

**PHY 711 Classical Mechanics and
Mathematical Methods
11-11:50 AM MWF Olin 107**

Plan for Lecture 3:

- 1. Scattering theory in the center of mass frame**
- 2. Calculation of the scattering cross section**
- 3. Cross section for Rutherford scattering**

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Department of Physics

News



[Congratulations to Dr. Maxim Zubatykh, recent Ph.D. Recipient](#)



[Sean Mevin Awarded Predoctoral Fellowship](#)



[Congratulations to Dr. Katelyn Goets, recent Ph.D. Recipient](#)

Events

Wed. Sept. 7, 2016
WFU Physics Research -- Part I
4:00pm - Olin 101
Refreshments served 3:30pm - Olin Lounge

Wed. Sept. 21, 2016
Career Advising Event
Justin Sigley, St. Johns Optical Systems
12:00pm - Olin Lounge
Pizza Served

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WFU Physics Colloquium

TITLE: "WFU Physics Research -- Part I"
TIME: Wednesday Sept. 7, 2016 at 4:00 PM
PLACE: George P. Williams, Jr. Lecture Hall, (Olin 101)

Refreshments will be served at 3:30 PM in the lounge. All interested persons are cordially invited to attend.

PROGRAM

This colloquium is the first of two which will highlight physics research at Wake Forest University. During the colloquium, Physics Department faculty members will present short overviews of their research programs in the Physics Department. This forum for sharing ideas will hopefully inspire collaborations between students and faculty and between research groups.

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PHY 711 Classical Mechanics and Mathematical Methods

MWF 11 AM-11:50 AM | OPL 107 | <http://www.wfu.edu/~natalie/f16phy711/>

Instructor: Natalie Holzwarth | Phone: 758-5510 | Office: 300 OPL | e-mail: natalie@wfu.edu

Course schedule

(Preliminary schedule -- subject to frequent adjustment.)

Date	F&W Reading	Topic	Assignment Due
1 Wed, 8/31/2016	Chap. 1	Review of basic principles	#1 9/7/2016
2 Fri, 9/02/2016	Chap. 1	Scattering theory	#2 9/7/2016
Mon, 9/05/2016		Labor day -- no class	
3 Wed, 9/07/2016	Chap. 1	Scattering theory	#3 9/9/2016
4 Fri, 9/09/2016	Chap. 1 & 2	Scattering theory and rotations	#4 9/12/2016
5 Mon, 9/12/2016			
6 Wed, 9/14/2016			
7 Fri, 9/16/2016			

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PHY 711 -- Assignment #3

Sept. 7, 2016

Continue reading Chapter 1 in **Fetter & Walecka**.

1. Work Problem #1.15 at the end of Chapter 1 in **Fetter and Walecka**.

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Scattering theory:

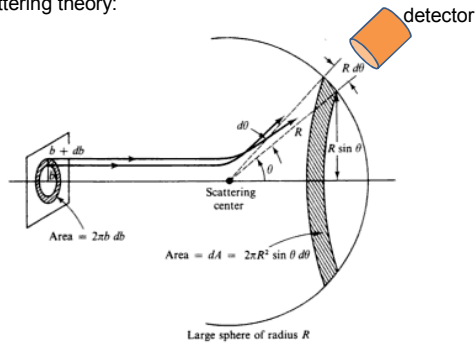


Figure 5.5 The scattering problem and relation of cross section to impact parameter.

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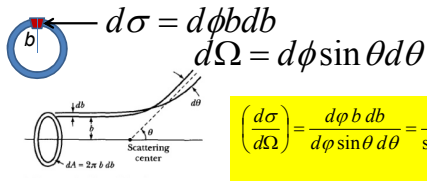
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Differential cross section

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right) = \frac{\text{Number of detected particles at } \theta \text{ per target particle}}{\text{Number of incident particles per unit area}}$$

= Area of incident beam that is scattered into detector at angle θ



$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right) = \frac{d\phi b db}{d\phi \sin\theta d\theta} = \frac{b}{\sin\theta} \left|\frac{db}{d\theta}\right|$$

Figure from Marion & Thorton, Classical Dynamics

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Note: Notion of cross section is common to many areas of physics including classical mechanics, quantum mechanics, optics, etc. Only in the classical mechanics can we calculate it using geometric considerations

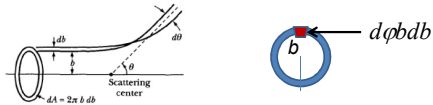


Figure from Marion & Thorton, Classical Dynamics

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right) = \frac{d\phi b db}{d\phi \sin\theta d\theta} = \frac{b}{\sin\theta} \left|\frac{db}{d\theta}\right|$$

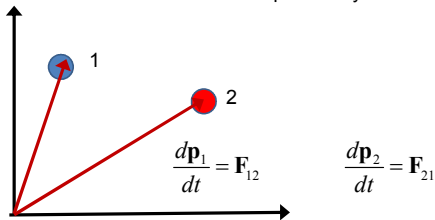
Note: We are assuming that the process is isotropic in ϕ

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Relationship of scattering cross-section to particle interactions --
Classical mechanics of a conservative 2-particle system.



$$\mathbf{F}_{12} = -\nabla_1 V(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) \Rightarrow E = \frac{1}{2} m_1 v_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 v_2^2 + V(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)$$

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Typical two-particle interactions –

Central potential: $V(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) = V(|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|) \equiv V(r)$

Hard sphere: $V(r) = \begin{cases} \infty & r \leq a \\ 0 & r > a \end{cases}$

Coulomb or gravitational: $V(r) = \frac{K}{r}$

Lennard-Jones: $V(r) = \frac{A}{r^{12}} - \frac{B}{r^6}$

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Relationship between center of mass and laboratory frames of reference

Definition of center of mass $\mathbf{R}_{CM}$

$$m_1 \mathbf{r}_1 + m_2 \mathbf{r}_2 = (m_1 + m_2) \mathbf{R}_{CM}$$

$$m_1 \dot{\mathbf{r}}_1 + m_2 \dot{\mathbf{r}}_2 = (m_1 + m_2) \dot{\mathbf{R}}_{CM} \equiv (m_1 + m_2) \mathbf{V}_{CM}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E &= \frac{1}{2} m_1 v_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_2 v_2^2 + V(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (m_1 + m_2) V_{CM}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mu |\mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_2|^2 + V(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) \end{aligned}$$

where: $\mu \equiv \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2}$

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Classical mechanics of a conservative 2-particle system -- continued

$$E = \frac{1}{2} (m_1 + m_2) V_{CM}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mu |\mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_2|^2 + V(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)$$

For central potentials: $V(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) = V(|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|) \equiv V(r_{12})$

Relative angular momentum is also conserved:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{L}_{12} &\equiv \mathbf{r}_{12} \times \mu \mathbf{v}_{12} \\ E &= \frac{1}{2} (m_1 + m_2) V_{CM}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mu v_{12}^2 + \frac{L_{12}^2}{2\mu r_{12}^2} + V(r_{12}) \end{aligned}$$

Simpler notation:

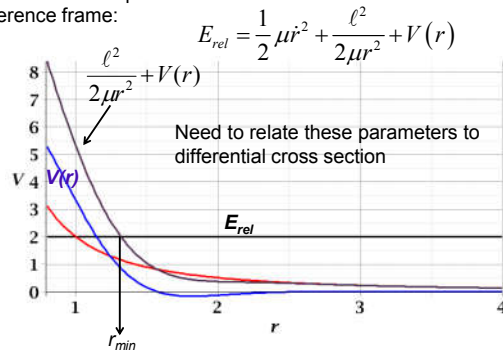
$$E = \frac{1}{2} (m_1 + m_2) V_{CM}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mu \dot{r}^2 + \frac{\overbrace{L^2}^{E_{rel}}}{2\mu r^2} + V(r)$$

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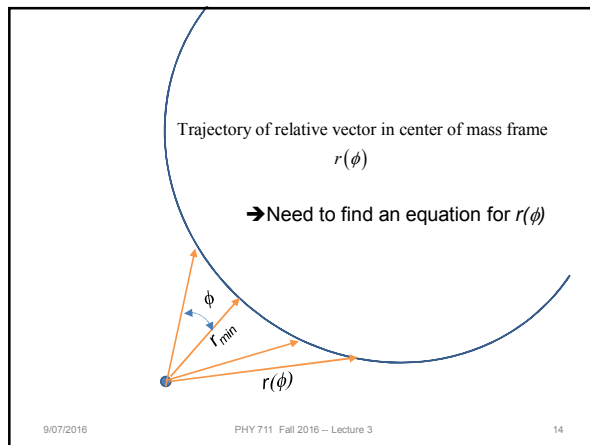
For a continuous potential interaction in center of mass reference frame:



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Conservation of energy in the center of mass frame:

$$E_{rel} \equiv E = \frac{1}{2} \mu \left(\frac{dr}{dt} \right)^2 + \frac{\ell^2}{2\mu r^2} + V(r)$$

Transformation of trajectory variables:

$$r(t) \Leftrightarrow r(\phi)$$

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{dr}{d\phi} \frac{d\phi}{dt} = \frac{dr}{d\phi} \frac{\ell}{\mu r^2}$$

Here, constant angular momentum is: $\ell = \mu r^2 \left(\frac{d\phi}{dt} \right)$

$$\Rightarrow E = \frac{1}{2} \mu \left(\frac{dr}{d\phi} \frac{\ell}{\mu r^2} \right)^2 + \frac{\ell^2}{2\mu r^2} + V(r)$$

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Solving for $r(\phi) \Leftrightarrow \phi(r)$:

From: $E = \frac{1}{2} \mu \left(\frac{dr}{d\phi} \frac{\ell}{\mu r^2} \right)^2 + \frac{\ell^2}{2\mu r^2} + V(r)$

$$\left(\frac{dr}{d\phi} \right)^2 = \left(\frac{2\mu r^4}{\ell^2} \right) \left(E - \frac{\ell^2}{2\mu r^2} - V(r) \right)$$

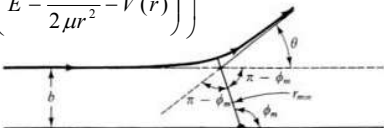
$$d\phi = dr \left(\frac{\ell / r^2}{\sqrt{2\mu \left(E - \frac{\ell^2}{2\mu r^2} - V(r) \right)}} \right)$$

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$d\phi = dr \left(\frac{\ell / r^2}{\sqrt{2\mu \left(E - \frac{\ell^2}{2\mu r^2} - V(r) \right)}} \right)$



Special values at large separation ($r \rightarrow \infty$):

$$\ell = \mu v_\infty b$$

$$E = \frac{1}{2} \mu v_\infty^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \ell = \sqrt{2\mu E} b$$

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When the dust clears:

$$d\phi = dr \left(\frac{\ell / r^2}{\sqrt{2\mu \left(E - \frac{\ell^2}{2\mu r^2} - V(r) \right)}} \right)$$

$$d\phi = dr \left(\frac{b / r^2}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{b^2}{r^2} - \frac{V(r)}{E}}} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi_{\max}(b, E) = \phi(r \rightarrow \infty) - \phi(r = r_{\min})$$

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$$\int_0^{\phi_{\max}} d\phi = \int_{r_{\min}}^{\infty} dr \left(\frac{b/r^2}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{b^2}{r^2} - \frac{V(r)}{E}}} \right)$$

where :

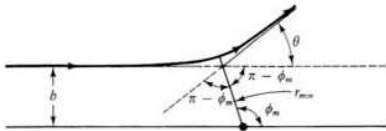
$$1 - \frac{b^2}{r_{\min}^2} - \frac{V(r_{\min})}{E} = 0$$

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Relationship between $\phi_{\max}$ and θ :



$$2(\pi - \phi_{\max}) + \theta = \pi$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi_{\max} = \frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\theta}{2}$$

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$$\phi_{\max} = \frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\theta}{2} = \int_{r_{\min}}^{\infty} dr \left(\frac{b/r^2}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{b^2}{r^2} - \frac{V(r)}{E}}} \right)$$

$$\theta = -\pi + 2b \int_{r_{\min}}^{\infty} dr \left(\frac{1/r^2}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{b^2}{r^2} - \frac{V(r)}{E}}} \right)$$

$$\theta = -\pi + 2b \int_0^{1/r_{\min}} du \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - b^2 u^2 - \frac{V(1/u)}{E}}} \right)$$

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Scattering angle equation:

$$\theta = -\pi + 2b \int_0^{1/r_{\min}} du \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - b^2 u^2 - \frac{V(1/u)}{E}}} \right)$$

where:

$$1 - \frac{b^2}{r_{\min}^2} - \frac{V(r_{\min})}{E} = 0$$

Rutherford scattering example:

$$\frac{V(r)}{E} \equiv \frac{\kappa}{r} \quad 1 - \frac{b^2}{r_{\min}^2} - \frac{\kappa}{r_{\min}} = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{r_{\min}} = \frac{1}{b} \left(-\frac{\kappa}{2b} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{\kappa}{2b}\right)^2 + 1} \right)$$

$$\theta = -\pi + 2b \int_0^{1/r_{\min}} du \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - b^2 u^2 - \kappa u}} \right) = 2 \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{(2b/\kappa)^2 + 1}} \right)$$

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Rutherford scattering continued :

$$\theta = 2 \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{(2b/\kappa)^2 + 1}} \right)$$

$$\frac{2b}{\kappa} = \left| \frac{\cos(\theta/2)}{\sin(\theta/2)} \right|$$

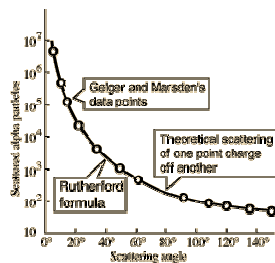
$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right) = \frac{b}{\sin\theta} \left| \frac{db}{d\theta} \right| = \frac{\kappa^2}{16} \frac{1}{\sin^4(\theta/2)}$$

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$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right) = \frac{b}{\sin\theta} \left| \frac{db}{d\theta} \right| = \frac{\kappa^2}{16} \frac{1}{\sin^4(\theta/2)}$$



What happens as $\theta \rightarrow 0$?

From webpage: <http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/nuclear/rutsca2.html#c3>

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Original experiment performed with α particles on gold

$$\frac{\kappa}{4} = \frac{Z_{\alpha} Z_{\text{Au}} e^2}{8\pi\epsilon_0 \mu v_{\infty}^2}$$

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