





Collision is when two bodies run into each other

Collision or **scattering** experiments are important to understand the nature of interaction between two particles.

Nature of interacting Particles/bodies.











Rutherford's experiment of α -particles scattering by the atoms in a thin foil of gold revealed the existence of positively charged nucleus in the atom.

- > The α -particles were scattered in all directions.
- Some passes undeflected by the foil.
- Some were scattered through larger angles even back scattered.
- The only valid explanation of large angle deflection was if the total positive charge were concentrated at some small region.
- Gold Foil Cold Foil



 \succ Rutherford called it nucleus.

Collision or scattering

Initial Condition: the particles are for away from each other.

Target usually at rest and the other approaches the stationary target.

Particle interact in short interval of time.

The interaction forces appears and play their role.

Final condition; particles move away from each other and the incident particle is deflected through an angle called scattering angle.





The force of interaction in different cases are due to different reasons.

- ➤ In the collision between two billiard balls, the force of interaction is due to elasticity. Which appear only when balls come into physical contact.
- ➢ In case of scattering of alpha particle by the nuclei, the force is due to electrostatic interaction.
- In deflection of stars, the force of interaction is due to of gravity,









Elastic and Inelastic Scattering

In Elastic Scattering; kinetic energy and momentum remain conserved and internal structure is not affected.

In Inelastic scattering; kinetic energy is not conserved. It is converted into other forms of energy such as heat or sound.

Most of the interactions are inelastic particularly when large objects are interacting.

Similarly, in case of charge particles interaction, some amount of energy is released in form of electromagnetic radiation.

In some particles interaction other sub-atomic particles are also created.



Consider elastic scattering in Laboratory & C.M system.

- i) In general collision;
- > particles move from certain distance towards each other.
- Both particles come closer and interact each other before scattering in final direction.

ii) Laboratory frame

- \succ usually target particle is taken at rest.
- ➢ Incident particle approach the target at rest.
- Reach closest distance & Scattered in different direction depending on nature of interaction..
- After collision Incident is called scattered & target is called recoiled particle



iii) Centre of mass frame;

- \succ Centre of mass is assumed to be at rest.
- Both incident and target particle approach each other as observed from centre of mass.
- Regardless of the actual state of target particle which may be at rest or in motion.
- In centre of mass both particles approach each other and after interaction the are scattered in different directions.





- Choice of proper coordinated system is important in solving scattering problems.
- > Each system has its own advantages and disadvantages.
- > Actual measurements in experiments are made in the laboratory coordinate system.
- To avail the advantages & simplifications obtained in a C. M. coordinates system,
- > The transformation relations between the quantities measured in the laboratory coordinate system and those measured in the C.M system.



Transformation equations of C.M and Lab. System





Transformation equations of C.M and Lab. System

"**R**" is the position vector of Centre of Mass in the laboratory coordinates system.

 $m_1 \boldsymbol{r}_1 + m_2 \boldsymbol{r}_2 = M \boldsymbol{R}$ Differentiating above equation. $\Rightarrow m_1 \vec{r}_1 + m_2 \vec{r}_2 = M \vec{R}$ $\Rightarrow m_1 \boldsymbol{u}_1 + m_2 \boldsymbol{u}_2 = M \boldsymbol{V}$ Where $\boldsymbol{u}_2 = 0$ and $m_1 + m_2 = M$ $\Rightarrow m_1 \boldsymbol{u}_1 = (m_1 + m_2) \boldsymbol{V}$ $\Rightarrow \boldsymbol{V} = \frac{m_1}{(m_1 + m_2)} \boldsymbol{u}_1$ (5.2.1)

C.M is moving towards m_2 with velocity $\frac{m_1}{(m_1+m_2)} u_1$ in laboratory coordinate system.



Transformation equations of C.M and Lab. System

Since in C.M system, centre of mass is at rest and " m_2 " is moving towards the centre of mass. Therefore, " m_2 " must move with velocity " u'_2 "

$$u'_{2} = -V = -\frac{m_{1}}{(m_{1}+m_{2})}u_{1}$$
And $u'_{1} = u_{1} - V$

$$\Rightarrow u'_{1} = u_{1} - \frac{m_{1}}{(m_{1}+m_{2})}u_{1}$$

$$\Rightarrow u'_{1} = \frac{m_{2}}{(m_{1}+m_{2})}u_{1}$$
From Eq.s (5.2.2) & (5.2.3)

$$K'_{2} = m_{2}u'_{2} = -\frac{m_{1}m_{2}}{(m_{1}+m_{2})}u_{1} = -\frac{m_{2}}{(m_{1}+m_{2})}K_{1}$$
$$K'_{1} = m_{1}u'_{1} = \frac{m_{2}m_{1}}{(m_{1}+m_{2})}u_{1} = \frac{m_{2}}{(m_{1}+m_{2})}K_{1}$$

(5.2.2)

(5.2.3)



Transformation equations of C.M and Lab. System Consider the following geometry of the problem

 r_1 and r_2 are the position vector of " m_1 " and " m_1 " in Lab. system. Where " r'_1 " and " r'_2 " are the position vectors in C.M system.

$$r = r'_1 - r'_2 = r_1 - r_2 \tag{5.2.4}$$

Since in C.M system $\mathbf{R}' = 0$ Position vector of C.M in C.M system

$$\Rightarrow m_1 \mathbf{r}_1' + m_2 \mathbf{r}_2' = 0$$

Adding and subtracting $m_2 r'_1$ in Eq. (5.2.5)

$$\Rightarrow (m_1 + m_1)\mathbf{r}'_1 - m_2(\mathbf{r}'_1 - \mathbf{r}'_2) = 0$$
$$\Rightarrow (m_1 + m_1)\mathbf{r}'_1 - m_2\mathbf{r} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{r}_1' = \frac{m_2}{(m_1+m_1)}\mathbf{r} = \frac{\mu}{m_1}\mathbf{r}$$

 r_{1}

(5.2.6)

(5.2.5)



Transformation equations of C.M and Lab. System
And adding and subtracting
$$m_1 r'_2$$
 we get $r'_2 = -\frac{m_2}{(m_1 + m_1)} r = -\frac{\mu}{m_2} r$ (5.2.7)Eq.(5.2.6) $\Rightarrow \dot{r'_1} = \frac{\mu}{m_1} \dot{r}$ (5.2.8)And Eq. (5.2.7) $\Rightarrow \dot{r'_2} = -\frac{\mu}{m_2} \dot{r}$ (5.2.9)From Eq. (5.2.4) $\dot{r} = \dot{r'_1} - \dot{r'_2} = \dot{r_1} - \dot{r_2}$ (5.2.10)

" \boldsymbol{u} " is the relative velocity of " m_1 "

$$m_{1}\dot{r}_{1}' = \mu \dot{r} = -m_{2}\dot{r}_{2}' \qquad (5.2.11)$$
$$P_{1}' = -P_{2}' \qquad \& \qquad |P_{1}'| = |P_{2}'|$$

Characteristic property of C.M that total momentum before & after collision will be zero.



Transformation equations of C.M and Lab. System

Conservation of momentum in C.M system. Let " K'_1 " and " K'_2 " are initial momentum, where " P'_1 " and " P'_2 " final momentum in C.M,

$$K'_{1} + K'_{2} = P'_{1} + P'_{2} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow |K'_{1}| = |K'_{2}|$$

$$\Rightarrow |P'_{1}| = |P'_{2}|$$
(5.2.12)
(5.2.13)
(5.2.14)

Now conservation of energy

and

$$\frac{1}{2}m_{1}\dot{u'_{1}} + \frac{1}{2}m_{1}\dot{u'_{2}} = \frac{1}{2}m_{1}\dot{v'_{1}} + \frac{1}{2}m_{1}\dot{v'_{2}}$$
$$\Rightarrow \frac{{K'_{1}}^{2}}{2m_{1}} + \frac{{K'_{2}}^{2}}{2m_{2}} = \frac{{P'_{1}}^{2}}{2m_{1}} + \frac{{P'_{2}}^{2}}{2m_{2}}$$
(5.2.15)



Transformation equations of C.M and Lab. System

Using equations, Eq. (5.2.13) & Eq. (5.2.14)

$$\frac{K_{1}'^{2}}{2} \left(\frac{m_{1}+m_{2}}{m_{1}m_{2}}\right) = \frac{P_{1}'^{2}}{2} \left(\frac{m_{1}+m_{2}}{m_{1}m_{2}}\right) \qquad \qquad \frac{K_{2}'^{2}}{2} \left(\frac{m_{1}+m_{2}}{m_{1}m_{2}}\right) = \frac{P_{2}'^{2}}{2} \left(\frac{m_{1}+m_{2}}{m_{1}m_{2}}\right) \\ \Rightarrow K_{1}'^{2} = P_{1}'^{2} \qquad \qquad \Rightarrow K_{2}'^{2} = P_{2}'^{2} \\ \Rightarrow |K_{1}'| = |P_{1}'| \qquad \qquad \Rightarrow |K_{2}'| = |P_{2}'| \\ \Rightarrow |K_{2}'| = |P_{2}'|$$

$$\Rightarrow |K'_{1}| = |K'_{2}| = |P'_{1}| = |P'_{2}|$$

$$|u'_{1}| = |v'_{1}| \& |u'_{2}| = |v'_{2}|$$
 (5.2.16)

Therefore, in C.M, the particle momentum and magnitude of velocity remain constant. Therefore, we don't need the separate measurements before and after collision.



Transformation equations of C.M and Lab. System

Now in Laboratory system

$$K_1 = P_1 + P_2$$
 as $K_2 = 0$ (5.2.17)

Now the Kinetic energy before and after the Collision

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}m_1u_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}m_2u_2^2 = \frac{1}{2}m_1v_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}m_1v_1^2$$
$$\Rightarrow \frac{K_1^2}{2m_1} = \frac{P_1^2}{2m_1} + \frac{P_1^2}{2m_2}$$
(5.2.18)

In case of laboratory system, we need to measure the momentum before and after collision separately.



Transformation equations for angles in C.M and Lab. System

Consider the figure of scattering of two particles we will now obtain the relation between velocities, momentum and scattering angles.



To understand the above equations we solve the problem geometrically.





Transformation equations for angles in C.M and Lab. System

Since
$$|P_1'| = |P_2'|$$

Consider a circle having radius $P_1' = \mu u$ from Eq. (5.2.11
From figure $\overline{AO} = m_1 V$ & $\overline{OC} = m_2 V$
 $\overline{AB} = P_1 = m_1 V + \mu u = m_1 V + P_1'$
 $\overline{BC} = P_2 = m_2 V - \mu u = m_2 V - P_1'$

Since before the collision

$$m_1 r_1 + m_2 r_2 = MR \Rightarrow m_1 u_1 + m_2 u_2 = (m_1 + m_2)V$$

$$\Rightarrow K_1 + K_2 = (m_1 + m_2)V$$

$$\Rightarrow K_1 = (m_1 + m_2)V$$

$$\Rightarrow V = \frac{K_1}{(m_1 + m_2)}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 B \\
 P_1 \\
 P_1' \\
 P_1' \\
 P_1 \\
 \theta_1 \\
 \theta_2 \\
 m_2 V \\
 C$$



Transformation equations for angles in C.M and Lab. System

Now
$$\overline{OC} = m_2 V = \frac{m_2 K_1}{(m_1 + m_2)}$$

 $m_2 V = \frac{\mu K_1}{m_1} = \frac{\mu m_1 u_1}{m_1}$
 $m_2 V = \mu u_1 = \mu (u_1 - u_2)$ we know that $u_2 = 0$
 $m_2 V = \mu u = P_1'$
Therefore, $\overline{OC} = \overline{OB}$

And Point C must be on circle. Therefore angle < OBC & < BCO are equal to θ_2

$$\theta_2 + \theta_2 + \theta' = \pi$$
$$\Rightarrow \theta_2 = \frac{\pi - \theta'}{2}$$





Transformation equations for angles in C.M and Lab. System

Now position of A which will be decided as following

$$\frac{\overline{AO}}{\overline{OC}} = \frac{m_1 V}{m_2 V} = \frac{m_1}{m_2}$$

If $m_2=m_1$	A must lay on the circle
lf m > m	A must law incide the sir

- If $m_2 > m_1$ A must lay inside the circle
- If $m_2 < m_1$ A must lay out side the circle





Transformation equations for angles in C.M and Lab. System For $m_2 = m_1$ A must lays on the circle $\overline{AO} = \overline{OB}$ Therefore two angles of $\triangle AOB$ are equal and angle

< OBA is also equal to θ_1 and angle < AOB is $(\pi - \theta')$

$$2\theta_1 + (\pi - \theta') = \pi$$
$$\theta_1 = \frac{\theta'}{2}$$
$$\theta_1 + \theta_2 = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

And

Thus if the masses are equal they will move at right angle to each other.





Transformation equations for angles in C.M and Lab. System

For $m_2 < m_1$ A must lays out side the circle

There are two values exist as represented by \overline{AB} and $\overline{AB'}$ for first particle

And

 \overline{BC} and $\overline{B'C}$ for second particle

 \overline{AB} and \overline{BC} represent forward scattering for which $\theta' < \frac{\pi}{2}$

 $\overline{AB'}$ and $\overline{B'C}$ represents back scattering for which $\theta' > \frac{\pi}{2}$





Transformation equations for angles in C.M and Lab. System This is as for as C.M coordinates are concerned.

In Lab. System $\theta_1 < \frac{\pi}{2}$ for both forward & back scattering. This angle varies from zero (no scattering) to maximum when AB is tangent to the circle. $\overline{AB} = \overline{AD}$ as shown.

$$\sin \theta_{1(max)} = \frac{\overline{OD}}{\overline{OA}} = \frac{\overline{OC}}{\overline{OA}} = \frac{m_2}{m_1}$$

Which mean that larger the target is larger will be the scattering angle.

For $m_2 > m_1$ A must lay inside the circle

Only one value of momentum exist as represented by \overline{AB} in previous figure



Transformation equations for angles in C.M and Lab. System *For General Solution of the problem*



Transformation equations for angles in C.M and Lab. System

For $m_1 = m_2$ $\tan\theta_1 = \frac{\sin\theta'}{1 + \cos\theta'} = \frac{2\sin\frac{\theta'}{2}\cos\frac{\theta'}{2}}{2\cos^2\frac{\theta'}{2}}$ $\Rightarrow \tan \theta_1 = \frac{\sin \frac{\theta'}{2}}{\cos \frac{\theta'}{2}}$ $\Rightarrow \tan \theta_1 = \tan \frac{\theta'}{2}$ $\Rightarrow \theta_1 = \frac{\theta'}{2}$



Transformation equations for angles in C.M and Lab. System

For $m_1 \neq m_2$
$\tan \theta_1 = \frac{\sin \theta'}{\frac{m_1}{m_2} + \cos \theta'}$ Squaring both sides
$sin^2 \theta_1 _ sin^2 \theta'$
$\frac{1}{\cos^2 \theta_1} = \frac{1}{\left(\frac{m_1}{m_2} + \cos\theta'\right)^2}$
$\sin^2\theta_1\left(\frac{m_1^2}{m_2^2} + \cos^2\theta' + 2\frac{m_1}{m_2}\cos\theta'\right) = \sin^2\theta'\cos^2\theta_1$
$\sin^{2}\theta_{1}\left(\frac{m_{1}^{2}}{m_{2}^{2}} + \cos^{2}\theta' + 2\frac{m_{1}}{m_{2}}\cos\theta'\right) = (1 - \cos^{2}\theta')\cos^{2}\theta_{1}$
$(\sin^{2}\theta_{1} + \cos^{2}\theta_{1})\cos^{2}\theta' + \frac{{m_{1}}^{2}}{{m_{2}}^{2}}\sin^{2}\theta_{1} + 2\frac{m_{1}}{m_{2}}\sin^{2}\theta_{1}\cos\theta' = \cos^{2}\theta_{1}$

Transformation equations for angles in C.M and Lab. System

$$(\sin^2 \theta_1 + \cos^2 \theta_1)\cos^2 \theta' + \frac{m_1^2}{m_2^2}\sin^2 \theta_1 + 2\frac{m_1}{m_2}\sin^2 \theta_1 \cos\theta' = \cos^2 \theta_1$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos^2\theta' + 2\frac{m_1}{m_2}\sin^2\theta_1\cos\theta' + \left(\frac{m_1^2}{m_2^2}\sin^2\theta_1 - \cos^2\theta_1\right) = 0$$

This equation is quadratic in $\cos\theta'$ the solution of the equation will be as follow

$$\cos\theta' = -\frac{m_1}{m_2}\sin^2\theta_1 \pm \sqrt{\frac{m_1^2}{m_2^2}\sin^4\theta_1 - \frac{m_1^2}{m_2^2}\sin^2\theta_1 + \cos^2\theta_1}$$

$$\cos\theta' = -\frac{m_1}{m_2}\sin^2\theta_1 \pm \sqrt{\frac{m_1^2}{m_2^2}\sin^2\theta_1} (1 - \cos^2\theta_1) - \frac{m_1^2}{m_2^2}\sin^2\theta_1 + \cos^2\theta_1$$

$$\cos\theta' = -\frac{m_1}{m_2}\sin^2\theta_1 \pm \sqrt{\frac{m_1^2}{m_2}\sin^2\theta_1 - \frac{m_1^2}{m_2^2}\sin^2\theta_1 \cos^2\theta_1 - \frac{m_1^2}{m_2^2}\sin^2\theta_1 + \cos^2\theta_1}$$



Transformation equations for angles in C.M and Lab. System

$$\cos\theta' = -\frac{m_1}{m_2}\sin^2\theta_1 \pm \sqrt{-\frac{m_1^2}{m_2^2}\sin^2\theta_1\cos^2\theta_1 + \cos^2\theta_1}$$

$$\cos\theta' = -\frac{m_1}{m_2}\sin^2\theta_1 \pm \cos\theta_1 \sqrt{1 - \frac{m_1^2}{m_2^2}\sin^2\theta_1}$$

For
$$\theta_{1(max)}$$
, $\sin \theta_{1(max)} = \frac{m_2}{m_1}$ putting in above equation

$$\cos\theta' = -\frac{m_2}{m_1} \left(\frac{m_2}{m_1}\right)^2 \pm \cos\theta_{1(max)} \sqrt{1-1}$$

$$cos\theta' = -\frac{m_2}{m_1} = -\sin\theta_{1(max)}$$

$$cos\theta' = cos\left(\theta_{1(max)} + \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

 $\Rightarrow \theta_{1(max)} = \theta' - \frac{\pi}{2}$



Transformation equations for angles in C.M and Lab. System Now for θ_2

$$\tan \theta_2 = \frac{P_1' \sin \theta'}{m_2 V - P_1' \cos \theta'}$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan \theta_2 = \frac{\sin \theta'}{\frac{m_2 V}{P_1'} + \cos \theta'}$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan \theta_2 = \frac{\sin \theta'}{1 + \cos \theta'}$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan \theta_2 = \cot \frac{\theta'}{2} = \tan \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\theta'}{2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta_2 = \frac{\pi - \theta'}{2}$$





The transformation equation of angle in two frame of reference are defined

$$\cos\theta' = -\frac{m_1}{m_2}\sin^2\theta_1 \pm \cos\theta_1 \sqrt{1 - \frac{m_1^2}{m_2^2}\sin^2\theta_1}$$

We have predicted the maximum scattering angle $\theta_{1(max)} = \theta' - \frac{\pi}{2}$ and the possible angle for the particles of equal mass.

Where
$$\theta_1 = \frac{\theta'}{2}$$
 and $\theta_2 = \frac{\pi - \theta'}{2}$

The angle θ' varies from 0 to π

Angle θ_1 from 0 to $\frac{\pi}{2}$

And θ_2 from $\frac{\pi}{2}$ to 0

Such that the sum of θ_1 and θ_2 will not exceed $\frac{\pi}{2}$.

