

# Solution to Problem V-2

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(a)

Trivial.

(b)

In this  $e^- + e^+ \rightarrow \tilde{\mu}^- + \tilde{\mu}^+$ , We can write down the Feynman rules:

External leg contractions:

$$\overline{\phi} | q \rangle = \text{diagram} = 1, \quad \langle q | \phi = \text{diagram} = 1$$

$$\underbrace{\overline{\psi} | \vec{p}, s \rangle}_{\text{fermion}} = \text{diagram} = u_s(\vec{p}), \quad \underbrace{\langle \vec{p}, s | \bar{\psi}}_{\text{fermion}} = \text{diagram} = \bar{u}_s(\vec{p})$$

$$\underbrace{\overline{\psi} | \vec{p}, s \rangle}_{\text{antifermion}} = \text{diagram} = \bar{v}_s(\vec{p}), \quad \underbrace{\langle \vec{p}, s | \psi}_{\text{antifermion}} = \text{diagram} = v_s(\vec{p})$$

Vertices:

$$\text{diagram} = -ie\gamma^\mu, \quad \text{diagram} = -ie(p_3 - p_4)^\nu$$

Photon propagator:

$$\text{diagram} = \frac{-ig_{\mu\nu}}{q^2 + i\epsilon}$$

Thus we can write the scattering amplitude as

$$\begin{aligned}
& i\mathcal{M} \left( e_r^- (\vec{p}_1) + e_s^+ (\vec{p}_2) \rightarrow \tilde{\mu}^- (\vec{p}_3) + \tilde{\mu}^+ (\vec{p}_4) \right) \\
& = \bar{v}_s(\vec{p}_2) \left( -ieQ_e \gamma^\mu \right) u_r(\vec{p}_1) \frac{-ig_{\mu\nu}}{(p_1 + p_2)^2 + i\epsilon} \left( -ieQ_\mu (p_3 - p_4)^\nu \right) \\
& = \frac{i(Q_\mu Q_e e^2)}{(p_1 + p_2)^2 + i\epsilon} (\bar{v}_s(\vec{p}_2) \gamma^\mu u_r(\vec{p}_1)) (p_3 - p_4)_\mu.
\end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

(c)

In the center of mass frame ( $\vec{p}_2 = -\vec{p}_1$  and  $\vec{p}_4 = -\vec{p}_3$ ), the average of  $|\mathcal{M}|^2$  can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{4} \sum_{r,s} |\mathcal{M}|^2 &= \frac{1}{4} \frac{(Q_\mu Q_e e^2)^2}{s^2} [\bar{v}_s(\vec{p}_2) \gamma^\mu u_r(\vec{p}_1)] [\bar{u}_r(\vec{p}_1) \gamma^\nu v_s(\vec{p}_2)] (p_3 - p_4)_\mu (p_3 - p_4)_\nu \\
&= \frac{1}{4} \frac{(Q_\mu Q_e e^2)^2}{s^2} \text{Tr} [\gamma^\mu (\not{p}_1 + m_e) \gamma^\nu (\not{p}_2 - m_e)] (p_3 - p_4)_\mu (p_3 - p_4)_\nu.
\end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Notice that in the center of mass frame,

$$(p_3 - p_4)_\mu = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } \mu = 0 \\ 2p_{3i} & \text{for } \mu = i \ (i = 1, 2, 3) \end{cases},$$

the equation above can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{4} \sum_{r,s} |\mathcal{M}|^2 &= 4 \frac{(Q_\mu Q_e e^2)^2}{s^2} \left[ -m_e^2 \delta^{ij} - (p_1 \cdot p_2) \delta^{ij} + p_1^i p_2^j + p_1^j p_2^i \right] p_{3i} p_{3j} \\
&= 4 \frac{(Q_\mu Q_e e^2)^2}{s^2} \left\{ \left[ -m_e^2 \delta^{ij} - \left( \frac{s}{2} - m_e^2 \right) \delta^{ij} \right] p_{3i} p_{3j} - 2(\vec{p}_1 \cdot \vec{p}_3)^2 \right\} \\
&= \frac{(Q_\mu Q_e e^2)^2}{s^2} \left[ 4m_e^2 |\vec{p}_3|^2 - 8(\vec{p}_1 \cdot \vec{p}_3)^2 + 4 \left( \frac{s}{2} - m_e^2 \right) |\vec{p}_3|^2 \right]
\end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

(d)

In the center of mass frame,  $s = (p_1 + p_2)^2 = 4E_{\vec{p}_1}^2$ . When the energy of the  $e^- + e^+$  collision is just high enough for a  $\tilde{\mu}^- + \tilde{\mu}^+$  pair creation ( $|\vec{p}_1| \simeq E_{\vec{p}_1} \simeq M_\mu$ ), the average of

$|\mathcal{M}|^2$  can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{4} \sum_{r,s} |\mathcal{M}|^2 &= \frac{(Q_\mu Q_e e^2)^2}{16E_{\vec{p}_1}^4} \left[ 4m_e^2 |\vec{p}_3|^2 - 8(\vec{p}_1 \cdot \vec{p}_3)^2 + 4|\vec{p}_3|^2 (2E_{\vec{p}_1}^2 - m_e^2) \right] \\
&= \frac{(Q_\mu Q_e e^2)^2}{16E_{\vec{p}_1}^4} \left[ 8E_{\vec{p}_1}^2 |\vec{p}_3|^2 - 8(\vec{p}_1 \cdot \vec{p}_3)^2 \right] \\
&\simeq \frac{(Q_\mu Q_e e^2)^2}{2} \left[ \frac{|\vec{p}_3|^2}{M_\mu^2} \left( 1 - \frac{(\vec{p}_1 \cdot \vec{p}_3)^2}{M_\mu^2 |\vec{p}_3|^2} \right) \right] \\
&\simeq \frac{(Q_\mu Q_e e^2)^2}{2} \left[ \frac{|\vec{p}_3|^2}{M_\mu^2} \left( 1 - \frac{(\vec{p}_1 \cdot \vec{p}_3)^2}{|\vec{p}_1|^2 |\vec{p}_3|^2} \right) \right] \\
&= \frac{(Q_\mu Q_e e^2)^2}{2} \beta_\mu^2 \sin^2 \theta
\end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

where  $\beta_\mu := |\vec{p}_3|/M_\mu$  is the velocity of the produced  $\tilde{\mu}^\pm$  and  $\theta$  is the scattering angle in the center of mass frame.

(e)

In the high energy limit,  $|\vec{p}_1| \simeq E_{\vec{p}_1} \simeq |\vec{p}_3|$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{4} \sum_{r,s} |\mathcal{M}|^2 &= \frac{(Q_\mu Q_e e^2)^2}{16E_{\vec{p}_1}^4} \left[ 8E_{\vec{p}_1}^2 |\vec{p}_3|^2 - 8(\vec{p}_1 \cdot \vec{p}_3)^2 \right] \\
&= \frac{(Q_\mu Q_e e^2)^2}{2E_{\vec{p}_1}^4} \left[ E_{\vec{p}_1}^2 |\vec{p}_3|^2 - |\vec{p}_1|^2 |\vec{p}_3|^2 \cos^2 \theta \right] \\
&\simeq \frac{(Q_\mu Q_e e^2)^2}{2} [1 - \cos^2 \theta] \\
&= \frac{(Q_\mu Q_e e^2)^2}{2} \sin^2 \theta
\end{aligned} \tag{5}$$