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# LECTURE III

Scattering Important tool to study the structure of matter

- Study nature of interaction among particles
- produce new, unstable particles
- isolate specific, rare reactions

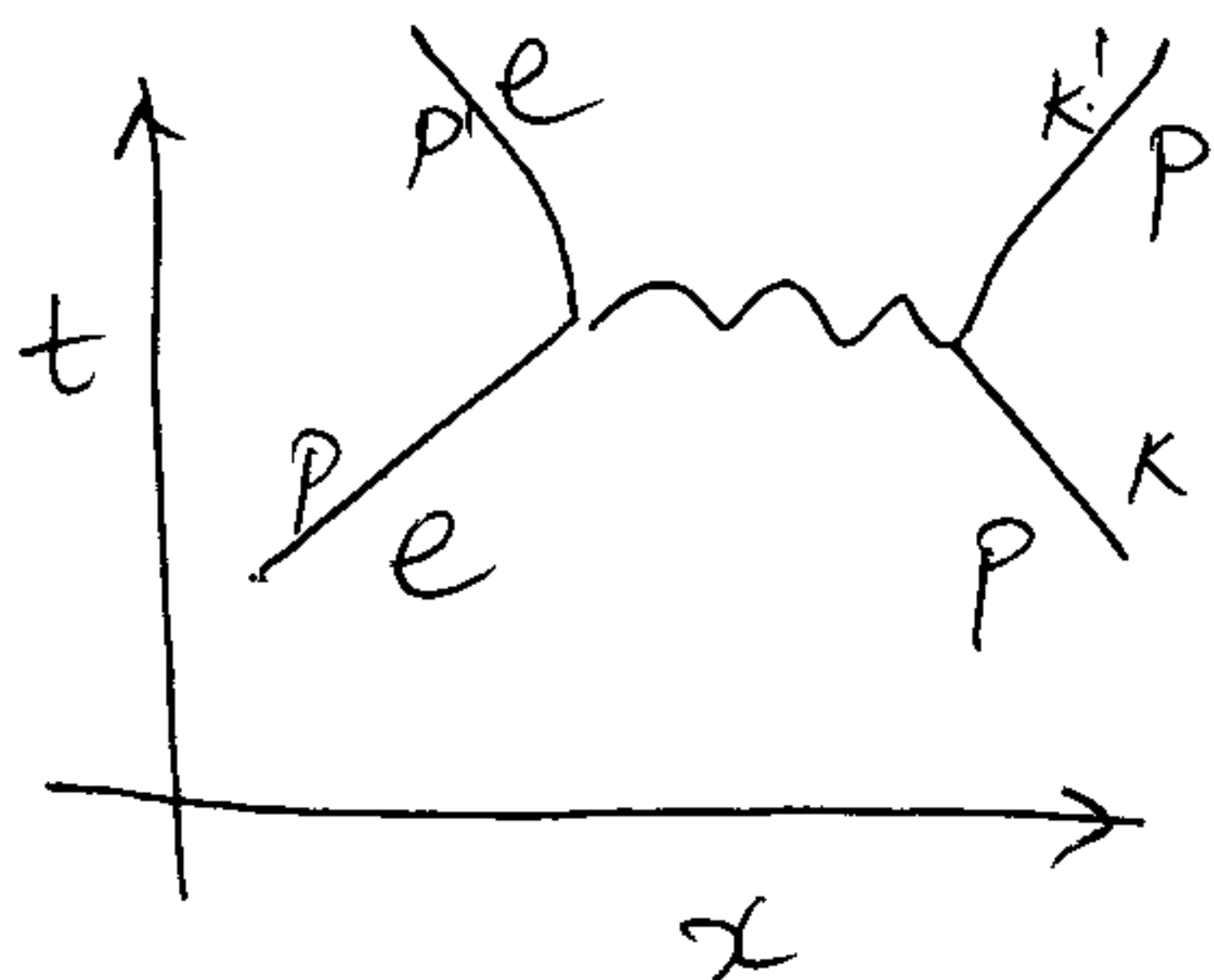
Elastic Scattering  $\equiv a+b \rightarrow a+b$

- Species remains the same
- Energy momentum ALWAYS conserved.

Inelastic scattering  $a+b \rightarrow c+d+e \dots$

Inclusive scattering  $a+b \rightarrow a+X \dots$

Exclusive scattering  $a+b \rightarrow c+d+e$   
(track all particles)



$$p - p' = k' - k$$

$$q^\mu = p^\mu - p'^\mu$$

Can prove:  $q^2 \neq 0!$

"Virtual" particle exchange i.e.  $E^2 - p^2 c^2 \neq m^2 c^4$

- No action at a distance.
- In quantum theory: exchange of virtual quanta
- Quantum carries energy & momentum.

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Energy-momentum NON-conservation allowed  
for a time period consistent with the  
uncertainty principle  $\Rightarrow \Delta t \leq \hbar/\Delta E$

Higher Energy  $\Rightarrow$  shorter time  $\Rightarrow$  smaller range

For a massless particle: small  $E, p$  possible  
 $\Rightarrow$  long range force (e.g. electromagnetism)

For a massive quantum: Rest energy restricts  
range:

$$\text{If } m=0 : V \sim 1/r$$

$$\text{If } m \neq 0 : V \sim \left(\frac{1}{r}\right) e^{-r/R}; R = \hbar/mc$$

$$R = 10^{-15} \text{ m} \Rightarrow m = 100 \text{ MeV}/c^2 \text{ (Strong force)}$$

$$R = 10^{-18} \text{ m} \Rightarrow m = 100 \text{ GeV}/c^2 \text{ (Weak force)}$$

To observe structure, look at de Broglie wavelength.

$$\lambda = \hbar/q$$

$$10^{-14} \text{ m} \Rightarrow 20 \text{ MeV (nuclear size)}$$

$$10^{-15} \text{ m} \Rightarrow 200 \text{ MeV (nuclear structure)}$$

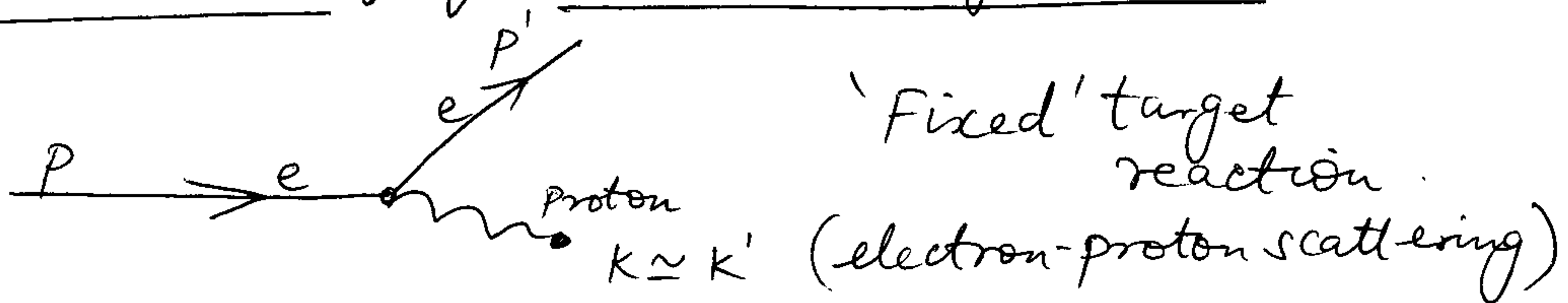
$$\text{Several GeV} \Rightarrow \text{proton structure (quarks)}$$

$$100 \text{ GeV} \Rightarrow \text{Weak force quantum}$$

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Calculation of  $q$  for a scattering reaction:

4-momenta  $p, p'$  (electron),  $k, k'$  (proton).  
 $p - p' \equiv q \equiv$  4-momentum transferred.

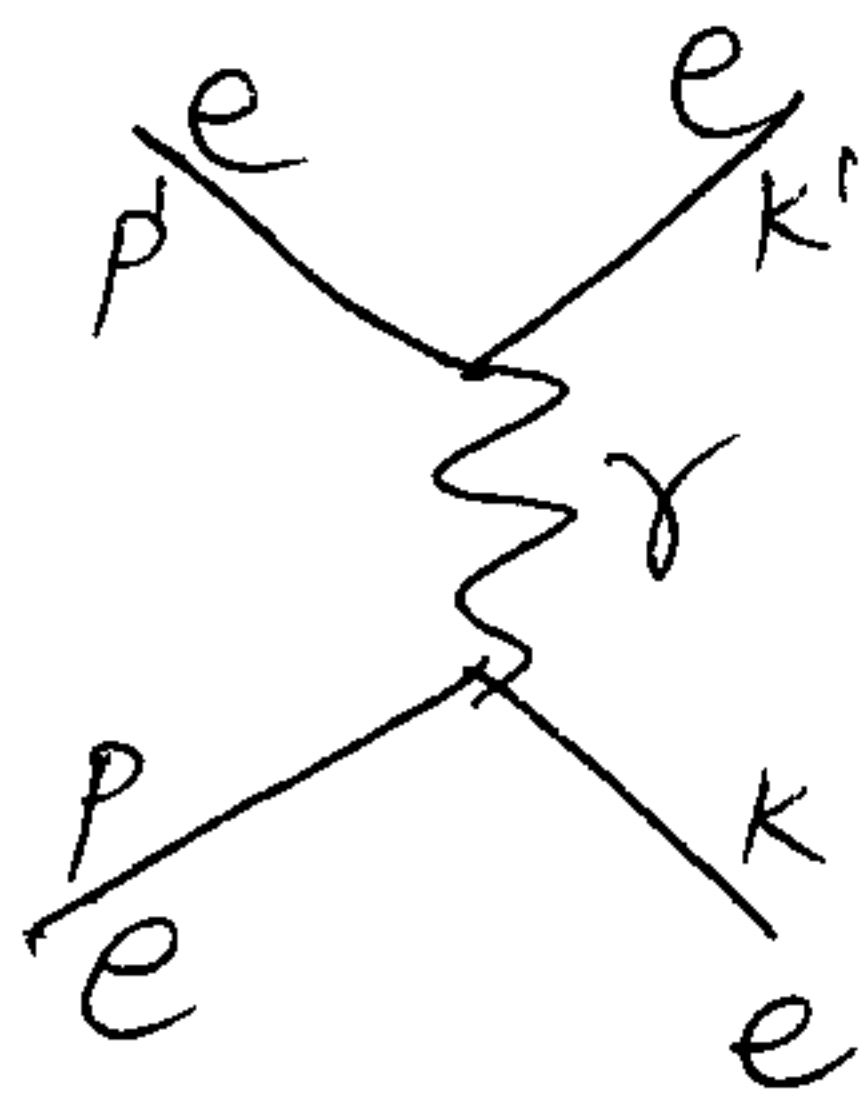
$$(p - p')^2 = p^2 + p'^2 - 2pp' = m_e^2 c^2 + m_e^2 c^2 - 2\left(\frac{EE'}{c^2} - \vec{p} \cdot \vec{p}'\right)$$

Extreme Relativistic Limit (ERL)

$$E, E' \gg m_e c^2, m_p c^2 \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} E &\simeq |p|c \\ E' &\simeq |p'|c \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow q^2 \simeq -\frac{2EE'}{c^2} (1 - \cos\theta) < 0$$

When  $q^2 < 0 \Rightarrow$  'space-like' reaction.

Calculation of  $q$  for an annihilation reaction:

$$q = p + k \Rightarrow q^2 = p^2 + k^2 + 2p \cdot k$$

If one particle at rest, then

$$q^2 \simeq 2m_e E$$

Maximum mass of new particle?

$$q^2 = m_{\text{new}}^2 c^2 \Rightarrow m_{\text{new}} \simeq \sqrt{2m_e E}$$

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For colliding beams:

$$\xrightarrow[E_{e^+}]{} \quad \xleftarrow[E_{e^-}]{} \quad$$

$$q^2 = p^2 + k^2 + 2pk \simeq 2E_{e^+}E_{e^-} + 2\vec{p}_{e^+} \cdot \vec{p}_{e^-}$$

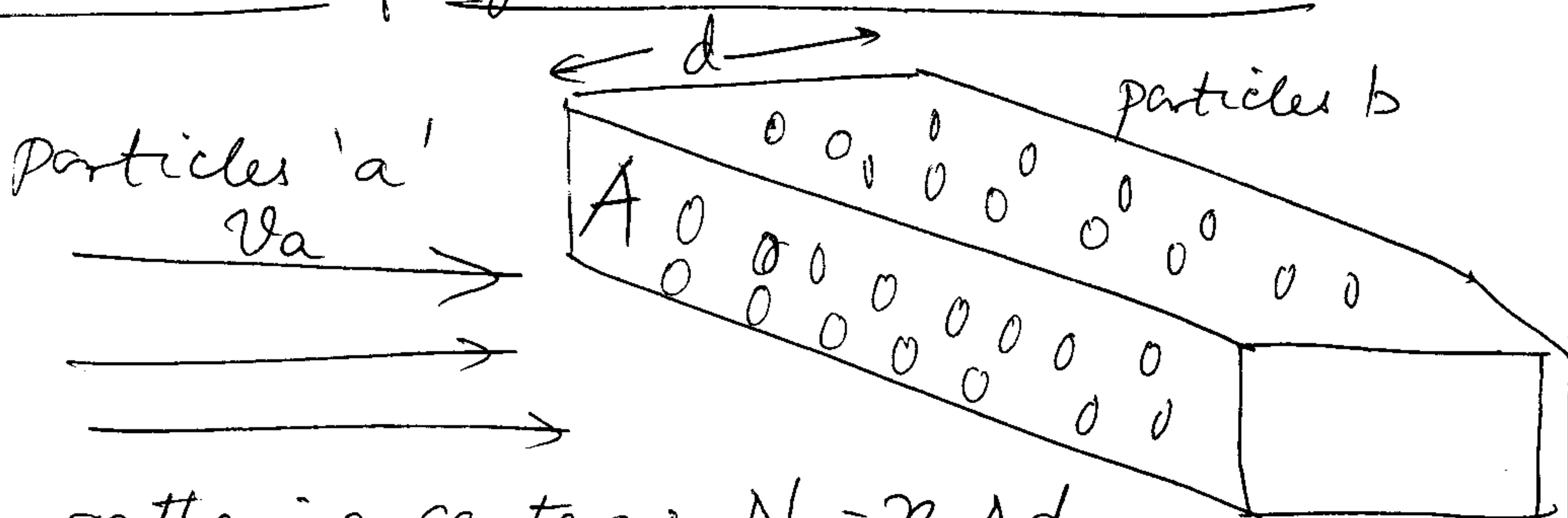
$$\because \vec{p}_{e^+} \cdot \vec{p}_{e^-} = -|p_{e^+}|^2 \Rightarrow q^2 \simeq 4E_{e^+}E_{e^-} \text{ (ERL)}$$

$$\text{Thus } m_{\text{new}}c^2 \simeq 2E_e$$

$$\text{Fixed target : } m_{\text{new}} \propto \sqrt{E}$$

$$\text{Colliders : } m_{\text{new}} \propto E$$

- Colliding beams suitable for finding new particles.
- Fixed target better suited to study structure.

Calculation of Geometric Cross-Section

$$N_b \text{ scattering centers : } N_b = n_b A d \quad (n_b = \text{density})$$

$$\sigma_b \equiv \text{Cross-sectional area / scattering center}$$

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Bombard target 'b' with particles 'a'

- Measure  $\frac{dN}{dt} = \# \text{ reactions / time}$ 

$$\text{Flux of a } \Phi_a \equiv \frac{n_a A d}{A t} = n_a v_a$$

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = \Phi_a N_b \sigma_b$$

$$\Phi_a N_b \equiv \mathcal{L} \text{ or Luminosity.}$$

$$\frac{\# \text{ reactions}}{\text{time}} = \frac{\text{flux of 'a'} \times \# \text{ of 'b'} \times \text{area of 'b'}}{\text{time}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Area of 'b'} \equiv \sigma_b = \frac{\# \text{ reactions / time}}{\frac{\# \text{ Projectiles}}{\text{time} \times \text{area}} \times \frac{\# \text{ Scattering centers}}{\text{area}}}$$

$$\frac{\# \text{ projectiles}}{\text{time}} \equiv \text{beam current.}$$

$$\frac{\# \text{ Scattering centers}}{\text{area}} \equiv \text{target thickness}$$

$$\text{Nucleus: } 10^{-14} \text{ m} \Rightarrow 1 \text{ barn} = 10^{-28} \text{ m}^2$$

$$\text{High Energy collisions: } \sigma_{pp}(10 \text{ GeV}) \approx 10 \text{ mb}$$

$$\sigma_{\nu p}(10 \text{ GeV}) \approx 100 \text{ fm}$$



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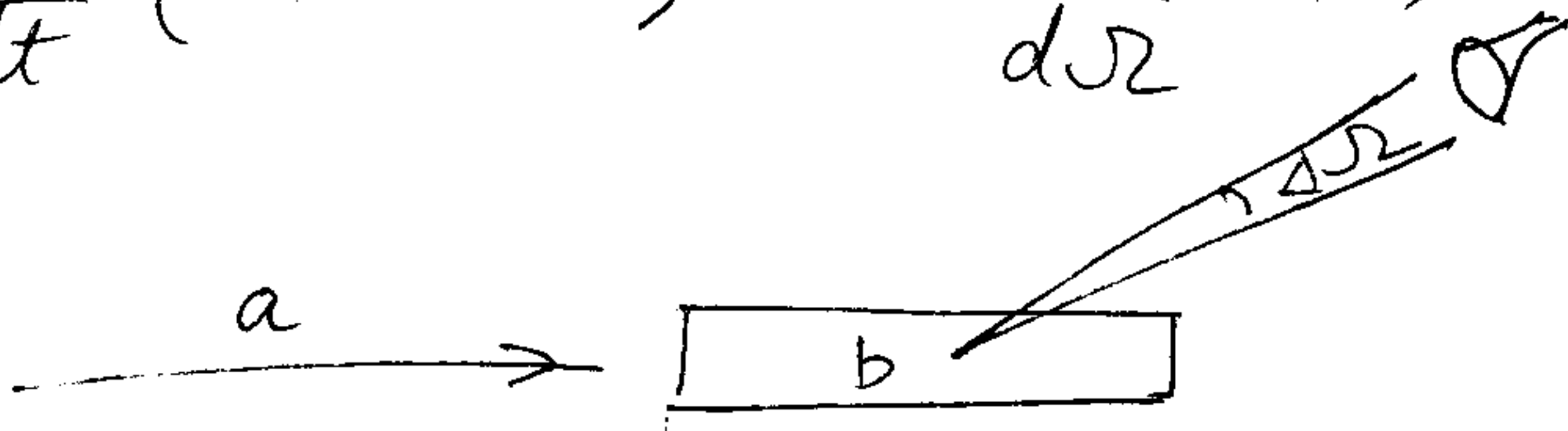
## LECTURE III

$$\sigma_b = \frac{\# \text{ reactions / time}}{\frac{\# \text{ projectiles}}{\text{time}} \times \frac{\# \text{ scattering centers}}{\text{area}}} = \frac{\text{Rate}}{\text{Luminosity}}$$

In a real experiment, hard to measure 'total' rate to obtain 'total' cross-section.

Differential Count rate  $\Rightarrow$  differential X section

$$\frac{dN}{dt}(E, \theta, \Delta\Omega) = L \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}(E, \theta) \Delta\Omega$$



Sometimes, you cannot measure all energies.

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE'} \Rightarrow \sigma_{\text{tot}} = \int_0^{E_{\text{max}}} \int \frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE'} d\Omega dE'$$

We now extract an expression for scattering of a spinless projectile scattering of a spinless nucleus using semi-classical methods.

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## Calculation of Rutherford Cross Section

Fermi's Second Golden Rule:

Reaction rate depends on the form of the potential.  
In Time-Dependent-Perturbation theory,  
one defines a transition matrix element

$$M_{fi} \equiv \langle \psi_f | H_{int} | \psi_i \rangle$$

$$W \equiv \frac{\text{reaction rate}}{\# \text{beam} \times \# \text{target}} = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} |M_{fi}|^2 \rho(E')$$

$$\rho(E') \equiv \frac{dn(E')}{dE'} \iff \text{Reaction rate depends on } \# \text{ of available final states.}$$

If one particle is detected; must sum over all 4-momenta of other particles allowed by energy momentum conservation.

Quantization: Each particle occupies a volume  $\hbar^3$  in 6D  $\mathbf{E}$ - $\mathbf{p}$  space.

In a volume  $V$  & with a momentum range  $dp'$ ,

$$dn(p') = \frac{V 4\pi p'^2 dp'}{(2\pi\hbar)^3}$$

$\frac{dn}{dE}$  calculation is straightforward & algorithmic

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$$W = \frac{dN/dt}{N_b \cdot N_a} = \frac{\oint_a N_b d\sigma_b}{N_b \cdot N_a} = \frac{n_a v_a \sigma_b}{N_a} = \frac{d\sigma_b v_a}{V}$$

$$\frac{d\sigma v_a}{V} = \frac{2\pi}{h} |M_{fi}|^2 \frac{d\Omega}{dE'}$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{V^2 E'^2}{(2\pi)^2 (\hbar c)^4} |M_{fi}|^2 \left( \begin{array}{l} E \approx pc, \\ v_a \approx c \end{array} \right)$$

Rutherford Scattering:

No spin, no recoil, interaction is a small perturbation.  
(Born Approximation)  $\Rightarrow$

Incoming & Outgoing particles are plane waves.

$$\psi_i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{V}} e^{ipx/\hbar}$$

$$\psi_f = \frac{1}{\sqrt{V}} e^{ip'x/\hbar}$$

$V$  is finite but large compared to interaction range

$$H_{int} = -e\phi \quad \nabla^2 \phi = \rho/\epsilon_0$$

(Electromagnetism)

Define  $q^\mu = p^\mu - p'^\mu$  (4-momentum transfer)



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$$M_{fi} = \int \psi_f^* H_{int} \psi_i d^3x = \frac{e}{V} \int \phi(x) e^{iqx/\hbar} d^3x$$

Define  $f(x) \equiv Ze f(x)$ Use  $\int (u \nabla^2 v - v \nabla^2 u) d^3x = 0$ 

$$\Rightarrow M_{fi} = \frac{e \hbar^2}{V |q|^2} \int \nabla^2 \phi e^{iqx/\hbar} d^3x$$

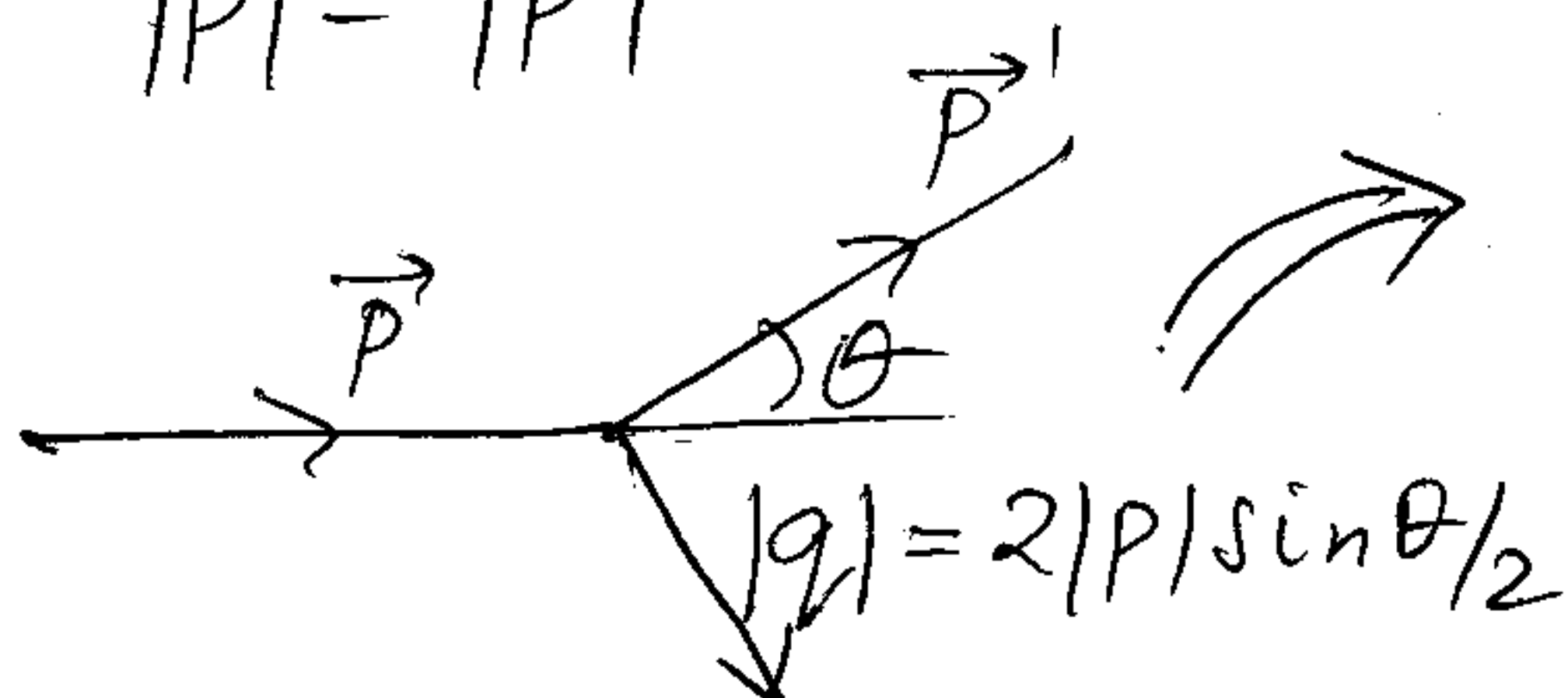
$$= \frac{Ze^2 \hbar^2}{\epsilon_0 V |q|^2} \underbrace{\int f(x) e^{iqx} d^3x}_{\Rightarrow F(q) \equiv \text{Form Factor}}$$

Define  $\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar c} = \frac{1}{137} \equiv \text{Fine Structure Constant}$ .For a point heavy charge,  $f(x) = \delta^3x \Rightarrow F(q) = 1$ 

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{Z^2 \alpha^2 E'^2}{|q|^4}$$

To obtain Rutherford formula: use  $E = E'$  $\Rightarrow$  3-momentum transfer = 4 momentum transfer.

$$|P| = |P'|$$



$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{Z^2 \alpha^2}{16 E^2 \beta^4 \sin^4 \theta/2}$$

$$\left( E = \gamma mc^2, \quad p = \gamma m \beta c, \right.$$

$$\left. \frac{E}{p} = \frac{1}{\beta} \right)$$

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What happens with all the  $\hbar$ 's &  $c$ 's?

Use natural units:  $\hbar = c = 1$



LENGTH  $\Leftrightarrow$  TIME  $\Leftrightarrow$  1/MASS

MASS  $\Leftrightarrow$  MOMENTUM  $\Leftrightarrow$  ENERGY

Need only 2 constants:

$$\hbar c = 197 \text{ MeV} \cdot \text{fm}$$

$$\hbar^2 c^2 = 0.389 \text{ GeV}^2 \text{ mb}$$

For Rutherford Scattering, take 4 MeV  $\alpha$  particles  
 $\Rightarrow \beta \ll 1 \Rightarrow E \simeq m_\alpha c^2$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{Z^2 \alpha^2}{16(m_\alpha c^2)^2 \beta^4 \sin^4(\theta/2)} (\hbar^2 c^2) \text{ mb} \Rightarrow \approx 10^{-23} \text{ m}^2$$

\* Fit very well with the hypothesis of a nucleus with charge  $+Ze$  smaller than  $10^{-14} \text{ m}$

- Few scatters at small angles ( $\sigma \ll 10^{-18} \text{ m}^2$ )
- Significant scattering with  $\theta > 90^\circ$

$\Rightarrow F(q) \simeq 1$

\* Did not fit Thomson (plum pudding) model.

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# LECTURE IV

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- Rutherford formula is valid for  $\beta \ll 1$  & spinless beam and a spinless target nucleus.

- For a spin  $1/2$  relativistic projectile, need to modify formula to incorporate conservation laws.

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_R = \frac{Z^2 \alpha^2 E'^2}{q^4} \quad \text{However } \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}(\theta=180^\circ) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{for spin } 1/2 \text{ beam particles.}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{\text{Mott}} = \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_R \cos^2 \theta/2$$

Experimentally Mott Cross Section was found to be systematically smaller  $\Rightarrow F(q) < 1$

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{\text{NUCLEUS}} = \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_M |F(q)|^2 \quad \left(F(q) \equiv \int e^{iqx} f(x) d^3x\right)$$

$f(x)$  is the nuclear charge distribution.

Next lecture  $\Rightarrow$  analyze electron scattering data.

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$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{\text{Nucleus}} = \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_M |F(q)|^2$$

$$F(q) = \int e^{iqx} f(x) d^3x$$

As  $q$  increases, one samples only a fraction of charge distribution since de Broglie wavelength becomes smaller than nuclear size.

For a uniform sphere of charge,  $f(x) \rightarrow f(r) = \theta(r)$   
 $\theta = \text{constant for } r < R$  &  $\theta = 0$  for  $r > R$

This leads to diffraction patterns (see slide 2)  
 First minimum at  $|q| \cdot R / \hbar \cong 4.5$

Inspect slide: For  $^{12}\text{C}$ , first minimum at  $26^\circ = \theta/2$   
 Since  $E = 420 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $q \cong 2E \sin \theta/2$   
 $\Rightarrow R = 2.4 \text{ fm}$

- Different forms of  ~~$f(x)$~~   $f(x)$  produce different  $F(q)$   
 - Detailed measurements show that nuclei are diffuse spheres of charge.

- One can get a good estimate of a nuclear size with one single  $d\sigma/d\Omega$  measurement at small, non-zero  $q$  value. (no detailed knowledge of  $F(q)$  required)  $\Rightarrow$

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LECTURE V

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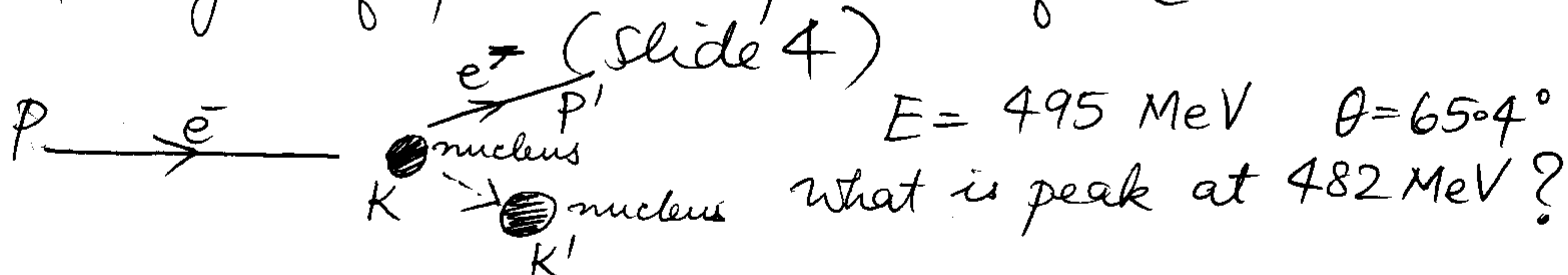
If  $q \cdot R / \hbar \ll 1$ , then

$$F(q^2) \simeq 4\pi \int_0^\infty f(r) r^2 dr - \frac{1}{6} \frac{|q|^2}{\hbar^2} 4\pi \int_0^\infty f(r) r^4 dr \dots$$

Since  $4\pi \int_0^\infty r^2 f(r) dr = 1$  &  $\langle r^2 \rangle = 4\pi \int_0^\infty r^2 f(r) r^2 dr$

$$\Rightarrow F(q^2) = 1 - \frac{1}{6} |q|^2 \frac{\langle r^2 \rangle}{\hbar^2} \Rightarrow \langle r^2 \rangle = -6\hbar^2 \frac{dF(q^2)}{dq^2}$$

- Analysis of precision spectrum of  $^{12}\text{C}$  electron scattering (Slide 4)



$$p + K = p' + K' \Rightarrow p^2 + K^2 + 2pK = p'^2 + K'^2 + 2p'K'$$

for elastic scattering,  $p^2 = p'^2$  &  $K^2 = K'^2 \Rightarrow pK = p'K'$

$$\Rightarrow pK = pp' + p'K - p'^2$$

$$p \equiv (E, \vec{p}) \quad p' \equiv (E', \vec{p}') \quad K = (M_N, 0)$$

If  $m_e \rightarrow 0$ , then  $E = |\vec{p}|$  &  $E' = |\vec{p}'|$

$$\Rightarrow pK = EM_N = EE' - |\vec{p}||\vec{p}'|\cos\theta + E'M_N - m_e'^2$$

$$\Rightarrow E' = E \left[ \frac{1}{1 + \frac{E}{M_N}(1 - \cos\theta)} \right]$$

For  $M_N = 12M_p$ ,  $E' = 482.6 \text{ MeV} \Rightarrow$  elastic peak  
i.e.  $^{12}\text{C}$  nucleus remains intact.

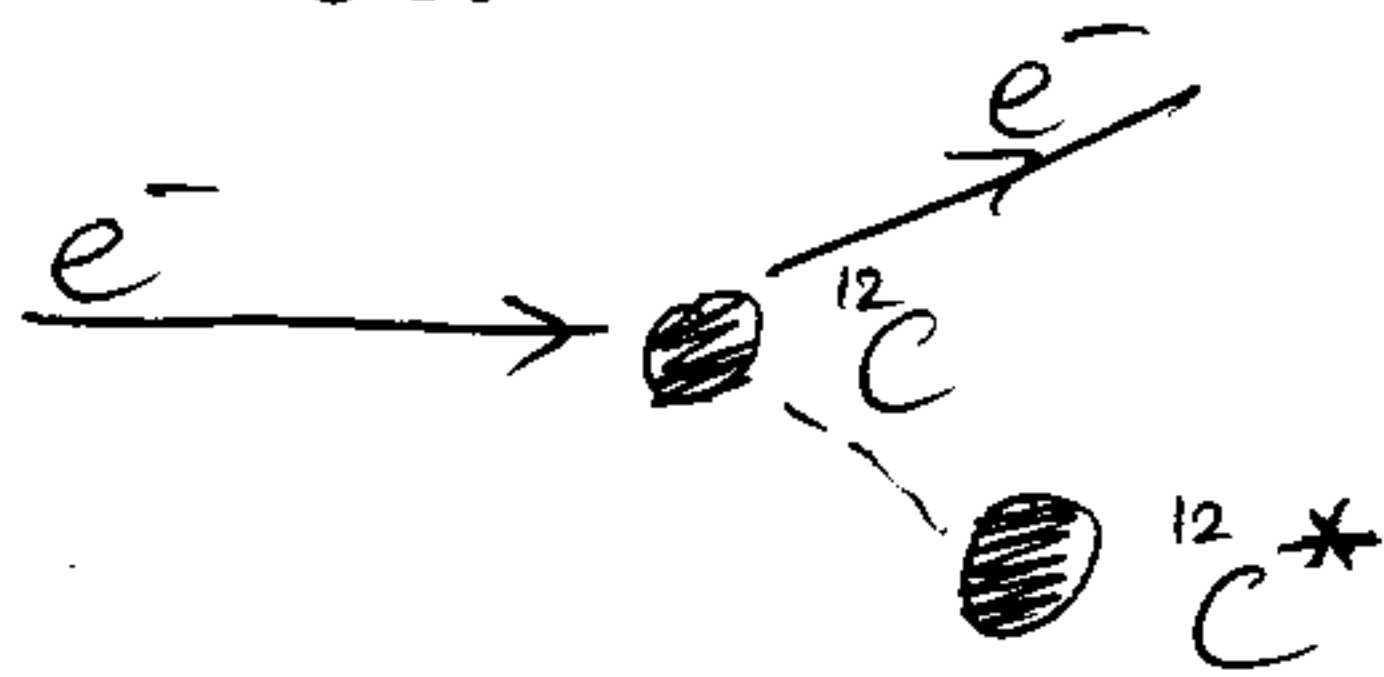


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# LECTURE V

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What are the other peaks?



$^{12}\text{C}$  nucleus can be excited.

$$E'_{\text{elastic}} - E'_{\text{inelastic}} = \text{energy of excited state}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Study nuclear structure

- Large resonance at roughly 63 MeV/c is called the "giant dipole" resonance

- Rising continuum at lower  $E'$ ?

Sometimes a proton or neutron is knocked out  
 $\Rightarrow$  quasi-elastic scattering.

- Must first give up 6 to 7 MeV to break up nucleus.

-  $E' = 378 \text{ MeV}$  if  $M_N = M_p$  (mass of proton)

- Peak is very broad. Why?

$\Rightarrow$  Protons & neutrons are confined to a space of roughly a sphere of radius 2.5 fm.

$$\Delta p \approx \hbar / \Delta x \Rightarrow \Delta p = 100 \text{ MeV for } \Delta x \sim 10^{-15} \text{ m}$$

- If energy of incident electron is greater than a few GeV, then one can break up the proton and infer its structure.

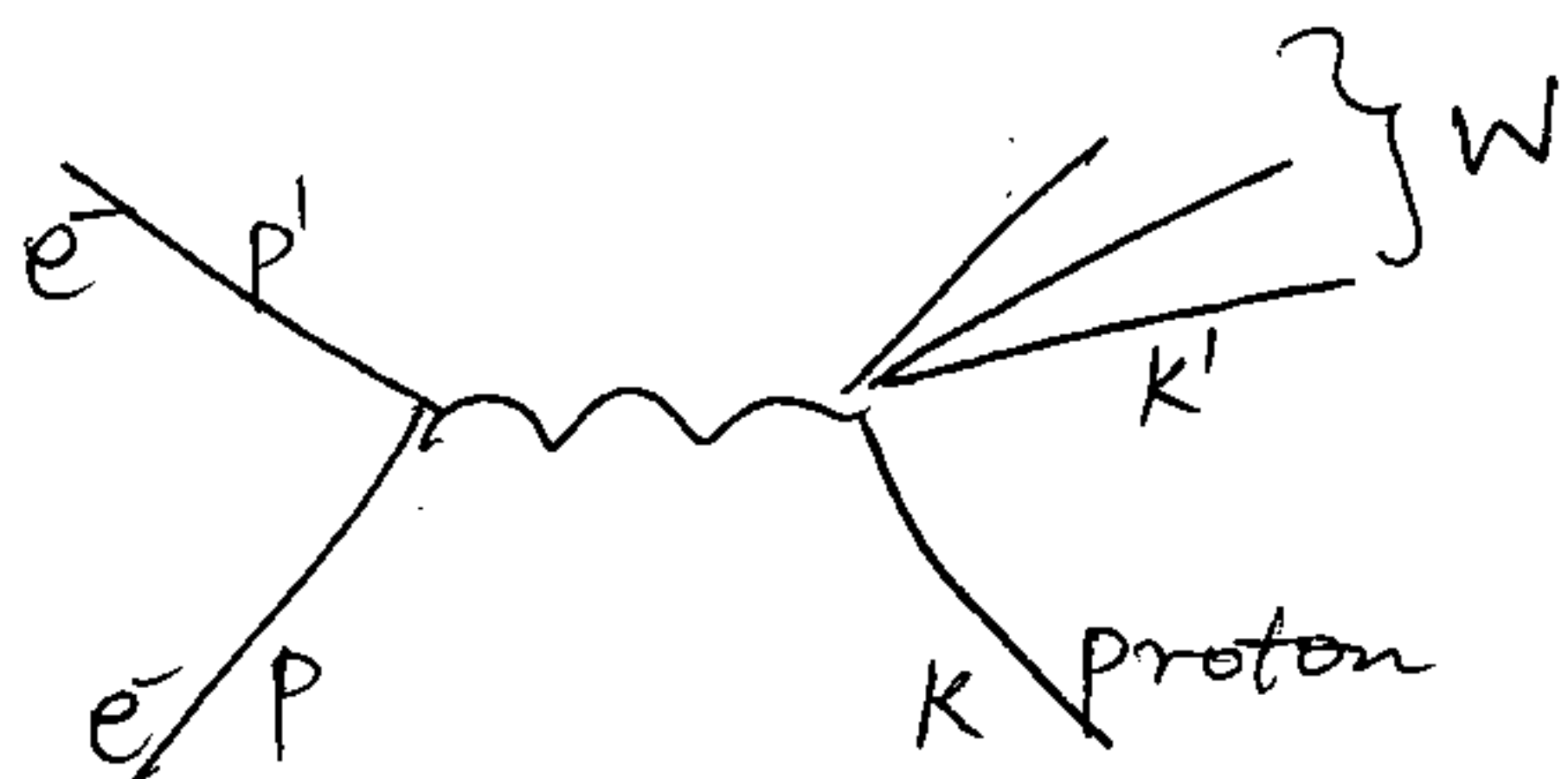
- This was done for the first time in the mid-1960s  
 $\Rightarrow$  DEEP INELASTIC SCATTERING



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# LECTURE V

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$$p + K = p' + K'$$

$$K'^2 = W^2 = (p + K - p')^2 = (q + K)^2$$

$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}$  is now a function of  $q^2$  &  $W^2$

- The Cross Section is seen to rise as  $q^2 > 1 \text{ GeV}^2$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Contrary to expectation since  $F(q)$  is getting smaller!

- Parametrize  $\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{DIS} = \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_M W_2(x, q^2)$

$$x = \frac{-q^2}{2Kq} = \frac{-q^2}{2M(E-E')} \Rightarrow W_2(x) \text{ independent of } q^2!$$

-  $x$  is the fraction of proton momentum ~~followed~~ carried by struck quark.  
 $\Rightarrow F(q) = 1$  again!

$\Rightarrow$  Conclusion: proton has several hard, objects with no structure that are travelling at very high speeds.

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## LECTURE V

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UNSTABLE PARTICLES : How does one describe them? MASS & LIFETIME.

- Consider an assembly of identical particles each with decay probability  $\lambda$ .

$$\Rightarrow dN = -\lambda N dt \Rightarrow N = N_0 e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$\tau = 1/\lambda \equiv \text{lifetime i.e. time interval for } N_0 \text{ to reduce to } N_0/e$$

- Unstable particle does not have definite energy.

$\Rightarrow$  Consider a free particle at rest.

$$\text{i.e. } \psi(t) = \psi_0 e^{-iE_0 t/\hbar} \quad (E_0 = mc^2)$$

-  $|\psi(t)|^2 = |\psi(0)|^2 \Rightarrow$  disagrees with 'unstable' model.

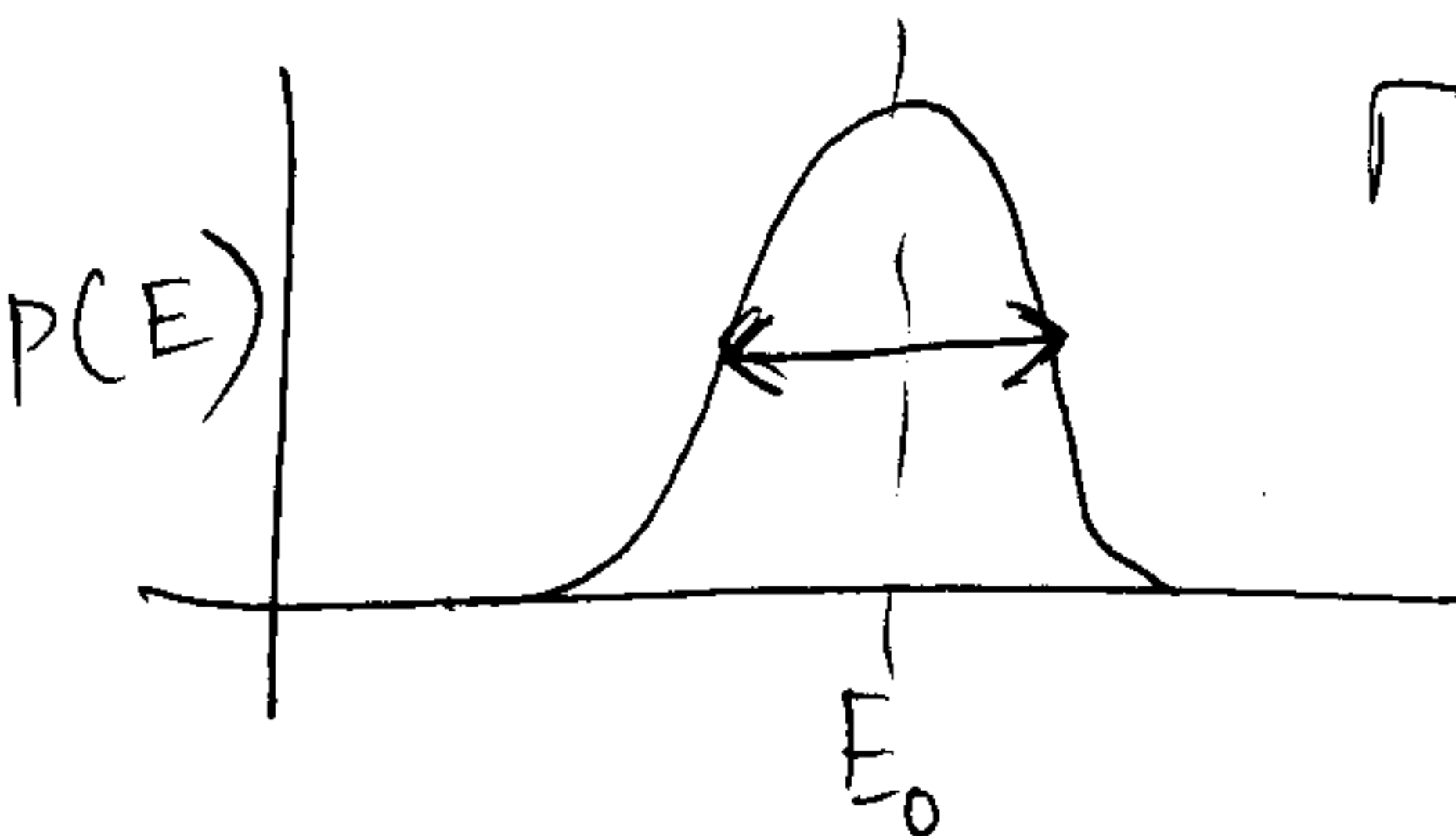
$$\text{- Introduce } E = E_0 - \frac{i\Gamma}{2} \Rightarrow |\psi(t)|^2 = |\psi(0)|^2 e^{-\Gamma t/\hbar}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Gamma = \lambda \hbar = \hbar/\tau \quad \text{What does it mean?}$$

Introduce  $\omega = E/\hbar$  & the Fourier transform

$$\Rightarrow \psi(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(\omega) e^{-i\omega t} d\omega$$

$$P(E) \propto g^* g \Rightarrow P(E) = \frac{\Gamma}{2\pi} \frac{1}{(E-E_0)^2 + (\Gamma/2)^2}$$



$\Gamma \equiv \text{width}$

$$\tau = \hbar/\Gamma$$

$$\Delta E \Delta t \gtrsim \hbar \Rightarrow \Delta E \sim \Gamma \gtrsim \hbar/\tau$$

Small lifetime  $\Leftrightarrow$  Large width.