

# Solutions to PHYS3002

A1. (bookwork) Write down 4-momenta of  $e^+$  and  $e^-$

$$P_{e^+} = (m_e c, \vec{0}) \quad [1]$$

$$P_{e^-} = (E/c, \vec{P})$$

using  $E = \sqrt{\vec{P}^2 c^2 + m_e^2 c^4}$  [1]

we find

$$(P_{e^+} + P_{e^-})^2 = (E/c + m_e c)^2 - |\vec{P}|^2$$

$$= \frac{E^2}{c^2} + 2E \cdot m_e c + m_e^2 c^2 - \frac{E^2}{c^2} + m_e^2 c^2 \quad [1]$$

$$= 2E \cdot m_e c + 2m_e^2 c^2 = 2m_e (E + m_e c^2)$$

Putting numbers in we get

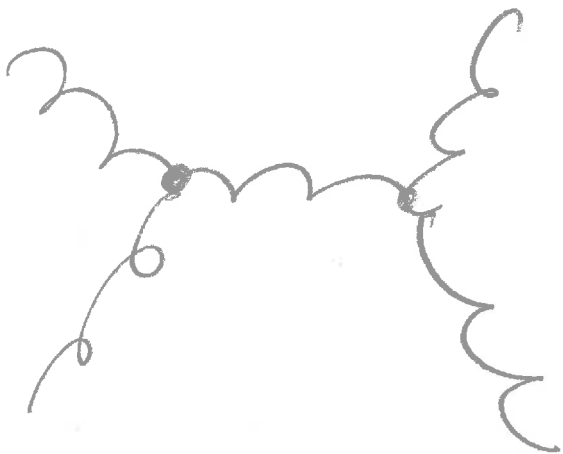
$$m_{e^+ e^-} = \frac{\sqrt{(P_{e^+} + P_{e^-})^2}}{c} = \sqrt{2 \cdot 0.5 (3.5 + 0.5)} \\ = \underline{2 \text{ MeV}/c^2} \quad [1]$$

A2.

(new, based on problem sheets)

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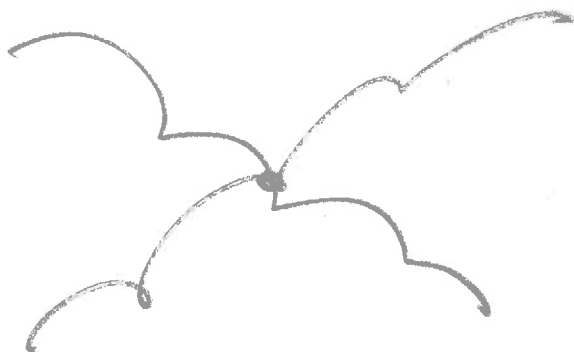
Diagrams for  $gg \rightarrow gg$



[1]



[1]



[1]

A3. (bookwork)

The ratios  $R_A, R_B$  are related to  $\chi_A$  and  $\chi_B$  as

$$R_A = e^{-\frac{T}{\chi_A}}$$

$$R_B = e^{-\frac{T}{\chi_B}} \quad [1]$$

so one has

$$\chi_{A,B} = -\frac{T}{\log R_{A,B}} \quad [1]$$

and therefore

$$\frac{\chi_A}{\chi_B} = \frac{\log R_B}{\log R_A} \quad [1]$$

A 4.

(new, based on problem sheets)

4

the cross section for

$$pp \rightarrow H \rightarrow z z^* \rightarrow e^+ e^- e^+ e^-$$

process is given by

$$\sigma(pp \rightarrow e^+ e^- e^+ e^-) = \sigma(pp \rightarrow H \rightarrow z z^*) \times \text{Br}(z \rightarrow e^+ e^-)^2 \quad [1]$$

$$= \sigma(pp \rightarrow H) \times \text{Br}(H \rightarrow z z^*) \times \text{Br}(z \rightarrow e^+ e^-)^2 \quad [1]$$

$$= 30 \times (0.03)^2 = 8.1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ pb}$$

$$= 0.81 \text{ fb} \quad [1]$$

Number of events, luminosity and cross section are related by this formula -

$$N = L \times \sigma \quad [1]$$

while accuracy is given by  $\epsilon = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$

$$\Rightarrow N = \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} = L \times \sigma \quad [1]$$

Putting numbers we get

$$L = \frac{1}{\epsilon^2 \cdot \sigma} = \frac{1}{(0.2)^2 \cdot 0.81} = 30.9 \text{ fb}^{-1} \quad [1]$$

5  
A 5. (bookwork)

The  $1p$  shell is split  
into  $j = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $j = \frac{3}{2}$  [1]  
because of spin-orbital interaction

The level  $j = \frac{3}{2}$  is below the  $j = \frac{1}{2}$  one  
because the spin-orbital interaction  
has a "negative" contribution to the  
nuclear potential, contrary to  
the case in Atomic physics [1]

A6. (bookwork) The binding energy is the difference between the sum of the masses of free particles and the mass of the atom they form: [1]

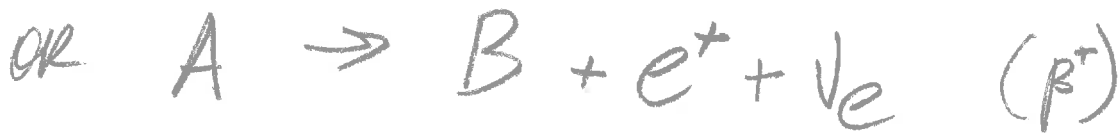
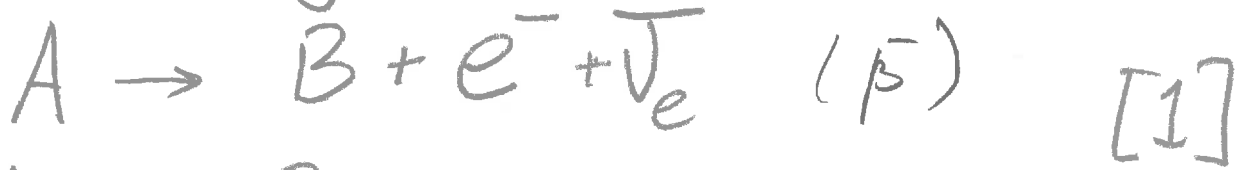
$$BE = \left( (Z \cdot m_p + (A-Z)m_n + Z \cdot m_e) - M_x \right) c^2$$

[1]

B1.

(new, bookwork)

a)  $\beta$ -decay of nucleus A to nucleus B  
is given by



Weak interactions are responsible [1]

for  $\beta$ -decay

Quantum numbers of  $e^{+}, e^{-}$ : -charge [1]

$$s_{spin} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Quantum numbers of  $\bar{\nu}_e, \nu_e$ : zero charge

$$s_{spin} = \frac{1}{2} \quad [1]$$

B1 b)

To find the most stable isobar with respect to  $\beta$ -decay [1]  
we need to minimize an atomic mass,

$$M_A = (Z m_p + (A-Z) m_n + Z m_e) - BE/c^2 \quad [1]$$

minimization  $M_A$  with respect to  $Z$

gives

$$\frac{\partial M_A}{\partial Z} = 0 \Rightarrow (m_p - m_n + m_e) c^2 + \frac{a_c \cdot 2Z}{A^{1/3}} \quad [1]$$

$$- \frac{2a_c}{A} \cdot 2(A-2Z) = 0$$

(The last term of the semi-empirical formula vanishes for odd  $A$ ) [1]

$$\Rightarrow Z = \frac{4a_c - (m_p - m_n + m_e) c^2}{8a_c + 2a_c A^{2/3}} \quad [1]$$

Substituting numbers

$$\Rightarrow Z \approx 31 \quad [1]$$



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B1  
 c) Since  $A$  is the same for daughter and parent and since  $A$  is odd we need to compare [1]  
 Coulomb and asymmetry terms

The maximum energy of the electron [1]  
 is equal to a difference of binding energies of daughter and parent nuclei:

$$E_1 = B_{ED} - B_P = -\frac{a_c}{A^{1/3}}(Z_P^2 - Z_D^2) + \frac{a_A}{A}(Z_P - N_P)^2 - (Z_D - N_D)^2 \quad [1]$$

plus an energy released in conversion of neutron into proton

$$E_2 = (m_n - m_p - m_e)c^2 \quad [1]$$

Putting numbers, one gets

$$E_1 = \frac{0.697}{69^{1/3}}(27^2 - 28^2) + \frac{23.285}{69}(15^2 - 13^2) \quad [1]$$

$$\approx 9.6 \text{ MeV}$$

$$E_2 = 939.57 - 938.27 - 0.511 = 0.79 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\text{so } E = E_1 + E_2 \approx 10.4 \text{ MeV} \quad [1]$$

B1 d)

If the electron were the only particle emitted in  $\beta$ -decay, then the electron would always have kinetic energy = Q value ( $c^2 \times$  the mass difference of the parent and daughter nuclei). [1]

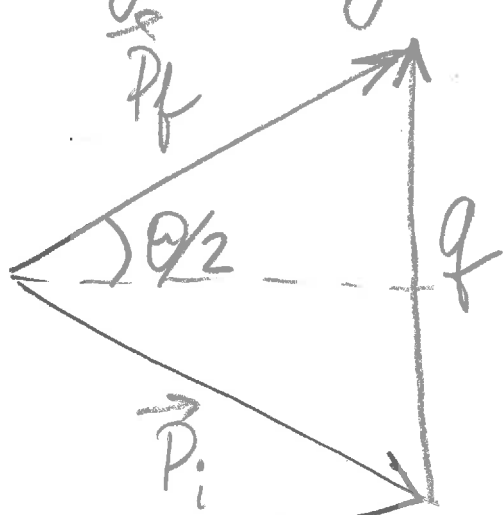
What is observed is a spectrum of electron energies from zero up to a maximum equal to the Q value. [1]

Therefore it follows that there must be another particle involved in the  $\beta$ -decay which carries the remaining energy. This particle is the neutrino. [1]

In  $\beta$ -decay neutron is converted into proton emitting an electron and anti-neutrino. Since neutron and proton all have spin  $\frac{1}{2}$  it is only possible to conserve angular momentum if neutrino also has spin  $\frac{1}{2}$ . [1]

B2

(a) Connection between scattering angle  $\theta$ , and the magnitude  $q$  of the momentum transferred is given by this picture [1]



where  $\vec{p}_i$  and  $\vec{p}_f$  are initial and final momenta respectively.

For relativistic electron with energy  $E$ ,  $E/c$  is its momentum, so for  $q$  [1]

we can write a relation

$$q = 2 \frac{E}{c} \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)$$

[1]

using Figure above

(b) The assumption that nucleus can be treated as a point-like charge will break down if the incident electron has sufficient energy to probe the nucleus to within the nucleus radius [1]

(c) At such electron energies the de Broglie wave length of the electron is of the order or smaller than the size of the nucleus, so the wave-like properties of the electron must be taken into consideration with the nucleus acting as a diffractive object. [1]

d) The differential cross section for such diffractive scattering is given by

$$\frac{d\sigma'}{d\Omega} = \frac{d\sigma'}{d\Omega_{\text{Mott}}} F^2(q) \quad [1]$$

where  $F(q)$  is the form-factor, which accounts for the diffraction. The FORM FACTOR is the Fourier transform of the charge distribution of the nucleus in space. [1] [15]

Therefore, measurement of the differential scattering cross section and comparing it with the Mott formula can be used to deduce the charge distribution within the nucleus. [1]

e) For  $q = 43.6$  MeV and  $E = 1$  GeV the scattering angle is

$$\theta = 2 \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{qc}{ZE} \right) = 2 \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{43.6}{2000} \right) \approx 2.5^\circ [2]$$

the Mott Formula gives

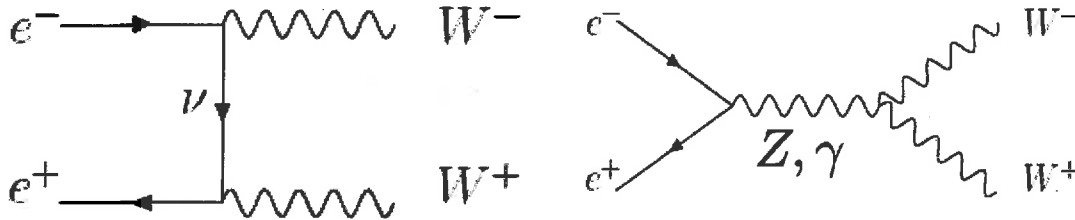
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}_{\text{MOTT}} &= \frac{Z^2 \alpha^2 \hbar^2 c^2}{16E^2 \sin^4(\theta/2)} (1 - \sin^2(\theta/2)) = \\ &= \left( \frac{20}{137} \right)^2 \frac{1}{16 \times (10^3)^2 \sin^4(1.25^\circ)} (1 - \sin^2(1.25^\circ)) [2] \\ &= 228 \text{ fm}^2 = 2280 \text{ mb} [2] \end{aligned}$$

For  $\theta = 2.5^\circ$  one reads cross section = 1000 mb [1]

$$\Rightarrow F(q) = \sqrt{\frac{1000}{2280}} = \underline{0.66} [2]$$

**C1 Solution** (Bookwork + Seen similar on the problem sheets, c) is a new problem)

a) Draw the Feynman Diagrams for  $e^+e^- \rightarrow W^+W^-$  annihilation.



[2]

b) Find the minimal energy of the  $e^+$  ( $E$ ) which would be colliding with  $e^-$  with the energy **quarter as low** as that ( $E/4$ ) and producing  $W^+W^-$  pair ( $M_W = 80\text{GeV}/c^2$ ). For simplicity, you may neglect the mass of the electron as compared to its energy.

The 4-momentum of the electron is  $P_{e^-} = (E/c, \vec{P})$  (with  $|\vec{P}| = E/c$  once we neglect  $m_e$ ), and the 4-momentum of the incoming positron is  $P_{e^+} = (E/(4c), -\vec{P}/4)$ .

[2]

The invariant mass squared of the  $e^+e^-$  pair is the  $(P_{e^-} + P_{e^+})^2 = (2M_W)^2 c^2 = 4M_W^2 c^2$  for minimal requested  $E$ .

[2]

Evaluating  $(P_{e^-} + P_{e^+})^2$  we find

$$(P_{e^-} + P_{e^+})^2 = \frac{25}{16}E^2/c^2 - \frac{9}{16}E^2/c^2 = E^2/c^2$$

[2]

Therefore  $E = 2M_W c^2 = 160 \text{ GeV}$

[2]

c) Write down electric charges of all fundamental fermions.

fermions	$e^-, \mu^-, \tau^-$	$\nu_e, \nu_\mu, \nu_\tau$	$u, c, t$	$d, s, b$
charge	-1	0	+2/3	-1/3

[1]

[1]

[1]

[1]

d) Calculate

$$R = \frac{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons})}{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)}$$

for center-of-mass energy just below the threshold of "charm" production and for center-of-mass energy just below the threshold of b-quark production. Explain your results. The weak diagram can be ignored.

e) Explain how the experimentally measured value of  $R$  can be used as evidence for the existence of quark colours.

In case of hadrons one needs to calculate a cross section for quarks in the final state, i.e. cross section for  $e^+e^- \rightarrow q\bar{q}$  process and therefore take into account a colour factor for quarks which is equal to 3 as well as EM charges  $Q_i$  of quarks which come squared into formula for the cross section.

[ 2 ]

Therefore, summing over all quarks produced, we have

$$R = \frac{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons})}{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)} = \sum_i \frac{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow q_i\bar{q}_i \rightarrow \text{hadrons})}{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)} = 3 \sum_i Q_i^2$$

[ 1 ]

Just below "charm" threshold  $u$ ,  $d$  and  $s$  quarks can be produced, so

$$R = 3 \sum_i Q_i^2 = 3 \times \left( \frac{4}{9} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{9} \right) = 2.$$

[ 1 ]

Just below b-quark threshold  $u$ ,  $d$ ,  $s$  and  $c$  quarks can be produced, so

$$R = 3 \sum_i Q_i^2 = 3 \times \left( \frac{4}{9} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{4}{9} \right) = \frac{10}{3}.$$

[ 1 ]

The number of quark colours  $N_c$  can be directly measured from the  $R$  value which is proportional to  $N_c$  given that the  $Q_i$  charges of quarks are known (measured) from different experiments.

[ 1 ]

**C2 Solution**(Seen in the problem sheets and in the notes)

**C2:** *K*-mesons and  $\pi$ -mesons have negative parity and zero intrinsic spin.  $\rho$  mesons have negative parity and intrinsic spin one.

(a) Explain why the observation of the weak-interaction decay modes

$$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^0$$

is evidence that weak interactions violate parity, whereas the decay

$$\rho^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^0$$

can proceed via the strong interactions.

Since  $K^+$  has zero spin the final state pions must be in an orbital angular momentum  $l = 0$  state which means that the parity of the final two-pion state is positive, whereas the initial  $K^+$  state has negative parity. Therefore parity is violated in this decay. [1]

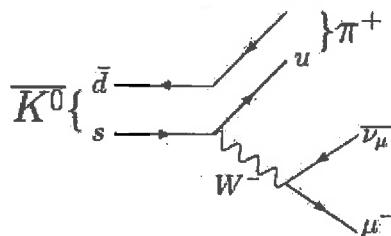
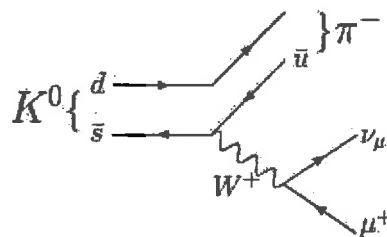
On the other hand for the decay of the spin-1  $\rho$ -meson the final state pions must have orbital angular momentum  $l = 1$  and therefore the two-pion state has parity  $(-1)^l = -1$ , which is the same as that of the initial state so the decay can proceed through parity conserving strong interactions. [2]

(B) Draw the relevant Feynman graphs show that a semi-leptonic decay mode of the  $K^0$  (quark content  $\bar{s}d$ ):

$$K^0 \rightarrow \pi^- + \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$$

and a semi-leptonic decay mode of the  $\bar{K}^0$ :

$$\bar{K}^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ + \mu^- + \bar{\nu}_\mu$$





(c) What is meant by CP?

The combined operations of parity reversal and charge conjugation which interchanges particles and their antiparticles [2]

(d) From the fact that the weak interactions are (to a very good approximation) CP invariant, explain why  $K^0$  and  $\bar{K}^0$  are not mass eigenstates, whereas the superposition states

$$K_L = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(K^0 + \bar{K}^0)$$

$$K_S = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(K^0 - \bar{K}^0)$$

are mass eigenstates.

$$CP|K^0\rangle = -|\bar{K}^0\rangle$$

$$CP|\bar{K}^0\rangle = -|K^0\rangle \quad [2]$$

(e) There  $K^0$  and  $\bar{K}^0$  are not eigenstates of CP and hence not eigenstates of the Hamiltonian, which means that they are not energy and hence mass eigenstates.

On the other hand

$$CP|K_L\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(CP|K^0\rangle + CP|\bar{K}^0\rangle) = -(|K^0\rangle + |\bar{K}^0\rangle) = -|K_L\rangle$$

and

$$CP|K_S\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(CP|K^0\rangle - CP|\bar{K}^0\rangle) = +(|K^0\rangle - |\bar{K}^0\rangle) = +|K_S\rangle$$

so that  $K_L$  and  $K_S$  are eigenstates of CP with eigenvalues -1 and +1 respectively. [2]

(f) Explain why  $K_S$  can decay into two pions whereas  $K_L$  can only decay into three pions.

A neutral two-pion state is an eigenstate of CP with eigenvalue +1, so by CP conservation the state  $K_S$  can decay into two pions, whereas a neutral three-pion state is an eigenstate of CP with eigenvalue -1, so by CP conservation the state  $K_L$  can decay into three pions. [2]

(g) The mean lifetime of  $K_S$ ,  $\tau_S$  is much shorter than the mean lifetime of  $K_L$ . A  $K^0$  is produced at time  $t = 0$  and after a time  $t$ , which is much larger than  $\tau_S$ , it decays semi-leptonically. Explain why in such a case the decay product  $\pi^+$ ,  $\mu^-$ ,  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  is just as likely as  $\pi^-$ ,  $\mu^+$ ,  $\nu_\mu$ . The initial state is a  $K^0$  which is a superposition of the states  $K_L$  and  $K_S$

$$|K^0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|K_L\rangle + |K_S\rangle) \quad [2]$$

After a time much larger than  $\tau_S$ , the  $K_S$  will have decayed away and we are left with pure  $K_L$  which can be written

$$|K_L\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|K^0\rangle + |\bar{K}^0\rangle), \quad [2]$$

so that there is a 0.5 probability that the state is a  $K^0$  decaying semi-leptonically into  $\mu^+$   $\pi^-$   $\nu_\mu$  and 0.5 probability that the state is a  $\bar{K}^0$  decaying semi-leptonically into  $\mu^-$   $\pi^+$   $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ . [1]