

Problem n. 7 chapter 4 Eisberg Resnick  
"Quantum Physics"

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Show that the number of  $\alpha$  particles scattered by an angle  $\Theta$  or greater in Rutherford scattering is

$$\left(\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\right)^2 \pi I \rho t \left(\frac{zZe^2}{Mv^2}\right)^2 \cot^2(\Theta/2) \quad (1)$$

SOLUTION

starting from Rutherford formula  $dN = \left(\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\right)^2 \pi I \rho t \left(\frac{zZe^2}{Mv^2}\right)^2 \frac{1}{\sin^4(\Theta/2)} d\Omega \quad (1)$

$$d\Omega = 2\pi \sin(\Theta) d\Theta$$

integrate (1) from  $\Theta$  to  $\pi$

$$N = \left(\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\right)^2 \pi I \rho t \left(\frac{zZe^2}{Mv^2}\right)^2 \int_{\Theta}^{\pi} \frac{2\pi \sin(\Theta) d\Theta}{\sin^4(\Theta/2)}$$

let  $u = \Theta/2$  ;  $d\Theta = 2du$  ;  $\sin(\Theta) = 2 \sin(\Theta/2) \cos(\Theta/2)$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\right)^2 8\pi^2 I \rho t \left(\frac{zZe^2}{Mv^2}\right)^2 \int \frac{\sin(u) \cos(u)}{\sin^4(u)} du$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\right)^2 8\pi^2 I \rho t \left(\frac{zZe^2}{Mv^2}\right)^2 \int \frac{\cos(u)}{\sin^3(u)} du$$

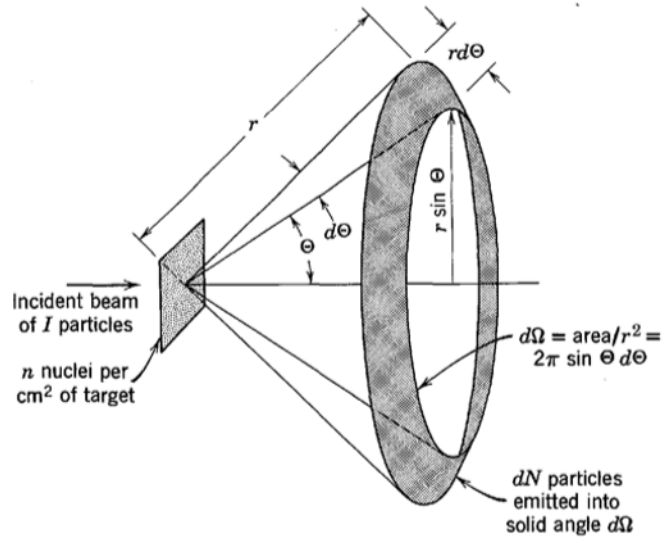
$$= \left(\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\right)^2 8\pi^2 I \rho t \left(\frac{zZe^2}{Mv^2}\right)^2 \int \frac{d \sin(u)}{\sin^3(u)}$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\right)^2 8\pi^2 I \rho t \left(\frac{zZe^2}{Mv^2}\right)^2 \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{1}{\sin^2(\Theta/2)} \Big|_{\Theta}^{\pi}$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\right)^2 8\pi^2 I \rho t \left(\frac{zZe^2}{Mv^2}\right)^2 \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{\sin^2(\Theta/2)}\right)$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\right)^2 8\pi^2 I \rho t \left(\frac{zZe^2}{Mv^2}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(\frac{1 - \sin^2(\Theta/2)}{\sin^2(\Theta/2)}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\epsilon_0^2} I \rho t \left(\frac{zZe^2}{Mv^2}\right)^2 \cot^2(\Theta/2)$$



**Figure 4-8** Illustrating the definition of the differential cross section  $d\sigma/d\Omega$ . If the target is thin enough for an incident particle to have negligible chance of interacting with more than one nucleus while passing through the target, then  $dN = (d\sigma/d\Omega)In d\Omega$