

E784: Optional expression for the total cross section

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The problem:

Show that the total cross section is approximately:

$$\sigma_{tot} = \frac{m^2}{\pi \left(\frac{\hbar}{2\pi}\right)^4} \int_V \int_{V'} U(r) U(r') \frac{\sin^2(k|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|)}{k^2 |\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|^2} d^3r d^3r'$$

The solution:

$$\sigma_{tot} = \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial \Omega} d\Omega = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial \Omega} \sin(\theta_{\Omega}) d\phi_{\Omega} d\theta_{\Omega}$$

After using the born approximation, we get:

$$\frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial \Omega} = \frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^2} \frac{k_E^2}{v_E^2} \left| \tilde{U}(\vec{k}, \vec{k}') \right|^2$$

$$\tilde{U}(\vec{k}, \vec{k}') = \int_{V'} U(\vec{r}') e^{i(\vec{k} - \vec{k}') \cdot \vec{r}'} d^3r'$$

$$v_E = \frac{p}{m} \mapsto \frac{k_E^2}{v_E^2} = \frac{m^2}{\hbar^2}$$

$$k_E = \sqrt{2mE}, \quad k_E = k$$

$$\vec{k}' = k\hat{r}, \quad \vec{k} = k\hat{k}, \quad \hat{k}\hat{r} = \cos\theta_{\Omega}$$

$$\frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial \Omega} = \frac{m^2}{4\pi^2\hbar^4} \int_V U(\vec{r}) e^{i(\vec{k} - \vec{k}') \cdot \vec{r}} d^3r \int_{V'} U(\vec{r}') e^{-i(\vec{k} - \vec{k}') \cdot \vec{r}'} d^3r'$$

$$\frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial \Omega} = \frac{m^2}{4\pi^2\hbar^4} \int_V \int_{V'} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot (\vec{r} - \vec{r}')} e^{-i\vec{k}' \cdot (\vec{r} - \vec{r}')} U(\vec{r}) U(\vec{r}') d^3r d^3r'$$

$$\frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial \Omega} = \frac{m^2}{4\pi^2\hbar^4} \int_V \int_{V'} e^{ik|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'| \cos\theta_{\Omega}} e^{-ik'|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'| \cos\theta_{\Omega'}} U(\vec{r}) U(\vec{r}') d^3r d^3r'$$

$$\sigma_{tot} = \frac{m^2}{4\pi^2\hbar^4} \int_{\Omega} \int_V \int_{V'} e^{ik|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|\cos\theta_{\Omega}} e^{-ik'|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|\cos\theta_{\Omega'}} U(\vec{r}) U(\vec{r}') \sin(\theta_{\Omega}) d\phi_{\Omega} d\theta_{\Omega} d^3r d^3r'$$

$$\sigma_{tot} = \frac{m^2}{4\pi^2\hbar^4} 2\pi \int_V \int_{V'} \int_{-1}^1 e^{-ik|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|\cos\theta_{\Omega'}} U(\vec{r}) U(\vec{r}') e^{ik|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|\cos\theta_{\Omega}} d(\cos\theta_{\Omega}) d^3r d^3r'$$

$$= \frac{m^2}{\pi\hbar^4} \int_V \int_{V'} \frac{\sin(k|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|)}{k|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|} U(\vec{r}) U(\vec{r}') e^{-ik|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|\cos\theta_{\Omega'}} d^3r d^3r'$$

we now average over all incident beam direction $\vec{k}$ (assuming that V is spherically symmetric), than:

$$= \frac{m^2}{\pi\hbar^4} \int_V \int_{V'} \frac{\sin(k|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|)}{k|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|} U(r) U(r') \left(\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\Omega'} \sin(\theta_{\Omega'}) d\phi_{\Omega'} d\theta_{\Omega'} e^{-i\vec{k}(\vec{r}-\vec{r}')} \right) d^3r d^3r'$$

$$= \frac{m^2}{\pi\hbar^4} \int_V \int_{V'} \frac{\sin(k|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|)}{k|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|} U(r) U(r') \left(\frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 e^{-ik|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|\cos\theta_{\Omega'}} d(\cos\theta_{\Omega'}) \right) d^3r d^3r'$$

$$= \frac{m^2}{\pi \left(\frac{h}{2\pi}\right)^4} \int_V \int_{V'} U(r) U(r') \frac{\sin^2(k|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|)}{k^2 |\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|^2} d^3r d^3r'$$

As required, we derived:

$$\sigma_{tot} = \frac{m^2}{\pi \left(\frac{h}{2\pi}\right)^4} \int_V \int_{V'} U(r) U(r') \frac{\sin^2(k|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|)}{k^2 |\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|^2} d^3r d^3r'$$