



Introduction to Nuclear and Particle Physics 8.701

Lecture 10 QED II

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Outline

- EM basics
- The QED Feynman rules
- QED example processes
 - A) Electron-Muon scattering
 - B) Electron-electron scattering (Moeller scattering)
 - C) Electron-positron scattering (Bhabha scattering)
 - D) Photon-electron scattering (Compton scattering)
 - E) Electron-positron (Fermion pair production)
- Casimir trick and trace theorems
- Renormalization



■ Review

□ Maxwell equations

$$(1) \quad \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 4\pi\rho$$

$$(3) \quad \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0$$

$$(2) \quad \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = 0$$

$$(4) \quad \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} = \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{J}$$

□ Field strength tensor: **Anti-symmetry 2nd rank tensor** in terms of E and B

$$F^{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -E_x & -E_y & -E_z \\ E_x & 0 & -B_z & B_y \\ E_y & B_z & 0 & -B_x \\ E_z & -B_y & B_x & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Four-vector:

$$J^\mu = (c\rho, \vec{j})$$

Continuity equation:

$$\partial_\mu J^\mu = 0$$

Formulation of **inhomogeneous Maxwell equations**:

$$\partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} = \frac{4\pi}{c} J^\nu$$



■ Scalar and vector potential

- The 3rd Maxwell is equivalent to the statement for the **magnetic field**:

$$\vec{B} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}$$

- The 2nd Maxwell takes the following form:

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \left(\vec{E} + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} \right) = 0$$

- The **electric field** can be written as follows:

$$\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla}V - \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t}$$

- Relativistic notation:

$$F^{\mu\nu} = \partial^\mu A^\nu - \partial^\nu A^\mu$$

$$A^\mu = (V, \vec{A})$$

Defect of potential formulation:

⇒ **V** and **A** are **not uniquely determined!**

$$\vec{B} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} \quad \vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla}V - \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t}$$

New possible potential:

$$A'_\mu = A_\mu + \partial_\mu \lambda$$

Change of potential: **Gauge**

transformation: Lorentz condition

$$\partial_\mu A^\mu = 0$$



■ Photon field

- Inhomogeneous Maxwell equations

$$\partial_\mu \partial^\mu A^\nu - \partial^\nu (\partial_\mu A^\mu) = \frac{4\pi}{c} J^\nu$$

- With Lorentz condition:

$$\left(\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - \nabla^2 \right) A^\nu = \frac{4\pi}{c} J^\nu$$

Photon field in QED

- Free photon case:

$$\left(\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - \nabla^2 \right) A^\nu = 0$$

Constrain: Massless particle: Photon

- Solution:

$$A^\mu(x) = a e^{-(i/\hbar)p \cdot x} \epsilon^\mu(x)$$

$$p^\mu p_\mu = 0 \quad E = |\vec{p}|c$$

Polarization vector



■ Polarization vector

- Lorentz condition requires:

$$p^\mu \epsilon_\mu = 0$$

- In the Coulomb gauge, i.e.: $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = 0$

$$\epsilon^0 = 0 \quad \vec{\epsilon} \cdot \vec{p} = 0$$

- The polarization three-vector is perpendicular to the direction of propagation: Free photon is transversely polarized: Coulomb gauge = Transverse gauge

- Two linear independent three-vectors:

$$\vec{\epsilon}_1 = (1, 0, 0) \quad \vec{\epsilon}_2 = (0, 1, 0)$$

Two linear independent three-vectors perpendicular to p !

- **Note:**

- Massless particle: Only two spin states (helicity +1 or -1) regardless of its spin, except spin 0 with only one spin state!
- Massive particle: $2s+1$ spin states (3 for spin 1 particle!)



QED Feynman rules

■ Lagrangian in QED

- Sum of Dirac free field (charged particles) and interaction term:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{QED} &= \mathcal{L}_{free} + \mathcal{L}_{interaction} = \\ &= i\hbar c \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \psi - mc^2 \bar{\psi} \psi - \frac{1}{16\pi} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - q(\bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \psi) A_\mu\end{aligned}$$

Compare this to:

$$\mathcal{L}_{EM} = -\frac{1}{16\pi} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{c} J^\mu A_\mu \quad \text{Here:} \quad J^\mu = cq(\bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \psi)$$

- Local gauge invariance

- \mathcal{L}_{QED} can be formally obtained from \mathcal{L}_{free} with the following substitution:

$$\mathcal{D}_\mu = \partial_\mu + i \frac{q}{\hbar c} A_\mu$$

- With this substitution, \mathcal{L}_{free} is invariant under the following **local gauge transformation**: U(1)

$$\psi \rightarrow e^{i\theta(x)} \psi$$

- With the above substitution of the partial derivative, we convert a global invariant Lagrangian into a locally invariant Lagrangian. This is called **minimal coupling rule**!



QED Feynman rules

■ General considerations: Electron/Positron

□ Relativistic quantities

$$E = \sqrt{m^2c^4 + \vec{p}^2c^2} \quad p = (E/c, \vec{p})$$

□ Electron and positron spinor

$$\psi(x) = ae^{-(i/\hbar)p \cdot x} u^s(p) \quad \psi(x) = ae^{(i/\hbar)p \cdot x} v^s(p)$$

□ Dirac equation for electron and positrons

$$(\gamma^\mu p_\mu - mc)u = 0 \quad (\gamma^\mu p_\mu + mc)v = 0$$

Adjoint:
$$\begin{cases} \bar{u}(\gamma^\mu p_\mu - mc) = 0 \\ \bar{v}(\gamma^\mu p_\mu + mc) = 0 \end{cases}$$

□ Properties among electron and positron spinors

- Orthogonal:

$$\bar{u}^{(1)} \cdot u^{(2)} = 0 \quad \bar{v}^{(1)} \cdot v^{(2)} = 0$$

- Normalization:

$$\bar{u}u = 2mc \quad \bar{v}v = -2mc$$

- Completeness:

$$\sum_{s=1,2} u^{(s)}\bar{u}^{(s)} = (\gamma^\mu p_\mu + mc) \quad \sum_{s=1,2} v^{(s)}\bar{v}^{(s)} = (\gamma^\mu p_\mu - mc)$$



■ General considerations: Photon

- Relativistic quantities

$$p = (E/c, \vec{p}) \quad E = |\vec{p}|c$$

- Photon field

$$A^\mu(x) = a e^{-i/\hbar p \cdot x} \epsilon_s^\mu(x) \quad s = 1, 2$$

- Lorentz gauge $\epsilon^\mu p_\mu = 0$

$$\epsilon^{\mu*} \epsilon_\mu = 1 \quad \epsilon_{(1)}^{\mu*} \epsilon_{\mu(2)} = 0$$

$$\vec{\epsilon}_1 = (1, 0, 0)$$

$$\vec{\epsilon}_2 = (0, 1, 0)$$

- Coulomb gauge

$$\epsilon^0 = 0 \quad \vec{\epsilon} \cdot \vec{p} = 0$$

$$\sum_{s=1,2} (\epsilon_{(s)})_i (\epsilon_{(s)}^*)_j = \delta_{ij} - \hat{p}_i \hat{p}_j$$
$$i, j = 1, \dots, 4$$



QED Feynman rules

1 Notation

- Label incoming and outgoing four-momenta: p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n and the corresponding spins: s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n
- Assign arrows:
 - External lines: Electron, positron
 - Internal lines: Preserve direction of flow

2 External lines

□ Electron:

- Incoming: u
- Outgoing: \bar{u}

□ Positron:

- Incoming: \bar{v}
- Outgoing: v

□ Photon:

- Incoming: ϵ^μ
- Outgoing: $\epsilon^{\mu*}$



3 Vertex factor $ig_e \gamma^\mu$ $g_e = \sqrt{4\pi\alpha}$

$$\not{a} = a^\mu \gamma_\mu$$

4 Propagator

□ Electron/Positron $\frac{i(\gamma^\mu q_\mu + mc)}{q^2 - m^2c^2}$

□ Photon $-\frac{ig_{\mu\nu}}{q^2}$



■ 5 Conservation of energy and momenta

$$(2\pi)^4 \delta^4(k_1 + k_2 + k_3)$$

■ 6 Integrate over internal lines

$$\frac{d^4 q}{(2\pi)^4}$$

■ 7 Cancel the delta function

- The result will include a factor: $(2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_1 + p_2 + \dots - p_n)$

Corresponding to overall energy-momentum conservation. Cancel this factor and what remains is $-iM$!

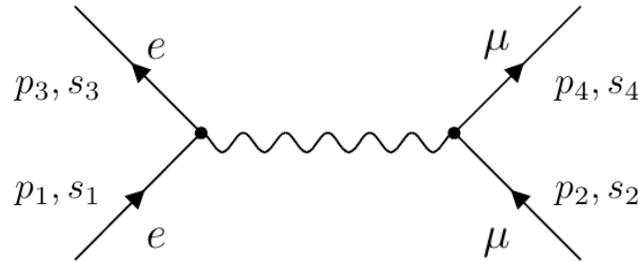
■ 8 Antisymmetrization

- Include a minus sign between diagrams that differ only in the interchange of two incoming (or outgoing) electrons (or positrons), or of an incoming electron with an outgoing positron (or vice versa).



■ A) Electron-muon scattering

□ Feynman graph



□ Application of Feynman rules:

$$(2\pi)^4 \int [\bar{u}^{(s_3)}(p_3)(ig_e\gamma^\mu)u^{(s_1)}(p_1)] \frac{-ig_{\mu\nu}}{q^2} [\bar{u}^{(s_4)}(p_4)(ig_e\gamma^\nu)u^{(s_2)}(p_2)] \\ \times \delta^4(p_1 - p_3 - q)\delta^4(p_2 + q - p_4)d^4q$$

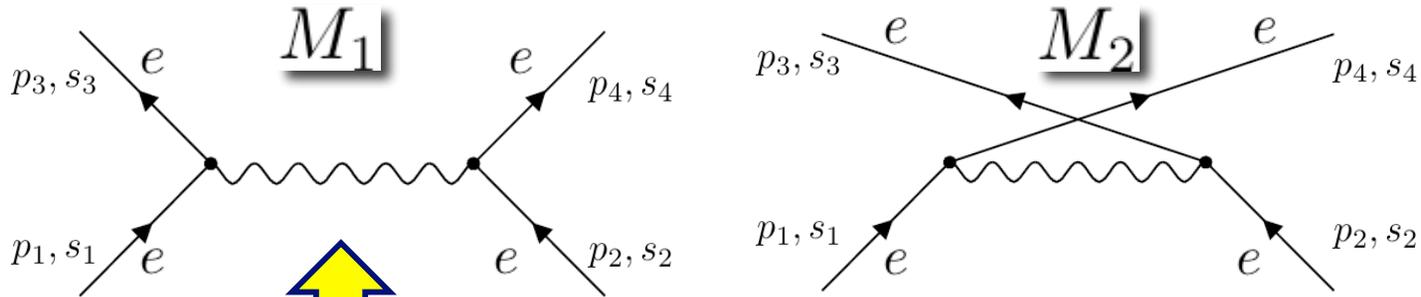
□ Integration over q yields:

$$\mathcal{M} = -\frac{g_e^2}{(p_1 - p_3)^2} [\bar{u}^{(s_3)}(p_3)\gamma^\mu u^{(s_1)}(p_1)][\bar{u}^{(s_4)}(p_4)\gamma_\mu u^{(s_2)}(p_2)]$$



QED example processes

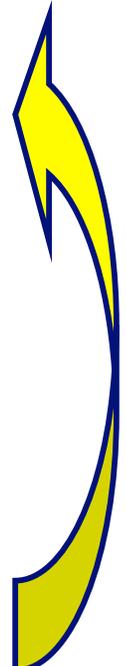
■ B) Electron-electron scattering (Moeller scattering)



$$\mathcal{M} = -\frac{g_e^2}{(p_1 - p_3)^2} [\bar{u}^{(s_3)}(p_3) \gamma^\mu u^{(s_1)}(p_1)] [\bar{u}^{(s_4)}(p_4) \gamma_\mu u^{(s_2)}(p_2)]$$

Interchange: $p_3, s_3 \leftrightarrow p_4, s_4$

$$+ \frac{g_e^2}{(p_1 - p_4)^2} [\bar{u}^{(s_4)}(p_4) \gamma^\mu u^{(s_1)}(p_1)] [\bar{u}^{(s_3)}(p_3) \gamma_\mu u^{(s_2)}(p_2)]$$





■ B) Electron-electron scattering (Moeller scattering)

- Cross-section calculation

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\alpha^2(2E^2 - m^2)^2}{4E^2(E^2 - m^2)^2} \left[\frac{4}{\sin^4 \theta} - \frac{3}{\sin^2 \theta} + \frac{(E^2 - m^2)^2}{(2E^2 - m^2)^2} \left(1 + \frac{4}{\sin^2 \theta} \right) \right]$$

Scaling in: $s = 4E^2$

- Relativistic limit: $m/E \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\alpha^2}{4E^2} \left(\frac{1}{\sin^4 \theta/2} + \frac{1}{\cos^4 \theta/2} + 1 \right)$$

Rutherford term!

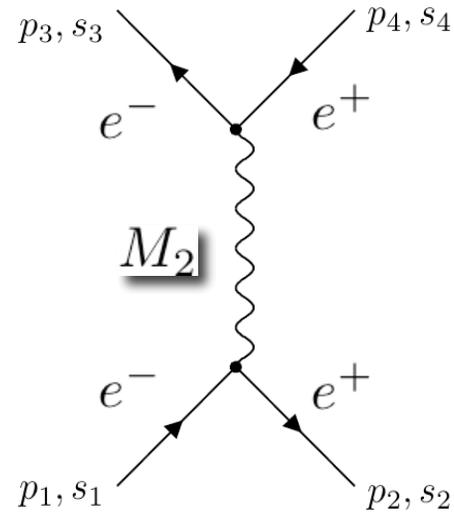
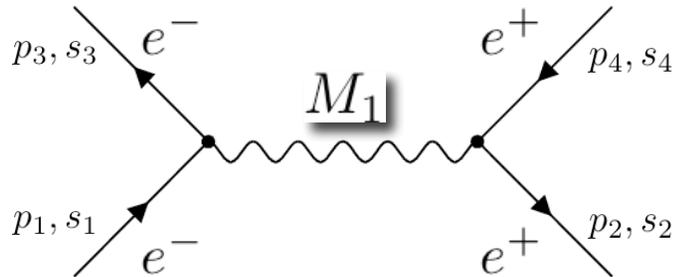
- Non-relativistic limit: $E^2 \simeq m^2$, $v^2 = (E^2 - m^2)/E^2$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left(\frac{\alpha}{m} \right)^2 \frac{1}{16v^4} \left(\frac{1}{\sin^4 \theta/2} + \frac{1}{\cos^4 \theta/2} - \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta/2 \cos^2 \theta/2} \right)$$

Rutherford term!



■ C) Electron-Positron scattering (Bhabha scattering)



$$\mathcal{M}_1 = -\frac{g_e^2}{(p_1 - p_3)^2} [\bar{u}^{(s_3)}(p_3) \gamma^\mu u^{(s_1)}(p_1)] [\bar{v}^{(s_2)}(p_2) \gamma_\mu v^{(s_4)}(p_4)]$$

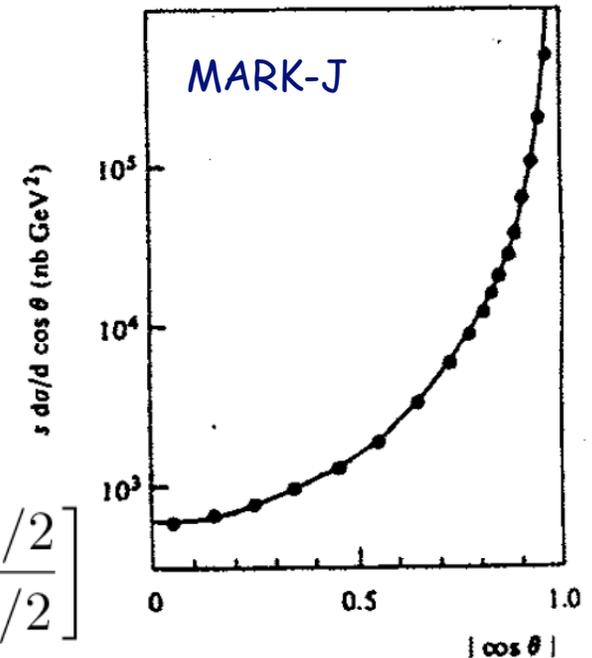
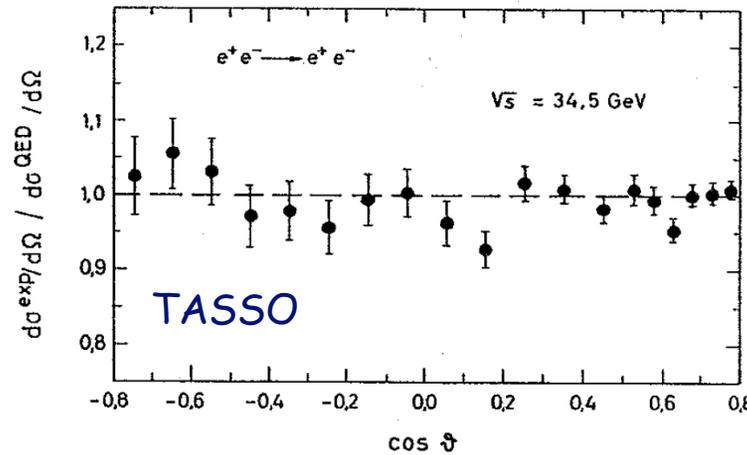
$$\mathcal{M}_2 = -\frac{g_e^2}{(p_1 + p_2)^2} [\bar{u}^{(s_3)}(p_3) \gamma^\mu v^{(s_4)}(p_4)] [\bar{v}^{(s_2)}(p_2) \gamma_\mu u^{(s_1)}(p_1)]$$



■ C) Electron-Positron scattering (Bhabha scattering)

- Comparison of Bhabha scattering results at PETRA (DESY) and QED calculations

Scaling in: $s = 4E^2$



- Relativistic limit:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\alpha^2}{8E^2} \left[\frac{1 + \cos^4 \theta/2}{\sin^4 \theta/2} + \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos^2 \theta) - 2 \frac{\cos^4 \theta/2}{\sin^2 \theta/2} \right]$$

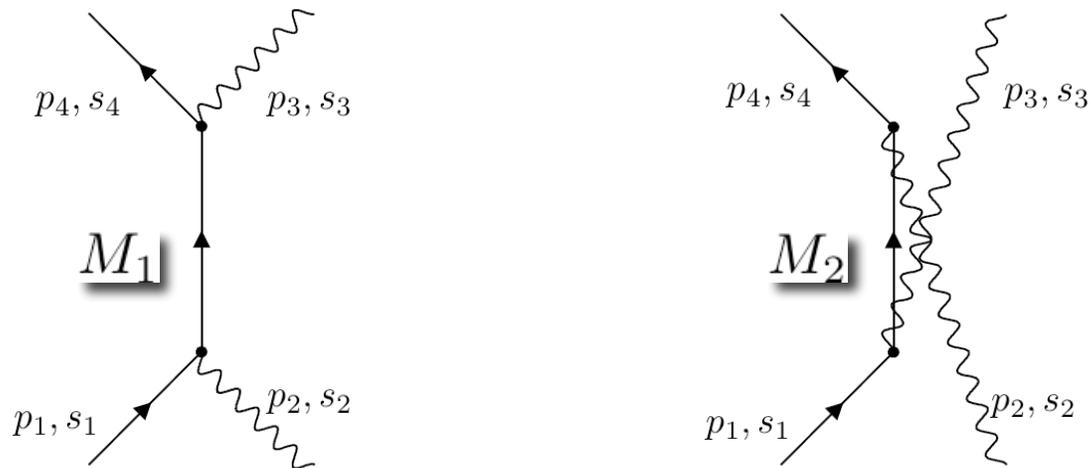
- Non-relativistic limit:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left(\frac{\alpha}{m} \right)^2 \frac{1}{16v^4 \sin^4 \theta/2}$$

Rutherford term!



■ D) Photon-electron scattering (Compton scattering)



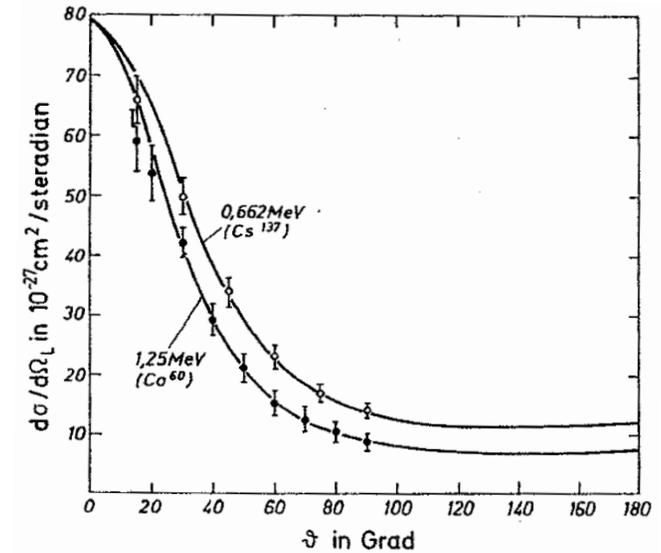
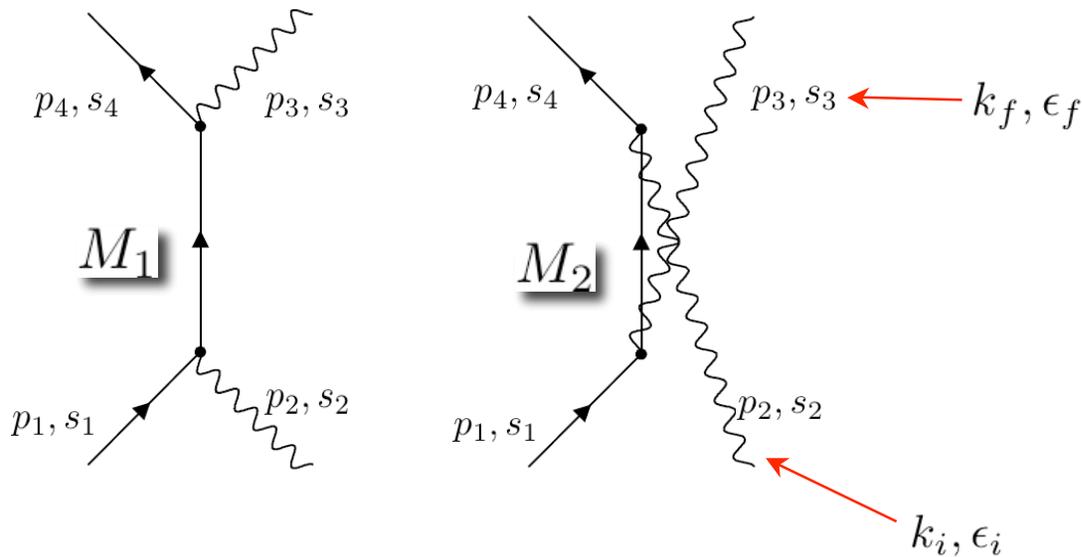
□ Amplitudes:

$$\mathcal{M}_1 = \frac{g_e^2}{(p_1 - p_3)^2 - m^2 c^2} [\bar{u}(4) \not{\epsilon}(2) (\not{p}_1 - \not{p}_3 + mc) \not{\epsilon}(3)^* u(1)]$$

$$\mathcal{M}_2 = \frac{g_e^2}{(p_1 + p_2)^2 - m^2 c^2} [\bar{u}(4) \not{\epsilon}(3)^* (\not{p}_1 + \not{p}_2 + mc) \not{\epsilon}(2)^* u(1)]$$



■ D) Photon-electron scattering (Compton scattering)



Hofstadter 1949 and
Bernstein 1956

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\alpha^2}{4m^2} \left(\frac{k_f}{k_i} \right)^2 \left[\frac{k_f}{k_i} + \frac{k_i}{k_f} + 4(\epsilon_f \cdot \epsilon_i)^2 - 2 \right]$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\alpha^2}{m^2} (\epsilon_f \cdot e_i)^2$$

$$k_f = \frac{k_i}{1 + (k_i/m)(1 - \cos \theta)}$$

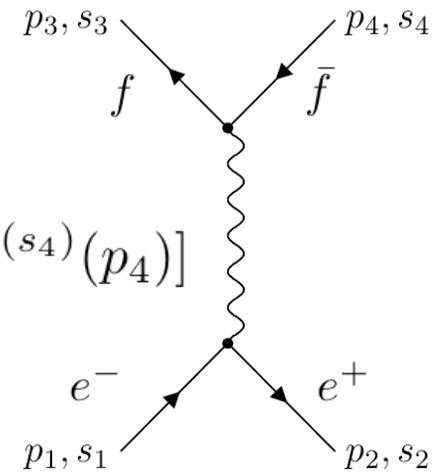


QED example processes

E) Electron-positron (Fermion-pair production)

Charge of fermion pair!

$$\mathcal{M} = \frac{Qg_e^2}{(p_1 + p_2)^2} [\bar{v}^{(s_2)}(p_2)\gamma^\mu u^{(s_1)}(p_1)] [\bar{u}^{(s_3)}(p_3)\gamma_\mu v^{(s_4)}(p_4)]$$

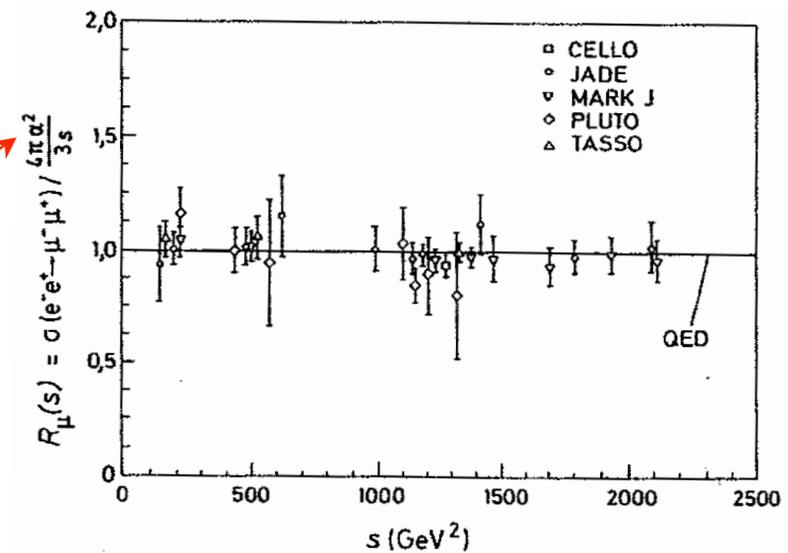


$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = N_c \frac{\alpha^2}{4s} \beta [1 + \cos^2 \theta + (1 - \beta^2) \sin^2 \theta] Q^2$$

Number of colors: : $N_c=3$

$$\sigma = N_c \frac{4\pi\alpha^2}{3s} Q^2 = N_c \frac{86.8Q^2 \text{ nb}}{s}$$

$$s = 4E^2 \quad Q = 1$$



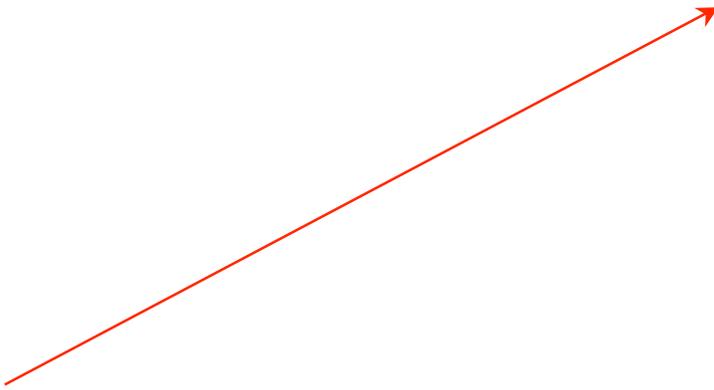


■ Casimir trick

- See Latex document
- Result:

$$\sum_{\text{all spins}} [\bar{u}(a)\Gamma_1 u(b)][\bar{u}(a)\Gamma_2 u(b)]^* = \text{Tr}[\Gamma_1(\not{p}_b + m_b c)\bar{\Gamma}_2(\not{p}_a + m_a c)]$$

No spinors on left side!





■ Trace theorems

□ General identities:

$$\text{Tr}(A + B) = \text{Tr}(A) + \text{Tr}(B)$$

$$\text{Tr}(\alpha A) = \alpha \text{Tr}(A)$$

$$\text{Tr}(AB) = \text{Tr}(BA)$$

$$\text{Tr}(ABC) = \text{Tr}(CAB) = \text{Tr}(BCA)$$

□ Important relations among gamma matrices:

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma_\mu \gamma^\nu \gamma^\mu &= \gamma_\mu (2g^{\mu\nu} - \gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu) \\ &= 2\gamma^\nu - \gamma_\mu \gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu \\ &= 2\gamma^\nu - 4\gamma^\nu \\ &= -2\gamma^\nu\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}g_{\mu\nu} g^{\mu\nu} &= 4 \\ \{\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu\} &= 2g^{\mu\nu}\end{aligned}$$

$$\gamma_\mu \gamma^\mu = 4$$

$$\gamma_\mu \gamma^\nu \gamma^\lambda \gamma^\mu = 4g^{\nu\lambda}$$



■ Trace theorems

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Tr}(\gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu) &= \text{Tr}(\gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu + \gamma^\nu \gamma^\mu) / 2 \\ &= \text{Tr}(2g^{\mu\nu}) / 2 \\ &= g^{\mu\nu} \text{Tr}(1) \\ &= 4g^{\mu\nu}\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Tr}(\gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu \gamma^\lambda \gamma^\sigma) = 4(g^{\mu\nu} g^{\lambda\sigma} - g^{\mu\lambda} g^{\nu\sigma} + g^{\mu\sigma} g^{\nu\lambda})$$

Note: The trace of the product of an odd number of gamma matrices is zero!



■ Trace theorems involving γ^5 matrix

$$\text{Tr}(\gamma^5) = 0$$

$$\gamma^5 = i\gamma^0\gamma^1\gamma^2\gamma^3$$

$$\text{Tr}(\gamma^5\gamma^\mu) = 0$$

$$\text{Tr}(\gamma^5\gamma^\mu\gamma^\nu\gamma^\lambda) = 0$$

Note: The trace of the product of an odd number of gamma matrices multiplied by a γ^5 matrix is zero!

$$\text{Tr}(\gamma^5\gamma^\mu\gamma^\nu) = 0$$

$$\text{Tr}(\gamma^5\gamma^\mu\gamma^\nu\gamma^\lambda\gamma^\sigma) = 4i\epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}$$



■ Contraction of ϵ tensor

$$\epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} = -24$$

$$\epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda\tau} = -6 \delta_{\tau}^{\sigma}$$

$$\epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\theta\tau} = -2 (\delta_{\theta}^{\lambda} \delta_{\tau}^{\sigma} - \delta_{\tau}^{\lambda} \delta_{\theta}^{\sigma})$$

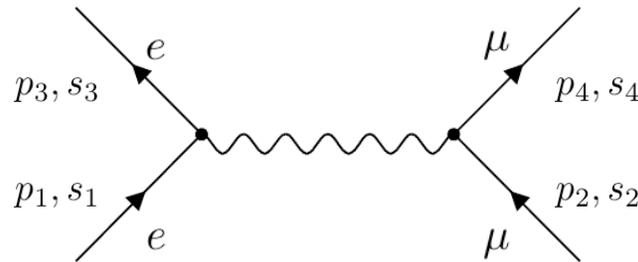
$$\vdots$$

$$\text{Tr}(\gamma^5 \gamma^{\mu} \gamma^{\nu} \gamma^{\lambda} \gamma^{\sigma}) = 4i \epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma}$$

$$\epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \equiv \begin{cases} -1 & \text{for even permutations of 0123} \\ +1 & \text{for odd permutations of 0123} \\ 0 & \text{if any 2 indices are the same} \end{cases}$$



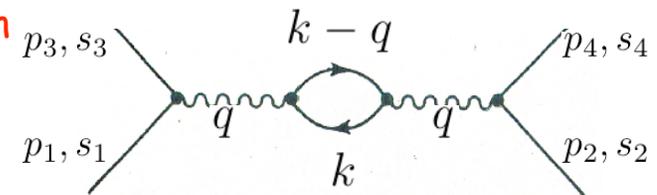
■ Introduction



Leading order:

$$\mathcal{M} = -\frac{g_e^2}{(p_1 - p_3)^2} [\bar{u}^{(s_3)}(p_3) \gamma^\mu u^{(s_1)}(p_1)] [\bar{u}^{(s_4)}(p_4) \gamma_\mu u^{(s_2)}(p_2)]$$

Same process involving loop diagram: Vacuum polarization



4 internal lines!

$$\mathcal{M} = \frac{-g_e^4}{q^4} [\bar{u}(p_3) \gamma^\mu u(p_1)] \left\{ \int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{\text{Tr}[\gamma_\mu (\not{k} + mc) \gamma_\nu (\not{q} - \not{k} + mc)]}{(k^2 - m^2 c^2)((q - k)^2 - m^2 c^2)} \right\} [\bar{u}(p_4) \gamma^\nu u(p_2)]$$

Divergent integral!



■ Dealing with divergent terms (1)

- The solution to this problem contributed enormously to the development of QED (Dirac, Pauli, Kramers, Weisskopf, Bethe besides Tomonaga, Schwinger and Feynman)
- The procedure to deal with divergent loop terms is call renormalization!
- General concept: Redefinition of masses and coupling constants

$$m_{physical} = m_{bare} + \delta m$$

$$g_{physical} = g_{bare} + \delta g$$

Contains divergent terms!

What we measure!

Special case: Lowest order

$$g_{physical} = g_{bare}$$



■ Dealing with divergent terms (2)

□ Technical idea:

$$\int_{m^2}^{\infty} \frac{dx}{x} \rightarrow \int_{m^2}^{M^2} \frac{dx}{x} = \ln \frac{M^2}{m^2}$$

□ With this procedure \mathcal{M} becomes:

$$\mathcal{M} = -g_e^2 [\bar{u}(p_3) \gamma^\mu u(p_1)] \frac{g_{\mu\nu}}{q^2} \left\{ 1 - \frac{g_e^2}{12\pi^2} \left[\ln \left(\frac{M^2}{m^2} \right) - f \left(\frac{-q^2}{m^2 c^2} \right) \right] \right\} \\ \times [\bar{u}(p_4) \gamma^\nu u(p_s)]$$

□ Introduce renormalized coupling constant:

$$g_R = g_e \sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{g_e^2}{12\pi^2} \ln \left(\frac{M^2}{m^2} \right) \right)}$$



■ Dealing with divergent terms (3)

- In terms of g_R we find then for \mathcal{M} :

$$\mathcal{M} = -g_R^2 [\bar{u}(p_3)\gamma^\mu u(p_1)] \frac{g_{\mu\nu}}{q^2} \left\{ 1 + \frac{g_R^2}{12\pi^2} f\left(\frac{-q^2}{m^2 c^2}\right) \right\} [\bar{u}(p_4)\gamma^\mu u(p_2)]$$

- Two terms:

- Infinite term: absorbed in g_R
- Finite term: depends on q^2 (f-term)

- Express end result in terms of α :

$$g_e = \sqrt{4\pi\alpha}$$

$$\alpha(q^2) = \alpha(0) \left\{ 1 + \frac{\alpha(0)}{3\pi} f\left(\frac{-q^2}{m^2 c^2}\right) \right\}$$

Consequence of loop diagram: q^2 dependence
Effect in QED is small!

Note: If all infinities arising from higher-order diagrams can be accommodated through renormalized quantities, a theory is said to be renormalizable!

All gauge theories are renormalizable: t'Hooft/Feldman