

We are going to use the procedure on page 398 to solve this problem. Within the sphere, the radial wavefunction $A_l(r)$ is given by eq (6.141), i.e.,

$$\frac{d^2 u_l}{dr^2} + \left[k^2 - \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} V - \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} \right] u_l = 0 \quad \text{where } u_l(r) = r A_l(r) \quad (1)$$

If we let

$$\kappa = \sqrt{k^2 - \frac{2mV}{\hbar^2}} \quad (2)$$

then (1) is exactly the same radial equation for the l -th partial wave of the free particle with wave number κ . Therefore the physically feasible solution is $A_l(r) = c_l j_l(\kappa r)$ for $r < R$.

Then

$$\beta_l(R) \Big|_{\text{out}} = \beta_l(R) \Big|_{\text{in}} = \frac{r}{A_l} \frac{dA_l}{dr} \Big|_{r=R} = \frac{\kappa R}{j_l(\kappa R)} j'_l(\kappa R) \quad (3)$$

By (6.140)

$$\begin{aligned} \tan \delta_l &= \frac{k R j'_l(kR) - \beta_l j_l(kR)}{k R n'_l(kR) - \beta_l n_l(kR)} \\ &= \frac{k j'_l(kR) - \frac{\kappa j'_l(\kappa R) j_l(kR)}{j_l(\kappa R)}}{k n'_l(kR) - \frac{\kappa j'_l(\kappa R) n_l(kR)}{j_l(\kappa R)}} \\ &= \frac{k j'_l(kR) j_l(\kappa R) - \kappa j'_l(\kappa R) j_l(kR)}{k n'_l(kR) j_l(\kappa R) - \kappa j'_l(\kappa R) n_l(kR)} \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Our strategy is then to express all j' and n' in terms of j and n using spherical Bessel function's recurrence relation, and then use their asymptotic form at kR (or κR) $\ll 1$.

In particular, with the recurrence relation

$$f'_l(x) = -f_{l+1}(x) + \frac{l f_l(x)}{x} \quad (\text{for } f = j, n) \quad (5)$$

(4) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \tan \delta_l &= \frac{k \left[-j_{l+1}(kR) + \frac{l j_l(kR)}{kR} \right] j_l(\kappa R) - \kappa \left[-j_{l+1}(\kappa R) + \frac{l j_l(\kappa R)}{\kappa R} \right] j_l(kR)}{k \left[-n_{l+1}(kR) + \frac{l n_l(kR)}{kR} \right] j_l(\kappa R) - \kappa \left[-j_{l+1}(\kappa R) + \frac{l j_l(\kappa R)}{\kappa R} \right] n_l(kR)} \\ &= \frac{\kappa j_{l+1}(\kappa R) j_l(kR) - k j_{l+1}(kR) j_l(\kappa R)}{\kappa j_{l+1}(\kappa R) n_l(kR) - k n_{l+1}(kR) j_l(\kappa R)} \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Recall the "small- x " asymptotic form of spherical Bessel functions (eq 6.151)

$$j_l(x) \approx \frac{x^l}{(2l+1)!!} \quad n_l(x) \approx -\frac{(2l-1)!!}{x^{l+1}} \quad (7)$$

(6) can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} \tan \delta_l &= \frac{\kappa \frac{(\kappa R)^{l+1}}{(2l+3)!!} \frac{(kR)^l}{(2l+1)!!} - k \frac{(kR)^{l+1}}{(2l+3)!!} \frac{(\kappa R)^l}{(2l+1)!!}}{-\kappa \frac{(\kappa R)^{l+1}}{(2l+3)!!} \frac{(2l-1)!!}{(kR)^{l+1}} + k \frac{(2l+1)!!}{(kR)^{l+2}} \frac{(\kappa R)^l}{(2l+1)!!}} \\ &= \frac{\frac{R^{2l+1} \kappa^l k^l (\kappa^2 - k^2)}{(2l+3)!! (2l+1)!!}}{-\frac{\kappa^{l+2}}{(2l+3)(2l+1)k^{l+1}} + \frac{\kappa^l}{k^{l-1}} \frac{1}{(kR)^2}} \quad (\text{ignore 1st term in den. since } kR \ll 1) \\ &\approx \frac{R^{2l+3} k^{2l+1} (\kappa^2 - k^2)}{(2l+3)!! (2l+1)!!} \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

Since $kR \ll 1$, the phase shift δ_l is also small, so the total cross section (eq 6.127)

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} = \frac{4\pi}{k^2} \sum_l (2l+1) \sin^2 \delta_l \quad (9)$$

is dominated by the s -wave $l = 0$, which is

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{\text{tot}}^{(0)} &= \frac{4\pi}{k^2} \left[\frac{kR^3}{3 \cdot 1} \left(-\frac{2mV}{\hbar^2} \right) \right]^2 \\ &= \frac{16\pi m^2 V^2 R^6}{9\hbar^4} \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

The scattering amplitude (eq 6.126) is given by

$$f(\theta) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_l (2l+1) e^{i\delta_l} \sin \delta_l P_l(\cos \theta) \quad (11)$$

when we consider both s -wave and p -wave, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} &= |f(\theta)|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{k^2} (e^{i\delta_0} \sin \delta_0 + 3e^{i\delta_1} \sin \delta_1 \cos \theta) (e^{-i\delta_0} \sin \delta_0 + 3e^{-i\delta_1} \sin \delta_1 \cos \theta) \\ &\approx \frac{1}{k^2} [\sin^2 \delta_0 + 3 \sin \delta_0 \sin \delta_1 \cdot 2 \cos(\delta_1 - \delta_0) \cos \theta] \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

which is of the form $A + B \cos \theta$. From (8), we have

$$\delta_0 \approx \frac{kR^3}{3 \cdot 1} \left(-\frac{2mV}{\hbar^2} \right) \quad (13)$$

$$\delta_1 \approx \frac{k^3 R^5}{15 \cdot 3} \left(-\frac{2mV}{\hbar^2} \right) \quad (14)$$

Finally

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{B}{A} &= \frac{6 \sin \delta_0 \sin \delta_1 \cos(\delta_0 - \delta_1)}{\sin^2 \delta_0} & (\cos(\delta_0 - \delta_1) = 1 - O(\delta^2) \approx 1) \\ &\approx \frac{6\delta_1}{\delta_0} = \frac{2}{5} (kR)^2 \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$