



Figure 1: The outgoing photon (frequency,  $\omega'$ ) is emitted at an angle  $\theta$  relative to the direction of the incoming photon (frequency  $\omega$ ). The angle of electron's trajectory relative to the incoming photon's direction is not necessary for the proof but if you like you may call it  $\phi$

Given the initial conditions set in Fig.1, with the electron initially at rest we have a system with initial energy

$$E_i = \hbar\omega + mc^2 \quad (1)$$

where  $m$  is the rest mass of the electron. After the interaction, the electron will have energy  $E_e = \sqrt{p^2c^2 + m^2c^4}$  the system has a final energy

$$E_f = \hbar\omega' + E_e = \hbar\omega' + \sqrt{p^2c^2 + m^2c^4} \quad (2)$$

where  $p^2$  is the squared magnitude of the electron's final momentum,  $\vec{p}$ .

Because this is an elastic collision, we can set Equations 1 and 2 equal to each other and solve for the electron's momentum

$$\begin{aligned} \hbar\omega + mc^2 &= \hbar\omega' + \sqrt{p^2c^2 + m^2c^4} \\ p^2c^2 + m^2c^4 &= (\hbar\omega - \hbar\omega' + mc^2)^2 \\ p^2c^2 + \cancel{\hbar^2\omega^2/c^4} &= \hbar^2 \left[ \omega^2 + \omega'^2 - 2\omega\omega' + \frac{2mc^2}{\hbar}(\omega - \omega') \right] + \cancel{\hbar^2\omega^2/c^4} \\ p^2c^2 &= \hbar^2 \left[ \omega^2 + \omega'^2 - 2\omega\omega' + \frac{2mc^2}{\hbar}(\omega - \omega') \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Next we take advantage of momentum conservation. The system's initial momentum,  $\vec{p}_i = \frac{\hbar\omega}{c}$  is equal to the sum of the outgoing photon's momentum

$\vec{p}_f$  and  $\vec{p}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{p}_i &= \vec{p}_f + \vec{p} \\ \vec{p} &= \vec{p}_f - \vec{p}_i\end{aligned}\tag{4}$$

Using the law of cosines we get

$$\begin{aligned}p^2 &= p_i^2 + p_f^2 - 2p_i p_f \cos \theta \\ &= \frac{\hbar^2 \omega^2}{c^2} + \frac{\hbar^2 \omega'^2}{c^2} - \frac{2\hbar^2}{c^2} \omega \omega' \cos \theta \\ p^2 c^2 &= \hbar^2 (\omega^2 + \omega'^2 - 2\omega \omega' \cos \theta).\end{aligned}\tag{5}$$

Now we can set Equations 3 and 5 equal to each other.

$$\begin{aligned}\hbar^2 \left[ \omega^2 + \omega'^2 - 2\omega \omega' + \frac{2mc^2}{\hbar} (\omega - \omega') \right] &= \hbar^2 (\omega^2 + \omega'^2 - 2\omega \omega' \cos \theta) \\ \frac{mc^2}{\hbar} (\omega - \omega') &= \omega \omega' (1 - \cos \theta) \\ \frac{mc^2}{\hbar} \omega &= \omega' \left[ \frac{mc^2}{\hbar} \omega (1 - \cos \theta) \right]\end{aligned}\tag{6}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\hbar \omega' &= \frac{mc^2 \omega}{\left[ \frac{mc^2}{\hbar} + \omega (1 - \cos \theta) \right]} \\ &= \frac{\hbar \omega}{1 + \frac{\hbar \omega}{mc^2} (1 - \cos \theta)}\end{aligned}\tag{7}$$

Quod erat demonstrandum