

1. Prob 11.19

- (a) In the rest frame of the decaying particle, the invariance of the norm of the 4-momentum for the original particle gives

$$(E_1 + E_2)^2 - |\mathbf{p}|^2 = M^2 \quad \implies \quad E_1 + E_2 = M \quad (1)$$

For the two resulting particles, momentum conservation requires $\mathbf{p}_1 + \mathbf{p}_2 = 0$, and the invariance requires

$$E_1^2 - p_1^2 = m_1^2 \quad (2)$$

$$E_2^2 - p_2^2 = m_2^2 \quad (3)$$

Subtracting (3) from (2) and substitute E_2 using (1) gives

$$E_1^2 - (M - E_1)^2 = m_1^2 - m_2^2 \quad \implies \quad E_1 = \frac{M^2 + m_1^2 - m_2^2}{2M} \quad (4)$$

- (b) It is trivial algebra to show that

$$T_i = E_i - m_i = \Delta M \left(1 - \frac{m_i}{M} - \frac{\Delta M}{2M} \right) \quad (5)$$

- (c) Putting in the numbers, we have $\Delta M = 33.9\text{MeV}$, hence

$$T_\mu = 4.1\text{MeV} \quad T_\nu = 29.8\text{MeV} \quad (6)$$

2. Prob 11.20

- (a) In the lab frame, using the invariance of the norm of the 4-momentum applied to the original particle and the resulting particles, as well as conservation of energy and momentum, we have

$$E_1^2 - p_1^2 = m_1^2 \quad (7)$$

$$E_2^2 - p_2^2 = m_2^2 \quad (8)$$

$$(E_1 + E_2)^2 - |\mathbf{p}_1 + \mathbf{p}_2|^2 = M^2 \quad (9)$$

This gives

$$M^2 = m_1^2 + m_2^2 + 2E_1E_2 - 2\mathbf{p}_1 \cdot \mathbf{p}_2 = m_1^2 + m_2^2 + 2E_1E_2 - 2p_1p_2 \cos \theta \quad (10)$$

- (b) For the particle Λ to have a total energy of 10GeV , its Lorentz factor γ is

$$\gamma = \frac{M}{M_{\text{rest}}} = \frac{10\text{GeV}}{1.115\text{GeV}} = 8.97 \quad (11)$$

hence

$$\beta = \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{\gamma^2}} = 0.994 \quad (12)$$

so its track length in the lab frame is obtained by its speed multiplied by the dilated time

$$l = \gamma \tau \cdot \beta c \approx 78\text{cm} \quad (13)$$

In the rest frame of the Λ particle, let the resulting particles' 3-momenta be $\mathbf{p}'_1 = -\mathbf{p}'_2 = \mathbf{p}'$, where \mathbf{p}' is at angle ϕ with respect to the x axis. Equation (4) of the previous problem gives the energy of the resulting particles as measured by the rest frame of Λ :

$$E'_1 = \frac{M^2 + m_1^2 - m_2^2}{2M} \quad E'_2 = \frac{M^2 + m_2^2 - m_1^2}{2M} \quad (14)$$

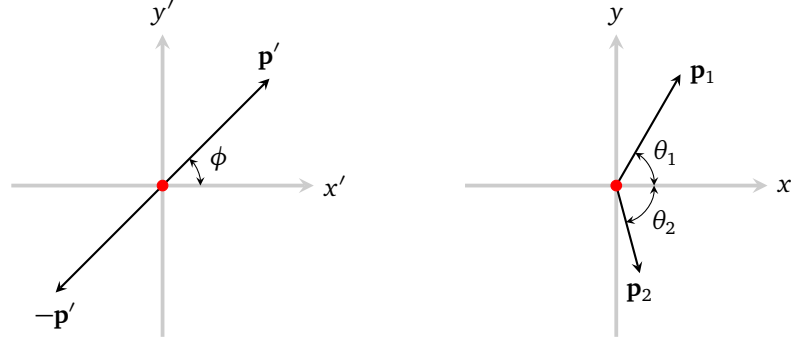
Using (2) or (3), we can obtain

$$p' = \sqrt{E'^2 - m^2} \quad (15)$$

Referencing the figure below, and by using the Lorentz transformation, we can calculate the perpendicular and parallel component of the resulting particles' 3-momenta in the lab frame

$$p_{1\perp} = p_1 \sin \theta_1 = p' \sin \phi \quad p_{1\parallel} = p_1 \cos \theta_1 = \gamma(p' \cos \phi + \beta E'_1) \quad (16)$$

$$p_{2\perp} = p_2 \sin \theta_2 = p' \sin \phi \quad p_{2\parallel} = p_2 \cos \theta_2 = \gamma(-p' \cos \phi + \beta E'_2) \quad (17)$$



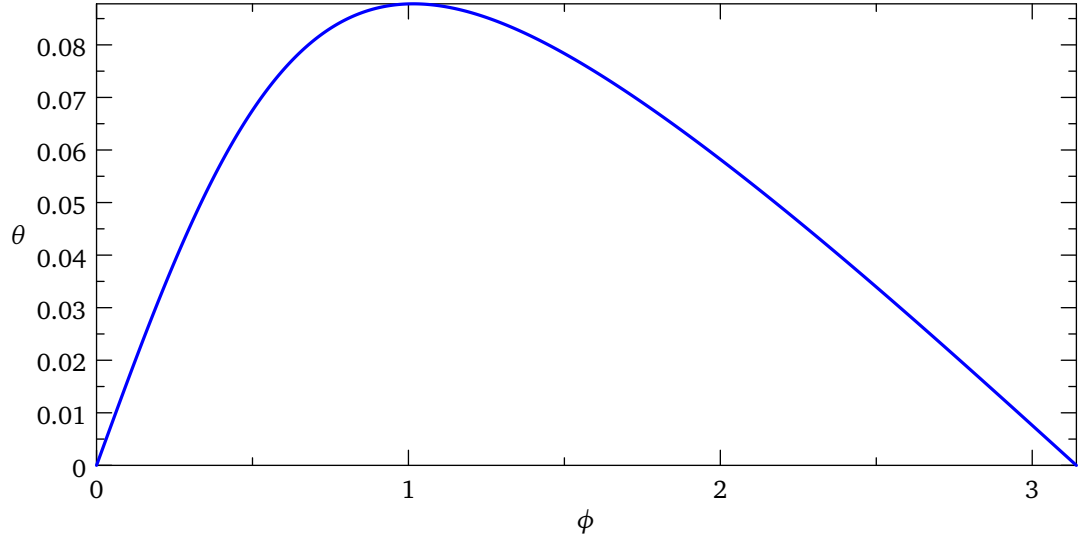
From these we can obtain the opening angle $\theta = \theta_1 + \theta_2$ of the two resulting particles measured in the lab frame

$$\theta = \theta_1 + \theta_2 = \tan^{-1} \left[\frac{p' \sin \phi}{\gamma (p' \cos \phi + \beta E'_1)} \right] + \tan^{-1} \left[\frac{p' \sin \phi}{\gamma (-p' \cos \phi + \beta E'_1)} \right] \quad (18)$$

If ϕ can take any value between $[0, \pi]$, it will be tedious routine to calculate the maximum value of θ as a function of ϕ . For this problem, we can plug in the numbers and get the numerical value of the maximum θ , which is

$$\theta_{\max} \approx 0.088 \approx 5^\circ \quad (19)$$

The $\theta \sim \phi$ graph is plotted below.



3. Prob 11.21

Let $P_i^\alpha = (E_i, \mathbf{p}_i)$ be the 4-momentum of the i -th particle after the reaction. In the rest frame of the original system, their sum will be

$$Q^\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^n P_i^\alpha = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n E_i, \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{p}_i \right) = (M, 0) \quad (20)$$

Pick an i and define the 4-vector

$$\bar{P}_i^\alpha \equiv Q^\alpha - P_i^\alpha = (M - E_i, -\mathbf{p}_i) \quad (21)$$

On the one hand, its norm is

$$\bar{P}_{i\alpha} \bar{P}_i^\alpha = (M - E_i)^2 - p_i^2 = M^2 - 2ME_i + \overbrace{(E_i^2 - p_i^2)}^{m_i^2} = M^2 - 2ME_i + m_i^2 \quad (22)$$

On the other hand, since

$$\bar{P}_i^\alpha = \left(\sum_{j \neq i} E_j, \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbf{p}_j \right) \quad (23)$$

we can write

$$\bar{P}_{i\alpha}\bar{P}_i^\alpha = \left(\sum_{j \neq i} E_j \right)^2 - \left| \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbf{p}_j \right|^2 \quad (24)$$

As a Lorentz scalar, $\bar{P}_{i\alpha}\bar{P}_i^\alpha$ is invariant for all inertial frames. Let's choose a frame \bar{K}_i in which $\sum_{j \neq i} \mathbf{p}_j = 0$. In such a frame, (24) implies

$$\bar{P}_{i\alpha}\bar{P}_i^\alpha = \left(\sum_{j \neq i} E_j \right)^2 \geq \left(\sum_{j \neq i} m_j \right)^2 \quad (25)$$

since the j -th particle's energy in \bar{K}_i is always no less than its rest mass.

Putting the inequality (25) into (22) gives

$$E_i = \frac{M^2 + m_i^2 - \bar{P}_{i\alpha}\bar{P}_i^\alpha}{2M} \leq \frac{M^2 + m_i^2 - \left(\sum_{j \neq i} m_j \right)^2}{2M} \quad (26)$$

or, in terms of the kinetic energy

$$\begin{aligned} T_i = E_i - m_i &\leq \frac{M^2 + m_i^2 - 2Mm_i - \left(\sum_{j \neq i} m_j \right)^2}{2M} \\ &= \frac{(M - m_i)^2 - \left(\sum_{j \neq i} m_j \right)^2}{2M} \\ &= \frac{(M - \sum_{i=1}^n m_i)(M - m_i + \sum_{j \neq i} m_j)}{2M} \\ &= \Delta M \left(1 - \frac{m_i}{M} - \frac{\Delta M}{2M} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$