

# Announcements

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## Quiz:

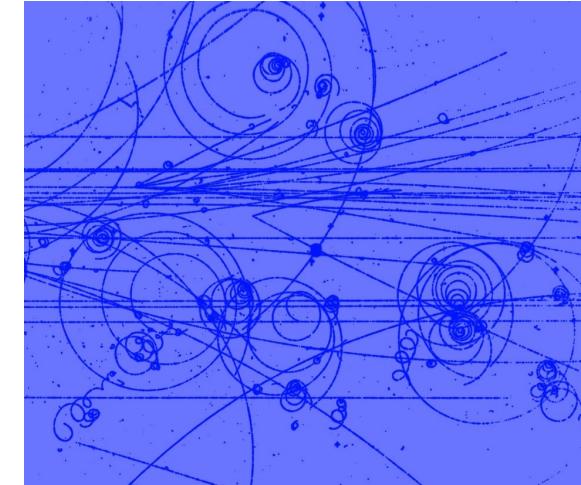
- Pick up quiz after class. **No quiz this week** – midterm instead.

## Homework:

Homework 1 grades posted on gradescope. Solutions posted on D2L.

Homework 2 + solutions will be posted before next class.

Third HW posted on D2L : Q1/Q2 can be done now



## Midterm: Friday, Feb 21 in class

Will cover through “bound states”.

Equation sheet: 1 letter-sized (8 ½ by 11 inches) page front and back, handwritten

## Paper:

Topic due Monday Feb 17 at 3pm. Fill out this google form before then:

<https://forms.gle/MmCk8NtrMm7RdfLC7>

**Office hours: on Wednesday 4-5pm this week, not on Friday**

# The Golden Rule Reminder

Fermi's Golden Rule states:

The transition rate for a system depends on two fundamental quantities

- 1) The “Matrix Element” or “Transition Amplitude”
- 2) The final state phase space

$$W = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} |\mathcal{M}_{if}|^2 \rho(E)$$

**The transition rate  
(decays or  
interactions)**

$W$  is proportional to cross section or decay rate

**The Matrix Element.  
We may not actually  
know this.**

**Phase Space or  
Density of States**

See derivation from last class

# Feynman Rules

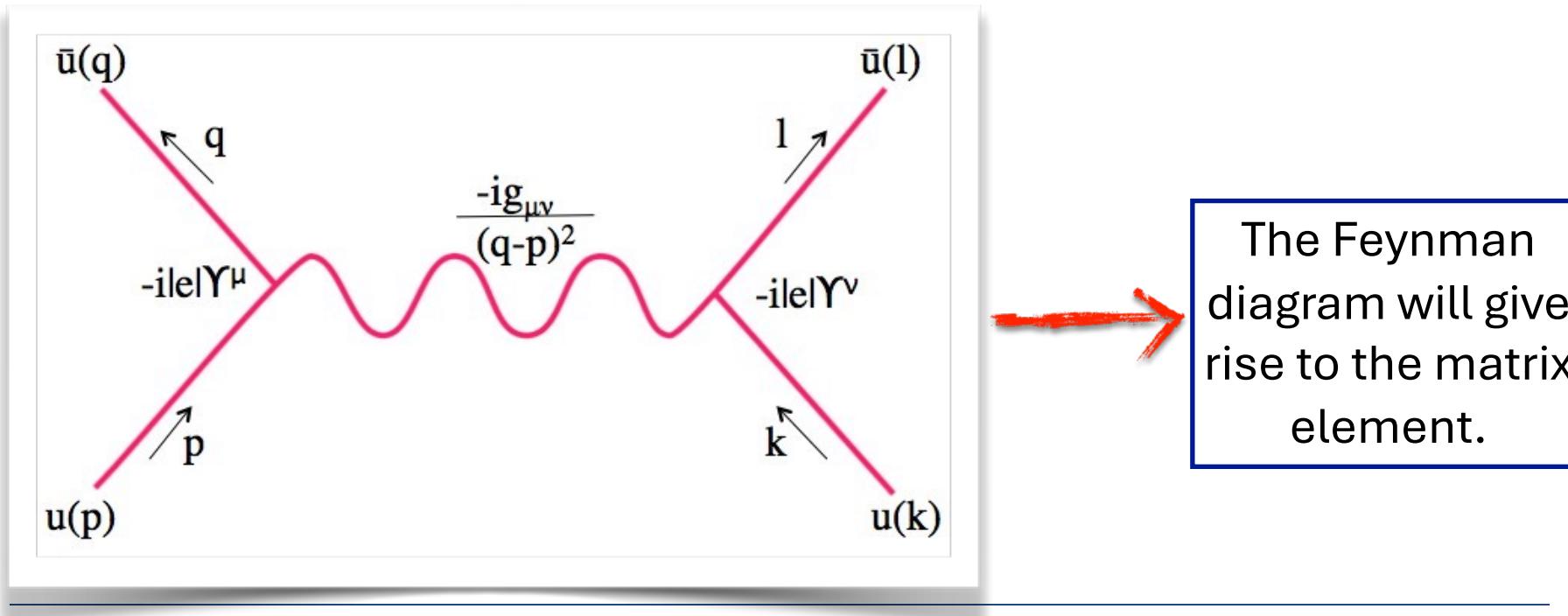
We've been completely ignoring the dynamical part of the equation

All of the specific interaction dynamics are bound up in the **Matrix Element**

We need to now build up the rules for calculating it!

The Feynman diagram will be our guide in most cases

We will assign kinematical features to each part of the diagram, depending on what type of particle it represents.

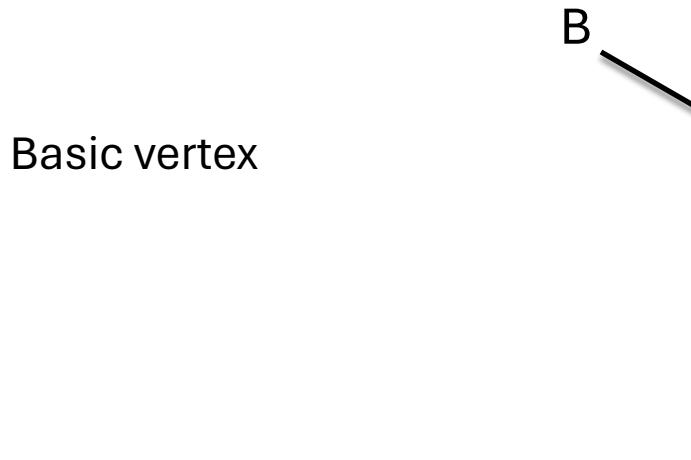


# ABC Theory

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To start with the Feynman rules, use a toy theory: ABC theory

- There are 3 spinless particles: A, B, C
- Each particle is its own antiparticle (No arrows!)
- Only 1 vertex exists and includes all three particles (ABC). Eg, (AAA) is forbidden.
- Masses not assumed, different cases lead to different physics, i.e.
  - If  $m_A > m_B + m_C$ , then A can decay to B and C.



Last time: decay of the A into B + C

Today: Scattering

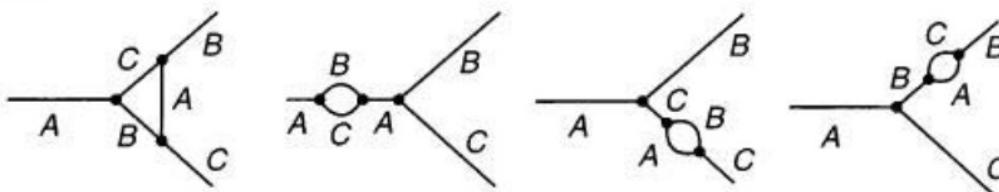
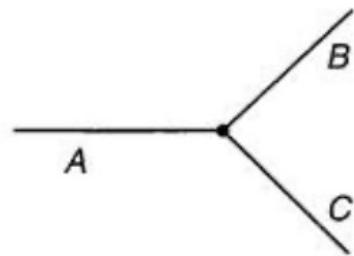
# Feynman Rules for ABC Theory

The Feynman rules provide the recipe for constructing an amplitude (Matrix Element  $\mathcal{M}$ ) from a Feynman diagram.

## Rule 1:

Draw the Feynman diagram with the minimum number of vertices.  
There may be more than 1.

Eg. for  $A \rightarrow B+C$  decay:



# Feynman Rules for ABC Theory

## Rule 2:

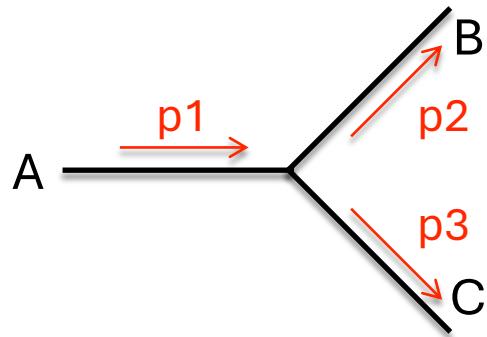
Label the four-momentum of each line (with arrows), enforcing four-momentum conservation at each vertex.

$p_1, p_2, \dots$  external momenta: need arrows

$q_1, q_2, \dots$  internal momenta: arrow is arbitrary

We'll keep track of arrows into/out of vertices.

Eg. for  $A \rightarrow B+C$  decay:

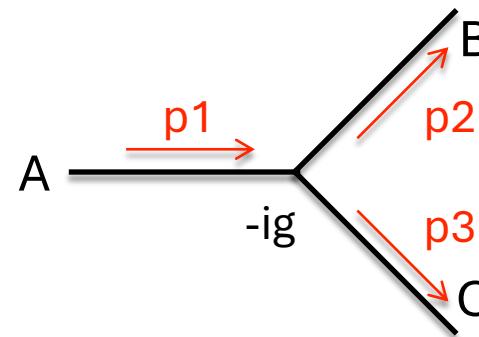


# Feynman Rules for ABC Theory

## Rule 3:

Each vertex contributes a factor of  $(-ig)$ , where  $g$  is referred to as the coupling constant. It specifies the strength of the ABC interaction.

Eg. for  $A \rightarrow B+C$  decay:



# Feynman Rules for ABC Theory

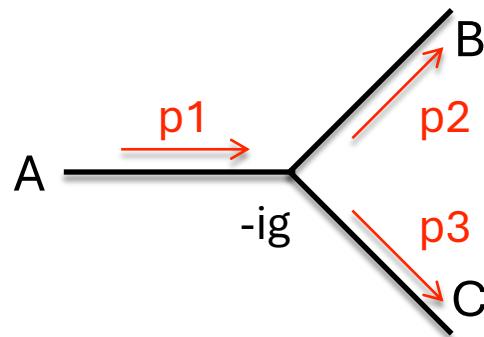
## Rule 4:

Each internal line, or propagator, with mass **m** and four-momentum **q** gets a factor of:

$$\frac{i}{q^2 - m^2 c^2} \quad q^2 = 4 \text{ momentum of internal line}$$

Note:  $q^2$  doesn't have to equal  $m^2$ . These are virtual particles!

Eg. for  $A \rightarrow B+C$  decay:



-> There are no propagator lines here

# Feynman Rules for ABC Theory

## Rule 5:

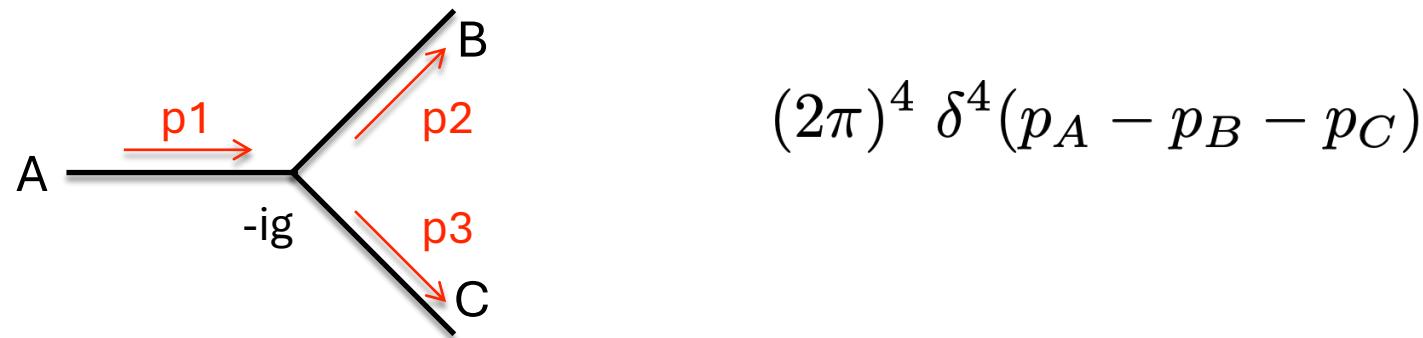
Each vertex contributes a delta function to conserve energy and momentum. The  $\mathbf{k}_i$  are the momenta coming into the vertex:

$$(2\pi)^4 \delta^4(k_1 + k_2 + k_3)$$

$k$ = external ( $p$ ) or internal ( $q$ ) momentum

$k$  is negative if it is outgoing

Eg. for  $A \rightarrow B+C$  decay:



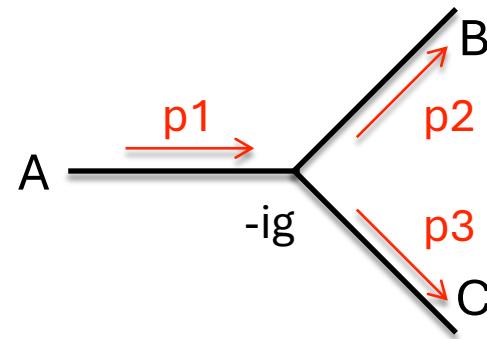
# Feynman Rules for ABC Theory

## Rule 6:

Build up the proto-Matrix Element from the previous factors and add an **i**:

$$\mathcal{M} = i \text{ (vertex factors) (propagator factors) (momentum conservation)}$$

Eg. for  $A \rightarrow B+C$  decay:



$$\mathcal{M} = i (-ig) (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_A - p_B - p_C)$$

# Feynman Rules for ABC Theory

Rule 7:

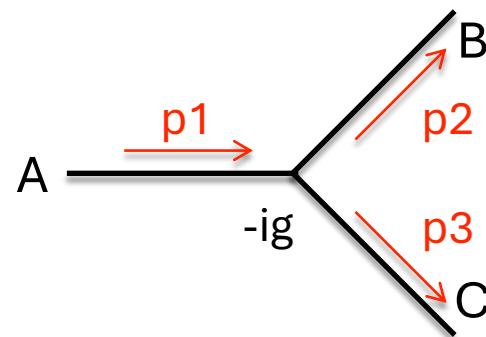
Integrate over the internal momenta:

For each internal line write down a factor:

$$\frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} d^4 q_i$$

This connects initial/final state momenta via the delta functions.

Eg. for  $A \rightarrow B+C$  decay:



$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{M} &= i (-ig) (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_A - p_B - p_C) \\ &= g (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_A - p_B - p_C)\end{aligned}$$

-> No internal lines to integrate over

# Feynman Rules for ABC Theory

## Rule 8:

The result contains a delta function that is a statement of total momentum conservation  
Drop this delta function. This statement of total momentum conservation will be included  
in the Golden Rule. (Not included here because the matrix element is squared)

**The result of step 8 is the matrix element!**

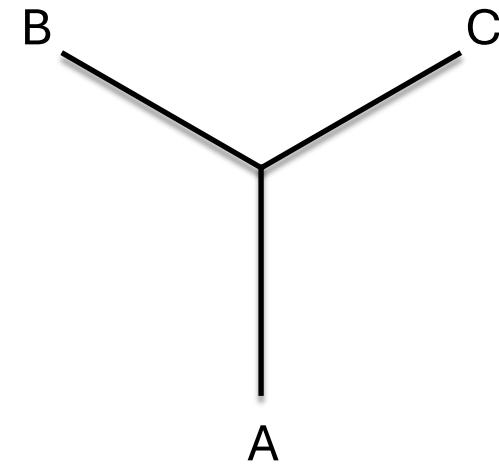
$$\mathcal{M} = g \frac{(2\pi)^4}{=g} \delta^4(p_A - p_B - p_C)$$

- In this simple case the delta function was unnecessary
- Once we have the matrix element, plug in to Golden rule to calculate decay rate

# Scattering examples

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- AA to BB scattering



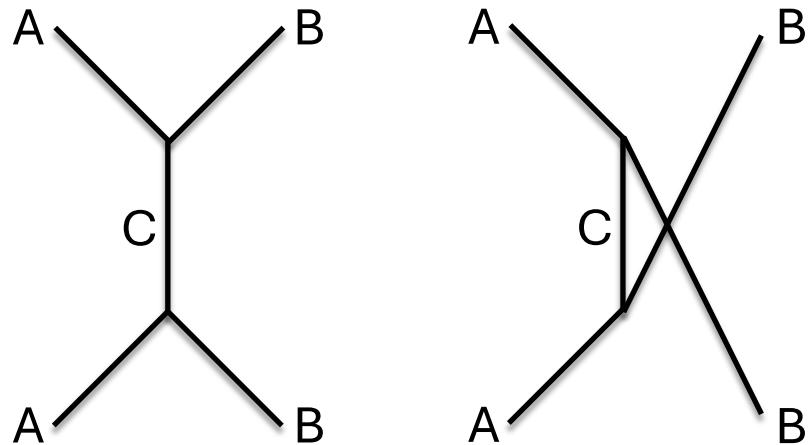
- AB to AB scattering

1. How many Feynman diagrams for each process
2. Draw each of them

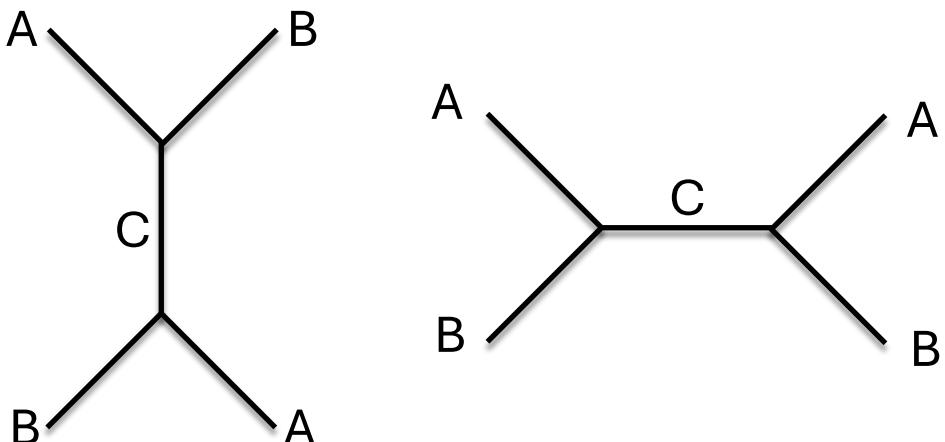
# Scattering example

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- AA to BB scattering



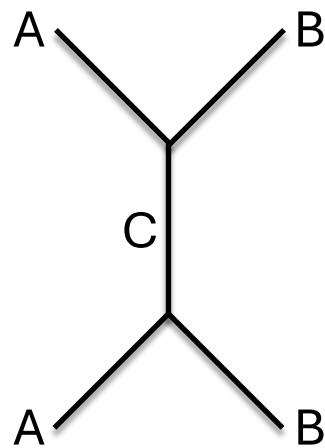
- AB to AB scattering



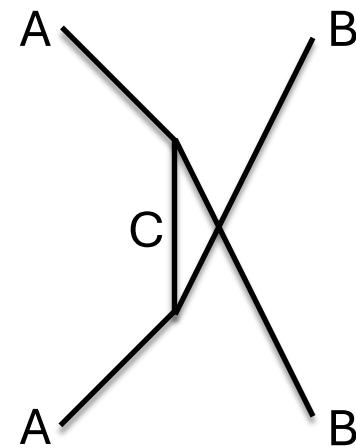
# A+A→B+B Scattering

In ABC theory A+A into B+B occurs via the exchange of particle C.

We have the t-channel diagram



And also the u-channel diagram!



Why two diagrams?

- The u-channel diagram is necessary because we cannot tell which outgoing particles connect to which vertex. So we have to include both possibilities in our matrix element and, thus, in the integrations.
- Our S-factor will now be  $S=1/2!=1/2$ . We effectively average over the two diagrams -> No double counting

# Golden Rule for Scattering Cross Section

Last class, 2-body scattering (1,2 $\rightarrow$ 3,4):

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left(\frac{\hbar c}{8\pi}\right)^2 \frac{S|\mathcal{M}|^2}{(E_1 + E_2)^2} \frac{|p_f|}{|p_i|}$$

Set  $S = \frac{1}{2}$  for  $A+A \rightarrow B+B$  scattering:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left(\frac{1}{8\pi}\right)^2 \frac{|\mathcal{M}|^2}{2(E_1 + E_2)^2} \frac{|p_f|}{|p_i|}$$

Also:  
 $\hbar = c = 1$

# $A+A \rightarrow B+B$ Scattering: Calculate M

---

The scattering of  $A+A$  into  $B+B$  is highly relevant

In ABC theory, this occurs via the exchange of particle C.

**Rule 1: draw all lowest order diagrams**

# $A+A \rightarrow B+B$ Scattering: Calculate $M$

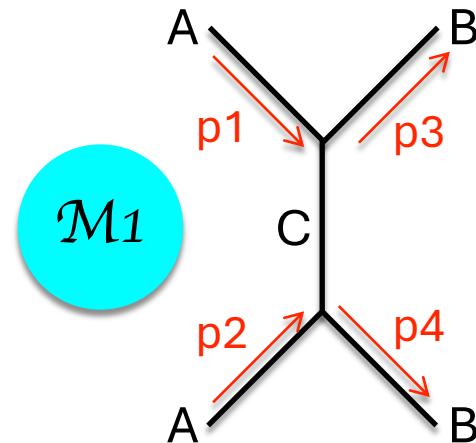
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In ABC theory, this occurs via the exchange of particle C.

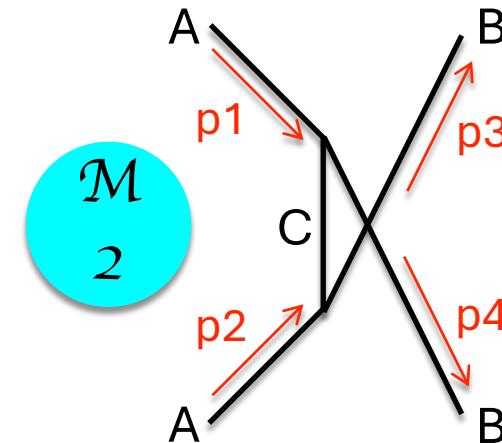
**Rule 1: draw all lowest order diagrams**

**Rule 2: label incoming and outgoing 4-momentum**

We have the t-channel diagram



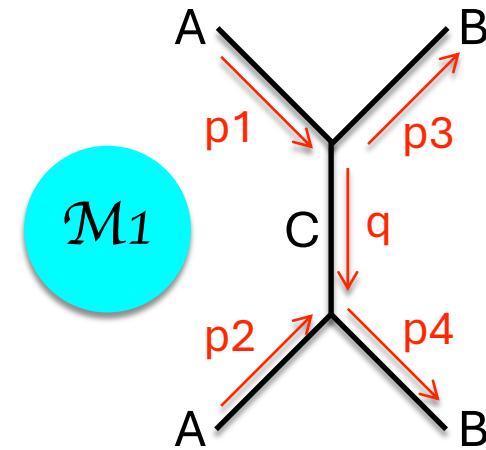
And also the u-channel diagram!



# A+A→B+B Scattering: t-channel M

**Rule 3:** Each vertex contributes a factor of (-ig)

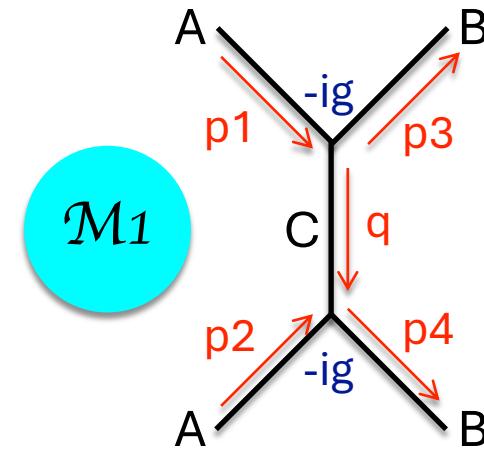
How many are there?



# A+A→B+B Scattering: t-channel M

**Rule 3:** Each vertex contributes a factor of (-ig)

Two vertices → Two factors of -ig



# A+A→B+B Scattering: t-channel M

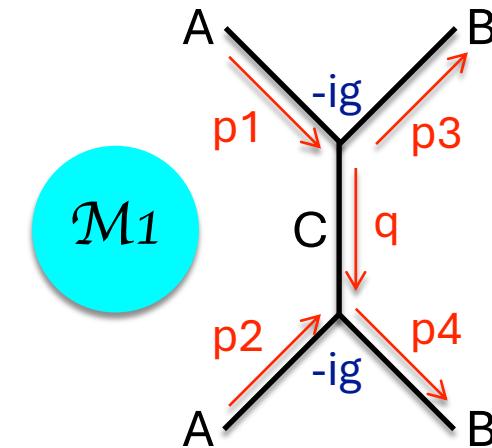
**Rule 3:** Each vertex contributes a factor of (-ig)

Two vertices → Two factors of -ig

**Rule 4:** Each internal line, or propagator, with mass **m** and four momentum **q** gets a factor of:  $i / (q^2 - m_C^2)$

So, how many do we have?

$$i / (q^2 - m_C^2)$$



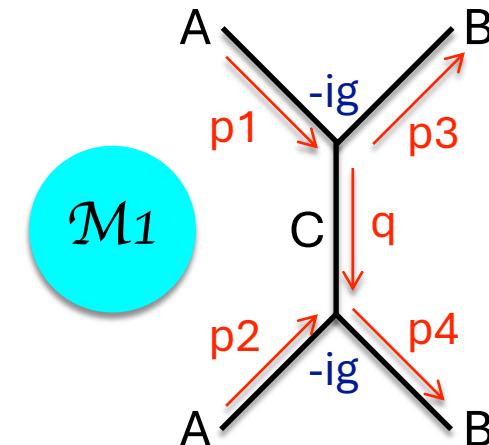
# A+A→B+B Scattering: t-channel M

**Rule 3:** Each vertex contributes a factor of (-ig)

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**Rule 4:** Each internal line, or propagator, with mass **m** and four momentum **q** gets a factor of:

$$\text{One propagator, one factor: } \frac{i}{q^2 - m_C^2}$$



# A+A→B+B Scattering: t-channel M

**Rule 3:** Each vertex contributes a factor of (-ig)

Two vertices → Two factors of -ig

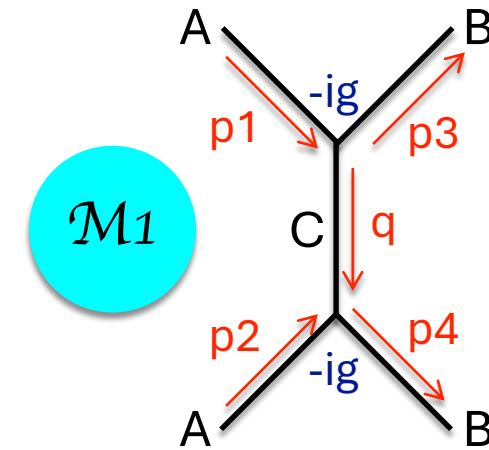
**Rule 4:** Each internal line, or propagator, with mass **m** and four momentum **q** gets a factor of:

$$\frac{i}{q^2 - m_C^2}$$

One propagator, one factor:

**Rule 5:** Each vertex contributes a delta function to conserve energy and momentum

**What do the delta functions look like?**



# A+A→B+B Scattering: t-channel M

**Rule 3:** Each vertex contributes a factor of (-ig)

Two vertices → Two factors of -ig

**Rule 4:** Each internal line, or propagator, with mass **m** and four momentum **q** gets a factor of:  $i / (q^2 - m_C^2)$

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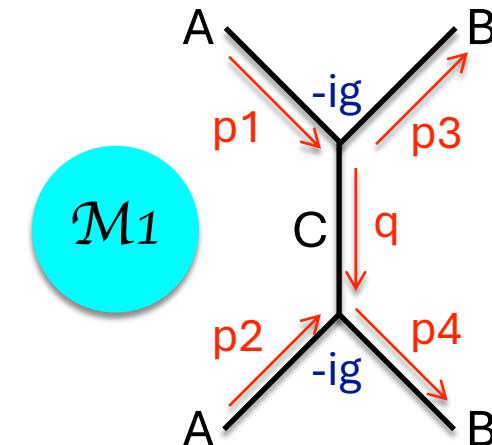
$$i / (q^2 - m_C^2)$$

**Rule 5:** Each vertex contributes a delta function to conserve energy and momentum

Two delta functions, one for momentum in and out at each vertex:

$$(2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_1 - q - p_3)$$

$$(2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_2 + q - p_4)$$

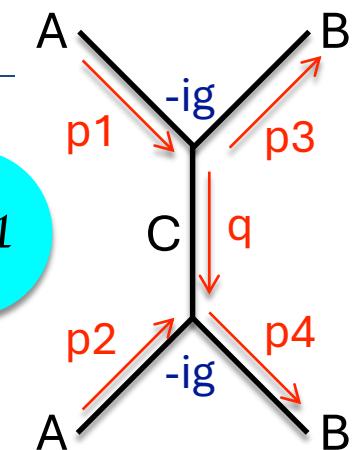


# A+A→B+B Scattering: t-channel M

## Rule 6:

Build up the Matrix Element from the previous factors & add an i:

$$\mathcal{M} = i \text{ (vertex factors) (propagator factors) (momentum conservation)}$$



## Rule 7:

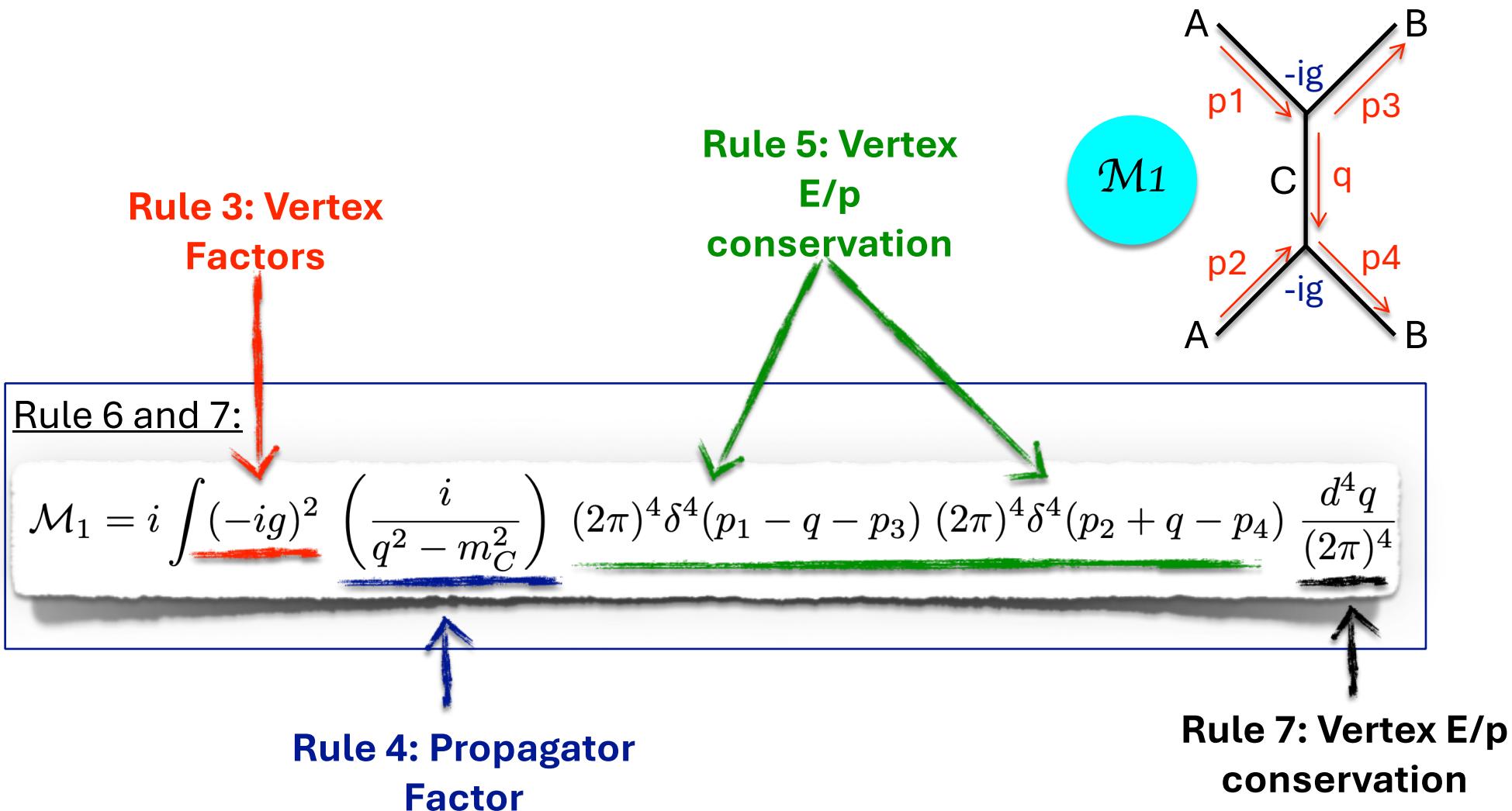
Integrate over the internal momenta:

For each internal line write down a factor:

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This connects initial/final state momenta via the delta functions.

# A+A→B+B Scattering: t-channel M



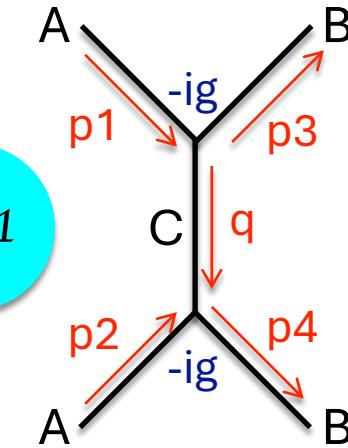
# A+A→B+B Scattering: t-channel M

The propagator integral sends either:

$$q \rightarrow p_4 - p_2$$

or:

$$q \rightarrow p_3 - p_1$$



Rule 6 and 7:

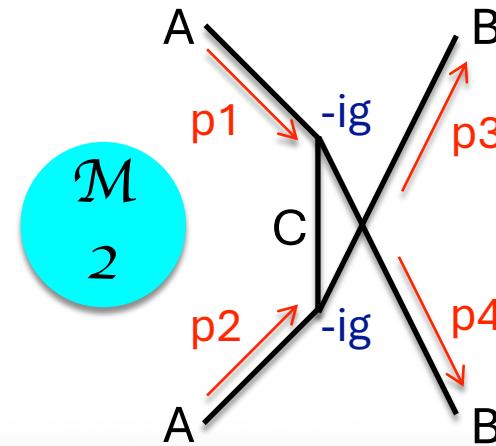
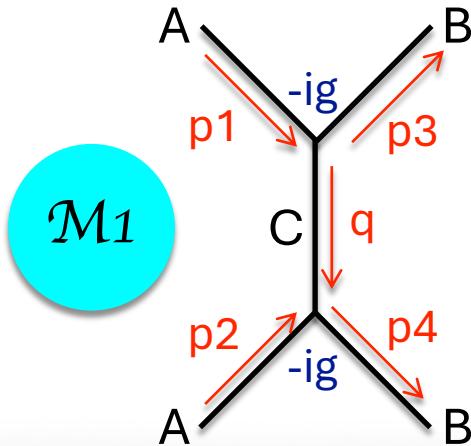
$$\mathcal{M}_1 = i \int (-ig)^2 \left( \frac{i}{q^2 - m_C^2} \right) (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_1 - q - p_3) (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_2 + q - p_4) \frac{d^4 q}{(2\pi)^4}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_1 = \frac{g^2}{(p_4 - p_2)^2 - m_C^2} (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_1 + p_2 - p_3 - p_4)$$

# A+A→B+B Scattering

Now we can consider the u-channel matrix element.

No work required, just swap out the relevant momenta



$$\mathcal{M}_1 = \frac{g^2}{(p_4 - p_2)^2 - m_C^2}$$

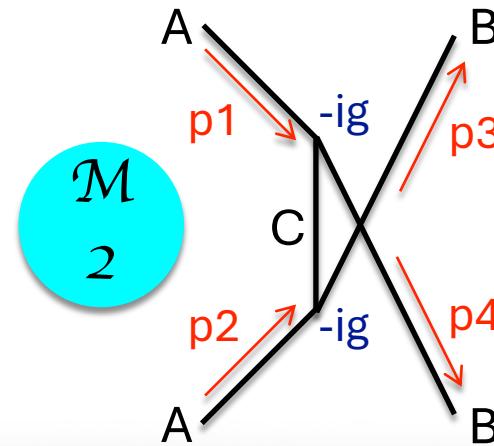
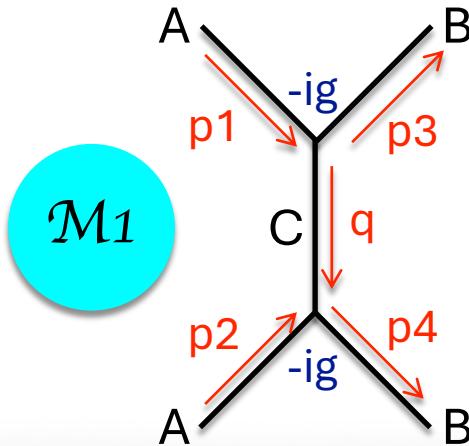
$$\mathcal{M}_2 = \frac{g^2}{(p_3 - p_2)^2 - m_C^2}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{tot}} = ?$$

# A+A→B+B Scattering

Now we can consider the u-channel matrix element.

No work required, just swap out the relevant momenta



$$\mathcal{M}_1 = \frac{g^2}{(p_4 - p_2)^2 - m_C^2}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_2 = \frac{g^2}{(p_3 - p_2)^2 - m_C^2}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{tot}} = \mathcal{M}_1 + \mathcal{M}_2$$

# A+A→B+B Scattering

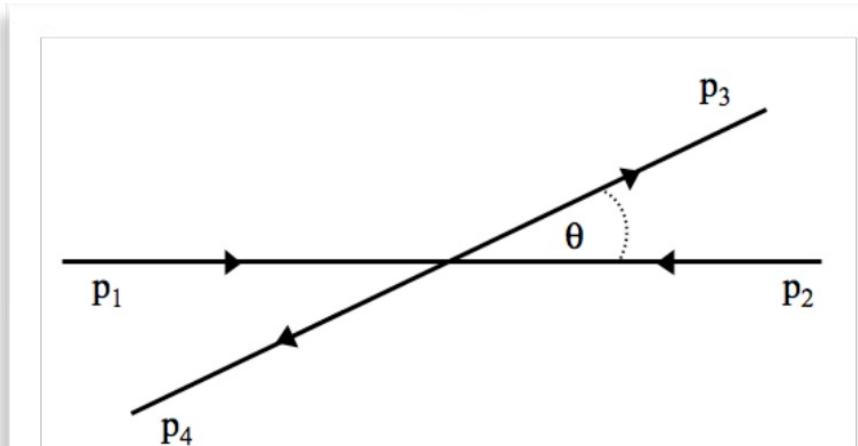
The A+A→B+B scattering matrix element is Lorentz Invariant

But the evaluated quantities may depend on the inertial frame

Let's consider the CoM frame and let  $M_A=M_B=m$  and  $M_C=0$

$$\mathcal{M}_1 = \frac{g^2}{(p_4 - p_2)^2 - m_C^2}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_2 = \frac{g^2}{(p_3 - p_2)^2 - m_C^2}$$



$$t = (p_4 - p_2)^2 = p_4^2 + p_2^2 - 2p_2 \cdot p_4 = -2p^2(1 - \cos \theta)$$

$$u = (p_3 - p_2)^2 = p_3^2 + p_2^2 - 2p_3 \cdot p_2 = -2p^2(1 + \cos \theta)$$

# A+A→B+B Scattering

The A+A→B+B scattering matrix element is Lorentz Invariant

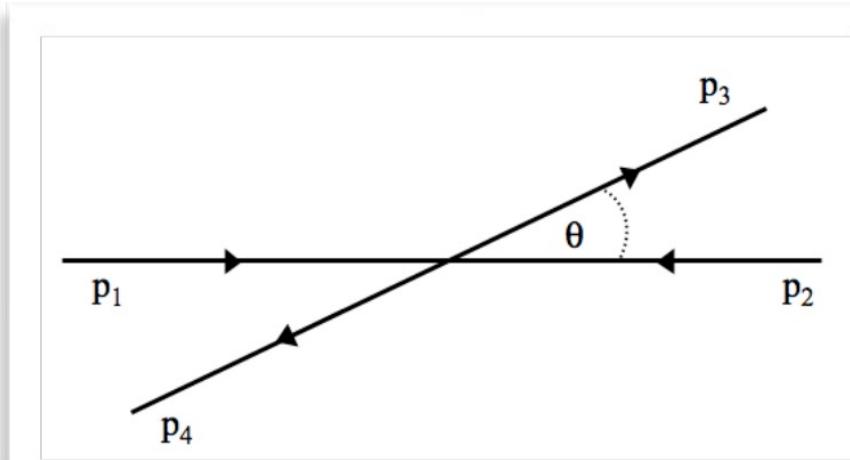
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Let's consider the CoM frame and let  $M_A=M_B=m$  and  $M_C=0$

$$\mathcal{M}_1 = \frac{g^2}{(p_4 - p_2)^2 - m_C^2}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_2 = \frac{g^2}{(p_3 - p_2)^2 - m_C^2}$$

$$\mathcal{M} = -\frac{g^2}{p^2 \sin^2 \theta}$$



$$t = (p_4 - p_2)^2 = p_4^2 + p_2^2 - 2p_2 \cdot p_4 = -2p^2(1 - \cos \theta)$$

$$u = (p_3 - p_2)^2 = p_3^2 + p_2^2 - 2p_3 \cdot p_2 = -2p^2(1 + \cos \theta)$$

# A+A→B+B Scattering

Finally, we can evaluate the differential cross section!

We worked out the 2-body kinematics earlier

We just calculated the matrix element

Using Golden rule:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left(\frac{1}{8\pi}\right)^2 \frac{|\mathcal{M}|^2}{2(E_1 + E_2)^2} \frac{|p_f|}{|p_i|} \quad \mathcal{M} = -\frac{g^2}{p^2 \sin^2 \theta}$$

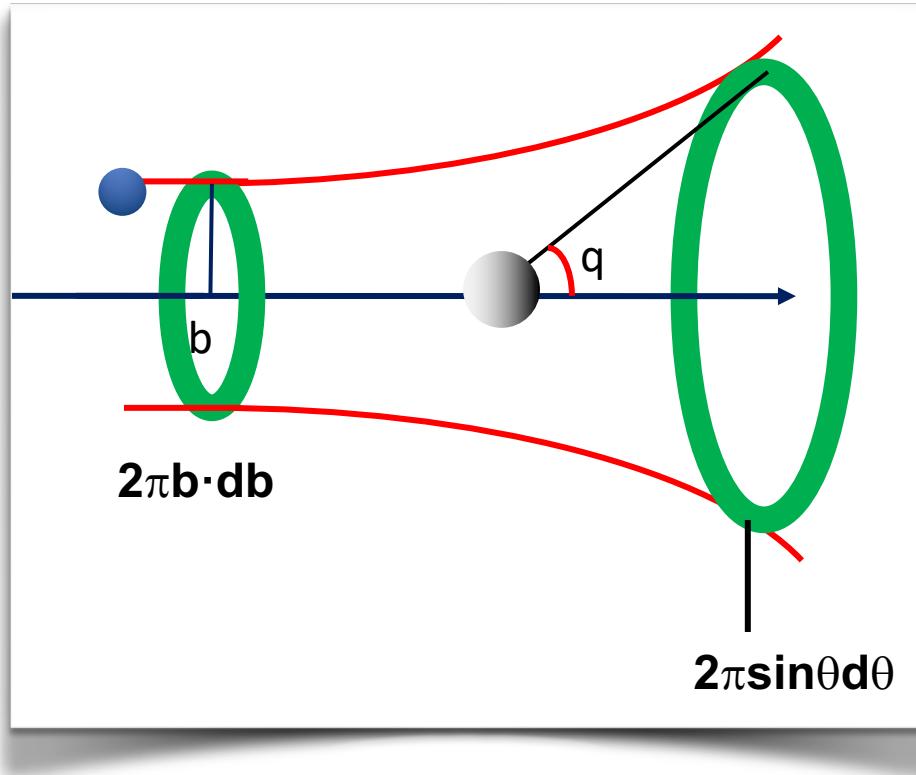
From the CoM condition we  
have:

$$E_1 = E_2$$

$$|p_f| = |p_i|$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{g^2}{16\pi E |p|^2 \sin^2 \theta} \right)^2$$

# Rutherford Scattering Again



AA $\rightarrow$ BB Scattering

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{g^2}{16\pi E |p|^2 \sin^2 \theta} \right)^2$$

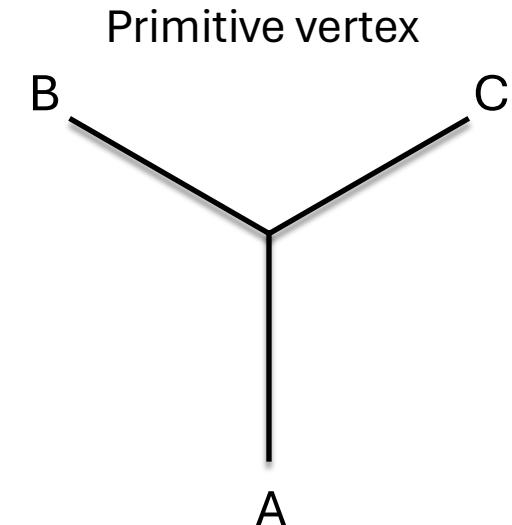
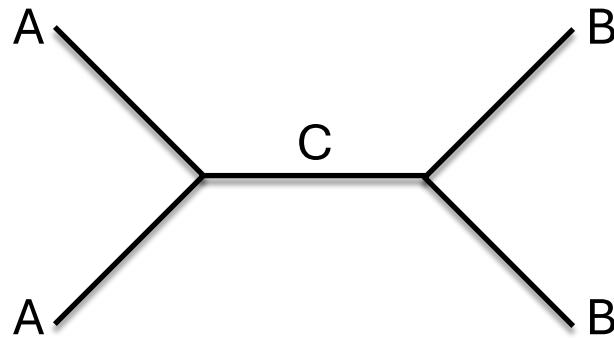
Rutherford Scattering

$$\left| \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right| = \left( \frac{zZe^2}{16\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{E_{\text{kin}}} \right)^2 \text{cosec}^4 \frac{\theta}{2}$$

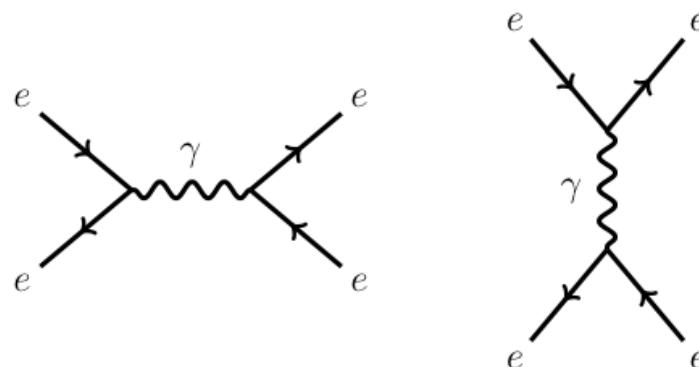
# A+A→B+B Scattering

Why didn't we consider this diagram?

Be careful to not read too deeply into ABC theory!



Answer: There are no AAC or CBB vertices in ABC theory. But this diagram does exist in QED, for example.



# Another question

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Earlier we said cross sections sum:

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} = \sum \sigma_i$$

And we just said matrix elements sum:

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{tot}} = \mathcal{M}_1 + \mathcal{M}_2$$

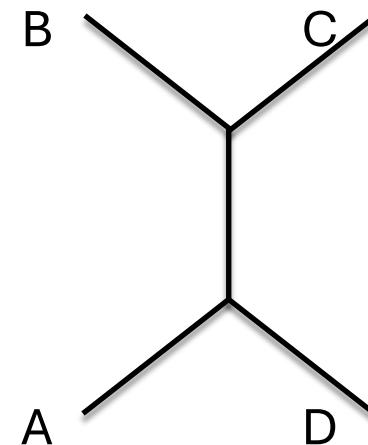
The first statement is only true if there is no interference between the matrix elements!

$$|\mathcal{M}|^2 = |\mathcal{M}_1|^2 + |\mathcal{M}_2|^2 + 2|\mathcal{M}_1 \cdot \mathcal{M}_2|^2$$

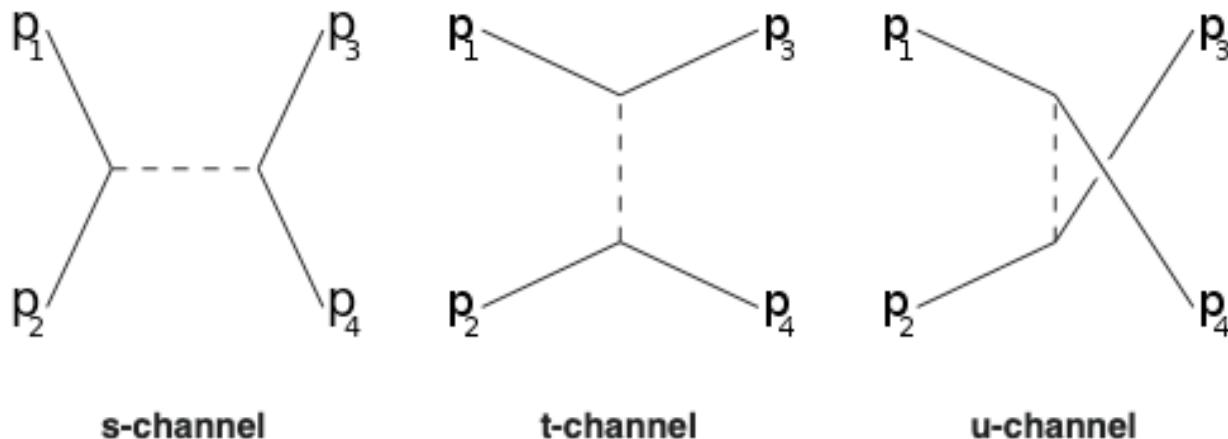
# Mandlestam Variables

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- Relate 4-momentum of incoming/outgoing particles



Sometimes classify Feynman diagrams in similar terms:



$$s = (p_A + p_B)^2$$
$$t = (p_A - p_c)^2$$
$$u = (p_A - p_D)^2$$

# Higher Order Diagrams

These interference effects frequently (but not always) arise due to higher order diagrams

ABC theory limits the number of such diagrams, so continue to be wary

We're not going to dig deep into this right now, but be aware they exist

