

# Ionized Impurity Scattering: Conwell-Weisskopf Approach

Mark Lundstrom

Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Purdue University  
West Lafayette, IN USA

(revised 9/5/17)

# BH summary

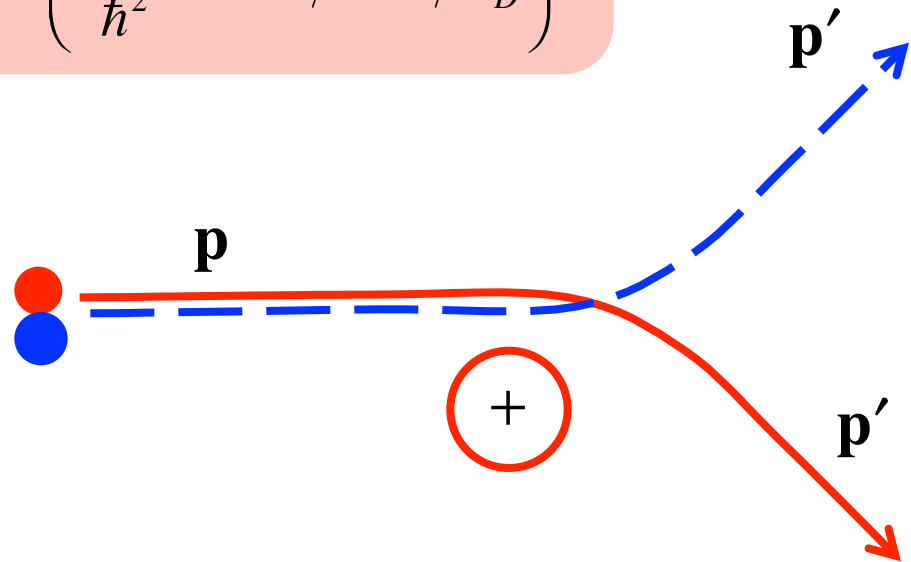
$$S(\vec{p}, \vec{p}') = \frac{2\pi q^4 N_I}{\hbar \kappa_s^2 \epsilon_s^2 \Omega} \frac{\delta(E' - E)}{\left( \frac{4p^2}{\hbar^2} \sin^2 \alpha/2 + 1/L_D^2 \right)^2}$$

1)  $S(\vec{p}, \vec{p}') \sim N_I$

2)  $S(\vec{p}, \vec{p}') \sim q^4$

3)  $S(\vec{p}, \vec{p}') \sim 1/E^2$

4) Favors small angle scattering **All true for CW too.**



## BH summary (ii)

---

Momentum relaxation time:

$$\tau_m(E) = \frac{16\sqrt{2m^*} \pi \kappa_s^2 \epsilon_0^2}{N_I q^4} \left[ \ln(1 + \gamma^2) - \frac{\gamma^2}{1 + \gamma^2} \right] E^{3/2} \gg \tau(E)$$

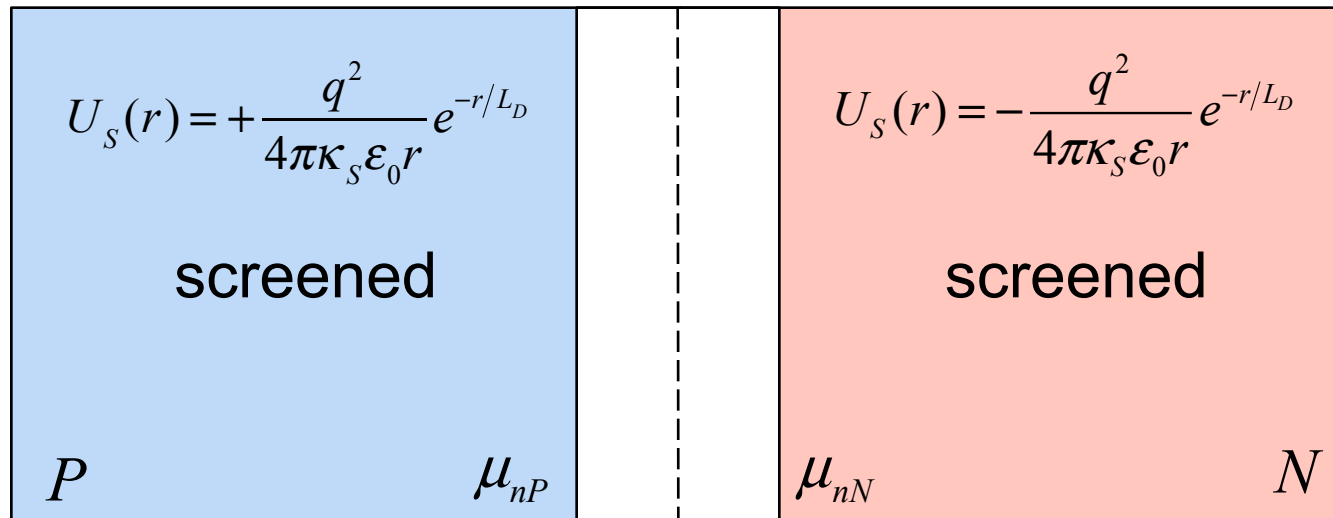
$$\gamma^2 = 8m^* EL_D^2 / \hbar^2$$

$$\tau_m(E) \sim E^{3/2}$$

$$\tau_m(E) \approx \tau_0 \left( E/k_B T \right)^s \quad \tau_0 \sim T^{3/2} \quad s = 3/2$$

**(True for CW too)**

# Screened vs. unscreened



$$U_S(r) = + \frac{q^2}{4\pi\kappa_S\epsilon_0 r}$$

unscreened

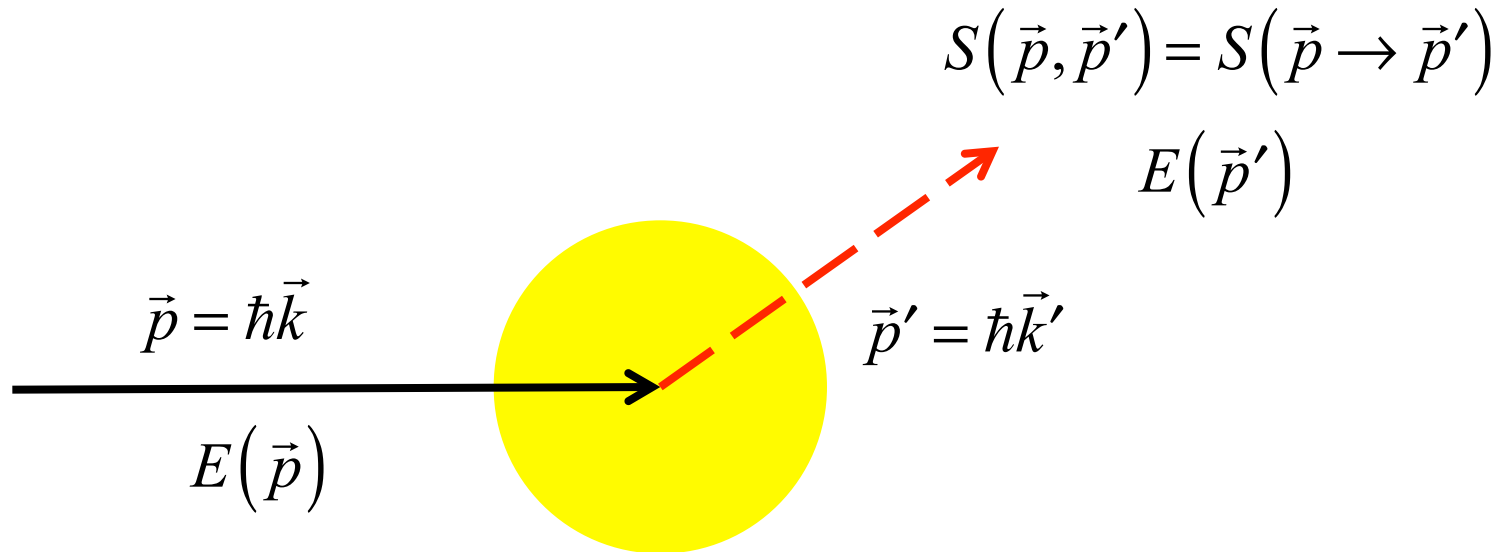
- 4 **CW approach treats unscreened Coulomb scattering.**

# Outline

---

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Transition rate**
- 3) Characteristic times

# Fermi's Golden Rule



$$S(\vec{p} \rightarrow \vec{p}') = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} |H_{\vec{p}', \vec{p}}|^2 \delta(E' - E)$$

$$H_{\vec{p}', \vec{p}} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \psi_f^* U_S(\vec{r}) \psi_i d\vec{r}$$

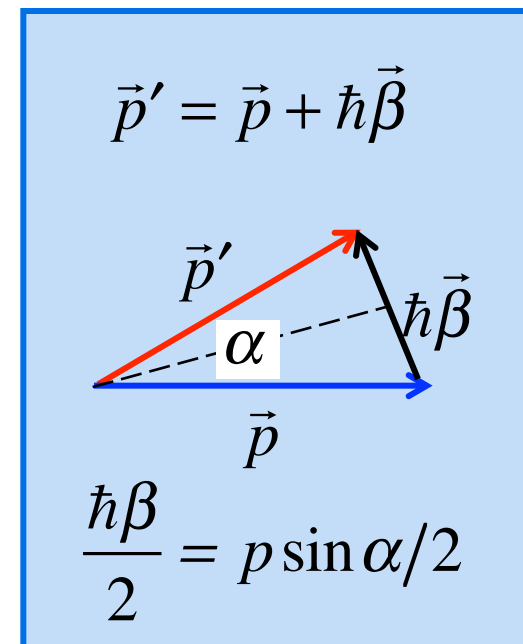
$$U_S(\vec{r}) = \pm \frac{q^2}{4\pi\kappa_S \epsilon_0 r}$$

Unscreened Coulomb potential

# Recall BH transition rate

$$S(\vec{p}, \vec{p}') = \frac{2\pi q^4 N_I}{\hbar \kappa_s^2 \epsilon_0^2 \Omega} \frac{\delta(E' - E)}{(\beta^2 + 1/L_D^2)^2}$$

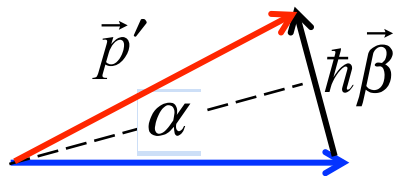
$$S(\vec{p}, \vec{p}') = \frac{2\pi q^4 N_I}{\hbar \kappa_s^2 \epsilon_s^2 \Omega} \frac{\delta(E' - E)}{\left( \frac{4p^2}{\hbar^2} \sin^2 \alpha/2 + 1/L_D^2 \right)^2}$$



# CW transition rate

$$L_D = \sqrt{\frac{\kappa_S \epsilon_0 k_B T_L}{q^2 n_0}} \rightarrow \infty$$

$$S(\vec{p}, \vec{p}') = \frac{2\pi q^4 N_I}{\hbar \kappa_S^2 \epsilon_0^2 \Omega} \frac{\delta(E' - E)}{(\beta^2 + 1/L_D^2)^2} \rightarrow S(\vec{p}, \vec{p}') = \frac{2\pi q^4 N_I}{\hbar \kappa_S^2 \epsilon_0^2 \Omega} \frac{\delta(E' - E)}{\beta^4}$$

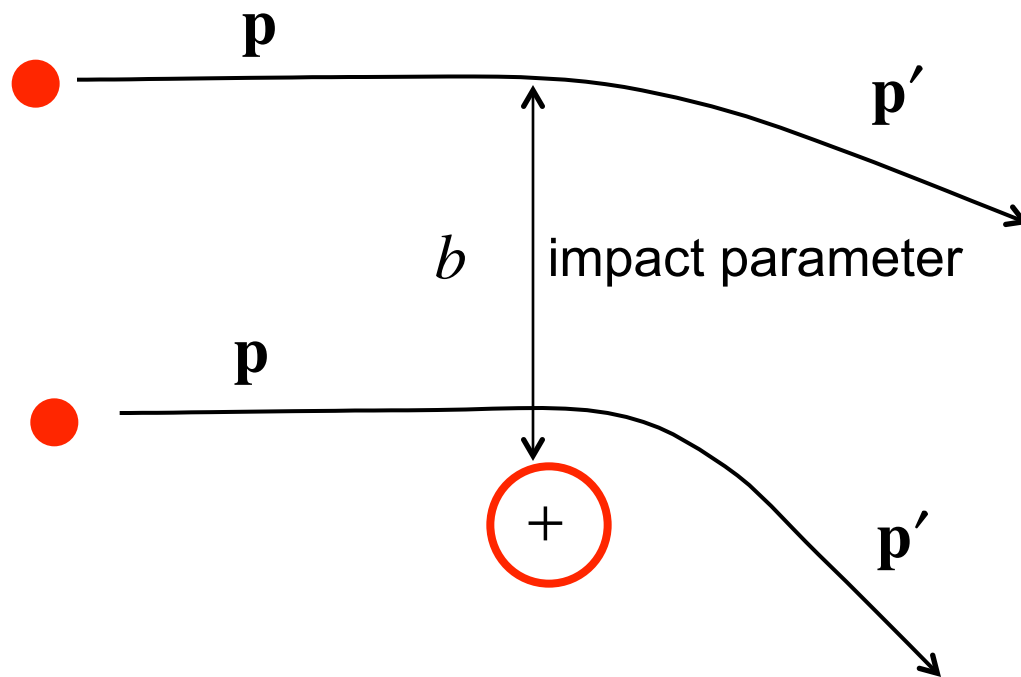


$$S(\vec{p}, \vec{p}') = \frac{2\pi q^4 N_I}{\hbar \kappa_S^2 \epsilon_S^2 \Omega} \frac{\delta(E' - E)}{\left( \frac{4p^2}{\hbar^2} \sin^2 \alpha/2 \right)^2}$$



# Question about impact parameter

---



Is there a maximum  $b$ ?

# Outline

---

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Transition rate
- 3) Characteristic times**

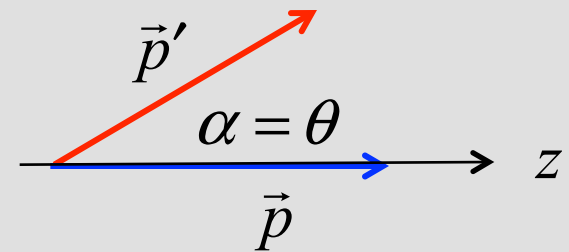
# Momentum relaxation time

$$S(\vec{p}, \vec{p}') = \frac{2\pi q^4 N_I}{\hbar \kappa_s^2 \epsilon_0^2 \Omega} \frac{\delta(E' - E)}{\left( \frac{4p^2}{\hbar^2} \sin^2 \alpha / 2 \right)^2}$$

unscreened Coulomb potential

$$S(\vec{p}, \vec{p}') \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{as} \quad \alpha \rightarrow 0$$

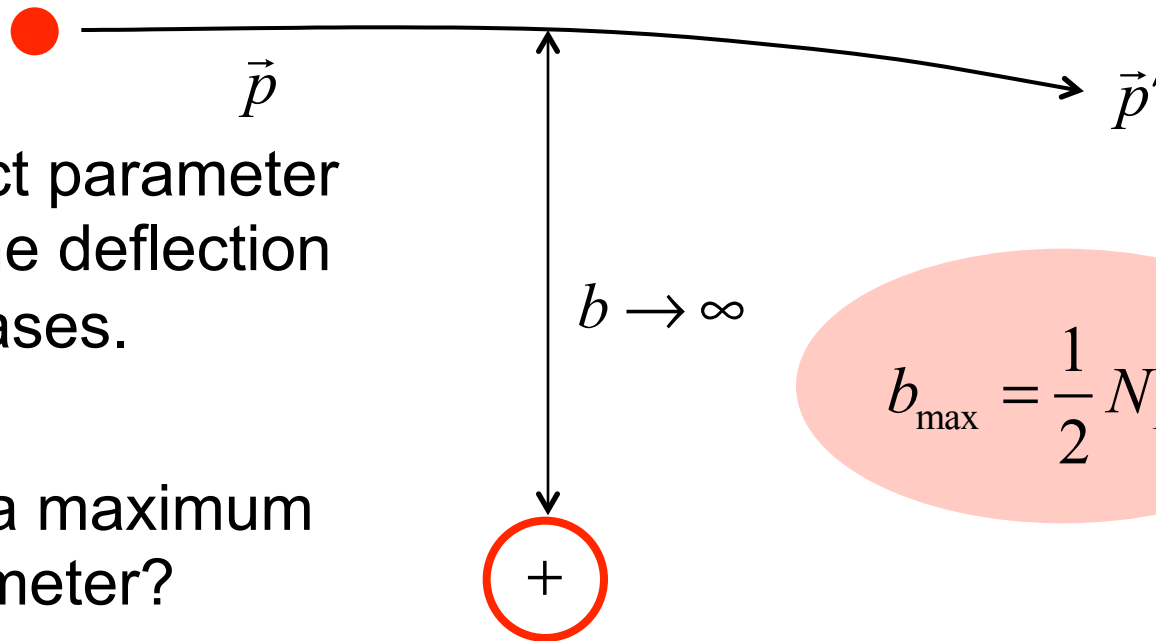
$$\frac{1}{\tau_m} = \sum_{\vec{p}'} S(\vec{p}, \vec{p}') (1 - \cos \alpha)$$



Can we specify a minimum angle, so that the integral does not blow up?

# Maximum impact factor

$$S(\vec{p}, \vec{p}') = \frac{2\pi q^4 N_I}{\hbar \kappa_s^2 \epsilon_0^2 \Omega} \frac{\delta(E' - E)}{\left( \frac{4p^2}{\hbar^2} \sin^2 \alpha/2 \right)^2}$$



As the impact parameter increases, the deflection angle decreases.

But there is a maximum impact parameter?

$$b_{\max} = \frac{1}{2} N_I^{-1/3}$$

# CW Momentum relaxation time

$$\frac{1}{\tau_m} = \sum_{\vec{p}'} S(\vec{p}, \vec{p}') (1 - \cos \alpha)$$

$$\frac{1}{\tau_m} = \frac{\Omega}{(2\pi)^3} \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_{\alpha_{\min}}^{\pi} S(\vec{p}, \vec{p}') (1 - \cos \alpha) \sin \alpha d\alpha p'^2 dp' =$$

$$b_{\max} = \frac{q^2}{8\pi\kappa_S \epsilon_0 E(p)} \cot(\alpha_{\min}/2) \quad (\text{Rutherford})$$

$$\tau_m(E) = \frac{16\pi\sqrt{2m^*} \kappa_S^2 \epsilon_0^2}{N_I q^4} \left[ \frac{1}{\ln(1 + \gamma_{CW}^2)} \right] E^{3/2} \quad \gamma_{CW}^2 = b_{\max} / (q^2 / 8\pi\kappa_S \epsilon_0 E)$$

## CW Momentum relaxation time (ii)

$$\tau_m(E) = \frac{16\pi\sqrt{2m^*}\kappa_S^2\epsilon_0^2}{N_I q^4} \left[ \frac{1}{\ln(1 + \gamma_{CW}^2)} \right] E^{3/2} \quad \gamma_{CW}^2 = b_{\max} / (q^2 / 8\pi\kappa_S\epsilon_0 E)$$

$$\tau_m(E) \sim E^{3/2}$$

$$\tau_m(E) \approx \tau_0 \left( E/k_B T \right)^s \quad \tau_0 \sim T^{3/2} \quad s = 3/2$$

Just like the Brooks-Herring result.

# Questions?

---

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Transition rate
- 3) Characteristic times

