Nov 1, 2021
MSE 2101 topics

- The interplay between electric and strong nuclear forces

- Getting two protons to stick together?
  - kinetic theory of gases (the fancy way of saying that particle velocity in a gas is distributed around the average velocity)
  - quantum tunneling

- The principle of fusion – turning hydrogen into helium
  - optional (i.e. won’t be on the quiz): proton-proton chain

Suggested reading:

Chapter 4 of David Weintraub’s book
It’s the power of quantum mechanics that allow the Sun to shine