

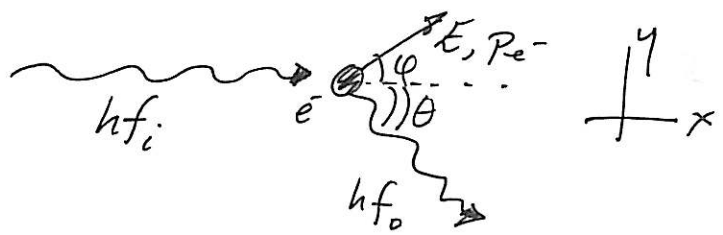
# Compton scattering

incident photon

$$E_i = hf_i \quad P_i = h/\lambda_i$$

scattered photon  
angle  $\theta$

$$E_f = hf_f \quad P_f = h/\lambda_f$$



scattered electron

angle  $\varphi$

$$E_e = (\gamma - 1)mc^2 = \sqrt{p_e^2 c^2 + m^2 c^4} - mc^2$$

~~Energy~~  $P_e = \gamma m v$

Consu Energy

$$hf_i = hf_f + \sqrt{P_e^2 c^2 + m^2 c^4} - mc^2$$

Consu  $\vec{p}$

$$(x) \quad P_i = P_e \cos \varphi + P_f \cos \theta$$

$$(y) \quad P_e \sin \varphi = P_f \sin \theta$$

Convenient:

$$\text{define } \alpha_i = \frac{hf_i}{mc^2} = P_i/mc$$

$$\alpha = \frac{\text{photon energy}}{e^- \text{ rest energy}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha_i = \alpha_f + \sqrt{\frac{P_e^2}{m^2 c^2} + 1} - 1$$

$$\alpha_i = \alpha_f \cos \theta + \left(\frac{P_e}{mc}\right) \cos \varphi$$

$$\alpha_f \sin \theta = \left(\frac{P_e}{mc}\right) \sin \varphi$$

• dimensionless E scale

• easier algebra (HW)

• important eqns simple

Big deal? Classical scattering of ~~photons~~ light by  $e^-$  cannot explain! Needs particle-like light

rearrange E equ

$$(\alpha_i - \alpha_f) + 1 = \sqrt{\frac{p_e^2}{m^2 c^2} + 1}$$

square & solve for  $p_e^2$

$$p_e^2 = m^2 c^2 \left[ (\alpha_i - \alpha_f)^2 + 2(\alpha_i - \alpha_f) \right]$$

square and add  $\vec{p}$  eqns

~~$p_e \sin \varphi = m c \alpha_f \sin \theta$~~

$$p_e \sin \varphi = m c \alpha_f \sin \theta$$

$$p_e \cos \varphi = m c [\alpha_i - \alpha_f \cos \theta]$$

$$p_e^2 \sin^2 \varphi + p_e^2 \cos^2 \varphi = p_e^2 = \dots$$

now 2 eqns in  $p_e^2$  ... equate!

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\alpha_i - \alpha_f = \alpha_i \alpha_f (1 - \cos \theta)}$$

$$-or- \boxed{\frac{1}{\alpha_f} - \frac{1}{\alpha_i} = 1 - \cos \theta}$$

Resulting electron energy?

$$E_{e^-} = h f_i - h f_f = \alpha_i m c^2 - \alpha_f m c^2 = (\alpha_i - \alpha_f) m c^2$$

solve Compton for  $\alpha_f$ : 
$$\alpha_f = \frac{\alpha_i}{1 + \alpha_i (1 - \cos \theta)}$$

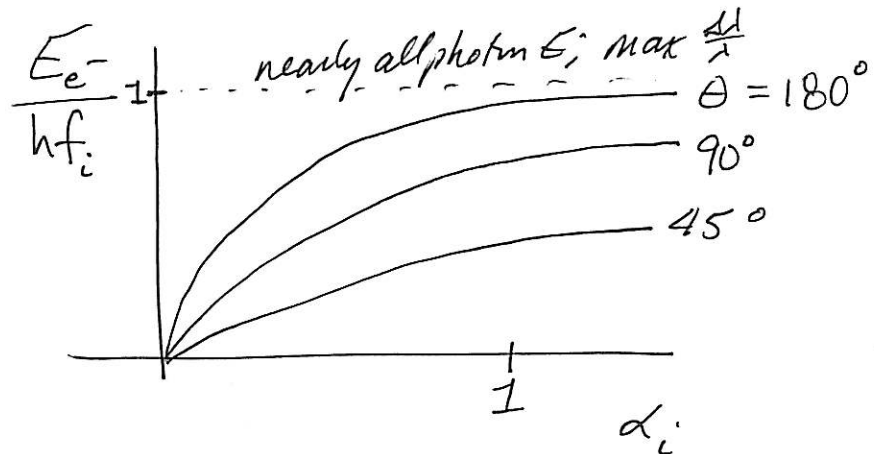
$$E_{e^-} = m c^2 \left[ \alpha_i - \frac{\alpha_i}{1 + \alpha_i (1 - \cos \theta)} \right] = m c^2 \left[ \frac{\alpha_i^2 (1 - \cos \theta)}{1 + \alpha_i (1 - \cos \theta)} \right]$$

$$E = mc^2 \left[ \frac{\alpha_i^2 (1 - \cos\theta)}{1 + \alpha_i (1 - \cos\theta)} \right] = hf_i \left[ \frac{\alpha_i (1 - \cos\theta)}{1 + \alpha_i (1 - \cos\theta)} \right] \quad \text{③} \quad \alpha_i = \frac{hf_i}{mc^2}$$

max  $e^-$  energy? when  $\cos\theta = -1$  ( $\frac{dE}{d\theta} = 0 \dots$ )  
careful

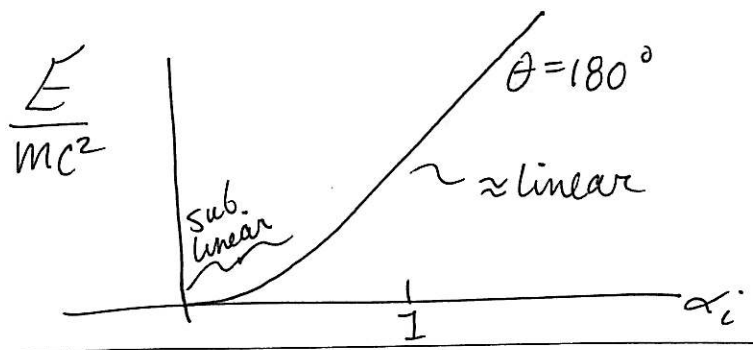
$$\Rightarrow E_{\max} = mc^2 \left[ \frac{2\alpha_i^2}{1 + 2\alpha_i} \right] = hf_i \left( \frac{2\alpha_i}{1 + 2\alpha_i} \right)$$

- max is a fraction of incident photon  $E$
- cannot absorb photon  $\hat{=}$  conserve  $\vec{p} \hat{=} E$  (HW)



photon transfers most of its energy:

- $\theta \sim 180^\circ$  (head-on)
- $hf_i > mc^2$   
or  $\alpha_i > 1$   
( $\approx$  free  $e^-$ )



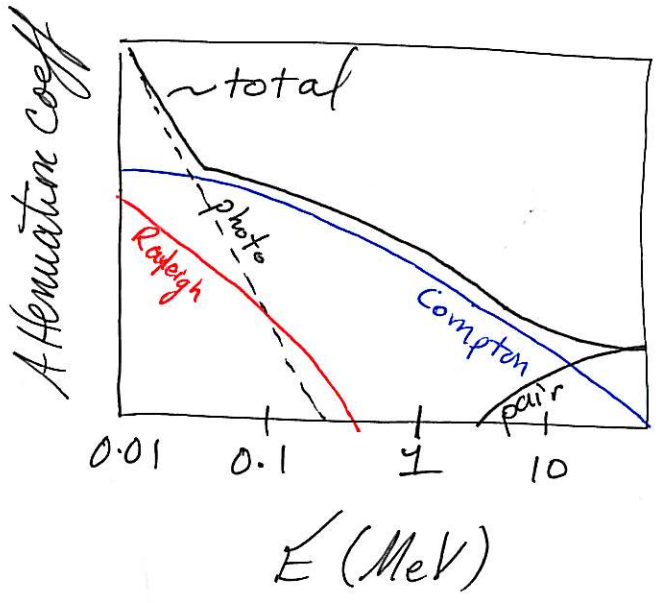
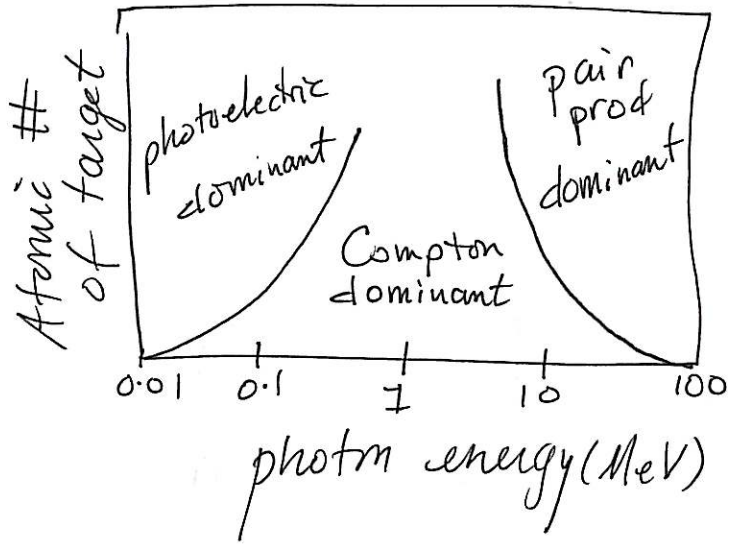
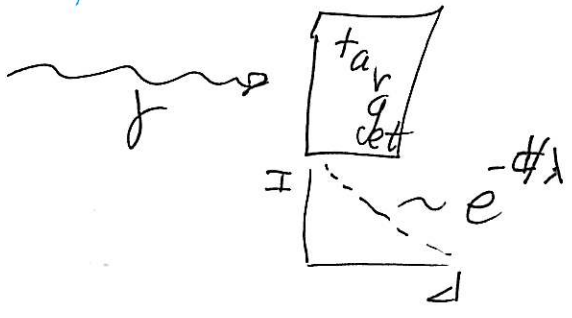
important point:  $\alpha$  sets the energy range  
characterizes physical regimes

Misc

- HW #6 : divide  $\vec{p}$  eqns to get  $\tan \varphi$
- : substitute Compton eqn for  $\alpha_f$  (or  $P_f$ )
- : note  $\frac{1 - \cos \theta}{\sin \theta} = \tan(\frac{\theta}{2})$

$$\Rightarrow \tan \varphi = \left( \frac{1}{1 + \alpha} \right) \cot\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)$$

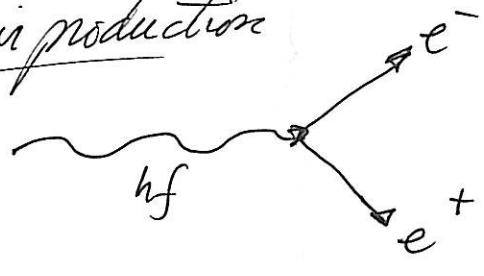
Interaction of photons w/ matter



low E / high mass : photo

mid : Compton

high E : pair production



} more on this later