

Lect 17. Relativity (III)

§ Collisions — application of momentum-energy conservation.

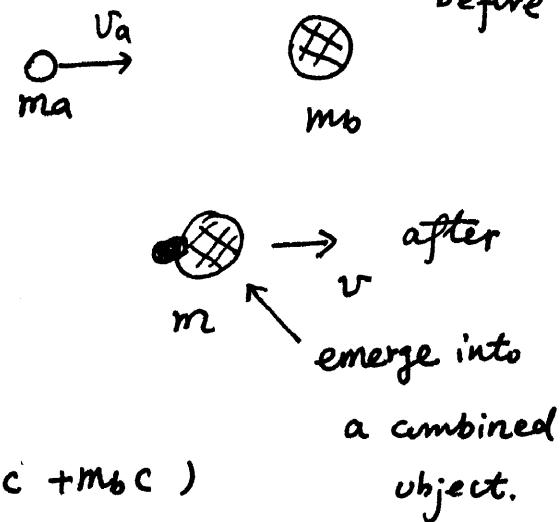
Example 1:

$$P_{a,i}^{\mu} = (m_a \gamma_a v_a, 0, 0, m_a \gamma_a c^{-2})$$

$$P_{b,i}^{\mu} = (0, 0, 0, m_b c^{-2})$$

$$P_f = (m \gamma v, 0, 0, m \gamma c^2)$$

$$= P_{a,i} + P_{b,i} = (m_a \gamma_a v_a, 0, 0, m_a \gamma_a c + m_b c)$$



$$\Rightarrow m^2 c^2 \gamma^2 \left[1 - \left(\frac{v}{c} \right)^2 \right] = (m_a \gamma_a c + m_b c)^2 - m_a \gamma_a v_a^2$$

$$(mc)^2 = (m_a c)^2 + (m_b c)^2 + 2m_a m_b \gamma_a c \cdot v^2$$

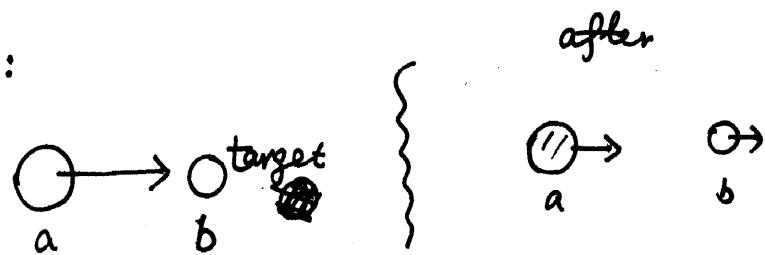
$$m = (m_a^2 + m_b^2 + 2m_a m_b \gamma_a)^{1/2} > (m_a + m_b)$$

$$\frac{v}{c} = \frac{m \gamma v}{m \gamma c} = \frac{m_a \gamma_a v_a}{(m_a \gamma_a + m_b)c} \Rightarrow v = \frac{m_a \gamma_a}{m_a \gamma_a + m_b} v_a$$

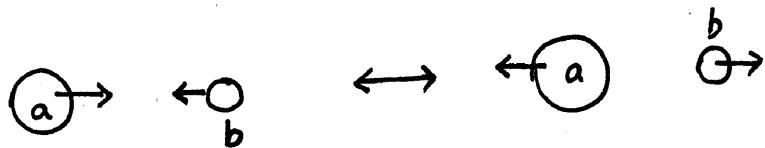
Center of mass frame (zero momentum frame).

Example 2: elastic head on collision

Lab frame S:



in the CM frame S':



In the lab frame, the final state will be difficult to calculate.

But in the CM frame, they just reverse the direction. (simple!).

Let us find the relation between lab frame & CM frame.

• Lab frame: total momentum

$$P_{\text{tot}}^L = (\vec{P}_a, \frac{E_a}{c}) + (0, m_b c) = (\vec{P}_a, \frac{E_a + m_b c^2}{c})$$

in the C-M frame which has relative velocity βc respect to Lab frame

$$P'_1 = \gamma(P_a - \beta \frac{E_a + m_b c^2}{c}) = 0 \Rightarrow \beta = \frac{P_a c}{E_a + m_b c^2}$$

In this frame, the final state of b can be obtained from

the $P_b = (0, m_b c)$ in the Lab frame

initial
frame

$$P'_{b,\text{in},1} = \gamma(0 - \beta m_b c) = -\gamma m_b c \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \beta \\ \gamma \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow 1$$

$$P'_{b,\text{in},4} = \gamma(-\beta \cdot 0 + m_b c) = \gamma m_b c \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \beta \\ \gamma \end{array} \right\}$$

(3)

\Rightarrow in the CM frame. $P_{\text{final}}^b = (\gamma \beta m_b c, \gamma m_b c)$.

back to Lab frame

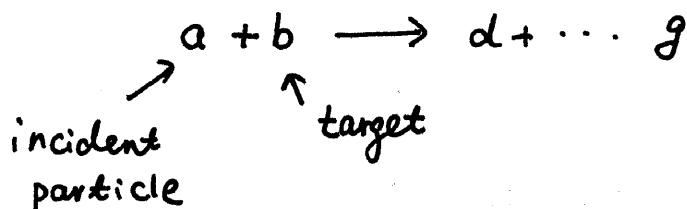
$$P_{1, \text{final}}^b = \gamma (\gamma P'_{1, \text{final}} + \beta P'_{4, \text{final}}) = \gamma [\gamma \beta + \gamma \beta] m_b c \\ = 2 \gamma^2 \beta m_b c$$

$$P_{4, \text{final}}^b = \gamma [\beta P'_{1, \text{final}} + P'_{4, \text{final}}] = \gamma [\gamma \beta^2 + \gamma] m_b c \\ = \gamma^2 [\beta^2 + 1] m_b c$$

\Rightarrow the final velocity of B

$$\boxed{\frac{P_1 c}{P_4} = \frac{2 \gamma^2 \beta}{\gamma^2 (\beta^2 + 1)} c = \frac{2 \beta}{1 + \beta^2} c}$$

{ threshold energies.



which is the minimum energy of a in the lab frame to create $d, \dots g$.

Lab frame $P_{\text{tot}}^{\mu} = (P_a, E_a/c) + (0, m_b c) = (P_a, \frac{E_a + m_b c^2}{c})$

\rightarrow ~~Lab~~ frame $\beta = \frac{P_a c}{E_a + m_b c^2}$
Center of M

(4)

in this frame: ~~as particle~~ the total energy

$$\cancel{P_\alpha} \cancel{\frac{E_\alpha}{c}} \quad (E_{cm, \text{tot}}/c)^2 = \left(\frac{E_a + m_b c^2}{c} \right)^2 - P_\alpha^2$$

$$\Rightarrow E_{cm}^2 = E_a^2 + m_b^2 c^4 + 2 E_a m_b c^2 - P_\alpha^2 c^2 = (m_a^2 + m_b^2) c^4 + 2 E_a m_b c^2$$

$$E_{cm} \geq \sum m_{fin} c^2$$

$$\Rightarrow m_a^2 c^4 + m_b^2 c^4 + 2 E_a m_b c^2 \geq (\sum m_{fin})^2 c^4$$

$$\Rightarrow E_a \geq \boxed{\frac{(\sum m_{fin})^2 - m_a^2 - m_b^2}{2 m_b} c^2}$$

§ Massless particle - photon

$E = |\mathbf{p}|c$, massless particle only travels with velocity c

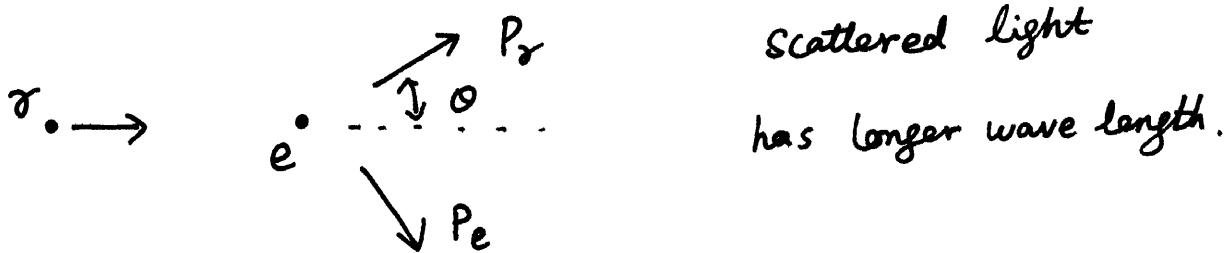
$$p^\mu p_\mu = \mathbf{p}^2 - \frac{E^2}{c^2} = 0$$

wave-interpretation $\vec{p} = \hbar \vec{k}$, $E = \hbar \omega$, $\omega = kc$

$$p^\mu = \frac{\hbar \omega}{c} (\hat{k}, 1).$$

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§ Compton scattering: light scattered from free electrons
inelastic



$$P_{\text{in},\gamma}^{\mu} = \frac{\hbar\omega_0}{c} (\hat{k}_0, 1) \quad P_{\gamma,\text{out}}^{\mu} = \frac{\hbar\omega}{c} (\hat{k}, 1)$$

$$P_{e,\text{in}}^{\mu} = (0, 0, 0, mc) \quad P_{e,\text{out}}^{\mu} = ?$$

$$P_{\text{in},\gamma}^{\mu} + P_{\text{in},e}^{\mu} = P_{\text{out},\gamma}^{\mu} + P_{e,\text{out}}^{\mu}$$

$$\Rightarrow P_{e,\text{out}}^{\mu} = P_{\text{in},\gamma}^{\mu} + P_{\text{int},e}^{\mu} - P_{\text{out},\gamma}^{\mu}$$

$$P_{e,\text{out}}^{\mu} \cdot P_{\mu,\text{out}}^{\mu} = P_{\text{in},\gamma}^{\mu} \cdot P_{\mu,\text{int}}^{\mu} + P_{\text{int},e}^{\mu} P_{\mu,\text{int}}^{\mu} + P_{\text{out},\gamma}^{\mu} P_{\mu,\text{out}}^{\mu}$$

$$+ 2 P_{\text{in},\gamma}^{\mu} P_{\mu,\text{in},e}^{\mu} - 2 P_{\text{in},\gamma}^{\mu} P_{\mu,\text{out},e}^{\mu} - 2 P_{\text{in},e}^{\mu} P_{\mu,\text{out}}^{\mu}$$

$$m_e^2 c^2 = m_e^2 c^2 + 0 + 0 + 2 P_{\text{in},e}^{\mu} (P_{\text{in},\gamma}^{\mu} - P_{\text{out},\gamma}^{\mu}) = P_{\text{in},\gamma}^{\mu} P_{\mu,\text{out}}^{\mu} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow P_{\text{in},e}^{\mu} (P_{\text{in},\gamma}^{\mu} - P_{\text{out},\gamma}^{\mu}) = P_{\text{in},\gamma}^{\mu} P_{\mu,\text{out}}^{\mu}$$

only
the
4th-component

$$mc \left[\frac{\hbar\omega_0}{c} - \frac{\hbar\omega}{c} \right] = \frac{\hbar^2 \omega \omega_0}{c^2} [1 - \hat{k} \cdot \hat{k}_0]$$

is nonzero $\Rightarrow mc(\omega_0 - \omega) = \frac{\hbar}{c} \omega \omega_0 (1 - \cos \theta)$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\omega} - \frac{1}{\omega_0} = \frac{\hbar}{mc^2} (1 - \cos \theta) \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{c}{\omega} \Rightarrow \Delta \lambda = \frac{\hbar}{mc} (1 - \cos \theta)$$