

14.5 (a) For the particle with energy  $E$  in a repulsive potential, the shortest distance it can get to the central field with head-on collision is the solution to  $E = V(r_{\min})$ . From the Larmor's formula, the instantaneous power radiated is

$$P dt = \frac{2}{3} \frac{z^2 e^2}{c^3} |\dot{v}|^2 dt.$$

For nonrelativistic particle, using Newton's second law, we know

$$m \dot{v} = -\nabla V = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \hat{e}_r,$$

for head-on collision. Also,  $dt = dr/v$ , and from energy conservation,

$$E = V(r_{\min}) = \frac{1}{2} m v^2 + V(r), \Rightarrow v = \sqrt{\frac{2}{m} (V(r_{\min}) - V(r))} \quad (*)$$

Put everything together, we have

$$P dt = \frac{2}{3} \frac{z^2 e^2}{m^2 c^3} \sqrt{\frac{m}{2}} \left| \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \right|^2 \frac{dr}{\sqrt{V(r_{\min}) - V(r)}}.$$

Since the particle will be reflected, we finally get

$$\Delta W = \frac{4}{3} \frac{z^2 e^2}{m^2 c^3} \sqrt{\frac{m}{2}} \int_{r_{\min}}^{+\infty} \left| \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \right|^2 \frac{dr}{\sqrt{V(r_{\min}) - V(r)}}.$$

1b) For  $V(r) = \frac{zZe^2}{r}$ , the integral can be evaluated as

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta W &= \frac{4}{3} \frac{z^2 e^2}{m^2 c^3} \sqrt{\frac{m}{2}} (zZe^2)^{3/2} \int_{r_{\min}}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{r^4} \frac{dr}{\sqrt{r_{\min}^{-1} - r^{-1}}} \\ &= \frac{4}{3} \frac{z^2 e^2}{m^2 c^3} \sqrt{\frac{m}{2}} (zZe^2)^{3/2} r_{\min}^{1/2} \int_{r_{\min}}^{+\infty} r^{-7/2} (r - r_{\min})^{-1/2} dr \\ &= \frac{4}{3} \frac{z^2 e^2}{m^2 c^3} \sqrt{\frac{m}{2}} (zZe^2)^{3/2} r_{\min}^{1/2} \frac{16}{15 r_{\min}^{3/2}} \quad \left( \int_a^{+\infty} \frac{x^{-7/2}}{\sqrt{x-a}} dx = \frac{16}{15 a^{3/2}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Since  $E = \frac{1}{2} m v_0^2 = V(r_{\min}) = \frac{zZe^2}{r_{\min}}$ ,  $r_{\min} = \frac{zZe^2}{m v_0^2}$ . Substitute  $r_{\min}$  into the above formula, we will get

$$\Delta W = \frac{64}{45} \frac{z^2 e^2}{m^2 c^3} \sqrt{\frac{m}{2}} (zZe^2)^{3/2} \left( \frac{zZe^2}{m v_0^2} \right)^{-5/2} = \frac{8}{45} \frac{z m v_0^5}{Z^2 c^3}.$$

The energy loss compared to the total energy is  $\frac{\Delta W}{E} \propto \left( \frac{v_0}{c} \right)^3 \ll 1$ , which justifies the use of energy conservation (\*) to obtain the velocity of the particle.