

# Maximal entanglement in high-energy physics

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# Outlook

Quantum information paradigm

Maximal Entanglement in QED

Unconstrained QED

Maximal Entanglement in weak  
interactions

Conclusions



# The quantum information paradigm



$$H|\psi\rangle = E|\psi\rangle$$

Traditional emphasis on operators

- Criticality
- RG flows on coupling constants
- Conformal Symmetry
- ...

Quantum information emphasis on states

- Scaling of entropy
- RG flows on states
- Distribution of entanglement: MERA
- ...

# Example: quantum phase transitions

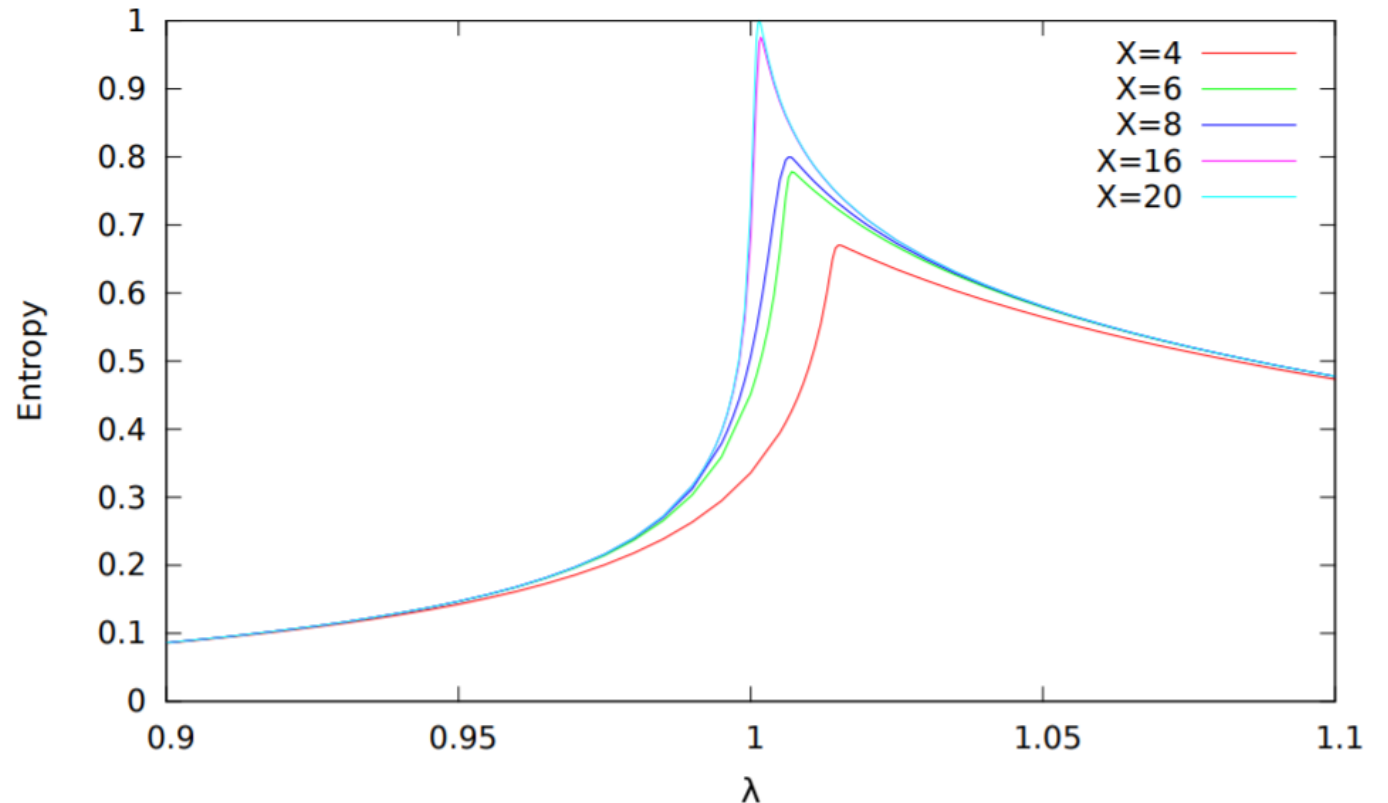


$$H_{QI} = \sum_i \sigma_i^x \sigma_{i+1}^x + \lambda \sigma_i^z$$

Entropy is maximal at a QPT

$$\lambda \rightarrow 1$$

- ⇒ Maximal entropy
- ⇒ Maximal entanglement
- ⇒ Conformal symmetry

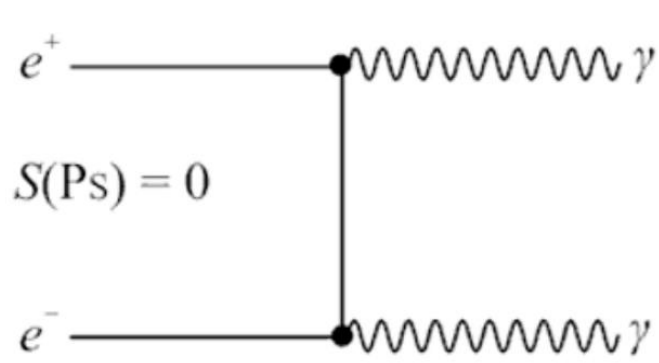


A. Osterloh, Luigi Amico, G. Falci & Rosario Fazio  
Nature **416**, 608 (2002)

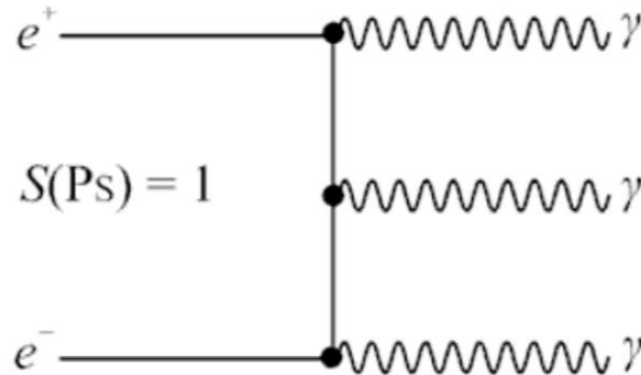
L. Tagliacozzo, Thiago R. de Oliveira, S. Iblisdir, J. I. Latorre  
Phys. Rev. B **78**, 024410 (2008)



# Ortopositronium decay



$$|\psi_p\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|++\rangle - |--\rangle)$$



$$|\psi_0(\hat{k}_1, \hat{k}_2, \hat{k}_3)\rangle = (1 - \hat{k}_1 \cdot \hat{k}_2)(|++-\rangle + |--+\rangle) \\ + (1 - \hat{k}_1 \cdot \hat{k}_3)(|+-+\rangle + |-+-\rangle) \\ + (1 - \hat{k}_2 \cdot \hat{k}_3)(|-++\rangle + |+--\rangle)$$

$$|\psi_1(\hat{k}_1, \hat{k}_2, \hat{k}_3)\rangle = (1 - \hat{k}_1 \cdot \hat{k}_2)(|++-\rangle - |--+\rangle) \\ + (1 - \hat{k}_1 \cdot \hat{k}_3)(|+-+\rangle - |-+-\rangle) \\ + (1 - \hat{k}_2 \cdot \hat{k}_3)(|-++\rangle - |+--\rangle)$$

$$S_z = \pm 1$$

We can study the multipartite entanglement properties of these systems (e.g. tests of local realism)

# Quantifying entanglement



## Focus

Two-particle scattering processes at tree level  
Entanglement of helicity degrees of freedom

$$|\psi\rangle_{final} = \alpha|00\rangle + \beta|01\rangle + \gamma|10\rangle + \delta|11\rangle$$

assuming  $|0\rangle, |1\rangle$  helicity or polarization states.

$$|\alpha|^2 + |\beta|^2 + |\gamma|^2 + |\delta|^2 = 1$$

Figure of merit to quantify entanglement: **concurrence**

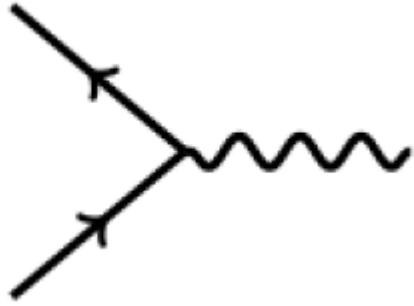
$$\Delta = |\alpha\delta - \beta\gamma|,$$

by construction,  $0 \leq \Delta \leq 1$ .

## Question

Can a product state become entangled?

# Entanglement generation: the s channel



$$j_{ss'}^\mu = e \bar{v}^{s'}(p') \gamma^\mu u^s(p)$$

Process:  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$  at high energy

Incoming:

$$j_{RL}^\mu = 2ep_0 (0, 1, i, 0)$$

$$j_{LR}^\mu = 2ep_0 (0, 1, -i, 0)$$

Outgoing:

$$j_{RL}^\mu = 2ep_0 (0, \cos \theta, i, -\sin \theta)$$

$$j_{LR}^\mu = 2ep_0 (0, \cos \theta, -i, \sin \theta)$$

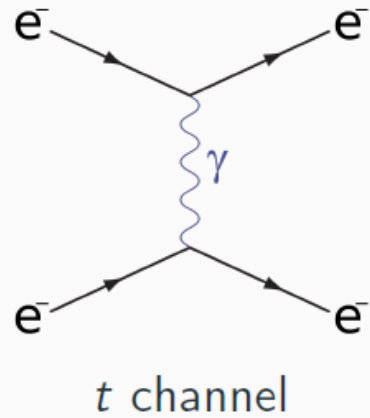
$$|RL\rangle \rightarrow (1 + \cos \theta)|RL\rangle + (-1 + \cos \theta)|LR\rangle$$

$$\theta = \pi/2 \rightarrow \Delta = 1$$

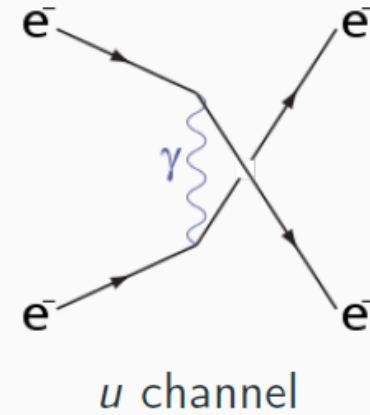
# Entanglement generation: indistinguishability



Process:  $e^- e^- \rightarrow e^- e^-$  at high energy



$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{M}(|RL\rangle \rightarrow |RL\rangle) &= -2e^2 \frac{u}{t} \\ \mathcal{M}(|RL\rangle \rightarrow |LR\rangle) &= 0\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{M}(|RL\rangle \rightarrow |RL\rangle) &= 0 \\ \mathcal{M}(|RL\rangle \rightarrow |LR\rangle) &= -2e^2 \frac{t}{u}\end{aligned}$$

$$|RL\rangle \rightarrow \frac{u}{t}|RL\rangle - \frac{t}{u}|LR\rangle$$

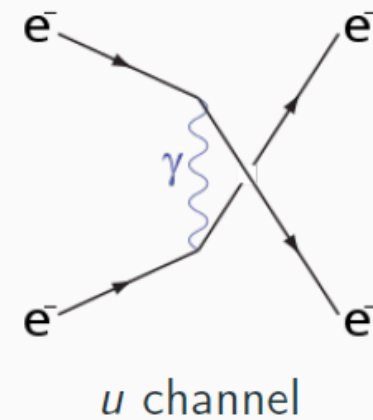
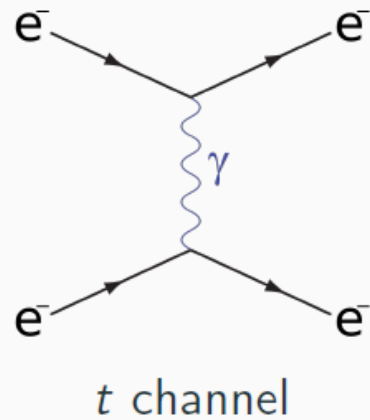
$$t = u \ (\theta = \pi/2) \rightarrow \Delta = 1$$



# Entanglement generation: indistinguishability



Process:  $e^- e^- \rightarrow e^- e^-$  at any energy



$$\Delta_{|RL\rangle} = \frac{2tu \left( tu + m^2 \frac{(t-u)^2}{t+u} \right)}{2m^2(t-u)^2 \left( 2m^2 - 2(t+u) + \frac{tu}{t+u} \right) + (t^4 + u^4)} \xrightarrow{t=u} 1$$

$$\Delta_{|RR\rangle} \xrightarrow{E \ll m, t=u} 1 + \mathcal{O}(p^2/m^2)$$



QED interaction can generate maximal entanglement in almost all processes and at different energy regimes.

Is this a property of nature interactions?



# *It from bit*



Could a symmetry emerge from a  
Maximum Entanglement Principle  
?

*It from bit* philosophy by J. A. Wheeler

*"All things physical are information-theoretic in origin"*

J. A. Wheeler, Proceedings III International Symposium on Foundations of Quantum Mechanics, Tokyo, 345-368 (1989)

ACL, J. I. Latorre, J. Rojo and L. Rottoli, SciPost Phys. 3, 036 (2017).



# Maximal Entanglement conjecture



“Nature is such that maximally entangled states exist”

Max Entanglement → Max Entropy → Max Surprise → NO Local Realism

MaxEnt Principle → Nature cannot be described by classical physics

Bell Inequalities will be violated

# Test: QED coupling

QED lagrangian at three-level (high-energy limit,  $m = 0$ )

	free fermions		free photons		interaction term
$\mathcal{L} =$	$i\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu\psi$	+	$\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}$	+	$-eA_\mu\bar{\psi}G^\mu\psi$
	Dirac eq.		Maxwell eq.		

$G^\mu$ :  $4 \times 4$  arbitrary matrices

Gauge invariance imposes  $G^\mu = \gamma^\mu$

What are the couplings  $G^\mu$  that generate maximal entanglement?

# Unconstrained QED



In general  $G^\mu$  may not be Lorentz invariant. Expand in a basis of 16 matrices:

$$G^\mu = a^\mu \mathbb{I} + a^{\mu\nu} \gamma_\nu + i a^{\mu 5} \gamma^5 + a^{\mu\nu 5} \gamma^5 \gamma_\nu + a^{\mu\nu\rho} [\gamma_\nu, \gamma_\rho]$$

Assuming conservation of P, T and C symmetries:

$$G^\mu = a^{\mu\nu} \gamma_\nu \quad a_{\mu\nu} \in \mathbb{R} \quad a_{0i} = a_{i0} = 0$$

Computation of amplitudes of all tree-level processes:

$$\mathcal{M}_{|initial\rangle \rightarrow |final\rangle} = f(\theta, a_{\mu\nu})$$

# Unconstrained QED



Constrain  $G^\mu$  imposing MaxEnt in **ALL** tree level processes

$$\max_{a^{\mu\nu}} \{ \Delta_{Bhabha}, \Delta_{Compton}, \Delta_{pair \text{ annihilation}}, \Delta_{Moller}, \dots \}$$

Each process will deliver different kind of MaxEnt at different angles

→ Choose optimal settings

(Logic: Bell Ineq. seek to discard classical physics using optimal settings)

# Unconstrained Mott scattering

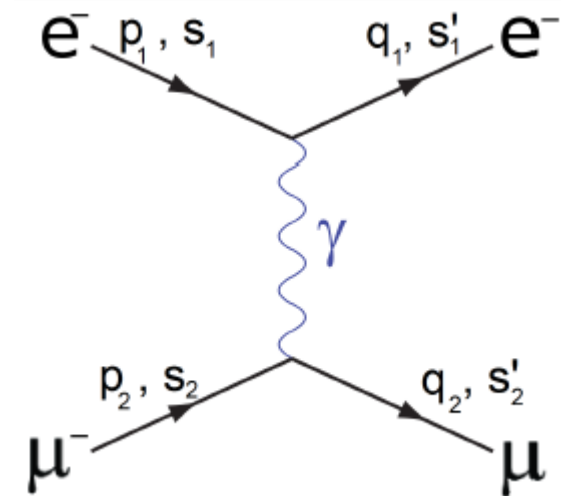
$$e^- \mu^- \rightarrow e^- \mu^-$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{|RL\rangle \rightarrow |RR\rangle} = 0$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{|RL\rangle \rightarrow |RL\rangle} = f(a)$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{|RL\rangle \rightarrow |LR\rangle} = 0$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{|RL\rangle \rightarrow |LL\rangle} = 0$$



No entanglement can be generated!  
No constraints emerge from this process





# Unconstrained $e^-e^+$ annihilation to muons

$$e^-e^+ \rightarrow \mu^-\mu^+$$

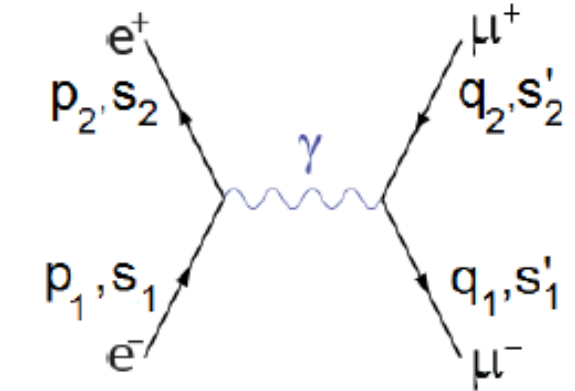
Amplitudes quadratic in  $a$ 's:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{M}_{|RL\rangle \rightarrow |RL\rangle} &= (-a_{i2}^2 - a_{i1}^2 \cos \theta + a_{i1} a_{i3} \sin \theta) + i(a_{i1} a_{i2}(1 - \cos \theta) + a_{i2} a_{i3} \sin \theta) \\ \mathcal{M}_{|RL\rangle \rightarrow |LR\rangle} &= (-a_{i2}^2 + a_{i1}^2 \cos \theta - a_{i1} a_{i3} \sin \theta) + i(a_{i1} a_{i2}(1 + \cos \theta) - a_{i2} a_{i3} \sin \theta) \\ \mathcal{M}_{|RL\rangle \rightarrow |RR\rangle} &= \mathcal{M}_{|RL\rangle \rightarrow |LL\rangle} = 0\end{aligned}$$

Arbitrary angle dependent solutions are discarded by other processes

$$\begin{array}{lll} \text{MaxEnt} & \begin{array}{l} \theta = \pi/2 \\ \Delta = 1 \end{array} & \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} A = aa^T \geq 0 \\ A_{22}A_{13} - A_{12}A_{23} = 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{lll} \text{QED} & a_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \forall i \neq j \\ 1 & \forall i = j \end{cases} & \Rightarrow A_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \forall i \neq j \\ 1 & \forall i = j \end{cases} \end{array}$$



# MaxEnt consistency



MaxEnt is well defined for a given process since it is a quadratic maximization, but

**Is this consistent?**

Yes

**Does MaxEnt pull in different directions depending on the process?**

No

**Is there a unique maximum?**

$$G^\mu = (\pm\gamma^0, \pm\gamma^1, \pm\gamma^2, \pm\gamma^3)$$

# Final solution: QED



Considering all tree level 2-particles processes (Bhabha, Moller, Compton, pair annihilation, ...)

$$(G^0, G^1, G^2, G^3) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (\pm\gamma^0, \gamma^1, \gamma^2, \gamma^3) \\ (\pm\gamma^0, -\gamma^1, -\gamma^2, -\gamma^3) \end{array} \right\}^{\text{QED}}$$
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (\pm\gamma^0, -\gamma^1, \gamma^2, \gamma^3) \\ (\pm\gamma^0, \gamma^1, -\gamma^2, -\gamma^3) \end{array} \right\}^?$$

All two-level processes are blind to the signs

$$\begin{array}{l} \gamma^i \rightarrow -\gamma^i \\ e \rightarrow -e \end{array}$$

$-\gamma^1$  solution:

- No rotational invariance!
- Fermion scattering processes are identical to QED
- Leads to a non-conservation of current
- Could be discarded at higher orders or appealing to rotational symmetry?

# Final solution: QED



- NO incompatible pulls!! MaxEnt can be achieved consistently in different channels.
- Entanglement generated either in  $S$  channel or in superposition of  $t$  and  $u$  channels.
- A process may display MaxEnt at some angle with a contrived solution for  $a$ 's. This solution will fail in other processes.
- Using COM or LAB reference frames do not change the analysis.
- Need of three-body processes or higher orders to discard wrong signs.

Furthermore,

- QED is an isolated maximum
- All deformations around QED produce lower entanglement



Apparently, MaxEnt can fix the structure of an interaction like QED

Could we use it to obtain an estimation of free parameters in other interactions?



# Weak interactions

Weak neutral current

$$J_{\mu}^{NC} = \bar{u}_f \gamma_{\mu} (g_V^f - \gamma^5 g_A^f) u_f$$

$$g_A^f = T_3^f / 2 \quad g_V^f = T_3^f / 2 - Q_f \sin^2 \theta_w$$

For electrons:  $T_3^{\ell} = -1/2$ ,  $Q_{\ell} = -1$ .

Experimentally,  $\sin^2 \theta_w \simeq 0.23$

## Guessing

- MaxEnt might be achievable on a line in the plane  $\theta - \theta_w$
- Non-trivial tests: Bhabha ( $Z/\gamma$  interference)
- Special case, no kinematics: Z decay

# Z decay to leptons

$$m \ll M_Z, \quad g_R = (g_V - g_A)/2 \text{ and } g_L = (g_V + g_A)/2$$

Longitudinal polarization:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{|0\rangle \rightarrow |RL\rangle} &= g_R M_Z \sin \theta \\ \mathcal{M}_{|0\rangle \rightarrow |LR\rangle} &= g_L M_Z \sin \theta \end{aligned} \right\} \Delta_0 = \frac{2|g_L g_R|}{g_L^2 + g_R^2}$$

$$\Delta_0 = 1 \text{ if } |g_L| = |g_R| \Rightarrow g_A = 0 \text{ or } g_V = 0.$$

$$g_A = T_3/2 \neq 0 \Rightarrow g_V = 0 \Rightarrow \sin^2 \theta_w = \frac{T_3}{2Q} \xrightarrow{\text{for charged leptons}} \sin^2 \theta_w = 1/4.$$

# Z decay to leptons

$$m \ll M_Z, \quad g_R = (g_V - g_A)/2 \text{ and } g_L = (g_V + g_A)/2$$

Circular polarization

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{|R\rangle \rightarrow |RL\rangle} &= g_R M_Z \sqrt{2} \sin^2(\theta/2) & \mathcal{M}_{|L\rangle \rightarrow |RL\rangle} &= g_R M_Z \sqrt{2} \cos^2(\theta/2) \\ \mathcal{M}_{|R\rangle \rightarrow |LR\rangle} &= -g_L M_Z \sqrt{2} \cos^2(\theta/2) & \mathcal{M}_{|L\rangle \rightarrow |LR\rangle} &= -g_L M_Z \sqrt{2} \sin^2(\theta/2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta_L^R = \frac{2|g_L g_R| \sin^2 \theta}{|2(g_L^2 - g_R^2) \cos \theta \pm (g_L^2 + g_R^2)(1 + \cos^2 \theta)|}$$

$$\Delta_L^R = 1 \text{ if } \begin{cases} \frac{g_R}{g_L} = \pm \cot^2(\theta/2) \\ \frac{g_R}{g_L} = \pm \tan^2(\theta/2) \end{cases}$$

Assuming  $g_R$  and  $g_L$  are independent of the initial polarization:

$$\frac{g_R}{g_L} = \pm 1 \Rightarrow |g_L| = |g_R|$$

$$\Rightarrow g_V = 0 \Rightarrow \sin^2 \theta_w = 1/4$$



# $e^-e^+ \rightarrow \mu^-\mu^+ Z$ mediated

$$m \ll M_Z,$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{M}_{RL} &\sim (1 + \cos \theta) g_R^2 |RL\rangle + (-1 + \cos \theta) g_R g_L |LR\rangle \\ \mathcal{M}_{LR} &\sim (-1 + \cos \theta) g_R g_L |RL\rangle + (1 + \cos \theta) g_L^2 |LR\rangle\end{aligned}$$

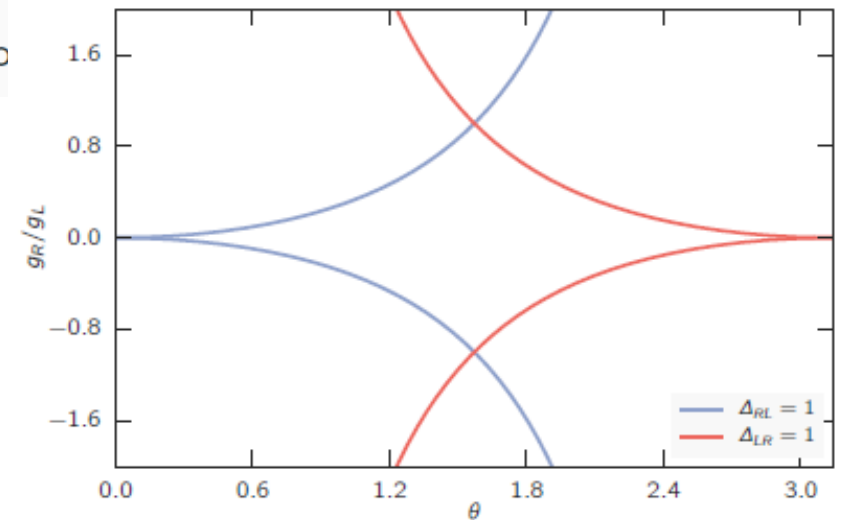
$$\Delta_{RL} \sim \frac{\sin^2 \theta |g_L g_R|}{2(s^4 g_L^2 + c^4 g_R^2)} \quad \Delta_{LR} \sim \frac{\sin^2 \theta |g_L g_R|}{2(c^4 g_L^2 + s^4 g_R^2)}$$

$$c = \cos \theta$$

Imposing maximal entanglement at the same COM angle:

$$\begin{aligned}s^2 g_L \pm c^2 g_R &= 0 \rightarrow \Delta_{RL} = 1 \\ c^2 g_L \pm s^2 g_R &= 0 \rightarrow \Delta_{LR} = 1\end{aligned}$$

$$\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}, \quad \sin^2 \theta_w = \frac{1}{4}$$



# $e^-e^+ \rightarrow \mu^-\mu^+ Z/\gamma$ interference

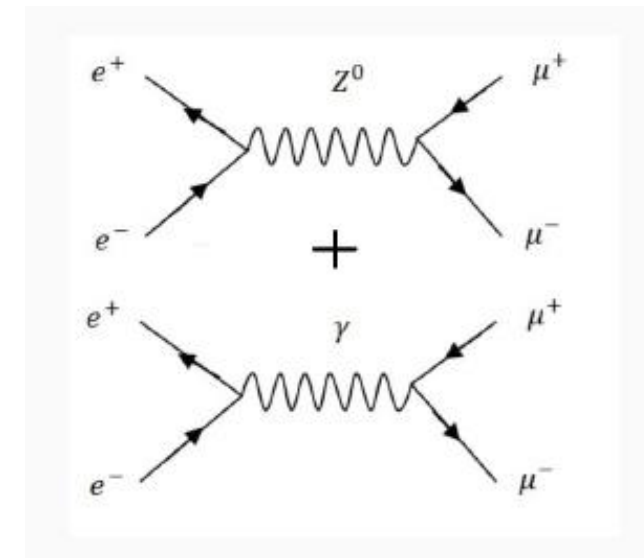
Photon contribution add terms to both RL and LR, which are independent of  $\sin^2\theta_w$

$$\mathcal{M} \sim (\mathcal{M}_Z^{RL}(\theta, \theta_w) + \mathcal{M}_\gamma^{RL}(\theta)) |RL\rangle + (\mathcal{M}_Z^{LR}(\theta, \theta_w) + \mathcal{M}_\gamma^{LR}(\theta)) |LR\rangle$$

$$\Delta_{RL} = \frac{4 \sin^2 \theta}{6 \cos \theta + 5(1 + \cos^2 \theta)} \quad \Delta_{RL} = 1 \rightarrow \theta = \arccos\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)$$
$$\Delta_{LR} = \frac{\sin^2 \theta \sin^2 \theta_w}{c^4 + 4s^4 \sin^4 \theta_w} \quad \Delta_{LR} = 1 \rightarrow \theta_w = \arcsin\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cot(\theta/2)\right)$$

Imposing MaxEnt at the same COM angle

$$\theta = \arccos\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right), \quad \sin^2 \theta_w = \frac{1}{4}$$



# Summary



Maximal entanglement:

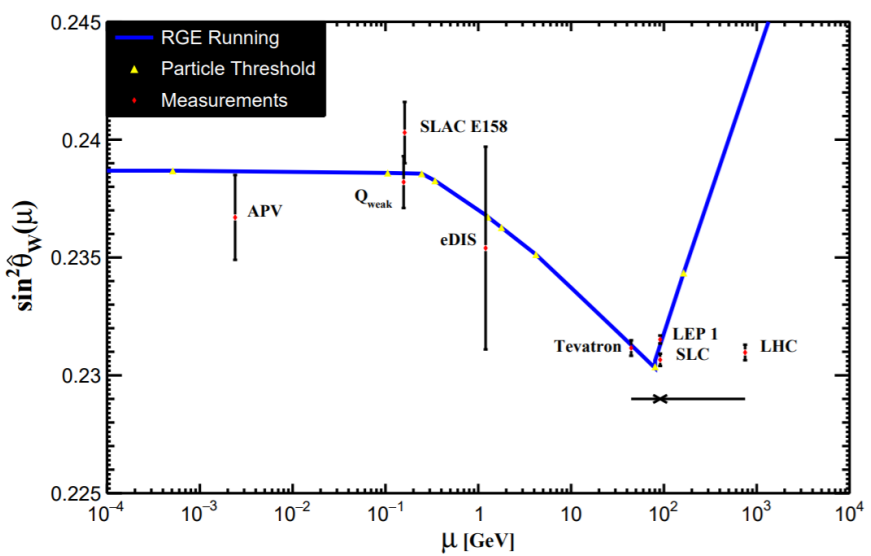
- Discards classical physics by principle predictive
- Consistent with QED, which is an isolated solution
- MaxEnt is found in every channel where it was possible

Consequences?

- Can we use it as a tool to estimate the value of SM free parameters?
- Weak interactions: MaxEnt in tree-level weak interactions predict  $\sin^2 \theta_w = 0.25$ .

# Next steps

- Multipartite entanglement? (e.g. ortopositronium decay)
- Higher orders in perturbation theory
  - Renormalization scheme?
  - IR divergences ?
- Compute more processes: entanglement maximization over  $\theta_w$



Scheme	Notation	Value	Uncertainty
On-shell	$s_W^2$	0.22337	$\pm 0.00010$
$\overline{\text{MS}}$	$\hat{s}_Z^2$	0.23121	$\pm 0.00004$
$\overline{\text{MSND}}$	$\hat{s}_{\text{ND}}^2$	0.23141	$\pm 0.00004$
$\overline{\text{MS}}$	$\hat{s}_0^2$	0.23857	$\pm 0.00005$
Effective angle	$\bar{s}_\ell^2$	0.23153	$\pm 0.00004$

$$s_W^2 \equiv 1 - \frac{M_W^2}{M_Z^2}$$
$$\hat{s}_Z^2 \equiv \sin^2 \hat{\theta}_W(M_Z)$$

$$\sin^2 \hat{\theta}_W(\mu) \equiv \frac{\hat{g}'^2(\mu)}{\hat{g}^2(\mu) + \hat{g}'^2(\mu)}$$
$$\hat{s}_0^2 \equiv \sin^2 \hat{\theta}_W(0)$$

$$\bar{s}_f^2 \equiv \sin^2 \bar{\theta}_{Wf} \equiv \hat{\kappa}_f \hat{s}_Z^2 = \kappa_f s_W^2$$

Particle Data Group, Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys. 2020, 083C01 (2020).

# Open questions



- Relax C, P and T to CPT symmetry?
- Other interaction theories: QCD, chiral, gravity, ...
  - QCD: no asymptotic states (confinement), what does it mean to have an entangled state?
  - CKM relation to mass ratios?
  - Neutrino oscillations?
  - Gravity: Feynman rules for graviton interactions?
- Formulation in terms of probabilities and Bell inequalities?
- Other degrees of freedom instead of helicities and polarizations
  - Position/momenta space
  - Flavour
  - Color
  - ...

Color in gluon-gluon scattering:  
no extra information from maximal entanglement  
(see arXiv:1906.12099 [quant-ph])

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