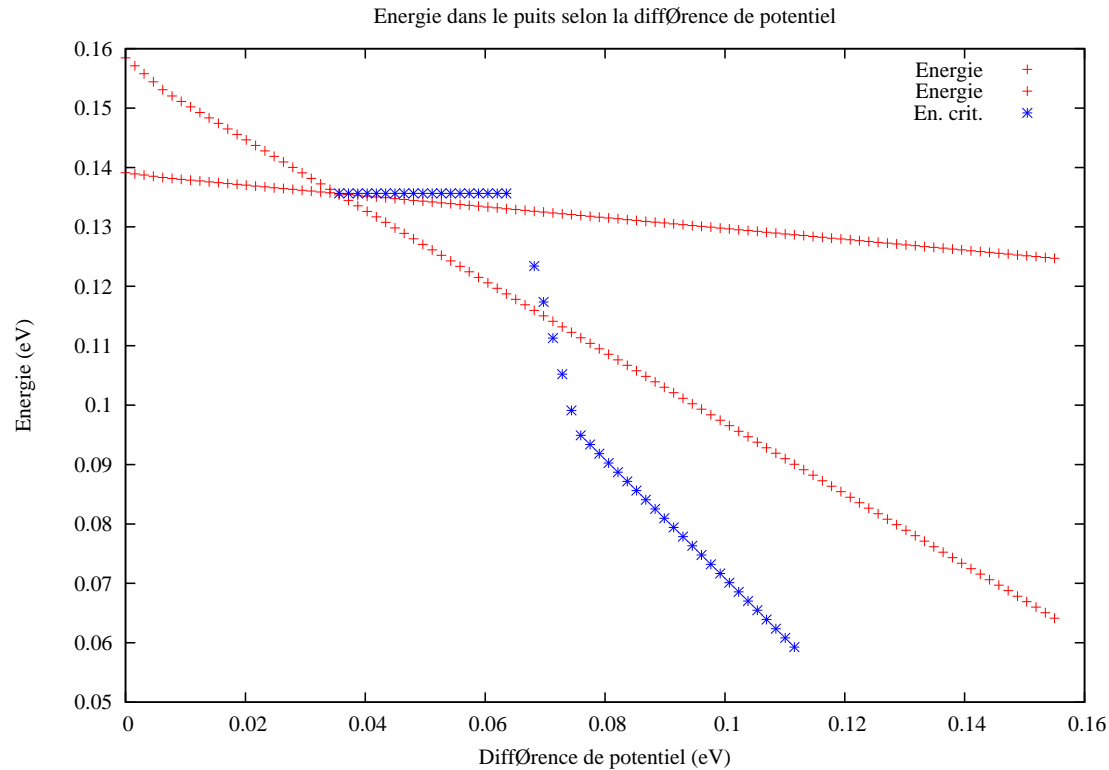
GaAs-2 Wells-2 resonances

Possible interaction of resonances



GaAs-2 Wells-2 resonances

Asymptotic model, $E_{res} - V$ curve



—: No nonlinear interaction. Energy crossing

—: The resonant energies are equal.

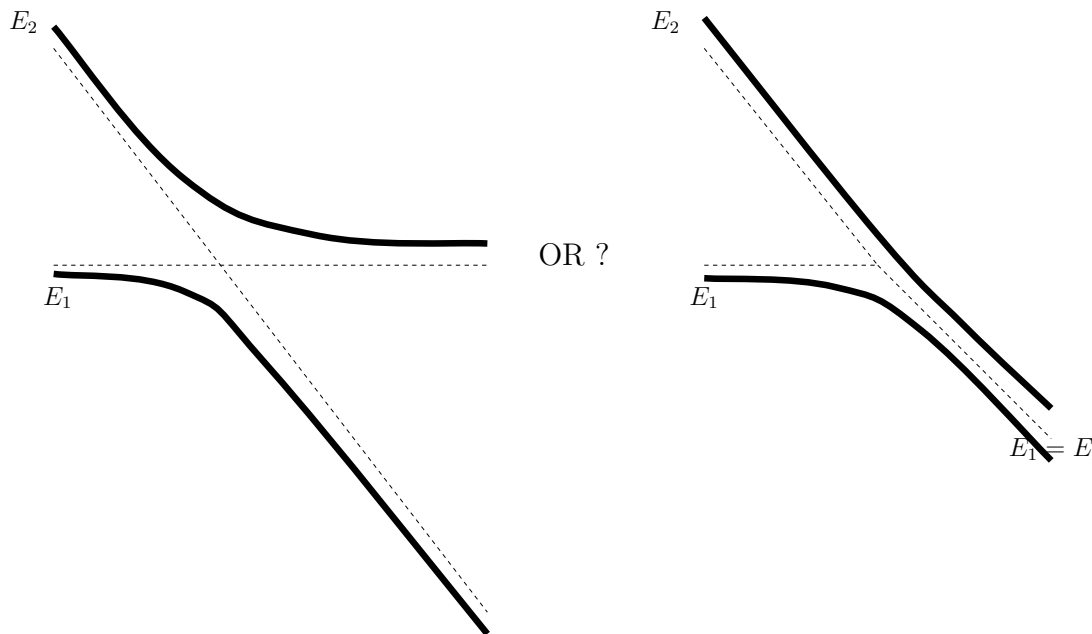
GaAs-2 Wells-2 resonances

Is it realistic ? Does it occur in the S.P. model ?

GaAs-2 Wells-2 resonances

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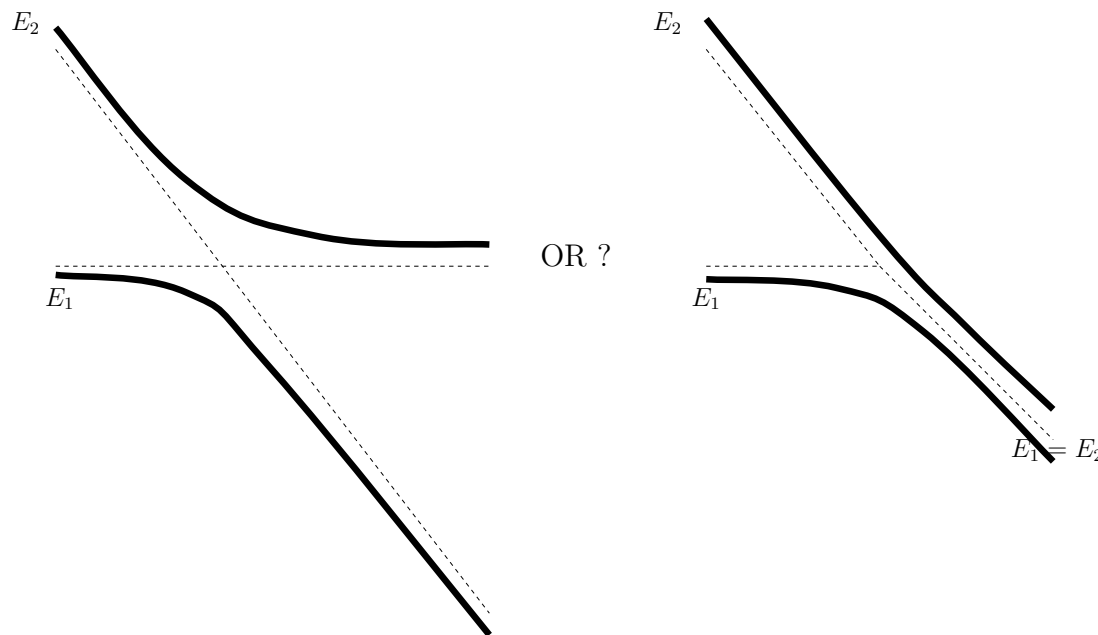
- Crossing or $E_1 = E_2 \xrightarrow{h>0}$ **Avoided crossings**



GaAs-2 Wells-2 resonances

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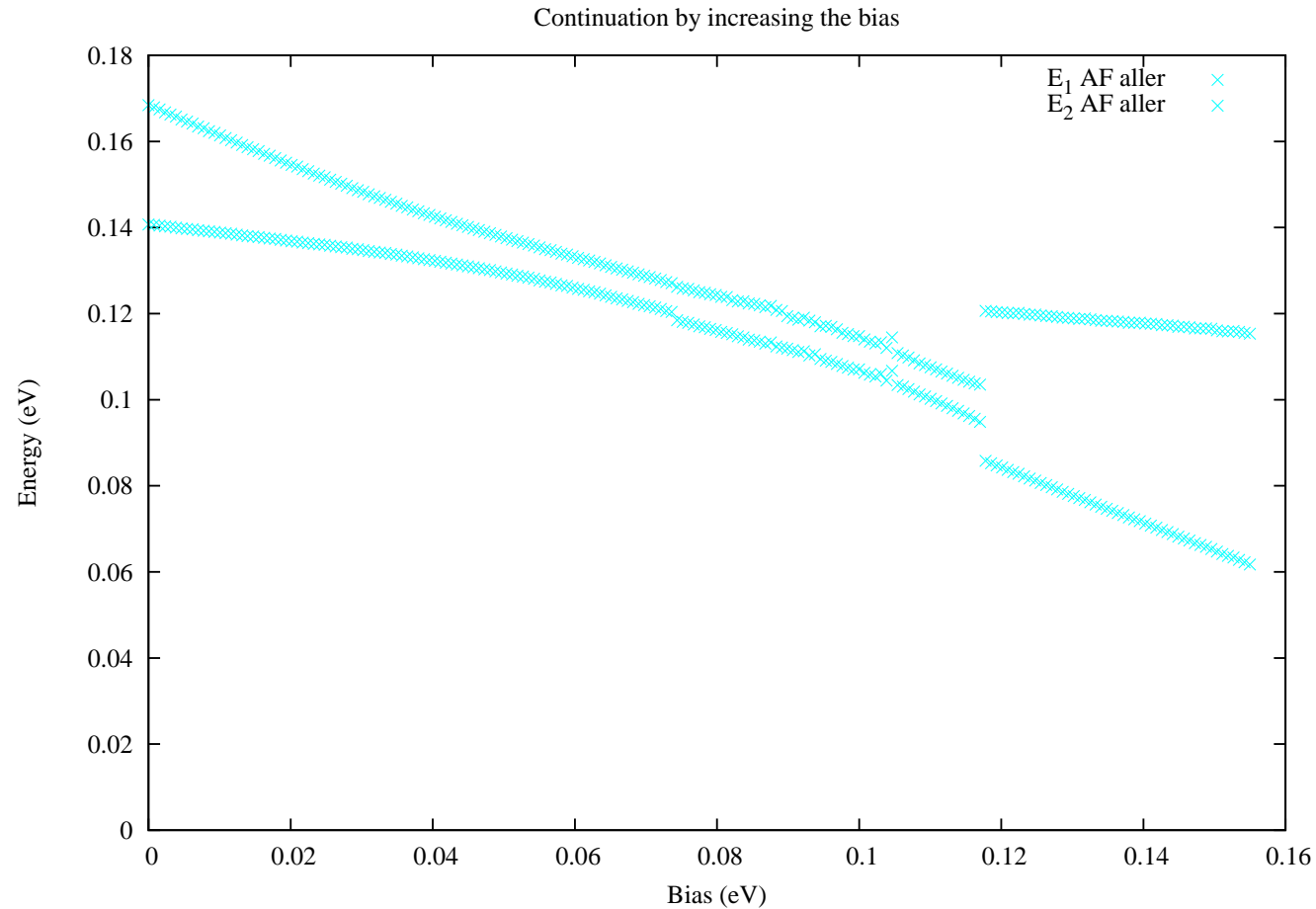
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- Wells [5nm, 3.5nm] Barriers [5nm, 5nm, 6.5nm]
Previous bifurcation diagram sensitive to a **a few Angström !!!**.

2 Wells - 2 Resonances, comparison

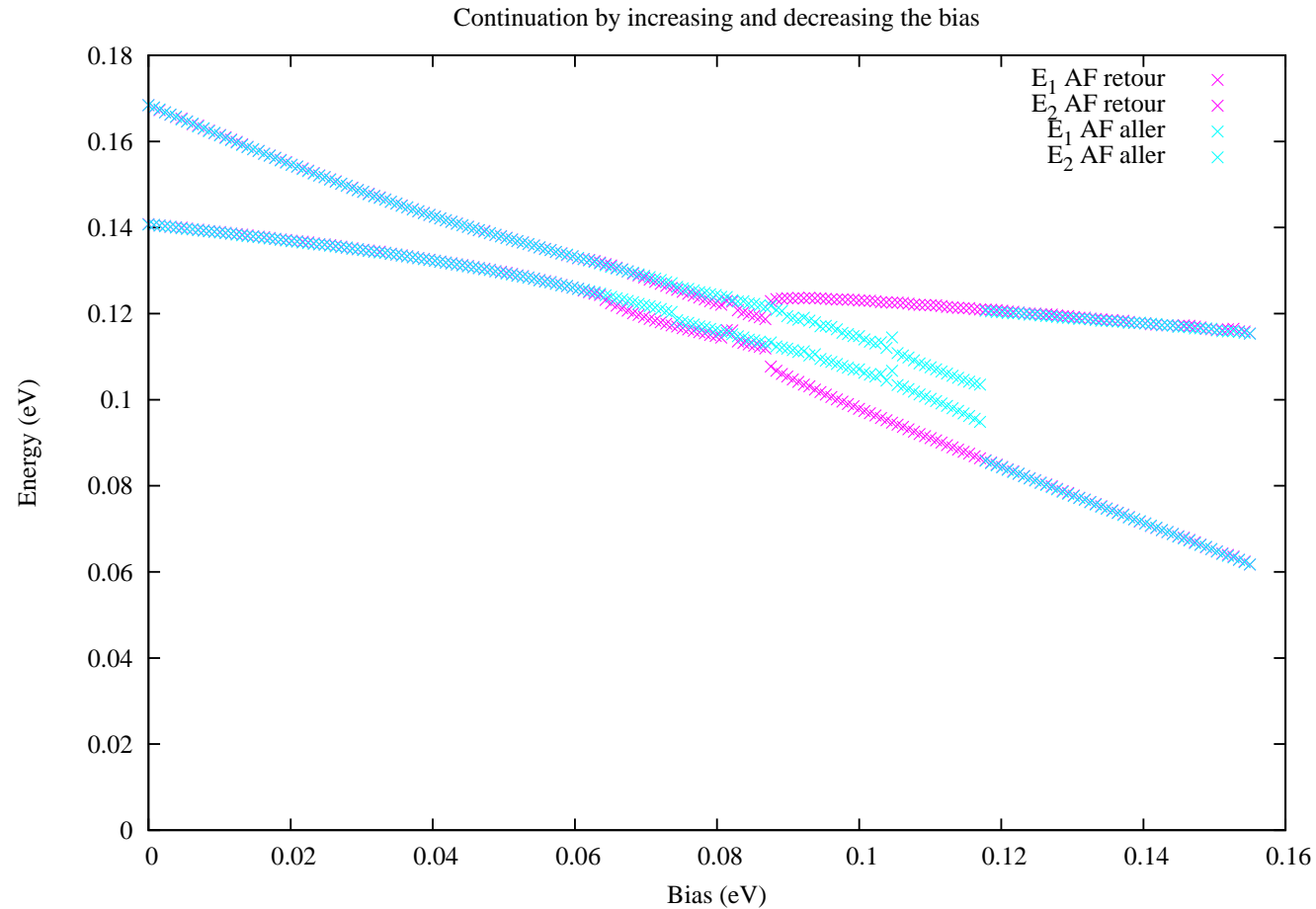
Continuation by increasing the bias



The second case is realized.

2 Wells - 2 Resonances, comparison

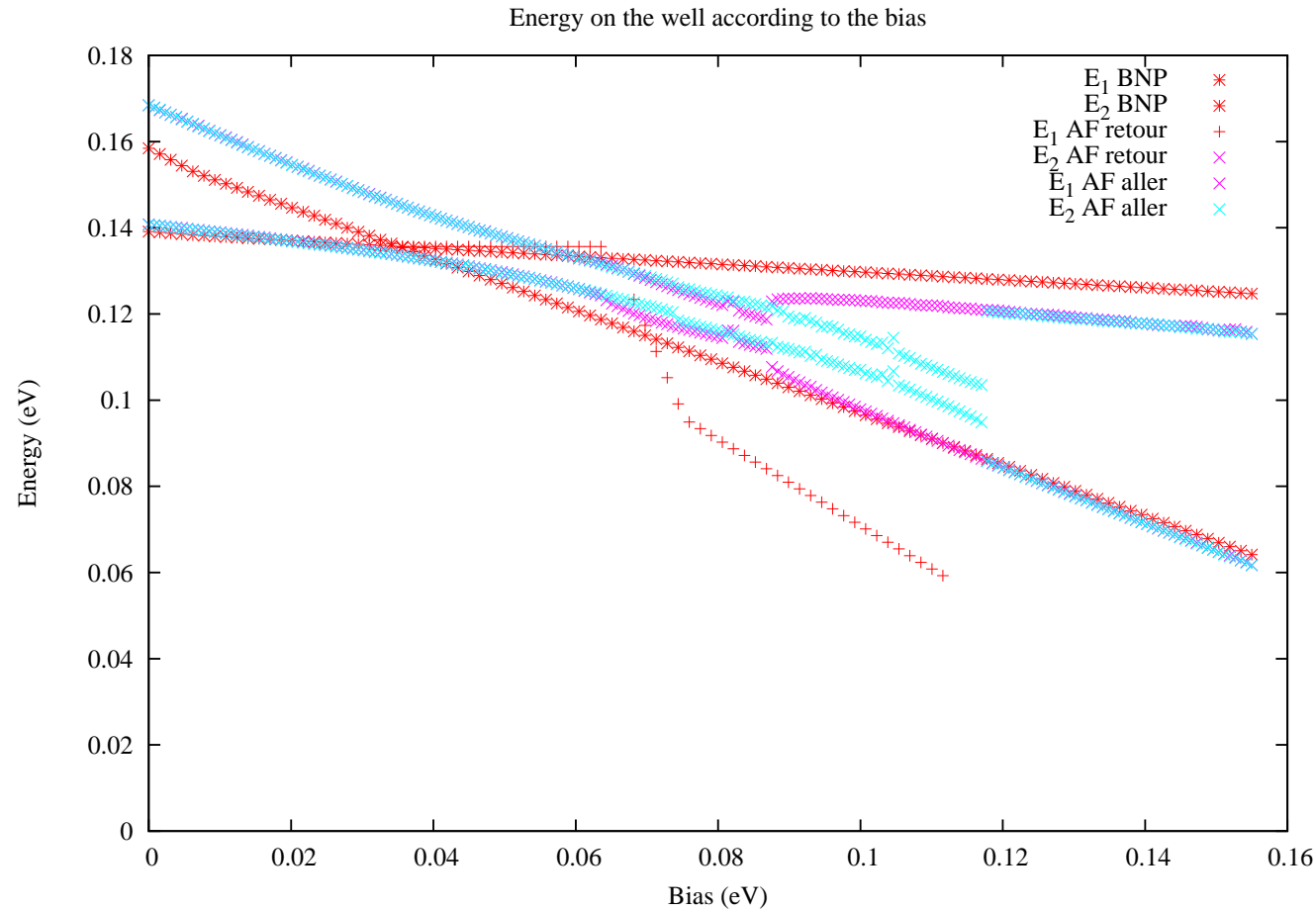
Continuation by in- and de-creasing the bias



For some bias, both solutions coexist !!

2 Wells - 2 Resonances, comparison

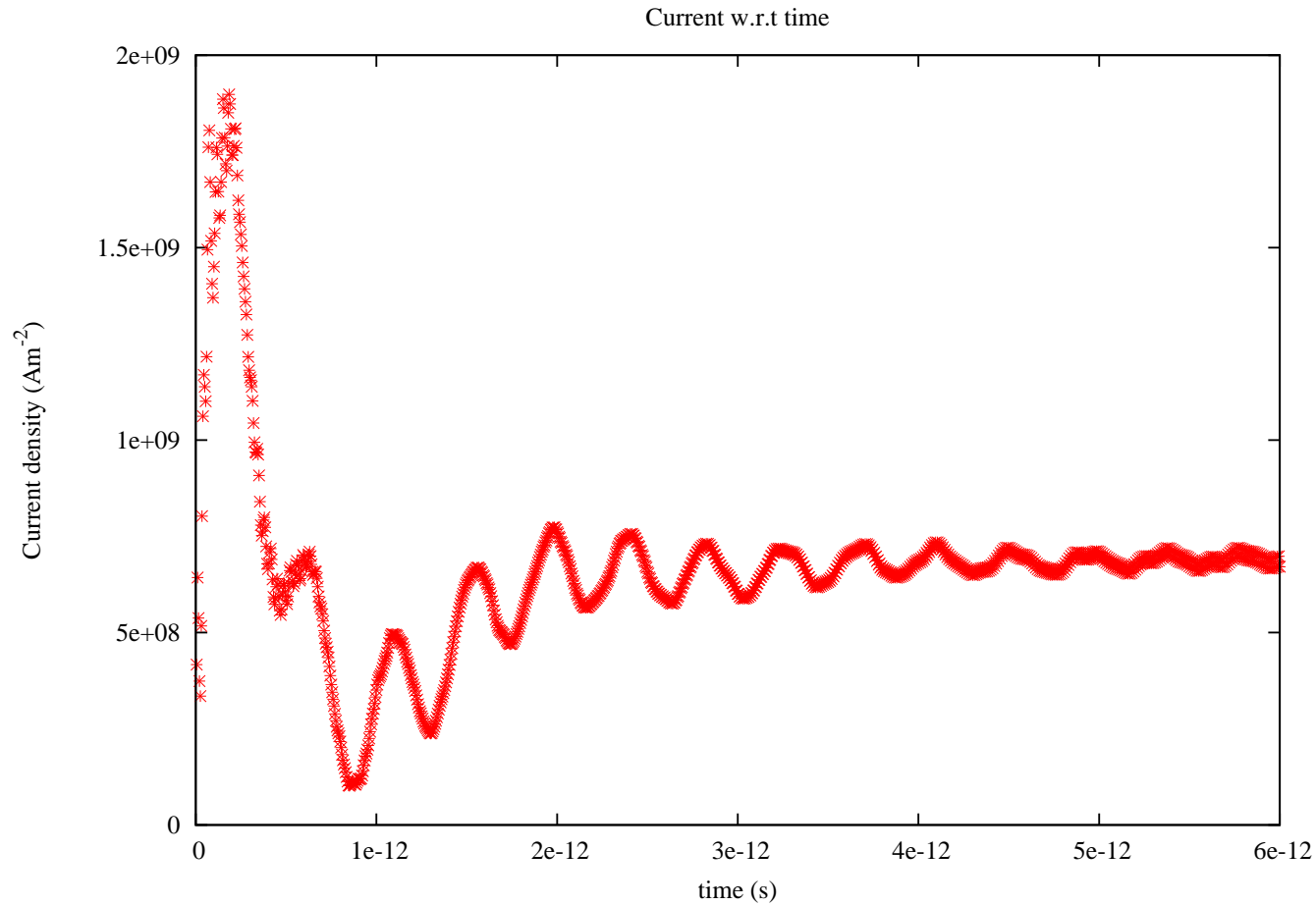
Comparison of the bifurcation diagrams



Remember the strong sensitivity to the data and all the approximation process.

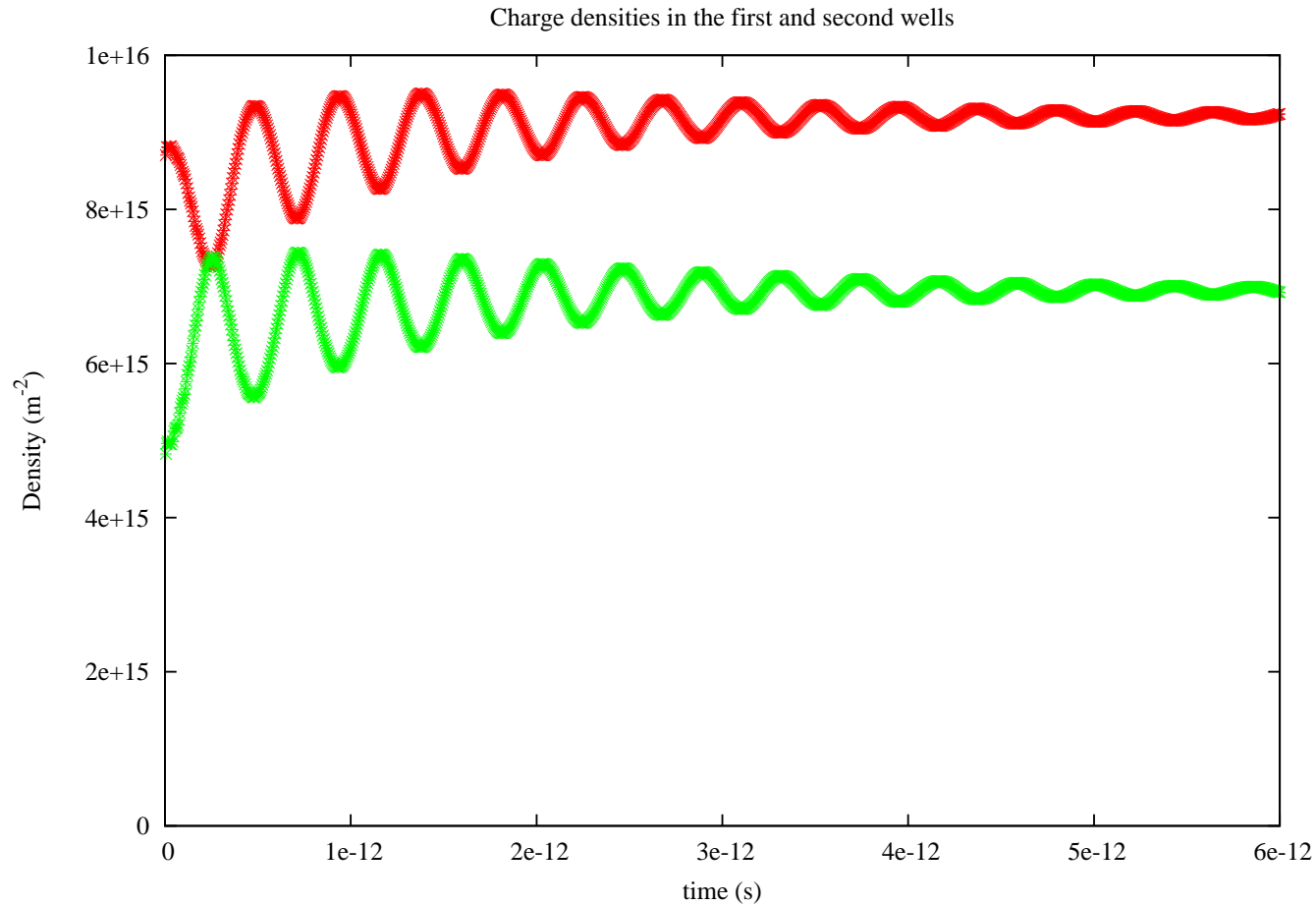
2 Wells - Beating effect

At time $t = 0$, the bias goes from $0V$ to $0.08V$



Is it a (damped) beating effect ?

2 Wells - Beating effect



And $T = \frac{\hbar_{phys}}{\Delta E_{gap}}$ up to 10%.

Conclusion

- In spite of several “rough” approximations, the numerical results of the asymptotic model and the complete Schrödinger-Poisson model agree very well.

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- In spite of several “rough” approximations, the numerical results of the asymptotic model and the complete Schrödinger-Poisson model agree very well.
- All the semi-algebraic complexity of the bifurcation diagrams of the asymptotic model **actually occurs** in the Schrödinger-Poisson model.
- The faithful and fast computations of the asymptotic model allow to design interesting test cases for the Schrödinger-Poisson problem.