Exercises on Theoretical Particle Physics I

Prof. Dr. H.P. Nilles

Due 12.12.2016

14. Electron-Positron annihilation reloaded

(20 credits)

(a) The Feynman rules for Z bosons are

$$\mu \sim Z = -\frac{ig}{\cos \theta_W} \gamma^{\mu} \frac{1}{2} \left(c_V^f - c_A^f \gamma^5 \right)$$

and

$$\mu \sim q \rightarrow \nu = \frac{-i \left(\eta_{\mu\nu} - \frac{q_{\mu}q_{\nu}}{M_Z^2} \right)}{q^2 - M_Z^2}.$$

For charged leptons there is $c_A^f = -1/2$ and $c_V^f = -1/2 + 2 \sin^2 \theta_W$, where θ_W is the electroweak mixing angle. One may further define $g_V = 1 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_W = -2 c_V^f$. Consider the high energy limit and assume negligible lepton masses $m_e = m_\mu = 0$. Draw the Feynman graph in analog to part (a) of exercise 11 for the process $e^-e^+ \to \mu^-\mu^+$ for the tree level exchange of a photon or a Z boson. Use the Feynman rules to determine the matrix element for the Z boson exchange \mathcal{M}_Z .

(3 credits)

(b) Show

$$\operatorname{tr}(\gamma^{\mu}\gamma^{\nu}\gamma^{\rho}\gamma^{\sigma}\gamma^{5}) = -4i\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}.$$

(1 credit)

(c) Use part (a), part (b) and the result for \mathcal{M}_{γ} from exercise 11 and exercise 12 to calculate

$$\sum_{\text{spins}} |\mathcal{M}_{\gamma} + \mathcal{M}_{Z}|^{2}$$

$$= \left[32 \frac{e^{4}}{s^{2}} + 4 \frac{e^{2}g^{2}(g_{V}^{2} + 1)}{s(s - M_{Z}^{2})\cos^{2}\theta_{W}} + \frac{g^{4}(g_{V}^{4} + 6g_{V}^{2} + 1)}{8(s - M_{Z}^{2})^{2}\cos^{4}\theta_{W}} \right] (p_{2} \cdot p_{4})(p_{1} \cdot p_{3})$$

$$+ \left[32 \frac{e^{4}}{s^{2}} + 4 \frac{e^{2}g^{2}(g_{V}^{2} - 1)}{s(s - M_{Z}^{2})\cos^{2}\theta_{W}} + \frac{g^{4}(g_{V}^{2} - 1)^{2}}{8(s - M_{Z}^{2})^{2}\cos^{4}\theta_{W}} \right] (p_{1} \cdot p_{4})(p_{2} \cdot p_{3}).$$

$$(10 \text{ credits})$$

(d) Simplify the result from part (c) with the help of the relations

$$R(s) = \frac{s}{(s - M_Z^2)\sin^2(2\theta_W)}, \qquad e = g\sin\theta_W$$

where R(s) is called the resonance factor.

(1 credit)

(e) Assume that the scattering angle in the center-of-mass frame is θ . Use part (d) to derive the differential cross section.

(4 credits)

(f) Derive the total cross section σ .

(1 credit)