

# Summary of the course/ End Sem. Exam

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## **1. Differential Calculus: Numerical ODE solvers**

## **2 Elementary Mechanics**

**2.1 Newtonian Mechanics: Single Particle. Force, Energy, Potential.**

**2.2 Basic Kinematic Quantities. Conservation Theorems**

**2.3 Rotational Motion.**

**2.4 Configuration and phase space**

**2.5 Problem Solving**

## **3 Oscillations and Motion**

**3.1 Simple harmonic oscillator**

**3.2 Nonlinear Oscillations**

**3.4 Applications and Problem Solving**

## **4 Lagrangian and Hamiltonian Dynamics**

**4.1 Lagrangian approach to Mechanics**

**4.2 Variational calculus , Eulers Equations**

**4.3 Hamiltonian Dynamics**

**4.4 Examples and Problem Solving**

**5.1 Central Force Motion.**

**5.2 Two body problem. Orbits, Gravitation.**

**5.3 Scattering Problem**

# Scattering in a Central force field.

# Central Force Field Scattering

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- Application of Central Forces outside of astronomy:  
**Scattering of particles.**
- Atomic scale scattering.

## Description of scattering processes:

1 body formulation = Scattering of particles by a  
**Center of Force.**

- *Original 2 body problem = Scattering of “particle” with the reduced mass  $\mu$  from a center of force*

# Assumptions

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1. Consider a **uniform beam** of particles (of any kind) of equal mass and energy incident on a center of force (Central force  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{r})$ ).

- **Assume** that  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{r})$  falls off to zero at large  $r$ .

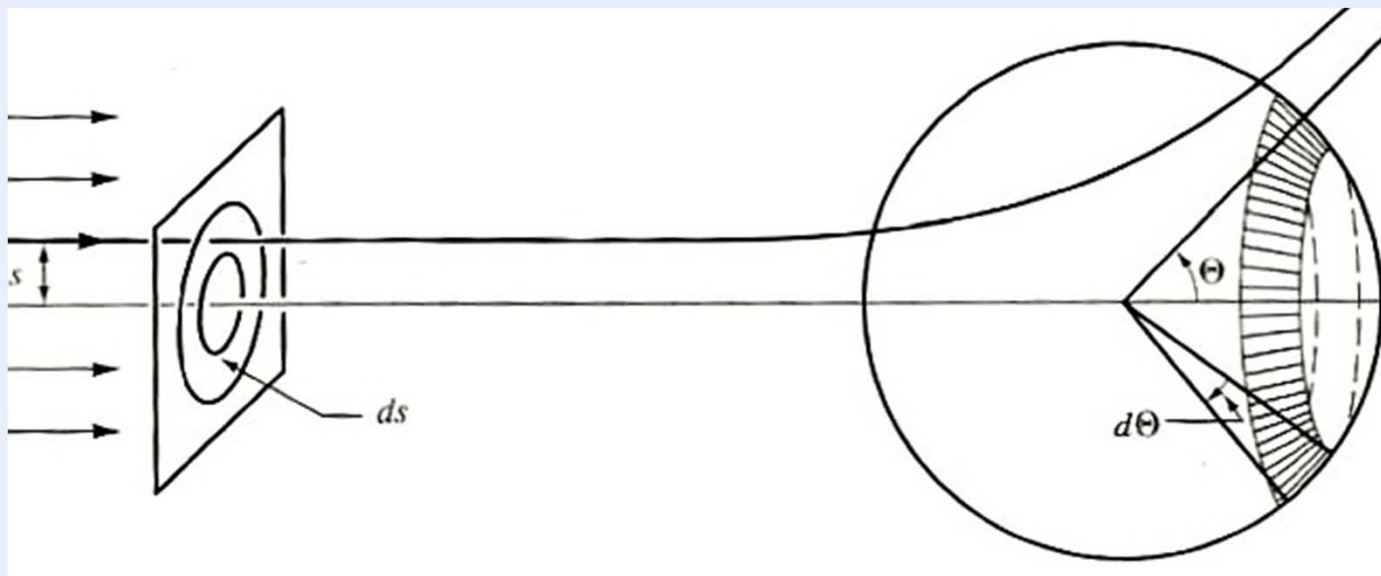
2. Incident beam is characterized by an intensity (flux density)  
 $I \equiv \#$  particles crossing a unit area ( $\perp$  beam) per unit time .

- *As a particle approaches the center of force, it is either attracted or repelled & thus it's orbit will be changed (deviate from the initial straight line path).*

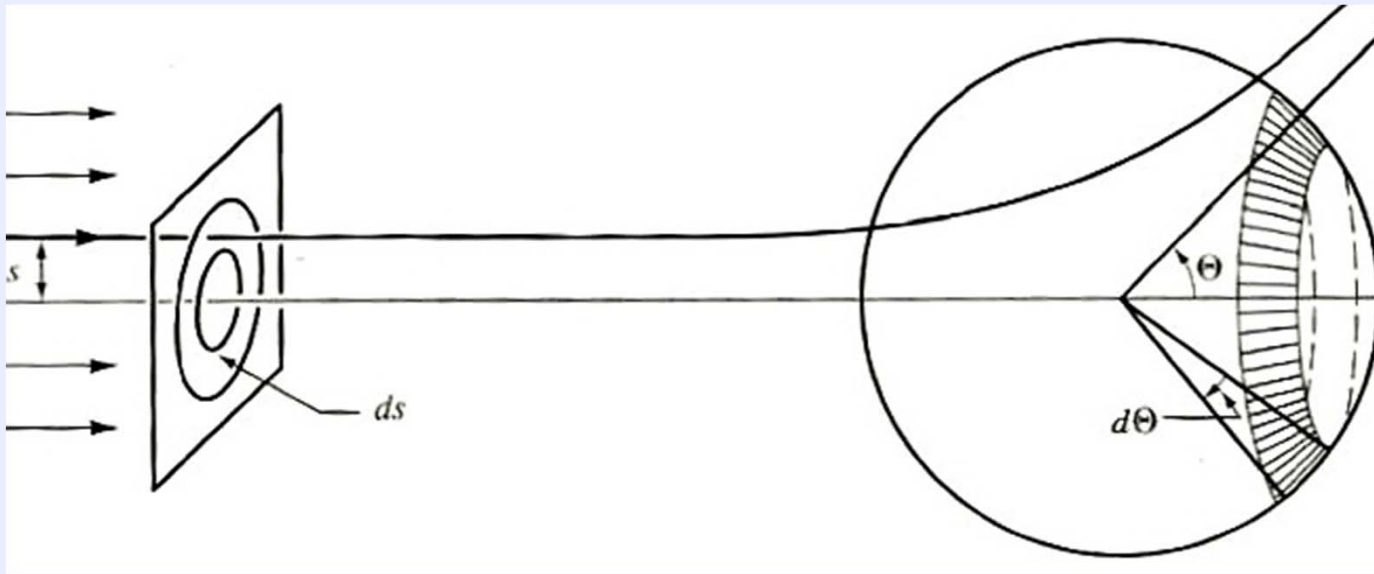
*Direction of final motion is not the same as incident motion.  $\Rightarrow \equiv$  **Particle is Scattered***

Interested in distribution of scattering angles that result from collisions with various impact parameters.

Impact parameter  $\rightarrow$  distance of closest approach.



- **repulsive scattering** (as shown in the figure):



- **Define: Cross Section for Scattering** in a given direction (into a given solid angle  $d\Omega$ ):

$$\sigma(\Omega)d\Omega \equiv (N_s/I).$$

With  $I$  = incident intensity

$N_s$  = # particles/time scattered into solid angle  $d\Omega$

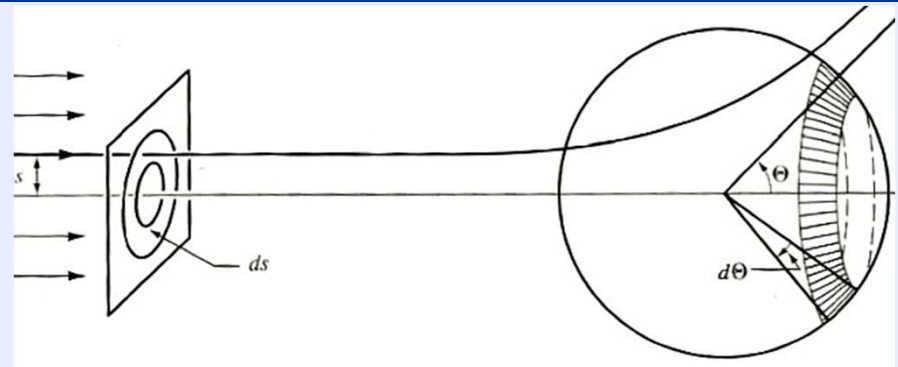
## ➤ Differential Scattering Cross Section:

$$\sigma(\Omega)d\Omega \equiv (N_s/I)$$

$I$  = incident intensity

$N_s$  = # particles/time

scattered into angle  $d\Omega$



- In general, the solid angle  $\Omega$  depends on the spherical angles  $\Theta$ ,  $\Phi$ . However, for central forces, there must be **symmetry** about the axis of the incident beam

$\Rightarrow \sigma(\Omega)$  ( $\equiv \sigma(\Theta)$ ) is independent of azimuthal angle  $\Phi$

$\Rightarrow d\Omega \equiv 2\pi \sin\Theta d\Theta$  ,  $\sigma(\Omega)d\Omega \equiv 2\pi \sin\Theta d\Theta$ ,

$\Theta \equiv$  Angle between incident & scattered beams, as in the figure.

$\sigma \equiv$  “**cross section**”. It has units of area

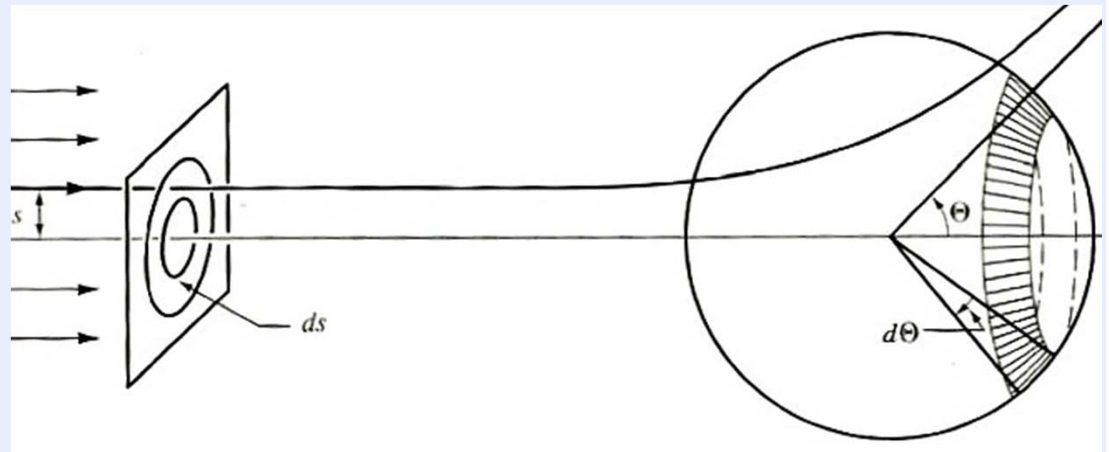
Also called the differential cross section.

In all Central Force problems, for a given particle, the orbit, & thus the amount of scattering, is determined by ??



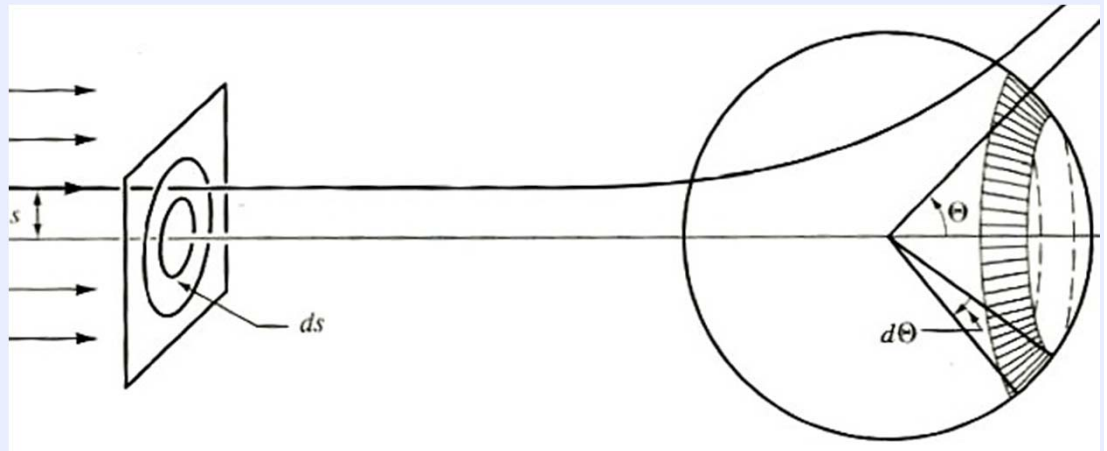
- As in all Central Force problems, for a given particle, the orbit, & thus the amount of scattering, is determined by the energy  $E$  & the angular momentum  $\ell$
- **Define: Impact parameter,  $s$ ,** & express the angular momentum  $\ell$  in terms of  $E$  &  $s$ .
- Impact parameter  $s \equiv$  the  $\perp$  distance between the center of force & the incident beam velocity (fig).
- GOAL: **Given** the energy  $E$ , the impact parameter  $s$ , & the force  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{r})$ , what is the cross section  $\sigma(\Theta)$ ?

- **Beam**, intensity  $I$ .  
Particles, mass  $m$ ,  
incident speed  
(at  $r \rightarrow \infty$ ) =  $\mathbf{v}_0$ .



- **find**  $\mathbf{v}_0$  and  $\ell$  (angular momentum of the particle about force center or  $m^2$ )

- **Beam**, intensity  $I$ .  
Particles, mass  $m$ ,  
incident speed  
(at  $r \rightarrow \infty$ ) =  $v_0$ .



- **Energy conservation:**

$$E = T + V = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 + V(r) = \frac{1}{2}m(v_0)^2 + V(r \rightarrow \infty)$$

- Assume  $V(r \rightarrow \infty) = 0 \Rightarrow E = \frac{1}{2}m(v_0)^2$

$$\Rightarrow v_0 = (2E/m)^{1/2}$$

- **Angular momentum:**  $\ell \equiv mv_0 s \equiv s(2mE)^{1/2}$

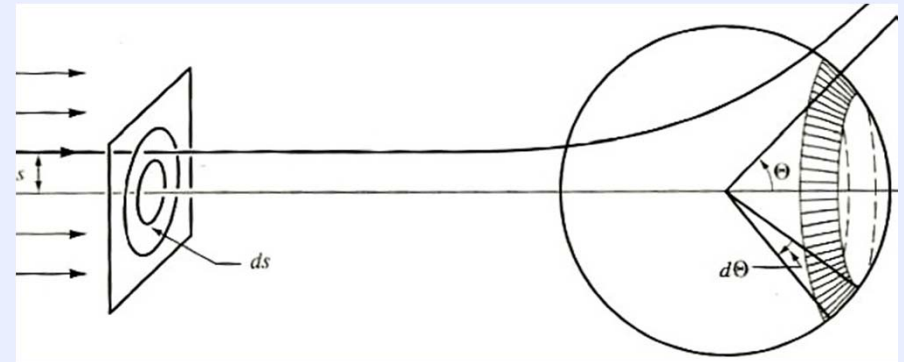
If  $E$  and  $s$  are fixed,  $\Theta$  can be determined.

Assume  $\rightarrow$  The number of particles scattered into a solid angle  $d\Omega$  lying between  $\Theta$  and  $\Theta + d\Theta$  must be equal to the number of the incident particles with impact parameter lying between the  $s$  and  $s + ds$ .

- **Angular momentum**  $\ell \equiv mv_0 s \equiv s(2mE)^{1/2}$

Incident speed  $v_0$ .

- $N_s \equiv$  # particles scattered into solid angle  $d\Omega$  between  $\Theta$  &  $\Theta + d\Theta$ .



### Cross section definition

$$\Rightarrow N_s = 2\pi I \sigma(\Theta) \sin\Theta d\Theta$$

- $N_i \equiv$  # incident particles with impact parameter between  $s$  &  $s + ds$ .  $N_i = 2\pi I s ds$

- **Conservation of particle number**

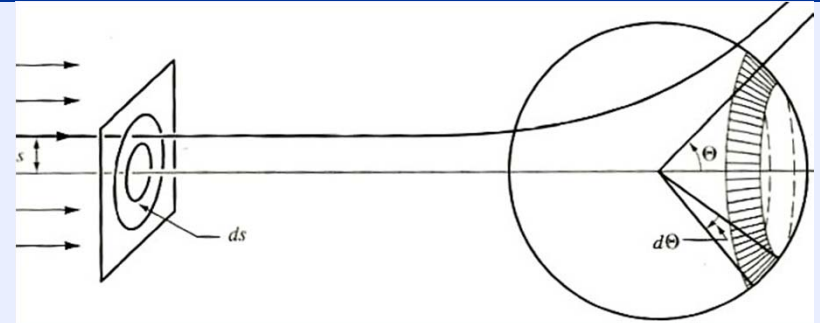
$$\Rightarrow N_s = N_i \text{ or: } 2\pi I \sigma(\Theta) \sin\Theta |d\Theta| = 2\pi I s |ds|$$

$2\pi I$  cancels out! (Use absolute values because  $N$ 's are always  $> 0$ , but  $ds$  &  $d\Theta$  can have any sign.)

$$\sigma(\Theta)\sin\Theta|d\Theta| = s|ds| \quad (1)$$

- $s$  = a function of energy  $E$  & scattering angle  $\Theta$ :

$$s = s(\Theta, E)$$



$$(1) \Rightarrow \sigma(\Theta) = (s/\sin\Theta) (|ds|/|d\Theta|) \quad (2)$$

- To compute  $\sigma(\Theta)$  we clearly need  $s = s(\Theta, E)$
- **Alternatively**, could use  $\Theta = \Theta(s, E)$  & rewrite (2) as:

$$\sigma(\Theta) = (s/\sin\Theta)/[|d\Theta|/|ds|] \quad (2')$$

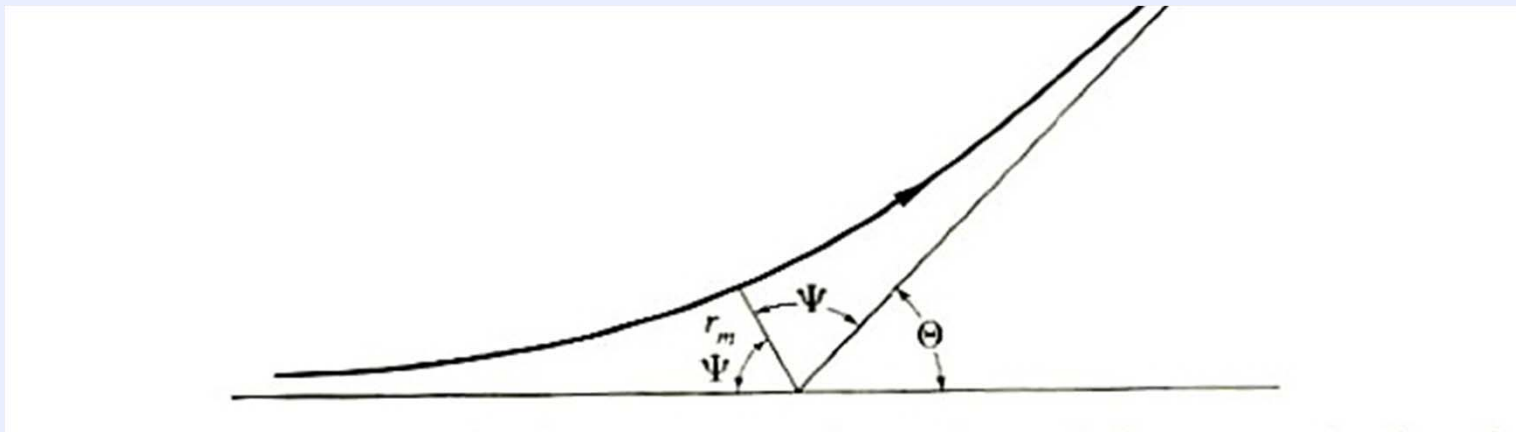
- Get  $\Theta = \Theta(s, E)$  from the orbit eqtn. For general central force ( $\theta$  is the angle which describes the orbit  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}(\theta)$ ;  $\theta \neq \Theta$ )

$$\theta(r) = \int (\ell/r^2)(2m)^{-1/2} [E - V(r) - \{\ell^2/(2mr^2)\}]^{-1/2} dr$$

- Orbit eqtn. **General central force:**

$$\theta(r) = \int (\ell/r^2)(2m)^{-1/2} [E - V(r) - \{\ell^2/(2mr^2)\}]^{-1/2} dr \quad (3)$$

- Considering purely **repulsive scattering**. See figure:



- **Closest approach distance**  $\equiv r_m$ . Orbit must be symmetric about  $r_m \Rightarrow$  (see figure):

Scattering angle  $\Theta \equiv \pi - 2\Psi$ . Also, orbit angle

$$\theta = \pi - \Psi \text{ in the special case } r = r_m$$

⇒ Rearrange (3) as:

$$\Psi = \int (dr/r^2) [(2mE)/(\ell^2) - (2mV(r))/(\ell^2) - 1/(r^2)]^{-1/2} \quad (4)$$

➤ Integrate from  $r_m$  to  $r \rightarrow \infty$

➤ Angular momentum in terms of impact parameter  $s$  & energy  $E$ :  $\ell \equiv mv_0 s \equiv s(2mE)^{1/2}$ .

Put this into (4) & get for scattering angle  $\Theta$ :



⇒ Rearrange (3) as:

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- Angular momentum in terms of impact parameter  $s$  & energy  $E$ :  $\ell \equiv mv_0 s \equiv s(2mE)^{1/2}$ .

Put this into (4) & get for scattering angle  $\Theta$ :

$$\Theta(s) = \pi - 2 \int dr (s/r) [r^2 \{1 - V(r)/E\} - s^2]^{-1/2} \quad (4')$$

Changing integration variables to  $u = 1/r$ :

$$\Theta(s) = \pi - 2 \int s du [1 - V(r)/E - s^2 u^2]^{-1/2} \quad (4'')$$

- Integrate from  $u = 0$  to  $u = u_m = 1/r_m$

**4- Direct numerical computation!**

- **Summary:** Scattering by a **general central force**:
- **Scattering angle**  $\Theta = \Theta(s, E)$  ( $s$  = impact parameter,  $E$  = energy):

$$\Theta(s) = \pi - 2 \int s du [1 - V(r)/E - s^2 u^2]^{-1/2} \quad (4'')$$

Integrate from  $u = 0$  to  $u = u_m = 1/r_m$

- **Scattering cross section:**

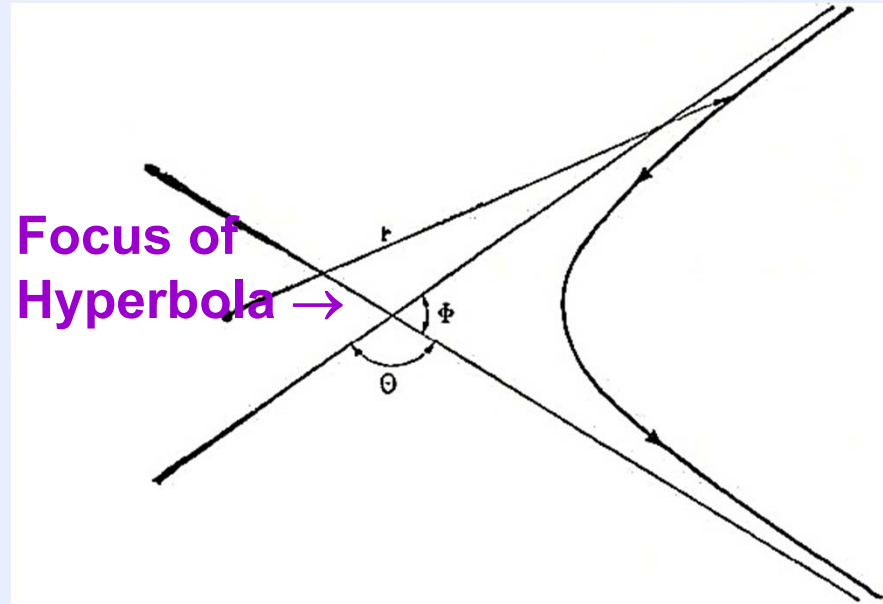
$$\sigma(\Theta) = (s/\sin\Theta) (|ds|/|d\Theta|) \quad (2)$$

- **Steps**: To solve a scattering problem:
  1. Given force  $f(r)$ , compute potential  $V(r)$ .
  2. Compute  $\Theta(s)$  using (4'').
  3. Compute  $\sigma(\Theta)$  using (2).

# assignment

- Relations between orbit angle  $\theta$  scattering angle  $\Theta$ , & auxiliary angle  $\Psi$  in the scattering problem, to get  $\Theta = \Theta(s)$  & thus **the scattering cross section**.

$$\Theta = \pi - 2\Psi$$



$\Psi$  = direction of incoming asymptote. Determined by  $r \rightarrow \infty$

# Example problem

# Problem

Examine the scattering produced by a repulsive central force  $f = kr^{-3}$ . Show that the differential cross section is given by

$$\sigma(\Theta)d\Theta = \frac{k}{2E} \frac{(1-x)dx}{x^2(2-x)^2 \sin \pi x}$$

where  $x$  is the ratio  $\Theta/\pi$  and  $E$  is the energy.

- **Summary:** Scattering by a **general central force**:
- **Scattering angle**  $\Theta = \Theta(s, E)$  ( $s$  = impact parameter,  $E$  = energy):

$$\Theta(s) = \pi - 2 \int s du [1 - V(r)/E - s^2 u^2]^{-1/2} \quad (4'')$$

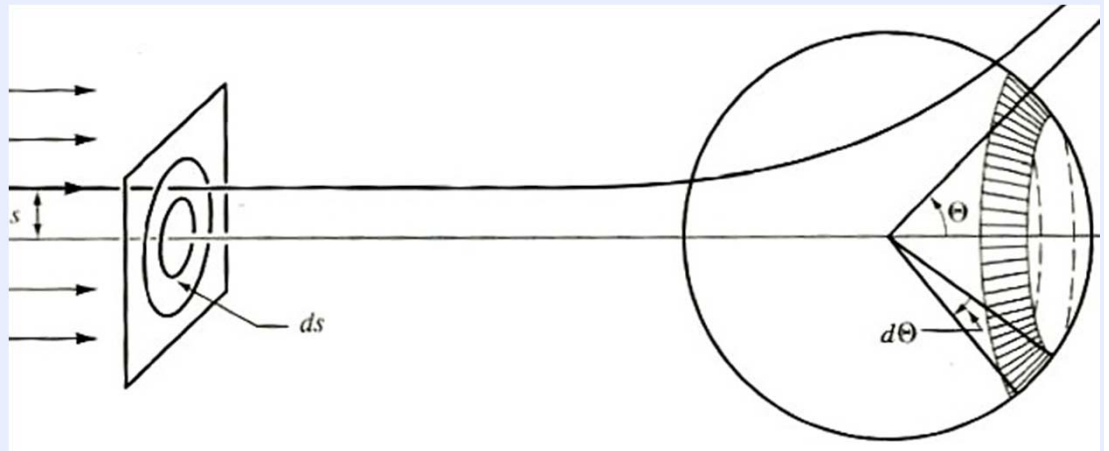
Integrate from  $u = 0$  to  $u = u_m = 1/r_m$

- **Scattering cross section:**

$$\sigma(\Theta) = (s/\sin\Theta) (|ds|/|d\Theta|) \quad (2)$$

- **Steps**: To solve a scattering problem:
  1. Given force  $f(r)$ , compute potential  $V(r)$ .
  2. Compute  $\Theta(s)$  using (4'').
  3. Compute  $\sigma(\Theta)$  using (2).

- **Beam**, intensity  $I$ .  
Particles, mass  $m$ ,  
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- **Energy conservation:**

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$$\Rightarrow v_0 = (2E/m)^{1/2}$$

- **Angular momentum:**  $\ell \equiv mv_0 s \equiv s(2mE)^{1/2}$

# Equation of the Orbit

$$\dot{r} = \frac{d}{dt}(r) = \frac{\ell u^2}{\mu} \frac{d}{d\phi} \frac{1}{u} = -\frac{\ell}{\mu} \frac{du}{d\phi}$$

$$\mu \ddot{r} = F(r) + \frac{\ell^2}{\mu r^3}.$$

$$\ddot{r} = \frac{d}{dt}(\dot{r}) = \frac{\ell u^2}{\mu} \frac{d}{d\phi} \left( -\frac{\ell}{\mu} \frac{du}{d\phi} \right) = -\frac{\ell^2 u^2}{\mu^2} \frac{d^2 u}{d\phi^2}.$$

$$-\mu \frac{\ell^2 u^2}{\mu^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \phi^2} = F(r) + \frac{\ell^2 u^3}{\mu} \quad \text{or}$$

$$u''(\phi) = -u(\phi) - \frac{\mu}{\ell^2 u(\phi)^2} F(r).$$

we substituted  $u = 1/r$ .



# solution

$$U = k/2r^2 = ku^2/2$$

----- 1

$$l = mv_0 s = (2mE)^{1/2} s$$

----- 2

$$\frac{d^2 u}{d\theta^2} + u = -\frac{m}{l^2} \frac{dU}{du} = -\frac{mk}{l^2} u$$

$$\frac{d^2 u}{d\theta^2} + \left(1 + \frac{mk}{l^2}\right) u = 0$$

Solution →

$$u = A \cos \gamma \theta + B \sin \gamma \theta$$

$$\gamma = \sqrt{1 + \frac{mk}{l^2}}.$$

# solution

Initial conditions :

initially the particle is at angle  $\theta = \pi$  and a great distance from the force center

$$\begin{aligned} u(\theta = \pi) = 0 &\quad \longrightarrow \quad A \cos \gamma\pi + B \sin \gamma\pi = 0 \\ &\quad \longrightarrow \quad A = -B \tan \gamma\pi. \end{aligned}$$

particle head off to  $r = \infty$  at angle  $\theta = \theta_s$

$$A \cos \gamma\theta_s + B \sin \gamma\theta_s = 0.$$

Manipulate and Find  $\gamma$  in terms of  $\theta$

# solution

$$-\cos \gamma \theta_s \tan \gamma \pi + \sin \gamma \theta_s = 0$$

$$-\cos \gamma \theta_s \sin \gamma \pi + \sin \gamma \theta_s \cos \gamma \pi = 0$$

$$\longrightarrow \sin \gamma (\theta_s - \pi) = 0$$

$$\longrightarrow \gamma (\theta_s - \pi) = \pi$$

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{x - 1}.$$

$$\gamma = \sqrt{1 + \frac{mk}{l^2}}.$$

$\rightarrow$

$$1 + \frac{mk}{l^2} = \frac{1}{(x - 1)^2}.$$

Get an equation for  $s$  in terms of  $E$

**Soln.**

$$1 + \frac{k}{2Es^2} = \frac{1}{(x-1)^2}$$

$\rightarrow$

$$s^2 = -\frac{k}{2E} \left[ \frac{(x-1)^2}{x(x-2)} \right].$$

Differential cross section is:

$$\sigma(\theta)d\Omega = \frac{|s ds|}{\sin \theta}.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 2s \, ds &= -\frac{k}{2E} \left[ \frac{2(x-1)}{x(x-2)} - \frac{(x-1)^2}{x^2(x-2)} - \frac{(x-1)^2}{x(x-2)^2} \right] dx \\
 &= -\frac{k}{2E} \left[ \frac{2x(x-1)(x-2) - (x-1)^2(x-2) - x(x-1)^2}{x^2(x-2)^2} \right] \\
 &= -\frac{k}{2E} \left[ \frac{2(1-x)}{x^2(x-2)^2} \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sigma(\theta) d\Omega = \frac{k}{2E} \left[ \frac{(1-x)}{x^2(x-2)^2 \sin \theta} \right] dx$$