

# QM Helium&Scatter Feb13

## Helium Atom Cleanup

Hamiltonian:

$$H = H_1 + H_2 + H_{12}$$

We have our trial wave function

$$\Psi(\vec{r}_1\sigma_1, \vec{r}_2\sigma_2) = \Phi(\vec{r}_1\vec{r}_2) \frac{|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

We said a natural choice for  $\Phi(r_1, r_2) = \psi_{100}(\vec{r}_1)\psi_{100}(\vec{r}_2) = \frac{Z'^3}{\pi a_0^3} e^{-Z'(r_1+r_2)/a_0}$

Where  $Z'$  is a variational parameter.

check  $\langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon &= \langle \Phi | (H_1 + H_2 + H_{12}) | \Phi \rangle \\ &= \int \int \Phi^*(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2) \left[ \left( \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} (\nabla_1^2 + \nabla_2^2) \right) + \left( -\frac{2e^2}{r_1} - \frac{2e^2}{r_2} \right) + \left( \frac{e^2}{r_{12}} \right) \right] \Phi(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2) dr_1 dr_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{1}{r_{12}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{r_1^2 + r_2^2 - 2r_1r_2\cos\gamma}} = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{r_{<}^l}{r_{>}^{l+1}} P_l(\cos\gamma)$$

*Just do the integral, and we should have the answer*

$$\epsilon = \left( \frac{e^2}{a_0} \right) \left[ 2 \cdot \frac{Z'^2}{2} - 2 \cdot 2Z' + \frac{5}{8} Z' \right]$$

Optimal value of  $Z'^*$  is given by

$$\frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial Z'^*} = 0 \implies Z'^* = 2 - \frac{5}{16}$$

Note that our optimal  $Z' < 2$ . This is physical because one of the electron "shields" the other electron from nucleus.

Best variational estimate of the ground state energy of the helium atom

$$\epsilon(Z'^*) \approx -77.5 \text{ eV}$$

The experimental value (double ionization)

$$E_0 = -78.6 \text{ eV}$$

Note that  $\epsilon(Z') \geq E_0$ . This is a constraints for variational method.

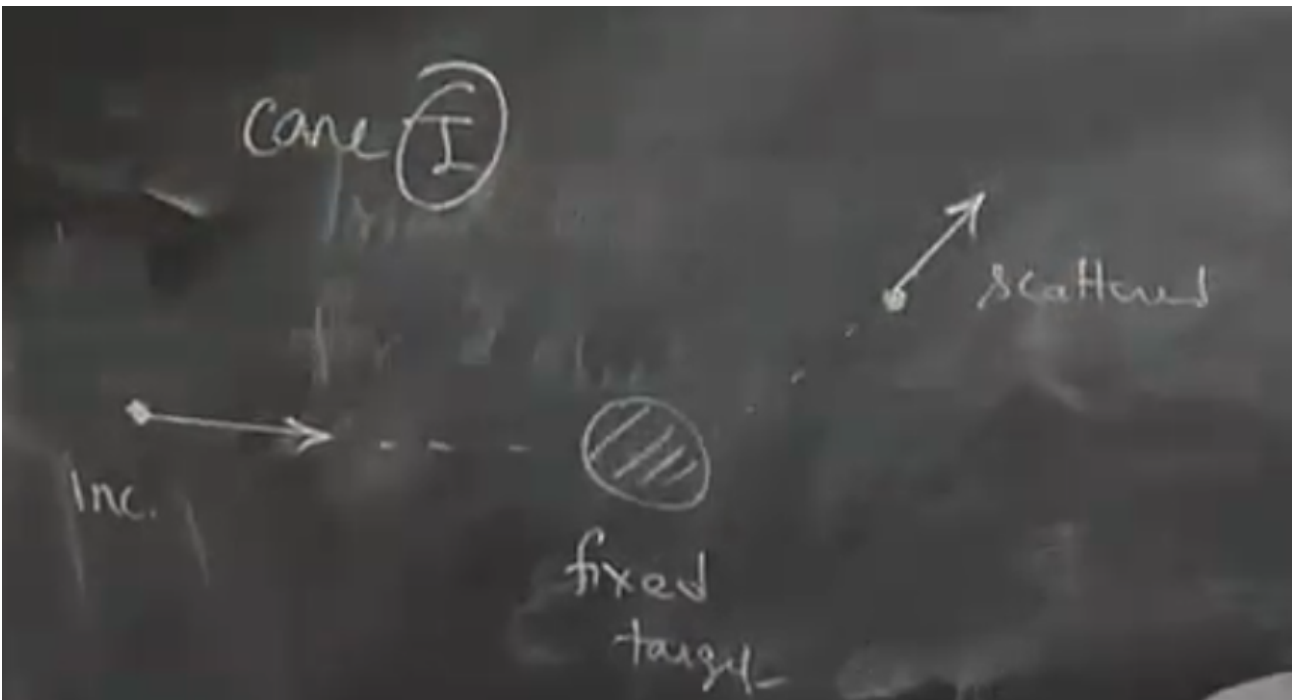
# Scattering

## Assumptions:

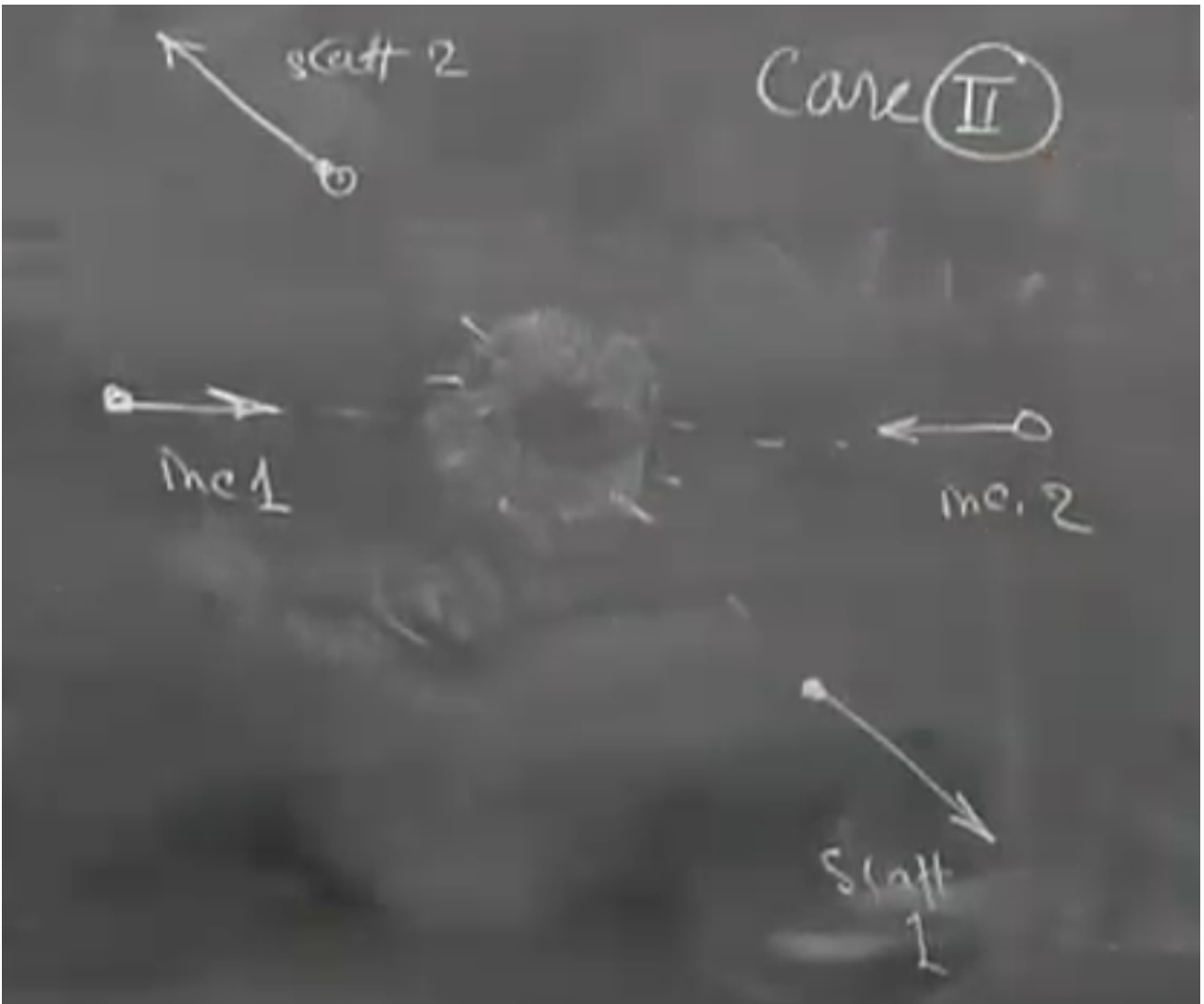
1. We assumes collisions are none-relativistic
2. Elastic Scattering
3. No new particle created

The geometry of the scattering:

- Case I



- Case 2



With the assumptions above, case 2 can be reduced to case 1.

Cast 2:

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_1}\nabla_1^2 - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_2}\nabla_2^2 + V(\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2)$$

*We can change this to center of mass coord:*

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{R} &= \frac{m_1\vec{r}_1 + m_2\vec{r}_2}{m_1 + m_2} \\ \vec{r} &= \vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2 \\ M &= m_1 + m_2 \\ m &= \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2} \end{aligned}$$

*This gives*

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2M}\nabla_R^2 - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\nabla_r^2 + V(\vec{r})$$

*\tag{CoM frame}*

*where*

$$\Psi(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2) = \Phi_{\text{cm}}(\vec{R})\psi(\vec{r})$$

Because we can always use this transformation, we can focus on case one. ## Scattering crosssection ![]