

# Drell-Yan Lepton Angle Sampling

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The Drell-Yan angular distribution for lepton decays<sup>1</sup> states that the differential cross section for a back-to-back two-lepton decay at angle  $(\theta, \phi)$  in the rest frame of a Z is:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \sigma_0(1 + \cos^2 \theta)$$

This means that the total cross section is:

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_{total} &= \int \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} d\Omega \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \sigma_0(1 + \cos^2 \theta) \sin \theta d\theta d\phi \\ &= \frac{16}{3} \pi \sigma_0\end{aligned}$$

Thus, the angular probability density for decaying within a given solid angle is:

$$\begin{aligned}\rho(\theta, \phi) &= \frac{3}{16\pi}(1 + \cos^2 \theta) \sin \theta \\ \rho(\theta) &= \frac{3}{8}(1 + \cos^2 \theta) \sin \theta \\ \rho(\phi) &= \frac{1}{2\pi}\end{aligned}$$

In order to generate angles  $(\theta, \phi)$  with these distributions, we first generate two numbers from a uniform distribution between 0 and 1, set the cumulative distribution functions for  $\phi$  and  $\theta$  equal to those numbers, then invert the equations.

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<sup>1</sup><https://indico.cern.ch/event/777988/contributions/3236479/attachments/1762886/2860880/PHENO.18.Peng.pdf>

$$u, v \in [0, 1]$$

$$\int_0^\phi \rho(\phi) d\phi = \frac{\phi}{2\pi} = u$$

$$\int_0^\theta \rho(\theta) d\theta = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{8} \cos \theta - \frac{1}{8} \cos^3 \theta = v$$

$$\phi = 2\pi u$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{2^{\frac{1}{3}} (\sqrt{(4-8v)^2 + 4} + 4 - 8v)^{\frac{2}{3}} - 2}{2^{\frac{2}{3}} (\sqrt{(4-8v)^2 + 4} + 4 - 8v)^{\frac{1}{3}}} \right)$$